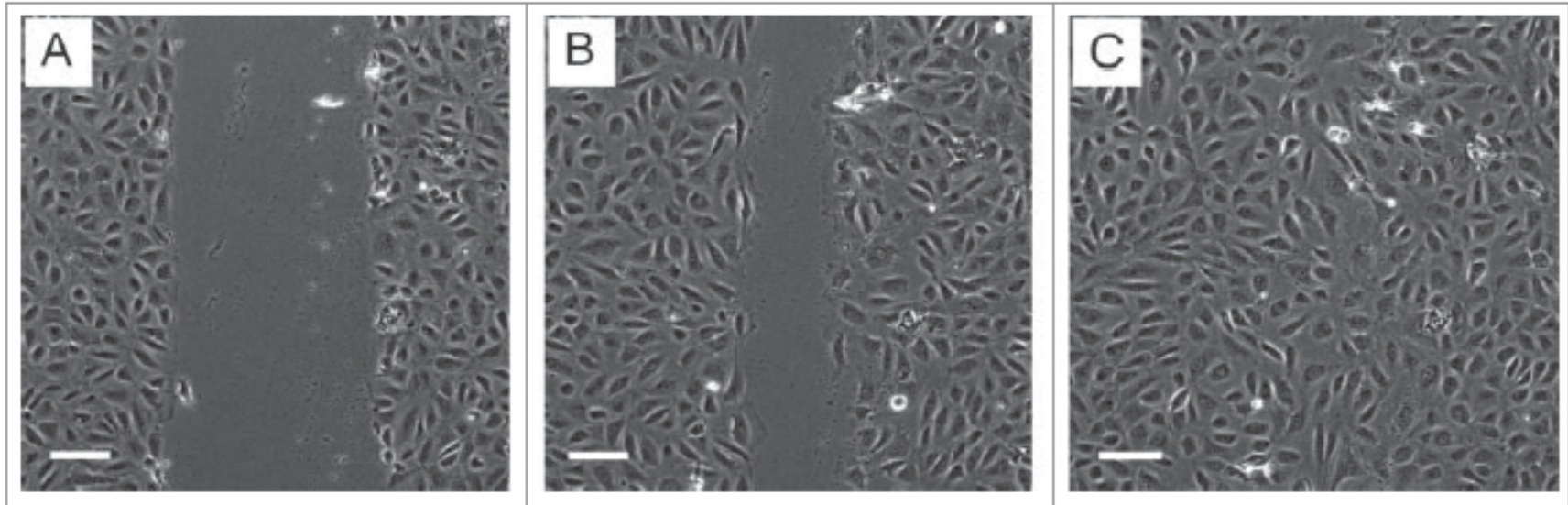


# An introduction to the wound healing assay using live-cell microscopy

James E. N. Jonkman<sup>1</sup>, Judith A. Cathcart<sup>1</sup>, Feng Xu<sup>1</sup>,  
Miria E. Bartolini<sup>1</sup>, Jennifer E. Amon<sup>2</sup>,  
Katarzyna M. Stevens<sup>2</sup>, and Pina Colarusso<sup>2,3</sup>

2014

# wound healing assay



**Figure 1.** Images from a scratch assay experiment at different time points. Human umbilical vein endothelial cells (HUVEC) were plated on gelatin-coated plastic dishes, wounded with a p20 pipette tip, and then imaged overnight using a microscope equipped with point visiting and live-cell apparatus. Scale bar = 120  $\mu\text{m}$ .

- confluent cell monolayer
- sheet migration

# wound healing assay

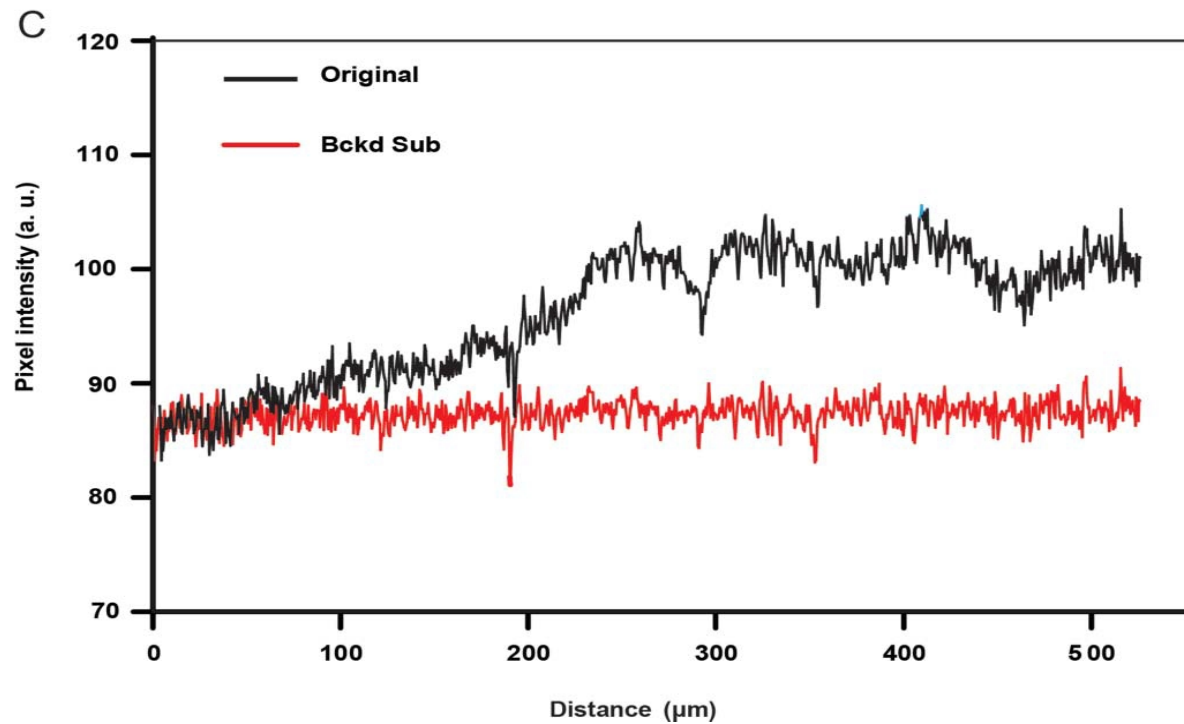
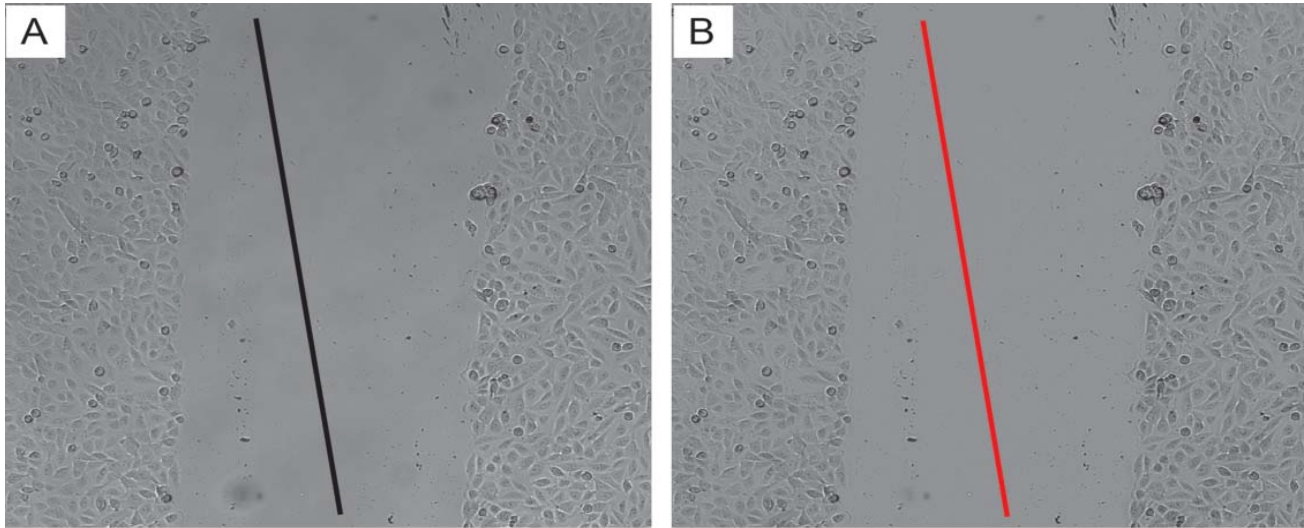
II. Sample Preparation: Cell Culture

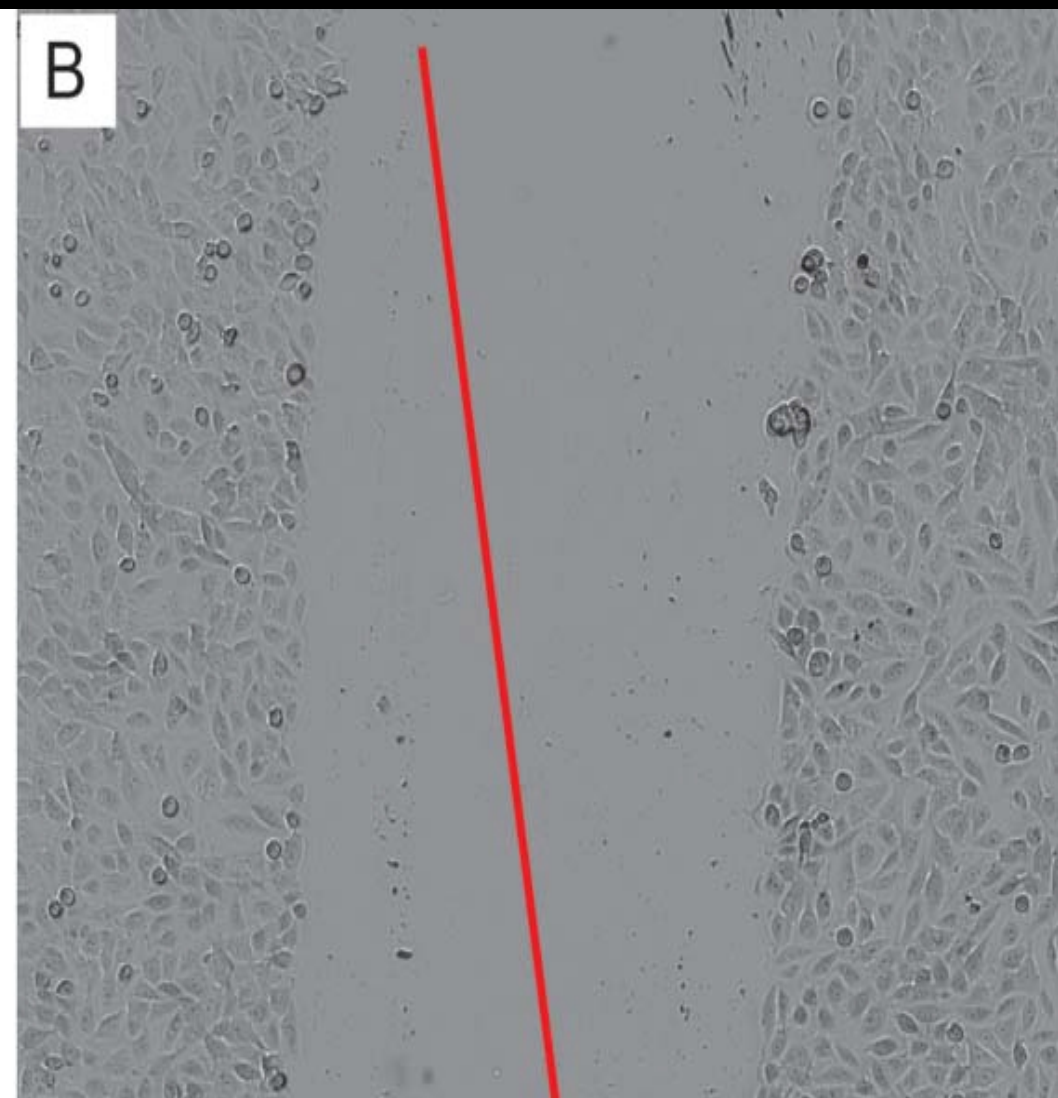
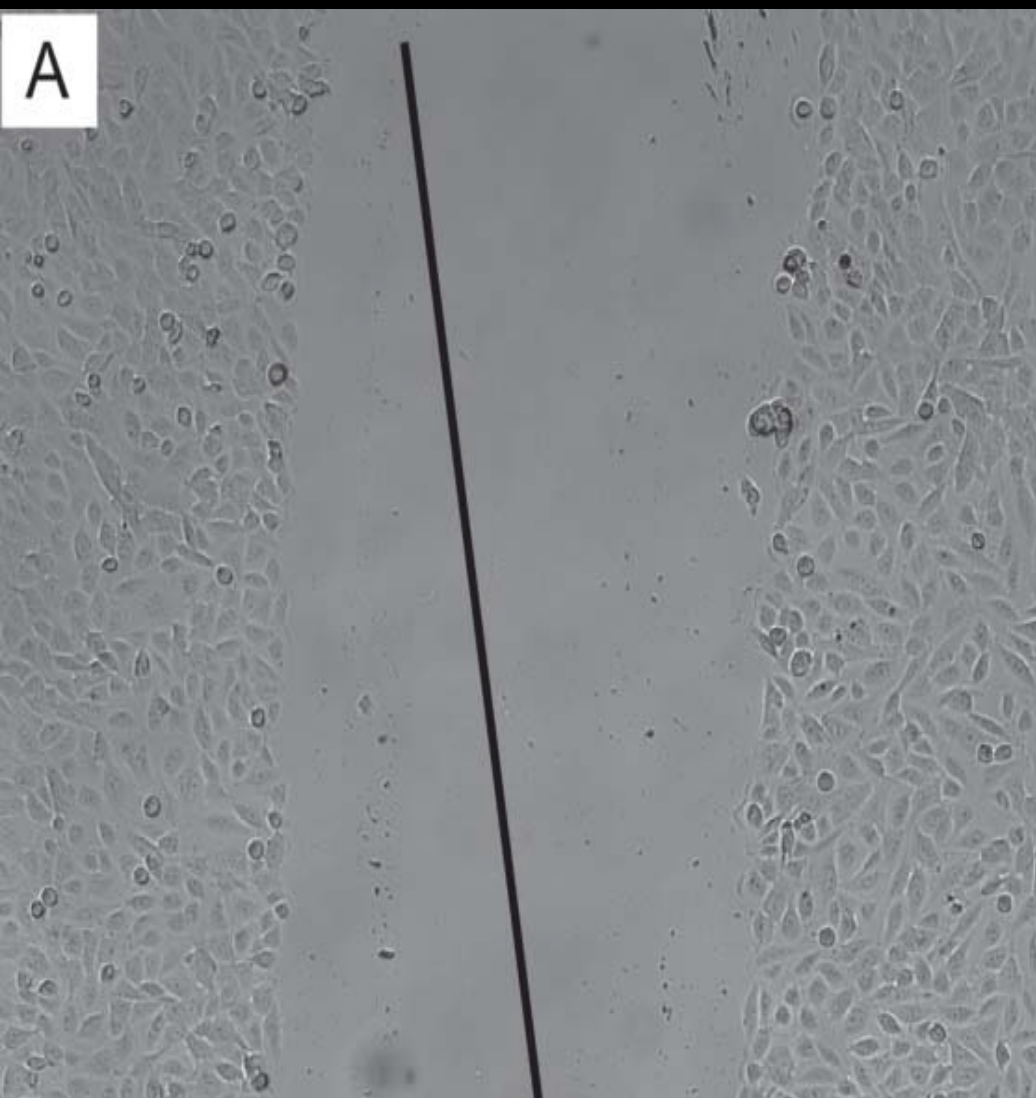
III. Sample Preparation: Creating the Gap

IV. Microscope Configuration and Image Acquisition for the Wound Healing Assay

V. Image Processing and Analysis of the Wound Healing Assay

# V. corrected by flat-fielding

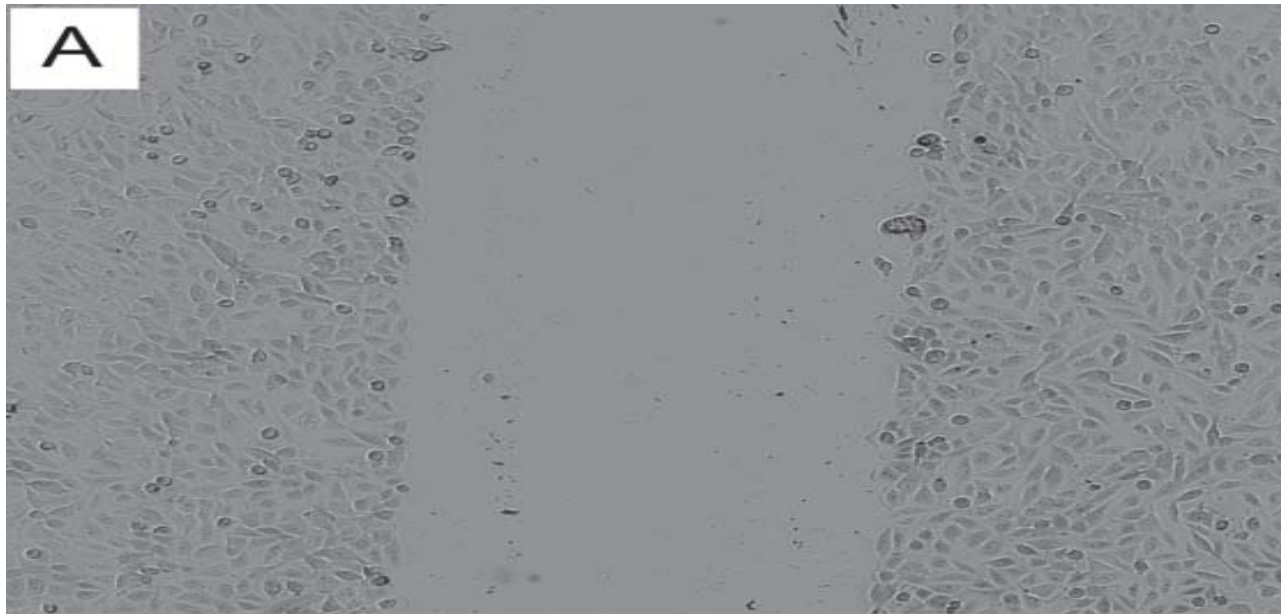




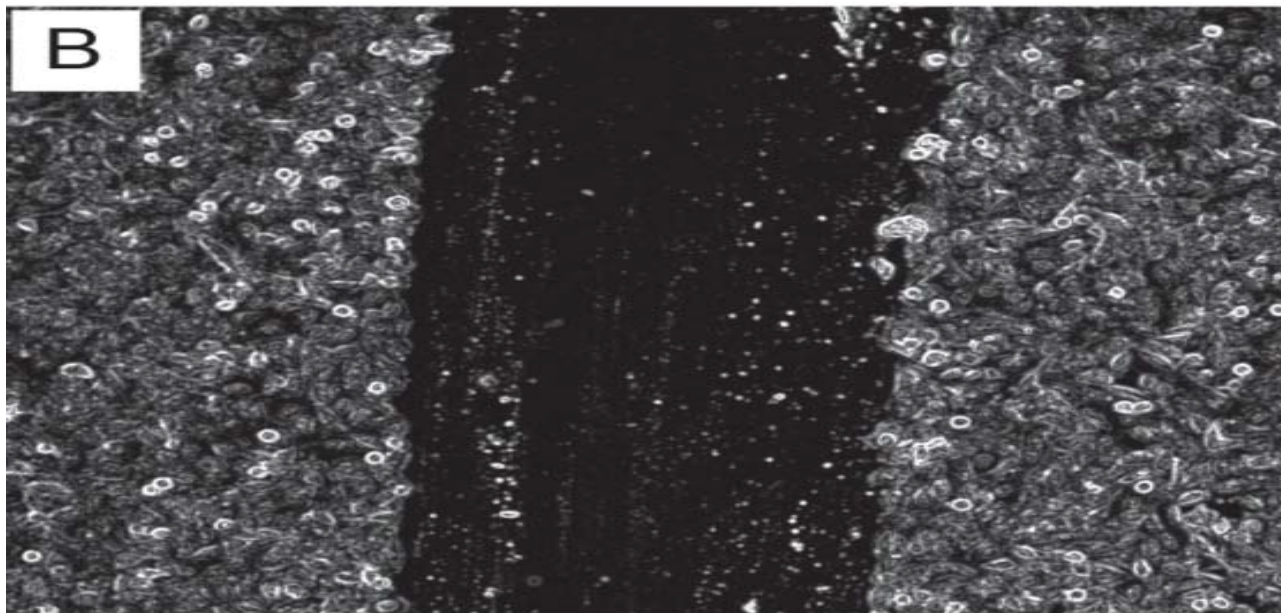


V.

# Sobel filter

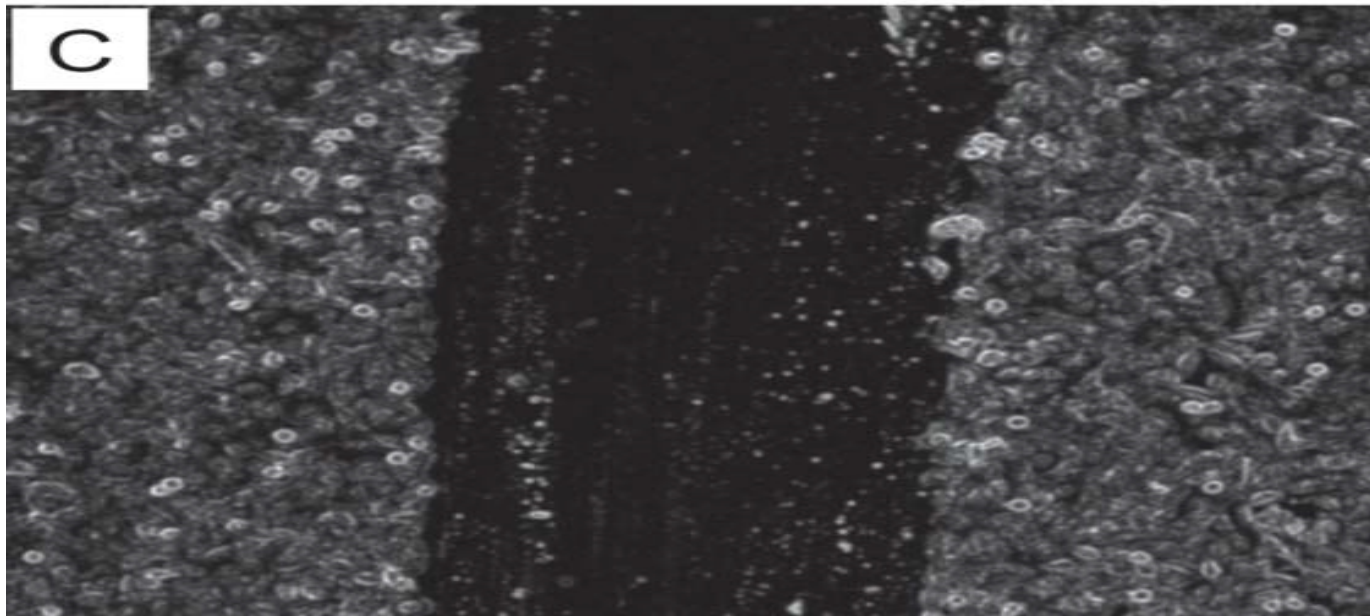
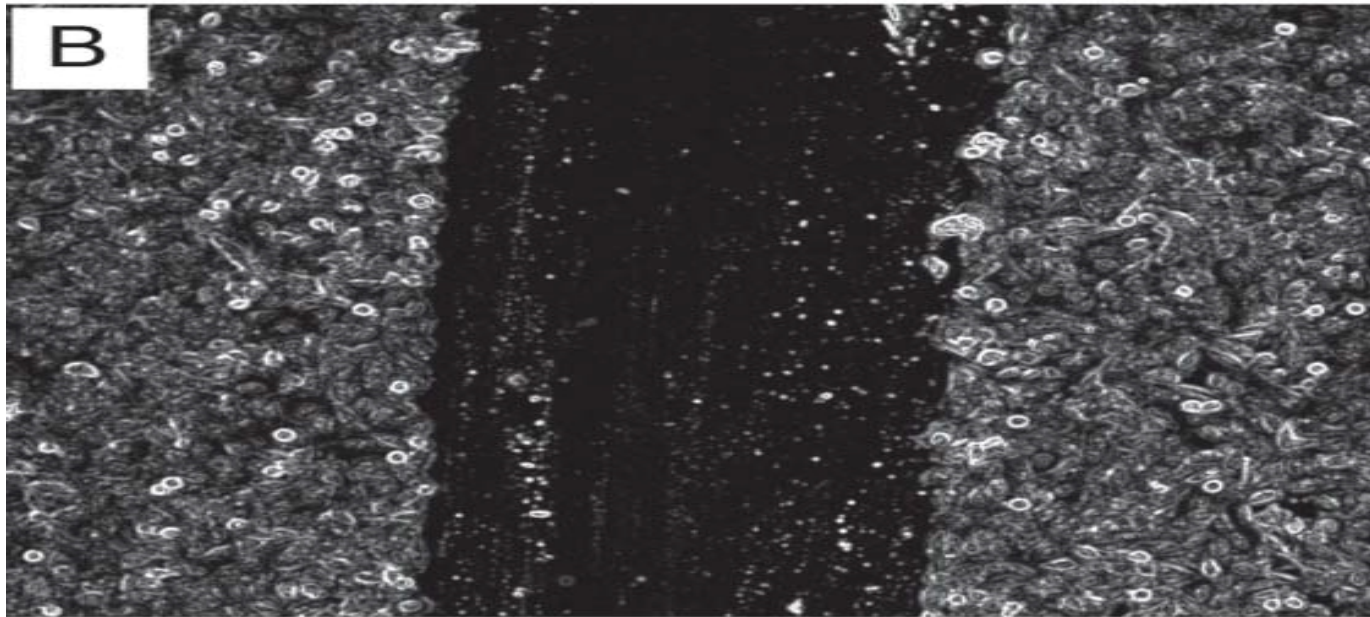


Edge detection

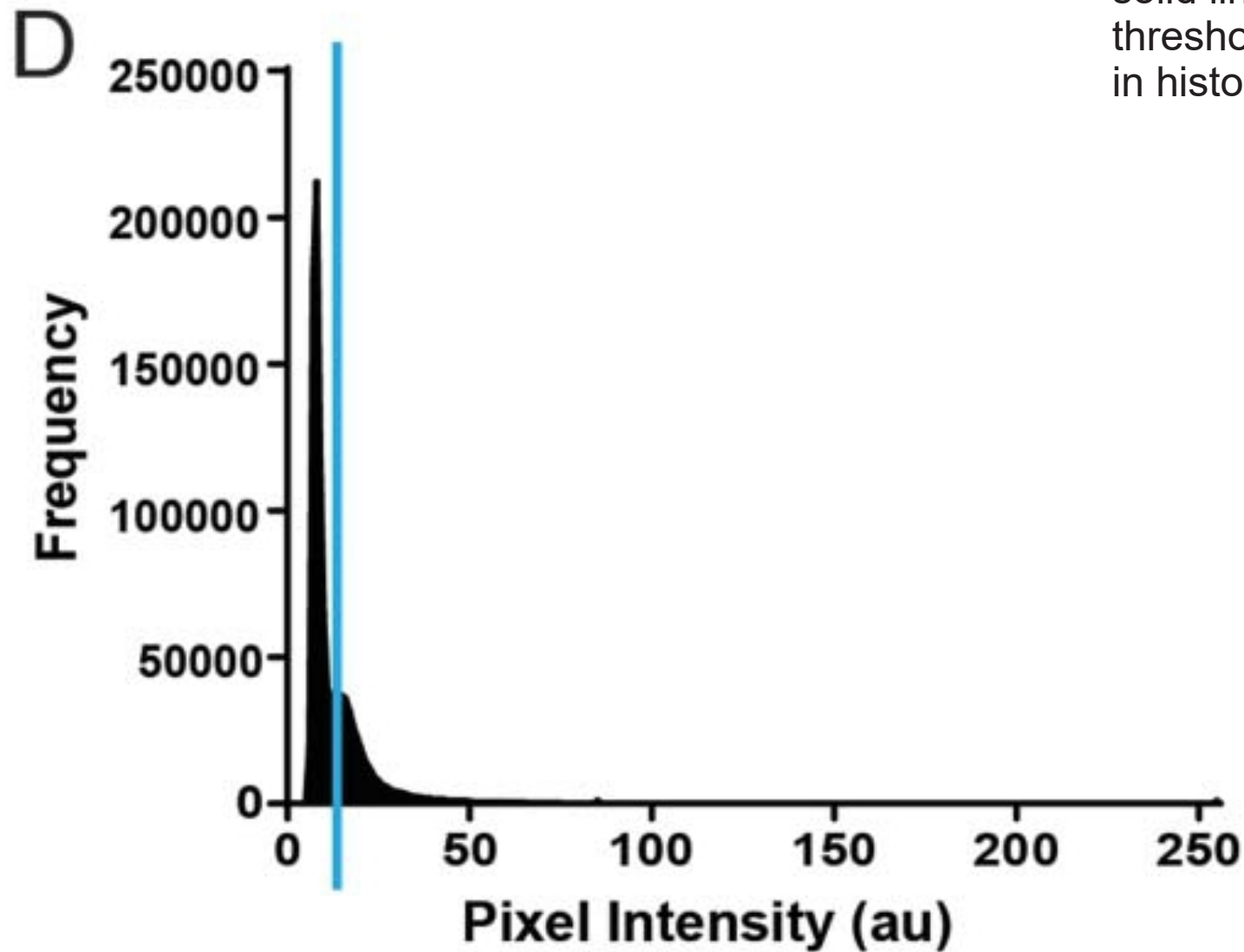


V.

smoothing



# V. histogram of image



solid line showing the threshold value is shown in histogram



V.

# define the area

- image is separated into two populations: the gap versus cells.



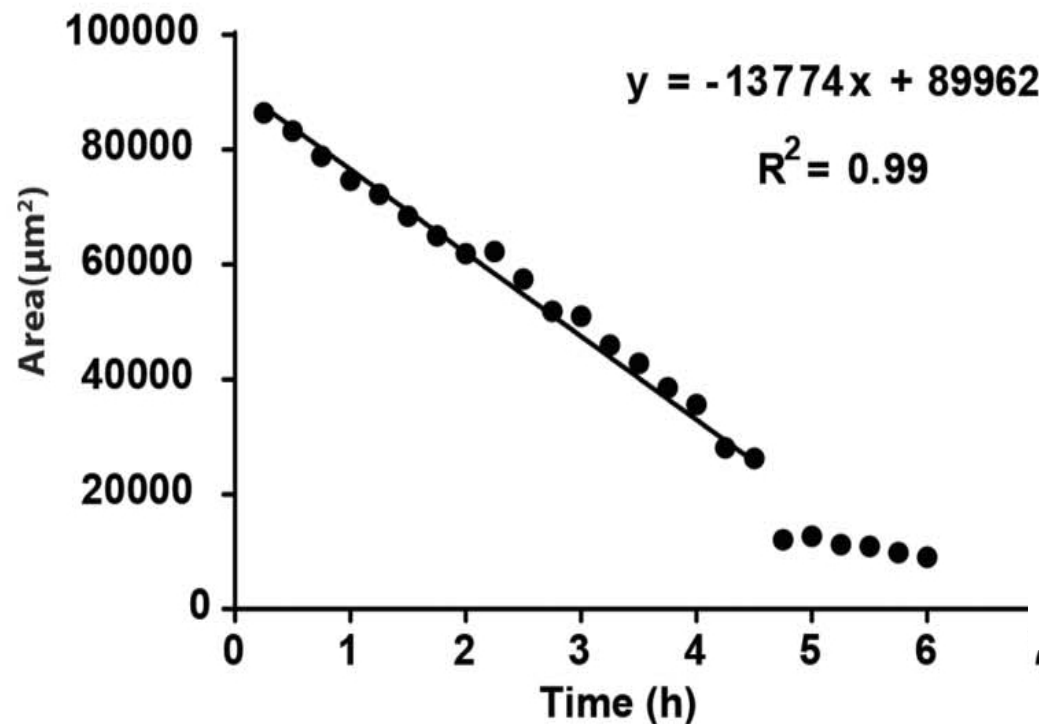
- number of pixels in each population can be calculated



- red pixels between the cells can be excluded from the analysis based on size

# V. Calculating the wound-healing rate

E



$$y = mx + b$$

m -slope of the line

b -intercept (gap area at the start)

y – area (e.g.:  $y = b/2$ )

x -time (e.g.:  $t_{1/2gap}$ )

$$t_{1/2gap} = \frac{\text{Initial Gap Area}}{2 \times |\text{slope}|}$$