

# SILICON PHOTONICS AS AN ENABLER FOR HEALTH CARE APPLICATIONS



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Photonics Ireland June 2021

# HEALTH CARE

Enormous challenges:

- Ageing society
- Keep ever more performant health care affordable for society
- Pandemics

Technology can help:

- Low-cost personal, bed-side and point-of-care medical devices
- Minimally invasive devices (cathetered approaches, implants, electronic pills)
- Rapid diagnostics (immuno-assays based on disposable use-once chips)

# MICRO-CHIPS: KEY FOR COMPACT AND LOW-COST MEDICAL DEVICES



Pacemaker

Electronic IC's



Infrared fever  
thermometer

Mid-IR detector chip

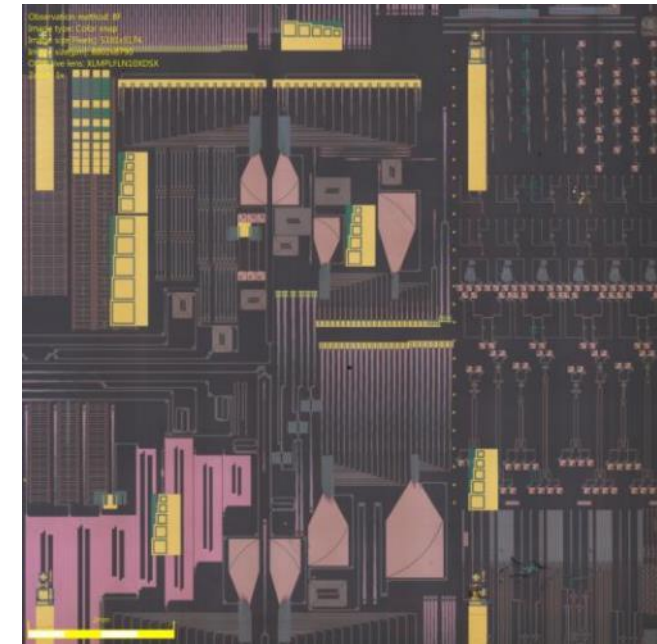


Pulse Oximeter

Near IR LED and detector chips

# WHAT IS SILICON PHOTONICS?

The implementation of high density photonic integrated circuits by means of CMOS process technology in a CMOS fab

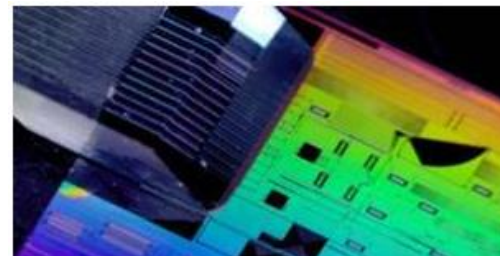
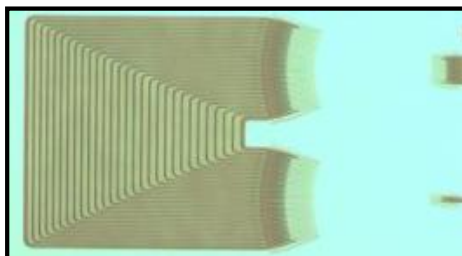
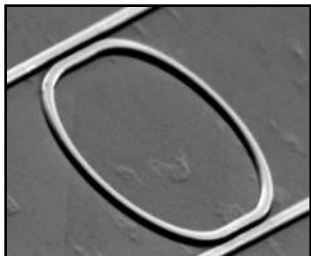
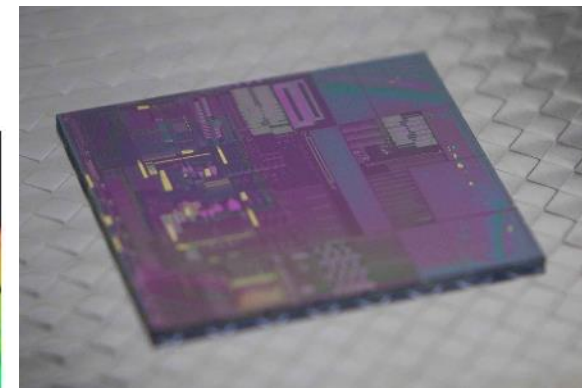
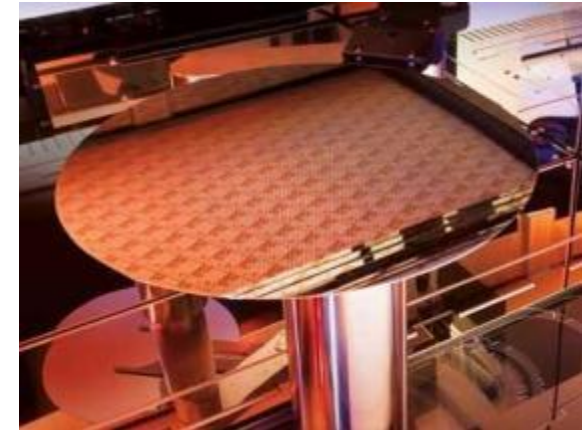
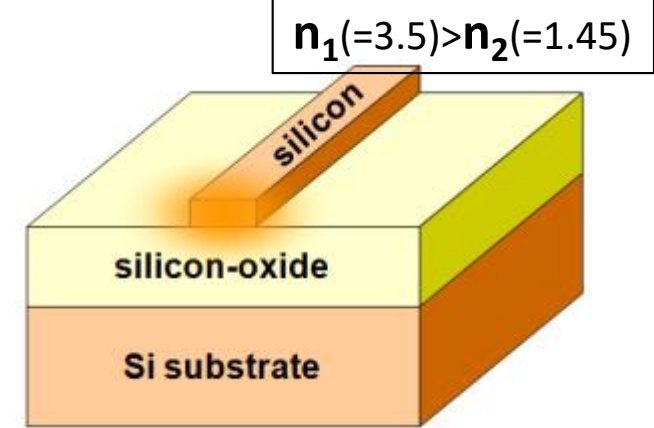


Pictures, courtesy of imec

Enabling complex optical functionality on a compact chip at low cost

# WHY SILICON PHOTONICS

- High index contrast  $\Rightarrow$  **very compact PICs**
- CMOS technology  $\Rightarrow$  **nm-precision, high yield, existing fabs, low cost in volume**
- High performance passive devices
- High bitrate Ge photodetectors
- High bitrate modulators
- Wafer-level automated testing
- Hierarchical set of design tools
- Light source integration (hybrid/monolithic?)
- Integration with electronics (hybrid/monolithic?)





# TRANSCEIVERS FOR DATA CENTERS AND FOR TELECOM



**Under development:**  
**Data rate: 400-800 Gb/s**  
**Symbol rate: 50-100 Gb/s**

**Typical data rate: 100 Gb/s**

**Typical symbol rate: 25 GBaud**

- PSM4 (4 parallel fibers)
- WDM (4 wavelengths)
- PAM4
- Coherent (2 polarisations + QPSK)
- Coherent (16-QAM)

CompoundTek  
SILTERRA



Finisar



TeraXion

sicoya

ciena

molex



KOTURA

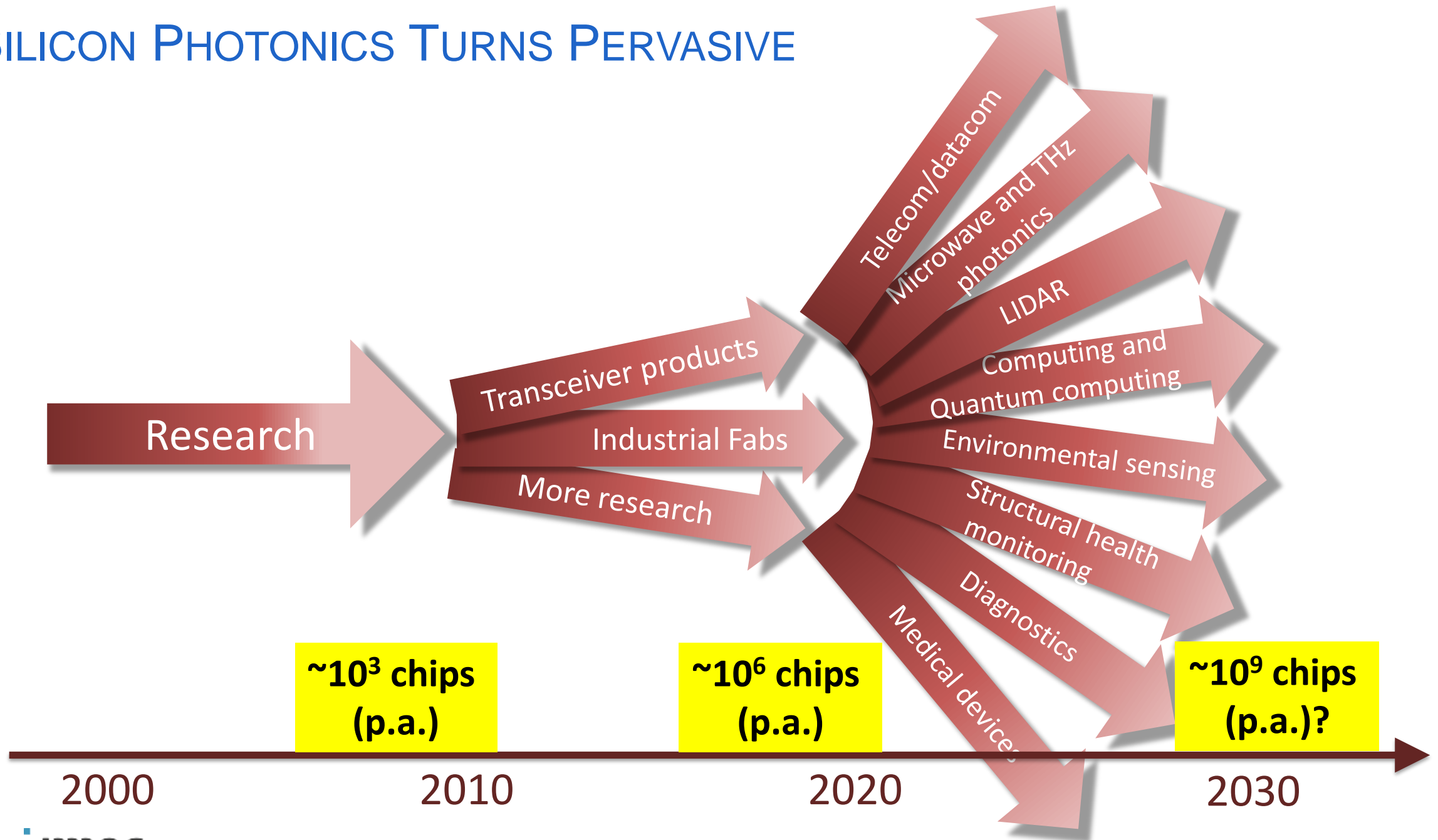


KOTURA



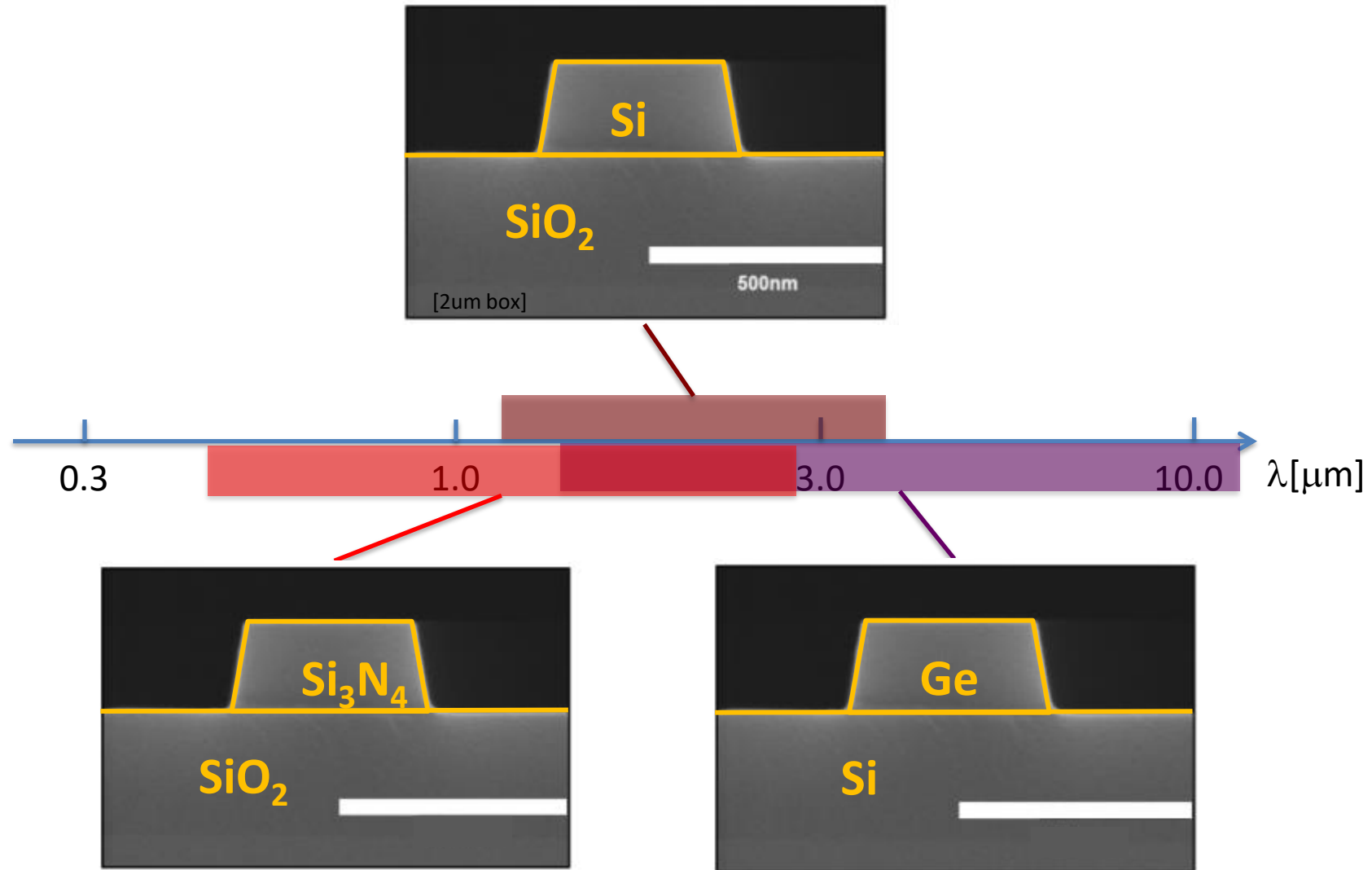
imec

# SILICON PHOTONICS TURNS PERVASIVE



# SILICON PHOTONICS: EXTENDING THE WAVELENGTH RANGE

WITHOUT LEAVING THE CMOS FAB





# COMPLEMENTARITY OF SOI AND SiN AND GE-ON-SI (GOS)

	SOI	SiN	GOS
Compactness (high index contrast)			
High speed modulation			
Thermo-optic modulation			
High speed detection			
Optical loss (linear) ( $< 1.1 \mu\text{m}$ )			
Optical loss (linear) ( $1.1 - 4 \mu\text{m}$ )			(only above $2 \mu\text{m}$ )
Optical loss (linear) ( $> 4 \mu\text{m}$ )			
Optical loss (nonlinear)	( $1-2 \mu\text{m}$ range)		
Sensitivity to fab error			
Temperature sensitivity			

# ASSETS OF SILICON PHOTONICS FOR MEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE

Rich set of sensing modalities

Sensing without physical contact

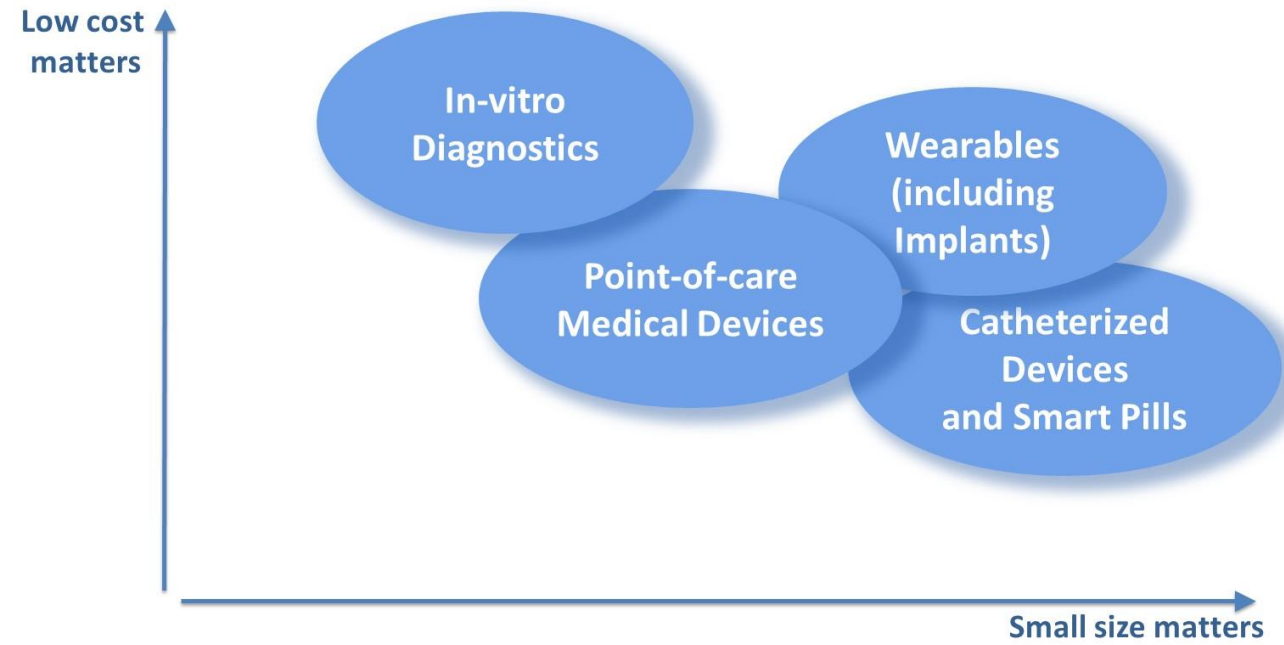
Low cost (even in moderate volume)

Disposable (use-once) devices

Very compact devices (even small enough for bodily implants)

Can address needs from visible to mid IR

Mature supply chain

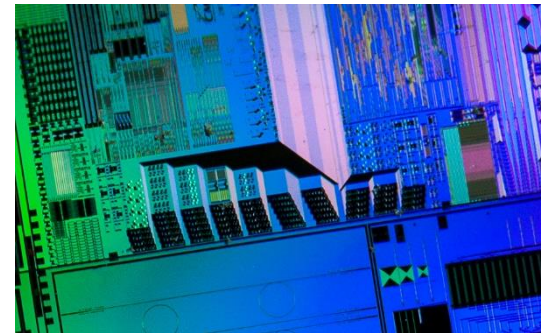


# THREE APPLICATION CASES

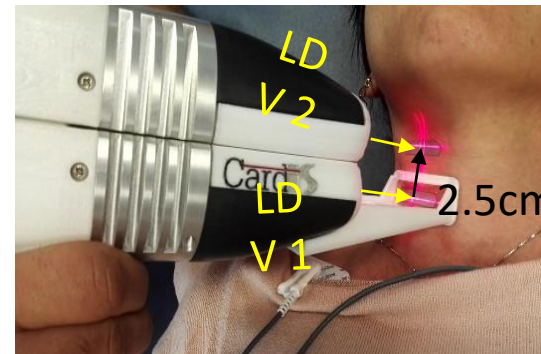
➔ In-vitro diagnostics



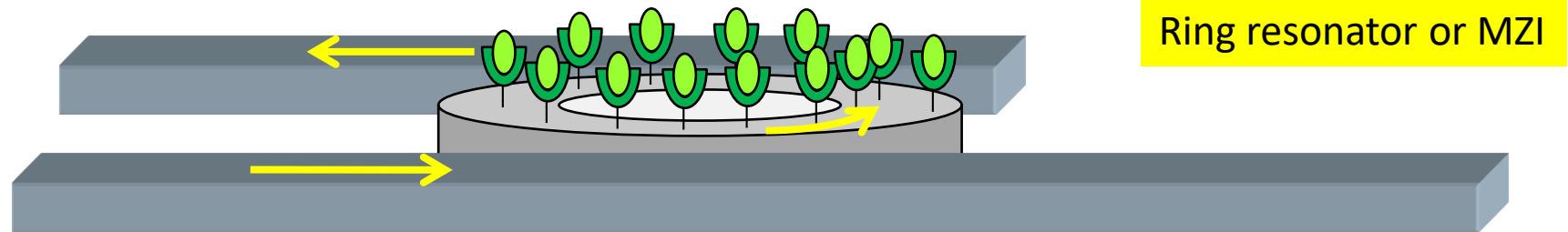
Continuous glucose monitoring



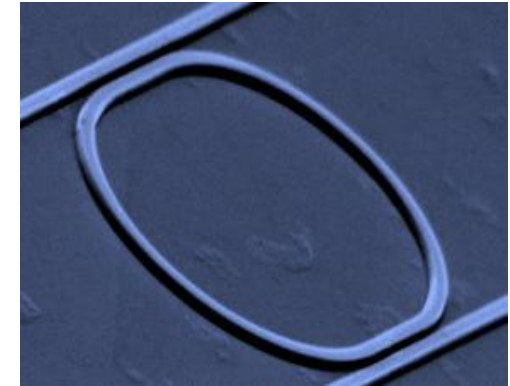
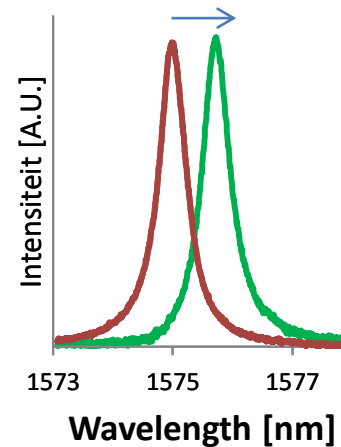
Cardiovascular monitoring



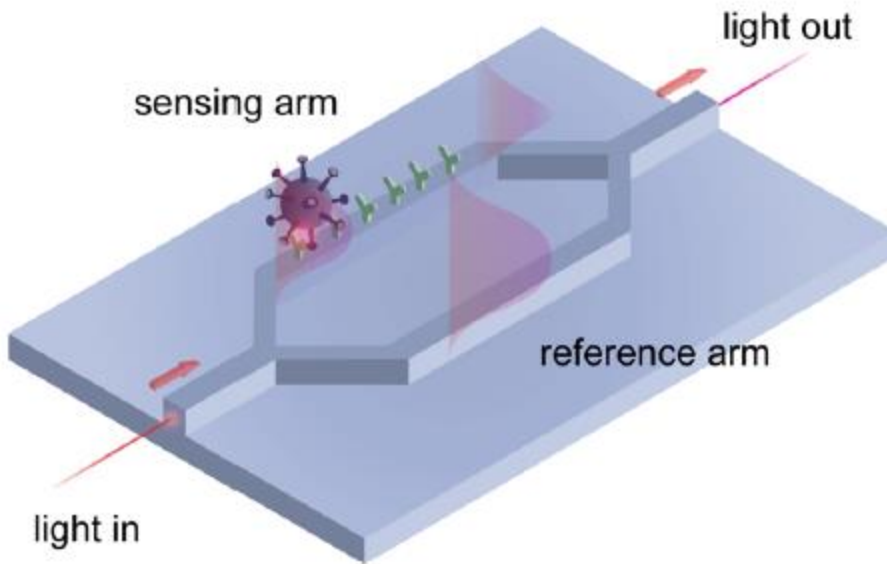
# LABEL-FREE BIOSENSOR THROUGH REFRACTIVE INDEX SENSING OF ANTIGEN-ANTIBODY BINDING



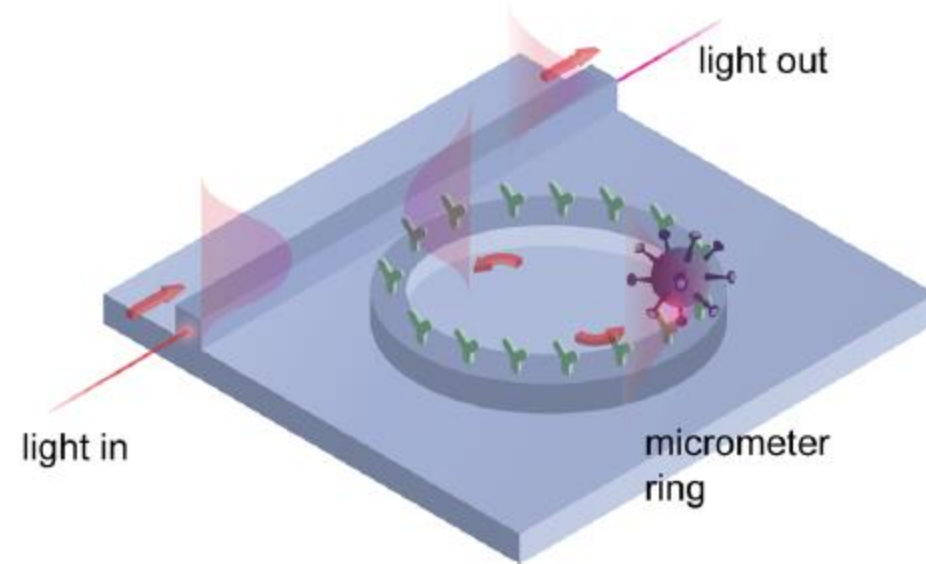
Wavelength shift



# KEY PHOTONIC BIOSENSOR DEVICES



Mach-Zehnder Interferometer (MZI)



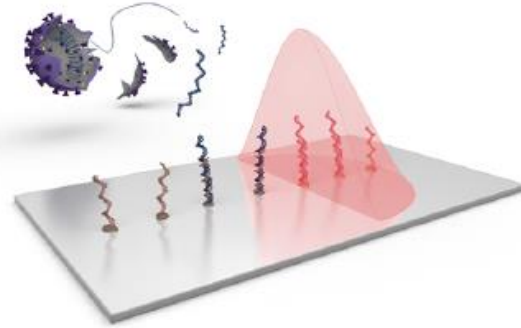
Micro-ring resonator (MRR)

M. Soler et al,  
ACS Sens. 2020



# BIOSENSING STRATEGIES FOR VIRAL INFECTION DIAGNOSIS

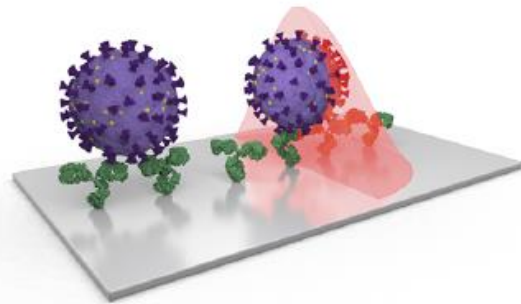
## A Viral genomic analysis



## A. Genomic detection

Chip is functionalized with short stretches of nucleic acids, with complementary sequence to the viral target

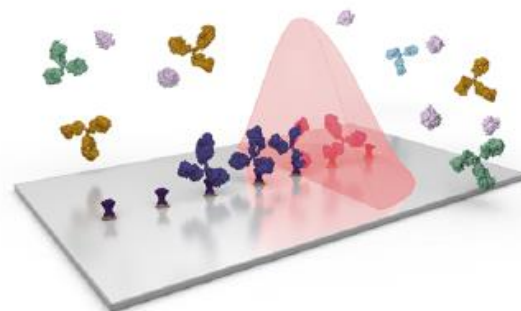
## B Direct virus detection



## B. Antigen-directed virus detection

Chip is functionalized with antibodies that bind to spike proteins at the surface of the virus

## C Serology assay



## C. Serological test (blood)

Chip is functionalized with antigens that bind to antibodies that result from the body's immune response to the virus

M. Soler et al,  
ACS Sens. 2020

# COVID-19 Multi-Antigen Serology Panel

Semi-Quantitative detection of antibodies to SARS-CoV-2

## Who We Are

Genalyte is a CAP accredited, CLIA certified lab specializing in large scale serology testing. Our Maverick™ SARS-CoV-2 Multi-Antigen Serology Panel uses a multiplex format to test patient samples for antibodies to five SARS-CoV-2 proteins. The result is unparalleled accuracy across a variety of patient populations.

## Our Platform

The Maverick™ Diagnostic System (MDS) uses **silicon chip based photonic ring resonance** technology to perform multiple simultaneous rapid tests on a small volume of whole blood. The system is cloud-connected for assay protocol retrieval and clinical oversight. Results are available in 20 minutes. FDA Cleared in 2019.



### General Population: 7-14 days

MAVERICK	PCR Result		
	Pos	Neg	
Pos	46	0	46
Neg	7	303	310
	53	303	

### Post Seroconversion: >14 days

MAVERICK	PCR Result		
	Pos	Neg	
Pos	86	0	86
Neg	2	303	305
	88	303	

# BIOSENSORS FOR HOME AND PoC USE

- Consumer price
- Rapid test
- First product: STD self-test from urine sample



**Antelope DX to join forces with In The Pocket and Extra Horizon for the development of its easy-to-use, high-quality home testing device.**

**The first test on the market will be the Covid 19 & Flu self-test.**

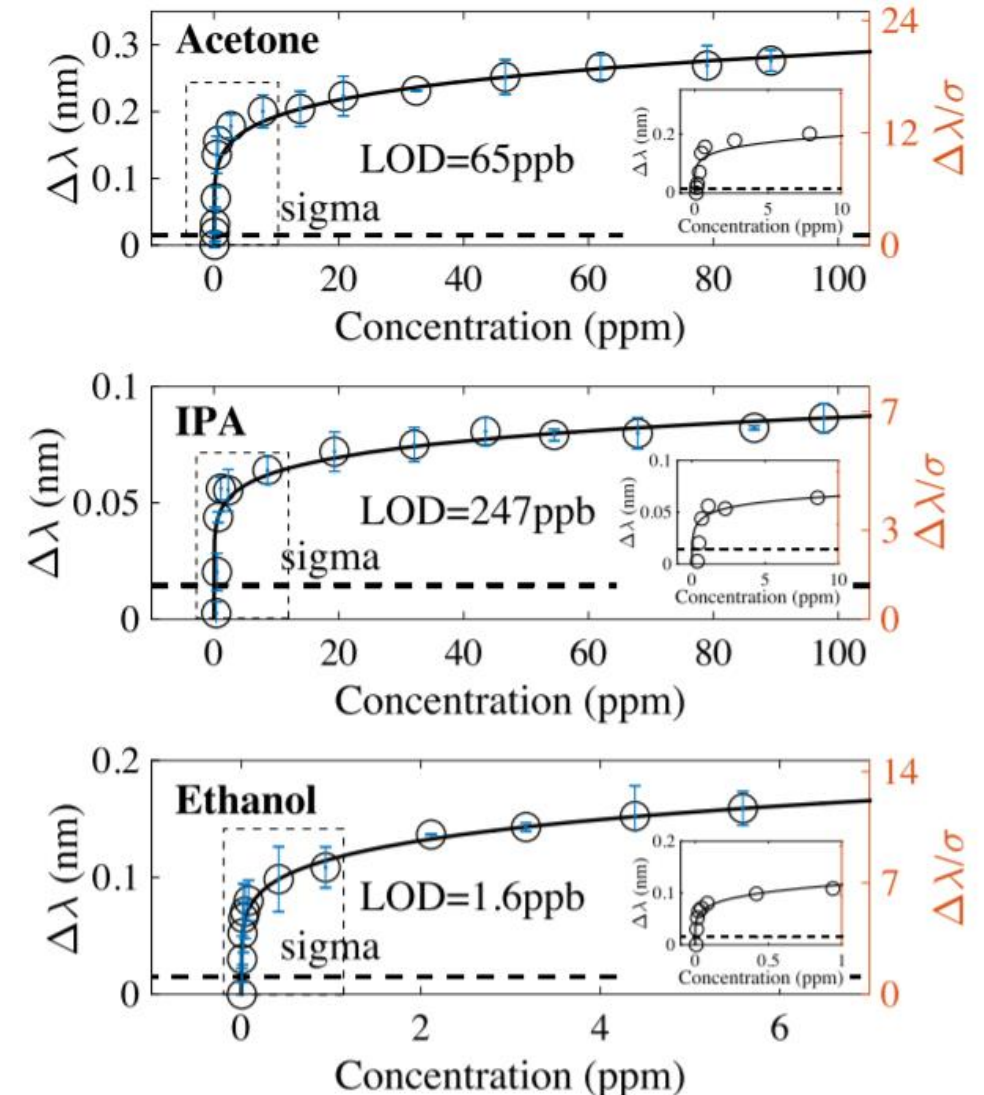
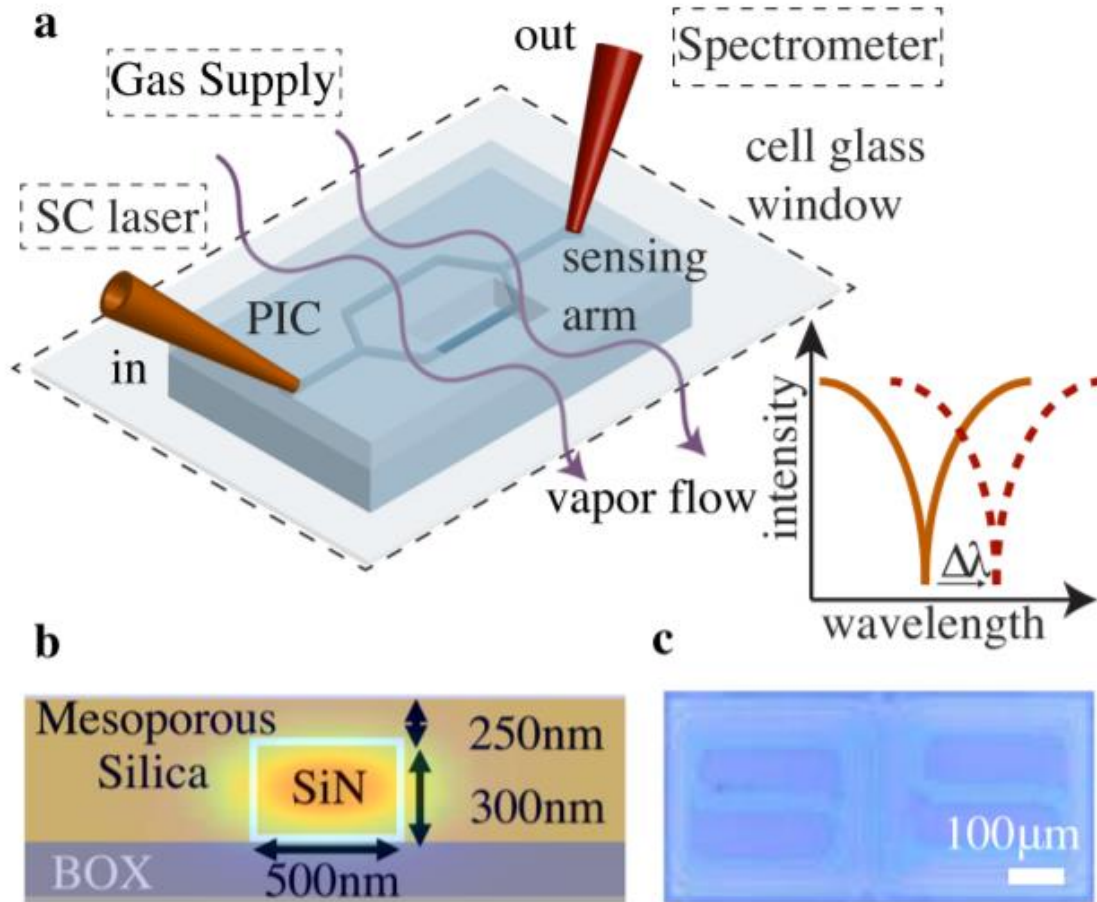
Ghent 15.04.2021. Antelope Dx, a Belgian based company that aims to bring high-quality health testing for the individual, announces the collaboration with In The Pocket and Extra Horizon for the development of an app and cloud-based services for its self-tests.

<https://www.antelope-dx.com/>



# ULTRASENSITIVE GAS SENSING WITH REFRACTIVE INDEX SENSORS

Medical application: breath analysis



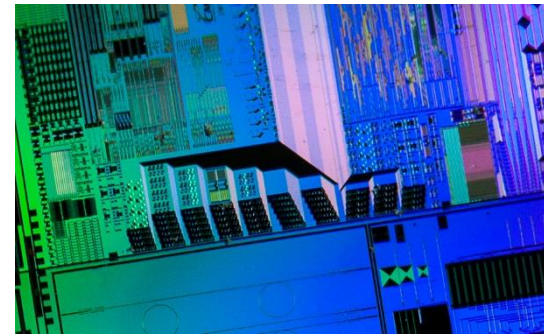


# THREE APPLICATION CASES

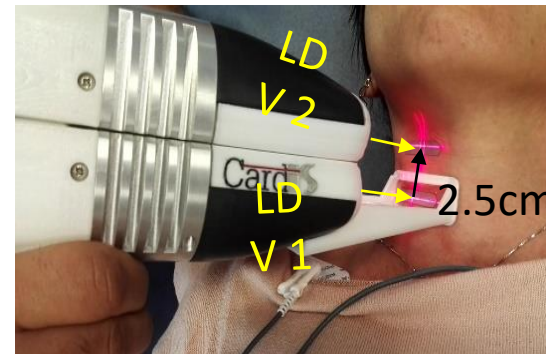
In-vitro diagnostics



➔ Continuous glucose monitoring

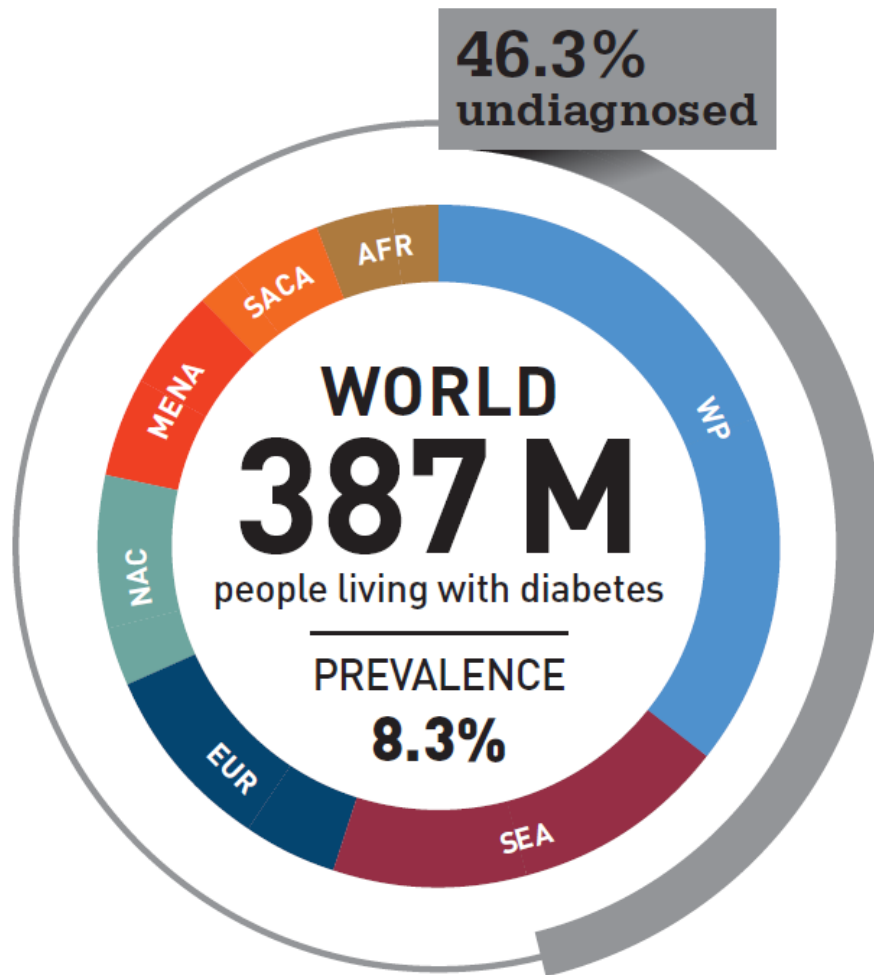


Cardiovascular monitoring





# DIABETES IS THE 21ST CENTURY HEALTH CHALLENGE

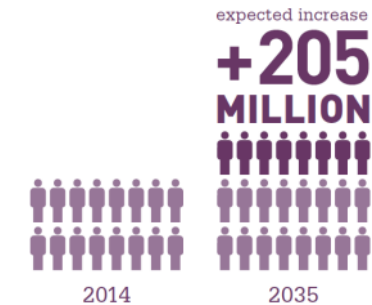


**i/12**  
people with  
**DIABETES**



**1** healthcare  
**in 9**  
**IS SPENT ON DIABETES**

In 2014 diabetes expenditure reached US\$612 billion

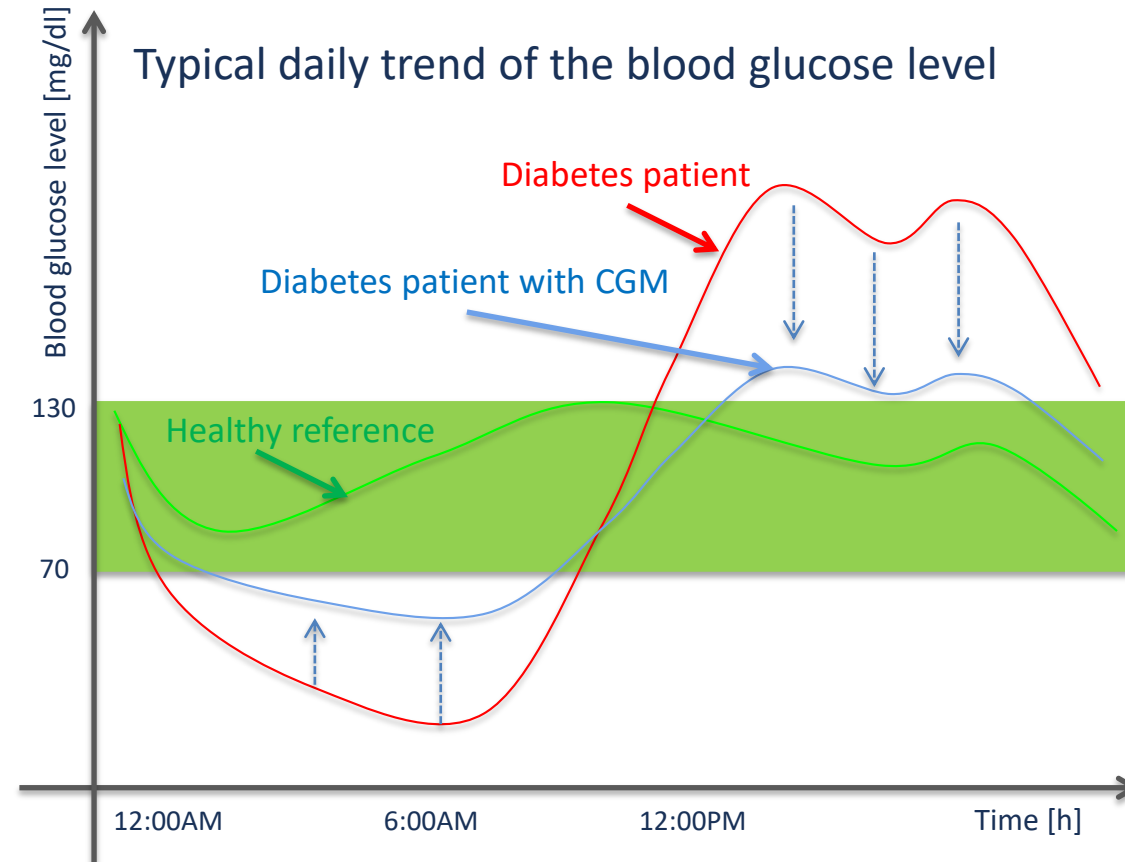


<http://www.idf.org/diabetesatlas/update-2014>

# CONTINUOUS GLUCOSE MONITORING (CGM) HAS PROVEN TO IMPROVE GLYCEMIC CONTROL OF DIABETES PATIENTS

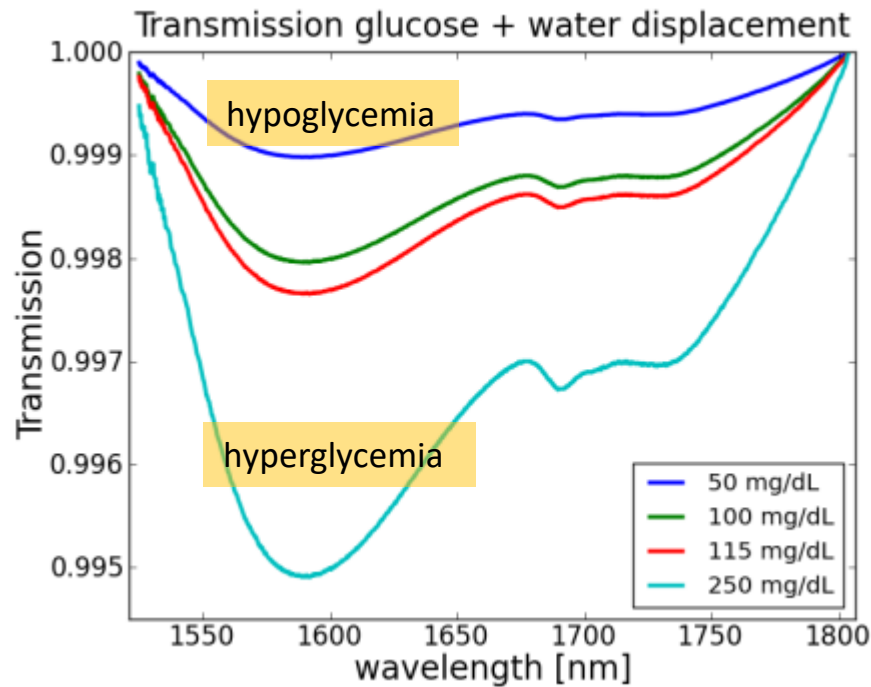
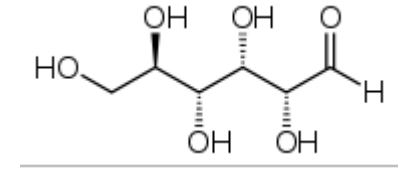
CGM systems show positive health impact \*

- lower average blood glucose levels
- decrease of hypoglycemic frequency

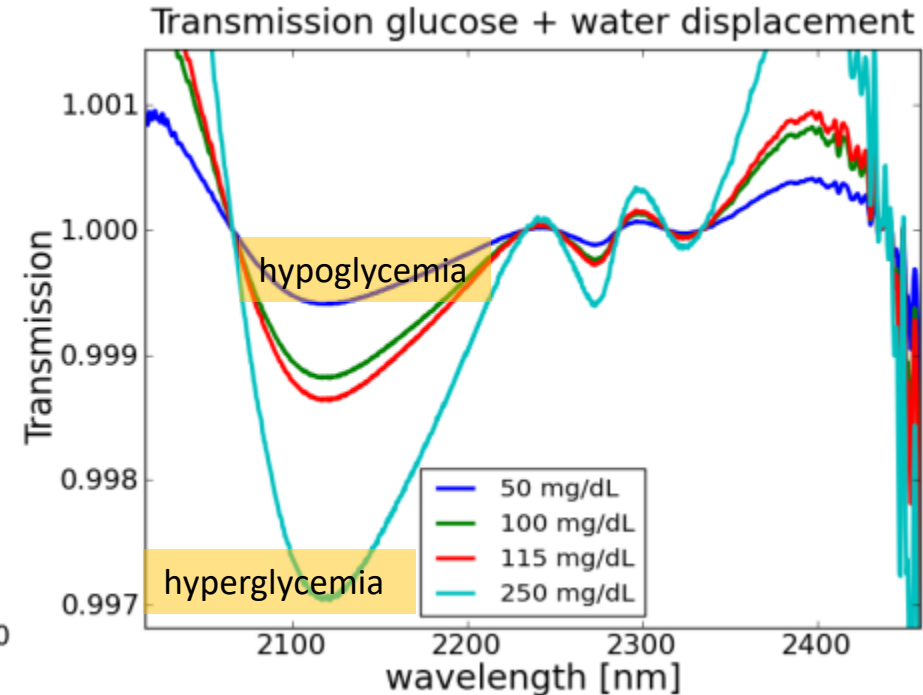


\* Liebl A, Henrichs HR, Heinemann L, et al. Continuous glucose monitoring: evidence and consensus statement for clinical use. J Diabetes Sci Technol . 2013;7:500-519

# GLUCOSE ABSORPTION SPECTROSCOPY



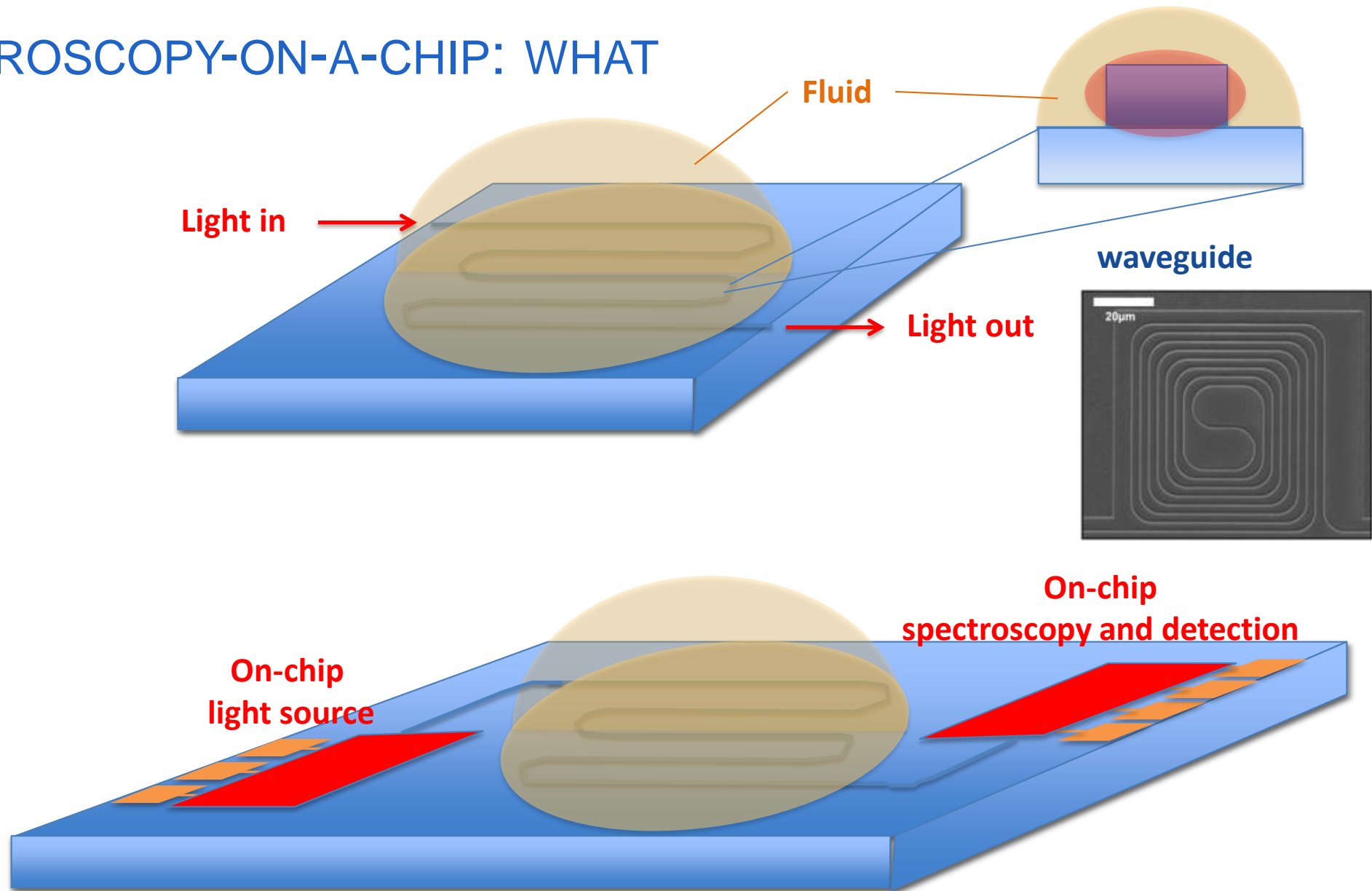
First overtone band: 1500 - 1800 nm



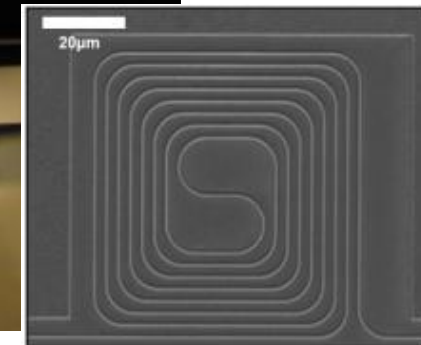
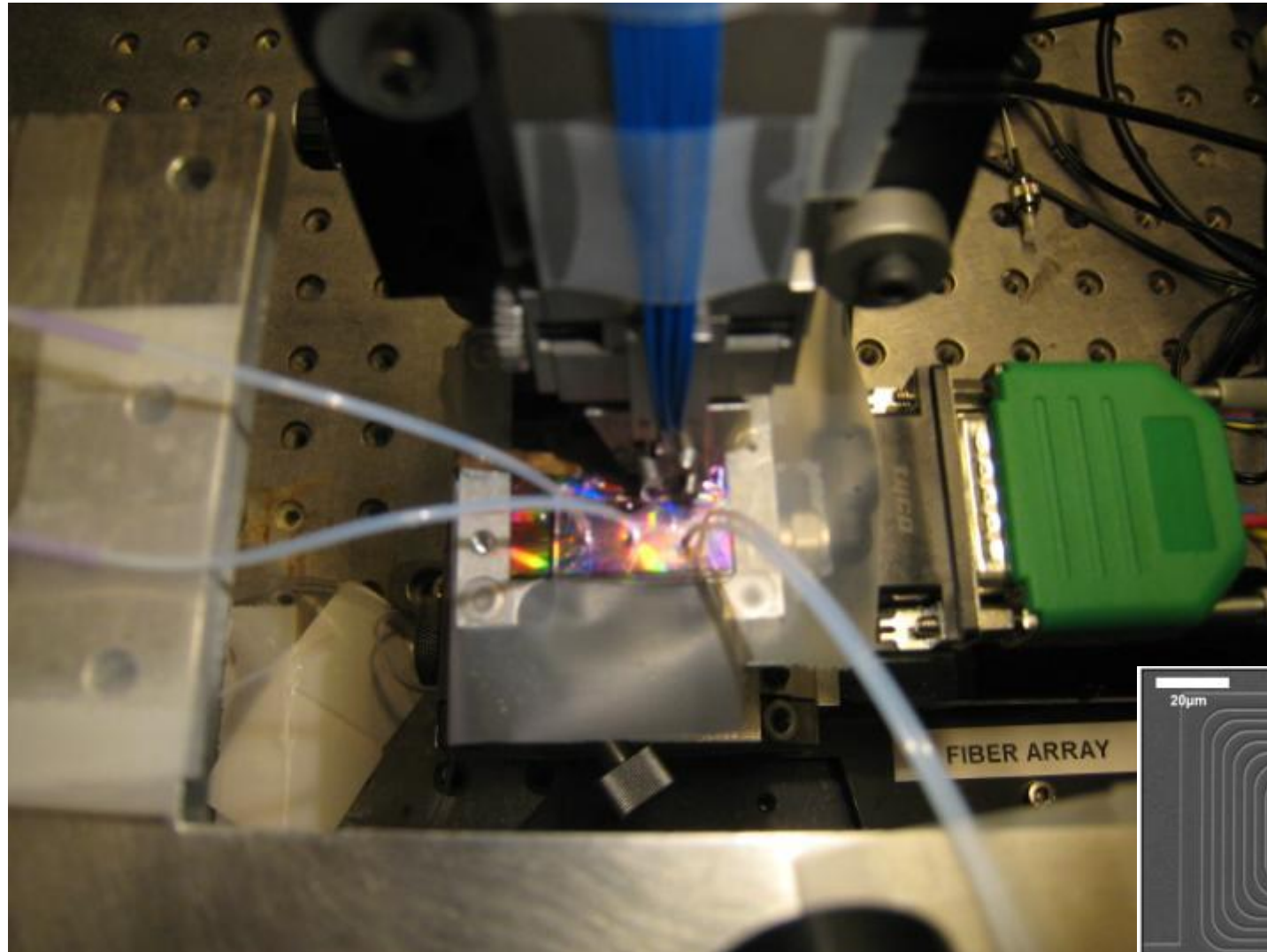
Combination band: 2000 - 2500 nm

For glucose sensing in humans (3-15 mM): Largest change in transmission is 0.5 %  
Required sensitivity : 0.02%

# SPECTROSCOPY-ON-A-CHIP: WHAT



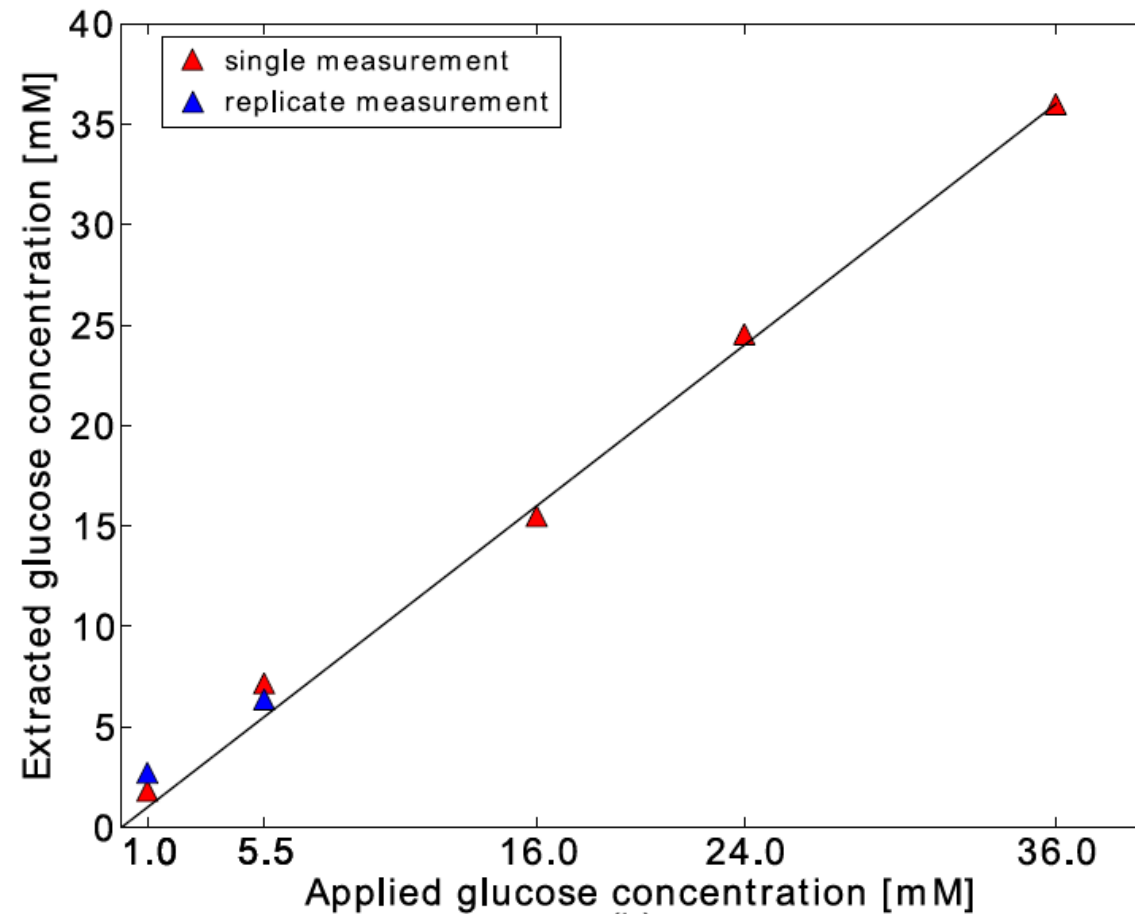
# PROOF-OF-CONCEPT DEMO OF GLUCOSE SENSING IN THE LAB





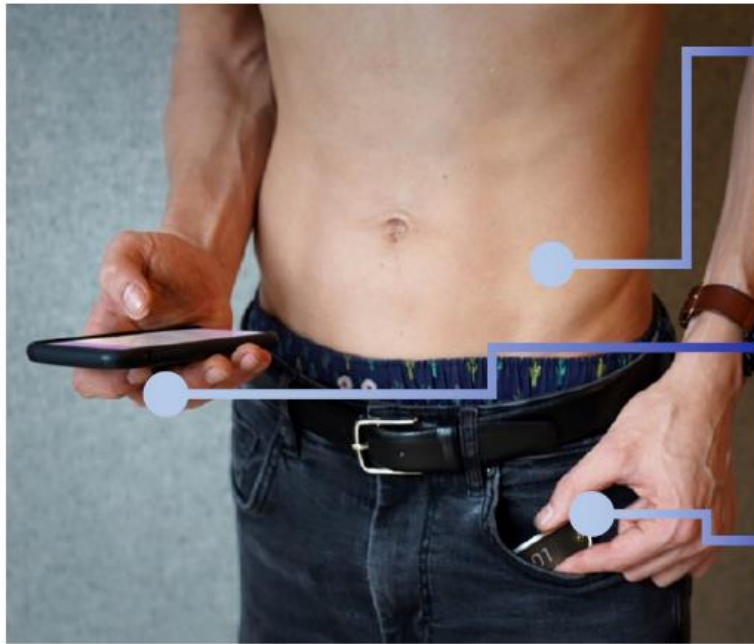
# GLUCOSE ABSORPTION SPECTROSCOPY: PROOF-OF-CONCEPT

Use measured spectrum of 36 mM solution as the basic vector

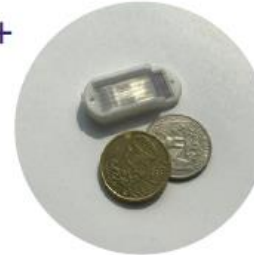


**Demonstrated sensitivity of 1mM**

# CONTINUOUS GLUCOSE MONITORING WITH SUBCUTANEOUS IMPLANT

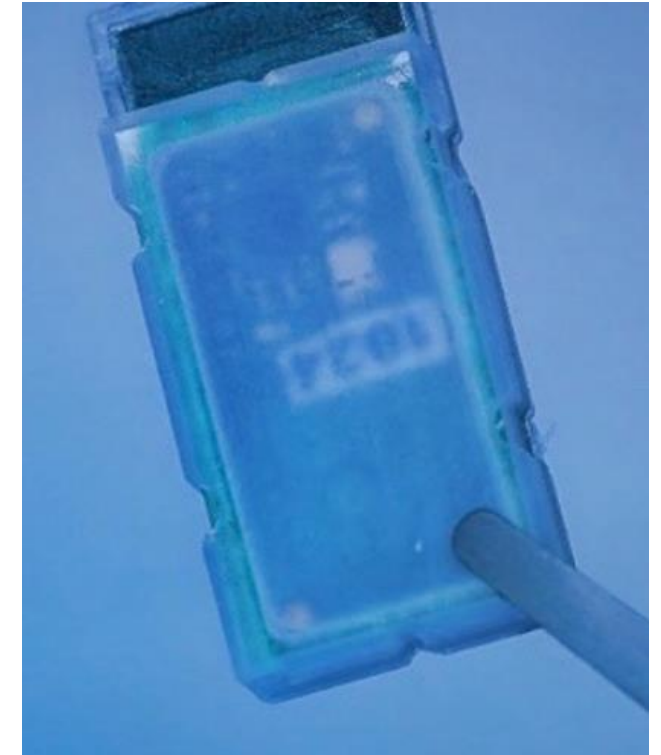


Invisible, coin-sized 2+ years implant (rechargeable)

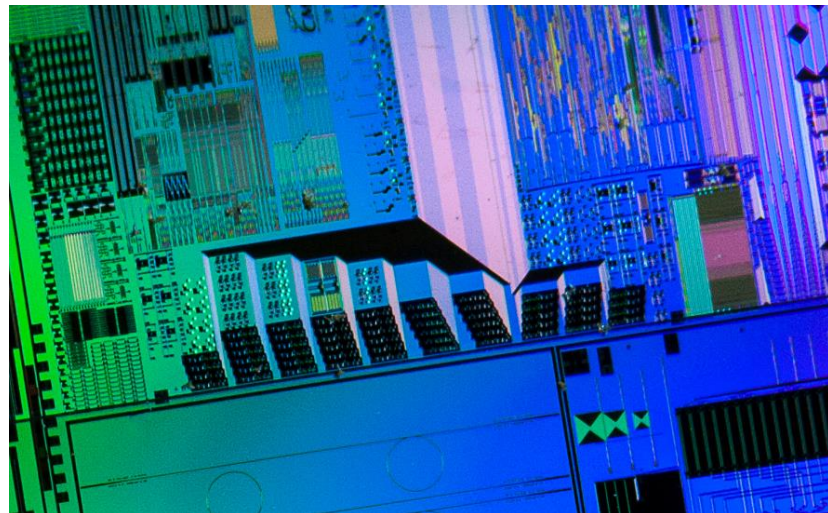


Mobile app/cloud/connection to 3<sup>rd</sup> party iCGM devices

Waterproof Bluetooth display unit

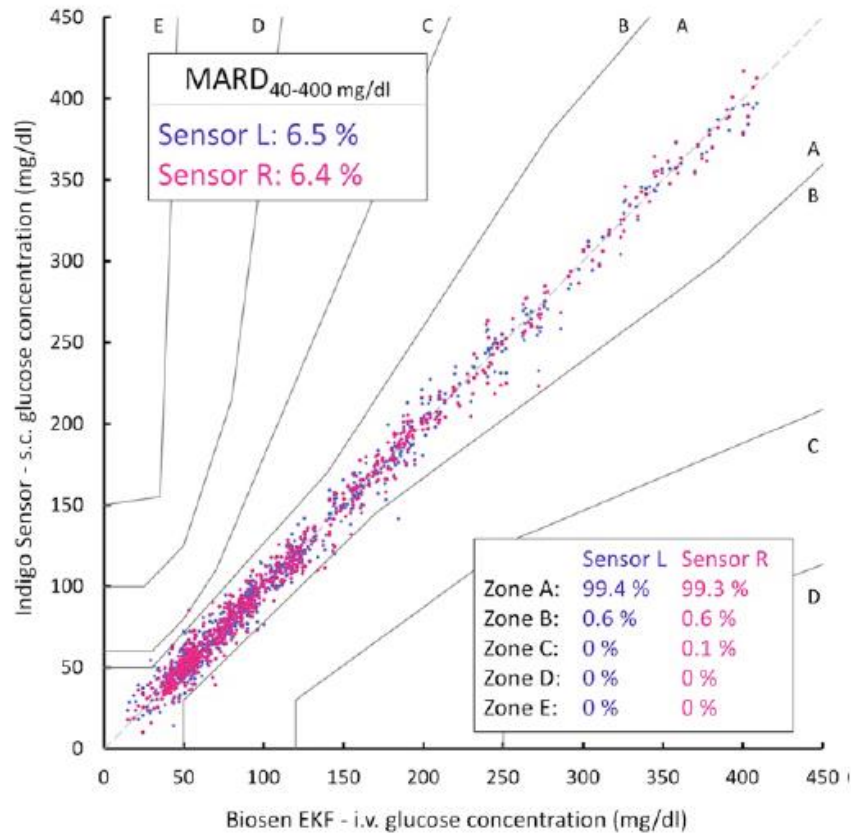


Implant



Microspectrometer chip

# CONTINUOUS GLUCOSE MONITORING WITH SUBCUTANEOUS IMPLANT



Results on pig model (D. Stocker, EASD 2020)

## Indigo Diabetes Initiates First Clinical Study of its Continuous Glucose Monitoring Sensor

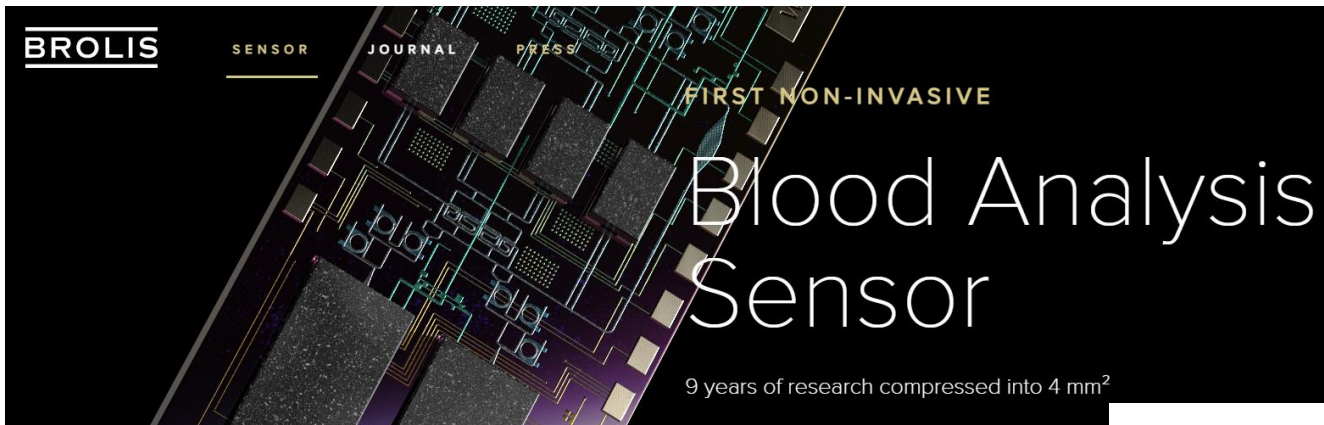
BY INDIGO | MAR 18, 2021 | 2021, NEWS

March 18, 2021 – Ghent, Belgium

*Ground-breaking subcutaneous sensor aims to continuously monitor multiple metabolites including ketones in people living with diabetes*

**BELGIUM – Ghent, March 18, 2021** – Indigo Diabetes N.V. ('Indigo' or the 'Company'), a pioneering developer of medical solutions using nanophotonics, announces that its continuous multi-metabolite ('CMM') sensor has been successfully implanted subcutaneously in the first three participants of its first clinical study, designed to evaluate the device. Indigo's CMM sensor is in development for the continuous measurement of glucose, ketone and lactate levels in people living with diabetes.

# NON-INVASIVE GLUCOSE MONITORING BASED ON SILICON PHOTONICS



<http://brolis.tech>

DESIGNLINES | MEDICAL DESIGNLINE

## Rockley Photonics to Deliver Glucose Monitoring for Apple Smartwatches

By Nitin Dahad 05.04.2021 0

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Rockley Photonics, which recently announced a \$1.2 billion listing on the New York Stock Exchange via a special purpose acquisition company (SPAC), is thought to be developing advanced health monitoring features for smartwatches including for Apple.

Apple began purchasing products from Rockley in 2017; it is now Rockley's largest customer with \$70 million of NRE commitment to date.



# BROLIS: GASB TUNABLE LASER TECHNOLOGY WITH SILICON PIC

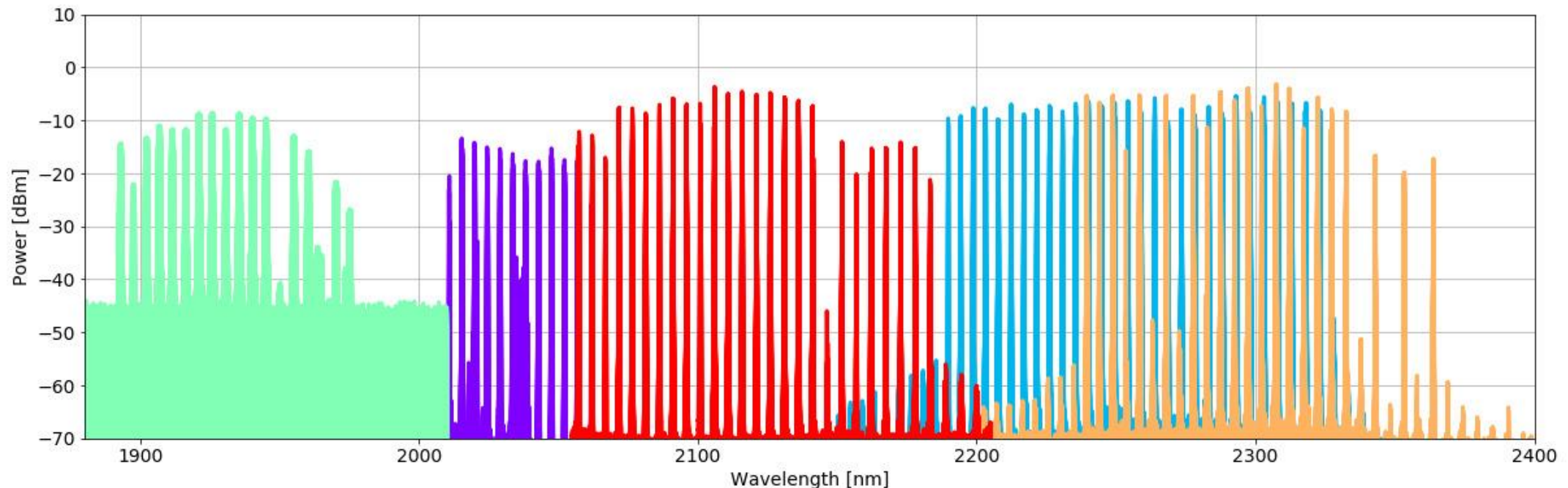
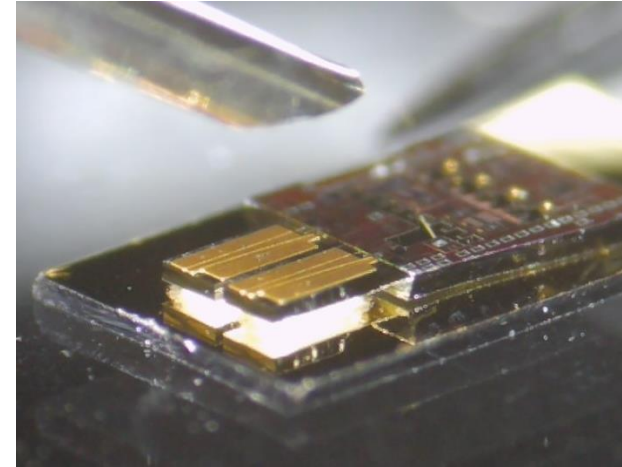
GaSb gain chips hybridly integrated with silicon PIC

1880 – 2430 nm

0.1- 1 mW output power

Tuning speed up to 2 kHz

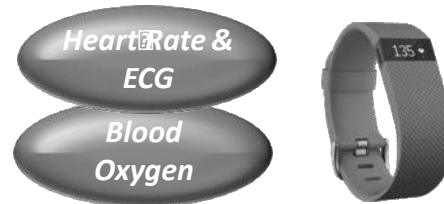
120 nm/gain-chip





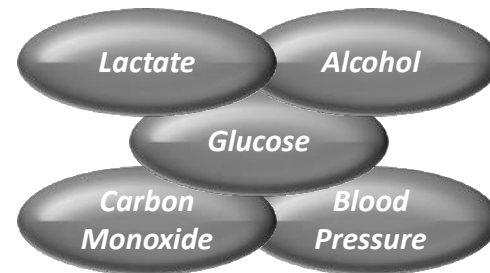
## Current Smartwatch Technology

- ✗ Limited sensor capabilities
- ✗ Legacy LED technology
- ✗ Low resolution & accuracy



## Current Medical Technology

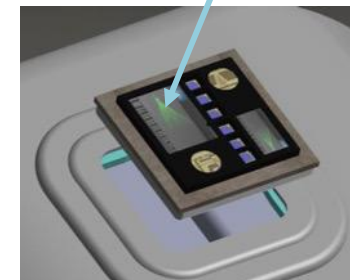
- ✗ In-clinic / in-hospital monitoring only
- ✗ Bulky, high-cost medical lab equipment not available to average consumer
- ✗ Different equipment for different tests



## Rockley's Multi-Function Clinic-on-the-Wrist Capability



Si Photonic PIC



- ✓ Single sensor for multi-modal biochemical / biophysical marker monitoring
- ✓ Functionality of numerous lasers on a single chip
- ✓ Unparalleled spectral resolution & accuracy

New sensing functions unlocked...



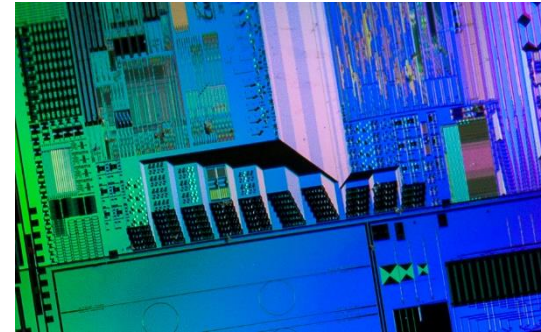
**Rockley's integrated optical technology enables miniaturization of sensing devices necessary for the evolution of a wearable spectrometer**

# THREE APPLICATION CASES

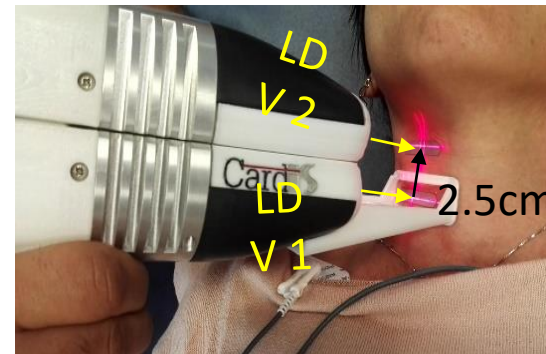
In-vitro diagnostics



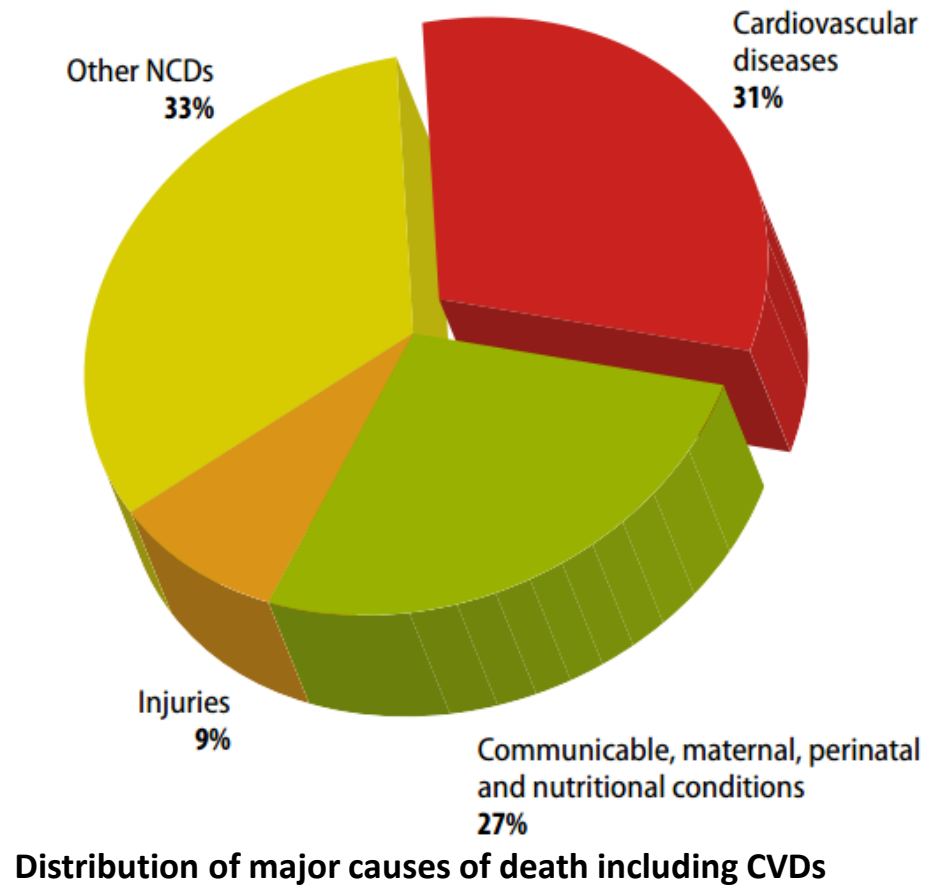
Continuous glucose monitoring



➔ Cardiovascular monitoring



# CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES



Cardiovascular disease: The biggest killer in the world, responsible for **30%** of deaths (WHO, 2011)



# CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE (CVD)

Arteriosclerosis: stiffening of arterial walls

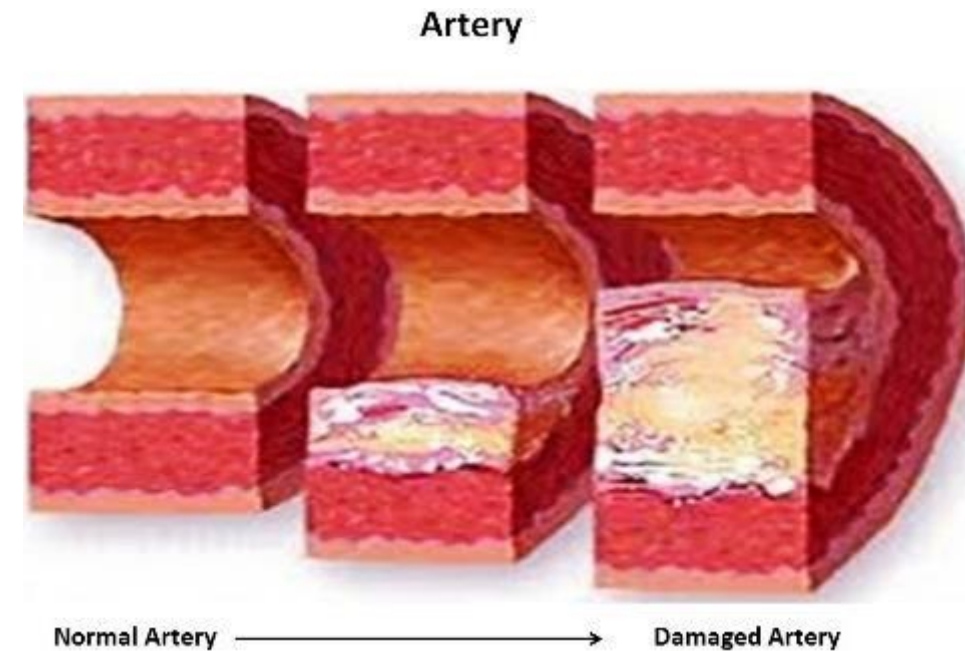
Atherosclerosis: deposition of plaque on the inner arterial walls (which can lead to stiffening)

Stenosis: abnormal narrowing in a blood vessel

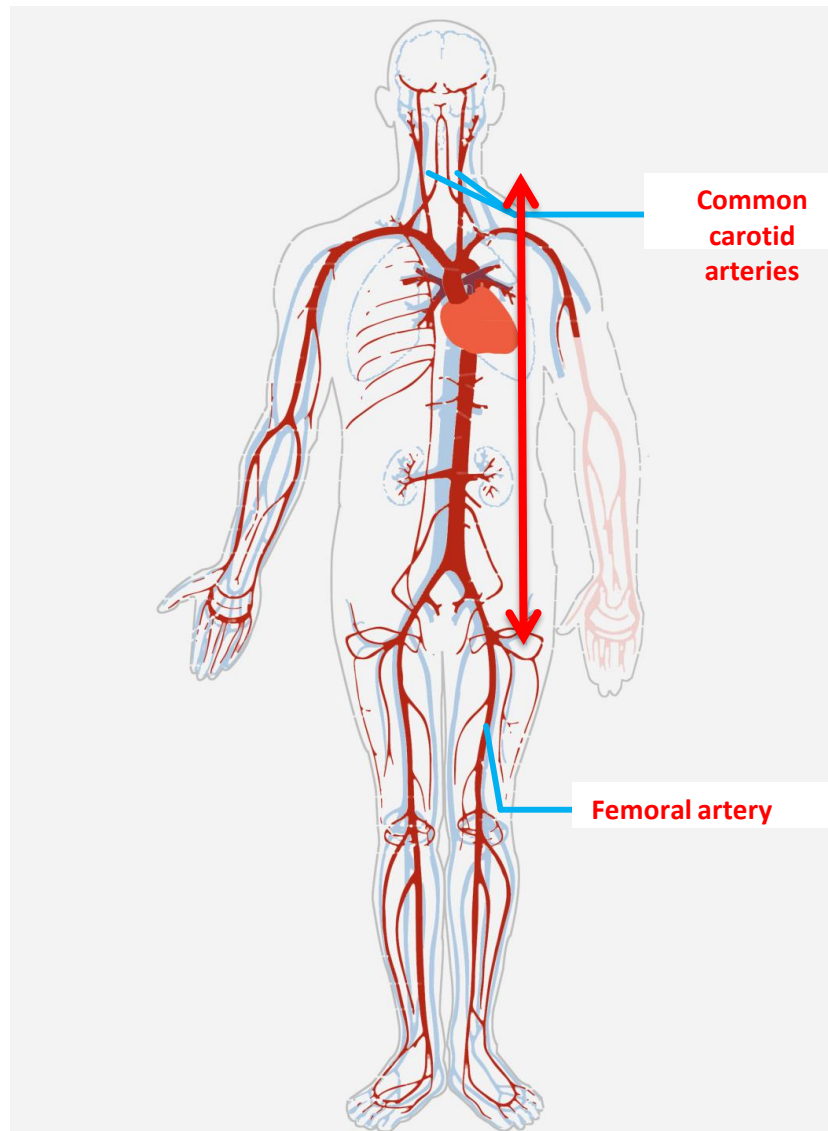
Heart Dyssynchrony: left and right part of the heart are not triggered synchronously

A map of the skin displacement above arteries can help for early diagnosis of these pathologies.

- Method: laser Doppler vibrometry
- Technology: silicon photonics
- Use: by general practitioner



# PULSE WAVE VELOCITY (PWV): MARKER FOR ARTERIAL STIFFNESS



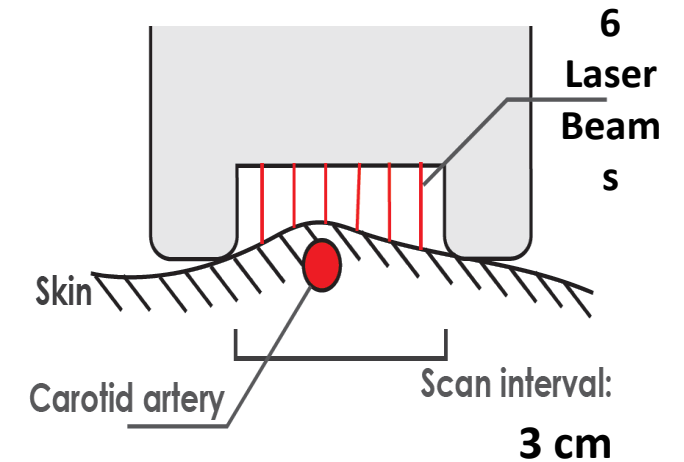
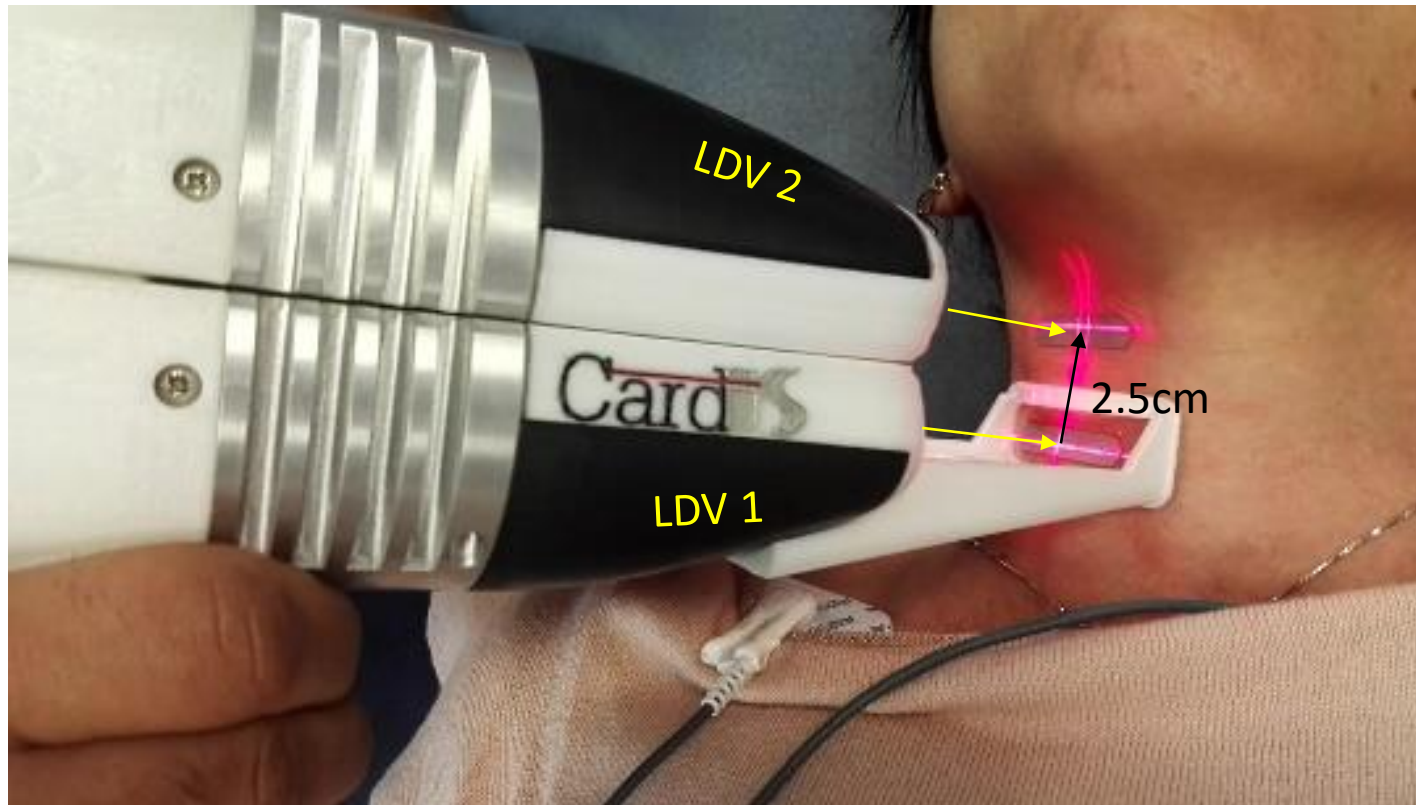
**Pulse Wave Velocity: speed by which the pressure wave caused by a heart beat travels in the arteries**

$$PWV = \frac{\text{pulse travel distance}}{\text{pulse travel time}}$$

**Larger PWV ->  
Higher arterial stiffness ->  
Higher risk of cardiovascular events**

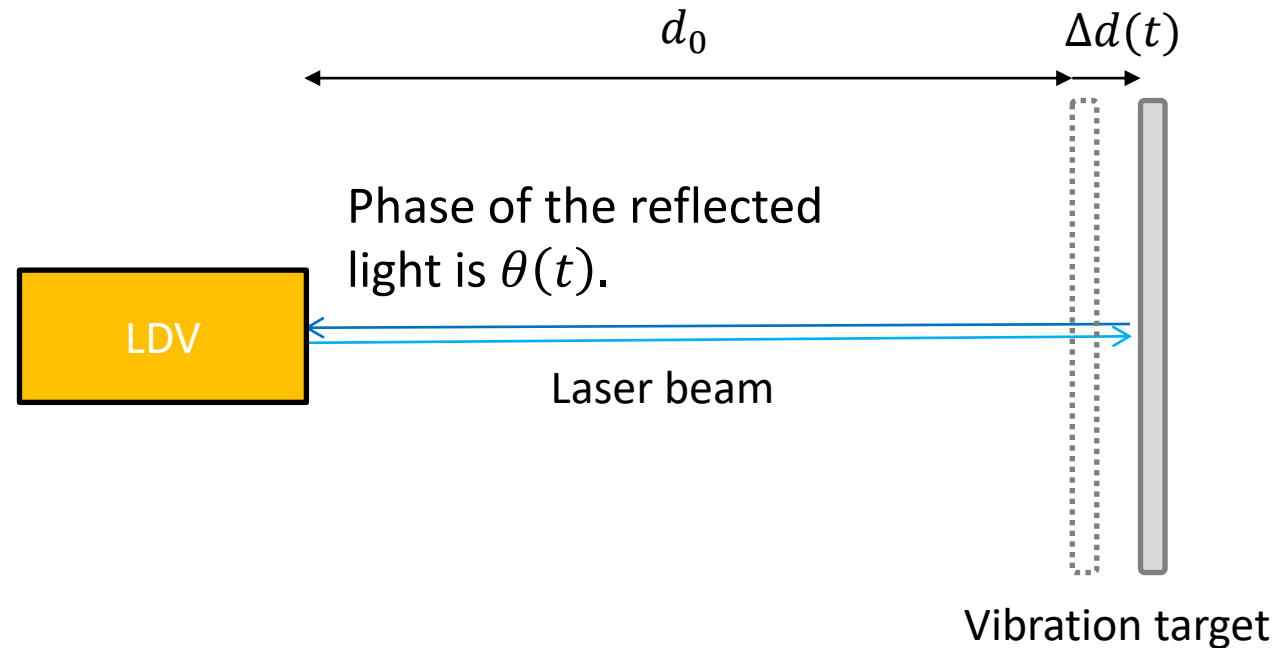


## APPROACH: MEASURE PWV FROM LOCAL CAROTID OR CAROTID-FEMORAL



Method used: measure skin movement by Laser Doppler Vibrometry (LDV)

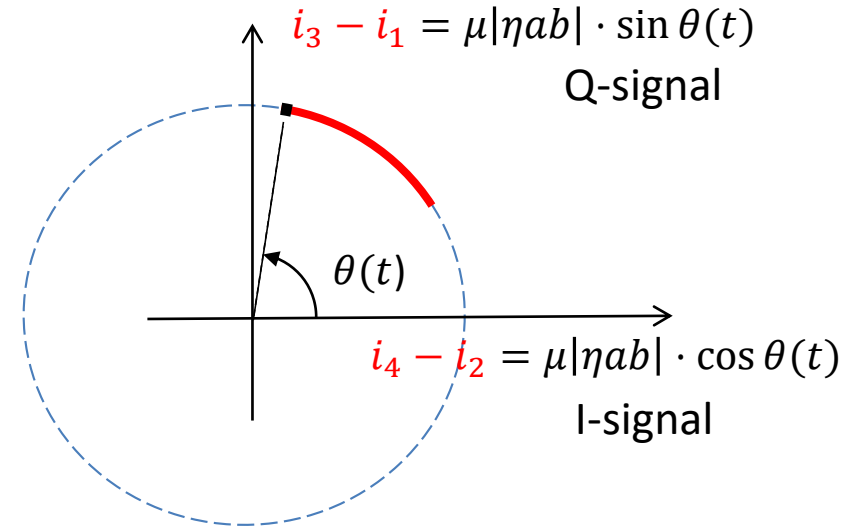
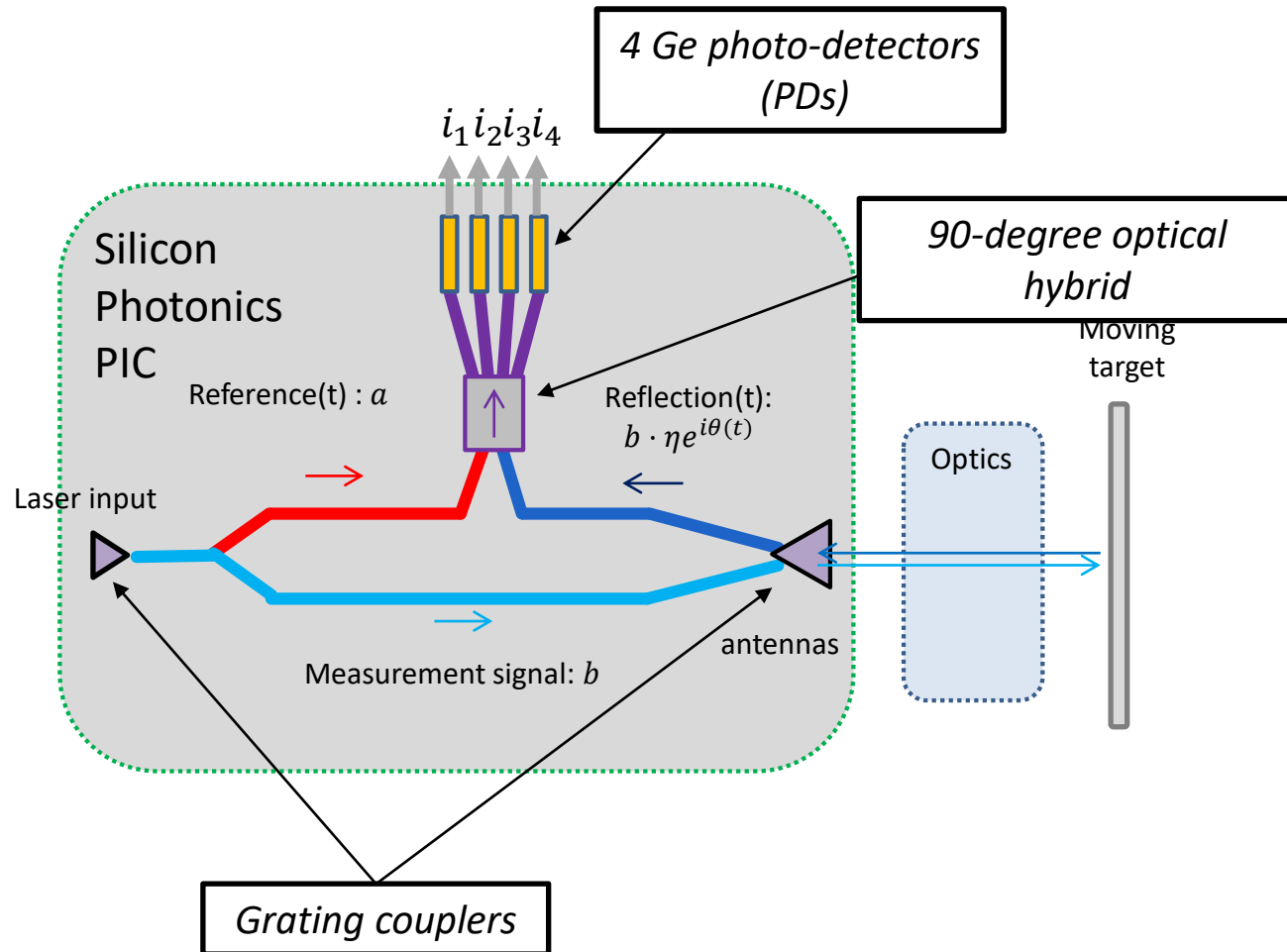
# WORKING PRINCIPLE OF LDV



The displacement  $\Delta d(t)$  can be retrieved by measuring  $\theta(t)$ , based on the relation

$$\theta(t) = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda_0} \cdot 2\Delta d(t) + \text{const.}$$

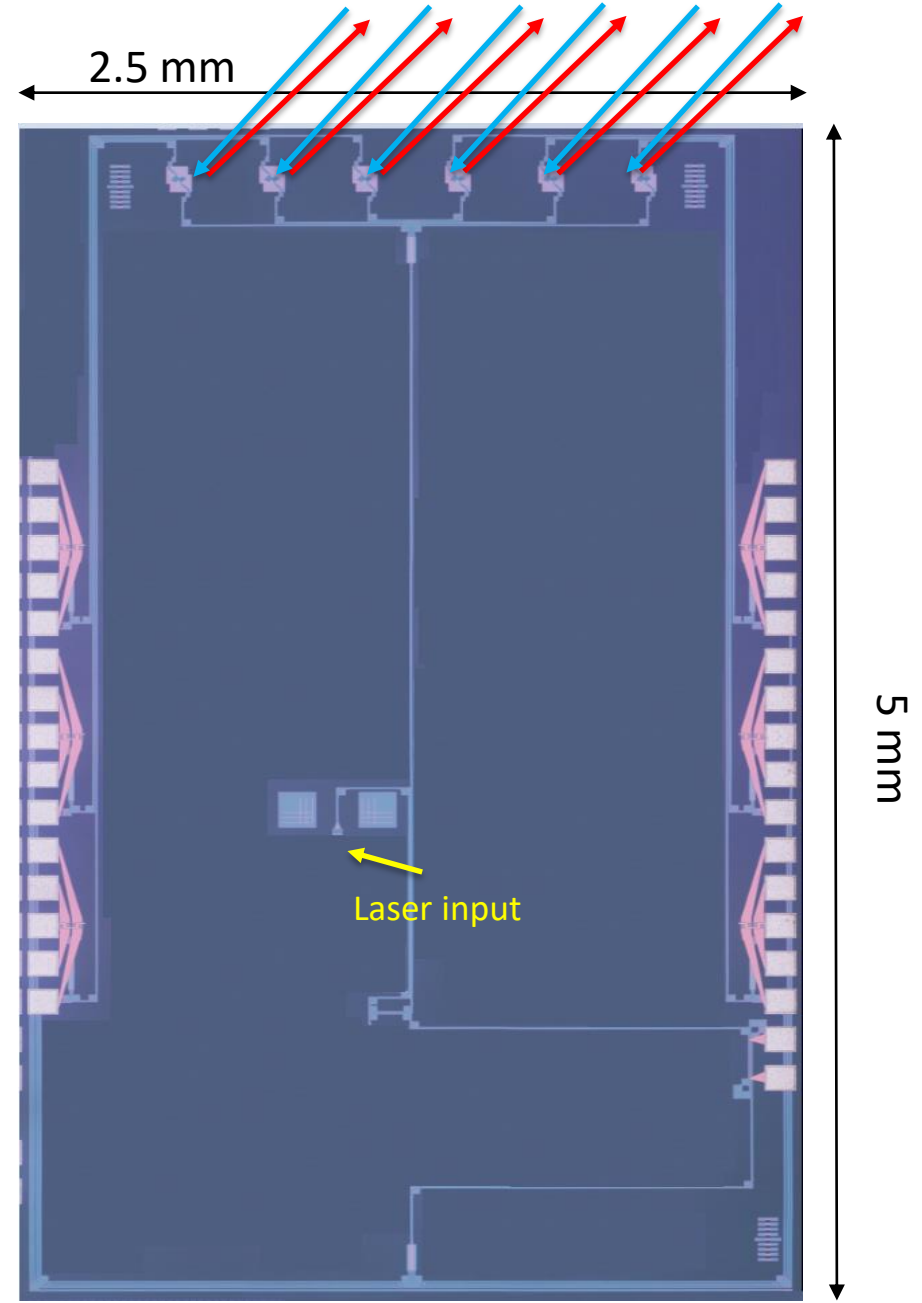
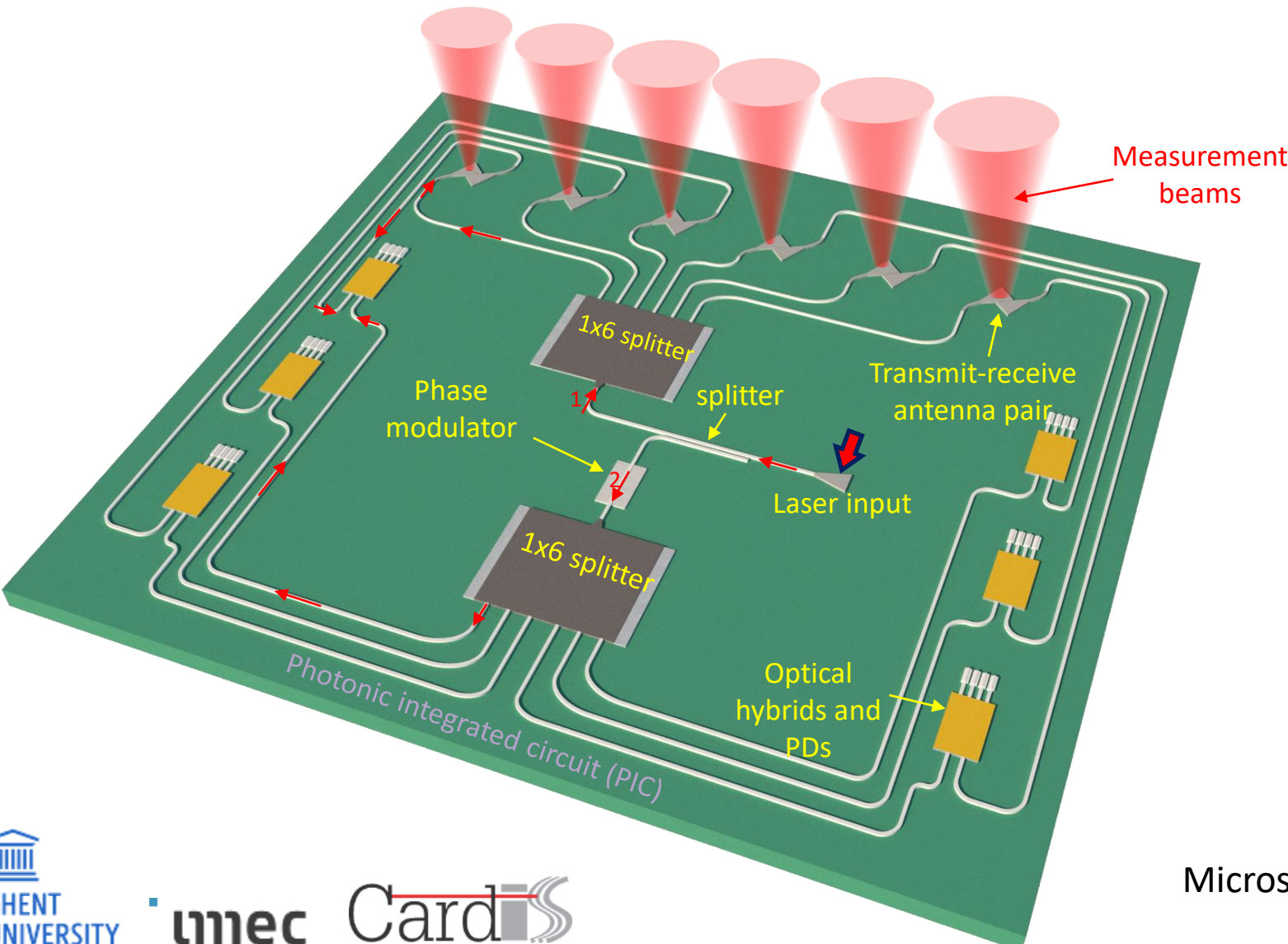
# WORKING PRINCIPLE OF LDV: HOMODYNE DETECTION



**Demodulation method:**

$$\theta(t) = \arctan \left( \frac{i_3 - i_1}{i_4 - i_2} \right)$$

# REALIZATION OF A SIX-BEAM LDV ON SILICON CHIP

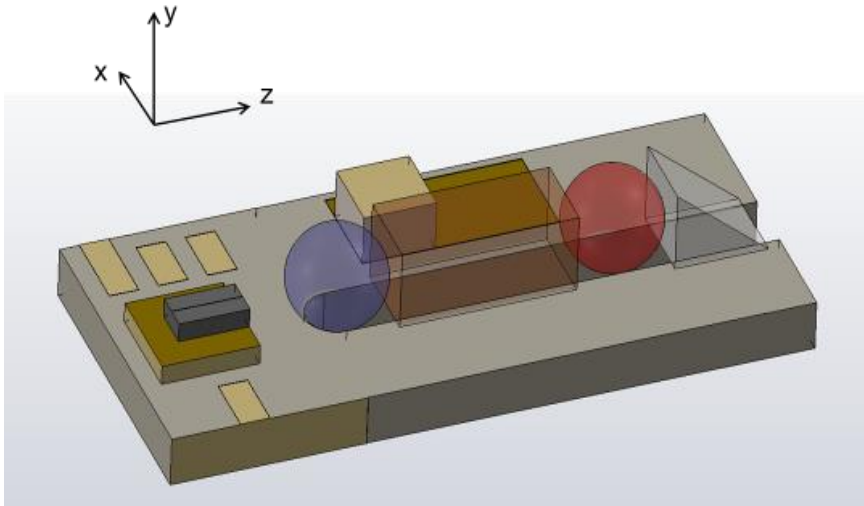


Microscope image of the photonic integrated circuit (PIC) in a silicon-on-insulator platform

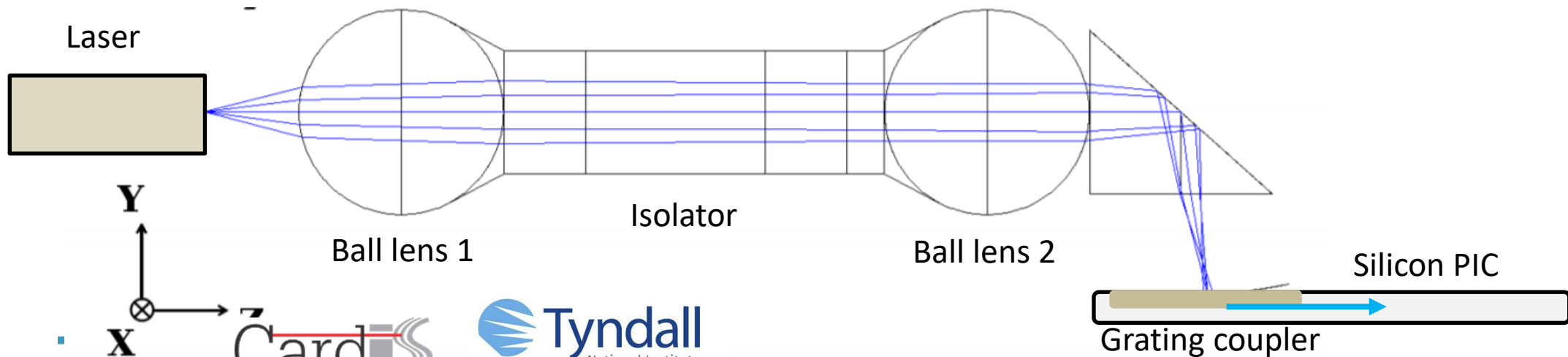
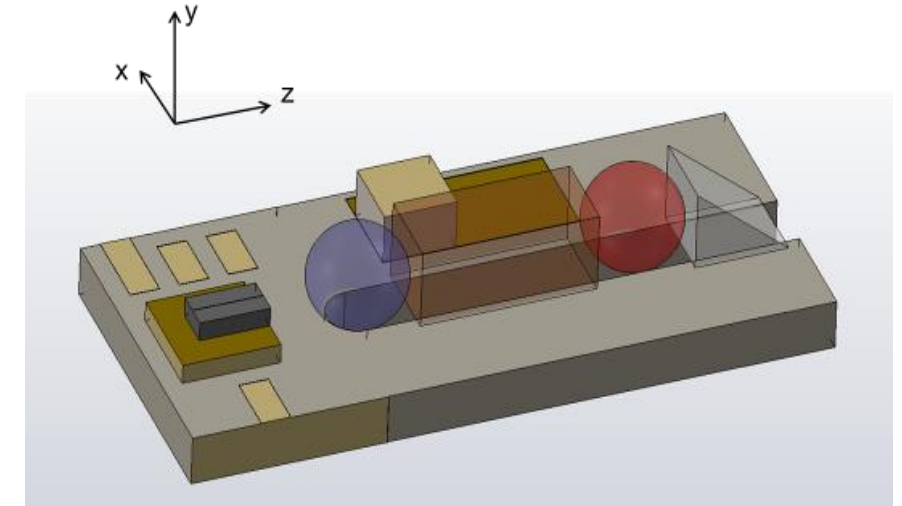
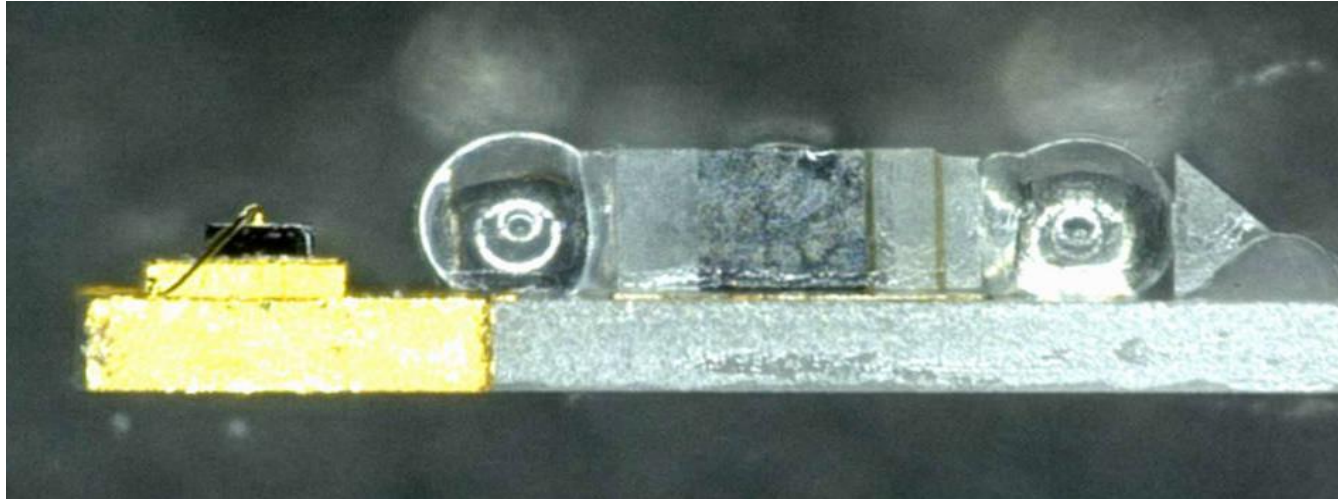


# PHOTONIC INTEGRATED CIRCUITS (PICs)

- PICs fabricated through Europractice MPW-service
- iSiPP50G SOI process at imec
- Laser diode is mounted on a Micro-Optic Bench (MOB) which is attached to the PIC



# HYBRID LASER INTEGRATION: MICRO-OPTIC BENCH APPROACH

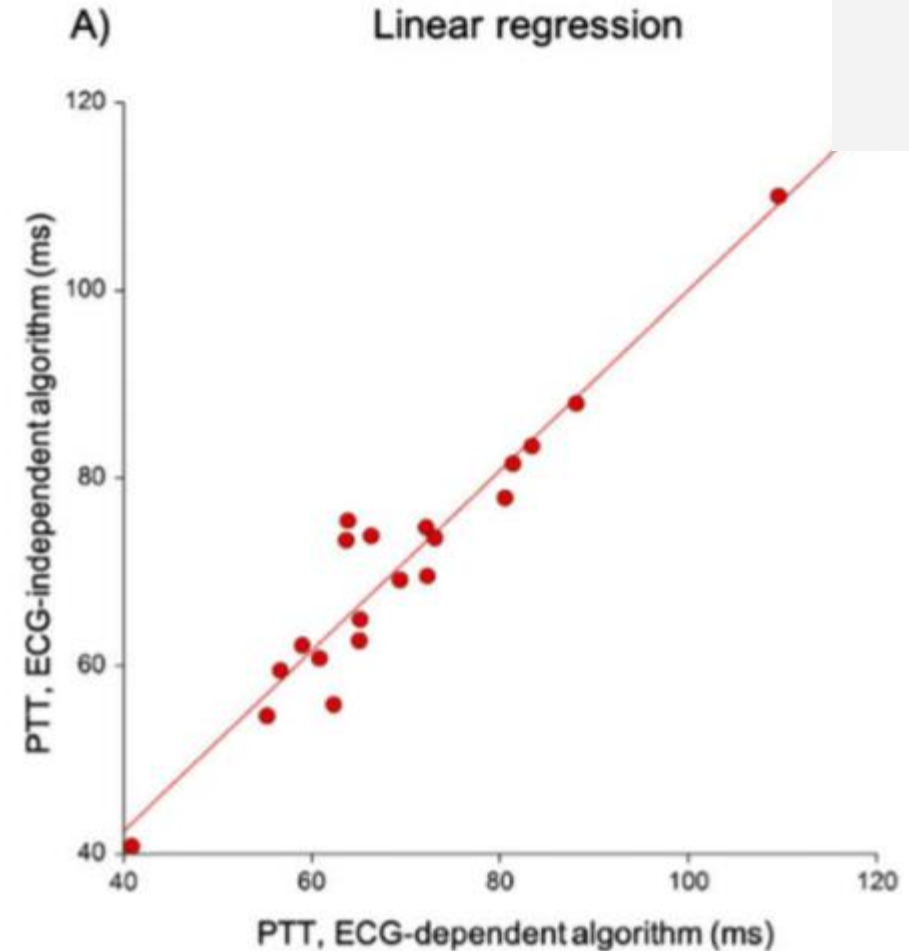
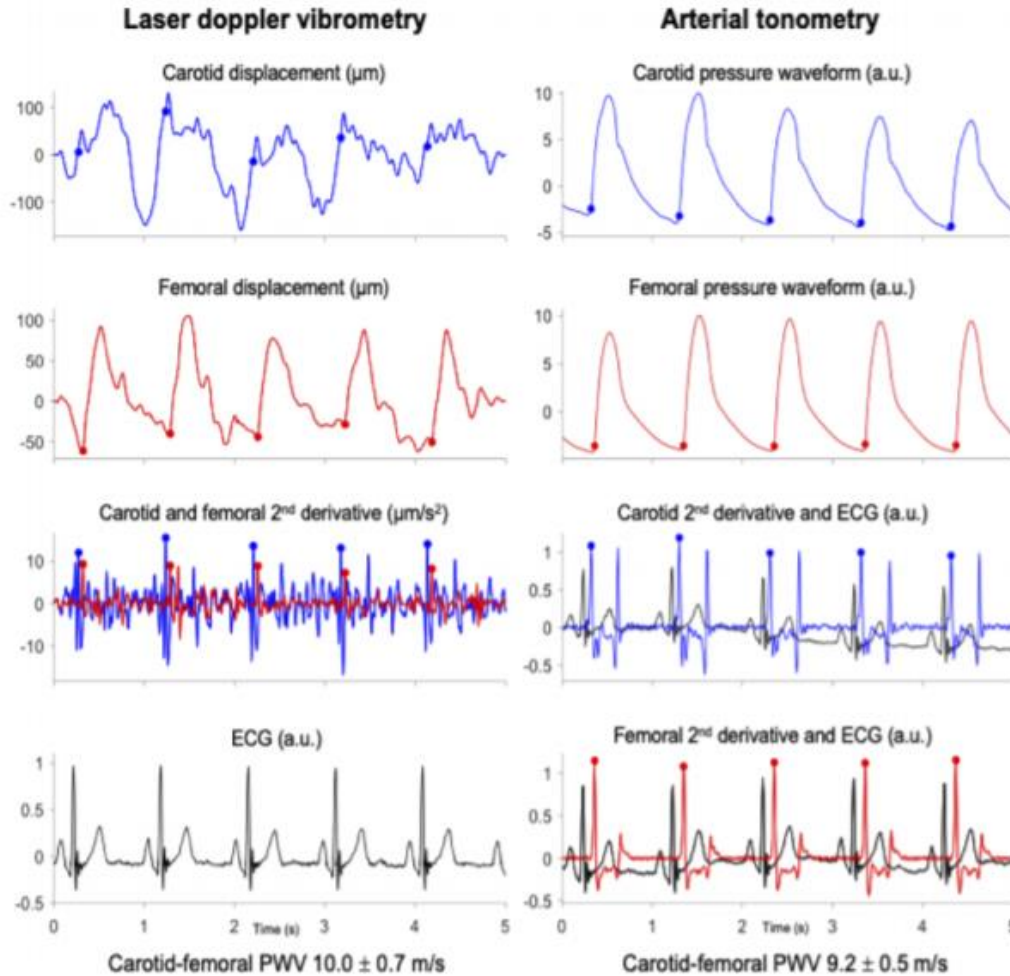




# CAROTID-FEMORAL PULSE WAVE VELOCITY MEASUREMENT



C) Woman, 69 years old, mean BP 89 mmHg



# CONCLUSIONS

**Silicon photonics has the potential of serving many medical applications, in particular for point-of-care, in-the-body devices and in-vitro diagnostics**

**Key assets: compact size and volume; low cost**

**In the market:**

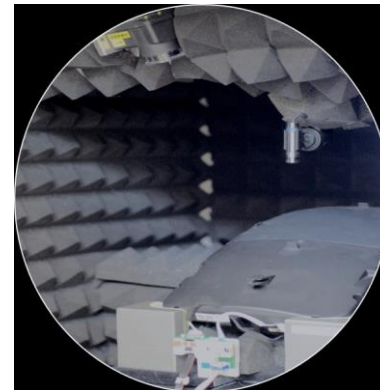
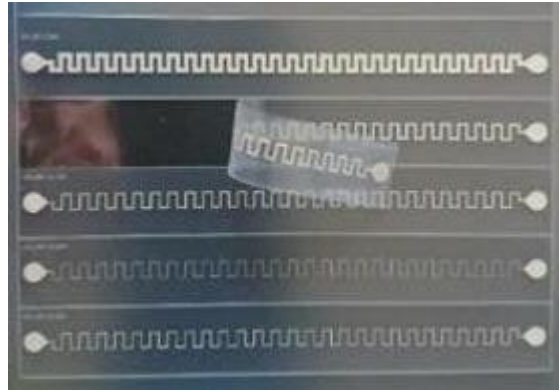
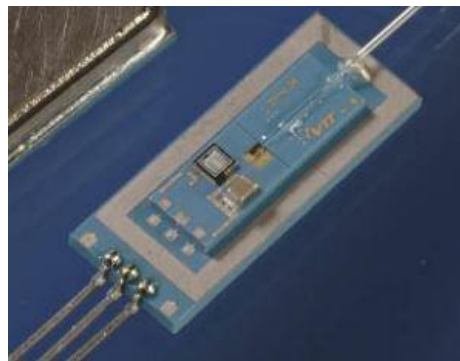
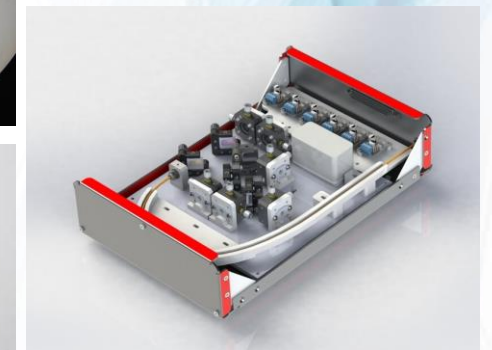
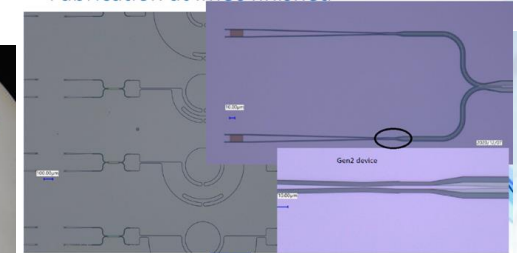
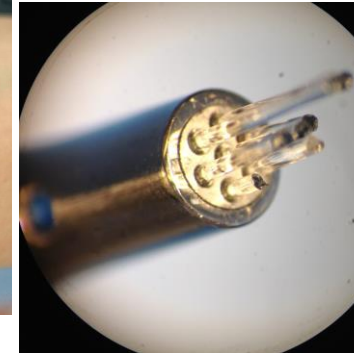
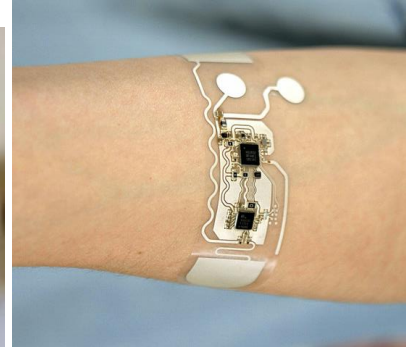
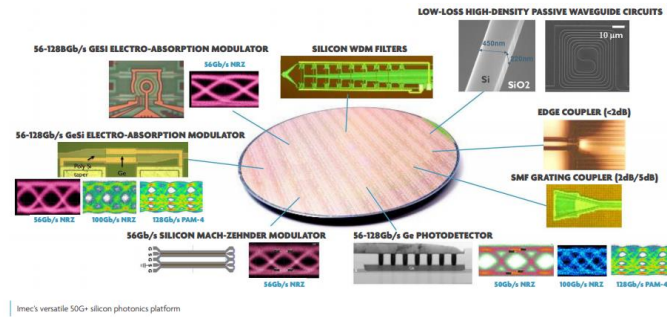
- Biosensors for immuno-assays  
**refractive index sensing**

**Proof-of-concept demonstration and product development for:**

- Continuous Glucose Monitoring  
**absorption spectroscopy on a silicon chip**
- Pulse Wave Velocity (PWV) measurement  
**multi-beam Laser Doppler Vibrometry enabled by a silicon chip**
- Selective detection of medically relevant molecules  
**Raman and absorption spectroscopy on a chip**

# MedPhab: Pilot Line for Photonics-enabled Medical Devices

**MedPhab**  
Photonic Medical Devices



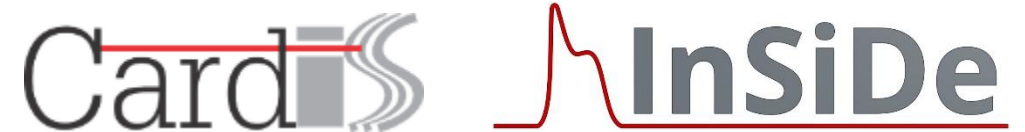
- MedPhab supports companies in medical device innovation
- with best-in-class advanced photonic technologies
- Call for Demo-case project proposals call is open
- Check out <https://medphab.eu/open-call/>





# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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**Photonics Research Group of Ghent University – imec**

**imec Silicon Photonics platforms (SOI and SiN)**

