



Holotomography: New Insight Into Life Science



Next Generation 3D Imaging: Label-Free 3D Holotomography

Tomocube's leading-edge holotomography technology represents a groundbreaking advancement in microscopy, opening new frontiers across a wide range of research fields.

With holotomography, researchers can explore live cells in their natural state, observing real time dynamics and intricate 3D structures without the need for labeling or staining. This innovative technology is not just enhancing our understanding—it's driving new discoveries and reshaping the possibilities in biological research.

Experience the futur your expectations.

Experience the future of bioimaging. Discover new insights beyond



Holotomography captures the 3D refractive index distribution within cells.

Holotomography (HT) leverages refractive index (RI) as an intrinsic imaging contrast, transforming bioimaging with its label-free and quantitative capability. By reconstructing the 3D RI map of the sample, HT allows researchers to explore the intricate architecture of subcellular structures—such as nuclei, mitochondria, lipid droplets— in fine detail. This advanced technique supports long-term observation, without the need for potentially harmful stains or labels, a common requirement in other imaging methods. Additionally, HT can effectively integrate with fluorescence microscopy, enabling synergistic analyses that correlate fluorescence emission signals with reconstructed RI tomograms, offering both molecular and structural insights into cellular architecture.



Transmission wave with quantitative information

Principle of holotomography

Holotomography combines the principles of holography and tomography to generate high resolution, 3D images of biological samples. When a beam of light illuminates a sample, the path of light scatters as it interact with internal components of cells, which have different RI. This scattering allows the capture of 2D images containing phase and amplitude information, which are then computationally reconstructed into detailed 3D representations. Since variations in the biomolecular concentration directly impact the overall RI of the cellular biomaterials, the reconstruction of RI tomograms by HT can retrieve important biophysical parameters such as cell volume, surface area, and protein concentration for further analysis.



Holotomography provides key advantages that revolutionize bioimaging

High resolution imaging

- Achieve higher resolution up to 156 nm through synthetic aperture
- Distinguish diverse subcellular organelles, such as nuclei, nucleoli, mitochondria, and lipid droplets











Label-free observation

- Preserve the natural physiology of cells without the need for labeling, fixation, or sectioning.
- Minimize challenges in bioimaging such as phototoxicity and photobleaching.

3D visualization

- Utilize intracellular RI variations to clearly differentiate major subcellular structures.
- Provide detailed 3D visualization of cells and their organelles.

Quantitative analysis

- The RI value changes in direct relation to protein concentration, enabling the quantitative measurement of cellular parameters.
- Numerical variations due to imaging conditions are minimal, enabling reliable quantitative comparisons with groups.

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Unveiling cellular complexity: From individual organelles to 3D networks

Organelle

HT imaging preserves the intact morphology of live specimens, allowing for the non-invasive detection of key organelles like the nuclei, mitochondria, and lipid droplets. Label-free visualization of organelles avoids challenges in long-term observation such as photobleaching and phototoxicity. This ensures accurate and reliable analysis of organelle dynamics while preserving the natural state of the cells and their structures. Cell

Tomocube HT offers an essential live cell imaging tool for cell biology reseach, providing direct, real time insights into cellular functions with remarkable clarity and precision. Holotomography's non-invasive approach allows for the study of various cellular processes, such as cell division, cell migration, cellcell interactions, signaling pathways, and cellular responses to environmental changes, over extended periods.

Organoid

The Tomocube 3D imaging system is well-suited for research involving 3D cell cultures such as spheroids, organoids, and organ-on-a-chip systems. It offers key advantages, including the ability to capture the complexity of 3D structures, enable non-invasive live observation of cellular dynamics within intact organoids, and provide quantitative measurement, making it ideal for high throughput applications like drug screening.

"What we can observe?"







Single cell





Lipid droplets & mitochondria

Mouse astrocyte Courtesy: Dr. Jae-Hun Lee (Institute for Basic Science)



Stress granule HeLa cells, stress granules-GFP Courtesy: Dr. Pureum Jeon (Hannam University)



Microorganisms

(A) Euplotes (B) Snowflake yeast. Courtesy: Dr. Ben Larson (UCSF) and Prof. William Ratcliff (Georgia Tech)



Embryo Mouse embryo Courtesy: Prof. Yojiro Yamanaka (McGill University)



Gut organoid-microbe co-culture

(A) Bacteria living on gut chip (B) Nucleus Courtesy: Prof. CT Lim group (National University of Singapore)



Hepatic organoids Patient-derived pancreatic organoid and high-RI contents (lysosome or lipid droplet) Courtesy: Prof. Hee Seung Lee (Yonsei University and Severance Hospital)

Tissue

HT optimizes tissue research by providing deep structural insights from intact samples without the need for sectioning, fixation, or staining, which can compromise the morphological and physiological information. It also enables the seamless integration of these structural insights with histological data from H&E staining or immunohistochemistry, facilitating comprehensive morphological and molecular analysis.



Plant

Arabidopsis thaliana stem tissue Courtesy: Dr. Haesoo Kim (Tomocube, inc.)



Brain tissue

Hippocampus Courtesy: Dr. Jung Min Kyo (Korea Brain Research Institute)

Spatiotemporal tracking of cellular dynamics

Mitosis in murine hepatic organoid

Time lapse imaging, 8-minute interval for 40 minutes



Cell-in-cell structure in human ovarian cancer organoid

Time lapse imaging, 30-minute interval for 24 hours | Courtesy: Prof. Sun-Young Kong (National Cancer Center Korea)



Rat primary cultured neuron

Time lapse imaging, 2-minute interval for 12 hours



Mitochondria fusion and fission

Hep3B cells with Mito-DsRed, Time lapse imaging, 6-second interval for 2 hours



Re-differentiated human adipocyte

Courtesy: Eun Young Jeong (Chungnam National Univ. Hospital)



Zebrafish

Courtesy: Dr. Nicolas Dray (Institut Pasteur)



Tardigrade in live state

Courtesy: Dr. Ana Lyons (University of California, San Francisco)





Mitochondria fusion 00:00:18 00:00:24 00:00:30 00:00:36 Mitochondria fission 00:00:18 00:00:24 00:00:30 00:00:36

HT-X1[™]

Pioneering advanced holotomography for superior imaging quality in research.



Key features of HT-X1[™]



High resolution, high contrast

An LED illumination module integrated with a Digital Micro-mirror Device (DMD) achieves resolution beyond the diffraction limit, delivering higher synthetic numerical aperture and an improved signal-to-noise (SNR) ratio.



Designed to maximize user flexibility, the system employs an adaptive illumination module tailored for multi-well plates. It accommodates a wide variety of vessel types, from 35-mm dishes to 96-well plates.





The system is capable of imaging diverse biological specimens from bacteria to small organoids and tissue sections, with easy time lapse setup for live cell imaging and automatic stitching for wide area scans.

The HT-X1[™] is the first model in Tomocube's second-generation HT series, meticulously engineered for advanced life science research. This innovative platform utilizes low-coherence LED light to push the boundaries of holotomography, make it possible to achieve label-free 3D live cell imaging on standard imaging plates. With its noise-free, high resolution imaging capability and unparalleled stability, the system offer researchers an unprecedented view into the dynamics of living cells.

The HT-X1[™] brings new advancements by:

- · Enabling high quality imaging of intact samples
- Reducing the need for system calibration and simplifying operation
- Ensuring consistent imaging quality in various environmental conditions
- Allowing flexibility with standard labware for imaging



The combination of holotomography and fluorescence imaging enables synergistic analyses, correlating fluorescence emission signals with RI tomograms to obtain both structural and molecular insights into cells.

Multi-well plate compatibility

140-µm depth scanning

Correlative imaging with fluorescence

HT-X1[™] Plus

Setting new standards in 3D imaging throughput for biomedical screening.



Tomocube continues to drive innovation with the HT-X1[™] Plus, an advanced holotomography imaging platform built to meet the ever-growing demands of biomedical research. Building on the success of the HT-X1[™], this model features significant upgrades and enhancements, delivering outstanding performance and precision across a wider range of applications. The HT-X1[™] Plus system is designed to empower researchers and shape the future of biological and biomedical discovery.

With its high-end specifications, the HT-X1[™] Plus is the ideal choice for researchers seeking:

- Fast, high throughput 3D image-based screening
- · Clear and detailed internal analysis of intact organoids and thick tissue sections
- · Enhanced sensitivity and precision in comparative analysis of fluorescence and holotomography
- · Deeper insights into tissue studies with wide preview scan mode, seamlessly paired with correlative color brightfield imaging

Key features of HT-X1[™] Plus



High resolution + high content screening

Expand your scanning area with a 4× larger field-of-view. Equipped with a high-performance CXP camera, the system offers rapid image acquisition, capturing a 3D image in under a second.



A dedicated low-resolution scan camera enables wide-area preview, making it easy to detect large samples, such as organoids or tissue microarrays, within a broad imaging field, ensuring efficient sample identification and analysis.



Depth scanning + multiple wavelengths

Three wavelength options let you tailor your HT imaging for optimal contrast or light penetration depth. This adapability enables the imaging of various sample types while minimizing interference from absorption spectra.



Correlative imaging + higher sensitivity

The sCMOS-equipped correlative fluorescence (FLX[™]) module provides high sensitivity, enabling shorter exposure times for obtaining biomolecular specificity information while significantly reducing phototoxicity.

Multi-well plate + wide field scan

Accessories

Optimizing high-performance holotomography imaging with flexibility.



Expand the capabilities of the HT-X1[™] and HT-X1[™] Plus with a range of adaptable accessories, designed to fit seamlessly into your workflow and meet the diverse demands of research.

- Optimize your holotomography imaging with a variety of cell culture dishes from 35-mm to 60-mm, as well as 6, 12, 24-well plates, and HT-Ready[™] 96-well plate.
- Expand your research areas by using custom-designed vessels with #1.5H bottom thickness, such as organ-on-chips or microfluidic devices, enabling new and innovative applications.







Support both adherent and suspension cells, providing optimal culture and imaging conditions for HT imaging. It is also compatible with other imaging techniques, ideal for diverse applications such as live and fixed cell imaging, long-term time lapse, immunofluorescence staining, and transfection assays.

Specifications

50 mm
20 × 20 mm
#1.5 H (170 ± 5 μm)
3 mL
Uncoated

Offer a stable cell culture environment and optimized compatibility with various imaging techniques, including HT-X1[™] Holotomography, confocal, and fluorescence microscopes. Its solvent-resistant bottom coverslip ensures flatness and zero autofluorescence, providing clear imaging in high content analysis.

Specifications

127.8 (W) × 85.5 (D) × 17.2 (H) mm	
7.4 × 7.4 × 4.2 mm	
0.56 cm ²	
#1.5 polymer (170 μm)	
150 - 220 μL	
Tissue culture treated, Uncoated	

Vessel holder

Users can select from a versatile range of vessel holders, precisely designed for specific labware. These holders offer flexibility to meet your research needs with various experimental setups, including mounting up to six dishes.

TomoDish[™]

HT-Ready[™] 96 well plate

Specifications

Ordering information www.tomocube.com/products/accessories/vh

TomoAnalysis[™]



Advanced analysis and visualization software tailored for holotomography

Tomocube's TomoAnalysis™ offers advanced visualization and analysis tools for cells. Leveraging RI-based thresholding and AI-driven segmentation, the software enables precise analysis across diverse applications. TomoAnalysis[™] supports flexible, customizable pipelines for comprehensive data analysis, including measurement and guantification of subcellular organelles such as lipid droplets or mitochondria. Discover how TomoAnalysis[™] can accelerate your research, providing actionable insights that drive scientific innovation and discovery.

Key features of TomoAnalysis™

Al-driven structure segmentation

TomoAnalysis offers customized HT analysis by fine tuning open-source AI models.



Fine tuning StarDist, Cellpose, and ilastik for cell and subcellular structure segmentation.

Manual mask correction



Mask Editor, equipped with drawing and label editing tools, allows users to fine tune the masks generated by their analysis pipelines.



Workflow highlights



• Pipeline wizard: Create a customized analysis pipeline by combining modules, which are sets of processors designed for various image analyses.



Viewer: Visualize segmented masks as high resolution 3D images, verify analysis results, and utilize image capture and time lapse recording features.



· Analysis project: Apply pipelines to your data, obtain quantitative results, and perform batch analysis on hundreds of datasets using the same parameters.



• Data manager: Trim specific XYZ or time dimensions, along with selected modalities and channels from your image files to enhance the usability

during analyses.



3D visualization

The immersive 3D visualization feature offers a more comprehensive structural intepretation.



Refractive index-based thresholding

Segmenting structures of interest from the background using the RI value thresholding method.







RI-based thresholding is used for cell, lipid droplet, bacterium, and organoid segmentation.

Morphological and quantitative analysis

AI models and RI-based analyses provide biophysical metrics, such as volume, area, length, dry mass, and concentration, in segmented objects.

Fluorescence-integrated analysis

Broadens HT analysis with integrated 3D fluorescence data, enhancing its application scope.

Applications

Lipid droplet quantification

- · Measure changes in lipid droplet numbers over time.
- Evaluate variations in droplet volume and concentration during differentiation.



Average (N=845)
1.3686
0.52
0.1215
0.234





Mitochondria size analysis

- · Quantify mitochondrial length and volume using AI-based segmentation tailored to specific cell lines.
- · Assess mitochondrial fission and fusion in response to drug treatments.





Fluorescence-assisted cell counting and quantification

- Track changes in cell counts over time by identifying fluorescence-positive and fluorescence-negative cells.
- Label protein levels and conduct quantitative analysis of HT images using the fluorescence signals.





Organoid growth and morphology assessment

- · Automatically segment organoids to track their growth over time.
- Quantitatively analyze the organoid lumen and cell layers to assess structural changes and cell distribution.









Specifications



HT-X1[™] Holotomography System

Dimensions	565 (W) × 732 (D) × 921 (H) mm	
Weight	90 kg	
Power Supply	100-240 VAC, 50/60 Hz, 5-3A	
Imaging area	100 mm × 60 mm	
Objective lens	40× NA 0.95 air	
Objective working distance	180 µm	
Condenser lens	NA 0.72	
Image sensor	2.8 Megapixels CMOS	
Field-of-view	218 μm × 165 μm	
Auto focus	Laser-assisted active sensor	
Imaging Modalities	Holotomography, Brightfield (Grayscale), Fluorescence	
Supported labware	Dish/Plate/Slide with #1.5 bottom thickness	
Wide preview image sensor	Not available	

HT-X1[™] Holotomography Optics

Light source	LED	
Illumination wavelength	450 nm	
Axial scan range	60 - 140 μm	
Lateral resolution	156 - 205 nm	
Axial resolution	803 - 839 nm	
Minimum acquisition speed	ed 3.5 sec per image	

Workstation for HT-X1[™]

Operating System	Windows 10 IoT	
CPU	Intel Core i7 or equivalent	
GPU	NVIDIA GeForce RTX 4090 or equivalent	
RAM	128 GB	
Screen	QHD (2560 × 1440)	

Fluorescence Light Engine for HT-X1™

Light source	LEDs
Excitation filters	378/52, 474/27, 554/23, 635/18 (nm)
Emission filters	432/36, 515/30, 595/31, 698/70 (nm)
Fluorescence light source trigger	3 channels

Environmental Controller (HT-X1[™] & HT-X1[™] Plus)

Dimensions	151 (W) × 263 (D) × 196 (H) mm	
Weight	3.8 kg	
Power Supply	100-240 VAC, 50/60 Hz	
Temperature control	30 - 40°C	
CO ₂ range	5 - 20%	
Humidity control	Heating bath humidifier	

HT-X1[™] Plus

HT-X1[™] Plus Holotomography System

Dimensions	565 (W) × 732 (D) × 921 (H) mm	
Weight	95 kg	
Power Supply	100-240 VAC, 50/60 Hz, 5-3A	
Imaging area	100 mm × 60 mm	
Objective lens	40× NA 0.95 air	
Objective working distance	180 μm	
Condenser lens	NA 0.72	
Image sensor	20 Megapixels CMOS, CXP-12	
Field-of-view	308 μm × 308 μm	
Auto focus	Laser-assisted active sensor	
Imaging Modalities	Holotomography, Brightfield (Color), Fluorescence	
Supported labware	Dish/Plate/Slide with #1.5 bottom thickness	
Wide preview image sensor	Color CMOS	

HT-X1[™] Plus Holotomography Optics

4 (H) mm
4/23,
5/31,
30 nm)
•

Light source	LEDs	Dimensions	434 (W) x 409 (D) x 174 (H) mm
Illumination wavelength	444, 520, 660 nm		
Axial scan range	30 - 140 µm	Weight	25 kg
Lateral resolution	156 - 332 nm	Light source	LEDs
Axial resolution	803 - 1106 nm		
Minimum acquisition speed	0.5 sec per image	Excitation filters	378/52, 474/27, 554/23, 635/18 (nm)
Workstation for HT-X1™ Plus		Emission filters	432/36, 515/30, 595/31, 698/70 (nm)
Operating System	Windows 10 IoT	Filter exchange time	100 ms
CPU	Intel Core i7 or equivalent	Fluorescence image sensor	sCMOS
GPU	NVIDIA GeForce 6000 Ada		
RAM	128 GB	Quantum efficiency	95% (wavelentgh: 580 nm)
Screen	QHD (2560 × 1440)	Fluorescence light source trigger	3 channels



Fluorescence Module X for HT-X1[™] Plus





Established in 2015, Tomocube is dedicated to advancing biological and medical research with its state-of-theart optical technologies. Inspired by our philosophy, "Innovate the way we see life", we continuously push the boundaries of 3D imaging, contributing to groundbreaking discoveries that redefine what's possible in scientific research. Our relentless commitment to innovation not only transforms scientific methods but also enables scientists to understand the complexities of life. Through our pioneering imaging solutions, we are setting new benchmarks in scientific excellence and outcomes across the world.

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