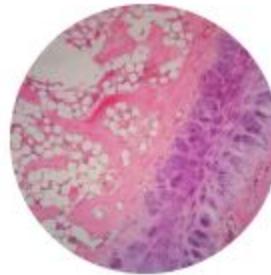




CIFAR



10PM

3AM in London (GMT), 12PM in Tokyo (GMT+9)

STELLAR & Cell Neighborhoods

Moderator: Ellen Guardokus, *Indiana University*

Presenters:

- John Hickey, *Duke University*
- Jure Leskovec, *Stanford University*



Method of the Year 2024:
spatial proteomics

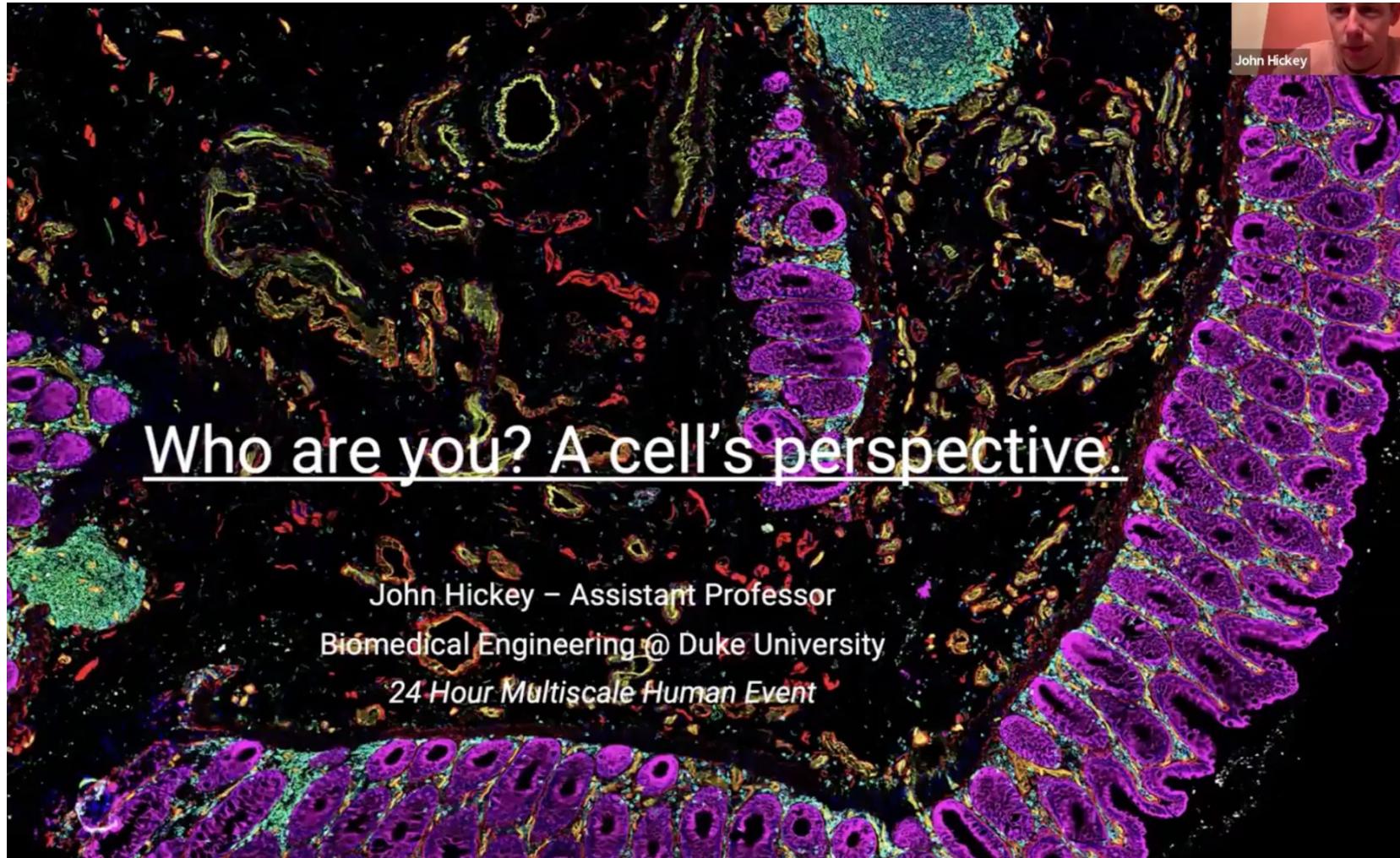
Method of the Year 2024: spatial proteomics

Editorial | 06 Dec 2024

<https://www.nature.com/nmeth/volumes/21/issues/12>

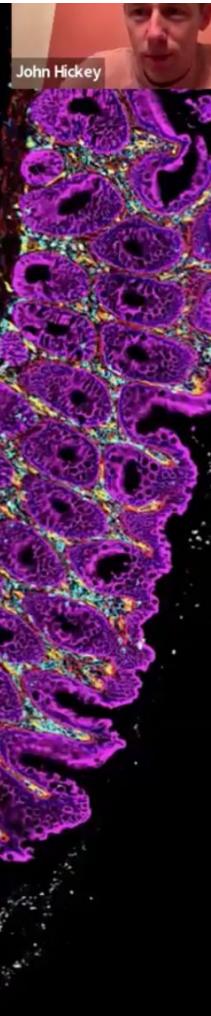
The background of the slide features a complex, abstract design. It consists of numerous thin, translucent lines of various colors—predominantly shades of blue, green, and pink—that form a dense, organic network. Interspersed among these lines are numerous small, glowing circular particles in the same color palette, creating a sense of depth and motion. The overall effect is reminiscent of a microscopic view of a biological or technological structure.

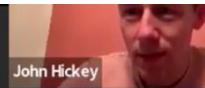
John Hickey, Duke University



Who are you? A cell's perspective.

John Hickey – Assistant Professor
Biomedical Engineering @ Duke University
24 Hour Multiscale Human Event





Who am I?

It Depends on What You Analyze

My “origin”



My “phenotype”



What I “do”



My “genotype”



My “state”



Katy Borner



Katy Borner

Meryl Sarah Jac...



Ellen Quardokus



John Hickey

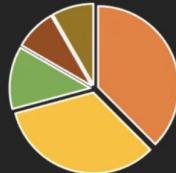
Meryl Sarah Jacob

Who am I?

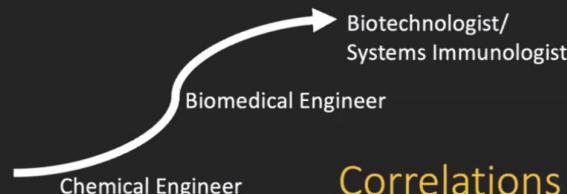
2. It Depends on How You Analyze

Ranked Quantities

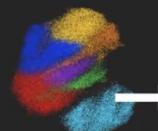
- working
- sleeping
- kids
- eating/cooking
- miscelaneous



Differentiation Trajectory



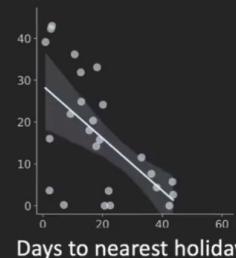
Comparison to Others



- Top Differential Expressed
- Cross-Disciplinary
- Collaboration
- Technology
- Computational
- Teaching/Mentoring

Correlations

Grams of chocolate
I consume/day

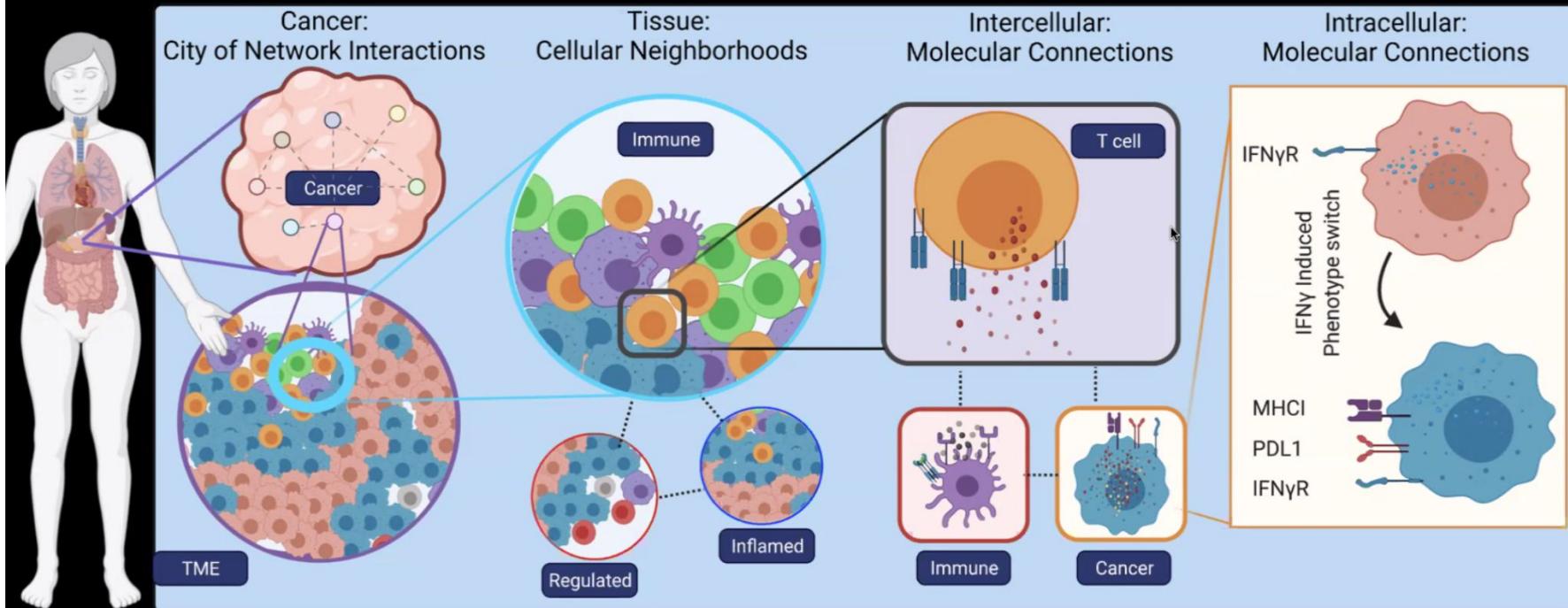


How would you define yourself if you were a cell?

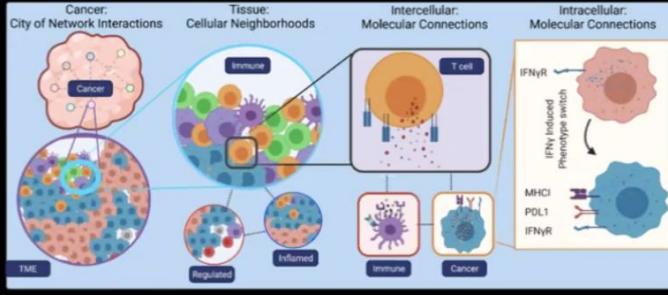
As a human cell, I am a tiny, yet essential unit of life, working tirelessly within a vast, interconnected community to maintain balance and support the body's functions. I carry the blueprint of existence within my nucleus, adapt to my environment, and collaborate with neighboring cells to ensure the survival and well-being of the organism I inhabit.



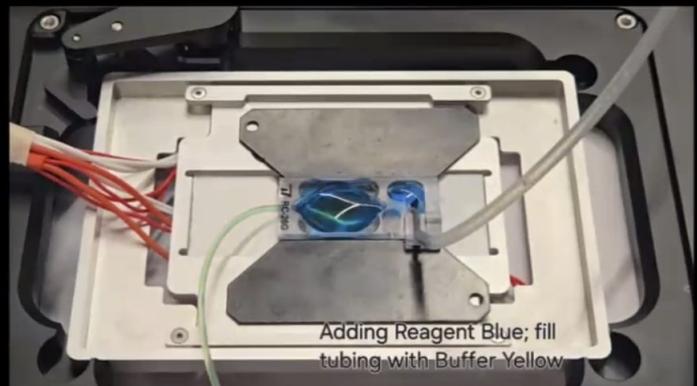
Tissues: Multi-scale Network of Interactions



Tissues: Multi-scale Network of Interactions

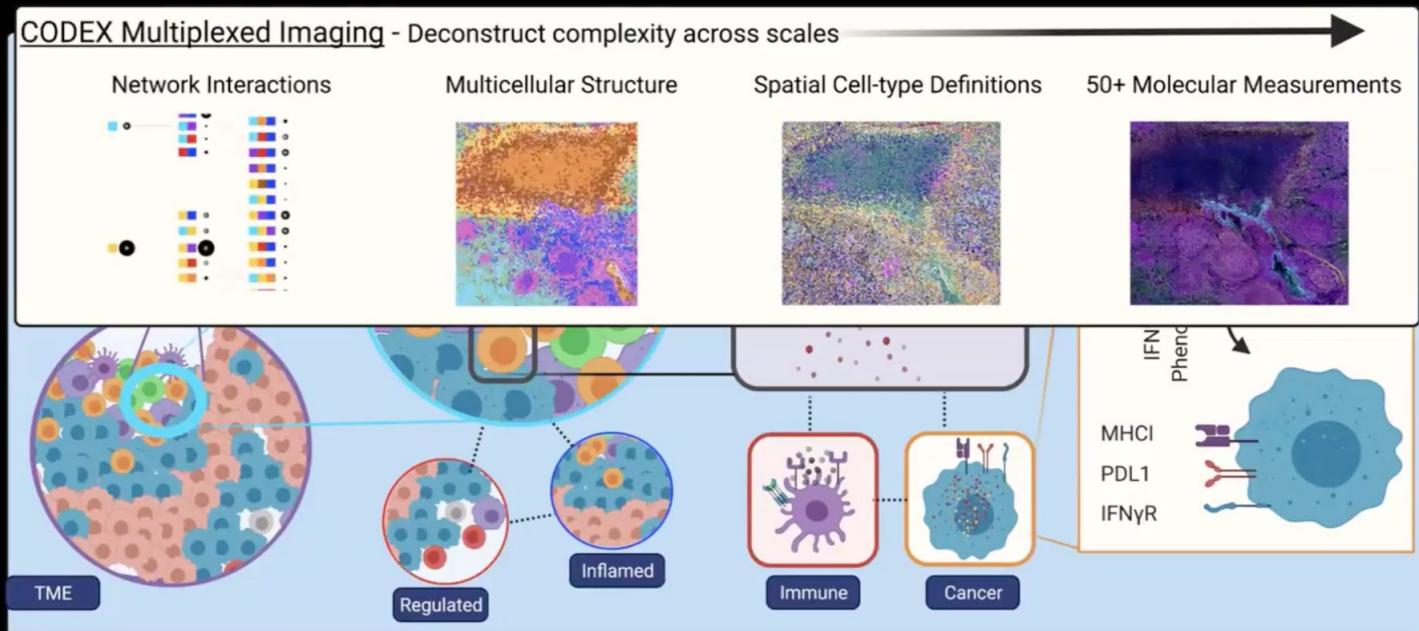


Microscopes & Robotics





Deconstructing Complexity Across Scales: Spatial-^o



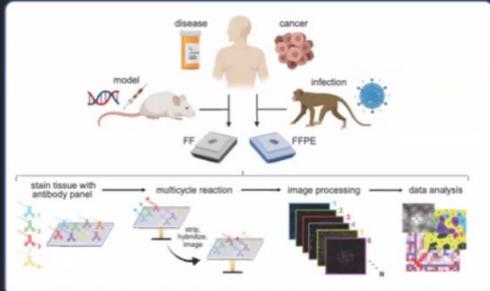
HICKEY LAB

(Hickey, *Cell Systems*, 2024)

Duke

Multiplexed Imaging Standardization & Pipelines

Protocols



(Black*, Phillips*, Hickey*, *Nature Protocols*, 2021)

Antibody Panel Development

| Organ Mapping Antibody Panel (OMAP) for Multiplexed Antibody-Based Imaging of Human Intestine with CODEX | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|-------------|
| | uniprot_acce_HGNC_ID | target_name | antibody_name | host | organism | clonality | vendor | catalog_number | lot_number | recombinant |
| 1 | HGNC:7107 | John Hickey | Anti-H567 anti mouse | B56 | BD Biosciences | 556003 | NA | NA | NA | No |
| 2 | P01589 | HGNC:6008 | Anti-CD255 anti mouse | 70786 | Bio X Cell | BE0014 | NA | NA | NA | No |
| 3 | P01585 | HGNC:6026 | Anti-CD255 anti mouse | 70786 | Bio X Cell | BE0014 | NA | NA | NA | No |
| 4 | P08620 | HGNC:12096 | Anti-Vimentin | 108 | BD Biosciences | 556002 | NA | NA | NA | No |
| 5 | GPII2W#7 | HGNC:921 | CD57 | Anti-CD57 anti mouse | H257 | Biologend | 322302 | NA | NA | No |
| 6 | P05564 | HGNC:1695 | CD7 | Anti-CD7 anti mouse | C07-687 | Biologend | 343102 | NA | NA | No |
| 7 | P01730 | HGNC:1678 | CD4 | Anti-CD4 anti rat | A165A1 | Biologend | 353402 | NA | NA | No |
| 8 | P04333 | HGNC:1897 | HLA-DR | Anti-HLA-DR mouse | L243 | Biologend | 309511 | NA | NA | No |
| 9 | P07070 | HGNC:6132 | CD11c | Anti-CD11c anti mouse | B-ly6 | BD Biosciences | 555391 | NA | NA | No |
| 10 | Q31918 | HGNC:6371 | CD161c | Anti-CD161c anti mouse | HP-XG10 | Biologend | 339902 | NA | NA | No |
| 11 | P08247 | HGNC:11506 | Sympathophys | Anti-Sympathophys | 7H12 | Novus Bio | NBP1-47483 | NA | NA | No |
| 12 | P28906 | HGNC:1562 | CD34 | Anti-CD34 anti mouse | 561 | Biologend | 343602 | NA | NA | No |
| 13 | P05203 | HGNC:4013 | CD45 | Anti-CD45 anti mouse | 9C8 | BD Biosciences | 556004 | NA | NA | No |
| 14 | P22083 | HGNC:4013 | CD45 | Anti-CD45 anti rat | H98 | BD Biosciences | 556000 | NA | NA | No |
| 15 | P12884 | HGNC:3590 | FAP | Anti-FAP anti rat | 2.2910 | Thermo Fisher | 33-0300 | NA | NA | No |

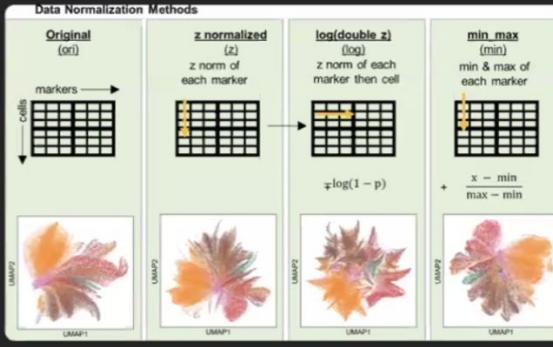
(Quordokus, *Nature Methods*, 2023)

Data Processing & Storage

| State | Level of Processing |
|---------------|--|
| 0 (Raw Data) | Raw Data |
| 1 (Processed) | Stitching, tiling, thresholding, background subtraction, deconvolution, alignment, and extended depth of field |

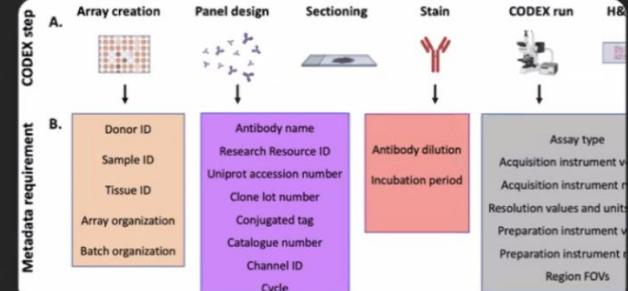
(Hickey*, Neumann*, Radtke* *Nature Methods*, 2021)

Data Normalization & Cellular Analysis



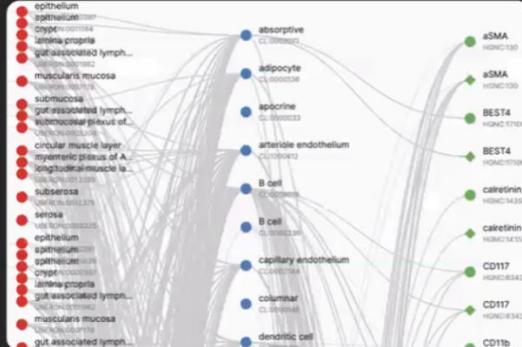
(Hickey, *Frontiers Immunology*, 2021)

Data Metadata Standardization



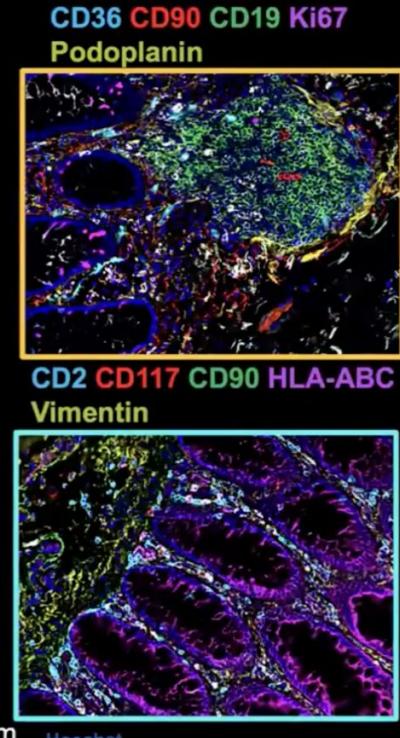
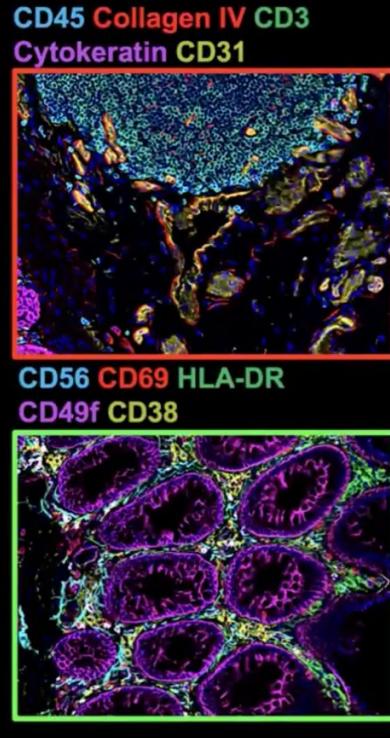
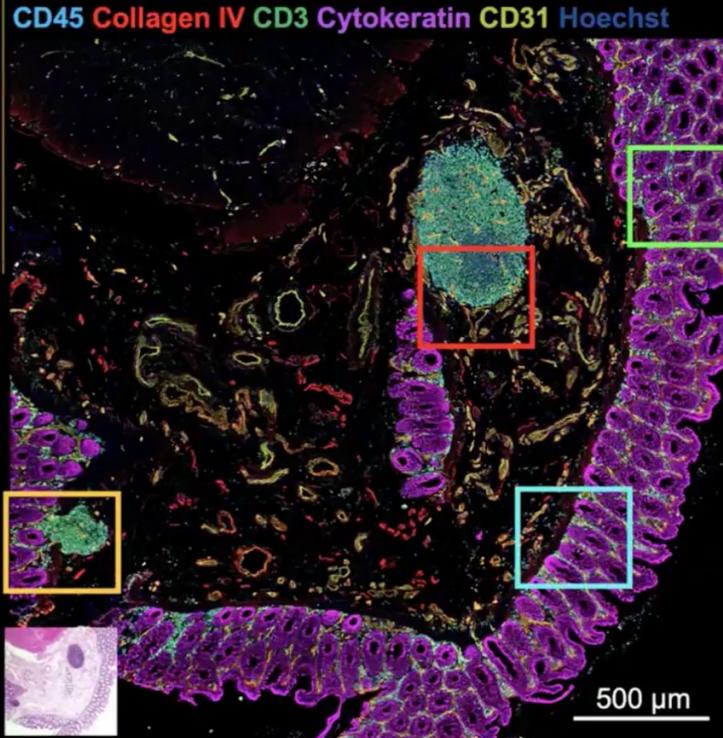
(Caraccio, Hickey, *Elsevier*, in press)

Marker, Cell, Tissue Unit Ontology



(Borner, *Nature Cell Biology*, 2021)

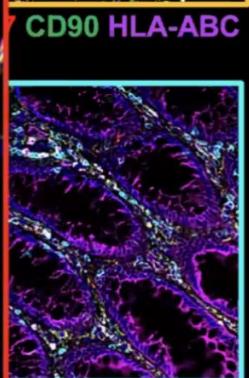
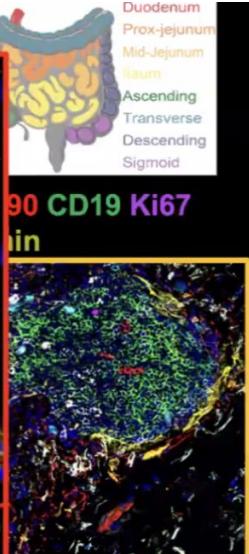
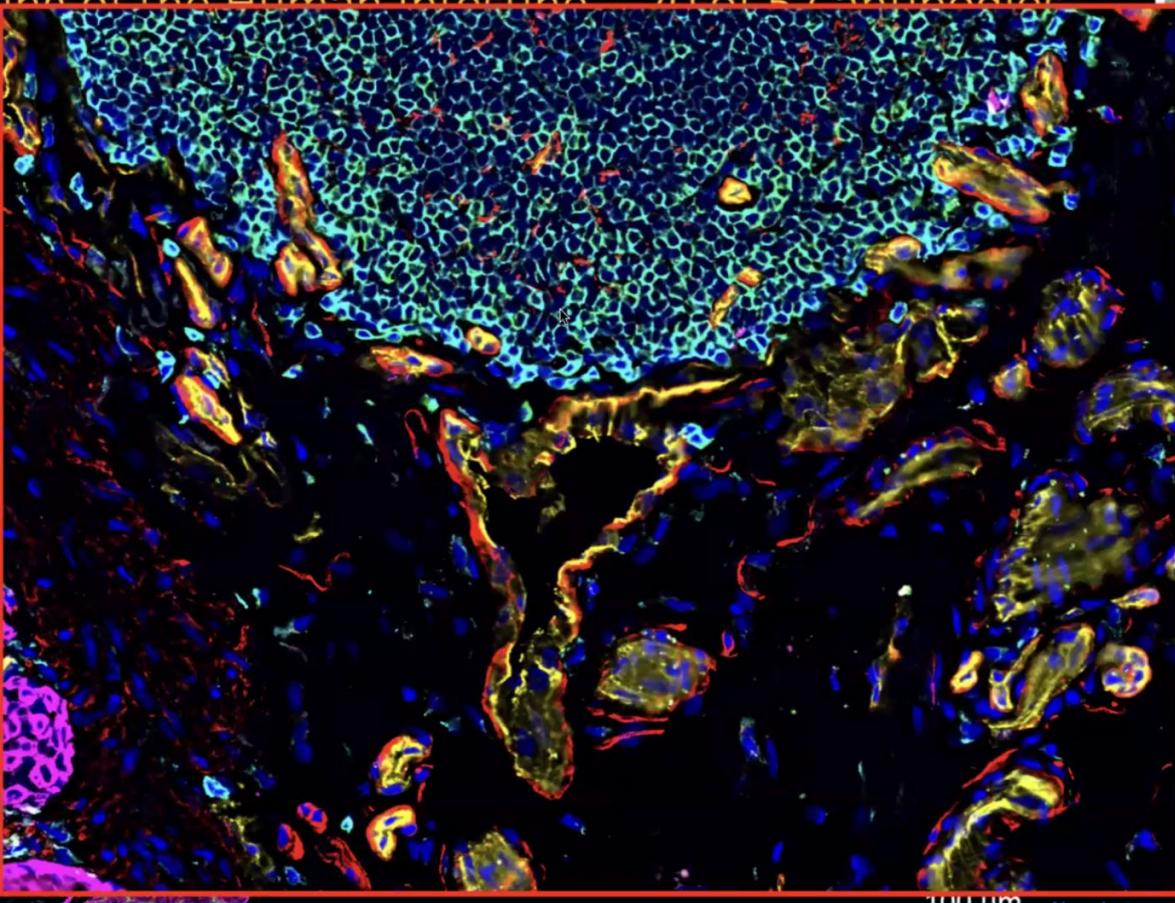
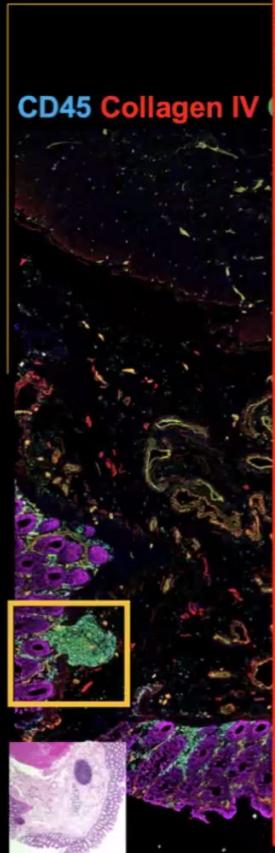
CODEX Imaging of the Human Intestine – 20 of 57 antibodies



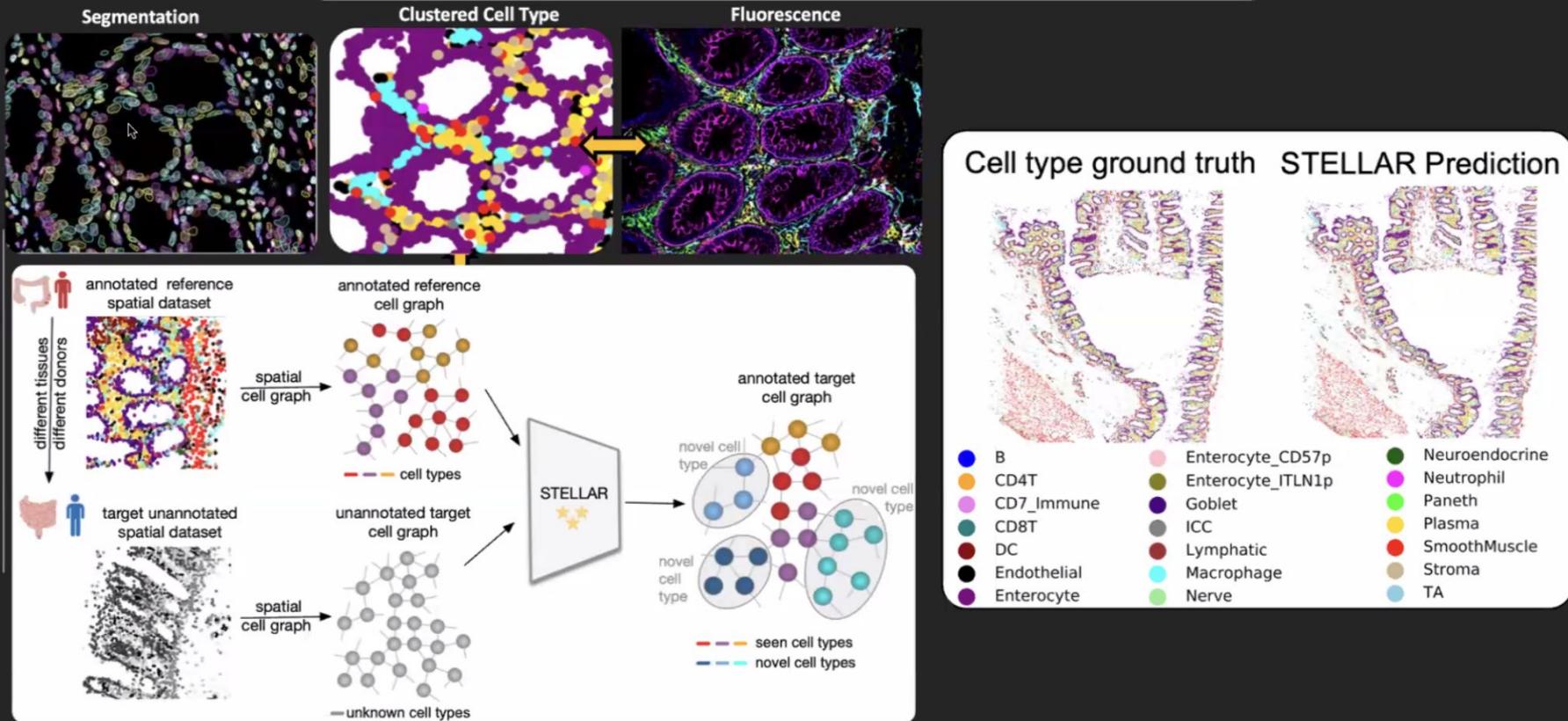
CODEX Imaging of the Human Intestine - 20 of 57 antibodies

Diagram of the Human Intestine showing anatomical regions:

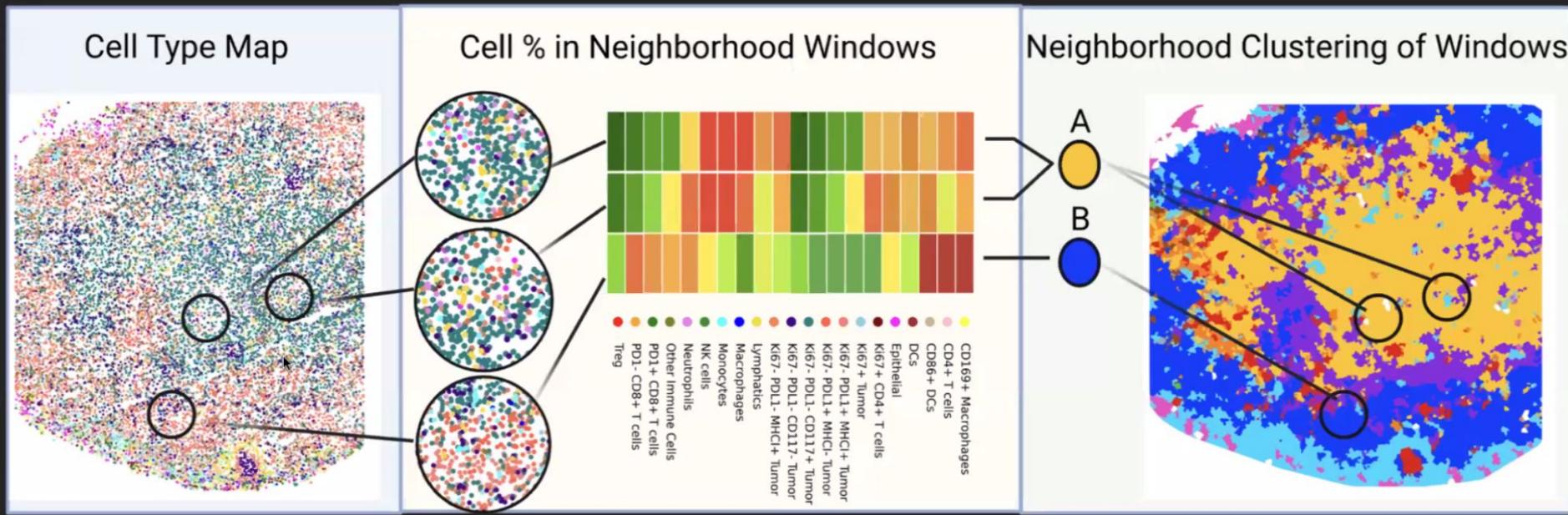
- Duodenum
- Prox-jejunum
- Mid-Jejunum
- Ileum
- Ascending
- Transverse
- Descending
- Sigmoid



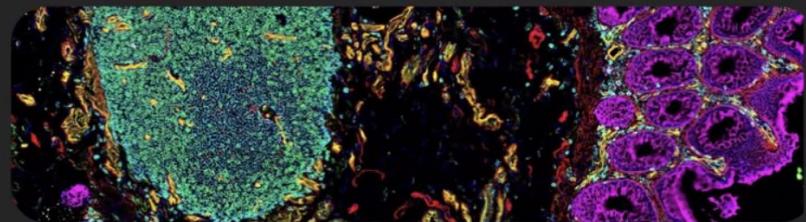
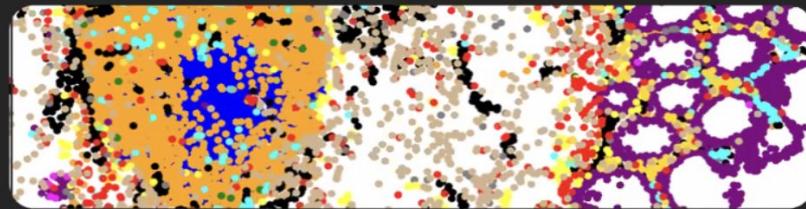
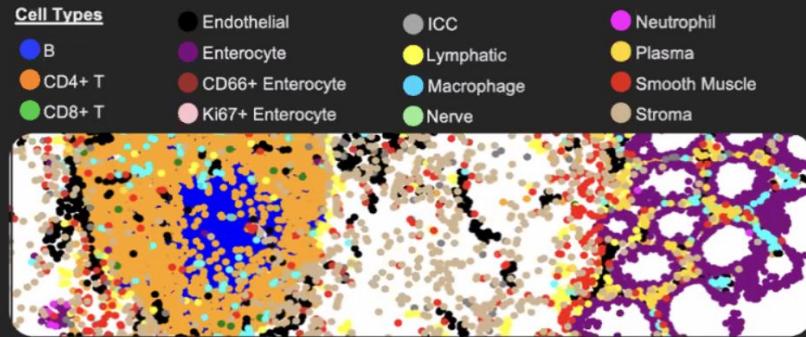
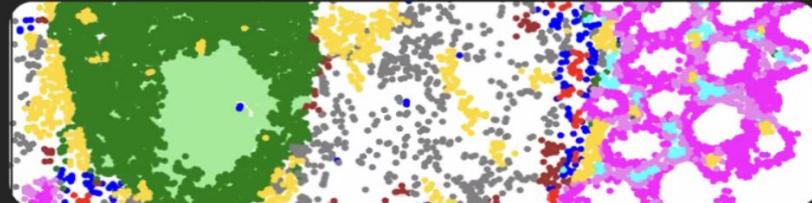
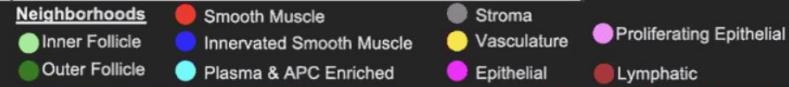
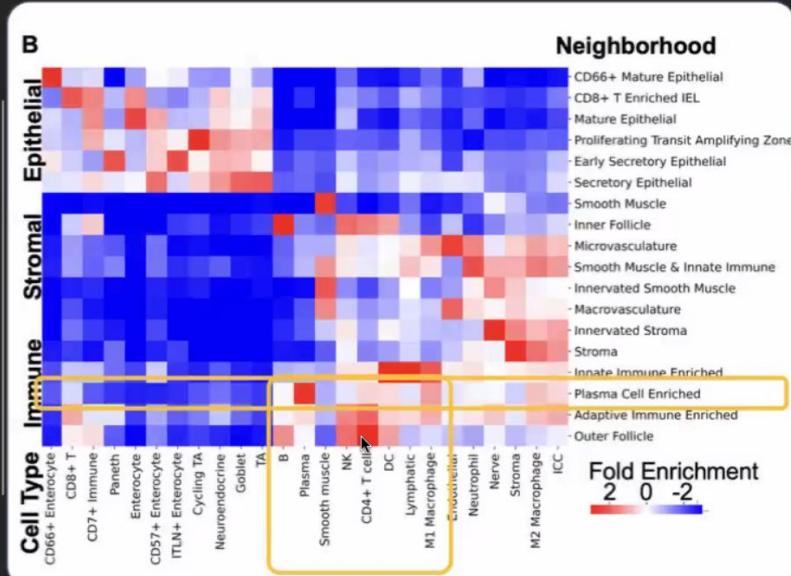
AI to help with computing and analyzing this big data



Multi-cellular Neighborhood Identification

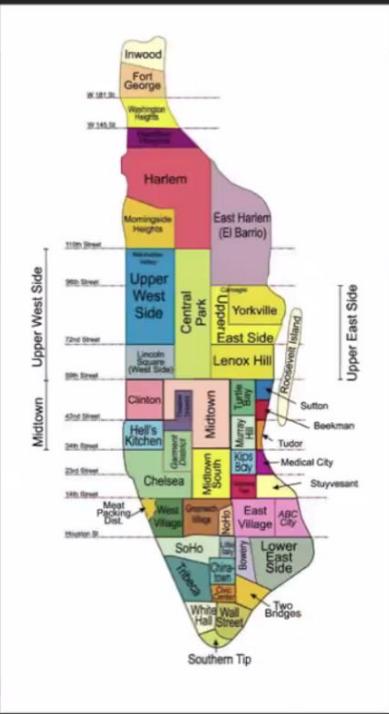


Neighborhood Analysis Reveals Conserved Multicellular Structures of Intestine



How Can We Analyze Hierarchical Spatial Domains?

Neighborhood - County



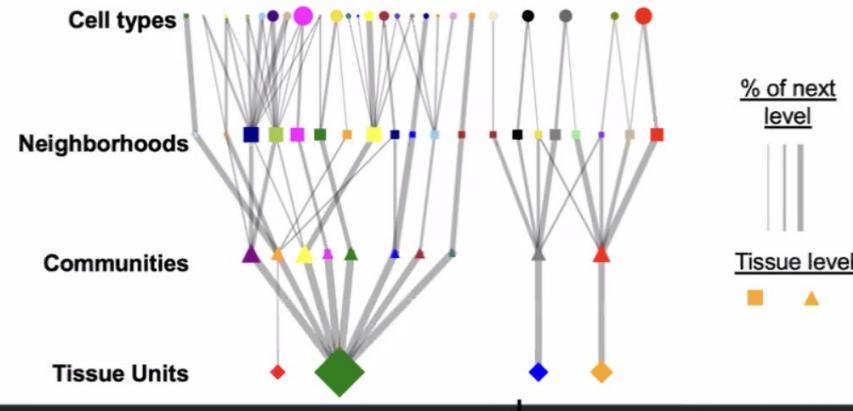
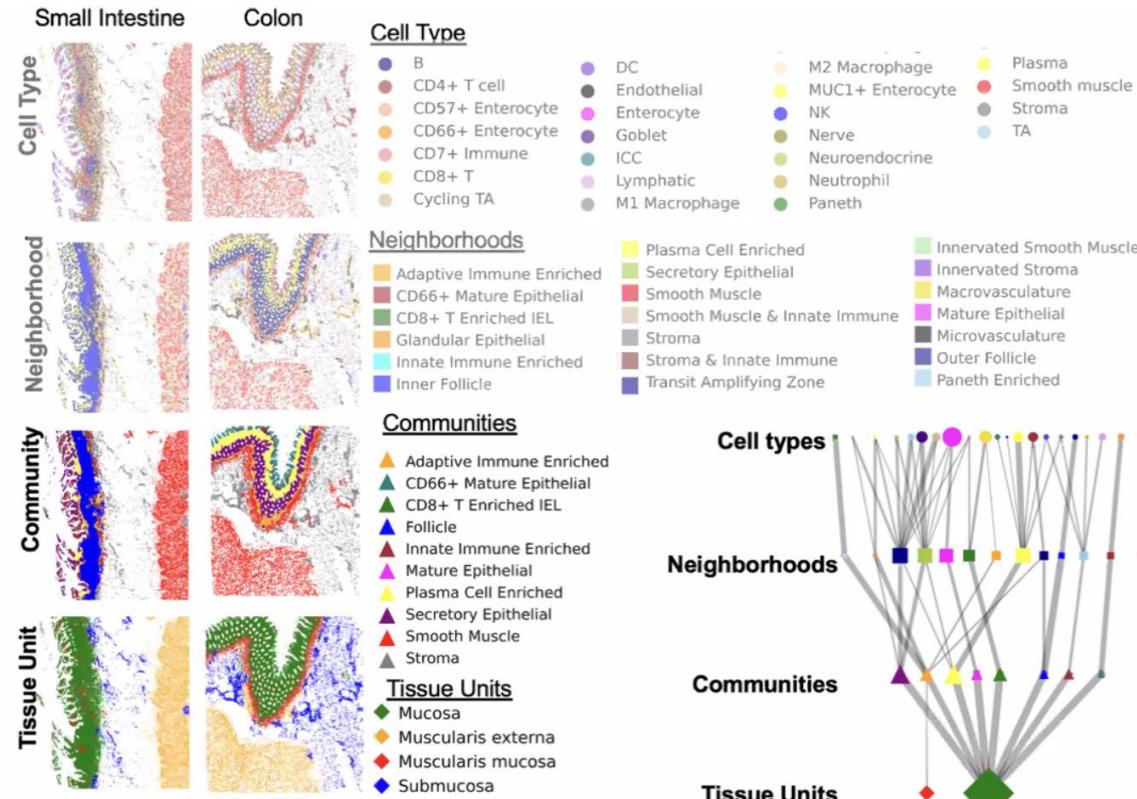
Counties - State



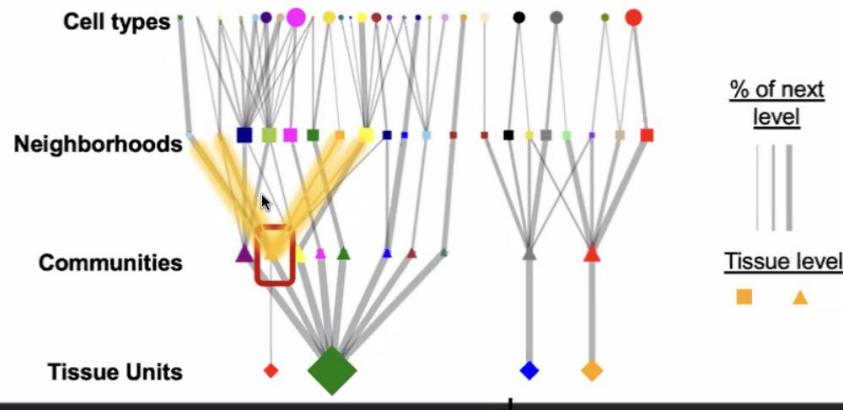
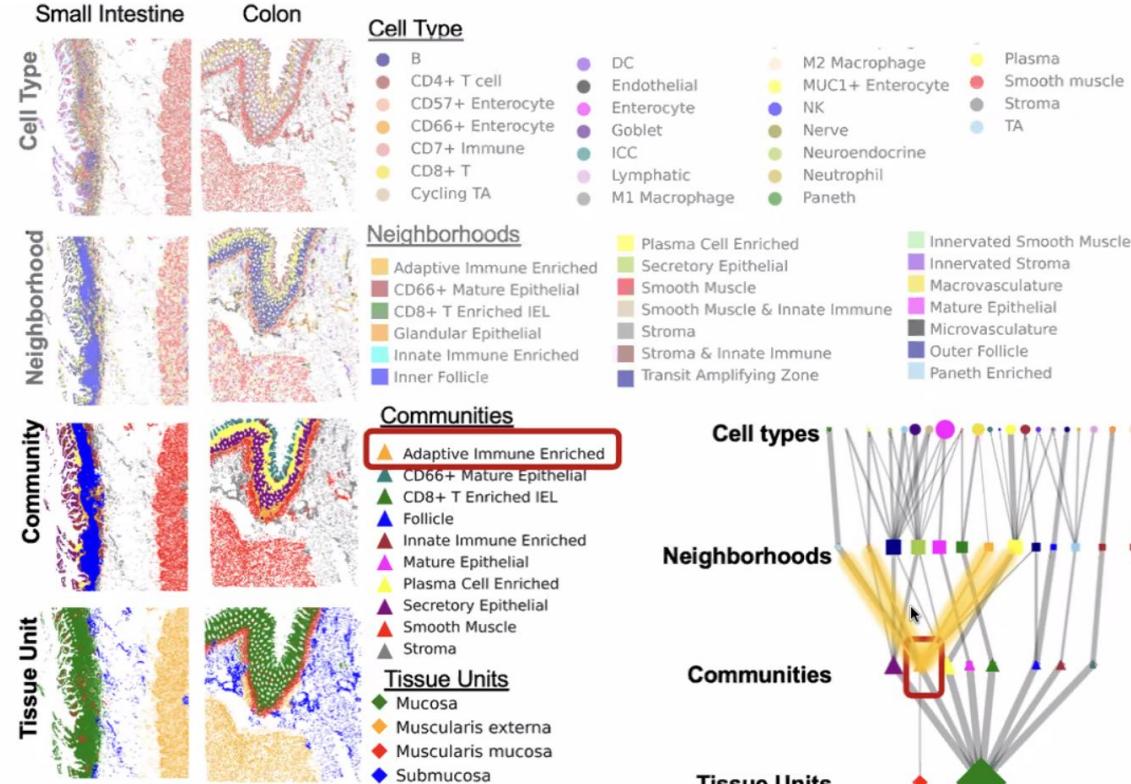
States - Country



Overall structure of intestine by multi-level analysis of functional units



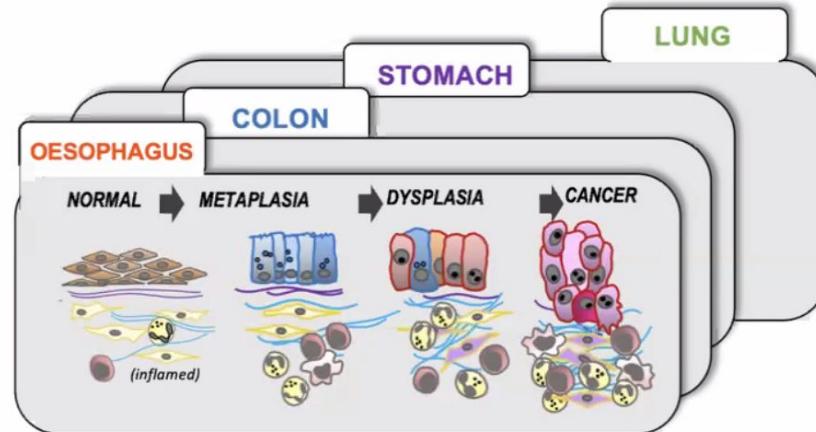
Overall structure of intestine by multi-level analysis of functional units



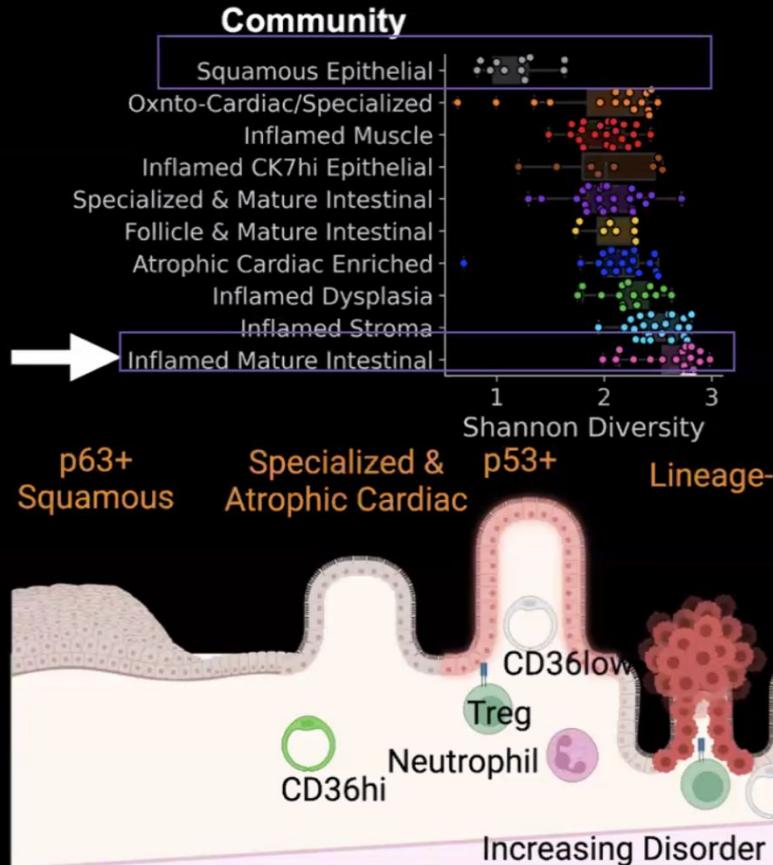
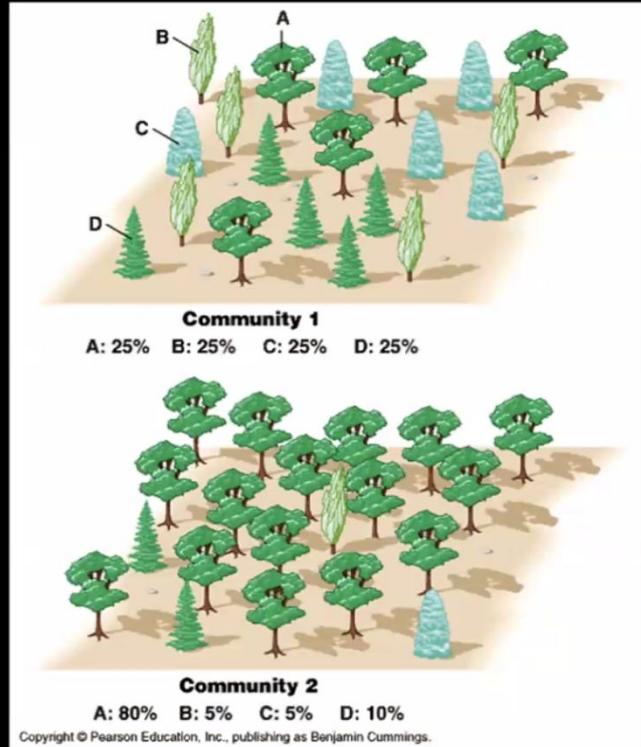
Chronic Inflammation-Associated Cancers (CIACs)

A Shared Pattern of Tissue Disruption

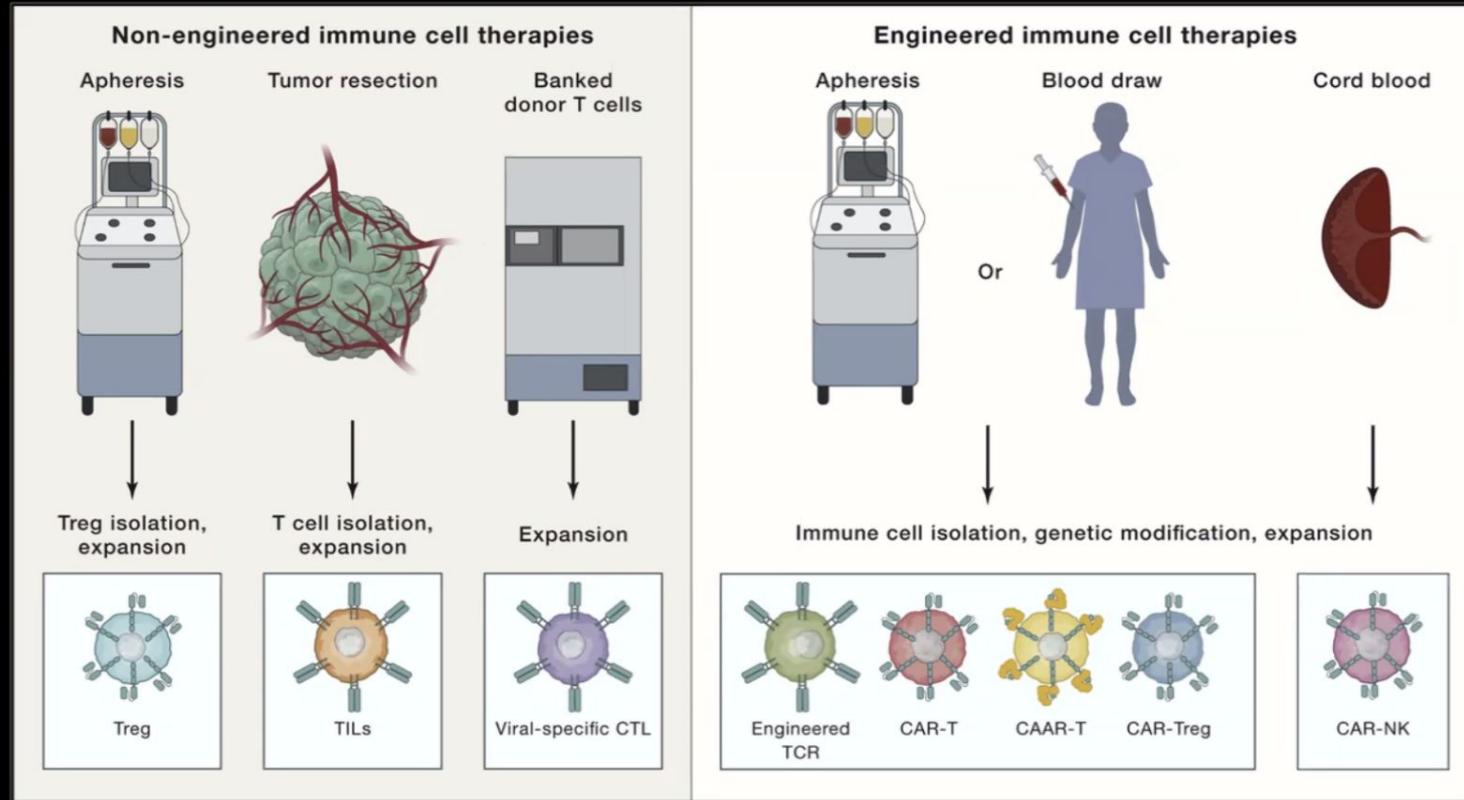
Slides – Thea Tlsty
Team:
STORMING CANCER



Communities of Neighborhoods Highlight Lack of Organization in Tumor



Immune Cell Therapies for Cancer





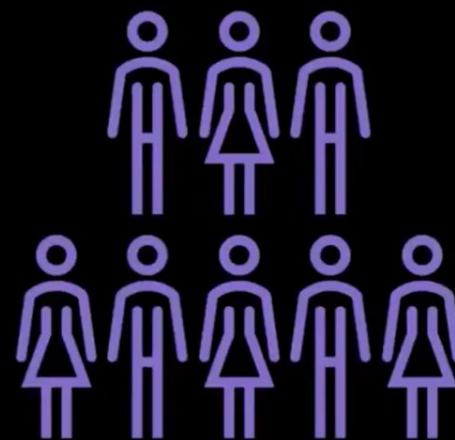
John Hickey

Teams of people working together

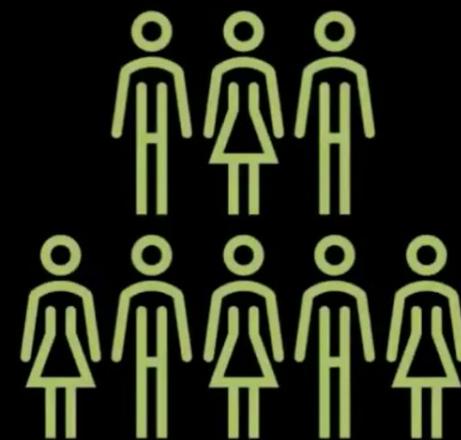
Engineering



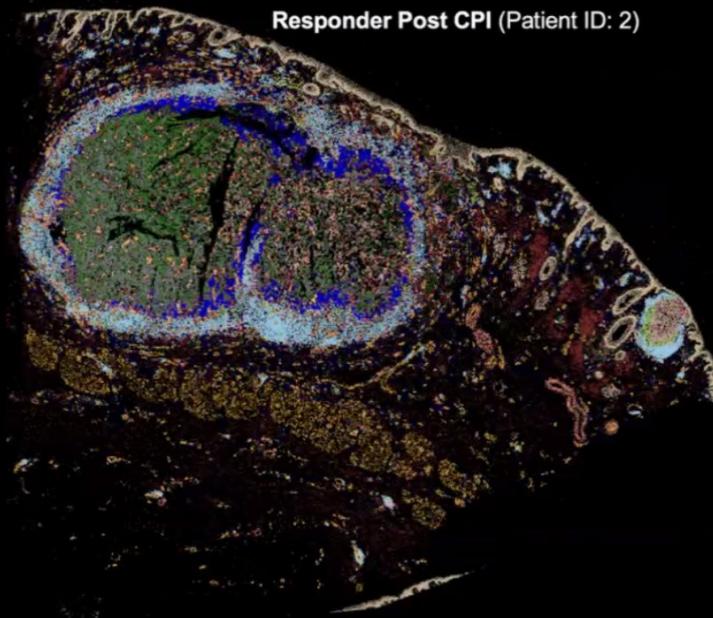
Sales



R&D



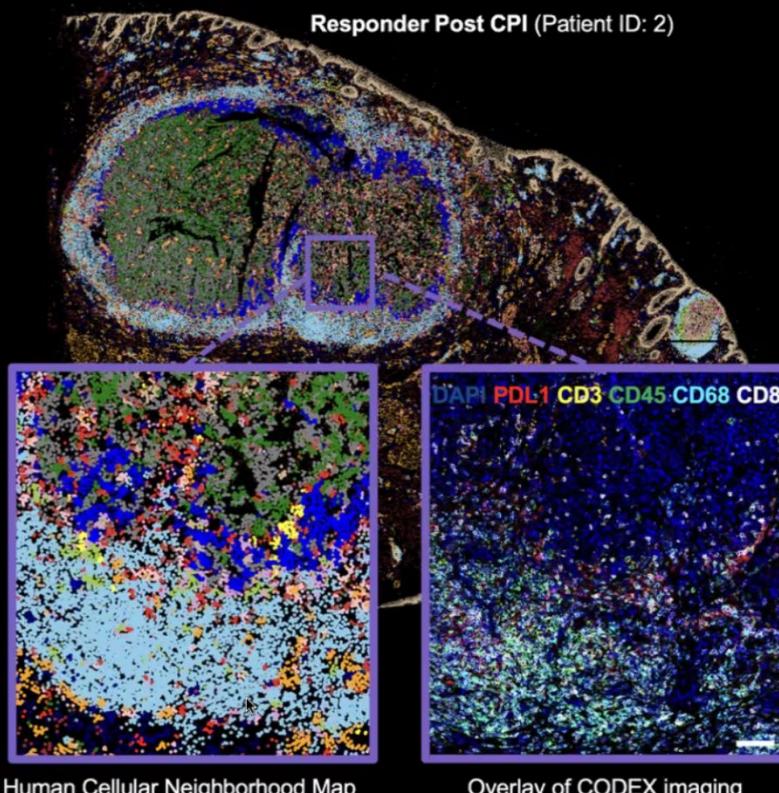
Cellular Neighborhood Organization in Human Tumors



Human Cellular Neighborhood (hCN)

- DC Enriched Immune
- Epithelial/Skin Appendages
- Follicle
- Immune Infiltrate
- Inflamed Tumor
- Macrophage Enriched Immune
- Neutrophil Enriched
- PDPN+ Stromal Enriched
- Perivascular
- Productive T cell & Tumor
- Proliferating Tumor
- Resting Tumor
- Stromal Enriched
- Tumor & Immune
- Vasculature
- Vasculature & Immune

Cellular Neighborhood Organization in Human Tumors



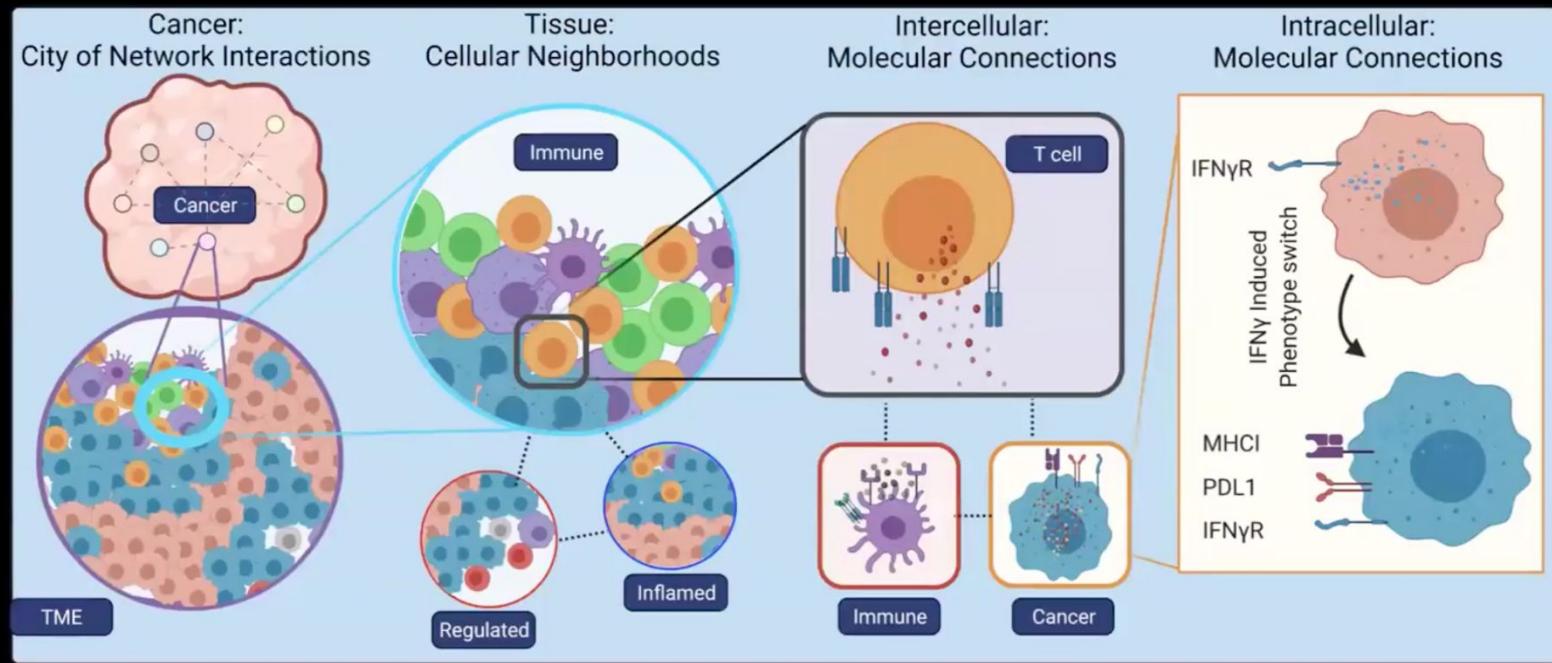
Human Cellular Neighborhood (hCN)

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- Stromal Enriched
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- Vasculature & Immune



John Hickey

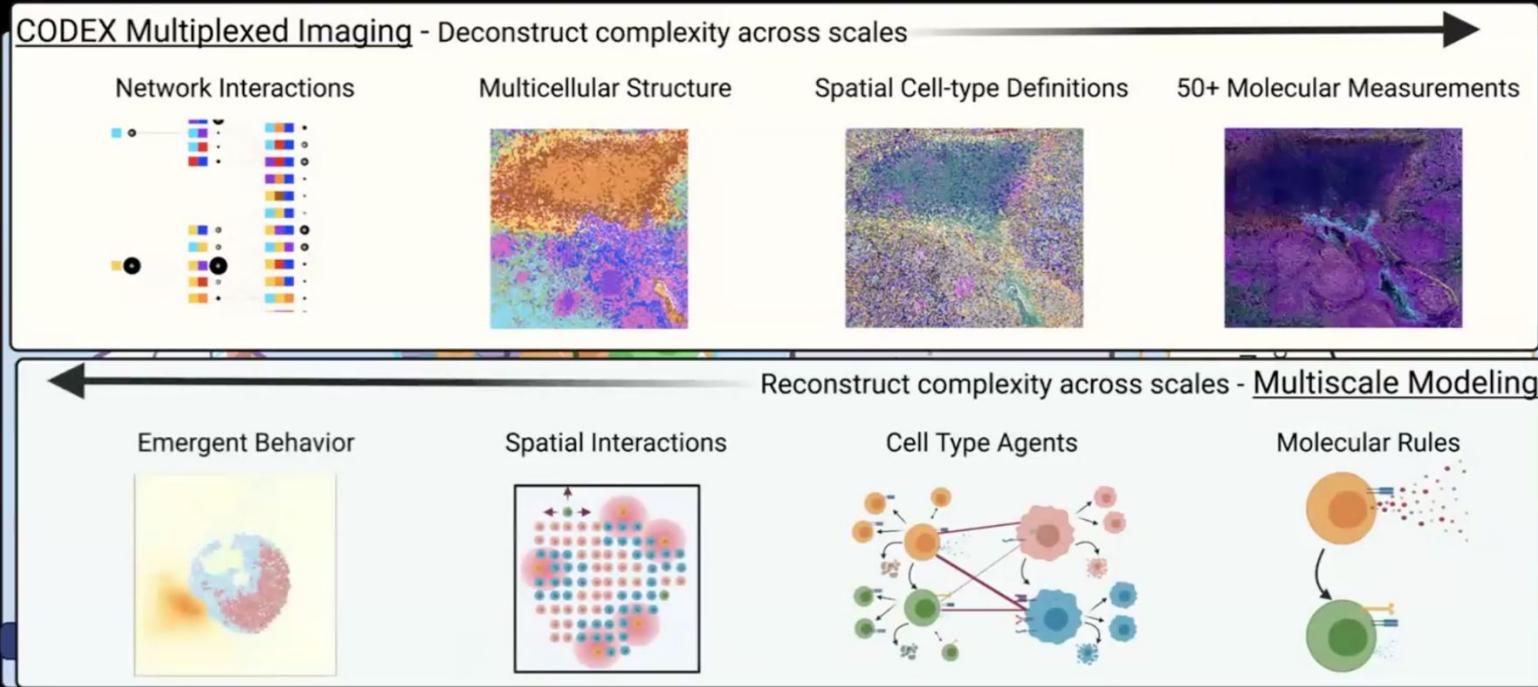
Recreating Complexity Across Scales Compliments Deconstructing



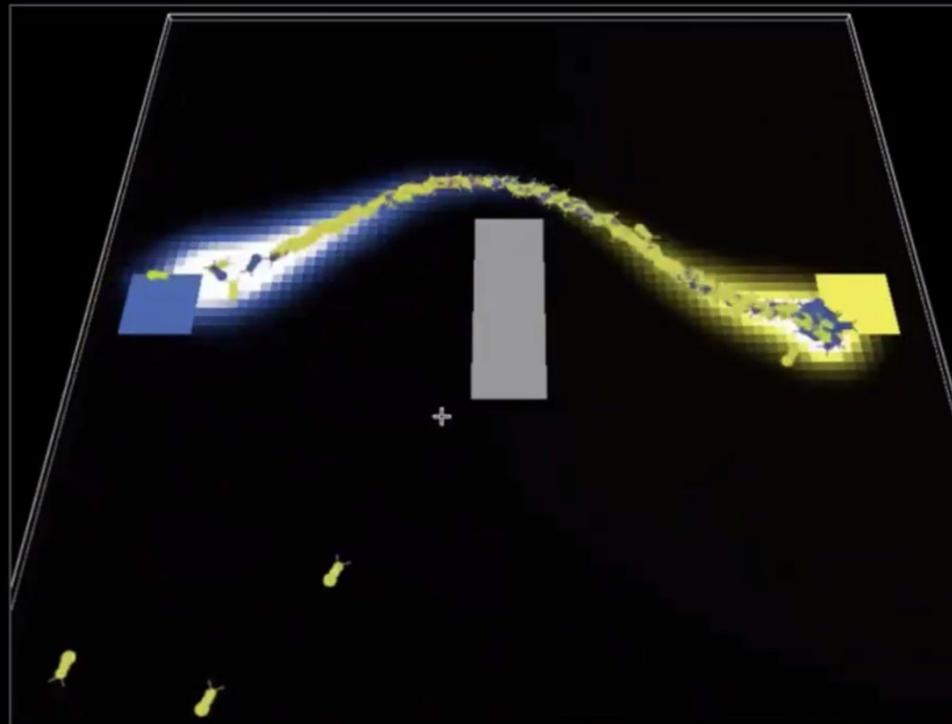


John Hickey

Recreating Complexity Across Scales Compliments Deconstructing

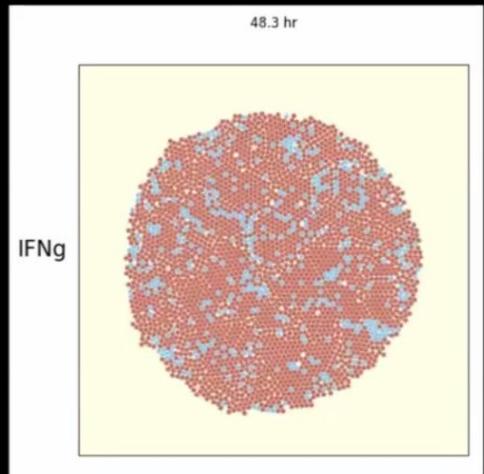


Ant Agent-based Model

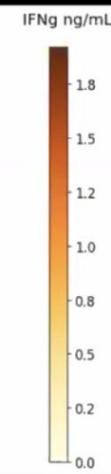
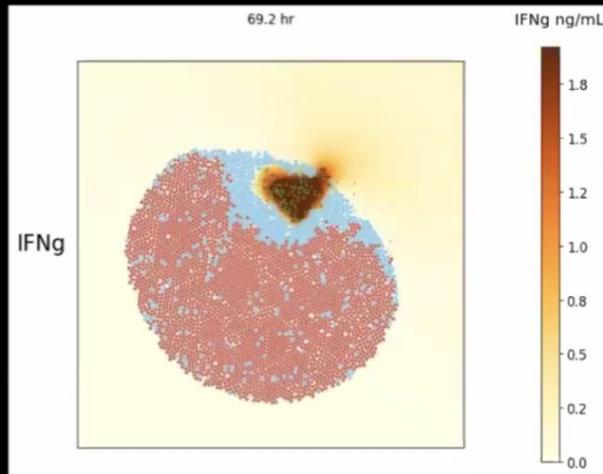


Multi-scale Agent-based Modeling of the T Cell Immunotherapy

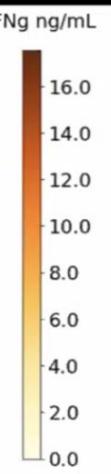
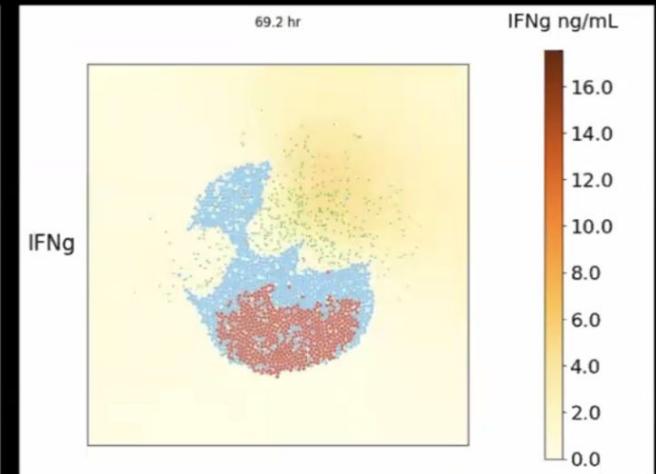
No T cells



T cells



Transformed T cells



PDL1+ tumor



PDL1- tumor

PD1+ T cell

PD1- T cell

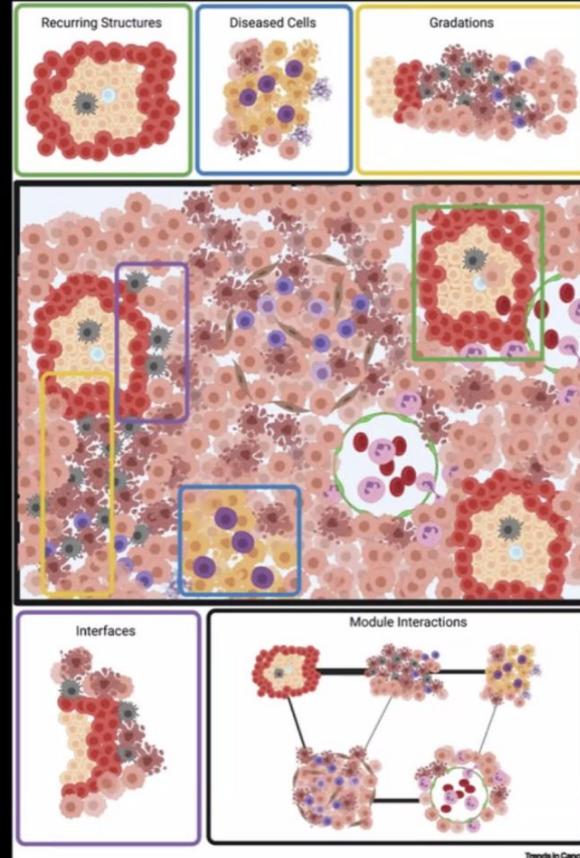
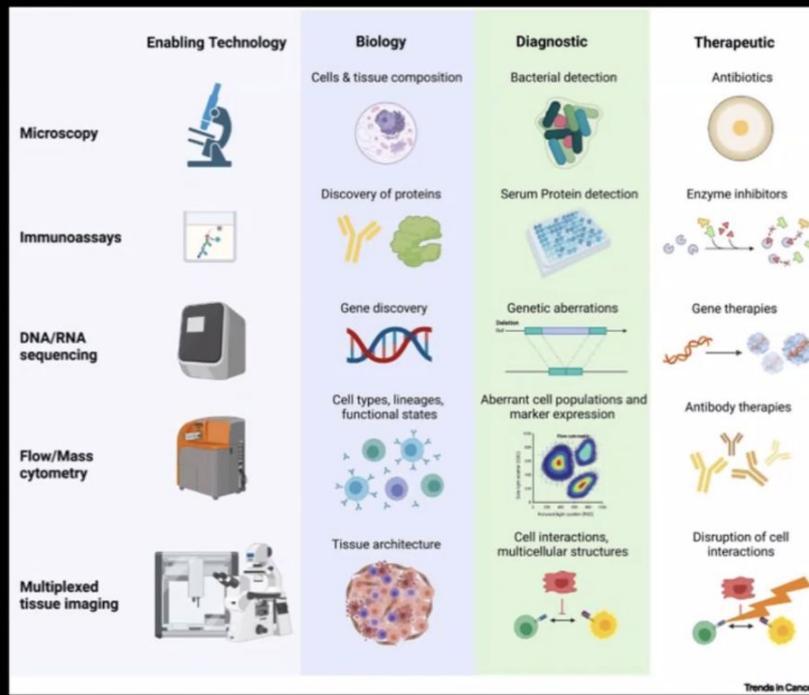
HICKEY LAB

(Hickey, *Cell Systems*, 2024)



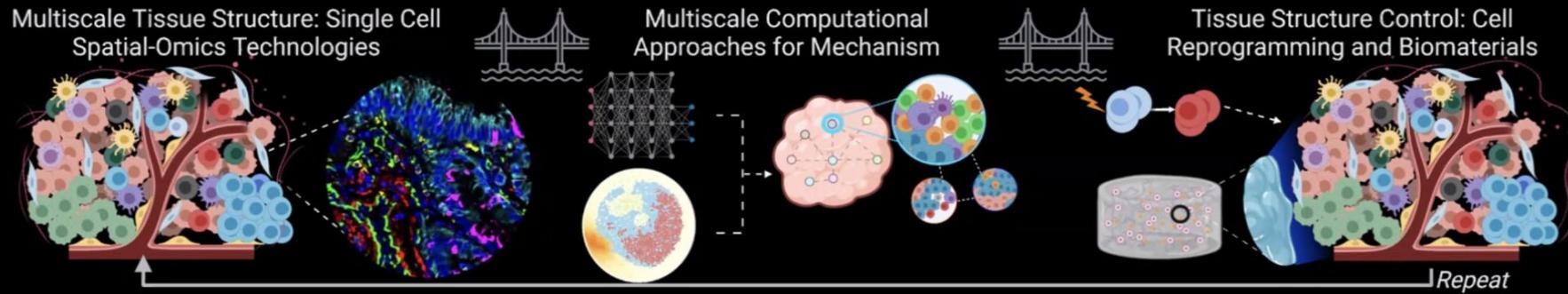
Duke

A rethinking of therapies





Hickey Lab: Synergy and Bridging Omics, Computation, and Engineering



Our expertise.



Tools we use.





Jure Leskovec, Stanford University



Building Foundation Models for the AI Virtual Cell

Jure Leskovec
Stanford University





Building Foundation Models for the AI Virtual Cell

Jure Leskovec
Stanford University



Cell is a Fundamental Unit of Life

- Cells are essential for health and disease
- Advances in AI and omics offer new opportunities to rethink traditional models

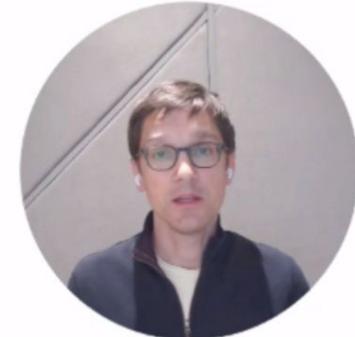
Cell

Leading Edge

Perspective

How to build the virtual cell with artificial intelligence: Priorities and opportunities

 CellPress
OPEN ACCESS



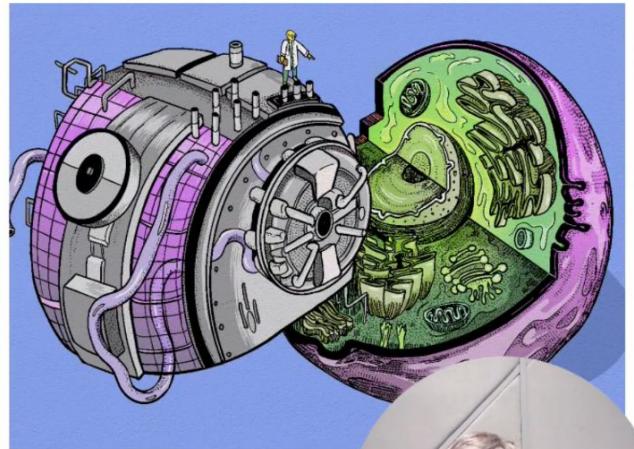
Simulating Biology with the AI Virtual Cell

How can we simulate biology?

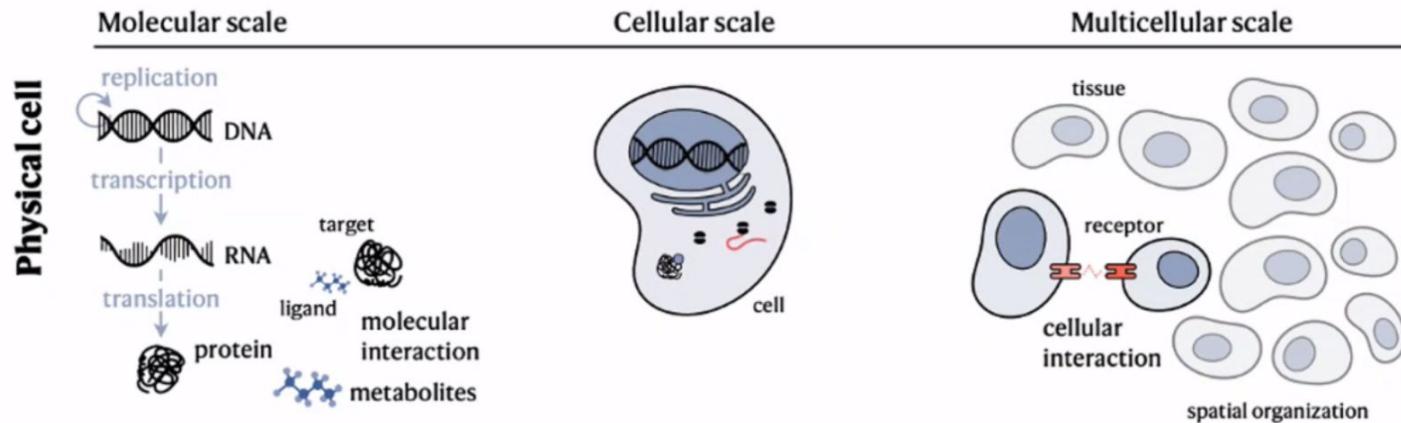
- Multi scale, non-linear, stochastic/noisy, measured in different ways, incomplete data

We create an AI Virtual Cell:

A connected framework of AI models that simulate increasingly complex and dynamic biological systems.



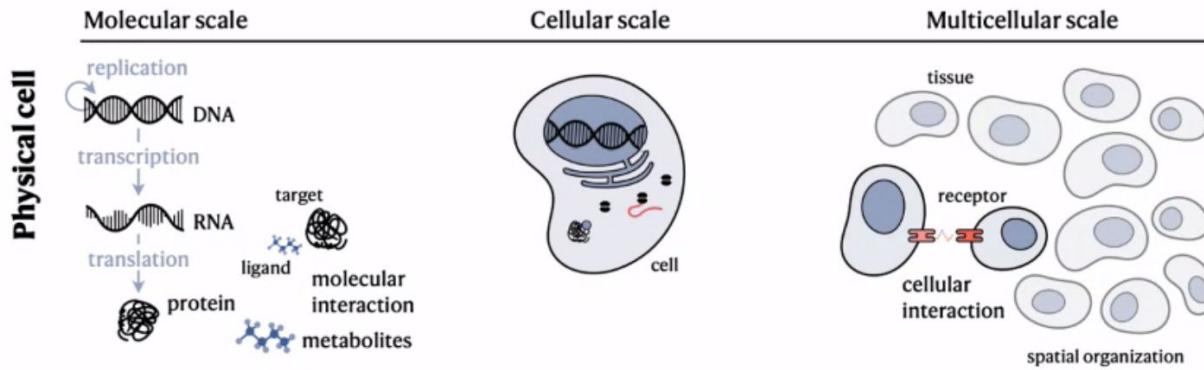
Connecting Biology's Physical Scales



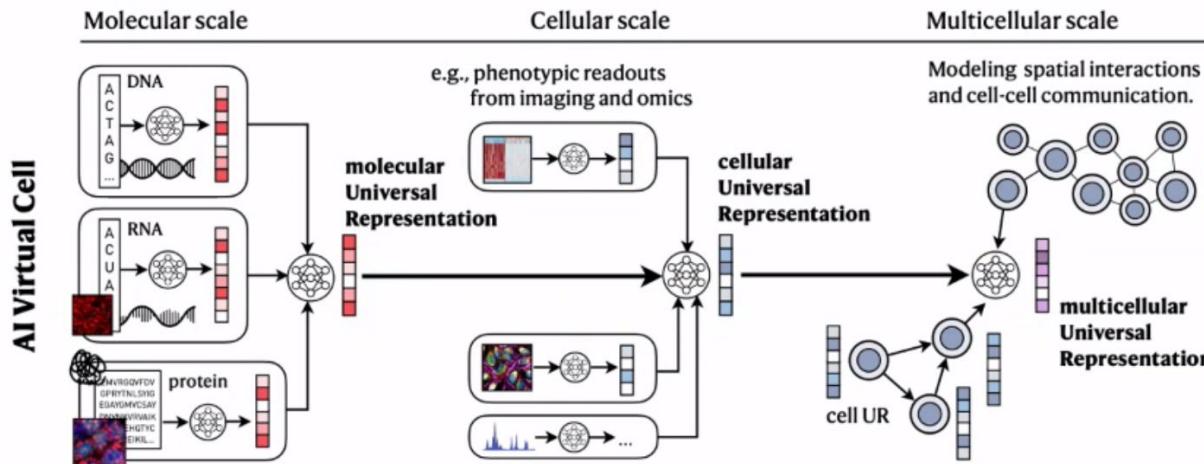
A connected framework of AI models that simulate increasingly complex and dynamic biological systems.



a. Cellular building blocks, environments, ...

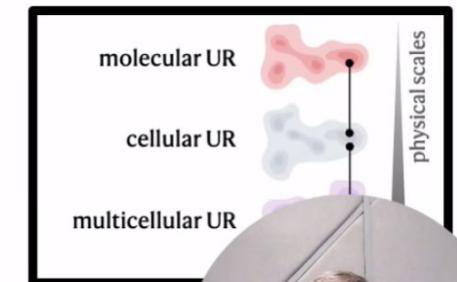
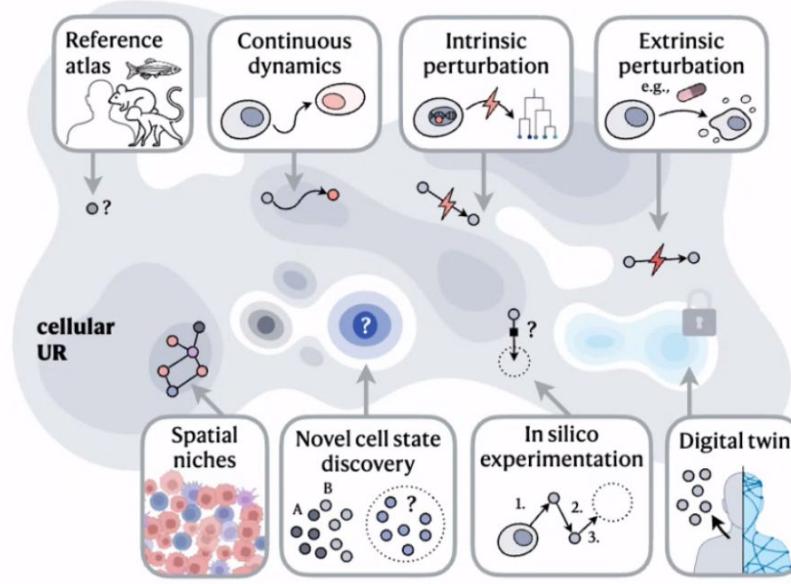


b. Building the AI Virtual Cell through Universal Representations ...



The Power of Representation Learning

Learning universal representation spaces unlocks fundamental capabilities for biomedicine.



Virtual Instruments

1. Manipulate:

Embedding -> Embedding

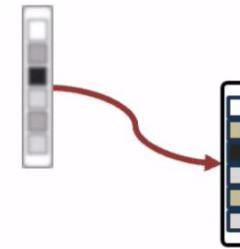
What happens to a cell after a drug is applied?

2. Decode:

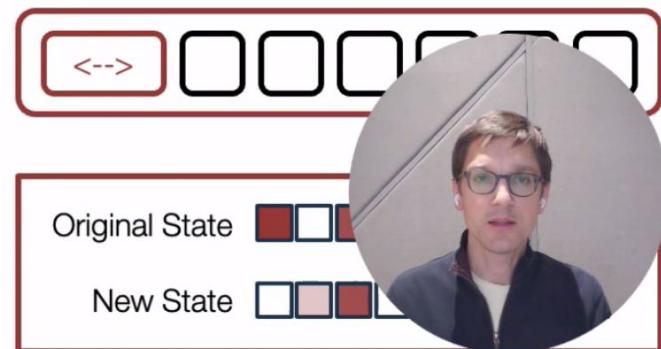
Embedding -> Readout

What is the 3d structure of a protein?

Diffusion Models

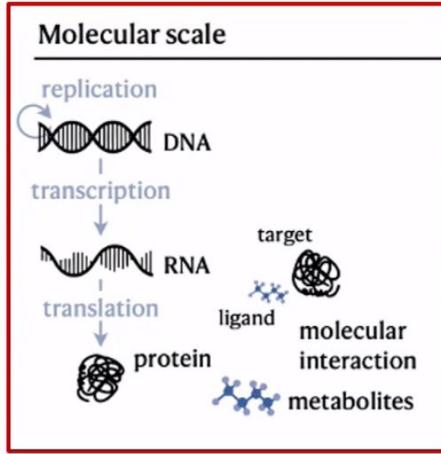


Prompting



This talk: AI Virtual Cell

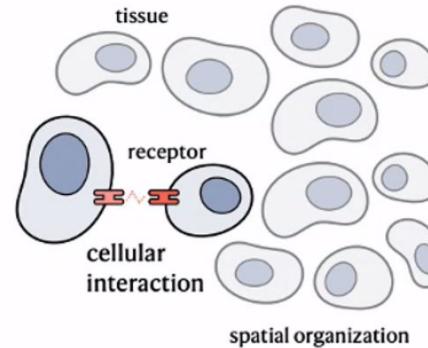
Physical cell



Cellular scale

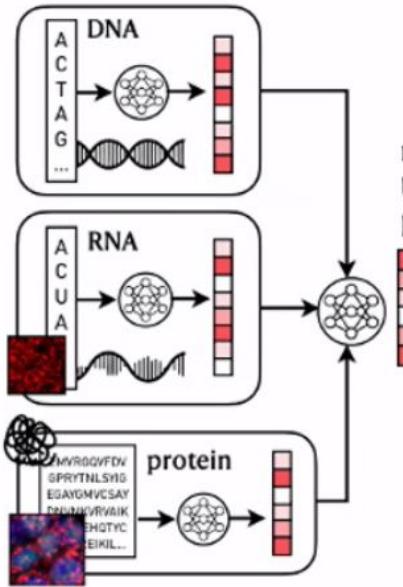


Multicellular scale



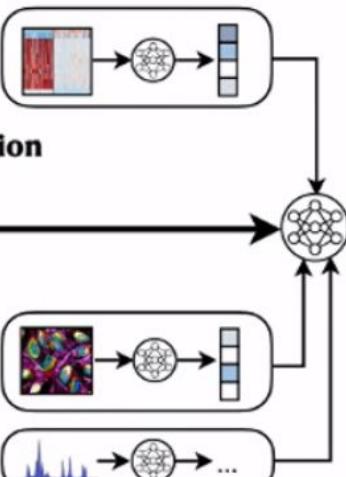
AI Virtual Cell

Molecular scale



Cellular scale

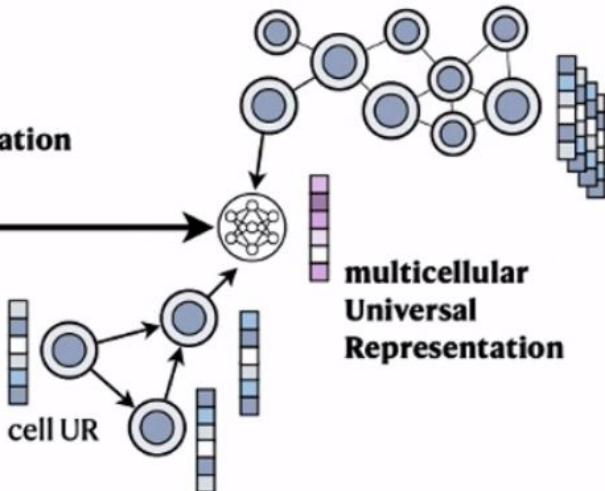
e.g., phenotypic readouts from imaging and omics



cellular Universal Representation

Multicellular scale

Modeling spatial interactions and cell-cell communication.



multicellular Universal Representation

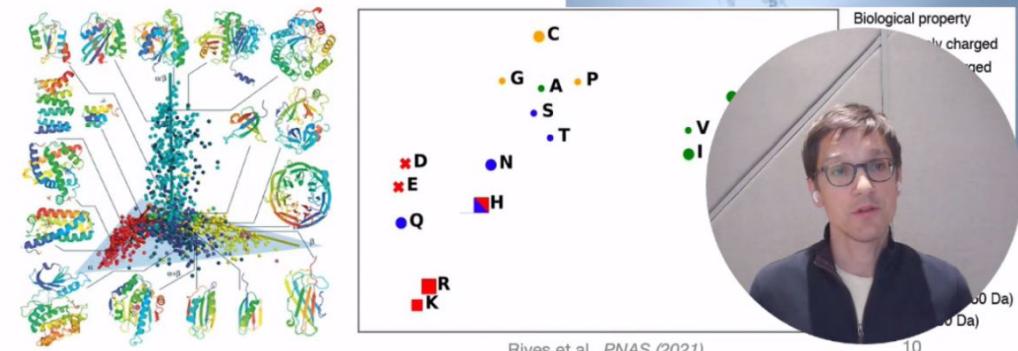
Protein Language Models

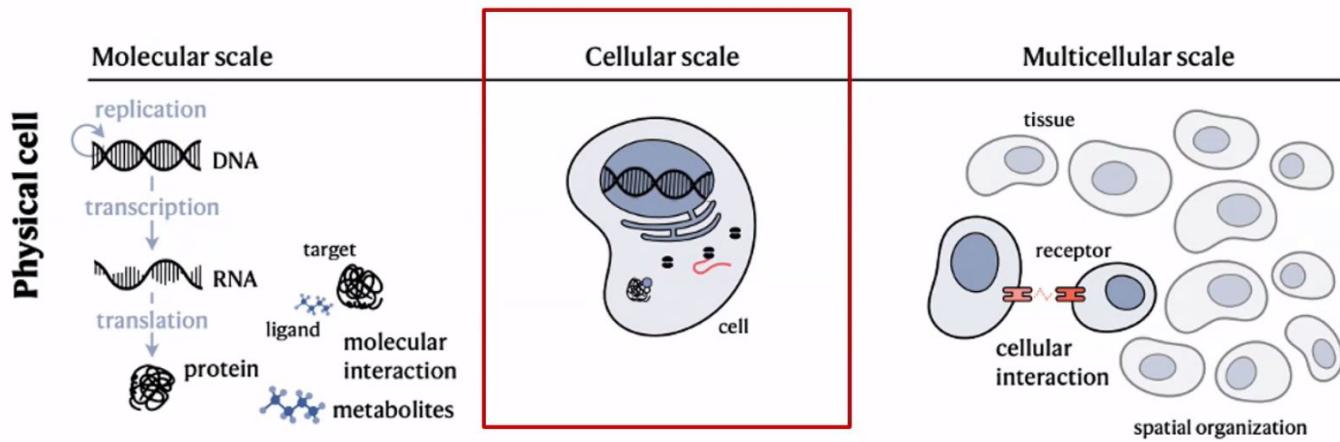
Protein Language Models: ProtT5, ESM encode the whole protein universe

- Motivated by ChatGPT & AlphaFold
- Trained on 250M+ proteins

Protein Embeddings encode:

- Structure
- Molecular prop.
- Orthology





Universal Cell Embeddings

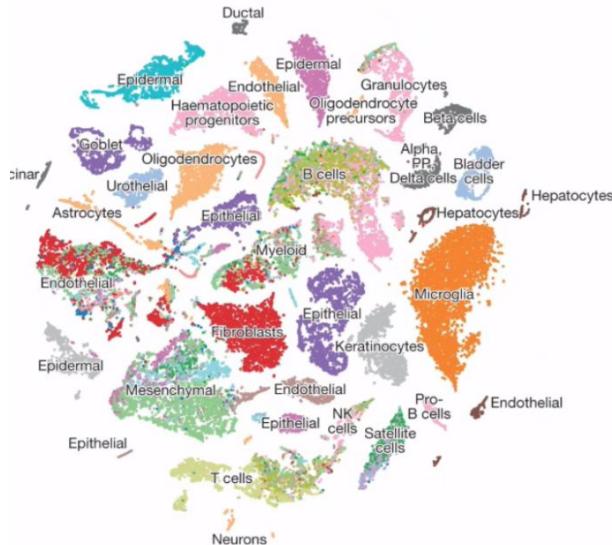
Yanay Rosen*, Yusuf Roohani*, Ayush Agrawal,
 Leon Samotorčan,
 Stephen Quake, Jure Leskovec

[Universal Cell Embeddings: A Foundation Model for Cell Biology](#) (Rosen, Roohani et al. Preprint)

Towards Universal Cell Embeddings: Integrating Single-cell RNA-seq Datasets across Species with SATURN (Rosen, Brbic, Roohani et al. Nature Medicine)



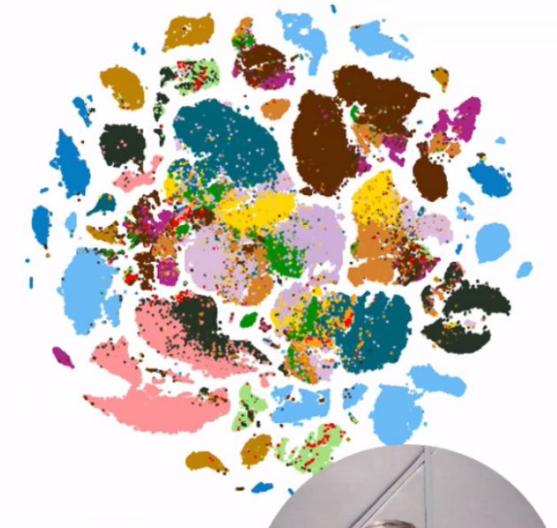
Cell Atlas Datasets



Tabula Muris
(Nature '18, '20)



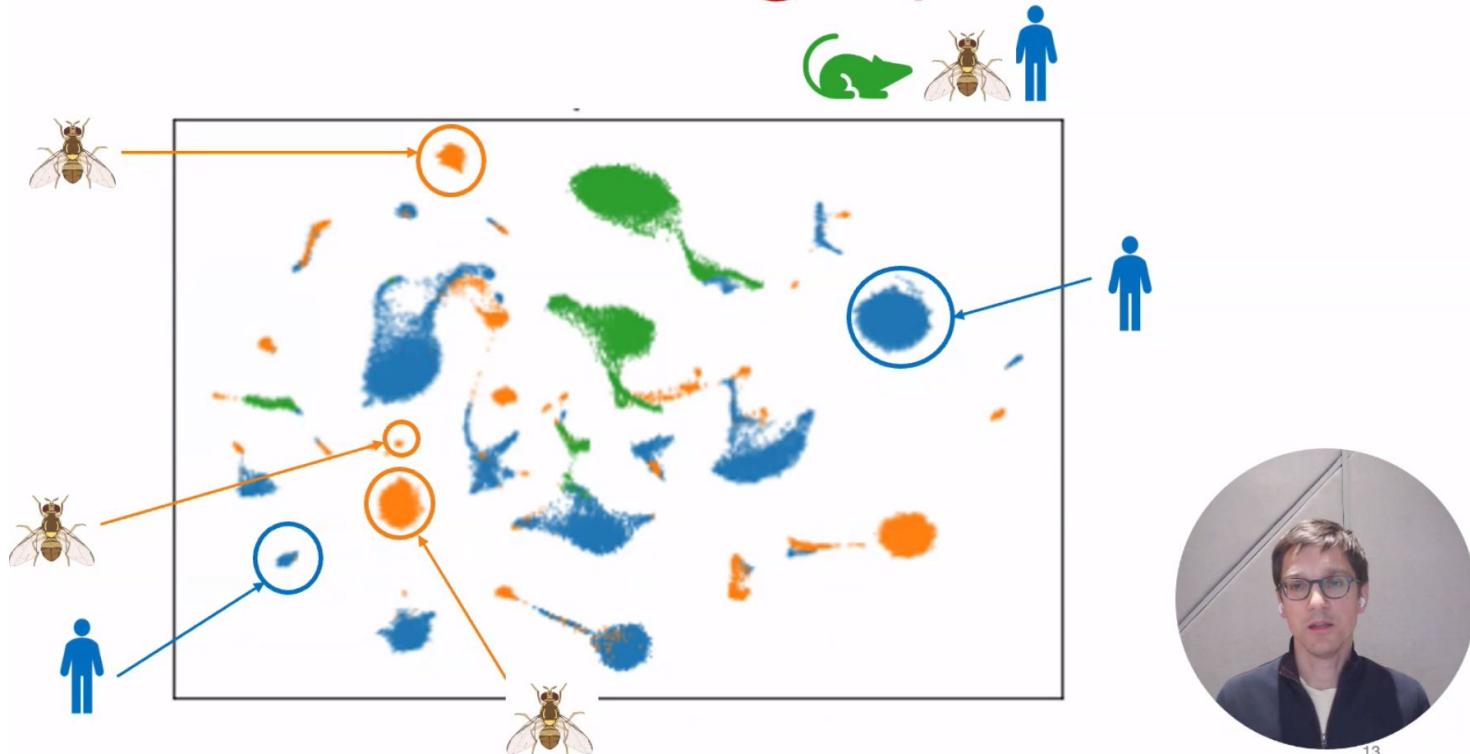
Tabula Sapiens
bioRxiv '22



Fly
Cell
Atlas

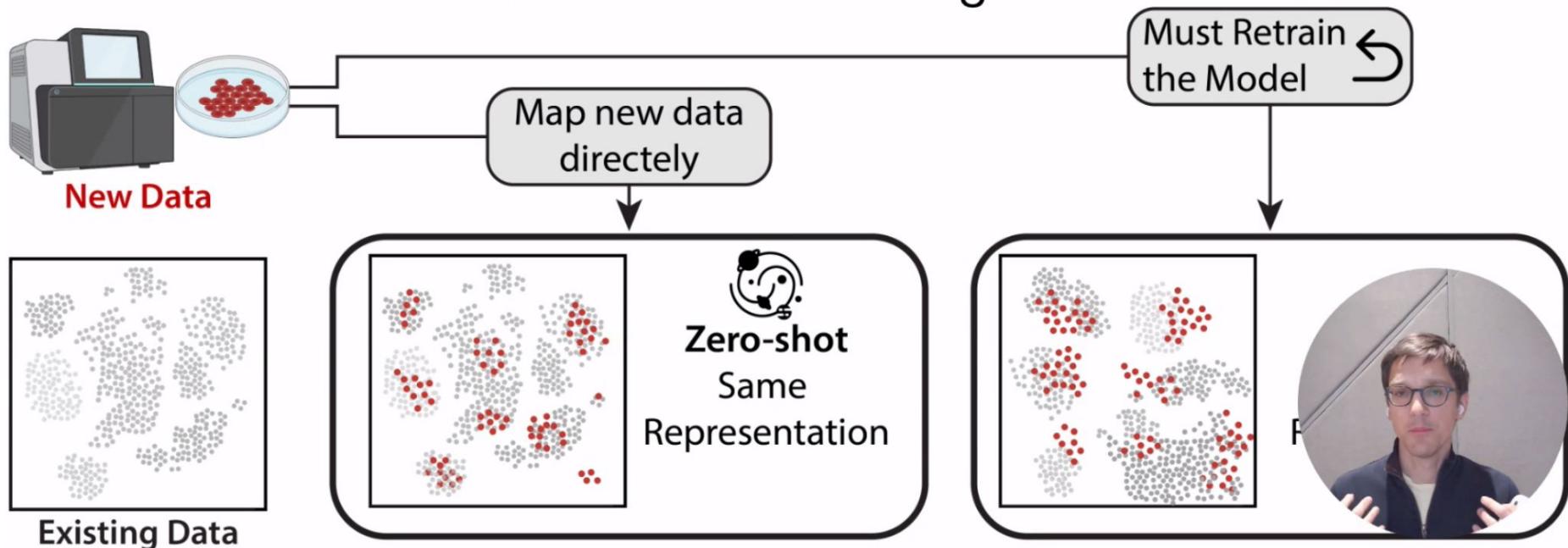


Goal: Cross-Species Cell Embedding Space

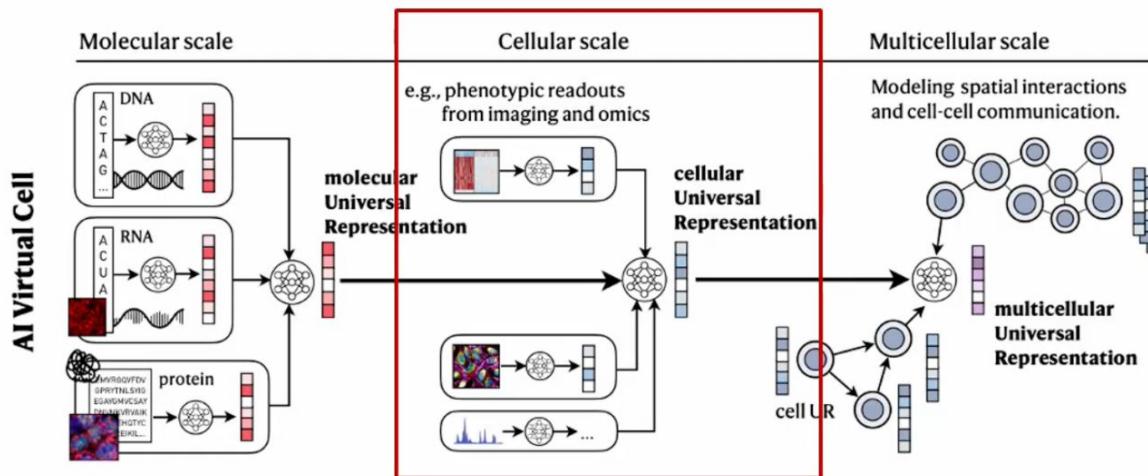


Universal Spaces are *Fixed*

- Representations of data should be consistent and fixed
 - ChatGPT works without finetuning



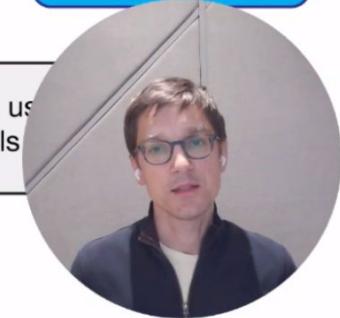
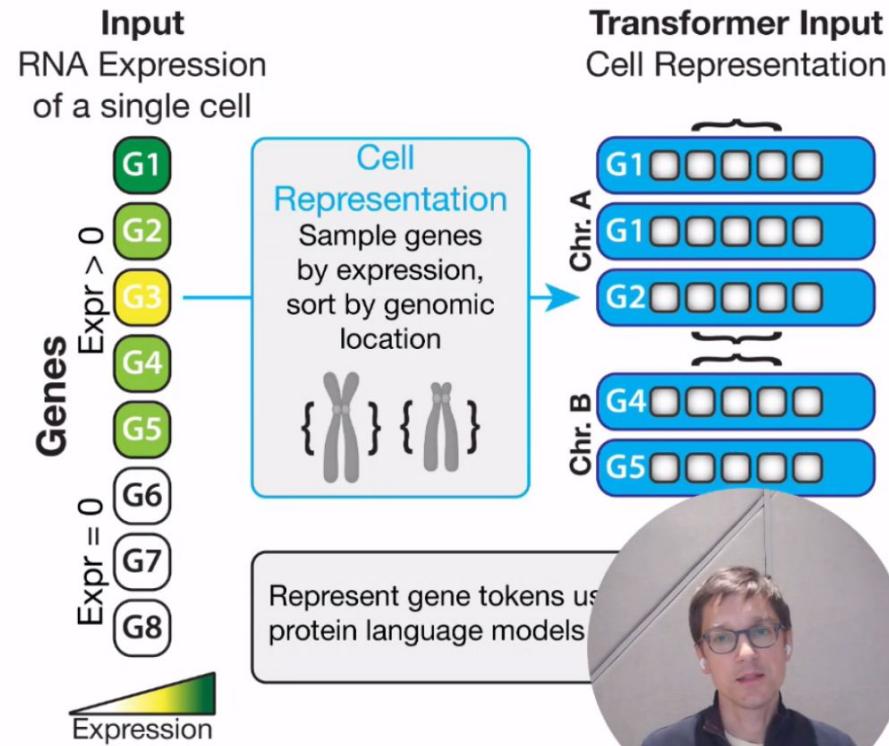
We built a Cellular-Scale Foundation Model



The Universal Cell Embedding (UCE) Model

Key Model Choices

- Gene expression is not natural language
- A universal space is a fixed space
 - Foundation Models are zero-shot
- Self-supervised
 - Organization is emergent



The Universal Cell Embedding (UCE) Model

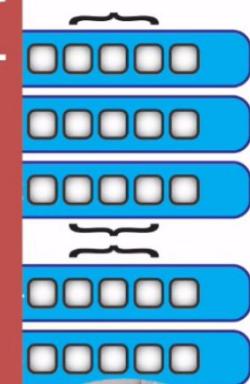
Key Model Choices

- Biologically Inspired Transformer
 - 33 Layers, 650M Parameters
 - Trained for 40 days on 24 A100 80GB GPUs
- Self-supervised
 - Organization is emergent

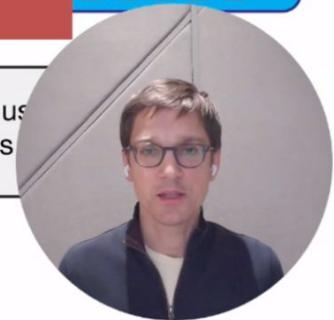
Input

Transformer Input

Representation



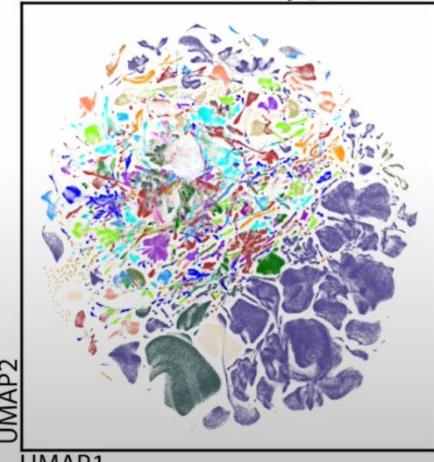
Represent gene tokens using protein language models



Integrated Mega-scale Atlas (IMA)

Emergent organization of 36M cells

1000 Cell Types



350 Datasets



50 Tissues



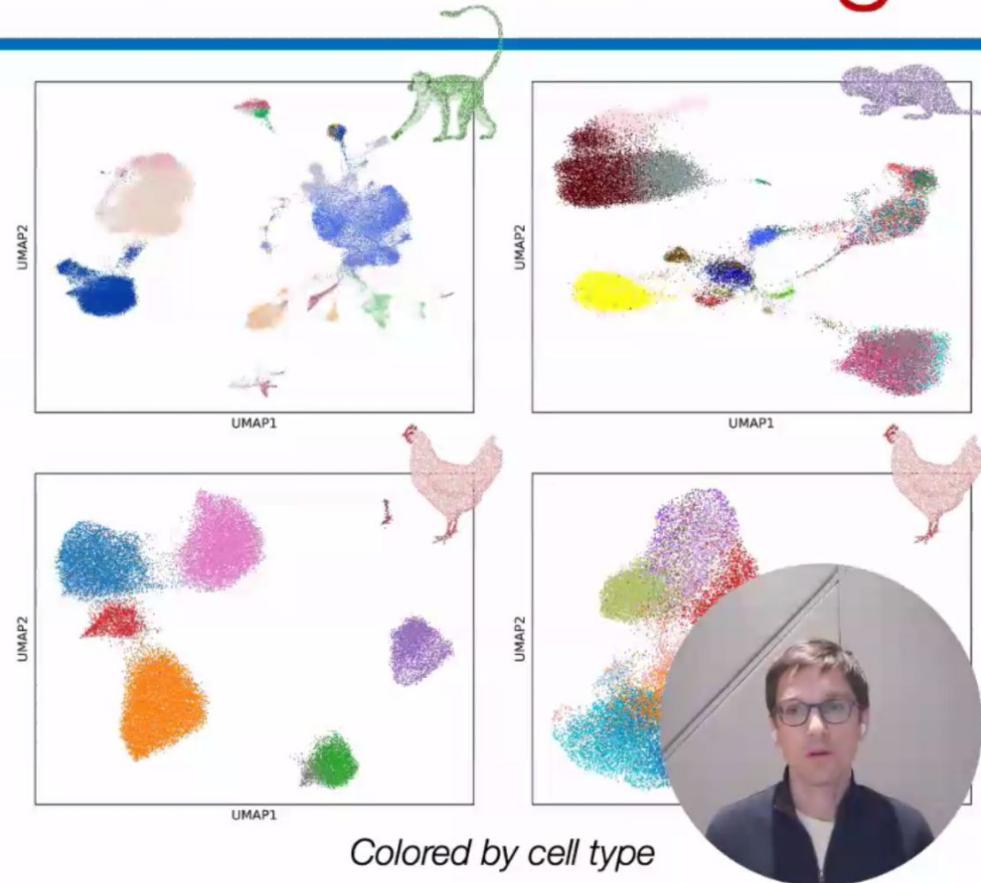
8 Species



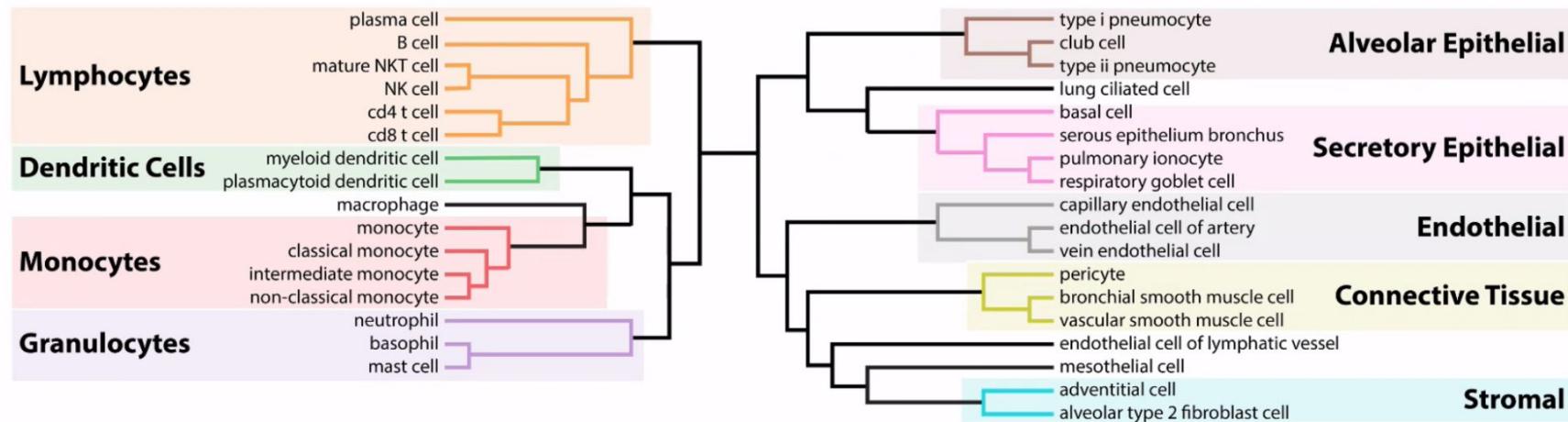
Map new data with no fine-tuning

Map new data to
same fixed space

- Even novel species!
(No BLAST)

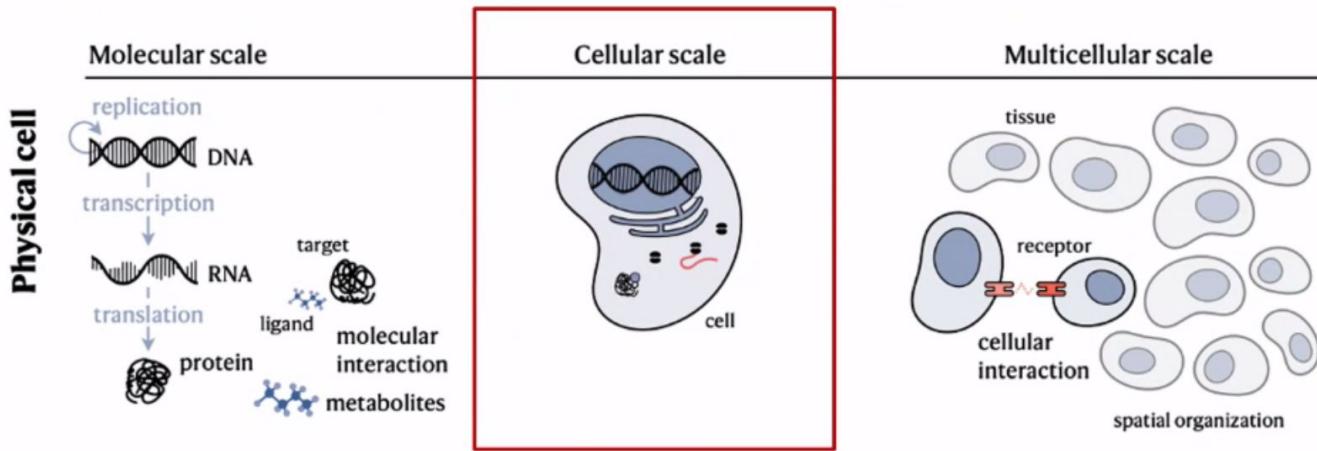


Cell Type Organization Naturally Emerges



Tabula Sapiens v2 Lung
Inferred Cell Hierarchy





GEARS: Predicting transcriptional outcomes of novel multi-gene perturbations

Yusuf Roohani, Kexin Huang, Jure Leskovec

Stephen Quake, Jure Leskovec



Problem Formulation

Predict the outcome of a genetic perturbation

Gene expression

$$g_1 = 0.4$$

$$g_2 = 0.3$$

$$g_3 = 0.2$$

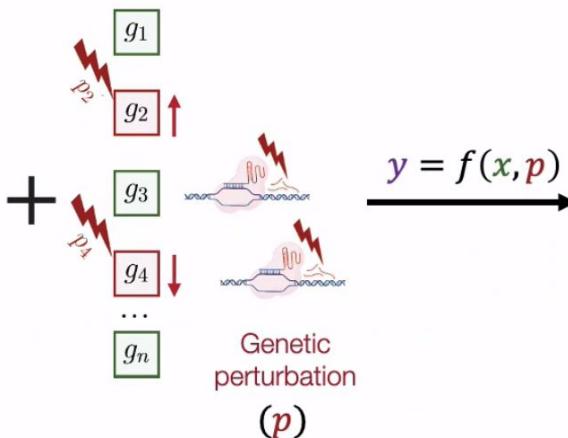
$$g_4 = 1.4$$

$$\dots$$

$$g_n$$



Unperturbed
cells
(x)



Perturbed
Gene expression

$$g_1 = ?$$

$$g_2 = ?$$

$$g_3 = ?$$

$$g_4 = ?$$

$$\dots$$

$$g_n$$

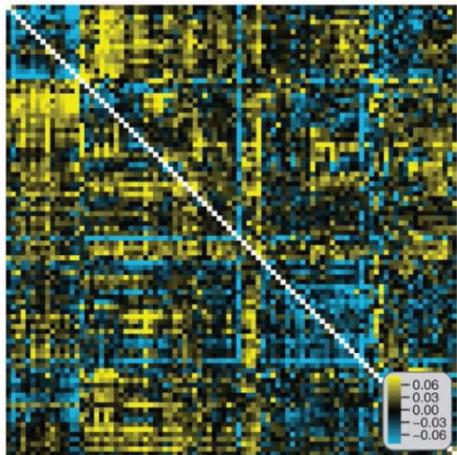


Perturbed
cells
(y)



What is the gene expression response of perturbing a combination of genes not seen experimentally perturbed?

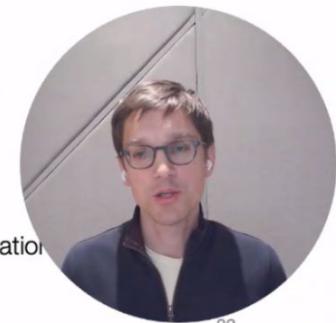
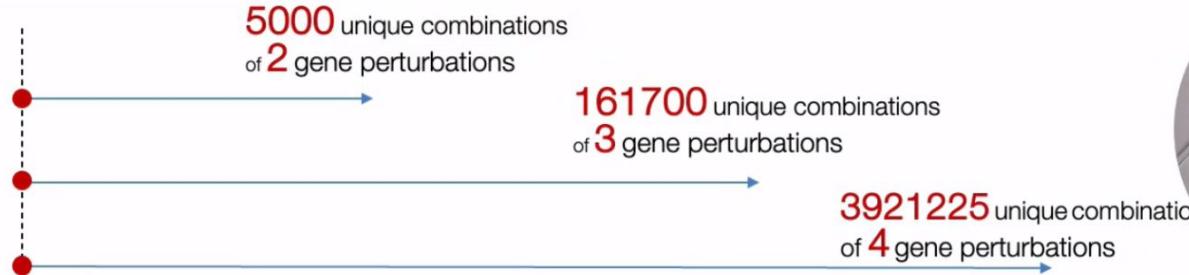
Why Predict Perturbation



Perturbational space is too vast to be explored experimentally

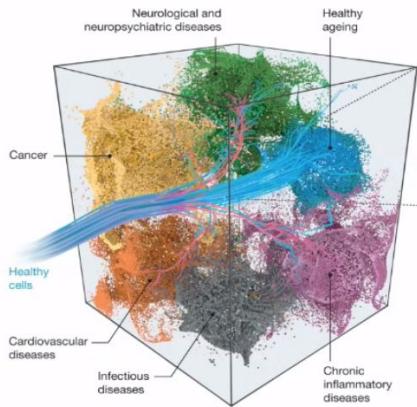
There are 4×10^8 pairwise combinations of all known protein coding genes

Pick 100 genes



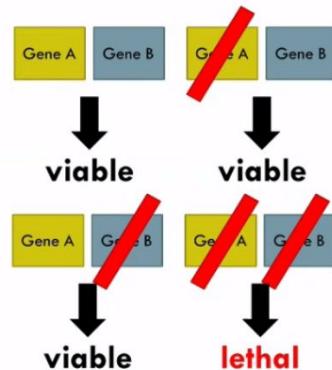
Why is this useful?

1. Drug target discovery



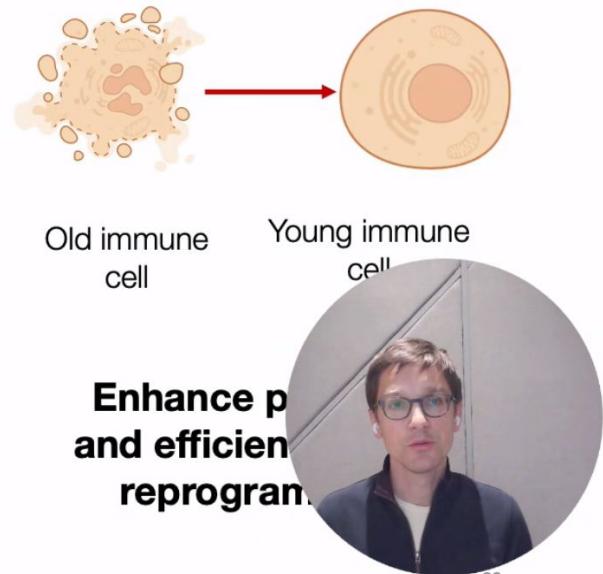
Identify therapeutic targets that can reverse disease phenotypes

2. Identifying genetic interactions

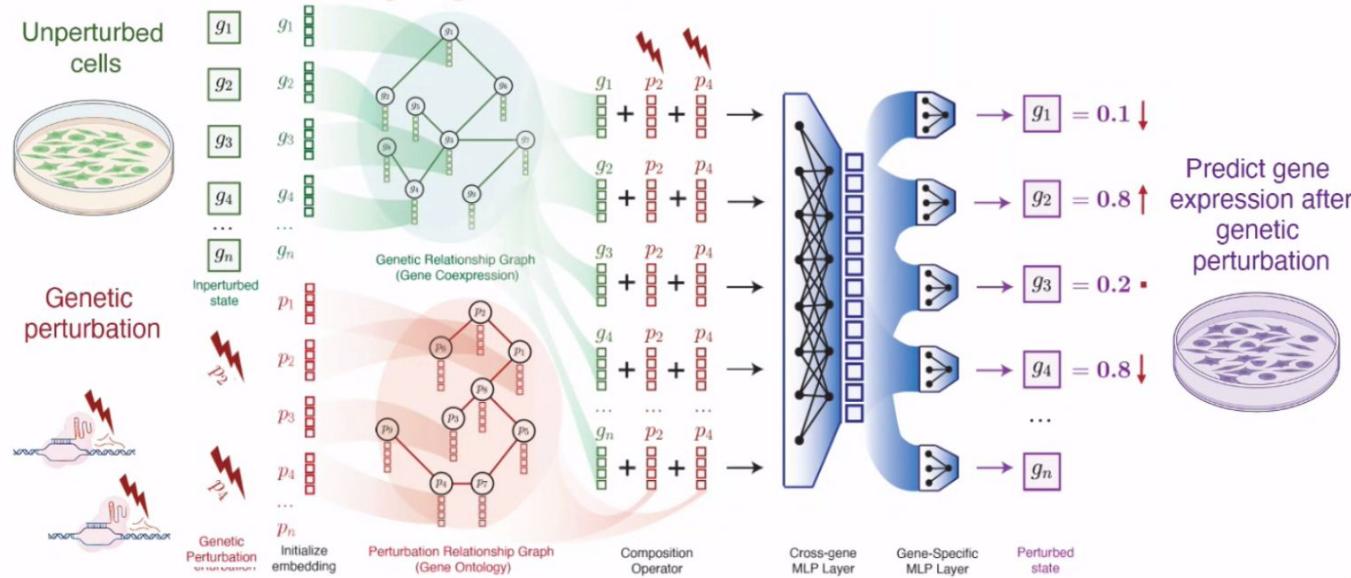


Predict genetic interactions

3. Re-engineering cells



Our Approach: GEARS



A deep learning model constrained by prior knowledge of gene-gene relationships

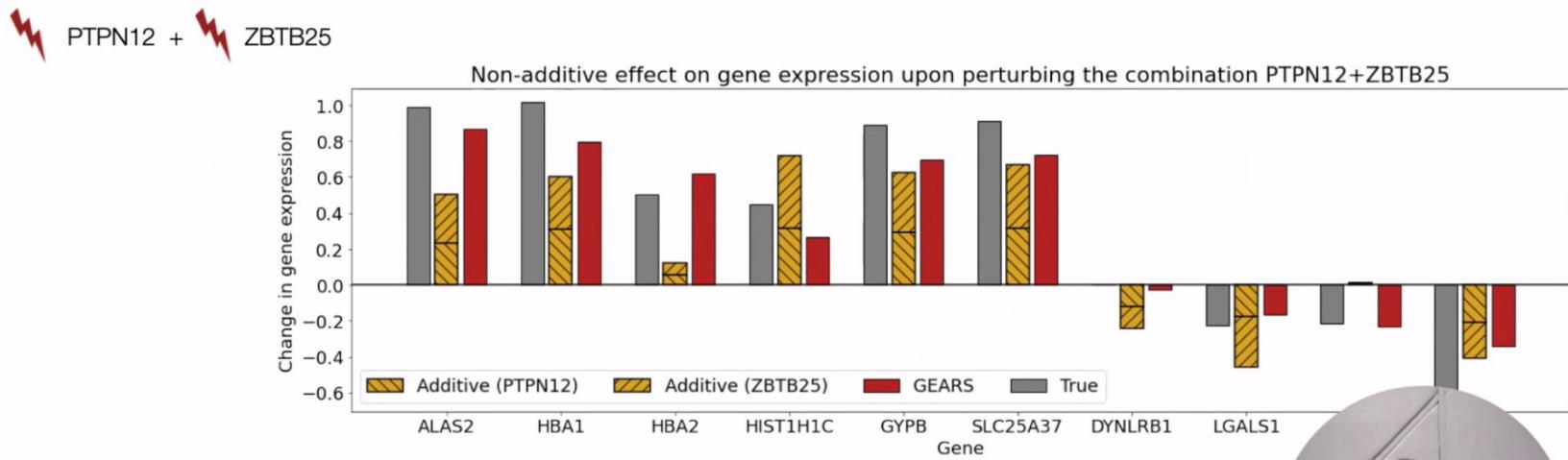
GEARS: Predicting transcriptional outcomes of novel multi-gene perturbations

Yusuf Roohani, Kexin Huang, Jure Leskovec, Nature Biotech. 2023

Jure Leskovec, Stanford University



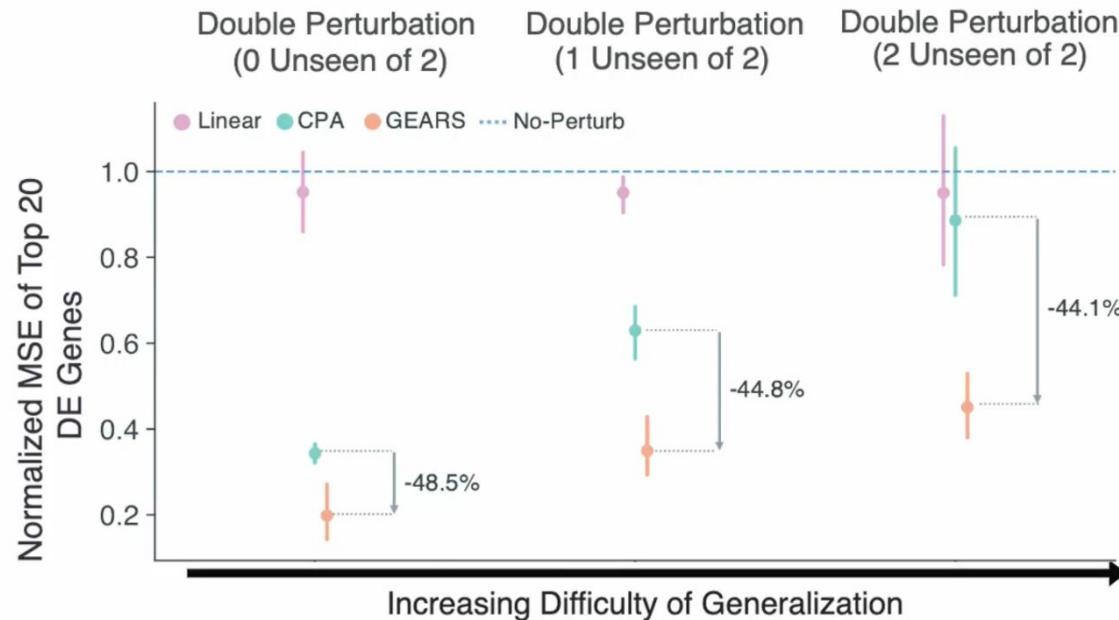
Results: Predicting non-additive genetic interactions



GEARS had 50% higher precision in detecting gene interactions. 2x as accurate in predicting strongest interactions.



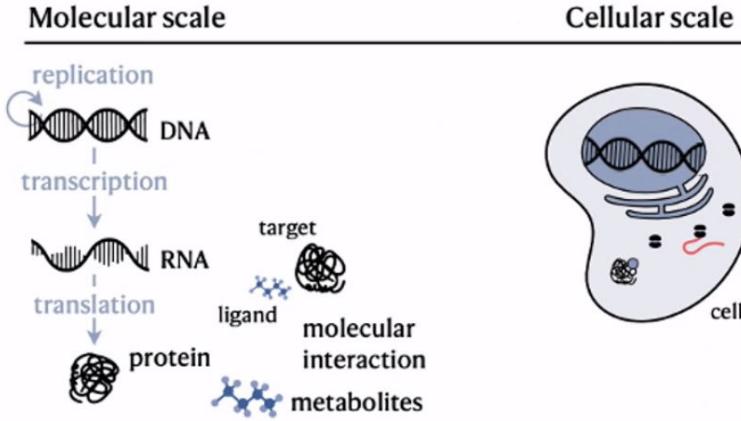
Generalizing to unseen genes



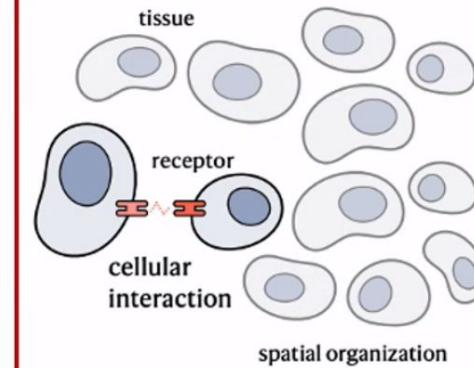
GEARS outperforms other approaches in predicting outcomes of genetic perturbation by 45%.



Physical cell

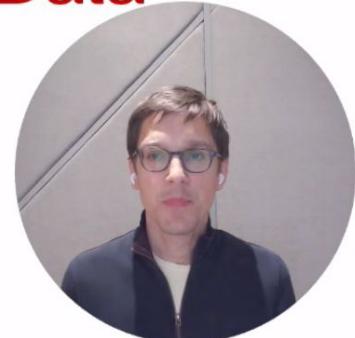


Multicellular scale



Annotation of Spatially Resolved Single-cell Data with STELLAR.

Brbic*, Cao*, Hickey*, Tan, Snyder, Nolan, Leskovec
Nature Methods 2022.



Spatially Resolved Single-Cell Data

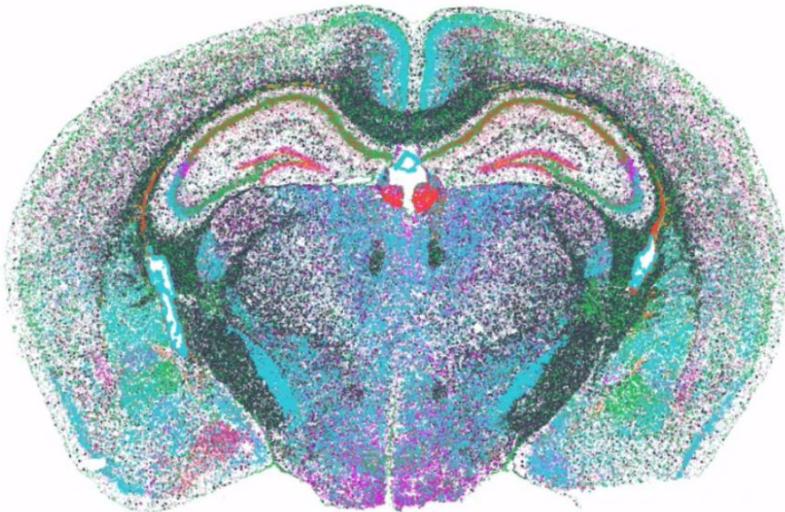


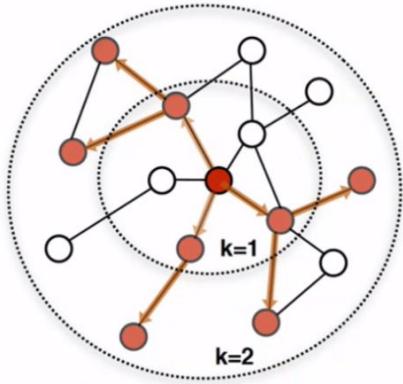
Figure from Vizgen MERFISH Mouse Brain Receptor Map dataset

- Captures spatial context of cells
- Each cell is represented with a smaller number gene/protein expressions and cell coordinates

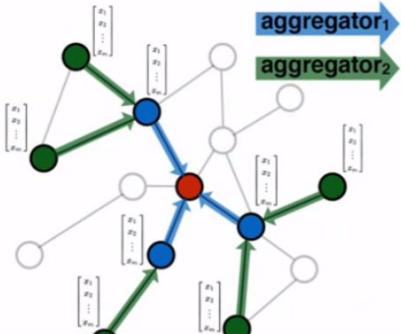
Goal: capture spatial organization of the cells and their molecular features



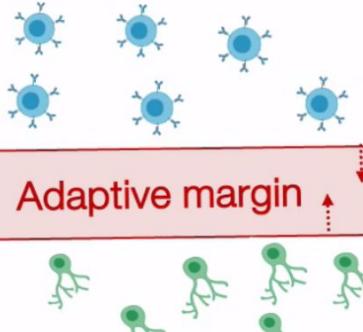
Solution: Graph Neural Networks



Determine node computation graph

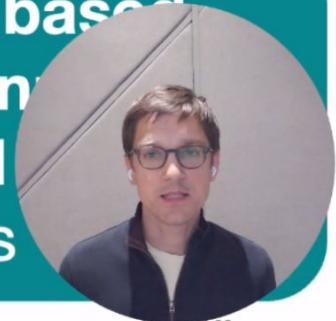


Propagate and transform information

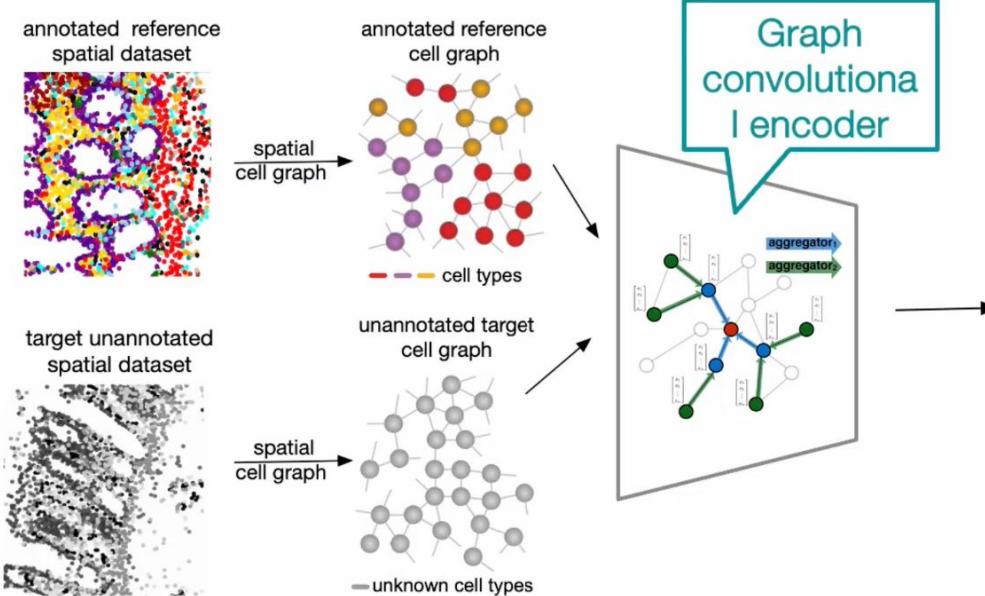


Capture spatial and molecular context of cells using graph convolutional neural networks

Uncertainty based adaptive margin learning speed classes



Our Method: STELLAR



Assign cells in the unannotated dataset to either cell types in the reference dataset, or discover novel cell types

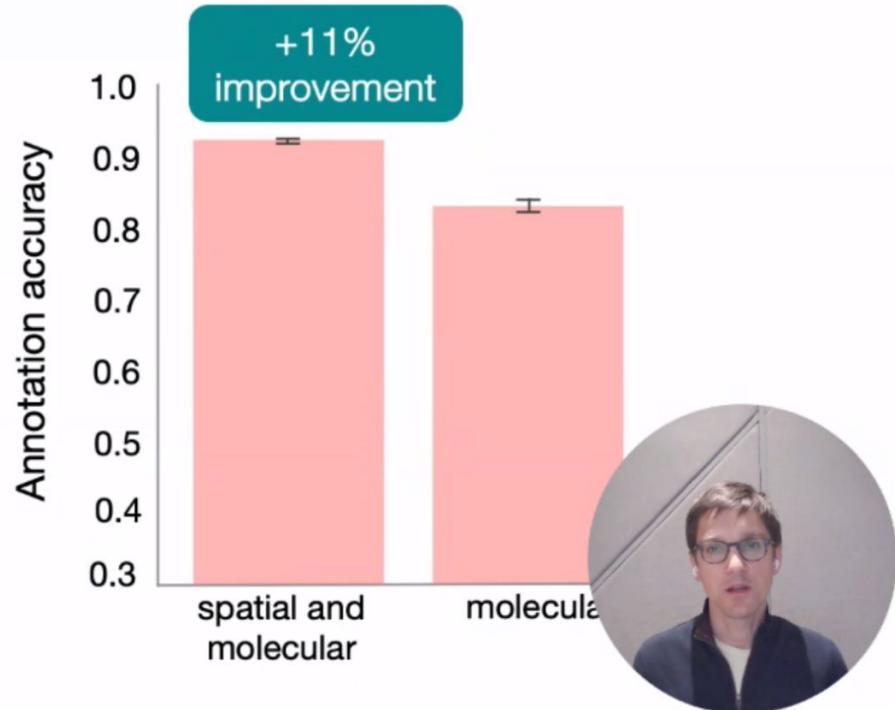
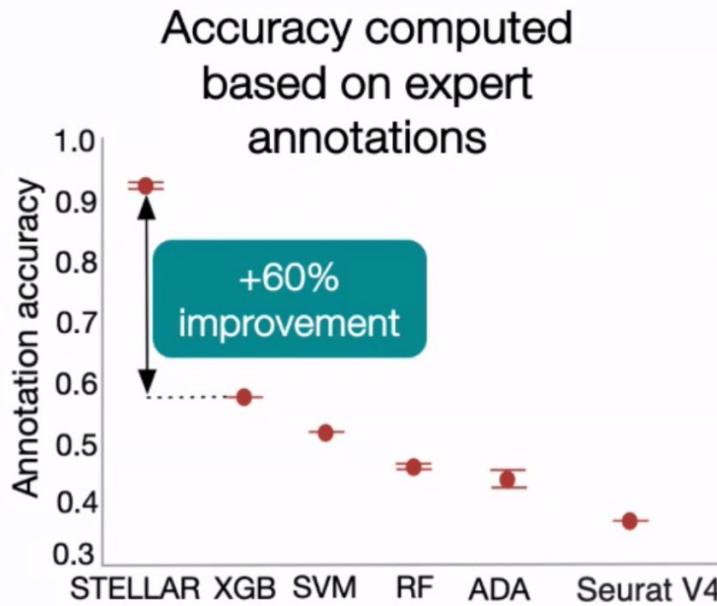
Annotation of Spatially Resolved Single-cell Data with STELLAR.

Brbic*, Cao*, Hickey*, Tan, Snyder, Nolan, Leskovec. *Nature Methods* 2022.





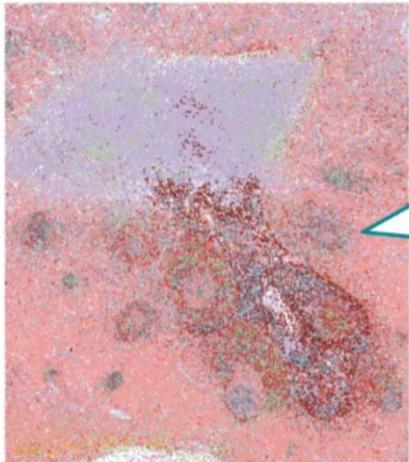
STELLAR: Cell labeling



Can We Annotate Cancer Donor Tissue using Healthy Donor Tissue?

Reference labeled data:

Healthy tonsil tissue

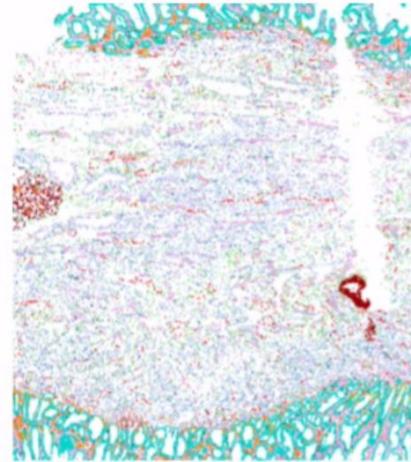


CODEX multiplexed
imaging data

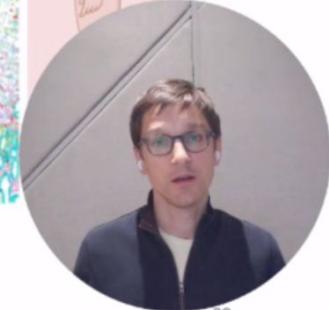
Colors denote
different cell
types

Unlabeled data:

Esophageal cancer

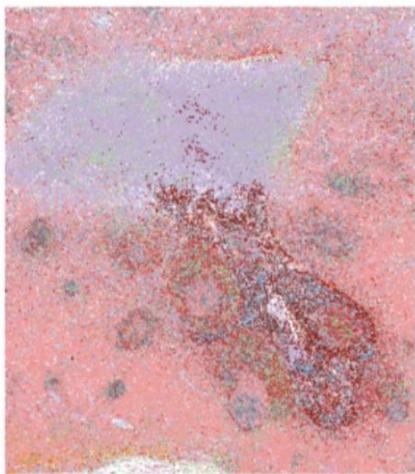


CODEX multiplexed
imaging data

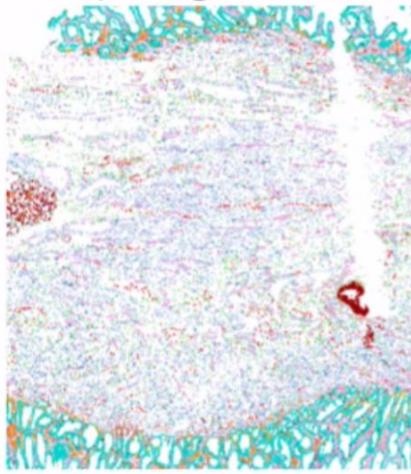


Can We Annotate Cancer Tissue using Healthy Tissue?

Healthy tonsil tissue Esophageal cancer



CODEX multiplexed imaging data



CODEX multiplexed imaging data

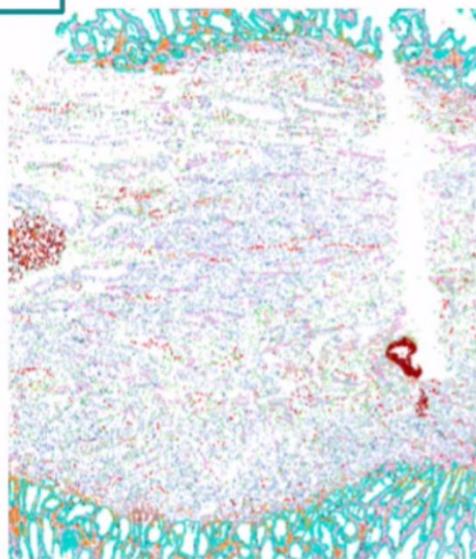
- Distribution between cell types and their spatial organization is different
- **3 out of 12 cell types only in the cancer tissue**



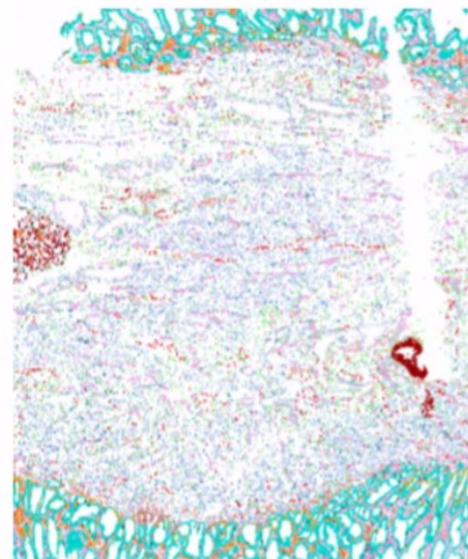
★★ STELLAR Correctly Annotations Cancer Tissue

Cells are colored according to their cell types

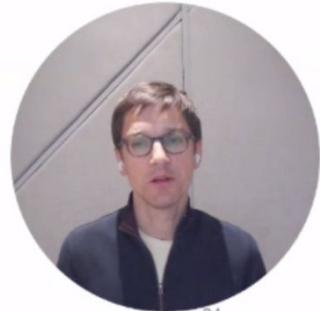
Ground truth



STELLAR predictions

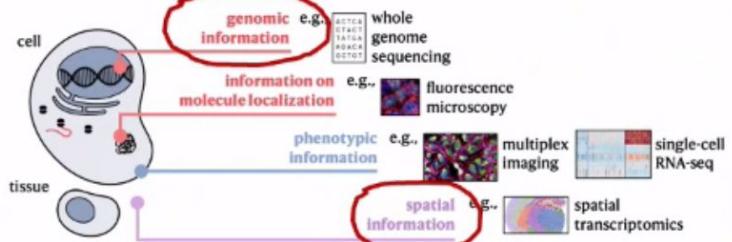


Novel cell type

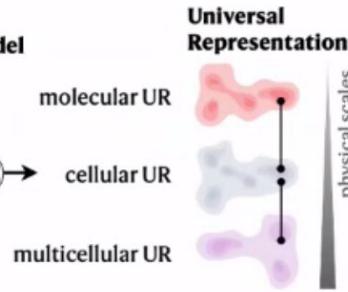


Conclusion: AI Virtual Cell

a. Multi-modal measurements across different scales of the cell

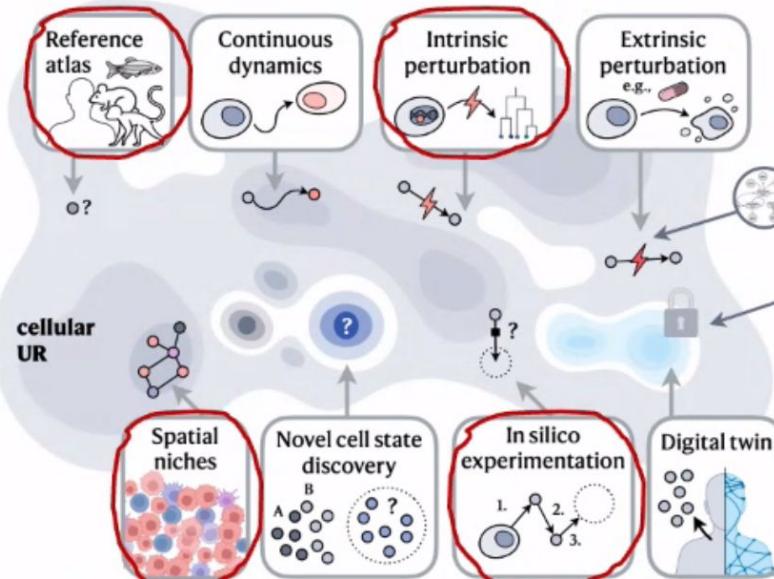


AI Virtual Cell Foundation Model



Universal Representations

b. Capabilities and applications of the AI Virtual Cell



c. Community and development

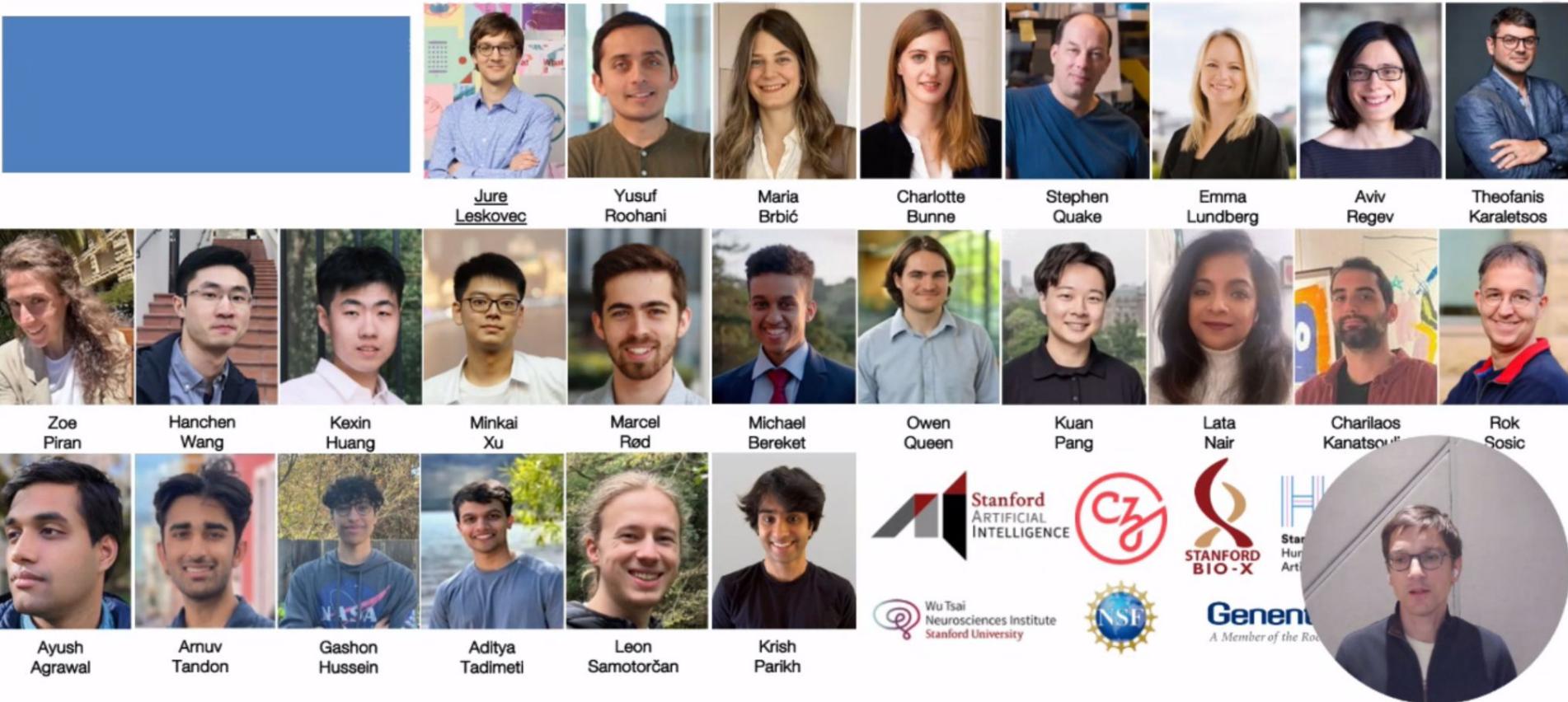


Papers

- [How to Build the Virtual Cell with Artificial Intelligence: Priorities and Opportunities](#), Bunne, Roohani, Rosen et al. Cell '24.
- [Universal Cell Embeddings: A Foundation Model for Cell Biology](#). Rosen, Brbić, Samotorčan, Roohani, Quake, Leskovec, '24.
- [MARS: Discovering Novel Cell Types across Heterogenous Single-cell Experiments](#). Brbic, Zitnik, Wang, Pisco, Altman, Darmanis, Leskovec. Nature Methods '20
- [Annotation of Spatially Resolved Single-cell Data with STELLAR](#). Brbic*, Hickey*, Tan, Snyder, Nolan, Leskovec. Nature Methods 2022.
- [GEARS: Predicting transcriptional outcomes of novel multi-gene per](#) Yusuf Roohani, Kexin Huang, Jure Leskovec, Nature Biotech, 2023.



Acknowledgements



PhD Students



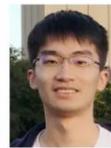
Camilo
Ruiz



Hongyu
Ren



Hamed
Nilforoshan



Kaidi
Cao



Kexin
Huang



Jared
Davis



Michi
Yasunaga



Qian
Huang



Serina
Chang



Weihua
Hu



Yanay
Rosen



Yusuf
Roohani

Post-Doctoral Fellows



Michael
Moor



Tailin
Wu

Industrial Visitors



Yanan
Wang



Takashi
Maruyama



Yoshitaka
Sugita

Industry Partnerships



Funding



Research Staff



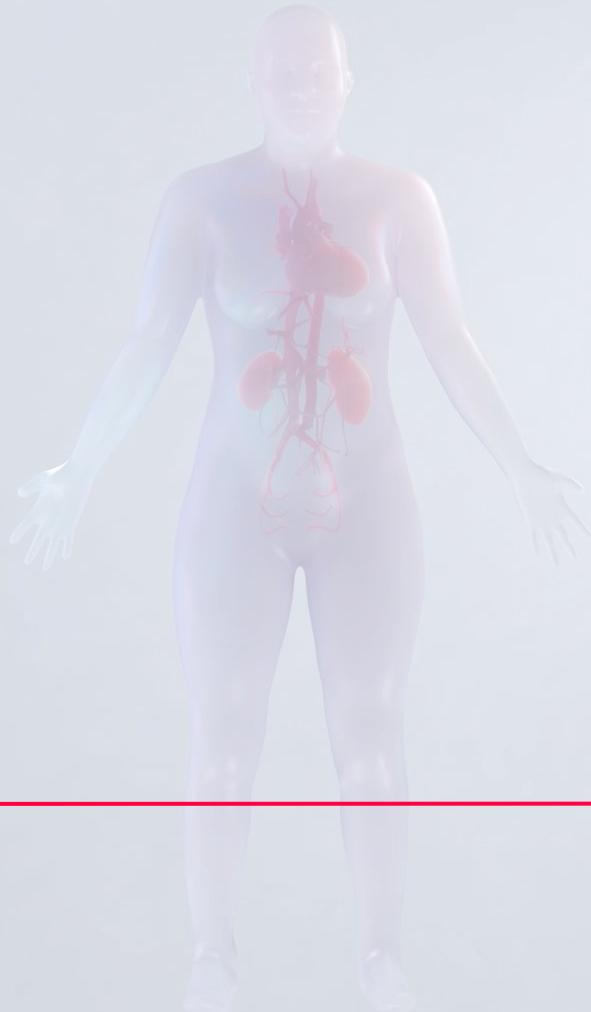
Rok
Sosic



Collaborators

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David Grusky, Sociology, Stanford U
James Zou, Medicine, Stanford U
Jochen Profit, Medicine, Stanford U
Jon Kleinberg, CS, Cornell U
Madhav Marathe, CS, U of Virginia
Marinka Zitnik, Medicine, Harvard U
Russ Altman, Medicine, Stanford U
Scott Delp, Bioengineering, Stanford U
Chris Manning, CS, Stanford U
Sendhill Mullainathan, Economics, U Chicago
Stephen Boyd, EE, Stanford U
VS Subrahmanian, CS, U of Maryland

Q&A



<https://humanatlas.io/events/2024-24h>

Questions

How do we define a Multiscale Human?

How do we map a Multiscale Human?

How do we model a Multiscale Human?

How can Large Language Models (LLMs) or Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAGs) be used to advance science and clinical practice?

Thank you
