

Niels Grabe

**TOWARDS QUANTITATIVE SYSTEMS
BIOLOGICAL TISSUE MODELS BY USING WHOLE
SLIDE IMAGING**

TOWARDS QUANTITATIVE SYSTEMS BIOLOGICAL TISSUE MODELS BY USING WHOLE SLIDE IMAGING

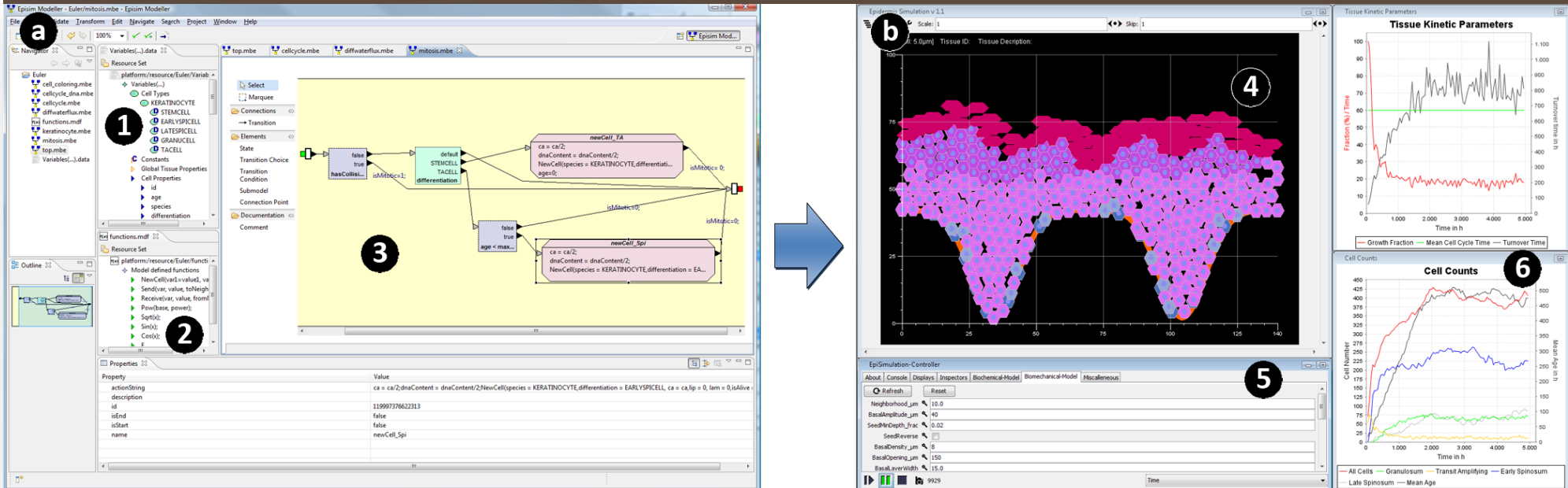
1. Systems biology drives towards tissue models
2. Quantitative spatial data of tissues are missing: why whole slide imaging is essential for systems biology of tissues
3. PART A: Generating data : Quantifying spatial protein expression data in human skin (Full slides & TMAs)
Application of quantitative spatial profiles for
 1. Reconstructing networks
 2. Building tissue classifiers
 3. Qualitative network reasoning
4. PART B: Generating data: Quantitative morphological analysis of dynamic wound healing via 3D in vitro cultures (Full slides)
 1. Analysis of cellular streams in tissues

„DRIVING THE SYSTEMS BIOLOGY OF TISSUES“

- ✗ So far mostly reductionist approach in biology:
 - + Classic: Phenotype → Isolation of isolated genes → Function?
 - + 2001: Sequencing of the human genome
 - + Less genes than expected (24.000) → gene networks are essential
- ✗ Systems biological approach:
 - + Quantitative and qualitative model building of cellular networks which can explain certain aspects of the functional behavior of a dynamic system
- ✗ *Tissue Systems Biology*:
 - + Concerns building models of human tissue and diseases
 - + Highly relevant for clinically oriented research
 - + Requires spatial data (morphology, expression data)
 - + Requires insights into mechanisms of spatial control



GRAPHICAL MODELLING SYSTEM



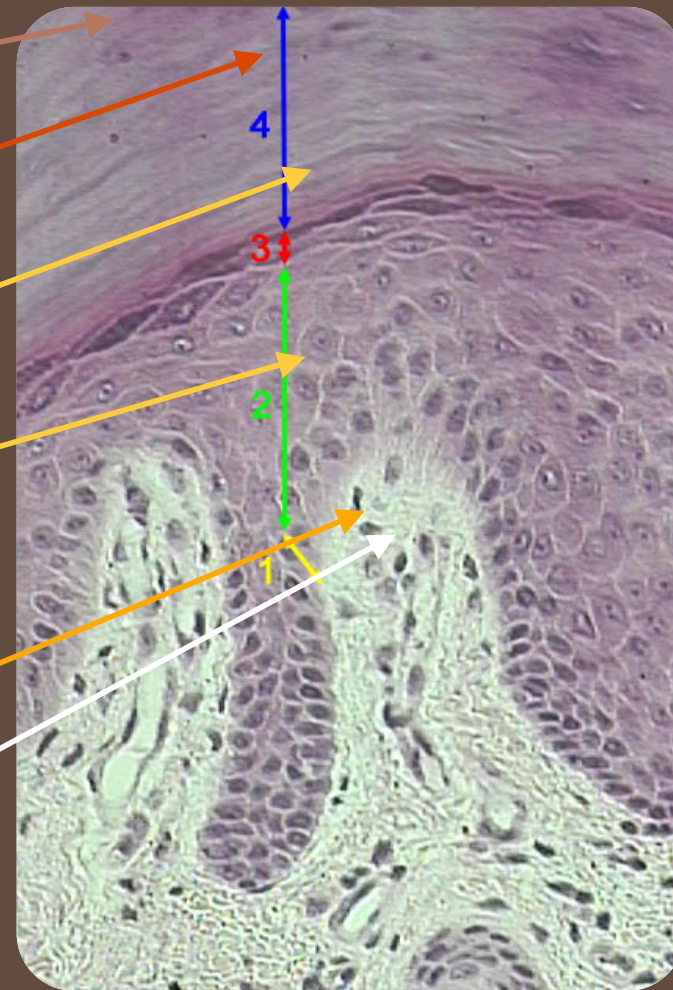
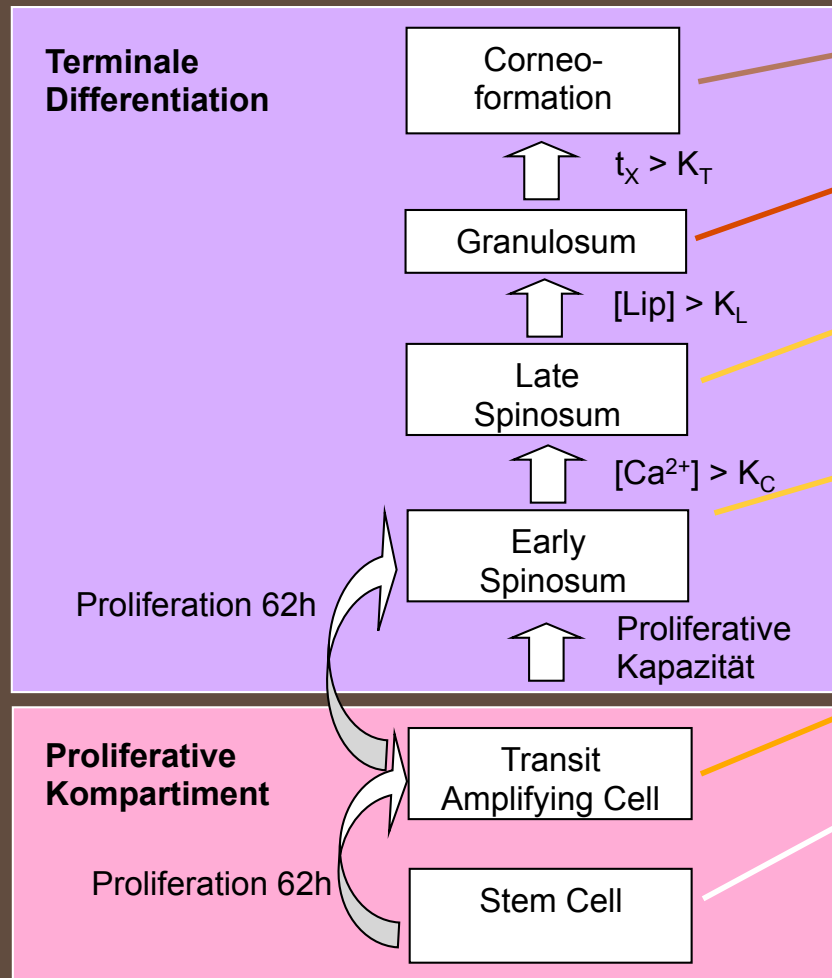
- (1) Variable Sheet Editor, (2) Functions Library, (3) Graphical Model Editor
(4) Emerging Tissue Morphology, (5) Parameter Window, (6) Dynamically generated graphs



Sütterlin T, Huber S, Dickhaus H, Grabe, N.

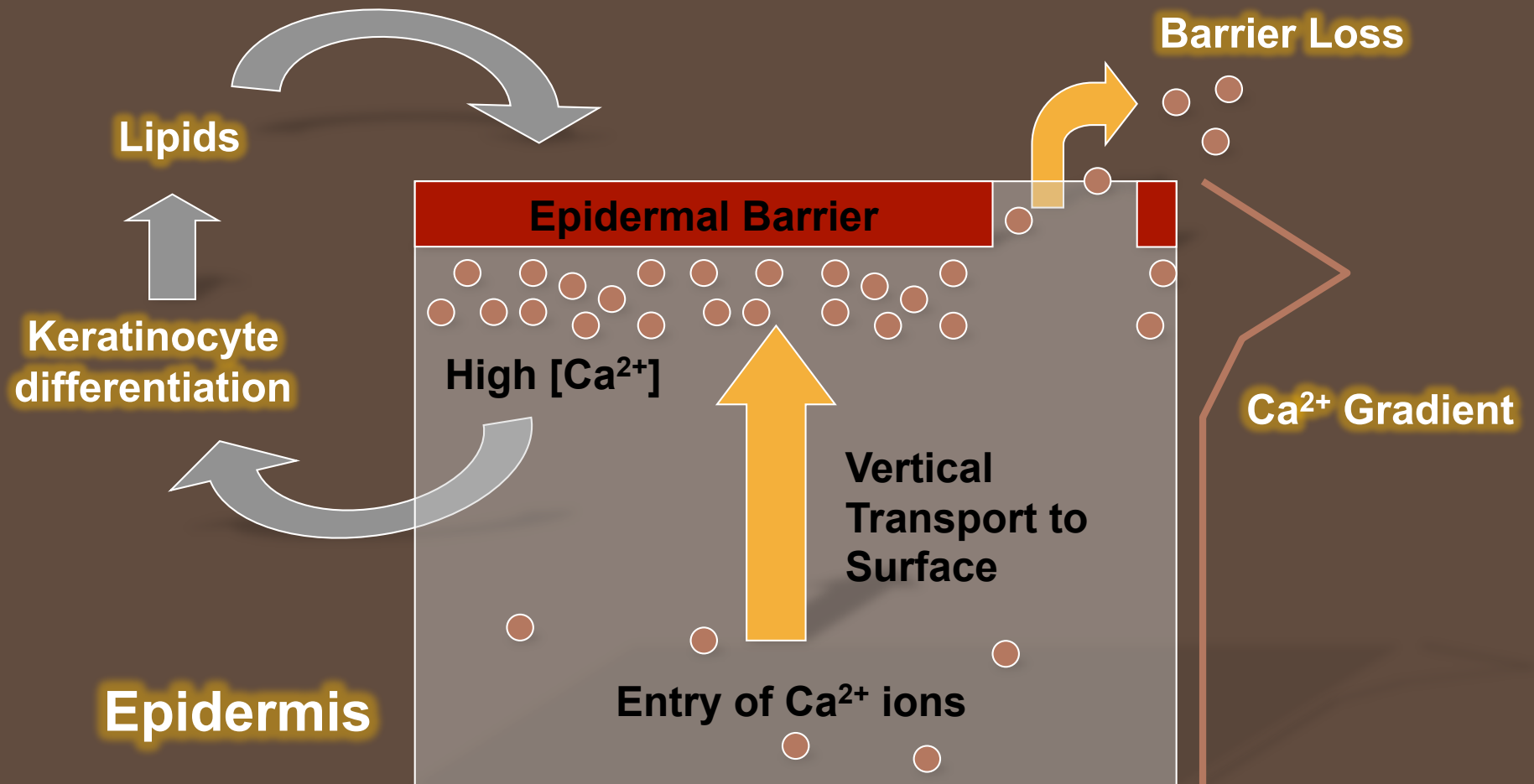
Modeling multi-cellular behavior in epidermal tissue homeostasis via finite state machines in multi-agent systems *Bioinformatics* (2009), 25, 2057-2063.

STATE BASED SPATIAL MODELING OF CELL DIFFERENTIATION



WHAT DRIVES THE MODEL ?

EMERGENCE OF THE CALCIUM GRADIENT



Grabe N, Neuber K.

A multicellular systems biology model predicts epidermal morphology, kinetics and Ca²⁺ flow , *Bioinformatics*. 2005 Sep 1;21(17):3541-7.

WHERE ARE THE SPATIAL DATA??

- ✗ Simulation proof of principle shown, but:
- ✗ Two key questions:
 - + How are genes & proteins spatially expressed in the skin?
 - + Why are they expressed the way they are?
- ✗ What do we know?
 - + 20041 publications in pubmed („epidermis human skin“)
 - + Buried in pubmed? „Partly yes“ but:
 - + **No quantitative spatial expression data for skin available !**
 - + **No networks are available !**

Review

Nature Reviews Molecular Cell Biology 6, 328-340 (April 2005) | doi:10.1038/nrmc100

The cornified envelope: a model of cell death in the skin

Eleonora Candi, Rainer Schmidt & Gerry Melino

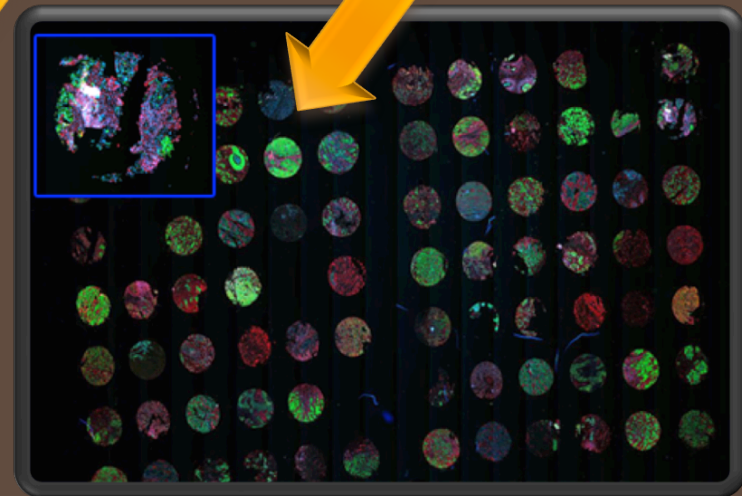
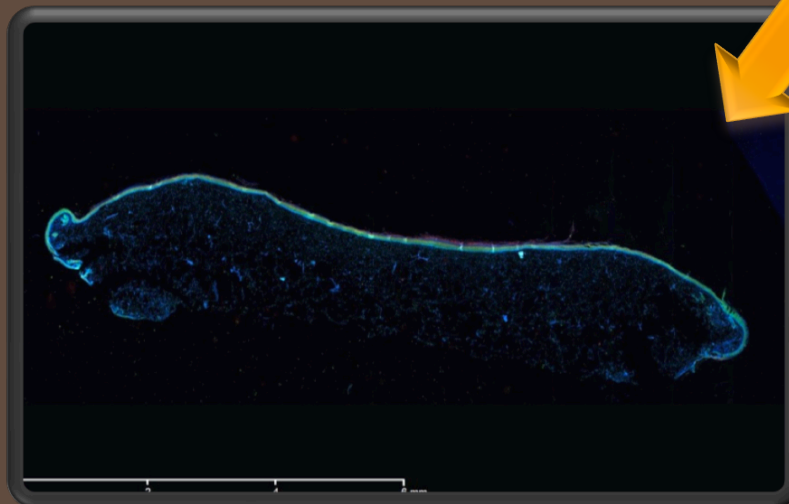
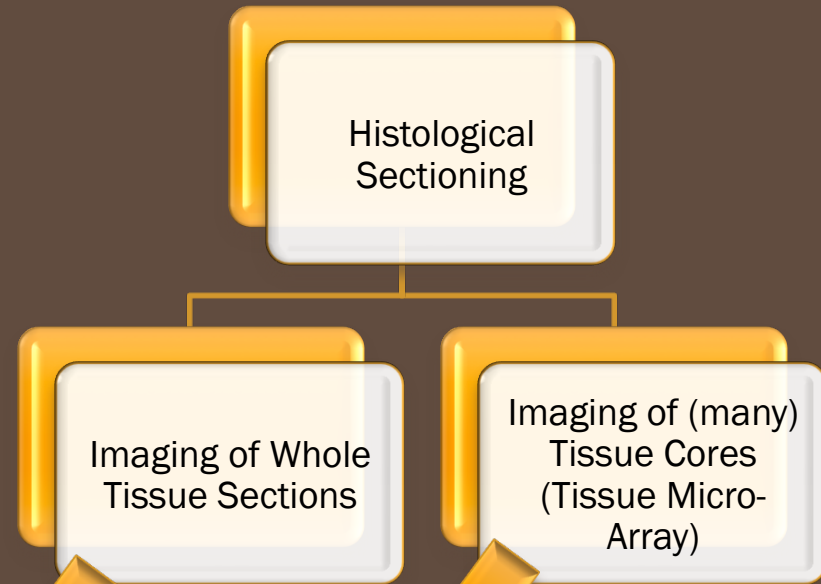
The epidermis functions as a barrier against the environment by means of several layers of terminally differentiated, dead keratinocytes – the cornified layer, which forms the endpoint of epidermal differentiation and death. The cornified envelope replaces the plasma membrane of differentiating keratinocytes and consists of keratins that are enclosed within an insoluble amalgam of proteins, which are crosslinked by transglutaminases and surrounded by a lipid envelope. New insights into the molecular mechanisms and the physiological endpoints of cornification are increasing our understanding of the pathological defects of this unique form of programmed cell death, which is associated with barrier malfunctions and ichthyosis.

„Partly yes“ but:
No quantitative spatial expression data for skin available !
No networks are available !

AUTOMATIC WHOLE SLIDE IMAGING (WSI) = VIRTUAL MICROSCOPY (VM), SLIDE SCANNING



230 nm resolution, 40 GB uncompressed

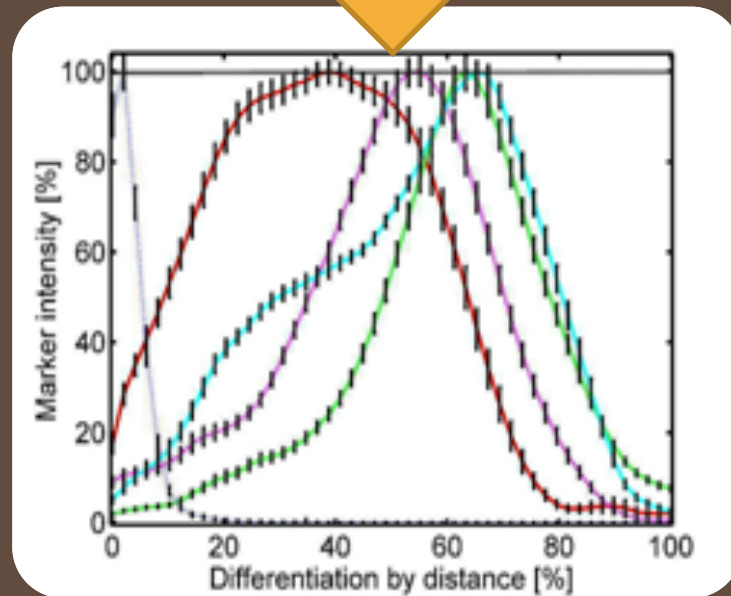
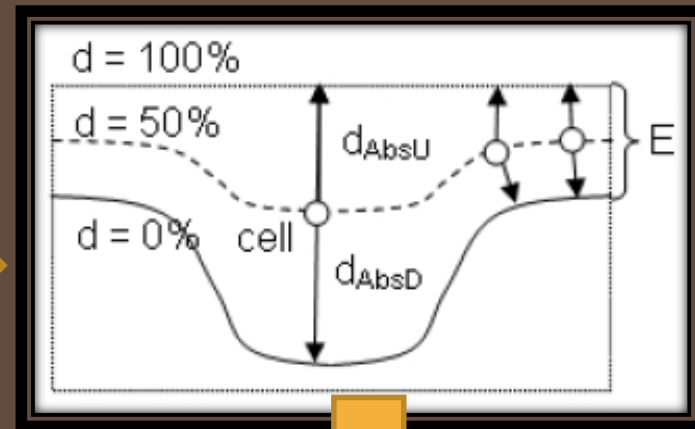
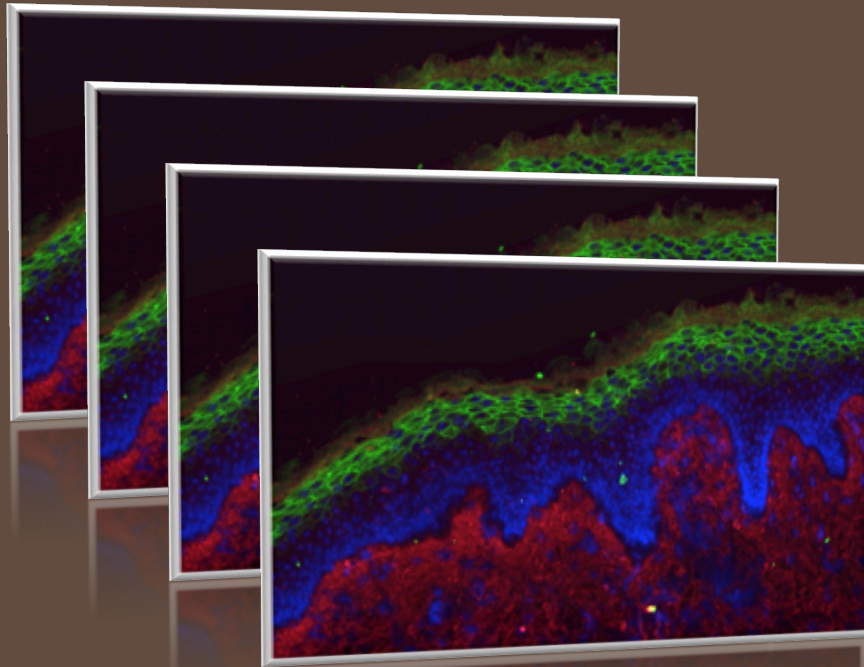


PART A

✘ Generating data : Quantifying spatial protein expression data in human skin (Full slides & TMAs)

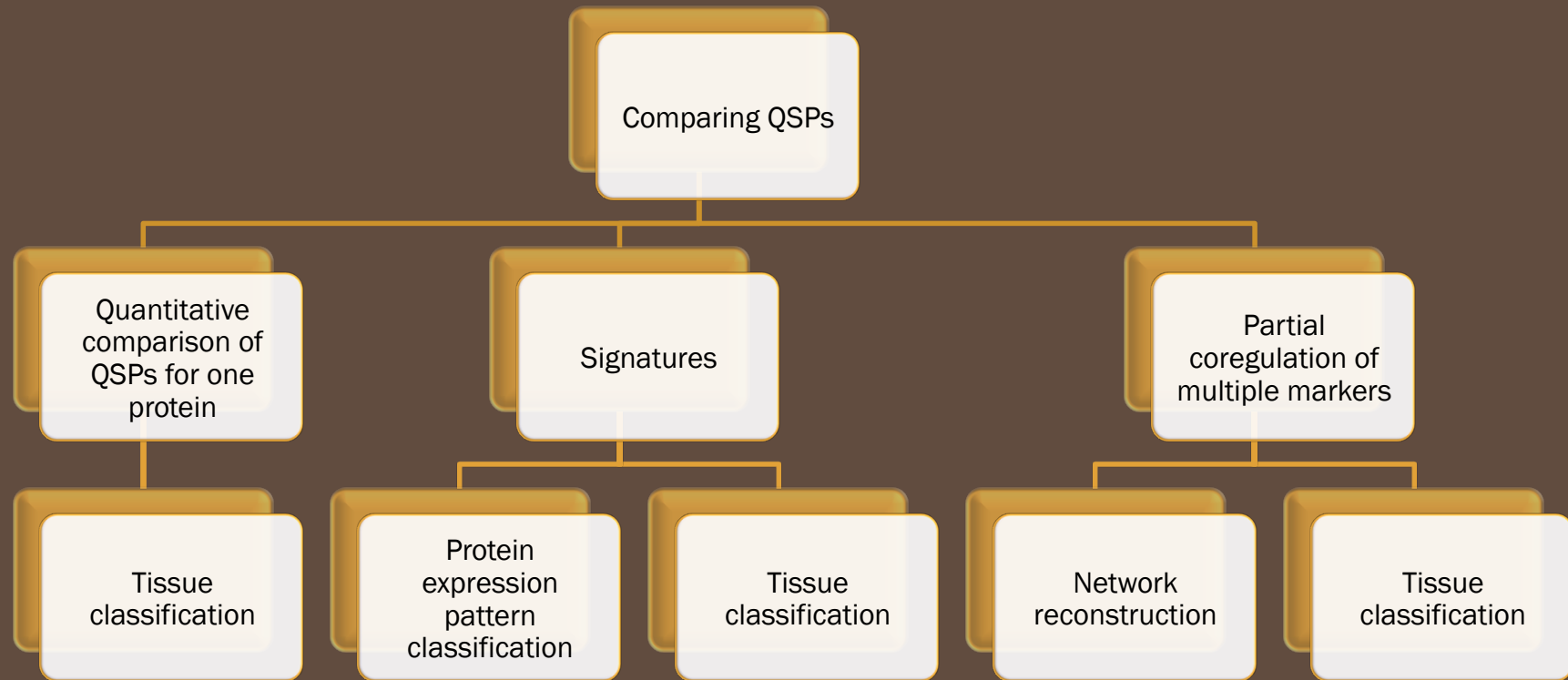
1. Reconstructing networks
2. Building tissue classifiers
3. Qualitative network reasoning

QUANTITATIVE SPATIAL PROFILES (QSPS)

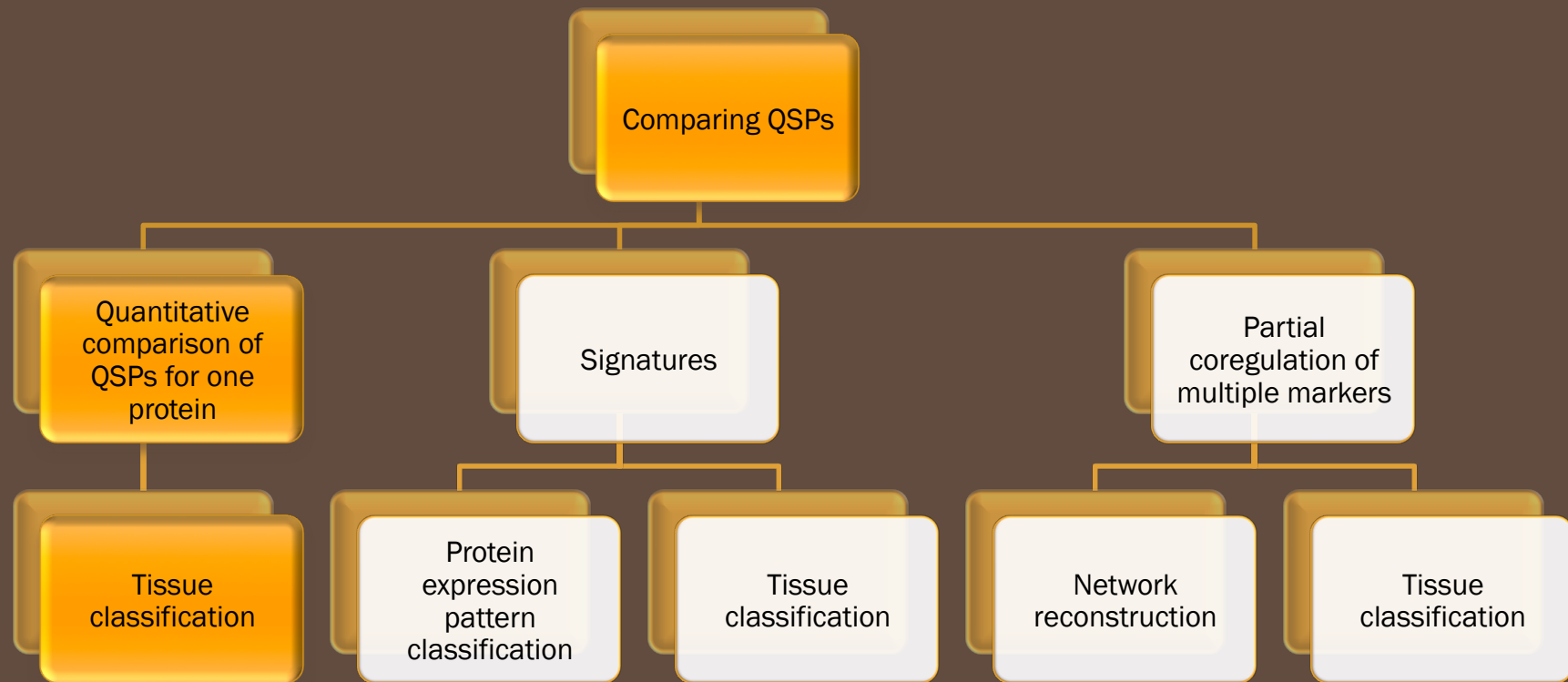


Grabe, Pommerencke, Steinberg, Dickhaus, Tomakidi,
*Reconstructing Protein Networks of Epithelial
Homeostasis*, Bioinformatics, 2007

APPLICATIONS OF EPIDERMAL QUANTITATIVE SPATIAL PROFILING

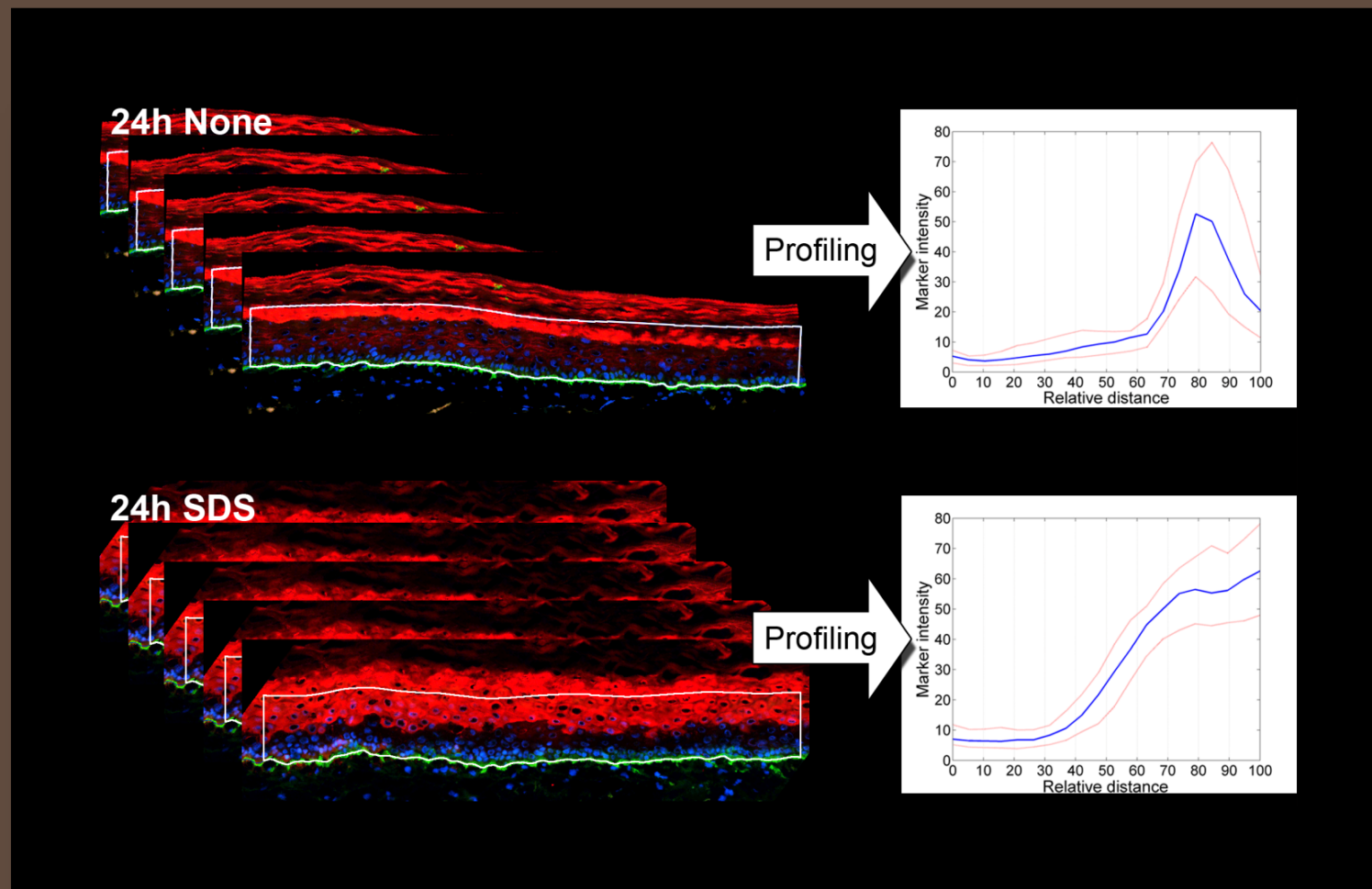


APPLICATIONS OF EPIDERMAL QUANTITATIVE SPATIAL PROFILING

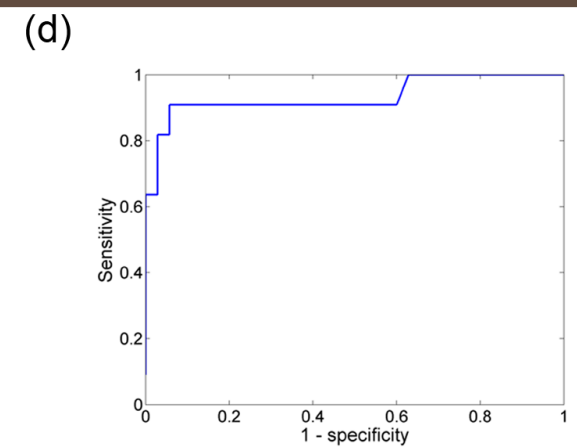
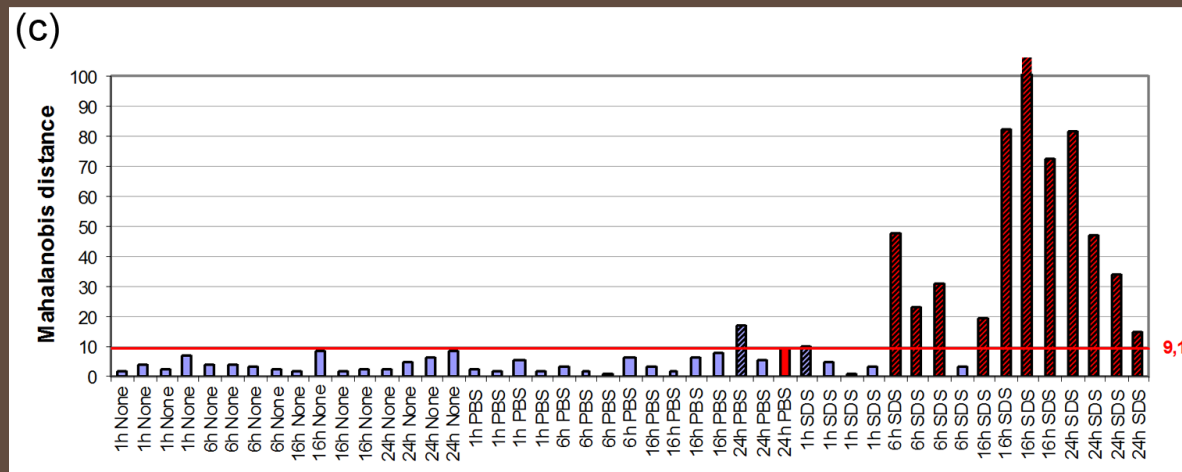
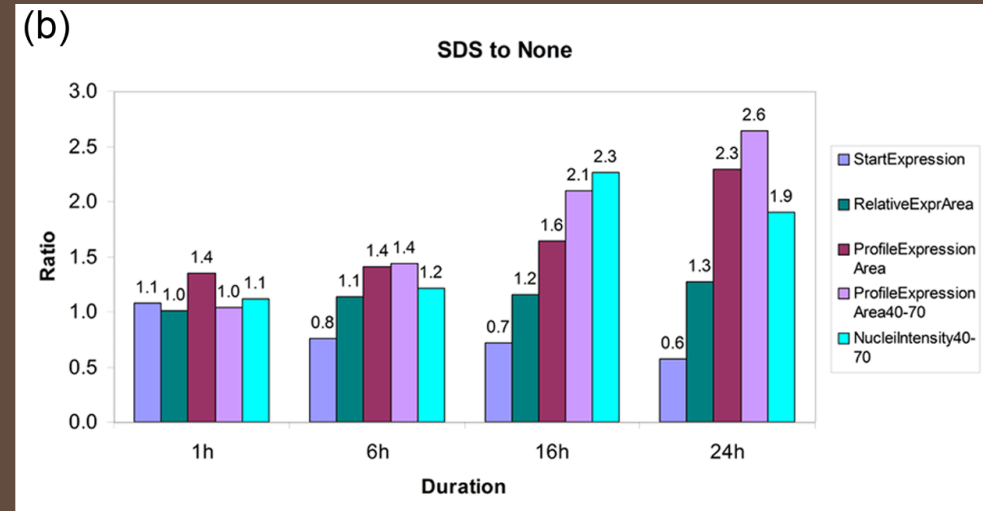
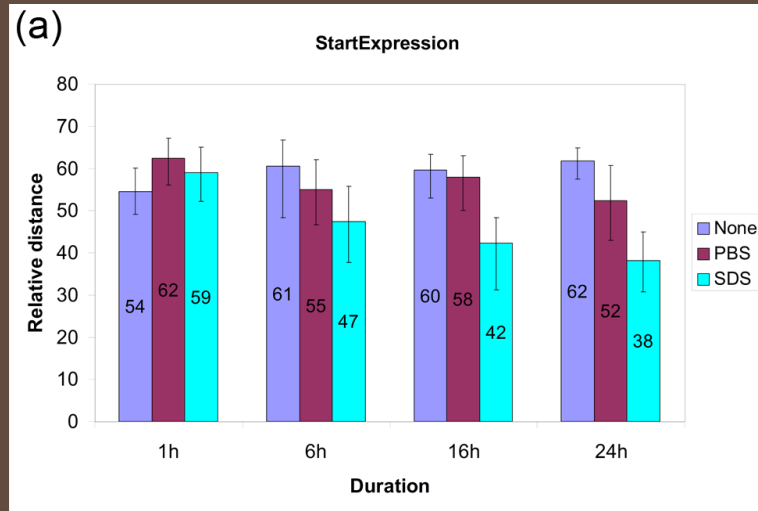


IRRITATION PREDICTION BY IMAGING OF HSP27

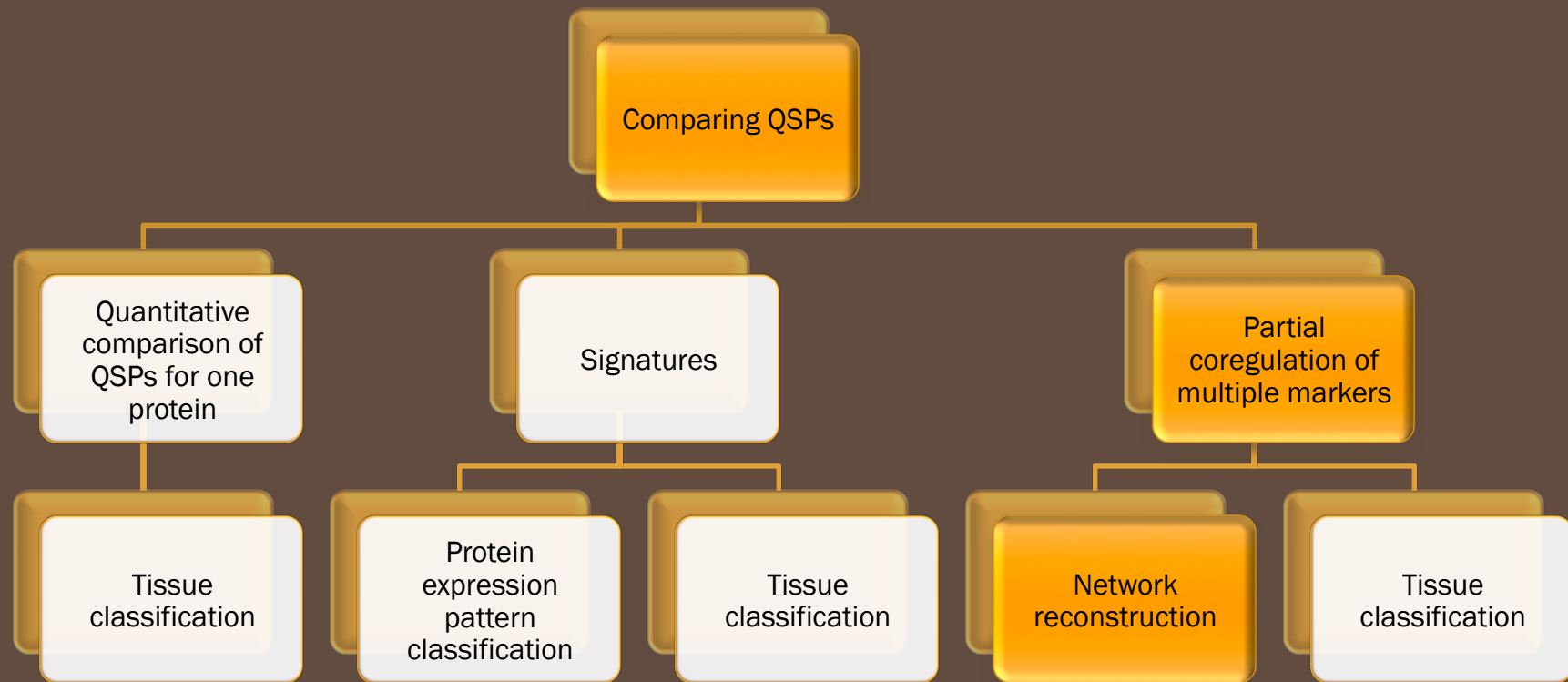
- ✘ Mattek EFT Cultures treated with 0.4% SDS for 1h, 6h, 16h, 24h
- ✘ Profiling of Heat Shock Protein HSP27



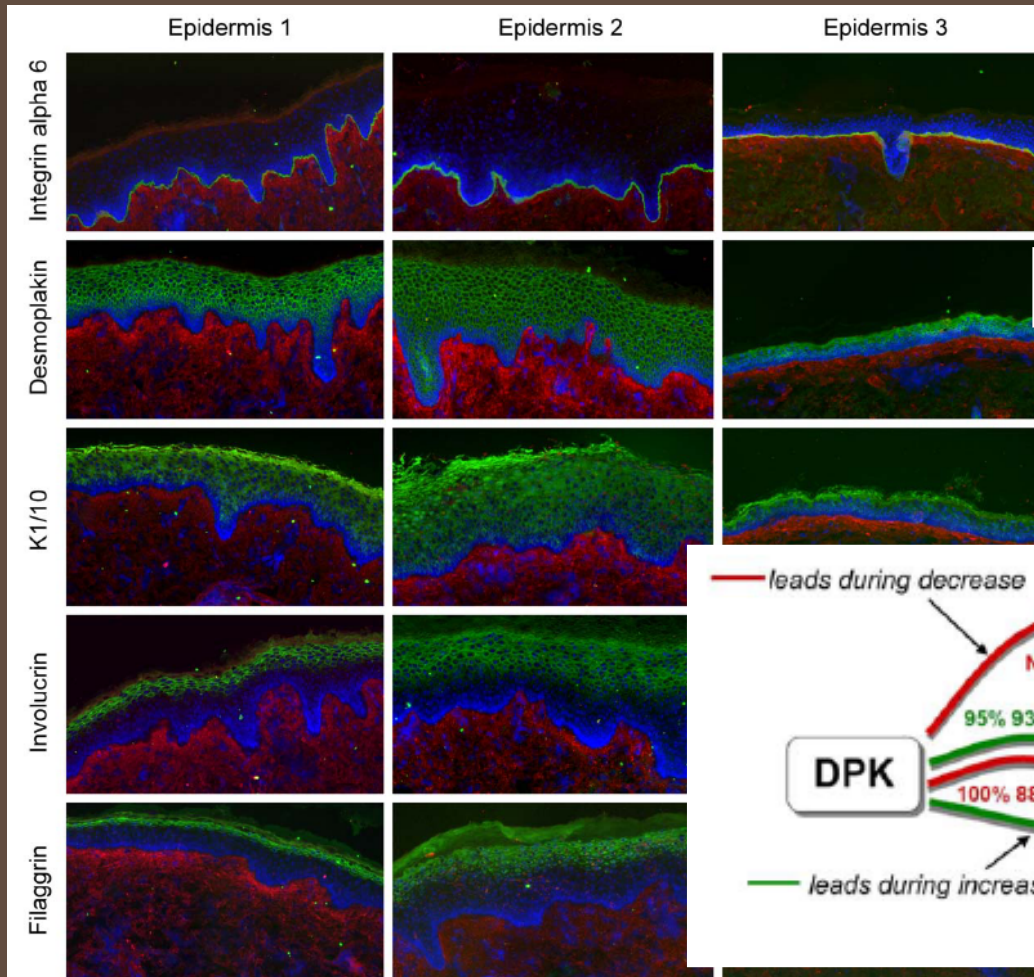
CLASSIFICATION OF SKIN IRRITATION



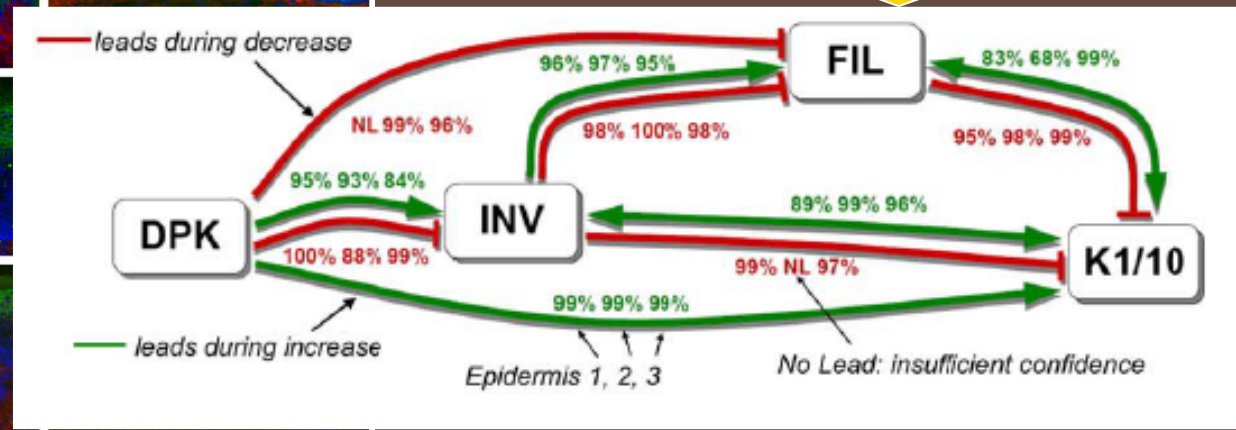
APPLICATIONS OF EPIDERMAL QUANTITATIVE SPATIAL PROFILING



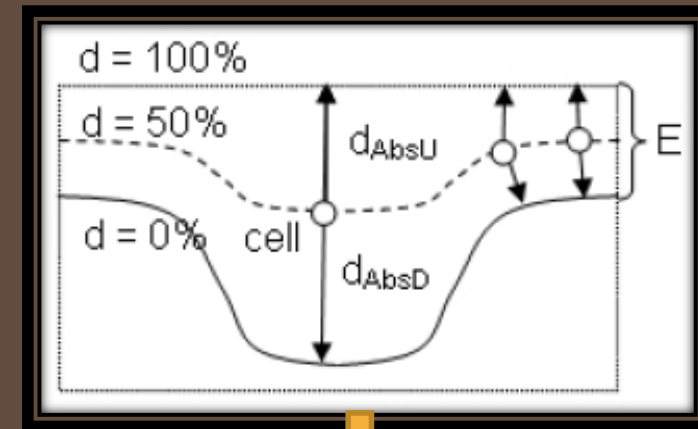
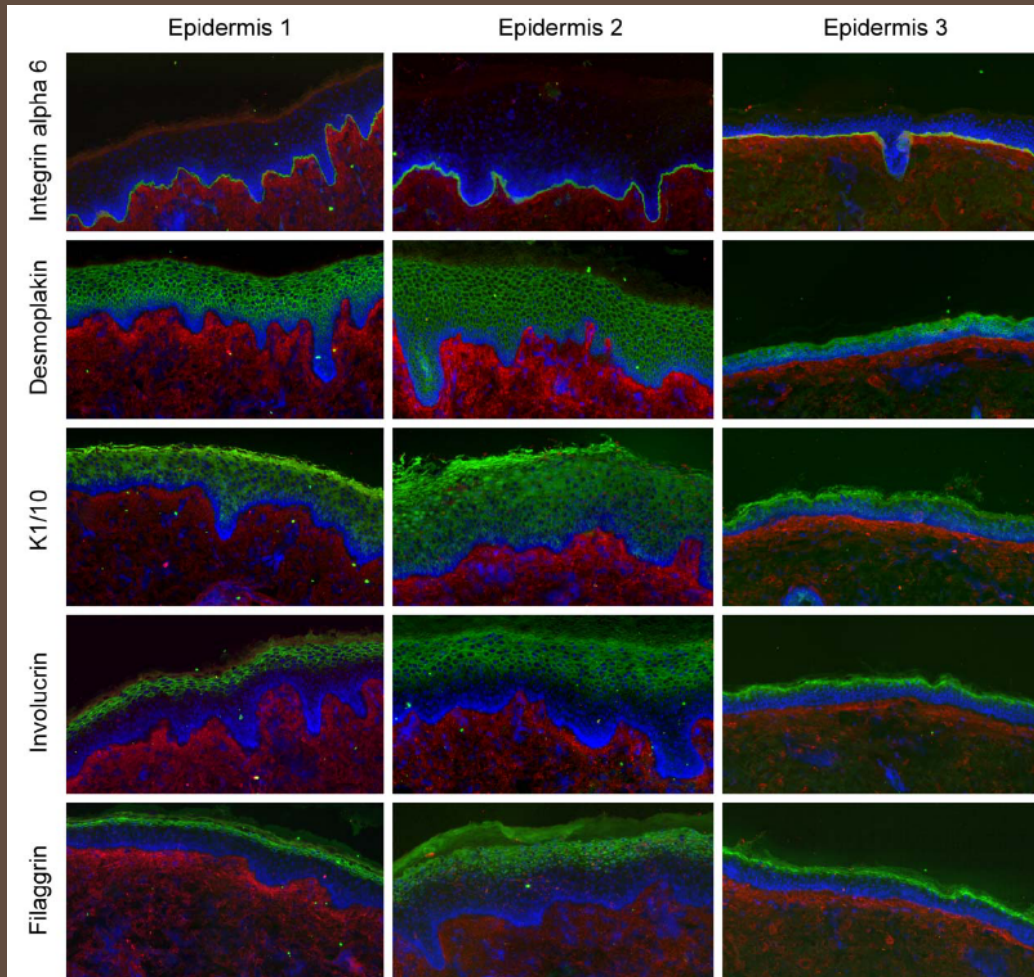
RECONSTRUCTING PROTEIN NETWORKS OF EPIDERMAL DIFFERENTIATION



1. Microscopic Imaging
2. Image Processing
3. Quantitative Biomarker Profiling
4. Network Reconstruction

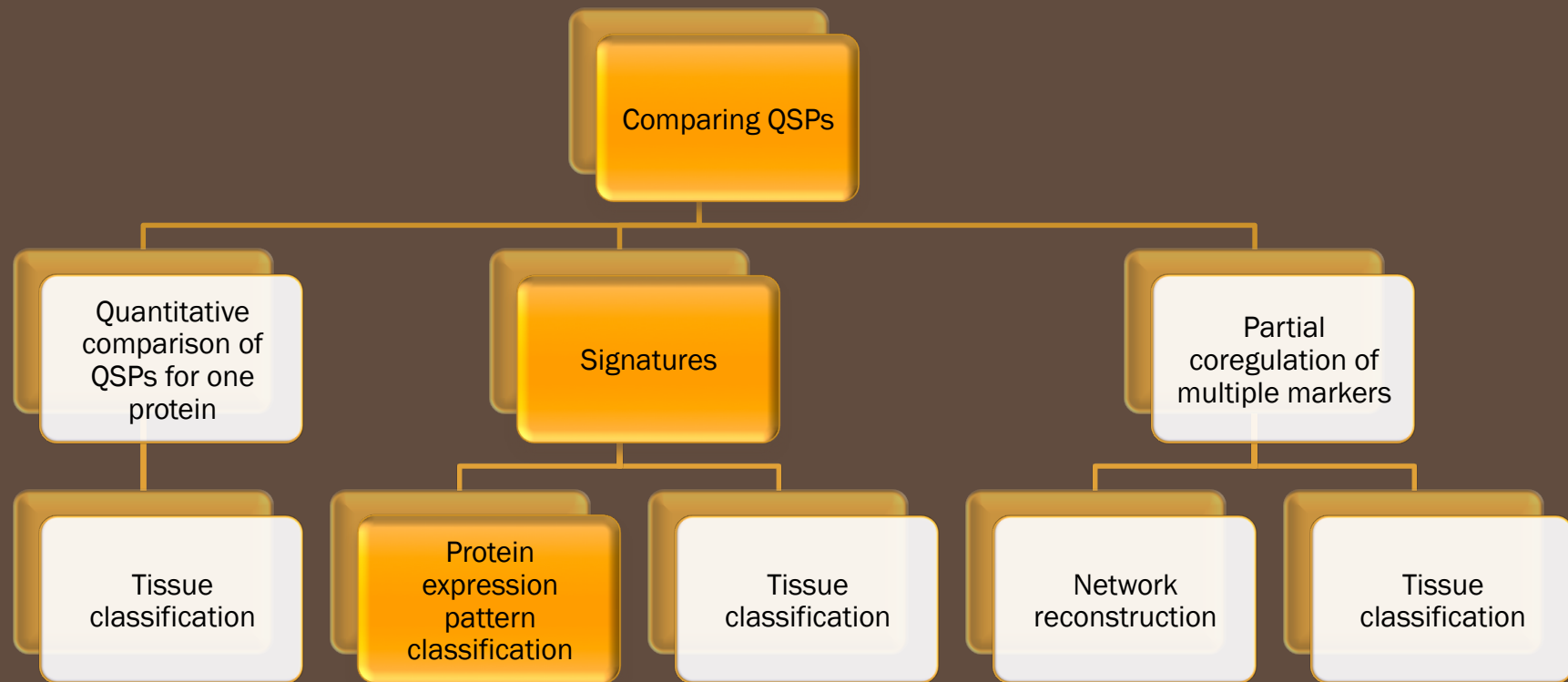


EXISTENCE OF ROBUST MECHANISMS FOR SPATIAL REGULATION OF DIFFERENTIATION



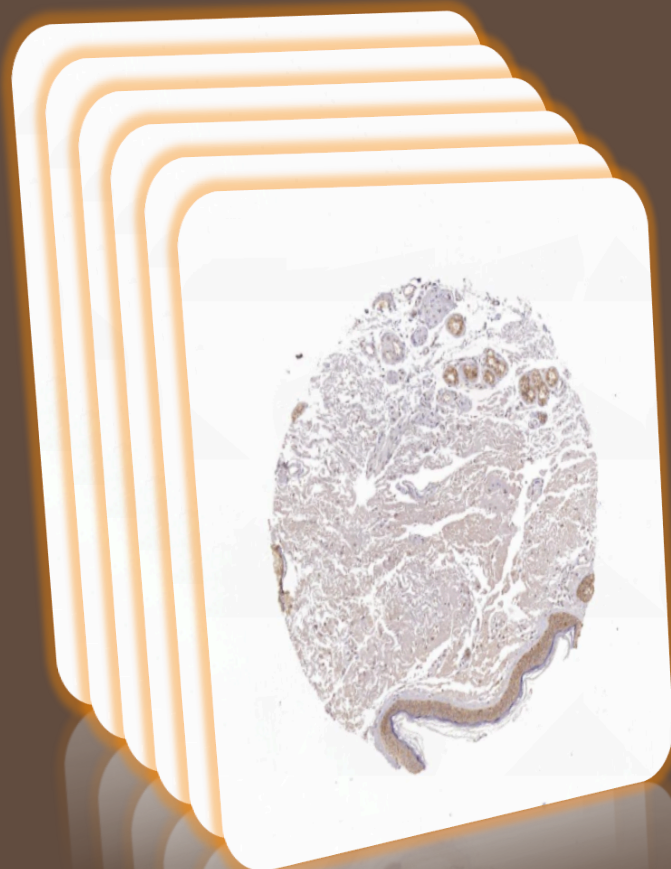
Which mechanisms regulate differentiation in time and space?

APPLICATIONS OF EPIDERMAL QUANTITATIVE SPATIAL PROFILING



HUMAN PROTEIN ATLAS

- ✘ Largest Knowledge Ressource on Spatial Protein Expression Patterns
- ✘ 8832 antibodies against all types of human tissue
- ✘ 7,334,244 images of tissue microarrays (TMA)



hpr the project protein atlas dictionary disclaimer submission of antibodies help

TP53 expression profiles.

Gene data

Description: Cellular tumor antigen p53 (Tumor suppressor p53)(Phosphoprotein p53)(Antigen NY-CO-13)
 Source: [P04632](#) (Uniprot)
 Chromosome: 17p13.1
 Ensembl ID: [ENSG00000141510](#)

Splice variant	Protein Ensembl ID	Transcript Ensembl ID	No of aa	Mw	Signal Peptide	TM Region(s)
Splice variant 1	ENSP00000379735	ENST00000396473	155	18 kDa	No	No
Splice variant 2	ENSP00000352610	ENST00000359597	341	38 kDa	No	No
Splice variant 3	ENSP00000269305	ENST00000269305	393	44 kDa	No	No

Navigation

Home
 Search result
 CAB002073
 Expression profiles - IHC
 Normal tissues
 Cancer tissues
 Cells
 Gene/Protein info
 Antigen/AbBody info

Validation Summary

Search

Protein expression

- Strong
- Moderate
- Weak
- Negative
- Not representative

help for this page

Annotation Summary - IHC

Normal cells were unstained, except some scattered moderately stained nuclei in proliferating epithelia as seen in the gastrointestinal canal and in the basal layer of squamous epithelium. In malignant tumours a distinct nuclear staining was seen in many cases, but not in all tumour types. In none of the tumour groups were all individual cases positive. If positive, either all tumour nuclei were strongly stained or some of the nuclei were moderately or weakly stained. Highly malignant tumour types were more often stained than low malignant types. For

CAN THE HPA USED TO GENERATE QSPS?

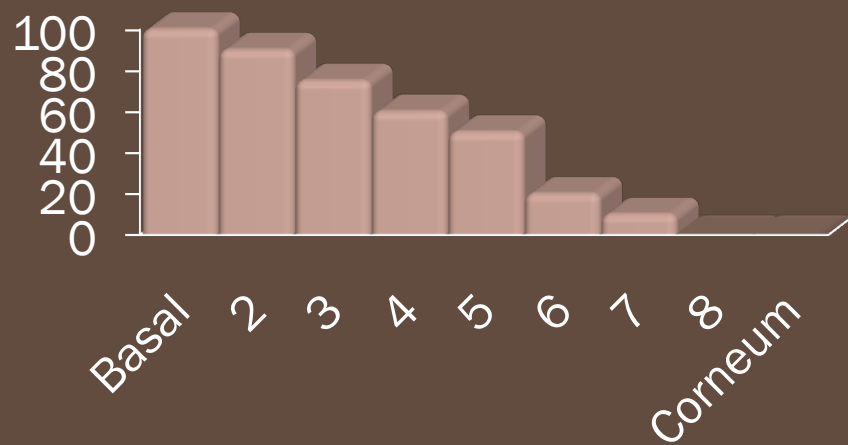
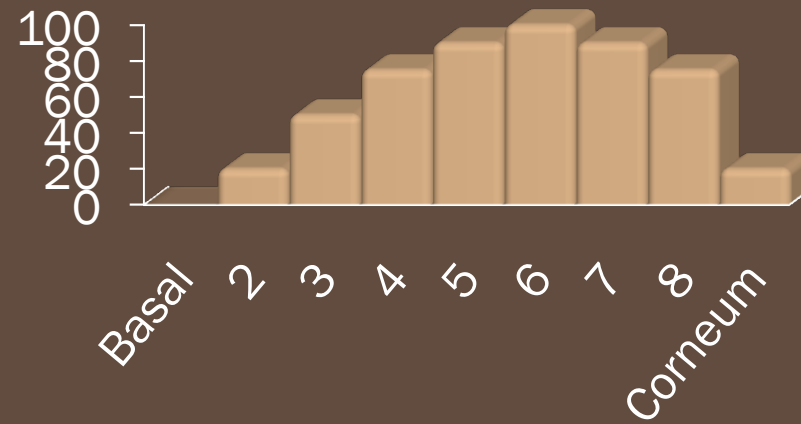
- ✘ Skin tissue sections are „just“ Tissue Microarrays and no whole slide scans
- ✘ => No, it cannot generate the required data:
 - + No fluorescent staining => image segmentation automatically not with sufficient quality
 - + Too few sections => intra-tissue variation too high
- ✘ What could HPA data be used for?
 - + Not direct comparison of QSPs but abstraction of QSPs in the form of **Signatures**
- ✘ Technically challenging: combination of QSP approach with color unmixing (→ Robert Murphy)

SPATIAL SIGNATURES

Basal Signature



Intermediate Signature



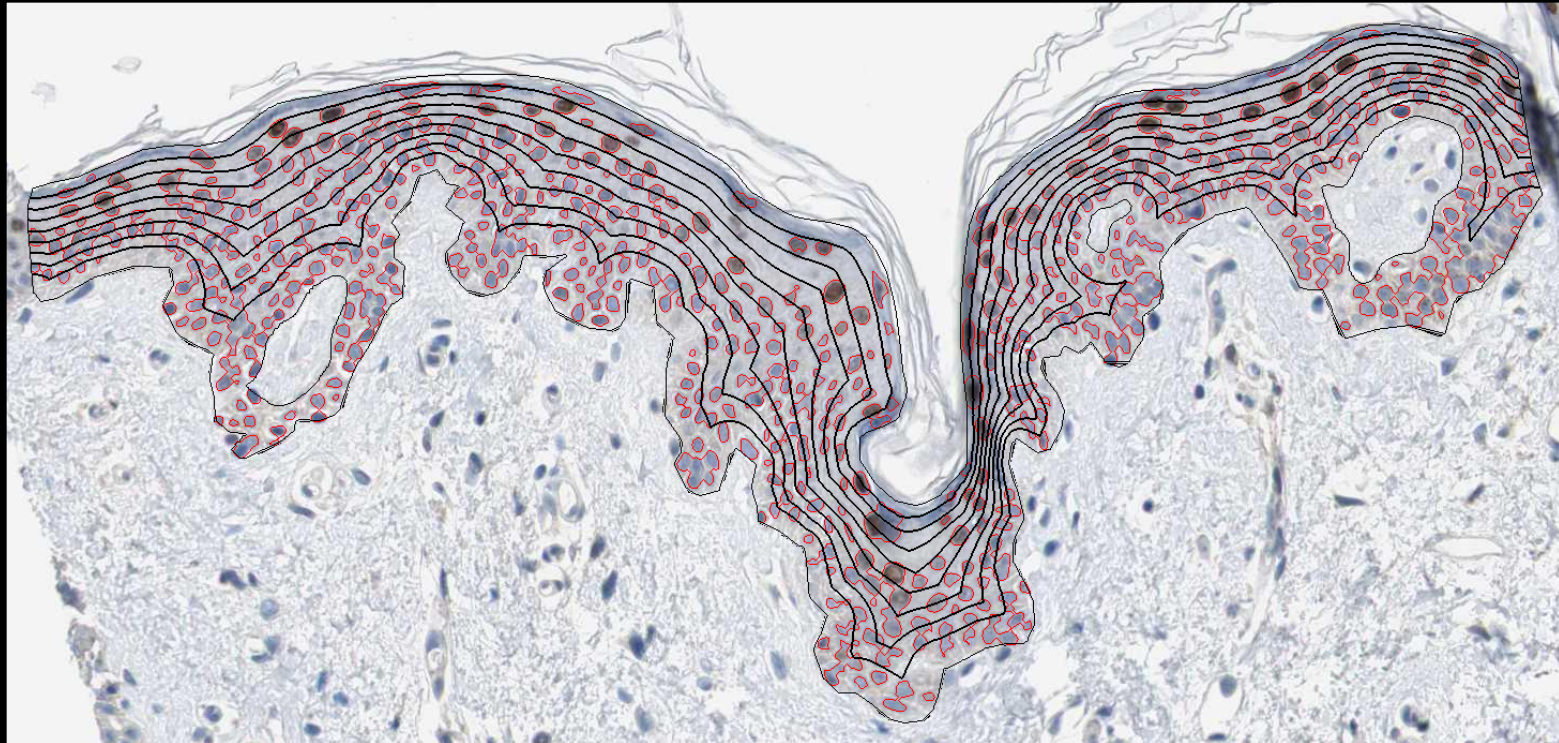
Gradient Signature

Top Signature

NUCLEI DETECTION

✘ Epidermal Differentiation in 9 Layers

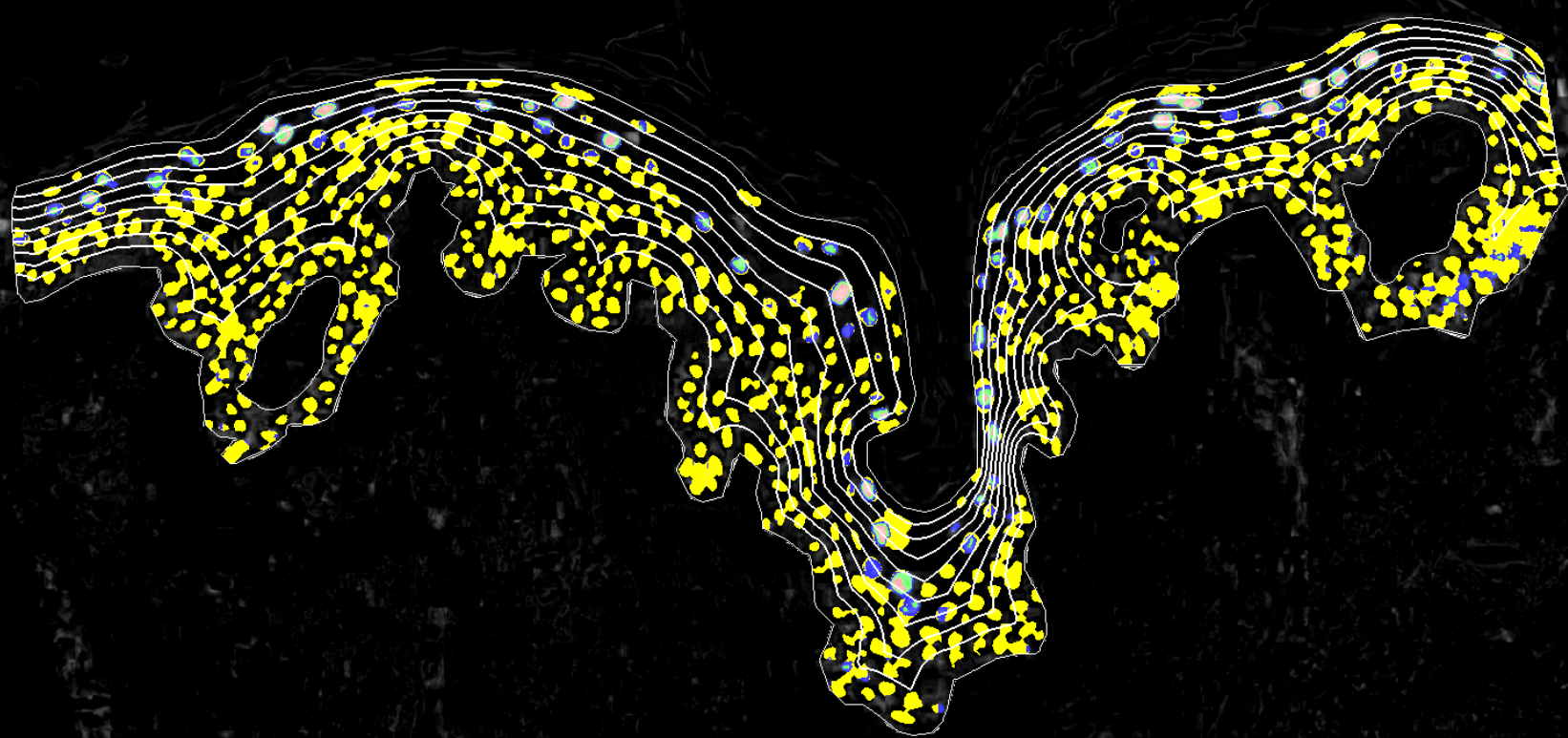
Transcription Factor Grainy Head Like 1 (GRHL)



NUCLEI DETECTION & QUANTIFICATION

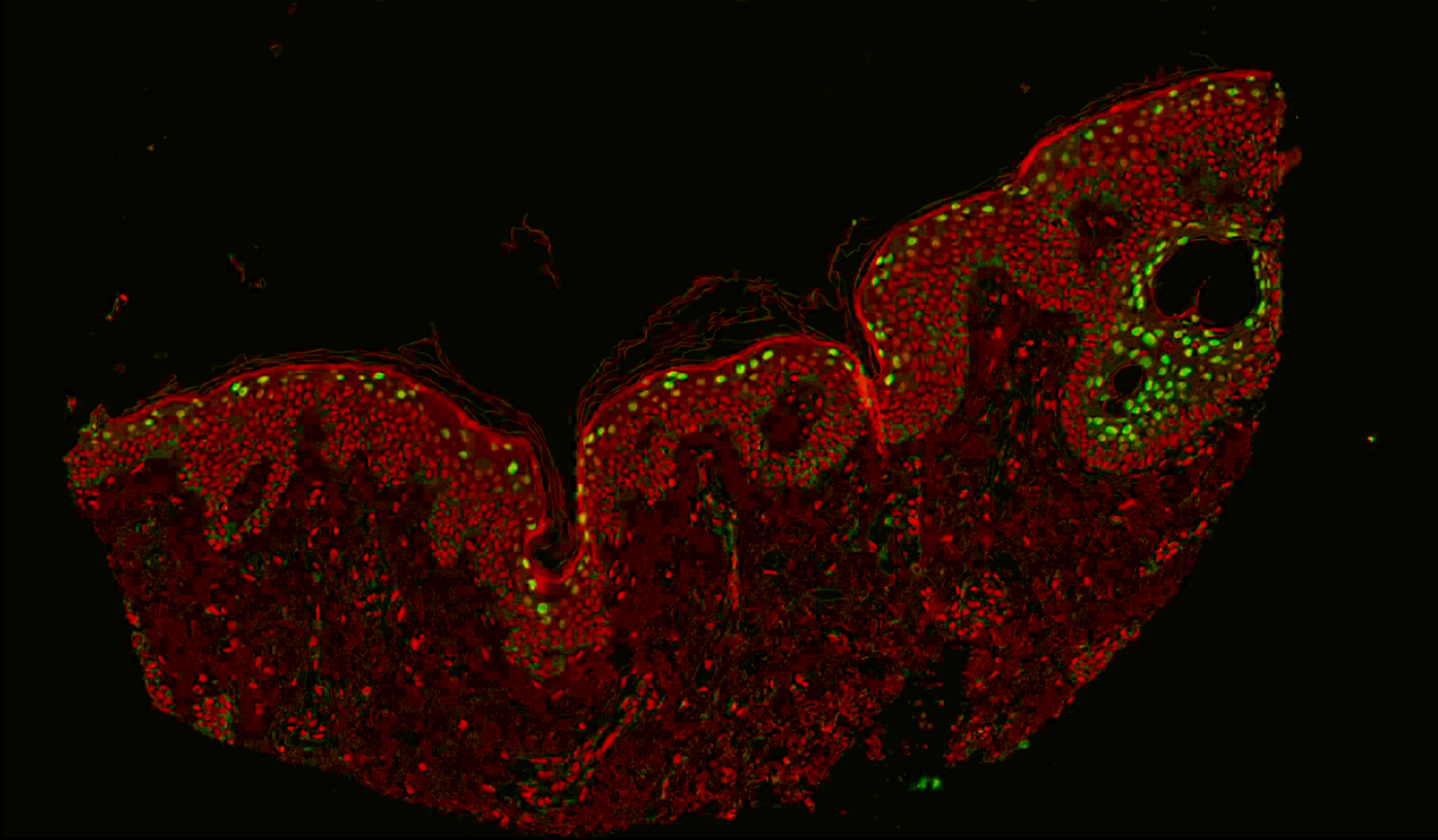
- ✗ Bands overlaid with staining intensities

Transcription Factor Grainy Head Like 1 (GRHL)

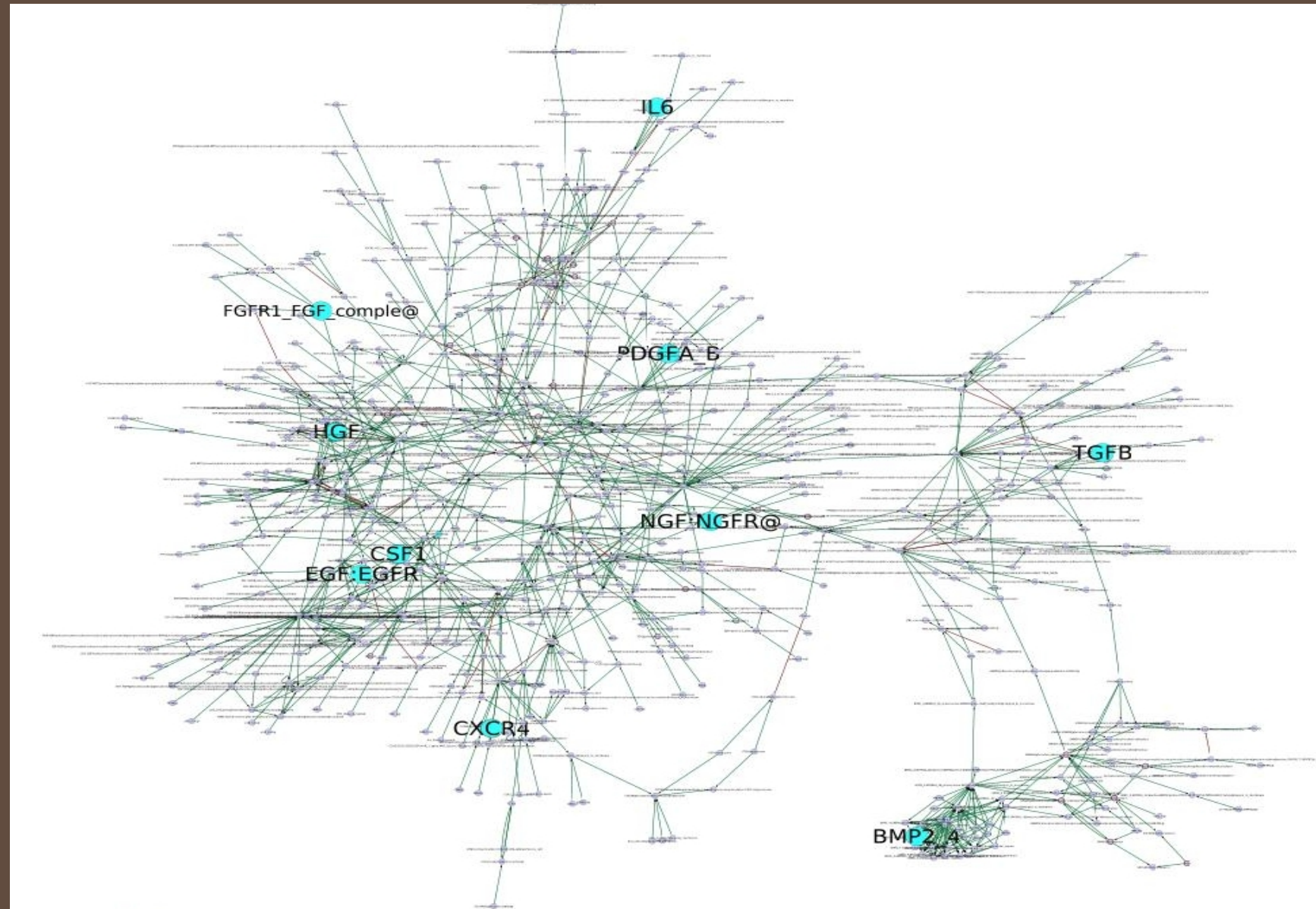


COLOR DECOMPOSED DAB/HEMALAUN STAIN

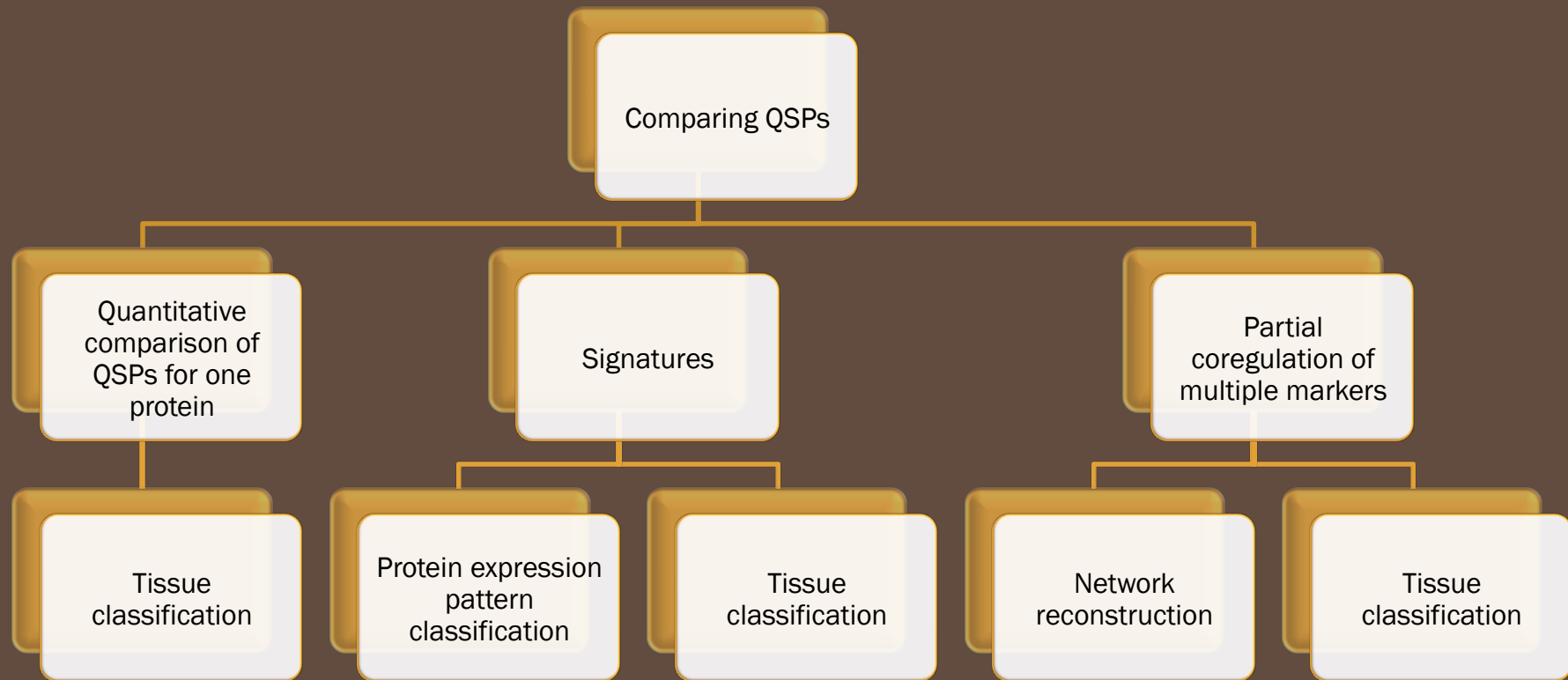
Transcription Factor Grainy Head Like 1 (GRHL)



LARGE SCALE NETWORK OF KEY GROWTH FACTORS IN EPIDERMAL WOUND HEALING



APPLICATIONS OF EPIDERMAL QUANTITATIVE SPATIAL PROFILING



Enables =>

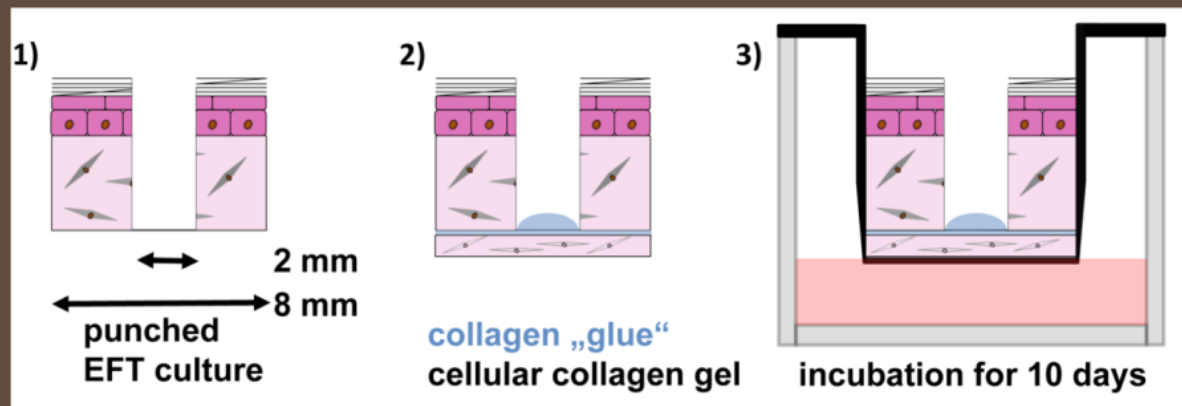
Correlative Analysis of Pathways in Keratinocyte Differentiation

PART B

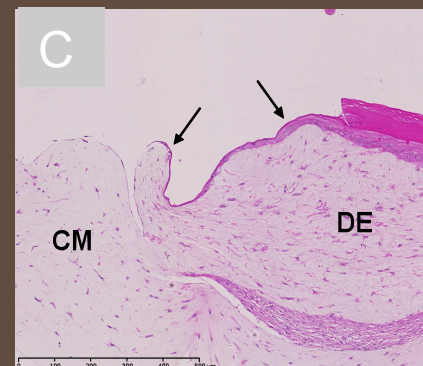
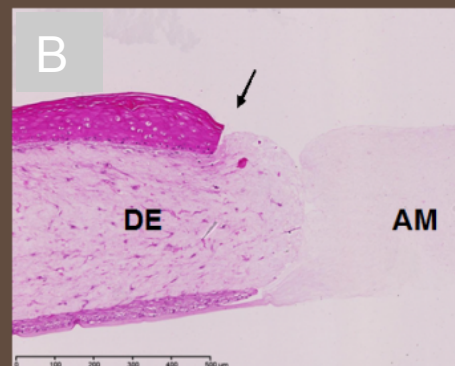
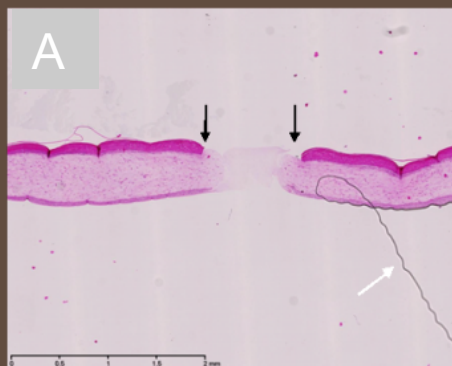
1. PART B: Generating data: Quantitative morphological analysis of dynamic wound healing (Full slides)
 1. Analysis of cellular streams in tissues

A NEW STANDARDIZED SKIN PUNCH MODEL

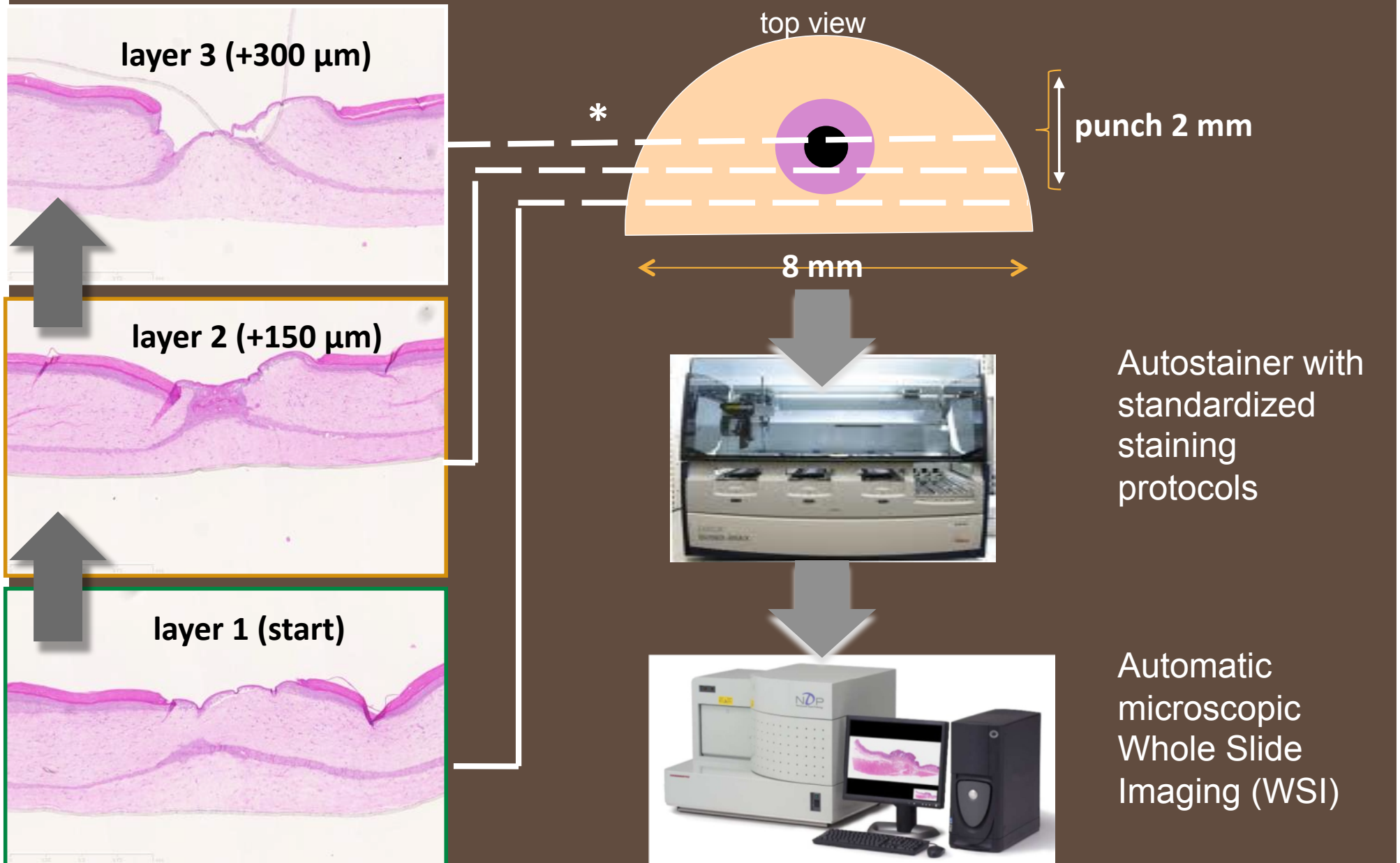
- ✘ Built on basis of a commercial skin culture system (Mattek)
- ✘ Dermis (Fibroblasts) + Epidermis (Keratinocytes)
- ✘ Full stratification (all differentiation stages)
- ✘ Reproducible(+), availability (+), costs (-), grown-up already (-)



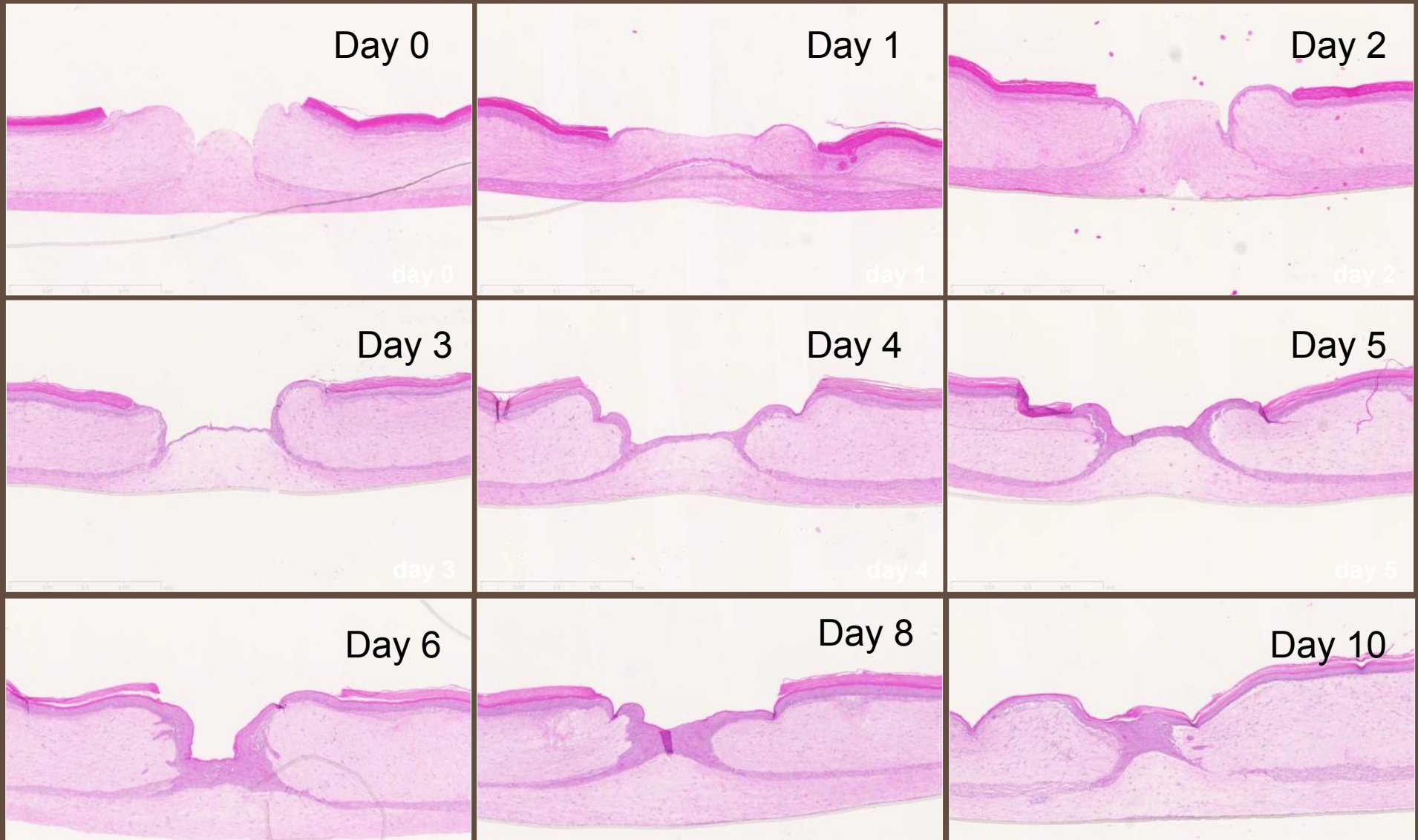
Punched Culture



SYSTEMATIC HISTOLOGICAL ANALYSIS



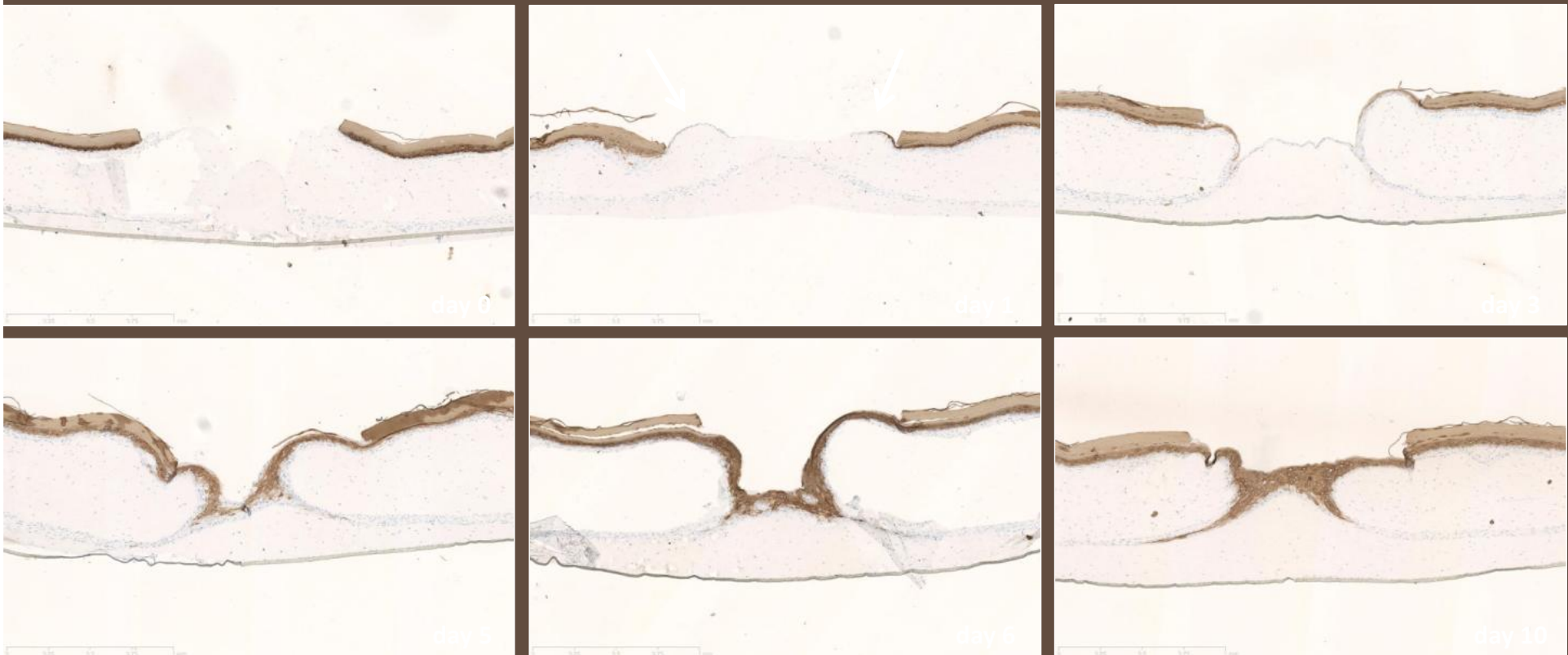
WOUND CLOSURE IN NOVEL IN VITRO FULL SKIN MODEL - DAY 0 TO DAY 10 (24 TISSUES)



24 cultures x 2 halves x 3 steps x 4 stainings = 600 sections

TOWARDS MODELING TONGUE EXTENSION

- ✘ Tongue extension: not only migration !!
- ✘ Interplay of proliferation, differentiation, migration during full period of epidermal remodelling
- ✘ Differentiation already at day 1: Keratin K1/10 staining:



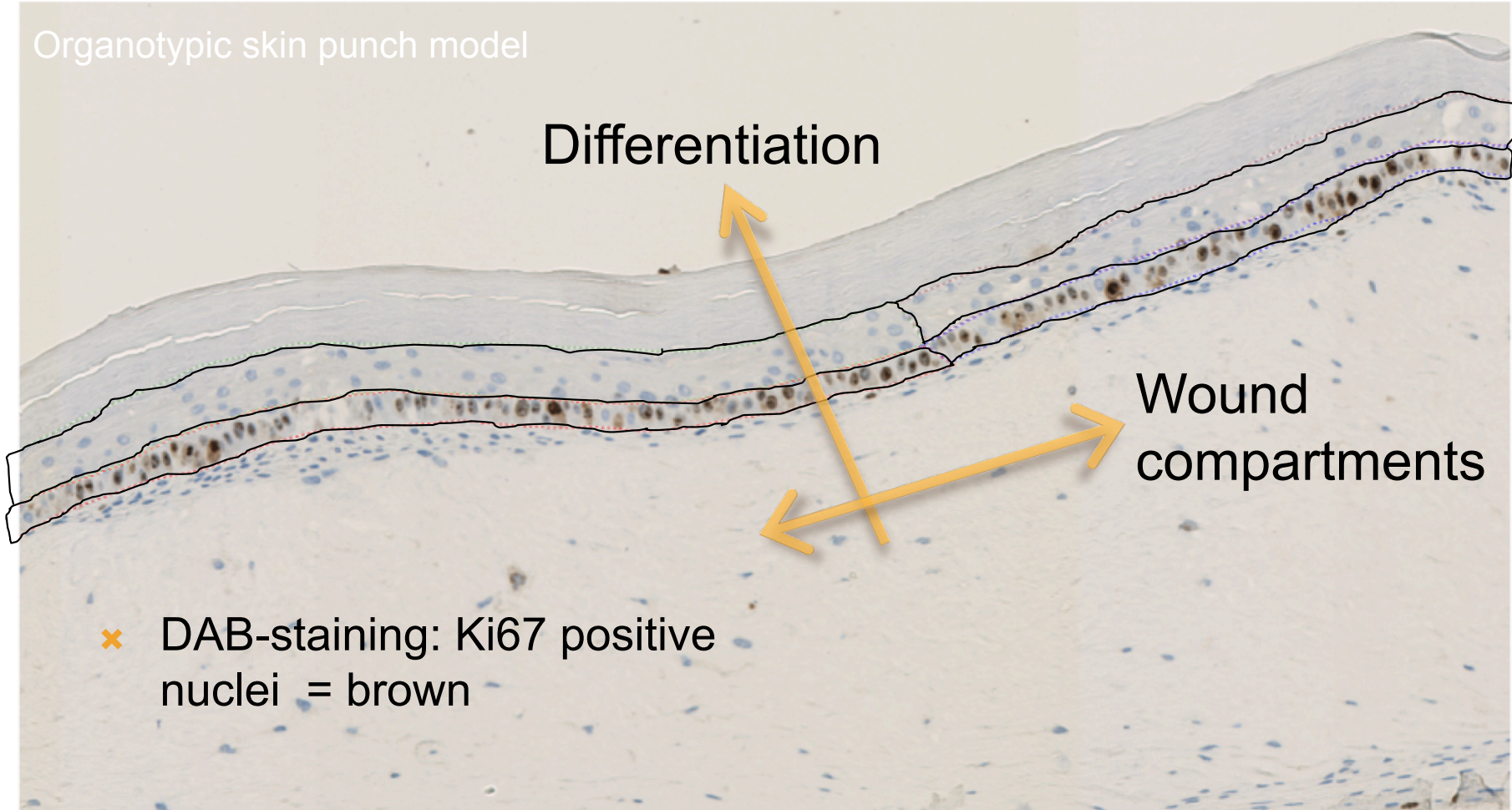
PROLIFERATION ANALYSIS BY IMAGE PROCESSING

Organotypic skin punch model

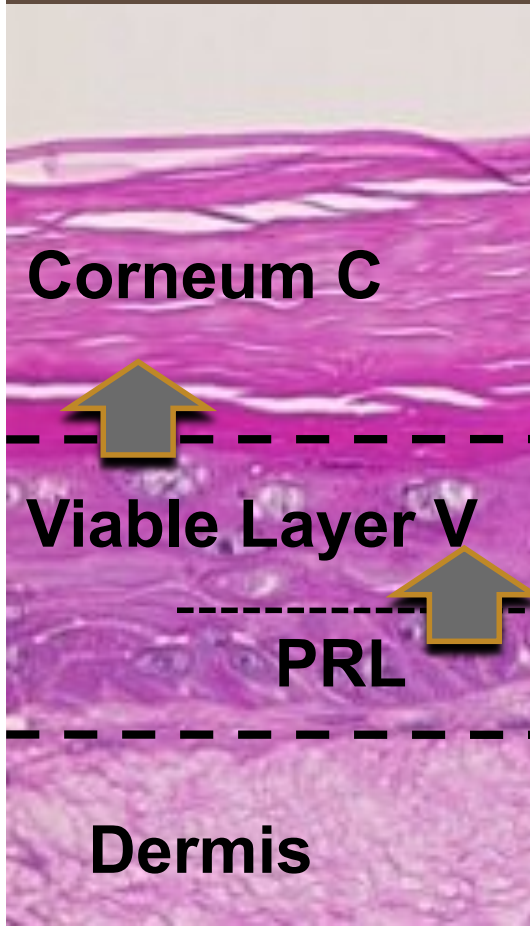
Differentiation

Wound compartments

- ✘ DAB-staining: Ki67 positive nuclei = brown



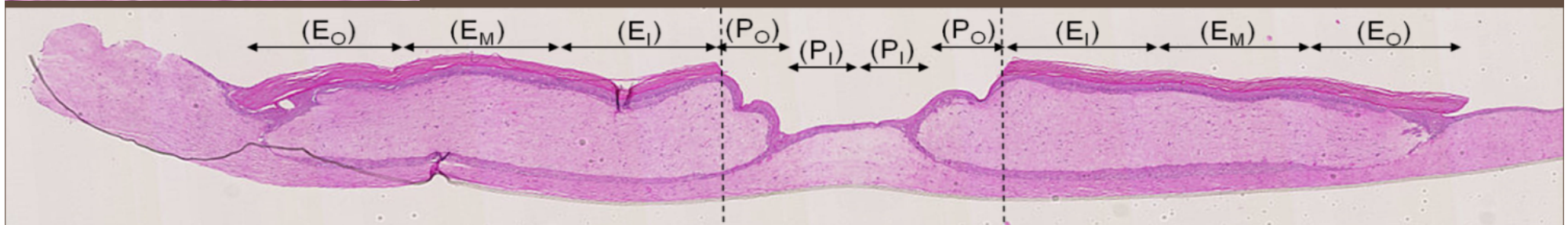
TOWARDS A MODEL OF EPIDERMAL CELL STREAMS



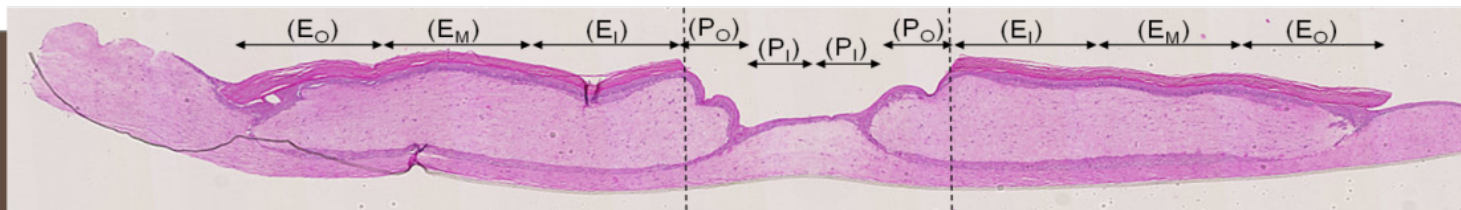
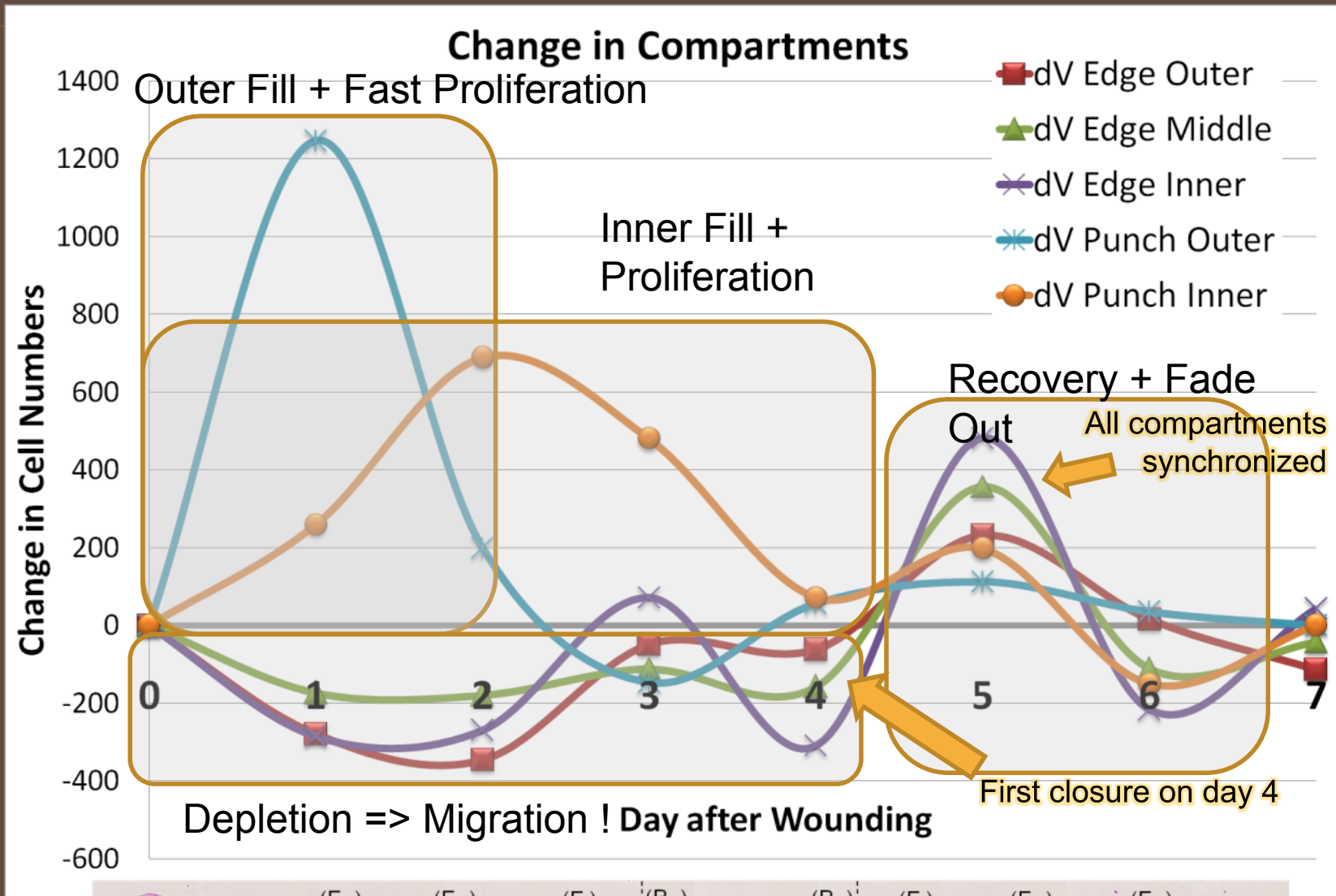
Horizontal and Vertical Cell Streams in Epidermal Wound Healing

Tissue Compartment	E_o (day t)	E_M (day t)	E_I (day t)	P_o (day t)	P_I (day t)
Corneum thickness (C)	$C_{Eo}(t)$	$C_{EM}(t)$	$C_{EI}(t)$	$C_{Po}(t)$	$C_{Pi}(t)$
Viable compartment thickness (V)	$V_{Eo}(t)$	$V_{EM}(t)$	$V_{EI}(t)$	$V_{Po}(t)$	$V_{Pi}(t)$
Proliferation rate (PRL)	$PRL_{Eo}(t)$	$PRL_{EM}(t)$	$PRL_{EI}(t)$	$PRL_{Po}(t)$	$PRL_{Pi}(t)$

Diagram illustrating horizontal and vertical cell streams in epidermal wound healing. The diagram shows a sequence of compartments: E_o , E_M , E_I , P_o , and P_I . Horizontal arrows represent cell streams between compartments: J_{Eo} (from E_o to E_M), J_{EM} (from E_M to E_I), J_{EI} (from E_I to P_o), and J_{Po} (from P_o to P_I). Vertical arrows represent cell streams from the proliferation rate (PRL) to the viable compartment thickness (V) and from the viable compartment thickness (V) to the corneum thickness (C) for each compartment.

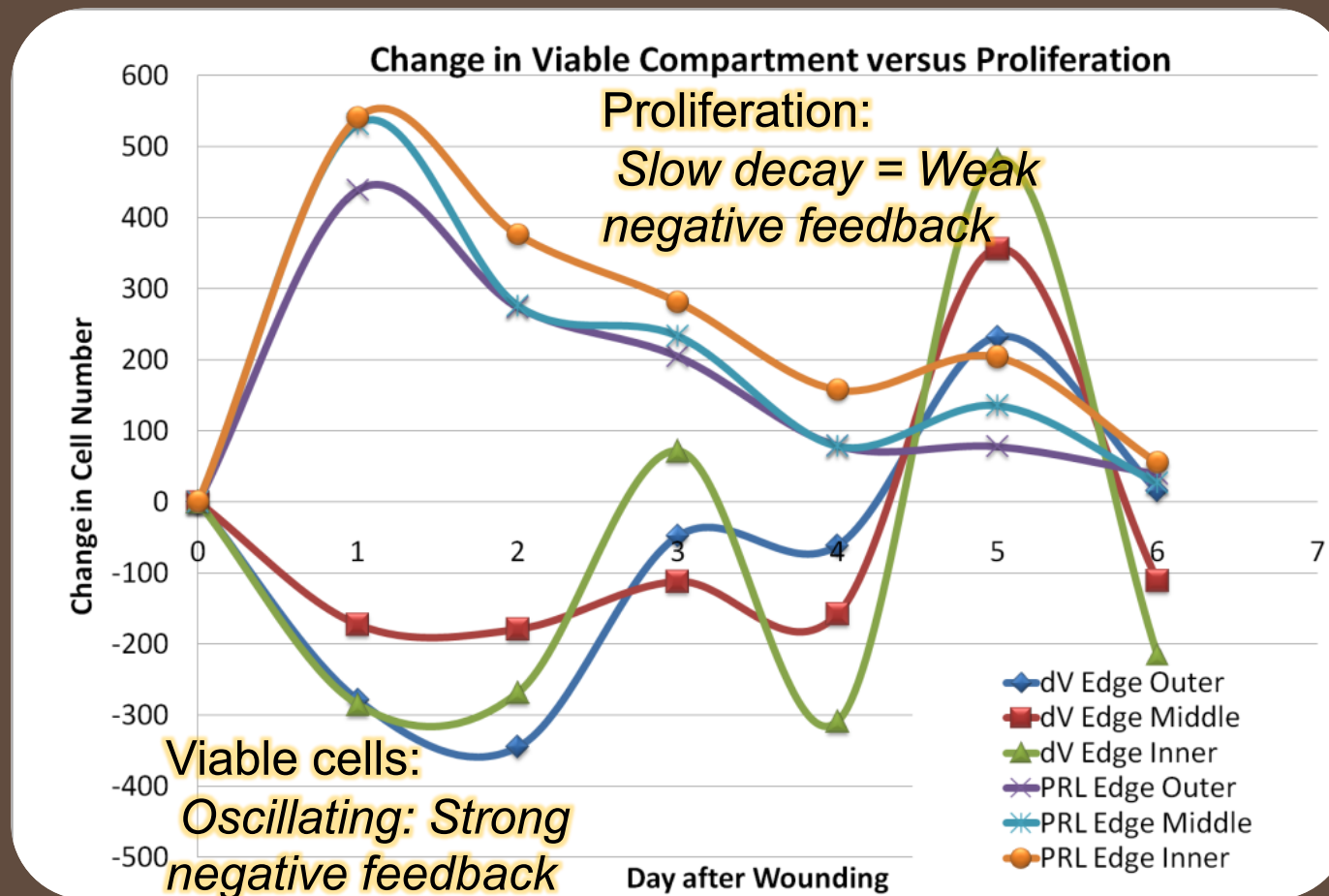


REMODELLING IN OSCILLATING WAVES



DOES PROLIFERATION INDUCE PULSING IN THE WOUND EDGE? (NO)

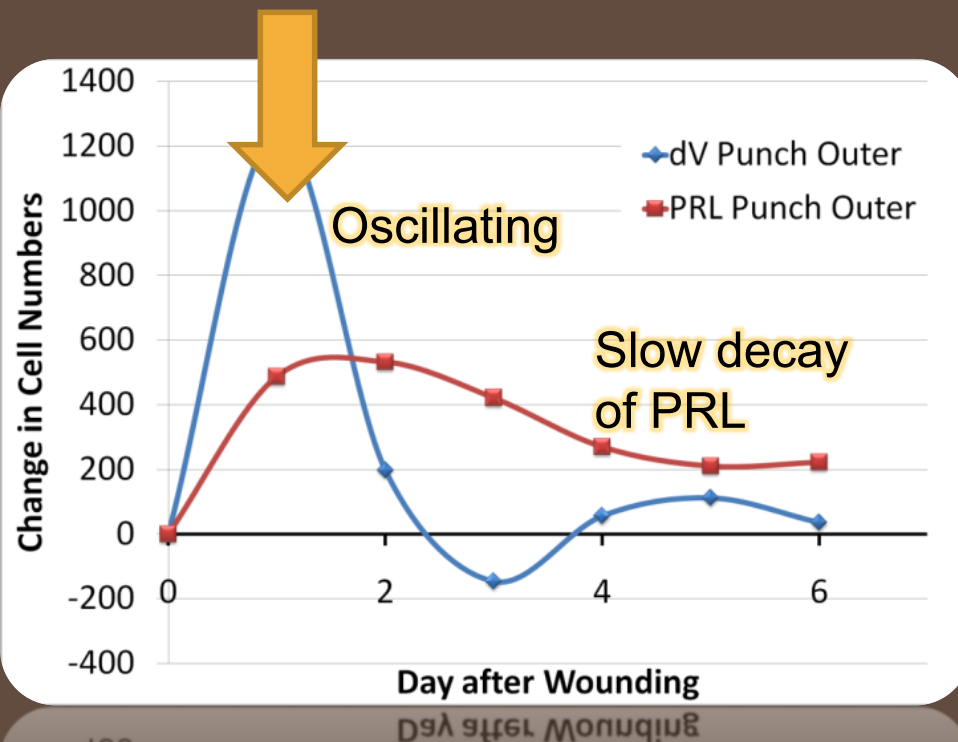
- ✘ Proliferation extending homeostasis has decay pattern => Oscillating cell efflux into wound is cause for oscillating cell numbers in viable compartment V



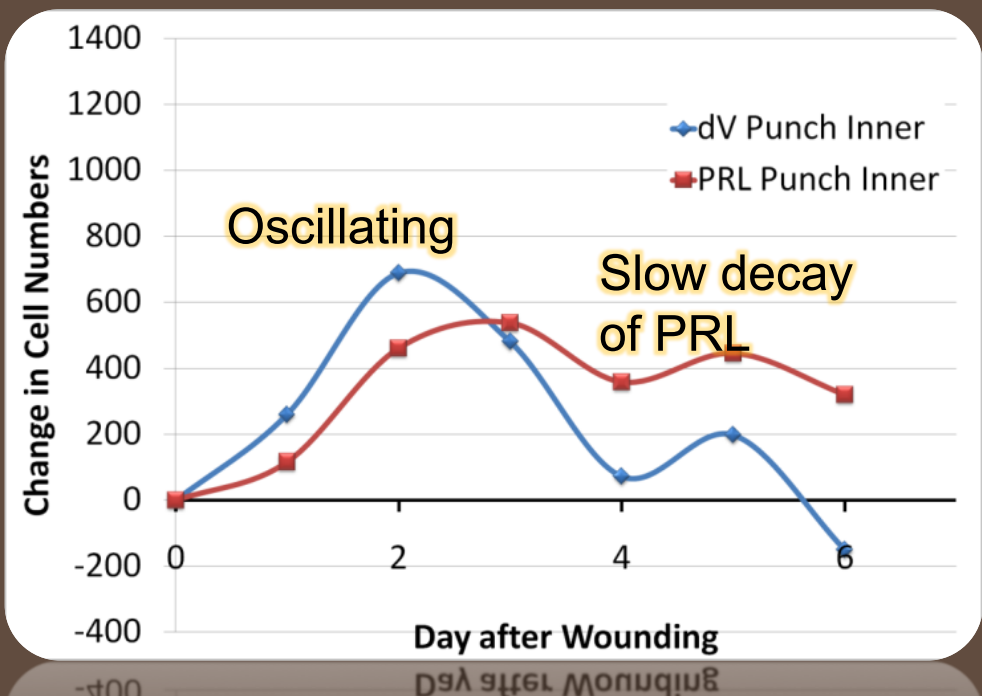
DOES PROLIFERATION INDUCE PULSING IN THE INNER WOUND? (PARTLY)

- ✗ Oscillation appears to pump some cells into the wound
- ✗ Outer wound filled by proliferation by multiplying migration
- ✗ To inner wound proliferation importance prevails

Influx into outer wound area

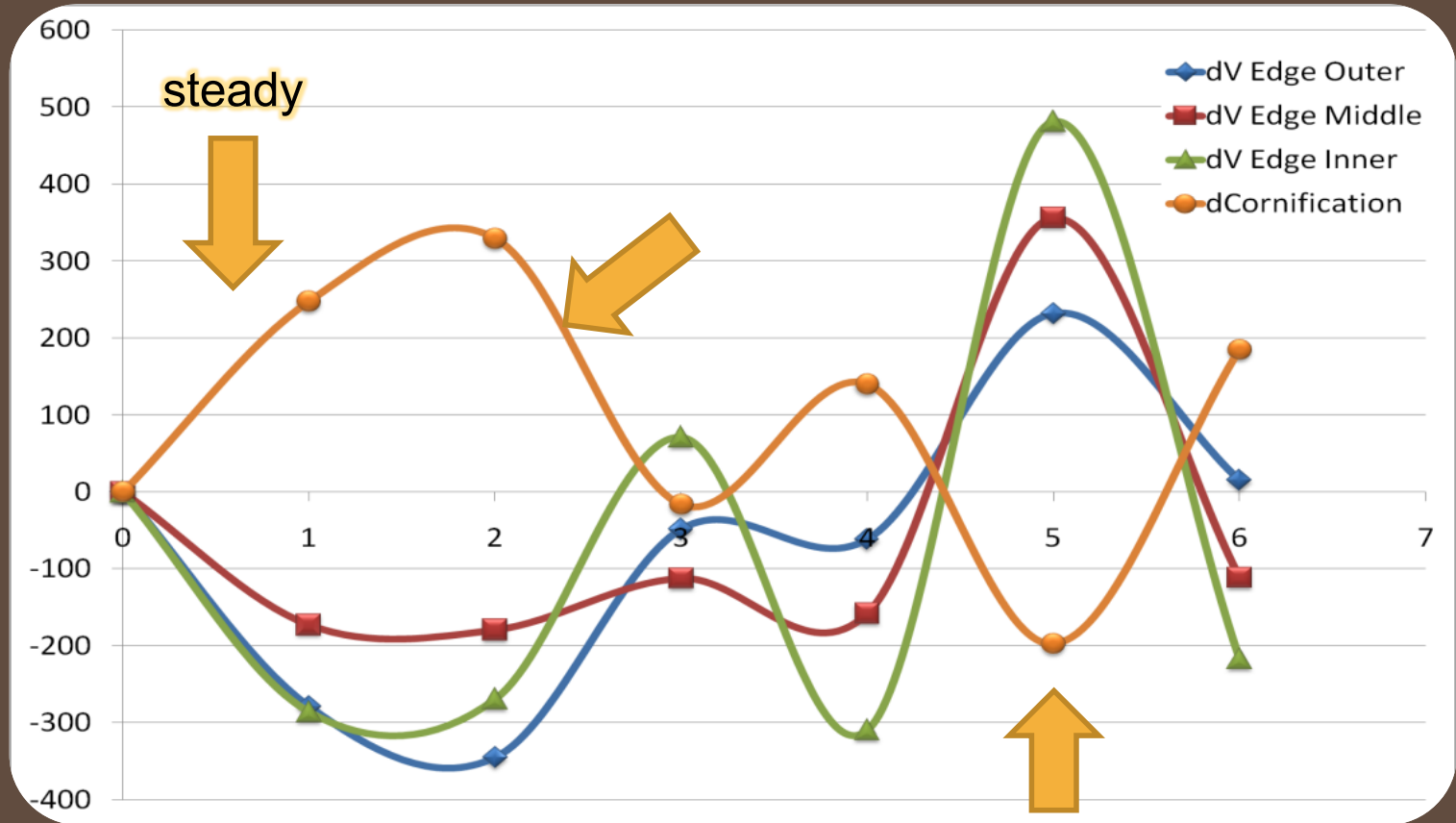
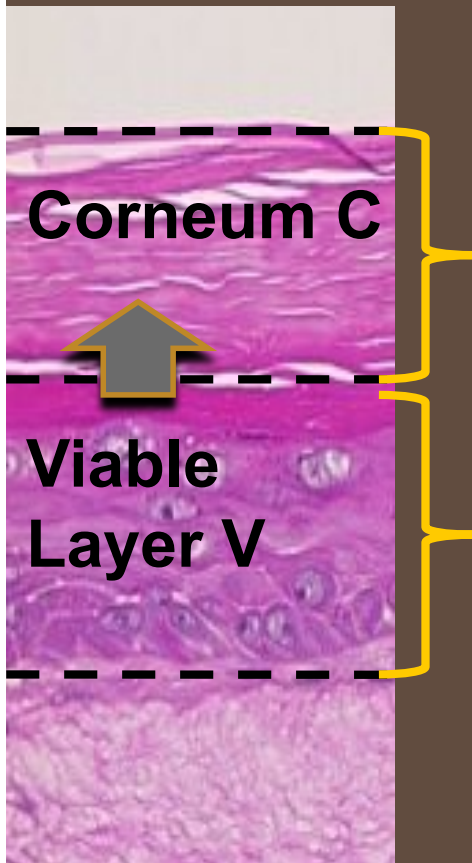


Influx into inner wound area

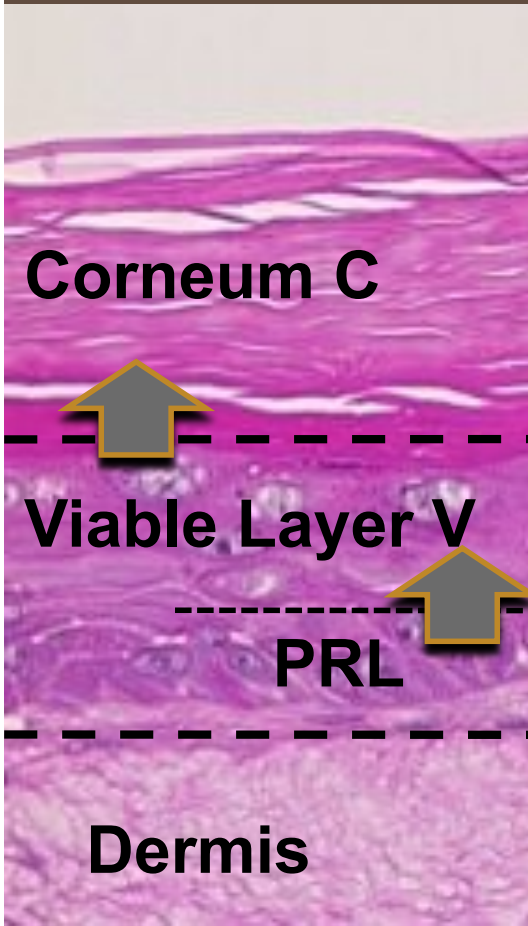


DYNAMIC DIFFERENTIATION INDUCES PULSING OF WOUND EDGE

- ✗ Differentiation measured by corneal thickness
- ✗ Initial migratory depletion triggers pulsing differentiation in wound edge



TOWARDS A MODEL OF EPIDERMAL CELL STREAMS



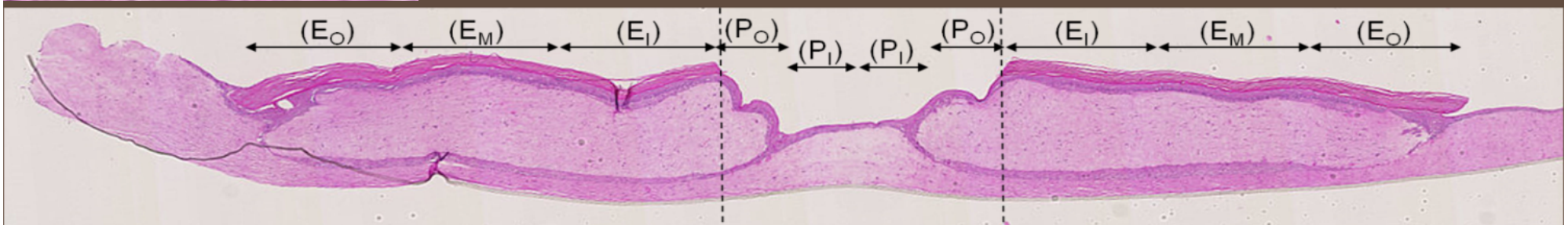
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Proliferation rate (PRL)	$PRL_{Eo}(t)$	$PRL_{EM}(t)$	$PRL_{EI}(t)$	$PRL_{Po}(t)$	$PRL_{Pi}(t)$

Pulsing differentiation over time (negative feedback)

Weakly pulsing migration pump over time

Strong upregulation & moderate negative feedback

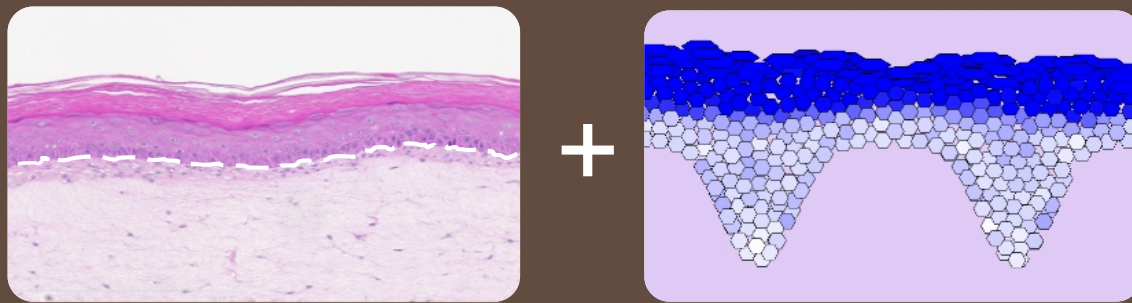


TOWARDS QUANTITATIVE SYSTEMS BIOLOGICAL TISSUE MODELS BY USING WHOLE SLIDE IMAGING

1. Systems biology drives towards tissue models
2. Quantitative spatial of tissues are missing: why whole slide imaging is essential for systems biology of tissues
3. PART A: Generating data : Quantifying spatial protein expression data in human skin (Full slides & TMAs)
 1. Application of quantitative spatial profiles for
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4. PART B: Generating data: Quantitative morphological analysis of dynamic wound healing (Full slides)
 1. Analysis of cellular streams in tissues

KEY CONCEPT

- ✘ Systematic perturbation studies of tissue require integration of
 - + in vitro-models (organotypic cell culture systems)
 - + in silico-models
- ✘ Realisation
 - + Quantitative data from native tissue
 - + Quantitative data from in-vitro cultures using Whole-Slide Imaging
 - + Multiple technologies (multiphoton, confocal) will complement
 - + Computational multi-cellular multi-agent platform for this data



TEAM & FUNDING



Niels Halama



Kathi Westphal



Sergio Hernandez



Carito Guziolowski



Kai Safferling



Thora Pommerencke



Thomas Sütterlin



Bernd Lahrmann



Anne Skories



Elias Kirchmann



Anna Spille



Claudia Ernst



Jutta Funk



Petra Narrog

- × MEDSYS Wound Healing Consortium
 - × PD Dr. K. Breuhahn / Prof. Dr. P. Schirmacher
 - × Dr. H. Busch
 - × Prof. Dr. P. Angel (DKFZ)
 - × Prof. Dr. P. Boukamp (DKFZ)
 - × Prof. Dr. R. Eils
 - × Prof. Dr. G. Germann
- × Industry:
 - × Hamamatsu Photonics
 - × Mattek
 - × Thermo Fisher
- × Funding
 - × BMBF MEDSYS: Chronic Wounds
 - × BMBF FORSYS: JRG Epidermal Homeostasis
 - × BMBF GERONTOSYS
 - × BMBF VIRTUAL LIVER

OPEN POSITIONS AVAILABLE !

