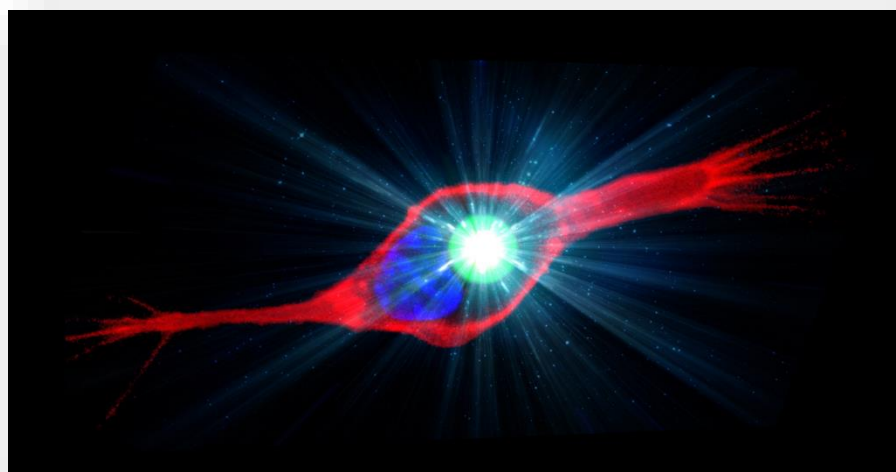


# Cell-Lasers

Coupling of optical resonances with biological processes



Matjaž Humar

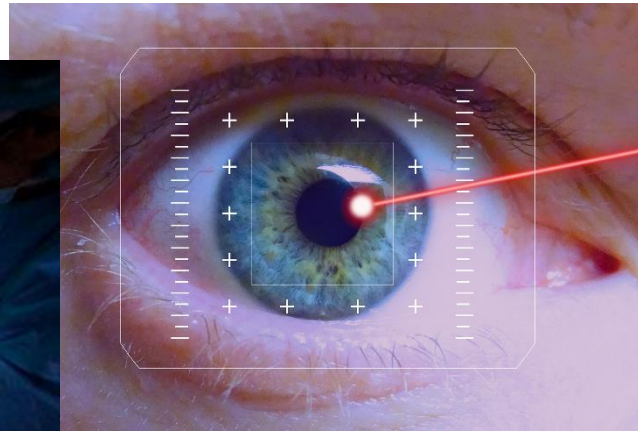
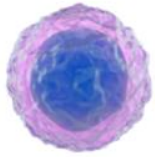
Assistant Professor

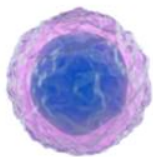
Jožef Stefan Institute, Slovenia

Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia



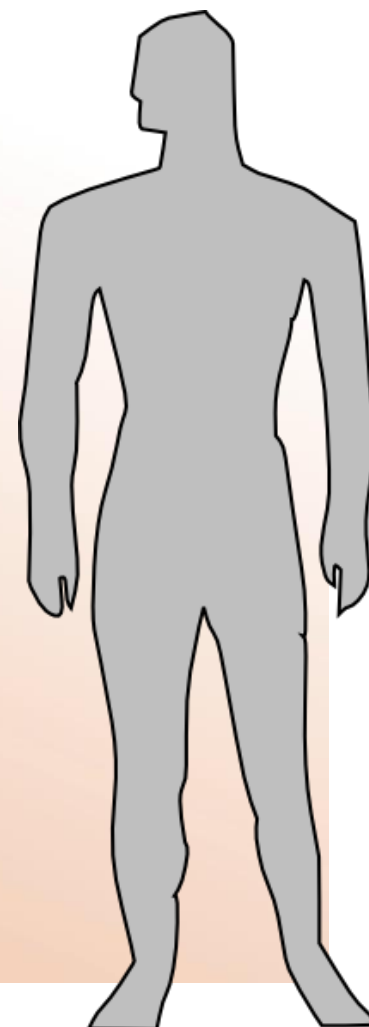
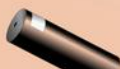
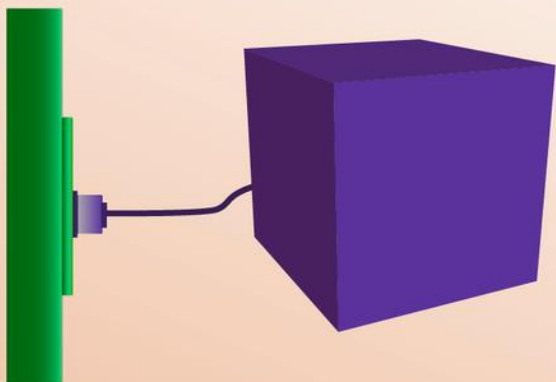
# Use of lasers in medicine and biology



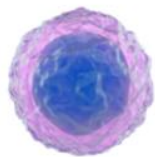


# Laser inside biological tissues – paradigm shift

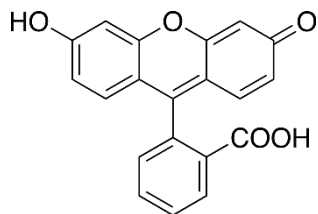
Laser



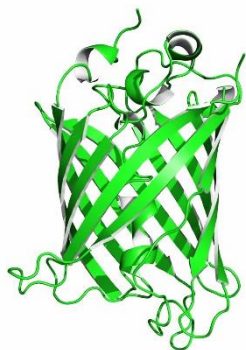
# Current biological luminescent probes



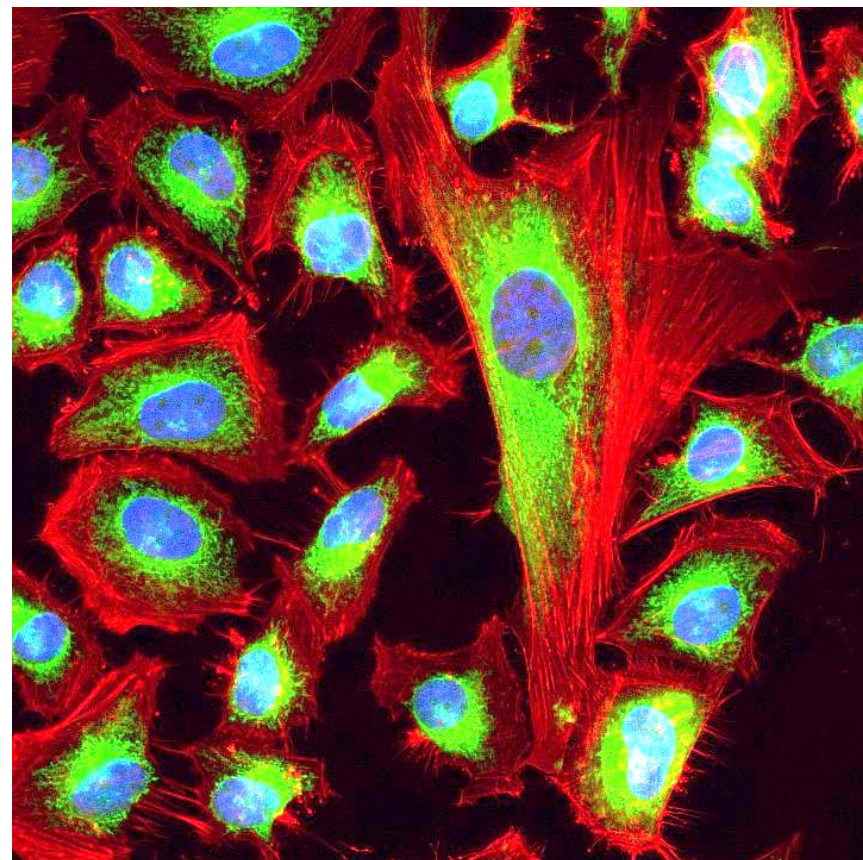
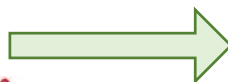
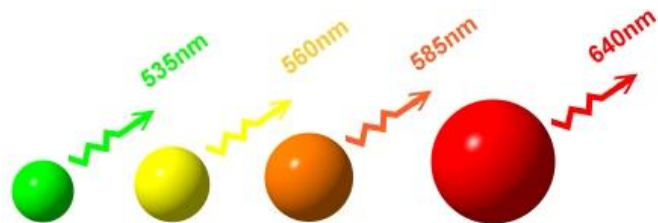
Organic fluorophores

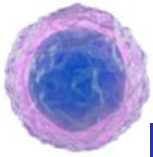


Fluorescent proteins



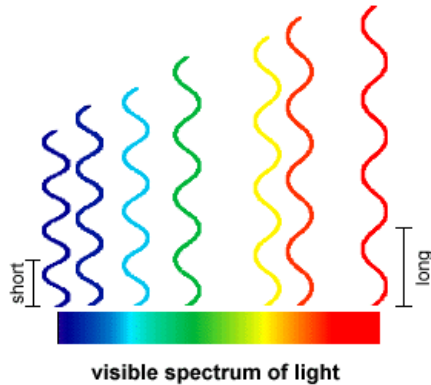
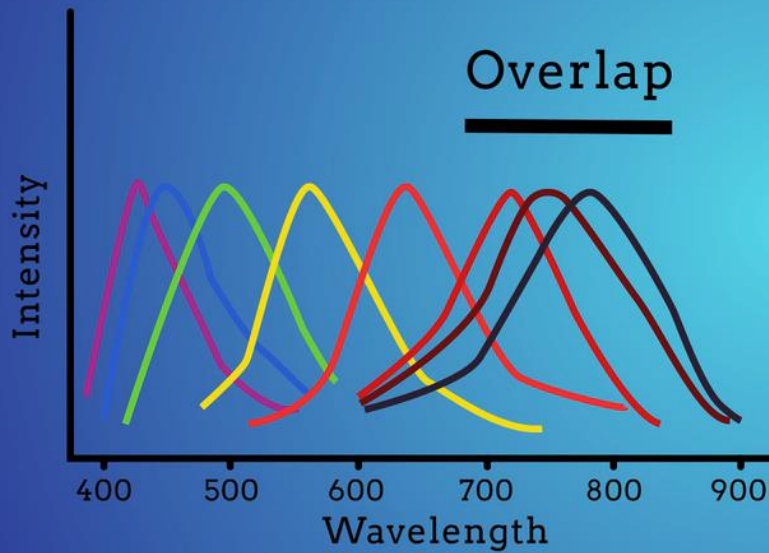
Nanoparticles

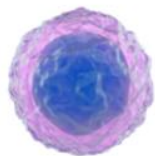




# Fluorescent probes vs lasers

Broad range of  
wavelengths





# Bio-integrated laser

Laser

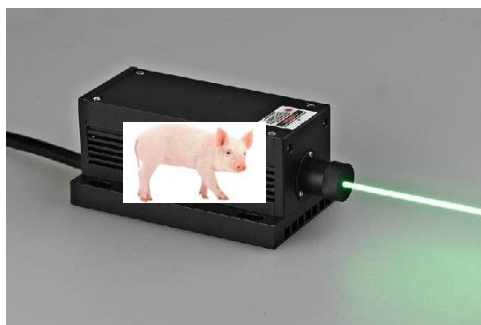


Treatments, diagnostics



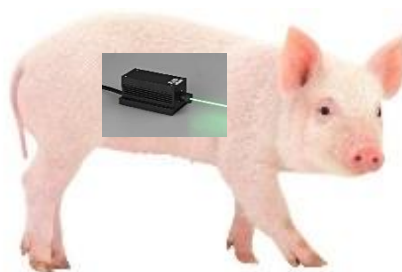
Biological system

Laser as part of the device



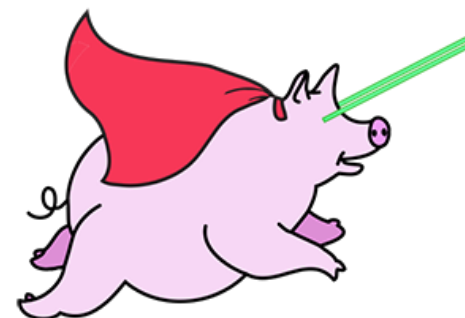
Example: cell inside a laser

Laser inside a biosystem



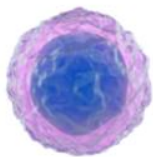
Example: laser inside tissue

Laser = Biosystem



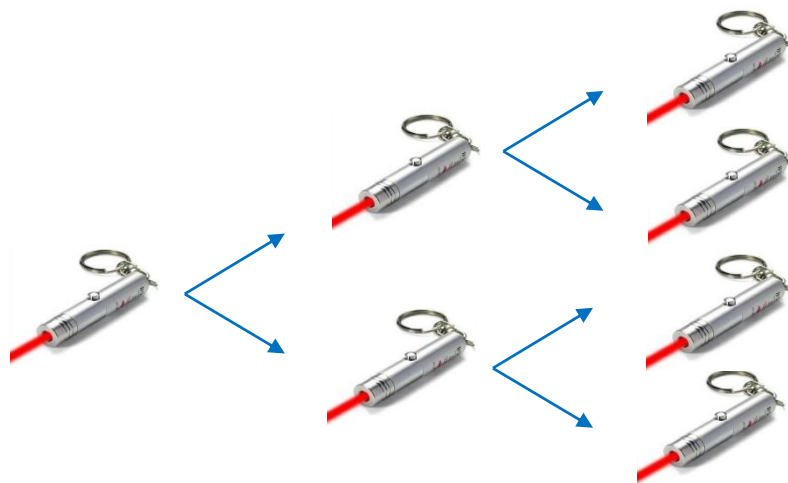
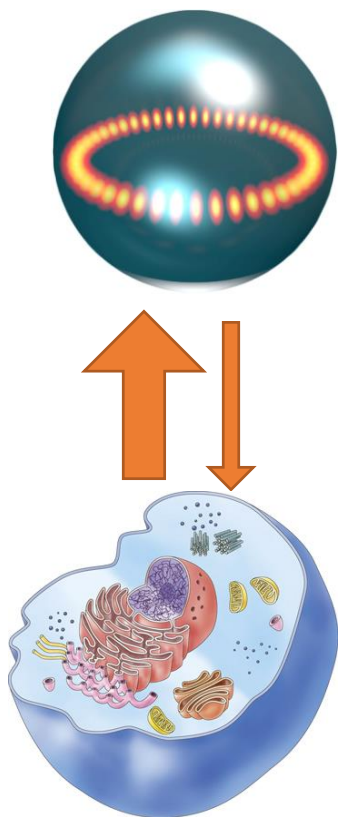
Example: cell as laser



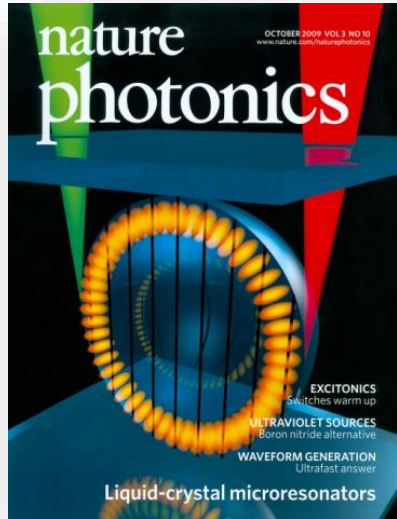
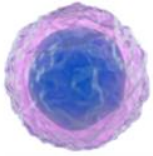


# Why bio-integrated photonics

- Better coupling between the device and the biological system
  - Better sensors
  - Targeted medical treatments
- Live lasers: Self-reproduction, self-assembly, adaptation, self-healing
- New human-robot interfaces (Cyborg)

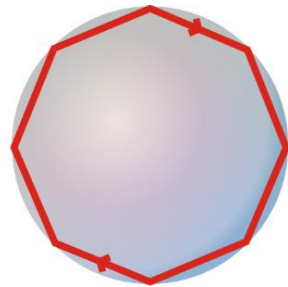


# WGM cavities in cells

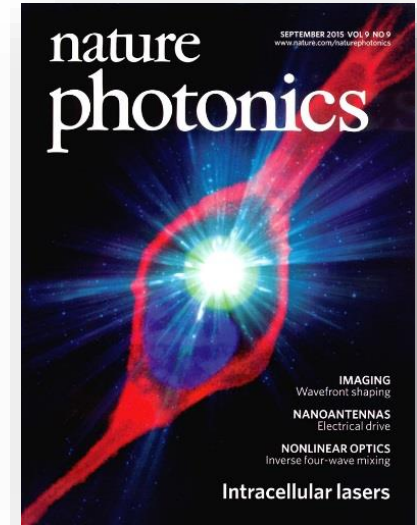
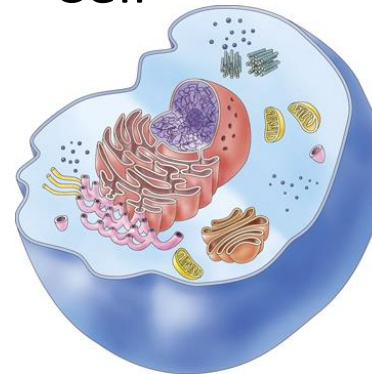


## Whispering-gallery mode laser

- Light circulates due to total internal reflection
- Fluorescent dye as gain
- External laser pumping



## Cell

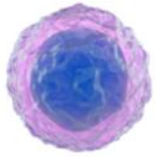


M. Humar, M. Ravnik, S. Pajk, and I. Muševič, Electrically tunable liquid crystal optical microresonators, *Nat. Photonics* 3, 595–600 (2009).

M. Humar, S.-H. Yun, Intracellular Microlasers, *Nature Photonics* 9, 572–576 (2015).

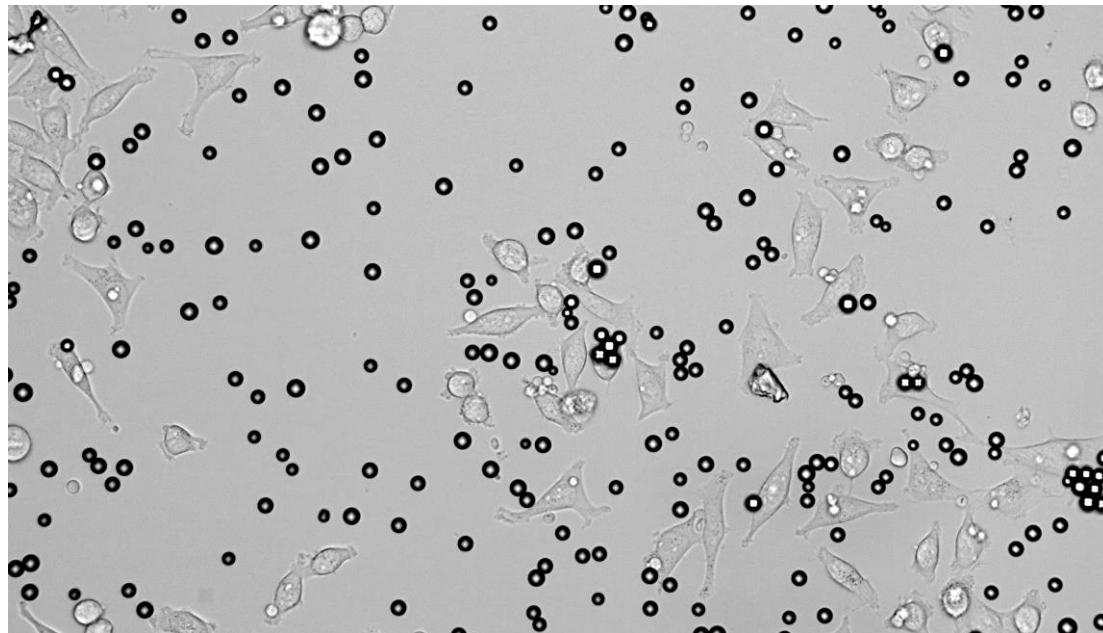
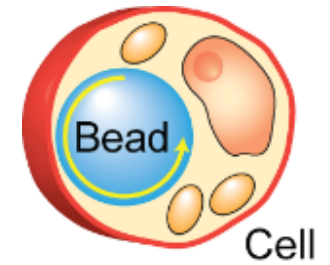
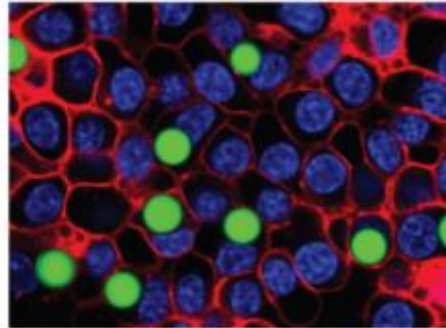
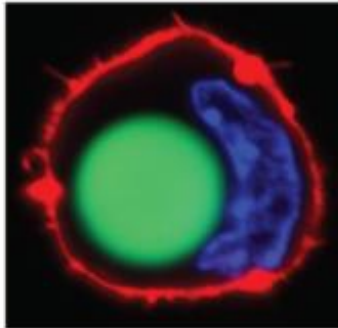
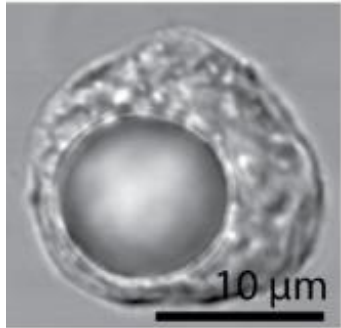




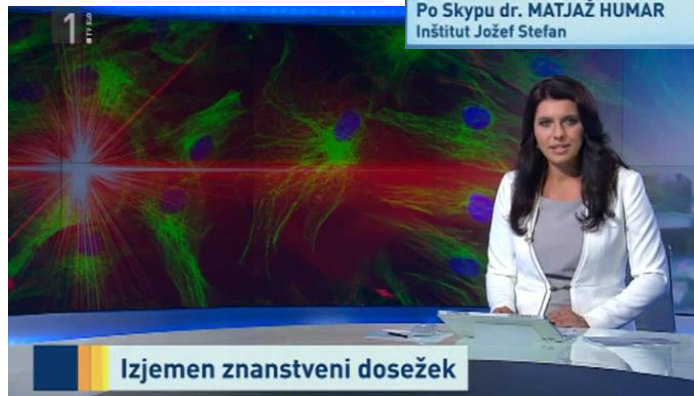
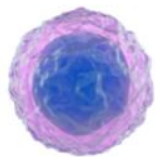


# Solid beads – uptake by cells

- Microbeads (4 – 20  $\mu\text{m}$ )
- Engulfed by cells

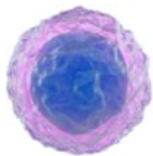


# Media impact

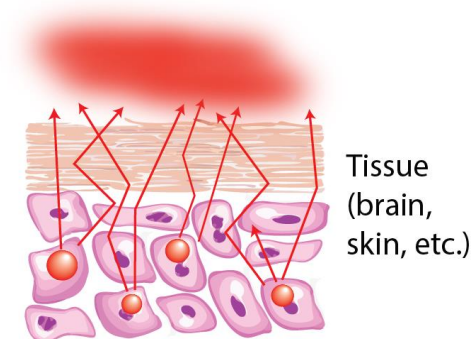
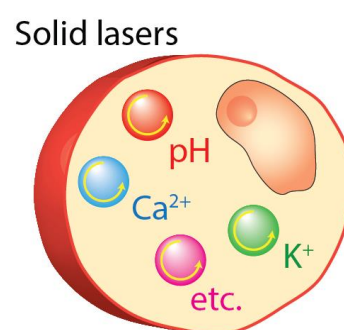
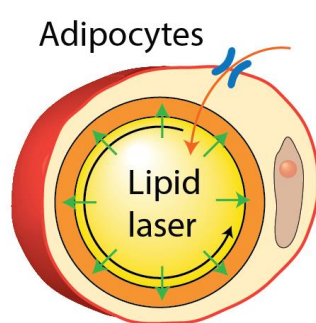
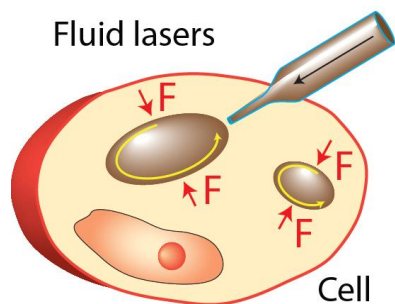
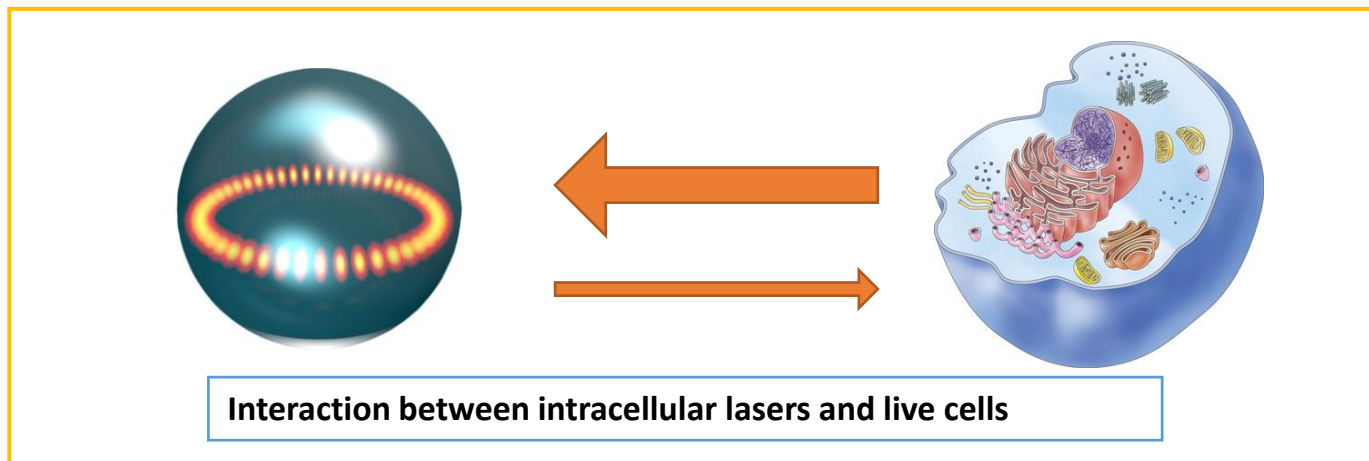


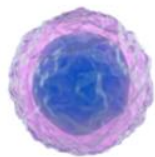
Osebnost Primorske meseca julija





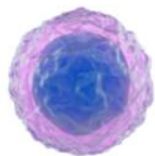
# Objectives of Cell-Lasers



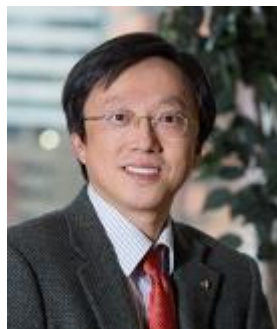


# The real story





# Research group at Harvard (postdoc position)



Seok-Hyun (Andy) Yun



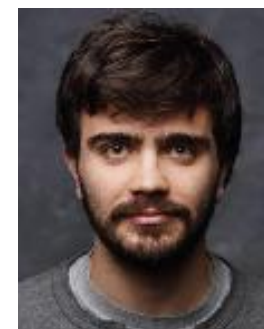
Malte Gather  
2009-2011



Sedat Nizamoglu  
2011-2013



Matjaž Humar  
2013-2016



Nicola Martino  
2015-

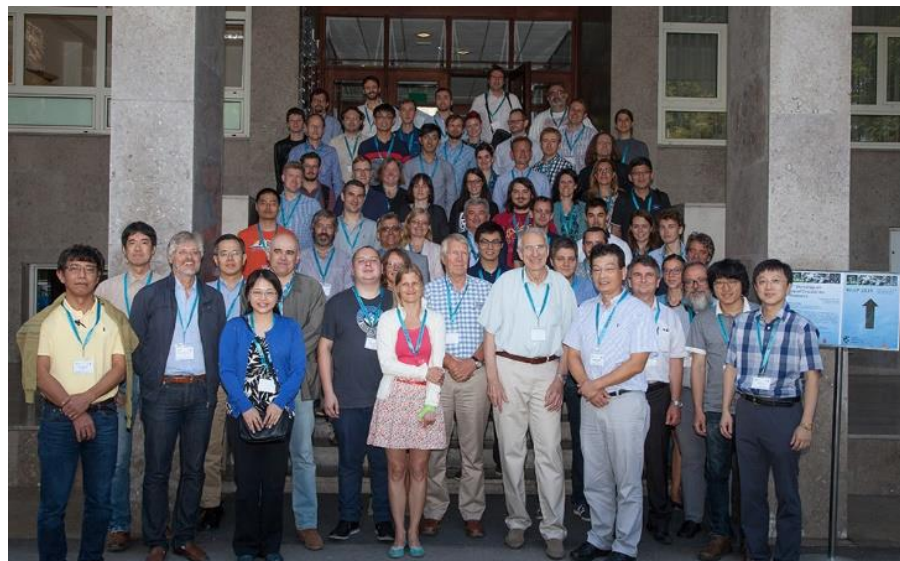


HARVARD  
MEDICAL SCHOOL

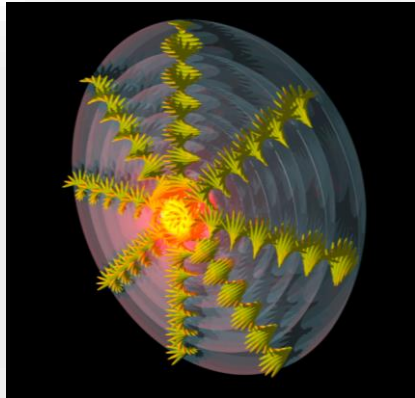
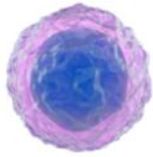


MASSACHUSETTS  
GENERAL HOSPITAL

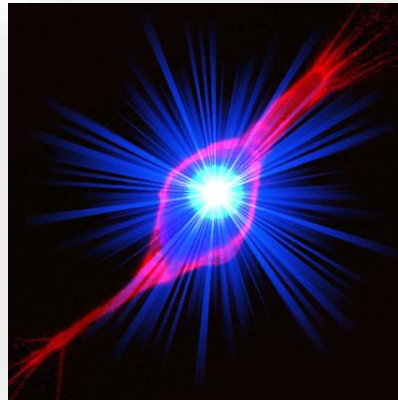
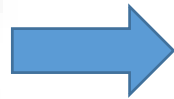
6th Workshop on Liquid Crystals for  
Photonics, September 2016, Ljubljana,  
Slovenia



# Exotic photonics



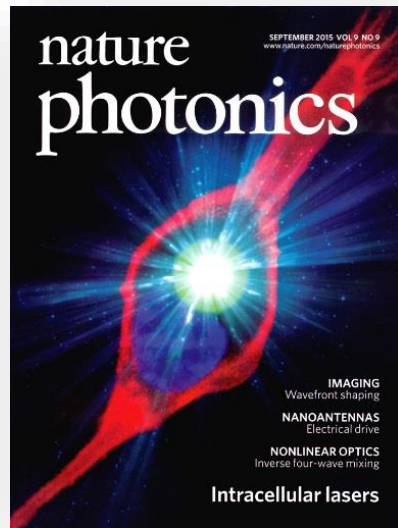
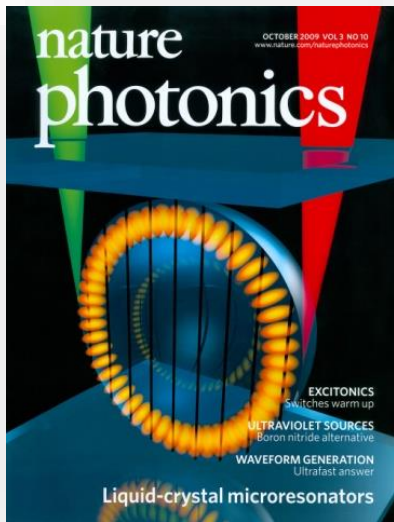
Soft photonics



Live photonics



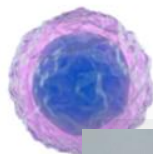
Edible photonics



?



# Brussels 3x



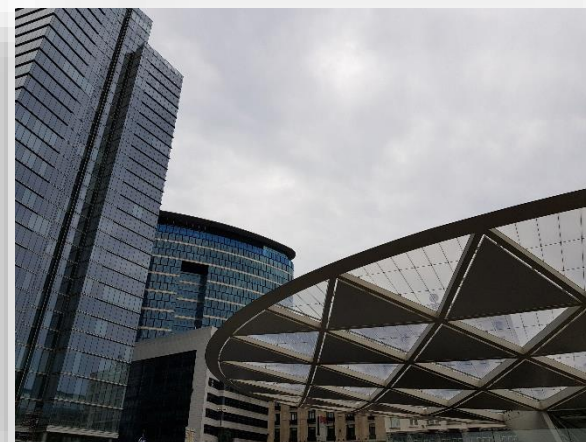
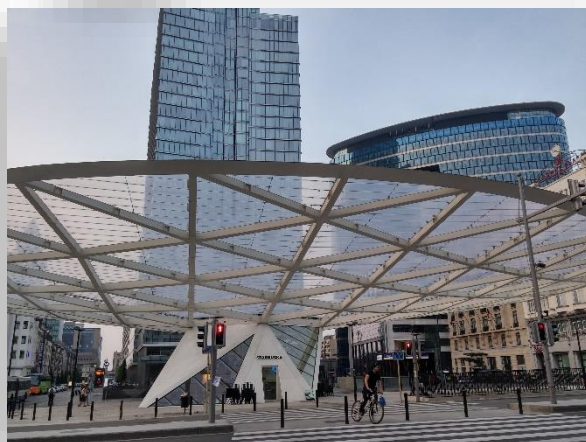
2017

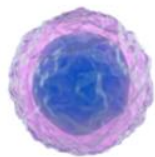


2018



2019

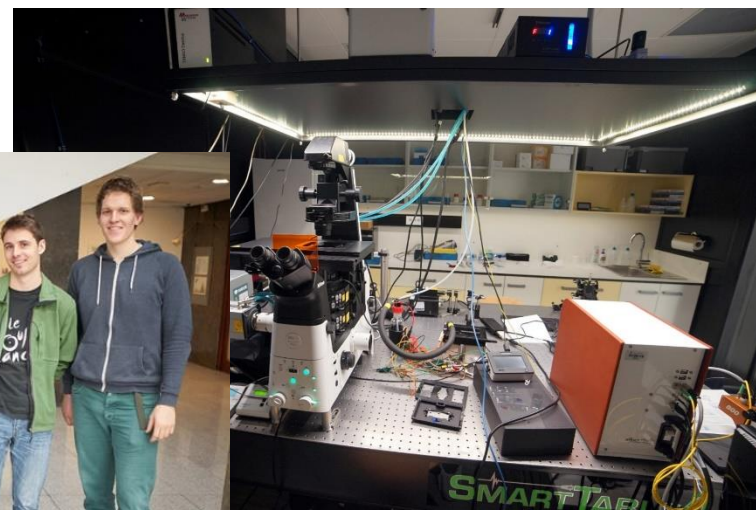
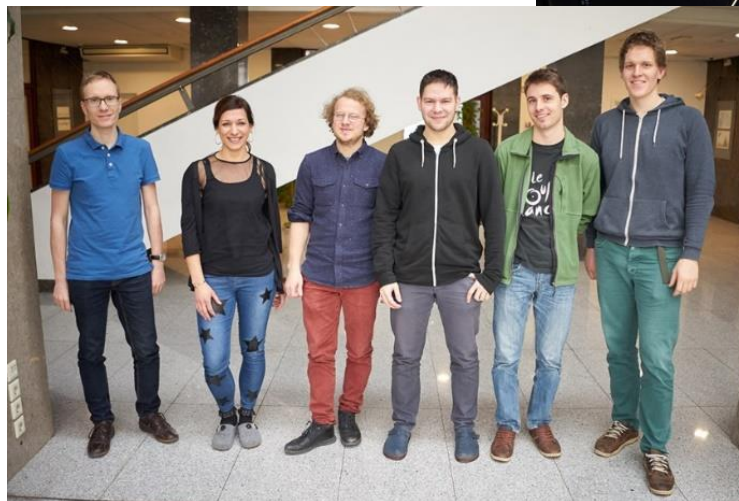




# Zahvala vsem, ki so prispevali k temu uspehu

## Current team

- Maja Garvas (postdoc)
- Maruša Mur (postdoc)
- K. P. Zuhail (postdoc)
- Gregor Pirnat (PhD student)
- Matevž Marinčič (PhD student)
- Aljaž Kavčič (Master's student)
- Zala Potočnik (undergrad)
- Xiaoxuan Wang (visiting)



ERC Starting  
Fund



- Marie Curie International Outgoing Fellowship
- Marie Curie Reintegration Fellowship



Director's Fund,  
Jožef Stefan  
Institute



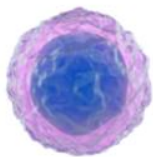
- ARRS Komplementarna shema 2018
- ARRS Komplementarna shema 2019
- ARRS Raziskovalni projekt 2019
- ARRS Pečat odličnosti 2019



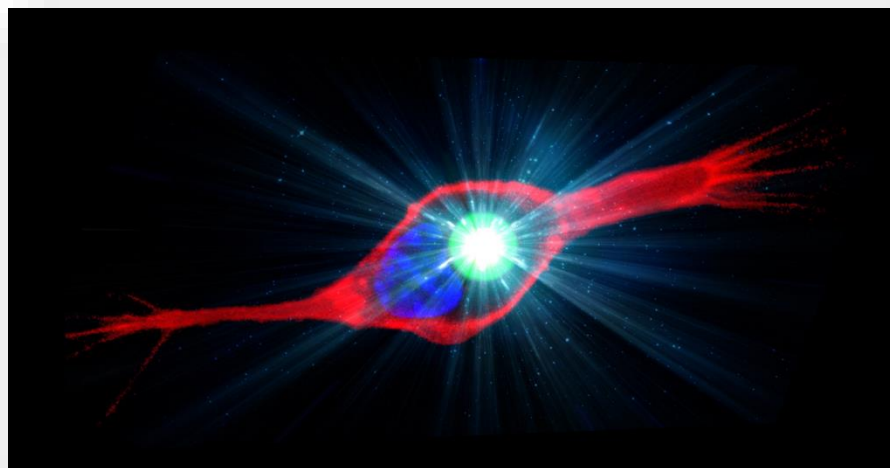
National Natural Science  
Foundation of China  
(Research Fund For  
International Young  
Scientists)







Thank you!



<http://humarlab.ijs.si>

