

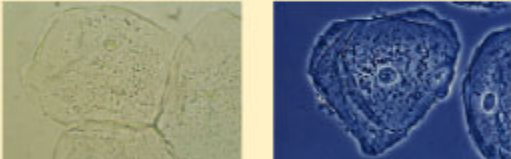
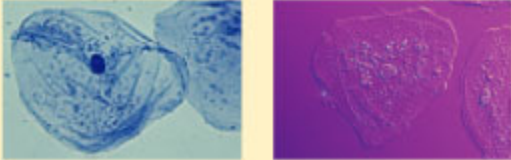
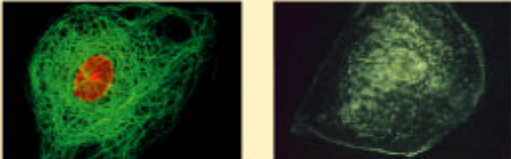
Confocal Microscopy and Living Cell Studies

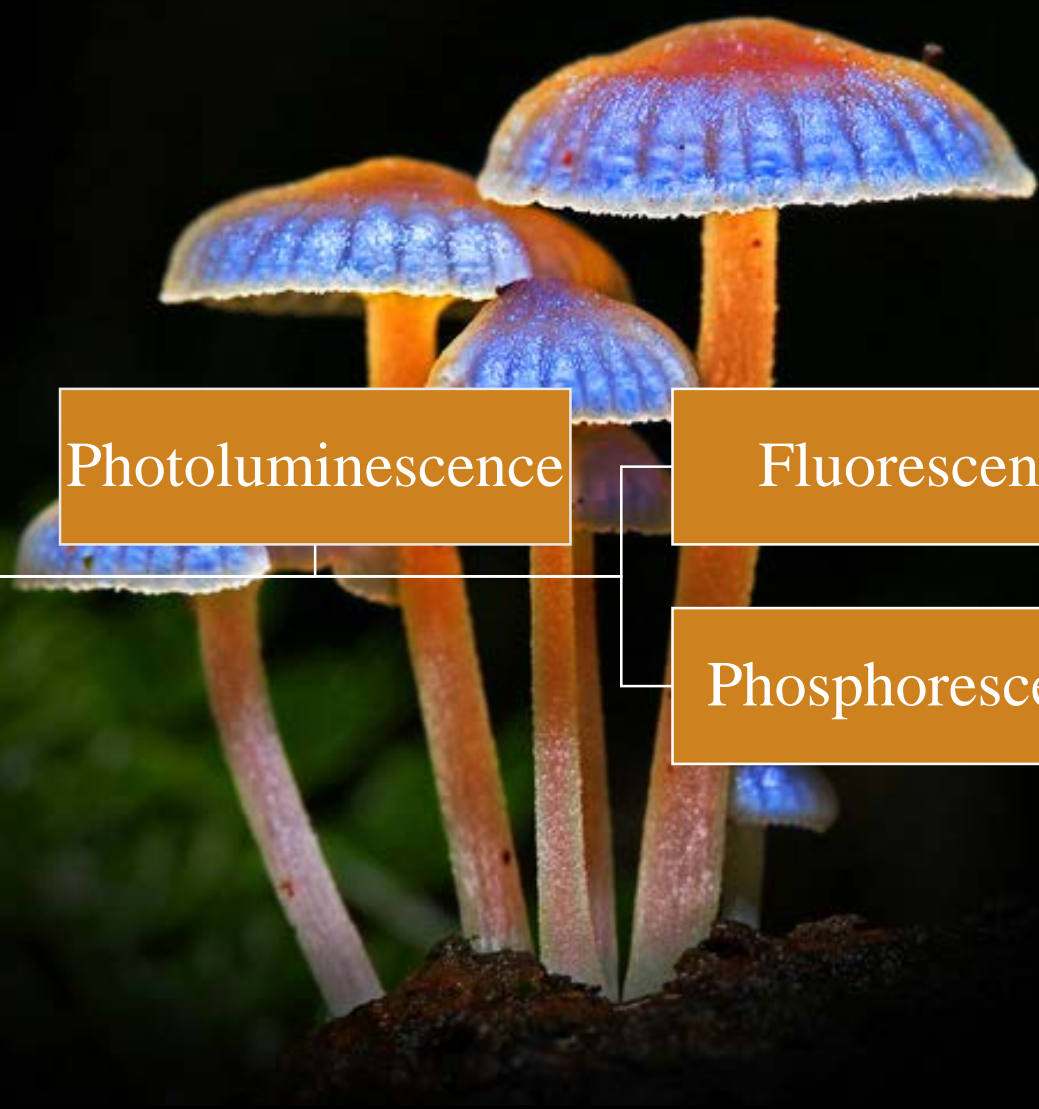
Eva Bártová

Institute of Biophysics

Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic

Table 7.1 Different Types of Light Microscopy: A Comparison

Type of Microscopy	Light Micrographs of Human Cheek Epithelial Cells	Type of Microscopy
<p>Brightfield (unstained specimen). Passes light directly through specimen; unless cell is naturally pigmented or artificially stained, image has little contrast.</p>		<p>Phase-contrast. Enhances contrast in unstained cells by amplifying variations in density within specimen; especially useful for examining living, unpigmented cells.</p>
<p>Brightfield (stained specimen). Staining with various dyes enhances contrast, but most staining procedures require that cells be fixed (preserved).</p>		<p>Differential-interference-contrast (Nomarski). Like phase-contrast microscopy, it uses optical modifications to exaggerate differences in density.</p>
<p>Fluorescence. Shows the locations of specific molecules in the cell. Fluorescent substances absorb short-wavelength, ultraviolet radiation and emit longer-wavelength, visible light. The fluorescing molecules may occur naturally in the specimen but more often are made by tagging the molecules of interest with fluorescent molecules.</p>		<p>Confocal. Uses lasers and special optics for “optical sectioning.” Only those regions within a narrow depth of focus are imaged. Regions above and below the selected plane of view appear black rather than blurry. This microscope is typically used with fluorescently stained specimens, as in the example here.</p>



Luminescence

Photoluminescence

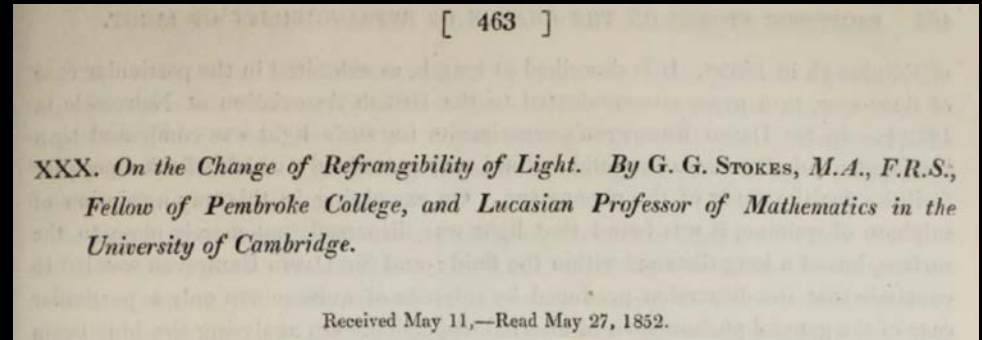
Fluorescence

Phosphorescence

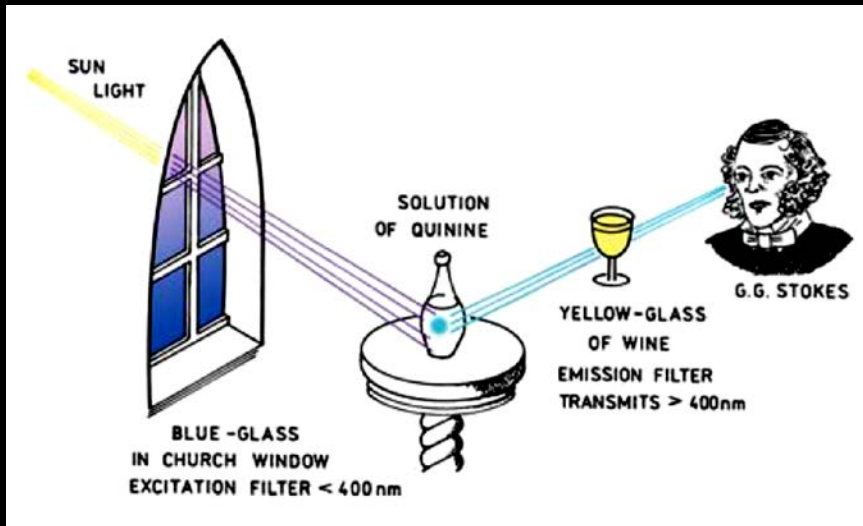
Introduction to Fluorescence



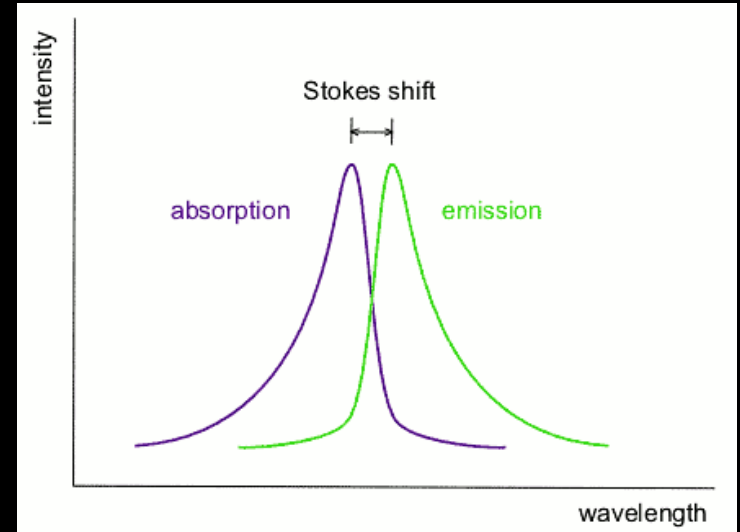
Sir George Gabriel Stokes (1819 – 1903)
a British physicist and mathematician



<http://rstl.royalsocietypublishing.org/content/142/463.full.pdf+html>



Lakowicz et al., 2006



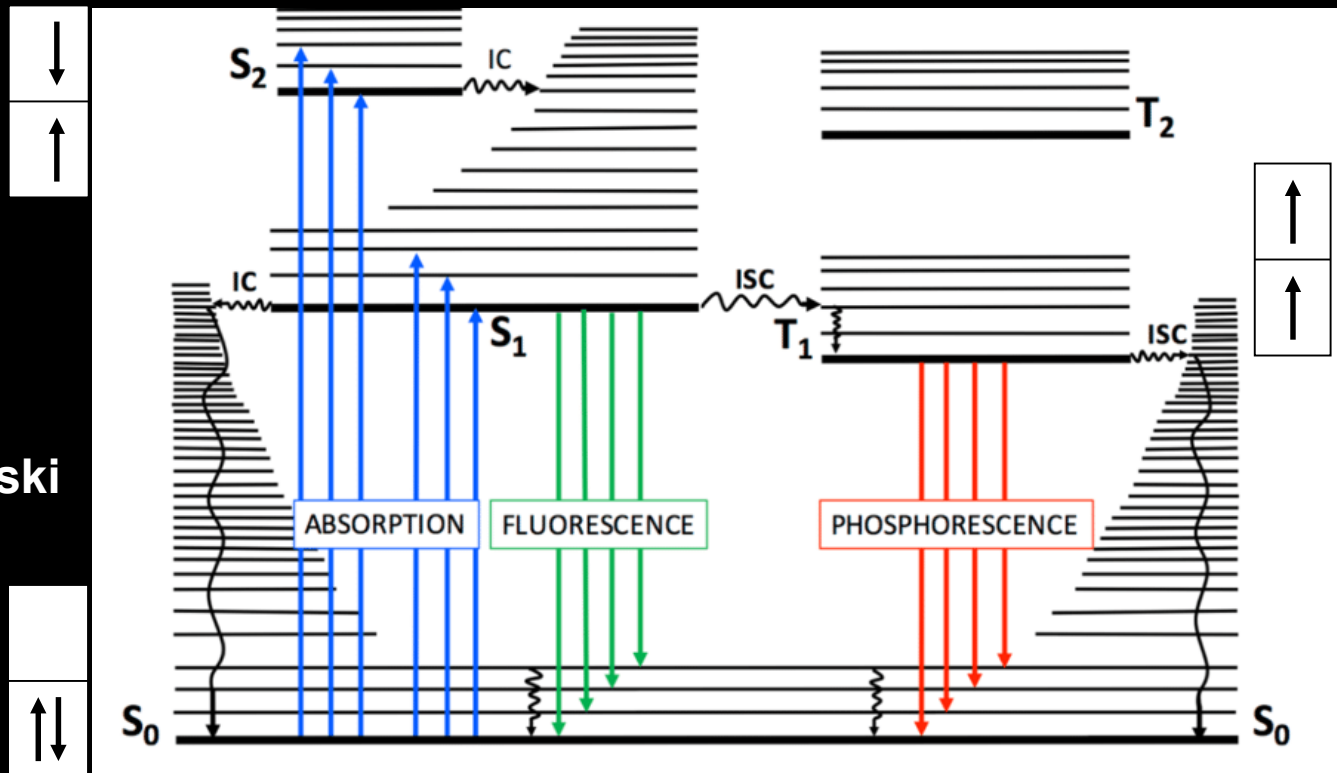
Ishikawa-Ankerhold et al., 2012

Introduction to Fluorescence

Perrin-Jablonski diagram (1935)



Aleksander Jabłoński
(1898 – 1980)

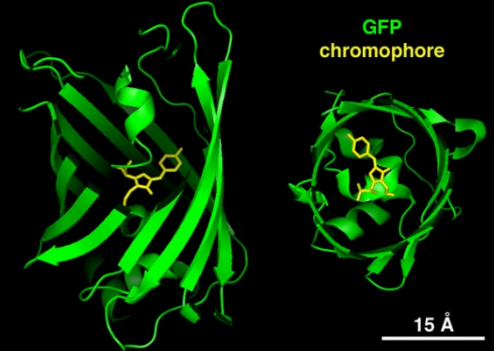


https://www.researchgate.net/Perrin-Jablonski-diagram-The-vibrational-manifold-associated-with-electronic-states-is_fig7_321823164

- ground state (singlet S_0)
- vibrational relaxation
- internal conversion (IC) → the lowest singlet state (S_1)
- intersystem crossing (ISC) → triplet state (T_1)

Introduction to Fluorescence

Aequorea victoria



The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2008
Osamu Shimomura, Martin Chalfie, Roger Y. Tsien

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The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2008

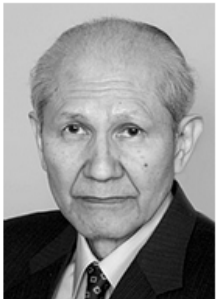


Photo: U. Montan
Osamu Shimomura
Prize share: 1/3



Photo: U. Montan
Martin Chalfie
Prize share: 1/3

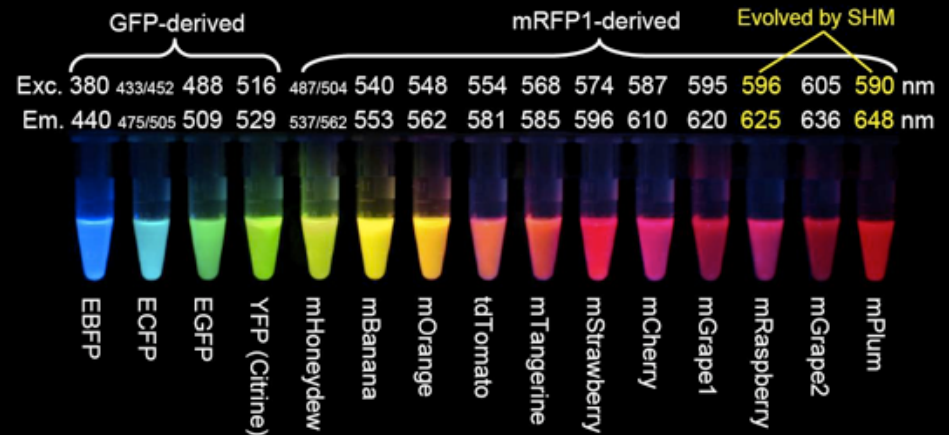


Photo: U. Montan
Roger Y. Tsien
Prize share: 1/3

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2008 was awarded jointly to Osamu Shimomura, Martin Chalfie and Roger Y. Tsien *"for the discovery and development of the green fluorescent protein, GFP"*.

Photos: Copyright © The Nobel Foundation

https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/chemistry/laureates/2008/

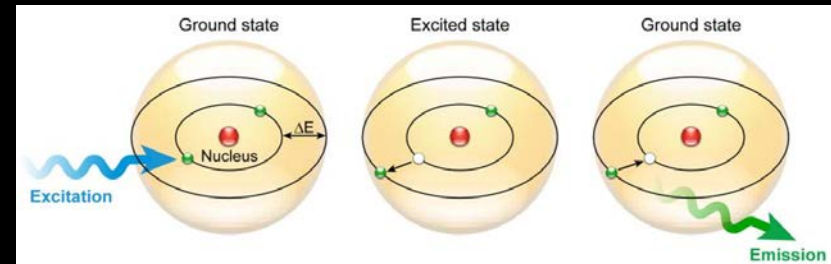


<http://photobiology.info/Zimmer.html>

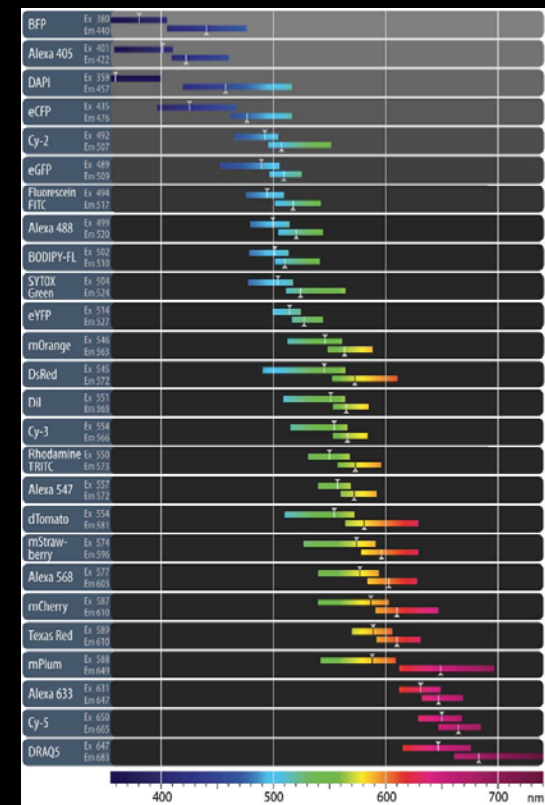
Introduction to Fluorescence

Fluorophores

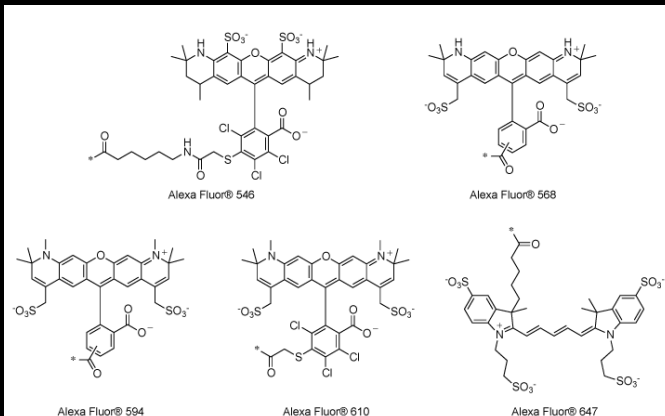
- chemical compounds: re-emit light upon light excitation
- absorb light (a particular wavelength) → transiently excited → return to ground state
- contain several combined aromatic groups, or plane or cyclic molecules with several π groups
- not all energy is emitted as fluorescence, some is dissipated as heat or vibrational energy



Ishikawa-Ankerhold et al., 2012



Carl Zeiss Micro_Imaging GmbH

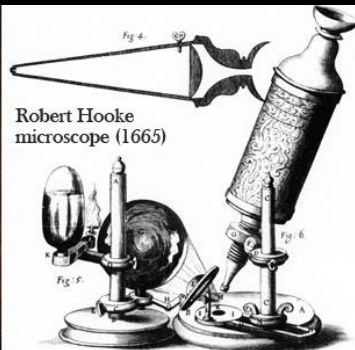
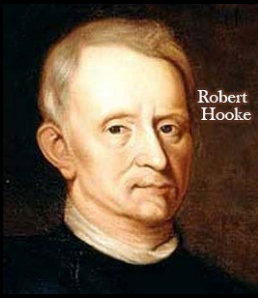
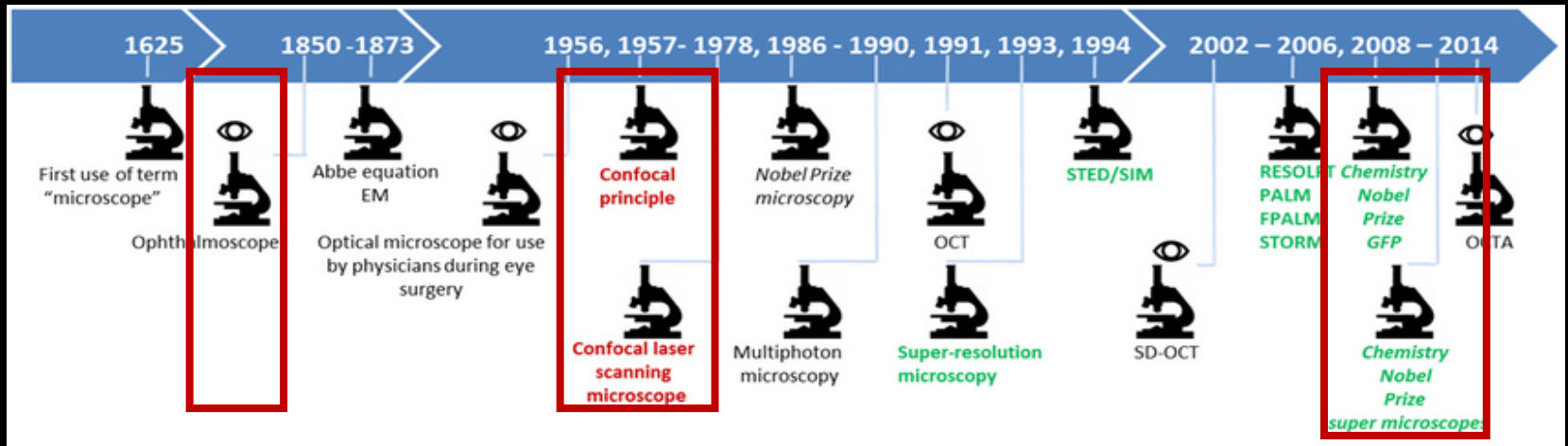




WHAT ARE YOU
LOOKING AT?

Bolo

History of Microscopy:



Marvin L. Minsky
(1927-2016)

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2014
Eric Betzig, Stefan W. Hell, William E. Moerner

Share this:

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2014



Photo: A. Mahmoud
Eric Betzig
Prize share: 1/3



Photo: A. Mahmoud
Stefan W. Hell
Prize share: 1/3



Photo: A. Mahmoud
William E. Moerner
Prize share: 1/3

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2014 was awarded jointly to Eric Betzig, Stefan W. Hell and William E. Moerner "for the development of super-resolved fluorescence microscopy".

The microscope

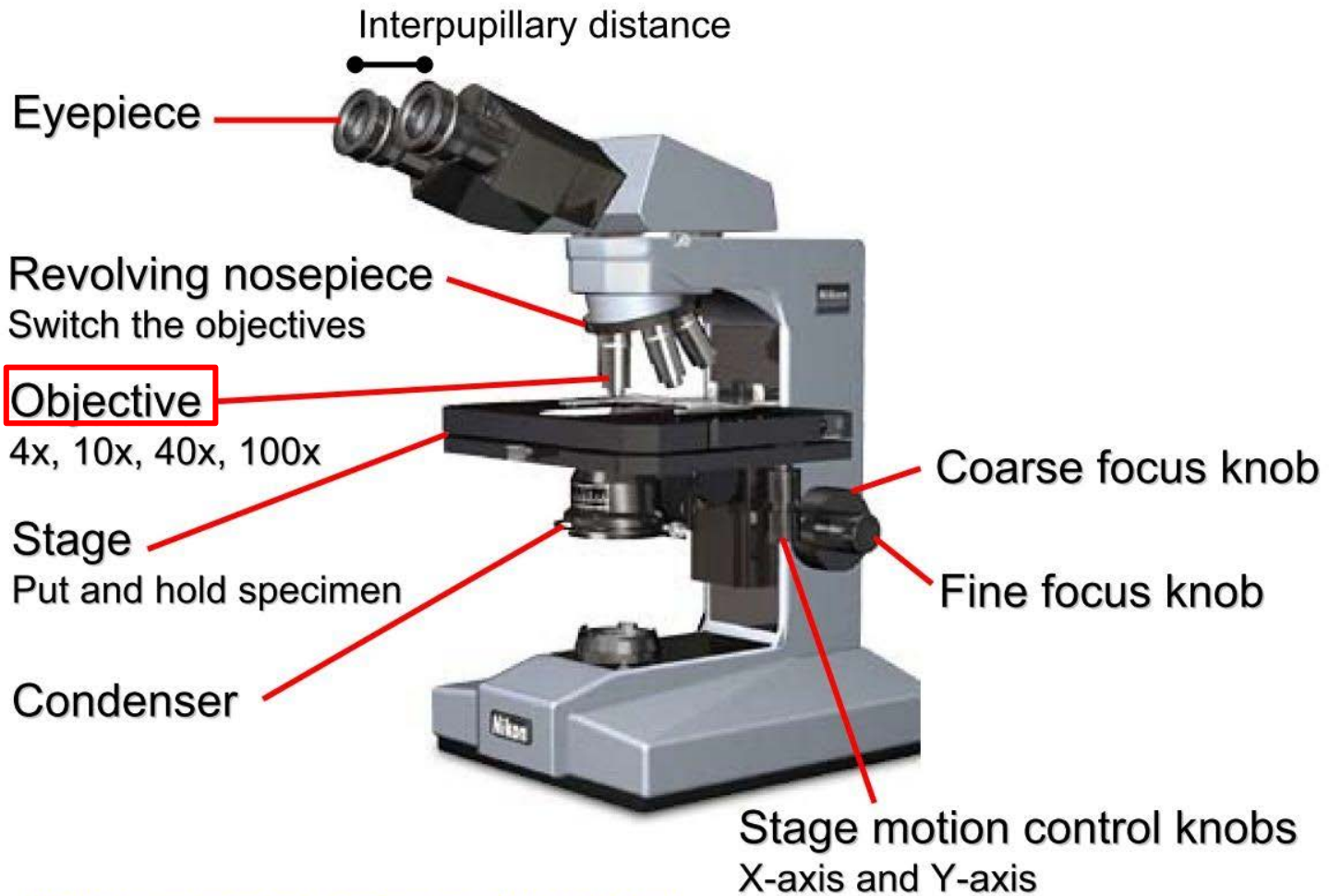
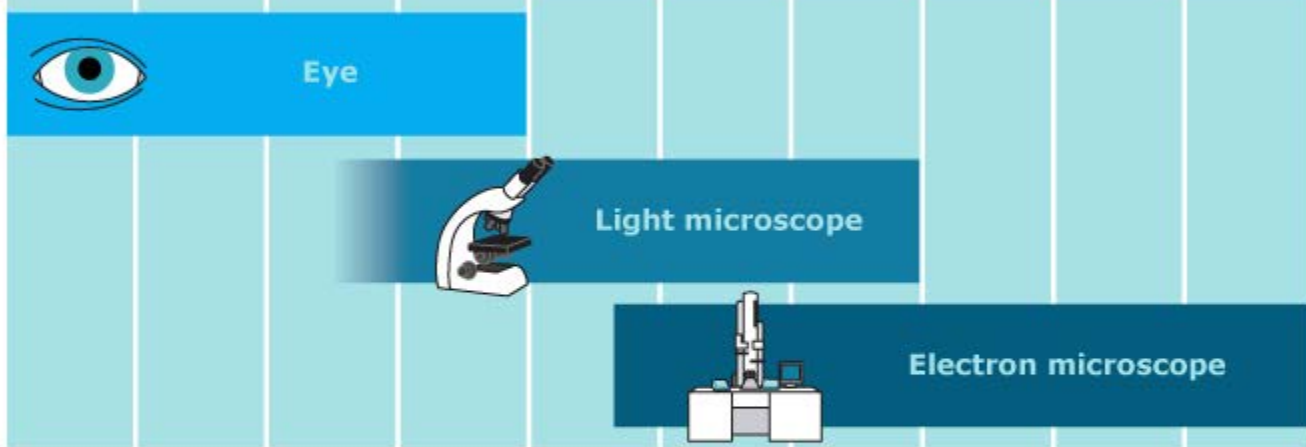


Fig : <http://www.microscopyu.com/museum/labophot.html>

Resolving power of microscopes

1 m	1 dm	1 cm	1 mm	100 μm	10 μm	1 μm	100 nm	10 nm	1 nm	0.1 nm
1 m	10^{-1} m	10^{-2} m	10^{-3} m	10^{-4} m	10^{-5} m	10^{-6} m	10^{-7} m	10^{-8} m	10^{-9} m	10^{-10} m



Icons and their corresponding sizes from the scale above:

- height of a 5 year old child (1 m)
- width of a hand (1 dm)
- width of a finger (1 cm)
- thickness of human hair (100 μm)
- size of a red blood cell (10 μm)
- size of a bacterium (1 μm)
- size of a virus particle (100 nm)
- size of a DNA molecule (10 nm)
- size of a glucose molecule (1 nm)
- atom (0.1 nm)

Numerical Aperture (NA)

- ability to gather light and resolve fine specimen detail at a fixed object distance

$$\text{Numerical Aperture (NA)} = n \times \sin(\mu) \text{ or } n \times \sin(\alpha)$$

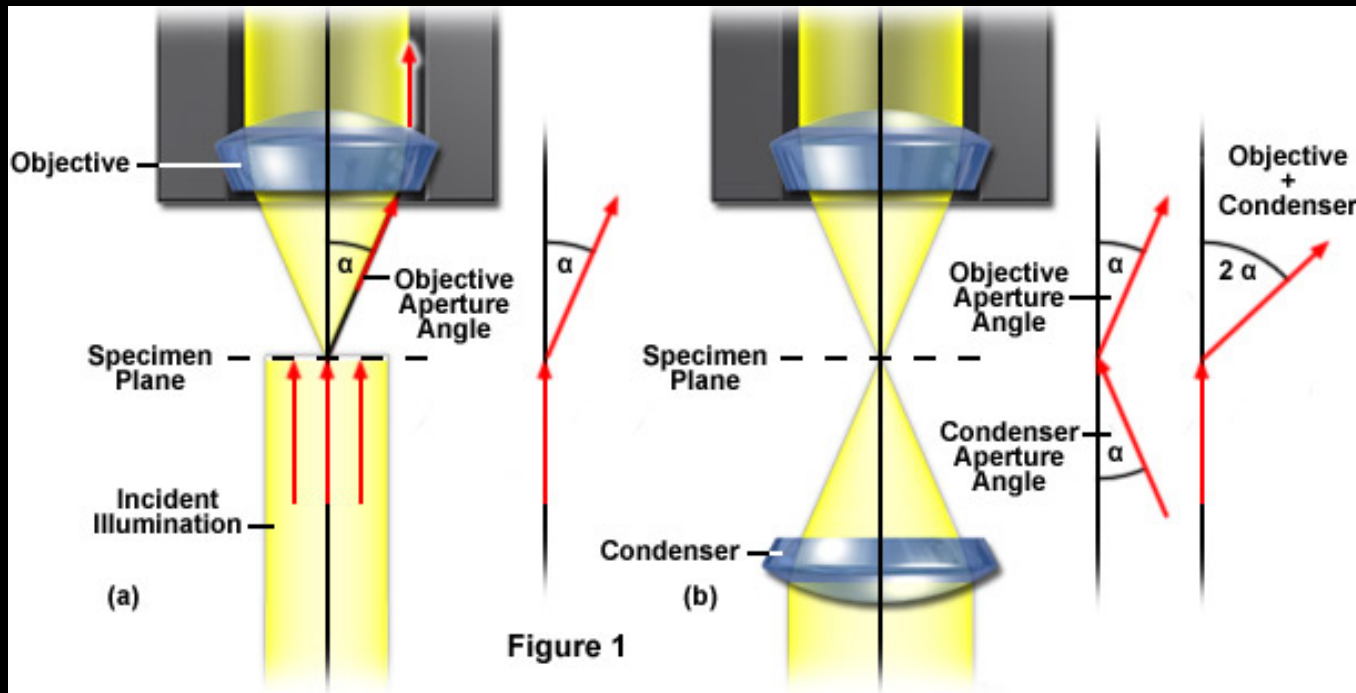


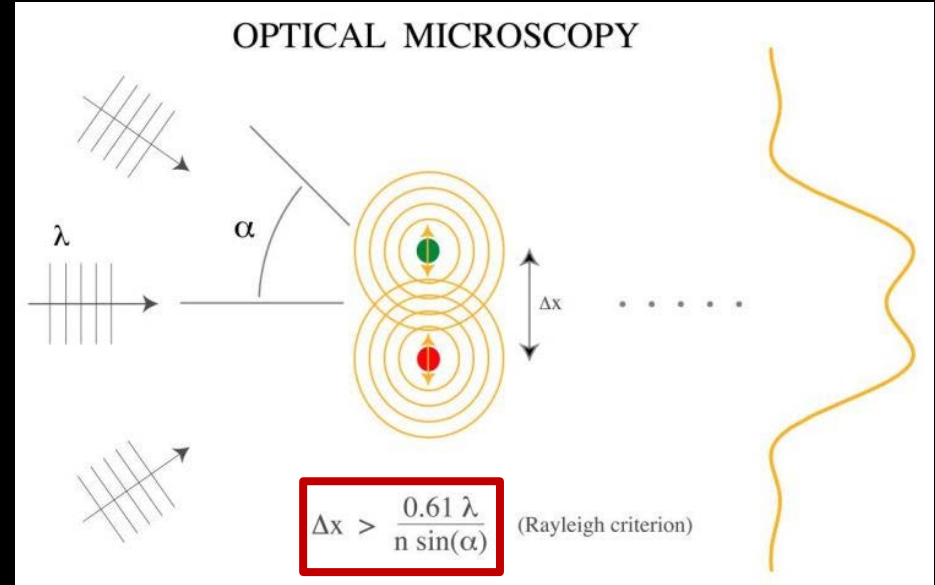
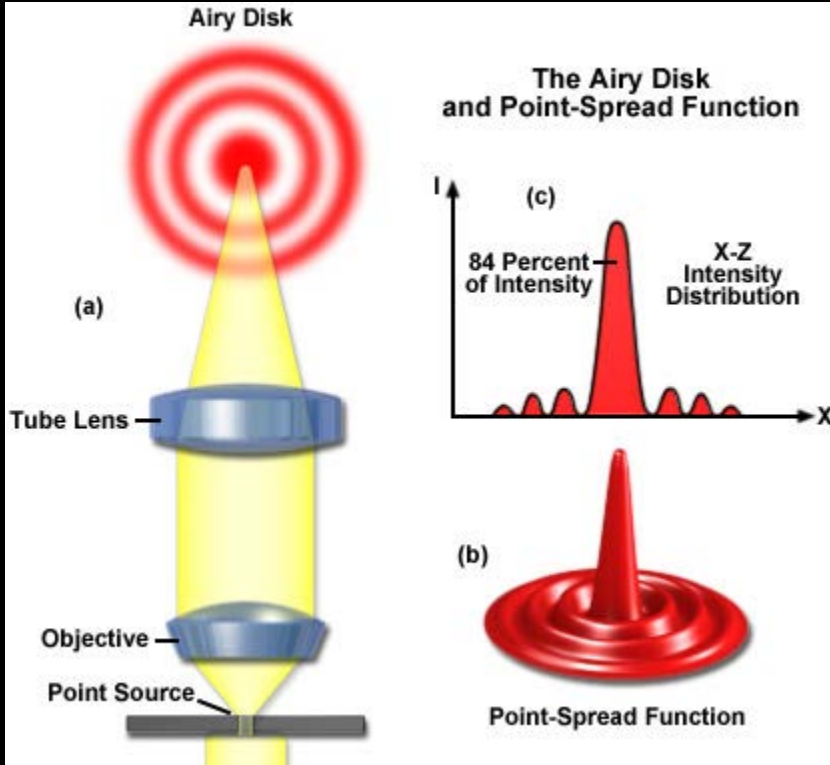
Figure 1

<http://zeiss-campus.magnet.fsu.edu/articles/basics/resolution.html>

- most oil immersion objectives → a maximum numerical aperture of 1.4
- the most common numerical apertures ranging from 1.0 to 1.35

Numerical Aperture (NA)

The Abbe diffraction limit



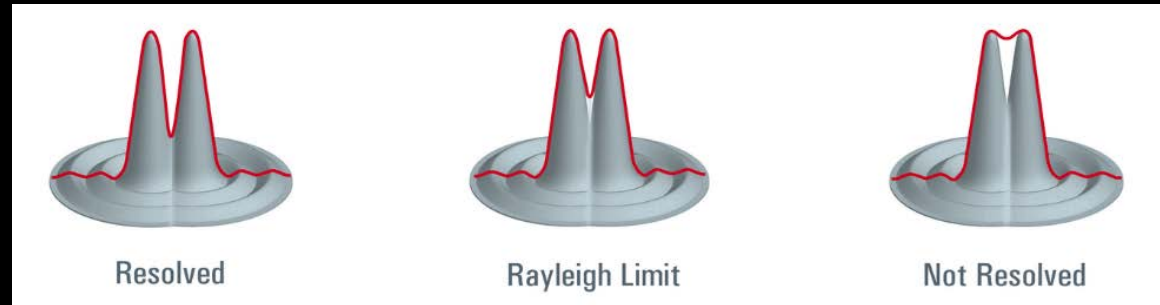
<http://www2.optics.rochester.edu/workgroups/novotny/snom.html>

<http://zeiss-campus.magnet.fsu.edu/articles/basics/resolution.html>

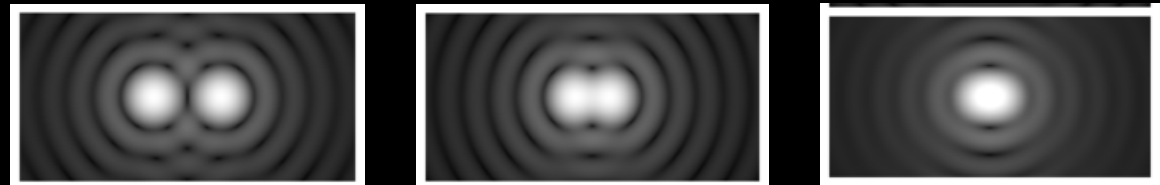
$$d = \frac{\lambda}{2n \sin \alpha}$$

The Abbe diffraction limit

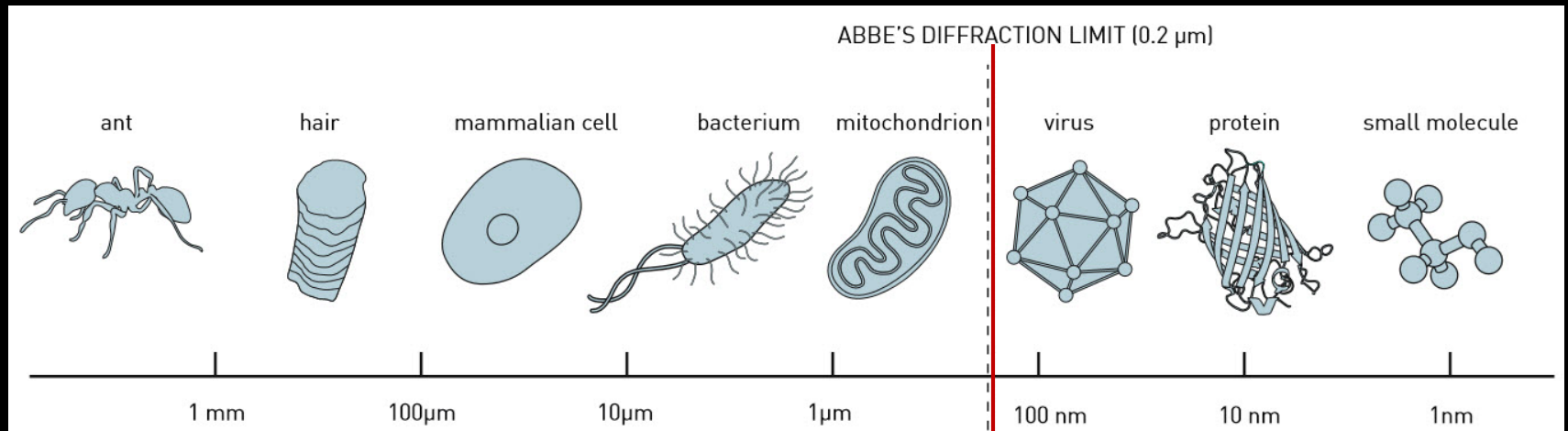
$$d = \frac{\lambda}{2n \sin \alpha}$$



<https://www.leica-microsystems.com/science-lab/microscope-resolution-concepts-factors-and-calculation/>



<https://phys.org/news/2016-09-quantum-mechanics-technique-rayleigh-curse.html>



<http://www.kurzweilai.net/the-nobel-prize-in-chemistry-2014-beyond-the-diffraction-limit-in-microscopy>

Confocal Microscopy

- basic concept of confocal microscopy (1950s)
- advances in computer and laser technology



Marvin L. Minsky
(1927-2016)

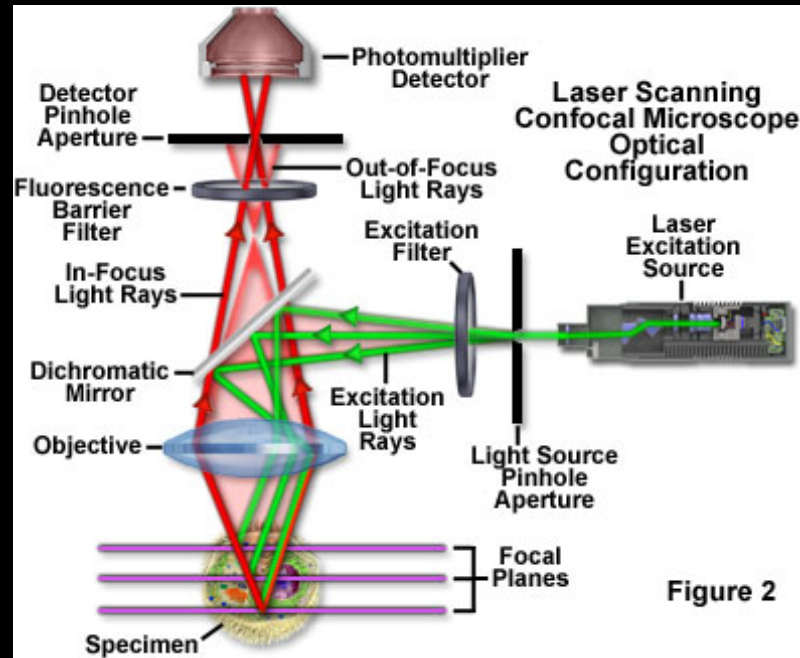


Figure 2

<http://fluoview.magnet.fsu.edu/theory/confocalintro.html>

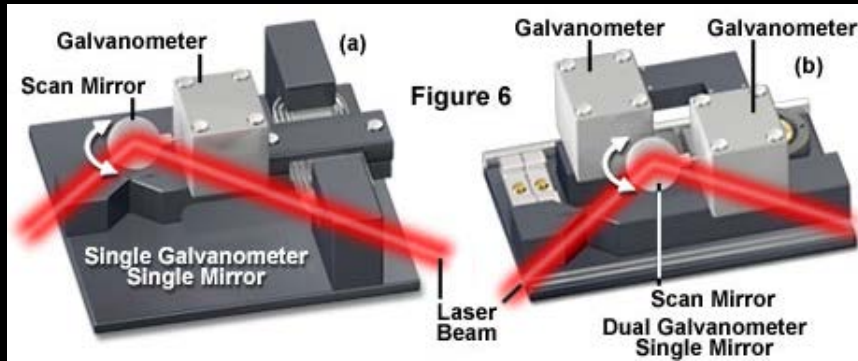
1. Laser Excitation Source
2. Reflected through dichroic mirror
3. Into lens (Objective)
4. Focussed to the point in specimen
5. Emitted light (from specimen)
6. Into same lens
7. Beam splitter
8. Detector (Photomultiplier)

Confocal Microscope

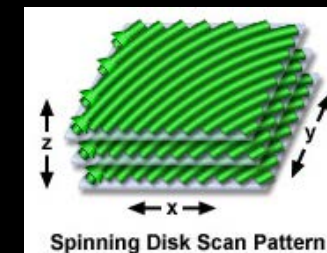
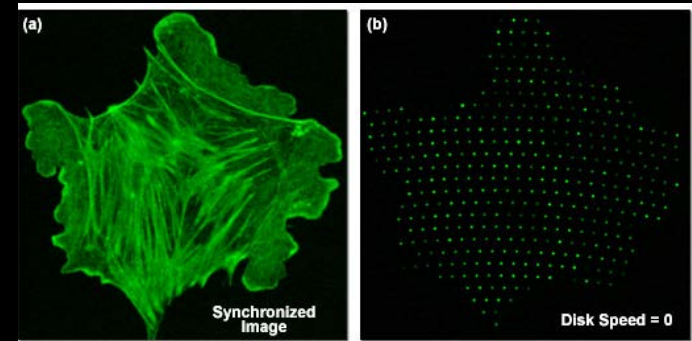
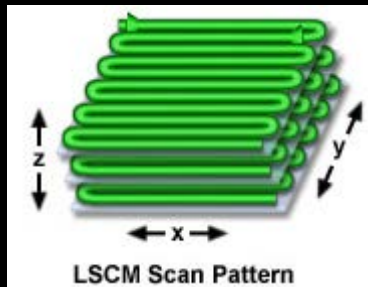
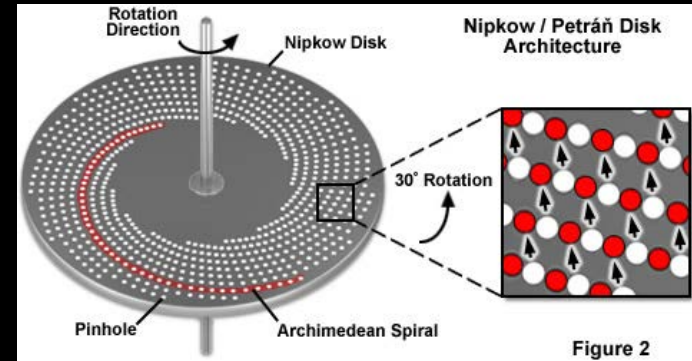


Mojmír Petráň (1923)

Confocal Microscope Scanning System



Nipkow disk



SIM (Structured Illumination Microscopy)

Visualization of Spatial Information via Moiré Fringes

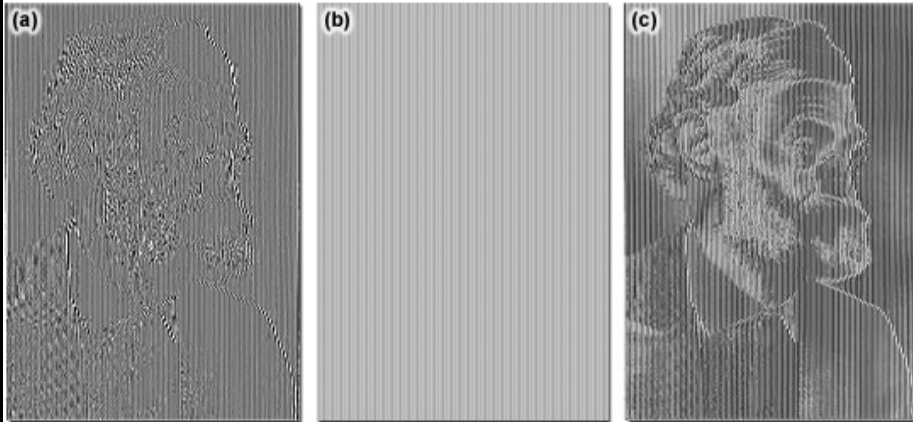
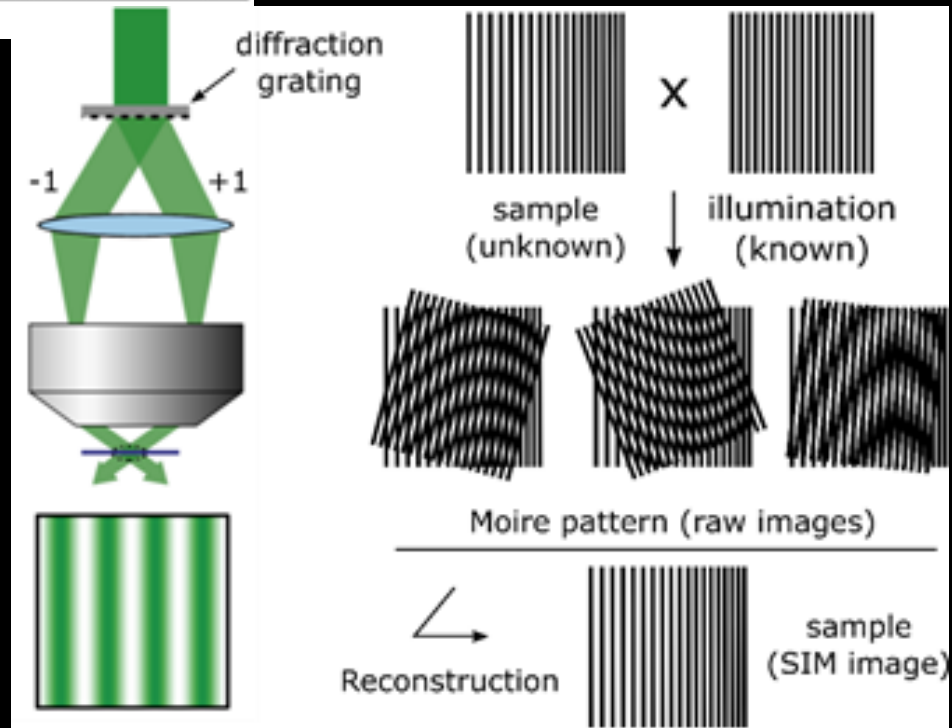


Figure 6



SIM (Structured Illumination Microscopy)

Advantages

- 2x increase in spatial resolution over wide-field microscopy → lateral (in xy) ~100 nm
- 3D imaging at fast frame rate
- labelling using conventional fluorophores
- up to 3 simultaneous colour imaging (other super-resolution microscopy modalities are often limited to 2)

Disadvantages

- artefacts generated during image reconstruction
- sensitive to out-of-focus light and so difficult on thick or too densely labelled samples.

Stimulated emission depletion (STED) microscopy



- super-resolution microscopy
- overcomes the diffraction limit of light microscopy

 The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2014
Eric Betzig, Stefan W. Hell, William E. Moerner

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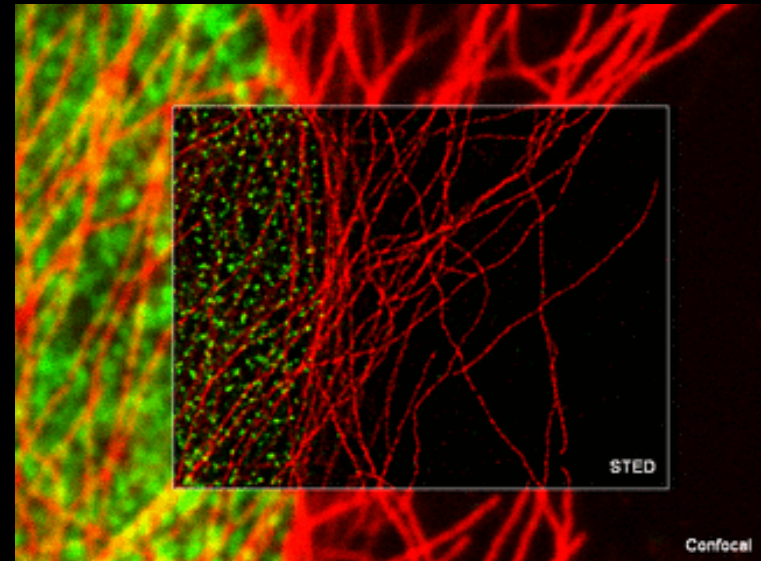
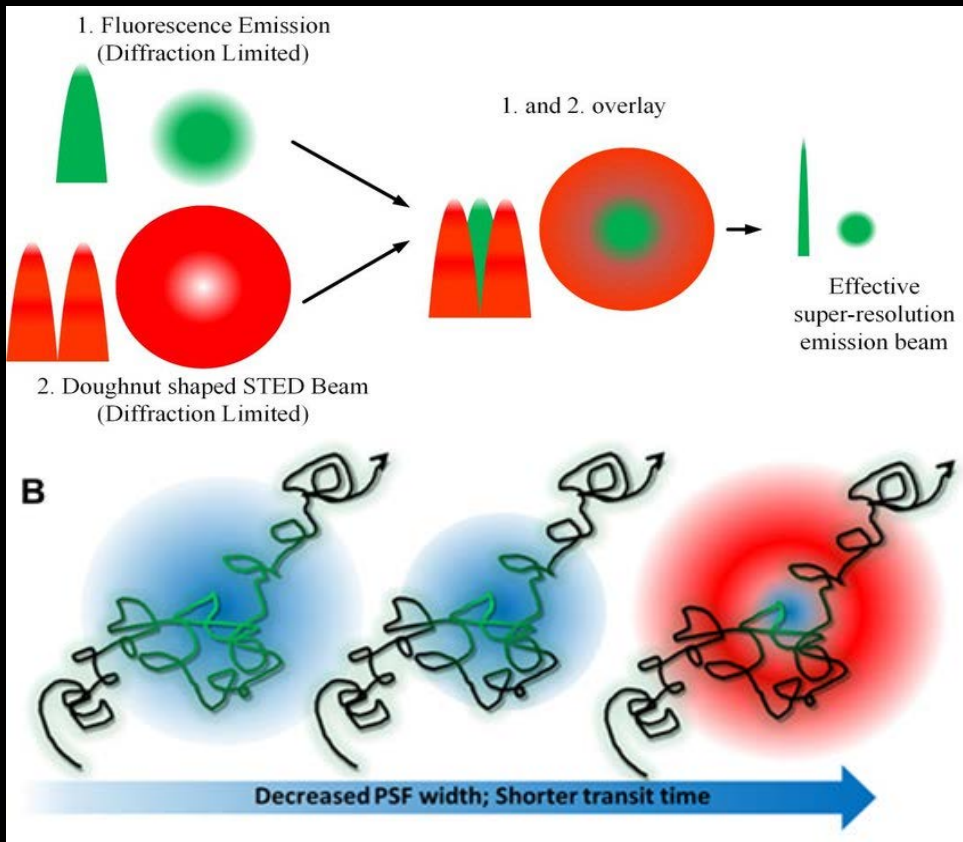
The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2014

		
Photo: A. Mahmoud Eric Betzig Prize share: 1/3	Photo: A. Mahmoud Stefan W. Hell Prize share: 1/3	Photo: A. Mahmoud William E. Moerner Prize share: 1/3

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2014 was awarded jointly to Eric Betzig, Stefan W. Hell and William E. Moerner "for the development of super-resolved fluorescence microscopy".

Stimulated emission depletion (STED) microscopy

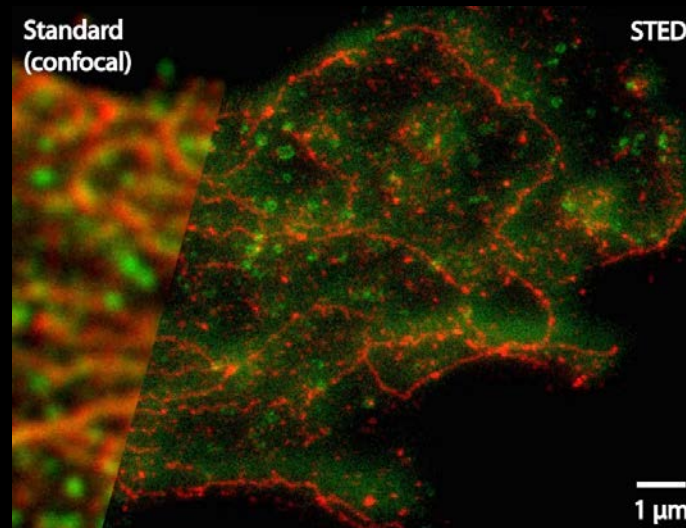
- switching off the fluorescence by intense laser light → in outer regions of diffraction limited excitation focus
- detected fluorescence in center excitation focus → high resolution images



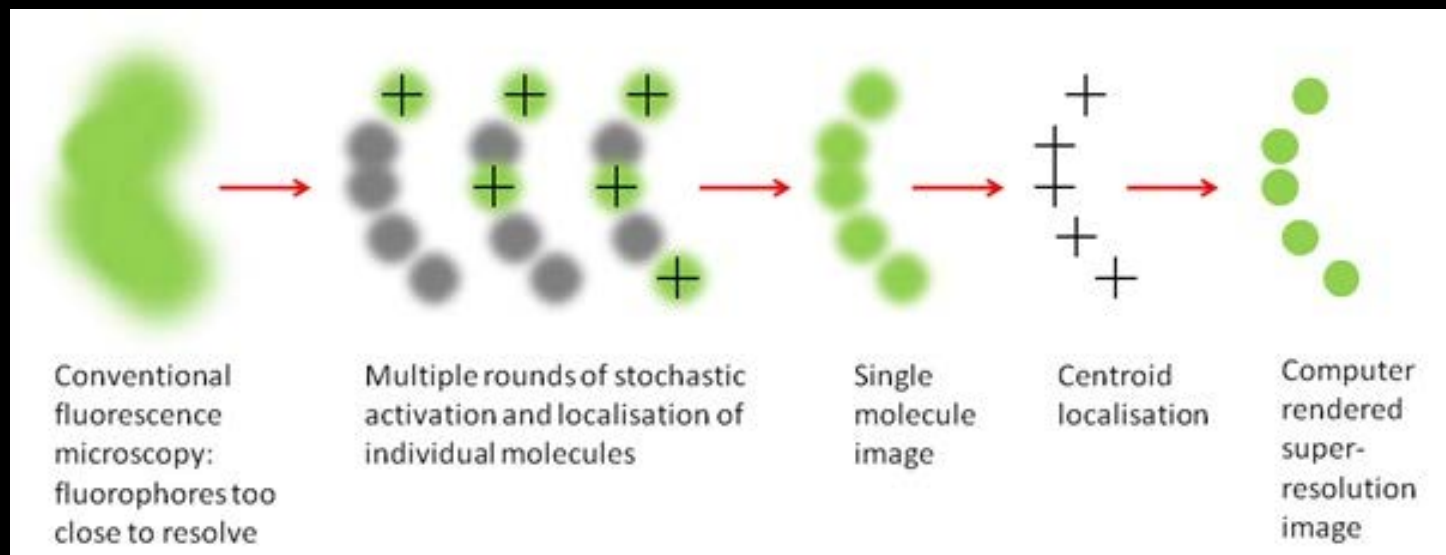
Stimulated emission depletion (STED) microscopy

Applications

- ❖ Structural analysis → instead of Electron Microscopy (EM)
- ❖ Correlative methods → combining AFM + STED
- ❖ Multicolor
- ❖ Live-cell (ONLY plasma membrane with organic dyes) → RECENTLY: multicolor live-cell STED (pulsed far-red laser)



Single-Molecule Localization Microscopy (SMLM)



Thorley et al., 2014

fBALM

CLEM

SMLM

SIM

T-REX

RESOLFT

STORM

STED

FPALM

dSTORM

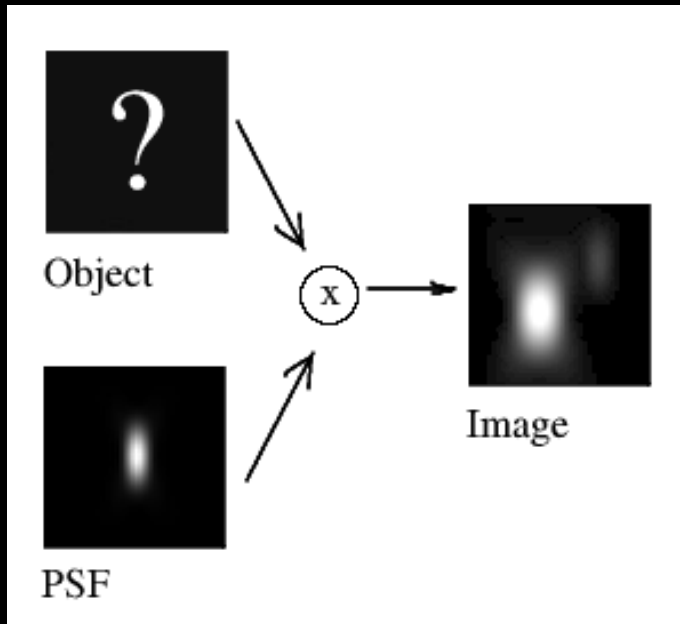
DyMIN STED

REDCue STED

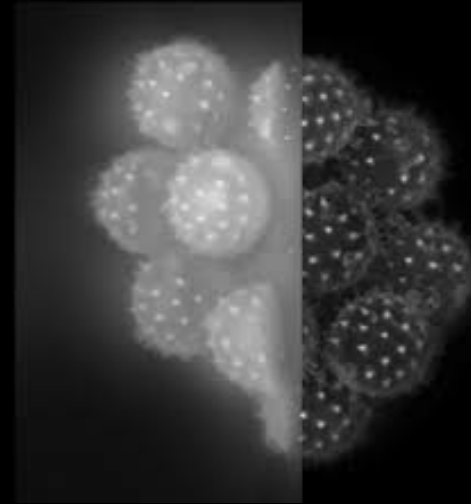
PALM

SOFI

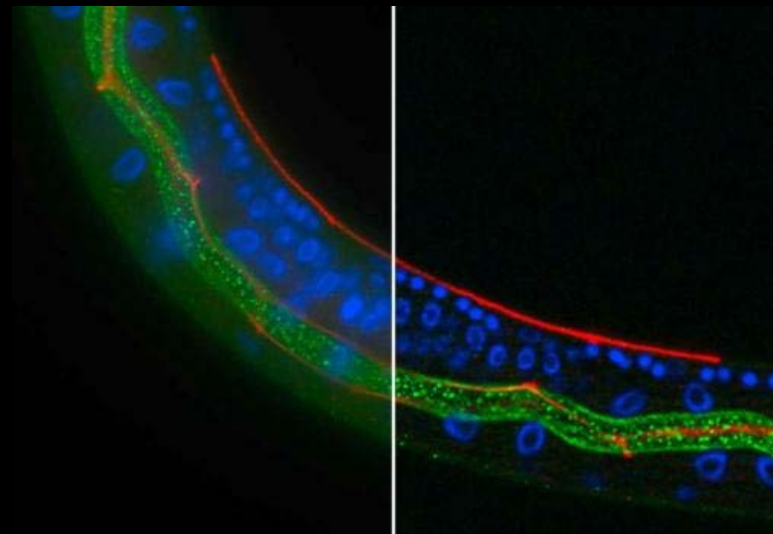
Deconvolution



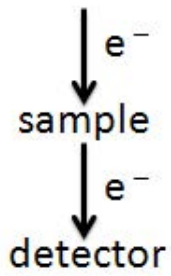
<https://svi.nl/Deconvolution>



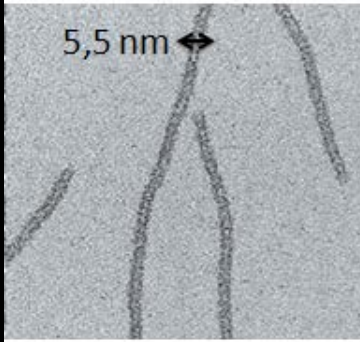
<http://meyerinst.com/imaging-software/autoquant/index.htm>



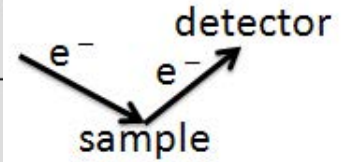
Electron Microscopes	Light Microscopes
Maximum resolution is 0.5nm	Maximum resolution is 200nm
Useful magnification is up to 250,000x in TEM, 100,000x in SEM	Useful magnification is around 1000x (1500x at best)
Wavelength is 1.0nm.	Wavelength is between 400-700nm.
Highly detailed images, and even 3D surface imaging.	See reasonable detail, with true colours.
Can see organelles of cells, bacteria and even viruses.	Good for small organisms, invertebrates and whole cells.



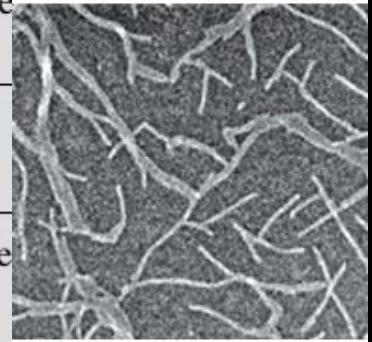
TEM



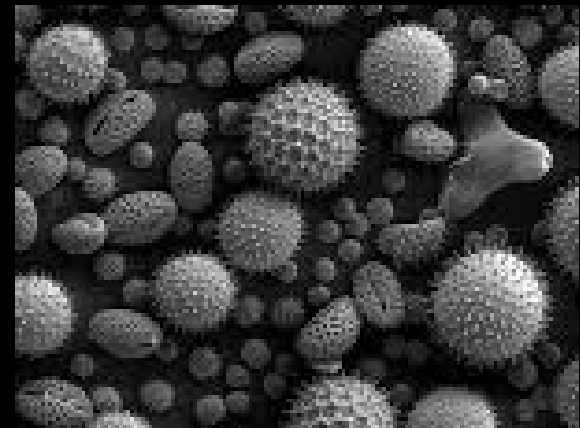
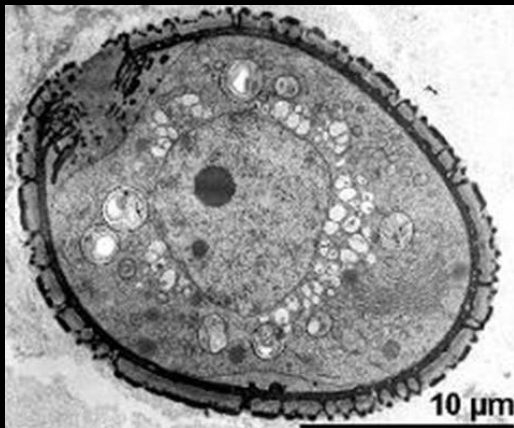
TEM	SEM
Electron beam passes through thin sample.	Electron beam scans over surface of sample.
Specially prepared thin samples are supported on TEM grids.	Sample can be any thickness and is mounted on an aluminum stub.
Specimen stage halfway down column.	Specimen stage in the chamber at the bottom of the column.
Image shown on fluorescent screen.	Image shown on TV monitor.
Image is a two dimensional projection of the sample.	Image is of the surface of the sample



SEM



<https://www.majordifferences.com/2016/08/difference-between-sem-and-tem.html>



Laboratory of Cellular Biophysics (2009)



Leica TCS SP-5 X

Leica TCS SP-8 SMD

Laser Scanning Confocal Microscope



- cultivation chamber (5% CO₂ and temperature control, **Live cell experiments**)
- WLL (470-670 nm, **Image acquisition**)
- Argon laser (Fluorescence Recovery After Photobleaching, **FRAP**)
- UV-lasers (355 nm and 405 nm, **DNA repair studies**)

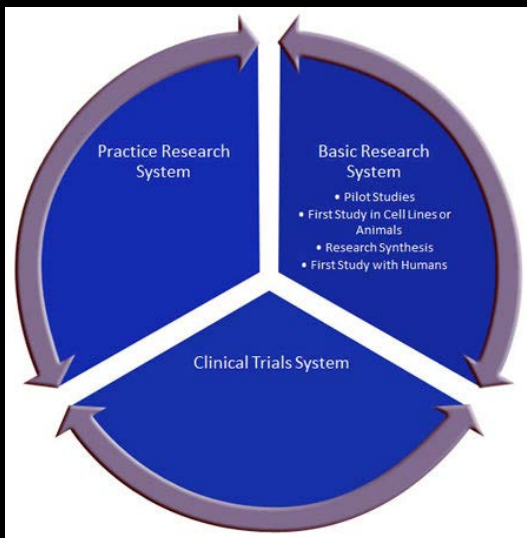


- cultivation chamber (5% CO₂ and temperature control, **Live cell experiments**)
- WLL (470-670 nm, **Image acquisition, FLIM-FRET**)
- Argon laser (Fluorescence Recovery After Photobleaching, **FRAP**)
- UV-laser (405 nm, **FLIM-FRET**)
- **FLIM-FRET**

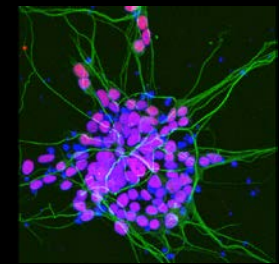
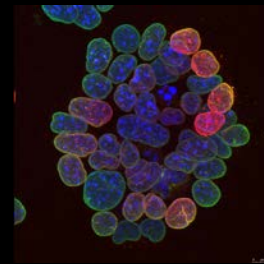


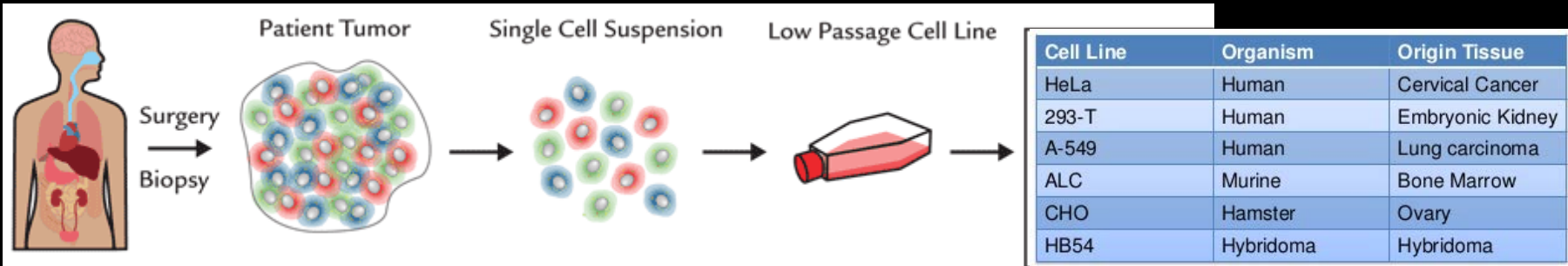
Department of Molecular Cytology and Cytometry

Assoc. prof. Eva Bártová, Ph.D.



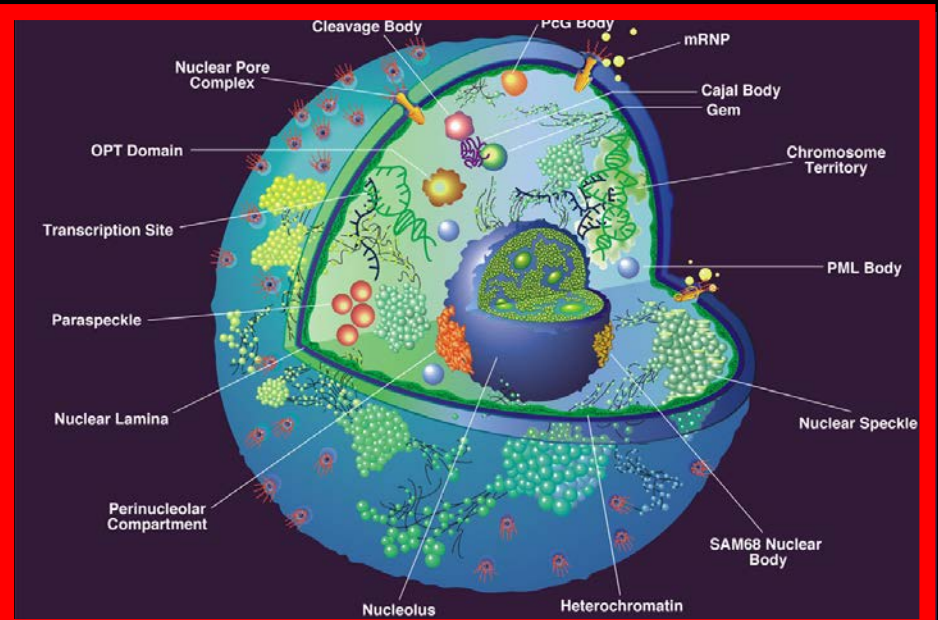
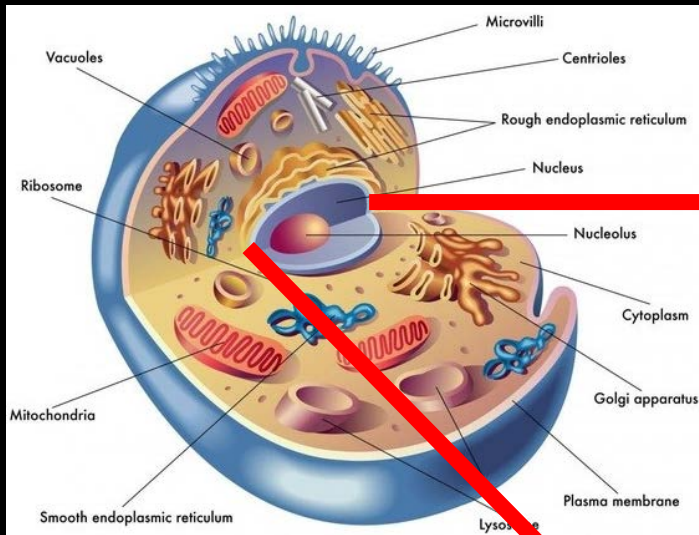
<https://urtechtransfer.files.wordpress.com/2012/07/cts11.jpg>



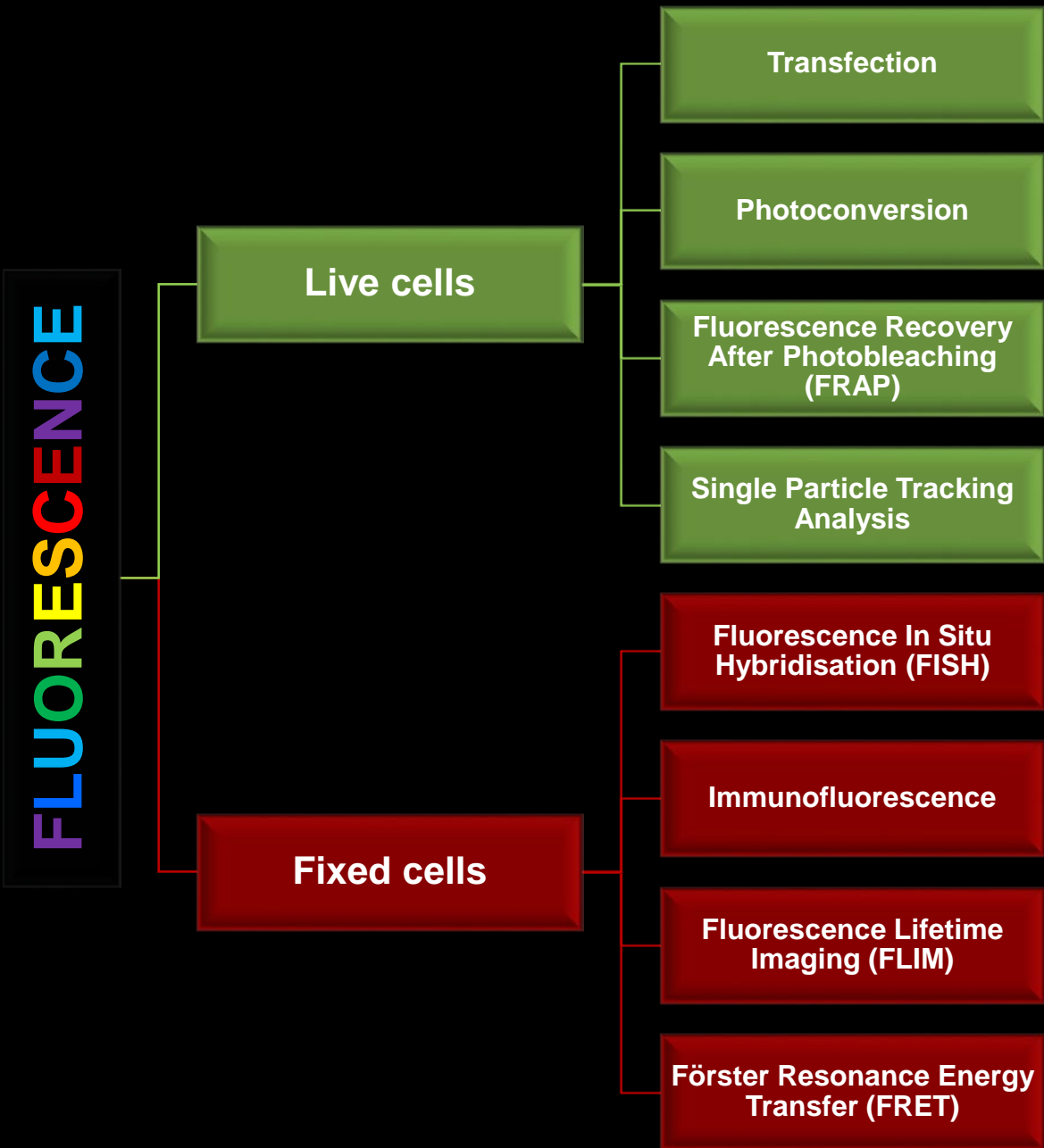


<https://www.biomol.com/rockland-introduces-melanoma-cell-lines.html?id=1427>

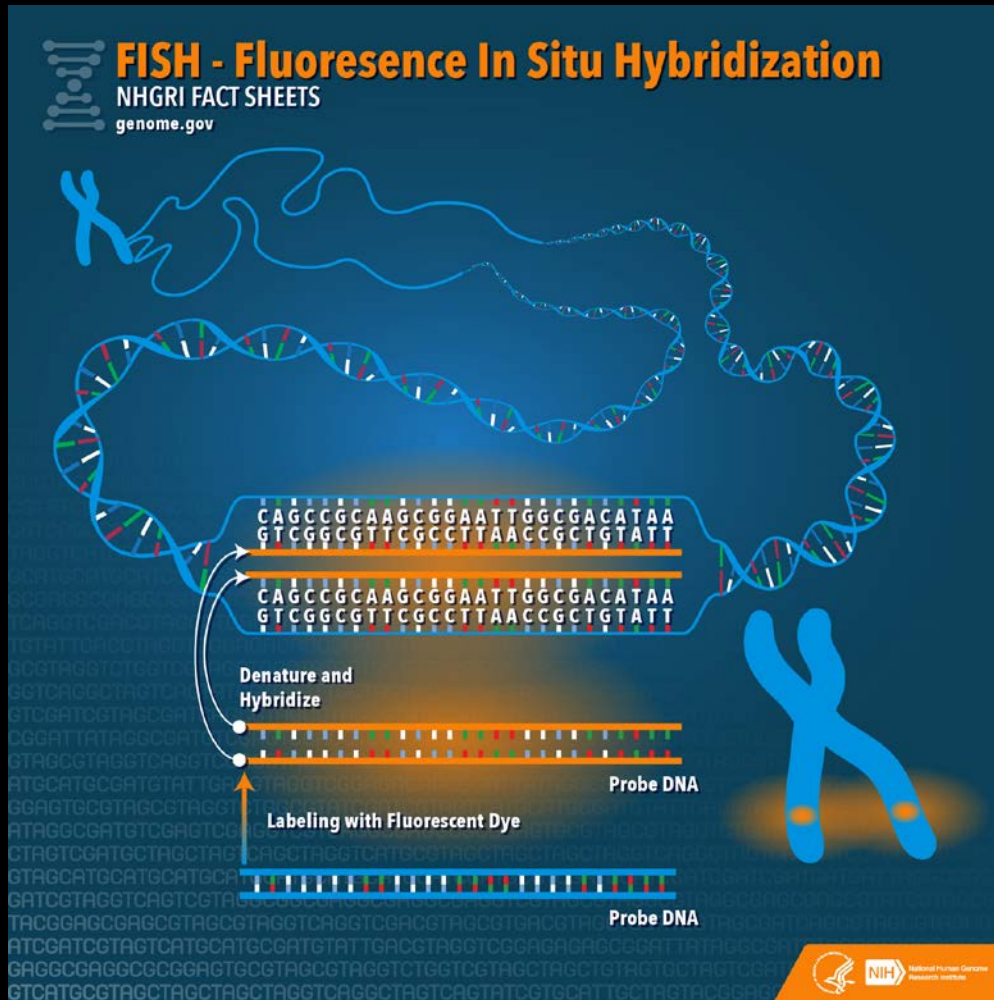
Eukaryotic cells (10 to 100 μm)



<http://spectorlab.labsites.cshl.edu/nuclear-domains/>, Pro. D L Spector



Methods



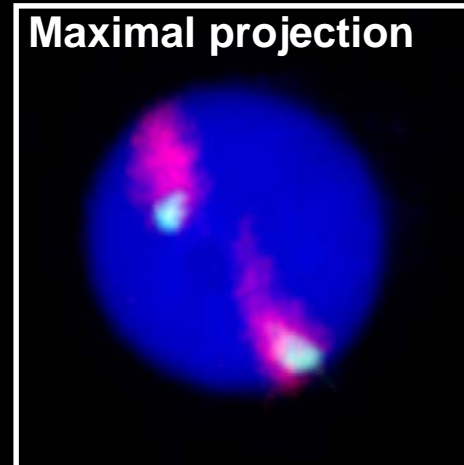
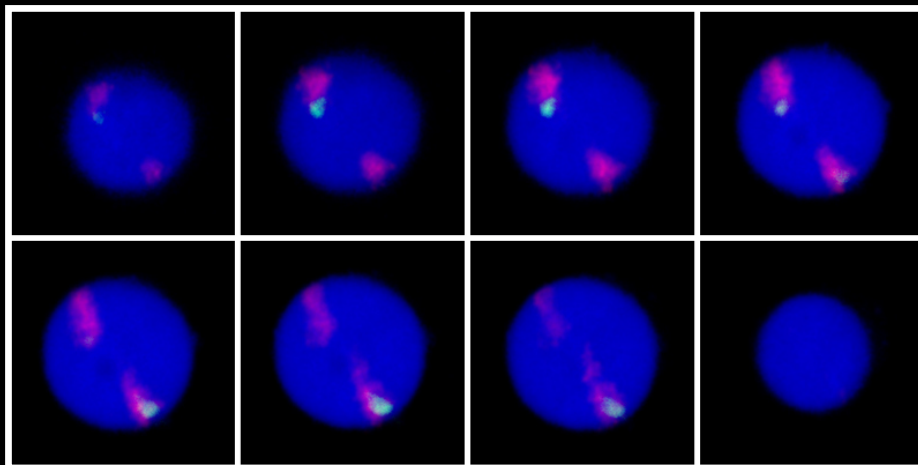
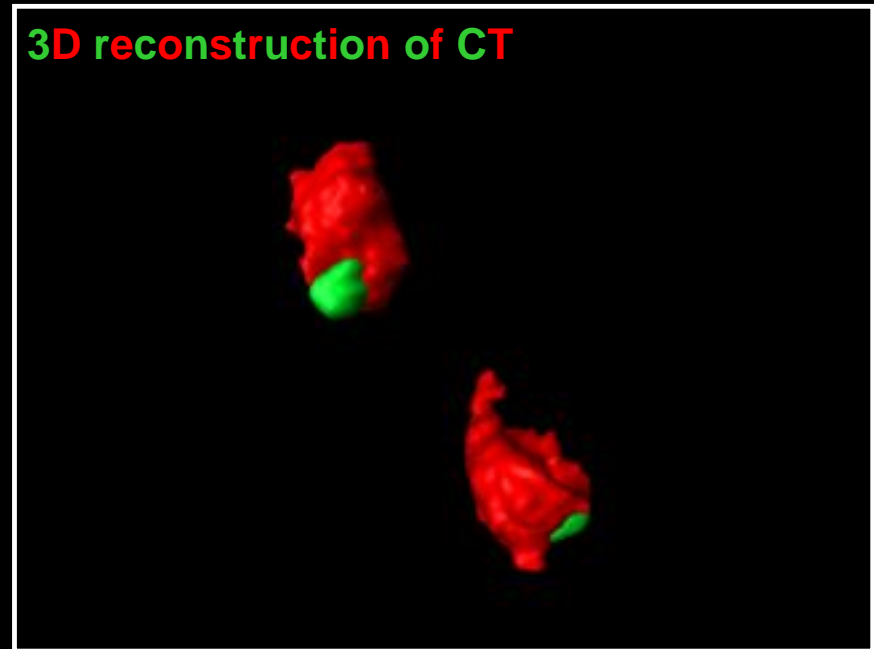
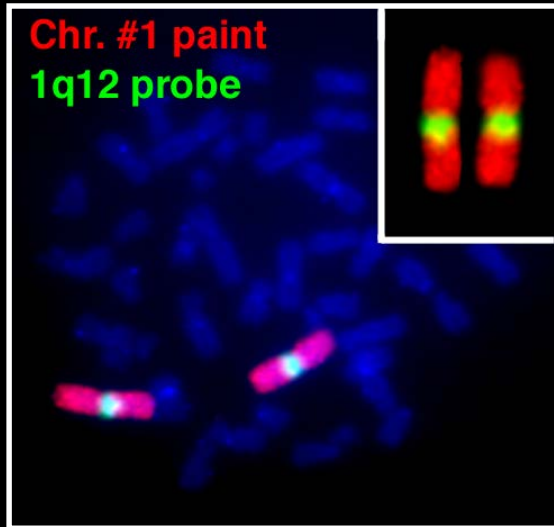
FISH:

- to form a diagnosis,
- to evaluate prognosis,
- or to evaluate remission of a disease, such as cancer

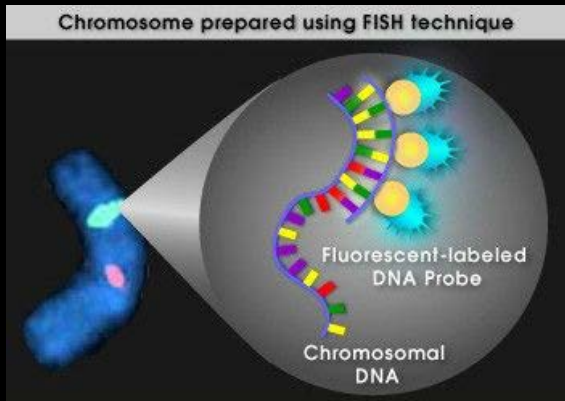
Examples of diseases:

- chronic myelogenous leukemia, t(9;22)(q34;q11)
- acute lymphoblastic leukemia, t(12;21)
- **Down syndrome**
- sperm cells: an abnormal somatic or meiotic karyotype
- does not require living cells
- quantified automatically (a computer counts)

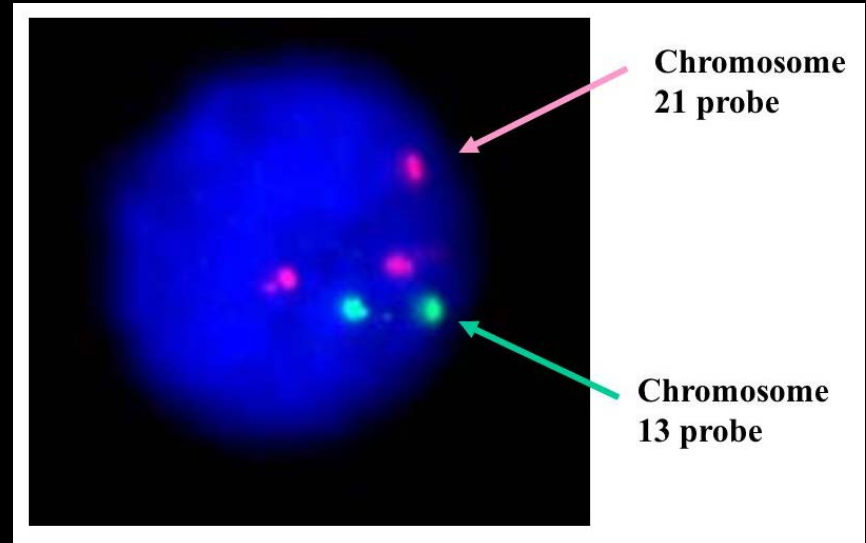
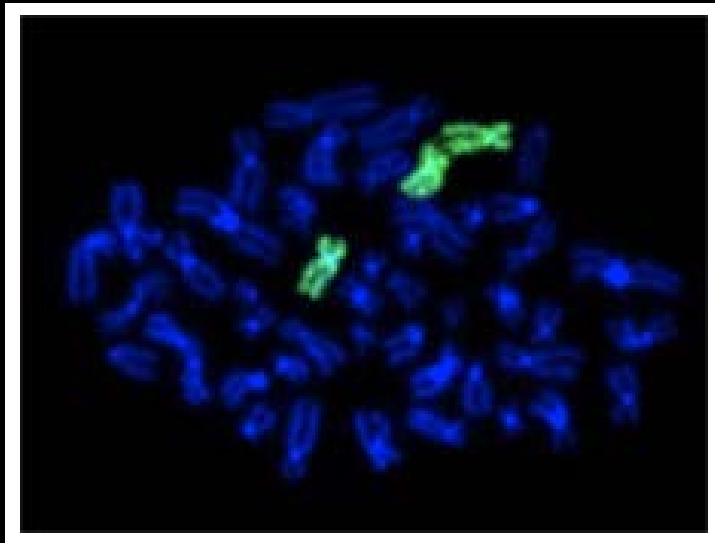
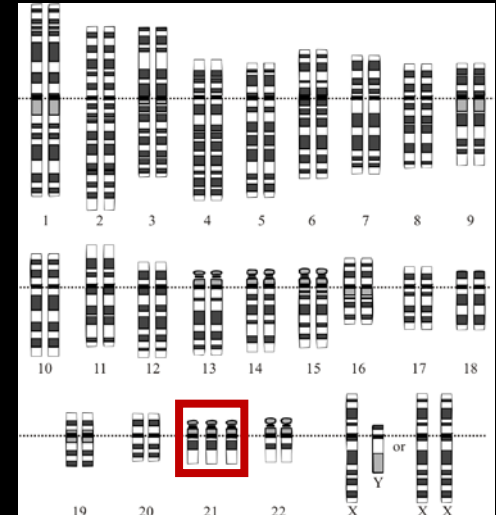
2D and 3D FISH



Down syndrome



<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/explore/in-situ-hybridization/>



http://swissperinatalinstitute.com/en/4_genetisch.html

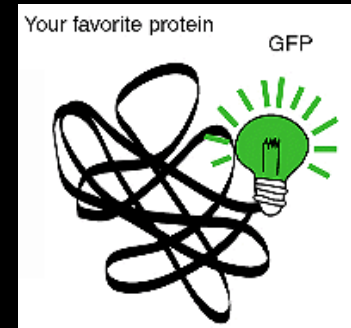
Methods

Transfection

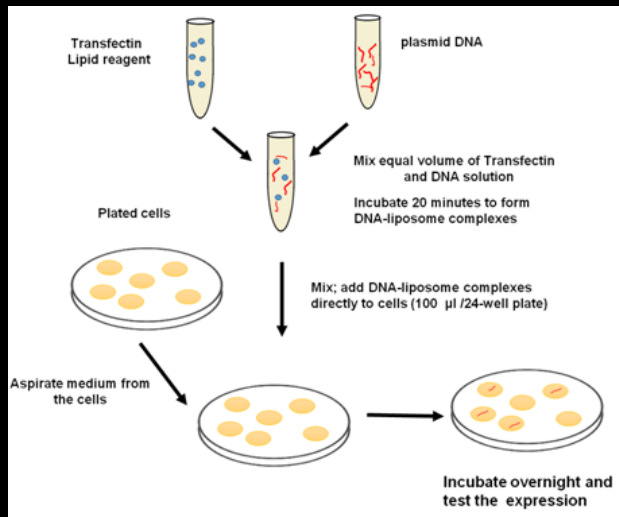
- transfer of non-viral genetic material into eucaryotic cells

Goal: to express a particular gene in the host cell

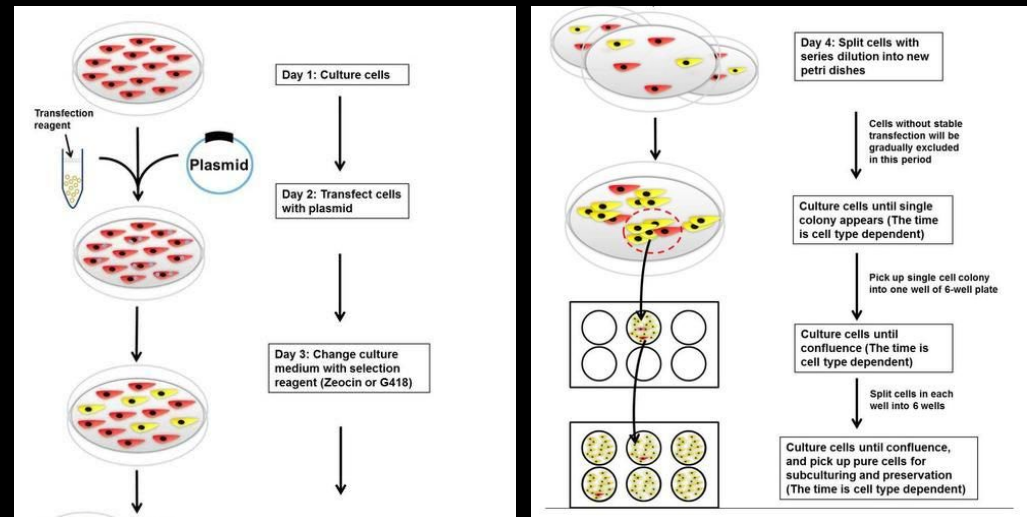
Used: to study gene expression regulation, protein function, gene silencing or gene therapy



Transient Transfection



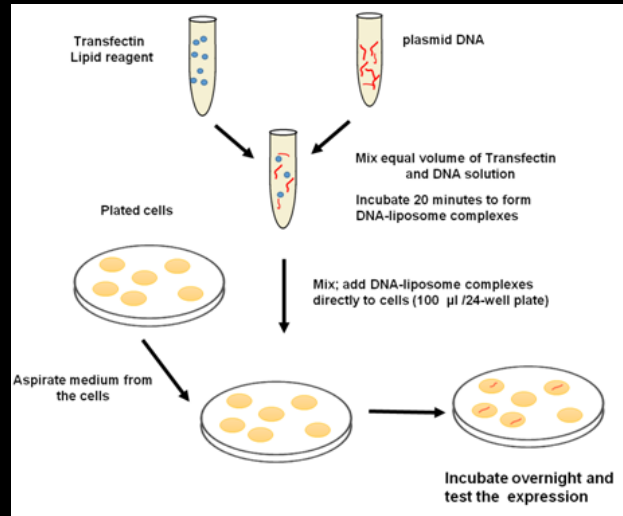
Stable Transfection



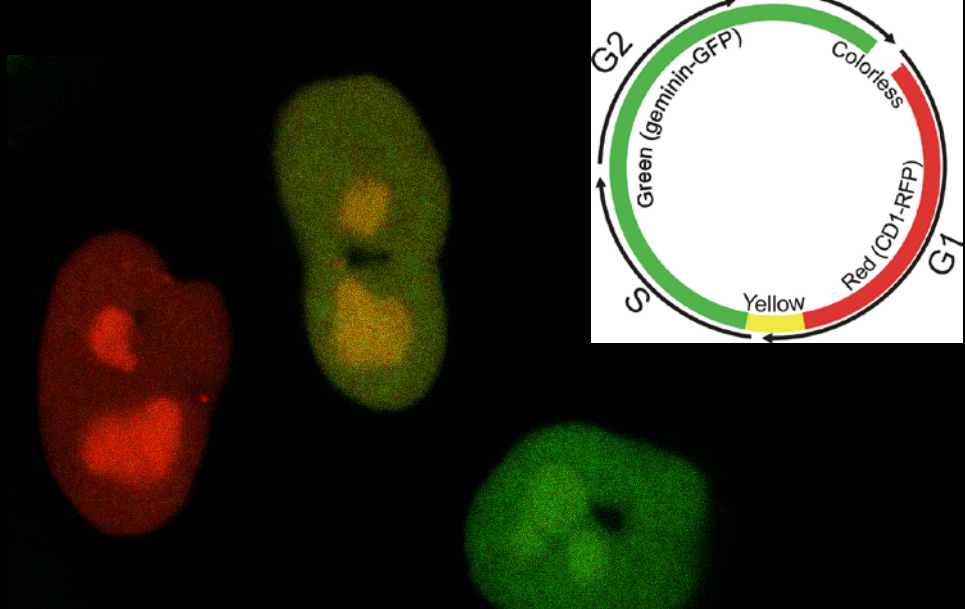
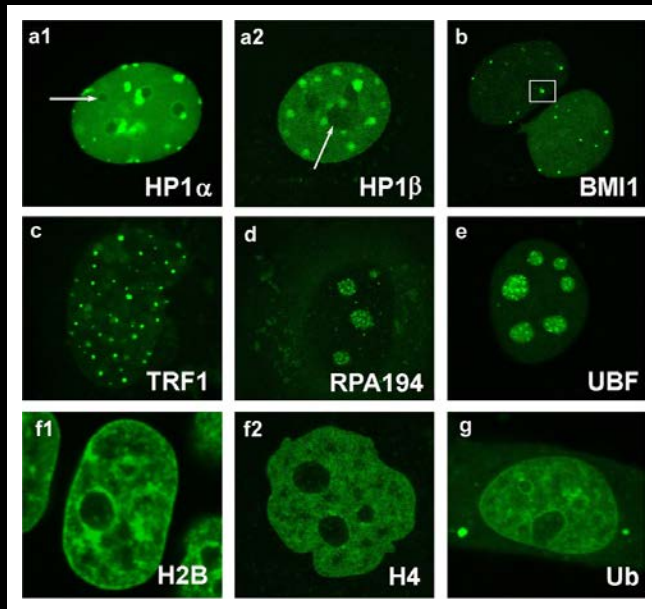
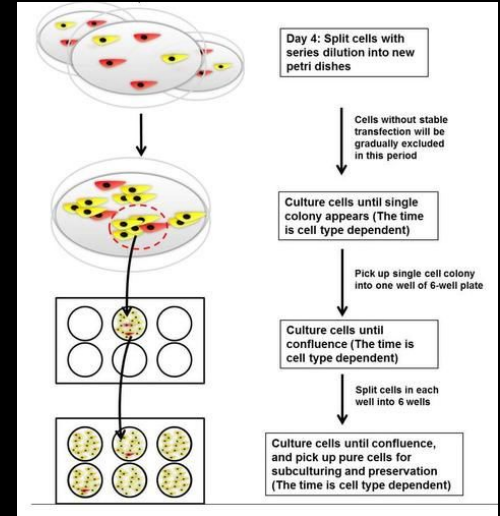
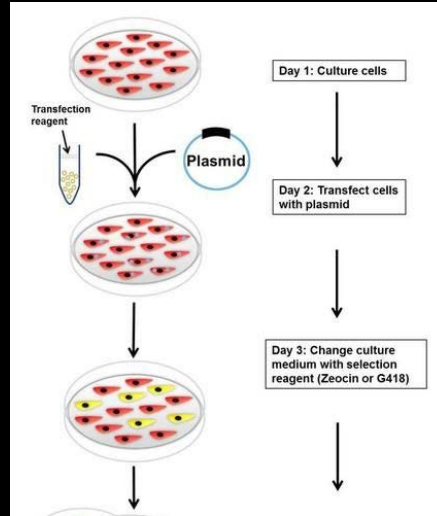
http://www.biorad.com/webroot/web/images/lsr/solutions/technologies/gene_expression/pcr/technology_detail/gxt42_img1.jpg

Wang et al., 2015

Transient Transfection



Stable Transfection



Photoconversion

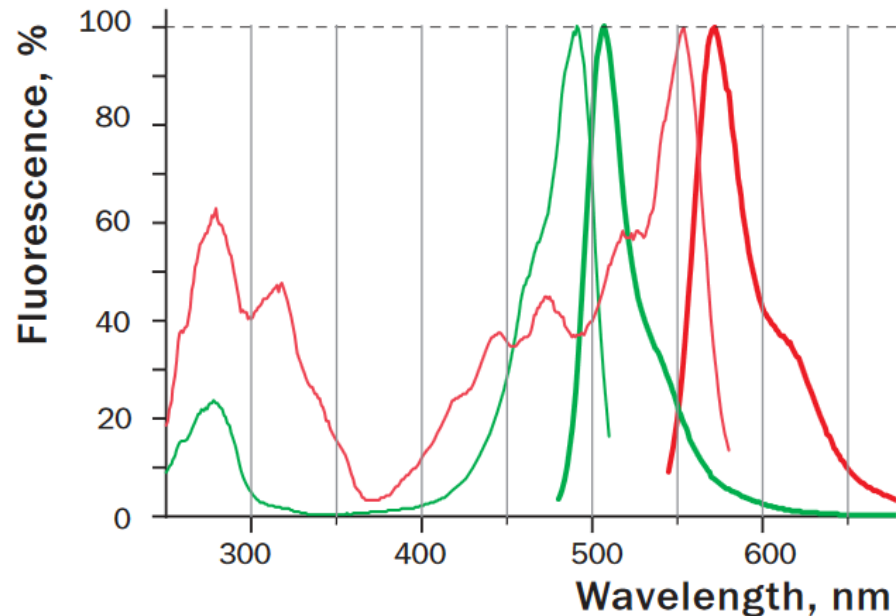
Dendra2: improved green to red photoswitchable fluorescent protein



- derived from octocoral *Dendronephthya* sp. (Gurskaya et al., 2006)
- low phototoxicity

Normalized excitation (thin lines) and emission (thick lines) spectra for non-activated (green lines) and activated (red lines) Dendra2.

Dendra2 spectra in Excel format can be downloaded at www.evrogen.com/Dendra2.shtml.

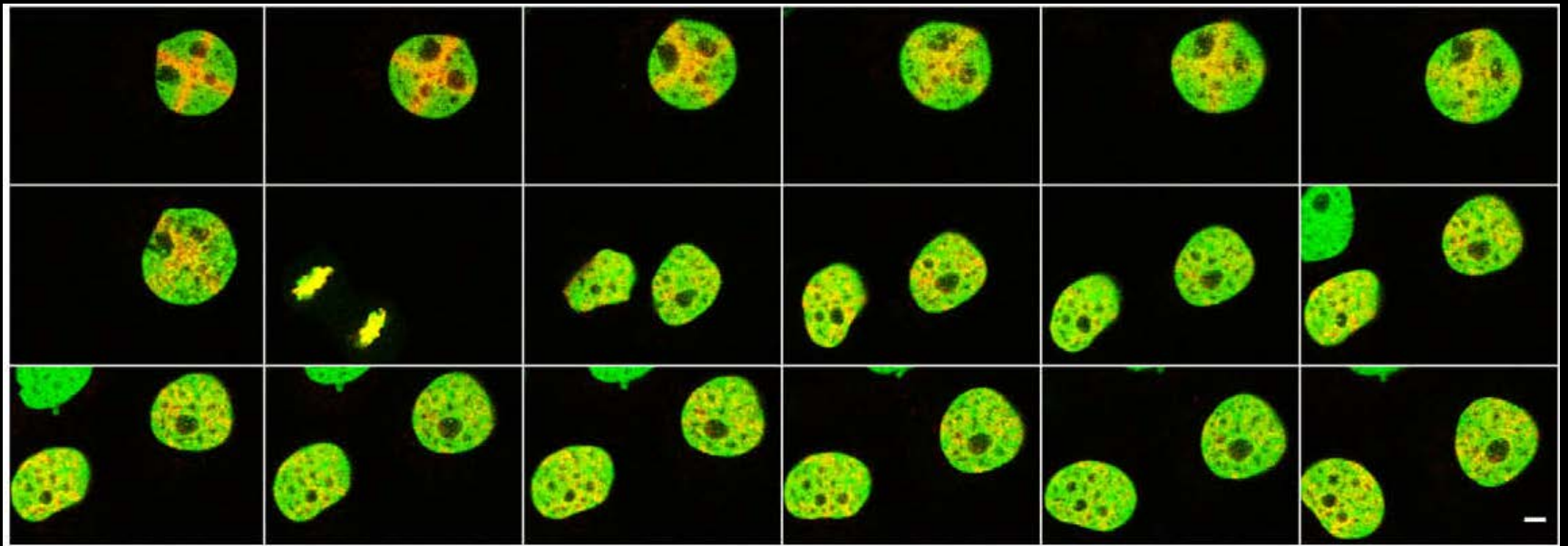
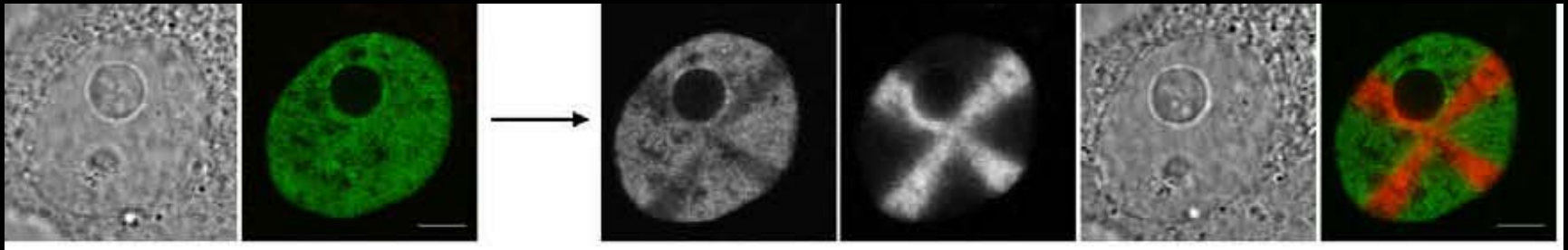


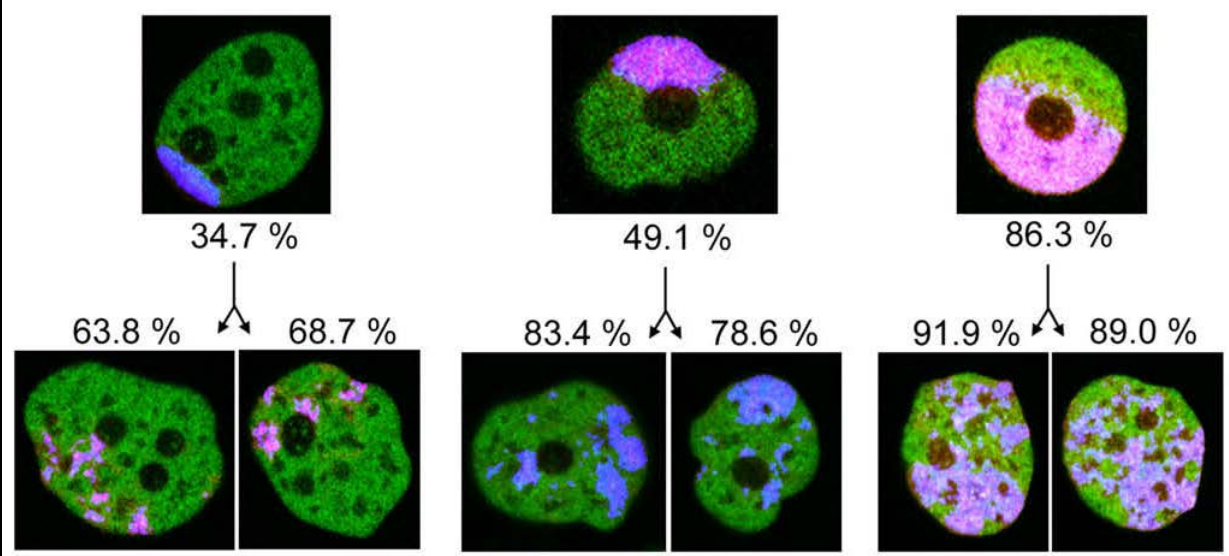
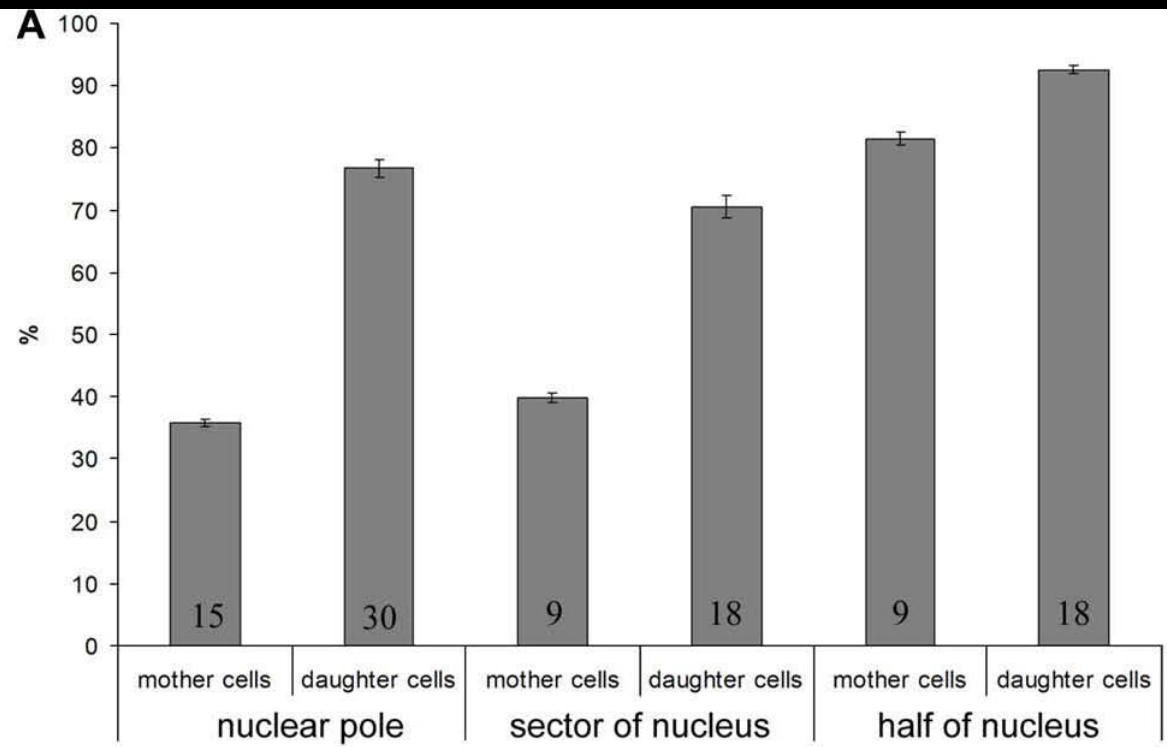
Photoconversion

- monitoring selective cell fate
- real-time tracking protein dynamics (movement, degradation, etc.)



H4-Dendra2



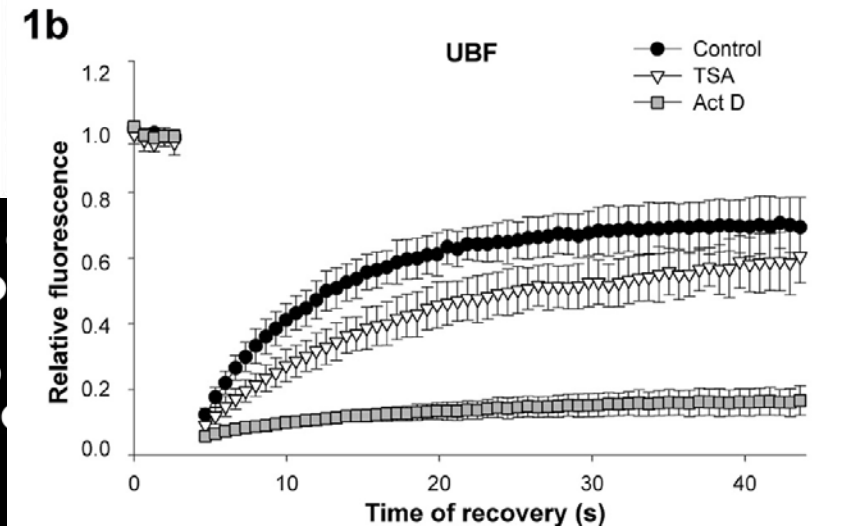
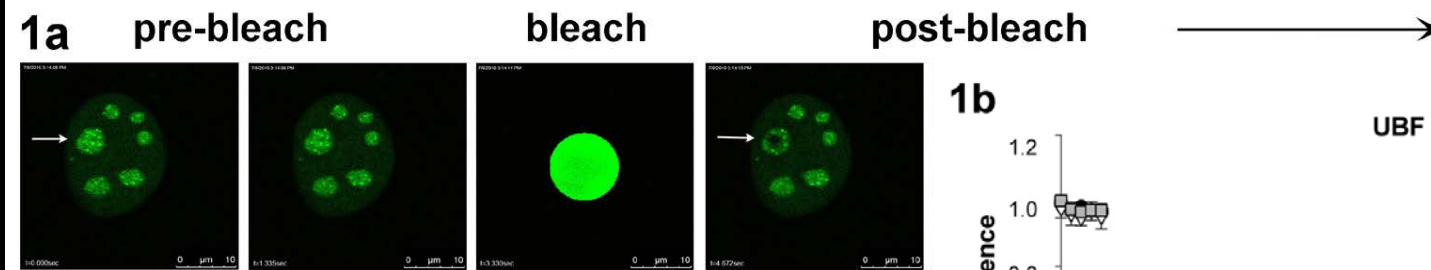
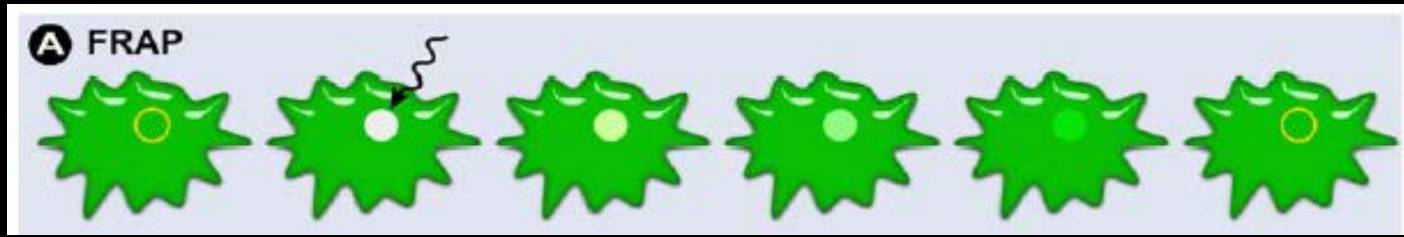


Methods

Fluorescence Recovery After Photobleaching (FRAP)

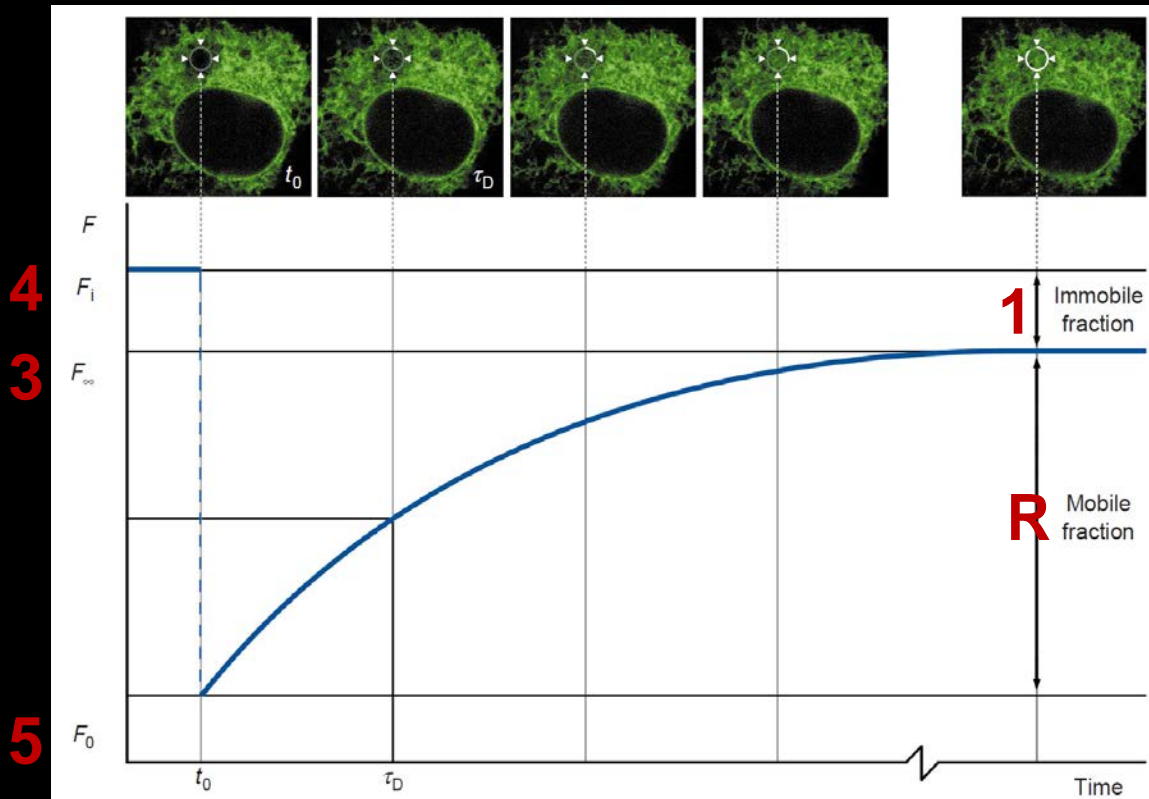
Movement (exchange (un)bleached) of molecules

- Diffusion
- Active transport



Fluorescence Recovery After Photobleaching (FRAP)

1. (Im)mobile fraction
2. τ_D diffusion time
3. F_i fluorescence before bleaching
4. F_0 fluorescence just after bleaching
5. F_∞ fluorescence in bleached region after full recovery
6. Mobility = diffusion coeff. $D \rightarrow$ related to τ_D diffusion time



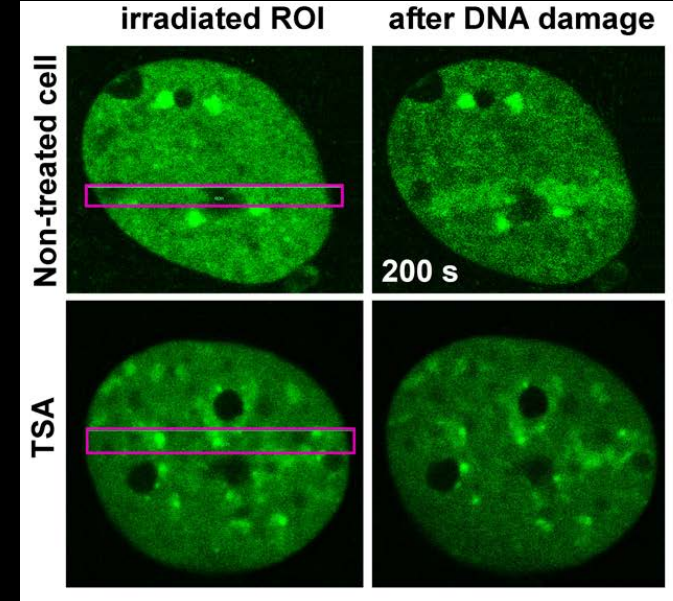
$$R = (F_\infty - F_0) / (F_i - F_0)$$

Reits and Neefjes, 2001

FRAP in UV-damaged chromatin with HP1 β

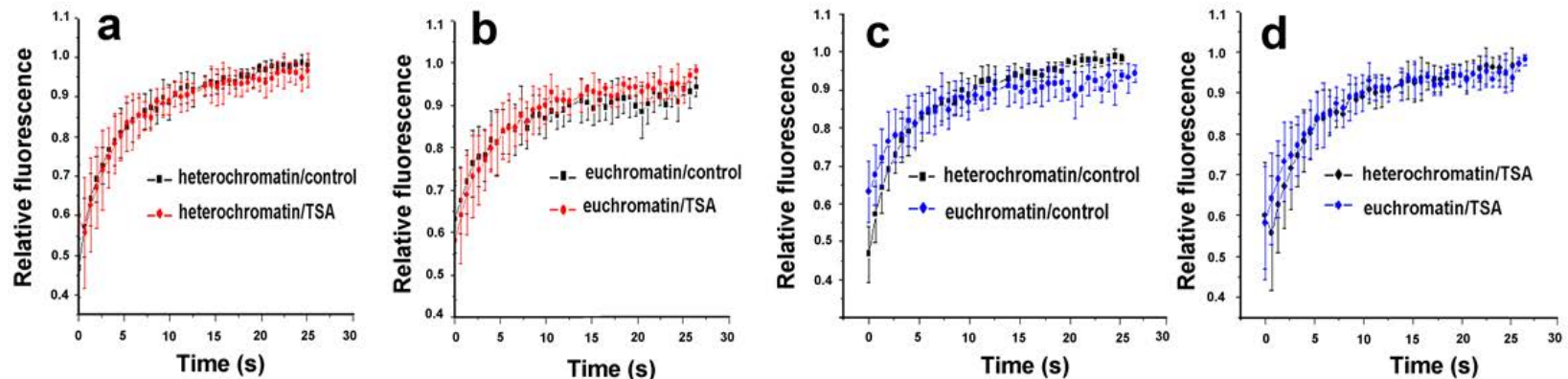
Heterochromatin protein 1 (HP1)

- formation of transcriptionally inactive heterochromatin
- three HP1 protein family members in humans HP1 α , HP1 β and HP1 γ ,



B

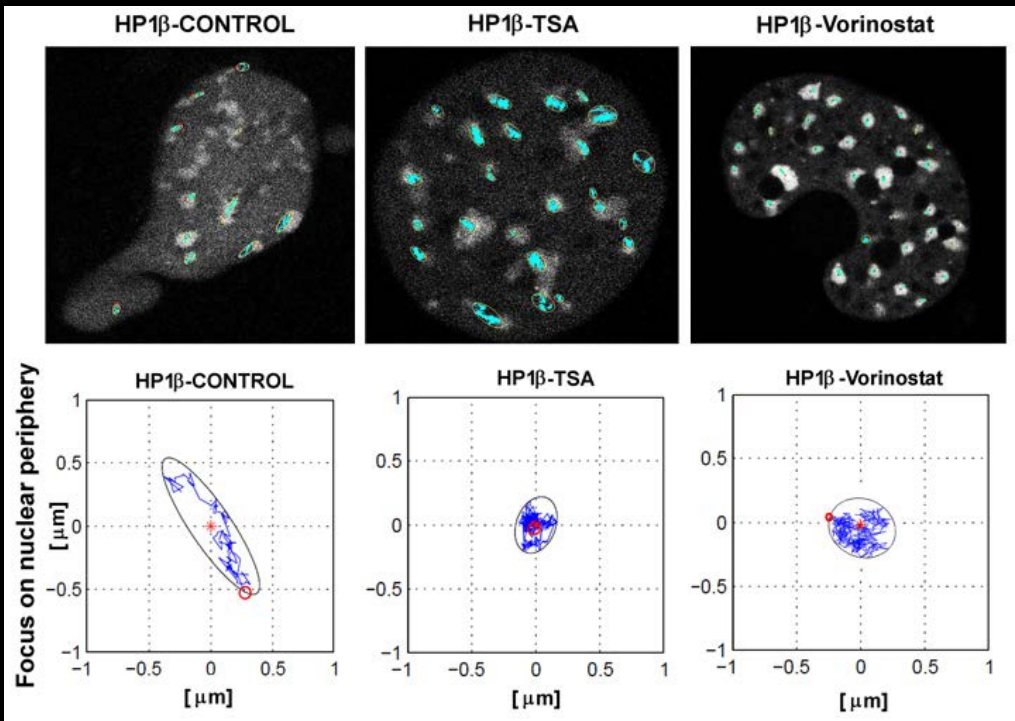
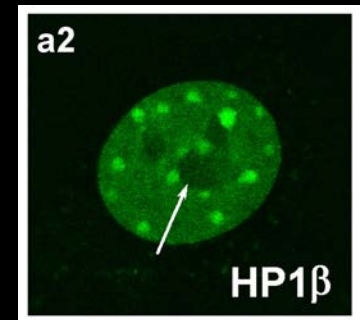
HP1 β in DSBs / 3T3 cells



Methods

Single particle tracking analysis

- Mean Square Displacement (MSD)
- Area of minimal enclosing ellipse (μm^2)

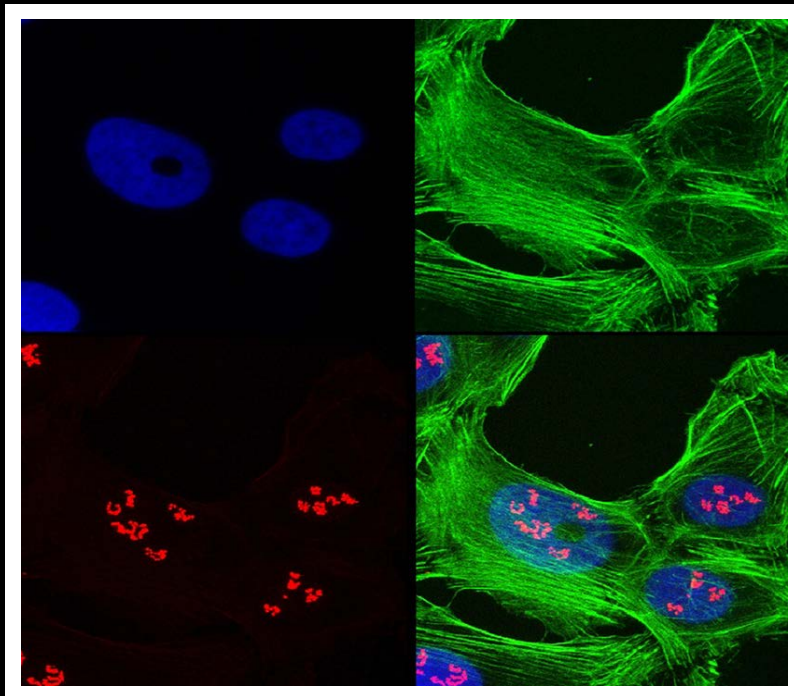


	HP1 β
Peripheral foci: control	0.22 ± 0.12 (n = 10)
Peripheral foci: TSA	0.13 ± 0.10 (n = 19)
Peripheral foci: actinomycin D	0.59 ± 0.48 (n = 4)
Peripheral foci: vorinostat	0.17 ± 0.10 (n = 23)
Central foci: control	0.15 ± 0.07 (n = 7)
Central foci: TSA	0.16 ± 0.09 (n = 16)
Central foci: actinomycin D	0.69 ± 0.46 (n = 6)
Central foci: vorinostat	0.21 ± 0.12 (n = 13)
Area mean: control	0.19 ± 0.11
Area mean: TSA	0.14 ± 0.09
Area mean: actinomycin D	0.65 ± 0.44
Area mean: vorinostat	0.18 ± 0.11

Methods

Immunofluorescence

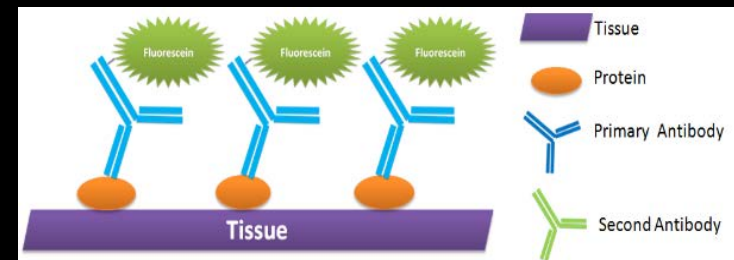
- fixed cells and tissues
- specifically labeling biological macromolecules → determine the localization and function of sub-cellular proteins, without affecting cell physiology



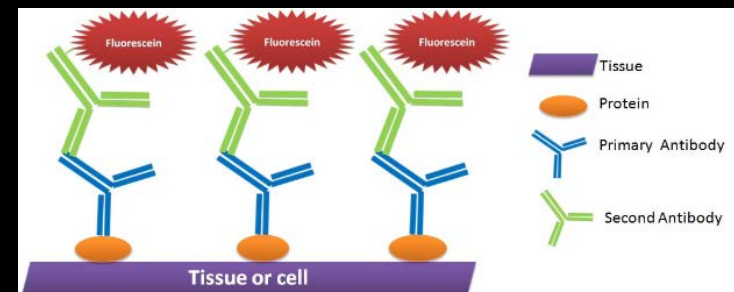
Example of staining of F-actin filaments (green) and nucleoli (red) in mouse fibroblasts (DNA blue) (G. Šustáčková)

The most common protocols:

Direct Immunofluorescence

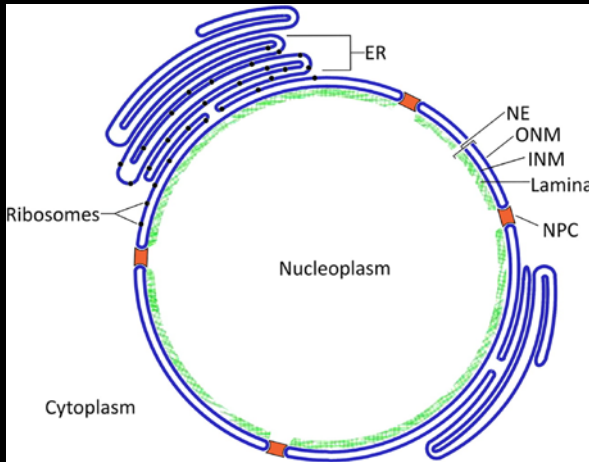


Indirect Immunofluorescence

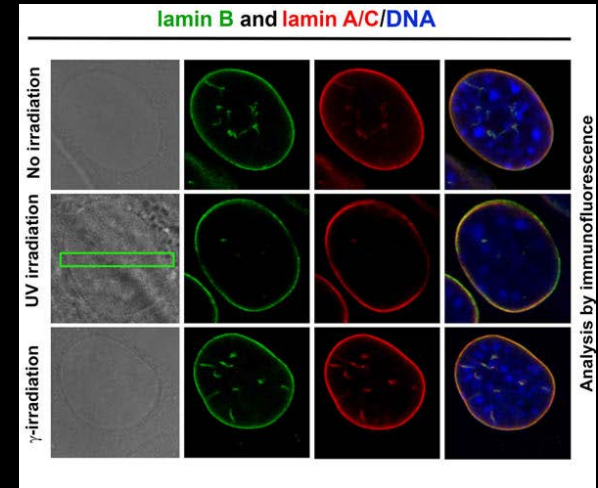


Nuclear envelopathies:

- a group of rare genetic disorders caused by mutations in genes encoding proteins of the nuclear lamina

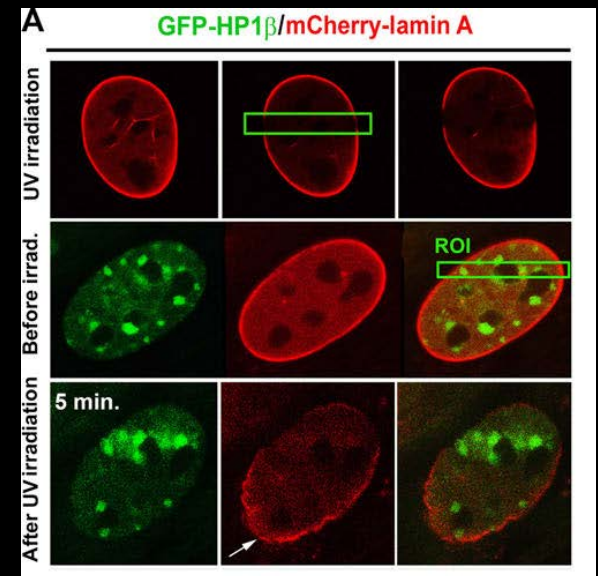


Huber and Gerace, 2007



SYNDROME	SYMPTOMS	MUTATION IN
Atypical Werner syndrome	Progeria with increased severity compared to normal Werner syndrome	Lamin A/C
Barraquer-Simons syndrome	Lipodystrophy	Lamin B
Buschke-Ollendorf syndrome	Skeletal dysplasia, skin lesions	LEM domain containing protein 3
Cardiomyopathy dilated with quadriceps myopathy	Cardiomyopathy	Lamin A/C
Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease	Neuropathy	Lamin A/C
Emery-Dreifuss muscular dystrophy	Skeletal and cardiac muscular dystrophy	Emerin, Lamin A/C
Hutchinson-Gilford progeria syndrome	Progeria	Lamin A/C
Pelizaeus-Merzbacher disease	Leukodystrophy	Lamin B

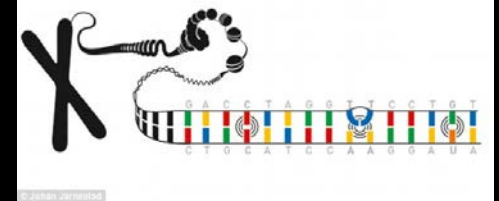
Broers et al., 2006



Sehnalova et al., 2014


Methods

DNA repair studies





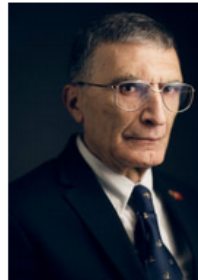
DNA repair is a collection of processes by which a cell identifies and corrects damage to the DNA molecules that encode its genome.

1. an irreversible state of dormancy, known as senescence
2. cell suicide, also known as apoptosis (programmed cell death)
3. unregulated cell division, which can lead to the formation of a tumor that is cancerous

 The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2015
Tomas Lindahl, Paul Modrich, Aziz Sancar

Share this:

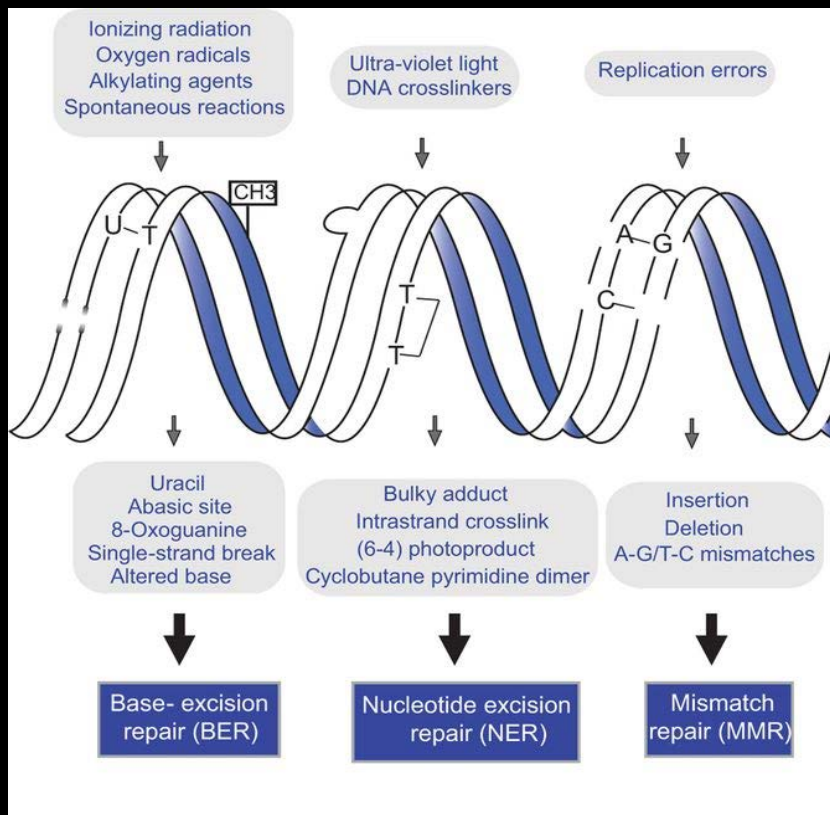
The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2015

		
Photo: A. Mahmoud Tomas Lindahl Prize share: 1/3	Photo: A. Mahmoud Paul Modrich Prize share: 1/3	Photo: A. Mahmoud Aziz Sancar Prize share: 1/3

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2015 was awarded jointly to Tomas Lindahl, Paul Modrich and Aziz Sancar *"for mechanistic studies of DNA repair"*.

Methods

DNA repair studies



Hoeijmakers et al., 2001

Single-strand damage

Base Excision Repair (BER)

- repairs damage to a single base caused by oxidation, alkylation, hydrolysis, or deamination

Nucleotide Excision Repair (NER)

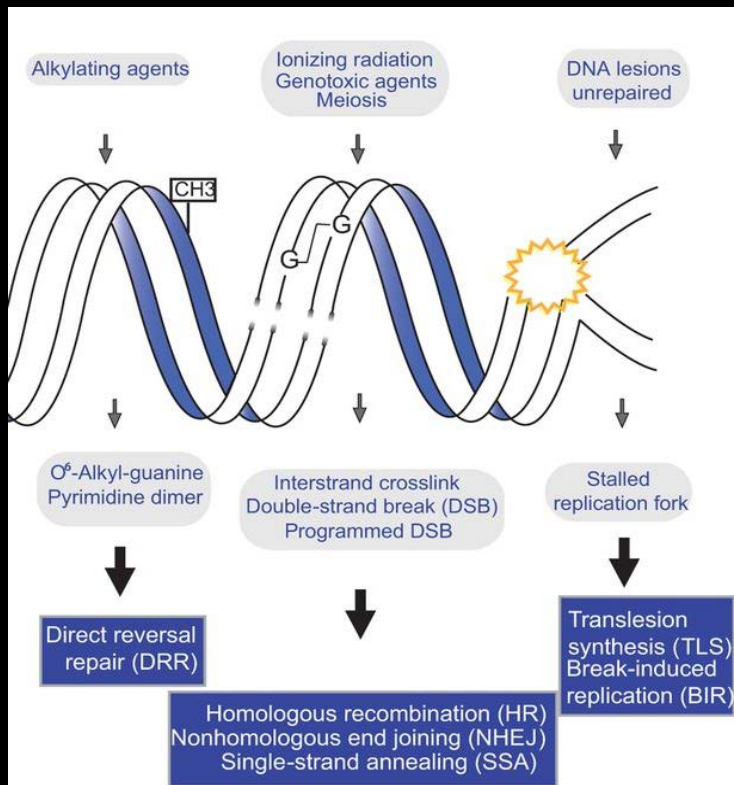
- recognizes bulky, helix-distorting lesions such as pyrimidine dimers and 6,4 photoproducts

Mismatch Repair (MMR)

- corrects errors of DNA replication and recombination that result in mispaired (but undamaged) nucleotides

Methods

DNA repair studies



Hoeijmakers et al., 2001

Double-strand breaks

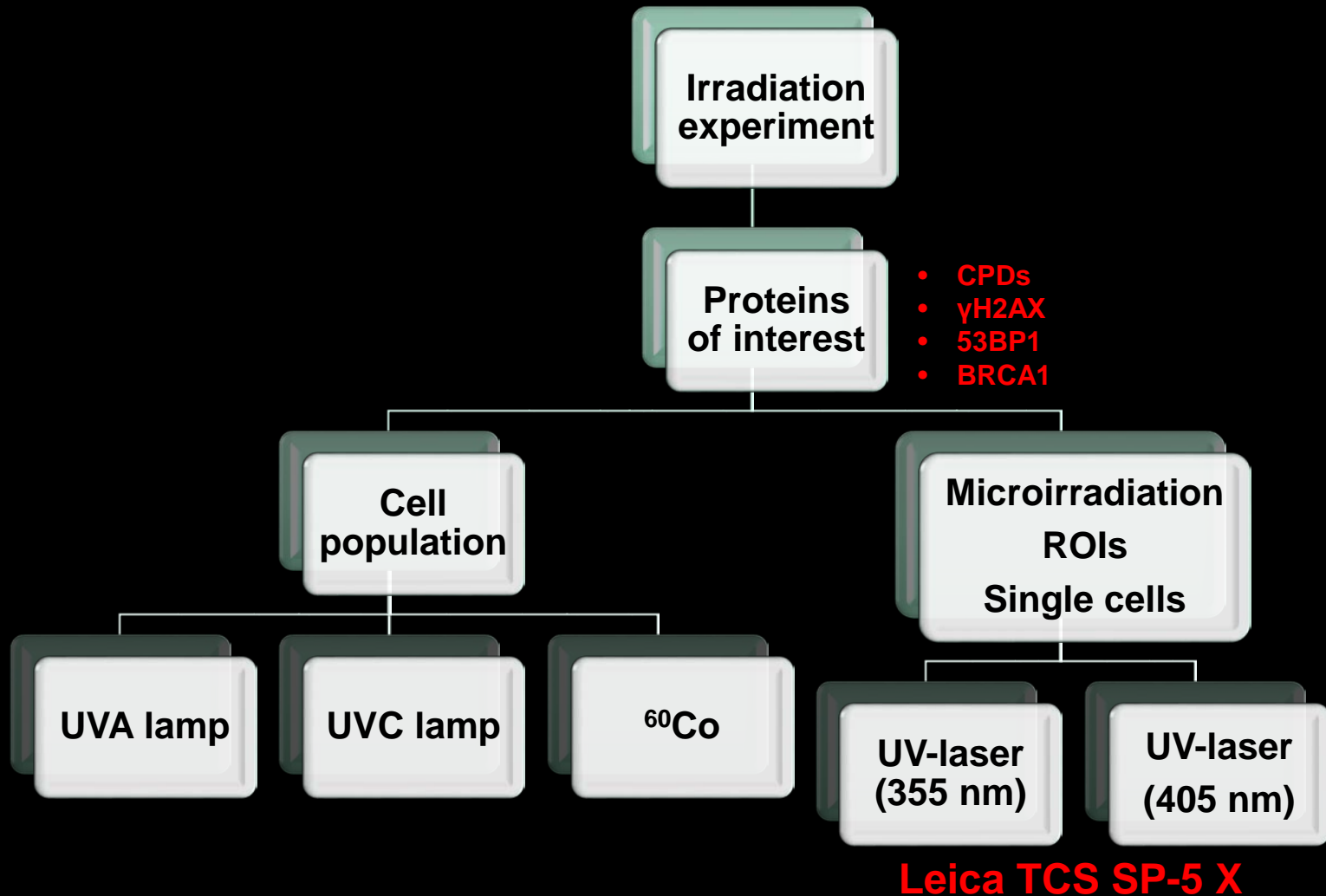
Non-Homologous End Joining (**NHEJ**)

Homologous Recombination (**HR**)

Microhomology-Mediated End Joining (**MMEJ**)

Methods

DNA repair studies



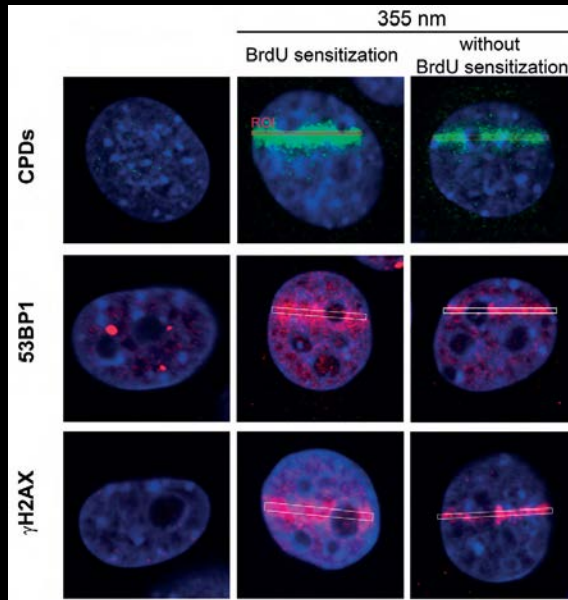
Methods

DNA repair studies

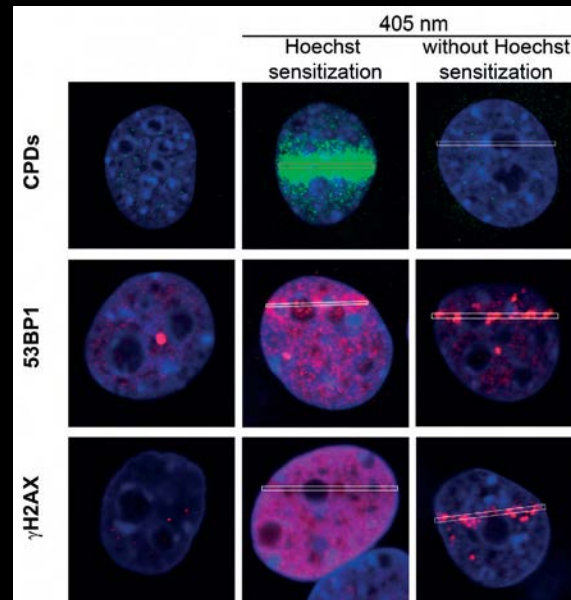
- activation of DNA damage response (DDR) system
- Phosphorylation Ser-139 residue histone variant H2AX (γ H2AX) = early cellular response to induction DSBs

Leica TCS SP-5 X

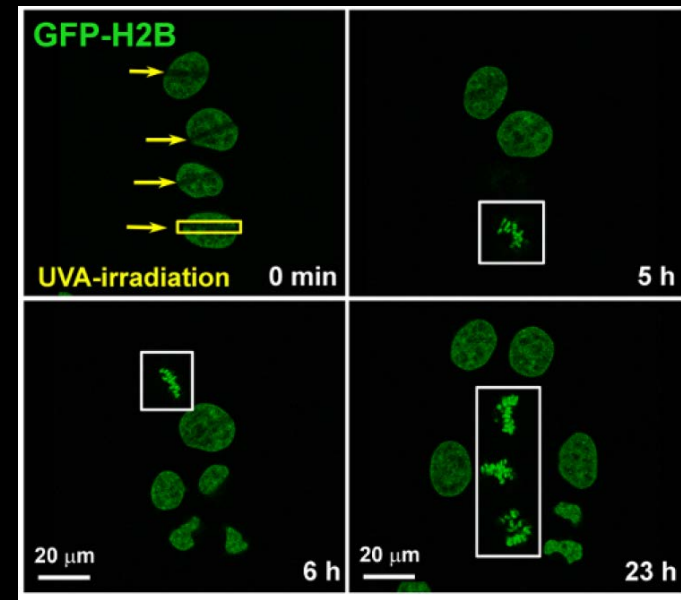
UV-laser 355 nm



UV-laser 405 nm



Stixova et al., Folia Biologica, 2014



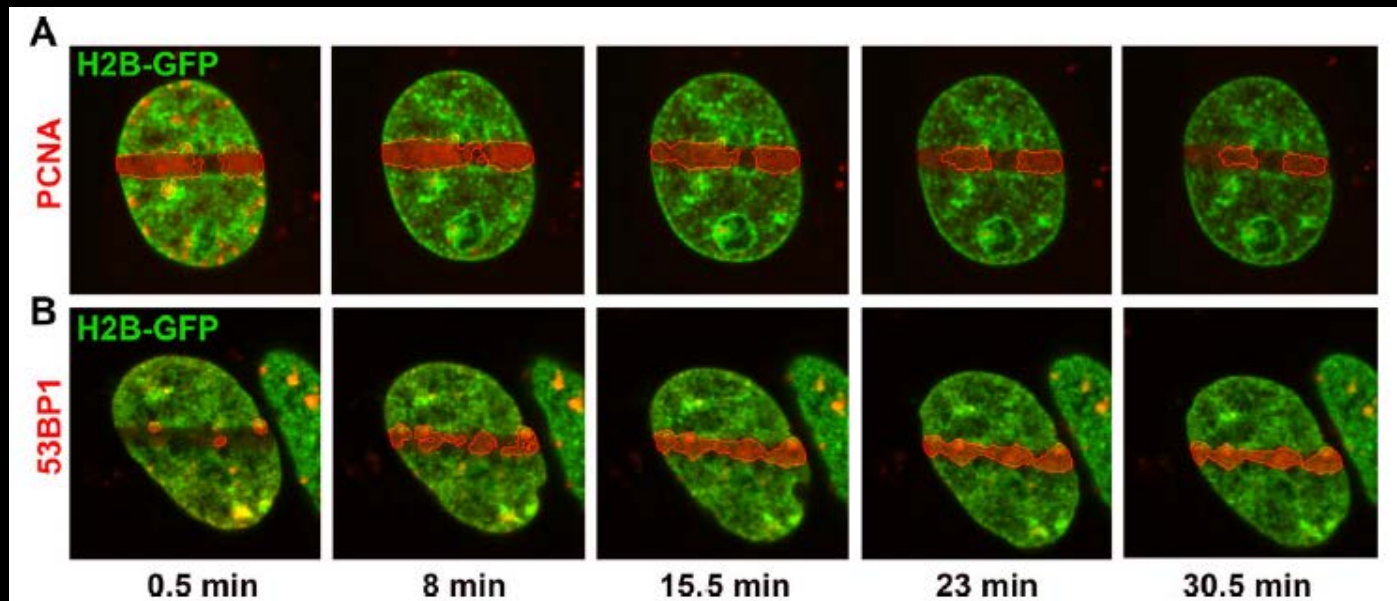
Legartova and Suchankova et al., JoVE, 2017

- Nucleotide excision repair
- cyclobutane pyrimidine dimers (CPDs)

Methods

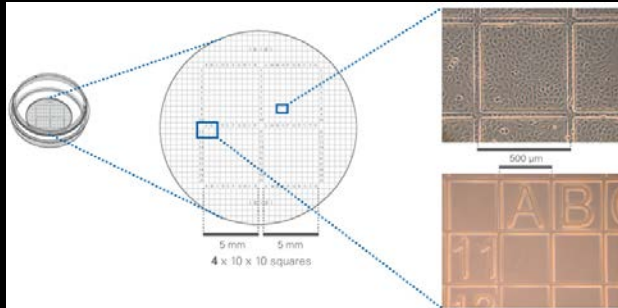
DNA repair studies

- **PCNA** (Proliferating cell nuclear antigen)
 - = a DNA clamp
 - = processivity factor for DNA polymerase δ
 - = essential for replication
- **53BP1** (Tumor protein p53 binding protein 1)
 - = vital in promoting NHEJ pathway
 - = protecting broken DNA ends from extensive resection



Methods

DNA repair studies



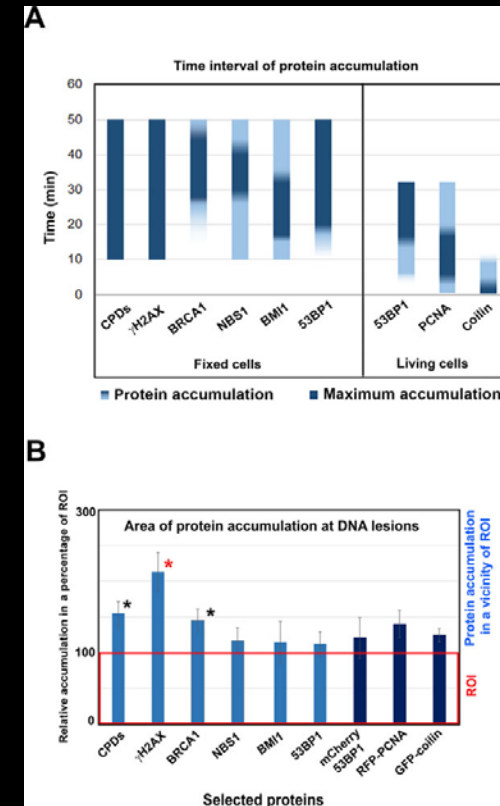
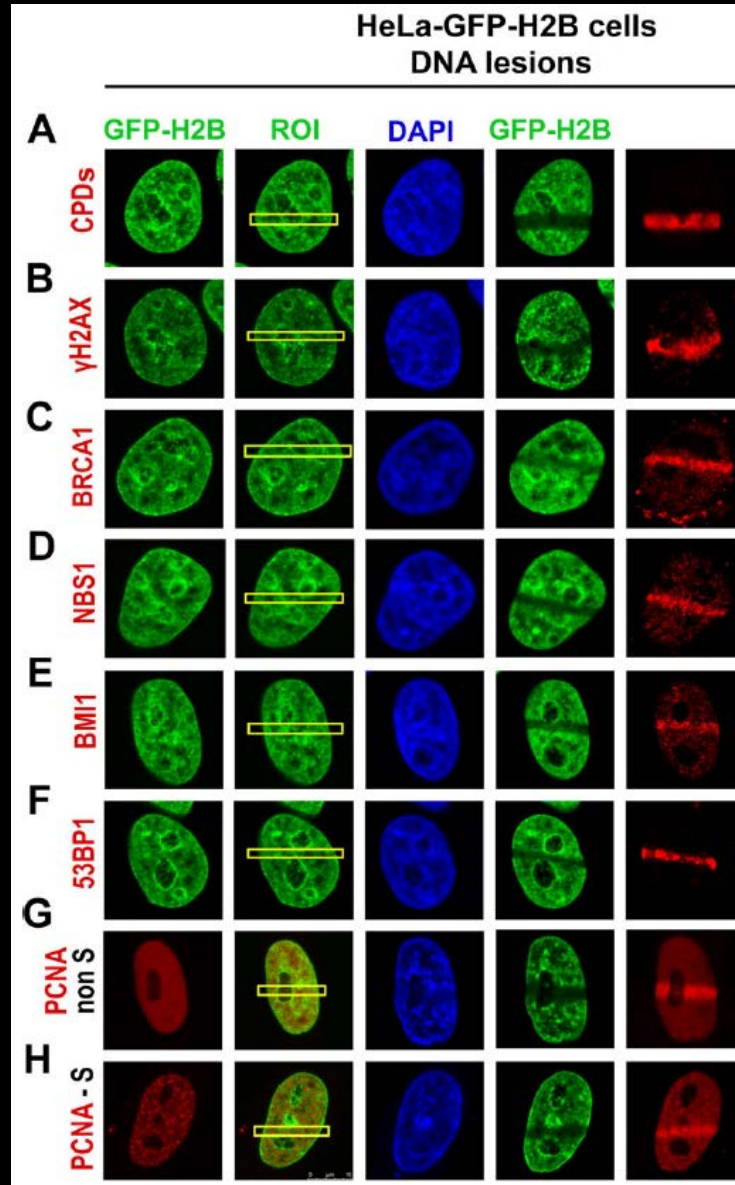
<https://ibidi.com/gridded-dishes-slides/178--dish-35-mm-high-grid-500-glass-bottom.html>

Microirradiation
ROIs
Single cells

UV-lasers
(355 nm or
405nm)

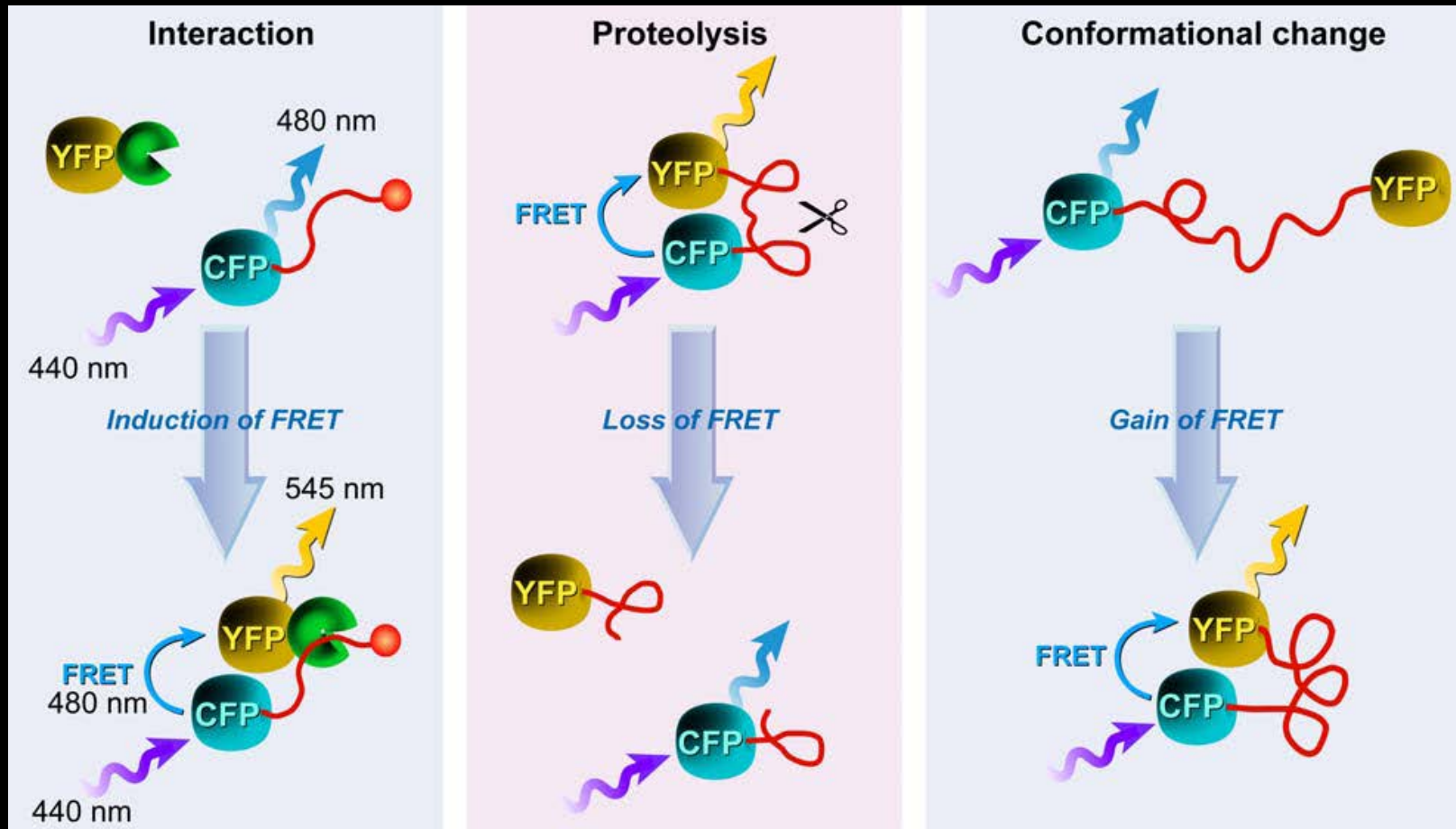
Time-laps
confocal
microscopy

Immunostaining



Methods

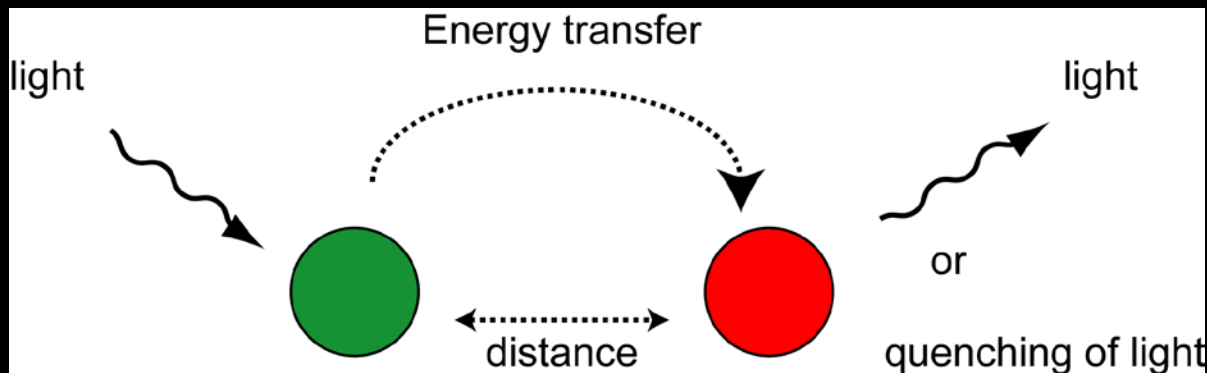
Förster Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET)



Methods

Förster Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET)

- a distance-dependent physical process by which energy is transferred nonradiatively from an **excited molecular fluorophore (the donor)** to another **fluorophore (the acceptor)** by means of intermolecular long-range dipole–dipole coupling (Förster, 1965).



http://www.molecular-beacons.org/toto/Marras_energy_transfer.html

$$FRET \text{ Efficiency} = \frac{k_{FRET(DA)}}{k_{FRET(DA)} + k_{other(D)}} = \frac{(1/r)^6}{(1/r)^6 + k_{other}} = \frac{R_0^6}{R_0^6 + r^6} \approx \frac{I_A}{I_A + I_D}$$

<http://research.chem.psu.edu/txlgroup/RESEARCH.html>

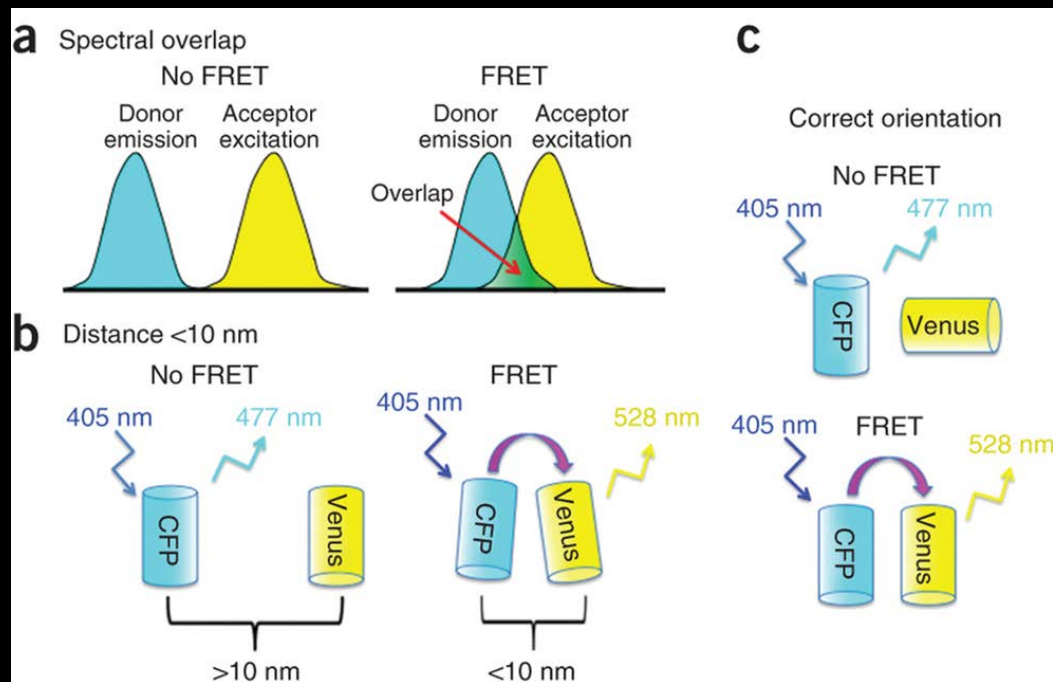
Methods

Förster Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET)

Fluorophore properties

A good fluorophore

- Large extinction coefficient ($\sim 10^5 \text{ cm}^{-1}\text{M}^{-1}$)
- High fluorescence quantum yield (> 0.8)
- Large shift of the fluorescence vs. absorption (Stokes shift $> 40 \text{ nm}$)
- Low quantum yield of photobleaching ($< 10^{-6}$)



Methods

Förster Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET)

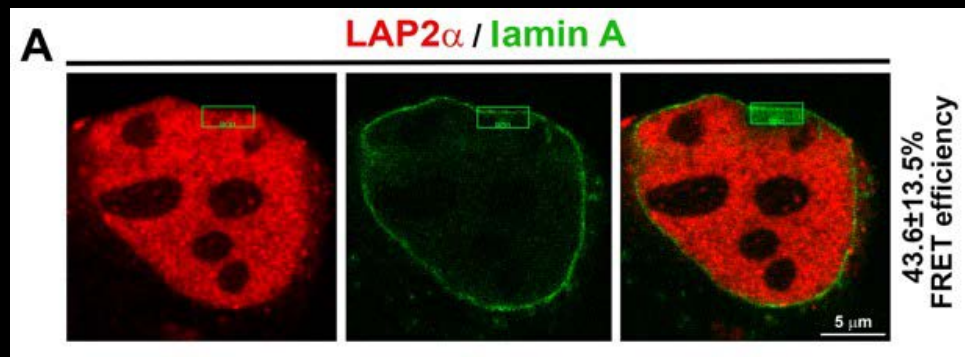
Leica TCS SP5 X

- protein-protein interactions

FRET Acceptor Bleaching

- donor “de-quenching” in presence of an acceptor
- comparing donor fluorescence intensity in the same sample before and after destroying the acceptor by photobleaching

$$\text{FRET}_{\text{eff}} = (D_{\text{post}} - D_{\text{pre}}) / D_{\text{post}}$$



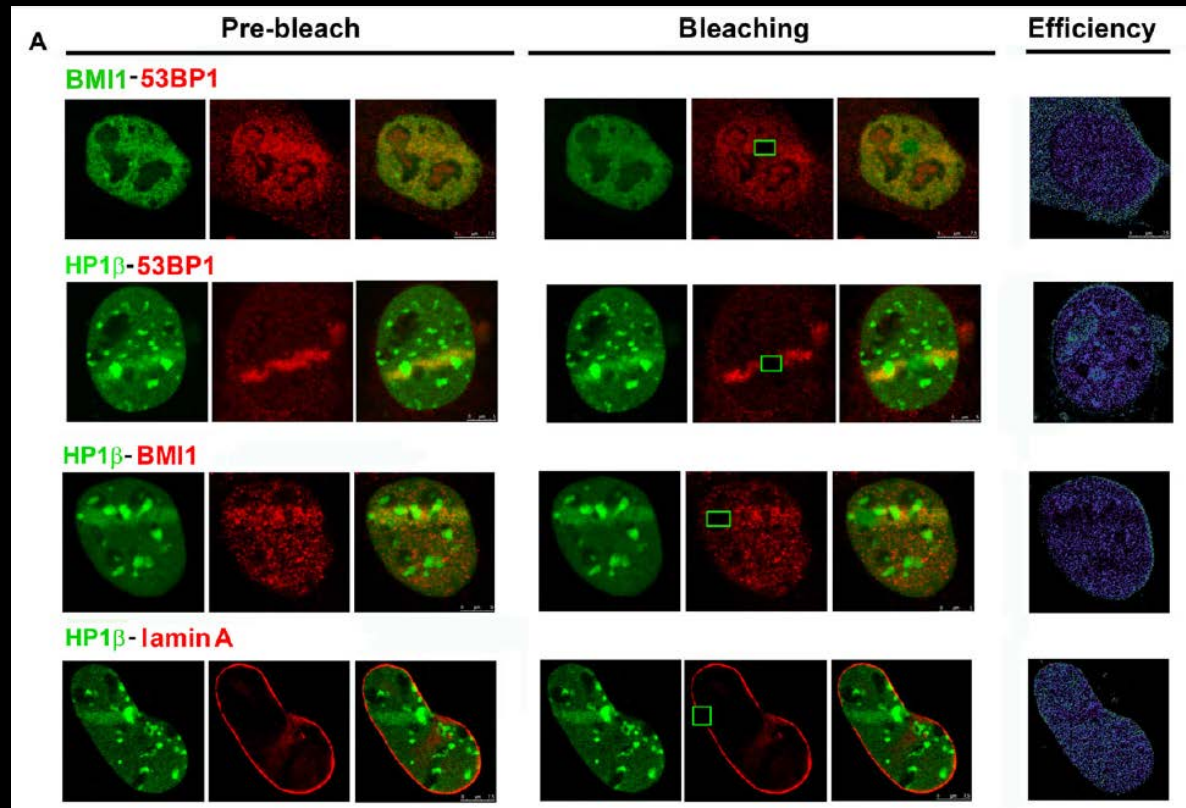
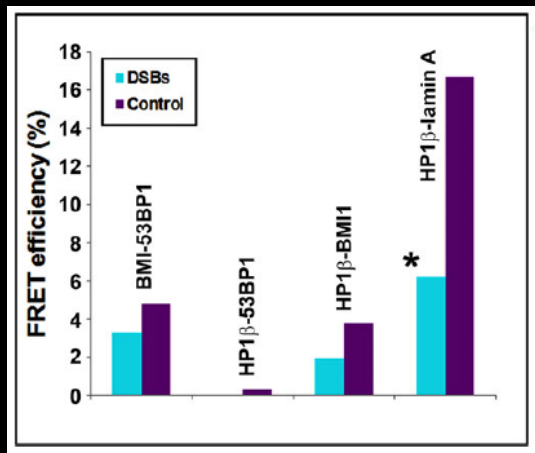
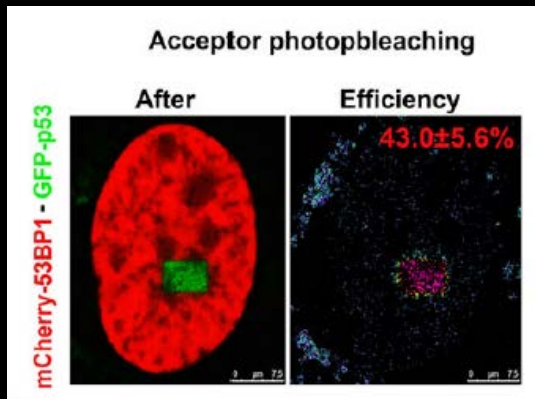
Methods

Förster Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET)

Leica TCS SP5 X

- protein-protein interactions

FRET Acceptor Bleaching



Sehnalova et al., 2014

Methods

Förster Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET)

Disadvantages of FRET

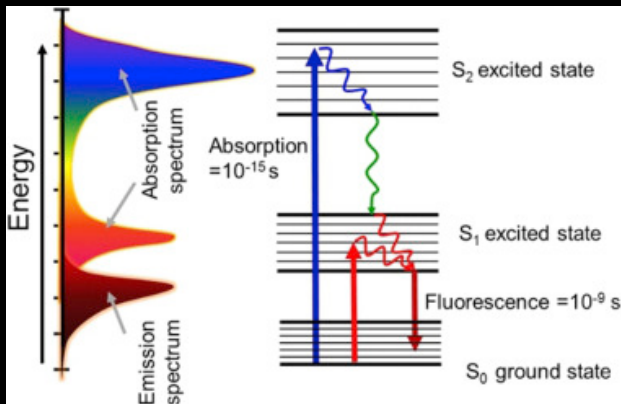
- fluorescent probes + molecule of interest → creation of fusion proteins = mutation and/or chemical modification of the molecules under study
- specimen movement (during the bleaching procedure)
- photo-bleaching once in sample
- donor fluorophore emission bleed through → acceptor emission channel

Methods

Fluorescence Lifetime Imaging (FLIM) - Förster Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET)

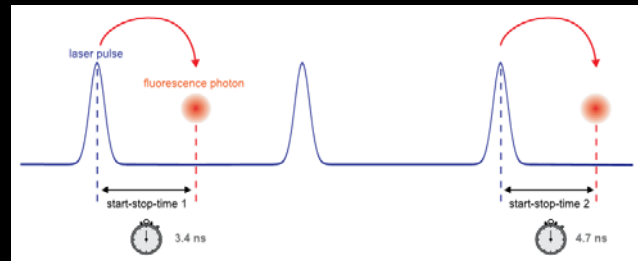
Fluorescence Lifetime (τ)

- average time a fluorophore remains in excited state before returning to the ground state by emitting photon

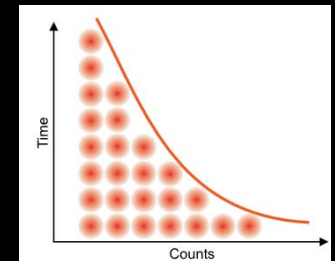


Dysli et al., 2017

1. Start the clock \rightarrow laser pulse (picosecond frequency)
2. Stop the clock \rightarrow 1st photon that arrives at the detector
3. Reset the clock \rightarrow wait for start next signal



www.picoquant.com



- Fluorescence lifetime histogram
- Fit an exponential decay \rightarrow get the fluorescence lifetime (in ns)

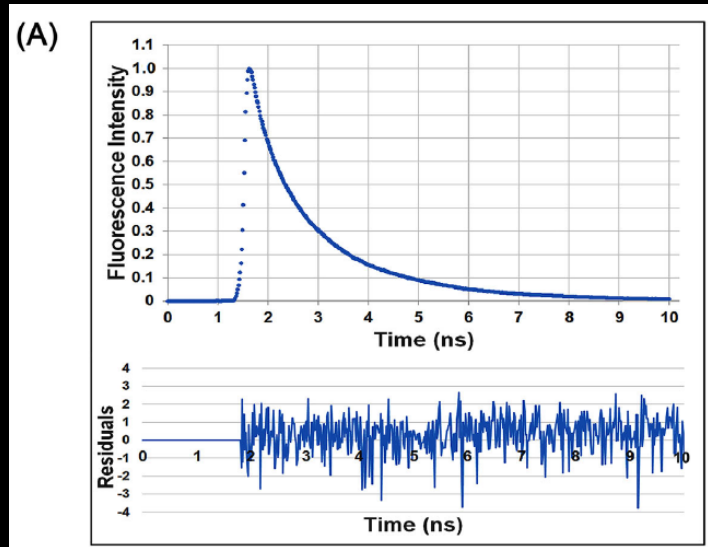
$$E = 1 - \frac{\tau_{FRET}}{\tau_{noFRET}}$$

$$E = 1 - \frac{I_{DA}}{I_D} = \frac{1}{1 + \left(\frac{r}{R_0}\right)^6} = 1 - \frac{\tau_{DA}}{\tau_D}$$

Methods

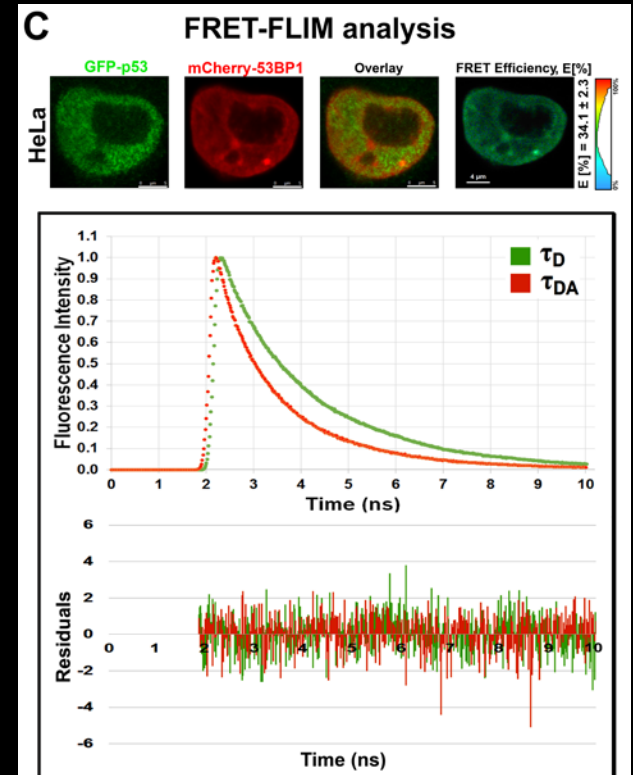
Fluorescence Lifetime Imaging (FLIM) - Förster Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET)

SymPhoTime 64 | PicoQuant



Bartova et al., 2018

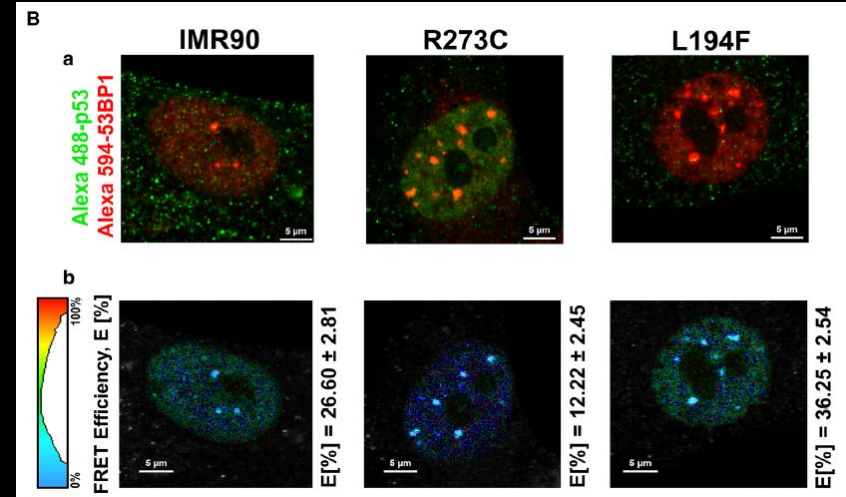
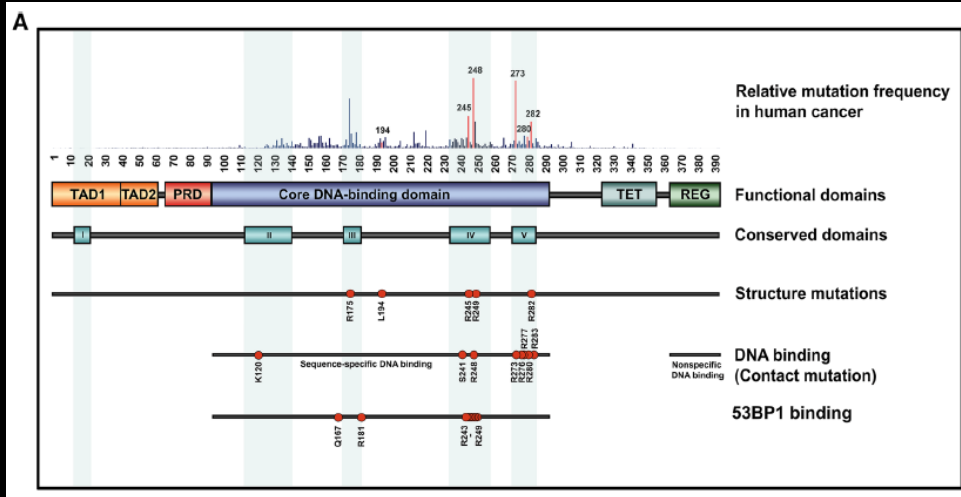
Leica TCS SP-8 SMD



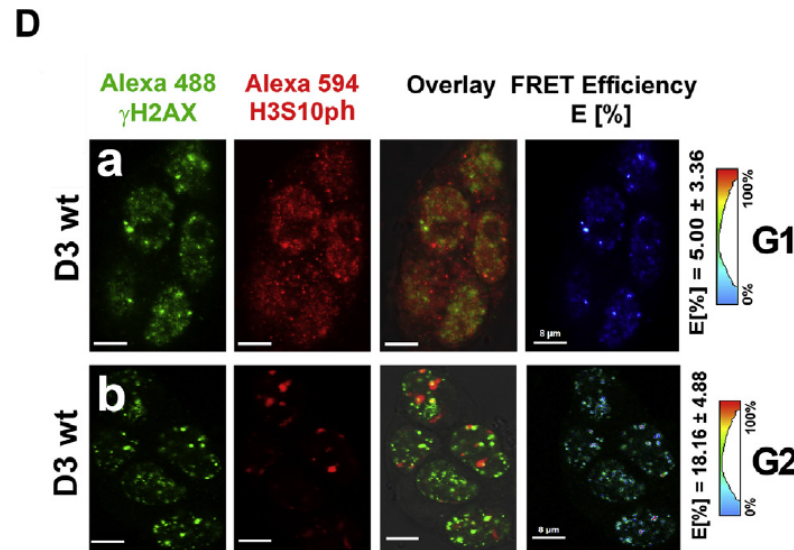
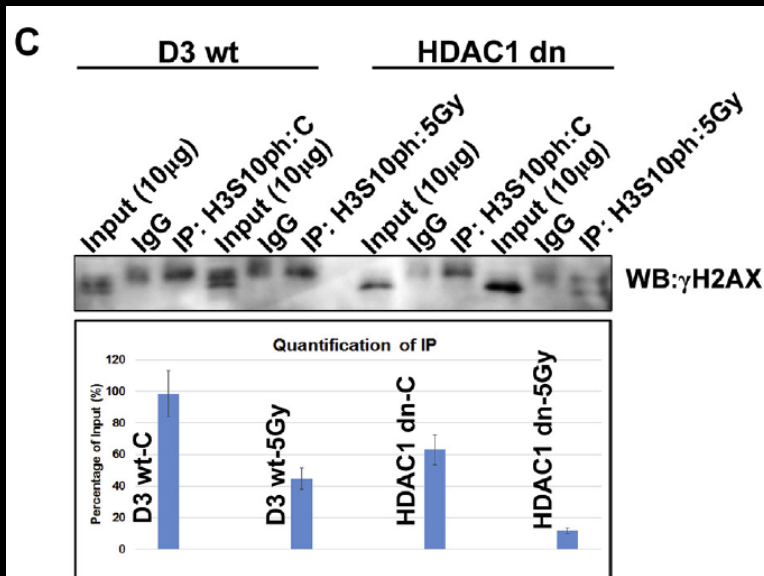
Legartova and Suchankova et al., JoVE, 2017

Methods

Fluorescence Lifetime Imaging (FLIM) - Förster Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET)



Suchankova et al., 2017



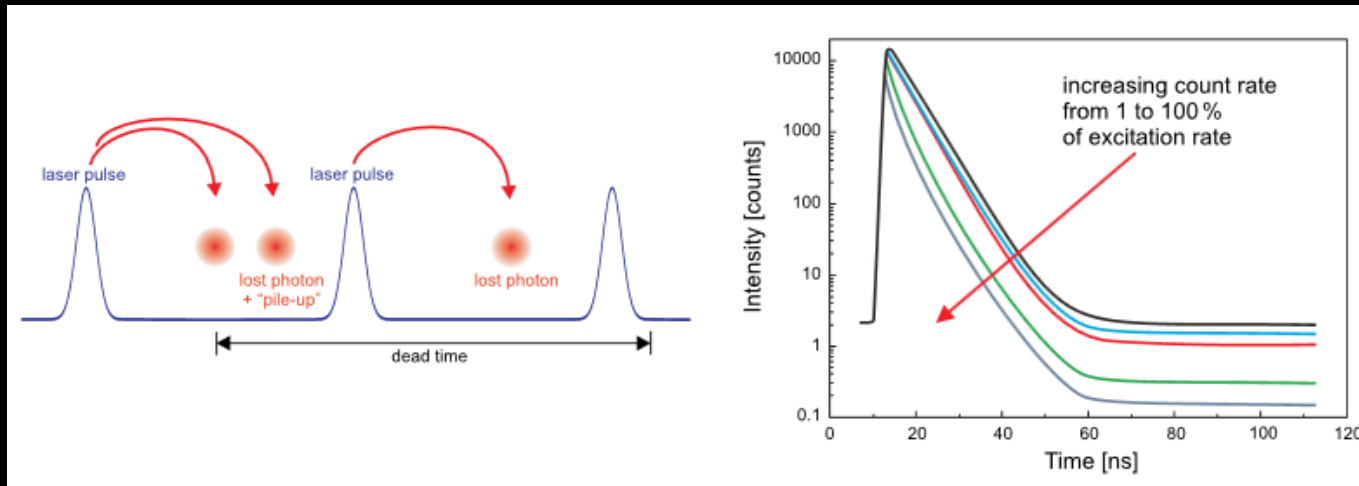
Bartova et al., 2018

Methods

Fluorescence Lifetime Imaging (FLIM) - Förster Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET)

Disadvantages of FLIM

- high repetition rate vs. long decay \rightarrow fluorescence decay in pulse period
- count rates – pile-up problem \rightarrow „dead time“ of electronics



www.picoquant.com

SOLUTION: keep probability of detecting more than one photon per laser pulse low

Methods

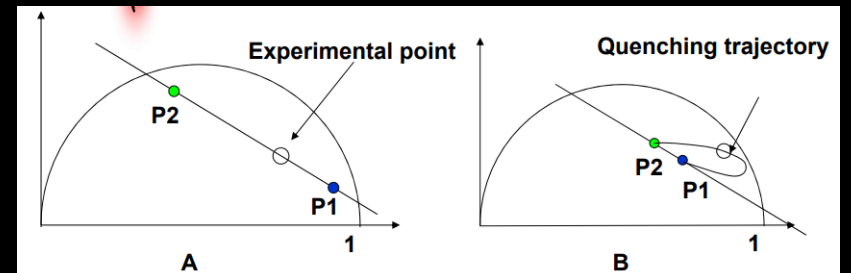
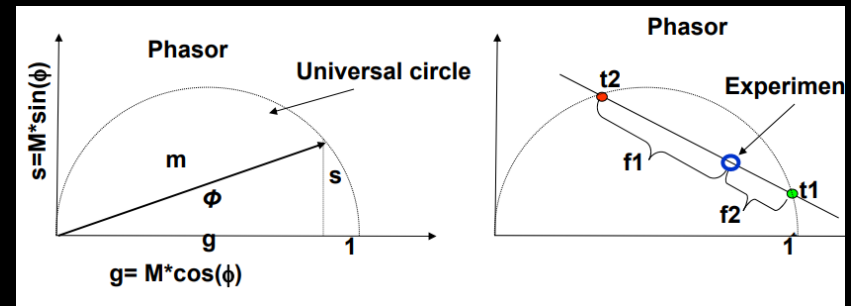
Fluorescence Lifetime Imaging (FLIM) - Förster Resonance Energy Transfer (FRET)

Enrico Gratton
Professor of Biomedical Engineering and Physics
Laboratory for Fluorescence Dynamics
University of California, Irvine

—lfd The challenges of FLIM

- At every pixel there are contributions of several fluorescent species, each one could be multi-exponential.
- To make things worse, we can only collect light for a limited amount of time (100-200 microseconds per pixel) which result in about 500-1000 photons per pixel.
- This is barely enough to distinguish a double exponential from a single exponential decay.
- Resolving the decay at each pixel in multiple components involves fitting to a function, and is traditionally a complex computational task “for experts only”.

A major problem is **data analysis and interpretation**



Simple Rules for FRET:

- 1) If the experimental point lies on a straight line then it is **NOT** FRET
- 2) FRET efficiencies follow a “quenching trajectory”
- 3) Quantitative FRET efficiencies can be obtained from the position on the quenching trajectory

SCIENCE STUDENT



How my friends see me



How my family sees me



How I see myself



How society sees me



How religious people see me



How it really is



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