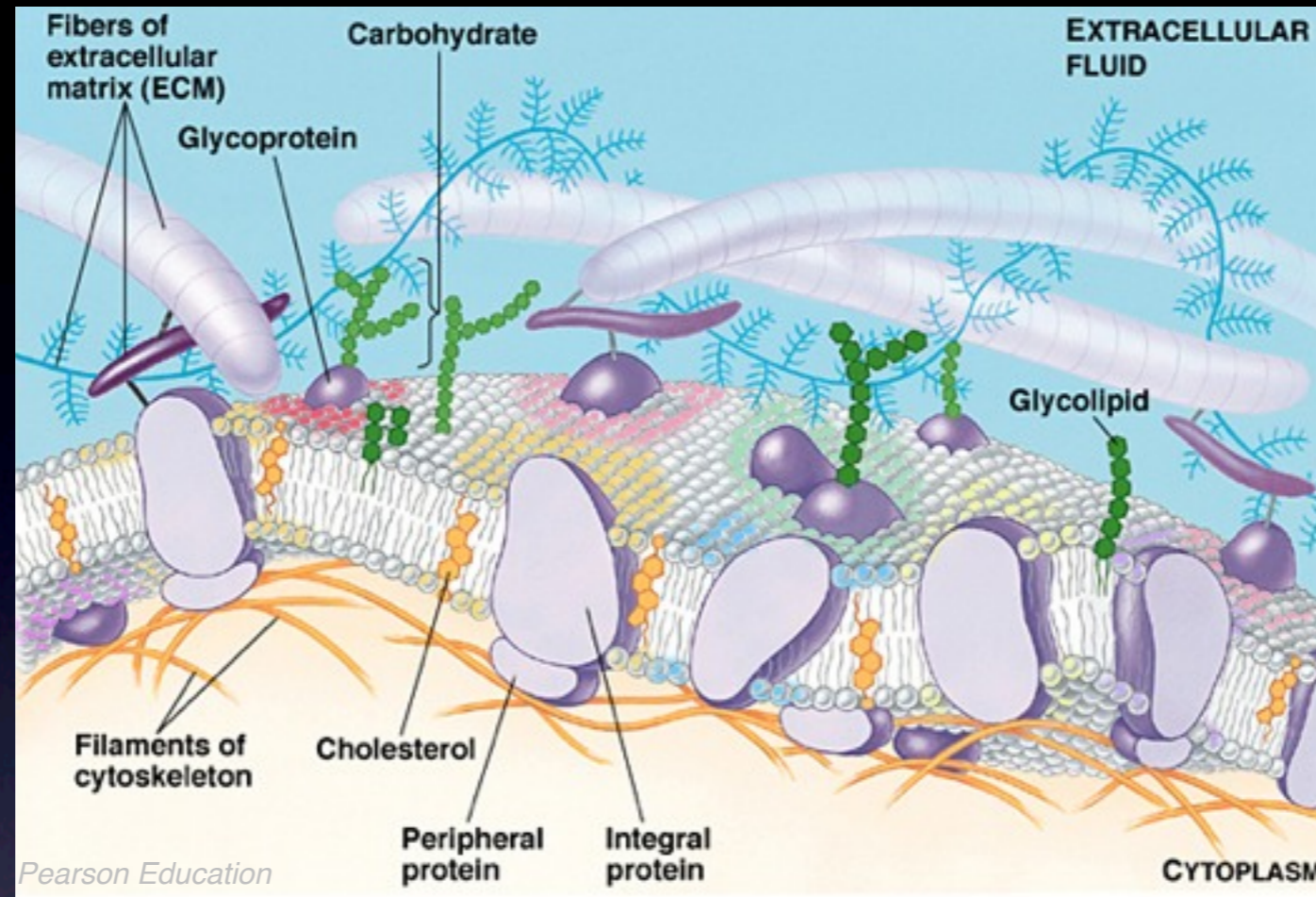


Imagerie et spectroscopie de fluorescence par excitation non radiative comment s'affranchir de la limite de diffraction

Rodolphe Jaffiol,
Cyrille Vézy, Marcelina Cardoso Dos Santos

LNIO, UTT, Troyes
NanoBioPhotonics group <http://lnio.utt.fr>

Motivations :



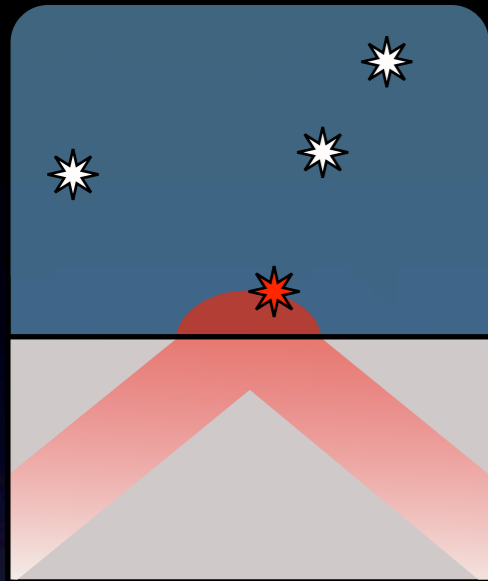
Fluorescence nano-imaging

nanoscale spectroscopy
nano-FCS

FCS : Fluorescence Correlation Spectroscopy

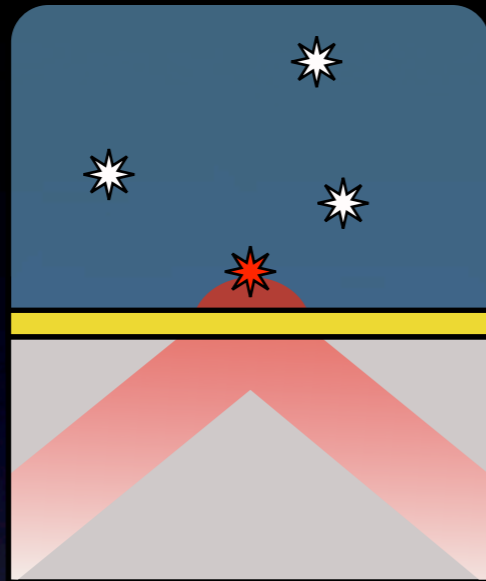
State of the art

TIRFM



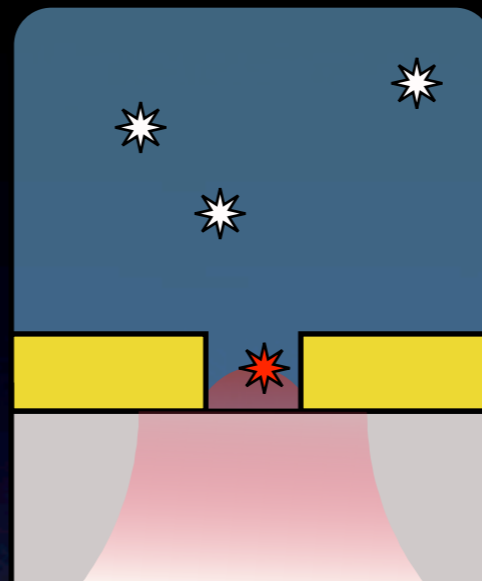
Opt Lett 29 (2004) 569

Surface plasmon



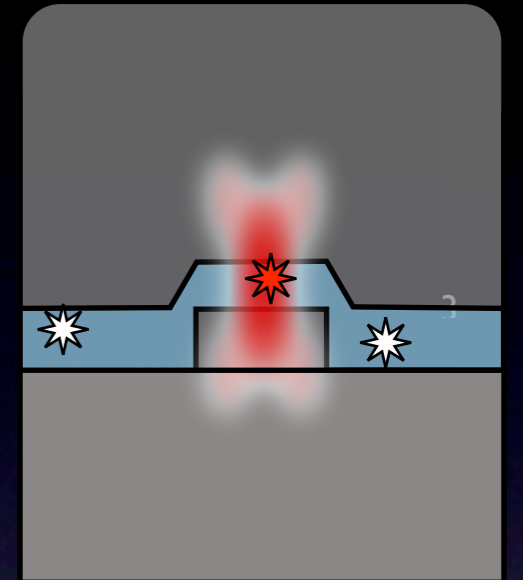
Opt Exp 14 (2006) 7878

nano-hole



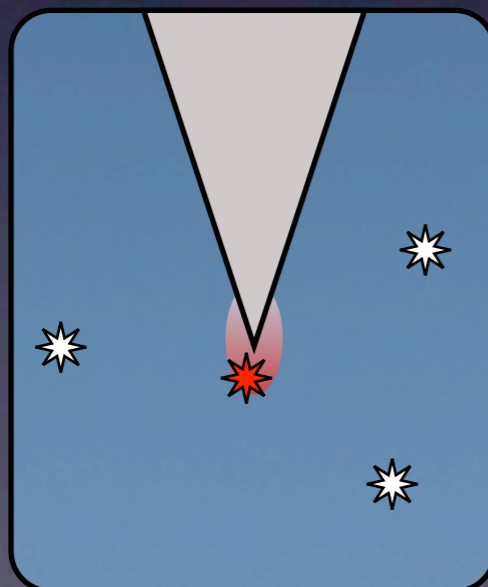
Science 299 (2005) 682
PRL 95 (2005) 117101

sub- μm fluidic system



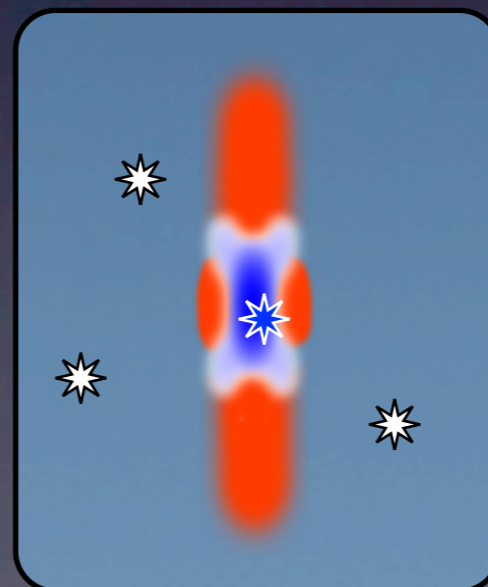
Anal Chem 76 (2004) 1618

SNOM-NFOM



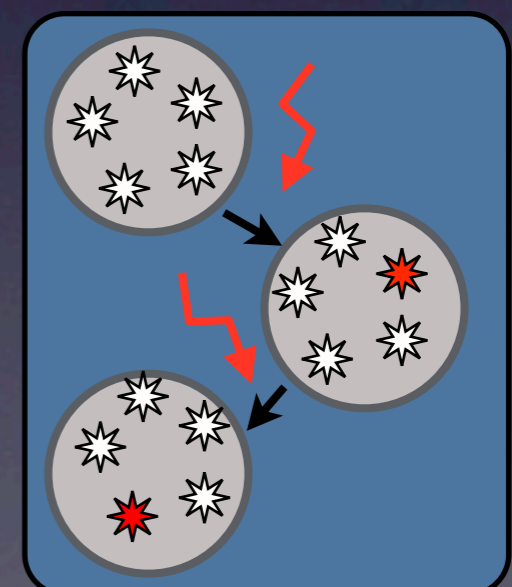
APL 93 (2008) 163904

STED



PRL 94 (2005) 178104

STORM / PALM



Nat. Methods 3 (2006) 793

objectives



The goal : local illumination with conventional microscope ?

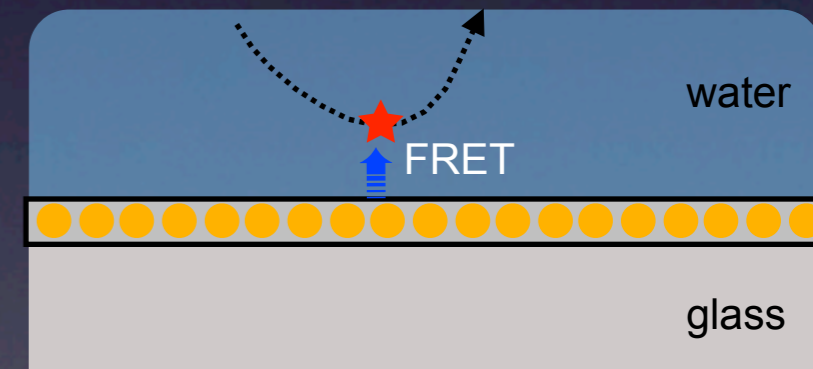
- The technique:
- ◆ based on a new design of the substrate
 - ◆ compatible with conventional techniques of observation in biology such as: phase contrast, DIC...

→ The method is based on the “activation” of the glass substrate:



thin film of Quantum dots (Qdots) in PMMA (thickness $\approx 10\text{nm}$)

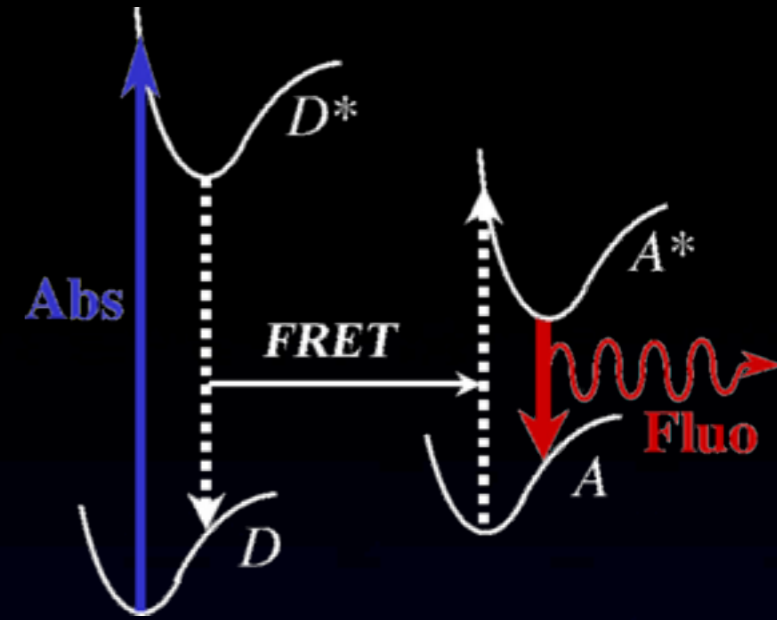
“monolayer” of Qdots



→ The concept: The illumination of the sample will not be done directly by the laser, but through a Förster non-radiative energy transfer (FRET) from the QDots to dyes

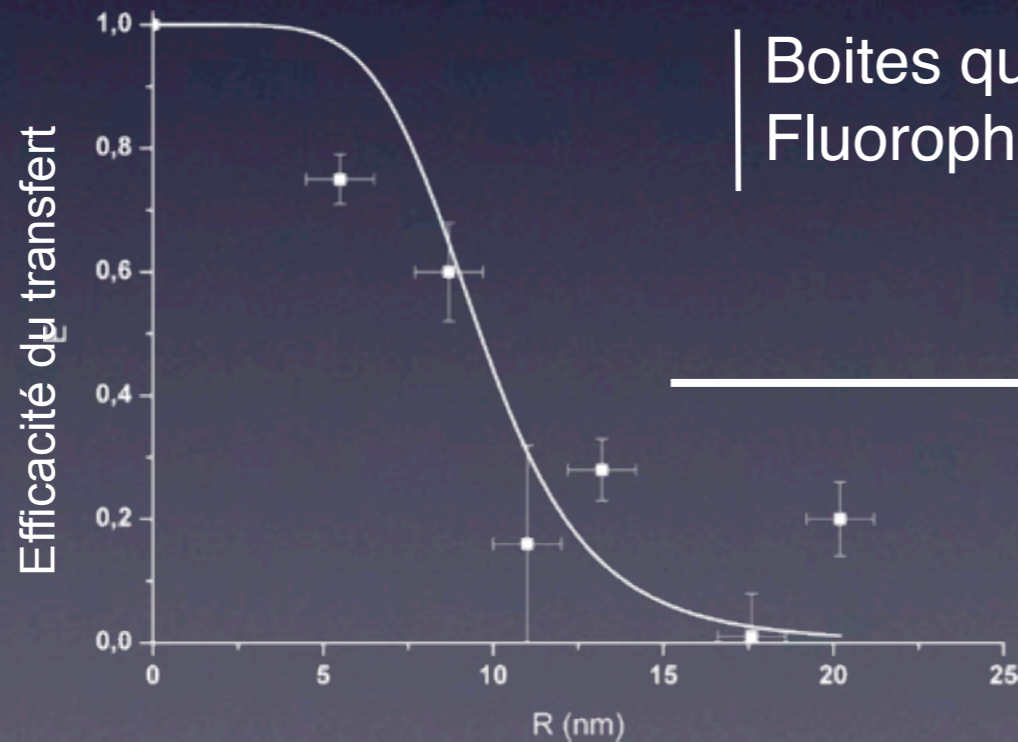
FRET

Taux de transfert :
$$k_{Förster} = \frac{1}{\tau_D} \left(\frac{R_0}{R} \right)^6 \propto \frac{\Phi_D}{\tau_D} \frac{I_R}{R^6}$$



→ Dépendance en R^{-6} → forte sélectivité spatiale

R_0 : distance de Förster (efficacité de transfert de 50%)



Boîtes quantiques : FortOrange (Evident Technologies)
Fluorophore : Alexa647 (Invitrogen)

$$R_0^{\text{exp}} = 9.6 \pm 0.4 \text{ nm}$$

$$(R_0^{\text{th}} \approx 9.4 \text{ nm})$$

Qdots advantages

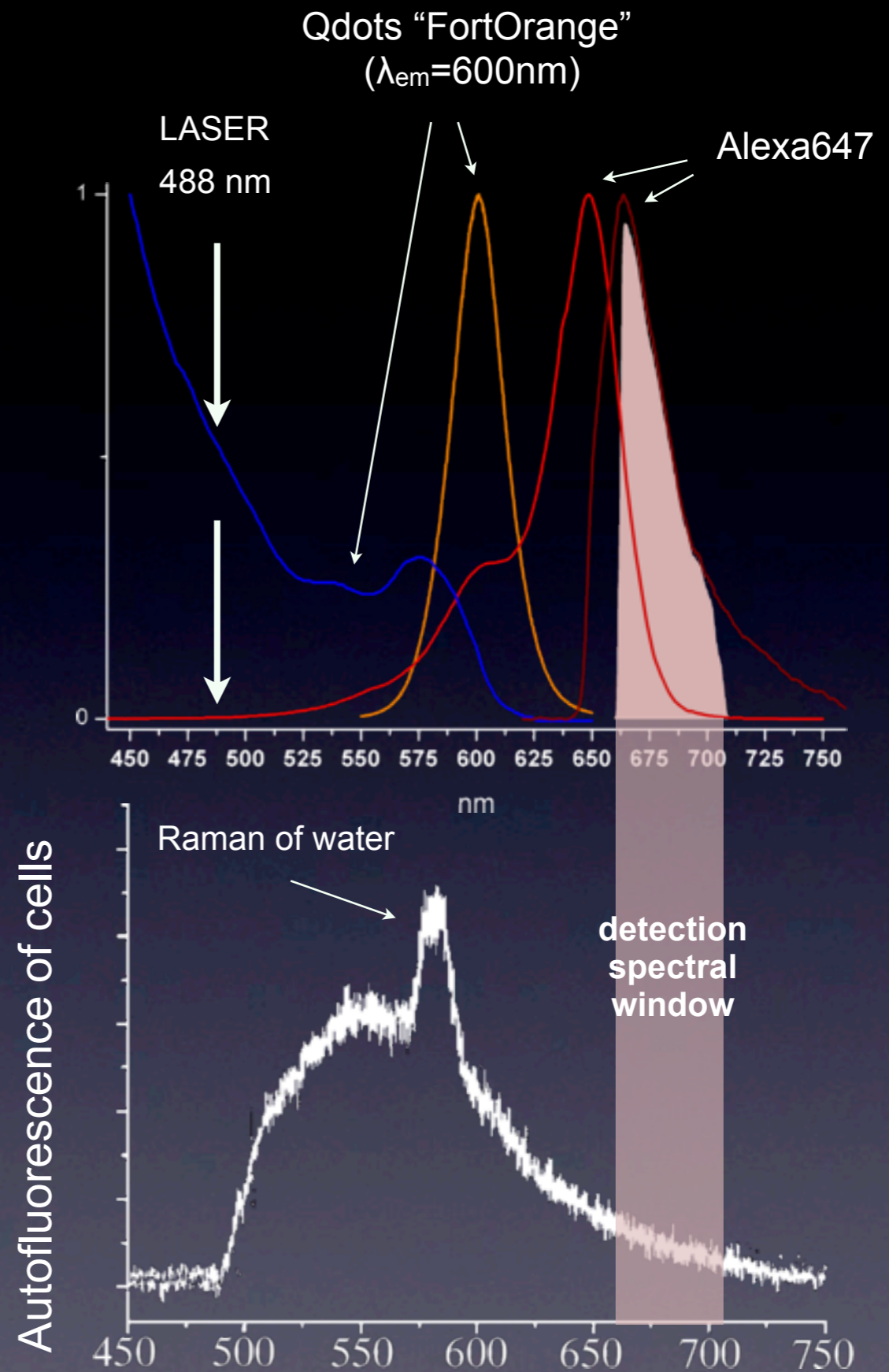
- ◆ high photo-stability in regards to photobleaching
- ◆ important stoke shift



definitively eliminates the autofluorescence of cells and Raman scattering of water...



avoids the direct excitation of the acceptor (Alexa647)



FCS in nano-volume: *motivations*

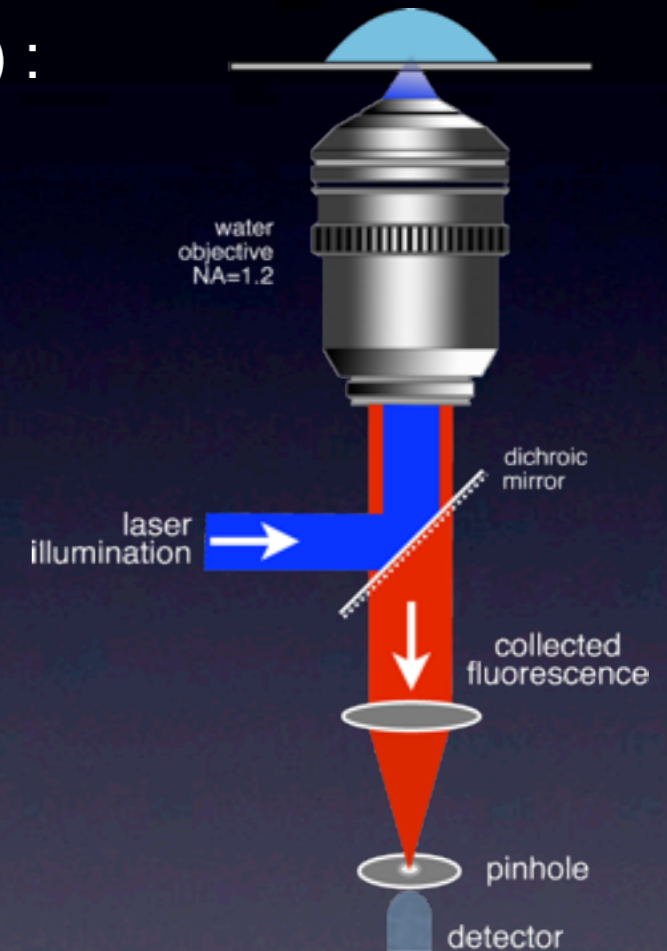
in Biology

Limitations of “conventional FCS” (based on confocal setup) :

$$V_{\text{eff}} \approx 0.2 - 1 \mu\text{m}^3$$

Concentration working range : sub-nM to $\approx 50\text{nM}$

Use of ultra pure solvents (\rightarrow background)
ultra purified water, PBS for in vivo observation...

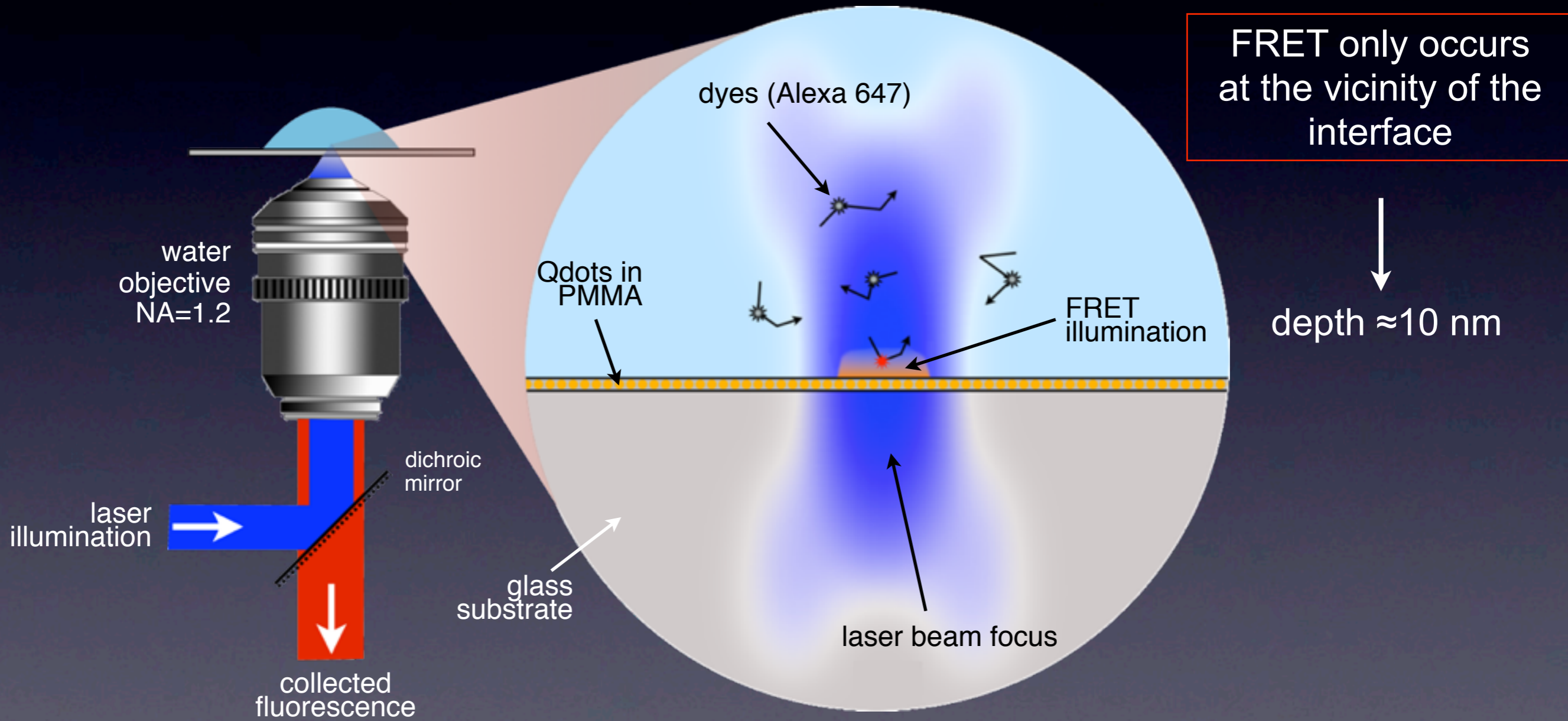


Motivations: extend the concentration working range to μM or higher

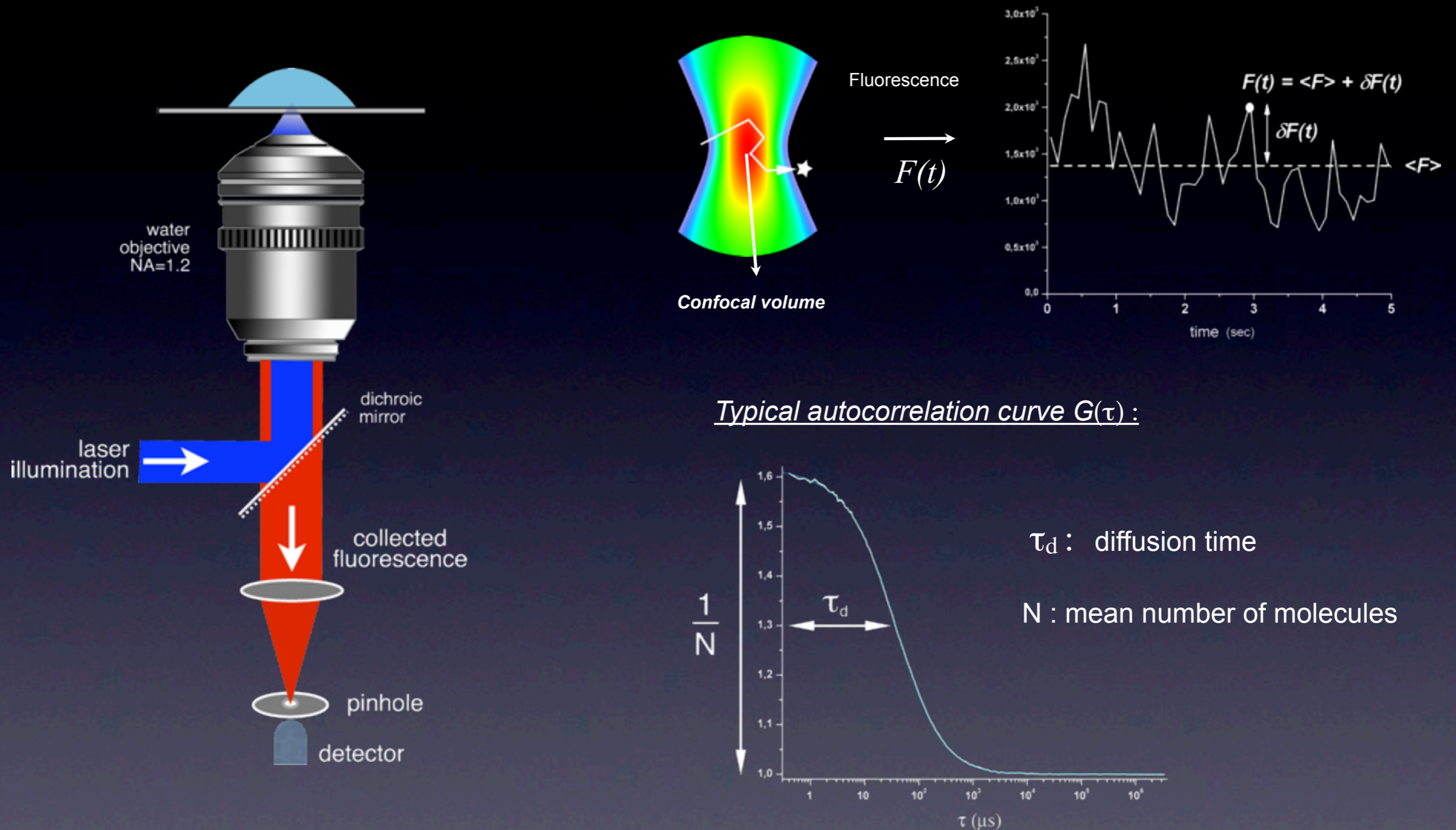
FCS in a confined volume



The excitation of Alexa647 will not be done directly by a focused laser beam, but through a FRET process



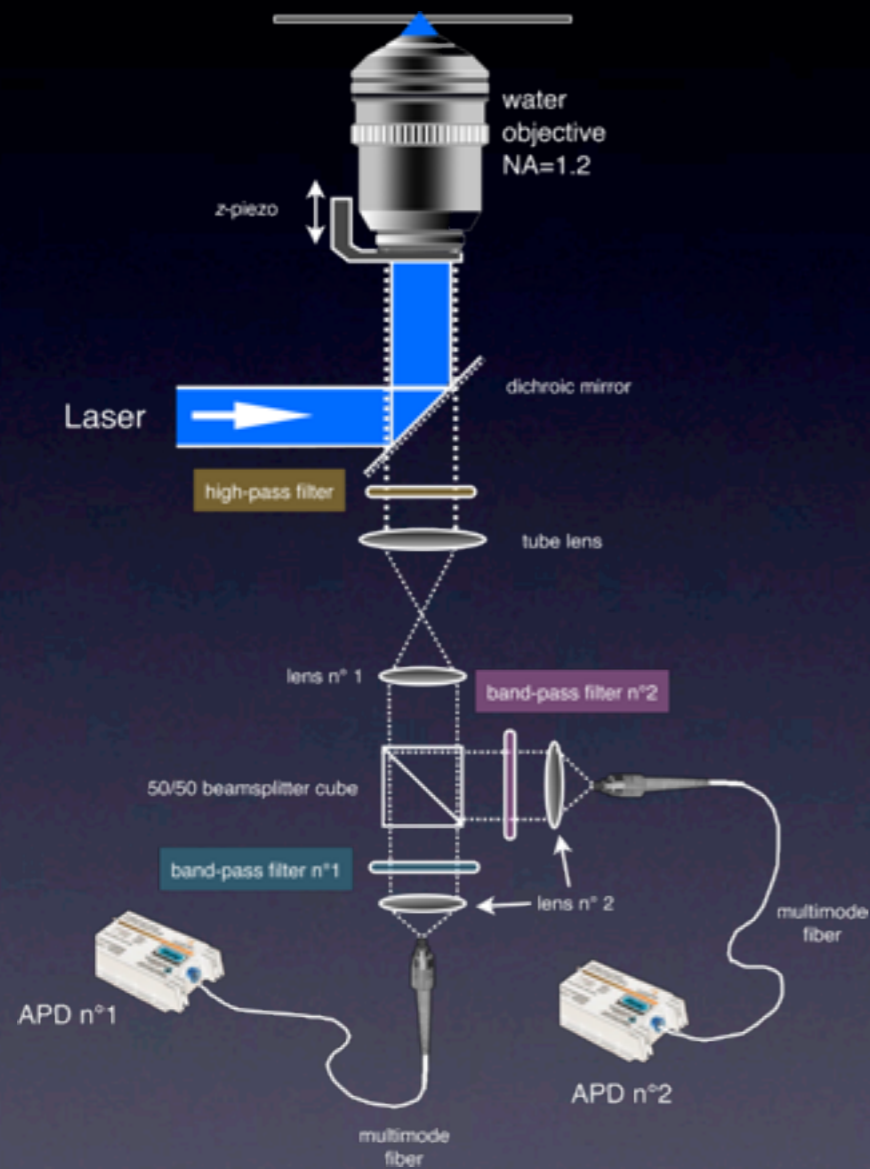
FCS: fluorescence Correlation Spectroscopy



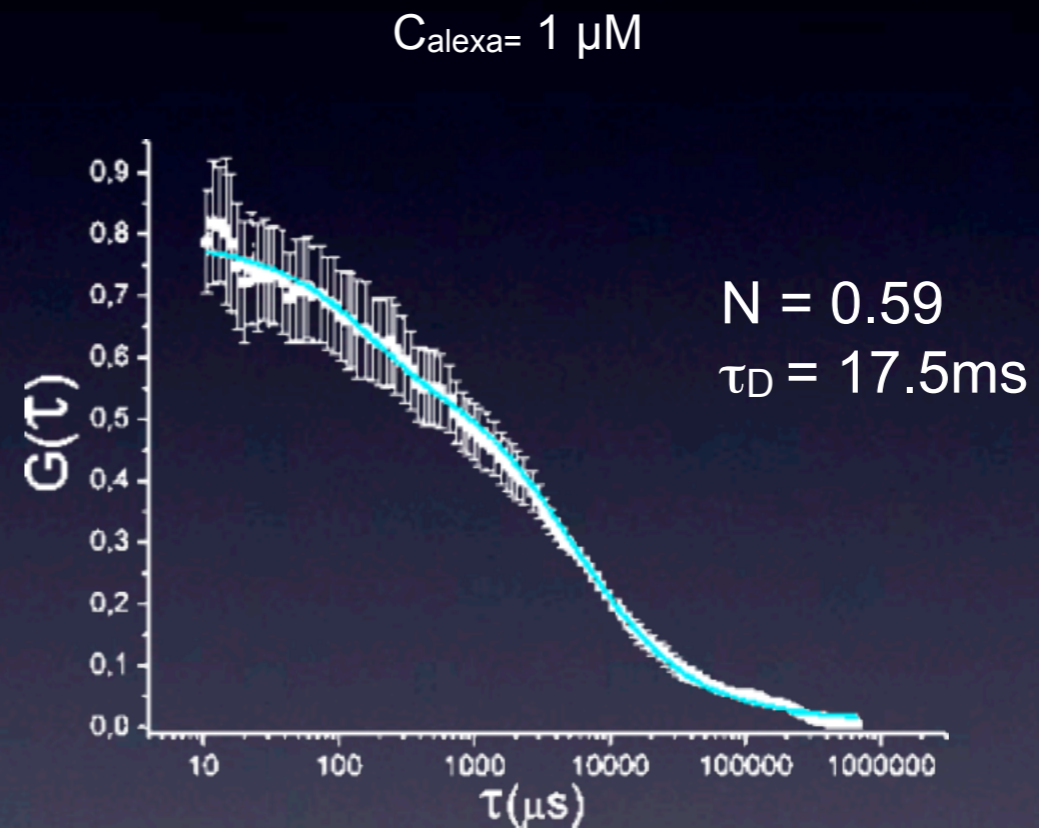
FCS : autocorrelation of the collected fluorescence signal $F(t)$ emitted from dye molecules diffusing through the confocal volume

FCS in a confined volume

The confocal microscope:

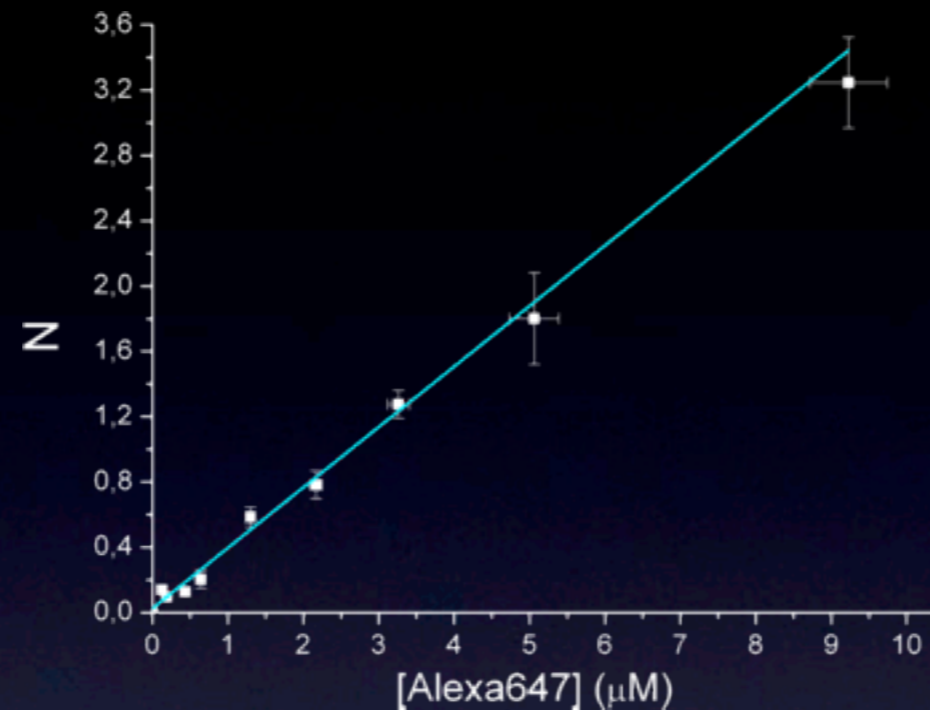


Experimental ACF @ 405nm with Alexa647 in water:



Laser power @ 405nm : $\approx 100 \text{ nW}$

FCS at high concentrations



$$N = V_{\text{eff}} \cdot C$$

→ The effective observation volume @ 405nm:

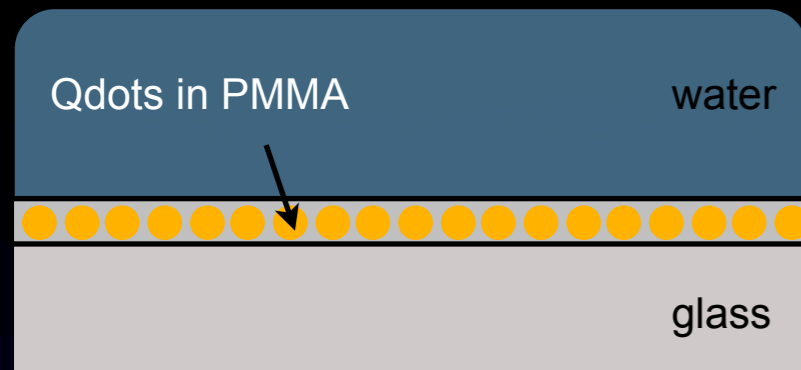
$$V_{\text{eff}} = 0.62 \pm 0.03 \text{ aL (attolitre)}$$

↳ ≈ 700 times smaller than confocal one (@ 632.8nm)

(@ 488 nm: $V_{\text{eff}} = 2.15 \pm 0.05 \text{ aL}$)

strong reduction of V_{eff} :
allows a concentration working range in FCS up to 10 µM !

Application to cell adhesion



- PMMA totally biocompatible for cell culture
- PMMA is hydrophobic → perfect for cell adhesion



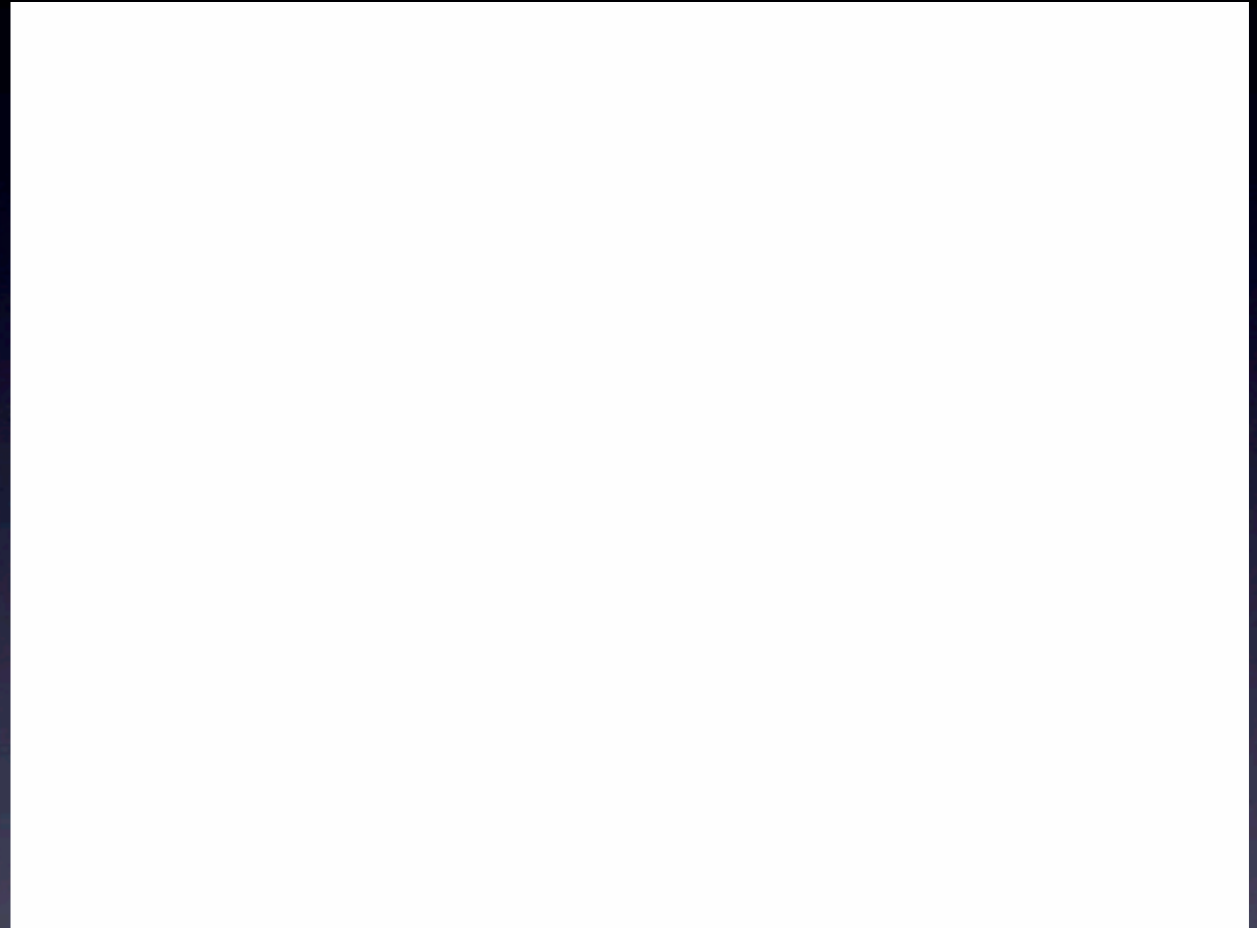
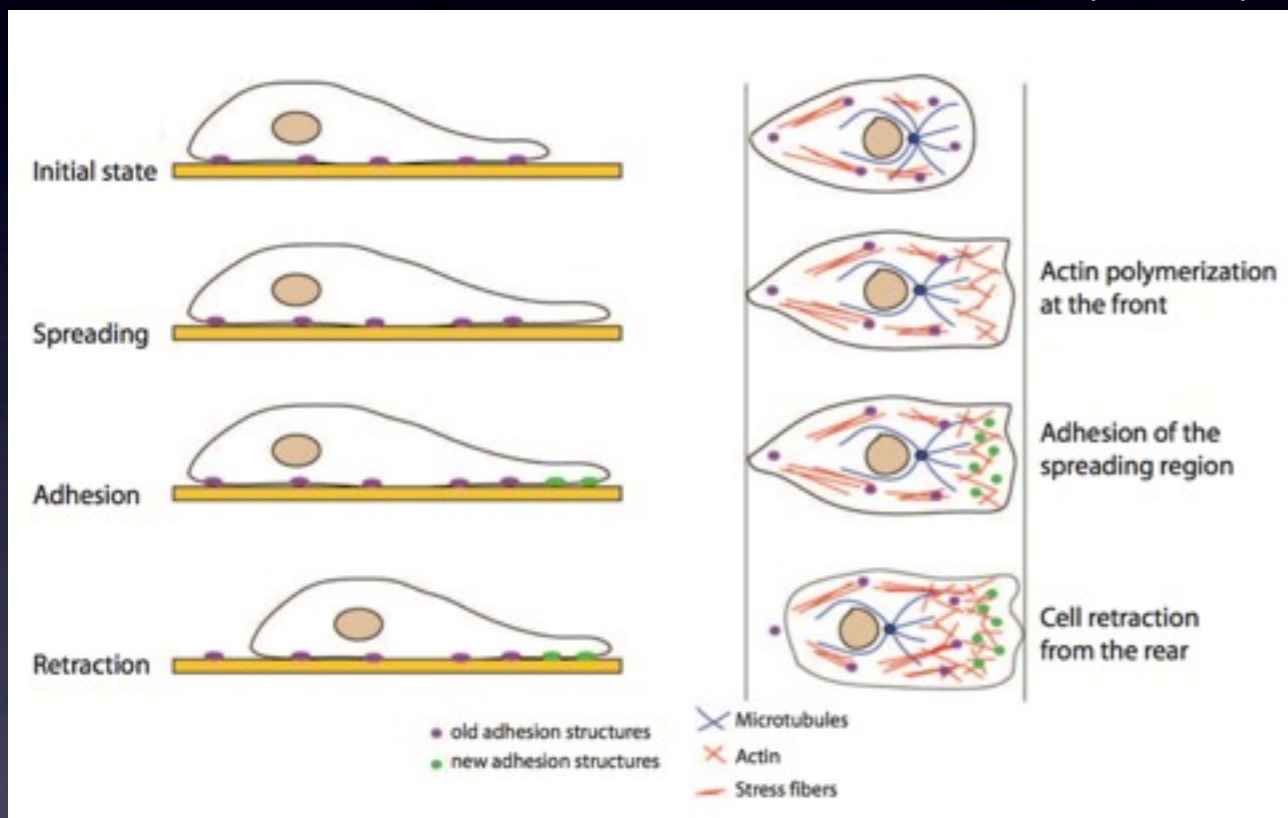
Cell spreading on a surface is associated with important functional changes relevant to survival, proliferation, migration processes... of cells.

The specific junction between cell and surface takes place at the plasma membrane level.

→ the functional units of adhesive contact include multiprotein complexes (integrins, FAKs...) linked to actin filaments.

cell migration

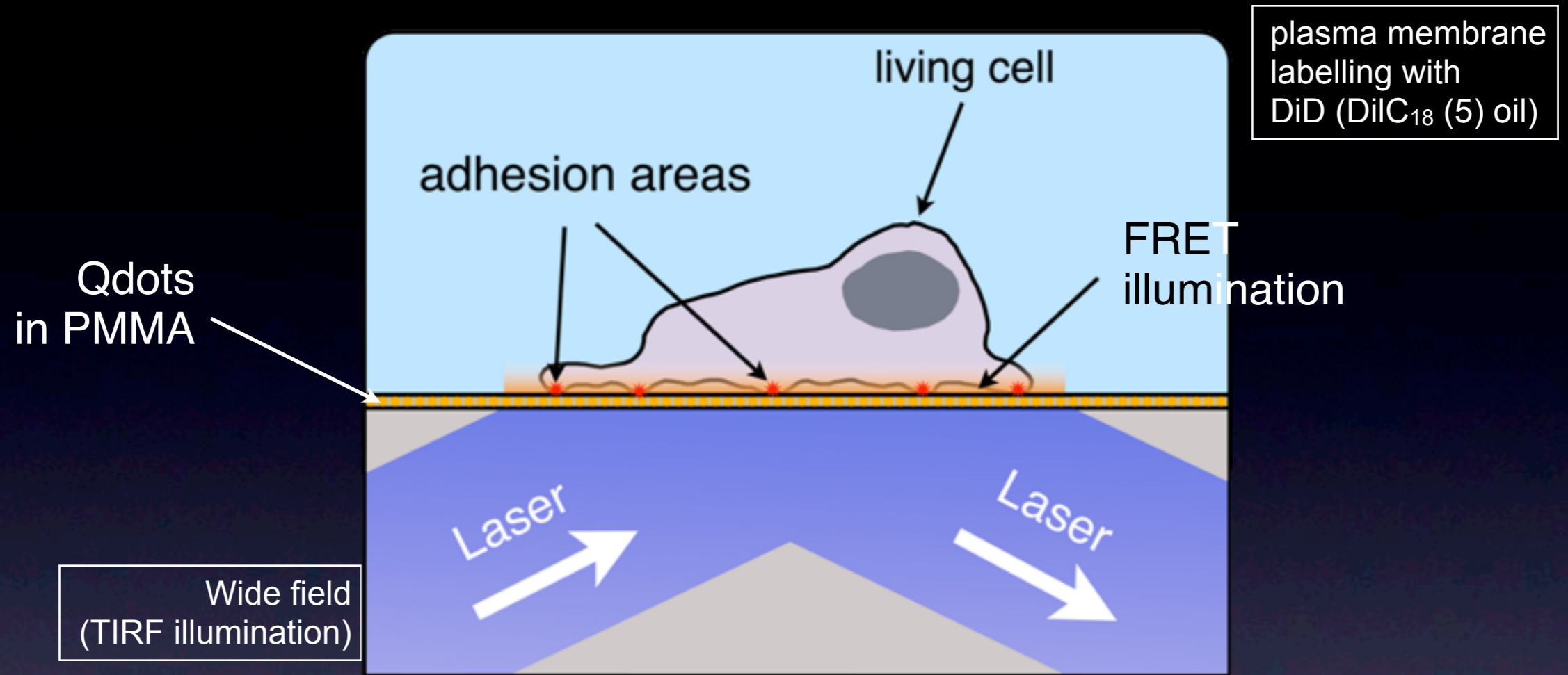
Thèse L. Golé (LPCML)

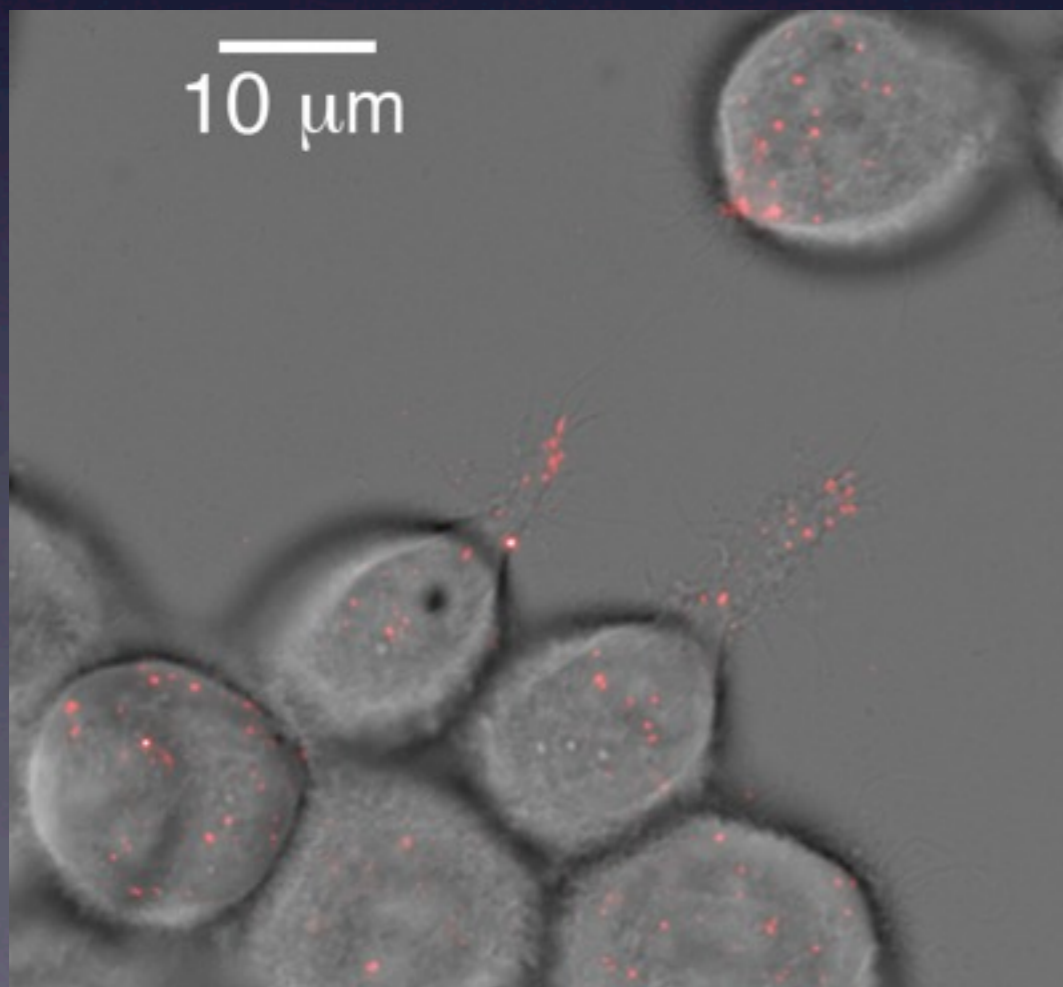
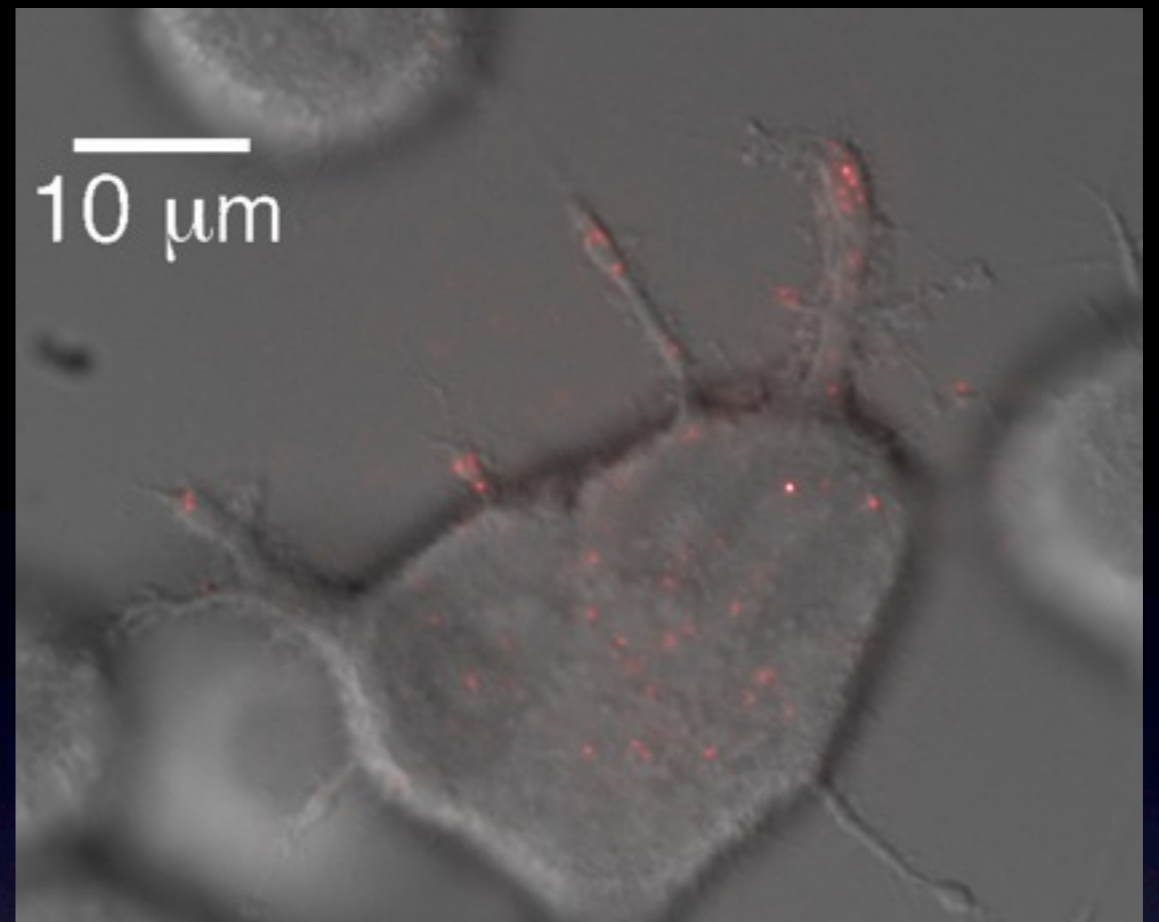
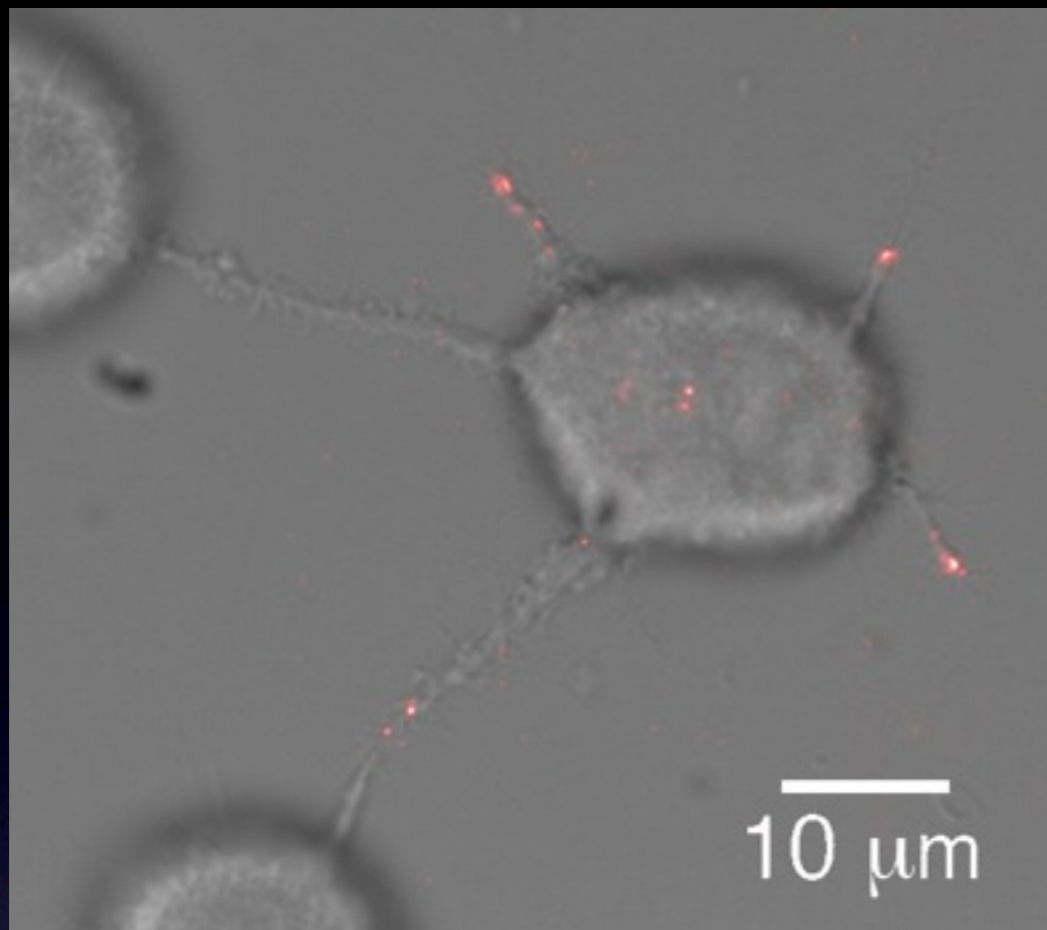


movie :

MDCKII cells @37°C
DIC (x60, 0N=1.45)
146 c 109 μm^2

Cell adhesion





Images of adhesion areas

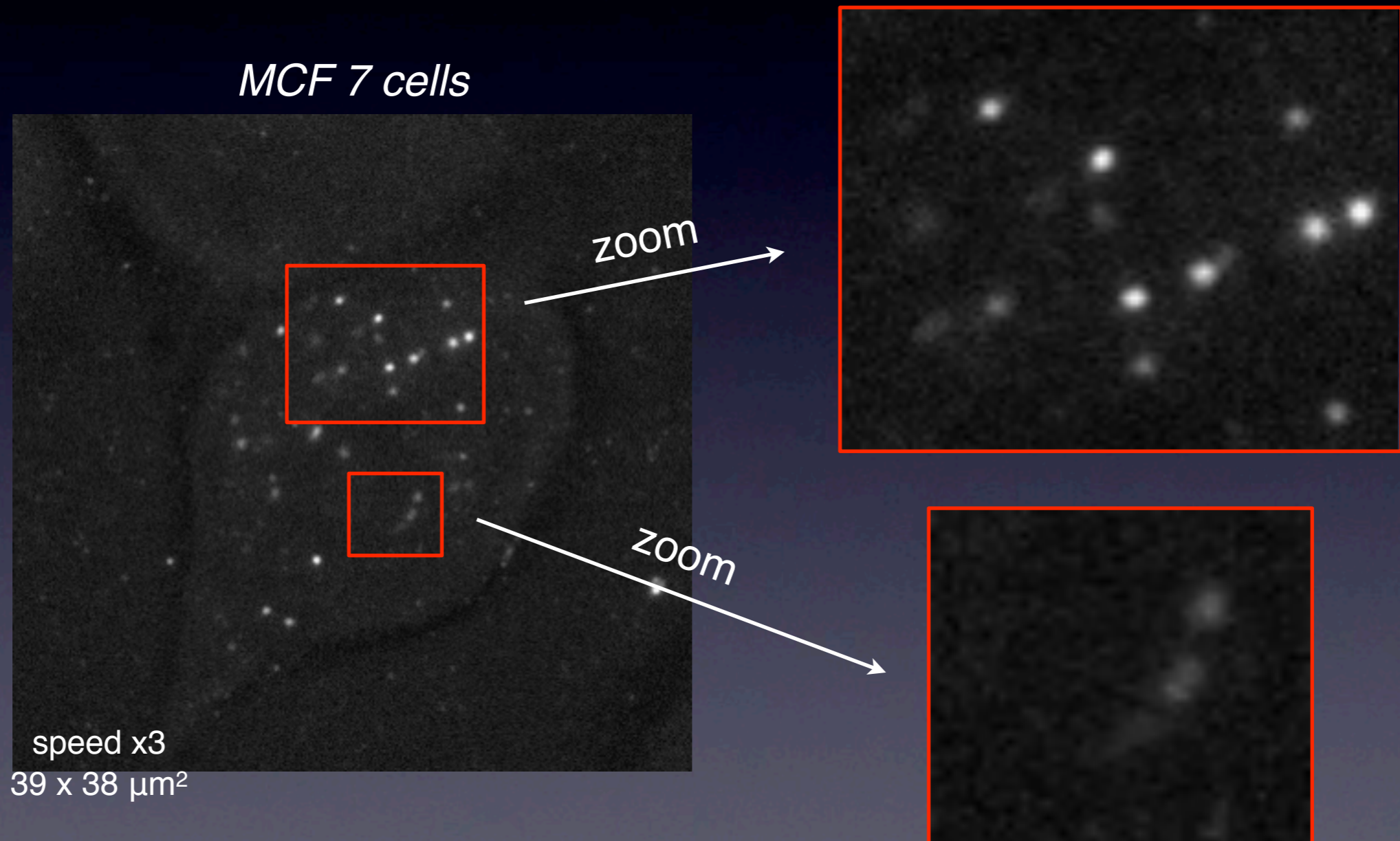
(MCF-7 human breast cancer cells)

in red scale: FRET illumination image

in grey scale: DIC picture

Cell adhesion

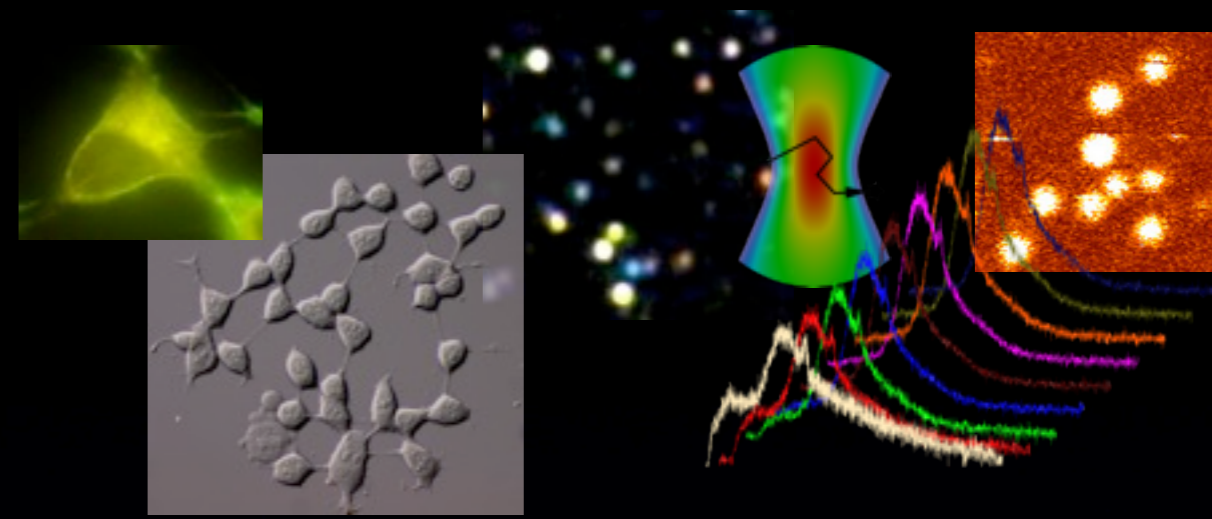
→ towards a dynamic view of cell adhesion:



Conclusions

- ◆ We propose a new scheme for local illumination, based on non-radiative energy transfer
 - strong reduction of the excitation depth (≈ 10 nm)
- ◆ This new illumination scheme was employed to observe cell adhesion

P. Winckler, R. Jaffiol, J. Plain & P. Royer,
Nonradiative Excitation Fluorescence: Probing Volumes Down to the Attoliter Range,
J. Phys Chem. Letters
vol 1 (2010) p 2451-2454



Funding :



Thank you for your attention !