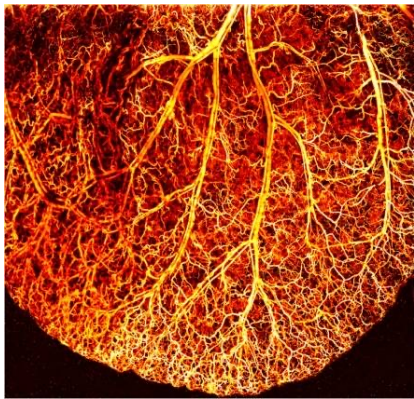


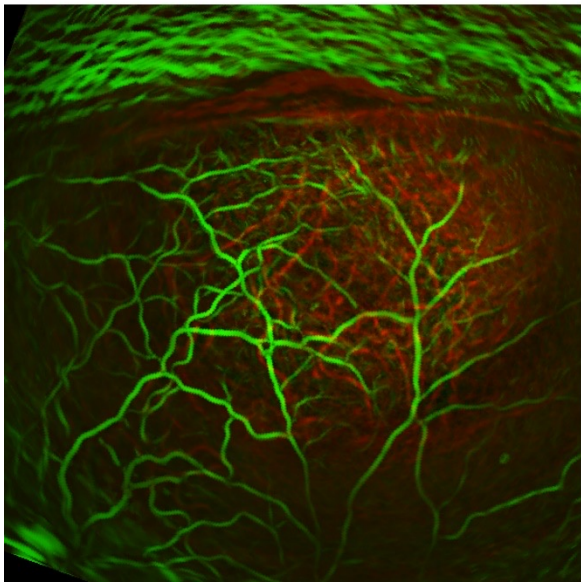
Photoacoustic, Light-Speed, and Quantum Imaging

Lihong V. Wang, Ph.D., Bren Professor
Caltech Optical Imaging Laboratory (COIL)

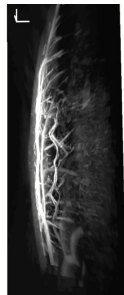
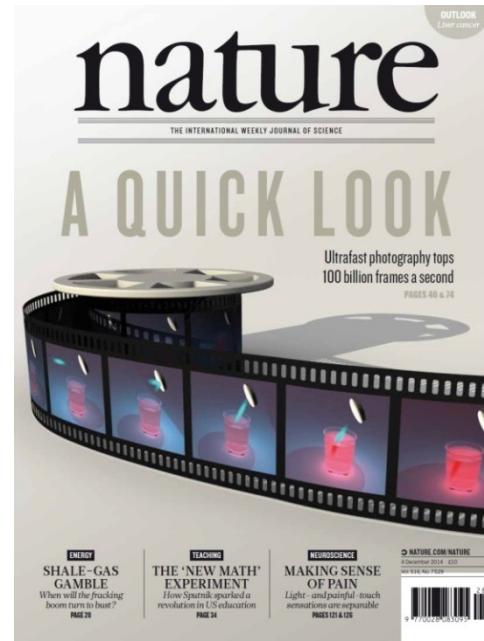
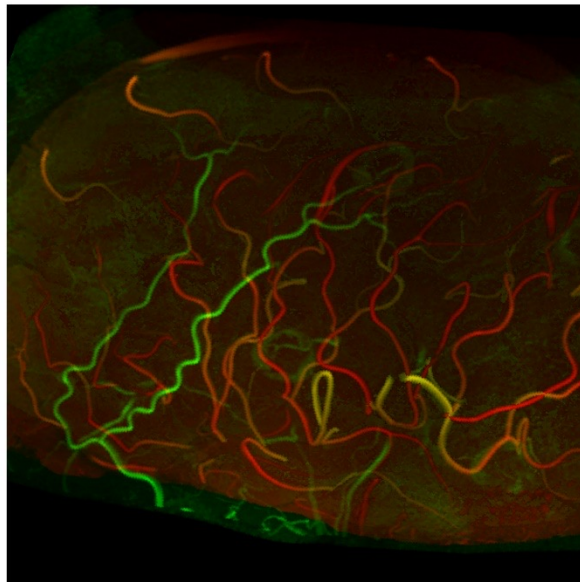
Andrew and Peggy Cherng Department of Medical Engineering &
Department of Electrical Engineering
California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Pasadena



Photoacoustic computed tomography



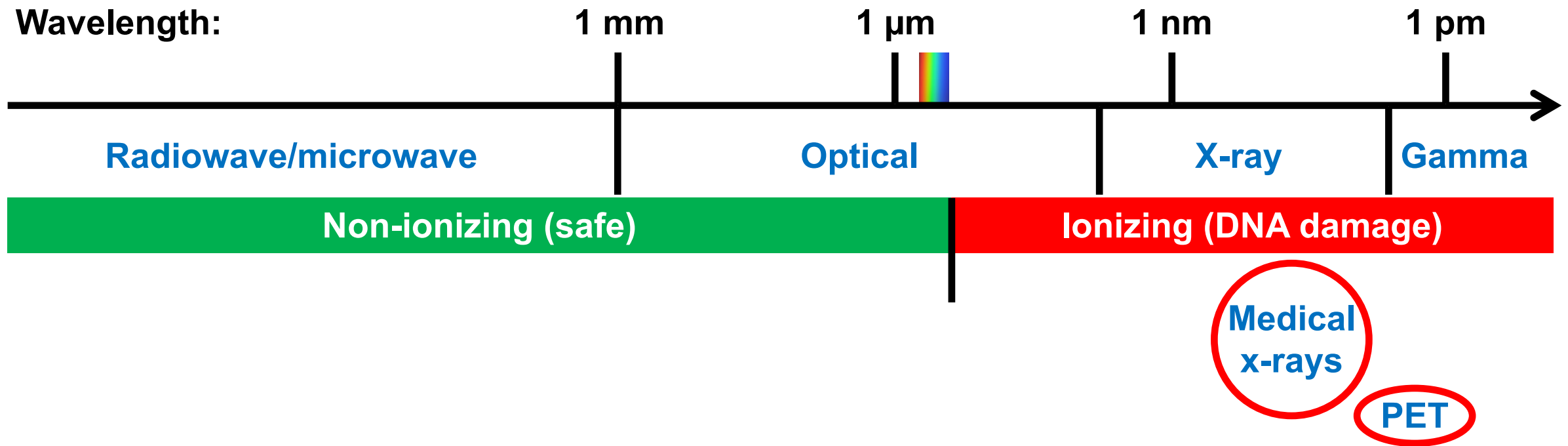
7-Tesla magnetic resonance imaging



Molecular Specificity of Optical Imaging

- Light-matter interaction uniquely positioned at the molecular level

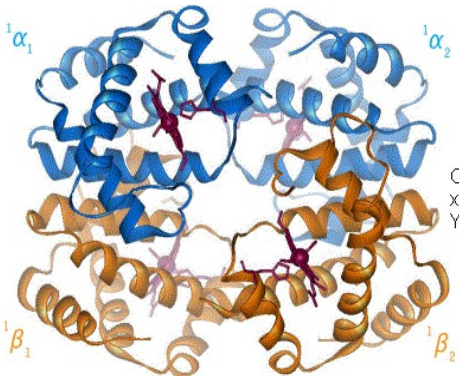
Electromagnetic spectrum



Molecular Specificity of Optical Imaging

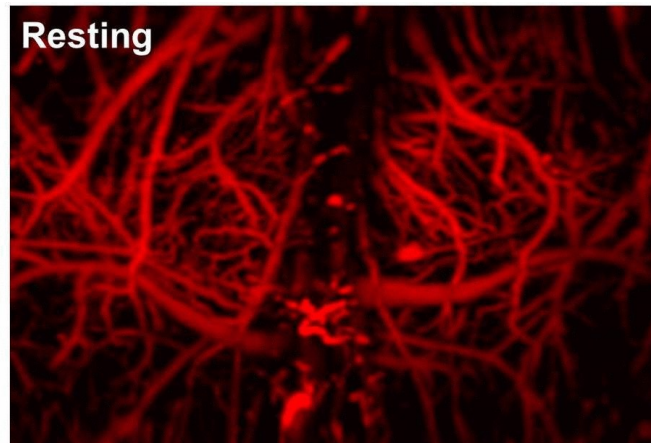
- Light-matter interaction uniquely positioned at the molecular level
- Fundamental role of molecules in biology and medicine
- *In vivo* functional imaging analogous to functional MRI
- *In vivo* metabolic imaging analogous to PET
- *In vivo* molecular imaging of gene expressions or disease markers
- *In vivo* label-free histologic imaging of cancer without excision

Oxy- & deoxy-hemoglobins

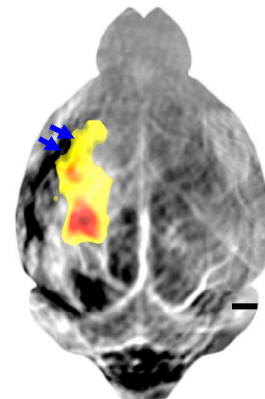


Source: Wikipedia

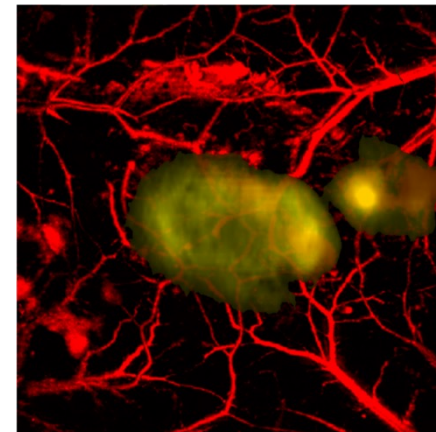
Brain activation



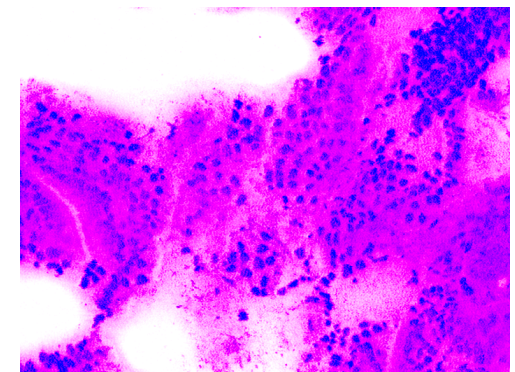
Glucose uptake



Melanoma hallmark



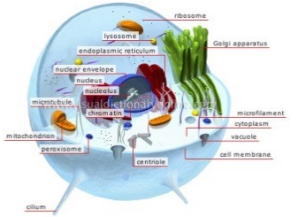
Photoacoustic microscopy of cell nuclei



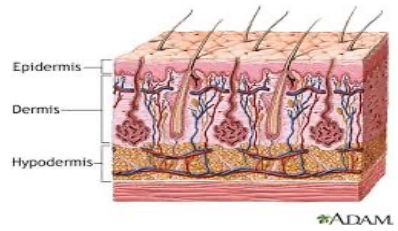
Challenges in Optical Penetration

Photon propagation

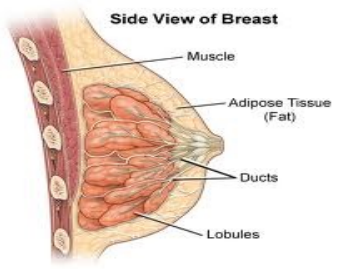
Cell



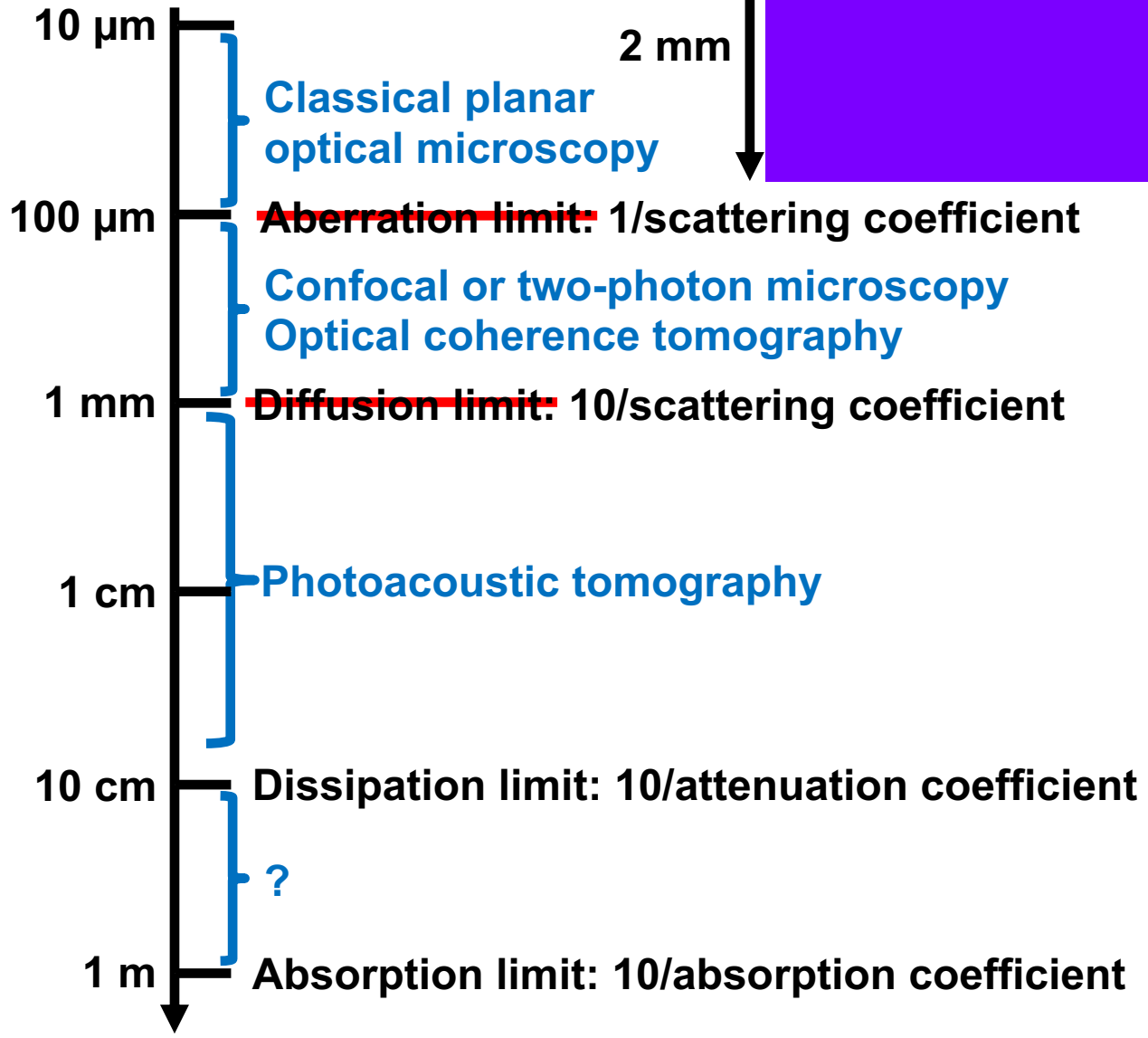
Skin



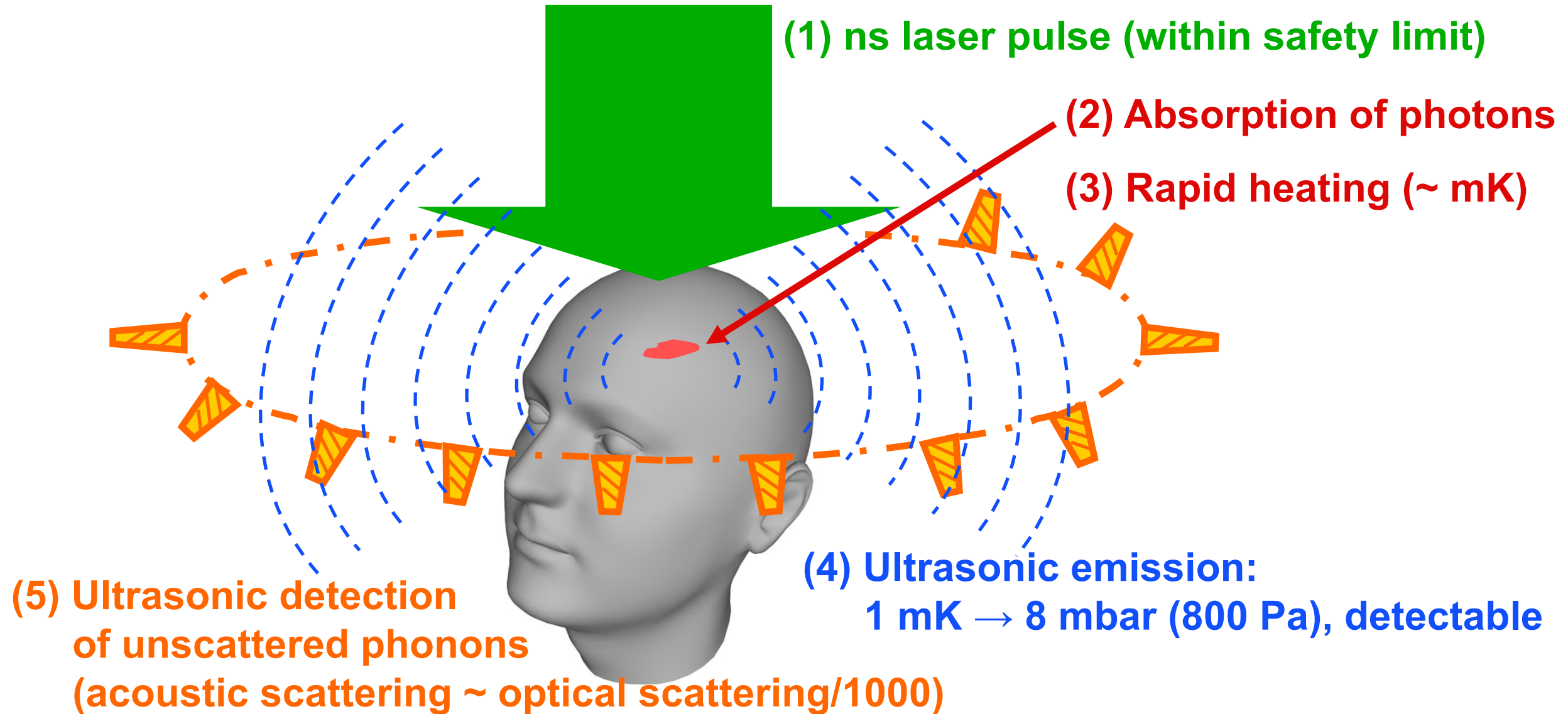
Organ



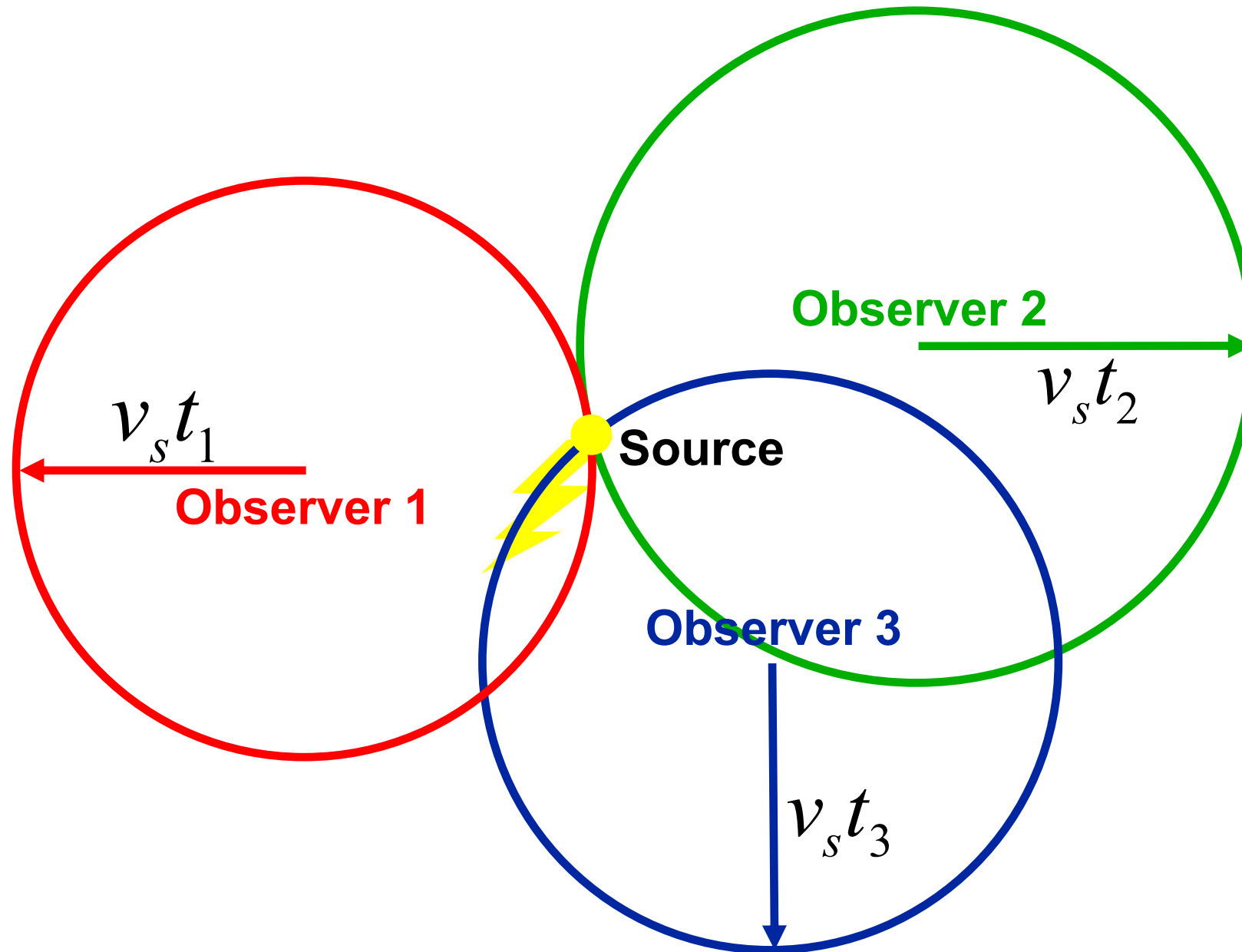
Human



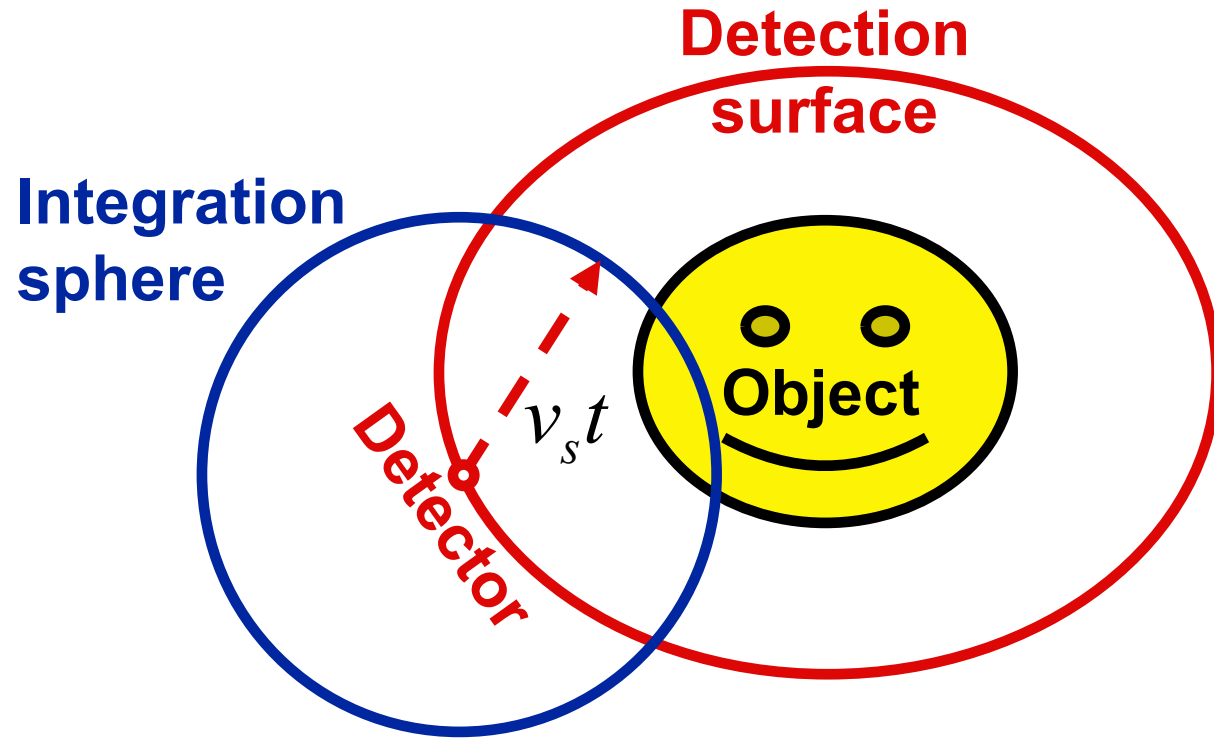
Photoacoustic Computed Tomography: Deep Penetration with Optical Contrast and Ultrasonic Resolution



Imaging of a Single Sound Source by Triangulation



Inverse Spherical Radon Transformation: Universal Backprojection



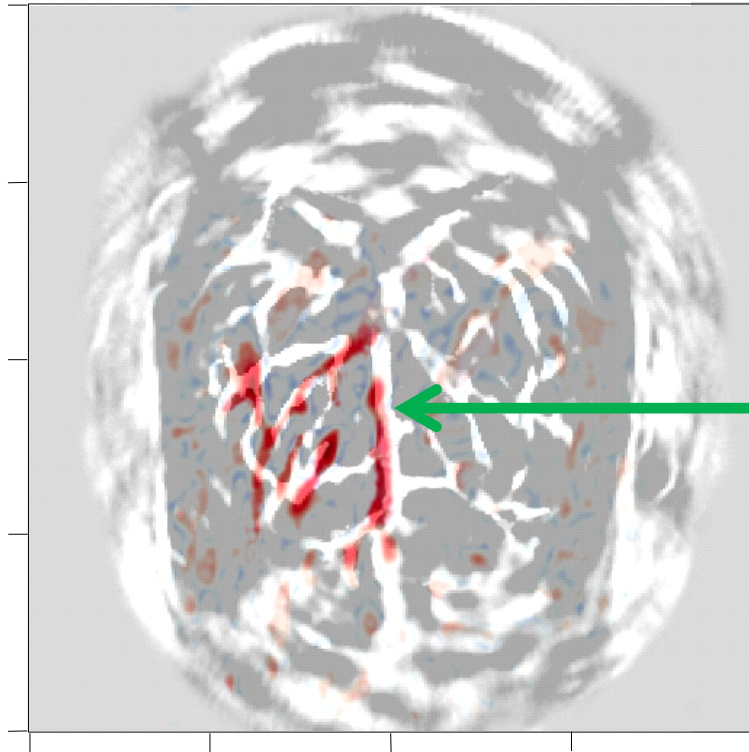
M Xu, LV Wang, *Phys Rev E* 71, 016706, 2005
 Y Xu, LV Wang, *Phys Rev Lett* 92, 033902, 2004

$$\underbrace{p_0(\mathbf{r})}_{\text{Optical contrast}} = \frac{2}{\Omega_0} \int \left[\underbrace{\left(1 - t \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right)}_{\text{Beam forming}} \underbrace{p(\mathbf{r}_0, t)}_{\text{High-frequency filtering}} \right]_{t = \frac{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0|}{v_s}} \underbrace{d\Omega_0}_{\text{Solid angle}}$$

Delay

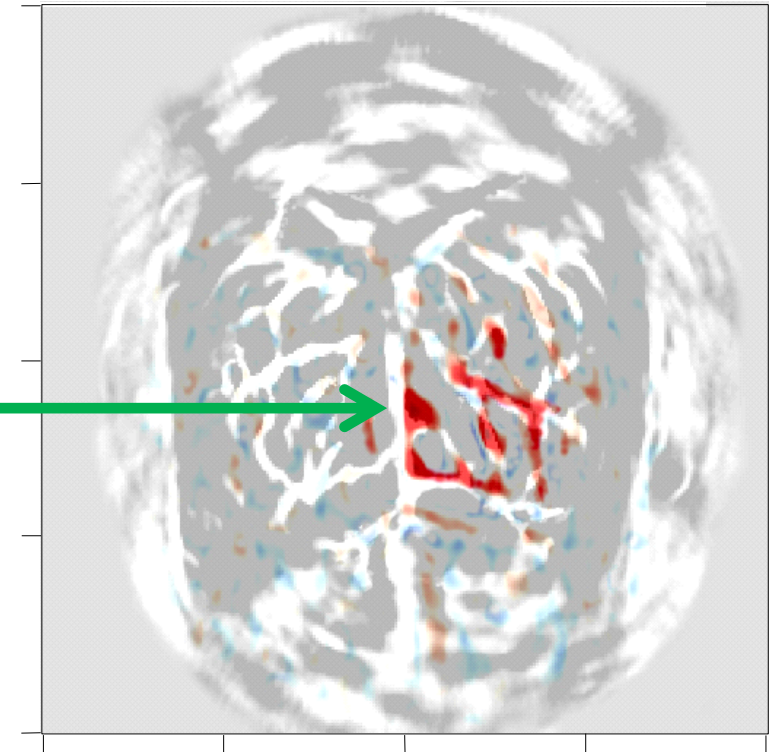
First Functional (Also First *In Vivo*) Photoacoustic Tomography in Small Animals with Intact Scalp and Skull

Left-whisker stimulation



Contralateral
hemodynamic
response

Right-whisker stimulation



5 mm

Min Max
Differential absorption

Growth of Photoacoustic Tomography

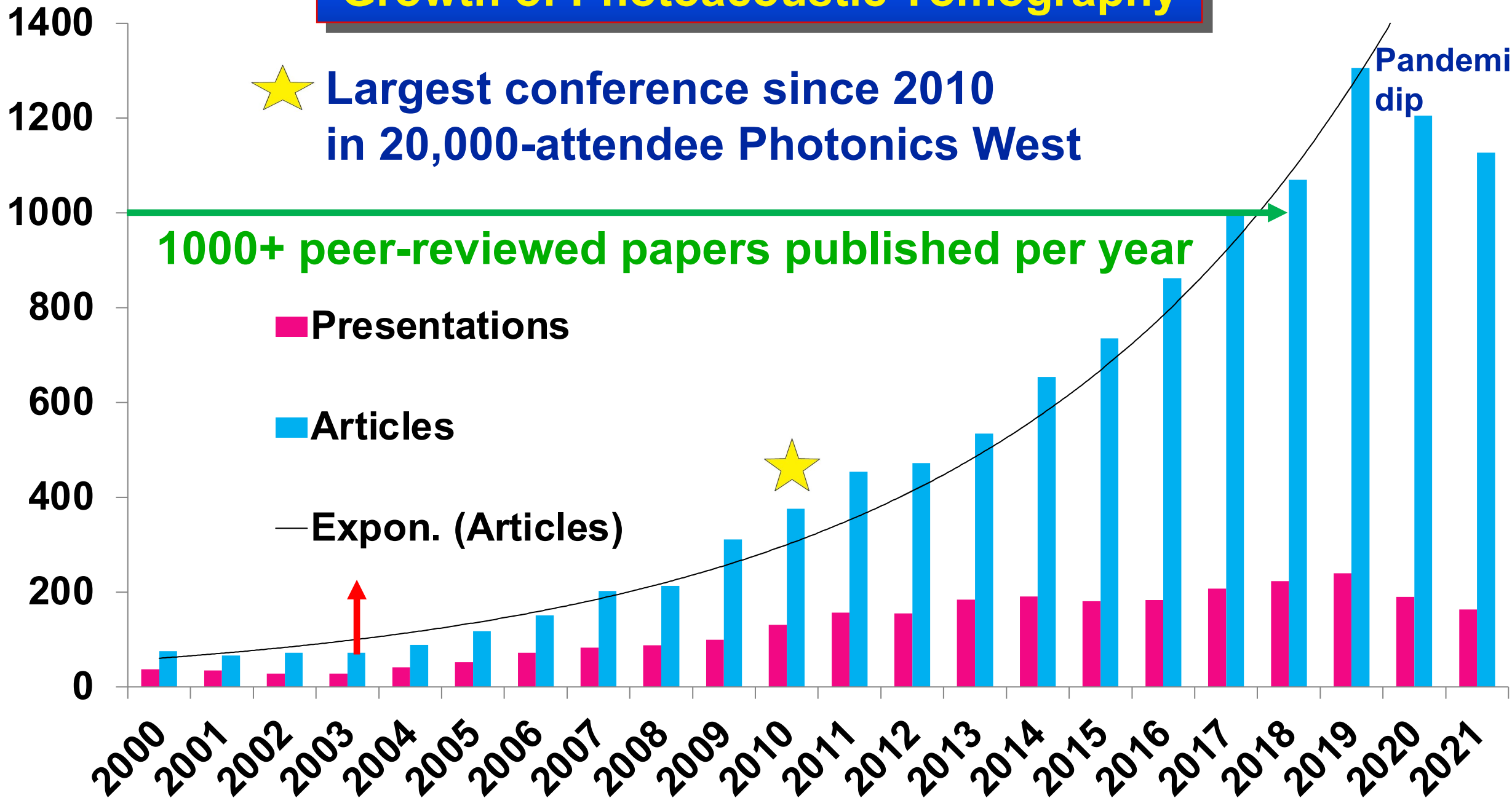
★ Largest conference since 2010
in 20,000-attendee Photonics West

1000+ peer-reviewed papers published per year

■ Presentations

■ Articles

— Expon. (Articles)



Commercialization of Photoacoustic Tomography

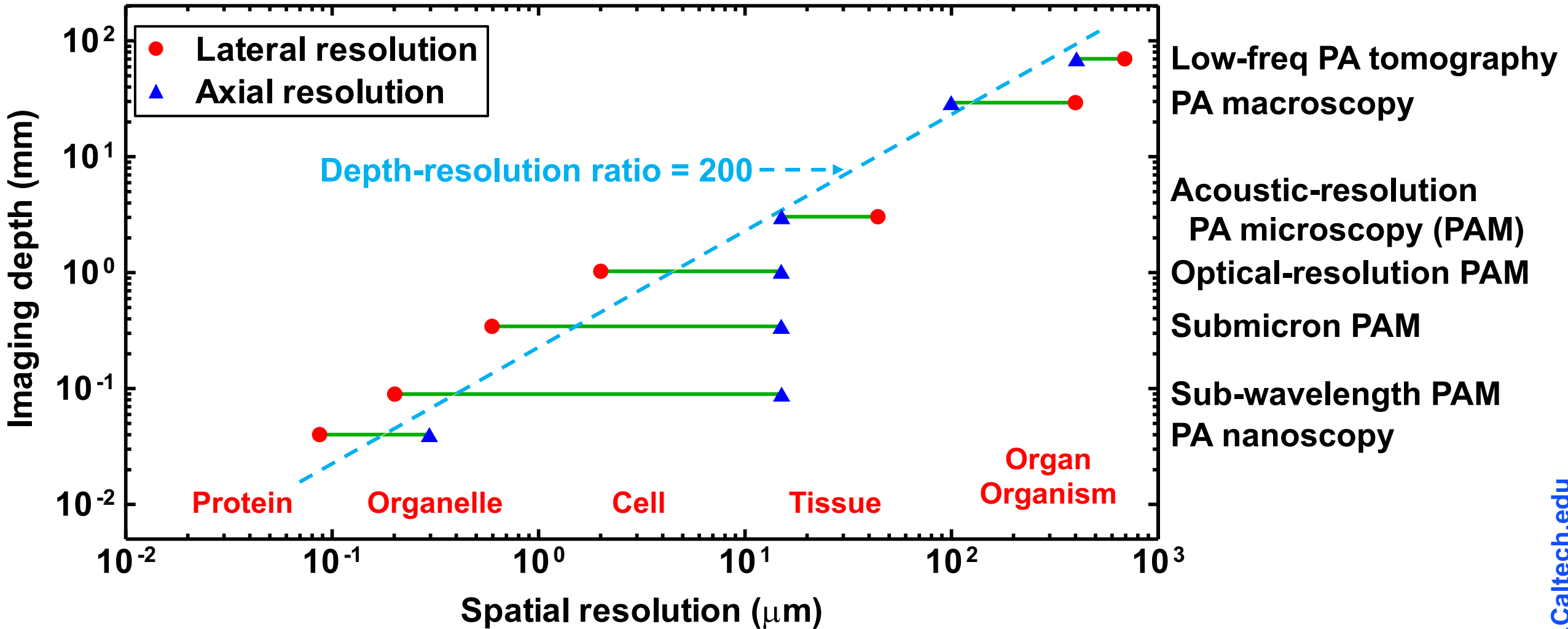
1. CalPACT ^{*e}
2. Canon
3. Cyberdyne
4. Endra ^{*c}
5. Fuji VisualSonics
6. illumiSonics
7. iThera (2021 CE mark approval)
8. Kibero
9. Luxonus (2023 Japanese PMDA approval)
10. MicroPhotoAcoustics ^{*e}
11. Mindray
12. OptoSonics
13. PA Imaging
14. PhotoSound
15. Photothermal Spectroscopy ^{*p}
16. PreXion
17. Seno Medical (2021 FDA approval) ^{*c}
18. TomoWave
19. Union Photoacoustic Technologies ^{*e}
20. Verasonics
21. Vibronix
22. Anonymous ^{*p}

^{*c} Consultant, past

^{*e} Equity & patent holder

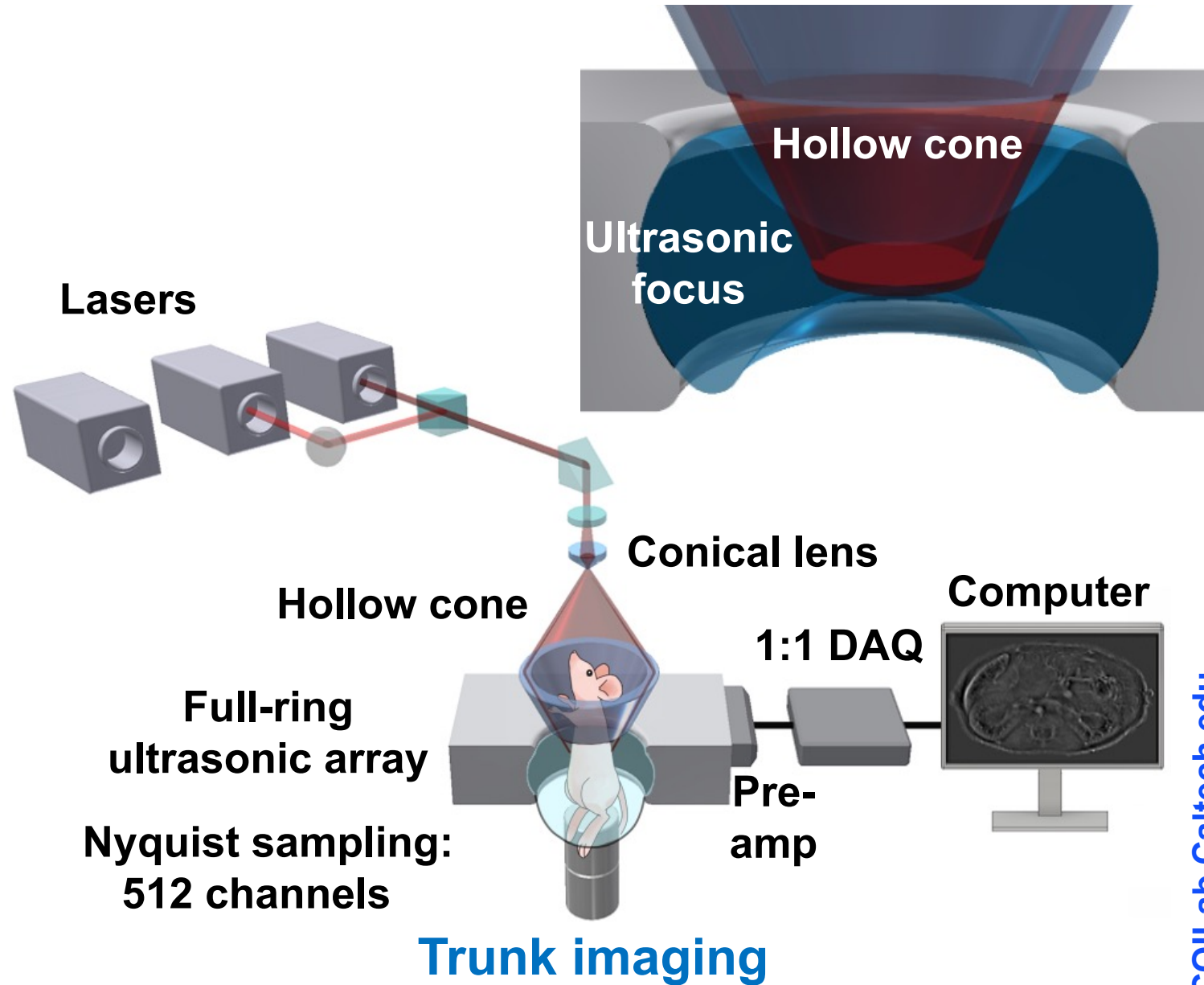
^{*p} Patent holder

Omniscale *In Vivo* Photoacoustic (PA) Tomography with Consistent Contrast

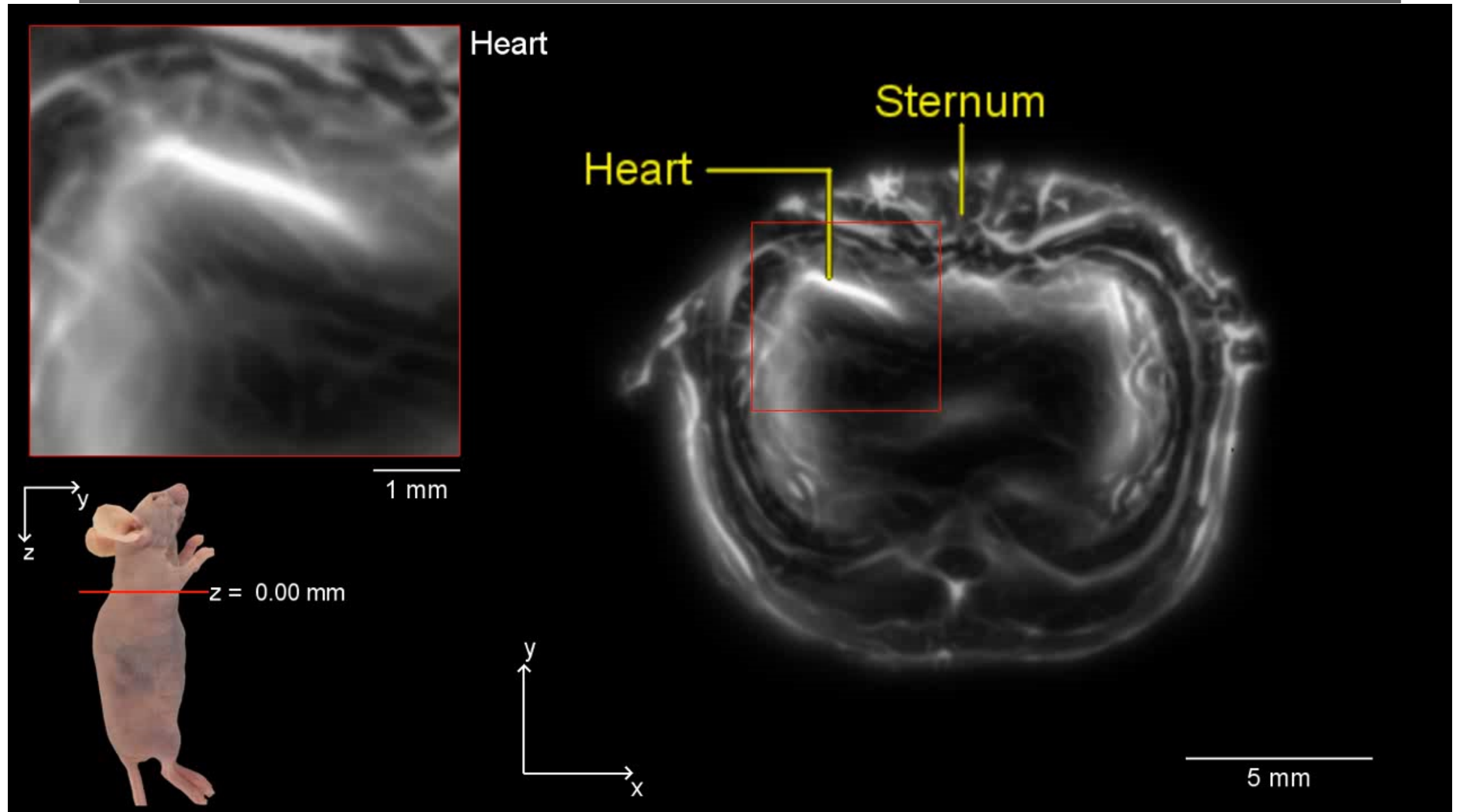


- Omniscale biological research from organelles to small-animal organisms
- Translation of microscopic lab discoveries to macroscopic clinical practice

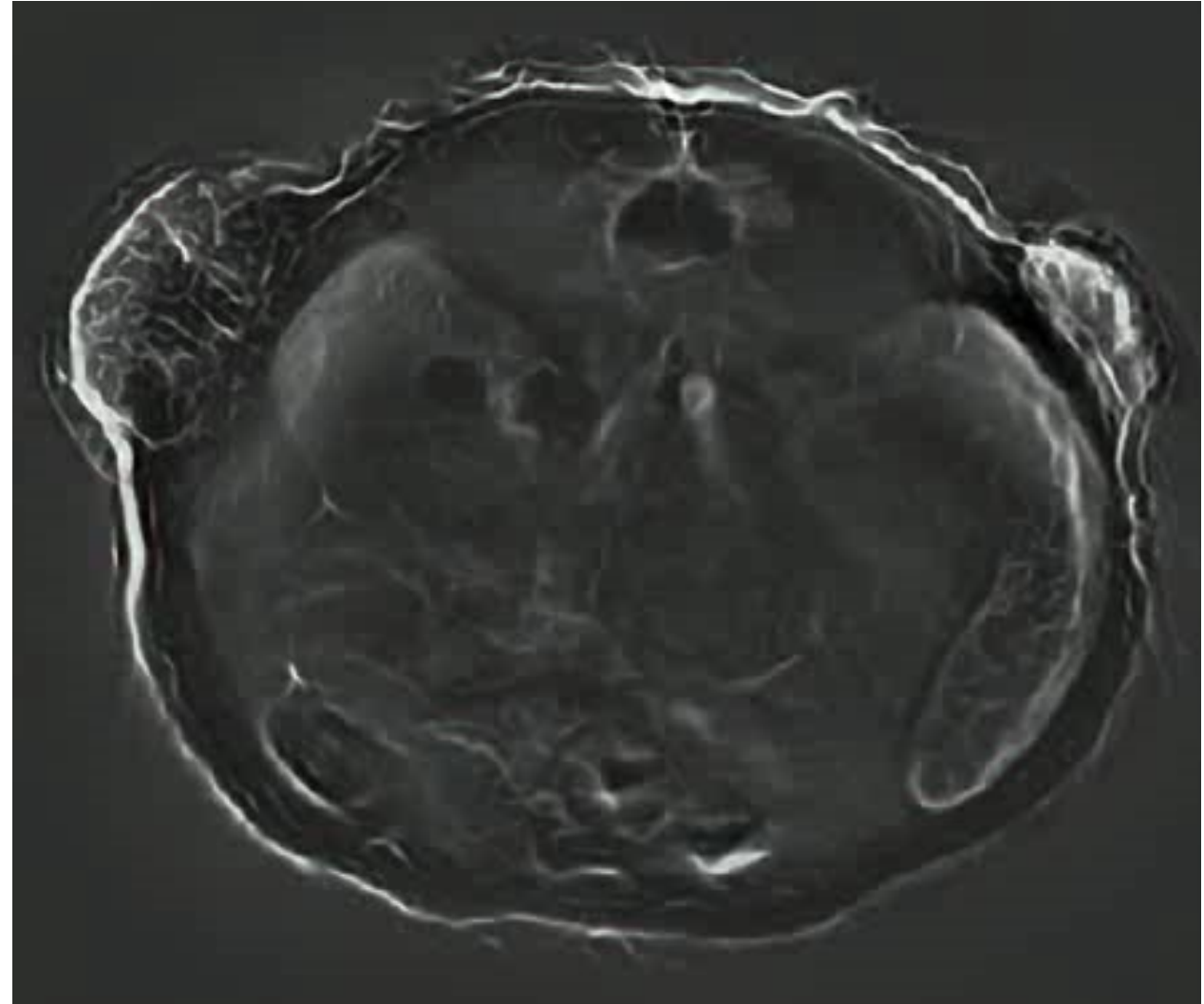
Single Impulse Panoramic Photoacoustic Computed Tomography



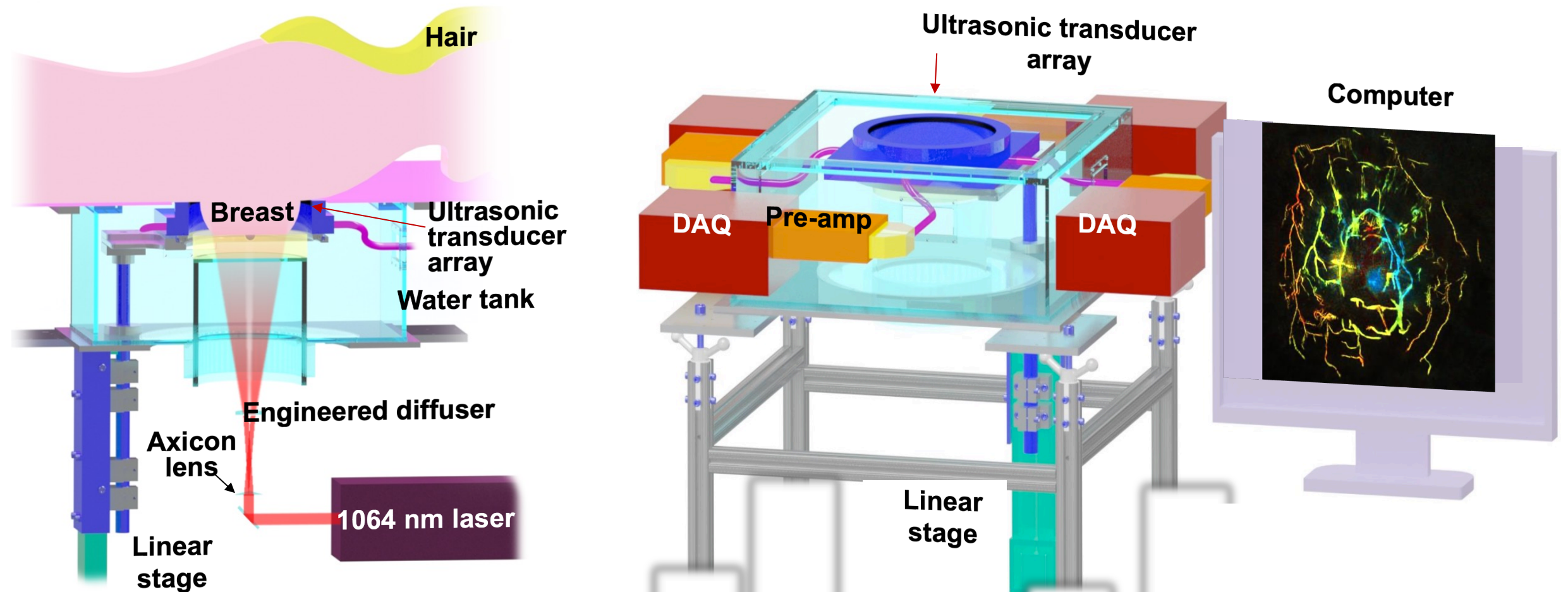
50 Hz Frame-Rate Whole-Body Photoacoustic CT of Mice *In Vivo*



Commercialized Whole-Body Photoacoustic Computed Tomography System



Single Breath-Hold Panoramic Photoacoustic Computed Tomography of Human Breasts: Schematic of the Equipment



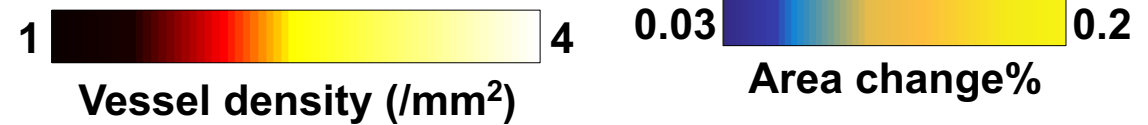
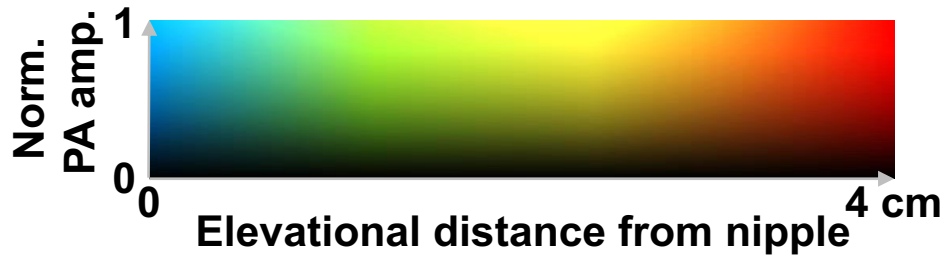
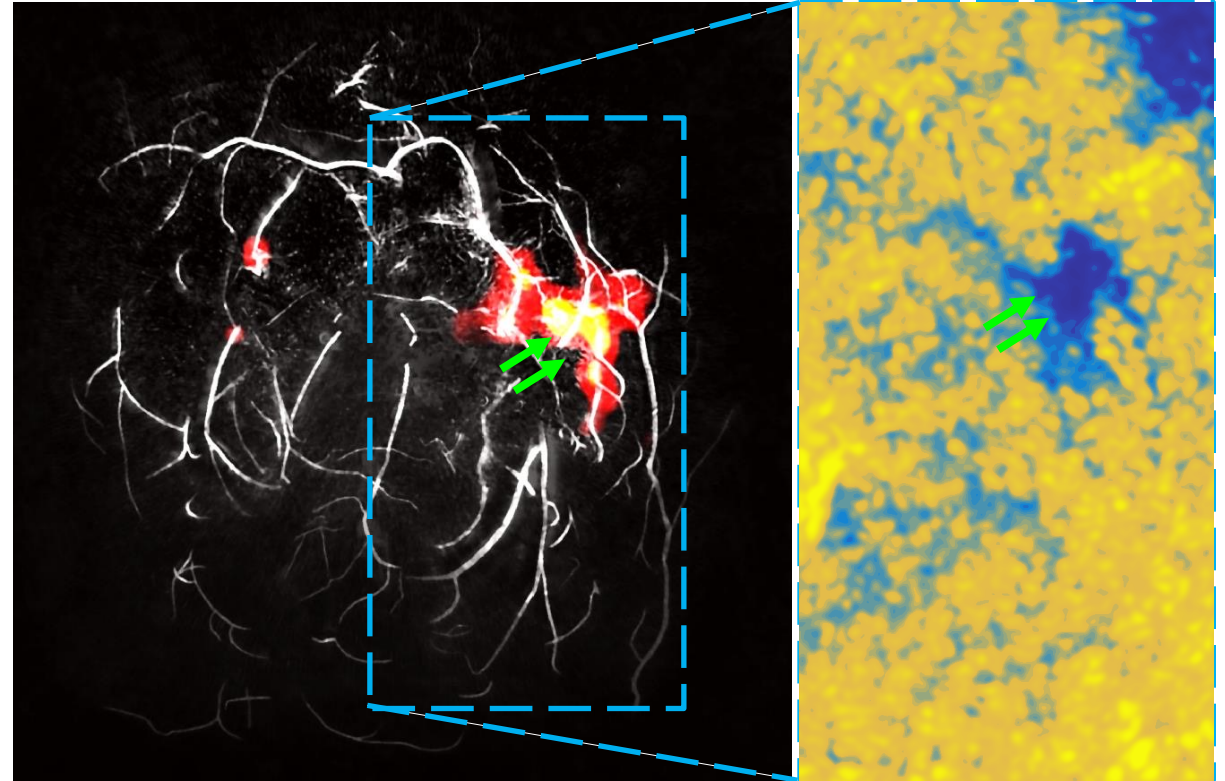
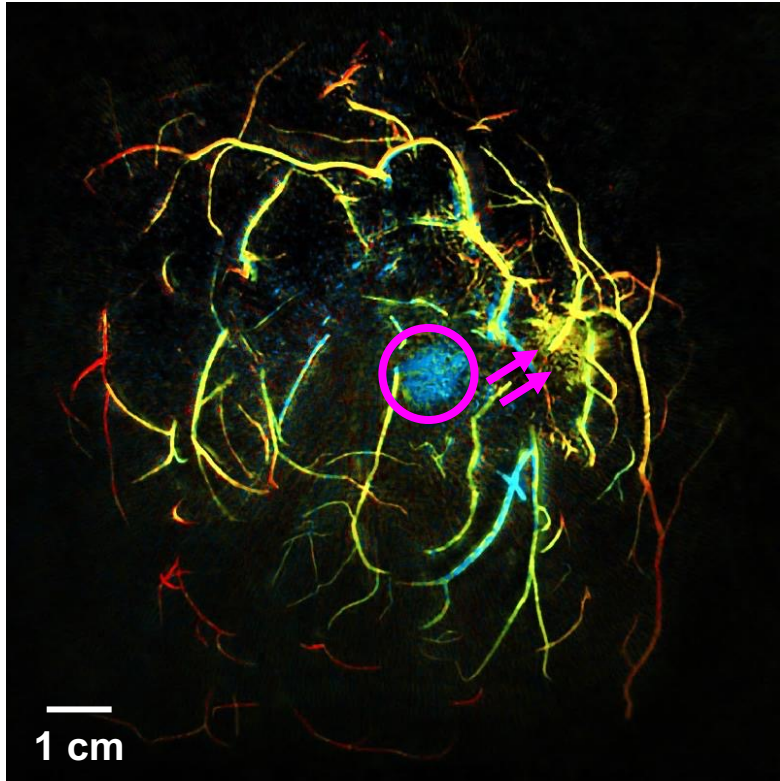
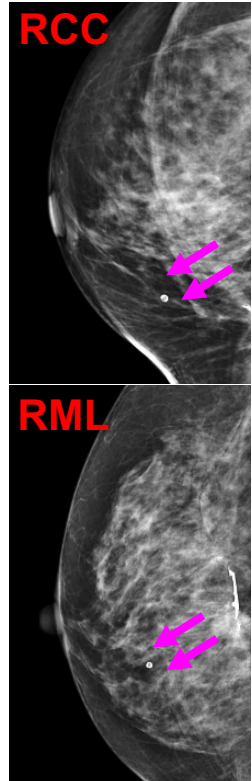
- Single-shot 2D imaging within 150 μ s
- Single-breath-hold 3D imaging within 15 s
- Smallest imaged-vessel diameter of 258 μ m
- One-way penetration of \sim 4 cm

Photoacoustic Tomo/Elastography of a Radiographically Dense Human Breast

X-ray
mammograms

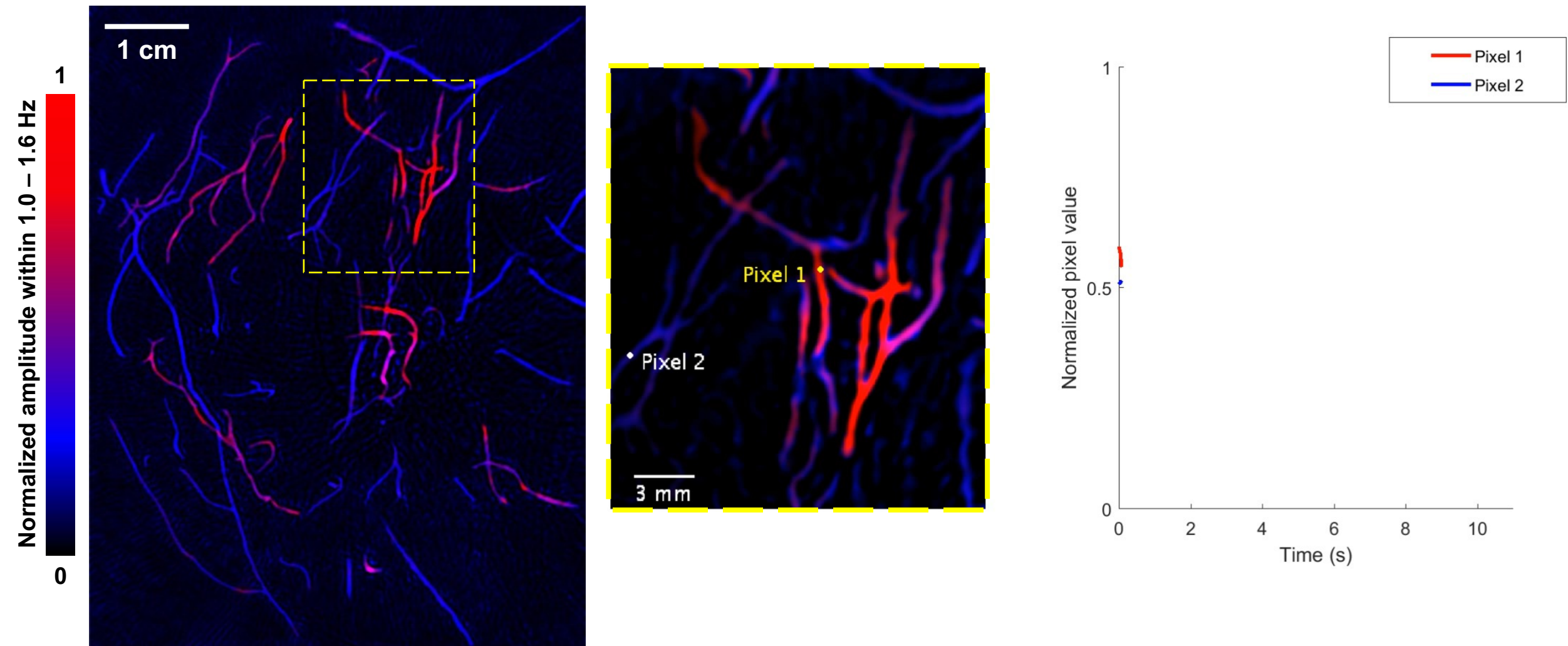
Patient 6 (Invasive ductal carcinoma, age 69)

Elastography



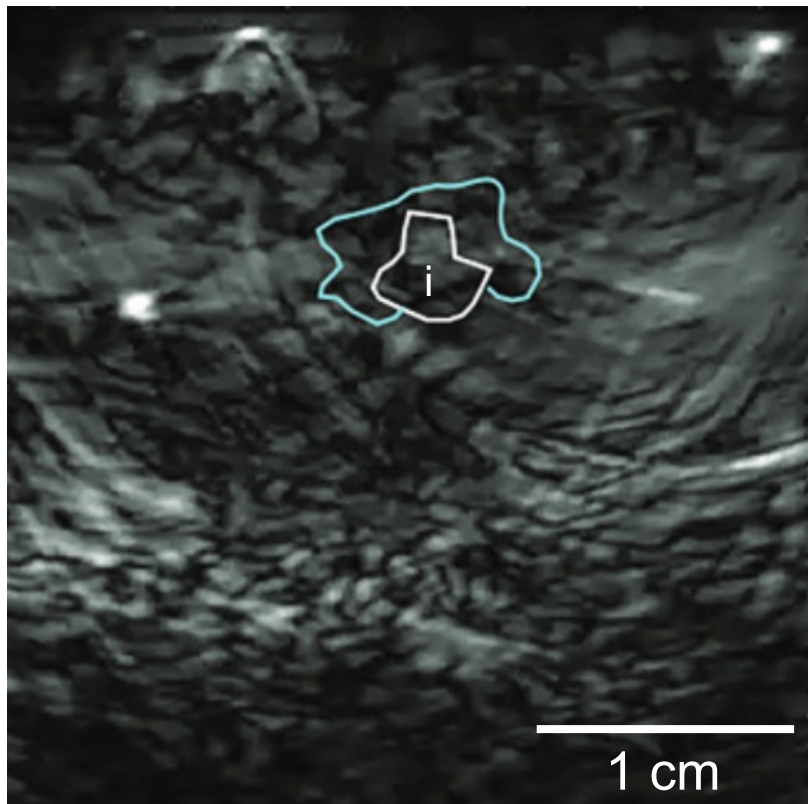
Arterial and Venous Photoacoustic Mapping in Human Breasts

Heartbeat encoded arterial network

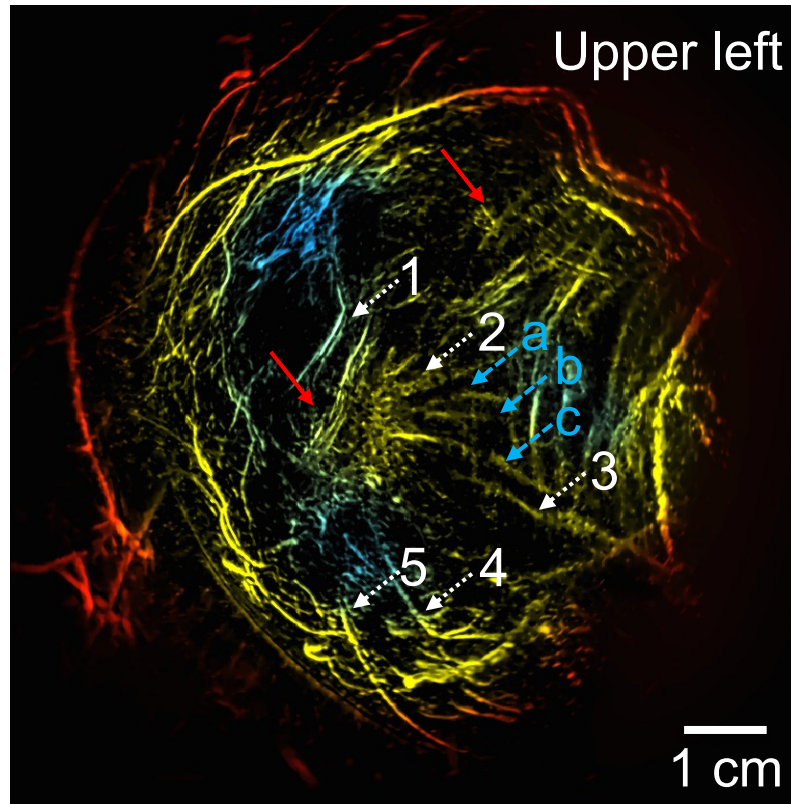


Label-Free Photoacoustic Imaging vs Gadolinium-Contrast MRI

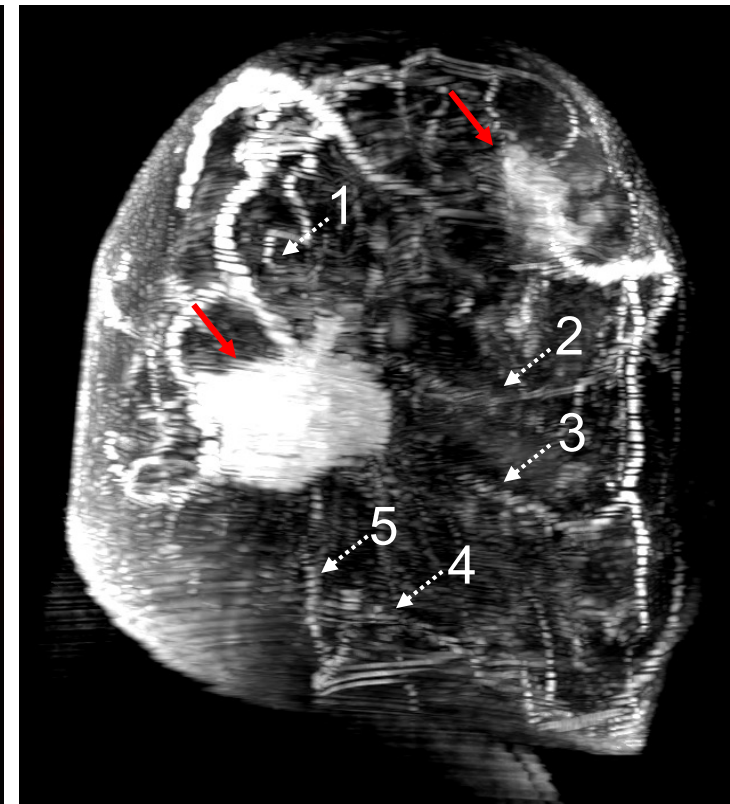
FDA-approved PAT



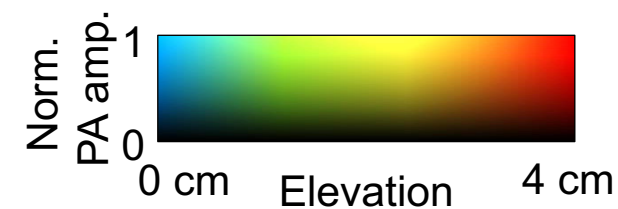
Caltech label-free PACT



Gadolinium-contrast MRI

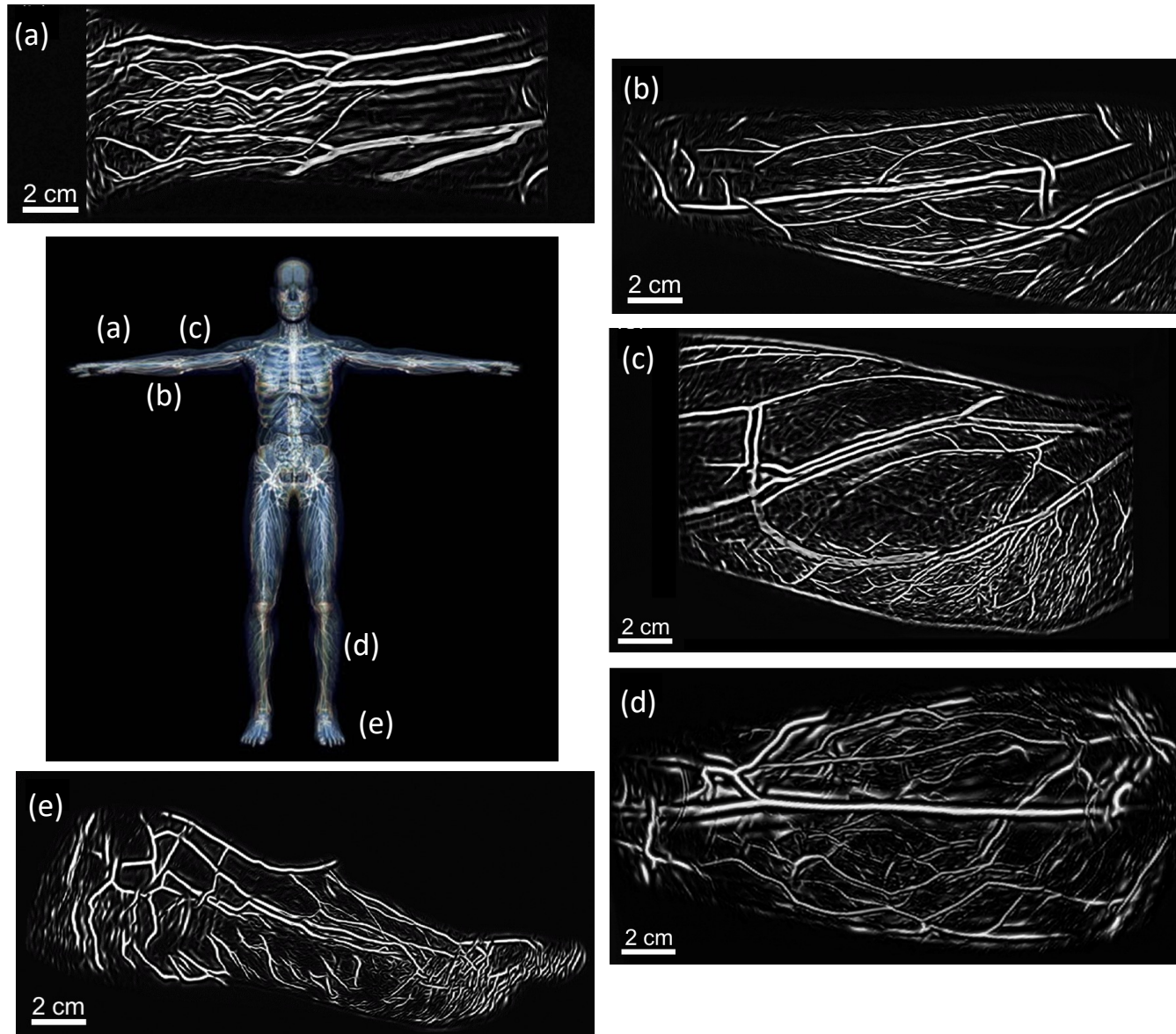


- **Solid arrows: tumors**
- **1–5: vessels detected by both PACT and MRI**
- **a–c: vessels detected by PACT only**



Left: El Neuschler, R Butler, CA Young, LD Barke, ML Bertrand, M Böhm-Vélez, ..., BE Dogan, Radiology (2018).
Xin Tong, Li Lin, Yilin Luo, Peng Hu, [Armine Kasabyan, Marta Invernizzi, Lily Lai, Lisa Yee]@COH, LV Wang, *unpublished*

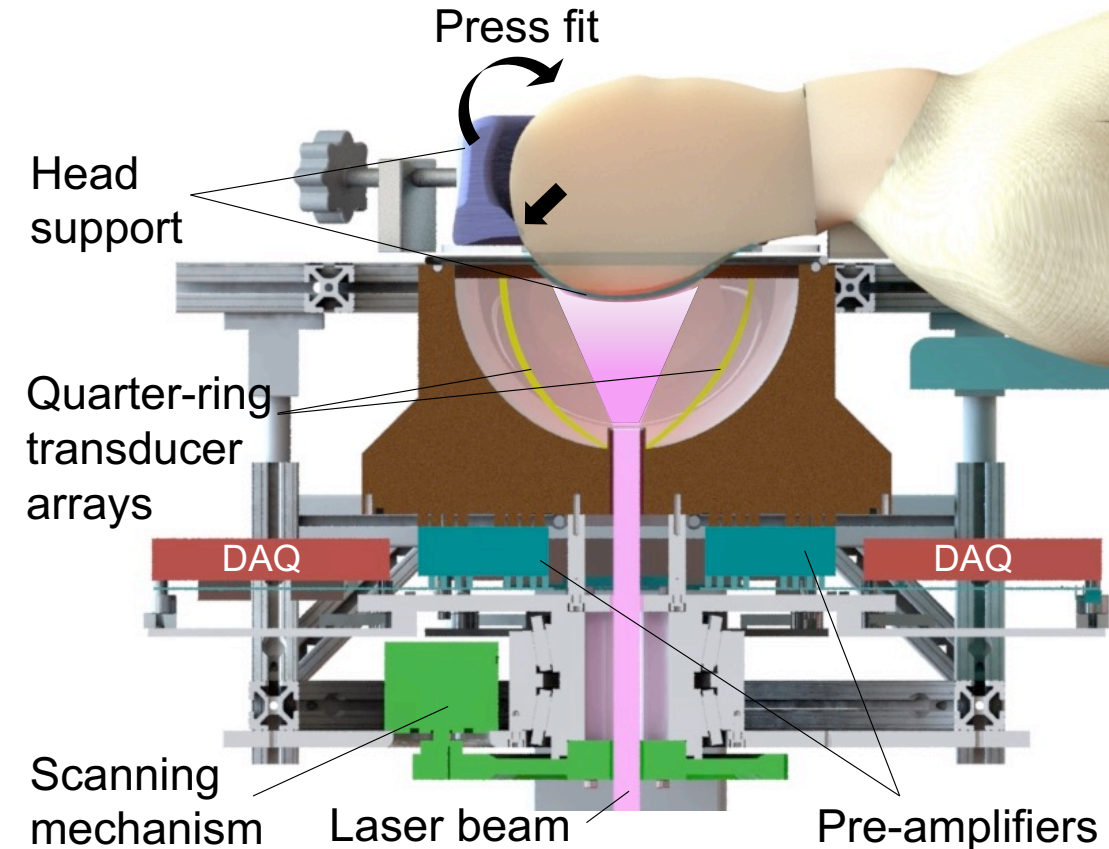
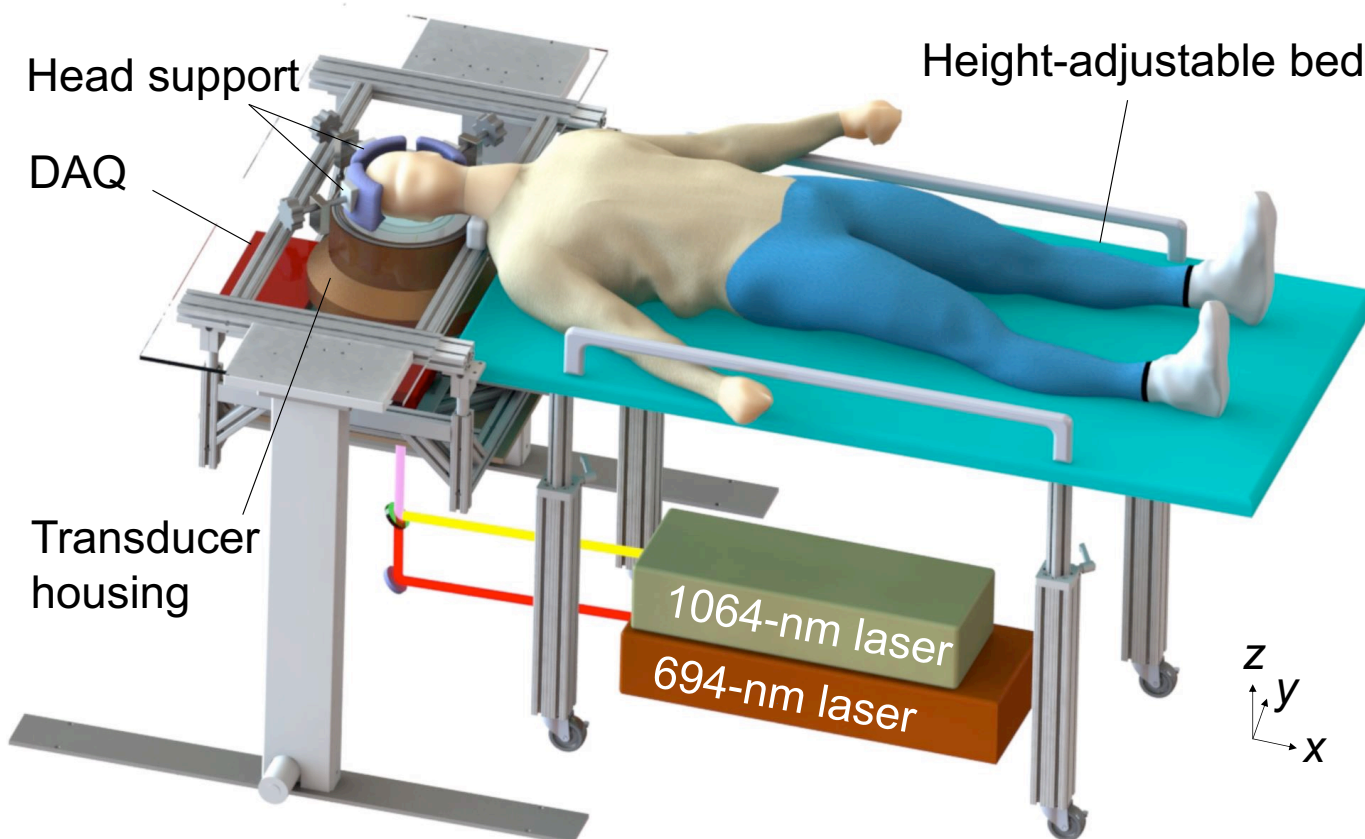
Photoacoustic Imaging of Human Extremities: Arm and Leg



Potential applications

- Screen/diagnose diabetic foot
- Diagnose vascular obstructions
- Assist in vascular surgery
- Monitor postop revascularization surgery
- Monitor perfusion

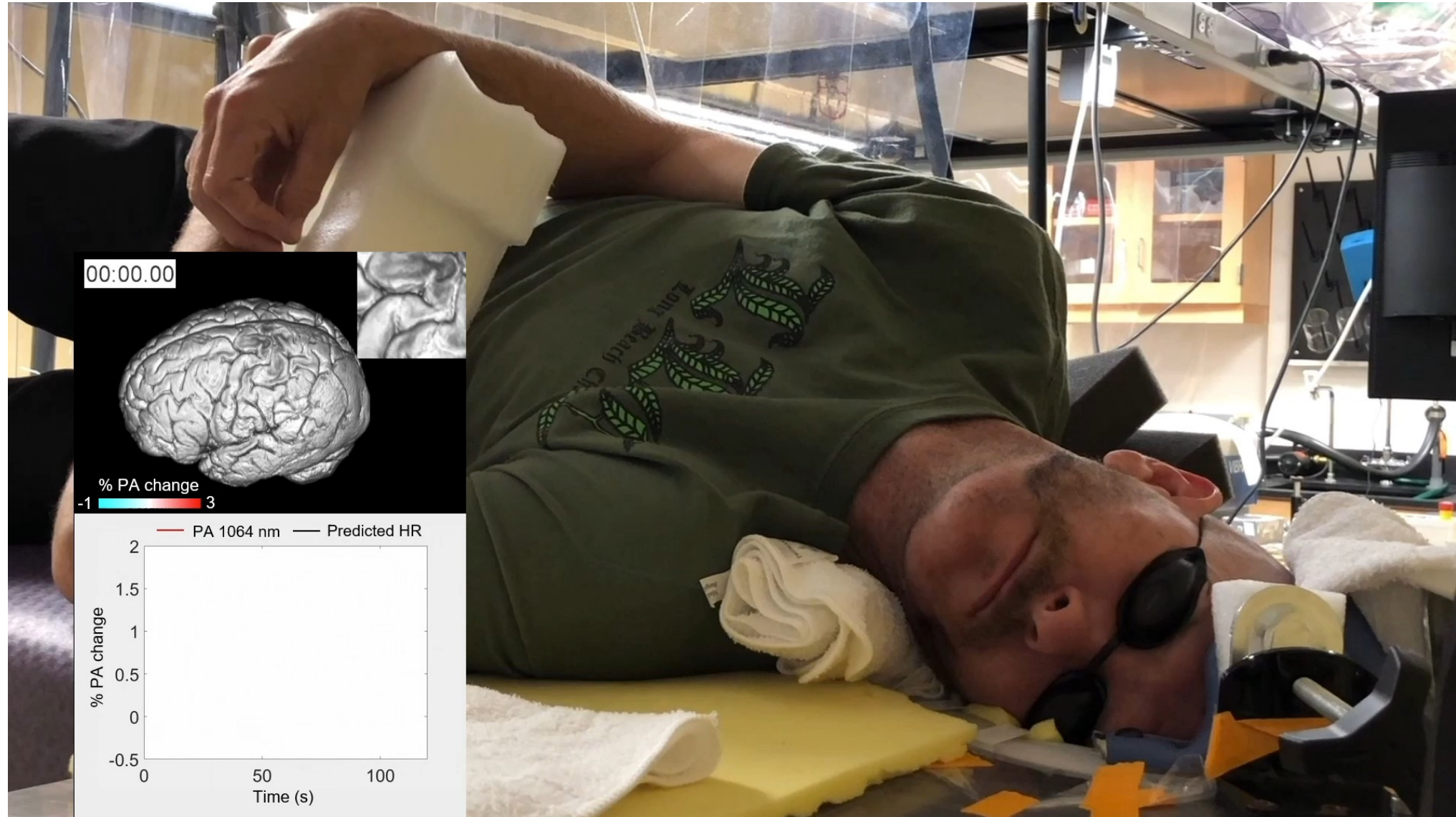
Human Breast/Brain Photoacoustic Tomography



- **1024 ultrasonic channels**
 - **Anatomic mode (10 s 3D)**
 - **Function mode (2 s 3D)**

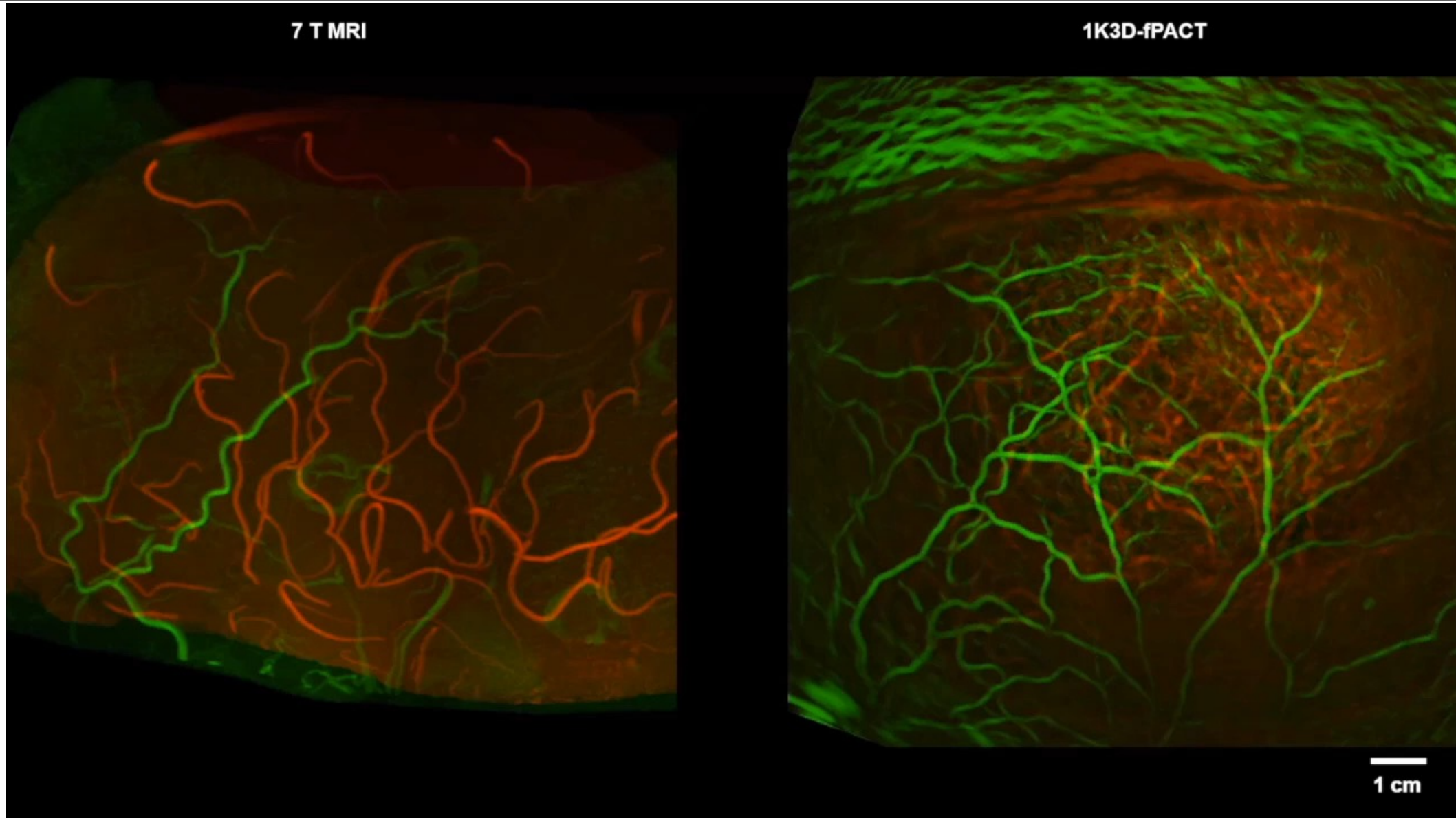
- **Dual laser wavelengths**
 - **1064 nm, 10 Hz (HbO₂ dominant)**
 - **694 nm, 1 Hz (HbR dominant)**

First Functional Photoacoustic Tomography of Human Brains



[S Na, J Russin, L Lin, X Yuan], P Hu, KB Jann, L Yan, K Maslov, J Shi, DJ Wang, CY Liu@USC, LV Wang, *Nature BME* 6, 584, 2022

First Functional Photoacoustic Tomography vs 7-T fMRI of Human Brains



[S Na, J Russin, L Lin, X Yuan], P Hu, KB Jann, L Yan, K Maslov, J Shi, DJ Wang, CY Liu@USC, LV Wang, *Nature BME* 6, 584, 2022

Functional PACT vs fMRI of Cortical Human Brains

	fPACT	fMRI
Contrast	HbR, HbO ₂ , [sO ₂ , HbT]	HbR
Response time	sO ₂ : 6.5 ± 0.6 s; HbT: 6.1 ± 0.7 s	BOLD: 7.8 ± 0.6 s
Background	Low	High
Linearity	Yes	No
Portability	Yes	No
Platform	Open	Closed
Acoustic noise	Low	High
Cost	Lower	High (\$10M + \$150K/year)
Magnet	No	Yes

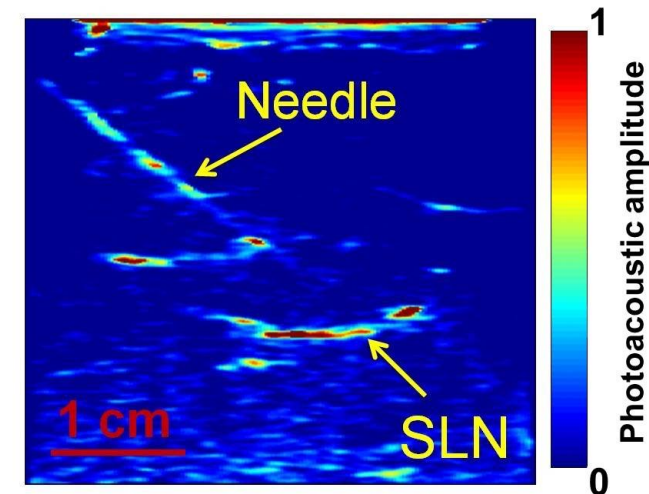
HbR: deoxyhemoglobin; HbO₂: oxyhemoglobin
HbT: total hemoglobin; sO₂: O₂ saturation
BOLD: blood oxygenation-level dependent signal

In Vivo Photoacoustic Tomography of Sentinel Lymph Node (SLN) in Humans for Breast Cancer Staging

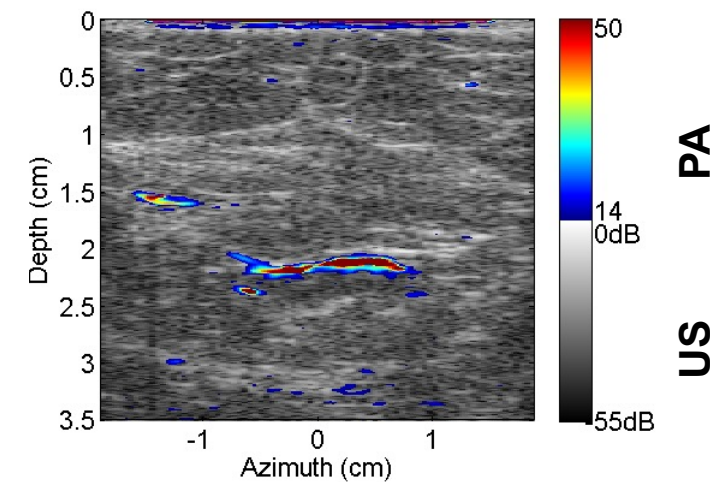
Concept

1. Inject dye into the breast
2. Image the SLN with optical contrast from the dye
3. Sample the SLN by photoacoustically guided needle biopsy
4. Examine the specimens for cancer

Photoacoustic

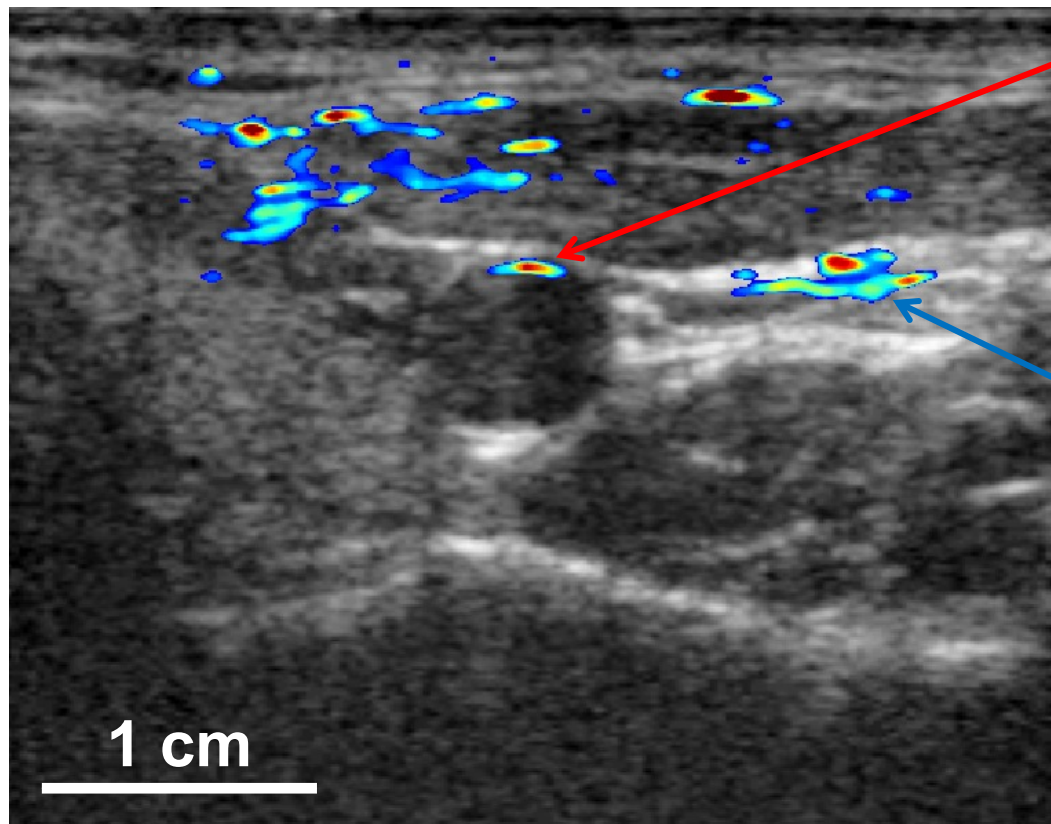


Photoacoustic + Ultrasonic



In Vivo Functional Photoacoustic Imaging of Oxygen Saturation (sO_2) in Humans Co-Registered with Ultrasonic Imaging

Photoacoustic + ultrasonic imaging



Common carotid artery: 96%

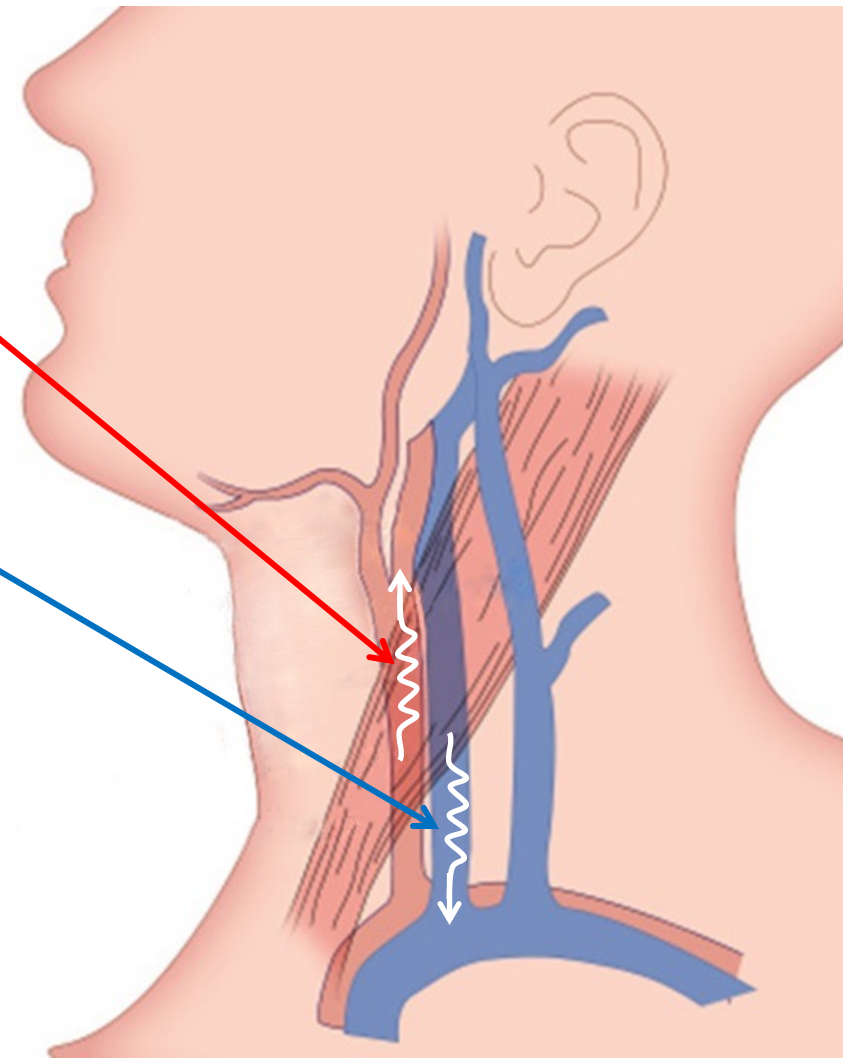
Internal jugular vein: 66%

Average (N = 7):

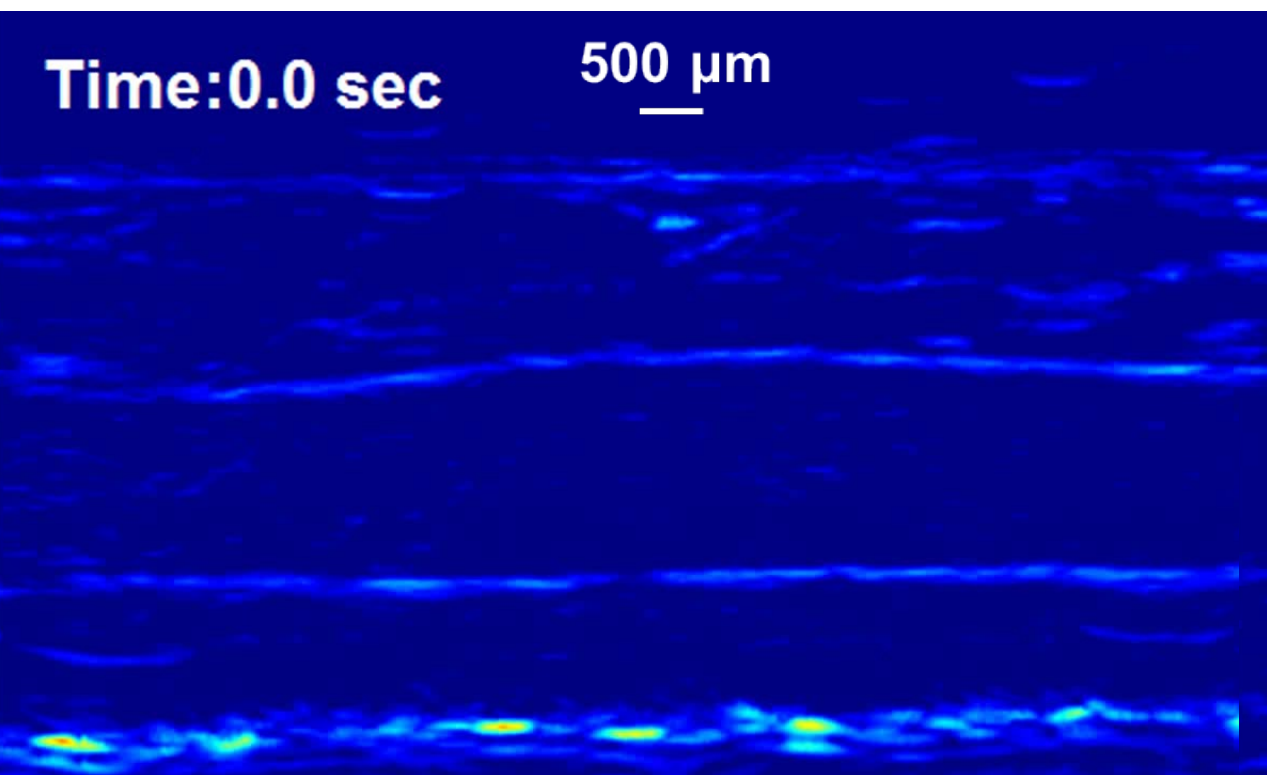
72% \pm 7%

Normal:

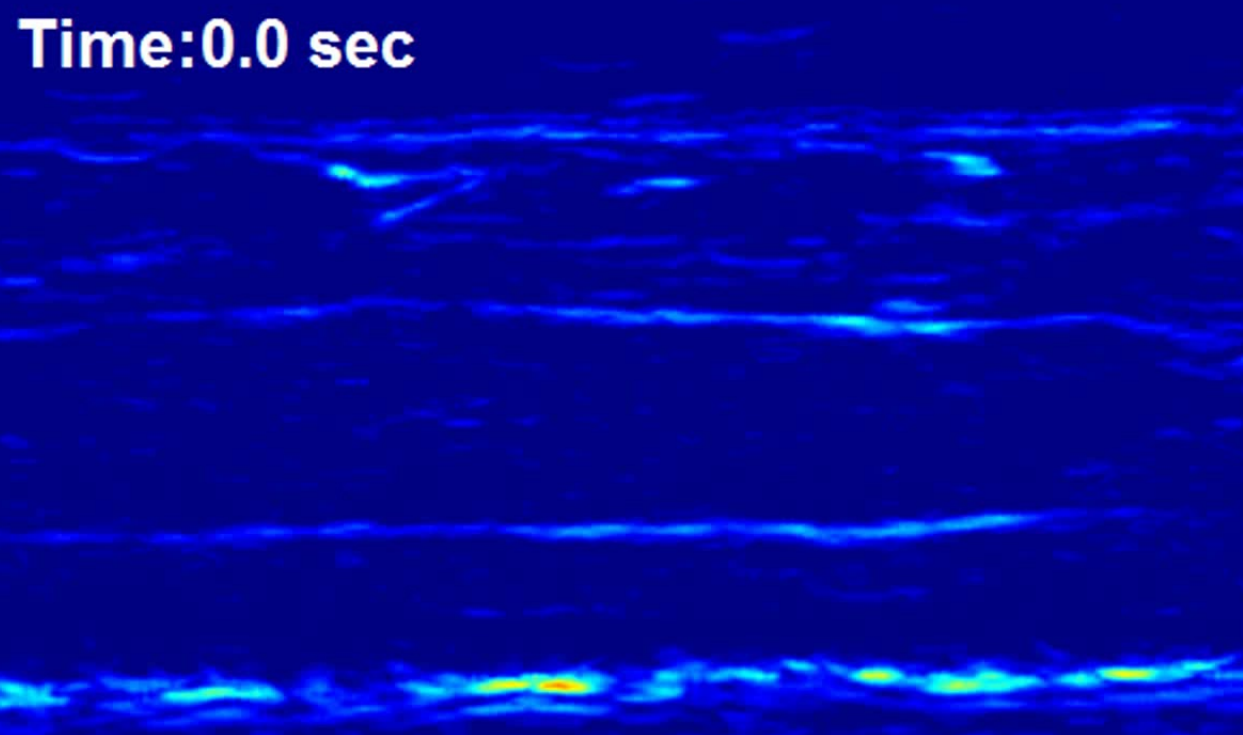
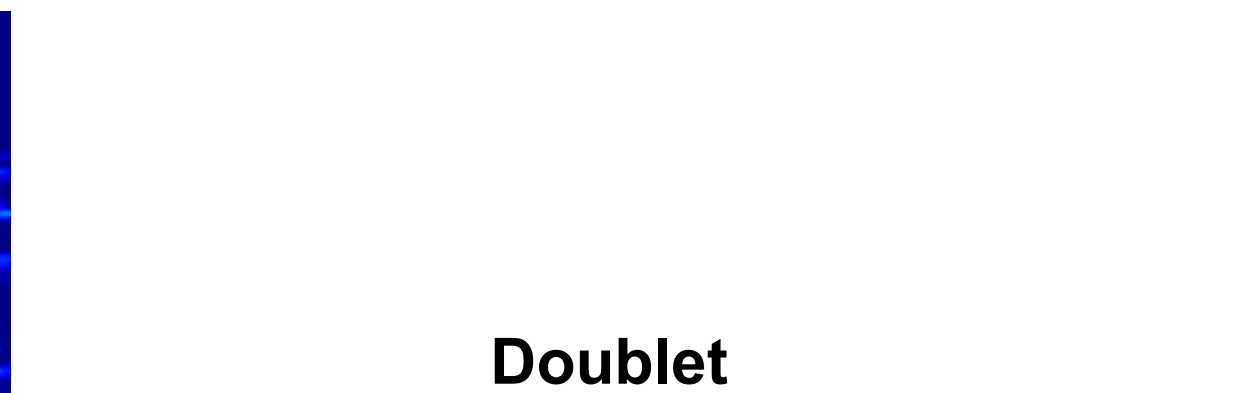
60%-75%



In Vivo Photoacoustic Microscopy of Single Circulating Tumor Cells in Humans

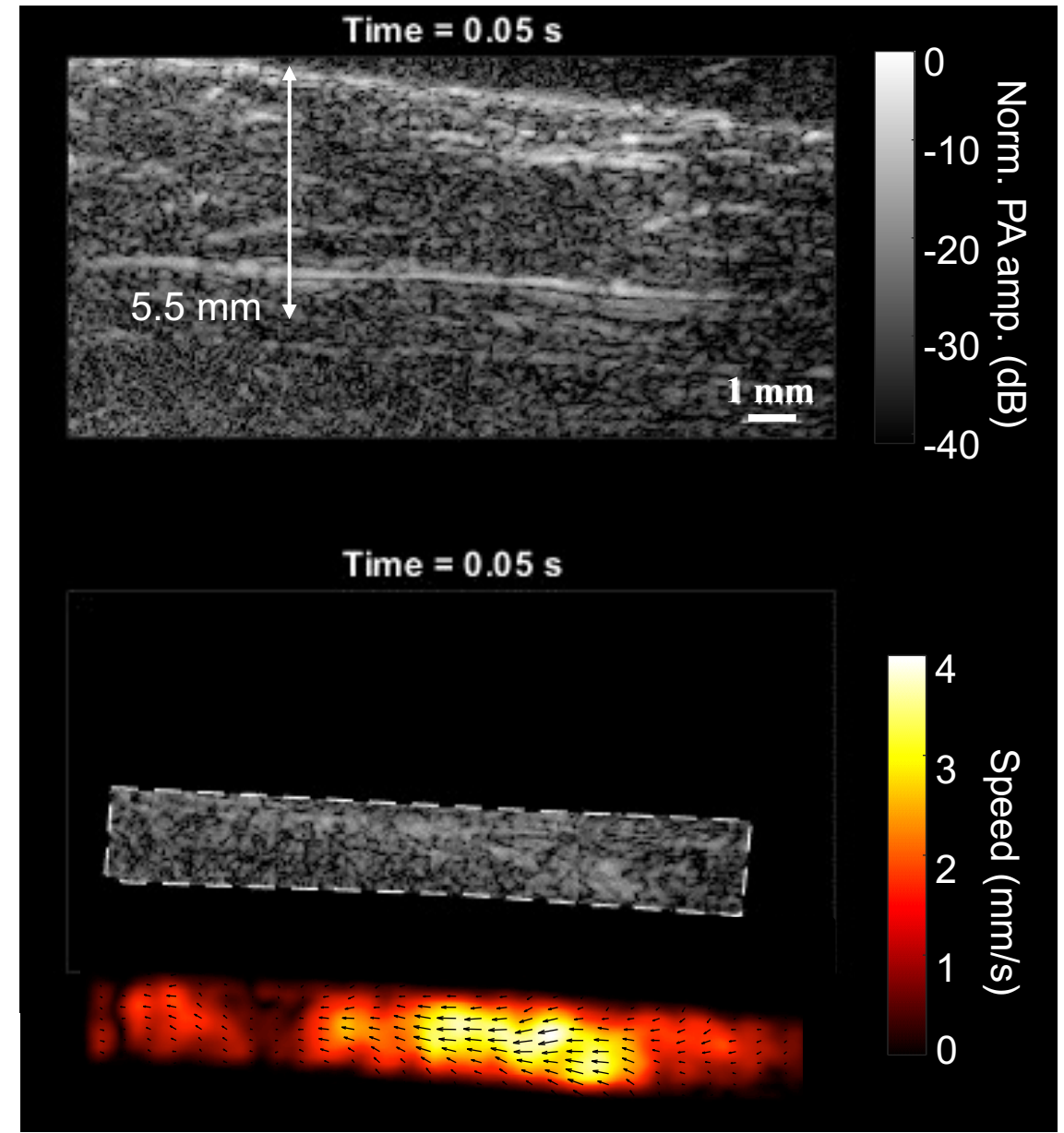
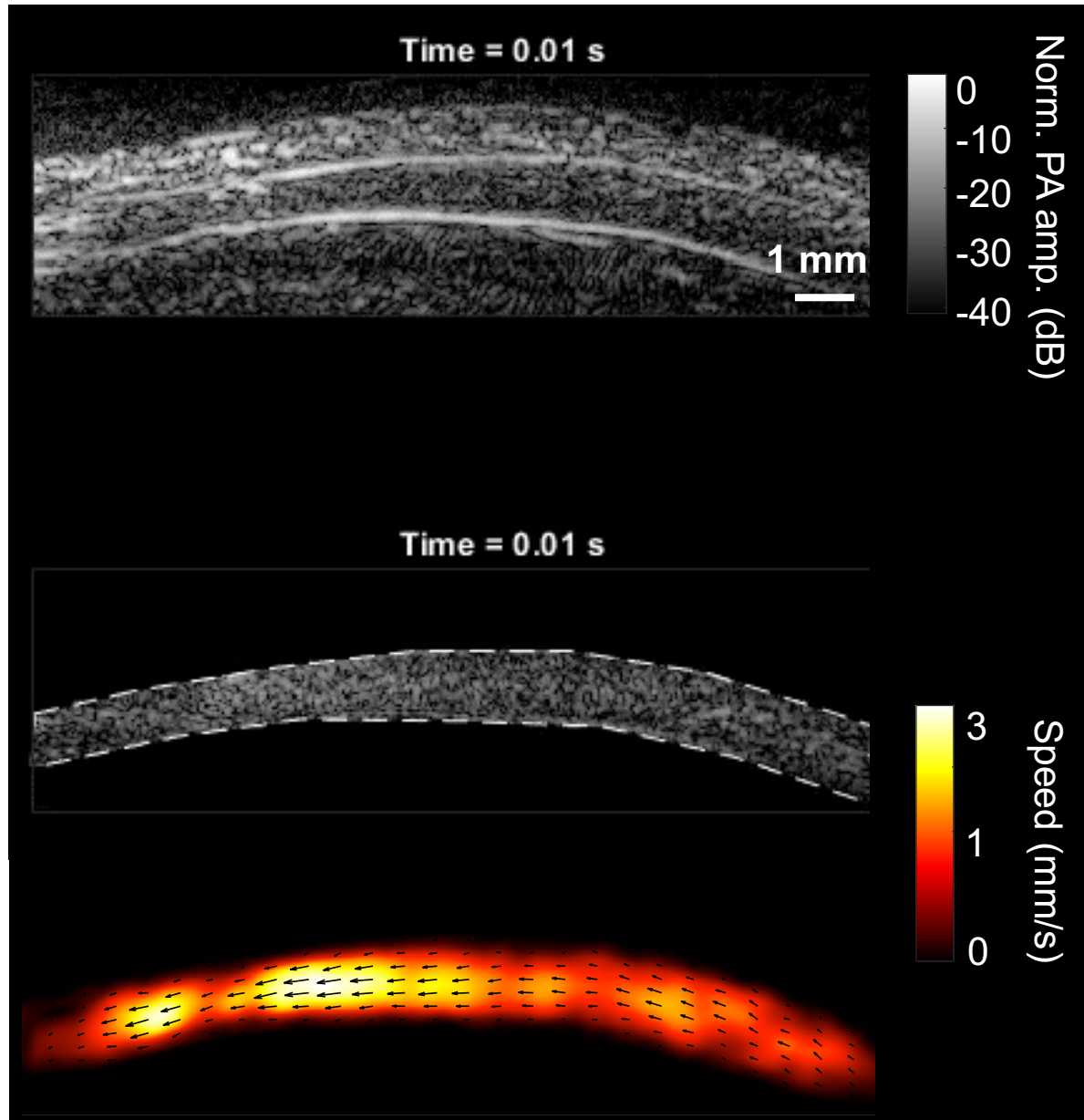


Singlet

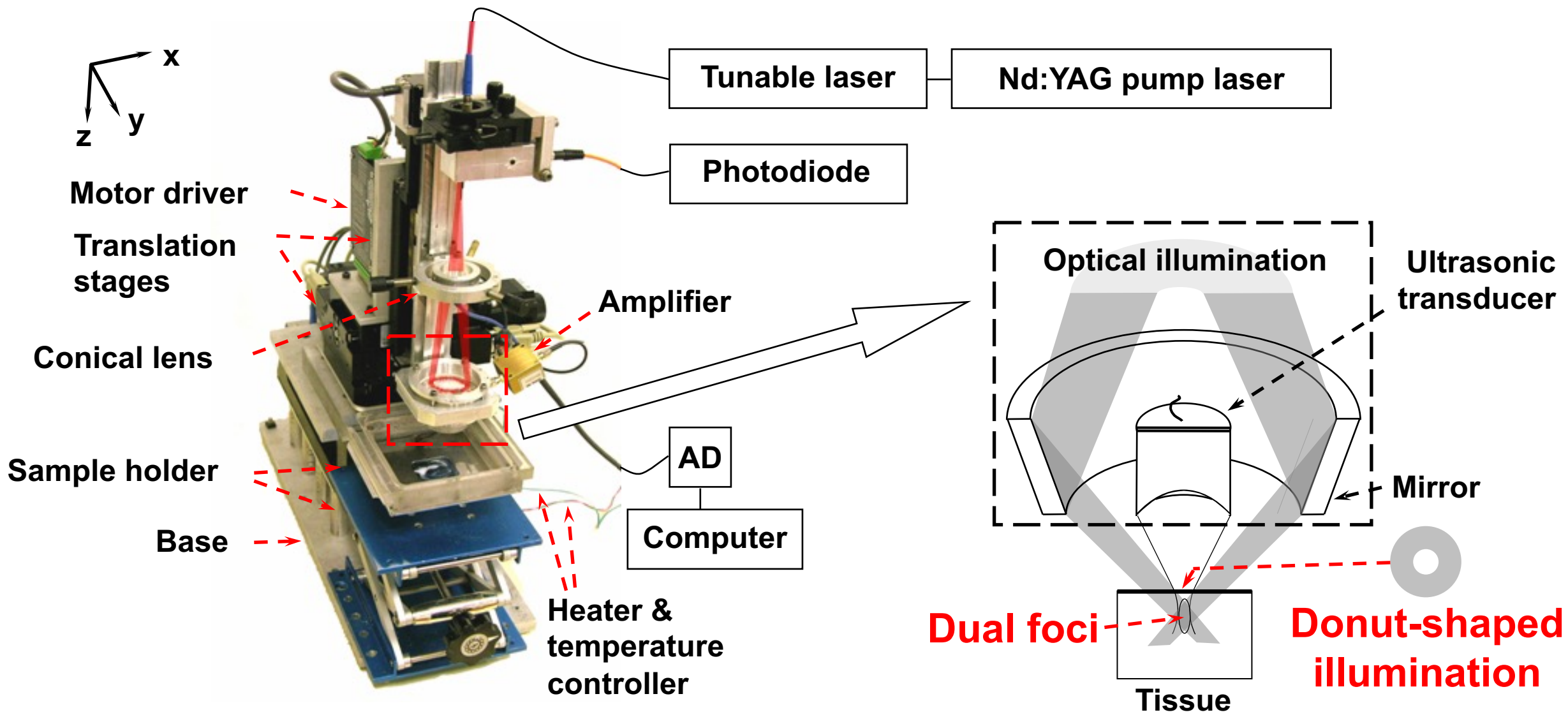


0 Normalized PA amplitude 1

In Vivo Human Photoacoustic Vector Tomography Beyond Optical Diffusion Limit



First 3D Photoacoustic Microscope



K Maslov, G Stoica, LV Wang, *Optics Lett* 30, 625, 2005
H Zhang, K Maslov, G Stoica, LV Wang, *Nature Biotech* 24, 848, 2006; *Nature Protoc* 2, 797, 2007

Loop 1

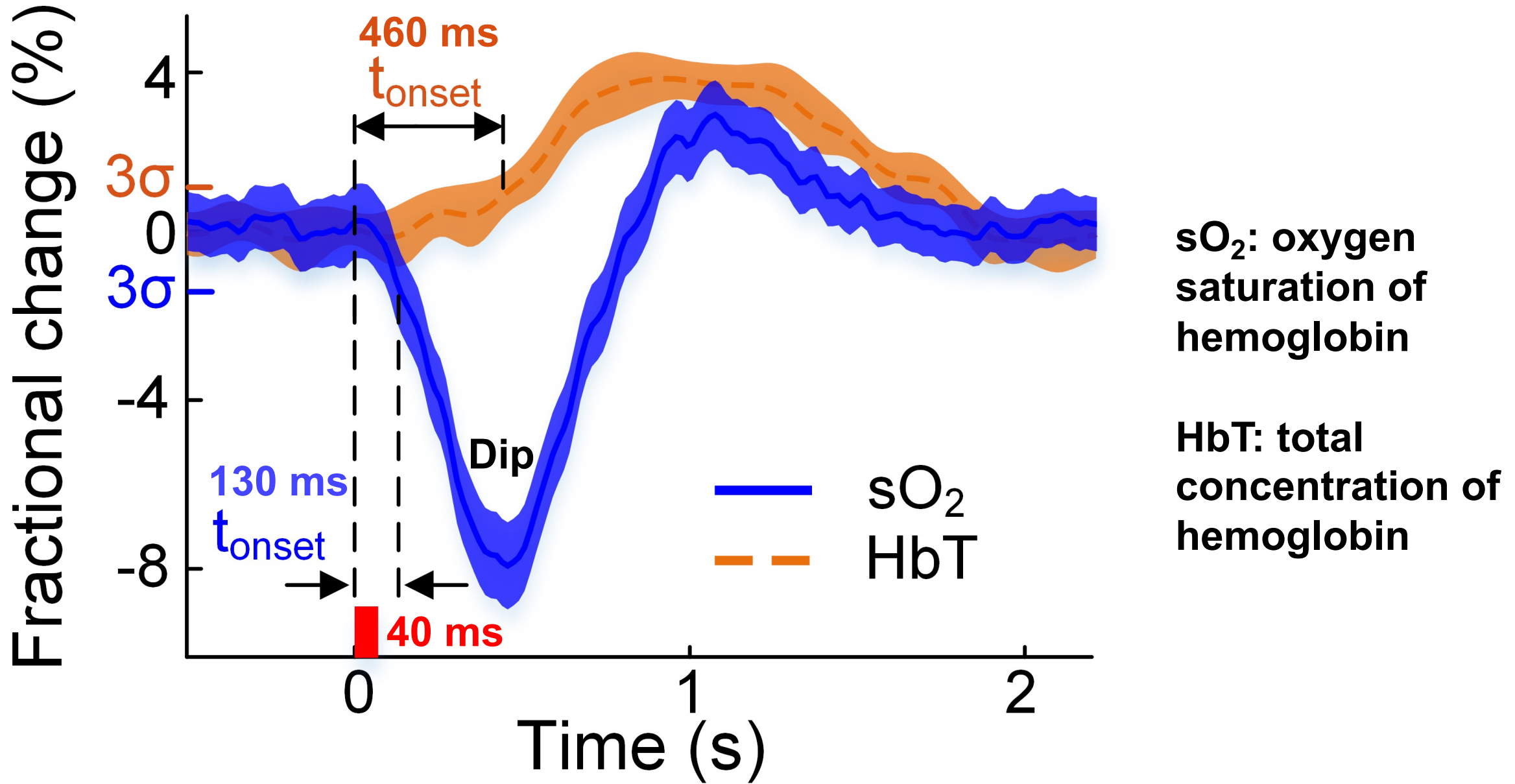
532 & 558 nm
wavelengths

1 MHz 1D imaging
rate

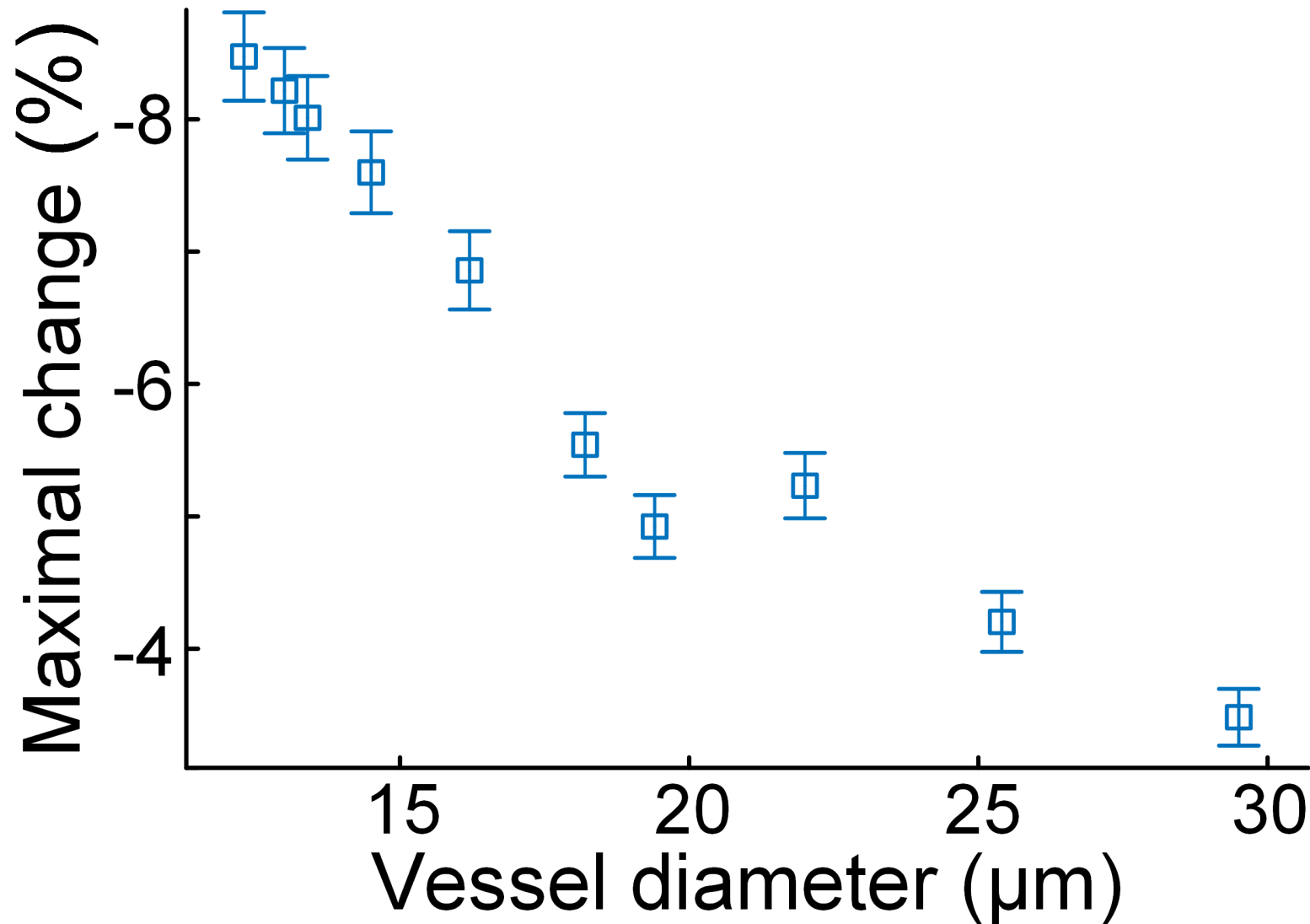
sO₂: oxygen
saturation of
hemoglobin

HbT: total
concentration of
hemoglobin

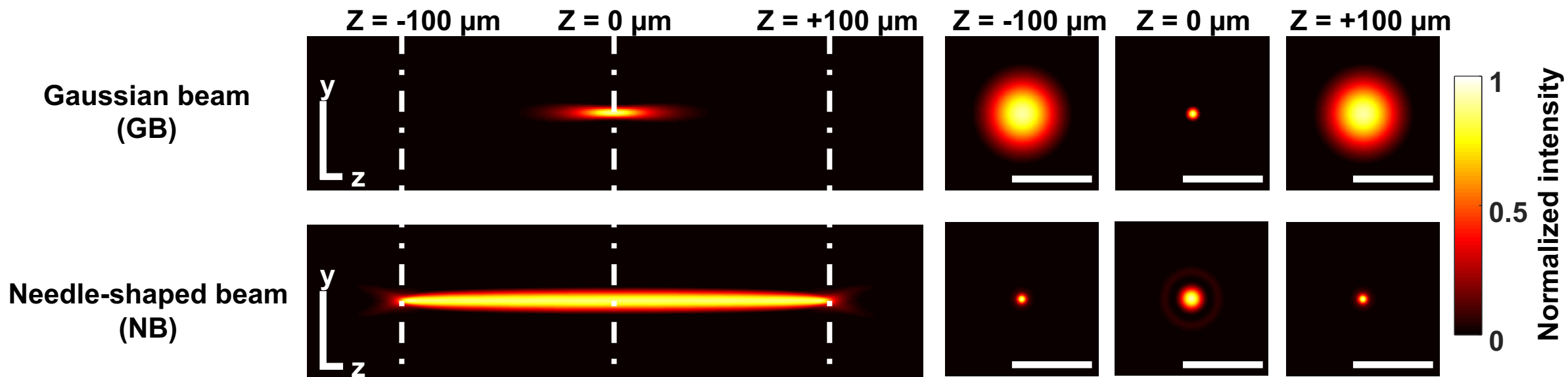
Single-Impulse–Stimulated Fast Initial Dip in Single Capillaries of Mouse Brains



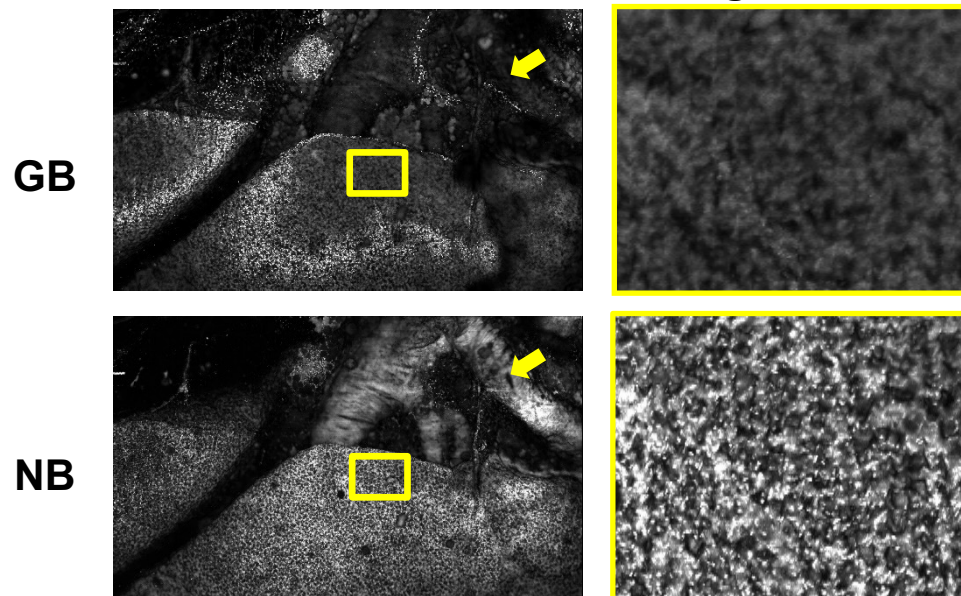
Single-Impulse–Stimulated Fast Initial Dip in Single Vessels of Mouse Brains: Dependence on Vessel Diameter



Needle-Shaped Beam Photoacoustic Microscopy

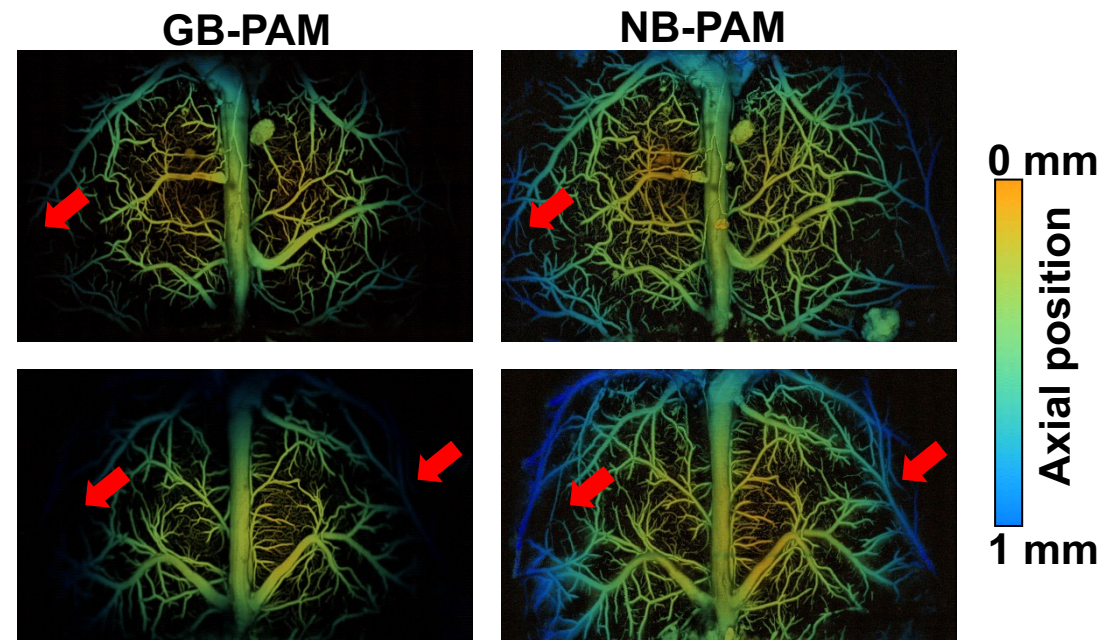


Fresh mouse lung

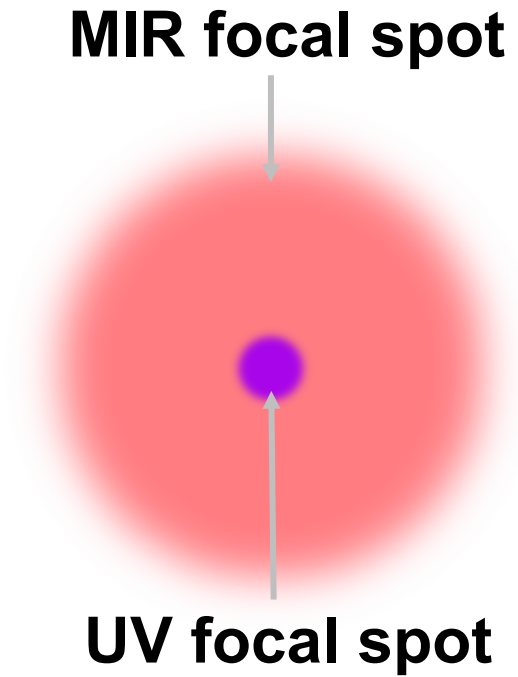
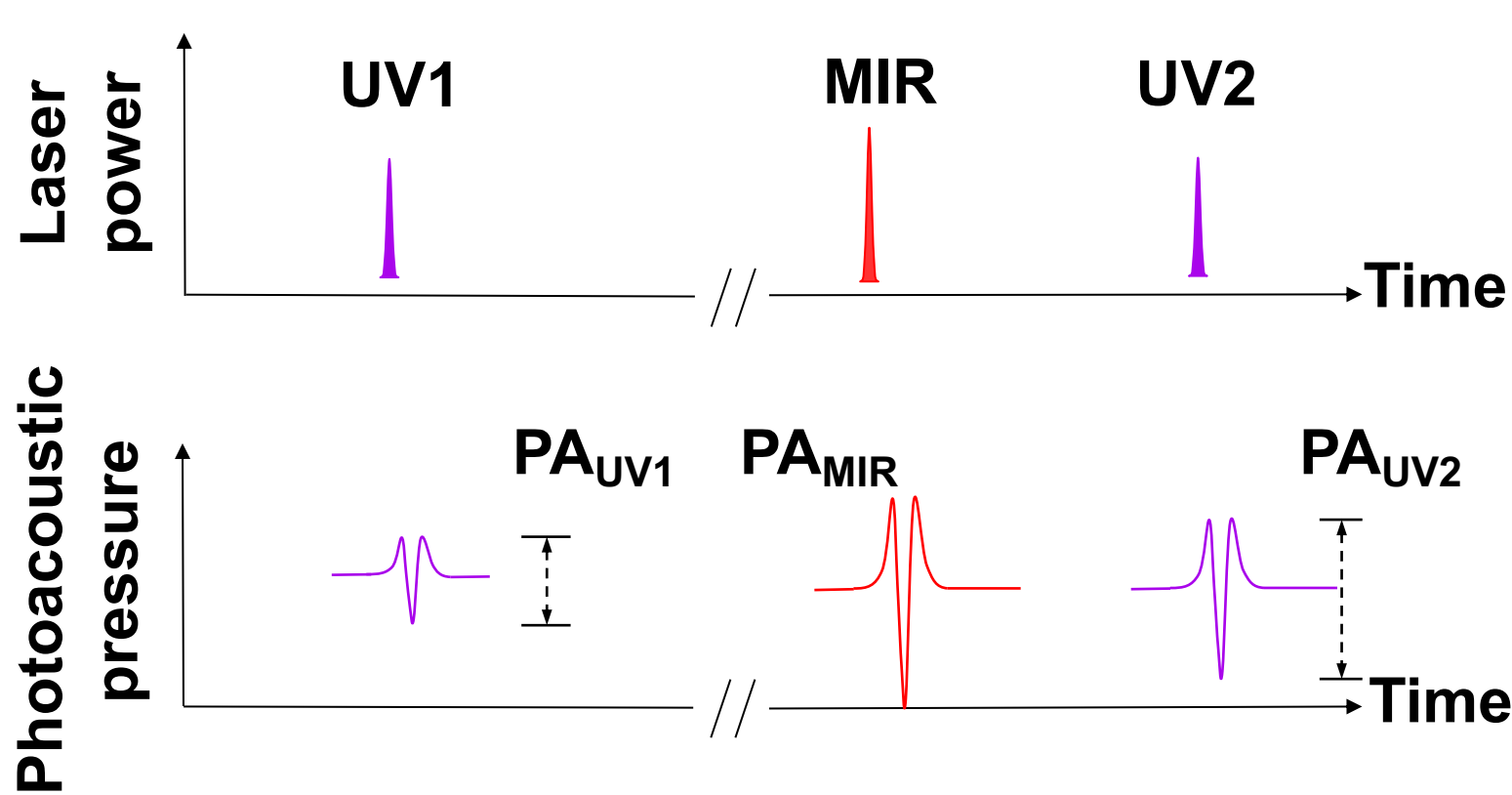


No Skull

Intact Skull



Ultraviolet-Localized Mid-Infrared (MIR) Photoacoustic Microscopy (ULM-PAM) for High-Resolution, High-Contrast Imaging of Fresh Biological Samples




$$\% \Delta \text{PA} = (\text{PA}_{\text{UV2}} - \text{PA}_{\text{UV1}}) / \text{PA}_{\text{UV1}} \propto \text{Absorption at MIR}$$

- Conventional MIR imaging:**
1. Low spatial resolution
 2. Transmission mode
 3. High water background

Ultraviolet-Localized Mid-Infrared Photoacoustic Microscopy (ULM-PAM) of Lipids, Proteins, and Nucleic Acids in Fresh Fibroblast Cells



MIR Lipids
(3420 nm)

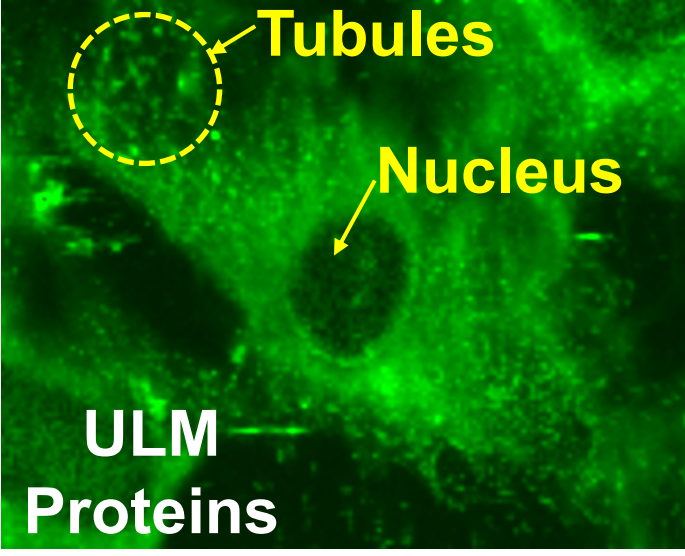


MIR Proteins
(6050 nm)

10 μm



ULM
Lipids



ULM
Proteins

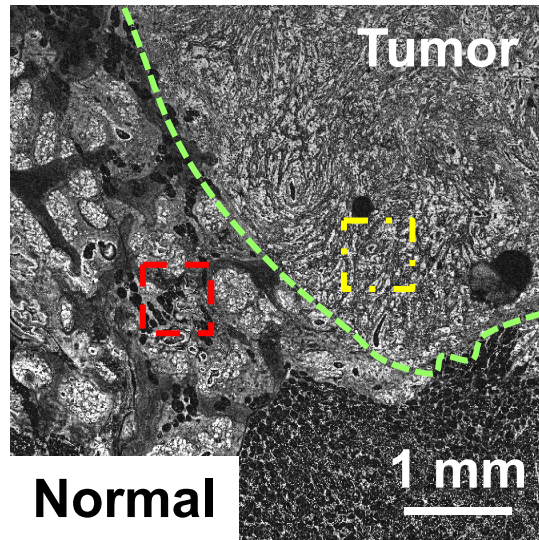
Tubules

Nucleus

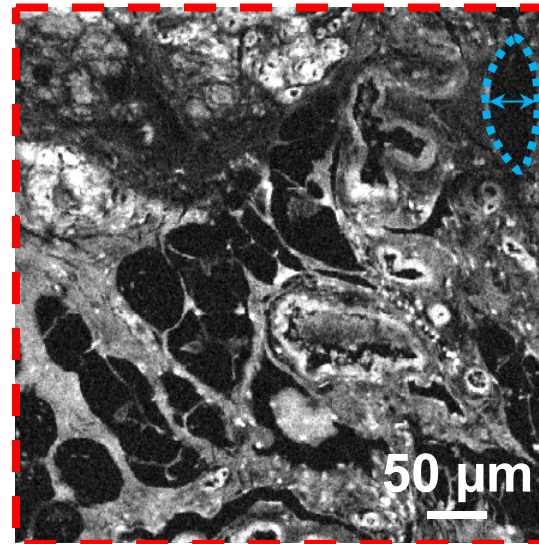
- Advantages over conventional MIR imaging:
1. High spatial resolution
 2. Reflection mode
 3. Low water background

Label-Free Photoacoustic Histology by Imaging DNA & RNA in Cell Nuclei

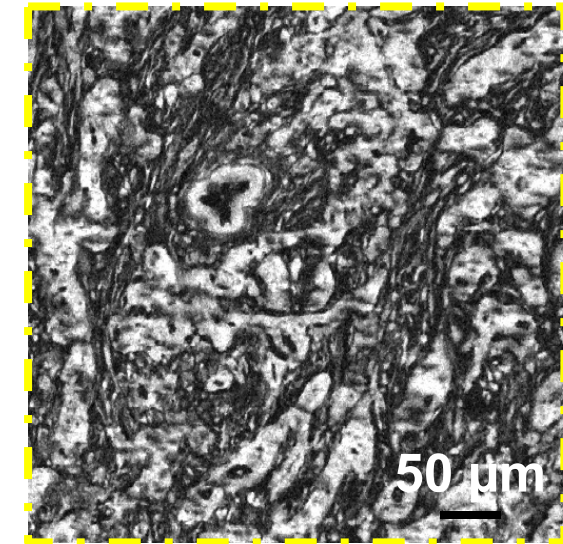
Photoacoustic
microscopy
without staining



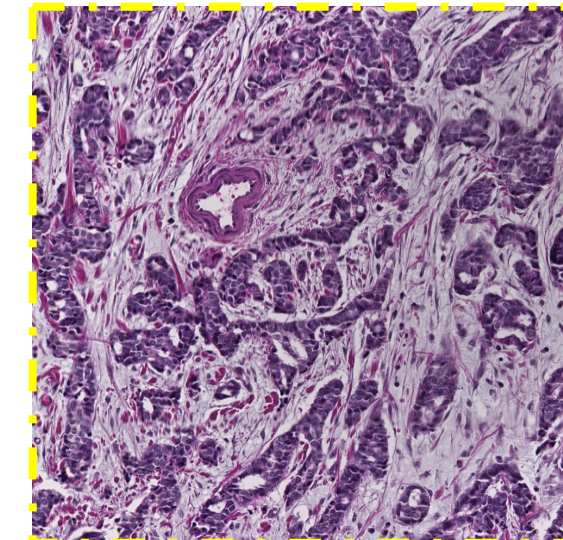
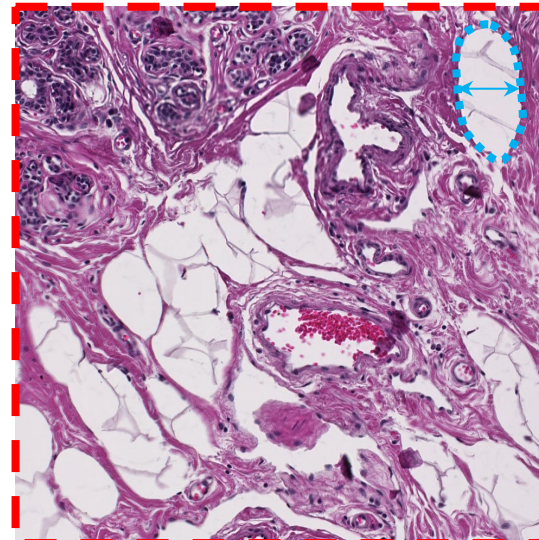
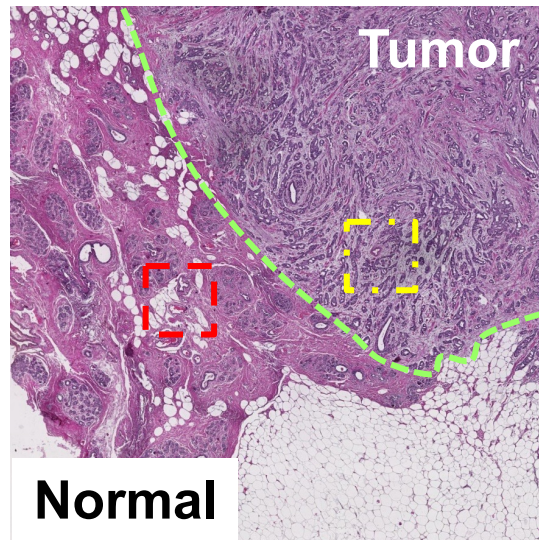
Normal



Human breast tumor

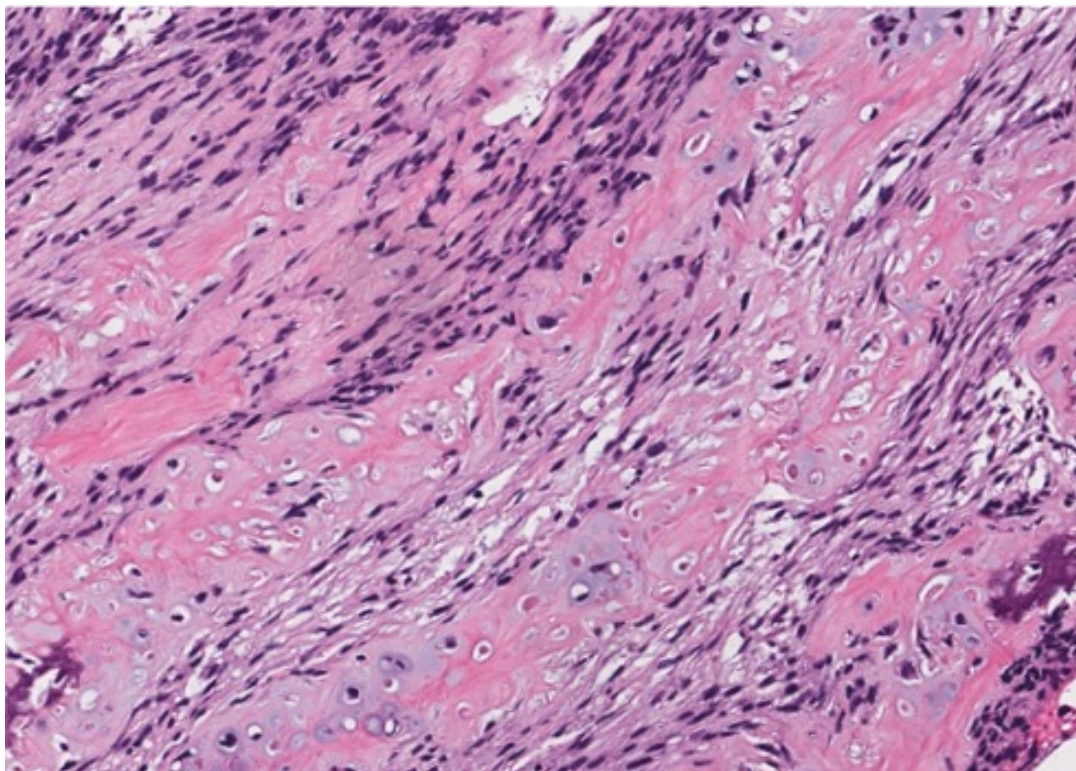


Histology with
hematoxylin-
eosin staining



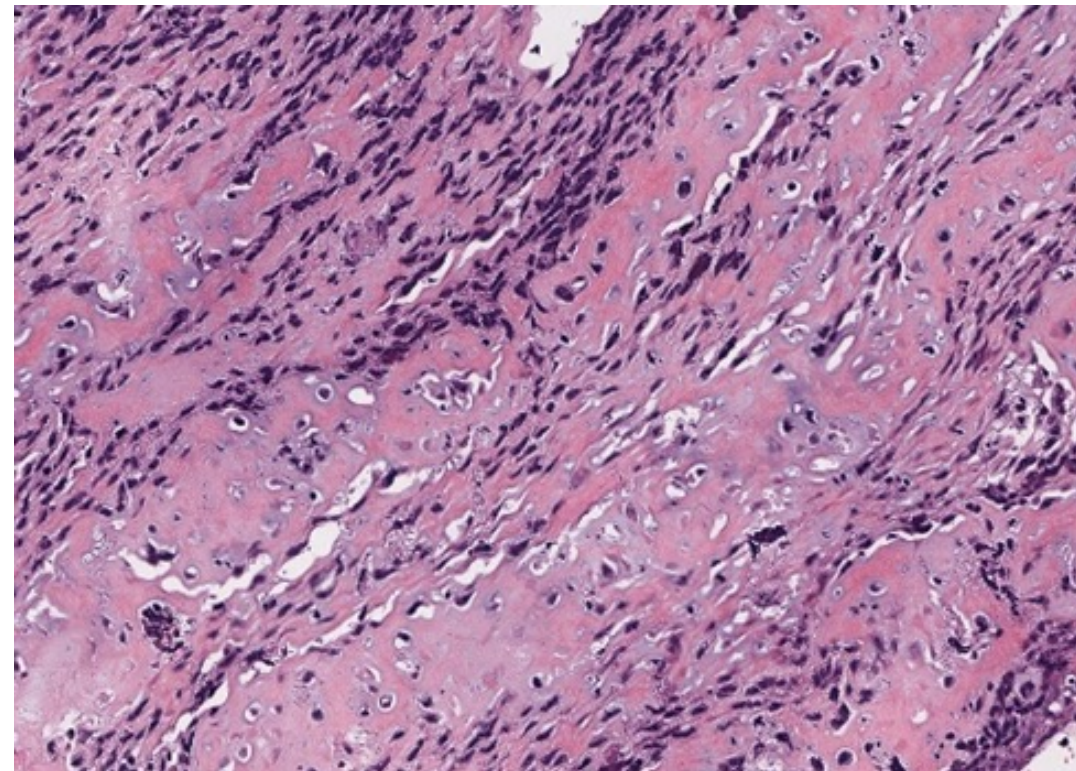
Decalcification-Free and Label-Free Photoacoustic Histology of Bone Specimens by Imaging DNA & RNA in Cell Nuclei

Histology with calcification and hematoxylin & eosin staining (1–7 days)



100 μm

Photoacoustic microscopy without decalcification or staining (<11 minutes)

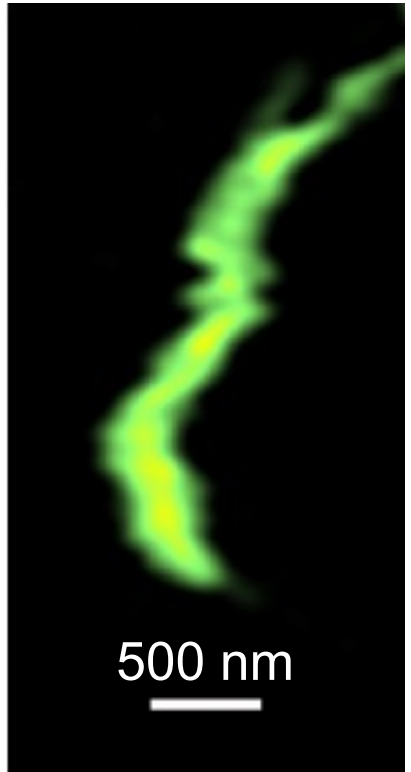


Reduce margin from 20 to 2 mm

Rui Cao, Scott Nelson, Samuel Davis, Yu Liang, Yilin Luo, Yide Zhang, Brooke Crawford @UCLA, and Lihong V. Wang, *Nature BME* (2022)

Label-Free Photoacoustic (PA) Nanoscopy of a Mitochondrion with Sub-Organelle Resolution: Beat Optical Diffraction Nonlinearly

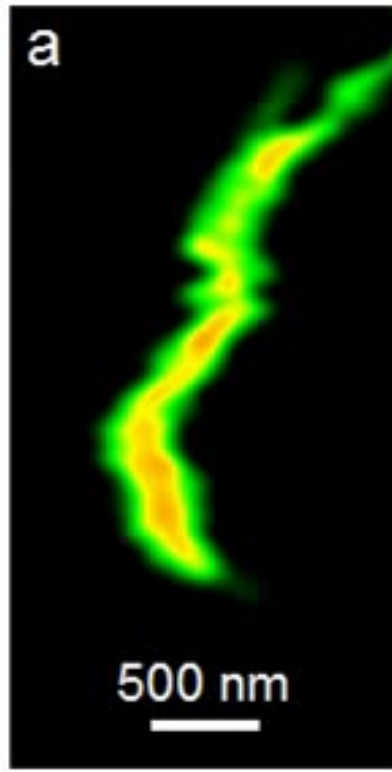
PA microscopy
(Resolution: 234 nm)



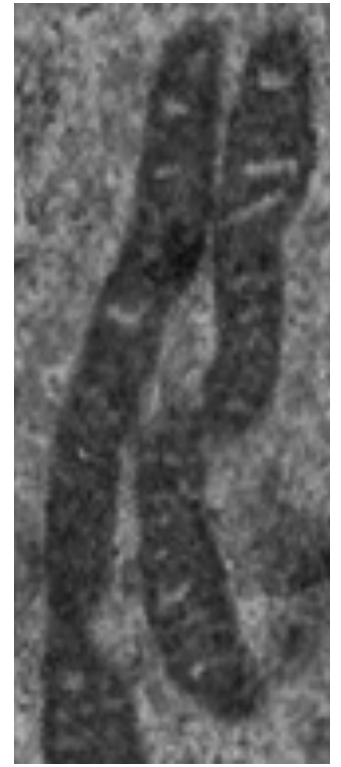
PA nanoscopy
(Resolution: 90 nm)



Comparison
Conventional PAM

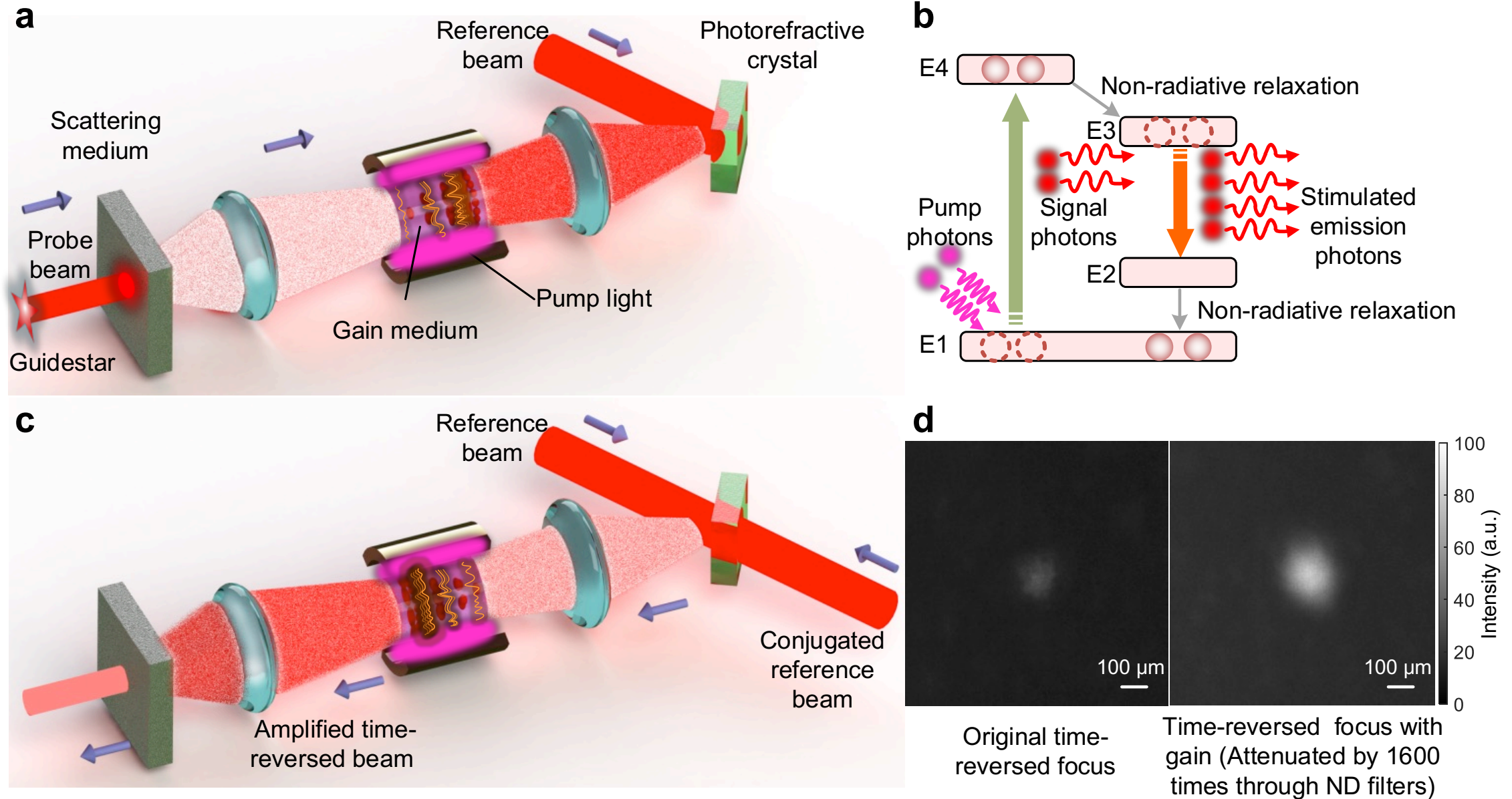


Electron
microscopy

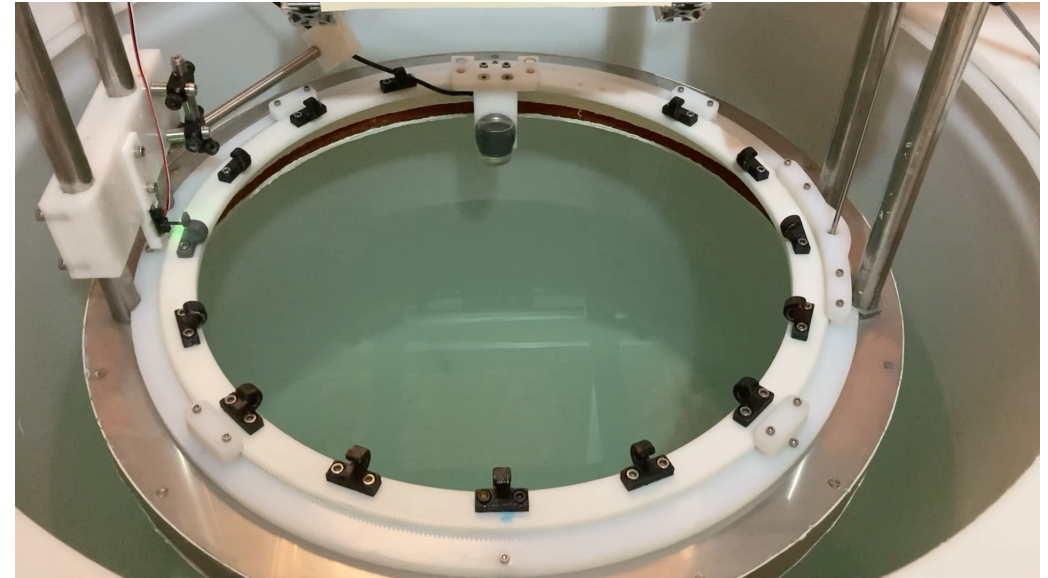
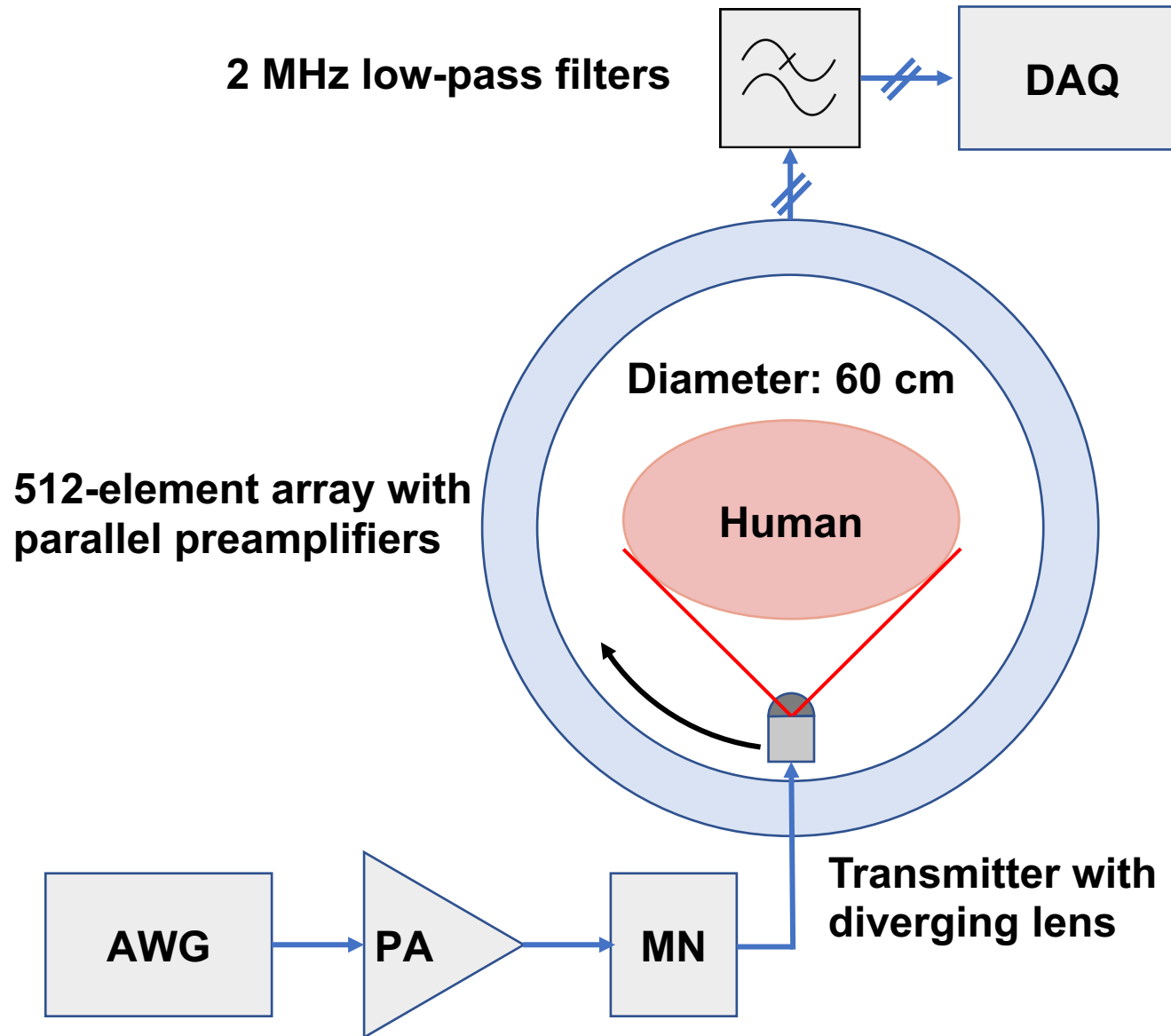


A Danielli, K Maslov, A Garcia-Urbe, A Winkler, CY Li, LD Wang, Y Chen, G Dorn, LV Wang, *J Biomed Optics* 19, 086006, 2014; Collaboration: G Dorn;
J Yao, LD Wang, CY Li, C Zhang, LV Wang, *Phys Rev Lett* 112, 014302, 2014

High-gain and High-speed Wavefront Shaping Through Scattering Media

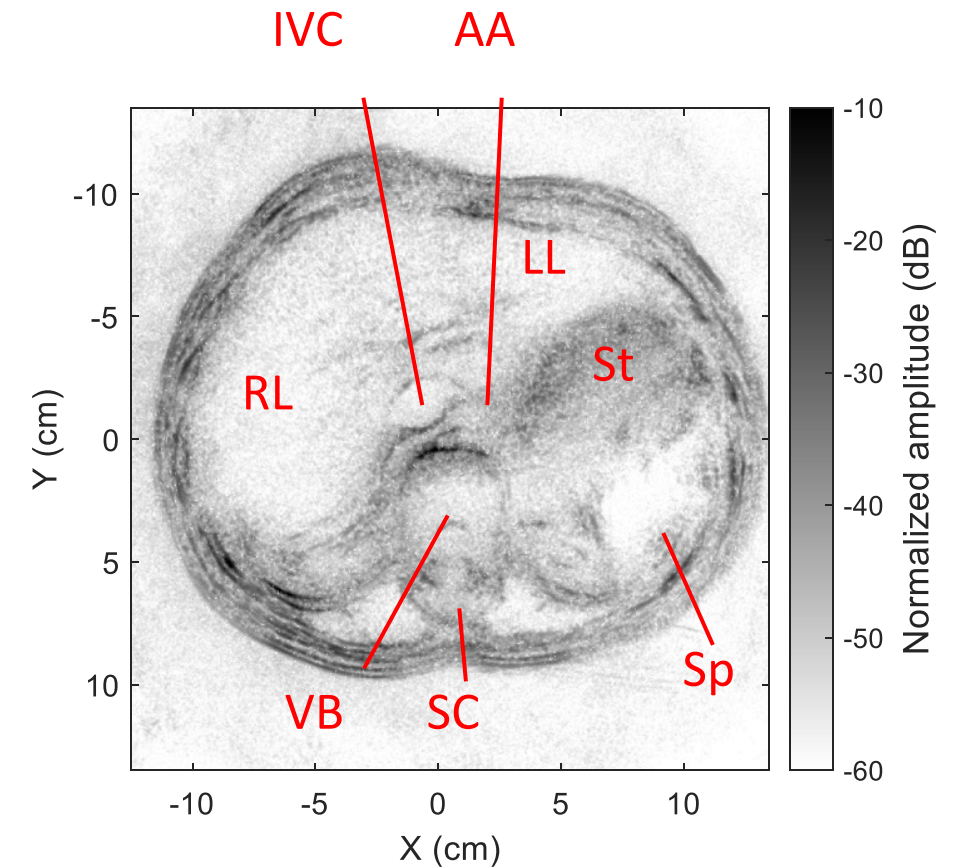
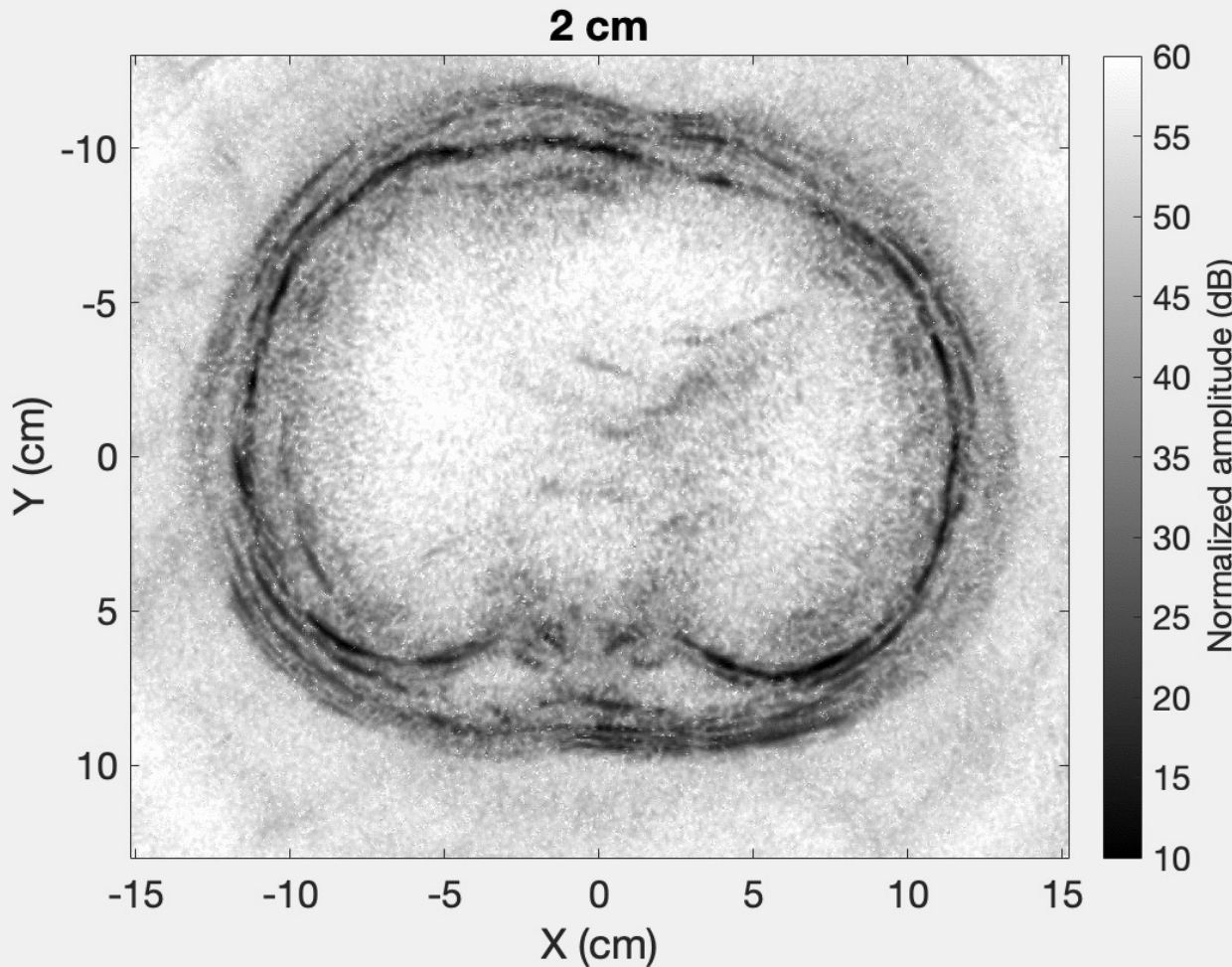


First Whole-Body Human Ultrasound Tomography System



AWG: arbitrary waveform generator
PA: power amplifier
MN: matching network
DAQ: data acquisition

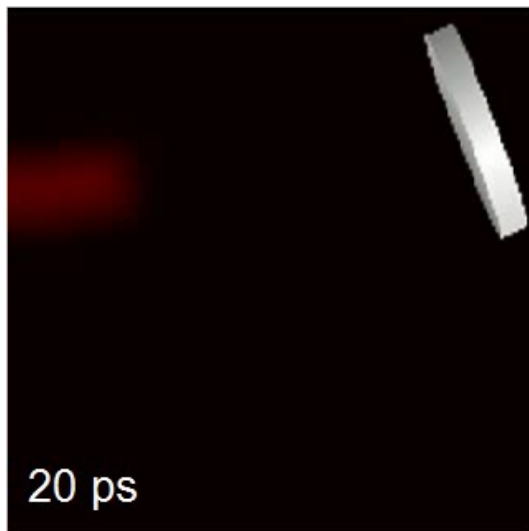
First Whole-Body Human Ultrasound Tomography Images



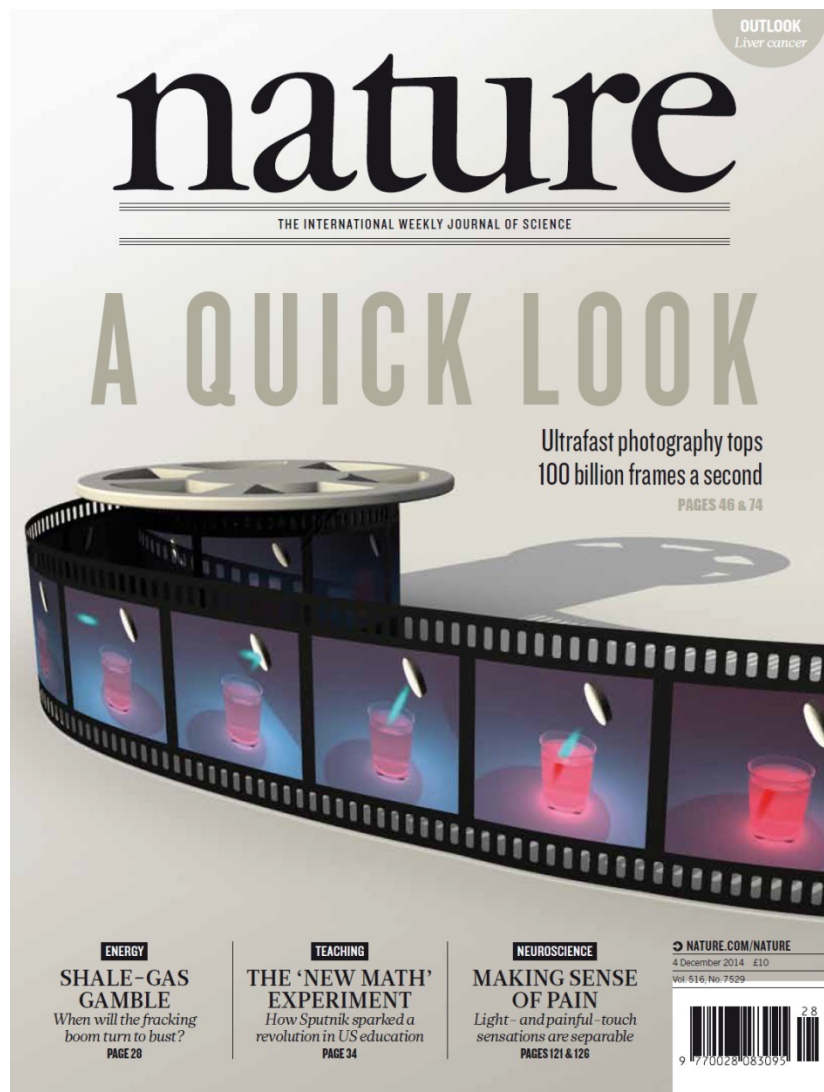
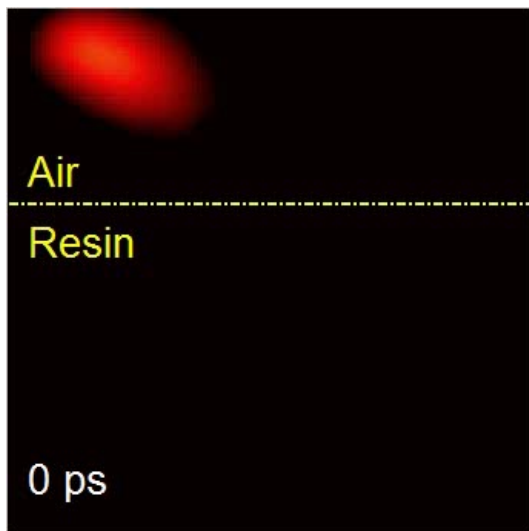
IVC: inferior vena cava **AA:** abdominal aorta
RL: right lobe of liver **LL:** left lobe of liver
St: stomach **Sp:** spleen
VB: vertebral body **SC:** spinal cord

Watch a Flying Laser Pulse with Single-Shot Compressed Ultrafast Photography at 100 Billion Frames/Second

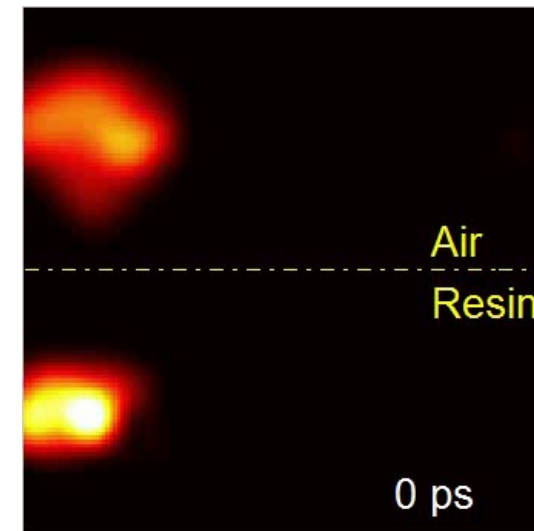
Reflection



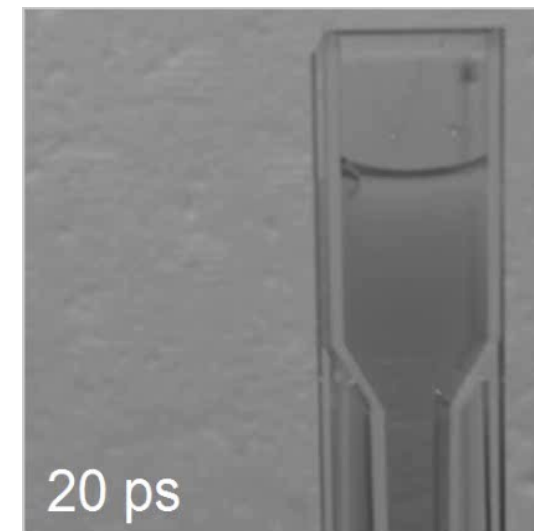
Refraction



Racing



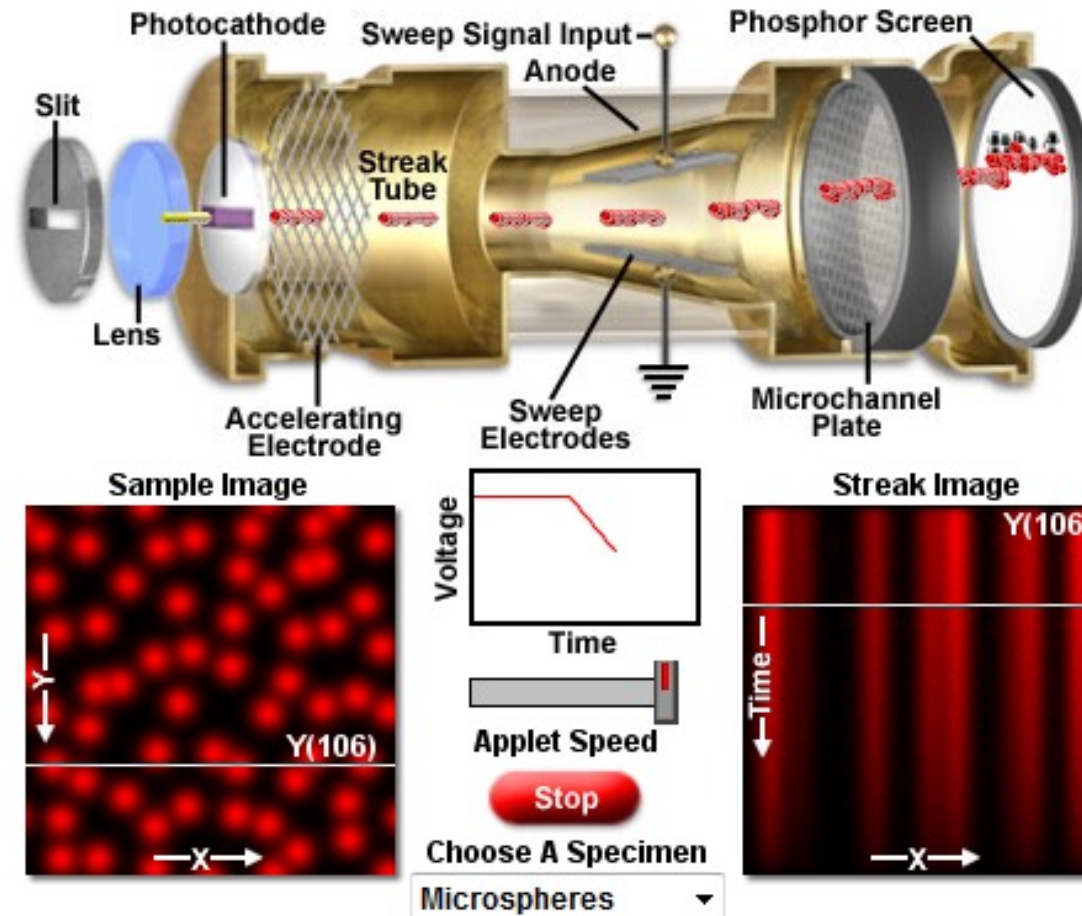
Fluorescence



[L Gao, J Liang], C Li, LV Wang, *Nature* 516, 74, 2014

Video slowdown: 10 billion X 10 mm

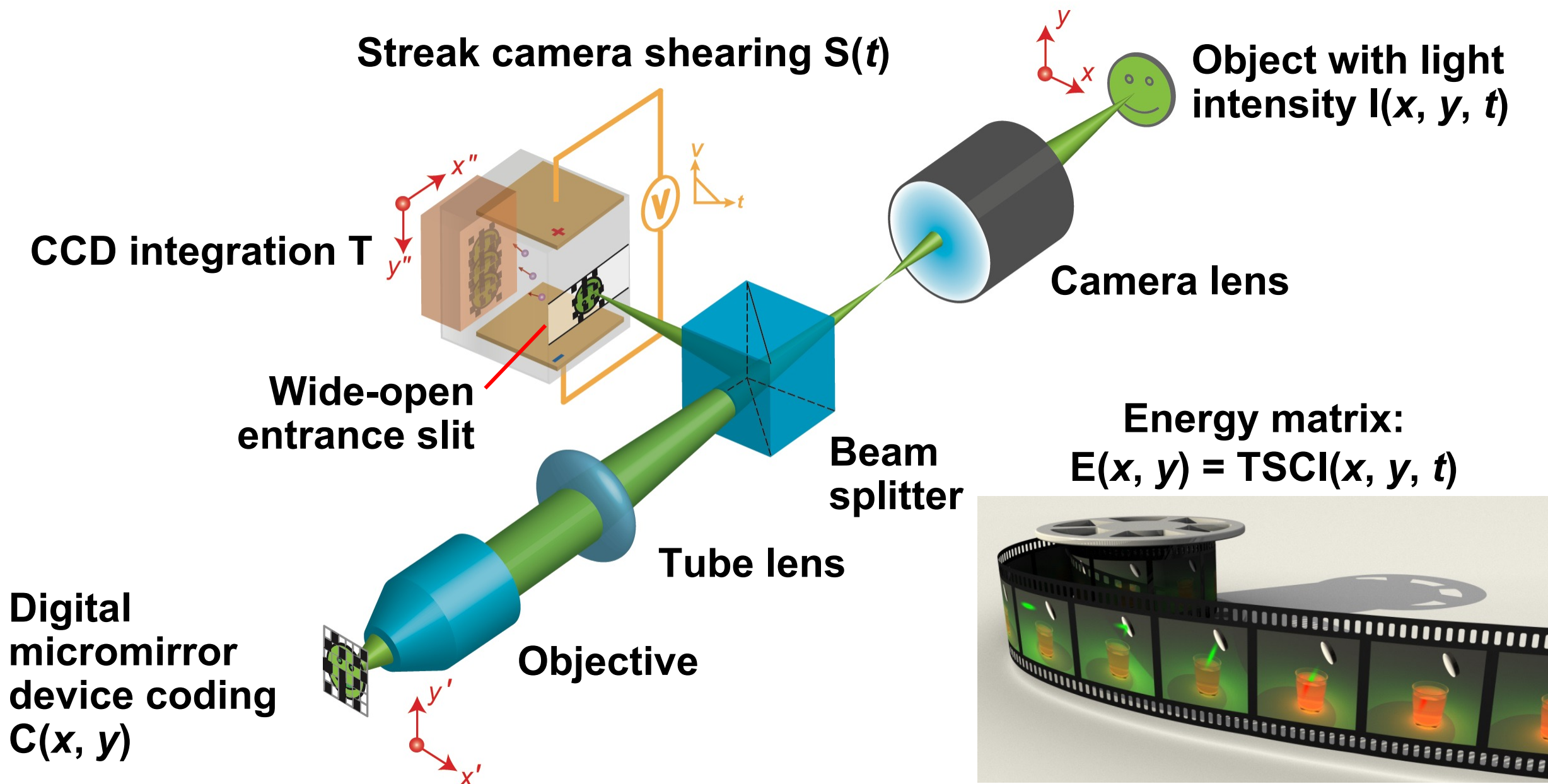
Multi-Shot 2D Imaging using a Streak Camera



- Scanning is required along the axis that is perpendicular to the entrance slit
- The event itself must be repeatable

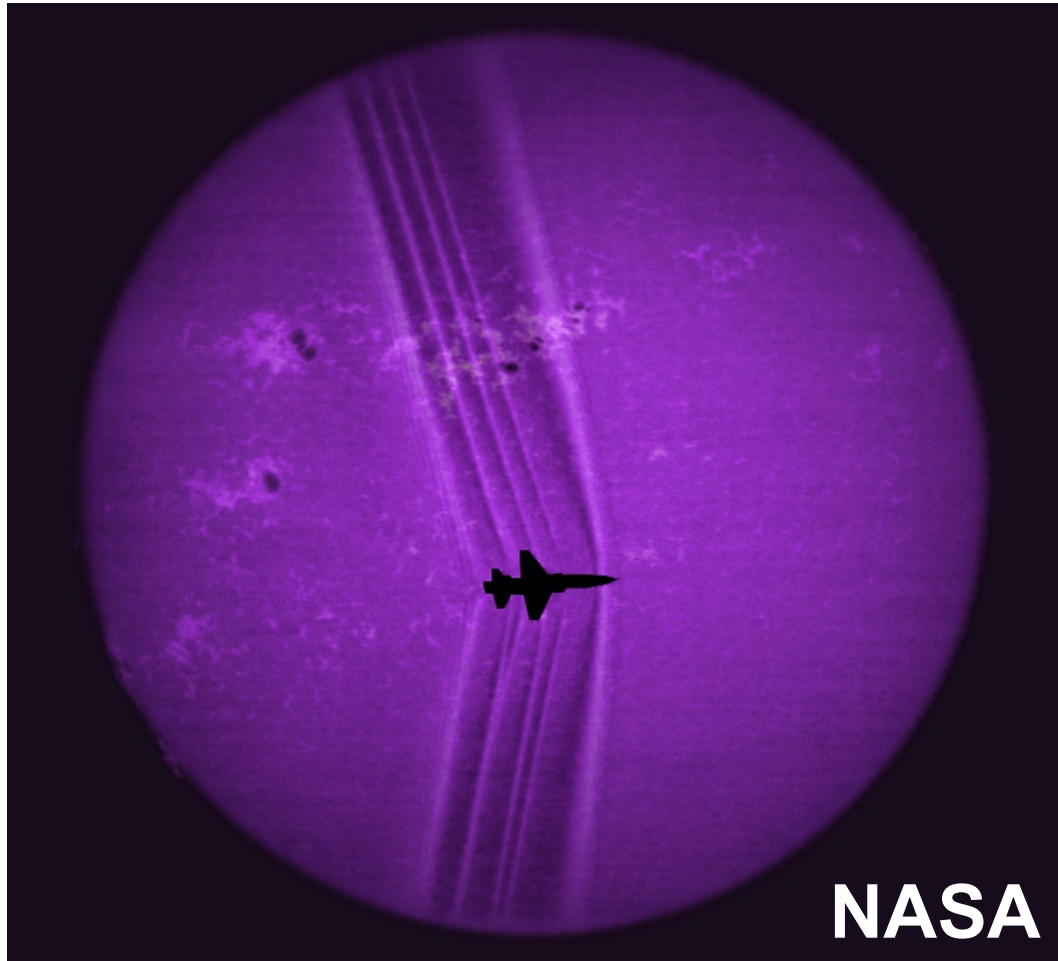
<http://hamamatsu.magnet.fsu.edu/tutorials/java/streakcamera/>

Single-Shot Compressed Ultrafast Photography: 100 Billion Frames per Second

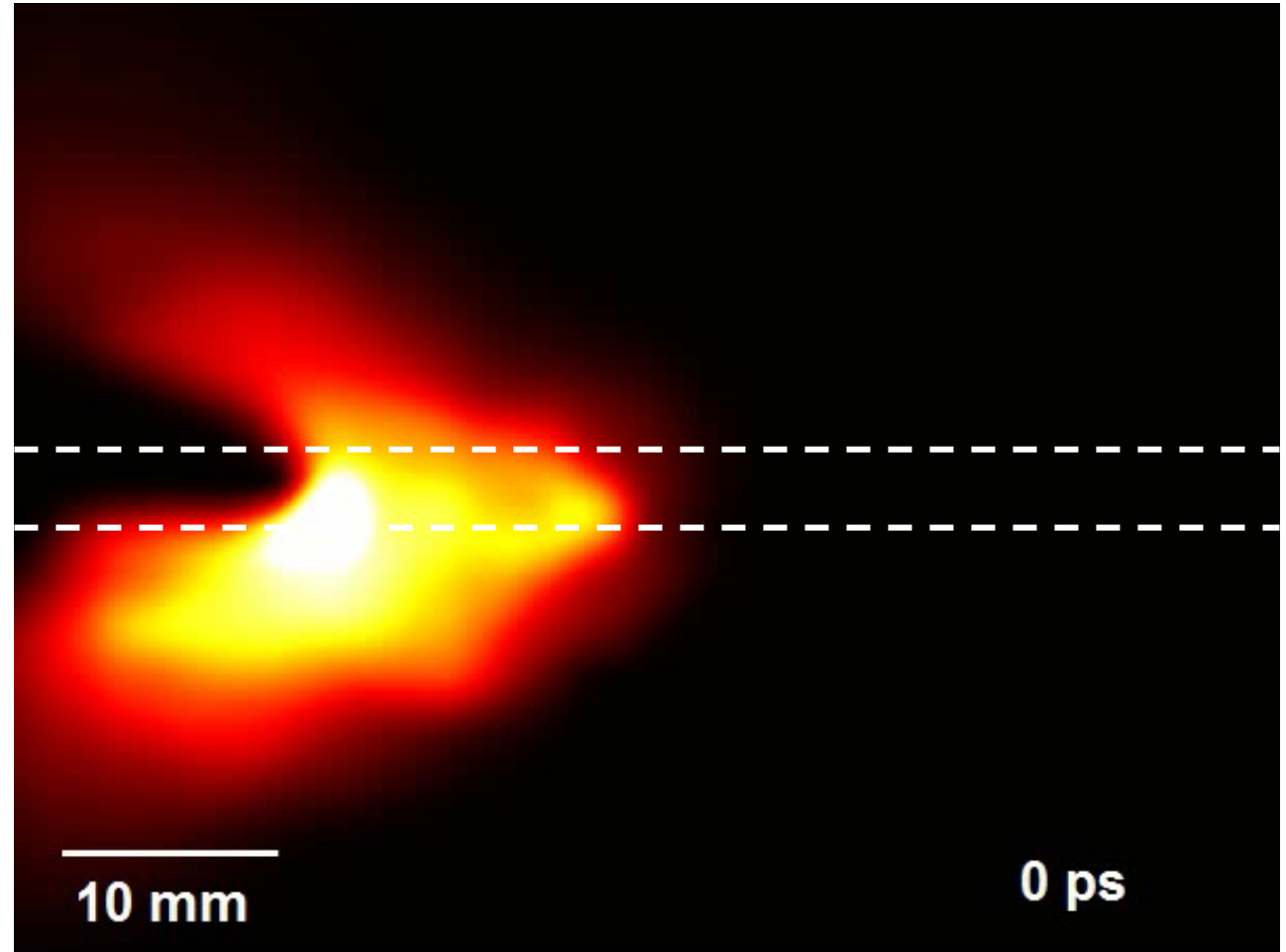


Watch a Flying Superluminal Mach Cone with Single-Shot Compressed Ultrafast Photography at 100 Billion Frames/Second

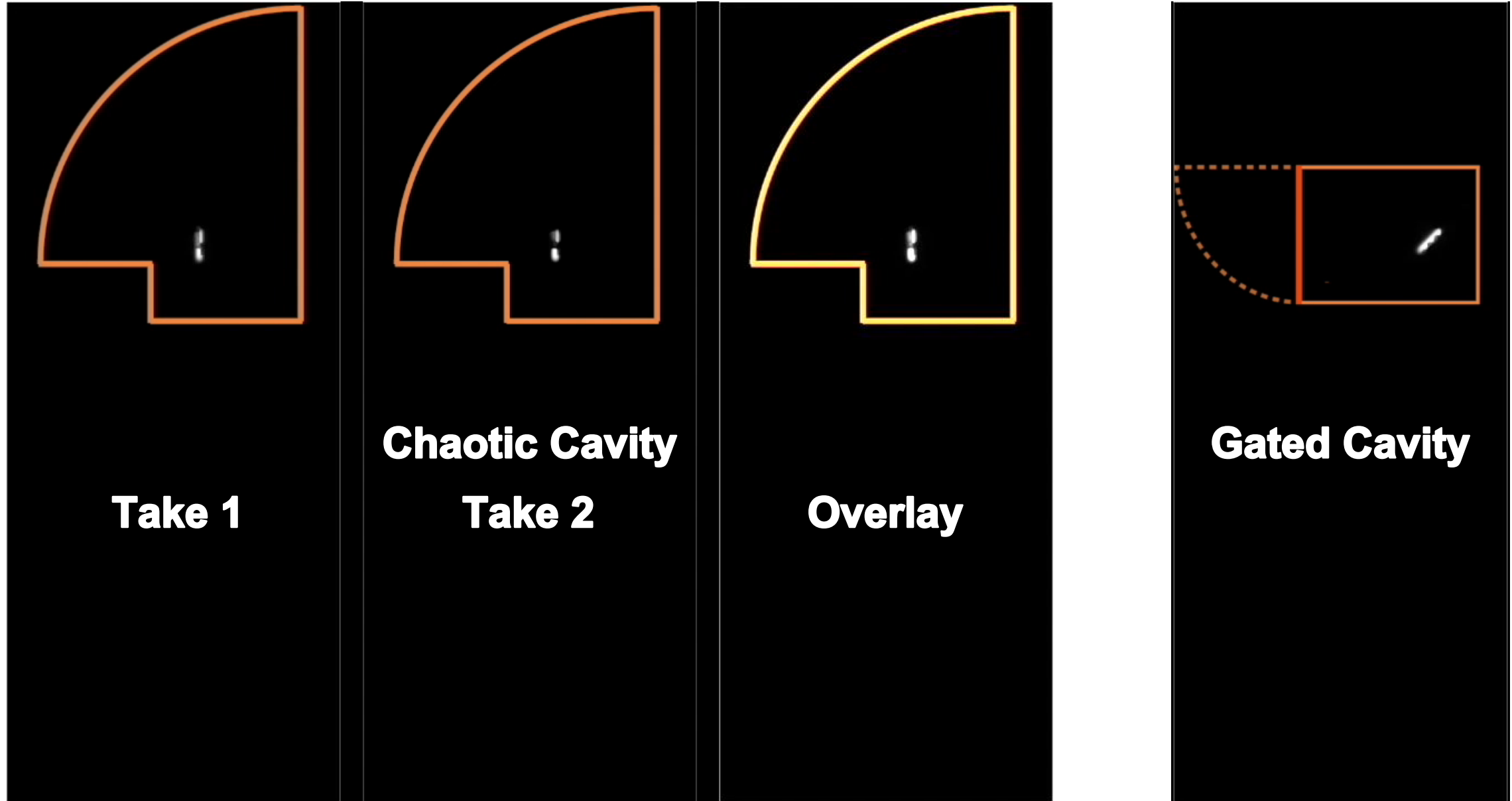
**Supersonic Mach cone
(Sonic Boom)**



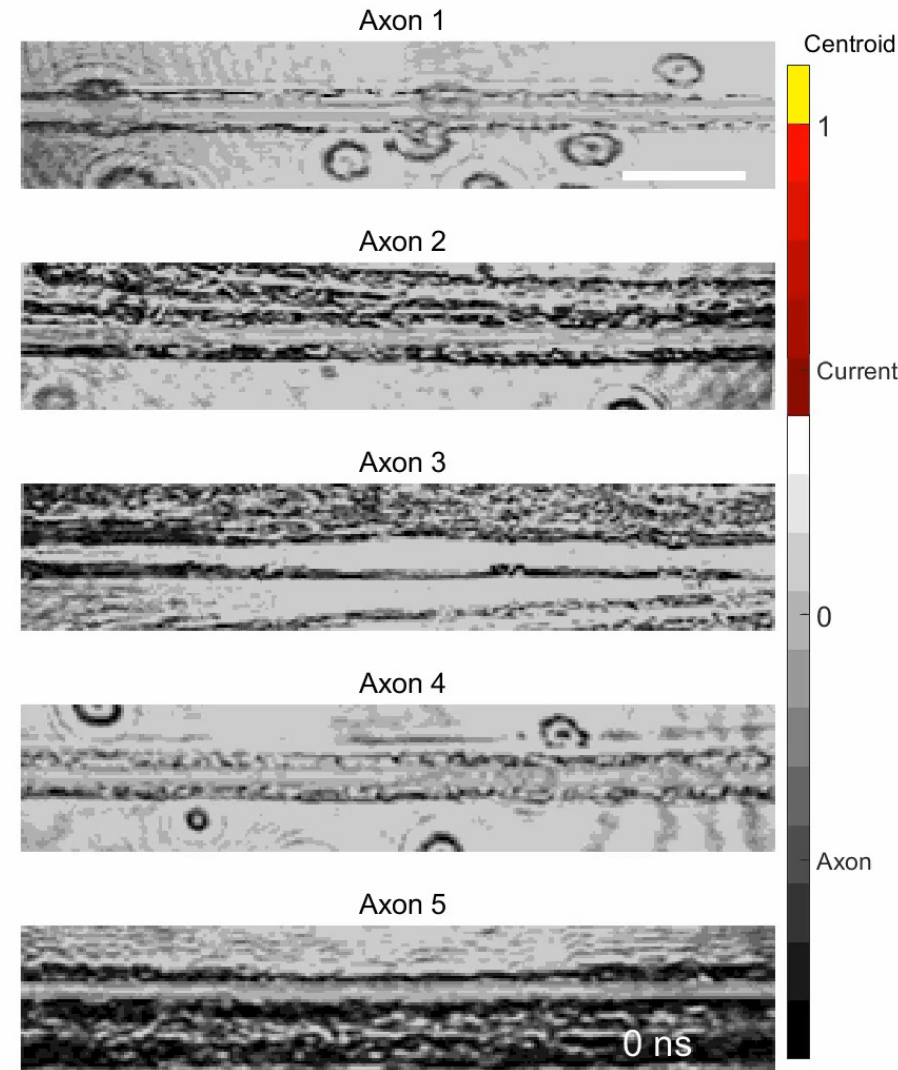
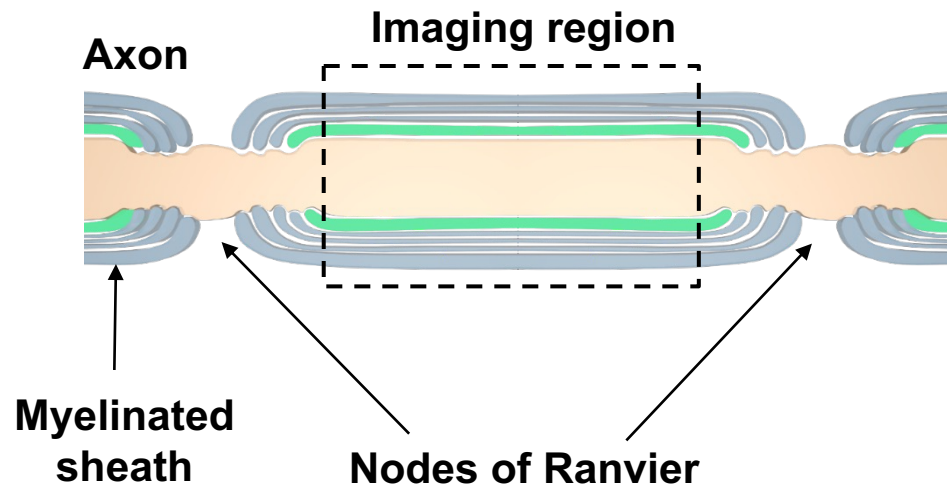
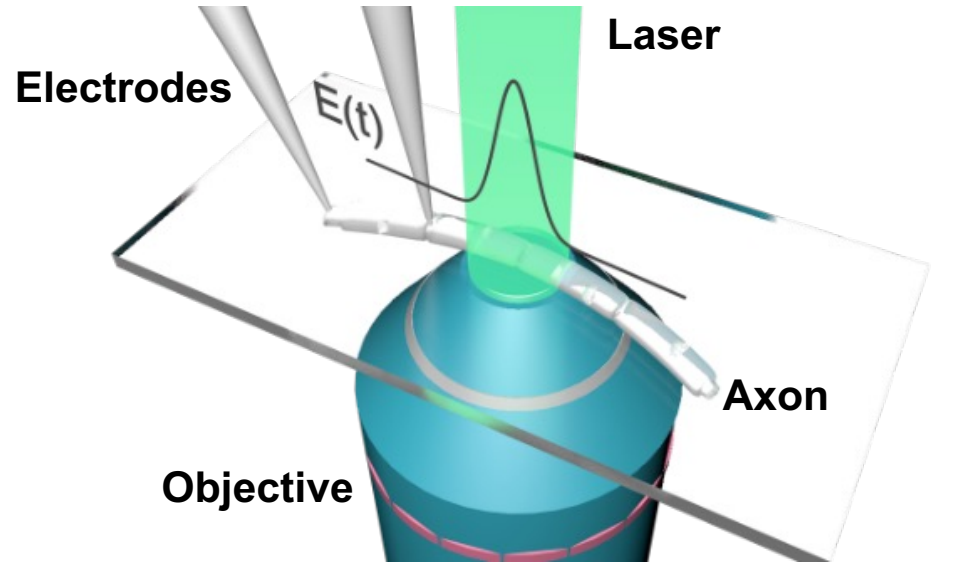
**Superluminal Mach cone
(Optical Boom)**



Real-Time Imaging of a Bouncing Photon Packet in a Chaotic Cavity



Compressed Ultrafast Photography of Electrical Pulses along Myelinated Axons



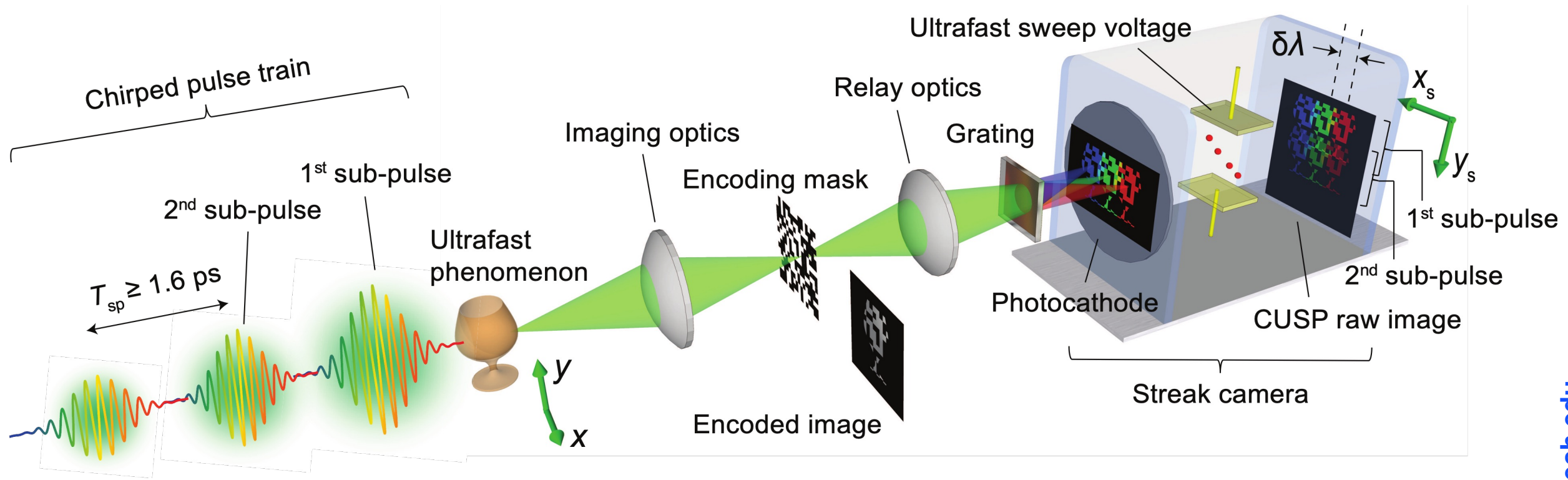
Speed: 100 m/s

Phase sensitivity:
20 μrad

Step: 50 ns

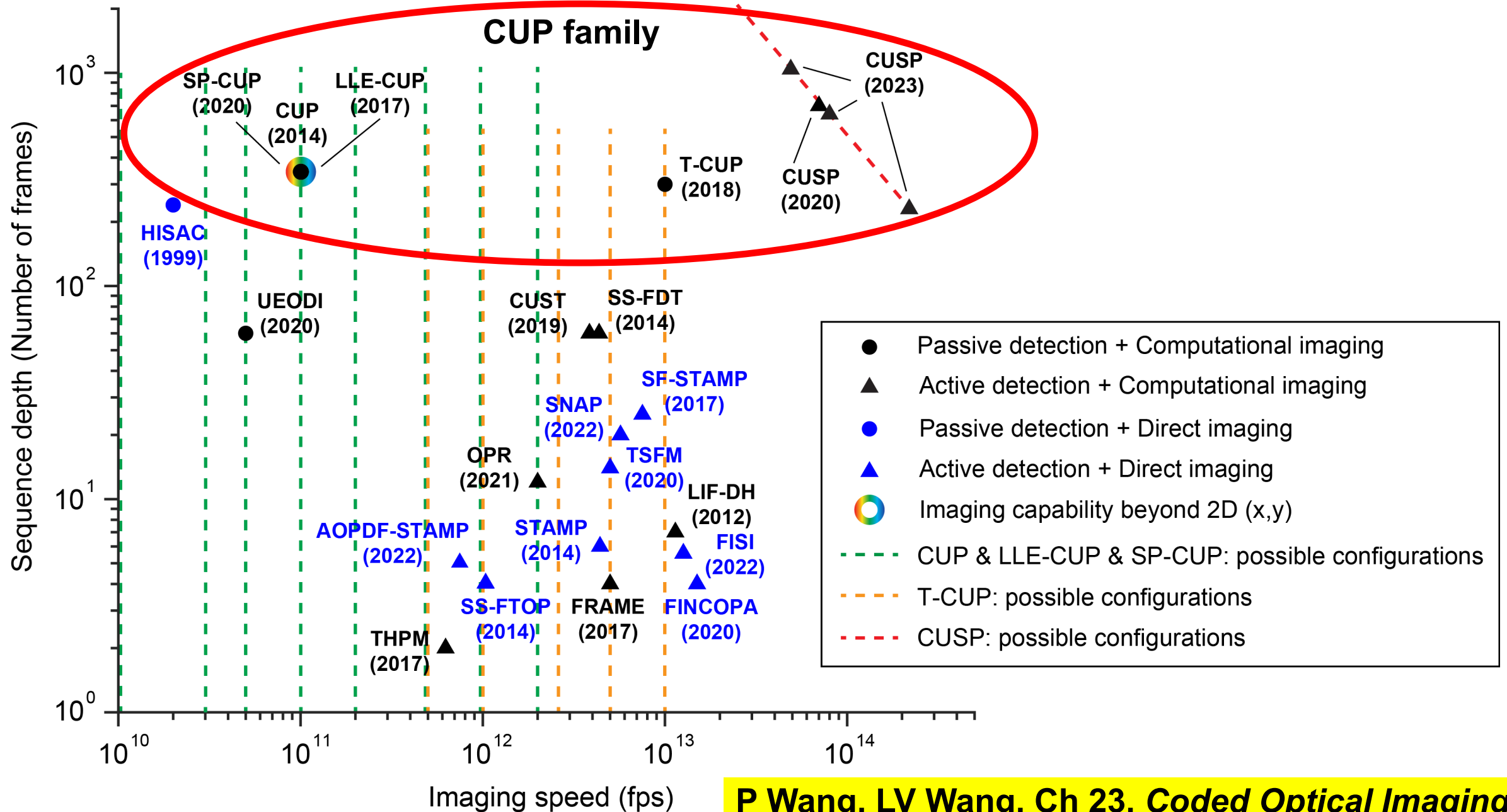
20 μm

Compressed Ultrafast Spectral Photography (CUSP): 219 THz



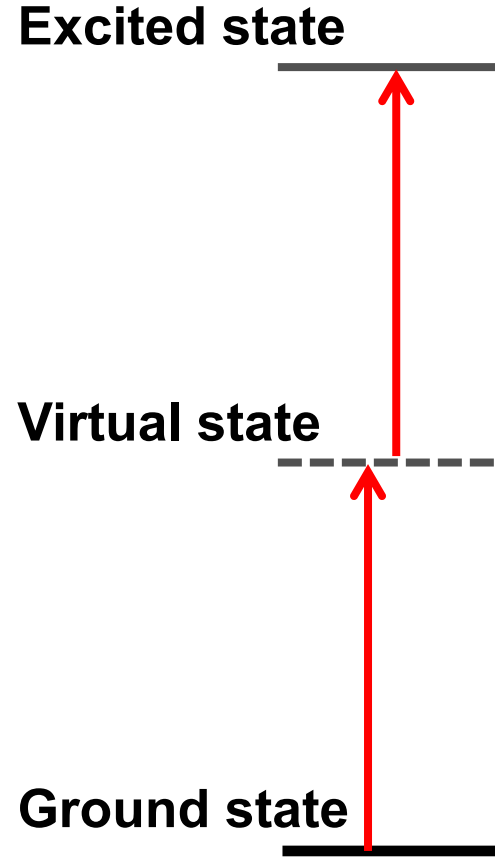
P Wang, LV Wang, *Adv Science* 10, e2207222, 2023: 219 THz
P Wang, J Liang, LV Wang, *Nature Comm* 11, 2091, 2020: 70 THz

Comparison of Single-Shot Ultrafast Optical Imaging Techniques



Standard Quantum Limit vs Heisenberg Limit with N Photons

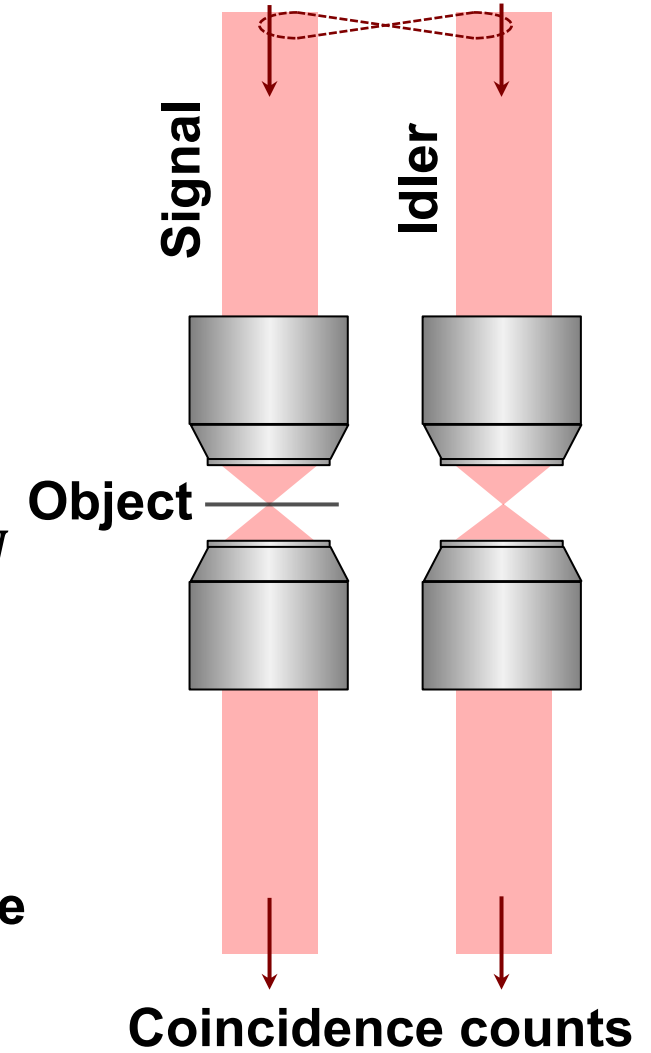
Two-photon excitation



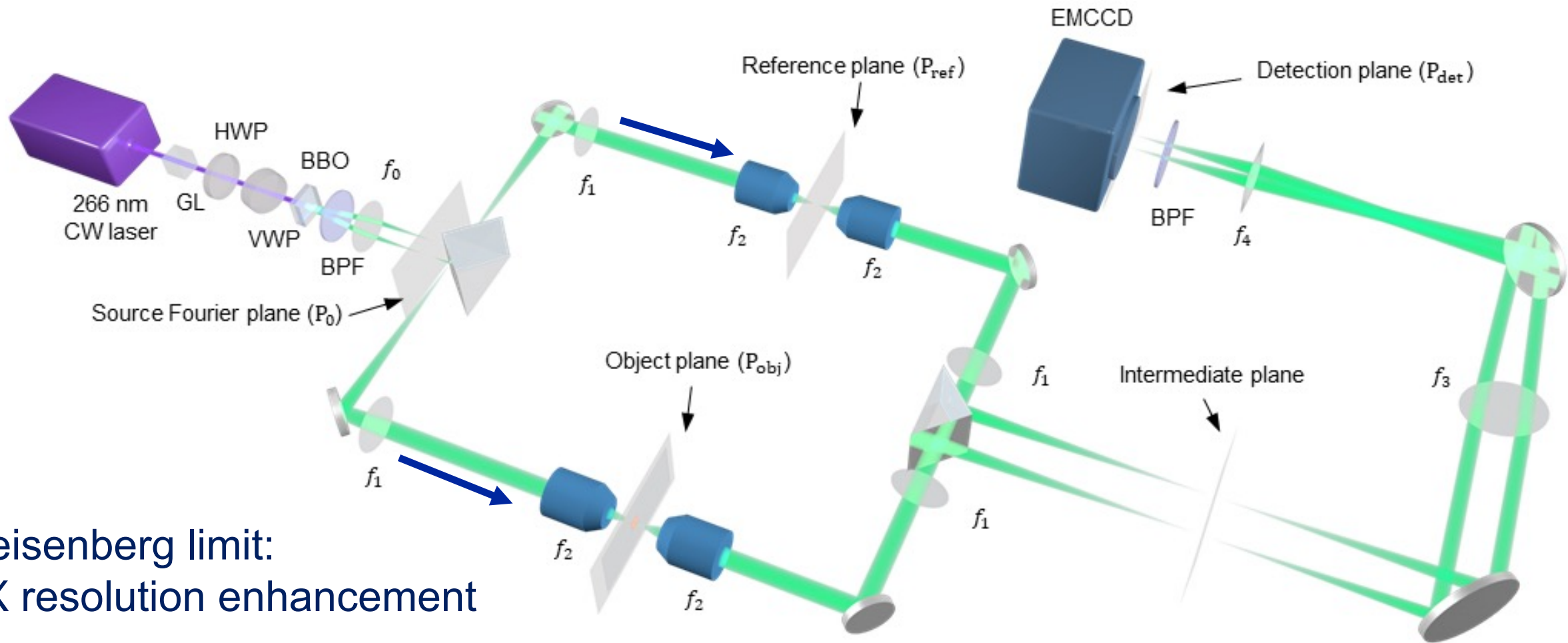
Spatial resolution at the standard quantum limit $\propto 1/\sqrt{N}$

- The standard quantum limit is achieved with a regular light source such as a laser
- Examples: two-photon microscopy, PALM/STORM
- Intuitively, N statistically independent photons average the spatial standard error down by \sqrt{N} times according to the central limit theorem
- Spatial resolution at the Heisenberg limit $\propto 1/N$
 - The Heisenberg limit is achieved with an entangled-photon source such as a spontaneous parametric down conversion (SPDC) source
 - Intuitively, N entangled photons behave like one with N times greater momentum or shorter wavelength.

Entangled photon pair



Quantum Microscopy of Cells using Entangled Photon Pairs

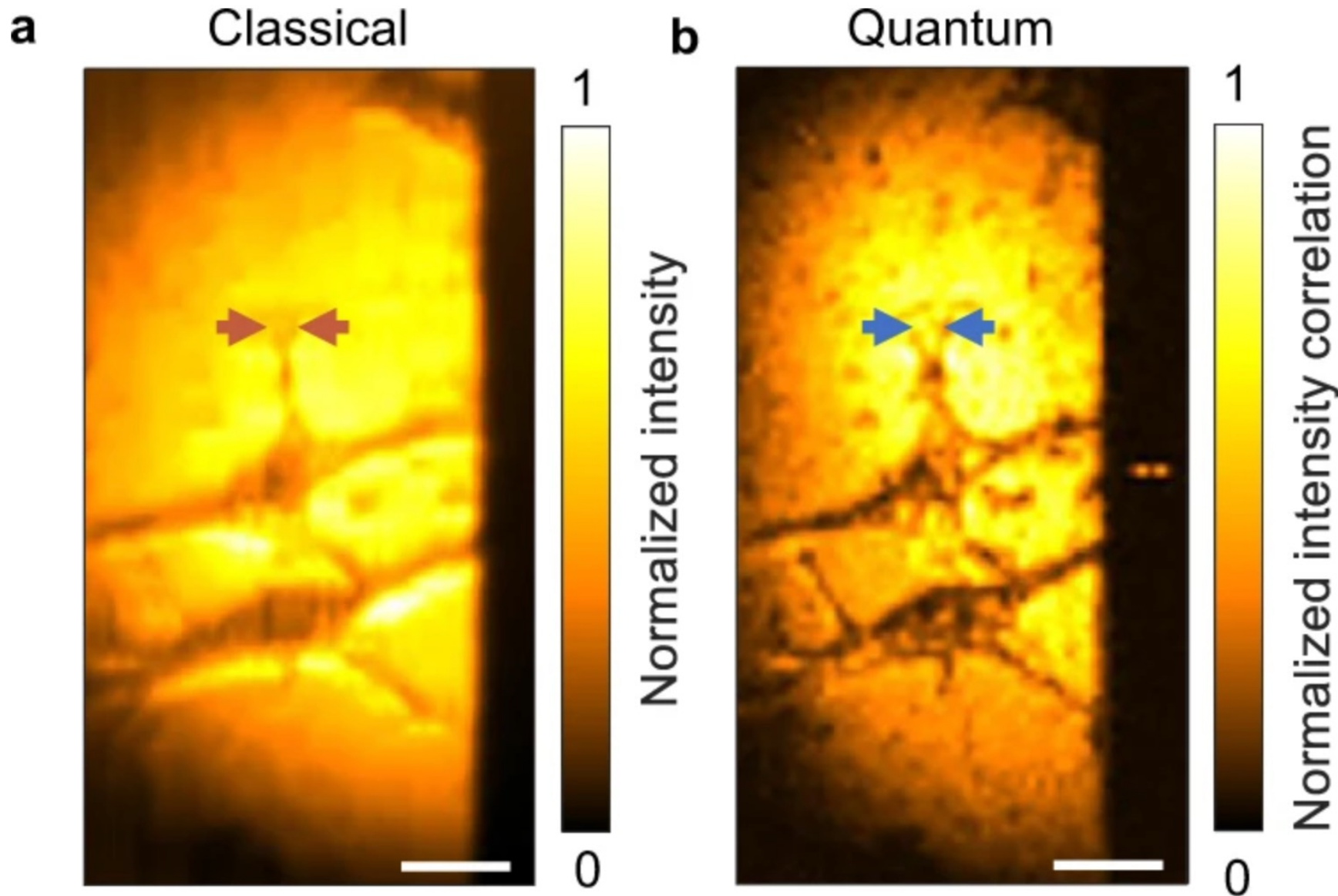


Heisenberg limit:
2X resolution enhancement

CW, continuous wave. GL, Glan-Laser polarizer. HWP, half-wave plate. VWP, variable wave plate. BBO, β -barium borate crystals. BPF, 532 nm bandpass filter. PBS, polarizing beam splitter. EMCCD, electron multiplying charge-coupled device camera. P_0 , the Fourier plane of the BBO crystal.

[Z He, Y Zhang, X Tong], L Li, LV Wang, *Nature Comm* 14, 2441, 2023

Quantum Microscopy of HeLa Cells using Entangled Photon Pairs



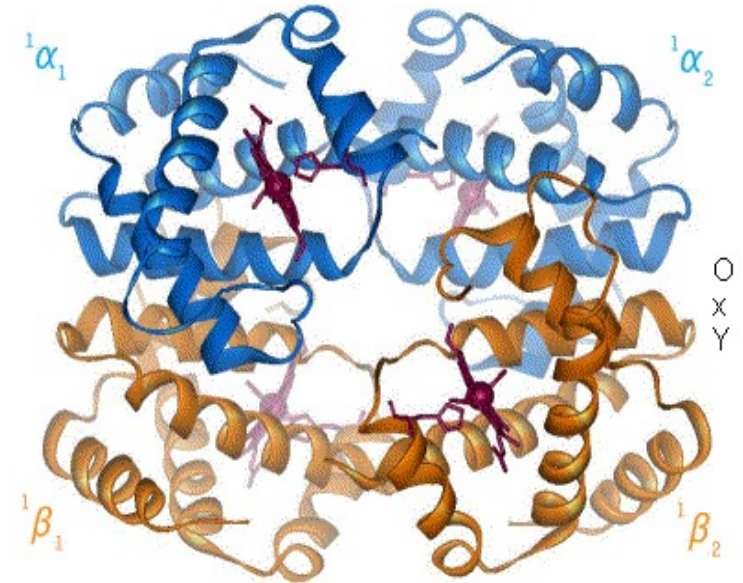
[Z He, Y Zhang, X Tong], L Li, LV Wang, *Nature Comm* 14, 2441, 2023

Scale bars, 20 μm

Rich Optical Contrasts and Multiscale Imaging from Organelles to Patients

- **Diverse molecules interacting with light at chosen wavelengths**
 - *Nucleic acids: DNA, RNA*
 - *Carbohydrates: Glucose, cellulose*
 - *Lipids: Fat, myelin*
 - *Proteins: Oxy/deoxy/met/carboxy-hemoglobin, myoglobin, cytochromes*
 - *Other endogenous molecules: Melanin, bilirubin, water*
 - *Exogenous absorbers: Dyes, nanoparticles*
- **In vivo functional imaging: blood oxygenation/perfusion, brain activity**
 - *Concentration of hemoglobin (angiogenesis)*
 - *Oxygen saturation of hemoglobin (hyperoxia/normoxia/hypoxia)*
 - *Blood flow (Doppler effect)*
- **In vivo metabolic imaging**
 - *Metabolic rate of oxygen (hyper-metabolism)*
 - *Glucose uptake via glucose analogs*
- **In vivo molecular imaging**
 - *Biomarkers: Integrin, VEGF, HER2*
 - *Reporter genes: LacZ, iRFP, tyrosinase*
- **In vivo label-free histologic imaging**
 - *Cell nuclei*
 - *Cytoplasm*

Oxygen binding to hemoglobin



Picture: Wikipedia

Further Information



- Gratitude to Caltech
- Openings for graduate students and postdocs
- Credit to lab members
- Funding: NIH, NSF
- Books

