



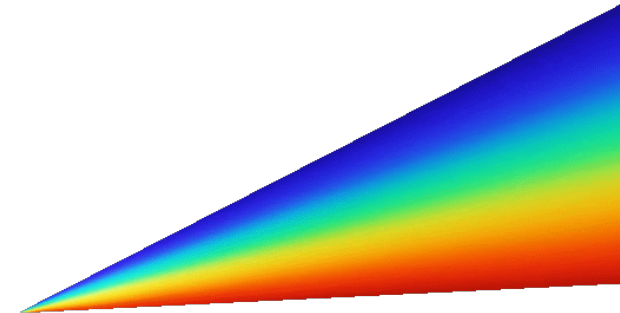
# Photonics Technologies for Connectomics Research

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Brain Research Center,

Institute of Photonics Technologies,  
National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan

2017/May/31<sup>st</sup>



# Neuroscience Inauguration

## Observation only



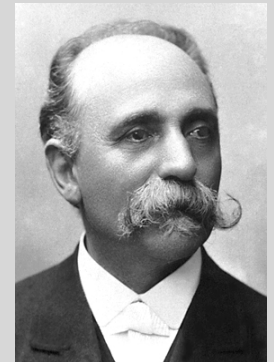
**Santiago Ramón y Cajal**  
(1 May 1852 – 17 October 1934)



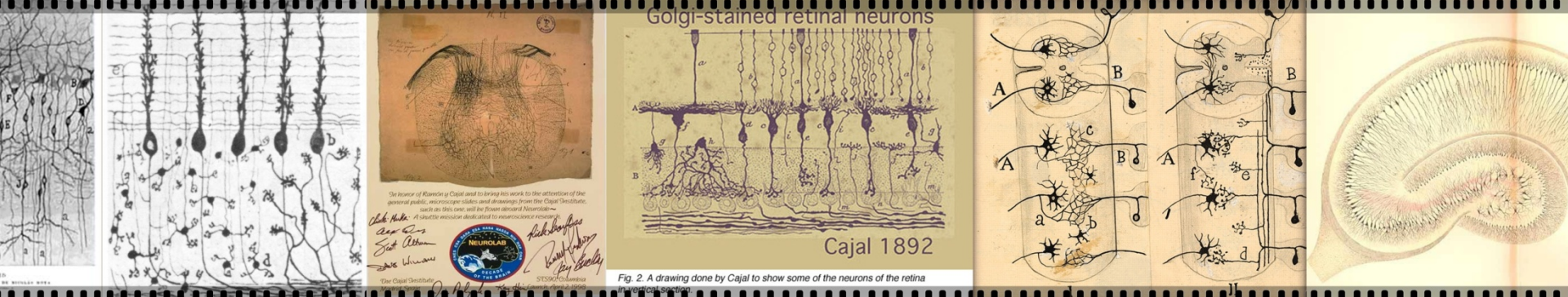
## The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 1906

### Exposing the Forest: Camillo Golgi and Santiago Ramón y Cajal (1906)

By developing and using methods that stain key components of nerve cells silver, Golgi and Cajal revealed the beauty and complexity of the nervous system.

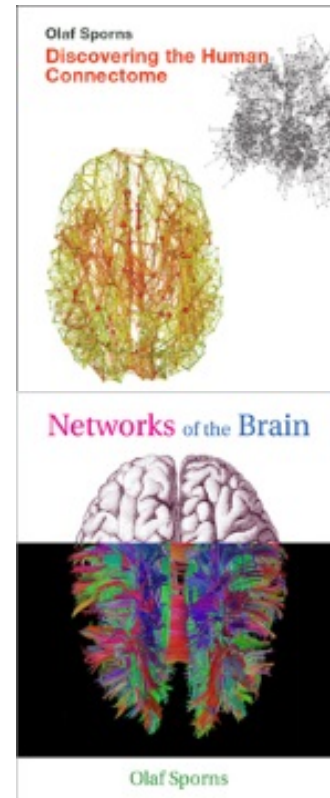


**Camillo Golgi**

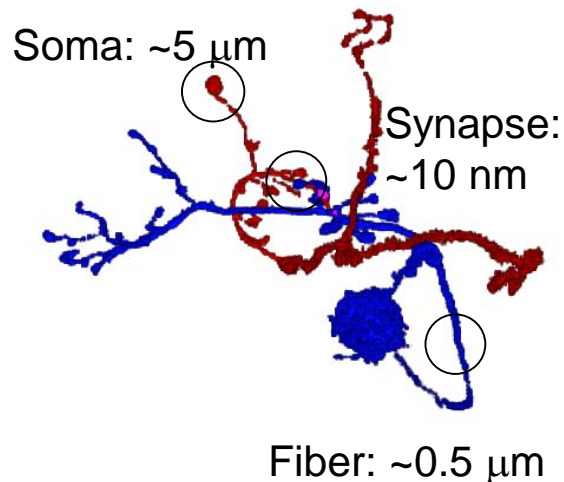


# Neuron networks in a real brain

- What is connectome/connectomics ? Prof. Olaf Sporns  
The connection matrix of a real brain
- What do scientists want to do?  
To understand the human brain &  
To improve the quality of human life



## The basic characteristics of neuron cell



## Challenges

- ✓ Field of view
- ✓ Speed
- ✓ Resolution
- ✓ Perturbation & manipulation

# Multi-level Connectomes

## According to the adopted technologies

Macroscopic (region) (country & airport)

Human [fMRI](#) (Human Connectome Project)

Mouse [in situ hybridization](#) (Allen Brain Institute)

Mesoscopic (tract) (flight path)

Human [BigBrain Project](#) (Human Brain Project)

Microscopic (neuron) (flight)

*Drosophila* brain ([FlyCircuit](#) image database, NTHU)

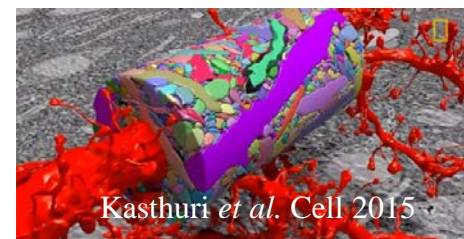
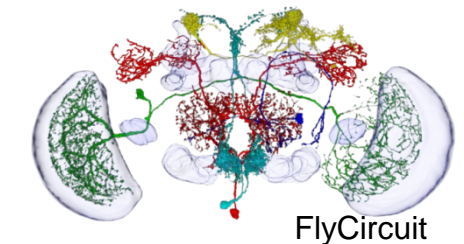
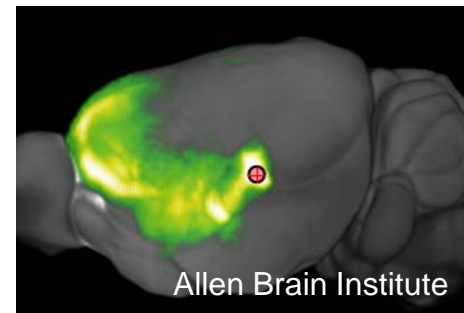
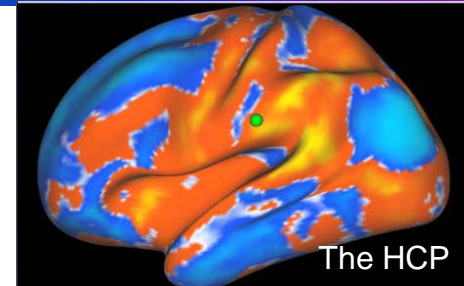
Mouse ([Neuron projections](#), Allen Brain Institute)

Nanoscopic (synapse) (gate)

*C. elegans* [EM](#) and [pathway graph](#) (Albert Einstein)

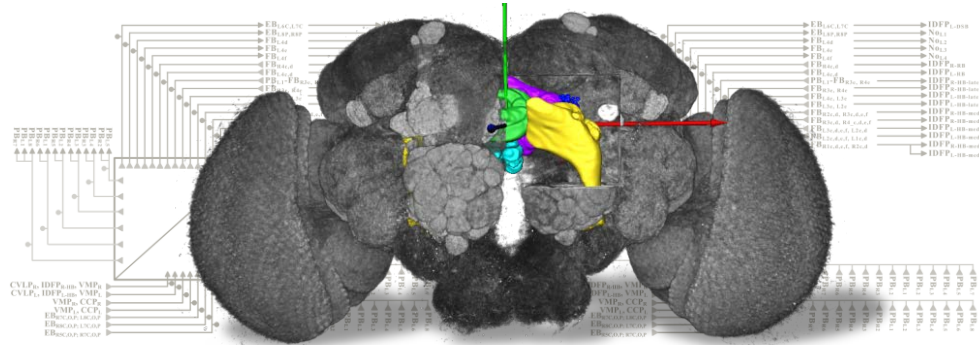
Mouse [serial block-face SEM](#) (Harvard)

*Drosophila* [medulla](#) (optical lobe) (Janelia Farm)



# Brain Research Center @ NTHU

Ann-Shyn Chiang



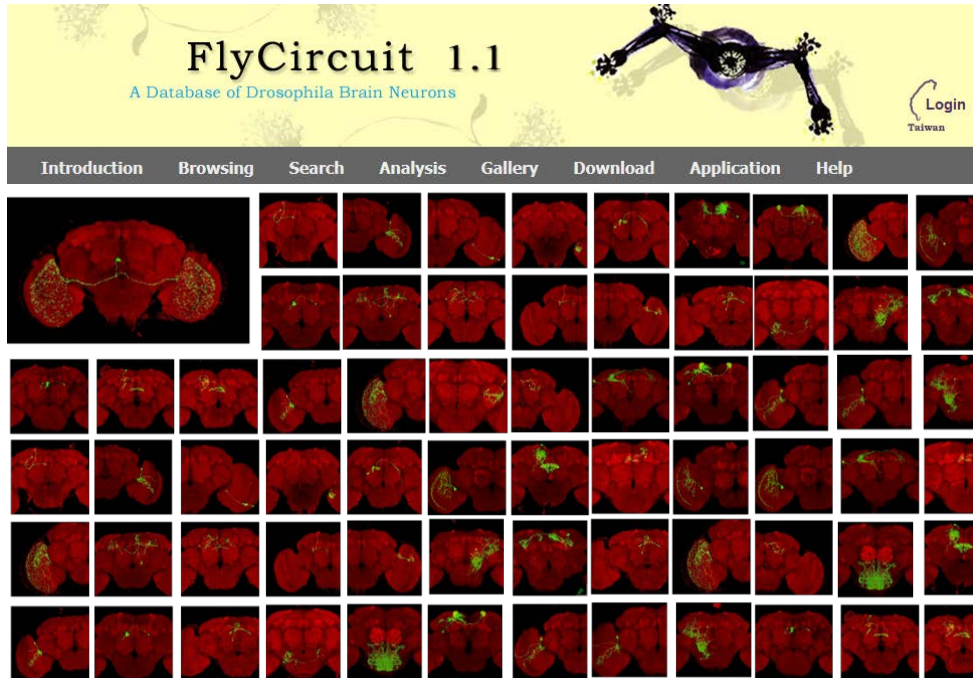
Anatomy and function of neural circuits are the foundation of understanding brain's emergent properties

## Missions:

- (i) To construct a complete whole animal functional neural **wiring diagram** at single neuron resolution;
- (ii) To formulate and test models of circuit computation in order to find rationales among **genes, circuits and behaviors**.
- (iii) To develop disruptive key **technologies** for the next generation connectomics mapping.

# FlyCircuit database

Large-scale 3D Neuron Reconstruction from Optical Microscopic Images

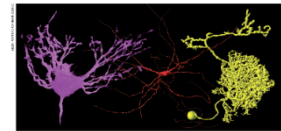


## International collaborators Using FlyCircuit data:

Columbia University, University of Sheffield  
Allen Institute for Brain Science, Stanford University,  
Washington University, Oxford University, George  
Mason University, NVIDIA...etc.

### NEWS IN FOCUS

NEWS IN FOCUS: Sheffield researchers launch collaborative project to build first complete fly brain model



**Neuron encyclopaedia fires up to reveal brain secrets**  
But effort to build gene 'brain' building blocks may strike disagreements over classification.

### Engineering at Sheffield

Home > Facilities > Engineering at Sheffield > News > Sheffield researchers launch collaborative project to build first complete fly brain model

7 December 2015

#### Sheffield researchers launch collaborative project to build first complete fly brain model

Researchers at the University of Sheffield have launched an ambitious project to simulate a complete model of the adult fruit fly brain for the first time. The team is developing an open software platform that will enable researchers from around the world to contribute data, models and tools to construct a comprehensive model of the fruit fly (*Drosophila*) brain. By working collaboratively, the model can be built far more rapidly and efficiently than would be possible by teams working independently.

Because many of the genes and proteins found in the human brain are also found in the fruit fly brain, a complete model could provide insights that will help develop a better understanding of diseases such as Alzheimer's or motor neurone disease as well as help identify potential new drug targets.

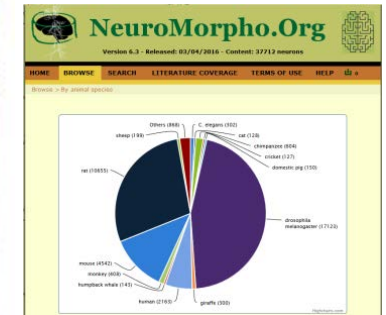
The collaborative software platform that we are developing will enable the research community to focus their efforts and build a biologically plausible model of the fruit fly brain faster, by integrating the knowledge available from different scientific communities across the world," says Daniel Costa, Professor of Nonlinear & Complex Systems at the University of Sheffield and UK project leader.

Funded partly by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council UK and the National Science Foundation in US, the £1.2 million project is a partnership between researchers at the University of Sheffield, Columbia University in the City of New York, research laboratories at Stanford, Washington, Oxford and National Tsing Hua Universities, as well as NVIDIA, the company that sponsored GPU computing.



<http://www.flycircuit.tw/>

- ~23,000 neurons
- >130,000 registered users
- ~90 countries



# The directions in this webinar

*Drosophila* is an important exercise.

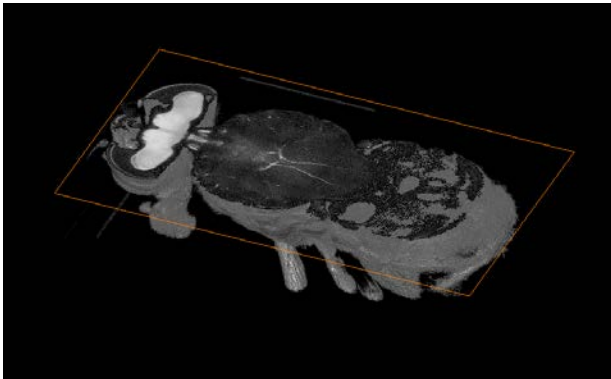
## Behavior study



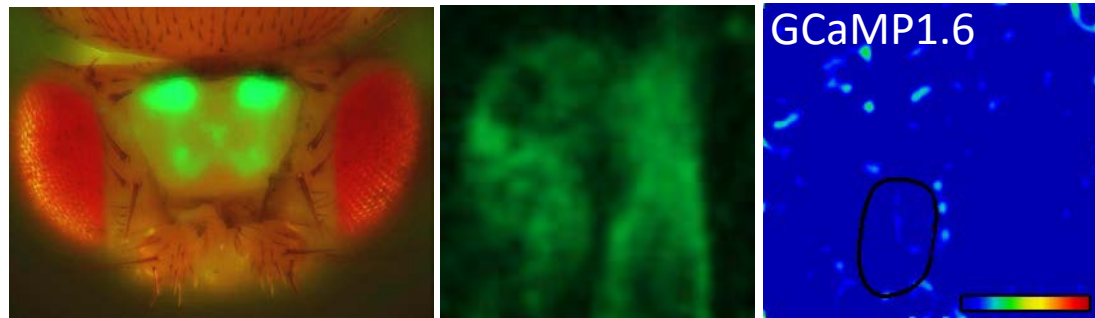
Neuroscientist's  
three "photonics" arrows



## Anatomical Connectome



## Functional Connectome



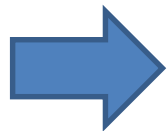
# Photonics Technologies

## Features

- Non-invasive for samples and the other devices
- Low cost
- Resolution up to  $\sim 1/10$  wavelength

## Limitations

- Penetration depth



Photonics systems are friendly integrated to satisfy specific needs.



# Machine vision + Laser tracking

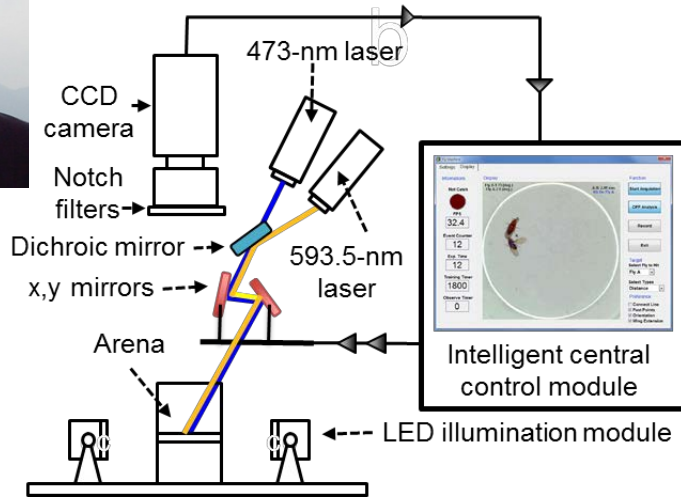
Linking internal/external worlds

ALTOMS: automated laser tracking and optogenetic  
manipulation system

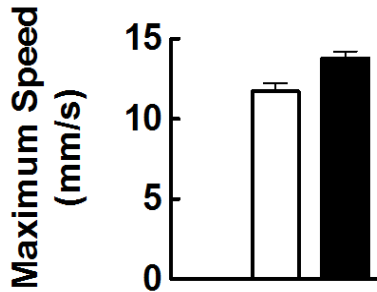
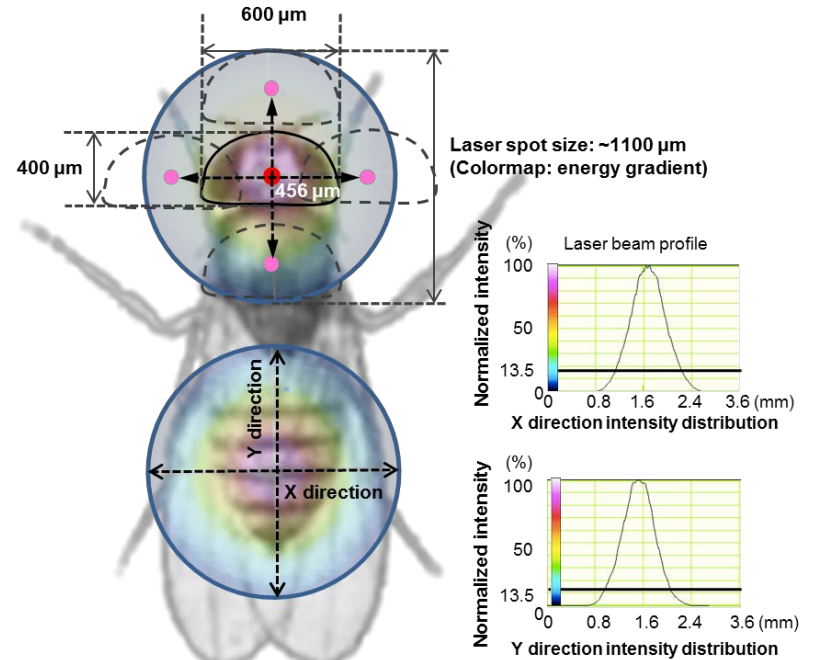
# ALTOMS: Automatic Laser Tracking & Optogenetic Manipulation System



CC Fu



Wu MC et al., (2014) *PNAS* 111,5367-5372



□ Naïve male during courtship  
 ■ Male during training



Head



Thorax



Abdomen

**ALTOMS parameters**

**Laser:**  
 473-nm, 593.5-nm & 1064-nm laser

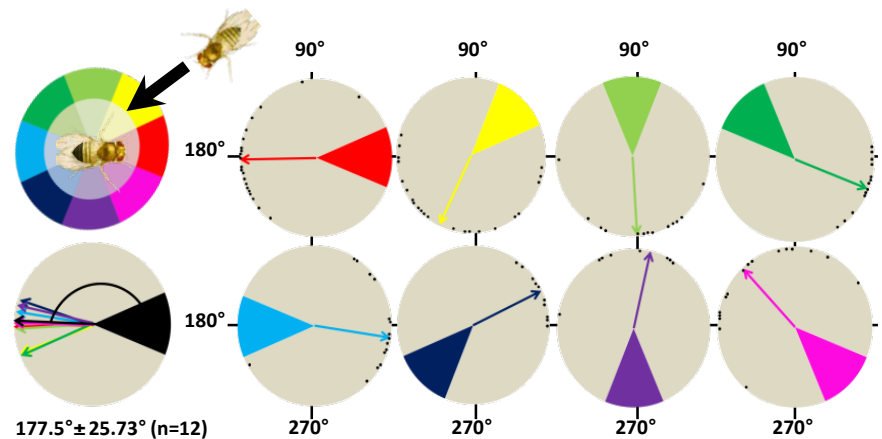
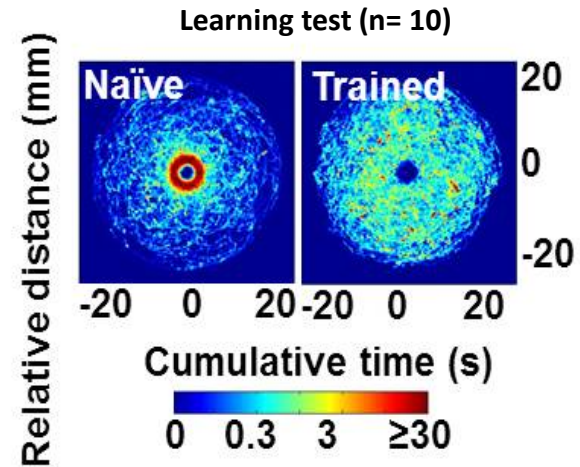
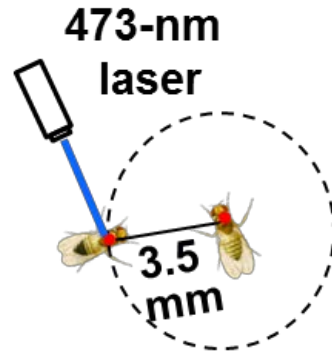
**Target:**  
 Head, thorax, and abdomen

**Screening Protocol:**  
 4 cycles (10-s on/20-s off)

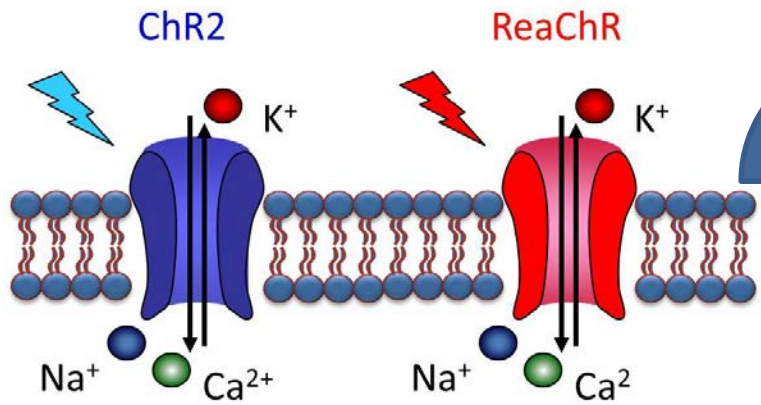
Maximum automated laser tracking time delay: 17 ms

# Operant Learning

- The male fly learned to stay away from the female after 1-hr restraining conditioning. (Conventional assay need 8-hrs)

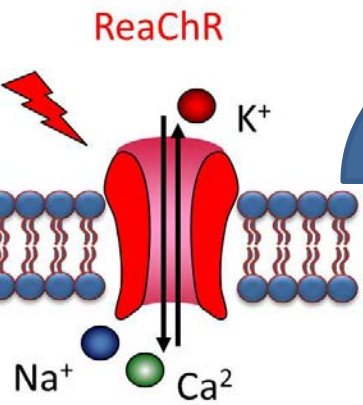


# Optogenetics



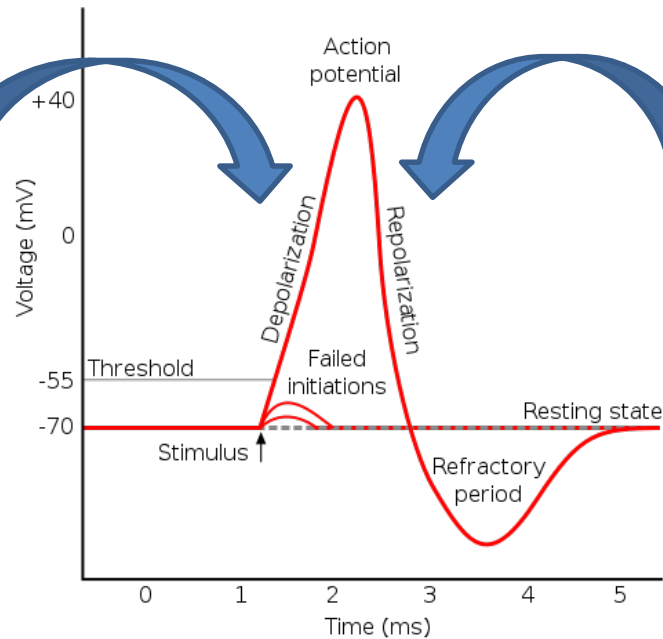
Excite a neuron

Szellas et. al.,(2003)  
*PNAS* 24:13940

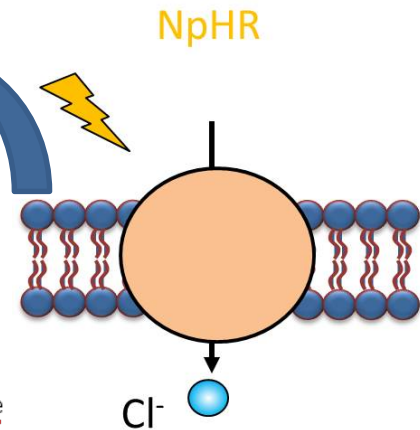


Excite a neuron

Lin et. al.,(2013)  
*Nat. Neurosci.* 10:1499



From Wikipedia



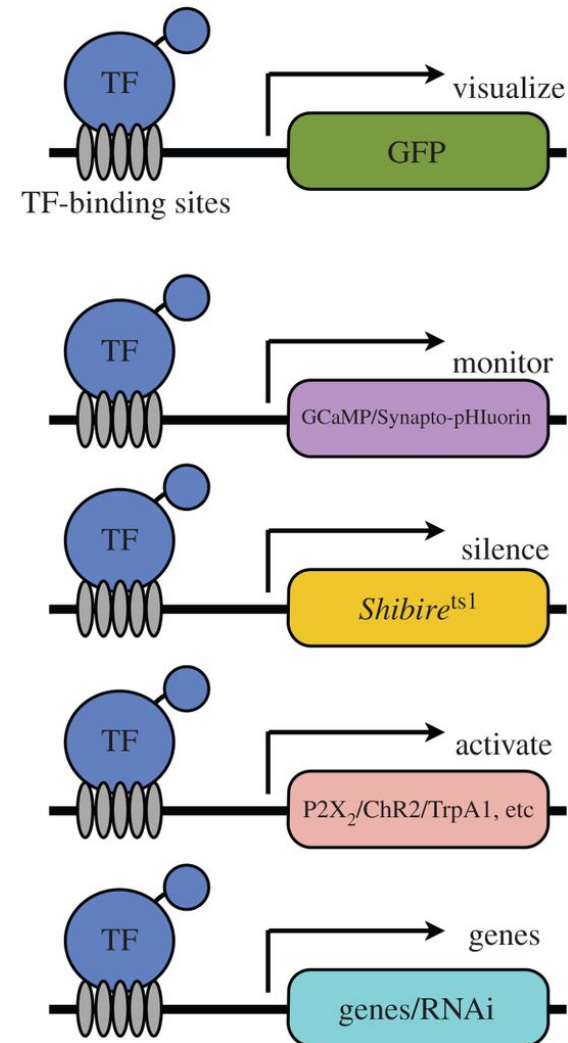
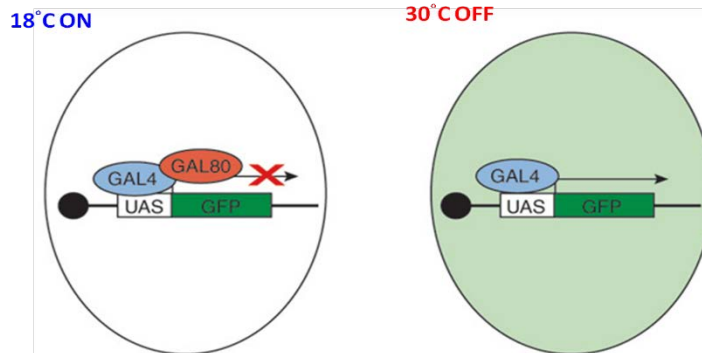
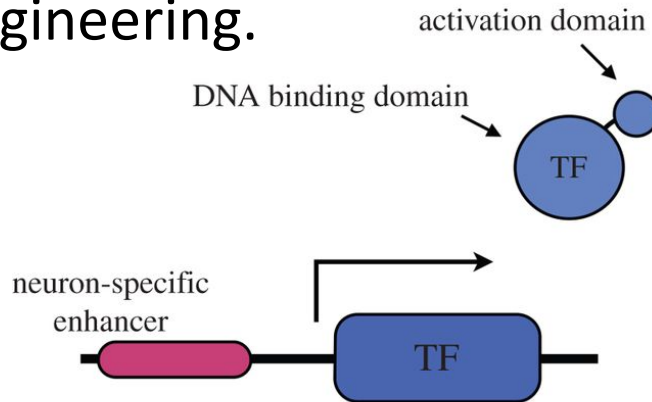
Inhibit a neuron

Han et. al.,(2007)  
*PloS one* 2:e299  
Zhang et. al.,(2007)  
*Nature* 446:633

# Spatiotemporal Gene Manipulation

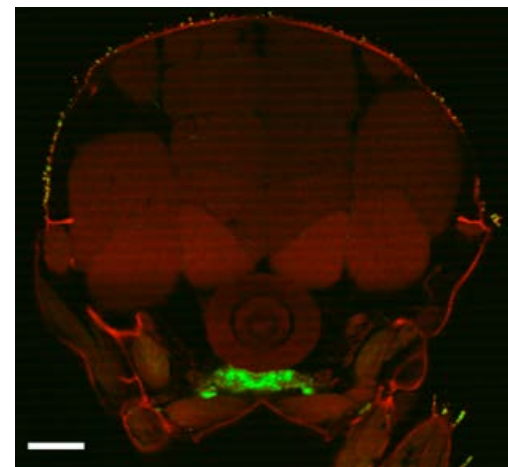
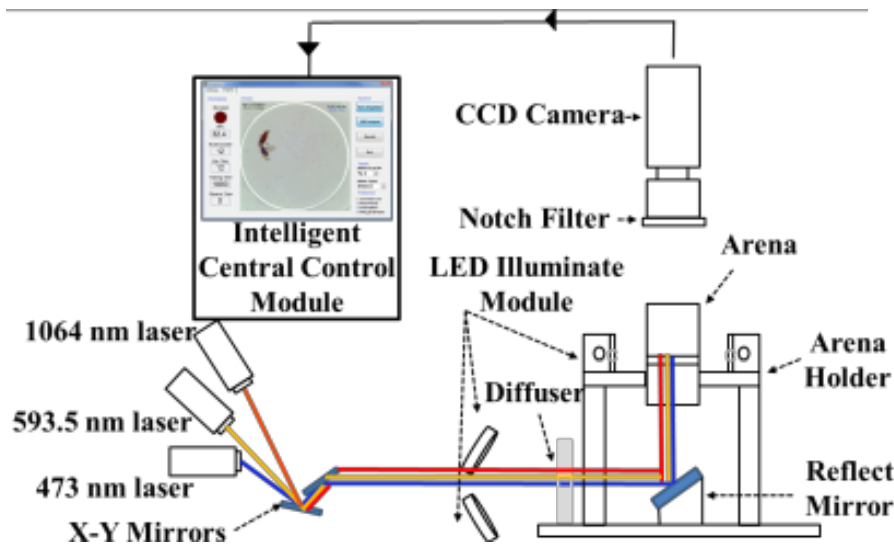
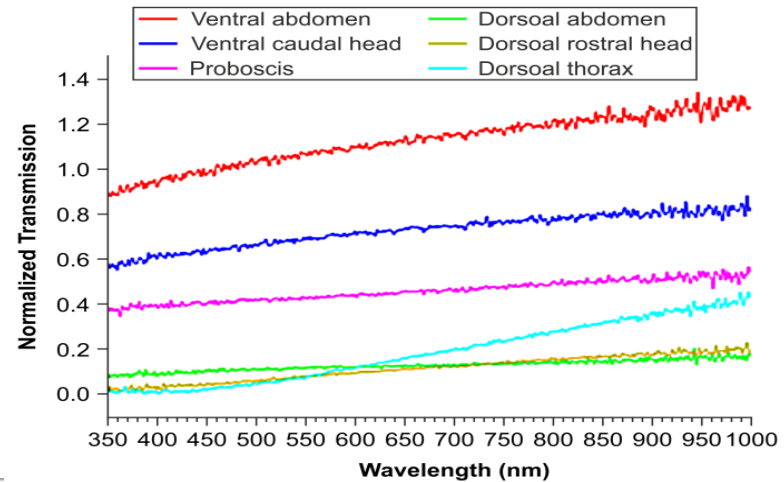
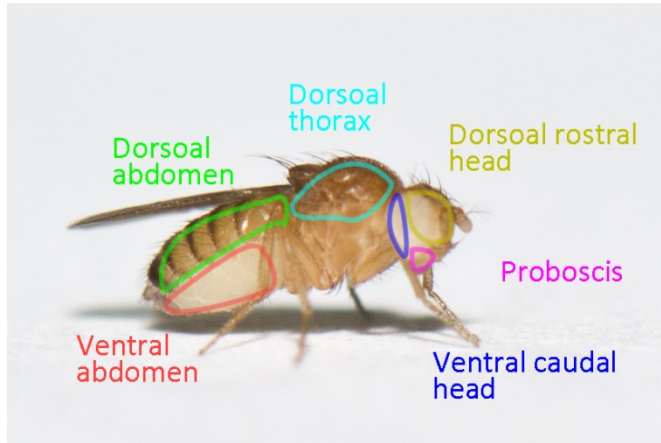
## Gal4-UAS system

We can manipulate any neuron at anytime by the state of the art genetic engineering.



# Optogenetic Behavior Manipulation

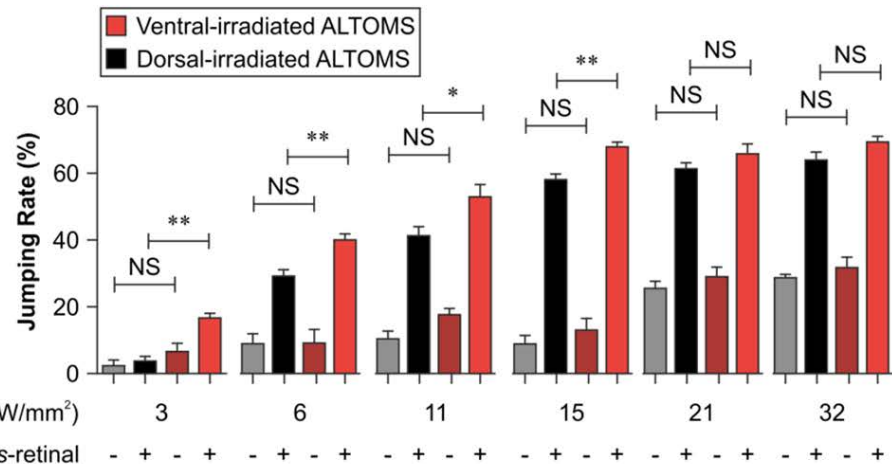
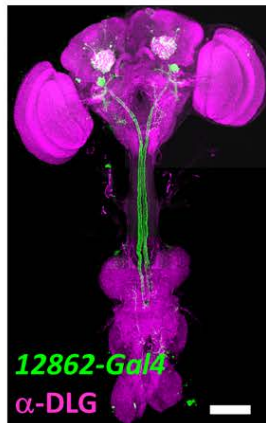
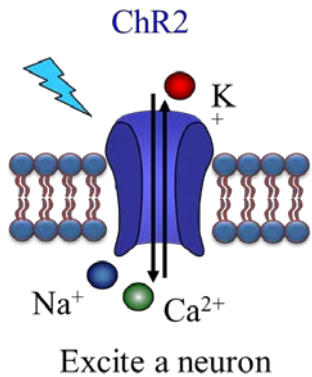
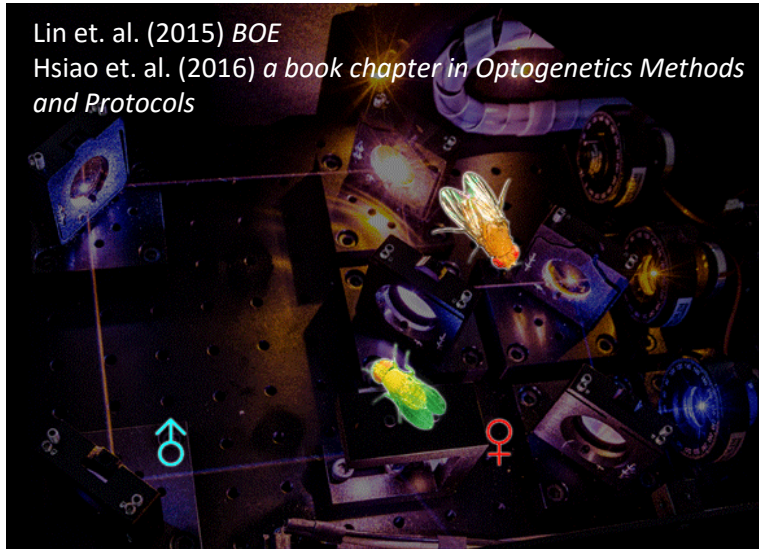
## Ventral irradiation ALTOMS



Scale bar 100  $\mu$ m

# Optogenetic Behavior Manipulation

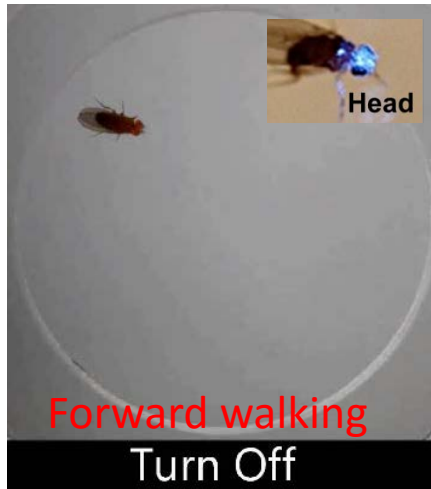
Lin et. al. (2015) *BOE*  
 Hsiao et. al. (2016) *a book chapter in Optogenetics Methods and Protocols*



# Position Specific Behaviors and Sexual Dimorphism

## Position specific

Line: VT49842 > UAS-ReaChR



## Sexual Dimorphism

Line: VT44168 > UAS-ReaChR

Male thorax Single wing beat



Line: VT58561 > UAS-ReaChR

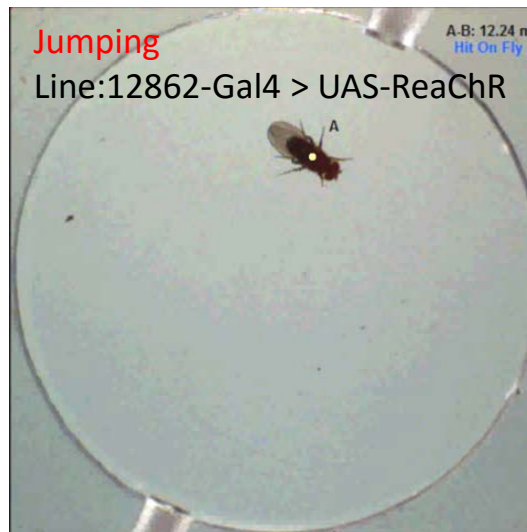
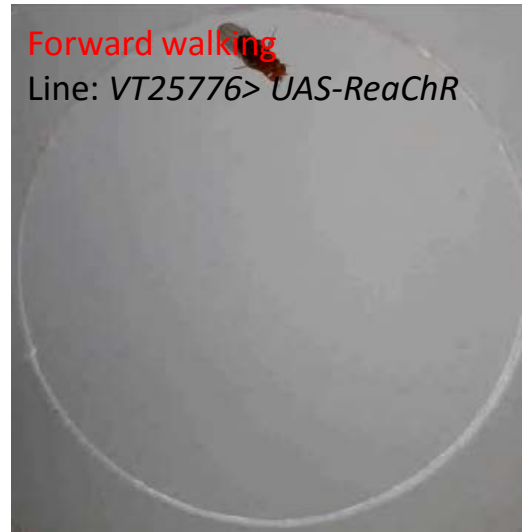
Female thorax Egg laying





# Construct a Neuro-Behavior Map

Integrative understanding of how neural circuit control behavior

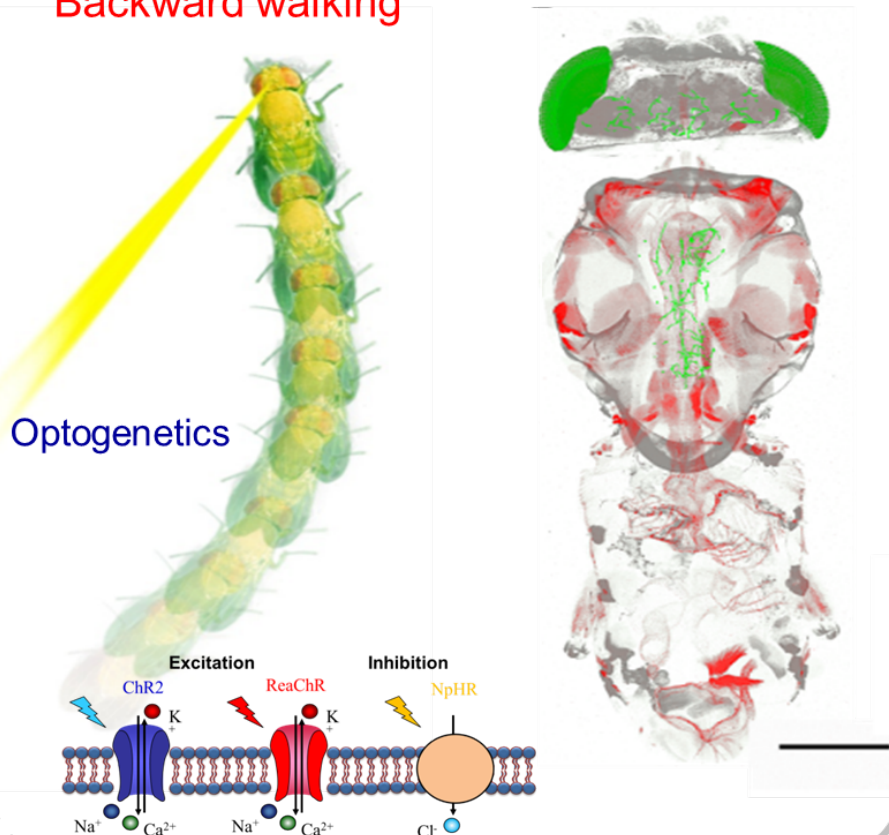


# Optogenetic Neuro-Behavior Mapping

## Constructing a neuro-behavior map

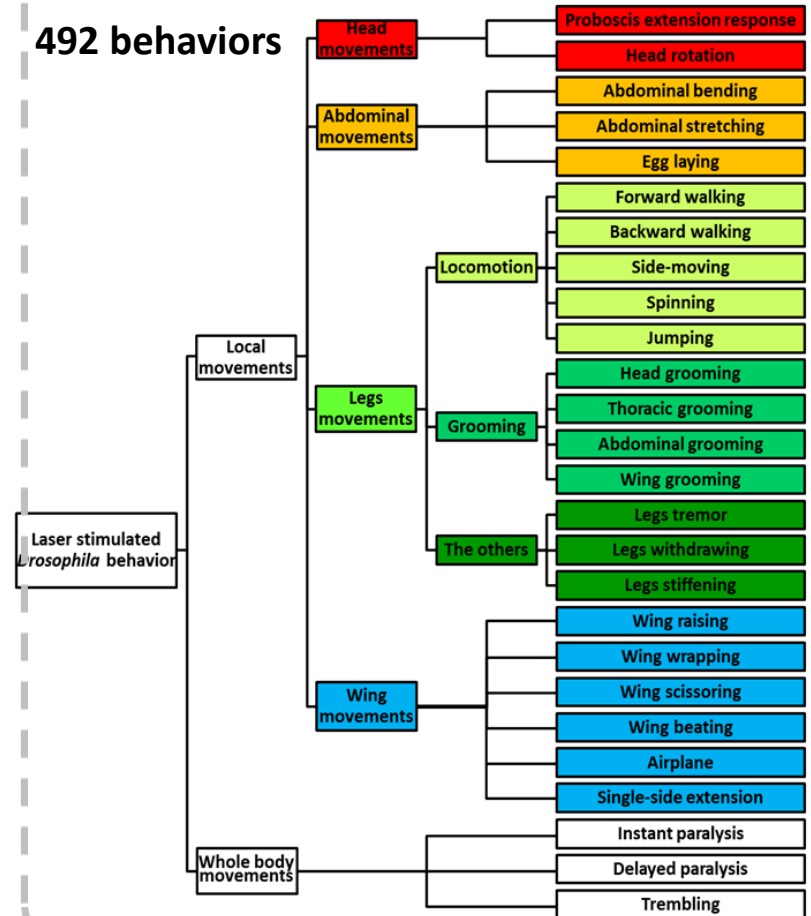
Line: *VT50660* > *UAS-ReaChR*

Backward walking



## Categorization of motor programs

492 behaviors



Inspired by Bidaye et al. (2014). Neuronal control of *Drosophila* walking direction. *Science* 6179: 97-101.

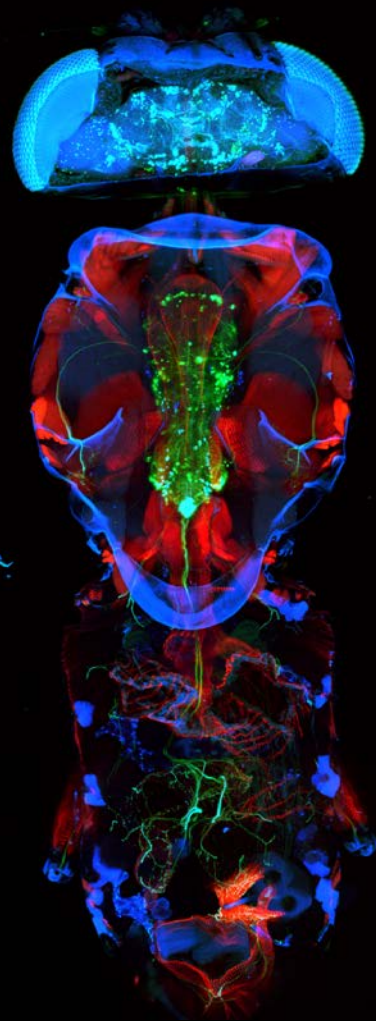
Unpublished

# Construct a Neuro-Behavior Map

Behavior



Anatomy



# **Confocal microscopy + Vibratome**

Large field of view imaging system  
for a neuro-behavior map

# Image technologies

- Important issues

- Contrast

- Resolution

- Penetration depth

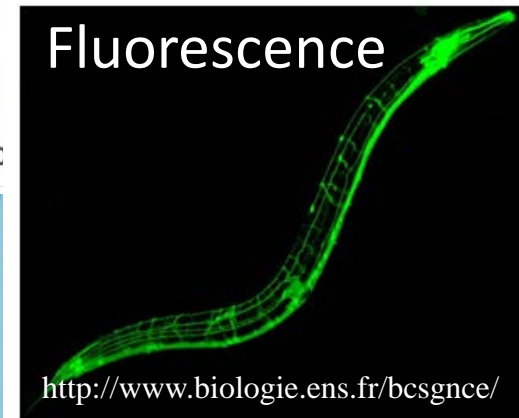
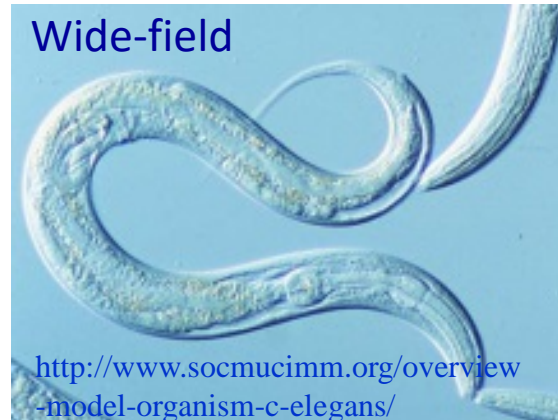
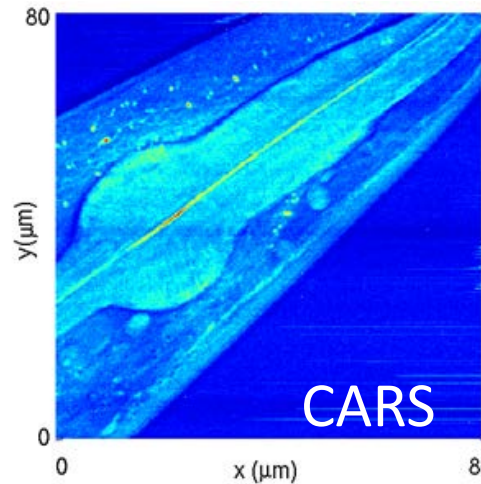
- Speed

New contrast → New applications

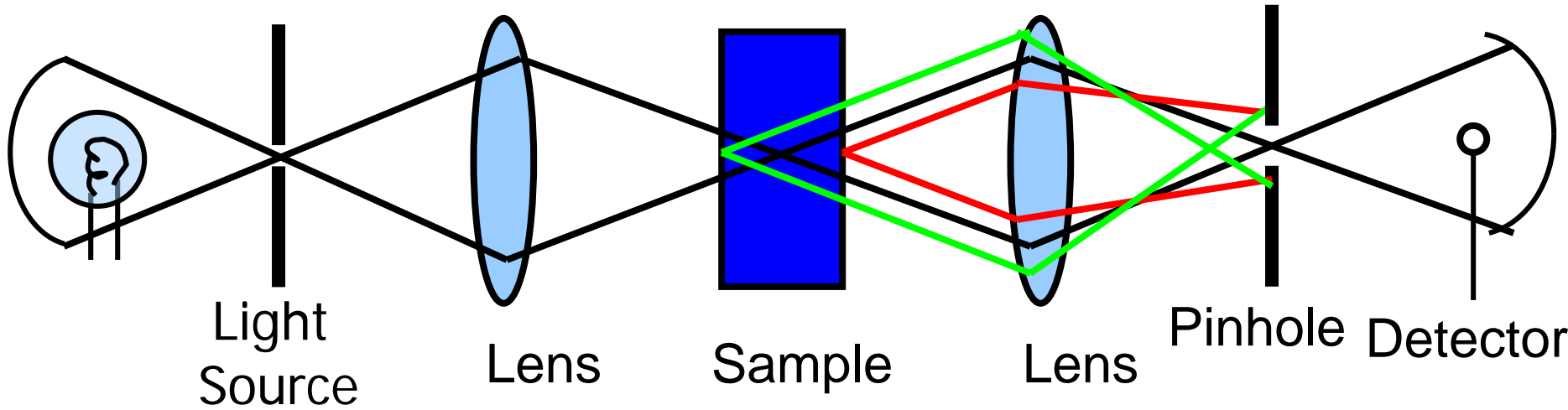
Penetration depth → Applied field

New applications → New discovery

Applied field → When new discovery was disclosed?



# Confocal microscopy



M. Minsky, *US Patent 3013467* (1961)

- Contrast enhanced
- Resolution enhanced
  - Due to the rejection of out-of-focus light
  - Optical section



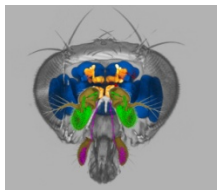
Plasmacytoma cell

*J Cell Biology* 105, p44 (1987)

# Making the Whole Body Transparent

	Methods	Publications
1	FocusClear	2001 J Comp Neurol
2	Scale	2011 Nature Neuroscience
3	BABB / 3DISCO	2011 Nature Medicine 2012 Nature Protocol
4	Clear T	2013 Development
5	CLARITY	2013 Nature
6	SeeDB	2013 Nature Neuroscience
7	CUBIC	2014 Cell

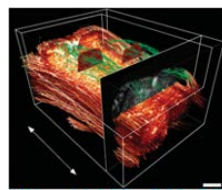
Challenge: high-resolution large volume 3D imaging



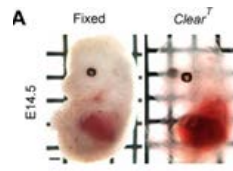
FocusClear



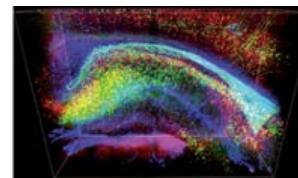
Scale



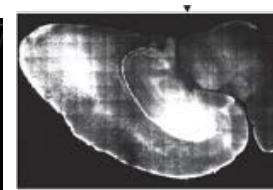
Modified BABB



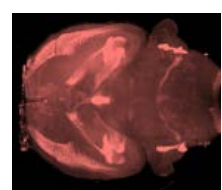
Clear T



CLARITY



SeeDB

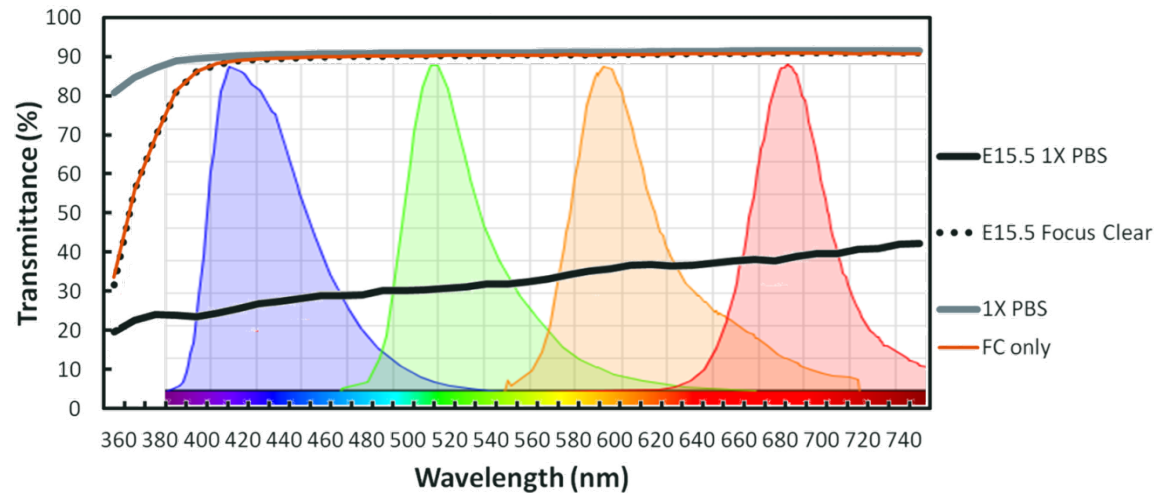


CUBIC

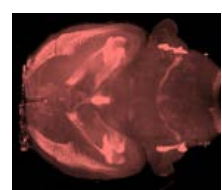
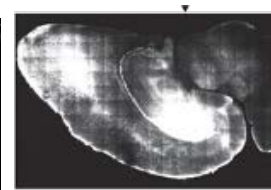
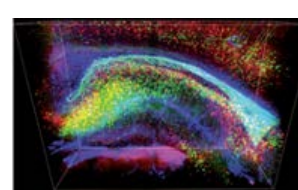
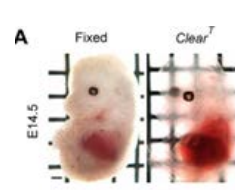
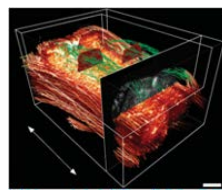
# Making the Whole Body Transparent



FocusClear



Challenge: high-resolution large volume 3D imaging



FocusClear

Scale

Modified BABB

Clear T

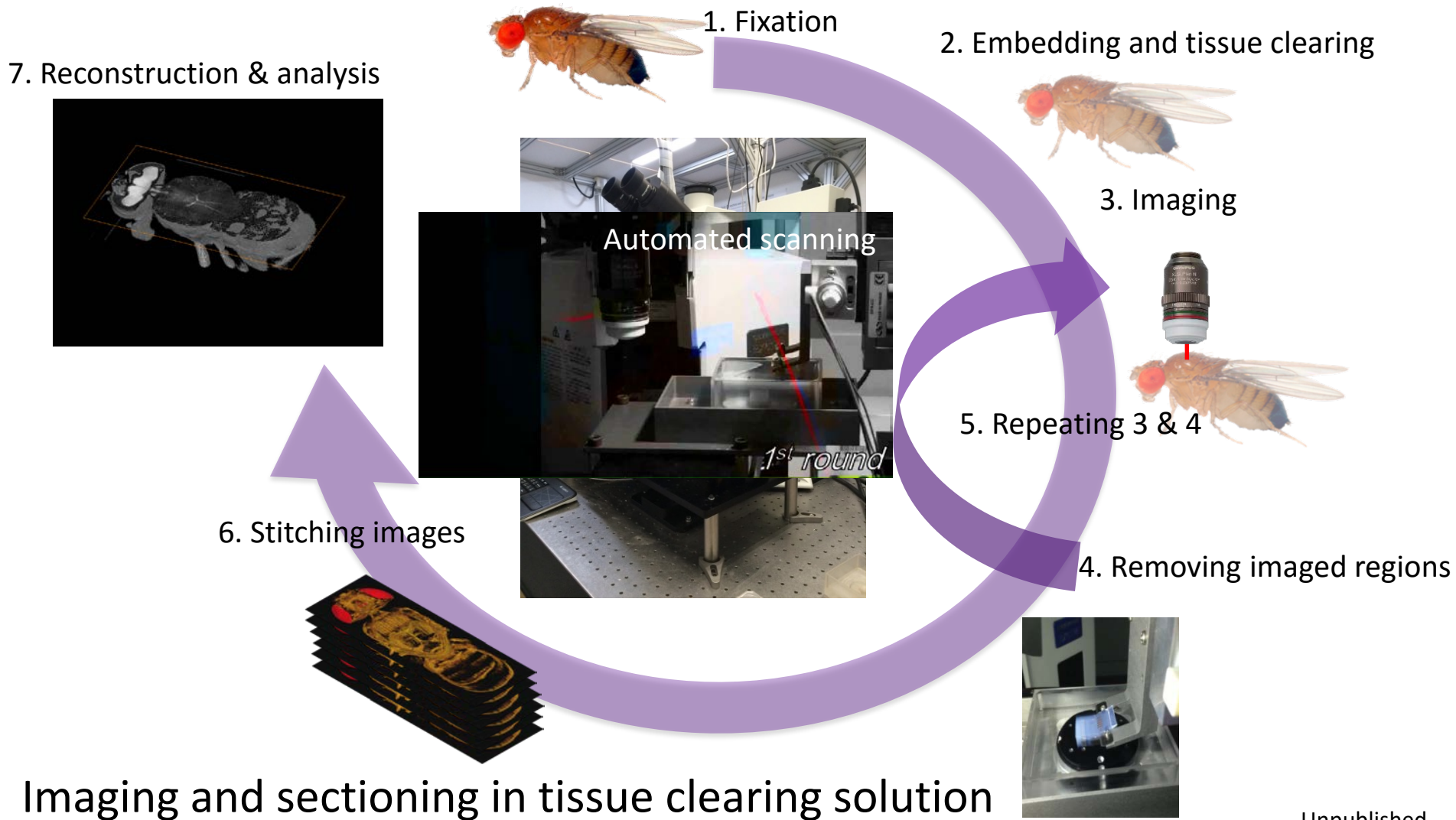
CLARITY

SeeDB

CUBIC



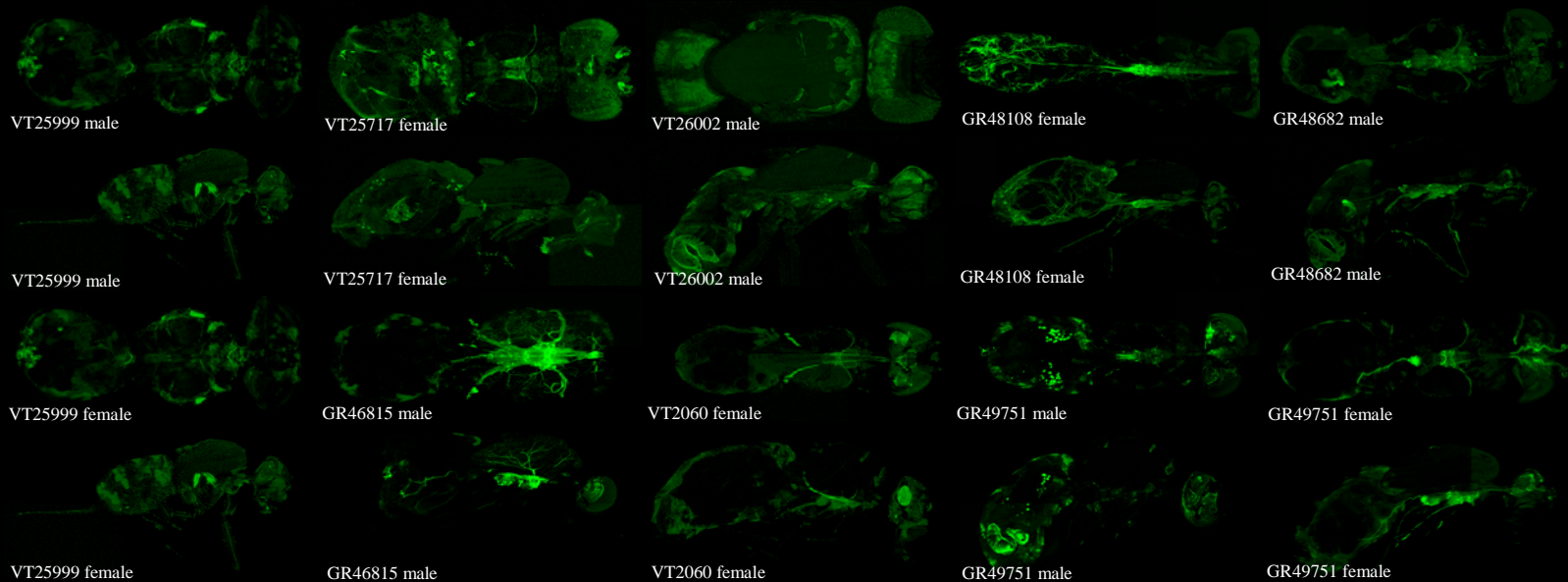
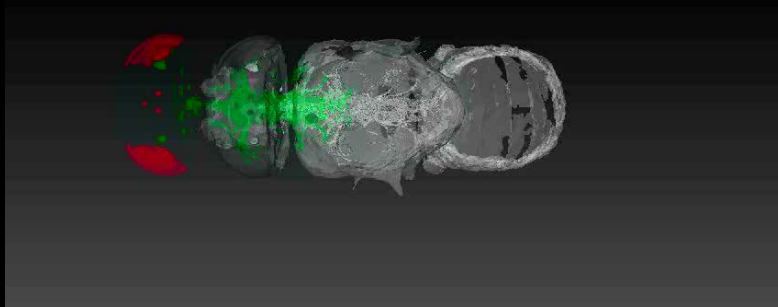
# Automated Serial Thick Section (STS) Tomography for large-tissue 3D Imaging



# Mapping Neural Circuits for Behaviors

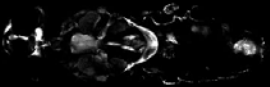
Line: *VT23830* > *UAS-ReaChR*

Dual wing raising

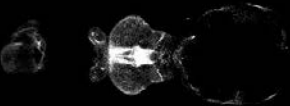


# Construct the Whole-Fly Connectome

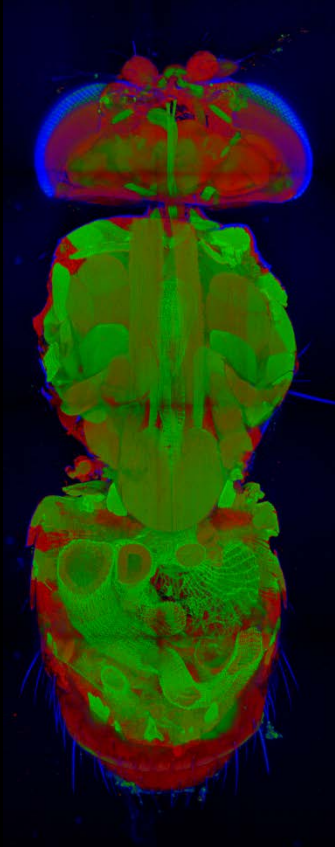
Cuticle



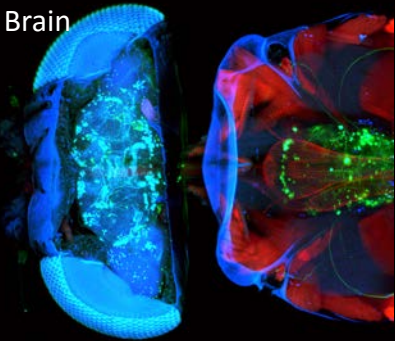
Neuron



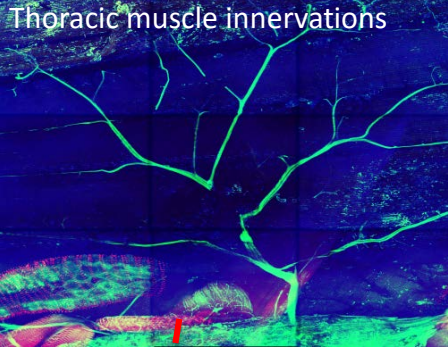
Muscle



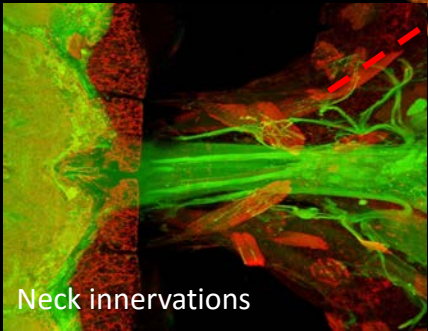
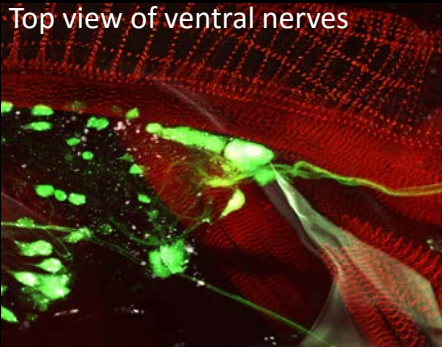
Brain



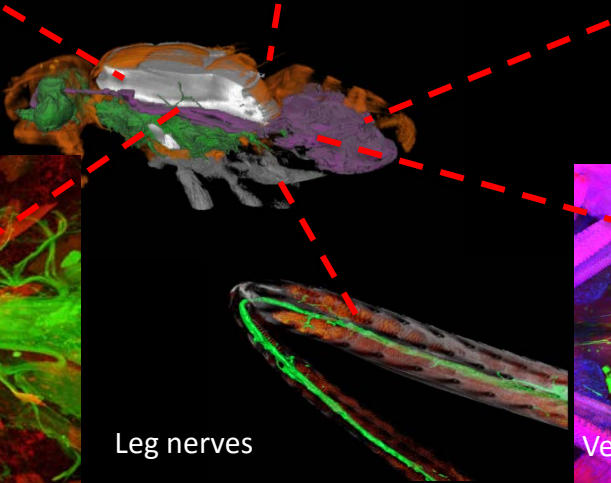
Thoracic muscle innervations



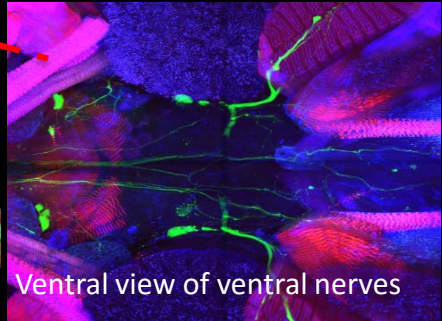
Top view of ventral nerves



Neck innervations



Leg nerves



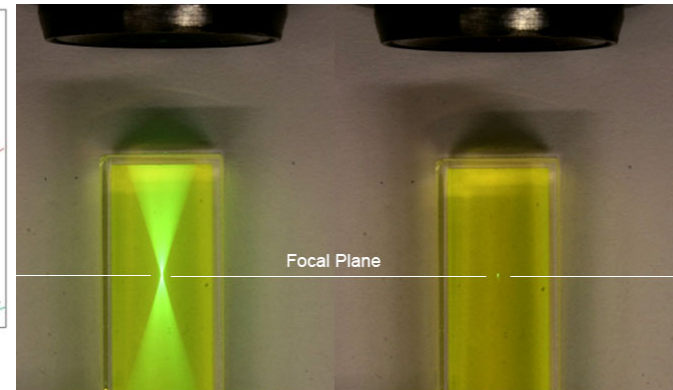
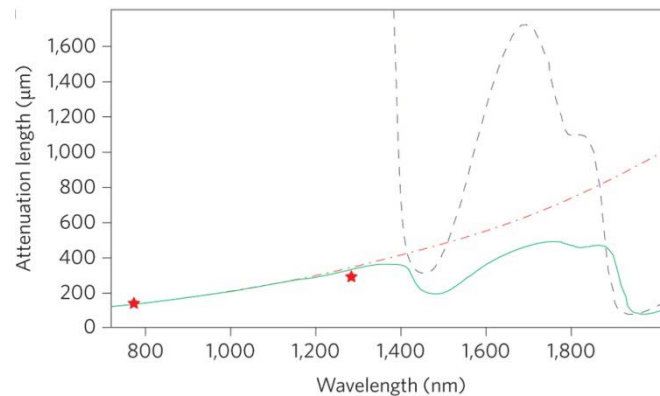
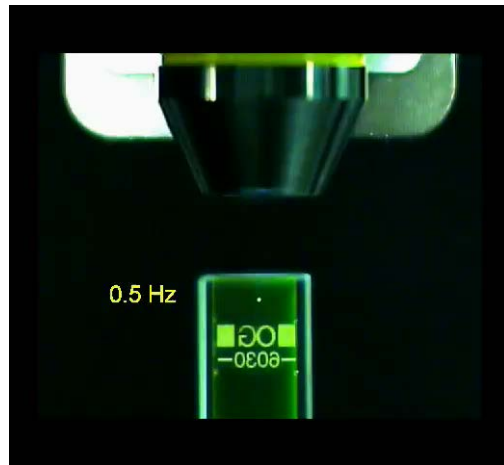
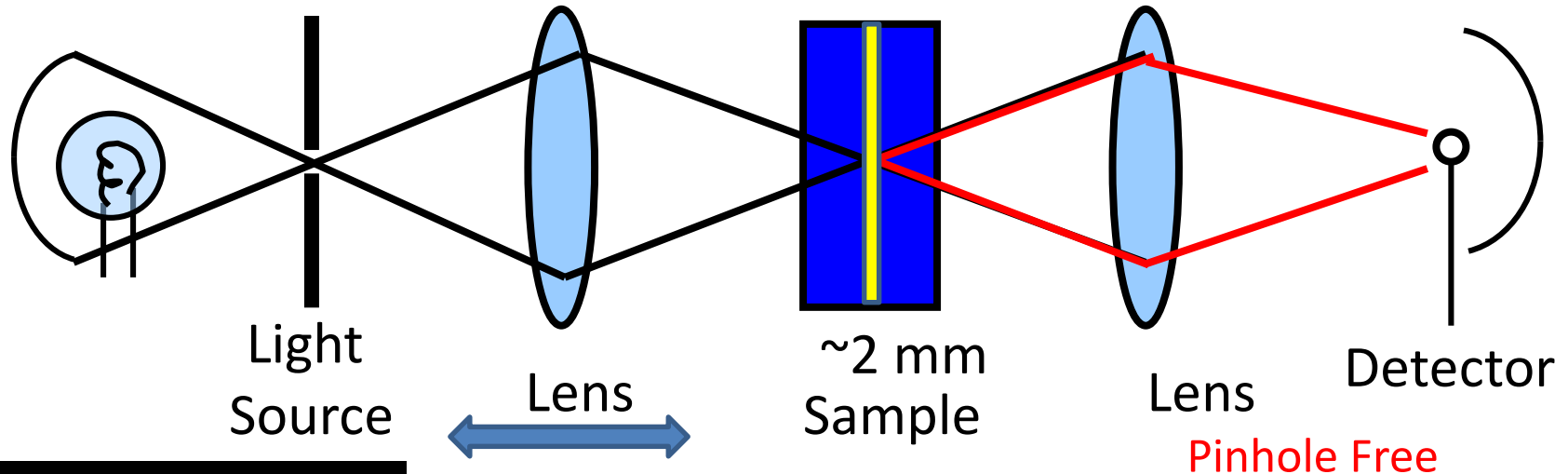
Ventral view of ventral nerves

**Two-photon excitation microscopy +  
New devices & Signal processing**  
3D Dynamic functional images

# Two-photon excitation microscopy

Longer excitation wavelength  $\rightarrow$  less scattering

Can we extend  $\sim 2 \mu\text{m}$  to  $\sim 100 \mu\text{m}$  thick with good resolution?



One Photon

$\text{Signal} \propto I$

Two Photon

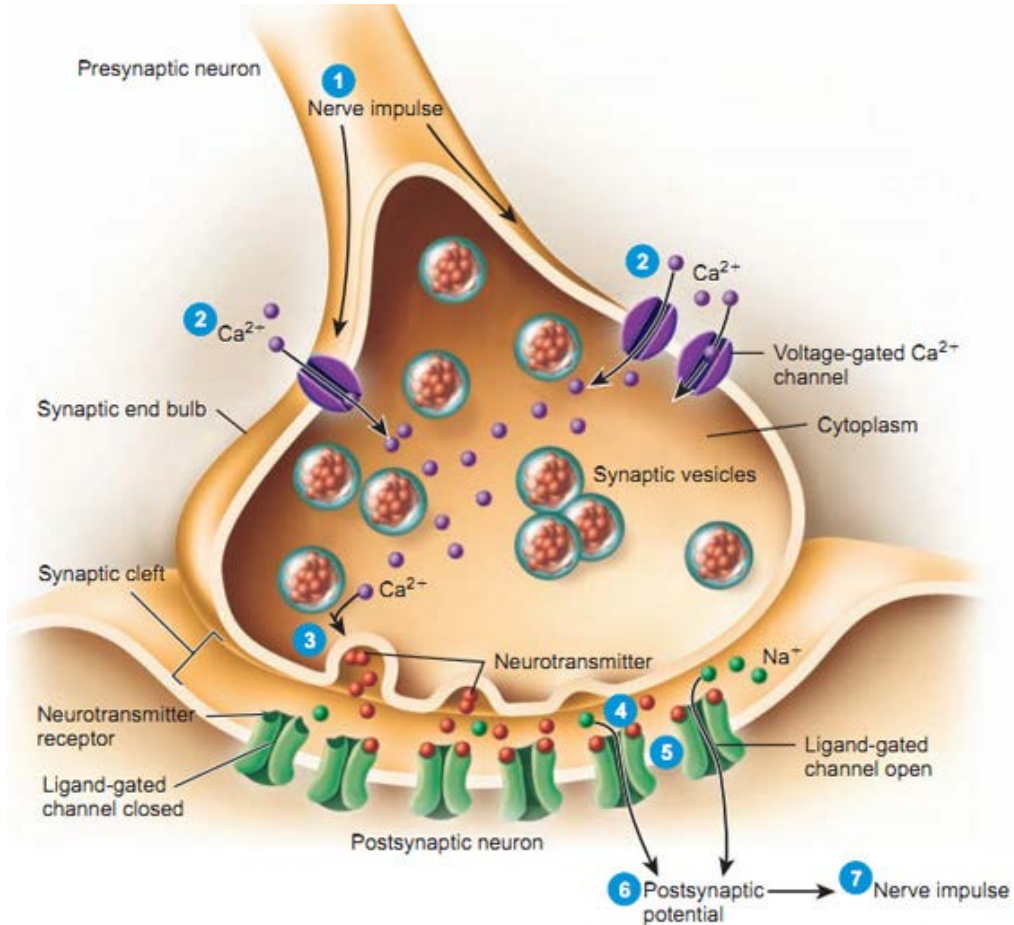
$\text{Signal} \propto I^2$

Horton et. al. (2013)

*Nature Photonics* 7, 205–209

<http://xu.research.engineering.cornell.edu/research>

# Contrast

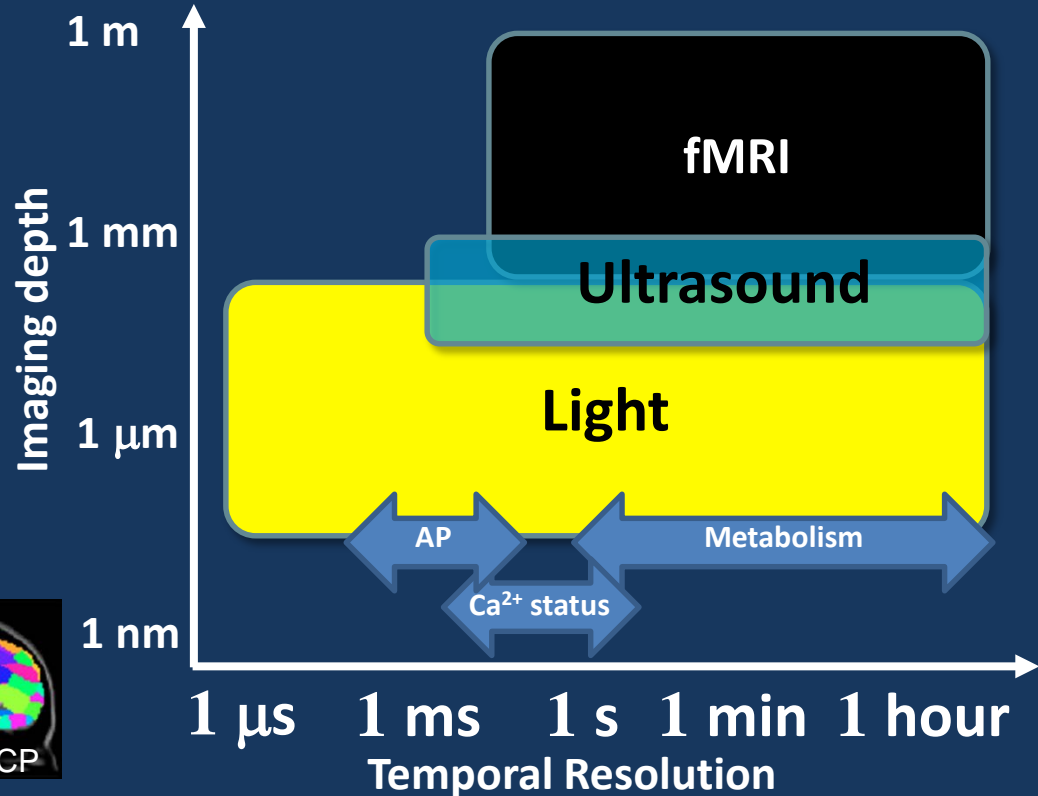
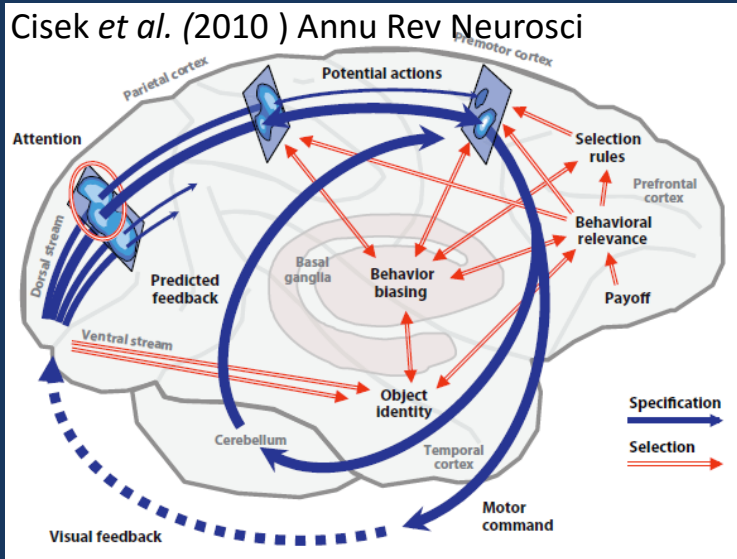


- Action potential
- $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration
- Metabolism

# Information flows in Life

The first Goal: imaging whole brain dynamics

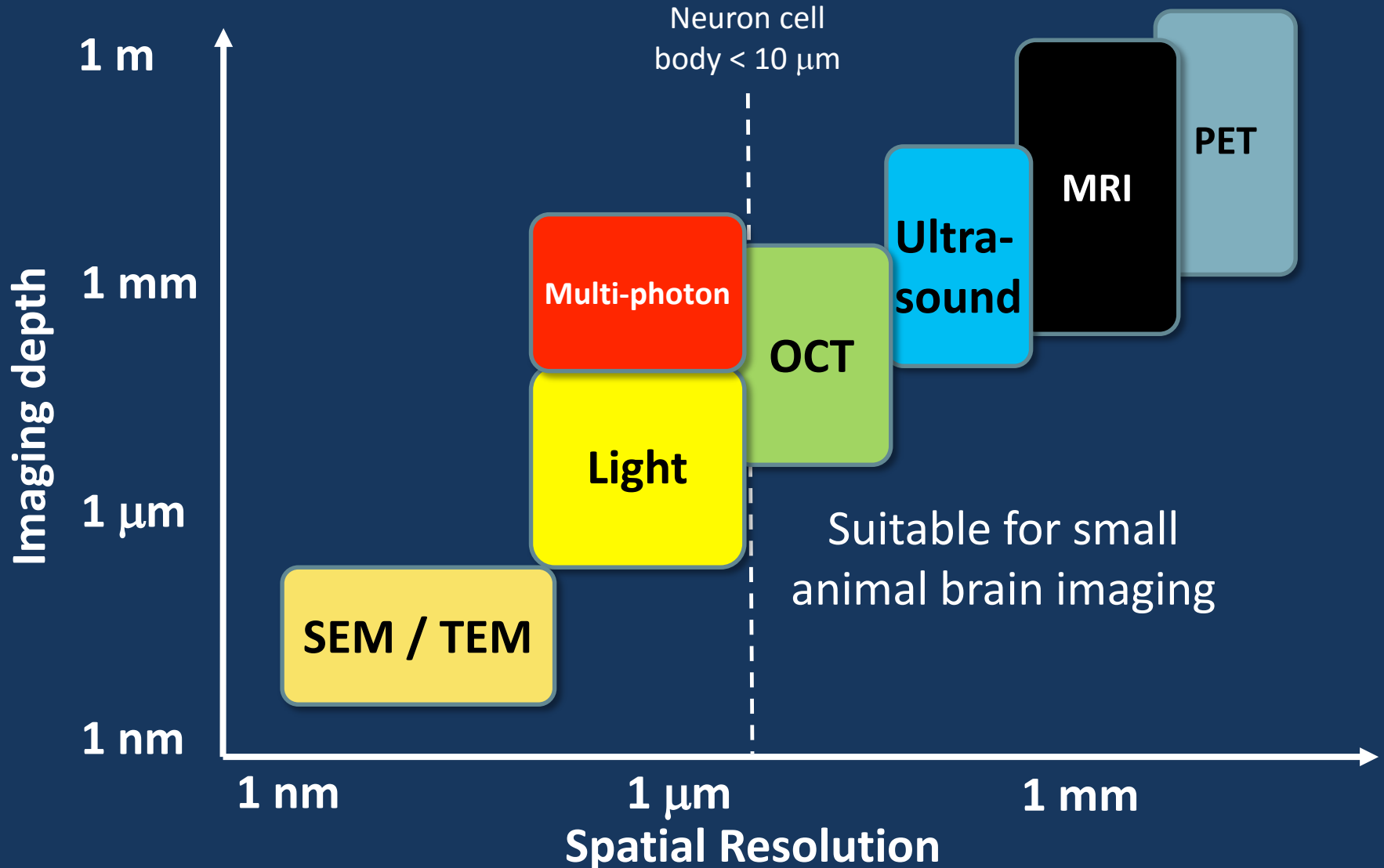
Deep and fast imaging of dynamics



For understanding how the brain controls behavior, we need to know how each responsive neuron works and how they communicate with each others in a large 3D space.

# Information flows in Life

The second Goal: imaging every spike from every neuron





# Speed

- Size of fly brain

450  $\mu\text{m}$   $\times$  250  $\mu\text{m}$   $\times$  150  $\mu\text{m}$

At cell body resolution (5  $\mu\text{m}$ )

90  $\times$  50  $\times$  30 = 135,000 voxels

At axon resolution (1  $\mu\text{m}$ )

450  $\times$  250  $\times$  150 =  $16.9 \times 10^6$  voxels

At terminal resolution (0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ )

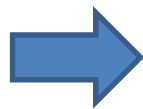
2250  $\times$  1250  $\times$  750 =  $2.1 \times 10^9$  voxels

Desired frame rate:

Action potential  $\sim$  ms

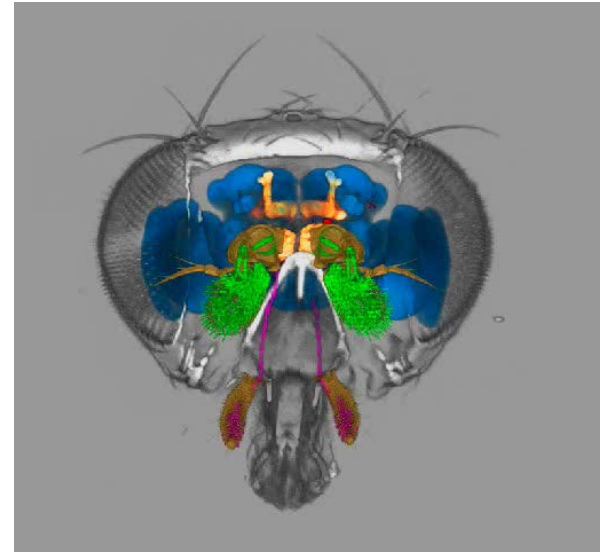
Calcium changes  $\sim$  sub-second

Metabolism  $\sim$  few



Detection scheme

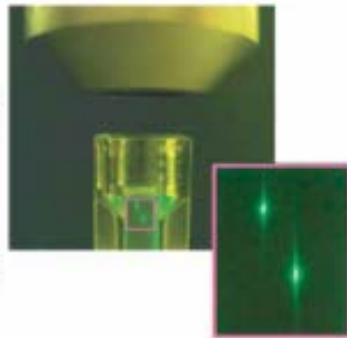
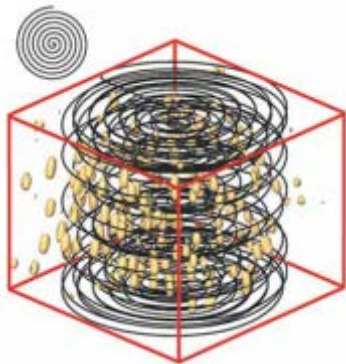
- Point detection
- 1D array detection
- 2D array detection



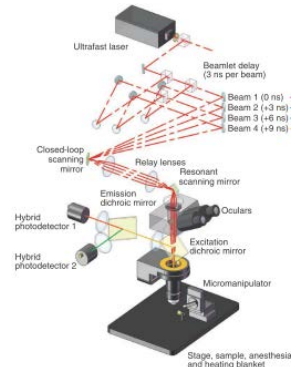
# Methods review

Characteristic		<b>Compatible with commercial microscope</b>	
Pros			
Spatial resolution	<b>Imaging</b>	<b>Multiphoton excitation</b>	
Temporal resolution*	↑	↑	↑
Cons			

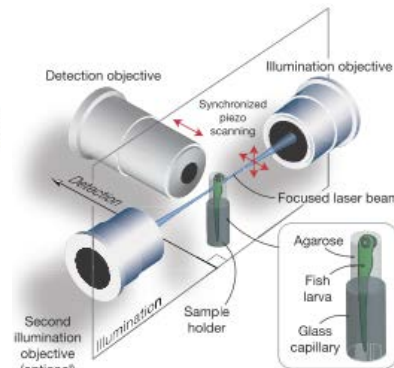
\*Defined by the time required to complete one volume image by 256×256×100 pixels



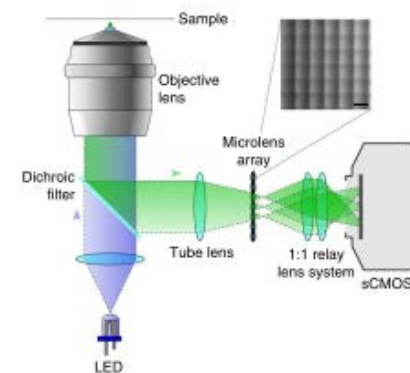
G. D. Reddy, Nat. Methods (2008)



A. Cheng, Nat. Methods (2011)



M. B. Ahrens, Nat. Methods (2013)



R. Prevedel, Nat. Methods (2014)

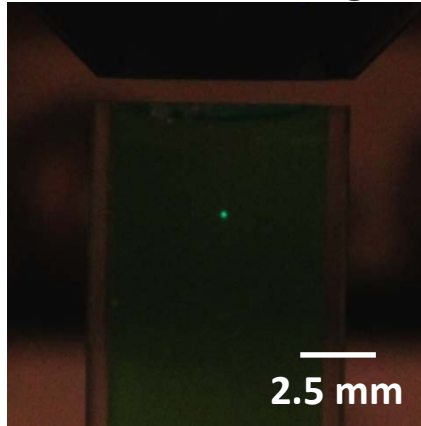
W. Gobel, Nat. Methods (2007)

# All-in-focus Microscopy

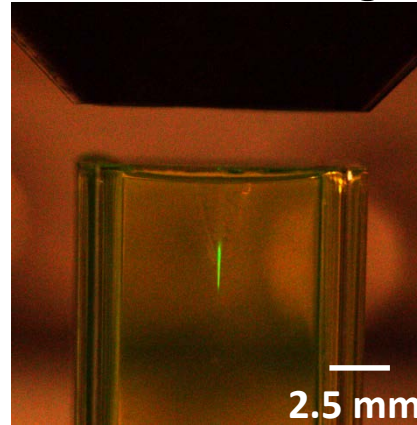
Nonlinear optic effects provide axial resolution

Rapidly focal point scanning can extend axial range.

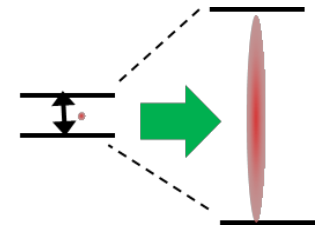
Conventional two-photon functional image



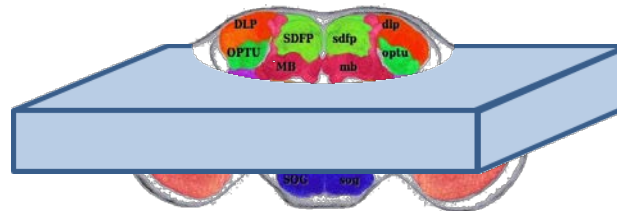
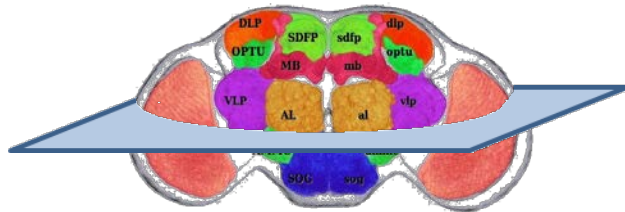
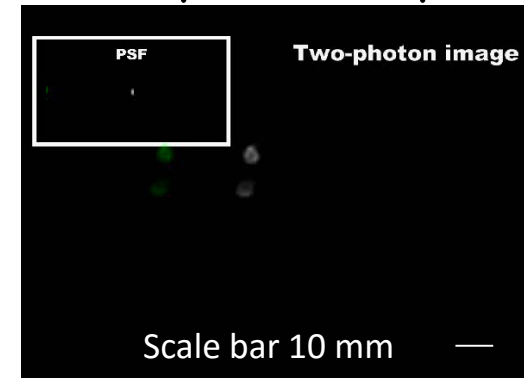
All-in-focus whole brain functional image



Extended PSF



$2\ \mu\text{m} \rightarrow 200\ \mu\text{m}$

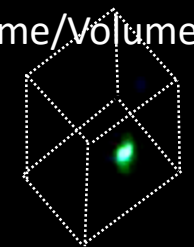


Thin section slide

Thin section slide

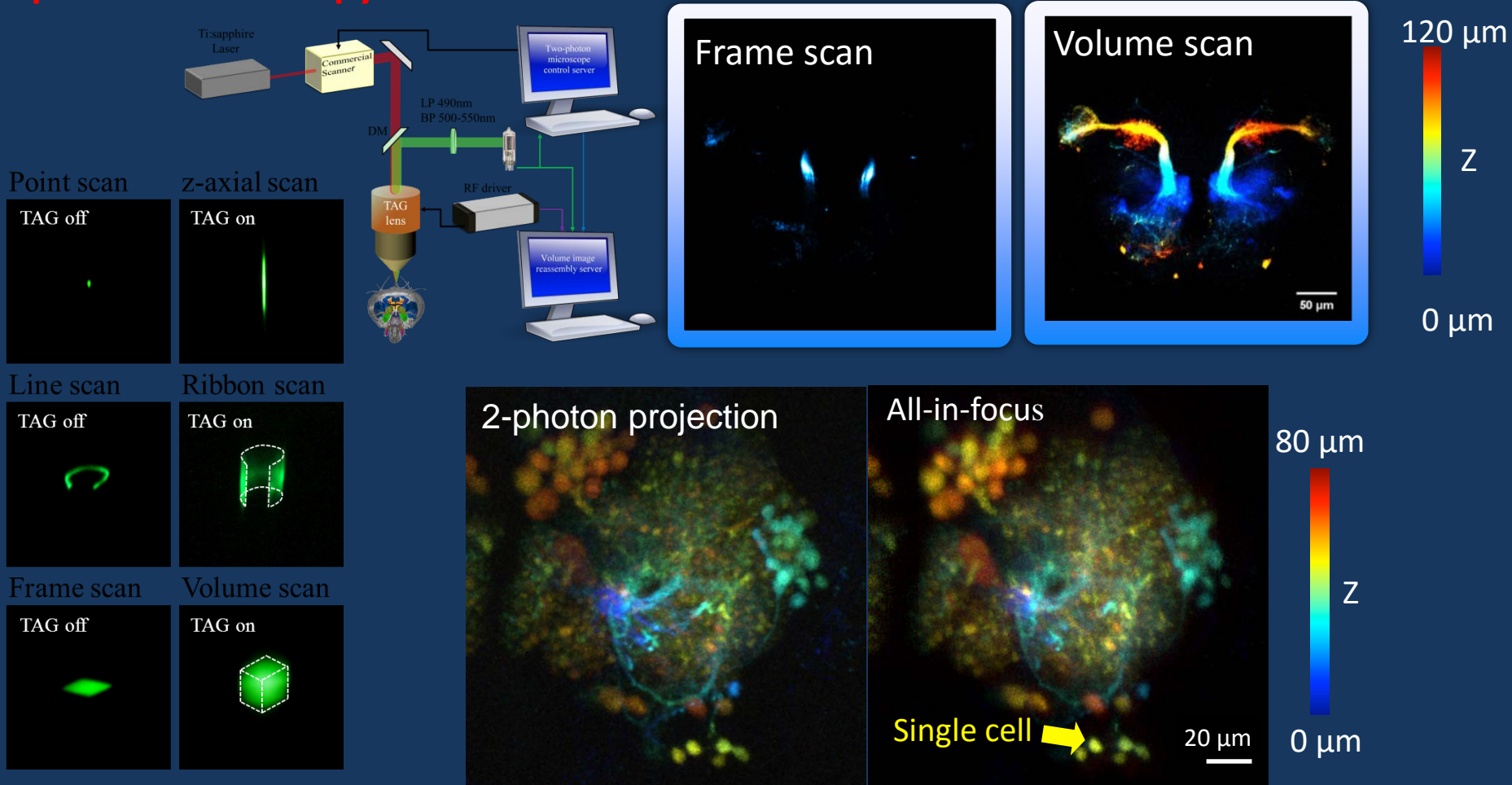
$350\ \mu\text{m} \times 350\ \mu\text{m} \times 2\ \mu\text{m}$   $350\ \mu\text{m} \times 350\ \mu\text{m} \times 200\ \mu\text{m}$

Frame/Volume



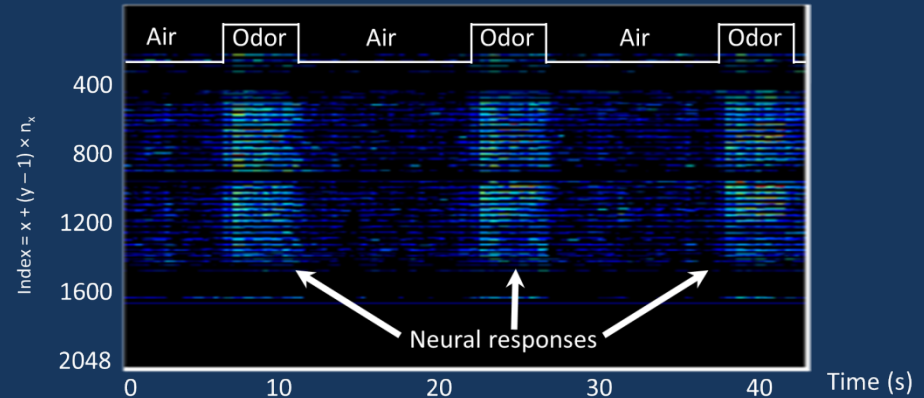
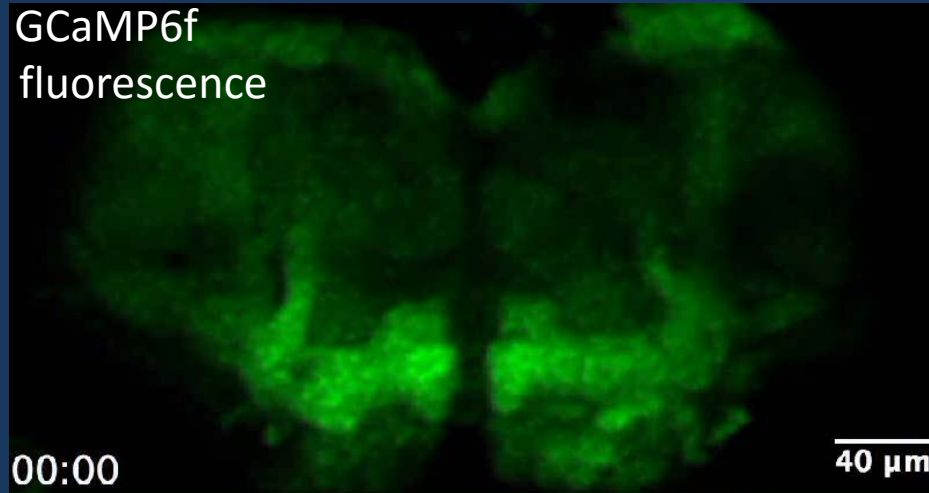
# Depth-resolvable all-in-focus microscopy

Compatible with commercial microscope can be integrated into any two-photon microscopy in the world.

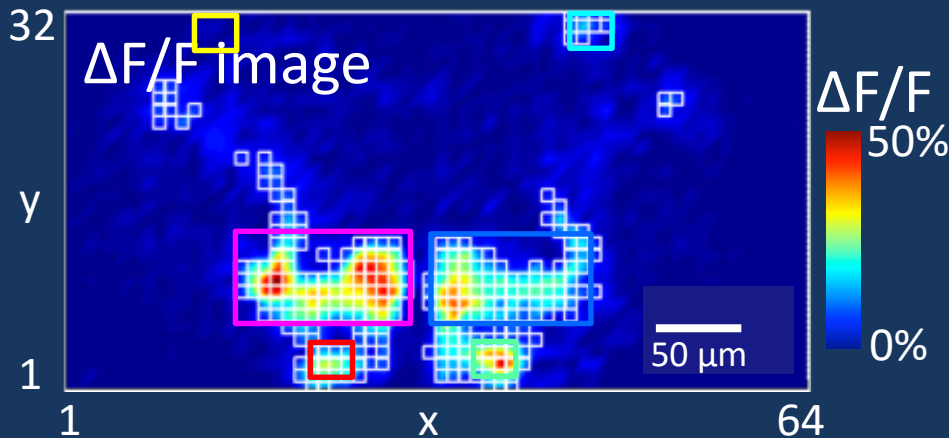


# All-in-focus Whole-brain Imaging

## Volume scan



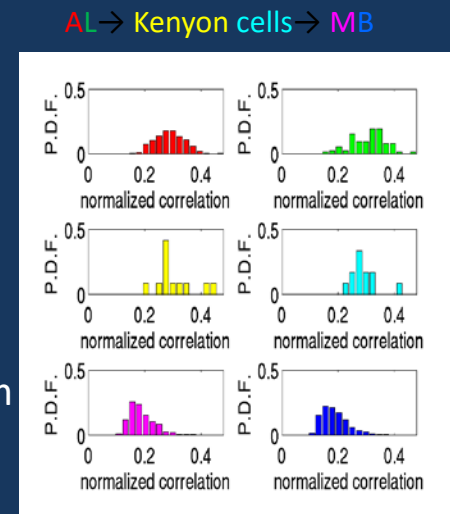
## Correlation between response and stimuli



Antenna lobes

Kenyon cells

Mushroom body

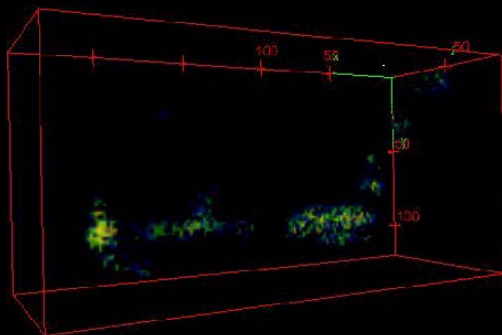


# All-in-focus Whole-brain Imaging

## 4D Functional Imaging

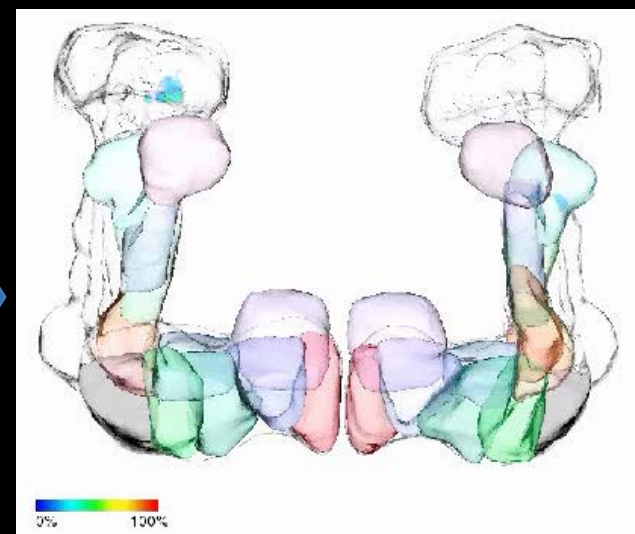
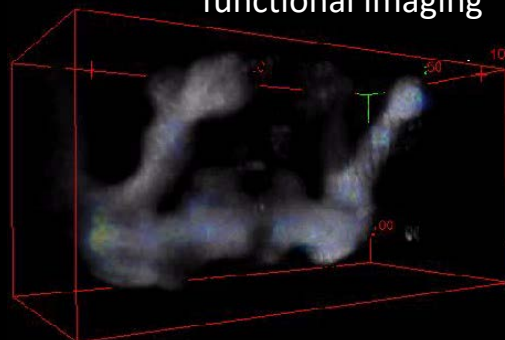
OK107-Gal4/UAS-GCaMP6f

All-in-focus 4D OK107  
functional imaging



00:00:00

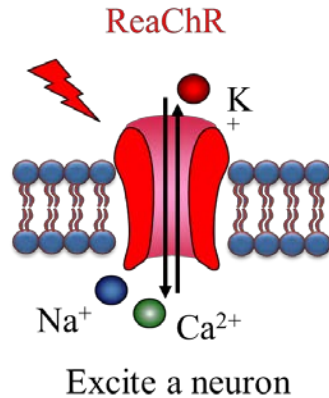
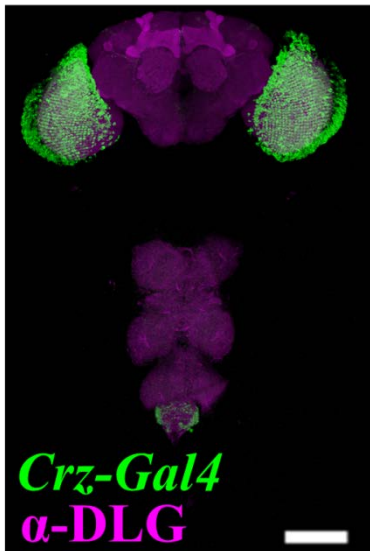
4D wrapped OK107  
functional imaging



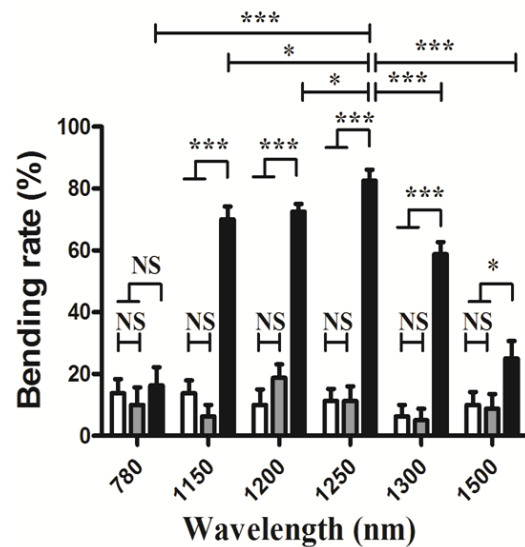
Deposit to Database

# Two-photon excitation ReaChR

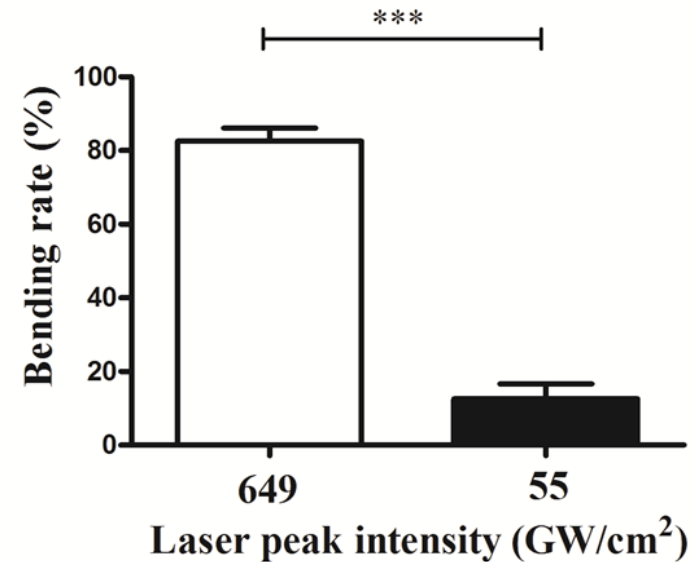
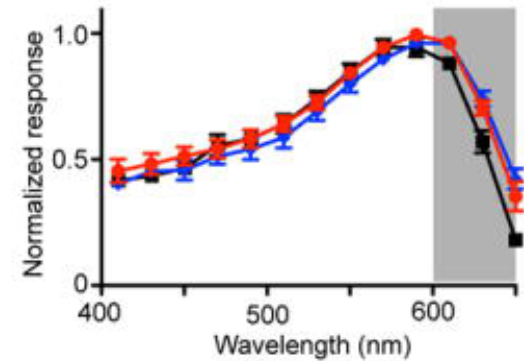
100  $\mu\text{m}$  ,  $\sim 1.2 \mu\text{m}$



- UAS-ReaChR* (+)
- Crz-Gal4*>*UAS-ReaChR* (-)
- Crz-Gal4*>*UAS-ReaChR* (+)

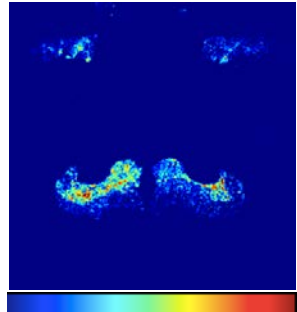


Nat Neurosci. 2013 Oct;16(10)



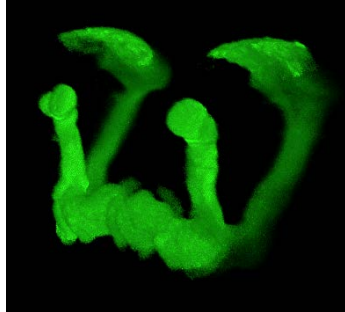
# Toward Integrative Connectome

## Functional Integration



0  $\Delta F/F$  (%) 120

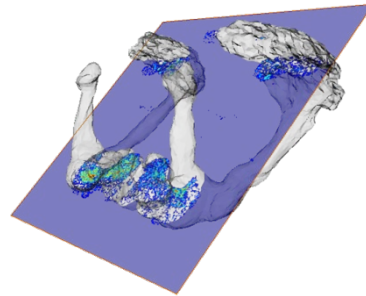
Functional response



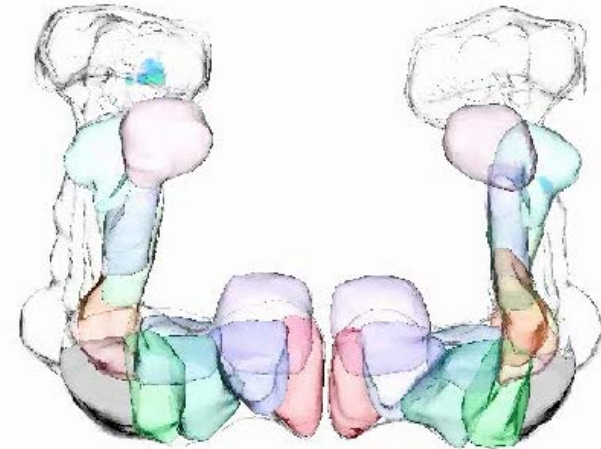
*In situ* structure

Lin et al. (2015) *J Neurogenet*

## All-in-focus 4D Functional Imaging

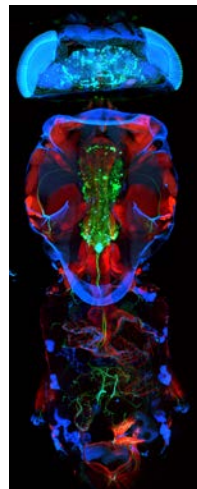


Integration into *in situ* brain model



0% 100%

## Behavior and Whole fly anatomy



## Summary:

- 492 locomotion neuro-behavior map.
- Automated imaging *in situ* whole-body neuron circuits.
- Whole Brain-wide functional analysis
- Open resources <http://brc.life.nthu.edu.tw/>
- Automated whole-body mapping of neuro-behavior circuits.
- Nonlinear excitation can image and trigger neurons.



# Acknowledgement

- ◆ Ministry of Science and Technology, Taiwan
- ◆ Ministry of Education, Taiwan

## ■ NTHU

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- Prof. Ming-Chang Chen
- Prof. Shun-Chi Wu
- Prof. I-Chin Wang

## ■ NTU

- Prof. Shi-Wei Chu

## ■ NSYSU

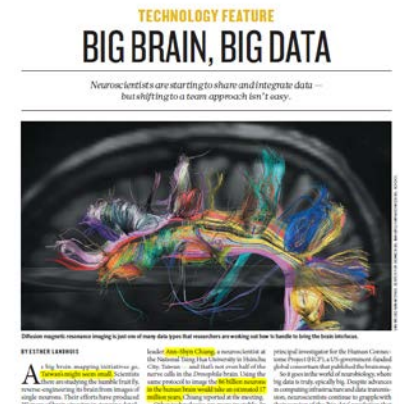
- Prof. Yuan-Yao Lin

## More information for public

Nature <http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v541/n7638/full/541559a.html#references>

Nature blogs <http://blogs.nature.com/naturejobs/2017/01/26/new-neuroscience-tools-for-team-science-in-big-data-era/>

Scientific American <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/neuroscience-big-brain-big-data/>





# Thank you!

There are a lot of unmet needs in  
connectomics research.

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National Tsing Hua University  
Taiwan  
[yylin@life.nthu.edu.tw](mailto:yylin@life.nthu.edu.tw)