



# **Methods to study RNA** in neurons

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fibroblast



A Golgi-stained pyramidal cell in the parietal cortex of a rat. The high power images at the right show dendritic spines on apical and basilar dendritic branches. Photo by **Grazyna Gorny** 

Synapses are located on dendritic spines. Dendritic spines are dynamic structures that can change shape in response to stimulation.



**Fig. 1**: A segment of pyramidal cell dendrite from stratum radiatum (CA1) with thin, stubby, and mushroom-shaped spines. Spine synapses colored in red, stem (or shaft) synapses colored in blue. The dendrite was made transparent in the lower image to enable visualization of all synapses. *Photo by <u>Josef Spacek</u>*.

# Local mRNA translation in dendritic spines



### A model of Arc-dependent LTP consolidation in the dentate gyrus



Nature Reviews | Neuroscience

#### Differential mRNA localization depending on cel types



Nature Reviews | Molecular Cell Biology

## Methods of mRNA visualization in neurons



#### In situ hybridization with RNA probe labelled with Digoxigenine



@ 2000 Sinawer Associates, Inc.

#### *in situ* hybridization with RNA probe labelled with radioactive Sulphure



Vizi S. i wsp., Brain Research Protocols 2001

#### *in situ* hybridization in high resolution microscopy (below 200 nm)



High-resolution fluorescent in situ hybridization procedure to comprehensively evaluate mRNA localization dynamics during early *Drosophila* embryogenesis.



Lecuyer et al. 2007

"Single molecule FISH" is an in situ hybridization method that allows imaging of a single mRNA molecule in a cell by using multiple fluorescently labeled probes designed to recognize sequences within the same mRNA molecule



Using this method, it is possible, for example, to simultaneously detect two different mRNAs in a cell or mRNAs resulting from the fusion of 2 transcripts (genomic translocations) such as BCR-ABL

#### Imaging mRNA in nerve cell dendrites using smFISH



# Activity-dependent local translation of MMP-9



Dziembowska et al., J Neuroscience 2012 Dziembowska and Wlodarczyk, Int J Biochem Cell Biol, 2012

## Medial perforant path LTP - a well established model of synaptic plasticity



#### **Brain circuits**









In situ hybridization shows increse in MMP-9 expression in granular layer and molecular layer of dentate gyrus 2h after medial perforant path LTP



MMP-9 in situ hybridization

## Arc in situ hybridization



# Sushi belt model



Figure 2 from Michael Doyle and Michael A Kiebler *The EMBO Journal* online publication doi:10.1038/emboj.2011.278

 $\ensuremath{\textcircled{C}}$  2011 European Molecular Biology Organization.

#### Traditional and novel uses of MS2-like systems to investigate mRNA biology



# MS2 system to stain targeted mRNA in the living cell



Dziembowska et al., J Neurosci. 2012

# Synaptoneurosomes, a model for studying biochemical processes occurring in the synapses



Fragile X syndrome is the most common form of inherited intellectual disability with behaviors characteristic of autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Syndromic autism

Fragile X syndrome is caused by transcriptional silencing of the Fmr1 gene and consequent loss of expression of the FMRP protein.



Nature Medicine (2011)

# Cytoplasmic polyadenylation promotes translation



Nature Reviews | Molecular Cell Biology

Mendez, R. & Richter, J. D. Translational control by CPEB: a means to the end. *Nature Reviews Molecular Cell Biology* 2, 521–529 (2001)

# PAT assay



# MMP-9 polyadenylation measured by PAT ssay in synaptoneurosomes after glutamate stimulation



## Nanopore Technology and Its Applications in Gene Sequencing



Lin B et al., Biosensors 2021

## MinION (Oxford Nanopore) on the International Space Station









Rozwój nowych technologii – sekwencjonowanie mRNA z pojedynczej komórki













# Experts Say This is the Scientific Breakthrough of 2018

1000

11000

flip science

#### **Gene expression clusters**



The authors annotated these cells manually, using the expression of some known marker genes, as shown in this figure from the paper



Marc van Oostrum, Thomas M. Blok, Stefano L. Giandomenico, ..., Nicole Fu<sup>¨</sup> rst, Julian D. Langer, Erin M. Schuman Cell 2023 *The proteomic landscape of synaptic diversity across brain regions and cell types*