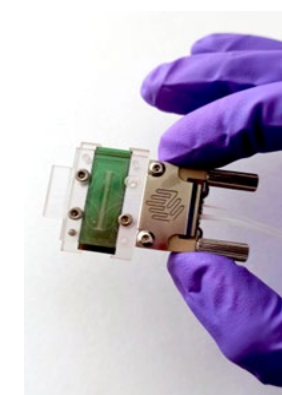
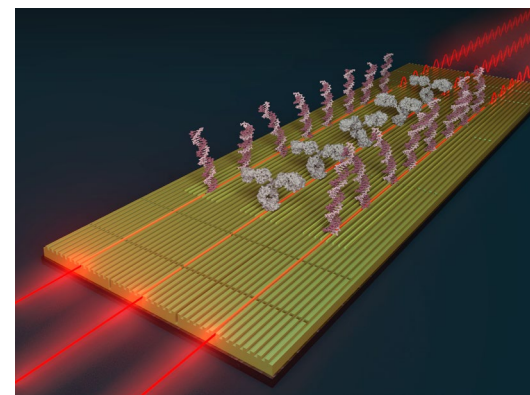
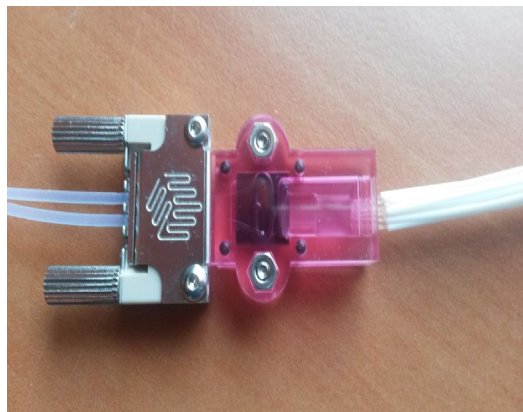
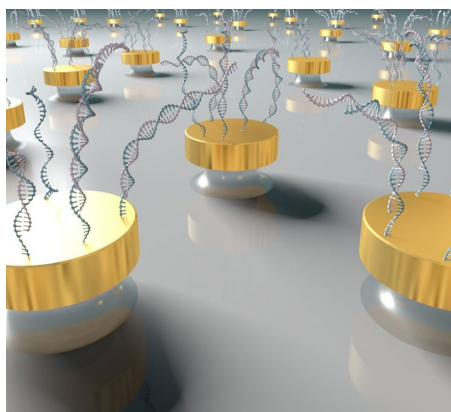


# New portable sensor technology for the detection of pharmaceutical residues in the aquatic environment



**Prof. Laura M. Lechuga**

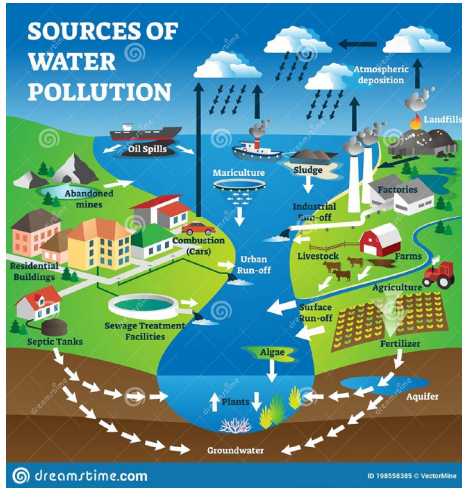
Nanobiosensors and Bioanalytical Applications Group  
Catalan Institute of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (ICN2)  
CSIC, BIST & CIBER-BBN  
Barcelona, Spain



@NanoB2A\_group

nanob2a.icn2.cat

# Environmental Monitoring: The Problem



Sampling and transport to analytical lab

Chromatographic methods

GC-MS

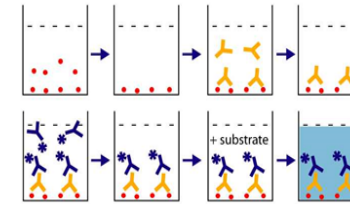
HPLC-ESI-MS/MS



Water pollution control

Immunoassays

ELISA



- **Advantages**
  - Selectivity
  - Sensitivity
- **Disadvantages**
  - Expensive
  - Time-consuming

- **Advantages**
  - Selectivity
  - Low-cost
- **Disadvantages**
  - Time-consuming
  - Not-reusable

Centralized Monitoring →

- Limited to centralized labs
- Trained personnel, time-consuming
- Expensive instrumentation
- Not available everywhere

HIGH COSTS  
LOW SPEED OF ANALYSIS

Point-of-care biosensor devices (POC)



Drops of sample

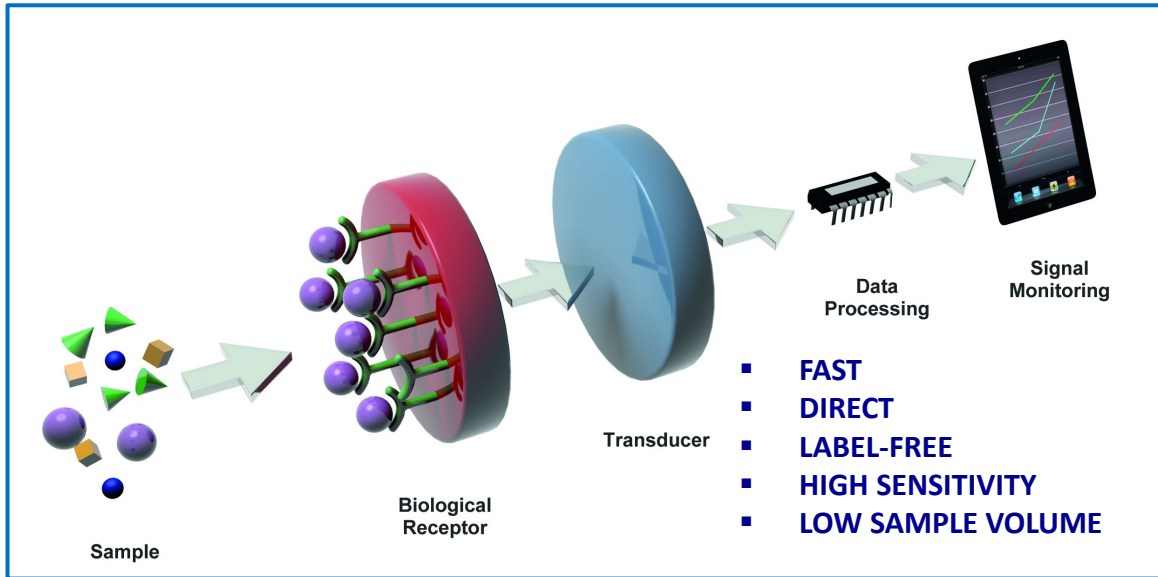


POC device

- In-situ (out of the lab)
- Fast, label-free, high sensitivity, reliable, quantitative
- User-friendly/minimum operation
- Enable permanent deployment and unattended operation
- Competitive cost

**BIOSENSORS** provide the possibility to create **POINT-OF-CARE** devices containing the functionalities of an analytical laboratory

# Biosensor devices for Environmental analysis

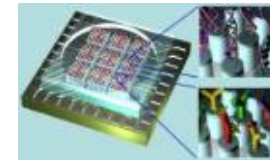


## Electrochemical Biosensors

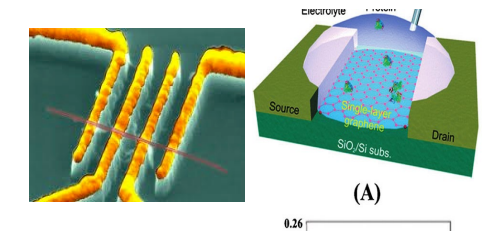
Glucose biosensor



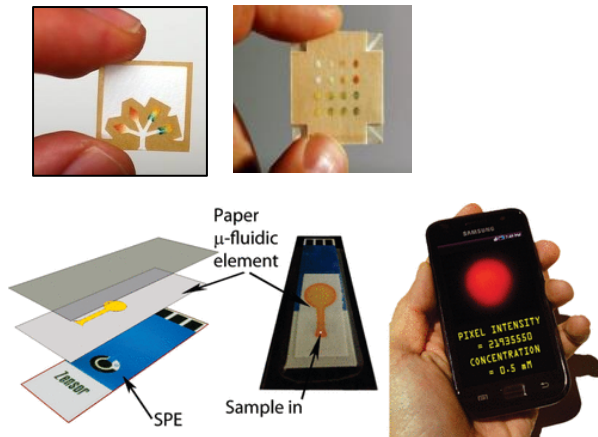
Silicon nanowires (FET)



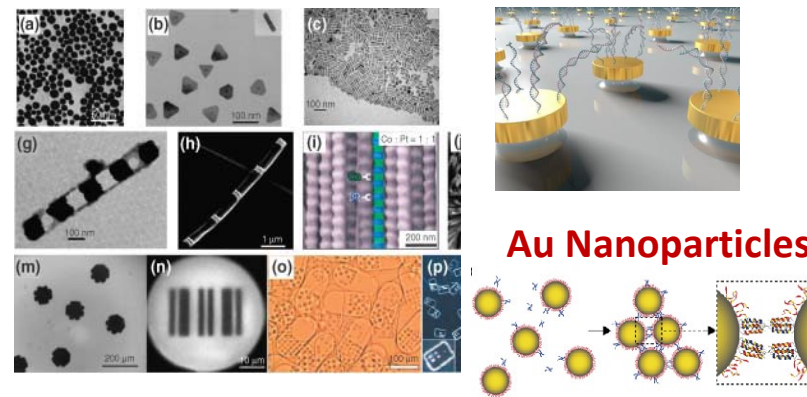
Carbon Nanotubes/Graphene



## Microfluidic Paper-based Biosensors



## Biosensors based on Nanoparticles/Nanomaterials

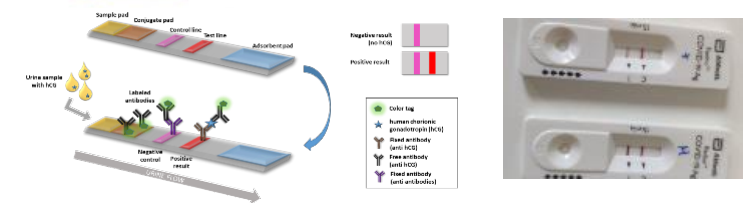


## Lateral-Flow (LFA) based Biosensors

Pregnancy Test

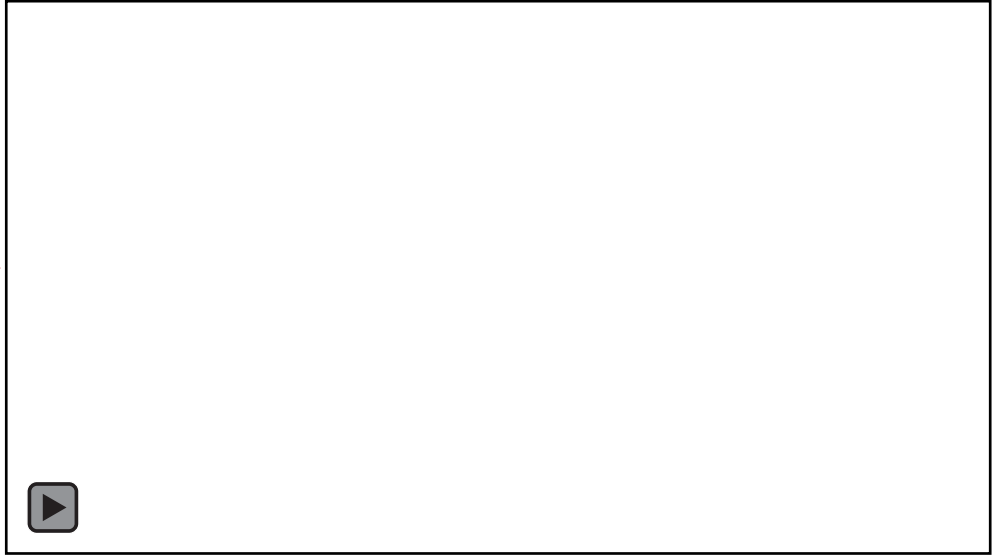
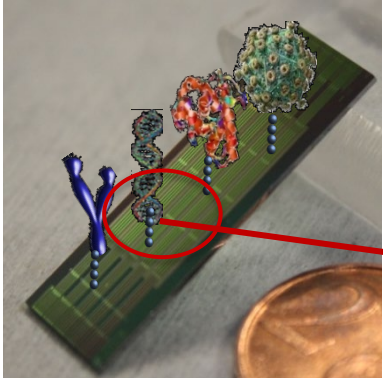


Test COVID-19

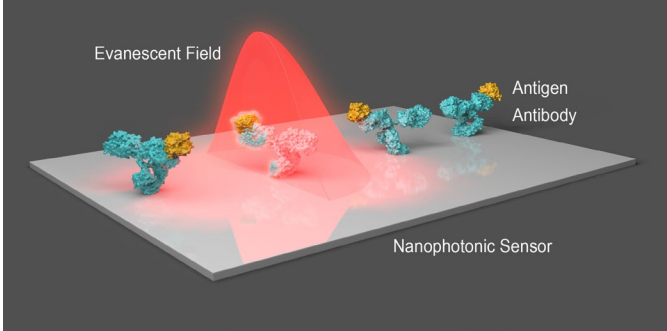


# NANOPHOTONICS BIOSENSORS

Biosensor chip

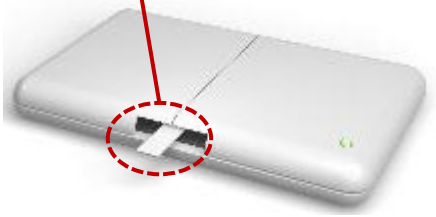


**Evanescent wave principle:**  
refractive index change at the sensor surface



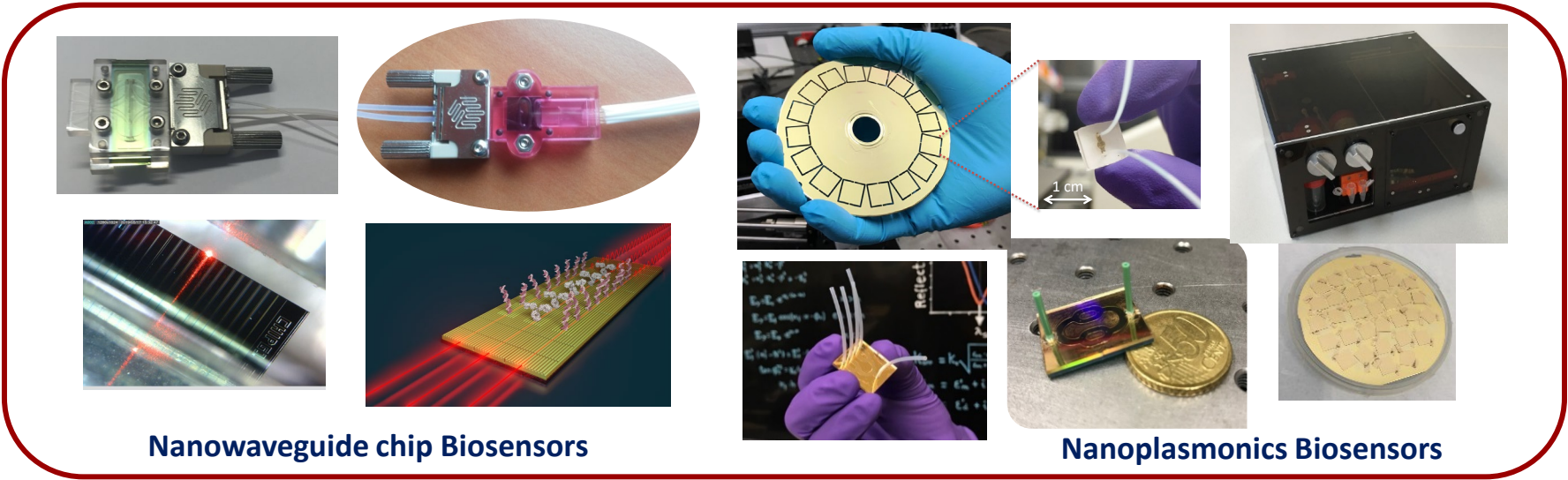
**EW Probe: 100-900 nm**

Portable Platform



- High sensitivity
- Real-time
- Label-free

**LOD: pM-fM**

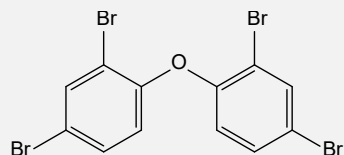


Nanowaveguide chip Biosensors

Nanoplasmonics Biosensors

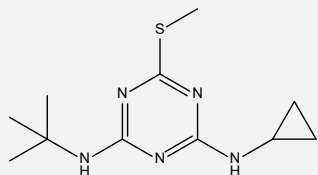
# Nanobiosensors for environmental monitoring

## Organohalogen



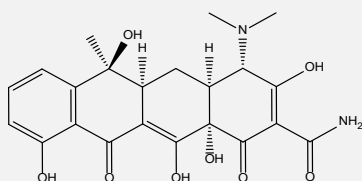
BDE-47

## Pesticide

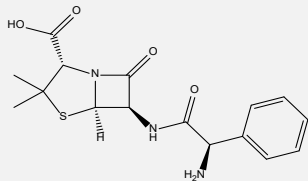


Irgarol 1051

## Antibiotics

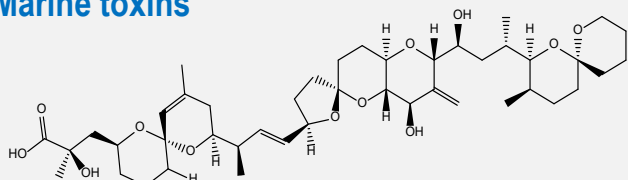


Tetracycline



Ampicillin

## Marine toxins

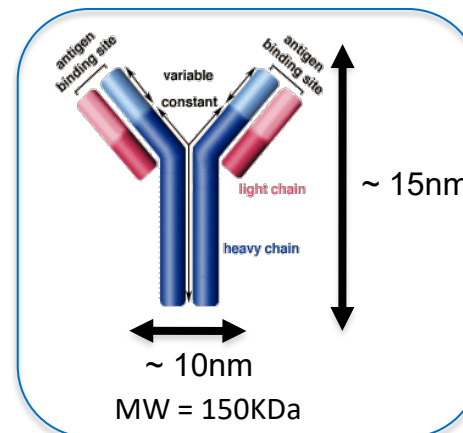


Okadaic acid

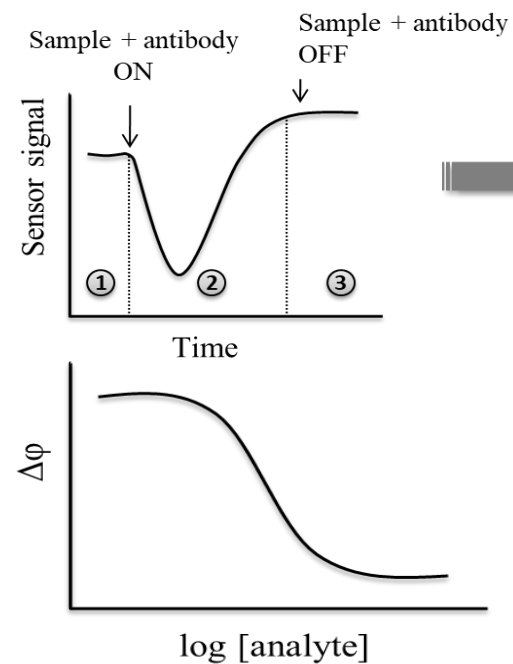
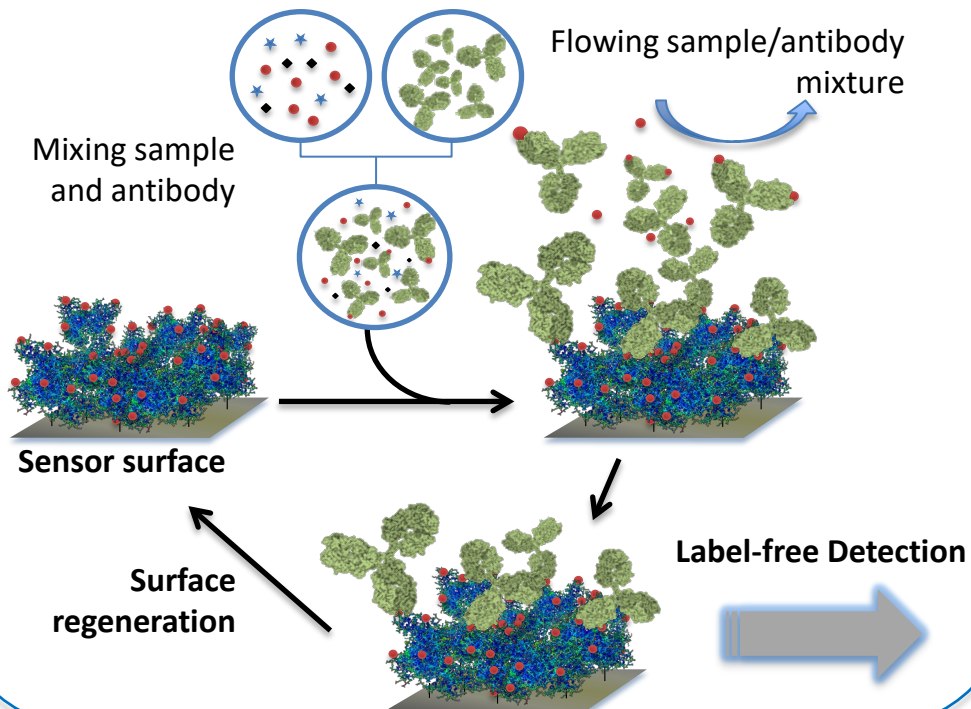
Very low concentrations, low molecular weight,  
difficult detection



Specific proteins needed (haptens, Ab)

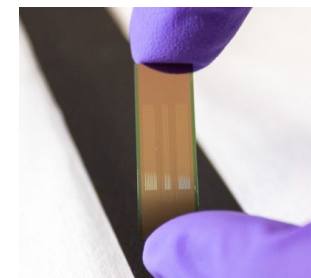
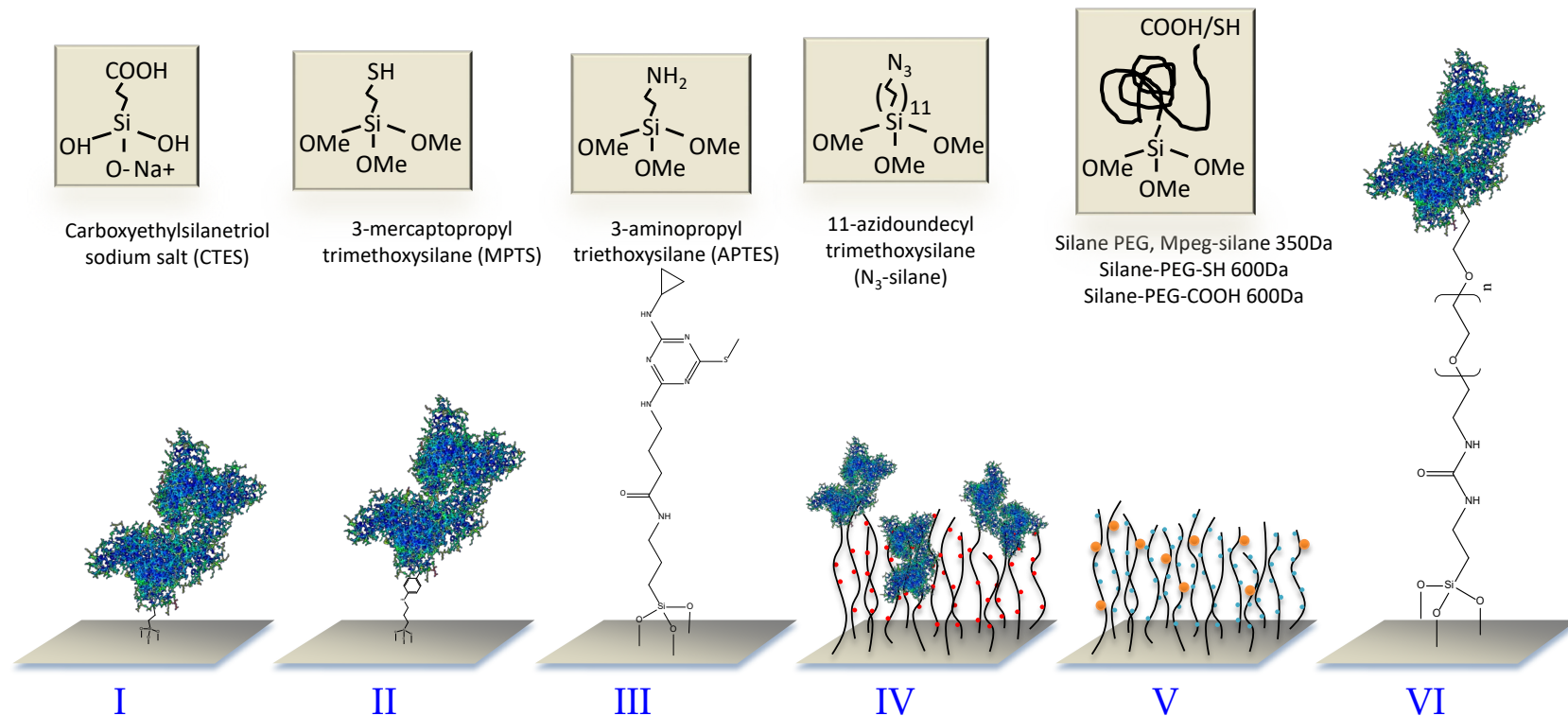


## Label-free competitive immunoassay



# Surface biofunctionalization

## Functionalisation methods



**Parameters to be optimized:** surface chemistry, pH, ionic strength, receptor and Ab concentration, regeneration solution,...

### Antifouling Strategies for real samples evaluation

- Modifying medium composition: surfactants, additives
- Modifying surface behaviour: hydrophylic blocking agents (as PEG)

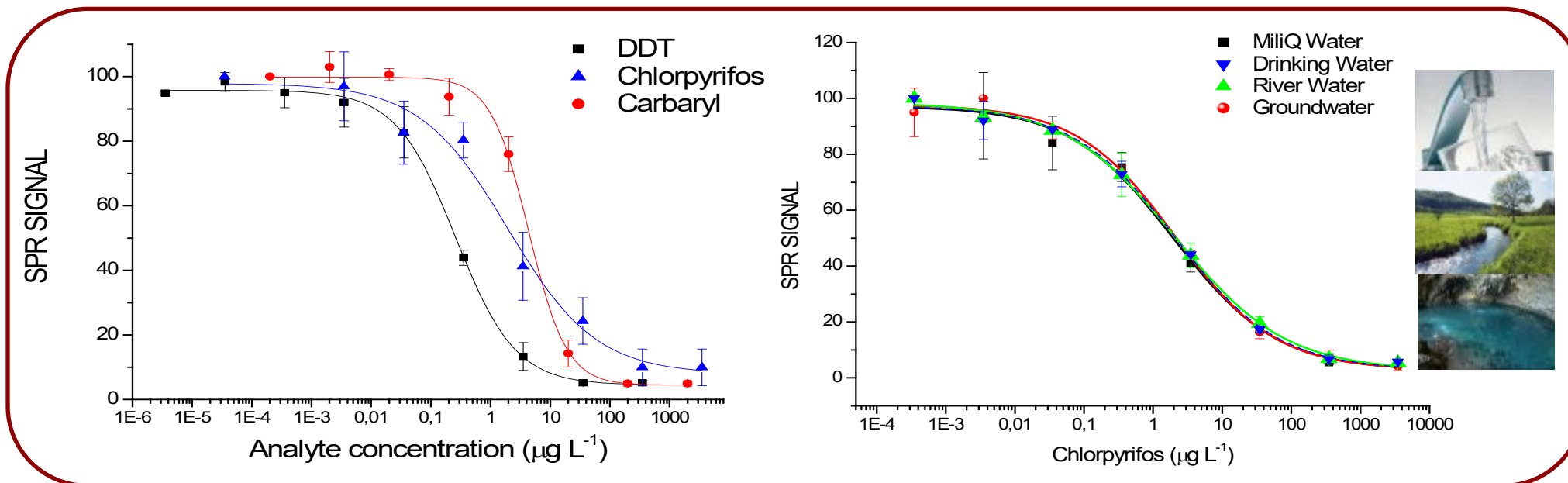
### Real Samples



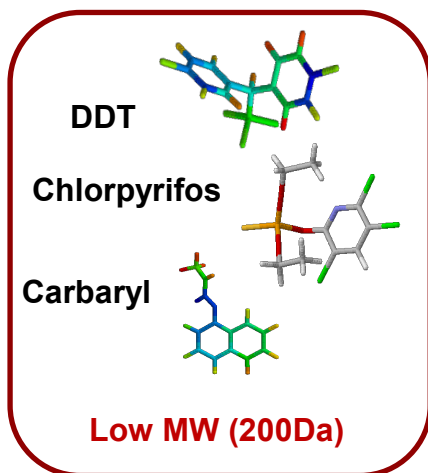
- One-step assay
- Label-free & Real-time
- Crude samples or minimum treatment/dilution

# Biosensors for Environmental monitoring

## Environmental toxic pollutants in real samples (water safety)



Detection limit: 0.02-0.05  $\mu\text{g/l}$   
(ppt level, EU legislation: 0.1  $\mu\text{g/l}$ )



- Direct detection in real water samples
- Monoclonal antibodies
- Without pretreatment, fast
- Reusable up to 200 times
- Validated results

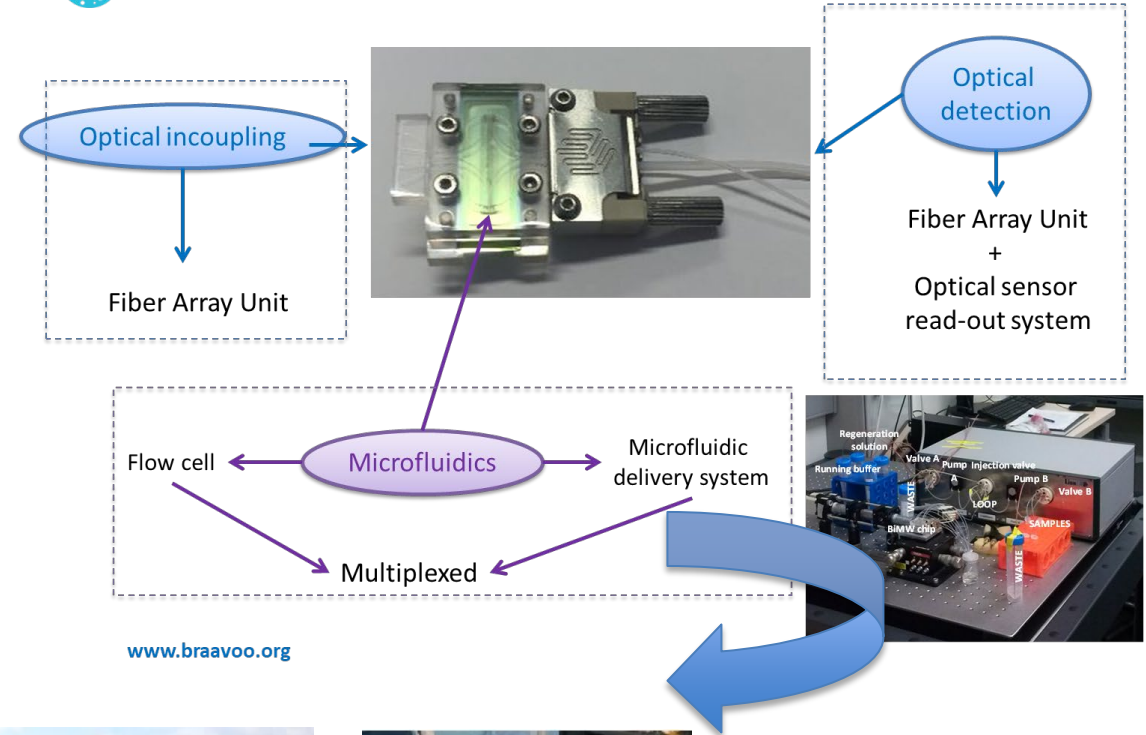
Anal. Bioanal. Chem. 387, 1449 (2007)  
Biosens. & Bioelec. 22, 1410 (2007)  
Anal. Bioanal. Chem. 388, 207 (2007)  
Sens. Actu. B 118, 399 (2006)  
Talanta 69 (2), 359 (2006)  
Anal. Chim. Acta 561, 40 (2006)  
Biosens. & Bioelec. 21, 2129 (2006)

# Nanobiosensors for environmental SEA WATER control

The BRAAVOO concept: (i) standalone biosensor modules that are embedded in (ii) a data buoy, and (iii) an autonomous unmanned surveying vessel.

## TOXIC ANALYTES IN SEA WATER

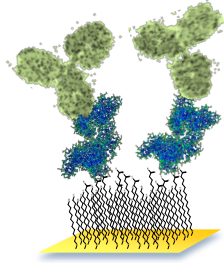
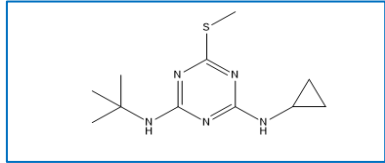
- Organo-halogenated compounds  
**Pentabromodiphenyl ether (BDE-47) (fM-pM)**
- Marine aquaculture antibiotics  
**Ampicillin, Tetracycline (pM, nM)**
- Antifouling paint booster biocides  
**Irgarol 1051 (fM-pM)**
- marine toxin biohazards from algal blooms  
**Domoic acid, Okadaic acid (pM- $\mu$ M)**



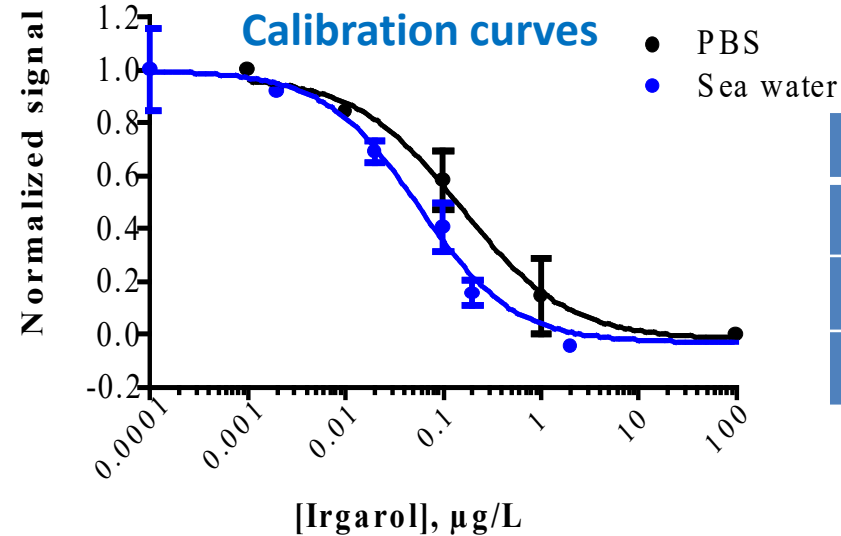


# Irgarol immunosensor

## Detection of Irgarol 1051 in spiked sea water samples



- Anti-Irgarol serum concentration (1:2000)
- Regeneration: NaOH 50 mM, 25  $\mu\text{L}/\text{min}$ , 120 s
- Carrier solution: PBS pH 7.4
- Incubation time: 1 min
- Total analysis time: 20 min per sample



## Analytical performance

Figure of merit	PBS	Sea water
LOD, $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$	0.003	0.003
$\text{IC}_{50}$ , $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$	0.099	0.066
DR, $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$	0.009 – 1.19	0.009 – 0.478

## Blind seawater samples

Sample	$C_{\text{nominal}}$ ( $\text{ng L}^{-1}$ )	$C_{\text{sensor}}$ ( $\text{ng L}^{-1}$ )	error (%)
#1	$10^5$	>LoL	N.A.
#2	30	25	16
#3	1000	1177	-18
#4	200	131	34
#5	500	505	-1

- No background signal due to sea water matrix
- LOD is 3 ng/L, below EU limit of 16 ng/L



Results in 20 minutes

Stable up to 30 measure-regeneration cycles

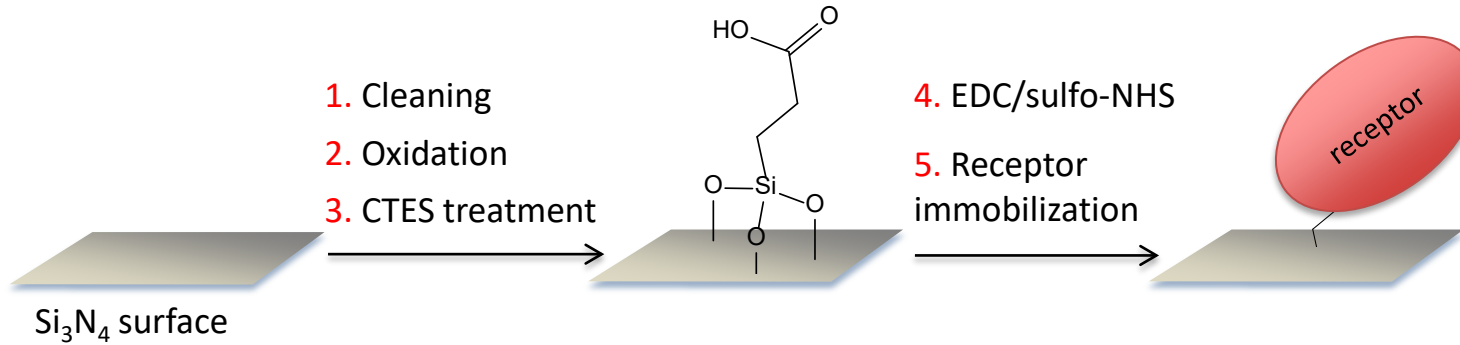


NO sample pre-treatment

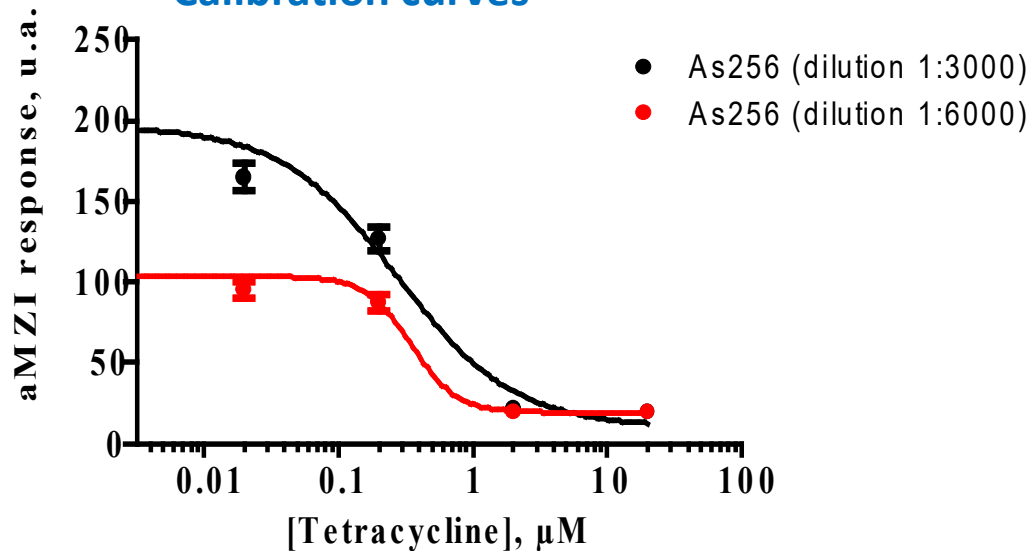
# Biosensors for antibiotic detection

## Tetracycline immunosensor

### Functionalization protocol



### Calibration curves



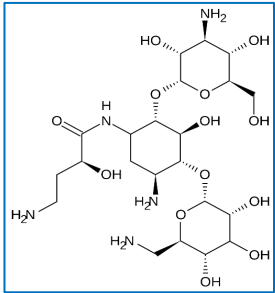
### Analytical performance

Figure of merit	Nanobiosensor	
	As256, 1:3000	As256, 1:600
LOD, $\mu\text{M}$	0.09	0.2
IC <sub>50</sub> , $\mu\text{M}$	0.43	0.69
DR, $\mu\text{M}$	0.2 – 1.1	0.3 – 1.5

✓ LOD of 0.09  $\mu\text{M}$  (0.04  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) and IC<sub>50</sub> 0.43  $\mu\text{M}$  (0.19  $\mu\text{g/L}$ )

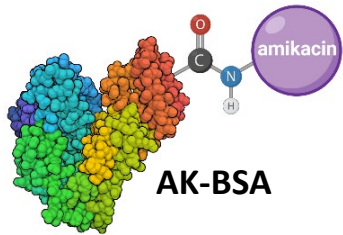
# Biosensors for antibiotic detection

## Amikacin immunosensor



**Amikacin (AK)**

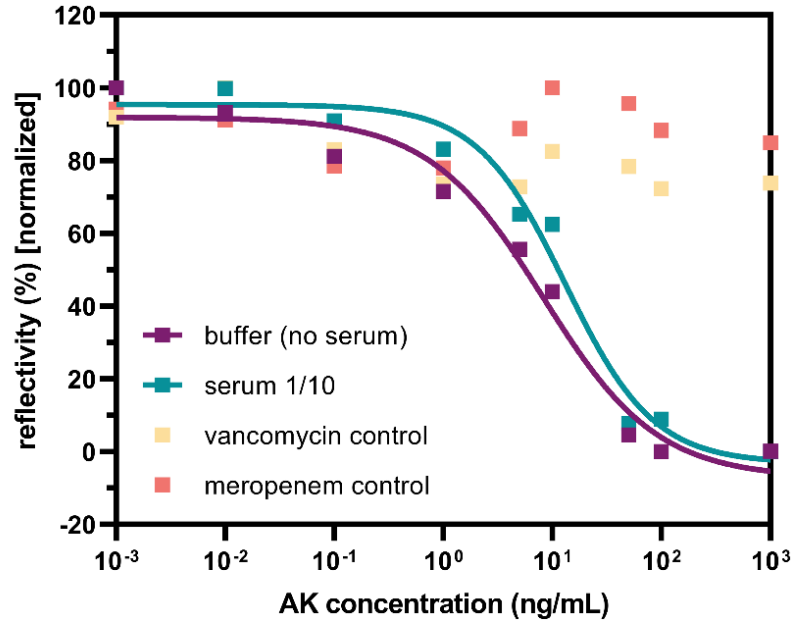
MW=585,6 Da



**AK-BSA**

- Conjugate AK-BSA= 200 µg/mL
- Ab concentration= 8 µg/mL
- Regeneration: NaOH 40 mM 60 s
- Serum dilution ≥1/10

### Calibration curves



**AK concentration** for a treatment should be between **15-30 µg/mL**

Our biosensor operates in the required range

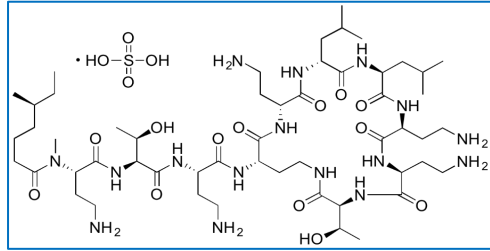
### Analytical performance

	LOD (IC <sub>90</sub> ) (ng/mL)	IC <sub>50</sub> (ng/mL)	Working range (IC <sub>80</sub> – IC <sub>20</sub> ) (ng/mL)
Buffer	0.14±0.09	18.99±7.65	4.32±5.20 – 45.37±8.51
Serum 1/10	2.07±0.13	22.19±0.47	5.09±3.34 – 65.29±16.14

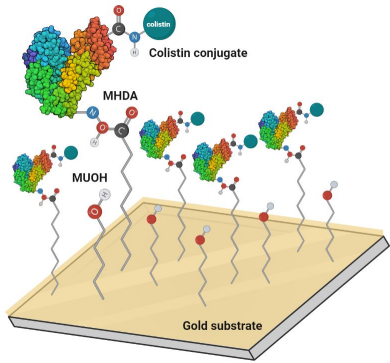
### Accuracy tests with spike samples

Sample	Real concentration (ng/mL)	SPR immunosensor (ng/mL)	Accuracy (%)
S01	30.0	28.6±6.7	95.3
S02	2.0	1.8±1.0	91.8
S03	15.0	11.2±2.5	74.4
S04	20 000.0	20 074.0±408.7	100.4
S05	50 000.0	46 964.0±5811.0	93.9

# Biosensors for antibiotic detection



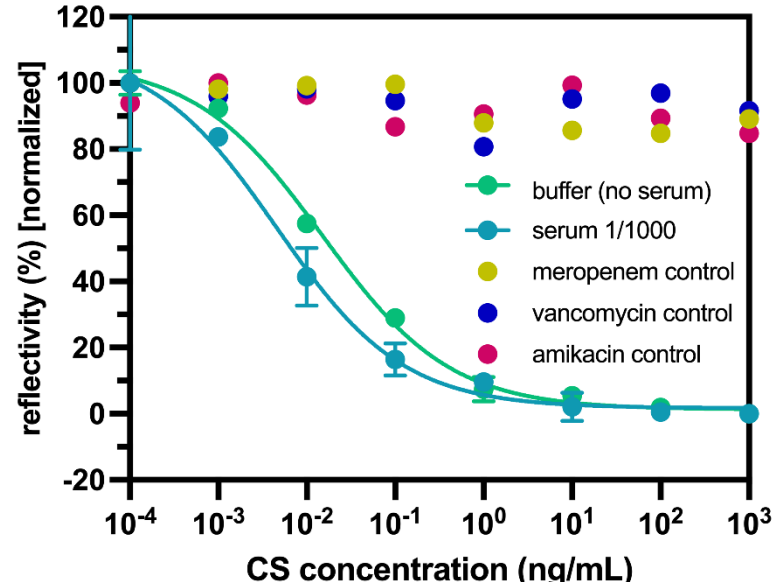
**Colistin sulfate (CS)**  
MW=1155,5 Da



- Conjugate CL-OVA = 200 µg/mL
- Ab concentration = 6 µg/mL
- Regeneration: NaOH 40 mM 60 s
- Serum dilution ≥ 1/10

## Colistin immunosensor

### Calibration curves



**CS concentration** in real samples expected to be between **0.5-4 µg/mL**

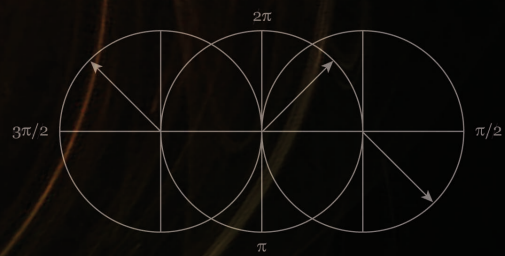
### Analytical performance

	LOD (IC <sub>90</sub> ) (pg/mL)	IC <sub>50</sub> (pg/mL)	Working range (IC <sub>80</sub> – IC <sub>20</sub> ) (pg/mL)
Buffer	9.4±3.6	191.6±11.5	24.8±7.6 – 1999.8±597.1
Serum 1/1000	4.1±0.9	53.7±25.5	9.2±2.7 – 432.2±292.3

### Accuracy (spike samples)

Sample	Real concentration (ng/mL)	Measured (ng/mL)	Accuracy (%)
S01	8.0	7.8	97
S02	40.0	41.4	103
S03*	1500	448,9	30
S04	3000	2324,3	77
S05	6000	5177	87

# The antibiotic RESISTOME



# AntiMicrobial Resistance (AMR): a concern

**E** **SCHERICHIA COLI**  
 NORMAL FLORA | environment | INFECT

**S** **TAPHYLOCOCCUS**  
 S. pseudintermedius | S. schleiferi | S. aureus  
 SKIN | SKIN | SKIN | INFECT

**K** **LEBSIELLA PNEUMONIAE**  
 NORMAL FLORA | environment | INFECT

**A** **CINETOBACTER BAUMANNII**  
 NORMAL FLORA | environment | INFECT | SKIN

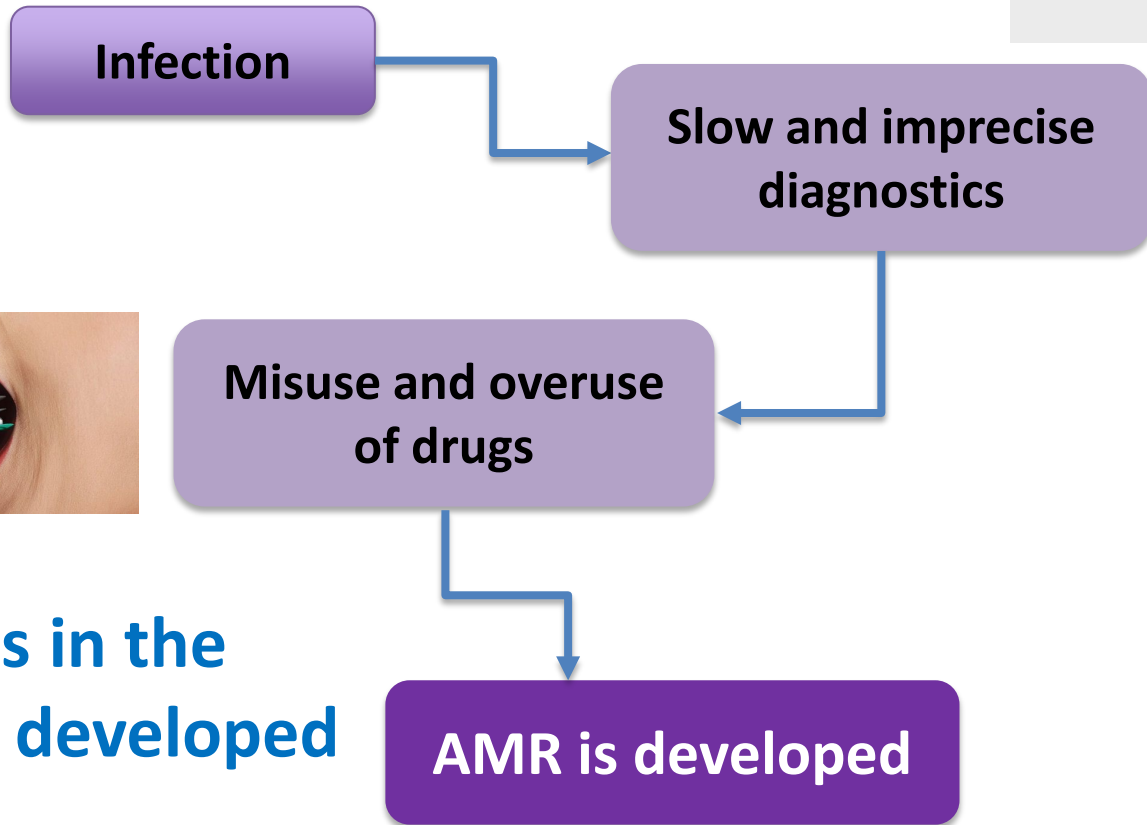
**P** **SEUDOMONAS AERUGINOSA**  
 NORMAL FLORA | SKIN | environment | INFECT | SKIN

**E** **ENTEROCOCCUS FAECALIS** and **FAECIUM**  
 NORMAL FLORA | environment | INFECT

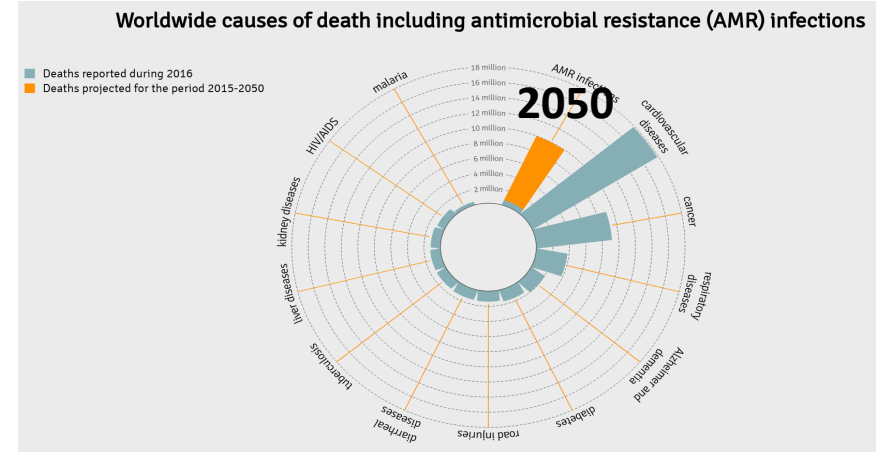
Bacteria are developing resistance to antibiotics at alarming rates



AMR may become more deadly than cancer is now



Pharmaceuticals in the Environment: AMR developed



Urine Culture and Sensitivity

Pus cells /H.P.F. 6-7/HPF  
 Colony Count > 100,000 / ml (Pathogenic Bact)

Sensitivity Result: **Pseudomonas aeruginosa**

Sulphamethazone & Trimthoprim (SXT)	Resistant
Ampicillin (AMP)	Resistant
Cefotaxime (CTX)	Resistant
Amoxycillin & Clavulanic Acid (AMC)	Resistant
Ampicillin & sulbactam (SAM)	Resistant
Amoxycillin (AML)	Resistant
Tetracycline (TE)	Resistant
Oxacillin (OX)	Resistant
Ceftriaxone (CRO)	Resistant
Amikacin (AK)	Resistant
Doxycycline (DO)	Resistant
Tigecycline (TGC)	Resistant
Ertapenem (ERT)	Resistant
Gentamicin (GN)	Resistant
Imipenem (IPM)	Resistant
Meropenem (MEM)	Resistant
Nitrofurantion (F)	Resistant
Cefepime(FEP)	Resistant
Ciprofloxacin (CIP)	Resistant
Norfloxacin (NOR)	Resistant
Levofloxacin (LEV)	Resistant
Colistin (CT)	Resistant
Cefoxitin (FOX)	Resistant
Piperacillin (PRL)	Resistant

# Diagnosis of AMR infections

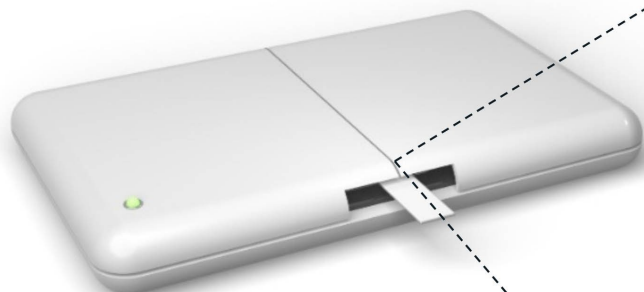
## Issues identified

- **TIME for triage:** death risk increases 8% by hour of delay
- Centralized labs, specialized equipment and personnel
- Slow and labor-intensive techniques

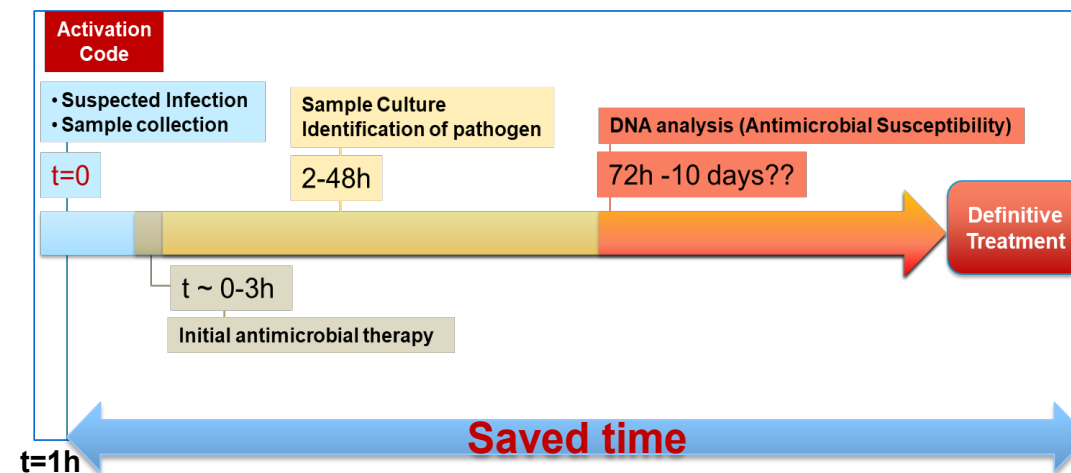
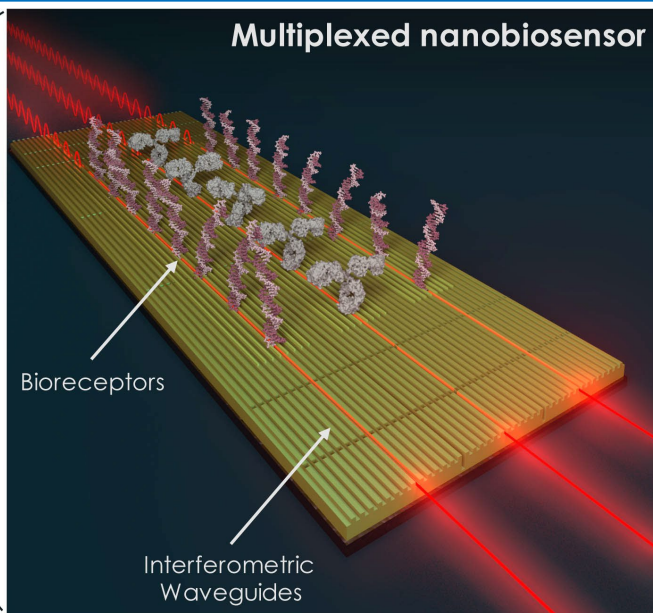
**Early AMR diagnostics TOOLS a need**

## Portable NANOBIOSENSORS

### Point-of-Care Diagnostics



- Portable and user-friendly device
- Low-cost disposable cartridges
- Label-free and real-time assay
- High sensitivity and specificity
- Low sample volume
- Exchangeable sensors for each application
- Versatile and multifunctional



**From days.... to less than 1 h**

- Suspected Infection
- Sample collection
- Identification of pathogen (30 min)
- Antimicrobial susceptibility (30 min)

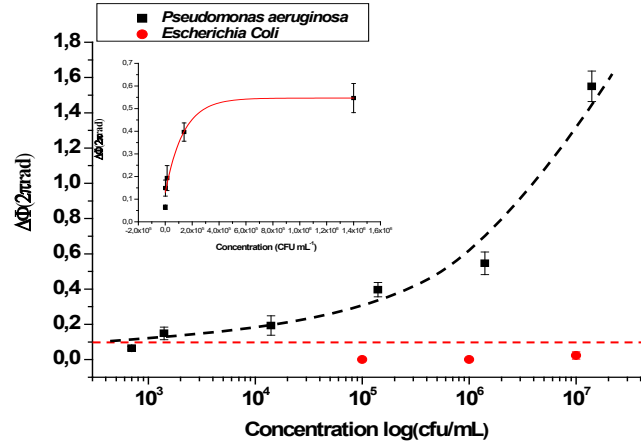
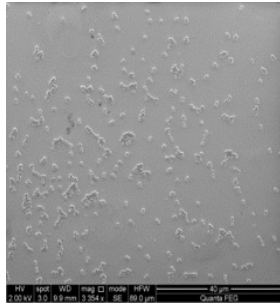
**One-hour diagnostics**

**LOD: pM-fM**

## Fast bacteria identification & quantification

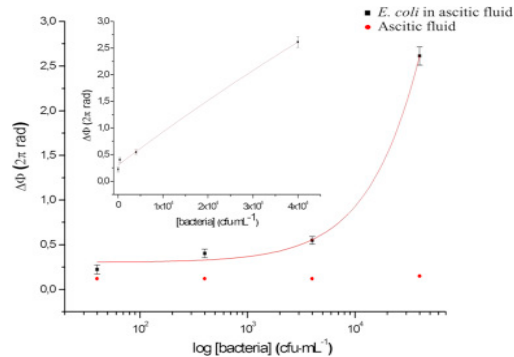
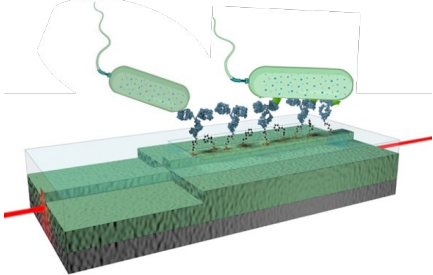
*P. aeruginosa*  
LOD 50 cfu/mL

Analyst (2020) 145, 497-506



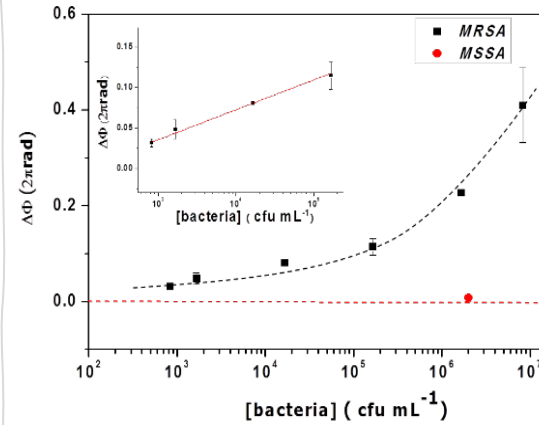
*E. coli*  
Ascitic fluid samples  
LOD 4 cfu/mL

Biosens Bioelec (2016) 85, 310-316

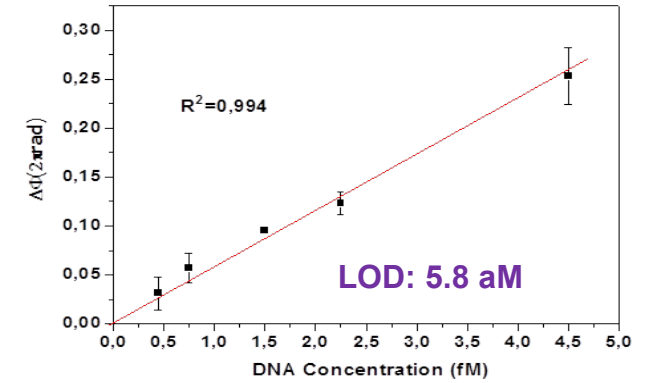


## Detecting resistant bacteria / antimicrobial resistance genes

*MRSA* (vs *MSSA*)  
LOD 4 cfu/mL

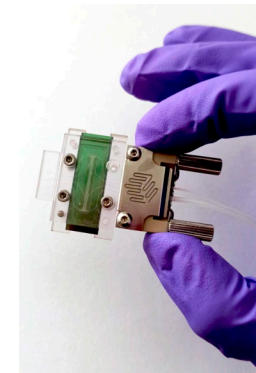


*E. coli* Gene sequence  
*bla*<sub>CTX-M-15</sub> (876 bp) **PCR-free**



Diagnosics 10(10), 845 (2020)

- Time to Result: 30 min
- Sample volume: 150-250 μL
- Direct detection (specific recognition)
- Custom biosurface for each bacteria
- Highly sensitive





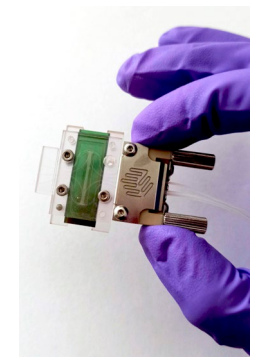
**Understanding, monitoring and remedying the spread of chemical, microbiological and plastic pollution through drinking water treatment plants**



**On-site Monitoring & Removal of Pharmaceuticals** (ibuprofen and paracetamol), **industrial pesticides** and compounds; **nano-/micro-plastics** and prevalent **bacteria**

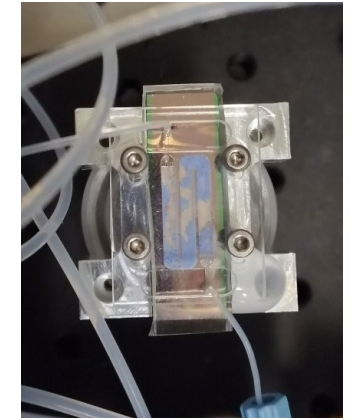
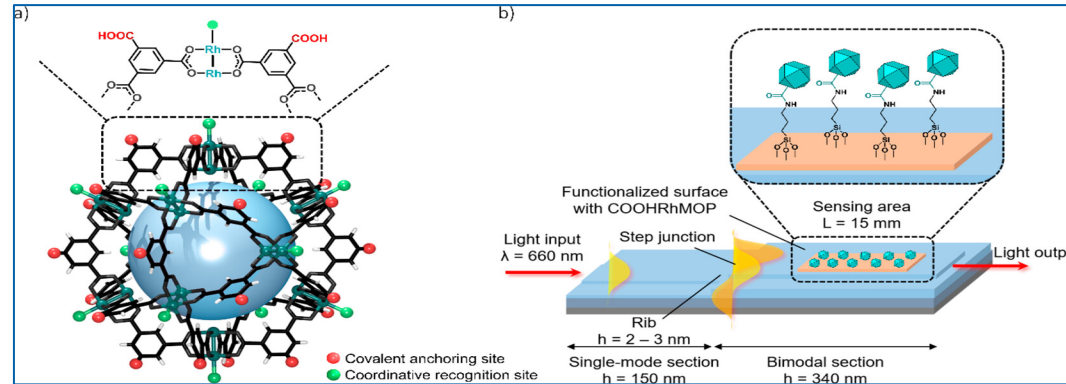
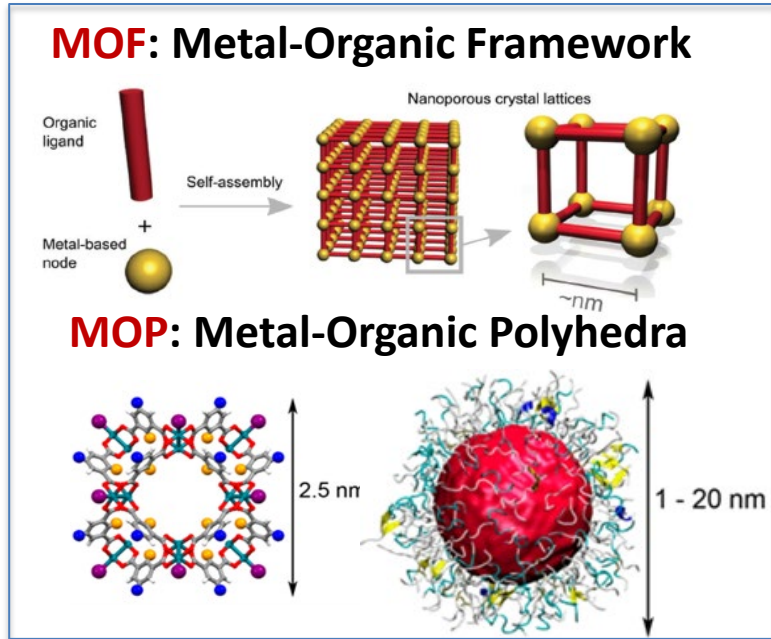


**Portable multi-analyte biosensors for Pharmaceuticals & Bacteria**



# Nanosensors for environmental applications

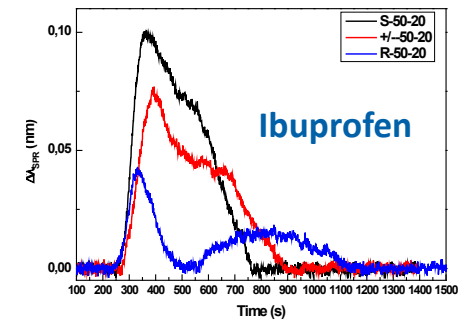
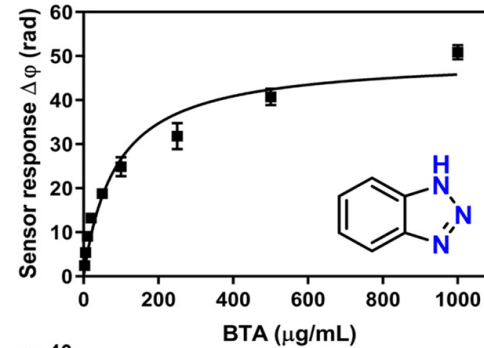
## Nanosensor devices combining 2D MOF/MOP as receptors with Nanophotonic sensors



### Benzotriazole

Corrosion inhibitor  
Drug precursor  
MW = 119.12

LOD: 0.068  $\mu\text{g/mL}$   
Tap water



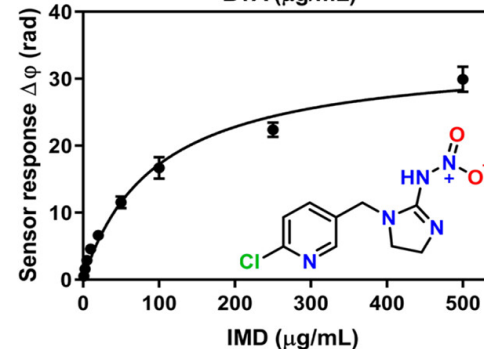
### MICROPOLLUTANTS

Pesticides  
Pharmaceuticals  
Heavy metals

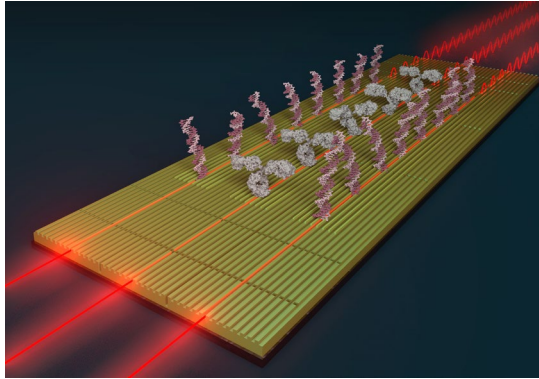
### Imidacloprid

Systemic insecticide  
MW = 255.66

LOD: 0.107  $\mu\text{g/mL}$   
Tap water



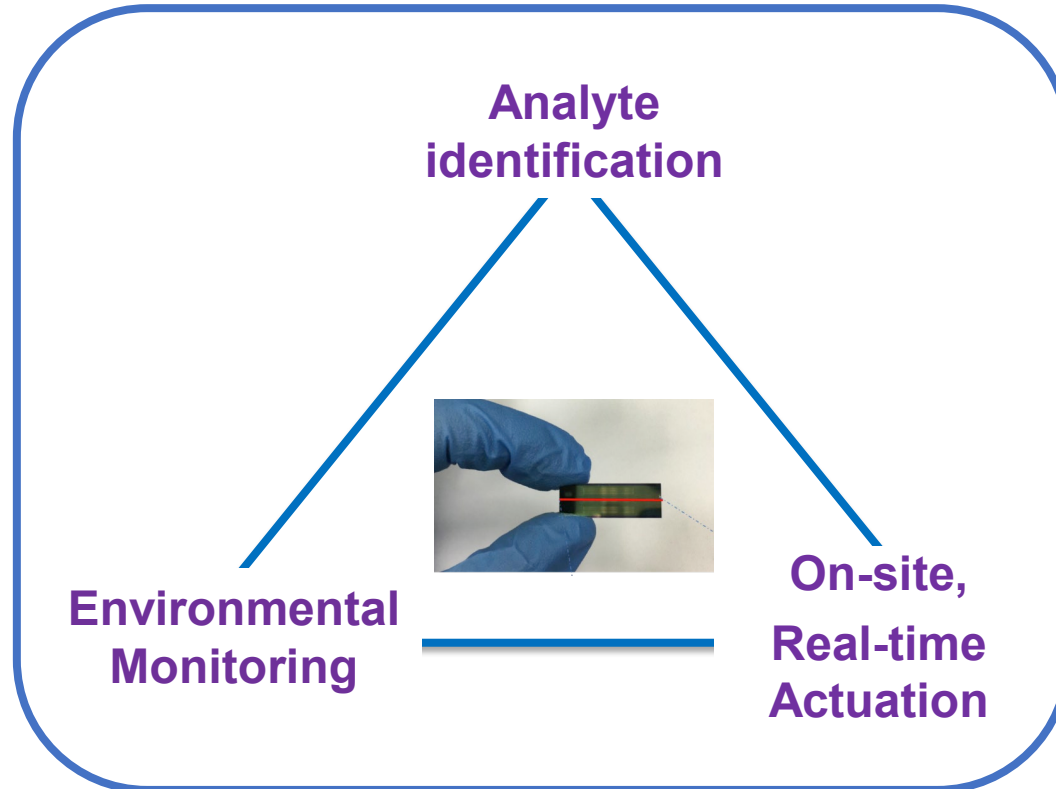
- Fast time-to-result (15 min)
- High sensitivity
- High accuracy



Laboratory  
setup/device



## Moving our biosensor technologies to Market



**EROICA Dx**

Commercial  
Biosensor Device



1 device &  
applications biochips

*From days... to less than 1 h*

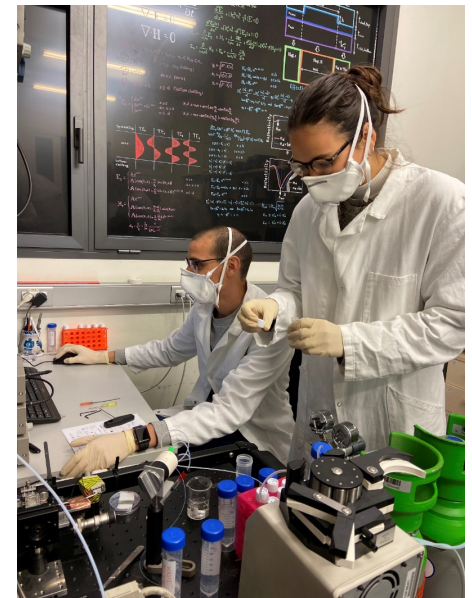
# GRACIAS!!!

 @NanoB2A\_group

Nanob2a.icn2.cat

## Multidisciplinary research

- biology
- engineering
- chemistry
- telecommunications
- physics
- mathematics
- programming
- biotechnology



European Commission

