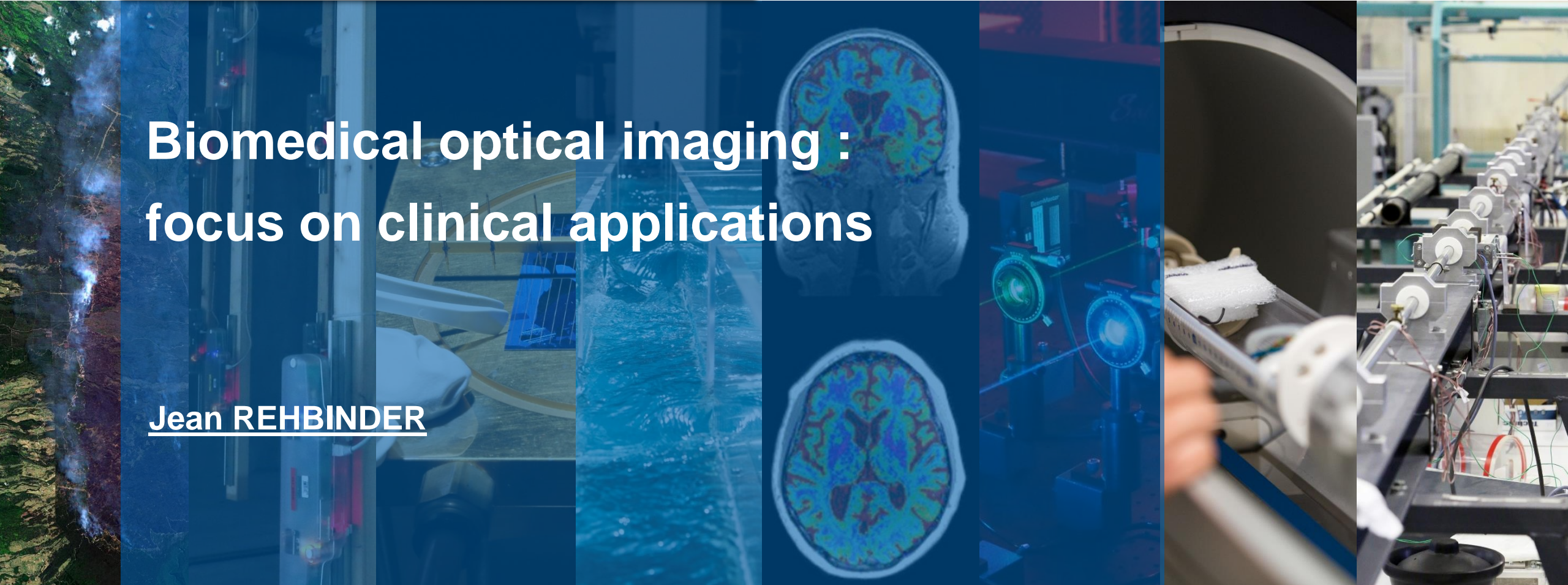




Laboratoire des sciences de l'ingénieur,  
de l'informatique et de l'imagerie

# Biomedical optical imaging : focus on clinical applications

Jean REHBINDER

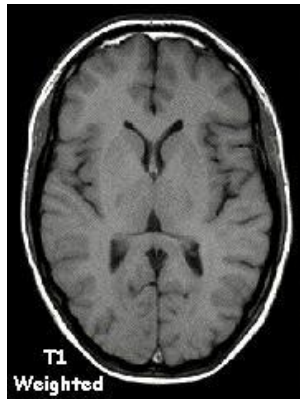
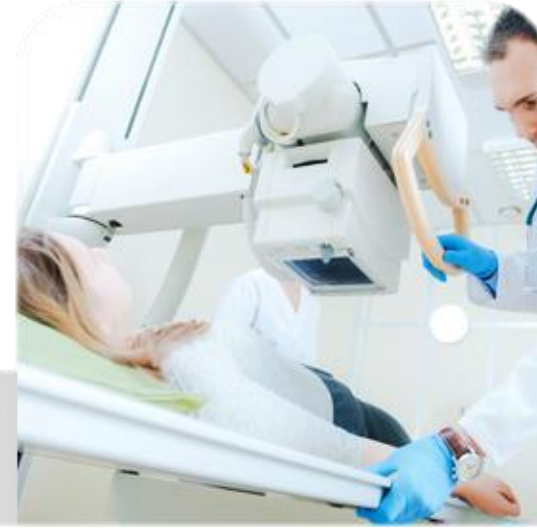




<https://www.ihu-strasbourg.eu/rendez-vous-de-scanner-et-dirm/>



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radiology#/media/File:Radiologist\\_interpreting\\_MRI.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radiology#/media/File:Radiologist_interpreting_MRI.jpg)



**MRI**



**Ultrasound**



**X-ray**



**CT-scanner**

3D imaging of whole organs/ whole body  
Mainly anatomical information,  
sometimes functional (+ contrast agents)

# Optics in medicine = low-tech?



Will light bring about the next  
revolution in medical imaging?

- I. Some physics**
- II. Conventional optics and fluorescence**
- III. Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT)**
- IV. Non-Linear Microscopy (NLOM)**
- V. Polarimetry**
- VI. Summary**
- VII. Closing remarks**

# Properties of light

Direction of propagation:

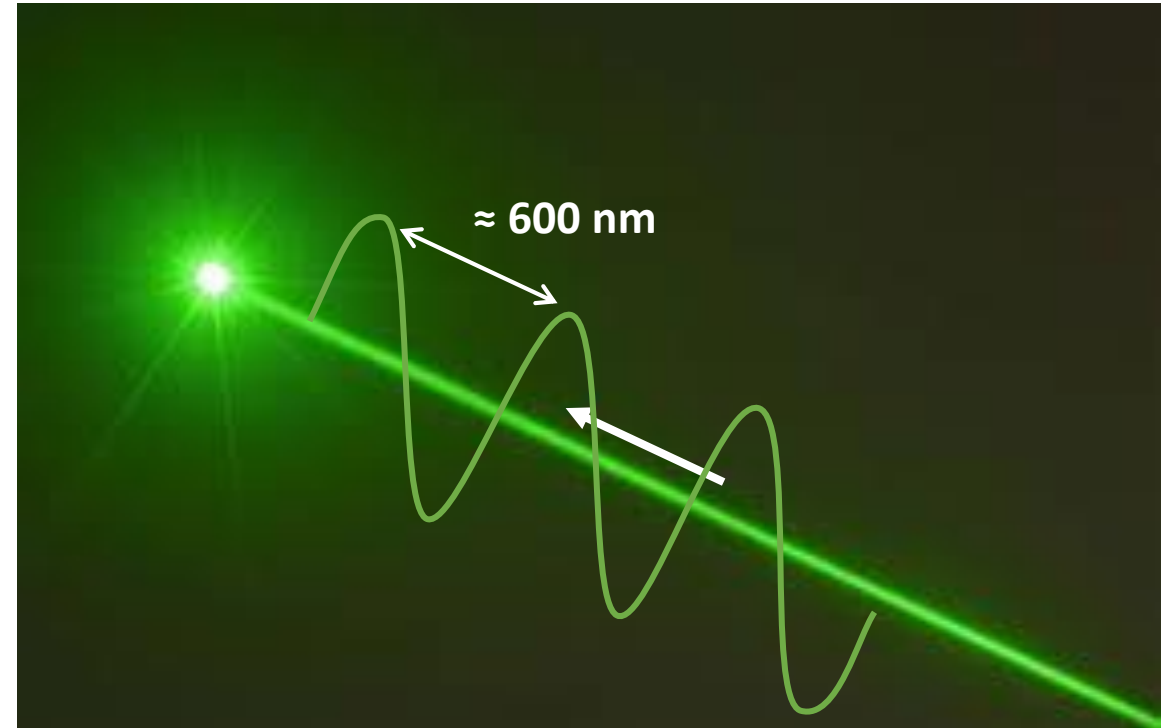
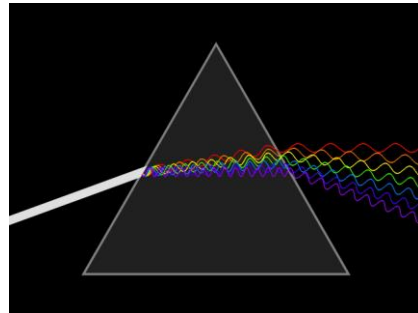
→ Geometrical optics  
(lenses, microscope objectives,  
endoscopes ...)

Wavelength (color):

→ Spectroscopy

Polarisation

→ Polarimetry



# Properties of light

Direction of propagation:

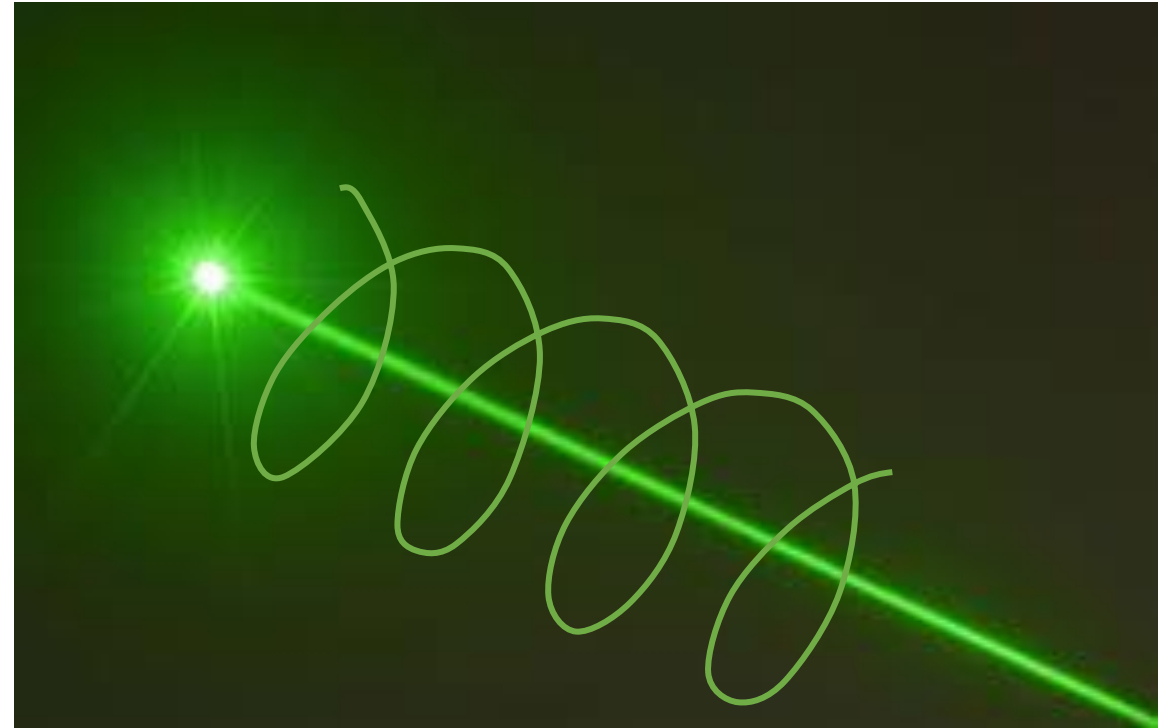
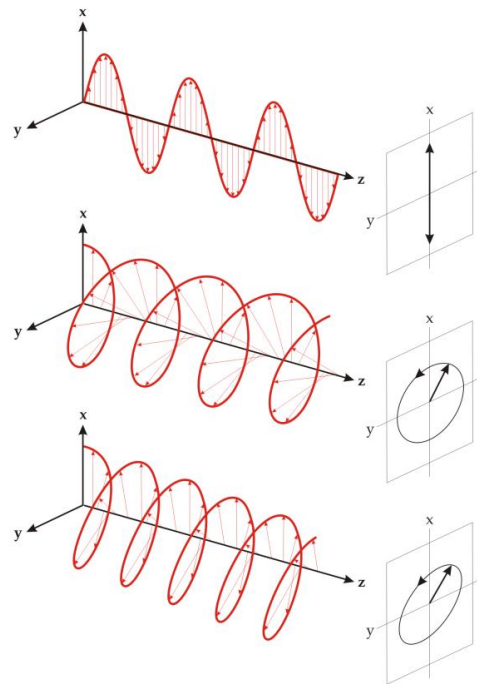
→ Geometrical optics  
(lenses, microscope objectives,  
endoscopes ...)

Wavelength (color):

→ Spectroscopy

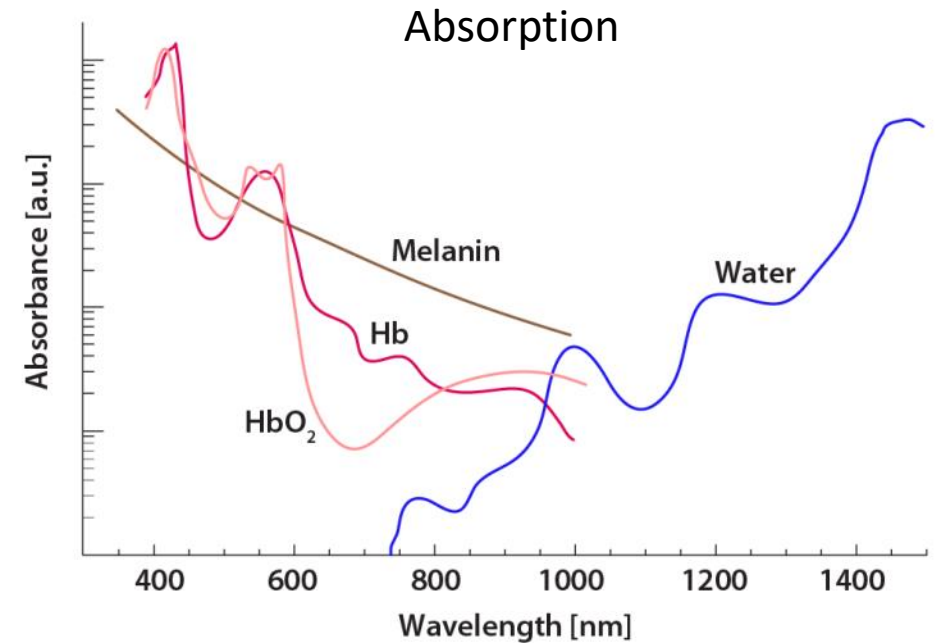
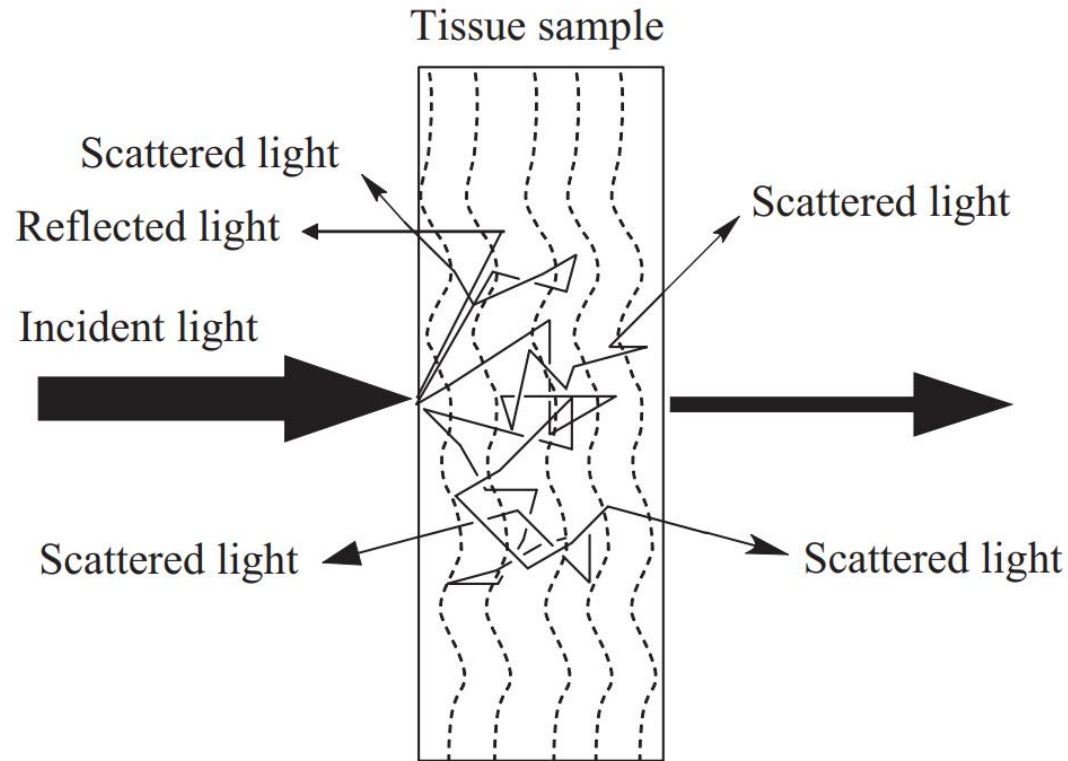
Polarisation

→ Polarimetry





# Interaction of light with tissue



In biological tissues, scattering dominates over absorption

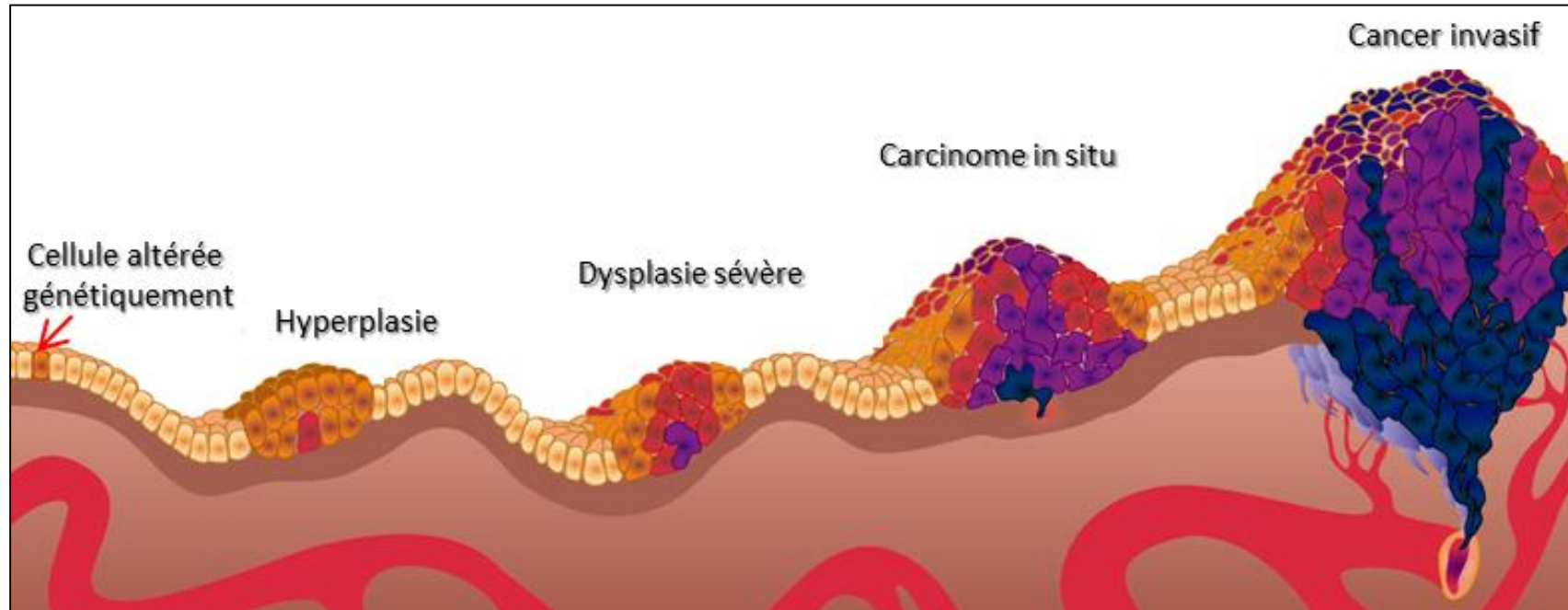
# Penetration depth



Imaging typically limited to  $\approx 1$  mm depth  
Scattering rapidly “blurs” the contrasts

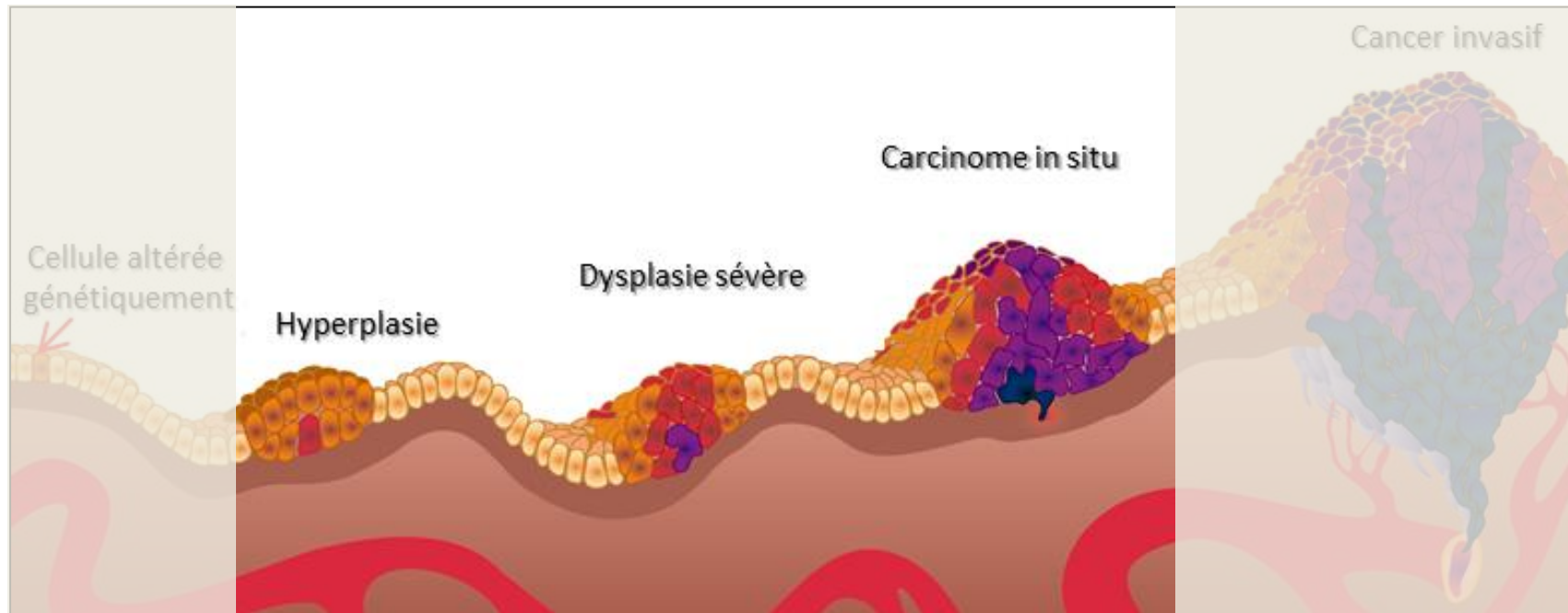
# « Optical biopsy »

90% of cancers start from epithelia



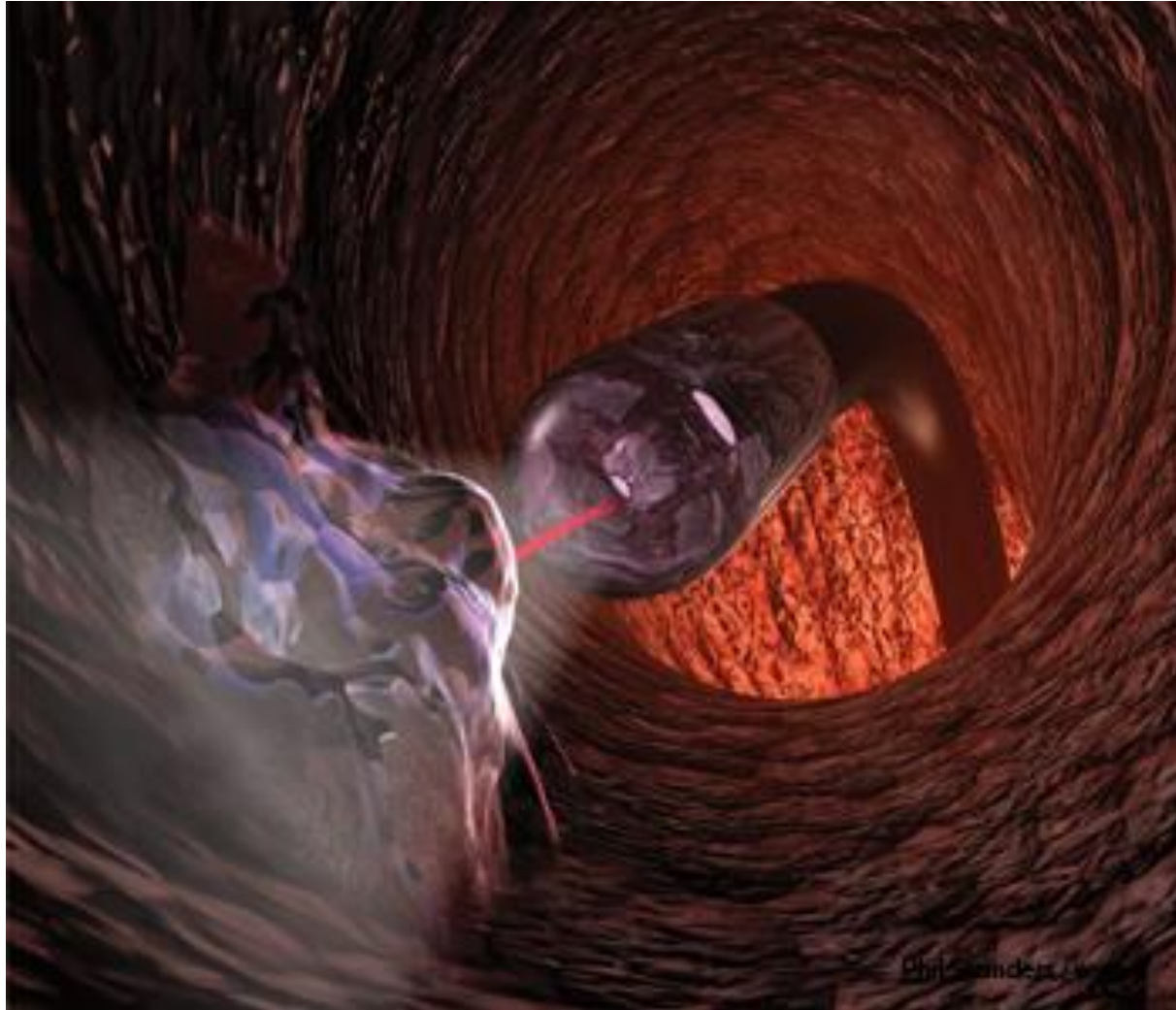
# « Optical biopsy »

90% of cancers start from epithelia

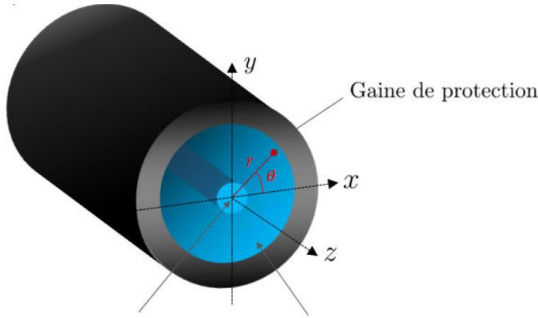


- I. Some physics**
- II. Conventional optics and fluorescence**
  - I. Principle**
  - II. Instruments**
  - III. Clinical applications**
  - IV. Example : a (French) research group or start-up**
- III. Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT)**
- IV. Non-Linear Microscopy (NLOM)**
- V. Polarimetry**
- VI. Summary**
- VII. Closing remarks**

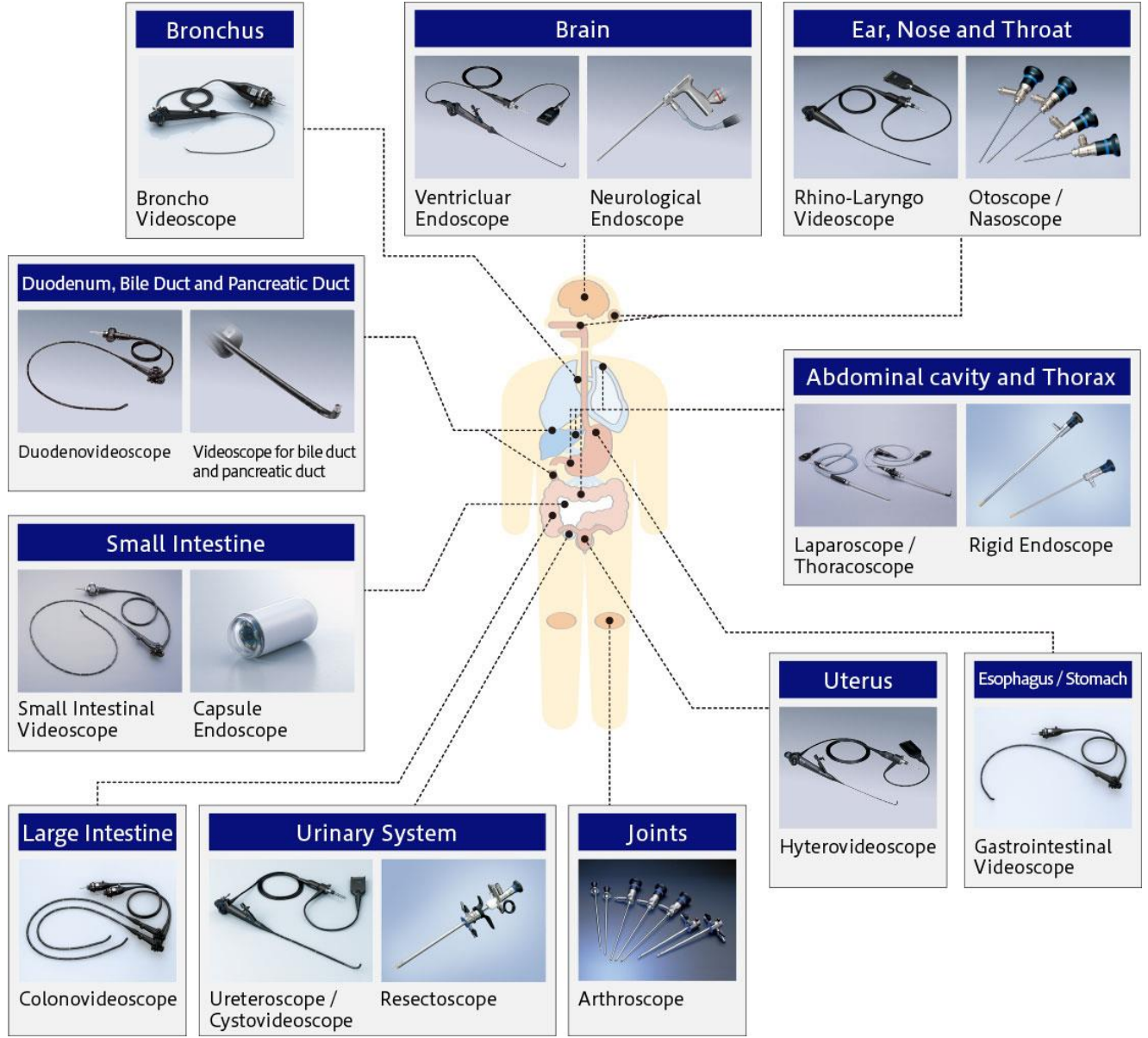
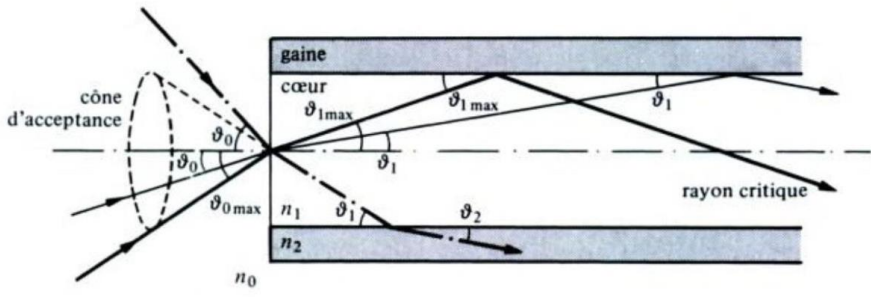
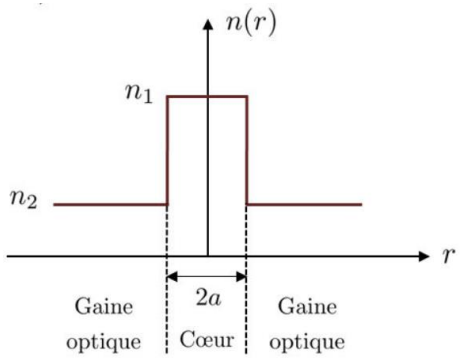
# Endoscopy : bring light to the tissue



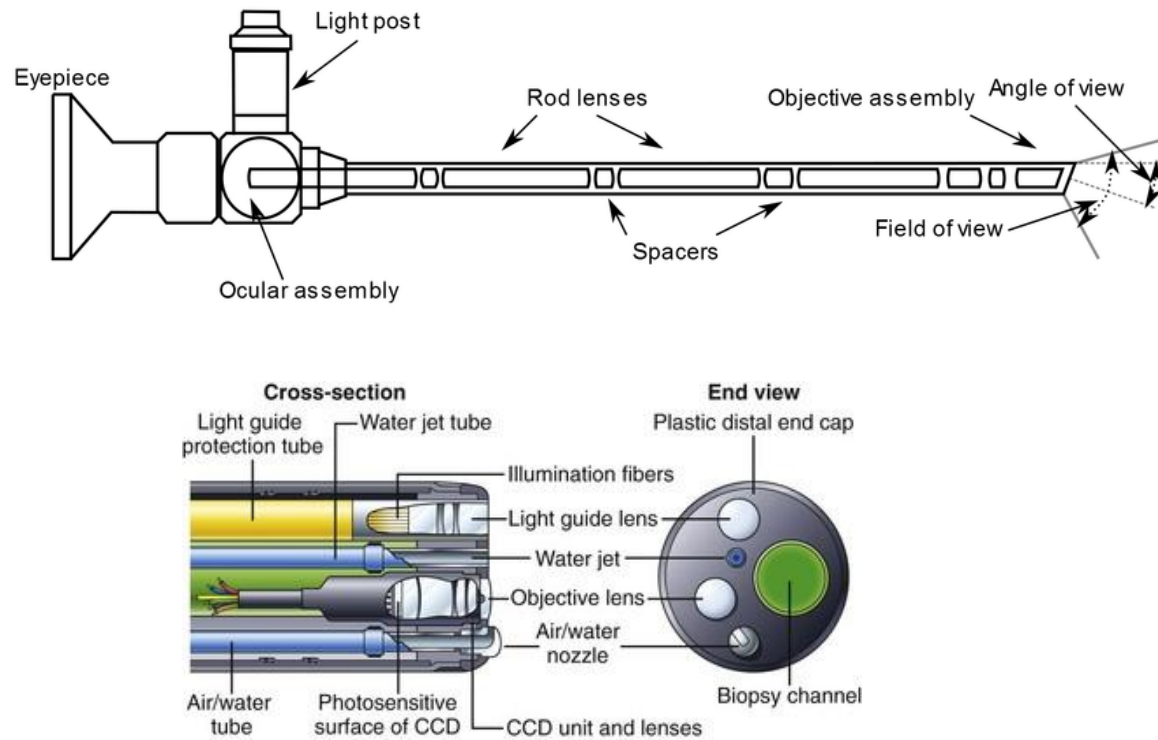
# Endoscopes



Cœur (indice de réfraction  $n_1$ ) Gaine optique (indice de réfraction  $n_2$ )



# Rigid endoscopes : minimally invasive surgery



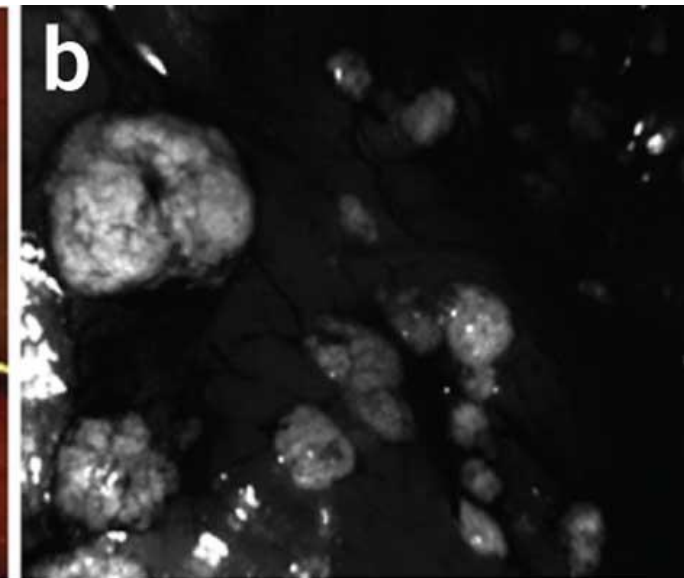
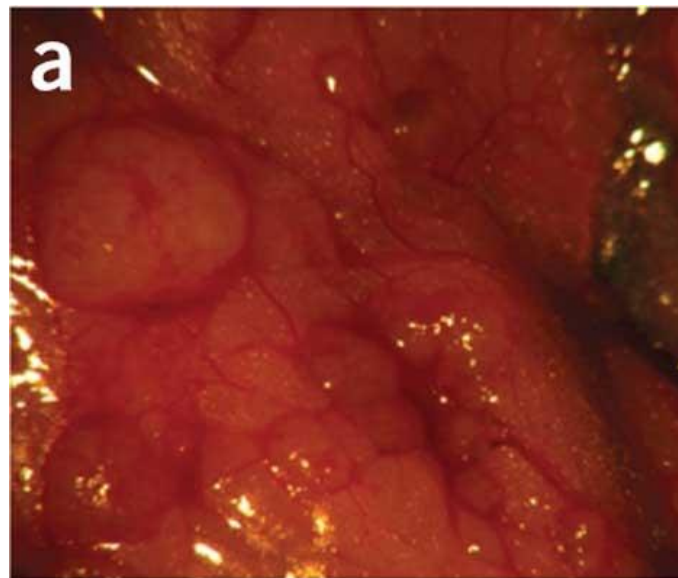
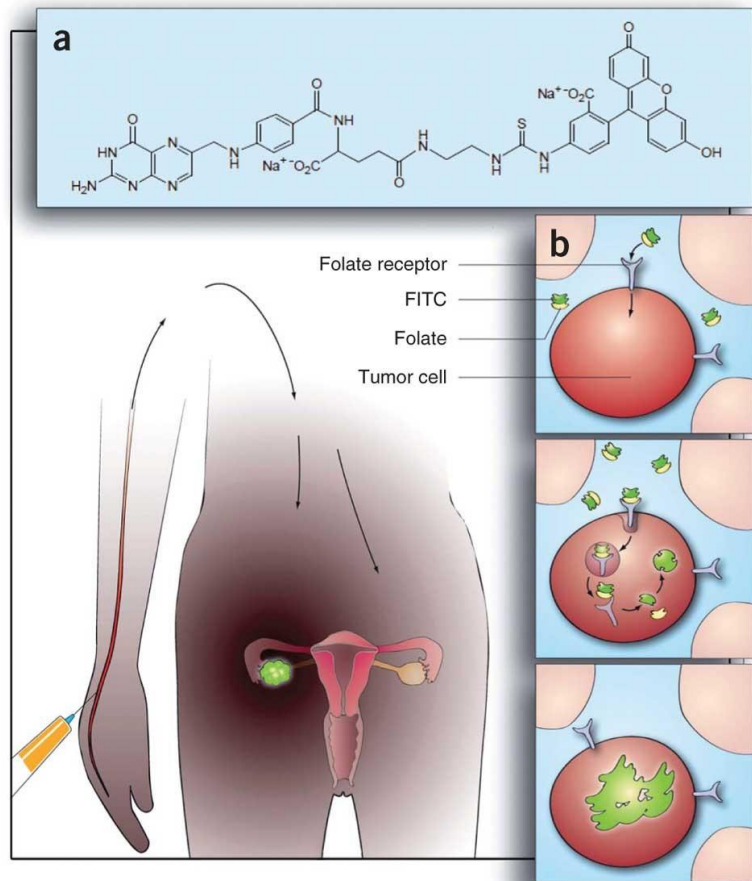
Wientjes, Rens, et al. "Automated objective routine examination of optical quality of rigid endoscopes in a clinical setting." *Plos one* 8.3 (2013): e59579.

<https://clinicalgate.com/how-endoscopes-work/>

Ponsky, T. A., & Ponsky, J. L. (2009). Advances in minimally invasive surgery. *Gastroenterology*, 136(4), 1171-1173.



# Fluorescence



van Dam, G., Themelis, G., Crane, L. *et al.* Intraoperative tumor-specific fluorescence imaging in ovarian cancer by folate receptor- $\alpha$  targeting: first in-human results. *Nat Med* **17**, 1315–1319 (2011).

# Mauna Kea Technologies



Clinical  
Cellvizio®  
Platform

pCLE (probe / catheter)



nCLE (needle)

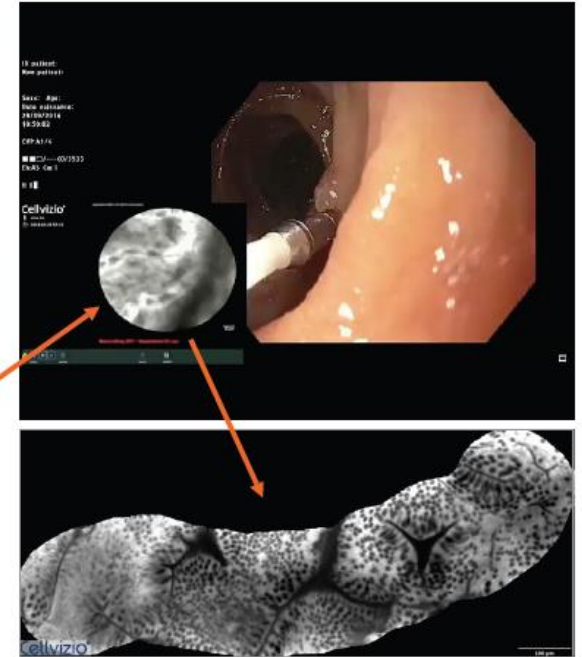
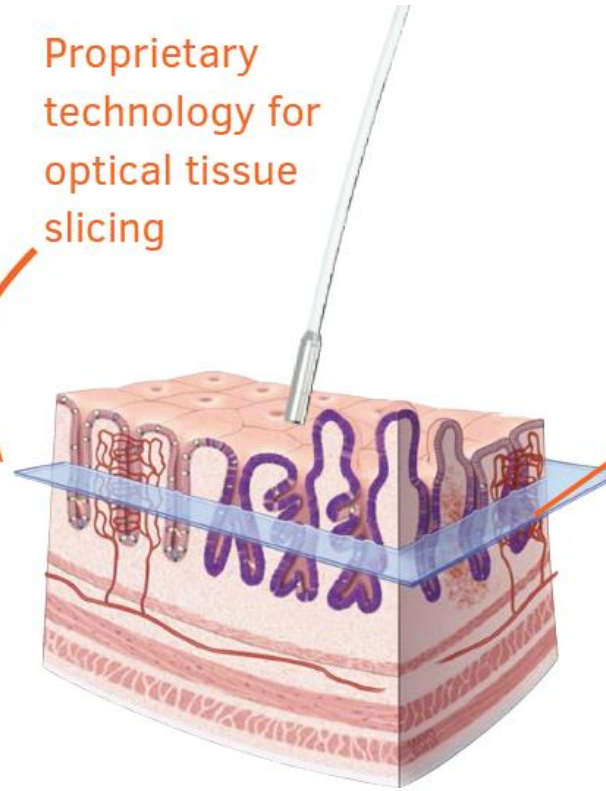


pCLE (lap / robotics)



Miniprobes  
for various access  
methods (0.8 to 2.5 mm)

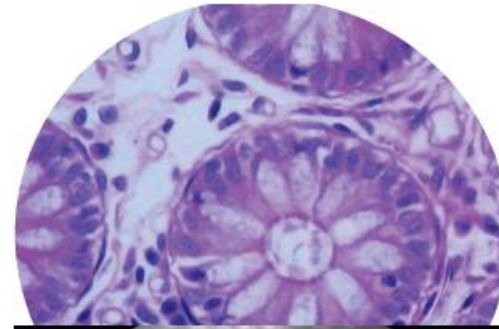
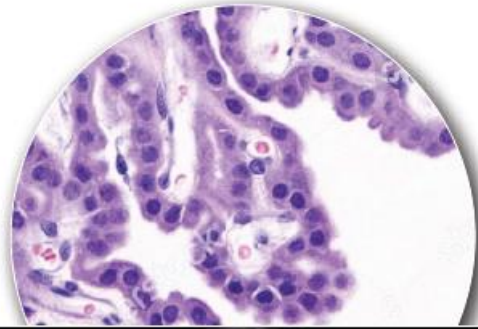
Proprietary  
technology for  
optical tissue  
slicing



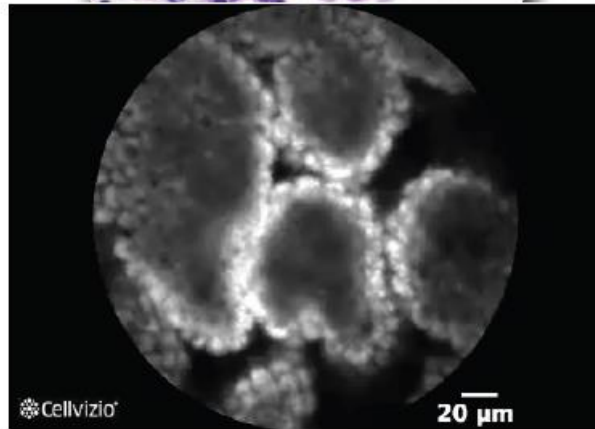
Breakthrough Confocal Laser Endoscopic scanning through 30,000 custom optical fibers produces 12 microscopic optical sections per second during standard endoscopy procedures

# Real-time *in-vivo* microscopy

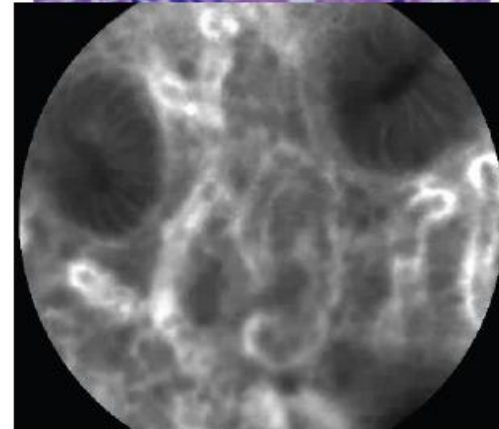
From H&E histology...  
one image - static view



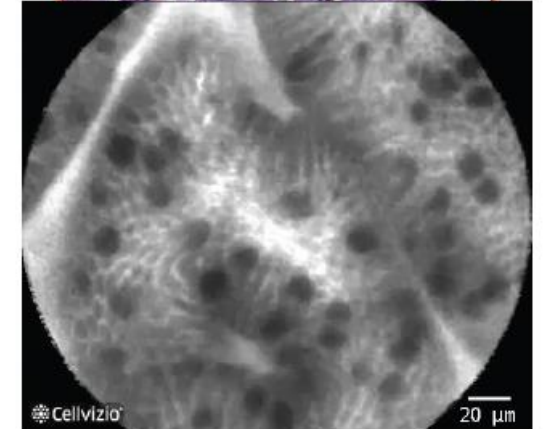
...to Cellvizio®  
720 live  
microscopic  
images per  
minute -  
functional view



Brain



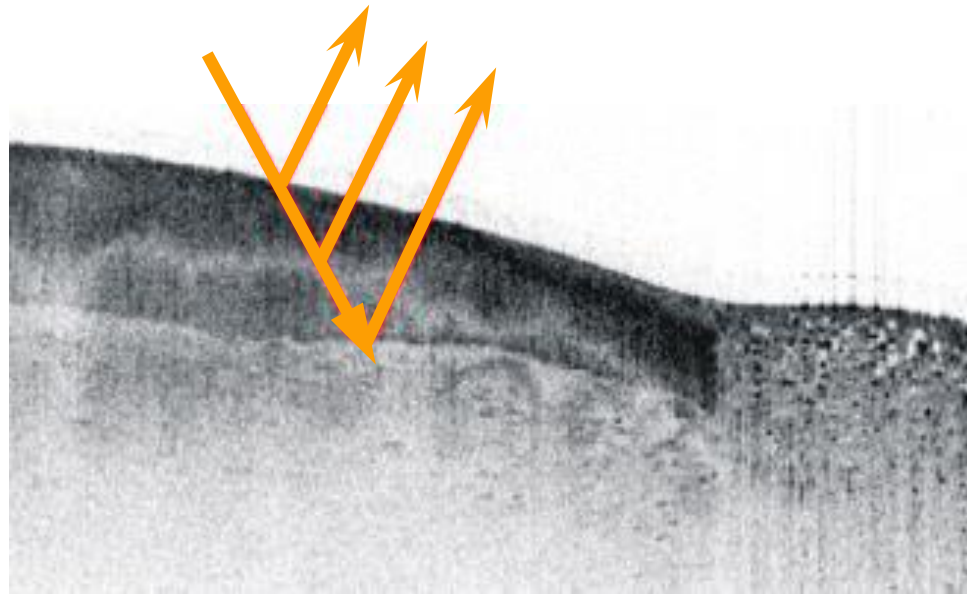
Colon



Esophagus

# Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT)

Similar principle to ultrasonography ... but with light!

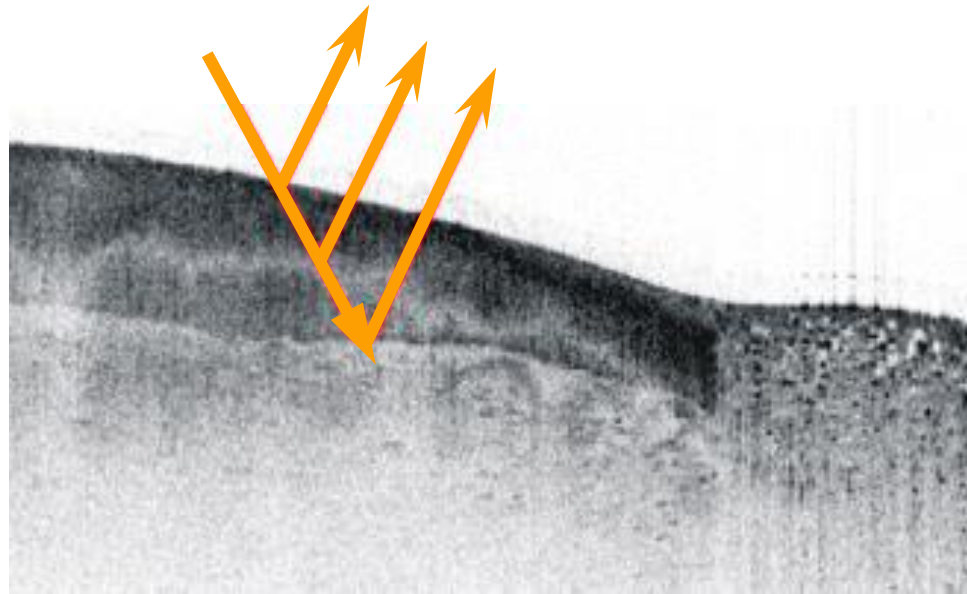


Ultrasound: 1-20 MHz – 1540 m/s  
→ echo detected with electronic transducers

Visible light: 375-750 THz –  $3 \cdot 10^8$  m/s !

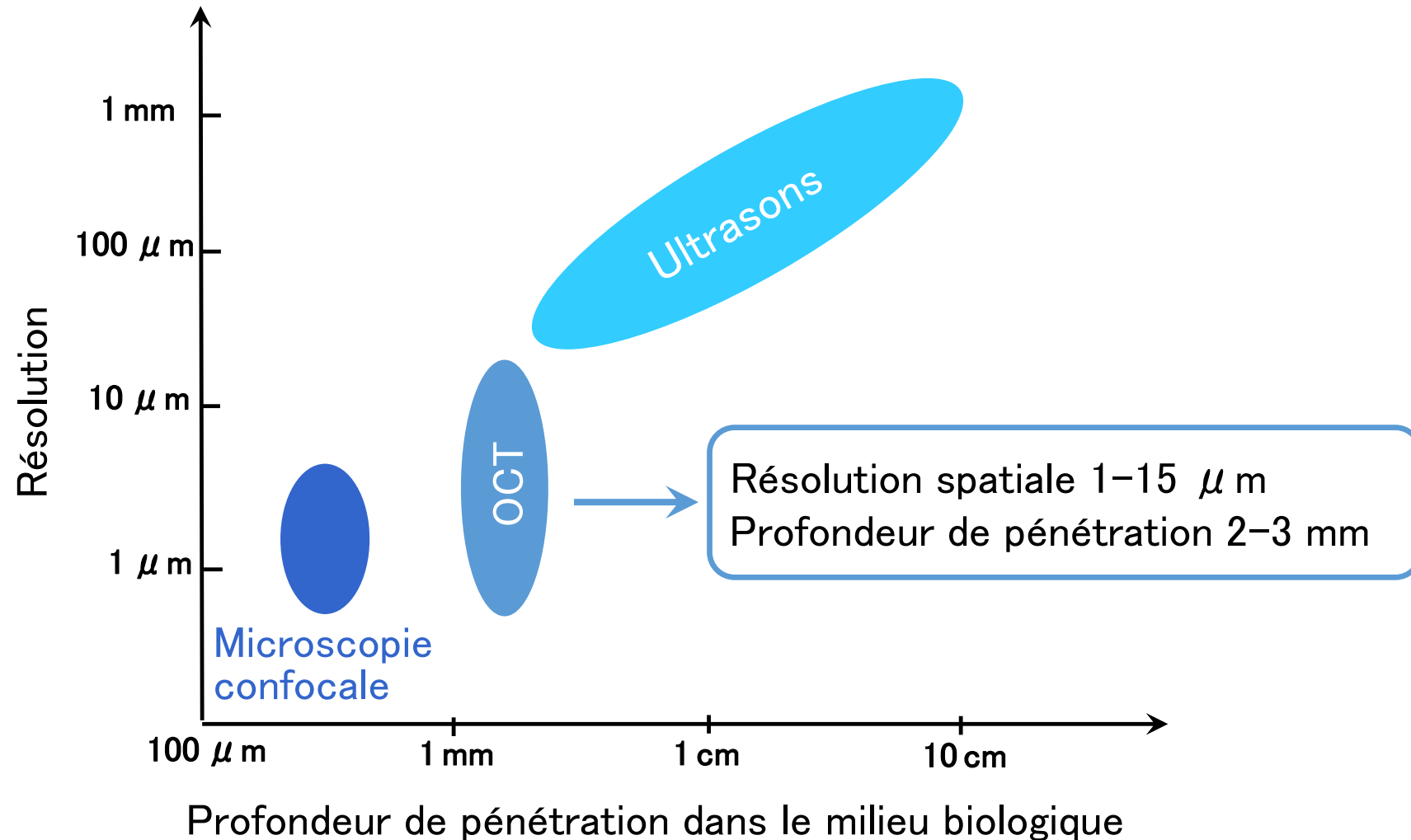
# Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT)

Similar principle to ultrasonography ... but with light!

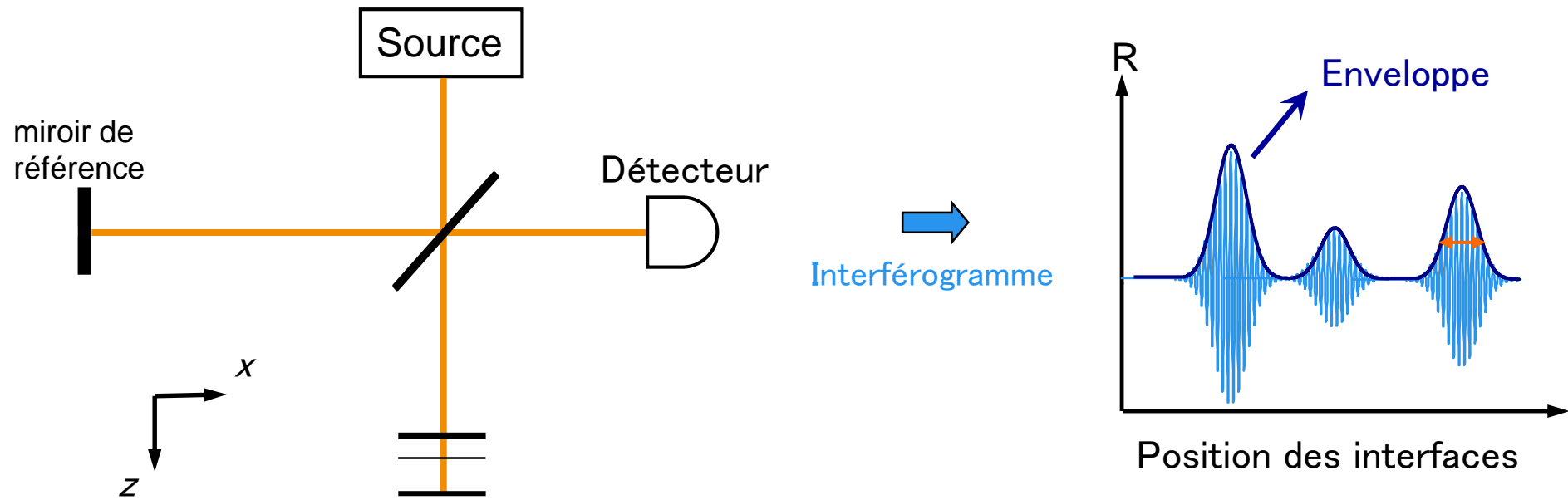


**Principle:** interferometric measurement of the amplitude and travel time of light backscattered by the biological medium

# OCT : unique properties

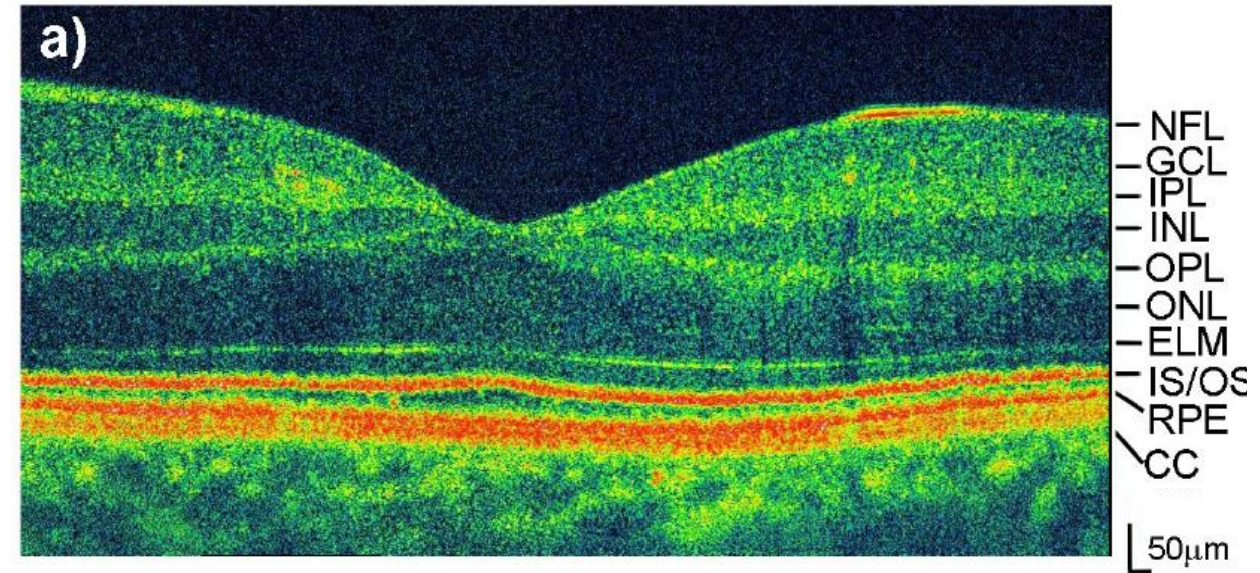


# OCT : working principle



- distribution des structures selon  $z$  obtenue par balayage de la différence de marche
- distribution des structures selon  $x$  et  $y$  obtenue par balayage 2D du faisceau

# Success story : OCT for ophthalmology

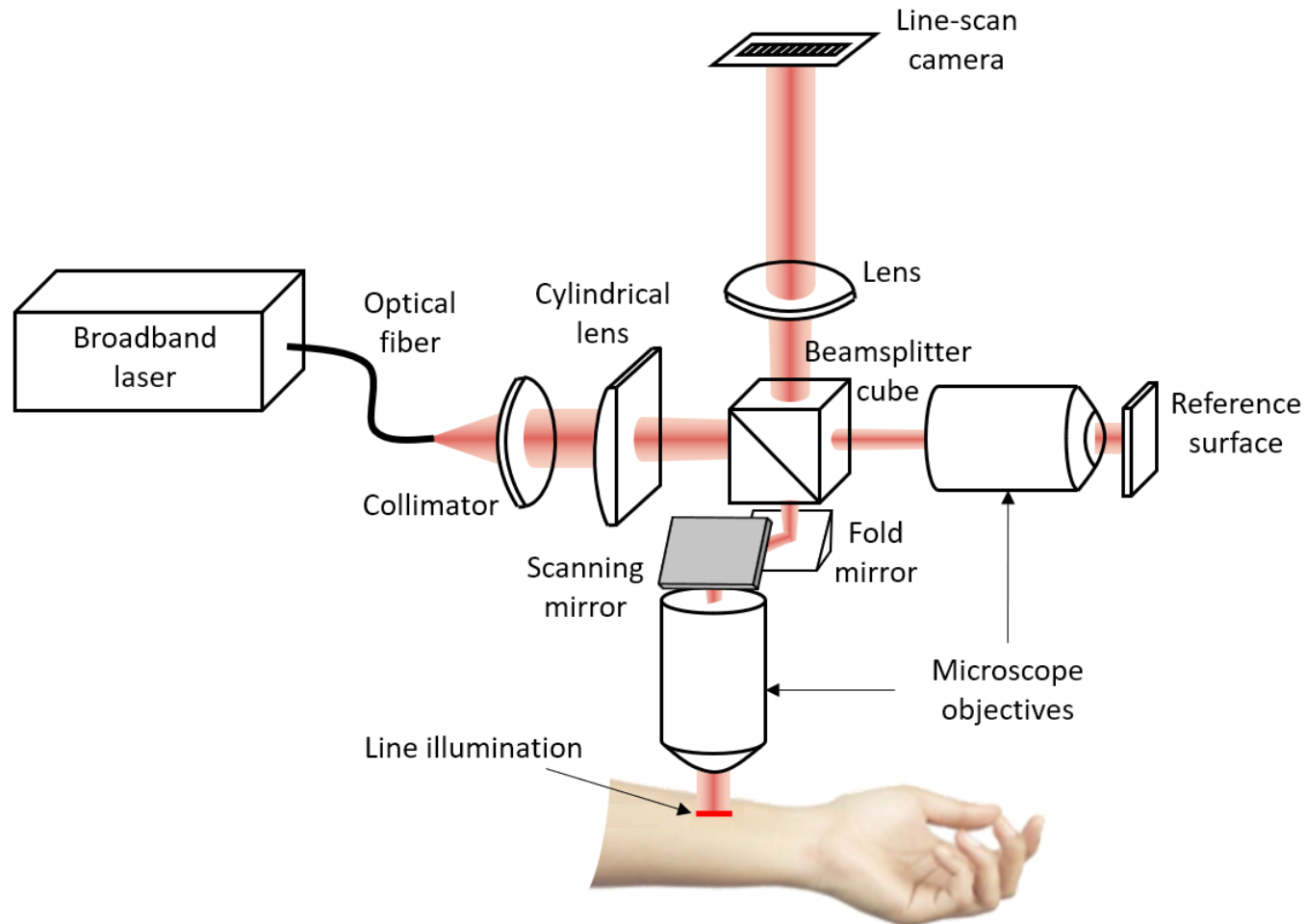


Wojtkowski, M., Srinivasan, V. J., Ko, T. H., Fujimoto, J. G., Kowalczyk, A., & Duker, J. S. (2004). Ultrahigh-resolution, high-speed, Fourier domain optical coherence tomography and methods for dispersion compensation. *Optics express*, 12(11), 2404-2422.



# Damae Medical

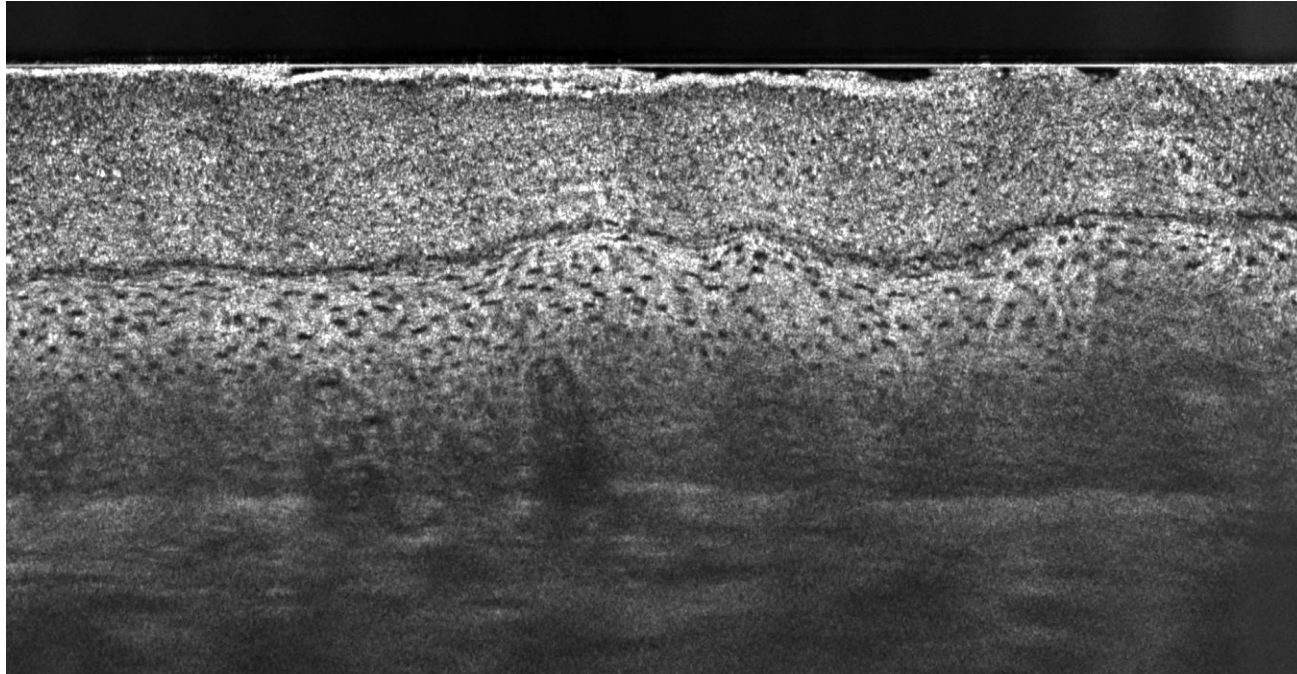
## Line-Field Confocal Optical Coherence Tomography



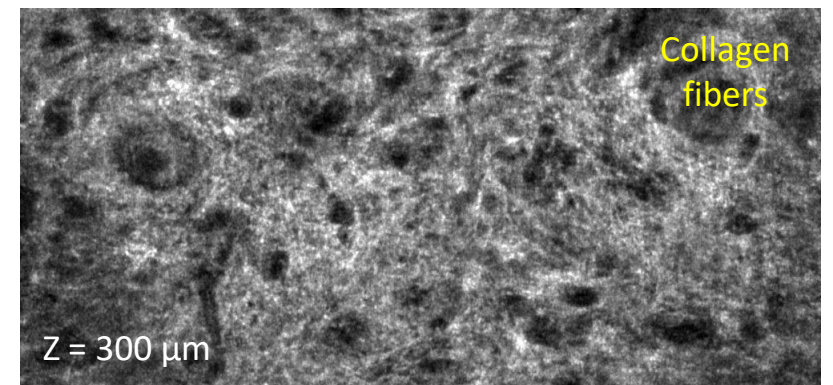
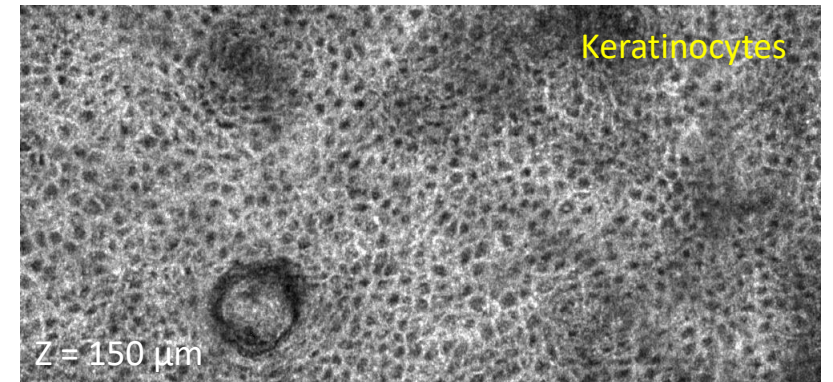
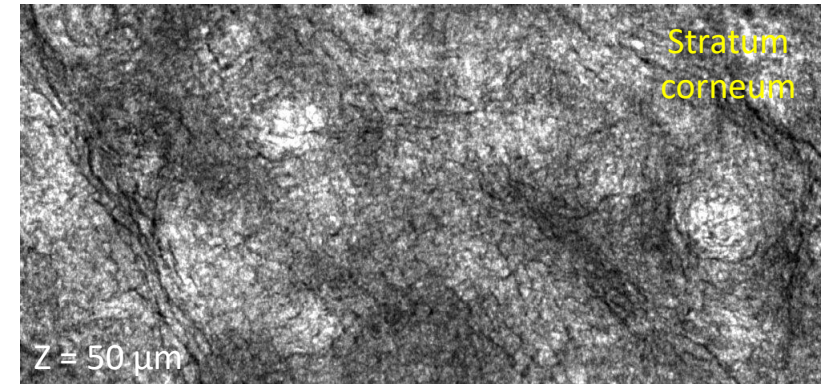
Technology invented by Pr. Arnaud Dubois  
(CNRS, IOGS, UPSaclay)  
Fully transferred to DAMAE Medical



# Healthy skin



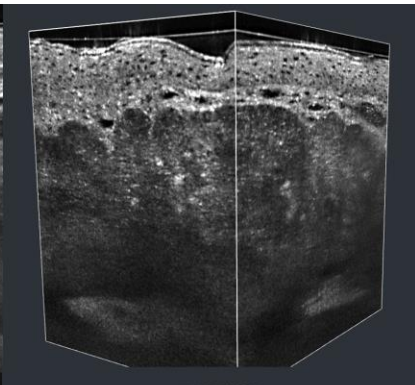
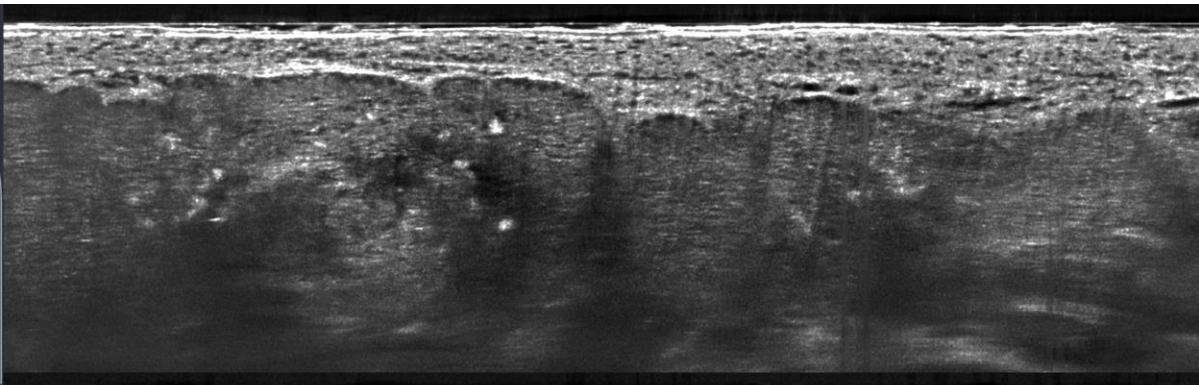
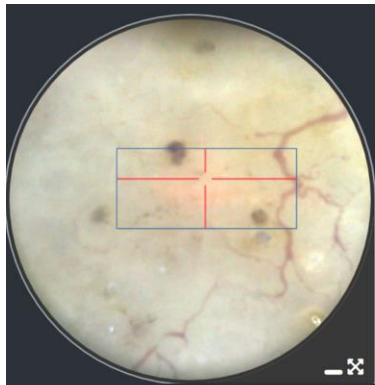
## Horizontal sections



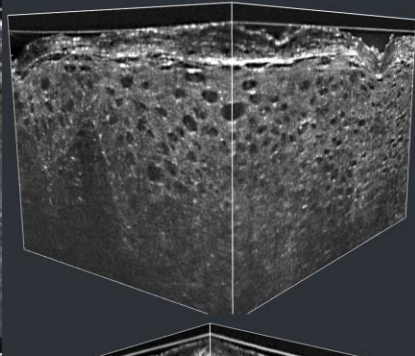
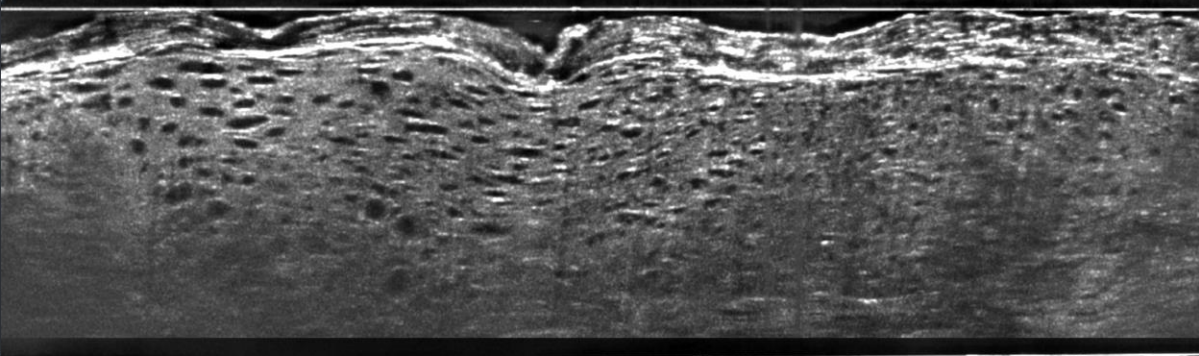
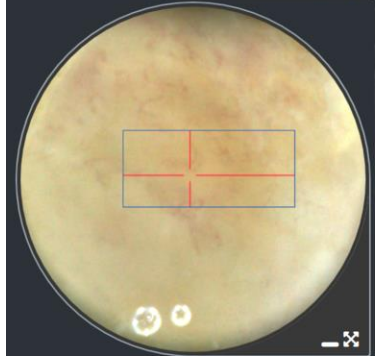


- **Cellular resolution** ( $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$ , isotropic)
- **Live vertical imaging mode** (1.2 mm x 0.4 mm, 8 fps)
- **Live horizontal imaging mode** (1.2 mm x 0.5 mm, 8 fps)
- **3D imaging mode** (1.2 mm x 0.5 mm x 0.5 mm, 30 s)

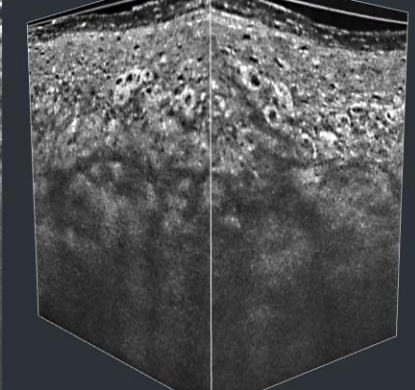
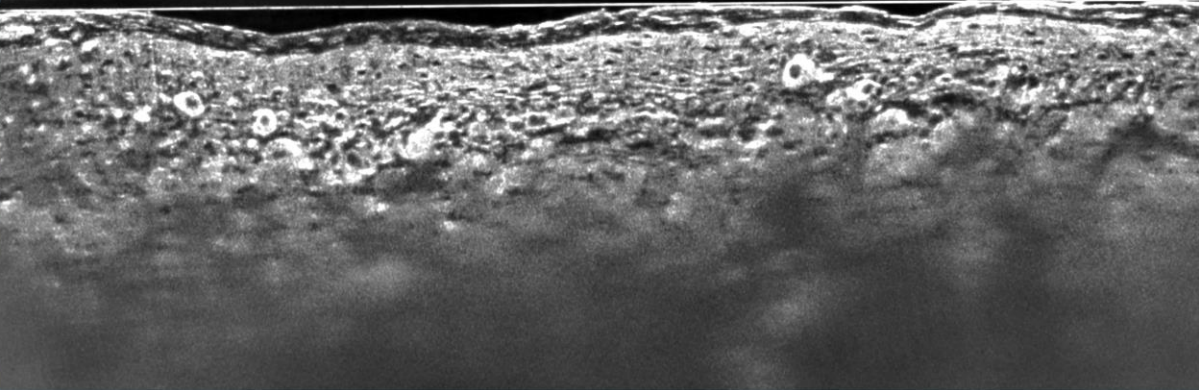
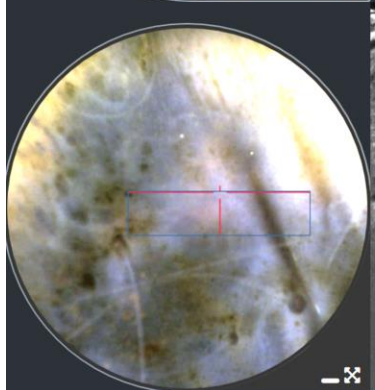
**+ video-dermoscopy (resolution:  $5 \mu\text{m}$  ; field of view: 2.5 mm)**



**Basal Cell Carcinoma**



**Squamous cell carcinoma**



**Melanoma**

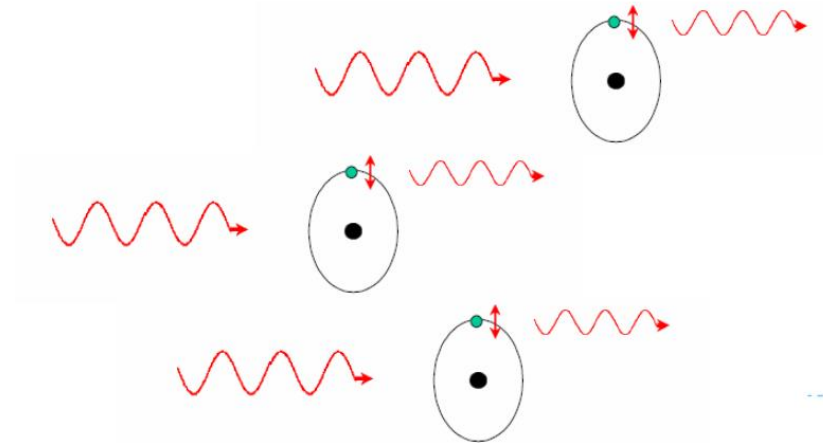
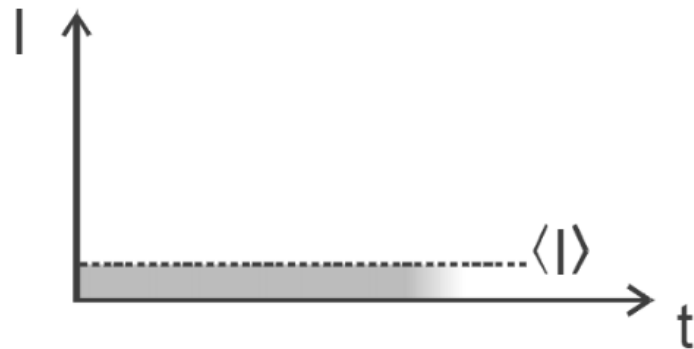
*Video-dermoscopy*

*Vertical section*

*3D*

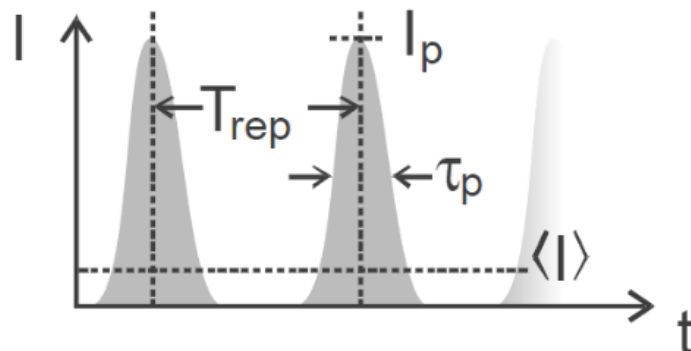
# Non-Linear Optical Microscopy

cw laser



Linear Effects :  
- Absorption  
- Scattering  
Signal  $\propto I$

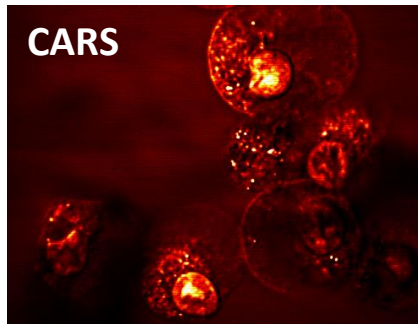
pulsed laser



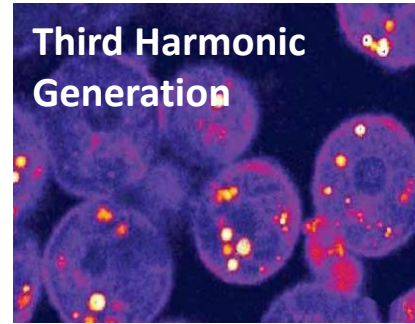
$$\vec{P}(t) = \epsilon_0(\chi^{(1)}\vec{E} + \chi^{(2)}\vec{E}\vec{E} + \chi^{(3)}\vec{E}\vec{E}\vec{E} + \dots)$$

→ Non-Linear Effects :  
Signal  $\propto I^{(n)}$

# Non-linear optical effects



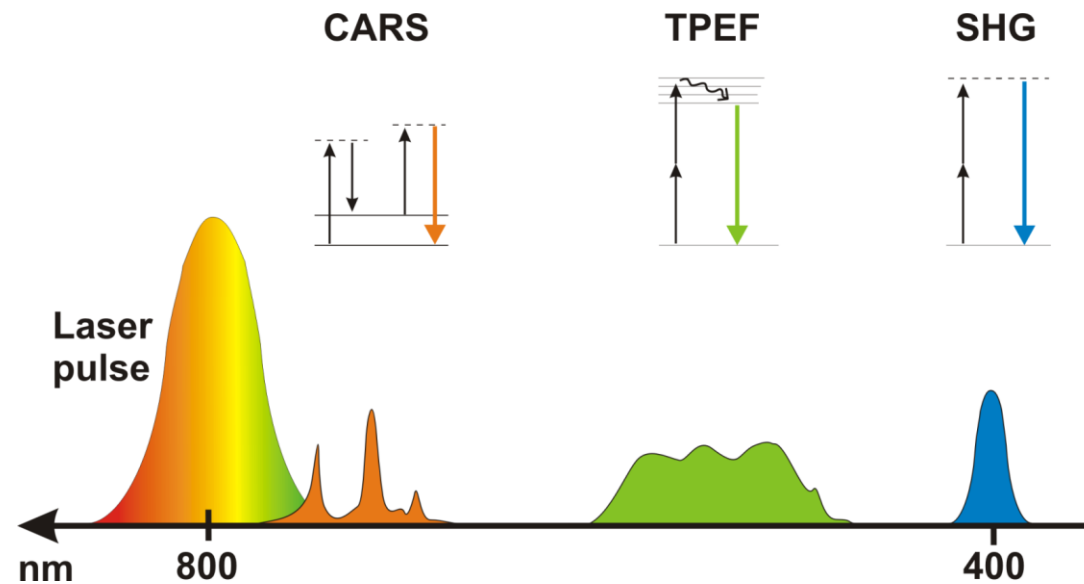
Cheng et al., *Biophys. J.* **83**, 502 (2002).



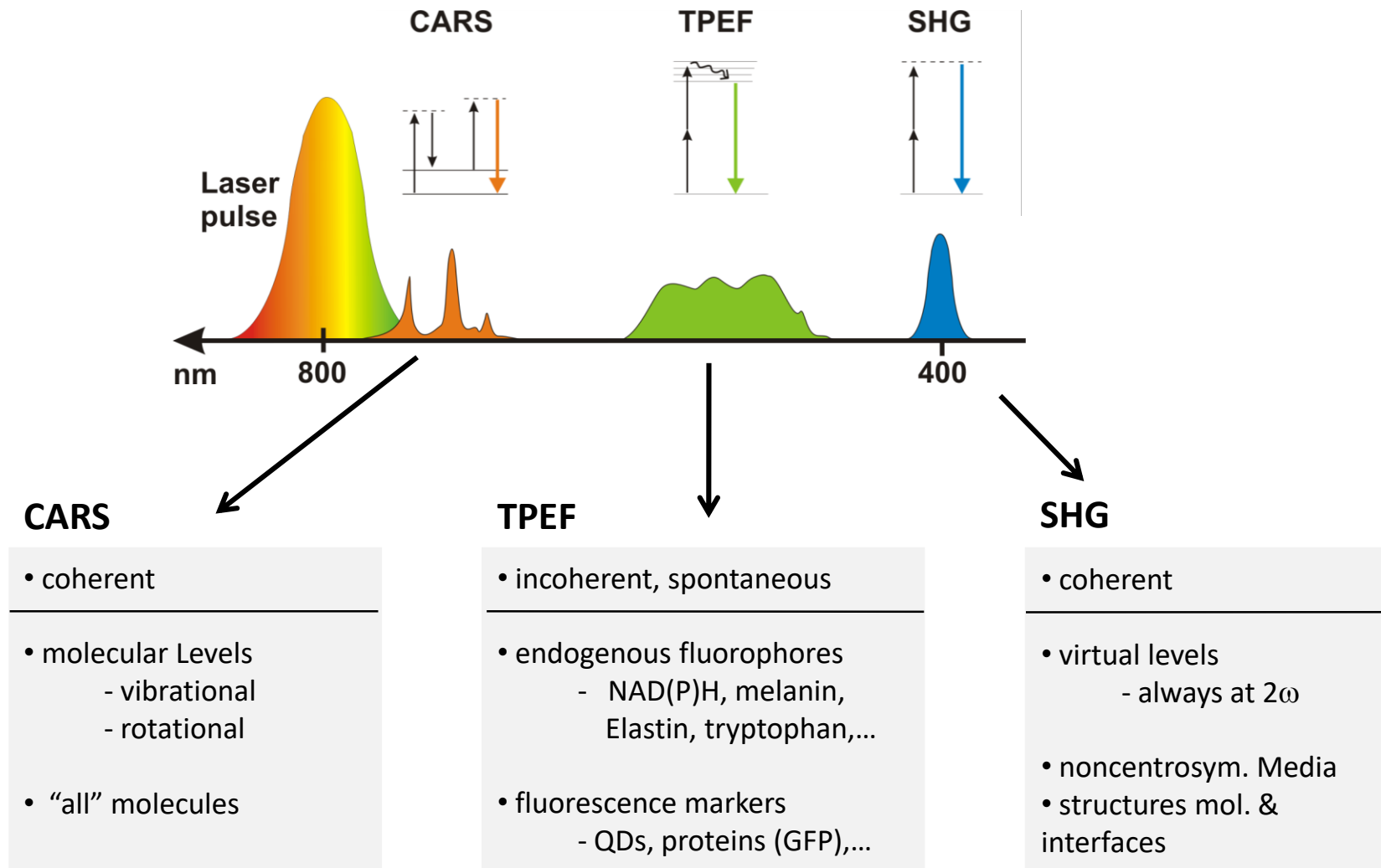
Débarre et al., *Nature Methods* **3**, 47 (2006).



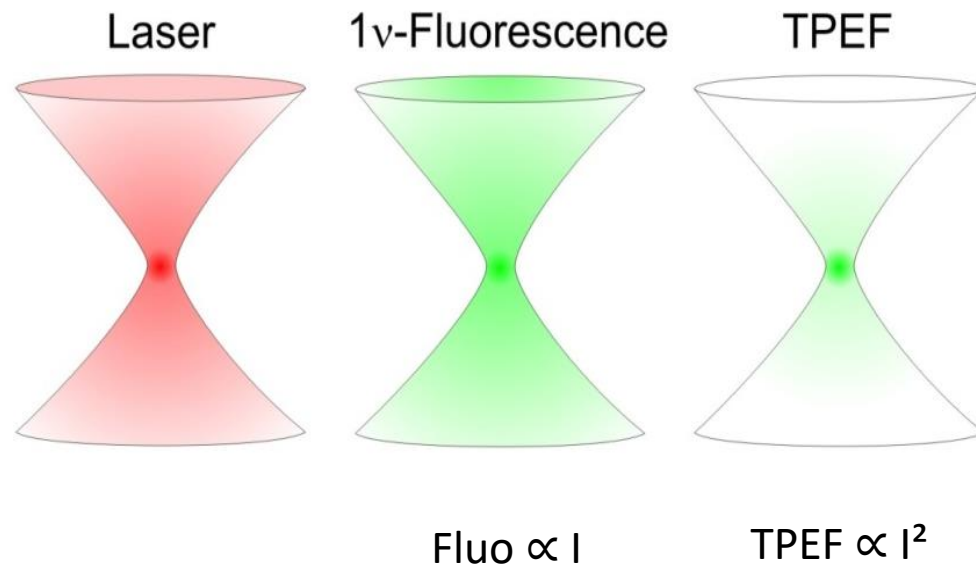
Zipfel et al., *Nature Biotech.* **21**, 1369 (2003).



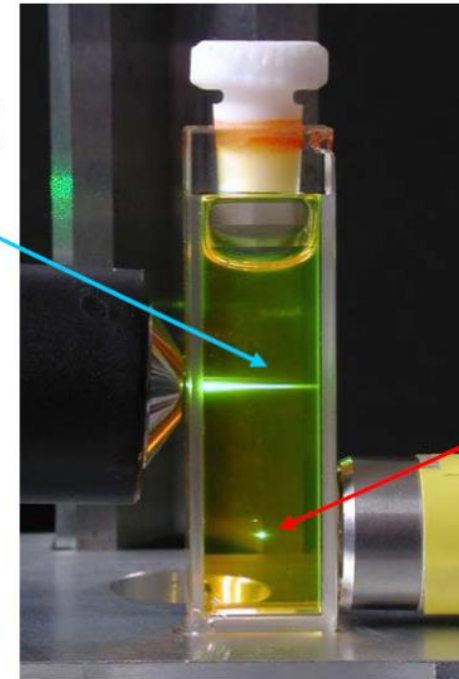
# Chemical & microstructural sensitivity



# Inherent 3D capability



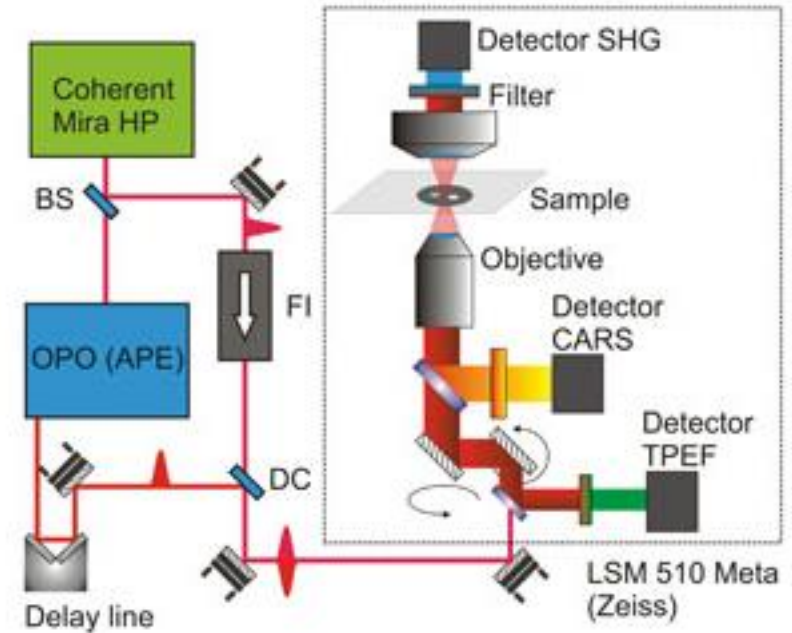
Fluorescence suite  
à une absorption à  
un photon



Fluorescence suite  
à une absorption à  
deux photons



# NLOM setup



Challenging technique :

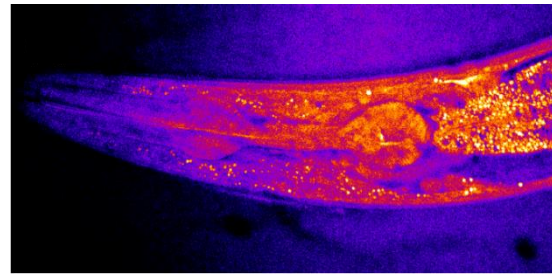
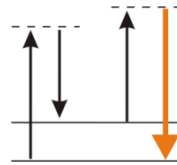
- ps- or fs-lasers
- precise optical alignment
- Rapid scanning
- Filters and detectors

# LOB – Ecole polytechnique

Biological processes at the sub-cellular level revealed through non-linear microscopy

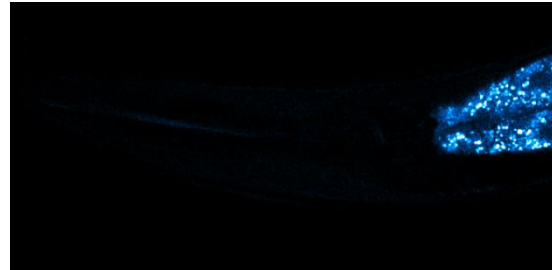
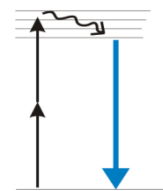
## C. elegans worm

CARS



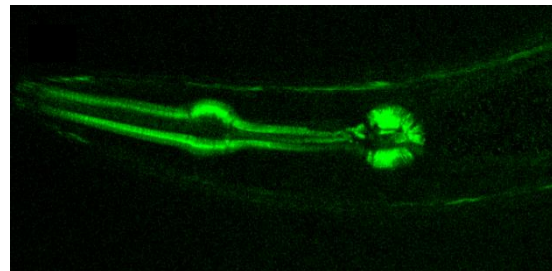
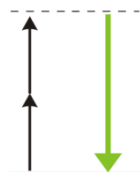
epithelial lipids

TPEF



fluorescent vesicles

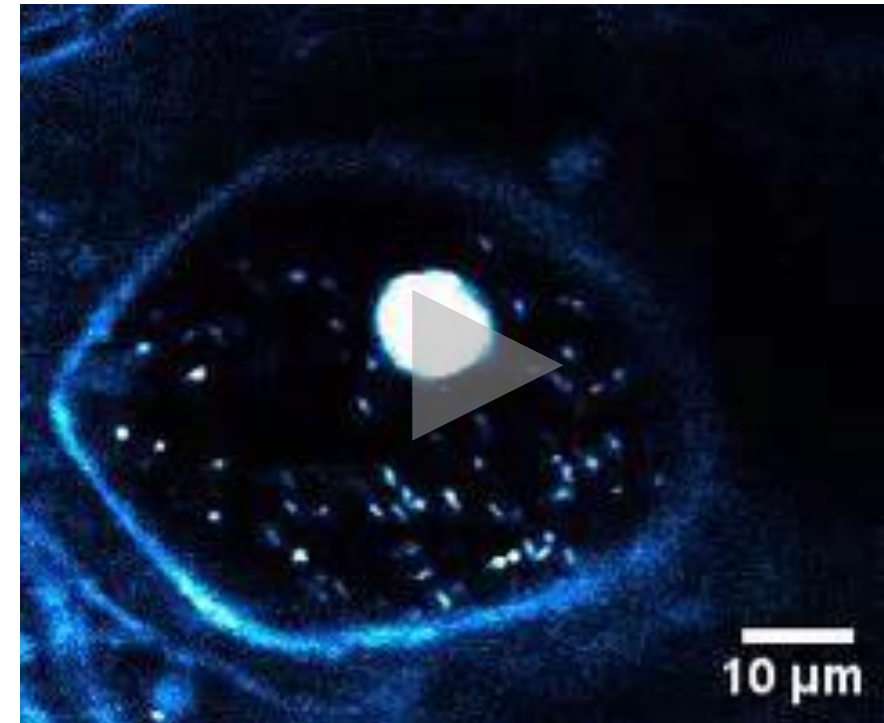
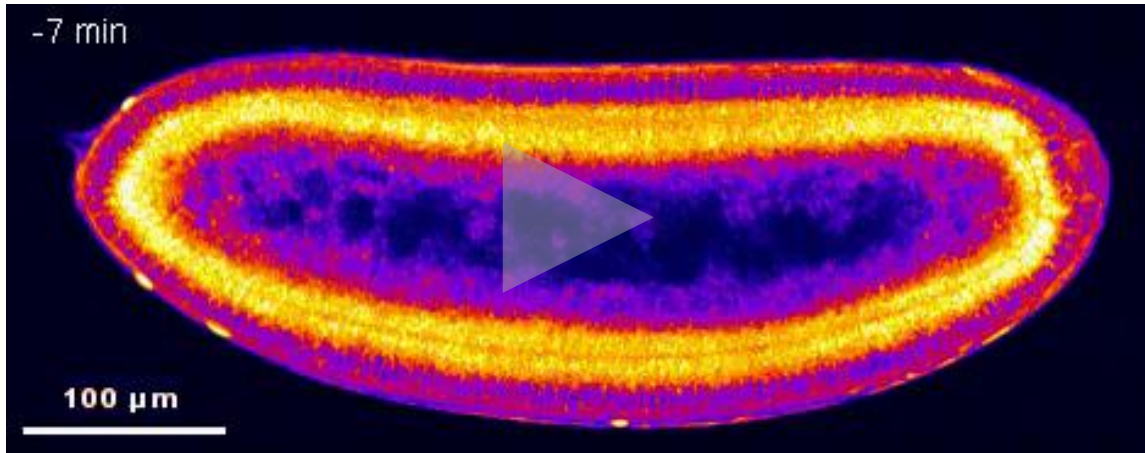
SHG



muscles

# LOB – Ecole polytechnique

**Biological processes at the sub-cellular level revealed through non-linear microscopy**

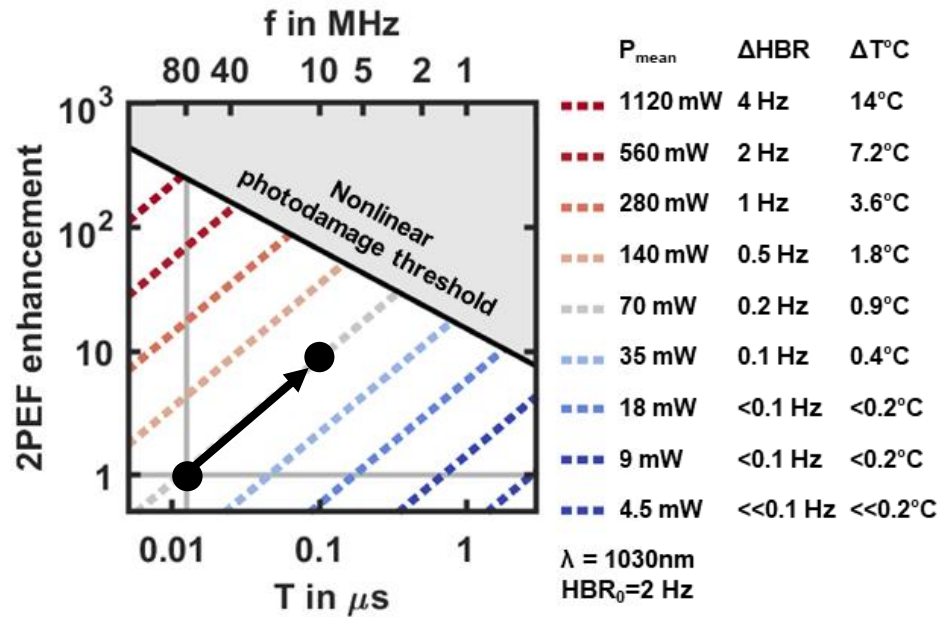


Supatto, Willy, et al. "In vivo modulation of morphogenetic movements in *Drosophila* embryos with femtosecond laser pulses." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 102.4 (2005): 1047-1052.

THG imaging of flowing endogenous microparticles in the otolith cavity of a zebrafish. Excitation power: 100-150 mW. Axial resolution: 2 μm. Time per pixel: 10 μs. Time between images: 620 ms. Typical signal level (particles): 30-80 photons

Joséphine Morizet, Guillaume Ducourthial, Willy Supatto, Arthur Boutillon, Renaud Legouis, Marie-Claire Schanne-Klein, Chiara Stringari, and Emmanuel Beaupaire, "High-speed polarization-resolved third-harmonic microscopy," *Optica* 6, 385-388 (2019)

# Photodamage mitigation



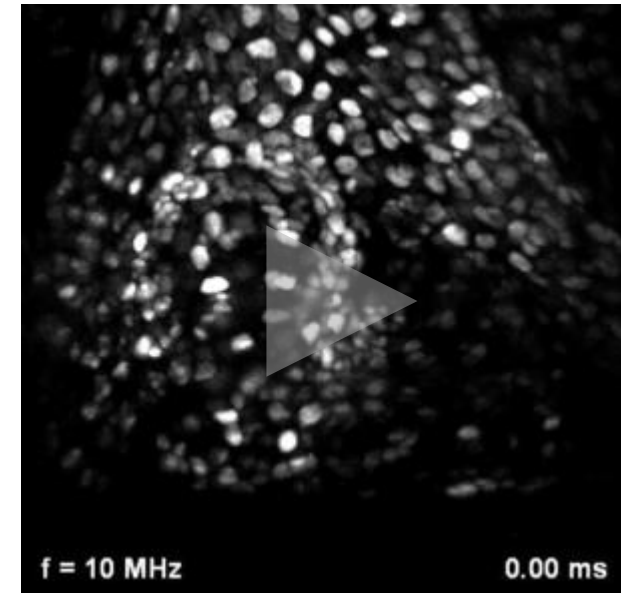
2PEF signal enhancement =  $T P_{\text{mean}}^2 / T_0 P_0^2$   
 $T_0 = 1/80\text{MHz}$  and  $P_0 = 70\text{mW}$   
 On this graph:  $n_D$ -order Damage threshold  $\sim T^{2/n_D-1}$

## Strategy

**Decrease  $f=1/T$  to ~10 MHz at constant  $P_{\text{mean}}$**

- ▶ 8x 2PEF enhancement
- ▶  $\Delta T^{\circ}\text{C} < 1^{\circ}\text{C}$
- ▶ Still far from nonlinear photodamage

**Best compromise!**



Zebrafish beating heart | mCherry |  $\lambda=1030\text{nm}$   
 @170 fps / 40MHz pixel rate  
**8x 2PEF signal enhancement**  
 FOV 200 x 200  $\mu\text{m}$

# My journey with polarimetry

1. PostDoc project 2013-2017

Team of Angelo Pierangelo

- Early detection of cervical cancer
- Diagnosis of risk of premature delivery



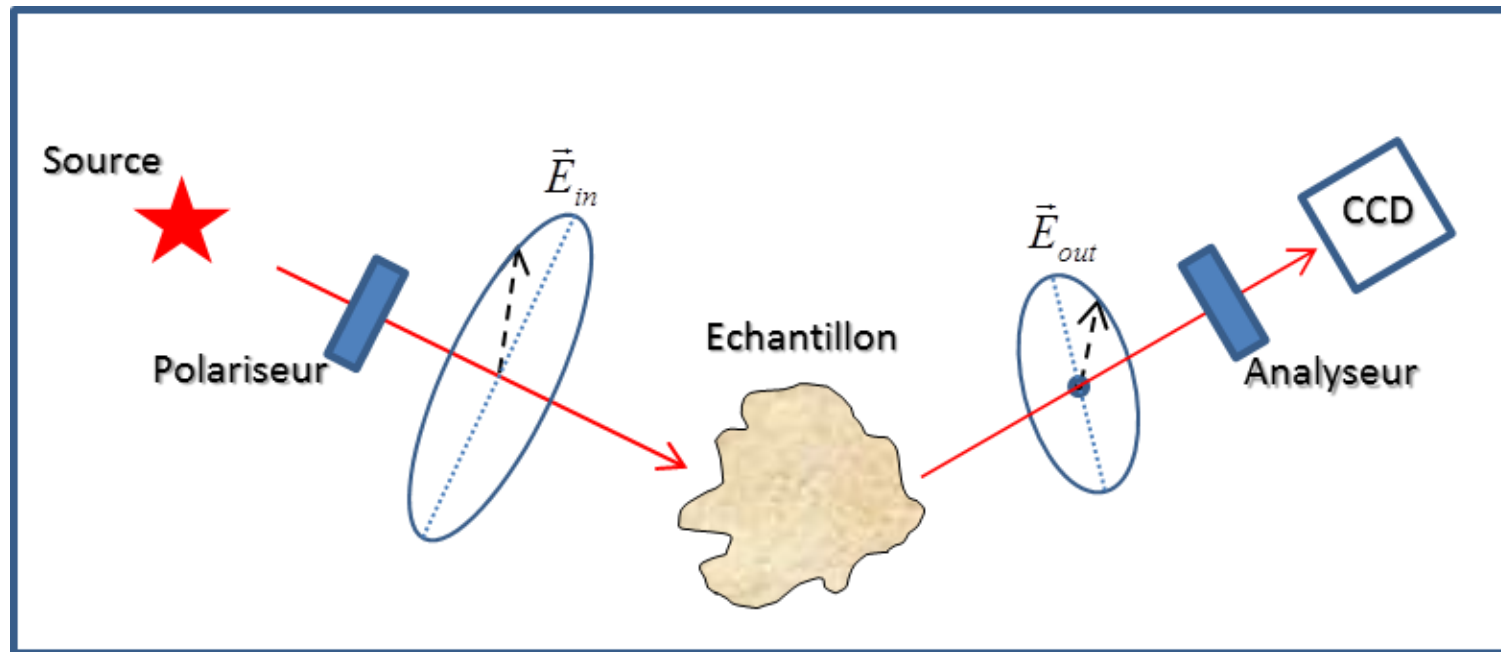
2. PostDoc and current position 2018-now

Team of Jihad Zallat

- Optical biopsy for skin cancer
- Valorisation through the Poladerme start-up



# Polarimetry



Caractérisation complète de la réponse polarimétrique : la Matrice de Mueller

$$\mathbf{S}_{out} = \mathbf{M} \times \mathbf{S}_{in}$$

$\in \mathbb{M}_{4,4}$

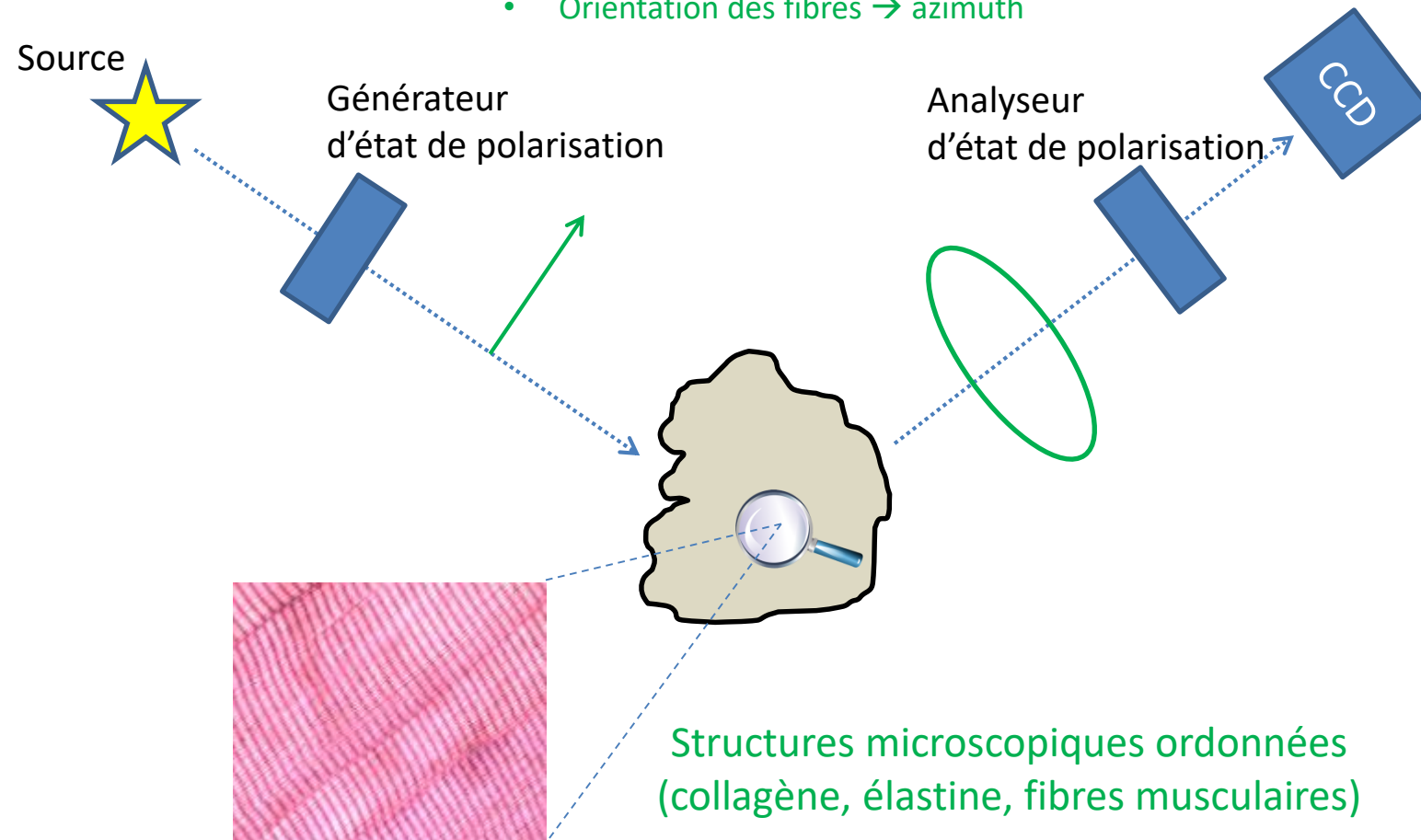
$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{bmatrix} S_0 \\ S_1 \\ S_2 \\ S_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I \\ I_x - I_y \\ I_{+45^\circ} - I_{-45^\circ} \\ I_L - I_R \end{bmatrix}$$

mesures d'intensité

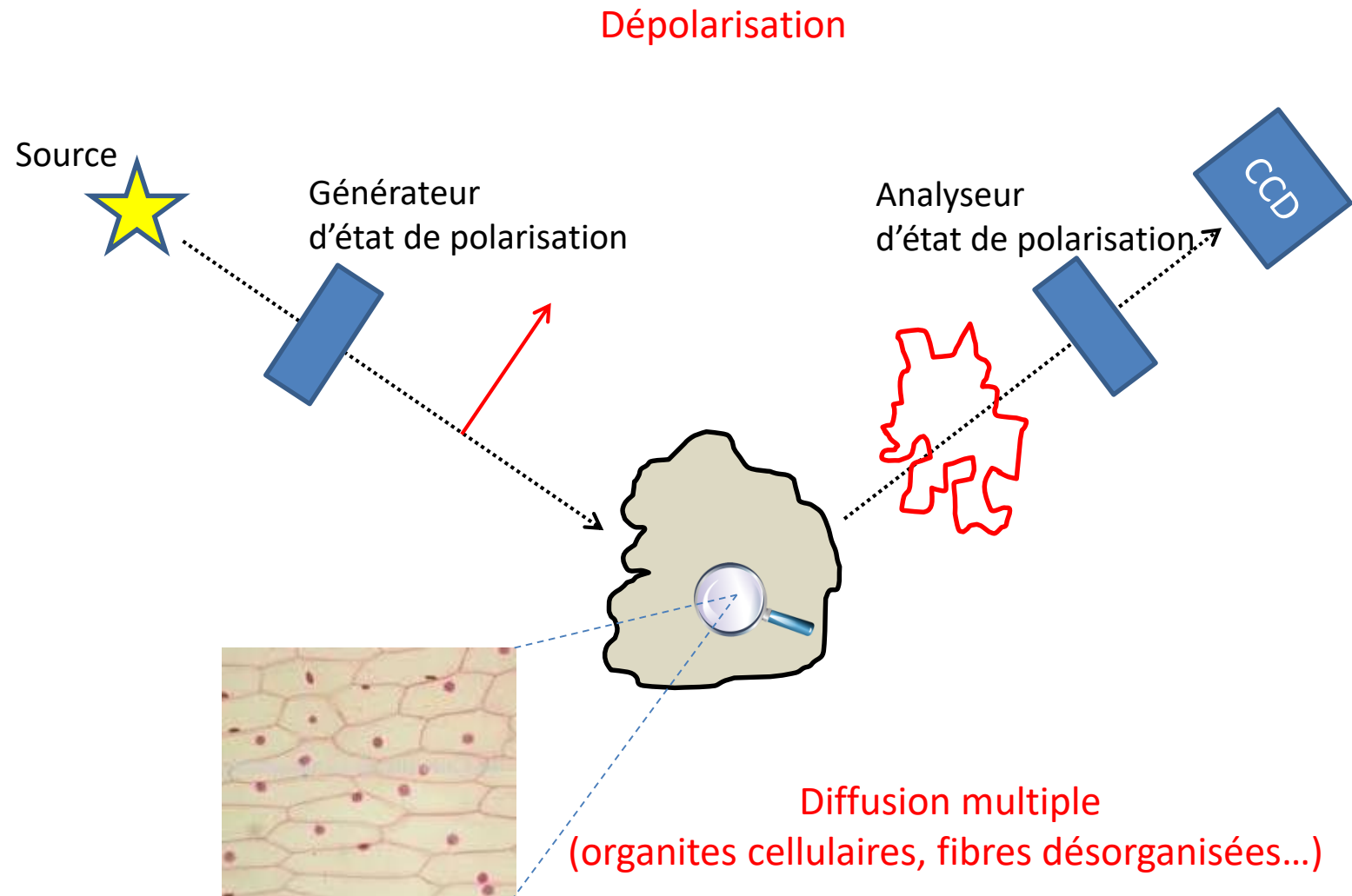
# Polarimetric properties of tissues

## Biréfringence

- Densité des fibres → retardance
- Orientation des fibres → azimuth

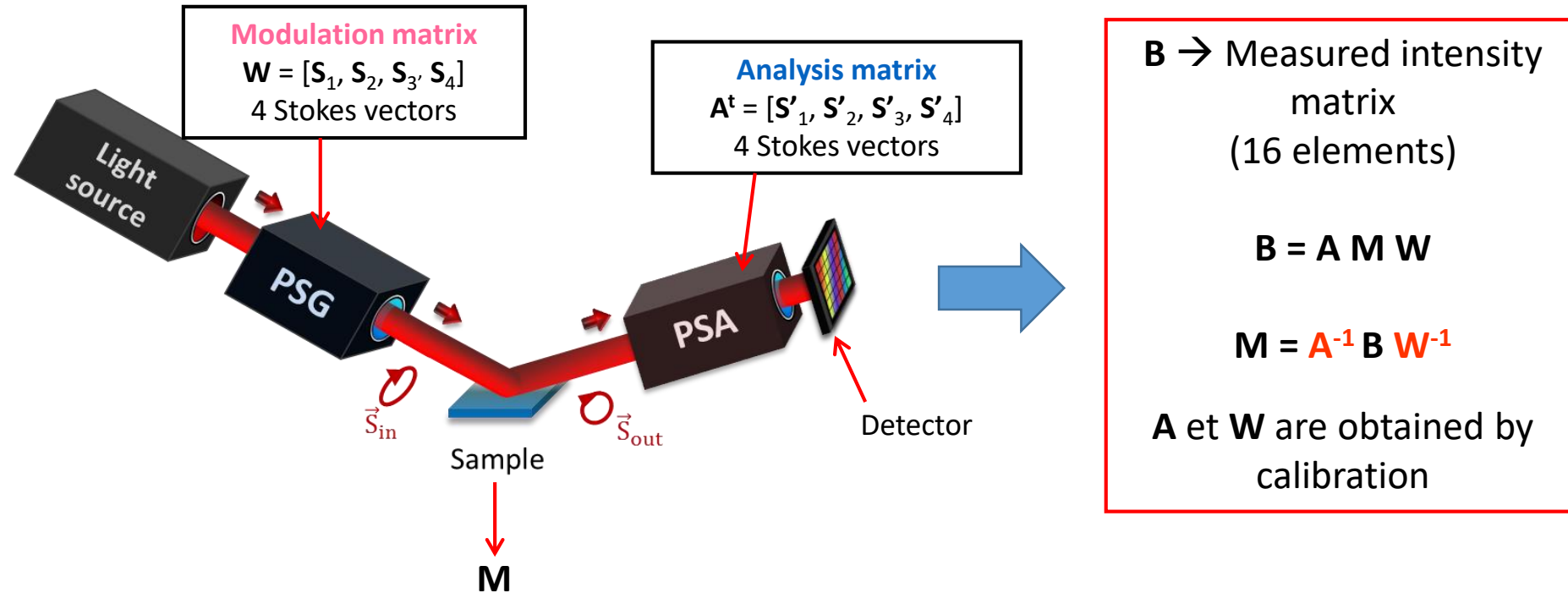


# Polarimetric properties of tissues





# Measurement of the Mueller matrix



## Eigenvalues Calibration Method (ECM)

- Uses well-known polarization optical elements (polarizers, waveplates, etc.)
- No a priori modelling of the instrument needed

# Advantages of Mueller polarimetric imaging

- Wide field ( $\sim 5 \times 5 \text{ cm}^2$ )
- Fast acquisition speed (0.25~1s)
- It explores both optical anisotropy (retardance) and scattering (depolarization) properties at the same time
- Scattering properties from deep depth ( $\sim 1 \text{ cm}$ , 650nm)<sup>7</sup>
- Bio-safe (visible light)

# Preterm birth: birth before 37 amenorrhea weeks

- Preterm birth was responsible for **~1 million perinatal deaths** in 2015<sup>1</sup>
- **Current diagnostics:** measurements of cervical length shortening
  - 1~2 echographies per week<sup>2</sup>
  - Low diagnostic performance of the current method: ~50% women hospitalized for threatened preterm birth have actual preterm birth<sup>3</sup>
- **The goal:** development of a new diagnostic tool to improve the diagnosis of preterm birth

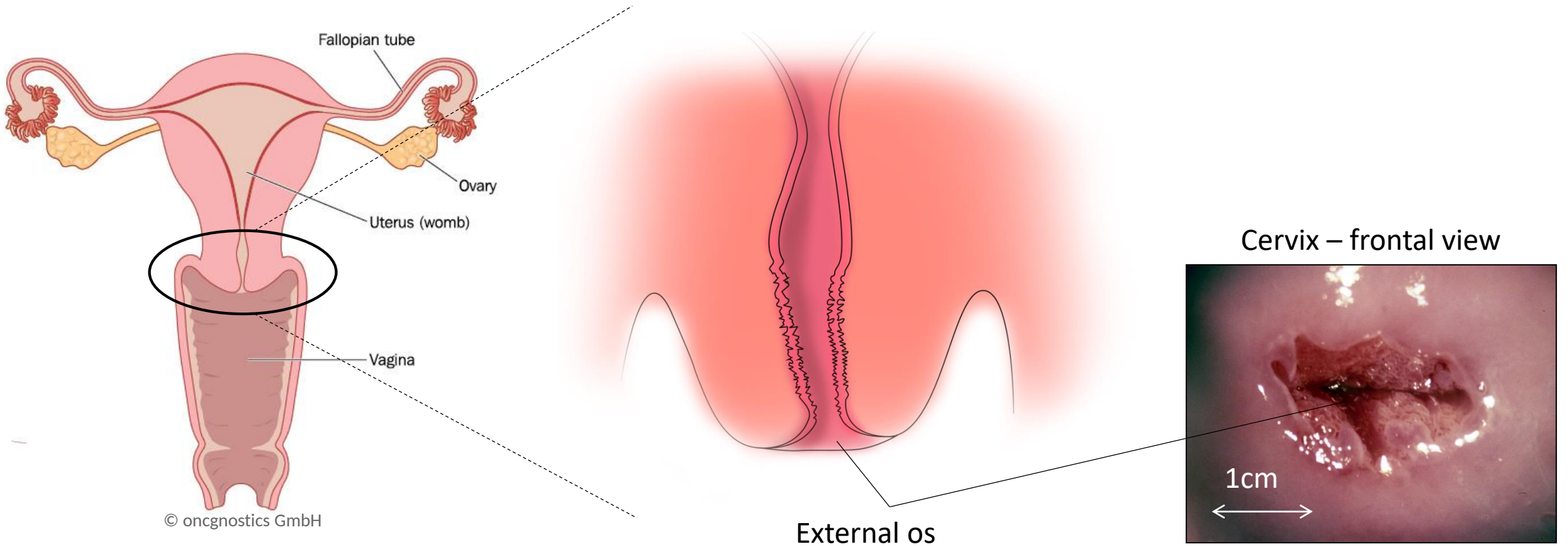
1. Liu, L., et al., Lancet **388**(10063), 3027–3035 (2016).

2. Lim, K., et al., J. Obstet. Gynaecol. Canada **40**(2), e151–e164 (2018).

3. McPheeters, M. L., et al., Am. J. Obstet. Gynecol. **192**(4), 1325–1329, Mosby Inc. (2005).

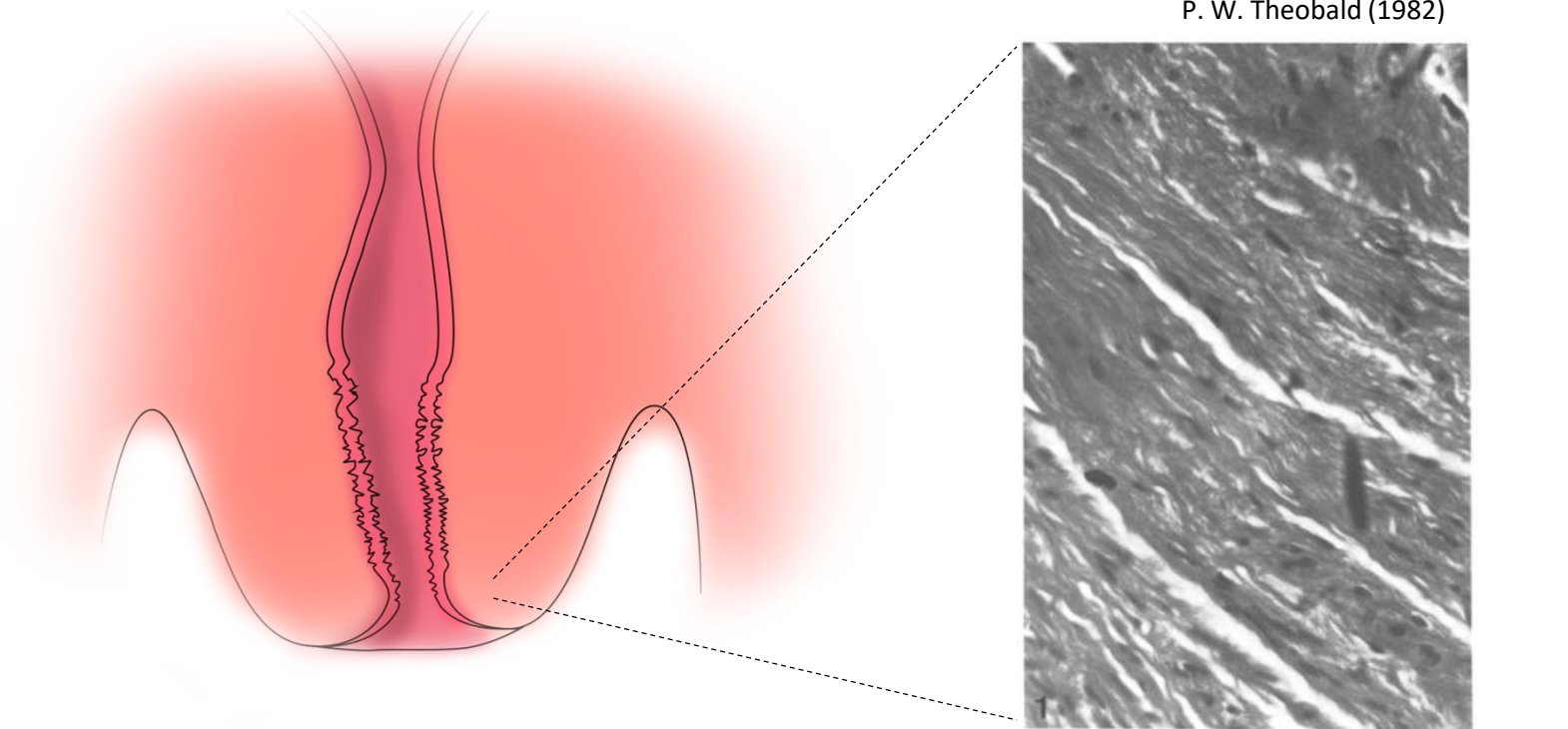
# The cervix: the orifice of the uterus

It mechanically keeps the fetus in the uterus



# The cervix: the orifice of the uterus

It mechanically keeps the fetus in the uterus



P. W. Theobald (1982)

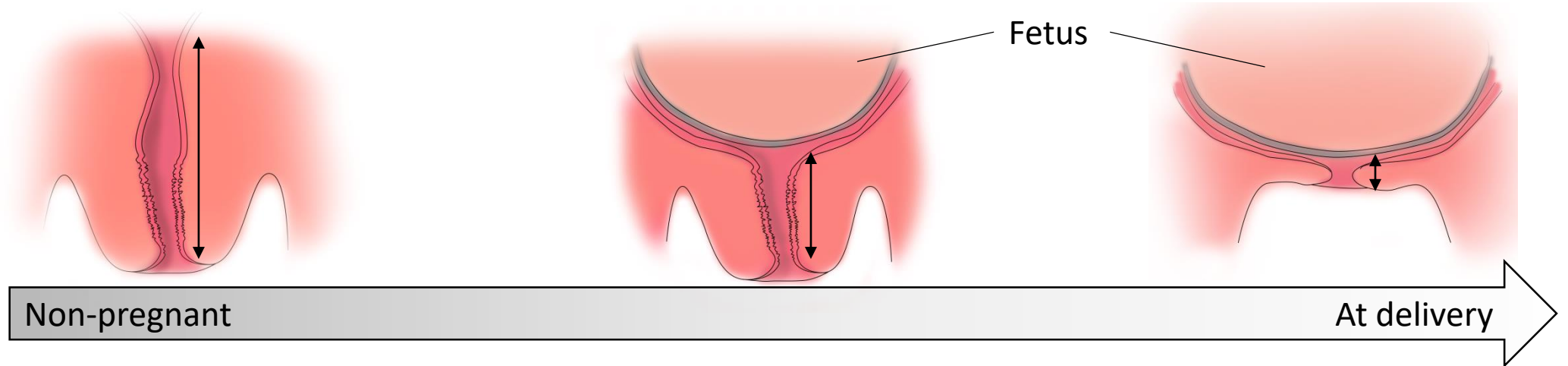
Collagen plays an important role in mechanical properties of tissues

Collagenous connective tissue





80% – Collagen  
(70% type I, 30% type II collagen)

# Changes of the cervix during pregnancy

Macroscopic changes



Microscopic changes

	Not pregnant	At delivery
Hydration <sup>4</sup> 	75%	81%
Collagen density <sup>5</sup> 		
Collagen solubility <sup>4</sup> 	32~40%	80%
Stiffness <sup>6</sup> 	320±120 mbar	53±26 mbar

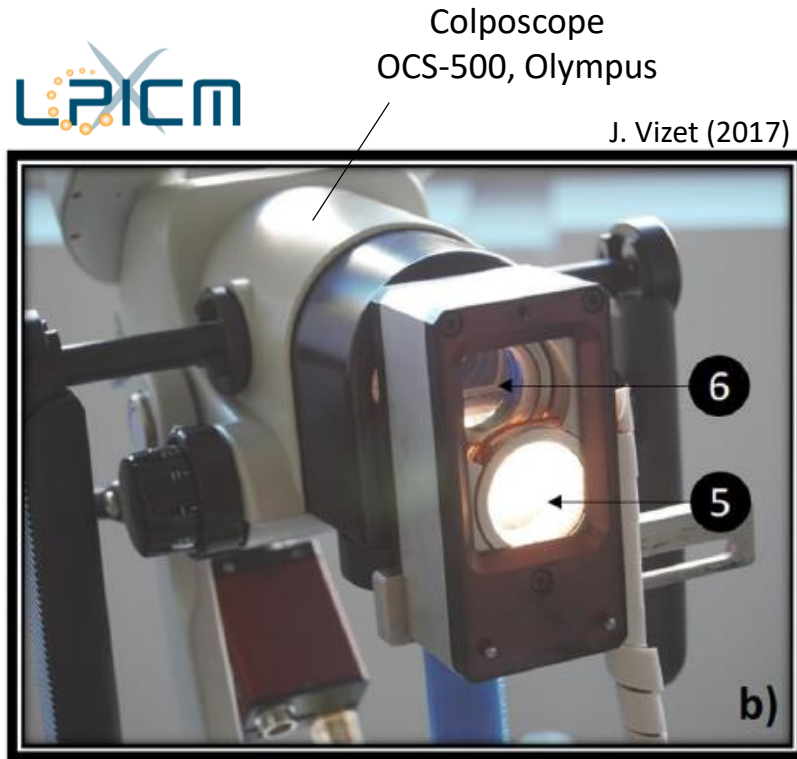
4. Myers, K., et al., Eur. J. Obstet. Gynecol. Reprod. Biol. **144**, S82–S89 (2009).

5. Akins, M., et al., J. Biomed. Opt. **15**(2), 026020 (2010).

6. Badir, S., et al., Prenat. Diagn. **33**(8), 737–741 (2013)

# The Mueller polarimetric colposcope (MPC)

The PSG and PSA are grafted on a colposcope



The Mueller polarimetric colposcope  
(5-PSG, 6-PSA)

## Specifications of imaging system

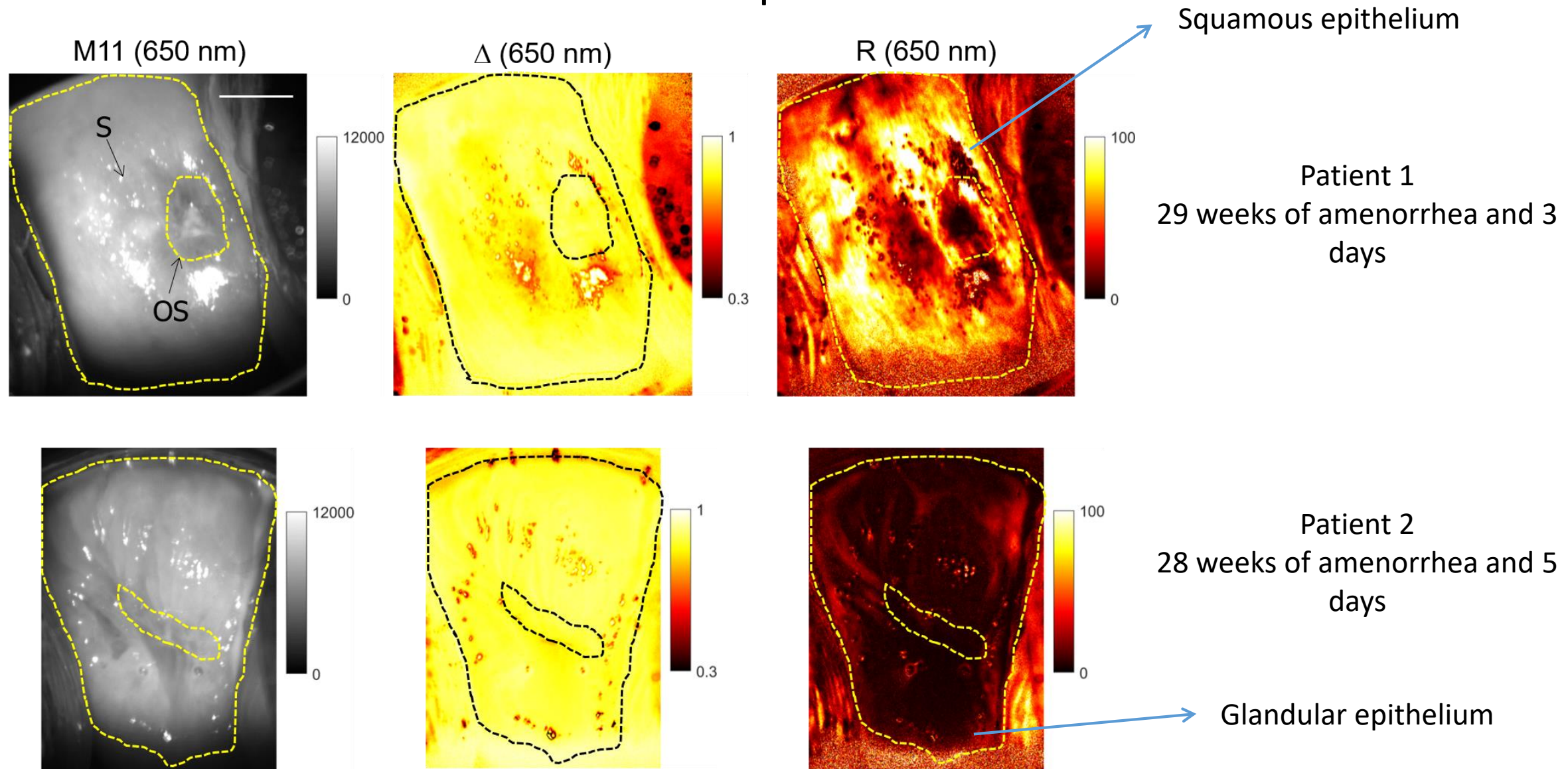
- Resolution: 800 X 600 pixels
- Field of view: 4X3 cm<sup>2</sup>
- Wavelength: 650nm (FWHM: 40nm)
- FPS: 24 frames/s
- Light source: 300W Xenon

## Data collection: 24 individual pregnant women

- A single examination for each patient
- Gestational age: 20-39 weeks
- Age: 16 – 41
- Primigravida: 12
- Multigravida: 12
- All timely delivered
- At the Brugmann university hospital in Brussels



# Polarimetric contrasts for 2 patients

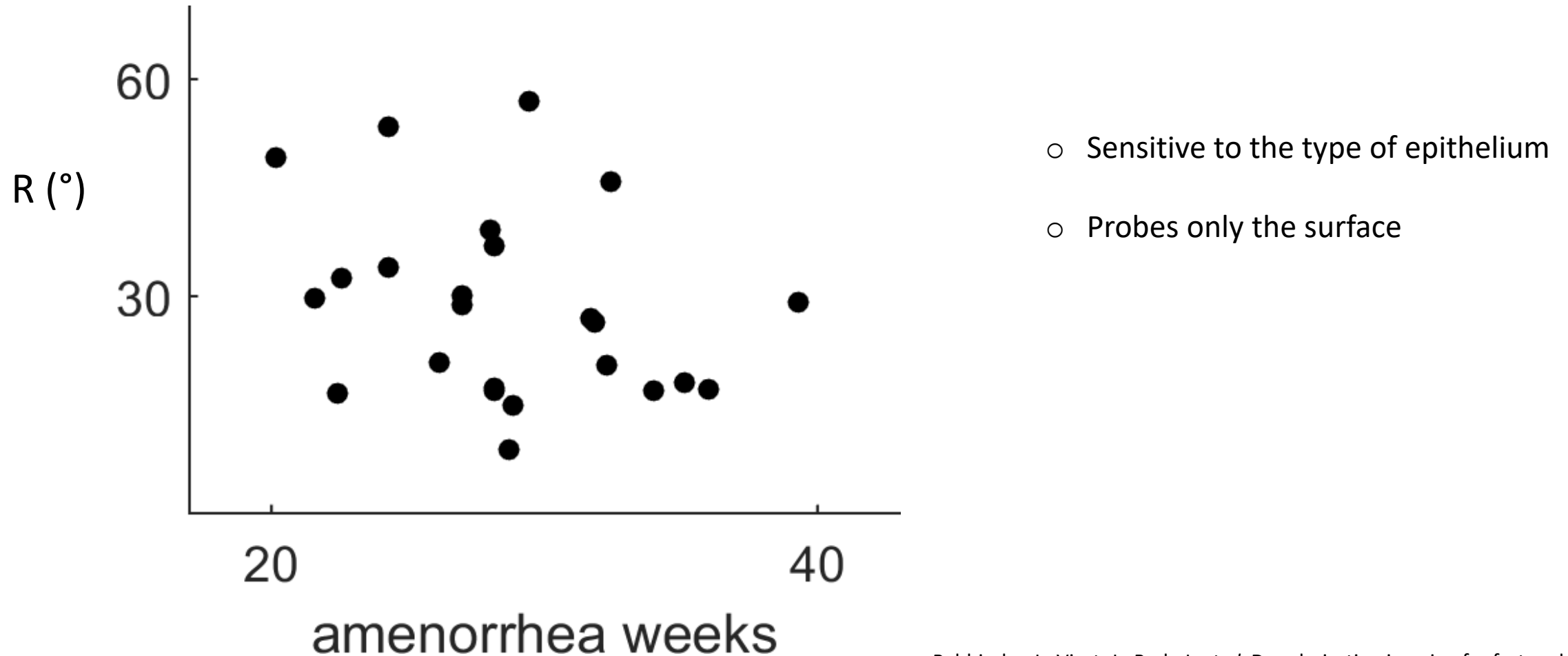


Rehbinder, J., Vizet, J., Park, J. *et al.* Depolarization imaging for fast and non-invasive monitoring of cervical microstructure remodeling in vivo during pregnancy. *Sci Rep* **12**, 12321 (2022).



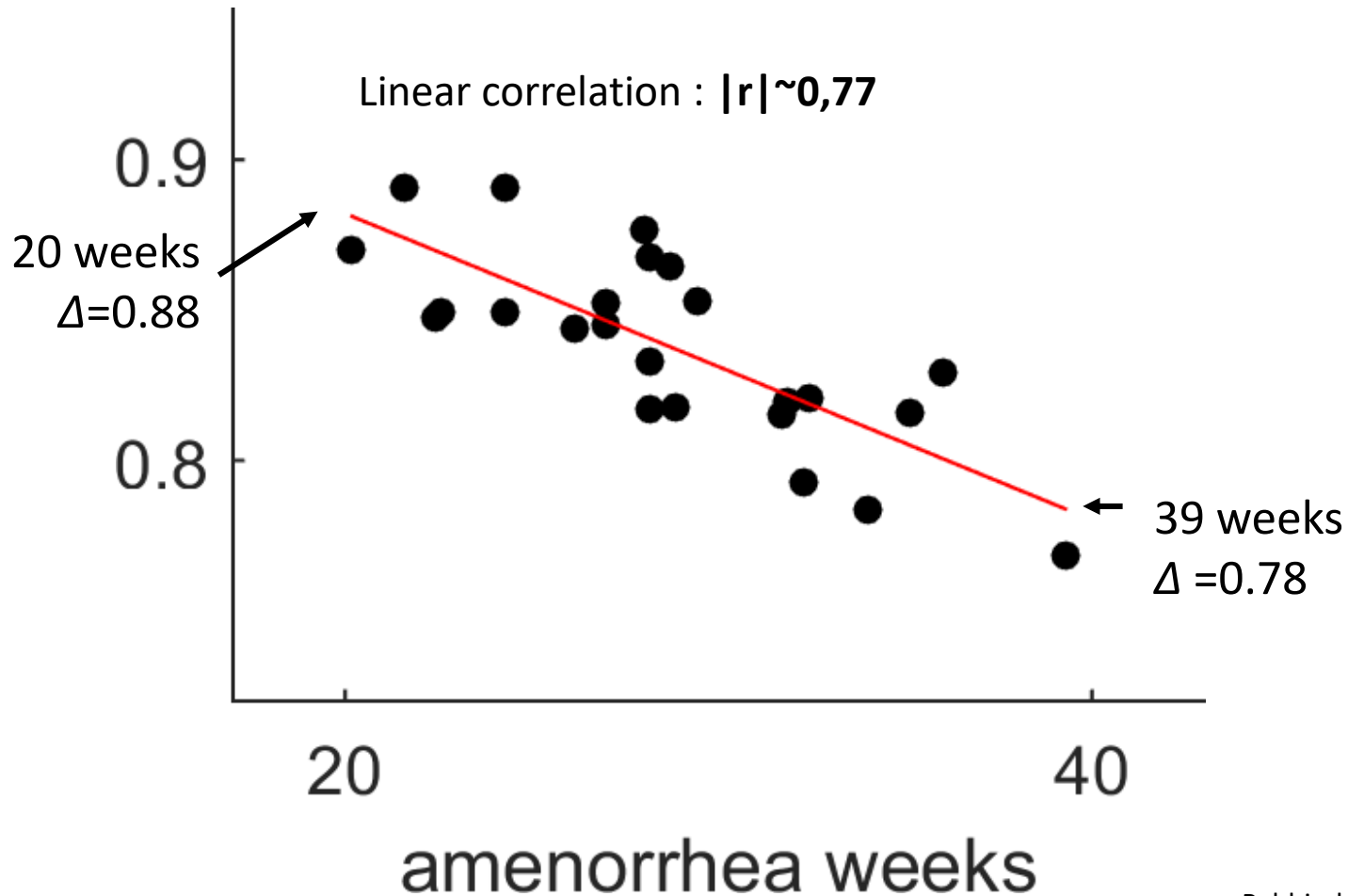
# Standardization of the term birth

Retardance does not correlate with gestational age



# Standardization of the term birth

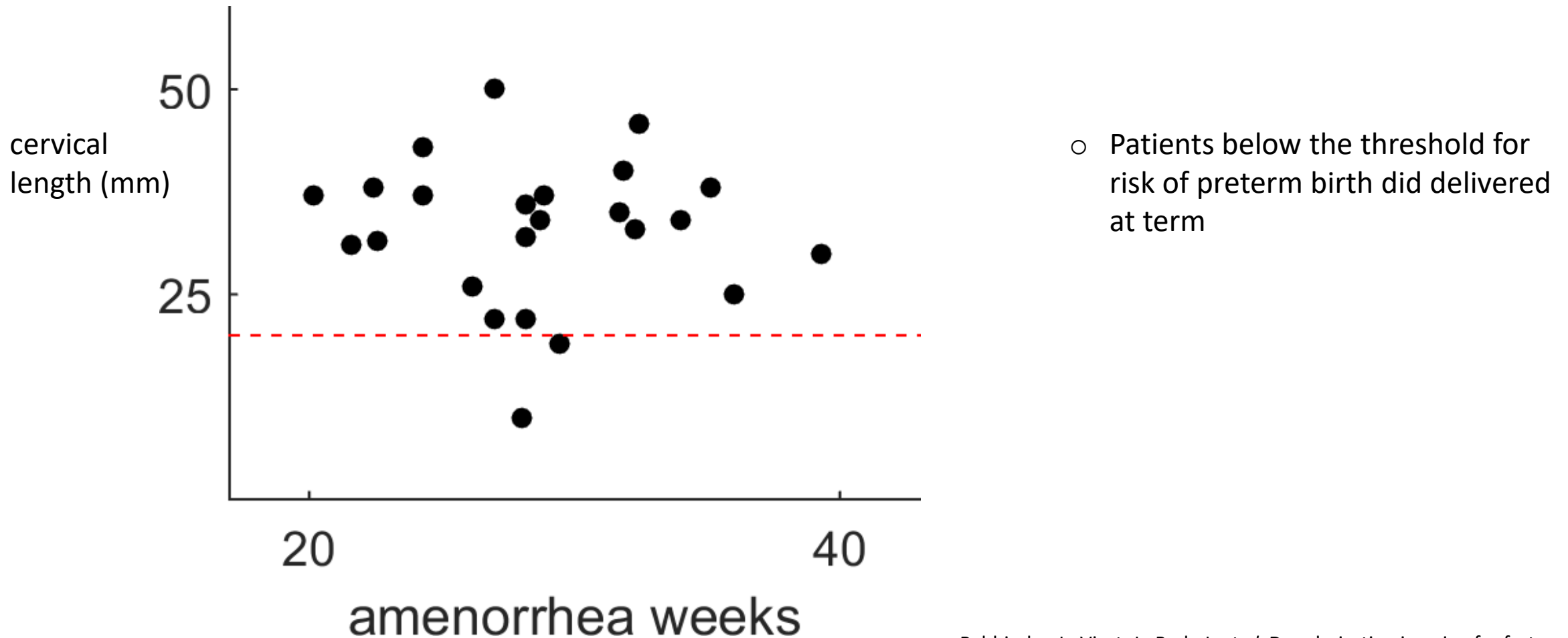
The cervix is losing depolarizing ability over the pregnancy



- Increased hydration<sup>1</sup>  
(particle density  $\downarrow$ )
- Decreased collagen density<sup>2</sup>
- Probes the volume scattering properties (less sensitive to the surface structure)

# Standardization of the term birth

We have observed no trend in cervical length measurements



# Conclusion preterm birth

- The **depolarization** of the cervical tissue is decreasing during pregnancy.
- It reflects the cervical maturation during pregnancy.
- The depolarization parameter at **650 nm** is promising to define a standardization curve on a cohort of patient to follow the steady progression of pregnancy.
- A clinical study of 2 groups (normal vs preterm) is being carried out to figure out the longitudinal changes on 650 patients.



ANR Digit MC-PB

Clinical study *in vivo* on 650 patients  
(2000 Colposcopies)  
Started december 2020 (Duration 36 mois)



# Polarimetry at ICube (Strasbourg)

1

- Polarization imaging at LSIIT in 1997
- Construction of several instruments
- Medical applications: data processing, collaboration with LPICM, ANR

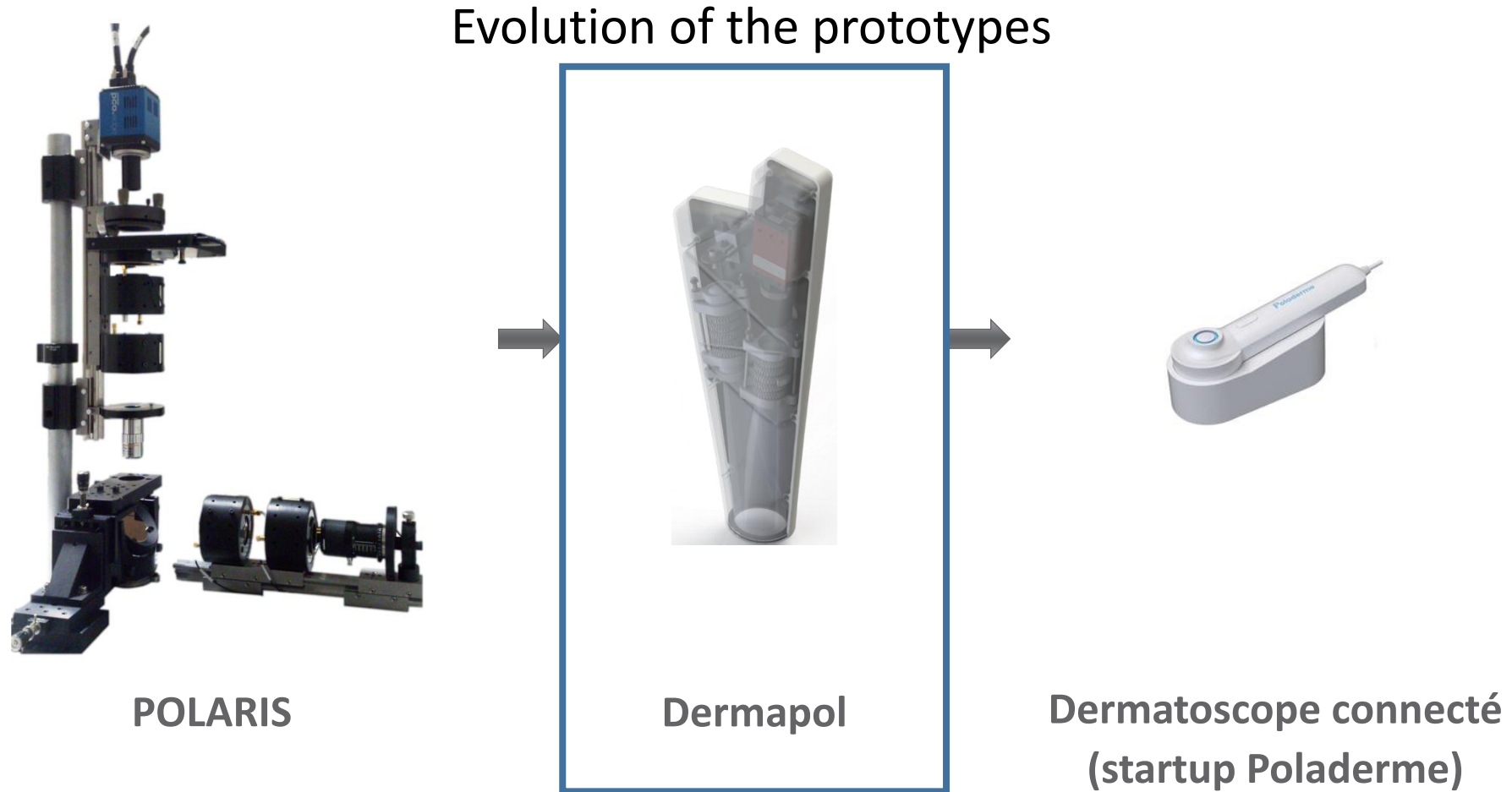
2

- Patent for ultra-stable modulators
- POLARIS project (SATT)
- SATT : Transfer (IHU, Aesculap, Sakura, Storz, ...)

3

- SATT maturation support (Dermapol project)
- Clinical trial
- ARCHOS and creation of POLADERME in October 2021
- Filing of a new patent for the POLADERME solution
- POLADERM is owned by MDV and listed on the stock exchange on 10/02/2022

# Polarimetry at ICube (Strasbourg)



# Polarimetry at ICube (Strasbourg)

## POLARIS

### Preuve de concept

- ~1 m x 1 m
- ~50-100 k€
- Statique
  
- Image de Mueller complète
- Caméra scientifique
- Mesures ex-vivo

## Dermapol

### Etude sur le petit animal et étude clinique

- ~50 cm x 10 cm
- ~20-25 k€
- Transportable
  
- Image de Mueller complète
- Caméra scientifique
- Mesures ex-vivo et in-vivo

## Dermatoscope connecté

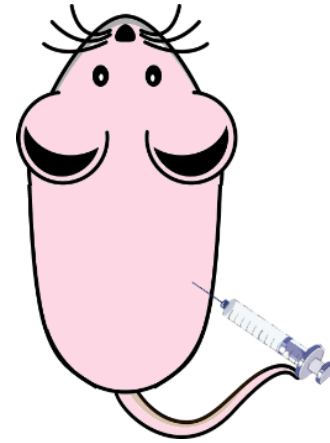
### Industrialisation

- ~10 cm x 5 cm
- <100 €
- Connecté
  
- Etats de polarisation discrets + stéréo-photométrie + stéréo-vision
- 5 caméras smartphone
- Machine learning, IA

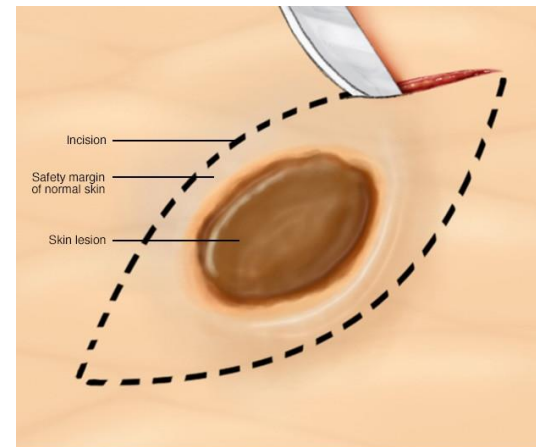
# Dermapol



- **Non-invasive**
- **Sensitive to the organisation of the tissue**
- **Label-free**
- **Quick measurement**



evolution of grafted tumors in mice with and without treatment



Clinical trial at Hôpital Civil of Strasbourg

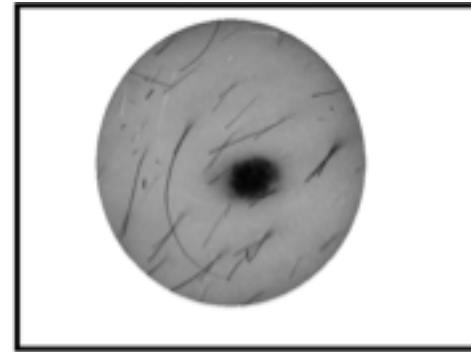
Acquisition on all types of skin lesions, before biopsy



# Polarimetric signatures for skin lesions

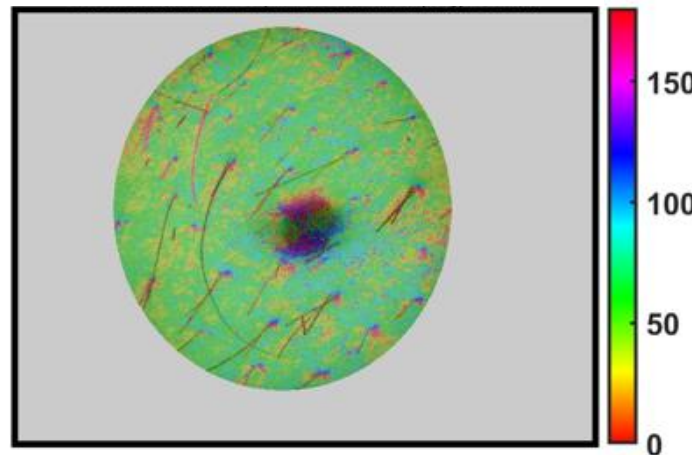
Visuel standard

Intensité

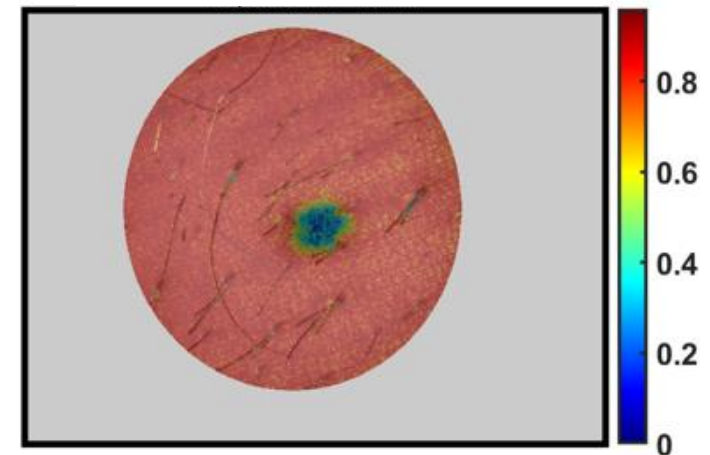


Naevus

Orientation de l'axe rapide du  
retardeur (deg) – 680 nm



Dépolarisation – 680 nm

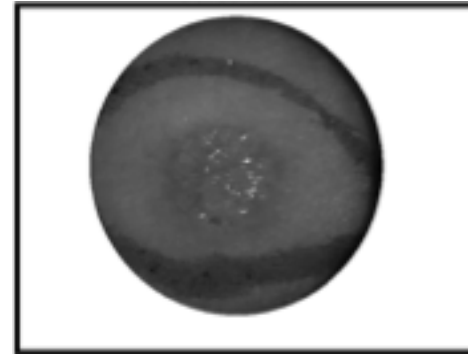


**POLADERME**

# Polarimetric signatures for skin lesions

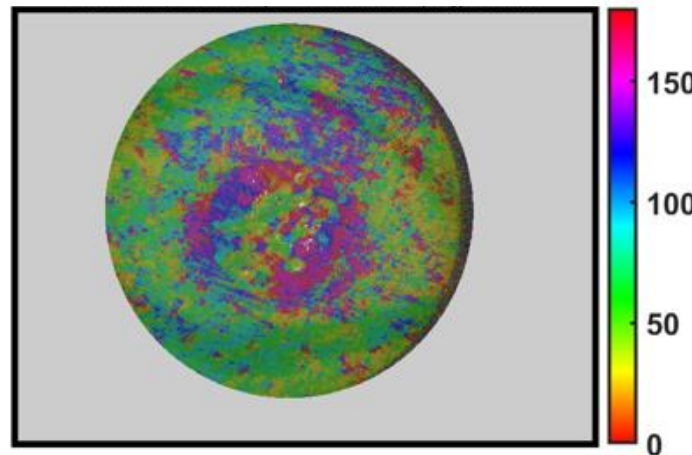
Visuel standard

Intensité

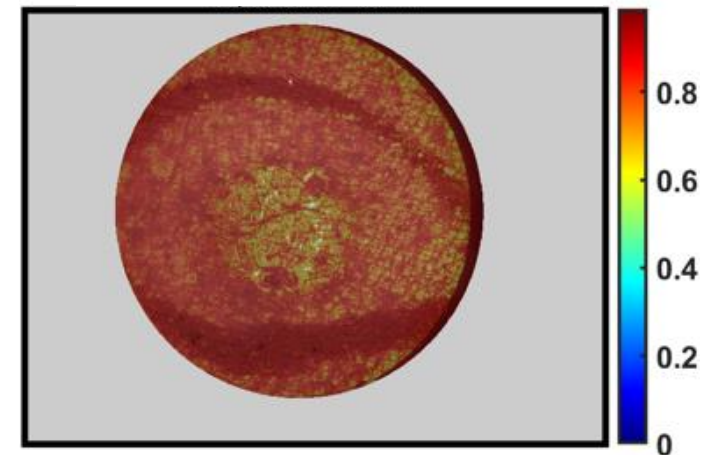


Carcinome  
basocellulaire

Orientation de l'axe rapide du  
retardeur (deg) – 680 nm



Dépolarisation – 680 nm

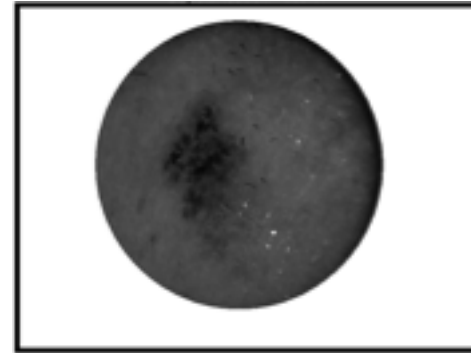


**POLADERME**

# Polarimetric signatures for skin lesions

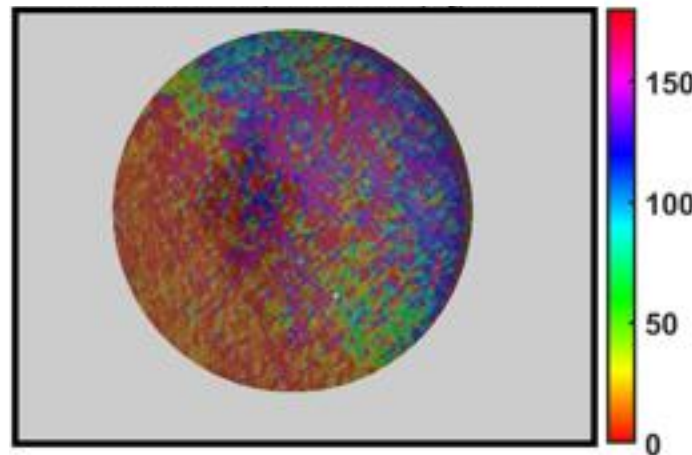
Visuel standard

Intensité

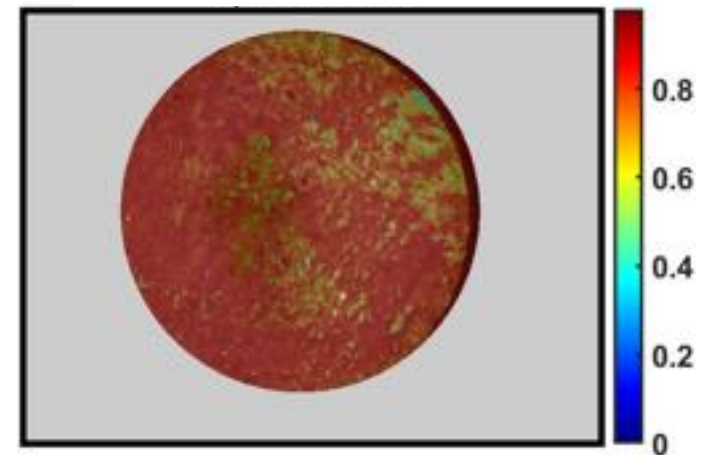


Mélanome

Orientation de l'axe rapide du  
retardeur (deg) – 680 nm

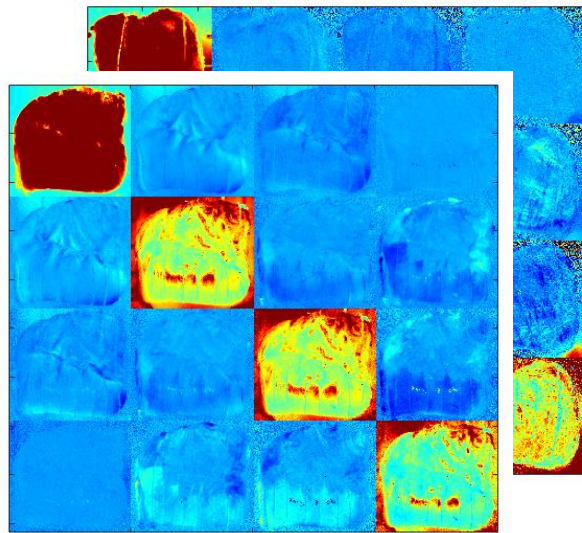


Dépolarisation – 680 nm

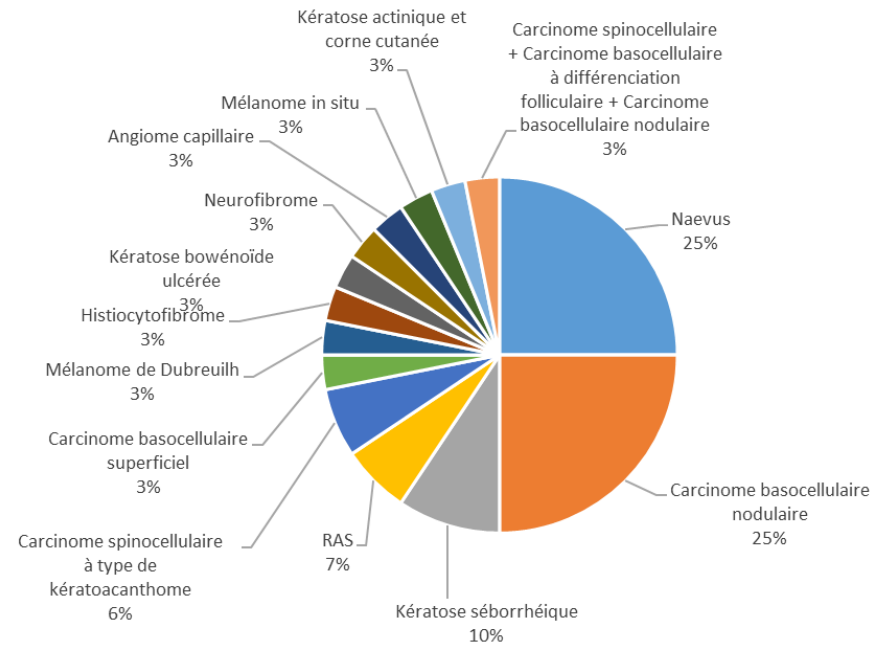


**POLADERME**

# Polarimetry and machine-learning



Database of polarimetric images



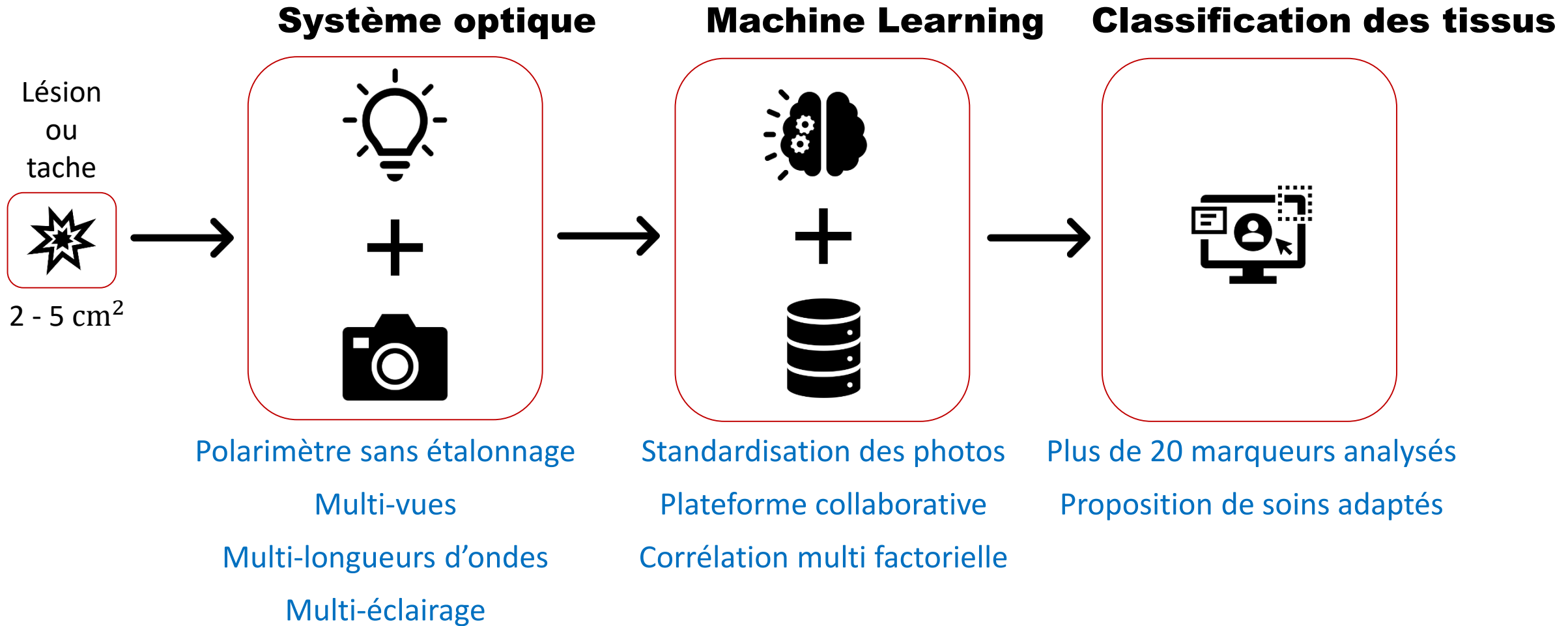
Ground truth labelling

## Problem : Scarcity of (clinical) data

- ~~Complexity of the prototype~~
- ~~Manpower for data collection~~
- ~~Ground truth expensive (histology)~~



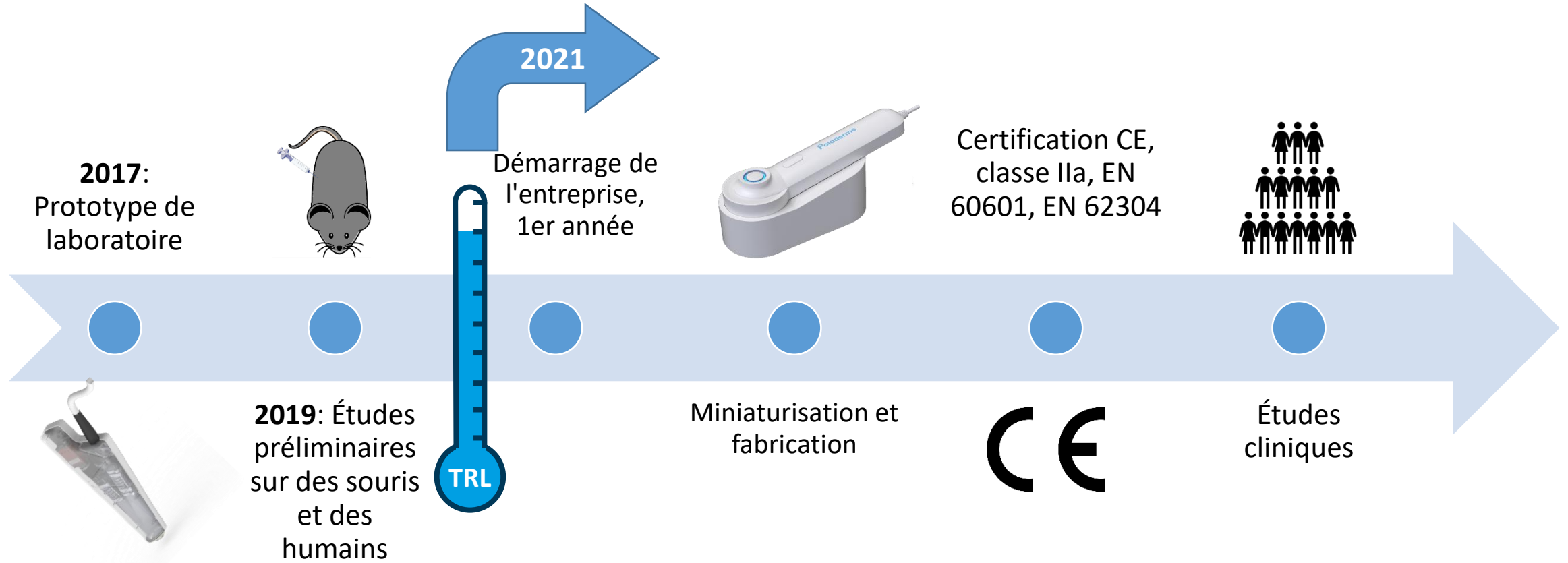
# La solution Poladerme



# Conclusion Poladerme

	Dermatoscope	POLADERME
Grossissement	✓	✓
Éclairage	✓	✓
Analyse de la qualité du collagène	✗	✓
Vascularisation	✗	✓
État de surface de la peau	✗	✓
Orientation des fibres	✗	✓
Information biomécanique	✗	✓

# Outlook Poladerme



# « Take-home » messages

## Optical Imaging can provide:

- Label-free contrasts, sensitive to the micro-organization and chemical composition of tissues !
- Histological insights *in-vivo* !
- Video-rate imaging !
- A broad range of complementary techniques (not all described in this talk)

## Limitations and challenges:

- “Medical is hard” – technical hurdles + tricky to find the right business model + slow adoption of new techniques
- What can be published ≠ what can be marketed



# A bright future for optical medical imaging

## **Optical Biopsy:**

- Optical imaging for prevention/screening, conventional medical imaging for treatment
- “Virtual staining” for histopathology
- Low-resource settings

## **ML&AI:**

- Increased information content through optical techniques → diagnostic aid extracted using machine-learning algorithms

## **Point-of-Care testing:**

- Shortage of doctors, medical deserts
- Availability of smartphones (light source + camera + computing power)

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L. Nicolletti

A-L. Moro

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SATT Connectus

# Thank you for listening !



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<http://icube.unistra.fr/>