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Cyclone Storage Phosphor System





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Packard International Offices: Australia 03-9543-4266 or 1 800 335 638; Austria 43-1-2702504; Belgium 31(0)2/481.85.30; Canada 1-800-387-9559; Central Europe 43 456 2230 015; Denmark 45-43909023 or 45-43907151; France (33) 1 46.86.27.75; Germany (49) 6103 385-151; Italy 39-2-33910796/7/8; Netherlands 31-50-549 1296; Russia 7-095-259-9632; Switzerland (01) 481 69 44; United Kingdom 44 (0)118 9844981 The CycloneTM utilizes a state-of-the-art confocal optical design in a helical scanning system. This unique design optimizes efficiency of detection, resolution and sensitivity with a long linear dynamic range. This compact system enables the Cyclone to take advantage of the best phosphor screens and to get the highest performance for every sample.

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IFN-γ	OSM
IL-1α	PDGF-AB
IL-1β	RANTES
IL-1ra	SCF
IL-1 sRII	SLPI
IL-2	TGF-β1
IL-2 sRα	TGF-β2
IL-3	TNF-α
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ISSN 0036-8075 27 JUNE 1997 Volume 276 Number 5321



1960

NEWS & COMMENT

Corn Genome Pops Out of the Pack





1960 Going with the grain



1973 & 2045 First Parkinson's gene identified



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AAAS NEWS & NOTES

1953

1959

TECH.SIGHT: PRODUCTS

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SCIENCE • VOL. 276 • 27 JUNE 1997 • www.sciencemag.org

Please Pass the Data	1961	
Alzheimer's Maverick Moves to Industry	1962	
Varmus Grilled Over Breach of Embryo Research Ban	1963	
Senate Raps NASA on Cost Overruns	1964	
Pacific Rim: Labs Form Biomedical Network	1964	
Cold Wind Blows Through Arctic Climate Project	1965	
Centers Fear Self-Sufficiency Is Prelude to Government Cuts	1966	
RESEARCH NEWS		
Marijuana: Harder Than Thought?	1967	
Climate-Evolution Link Weakens	1968	
Strings Unknot Problems in Particle Theory, Black Holes	1969	
Tripping the Light at Fantastic Speeds	1970	
Are Pushy Axons a Key to Spinal Cord Repair?	1971	
Longer Tusks Are Healthy Signs Ivory Trade Seen as Threat	1972 1972	N
Gene Discovery Offers Tentative Clues 🖊 to Parkinson's	1973	
New Imaging Methods Provide a Better View Into the Brain	1974	Y
DE	PART	
THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE	1945	-
EDITORIAL	1951	

NEWS	
Candid Cameras for the Nanoworld	1982
The Man Who Almost Saw Atoms	1984
Monitoring a Killer Volcano Through Clouds and Ice	1985
Fast-Action Flicks Draw Chemists' Rave Reviews	1986
Catching Speeding Electrons in a Circuit City	1987

PERSPECTIVES

66	Molecular Individualism	1999
8	Selection for Survival? C. Benoist and D. Mathis	2000
67 68	Learning Mechanisms: The Case for CaM-KII J. Lisman, R. C. Malenka, R. A. Nicoll, R. M	2001 Íalinow
70	Tissue Optics D. A. Benaron, WF. Cheong, D. K. Stevenson	2002
71	REPORTS	1,060,0
72 72 73	Nondestructive Imaging of Dielectric-Constant Profiles and Ferroelectric Domains with a Scanning-Tip Microwave Near-Field Microscope Y. Lu, T. Wei, F. Duewer, Y. Lu, NB. M G. Schultz, XD. Xiang	2004 P Aing, P.
74	Observation of Magnetic Domain Behavior in Colossal Magnetoresistive	2006
	IMENTS	
45	RANDOM SAMPLES	1977
51	BOOK REVIEWS	1996

QUARTERLY AUTHOR INDEX On the Web

2063

2067

COVER

Ultrahigh-resolution images of a rabbit trachea (~6 mm diameter) obtained in vivo by catheter-endoscope-based optical coherence tomography. The technique probes the tissue with light from a fiber optic source by collecting photons reflected from features in the wall. It is one of the

imaging technologies transforming fields including medical diagnosis, cell biology, and materials science. See page 2037, the special News section (page 1981), and related items marked with the "eye" icon. [Image: C. Pitris, G. Tearney, B. Bouma, S. Boppart, J. Fujimoto, M. Brezinski]

On the Web

	1.75	An Animal Model for Acute and	2030
Biologists Get Up Close and Personal With Live Cells	1988	Persistent Epstein-Barr Virus Infection A. Moghaddam, M. Rosenzweig, D. Lee-F	arritz,
Sentin Froteins Light Op Cells	1909	B. Annis, R. P. Johnson, F. Wang	
Spectral Technique Paints Cells in Vivid	1990	Blood Flow Regulation by	2034
		S-Nitrosohemoglobin in the Physiological	2034
Play of Light Opens a New Window Into	1991	Oxygen Gradient	
		J. S. Stamler, L. Jia, J. P. Eu, T. J. McM	lahon,
Firefly Gene Lights Up Lab Animals From Inside Out	1993	I. T. Demchenko, J. Bonaventura, K. Gerne A. Piantadosi	ert, C.
Rethinking the Telescope for a Sharper	1994		
View of the Stars		In Vivo Endoscopic Optical Biopsy	2037
		G I Tearney M E Brezinski B E Bouma	S A
Materials with a Magnetic Force Microso	one	Boppart, C. Pitris, I. F. Southern, I. G. Fujimo	oto
Q. Lu, CC. Chen, A. de Lozanne	-P-		
		Exchange of Protein Molecules </td <td>2039</td>	2039
Three-Color, Tunable, Organic	2009	Through Connections Between Higher	
Z Shap D E Burrows V Bulavić C D	Format	R H Köhler I Cao W P 7:stal W W V	Wahh
M F. Thompson	rorrest,	M. R. Hanson	webb,
in 2. mompson		TAT AN A MILIOUT	
Scanning Confocal Optical	2012	Regulatory Phosphorylation of 🛛 🗾	2042
Microscopy and Magnetic Resonance on		AMPA-Type Glutamate Receptors by	
Single Defect Centers		CaM-KII During Long-Term Potentiation	100.1
A. Gruber, A. Dräbenstedt, C. Tietz, L. F	leury, J.	A. Barria, D. Muller, V. Derkach, L. C. Gi	riffith,
wrachtrup, C. von Borczyskowski		I. R. Sodering	
Creep Response of the Hayward Fault to	2014	Mutation in the α -Synuclein Gene	2045
Stress Changes Caused by the Loma Prieta	L	Identified in Families with Parkinson's Diseas	e
Earthquake		M. Polymeropoulos et al.	
J. J. Lienkaemper, J. S. Galehouse, R. W. S	Simpson	Cannabinoid and Heroin Activation	2048
Single Polymer Dynamics in an	2016	of Mesolimbic Dopamine Transmission by	2040
Elongational Flow	20.0	a Common μ_1 Opioid Receptor Mechanism	
T. T. Perkins, D. E. Smith, S. Chu		G. Tanda, F. E. Pontieri, G. Di Chiara	
		Activation of Continutori	0050
Surface Stress in the Self-Assembly of Alkapethicle on Cold	2021	Releasing Factor in the Limbic System	2050
R. Berger, E. Delamarche, H. P. Lang, Ch.	Gerber	During Cannabinoid Withdrawal	
J. K. Gimzewski, E. Meyer, HJ. Güntherod	lt	F. Rodríguez de Fonseca, M. R. A. Carren	ra, M.
		Navarro, G. F. Koob, F. Weiss	
The Role of Antibody Concentration	2024	Den Maria I Antaria (MAD	005 1
and Avidity in Antiviral Protection	C	Keceptor-Mediated Activation of a MAP	2054
Freer C. Burkhart H-P. Roost M. A.	age, G.	W. Ligterink, T. Kroj, U. zur Nieden, H. Hirt, D. S.	Scheel
Hengartner, R. M. Zinkernagel	, ict, 11.		- uner
		Differential Requirements for Survival 🗾	2057
Bacterial Interference Caused by	2027	and Proliferation of CD8 Naïve or Memory T	Cells
Autoinducing Peptide Variants		C. Tanchot, F. A. Lemonnier, B. Pérarnau,	A. A.
G. Ji, R. Beavis, R. P. Novick		Freitas, B. Rocha	
	 Biologists Get Up Close and Personal With Live Cells Jellyfish Proteins Light Up Cells Spectral Technique Paints Cells in Vivid New Colors Play of Light Opens a New Window Into the Body Firefly Gene Lights Up Lab Animals From Inside Out Rethinking the Telescope for a Sharper View of the Stars Materials with a Magnetic Force Microso Q. Lu, CC. Chen, A. de Lozanne Three-Color, Tunable, Organic Light-Emitting Devices Z. Shen, P. E. Burrows, V. Bulović, S. R. M. E. Thompson Scanning Confocal Optical Microscopy and Magnetic Resonance on Single Defect Centers A. Gruber, A. Dräbenstedt, C. Tietz, L. F Wrachtrup, C. von Borczyskowski Creep Response of the Hayward Fault to Stress Changes Caused by the Loma Prietz Earthquake J. J. Lienkaemper, J. S. Galehouse, R. W. S Single Polymer Dynamics in an Elongational Flow T. T. Perkins, D. E. Smith, S. Chu Surface Stress in the Self-Assembly of Alkanethiols on Gold R. Berger, E. Delamarche, H. P. Lang, Ch. J. K. Gimzewski, E. Meyer, HJ. Güntherood The Role of Antibody Concentration and Avidity in Antiviral Protection M. F. Bachmann, U. Kalinke, A. Alth Freer, C. Burkhart, HP. Roost, M. Ag Hengartner, R. M. Zinkernagel Bacterial Interference Caused by Autoinducing Peptide Variants G. Ji, R. Beavis, R. P. Novick 	Biologists Get Up Close and Personal1988With Live Cells1989Jellyfish Proteins Light Up Cells1989Spectral Technique Paints Cells in Vivid1990New Colors1991Play of Light Opens a New Window Into1991the Body1993Firefly Gene Lights Up Lab Animals1993From Inside Out1991Rethinking the Telescope for a Sharper1994View of the Stars1994Materials with a Magnetic Force MicroscopeQ. Lu, CC. Chen, A. de LozanneThree-Color, Tunable, Organic2009Light-Emitting Devices2. Shen, P. E. Burrows, V. Bulović, S. R. Forrest,M. E. Thompson2012Scanning Confocal Optical2012Microscopy and Magnetic Resonance onSingle Defect CentersA. Gruber, A. Dräbenstedt, C. Tietz, L. Fleury, J.Wrachtrup, C. von BorczyskowskiCreep Response of the Hayward Fault to2014Stress Changes Caused by the Loma PrietaEarthquakeJ. J. Lienkaemper, J. S. Galehouse, R. W. SimpsonSingle Polymer Dynamics in an Elongational Flow T. T. Perkins, D. E. Smith, S. ChuSurface Stress in the Self-Assembly of Alkanethiols on Gold R. Berger, E. Delamarche, H. P. Lang, Ch. Gerber, J. K. Gimzewski, E. Meyer, HJ. GüntherodtThe Role of Antibody Concentration M. F. Bachmann, U. Kalinke, A. Althage, G. Freer, C. Burkhart, HP. Roost, M. Aguet, H. Hengartner, R. M. ZinkernagelBacterial Interference Caused by Autoinducing Peptide Variants G. Ji, R. Beavis, R. P. Novick	 Biologists Get Up Close and Personal 1988 With Live Cells Jellyfish Proteins Light Up Cells 1989 Spectral Technique Paints Cells in Vivid 1990 New Colors Play of Light Opens a New Window Into 1991 Fireffy Gene Lights Up Lab Animals 1993 From Inside Out Rethinking the Telescope for a Sharper 1994 View of the Stars Materials with a Magnetic Force Microscope Q. Lu, CC. Chen, A. de Lozanne Three-Color, Tunable, Organic 2009 Light-Emitting Devices Z. Shen, P. E. Burrows, V. Bulović, S. R. Forrest, M. E. Thompson Scanning Confocal Optical 2012 Microscopy and Magnetic Resonance on Single Defect Centers A. Gruber, A. Diabenstedt, C. Tietz, L. Fleury, J. Wrachtrup, C. von Borczyskowski Creep Response of the Hayward Fault to 2014 Straface Stress in the Self-Assembly of 2. J. Lienkaemper, J. S. Galehouse, R. W. Simpson Single Polymer Dynamics in an T. T. Perkins, D. E. Smith, S. Chu Surface Stress in the Self-Assembly of 2. J. Lienkaemper, J. S. Galehouse, R. W. Simpson Single Polymer Dynamics in an C. T. Therkins, D. E. Smith, S. Chu Surface Stress in the Self-Assembly of 2. J. Lienkaemper, J. S. Galehouse, R. W. Simpson Single Polymer Dynamics in an C. T. Therkins, D. E. Smith, S. Chu Surface Stress in the Self-Assembly of 2. Kolfinger de Fonseca, M. R. A. Carreto, G. F. Koob, F. Weiss Receptor-Mediated Activation of a MAP Kinase in Pathogen Defense of Plants W. Ligerink, T. Kroj, U. ar Nieden, H. Hin, D. Starting Poticetion M. F. Bachmann, U. Kalinke, A. Althage, G. Freer, C. Burkhart, HP. Roost, M. Aguet, H. Hengartner, R. M. Zinkernagel Bacterial Interference Caused by Acuidation of Corticoropin- Related Activation of a MAP Kingernik, T. Kroj, U. ar Nieden, H. Hir, D. Starting Periterion Starting Protection M. F. Bachman

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 "The I.M.A.G.E. Consortium: An Integrated Molecular Analysis of Genomes and their Expression", Lennon, G.G., Auffray, C., Polymeropoulos, M., and Soares, M. B. [1995] Genomics.

THIS WEEK IN SCIENCE

edited by PHIL SZUROMI

Scanning materials

Two reports focus on scanning probe methods for characterizing the structures of technologically important materials. Magnetoresistive materials change their conductivity in the presence of magnetic fields and have potential applications in magnetic recording. Q. Lu et al. (p. 2006) used a low-temperature magnetic force microscope to image magnetic domains of calcium-doped LaMnO3 films. As the films were warmed to the temperature range where the films transform from ferromagnetic to paramagnetic (around 245 kelvin), the domains became less stable and merged and split as they decreased in extent. Ferroelectric materials with domains of different polarizations have attracted interest for applications in nonlinear optics and acoustics, but mapping the domain structures has usually required etching and optical imaging. Y. Lu et al. (p.



2004) have developed a nearfield microwave microscope that uses a scanning tip in a noncontact mode. Changes in the dielectric constant and ferroelectric domain boundaries were mapped out with submicrometer resolution on an yttrium-doped LiNbO₃ sample.

Stacking colors

Organic light-emitting devices (OLEDs) have potential uses in flat panel displays. Shen *et al.* (p. 2009) have taken advantage

Seeing single defects in diamonds

Single-molecule, single-exciton, and single-nanocrystal spectroscopy have led to important insights into the behavior of individual components underlying ensemble averages. Gruber *et al.* (p. 2012) now present results for single defect centers in diamond. By combining confocal microscopy and magnetic resonance measurements, they show that nitrogen vacancy centers in diamond are highly photostable. Strain leads to defects with different symmetries that could be distinguished by their magnetic response. These defects have potential uses as nanoscopic light sources.

of transparent electrode materials to create a multilayer device that stacks red, green, and blue OLEDs vertically, an arrangement that simplifies patterning across the display. The intensity of each color can be varied independently.

Assembly under stress When molecules adsorb in lay-

ers on a surface, the forces between the molecules can induce stresses in the underlying substrate. Thus stress measurements can give insights into the growth mechanism of a molecular layer and the interactions between the molecules and the surface. Berger et al. (p. 2021) developed a sensor for measuring surface stresses and illustrate their approach for the self-assembly of alkanethiols on gold. Self-assembly led to compressive surface stress, and stress was greater for longer alkyl chains.

Armed and ready

Although susceptible plants may respond to a certain pathogen with the symptoms of disease, that same pathogen may be unable to produce disease in other plant species. Such plants, nonetheless, recognize the presence of the microbe with a system of non-host defense responses. Ligterink *et al.* (p. 2054) have identified one of the key elements of the nonhost defense response. The elicitor-responsive mitogen-activated protein (MAP) kinase is activated after the initial response by ion channels. After activation, it translocates into the cell nucleus where it may affect interactions of transcription factors with the genes that encode other elements of the plant defense armamentarium.

Quantity, not quality?

What parameters best define the ability of antibodies to protect a host from infection? Bachmann et al. (p. 2024) used a collection of monoclonal antibodies against a common viral antigen (the glycoprotein of vesicular stomatitis virus) to compare neutralization of the virus in vitro and protection against infection in vivo. Surprisingly, as long as antibodies were above a minimum avidity threshold and a minimum concentration threshold, they provided protection against infection in the whole animal. Parameters that correlated closely with neutralization in vitro, such as avidity, neutralization rate constant, and in vitro neutralizing activity, failed to correlate with protection in vivo.

These results may prove useful in designing antibody therapies to fight viral infection.

Bacterial blocking

When several bacterial strains infect a host, they do not cooperate but actually interfere with each other. This effect has been thought to arise from growth inhibition, but Ji et al. (p. 2027) show that in Staphylococcus aureus the virulence factors and other extracellular proteins associated with the agr locus from one strain inhibited agr expression in another strain and appeared to limit its infectivity. The peptide and receptor sequences can vary markedly, which indicates that some mechanism generates hypervariability.

LTP origins

Long-term potentiation (LTP) is a well-studied model of neural plasticity, but the molecular mechanisms have been elusive. Barria et al. (p. 2042; see the Perspective by Lisman et al., p. 2001) now show that the longlasting increase in the postsynaptic response in the CA1 area of the hippocampus is due to persistent phosphorylation of Thr²⁸⁶ on the AMPA-type glutamate receptor, catalyzed by calmodulin-dependent protein kinase II (CaM-KII). This result completes the pathway for LTP in these cells: The neurotransmitter, glutamate, binds to the N-methyl-D-aspartate receptor, which, when the postsynaptic cell is depolarized, allows calcium to flow in and activate CaM-KII. CaM-KII can then phosphorylate the AMPA receptor and the cell exhibits a greater response.

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