

# BioAnalytical Spectroscopy and Imaging of Cellular Response

**Jerilyn A. Timlin**

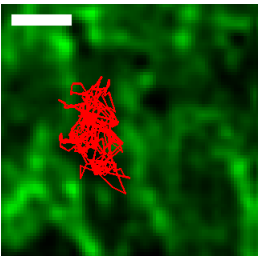
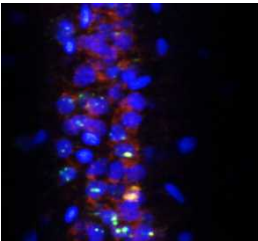
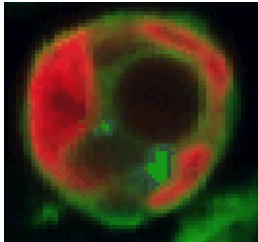
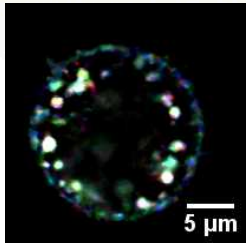
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Bioenergy and Defense Technologies  
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# Research Focus

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

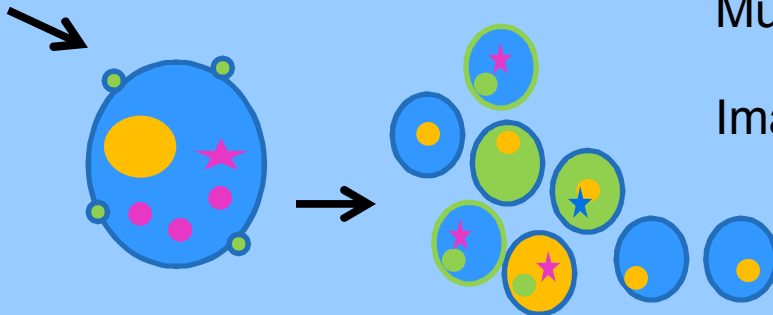


- Conduct multidisciplinary fundamental & applied research in cell biology, immunology, and microbiology
- Support biodefense, emerging infectious disease, and biofuels mission areas
  - Advanced spectroscopy
  - Innovative imaging technologies
  - Chemometric data analysis tools
  - Multicomponent biological systems
  - Multiscale
- Current projects include understanding receptor activation and cell signaling processes, viral and bacterial pathogenesis, plant physiology, cellulase enzymes, as well as algal biochemistry and cultivation characterization for biofuels applications.



# Advanced Analytical Imaging & Analysis Tools

## Unraveling Spatial-Temporal Relationships in Complex Biological Systems



Hyperspectral Fluorescence Imaging

Vibrational Spectroscopic Imaging

TIRF Microscopy

Single-molecule Imaging

Super Resolution Microscopy

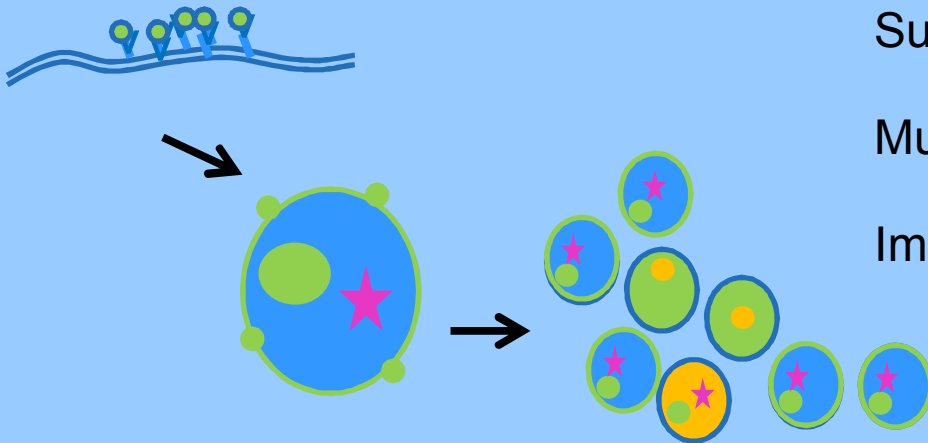
Multivariate Image Analysis

Image Correlation, Particle Tracking



# Advanced Analytical Imaging & Analysis Tools

## Unraveling Spatial-Temporal Relationships in Complex Biological Systems



Hyperspectral Fluorescence Imaging

Vibrational Spectroscopic Imaging

TIRF Microscopy

Single-molecule Imaging

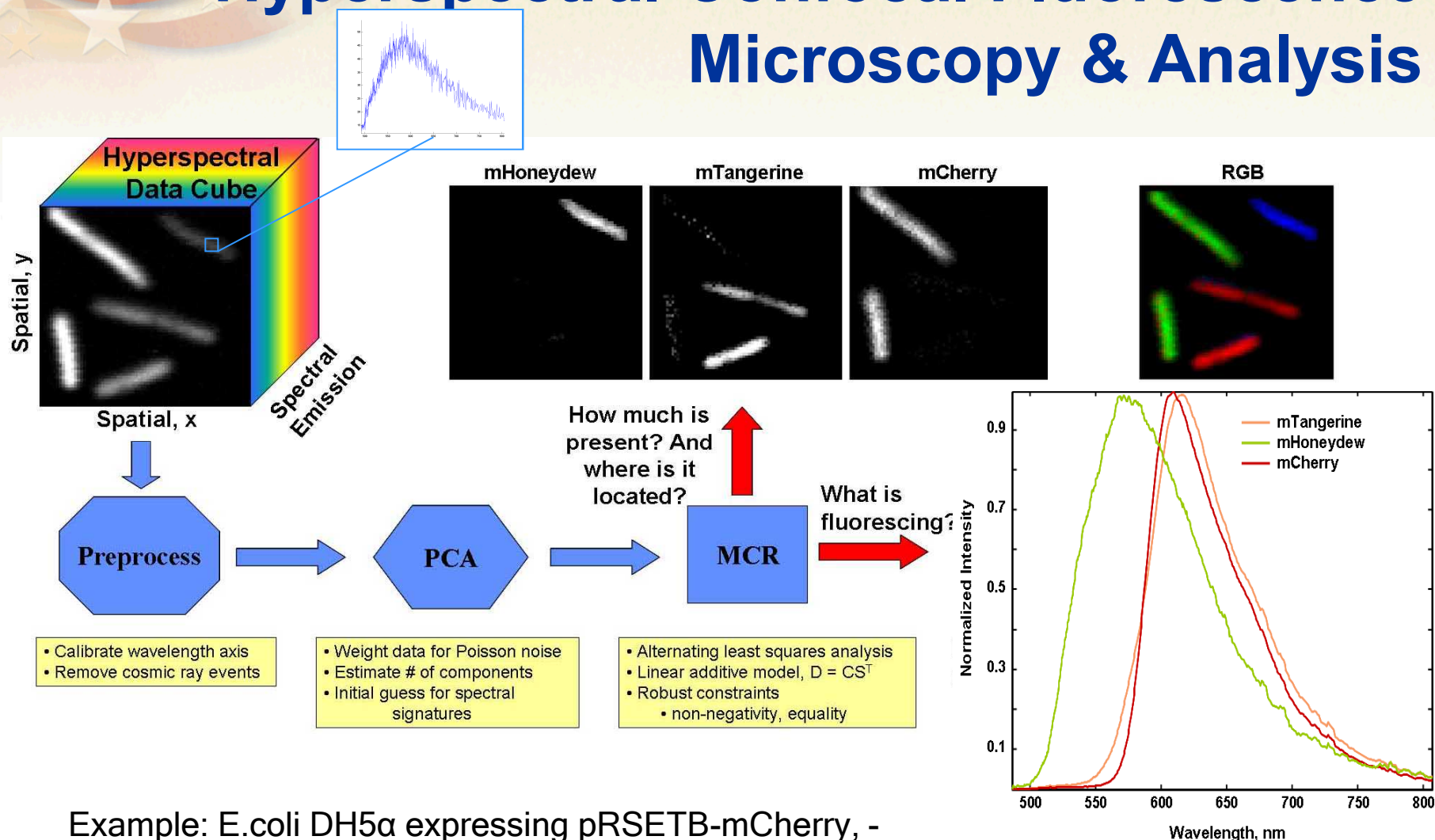
Super Resolution Microscopy

Multivariate Image Analysis

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# Hyperspectral Confocal Fluorescence Microscopy & Analysis



Example: E.coli DH5α expressing pRSETB-mCherry, -mHoneydew, and -mTangerine

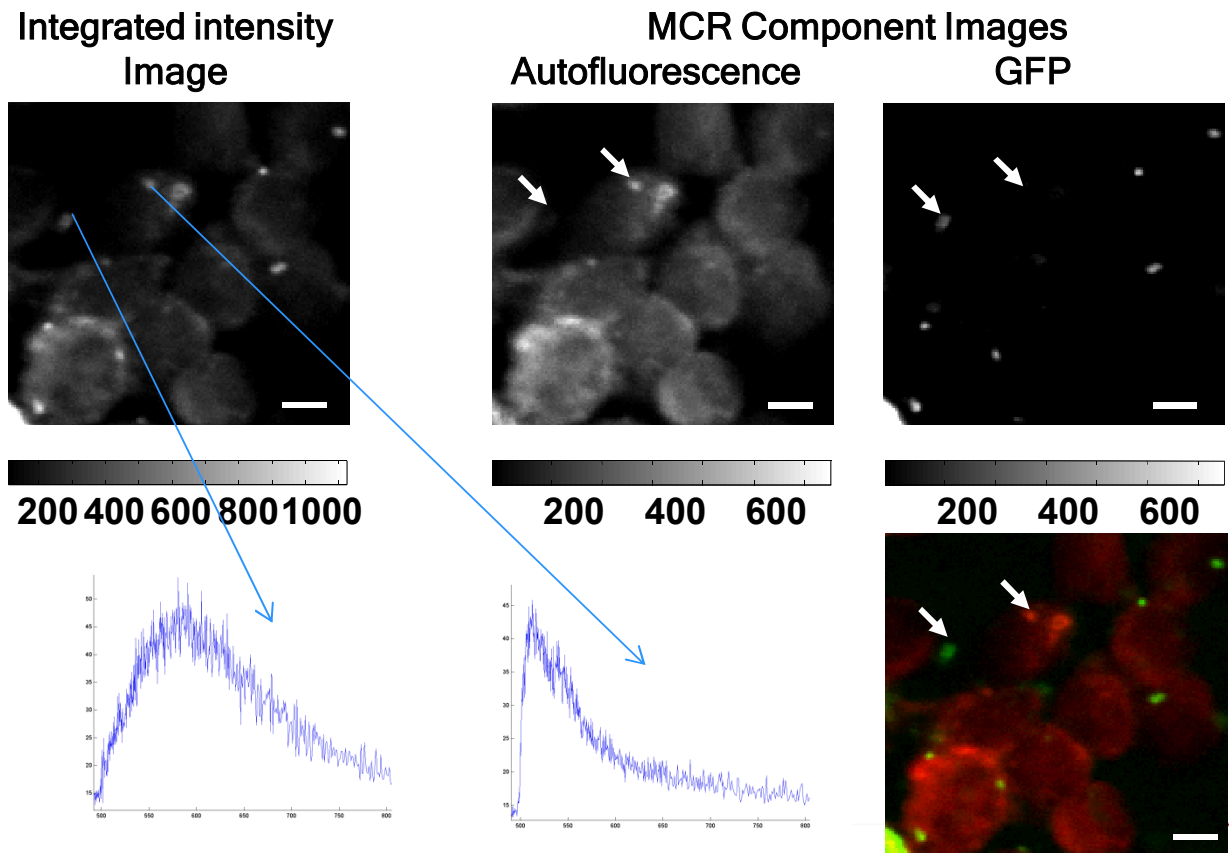
Microscope details: *Sinclair, et al., Applied Optics, 45, 3283-3291, (2006).*  
 Algorithm details: *Haaland, et al., Proc. SPIE, Vol. 4959, 55 (2003)*



# Advantages of a Spectral Dimension

- Increase throughput - multiple overlapping dyes
- Improved background/interference correction
  - Accuracy
  - Reliability
  - Quantitation
  - Specificity

Macrophage cells infected w *F. novicida* expressing GroE:GFP highlight the criticality of spectral imaging for detection of low levels of protein expression in host cells.

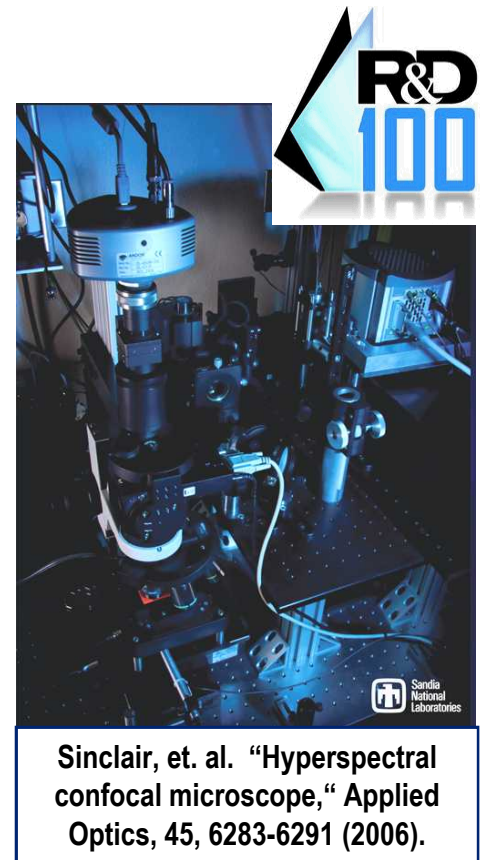


Davis RW, Timlin JA, Noek R, Kaiser JN, Jones HDT (2010) Accurate detection of low levels of fluorescence emission in autofluorescent background. *Microsc. Microanal.* 16: 478-487.



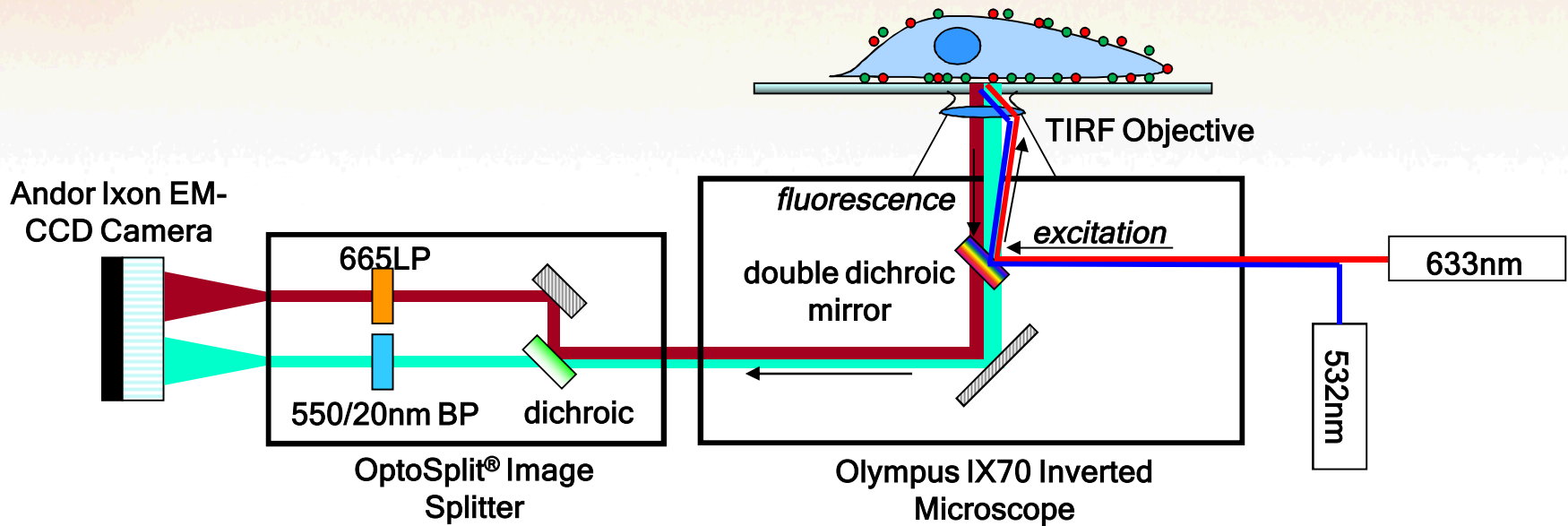
# Applications

- Multiplexed, high information content imaging of single-cell response to
  - Therapeutics, vaccines
  - Infectious disease
  - Environment
- Population dynamics
- Label-free detection
- Not limited to fluorescence, also Raman, IR, etc.
- Future applications
  - High-throughput, flow assay
  - Cell-sorting based on multiplexed information





# Multicolor TIRF/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:

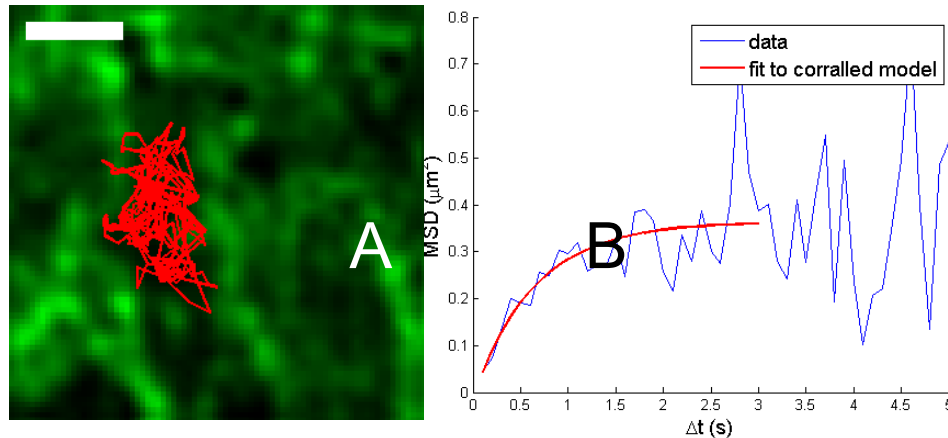
- Receptor reorganization
- Nanoparticle-membrane interactions, uptake
  - Engineered NPs
  - Natural NPs - Viral trafficking



# Resolving Dynamics of Cell Signaling via Real-Time Imaging of the Immunological Synapse

## Approach

*Cellular response is determined by dynamic, stepwise interactions of receptor proteins w/ key membrane proteins. Unfortunately, the details are vague. We apply advanced dual-color TIRF microscopy to resolve spatio-temporal dynamics in immune response.*

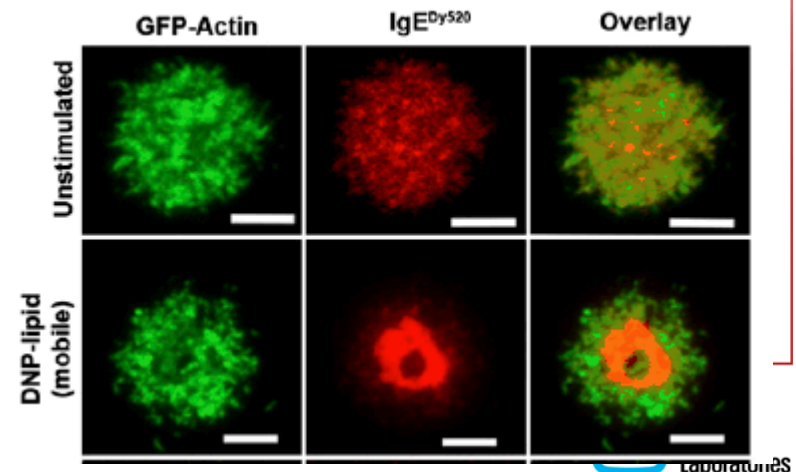


Single nanoparticle tracking demonstrated in RBL cells. The actin cytoskeleton (GFP) acts as a corral. Scale bar = 1  $\mu\text{m}$

Formation and dynamics of a mast cell synapse on mobile antigen presenting bilayer.

## Key Accomplishments

- Spendier K, et al. (2010) Distribution and dynamics of RBL IgE receptors (Fc $\epsilon$ RI) observed on planar ligand-presenting surfaces. *Biophys J* 99: 388-397.
- Carroll-Portillo A, S, et al. (2010) Formation of a Mast Cell Synapse: Fc $\epsilon$ RI Membrane Dynamics upon Binding Mobile or Immobilized Ligands on Surfaces. *J Immun* 184: 1328-1338.
- Andrews NL, et al. (2008) Actin restricts Fc[epsilon]RI diffusion and facilitates antigen-induced receptor immobilization. *Nature Cell Biology* 10: 955-963.





# Engineered Nanoparticle Interactions with Cells

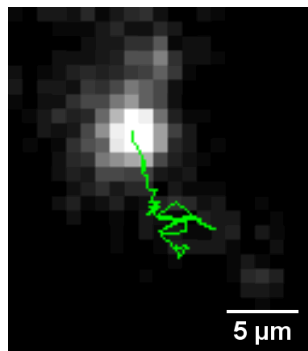
## Project Purpose and Approach

- To characterize size and shape dependencies of QD interactions with live cells
- Using TIRF imaging and Hyperspectral Microscopy, acquire dynamic, high resolution data describing particle diffusion, uptake, partitioning in the membrane, and ultimate fate within lysosomal vesicles

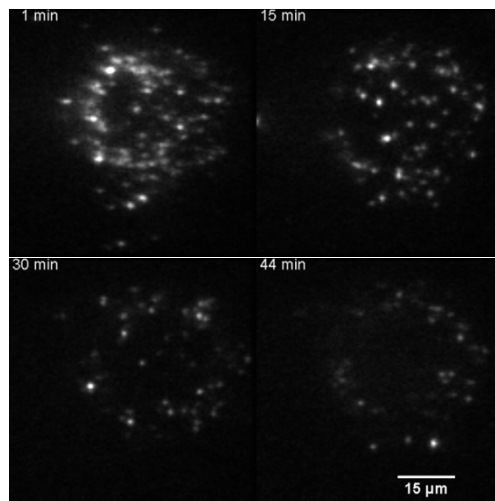
## Key Accomplishments

- Discovered clear shape dependencies in particle diffusion in cell membrane, and uptake kinetics
- Different QDs bind distinct regions in the membrane, producing particle “patchwork” on cell periphery
- Despite this, particle uptake and ultimate sorting into lysosomes is size dependent
- JS Aaron, et. al. (2011) *Small*. 7: 334-341

## Total Internal Reflectance Fluorescence (TIRF) Microscopy

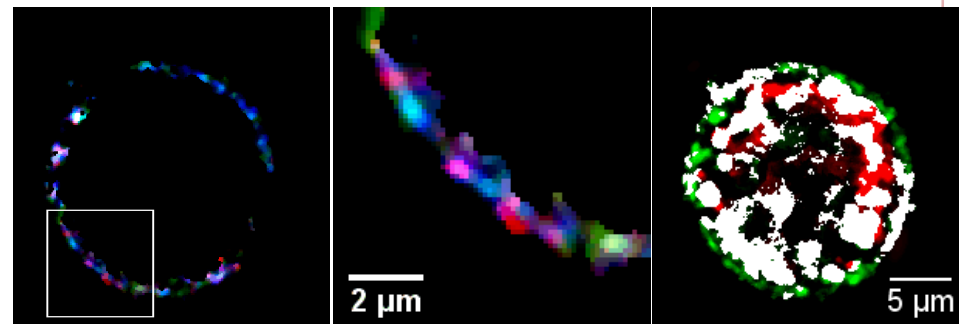


Single particle tracking in membrane



Particle uptake kinetics

## Hyperspectral Confocal Fluorescence (HCF) Microscopy



Simultaneous detection of multiple QDs in live cells

membrane partitioning of QDs

Lysosomal co-localization



# Imaging Cellular Processes Below the Limits of Optical Diffraction

## Background & Motivation:

- Optical super-resolution (SR) uses stochastic or specific photoswitching of fluorescent molecules to obtain spatial resolution of ~50 nm.
- SNL has unique capabilities in SR
  - Simultaneous, dual color detection of membrane receptors, proteins
  - Multiplexed (>4) detection of intracellular proteins in living cells

## Current & Future Applications:

### Innate immune responses

- *TLR4/LPS/MD2 interactions as a function of LPS type*

### Bacterial pathogenesis/virulence mechanisms

- *F. novicida iglA/iglB protein interactions in live host cells*

### Viral entry and fusion

- *Dengue virus E-protein interactions with endosomal membrane*

### Nanoparticle toxicity

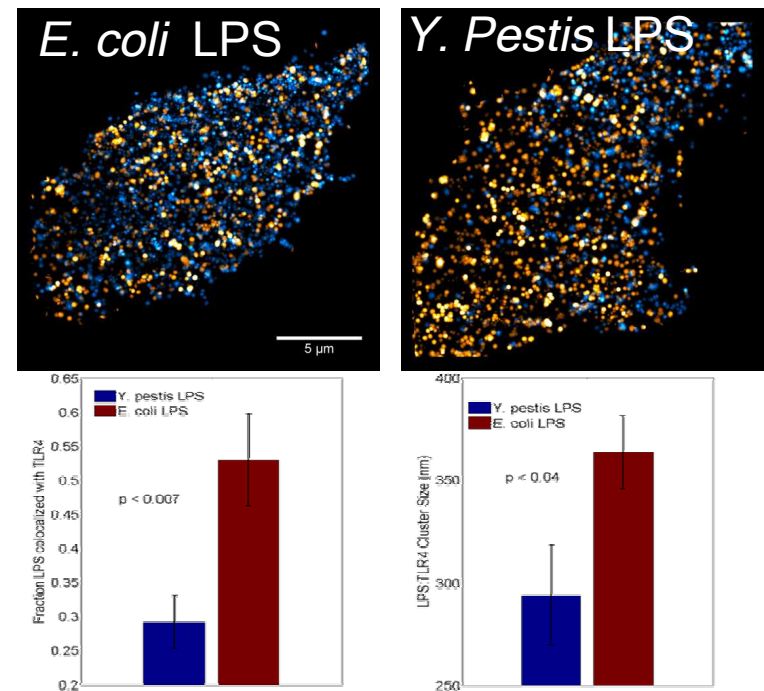
- *Engineered or natural nanoparticle uptake mechanisms, intracellular trafficking*

### Enzyme kinetics

- *Dynamic tracking of cellulose enzymes*

## Impact in Biological Sciences:

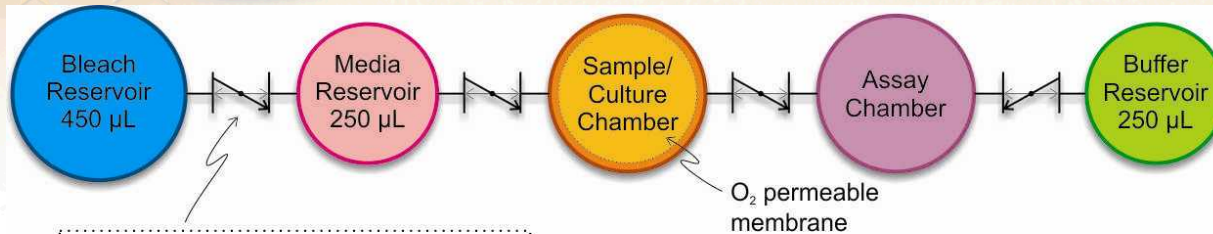
Unprecedented view of protein organization, interactions, translocation, complex formation.



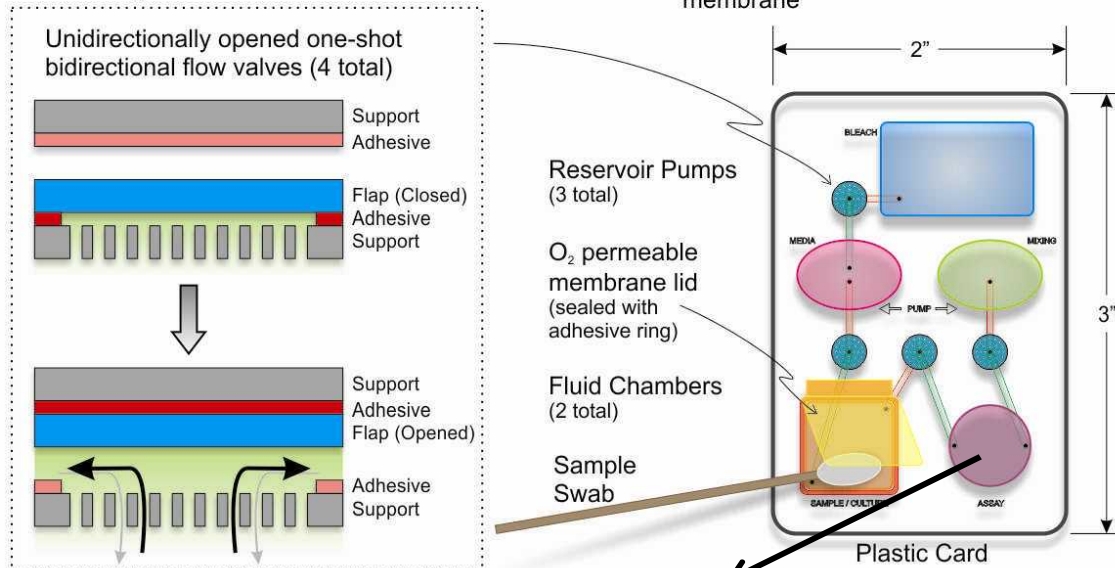
**Figure 1: Optical SR reveals pathogen specific TLR4 reorganization upon binding of lipopolysaccharide (LPS).** *Y. pestis* LPS co-localizes significantly less with TLR4 compared to *E. coli* LPS. In addition LPS-TLR4 clusters formed with *Y. pestis* LPS are significantly smaller than *E. coli* LPS-TLR4 clusters



# Robust *B. anthracis* monitoring in developing countries using micro-culture chip and plasmonics-based reporting



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([mfinley@sandia.gov](mailto:mfinley@sandia.gov)) or **Jesse Aaron**  
([jsaaron@sandia.gov](mailto:jsaaron@sandia.gov))  
for more information



## Key Features:

- Bacterial amplification in sealed/secure micro-culture device
- Species-specific phage capture, that will also infect & lyse bacteria after readout
- Simple nanoparticle reporter containing confirmatory species specific antibodies
- colorimetric plasmon resonance coupling detection scheme
- High sensitivity & specificity with no external instrumentation, power requirements, little expertise needed

