

# Alternative Use of Silicon

Edoardo Charbon

TU Delft

Alex Dommann

EMPA

Pantelis Georgiou

Imperial College London

Bruno Murari

ST Microelectronics

Roland Thewes

TU Berlin

**Chair:** Giovanni De Micheli, EPFL



# Edoardo Charbon

## TU Delft



# Alternative Use of Silicon

**Do we need to understand Quantum Mechanics, fully?**

E. Charbon



# Some opinions (at this symposium)

- Marco Gilli (polito) – students should learn the basics of science and engineering when they are fresh (men).
- Alberto Sangiovanni-Vincentelli (UCB) – one must learn the fundamentals first and then everything else.
- Marco Casale Rossi (Synopsys) – Universities should teach how to learn.



# 2014 Nobel Prize in Chemistry

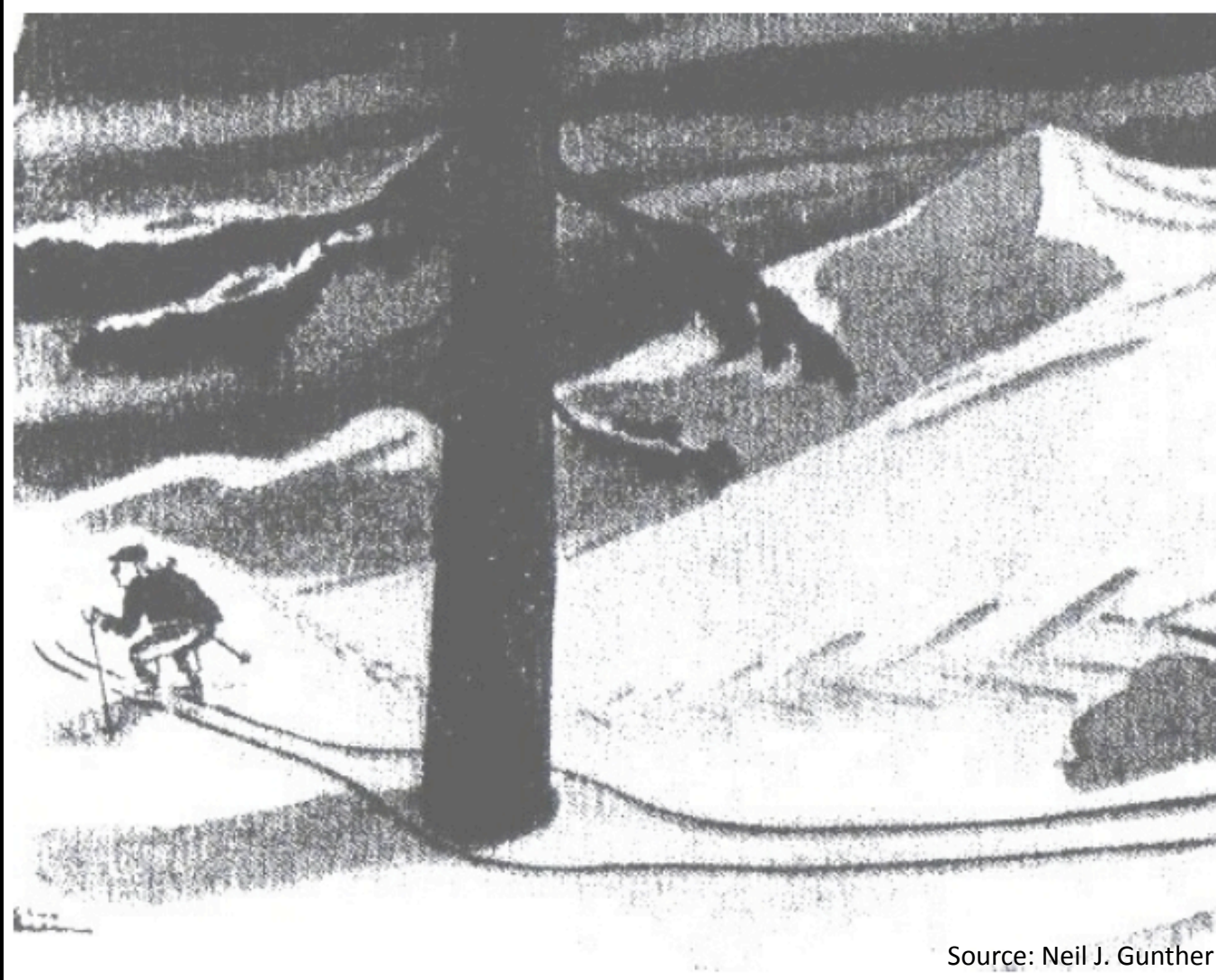


Stefan W. Hell

for his contributions to Super-Resolution Microscopy

Made possible, in great part, by photon  
counting cameras

# Quantum Mechanics

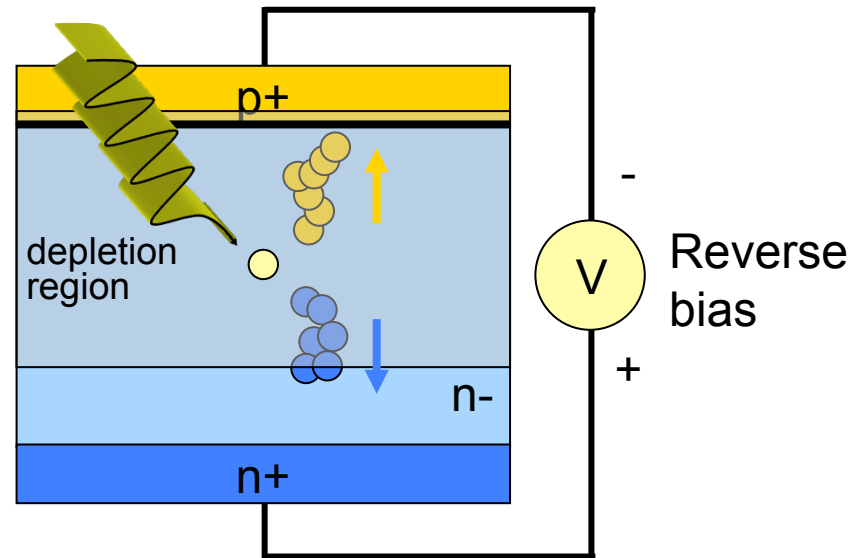


Source: Neil J. Gunther

## ... Actually...

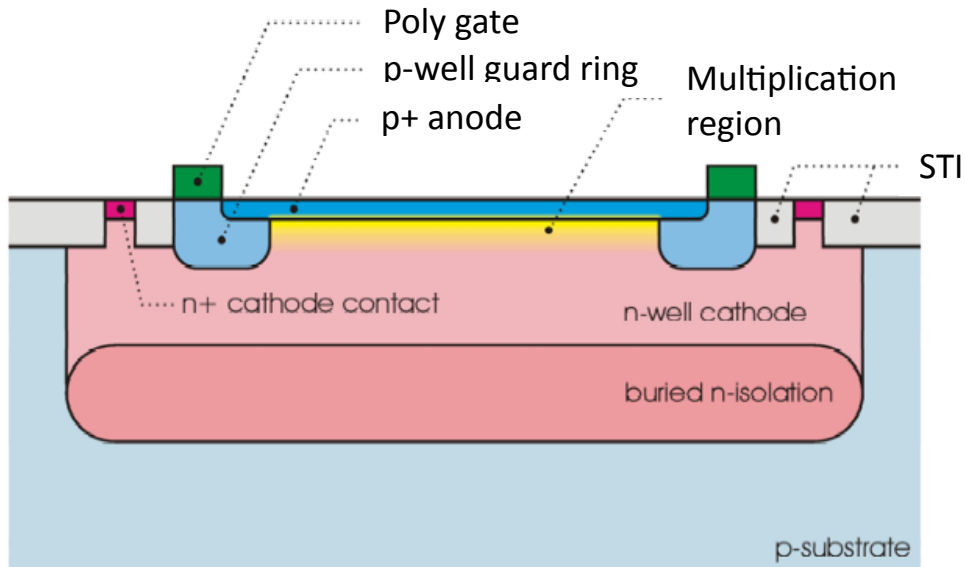
- Quantum Mechanics is at the core of electronics, but quantum effects could be more or less ignored until recently
- Examples of trend:
  - **tunneling FET**, a major player in sub-10nm CMOS
  - **single-photon avalanche diodes (SPADs)**, a new photonic sensor for photon counting in CMOS

# Single-photon avalanche diodes (SPADs) for photon counting



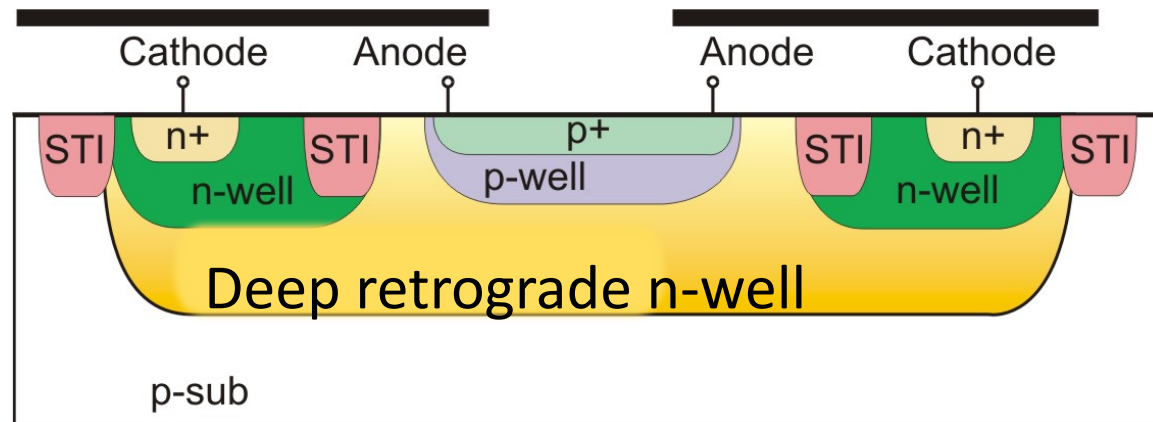
***In CMOS***

# CMOS photon counting



2004 (EPFL)

Today  
(STM)

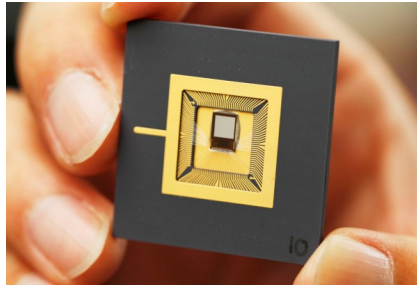


Drawing: D. Stoppa

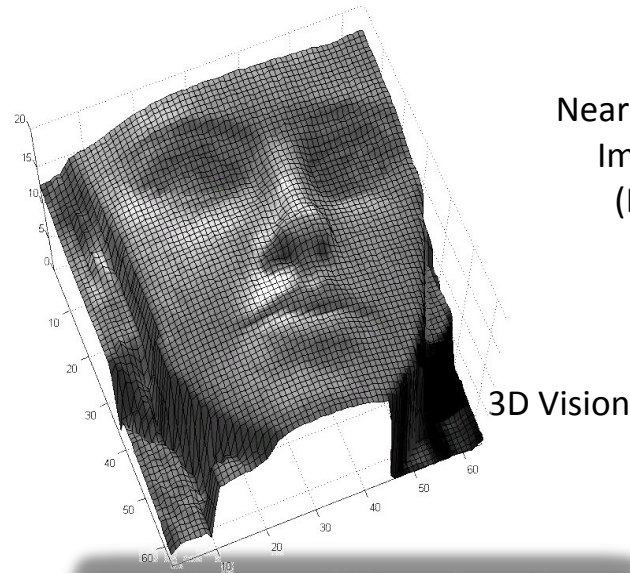
# Why bother with photon counting?



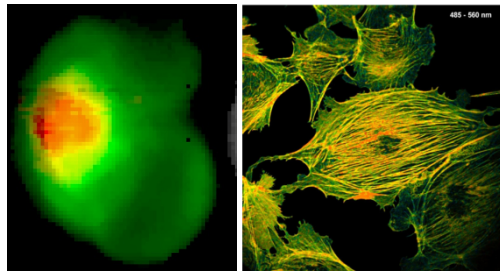
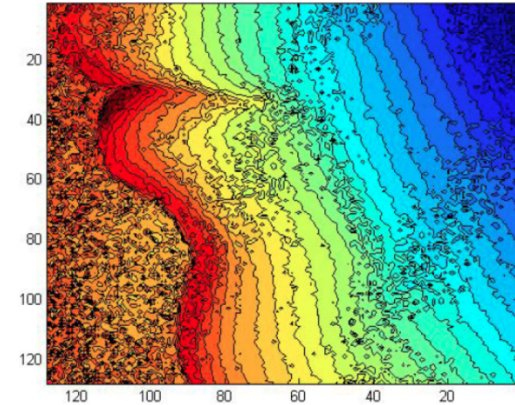
# Lots of applications



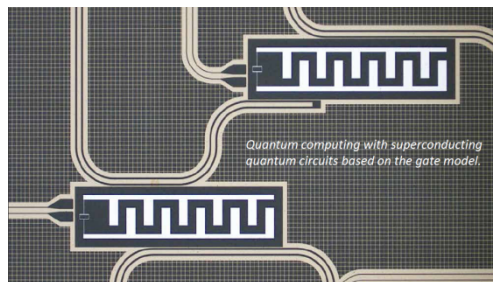
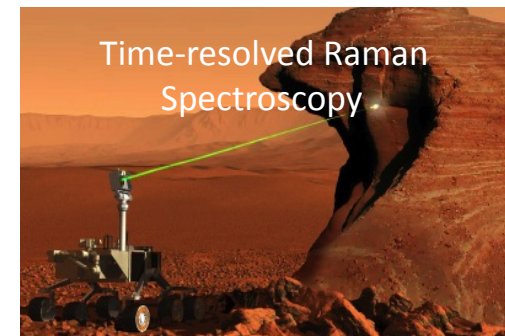
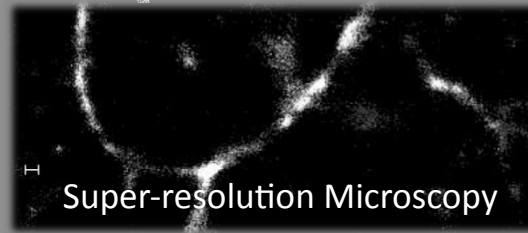
Quantum Security



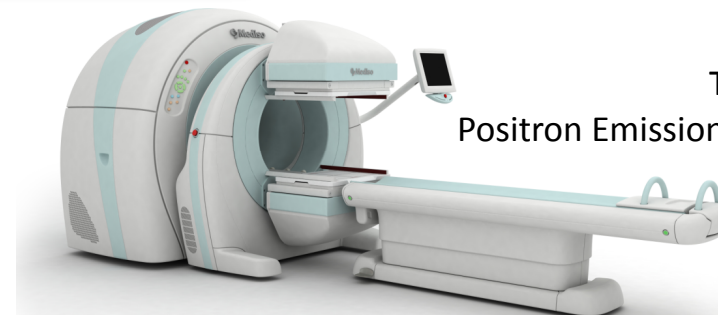
Near Infrared  
Imaging  
(NIRI)



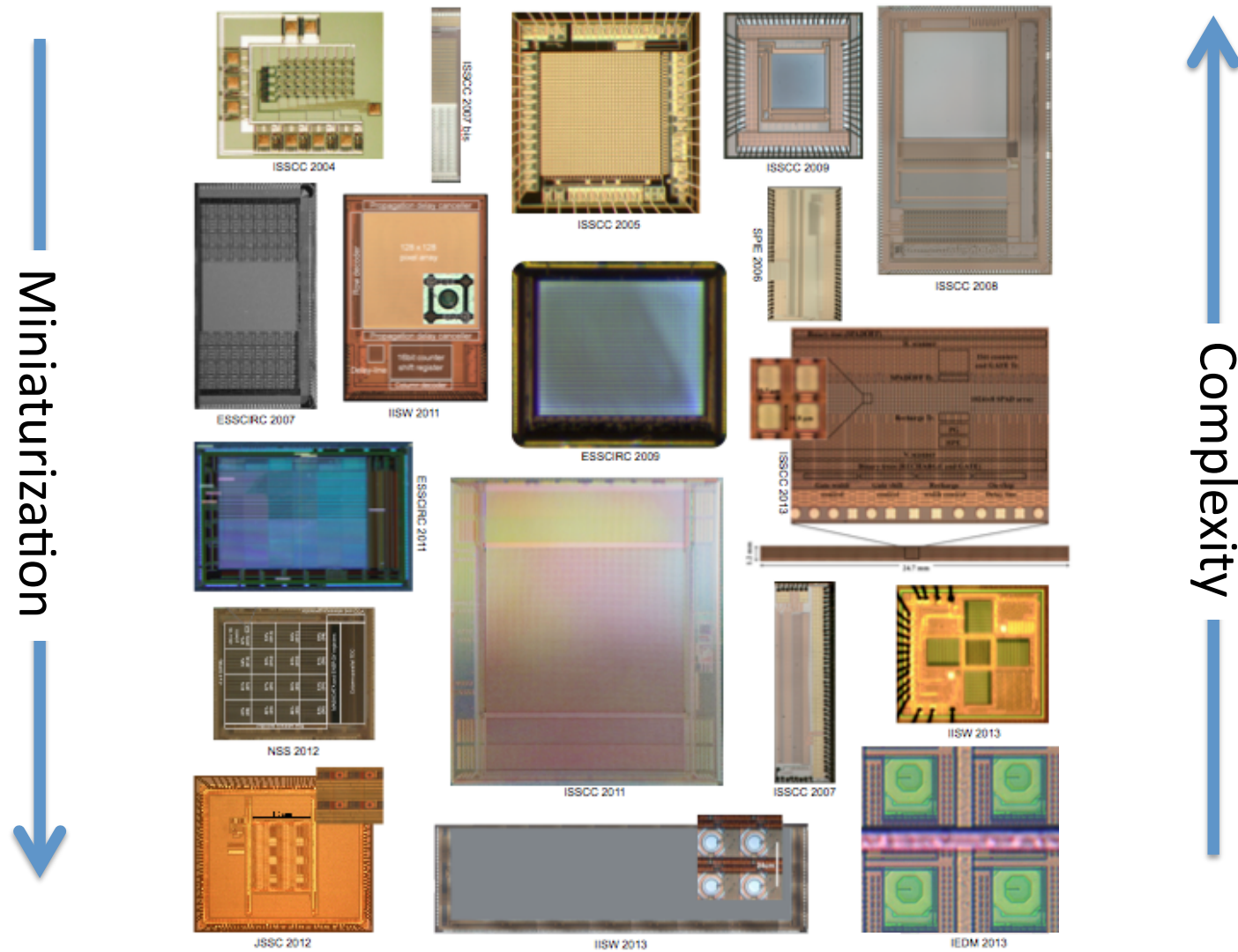
Fluorescence Lifetime Imaging  
Microscopy (FLIM) and super-resolution  
microscopy (STED, STORM, GSDIM,  
PALM, etc.)



Electronics for  
Quantum Computing



# CMOS Single-Photon Imagers (2004-14)



# Latest...

## **11.4 A 67,392-SPAD PVTB-Compensated Multi-Channel Digital SiPM with 432 Column-Parallel 48ps 17b TDCs for Endoscopic Time-of-Flight PET**

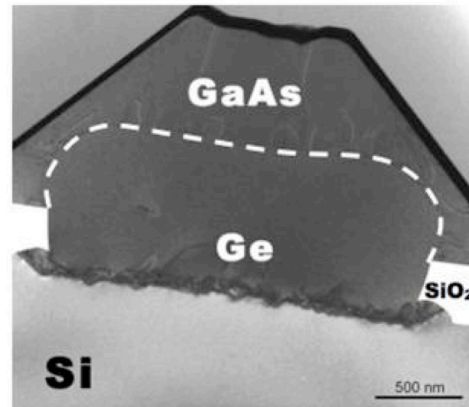
**Augusto Carimatto, Shingo Mandai, Esteban Venialgo, Ting Gong, Giacomo Borghi, Dennis R. Schaart, Edoardo Charbon**

**Delft University of Technology, Delft, The Netherlands**

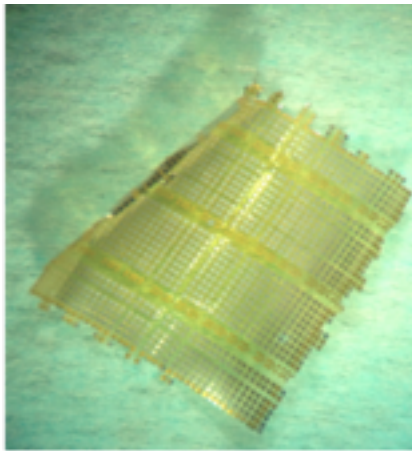
**ISSCC 2015**

# Other trends

- 3D IC
- Sub-65nm CMOS
- New Materials
- Flexible

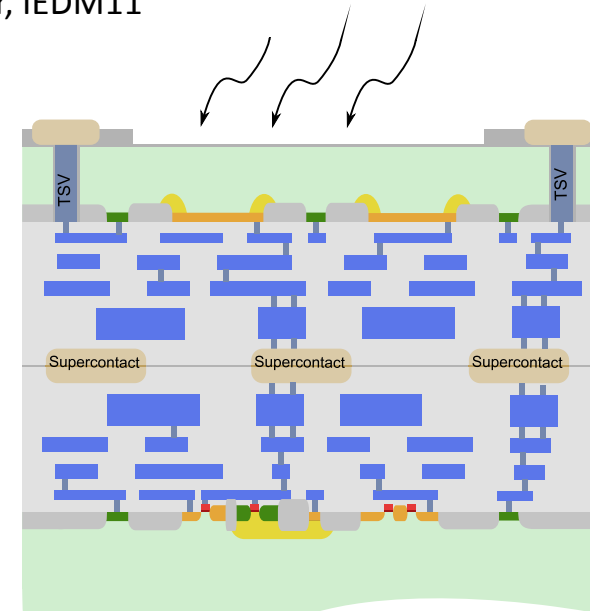
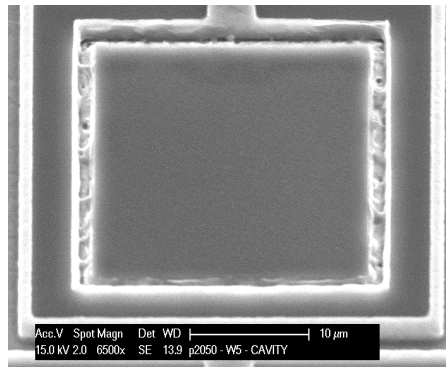


Sammak, Aminian, Charbon,  
Nanver, IEDM11



Sun, Ishihara, Charbon,  
JSTQE, 2014

Sammak, Aminian,  
Charbon, Nanver  
ECS14



Mata Pavia, Wolf, Charbon, NSS14

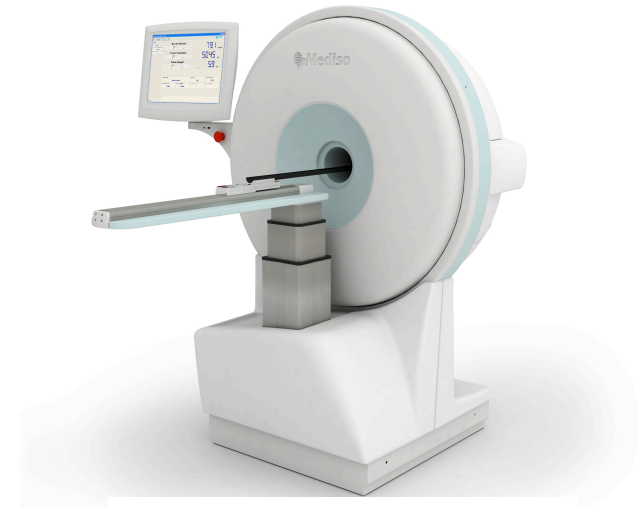
**What about products,  
effect on society?**



# Industrial/Consumer Acceptance



**forimtech**  
fiber optic radiation imaging technologies



**Mediso**



**Fastree 3D**  
imagers



# Alex Dommann

## EMPA



# Pantelis Georgiou

## Imperial College London



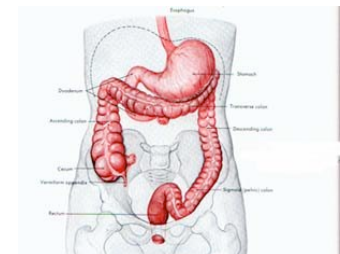
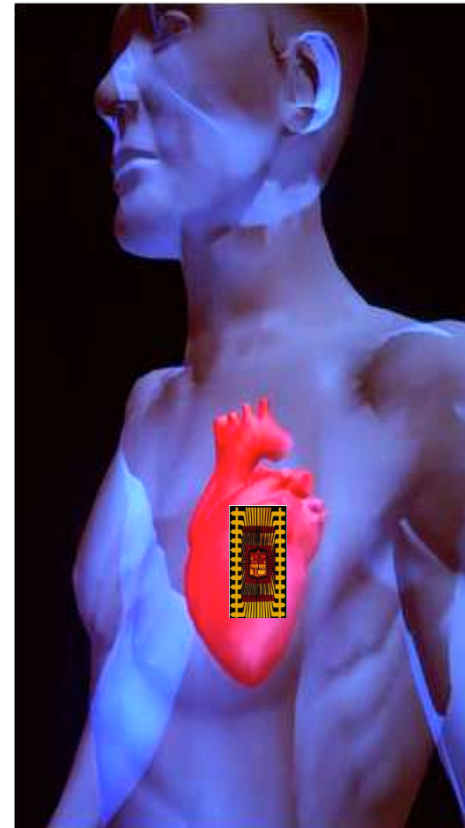
# Bio-inspired Semiconductors for Healthcare

Imperial College  
London

**Dr. Pantelis Georgiou** ([pantelis@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:pantelis@imperial.ac.uk))

Centre for Bio-inspired Technology,  
Institute of Biomedical Engineering,  
Department of Electrical and  
Electronic Engineering

**Alternative uses of Silicon**  
**Symposium on Emerging trends in Electronics**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014**





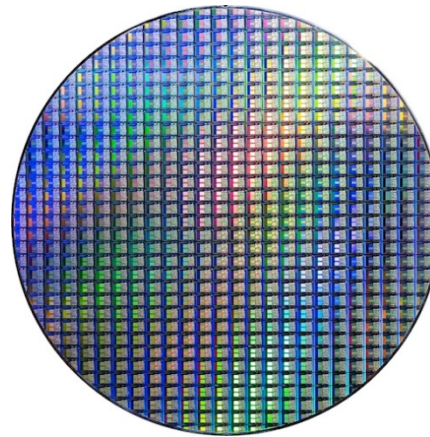
## Can we leverage on \$1 trillion investment in Microelectronics to create more affordable healthcare?

### Needs of Modern Healthcare

- Health services originally designed to manage acute illness (i.e. infections and injury)
- Today, however 70-78% of health budget expenditure is on Chronic Disease!

### Personalised Healthcare

- Technology from Hospital to the Home - New Wave Lifestyle
- Medical devices towards consumer devices



### CMOS Opportunities

- Scalable
- Repeatable
- Low cost
- Miniaturization
- System Integration
- Dedicated performance (low noise, low power)



# DNA Testing Today



Imperial College  
London

Min. 2 weeks

## Healthcare Application

- Point-of-Care Diagnostics
- Sequencing Technology of the Future

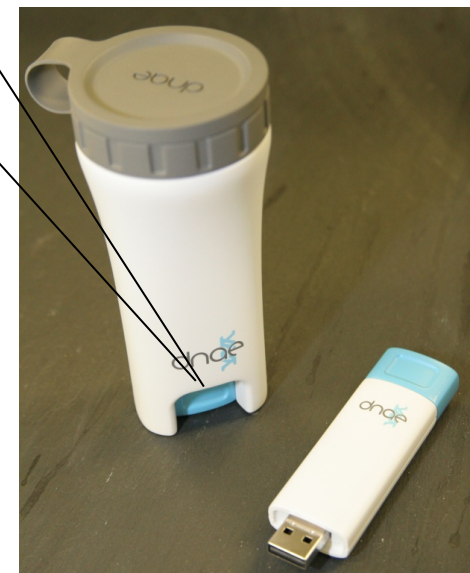
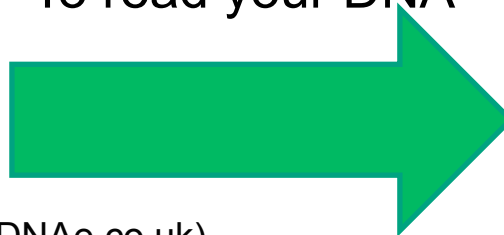
SNP Chip



# DNA Testing at Imperial: No Lab

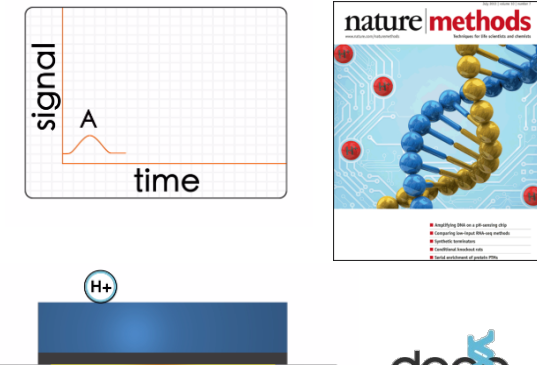
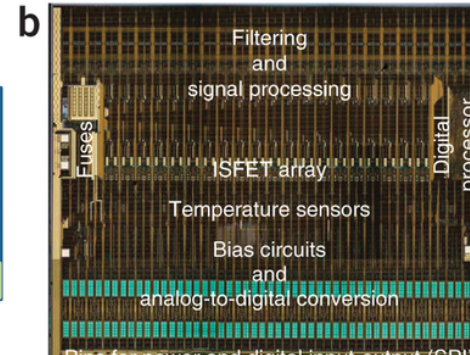
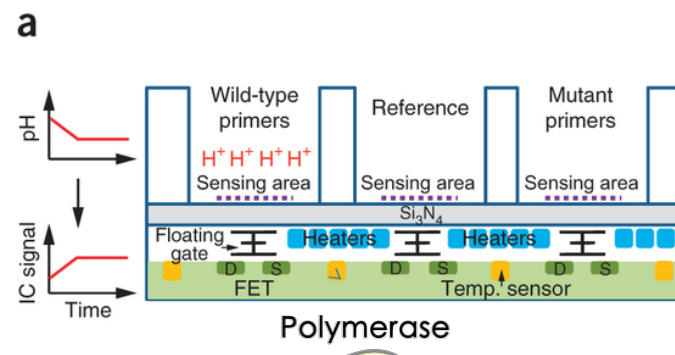


15 – 20 mins  
To read your DNA



Source: DNA electronics website ([www.DNAe.co.uk](http://www.DNAe.co.uk))

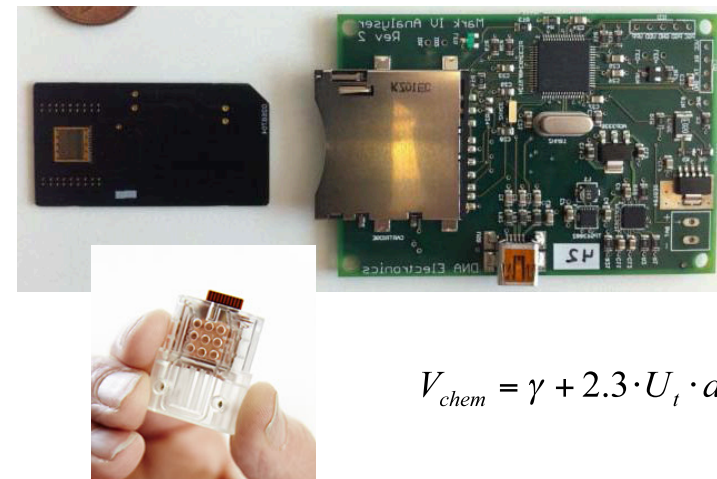
# Combined DNA Amplification and Detection in CMOS



**CMOS is cheap, integration is expensive, how do we break this barrier of co-design?**

## Features

- Fully unmodified CMOS
- Detect Hydrogen ions using Ion-sensitive Field Effect Transistors.
- Can use heating to amplify DNA through PCR (polymerase chain reaction)
- Use a reference chamber to do differential measurement and cancel out chemical drift.



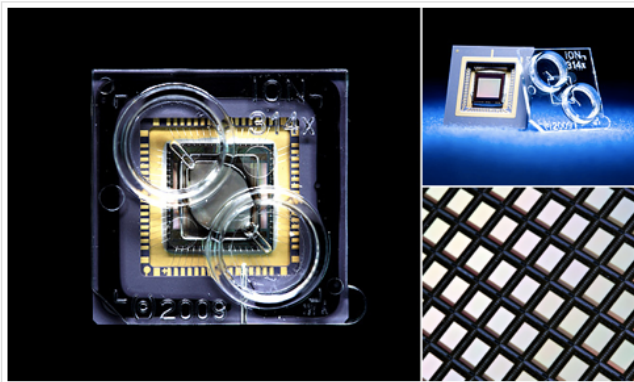
$$V_{chem} = \gamma + 2.3 \cdot U_i \cdot a \cdot pH$$

C.Toumazou, et al., "Simultaneous dna amplification and detection using a pH-sensing semiconductor system," Nature methods, 2013.

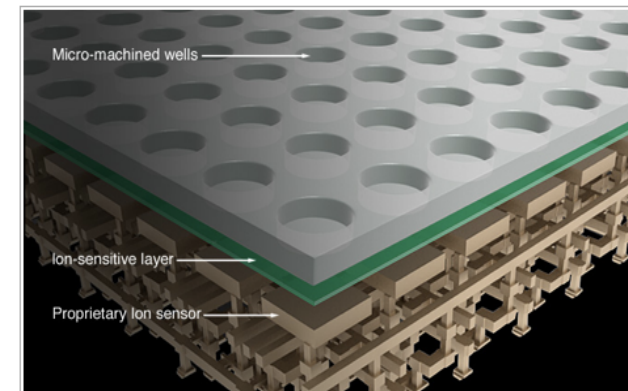
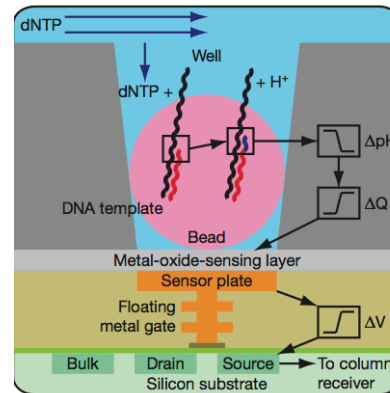


# Semiconductor DNA sequencing

- Moore's law has already found its way to DNA sequencing using ISFETs!



Reading DNA: Ion Torrent's chip, built using semiconductor technology, can read DNA sequence directly, without the optical systems used by other sequencing machines. Credit: Ion Torrent



Ion 314



Ion 316



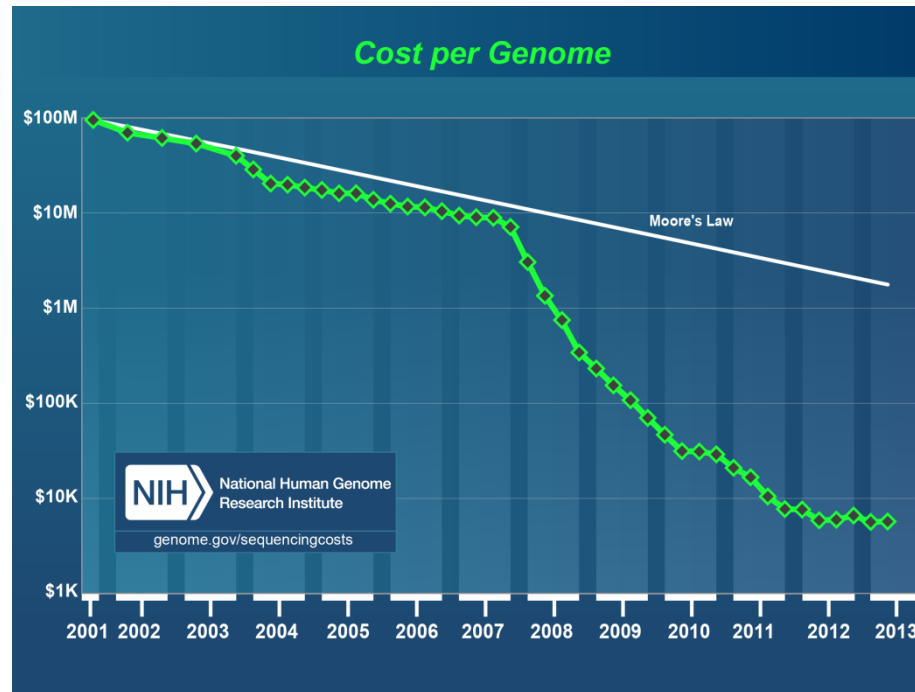
Ion 318

Ion Semiconductor Sequencing Chip	Output	Read Length		Total Sequencing Time
314	> 10Mb	2011	2012	< 2 hours
316	> 100Mb	> 200bp	> 400bp	
318	> 1Gb			
Accuracy:	>99.99% consensus accuracy and >99.5% raw accuracy.			



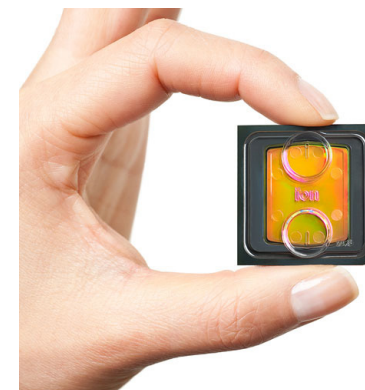
Source: ion Torrent website ([www.iontorrent.com](http://www.iontorrent.com))

# Whole Genome Sequencing Costs



## The \$100 Genome?

- When is Moore enough?
- Challenges:
  - Things difficult to detect at smaller volumes
  - Noise, mismatch
  - Reliability of sensors
  - Micro-fluidic integration
  - Data Bandwidth
  - Bio-informatics, Big data



**How can we scale CMOS sensors and fluidics reliably to exploit Moore?**

Wetterstrand KA. DNA Sequencing Costs: Data from the NHGRI Genome Sequencing Program (GSP)

# Diabetes



## Current Treatment

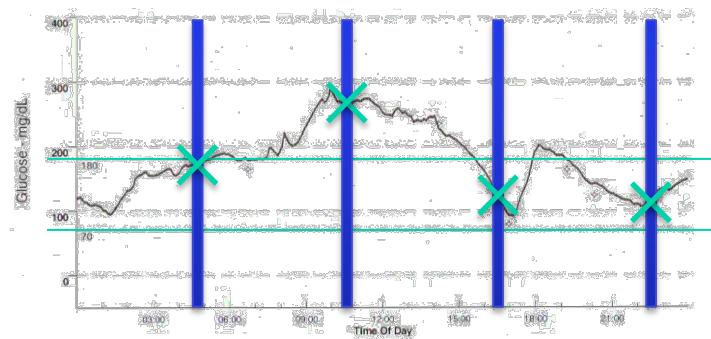


*Glucose measurement*



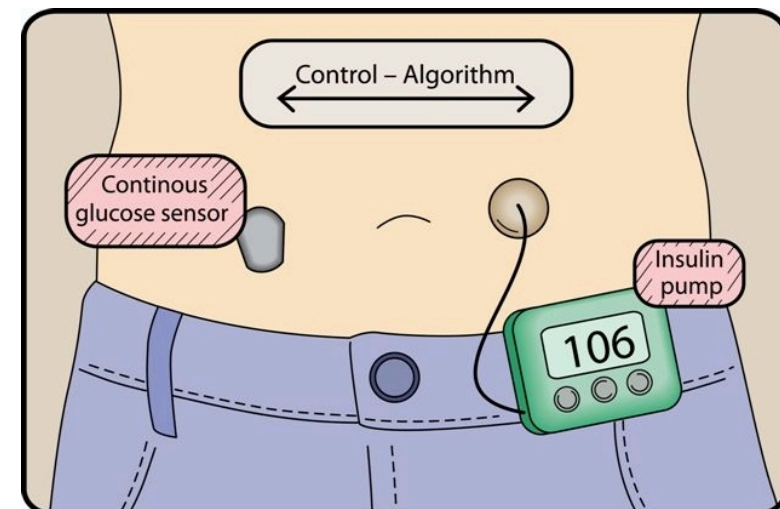
*Insulin injection*

## Sub-optimal treatment



## Artificial Pancreas

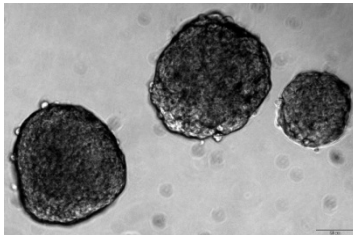
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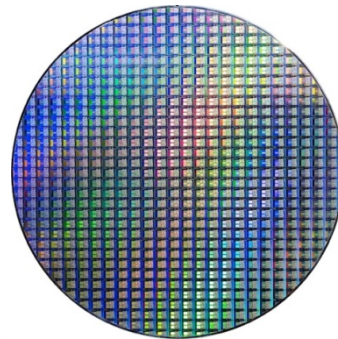


# Can we use a Bio-inspired Approach?

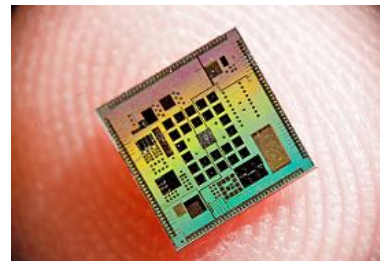
*Pancreatic  
Beta Cells*



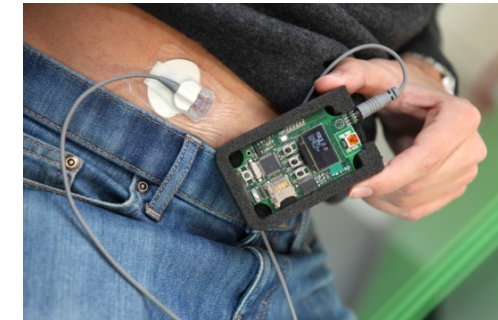
*Semiconductor  
technology*



*Microchips*



*Novel Medical Devices*

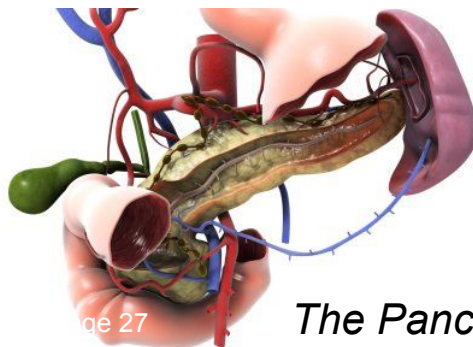


*Therapy*

*Miniature, Low-power*

*Low-cost*

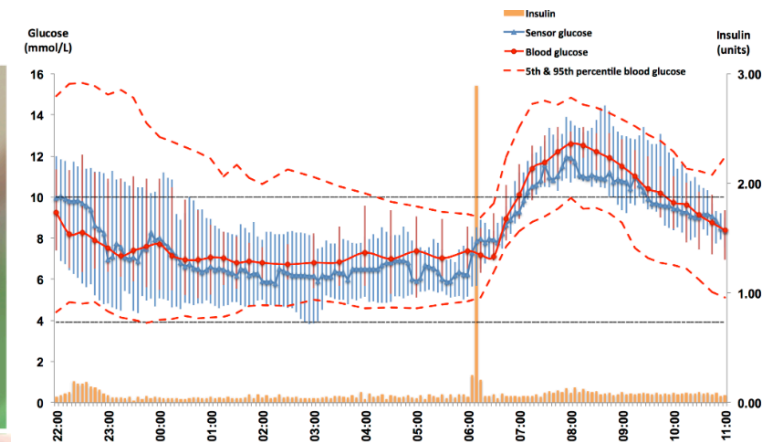
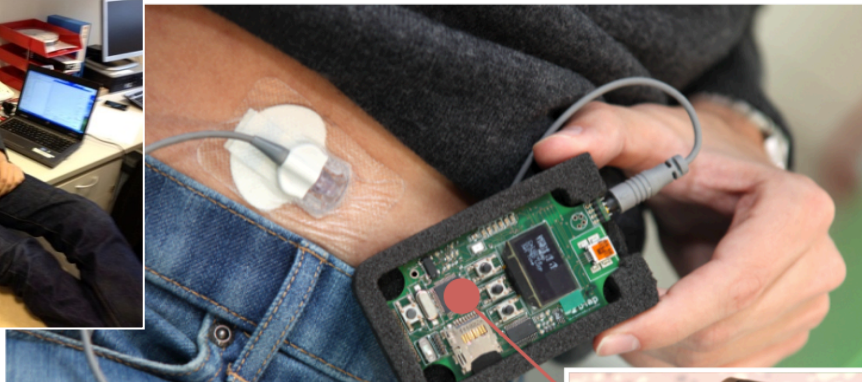
*Biology*



*The Pancreas*

# The Bio-inspired Artificial Pancreas

A Wellcome Trust funded initiative to create the world's first Bio-Inspired Artificial Pancreas for blood glucose Control



- **Co-integration with wireless devices is currently difficult.**
- **Need to think about common wireless standards and security.**
- **Needs a patient pull rather than an technological push!**
- **Design for Regulation!**
- **Need to guarantee safety! Built in self test, redundancy**

Herrero F, Georgiou F, Oliver N, Johnston DG, Toulmazou C, "A bio-inspired glucose controller based on pancreatic  $\beta$ -cell physiology". J. Diabetes Sci.Technol.6,606–616. 2012

# To conclude

## Semiconductors for Healthcare

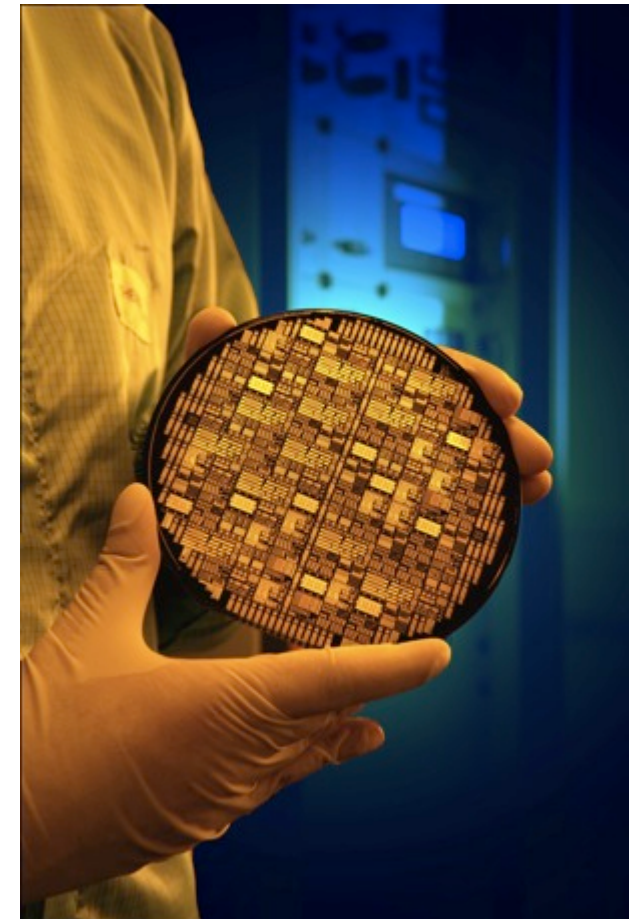
- Disruptive technology
  - Leveraging on the \$1 trillion investment over the past 4 decades
  - Realising medical systems like consumer devices
  - Good for **robust, low-cost, high density, low power and high performance miniature systems**

## Bio-Inspired Technology

- Implementing biology in modern technology to replace biology
  - Applications in chronic disease management
  - Improved quality of life

**“The future has already arrived. It's just not evenly distributed yet”**

William Gibson





# Bruno Murari

## ST Microelectronics



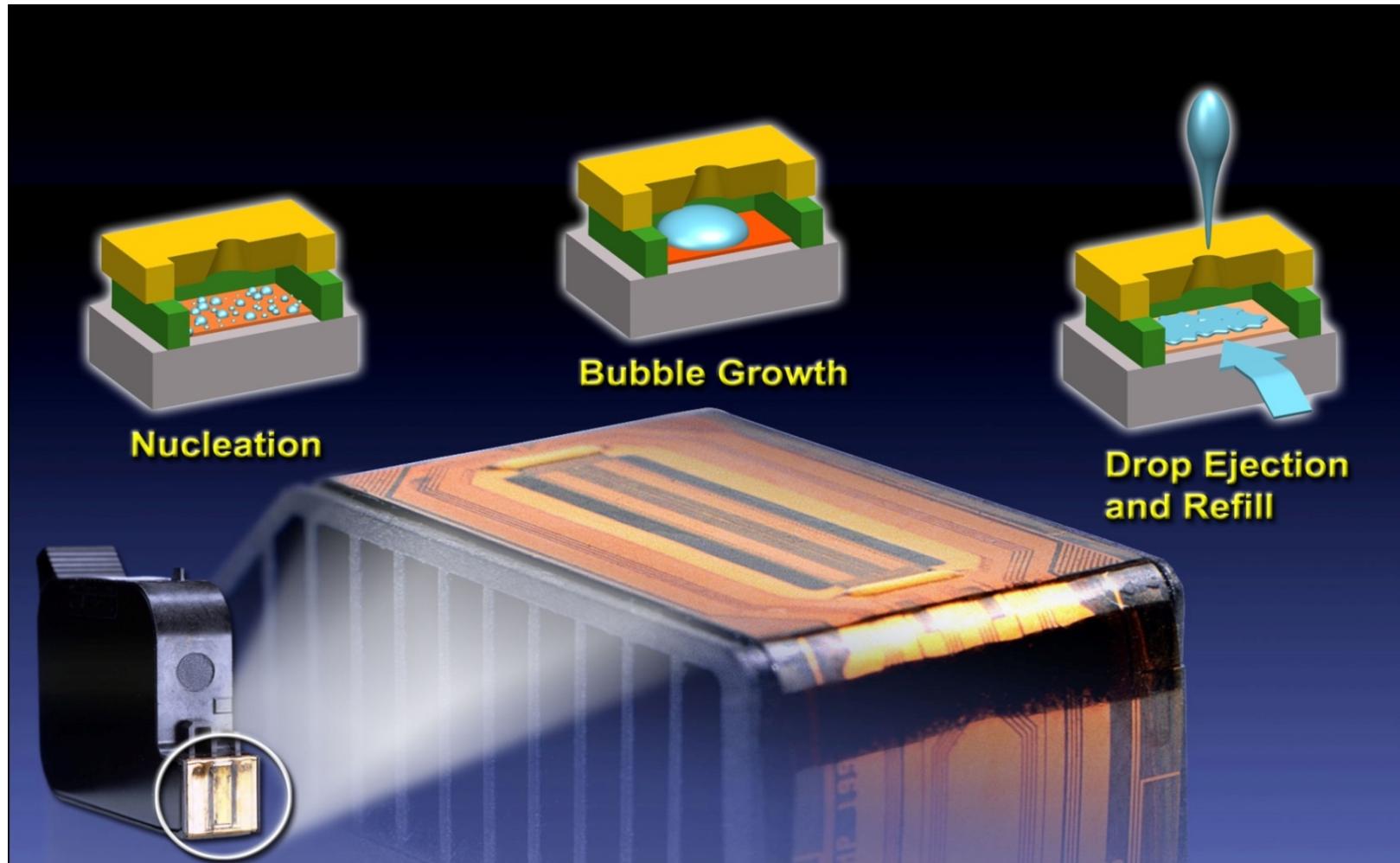


# Alternative use of Silicon

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Bruno Murari  
STMicroelectronics Scientific Advisor  
Montreux 2 dec. 2014

# Inkjet cartridge



# Sensors are Changing the World

## Smart City

Reduce traffic congestion  
Better use of resources  
Improve security



## Smart Car

Reduce emissions  
Increase safety  
Save fuel



## Smart Home

Make entertainment more interactive and immersive  
Increase comfort  
Save energy



## Smart Me Healthcare

Empower patients  
Help physicians monitor and diagnose remotely



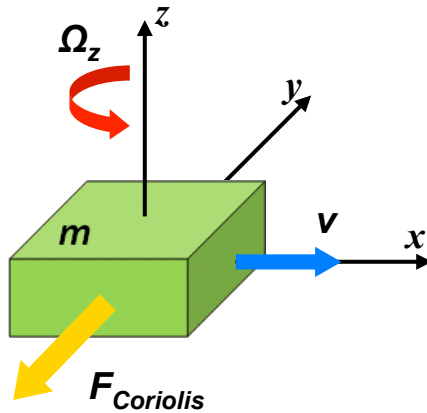
## Smart Me Fitness & Wellness

Help to lead healthier lives  
Optimize sports performance  
Early warning of illness

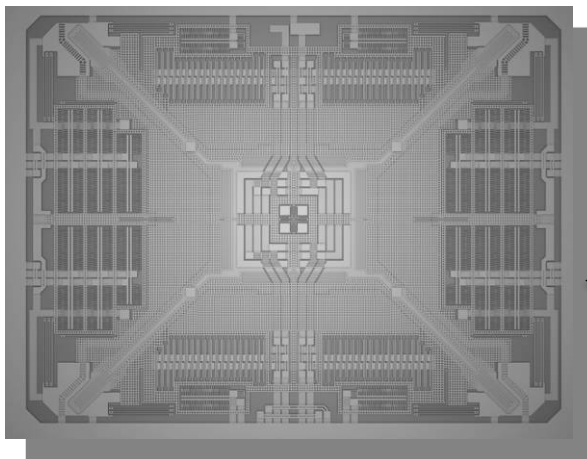
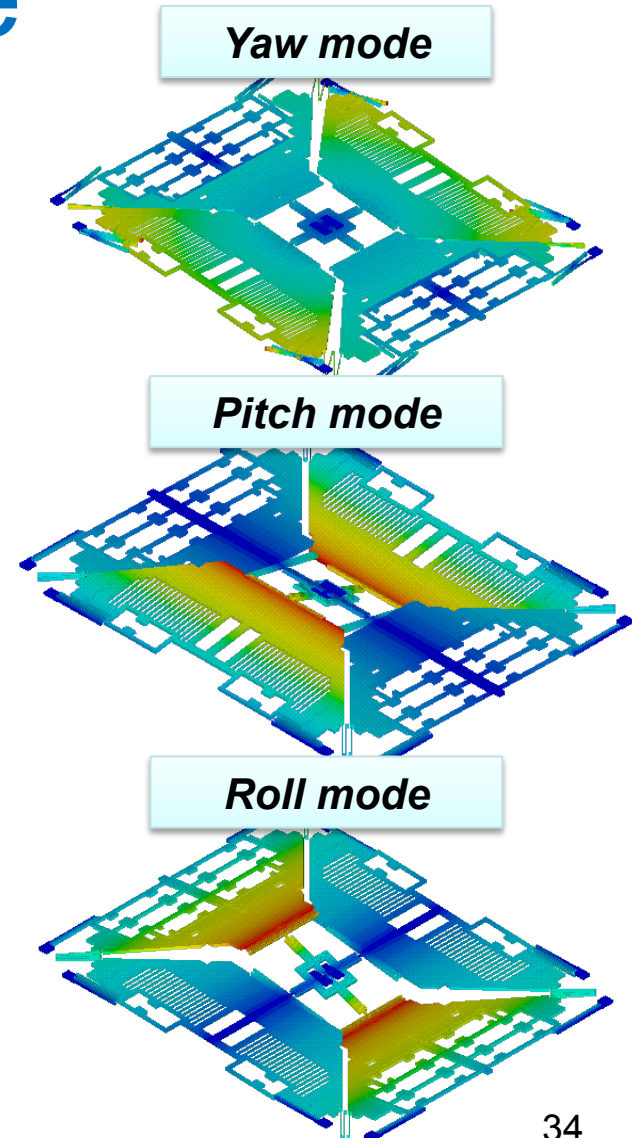
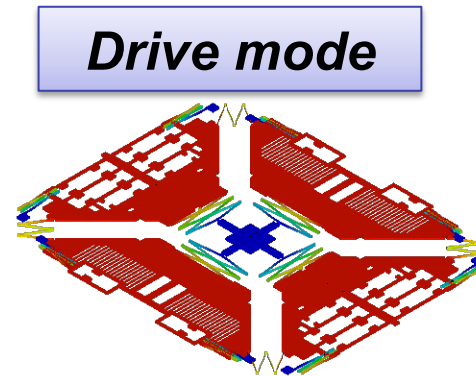




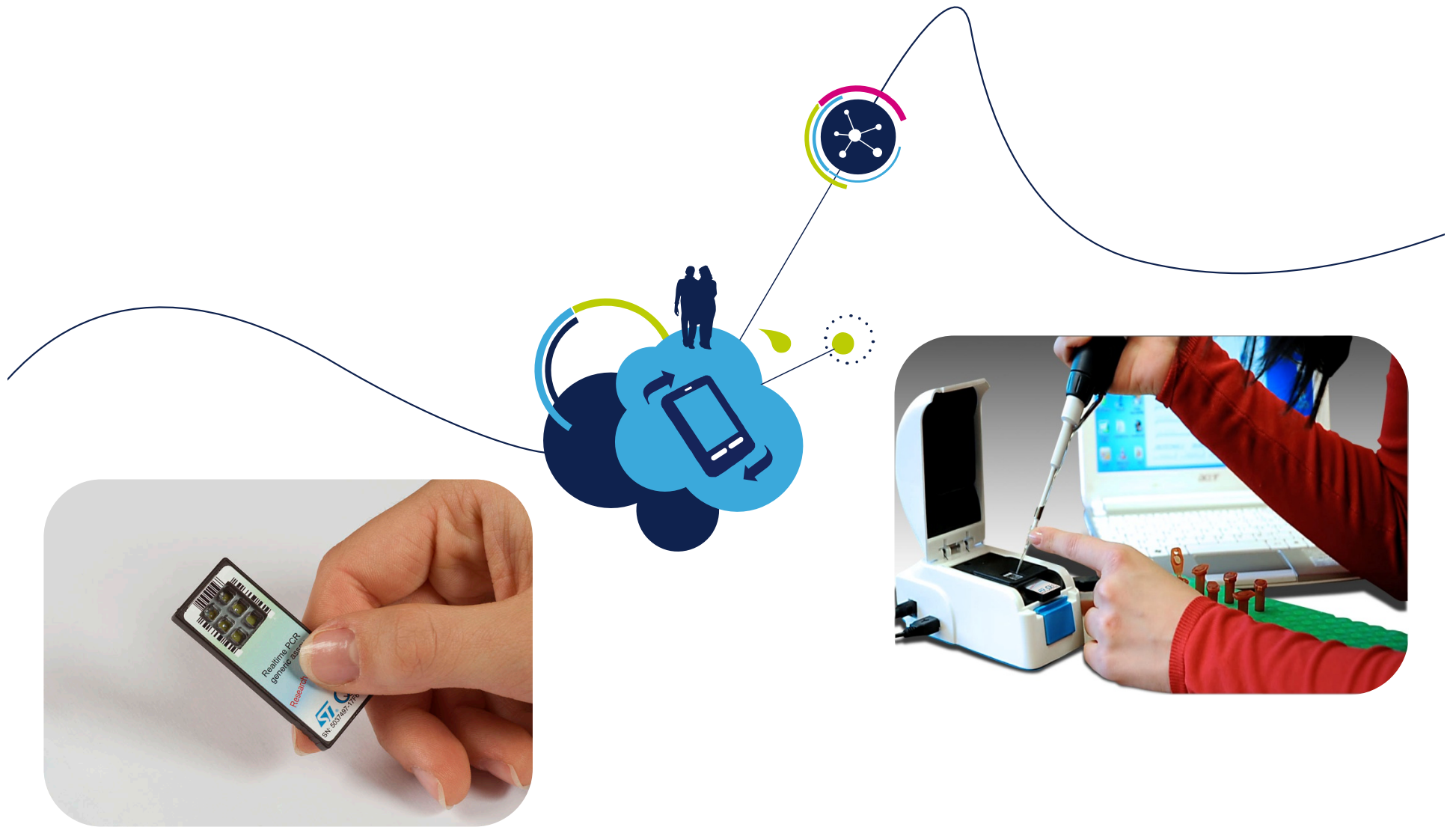
# The Most Advanced MEMS Gyroscope



$$F_{Coriolis} = -2m\Omega_z \Lambda v$$

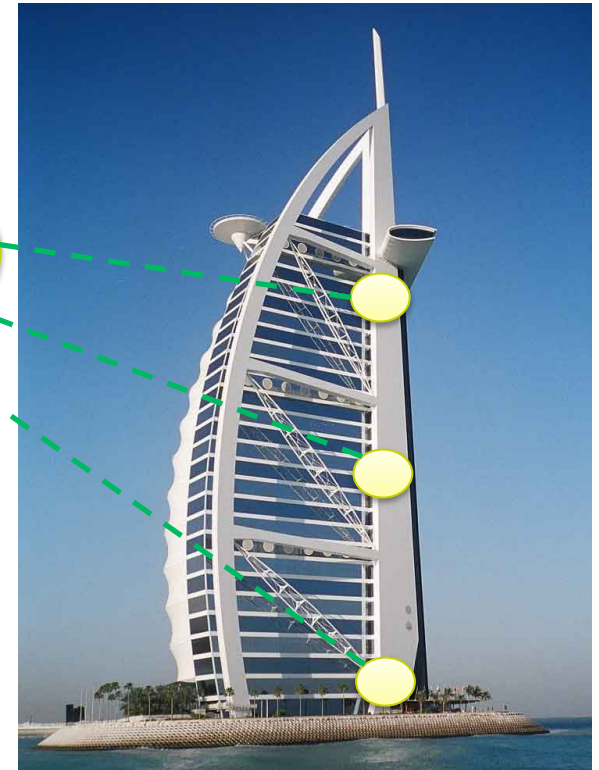
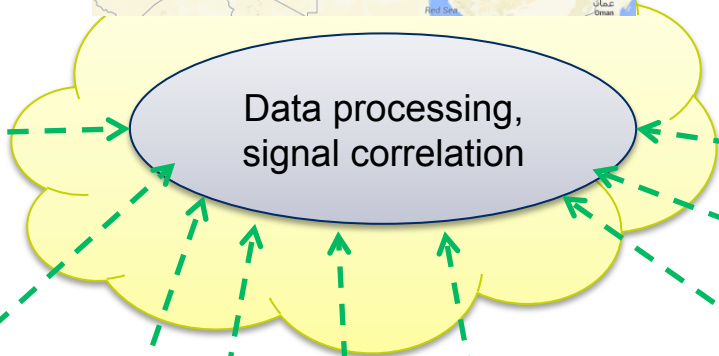
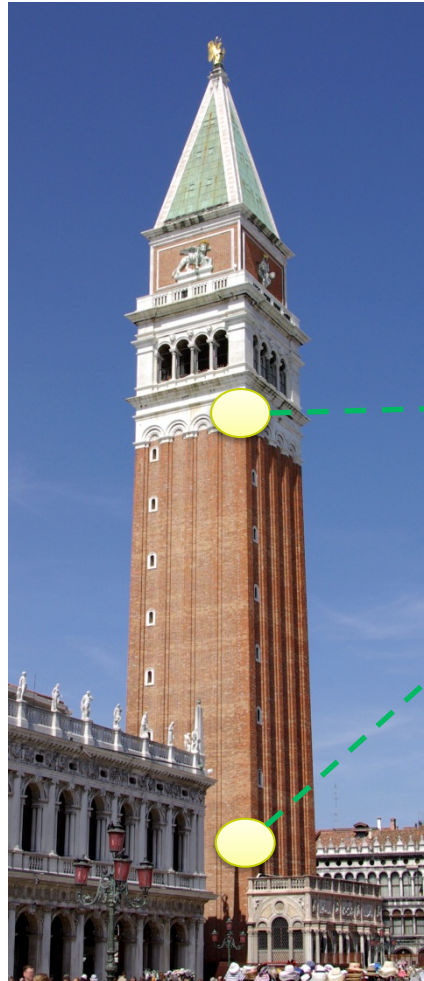


← **SINGLE DRIVING MASS**



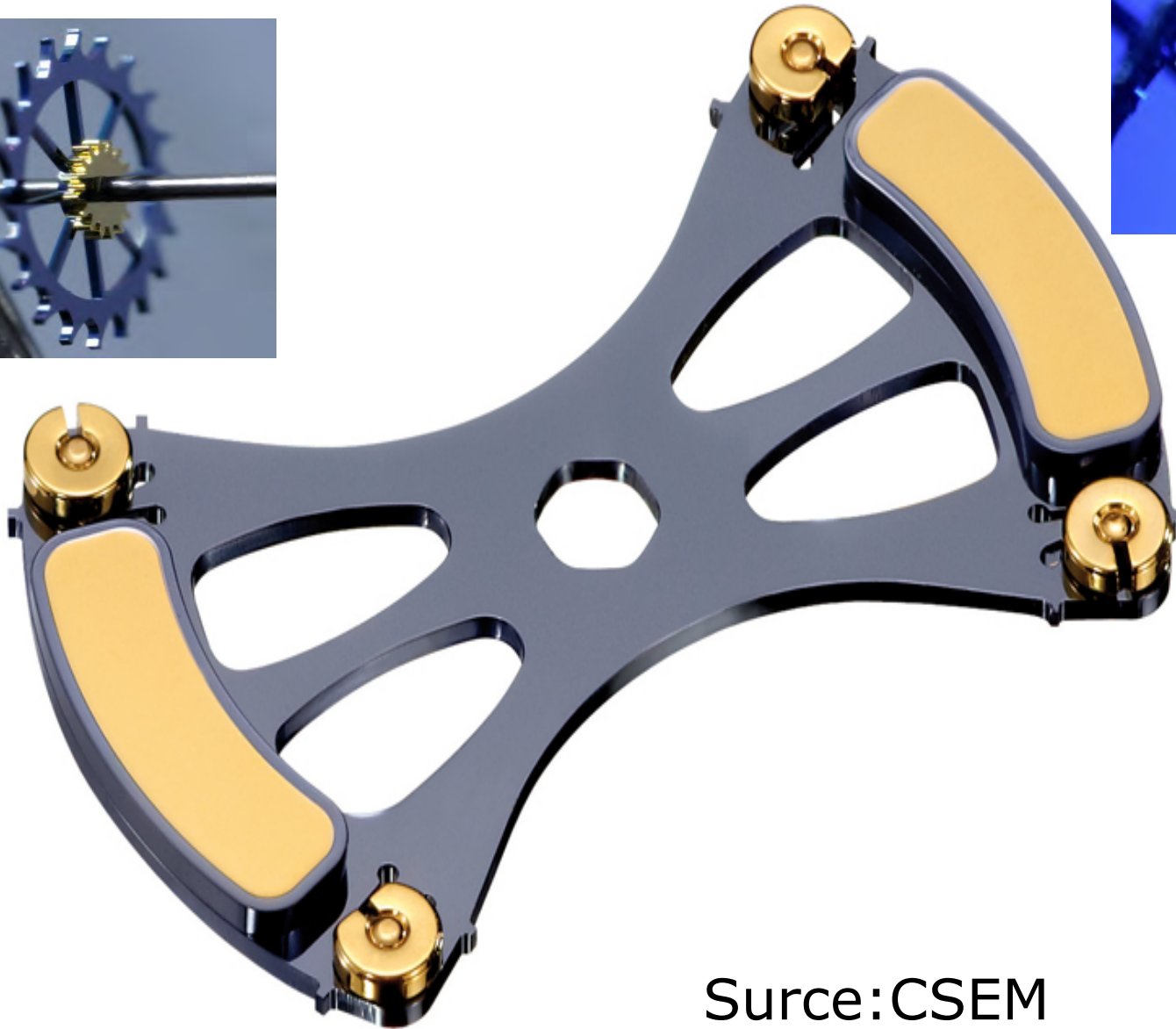
# AST Molecular Biology

# Dynamic structural monitoring

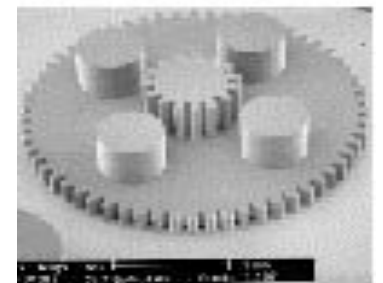
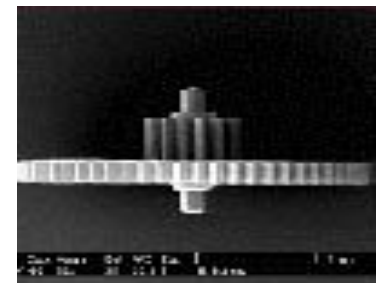




More than MEMS or Macro MEMS ?

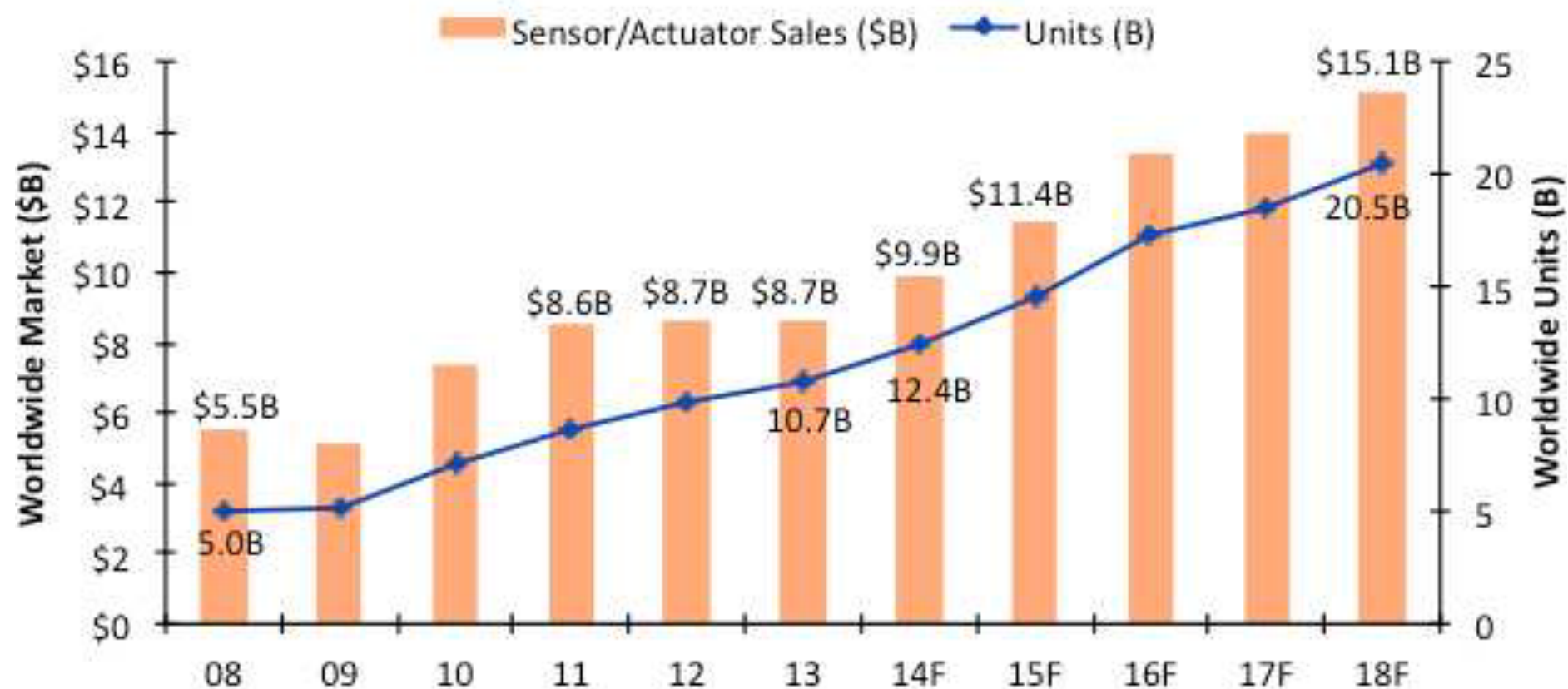


Source: CSEM





## Sensors/Actuators Market To Resume Growth



Source: IC Insights

# Roland Thewes

## TU Berlin



*Symposium on Emerging Trends in Electronics*

*Panel: Alternative Use of Silicon*

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**After the Gold Rush –  
Low Volume Biomedical CMOS Devices  
Creating Great Value?**

Roland Thewes

*TU Berlin, Berlin, Germany*

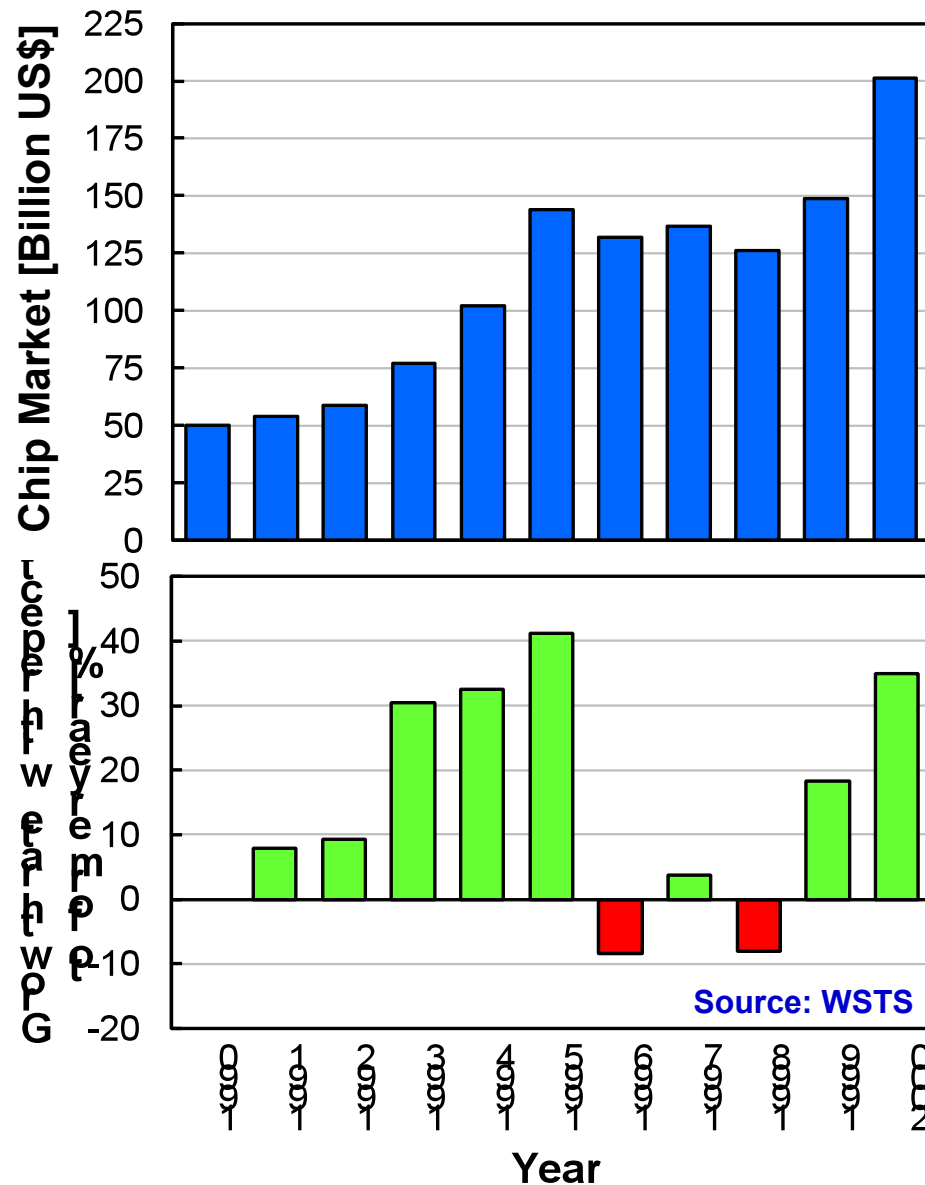
[\*roland.thewes@tu-berlin.de\*](mailto:roland.thewes@tu-berlin.de)

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Montreux, Switzerland

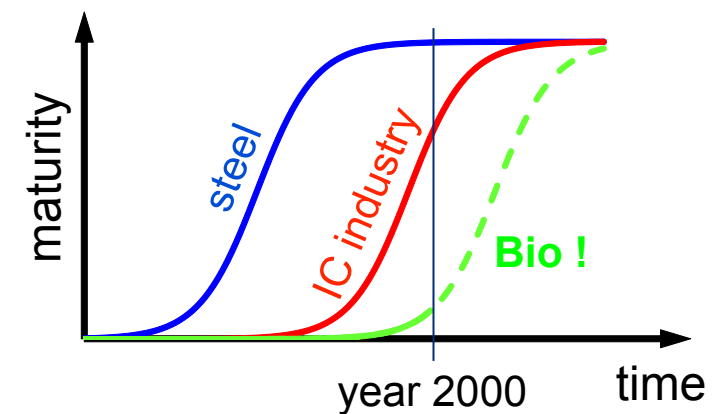
December 1 - 2, 2014

# Semiconductor Industry in the Year 2000: The “Next Big Thing”?



## Year 2000:

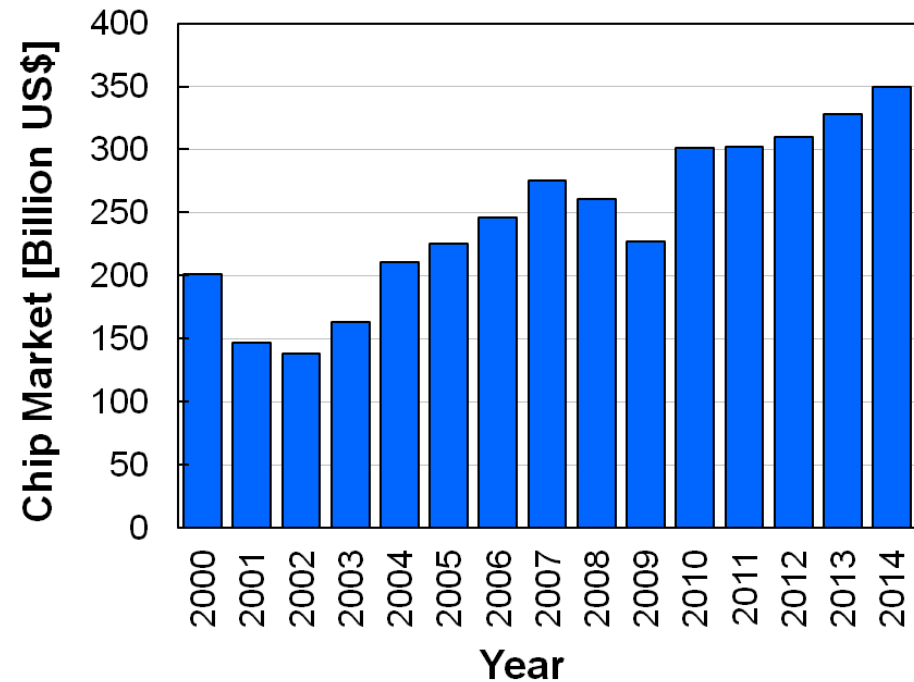
- 200 billion US\$ chip market frontier exceeded for the first time
- “.com bubble”
- Huge growth of the amount of biotech companies and startups
- Business developers in semiconductor industry speculated that bio could be “the next big thing” also for the chip industry:



# Semiconductor Industry in the Year 2014: The “Next Big Thing”?



- Today:  
Total medical semiconductor revenue > 4 billion US\$.
- However, most important segments are:
  - Home care including health and wellness applications (blood pressure, heart rate, and glucose monitoring, ...)
  - Clinical including medical imaging (portable medical electronics as portable ultrasound devices, portable ECG devices, ...)
- This includes many “standard ICs” – possibly somewhat optimized for biomedical purposes – such as processors and memory.
- So, where and how do customized CMOS biochips contribute?



Sources: WSTS, IC insight

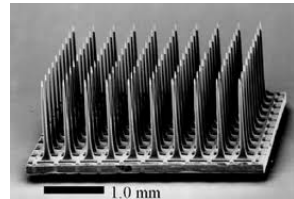


# CMOS Devices for Biomedical Purposes

## Devices and Applications



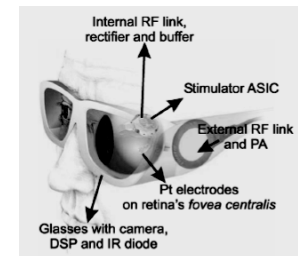
Pace maker,  
Zarlink



Utah BMI



Deep brain stimulator, Medtronic  
(fig. right from [www.nature.com](http://www.nature.com))



Retinal implant (from  
M. Ortmanns, JSSC 2007)



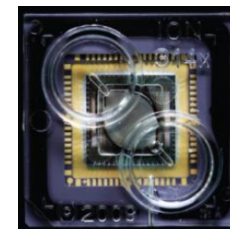
Blood glucose  
meter, Bayer



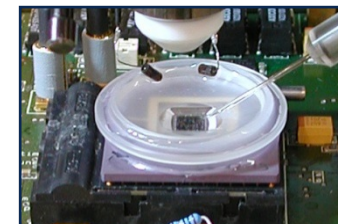
Ultrasound machine,  
portableultrasounds



Wearable EEG headset,  
IMEC



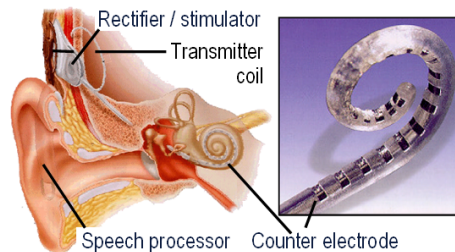
DNA sequencing  
chip, Ion Torrent



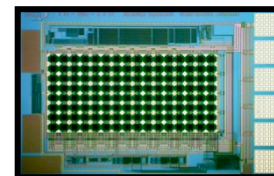
"Neurochips",  
Max-Planck Society



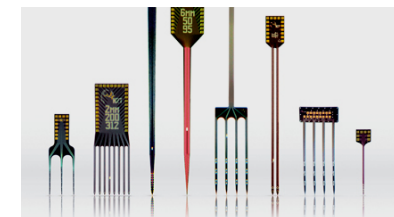
Hearing aid, Phonak



Cochlear implant  
(from K. Wise, IEDM 2002)



DNA microarray,  
Siemens



Next generation DBS and BMI  
devices, Neuronex

today's volume (?) product

emerging devices / fields under development

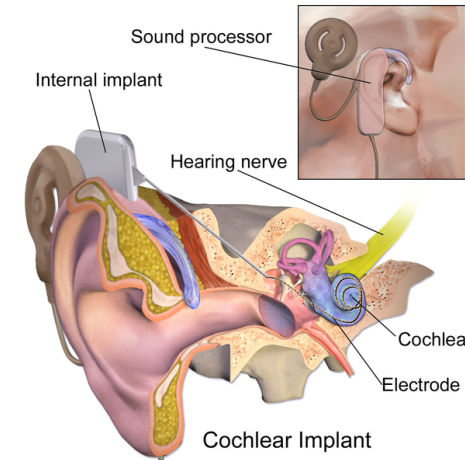
# Where does Innovation Come from?

## Two Established Applications ...



### • Cochlear Implants

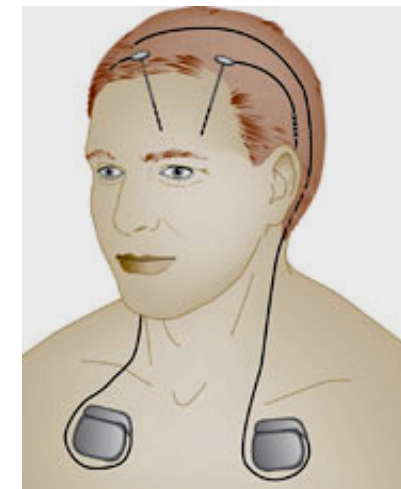
- restoring hearing to the profoundly deaf by means of auditory nerve stimulation
- Internal devices: array of electrodes wound through the cochlea to stimulate the auditory nerve, receiver, stimulation circuitry. External devices: microphone(s), speech processor, power / data transmitter
- Development since more than 30 years
- **Volume: 300,000 worldwide on December 31, 2011.**



[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Blausen\\_0244\\_CochlearImplant\\_01.png](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Blausen_0244_CochlearImplant_01.png)

### • Deep Brain Stimulation

- The device implanted in the brain stimulates the brain and is controlled by the device implanted underneath the skin within the thorax region.
- Approved for human therapies since 2009.
- Closed loop systems under development
- **Volume:**  
(S. Oesterle, Medtronic, Plenary Talk ISSCC 2011):  
“... worldwide 1 device every 30 minutes ...”



[www.nature.com](http://www.nature.com)

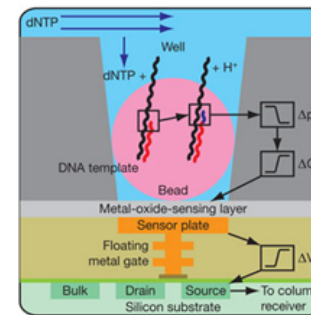
# What Do CMOS Chips Contribute?

## Consider CMOS Chip Based DNA Sequencing ...

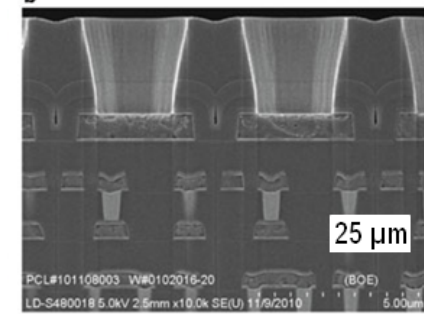


- DNA sequencing: determination of the order of the four DNA bases (A, T, C, G)
- Human DNA:  $3.2 \cdot 10^9$  base pairs
- Market estimation for 2015: 2 billion US\$
- Next generation sequencing (NGS): faster + cheaper
- Ion-Torrent: CMOS chip with ISFET array, “sequencing-by-synthesis”

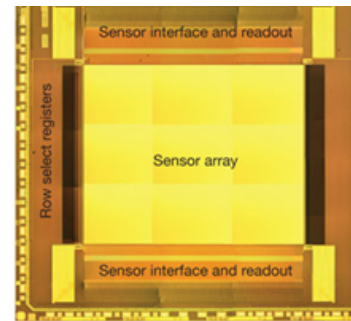
J. M. Rothberg et al, Nature 475, 348–352 (21 July 2011)



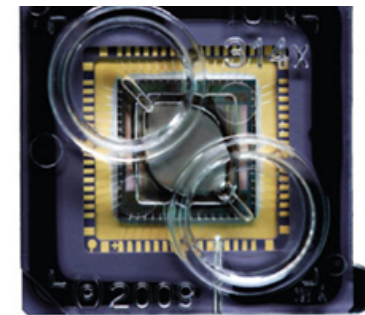
Principle



Cross section



Chip photo



Packaged device

### • What else is left to do?

1. Purification of Genomic DNA from cells (lysis, breaking the cells' nuclei, ...)
2. Fragmentation (random process: fragments must “overlap”, length up to 1 kb)
3. Amplification (fragments serve as “vectors”, vectors are cloned, ...)
4. Determination of sequence of bases, i.e.: fragment-based sequencing (**CMOS!**)
5. Determination of the entire strand sequence by overlapping fragment data

# Biomedical CMOS Chip Properties

## ... Considered from the User's Standpoint

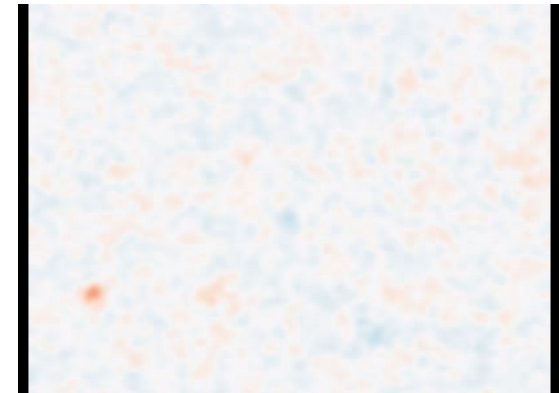
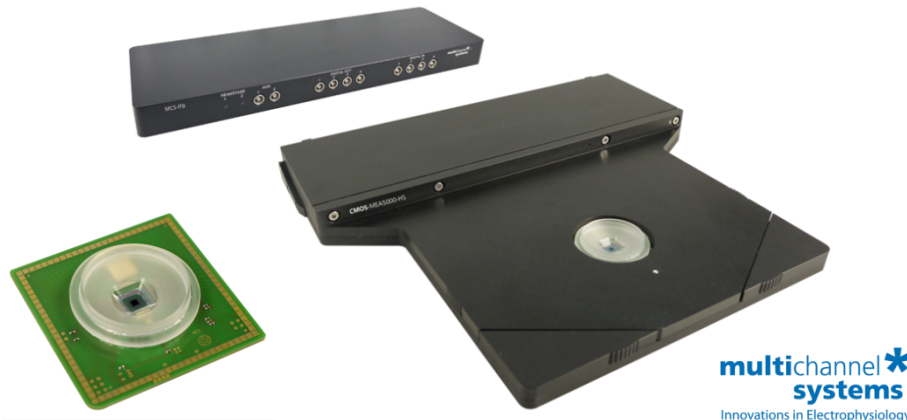


- Users and customers (who are not electronic engineers) do not care what is inside the chip
- However, they appreciate functionality which is not available using other tools or technologies



CMOS technology, appropriate and innovative circuit design, assembly techniques, software, ... are enablers!

- Example “Neurochips” with high spatiotemporal resolution:
  - *first publications roughly 10 years ago*
  - *commercialization: started recently and is on-going*
  - *discussed volumes: few 1000 devices per year*



# Summary

## Low Volume Biomedical CMOS Chips

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- Create value in an ethical, societal, and commercial sense although related applications are niches.
- Related business models must be identified to make technical opportunities successful in real-life applications.
- As engineers we need to try to understand the entire application chain, and not to develop solutions and then try to identify the problem.
- Scaling helps in that sense that older technologies get affordable to create a business case. Many customized biomedical chips rely on technologies with  $> 100$  nm feature size.
- Electronics can be an inevitable enabler (but only one piece of the entire puzzle).



# Alternative Use of Silicon

Edoardo Charbon

TU Delft

Alex Dommann

EMPA

Pantelis Georgiou

Imperial College London

Bruno Murari

ST Microelectronics

Roland Thewes

TU Berlin

**Chair:** Giovanni De Micheli, EPFL

