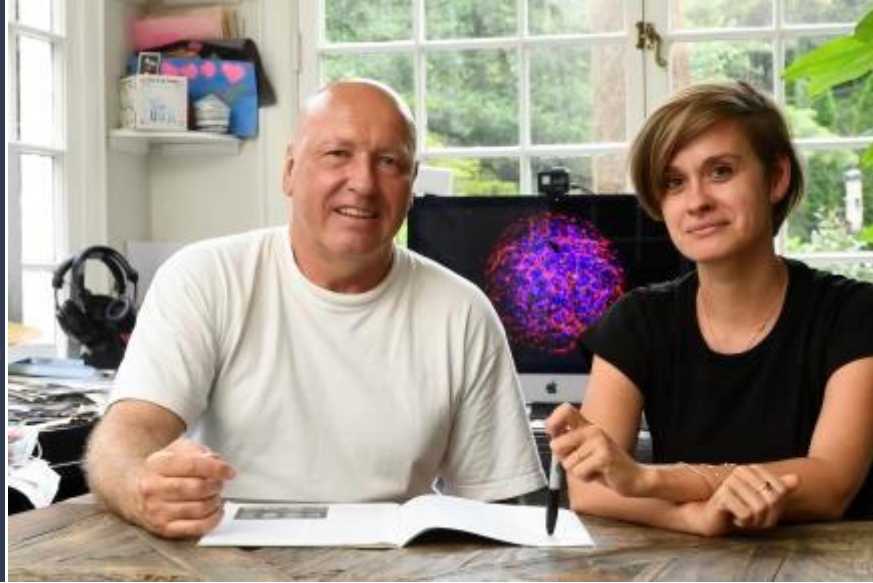




JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG SCHOOL
of PUBLIC HEALTH



Thomas Hartung, Lena Smirnova & team

**Organoid Intelligence, the new frontier in
biocomputing and intelligence-in-a-dish**

We build the leading
journals of the future
Frontiers in Artificial Intelligence

13 sections

1034 articles (IF 4.0)

273 Research Topics



**Thomas
Hartung**
Field Chief
Editor

Sections

- AI for Human Learning and Behavior Change
- AI in Business
- AI in Food, Agriculture and Water
- Artificial Intelligence in Finance
- Big Data and AI in High Energy Physics
- Fuzzy Systems
- Language and Computation
- Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence
- Medicine and Public Health
- Natural Language Processing
- Organoid Intelligence: **NEW**
- Pattern Recognition
- Technology and Law

3.4M

article views
and downloads

4.0

Journal Impact Factor

3.9

CiteScore™

Frontiers (2023)
Journal Citation Reports (Clarivate, 2023)
Scopus (2023)



**Frontiers in
Artificial Intelligence**





AI in Biomedicine

1-3 May 2024 (virtual)



Thomas Hartung

Bloomberg School of Public Health,
Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, United States

Specialty Chief Editor
Medicine and Public Health



Weida Tong

National Center for Toxicological
Research (FDA)
Jefferson, United States

Associate Editor
Medicine and Public Health



Yvonne Will

Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Titusville, United States

Associate Editor
Medicine and Public Health

AI for Scientific Discovery: Pioneering New Frontiers in Knowledge

Andrew Maynard

Professor, School for the Future of Innovation in Society, Arizona State University

Sang Yup Lee

Distinguished Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology

Olga Fink

Assistant Professor, Intelligent Maintenance and Operations Systems, EPFL

Thomas Hartung

Professor, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University

2024:
AI/LLMs for
Scientific Discovery



Data: double every 18month
= 90% in last three years

Computer: double every 24
months (Moore's law)

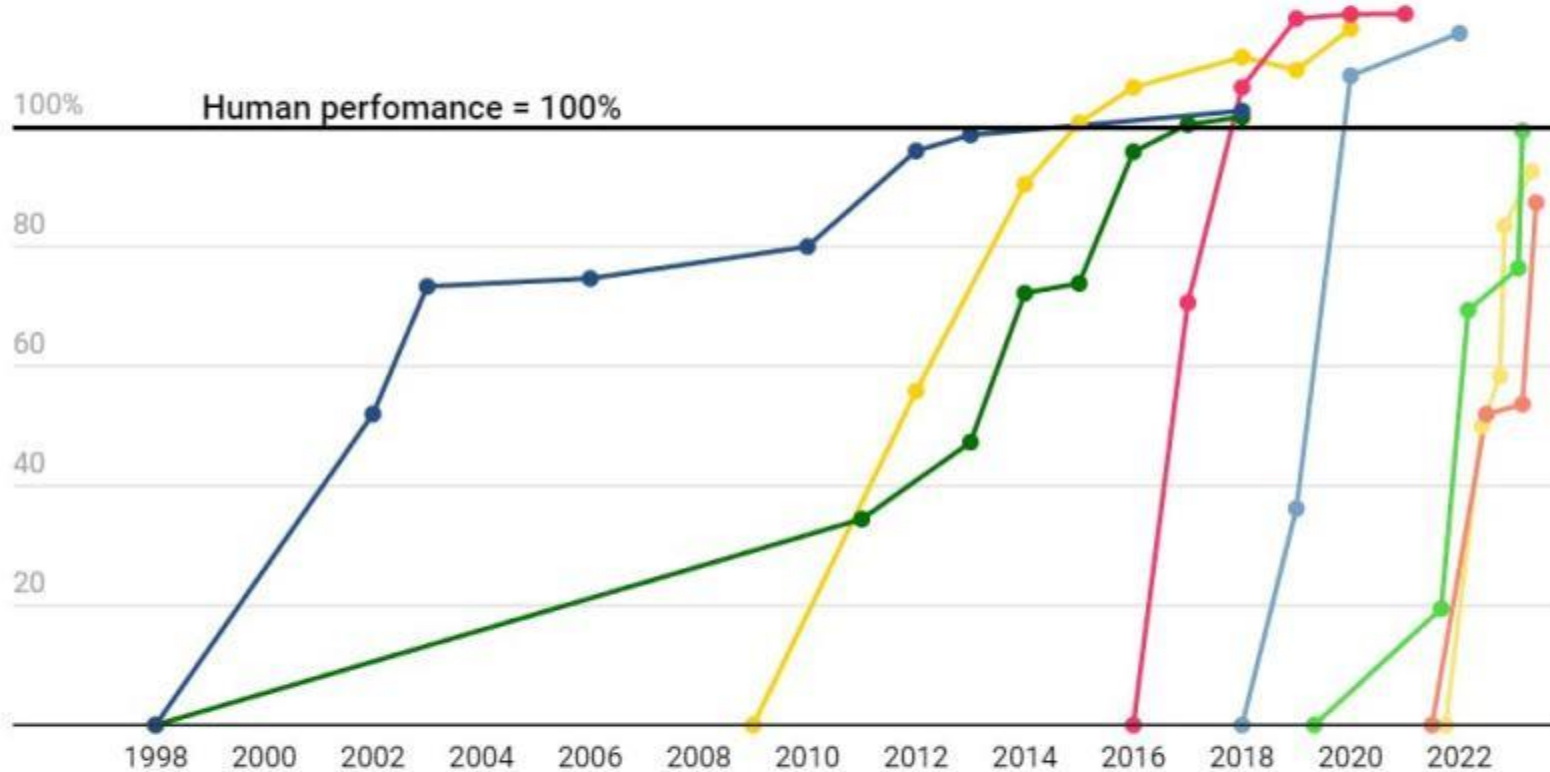
AI: double every 3 months
since 2010

**Together increase
>1 billion-fold
(since we engaged in AI
ten years ago)**

AI has surpassed humans at a number of tasks and the rate at which humans are being surpassed at new tasks is increasing

State-of-the-art AI performance on benchmarks, relative to human performance

- Handwriting recognition
- Speech recognition
- Image recognition
- Reading comprehension
- Language understanding
- Common sense completion
- Grade school math
- Code generation

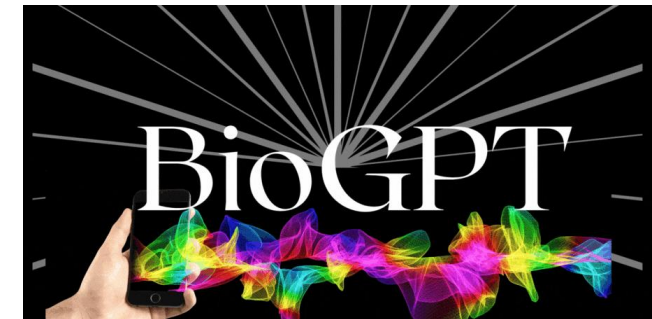


For each benchmark, the maximally performing baseline reported in the benchmark paper is taken as the "starting point", which is set at 0%. Human performance number is set at 100%. Handwriting recognition = MNIST, Language understanding = GLUE, Image recognition = ImageNet, Reading comprehension = SQuAD 1.1, Reading comprehension = SQuAD 2.0, Speech recognition = Switchboard, Grade school math = GSK8k, Common sense completion = HellaSwag, Code generation = HumanEval.

Chart: Will Henshall for TIME • Source: ContextualAI

TIME

AI surpasses human performance, e.g., annotating scientific papers



2023

BioGPT and human annotator have comparable performance in biomedical research test

Selected performances on PubMedQA, which tests biomedical language processing

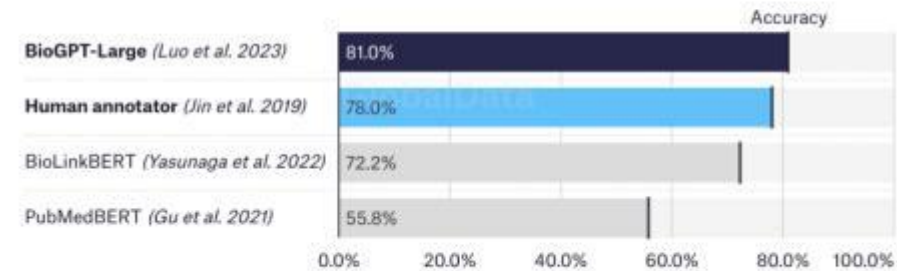


Chart: GlobalData • Source: PubMedQA

Plagiarism?

Bias

Data gaps

Black box

Hallucination

Autonomous AI



Productivity

**Information
retrieval**

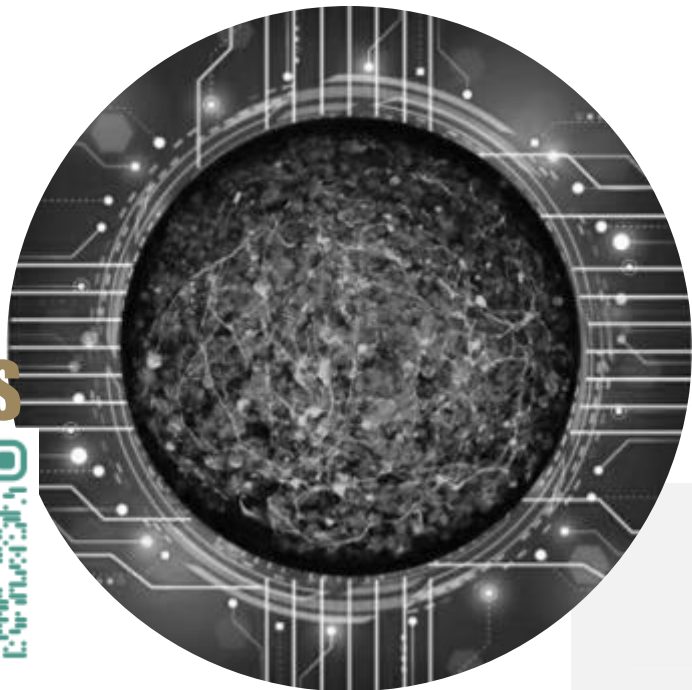
**Evidence
integration
of Big Data**

Multi-modal

Toward xAI

**Human-in-
loop**

Microphysiological systems (MPS)

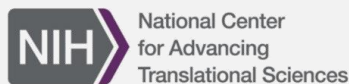


JOIN US

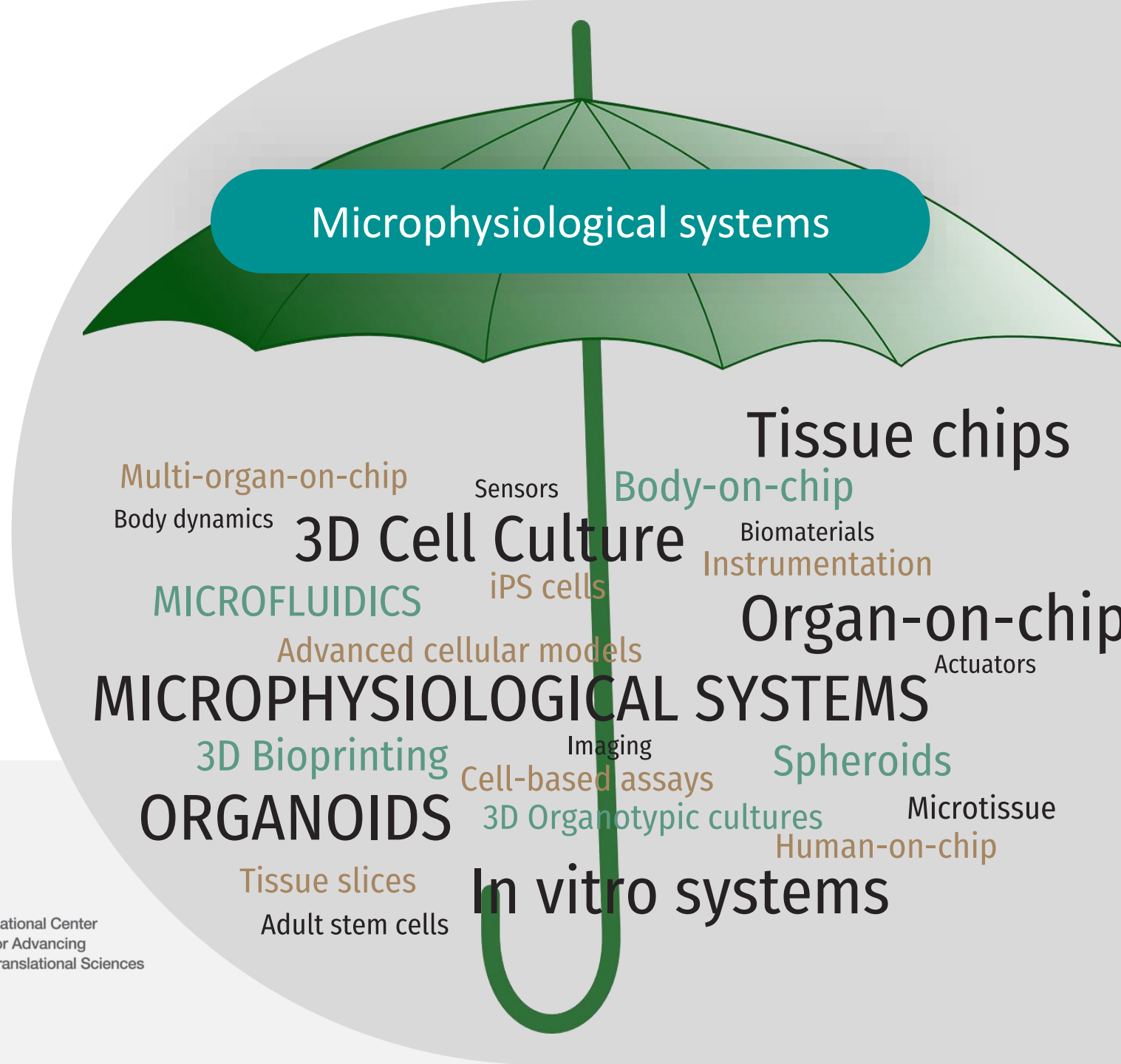


INTERNATIONAL MPS SOCIETY
CONNECT, EXCHANGE, EDUCATE

www.impss.org



National Center
for Advancing
Translational Sciences



Microphysiological systems

Tissue chips

Multi-organ-on-chip

Sensors

Body-on-chip

Body dynamics

3D Cell Culture

Biomaterials

Instrumentation

MICROFLUIDICS

iPS cells

Organ-on-chip

Advanced cellular models

Actuators

MICRAPHYSIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

3D Bioprinting

Imaging

Spheroids

ORGANOIDs

Cell-based assays

3D Organotypic cultures

Microtissue

Tissue slices

In vitro systems

Human-on-chip

Adult stem cells

Science 16 Sep 2021

INSIGHTS

Microfluidic systems can connect multiple types of human tissues and mimic aspects of human physiology to improve evaluations of drug responses.



PERSPECTIVES

MEDICINE

Human microphysiological systems for drug development

Organs-on-chips could be used to assess drug efficacy and support personalized medicine

3D workshop 2014

Inv. Tox workshop 2019



MPS WORLD SUMMIT
CONNECT, EXCHANGE, EDUCATE

2022, 2023, 2024



INTERNATIONAL MPS SOCIETY
CONNECT, EXCHANGE, EDUCATE

2023

MPS

MPS workshops 2016, 2020, 2023 report to come

GCCP – MPS workshops 2015, 2016



2022

Since 2005: CAAT (Goldberg)
& Hartung (then ECVAM)

9 workshops

5 International conferences



Expert Group on DNT



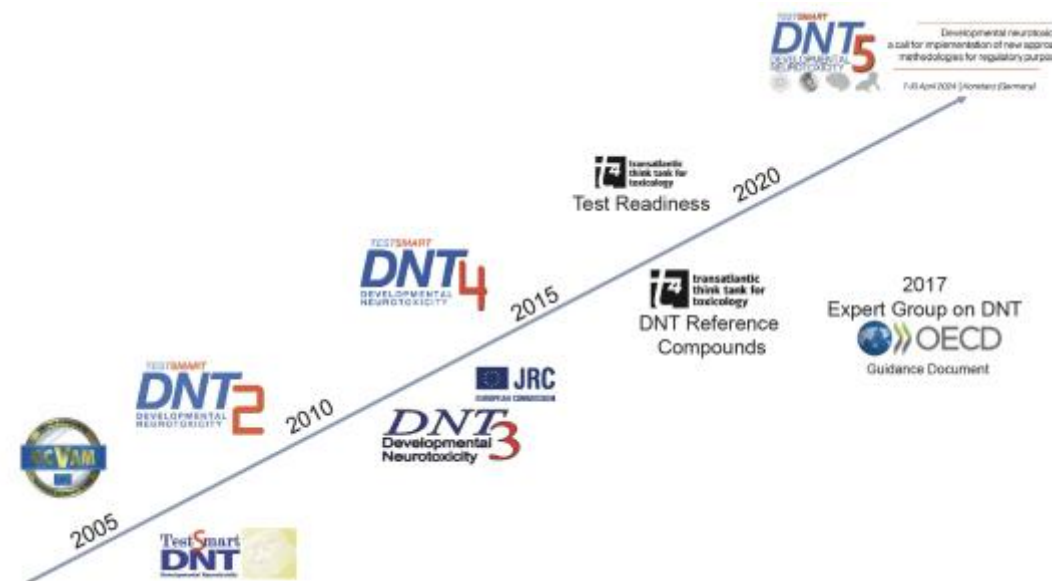
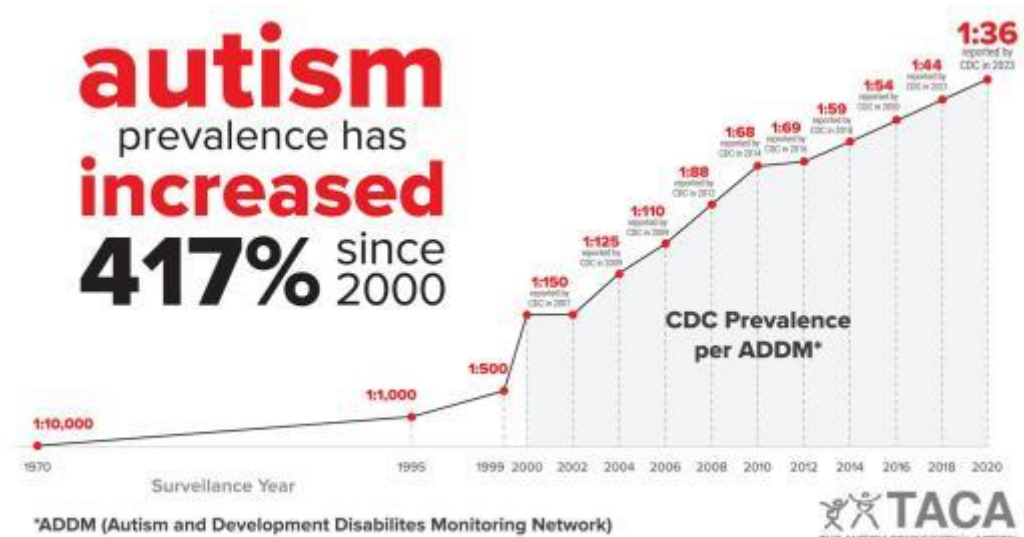
Guidance Document

Food for Thought ...

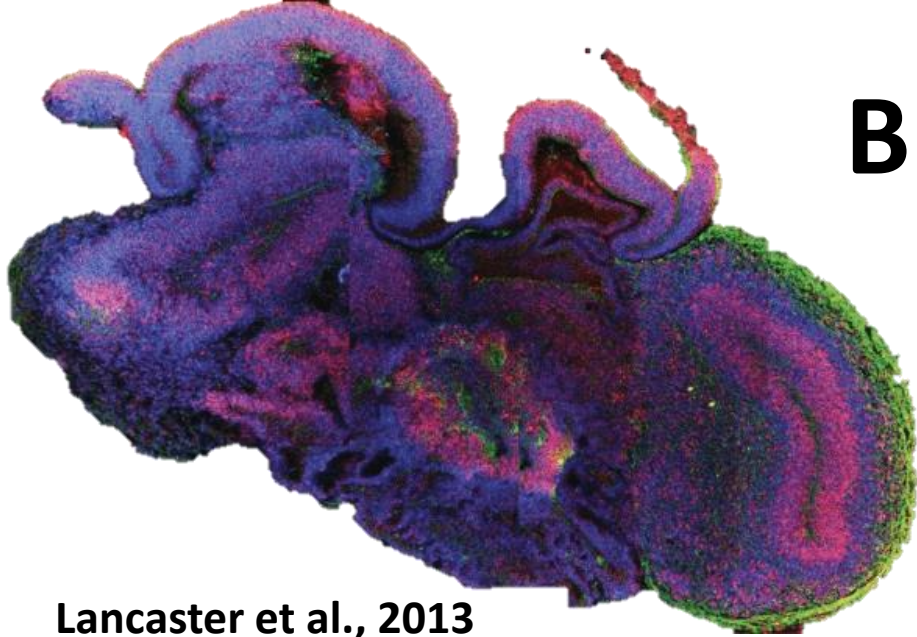
Revolutionizing Developmental
Neurotoxicity Testing – A Journey from Animal
Models to Advanced In Vitro Systems

2024

Lena Smirnova¹, Helena T. Hogberg², Marcel Leist^{3,4} and Thomas Hartung^{1,3,5}



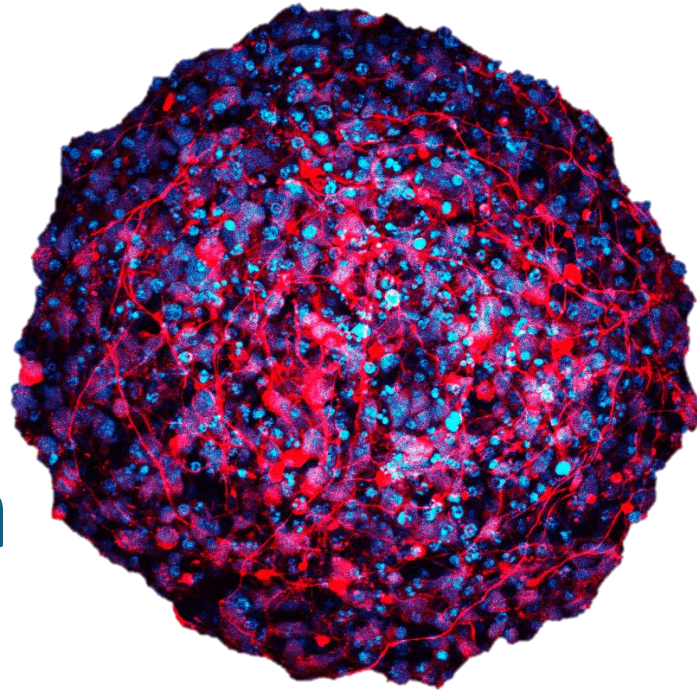
Brain Organoids



Lancaster et al., 2013

Autism
COVID-19
Glioblastoma

....



2016



Brain Organoid Research

Molecular Psychiatry

www.nature.com/mp

ARTICLE

Check for updates

Blood extracellular vesicles carrying brain-specific mRNAs are potential biomarkers for detecting gene expression changes in the female brain

Lena Smirnova¹, Sergio Modafferi¹, Charlotte Schlett¹, Lauren M. Osborne², Jennifer L. Payne³ and Sarven Sabunciyani^{4,5*}

Novel biomarkers



Lena Smirnova

Oligodendrogenesis and myelination tracing in a CRISPR/Cas9-engineered brain microphysiological system

July Carolina Romero¹, Cynthia Berlinicke², Sharon Chow¹, Yukan Duan², Yifei Wang¹, Xitiz Chamling² and Lena Smirnova^{1*}

Reporter lines



Freezing protocol developed (to be published)

Bloomberg School Researchers Awarded \$11.7 Million Five-Year NIH Grant to Build and Lead Autism Center of Excellence Network

Network will aggregate global research projects studying gene-environment interaction to understand autism's causes and to improve quality of life among autistic individuals

Published **September 08, 2022**

DISABILITY

18 centers
175,000 children
+ organoid GxE

The Promise and Potential of Brain Organoids

Lena Smirnova* and Thomas Hartung*

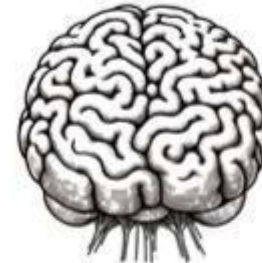


Lena Smirnova

BRAIN ORGANOID OPPORTUNITIES

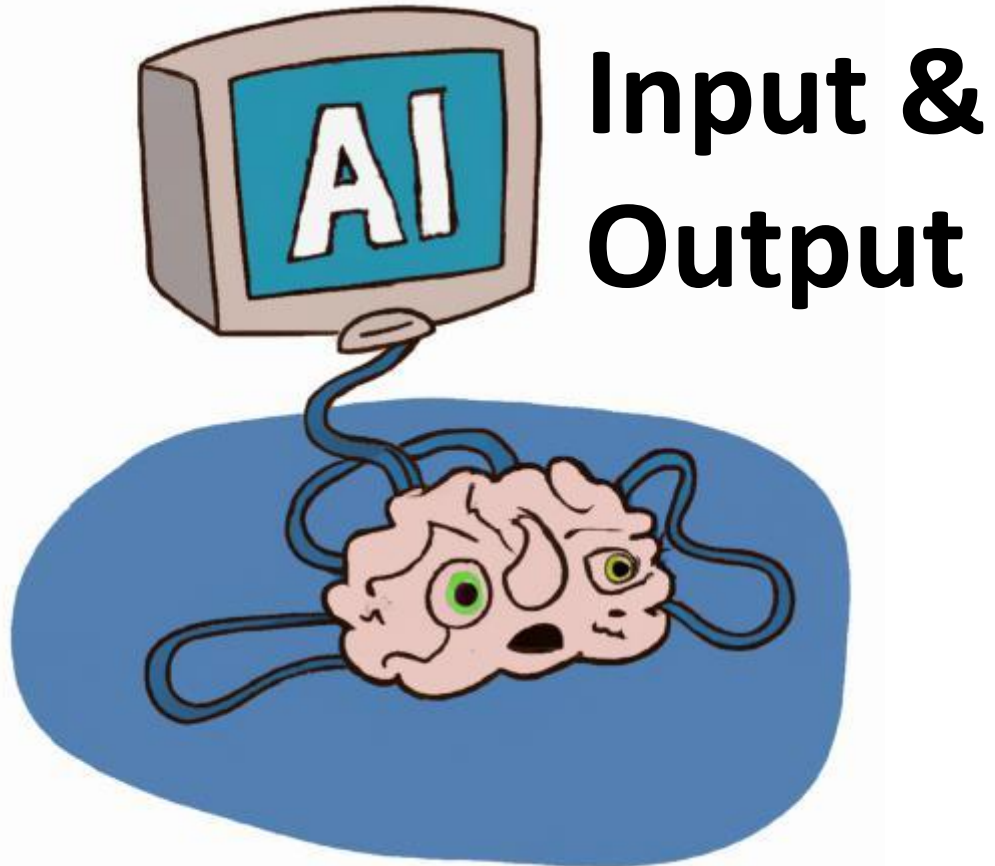


BRAIN ORGANOID AND BRAINSPHERE VARIANTS



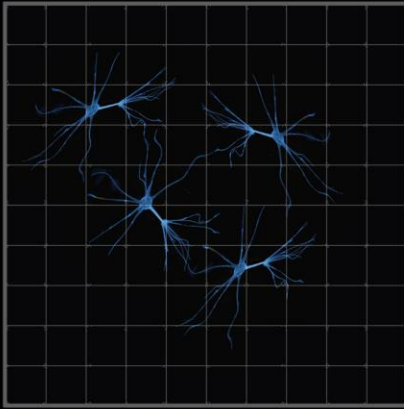
- Different species; patient-derived or healthy; genetically modified or not
- Reaggregation of tissue-derived cell suspension or stem cell-derived (embryonic stem cells or iPSC)
- Use of extracellular matrix, hydrogels or none
- Scaffold or none; possible electrode integration
- Use of growth factors to induce differentiation or not; addition of cell types (micro-glia)
- Gravity-based aggregation (e.g., hanging drop or microtiter plates) or bioreactor (e.g., spinner or shaker)
- Brain region-specific organoids; addition of blood-brain-barrier
- Fusion and assembloids of different brain regions or organs (cell lineages)
- Use of microfluidics and vascularization for perfusion or not

Combining MPS, sensors and AI = Organoid Intelligence (OI)



- **Physiology of learning**
- **Brain Machine Interfaces**
- **Tox & Drug Development**
- **Biological Computing**

2D culture



Neuron



Article

In vitro neurons learn and exhibit sentience when embodied in a simulated game-world

Brett J. Kagan,^{1,11,*} Andy C. Kitchen,¹ Nhi T. Tran,² Forough Habibollahi,⁹ Moein Khajehnejad,¹⁰ Bradyn J. Parker,³ Anjali Bhat,⁴ Ben Rollo,⁵ Adeel Razi,^{4,6,7,8} and Karl J. Friston¹

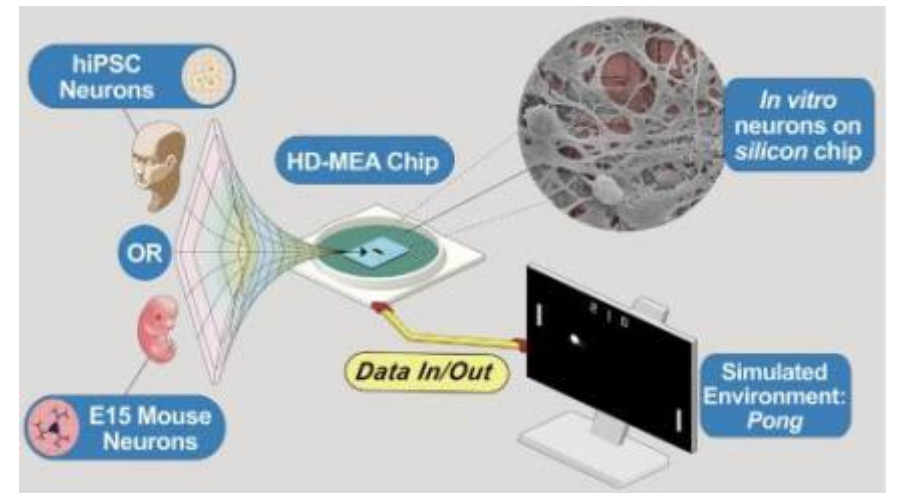
Neuron
Previews



Neuronal cultures playing Pong: First steps toward advanced screening and biological computing

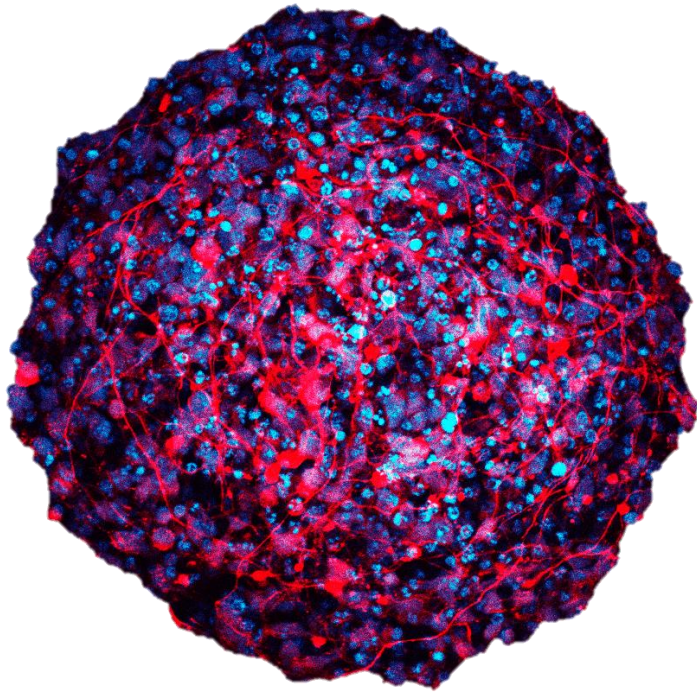
Lena Smirnova¹ and Thomas Hartung^{1,*}

The *DishBrain* system embodies *in vitro* neurons in a virtual world



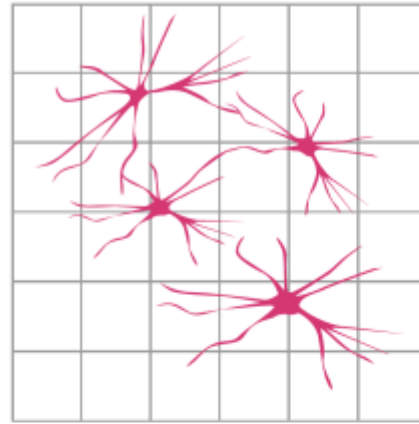
Brain microphysiological systems

Providing the cellular architecture and physiology for cognition

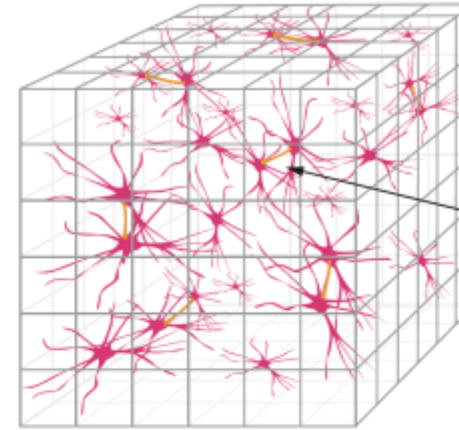


1,000x cell density
= more synapses
Myelination
= 100x conductivity
Glial cells
= synapse pruning for long-term memory

2D neural culture

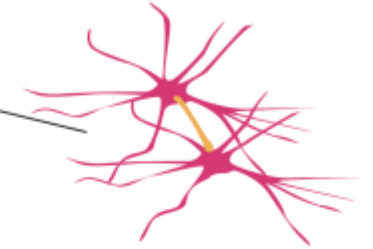


3D neural culture



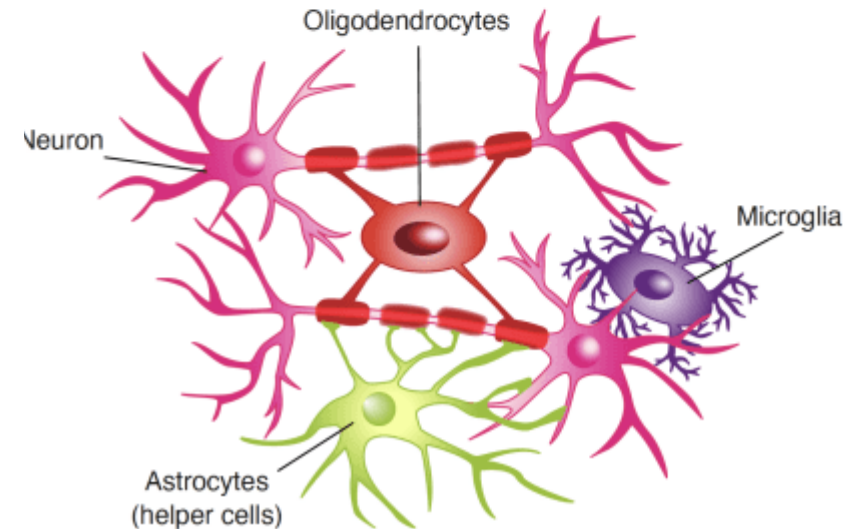
1000-fold greater cell density compared with 2D cultures

Myelinated axons



Enhanced synaptogenesis:
~40% myelinated axons myelinated
– expected to increase conductivity by 100-fold

Enrichment to increase content of cell types critical for learning:





Organoid intelligence (OI): the new frontier in biocomputing and intelligence-in-a-dish

Lena Smirnova¹, Brian S. Caffo², David H. Gracias^{3,4,5,6,7,8}, Qi Huang³, Itzy E. Morales Pantoja¹, Bohao Tang², Donald J. Zack⁹, Cynthia A. Berlinicke¹⁰, J. Lomax Boyd¹¹, Timothy D. Harris^{12,13}, Erik C. Johnson¹⁴, Brett J. Kagan¹⁵, Jeffrey Kahn¹⁶, Alysson R. Muotri^{17,18}, Barton L. Paulhamus¹⁹, Jens C. Schwamborn²⁰, Jesse Plotkin¹, Alexander S. Szalay^{21,22,23}, Joshua T. Vogelstein¹², Paul F. Worley²⁴ and Thomas Hartung^{1,25*}

OPEN ACCESS

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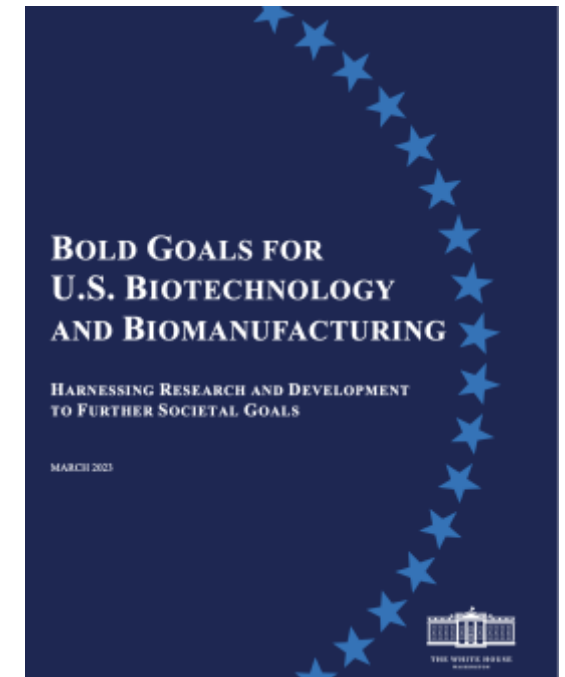
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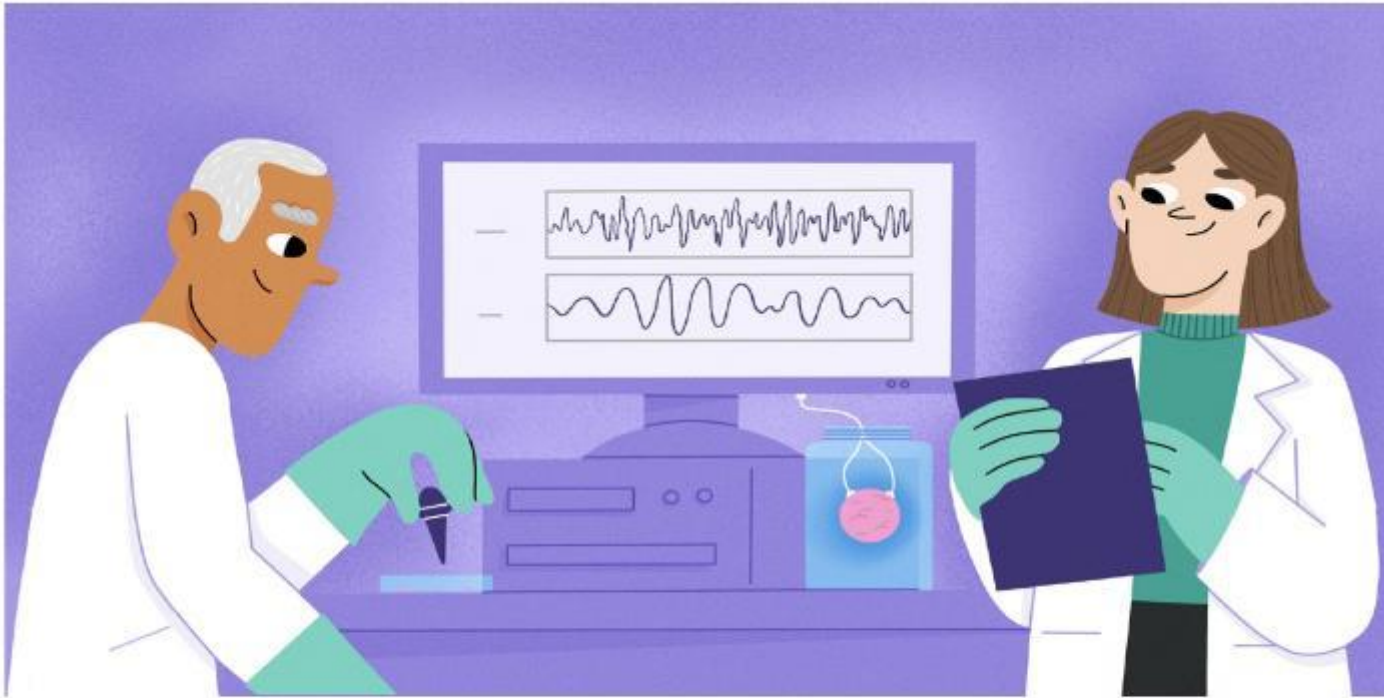
Forming a community

- Dissemination (kid and lay versions, 600+ press hits)
- Workshop report
- US White House Bold Biotechnology Goals 3'23
- NSF "Engineering OI"

 <p>FRONTIERS IN SCIENCE EDITORIAL Published on 28 Feb 2023</p> <p>Brain organoids: are they for real?</p> <p>Guest: Chief Science and President of IBCDA, Prof. Rino Chavez, calls on policymakers, funding bodies, scientists, pharmaceutical companies, and the public to support the innovative approach of organoid intelligence.</p>	 <p>FRONTIERS IN SCIENCE VIEWPOINT Published on 28 Feb 2023</p> <p>The sentient organoid?</p> <p>Theoretical neuroscientist Prof. Jay Hobbs of University College London discusses the potential for organoids as sentient entities with vertical, organized intelligence, as experimental models in neurobiology and in vitro systems.</p>
 <p>FRONTIERS IN SCIENCE Published on 28 Feb 2023</p> <p>Organoid intelligence: smarter than the average cell culture</p> <p>Molecular neuroscience expert Prof. Dan Miller of California University considers whether complex brain cell culture systems can achieve in vivo intelligence, and the potential of organoids to foster and engage interactions within them (24).</p>	 <p>FRONTIERS IN SCIENCE Published on 28 Feb 2023</p> <p>To learn or not to learn: organoids</p> <p>Prof. Ali Alkhalifa and Dr. Cherie Higgins from the University of Pittsburgh discuss potential challenges of these organoids as computational AI (24).</p>
 <p>FRONTIERS IN SCIENCE Published on 28 Feb 2023</p> <p>The Baltimore Declaration fosters the exploration of organoid intelligence</p> <p>Researchers, including from Johns Hopkins University, the University of California, and Yale University, set out a vision for the collaborative scientific community to collaborate on the world-changing potential of organoid intelligence.</p>	 <p>POLICY OUTLOOK Published on 27 Feb 2023</p> <p>Organoid intelligence: society must engage in the ethics</p> <p>Prof. Julian Savulescu, of the University of Cape Town and past President of the European Council for Ethics of Science in Value (ECSEV), discusses the ethical implications of using organoids that may develop cognitive properties, such as human rights, and rights of body donors, and organoids.</p>



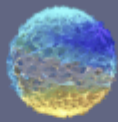
Next-Next-Generation Education



BRAIN-CELL CULTURES: THE FUTURE OF COMPUTERS AND MORE?

Lena Smirnova, Itzy Erin Morales Pantoja and Thomas Hartung*

doi: [10.3389/frym.2023.1049593](https://doi.org/10.3389/frym.2023.1049593)

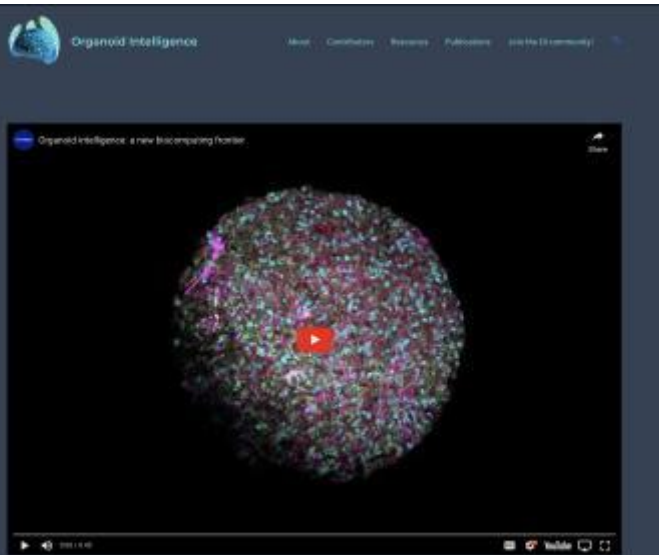


The Official News Bulletin of the
Organoid Intelligence Community

Welcome to the first official newsletter of the OI community!

Newsletter

Website (shortly)



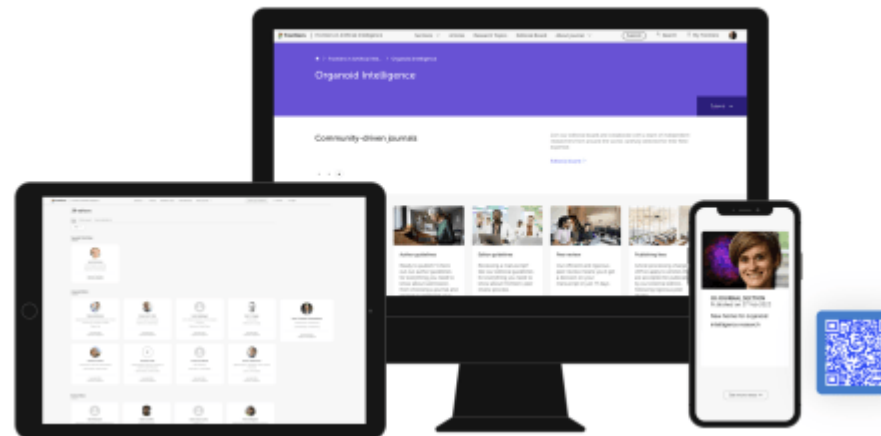
organoidintelligence.org

First Organoid Intelligence (OI) workshop to form an OI community

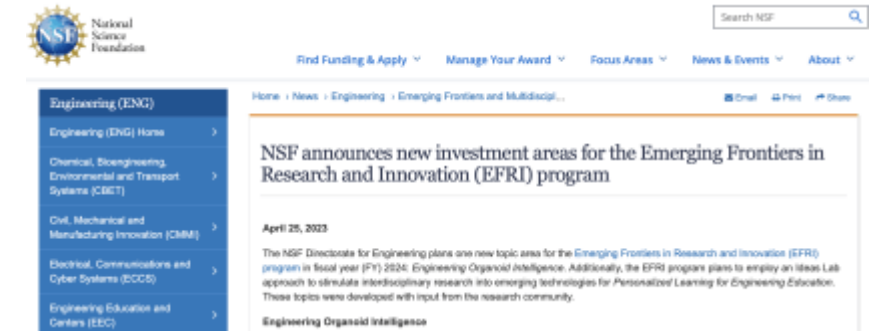


Itzy E. Morales Pantoja¹, Lena Smirnova¹, Alysso R. Muotri^{26,27}, Karl J. Wahlin⁴, Jeffrey Kahn⁵, J. Lomax Boyd⁵, David H. Gracias^{6,7,8,9,10,11}, Timothy D. Harris^{12,13}, Tzahi Cohen-Karni^{14,15}, Brain S. Caffo¹⁶, Alexander S. Szalay^{17,18,19}, Fang Han²⁰, Donald J. Zack^{21,22,23,24}, Ralph Etienne-Cummings²⁵, Akwasi Akwaboah²⁵, July Carolina Romero¹, Dowlette-Mary Alam El Din¹, Jesse D. Plotkin¹, Barton L. Paulhamus²⁶, Erik C. Johnson²⁶, Frederic Gilbert²⁷, J. Lowry Curley²⁸, Ben Cappiello²⁸, Jens C. Schwamborn²⁹, Eric J. Hill³⁰, Paul Roach³¹, Daniel Tornero^{32,33}, Caroline Krall^{1,34}, Rheinallt Parri³⁵, Fenna Sillé¹, Andre Levchenko³⁶, Rabih E. Jabbour³⁷, Brett J. Kagan³⁸, Cynthia A. Berlinicke²¹, Qi Huang⁶, Alexandra Maertens¹, Kathrin Herrmann¹, Katya Tsaïoun¹, Raha Dastgheyb³⁹, Christa Whelan Habela³⁹, Joshua T. Vogelstein¹² and Thomas Hartung^{1,40*}

New journal: *Frontiers in Organoid Intelligence*



Engineering Organoid Intelligence

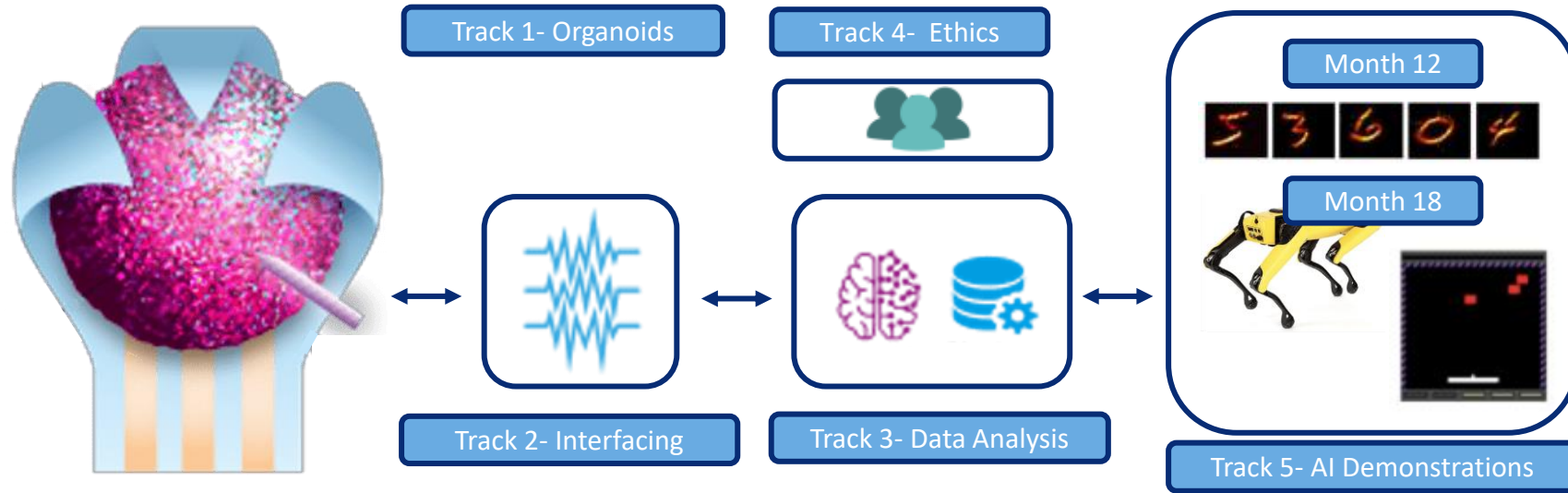


The Baltimore declaration toward the exploration of organoid intelligence



Thomas Hartung^{1,2*}, Lena Smirnova¹, Itzy E. Morales Pantoja¹, Akwasi Akwaboah³, Dowlette-Mary Alam El Din¹, Cynthia A. Berlinicke⁴, J. Lomax Boyd⁵, Brian S. Caffo⁶, Ben Cappiello⁷, Tzahi Cohen-Karni^{8,9}, J. Lowry Curley⁷, Ralph Etienne-Cummings³, Raha Dastgheyb¹⁰, David H. Gracias^{11,12,13,14,15,16}, Frederic Gilbert¹⁷, Christa Whelan Habela¹⁰, Fang Han¹⁸, Timothy D. Harris^{19,20}, Kathrin Herrmann¹, Eric J. Hill²¹, Qi Huang¹¹, Rabih E. Jabbour²², Erik C. Johnson²⁰, Brett J. Kagan²³, Caroline Krall¹, Andre Levchenko²⁴, Paul Locke¹, Alexandra Maertens¹, Monica Metea²⁵, Alysso R. Muotri^{26,27}, Rheinallt Parri²⁸, Barton L. Paulhamus²⁰, Jesse D. Plotkin¹, Paul Roach²⁹, July Carolina Romero¹, Jens C. Schwamborn³⁰, Fenna Sillé¹, Alexander S. Szalay^{31,32,33}, Katya Tsaïoun¹, Daniel Tornero^{34,35}, Joshua T. Vogelstein³⁶, Karl J. Wahlin³⁷ and Donald J. Zack^{38,39,40,41}

SURPASS project



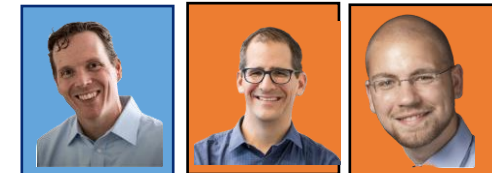
Organoids



Data Analysis



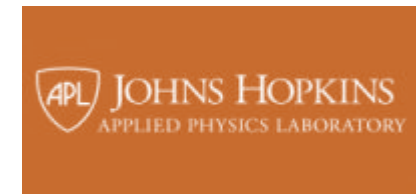
AI Demonstrations



Interfacing



Ethics

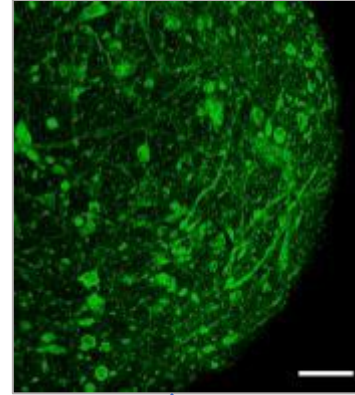
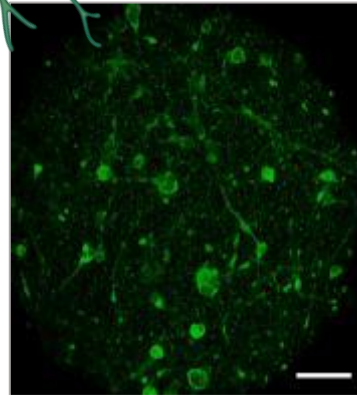


Physiological Glia Numbers

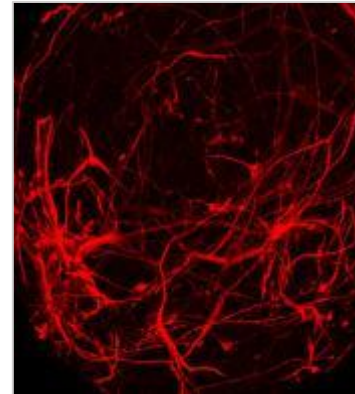
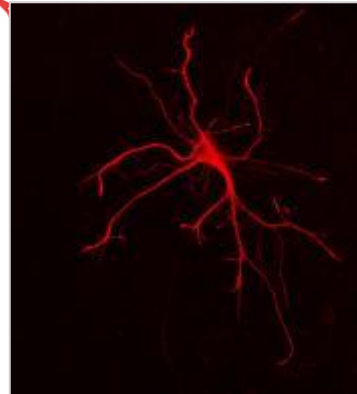
Adv. Biol. 2024



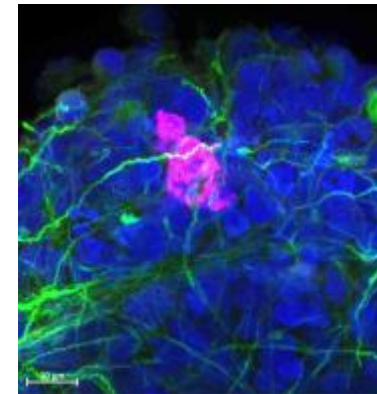
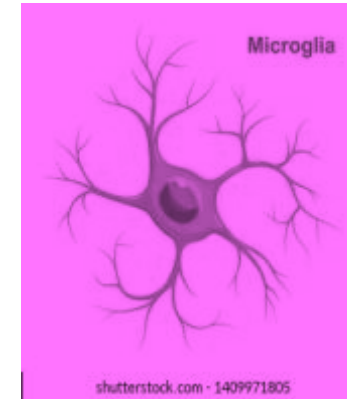
Astrocytes ↑



Oligodendrocytes ↑

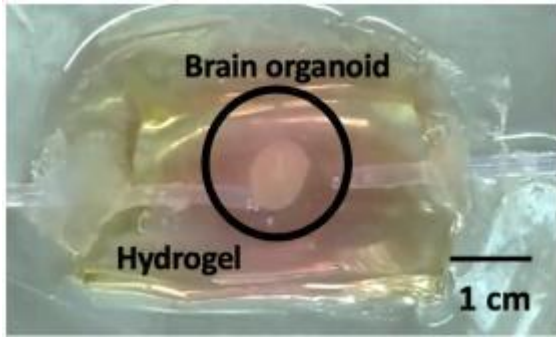


Added
microglia



Itzy Morales Pantoja

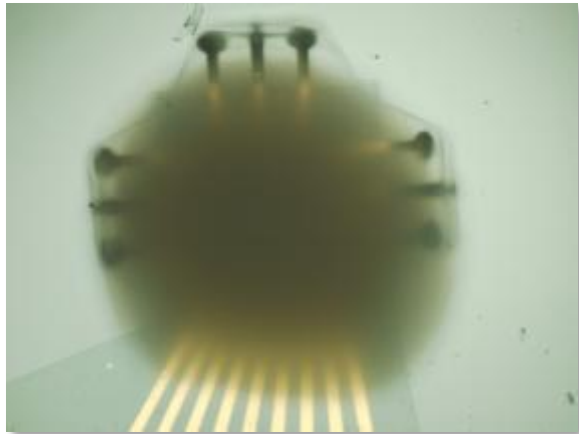




- **Scaling & perfusion**
- **Physiological glia ratio + micro-glia**

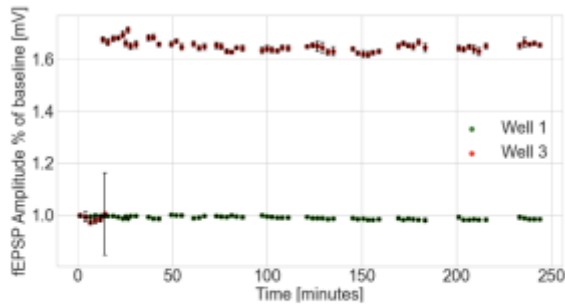
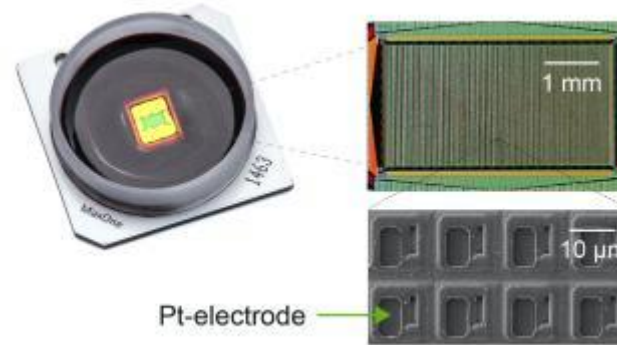


ongoing



- **Electro-Physiology**
- **Ca-flux**

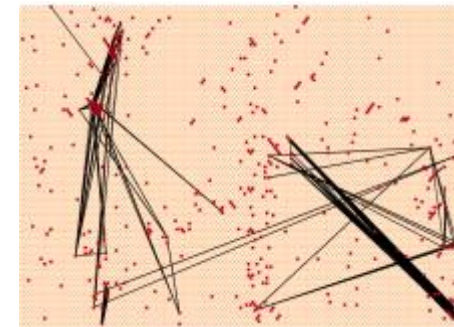
maxwell
BIOSYSTEMS

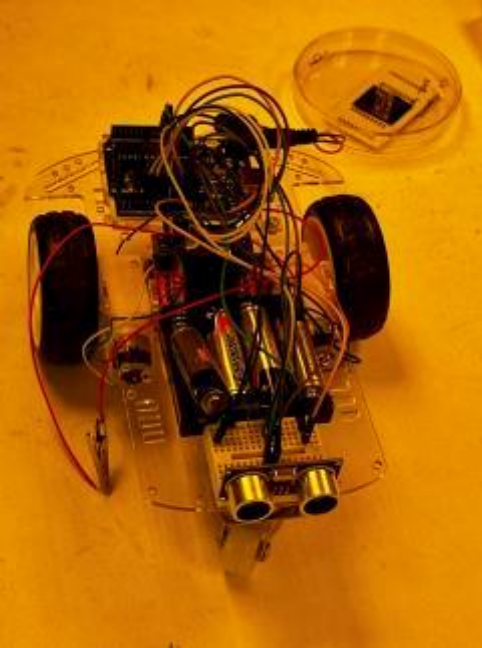
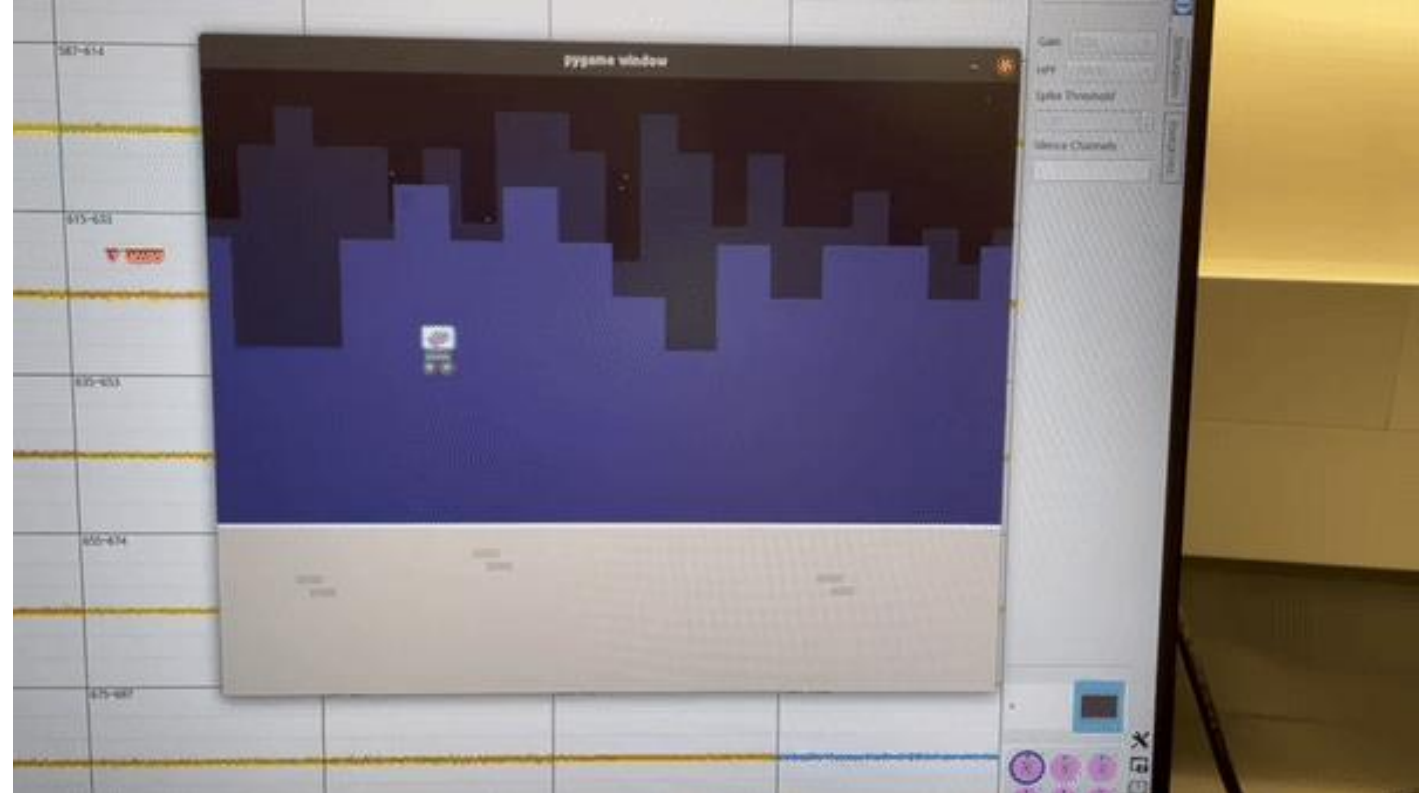
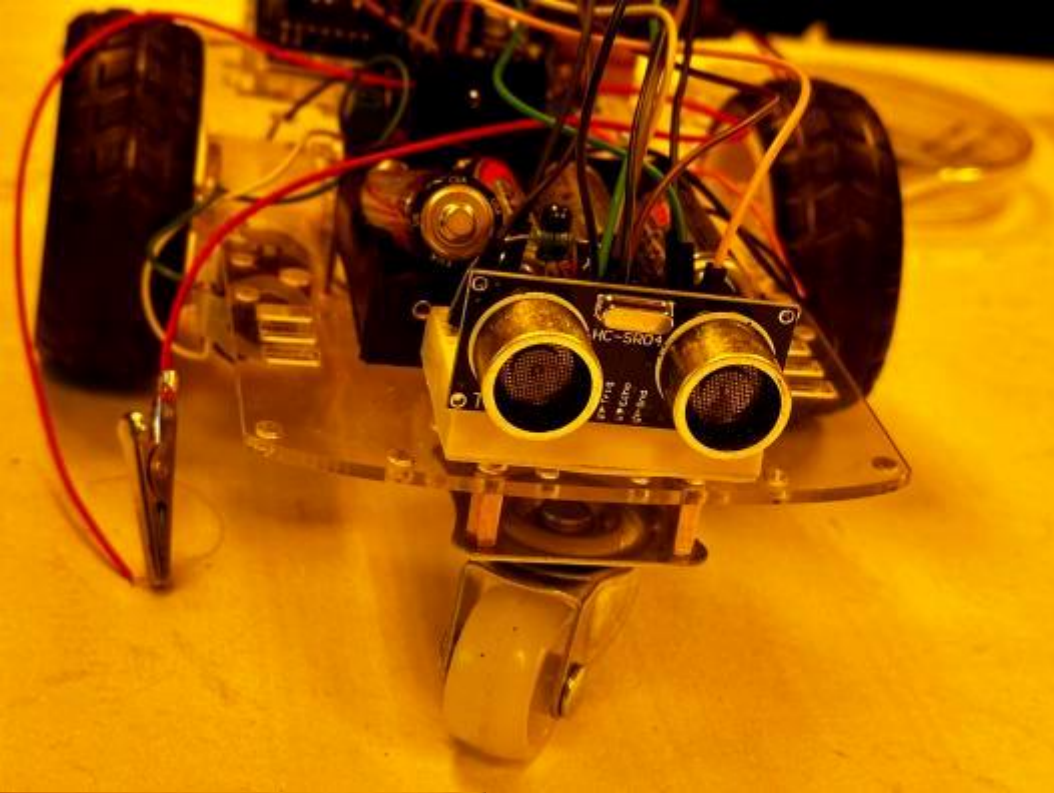


fEPSP – Excitatory Postsynaptic Potential

● evoked ● not stimulated

- **Long-term Potentiation**
- **Criticality**
- **Early genes ↑**
- **Modulated by drugs**





**Bluetooth-
controlled by
Brain
Organoid**

**Brain Organoid
playing video game
over the internet**



A graphic banner with a red background and white text. The word "BREAKING" is in white, bold, uppercase letters on a red background. Below it, the word "NEWS" is in red, bold, uppercase letters on a white background. The background of the banner has a 3D effect with light and shadow.

**BREAKING
NEWS**

MGN

**Renewal SURPASS
Jul 2024 to Dec 2025**

Continuation scaling the model

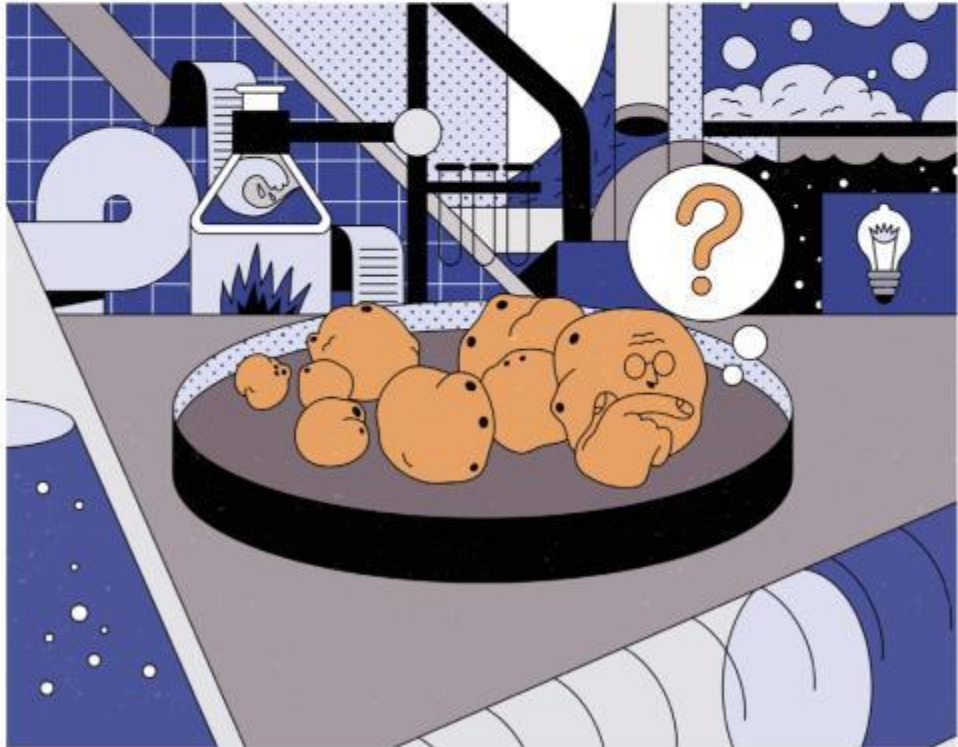
Publication long-term learning

Incorporation of a reward center / zonation

Dissemination and fund raising

Can lab-grown brains become conscious?

A handful of experiments are raising questions about whether clumps of cells and disembodied brains could be sentient, and how scientists would know if they were. **By Sara Reardon**



Embedded Ethics

- Criteria for physiological conditions of consciousness
- Rudimentary pain and suffering?
- Privacy concerns for iPSC donors
- Intellectual property
- Perception by public

Brain organoids and organoid intelligence from ethical, legal, and social points of view

Thomas Hartung^{1,2*}, Itzy E. Morales Pantoja¹ and Lena Smirnova¹

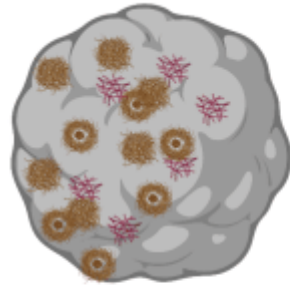


Understand similarities and differences across types of dementia

Food for Thought ...

Organoid Intelligence (OI) – The Ultimate Functionality of a Brain Microphysiological System

Lena Smirnova¹, Itzy E. Morales Pantoja¹ and Thomas Hartung^{1,2}



Alzheimer's organoid

VS



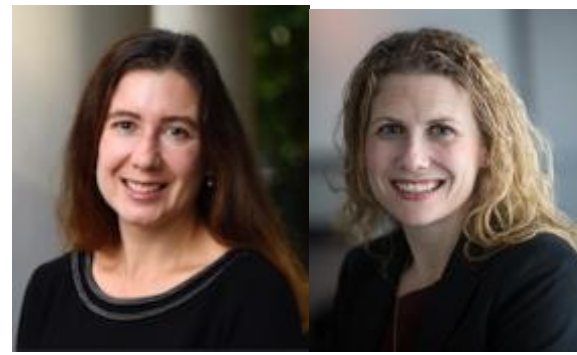
Other types of dementia and neurodegenerative diseases



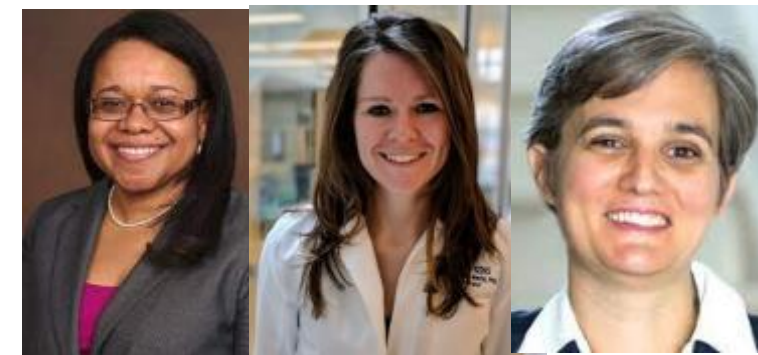
Vasiliki Machairaki
Kostas Lyketsos
AD



Jiou Wang
ALS



Christine Ladd-Acosta
& Heather Volk
Autism



Constance Smith-Hicks
Christina Nemeth Mertz
Adeline Vanderver
Leukodystrophies



- Integrate Disruptive Technologies with Existing Knowledge
- Accelerate Drug Development
- Optimize Prevention and democratize Healthcare Access

The Smart Path Forward

- Open access, machine readable
- Identify bias in data, explainable AI
- Mechanistic MPS and evidence-based approaches
- Organoid Intelligence (OI)

Slides available: