

Democratising Single-molecule FRET: What is Open Science?

Tim Craggs

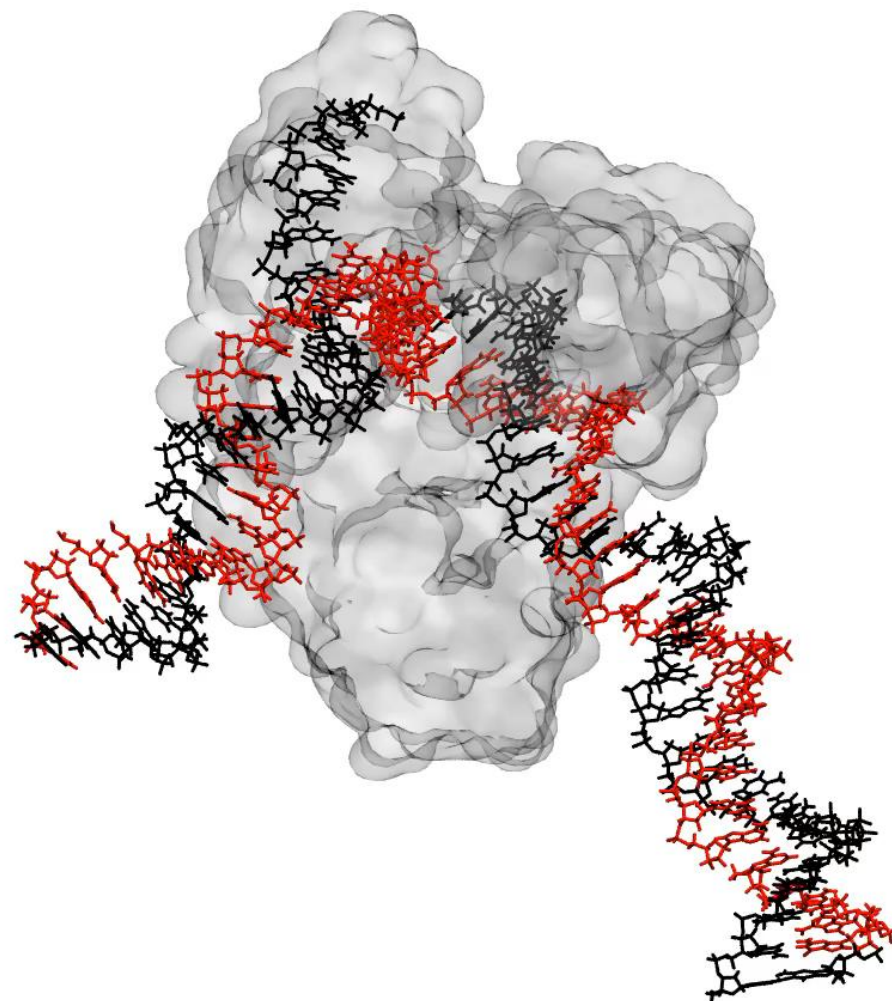
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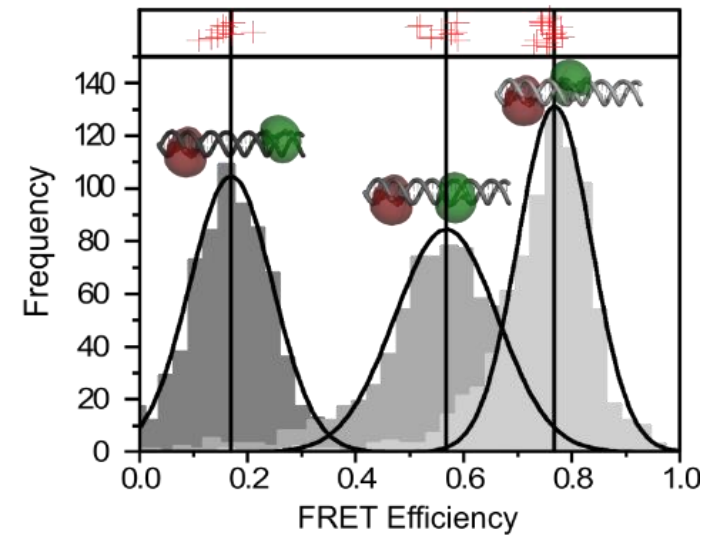


@Craggs_Lab



Open Science

- Open **Hardware**
- Open **Software**
- Open **File Formats**
- Open **Data**
- Open **Analysis**
- Open **Access**

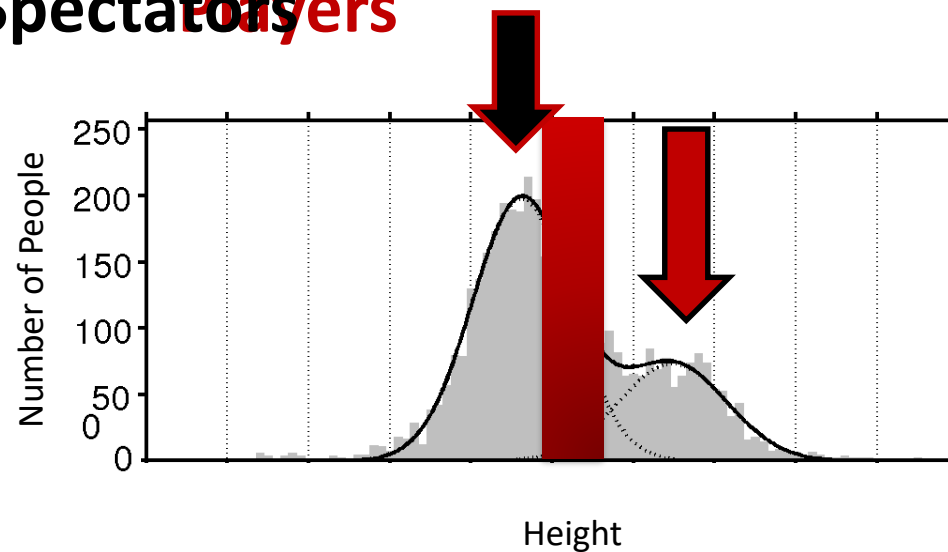


Nature Methods (2018) **15** 669

Nature Communications (2020) **11** 5641



Spectators **Players**



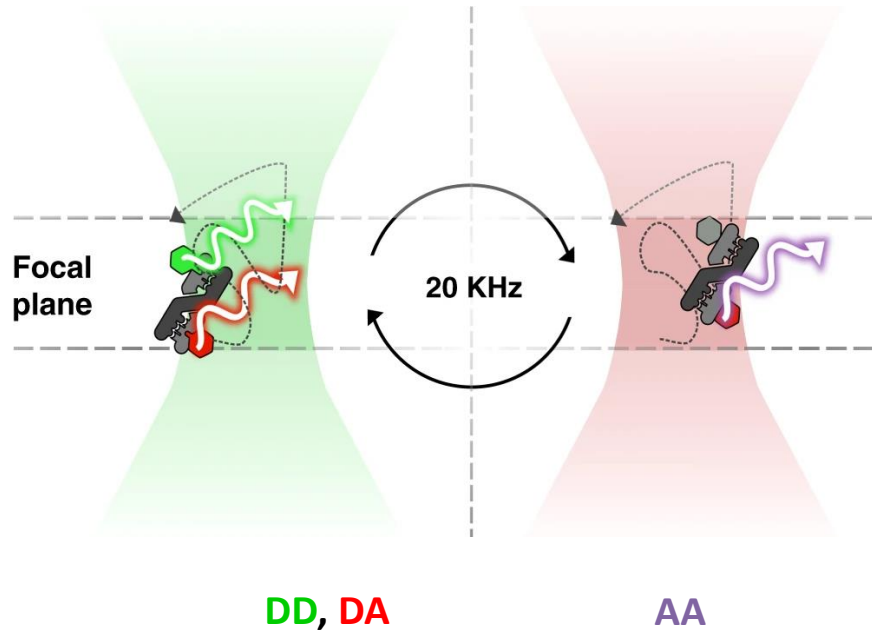
Population **averages** can be misleading!

Need to interrogate **single molecules**

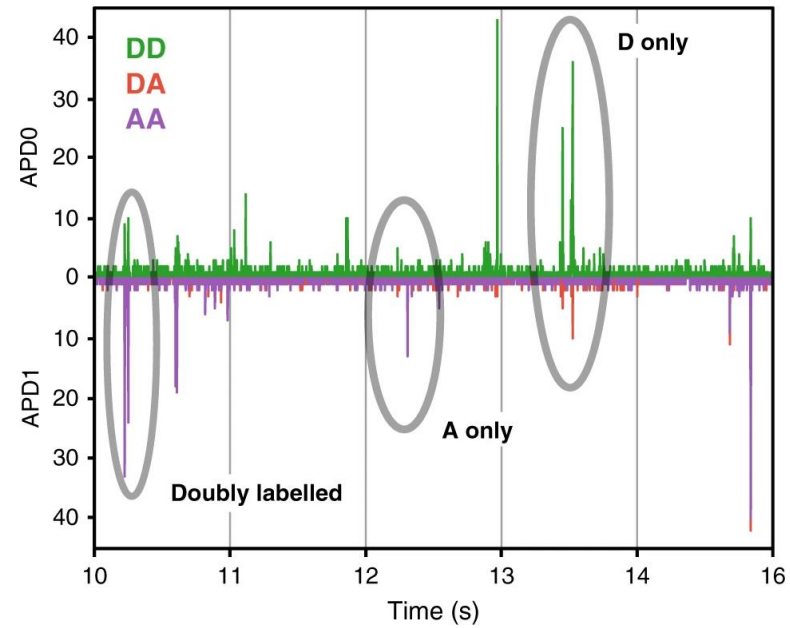
Or obtain experimental conformational ensembles

Single-molecule FRET on freely diffusing molecules

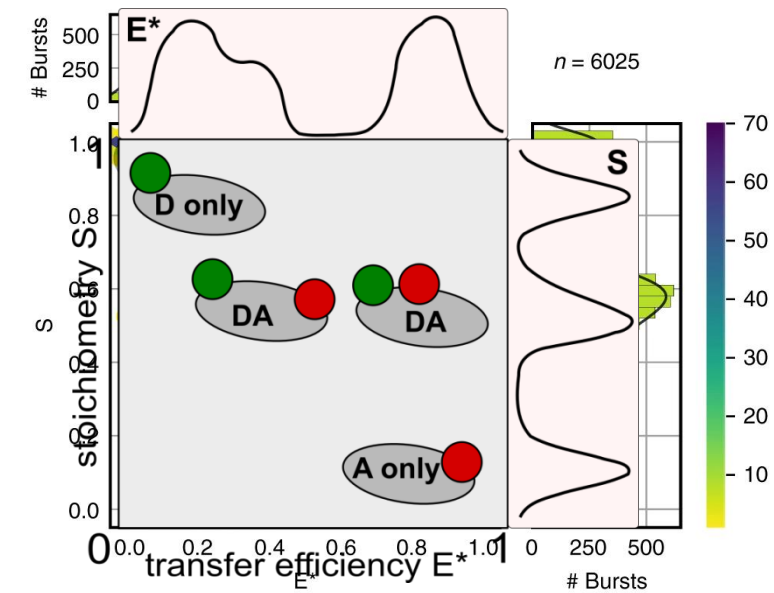
Alternating Laser Excitation



Single molecules => Bursts of Photons



Histogram combined data

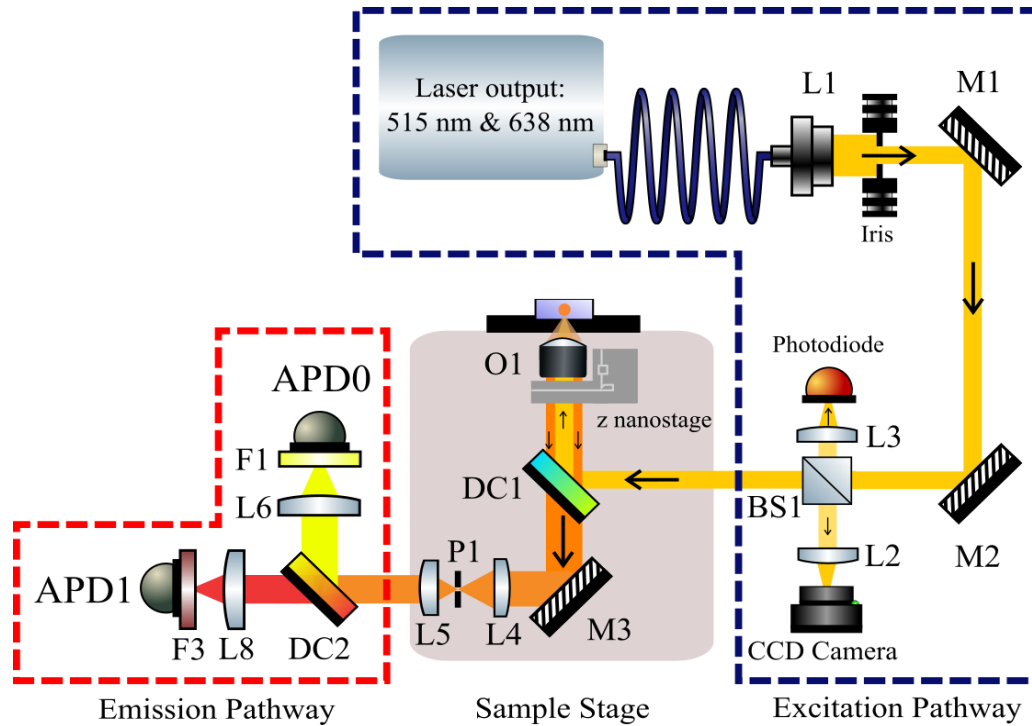


£400,000

Confocal smFRET
Buy one?



#smfBox : Open Hardware



- Economic
- Robust
- Compact
- Easy to assemble
- Easy to use
- Open source
- Biologist proof!



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Inspiring young scientists and Nobel Prize winners with our groundbreaking research and innovative teaching.

95% student satisfaction for BSc and MChem undergraduate courses

National Student Survey 2018

Researchers establish new way to measure molecules

Dr Tim Craggs contributed to a major worldwide study to measure exact distances within molecules down to the scale of one millionth of the width of a human hair. Two of our students built the microscope that helped make it possible.

[Full story](#) →



Microscopy research

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Laser laboratory



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Our graduates get great careers in the chemical industry and many other fields. Our teaching is inspired by the



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News

Researchers establish new way to measure molecules which could help develop new targeted drugs

Students build single molecule FRET microscope for world-class biological imaging lab

Dr Tom Anderson shortlisted for prestigious international fiction prize

[More news](#)














ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-020-19468-4>

OPEN



The smfBox is an open-source platform for single-molecule FRET

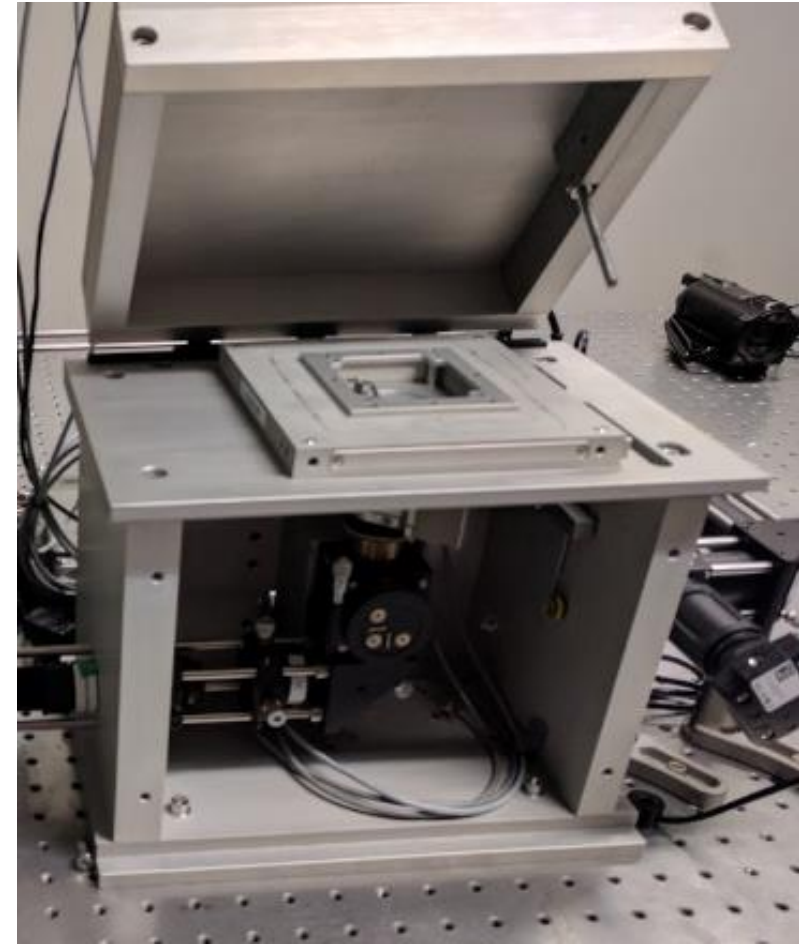
Benjamin Ambrose ^{1,4}, James M. Baxter ^{1,4}, John Cully ^{1,4}, Matthew Willmott ¹, Elliot M. Steele ², Benji C. Bateman ³, Marisa L. Martin-Fernandez ³, Ashley Cadby ², Jonathan Shewring¹, Marleen Aaldering¹ & Timothy D. Craggs ¹✉

<https://craggslab.github.io/smfBox/index.html>

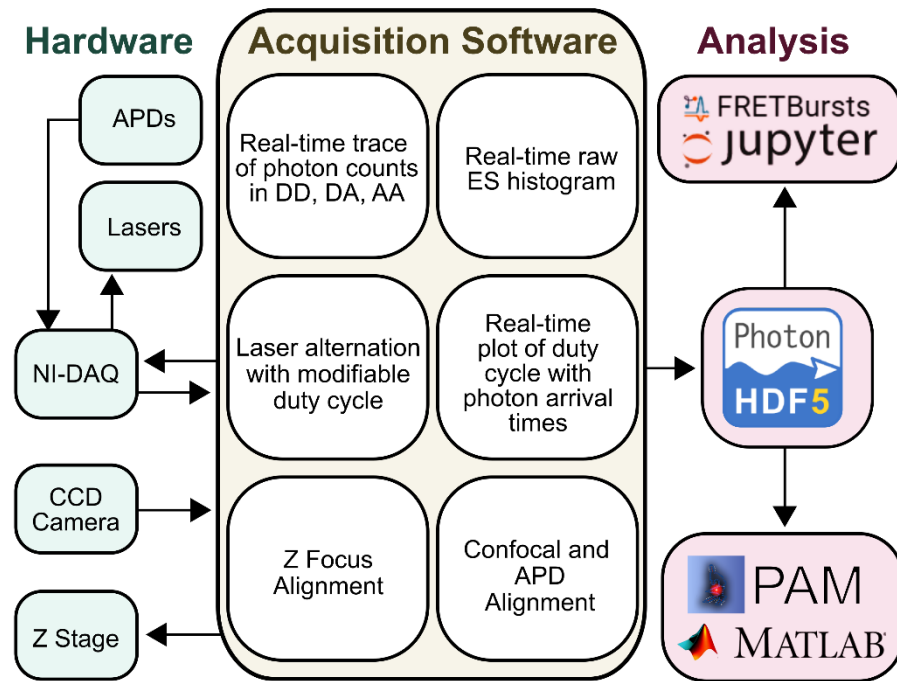
Full parts list and build instructions - GitHub / BioRxiv

Open-source acquisition and analysis software

Ambrose et al. Nature Communications (2020) 11 5641



£40,000



Ben Ambrose

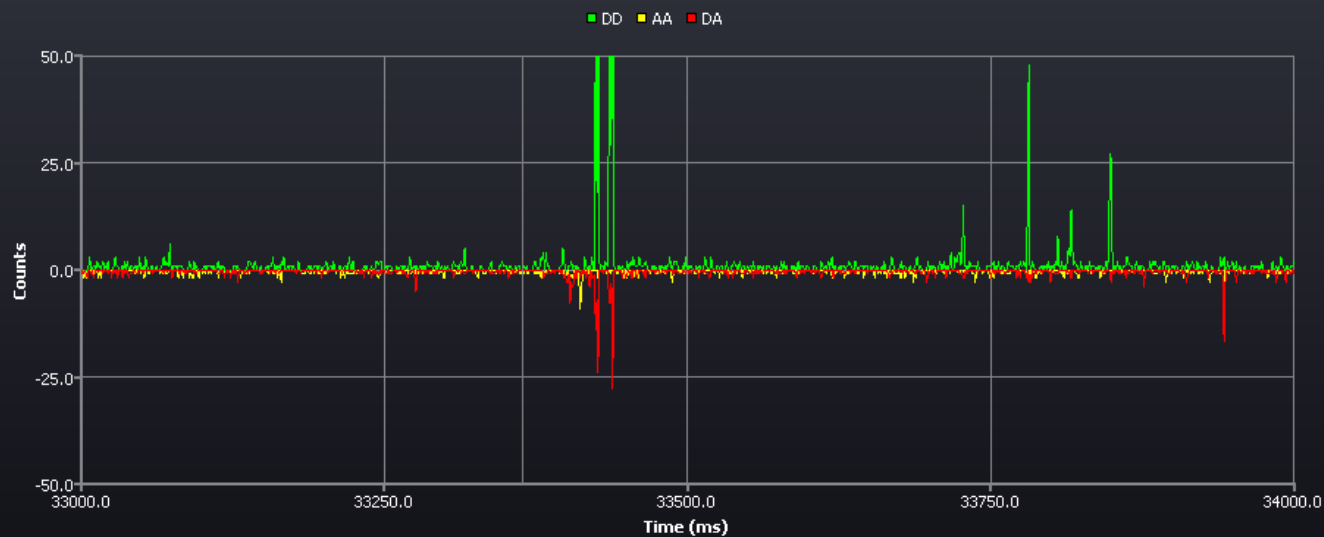


Elliot Steele

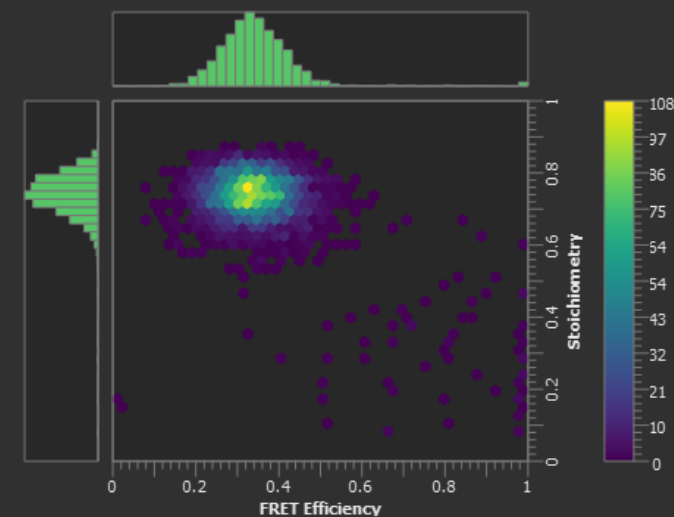
Github – all software open source and available

#smfBox: smOtter – Open-source software

LIVE TRACE PHOTON DISTRIBUTION Z FOCUS ALIGNMENT NI CARD SETTINGS



ES Histogram



DD + DA Threshold: 10 AA Threshold: 10

Number of Bins:

Acquisition

☒ Save Laser Powers

☒ Save Interval (mins):

5

Total Donor Photons: 197709
Total Acceptor Photons: 207710
Experiment Progress:

51m 51s

LIVE

START

STOP

Laser Duty Cycles

Donor Duty Cycle:

0

+

OFF

Acceptor Duty Cycle:

50

+

45

+

ON

45

+

55

+

OFF

5

+

ALEX Period (us):

100

+

Save Settings

C:/2019-07-31/2123.h5

Sample Name

bma2123

Sample Details

buffer

Donor Label

cy3b

Acceptor Label

atto647n

Buffer

Photon-HDF5

- Meta data and raw data stored together

FAIR data principals

Findable

Accessible

Interoperable

Re-usable

<https://photon-hdf5.readthedocs.io>

Zenodo deposition

- Permanent DOI
- All raw and analysed data

Photon-HDF5

- Standardised file format
- Readable by many software packages
- Matlab – PAM
- Jupyter Notebooks

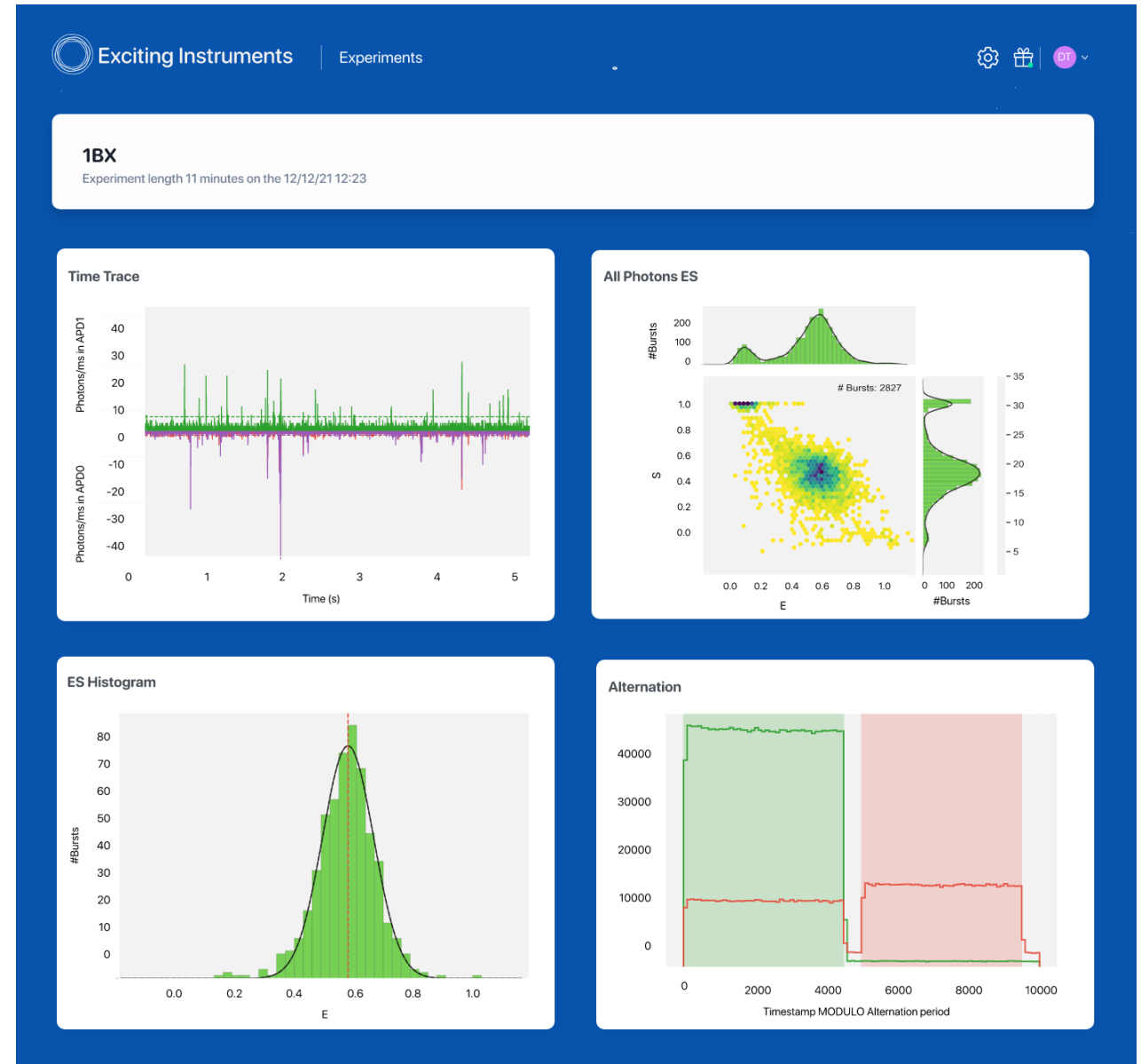
Jupyter Notebooks

- Raw data and analysis available to all
- Run in browser
- Deposit data and analysis together
- Others can re-analyse our data

<https://fretbursts.readthedocs.io>

<https://photon-hdf5.readthedocs.io>

<https://pam.readthedocs.io>



Pre-print publishing

- Get your work out there fast
- Many different pre-print servers

Open Access Publishing

- Nature communications (Open Access)
- Journal of Visual Experiments (Paid open Access)

Making the research accessible:
More than making the publication accessible

What about those who can't build it?



bioRxiv posts many COVID19-related papers. A reminder: they have not been formally peer-reviewed and should not guide health-related behavior or be reported in the press as conclusive.

New Results

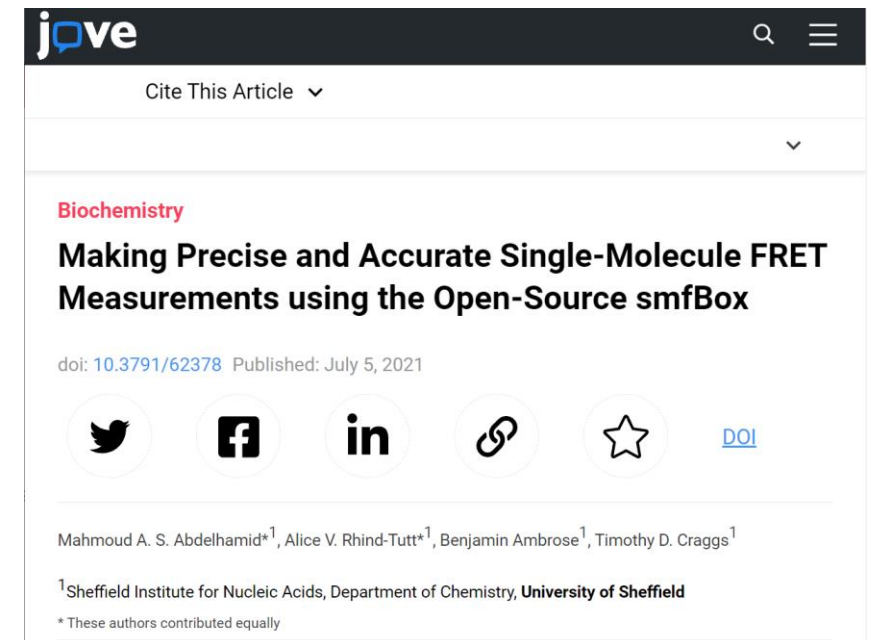
[Follow this preprint](#)

The smfBox: an open-source platform for single-molecule FRET

Benjamin Ambrose, James Baxter, John Cully, Matthew Willmott, Elliot Steele, Benji C. Bateman, Marisa L. Martin-Fernandez, Ashley Cadby, Jonathan Shewring, Marleen Aaldering, Timothy D. Craggs

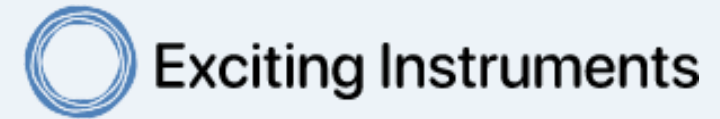
doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/861922>

Now published in *Nature Communications* doi: [10.1038/s41467-020-19468-4](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-020-19468-4)



Open Access – Spin out a company:

- Ease-of-use
- smFRET
- FCS
- Cloud connected Software
- Significant innovations mean low ££
- Bench-top operation
- Small footprint



Thanks



Ben Ambrose

Marleen Aaldering

Dylan George

Matthew Willmott

Elliot Steele

Victoria Hill

Callum Johnston

Mahmoud Abdelhamid

Tristan Johnston-Wood

Jon Shewring

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Grant Hill (Sheffield)

Jane Grasby (Sheffield)

Daniel Bose (Sheffield)

Alison Twelvetrees (Sheffield)

Benji Bateman (RAL)

AFM

RNAseH2

iMotif

SMC-ParABS

MGMT

Aggresomes

Atomistic MD

Cancer/Mechanobiology

Physics

MD and DFT

FEN1

eRNA structure

Neuronal Transport

smFRET

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THE END



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