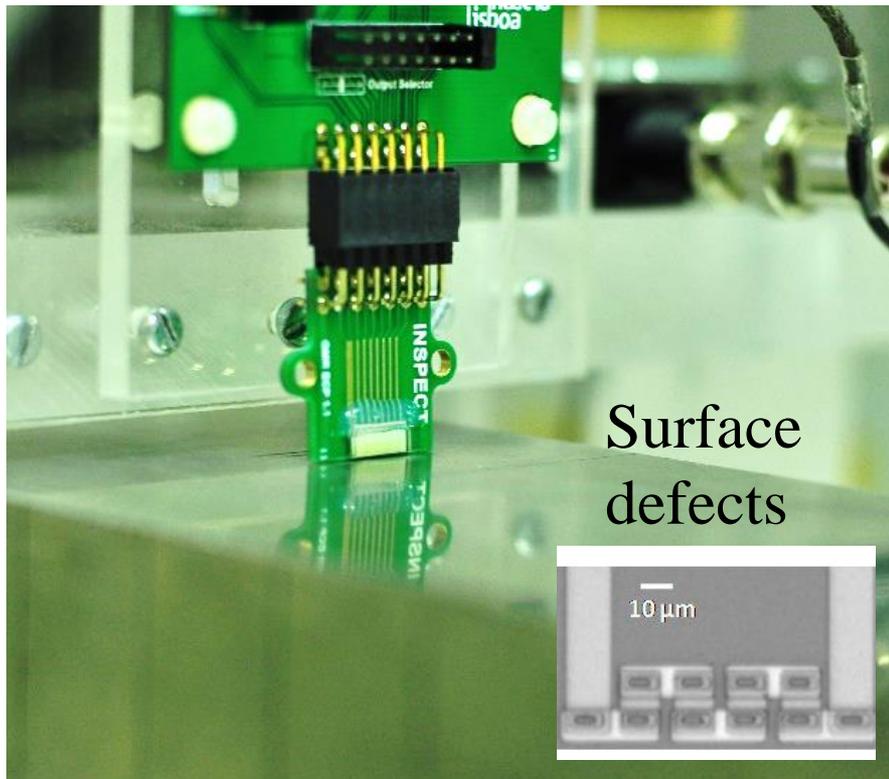


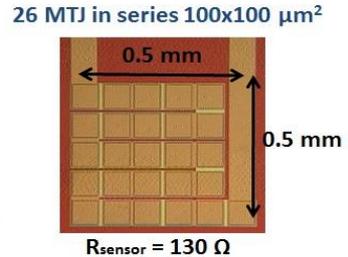
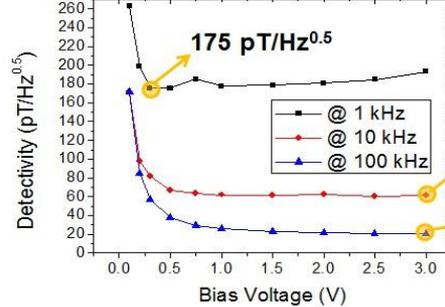
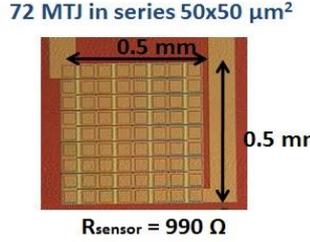
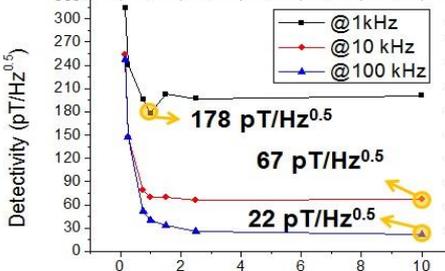
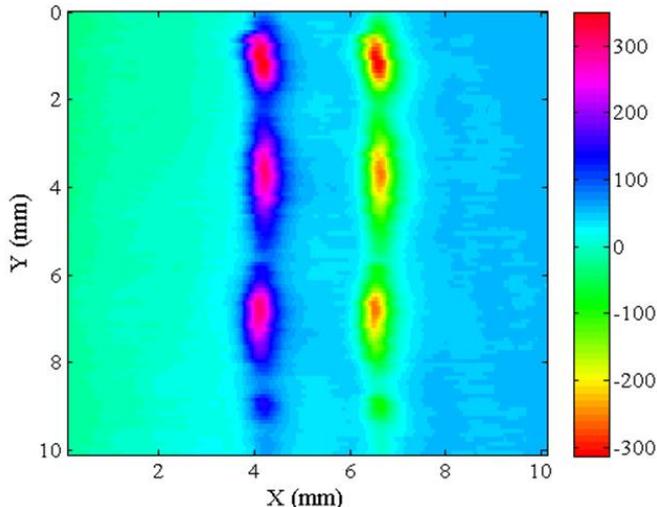
*"Spintronic Sensors", P.P.Freitas, S.Cardoso, R.Ferreira,  
Proceedings of IEEE Vol. 104(10), pp. 1894 - 1918, (2016)*

# NDT Testing with TMR sensors

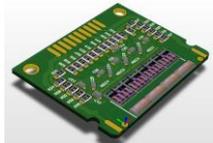
In collaboration with INESC ID, CEA



Surface defects



Aluminum Mock-up with defects with a width of 100 µm and a depth ranging of 0.2, 0.5 and 1 mm

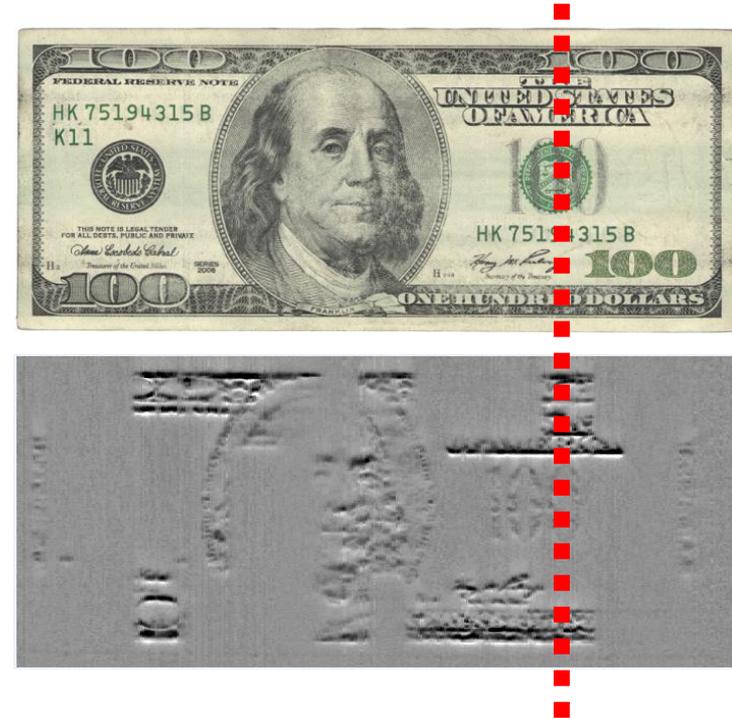
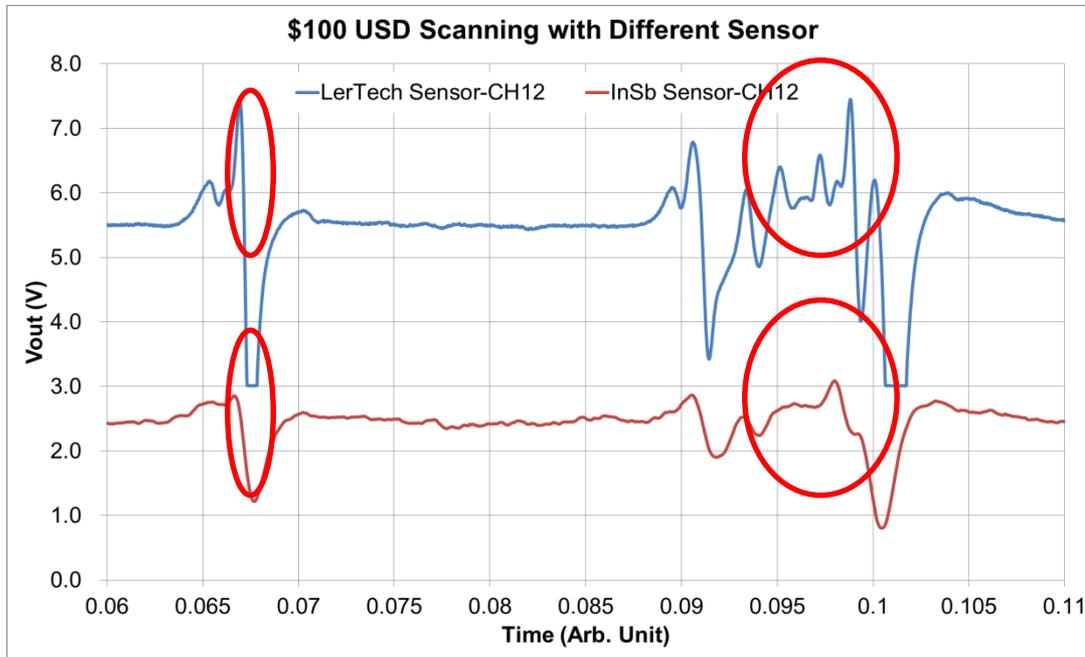


Final prototypes:  
TMR sensors, current lines, ASICS

Buried defects

# Scanning probes IV

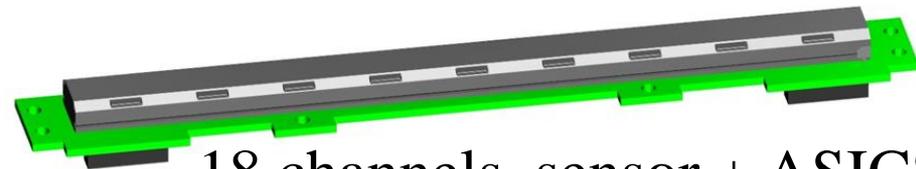
Sold to spanish MINT, and several others



LerTech/Simomags Sensor shows higher spatial resolution than InSb Sensor.

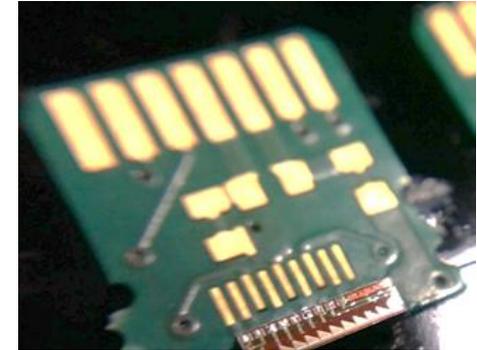
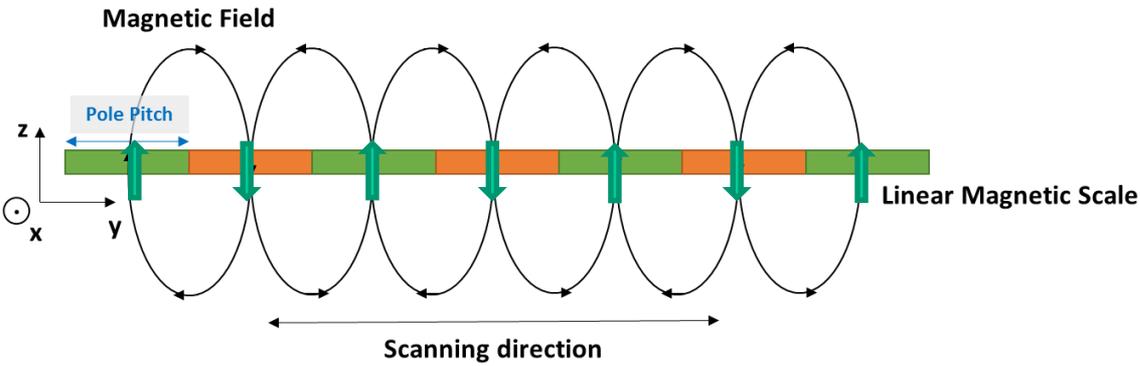


18 channels, sensor only

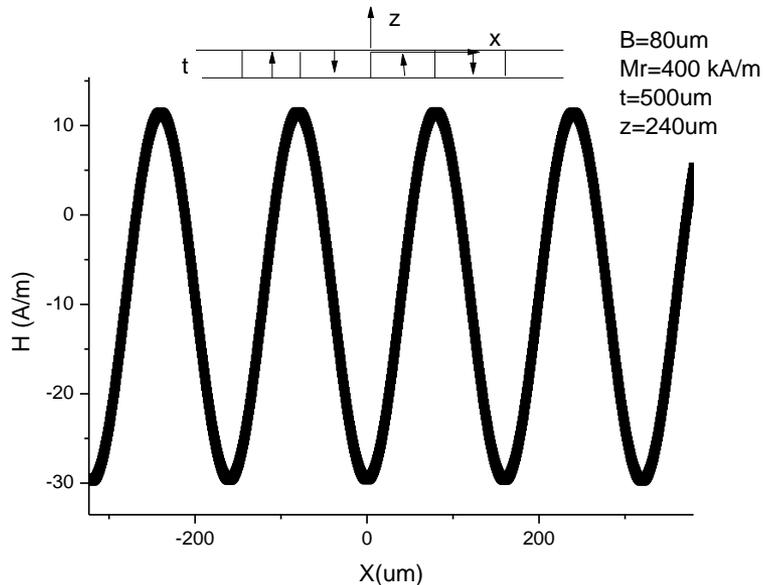


18 channels, sensor + ASICs

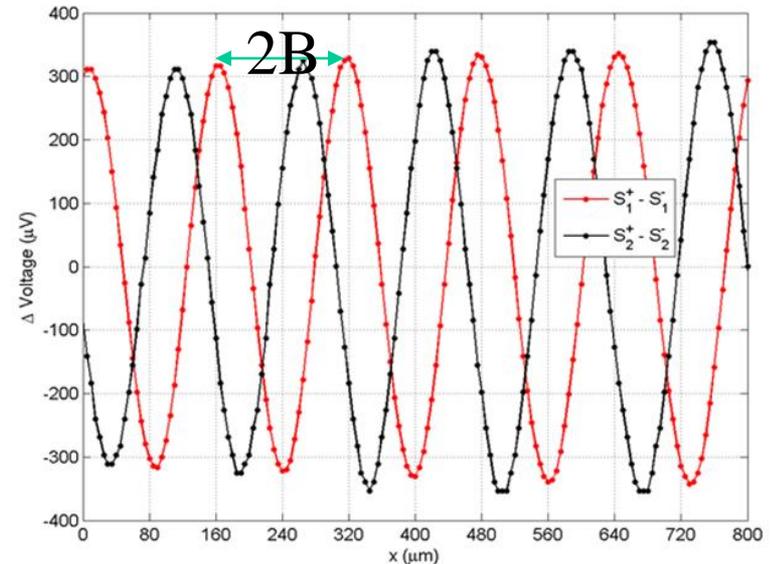
# Scanning Probes II: Linear Encoders H2020-SME



Magnetic field distribution of a linear magnetic scale with an out of plane magnetization.



Calculated Hz



sin-cos output obtained at INESC-MN during a scan

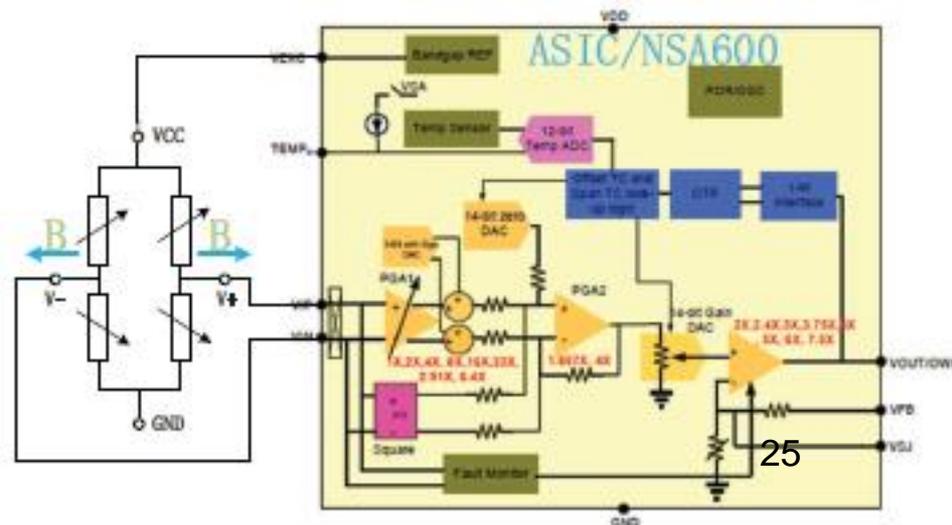
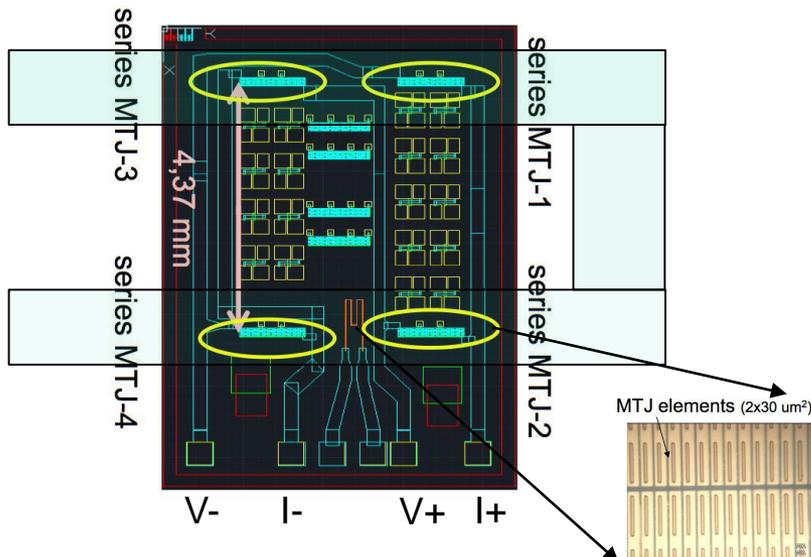
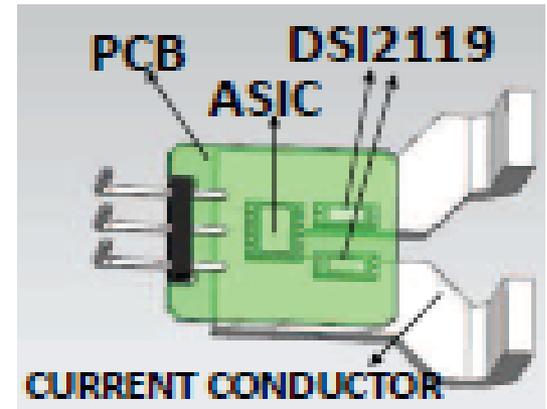
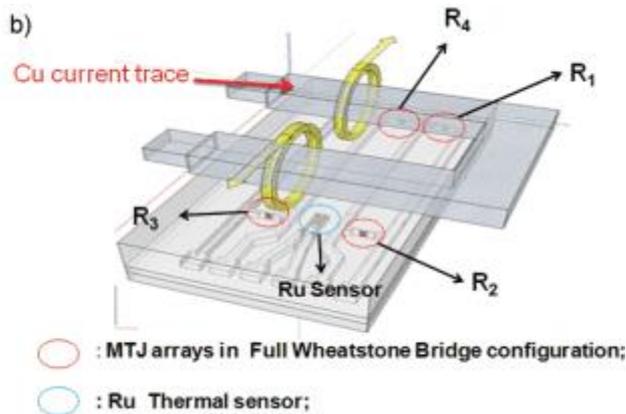
along 800 um at a distance of 150 um from the scale.

# Current sensor / Powermeter

Sensor architecture: open loop, coreless, U shape Cu strip on PCB

Single TMR chip, integrated temp sensor  
analog multiplier

Dual TMR +ASIC



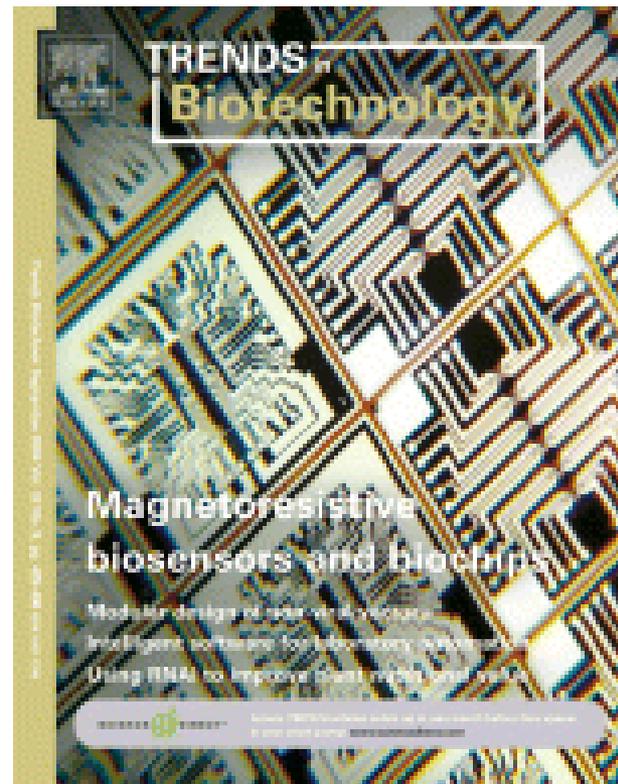
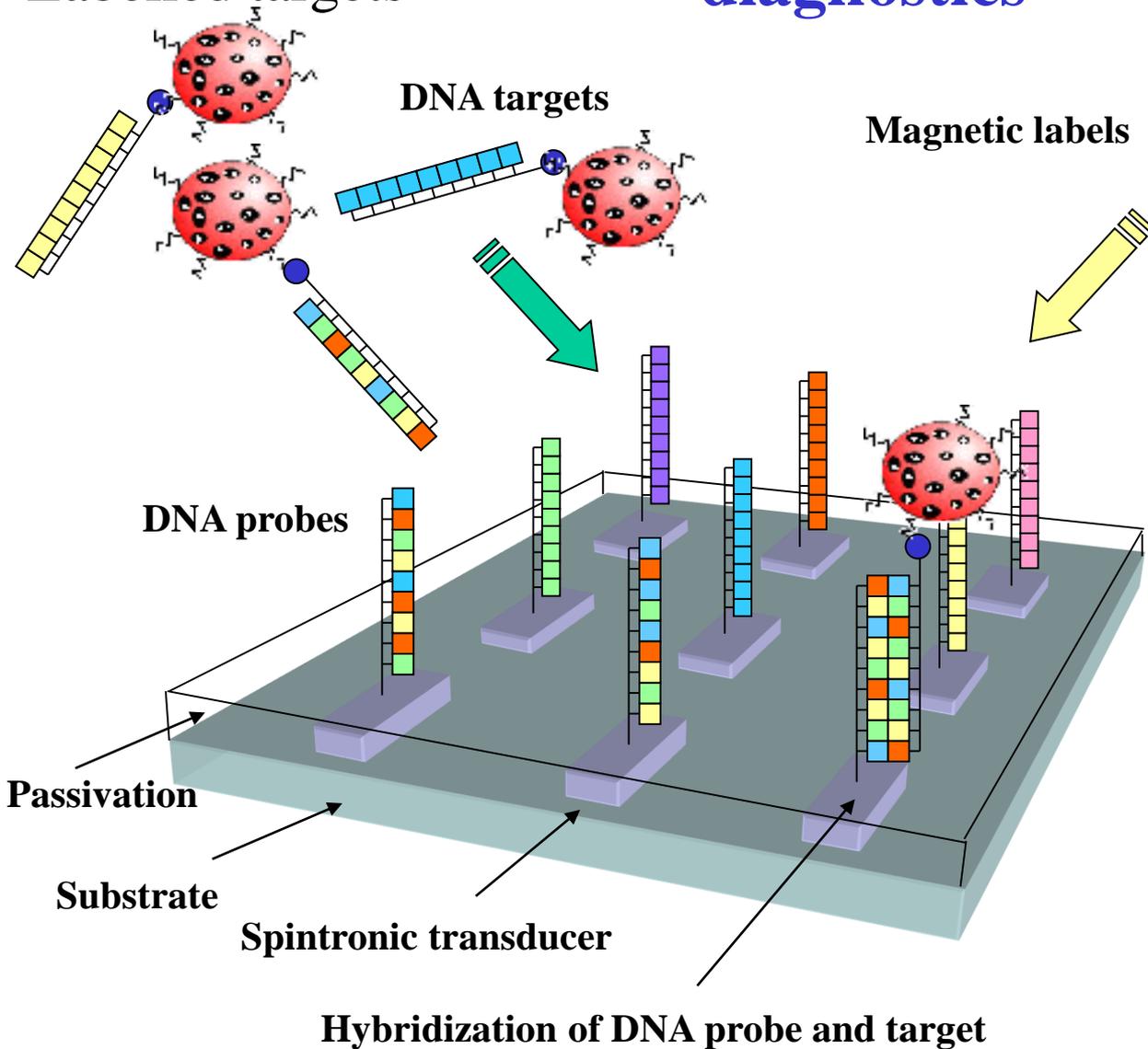
# 1-Scalable magnetoresistive biochips for point of care diagnostics

Labelled targets

DNA targets

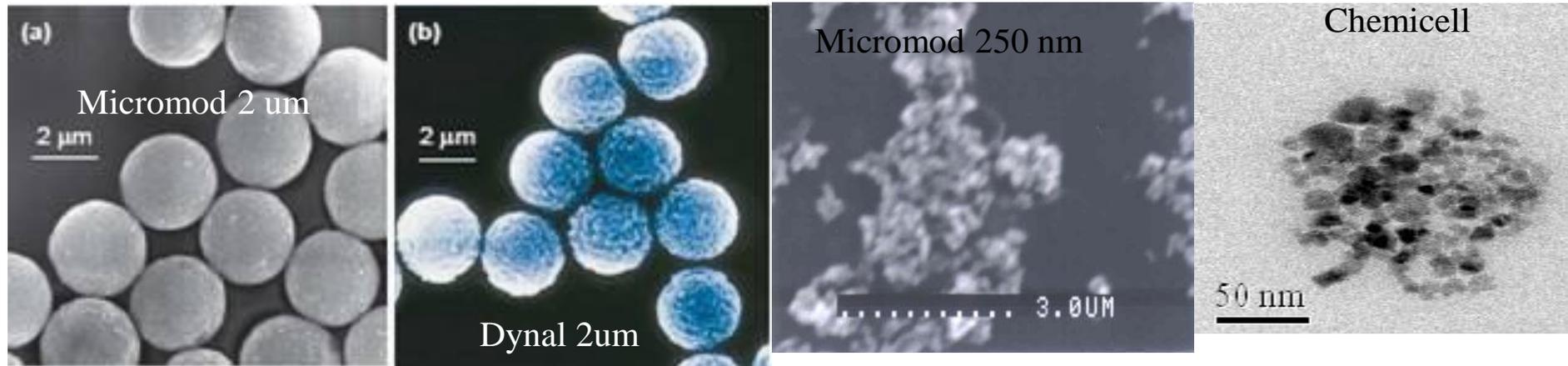
Magnetic labels

Hybridize first  
Label after



# 1 a) magnetic labels

Particles typically used in bio-separation

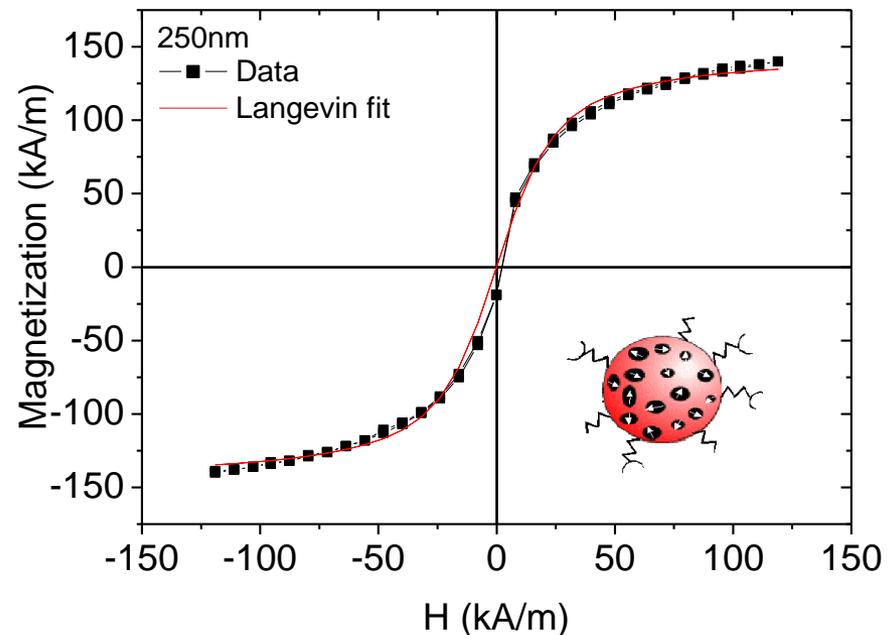


Micromod, Germany <http://www.micromod.de>

Dynal Biotech, Norway <http://www.invitrogen.com>

## ADVANTAGES

- Non remanent magnetic moment (avoid clustering)
- High saturation moment (high signals)
- Small (avoid steric hindrance)
- Stable
- Biocompatible



# Lowest fields to be detected

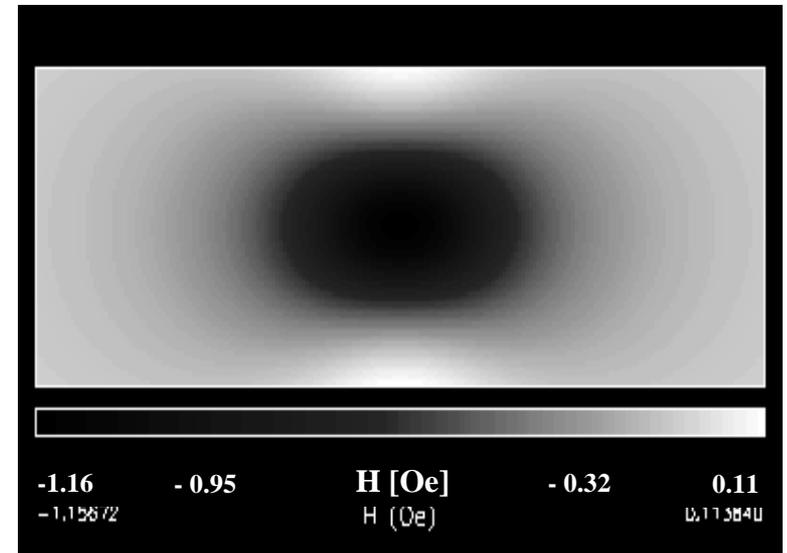
For a 50nm FeOx particle:

$$\chi=0.7, H=1.2\text{kA/m}, d=0.2\mu\text{m}$$

$$B^{\text{max}}=4\mu\text{T}$$

But for a  $6\mu\text{m}^2$  sensor,

$$B_{\text{aver}} = 1 \text{ nT}$$



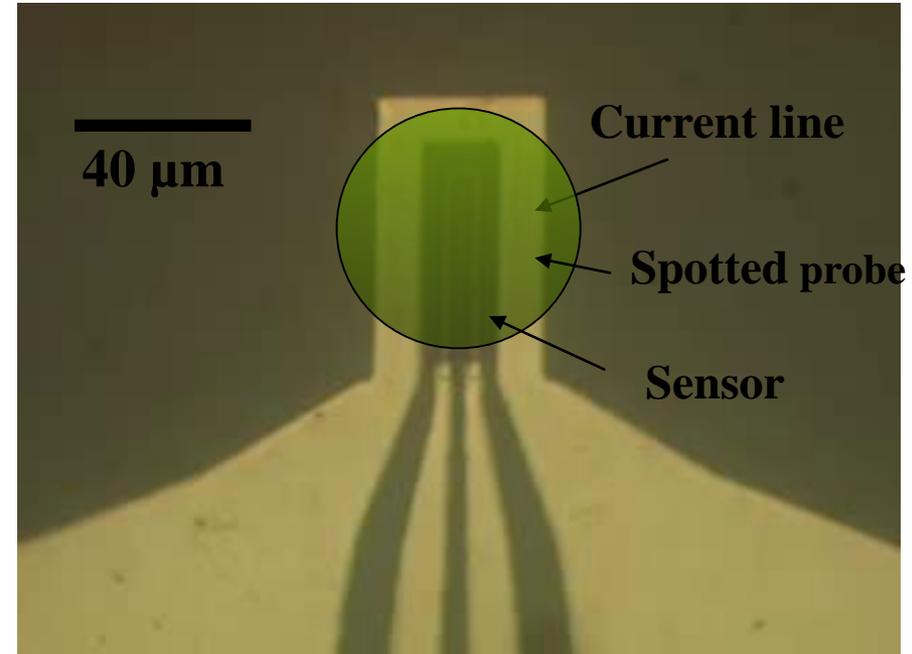
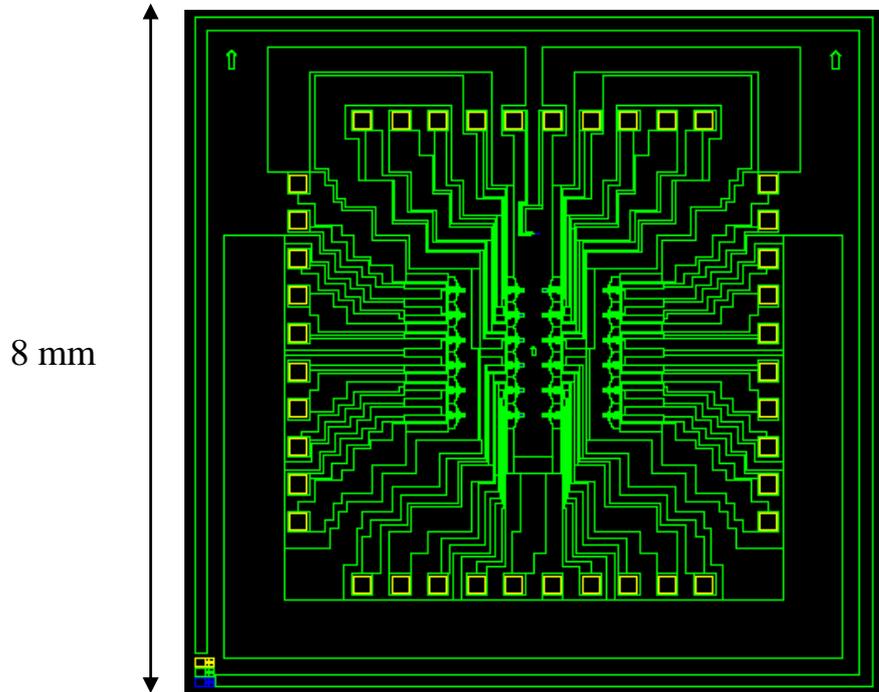
## HOW TO DETECT THESE FIELDS?

Magneto encephalography, **B 10fT** (SQUIDS,  $SV_S+SC$  FG)

Magneto cardiography, **B few pT**

MR Biochips, **few nT**

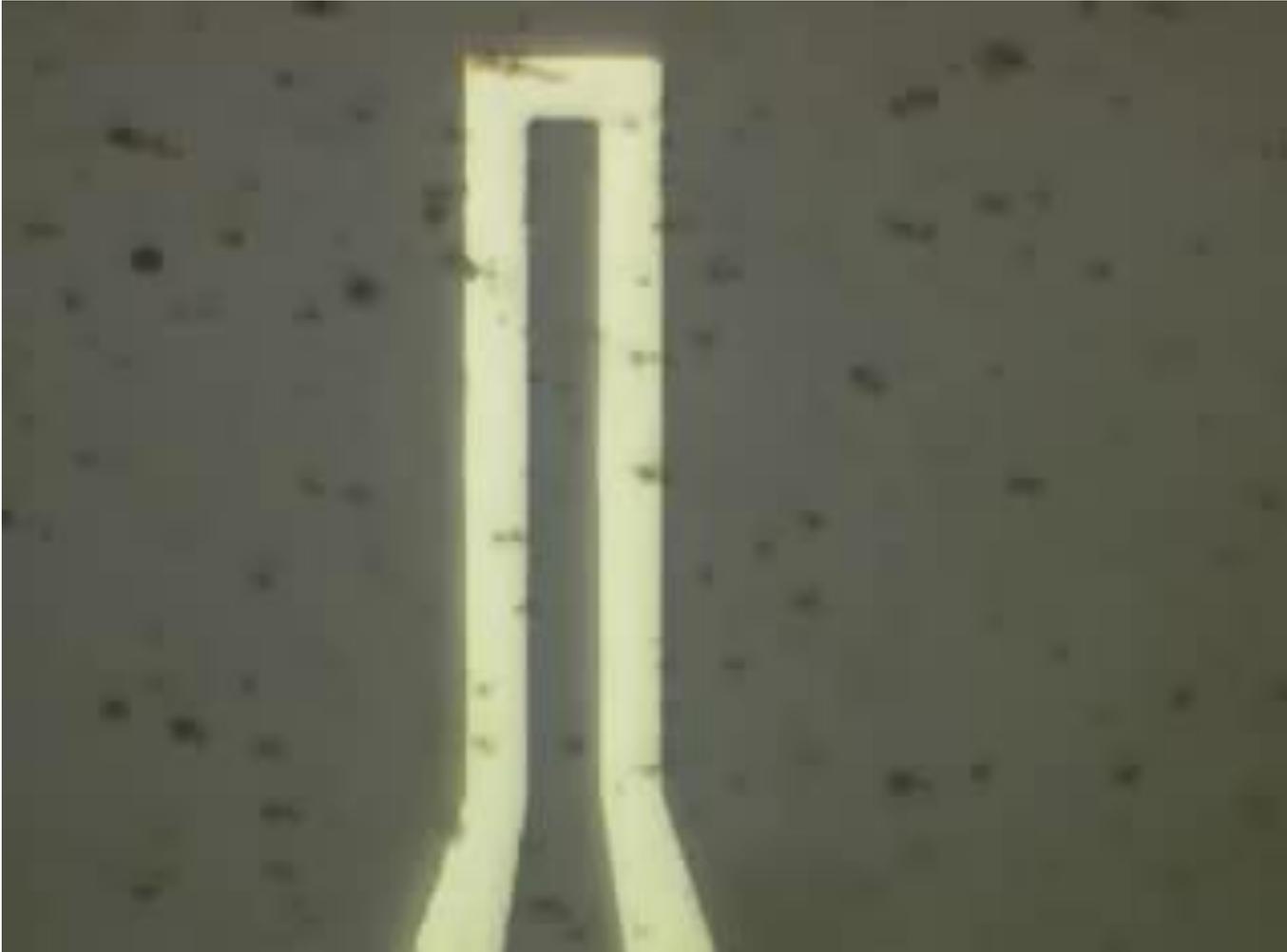
# INESC-MN's 3rd generation MR biochip



- 24 sensing units:
    - 1 U-shaped spin-valve sensor (2.5 μm × 80 μm) →
    - 1 U-shaped current line (l = 50 μm; w = 10 μm; s = 17 μm) ←
  - 1 single sensor (2.5 μm × 80 μm)
- **Higher dynamic range**
  - **Higher biological sensitivity**
  - **Need to focus labels in large areas (1000-2000 μm<sup>2</sup>)**

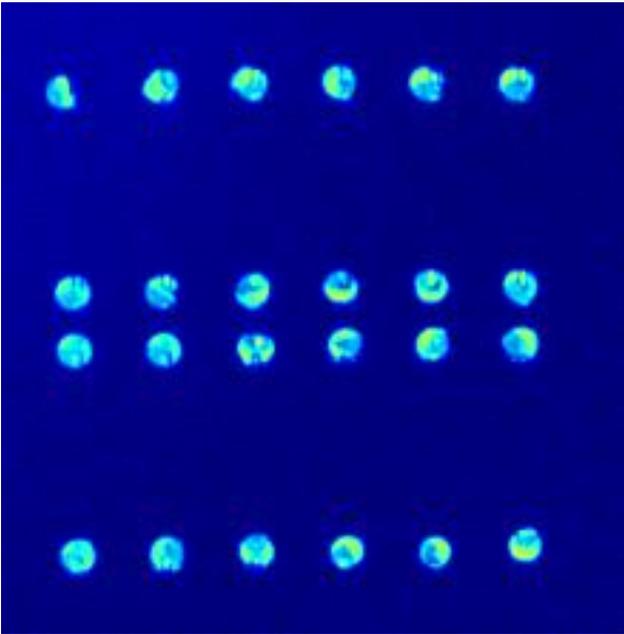
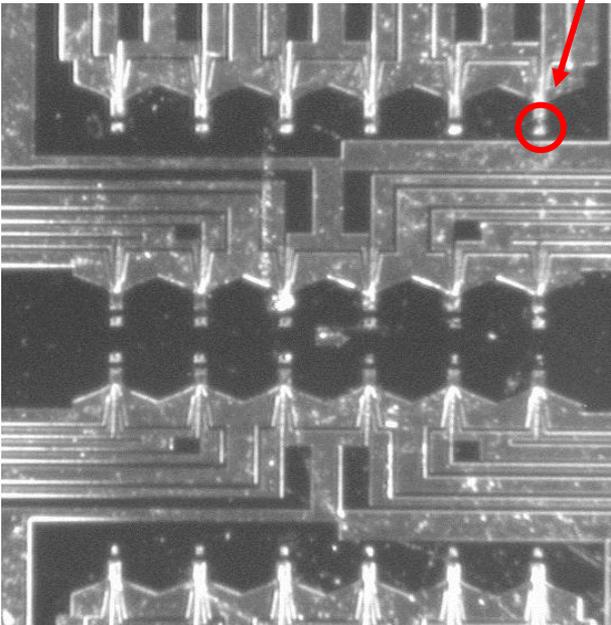
**1-e) target arraying over immobilized probes:  
250nm beads and magnetically assisted hybridization**

40  $\mu\text{m}$

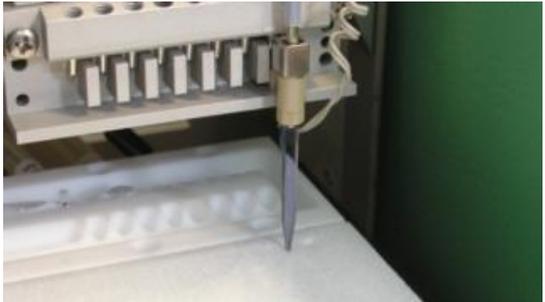


# 1-d) Spotting biological targets on the biosensing platform

Spotting site



1  $\mu$ M Oligo solution, Cy5 labeled  
200 pL droplets



Gesim spotter



Disposable biochip

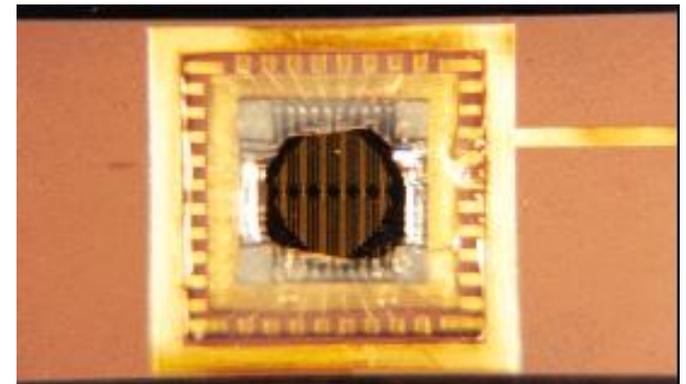
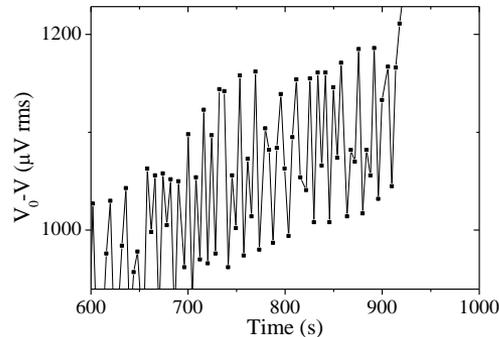
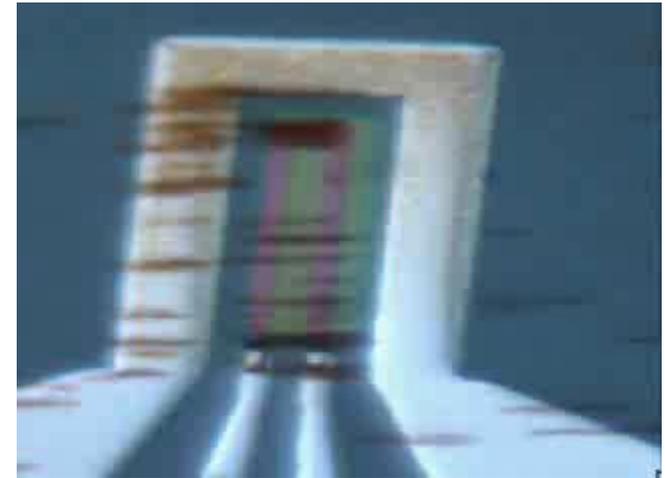
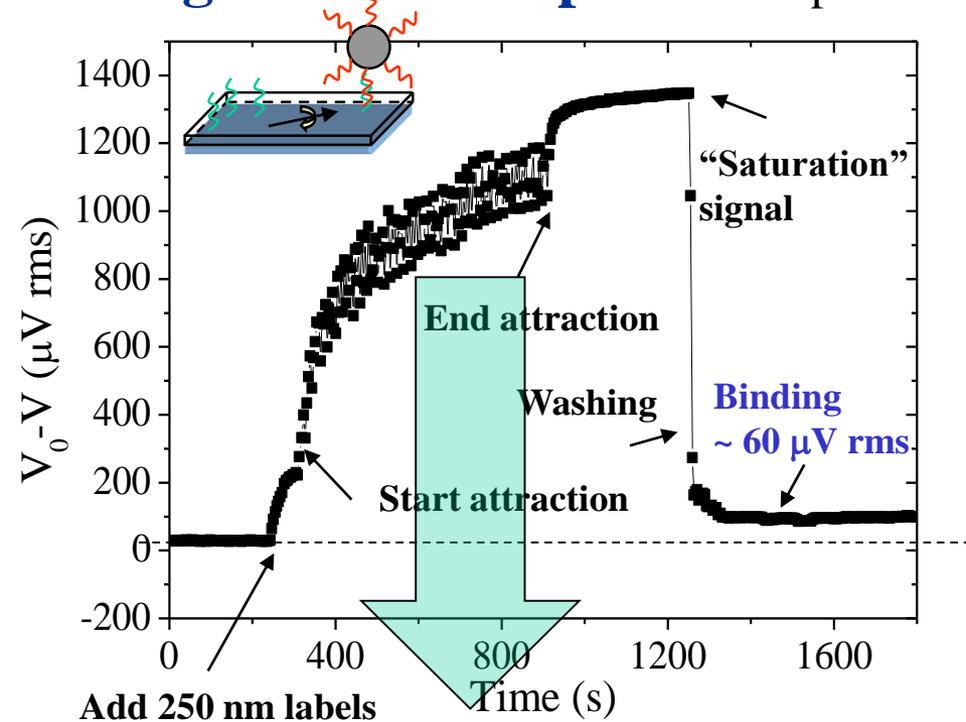
# Biomolecular recognition experiments

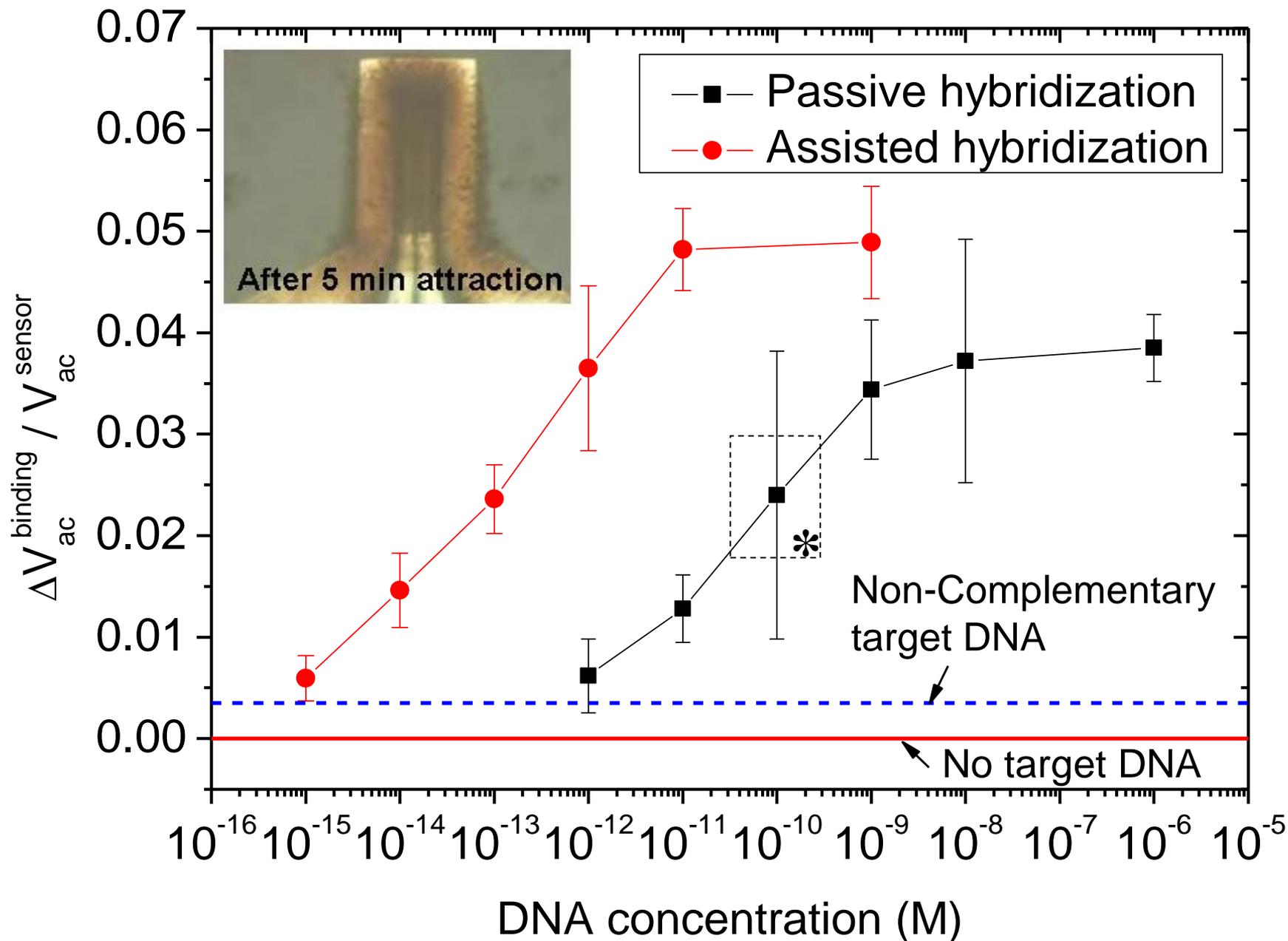
## Cystic Fibrosis Related DNA hybridization

### Single sensor output

Complementary target

Dynamic hybridization at work





# INESC MN – INESC ID technology

## MR biochip static platform

Developed at INESC MN and INESC ID  
2000-2013

Licensed to Magnonics, 2014

Patents pending (3)



Measurement platform

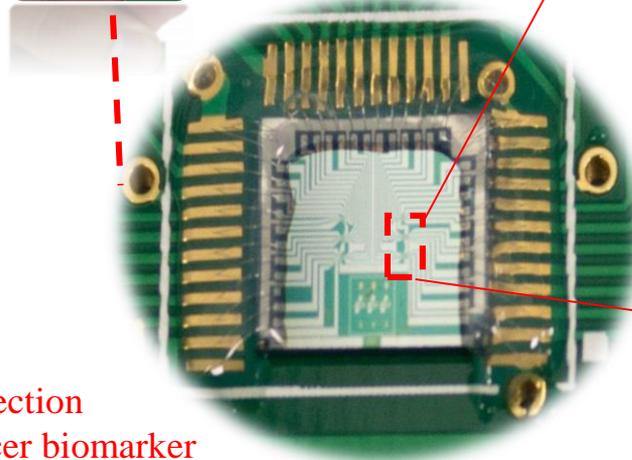
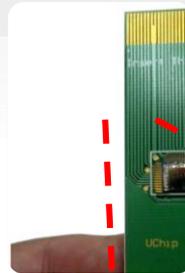
## MR biochip

- 30 sensing units
  - 6 groups of
  - 5 sensors
- (4 bio-active + 1 reference)

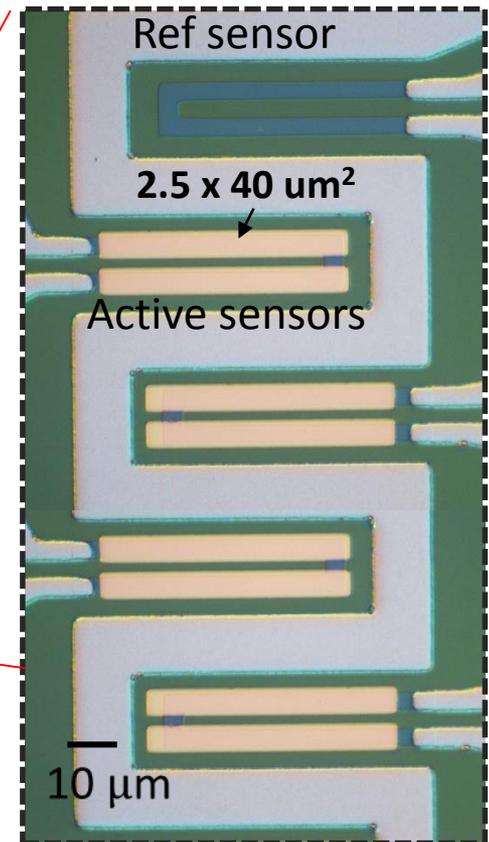
## Application:

Protein chip: brain ischemia biomarker detection

DNA chip: cell free DNA detection as cancer biomarker



Chip area: 6 x 7.2 mm<sup>2</sup>



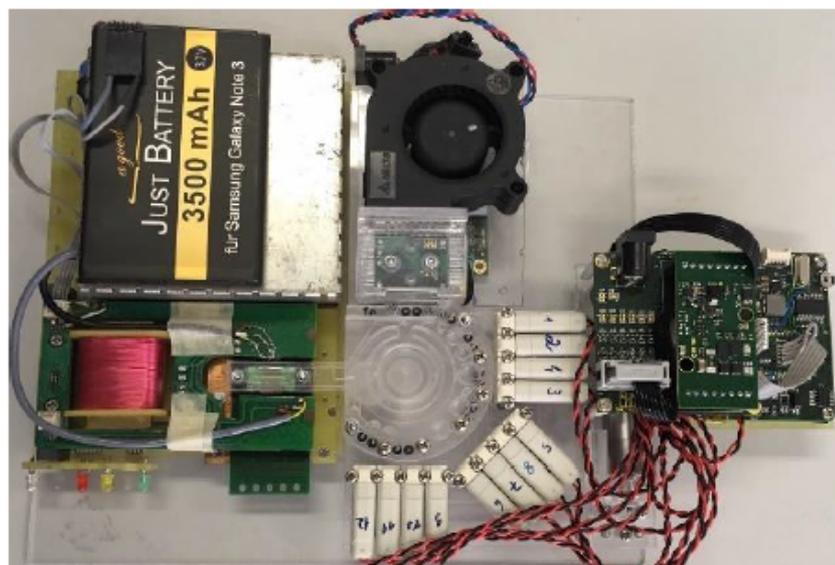
# With MAGNOMICS **today**: detecting bacteria in milk from mastitic cows

**High sensitivity and ability to provide specific responses to biological questions:** not just the pathogens, but also may inform as to the best antibiotic to use for treatment

**Fast results** turnover time (4 hours) in an **all in one compact platform**, bringing the laboratory methods to the farms

**Multiplexability and flexibility:** adaptable to a number of different applications, able to detect several types of molecules/set of bacteria simultaneously

**Portability** (hand-held device), **long autonomy**, **easy to use** (one-step/one-button) and **low price** compared to similar solutions



## PRODUCT

- Reader plus disposable cartridge
- Approx. €20 end user price per cartridge (margin 40%)
- First product will be a “cow side” bovine mastitis test

## READER

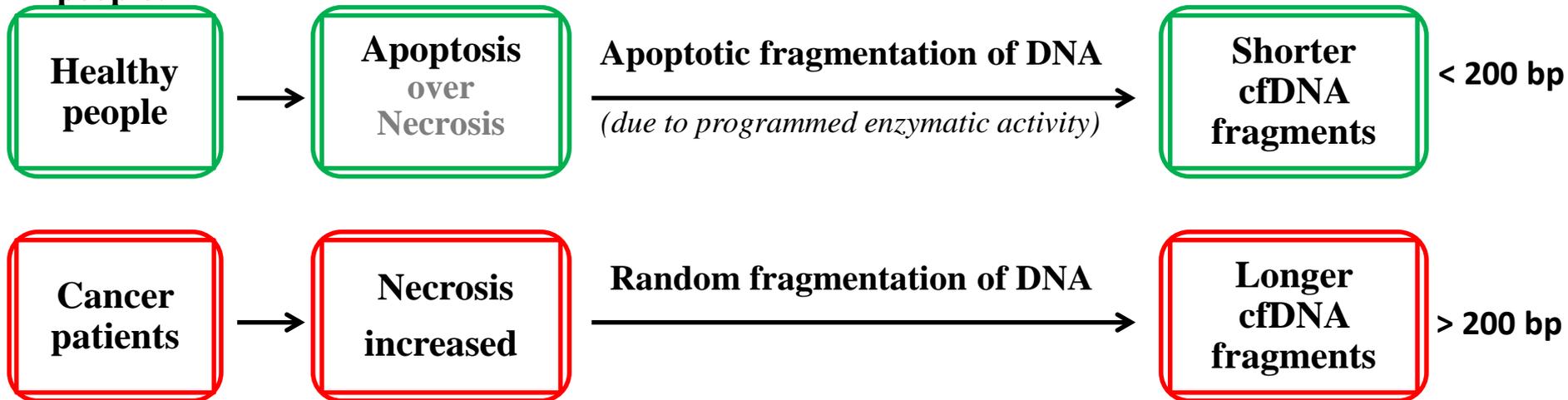
- Basic signal acquisition and processing
- Connects to PC or mobile phone
- Can be leased or offered

## CARTRIDGE

- Disposable cartridge, including sample processing, PCR amplification and dozens of DNA sensors
- Customized detection capability
- Sold in large volumes

# Application: Cell-free DNA as cancer biomarker?

- **Cell-free DNA:** DNA that can be found outside of cells in blood circulation. Results mainly from dying cells (apoptosis or necrosis)
- The cfDNA found in cancer patients is qualitatively different from what is found in healthy people:

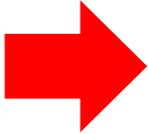


$$\text{Integrity index:ratio} = \frac{\text{ALU247 (longer cfDNA fragment)}}{\text{ALU115 (shorter cfDNA fragment)}}$$

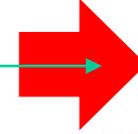
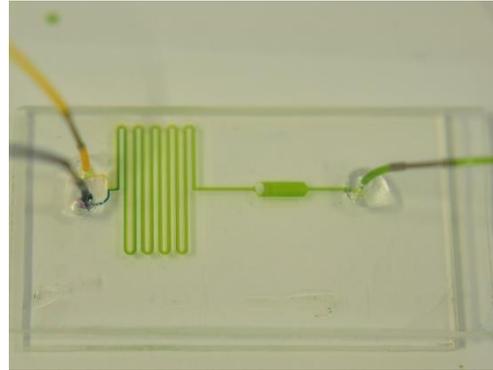


**Universal cancer biomarker in therapy follow-up ?**

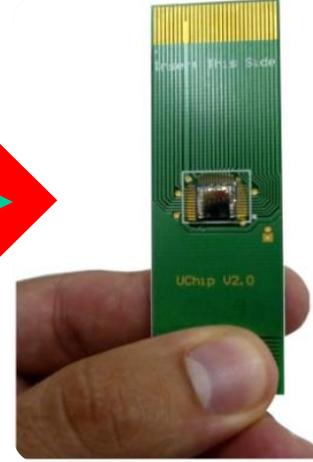
1-Blood finger-prick  
Healthy donors



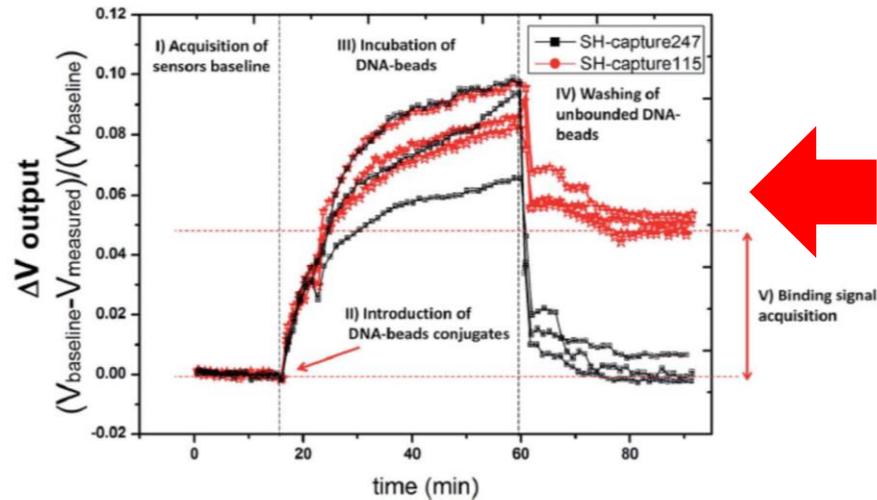
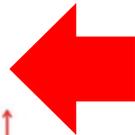
1,2-DNA extraction from Plasma by commercial kit or  
3-MNP labelling and  
4-Magnetic separation



5-PCR ( thermal), 6-re-labelling  
7-Probe spotting on MR chip  
( microspotter)

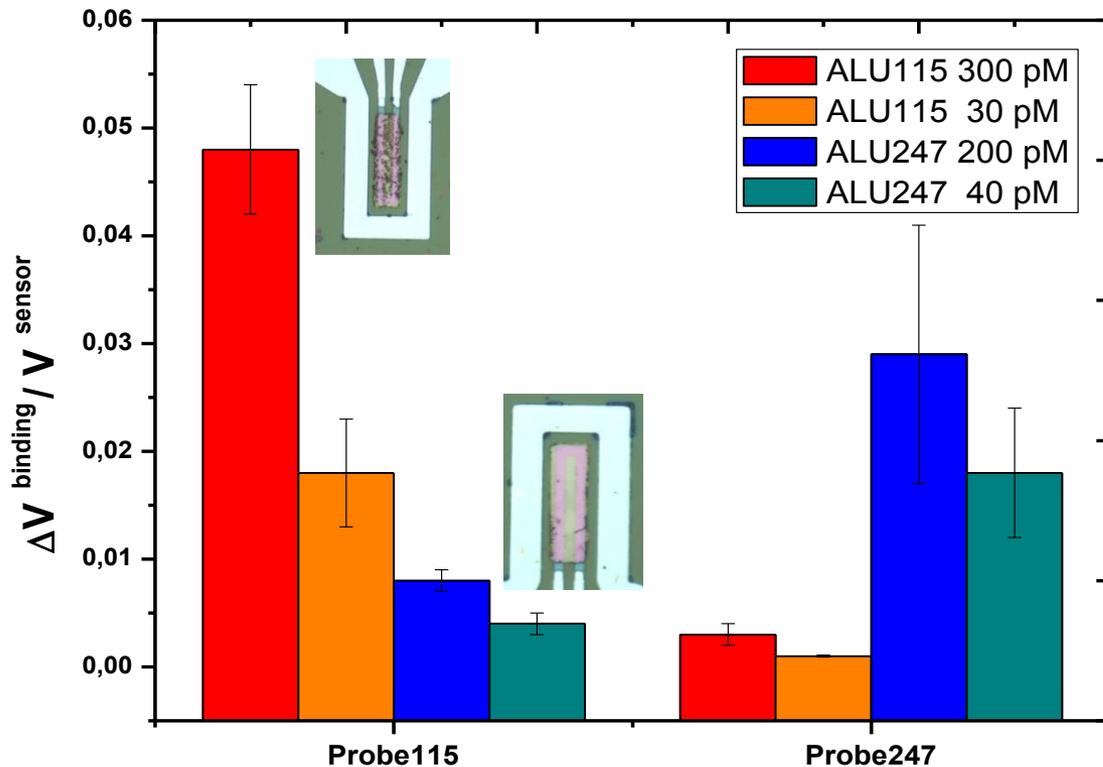


8-Sample analysis on MR platform  
( pressure sealed single channel  $\mu$ -fluidic chamber)



# On-chip detection

On-chip detection and distinction between the two target fragments simultaneously (ALU115 and ALU247) with no cross-reactivities: spiked labelled DNA targets on PB



Analytical  
Methods

PAPER



Cite this: *Anal. Methods*, 2016, 8, 119



View Article Online  
View Journal | View Issue

**Implementing a strategy for on-chip detection of cell-free DNA fragments using GMR sensors: A translational application in cancer diagnostics using ALU elements†**

T. M. Dias,<sup>\*ab</sup> F. A. Cardoso,<sup>a</sup> S. A. M. Martins,<sup>a</sup> V. C. Martins,<sup>a</sup> S. Cardoso,<sup>a</sup> J. F. Gaspar,<sup>c</sup> G. Monteiro<sup>b</sup> and P. P. Freitas<sup>a</sup>

Cell-free DNA (cfDNA) is foreseen as a promising source for liquid biopsies in cancer diagnostics. Despite its promise, methods available for its evaluation lack in robustness or, in the case of next-generation sequencing (NGS), are extremely sensitive but overly complex for routine operation. In contrast to NGS, integrated lab-on-chip devices offer advantages particularly in terms of automation, cost and speed. These devices, however, have rarely demonstrated the detection of biologically relevant DNA fragments originating from blood. To this end, we present a strategy for the magnetic labeling and detection of cfDNA fragments, using an array of 30 magnetoresistive (MR) sensors integrated in a portable biochip platform. As a proof-of-concept, we selected the fragments ALU115 and ALU247, recently identified as promising cancer targets in cfDNA integrity assessment. This work reveals a rational optimization of the DNA probes design and density at the surface which allowed achieving specific target detection and increased inhibition of unspecific interactions, without the need for blocking agents. The developed strategy is adaptable for the detection of mutations, homologous or truncated sequences such as the case of ALU115 and ALU247, sequences that share great similarity. Upon optimization, the MR sensors detected a concentration of the ALU elements within the picomolar range, showing potential for cfDNA analysis in cancer diagnostics.

Received 19th June 2015  
Accepted 10th November 2015  
DOI: 10.1039/c5ay01587a  
[www.rsc.org/methods](http://www.rsc.org/methods)

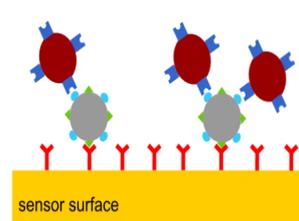
\*Data obtained from the average of different sensors for each of the measurements (min = 8 sensors; max = 12 sensors)

New experiments in collaboration with Andresen Cancer Institute, Austin

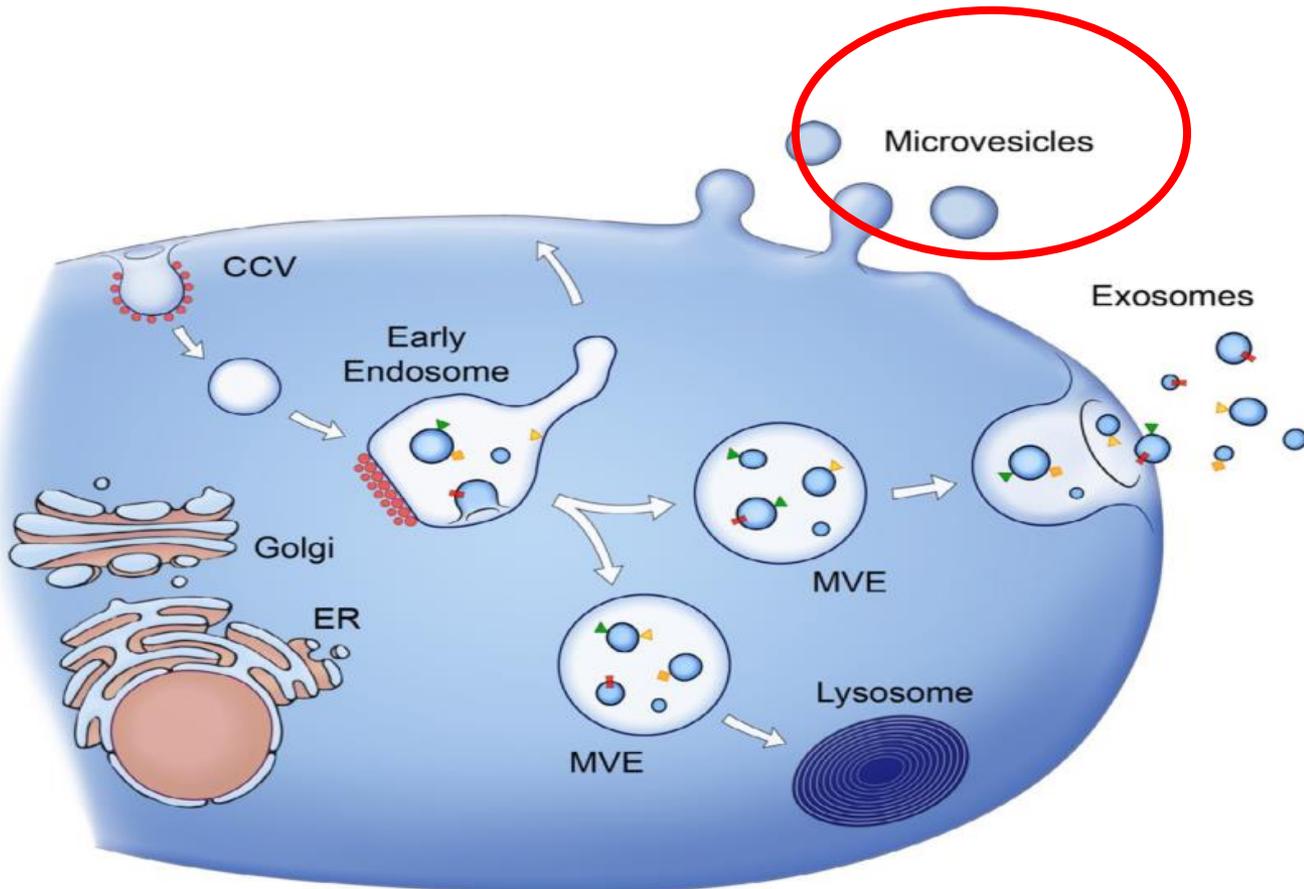
INESC-MN

# 2-Cell-derived microvesicles (MVs) in blood/serum (novel diagnostic biomarkers)

*Which extracellular vesicles  
we're looking for?*



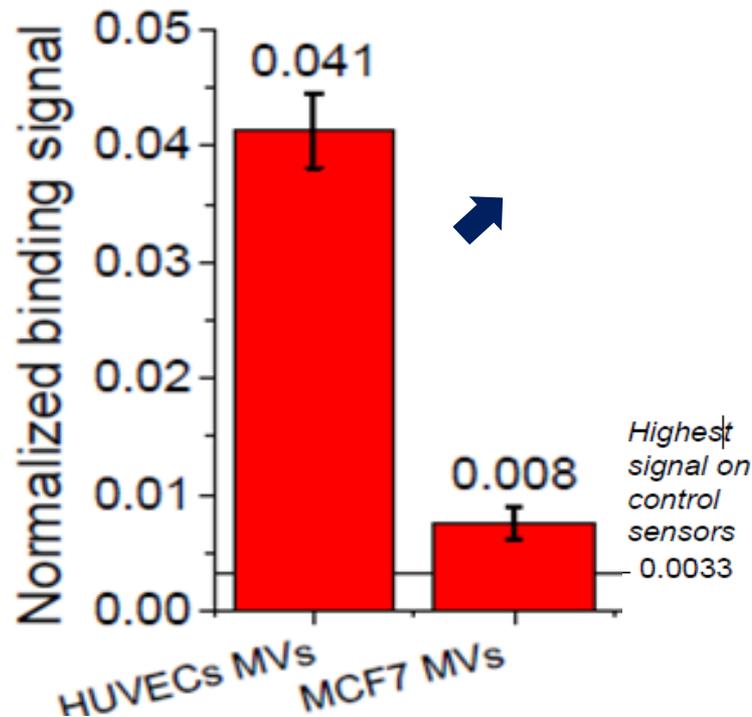
-  Antibody Anti-CD31
-  Magnetic particle functionalized with annexin V
-  Extracellular Vesicle
-  Phosphatidylserine
-  CD31



# Microvesicle detection using a multiplexed biochip platform



*Selective detection and quantification of MVs derived from endothelial cells (HUVECs)-extracellular media*



A clinical relevant concentration ( $1 \times 10^8$  MVs/ml) was detected by using this technology!

HUVECs MVs were detected specifically with a signal five times higher than the signal from the MVs derived from the epithelial cells MCF7;

Detection of HUVEC MVs on the MR biochip. Normalized binding signal on the specific sensors for the HUVEC MVs and the MCF7 MVs. The error bars represent the standard deviation of at least four independent sensors.