

Biological Imaging

A technological platform dedicated to provide innovative optical solutions to researchers working in the field of life sciences.

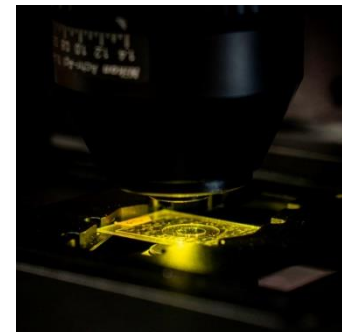
The platform gathers a variety of optical microscopy tools to perform imaging and single molecule analysis.

Available techniques

- **Quantitative phase microscopy**
Label-free contrast - Images give the local optical thickness distribution of the sample (transmission wide-field microscopy).
- **Polarization-resolved microscopy**
Controlling light polarization to probe orientation of single molecules and organization of biomolecular assemblies (fluorescence / nonlinear contrast).
- **Fluorescence correlation spectroscopy**
Fluorescence intensity fluctuations in a femtoliter volume provides information about molecular diffusion, molecular concentration and molecular associations (FRET)
- **Coherent Raman (CARS/SRS) microscopy**
Molecular spectroscopy - molecular organization imaging in biological tissue and soft matter – chemical mapping – metabolic imaging
- **Nonlinear (2photon, SHG, THG) microscopy**
Using ultrashort laser pulses for molecular imaging of cells and tissues. Can be used for in-depth imaging, and/or label-free imaging.



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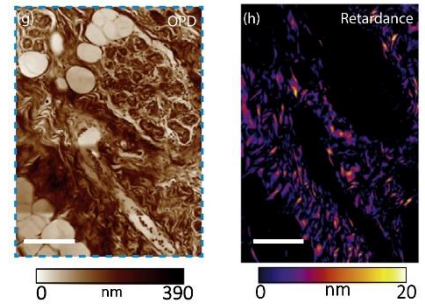
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Most of the instruments used were **developed in-house**. They are therefore **open and modular**, allowing them to be adapted to all types of samples and to consider specific studies, **conducted by the designers themselves**.

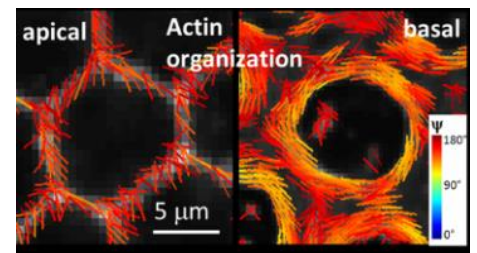
We also can **handle living samples**, including **mammalian cell culture** in a L2 facility.

Available measurements / examples

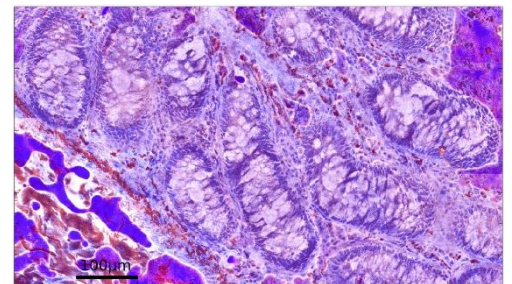
- **Quantitative phase imaging** - Dry mass monitoring of living cells (over hours or days) - Optical retardance imaging - specific image of collagen fibers – constraints in solid materials
- **Probing orientational order of biological molecules** – Orientation of C-H bonds in mouse myelin – Actin filaments organization -
- **Chemical imaging** – Mapping drug distribution in pharmaceutical products – Drug penetration in tissues (skin / hair) – Lipid imaging - metabolic imaging with deuterated molecules.
- **Tissue morphology / architecture** – Myelin organization – developmental biology – cancer tissues – Lipid distribution
- **Single molecule fluctuation dynamics** – conformational modulations – FRET analysis – Measurement of hydrodynamic radii of proteins -



Advanced stage of tumoral mouse skin slice tissue. Aknoun et al. Opt. Comm.



Mavrakis et al. Nat. Cell Bio (2014)



False colors image of a label-free frozen section of healthy human colon. Spatial map of proteins (blue) and lipids (pink), and collagen (red). Image total acquisition time 15 minutes. Audier et al. Optics Exp. (2020)

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