

Applied
NANO
TECHNOLOGY

SAXION
UNIVERSITY OF
APPLIED SCIENCES

NanoAlmyona

Recent Achievements in Point-of-Care Diagnostics

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Data Science Applications in Physics
Balkan School in Tirana 2024



Contents

- Applied Nanotechnology Research Group, Saxion UAS
- Diagnostics, Nanotechnology-based sensors
- Photonic biosensors
- Examples with applications of biosensors
- Future developments for Point-of-Care testing
- Conclusions



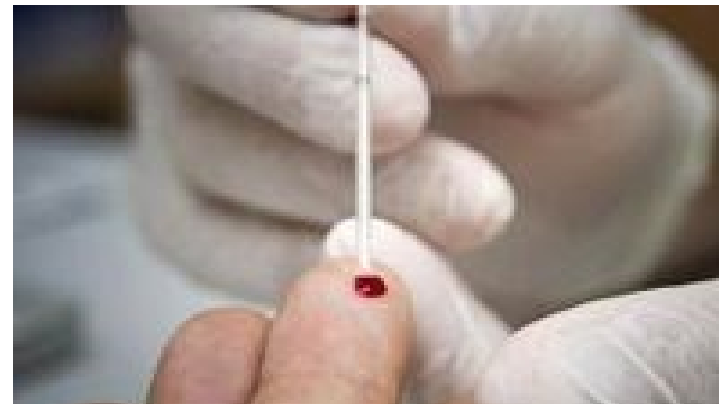
Saxion University of Applied Sciences

- one of the largest institutions of higher education in the Netherlands (3 locations: Enschede, Deventer & Apeldoorn)
- ~27,000 students (3,500 int., 74 nationalities), 2,800 employees
- research areas:
Areas & Living, Health & Wellbeing, Smart Industry
- interdisciplinary and practice-oriented research

NanoBio

Applied Nanotechnology Research Group

-Applied research at the interface of micro- and nanotechnology and life sciences



Molecular Sensing Technologies



Lab/Organ-on-a-Chip Technologies



Nanostructured Surfaces & Nanomaterials

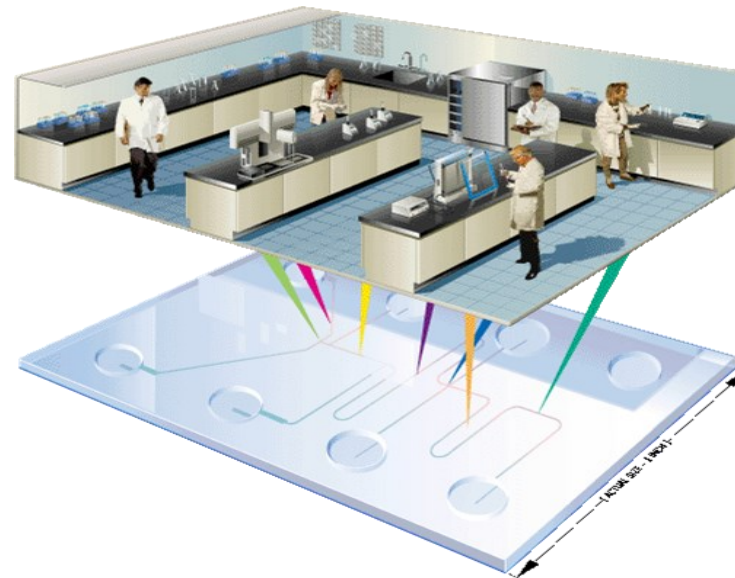


Societal Embedding of Nanotechnology

NanoBio

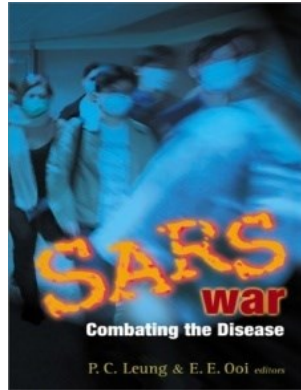
Molecular Sensing Technologies

- Sensitive and specific detection of various analytes
- Development of demonstrators for specific applications
- Medical diagnostics, food safety, environmental monitoring



Introduction

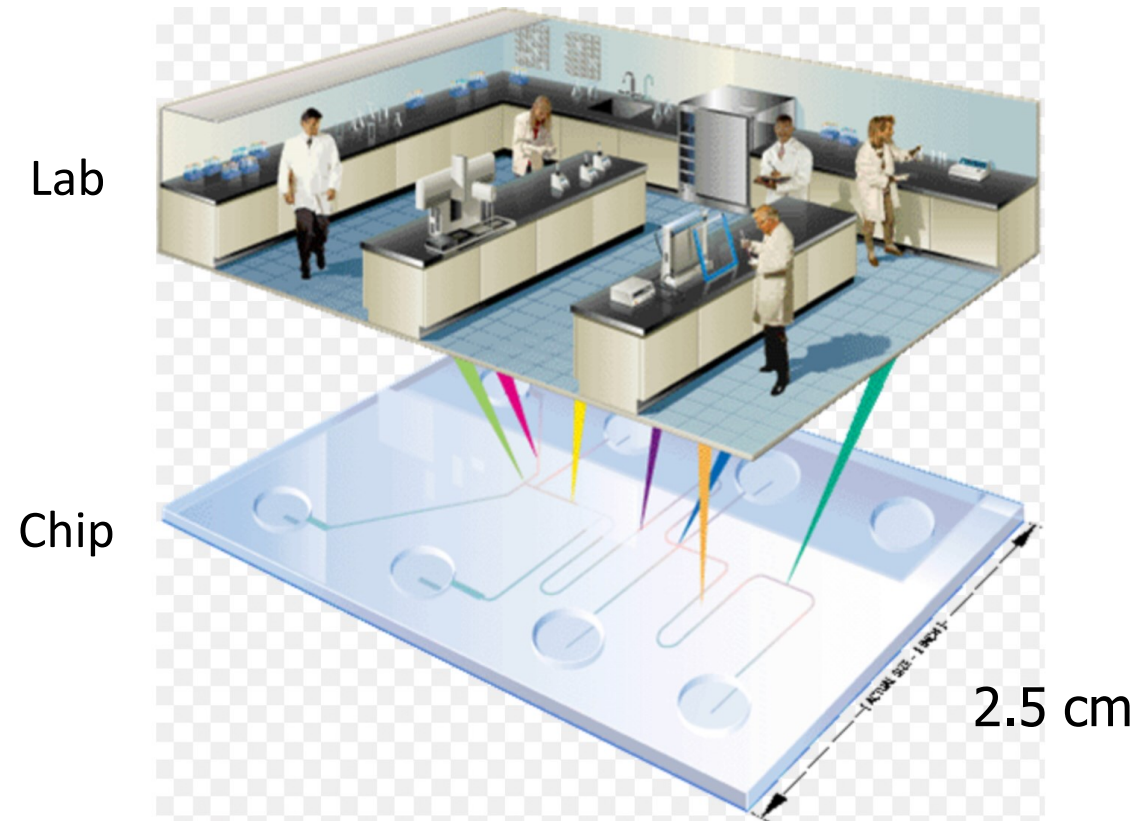
- Market Pull: High need for rapid/sensitive detection methods:



=> Rapid/sensitive tests using Photonic Biosensors

Introduction

- Technology push: Lab-on-a-Chip & Nanotechnology



=> Point-of-Care testing using Handheld Devices

Introduction

Biosensors

The ultimate biosensor should be able to measure:

- specific bacteria, viruses, biomarkers (protein/DNA), etc
- in a complex medium (blood, serum, saliva, urine, milk, etc)
- at very low concentrations, yet with very high resolution
- on site and real-time: Point-of-care (POC)

Introduction

Diagnostics Requirements

- high sensitivity: low concentration
- good specificity: analyte of interest
- rapid test: on-line (real-time) monitoring
- multiplexing capability: several analytes (panel testing)
- stand-alone operation: portable/handheld device
- at site / in-line monitoring
- low cost of production & operation: affordable

Introduction

Diagnostics Market

Global market for diagnostic disposables amounts > \$ 40 billion

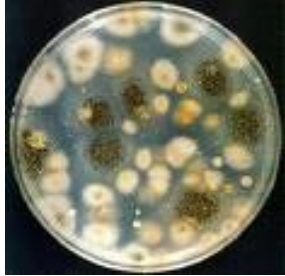
- In vitro diagnosis on basis of antibodies (immuno-assays): US\$ 8 billion p.a. in 2006
- In vitro (human) diagnostics DNA (PCR) market: ~ US\$ 5.4 billion in 2008
- World market food safety tests ~ US\$ 5 billion in 2011
- Using LOC Biosensors these billion dollar global markets are being addressed: these markets grow with at least 8% c.a.g.r.

Introduction

Current Detection Methods

Plate count:

- bacteria growth in petri dish
- days to achieve results



ELISA:

- sample preparation
- hardware cost > 200k€
- hours to obtain results



PCR:

- hardware cost > 50k€
- intensive sample preparation
- hours to obtain results



Introduction

Current Detection Methods

Disadvantages:

- labor-intensive and expensive
- time consuming (need hours to days)
- requires specialized lab & trained personnel
- not suitable for Point-of-Care testing (POCT)

New technology is needed:

- faster and affordable tests
- possibility for hand-held devices
- suitable for POCT

Introduction

New (Nano-) Technologies

-Nanowires, Surface Acoustic Waves, Magnetic Beads, ...

-Atomic Force Microscopy

-Raman Spectroscopy

-Rupture event scanning

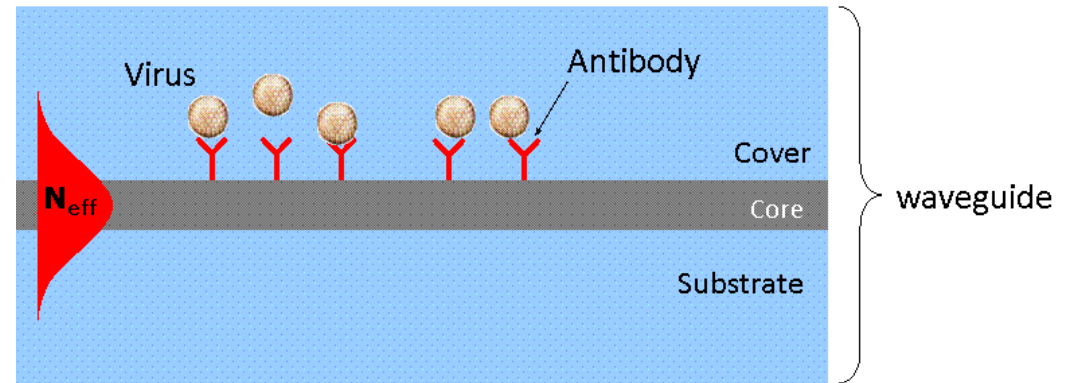
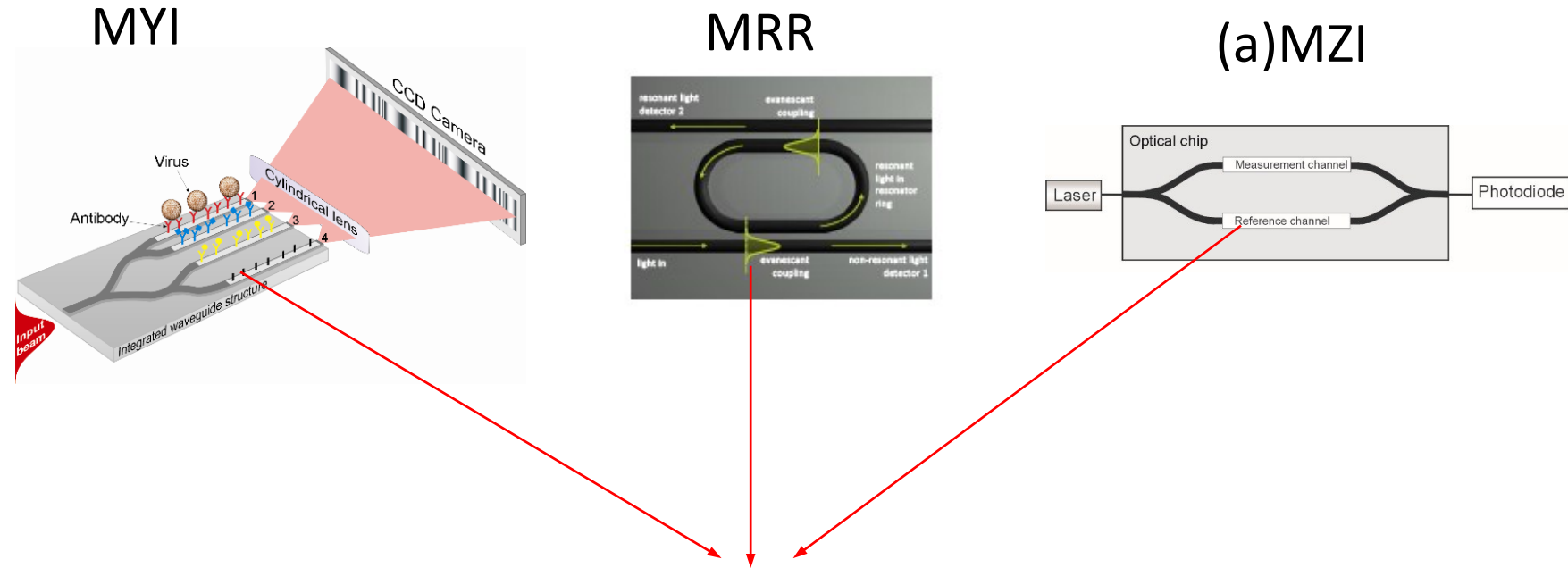
=> Further investigation for development of Point-of-Care (POC) / in-line systems is required



Lab-on-a-Chip Photonic Nanotechnology:

LOC Photonic (Bio)Sensors

Photonic Biosensors

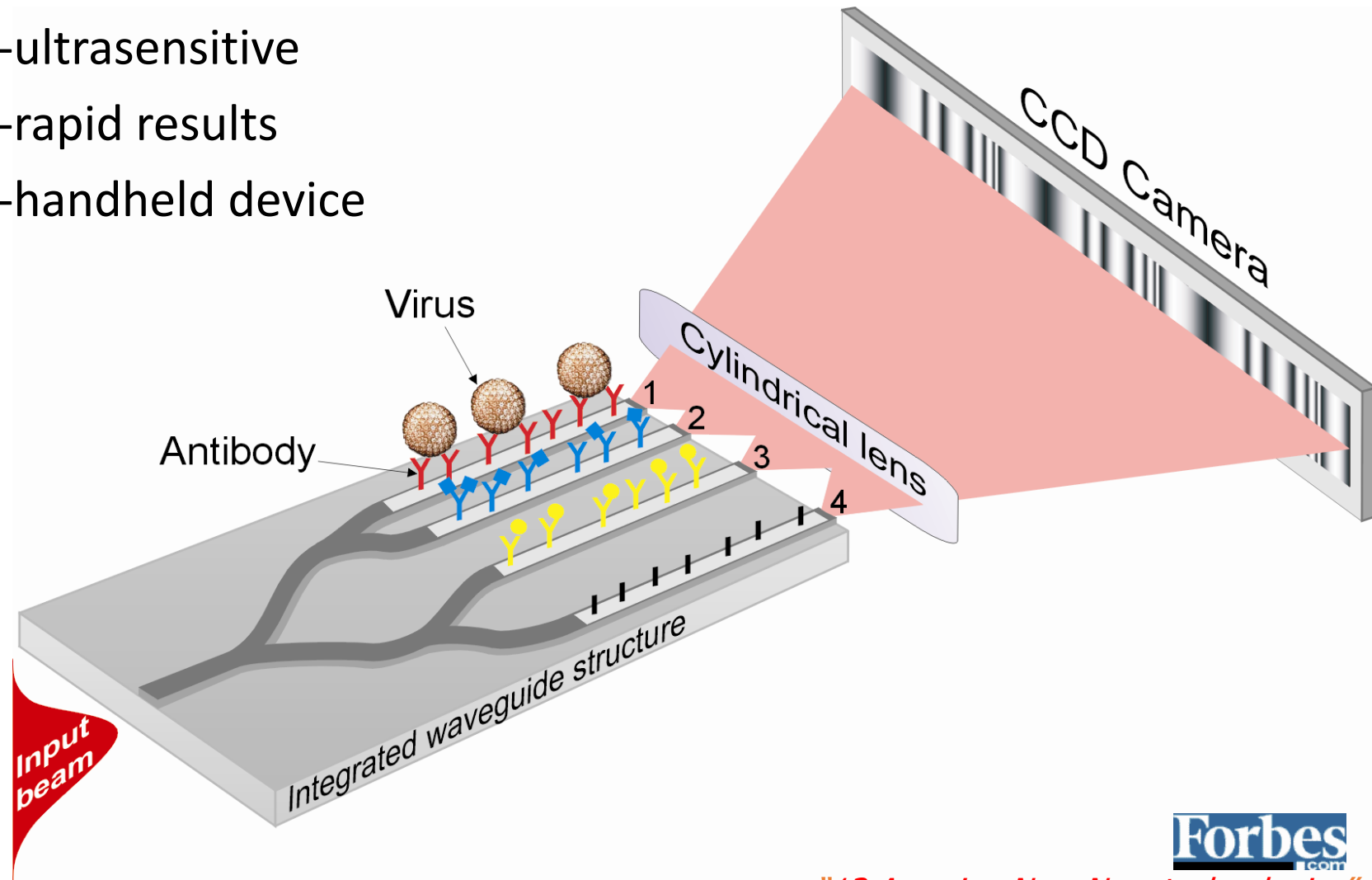


Evanescent field detection principle

Photonic Biosensors

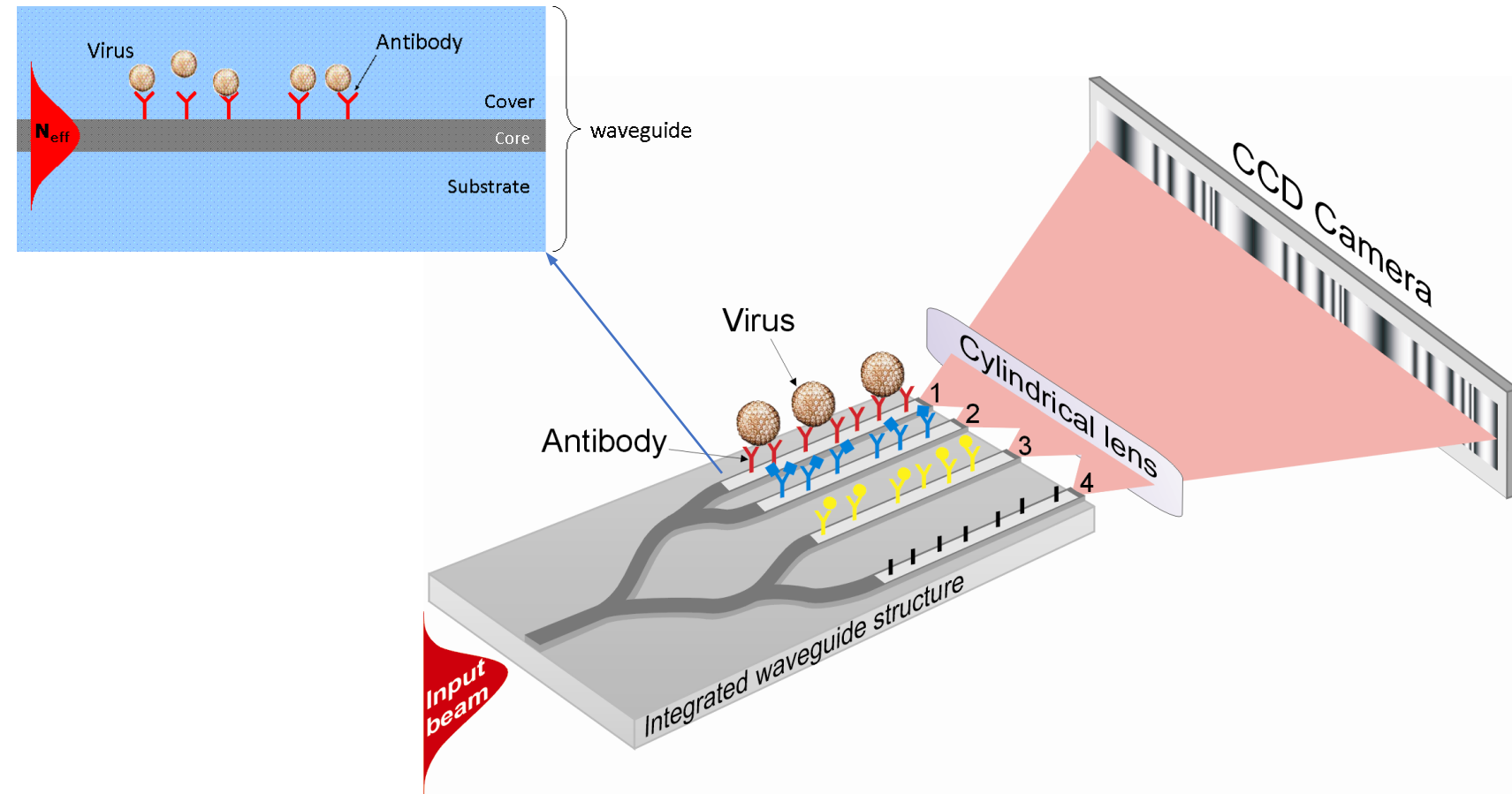
Multichannel Young Interferometer

- ultrasensitive
- rapid results
- handheld device



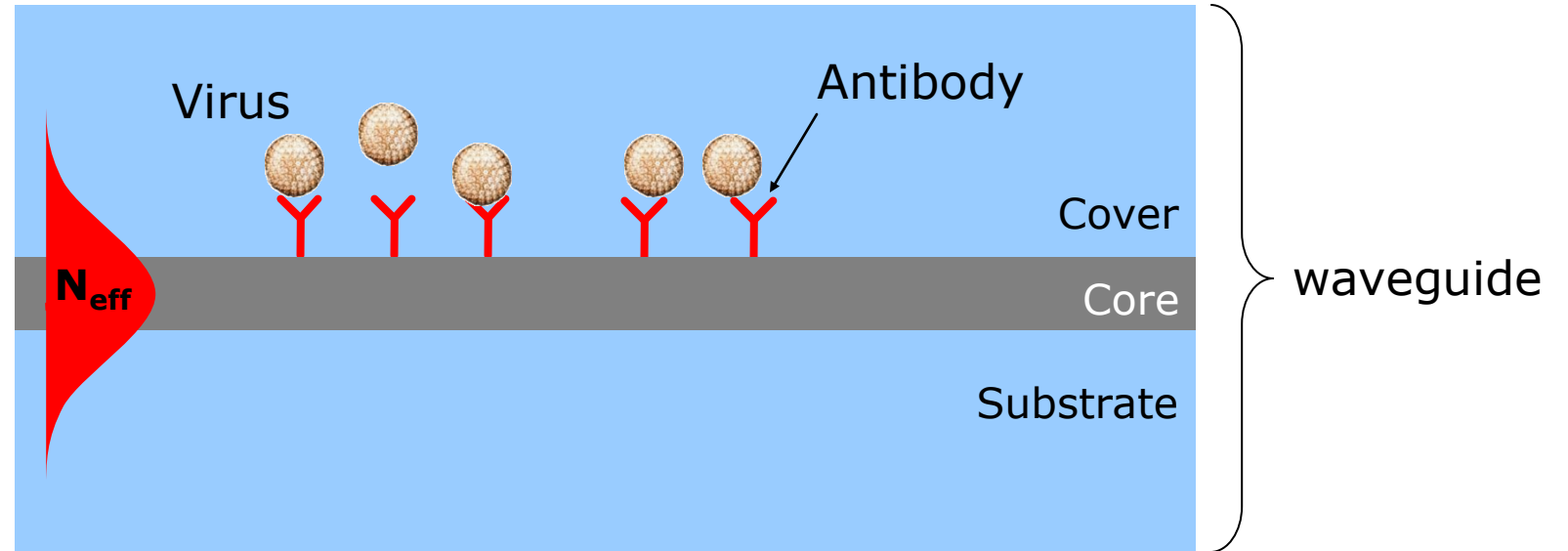
Photonic Biosensors

Evanescent field principle



Photonic Biosensors

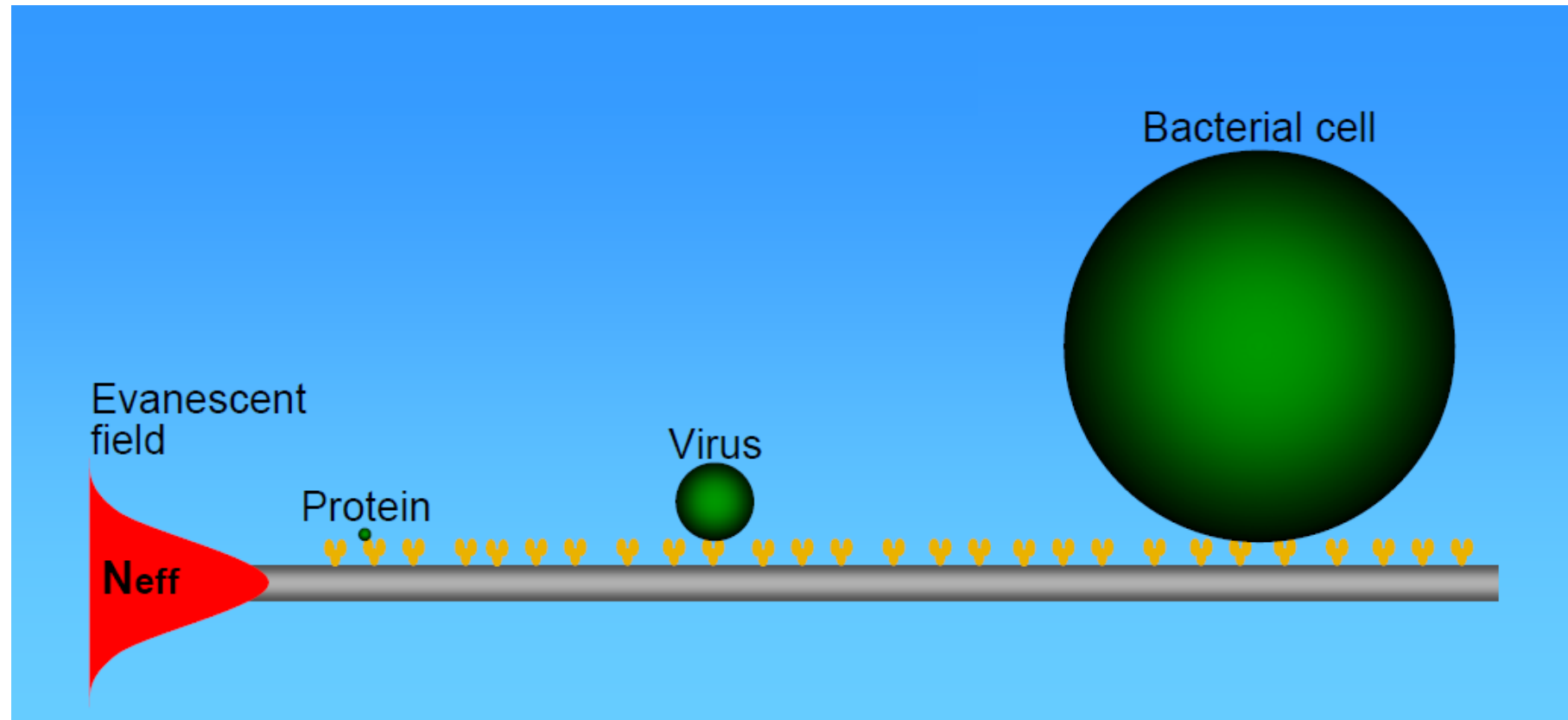
Evanescent field principle



Binding \Rightarrow Change of propagation speed \Rightarrow Δ signal

Photonic Biosensors

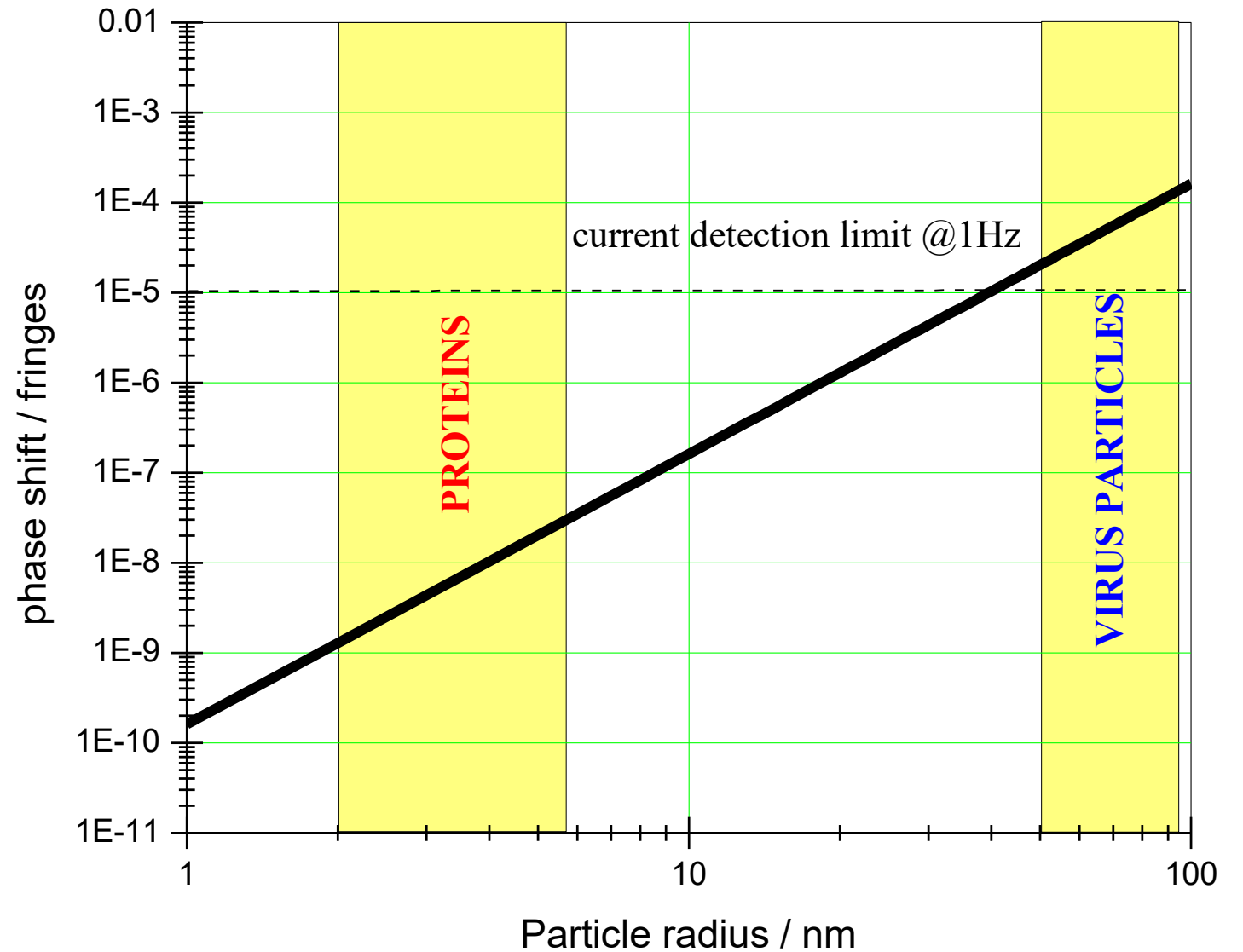
Analyte detection



$$\square S_{\text{bact./cell}} \sim 10^2 \times S_{\text{virus}} \sim 10^4 \times S_{\text{protein}}$$

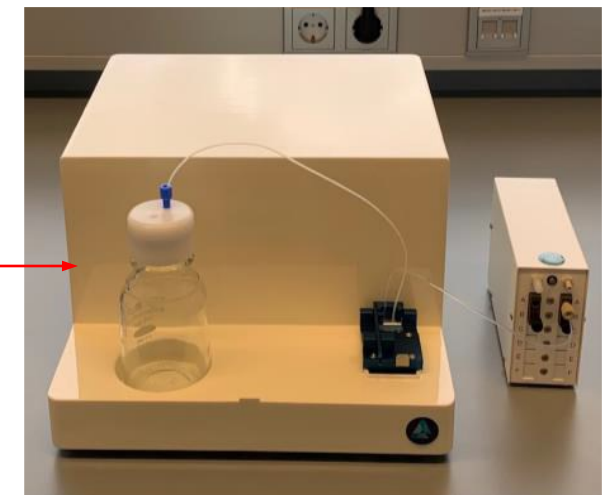
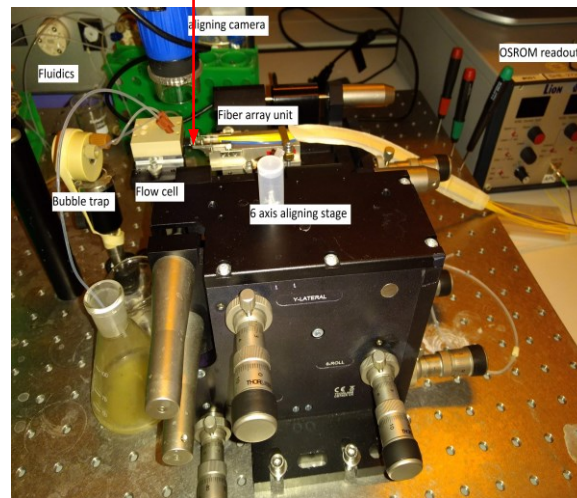
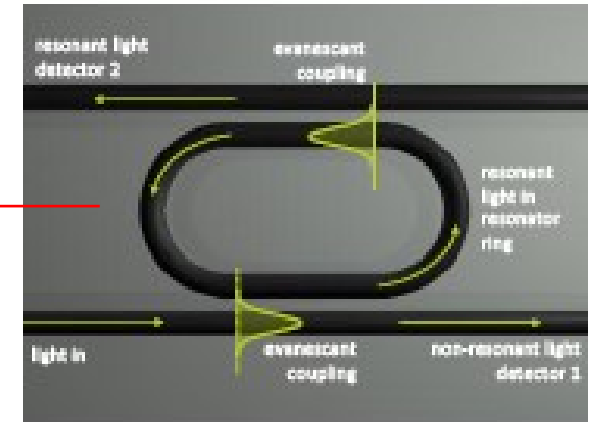
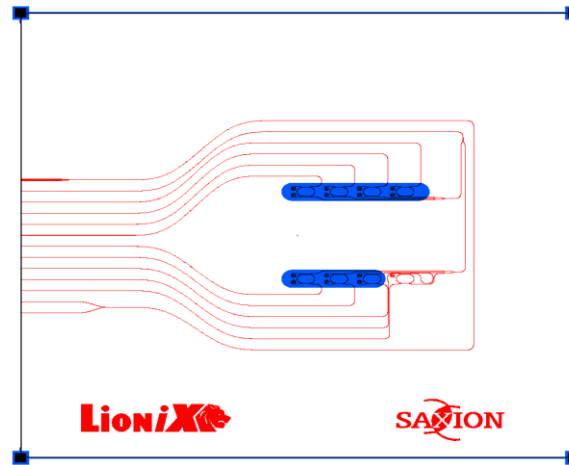
Photonic Biosensors

Analyte detection



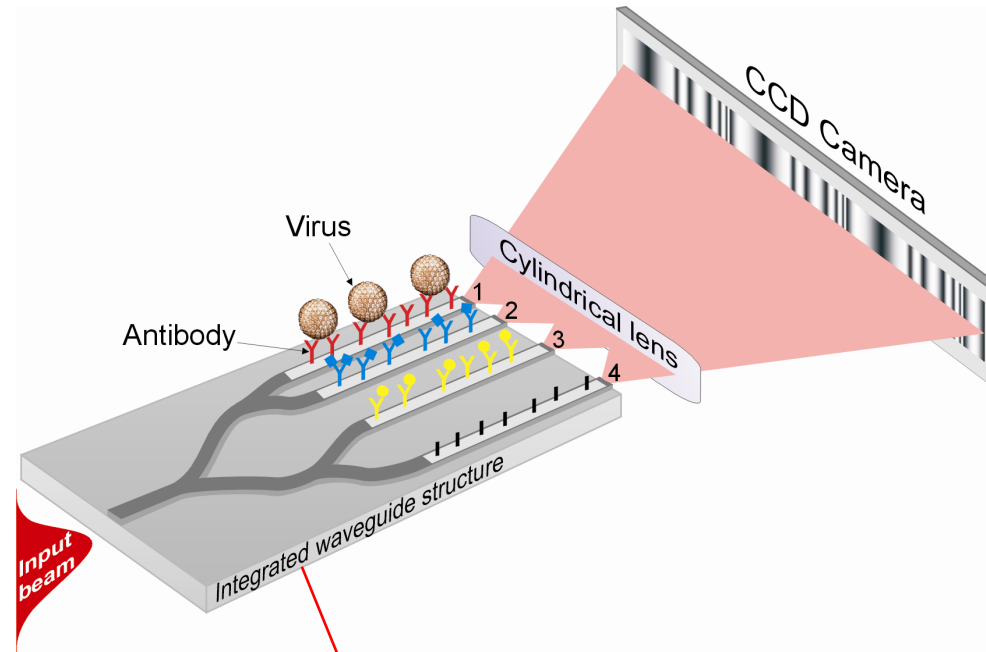
Biosensor prototypes

Microring resonator

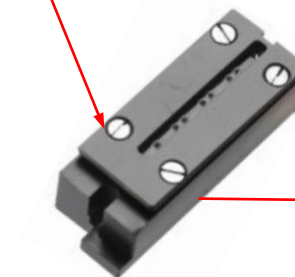


Biosensor prototypes

Multichannel interferometer



Nanotechnology at work



LOC System



Readout Detector

Photonic Biosensors

Applications / Validations

- Early disease diagnosis: e.g. cancer biomarkers
 - high probability for disease curing
 - high-cost savings
 - improve patient life
- Rapid POC testing: LIFESAVER, e.g. TBI biomarkers
- Food safety: bacteria (Salmonella, Listeria, etc)
- National security: viruses

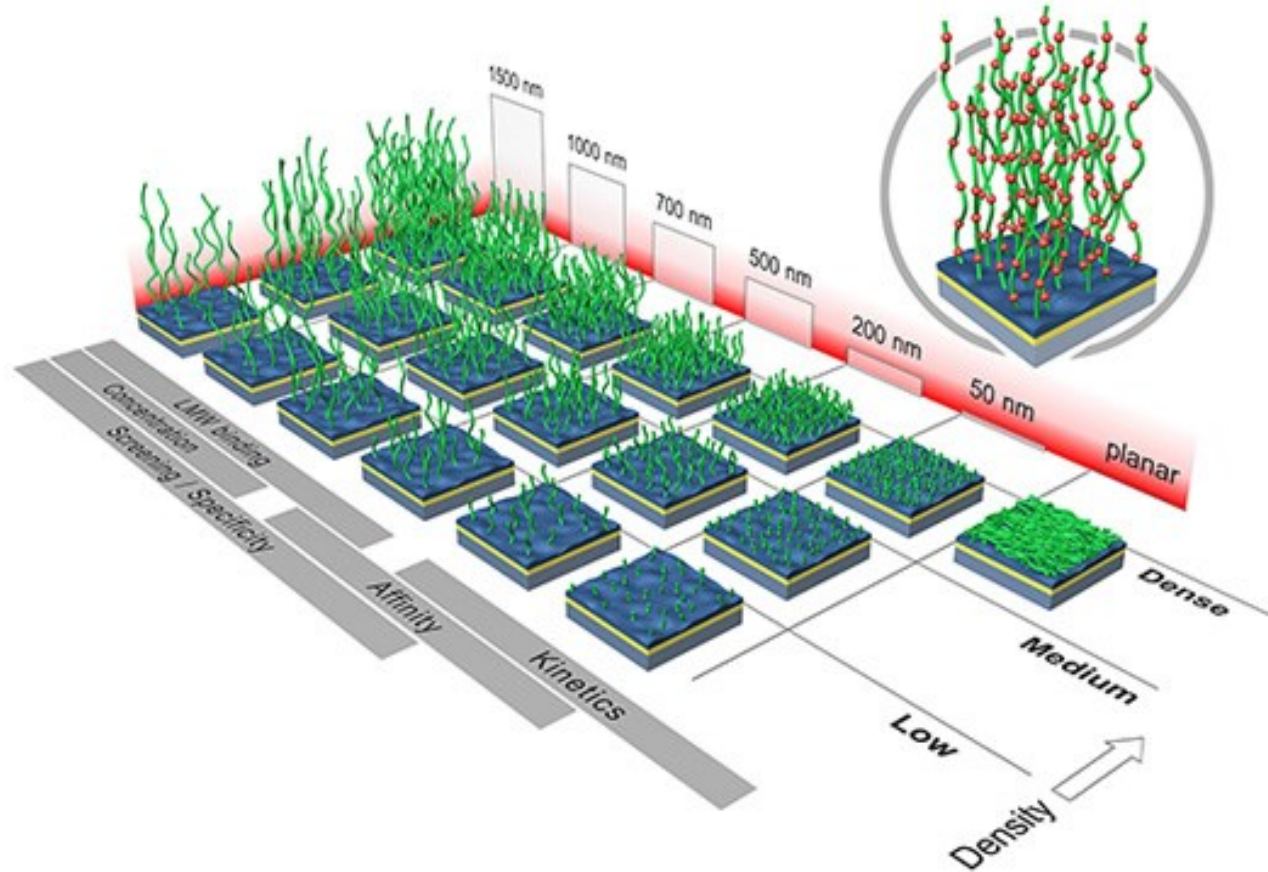
Photonic Biosensors

Validation Strategy

- selection of proper receptors to achieve high specificity
- optimization of chip coating to achieve high sensitivity
- measurement of \neq analyte conc's for sensor calibration
- benchmarking with gold standard methods: ELISA, PCR, etc.
- testing with clinically relevant (patient) samples

Photonic chip coating

Chip surface functionalization



NanoBio Lab

1. ELISA
2. Spotter (chip coating)
3. SPR instrument
4. Photonic biosensor prototypes: MRR, (a)MZI & MYI

1



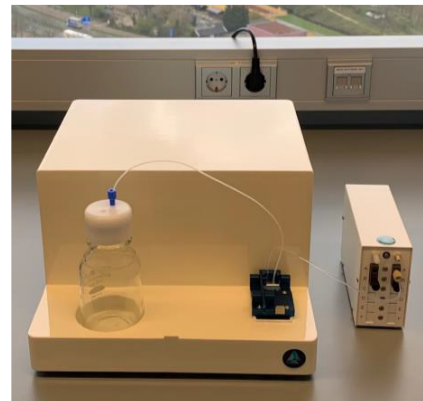
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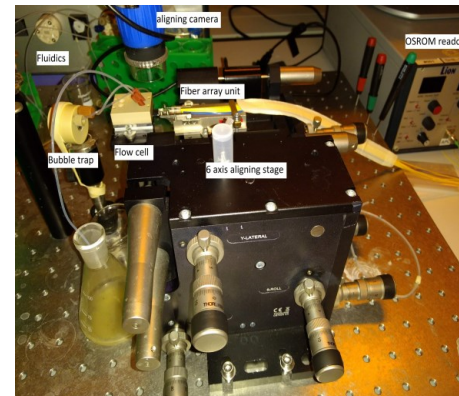
3



4 (MRR)



4 (MZI)



4 (MYI)



Project examples

PHOBIOSENS:

Rapid detection of antibiotics in milk using photonic biosensors



COVISENS:

Rapid, accurate SARS-CoV-2 virus Detection at the POC settings



DIAMOND2 / DIASENS:

Sensitive detection of insulin in patient samples for early diagnosis of diabetes



DIAMOND2

BVD-SENS:

Rapid diagnosis of BVD-virus in milk using photonic biosensors

BVD-SENS

GLUCOSENS:

A new glucose sensor for artificial pancreas

GLUCOSENS



COVISENS

Rapid COVID-19 Detection with
Photonic Biosensors



COVID-19 Pandemics

Gold standard methods based on PCR:

Specific and accurate, but time- and labor intensive, expensive, require trained personnel and specialized lab: 24-48 hrs



COVID-19 Pandemics

Rapid methods based on lateral flow test:

- rapid and easy-to-use
- less specific and accurate, especially at low viral loads

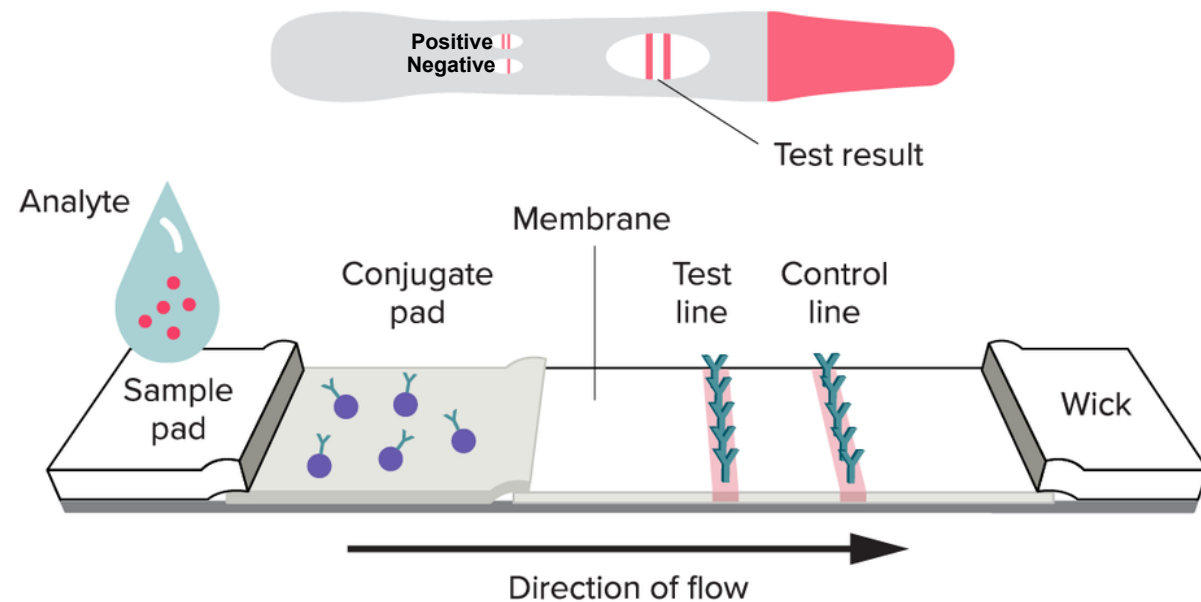


Figure 2: Schematic overview of a lateral flow test

COVISENS

Abbott PANBIO COVID-19 AG rapid test

Claims: 98,1% sensitivity, 99,8% specificity

In reality: 71,4% sensitivity, 99,8% specificity

Journal of Infection

Volume 82, Issue 3, March 2021, Pages 391-398



Roche SARS-CoV-2 Rapid Antigen Test

Claims: 83,3% sensitivity, 99,1% specificity

In reality: Medium (Ct 25-<30), 50%-95%

Journal of Virological Methods

Volume 288, February 2021, 114024

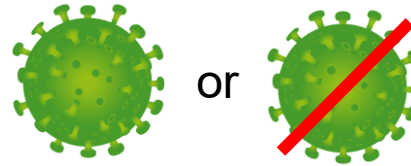


Final Goal

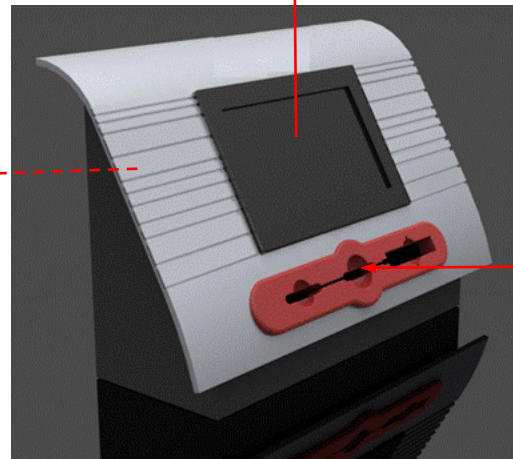
Portable/Handheld Device

Handheld device
(STAR TREK Tricorder)

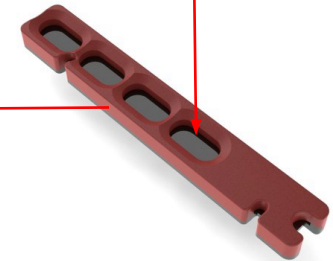
Sample analysis result



Sample



Portable Detector

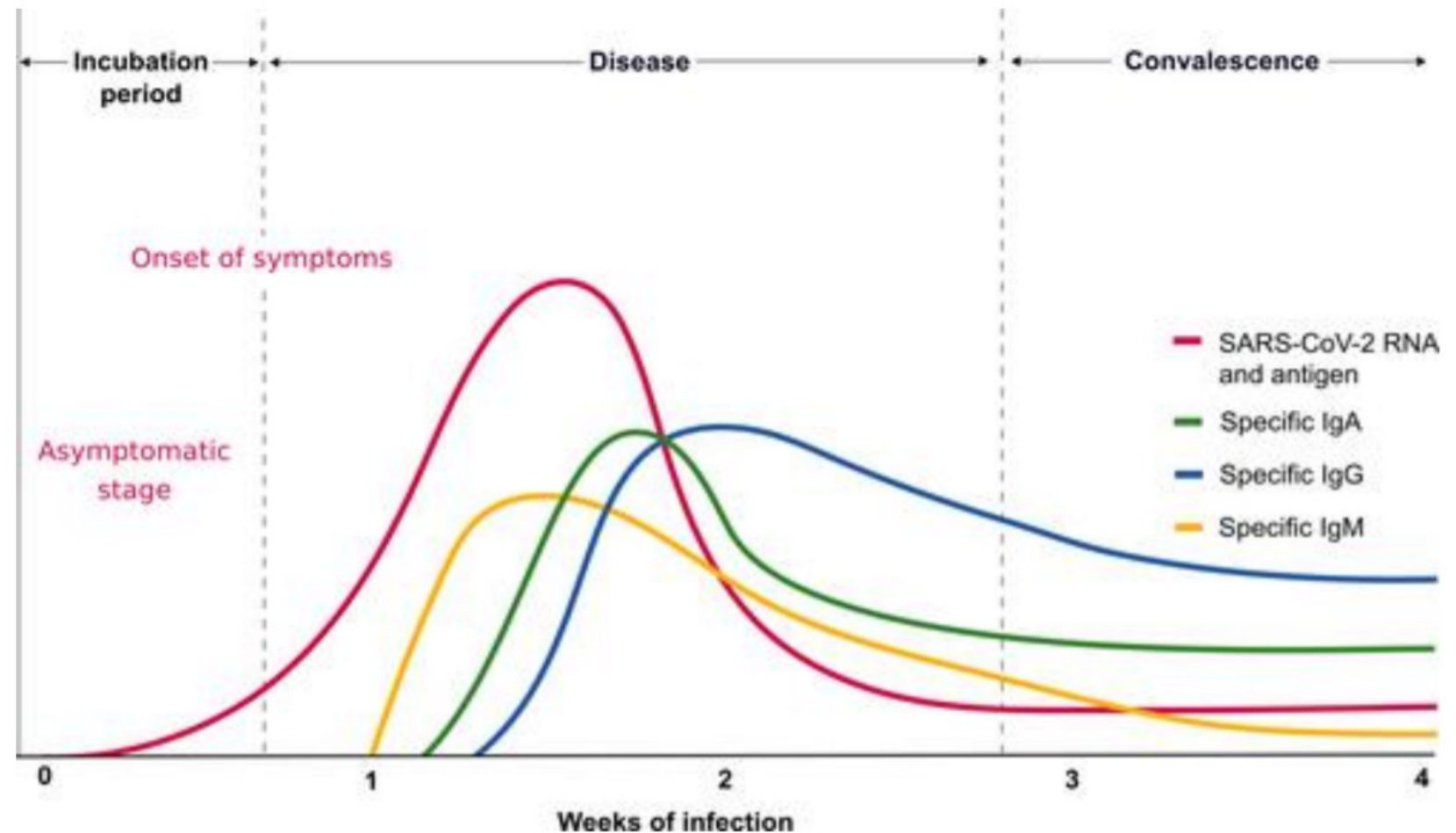


Lab-on-a-Chip system

COVISENS

Serological test

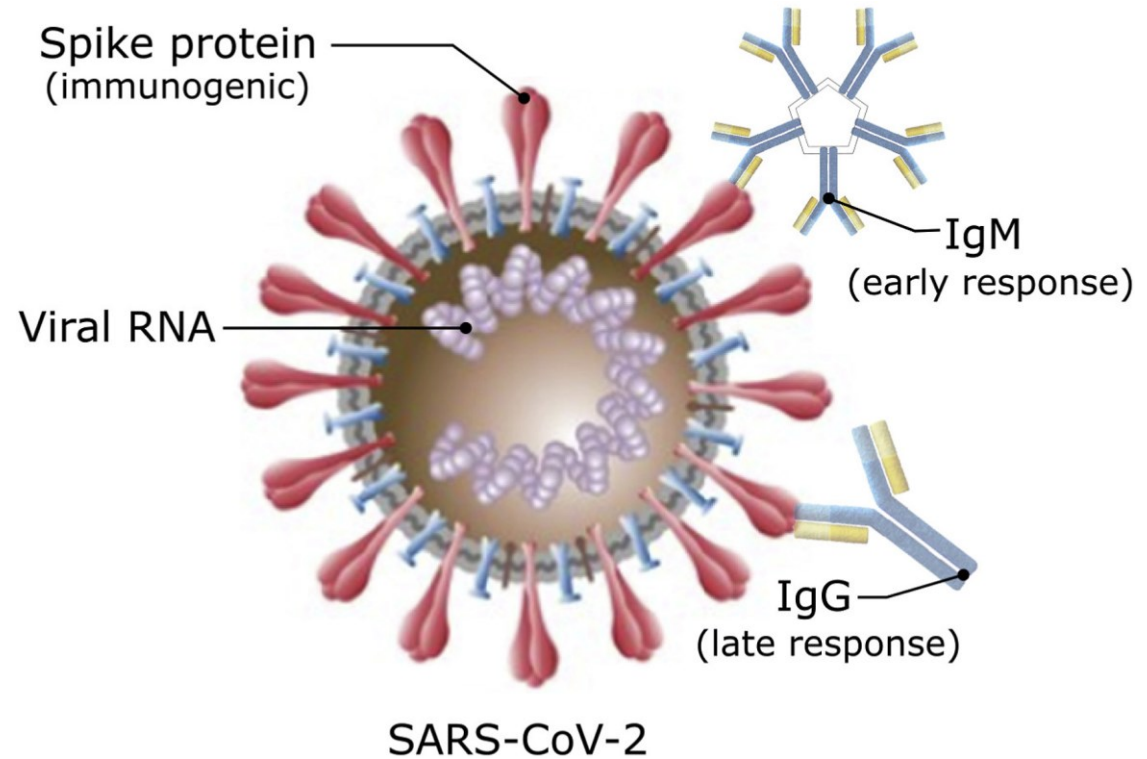
- detects Abs in (patient) serum samples
- determines previous infections, building up & immunity preservation



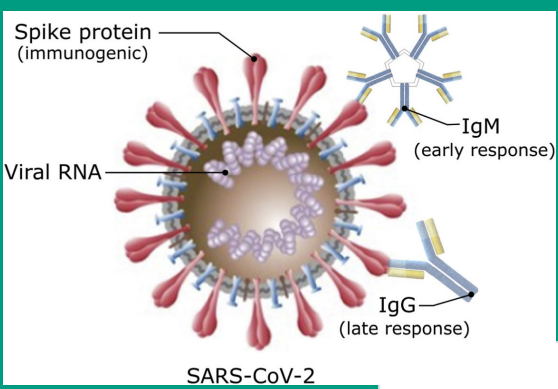
COVISENS

First Results

Detection of SARS-CoV-2 *spike protein* and/or *IgG/IgA/IgM antibodies*:



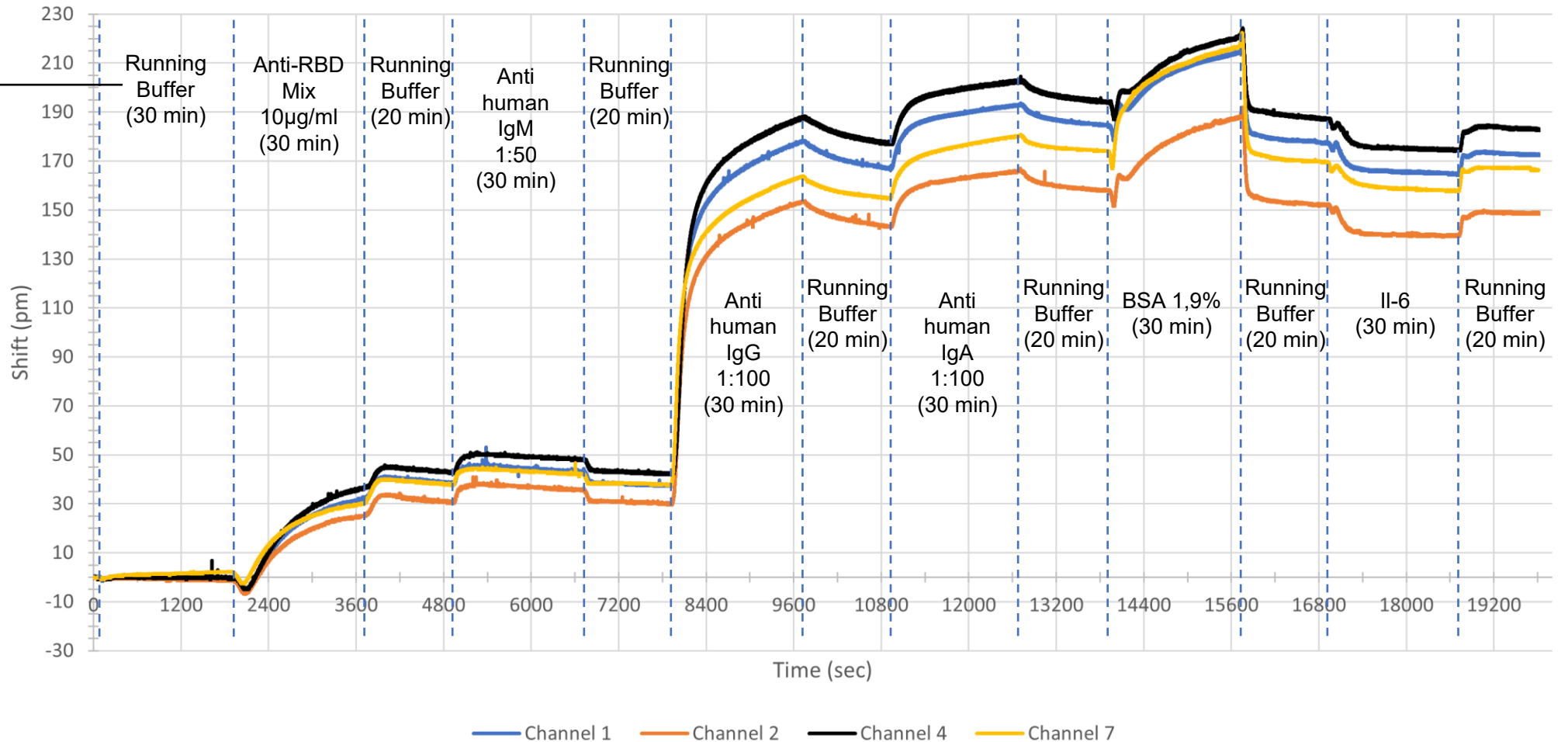
COVID-19 Antibody (IgM/IgG/IgA) test



-Hydrogel (30nm) coated chip

-IgM(970kDa), IgG(150kDa), IgA(160kDa)

Antibody detection measurement (corrected)



Running Buffer:

PBS:

- 137mM NaCl
- 2,7mM KCl
- 2 mM KH_2PO_4
- 8 mM Na_2HPO_4

- 1% BSA
- 0,5% Casein
- 0,1% Tween20



Clear.



DIAMOND2

DIAgnosis & MONitoring of
Diabetes type 2



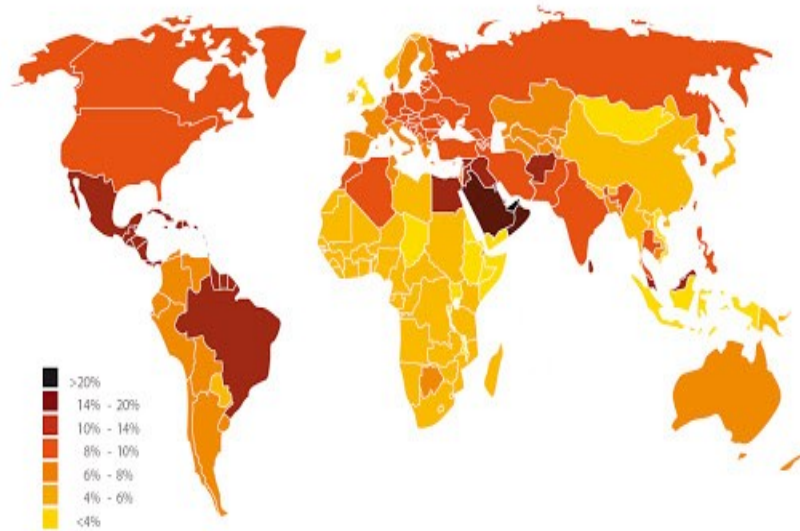
DIAMOND2

-2019, 463 M people worldwide have diabetes (17% healthcare costs!)

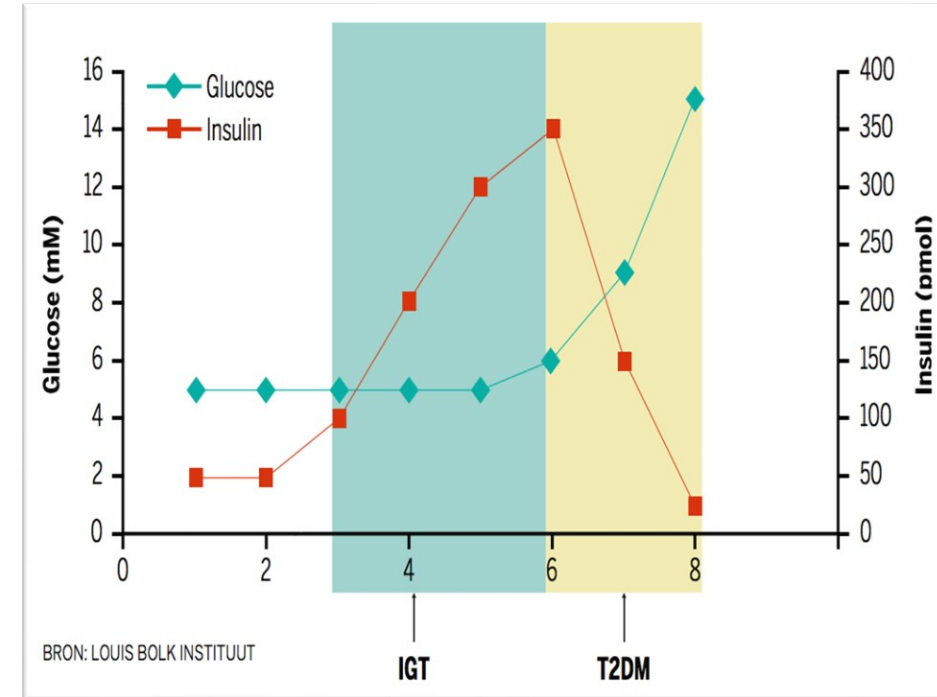
-prevalence rises exponentially (4x in the last 3 decades!)

-NL: half population with overweight & 1.1 M have diabetes

Prevalence estimates of diabetes, 2025



SOURCE: DIABETES ATLAS THIRD EDITION, © INTERNATIONAL DIABETES FEDERATION, 2006



=> New methods for early diagnosis of diabetes are urgently required

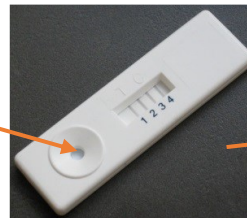
Goal

Realization of a demonstrator that can accurately and quickly determine serum/blood insulin concentrations, which can be used to warn people in risk groups for type 2 diabetes at an early stage and to encourage a healthier lifestyle (better diet, more exercise) to prevent diabetes.

End-users / patients / health professionals



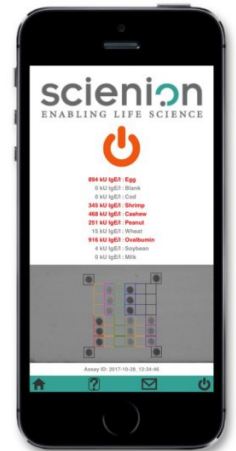
Blood sample



Lateral flow assay



Real-time reader

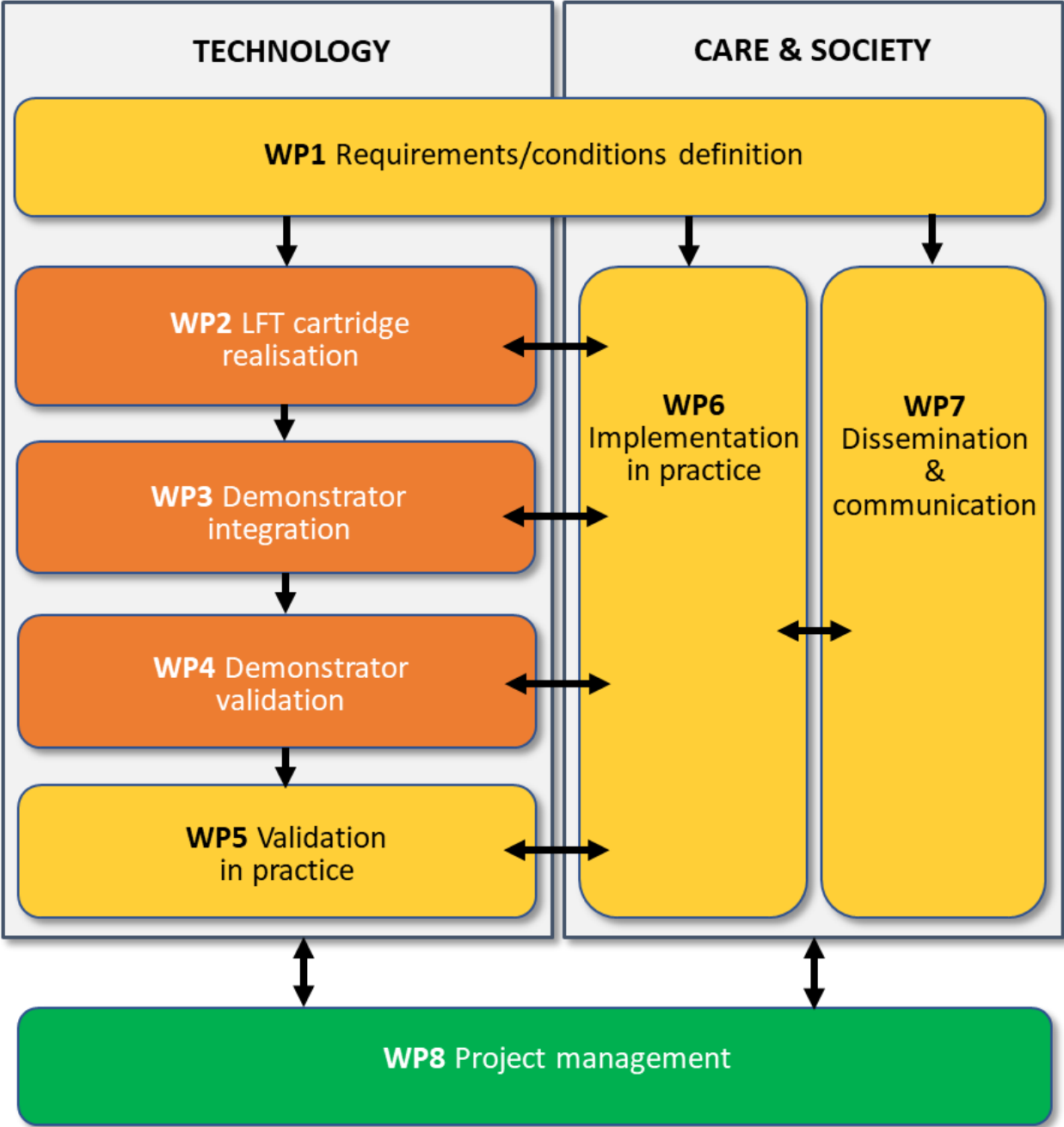


Blood analysis result

Implementation



Work Packages



Consortium Partners

Knowledge Institutions:

- Saxion, Applied Nanotechnology
- Saxion, Smart Health
- WUR, BioSensing & Diagnostics

Companies:

- Inreda Diabetic (Robin Koops)
- Micronit (Marko Blom)
- Lipocoat (Jasper de Weerd)
- Clear (Madelon Bracke)
- ZGT (Goos Laverman)
- Medlon (Hans Krabbe)

Social and other partners:

- Mijn Leefstijl op Recept (Inge Out)
- Vivaldi gezondheidscentrum (Frank Greeven)
- Diabetesfonds (Roel Nahuis)
- Diabetesvereniging Nederland (Angela de Rooij)
- MinacNed (Annerie Heesink)



Photonic Biosensors

Conclusions

- lab is no longer needed: Point-of-Care
- much cheaper and easy-to-use
- faster: sample in/answer out, potential lifesaver
- technology for mass production: affordable chips
- biofunctionalization important for assay development

Molecular Sensing Technologies

Conclusions

- various projects/applications defined/studied
- optical/photonic biosensor prototypes/demonstrators available
- protocols developed for chip coating & testing/validation
- biofunctionalization using hydrogels seems promising
- POP & validation tests performed for various applications
- broad network with (inter-)national research institutions, SMEs, industry & end-users