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Confocal Microscopy & Superresolution

Colin Sheppard

Nano-Physics Department

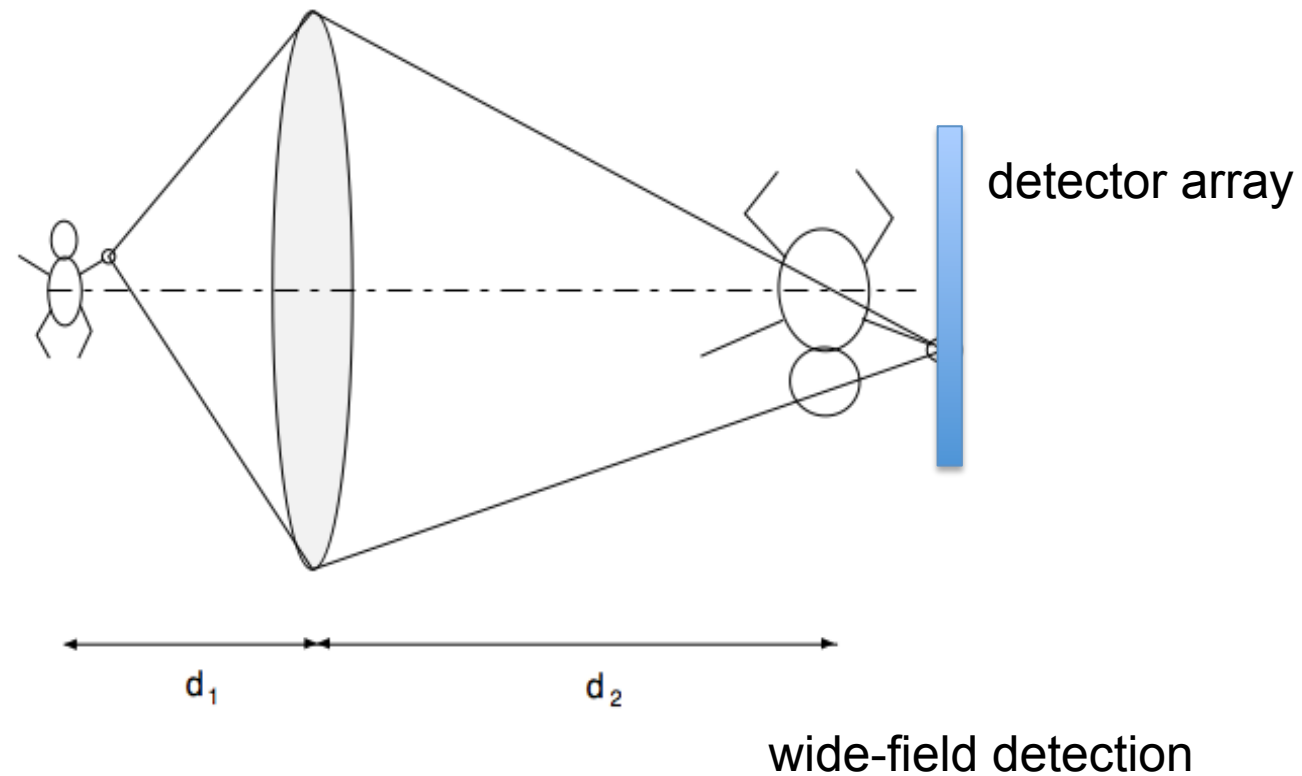
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Genoa, Italy

colinjrsheppard@gmail.com

Imaging using a detector array

Can generate an image with a lens and a detector array



CHAPTER 1

The Generalized Microscope*

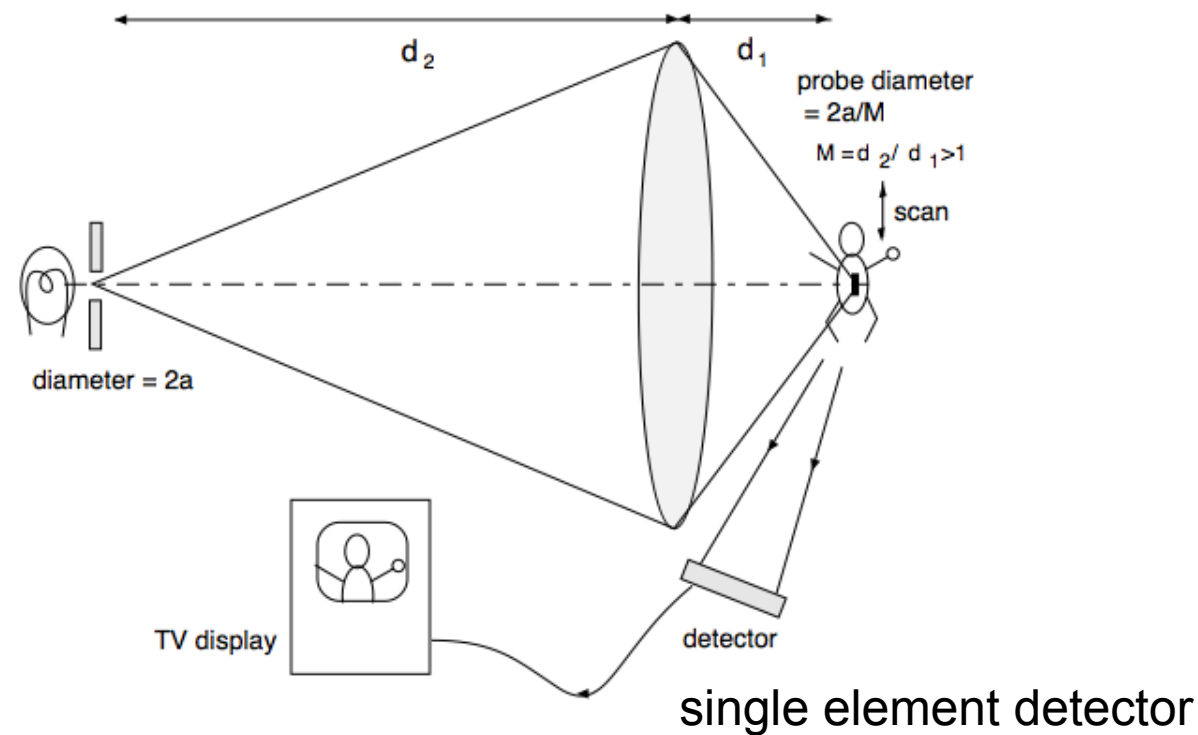
COLIN J. R. SHEPPARD

School of Physics, and Australian Key Centre for Microscopy and Microanalysis, The University of Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia

*This chapter is based upon an invited presentation at the Symposium of the Australian Society for Electron Microscopy, University of Sydney, 1996.

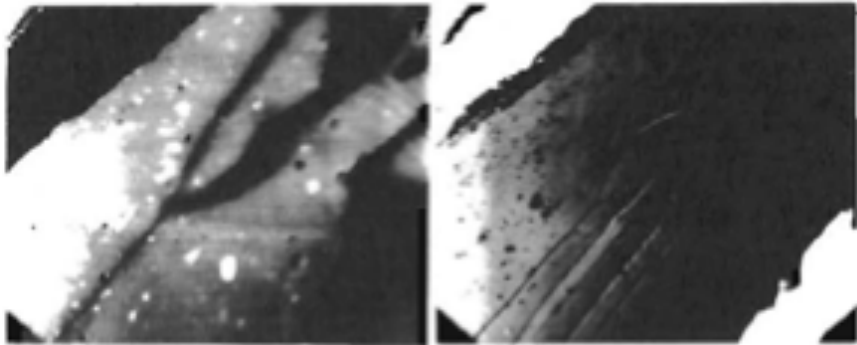
Confocal and Two-Photon Microscopy: Foundations, Applications, and Advances, Edited by Alberto Diaspro. ISBN 0-471-40920-0 © 2002 by Wiley-Liss, Inc., New York. All rights reserved.

Another way of generating an image: using a scanning system



- Detector **does not image**, only collects light.
- Magnification of image is ratio of size of image to amplitude of scan.
- Independent of probe diameter.

Imaging with a focused probe



photovoltage mode reflection mode

A SCANNING OPTICAL MICROSCOPE FOR
THE INSPECTION OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES

C.J.R. Sheppard, J.N. Gannaway
D. Walsh, T. Wilson

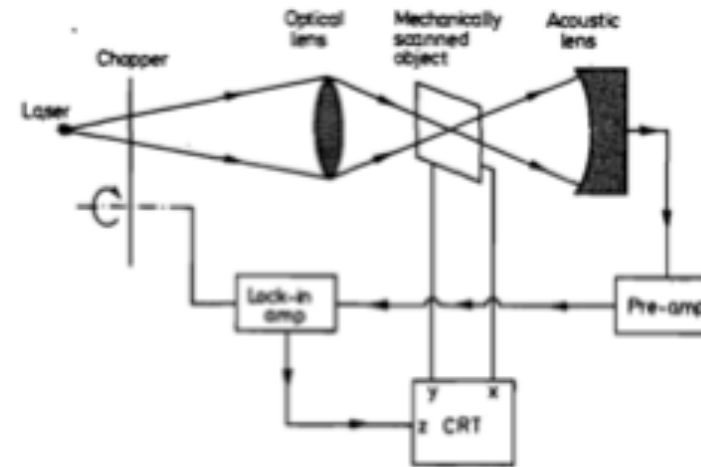
Reprinted from H. Ahmed & W. C. Nixon, *Microcircuit Engineering*.
© Cambridge University Press 1980, Printed in U.S.A.

Imaging in a scanning photoacoustic microscope

I. J. Cox[†] and C. J. R. Sheppard

513

J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 76 (2), August 1984

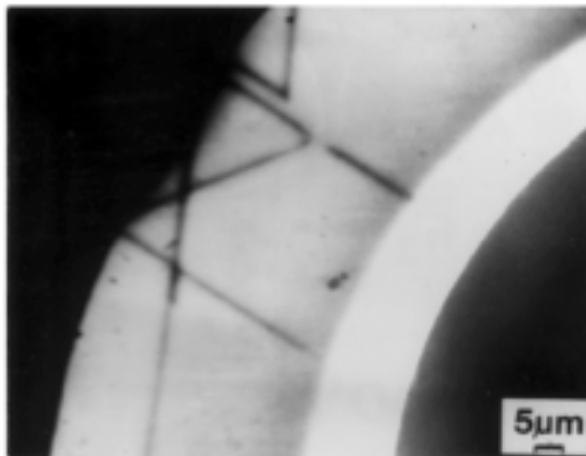


optical psf

$$A(x, x_2) = \iint h_o(x') h_o^*(x') o(x' - x_2)$$

$$\times h_t(x'' - x') t(x'' - x_2) h_a(x - x'') dx' dx''$$

thermal psf acoustic psf



Defects in a silicon transistor,
Optical beam induced current mode,
CJR Sheppard

Applications of scanning optical microscopy,
Proc. SPIE 368, 88-95 (1982).

Equivalence of scanning and conventional microscopes

- Based on Principle of Reciprocity
- Holds even with loss or multiple scattering (but not inelastic scattering)
- First shown for electron microscopes

Pogany & Turner, *Acta Cryst.* **A24** 103 (1968)

Cowley, *App. Phys. Lett.* **15** 58 (1969)

Zeitler & Thomson, *Optik* **31** 258 (1970)

Welford, *J. Microscopy* **96** 105 (1972)

Barnett, *Optik* **38** 585 (1973)

Engel, *Optik* **41** 117 (1974)

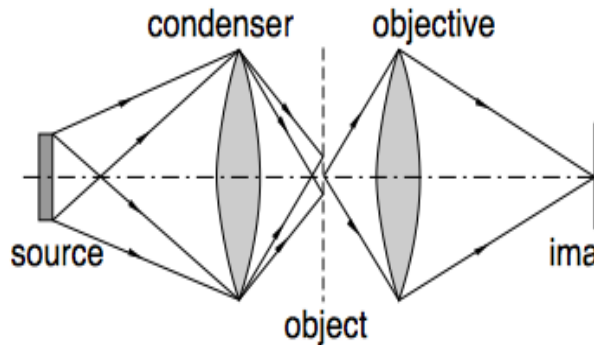
Kermisch, *J. Opt. Soc. Am.* **67** 1357 (1977)

Sheppard, *Optik* **78**, 39-43 (1986); *J. Opt. Soc. Am. A* **3**, 755-756 (1986)

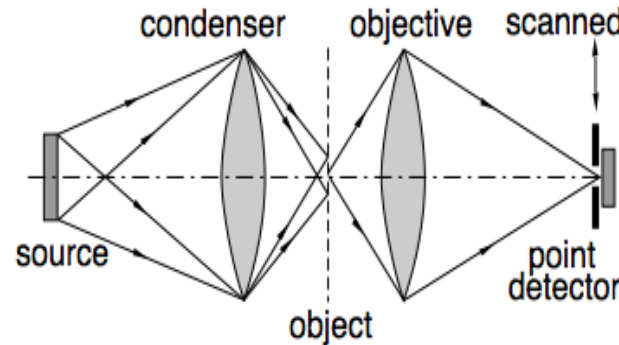
Scanning vs. conventional microscope

Conventional

Conventional with image scanning



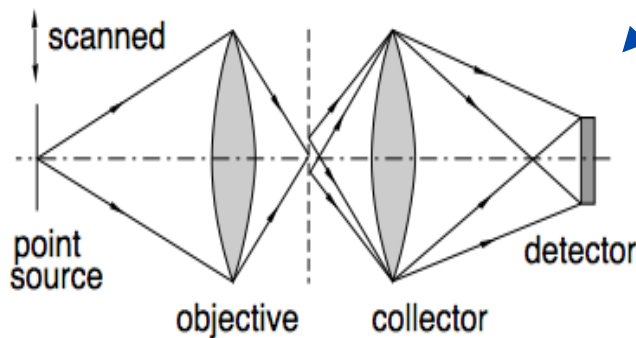
(a) conventional



(b) point detector

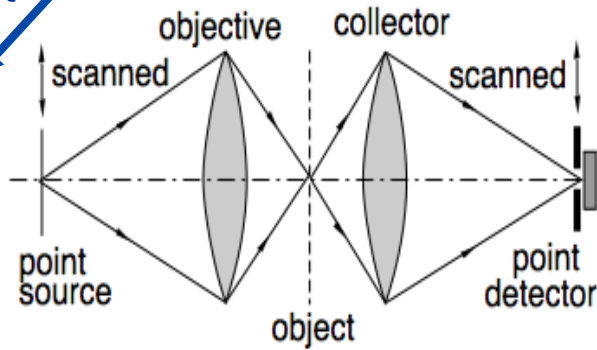
or CCD detector

Equivalent



(c) scanning microscope (Type 1)

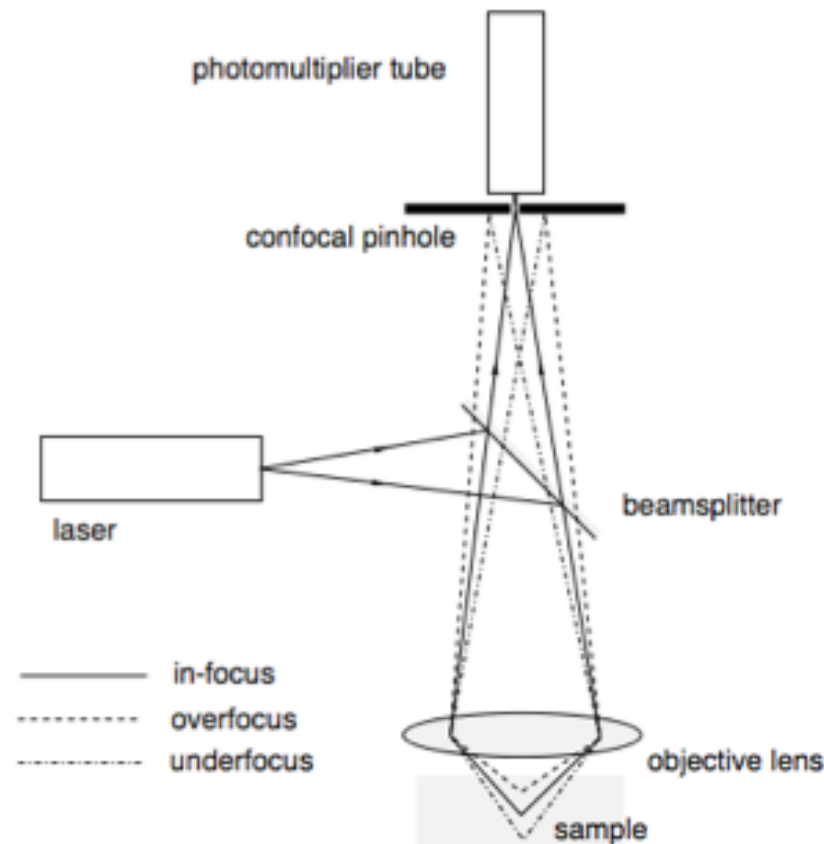
Scanning



(d) confocal microscope (Type 2)

Confocal

Confocal imaging: schematic diagram



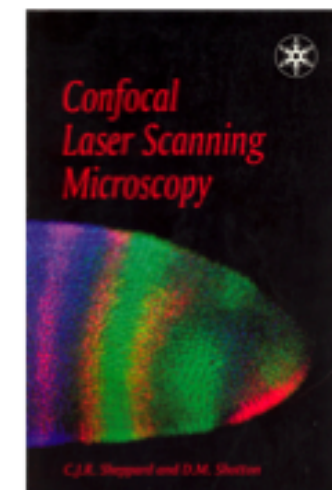
Build up image by scanning:

- Scan sample
- Scan beam
- Scan lens

Reflectance or fluorescence



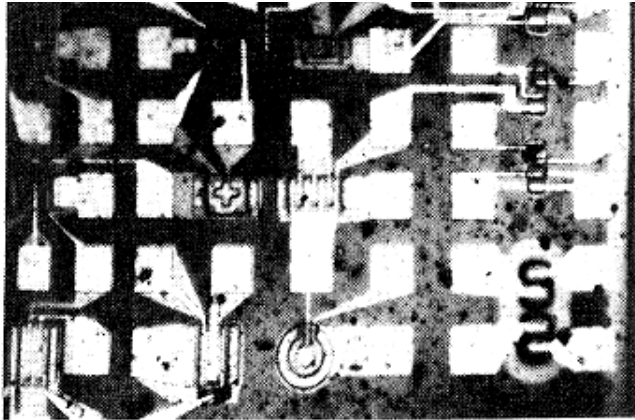
1984



1997

Optical sectioning

(a)



(b)



Hamilton DK, Wilson T,
Sheppard CJR

Experimental observations of
the depth-discrimination
properties of scanning
microscopes

Opt. Letts. **6**, 625-626 (1981)

Fig. 3. (a) Conventional scanning microscope image. (b) Confocal-scanning microscope image.

Confocal microscopy

- Advantages

 - Optical sectioning

 - 3D imaging
 - Surface profiling

 - Reduced scattered light

 - Imaging through scattering media, e.g. tissue

 - Improved resolution

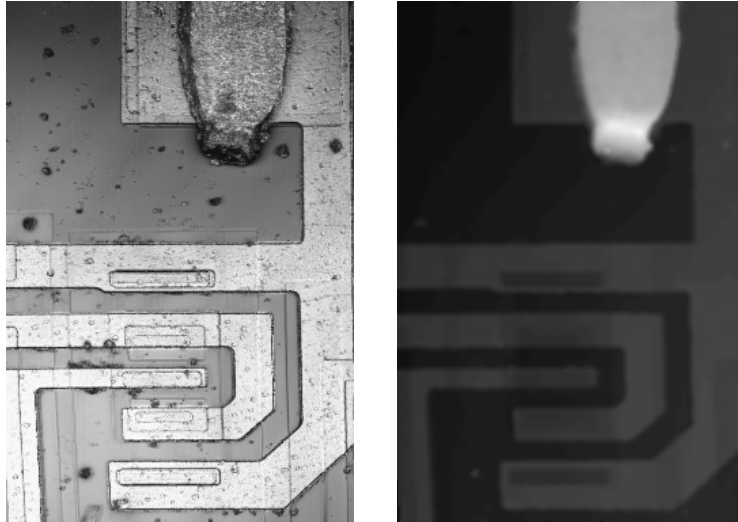
- Reflection

 - Industrial applications, surface profiling
 - Scattering media, tissue

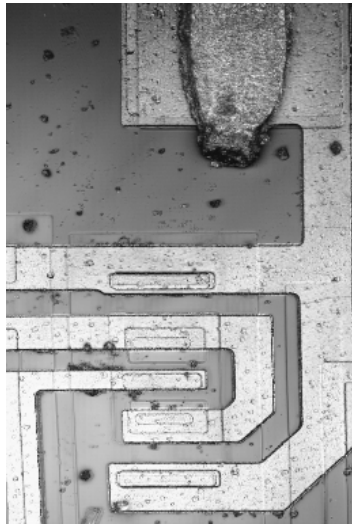
- Fluorescence

 - Autofluorescence or labelled
 - Fixed or living

Autofocus and surface profile



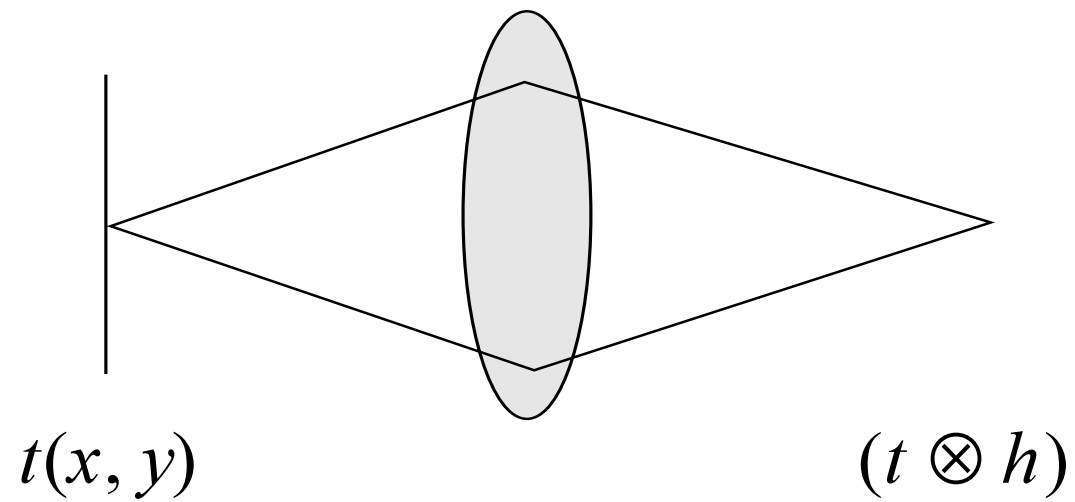
Autofocus and surface profile



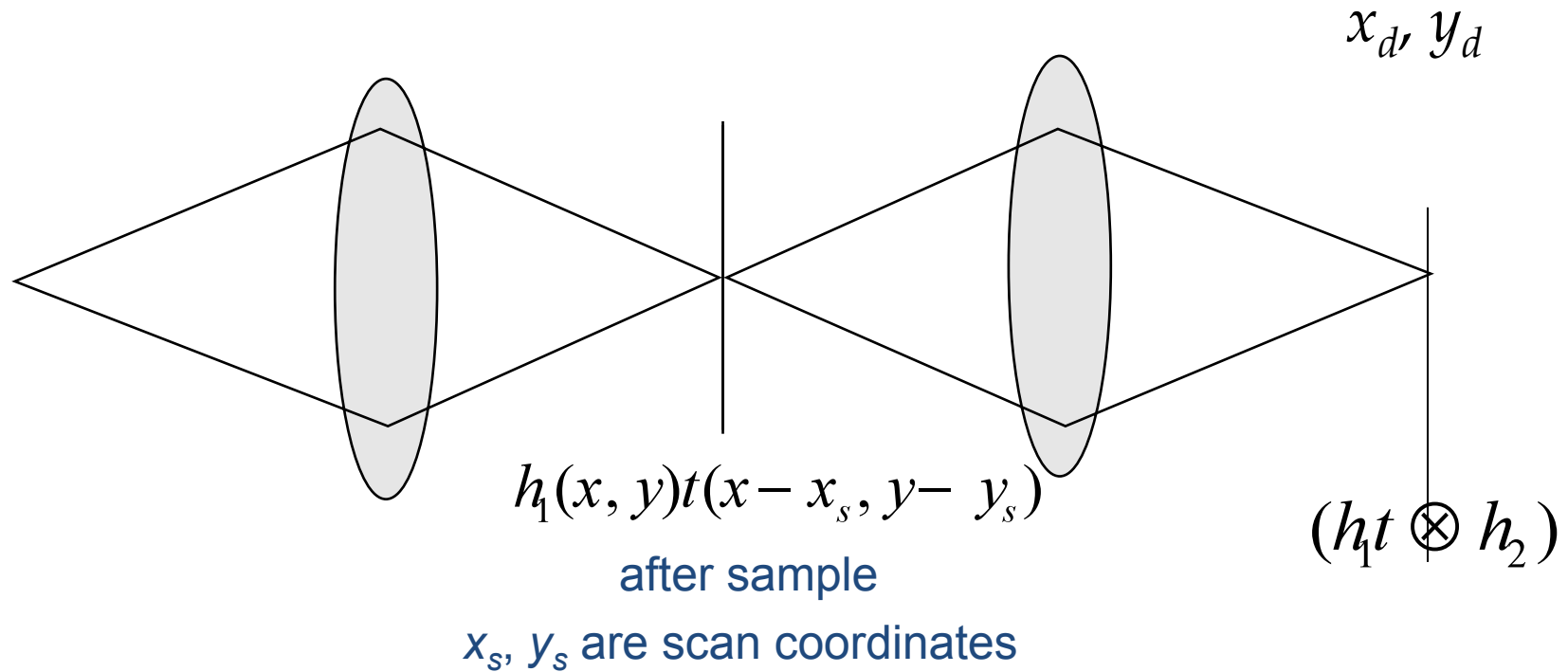
Isometric view



Coherent Imaging



Confocal Imaging (not fluorescence)

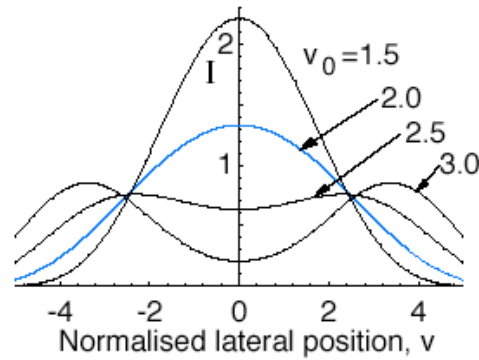


$$I(x_d, y_d) = \left| \iint h_1(x, y)t(x - x_s, y - y_s)h_2(x_d - x, y_d - y) dx dy \right|^2$$

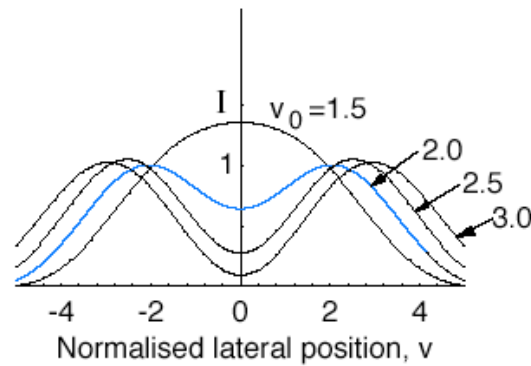
- Pinhole: $x_d, y_d = 0$: $I = \left| (h_1(x, y)h_2(-x, -y)) \otimes t(x, y) \right|^2$
- h_2 even: $I = \left| (h_1 h_2) \otimes t \right|^2$
- Coherent microscope, with $h_{\text{eff}} = h_1 h_2$

Images of two points

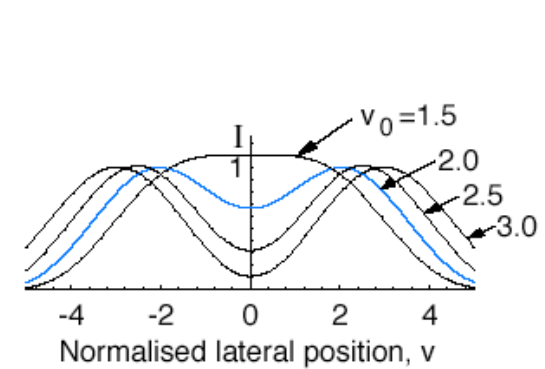
(a) Coherent



(b) Full illumination

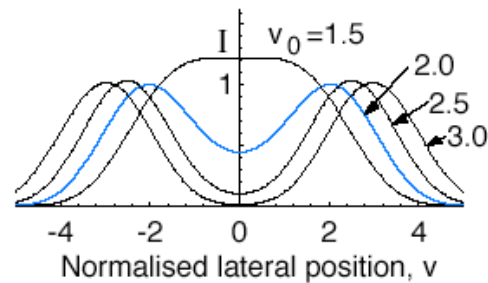


(c) Incoherent

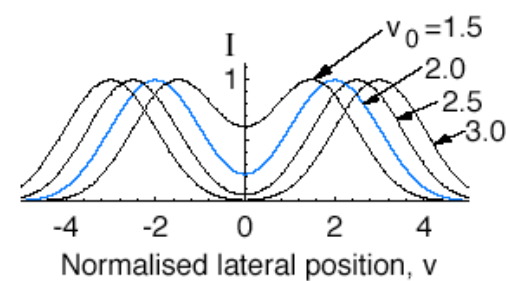


$v_0 = 2.44$ corresponds to Rayleigh resolution

(d) Confocal reflection



(e) Confocal fluorescence



Marvin Minsky 1957

Dec. 19, 1961

M. MINSKY
MICROSCOPY APPARATUS
Filed Nov. 7, 1967

3,013,467

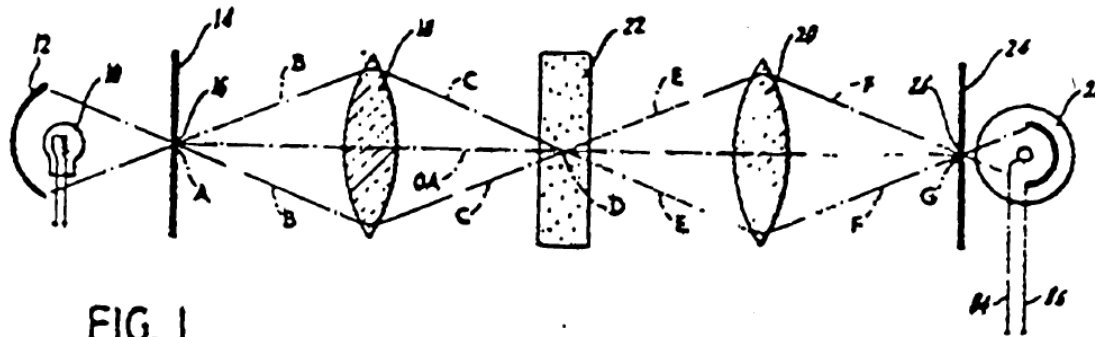


FIG. 1.

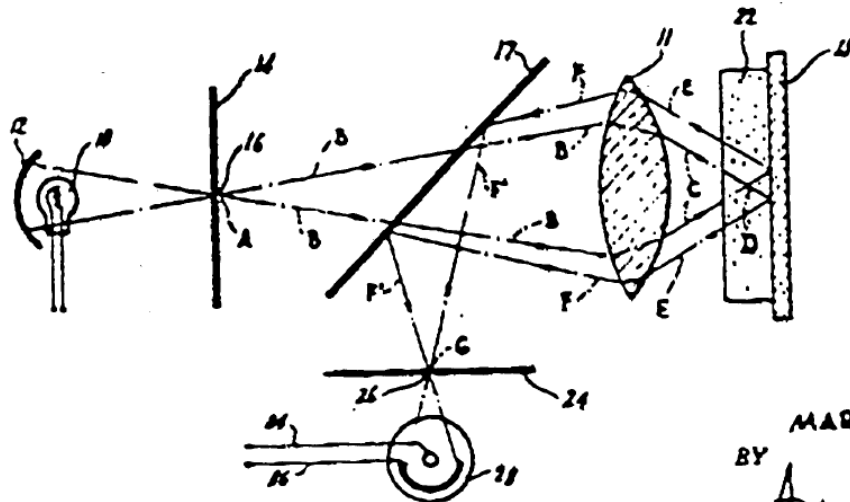
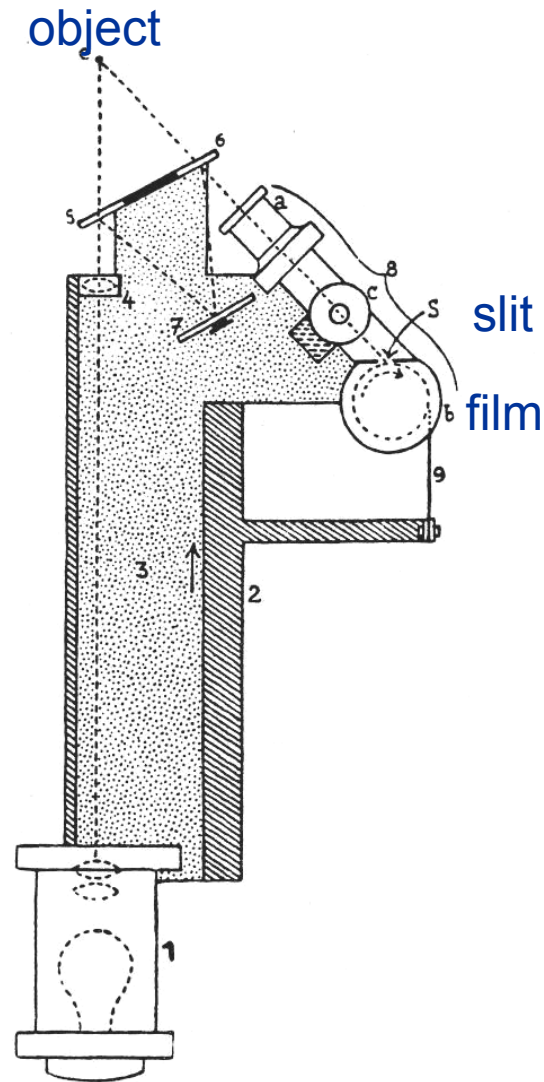
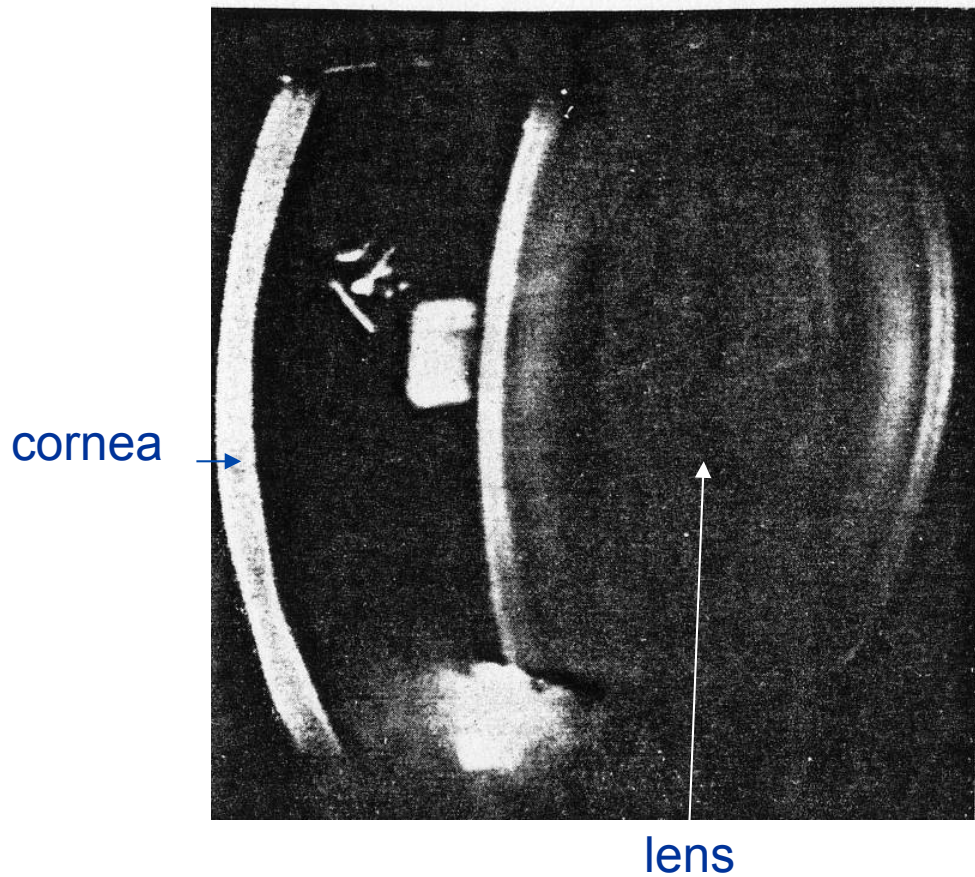


FIG. 3.

INVENTOR
MARVIN MINSKY
BY
Amster & Levy

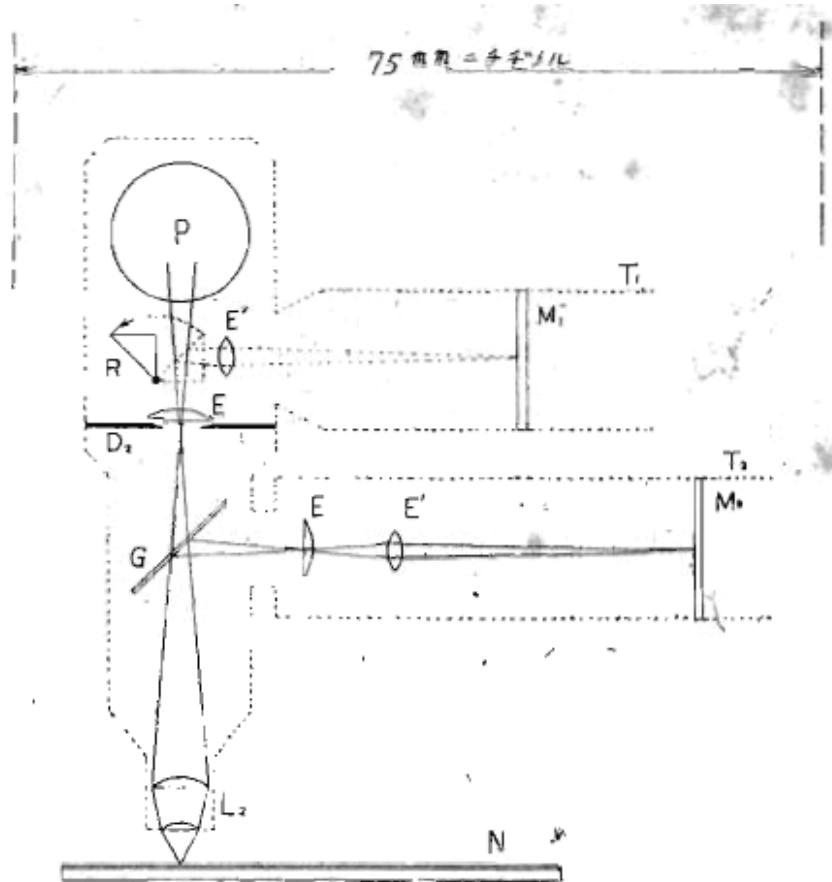
Goldman, 1940

Slit-scanning confocal with angular gating



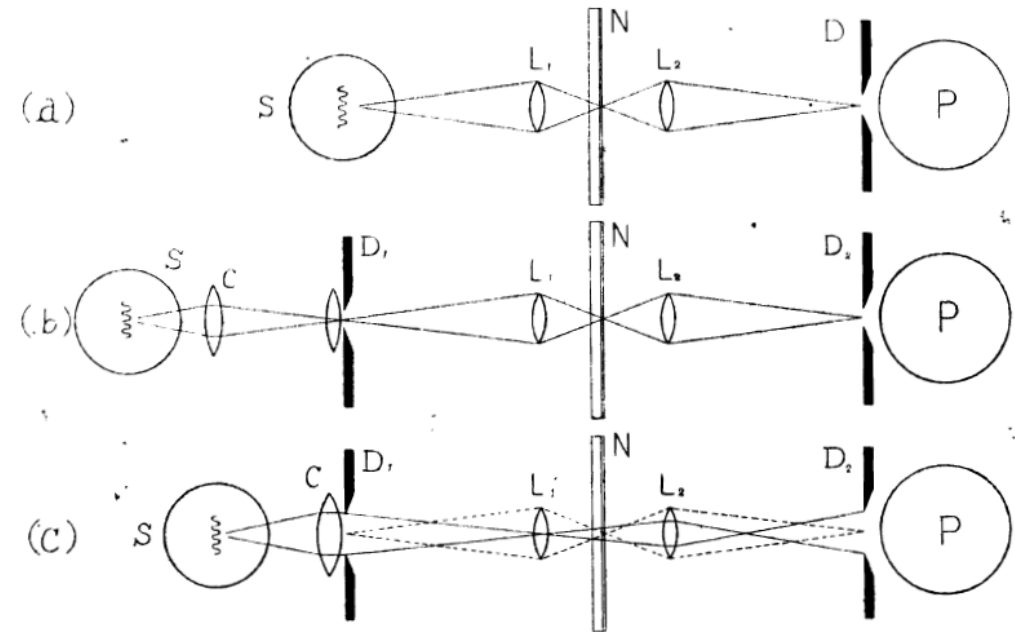
Spaltlampenphotographie und -photometrie,
Ophthalmologica **98**, 257-270 (1940).

Z Koana 1942



第2圖 測定部分観察装置

N: 原板, L₂: 顕微鏡對物レンズ, G: 薄い透明硝子板
 D₂: 有孔隔壁, E+E': 投影用接眼レンズ,
 R: 可鏢式直角プリズム, T₁, T₂: 観察筒, M₁, M₂: すり硝子
 P: 受光器.



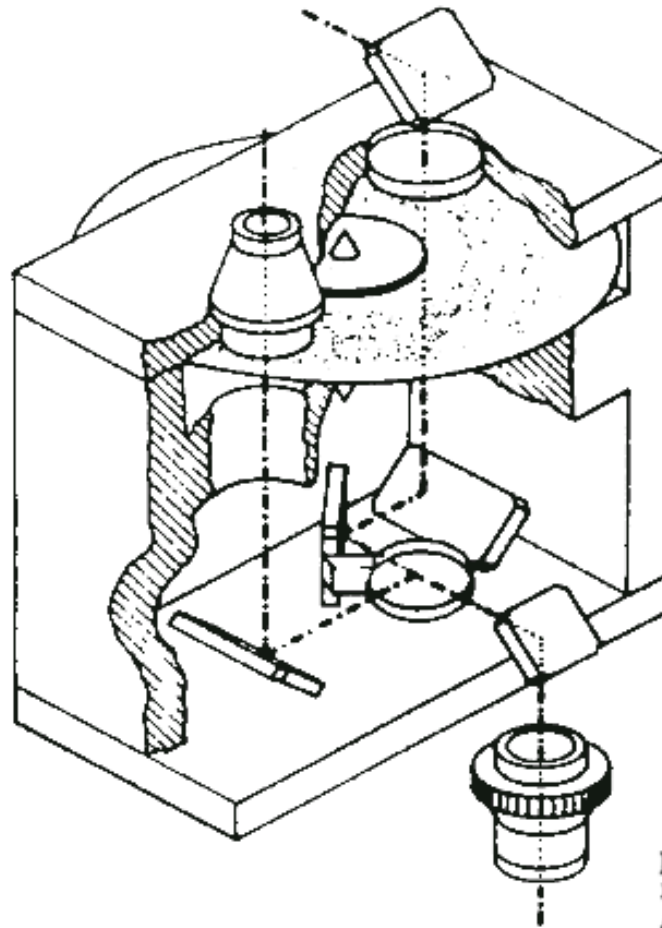
第1圖 微小部濃度計に於ける原板照明用光學系

S: 光源, C: コンデンサー・レンズ, D: 有孔隔壁,
 L: 顕微鏡對物レンズ, P: 受光器

微小部濃度計に関する諸問題

Petráň 1968

Many parallel confocal microscopes



Nipkow disk
 top view

¹ An extension of the theory given here indicates that a similar principal could be employed to build an optical microscope with a resolving power greater than that predicted by the Rayleigh and Abbe theories (superresolution in the sense of Herzberger). Such a microscope would be related to the system described theoretically, from another point of view, by W. Lukosz and M. Marchand, *Opt. Acta* **10**, 241 (1963); see also W. Lukosz, *J. Opt. Soc. Am.* **56**, 1463 (1966); A. Bachl and W. Lukosz, *J. Opt. Soc. Am.* **57**, 932 (1967).

FIGURE 1. Tandem scanning reflected light microscope (Petráň *et al.*, 1968).

Egger & Petráň, *Science* **157**, 306 (1967)

Tandem-Scanning Reflected-Light Microscope*

MOJMÍR PETRÁŇ AND MILAN HADRAVSKÝ

Institute of Biophysics, Charles University School of Medicine, Plzeň, Czechoslovakia

AND

M. DAVID EGGER AND ROBERT GALAMBOS

Departments of Anatomy and Psychology, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut

Petráň, M. & Hadravský, M. (1966) *Způsob a zařízení pro osvětlení rozptylu světla v mikroskopu pro osvětlení šora*. Czechoslovak Patent No. 128936, application 5-12-66, granted 15-2-68, published 15-9-68.

Oxford microscope, 1975

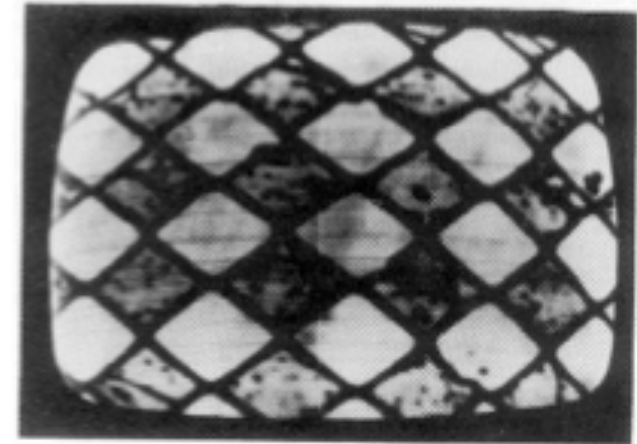
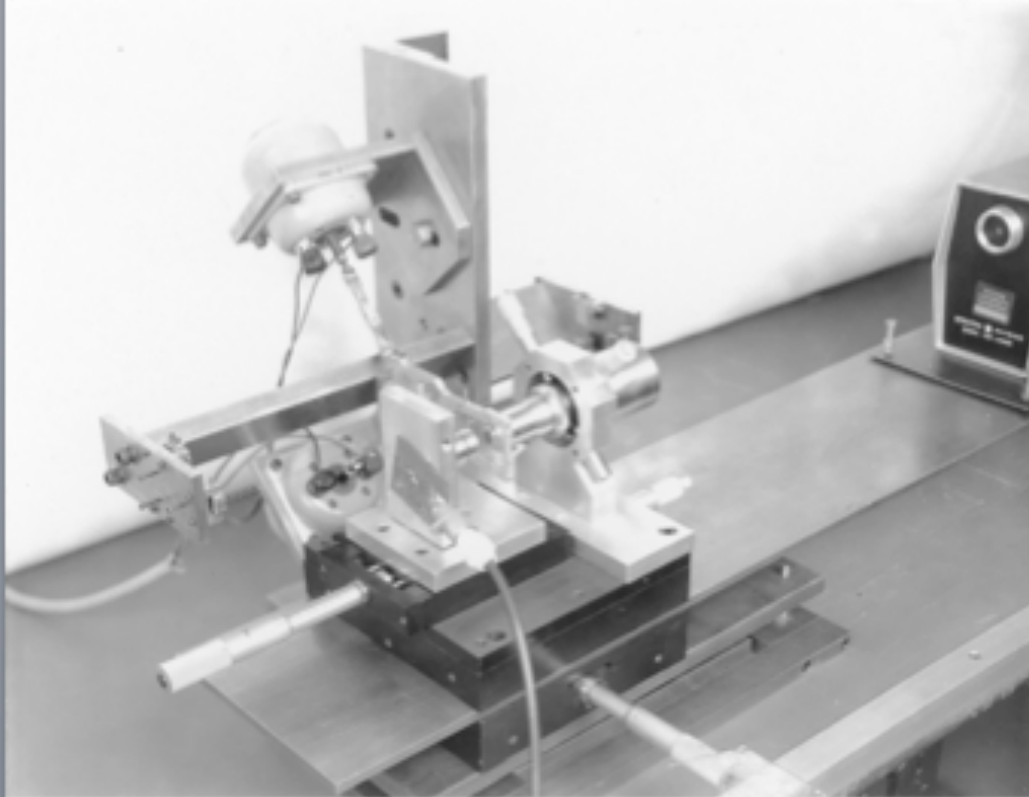


Fig. 1 50 micrometre squares, 20 January 1975.

First image

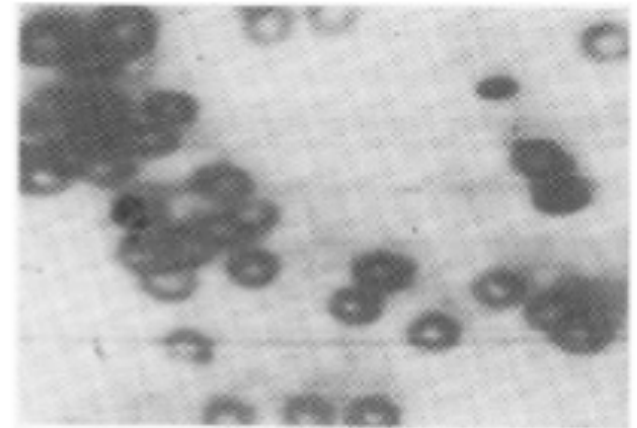


Fig. 7 Blood cells in fast-scan (beam-scanning) microscope, 20 March 1975.

Beam-scanning

This short review of the development of Scanning Optical Microscopy at Oxford was originally prepared for MICRO 89, but was lost in the post. It contains some of the early micrographs, none of which has been published before.

15 Years of Scanning Optical Microscopy at Oxford

C. J. R. SHEPPARD

Amar Choudhury, Colin Sheppard, Pete Hale & Rudi Kompfner Oxford, Summer 1976



OPTICA ACTA, 1977, VOL. 24, NO. 10, 1051-1073

Image formation in the scanning microscope

C. J. R. SHEPPARD and A. CHOUDHURY

Department of Engineering Science, Parks Road, Oxford, England

(Received 22 December 1976)

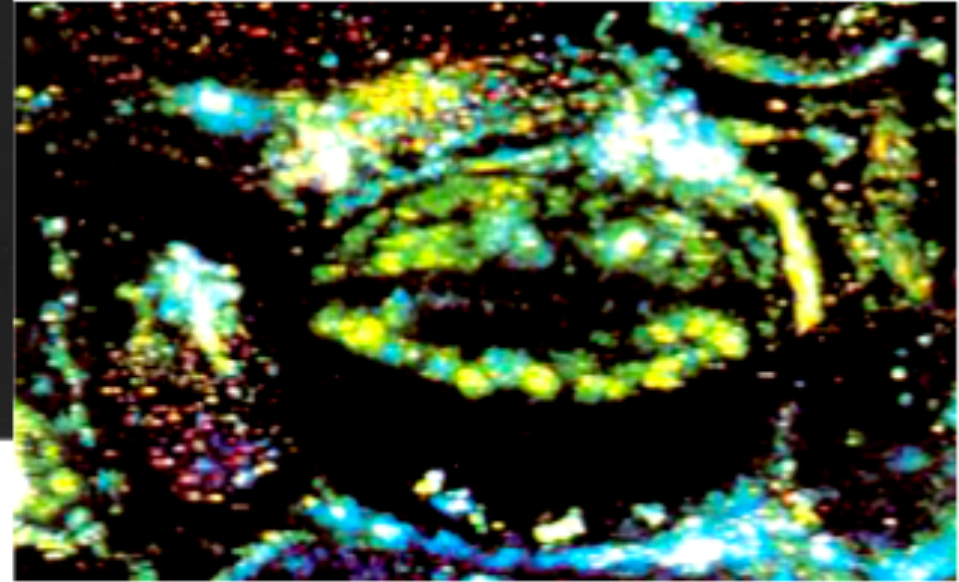
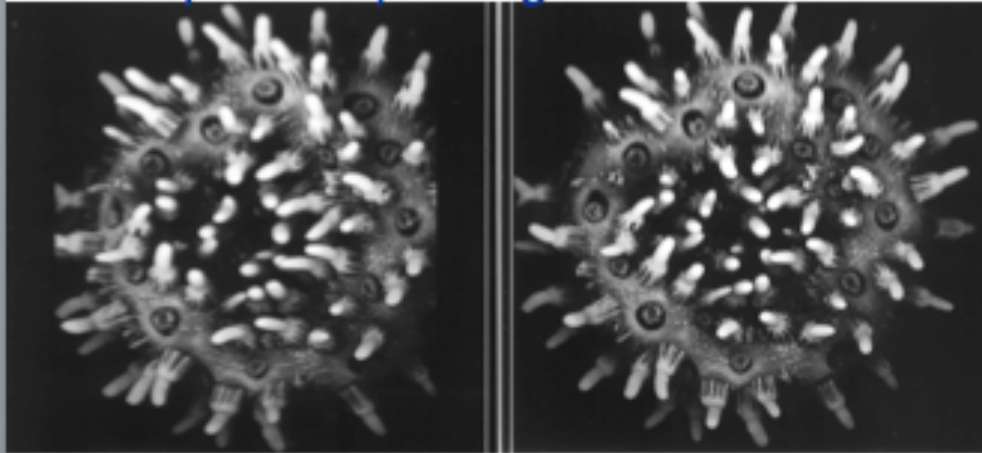
Abstract. Fourier imaging in the scanning microscope is considered. It is shown that there are two geometries of the microscope, which have been designated Type 1 and Type 2. Those of Type 1 exhibit identical imaging to the conventional microscope, whereas those of Type 2 (confocal microscopes) display various differences. Imaging of a single point object, two-point resolution and response to a straight edge are also considered. The effect of various arrangements using lenses with annular pupil functions is also discussed. It is found that Type 2 microscopes have improved imaging properties over conventional microscopes and that these may be further improved by use of one or two lenses with annular pupils.

- First paper to use term "confocal microscope"

Confocal reflectance

Stereo pair of a pollen grain

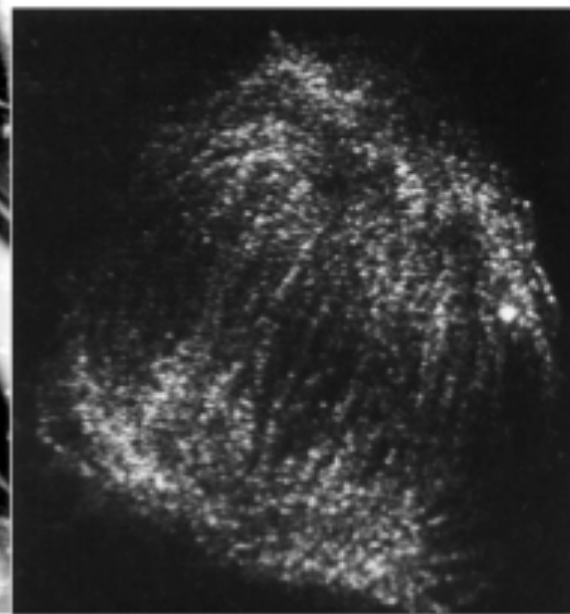
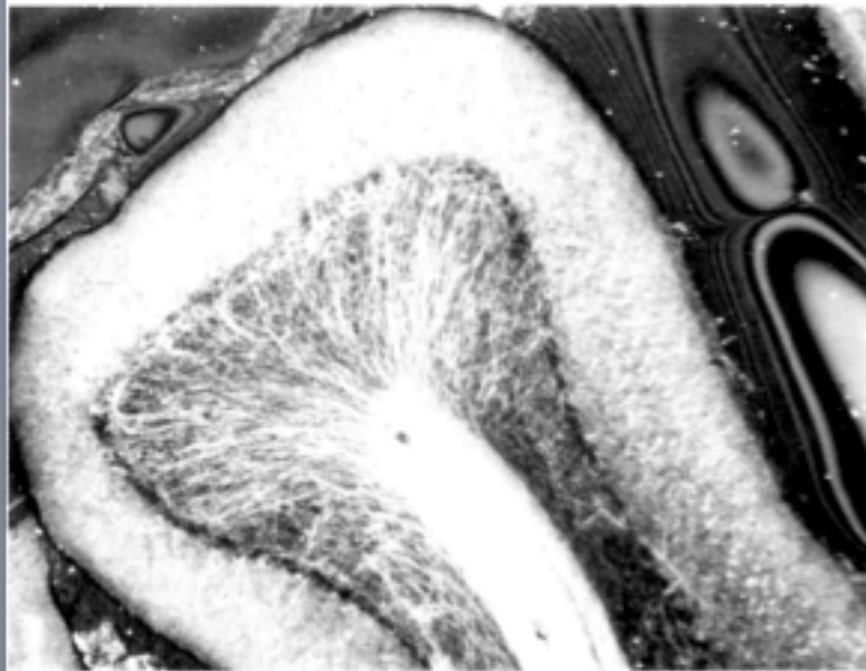
J. Microsc. **165**, 103-117 (1992)



Endeavour, **10**, 17-19 (and cover)(1986)

Rat brain (cerebellum)

Colour confocal reflection image of a leaf



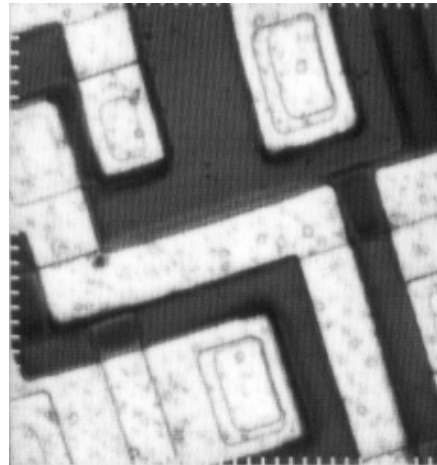
Microtubules labeled
with 15nm gold

Inst. Phys. Conf. Ser.
No. 98, 1989

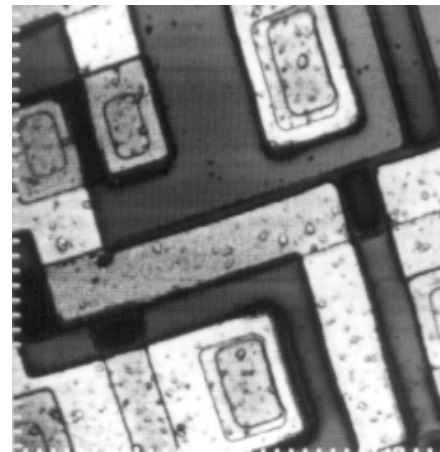
Confocal microscope with computer

Cox IJ, Sheppard CJR (1983) Digital image processing of confocal images,
Image & Vision Computing **1**, 52-56 (1983)

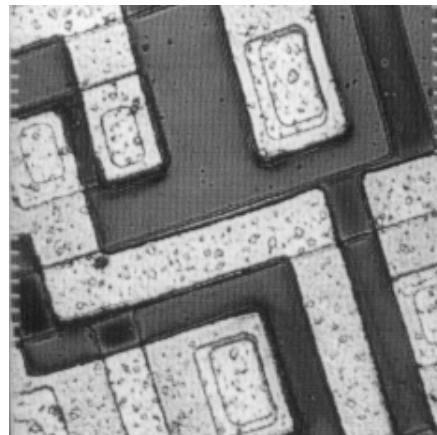
conventional



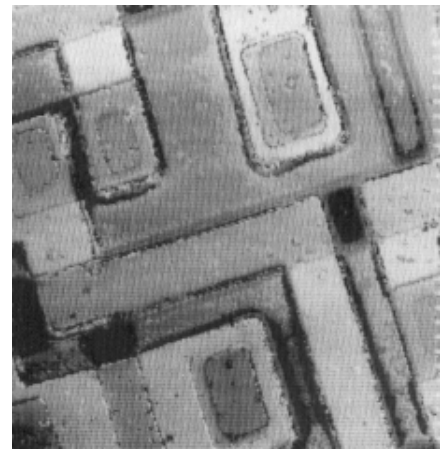
confocal



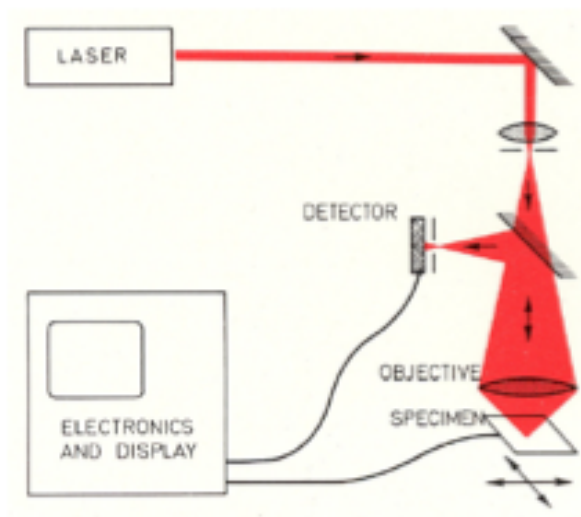
confocal
autofocus



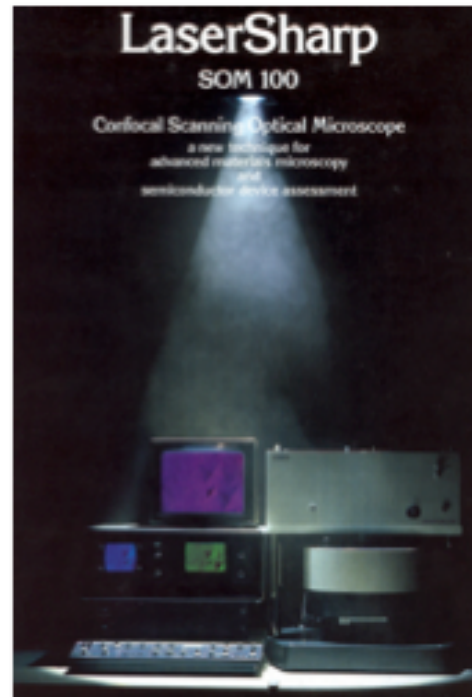
surface
profile



Commercialization of confocal microscope



Oxford Optoelectronics 1982



LaserSharp SOM100, 1984



BioRad MRC500, 1987

Confocal imaging through scattering medium (confocal gating)

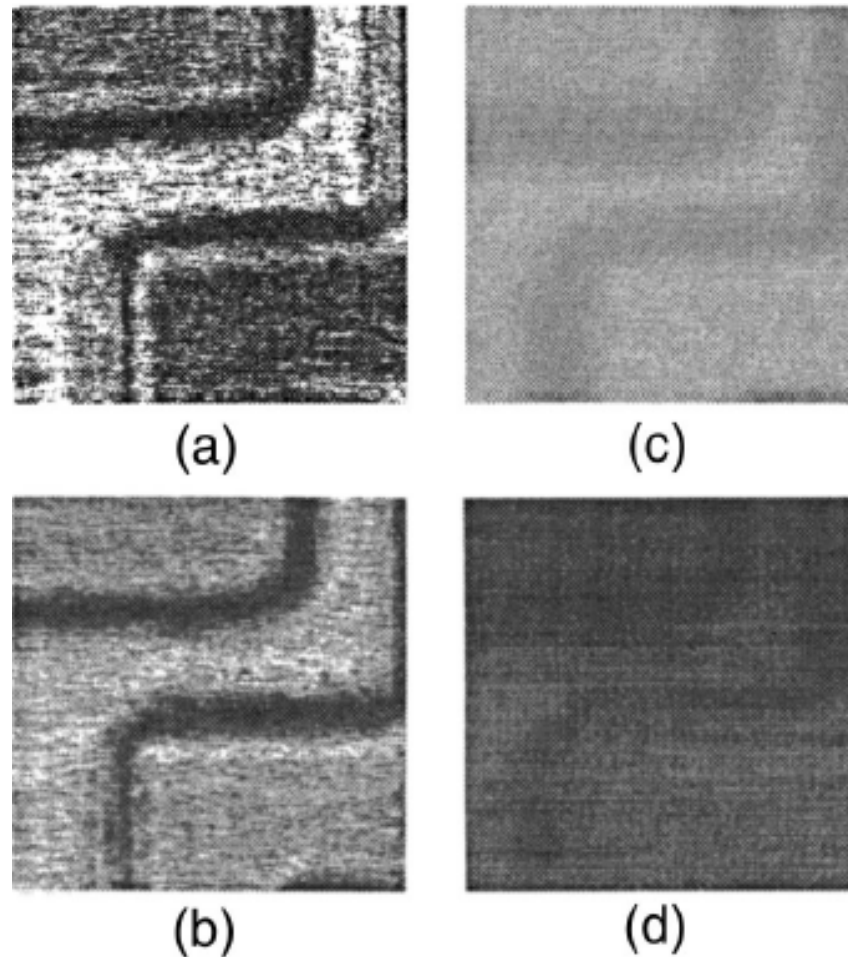


Fig. 3. Images of an IC hidden in a scattering medium (thickness $D \approx 5L_s$; image size $20 \mu\text{m} \times 20 \mu\text{m}$) for different values of the pinhole radius r_d : (a) $r_d = 5 \mu\text{m}$, (b) $r_d = 50 \mu\text{m}$, (c) $r_d = 500 \mu\text{m}$, (d) $r_d \rightarrow \infty$.

M Gu, T Tannous, CJR Sheppard

Limitations of confocal microscopy

- Speed
 - Illuminate only one spot at a time
 - In fluorescence, speed limited by saturation of fluorophore
 - Solution: illuminate by more than one spot
 - Spinning disk
 - Line illumination
 - Structured illumination (fringe projection)
- Size
 - Endoscopic microscopy
- Cost
- Resolution
 - 4Pi microscopy
 - STED
 - Localization microscopy (PALM/STORM)
 - Structured illumination/Image scanning microscopy
- Penetration
 - Coherence gating
 - Two/three photon
 - Focal modulation microscopy (FMM)

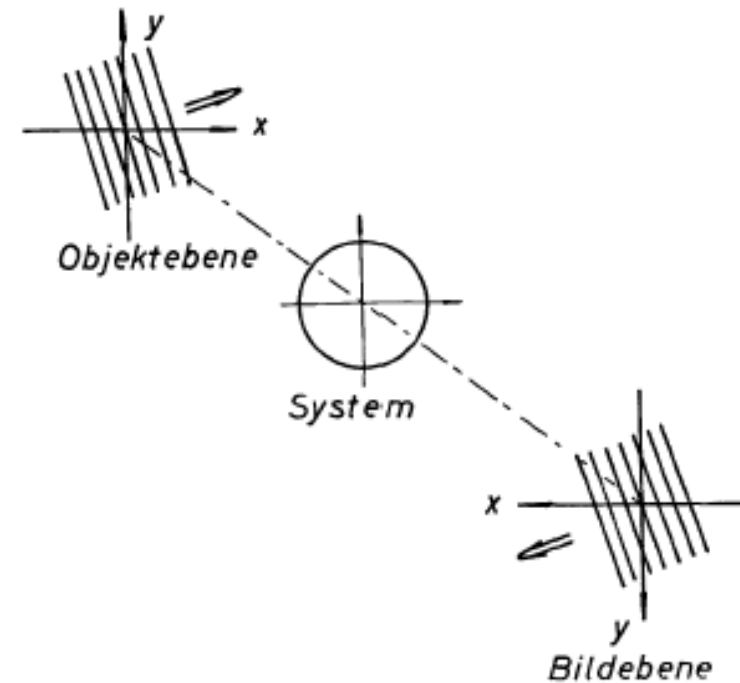
3-D imaging methods

- Confocal
- Digital deconvolution
- Coherence probe/ optical coherence tomography (OCT)
- Multiphoton microscopy:
 - 2-photon fluorescence, SHG
- Structured illumination

Lukosz, 1963

Structured illumination
(or fringe projection)

Optical reconstruction using a second grating

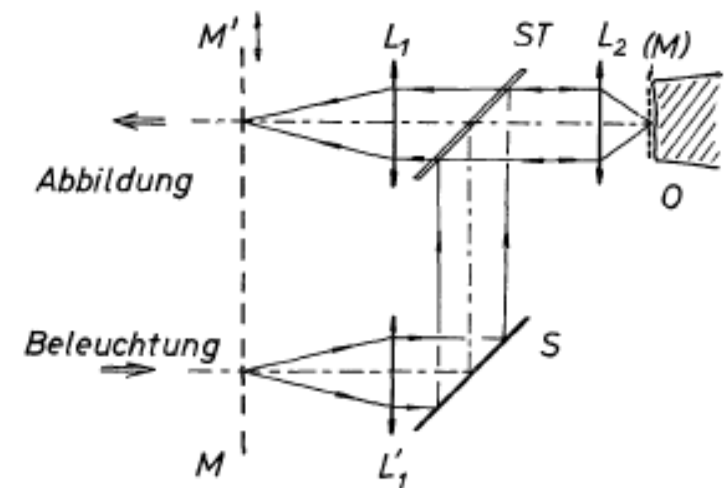


It is known that diffraction sets an upper limit to the resolving power of an optical system or, put more precisely, to the band-width of spatial frequencies that the system can transmit.

A new method is described for obtaining optical images with a resolution exceeding the limits set by diffraction. The optical system itself is not modified, but a mask, or the image of a mask formed by projection is introduced in or near to the object plane. This mask has a variable transmission (for example a grating), and is movable in the object field. A second similar mask is introduced in or near to the image plane, or the plane of an intermediate image, and is moved conjugately with the object plane mask. The image obtained during the scanning by the masks is integrated in time by a receptor of suitable inertia (for example, the eye, or a photographic emulsion).

There results an image of the object with enhanced resolution and contrast (the band-width of the transmitted spatial frequencies is increased, and the frequency response is raised).

The method may be used with coherent, partially coherent or incoherent illumination. Its method of operation and imaging properties are described.



W Lukosz, M Marchand
Optica Acta **10**, 241-255 (1963)

Optical sectioning in line illumination or aperture array microscopes

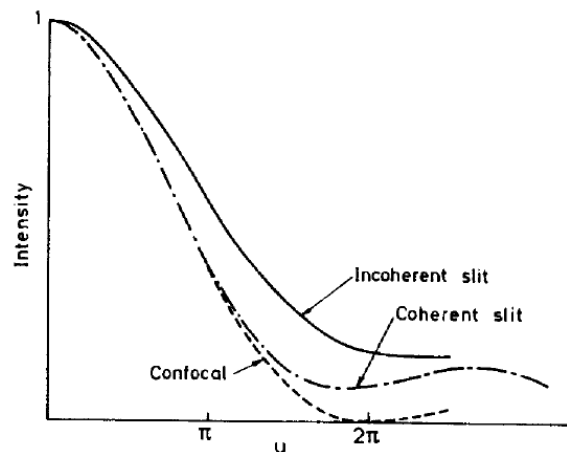


Figure 5. The defocus signal for a scanning microscope with point source and incoherent line detector (or *vice versa*) (solid line), and with point source and point detector (broken line). Also shown is the defocus signal for a system with coherent line source (or detector).

- Confocal, decays as $1/z^2$
- Line illumination, decays as $1/z$

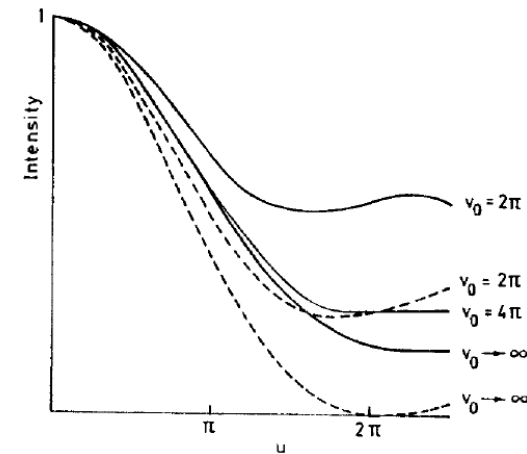


Figure 8. The defocus signal for a direct-view microscope with arrays of either lines (solid lines), or points (dashed lines) (separation v_0).

- Aperture array, tends to a constant (cross-talk)

C. J. R. SHEPPARD and X. Q. MAO

Confocal microscopes with slit apertures

JOURNAL OF MODERN OPTICS, 1988, VOL. 35, NO. 7, 1169-1185

Strength of background

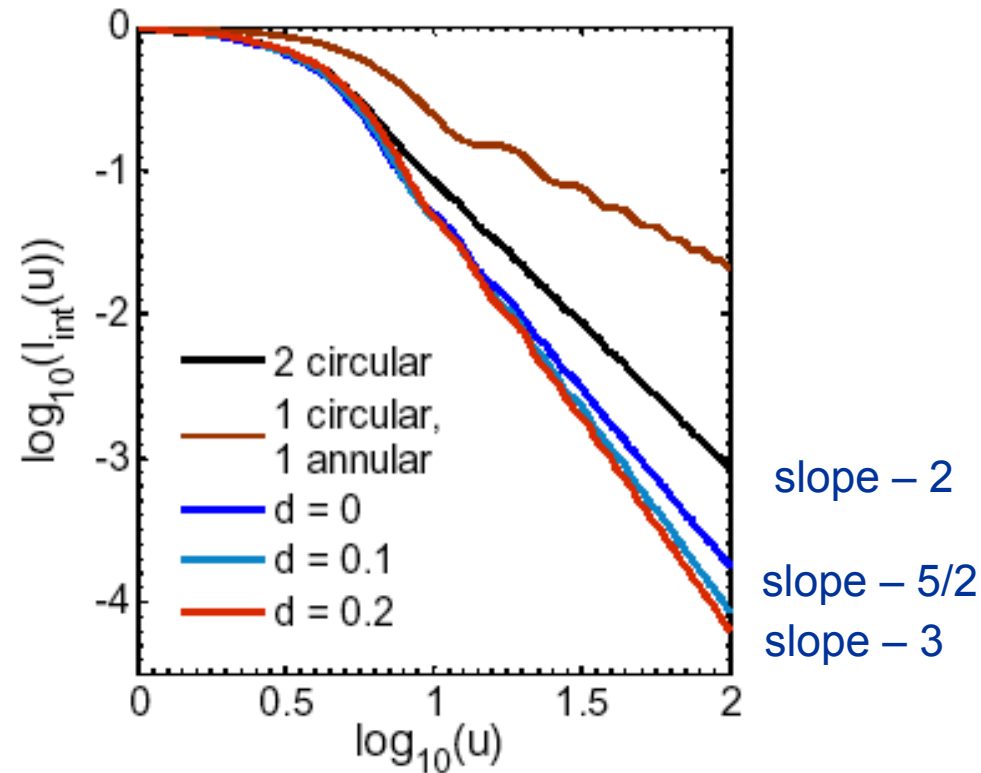
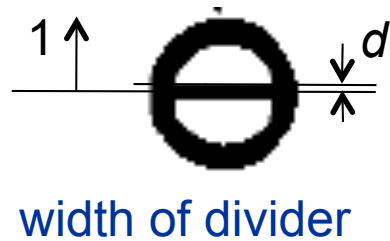


Fig. 9. The integrated intensity $I_{\text{int}}(u)$ for a confocal microscope with two D-shaped pupils and a point detector shown as a log-log plot.

Using D-shaped pupils for illumination and detection, sectioning is improved

**The divided aperture technique for microscopy
through scattering media**

13 October 2008 / Vol. 16, No. 21 / OPTICS EXPRESS 17031

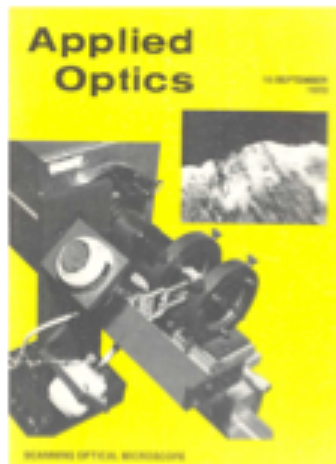
Two-photon microscopy

- Signal proportional to square of illumination intensity
 - Optical sectioning with no pinhole
 - Signal increased using pulsed laser

Multiphoton microscopy

Proposal of different types of scanning nonlinear microscopy based on the high intensity in the focused spot, including two-photon fluorescence and CARS (1978)

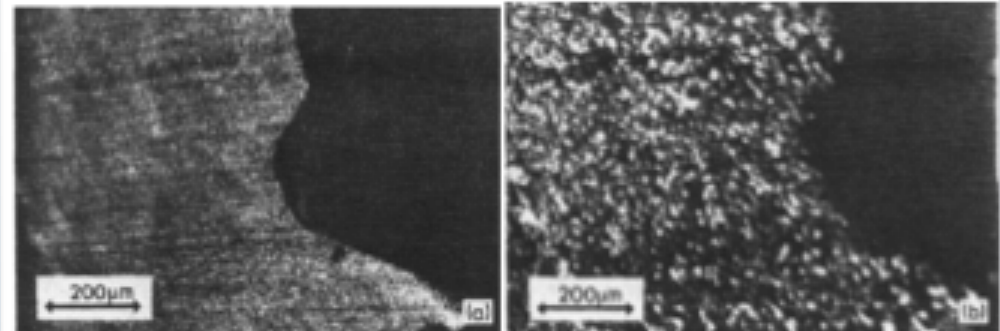
In the scanning optical microscope^{1,2} nonlinear interactions are expected to occur between the object and a highly focused beam of light, which we hope will open new ways of studying matter in microscopic detail hitherto not available. Nonlinear interactions³⁻⁵ include the generation of sum frequencies, Raman scattering, two-photon fluorescence, and others. We feel



C. J. R. Sheppard and R. Kompfner
Appl. Opt. **17**, 2879-2882 (1978)

Received 1 November 1976; revised manuscript received 22 September 1977.

First published scanning SHG images (1978)



KD*P crystal, SHG images CW NdYAG laser
1064nm

Demonstrates optical sectioning

Optical and Quantum Electronics **10** (1978) 433-439

Second-harmonic imaging in the scanning optical microscope

J. N. GANNAWAY, C. J. R. SHEPPARD

3D SHG with fs pulses

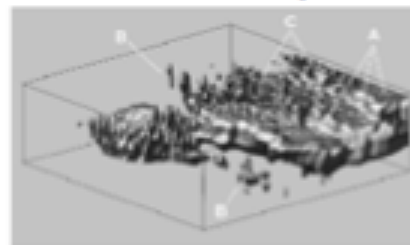
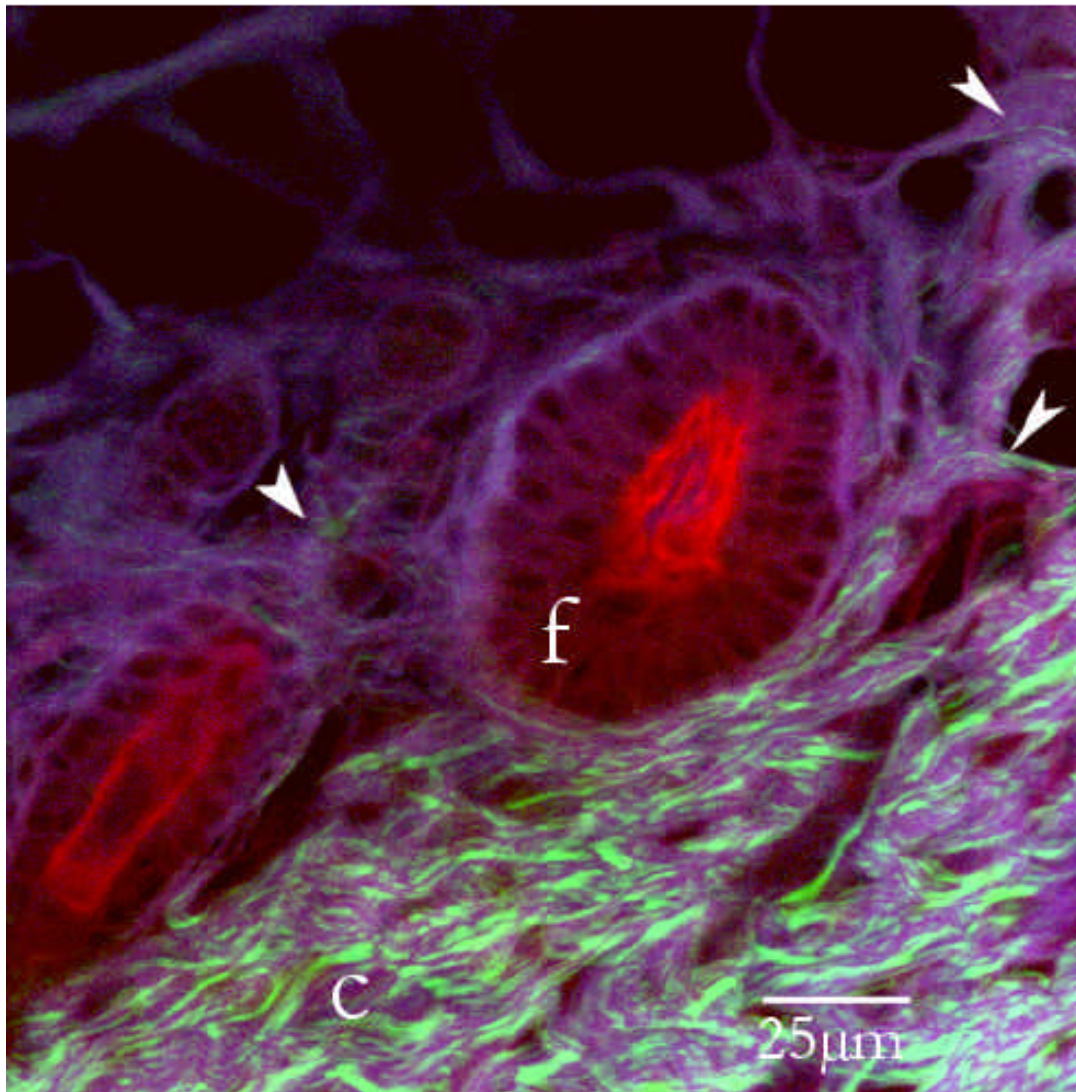


Fig. 4. Side view of a three-dimensional SHG generation image (70 $\mu\text{m} \times 70 \mu\text{m} \times 30 \mu\text{m}$) of LBO crystal fragments showing A, terraces on the crystal; B, isolated microcrystallites; and C, columnar stacking of microcrystals on the surface of the large LBO crystal.

August 1, 1988 / Vol. 23, No. 15 / OPTICS LETTERS 1299

Three-dimensional second-harmonic generation imaging with femtosecond laser pulses

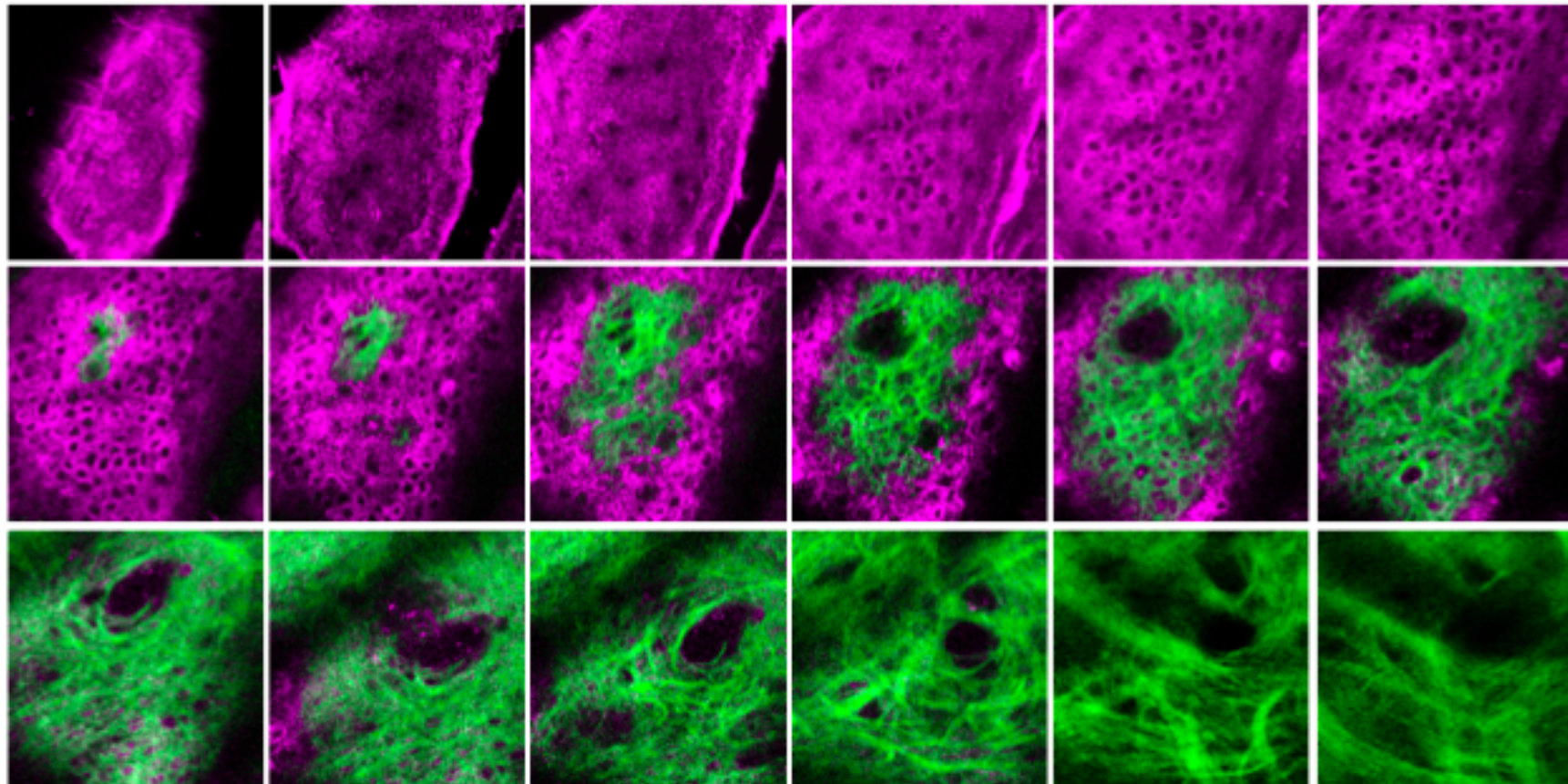
R. Gauderon and P. B. Lukins C. J. R. Sheppard



SHG image
(in blue)
of collagen in
mouse dermis

Cox G, Xu P, Sheppard CJR, Ramshaw J (2003)
Characterization of the Second Harmonic Signal from Collagen,
Proc. SPIE 4963, 32-40

Harmonic microscopy of my arm



CK Sun, NTU Hospital

— SHG — THG

Excitation wavelength: 1230 nm
Bandwidth: 31 nm
Avg. laser power after objective: 90mW
Frame rate: 0.37 Hz
Image size: 120 X 120 μm

OTF for confocal fluorescence

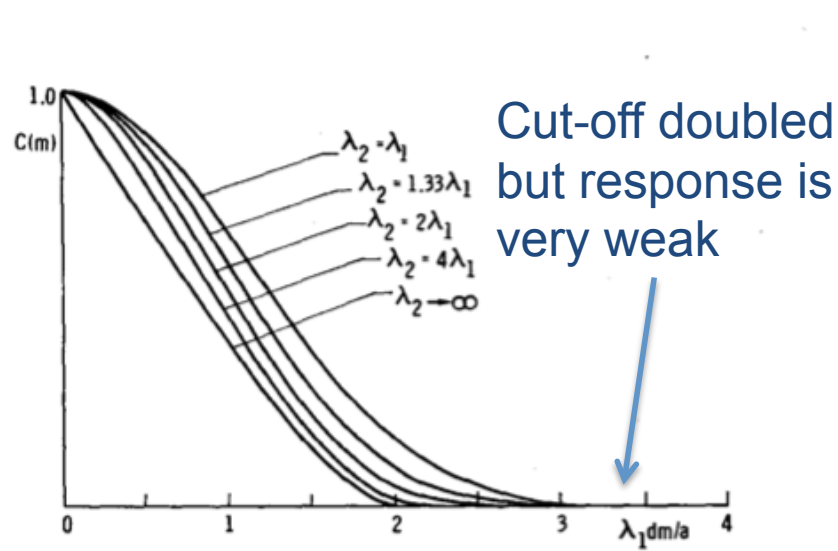


Fig. 1. Transfer function for the confocal fluorescent microscope for various rescent wavelengths. The spatial frequency axis is normalised by the in wavelength.

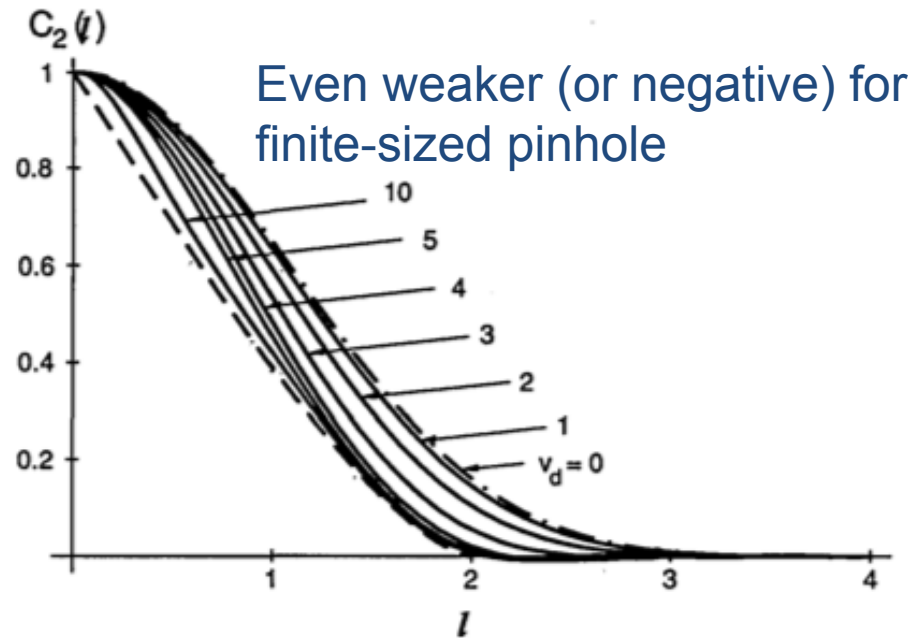


Fig. 4. Normalized in-focus (2-D) OTF for different radii of the detector. The dashed curve represents the 2-D OTF when $v_d \rightarrow \infty$.

Suggests possibility to use pupil filters to increase magnitude of OTF!

Superresolution

- Classical theory
Transfer function is band-limited
- Toraldo di Francia (1952):
Resolution is not a fundamental limit
- Methods of Lukosz, Lohmann (~1960)
Capacity for information transfer is invariant, not bandwidth
Increase bandwidth using different polarizations, wavelengths etc.
- Cox and Sheppard (1985)
Information capacity, but include noise (Shannon)

$$C = \prod (1 + B_x L_x) (1 + B_y L_y) (1 + B_z L_z) (1 + B_t L_t) \log_2 (1 + SNR)$$

Superresolution methods

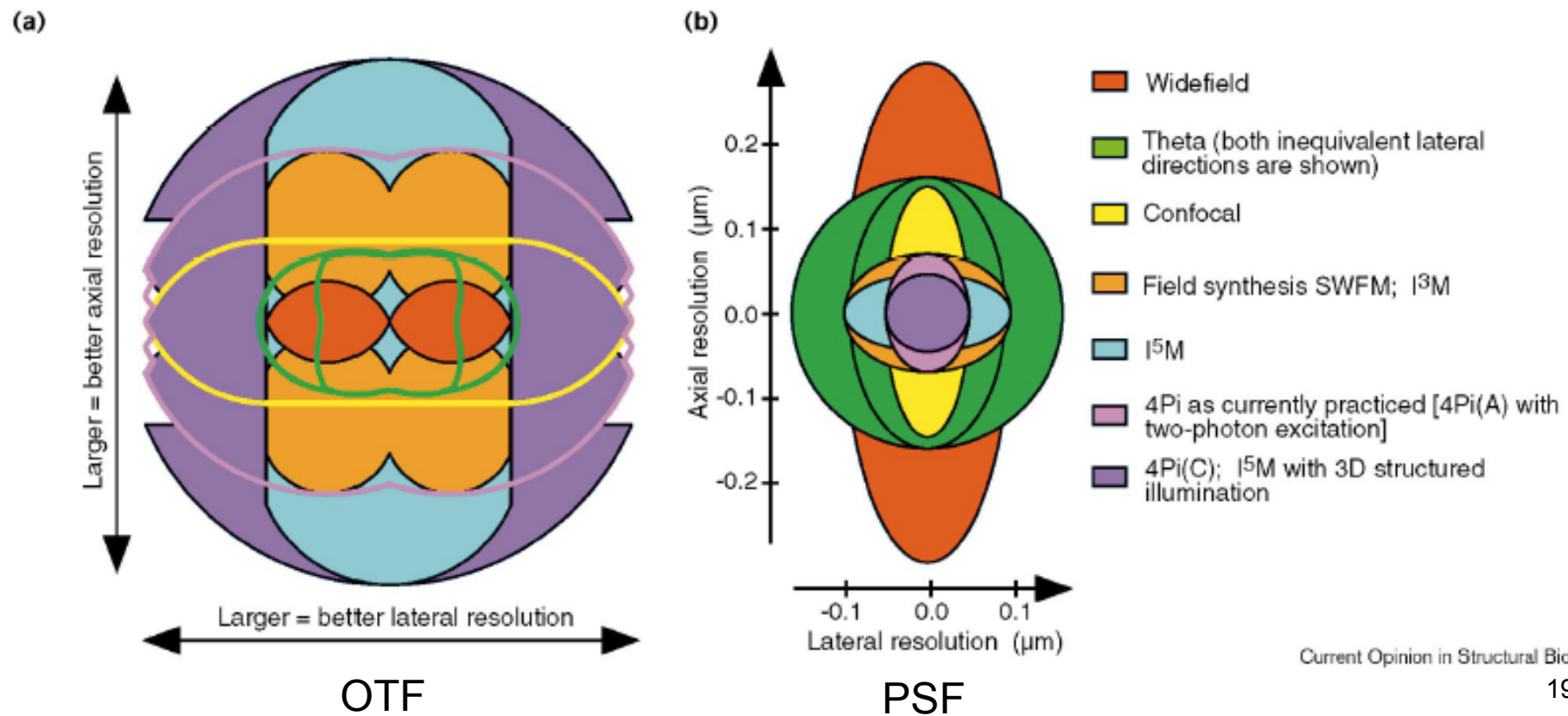
Can trade off another property to improve resolution

- SNR
- Time
- Colour
- Polarization

Distinguish between different classes of 'superresolution'

- Class 3: Improve spatial frequency response, but cut-off unchanged
 - 2-point resolution improved
 - Sometimes called ultra-resolution, or hyper-resolution
 - image filtering
 - simple digital deconvolution (Wiener filtering, nearest neighbour)
 - superresolving filters (masks), superoscillations
- Class 2: Cut-off increased, but the effective NA is still $< n$
 - polarization, etc.
 - synthetic aperture
- Class 1b: Cut-off increased, and the effective NA $> n$
 - structured illumination
 - confocal
 - source/detector arrays (ISM)
 - solid immersion lens (SIL)
 - nonlinear imaging
- Class 1a: Cut-off increased, and the effective NA is unlimited
 - STED
 - saturated SIM
 - localization microscopy (PALM/STORM)
 - near-field microscope (SNOM, photon tunneling microscope)
 - deconvolution with constraints

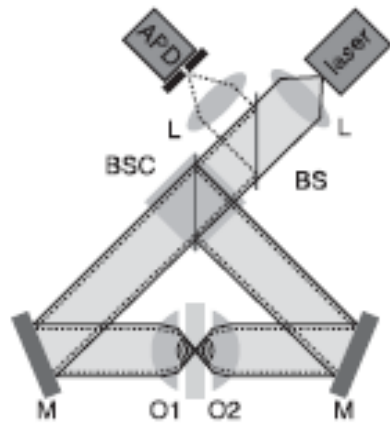
Comparison of different imaging methods



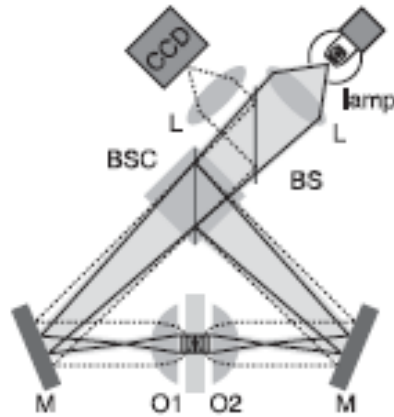
Current Opinion in Structural Biology
1999

Comparison of 4Pi and I⁵M

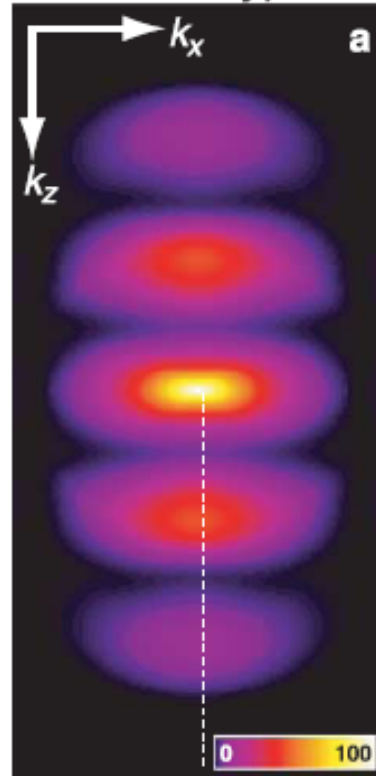
2PE 4Pi type C



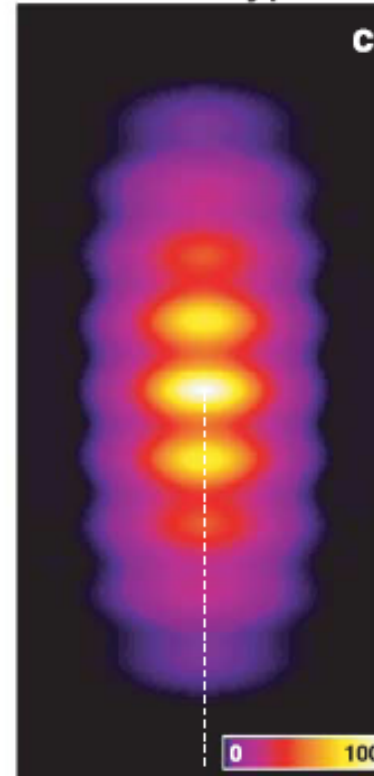
I⁵M



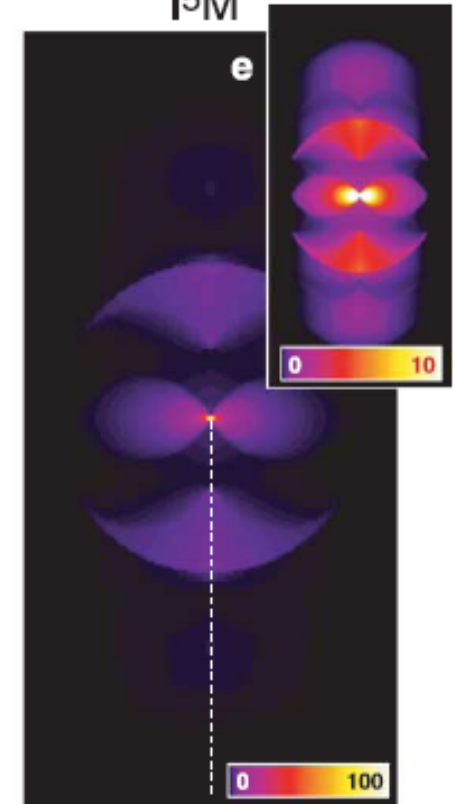
1PE 4Pi type C



2PE 4Pi type C



I⁵M

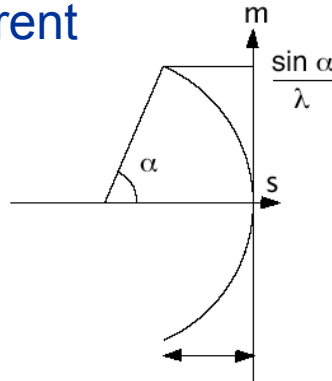


Hell

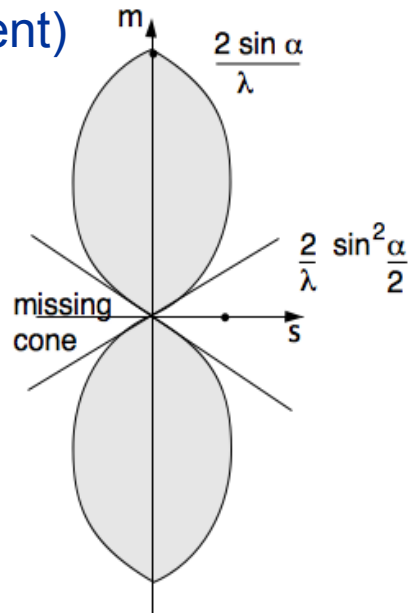
3D Spatial Frequency cut-offs

Maximum $4/\lambda$ ($4n/\lambda$ in medium, e.g $6/\lambda$)

Coherent



Abbe
(incoherent)

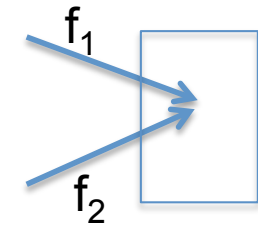
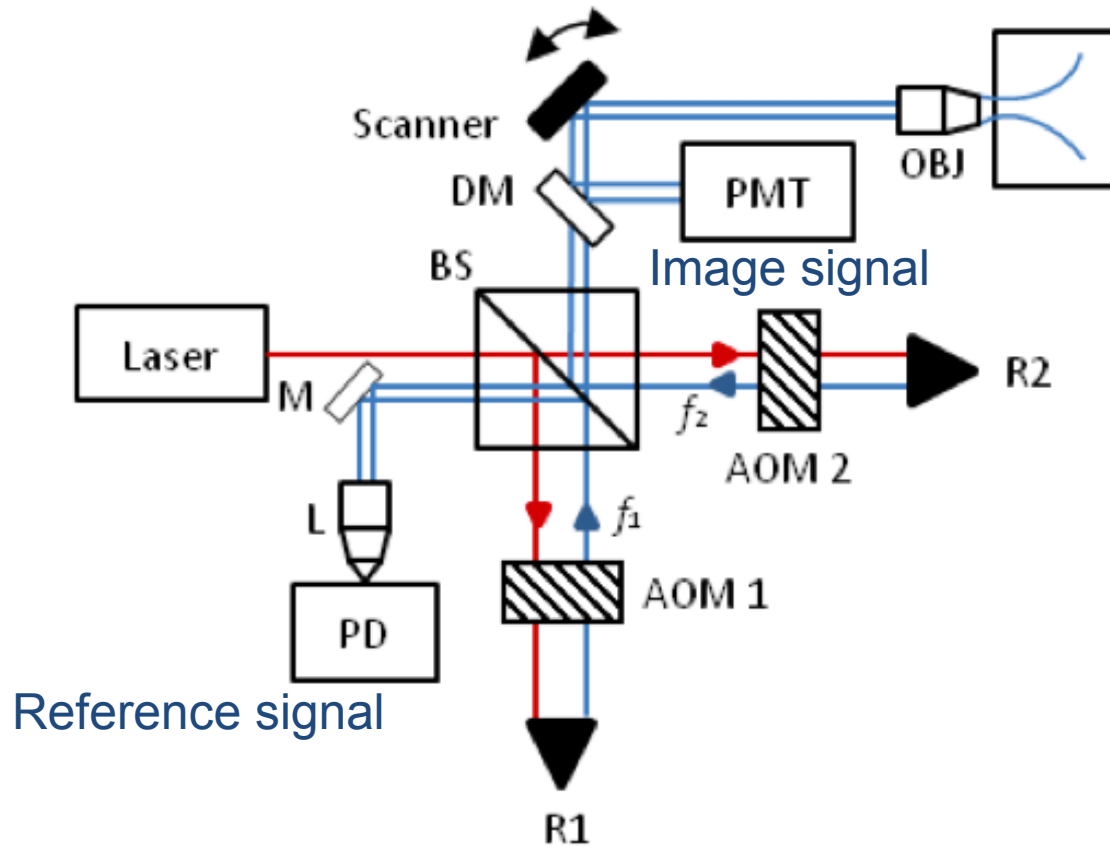


no missing cone

Confocal fluorescence
or
Structured illumination

Maximum possible with
propagating waves,
sphere radius $4n/\lambda$

Focal modulation microscopy



- Detect beat frequency
- Only get a signal from the focal region, where the 2 beams cross

Focal modulation microscopy

Nanguang Chen^{1,2*}, Chee-Howe Wong², and Colin J. R. Sheppard^{1,3}

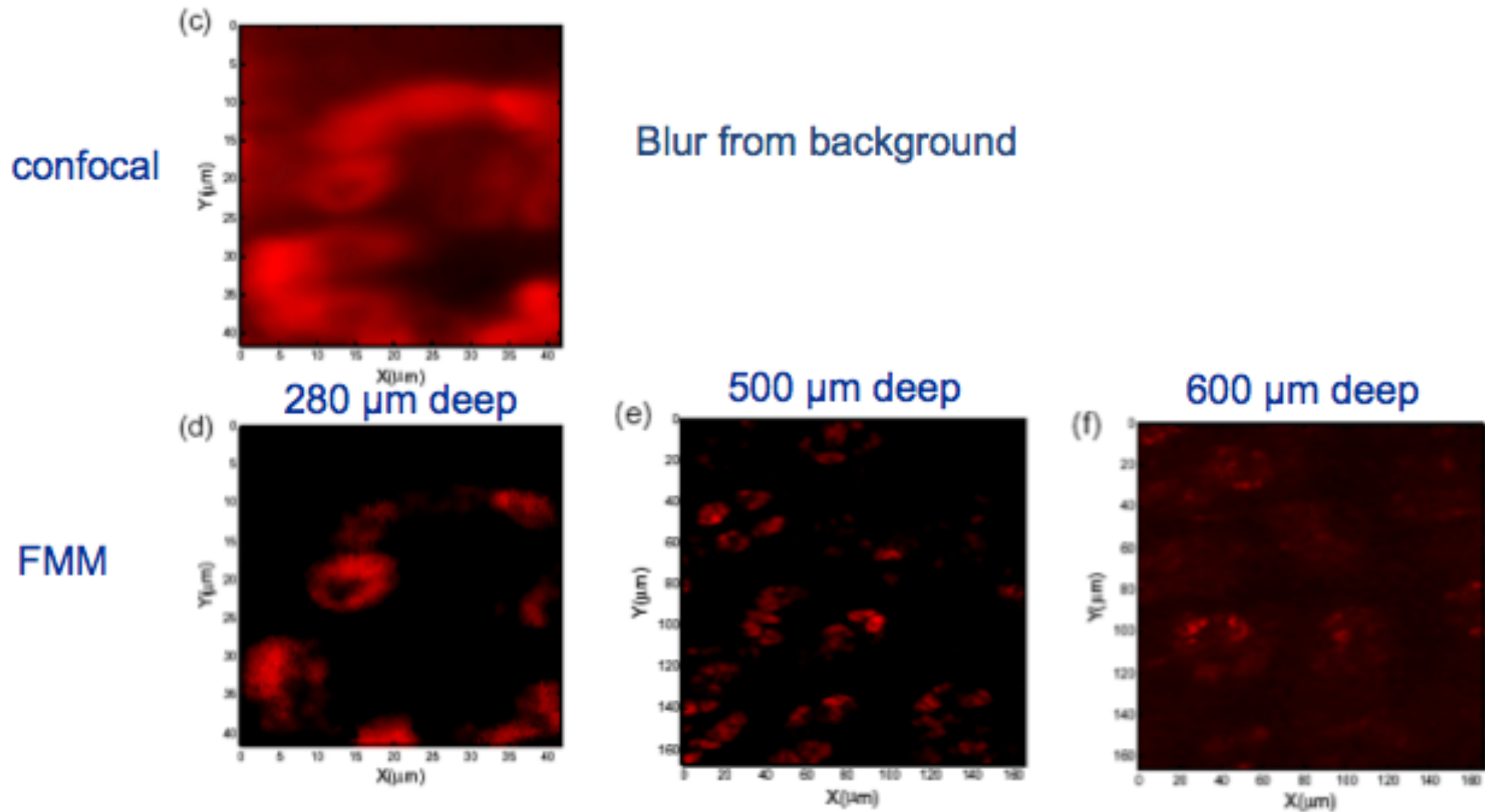
10 November 2008 / Vol. 16, No. 23 / OPTICS EXPRESS 18764

High-speed focal modulation microscopy using acousto-optical modulators

Shau Poh Chong¹, Chee Howe Wong¹, Kit Fei Wong¹, Colin J.R. Sheppard^{1,2}, and Nanguang Chen^{1,*}

Vol. 1, No. 3 / BIOMEDICAL OPTICS EXPRESS 1026

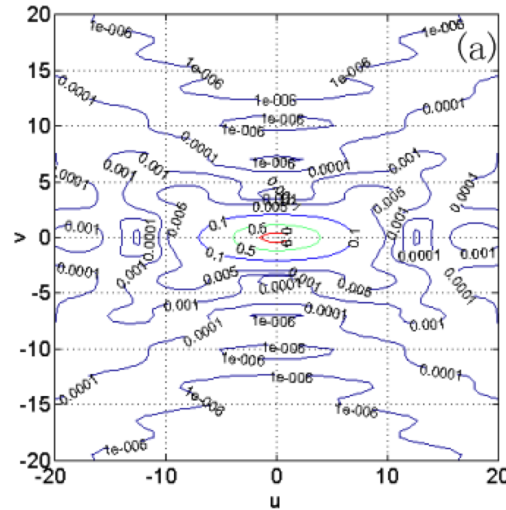
Chondrocytes from chicken cartilage



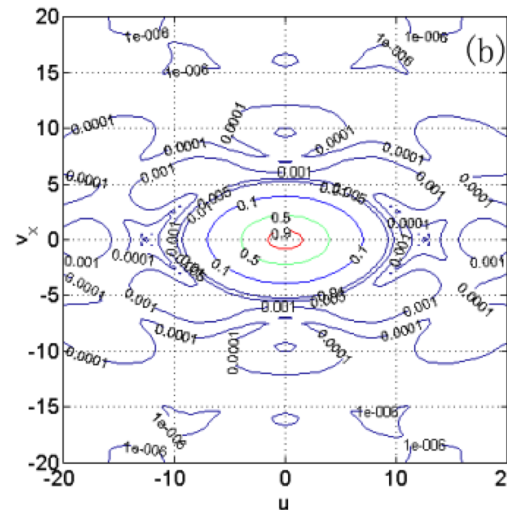
Focal modulation microscopy

Image of a point object

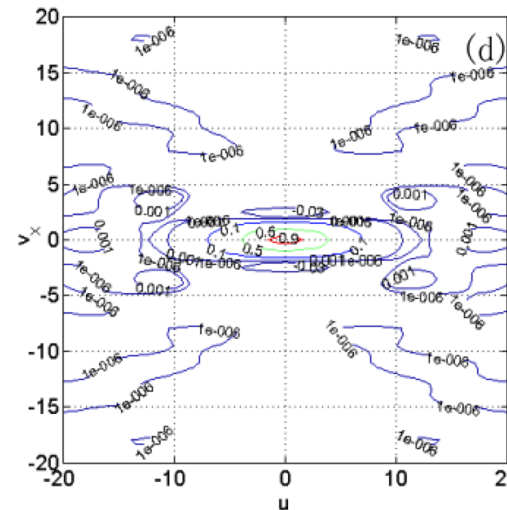
(a) confocal



(b) D-shaped



(c) FMM



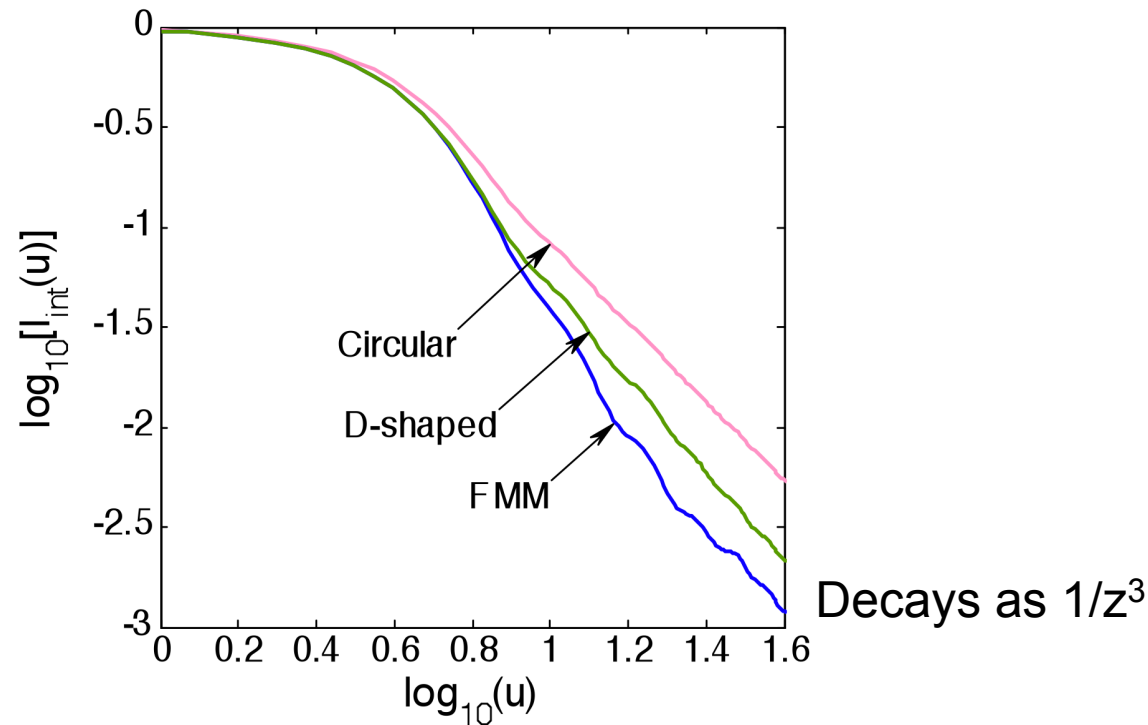
The intensity image of a point object with a point detector, representing the intensity point spread function IPSF.

3508 OPTICS LETTERS / Vol. 34, No. 22 / November 15, 2009

Improved spatial resolution in fluorescence focal modulation microscopy

Wei Gong,¹ Ke Si,² Nanguang Chen,^{1,3} and Colin J. R. Sheppard^{1,2,4,*}

Integrated intensity (background)



The variations of the integrated intensity of FMM, compared with confocal microscope with circular apertures and with D-shaped apertures, for a point detector.

3508 OPTICS LETTERS / Vol. 34, No. 22 / November 15, 2009

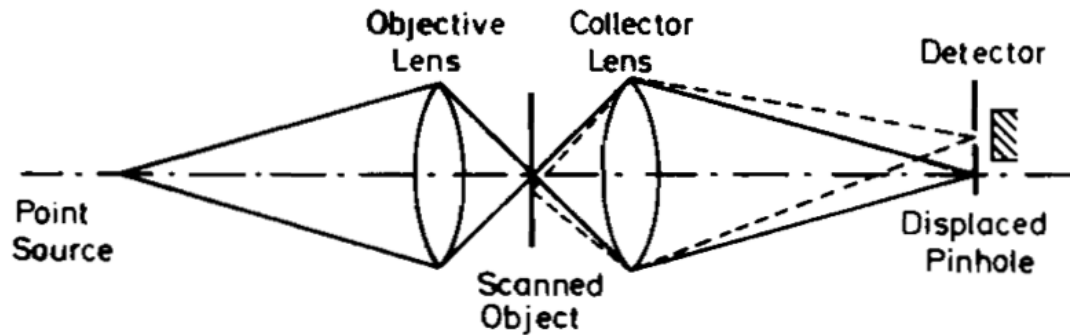
Improved spatial resolution in fluorescence focal modulation microscopy

Wei Gong,¹ Ke Si,² Nanguang Chen,^{1,3} and Colin J. R. Sheppard^{1,2,4,*}

Source/Detector arrays

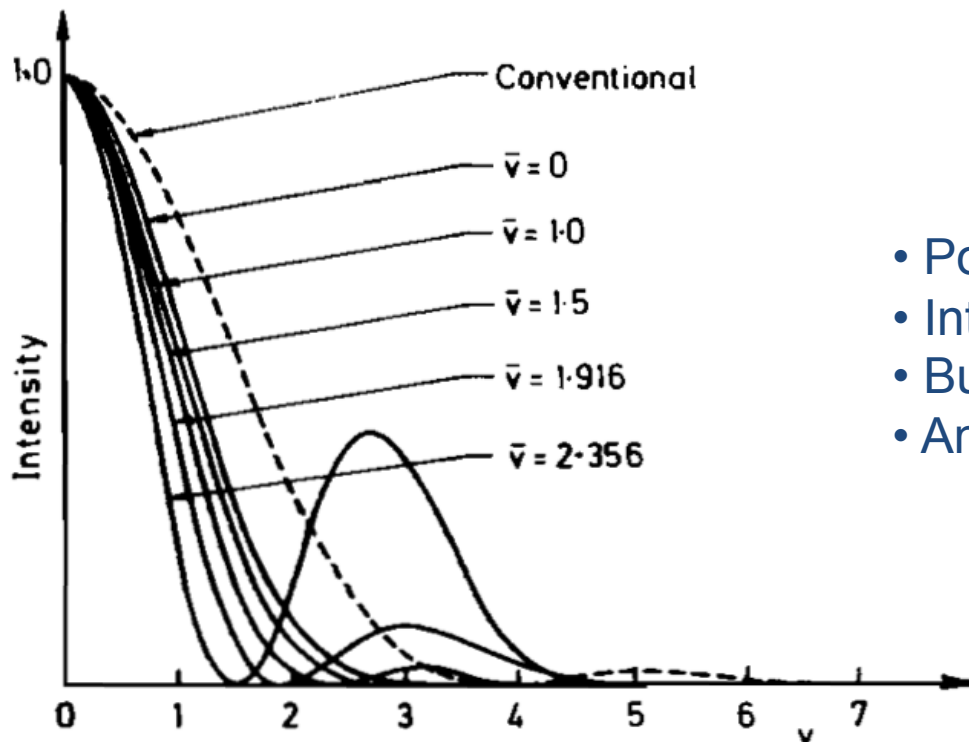
- Tandem scanning, Petrán (1968)
- Singular value decomposition (Bertero & Pike, 1982)
- ‘Type 3’: Maximum signal in detector plane (Reinholz, 1987)
- **Pixel reassignment (Sheppard, 1988)**
- Subtractive imaging (Cogswell & Sheppard 1990, and others)
- Source/detector arrays (Benedetti 1996)
- Programmable array microscope (PAM) (Hanley, 1998)
- Structured illumination
(Lukosz, 1963; Gustafsson, 2000)

Offset pinhole



PSF:

$$I(v) = \left[\frac{2J_1(v - \bar{v})}{v - \bar{v}} \right]^2 \left[\frac{2J_1(v + \bar{v})}{v + \bar{v}} \right]^2$$



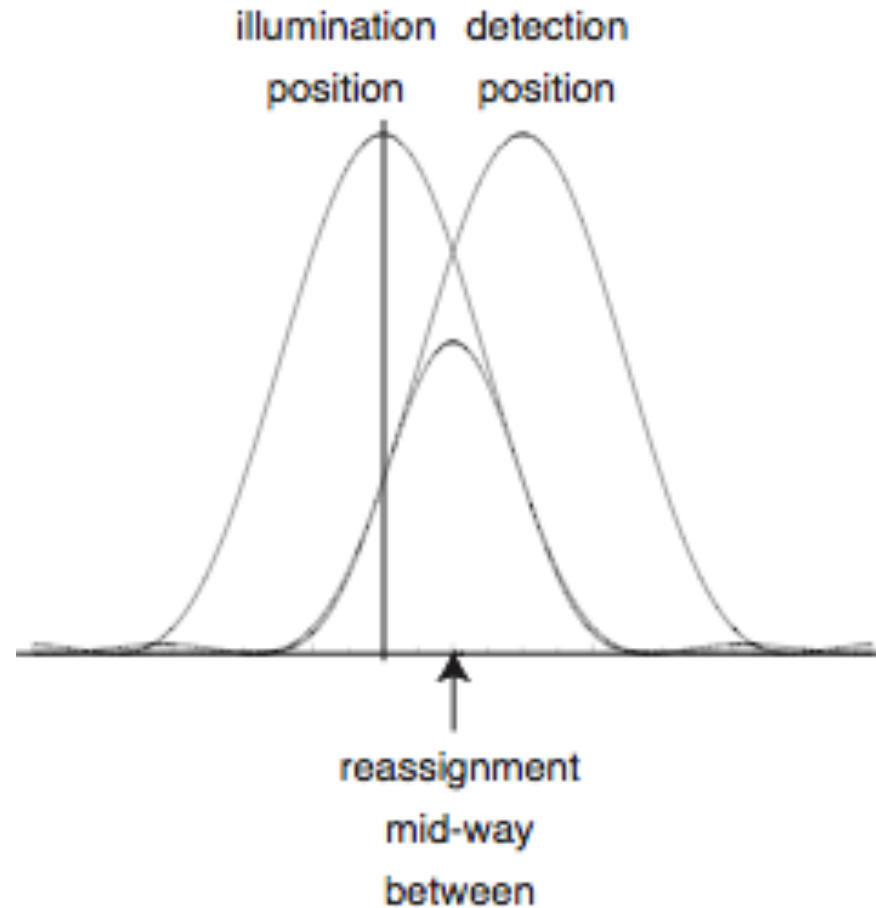
- Point spread function gets narrower
- Intensity decreases
- But increased side lobes
- And effective psf shifts sideways

Improvement in resolution by nearly confocal microscopy

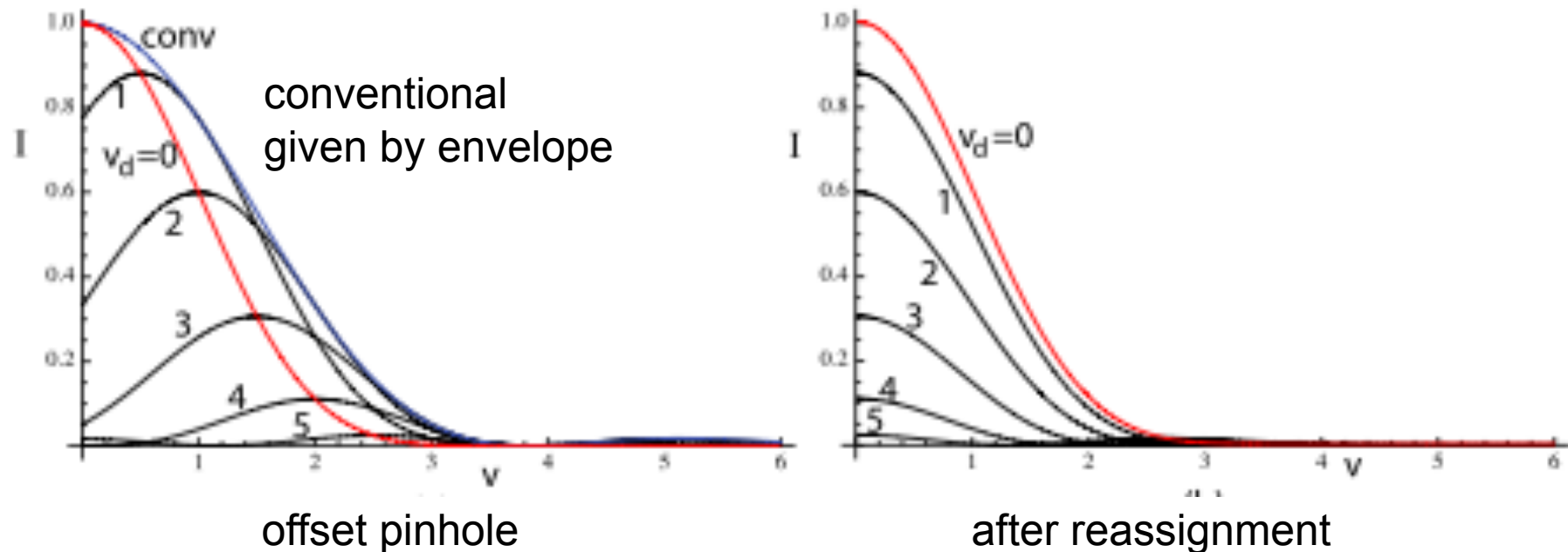
APPLIED OPTICS, Vol. 21, page 778, March 1, 1982

I. J. Cox, C. J. R. Sheppard, and T. Wilson

Gives the image of a shifted object point



Offset pinhole & reassignment



- Integrate without reassignment: same as conventional
- Integrate with reassignment (to centre of illumination and detection):
PSF sharpened and signal improved

Pixel reassignment

Abstract

A new explanation for the imaging improvement of confocal microscopy is presented. A method of further increasing the imaging performance is also discussed.

Optical transfer function

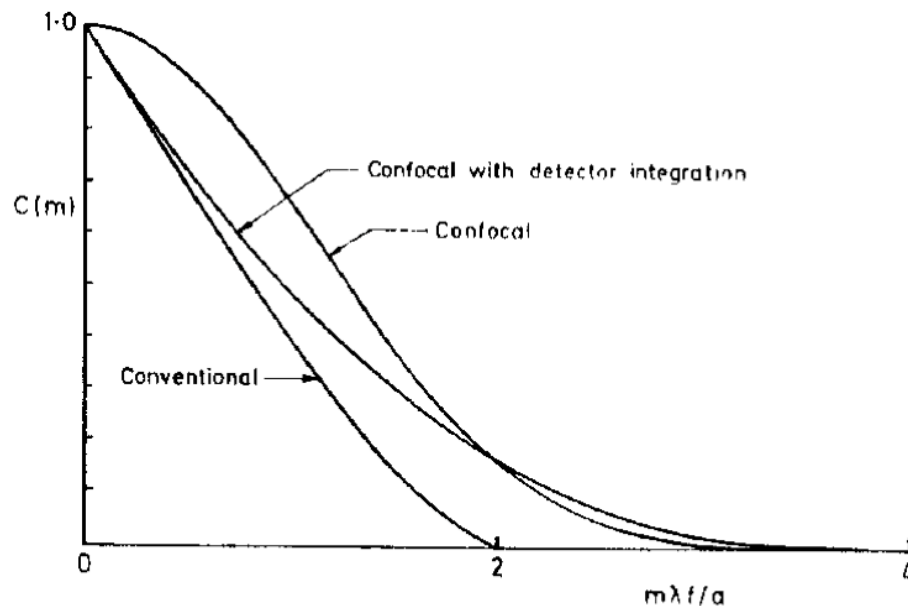


Fig. 2. Incoherent transfer functions for a fluorescence microscope. The radius of the circular pupils is a .

function of $2x_s$

$$I(x_s) = \{|h_1|^2 \otimes |h_2|^2\} (2x_s)$$

$$(m) = \{(P_1 \otimes P_1^*) (P_2 \otimes P_2^*)\} (m\lambda f/2)$$

product of rescaled OTFs
 (not convolution of OTFs
 as for confocal)

Super-resolution in Confocal Imaging

C. J. R. Sheppard,

Optik

80, No. 2 (1988) 53-54

Image scanning microscopy

PRL 104, 198101 (2010)

Selected for a Viewpoint in *Physics*
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

Image Scanning Microscopy

Claus B. Müller and Jörg Enderlein*

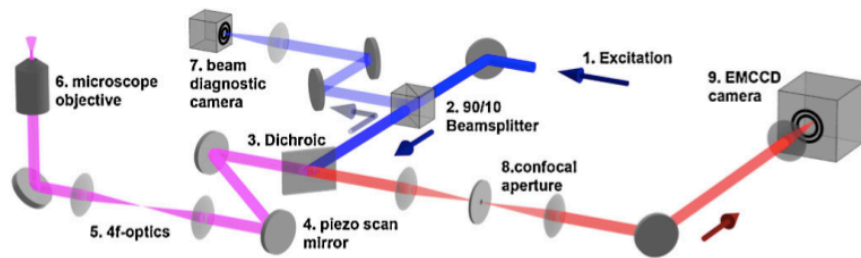


FIG. 1 (color online). ISM Setup, (1) Excitation with super-continuum white light source and acousto-optic tunable filter, (2) 90/10 nonpolarizing beam splitter cube, (3) major dichroic mirror, (4) piezo scan mirror, (5) 4f telescope, (6) UPL APO 60x W microscope objective, (7) beam diagnostic camera, (8) confocal aperture, and (9) EM CCD detection camera system.

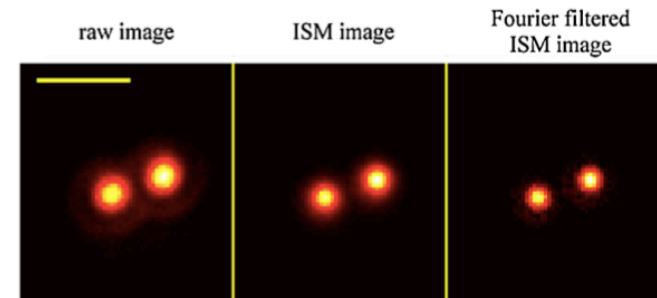
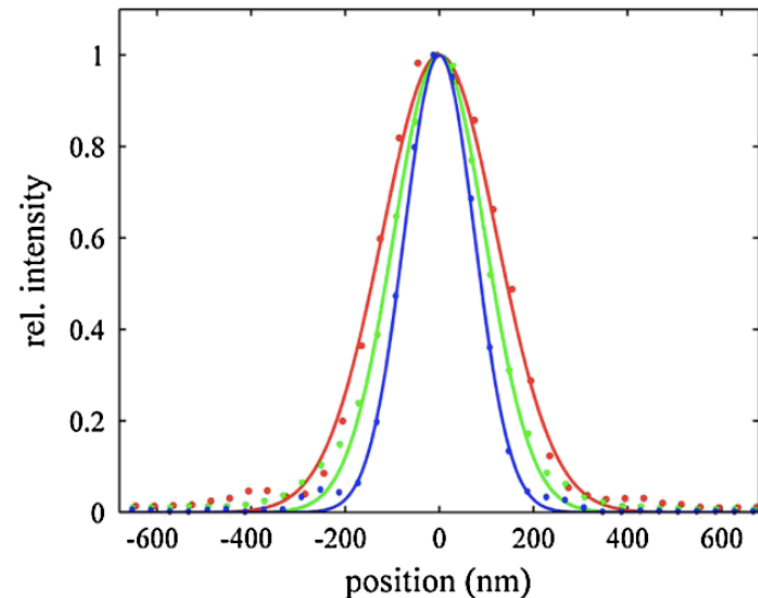
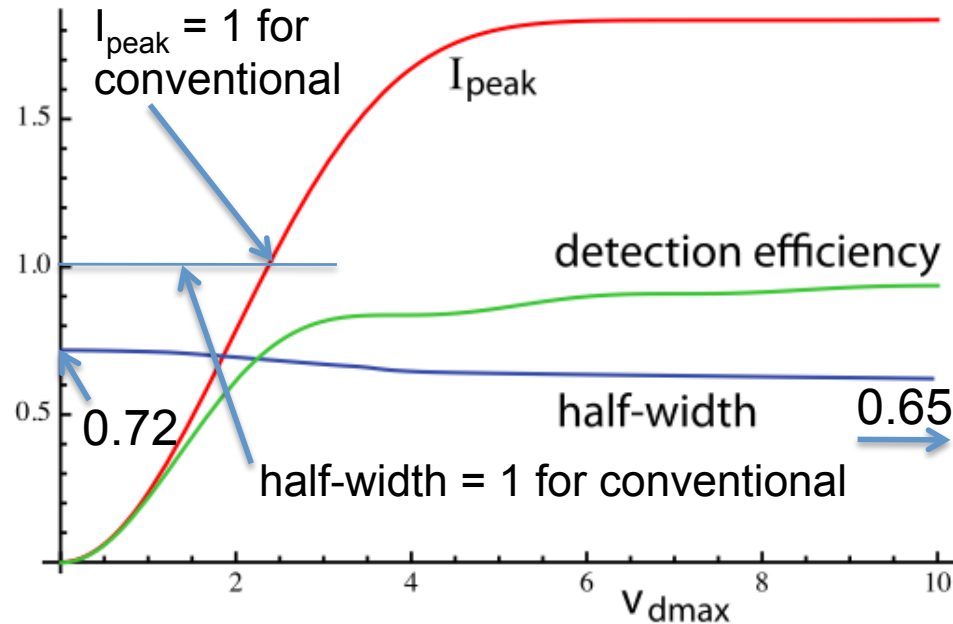


FIG. 2 (color online). Image of a single fluorescent bead of 100 nm diameter. Left panel: CLSM image; middle panel: ISM image; right panel: Fourier-weighted ISM image. The horizontal bar in the left panel has a length of 1 μm .



Integration over finite region

peak intensity goes above 1!

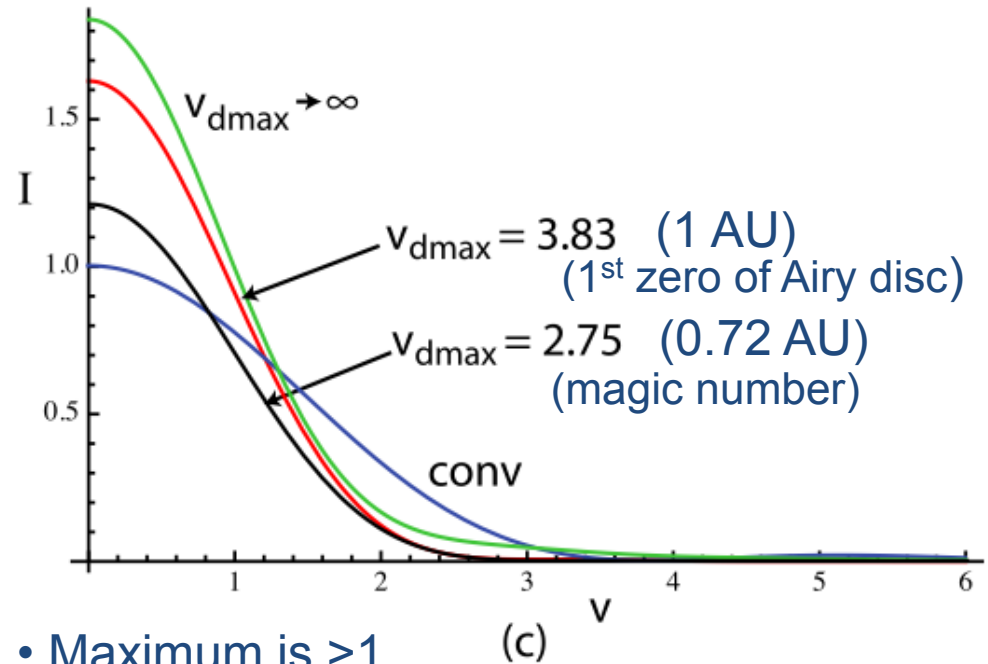


Resolution and signal strength improve as v_{dmax} increases

Maximum of point spread function for large v_{dmax} is

$$4(1 - 16 / 3\pi^2) = 1.84$$

(4 elements gives ~ 1.4)



- Maximum is >1
- Super-concentration
- Beats classical limit of étendue

August 1, 2013 / Vol. 38, No. 15 / OPTICS LETTERS 2889

Superresolution by image scanning microscopy using pixel reassignment

Colin J. R. Sheppard,^{1,*} Shalin B. Mehta,² and Rainer Heintzmann^{3,4,5}

Letter

Vol. 41, No. 9 / May 1 2016 / Optics Letters 2109

Optics Letters

Superconcentration of light: circumventing the classical limit to achievable irradiance

STEPHAN ROTH,¹ COLIN J. R. SHEPPARD,² AND RAINER HEINTZMANN^{1,3,*}

Unnormalized OTF

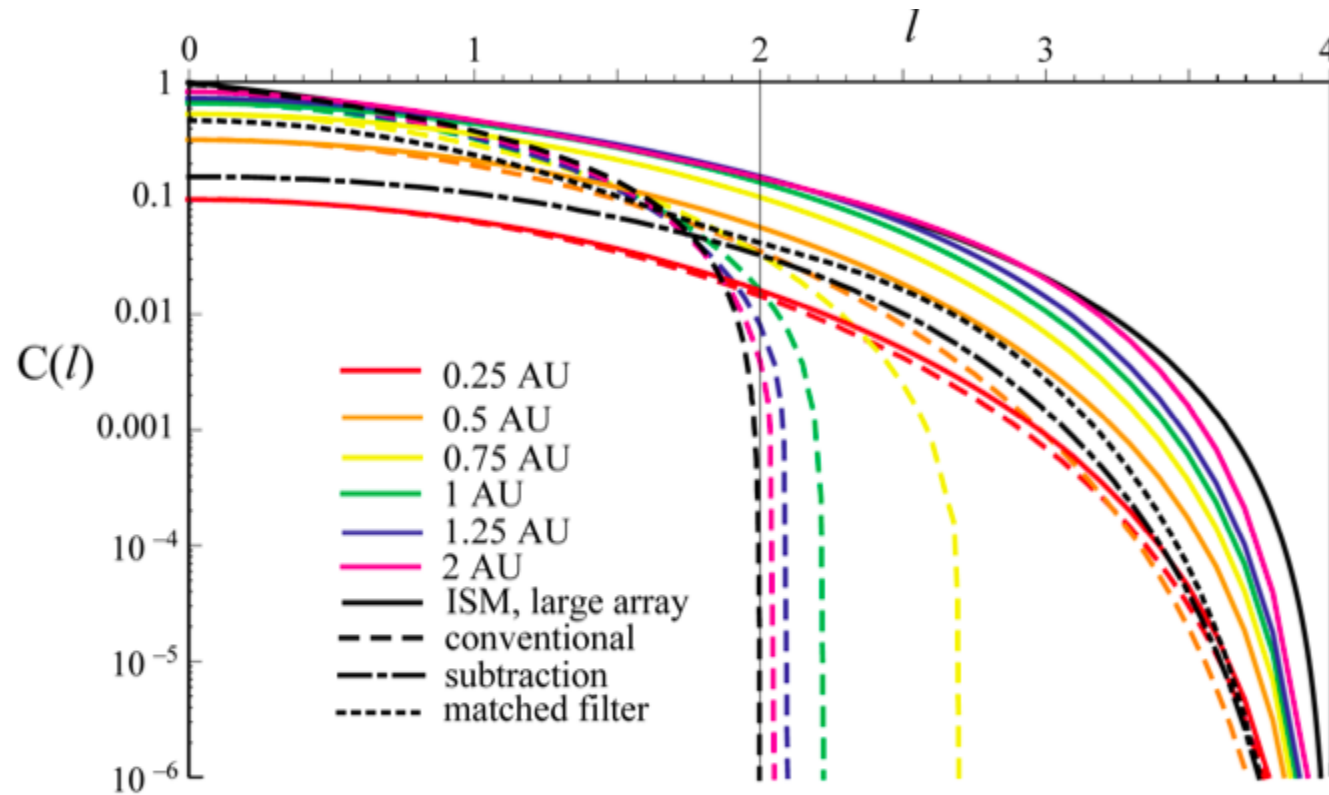


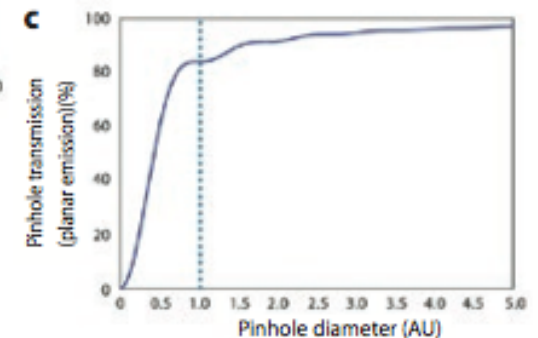
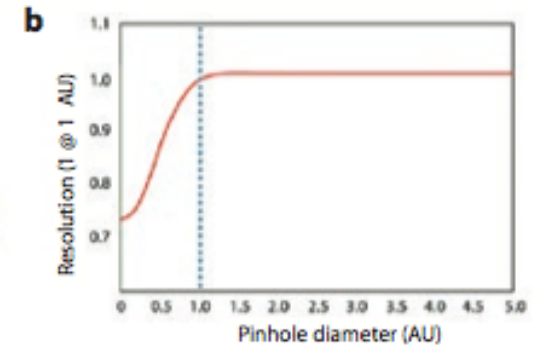
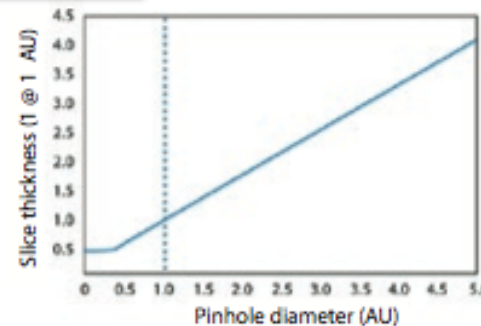
Fig. 5. A logarithmic plot of the unnormalized OTFs for a confocal microscope (dashed lines) and ISM (solid lines) with different pinhole/array sizes. The first positive lobe only of the confocal OTF is shown. The behavior for subtracting images from two pinhole sizes ($I_{0.5AU} - \frac{1}{4}I_{1AU}$), or using a matched filter with two ring detectors is also shown.

Interpretation of the optical transfer function: Significance for image scanning microscopy

COLIN J. R. SHEPPARD,^{1,*} STEPHAN ROTH,^{2,3} RAINER HEINTZMANN,^{2,3} MARCO CASTELLO,^{1,4} GIUSEPPE VICIDOMINI,¹ RUI CHEN,⁵ XUDONG CHEN,⁵ AND ALBERTO DIASPRO^{1,4,6}

Zeiss Airyscan

Over the past 25 years, confocal imaging has become the standard technique for most fluorescence microscopy applications. The increased use of confocal imaging systems in basic biomedical research can be attributed to their ability to produce high-contrast, optically sectioned images while providing enough acquisition versatility to address many sample and application demands



substantial (4-8 \times) increase in SNR in the final image

Joseph Huff

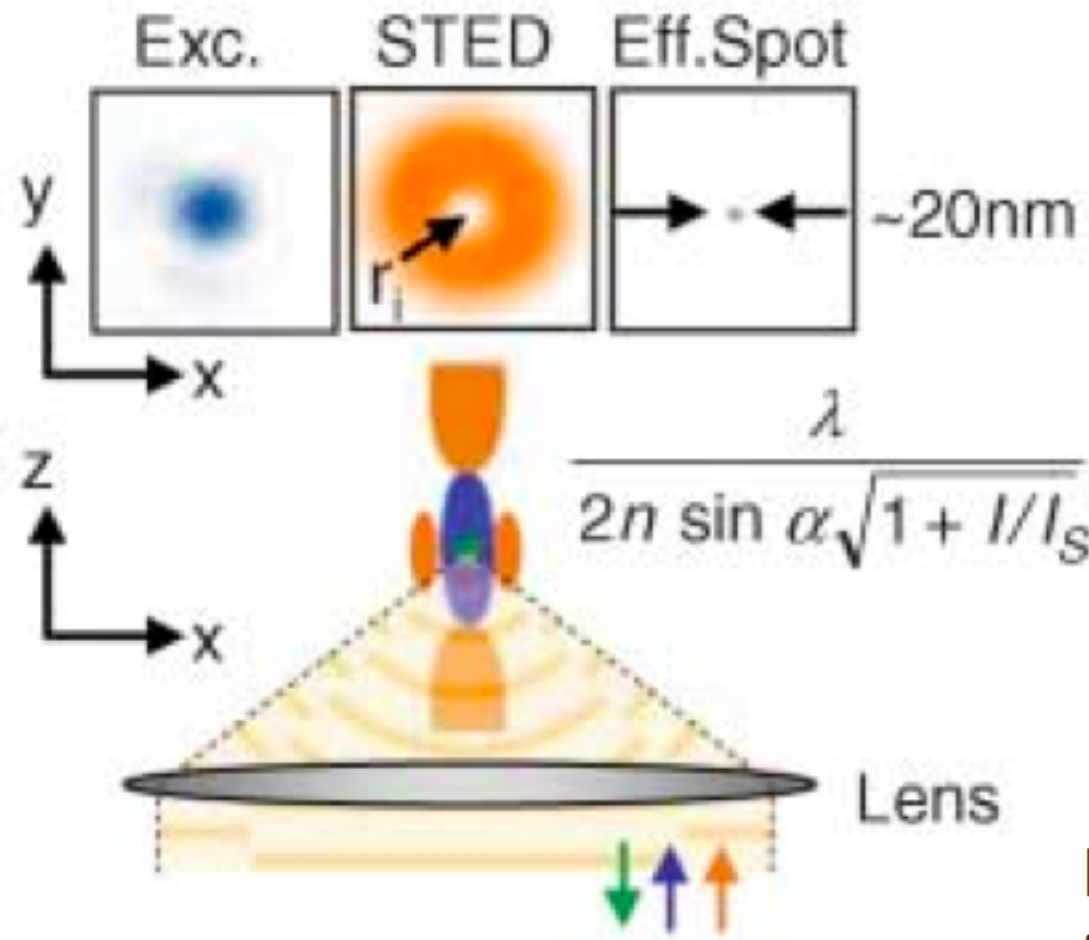
Carl Zeiss Microscopy, LLC, Thornwood, New York, USA. Correspondence should be addressed to J.H. (joseph.huff@zeiss.com).

1. Conchello, J.-A. and Lichtman, J.W. *Nat. Methods* **2**, 920–931 (2005).
2. Neu, T.R. and Lawrence, J.R. *Trends Microbiol.* **23**, 233–242 (2015).
3. Sheppard, C.J. *Optik* **80**, 53–54 (1988).
4. Sheppard, C.J., Mehta, S.B. & Heintzmann, R. *Opt. Lett.* **38**, 2889–2892 (2013).

Nonlinear imaging

- Incoherent versus coherent imaging (square law)
- Saturable absorber sharpens point spread function (Choudhury, 1977)
- Nonlinearity of detection in optical storage (Braat, 1980s)
- Nonlinear effects in lithography
- Multiphoton imaging (SHG, 2-photon fluorescence)
- Stimulated emission depletion microscopy (STED) (Hell)
- Saturation in structured illumination (Heinzmann, Gustafsson)
- PALM, STORM

Superresolution microscopy: Stimulated emission depletion microscopy (STED)



STED:
Principle by
Hell, Wichmann (1994)

Far-Field Optical Nanoscopy

Stefan W. Hell

Nonlinear structured illumination microscopy

- Heintzmann, Jovin & Cremer (2002)

Heintzmann *et al.*

Vol. 19, No. 8/August 2002/J. Opt. Soc. Am. A 1599

**Saturated patterned excitation microscopy—a
concept for optical resolution improvement**

- Gustafsson (2005)

**Nonlinear structured-illumination microscopy:
Wide-field fluorescence imaging with
theoretically unlimited resolution**

Mats G. L. Gustafsson*

Structured illumination microscopy with nonlinearity from saturation

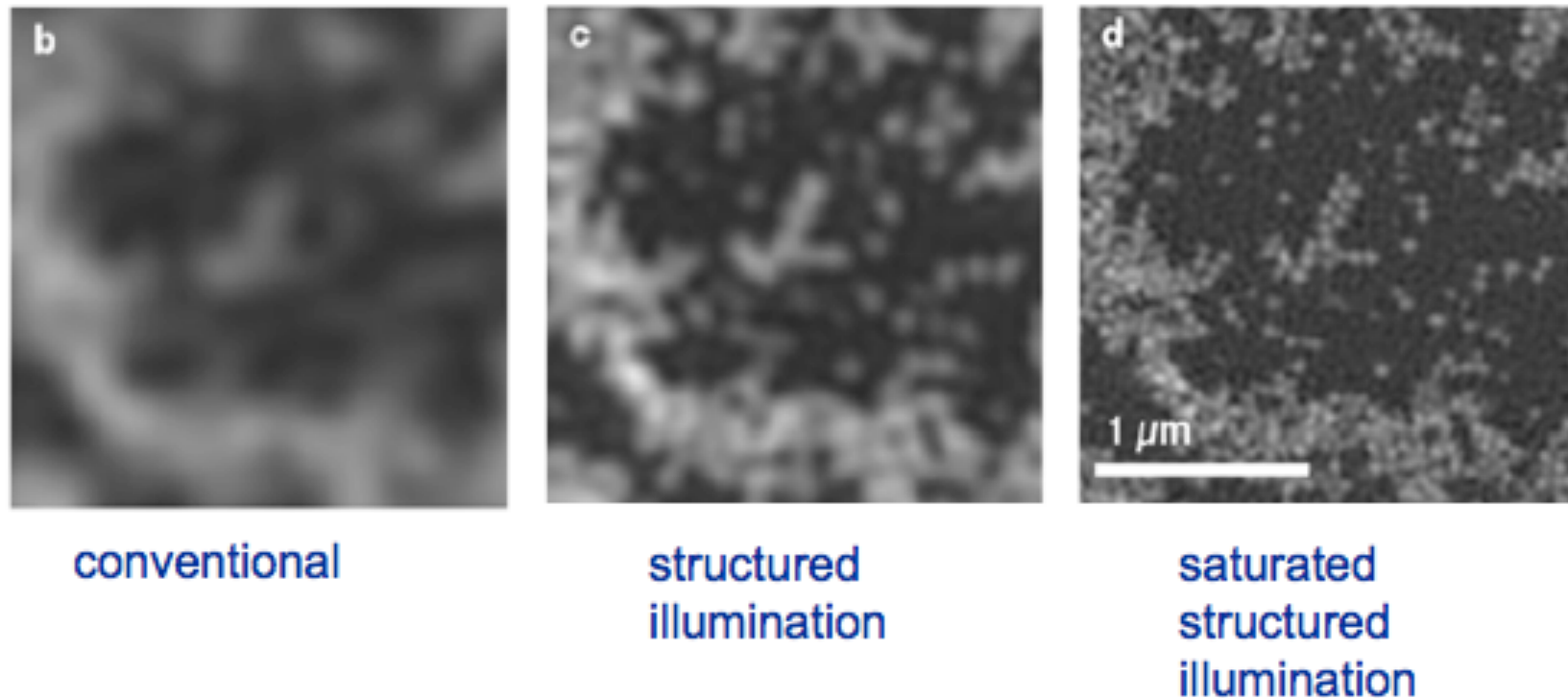


Fig. 6. A field of 50 nm fluorescent beads, imaged by (a) conventional microscopy, (b) conventional microscopy plus filtering, (c) linear structured illumination, and (d) saturated structured illumination using illumination pulses with 5.3 mJ/cm^2 energy density, taking into account three harmonic orders in the processing. As no scanning is

M Gustafsson, *PNAS* **102**, 13081 (2005)

Localization microscopy

- Lidke *et al. Opt Exp.* 13, 7052 (2005) Blinking of quantum dots

Abstract: In microscopy, single fluorescence point sources can be localized with a precision several times greater than the resolution limit of the microscope. We show that the intermittent fluorescence or 'blinking' of quantum dots can be analyzed by an Independent Component Analysis so as to identify the light emitted by each individual nanoparticle, localize it precisely, and thereby resolve groups of closely spaced ($< \lambda/30$) quantum dots. Both simulated and experimental data demonstrate that this technique is superior to localization based on Maximum Likelihood Estimation of the sum image under the assumption of point emitters. This technique has general application to any emitter with non-Gaussian temporal intensity distribution, including triplet state blinking. When applied to the labeling of structures, a high resolution "image" consisting of individually localized points may be reconstructed leading to the term "Pointillism".

Superresolution by localization of quantum dots using blinking statistics

5 September 2005 / Vol. 13, No. 18 / OPTICS EXPRESS 7052

Keith A. Lidke¹, Bernd Rieger¹, Thomas M. Jovin¹ and
Rainer Heintzmann^{1,2}

- Betzig *et al. Science* 313, 1642 (2006) PALM
- Hess *et al. Biophys. J.* 91, 4258 (2006) FPALM
- Rust *et al. Nature Methods* 3, 793 (2006) STORM

Conclusions

- Distinguish between true superresolution and others
- Some methods can give improvement in resolution with an unchanged spatial frequency cut-off
 - Pupil filters
- Some methods can increase spatial frequency cut-off by factor of two
 - Confocal
 - Structured illumination
 - Source/detector arrays
- Some methods can give further increased bandwidth
 - Nonlinear or switching
 - Near field