Fiber optics emerging in circuit neuroscience

From single fibers to multi-fiber bundel arrays

Anna Maria Reuss Technical Journal Club 30/04/2019

Fiber optics in a nut-shell

What is fiber optics?

How does a photometry setup look like?

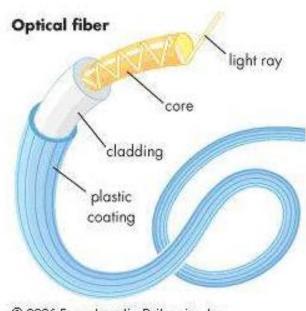
What is it used for in neuroscience?

Pros & cons of the technique

What is fiber optics?



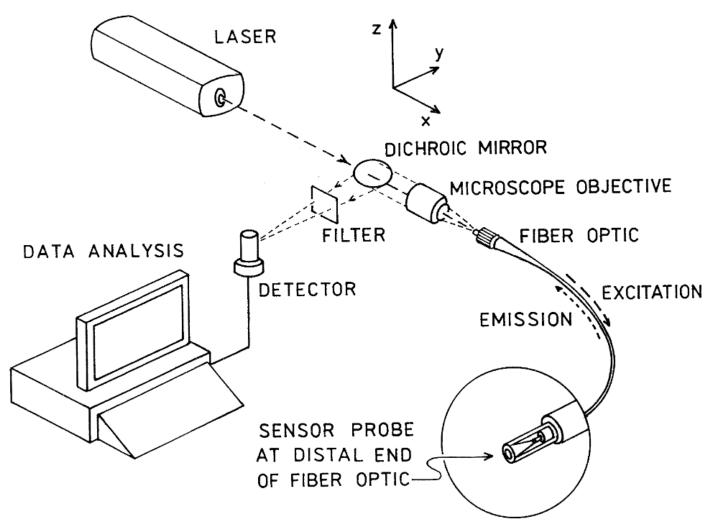
http://www.fugal.com/fiber-optics.html



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How does a photometry setup look like?



What can it be used for in neuroscience?

LETTER

doi:10.1038/nature17400

Nucleus accumbens D2R cells signal prior outcomes and control risky decision-making

Kelly A. Zalocusky^{1,2,3}, Charu Ramakrishnan^{1,3}, Talia N. Lerner^{1,3}, Thomas J. Davidson^{1,3}, Brian Knutson⁴ & Karl Deisseroth^{1,3,5}

BRIEF COMMUNICATIONS

Simultaneous fast measurement of circuit dynamics at multiple sites across the mammalian brain

Christina K Kim^{1,8}, Samuel J Yang^{2,8}, Nandini Pichamoorthy³, Noah P Young³, Isaac Kauvar², Joshua H Jennings³, Talia N Lerner³, Andre Berndt³, Soo Yeun Lee³, Charu Ramakrishnan³, Thomas J Davidson³, Masatoshi Inoue^{4,5}, Haruhiko Bito^{4,5} & Karl Deisseroth^{3,6,7}

High-density multi-fiber photometry for studying large-scale brain circuit dynamics

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² Neuroscience Center Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland

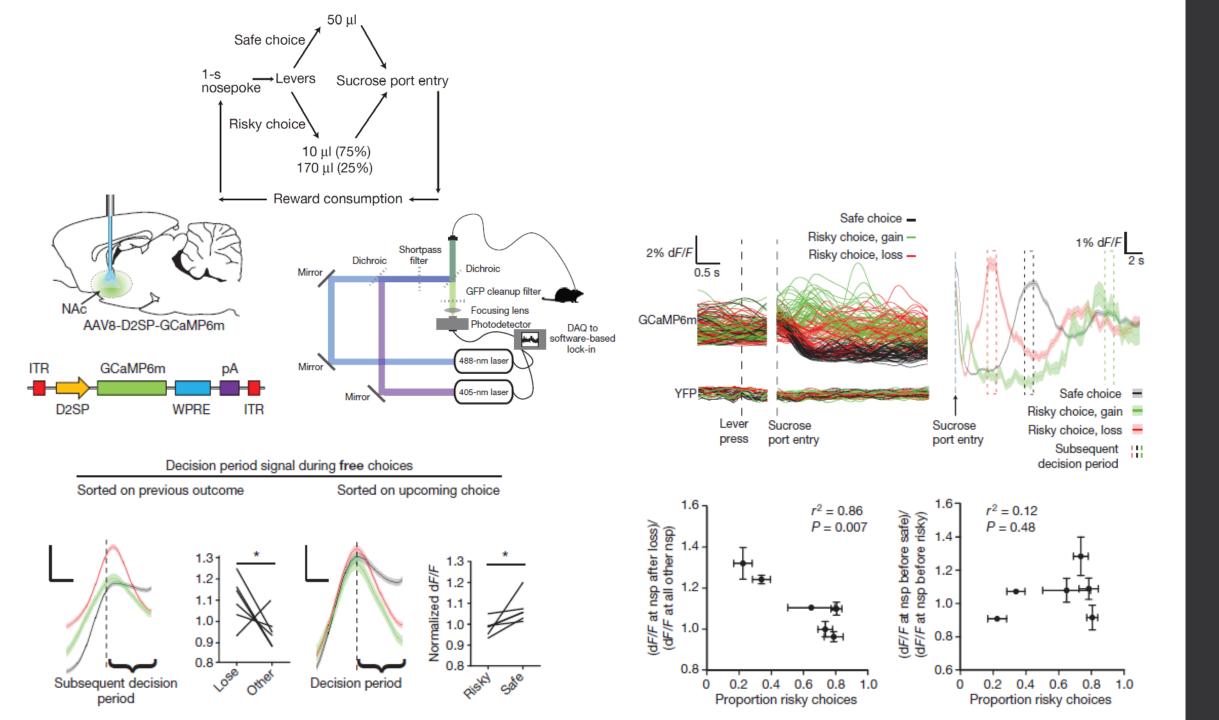
^{*}Correspondence should be addressed to Yaroslav Sych (sych@hifo.uzh.ch) and Fritjof Helmchen (helmchen@hifo.uzh.ch)

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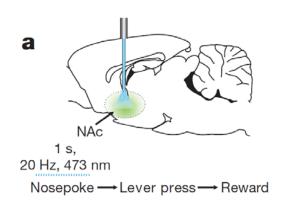
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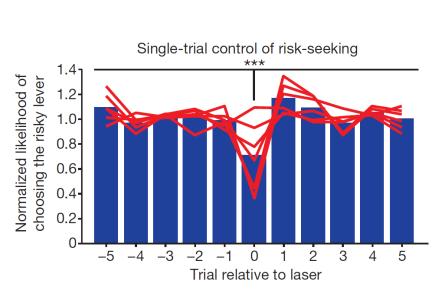
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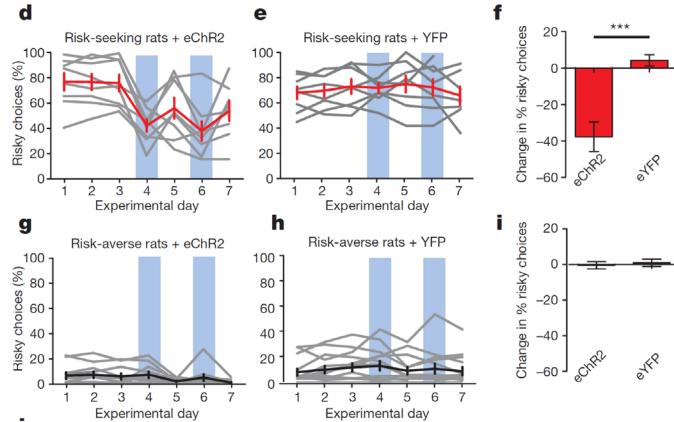
Zalocusky et al., 2016; Nature



Using optogenetics to provide phasic activity in D2-expressing NAc cells during the decision period







Conclusions

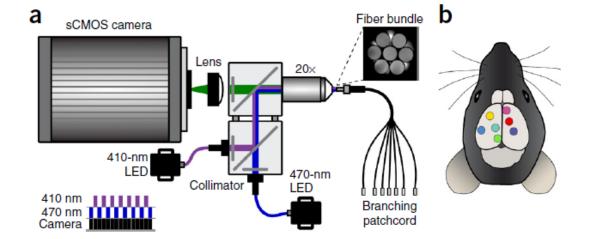
- Technique allows to identify relevant temporally specific signals from a genetically and anatomically defined population of neurons
- D2 neurons in the NAc signal unfavourable outcomes from the recent past at a time appropriate for influencing subsequent decisions
- Risk-preferring rats can be converted to risk-averse rats with precisely timed phasic stimulation of NAc D2R cells
- Individual differences in risk-preference as well as real-time risky decision-making can be largely explained by the encoding in D2R-expressing NAc cells of prior unfavourable outcomes during decision-making

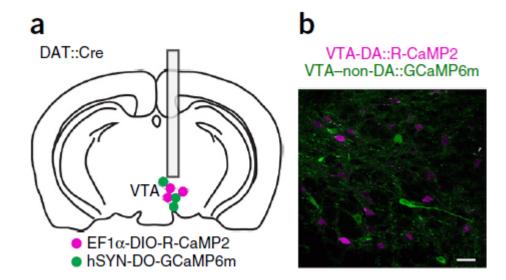
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Kim et al., 2016; Nature Methods





Conclusions

- Multiple-channel recordings from different brain regions and different cell populations
- Simultaneous recordings from cell bodies (VTA) and axonal projections
- Dual-color photometry through one fiber
- Combination of photometry and optogenetics through one fiber
- Problems:
 - Mostly only one mouse and very few trials per experiment
 - Δ F/F scales different for comparisons
 - Equal light distribution into the different fibers?

High-density multi-fiber photometry for studying large-scale brain circuit dynamics

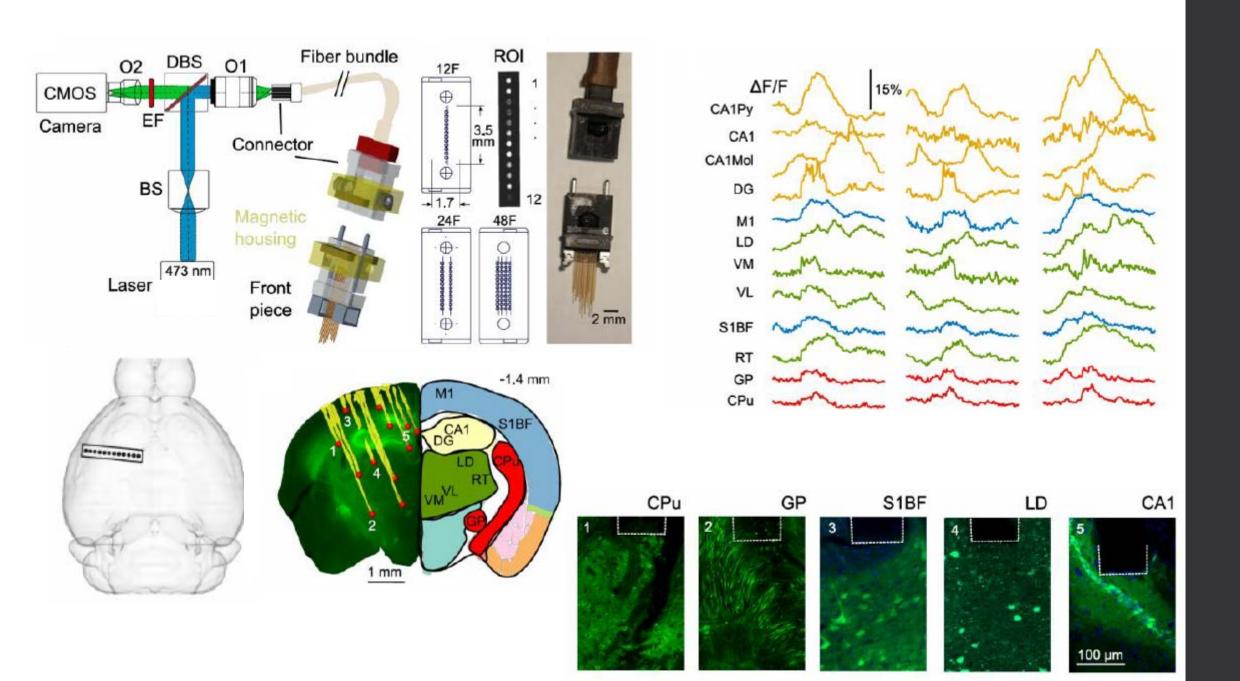
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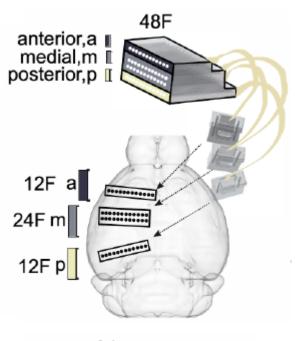
Sych et al., 2019; Nature Methods accepted

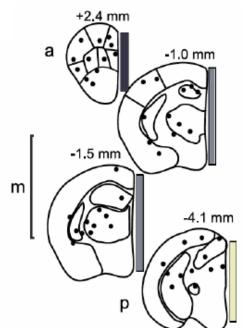
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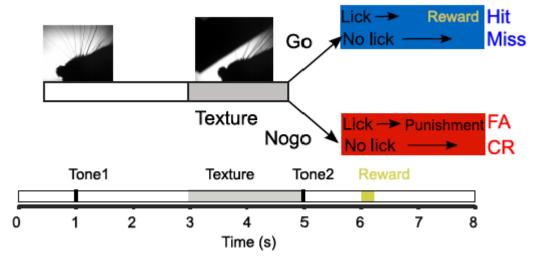
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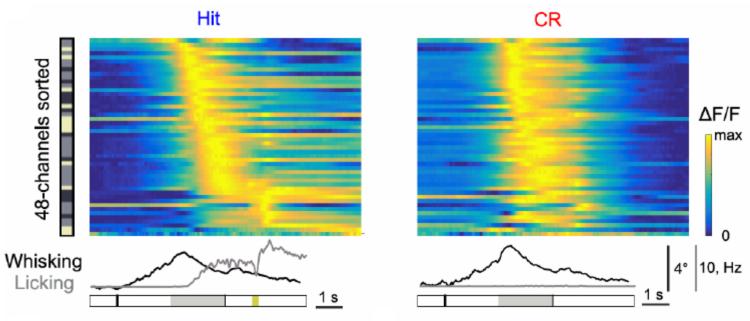
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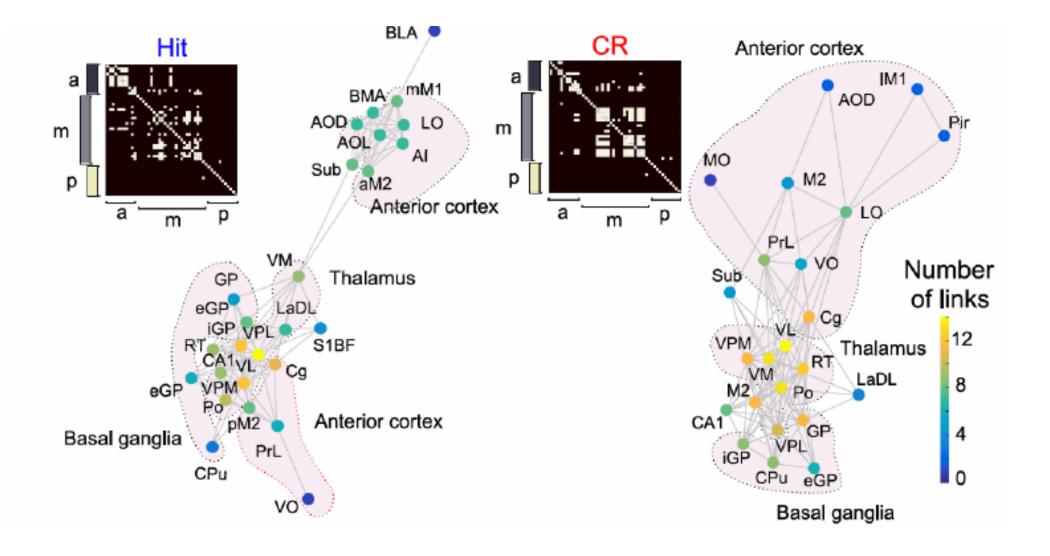




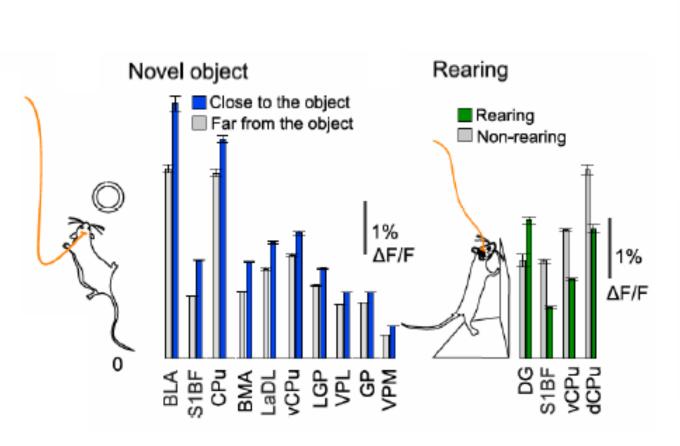


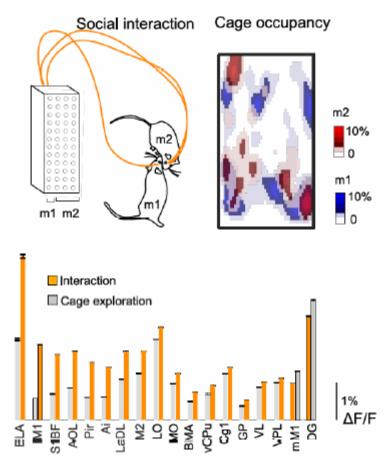




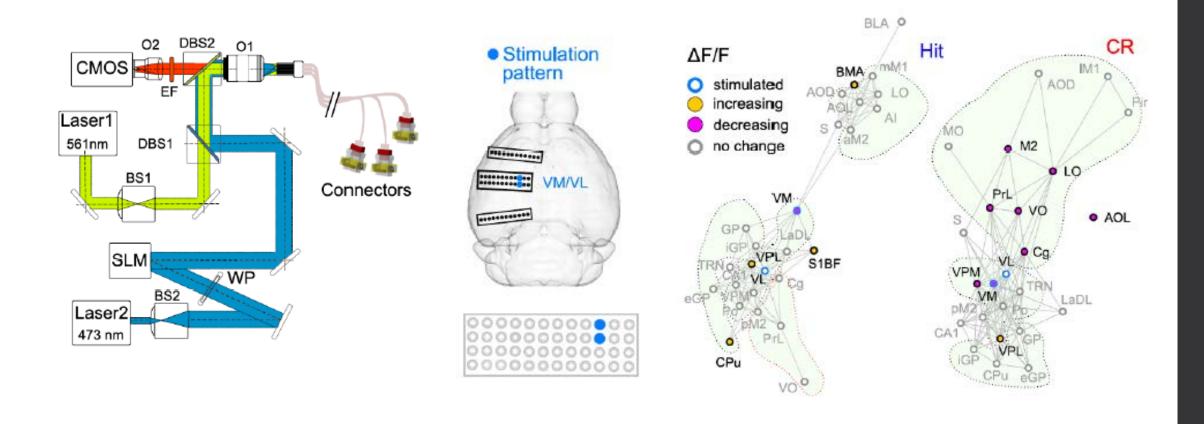


High density fiber bundels recordings can be performed in freely moving animals





High density fiber bundels allows simultaneous multi-region calcium recordings during optogenetics perturbation of single regions



Conclusions

- Up to 48 channels recordings over many brain regions
- Creation of functional networks
- In freely-moving animals
- Optogenetic perturbation and simultaneous recordings of whole networks

Pros & Cons

Pro

- Simplicity
- Minimum head weight
- Negligible heat generation
- Cost-efficiency
- Potential fast acquisition rate
- Customizable fibers
- Reduced invasiveness
- Easy combination with optogenetics
- Long-term experiments

Contra

- (Still) invasive
- Limited spatial information
- Connection to fiber-bundle necessary (alternative: wire-less LED modules)

Thank you for your attention!

