

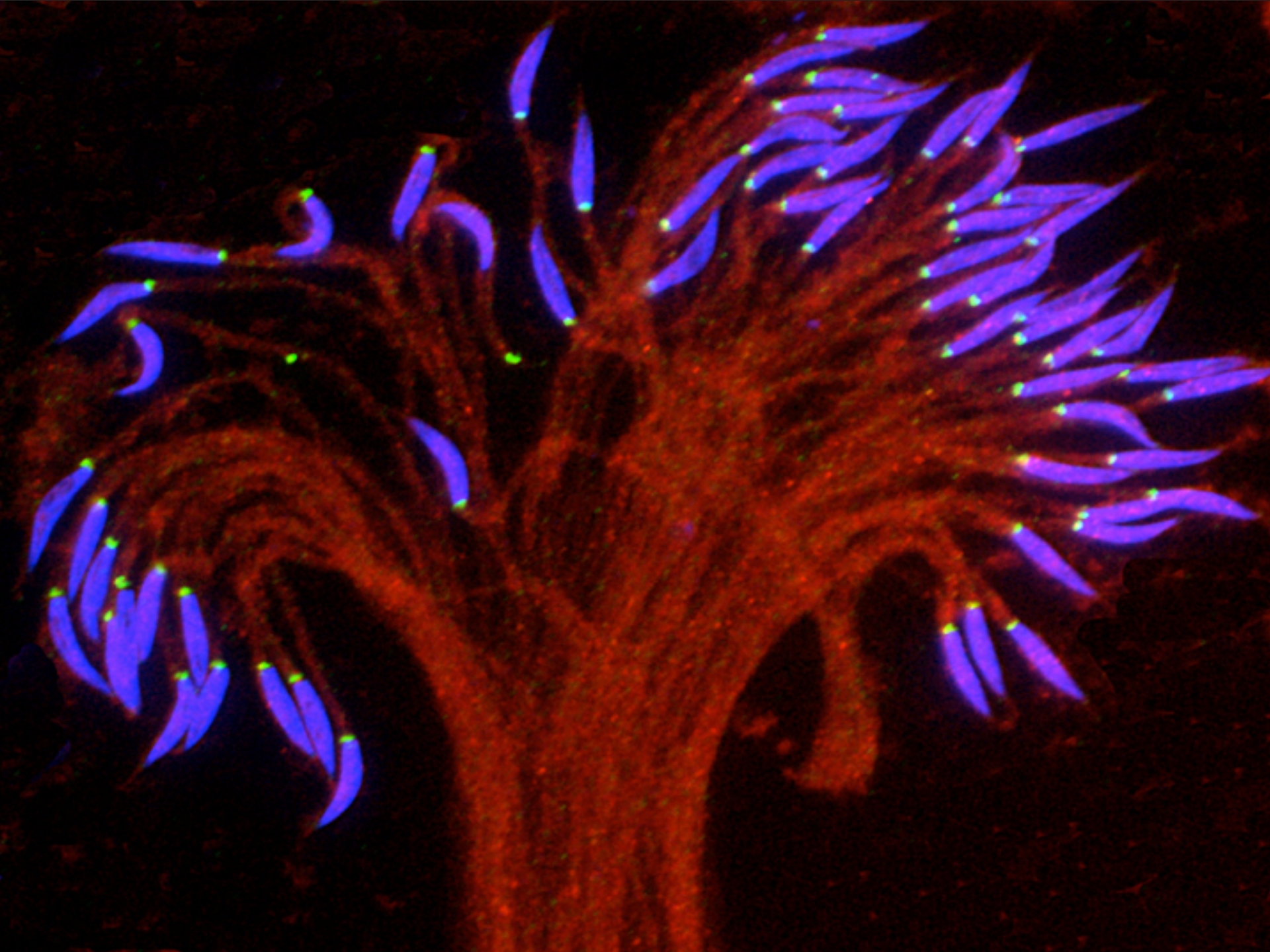
A confocal microscopy image showing a network of red filaments, likely microtubules, with several bright green and blue spots scattered throughout. The green spots are more numerous and appear to be at the ends of the filaments, while the blue spots are fewer and appear to be at specific junctions or points of interest.

Confocal Microscopy

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Outline of Talk

1. Confocal microscopy - some history

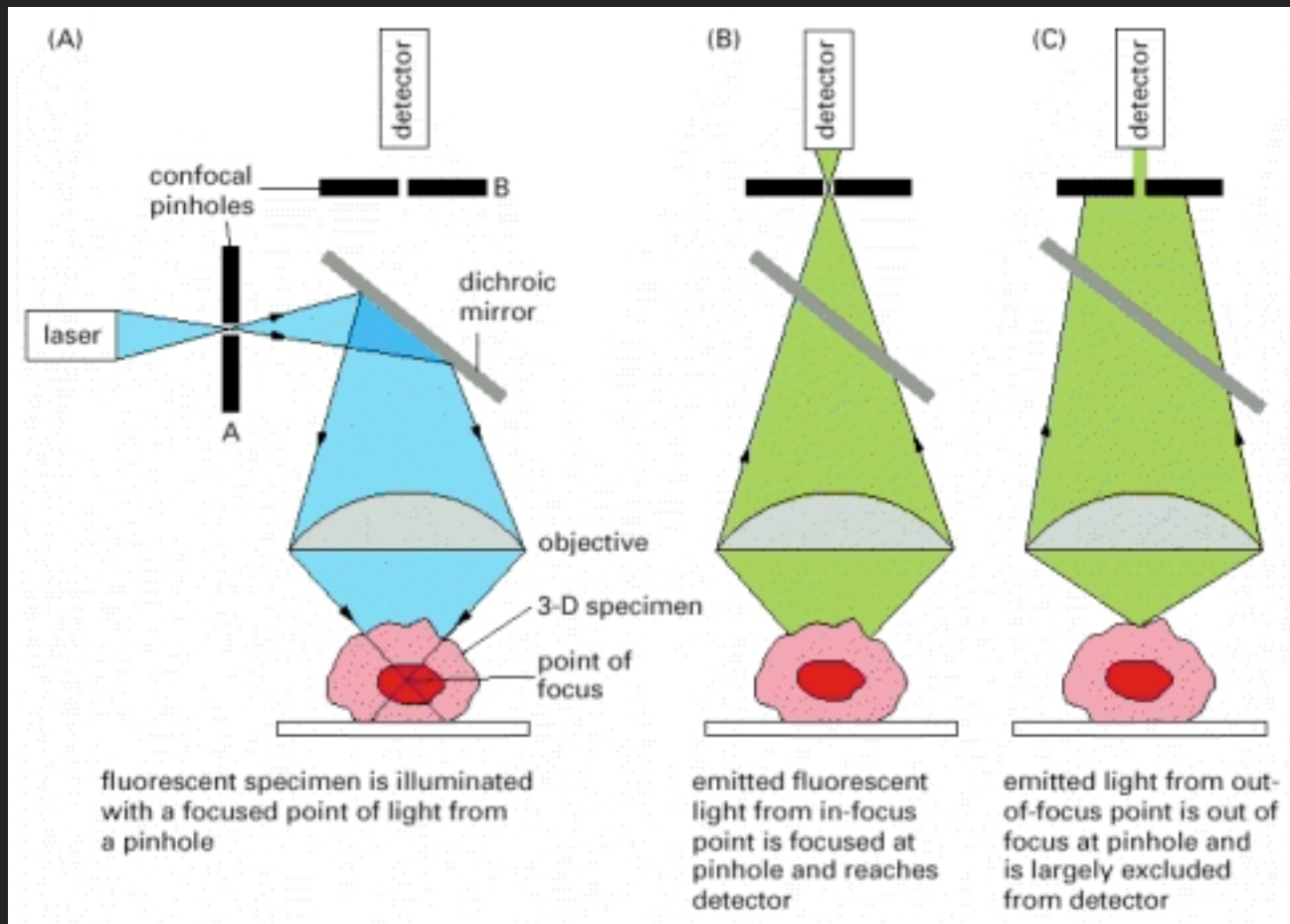
2. Light Scanning Confocal Microscopy (LSCM)

3. Spinning Disk Confocal Microscopy

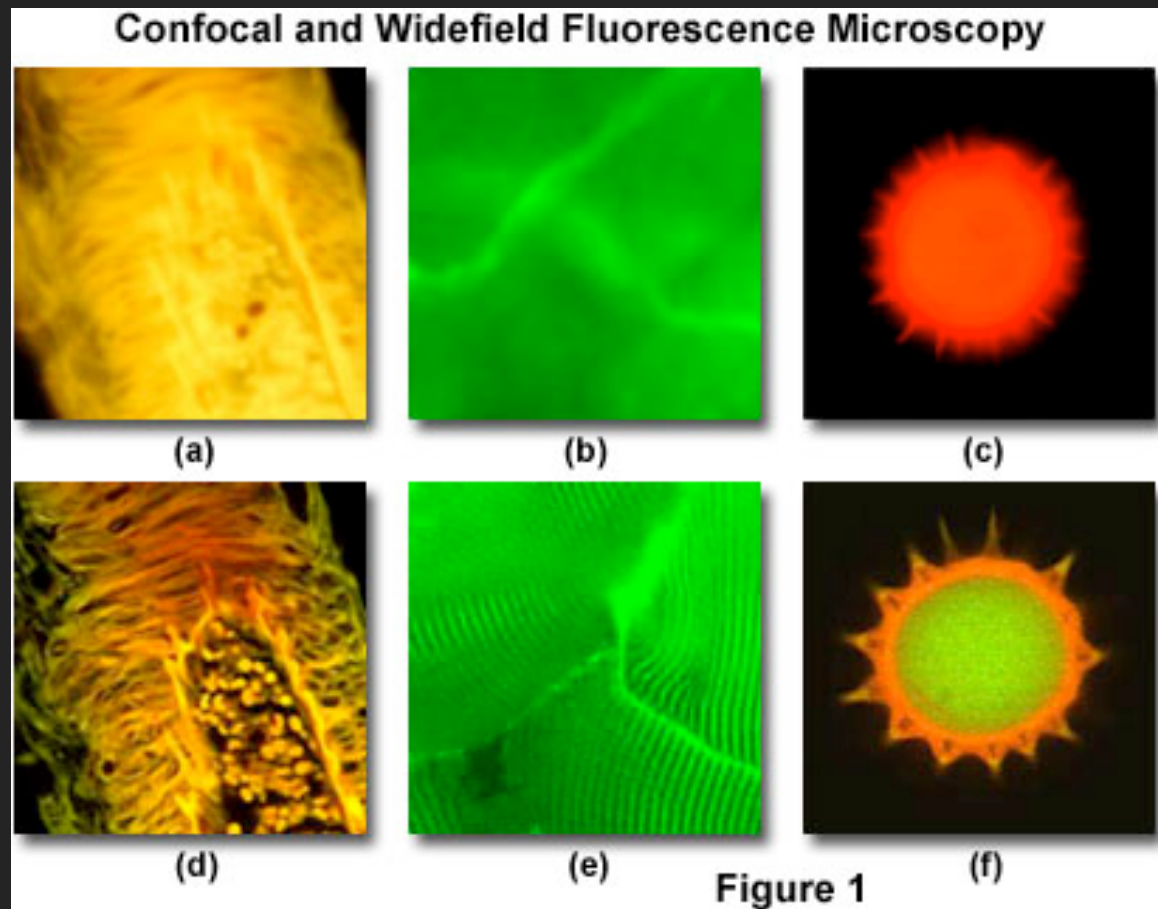
4. Widefield vs. LSCM vs. Spinning Disc

Murray et al., Evaluating performance in 3D
fluorescence microscopy. J. Microscopy (2007)

The principle of the confocal microscope



Comparison of Confocal and Widefield Microscopy



Short History of the Confocal Microscope

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Confocal “concept” patented by Marvin Minsky in 1957.

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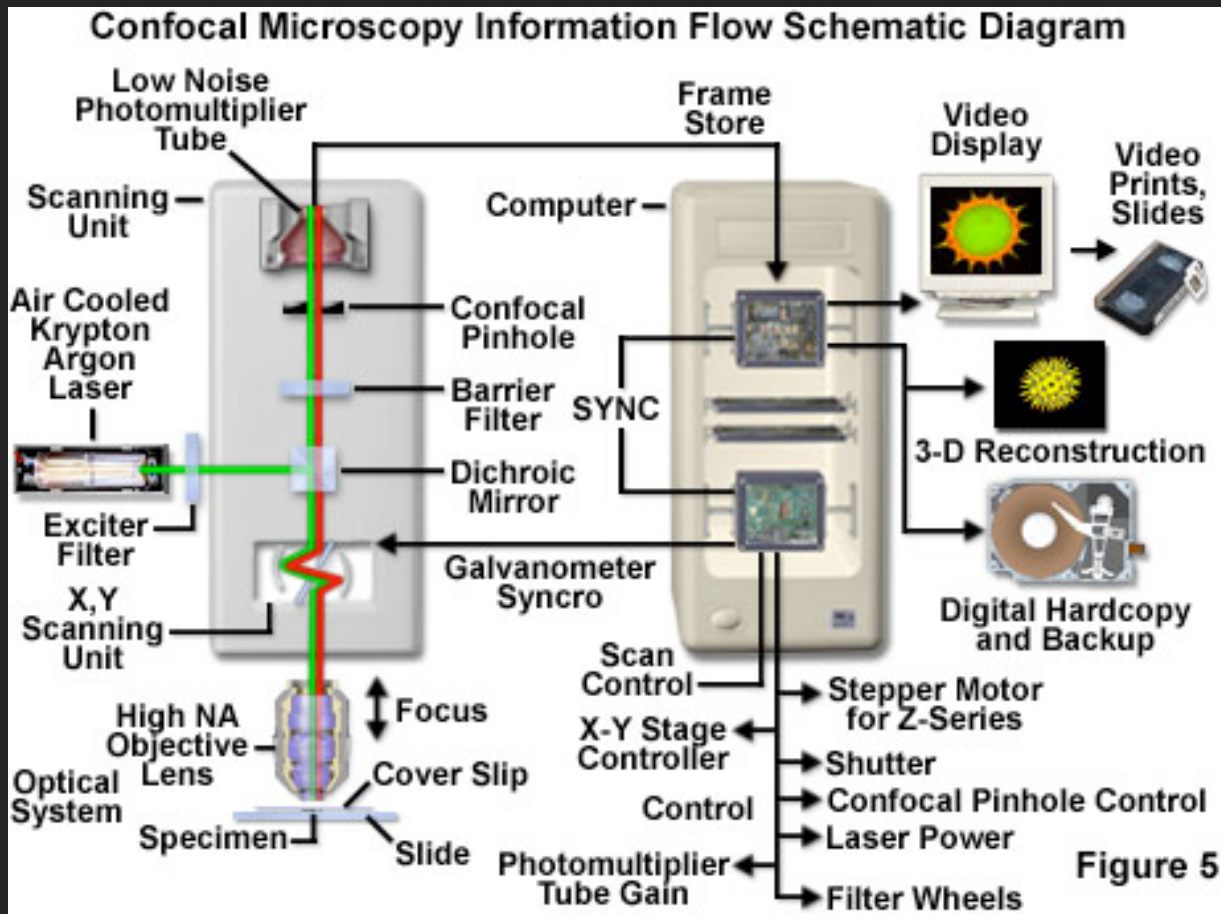
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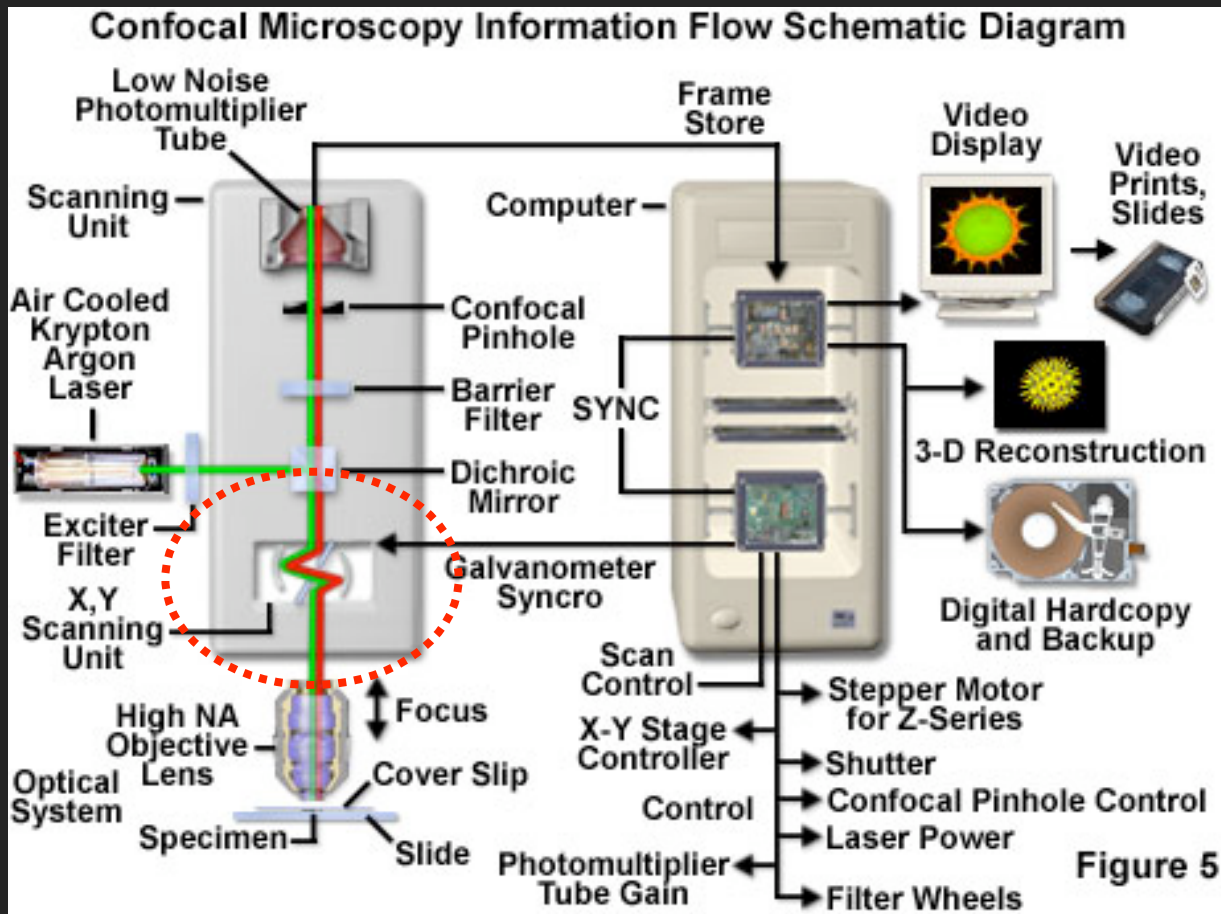
White, Amos and Wilson developed MRC 500 point scanning confocal - marketed commercially in 1987.

Amos and White, Biol. Cell 2003

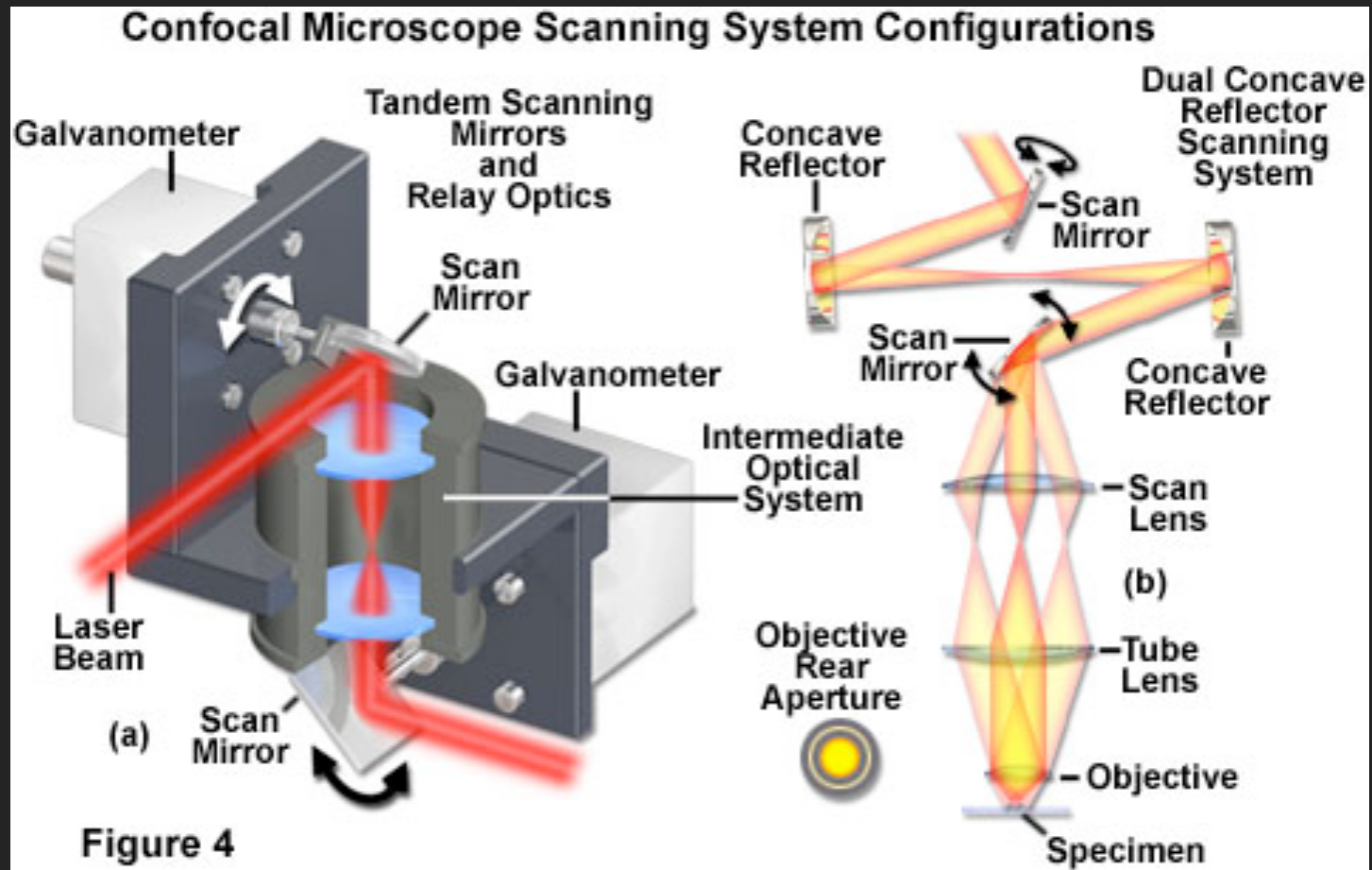
Simplified View of a “Point-Scanning” Confocal



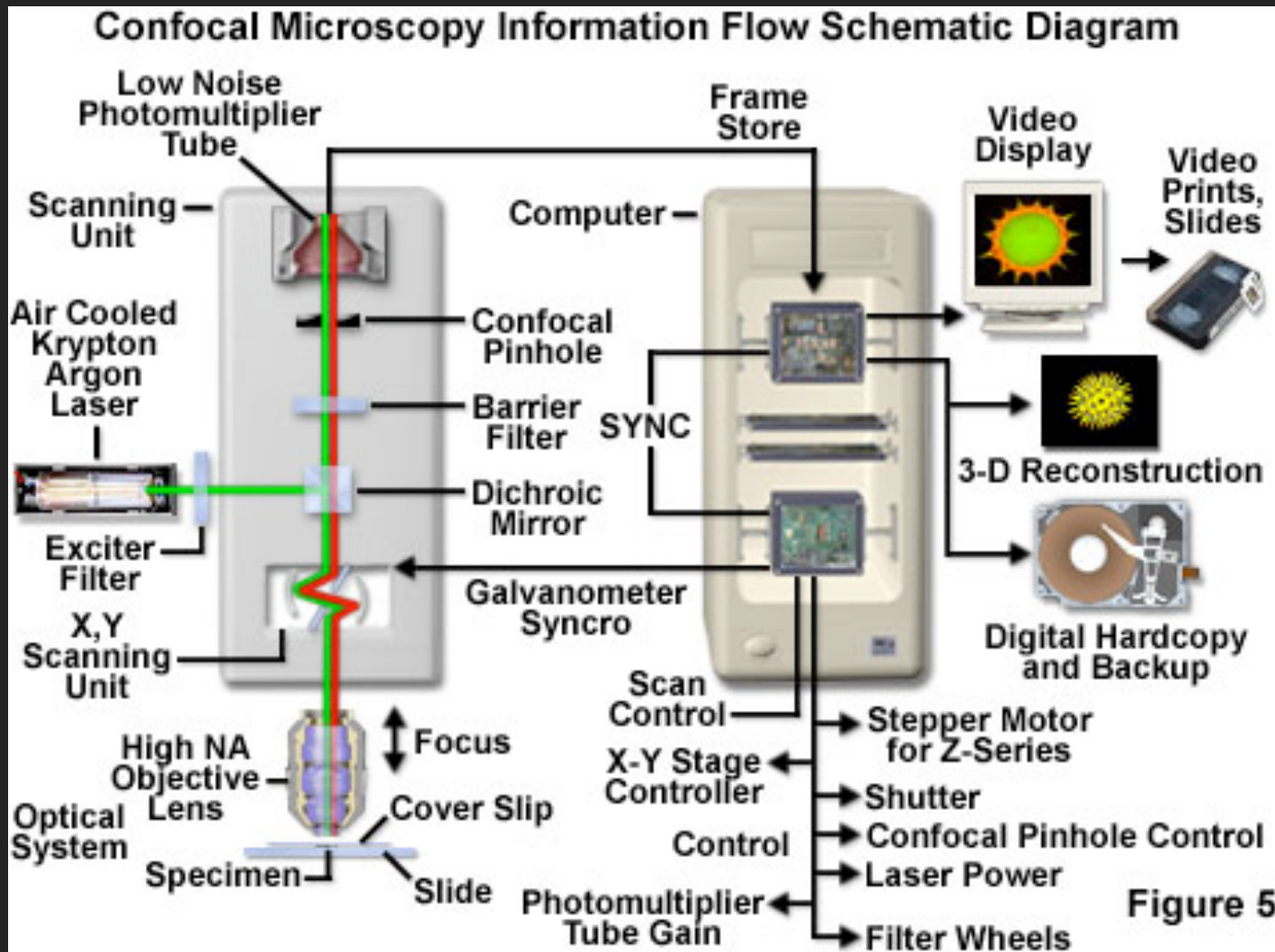
Simplified View of a "Point-Scanning" Confocal



The Galvanometer/Mirror Scanning System



Simplified View of a “Point-Scanning” Confocal



Simplified View of a "Point-Scanning" Confocal

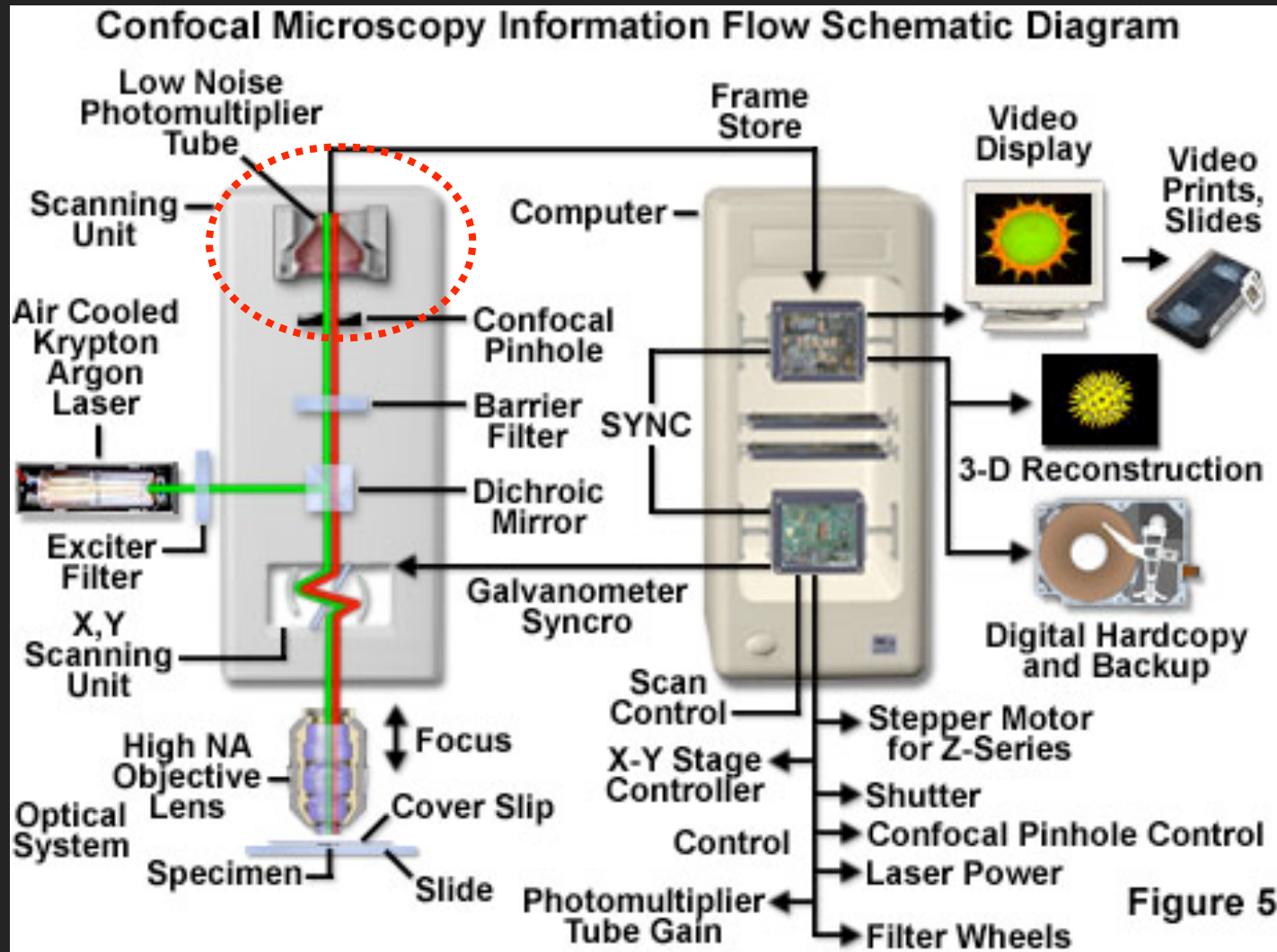
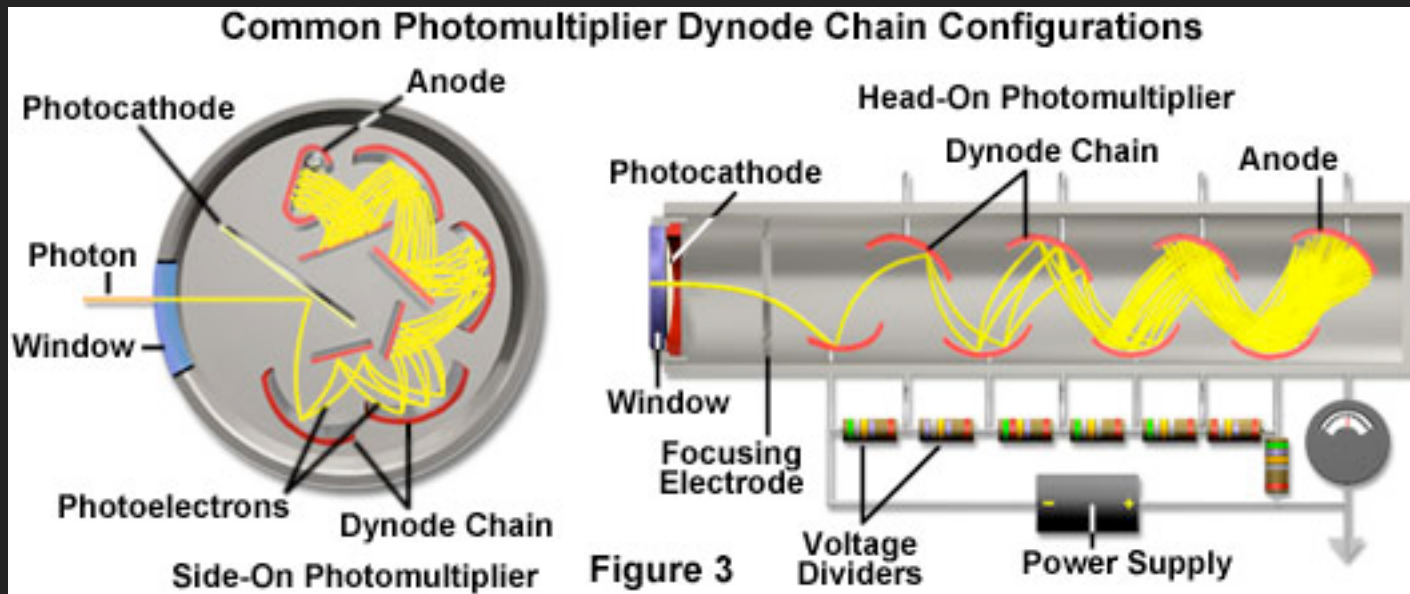
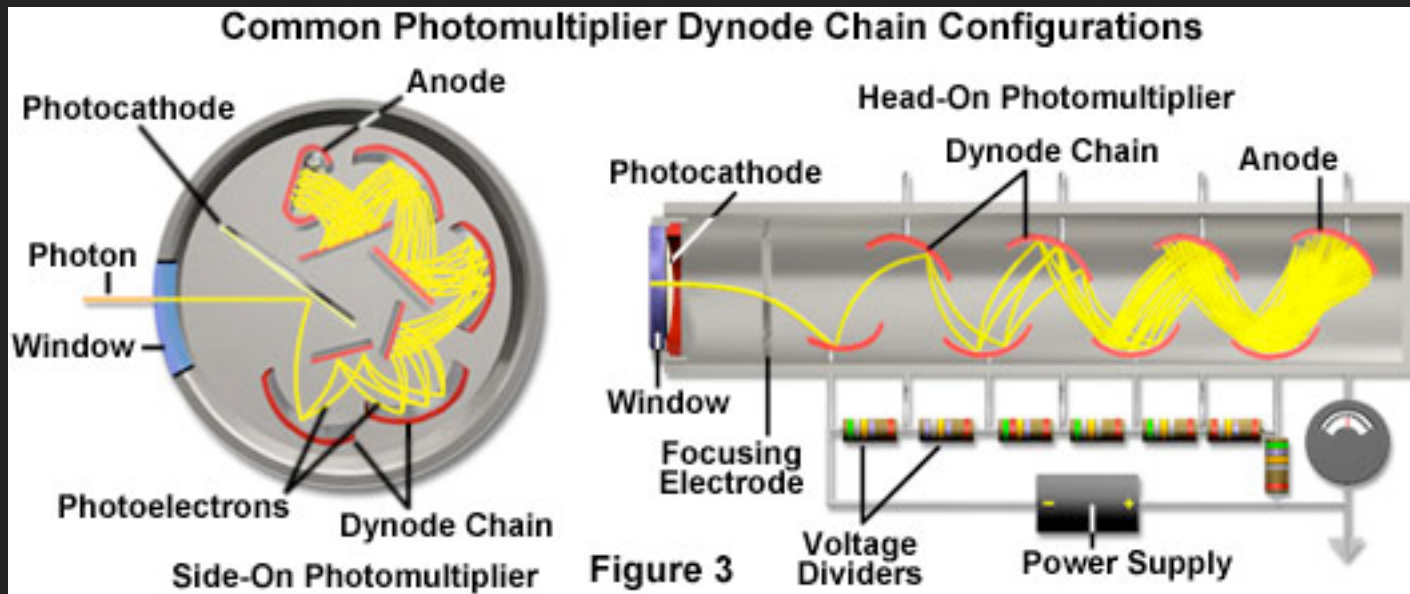


Figure 5

The Photomultiplier (PMT)

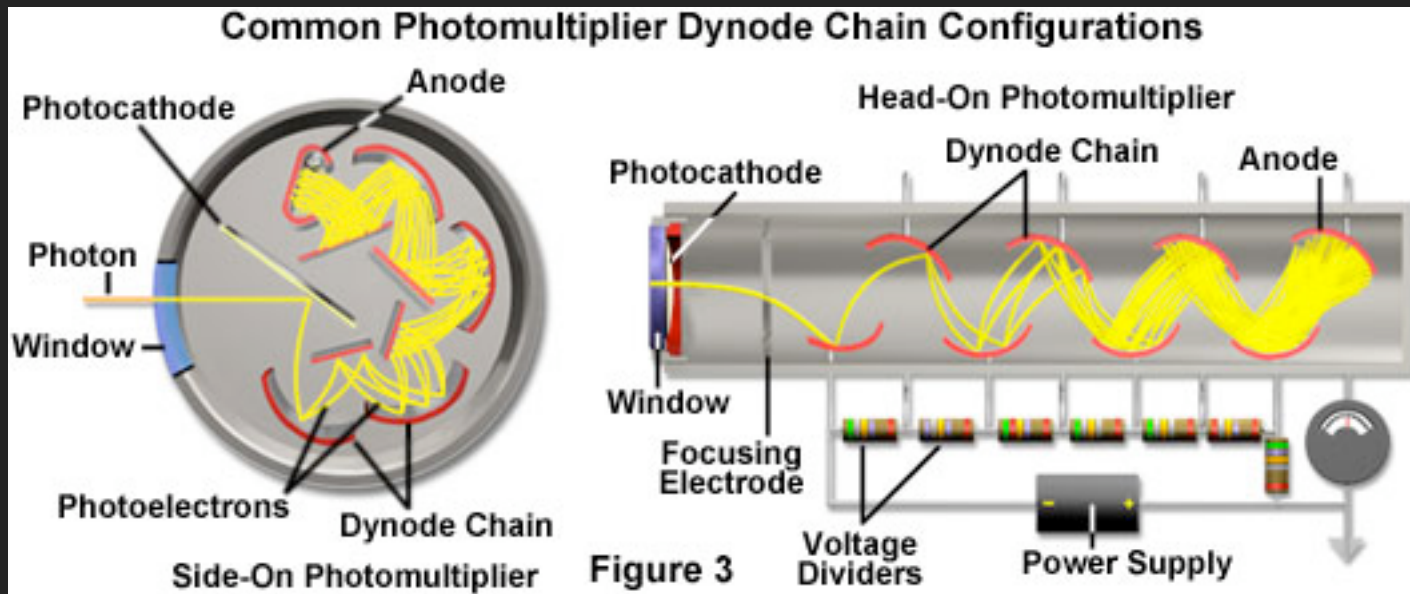


The Photomultiplier (PMT)

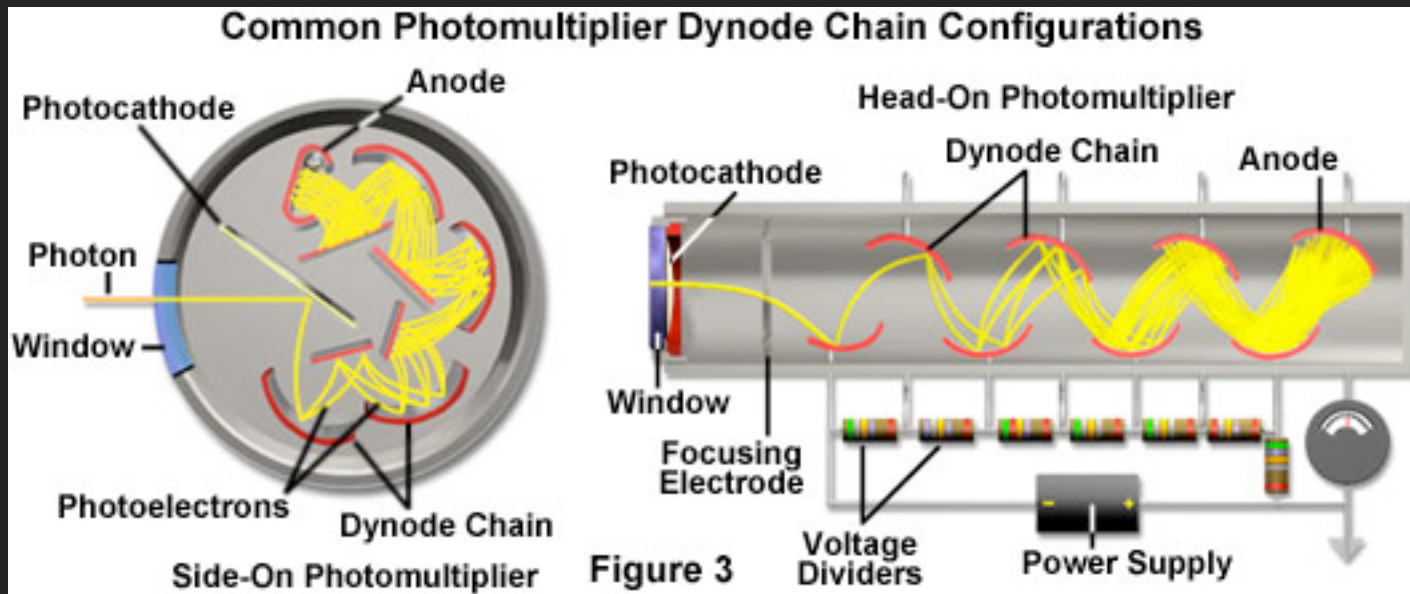


Very Low Noise (even without too much cooling)
Very Rapid Response
Huge Potential for Signal Amplification ($\sim 1 \times 10^7$)

The Photomultiplier (PMT)

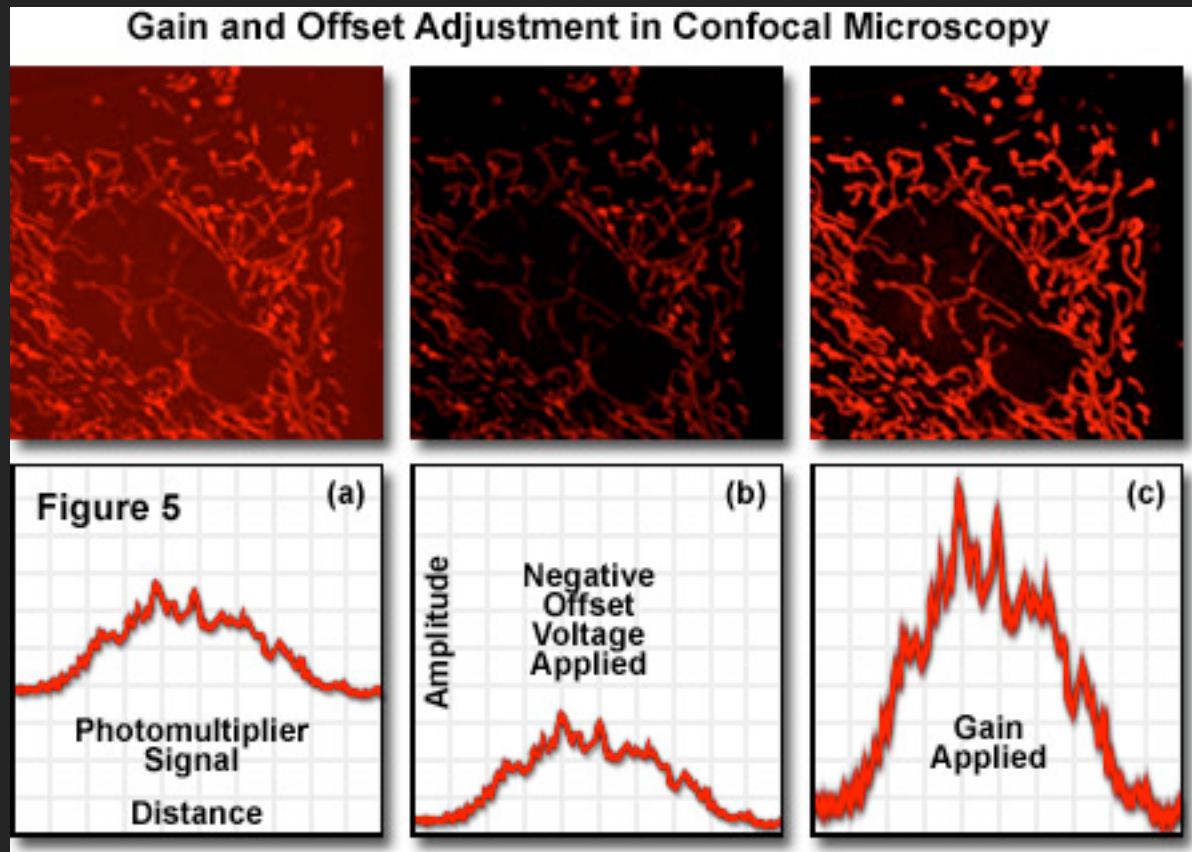


The Photomultiplier (PMT)

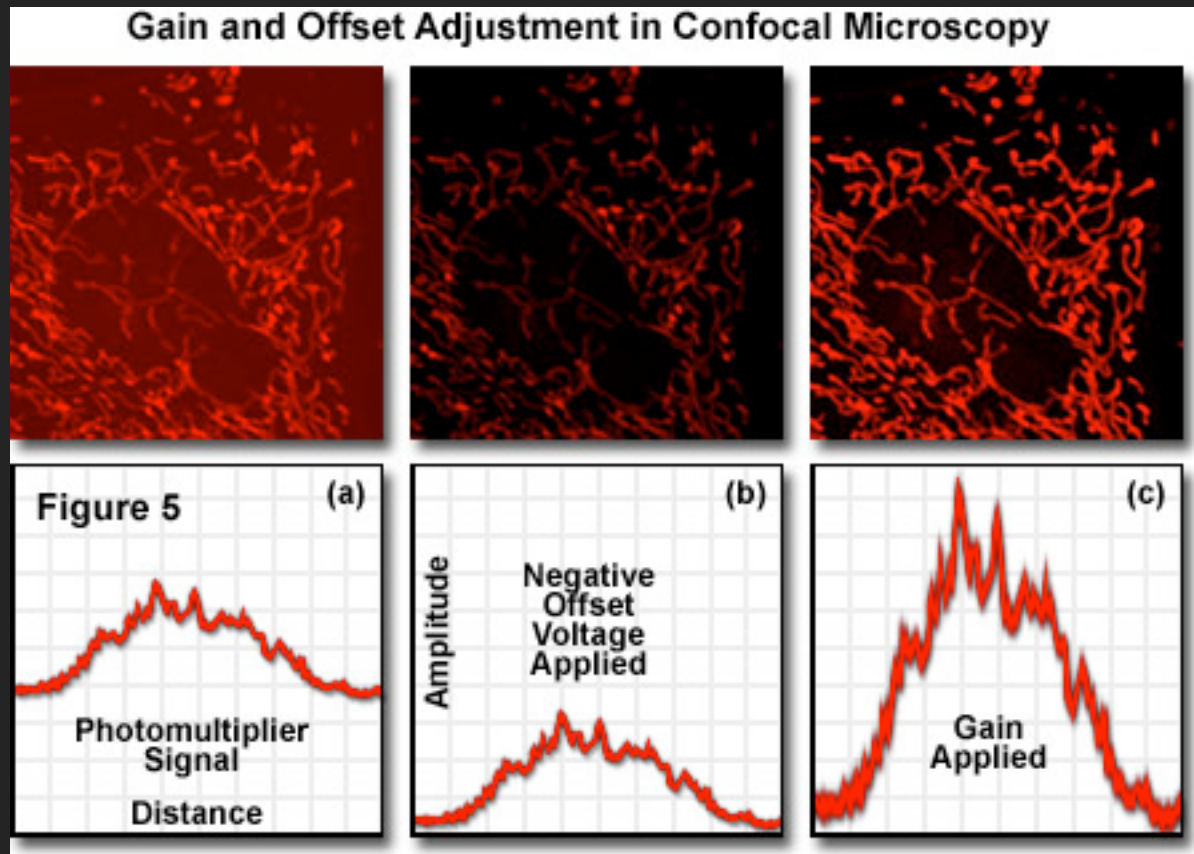


Low Quantum Efficiency (QE) (~15-40%)

Adjusting Offset and Gain of the PMT



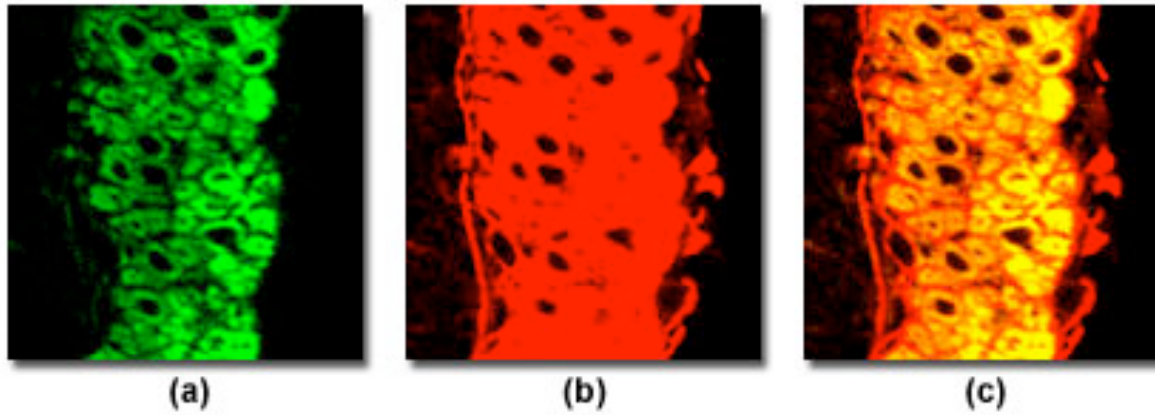
Adjusting Offset and Gain of the PMT



Beware - this is how your image will be saved!

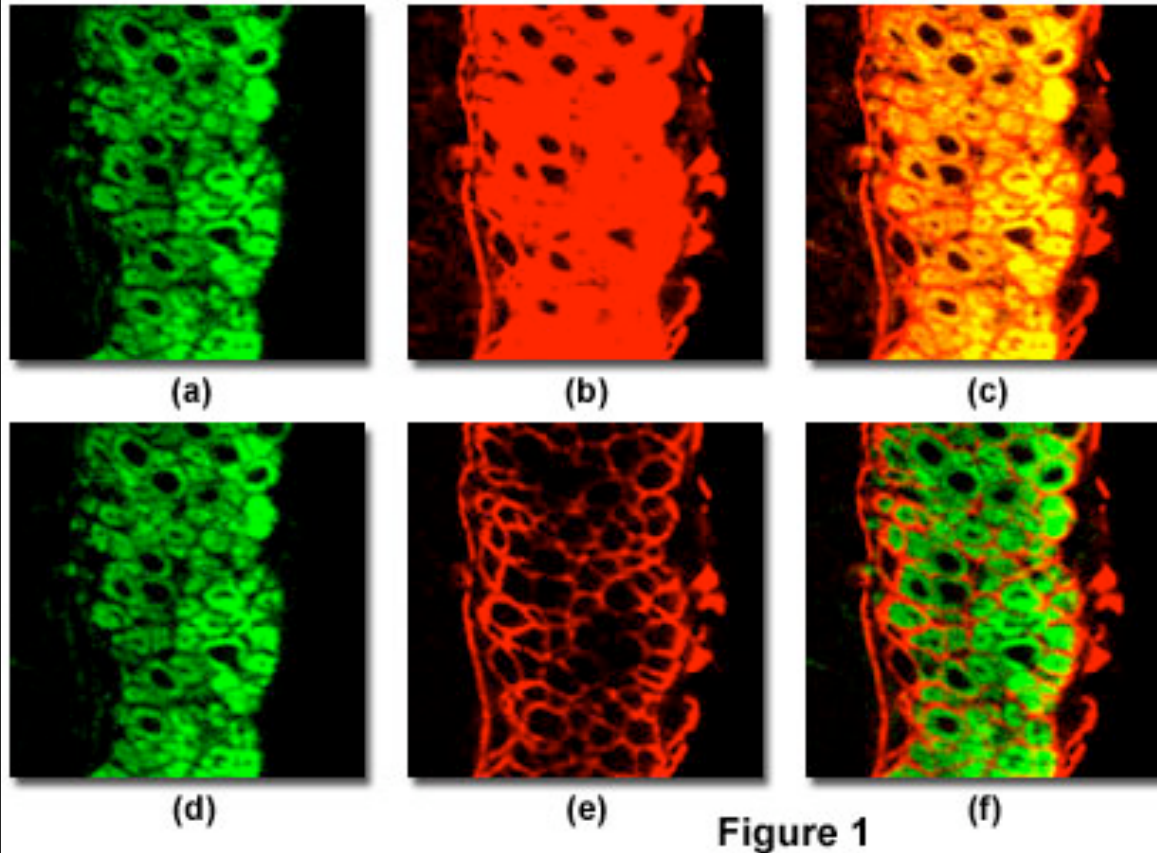
The Problem of “Bleedthrough”

Fluorophore Emission Bleed-Through in Confocal Microscopy



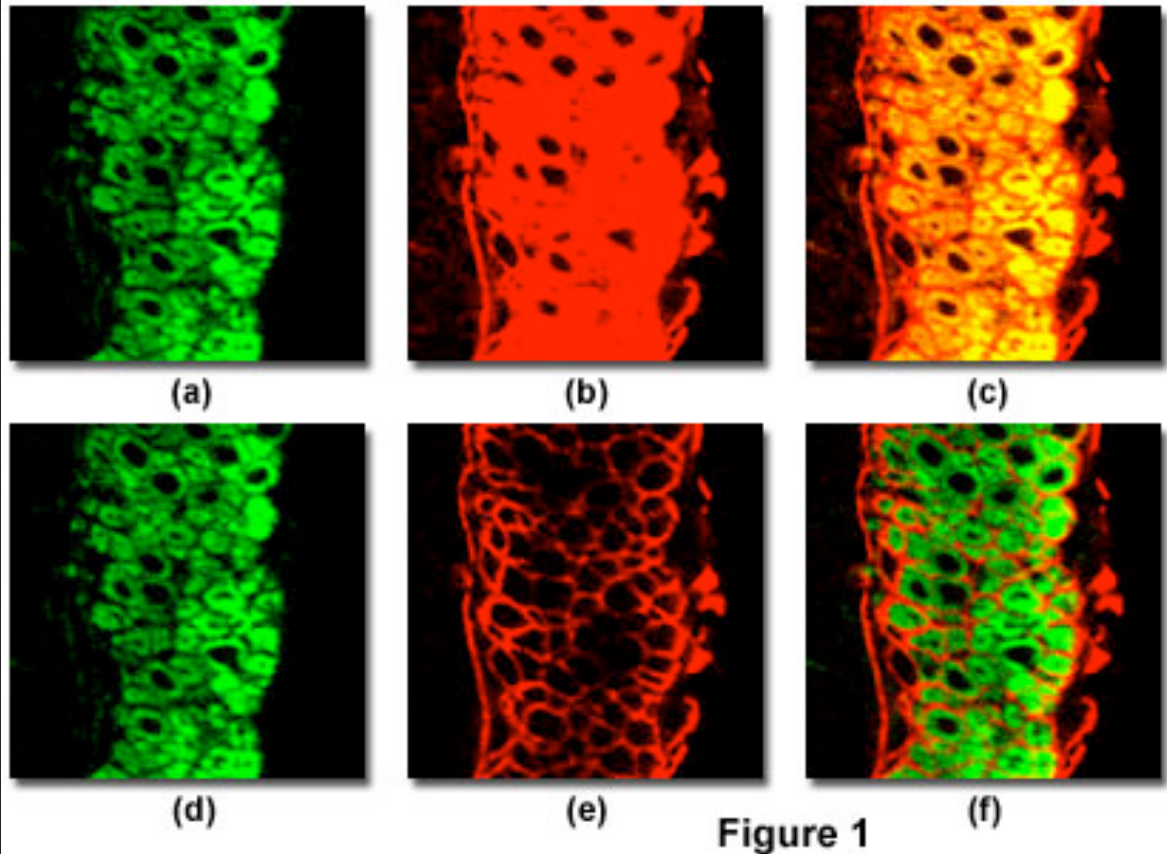
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Fluorophore Emission Bleed-Through in Confocal Microscopy



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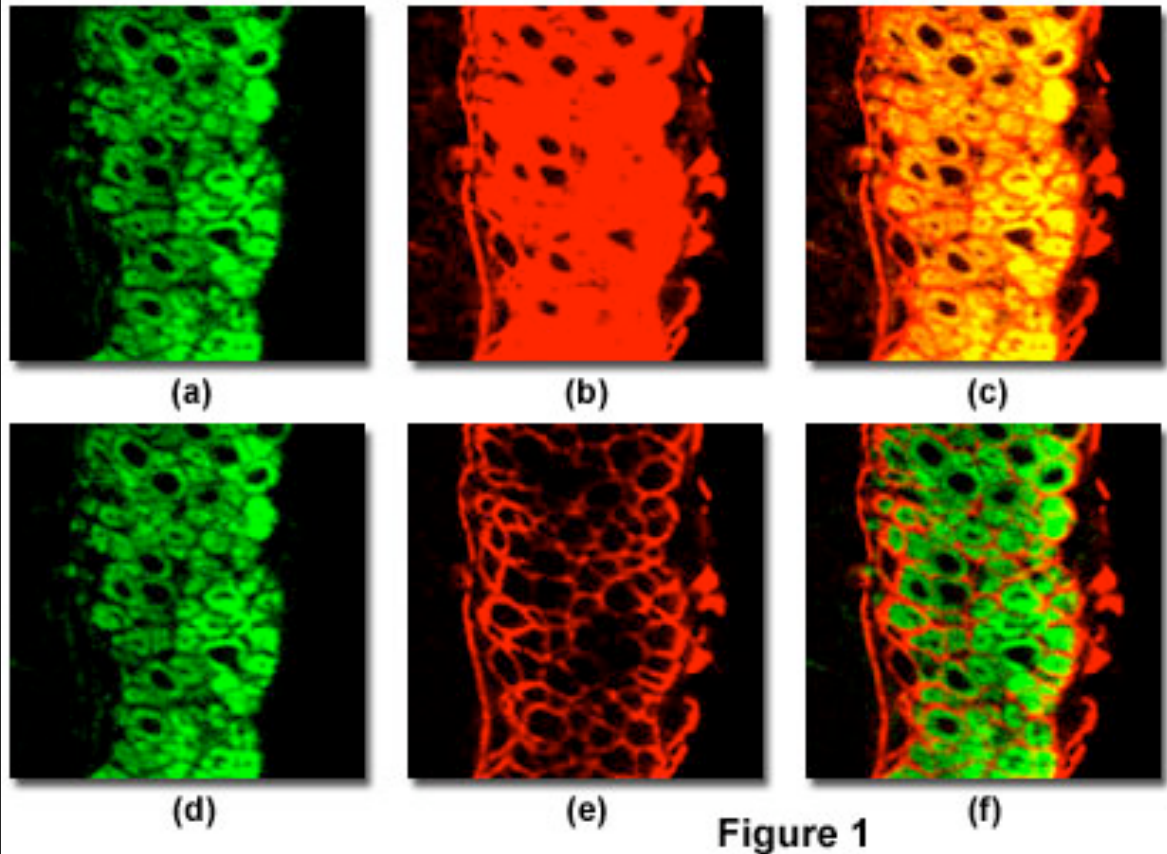
Fluorophore Emission Bleed-Through in Confocal Microscopy



Sequential scanning

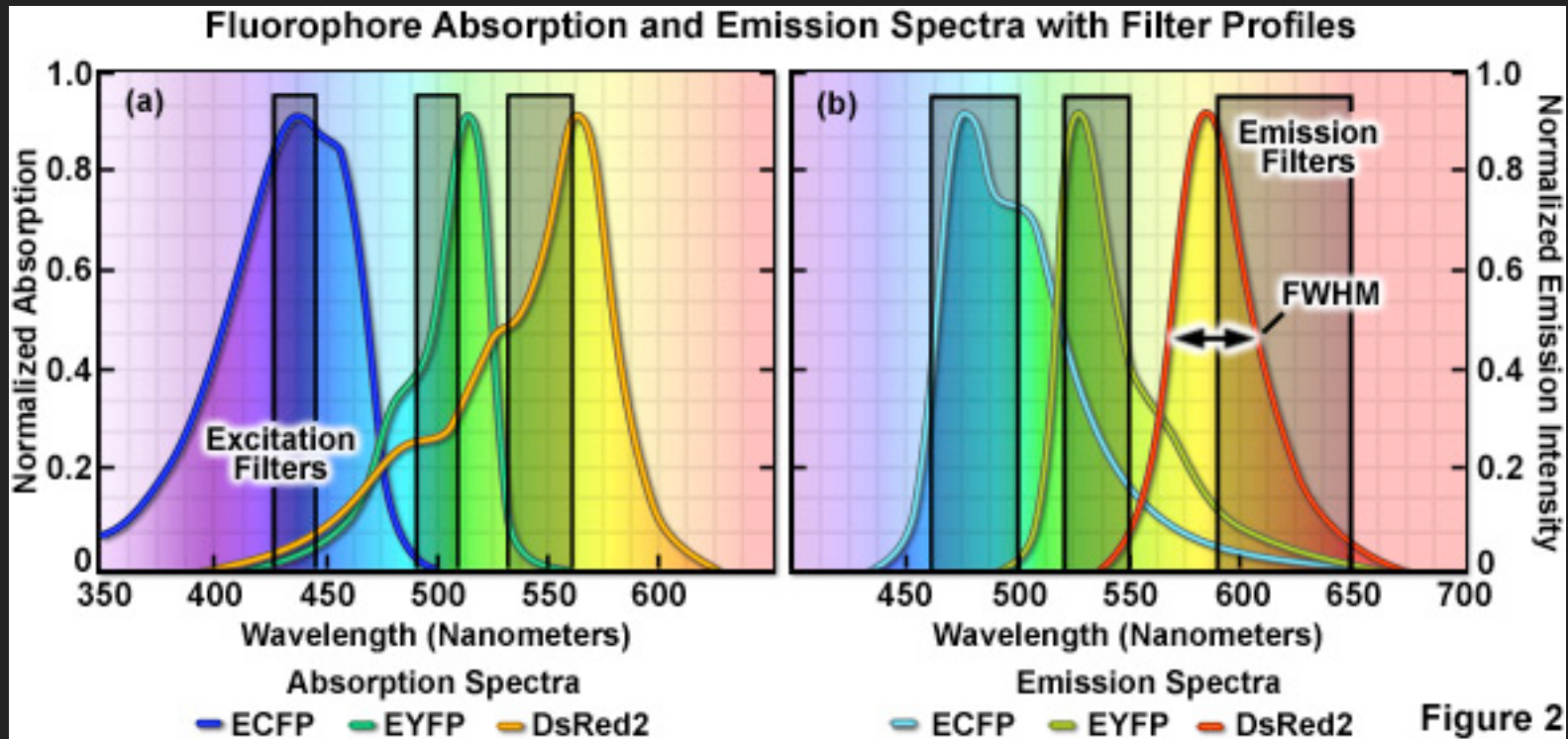
The Problem of “Bleedthrough”

Fluorophore Emission Bleed-Through in Confocal Microscopy



Sequential scanning
- but a problem for live cells

Minimising “Bleedthrough”



Spectral Unmixing

Spatial Scan Spectral Imaging Configurations

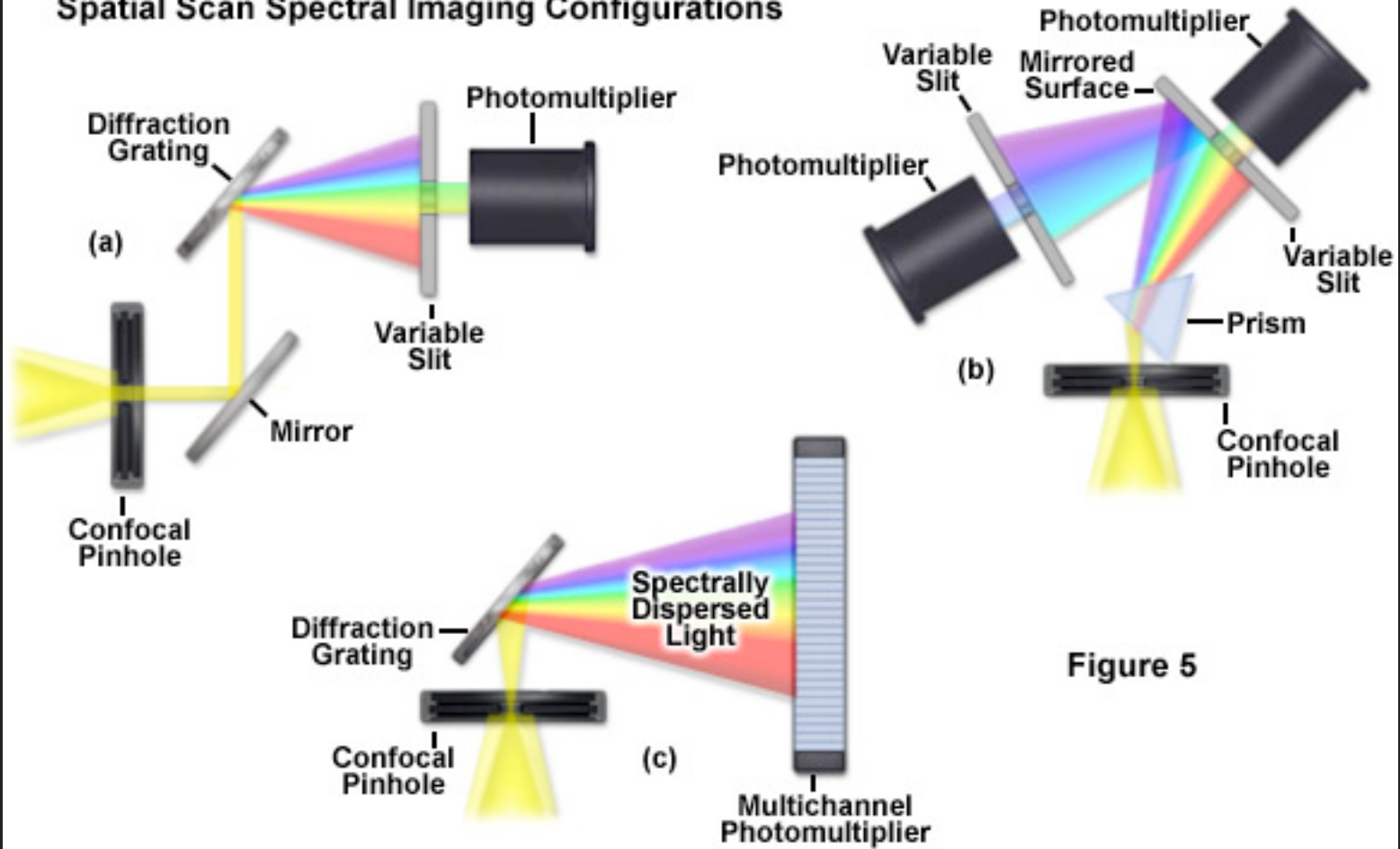
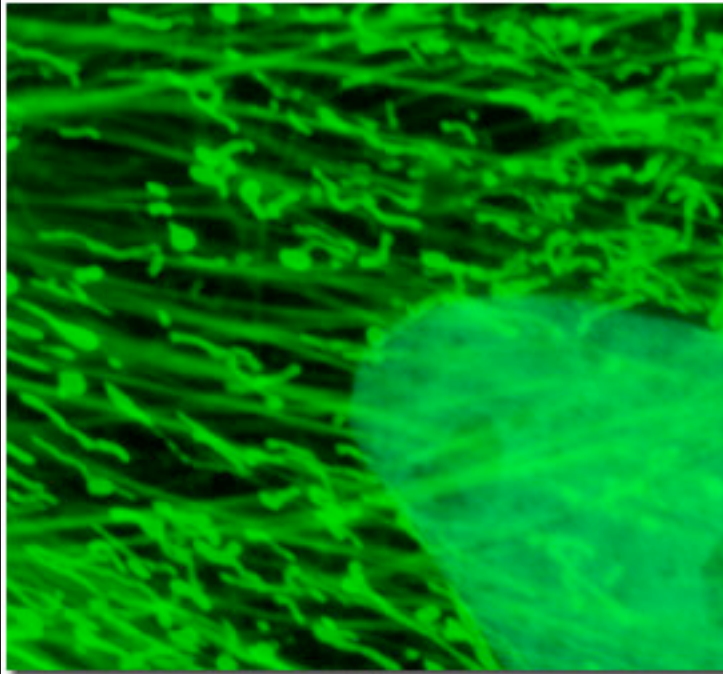


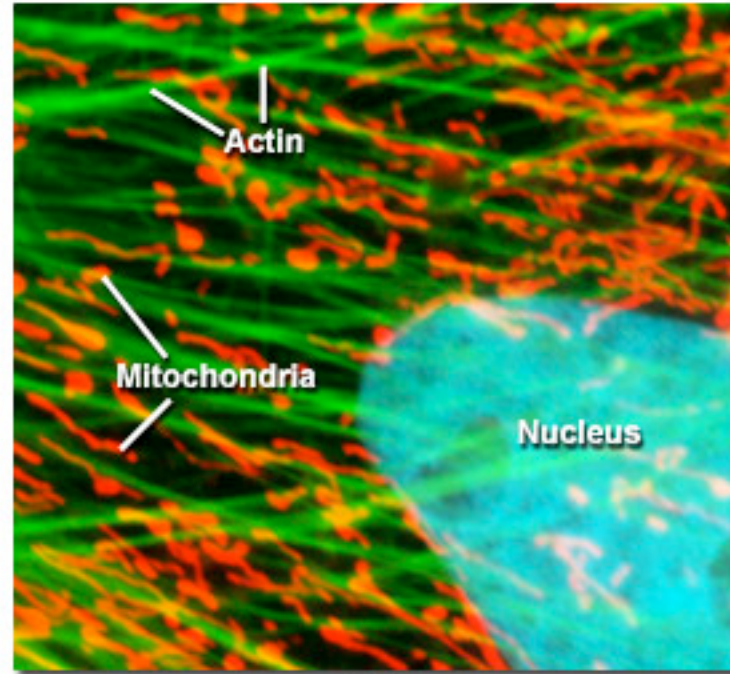
Figure 5

Spectral Unmixing

Spectral Imaging and Linear Unmixing of Fixed Cells with Synthetic Dyes



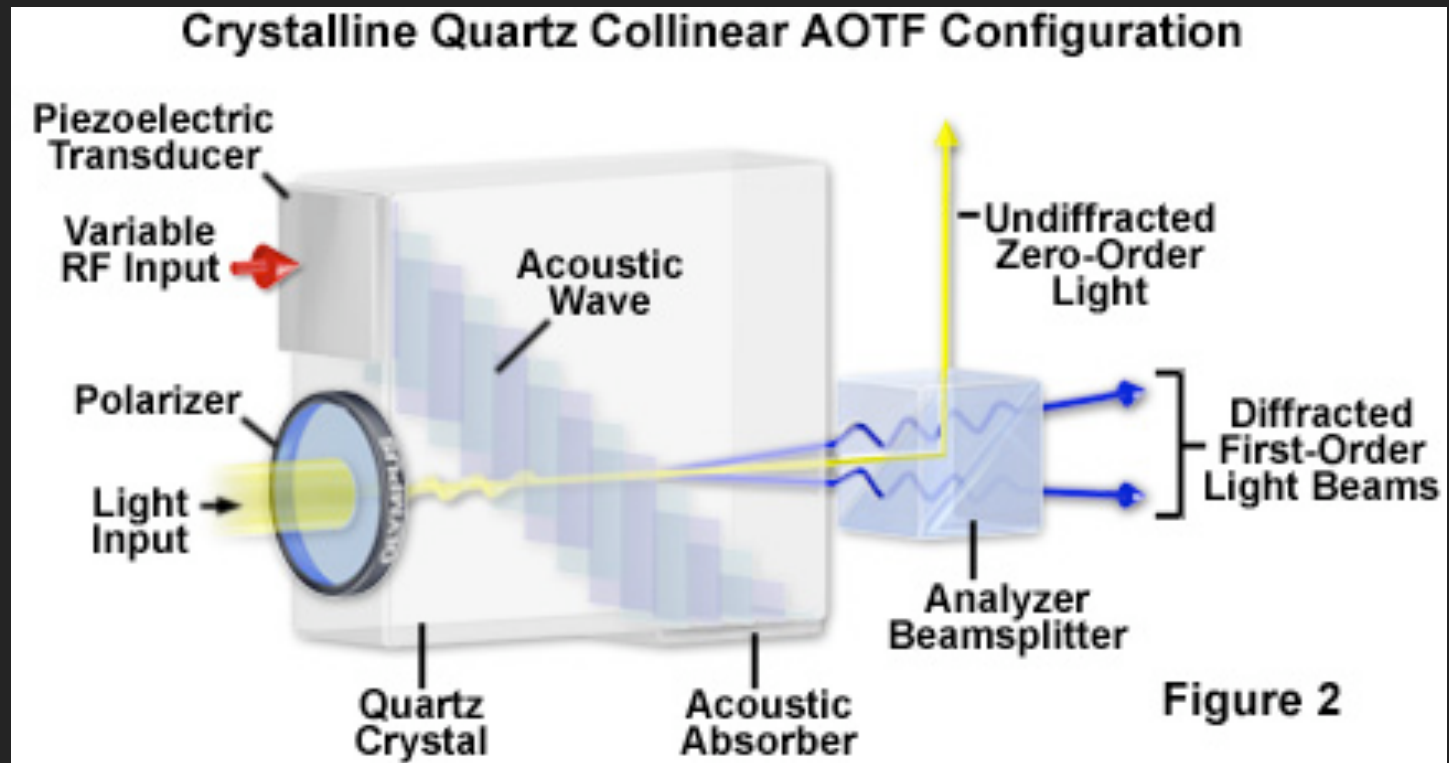
(a)



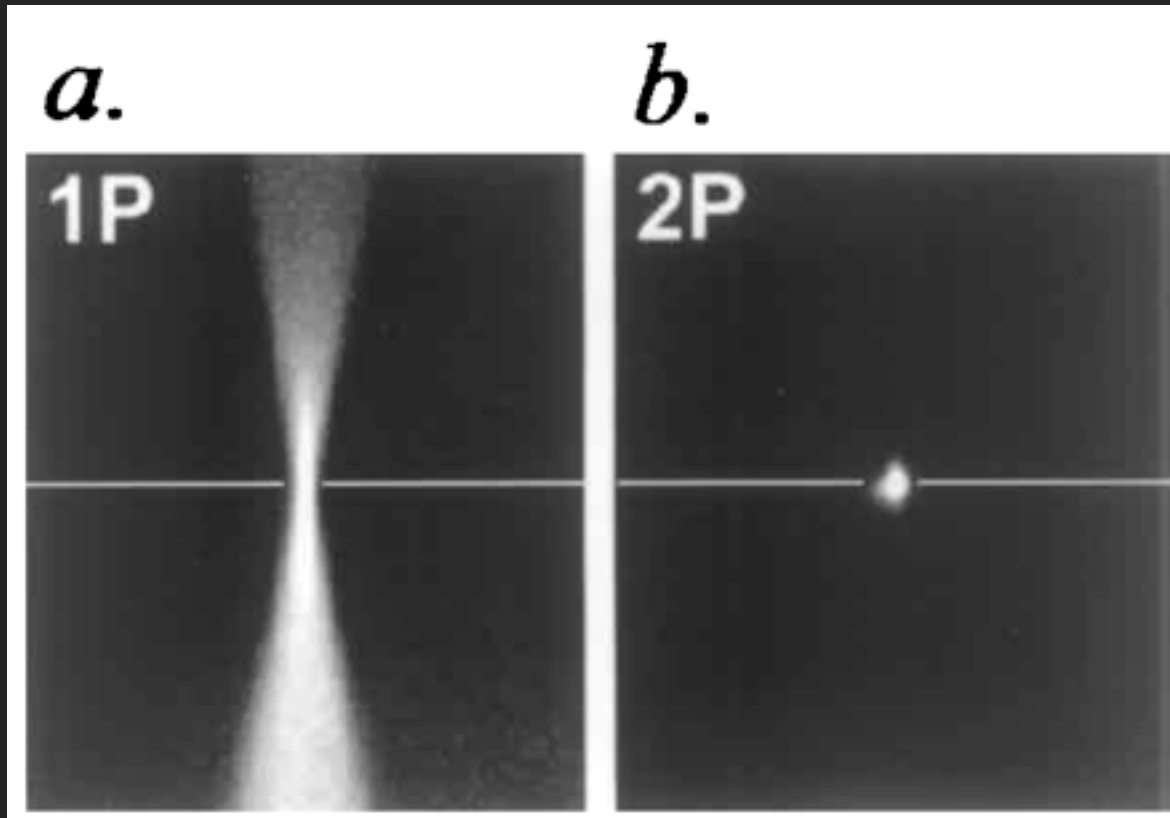
(b)

Figure 1

Acousto Optic Tunable Filter (AOTF)



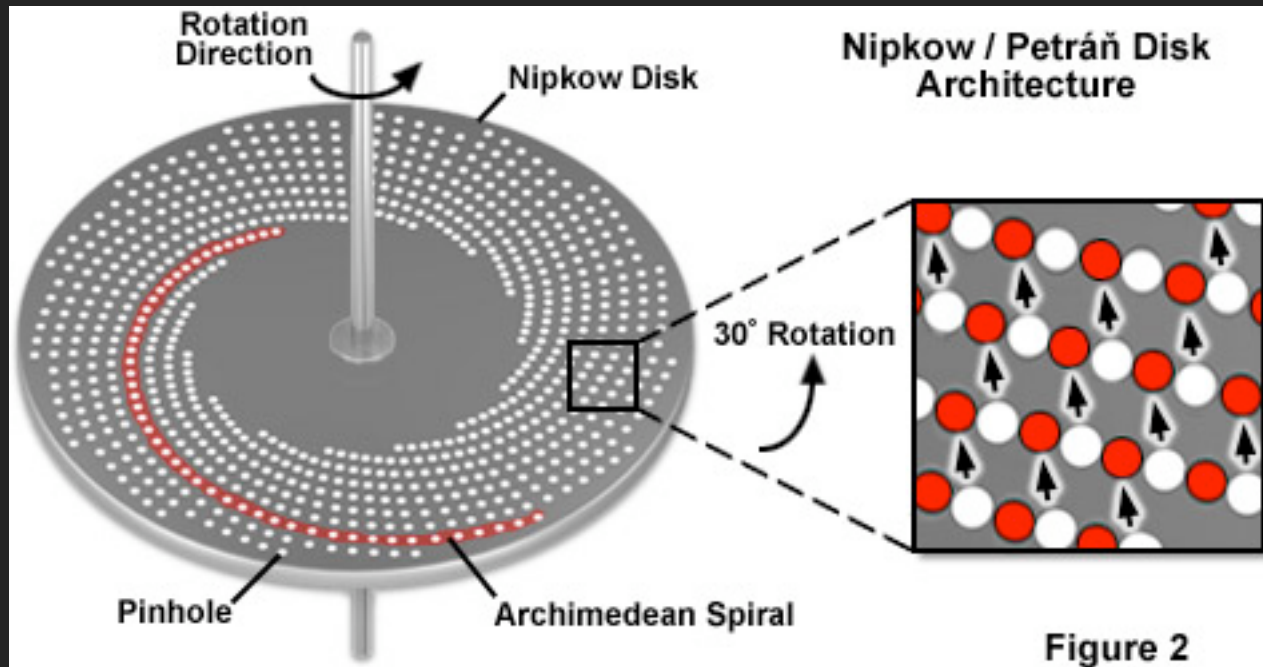
Multiphoton Confocal Microscopy



The Power of Zoom!

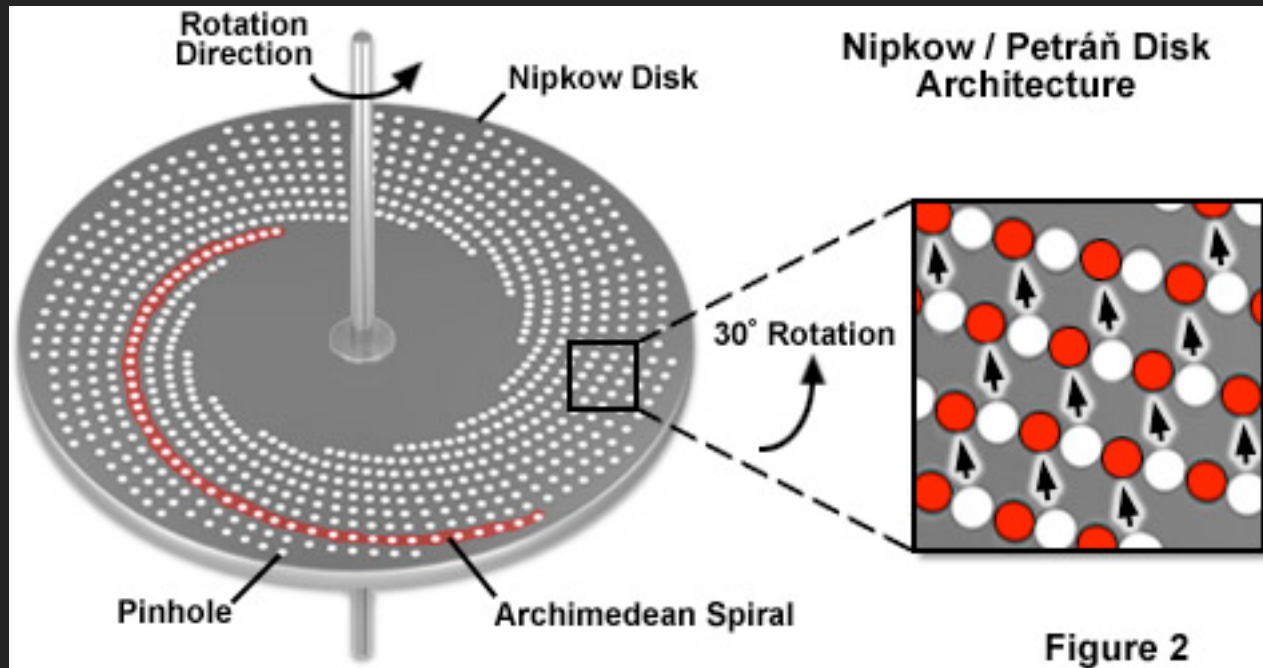


Spinning Disk Confocal Microscopy



The Nipkow Disk
Paul Nipkow, 1884
Eggar and Petran, 1967

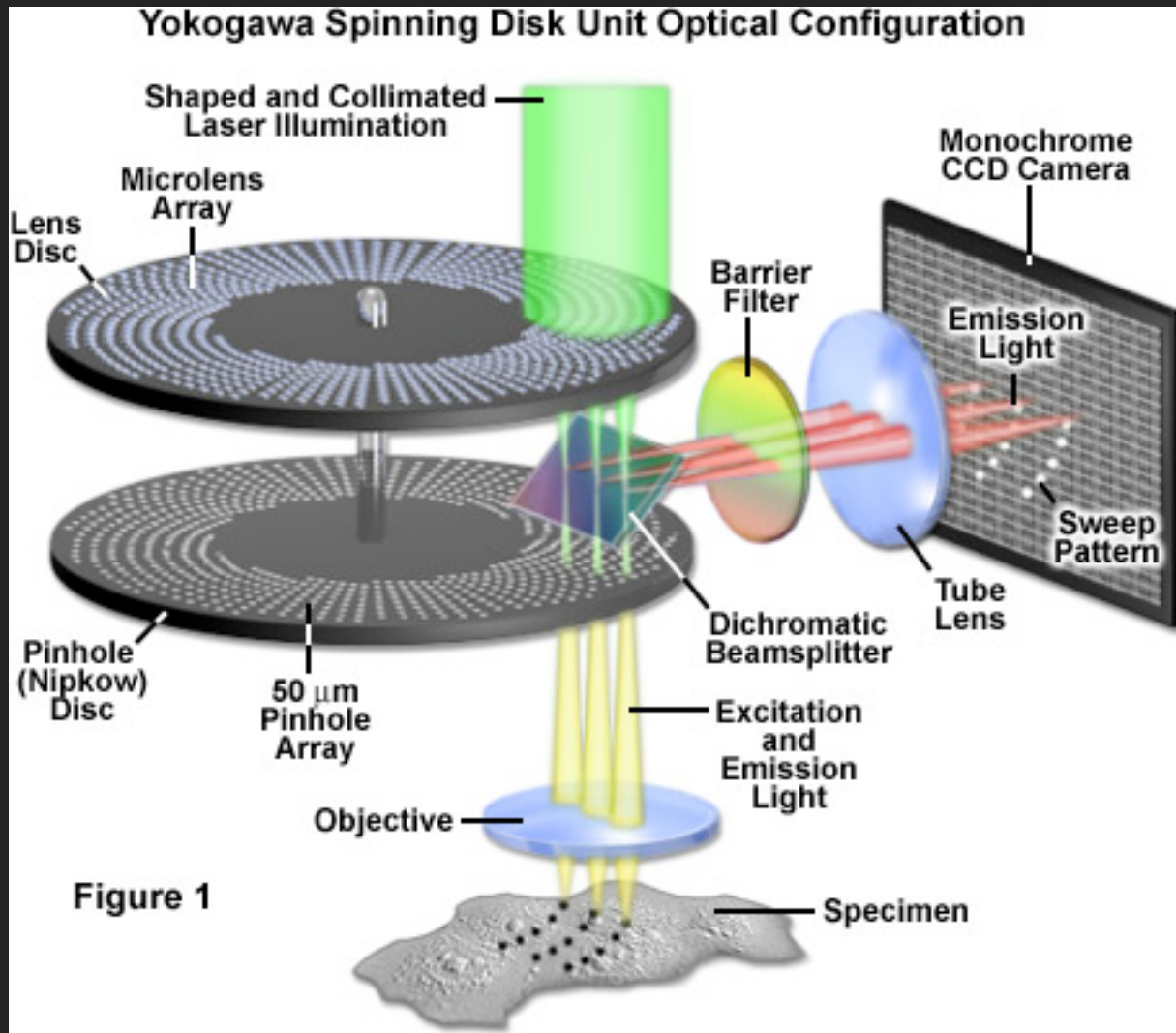
Spinning Disk Confocal Microscopy



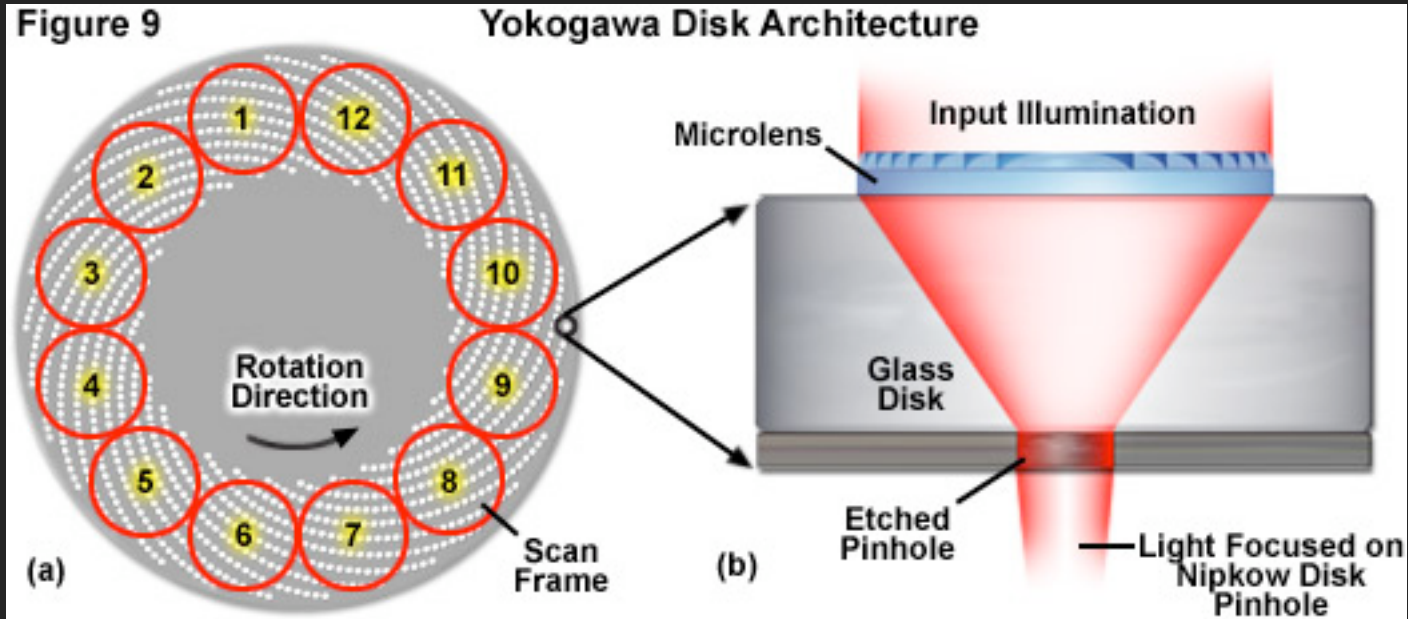
Constant Battle:

Larger pinholes - brighter image, but less “confocal”
Smaller spacing - more light gets through, but “crosstalk”

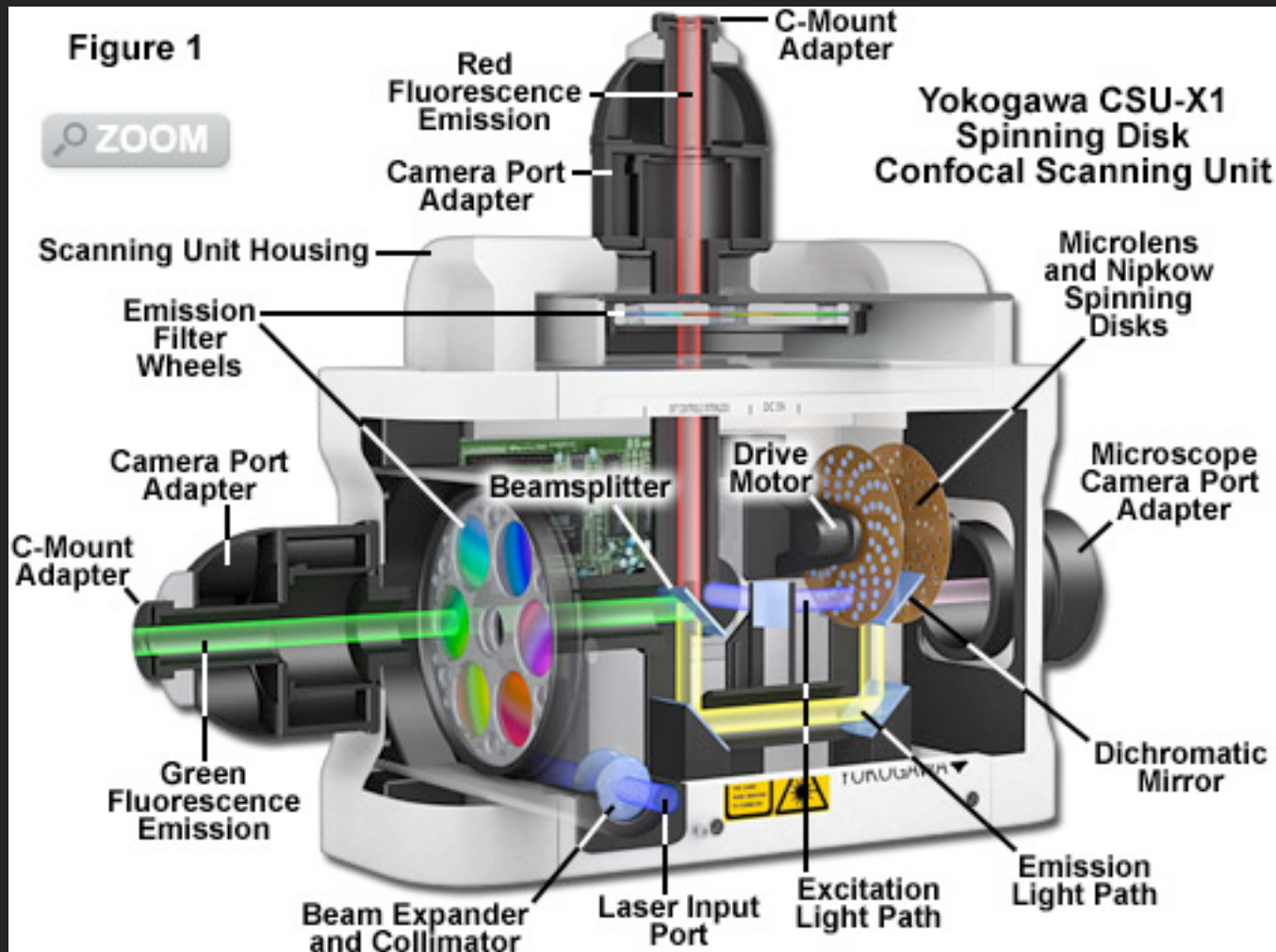
The Yokogawa Spinning Disk



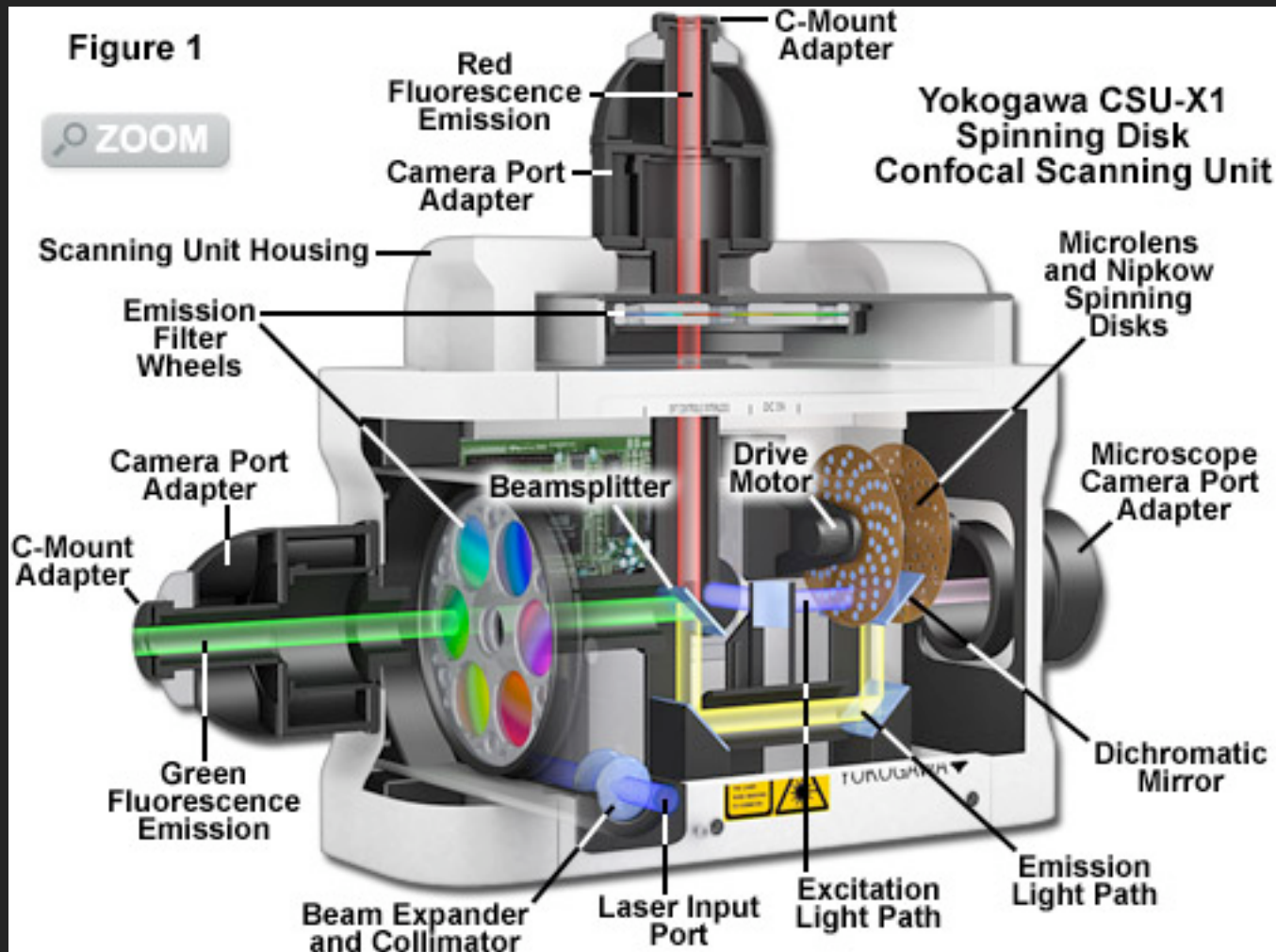
The Yokogawa Spinning Disk



The Yokogawa CSU-X1 Spinning Disk

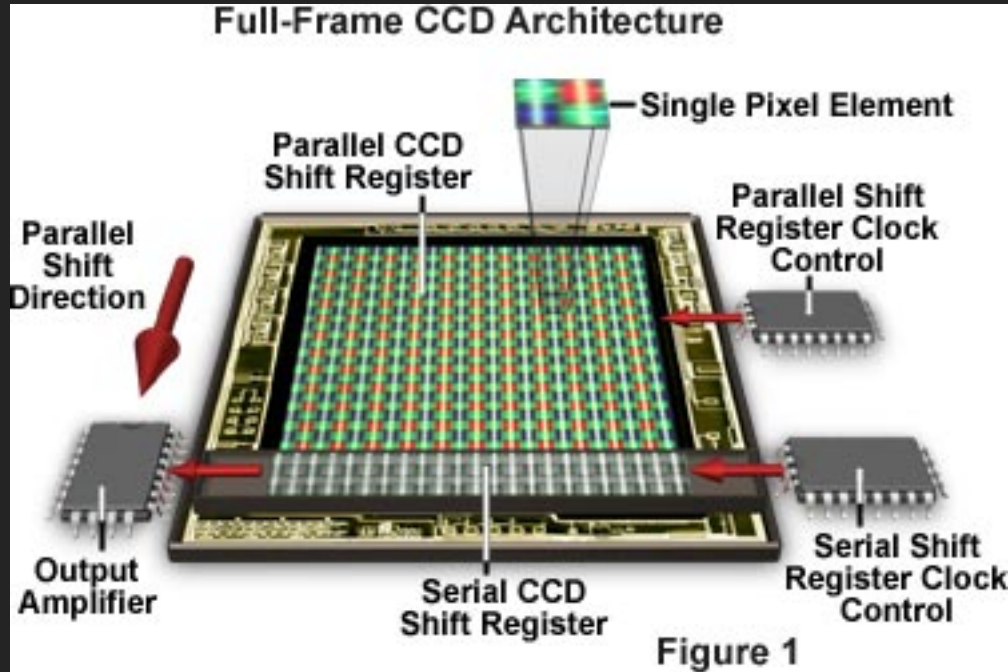


The Yokogawa CSU-X1 Spinning Disk



Can collect 2000 images per second

The Charged Couple Device (CCD) Camera

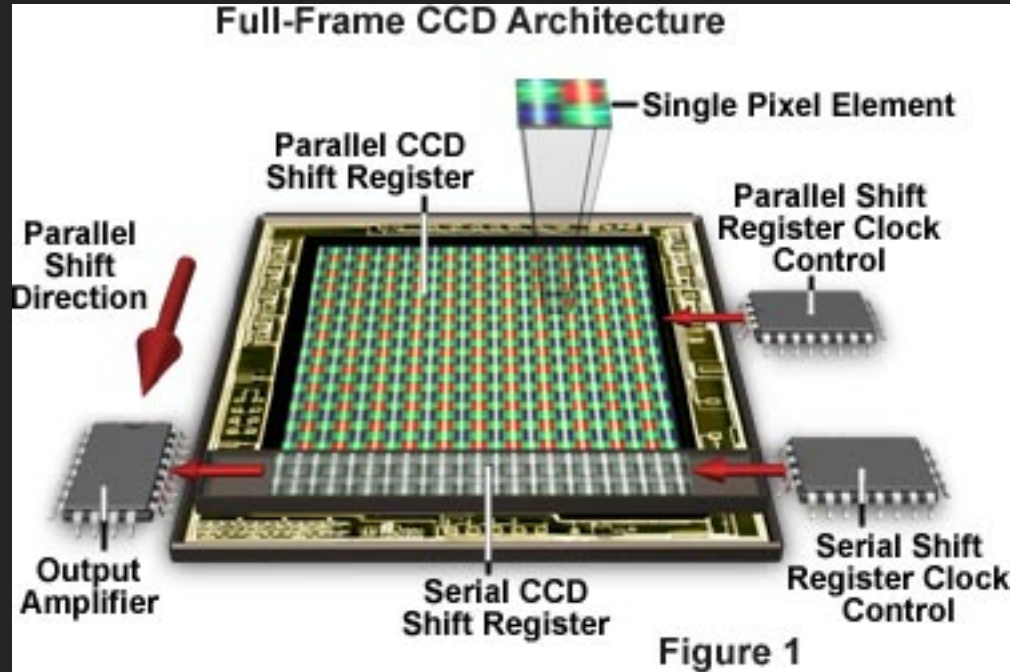


<http://www.olympusmicro.com/primer/java/digitalimaging/ccd/virtual2/index.html>

<http://www.olympusmicro.com/primer/java/digitalimaging/ccd/fullframe/index.html>

<http://www.olympusmicro.com/primer/java/digitalimaging/ccd/interline/index.html>

The Charged Couple Device (CCD) Camera



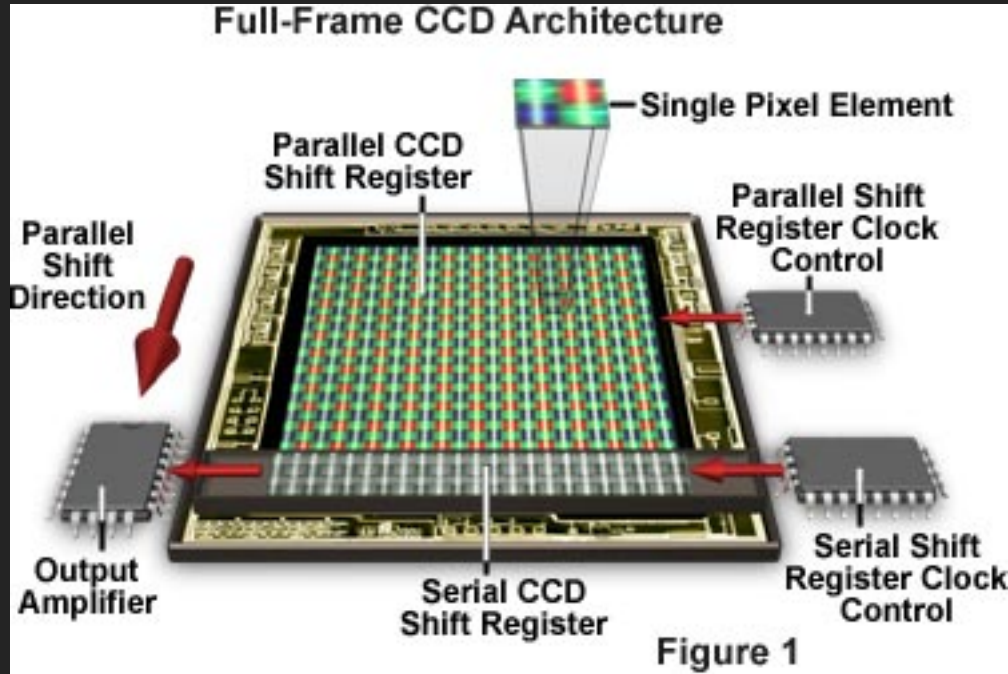
Can get very high QE - up to 95%
Can be very fast

<http://www.olympusmicro.com/primer/java/digitalimaging/ccd/virtual2/index.html>

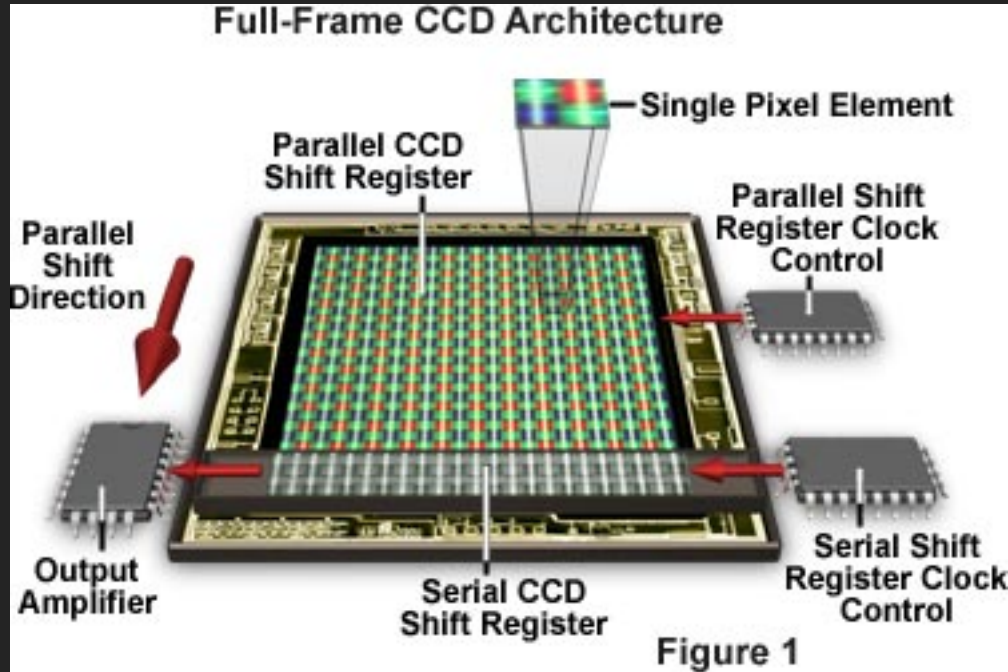
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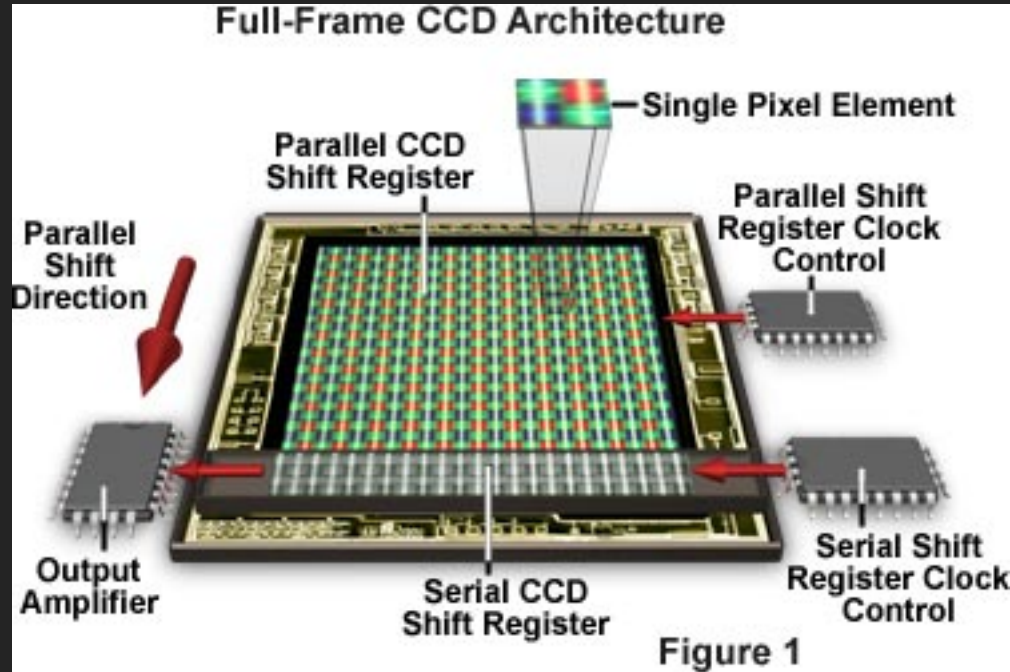


The Charged Couple Device (CCD) Camera



Noise!

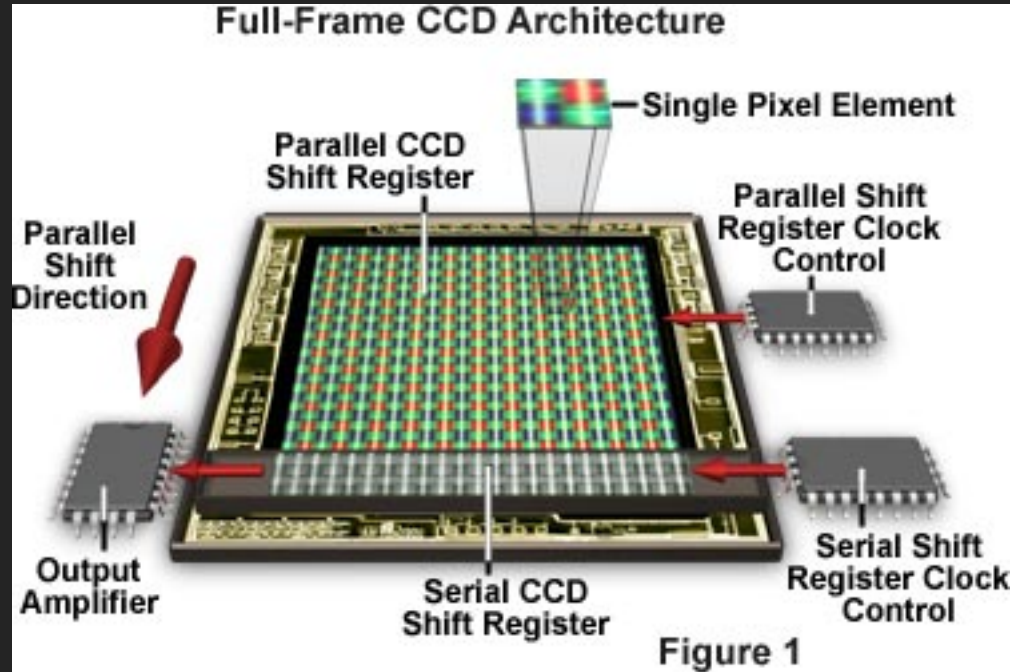
The Charged Couple Device (CCD) Camera



Noise!

Dark Noise - less of a problem at low temperature

The Charged Couple Device (CCD) Camera

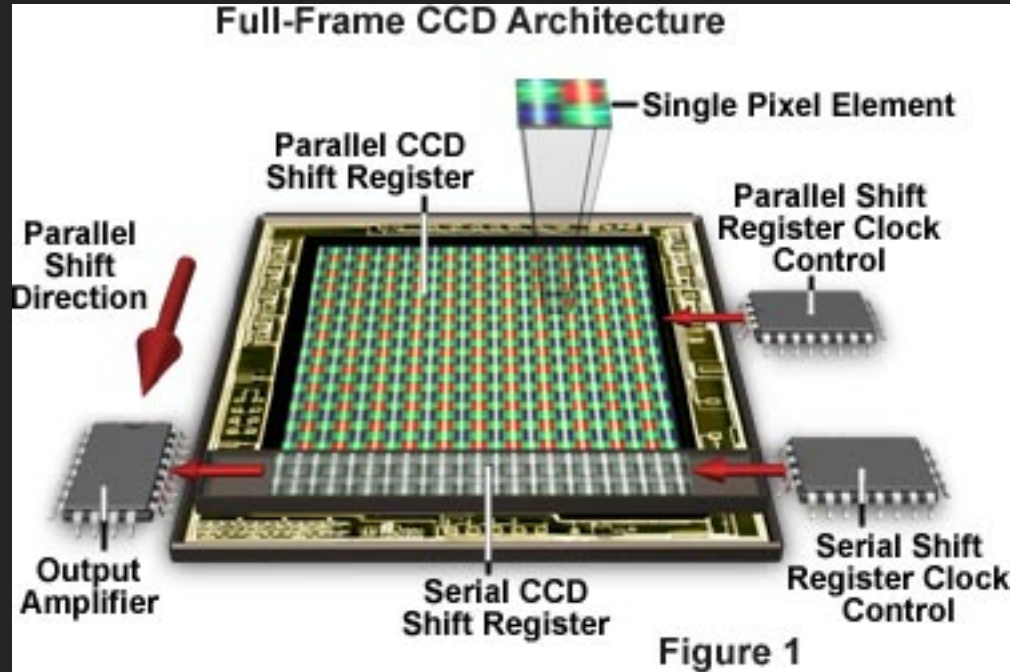


Noise!

Dark Noise - less of a problem at low temperature

Read Noise - inherent to camera, but worse at high speed

The Charged Couple Device (CCD) Camera



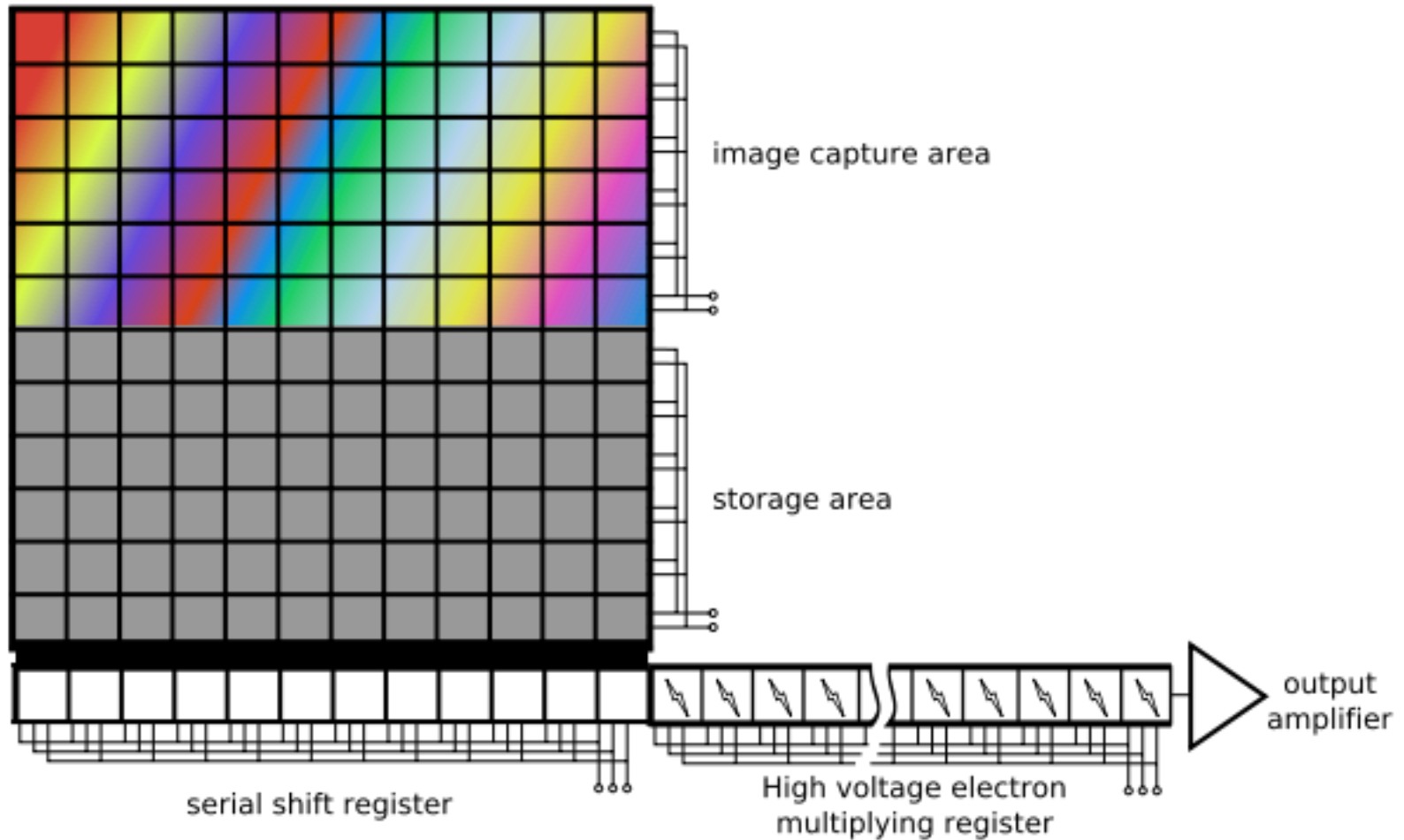
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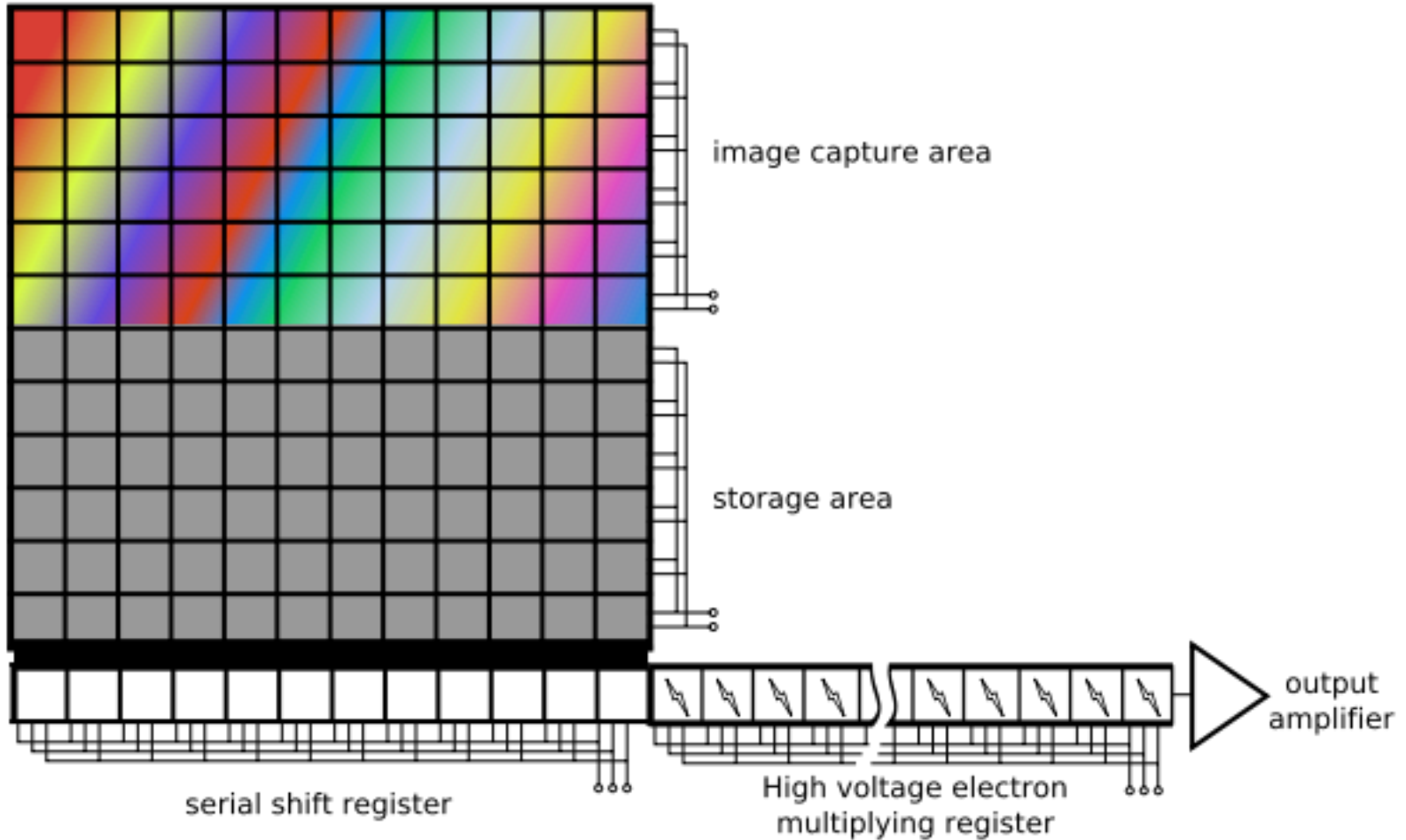
Read Noise - inherent to camera, but worse at high speed

Shot Noise - due to stochastic nature of fluorescence

The Electron Multiplying Charged Couple Device (EMCCD) Camera

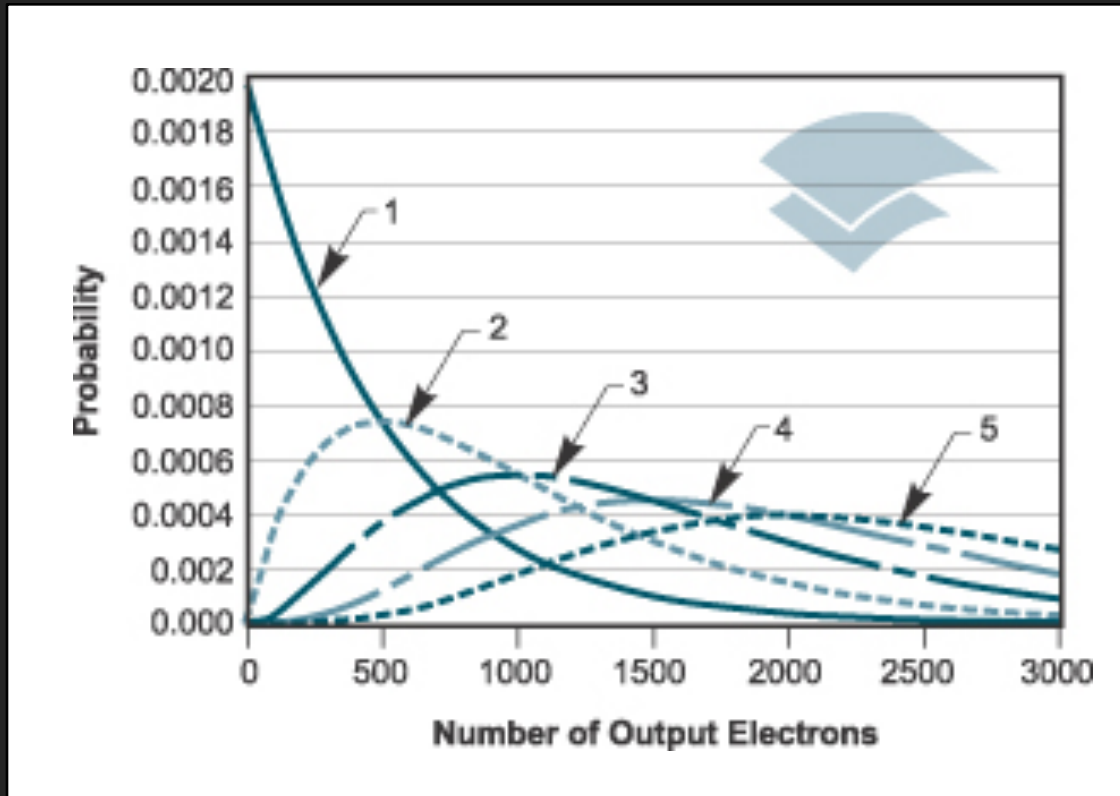


The Electron Multiplying Charged Couple Device (EMCCD) Camera



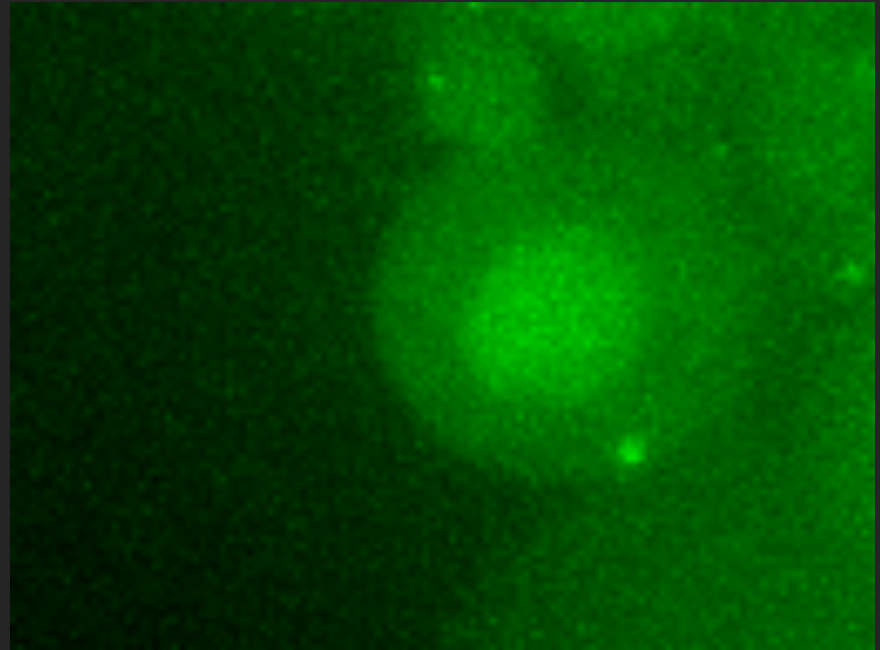
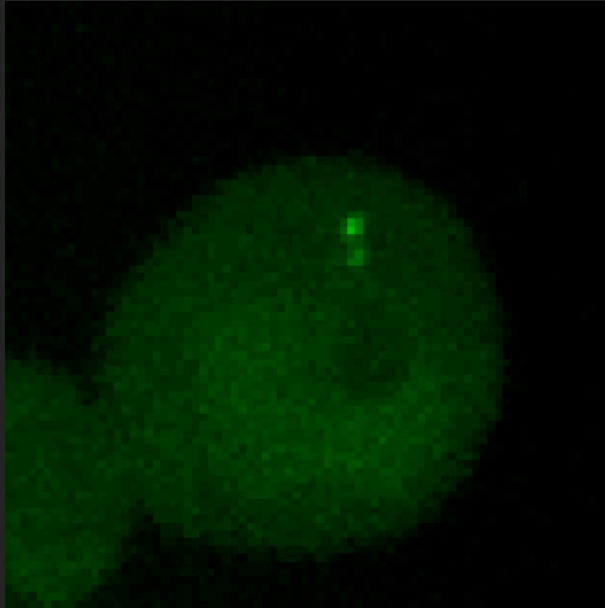
Beware!!

How quantitative is an EMCCD Camera?

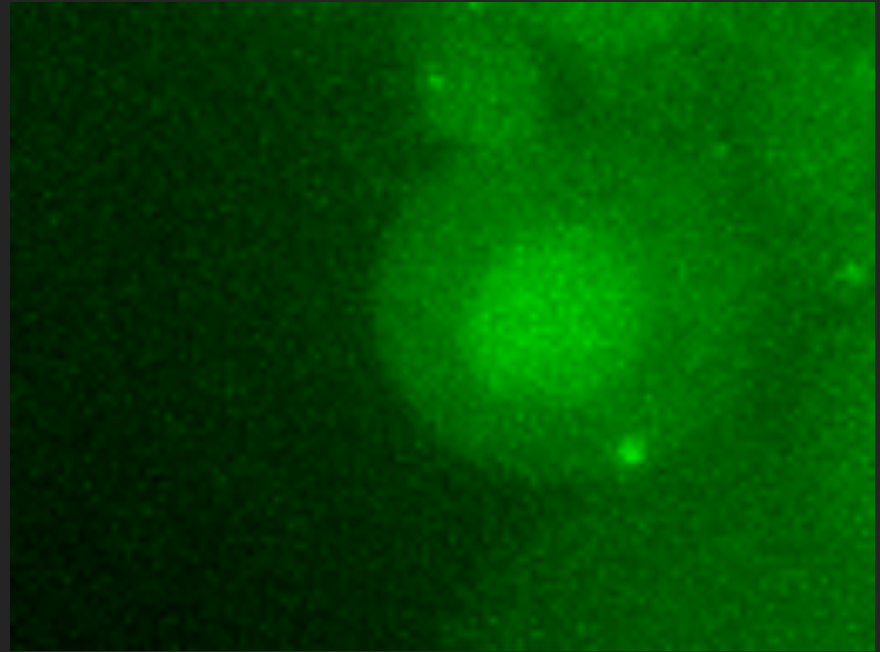
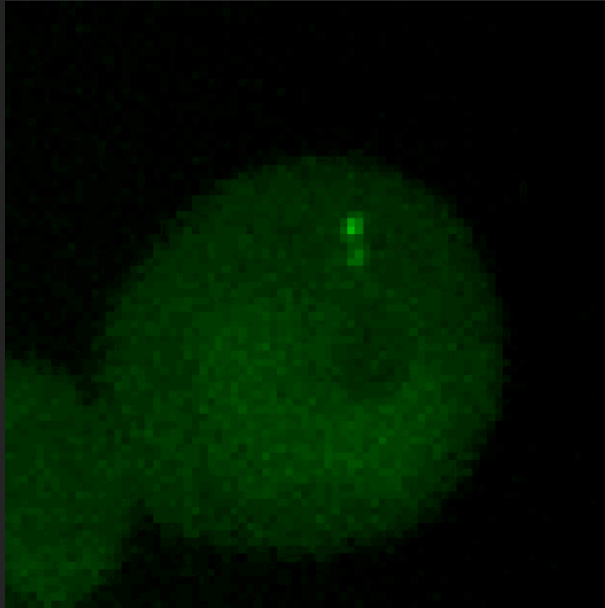


The Electron Multiplying Charged Couple Device (EMCCD) Camera

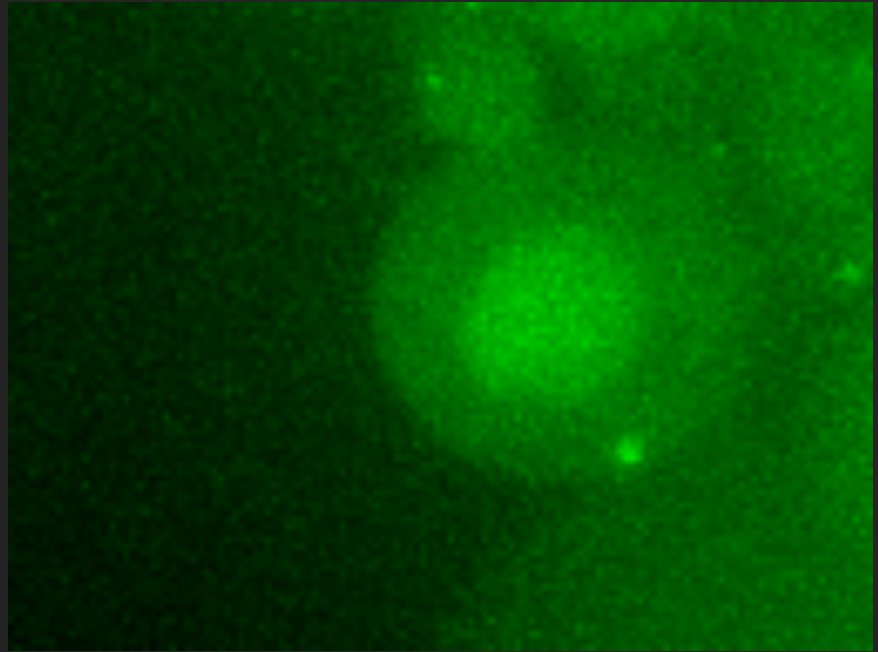
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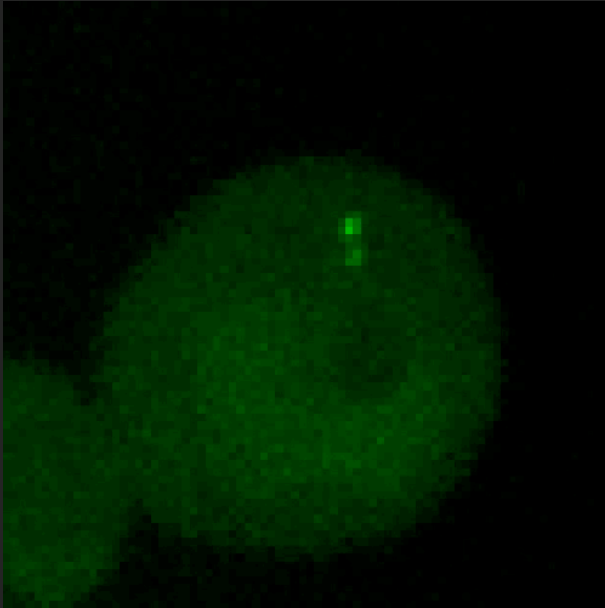
The Electron Multiplying Charged Couple Device (EMCCD) Camera



The Electron Multiplying Charged Couple Device (EMCCD) Camera



The Electron Multiplying Charged Couple Device (EMCCD) Camera



Example of fast imaging - single plane

Example of fast imaging - single plane

