



NAPES

NEXT GENERATION ANALYTICAL PLATFORMS
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SENSING

Next generation Analytical Platforms for Environmental Sensing

New technologies for old challenges

Simon Coleman
Dublin City University



Overview of Talk

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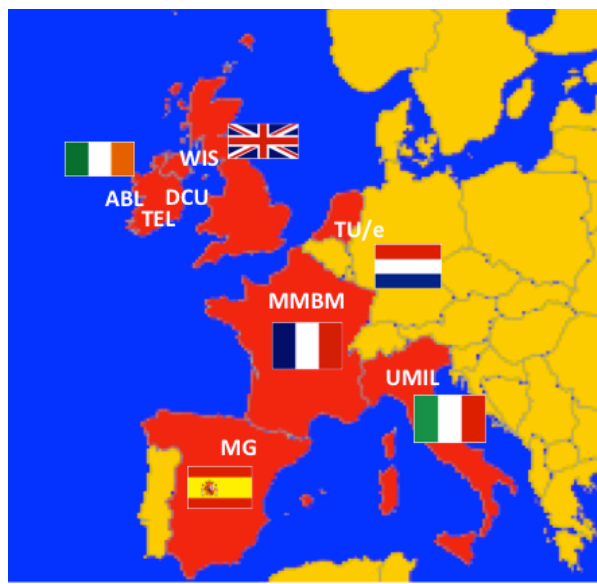
NEXT GENERATION ANALYTICAL PLATFORMS
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SENSING

1. **NAPES Consortium**
2. **Our Challenge**
3. **NAPES Platform**
4. **NAPES Research Strategy**
 - **Sampling and Pre-concentration**
 - **Smart Materials for Fluid Handling**
 - **Innovative Detection Platforms**
 - **Prototype Development and Deployment**
5. **Concluding Remarks**

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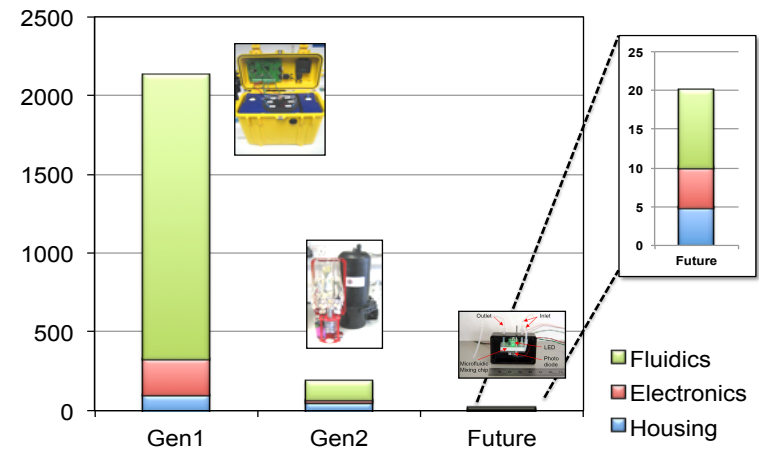
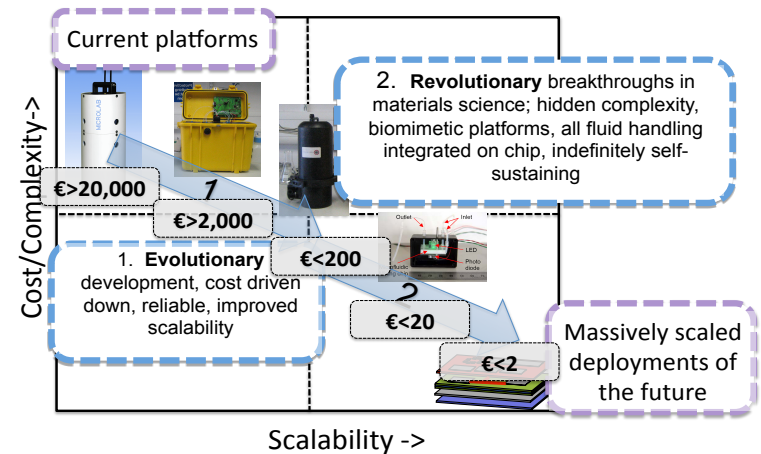


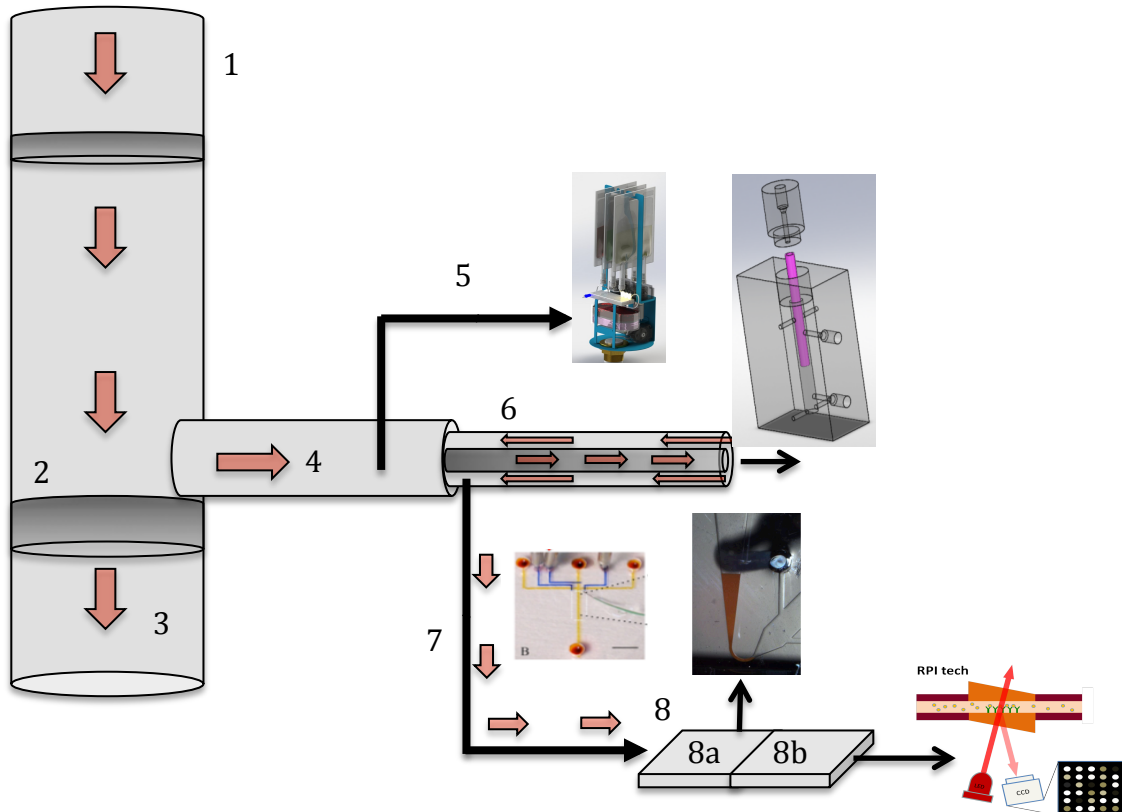
Our Challenge

1. **Low-cost, autonomous, deployable platforms.**
2. Enhancing current platforms through:
 - **Innovative sampling and target pre-concentration strategies** for more comprehensive analysis of Water supplies.
 - Bringing together **novel smart materials technologies** for fluid manipulation and flow control within microfluidic platforms.
 - Target detection using **highly specific detection methods** for determination of bacterial (e.g. *E.coli*) and chemical (e.g. phosphate, surfactants) contaminants.

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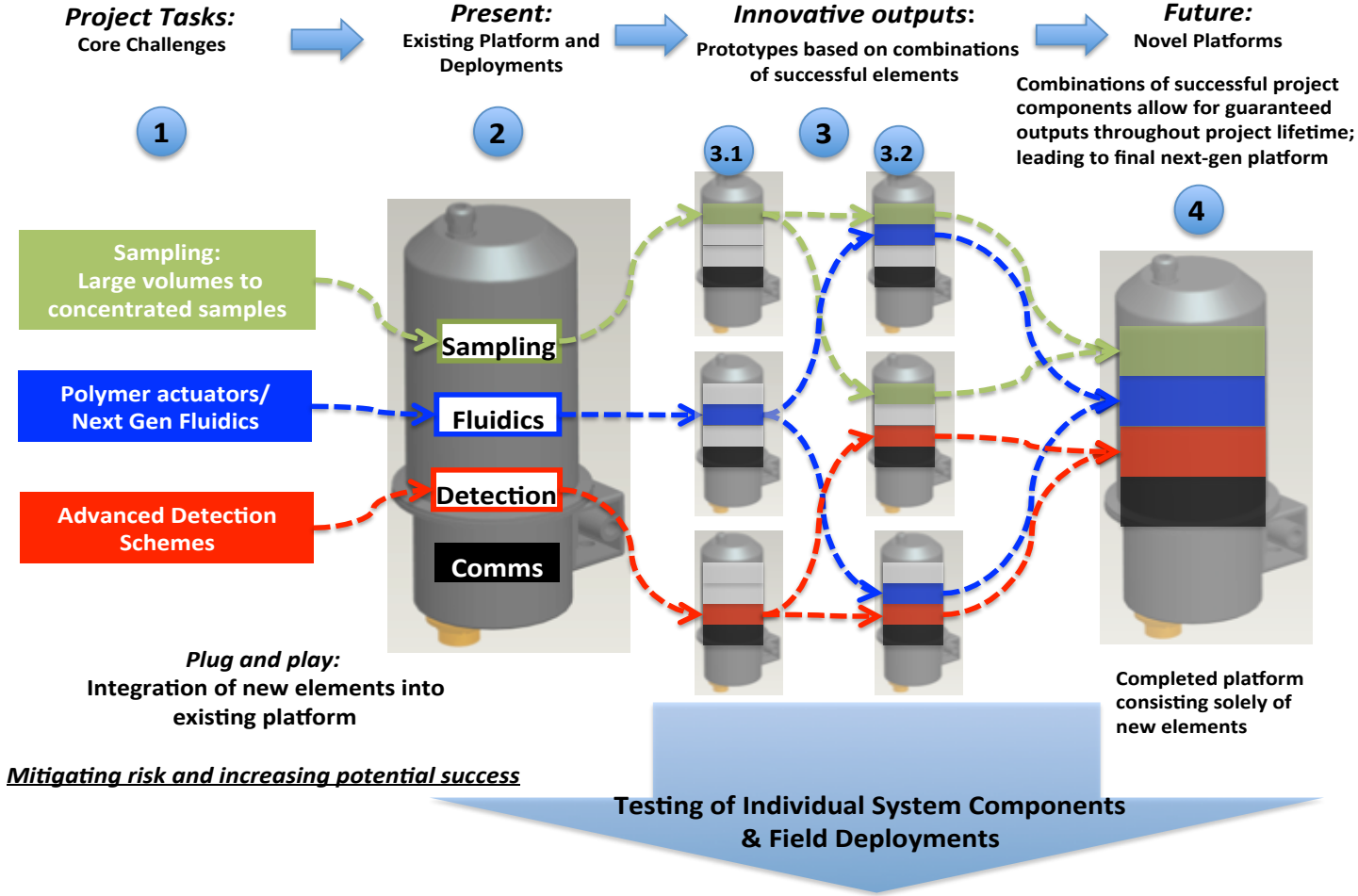


1. Raw sample pre-filtration
2. Reverse osmosis
(bacterial/chemical concentration)
3. Purified water stream (water source)
4. Concentrated sample stream
5. Chemical analysis of sample
(phosphate, nitrate, nitrite, pH)
6. Tubular membrane filtration
(bacterial concentration)
7. Microfluidic sample extract
8. Detection platforms;
8a: Bead based bacterial capture
8b: Refractive index based
detection

NAPES Research strategy

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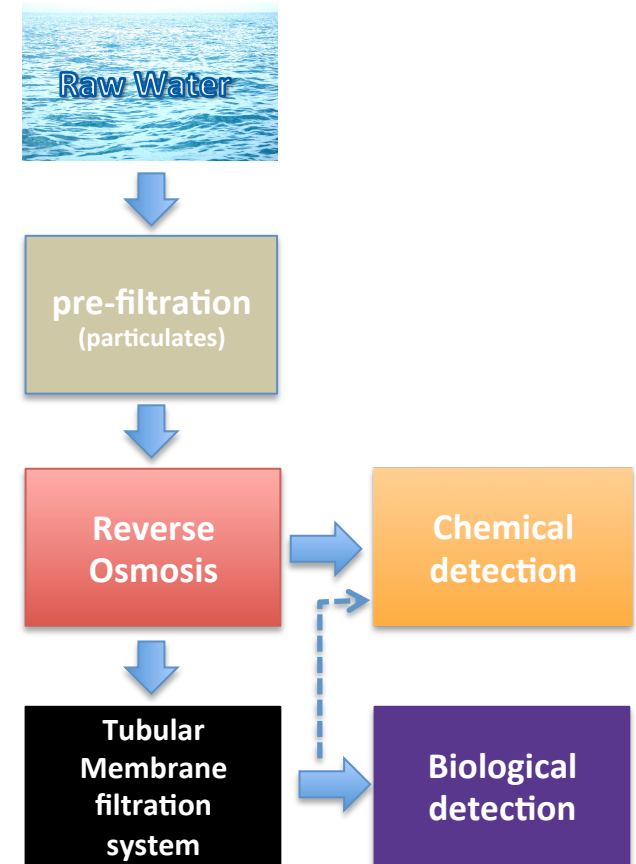


Sampling and Pre-Concentration

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- Commonly, portable deployable platforms take small (millilitre scale) volumes for analysis
- Test protocols often call for detection of **ONE CFU/SPORE** in 100ml – 10L. Microlitre and millilitre sampling is redundant for these specifications.
- Sampling system will process larger volumes (5-10 litres) with sample reduction to 100 milliliter scale and significant concentration in analytes.
- Reverse Osmosis (RO) and a tubular membrane based filtration unit (TF) will be employed for concentration of chemical and bacterial targets.



Water image: http://creativity103.com/collections/Water/water_surface.JPG <accessed 11/04/14>

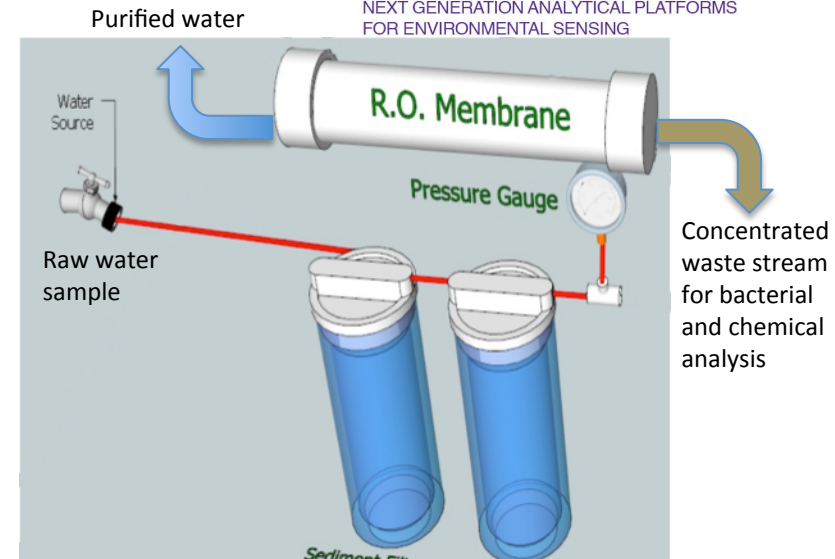
Sampling and Pre-Concentration

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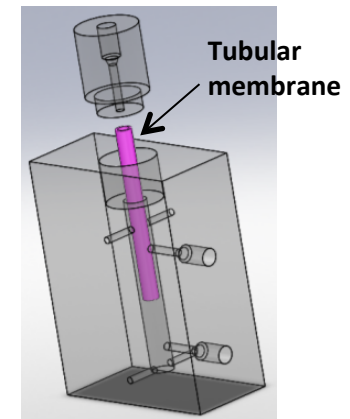
Reverse Osmosis (RO)

- RO system using “waste” stream for sample concentration
- Concentration increases of chemical components 1.5x –3x
- Volume throughput: 15L/hour (purified water)
- Final volume (concentrated chemical/biological targets): approx 2-5L

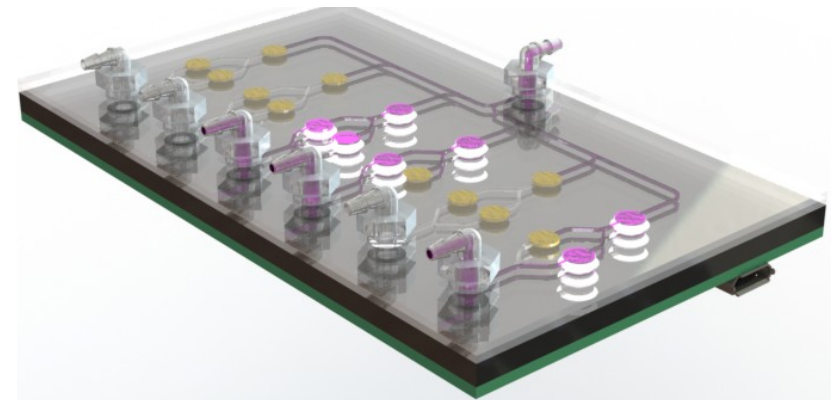
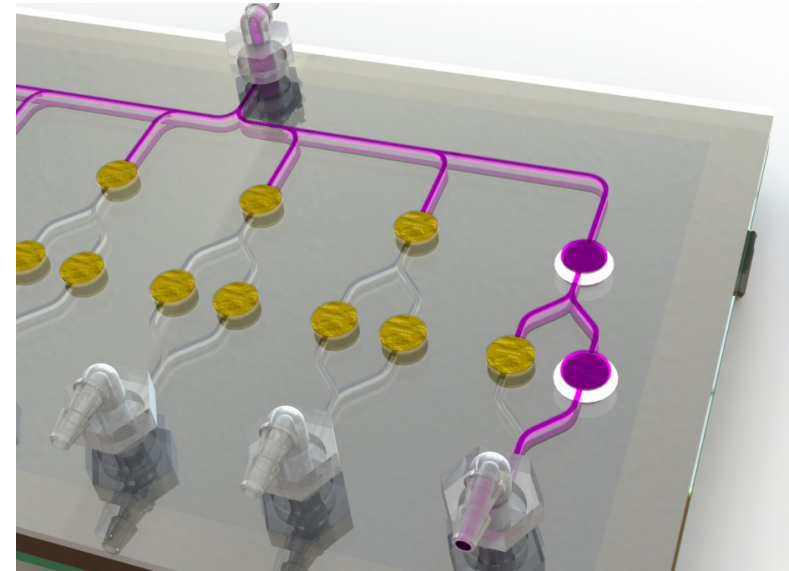


Tubular Membrane Filtration (TF)

- Ceramic membrane system.
- Concentration increases of up to 50X
- Volume throughput: 1mL/minute
- 50% (5 mins) - 500% (1 hr) reduction in volume related to processing time
- Final volume (conc. chemical/biological targets): 100-500 μ L



- Production of stimuli responsive materials for microfluidic applications.
- Microvalves allow for complex and precise control over fluid flow across microfluidic platform.
- Micrometer dimensions allow for complex arrays of valves, not currently possible with conventional valves.
- Low energy requirements through LED functionality.
- Low cost, no maintenance



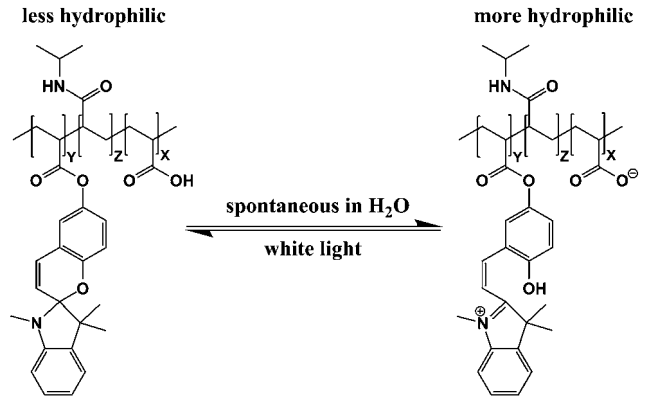
Smart Materials for fluid Handling

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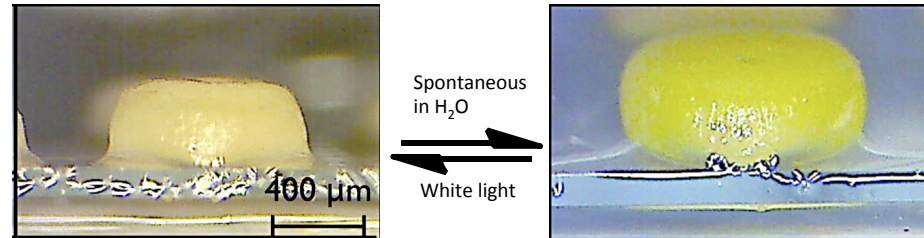
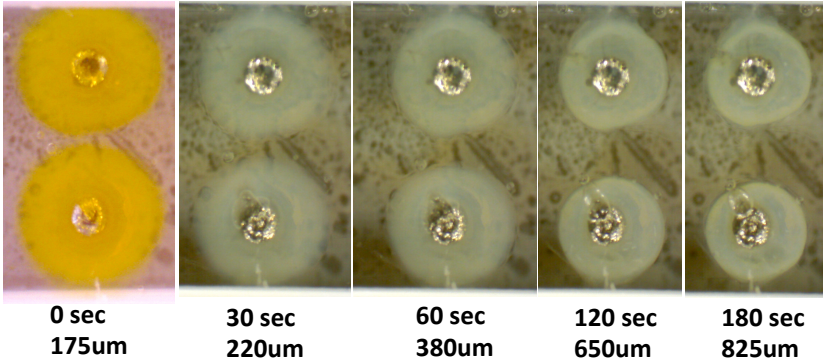
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Light actuated polymer valves

- DCU has developed light actuated polymer valve systems based upon spiropyran
- Shrinking upon exposure to white light. Spontaneous re-swelling due to self protonation (acrylic acid)
- Reproducible actuation effects over several cycles
- Approx. 10- 25% shrinking in 5mins (depending on gel size)
- Work in neutral (pH 7) and acidic (pH 1) conditions.



Ziolkowski *et al.*, *Soft Matter*, 2013, 9, 8754–8760.



Czugala *et al.*, *Sens. Act. B*, 2013, DOI 10.1016/j.snb.2013.12.072.

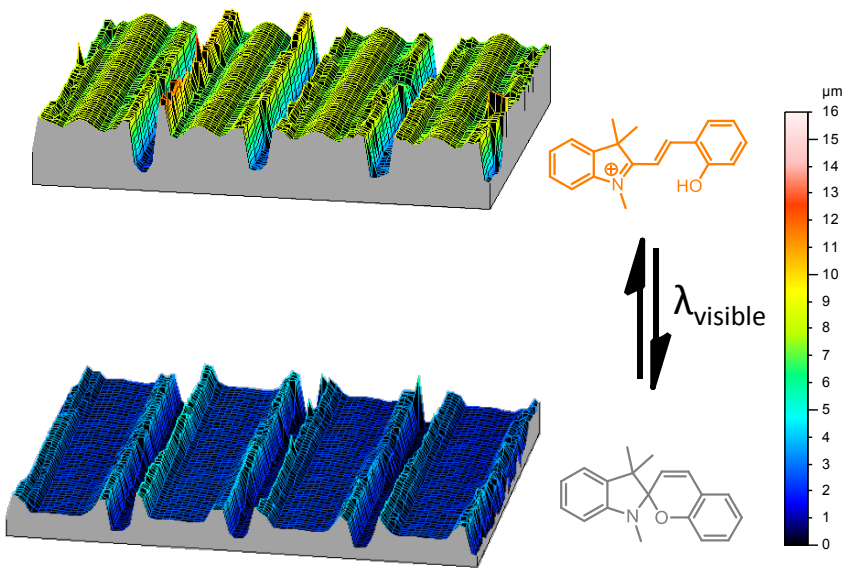
Smart Materials for fluid Handling

Photoresponsive coatings

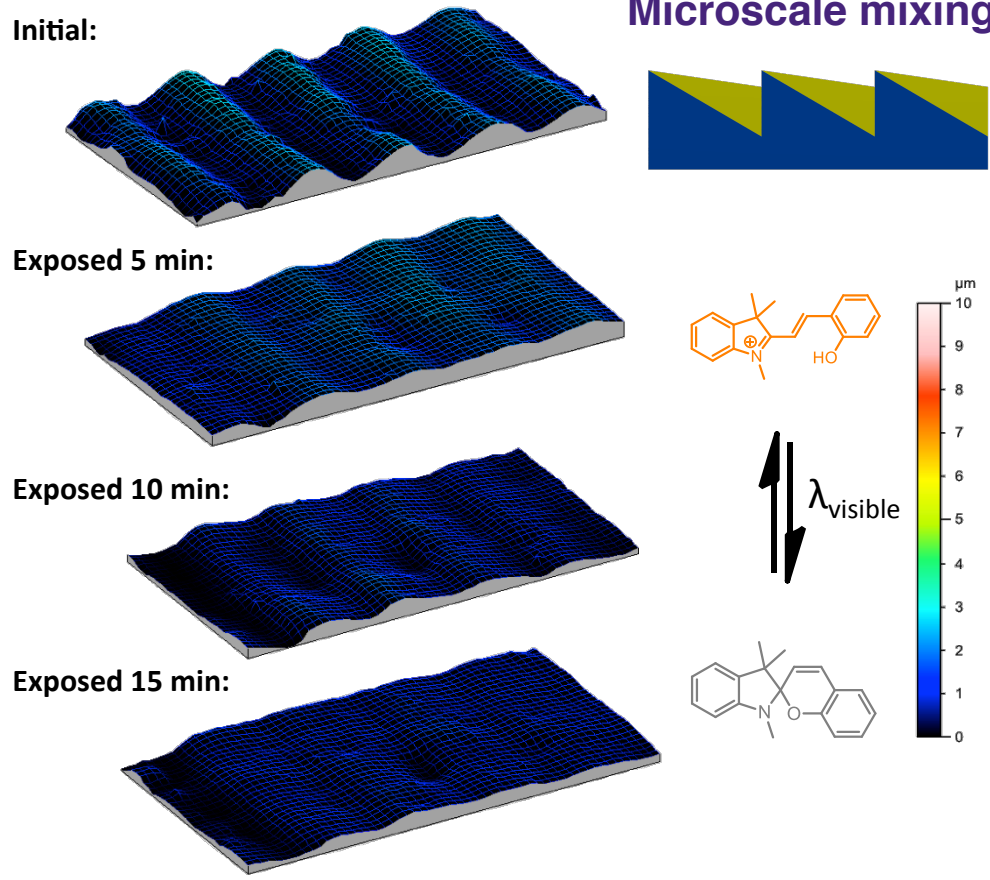
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In water, pH = 2.7



In water, pH = 7.0

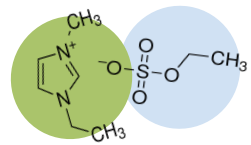


Smart Materials for fluid Handling

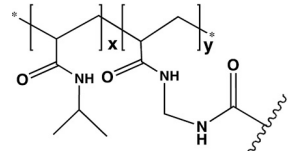
Thermoresponsive ionogel valves and integration of valves into microfluidic platforms

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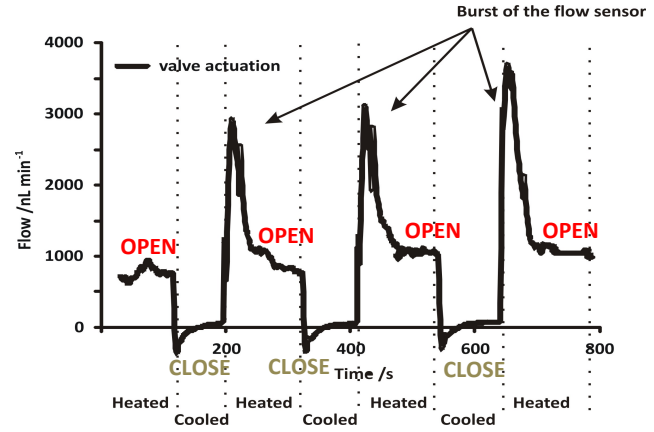
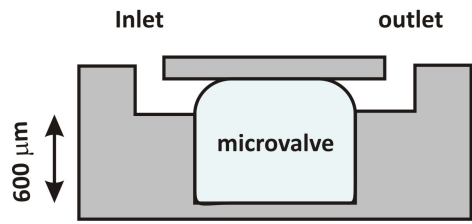
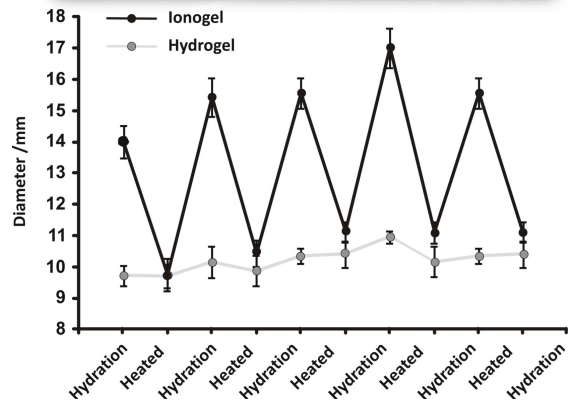
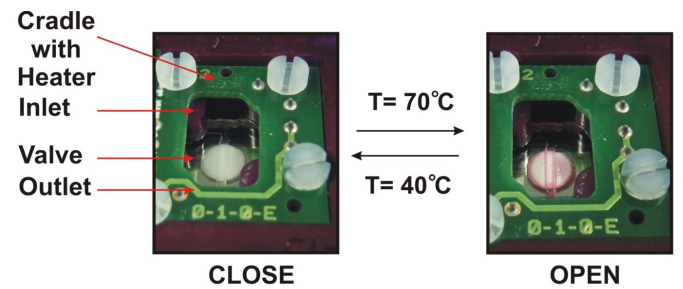
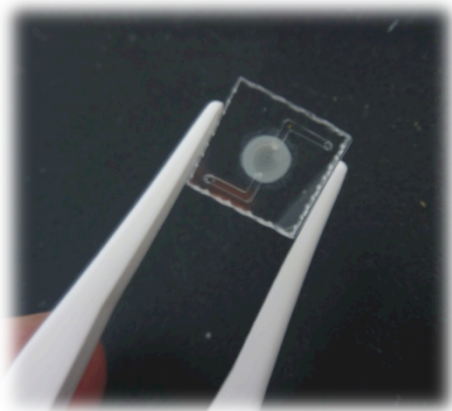
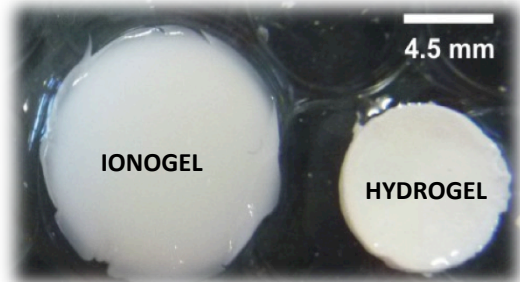
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Ionic Liquid



Polymer matrix



Innovative Detection Platforms

Highly specific bacterial detection:
Lectin microarrays and phage display

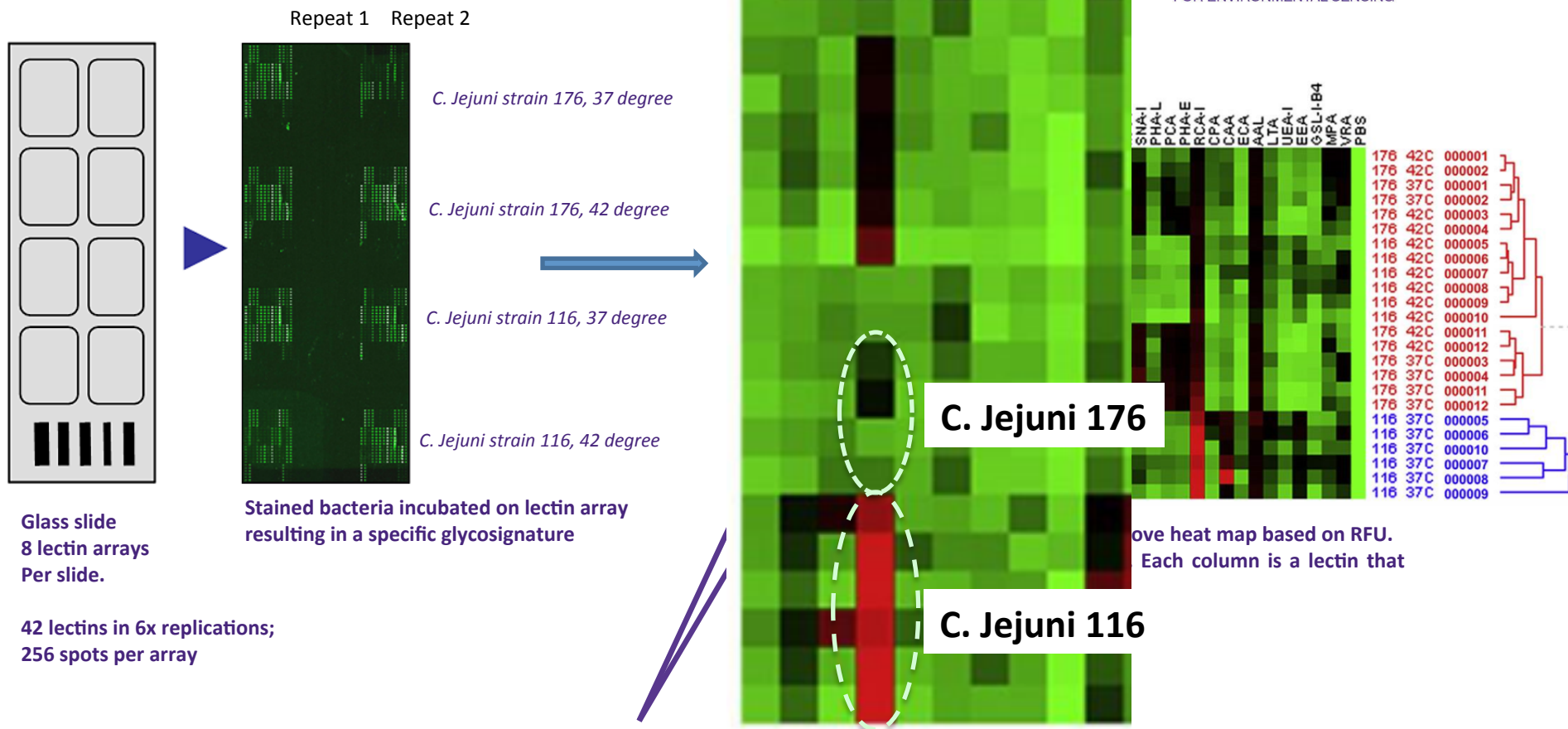
- Selection of lectins to be selected that can discriminate between strains of bacteria
- Production of Bacteriophages expressing specific binding for pre-selected strains of bacteria.
- Both approaches will detect ***E.coli* O157:H7, *E.coli* O6, Enterbacter spp and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*** and additionally the potential to examine shiga-like toxins produced by *E.coli* O157:H7 will be examined by phage display.
- Optimised lectin and phage derivatives will be used in conjunction with MMBM and UMIL detection platforms

Innovative Detection Platforms

Lectin microarray analysis of two strains of C. Jejuni

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Glass slide
8 lectin arrays
Per slide.

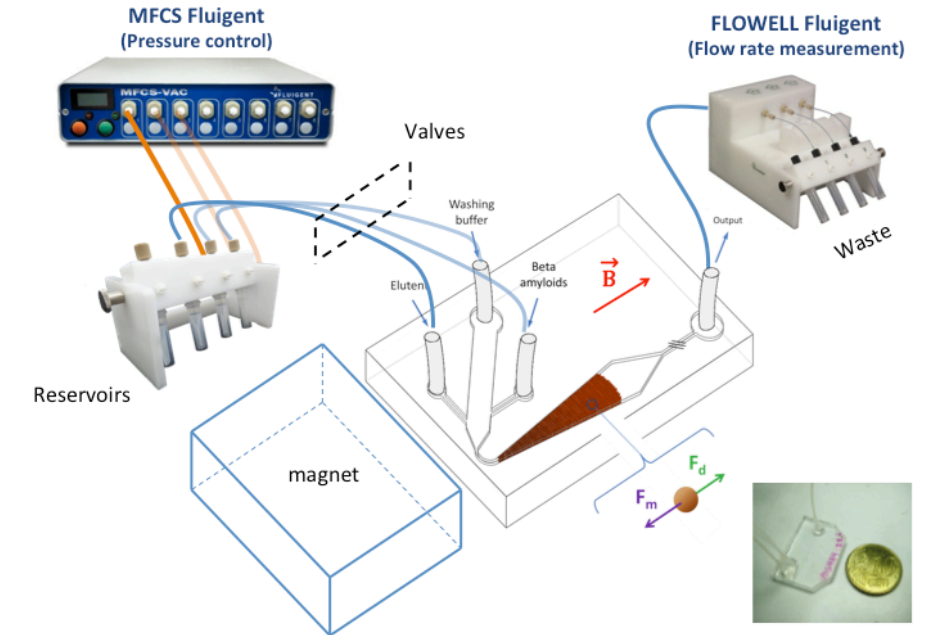
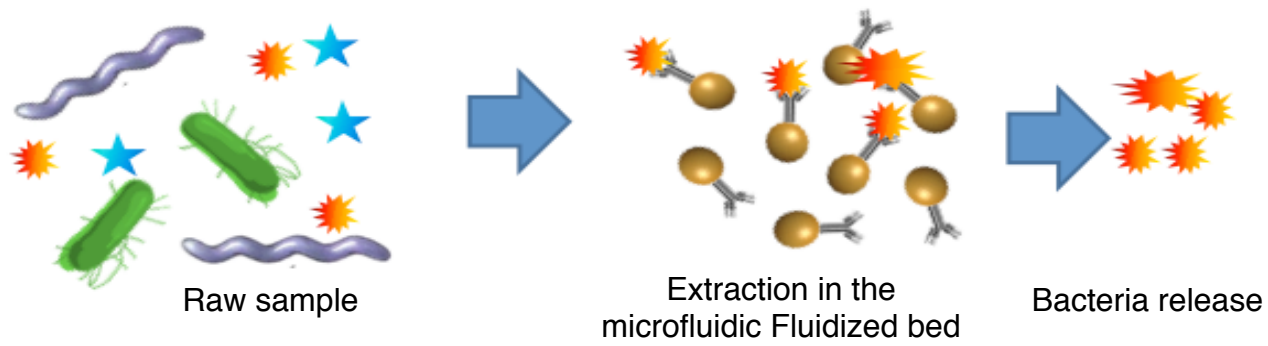
Stained bacteria incubated on lectin array
resulting in a specific glycosignature

42 lectins in 6x replications;
256 spots per array

At 37 degree celcius C.Jejuni strain 116 binds to lectin SNA II with high affinity (red) however strain 176 is not binding to this lectin at all (green/black).

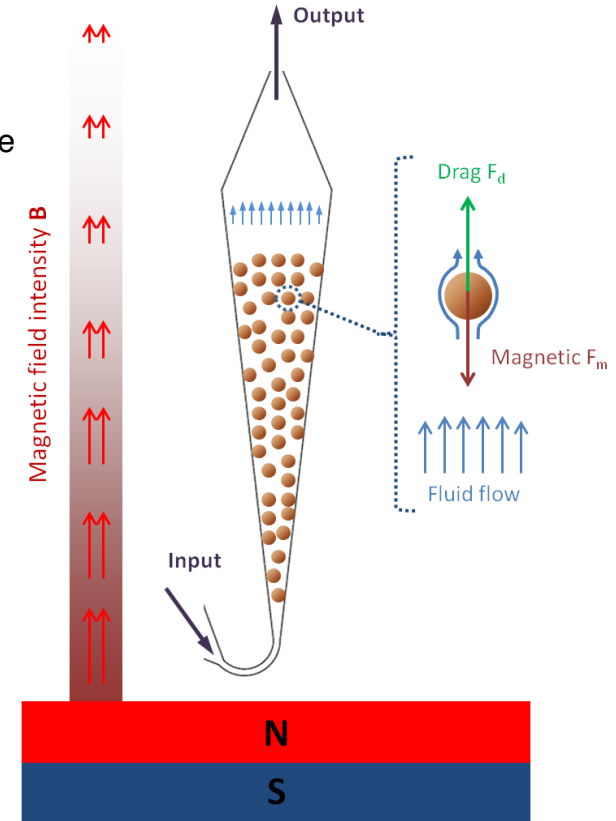
Innovative Detection Platforms

On-chip bacterial detection using magnetic bead system



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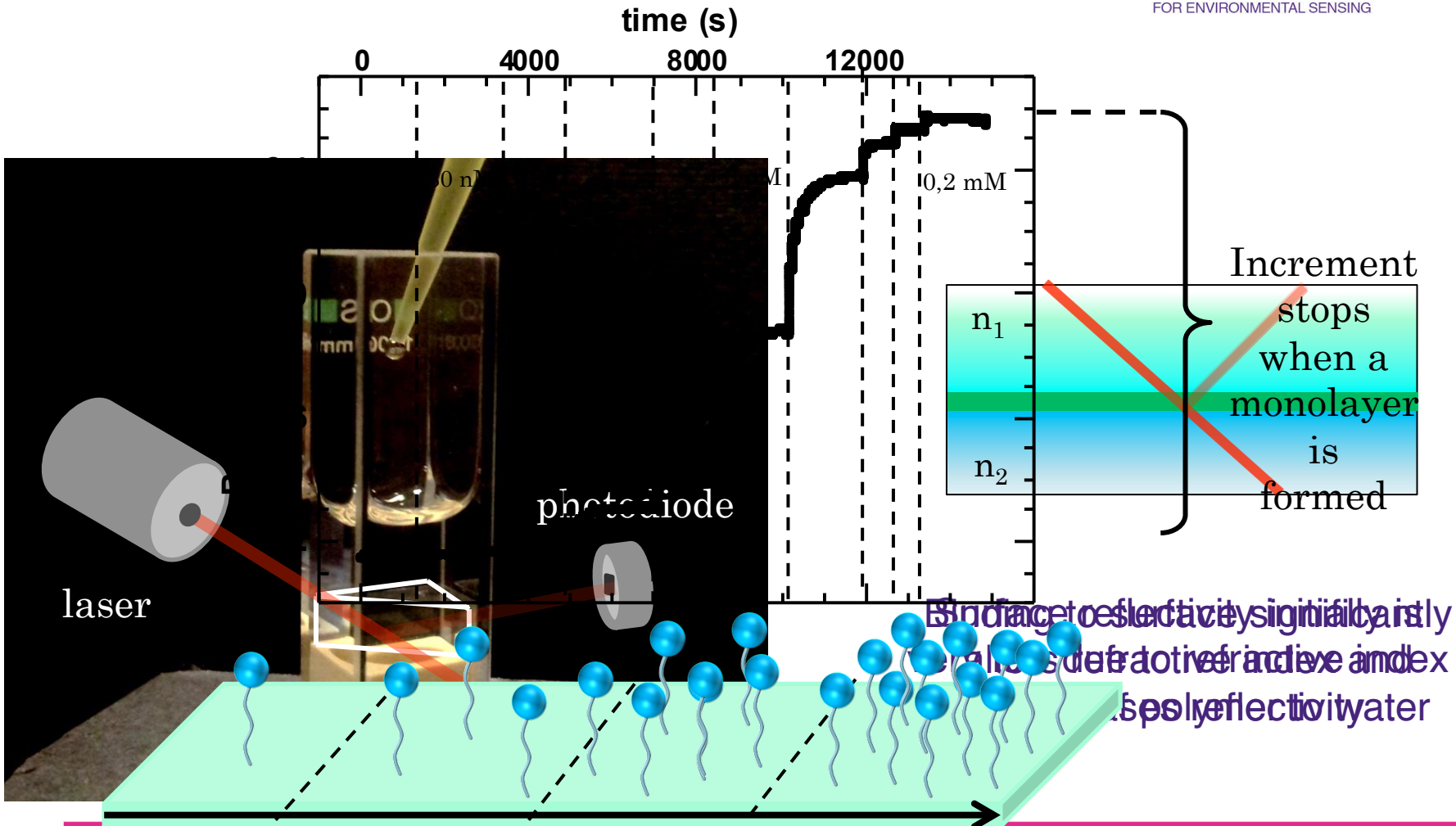


Innovative Detection Platforms

Reflective Phantom Interface (RPI) Method

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Surfactants (Tween 20)
concentration from 10^{-8} M to 10^{-4} M

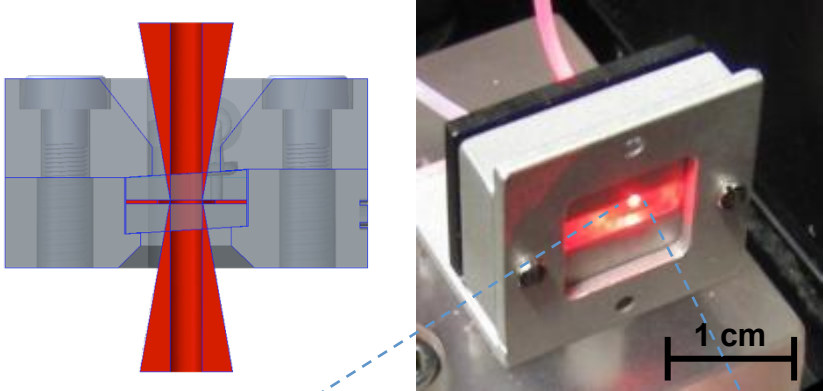
Innovative Detection Platforms

Bacteria detection by RPI (UMIL)

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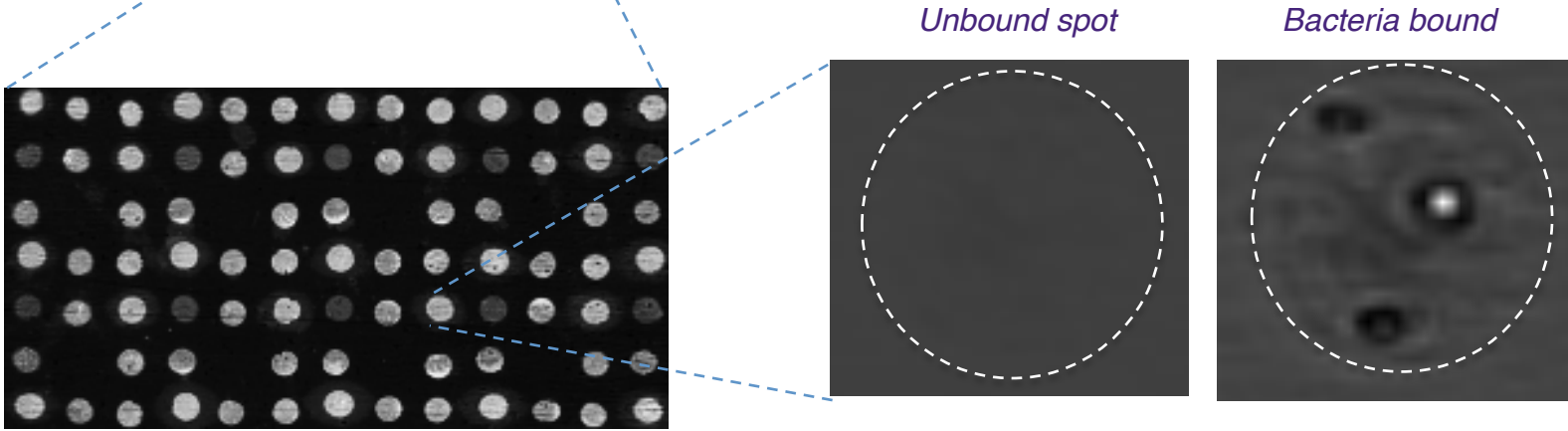
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Design and realisation of the fluidic module



- ABL and UMIL will produce RPI surfaces with strain specific bonding based upon lectin and phage development

Preliminary data on bacteria detection (6 hours flow analysis) :



Evaluation of the optical platform

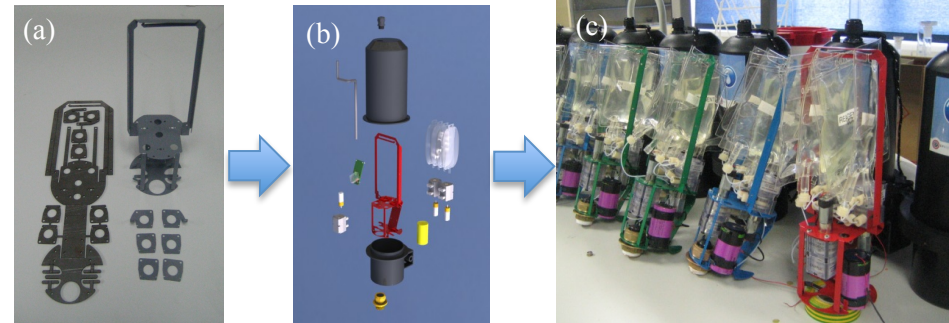
Prototype development and deployment

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Prototype development

- DCU will lead the production of prototype platforms
- Design and engineering of platform for scalable production and commercialisation activities in parallel with TEL



Prototype deployment

- TEL and WIS will assist DCU in Prototype testing and deployment at Irish sites.
- Lab based testing of prototypes (phase 1) and Field trials at Waste water treatment plants and water supply reservoirs (phase 2)
- Potential for deployments outside of Ireland with partners



Example of DCU coordinated deployment of autonomous phosphate system

Concluding remarks

- Bringing together **novel materials technologies** to create platforms with lower energy demand and significant size reduction.
- **Highly sensitive and specific bacterial detection** platform for detection of pathogenic bacterial strains and chemical contaminants.
- Innovative sampling and pre-concentration methods for **increase in sample volume** and **larger representative samples** for broader testing of water source.
- Autonomous, reliable platforms for long-term deployment with **significant reduction in unit cost** relative to existing platforms.

Acknowledgements

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Project partners:

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