

# Advanced Imaging for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Disease

Jerilyn A. Timlin

Principal Member of Technical Staff  
Bioenergy and Defense Technologies  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

*Presented at:  
Bioscience Advisory Panel Meeting, Livermore, CA  
Jan 25, 2012*

*Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000.*



# Outline

---

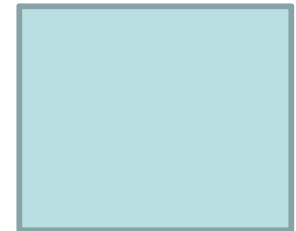
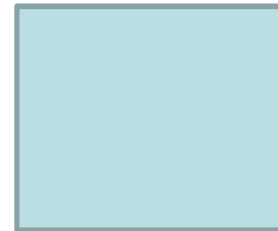
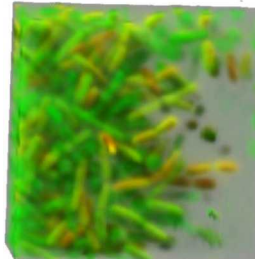
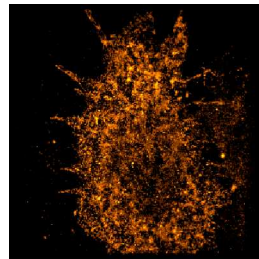
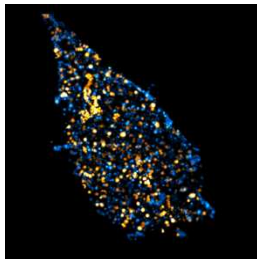
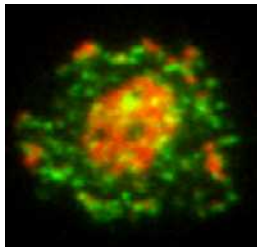
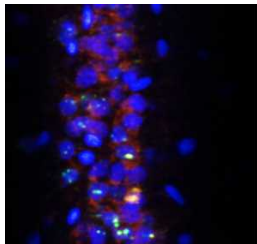
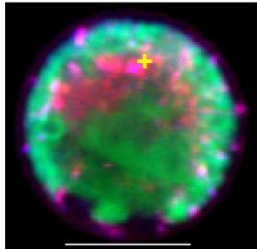
- Overview of Bioanalytical Imaging for BEID
- Project highlight:  
“Visualizing TLR4 Distributions at the Plasma Membrane with Nanoscale Resolution”
- Conclusions & Future vision

# Research Focus

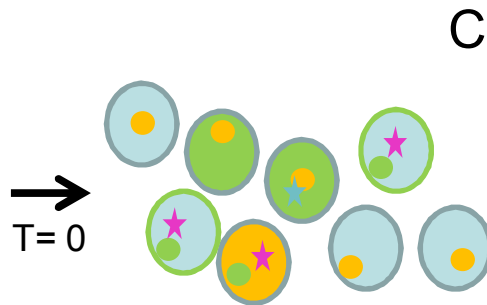
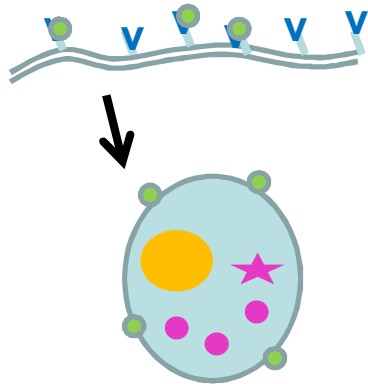
<http://bio.sandia.gov/people/timlin.html>

## Unraveling Spatial-Temporal Relationships in Complex Multicomponent Biological Systems at Multiple Scales

- Advanced spectroscopy
- Innovative imaging technologies
- Chemometric data analysis tools
  - Multidisciplinary
  - Cell biology, immunology, and microbiology
  - Biodefense and Bioenergy

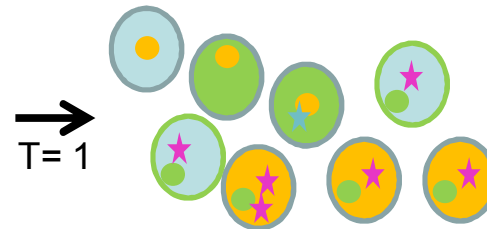


# It's No Secret ... Space and Time are Important in Cell Response



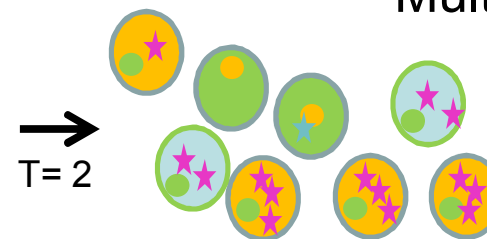
Changes occur on multiple scales

- Individual molecules
- Subcellular organelles
- Cell populations



Stochasticity of response is important

- Space
- Time
- Population diversity



Multiplexed measurements are key

- Temporal efficiency
- Interactions

# SNL Imaging Technologies are Well-Matched to These Questions

---

Hyperspectral Fluorescence Imaging

- Confocal
- Line scan
- Multi-photon
- Lifetime

Vibrational Spectroscopic Imaging

TIRF Microscopy

Single-molecule Imaging

Super Resolution Microscopy

Multivariate Image Analysis

Image Correlation, Particle Tracking



# SNL Imaging Technologies are Well-Matched to These Questions

## Hyperspectral Fluorescence Imaging

- Confocal
- Line scan
- Multi-photon
- Lifetime

## Vibrational Spectroscopic Imaging

## TIRF Microscopy

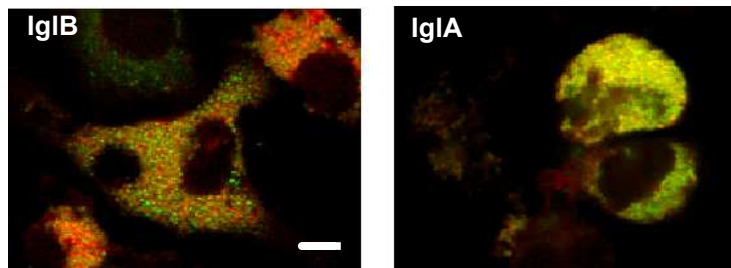
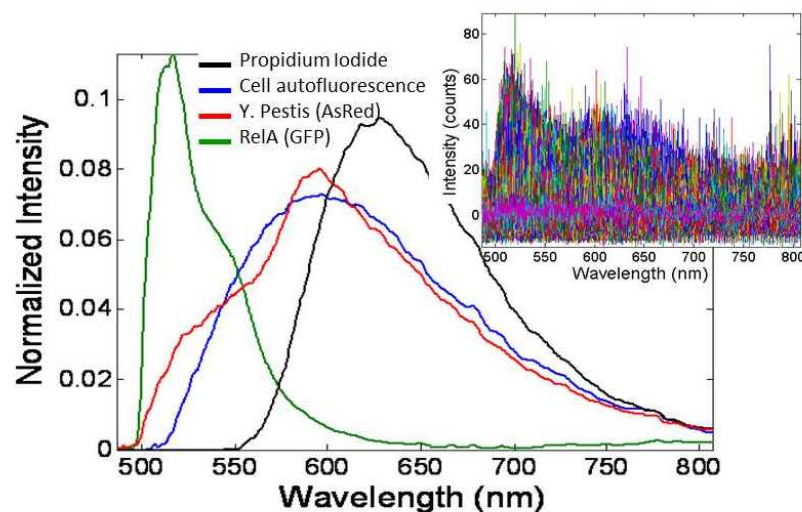
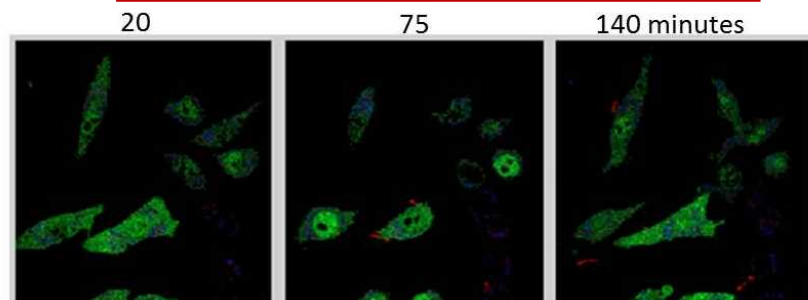
## Single-molecule Imaging

## Super Resolution Microscopy

## Multivariate Image Analysis

## Image Correlation, Particle Tracking

Spectral resolution provides chemical/molecular specificity, enables multiplexing



Davis, RW, et. al. Microscopy & Microanalysis, 2010, 16:4, 478-487.

# SNL Imaging Technologies are Well-Matched to These Questions

## Hyperspectral Fluorescence Imaging

- Confocal
- Line scan
- Multi-photon
- Lifetime

## Vibrational Spectroscopic Imaging

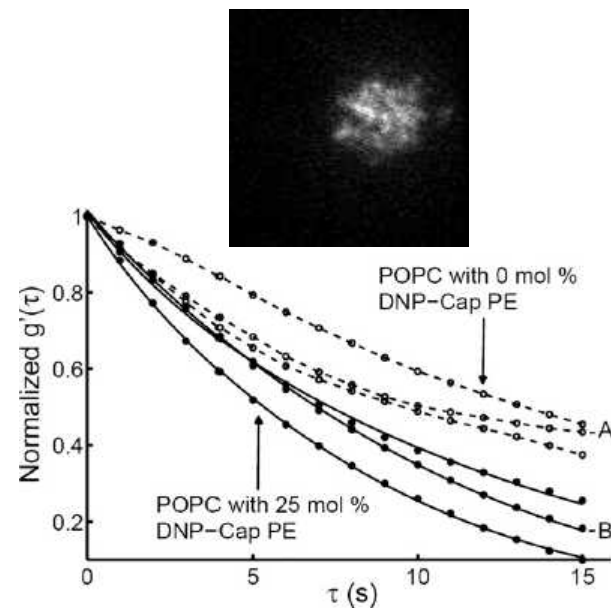
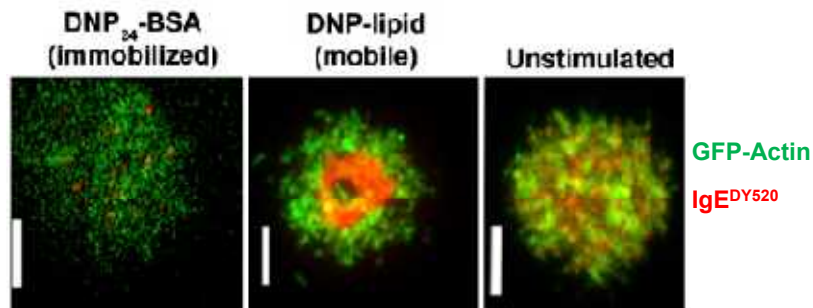
## TIRF Microscopy

## Single-molecule Imaging

## Super Resolution Microscopy

## Multivariate Image Analysis

## Image Correlation, Particle Tracking



Excellent temporal resolution, and membrane specificity permits investigations of dynamic receptor behavior

Carroll-Portillo, A, et. al. *Journal of Immunology*, 2010, 184:3, 1328-1338.

Spendier, K, et. al. *Biophysical Journal*, 2010, 99:388-397.

# SNL Imaging Technologies are Well-Matched to These Questions

## Hyperspectral Fluorescence Imaging

- Confocal
- Line scan
- Multi-photon
- Lifetime

## Vibrational Spectroscopic Imaging

## TIRF Microscopy

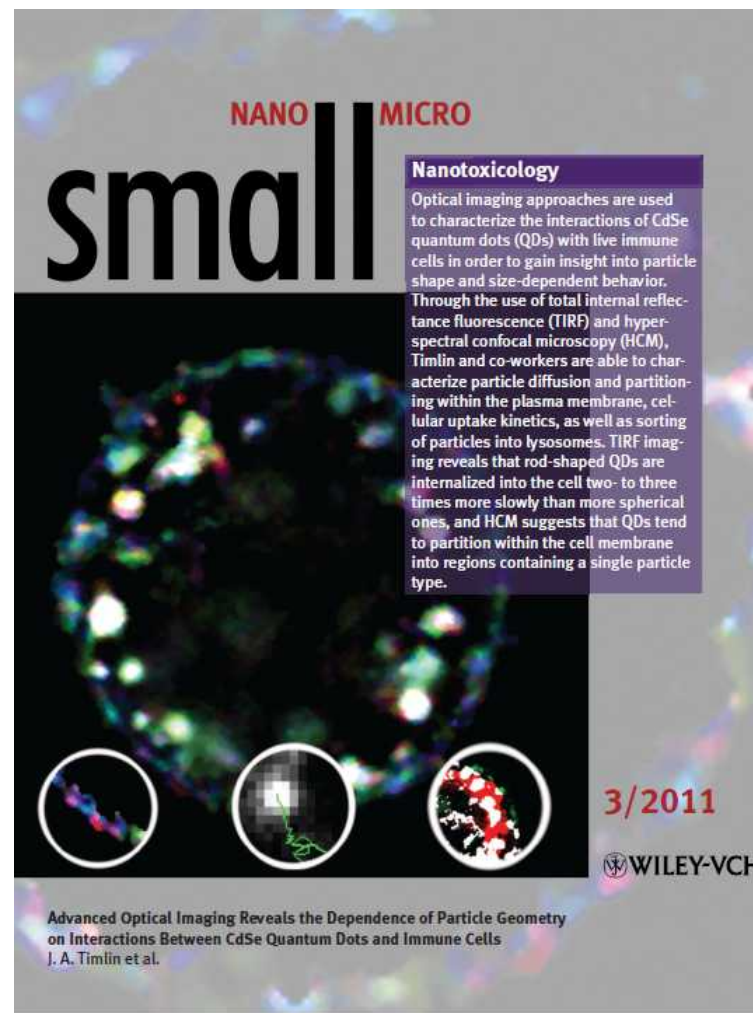
## Single-molecule Imaging

## Super Resolution Microscopy

## Multivariate Image Analysis

## Image Correlation, Particle Tracking

Multiple bioanalytical imaging modalities elucidate membrane trafficking, uptake, and ultimate fate of nanoparticles within cells





# SNL Imaging Technologies are Well-Matched to These Questions

## Hyperspectral Fluorescence Imaging

- Confocal
- Line scan
- Multi-photon
- Lifetime

## Vibrational Spectroscopic Imaging

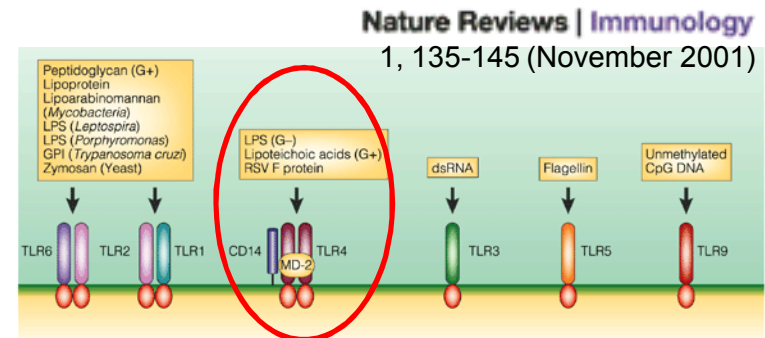
## TIRF Microscopy

## Single-molecule Imaging

## Super Resolution Microscopy

## Multivariate Image Analysis

## Image Correlation, Particle Tracking



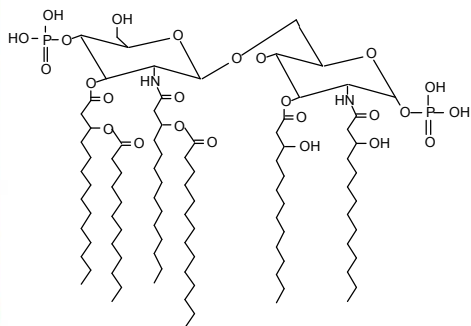
- Important element in mammalian innate immunity
- LPS recognition by TLR4 is aided by accessory proteins
- Different chemotypes of LPS generate distinct immune responses

**TLRs: Important in Pathogenesis, Biodefense**

# Chemotypes of LPS Exhibit Differential Immune Response

## *Escherichia coli* (control)

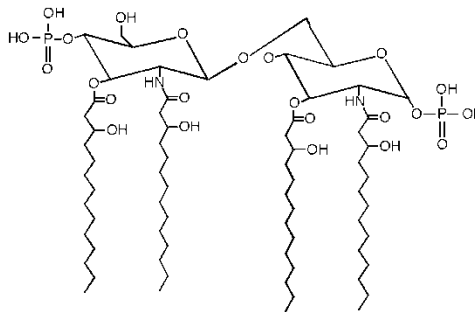
Smooth  
O-polysaccharide



Bind Surface  
+  
↑Stimulatory

## *Yersinia pestis* (37°)

Rough  
O-polysaccharide



Bind Surface  
+  
↓Stimulatory

Differential immune response observed is not fully understood.

- LPS from *E. coli* binds & produces an immune response
- LPS from *Y. pestis* (plague @ 37 °) binds, but does not

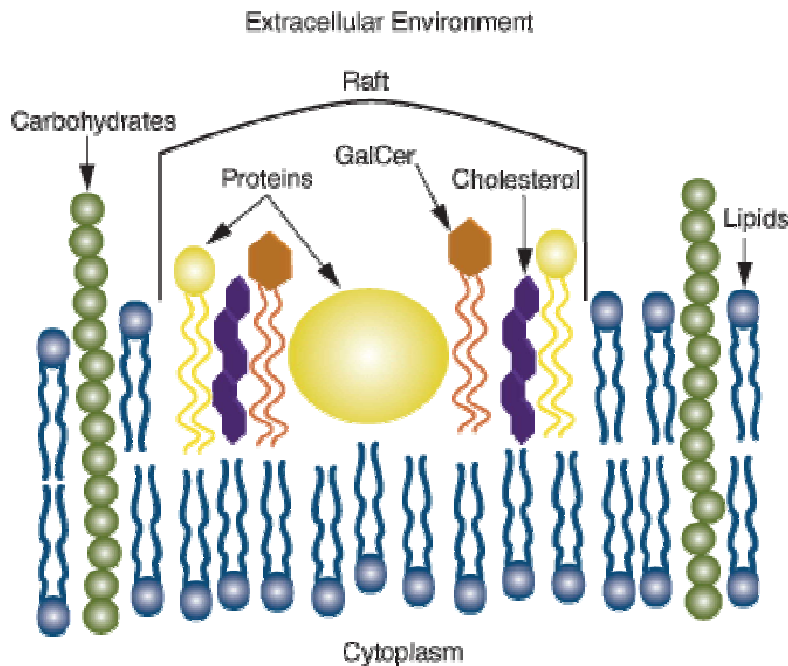
Triantafilou, *J Cell Sci* **2002**

Triantafilou, *J Cell Sci* **2004**

Triantafilou, *Biochem J* **2004**

Netea, *Trend Immunol* **2002**

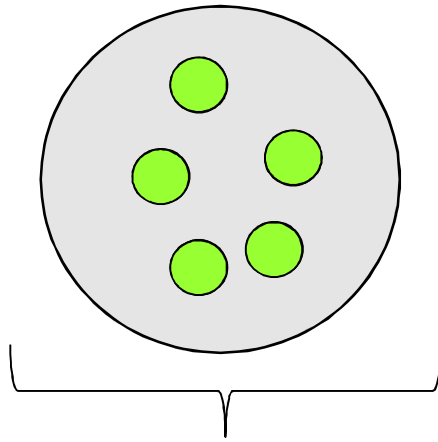
# Receptor Clustering Can be Necessary in Immune Response



- Domains act as assembly areas
- Aggregation of receptors often follows activation/ligand binding
- Bulk assays have suggested that TLR4 molecules aggregate in lipids rafts within the cell membrane after LPS binding\*
- Visualization at the single cell level has been limited by optical diffraction

Optical super-resolution gives us a way to differentiate TLR4 clustering at a much finer scale than conventional imaging.

# Stochastic Optical Reconstruction Microscopy (STORM)



**diffraction-limited spot  
size (~300 nm)**

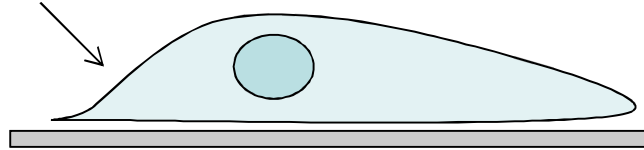
- The Abbe resolution limit can effectively be broken if the fluorophores in a sample can be imaged *independently* from each other.
- Assuming  $<1$  fluorophor per diffraction-limited area, it's position can be determined with nanometer precision.
- In STORM, this means incorporating stochastic “photoswitching”
- Photoswitching for organic dyes can occur in buffer containing small thiol (i.e. BME) and oxygen scavenging system. (dSTORM)

*Rust, et. al, Nat. Meth. 3: 793 - 796 (2006)*

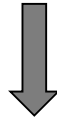


# Experimental Design

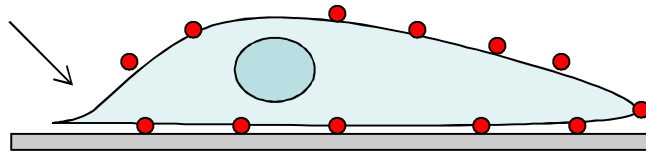
• LPS-Alexa647 (30min, 37°C)



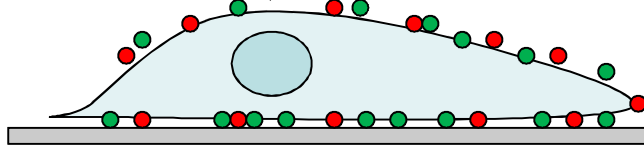
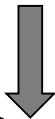
Fix 4% formaldehyde



• TLR4 mAbs-Atto532 (60min, RT)



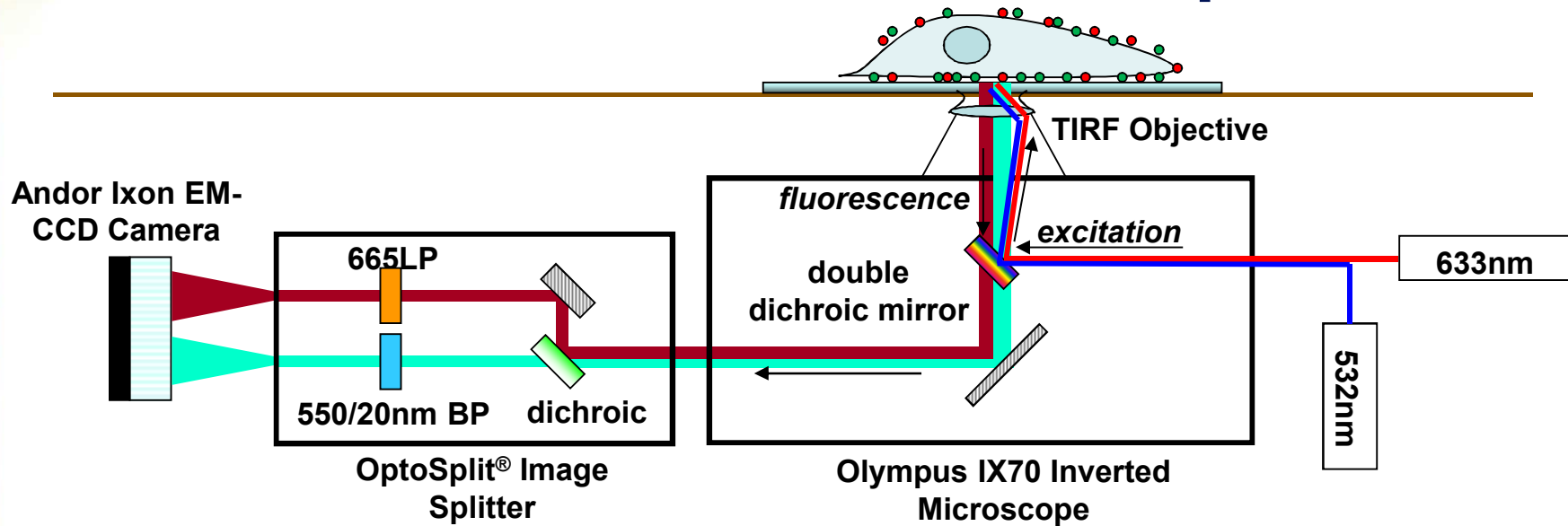
Fix 4% formaldehyde



Mount & Image

- Mouse macrophage cells (P388D1) incubated with 100nM *E. coli* or *Y. pestis*-derived LPS for 30 min at 37°C and formaldehyde fixed.
- LPS are labeled with Alexa Fluor 647-hydrazide via linkage with core-polysaccharide
- TLR4 receptors visualized via 1<sup>0</sup> antibodies labeled with Atto532
- Cells imaged in O<sub>2</sub>-scavenging buffer containing  $\beta$ -mercaptothiol

# Multicolor STORM Setup



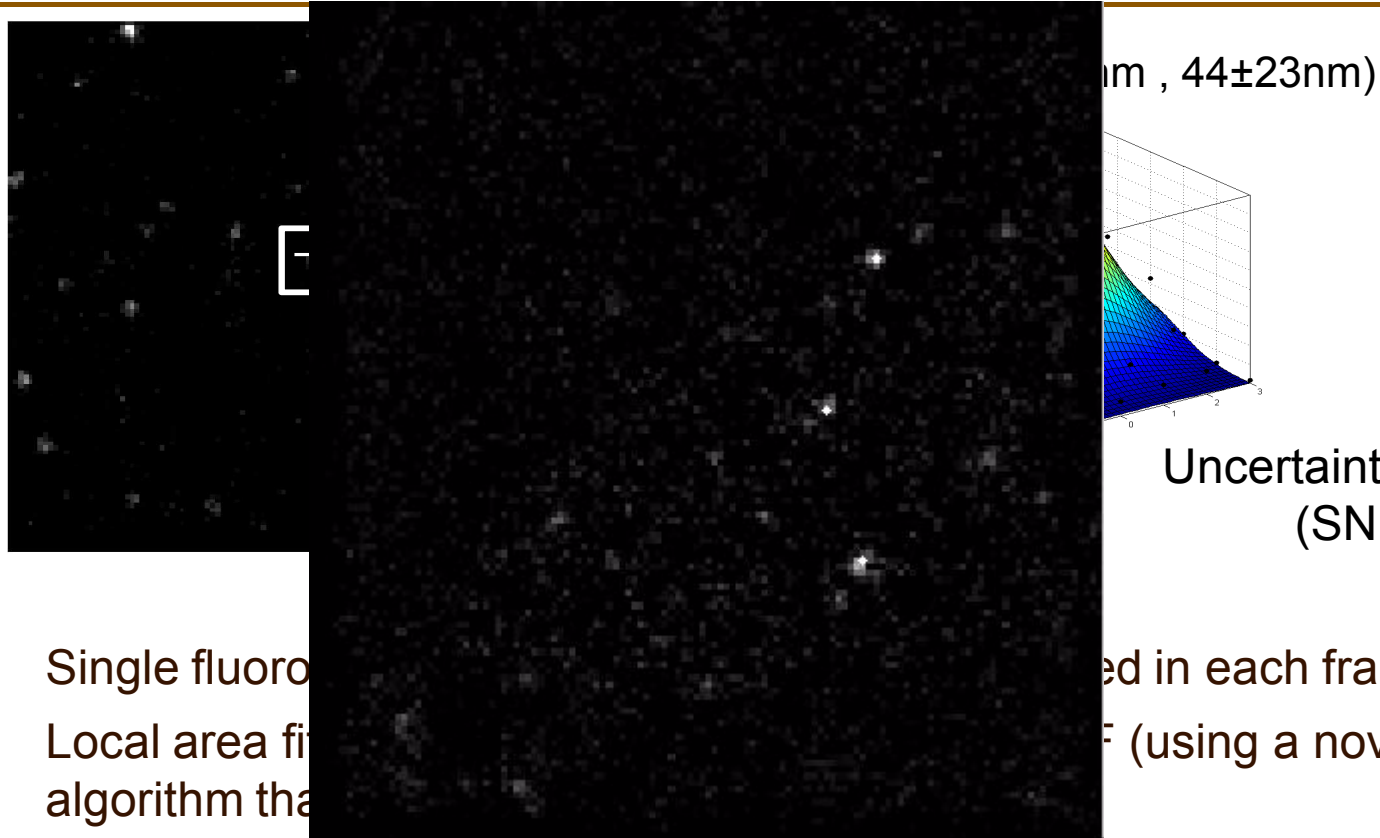
## Unique capabilities:

- Four excitation  $\lambda$ 's (405, 488, 532, 633nm), variable angle
- Simultaneous dual-color emission
- Capable of >50fps over 30 $\mu$ m x 30 $\mu$ m FOV

## Advantageous in:

- Receptor reorganization
- Nanoparticle-membrane interactions, uptake
  - Engineered NPs
  - Natural NPs - Viral trafficking

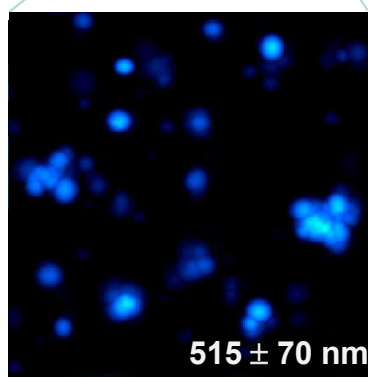
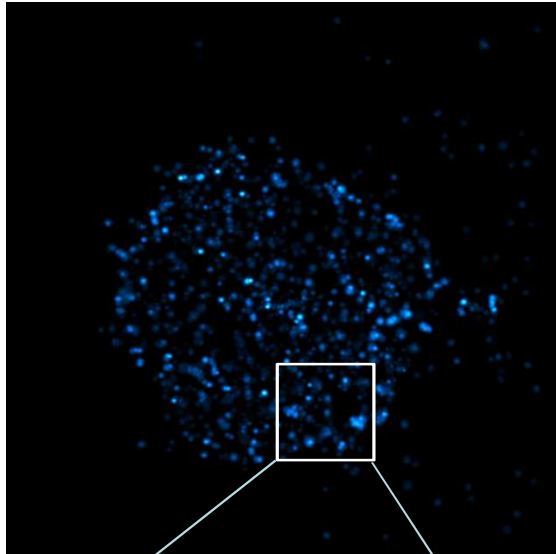
# Fluorophor Localization



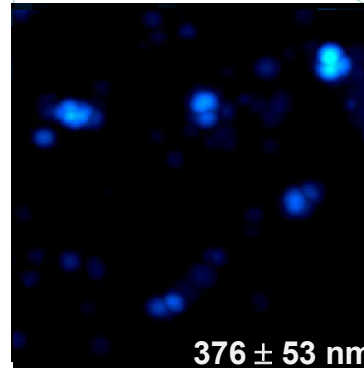
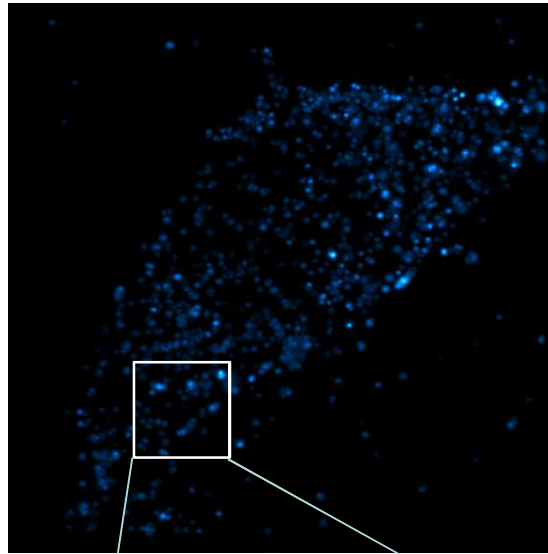
- Single fluorophore localized in each frame
- Local area fit algorithm (using a novel algorithm that)
- Maximum of that surface is most likely position of the fluorophore
- Typically, location fit uncertainty 40-60nm
- Process repeated over 1k-10k frames to build STORM image

# TLR4 Clustering is Specific

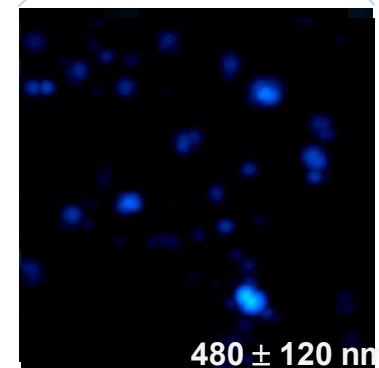
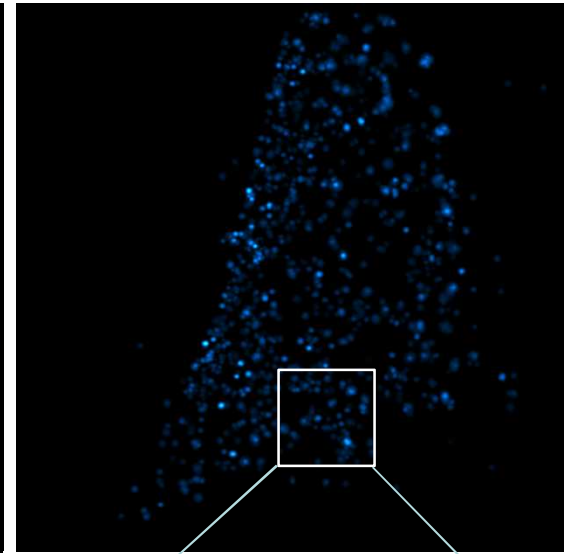
*E. coli* LPS



Flagellin



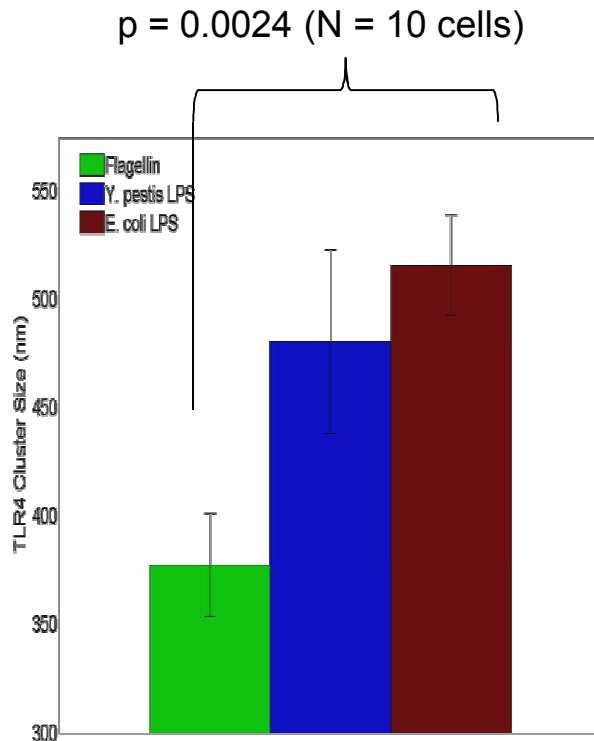
*Y. pestis* LPS



STORM images = 8-10 fold increase in resolution  
 TIRF images = diffraction limited



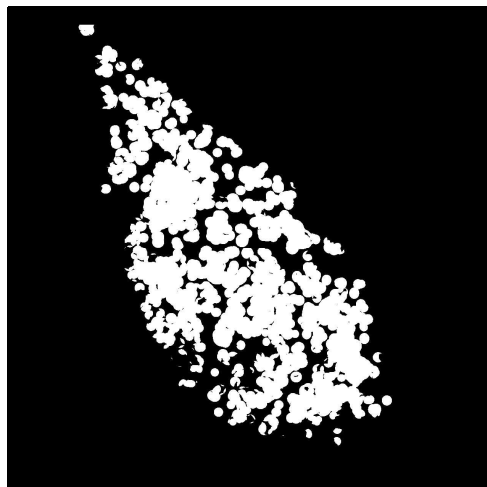
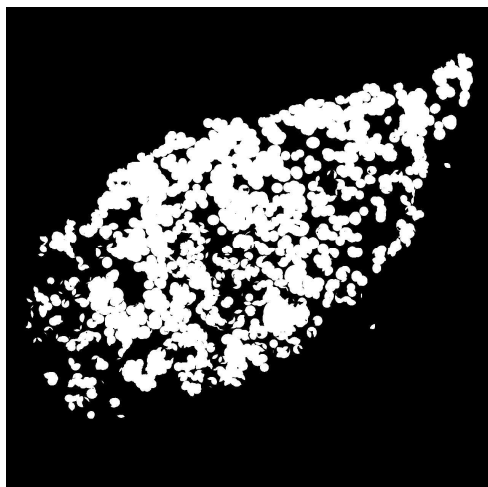
# TLR4 Cluster Analysis



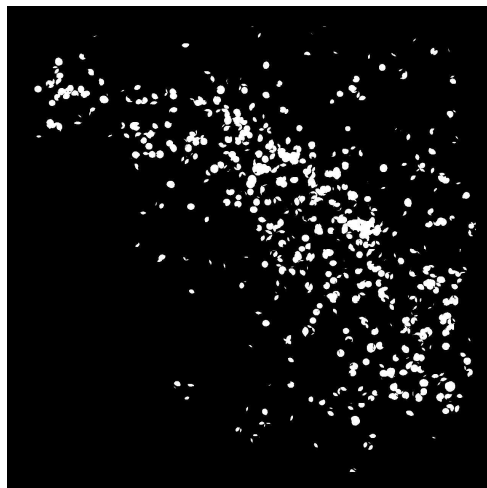
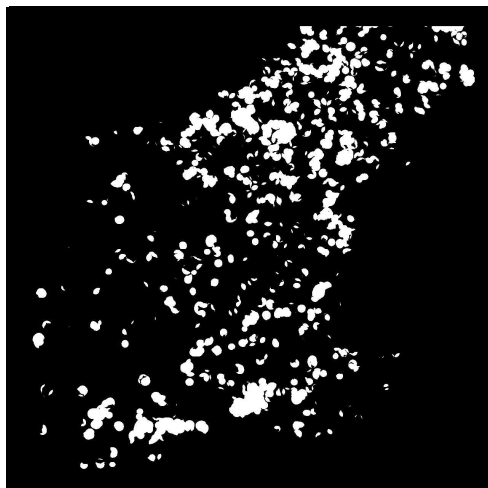
- Ripley's K-analysis indicates that *E. coli* LPS induces significant clustering over negative control (flagellin)
- Suggests that *pestis* induces less clustering, but not significant
- TLR4-LPS complex?

# Colocalization of TLR4 & LPS

*E. coli* LPS

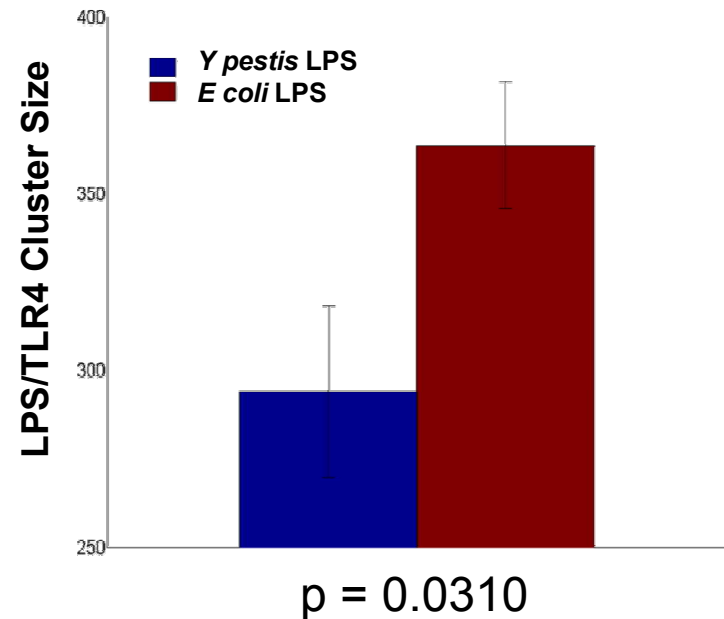
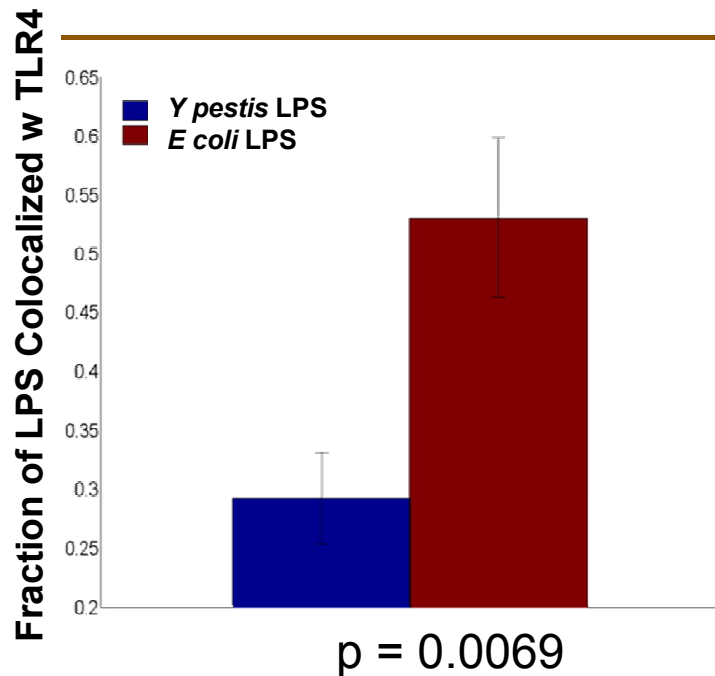


*Y. Pestis* LPS



- Dual-color STORM imaging
  - TLR4 – Atto532
  - LPS – AlexaFluor647
- Image registration via multi-dye PS beads (average error ~50nm)
- Perform cluster analysis on co-localized points

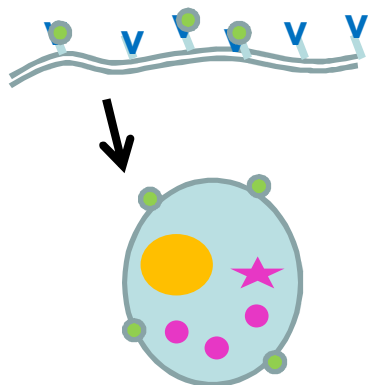
# *Y. pestis* LPS is less Efficient at Recruiting TLR4 into Clustered Domains



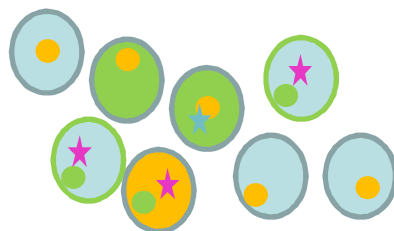
## Conclusions

- Significantly less co-localization of *Y. pestis* LPS with TLR4 compared to *E. coli* LPS
- Significantly smaller *Y. pestis* LPS-TLR4 clusters than *E. coli* LPS-TLR4 clusters

# Future Vision - Multidimensional Bioanalytics



$T=0$



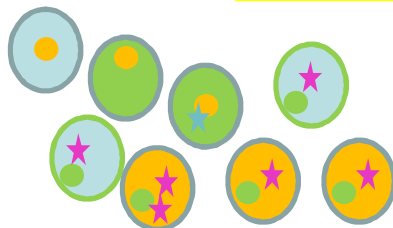
Changes occur on multiple scales

- Individual molecules
- Subcellular organelles
- Cell populations

Stochasticity of response is important

- Space
- Time
- Population diversity

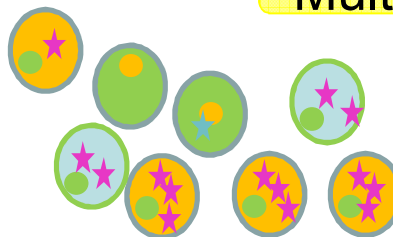
$T=1$



Multiplexed measurements are key

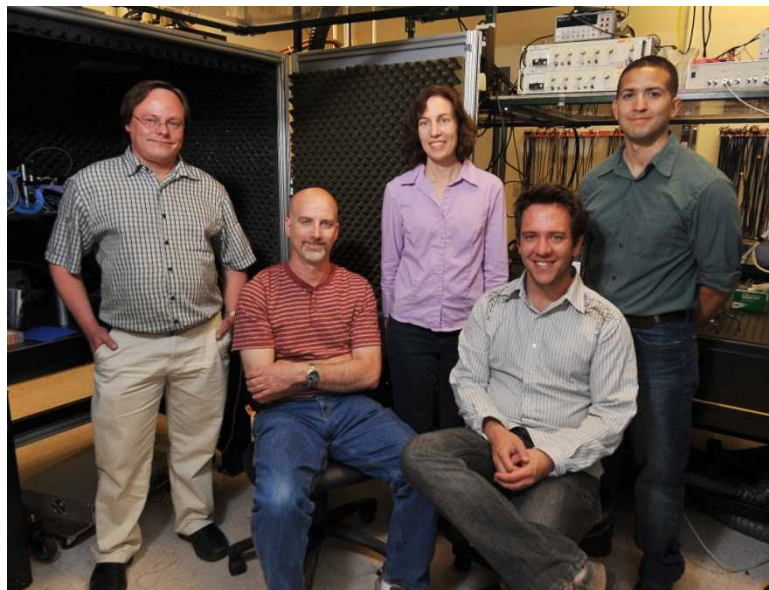
- Temporal efficiency
- Interactions

$T=2$





# Acknowledgements



## Current Group Members

Dr. Jesse Aaron

Dr. Aaron Collins

Quinton Smith

Michelle Raymer

Maureen Kessler

Christine Trahan



## SNL Collaborators:

Bryan D. Carson

Howland D.T. Jones

Michael Sinclair

Masood Hadi

Susan Brozik

Amy Powell

Todd Lane

David M. Haaland

Ryan Davis

George Bachand

Tom Reichardt

## External Collaborators:

Oliver, Wilson, Lidke Labs, UNM Pathology

Hanson & Turner Labs, UNM Biology

Blankenship & Pakrasi Labs, WUSTL

Sayre Lab, NM Consortium

Sapphire Energy

Hu Lab, ASU

