






















Microfluidics InnovationHub

We get Microfluidics rolling

NextGenMicrofluidics (NGM)

- NGM is an Open Innovation Test Bed
- 21 companies
- worldwide biggest platform for upscaling and testing of microfluidic devices

<p>Design & Simulation</p> 	<p>Process development</p>    	<p>Cell culture solutions</p>  
<p>Materials</p>  	<p>Microfluidics development & manufacturing</p>  	<p>Research</p>   
<p>Electronics manufacturer</p> 	<p>Medical sensors</p>   	<p>Research</p>  
<p>Bioprocess</p> 		

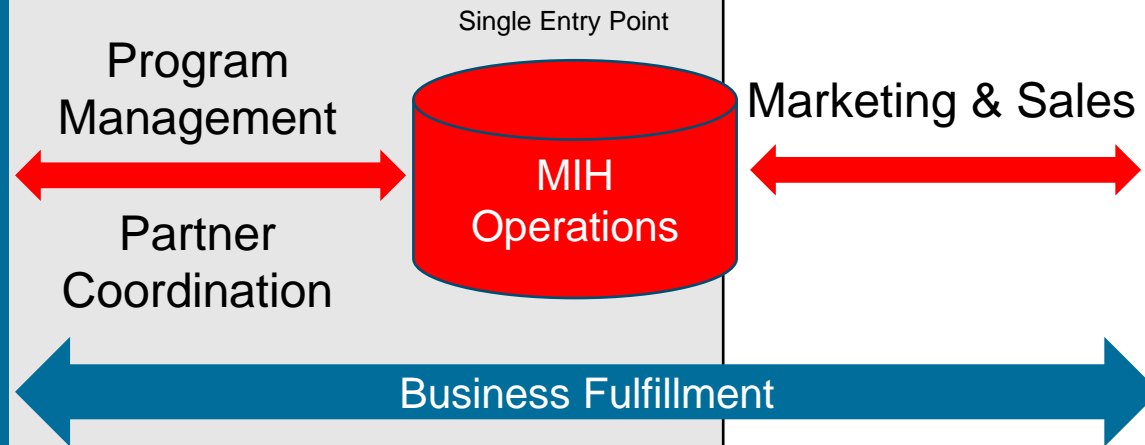


MIH – Single Entry Point to NGM Services

MIH is a non-profit association that includes 20 NGM members

**Research
Development
Production**

Design & Simulation BIONIC SURFACE TECHNOLOGIES	Process development scienion INMOLD	Cell culture solutions ibidi Innoprot
Materials condensia micro resist technology	temicon HESCOL	Research tecnalia JOHANN NEUM RESEARCH
Electronics manufacturer Infineon	Microfluidics development & manufacturing bi.FLOW micronit	TU Graz BRFAA
Bioprocess GENSPEED	Medical sensors Erba Technologies Austria GmbH Erba	BNN



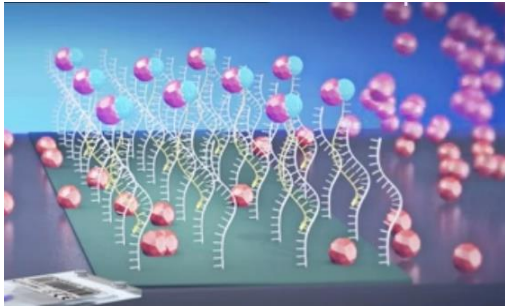
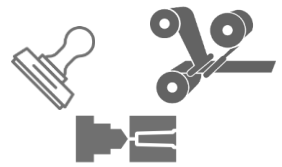
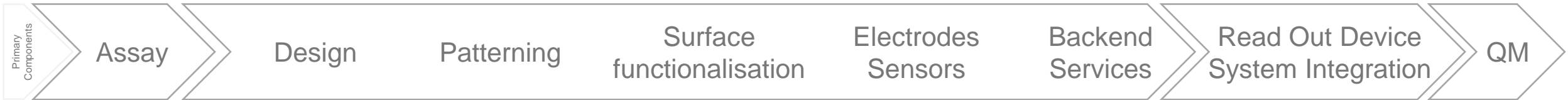
MARKETS

USE CASES

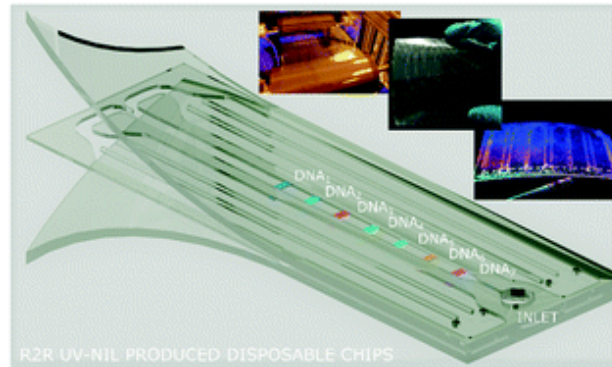
CUSTOMERS

EXTERNAL PARTNERS

MIH Service Portfolio



IVD - ELISA, LAMP, PCR
 ENZYME Detection
 CELL analysis
 Water, Food analysis



Active & Passive Microfluidics
 Single units to millions of units
 From Milling over Inj. Mold to Roll-to-roll

Microfluidic
 Chip



Microfluidic
 Solution

Microfluidics – Value Chain

Microfluidic
Chip

Microfluidic
Solution

Primary
Components

Assay

Design

Imprinting

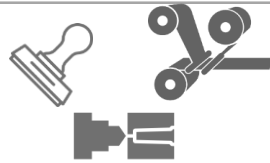
Surface
functionalisation

Electrodes
Sensors

Backend
Services

Read Out Device
System Integration

QM



Industrial



RTOs





WE DEVELOP AND PRODUCE **Microfluidic Lab-on-a-Foil Systems**



Single entry point to
research & development
services



Comprehensive
service portfolio



Fast prototyping
and scale up



Multiple funding
opportunities



Quality
assurance

We offer funding to scale up your application

- ✓ Open Call applications accepted on a rolling basis until September 2023
- ✓ Access to all services of the EU Horizon Europe project NextGenMicrofluidics
- ✓ Funding rate of up to 92% for European SMEs and 50% for Large Enterprises





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Webinar: Lab-on-a-Chip for Molecular Diagnostics

29 SEP 2022, 13:00 CEST

Presented by Jörg Nestler

Founder & Managing Director
BiFlow Systems GmbH

bi.FLOW
systems GmbH

biofluidic integration

www.microfluidicshub.eu

Content

- **BiFlow Systems company profile**
- **Lab-on-a-Chip (for molecular diagnostics)**
 - Towards Integration
 - Towards Multiplexing
 - Towards Speed
- **Examples**
 - Bacterial species identification / AMR testing
 - Respiratory diseases



BiFlow Systems GmbH



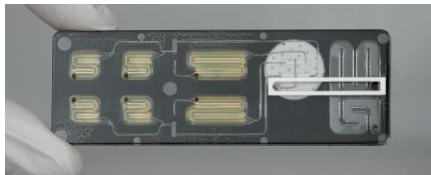
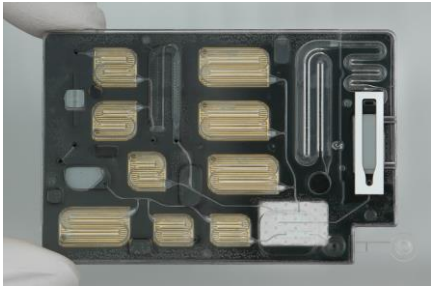
- Founded in 2011
- 18 Employees
- 250m² manufacturing space

- Contact:
BiFlow Systems GmbH
Technologie-Campus 1
09126 Chemnitz, Germany

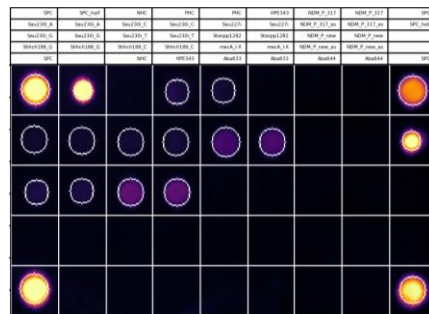
www.biflow-systems.com

BiFlow Systems GmbH

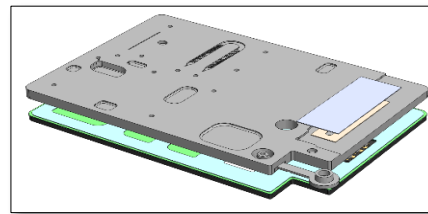
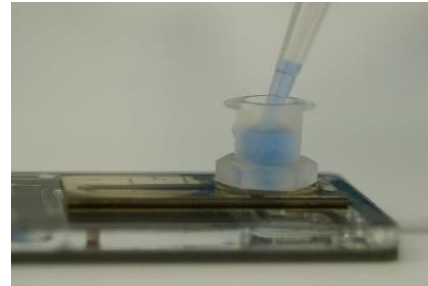
Microfluidic Cartridges



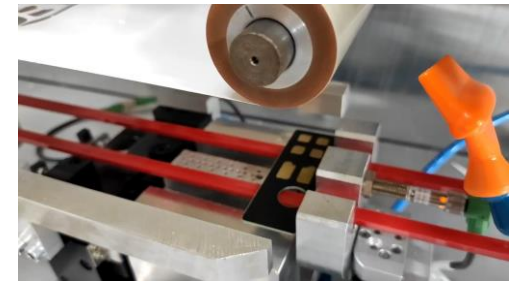
Instrumentation

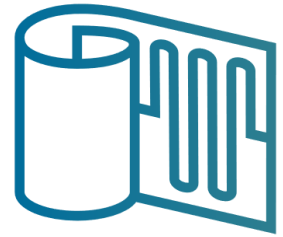


Custom solutions



Fabrication





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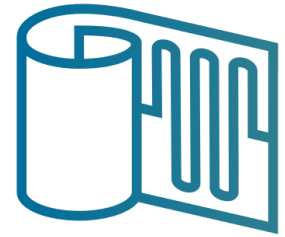
Lab-on-a-Chip - some introductory words -



Lab-on-a-Chip

- Lab-on-a-Chip (LoC) =
Small microfluidic system that can perform one or more laboratory functions
- It is typically larger than a „chip“ !
- Today, we will
 - focus on LoC for Molecular Diagnostics (DNA/RNA-based)
 - do NOT talk about lateral flow strips





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Towards Integration



Integration – what

- Major functionalities required for molecular assay:

	Pumping	Valving	Heating
Reagent storage		X	
Lysis	(X)		X
Purification	X	X	
Amplification	(X)	(X)	X
Detektion/Hybridization	(X) in case of hybridization	(X) in case of hybridization	X

→ All of them can be either integrated in a disposable, or provided by the instrument (or as external process step)

Integration - why

- Low vs. high level of integration:

	Low level of integration (Functions performed by instrument)	High level of integration (Functions performed by „disposable“)
Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cheaper disposable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Simple control of disposable- Simpler instrument (or even just a mobile phone), as no mechanical / pneumatic interface needed in instrument- Less maintenance of instrument
Disadvantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- More complex instrument	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Disposable more costly

Our approach to „full integration“

Flexible Microfluidic Platforms
not requiring any tubing, external pumps
or external heaters

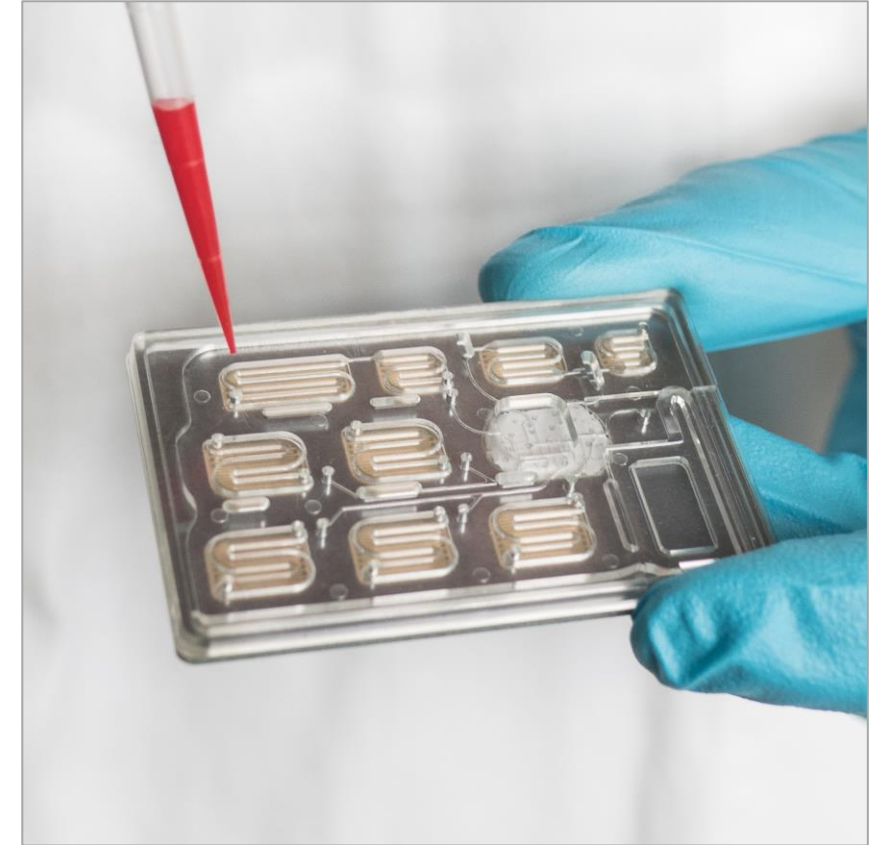
- ✓ Integrated reagents, micropumps & heaters
- ✓ Low-Cost polymer Lab-on-Chip platforms
- ✓ Standard products ready for evaluation



no tubing



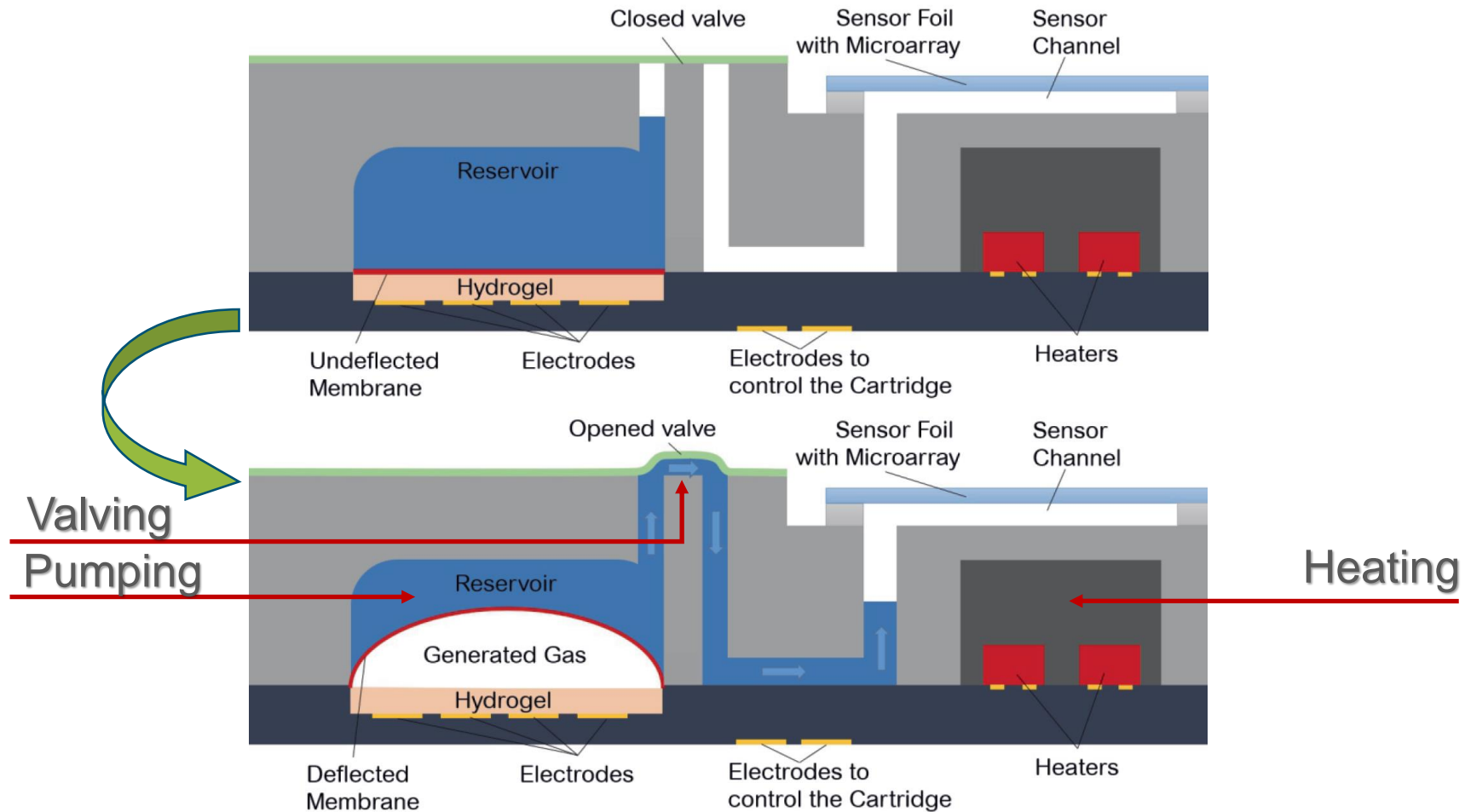
no external pumps



On-Chip pumps + reagents



Technology behind...



Technology in use: pumping & heating



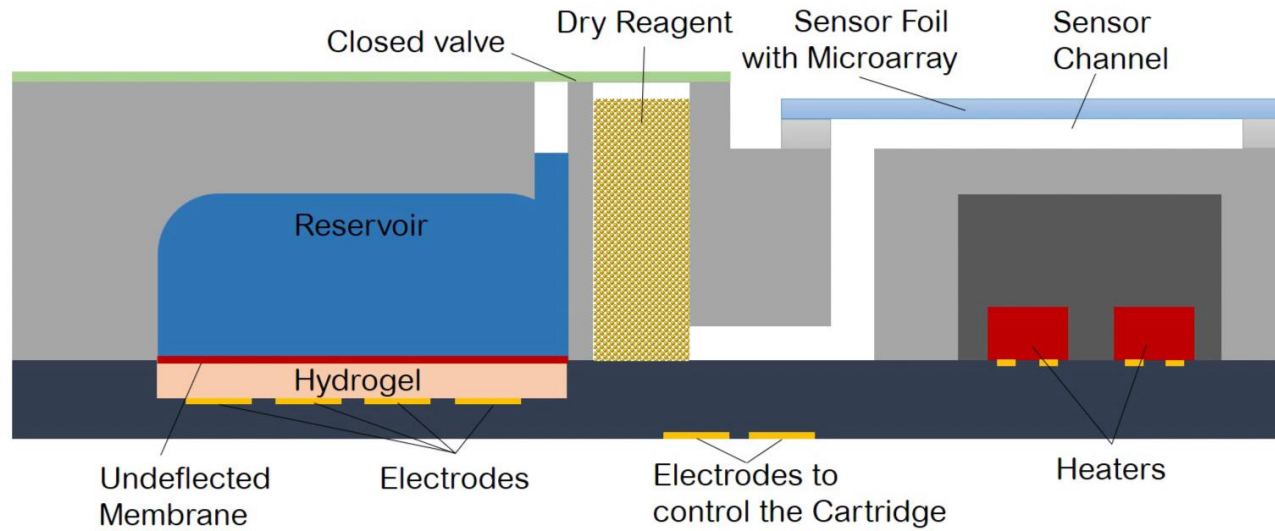
Video

<https://youtu.be/vhli67sttfE>



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Technology in use: dry reagents

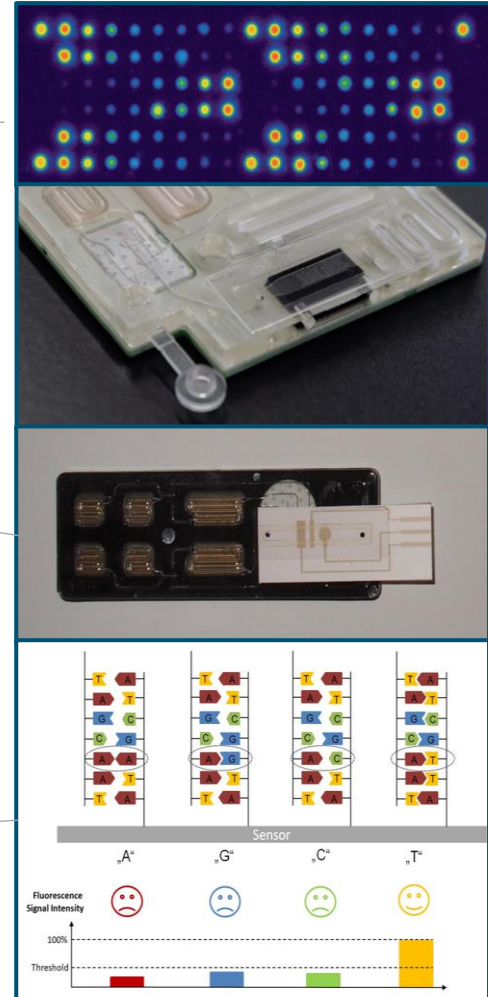


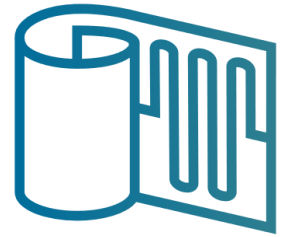
Dry reagents can be integrated using a porous matrix.
The release buffer is stored as described before as liquid.

Video: <https://youtu.be/vhli67sttFE>

Sensors, Assays, Applications...

- **Microarray Integration**
- **Biosensor Integration**
 - Photonic Biosensors
 - Electrochemical Biosensors
 - ...
- **Assay Integration**
 - Immunoassays
 - DNA / RNA-based assays
 - Bead-based assays
 - ...
- **Examples**
 - ELISA-like assays (antigen/antibody detection)
 - DNA-based **bacterial species** detection
 - DNA-based **antibiotic resistance** detection
 - RNA-based detection by „new“ integrated amplification method



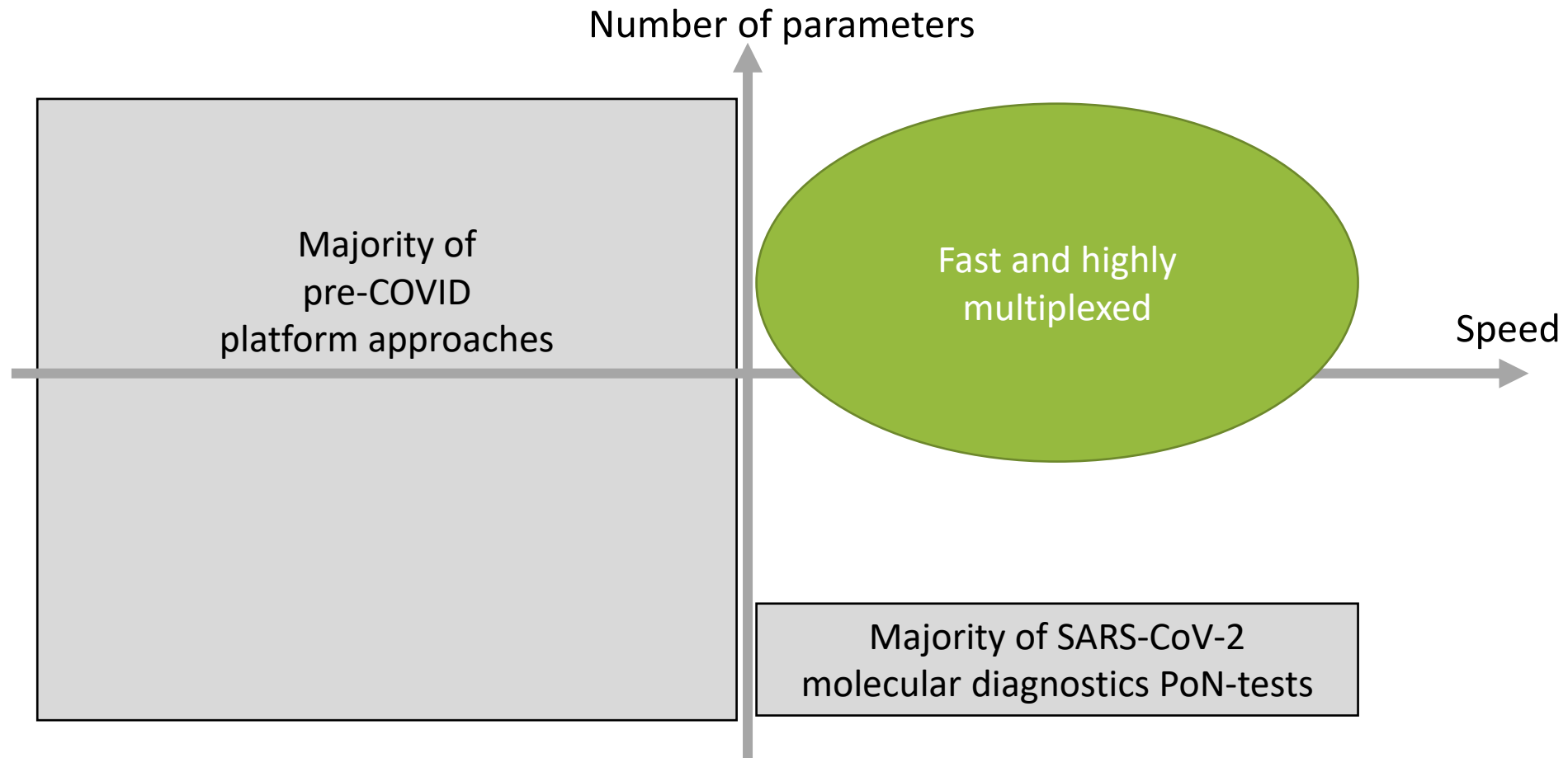


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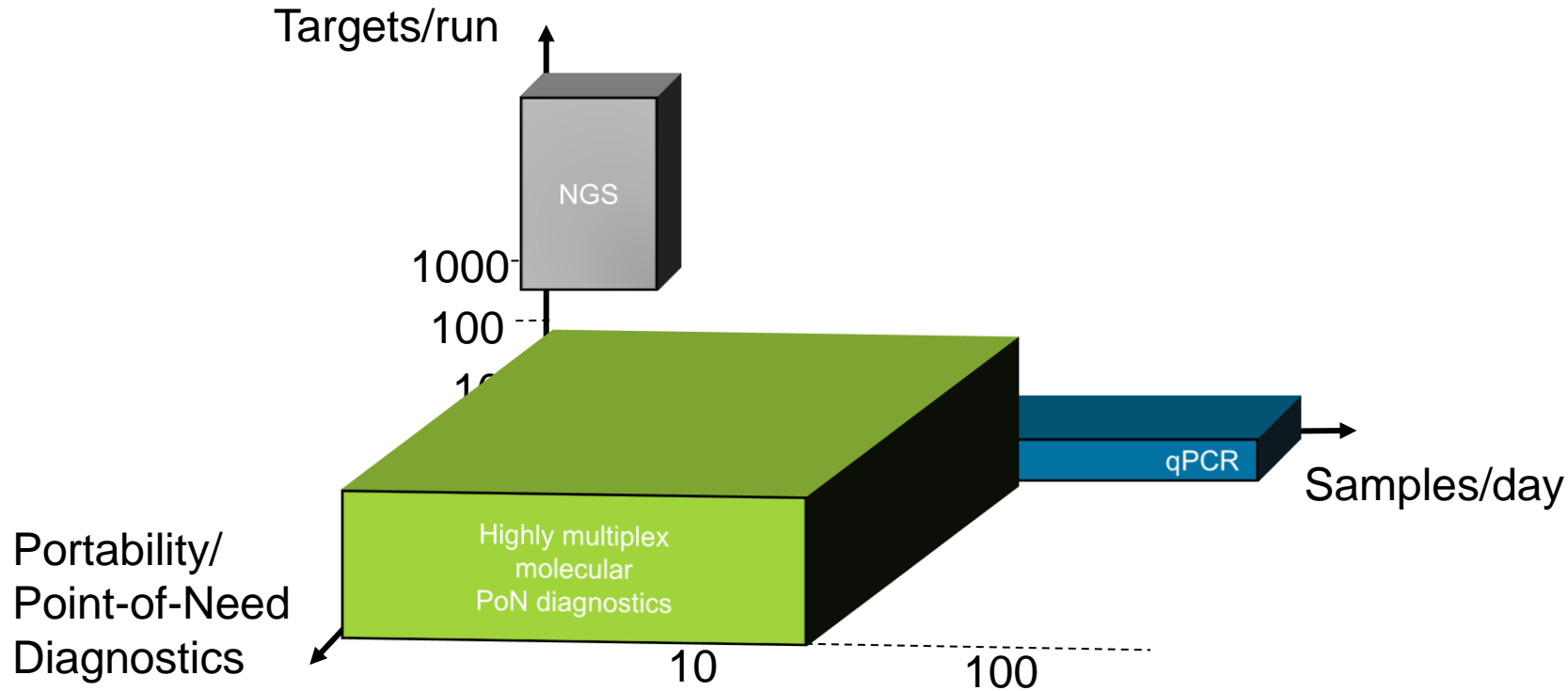
Towards Multiplexing



Multiplex molecular point-of-need diagnostics



Multiplex molecular point-of-need diagnostics



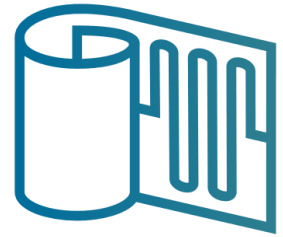
Multiplexing - Why

- Certain applications require a larger number of parameters, e.g.
 - Identification / differentiation of
 - Bacterial species
 - Fungus
 - Virus types or their variants
 - Animal and plant species
 - (genotypic) drug resistance testing (especially if for different species)
 - ...



Multiplexing – Ways to do

- **During amplification**
 - multiplex qPCR or quantitative isothermal amplification – **single well**
 - Limited, typically not more than 6-plex
 - Limited for most isothermal methods
 - singleplex qPCR or end-point PCR or isotherm. amplif. – **multiple wells**
 - Not limited and possible also for all isothermal methods, however addressing multiple wells limits multiplexing during integration
- **During detection**
 - spacial resolution of different probes, e.g. by specific hybridization on microarray (optical, electrochemical, ...)
- **Combination of both**



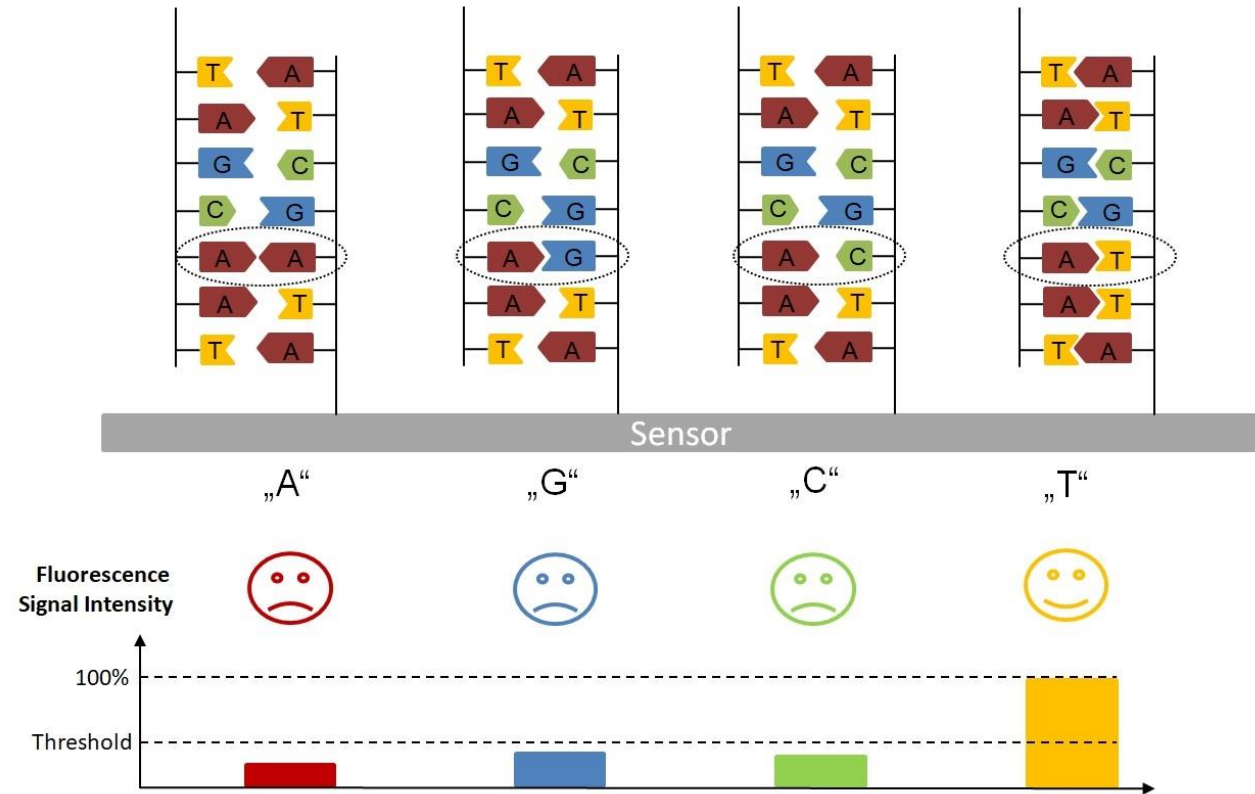
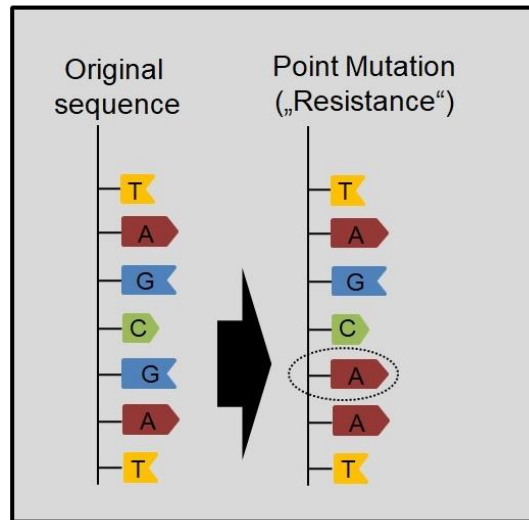
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Speed

(an example)



About SNP detection



J. Nestler, H. Peter, F.F. Bier, *Optik&Photonik* 13, 2 (2018), 28-31

Hybridization speed

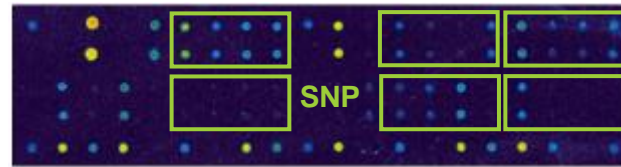
MANUAL Hybridization in Laboratory
120min (lots of labour work)



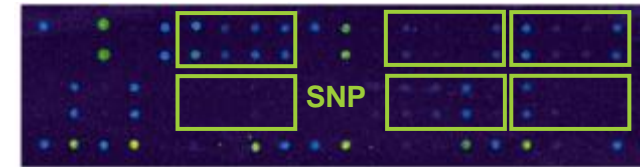
AUTOMATIC Hybridization in Cartridge



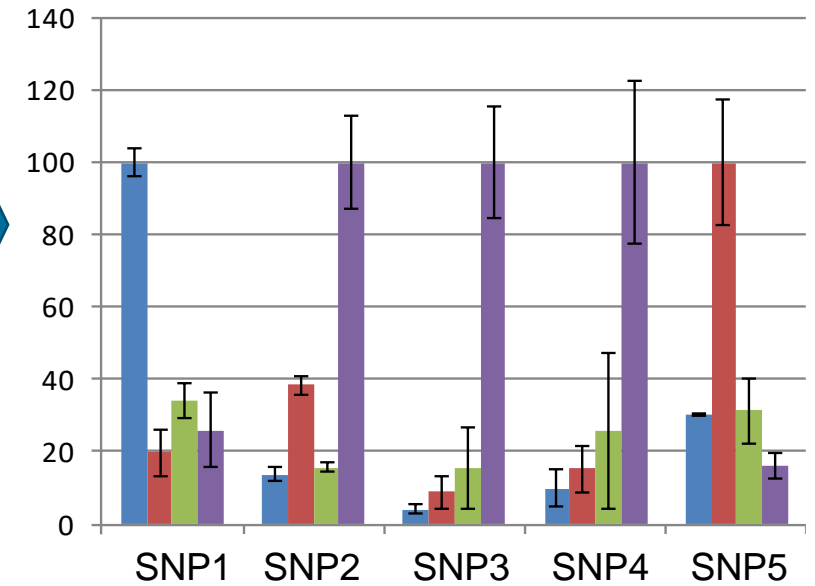
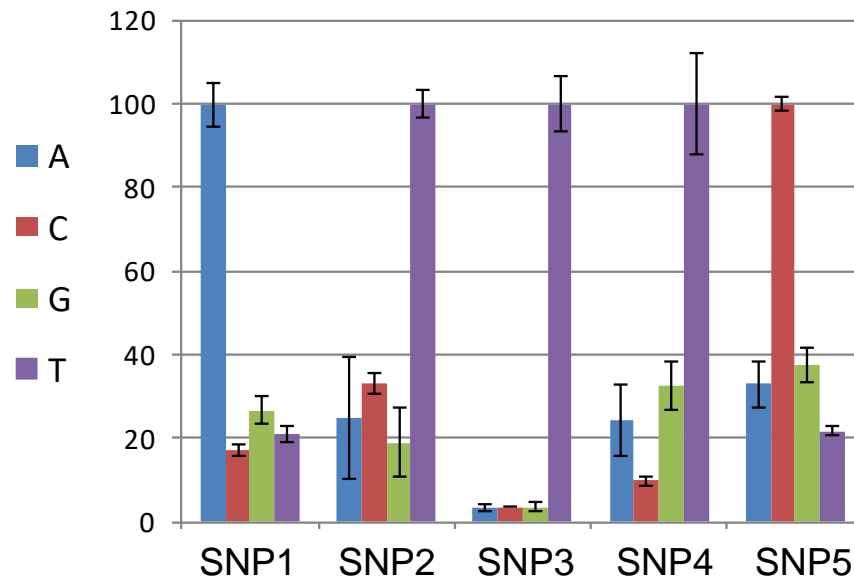
60min



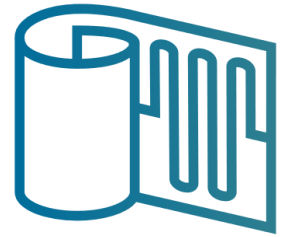
15min



False-color fluorescence image of microarray



Normalized Intensities of SNP probes



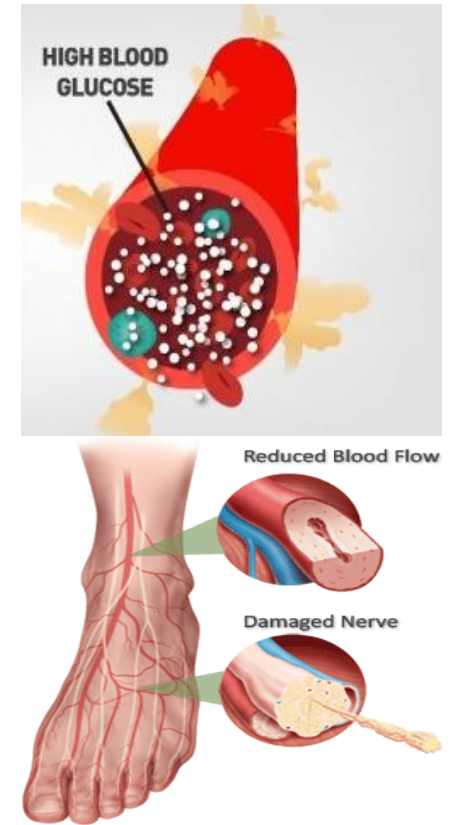
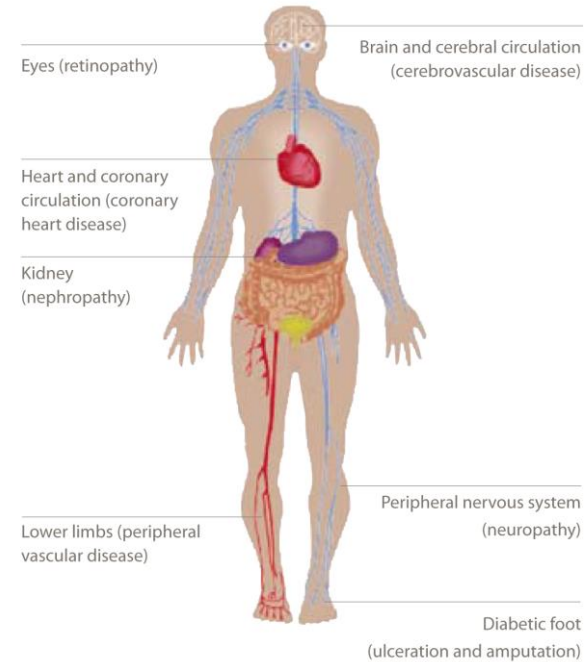
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Application: Bacterial species & AMR (for diabetic foot ulcers)



Diabetic foot ulcer

THE MAJOR DIABETIC COMPLICATIONS



Source: *Diabetes Atlas 3rd Ed.*, © International Diabetes Federation, 2006

Prevalence of Diabetic foot ulcer world-wide
Global average: 6.3%; Europe: 5.1%
India: 11.6%; Germany 2.8%

(commonswikimedia.org)

DIABETES

DIABETES IS ON THE RISE

422 MILLION adults have diabetes

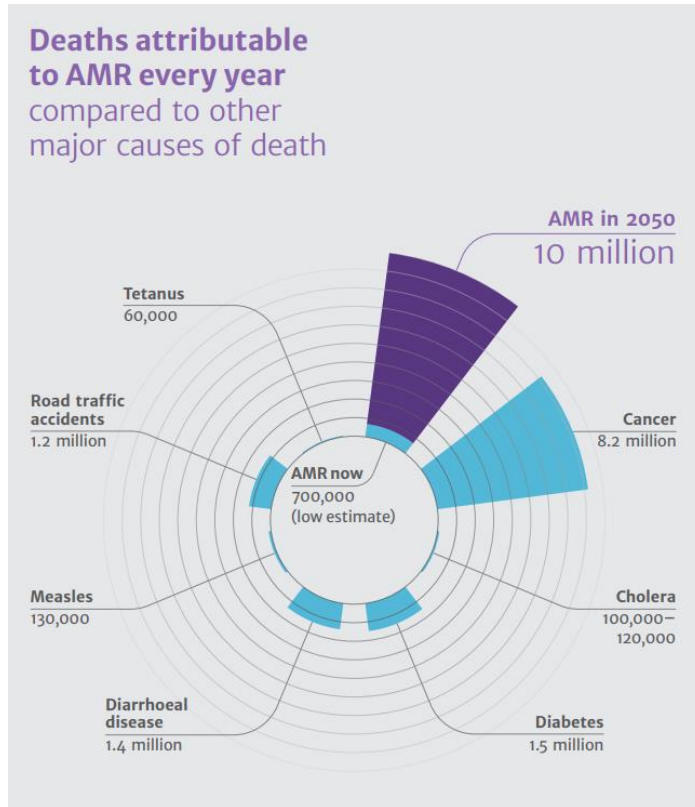
3.7 MILLION deaths due to diabetes and high blood glucose

1.5 MILLION deaths caused by diabetes

THAT'S 1 PERSON IN 11

WHO: fact sheet on Diabetes (2018)

Antimicrobial Resistances



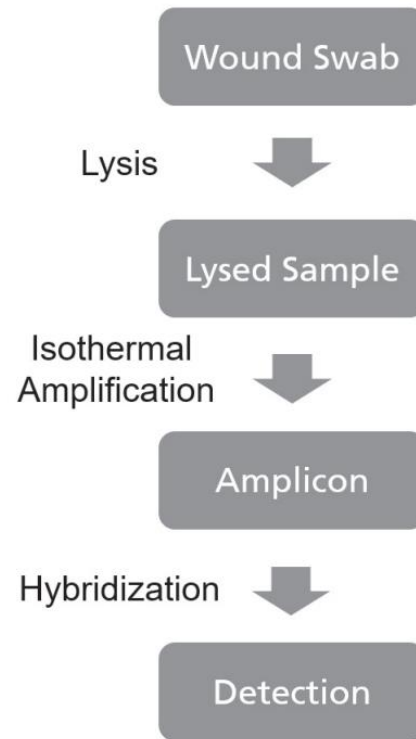
<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/03/india-s-war-on-antimicrobial-resistance>

-  **E** SCHEMICHIA COLI
-  **S** TAPHYLOCOCCUS
S.PSEUDINTERMEDIUS S.SCHLEIFERTI S.AUREUS
-  **K** LEBSIELLA PNEUMONIAE
-  **A** CINETOBACTER BAUMANNII
-  **P** SEUDOMONAS AERUGINOSA
-  **E** NTEROCOCCUS FAECALIS AND FAECIUM

Img src: <https://kangarama.com/pages/eskape>

↑ drug resistance + ↓ novel antibiotic R&D = The end of the “Antibiotic Era”

System Workflow



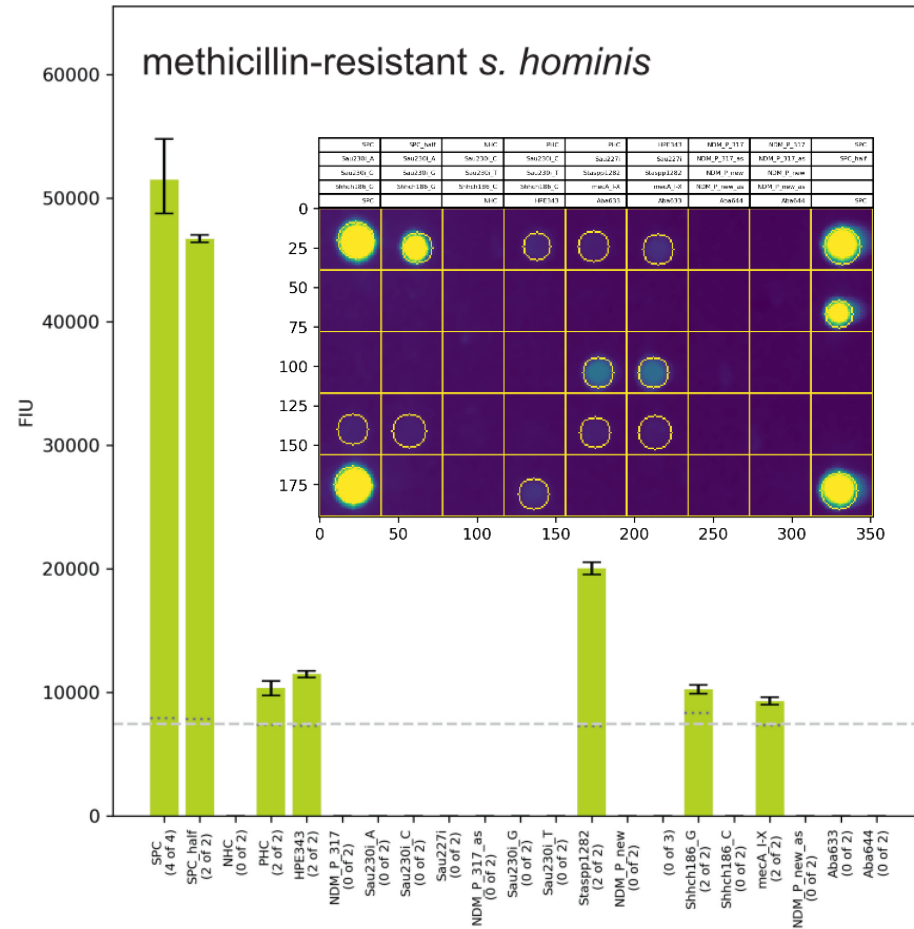
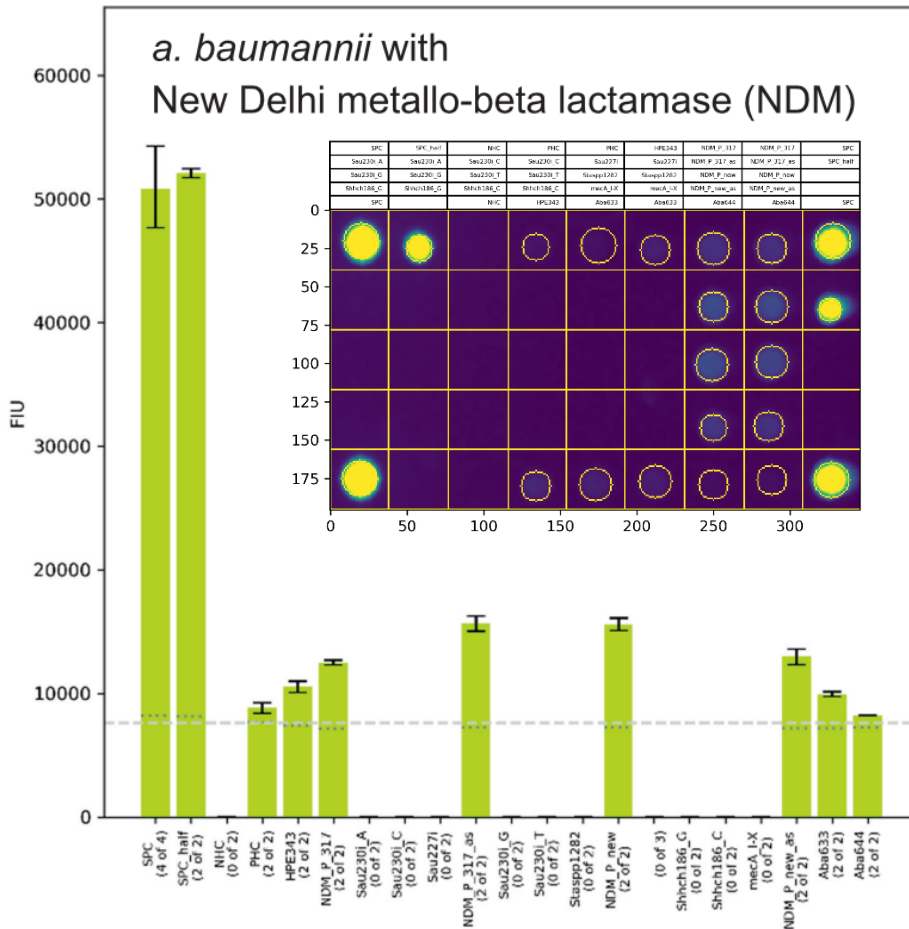
Reader to control and read the cartridge

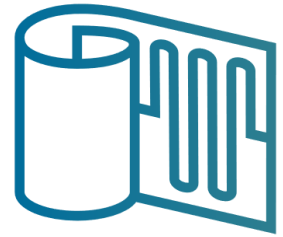


Successfully demonstrated combining Microarray + Cartridge + Reader:

- ✓ Amplification on Cartridge in Reader
- ✓ Hybridization on Cartridge in Reader
- ✓ Microarray Readout in Reader
- ✓ Successful detection of different pathogens and resistances

Example Results (Cartridge + Instrument)





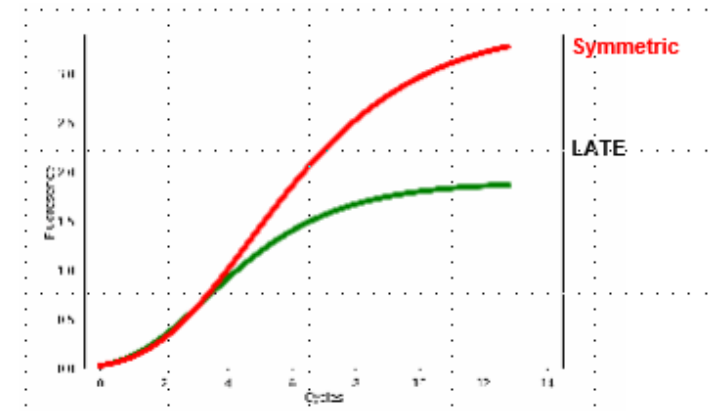
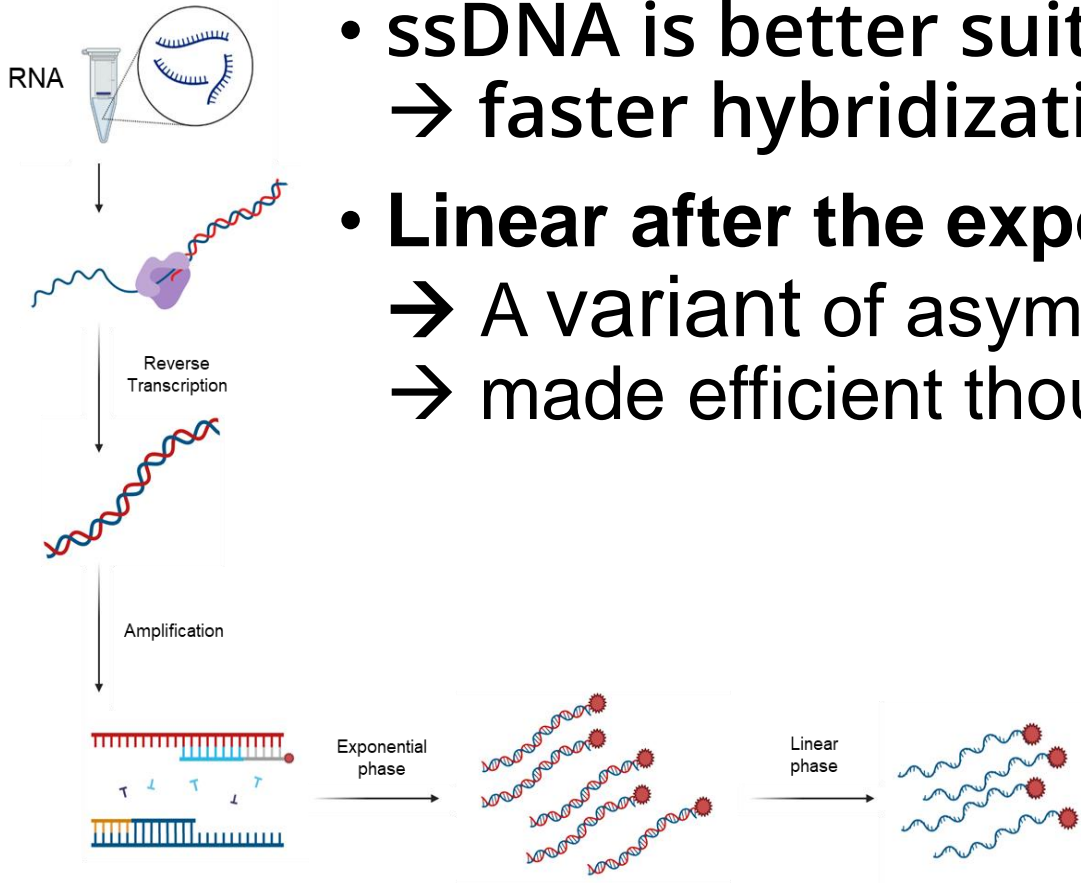
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Application: SARS-CoV-2 or Influenza?



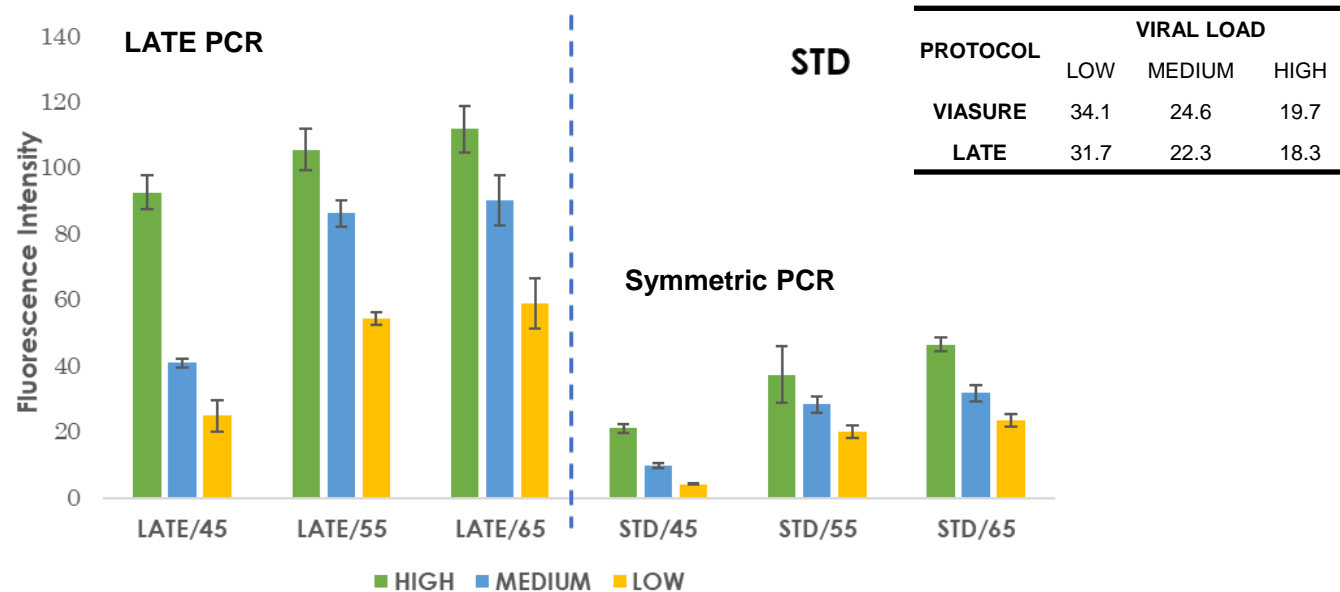
ssDNA vs. dsDNA for hybridization?

- ssDNA is better suited for hybridization on microarray
→ faster hybridization
- **Linear after the exponential (LATE) PCR**
→ A variant of asymmetric PCR...
→ made efficient though primer modification

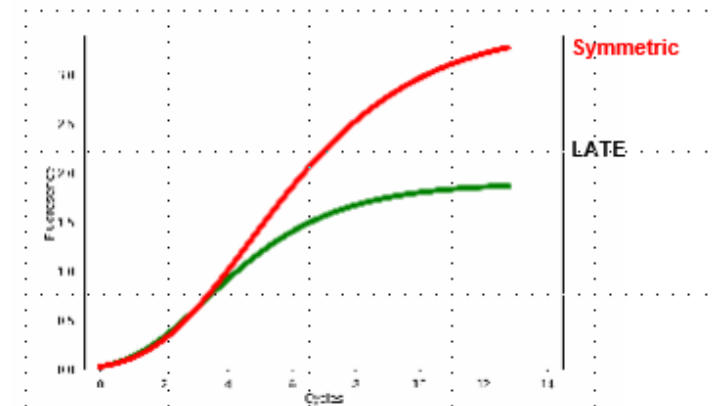


ssDNA vs. dsDNA for hybridization?

- Hybridization results for LATE PCR vs. standard PCR



Amplification of the IP2 gene of SARS-CoV-2 in real patient samples and subsequent hybridization of the amplicon with immobilized probes

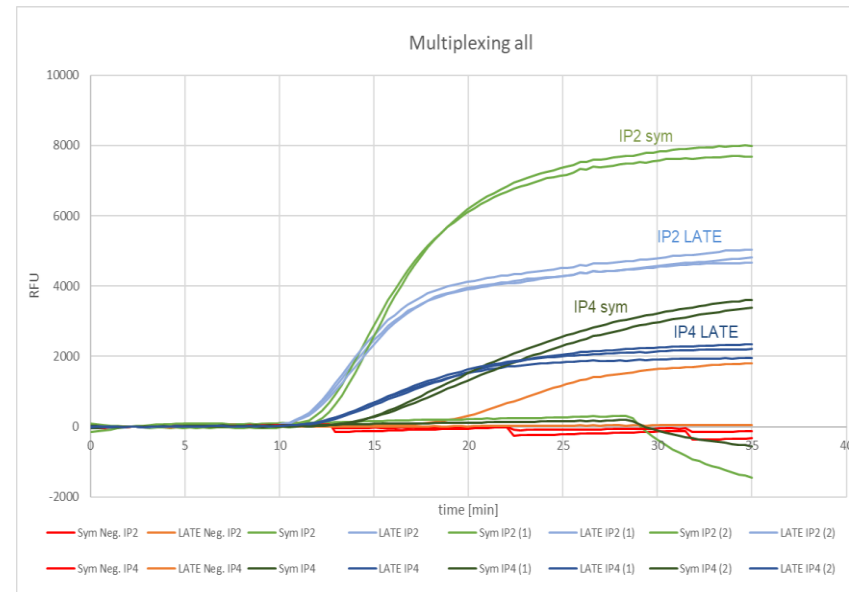


From LATE-PCR to LATE psiPCR



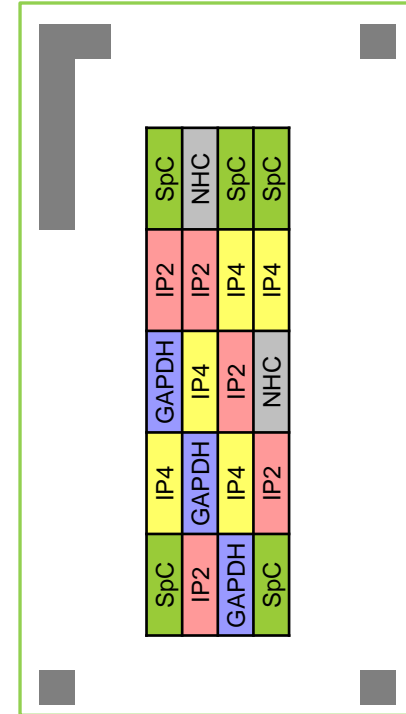
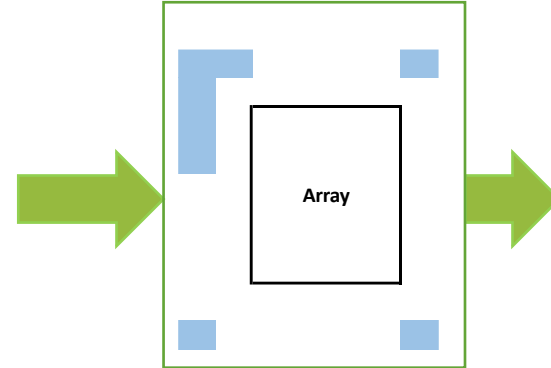
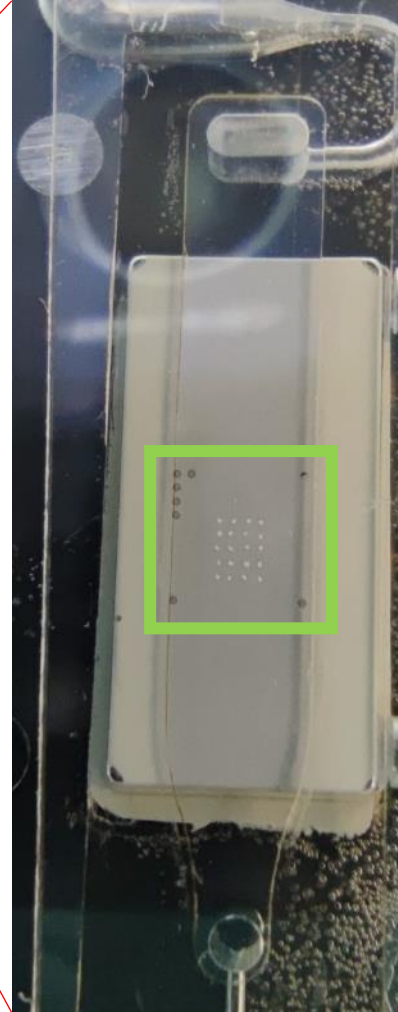
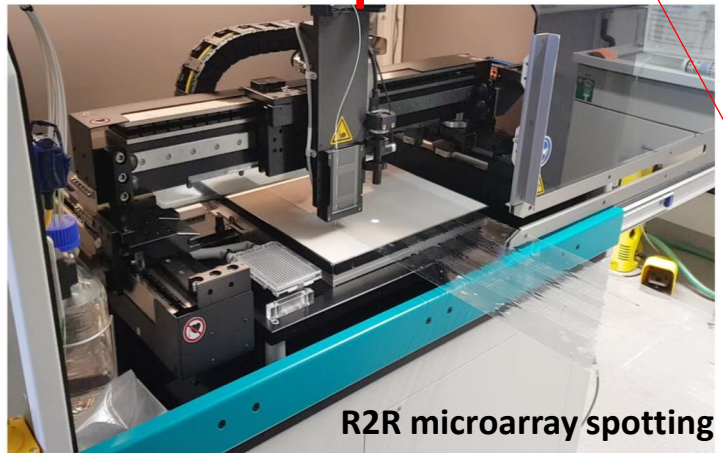
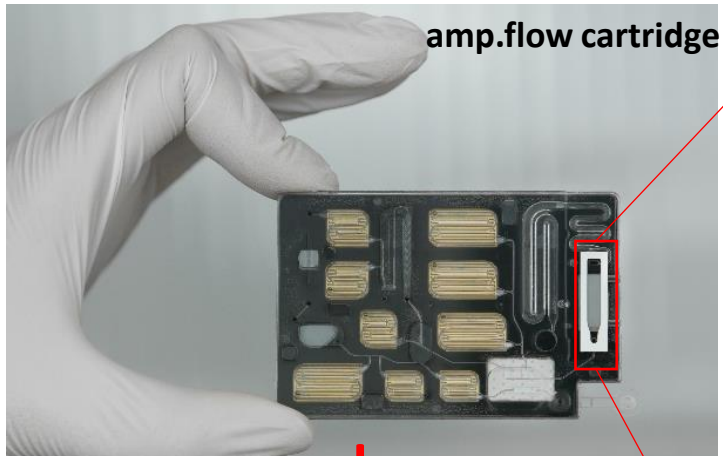
Conventional thermocycler (left)
vs pseudo-isothermal PCR cycler (right)
(1500bp: 2hours vs. 30min)

Multiplexed LATE psiPCR (1000 copies of artificial RNA)



- ✓ Reduction in time-to-result & power consumption
- ✓ Simplification of cartridge design

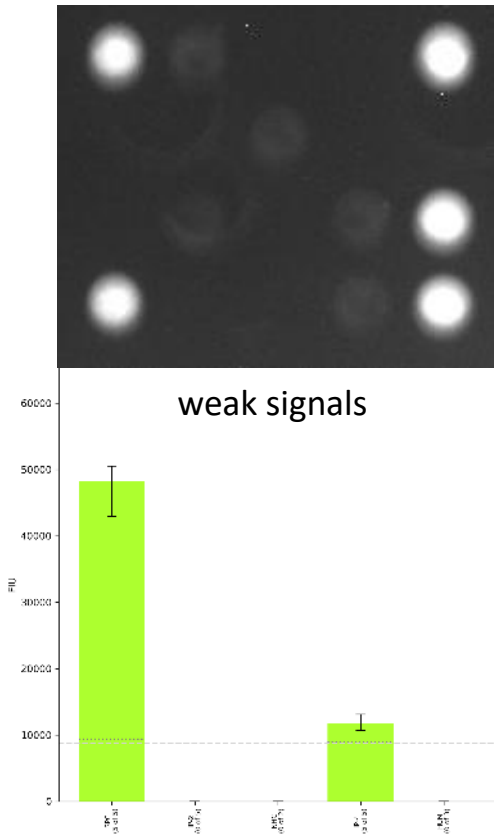
Hybridization cartridge



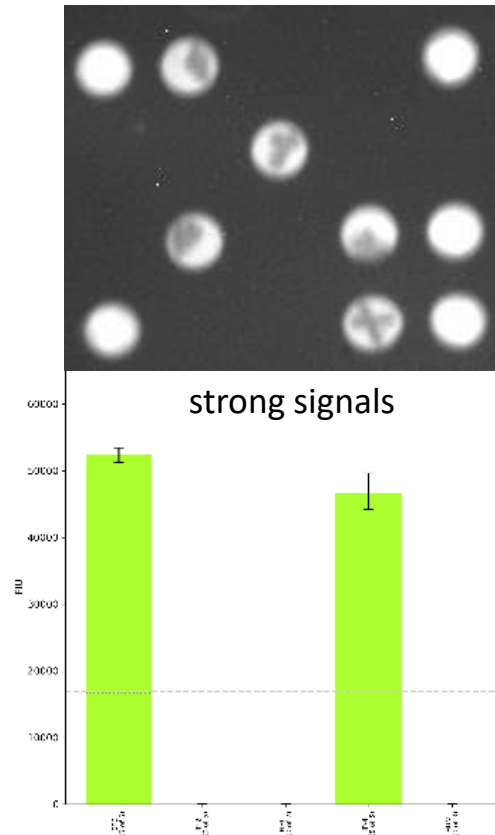
Symmetric psiPCR vs. LATE psiPCR: Hybridization results



Symmetric



LATE psiPCR

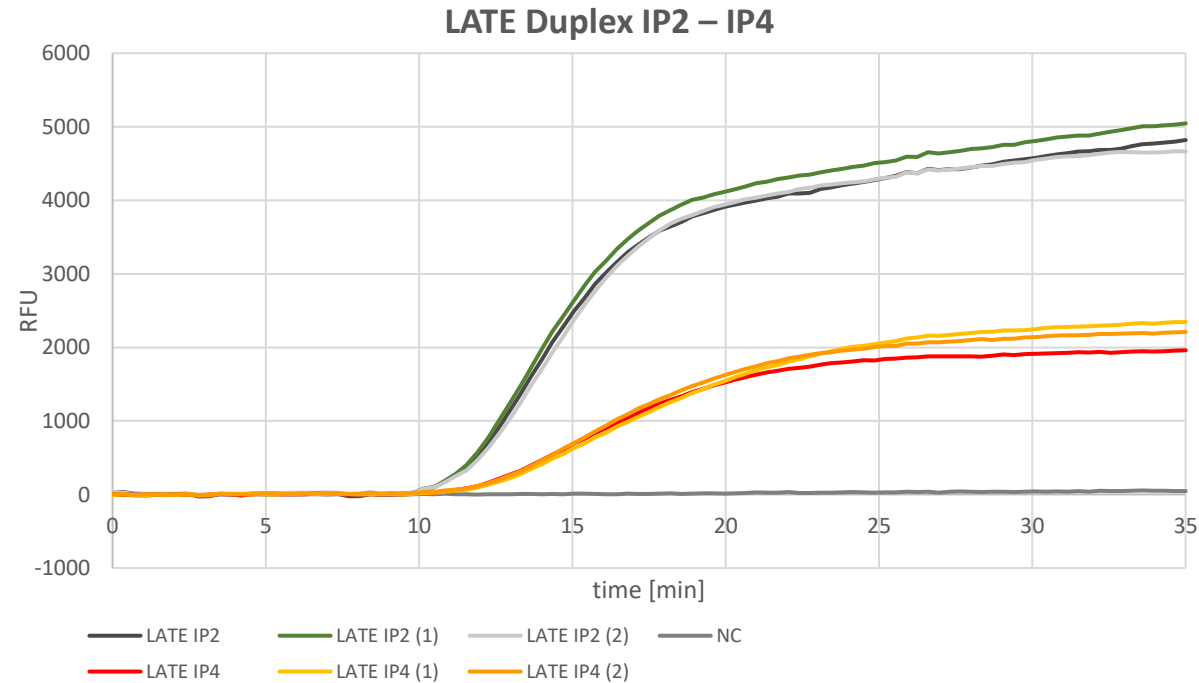


F

SpC	IP4	GAPDH	IP2	SpC
IP2	GAPDH	IP4	IP2	NHC
GAPDH	IP4	IP2	IP4	SpC
SpC	IP2	NHC	IP4	SpC

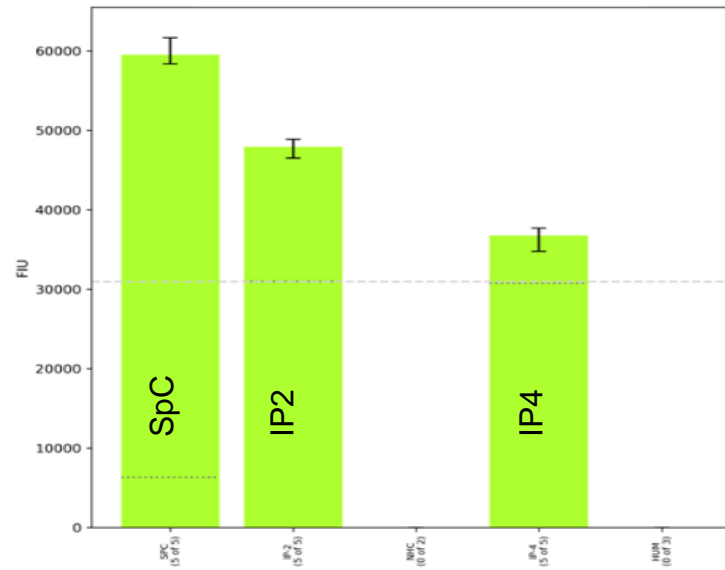
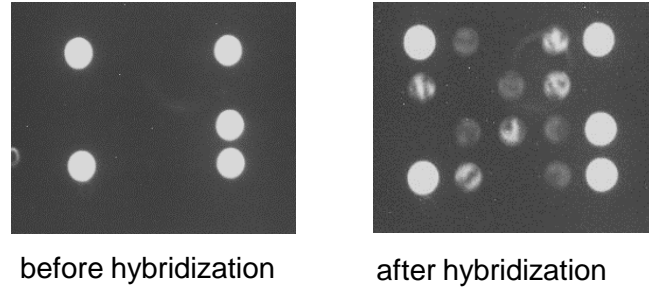
F

Duplex LATE q-psiPCR, patient sample



→ Now transfer that protocol to endpoint psiPCR for hybridization on microfluidic cartridge

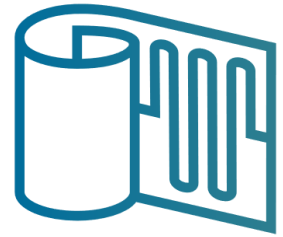
Duplex LATE q-psiPCR, patient sample



F

SpC	IP4	GAPDH	IP2	SpC
IP2	GAPDH	IP4	IP2	NHC
GAPDH	IP4	IP2	IP4	SpC
SpC	IP2	NHC	IP4	SpC

F



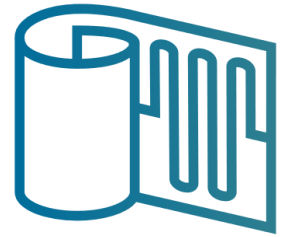
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SUMMARY



Summary

- Aspects and strategies to consider for Lab-on-a-Chip for molecular diagnostics:
 - Level of Integration
 - Level of Multiplexing
 - Speed
- Examples
 - Bacterial Species Identification & AMR
 - Virus identification



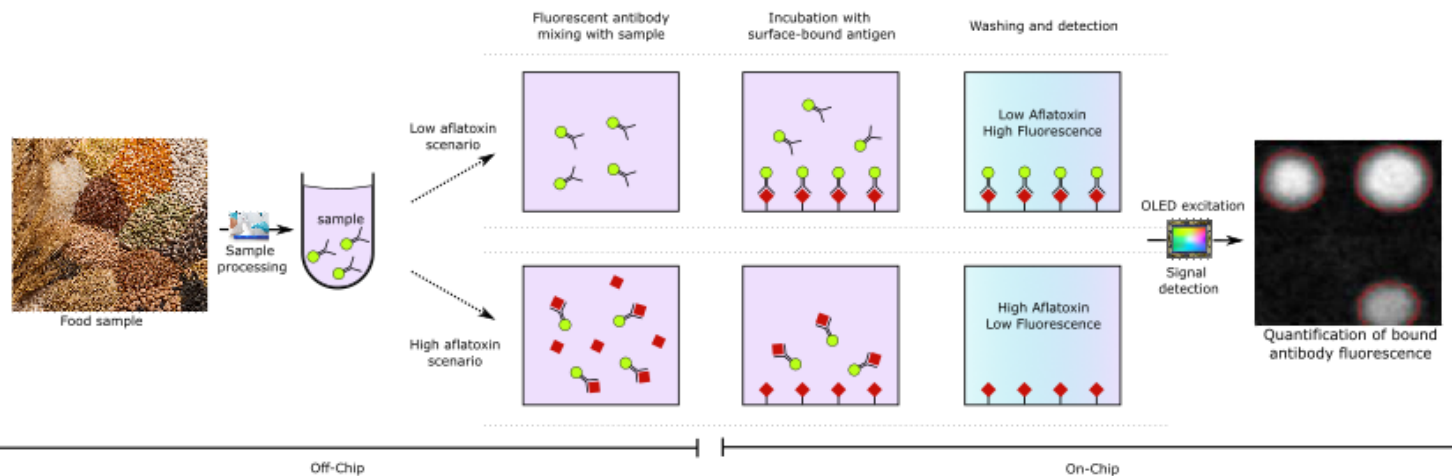
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Question Time!

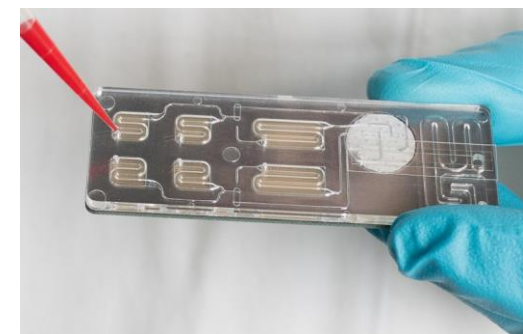
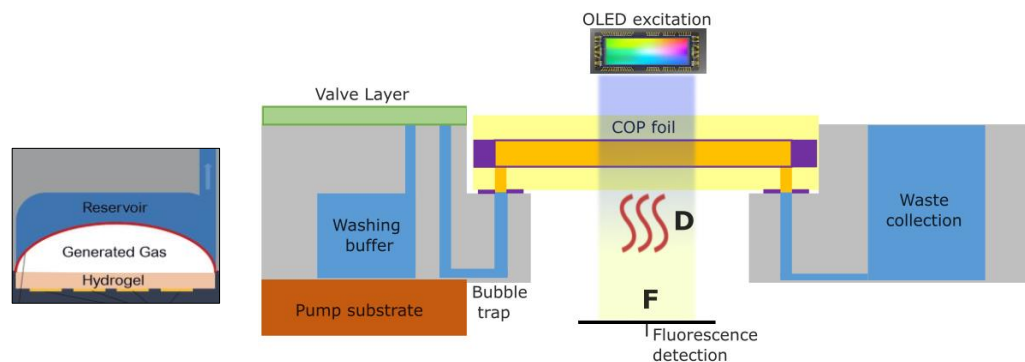




Competitive ELISA for high-sensitivity detection of mycotoxins Aflatoxin A1 / M1



- Benchtop Readout Device**
- OLED excitation and detection technology by Or-El
 - Non-expert operation



Fully integrated and automated disposable microfluidic Cartridge

- Low-cost
- 6-12 month shelf life
- Integrated liquid reagent storage
- Complete automation with integrated electronics
- Low footprint (standard microscopy slide dimensions)
- Flexibility – multiple toxin⁴⁶ detection possible

Accelerate your Microfluidic Innovation

- Addresses companies – SMEs and LEs
- Access to all services of the NGM OITB - min 2 partners involved
- Budget up to EUR 200.000
- Duration: 6 to 12 months
- Funding rate of up to 92% and 50% for European SMEs and Large Enterprises respectively
- Technology Readiness Level > 4 or Microfluidic System available
- Managed & coordinated by the MIH
- Details see: www.nextgenmicrofluidics.eu/open-call/

Open Call





**Microfluidics
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WE DEVELOP AND PRODUCE
CUSTOMIZED
Microfluidic Lab-on-a-Foil Systems



Single entry point to
research &
development services



Comprehensiv
e service
portfolio



Fast
prototyping
and scale up



Multiple
funding
opportunities



Quality
assurance

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Microfluidics Innovation Hub is the single entry point of the European project NextGenMicrofluidics (www.nextgenmicrofluidics.eu). NextGenMicrofluidics has received funding from the European Union's HORIZON 2020 research & innovation programme under grant agreement no. 862092.

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Advantages of Roll-to-roll Replication



ANDRÉ BLEISE
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