



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
College of Pharmacy and
Pharmaceutical Sciences

Mapping ^{226}Ra Micro-distribution in Radium Dial Painter Skeleton

George Tabatadze, Sergey Y. Tolmachev

United States Transuranium and Uranium Registries
College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Washington State University

www.ustur.wsu.edu



College of
Pharmacy and
Pharmaceutical Sciences
WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

iQID: Mapping Radionuclide Distribution

ionizing radiation quantum imaging
detector (iQID)

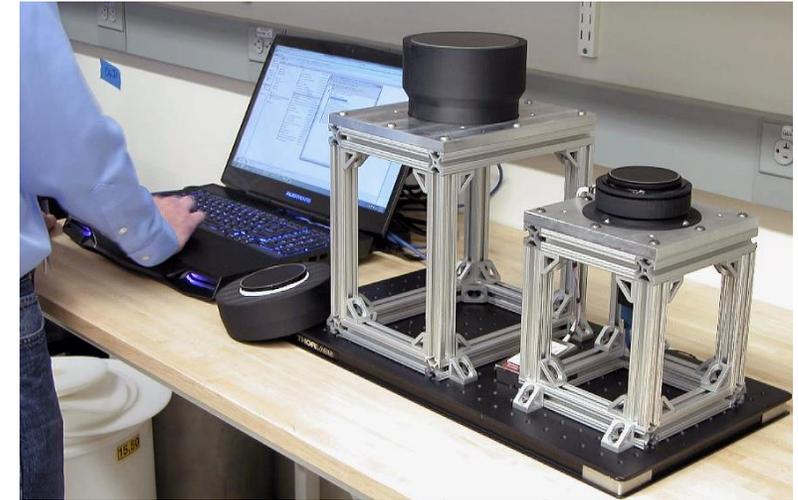
Ionizing-radiation imaging: gamma/X-rays, alpha particles, beta particles, neutrons, fission fragments

Grasshopper® 3 USB 3.0 CMOS detectors

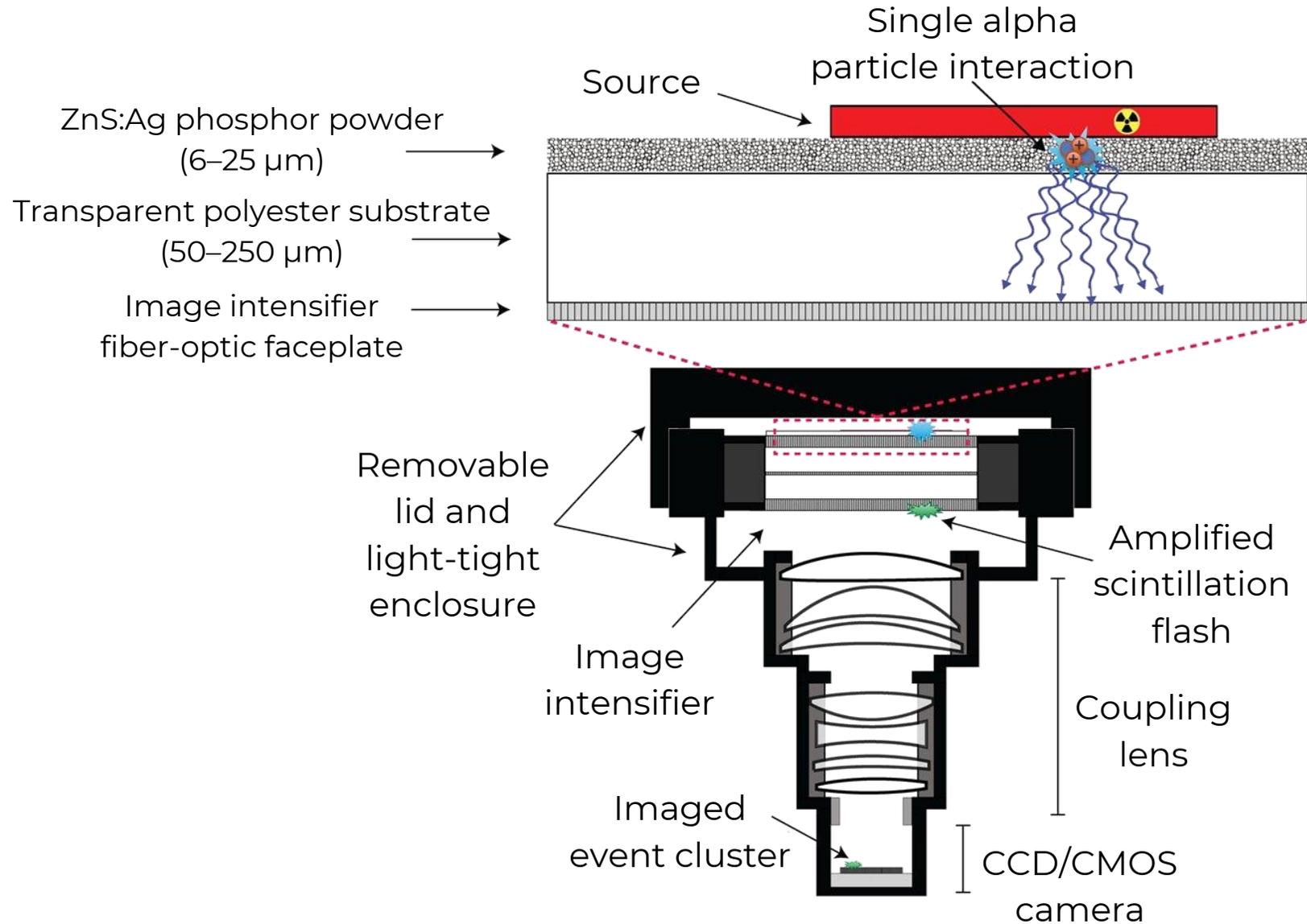
- 4.1 MP, 2048×2048 @ 90 fps
- 1" CMOS sensor

Optical pixel size

- 19.5×19.5 μm^2 pixels with 40 mm diameter intensifier



iQID: *Cross-sectional View*





Testing iQID Capabilities

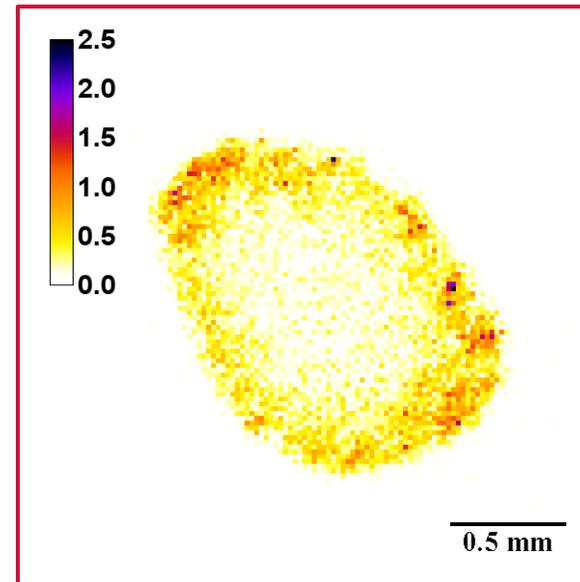
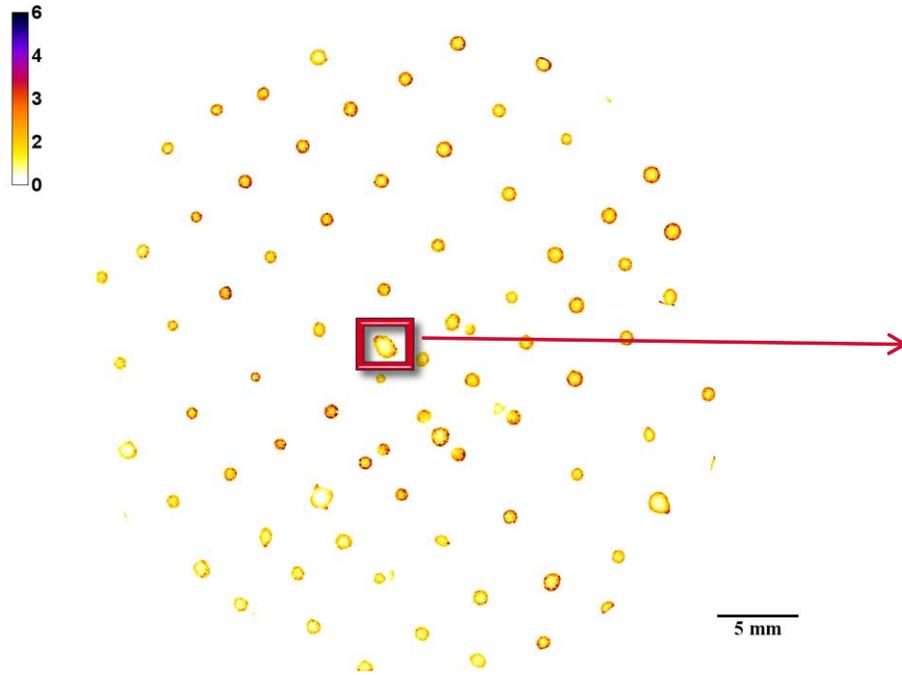
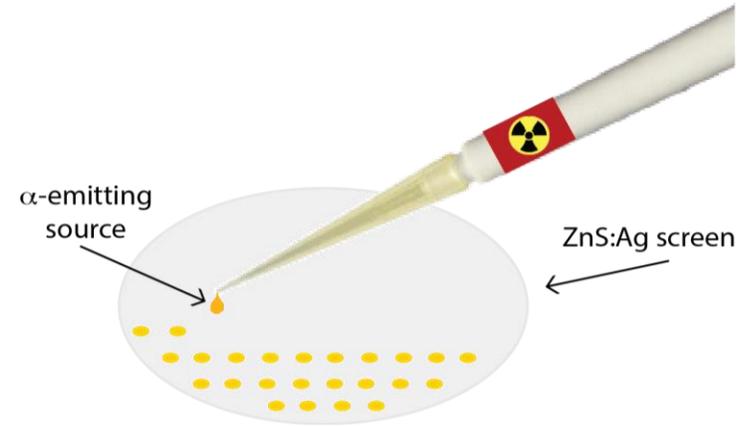
– Feasibility Studies –



^{252}Cf Alpha Particles and Fission Fragments (I)

Cf-252, mBq scale

- ~100 Bq total, 5 hours acquisition, 40 fps
- ZnS:Ag screen: Eljen EJ-444 (3.25 ± 0.25 mg/cm² ZnS:Ag)

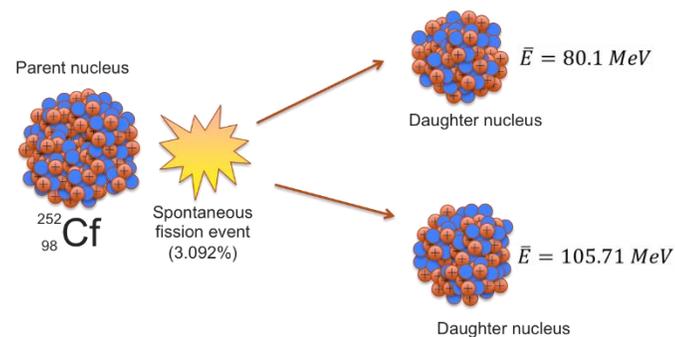
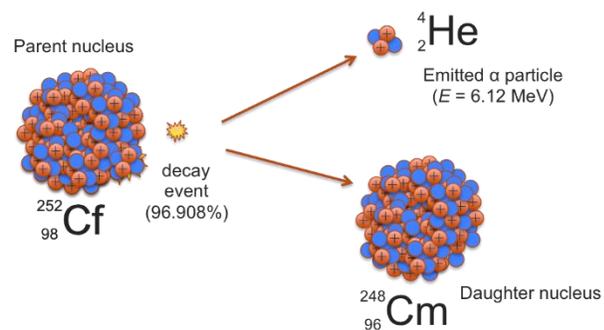
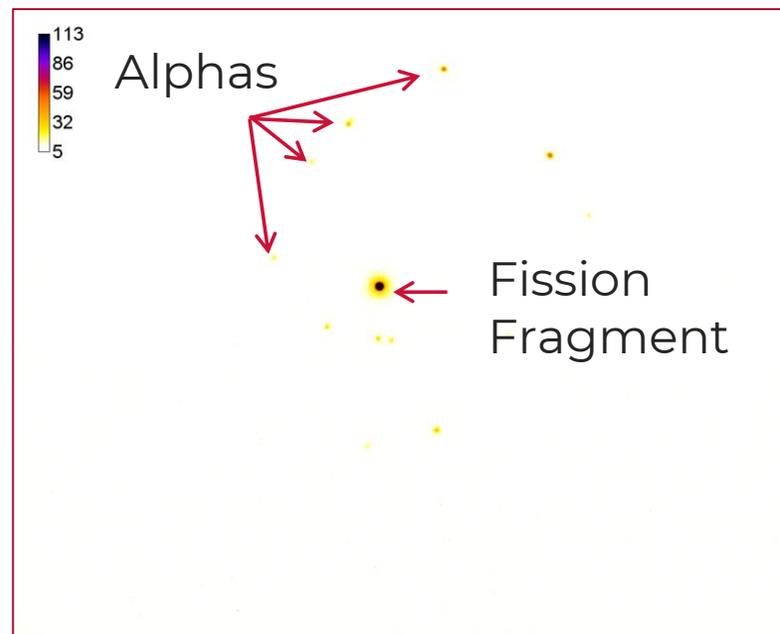
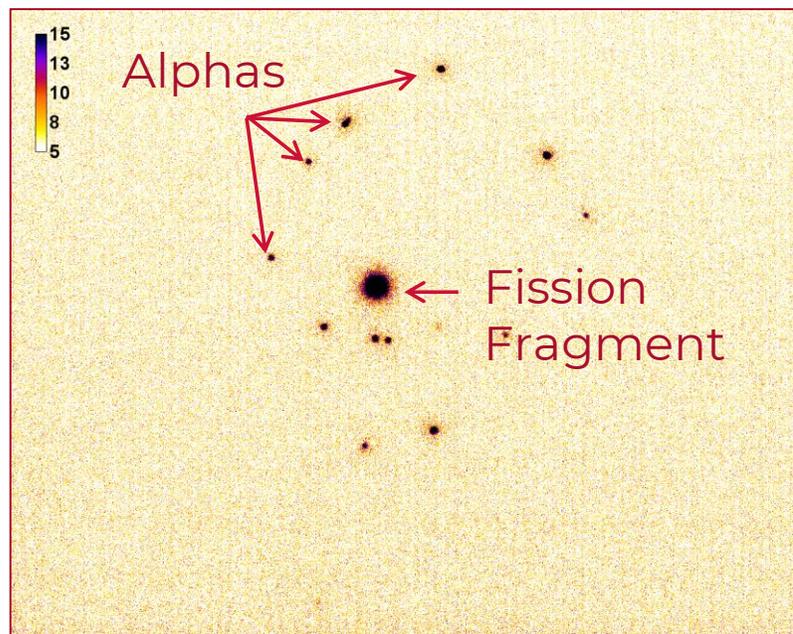


Sub-region: ~21.6k counts over 5 hours \rightarrow ~1.2 Bq (32.4 pCi)
 Centroid coordinate estimate to nearest sub-pixel quadrant (20.7 $\mu\text{m}/\text{pixel}$)

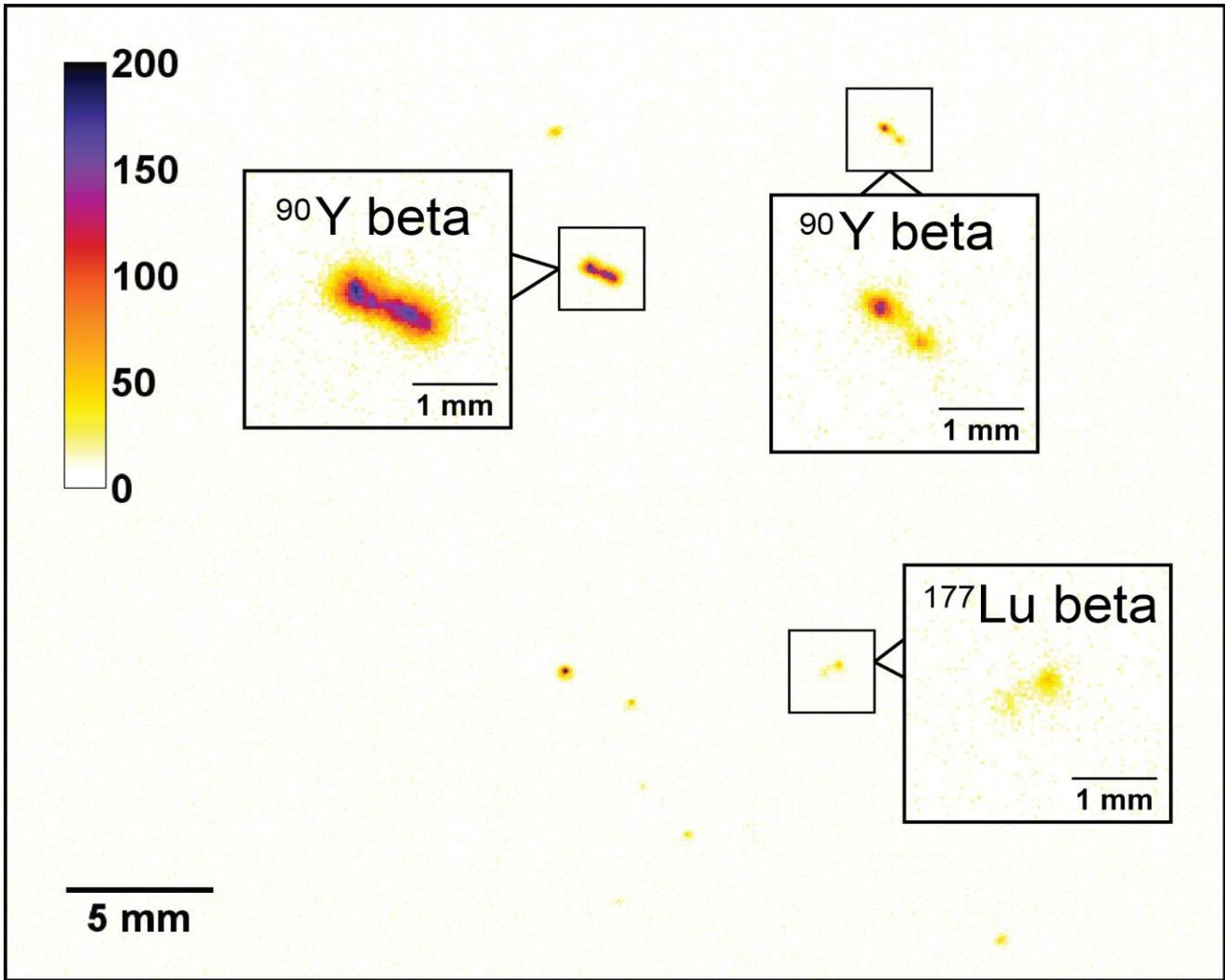


^{252}Cf Alpha Particles and Fission Fragments (II)

- Single Event Detection

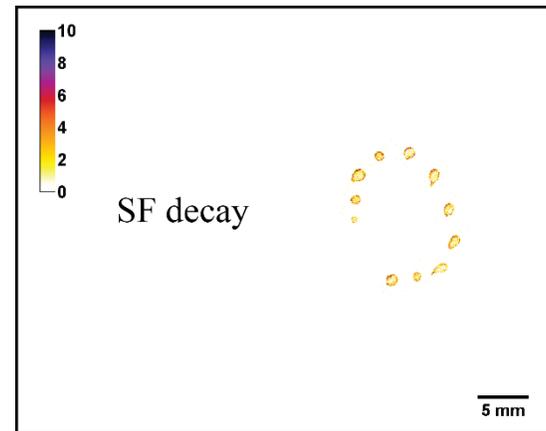
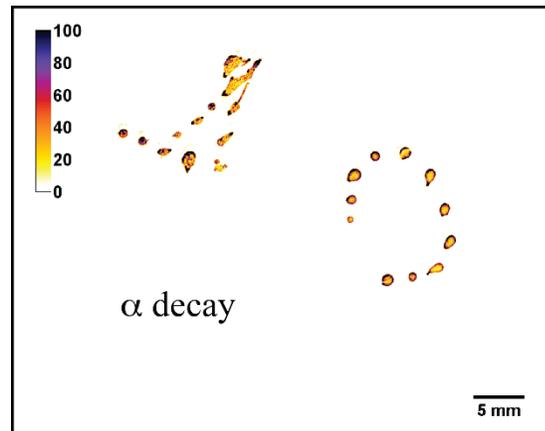
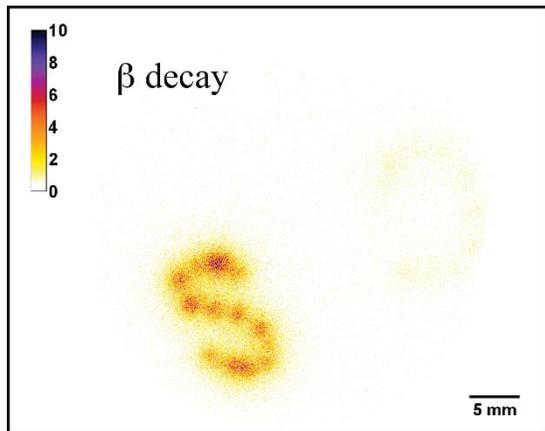
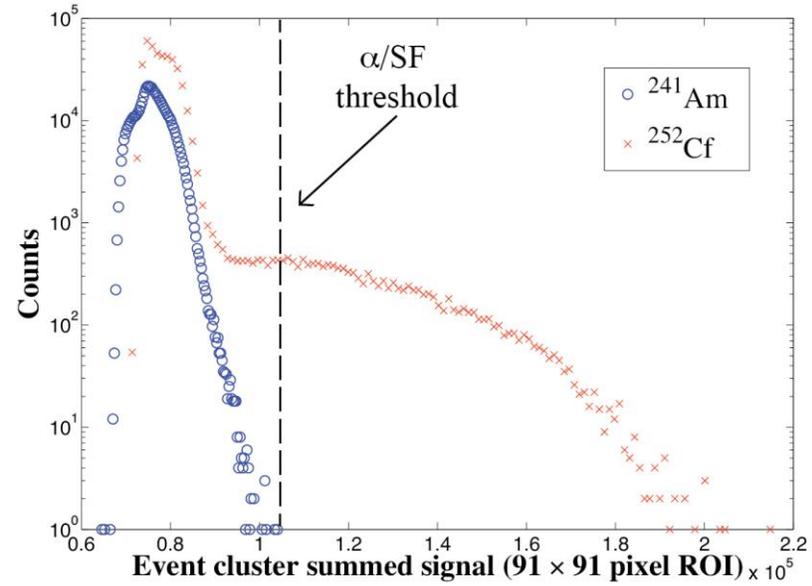
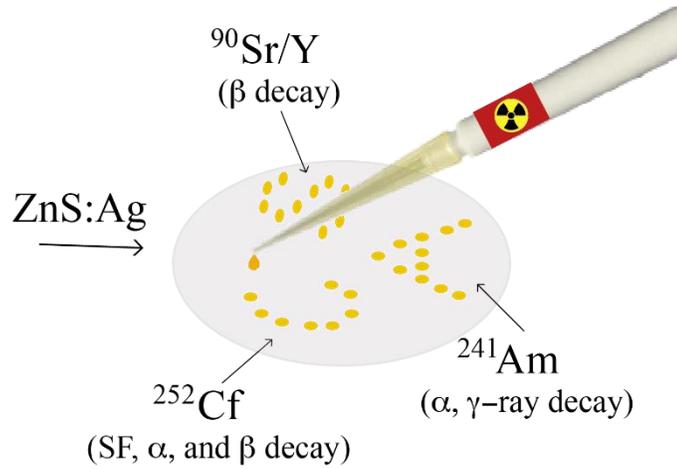


^{77}Lu and ^{90}Y Beta Particles





Particle Discrimination



iQID Calibration

Detector size: $\text{\O}40$ mm

Source: ^{242}Pu , ^{239}Pu , ^{241}Am

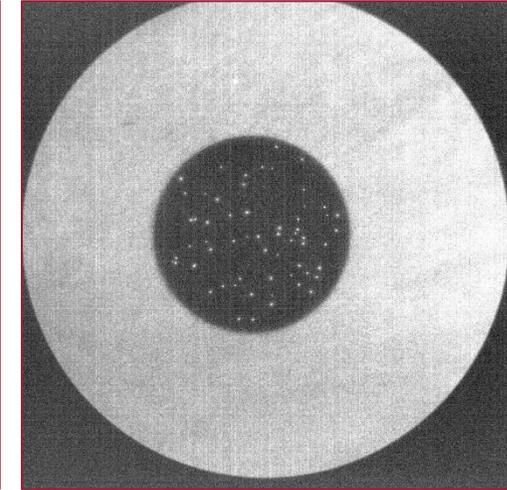
Activity: 260 dpm

Detection Efficiency: 92%

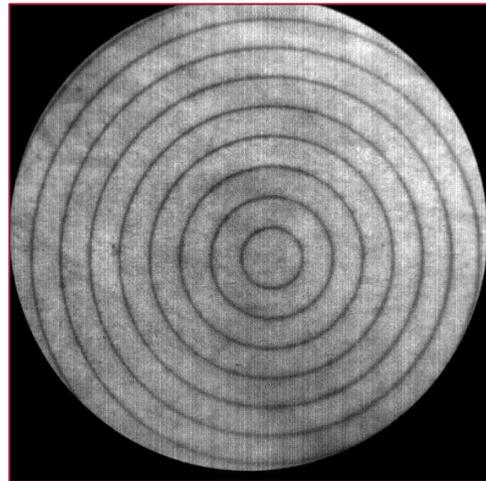
Resolution: 19.5×19.5 μm



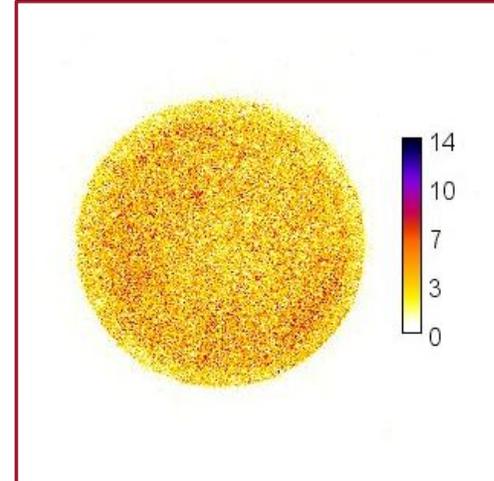
Source Placement



Shadow Image



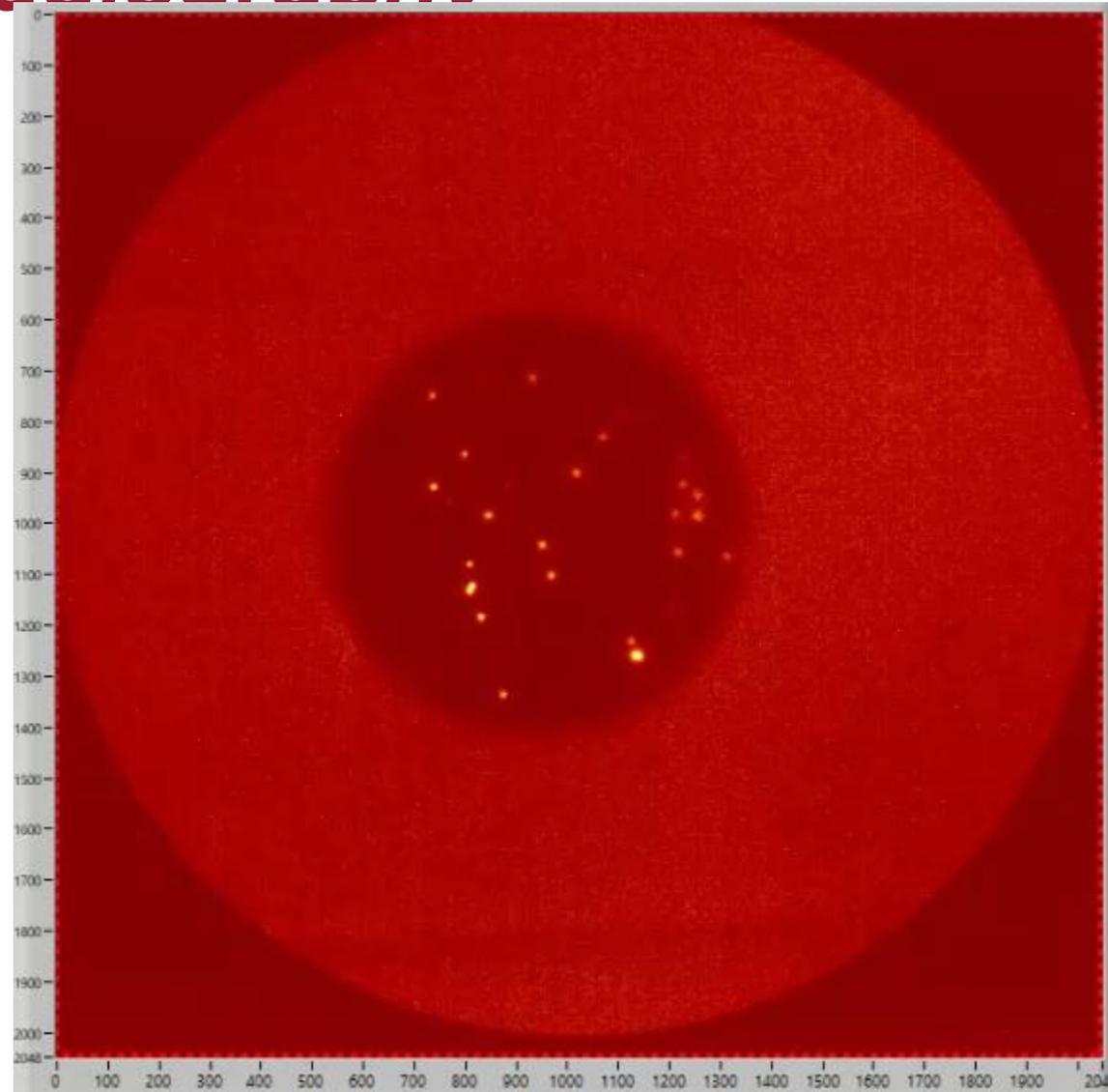
Scale Calibration



iQID Image



iQID: Real-Time Quantitative Autoradiography





Mapping ^{226}Ra Micro-distribution in Radium Dial Painter Skeleton



Radium Samples at USTUR/NHRTR

Frozen Tissue Samples



Cases: 159

Rawland/Sharpe: 76

Samples: 433

Plastic Embedded and Microslides



Cases: 210

Rawland: 210

Samples*: GOK

0 **Intake** → 77.7 MBq (2099.5 μ Ci)

** NHRTR radium sample inventory is an ongoing project; numbers on this slide are a rough estimate!*



Radium Samples at USTUR/NHRTR

Dry Tissue Samples



NOTE: NHRTR radium sample inventory is an ongoing project; numbers on this slide are a rough estimate!



Case Description

Case number: 03-666

Occupation: dial painter

Gender: female

Duration of employment: 347 wk

Estimated intake of ^{226}Ra : 58.9 MBq (1592.4 μCi)

Estimated intake of ^{228}Ra : 8.6 MBq (231.6 μCi)

Age at the time of death: 24 y

Causes of death: diphtheria, nasopharyngeal bronchopneumonia, undetermined cause

Radium in Humans A Review of U.S. Studies

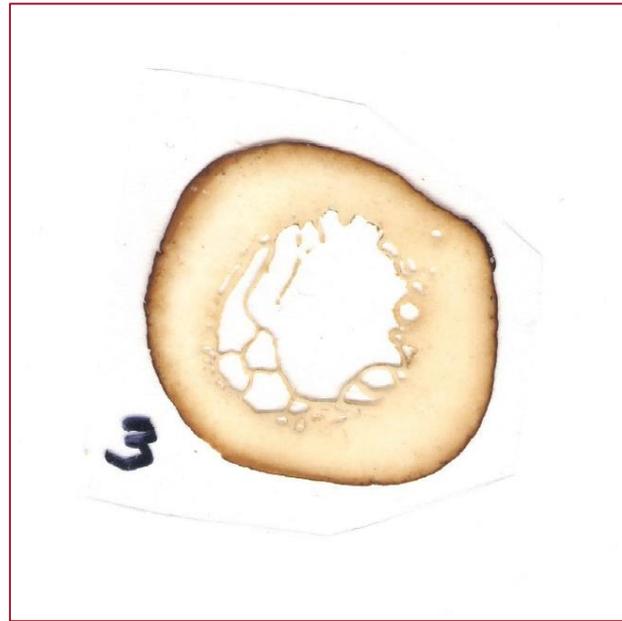
R.E. Rowland
Argonne National Laboratory



Case 03-666: *Sample selection*

K5C1: femur (L) middle shaft (MS)

Q8B1: 7th thoracic (T7) vertebra – left half



K5C1

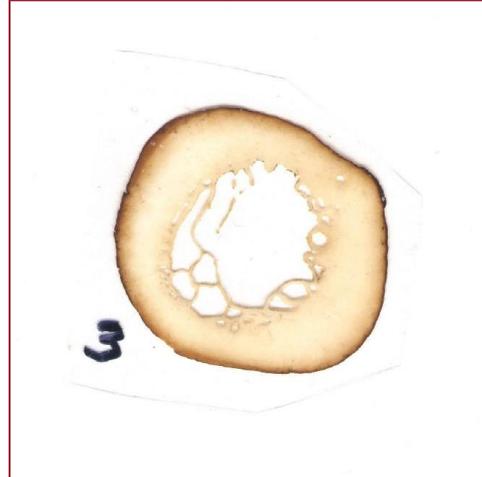


Q8B1

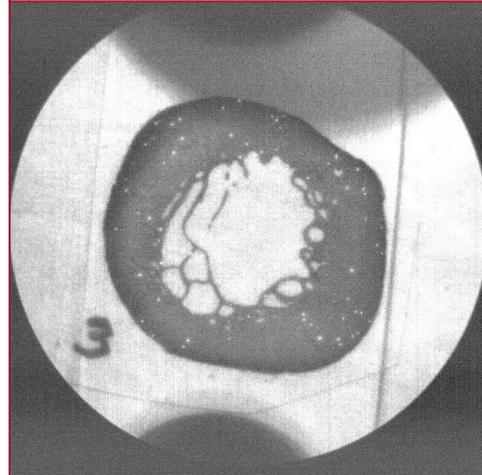


Case 03-666: K5C1, Femur (L) Middle Shaft

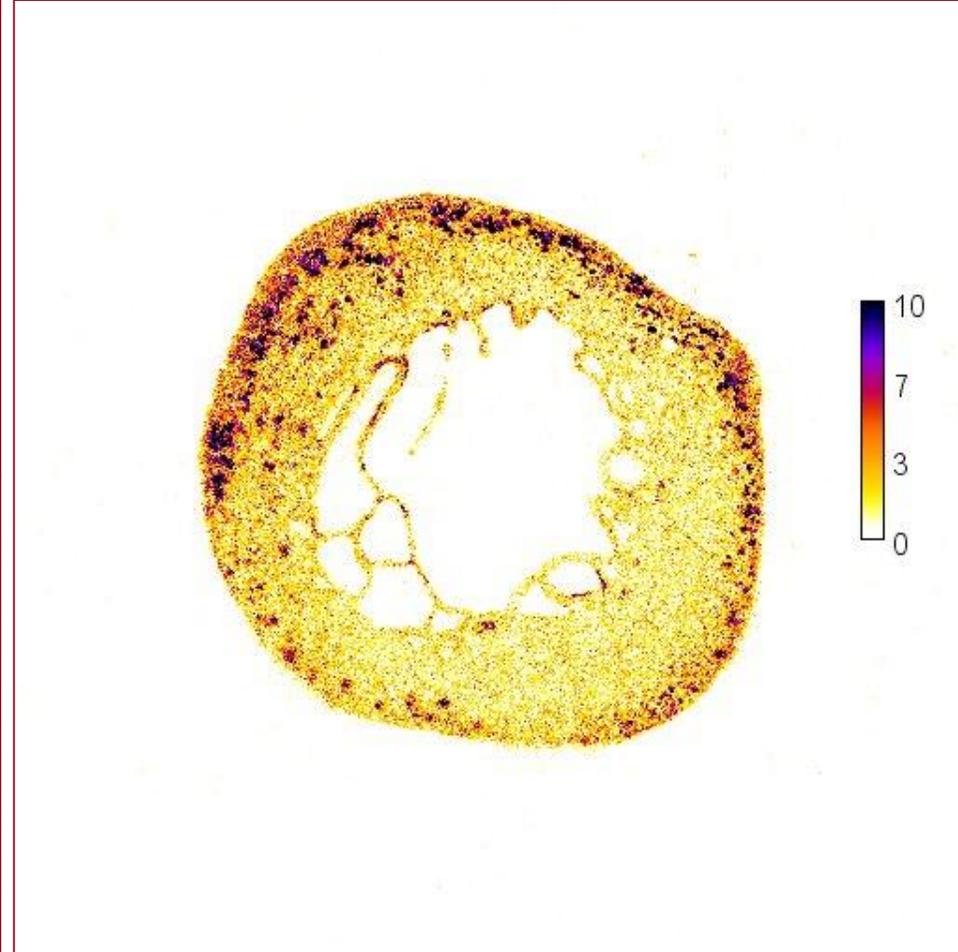
Digital Scan



Shadow Image



iQID Image

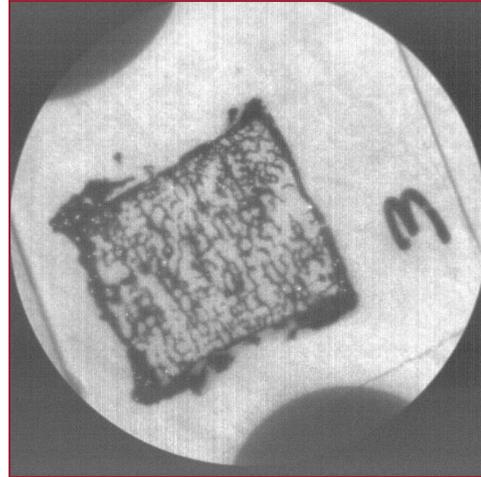


Case 03-666: Q8B1, 7th Thoracic Vertebra – Left Half

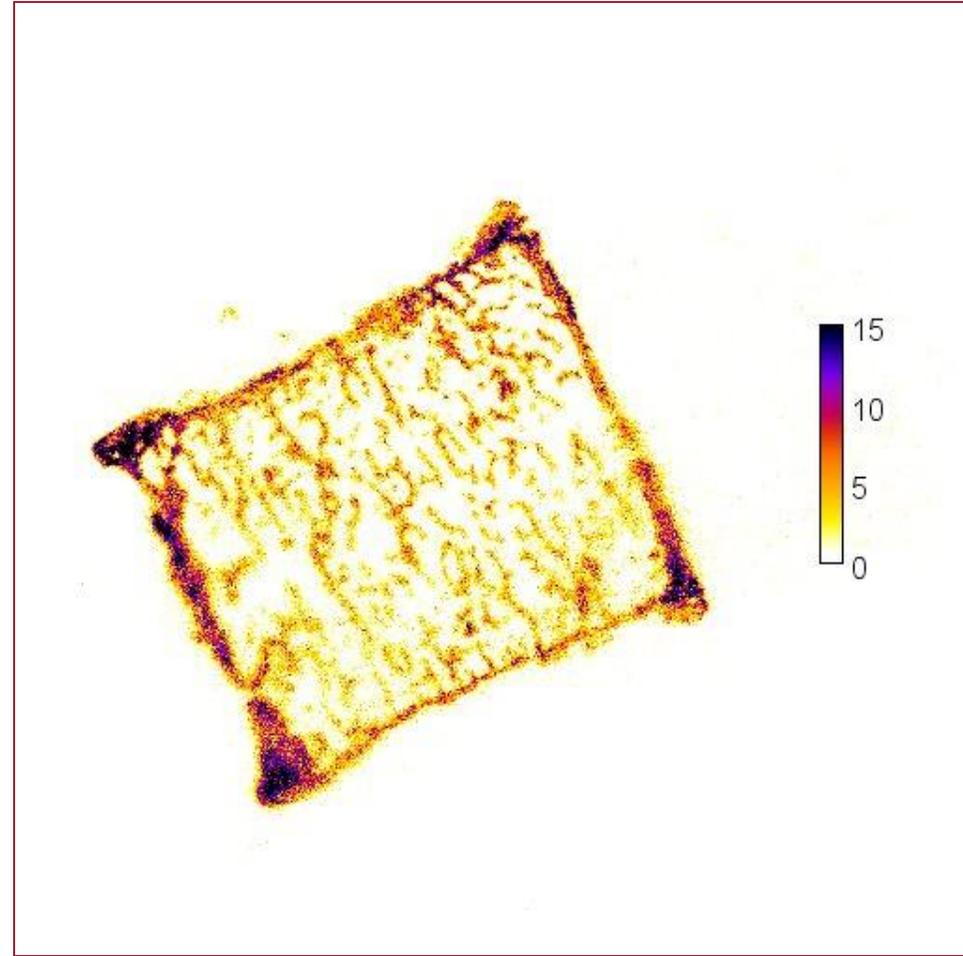
Digital Scan



Shadow Image

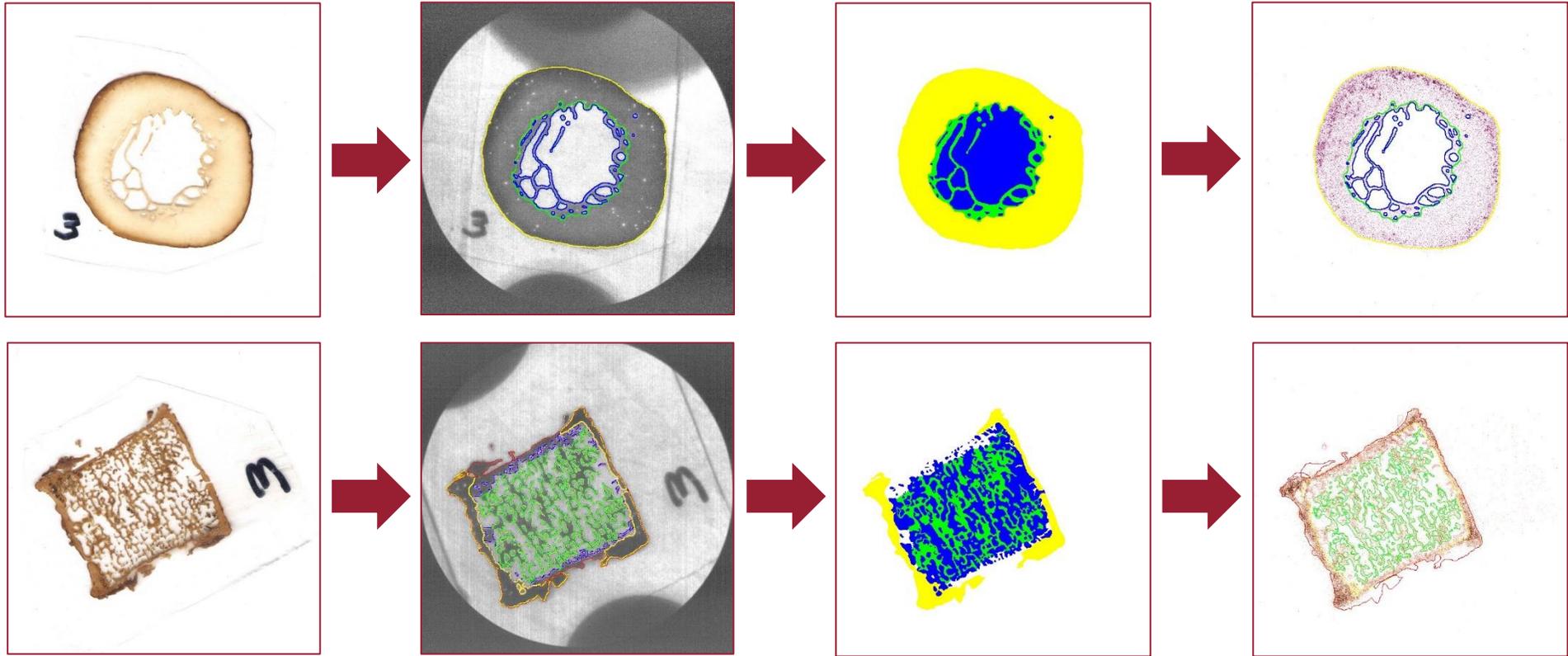


iQID Image



Bone Segmentation: *ROIs*

■ Cortical Bone
 ■ Trabecular Bone
 ■ Medullary Cavity



Anatomy

Segmentation

ROI set

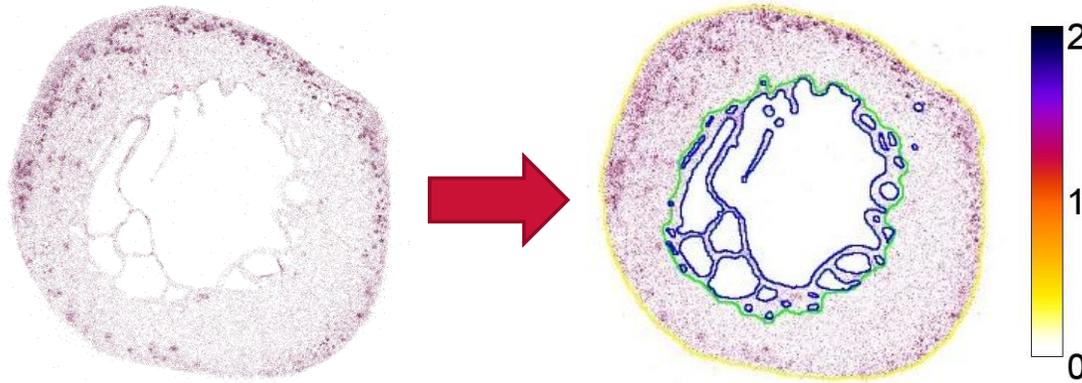
Acquiring Counts



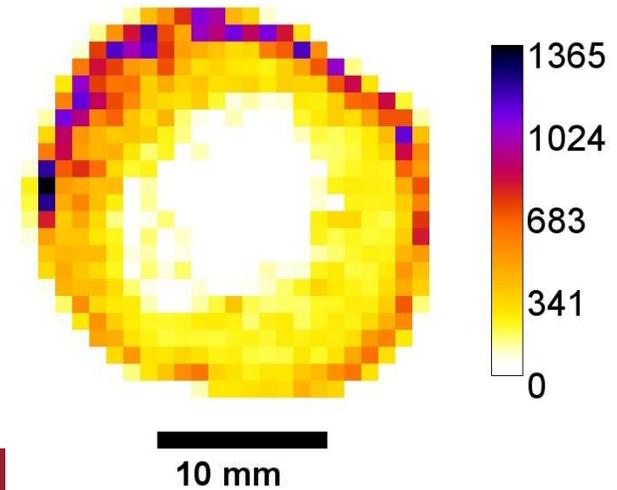
Surface Activity

- Average surface activity (\bar{A}_s): average over ROI or entire surface
- Surface activity range: min. and max. activity ($\mu\text{m} \rightarrow \text{mm}$ image binning)

Average surface activity (\bar{A}_s)



$A_{s,\text{min}}$ and $A_{s,\text{max}}$ (1mm/px)



Bone	Surface activity (\bar{A}_s), mBq mm ⁻²	
	Average	Range
Femur (L)		
MS (K5C1)	17.2	1.3 – 56.9
Vertebra		
T7 (Q8B1)	14.5	0.6 – 27.5



Summary

- Thousands of tissue samples from radium dial worker studies are available for future research at USTUR/NHRTR.
- iQID allows for real-time quantitative autoradiography at 20- μm resolution for ^{226}Ra
- Microdistribution of ^{226}Ra in bone was visualized and quantified
 - ✓ Identified ROIs
 - ✓ Measured average surface activity
- iQID is an effective technique for studying the heterogeneous distribution of alpha-emitters on a micro scale





Thank you!
Questions?



george.tabatadze@wsu.edu

