

# ImageJ 顯微影像分析與程式設計 物件追蹤分析

Ji-ying Huang(黃紀穎)



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# Understanding Tracking

Tracking: "following moving objects over time"

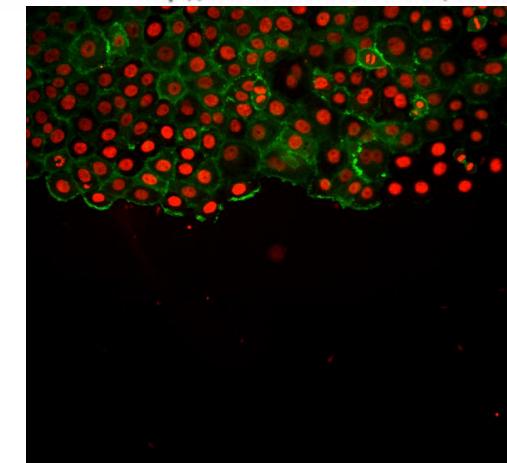
This process can be computationally intensive, especially for large datasets or complex object behaviors.

## Applications in Cell Biology

Studying cell migration, cell division, protein dynamics, and signal transduction



Source: Konrad Schindler, Computer Vision Lab, ETH Zurich  
<http://www.vision.ee.ethz.ch/datasets/>



# Cell tracking and analysis

## Goals

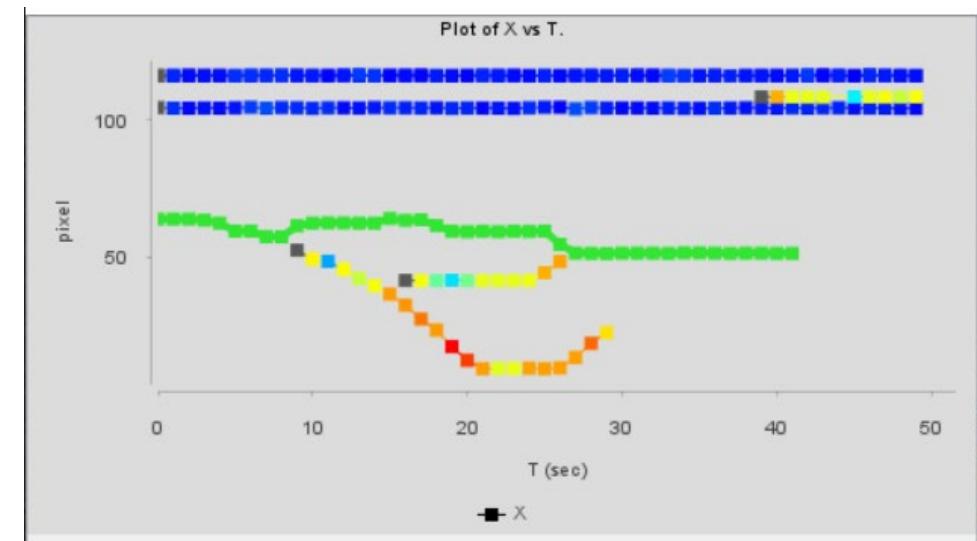
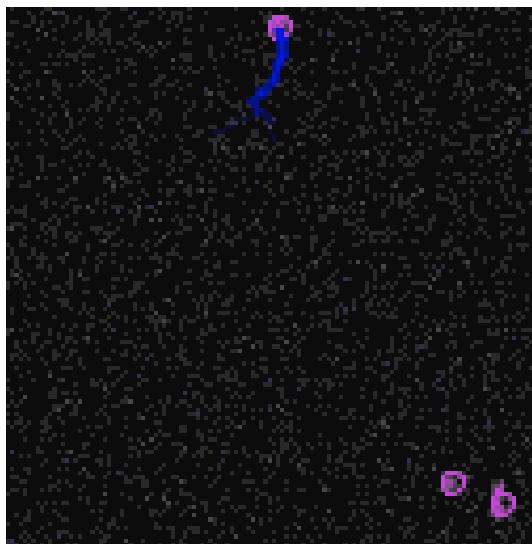
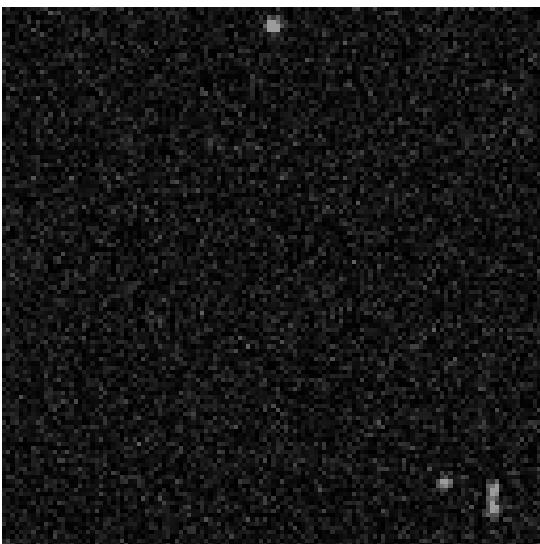
- Learn the fundamental concepts and principles of cell tracking
- Become familiar with using FIJI/ImageJ for cell tracking plugin Trackmate
- Data processing and interpretation after cell tracking analysis

## Outline

- Part1:Introduction Tracking and tools
  - What is tracking
  - Cell Tracking in Microscopy Images using FIJI/ImageJ
  - Introduction Trackmate
  - Large-scale image tacking
  - Non-particle image tracking
- Part2: Hand-On Tracking with Trackmate
  - Example1: DoG detector
  - Example2: Z-stack time-lapse image
  - Example3: StarDist detector

# Cell tracking and analysis

From image to data



Export to CSV

Spots	Label	Spot ID	Track ID	Quality (quality)	X (pixel)	Y (pixel)	Z (pixel)	T (sec)	Frame	R (pixel)	Visibility
Edges											
Tracks	ID2560	2560	0	24.06	63.964	6.043	0	1	1	2.5	1
	ID2624	2624	0	25.864	51.564	86.598	0	27	27	2.5	1
	ID2691	2691	0	24.754	51.448	117.476	0	40	40	2.5	1
	ID2564	2564	0	25.713	59.559	19.488	0	6	6	2.5	1
	ID2693	2693	0	26.76	51.486	108.431	0	37	37	2.5	1
	ID2630	2630	0	24.442	54.763	82.574	0	26	26	2.5	1

# Reference

Part of this document is adapted from the following material under CC BY 4.0



Dr. Robert Haase  
“Physic of Life” (PoL), TU Dresden, Germany

<https://f1000research.com/slides/11-744>  
<https://www.youtube.com/@haesleinhuepf/videos>



Dr. Jean-Yves Tinevez  
Image Analysis Hub, Institut Pasteur, Paris

<https://github.com/trackmate-sc/TrackMate>

# Cell Tracking in Microscopy Images

## ▼ Categories filter

All  Any

- Colocalization
- Color Processing
- Complexity

- Image Annotation
- ImageJ2
- ImageScience

- OME
- Object Detection
- Ops

- Track analysis
- Tracking
- TrakEM2

 **Tissue Branch Tracker**  
Tracking, Tissue, Skeleton

 **CiliaQ**  
Automation, 3D, Analysis, Particle Analysis, Segmentation, Object Detection, Colocalization, Tracking, Cilia

 **FilamentDetector**  
Object Detection, Tracking

 **Low Light Tracking Tool**  
Tracking

 **Getting started with MaMuT**  
Tracking, Tutorials

 **MaMuT**  
Tracking

 **Manual Tracking**  
Particle Analysis, Tracking

 **Mastodon**  
Segmentation, Tracking

 **MotiQ**  
Automation, Analysis, Particle Analysis, Segmentation, Object Detection, Neuron, Tracking, Skeleton

 **MTrack**  
Tracking, Microtubules

 **MTrack2**  
Tracking

 **MTrackJ**  
Tracking, ImageScience

 **Particle Tracker**  
Particle Analysis, Tracking

 **PhotoBend**  
Tracking

 **PillarTracker**  
Tracking, Visualization, Analysis, Filtering

 **Public data sets**  
Example Data, Segmentation, Tracking

 **SpotTracker**  
Particle Analysis, Tracking

 **Temporal Median**  
Tracking, Filtering

 **ToAST**  
Tracking

 **Close gaps in tracks by introducing temporal median**  
Segmentation, Tracking, Benchmark

 **TrackMate Actions**  
Segmentation, Tracking

 **Export tracking results in the cell**  
Segmentation, Tracking, Benchmark

 **TrackMate-ExTrack**  
Tracking

 **TrackMate DoG detector**  
Segmentation, Tracking

 **TrackMate-Cellpose-Advanced**  
Segmentation, Tracking, Machine Learning

 **TrackMate-Cellpose**  
Segmentation, Tracking, Machine Learning

 **TrackMate-Ilastik**  
Segmentation, Tracking, Machine Learning

 **TrackMate-Label-Image-Detector**  
Segmentation, Tracking

 **TrackMate-Lacss**  
Segmentation, Tracking, Deep Learning, Machine Learning

 **TrackMate Mask detector**  
Segmentation, Tracking

 **TrackMate-MorphoLibJ**  
Segmentation, Tracking

 **TrackMate-Omnipose-Advanced**  
Segmentation, Tracking, Machine Learning

 **TrackMate-Omnipose**  
Segmentation, Tracking, Machine Learning

 **TrackMate-StarDist**  
Segmentation, Tracking, Machine Learning

 **TrackMate-Thresholding-Detecto**  
Segmentation, Tracking

 **TrackMate v7 detectors**  
Tracking, Segmentation

 **TrackMate-Weka**  
Segmentation, Tracking, Machine Learning

 **Extending TrackMate**  
Segmentation, Tracking

 **TrackMate-Helper**  
Segmentation, Tracking, Benchmark

 **TrackMate Kymograph**  
Tracking, Kymograph

 **TrackMate-Oneat**  
Tracking

 **TrackMate**  
Segmentation, Tracking

 **TrackMate FAQ**  
Tracking, Segmentation

 **Scripting TrackMate**  
Tracking, Segmentation

 **Setting keys for TrackMate detection**  
Tracking, Segmentation, Scripting

 **Using TrackMate from MATLAB**  
Segmentation, Tracking

 **TrackMate Accuracy**  
Segmentation, Tracking

 **TrackMate Trackastral**  
Tracking, Machine Learning

 **Manual editing of tracks using TrackMate**  
Segmentation, Tracking

 **Manual tracking with TrackMate**  
Segmentation, Tracking

 **Shortcuts for editing and navigating with TrackMate**  
Segmentation, Tracking

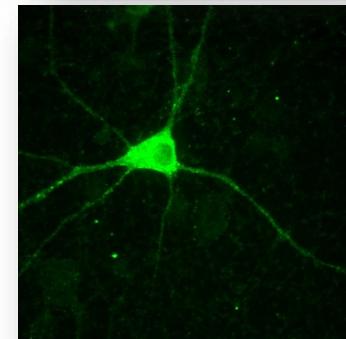
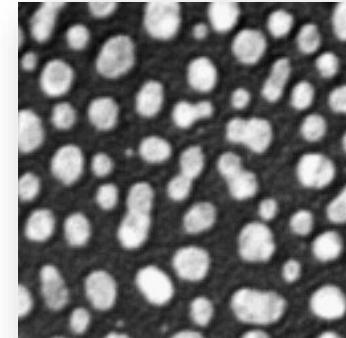
 **TrackMate display settings**  
Tracking, Segmentation

 **TrackScheme**  
Tracking

 **Large-scale cell tracking under development**  
Tracking

# Cell Tracking in Microscopy Images

- Particle tracking
  - Trackmate
  - Mastodon/ELEPLANT (BigDATA)
- Non-particle tracking
  - Neuron/Microtubule Tracking
  - Kymograph
- Manual tracking
  - MTrackJ
  - Manual tracking



# Manual tracking

- Manually labeling target objects in an image sequence frame by frame to track their movement trajectories.
- It is a traditional and direct tracking method suitable for complex or challenging scenarios where automated tracking is difficult.
- High accuracy, High flexibility, but time-consuming and labor-intensive
- Not suitable for large-scale data sets

# Trackmate: Automated Tracking for Microscopy images



An open-source plugin for Fiji/ImageJ enabling robust tracking of particles and objects within 2D and 3D microscopy datasets.

## Key Features Include:

- Simplified workflow through an interactive wizard
- Versatile: Compatible with diverse biological data, including single particles, cells, and organelles
- Multiple tracking algorithms: LAP (Linear Assignment Problem), Kalman filter, etc.
- Provides customizable analysis pipelines
- Visualization and export options for track analysis
- Extensive documentation and active community support

# Citing TrackMate papers

- Please note that TrackMate is available through Fiji, and is based on several publications. If you use it successfully for your research please be so kind as to cite our work:

Methods 115 (2017) 80–90

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Methods

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/ymeth](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ymeth)

**TrackMate: An open and extensible platform for single-particle tracking**

Jean-Yves Tinevez<sup>a,\*</sup>, Nick Perry<sup>a,1</sup>, Johannes Schindelin<sup>b,2</sup>, Genevieve M. Hoopes<sup>c</sup>, Gregory D. Reynolds<sup>c</sup>, Emmanuel Laplantine<sup>d</sup>, Sebastian Y. Bednarek<sup>c</sup>, Spencer L. Shorte<sup>a</sup>, Kevin W. Eliceiri<sup>b,e</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Imagopole, Citech, Institut Pasteur, 75724 Paris, France  
<sup>b</sup> Laboratory for Optical and Computational Instrumentation, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI 53706, USA  
<sup>c</sup> Department of Biochemistry, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI 53706, USA  
<sup>d</sup> Laboratory of Signaling and Pathogenesis, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, UMR 3691, Institut Pasteur, 75724 Paris, France  
<sup>e</sup> Morgridge Institute for Research, Madison, WI 53719, USA

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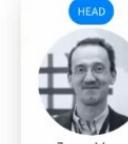
Brief Communication | Published: 02 June 2022

## TrackMate 7: integrating state-of-the-art segmentation algorithms into tracking pipelines

Dmitry Ershov, Minh-Son Phan, Joanna W. Pyvänen, Stéphane U. Rigaud, Laure Le Blanc, Arthur Charles-Orszag, James R. W. Conway, Romain F. Laine, Nathan H. Roy, Daria Bonazzi, Guillaume Duménil, Guillaume Jacquemet  & Jean-Yves Tinevez 

[Nature Methods](#) (2022) | [Cite this article](#)

4162 Accesses | 274 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

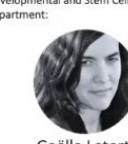
 **HEAD**  
Jean-Yves Tinevez  
RESEARCH ENGINEER

 **ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**  
Cidalia Da Agra

 **RESEARCH ENGINEER**  
Stéphane Rigaud

 **RESEARCH ENGINEER**  
Minh-Son Phan

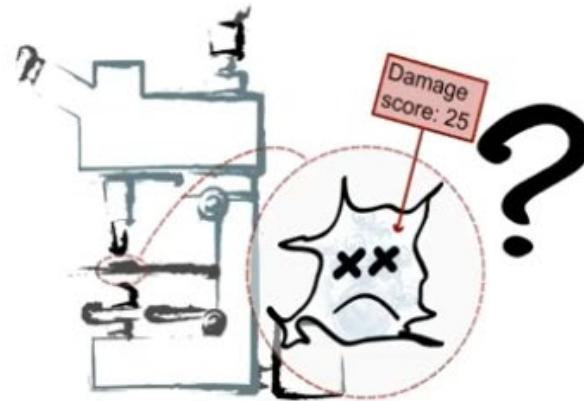
 **GRADUATE STUDENT**  
Laura Xénard

 **RESEARCH ENGINEER**  
Gaëlle Letort

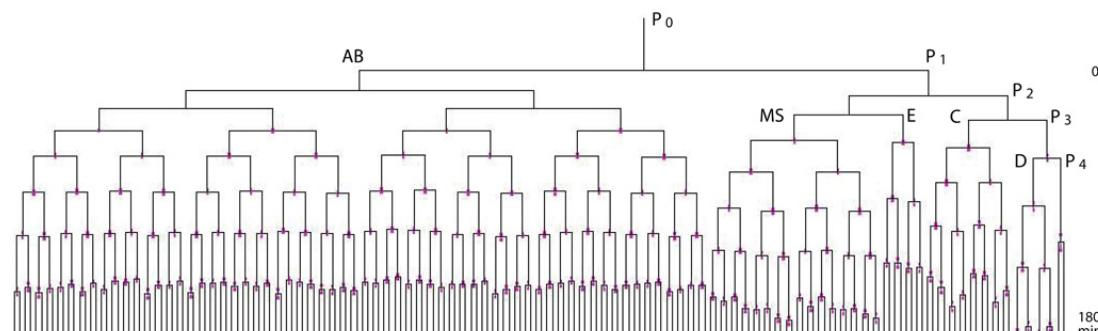
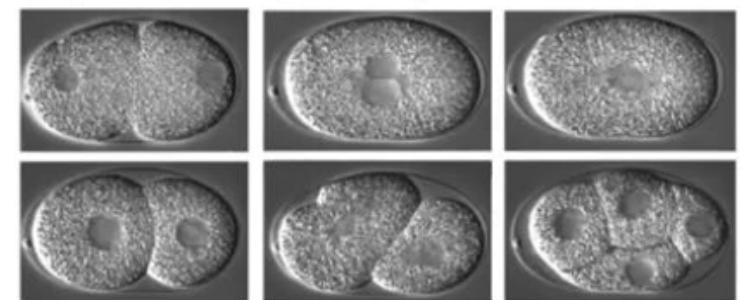
Developmental and Stem Cell Biology department:

# Developing TrackMate

## Quantifying phototoxicity.



Using a live sample to measure something about a microscope (instead of the converse).  
We picked: the *C.elegans* embryo.



The lineage with vertical lines proportional to the average cell cycle length and the magenta bars to the standard deviation

Control of Cell Cycle Timing during *C. elegans* Embryogenesis Dev Biol. 2008 Mar 13;318(1):65–72. doi: 10.1016/j.ydbio.2008.02.054

# Trackmate analysis pipeline

- Image enhancement

- Filtering

- Registration

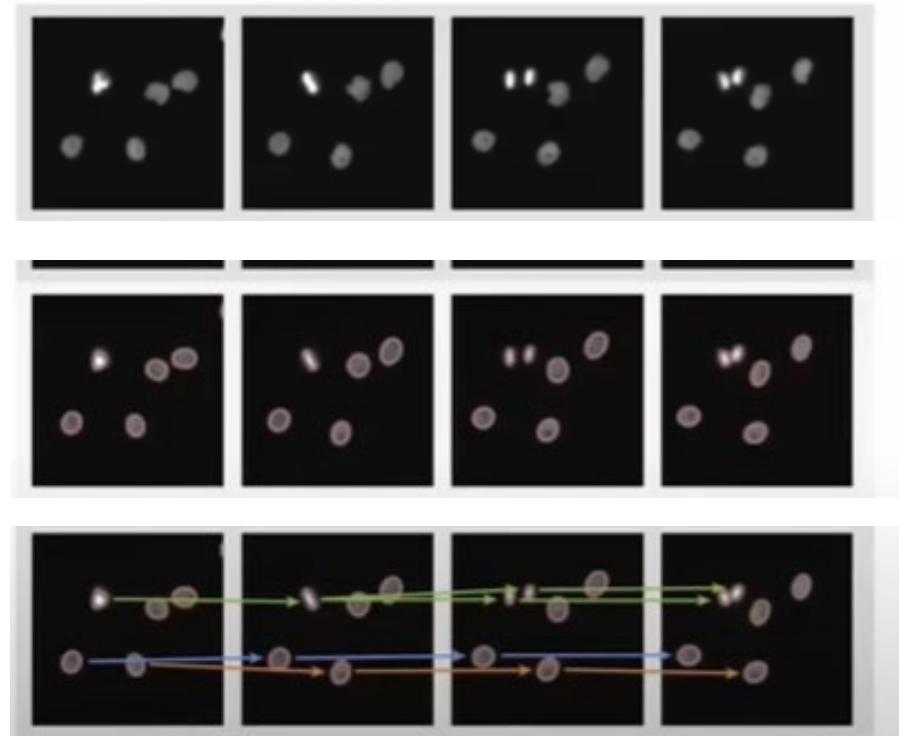
- Cell detection and segmentation

- Spot tracking

- Object tracking

- Tracking Data Linking

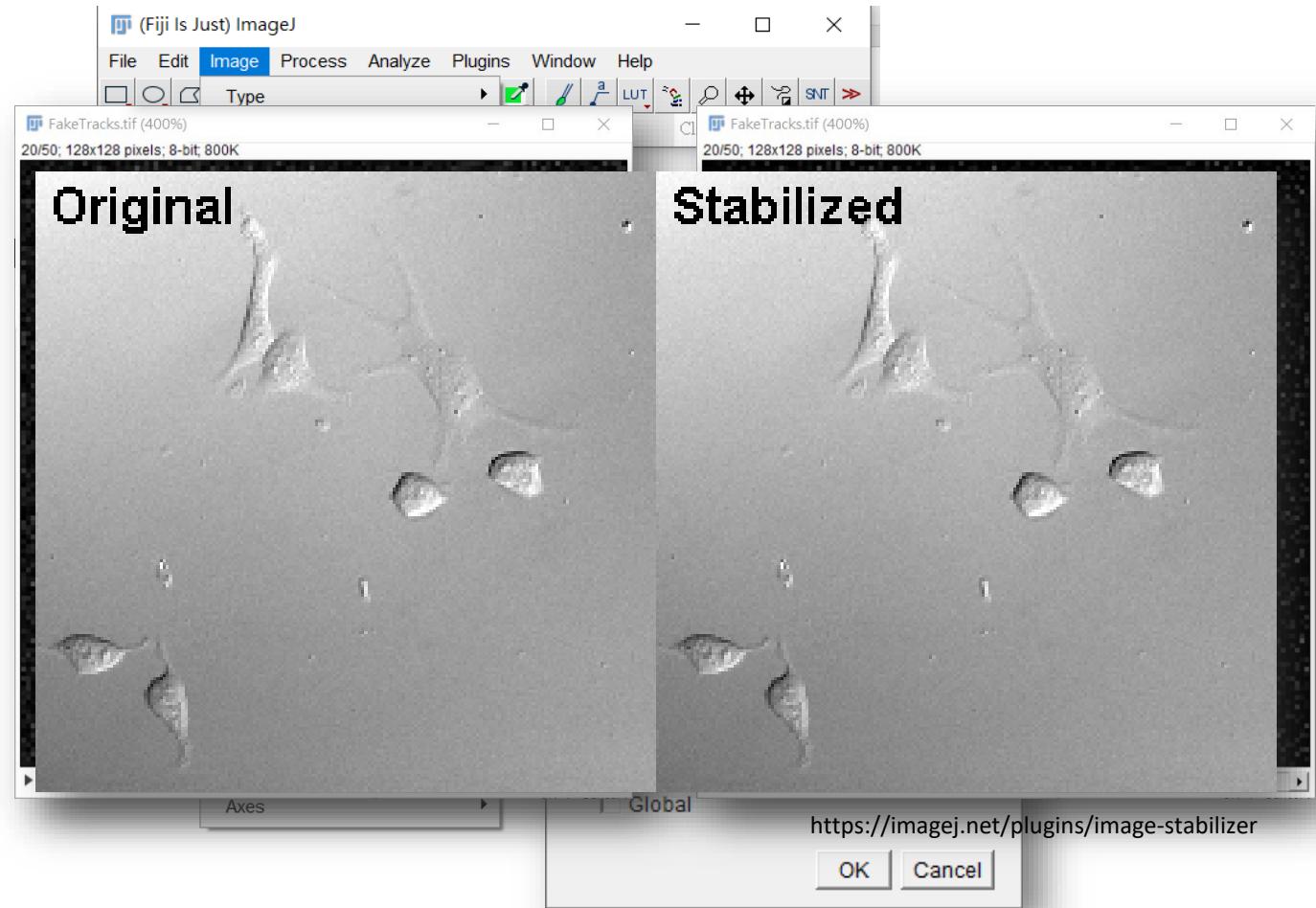
- Statistical Analysis and Visualization of Tracking Data



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fIE4i3G7L9Y  
&list=PLOwA4gPJUz6ufHx2THW-WO7IKvUX3u-  
&index=5](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fIE4i3G7L9Y&list=PLOwA4gPJUz6ufHx2THW-WO7IKvUX3u-&index=5)

# Image processing

- Properties
- Filtering
  - Subtract background
- Registration



# Detection and Segmentation

Many cell tracking related questions can be answered without segmentation...

Objective segmentation



Cat

Semantic segmentation



Cat

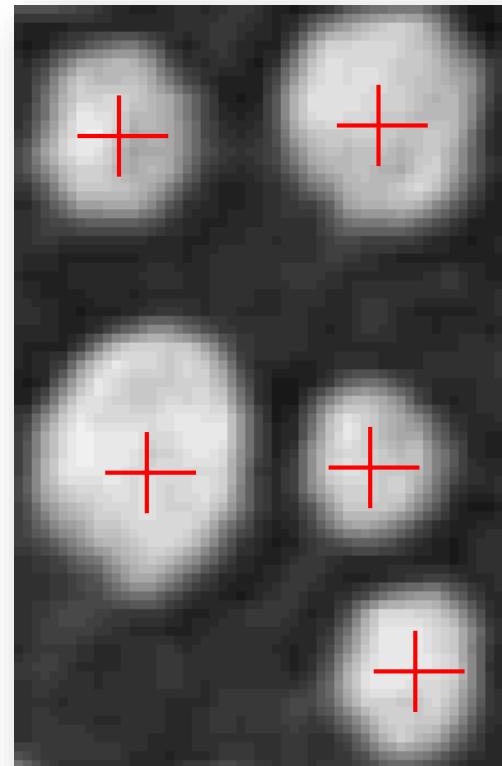


Cat

# Cell identification and segmentation

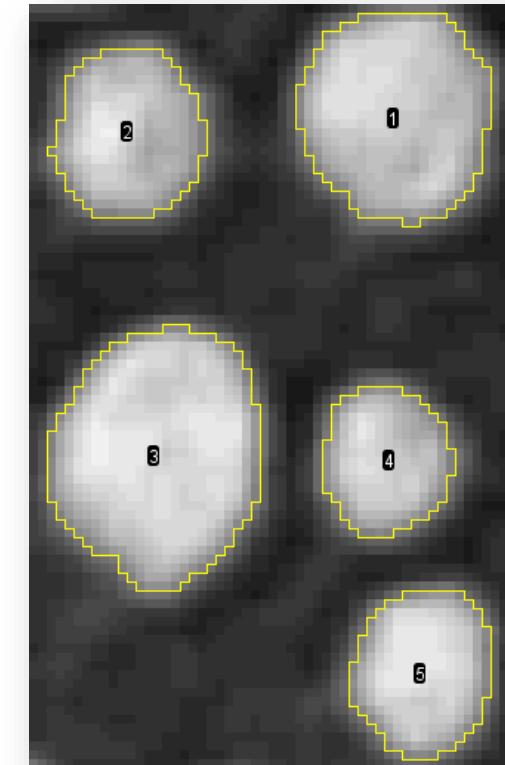
## Spot tracking

Tracking the centroid of each particle's signal



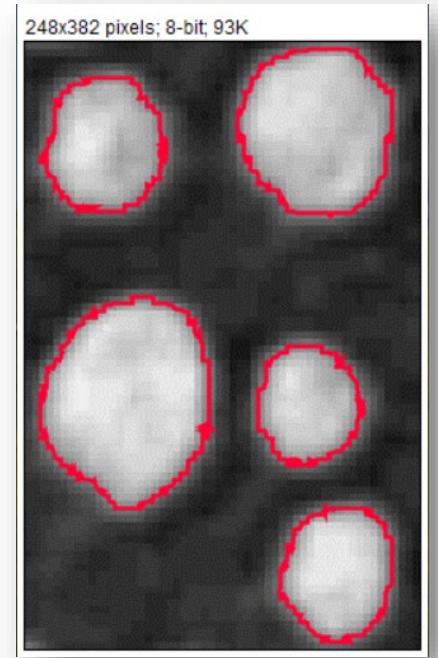
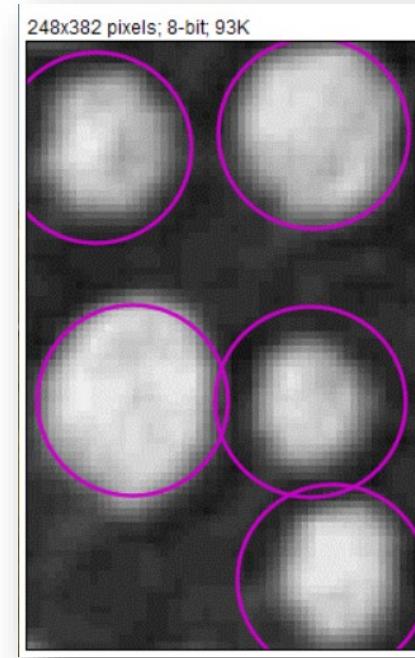
## Object tracking

Tracking the entire shape and size of the object



# Trackmate Detectors

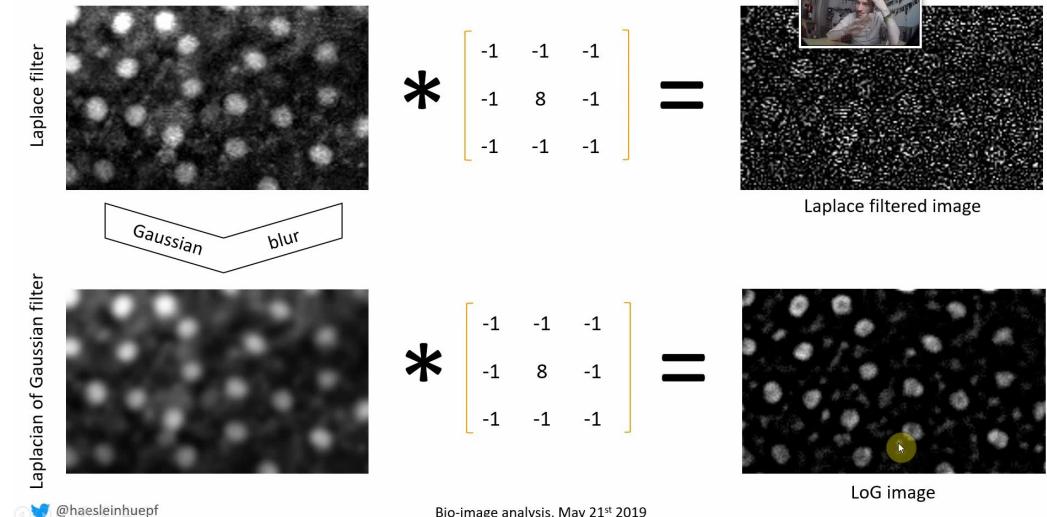
- Spot detectors.
  - LoG, DoG detectors
  - They can detect objects, their X, Y, Z position and a radius.
  - These spots have **NO** shape information.
- Intensity-base detectors
  - Threshold, Masks or label images
  - Get morphological descriptors and accurate intensity measurements in objects
- ML & DL Detectors
  - AI-based segmentation
  - Default & Pre-train model



# Spot Detectors

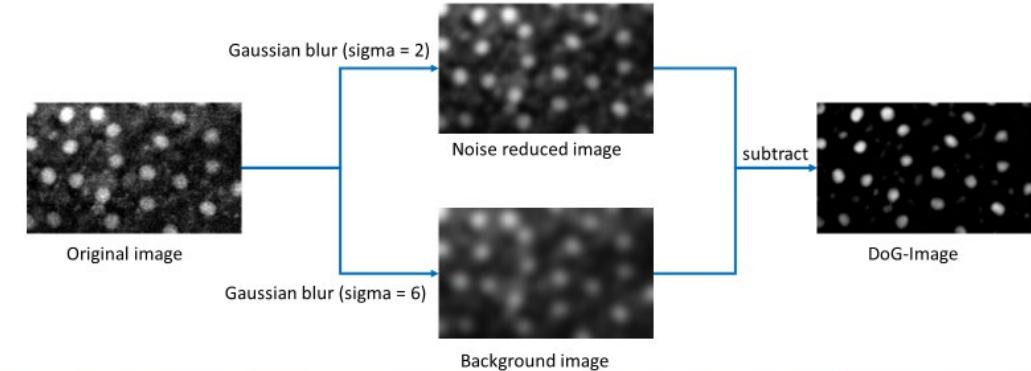
- The LoG detector
  - Laplacian of Gaussian segmentation on the image.
  - Optimal for intermediate spot sizes, between  $\approx 5$  and  $\approx 20$  pixels in diameter.
- The DoG detector
  - Difference of Gaussians approach to approximate a LoG filter by the difference of 2 Gaussians.
  - Optimal for small spot sizes, below  $\approx 5$  pixels.
- The Downsample LoG detector
  - LoG detector, but downsizes the image by an integer factor before filtering.
  - Optimal for large spot sizes, above  $\approx 20$  pixels in diameter, at the cost of localization precision.

## Laplacian-of-Gaussian (LoG)

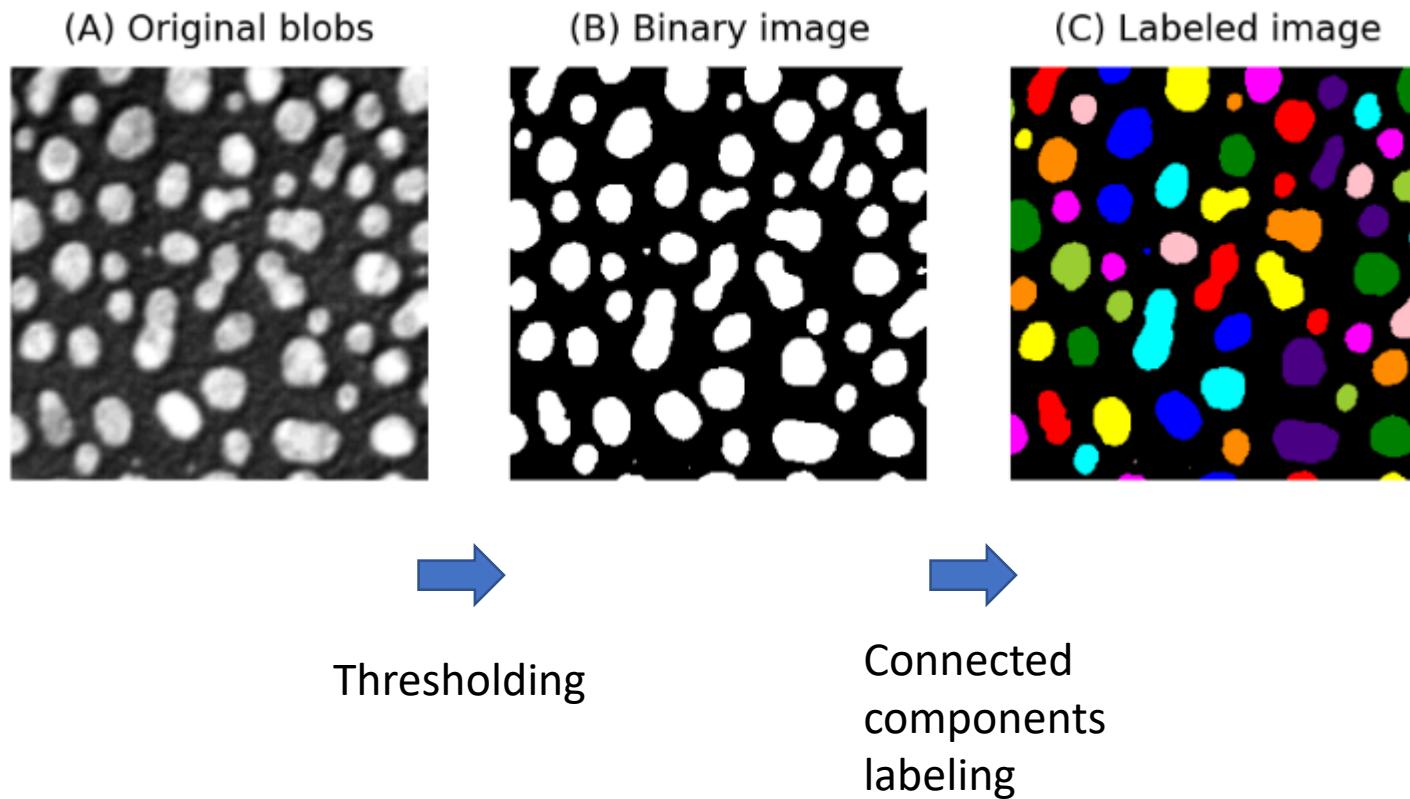


## Difference-of-Gaussian (DoG)

- Bandpass filter to eliminate low and high frequencies; a.k.a. noise and background

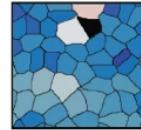


# Intensity-base detectors



# AI-base Detectors

- B&W masks
- Label images
- Thresholded images



MorphoLibJ  
morphological  
segmentation



Weka  
custom model



lلاstik  
custom pixel  
classification project



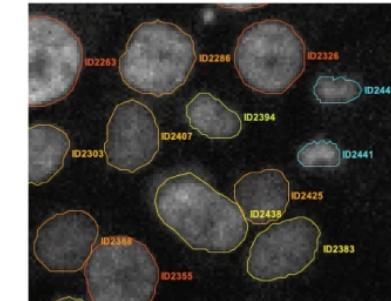
StarDist  
built-in nuclei model  
and custom models



Cellpose  
built-in models  
and custom models



Integrated  
into TrackMate UI



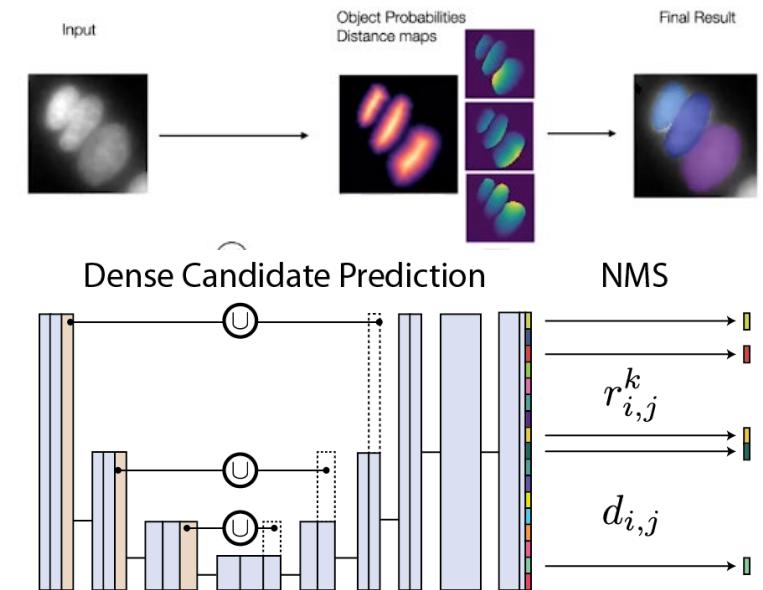
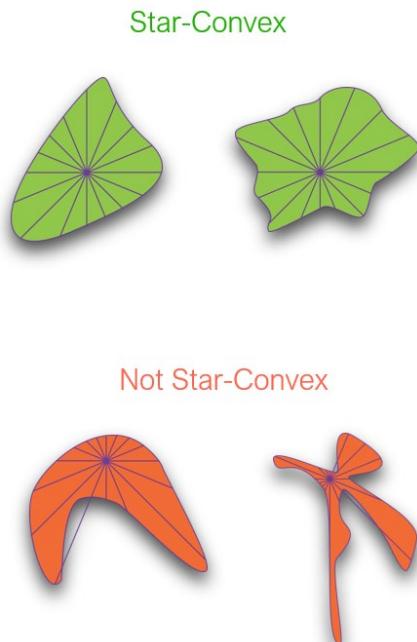
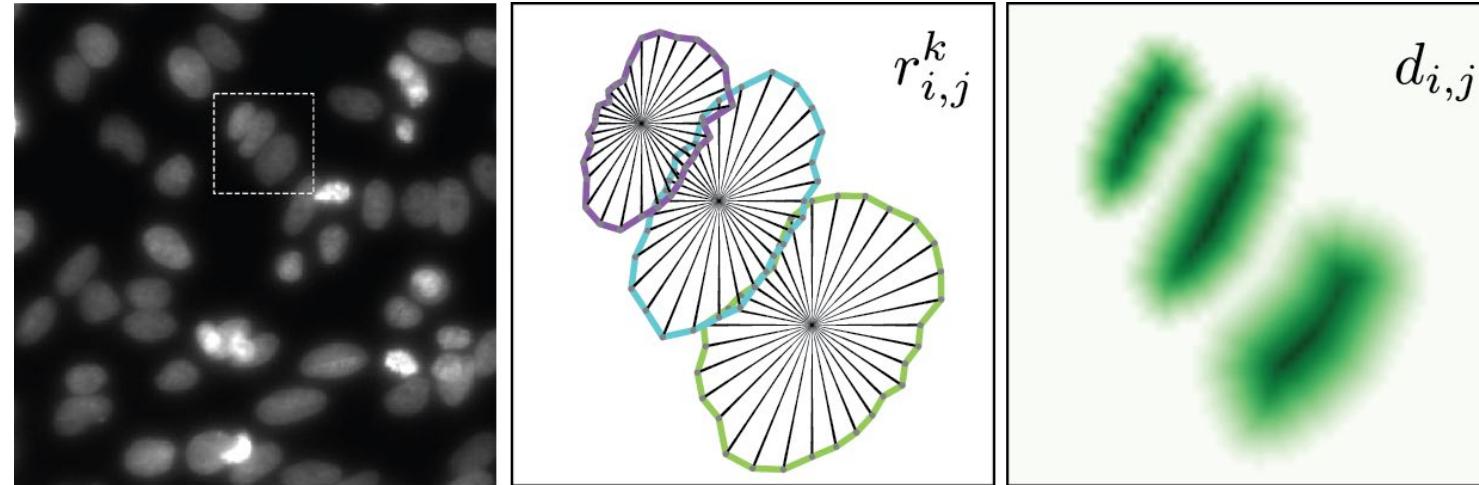
New TrackMate API:  
Interoperate with external  
segmentation components.  
Store, create and analyze  
object contours.

- Tracking cells
- Lineage tracing
- Changes in 2D shape over time
- Changes in intensity over time
- 2D to 3D segmentation

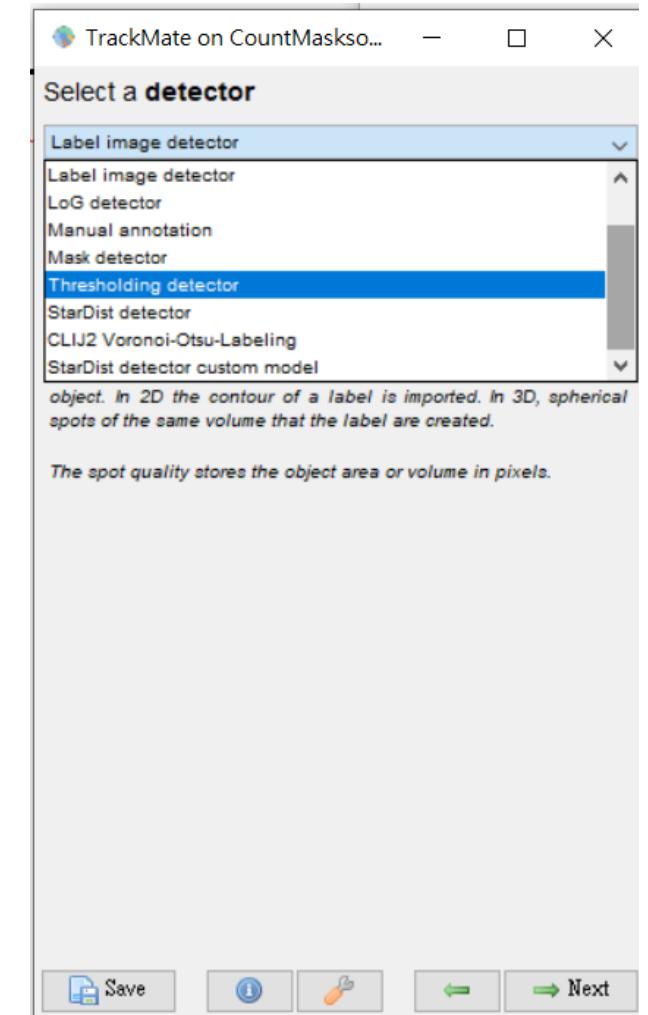
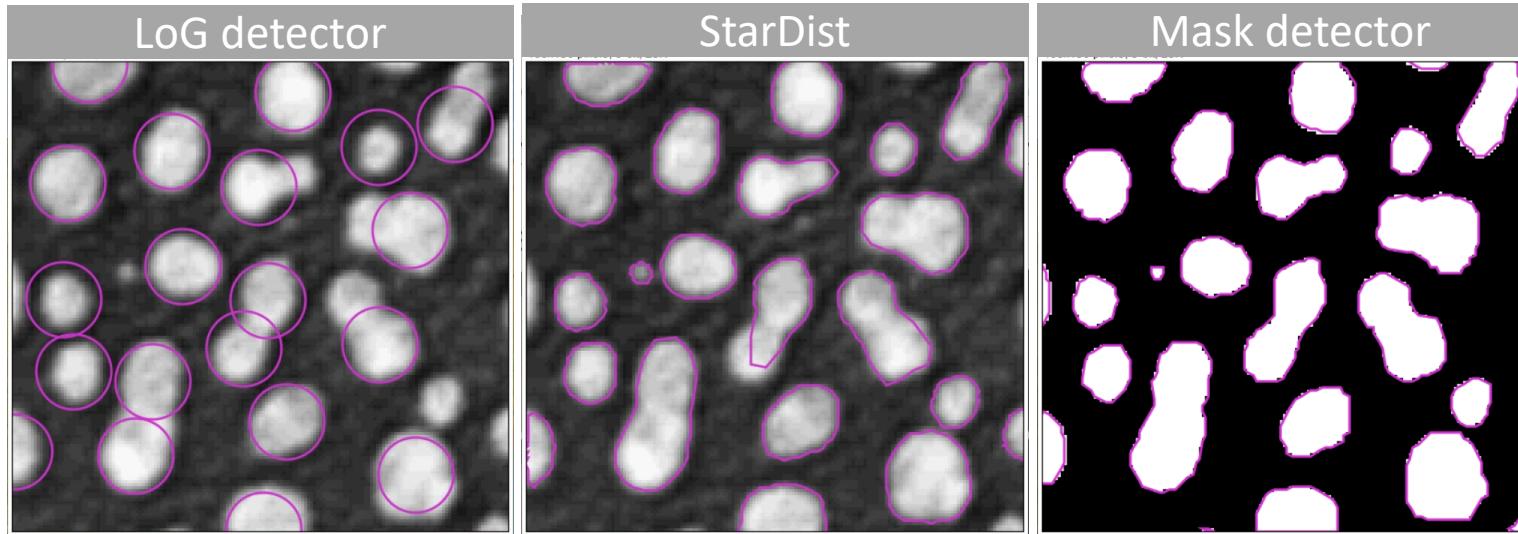


# StarDist

- Object Detection with Star-convex Shapes
- Utilizes deep learning algorithms for object detection segmentation in images
- It can effectively process images with overlapping or clustered cells

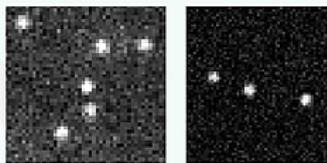


# Trackmate object Detectors

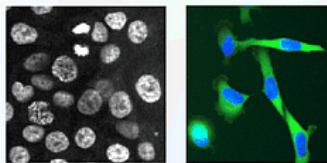


# Choosing the detector in TrackMate according to your use-case.

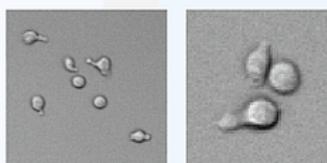
Sub-resolved particles (shapeless because their size is smaller than the optical resolution).  
Objects that resemble a gaussian peak.



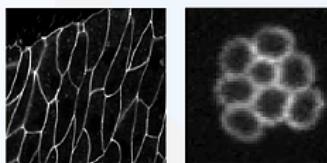
Densely packed nuclei images in 2D, imaged in fluorescence. Multi-channel images including a channel for nuclei.  
Objects that resemble a nucleus (blob-like shape, bright).



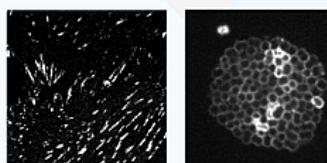
Cells imaged in transmitted light (bright-field, phase-contrast or DIC). Objects in 2D that are not nuclei, are dense and of complex shape.



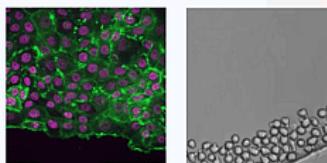
Cells stained for their membrane imaged in fluorescence.



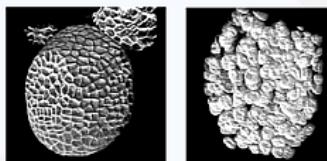
Objects of size that varies, of complex shape, or identifiable by their texture.



Images for which the above approaches fail.



Segmenting objects in 3D images using a slice-by-slice approach.



## The LoG detector.

If the image is 3D and the spot size is below 8 pixels in size, the DoG detector is faster.



## The StarDist detector with the built-in model.

For multi-channel image simply specify in what channel are the nuclei.



## The StarDist detector with a custom model trained on the same kind of images.

First look for a suitable model e.g. on the BioImage Model Zoo (<https://bioimage.io/>). If nothing fitting can be found, trained your own model e.g. using Zero-CostDL4Mic (<https://github.com/HenriquesLab/ZeroCostDL4Mic/wiki>)



## The MorphoLibJ detector.

Preprocessing might be required to ensure the cell contours are closed and well defined. Add the result of the pre-processing as a supplemental channel in the input image.



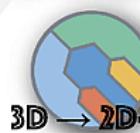
## The ilastik detector or the Weka detector inputting a pixel classifier trained on the object.

The choice of one or the other is governed by performance considerations and accuracy provided by the available pixel features.



## Use an external segmentation tool and input its results in TrackMate using the Mask detector, Label-Image detector or Threshold detector.

For instance, use cellpose in ZeroCostDL4Mic.



## Segment the Z-stack slice by slice, using one of the approach above, tricking TrackMate into thinking the 3D stack is a 2D over time movie.

Then merge the segmentation results in Z using a tracking formulation e.g. with the overlap tracker. Then export the results using the Export label image action.

# Linking

- Linking algorithms

- LAP trackers:

Tracking algorithms based on the Linear Assignment Problem algorithm

- Kalman tracker:

Tracking algorithm suitable for objects that move with a nearly constant velocity.

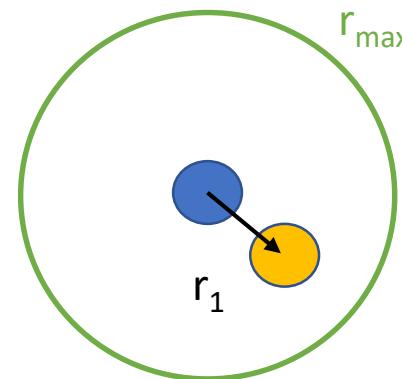
- Overlap tracker:

Tracker based on overlapping object contours, suitable for object with complex shapes and limited movements.

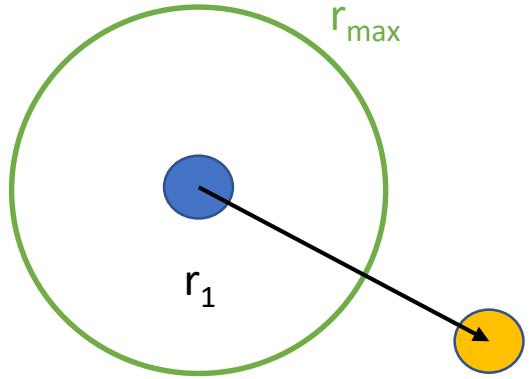
- Nearest-Neighbor tracker:

Simplest tracker.

 =t1     =t2



Link ( $r_1 < r_{\max}$ )



NO Link ( $r_1 > r_{\max}$ )

overlap 

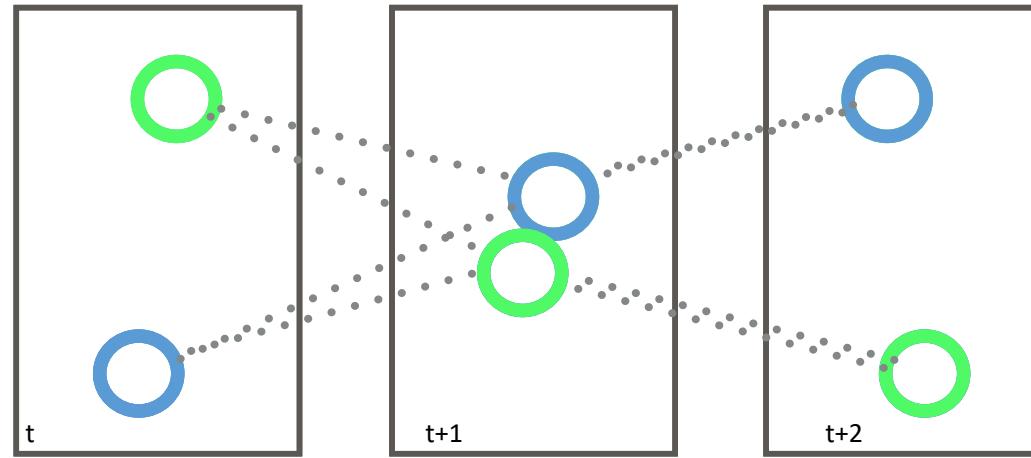
→ Link

Not overlap 

→ NO Link

# Linking

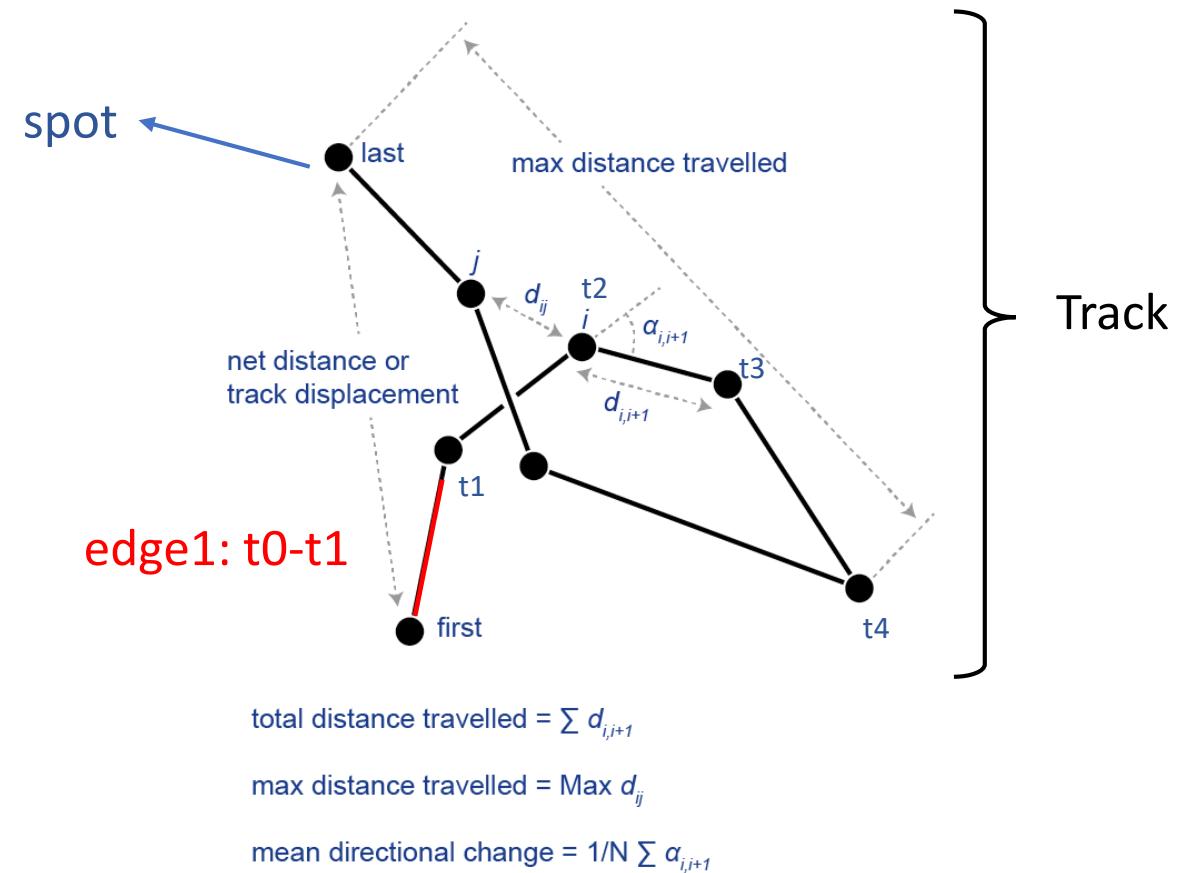
- Linking (also “matching”) is the process of connecting spots to tracks by adding edges.



- Linking is a linear assignment problem (LAP) which is solved by finding the solution with minimal costs (e.g. length of edges, or amount direction changes).

# TrackMate Output

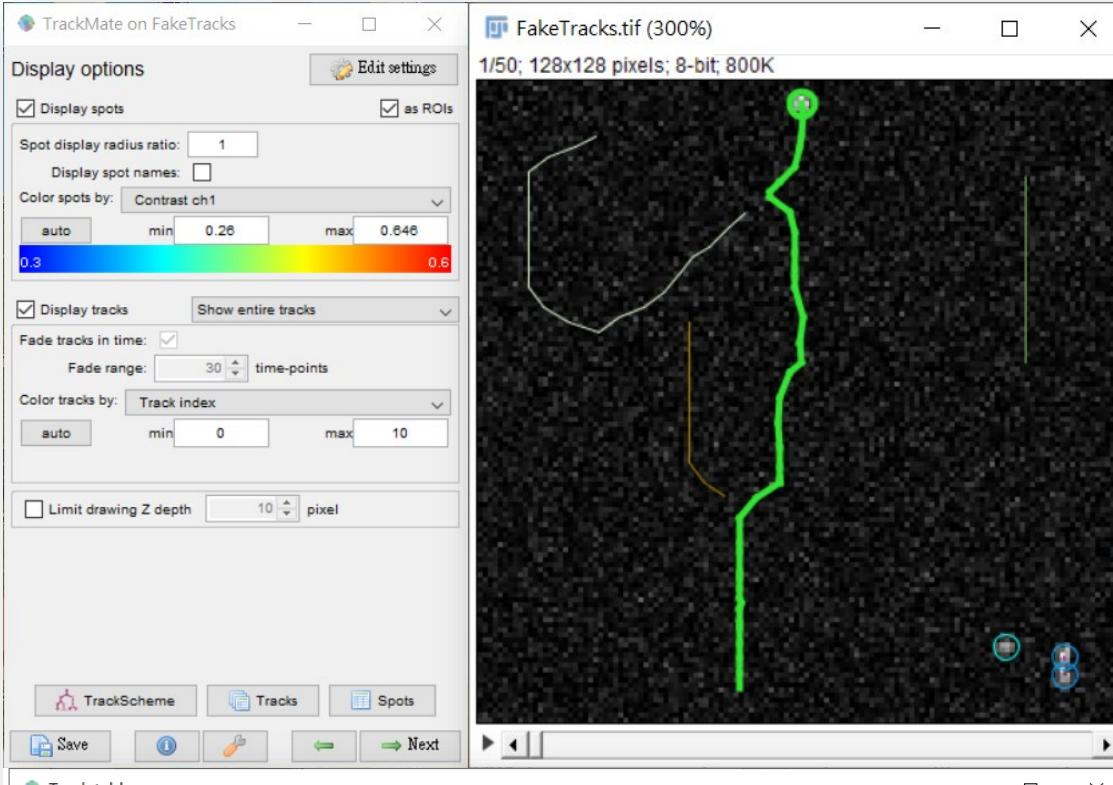
- Spots
  - XYT coordinates
  - Signal intensity
  - Morphology readouts (area, circularity)
- Edge(link)
  - Connections Between Spots
  - Distance, Velocity, and Direction of movement
- Tracks
  - Speed
  - Displacement
  - Track duration and length
  - Confinement Ratio  
Net distance/Total distance
  - Mean Straight Line Speed  
Net distance/Total track time



Track tables											
	Export to CSV										
Spots	Label	Spot ID	Track ID	Quality (quality)	X (μm)	Y (μm)	Z (μm)	T (minutes)	Frame	R (μm)	
Edges											
Tracks	ID34560	34560	0	3.473	127.545	53.789	0	3	6	5	
	ID39809	39809	0	1.078	132.979	49.769	0	8	16	5	
	ID40449	40449	0	0.737	138.896	48.618	0	19.5	39	5	
	ID45441	45441	0	1.257	133.344	47.383	0	25	50	5	
	ID38786	38786	0	1.382	133.03	49.966	0	9	18	5	

# Track analysis

Manual setting display range and color for feature visualization



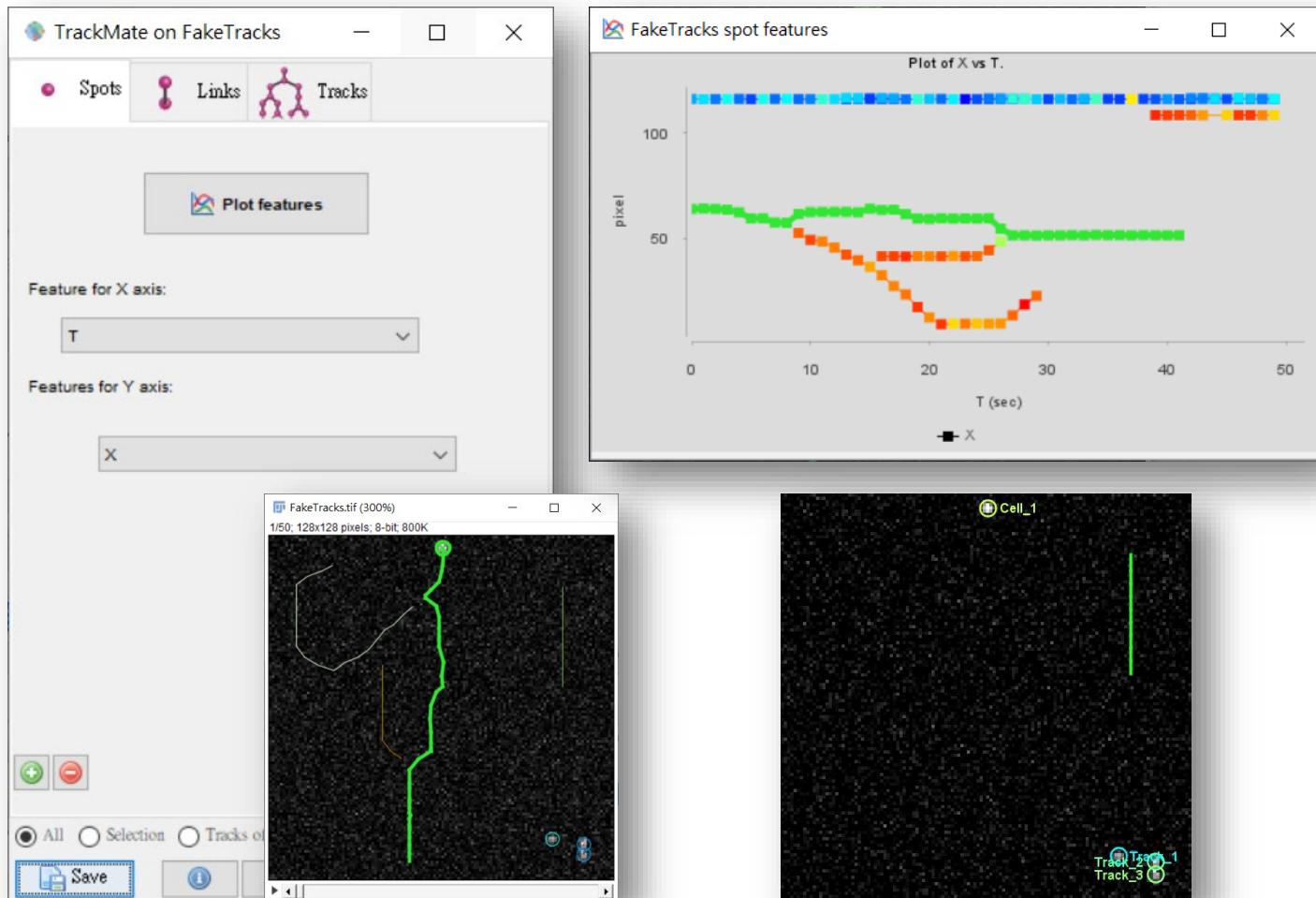
All spots table					
Label	Spot ID	Track ID	Quality (quality)	X (pixel)	Y (pixel)
ID12965	12965	1	48.997	63.993	3.93
ID13252	13252		26.061	104.666	112.464
ID13259	13259	0	32.308	116.23	114.363
ID13271	13271	2	29.452	116.329	117.895
ID11294	11294	1	43.764	64.194	6.055
ID11580	11580	0	31.069	116.107	114.622
ID11587	11587	2	31.161	116.232	117.173
ID11904	11904	0	31.191	116.182	114.464
ID11644	11644	1	46.006	63.975	10.052
ID16433	16433	0	29.978	116.141	114.757
ID16440	16440		29.005	116.299	116.696

<https://imagej.net/plugins/trackmate/>

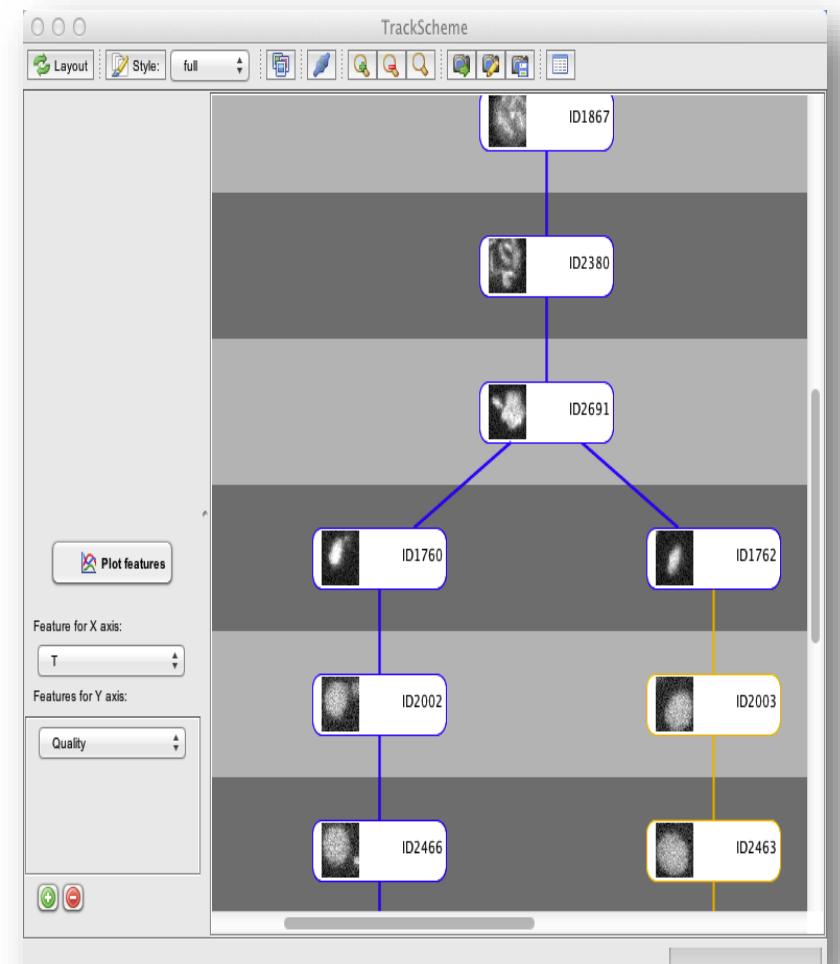
Track tables								
Spots Edges Tracks	Export to CSV							
	Label	Index	ID	N spots	N gaps	N splits	N merges	N complex
	Track_0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0
Track_1	1	1	42	0	0	0	0	0
Track_3	3	3	21	0	0	0	0	0
Track_4	4	4	5	0	0	0	0	0
Track_5	5	5	11	0	0	0	0	0
Track_6	6	6	6	1	0	0	0	0
Track_7	7	7	10	1	0	0	0	0
Track_8	8	8	7	1	0	0	0	0

# Track analysis

Manual setting display range and color for feature visualization

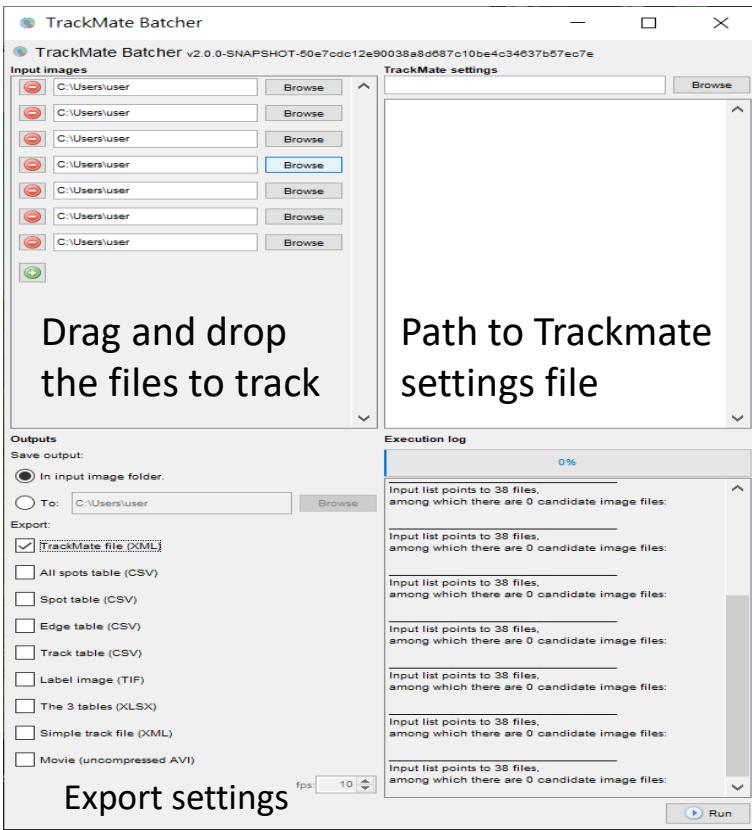


TrackScheme

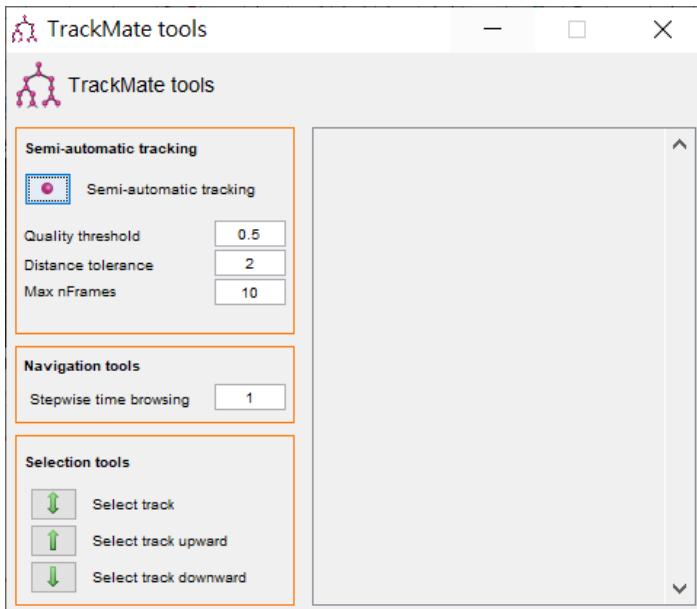


# Extension

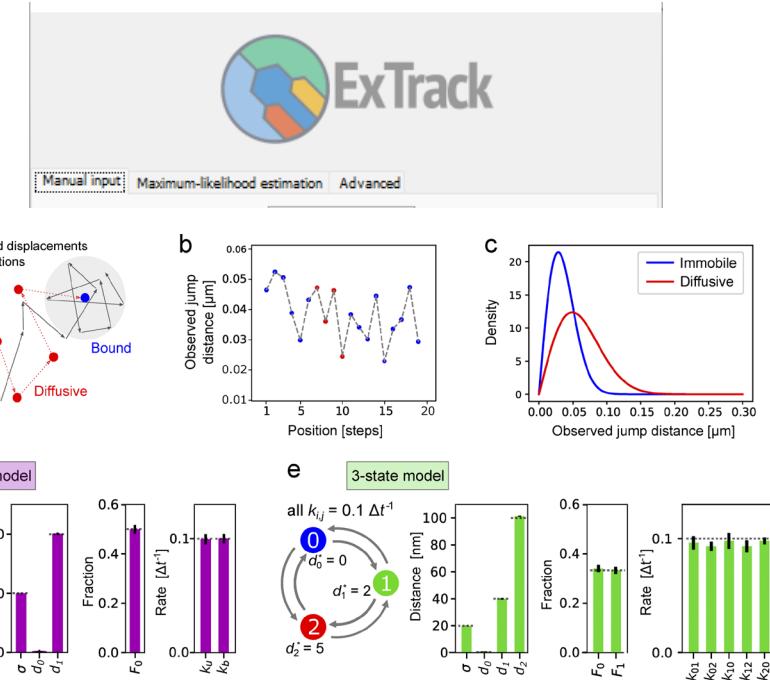
## Trackmate batcher



Semi-auto tracking , auto-linking  
and the editing tool



Extrack  
multi-state diffusion models.



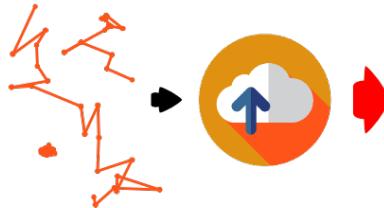
# Exploring external platforms for advanced features



## Spot-On

Web-interface designed for the analysis of single-molecule tracking experiments

### a. Upload trajectories



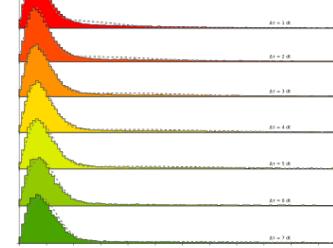
### b. Review data quality

Frame rate (s)	0.01359
Number of traces	5484
Number of frames	30000
Number of detections	13223
Longest gap (frames)	0
Number of traces with >3 detections	1471
Number of jumps	7738
Length of trajectories (in number of frames)	median: 1, mean: 2.411
Particles per frame	median: 0, mean: 0.441
Jump length ( $\mu\text{m}$ )	median: 0.131, Mean: 0.247

### d. Export & download



### c. Fit displacement histograms



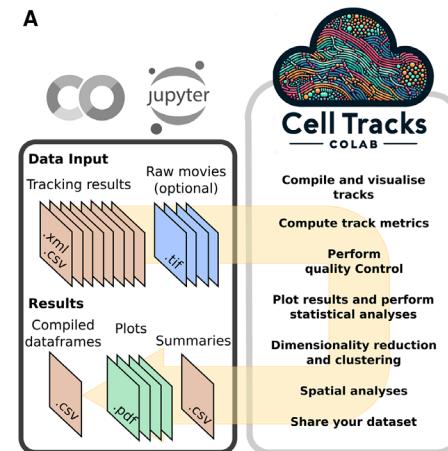
<https://spoton.berkeley.edu/SPTGUI/>



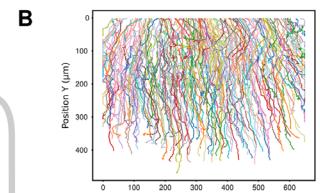
## CellTracksColab

compilation, analysis, and exploration of cell tracking data from large datasets

A



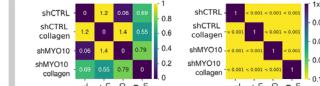
B



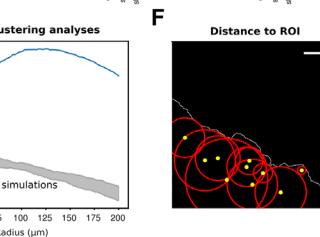
C



D



E



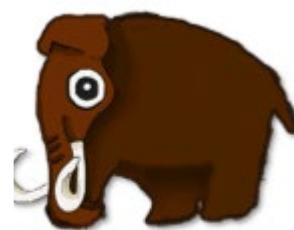
F



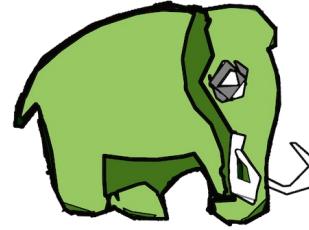
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3002740>

<https://github.com/CellMigrationLab/CellTracksColab?tab=readme-ov-file>

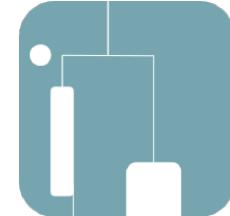
# Large-scale tracking



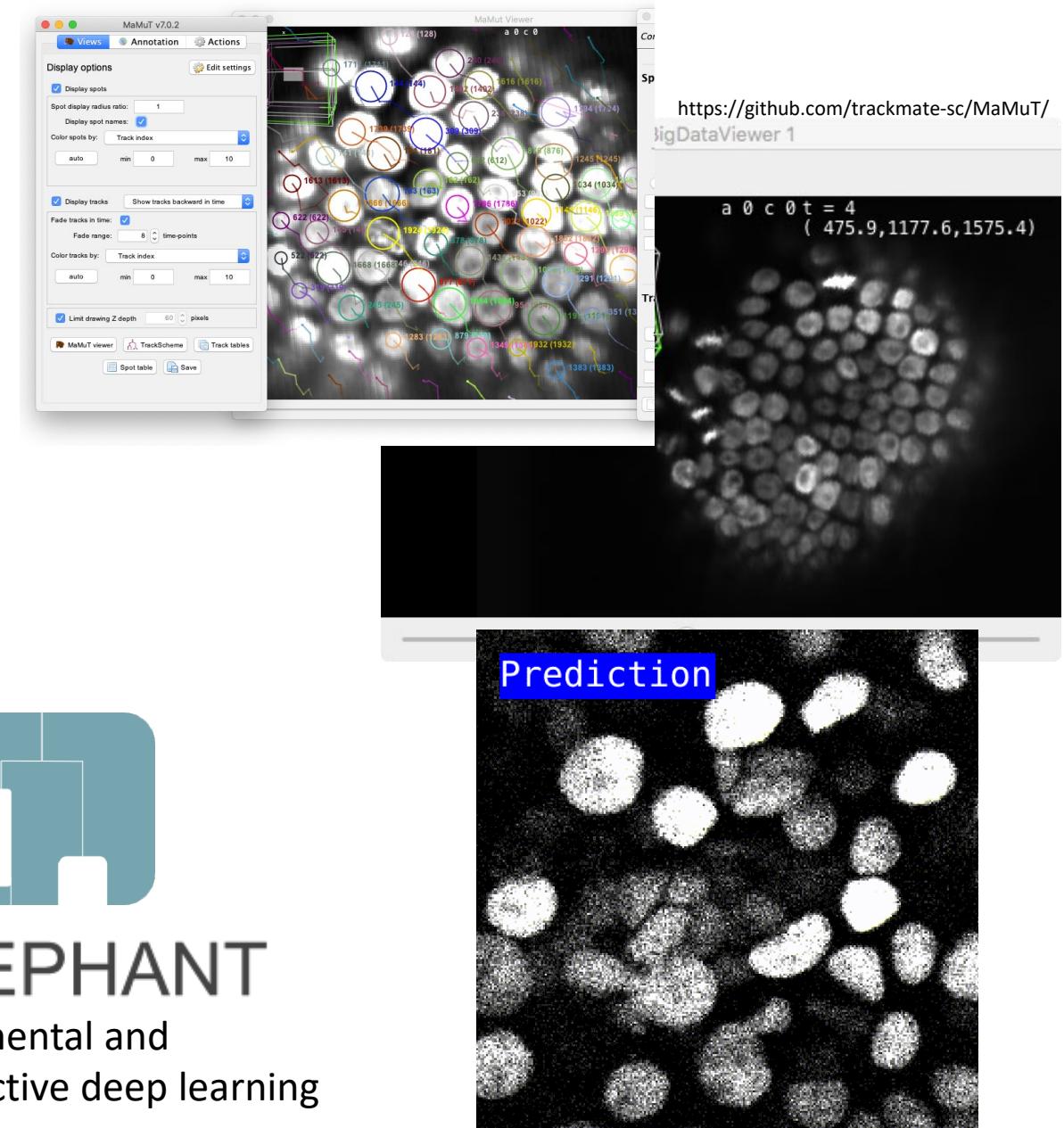
**MaMuT**  
Semi-auto tracking



**Mastodon**  
LoG, DoG detector

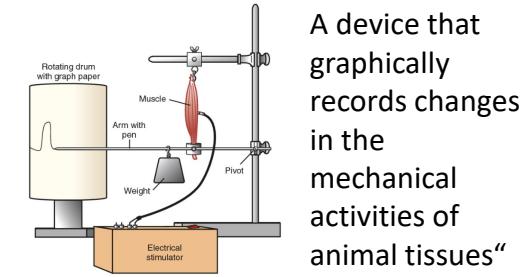


**ELEPHANT**  
incremental and  
interactive deep learning



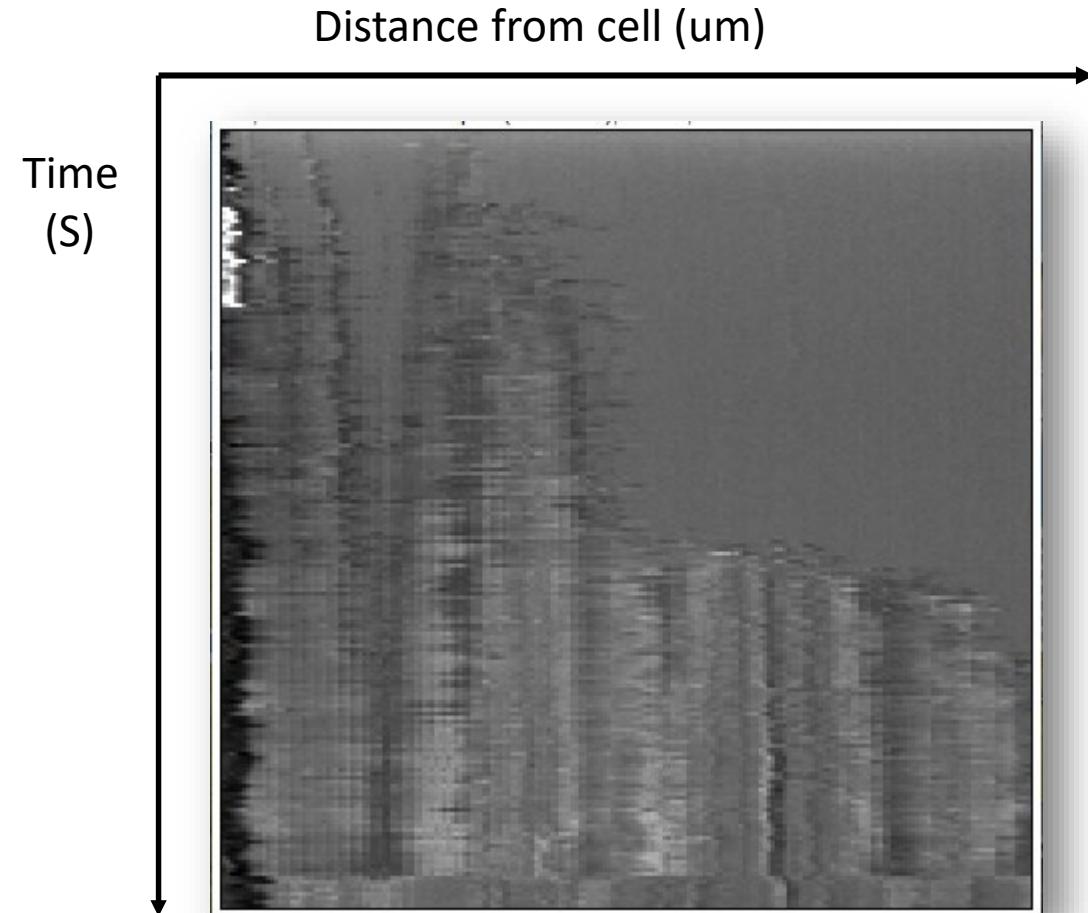
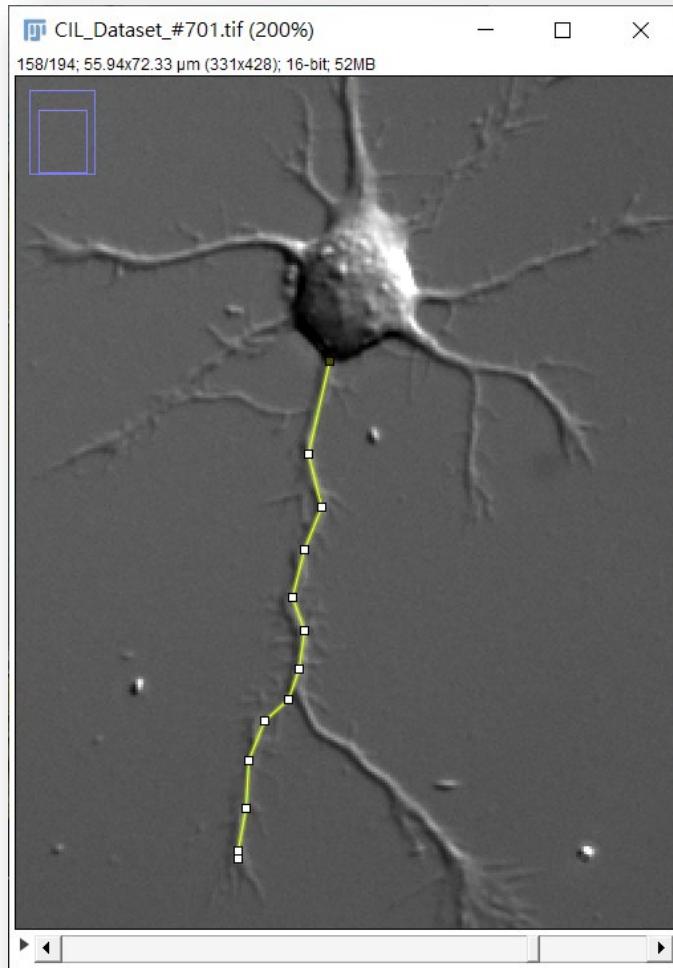
# Kymograph

- A graphical representation that combines spatial and temporal information from a dynamic image
- Transform a movie containing particles movement into a single picture/figure.
- Analyzing vesicles movement in cells, axons/dendrites of neurons
- By tracking the movement of lines or stripes within a kymograph, the object's movement speed and pattern can be analyzed more precisely



A device that graphically records changes in the mechanical activities of animal tissues“

# Kymograph



## ImageJ Docs

- Download
- Learn
- Extend
- Contribute
- Discuss
- Explore

## Documentation and tutorials

### Downloadable documents and tutorials

- The main manual for TrackMate can be found here:

[TrackMate-manual.pdf](#) - 14 MB, 150+ pages.

It contains user tutorials, technical documentation and developer documentation. It compiles in a nice polished pdf the tutorials and information you can find on this wiki, and linked below.

- With TrackMate v7 we introduced several major changes, for which we wrote an additional manual. It can be found here:

[TrackMate version 7 novelties.pdf](#) - 16 MB, 70+ pages.

Again, it compiles several tutorials and developer documentation also linked below.

### Online tutorials

- [Getting started with TrackMate](#) is a basic tutorial that explains how TrackMate works on an easy image. You should start here.
- [Manual editing of tracks using TrackMate](#) shows how to manually curate and edit tracking results.
- [Manual tracking with TrackMate](#) shows how to perform a fully manual annotation of tracks in a source image.
- [Keyboard shortcuts for editing](#) contains a summary of the keyboard shortcuts we use here.
- [TrackMate v7 new algorithms](#) documents the 8 new detectors introduced with version 7, and the new shape analysis framework. Each subpage contains a tutorial that explains how to use each of the new detector.

### TrackMate components

TrackMate has a modular design and ships several algorithms of several types: detectors, trackers, analyzers, etc. The pages below document individual components, or modules of TrackMate.

- [TrackMate Detectors](#): detect objects in images.
- [TrackMate Trackers](#): link objects to build tracks.
- [TrackMate Analyzers](#): compute numerical values on spots, edges and tracks.
- [TrackMate Actions](#): miscellaneous actions on tracking results.
- [TrackMate Views](#): tracking results viewers.

### Interoperability

#### Python

There are several Python tools contributed by the TrackMate developer community that allows

## Vital statistics



TrackMate

Source	<a href="#">on GitHub</a>
License	GPLv3+
Release	7.14.0
Date	Thu, 29 Aug 2024 19:07:08 GMT
Development status	Active
Support status	Active

► Team

## Page contents

<a href="#">Citing TrackMate papers</a>	▶
<a href="#">Presentation</a>	▶
<a href="#">Documentation and tutorials</a>	▶
<a href="#">Extending TrackMate</a>	▶
<a href="#">Acknowledgements</a>	▶