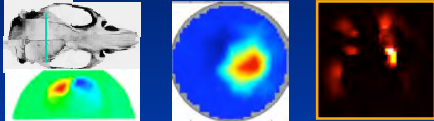


## Optical Tomographic Imaging of Small Animals



**Andreas H. Hielscher, Ph.D.**



Columbia University, New York City  
Dept. of Biomedical Engineering  
Dept. of Radiology



## Overview



- **Introduction**  
X-Ray Tomography vs Optical Tomography
- **Model-based iterative image reconstruction**  
Basic concepts and mathematical background
- **Instrumentation**  
General optical imaging modalities  
Dynamic optical tomography system
- **Applications**  
Brain Imaging  
Tumor Imaging  
Fluorescence Imaging

## Overview

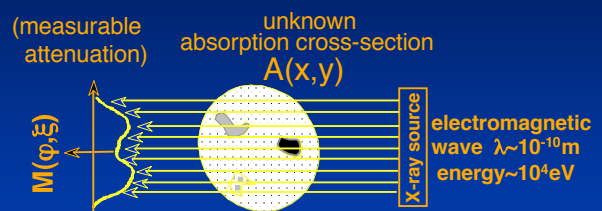


- **Introduction**  
X-Ray Tomography vs Optical Tomography
- **Model-based iterative image reconstruction**  
Basic concepts and mathematical background
- **Instrumentation**  
General optical imaging modalities  
Dynamic optical tomography system
- **Applications**  
Brain Imaging  
Tumor Imaging  
Fluorescence Imaging

## X-Ray Imaging



Uses X-rays to generate shadowgrams  $M(\varphi, \xi)$ .

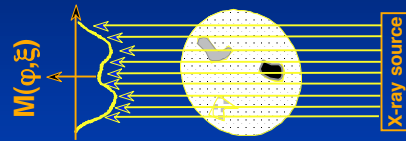


Energy propagates on straight lines through medium

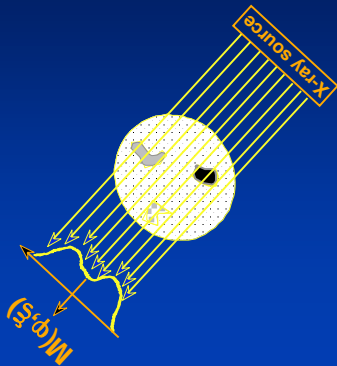
## X-Ray Shadowgram



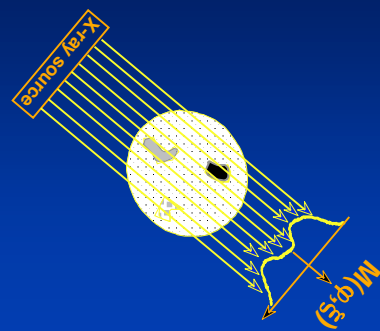
## X-Ray Tomography



## X-Ray Tomography



## X-Ray Tomography



### X-Ray Tomography

unknown  
absorption cross-section  
 $A(x,y)$

$M(\varphi, \xi)$

X-ray source

⇒ Simple image reconstruction scheme:  
backprojection of  $M$  on lines of transmission.  
(Inverse Radon Transform)

### 2D Scan of Head

### Optical Imaging

Uses near-infrared light ( $700 < \lambda < 900\text{nm}$ )

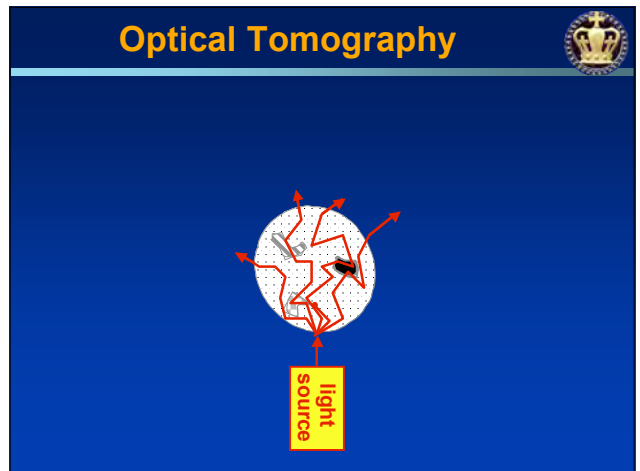
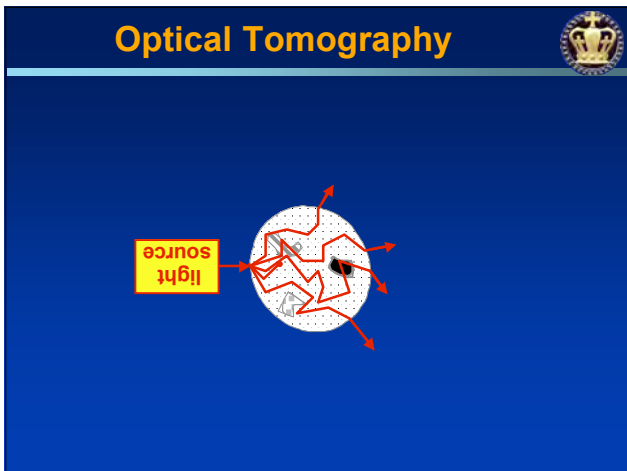
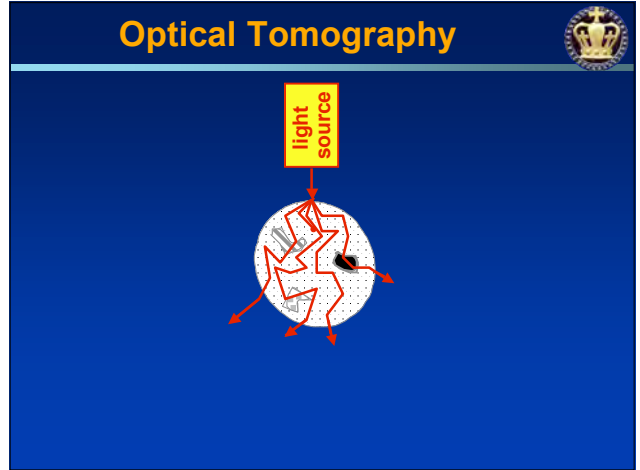
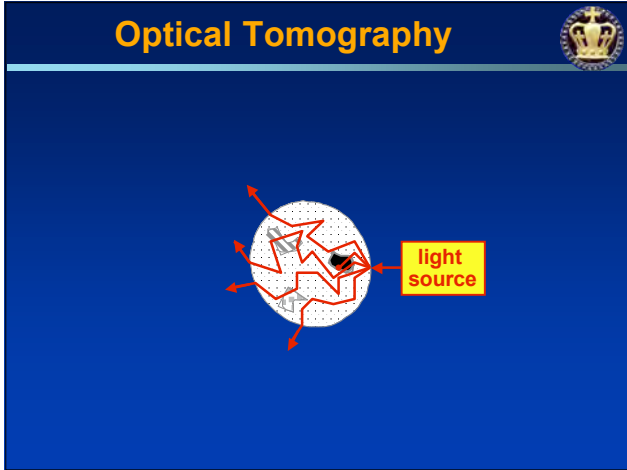
$A(x,y)$   
{unknown  
absorption  
&  
scattering  
profile}

light source

EM - wave  
 $\lambda \sim 800 \cdot 10^{-9}\text{m}$   
energy  $\sim 1\text{ eV}$

Energy does not propagate on straight line between source and detector (light is strongly scattered)

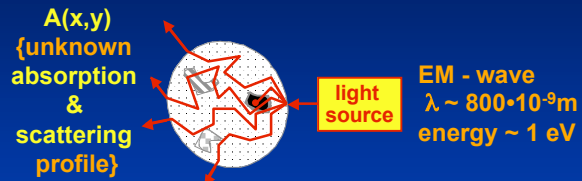
### Optical Shadowgram



## Optical Imaging



Uses near-infrared light ( $700 < \lambda < 900\text{nm}$ )



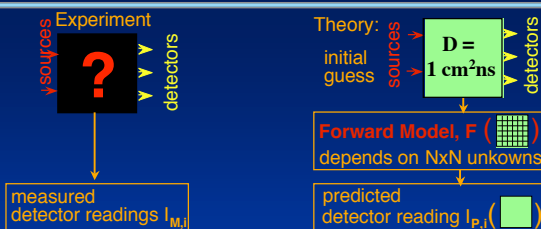
How to reconstruct cross-sectional images  $A(x,y)$  from measurement on surface?  
(Inverse Problem)

## Overview



- **Introduction**  
X-Ray Tomography vs Optical Tomography
- **Model-based iterative image reconstruction**  
Basic concepts and mathematical background
- **Instrumentation**  
General optical imaging modalities  
Dynamic optical tomography system
- **Applications**  
Brain Imaging  
Tumor Imaging  
Fluorescence Imaging

## Model-Based Iterative Image Reconstruction



## Forward Model I



### 3D-Time-Resolved Diffusion Equation

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \mathbf{D} \cdot \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \mathbf{D} \cdot \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \mathbf{D} \cdot \frac{\partial U}{\partial z} - c\mu_a U + S$$

with  $c$  := speed of light in medium,  $S$  = Source,  
and **diffusion coefficient** :  $\mathbf{D} = c / (3 [\mu_a + \mu_{s'}])$   
with  $\mu_a$  = absorption coefficient and  
 $\mu_{s'}$  = reduced scattering coefficient .

## Diffusion vs Transport Model

**diffusion equation**

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} = \nabla c / (3\mu_a + 3\mu_s) \nabla U - c\mu_a U + S$$

discretize into N spacial variables  
leads to N finite-difference equations

**equation of radiative transport**

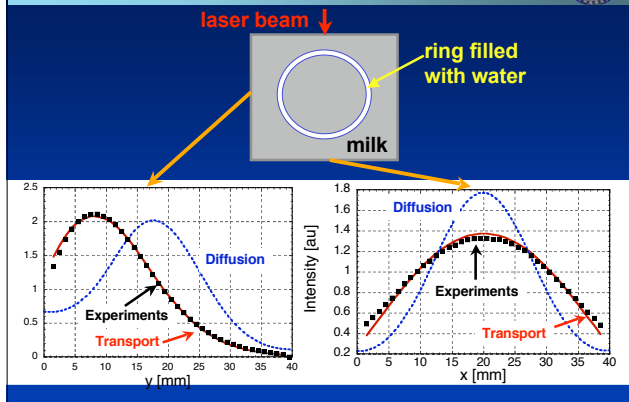
$$\partial \Psi / c \partial t = S - \Omega \nabla \Psi - (\mu_a + \mu_s) \Psi + \int_{4\pi} \Psi(\Omega') p(\Omega * \Omega') d\Omega'$$

with  $U = \int_{4\pi} \Psi(\Omega) d\Omega$  and  $\mu_s' = (1-g) \mu_s$

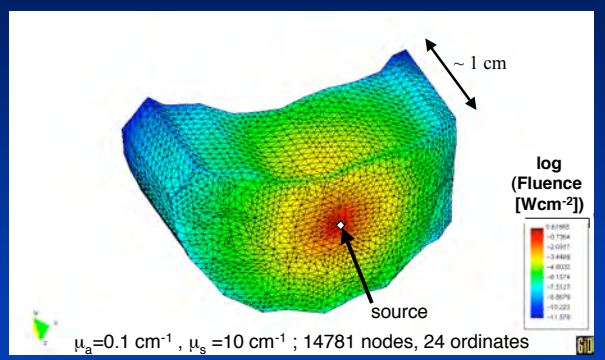
discretization into N spacial and A angular variables  
leads to N x A coupled finite-difference equations

**slower by factor ~A**

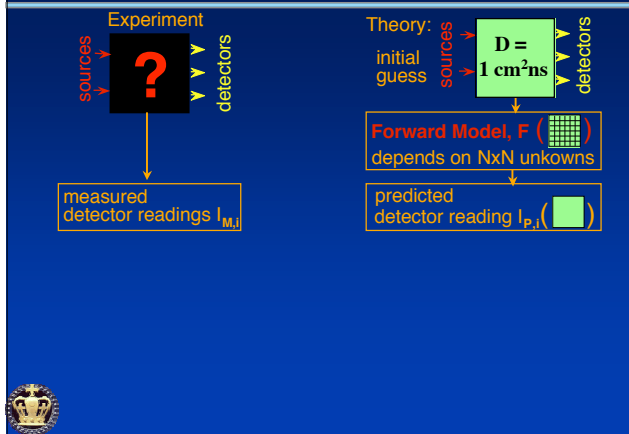
## Limits of Diffusion Model

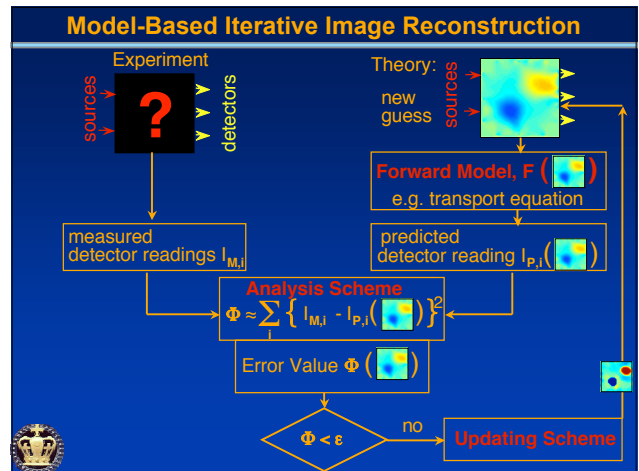
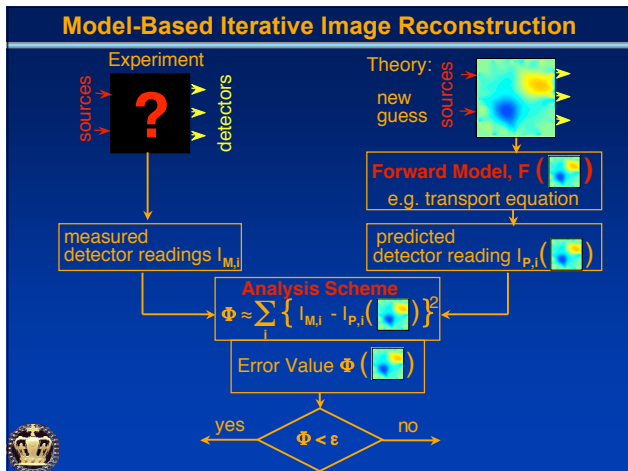
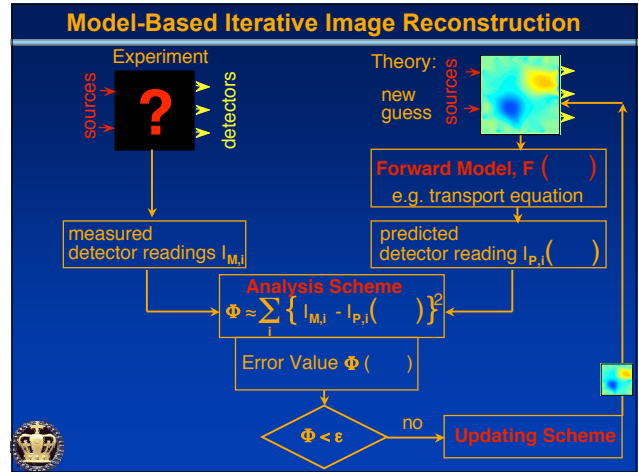
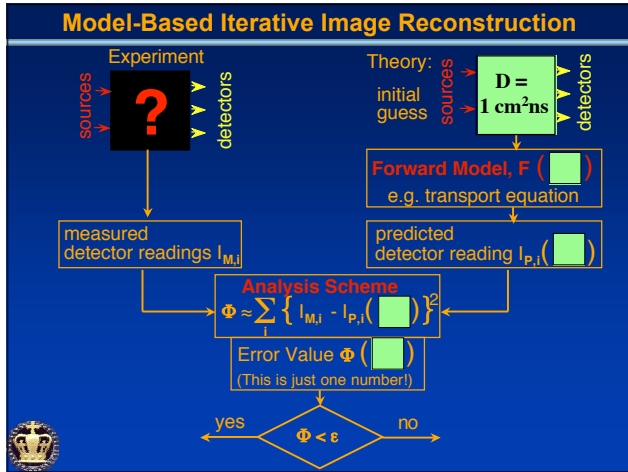


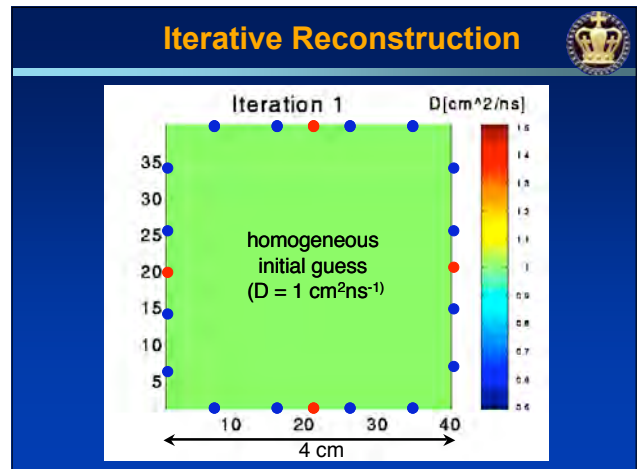
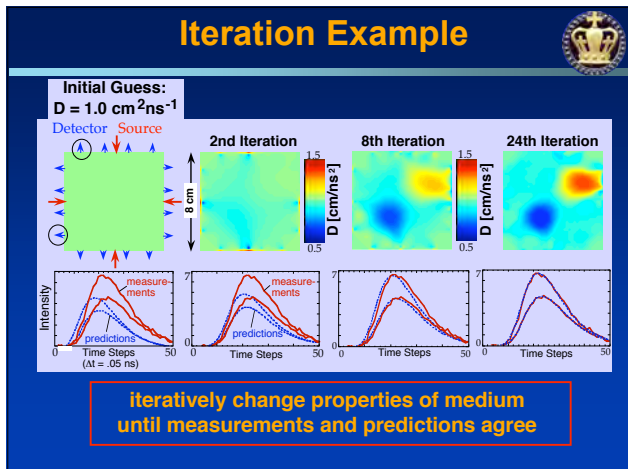
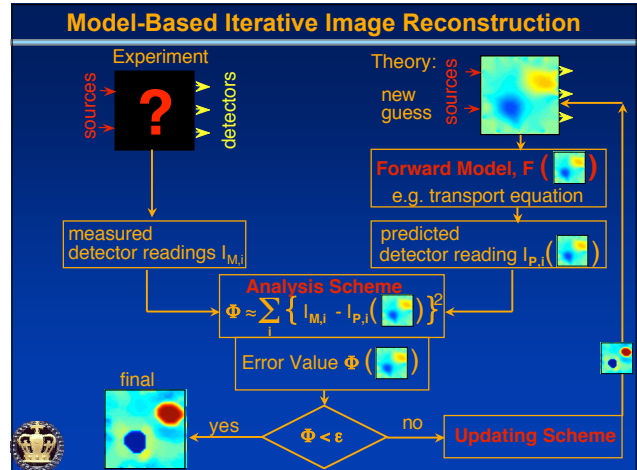
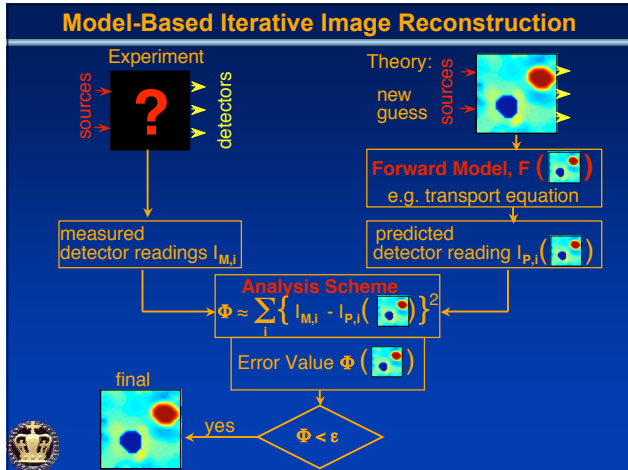
## Forward Model applied to Mouse Head

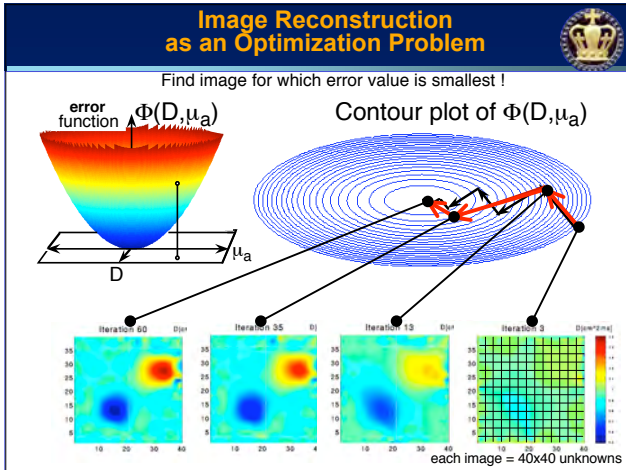


## Model-Based Iterative Image Reconstruction









### Data Analysis Scheme

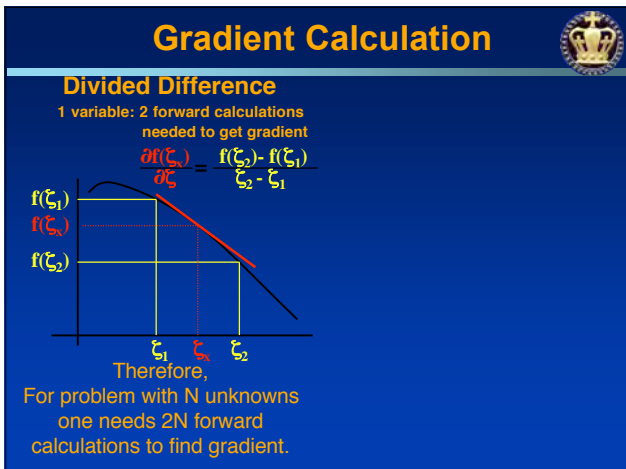
Measurement Data  $Y$     Predicted data  $U$

$$\Phi(\mu_a, D) = \sum_s \sum_d \sum_t \frac{(Y_{sdt} - U_{sdt}(\mu_a, D))^2}{2\sigma_{sdt}^2}$$

Objective Function =  $\chi^2$  Error Function

Goal : Find minimum of  $\Phi(\mu_a, D)$

Employ minimization technique that uses information about gradient  $\frac{d\Phi(\mu_a, D)}{d(\mu_a, D)}$ .



### Gradient Calculation

#### Divided Difference

1 variable: 2 forward calculations needed to get gradient

$$\frac{\partial f(\zeta_1)}{\partial \zeta} = \frac{f(\zeta_2) - f(\zeta_1)}{\zeta_2 - \zeta_1}$$

Therefore,  
For problem with N unknowns one needs 2N forward calculations to find gradient.

#### Adjoint Differentiation

The evaluation of a gradient requires never more than five times the effort of one forward calculation!

A. Griewank, "On Automatic Differentiation," in Mathematical Programming, M. Iri, K. Tanabe, eds., Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1989, pp.83-107.

Therefore,  
adjoint differentiation method is 2N/5 times faster than "traditional" divided difference scheme!

## For more details see:



- G. Abdoulaev, K. Ren, A.H. Hielscher, "Optical tomography as a constrained optimization problem," accepted for publication in *Inverse Problems*.
- K. Ren, G. Abdoulaev, G. Bal, A.H. Hielscher, "Frequency-domain optical tomography based on the equation of radiative transfer," accepted for publication in *SIAM Journal of Scientific Computing*.
- K. Ren, G. Abdoulaev, G. Bal, A.H. Hielscher, "An algorithm for solving the equation of radiative transfer in the frequency domain," *Optics Letters* 29(6), pp. 578-580 (2004).
- G. Abdoulaev and A.H. Hielscher, "Three-dimensional optical tomography with the equation of radiative transfer," *Journal of Electronic Imaging* 12(4), pp. 594-60 (2003).
- A.H. Hielscher, A.D. Klose, U. Netz, J. Beuthan, "Optical tomography using the time-independent equation of radiative transfer. Part 1: Forward model," *Journal of Quantitative Spectroscopy and Radiative Transfer*, Vol 72/5, pp. 691-713, 2002.
- A.D. Klose, A.H. Hielscher, "Optical tomography using the time-independent equation of radiative transfer. Part 2: Inverse model," *Journal of Quantitative Spectroscopy and Radiative Transfer*, Vol 72/5, pp. 715-732, 2002.
- A.D. Klose and A.H. Hielscher, "Iterative reconstruction scheme for optical tomography based on the equation of radiative transfer," *Medical Physics*, vol. 26, no. 8, pp. 1698-1707, 1999.
- A.H. Hielscher, A.D. Klose, K.M. Hanson, "Gradient-based iterative image reconstruction scheme for time-resolved optical tomography," *IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging* 18, pp. 262-271, 1999.

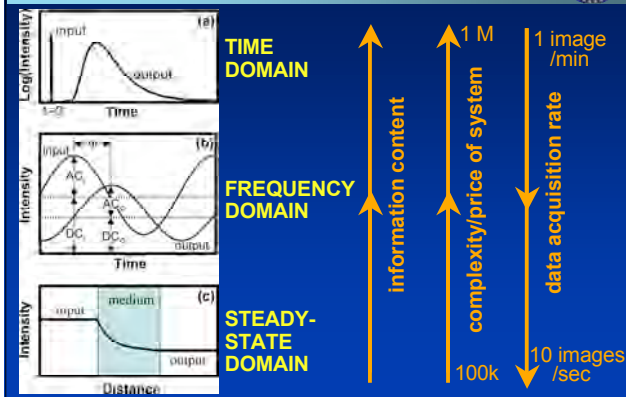
[www.bme.columbia.edu/biophotonics](http://www.bme.columbia.edu/biophotonics)

## Overview

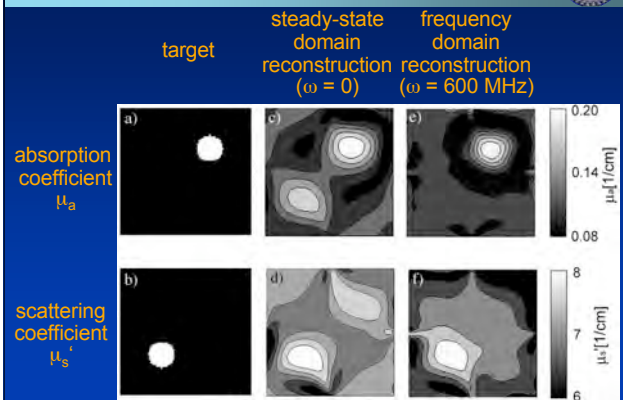


- **Introduction**  
X-ray vs optical tomography
- **Model-based iterative image reconstruction**  
Basic concepts and mathematical background
- **Instrumentation**  
General optical imaging modalities  
Dynamic optical tomography system
- **Applications**  
Brain Imaging  
Tumor Imaging  
Fluorescence Imaging

## Optical Imaging Modalities



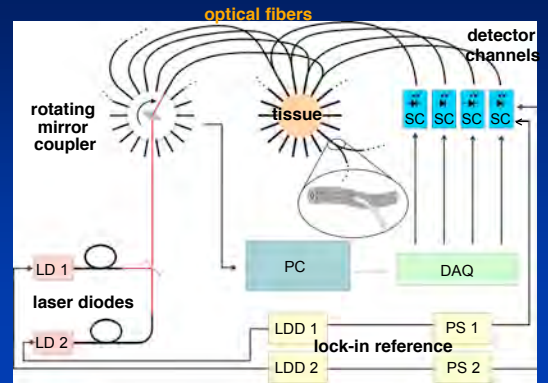
## Frequency vs Steady-State Domain



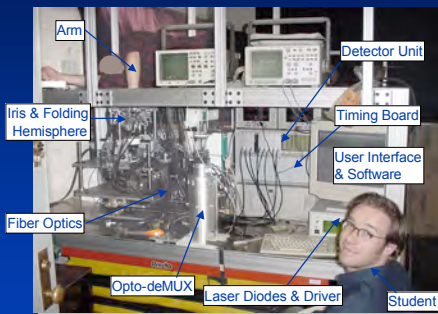
## Overview

- **Introduction**  
X-ray vs optical tomography
- **Model-based iterative image reconstruction**  
Basic concepts and mathematical background
- **Instrumentation**  
General optical imaging modalities  
Dynamic optical tomography system
- **Applications**  
Brain Imaging  
Tumor Imaging  
Fluorescence Imaging

## Instrument Diagram



## Dynamic Optical Tomography System (DYNOT)



Up to 10 full tomographic images per second!

## Dynamic Optical Tomography System (details)



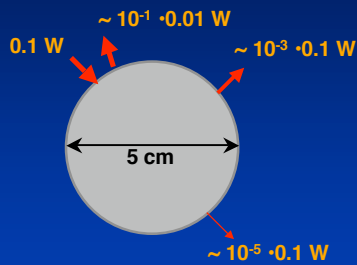
## Detector and Timing Boards



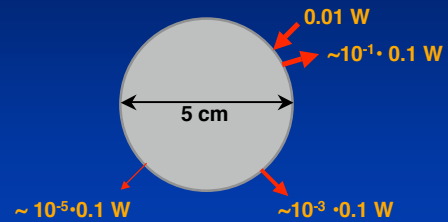
## Dynamic Optical Tomography System (DYNOT)



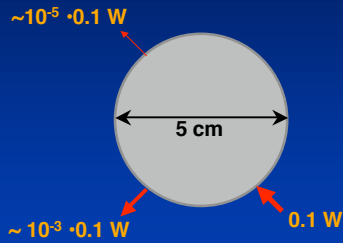
## Dynamic Range of Measurement



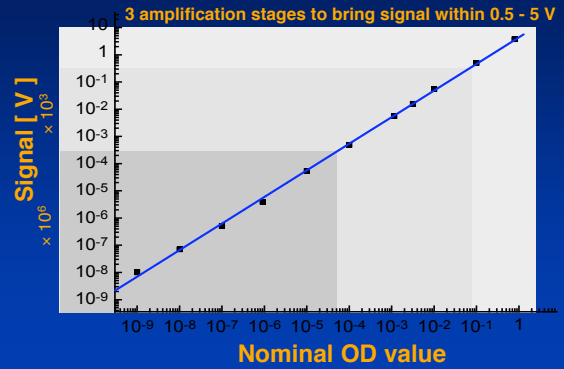
## Dynamic Range of Measurement



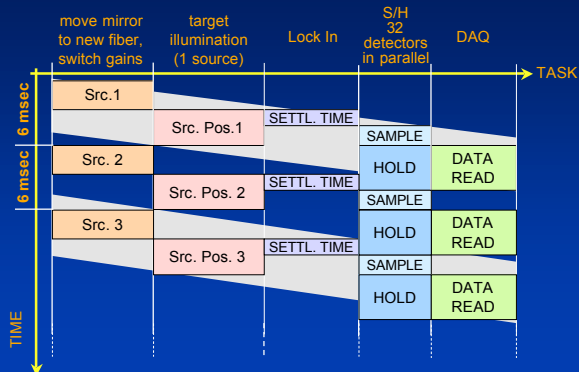
## Dynamic Range of Measurement



## Dynamic Range of Detectors



## Timing Scheme



## Performance Overview

Parameter	Value
Modulation frequency	5-10 kHz
Data acquisition rate	~150 Hz
Settling time	1-2 ms
Noise equivalent power	10 pW (rms)
Dynamic range	1:10 <sup>9</sup> (180 dB)
Long term bias drifts	~1% over 30 min
Background light reject	~100 dB

## For more details see:



A.H. Hielscher, A.Y. Bluestone, G.S. Abdoulaev, A.D. Klose, J. Lasker, M. Stewart, U. Netz, J. Beuthan, "Near-infrared diffuse optical tomography," *Disease Markers* 18(5-6), pp. 313-337 (2002).

C.H. Schmitz, M. Löcker, J.M. Lasker, A.H. Hielscher, R.L. Barbour, "Instrumentation for fast functional optical tomography," *Rev. of Scientific Instrumentation* 73(2), pp. 429-439 (2002).

C.H. Schmitz, Y. Pei, H.L. Graber, J.M. Lasker, A.H. Hielscher, R.L. Barbour, "Instrumentation for real-time dynamic optical tomography," in *Photon Migration, Optical Coherence Tomography, and Microscopy*, S. Andersson-Engels, M.F. Kaschke, eds., SPIE-The International Society for Optical Engineering, Proc. 4431, pp. 282-291, 2001.

[www.bme.columbia.edu/biophotonics](http://www.bme.columbia.edu/biophotonics)

## Overview



- **Introduction**  
X-ray vs optical tomography
- **Model-based iterative image reconstruction**  
Basic concepts and mathematical background
- **Instrumentation**  
General optical imaging modalities  
Dynamic optical tomography system
- **Applications**  
Brain Imaging  
Tumor Imaging  
Fluorescence Imaging

## Animal Model



325 gm Sprague Dawley Rats

Anesthesia: Urethane administered *i.p.*

Blood Pressure and derived respiratory rate via Femoral catheter

Ventilated at: 40-60 breaths/min 1-1.5 cc/breath

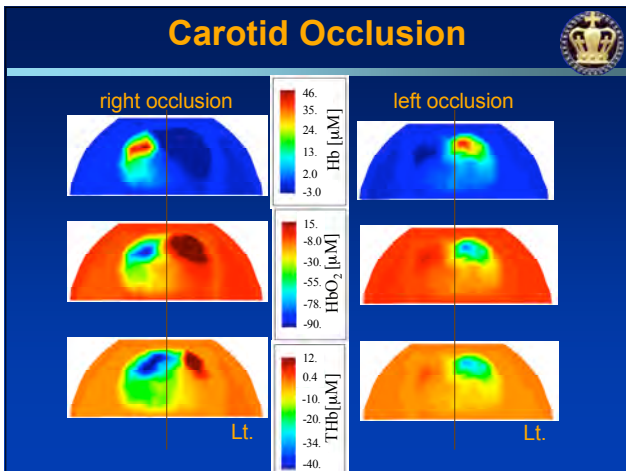
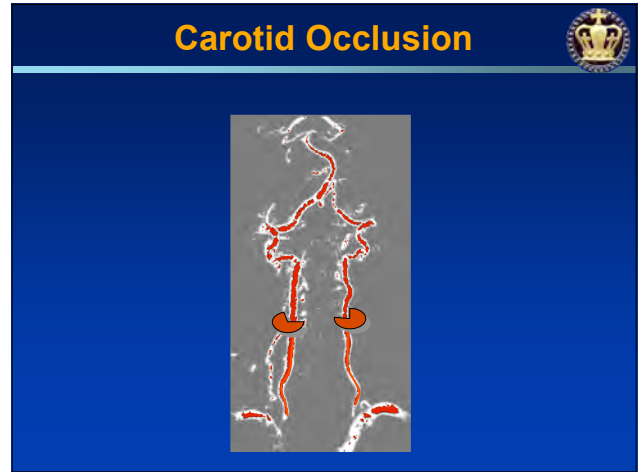
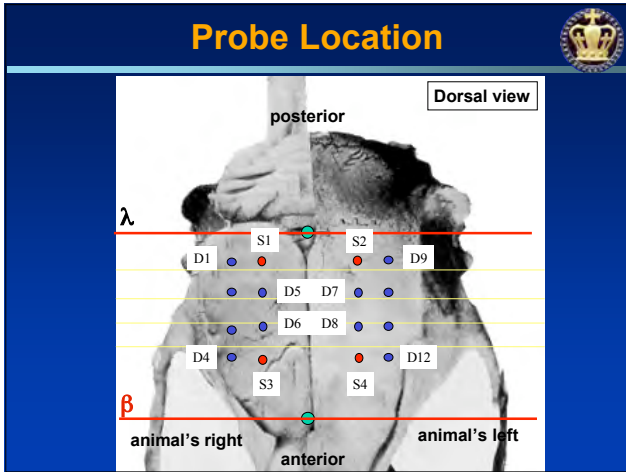
Regulate inspired [O<sub>2</sub>] and [CO<sub>2</sub>]

## Probe Geometry



- Forehead staven
- Animal's head fixed in place using stereotaxic
- Optical probe with fixed geometry positioned in line with lambda ( $\lambda$ ) suture line, optodes begin 2 mm anterior to  $\lambda$ .





### Two Wavelengths ( $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$ )

Reconstruction algorithm provides  $\Delta\mu_a$  for each volume element (voxel) of finite element mesh for each wavelength.

For each voxel we get two equations:

$$\Delta\mu_a^{\lambda_1} = \epsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda_1} \Delta[Hb] + \epsilon_{HbO_2}^{\lambda_1} \Delta[HbO_2]$$

$$\Delta\mu_a^{\lambda_2} = \epsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda_2} \Delta[Hb] + \epsilon_{HbO_2}^{\lambda_2} \Delta[HbO_2]$$

$\epsilon :=$  extinction coefficient (from literature)

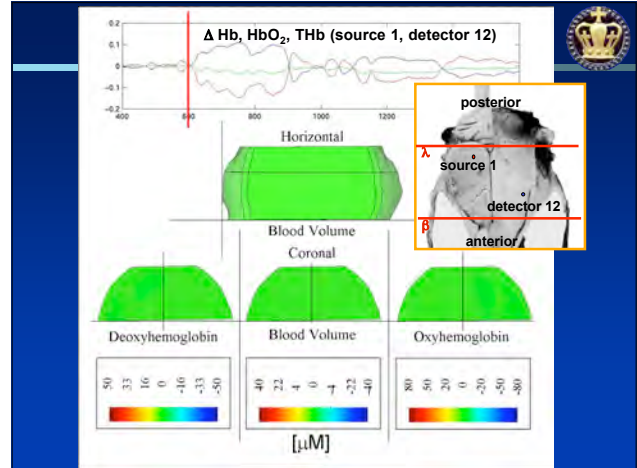
## Two Wavelengths

Reconstruction algorithm provides  $\Delta\mu_a$  for each volume element (voxel) of finite element mesh for each wavelength.

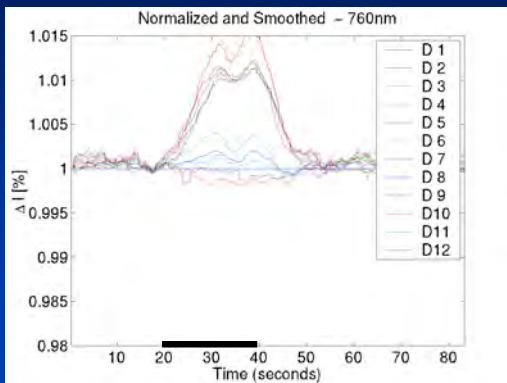
From this we can calculate changes in concentrations of oxy-hemoglobin,  $\Delta[Hb]$ , and dexoy-hemoglobin,  $\Delta[HbO_2]$ , for each voxel.

$$\Delta[Hb] = \frac{\epsilon_{HbO_2}^{\lambda_2} \Delta\mu_a^{\lambda_1} - \epsilon_{HbO_2}^{\lambda_1} \Delta\mu_a^{\lambda_2}}{\epsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda_1} \epsilon_{HbO_2}^{\lambda_2} - \epsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda_2} \epsilon_{HbO_2}^{\lambda_1}}$$

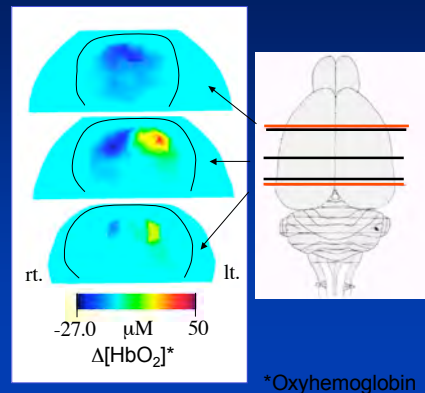
$$\Delta[HbO_2] = \frac{\epsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda_1} \Delta\mu_a^{\lambda_2} - \epsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda_2} \Delta\mu_a^{\lambda_1}}{\epsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda_1} \epsilon_{HbO_2}^{\lambda_2} - \epsilon_{Hb}^{\lambda_2} \epsilon_{HbO_2}^{\lambda_1}}$$

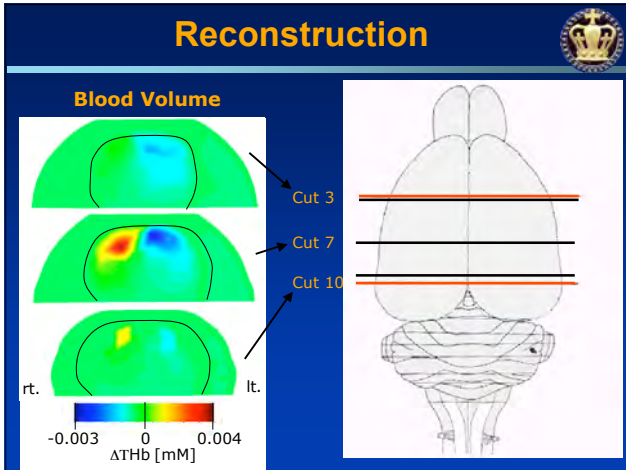


## Forepaw Stimulation



## Right Forepaw Stimulation





## For more details see:

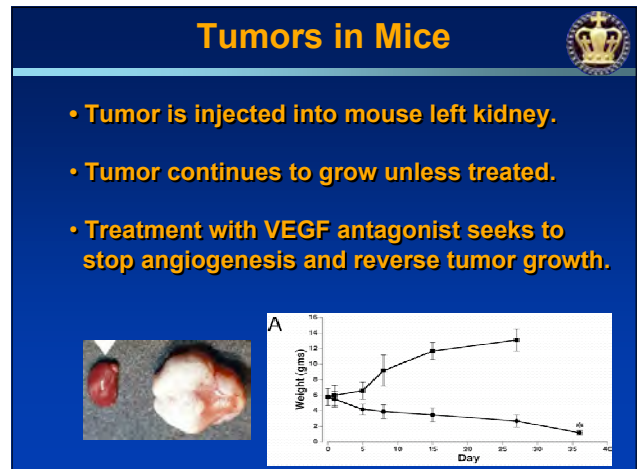
A.Y. Bluestone, M. Stewart, B. Lei, I.S. Kass, J. Lasker, G.S. Abdoulaev, A.H. Hielscher, "Three-dimensional optical tomographic brain imaging in small animals, Part I: Hypercapnia," *Journal of Biomedical Optics* 9(5), pp. 1046-1062 (2004).

A.Y. Bluestone, M. Stewart, J. Lasker, G.S. Abdoulaev, A.H. Hielscher, "Three-dimensional optical tomographic brain imaging in small animals, Part II: Unilateral Carotid Occlusion," *Journal of Biomedical Optics* 9(5), pp. 1063-1073 (2004).

A.Y. Bluestone, Kenichi Sakamoto, A.H. Hielscher, M. Stewart, "Three-Dimensional Optical Tomographic Brain Imaging during Kainic-Acid-Induced Seizures in Rats," in *Physiology, Function, and Structure from Medical Images*, A. Amini, A. Manduca, eds., SPIE-The International Society for Optical Engineering, Proc. 5746, pp. 58-66 (2005).

[www.bme.columbia.edu/biophotonics](http://www.bme.columbia.edu/biophotonics)

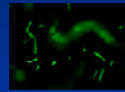
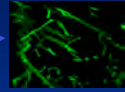
- ## Overview
- **Introduction**  
X-ray vs optical tomography
  - **Model-based iterative image reconstruction**  
Basic concepts and mathematical background
  - **Instrumentation**  
Static Measurements  
Dynamic Measurements
  - **Applications**  
Brain Imaging  
**Tumor Imaging**  
Fluorescence Imaging



## Tumors in Mice



- **Untreated tumors: highly vascularized** →
- **Treated tumors: much less vascularized** →
- **Currently:**  
Many mice are sacrificed to get tumor data
- **Only 1 time point per mouse**
- **We propose to use MRI and OT to study tumor size and vasculature in vivo**



Fluorescent staining with Lectin (10x)

## More Information:



Frischer JS, Huang JZ, Serur A, Kadenhe-Chiweshe A, McCrudden KW, O'Toole K, Holash J, Yancopoulos GD, Yamashiro DJ, Kandel JJ "Effects of potent VEGF blockade on experimental Wilms tumor and its persisting vasculature"  
INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ONCOLOGY 25 (3): pp. 549-553 (2004).

Huang JZ, Frischer JS, Serur A, Kadenhe A, Yokoi A, McCrudden KW, New T, O'Toole K, Zabski S, Rudge JS, Holash J, Yancopoulos GD, Yamashiro DJ, Kandel JJ "Regression of established tumors and metastases by potent vascular endothelial growth factor blockade"  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 100 (13): 7785-7790 (2003)

Glade-Bender J, Kandel JJ, Yamashiro DJ, "VEGF blocking therapy in the treatment of cancer"  
EXPERT OPINION ON BIOLOGICAL THERAPY 3 (2): 263-276 APR 2003

## fMRI vs Optical Tomography



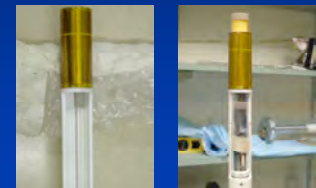
	fMRI	Optical Tomography
<b>Spatial Resolution</b>	0.1mm- 1mm	2mm - 10mm
<b>Sensitive to</b>	Hb (paramag.)	Hb, HbO <sub>2</sub> , cytochrome, etc, blood volume, scattering properties
<b>Speed</b>	0.1 - 1Hz	~50 Hz
<b>Cost</b>	> \$500,000	~ \$100,000
<b>Portability</b>	no	yes
<b>Continuous Monitoring</b>	no	yes

Combine high spatial resolution of fMRI and high speed and sensitivity of optical tomography!

## 9.4 Tesla MRI (Bruker Avance 400)




Micro2.5 Imaging set  
35mm diameter  
Linearly polarized  
Birdcage coil



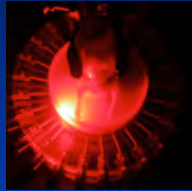


Typical imaging time: 30 - 60 minutes (T1 sequence)

### Optical Tomography Set Up




**Step 1** **Step 2** **Step 3**

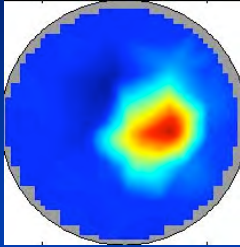

Lower mouse into imaging head. Add matching fluid (Intralipid). Illuminate with light (Image!)

Typical imaging time: 10 - 20 minutes

### Axial Slice




**[HbT]** **Optical** **MRI**

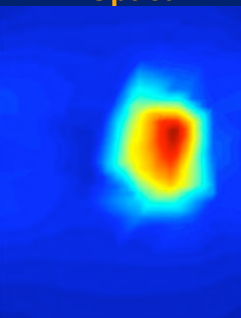
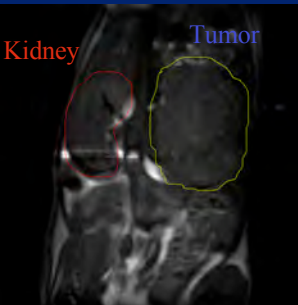



Total Hemoglobin

### Coronal Slice




**[HbT]** **Optical** **MRI**

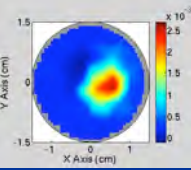
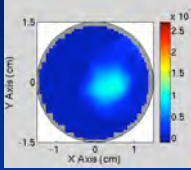



Total Hemoglobin

### Compare Untreated vs. Treated

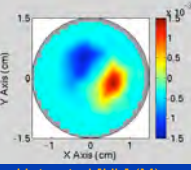
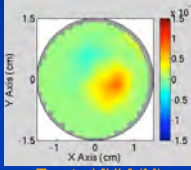


**Untreated [HbT]** **Treated [HbT]**

Untreated tumor has higher [HbT] than treated tumor because of higher vascularization.

**Untreated [Hb]** **Treated [Hb]**

Untreated tumor has higher [Hb] than treated tumor because it is HbO<sub>2</sub> starved.

## For more details see:



J. Masciotti, G. Abdoulaev, J. Hur, J. Papa, J. Bae, J. Huang, D. Yamashiro, J. Kandel, A.H. Hielscher, "Combined optical tomographic and magnetic resonance imaging of tumor bearing mice," in *Optical Tomography and Spectroscopy of Tissue VII*, B. Chance, R.R. Alfano, B.J. Tromberg, M. Tamura, E.M. Sevick-Muraca, eds., SPIE-The International Society for Optical Engineering, Proc. 5693, pp. 74-81 (2005).

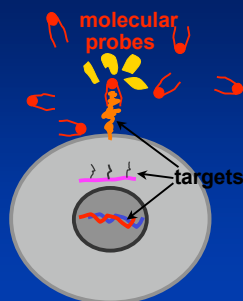
[www.bme.columbia.edu/biophotonics](http://www.bme.columbia.edu/biophotonics)

## Overview

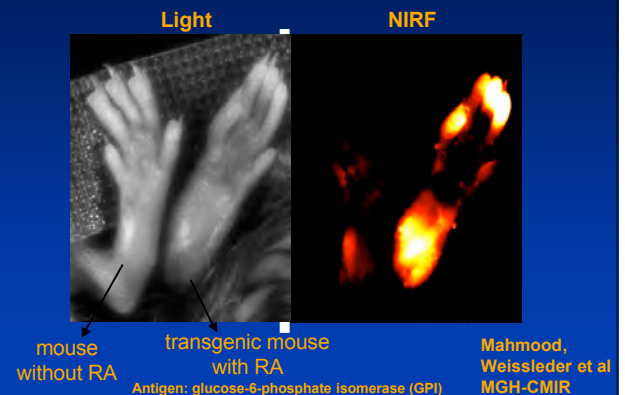


- **Introduction**  
X-ray vs optical tomography
- **Model-based iterative image reconstruction**  
Basic concepts and mathematical background
- **Instrumentation**  
General optical imaging modalities  
Dynamic optical tomography system
- **Applications**  
Brain Imaging  
Tumor Imaging  
Molecular Fluorescence Imaging

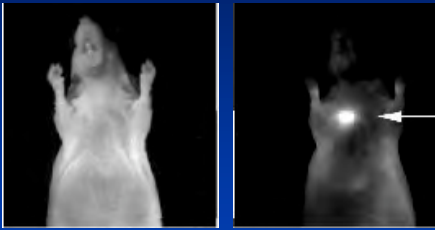
## Molecular Imaging



## Rheumatoid Arthritis



## Cancer Detection

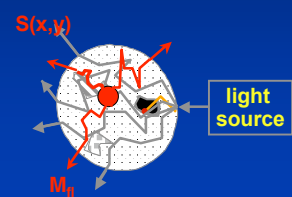
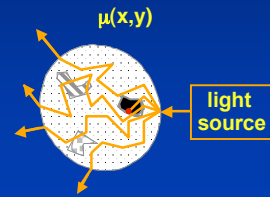


## Fluorescence Tomography



reconstruction of absorption and scattering profile  $\mu(x,y)$

reconstruction of fluorescence source profile  $S(x,y)$

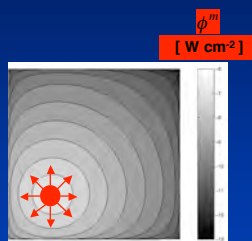
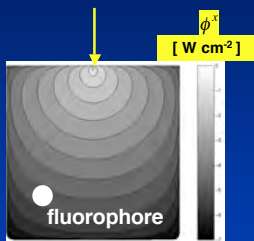


## Fluorescence Tomography



1) Excitation  $\lambda^x$

2) Emission  $\lambda^m$



$\mu_a^{x \rightarrow m}$  absorption of fluorophore

$\eta$  quantum yield of fluorophore

## Inverse Source Problem



$$\Omega \cdot \nabla \Psi(r, \Omega) + (\mu_a + \mu_s) \Psi(r, \Omega) = S(r, \Omega) + \mu_s \int_{4\pi} p(\Omega, \Omega') \Psi(r, \Omega') d\Omega'$$

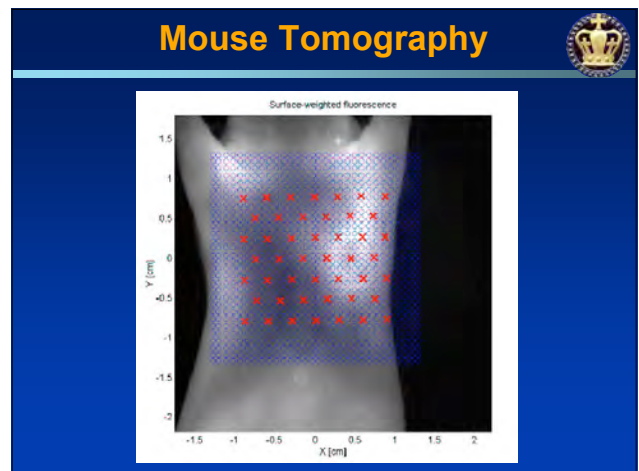
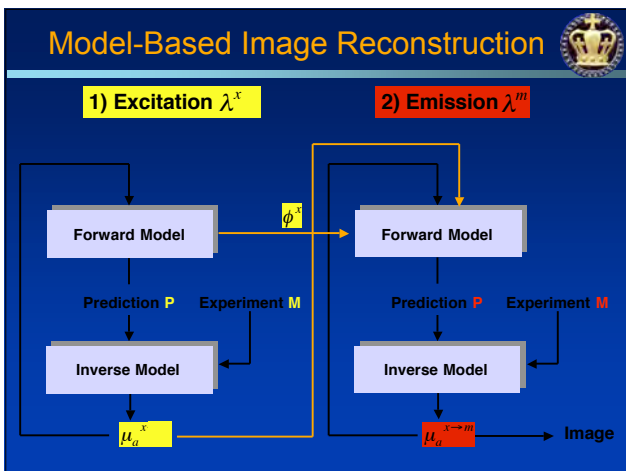
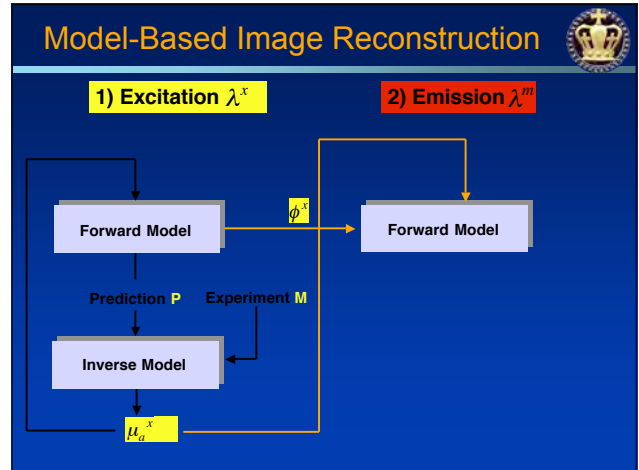
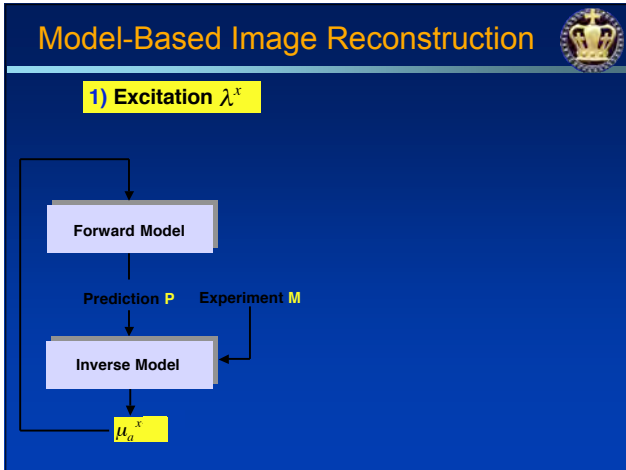
1) Excitation  $\lambda^x$

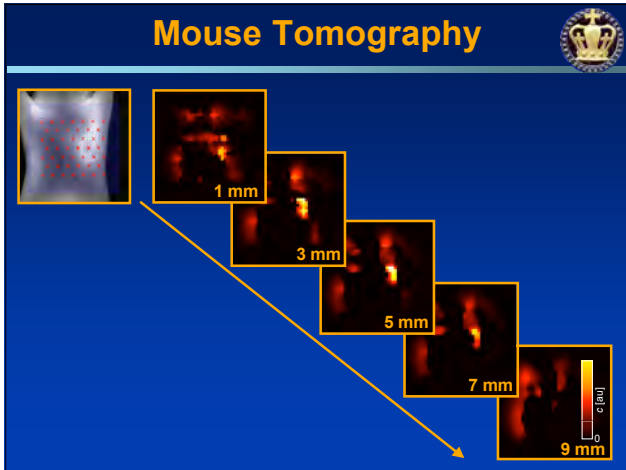
$$\Omega \cdot \nabla \Psi^x + (\mu_a^{x \rightarrow x} + \mu_a^{x \rightarrow m} + \mu_s^x) \Psi^x = S^x + \mu_s^x \int_{4\pi} p(\Omega, \Omega') \Psi^x(\Omega') d\Omega'$$

$$\phi^x = \int_{4\pi} \Psi^x(\Omega) d\Omega$$

2) Emission  $\lambda^m$

$$\Omega \cdot \nabla \Psi^m + (\mu_a^m + \mu_s^m) \Psi^m = \frac{1}{4\pi} \eta \mu_a^{x \rightarrow m} \phi^x + \mu_s^m \int_{4\pi} p(\Omega, \Omega') \Psi^m(\Omega') d\Omega'$$





## For more details see:

A.K. Klose, V. Ntziachristos, A.H. Hielscher, "The inverse source problem based on the radiative transfer equation in molecular optical imaging," *J. of Computational Physics* 202, pp. 323-345 (2005).

A.K. Klose, A.H. Hielscher, "Fluorescence tomography with the equation of radiative transfer for molecular imaging," *Optics Letters* 28(12), pp. 1019-1021 (2003).

A.K. Klose, A.H. Hielscher, "Optical fluorescence tomography with the equation of radiative transfer for molecular imaging," in *Optical Tomography and Spectroscopy of Tissue V*, B. Chance, R.R. Alfano, B.J. Tromberg, M. Tamura, E.M. Sevick-Muraca, eds., SPIE-The International Society for Optical Engineering, Proc. 4955, pp. 219-225 (2003).

[www.bme.columbia.edu/biophotonics](http://www.bme.columbia.edu/biophotonics)

- ## Summary
- **Introduction**  
X-Ray Tomography vs Optical Tomography
  - **Model-based iterative image reconstruction**  
Basic concepts and mathematical background
  - **Instrumentation**  
General optical imaging modalities  
Dynamic optical tomography system
  - **Applications**  
Brain Imaging  
Tumor Imaging  
Fluorescence Imaging

- ## Acknowledgements I
- **Students:**  
J. Masciotti, X. Gu, J. Hur, F. Provenzano, J. Lasker, A. Bluestone, B. Moa-Anderson
  - **Postdoctoral Fellows:**  
A. Klose, G. Abdoulaev, J. Papa
  - **Collaborators:**  
Columbia  
J. Kandel (Pediatrics & Surgery, Columbia)  
D. Yamashiro (Pediatrics & Surgery, Columbia)  
G. Bal (Applied Mathematics)  
SUNY - Downstate  
Mark Steward (Physiology & Pharmacology)  
R.L. Barbour (Pathology)  
C. Schmitz (NIRx Medical Technologies, Inc.)

## Acknowledgements II



- National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) (RO1 AR46255-01 PI: Hielscher)
- National Institute for Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) (R01 EB001900-01 PI: Hielscher and 5 R33 CA 91807-3 PI: Ntziachristos)
- National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) (SBIR 2R44-HL-61057-02)
- Whitaker Foundation (#98-0244 PI: Hielscher)
- Schering Research Foundation (PI: Klose)

## More Information

