



COLLEGE of AMERICAN  
PATHOLOGISTS

# Artificial Intelligence Applications for Ex Vivo Microscopy

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CAP DCPC Member

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- **Acting instructor at the University of Washington with a subspecialty practice in genitourinary pathology.**
- **Research focuses on using Ex Vivo Microscopy and machine learning to improve prostate cancer diagnostics**
- **Served on the CAP In Vivo Microscopy Committee since 2016.**



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# Conflict of Interest Statement

**Dr. Reder is a cofounder, CEO, and equity holder in a startup company, Lightspeed Microscopy Inc, that is commercializing open-top light-sheet microscopy. His financial/fiduciary interests have been reviewed and are managed by the University of Washington (UW) in accordance with their conflict of interest policies. He additionally has UW-owned patents that are licensed by LightSpeed Microscopy Inc.**

# Outline

- EVM overview
- Clinical applications
- EVM technologies
- Artificial intelligence and EVM
  - Image processing
  - Quantification
  - Molecular inference
- What's next?

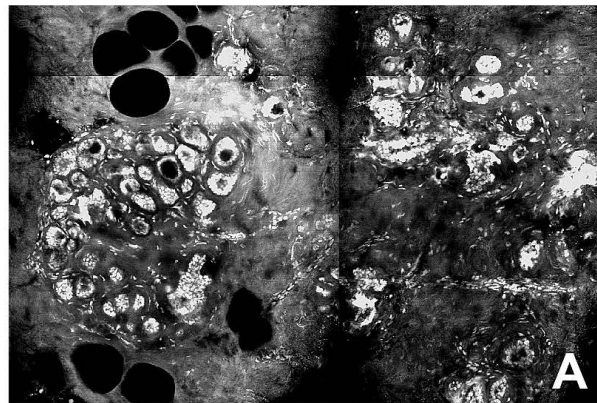
# Ex Vivo Microscopy

Definition and background information

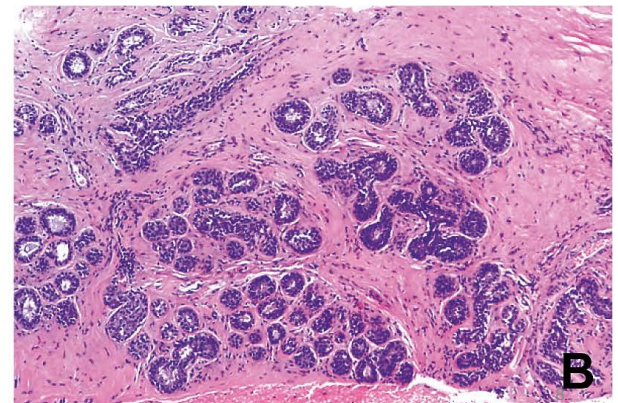
# Ex Vivo Microscopy (EVM)

- High resolution images obtained from tissue samples
- Rapid and in real time
- Non-destructive, preserves the tissue
- No tissue processing needed
- +/- exogenous dyes

Breast



Images courtesy Savitri Krishnamurthy MD, FCAP:  
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center





# Advantages of EVM

- **Rapid results**
- **Compact, benchtop, easy to set up**
- **Tissue remains intact and undamaged**
- **Does not interfere with currently utilized tissue processing for histology**
- **Can visualize tissue in three dimensions**
- **Allows for enhanced assessment of stroma and blood vessels**

# Ex Vivo Microscopy

## Clinical applications

# Applications for Pathology Practice

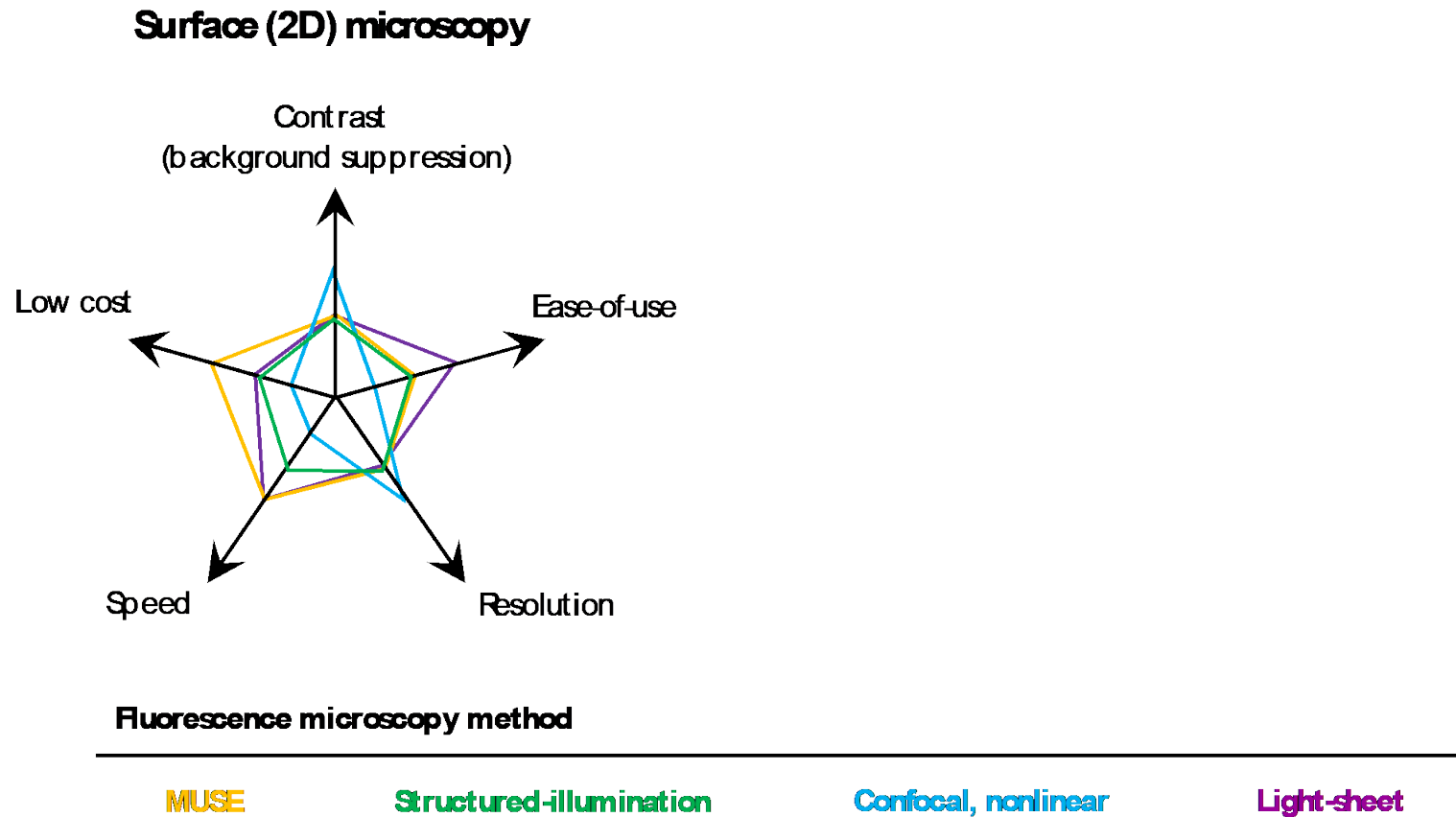
Setting	Pathology Application	Examples of How Pathologist Could Use EVM
Intra-Operative	Margin assessment	Identify tumor margins in breast resections
Intra-Procedural	Needle biopsies & aspirates	Assess adequacy of needle biopsies and aspirates
Gross Examination	Block selection	Identify areas with highest grade lesion in resection for Barrett's Esophagus
Genomic-Molecular Studies	Tissue triaging-selection	Accurately select tumor and conserve tissue without the need for frozen or permanent sections
Biobanking	Tissue triaging-selection	Accurately select tumor and conserve tissue without the need for frozen or permanent section

Source: College of American Pathologists' In Vivo Microscopy Committee

# Ex Vivo Microscopy

## EVM Technologies

# Each EVM technology has tradeoffs



# Incomplete list of emerging EVM technologies

- **Label-free**
  - Stimulated Raman Scattering
- **Fluorescence methods**
  - MUSE
  - Confocal
  - Multiphoton / Two-photon / Non-linear
  - Structured Illumination
  - Light-sheet

# AI and EVM

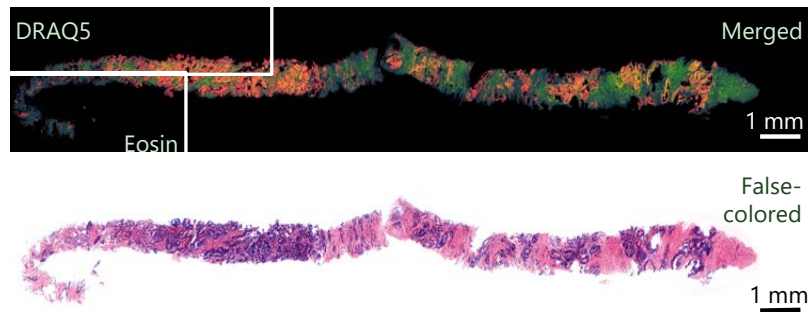
Image processing

Quantification

Molecular inference

# Image processing: Pseudocoloring

**Motivation:** H&E histology is the current gold standard for disease diagnosis

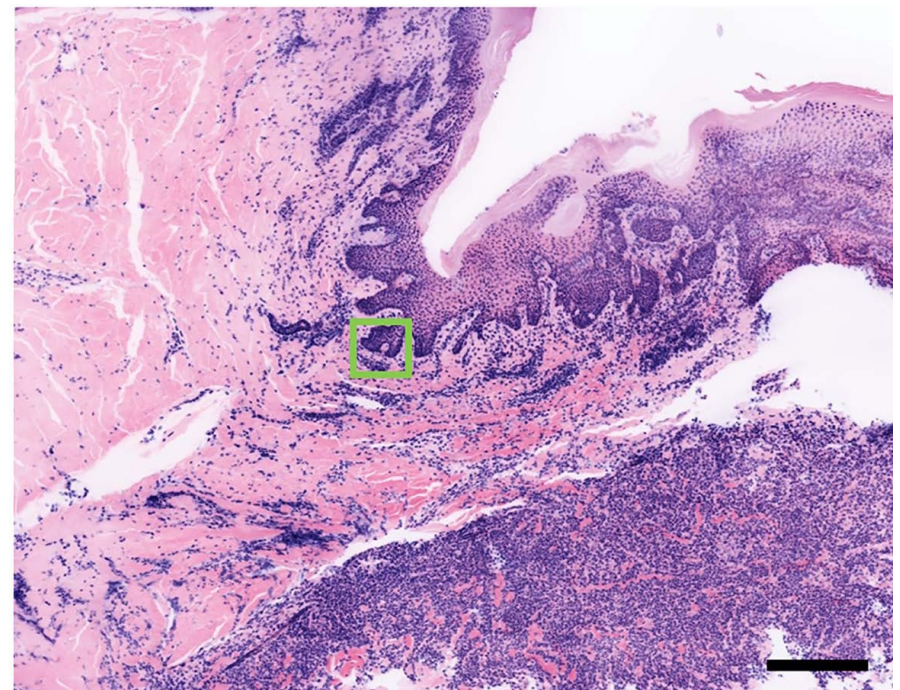


Prostate sample

“D&E” fluorescent analog protocol: K.N. Elfer et al., *PLoS ONE* (2016)

False-coloring algorithm: M. Giacomelli et al., *PLoS ONE* (2016)

Automated intensity leveling and false coloring: R. Serafin et al., *PLoS ONE* (2020)

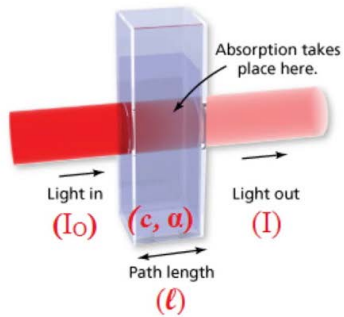


Skin melanoma sample



# Image processing: Pseudocoloring

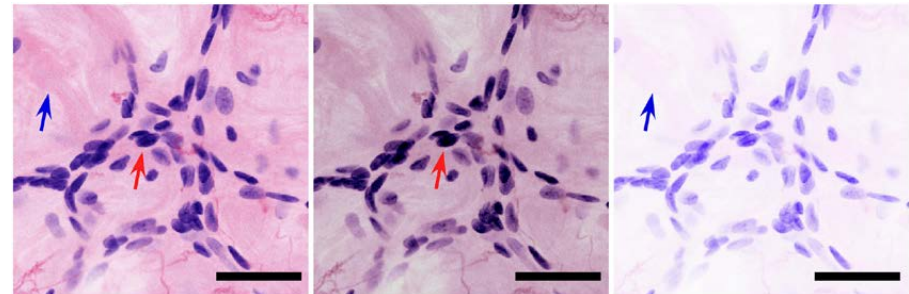
## Beer-Lambert Equation



$$A = \log_{10}\left(\frac{I_0}{I}\right) = \epsilon cl$$

$$A = \epsilon cl$$

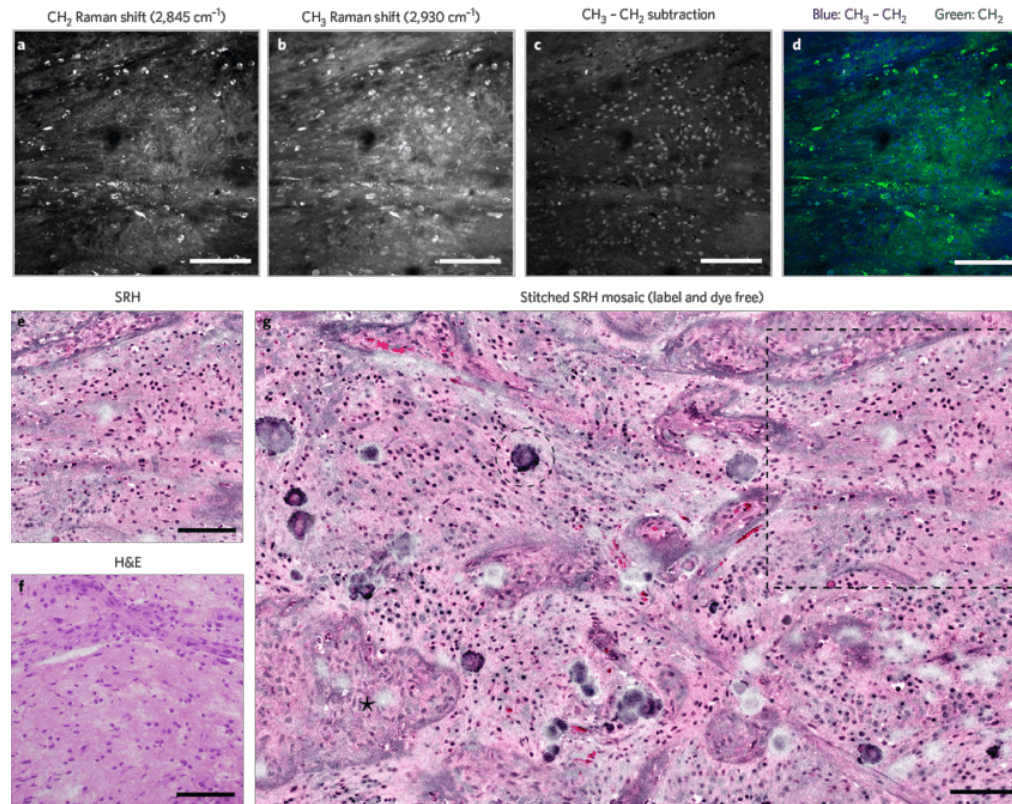
## False H&E coloring



Giacomelli et al. 2016

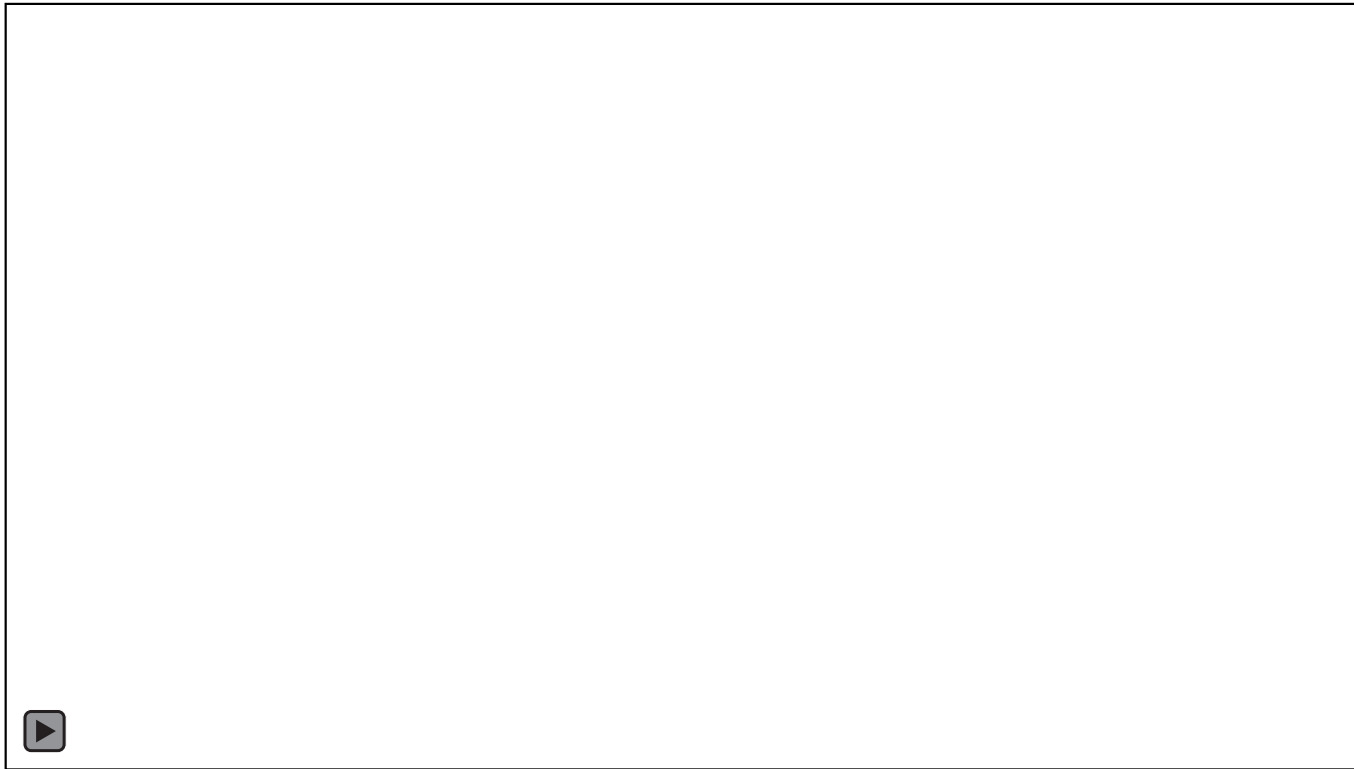
MacNamara. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VWHt4MBWBmc>

# Image processing: Pseudocoloring



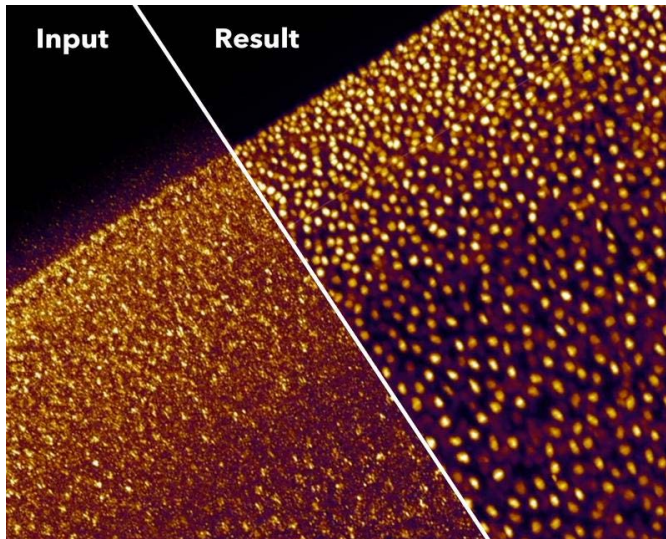
Orringer et al. 2017.

# Image processing: Pseudocoloring



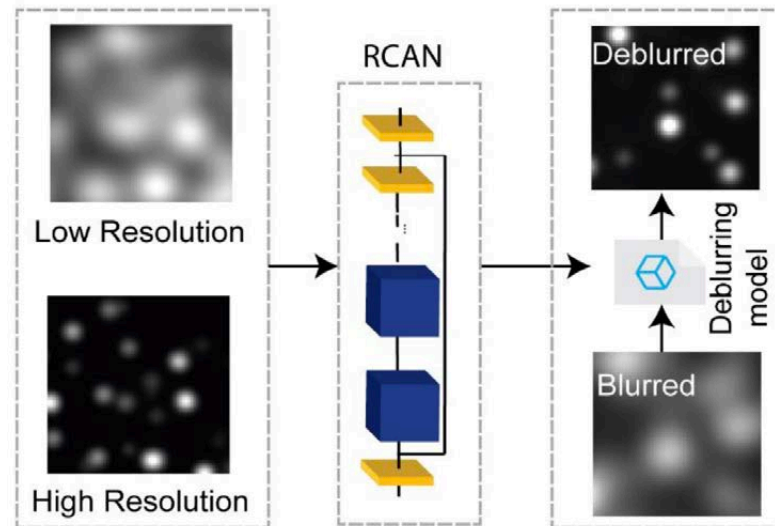
# Image processing: Noise reduction

## Content aware image restoration



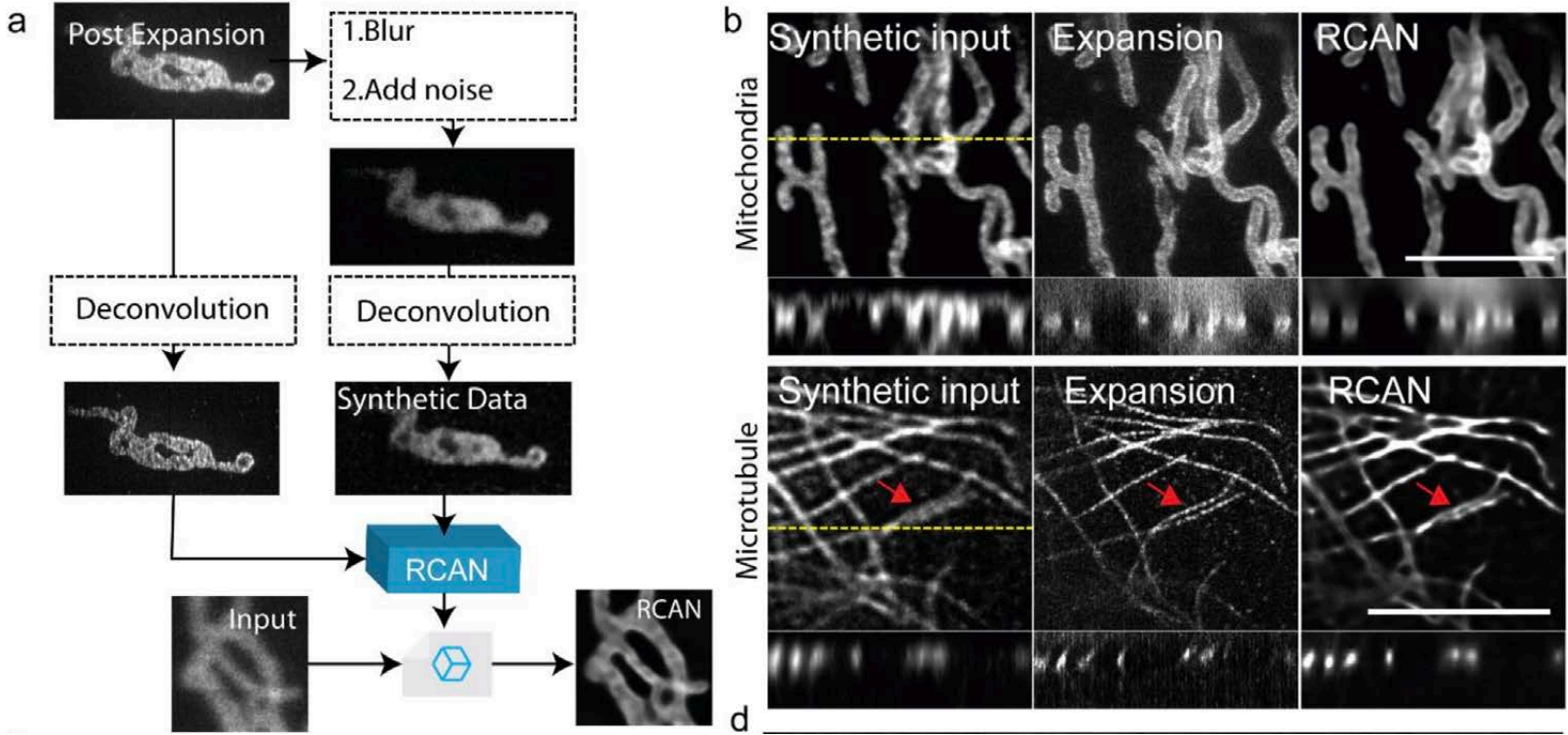
Weigert et al. 2018

## RCAN



Chen et al. 2020

# Image processing: Improving resolution

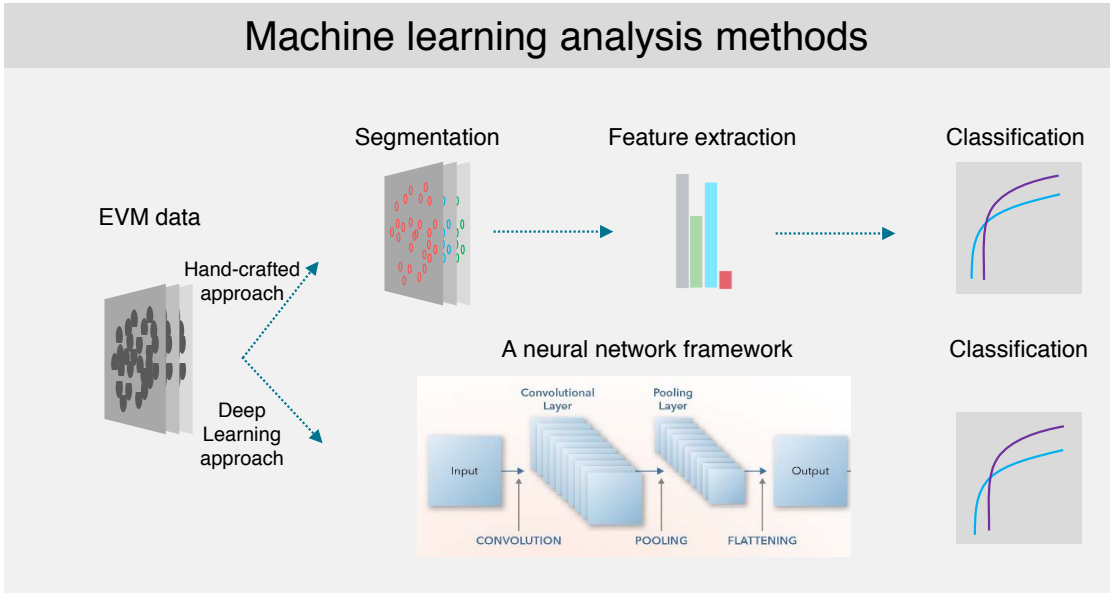


Chen et al. 2020

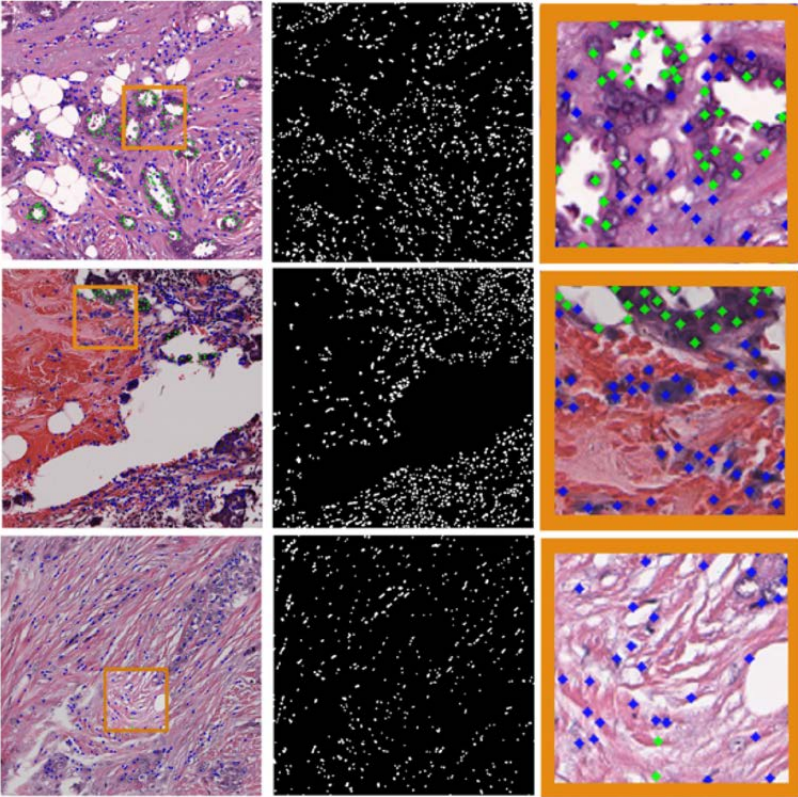
# Quantification

- **In general, EVM images are amenable to quantification, similar to WSI**
- **Quantification with EVM images can outperform WSI**

# Quantification



# Quantification

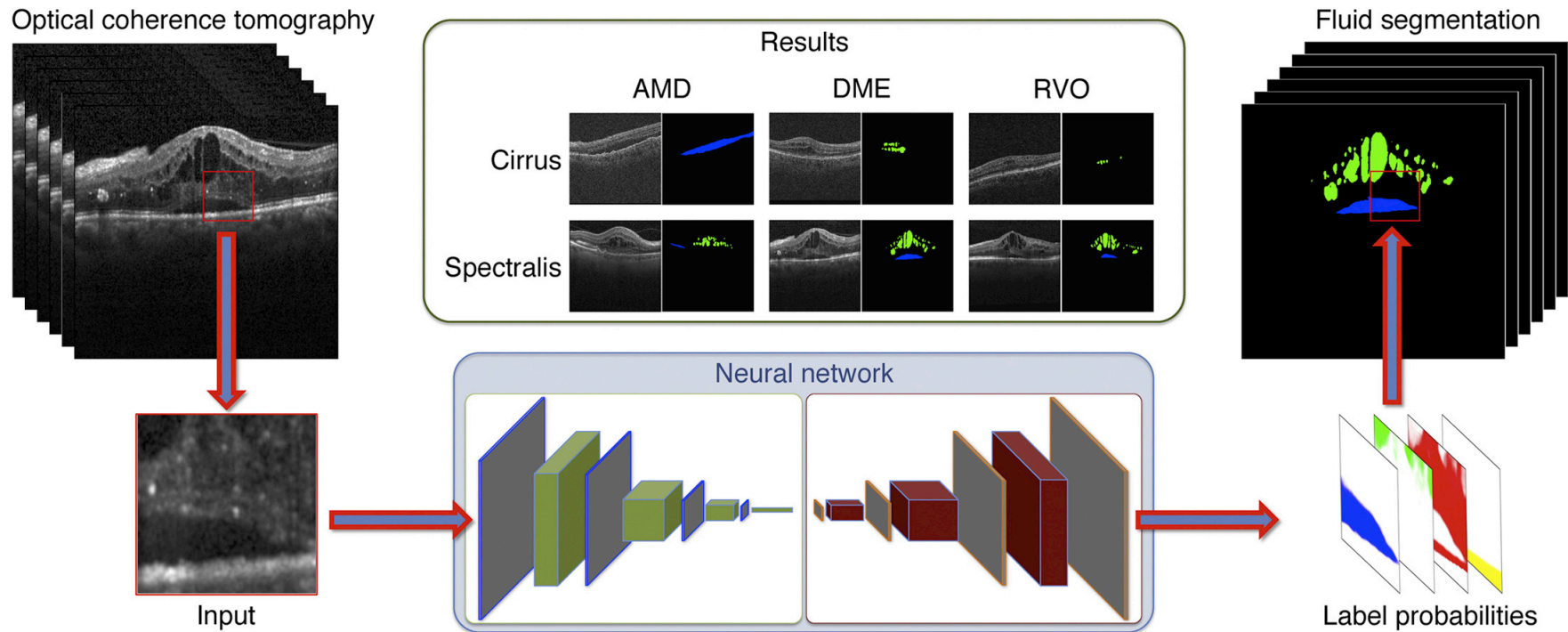


Inference →

Romo-Bucheli et al. 2016.

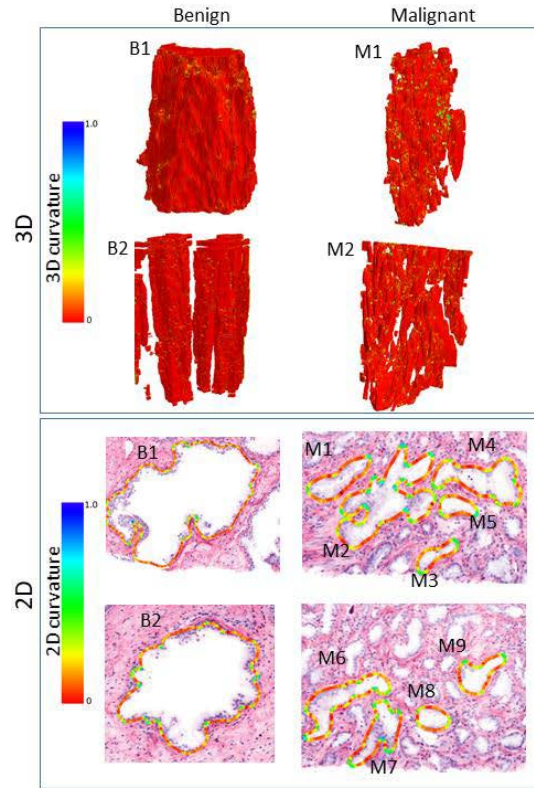


# Quantification – EVM example

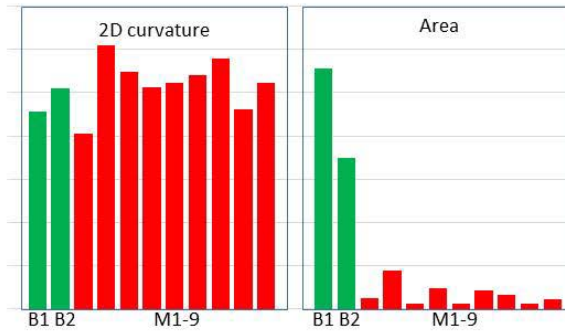
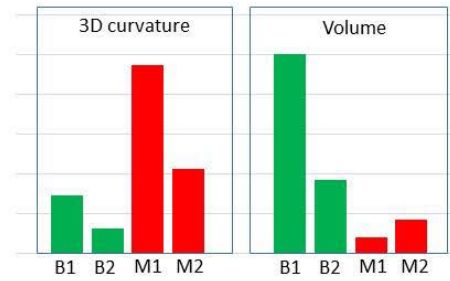


Schlegl et al. 2018.

# Quantification – EVM example

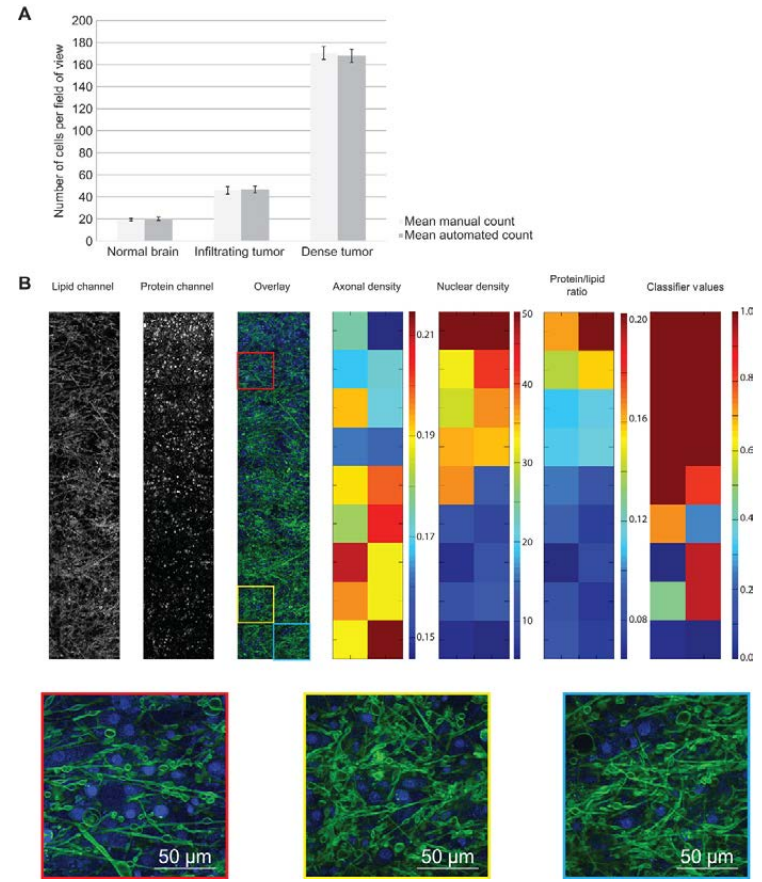
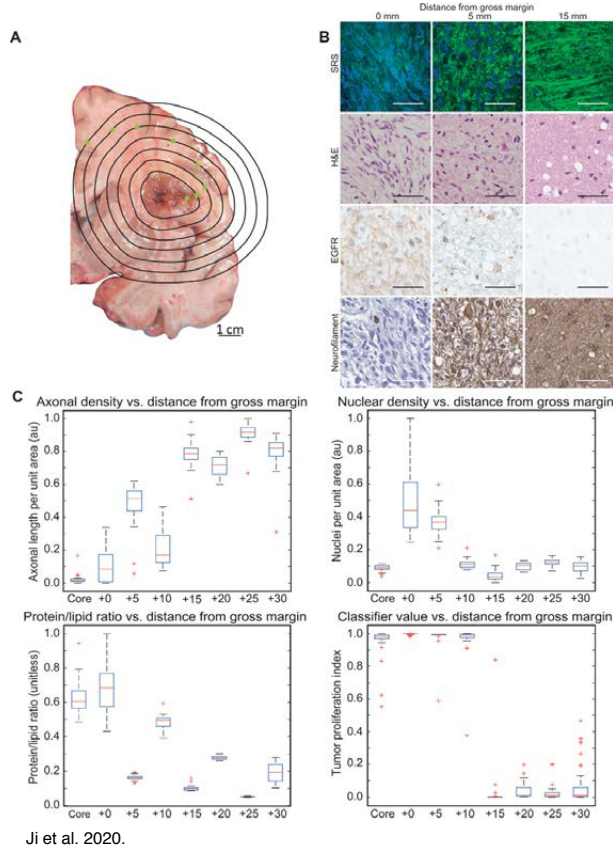


Koyuncu et al. 2020.

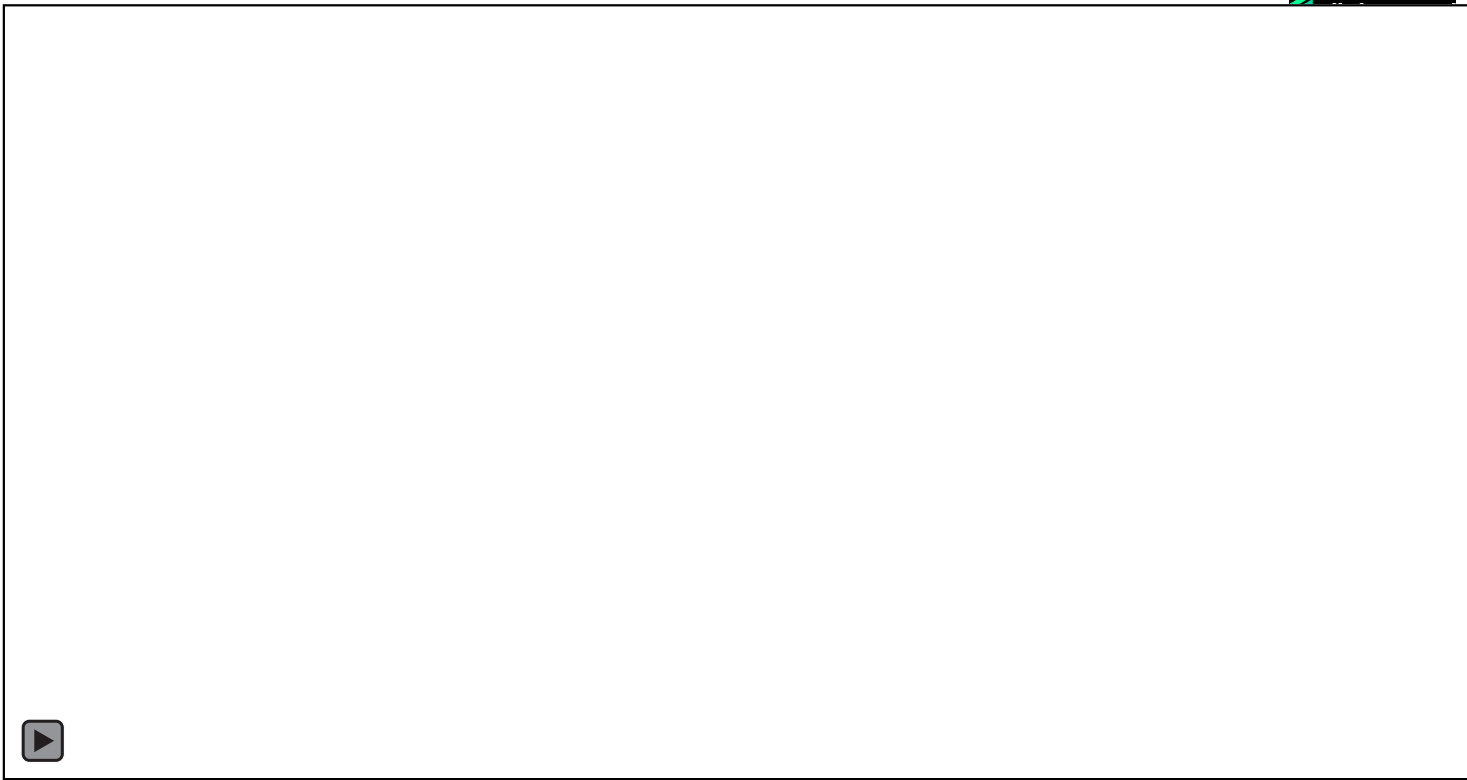


3D light-sheet microscopy

# Quantification – EVM example

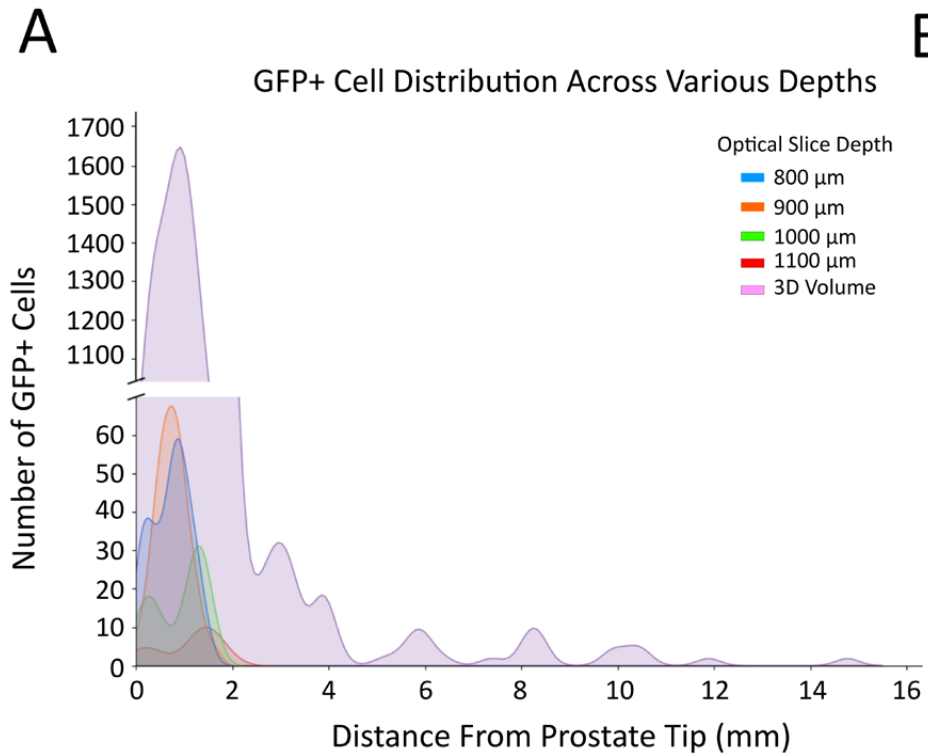


# Quantification – EVM example (in 3D)

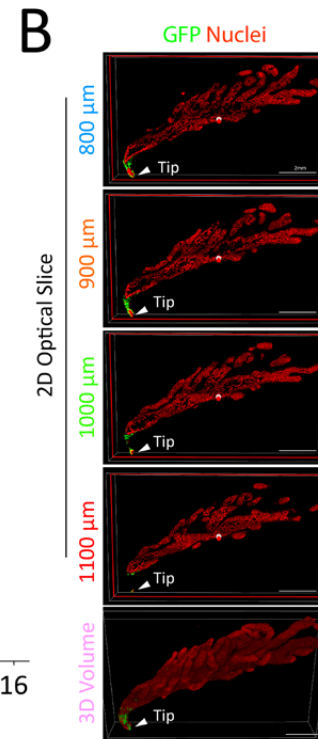


Courtesy of Lightspeed Microscopy

# Quantification – EVM example (in 3D)



Courtesy of Lightspeed Microscopy



	Total Cells	Cells closer than 0.2 mm	Cells further than 1.25 mm
800 $\mu\text{m}$ slice	60	12 (20.0%)	4 (6.7%)
900 $\mu\text{m}$ slice	57	3 (5.3%)	3 (5.3%)
1000 $\mu\text{m}$ slice	33	6 (18.2%)	14 (42.4%)
1100 $\mu\text{m}$ slice	13	4 (30.8%)	9 (69.2%)
3D volume	1629	144 (8.8%)	355 (21.8%)

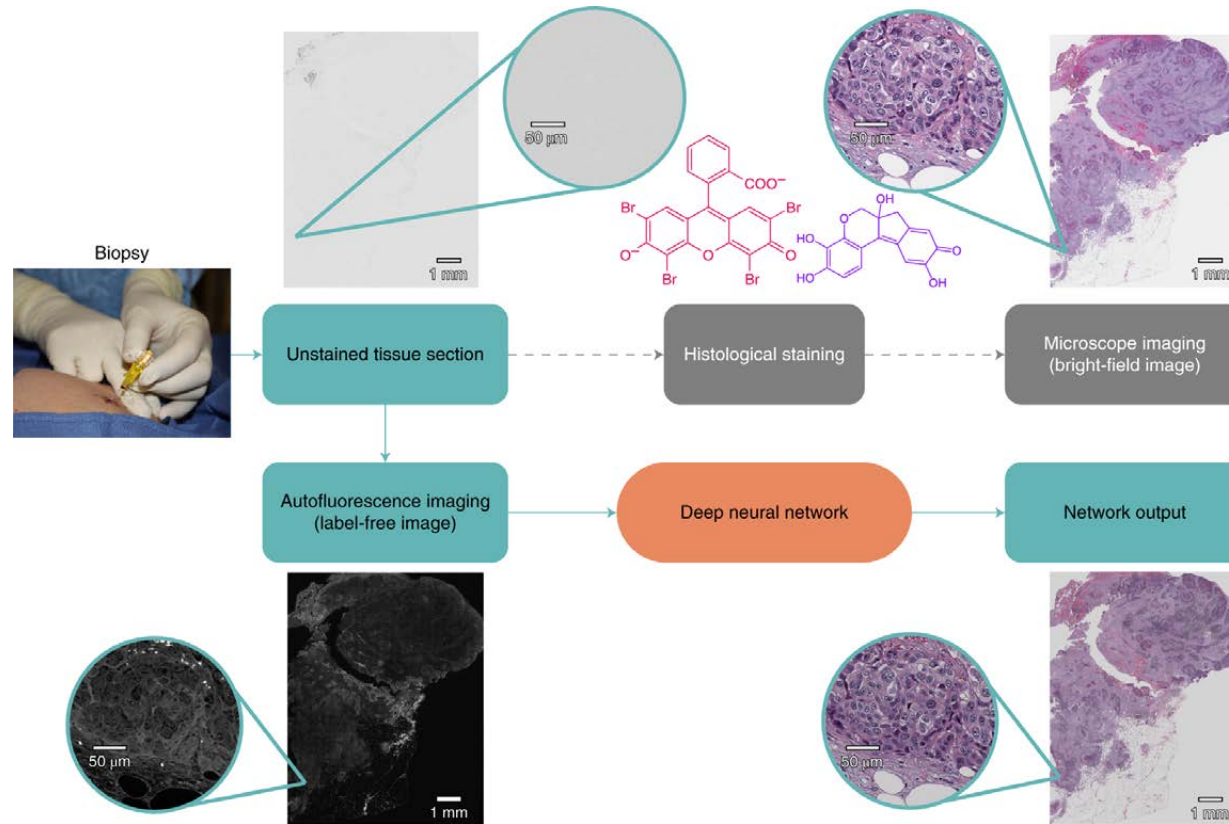
## Conclusions:

- AI and automation enables quantification across massive imaging volumes
- There is large variability in cell counts depending on the sectioning depth

# Molecular inference

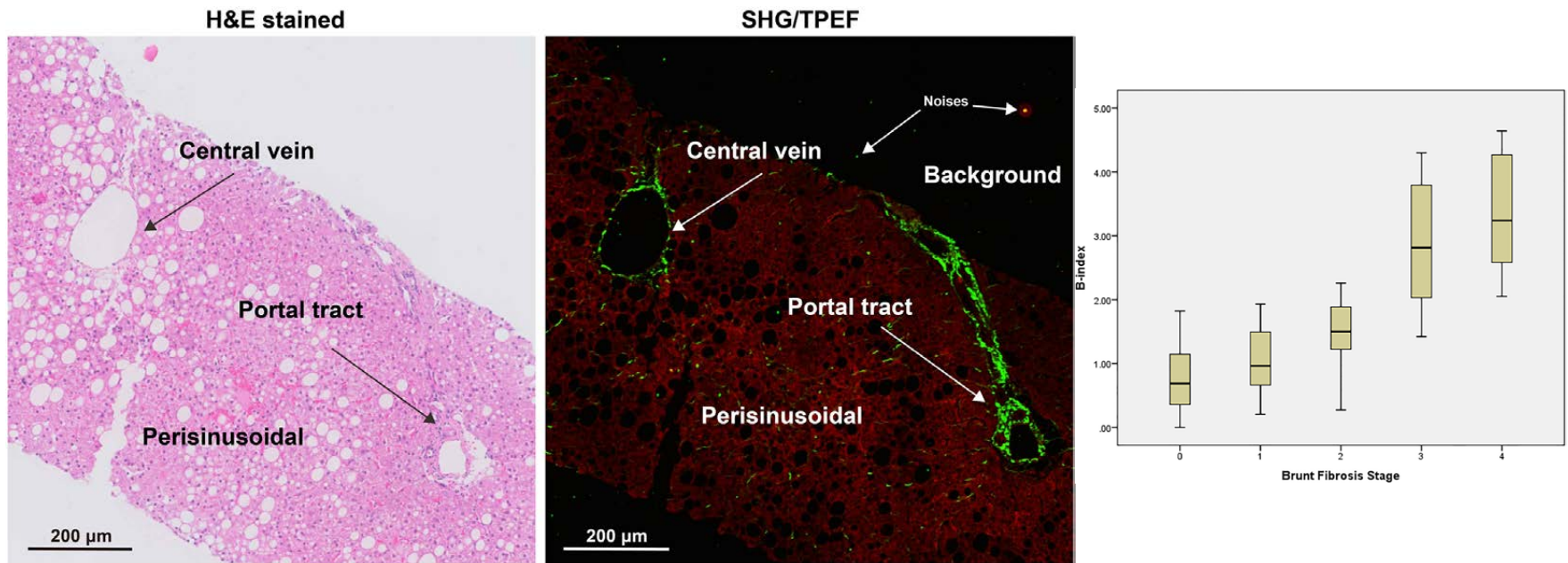
- **Cutting-edge machine learning techniques enable the inference of molecular markers (ER/PR, p53, etc.) from images**
- **This application is furthest away from the clinic and will require extensive validation**

# Molecular inference: Label-free



Rivenson et al. 2019.

# Molecular inference: Label-free

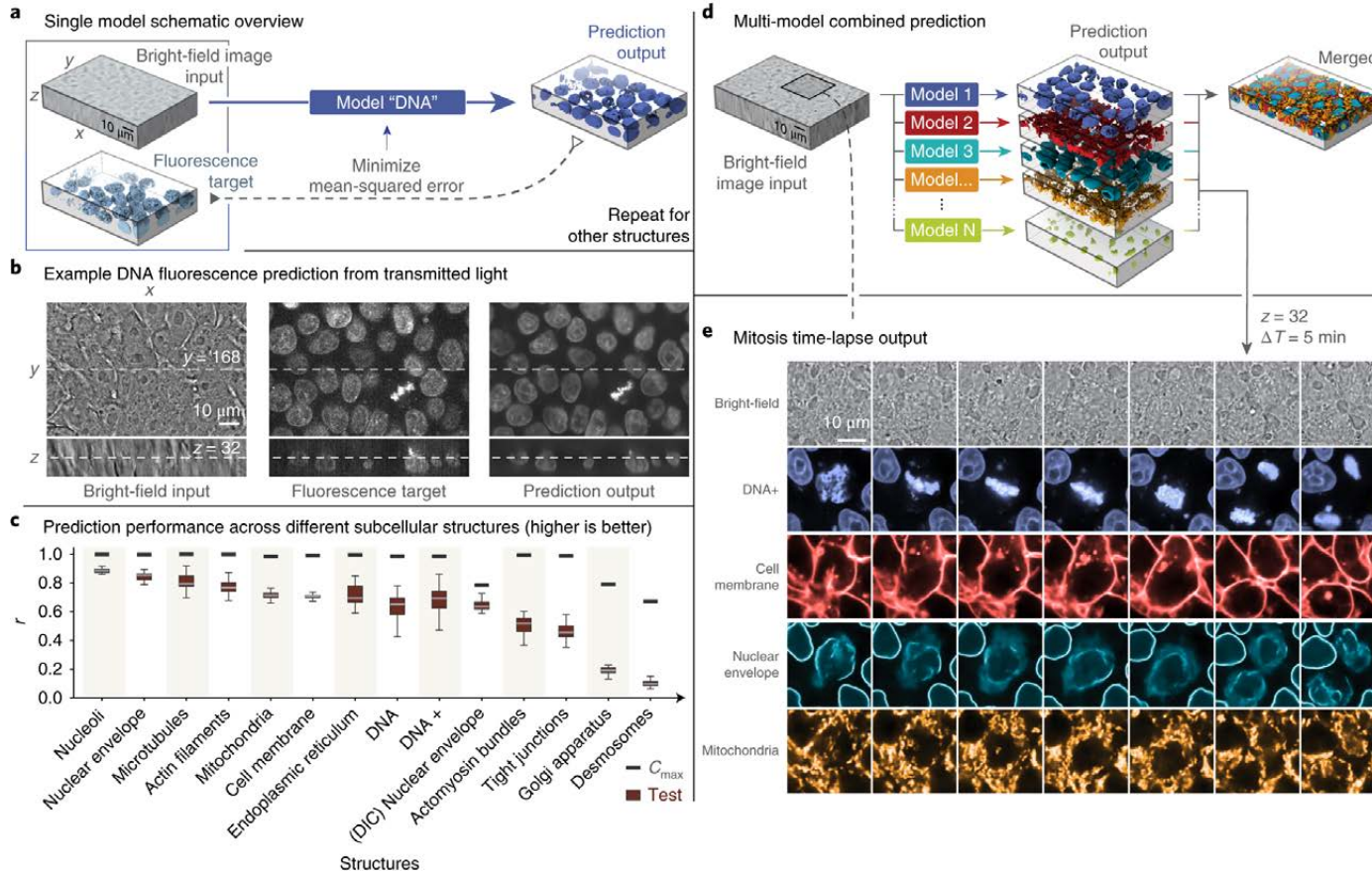


Chang et al. 2018.

Multi-photon microscopy, second harmonic generation, machine learning quantification of fibrosis in NASH samples

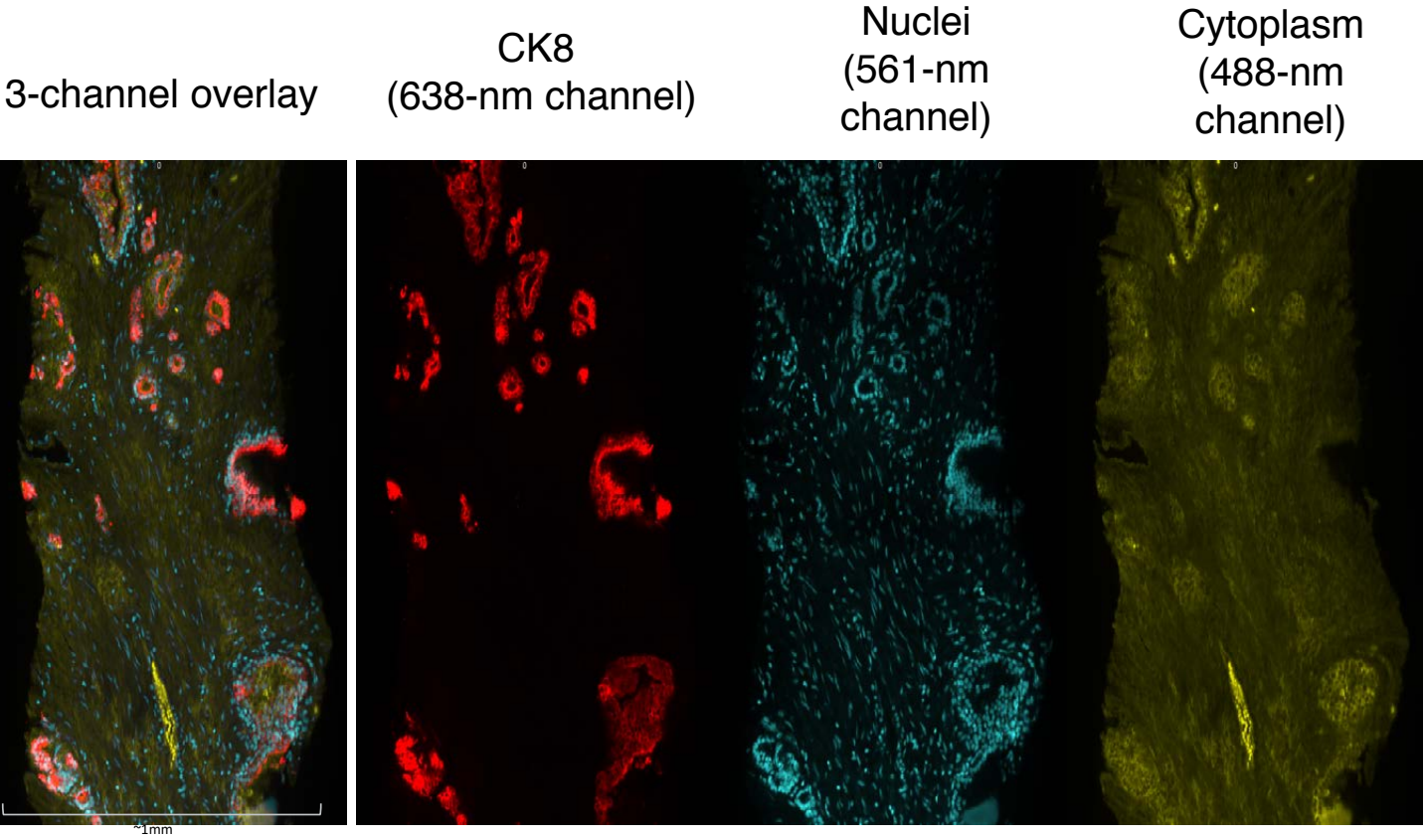


# Molecular inference: Label-free



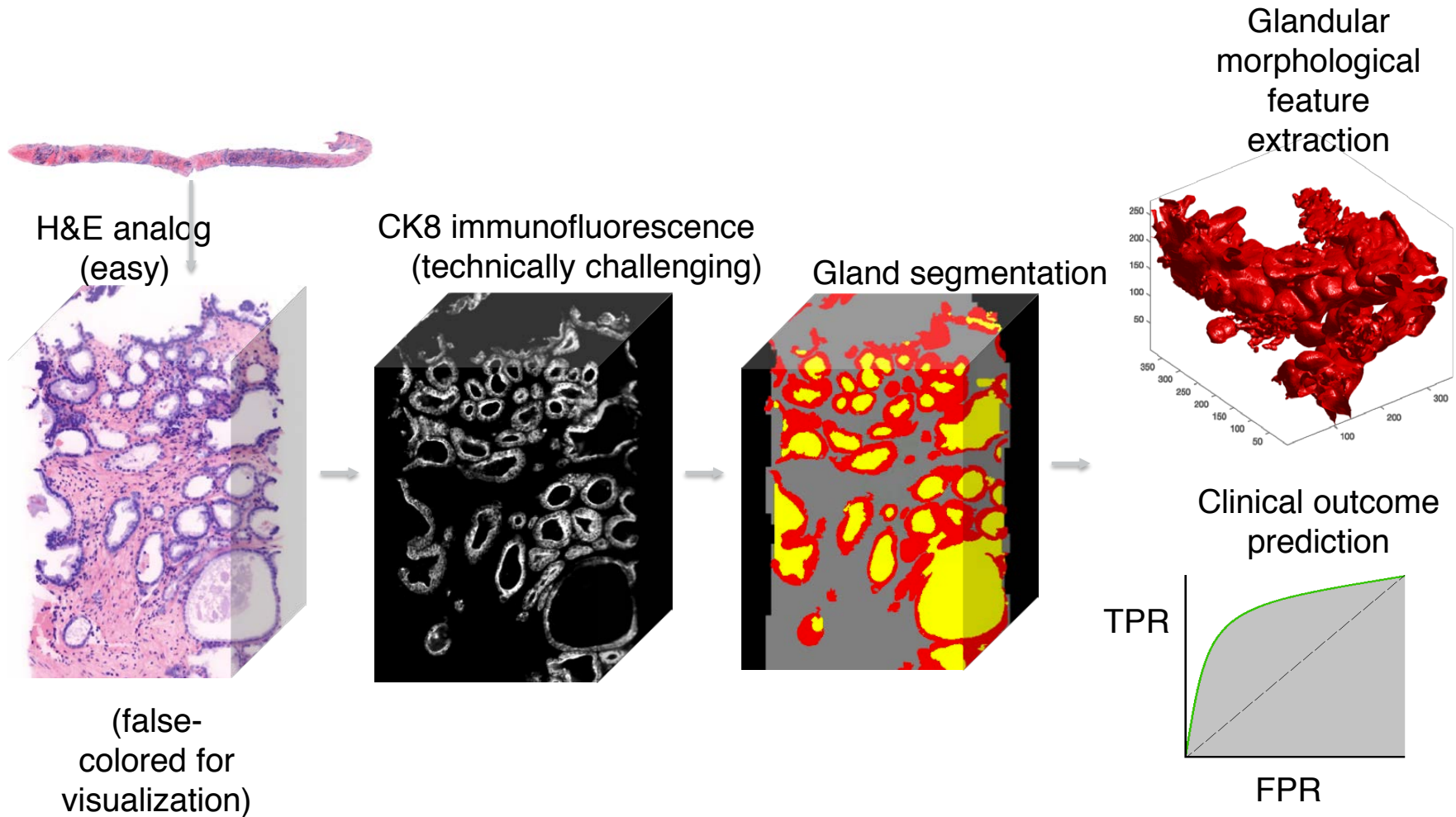
Ounkomol et al. 2018.

# Molecular inference: “IF sans IF”



Xie et al. In preparation.

# Molecular inference: Label-free



Xie et al. In preparation.

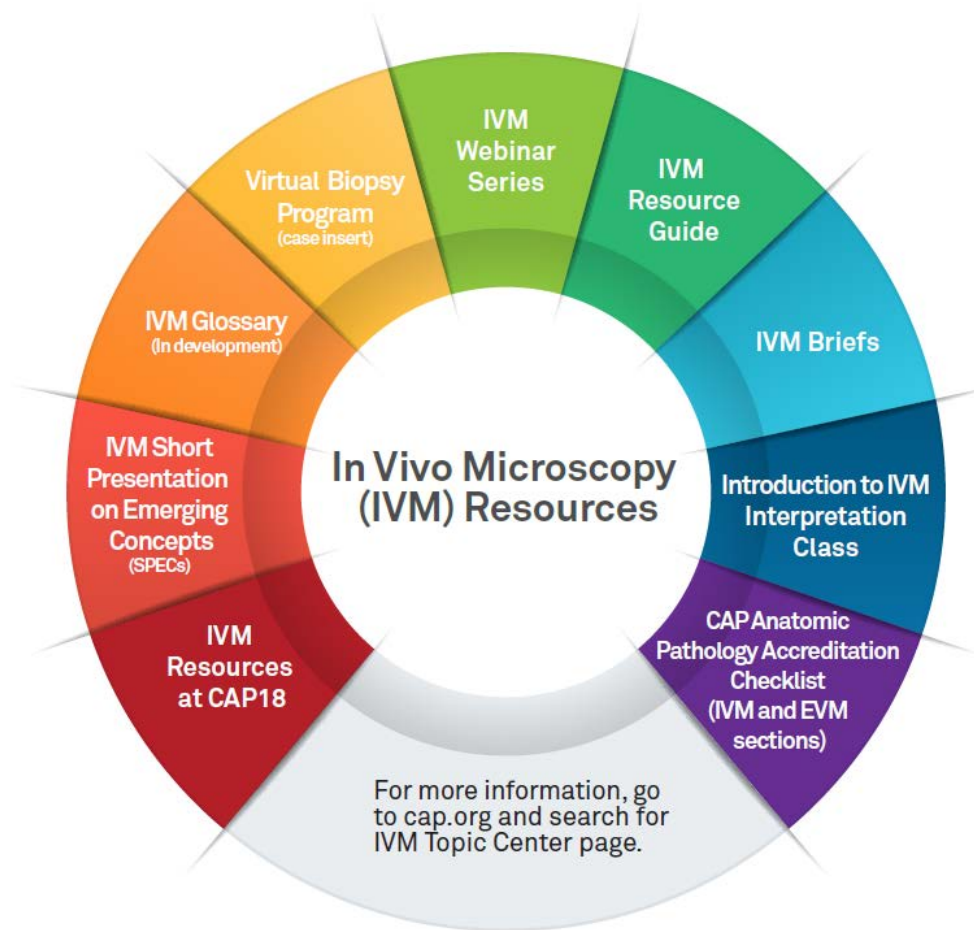
# Ex Vivo Microscopy

What's next?

# How does EVM fit into the future of pathology?

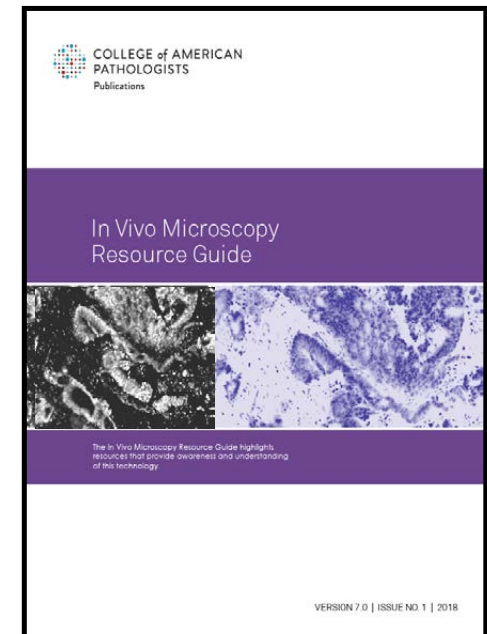
- **Low risk applications in the near term**
  - Biobanking
  - Enrichment of tissue for genetic sequencing
  - Adequacy
- **Time-limited, high impact applications in the intermediate term**
  - Intraoperative consultation
- **In the long term, why ever make a glass slide?**

# IVM Resources at CAP



# The CAP In Vivo Microscopy Resource Guide – see handout

- The IVM resource guide highlights current IVM articles and other resources that assist in understanding and potentially adopting IVM and EVM
  - Printed guides are available for members (\$39) and non-members (\$69)
  - The digital copies of all four Resource Guides are a complimentary member benefit
  - Access them [www.cap.org](http://www.cap.org) > Resources and Publications



# IVM Short Presentations on Emerging Concepts (SPECs) – see handout

- **IVM SPECs are:**
  - Short PowerPoints, created for pathologists
  - Useful for educating colleagues about IVM and GI specialist on the role and value of pathologists in IVM
- **IVM SPEC Topics:**
  - In Vivo Microscopy (IVM): A New Role for Pathologists
  - IVM of the GI Tract
  - Ex Vivo Microscopy (EVM): A New Tool for Pathologists
  - Access them [www.cap.org](http://www.cap.org) > Resources and Publications

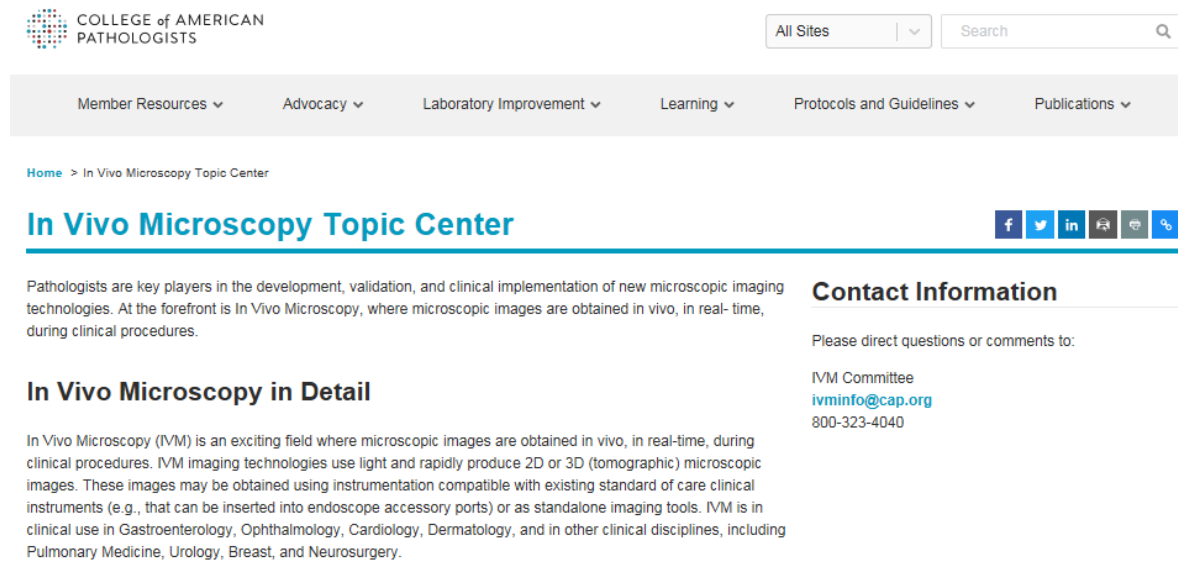




# IVM Topic Center Page on CAP.ORG

- Check the IVM Topic Center for continued updates and for all your IVM resources

[www.cap.org](http://www.cap.org) > Search for “IVM Topic Center”



The screenshot shows the top portion of the CAP.ORG website. At the top left is the logo for the College of American Pathologists. To its right is a search bar with the text "All Sites" and a dropdown arrow, followed by a search input field with a magnifying glass icon. Below this is a horizontal navigation bar with several menu items: "Member Resources", "Advocacy", "Laboratory Improvement", "Learning", "Protocols and Guidelines", and "Publications", each with a downward arrow. Below the navigation bar is a breadcrumb trail: "Home > In Vivo Microscopy Topic Center". The main heading is "In Vivo Microscopy Topic Center" in a large blue font, with a row of social media icons (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Instagram, and RSS) to its right. Below the heading is a paragraph of text: "Pathologists are key players in the development, validation, and clinical implementation of new microscopic imaging technologies. At the forefront is In Vivo Microscopy, where microscopic images are obtained in vivo, in real-time, during clinical procedures." To the right of this paragraph is a section titled "Contact Information" with a horizontal line underneath. Below the title is the text: "Please direct questions or comments to:", followed by "IVM Committee", "ivminfo@cap.org", and "800-323-4040". Below the main paragraph is another section titled "In Vivo Microscopy in Detail" with a horizontal line underneath. Below the title is a paragraph of text: "In Vivo Microscopy (IVM) is an exciting field where microscopic images are obtained in vivo, in real-time, during clinical procedures. IVM imaging technologies use light and rapidly produce 2D or 3D (tomographic) microscopic images. These images may be obtained using instrumentation compatible with existing standard of care clinical instruments (e.g., that can be inserted into endoscope accessory ports) or as standalone imaging tools. IVM is in clinical use in Gastroenterology, Ophthalmology, Cardiology, Dermatology, and in other clinical disciplines, including Pulmonary Medicine, Urology, Breast, and Neurosurgery."

# THANK YOU!

Thank you for attending our webinar “**Artificial Intelligence Applications for Ex Vivo Microscopy**” by Nicholas Reder, MD, MPH, FCAP

For comments about this webinar or suggestions for upcoming webinars, contact [ivminfo@cap.org](mailto:ivminfo@cap.org)

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