

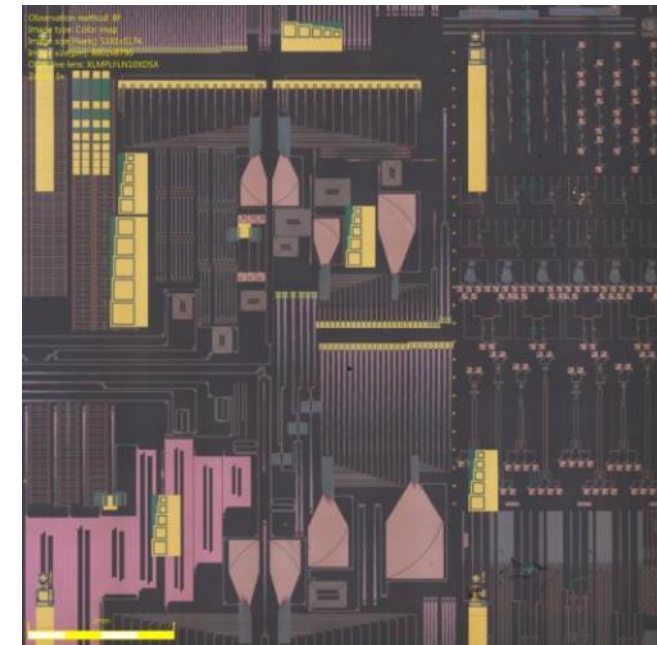
# MEDICAL DEVICE APPLICATIONS OF SILICON AND SILICON NITRIDE INTEGRATED PHOTONICS

Roel Baets

SPIE Optics and Optoelectronics, Prague, April 2019

# WHAT IS SILICON PHOTONICS?

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

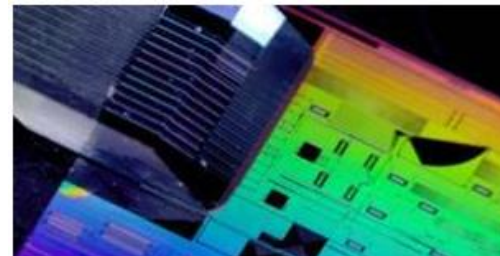
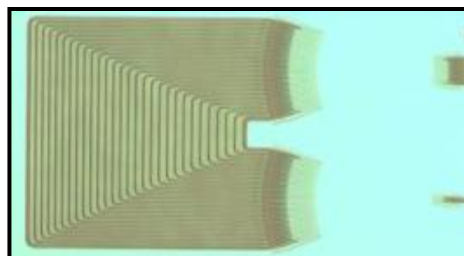
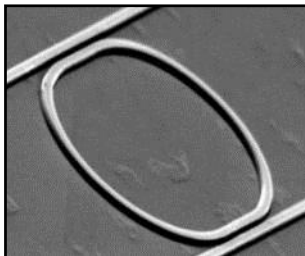
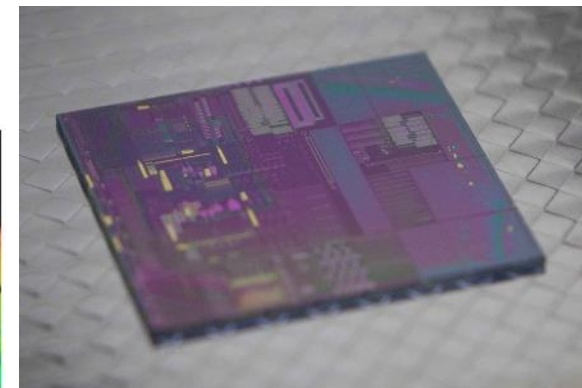
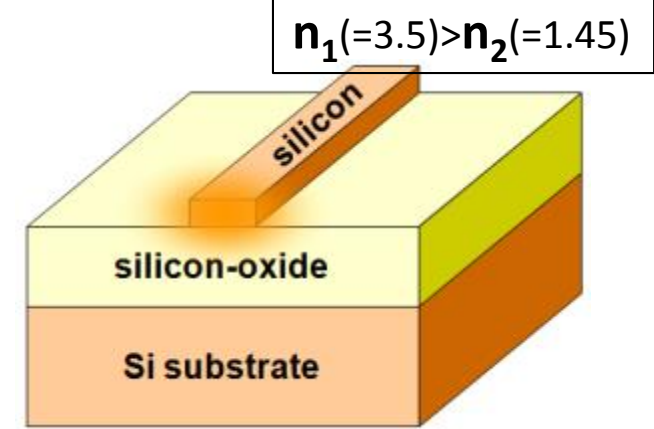


Pictures, courtesy of imec

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?)



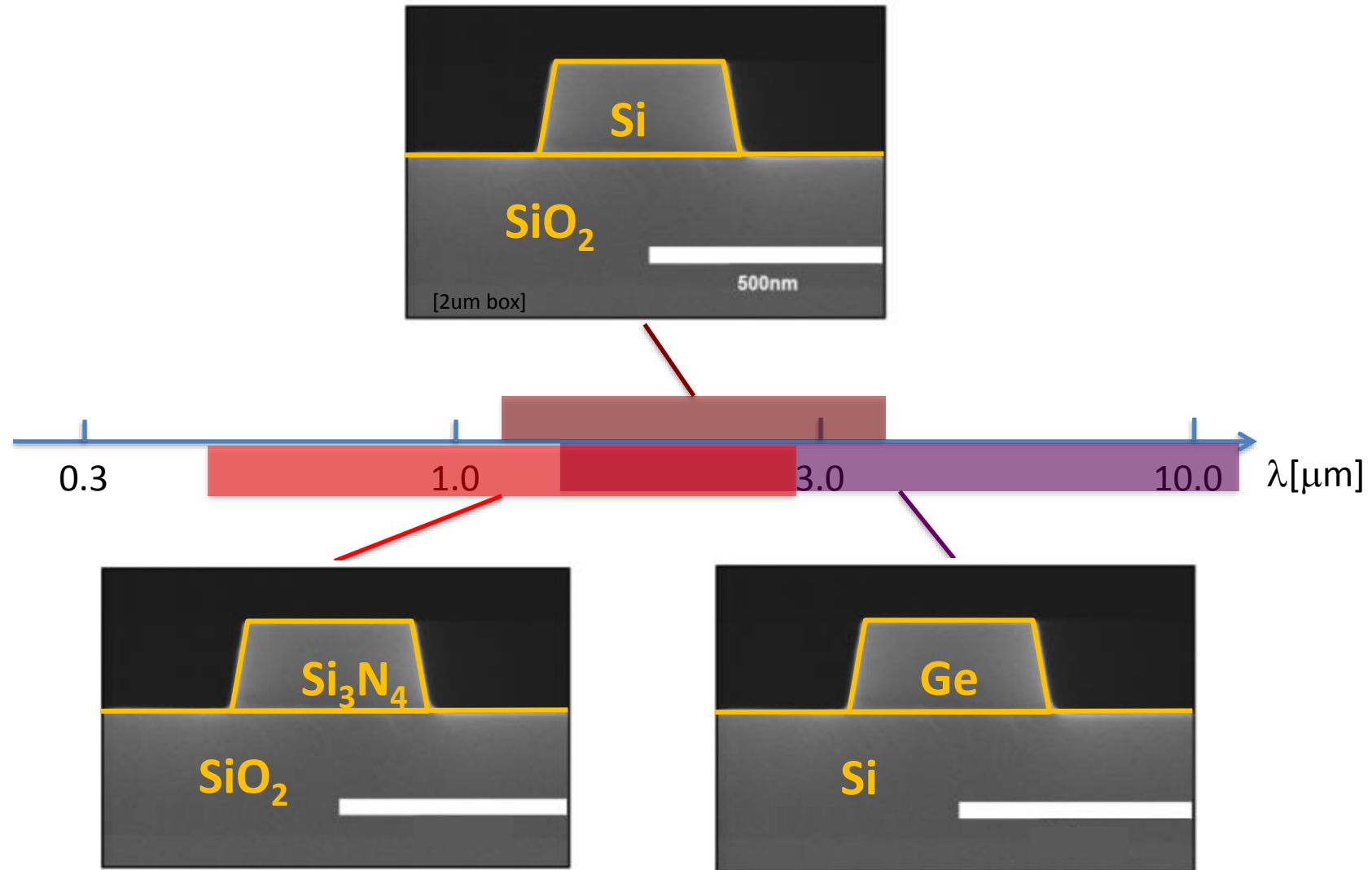
# THE PAST 5-10 YEARS: STUNNING INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN SILICON PHOTONICS FOR TELECOM AND DATACOM

- active optical cables (eg PSM4: 4x28 Gb/s on parallel fibers)
- WDM transceivers (eg 4 WDM channels x 25 Gb/s on single fiber)
- coherent receiver (eg 100 Gb/s PM-QPSK)
- fiber-to-the-home bidirectional transceiver (eg 12 x 2.5 Gb/s)
- monolithic receiver (eg 16x20Gb/s)
- 40Gb/s, 50Gb/s and 100 Gb/s Ethernet (future: 400Gb/s)
- ...



# SILICON PHOTONICS: EXTENDING THE WAVELENGTH RANGE

WITHOUT LEAVING THE CMOS FAB



# MEDICINE AND LIFE SCIENCE

Enormous challenges:

- Ageing society
- Keep ever more performant health care affordable for society
- More focus on preventive medicine

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)

# ASSETS OF SILICON PHOTONICS FOR MEDICINE AND LIFE SCIENCE

Low cost (even in moderate volume)

Very compact devices

Can address needs from visible to mid IR

Mature supply chain

# MAIN APPLICATIONS OF SILICON PHOTONICS IN MEDICINE

Low cost matters ↑

In-vitro  
Diagnostics

Point-of-care  
Medical Devices

Wearables  
(including  
Implants)

Catheterized  
Devices  
and Smart Pills

→ Small size matters



# THREE APPLICATION CASES

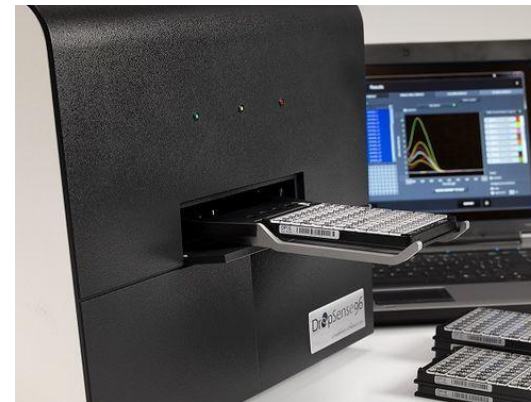
➔ Continuous glucose monitoring



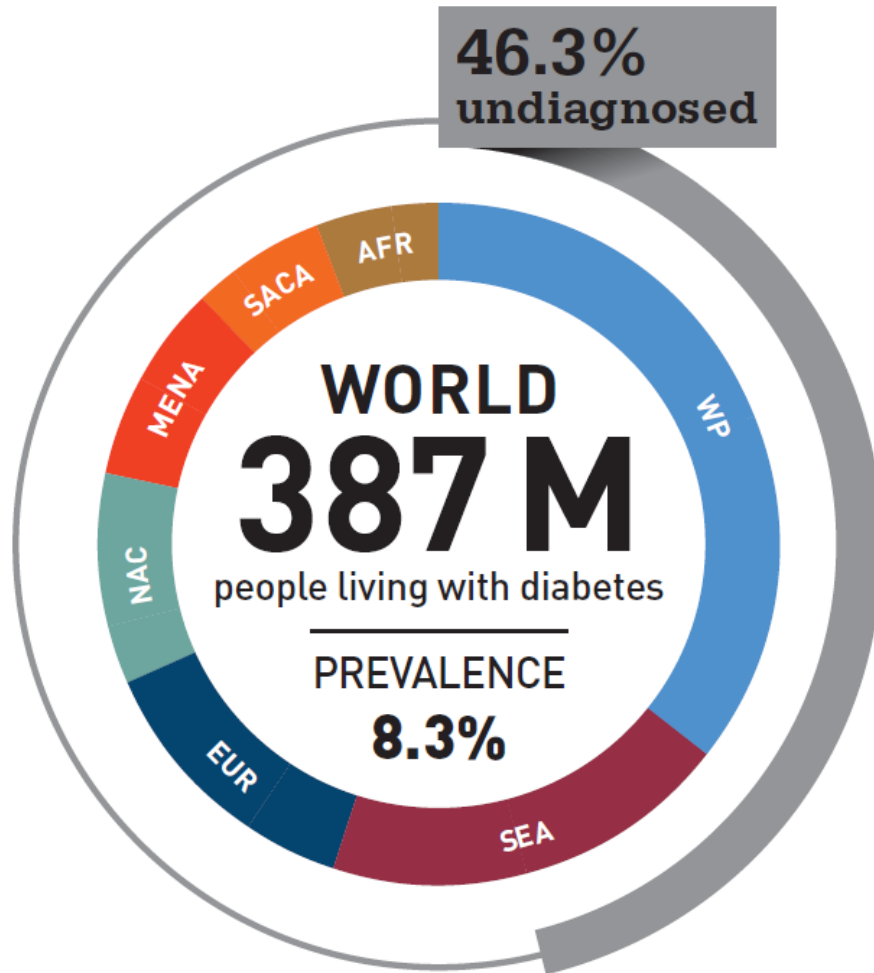
Cardiovascular monitoring



In-vitro diagnostics



# DIABETES IS THE 21ST CENTURY HEALTH CHALLENGE

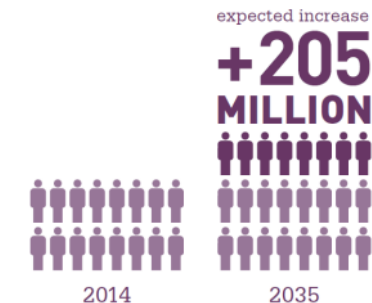


**i/12**  
people with  
**DIABETES**



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

In 2014 diabetes expenditure reached US\$612 billion

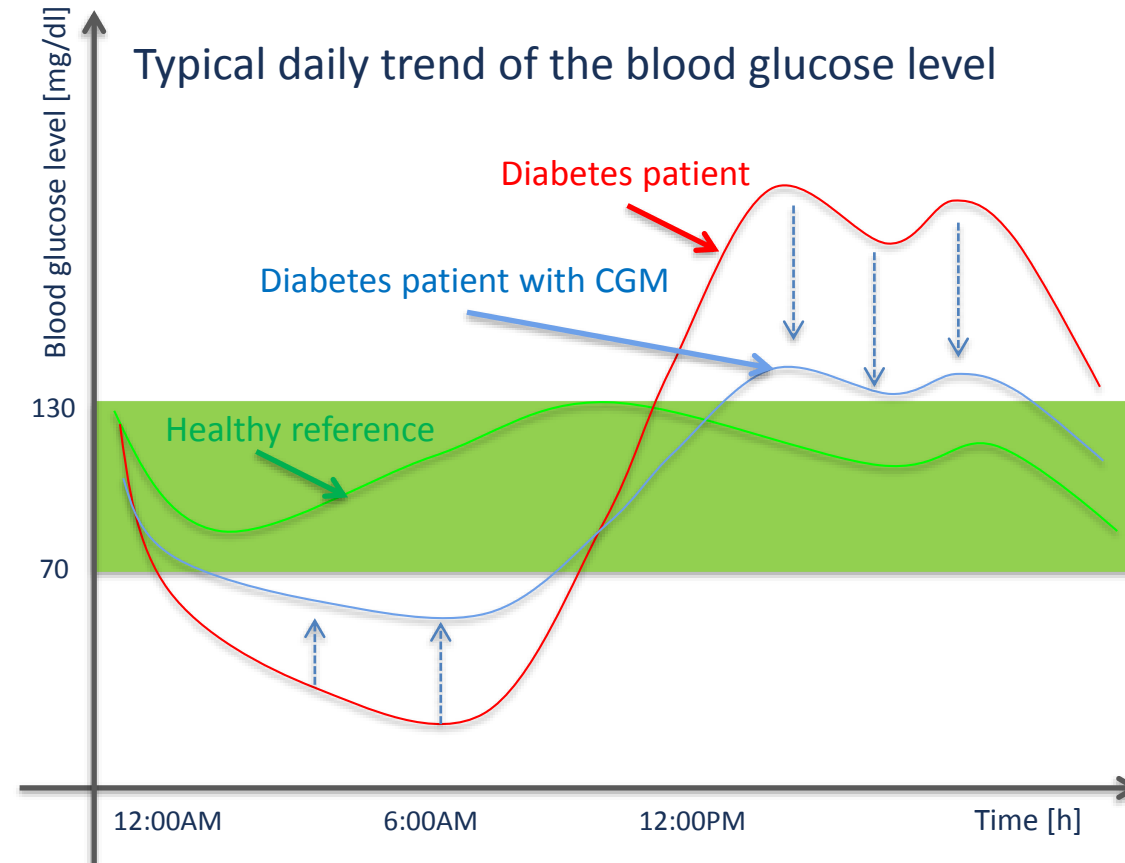


<http://www.idf.org/diabetesatlas/update-2014>

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

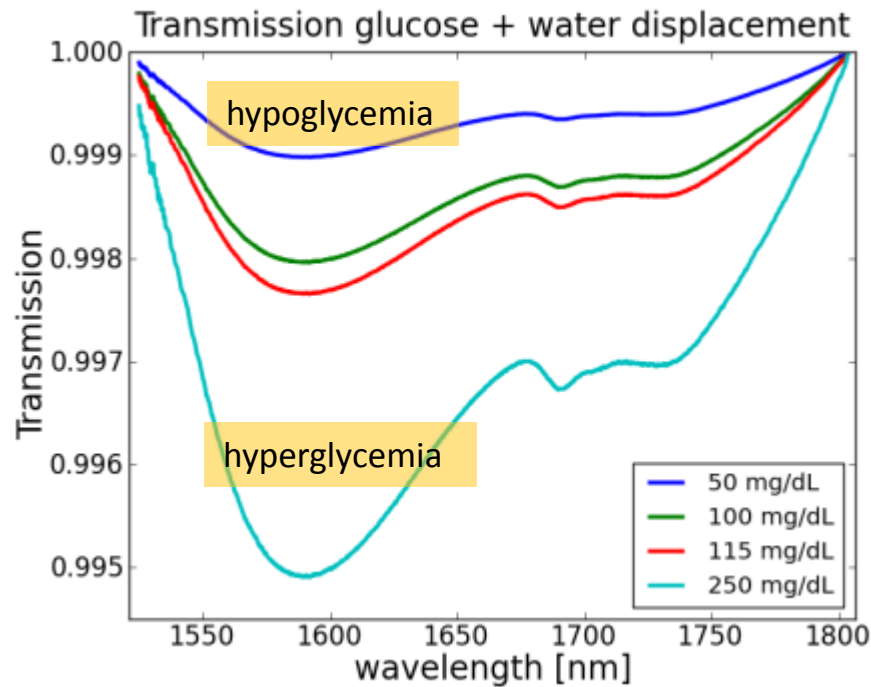
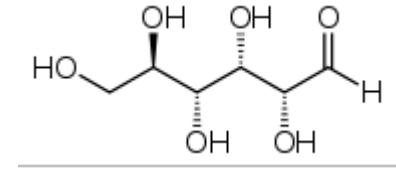
CGM systems show positive health impact \*

- lower average blood glucose levels
- decrease of hypoglycemic frequency

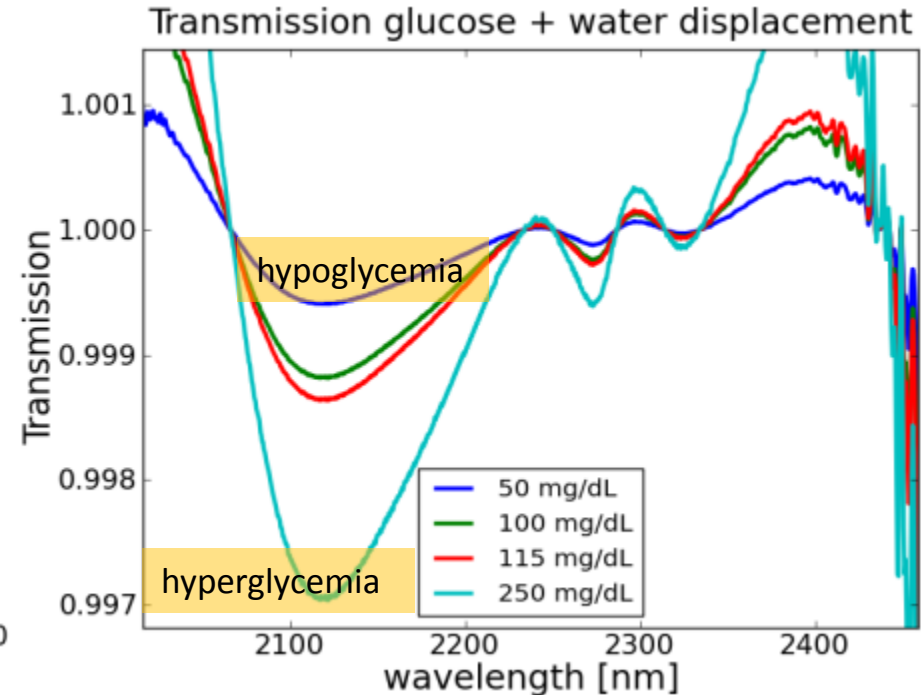


\* Liebl A, Henrichs HR, Heinemann L, et al. Continuous glucose monitoring: evidence and consensus statement for clinical use. J Diabetes Sci Technol . 2013;7:500-519

# GLUCOSE ABSORPTION SPECTROSCOPY



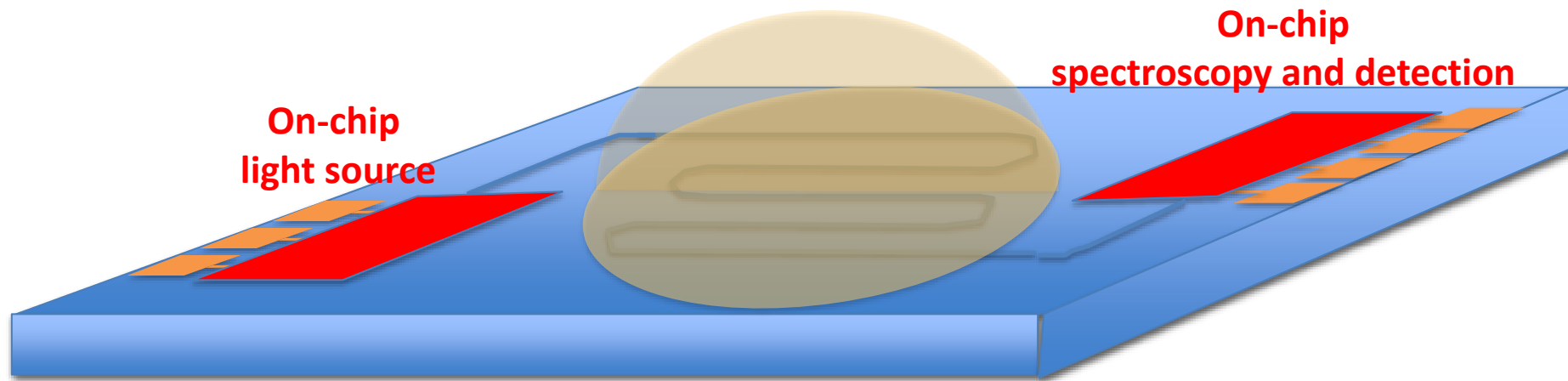
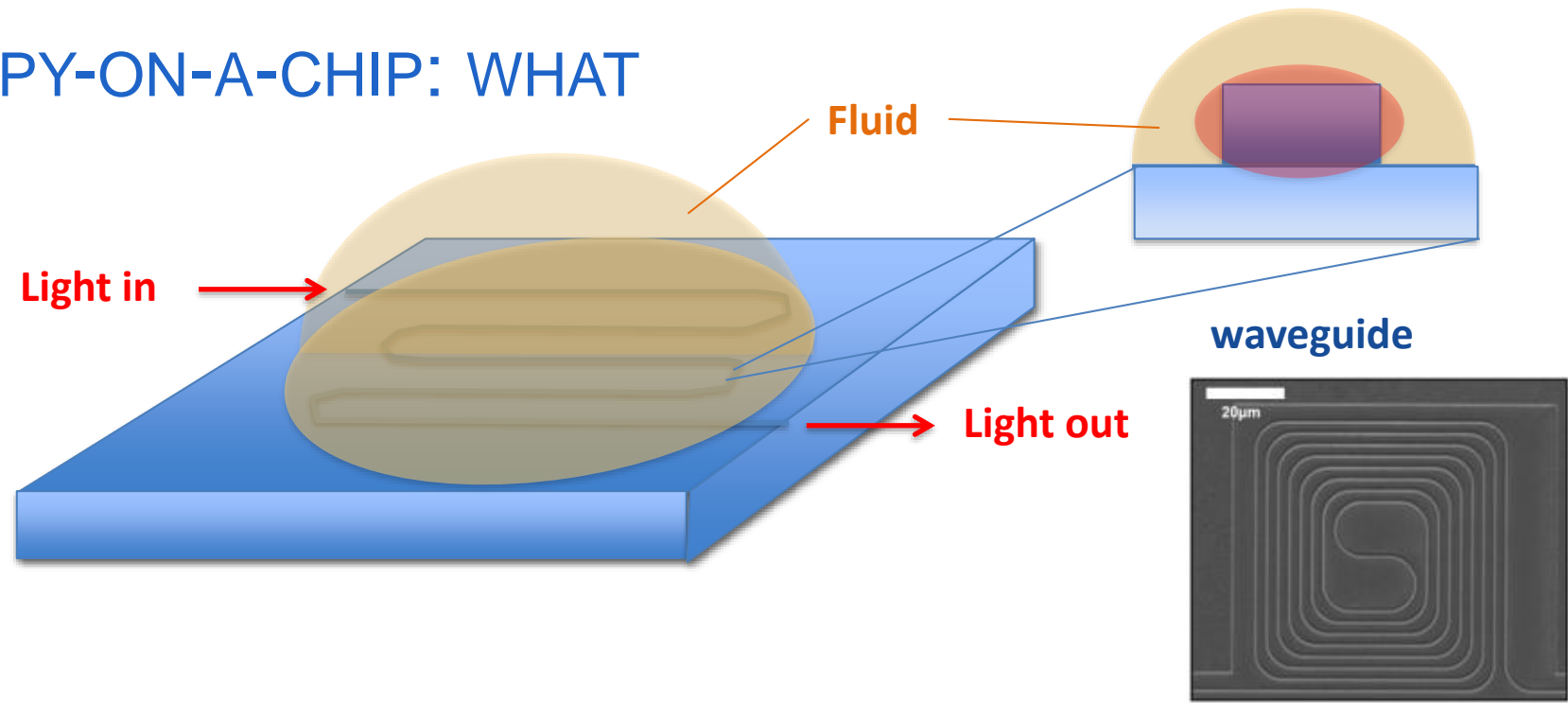
First overtone band: 1500 - 1800 nm



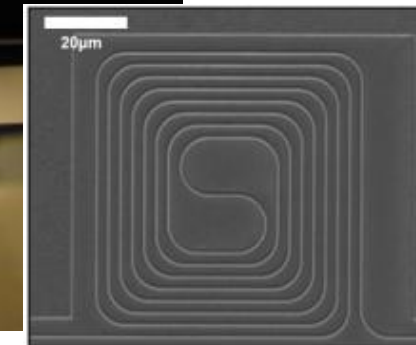
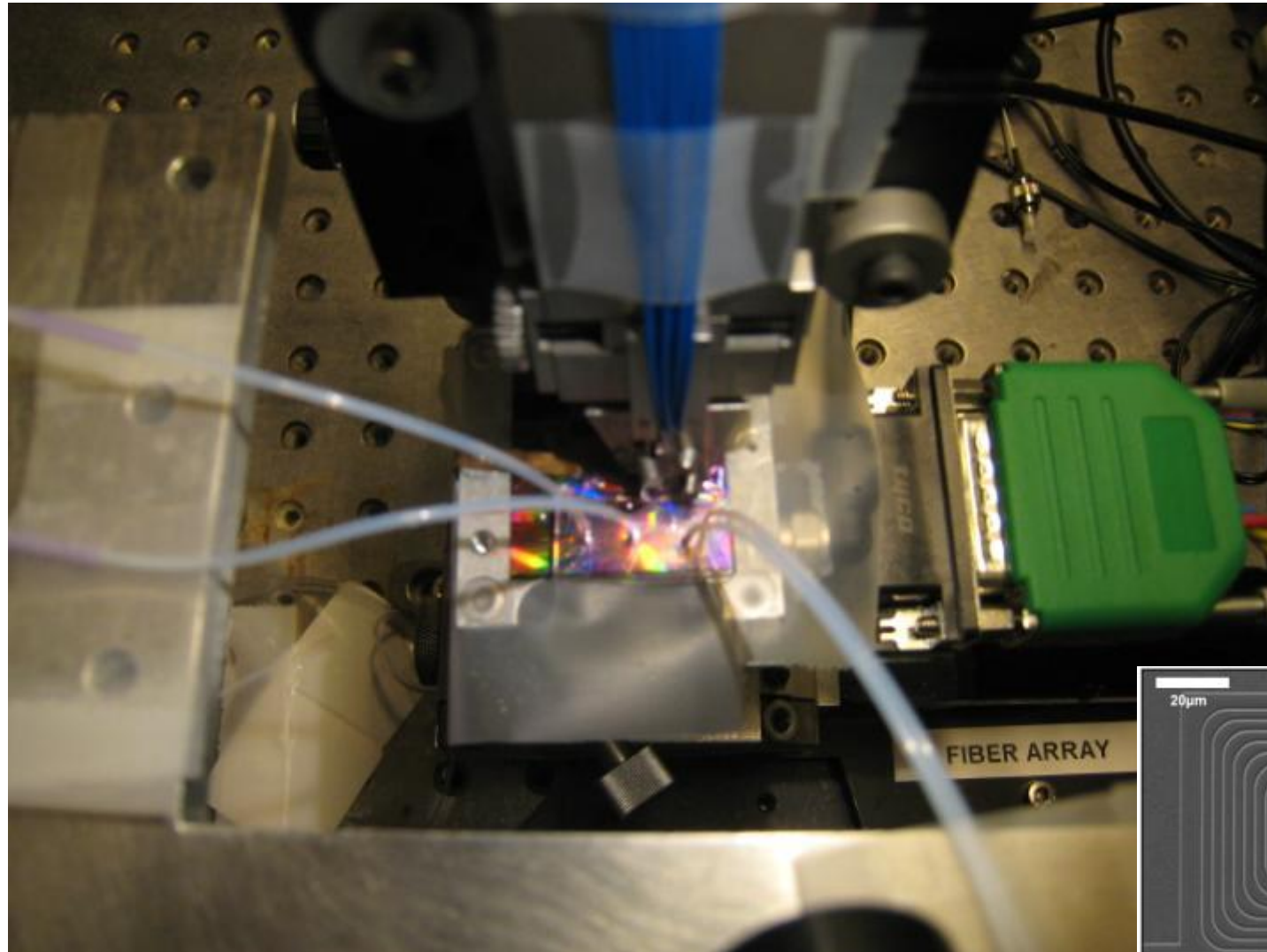
Combination band: 2000 - 2500 nm

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

# SPECTROSCOPY-ON-A-CHIP: WHAT

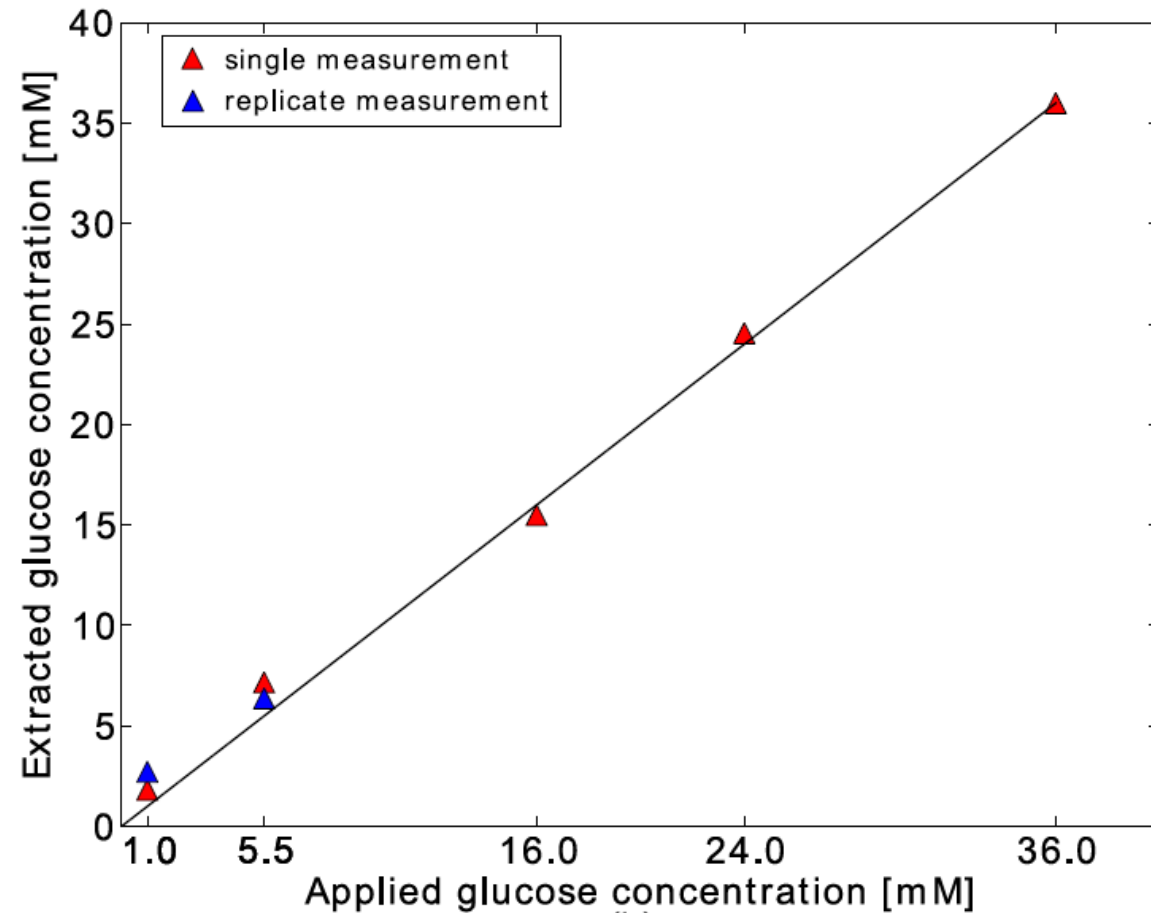


# PROOF-OF-CONCEPT DEMO OF GLUCOSE SENSING IN THE LAB



# GLUCOSE ABSORPTION SPECTROSCOPY: PROOF-OF-CONCEPT

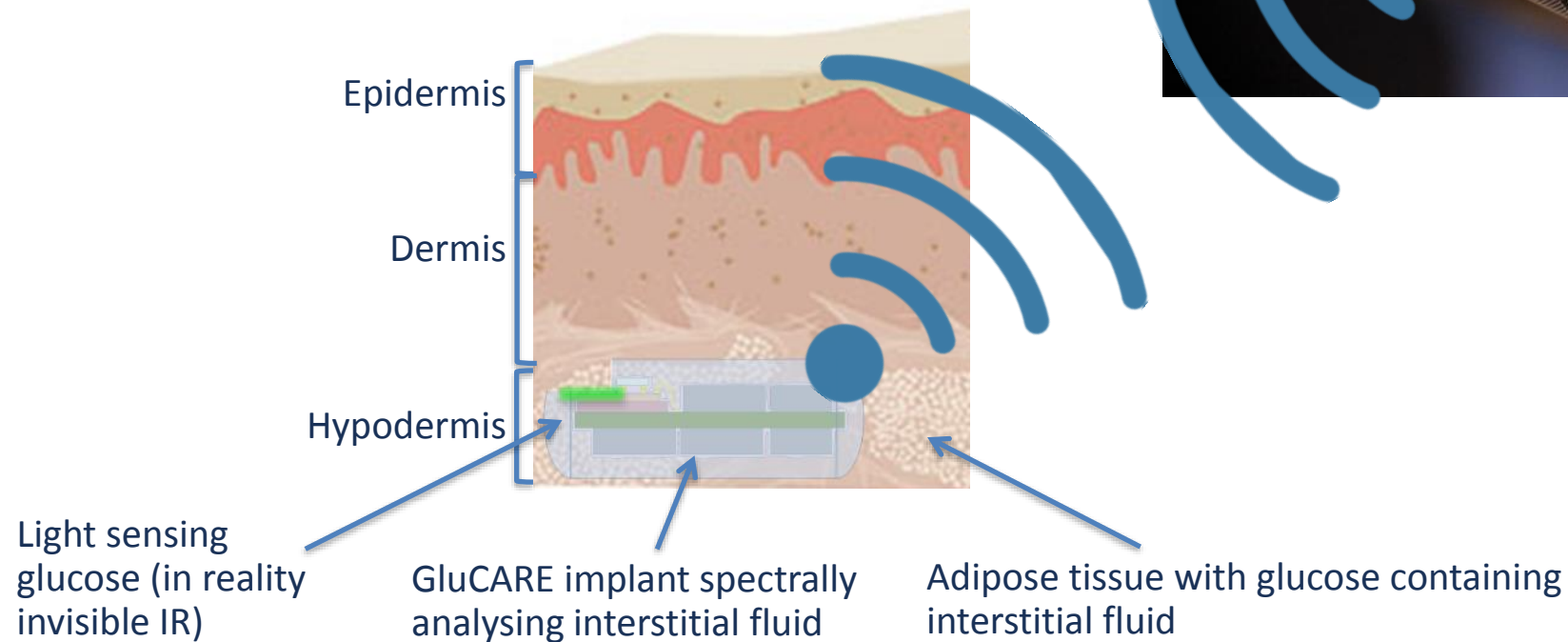
Use measured spectrum of 36 mM solution as the basic vector



**Demonstrated sensitivity of 1mM**

# CGM ENABLED BY SILICON PHOTONICS

Subcutaneously implanted IR spectral analyser connected wirelessly to external transceiver (>12 months implantation time)





# THREE APPLICATION CASES

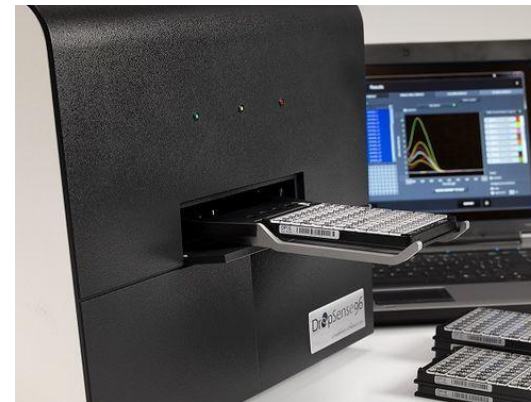
Continuous glucose monitoring



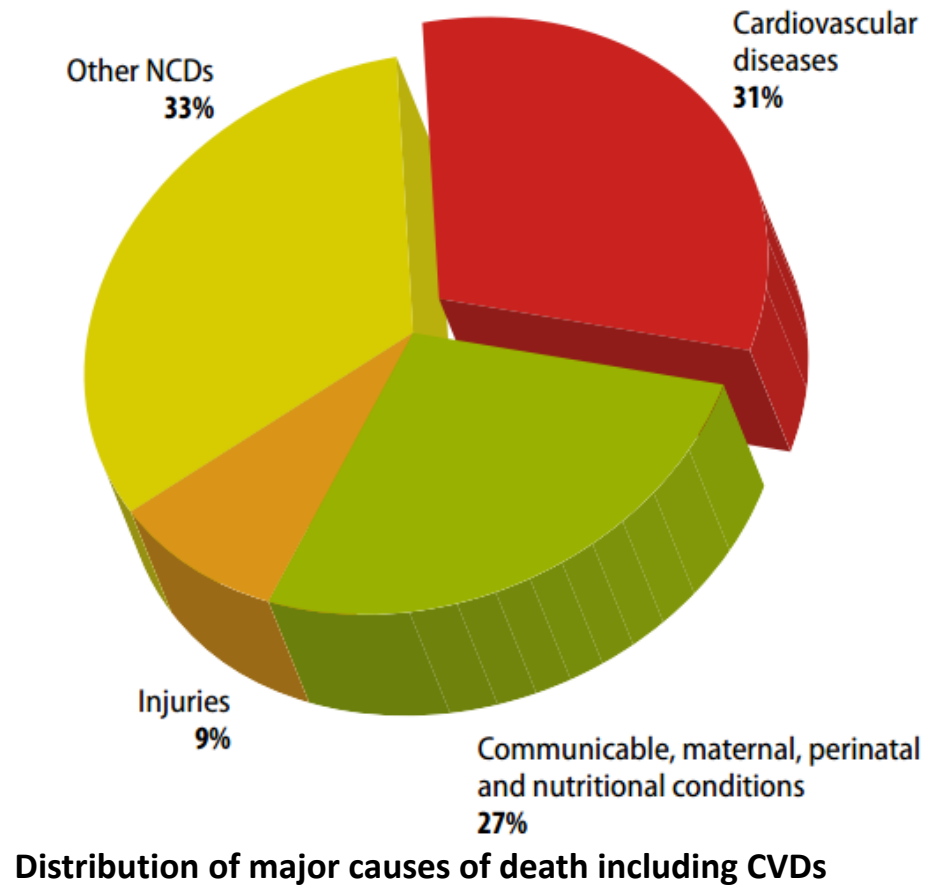
➔ Cardiovascular monitoring



In-vitro diagnostics



# 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

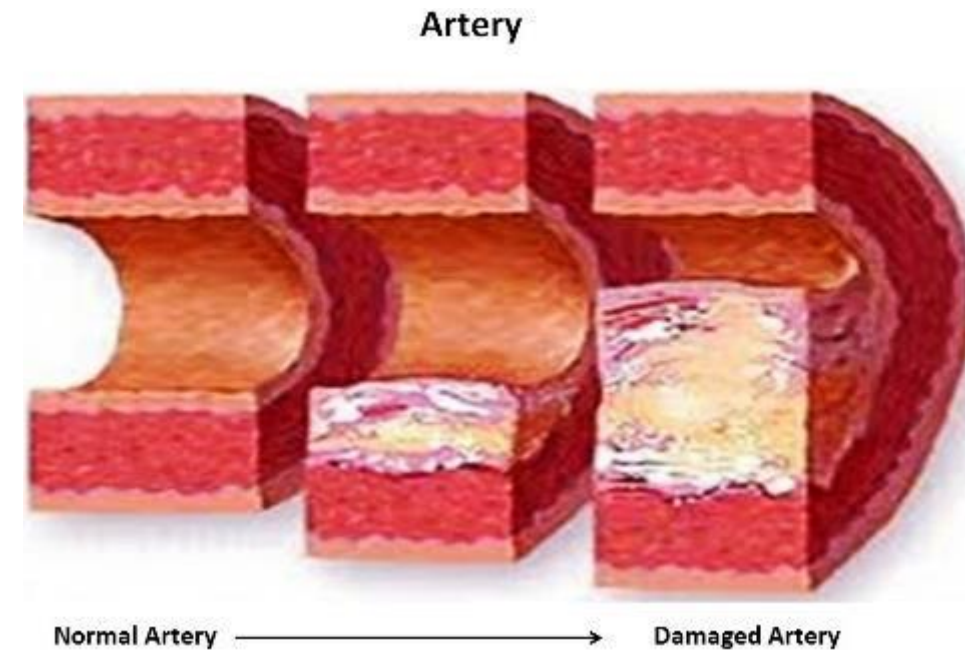
Atherosclerosis: deposition of plaque on the inner arterial walls (which can lead to stiffening)

Stenosis: abnormal narrowing in a blood vessel

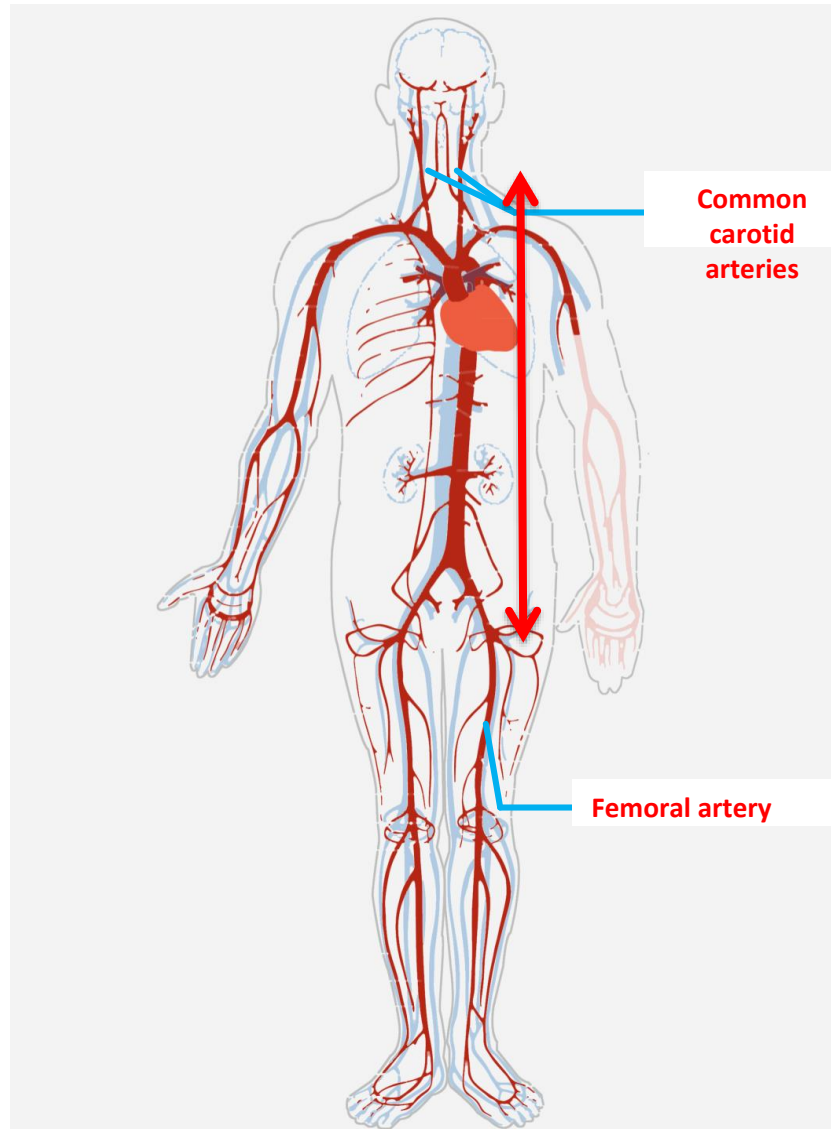
Heart Dyssynchrony: left and right part of the heart are not triggered synchronously

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

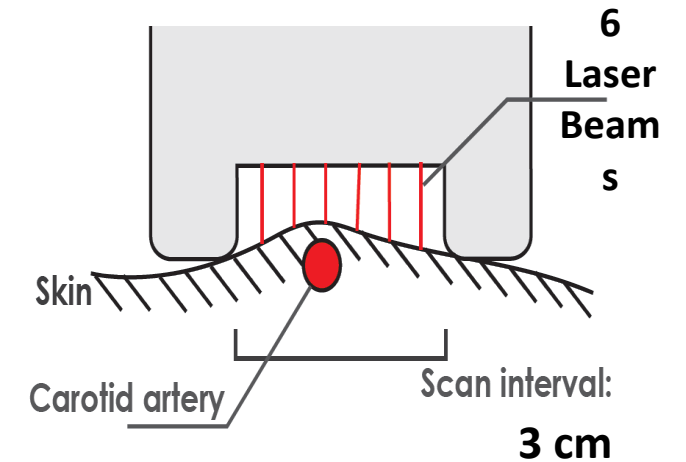
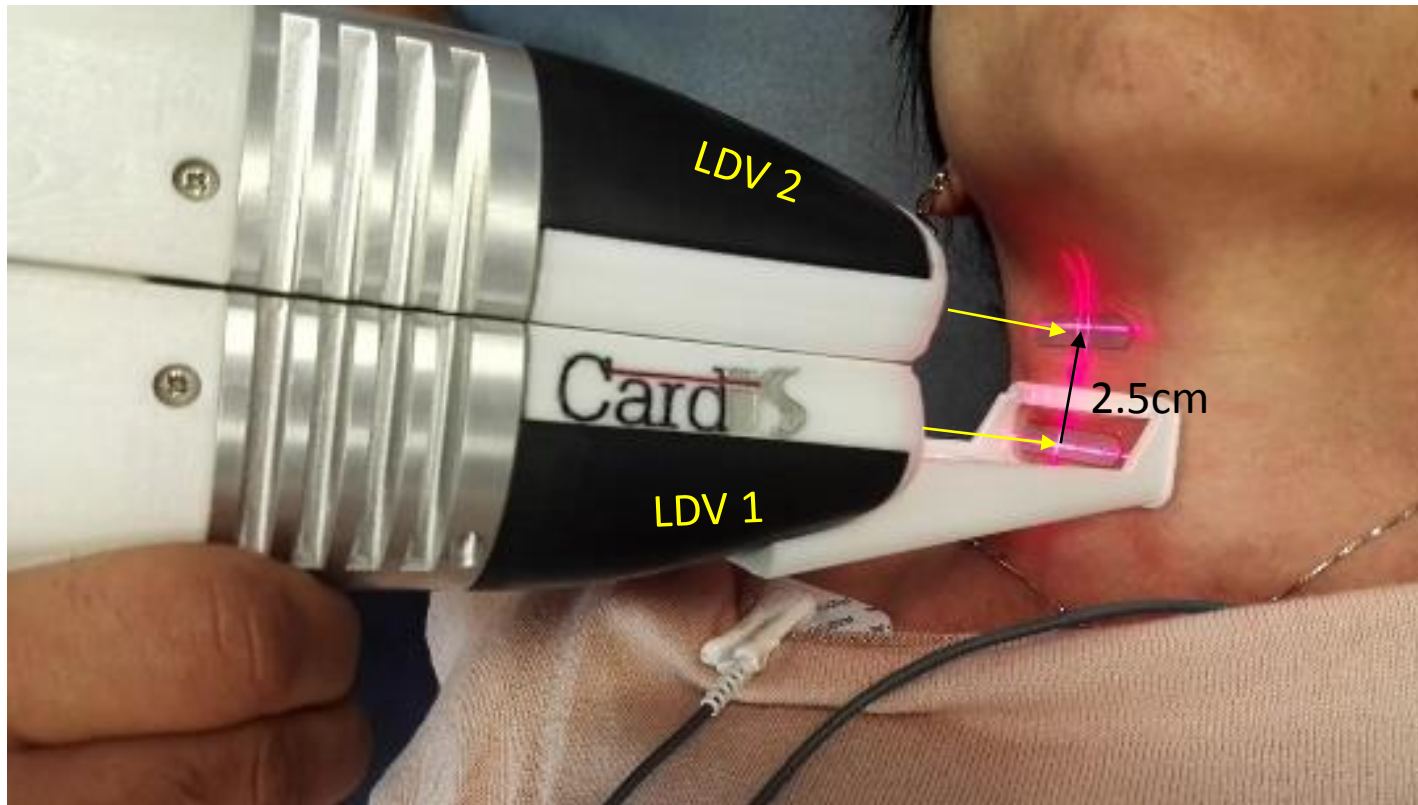


**Pulse Wave Velocity: speed by which the pressure wave caused by a heart beat travels in the arteries**

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

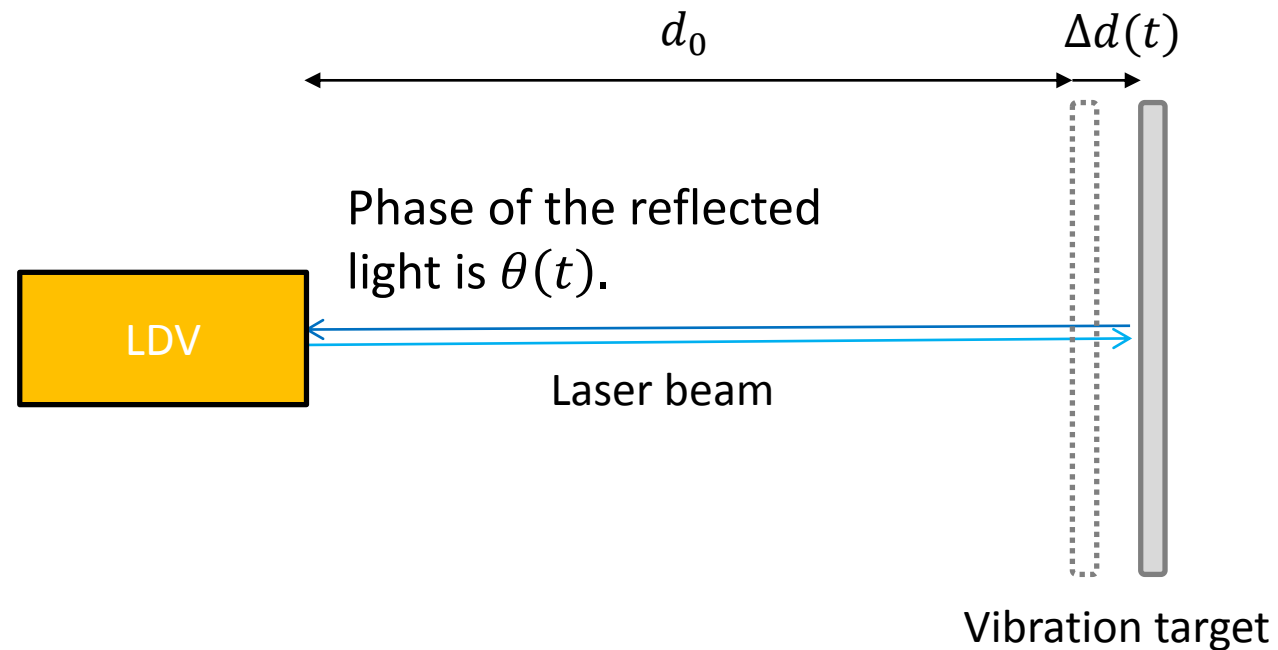
**Larger PWV ->  
Higher arterial stiffness ->  
Higher risk of cardiovascular events**

# APPROACH: MEASURE LOCAL COMMON-CAROTID PWV



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

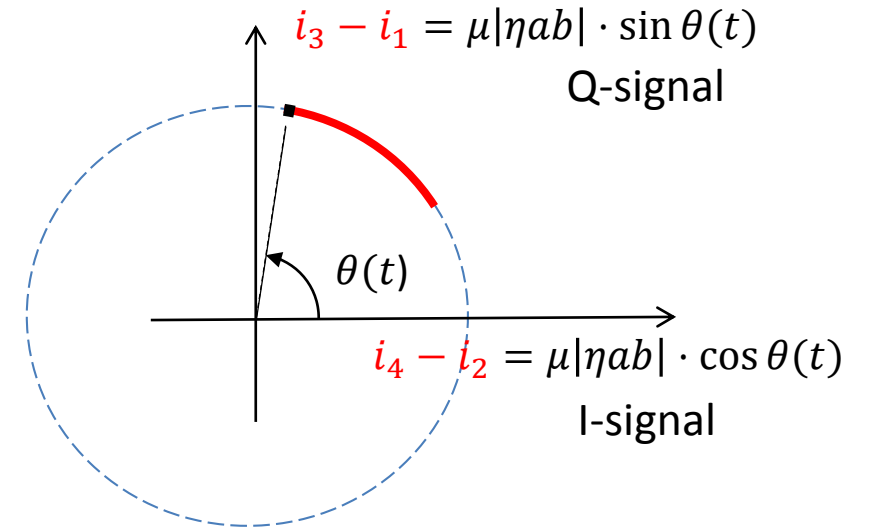
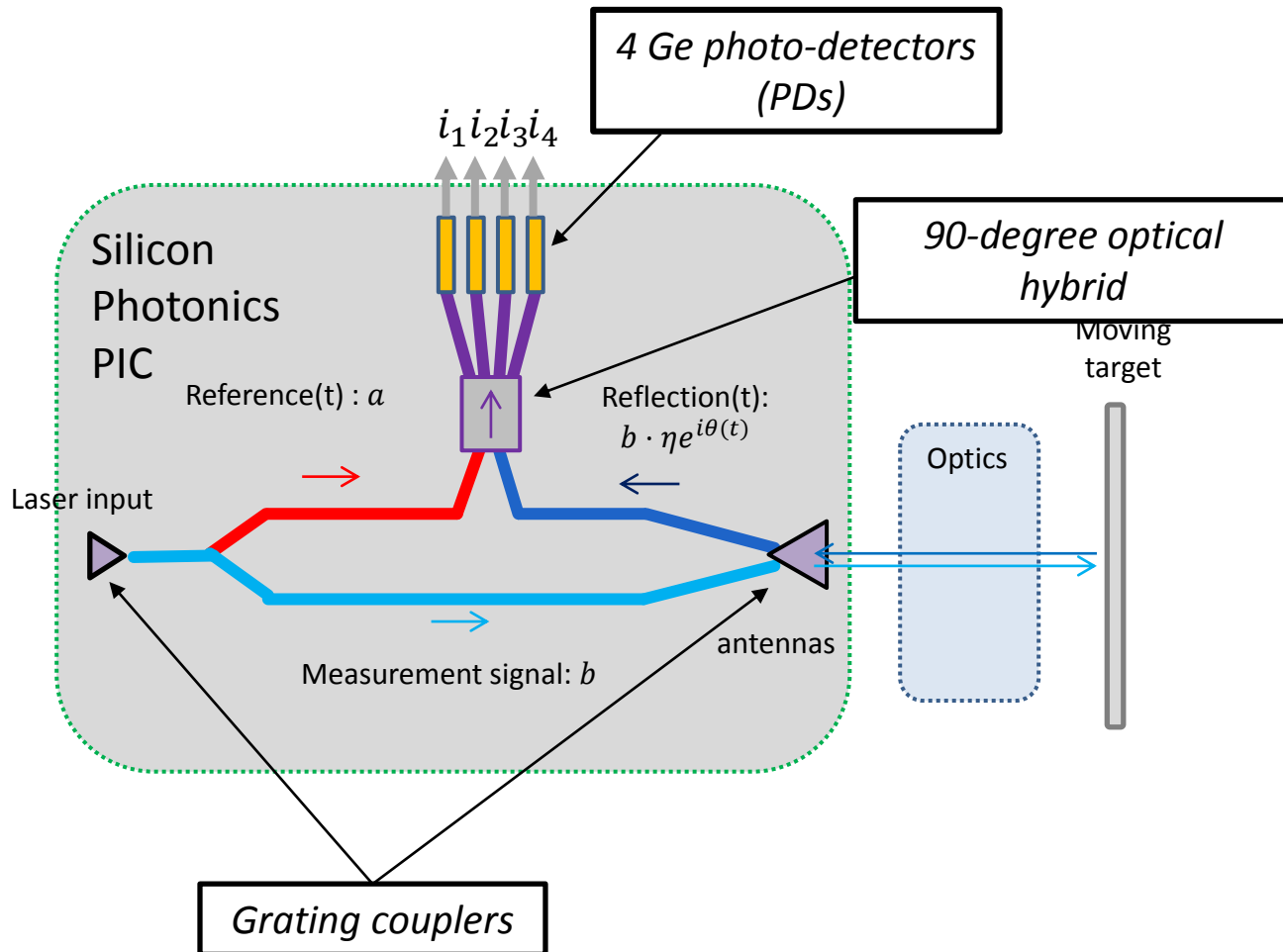
# WORKING PRINCIPLE OF LDV



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

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

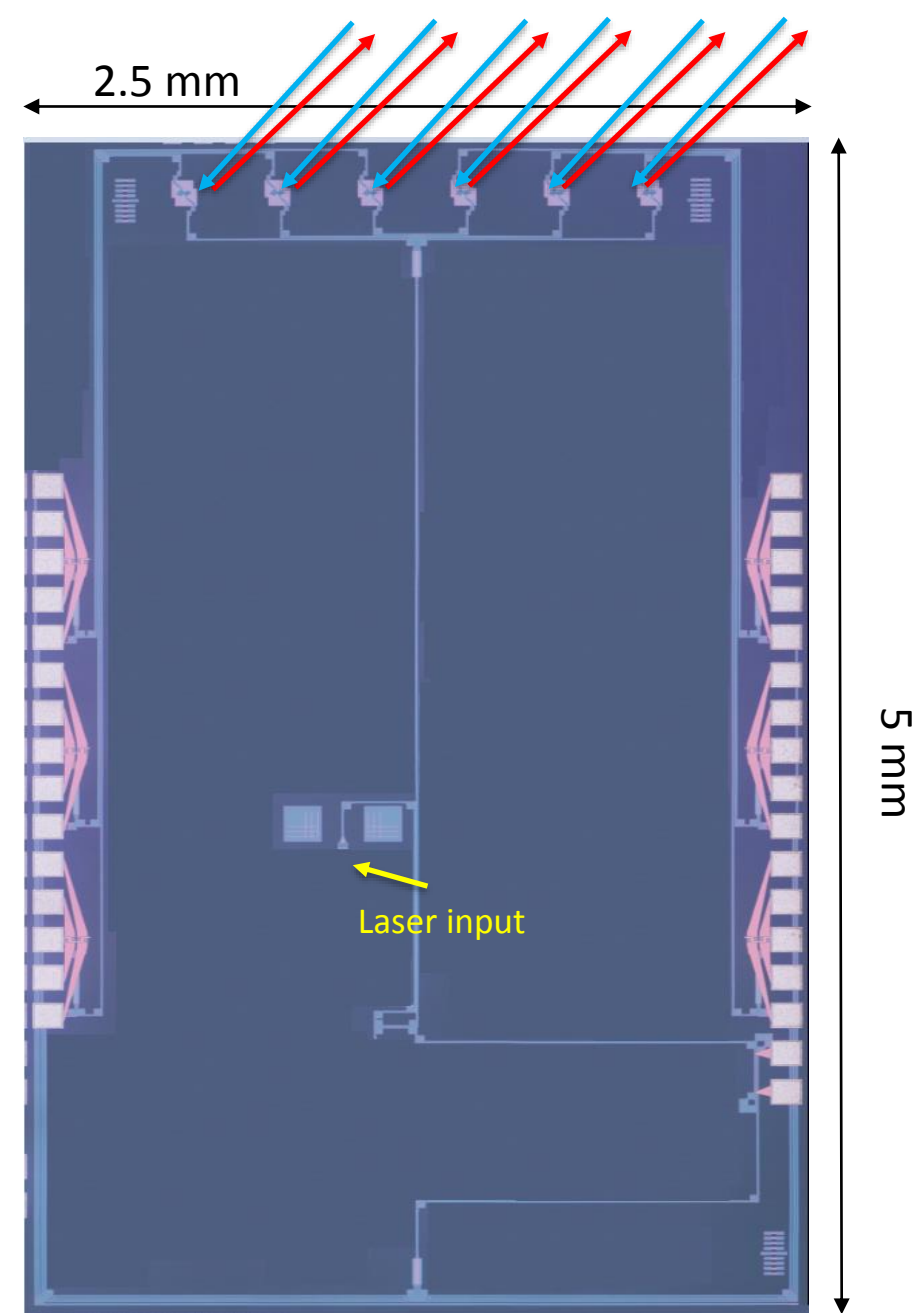
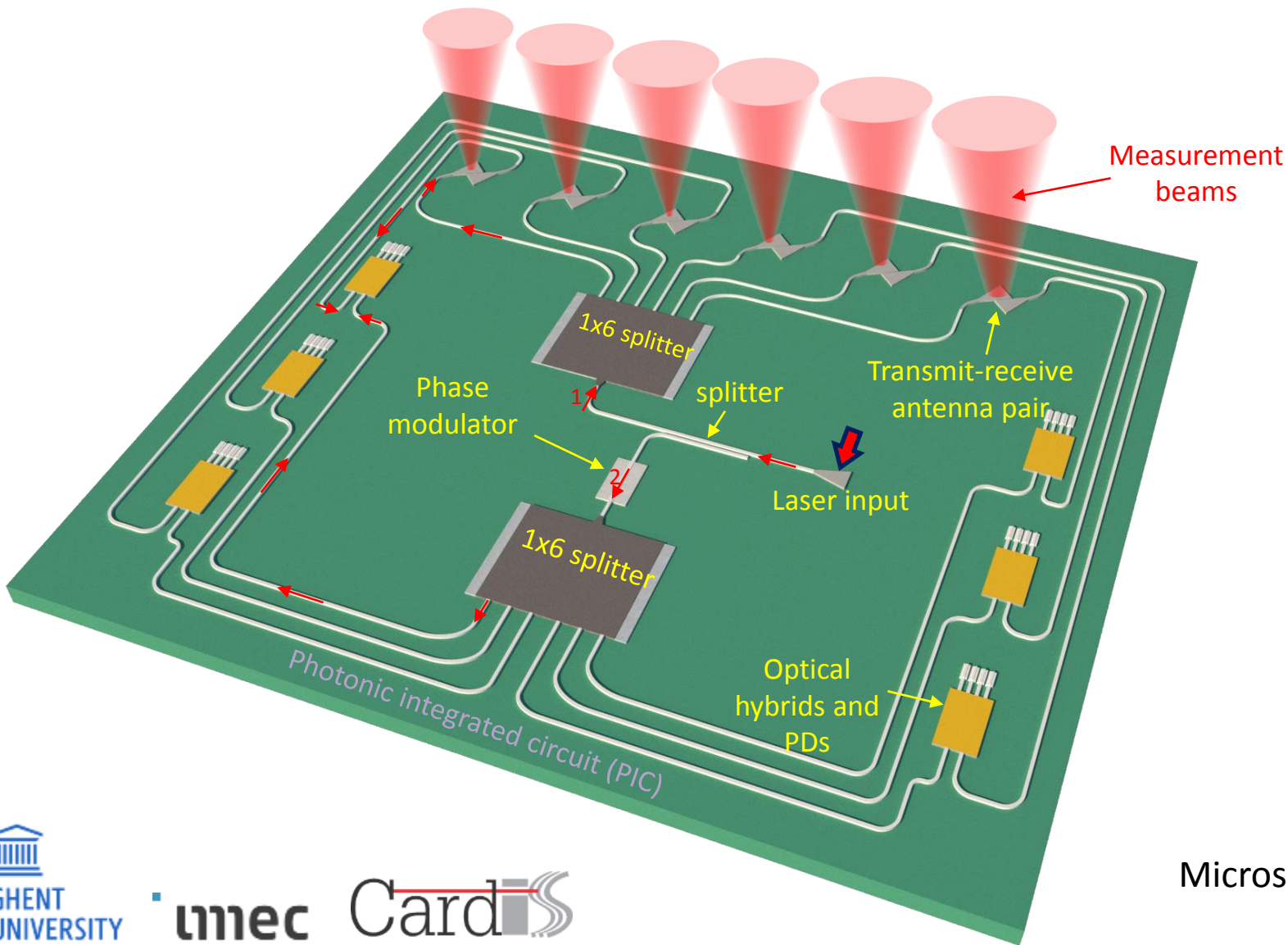
# WORKING PRINCIPLE OF LDV: HOMODYNE DETECTION



**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

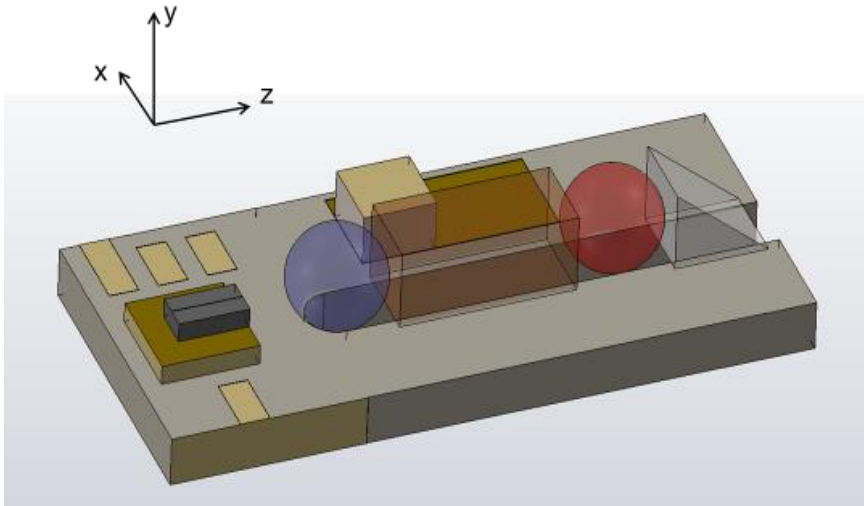


Microscope image of the photonic integrated circuit (PIC) in a silicon-on-insulator platform

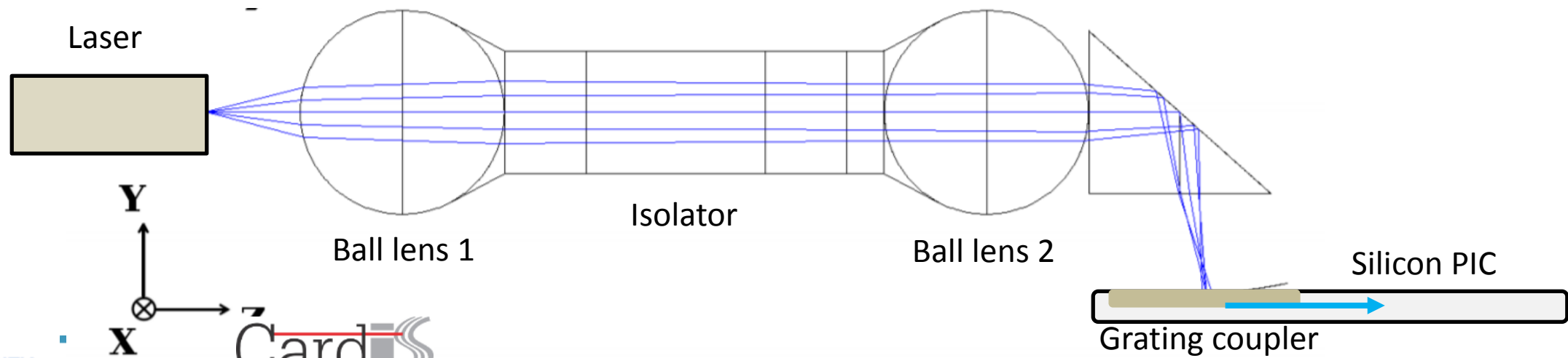
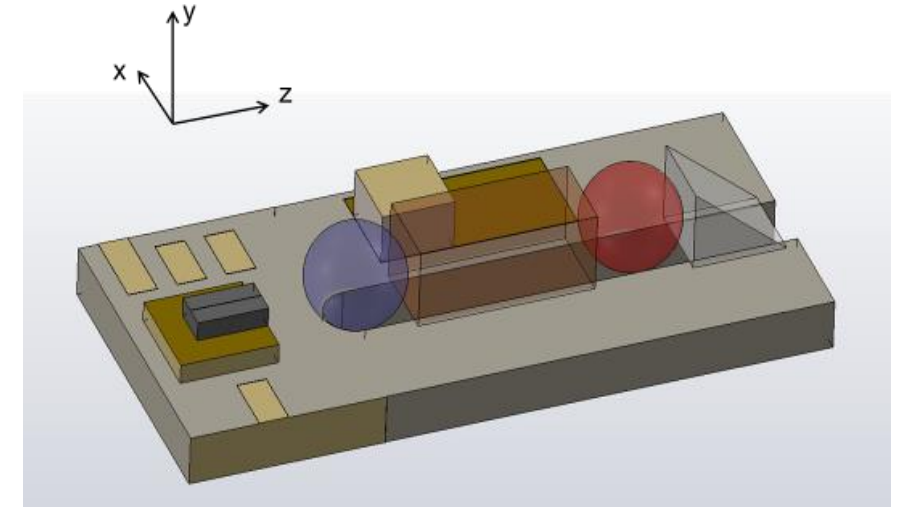
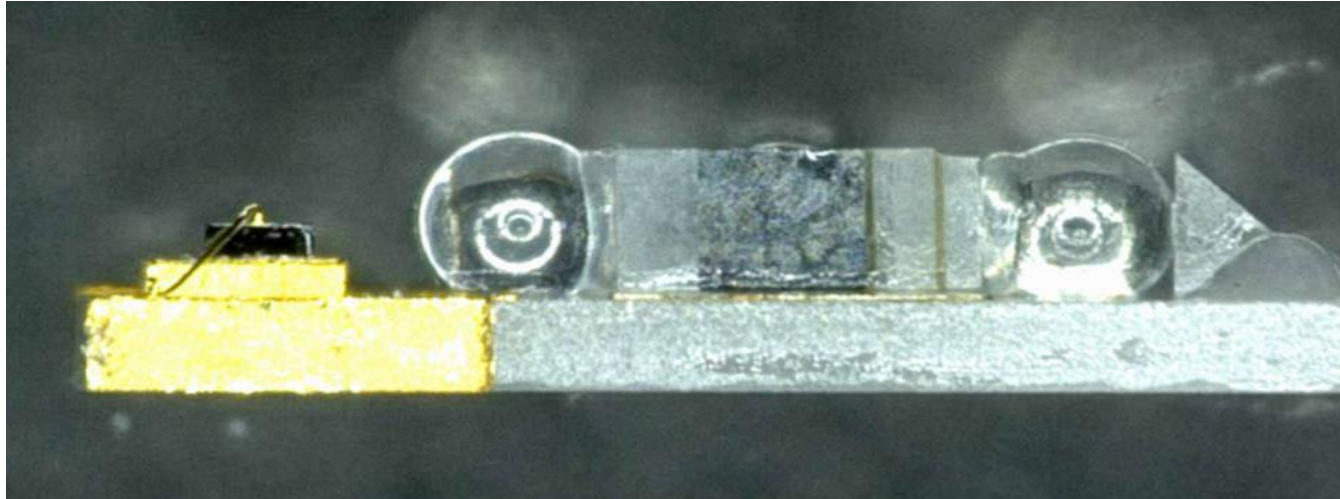


# PHOTONIC INTEGRATED CIRCUITS (PICs)

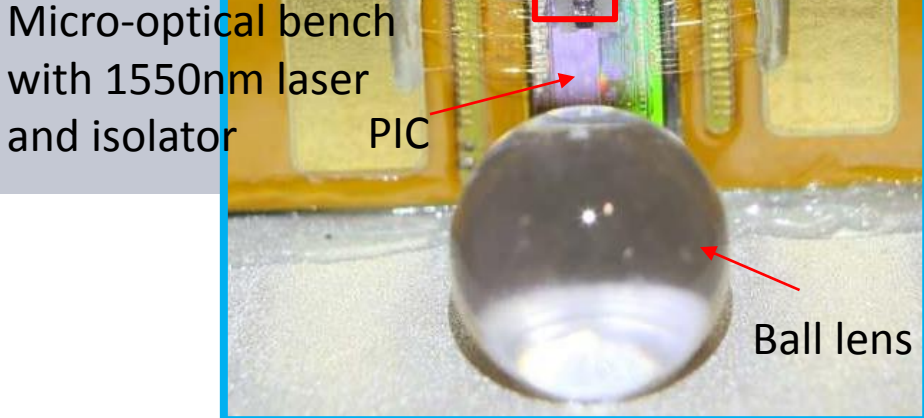
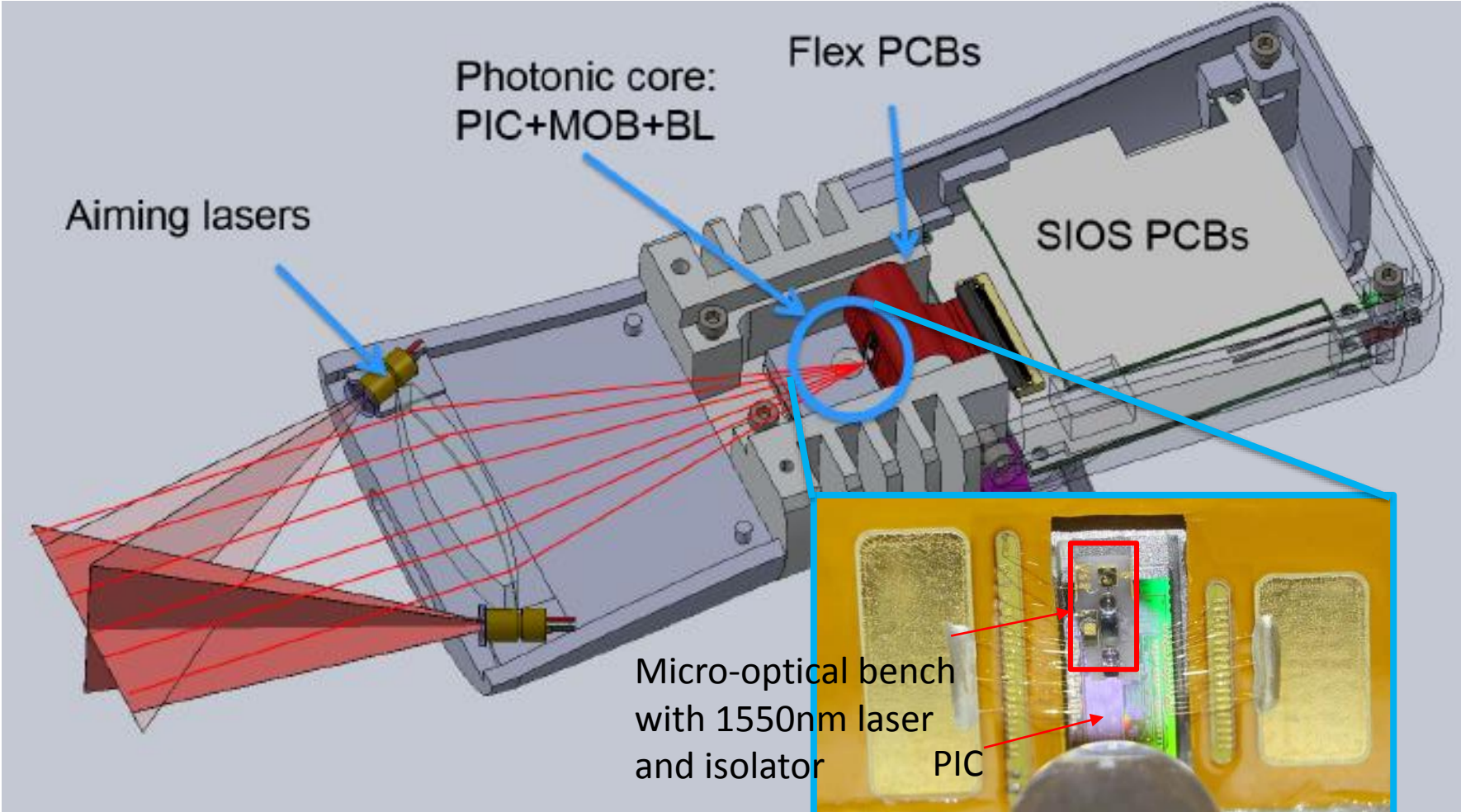
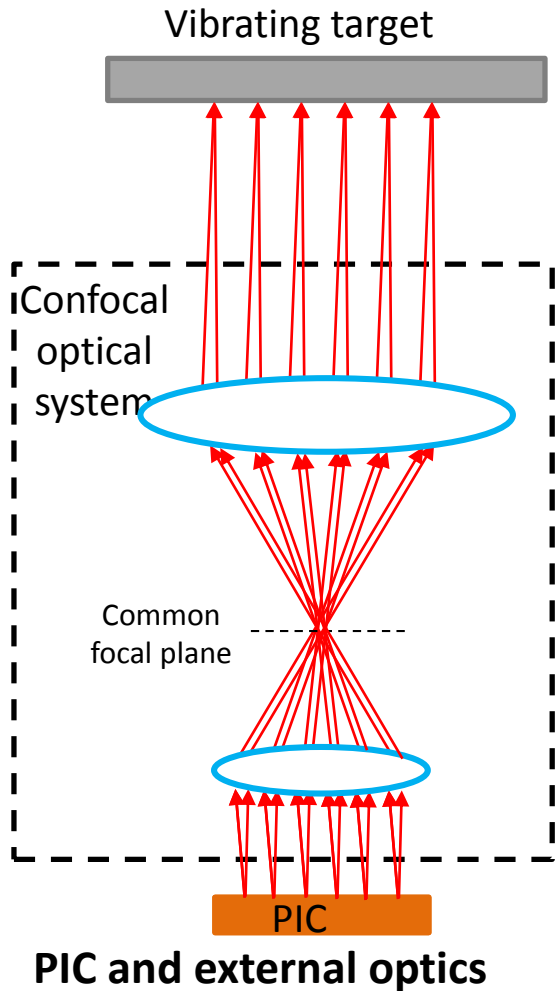
- PICs fabricated through Europractice MPW-service
- iSiPP50G SOI process at imec
- Laser diode is mounted on a Micro-Optic Bench (MOB) which is attached to the PIC



# HYBRID LASER INTEGRATION: MICRO-OPTIC BENCH APPROACH



# PACKAGING OF THE 6-BEAM LDV



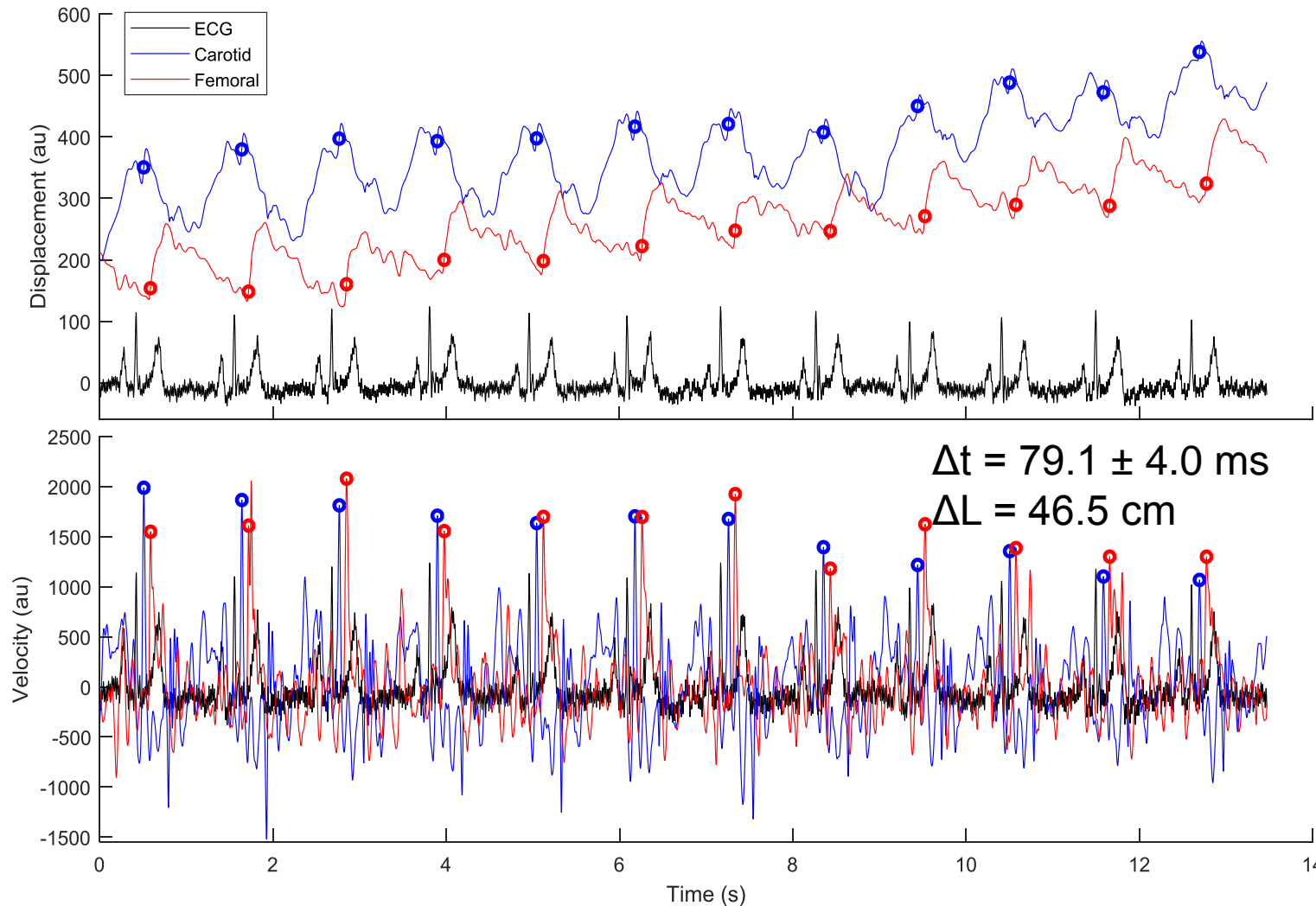
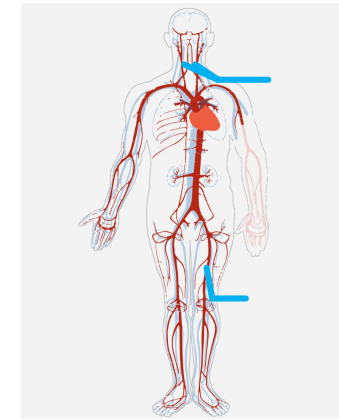
# THE EXTERNAL VIEW OF THE MULTI-BEAM LDVs



# CLINICAL TRIALS AT INSERM, PARIS



# CAROTID-FEMORAL (CF) PWV MEASUREMENT

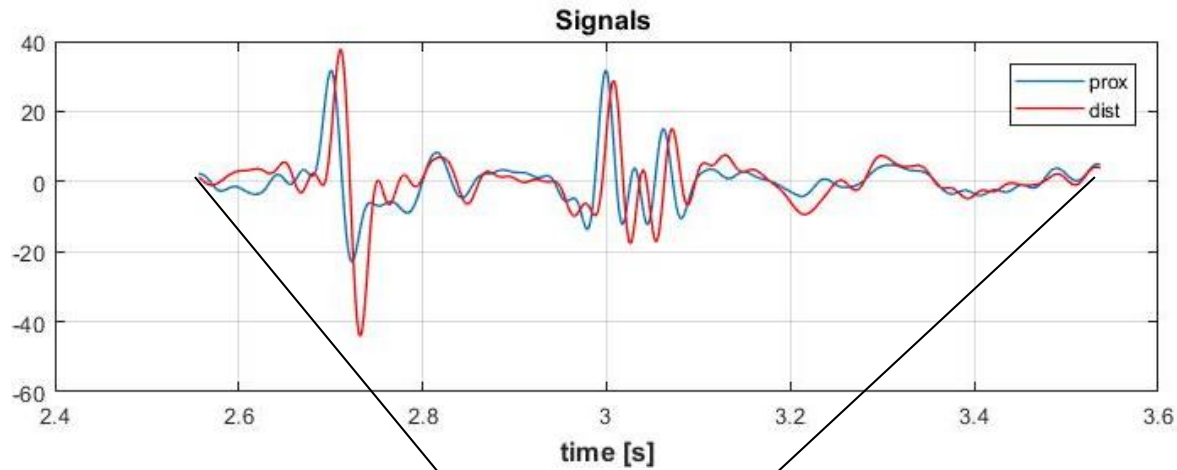


Sensor	cf-PWV
CARDIS LDV	$5.88 \pm 0.30 \text{ m/s}$
Commercial cf-PWV meter (Sphygmocor)	$5.96 \pm 0.40 \text{ m/s}$

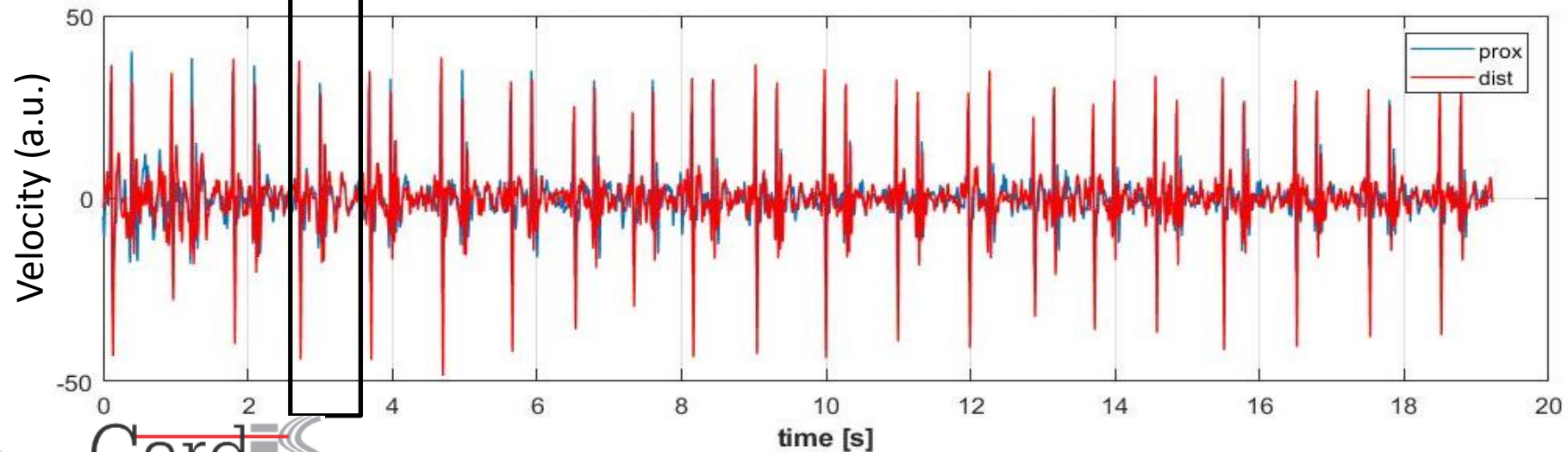
The cf-PWV measured by the CARDIS LDV is very similar to that measured by a commercial PWV meter.

The cf-PWV is obtained with the 1st derivative signal on a healthy subject.

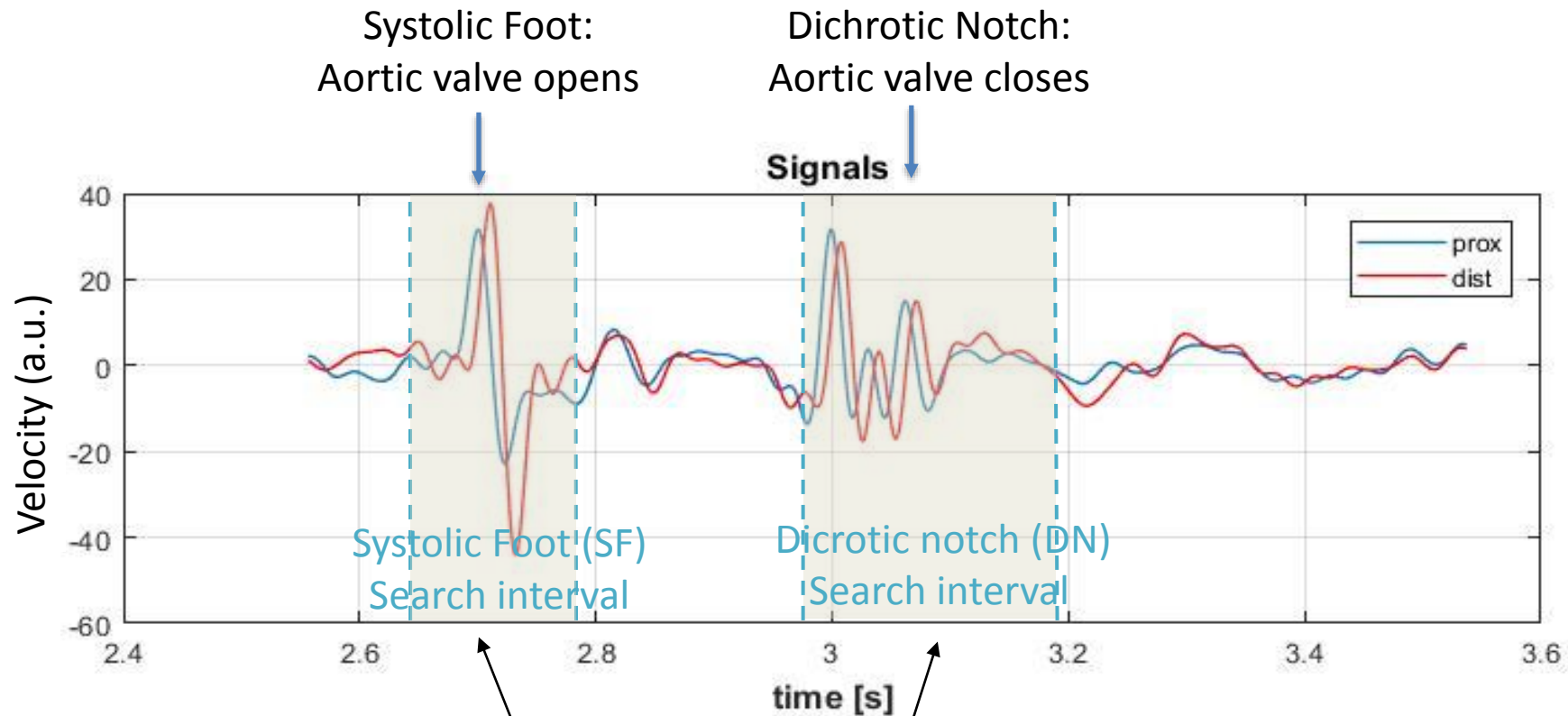
# COMMON-CAROTID (CC) PWV MEASUREMENT RESULTS



Data from two corresponding channels.



# MEASURED CC-PWV VALUES



The time delays are calculated by using a cross-correlation method in these intervals.



# THREE APPLICATION CASES

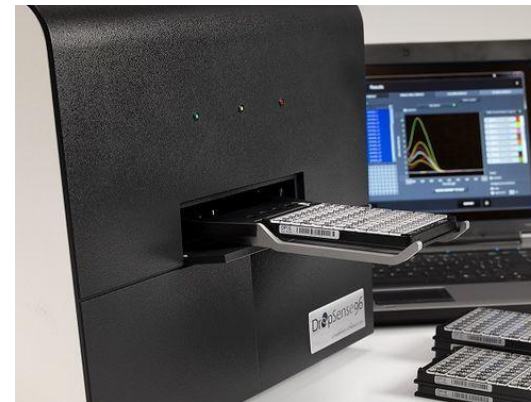
Continuous glucose monitoring



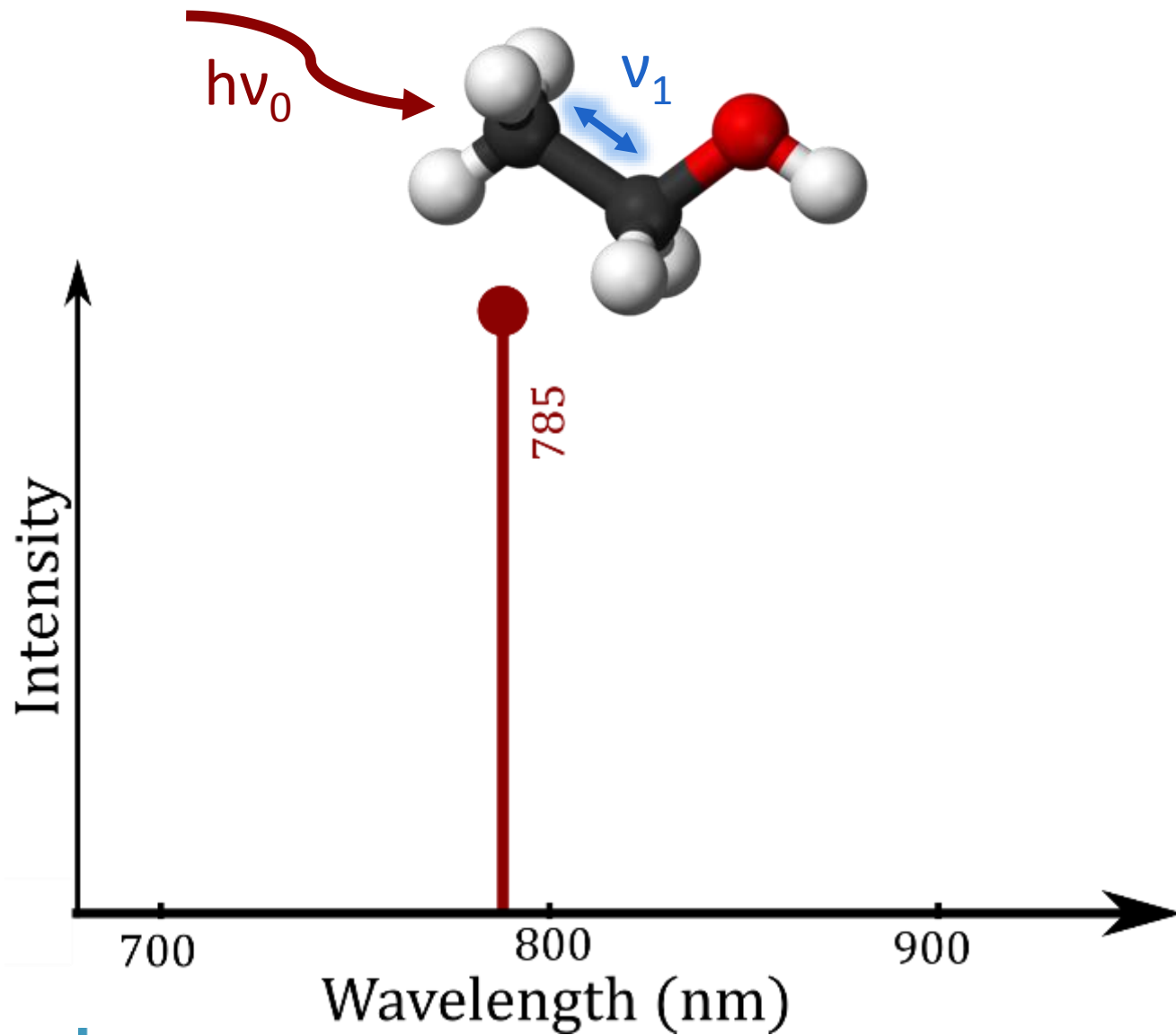
Cardiovascular monitoring



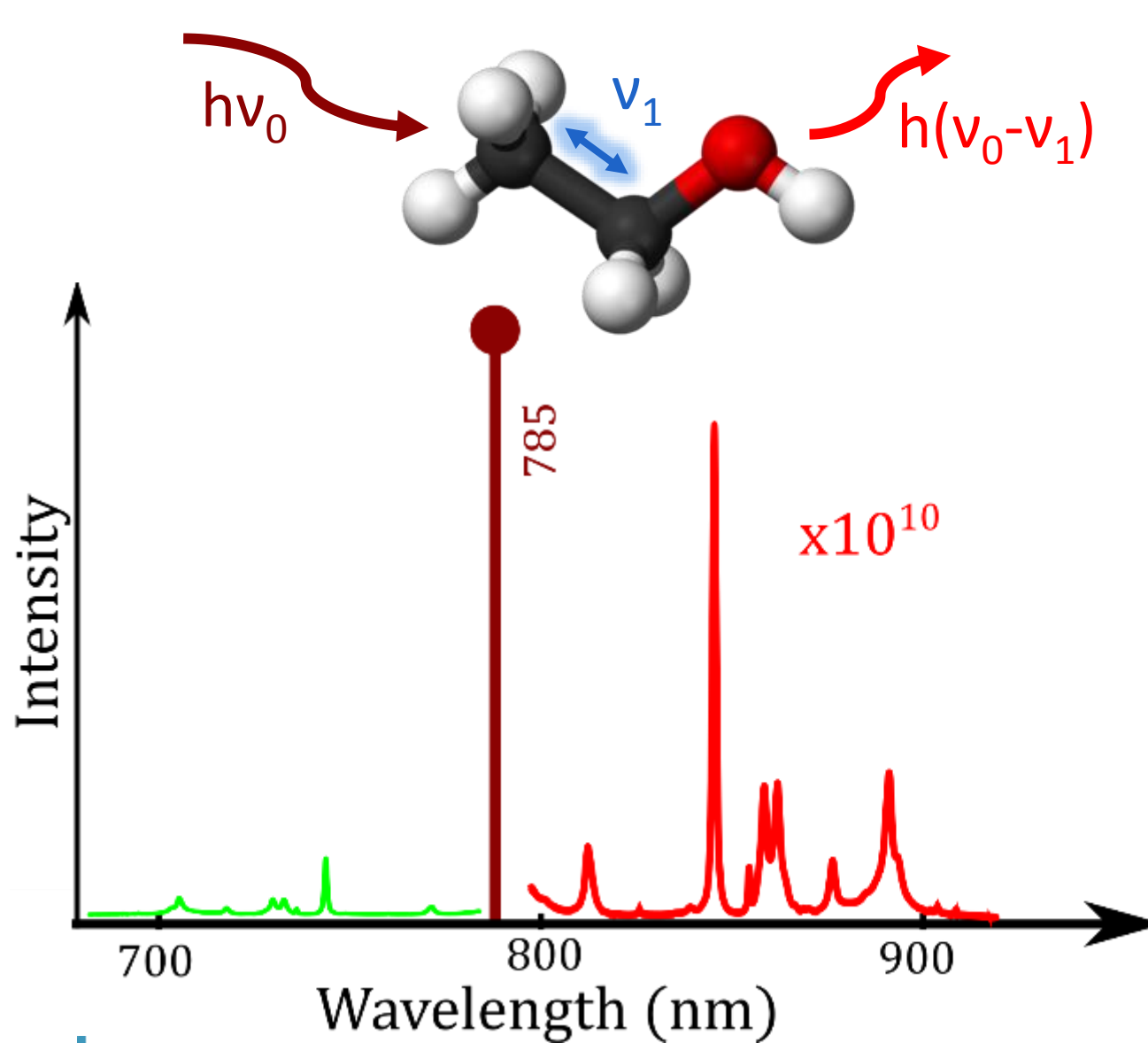
➔ In-vitro diagnostics by on-chip Raman



# THE RAMAN SPECTRUM IS A FINGERPRINT OF A MOLECULE'S VIBRATION



# THE RAMAN SPECTRUM IS A FINGERPRINT OF A MOLECULE'S VIBRATION



+ Specific chemical information  
without any labeling or contact

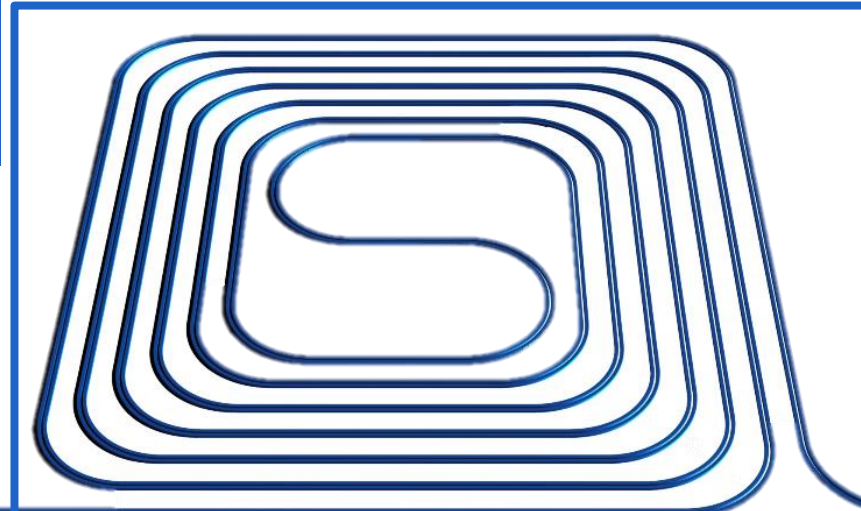
- Weak signals

# TOWARDS A FULL INTEGRATED SiN PLATFORM FOR ON-CHIP RAMAN

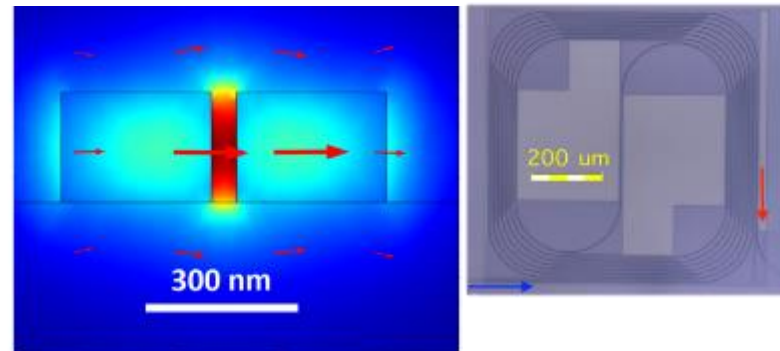
PAST: a € 100.000, 1 m<sup>3</sup> microscope



FUTURE: a € 10, 10 mm<sup>2</sup> chip

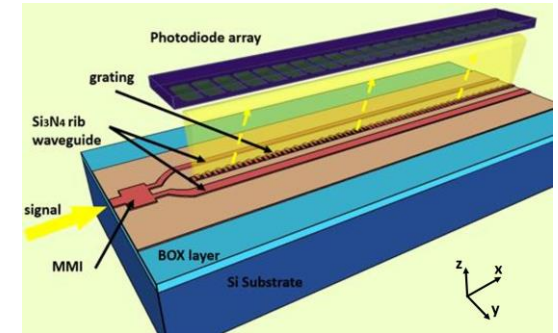


Waveguide enhanced collection



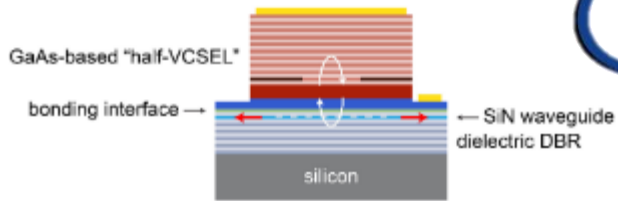
Dhakal, Wuytens et al. ACS Photonics 2016 (3)

CMOS integrated spectrometer



Nie et al., Optics Express 2017 (8)

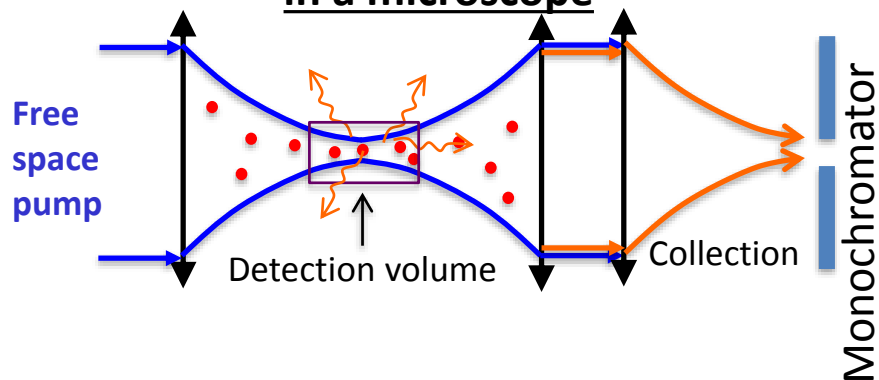
III/V on SiN Pump Laser



Haglund, Kumari et al, JSTQE 2017 (6)

# WAVEGUIDE-ENHANCED RAMAN SPECTROSCOPY

## Free space excitation and collection in a microscope

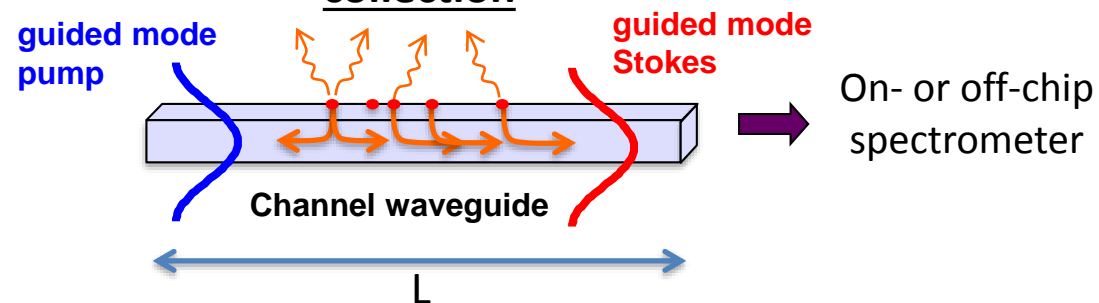


- Large étendue from particle cloud:  
⇒ Resolution - sensitivity - size compromise for the spectrometer
- In a confocal microscope:

$$\frac{P_{coll}}{P_{pump}} = 2 \frac{\lambda_0}{n} \rho \sigma_{scat}$$

density
scattering cross-section

## Waveguide-based excitation and collection



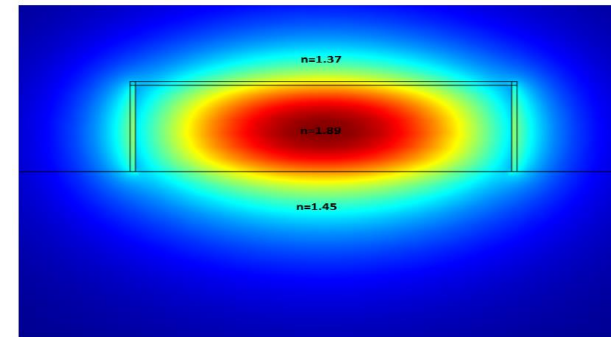
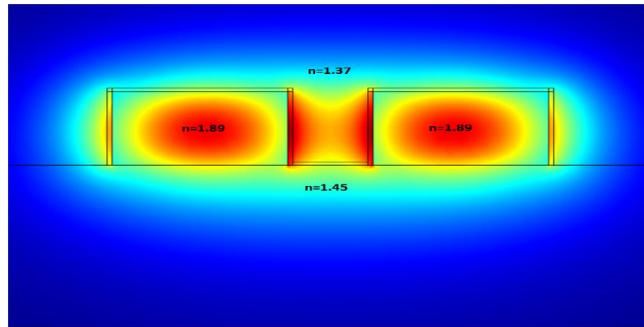
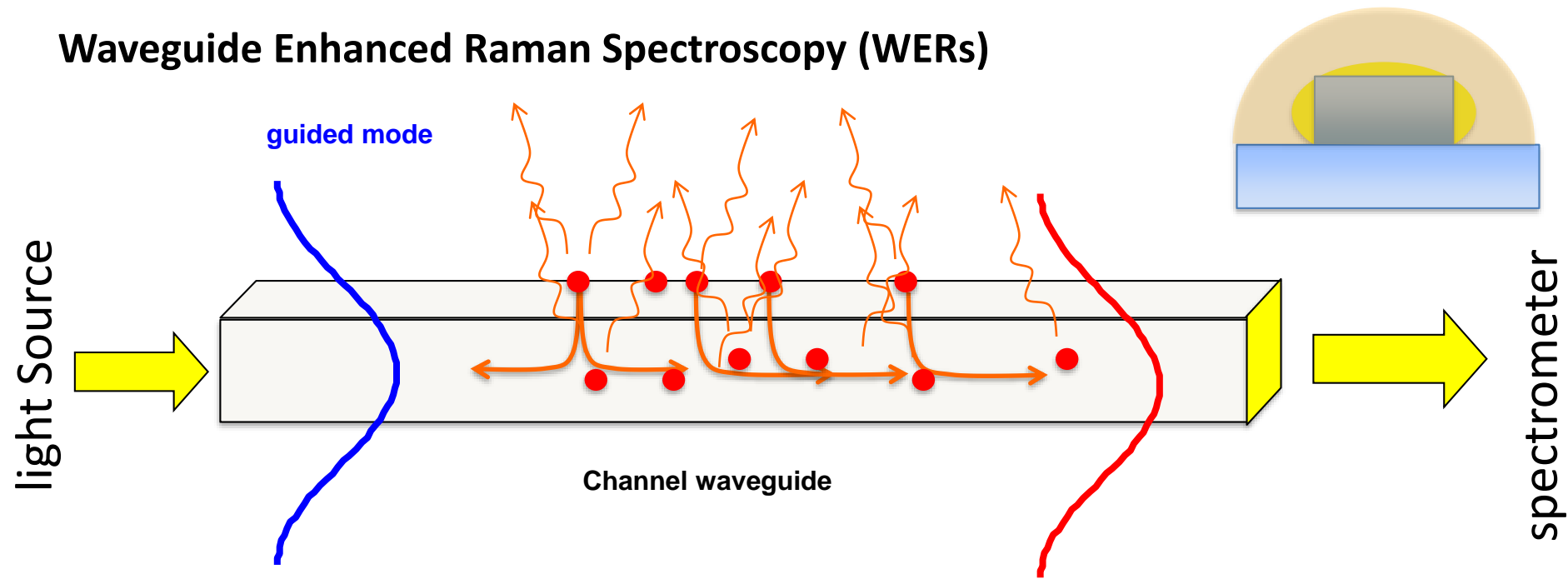
- Cloud couples to single waveguide mode:  
smallest possible étendue!  
⇒ Optimal performance of spectrometer

$$\frac{P_{coll}}{P_{pump}} = L \eta_0 \rho \sigma_{scat}$$

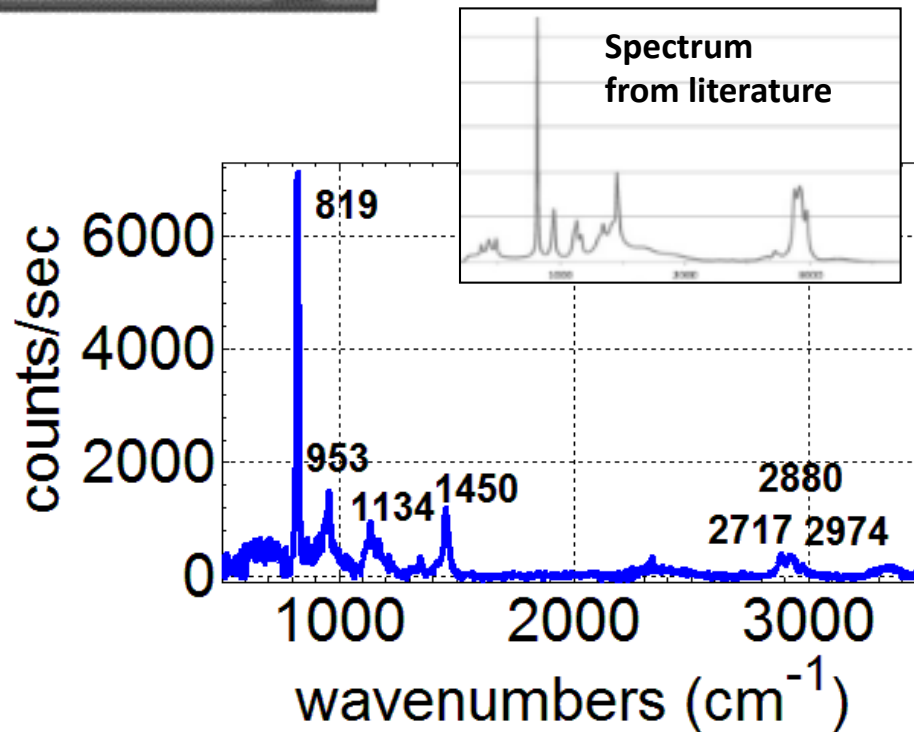
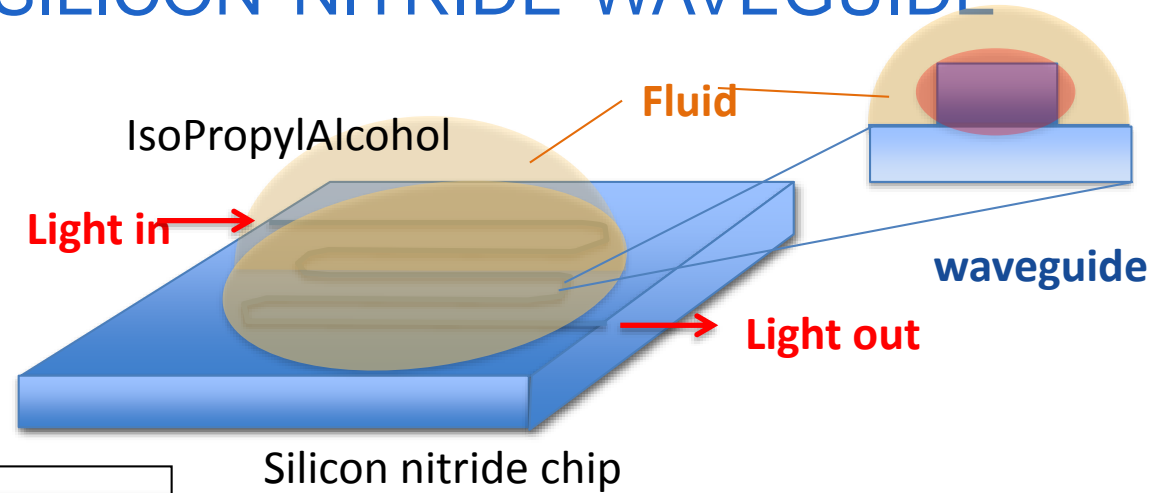
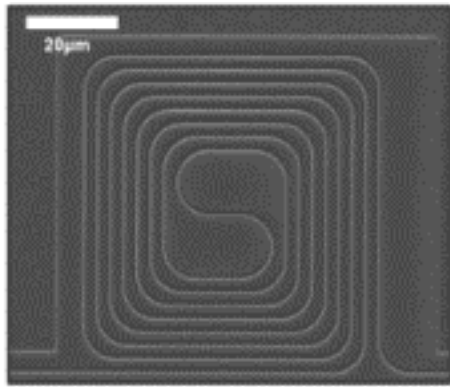
$$\eta_0 \equiv \frac{1}{n(\vec{r}) k_v} \left( \frac{\pi n_g \lambda_0}{\epsilon_0} \right)^2 \left( \frac{\iint_{Clad} |\vec{e}_m(\vec{r})|^2 d\vec{r}}{\iint_{\infty} \epsilon(\vec{r}) |\vec{e}_m(\vec{r})|^2 d\vec{r}} \right)^2$$

**High index contrast matters**

# Waveguide Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy (WERs)



# RAMAN SPECTRUM OF IPA ON SILICON-NITRIDE WAVEGUIDE



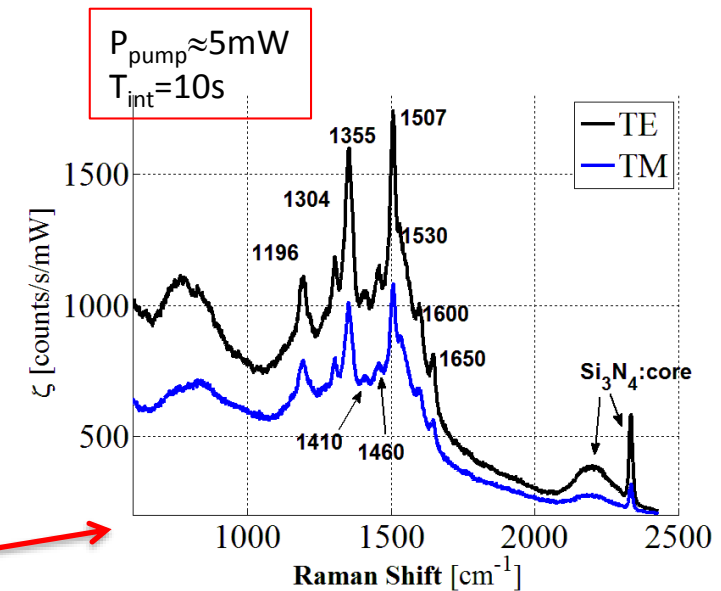
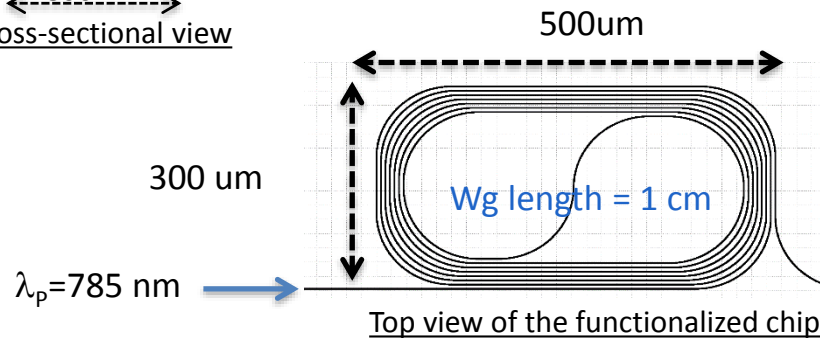
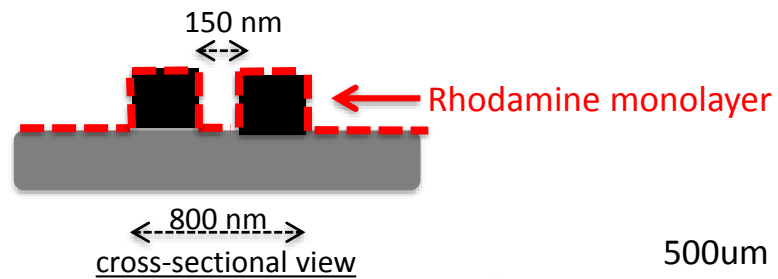
Efficiency of collection 10-100x better than in Raman microscope

A. Dhakal et al, Opt. Lett. (2014)

A. Dhakal et al, Optics Express (2015)

# RAMAN SPECTROSCOPY OF RHODAMINE MONOLAYERS

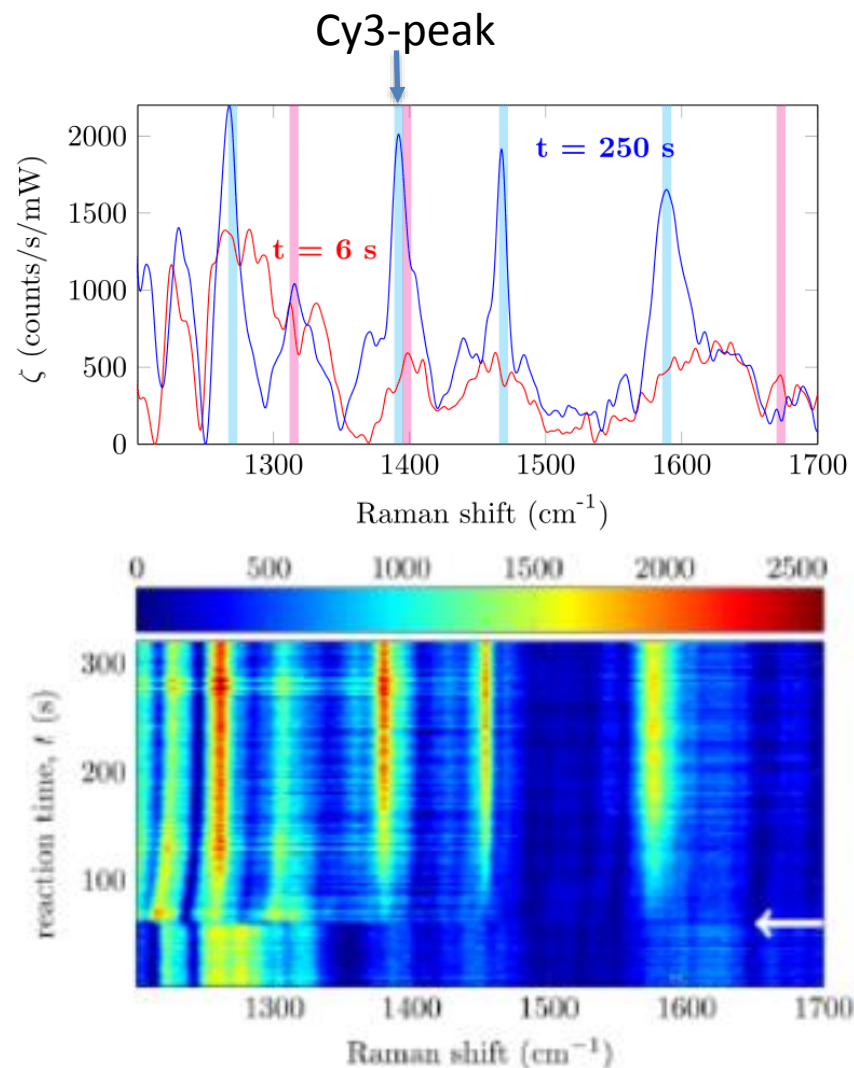
$\text{Si}_3\text{N}_4$  waveguides were silanized, reacted with amine-reactive NHS-Rhodamine and rinsed to get a monolayer of Rhodamine on the waveguide surface.



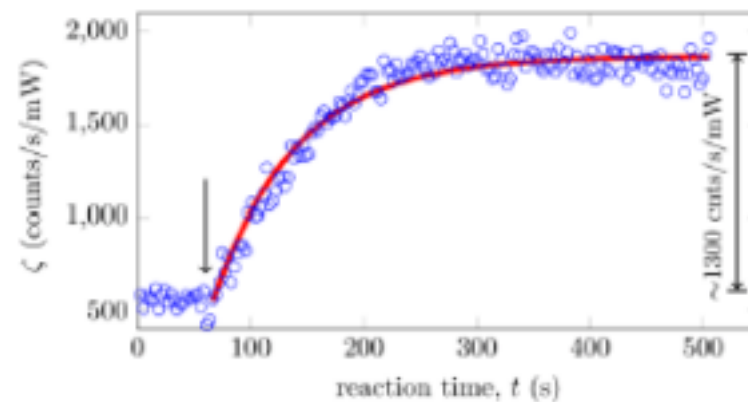
$>10^4$  more collection efficiency than with Raman microscope.



# DNA HYBRIDIZATION KINETICS

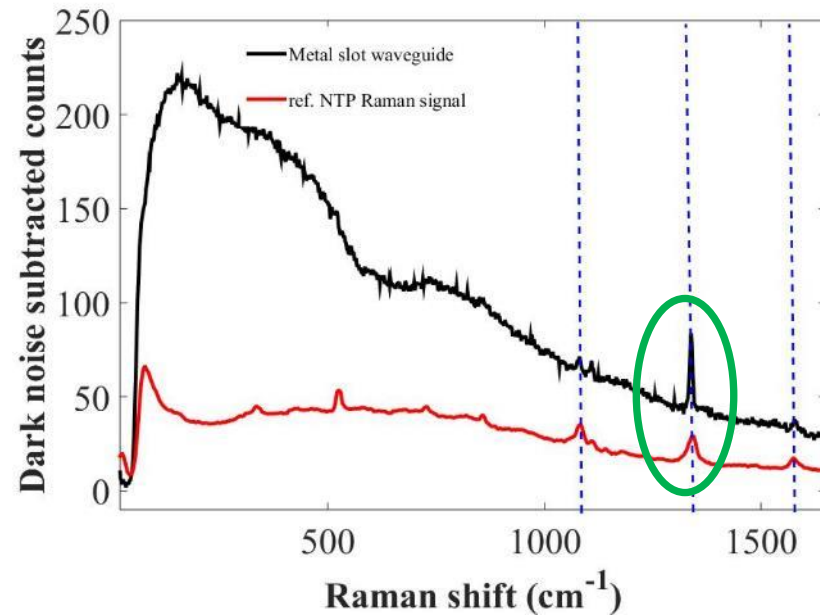
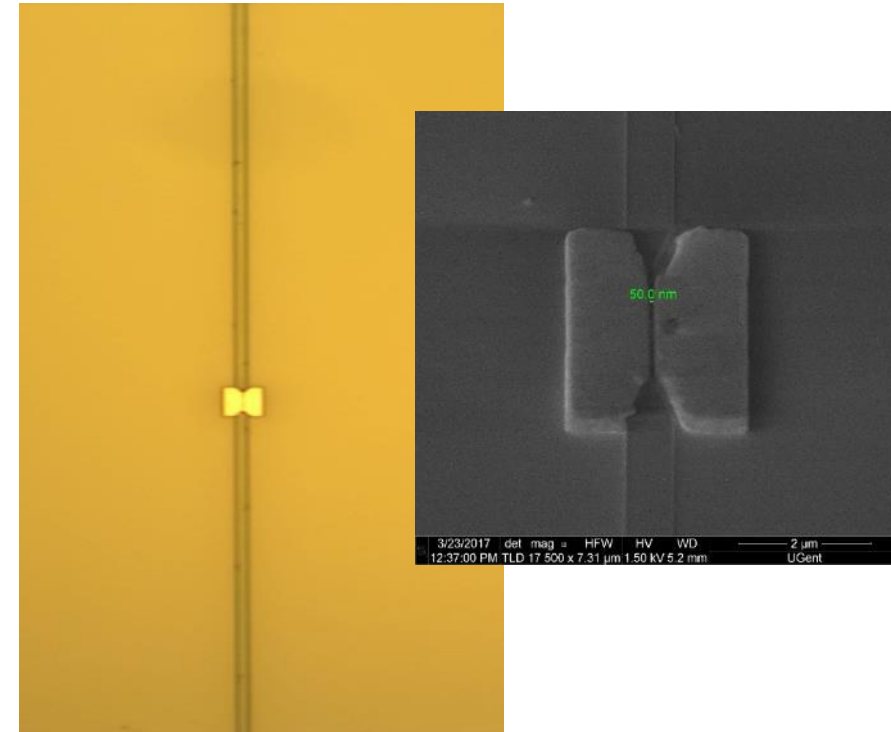
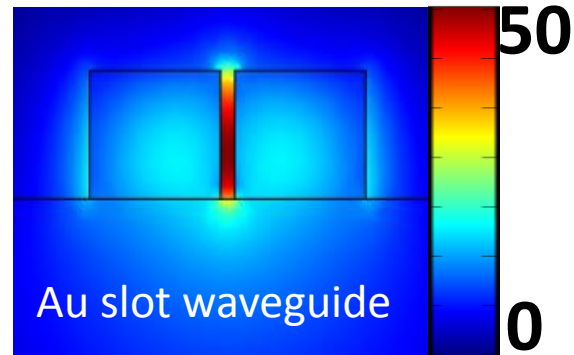
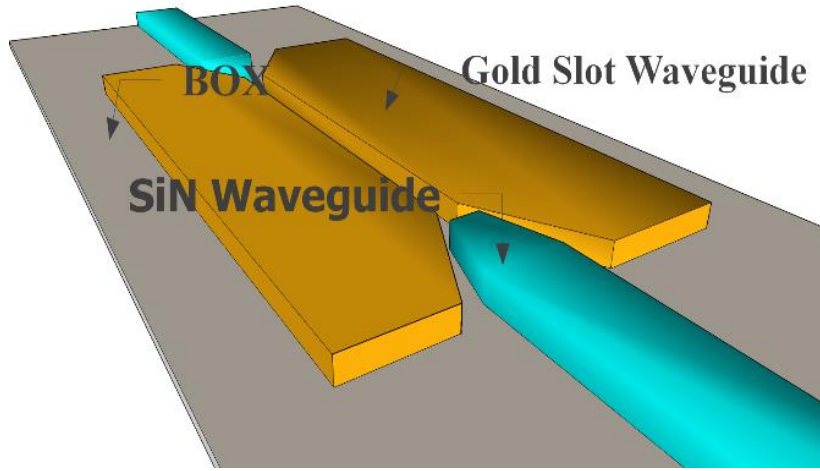


1. Waveguides functionalized with single strand DNA (here of a cancer-relevant gene K-Ras)
2. Real-time monitoring of the binding of complementary DNA, labeled with Cy3



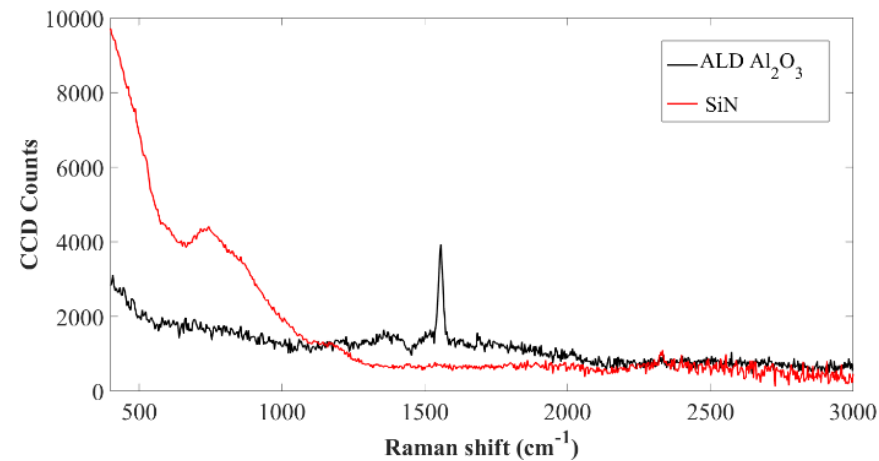
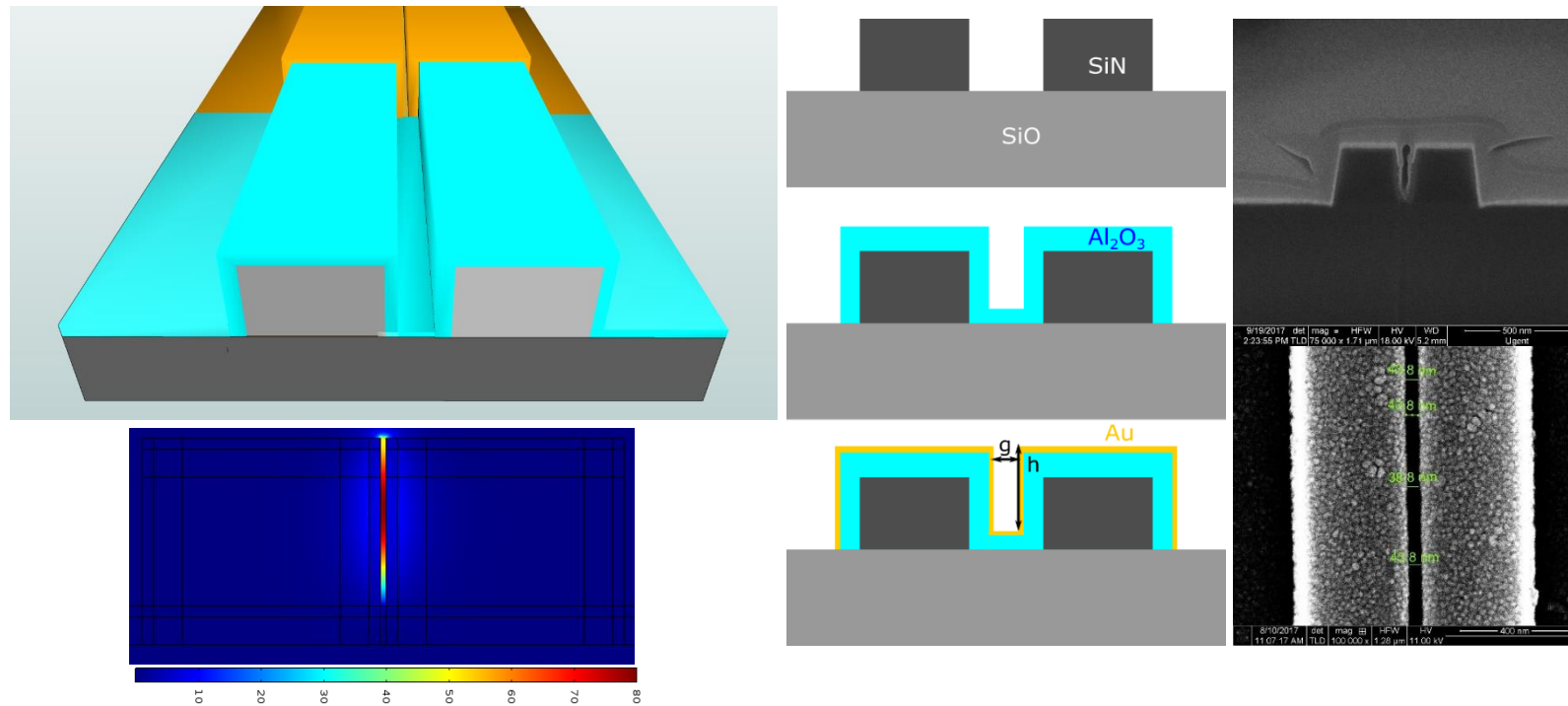
A. Dhakal et al., ACS Photonics, 2016

# USING METAL SLOT WAVEGUIDES TO ENHANCE THE RAMAN SCATTERING



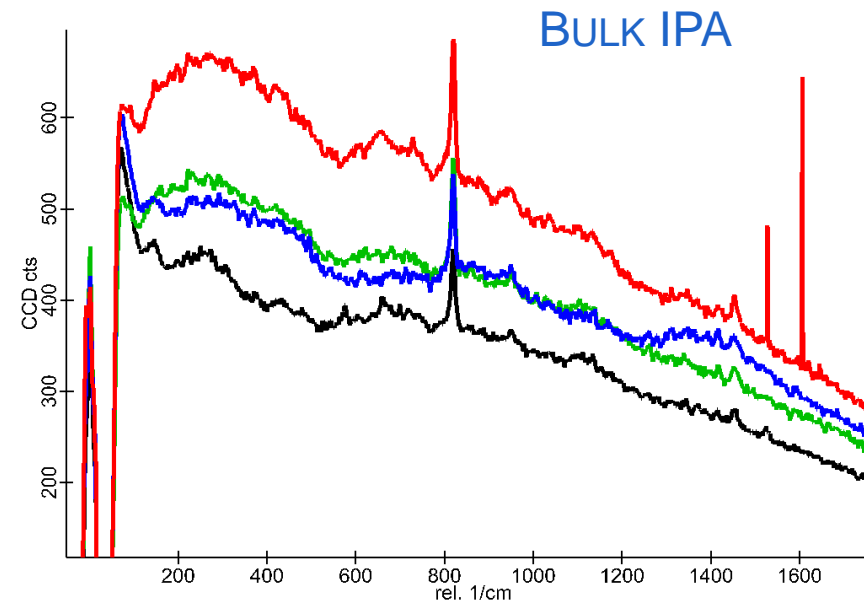
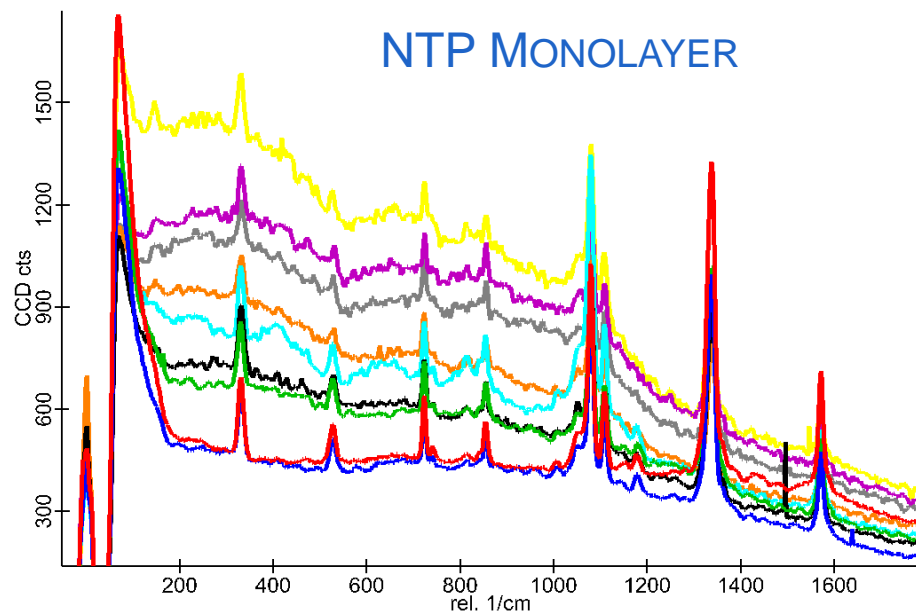
Spectrum of NTP (4-NitroThioPhenol) bound to gold

# ALL DUV FABRICATED HYBRID PHOTONICS PLASMONICS WAVEGUIDE:



# ALL DUV FABRICATED HYBRID PHOTONICS PLASMONICS WAVEGUIDE

## STRONG ENHANCEMENT:



## VARIABILITY OF ENHANCEMENT: 5%

# LESSONS LEARNED

Mature technology platforms



Limited degrees of freedom

Diverse medical applications



Many degrees of freedom



**Need for smart design**

In life science signals are typically noisy or weak relative to background



**Need for smart signal analysis**

# 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

Proof-of-concept demonstrated 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 spectroscopy on a chip

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## Funding



## Collaborations



## Video

Louise Marais and colleagues, Inserm

Photonics Research Group of Ghent University – imec

imec Silicon Photonics platforms (SOI and SiN)



# ECIO 2019

24th April - 26th April 2019

Ghent University, Belgium



**21st EUROPEAN CONFERENCE  
ON INTEGRATED OPTICS**



# 4<sup>th</sup> ePIXfab Silicon Photonics Summer School Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna Pisa, ITALY



DATE :1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> July, 2019

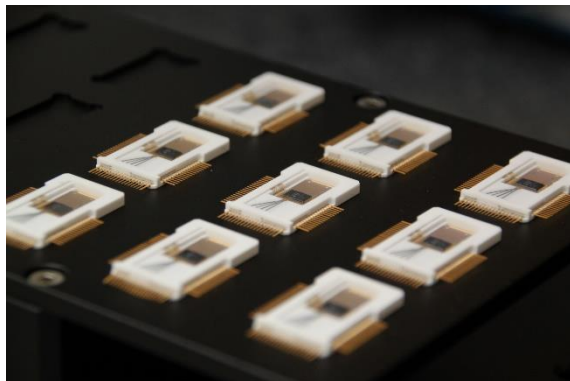
## KEY FEATURES

- Geared towards industrial and academic participants
- Fundamentals to the latest developments in silicon photonics
- Emerging applications of silicon photonics.
- Interact with top-notch experts in the field of silicon photonics

## MORE INFO:

e-mail: [info@epixfab.eu](mailto:info@epixfab.eu)

web: <http://epixfab.eu/upcoming-trainings/spss19>



**About ePIXfab:** ePIXfab is the European Silicon Photonics Alliance, with a mission to promote silicon photonics science, technology, and application through fabless model.