

# Photonics @ SINTEF

## Food & Agriculture

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12.12.22



Technology for a better society



# SINTEF is one of the largest independent research institutes in Europe

Revenue



3,4

Billion NOK

Employees



2100

Projects



6800

Clients



3600

International

**472 mill NOK**

Publications

**5100**

Nationalities

**80**

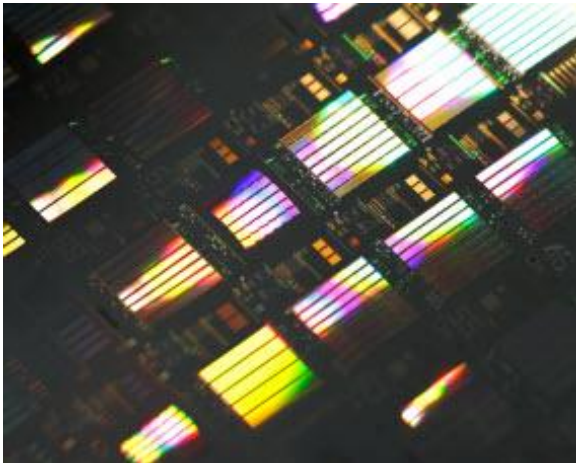
Customer satisfaction

**4.6 out of 5**

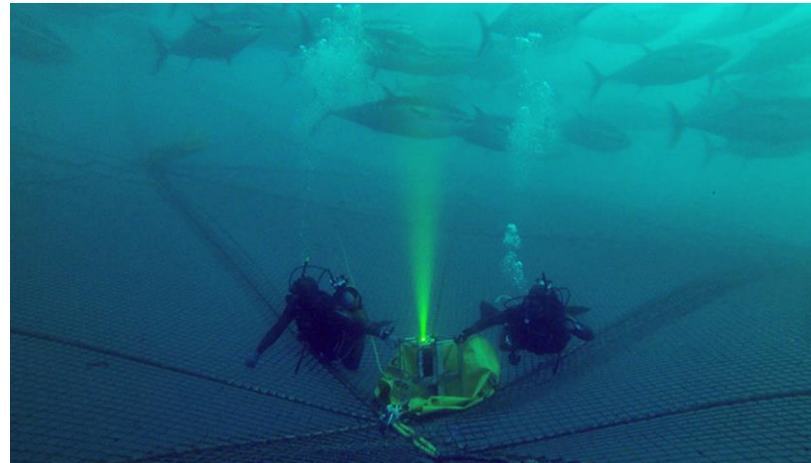
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# Photonics @ SINTEF



**Optical MEMS** are systems with structures in the micro- to millimeter range whose purposes are to manipulate light. This includes waveguides, moving micro-mirrors, diffractive gratings, photonic crystals applied to gas sensing or Infrared emitters

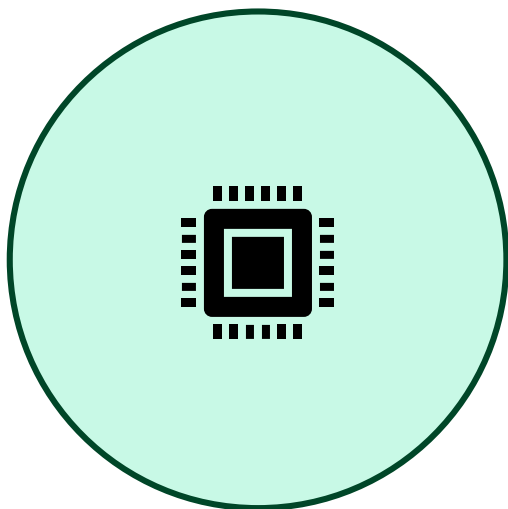


**Applied optics**  
Sensor development for the real world. Optical measurement techniques, optical instrumentation design, detectors, illumination design, electronic design, prototyping, numerical modelling, and data analytics



**Computer Vision**  
Computer Vision includes automatic video analysis, 3D camera technology for accurate measurements and autonomy, as well as deep learning for interpretation of images.

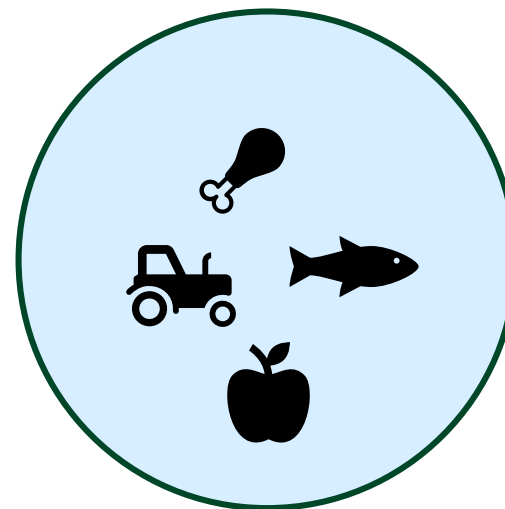
# Applied Research



**Hardware**

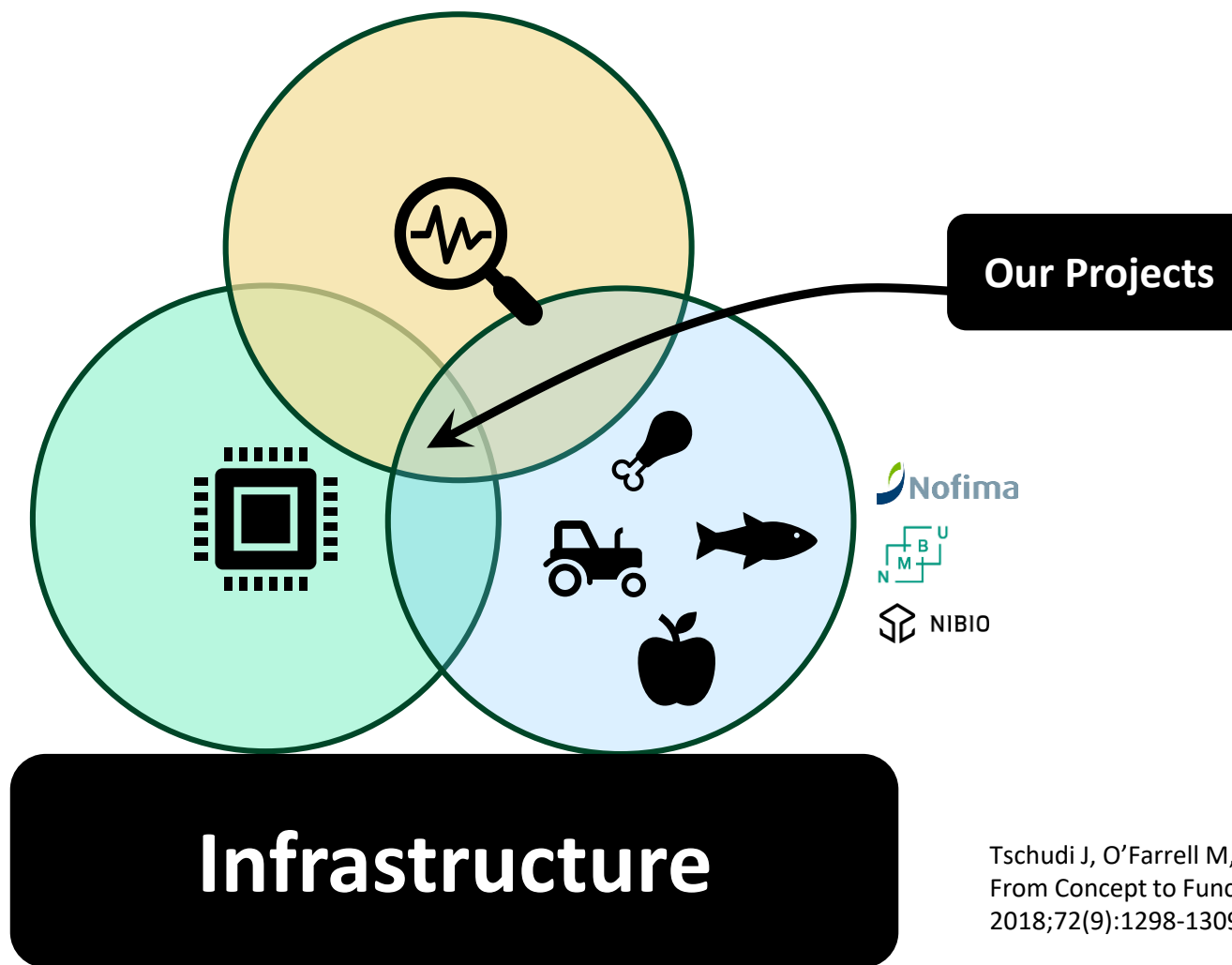


**Data Analytics**



**Domain**

# The model for our projects





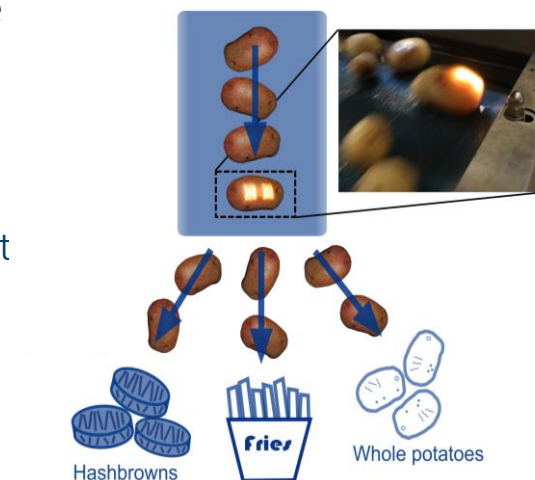
# Sensors for food quality

- SINTEF expertise:

- Robust instrumentation and smart sensors systems suitable for use inline, in the field, handheld or on agricultural robots

- What we are measuring:

- Ripeness
- Internal and external damage
- Sugar content
- Plant diseases
- Fat and protein
- Water and dry matter content



High-speed, sub-surface measurement of dry-matter in potatoes – **IPN Smart Sensor**



FT-IR for hydrolysis (breakdown) of fish waste to consumable proteins – **SFI DigiFoods**



Non-contact measurement of shape (3D) and fat (NIR) for lamb carcass classification – **IPN MeatCrafter**



Sub-surface measurement sugar content in strawberries – **IPN Målbær**



Sub-surface measurement dry-matter in salted cod – **FHF KlippFisk**

# Sensors for Automation in Precision Agriculture

- SINTEF expertise:
  - Holistic design of autonomous systems
  - 3D – structured light, Flash LIDAR, etc.
  - Deep learning on 2D, 3D images
  - Spectral imaging
- What we are working on today:
  - Imaging and processing for quality measurements, detection, remote sensing
  - Imaging and for localisation, navigation and interaction – path planning, obstacle avoidance, manipulation
  - Optimizing missions





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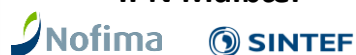
# Reference list of currently ongoing projects

## FHF Klippfisk



- ✓ Klippfisk (FHF) – Nofima, SINTEF, ANFACO (Spain)
- ✓ Goal: Develop and test a handheld instrument for the measurement of water content in salted cod

## IPN Målbær



- ✓ Målbær (IPN) – Saga Robotics, SINTEF, Nofima, NMBU
- ✓ Goal: Develop sensors systems for perception of strawberry quality (ripeness, color, health, ...), and integrate on Saga's harvesting robot

## KSP RoboFarmer



- ✓ Robofarmer (KSP) – Saga Robotics, Byte motion, Robot Norge, NMBU, SINTEF
- ✓ Goal: Develop and demonstrate necessary methods for enabling safe operation of autonomous multi-arm robots in outdoor real-world (agricultural) environments

## SFI DigiFoods



- ✓ DigiFoods (SFI) – SINTEF, Nofima, NMBU + many industrial and international partners (total 27)
- ✓ Goal: Develop solutions for measurement and digitalization of food quality for optimising value chains in the food industry

## EU PurPest



- ✓ PurPest (EU) – with 18 partners from 10 European countries, including NTNU, SINTEF, NIBIO
- ✓ Goal: develop a sensor platform that can detect when plants are being attacked by different pests. This will work by detecting volatile organic compounds (VOCs) emitted by the plants under attack or by the pests themselves.

## FP ENDIT



- ✓ ENDIT – Forskningsprosjekt NIBIO, NMBU, SINTEF
- ✓ Goal: Develop environmentally friendly, non-chemical way of detecting and preventing fungal infections in greenhouses

## IPN Filima



- ✓ FILIMA (IPN) – Agrosense, Norsk Landbruksrådgiving, Felleskjøpet R&A

- ✓ Goal: Develop a holistic field lifecycle management solution including automatic data capture, analytics, & decision support tailored for fodder production

## IPN Feedcarrier



- ✓ FeedCarrier (IPN) – TKS, Orkel, Felleskjøpet, NMBU, SINTEF
- ✓ Goal: Develop an intelligent and autonomous feed system that enables precise control and optimisation of feeding, leading to more cost-effective operations and improved animal wellbeing.





SFI Digital Food Quality  
Senter for Forskningsdrevet Innovasjon

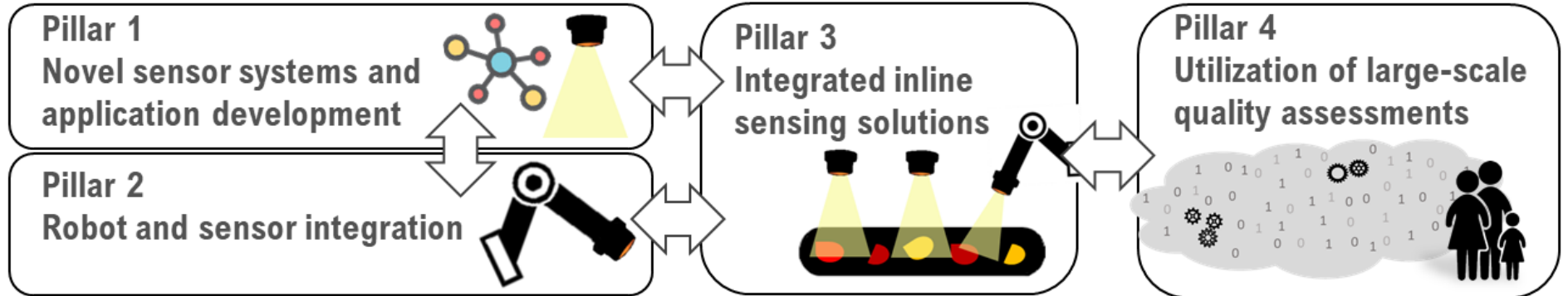
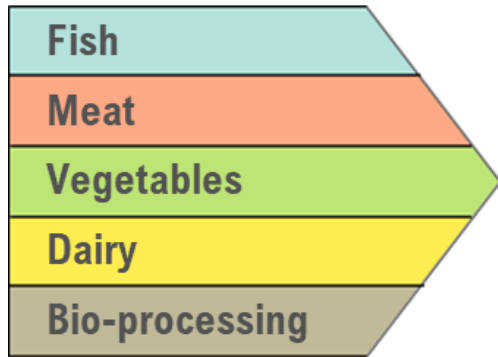
# SFI – Digital Food Quality

**Main goal:** Develop solutions for measuring and digitalising food quality for optimising value chains in the food industry.

- 8 years (2020-2028)
- Total €19M
- Consortium: 27 partners
- 9 PhD students and 3 post docs



# Research Pillars



✓ Novel sensors and robotics designed for online use

✓ Novel strategies for online success

✓ Novel solutions for process and value chain optimization



Food companies

Sensors & Robotics

IT/Data analysis

R & D

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AGRI-FOOD TECHNOLOGY

# Summary

- **What we can bring to projects in food and agriculture**
  - Significant experience in projects within the food and agriculture domain
  - A broad network of industrial partners in food and agriculture.
  - Extensive applied optics, computer vision and data analytics expertise
  - We are used to pushing the performance limits of technology – speed, size, SNR etc., and adapting solutions to needs of the measurement scenario – field of view, measurement frequency, level of autonomy
  - Experience in high TRL prototype development and completing successful field trials
  - A history of commercial successes in industrial optical measurement systems



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<https://www.sintef.no/en/sintef-research-areas/sensors/>





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