

Micron Advanced Light Microscopy Course 2016

Introductory lecture

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Department of Biochemistry
University of Oxford

Organisation of the course:

- Day 1 - Principles of Microscopy
 - Day 2 - Generating contrast
 - Day 3 - Imaging approaches for molecules & cells
 - Day 4 - Beyond conventional imaging
 - Day 5 - EM
-
- Additional Micron lectures on imaging handling and analysis

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- Day 1 - Principles of Microscopy ***LECTURES 1 & 2***
- Day 2 - Generating contrast ***LECTURES 3-5***
- Day 3 - Imaging approaches for molecules & cells ***LECTURES 6-8***
- Day 4 - Beyond conventional imaging ***LECTURES 9-11***
- Day 5 - EM

- Additional Micron lectures on imaging handling and analysis

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- Explain why microscopy is so important
- Explain how the light microscope works:
 - the basic physics of optics and microscopes
 - designing and building bespoke microscope

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 - Contrast enhancement, phase and DIC
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Why is microscopy so important?

100 years ago:

Magnify small things to visualise more details

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100 years ago:

Magnify small things to visualise more details

Now:

Microscopy is fundamentally important to modern biology

Milestones in Microscopy

<http://www.nature.com/milestones/milelight/index.html>

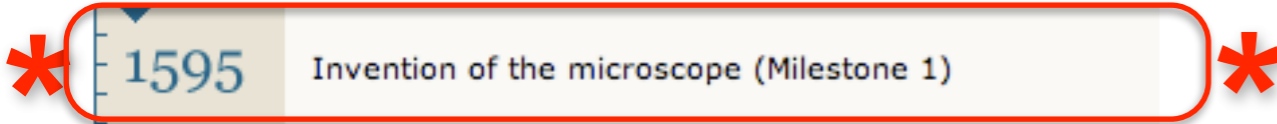
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• 2014 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for Super Resolution: E. Betzig, S. Hell, W. Moerner

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Why is microscopy so important?

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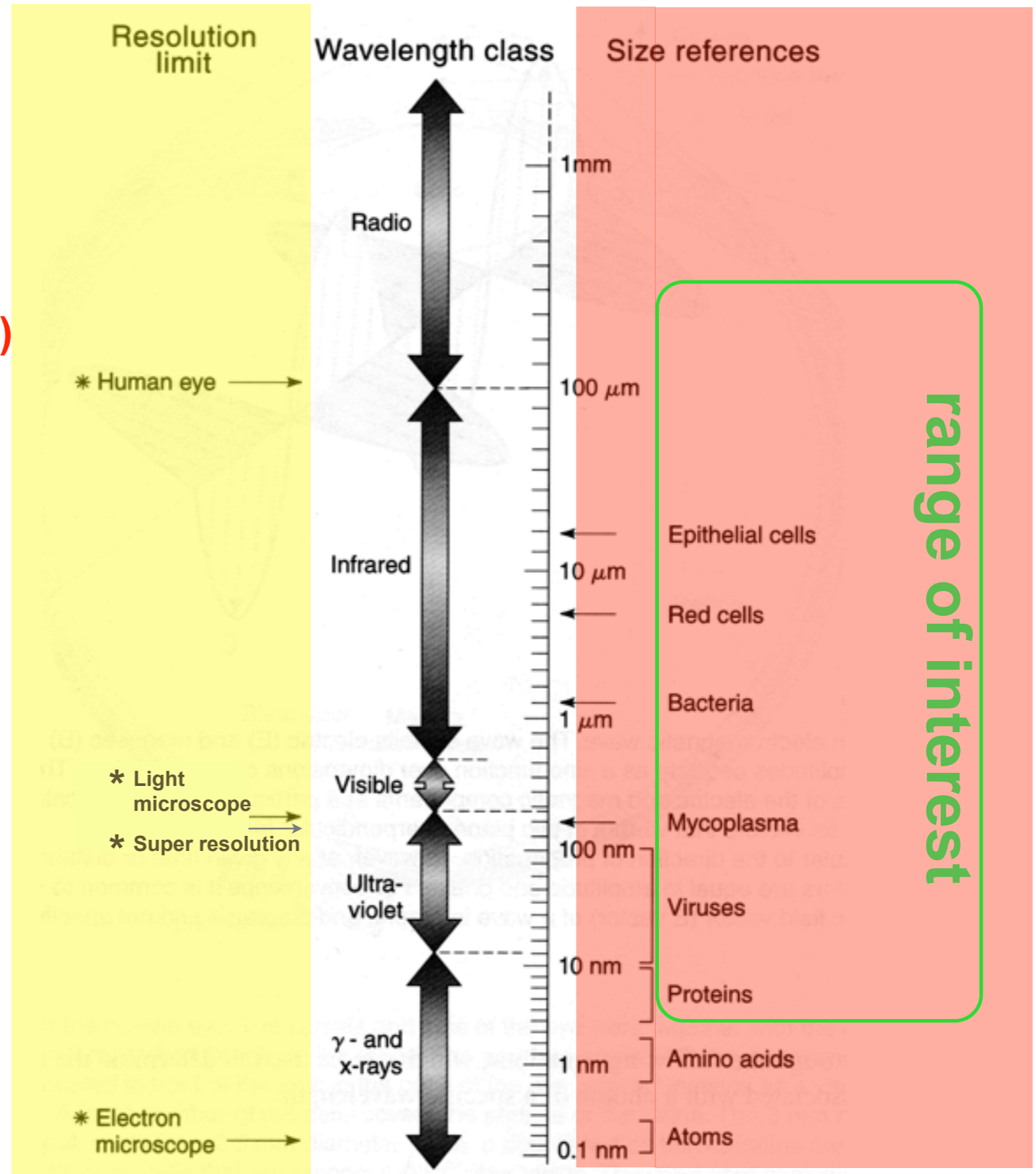
*

Why is microscopy so important?

- * **Spatial information** at the cellular level not easily available from biochemistry
- * Relatively **non-invasive**
- * Very **sensitive**, can follow distribution and interactions down to the **molecular level**
- * **Quantitative**
- * Can be applied to **live cells** to follow sequences of events
- * Allows experimental **manipulation**

Useful size range for light microscopy

We use the light microscope to image structures and substructures within the range: from about **300 μm** down to about **0.3 μm (300 nm)**

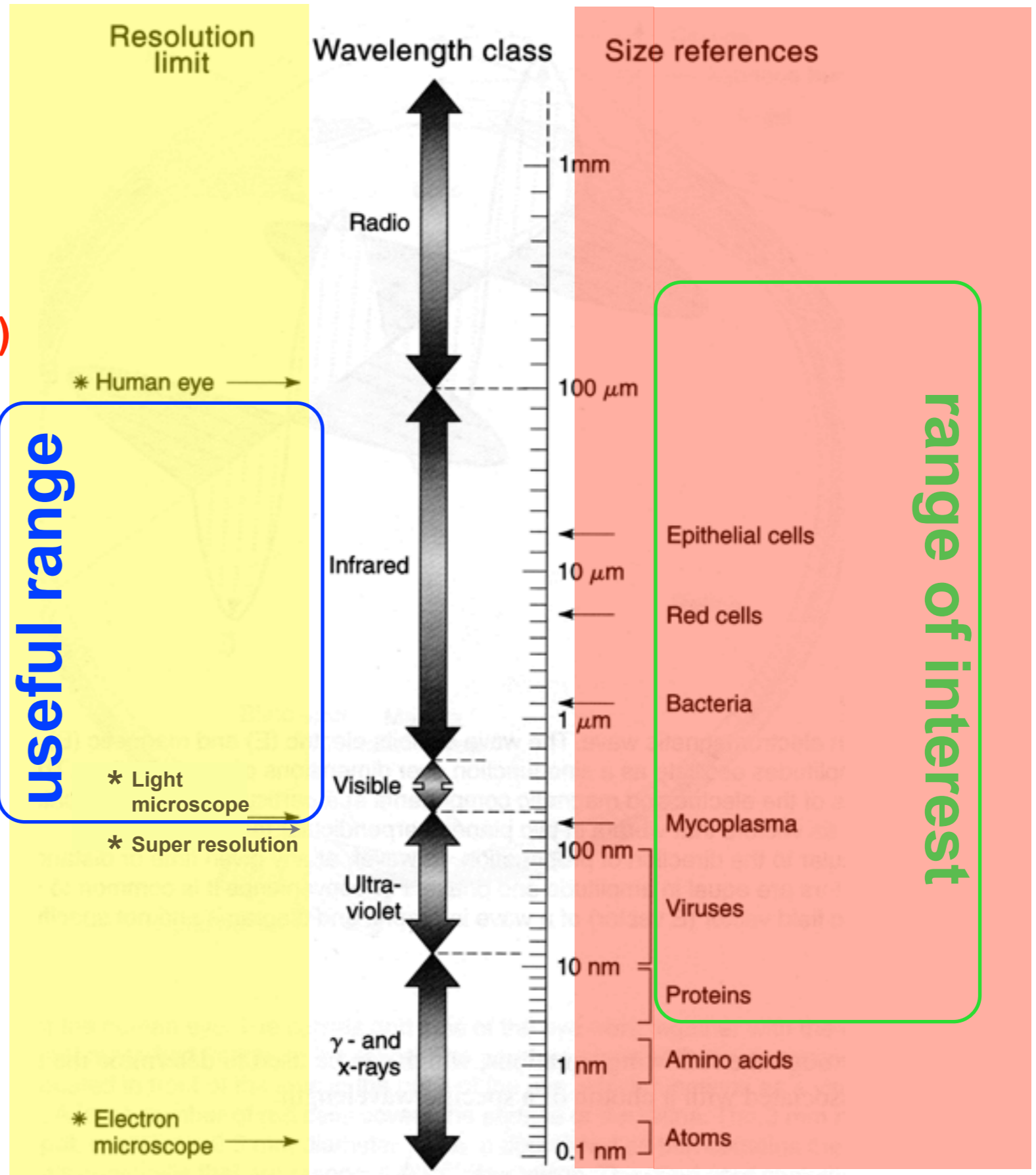


Useful size range for light microscopy

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Eukaryote = **10 μm**
>50 μm

Bacterium = **1 μm**



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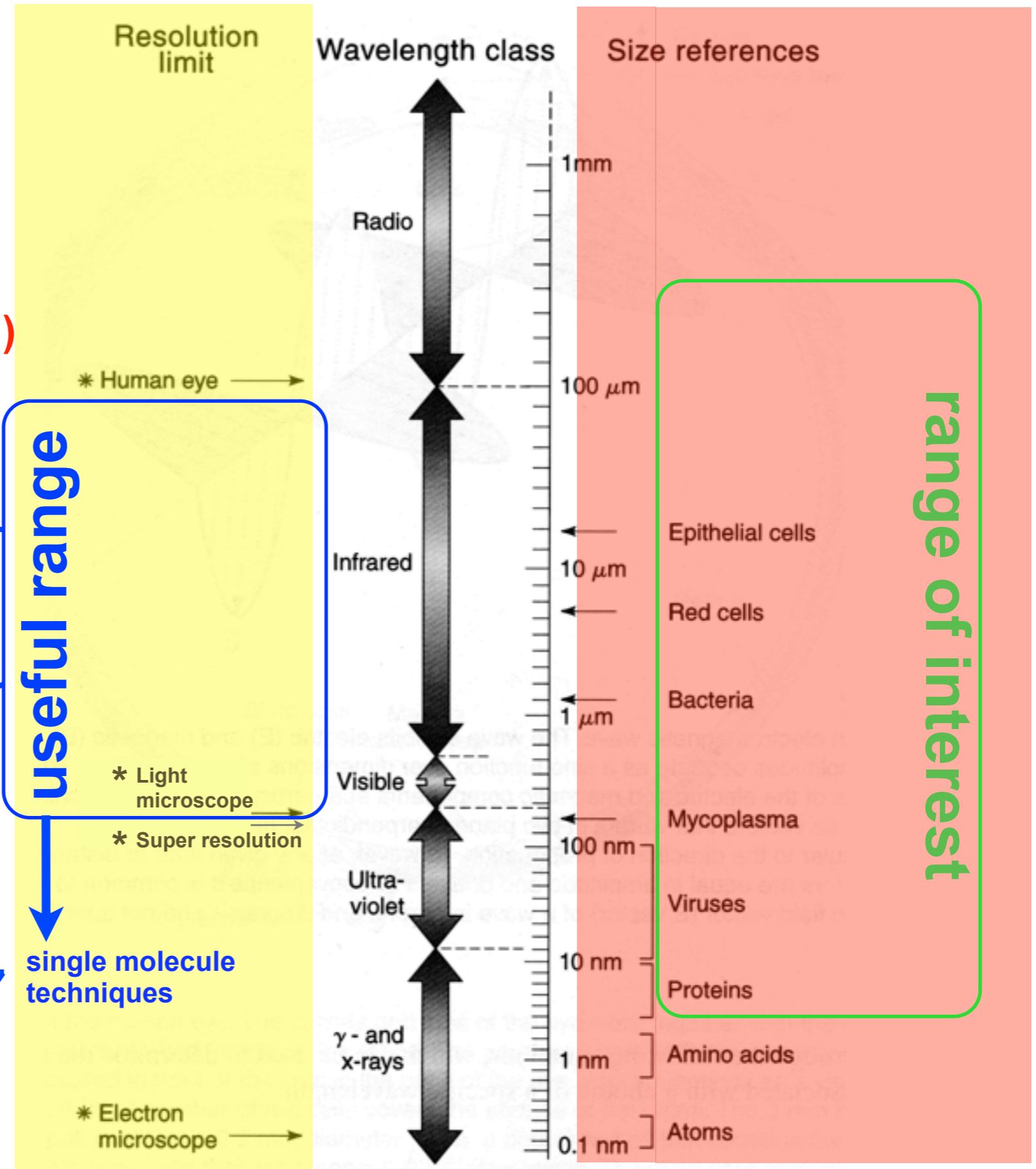
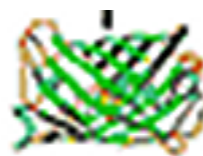
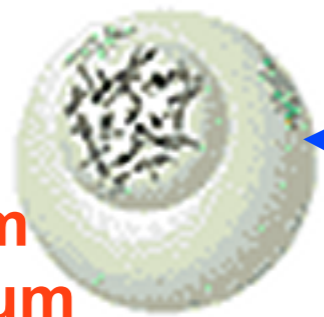
Eukaryote = **10 μm**
>50 μm

Bacterium = **1 μm**

Single GFP = **5 nm**

Fluorescein = **1 nm**

(1 nm = 10 Angstrom)



Why do we need to understand microscopy?

Why do we need to understand microscopy?

- * Microscopes tend to be complicated and expensive
Don't mess with what you don't understand

Why do we need to understand microscopy?

- Microscopes work purely to the laws of optical physics - there is no witchcraft!



Why do we need to understand microscopy?

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- If you understand the principles involved then it is easy to understand how to get the best from your microscope.

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*** Microscopes are all basically the same**

Why do we need to understand microscopy?

- Microscopes work purely to the laws of optical physics - there is no witchcraft!



- If you understand the principles involved then it is easy to understand how to get the best from your microscope.

- * **Microscopes are all basically the same**
- * **It is quite hard to break a microscope**

Understanding what goes on in the Microscope



<http://api.gehealthcare.com/api/deltavision.asp>

Understanding what goes on in the Microscope

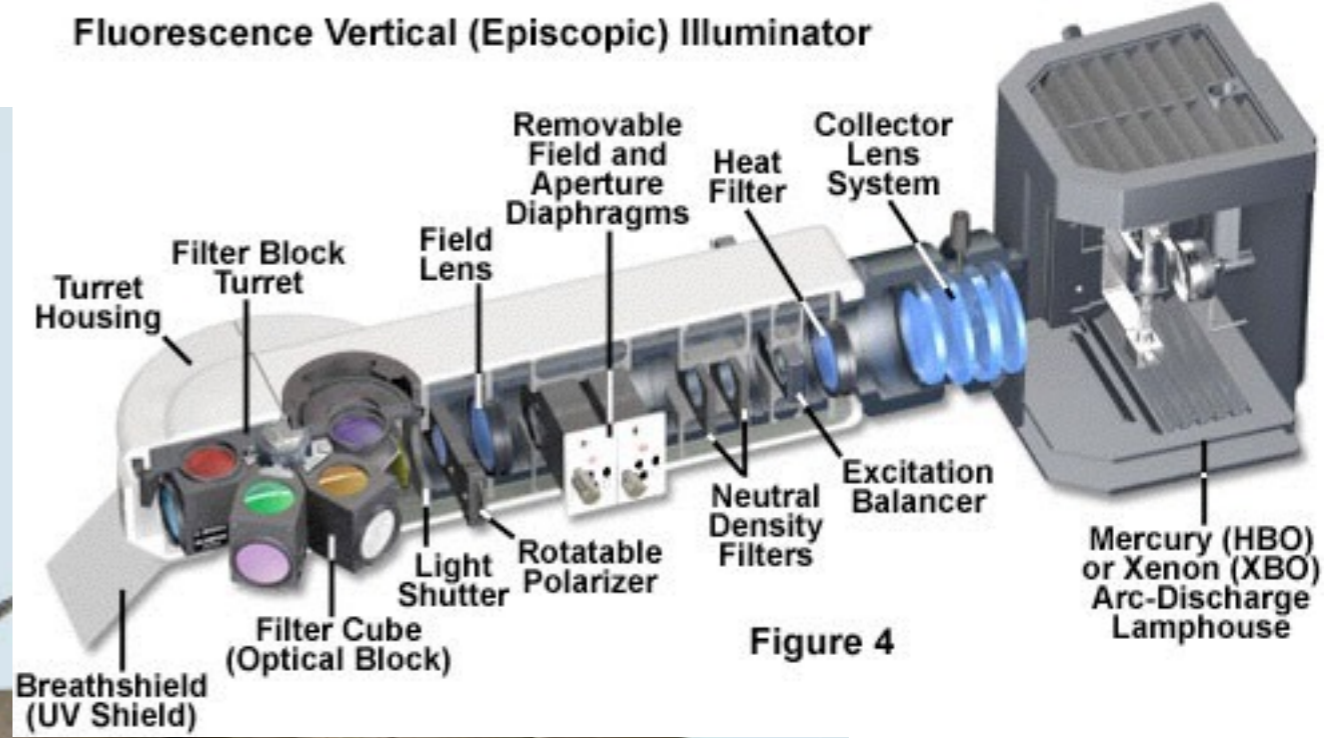
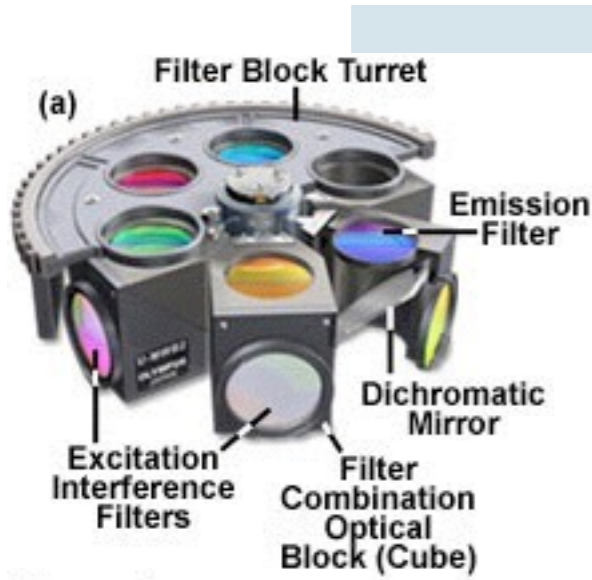


Figure 4

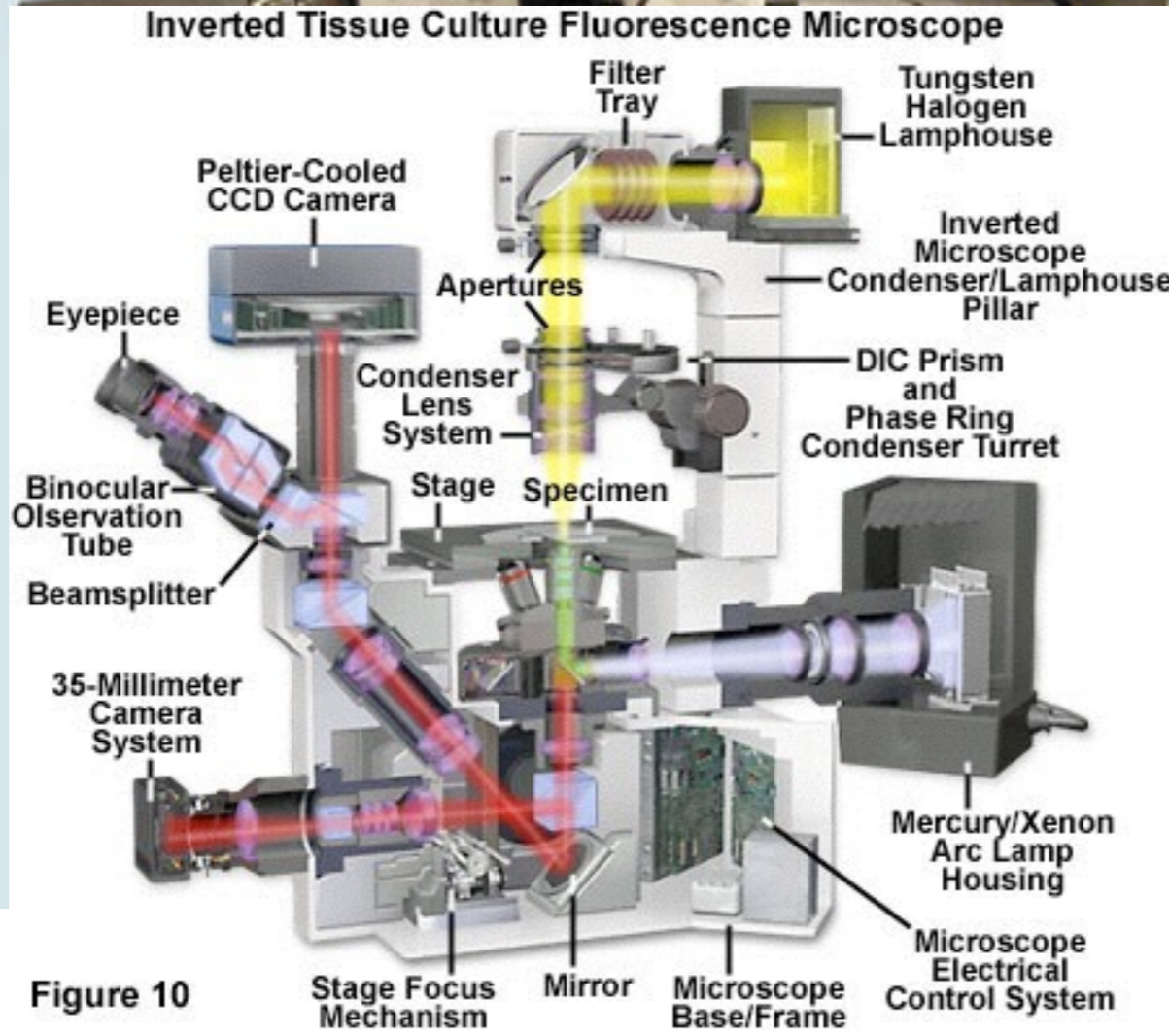


Figure 10



ehealthcare.com/api/deltavision.asp

<http://www.olympusmicro.com/>

Understanding what goes on in the Microscope

Lectures 2-4

Fluorescence Vertical (Episcopic) Illuminator

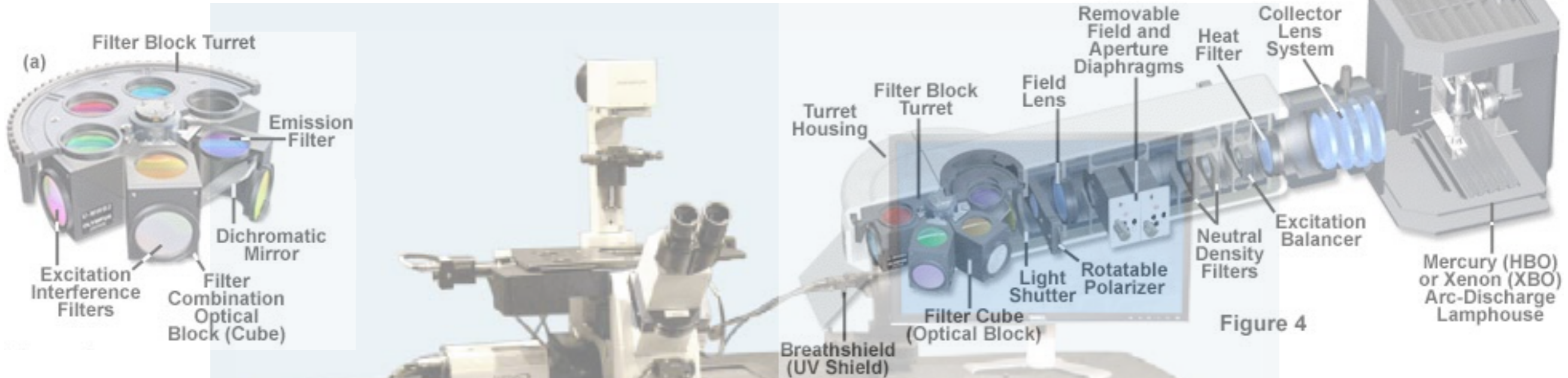


Figure 4

Inverted Tissue Culture Fluorescence Microscope

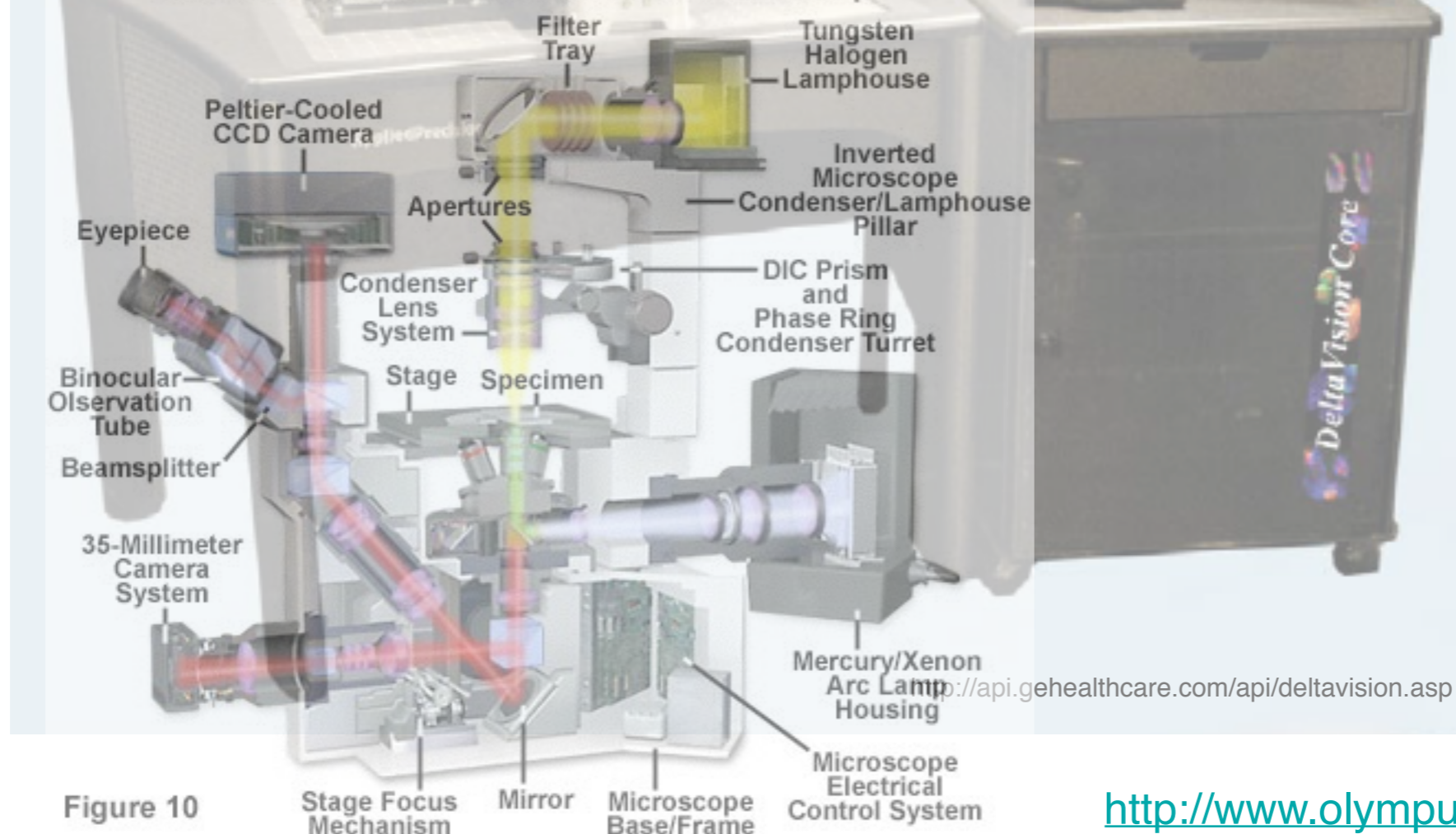


Figure 10

What is really important in microscopy?

.....the ability to see stuff

What is really important in microscopy?

.....the ability to see stuff

1. Contrast

What is really important in microscopy?

.....the ability to see stuff

1. Contrast
2. Resolution

What is really important in microscopy?

.....the ability to see stuff

1. Contrast
2. Resolution
3. Sampling

What is really important in microscopy?

.....the ability to see stuff

1. Contrast
2. Resolution
3. Sampling
4. Noise

What is really important in microscopy?

.....the ability to see stuff

1. Contrast
2. Resolution
3. Sampling
4. Noise

and nothing else!

What is really important in microscopy?

1. Contrast
2. Resolution
3. Sampling
4. Noise

What is really important in microscopy?

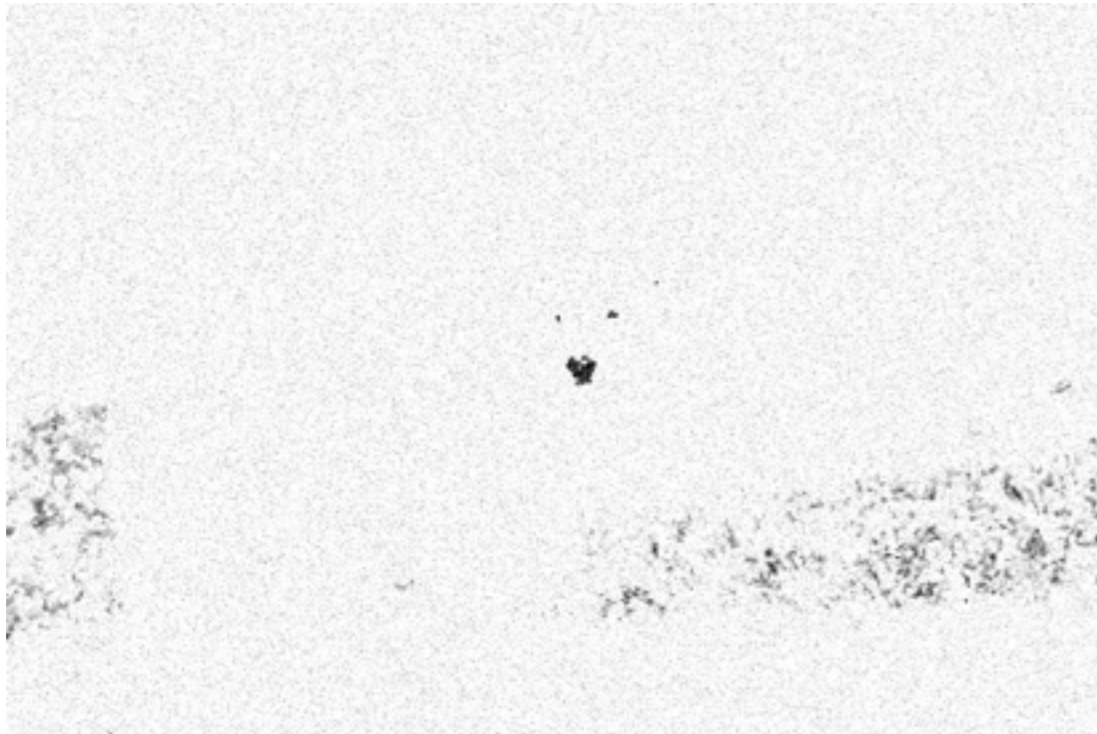
Contrast

.....the ability to distinguish stuff

What is really important in microscopy?

Contrastthe ability to distinguish stuff

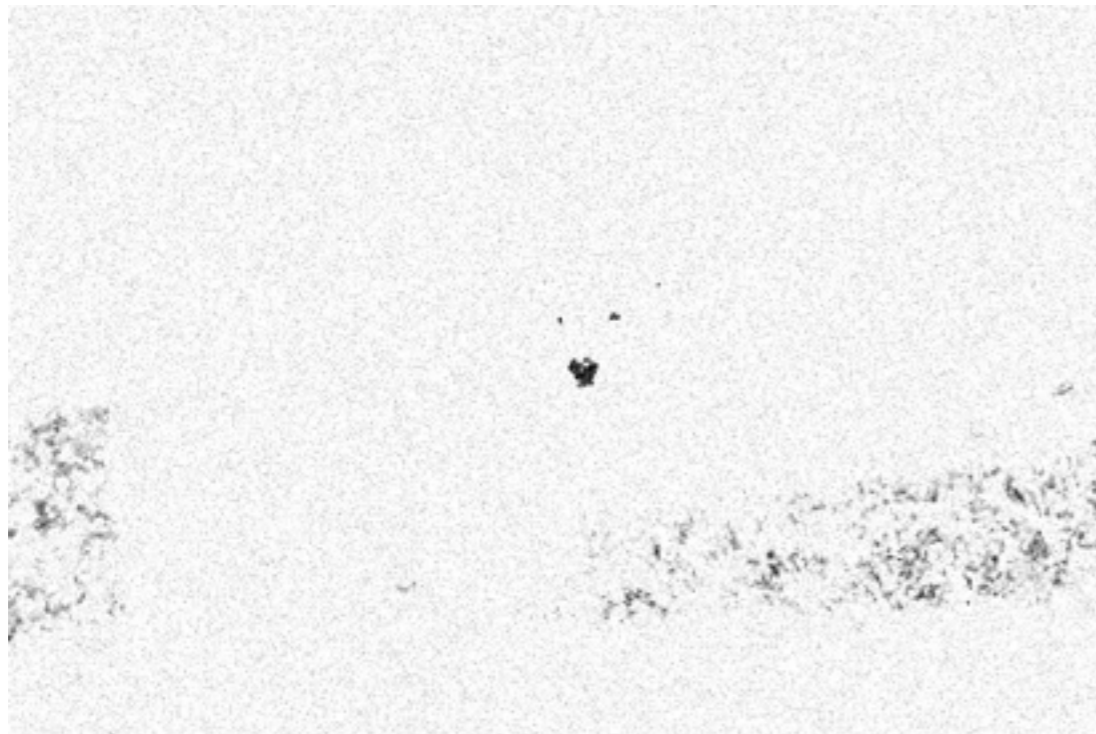
Biological specimens have low inherent contrast:



What is really important in microscopy?

Contrastthe ability to distinguish stuff

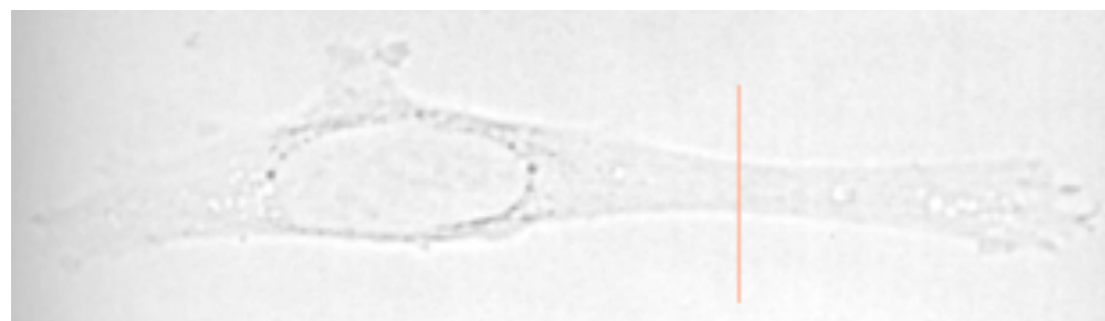
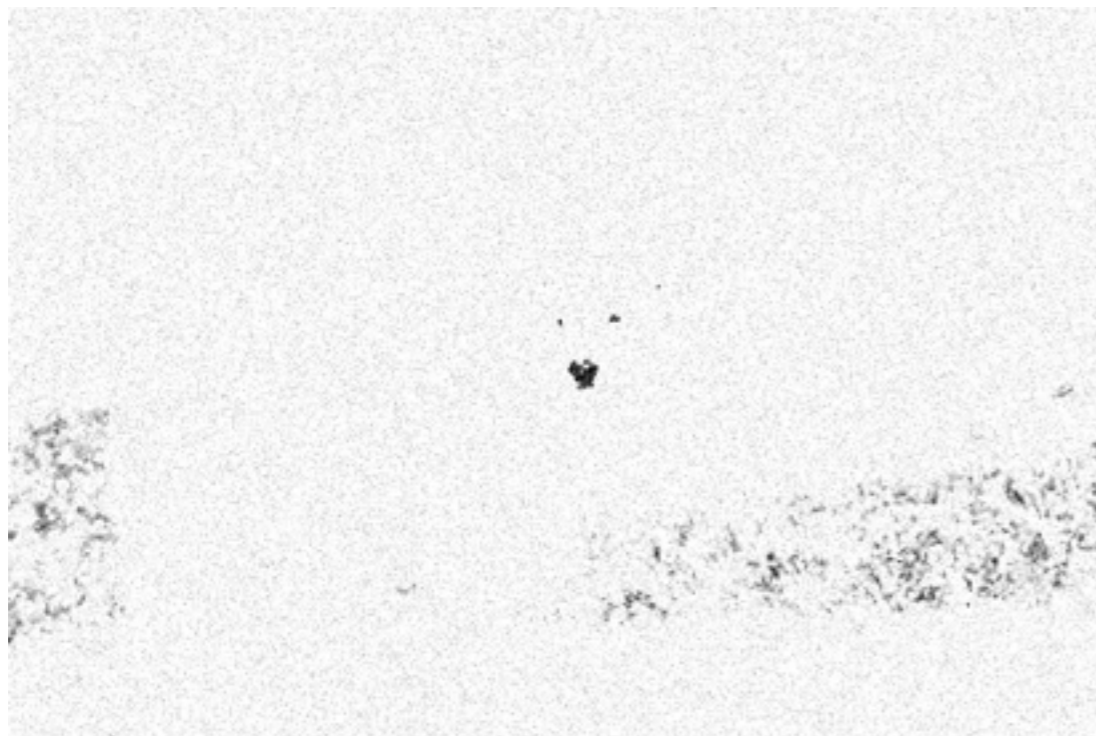
Biological specimens have low inherent contrast:



What is really important in microscopy?

Contrastthe ability to distinguish stuff

Biological specimens have low inherent contrast:



.....can't resolve anything without contrast

Bright Field Contrast Techniques

.....enhance features by transforming differences in the cell into differences in brightness

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.....enhance features by transforming differences in the cell into differences in brightness

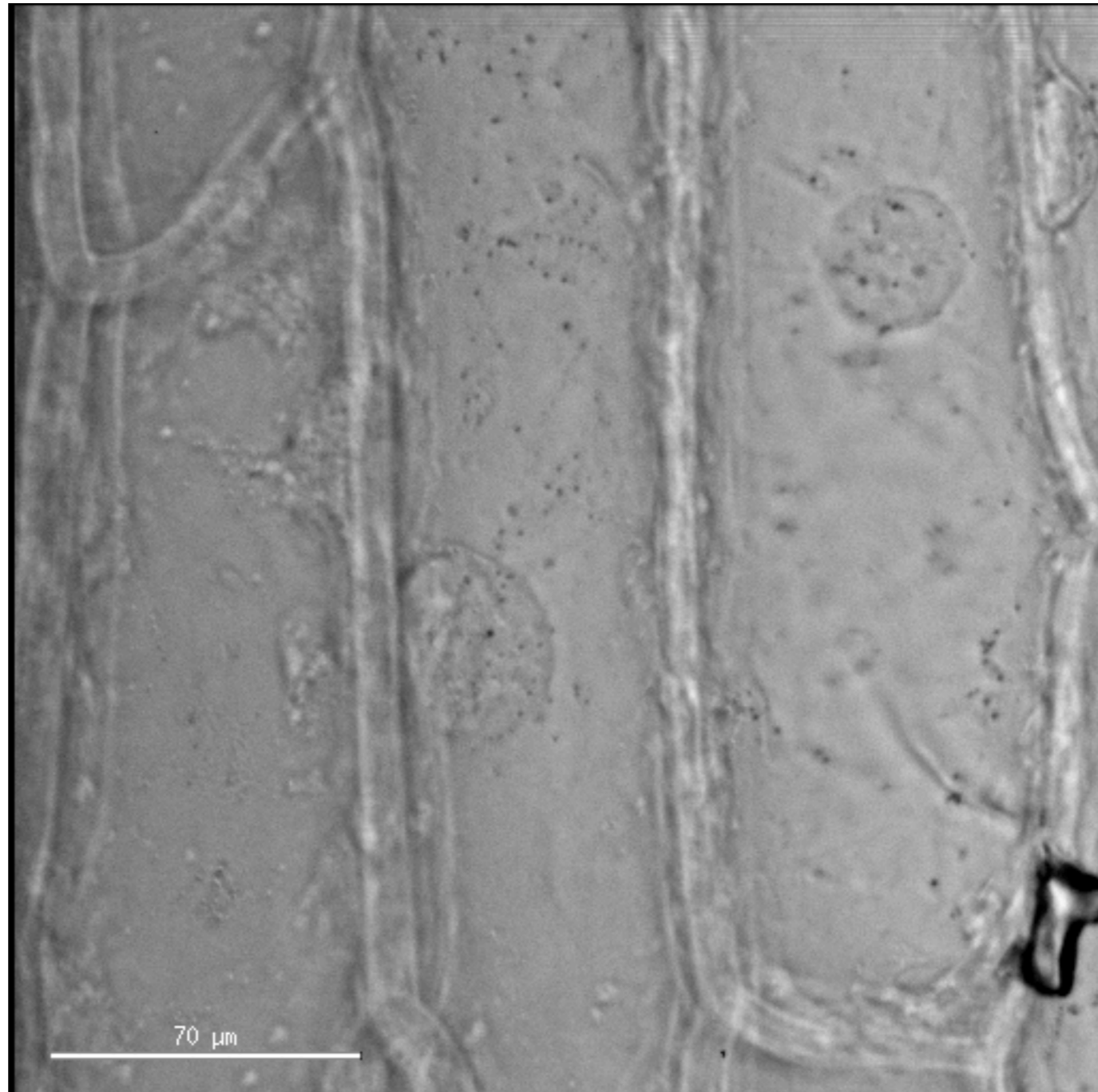


RMP: Onion epidermis bright field

Bright Field Contrast Techniques

.....enhance features by transforming differences in the cell into differences in brightness

DIC
differential
interference
contrast



RMP: Onion cytoplasmic streaming under DIC

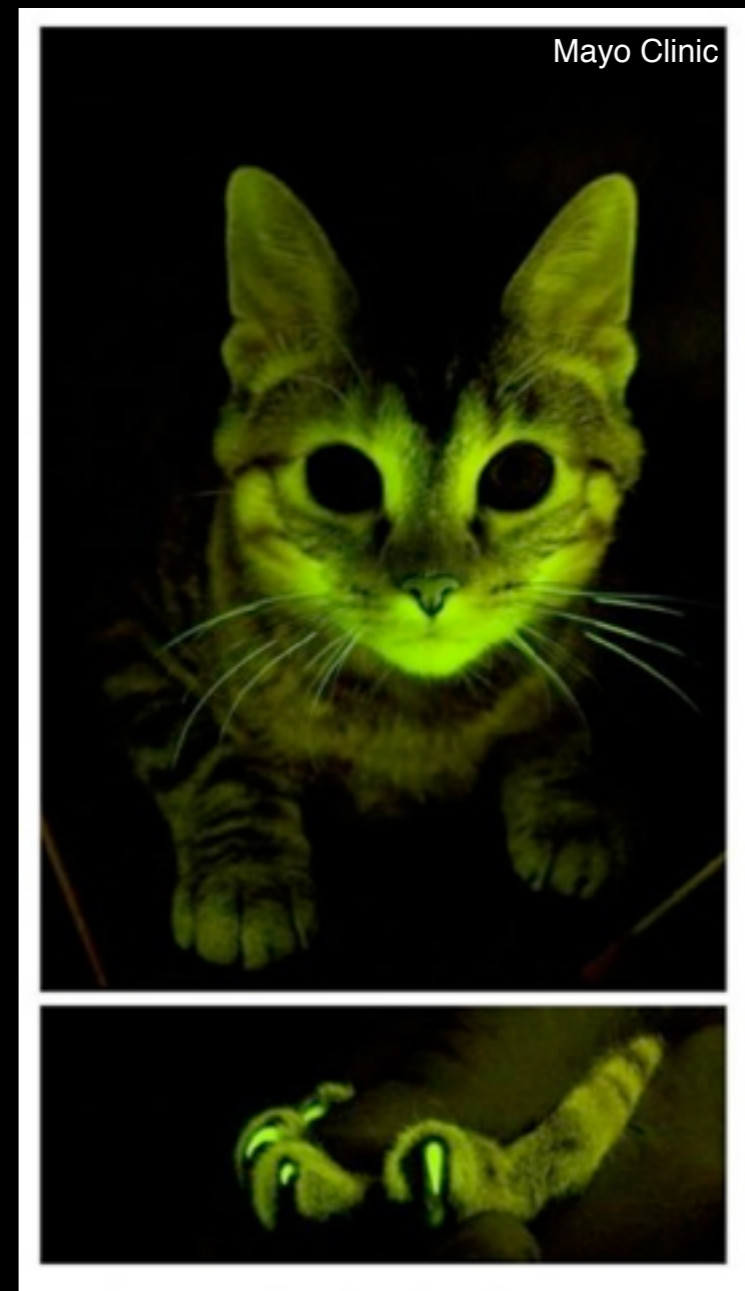
Fluorescence Contrast Techniques

.....use selective fluorescent probes to label features

Fluorescence Contrast Techniques

.....use selective fluorescent probes to label features

GFP
green
fluorescent
protein



Fluorescence Contrast Techniques

14

.....use selective fluorescent probes to label features

inorganic
fluorescent
labels

LECTURES 4, 5



What is really important in microscopy?

1. Contrast
- 2. Resolution**
3. Sampling
4. Noise

What is really important in microscopy?

Resolutionthe ability to see small stuff

Magnifying is not enough:



What is really important in microscopy?

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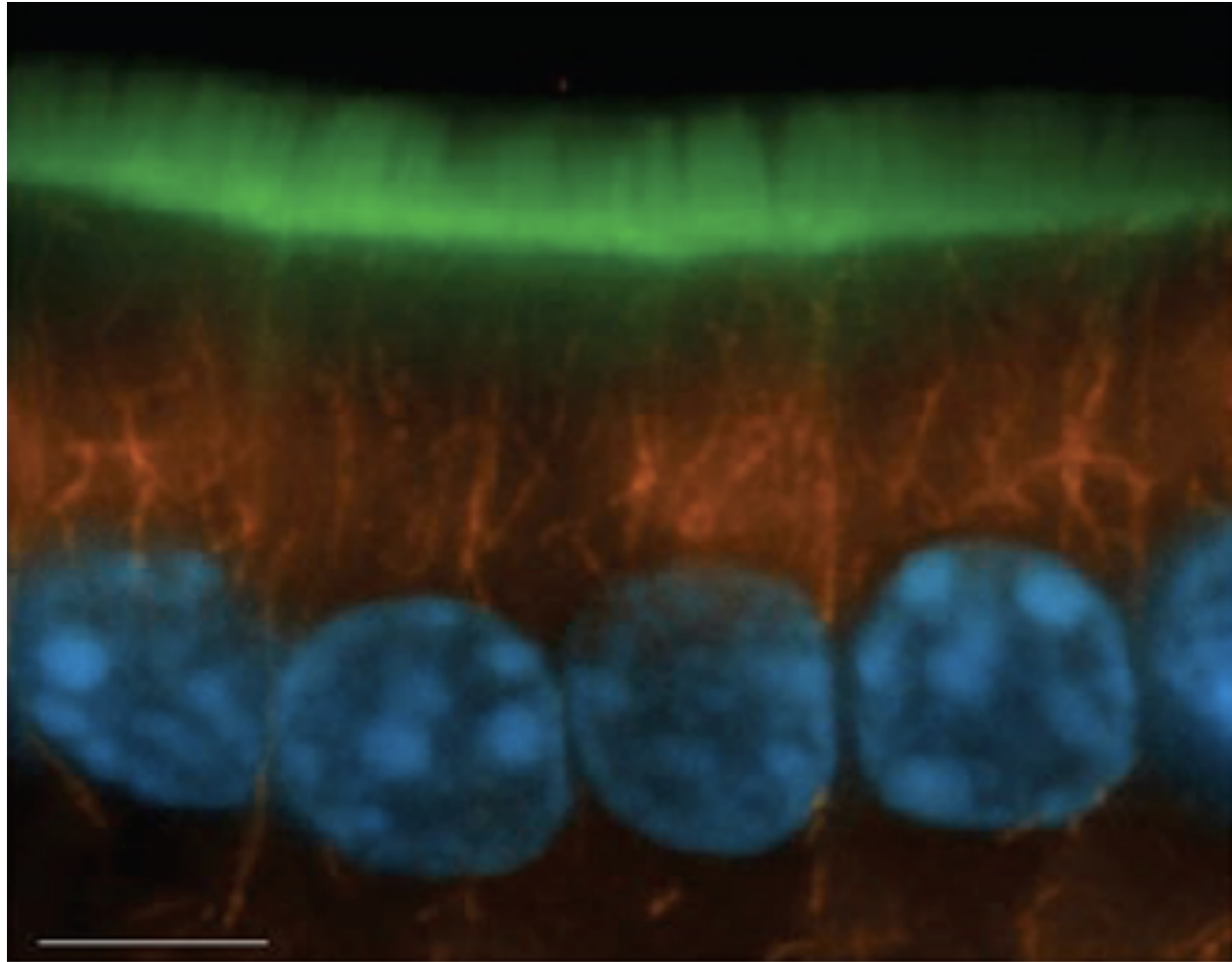
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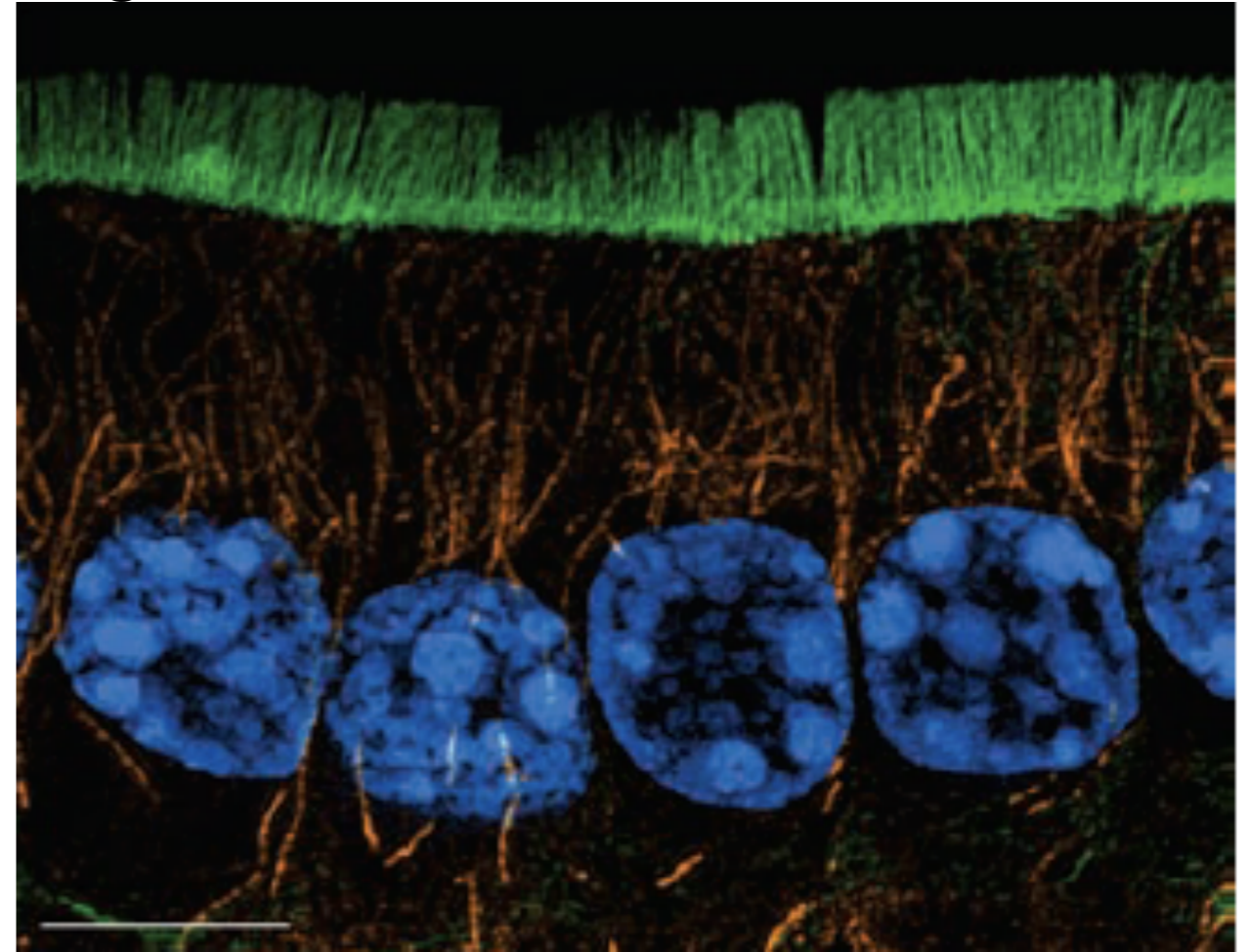
.....resolution is limited

RESOLUTION

Normal resolution

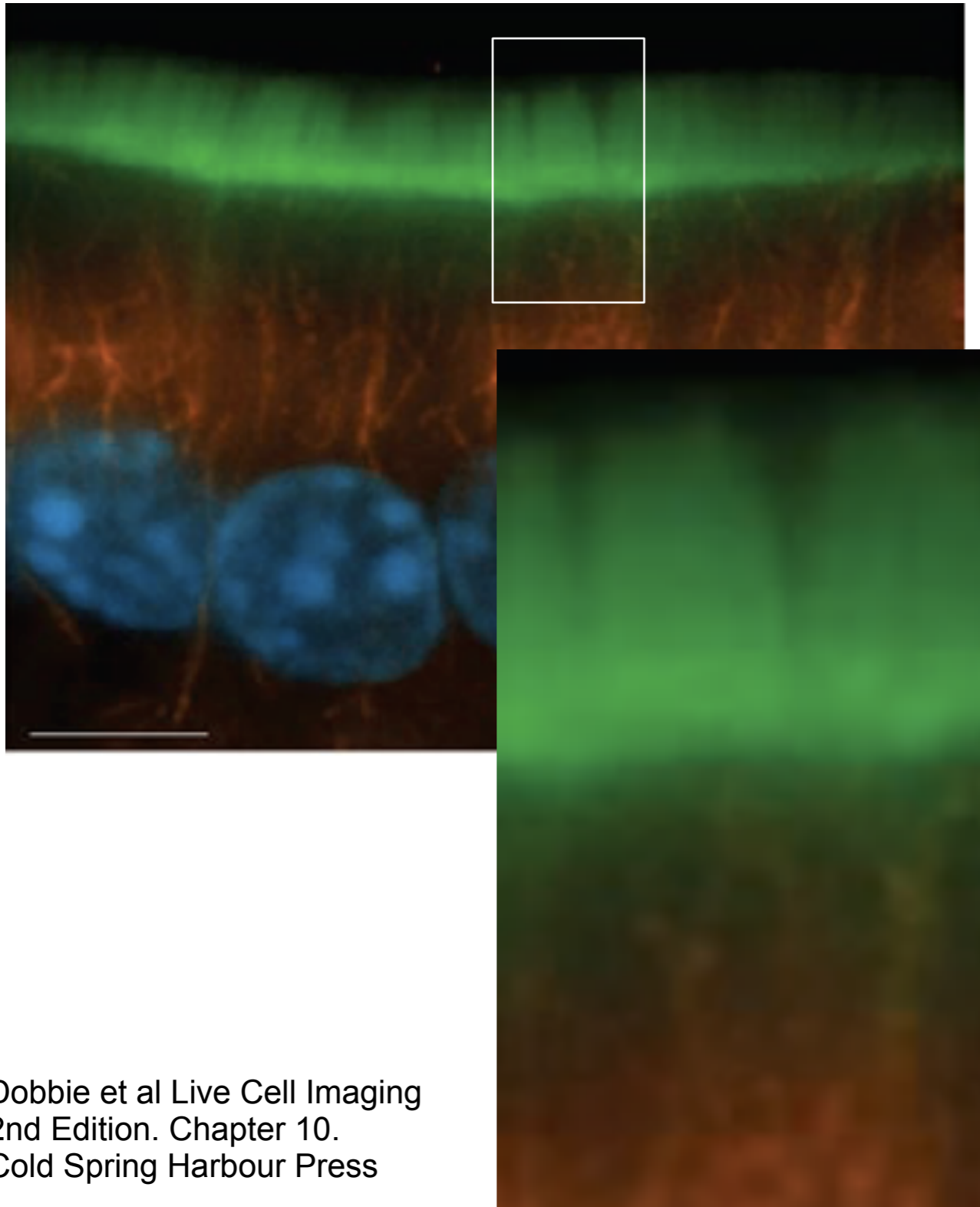


High resolution

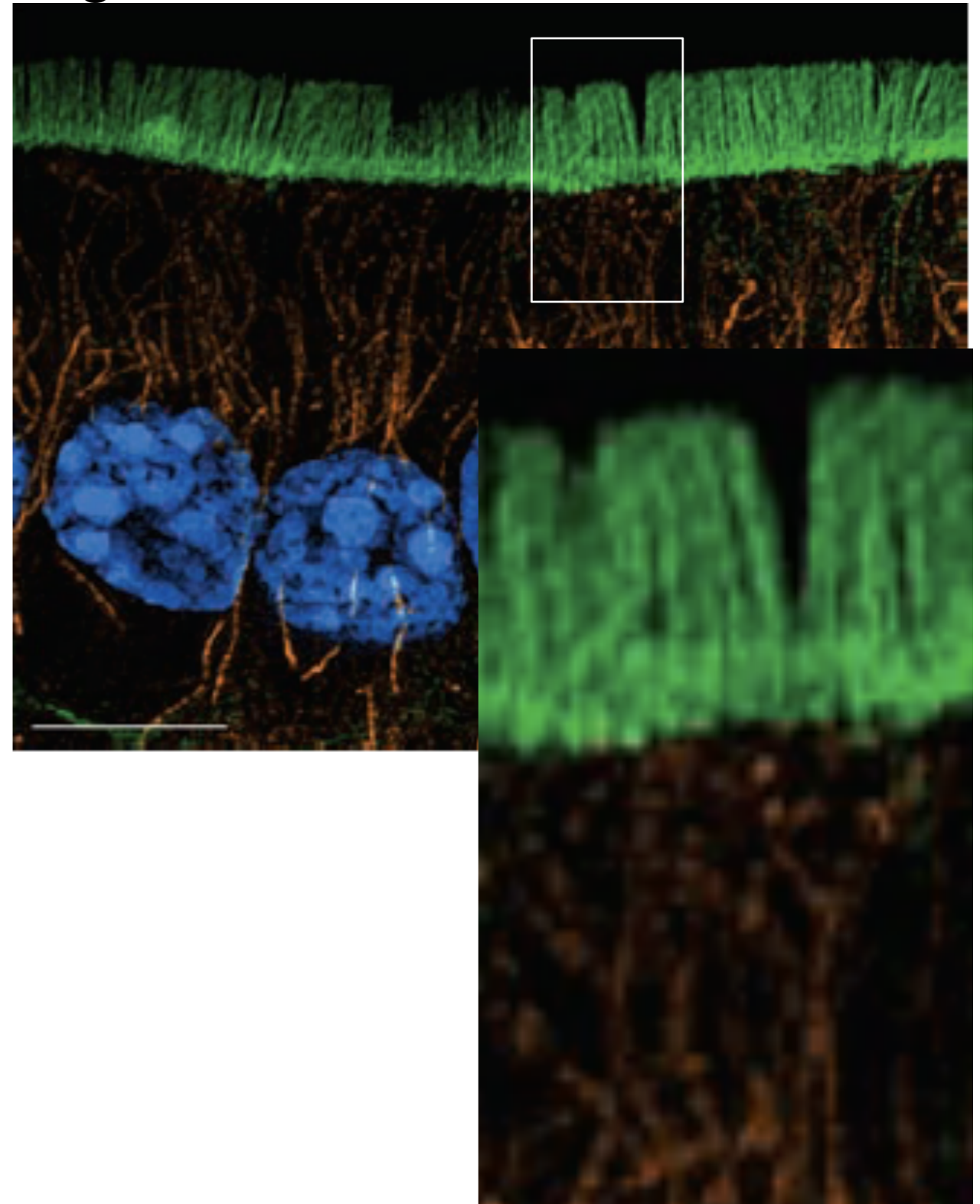


RESOLUTION

Normal resolution



High resolution



Understanding what limits Resolution

- * Convolution and the Point Spread Function
- * The Rayleigh Criterion (D)

Convolution and the Point Spread Function

An image represents the output of the optics and detector of the imaging system

image \neq object

image = object \otimes PSF

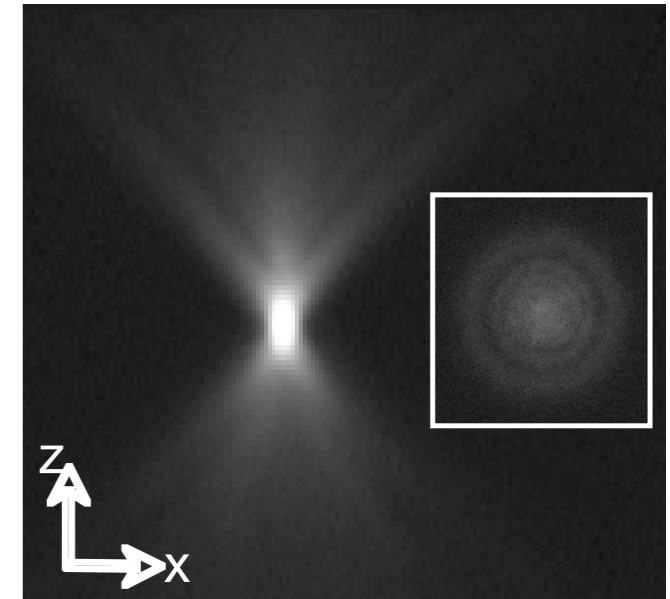
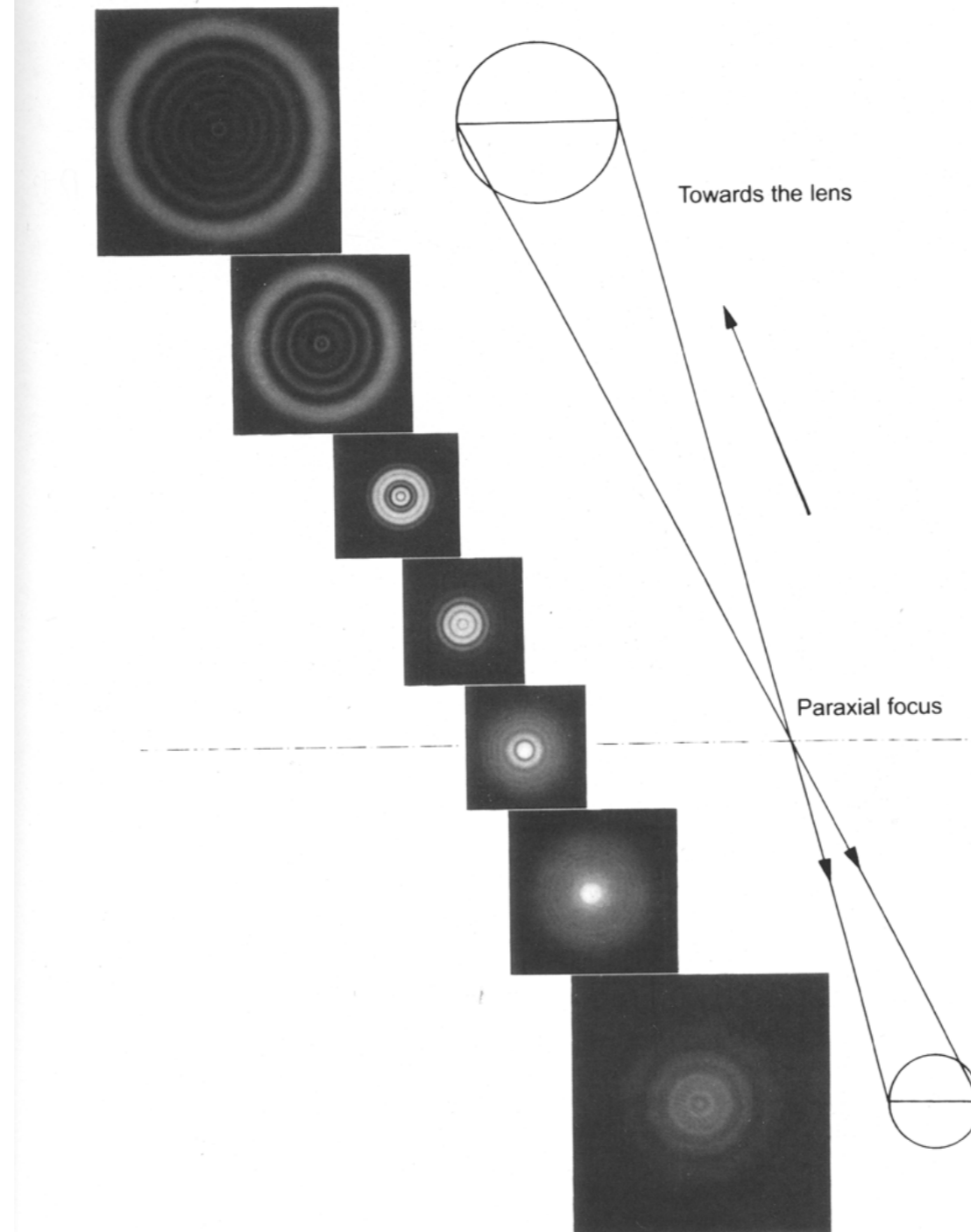
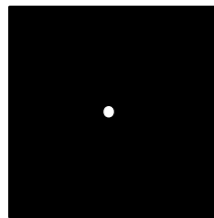
Convolution and the Point Spread Function

An image represents the output of the optics and detector of the imaging system

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Sample object: a "sub-resolution" fluorescent bead



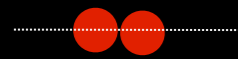
LECTURE 4

Fundamentals of light microscope and electronic imaging. Douglas B. Murphy. Wiley-Liss 2001

- “convolution” by the microscope optics = the PSF

Optical resolution: The Rayleigh Criterion (D_R)

Two small objects



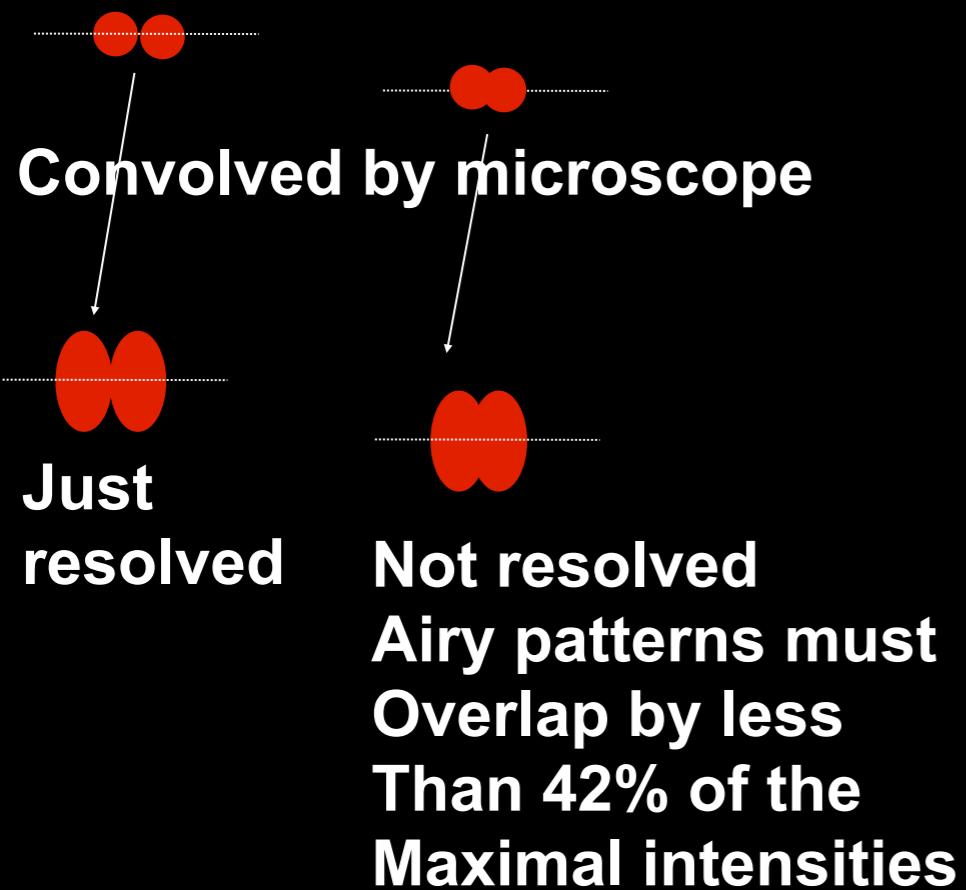
Convolved by microscope



Just
resolved

Optical resolution: The Rayleigh Criterion (D_R)

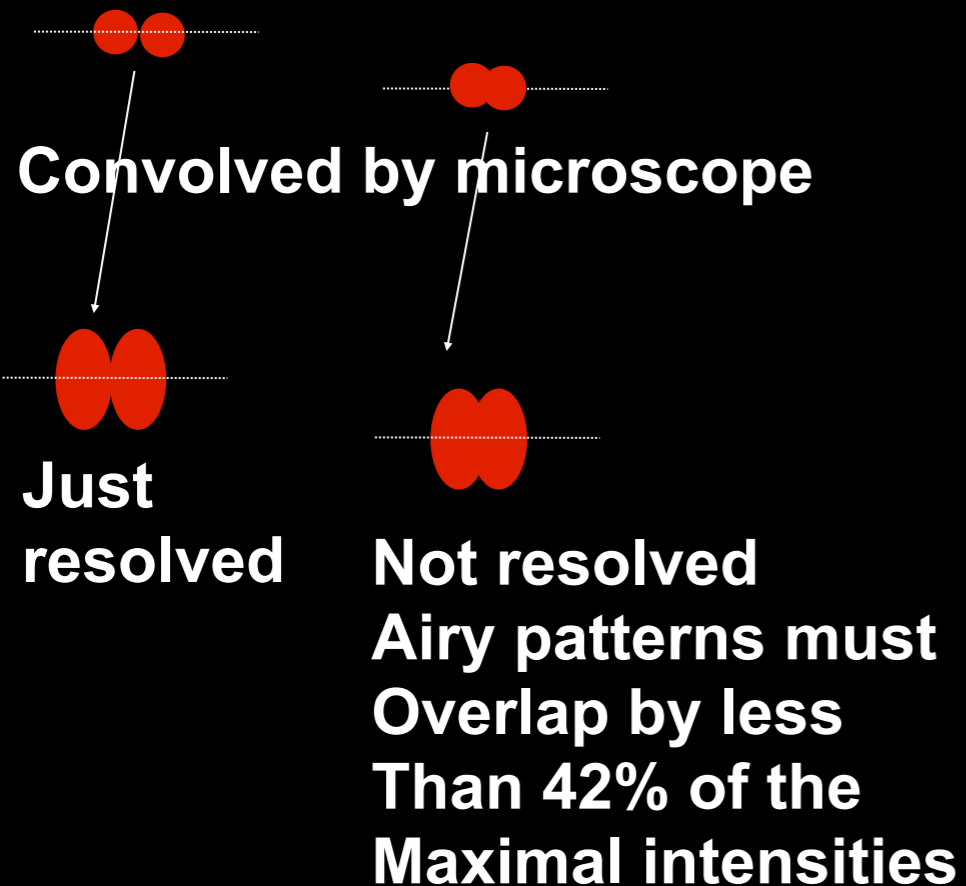
Two small objects



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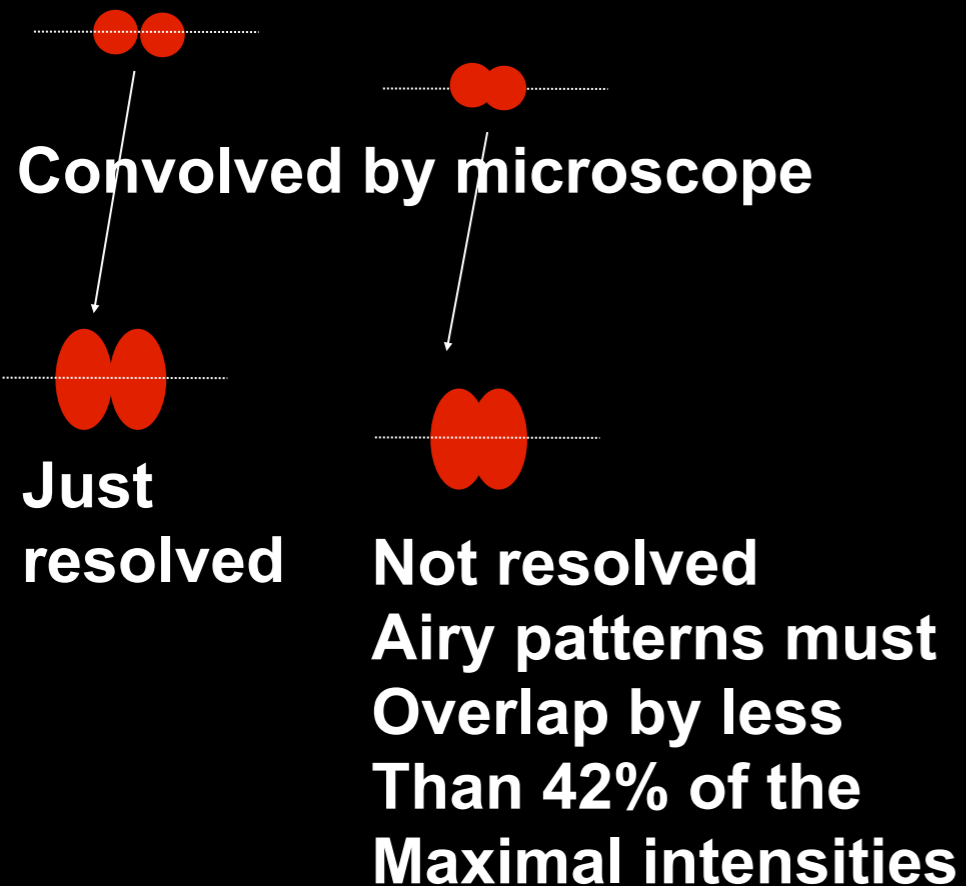
Resolution (D_R) depends upon the objective and wavelength of light:

Two small objects



Optical resolution: The Rayleigh Criterion (D_R)

Two small objects

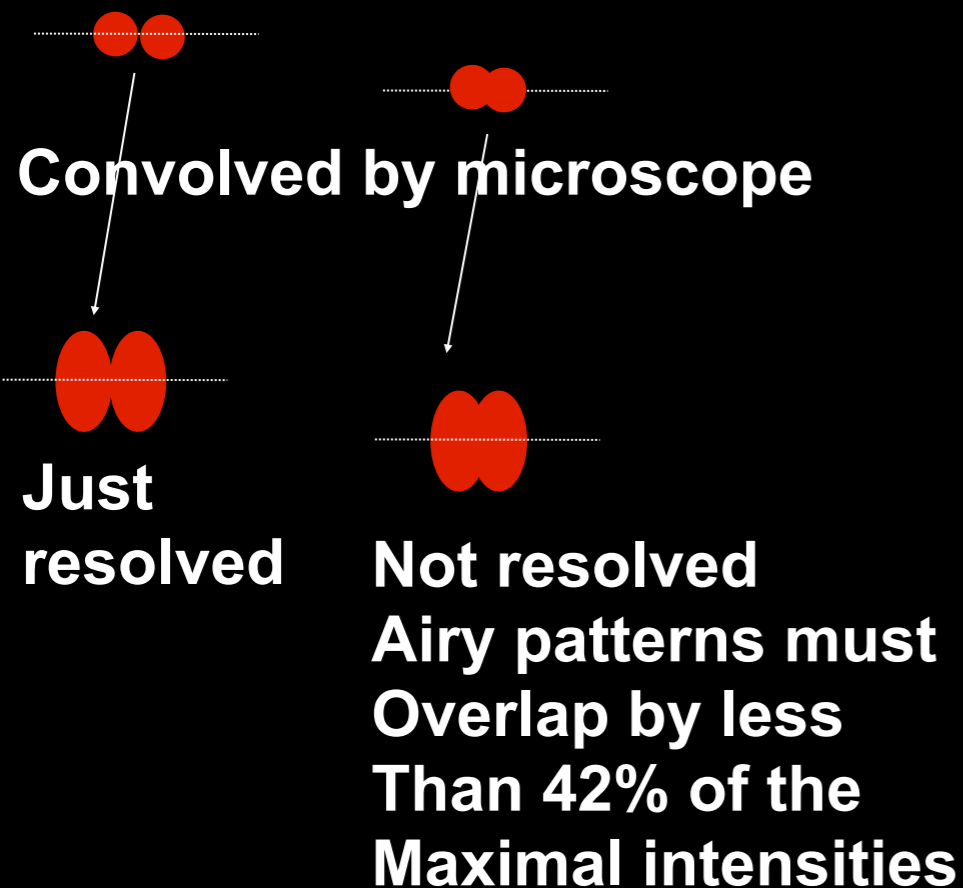


Resolution (D_R) depends upon the objective and wavelength of light:

$$D_R = 1.22 \times \lambda / (Na_{obj} + Na_{cond})$$

Optical resolution: The Rayleigh Criterion (D_R)

Two small objects



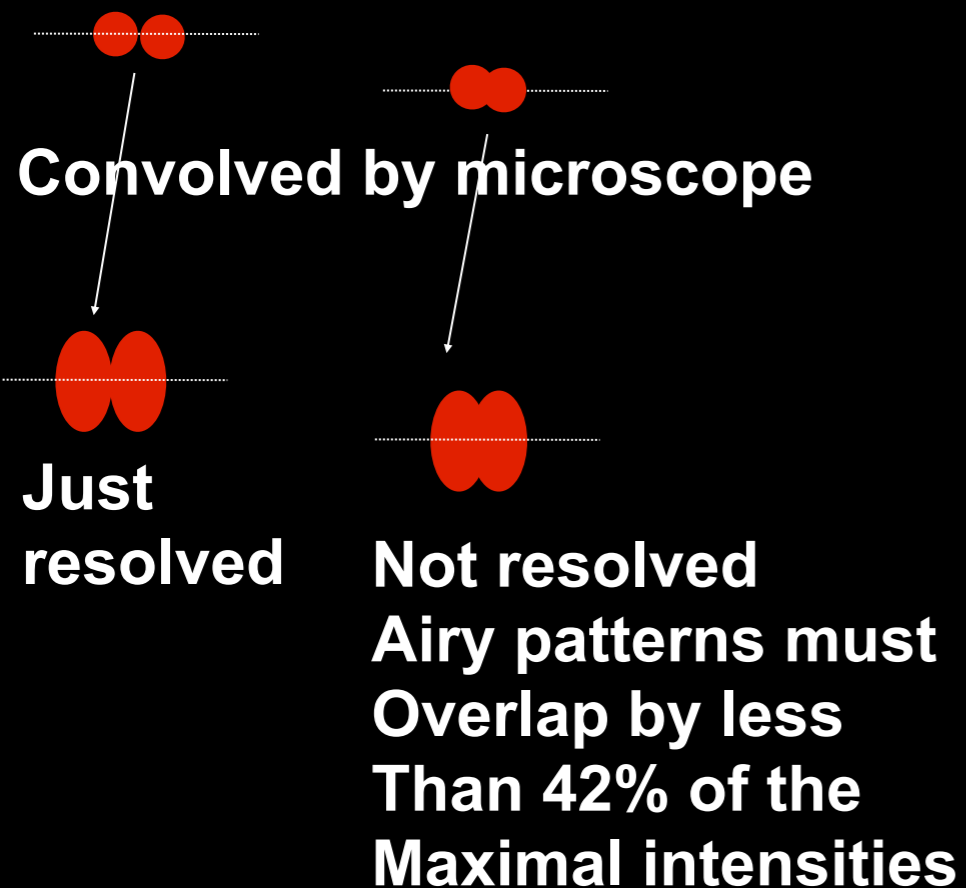
Resolution (D_R) depends upon the objective and wavelength of light:

$$D_R = 1.22 \times \lambda / (Na_{obj} + Na_{cond})$$

Considering x10 objective, Na 0.25, fluorescence emission 520 nm:

Optical resolution: The Rayleigh Criterion (D_R)

Two small objects



Resolution (D_R) depends upon the objective and wavelength of light:

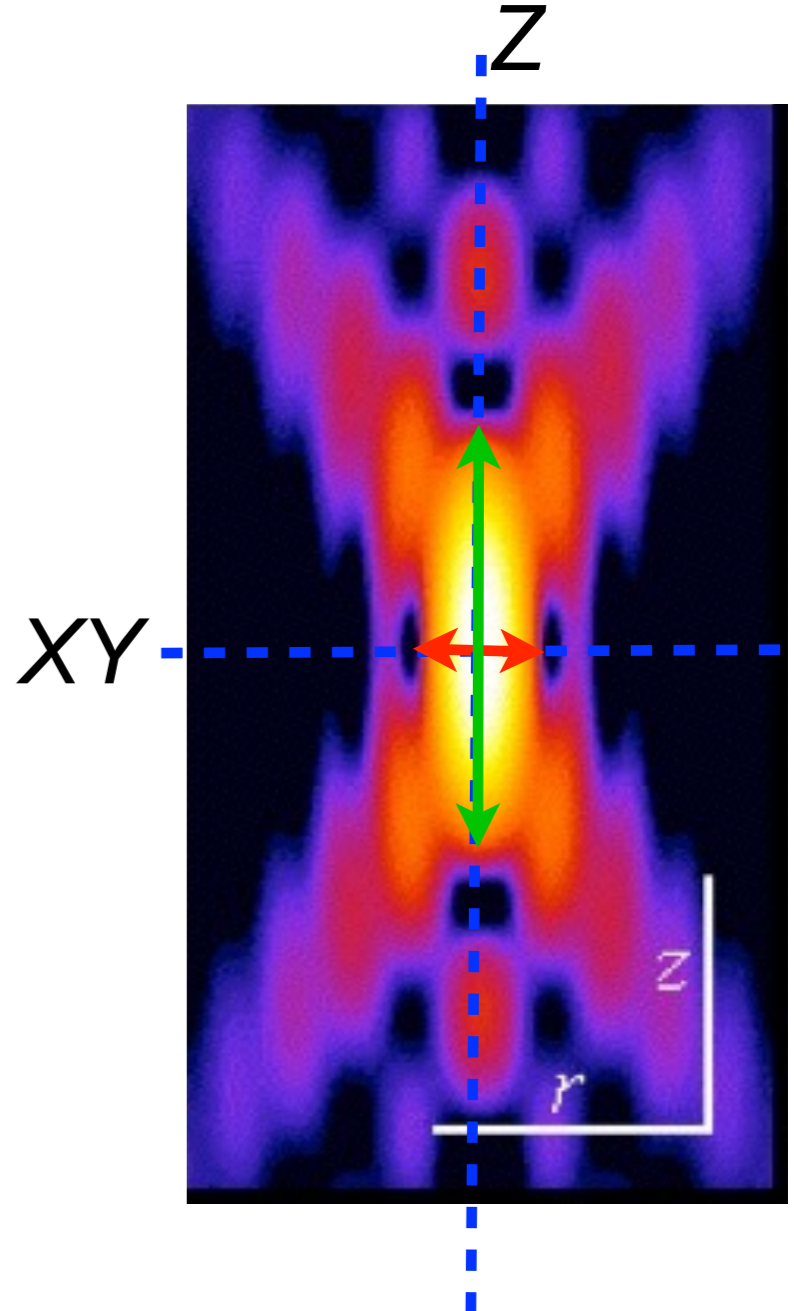
$$D_R = 1.22 \times \lambda / (Na_{obj} + Na_{cond})$$

Considering x10 objective, Na 0.25, fluorescence emission 520 nm:

$$D_R = 1.22 \times 520_{nm} / 2 \times 0.25$$

$$D_R = 1.269 \text{ } \mu\text{m}$$

Axial Resolution:

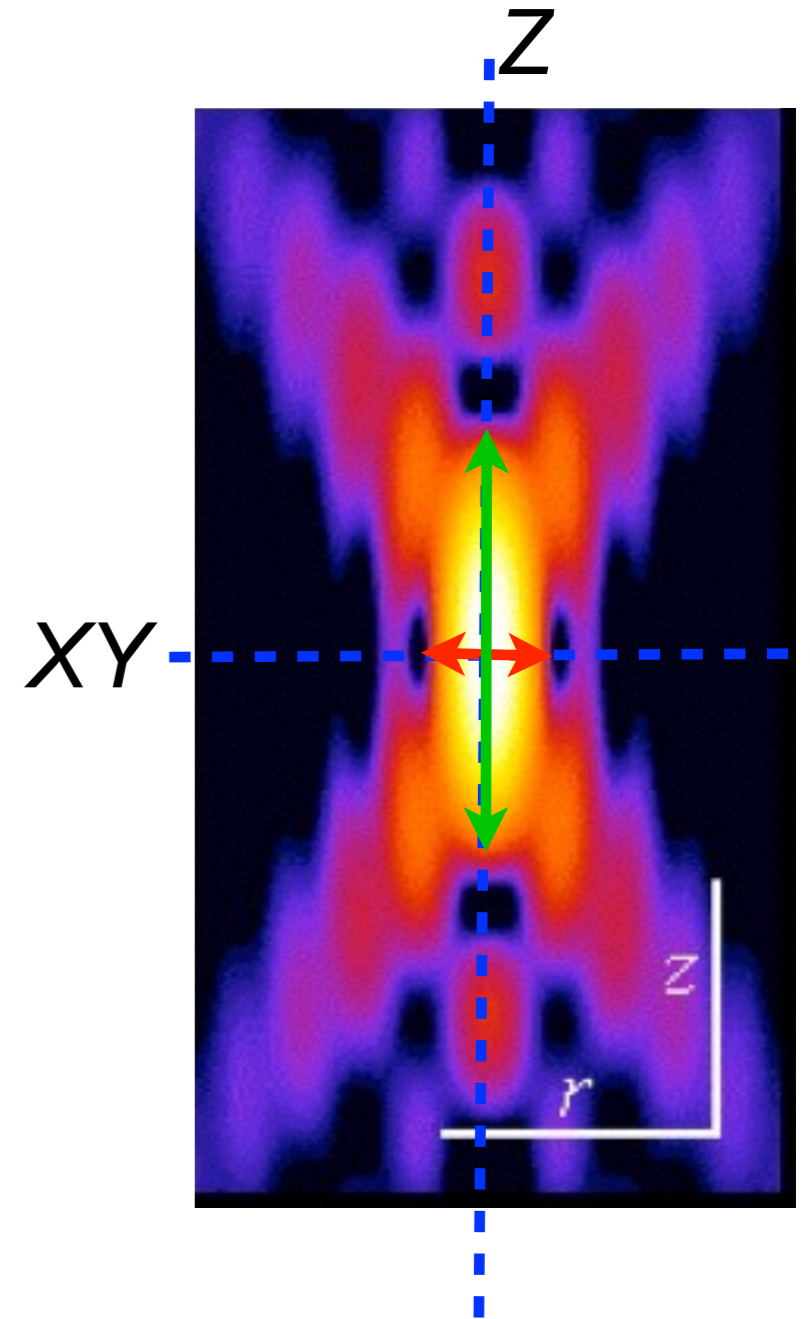


Axial Resolution:

*Resolution is worse in the axial dimension
(along the optical axis, Z)*

$$D_z = 2 \lambda \eta / (\text{NA}_{\text{obj}})^2 \dots \dots \dots 705$$

(η = refractive index of the object medium)



Axial Resolution:

*Resolution is worse in the axial dimension
(along the optical axis, Z)*

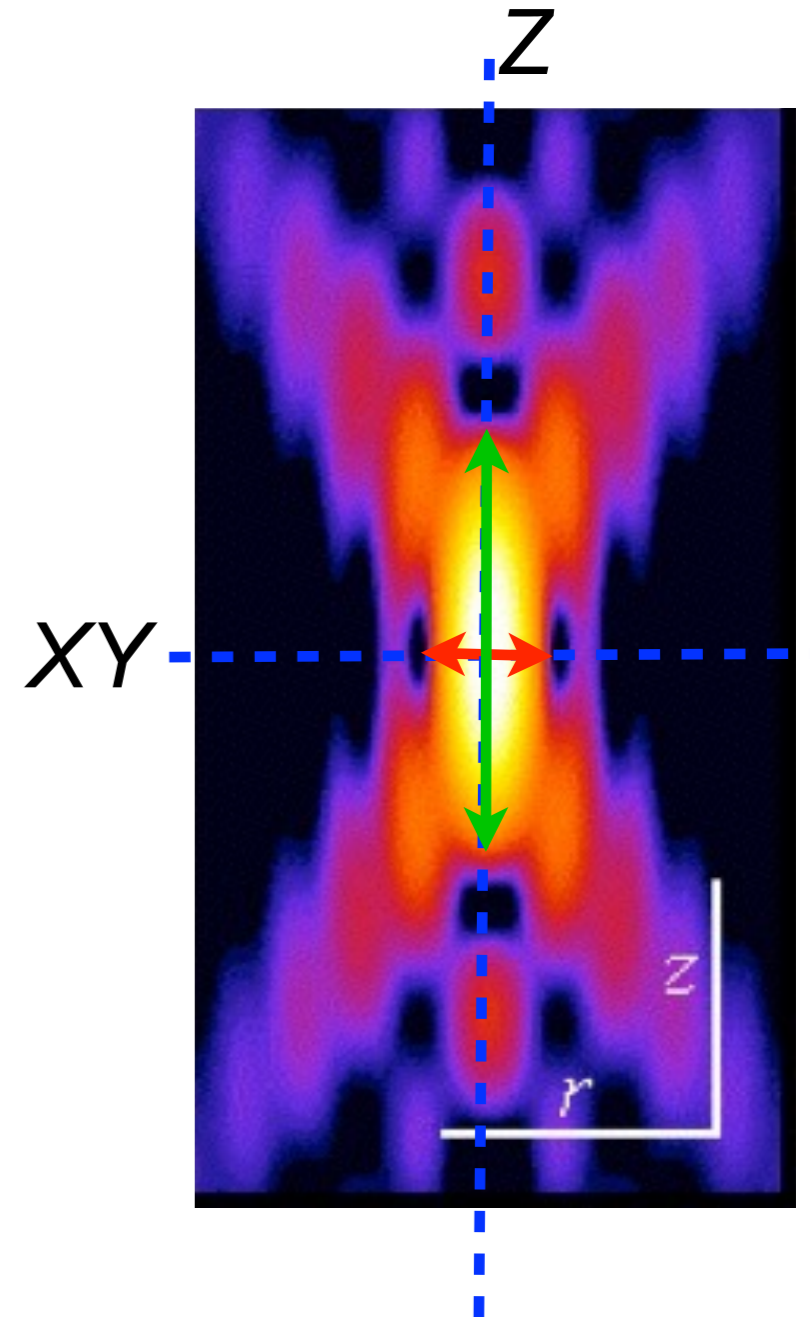
$$D_z = 2 \lambda \eta / (\text{NA}_{\text{obj}})^2 \dots \dots \dots 705$$

(η = refractive index of the object medium)

*Than it is in the lateral dimension
(XY)*

$$D_{\text{XY}} = 1.22 \lambda / 2 \text{NA}_{\text{obj}} \dots \dots \dots 227$$

FWHM



Axial Resolution:

*Resolution is worse in the axial dimension
(along the optical axis, Z)*

$$D_z = 2 \lambda \eta / (\text{NA}_{\text{obj}})^2 \dots \dots \dots 705$$

(η = refractive index of the object medium)

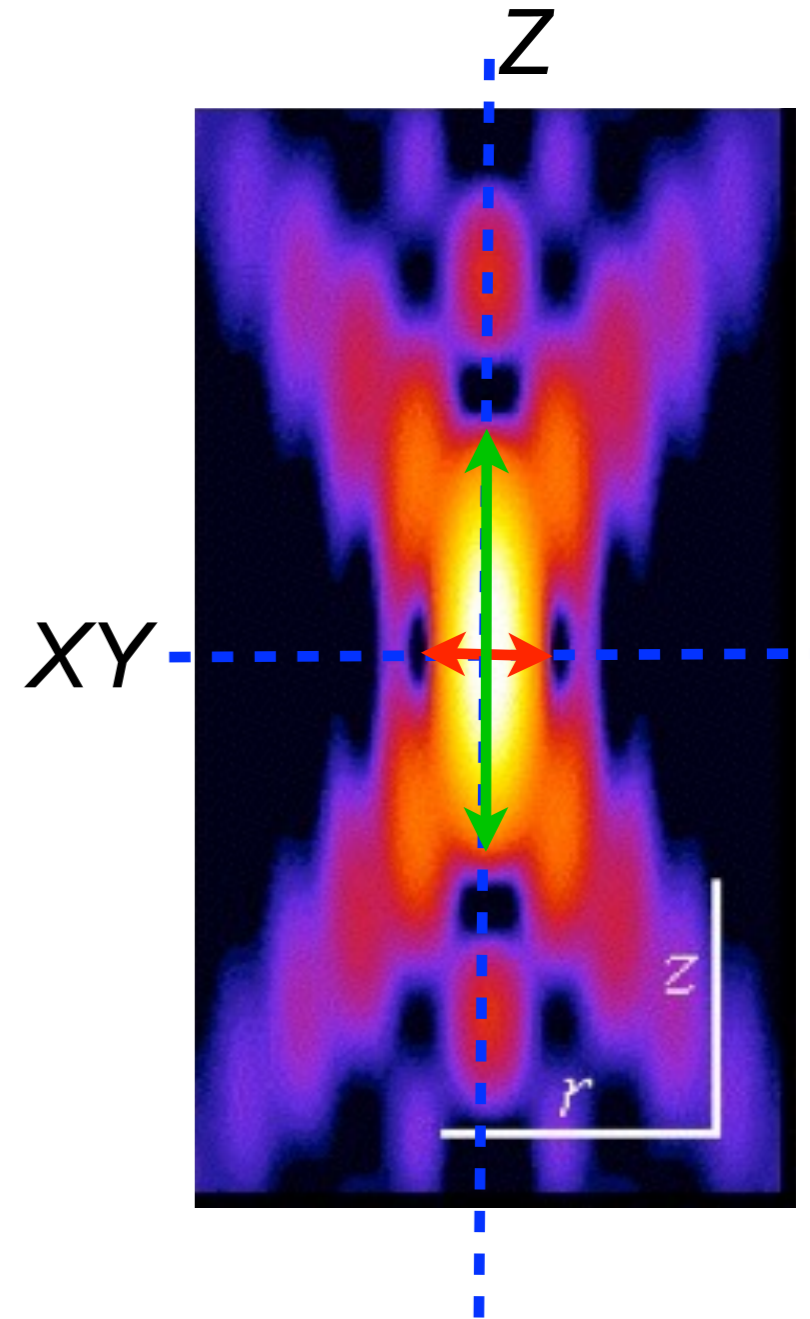
*Than it is in the lateral dimension
(XY)*

$$D_{\text{xy}} = 1.22 \lambda / 2 \text{NA}_{\text{obj}} \dots \dots \dots 227$$

FWHM

The relationship between the two is:

$$D_z / D_{\text{xy}} = 3.28 \eta / \text{NA}_{\text{obj}} \dots \dots \approx 3$$



Resolution: Down to the molecular scale?

resolution $\approx \lambda_{em}/2$ (Z resolution ≈ 2.5 times worse)

XY resolution ~ 230 nm

Z resolution ~ 700 nm

GFP is $\sim 5 \times 5 \times 5$ nm MT is ~ 25 nm diameter

Resolution: Down to the molecular scale?

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Solution 1 - F* techniques

FRAP, FRET, FLIM etc

LECTURE 8

Resolution: Down to the molecular scale?

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XY resolution ~ 230 nm

Z resolution ~ 700 nm

GFP is $\sim 5 \times 5 \times 5$ nm MT is ~ 25 nm diameter

Solution 1 - F* techniques

FRAP, FRET, FLIM etc

LECTURE 8

Solution 2 - Super resolution techniques

Localisation microscopy, Structured illumination, STED

LECTURES 9-11

What is really important in microscopy?

1. Contrast
2. Resolution
3. Sampling
4. Noise

Sampling

.....correctly reading the available information

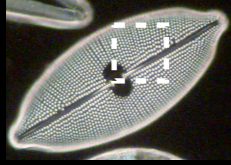


.....poor sampling limits the resolution achieved

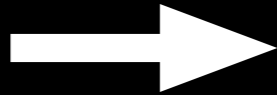
Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

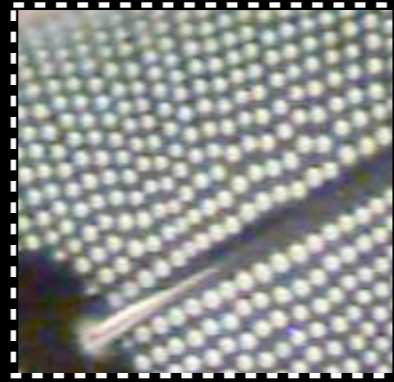
Specimen
Fine Detail



Detail imaged
by microscope



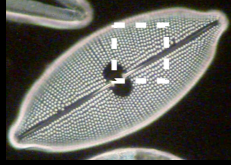
*magnification
*optical resolution



Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

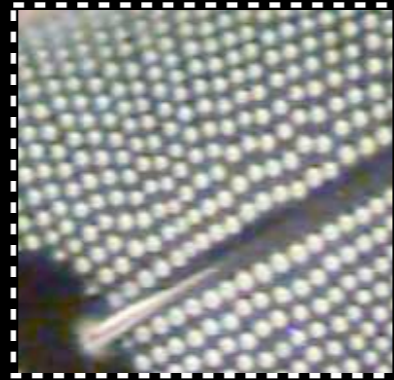
Specimen
Fine Detail



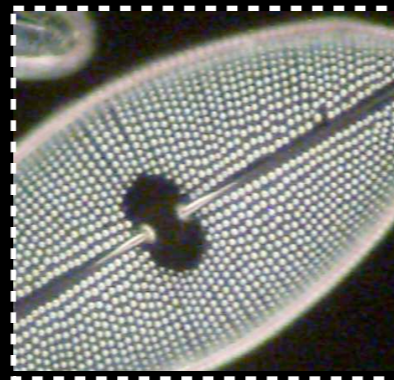
Detail imaged
by microscope



*magnification
*optical resolution



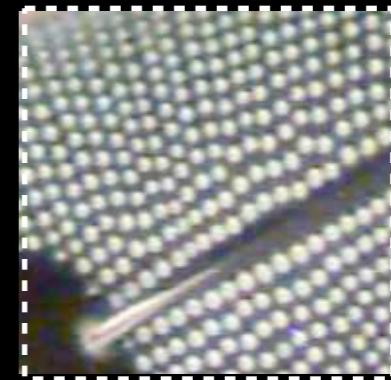
not magnified enough



Undersampling
all detail not resolved
Large field of view



auxiliary
magnification
to match image
to detector

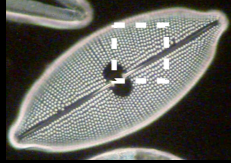


All resolvable
detail recorded

Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

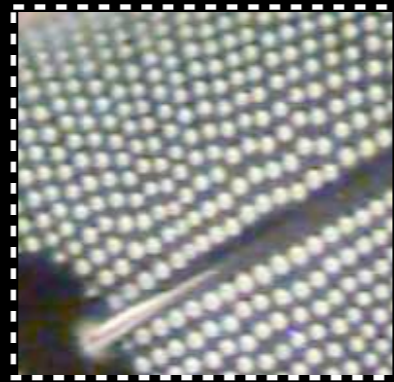
Specimen
Fine Detail



Detail imaged
by microscope



*magnification
*optical resolution



too magnified

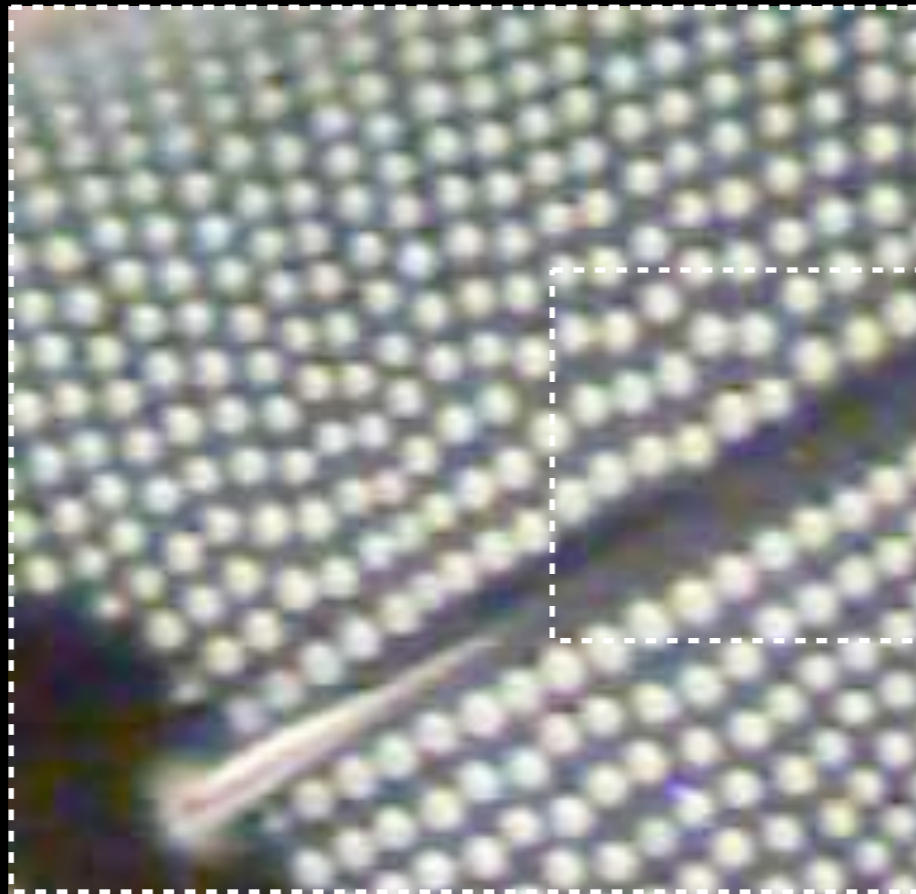
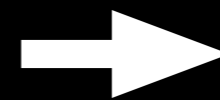


image
on detector

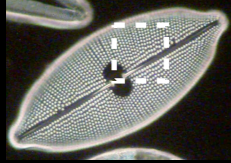


Oversampling
Empty
magnification
Blurred image
Limited field of
view

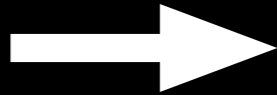
Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

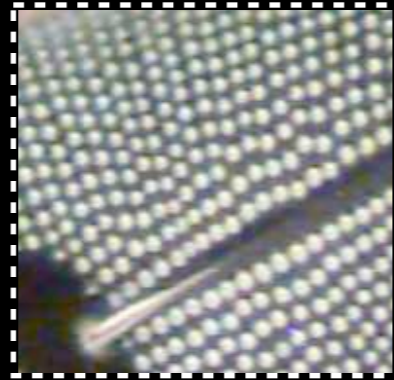
Specimen
Fine Detail



Detail imaged
by microscope



*magnification
*optical resolution



too magnified

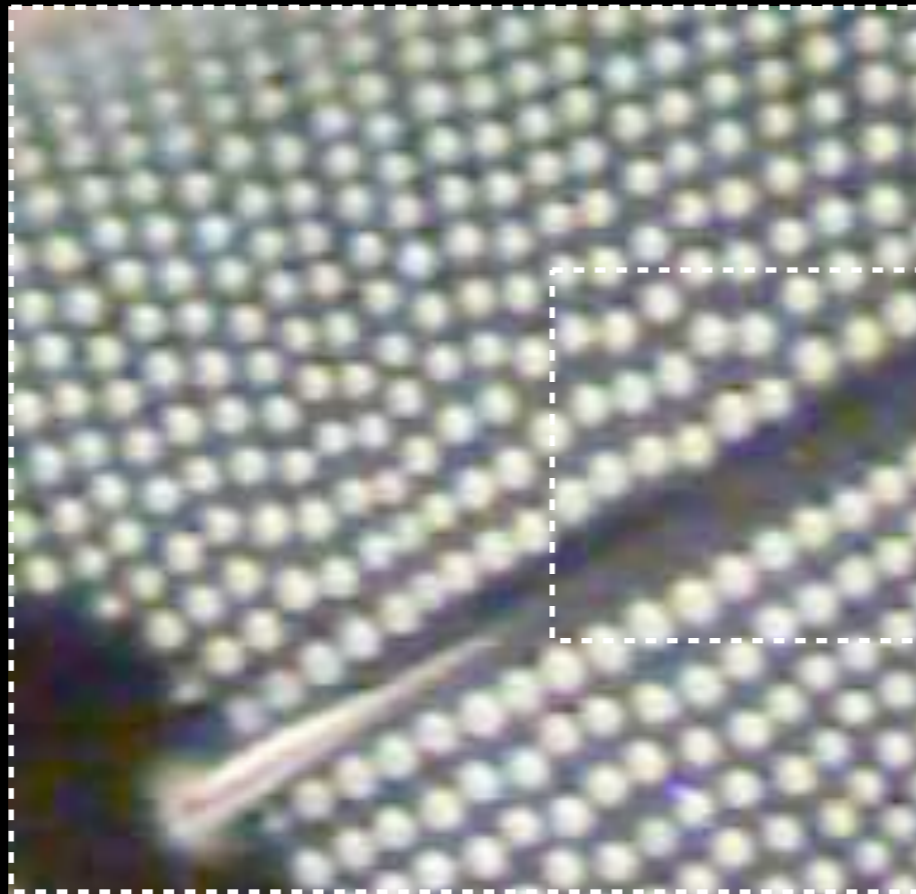
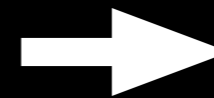


image
on detector



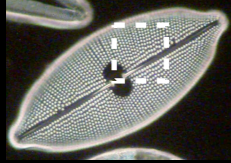
Oversampling
Empty
magnification
Blurred image
Limited field of
view

What is the optimum magnification.....?

Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

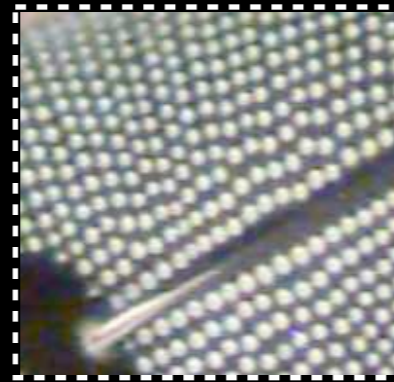
Specimen
Fine Detail



Detail imaged
by microscope



*magnification
*optical resolution



too magnified

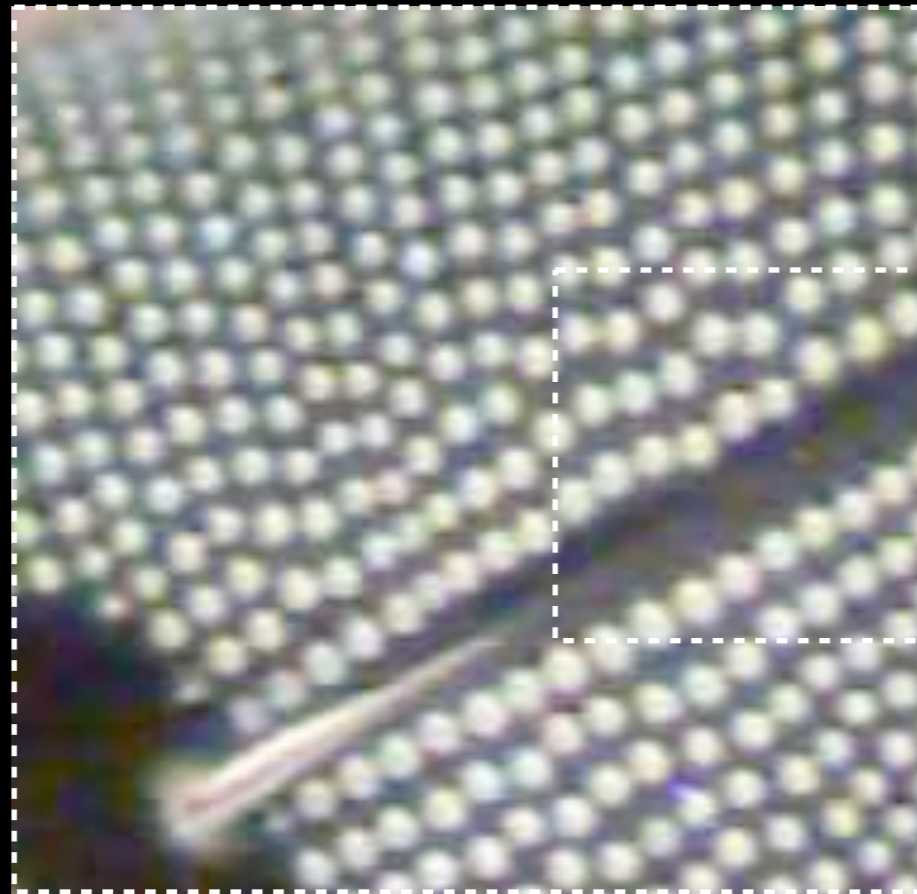


image
on detector



Oversampling
Empty
magnification
Blurred image
Limited field of
view

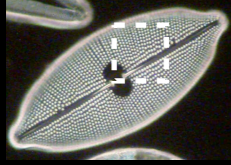
What is the optimum magnification.....?

For optimal imaging: magnification must match the resolution to the detector

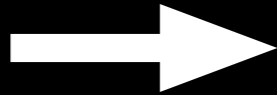
Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

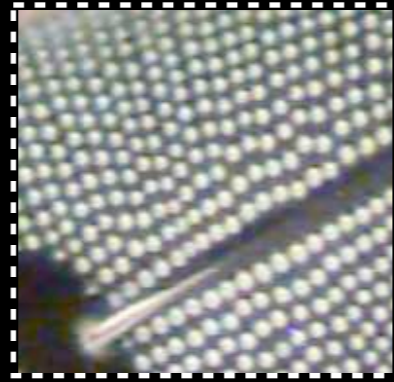
Specimen
Fine Detail



Detail imaged
by microscope



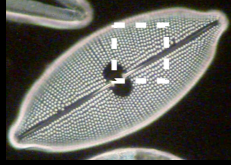
*magnification
*optical resolution



Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

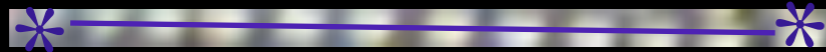
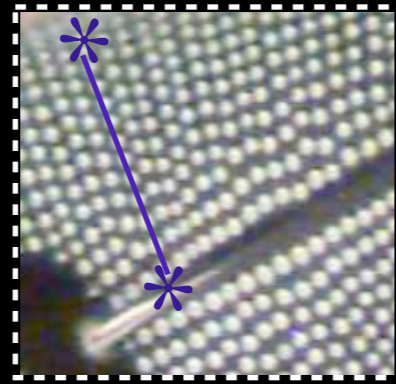
Specimen
Fine Detail



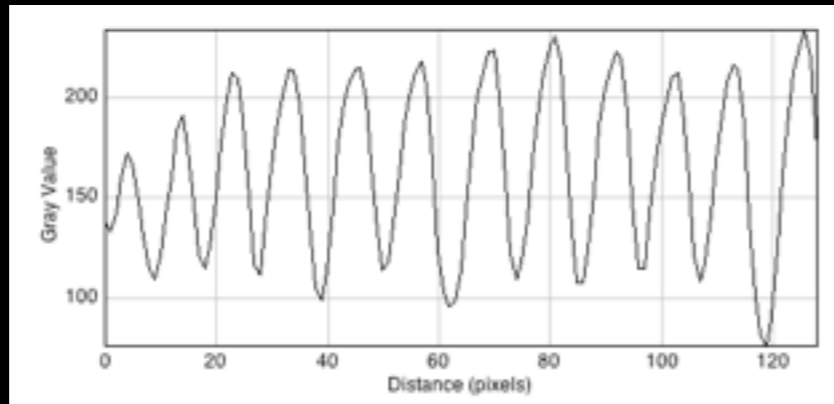
Detail imaged
by microscope



*magnification
*optical resolution



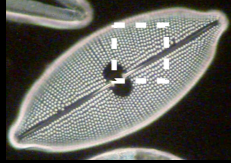
intensity profile ~ a sine wave



Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

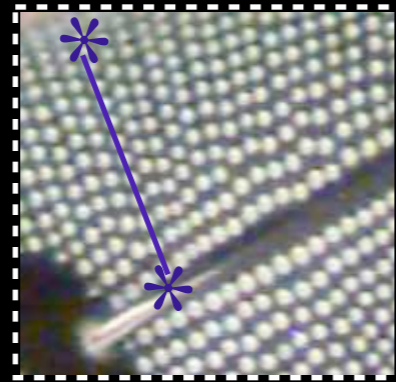
Specimen
Fine Detail



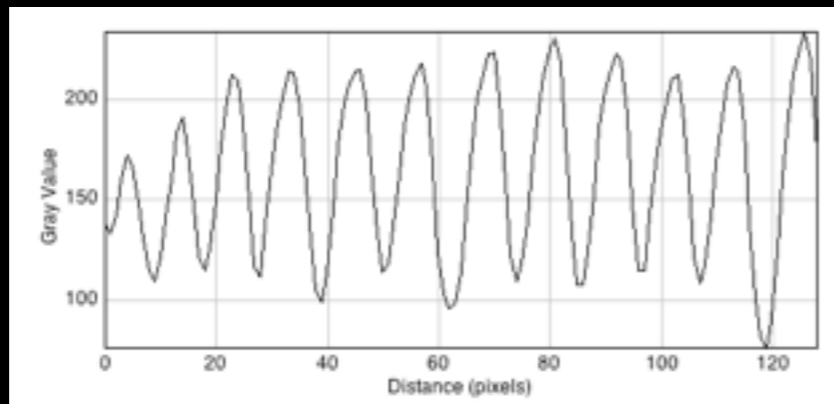
Detail imaged
by microscope



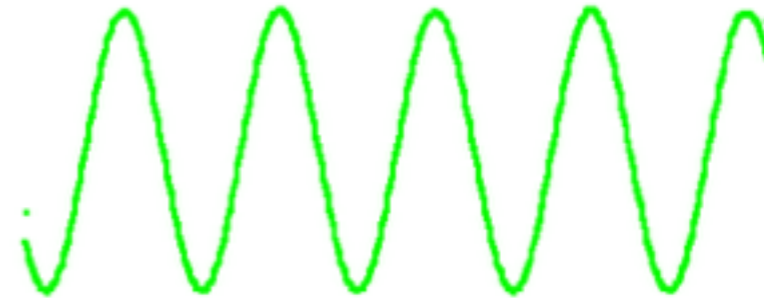
*magnification
*optical resolution



intensity profile ~ a sine wave



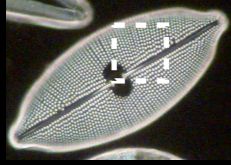
sampling a sine wave



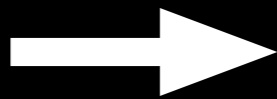
Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

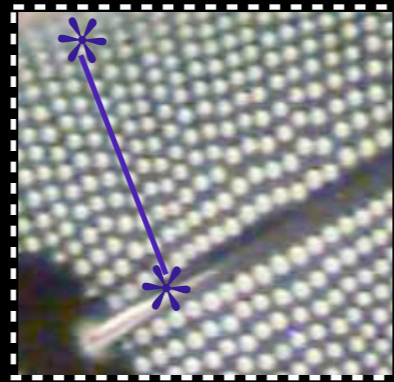
Specimen
Fine Detail



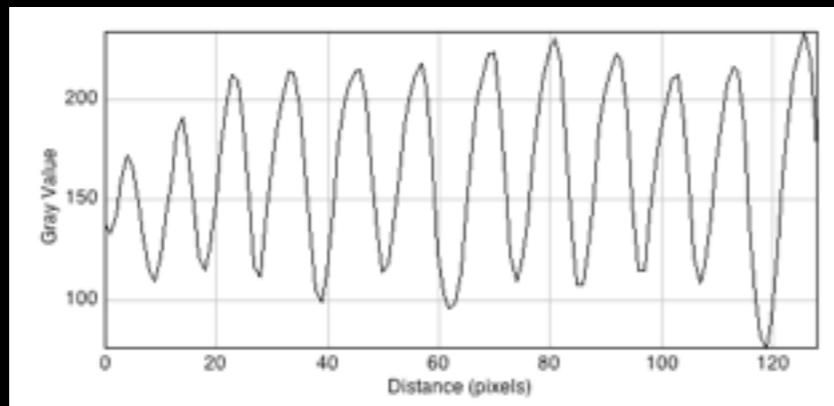
Detail imaged
by microscope



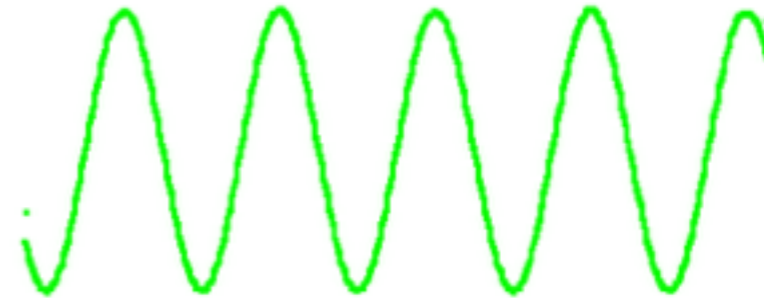
*magnification
*optical resolution



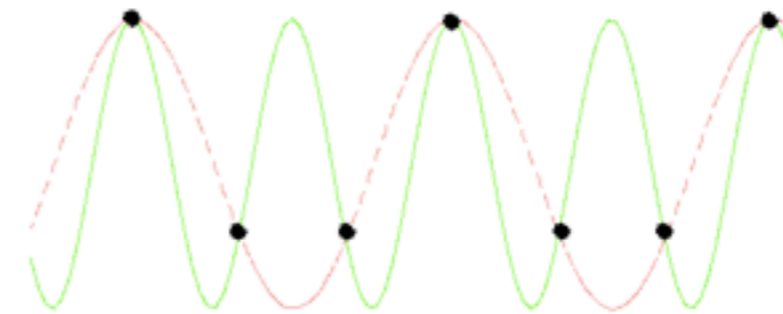
intensity profile ~ a sine wave



sampling a sine wave



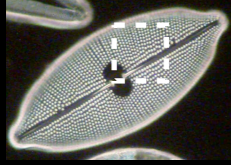
Sampling 1.5 times per cycle



Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

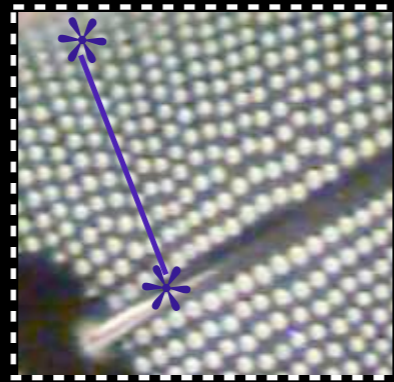
Specimen
Fine Detail



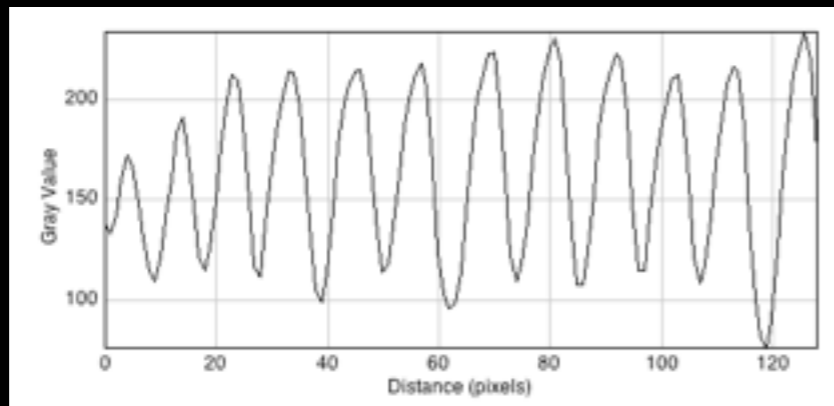
Detail imaged
by microscope



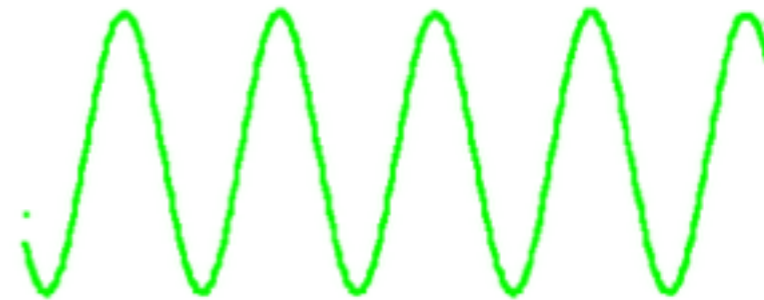
*magnification
*optical resolution



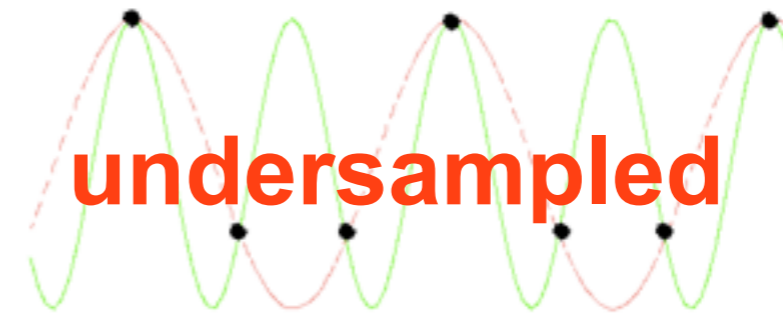
intensity profile ~ a sine wave



sampling a sine wave



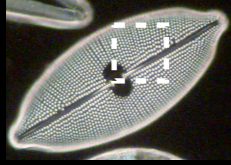
Sampling 1.5 times per cycle



Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

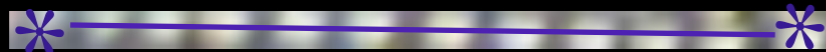
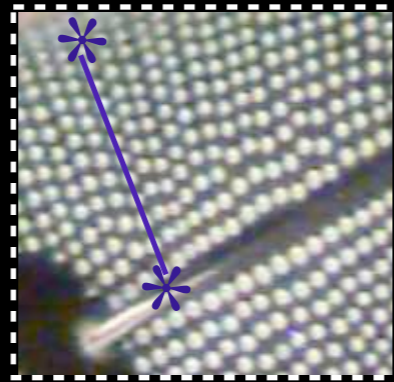
Specimen
Fine Detail



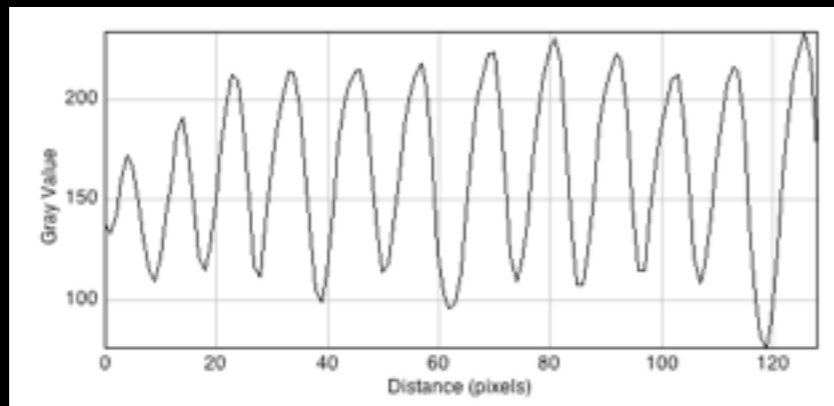
Detail imaged
by microscope



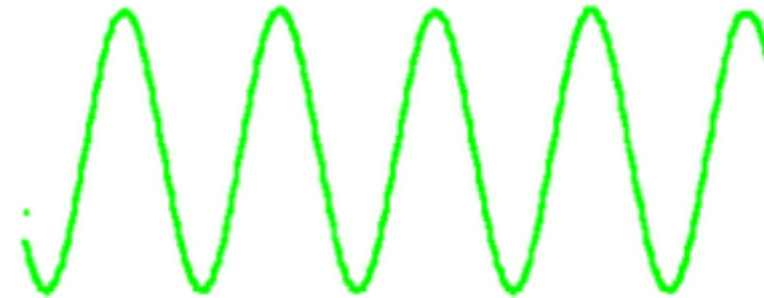
*magnification
*optical resolution



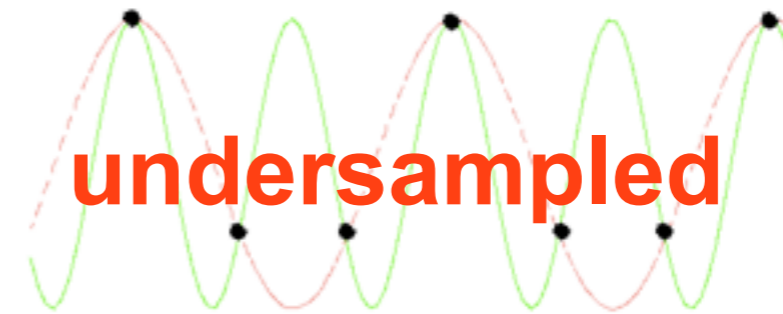
intensity profile ~ a sine wave



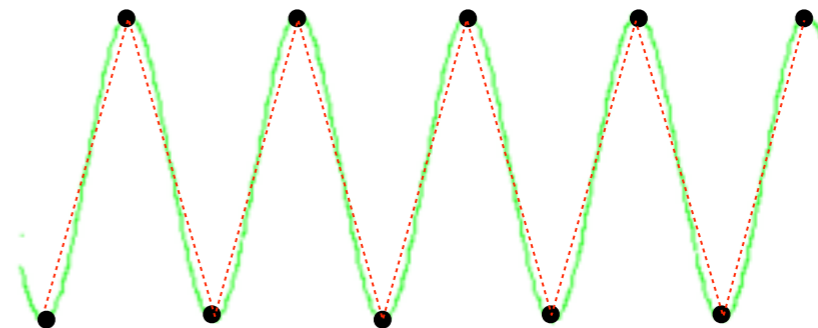
sampling a sine wave



Sampling 1.5 times per cycle



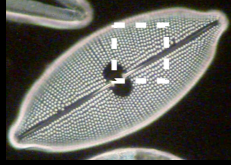
Sampling 2.0 times per cycle



Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

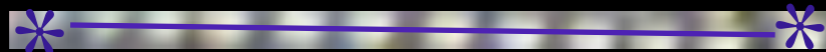
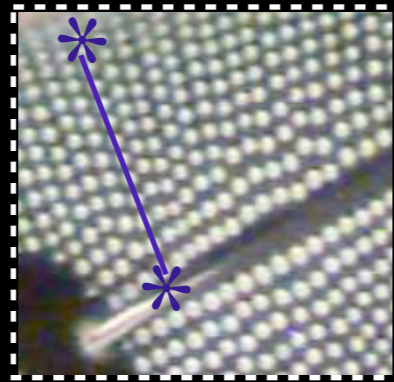
Specimen
Fine Detail



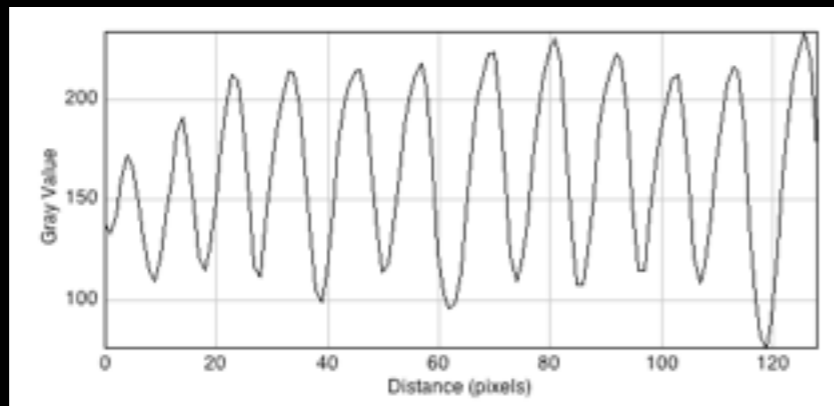
Detail imaged
by microscope



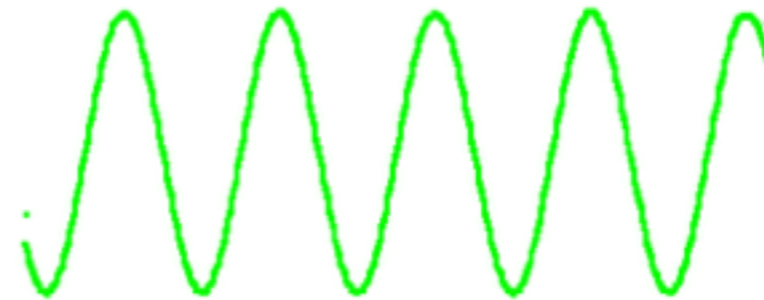
*magnification
*optical resolution



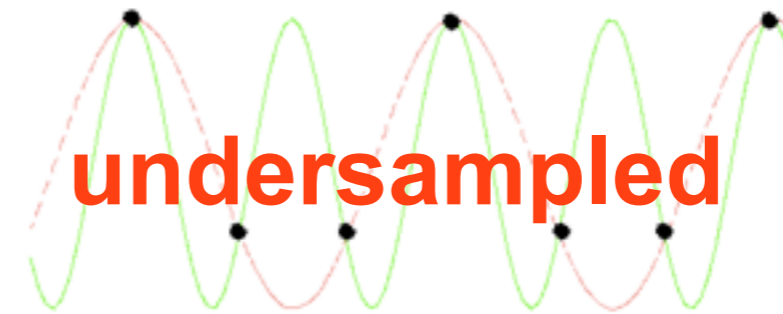
intensity profile ~ a sine wave



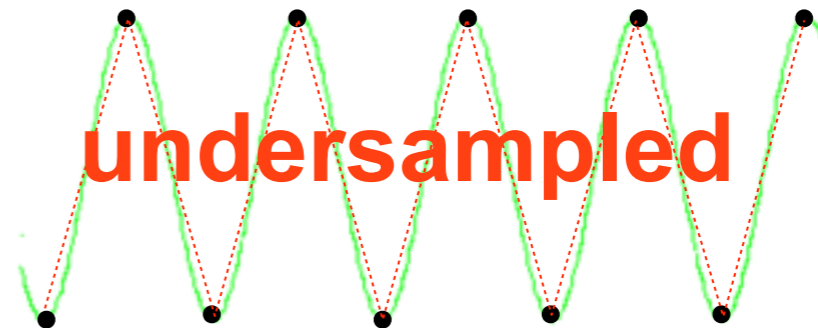
sampling a sine wave



Sampling 1.5 times per cycle



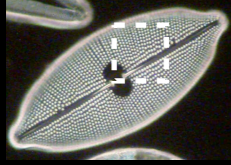
Sampling 2.0 times per cycle



Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

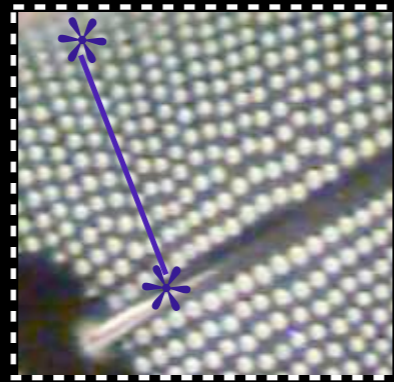
Specimen
Fine Detail



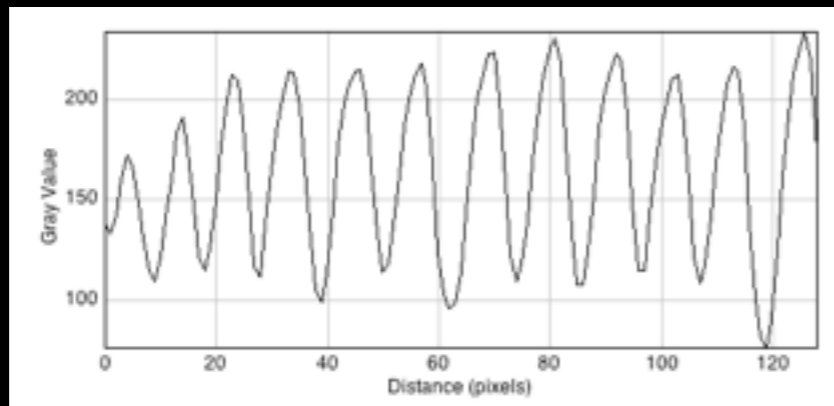
Detail imaged
by microscope



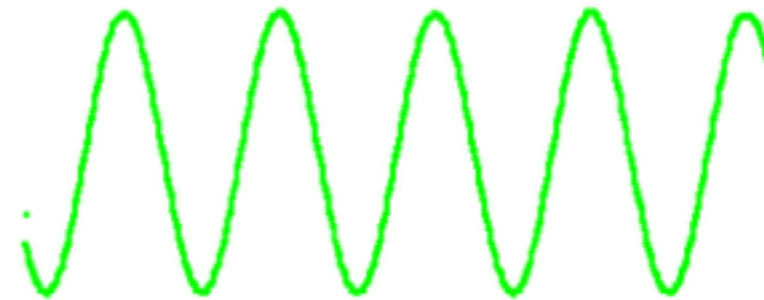
*magnification
*optical resolution



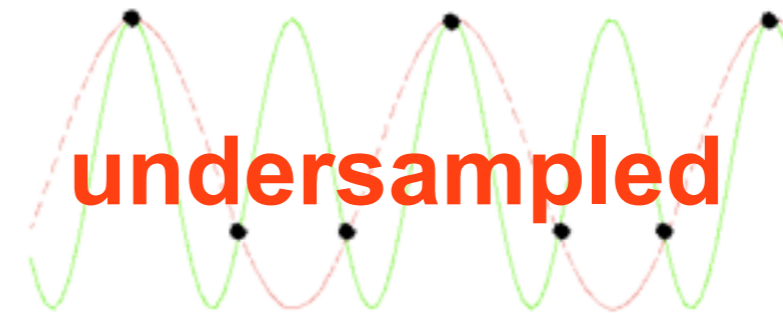
intensity profile ~ a sine wave



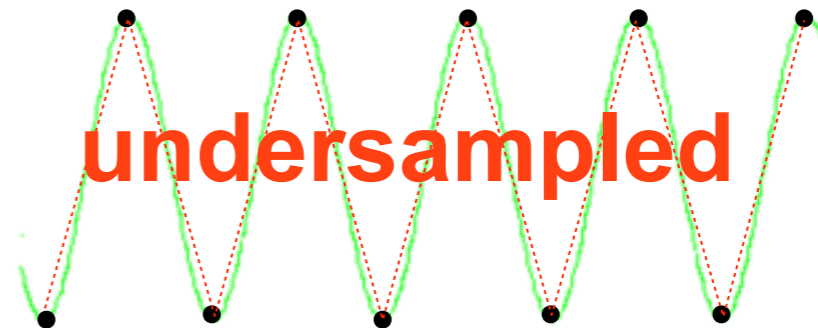
sampling a sine wave



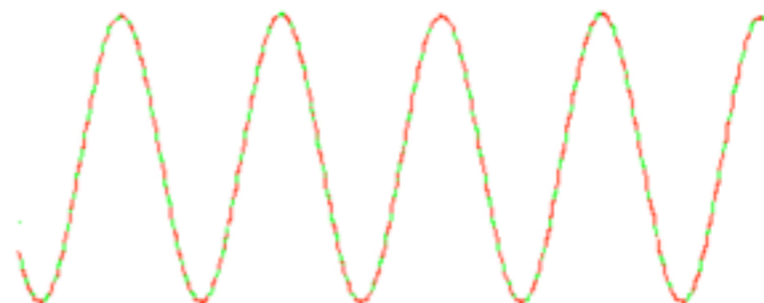
Sampling 1.5 times per cycle



Sampling 2.0 times per cycle



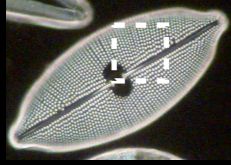
Sampling many times per cycle



Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

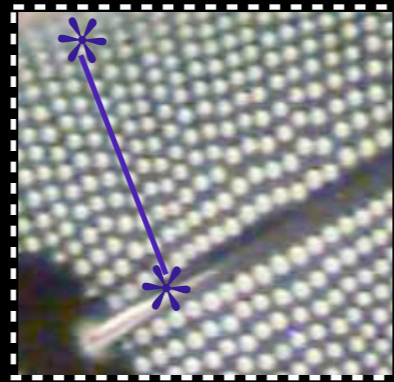
Specimen
Fine Detail



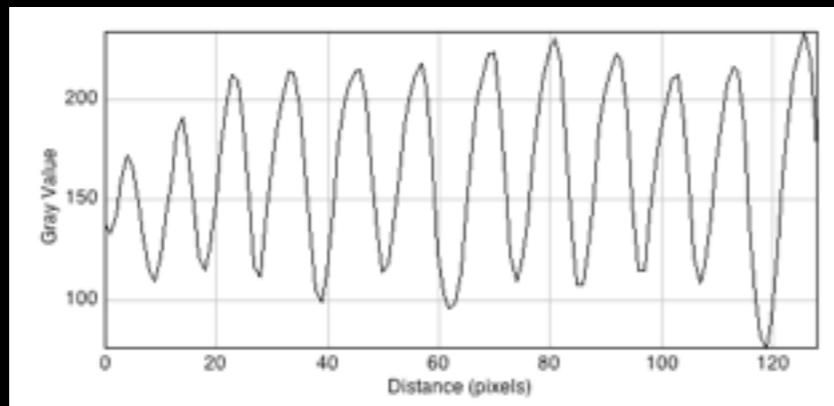
Detail imaged
by microscope



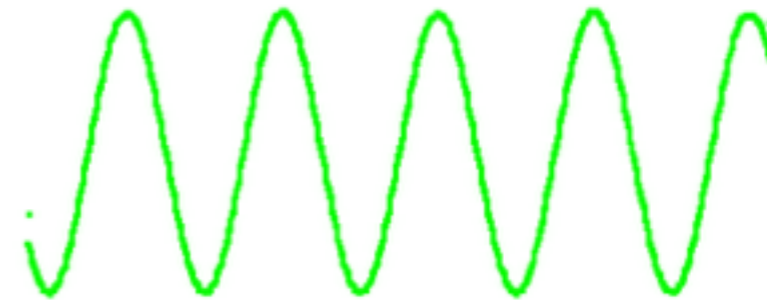
*magnification
*optical resolution



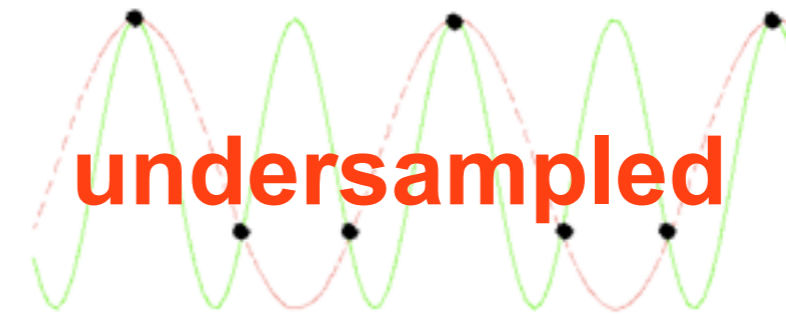
intensity profile ~ a sine wave



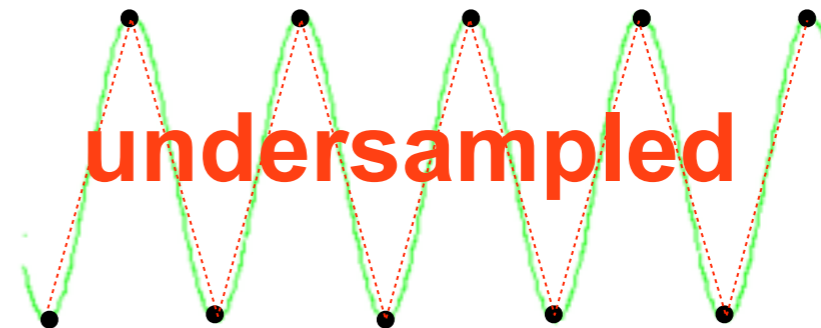
sampling a sine wave



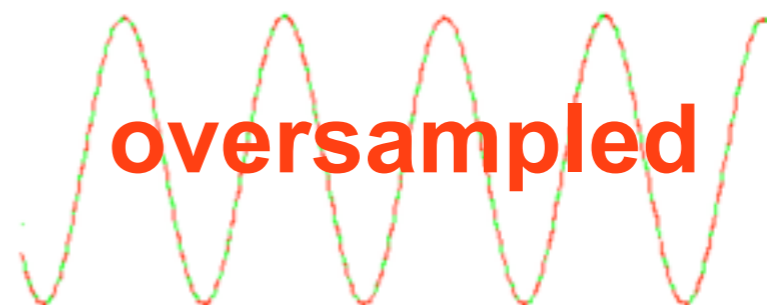
Sampling 1.5 times per cycle



Sampling 2.0 times per cycle



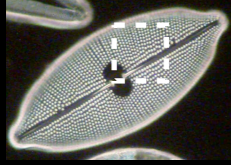
Sampling many times per cycle



Resolution

.....Magnification and Sampling

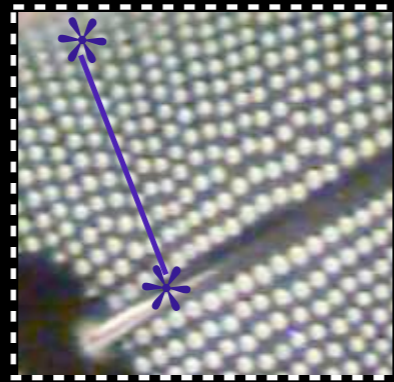
Specimen
Fine Detail



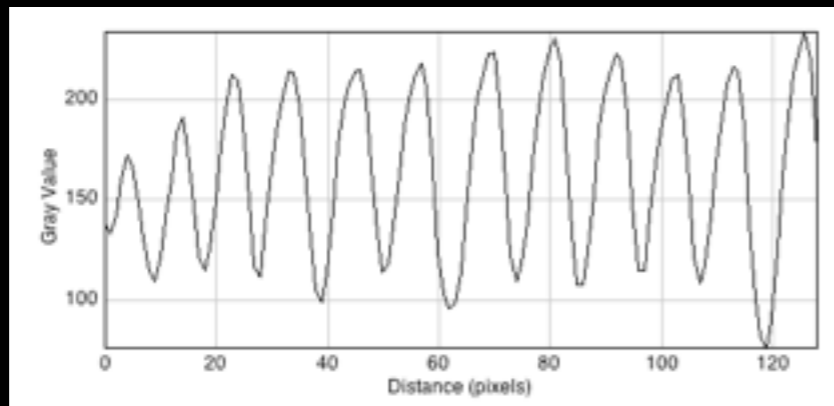
Detail imaged
by microscope



*magnification
*optical resolution

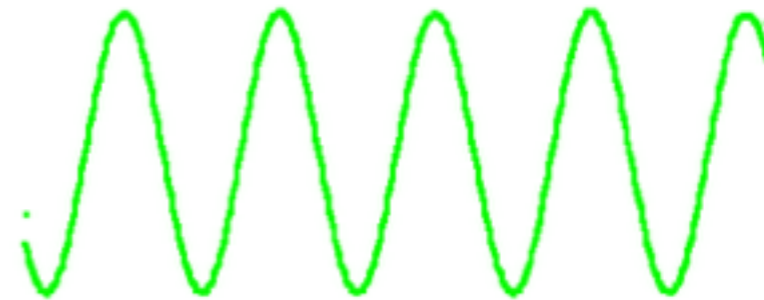


intensity profile ~ a sine wave

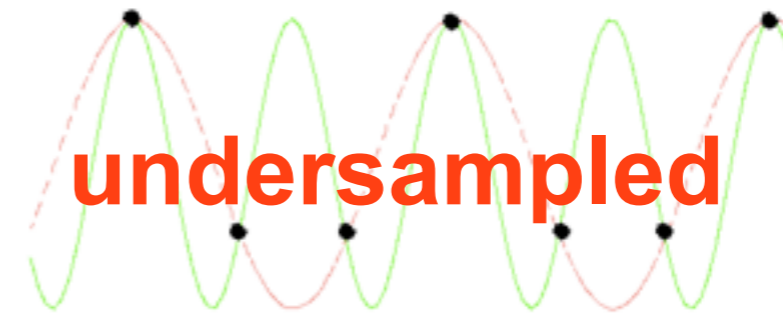


**Optimum = 2.3
times per cycle
= Nyquist
sampling**

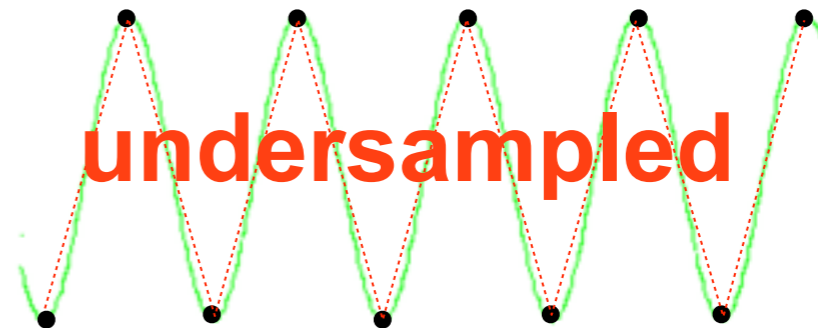
sampling a sine wave



Sampling 1.5 times per cycle



Sampling 2.0 times per cycle



Sampling many times per cycle



ResolutionOptimum Magnification and Sampling

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For optimal imaging the magnification must match the resolution to the detector (eye or camera).....

optimal total mag X resolvable distance = 3x detector element size

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ResolutionOptimum Magnification and Sampling

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Considering **Fluorescence imaging** x100 objective; 1.4 Na; 520 nm emission,.....

total mag	resolvable distance	Detector Element
x100 objective X x1.0 Aux mag	$1.22 \times \lambda 520 / 2Na$	Camera pixel element = 6.6 um (x3 taking into account Nyquist)

ResolutionOptimum Magnification and Sampling

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x100 objective X x1.0 Aux mag	$1.22 \times \lambda 520 / 2Na$	Camera pixel element = 6.6 um (x3 taking into account Nyquist)

$$\text{optimal total mag} = (2Na) \frac{3 \times \text{Detector Element}}{1.22 \times 520 \text{ nm}}$$

≈ 87 times magnification

x100 obj = GOOD SAMPLING

ResolutionOptimum Magnification and Sampling

For optimal imaging the magnification must match the resolution to the detector (eye or camera).....

optimal total mag X resolvable distance = 3x detector element size

.....OR pixel size must be $\sim 1/3$ of the resolution

What is really important in microscopy?

1. Contrast
2. Resolution
3. Sampling
4. **Noise**

Noise / Signal to Noise (S/N)



Noise / Signal to Noise (S/N)



<http://rogewu.comyr.com/brad-pitt-meet-joe-black-wiki.php>

Noise / Signal to Noise (S/N)



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Brigitte Bardot, Jours de France Magazine Cover

Signal to Noise - definitions:

- One of the **most important limitations** to image quality and image processing

$$\text{S:N ratio} = \frac{\text{Signal}}{\text{Variation in the signal}}$$

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$\frac{\text{mean}}{\text{S.D.}}$

Signal to Noise - definitions:

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$$\text{S:N ratio} = \frac{\text{Signal}}{\text{Variation in the signal}}$$

$$\frac{\text{mean}}{\text{S.D.}}$$

- Noise is **NOT** background, auto-fluorescence or dark signal
- Good image data has a **high S:N ratio (>4)**
- Fundamental limit = **Poisson distributed statistics** of photon detection (shot noise)

$$\text{Poisson distributed variation S:N ratio} = \frac{n}{\sqrt{n}}$$

- Statistics of photon counting dictate the **minimum useful signal**

Average signal = 9,	S:N ratio = 3
Average signal = 100,	S:N ratio = 10
Average signal = 10,000,	S:N ratio = 100

A meaningful difference in intensity needs to be **at least** three times the noise level

- Additional sources of noise from **digitisation, detector readout, thermal noise.**

Resolution, contrast, noise

- **Noise limits the contrast which limits the details that can be resolved**
= Noise limits resolution

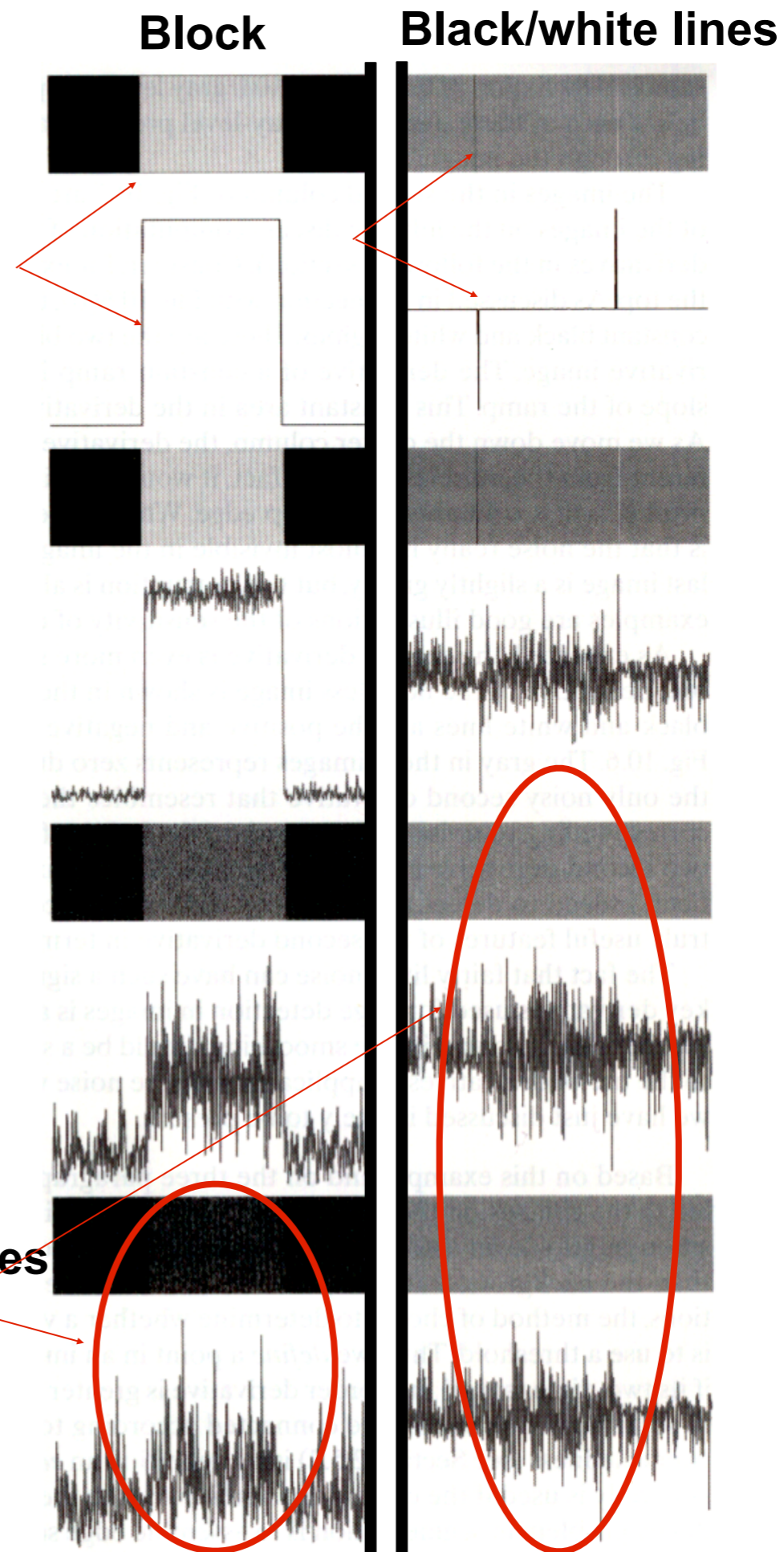
Resolution, contrast, noise

Boundaries and lines
easily resolved in the
absence of noise

Increasing levels of
Gaussian noise

Decreasing S/N

Boundaries and lines
no longer resolved



Resolution, contrast, noise

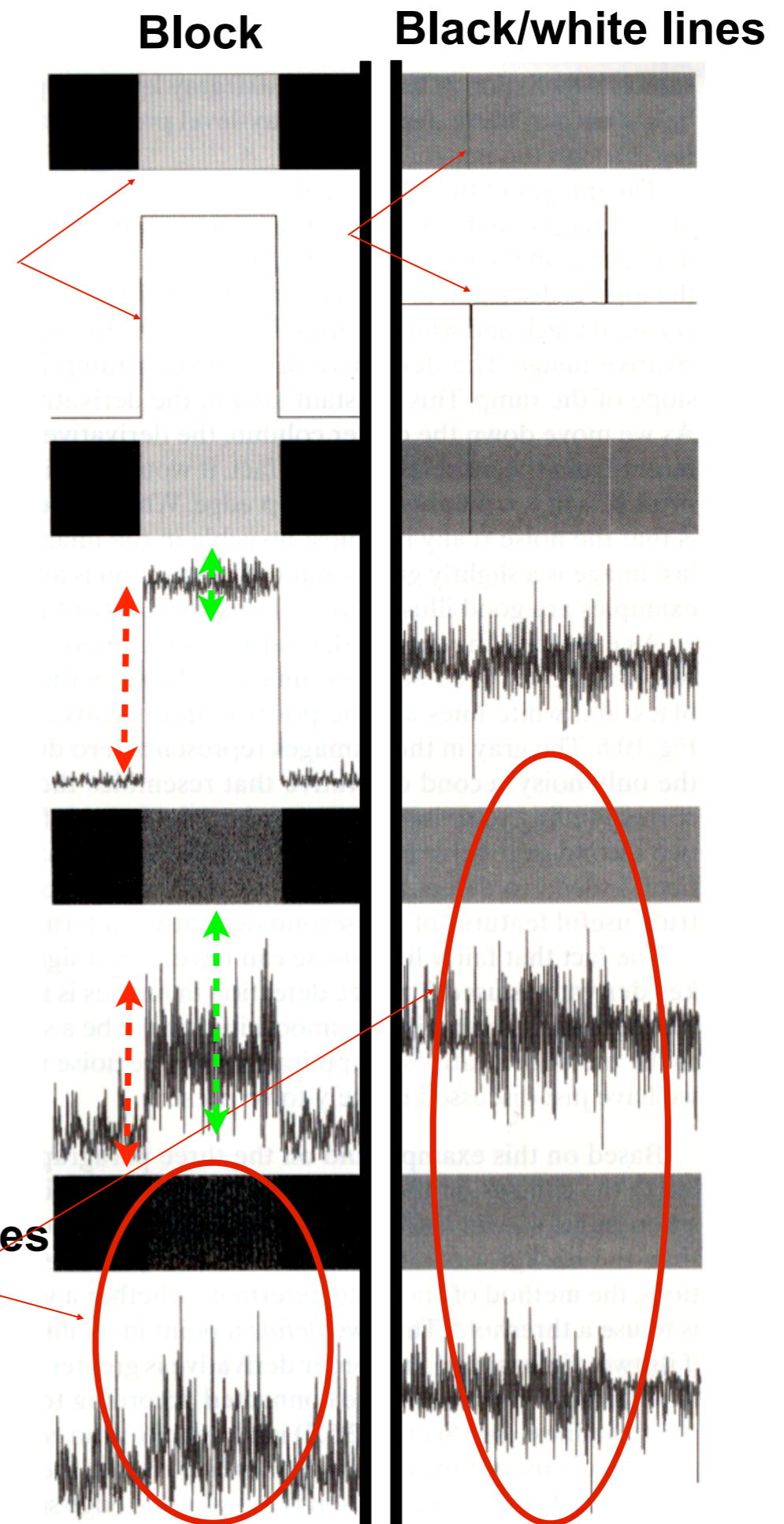
The **difference between signal and background** must be at least 3X the **noise** to be detectable

Boundaries and lines easily resolved in the absence of noise

Increasing levels of Gaussian noise

Decreasing S/N

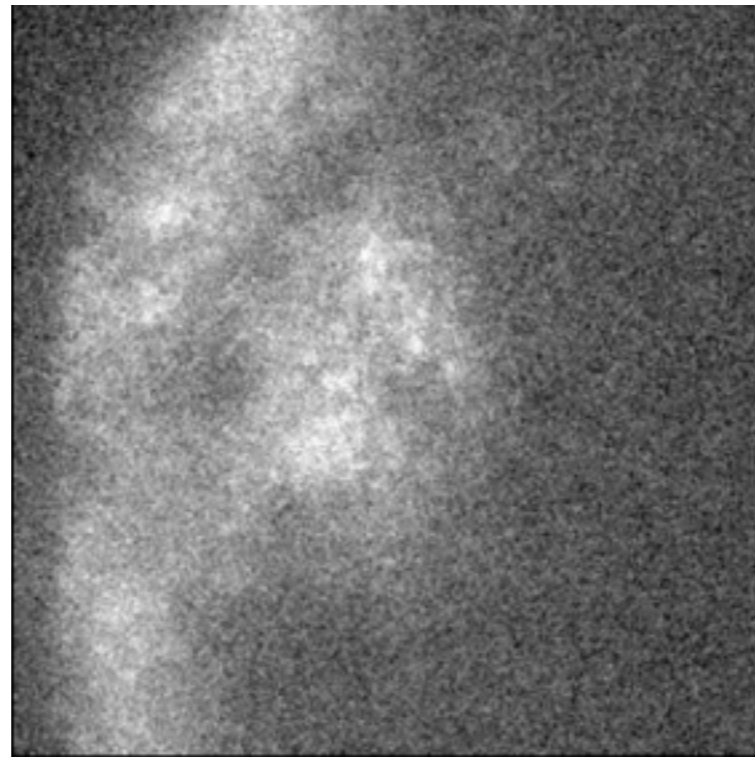
Boundaries and lines no longer resolved



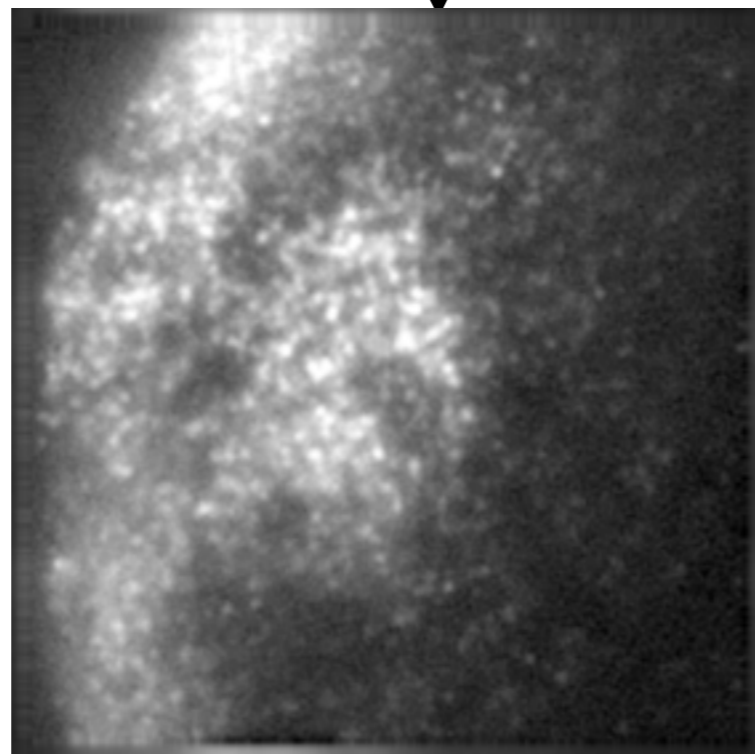
Improving signal to noise

increased signal increases S/N = improved contrast

noisy image
(scaled)



5x integration time



increased number
of photons counted

improved S/N

Which technique do I use?



**Don't make out like you
don't know what to do!**

Optimising your imaging

Optimising your imaging

- * Asking the right questions

Optimising your imaging

- * Asking the right questions
- * Picking the right technique

Optimising your imaging

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- * Picking the right technique
- * Applying the technique well

Optimising your imaging

- * Asking the right questions
- * Picking the right technique
- * Applying the technique well
- * Analysing / interpreting the data properly

Be clear what you want from your experiment

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Qualitative data

Quantitative data

Dynamics

Be clear what you want from your experiment

UP TO YOU

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Be aware of the different techniques

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Be aware of the different techniques

Their strengths

Their weaknesses

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Understand the limitations of your material

Be clear what you want from your experiment

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Qualitative data

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Understand the limitations of your material

Viability

Thickness

Brightness

Be clear what you want from your experiment

UP TO YOU

Qualitative data
Quantitative data
Dynamics

Be aware of the different techniques

VISIT A FACILITY

Their strengths
Their weaknesses
Their availability

Understand the limitations of your material

***DISCUSS YOUR
APPLICATION***

Viability
Thickness
Brightness

Which technique do I use?

Which technique do I use?

Bright field / fluorescence (contrast generation)

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Bright field / fluorescence (contrast generation)

Live cell imaging

Fixed material imaging

(dynamics vs detail)

Which technique do I use?

Bright field / fluorescence (contrast generation)

Live cell imaging
Fixed material imaging (dynamics vs detail)

Confocal techniques (scanning, optical sectioning)

Wide field techniques (Speed, sensitivity)

Lectures 6 & 7

Which technique do I use?

Bright field / fluorescence (contrast generation)

Live cell imaging
Fixed material imaging (dynamics vs detail)
Lectures 4 & 6

Confocal techniques (scanning, optical sectioning)

Wide field techniques (Speed, sensitivity)

Lectures 6 & 7

Super-resolution techniques

Techniques for molecular scale dynamics / interactions

Lectures 8-11



END

Reference Material

<http://www.olympusmicro.com/>

Very comprehensive and well written

<http://micro.magnet.fsu.edu/primer/anatomy/anatomy.html>

Very comprehensive

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