

Microscopy | Live Animal Imaging

A collaborative environment that provides the knowledge, instruments, and expertise needed to visualize life at scales ranging from single molecules to entire animals.

- Project specific instrument training & advice.
- Consultation on sample preparation, image processing, and data analysis.
- Charge-back rates; Collaborations are encouraged.

Microscopy



— Nikon A1Rsi Confocal



— Nikon STORM/SIM







<u>Also</u>: Nikon 90i Widefield, Nikon Ti-S Phase, Nikon SMZ1000







Fast Time-lapse and 3D Imaging

Fast Time-lapse and 3D Imaging

Super Resolution Imaging

Resolution in Light Microscopy

Resolution is the distance that must separate two points in order for them to be distinguishable.

Due to a physical process called **diffraction**, the resolution of even a perfect microscope is no better than about 200 nm.

Super Resolution Light Microscopy

Super resolution microscopy is any technique that offers better than 200 nm resolution.

Wide-field or Confocal

<u>St</u>ochastic <u>Optical</u> <u>R</u>econstruction <u>M</u>icroscopy (STORM)

Locates individually the peak of each fluorophore's image. >20 nm resolution.

(aka Photoactivated Localization Microscopy, or PALM)

<u>Structured Illumination</u> <u>Microscopy (SIM)</u>

Uses multiplication to shift high sample frequencies to lower frequencies that can be resolved and then uses lots of math to recover the originals. >100 nm resolution.

How STORM breaks the diffraction-limit

Using special dyes and optics, it is possible to image only a few dye molecules per frame. Then, a computer can localize the peak of each molecule's image and after thousands of frames a localization plot (the 'image') can be constructed.

Wide-field:

STORM dyes must be sparsely activated

If all of the fluorophores fluoresced at once, their images would overlap and the peaks could not be localized (e.g. epifluorescence).

Photoswitchable dye pairs are best

Rust, Nat Methods, 2006

New dyes and strategies are emerging.

e.g. Betzig, Science, 2006

STORM is usually performed in TIRF mode

Single molecule imaging is not possible when out-of-focus light is present.

STORM application examples

Nuclear Pore Architecture Histones as 'beads on a string' D 5 µm Intensity (a.u.) 200 nm 200 nm 0 100 200 300 400 Distance (nm)

Van de Linde, Ann Rev Phys Chem, 2012

Löschberger A et al. J Cell Sci 2012

X. Zhuang, Nature, 2011

How SIM breaks the diffraction-limit (simplified!)

Sinusoidal patterns of excitation light are shown onto a fluorescent sample, which multiplies high sample frequencies by the excitation pattern. Thus, the high frequencies are converted to lower frequencies that can pass through the objective. The original frequencies are then (approximately) recovered using advanced mathematics.

Since $(f_1-f_2) \le f_2$, $f_1 \le 2f_2$. Thus, SIM resolution is at best 2x traditional resolution.

Moire Fringes: A 2D SIM analogy

SIM operates in wide-field mode

Two (or three) points of excitation light are placed at a high NA position within the back-aperture. Thus, a sinusoidal interference pattern is produced in the front focal plane.

SIM application examples

Bacterial Septum

Strauss MP, et al., PLoS Biol, 2012.

Virus on actin filaments

Horsington J, et al. J Virological Methods. 2012.

	STORM	SIM
XYZ resolution:	20-50 nm	100-200 nm
Special dyes needed?	Yes	No
Quantitative?	Likely	No
Artifact prone?	No	Yes
Extra sample preparation?	A little – fixed only	No – live possible

Thank You!

Come and try our microscopes!

For more information...

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