



Electrical and Electronics Engineering

EE-518

Analog Circuits for Biochip

Master in Electrical and Electronics Engineering

EE-518: Analog Circuits for Biochip



Anja Skrivervik



Sandro Carrara



Alexandre Schmid

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Bio/CMOS Interfaces and Co-Design

Sandro Carrara

Bio/CMOS Interfaces and Co-Design

Second Edition

Authors: [Sandro Carrara](#)

Provides textbook coverage of multidisciplinary topics in the field of bioelectronics, covering a wide range of applications, including biosensors, bioactuators, and bio-inspired systems. Includes examples with solutions, as well as exercises and projects.

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Master in Electrical and Electronics Engineering

EE-518: Analog Circuits for Biochip

	Subject of the week	Chapter' paragraphs
Week 1	Biochips & Related Applications (Sandro)	§1.1-1.4*
Week 2	Equivalent Circuits for Bio/CMOS interfaces (Sandro)	§2.2-3,8-9; §4.4.2-3; §5.5.4; §10.2*
Week 3	Brain/Machine interfaces: Circuit for Electrical Stimulation/Sensing (Sandro)	Course slides (**)
Week 4	Circuits for Amperometric Potentiometric Chemical Sensing (Sandro)	§5.2-3; §10.1-6, and §12.1*
Week 5	Circuits for Capacitive & Impedimetric Chemical Sensing (Sandro)	§5.5 & Chap. 13*
Week 6	Architecture of wireless implantable systems (Alexandre, 3 hours lecture)	Course slides (**)
Week 7	Inductive links TX (power, data) (Alexandre, 2 hours lecture, 1 hour exercise)	Course slides (**)
Week 8	Inductive links RX (Alexandre, 2 hours lecture, 1 hour exercise)	Course slides (**)
18-23/04	EASTER HOLIDAY	
Week 9	RF telemetry TX, RX (power, data) (Alexandre, 2 hours lecture, 1 hour exercise)	Course slides (**)
Week 10	RF telemetry (Alexandre, 1 hour lecture, 2 hours exercises)	Course slides (**)
Week 11	Introduction to antennas and radiation regulations (Anja)	Course slides
Week 12	WBAN Antennas (Anja)	Course slides
Week 13	WBAN Antennas (Anja)	Course slides
Week 14	Review for final exam	-

* S. Carrara, Bio/CMOS interfaces and Co-Design, 2nd edition, Springer, 2024 – ** Supporting reading references announced in the slide set

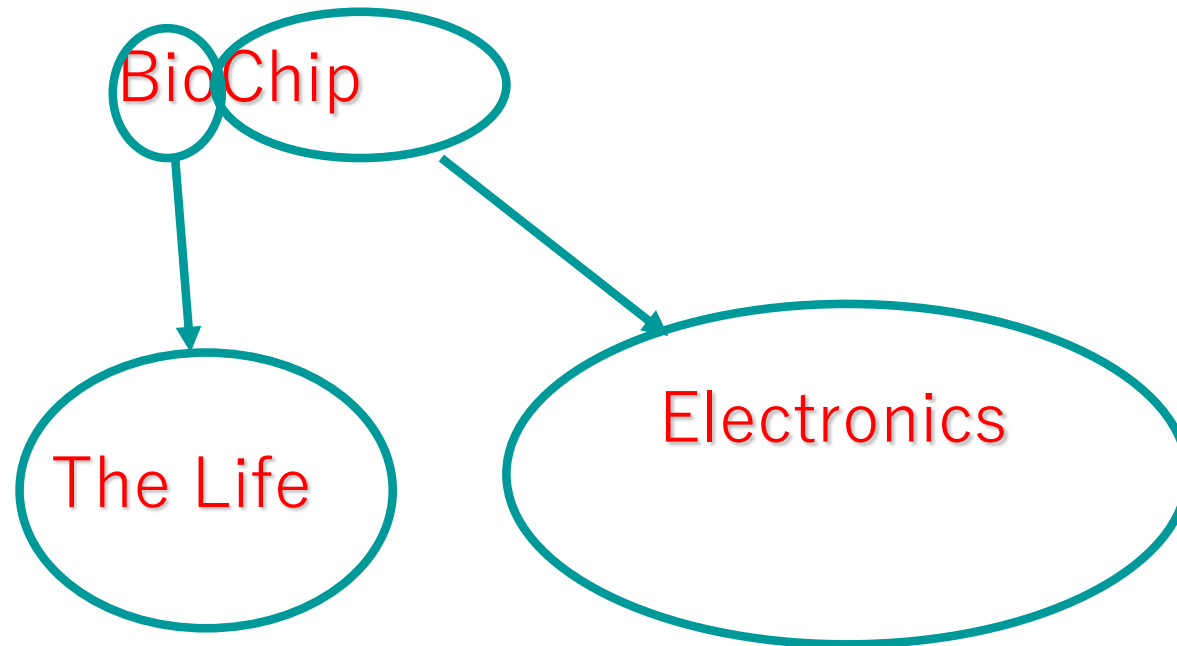
Lecture #1

Biochips

& Related Applications



What's about BioChip?



That means “electronics to cope with biological processes”

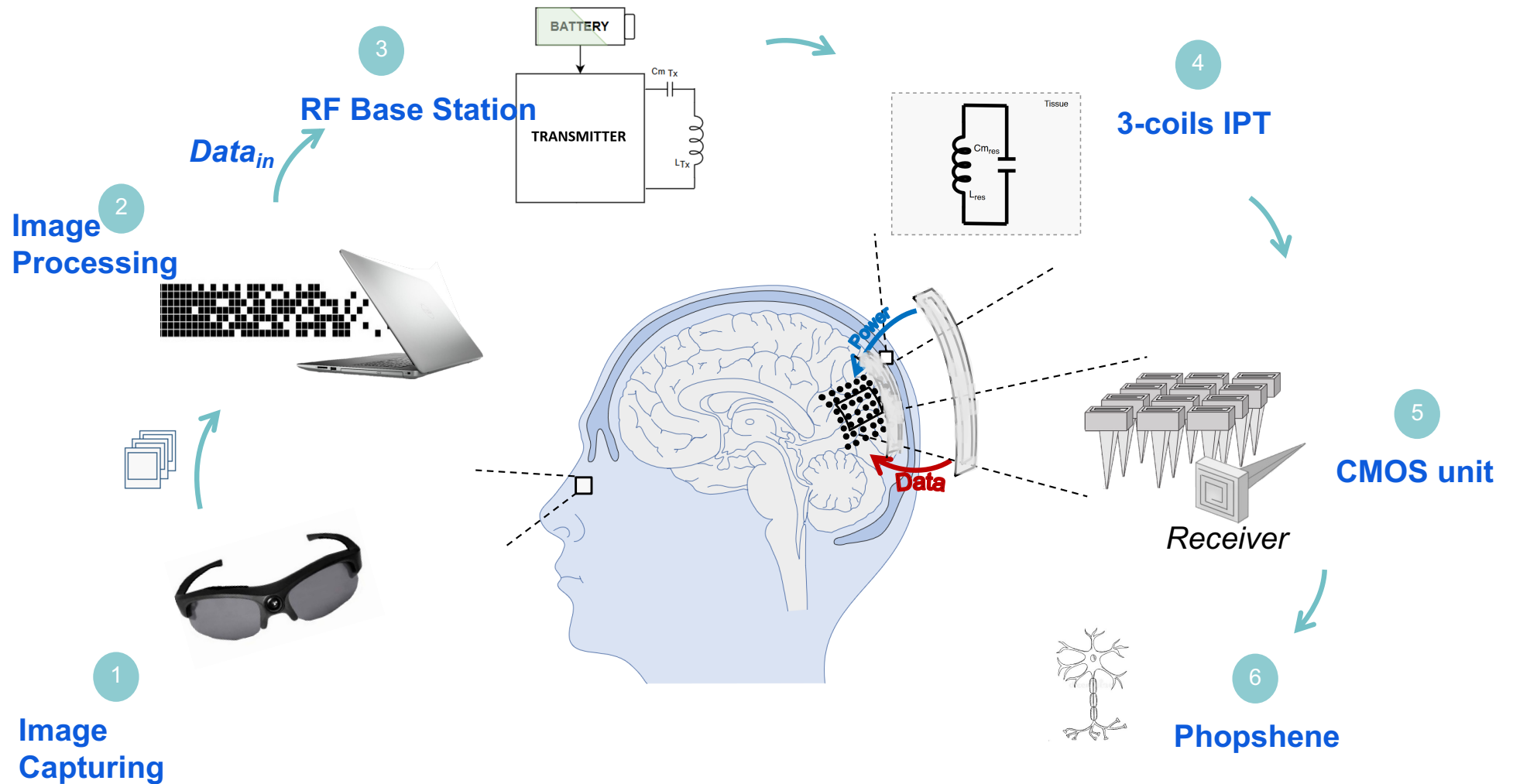
What's about BioChip?

BioChip = The Life “coupled” with Electronics

Bio/CMOS interfaces

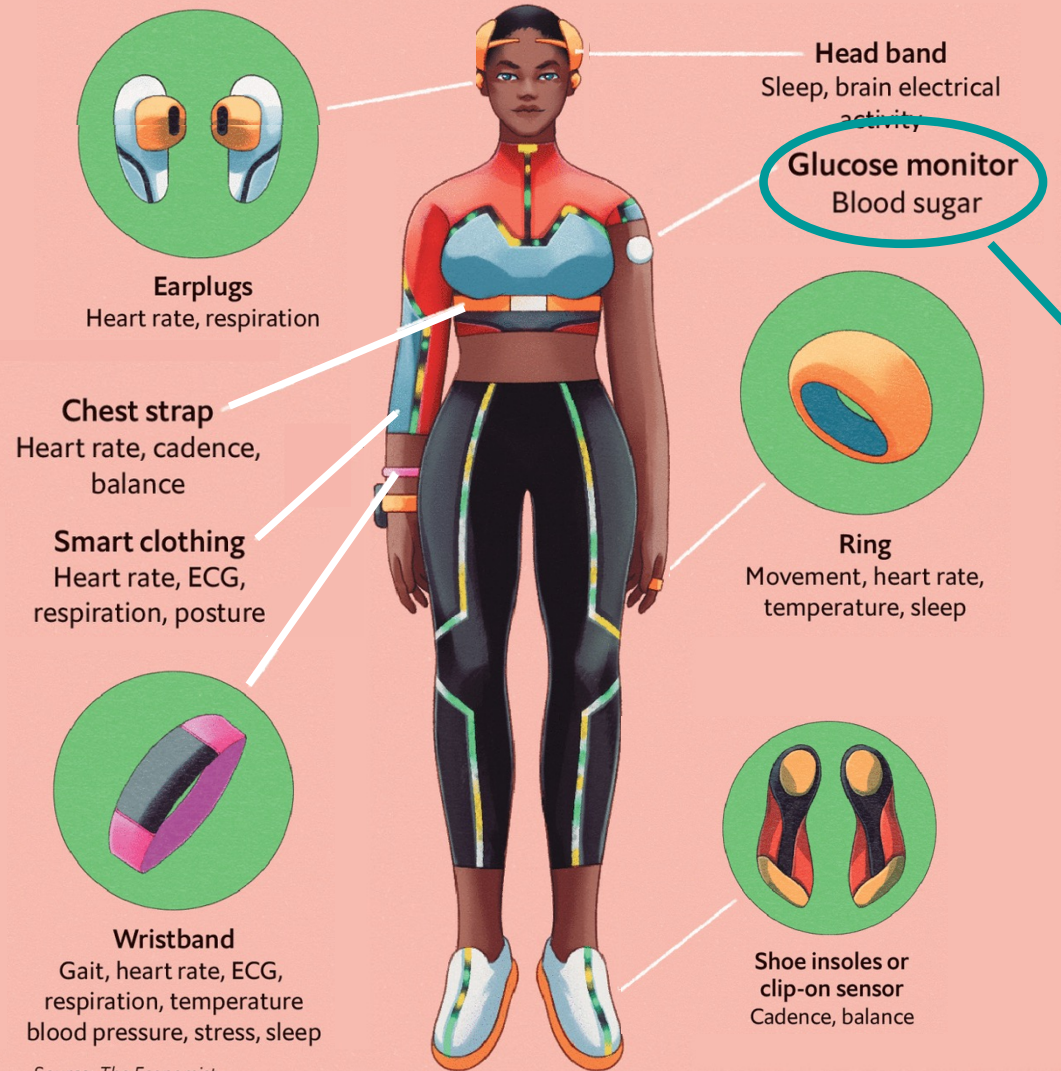
That means also “biological systems
coupled with electronics”

Brain/Machine interfaces



Wearable Devices

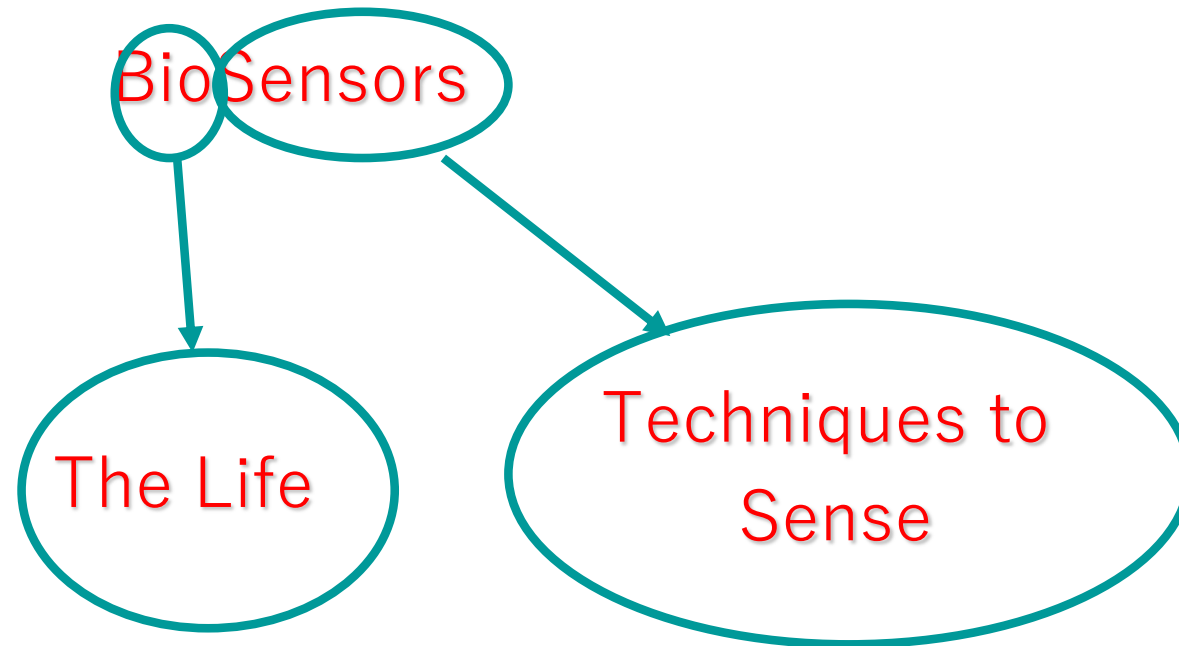
→ Wearable health electronics



BioSensor

Source: *The Economist*

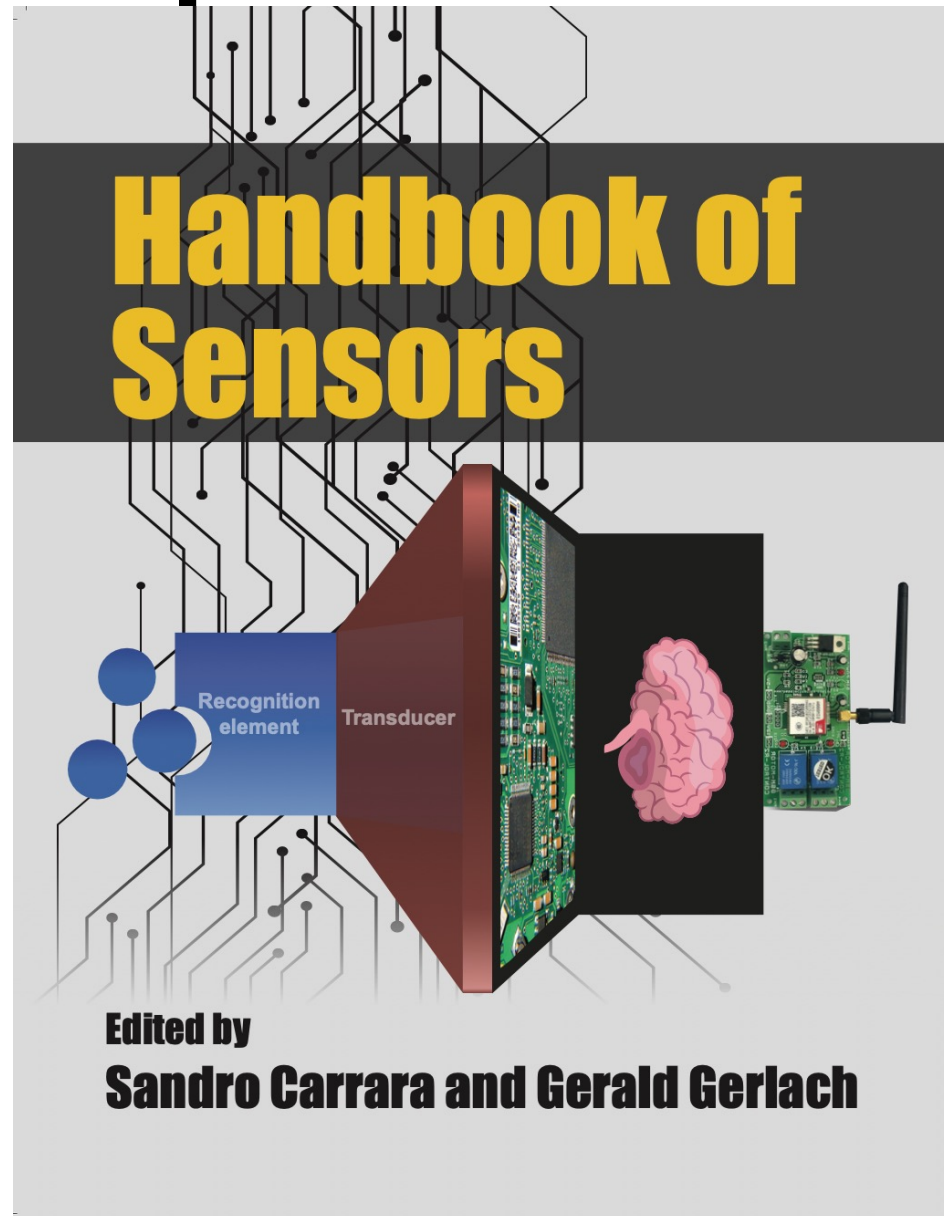
What's about BioSensors?



By definition, a biosensor is an analytical device combining a biological component with a physicochemical detector

[Reference to Turner, Anthony; Wilson, George; Kaube, Isao, *Biosensors: Fundamentals and Applications*, Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK, 1987]

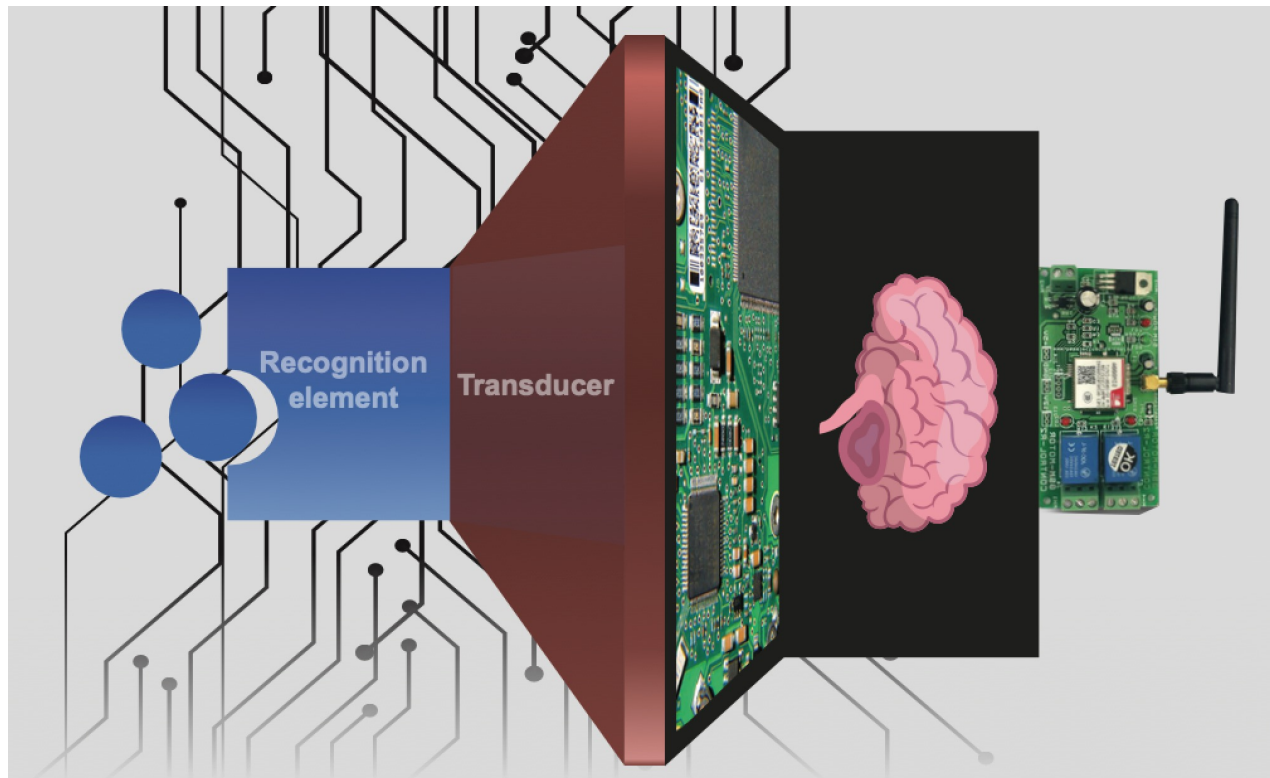
BioChip as BioSensors



BioSensors

EE-518 (Sandro's part)

EE-518 (Alex & Anja)





Lab versus Point-of-Care



- 100.000 \$ (machinery)
- 1.000 \$ the single μ -array

Labeled



Label-Free

- 50 \$ (machinery)
- 0.05 \$ the single strip



Bayer HealthCare

The Quicklab project by Siemens



Glucometer on iPhone



Glucometer on the Skin

How to use the FreeStyle Libre System



The image shows a woman in a white t-shirt applying a small, round, white sensor to her upper arm. She is holding a black handheld device (the FreeStyle Libre Reader) against the sensor. The background is a light blue gradient.

1. **Apply sensor**
with applicator

2. **Scan sensor**
using FreeStyle Libre Reader

3. **Get reading**
on the reader

FOR FULL INSTRUCTIONS
www.freestylelibre.co.uk >

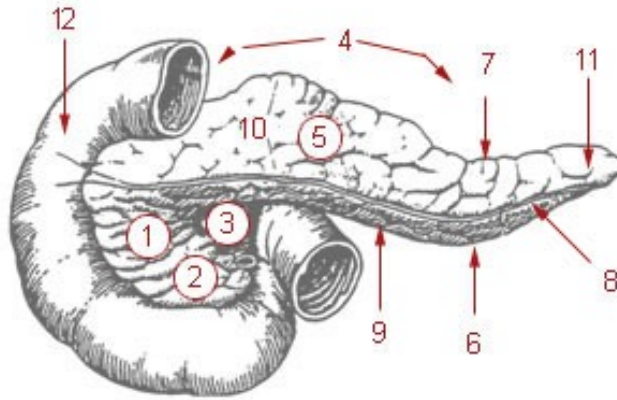
OVERVIEW
HOW TO USE
FIND OUT MORE

Glucose Personal Diagnostics on our Skin

The Pancreas Functions

IN-put Signals

Bile acids →
pH →
Syrinic proteases →
Glucose →
Glycagone pancreatic →
.....



OUT-put Signals

insulin
Lipase
Fospholipase A
Cholesterol esterase
Endopeptidase
Esopeptidase
Elastase
Ribonuclease
Enterochinase
.....

What to sense?

Simple Molecules	Glucose (Diabetes)
	Cholesterol (heart attack)
Proteins	AFP (Hepato Carcinoma)
	PSA (Prostate)
DNA sequences	PC-1 gene (prostate cancer)
	p53 gene (Hepato Carcinoma)

Bio-Markers may be simple molecules,
proteins or genes

What else to sense?

Endogenous Metabolites	Insulin (Diabetes)
	β-blockers (heart attack)
Anti-cancer compounds	Cyclophosphamide (Breast Cancer)
	Docetaxel (Prostate Cancer)
Anesthetics	Propofol (surgery)
	Midazolam (surgery)

Endogenous and Exogenous Metabolites
are usually simple molecules

What else to sense/**actuate**?

**Electrical
Signals
(recording)**

Electromyography (EMG = measure of muscle response)
Electroencephalogram (EEG = measure of brain activity)
Electrocardiogram (ECG = measure of heart activity)

**Electrical
Signals
(stimulation)**

Alzheimer's disease
Epilepsy
Artificial Retina

**Chemical
Signals**

Dopamine
Glutamate
Benzphetamine

Signaling from the Nervous System,
both Central and Peripheral

What to sense?

Endogenous Chemical Signals

Glucose (Diabetes)
Cholesterol (heart attack)
PC-1 gene (prostate cancer)

Exogenous Chemical Signals

Propofol (Anesthetic)
Docetaxel (Prostate Cancer)
Cyclophosphamide (Breast Cancer)

Electrical Signals

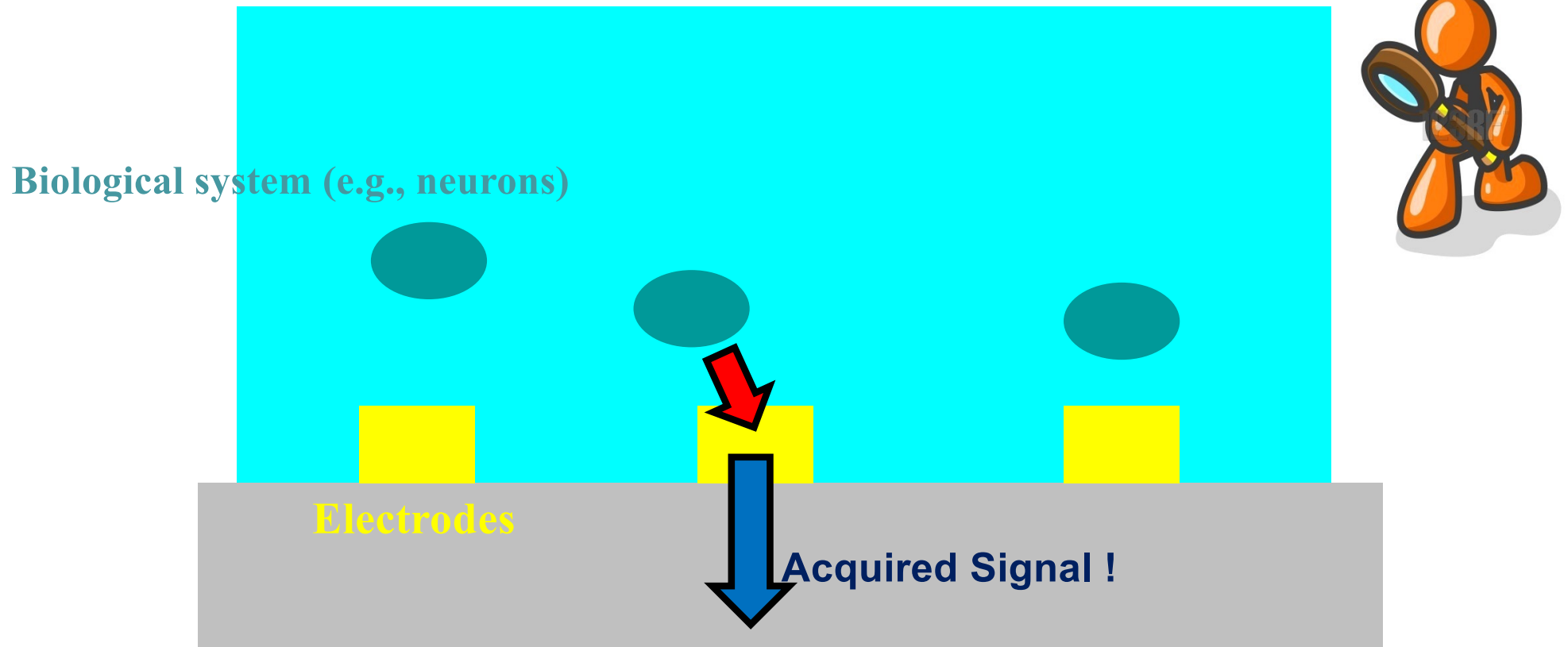
Electrocardiogram (ECG = measure of heart activity)
Electrocardiogram (ECG = measure of heart activity)
Electroencephalogram (EEG = measure of brain activity)



How to
detect Bio-
Markers?

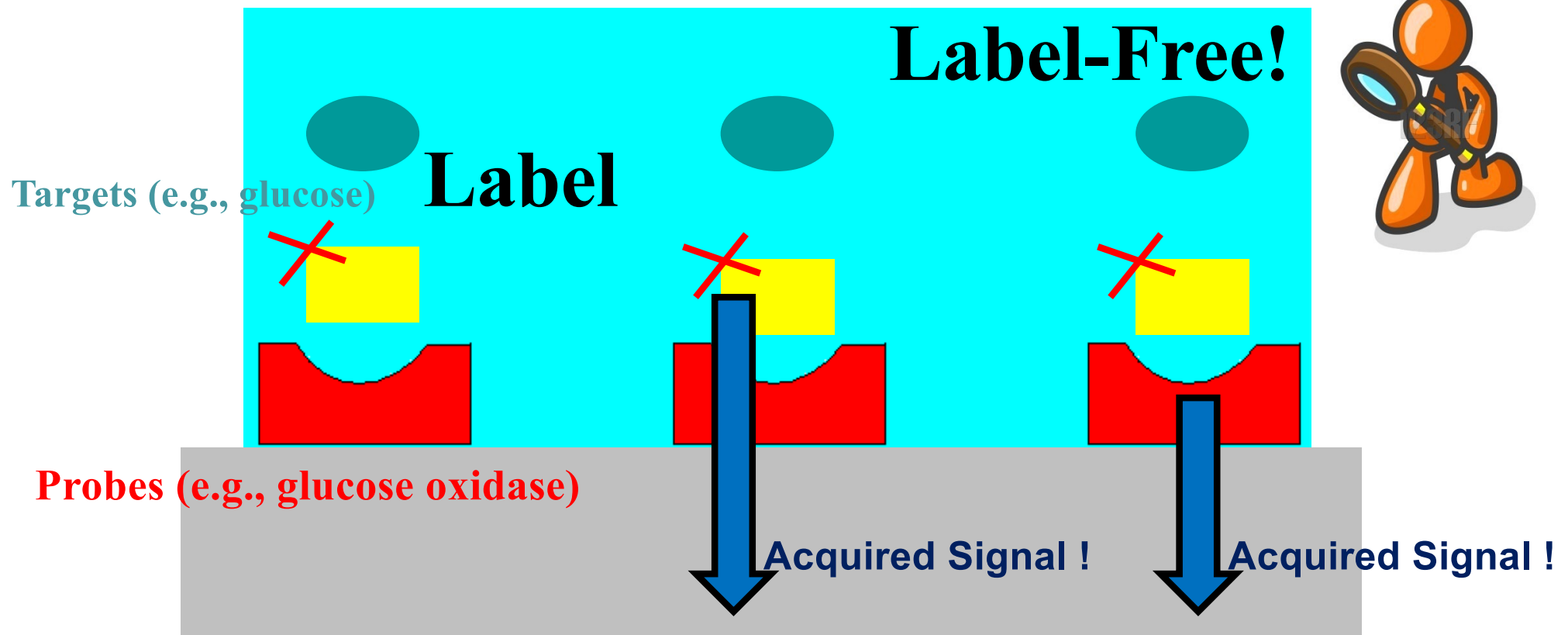
Bio-Markers may be electrical signals,
simple molecules, proteins, or genes

Measuring Electrical Signals



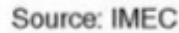
The Measure of electrical biomarkers may be performed with electronic readers

Measuring Molecular Signals



The Measure of molecular biomarkers may be performed in a labeled manner or in label-free mode

Smart



Courtesy, Hugo De Man (IMEC)

The Time' forecast on Human++



[TIME, February 2011]

(c) S.Carrara

25

The Time' forecast on Human++



[TIME, September 2014]

Chips under the skin?



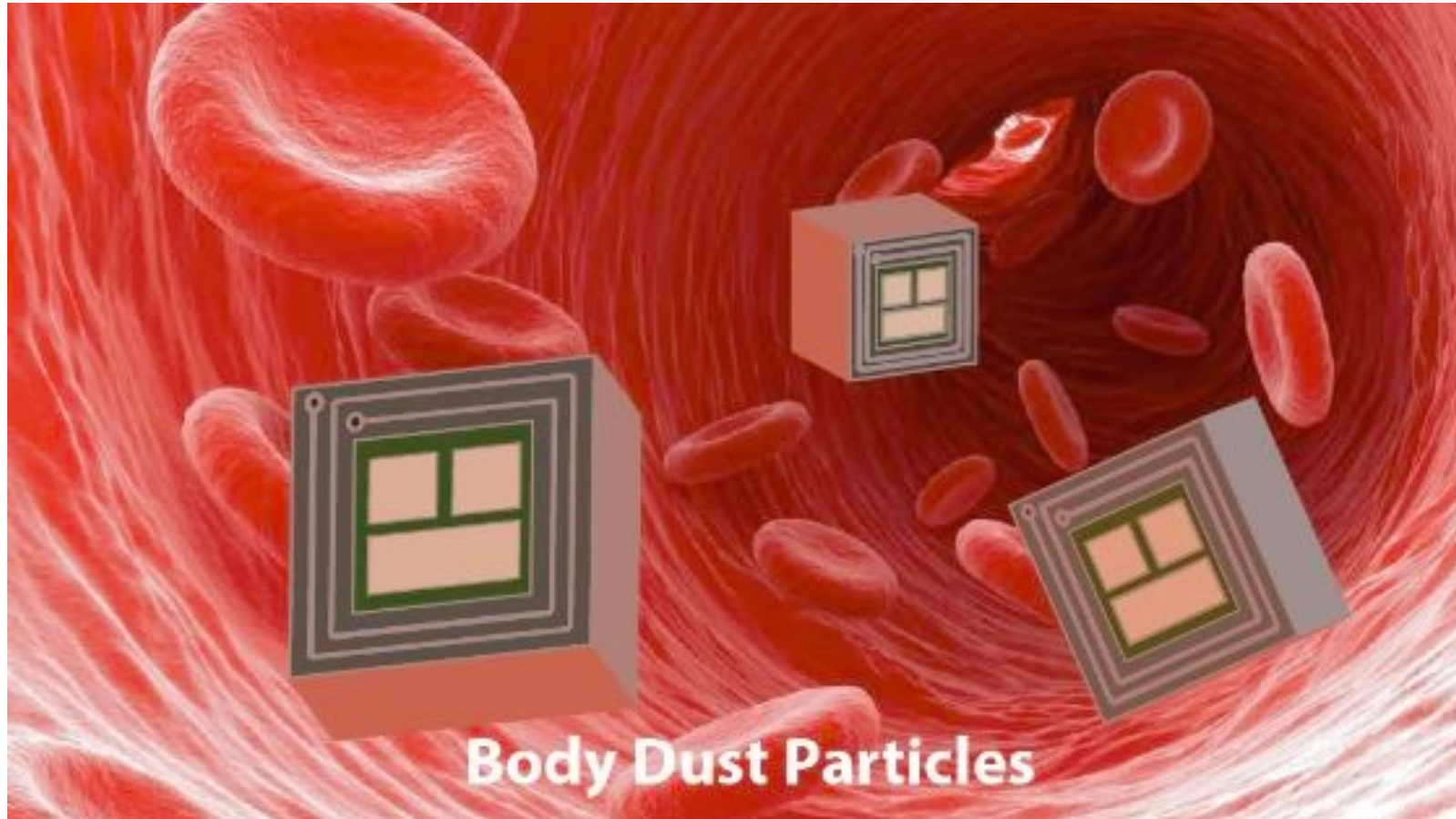
[The Guardian, October 2017]

How small Chips under the skin?

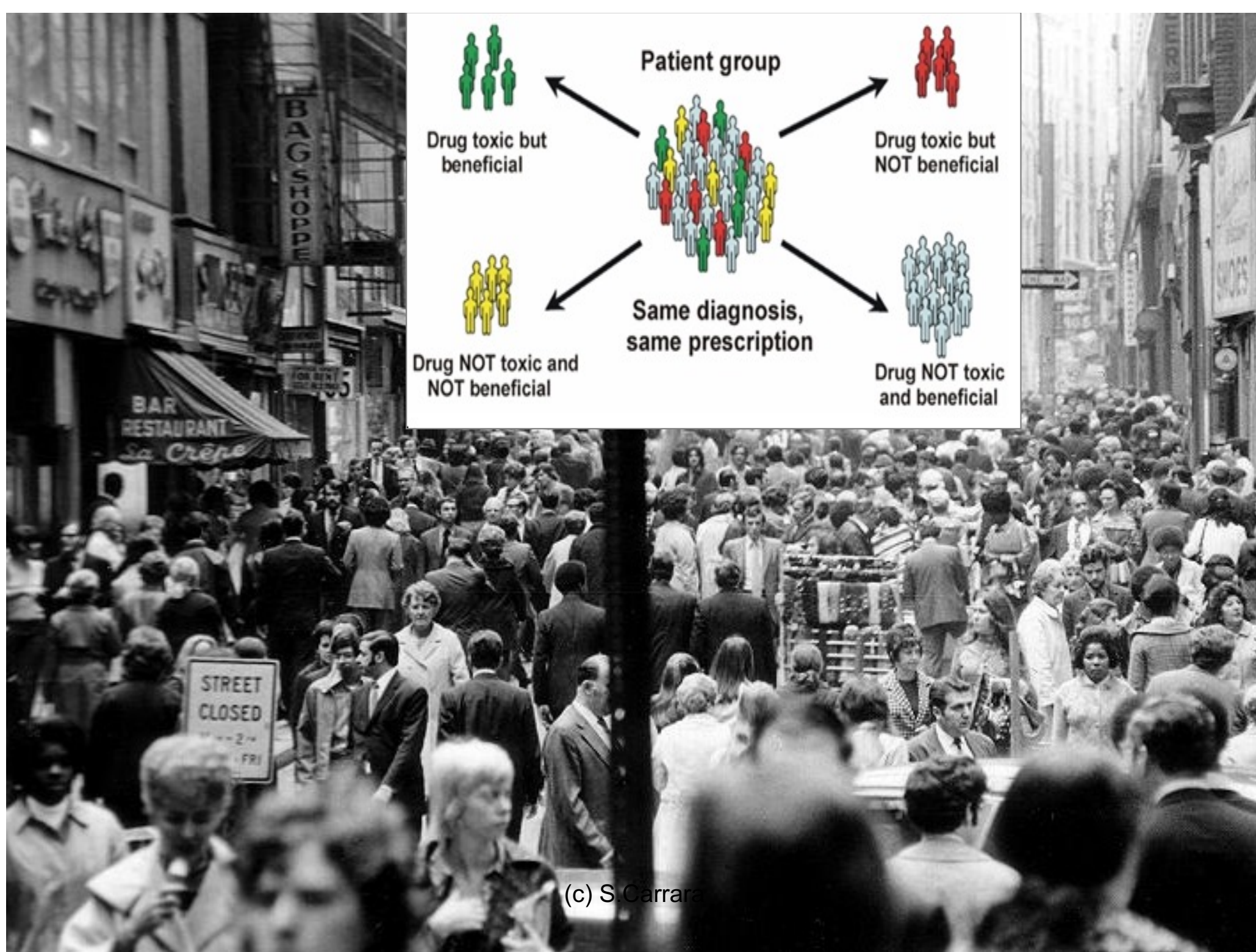
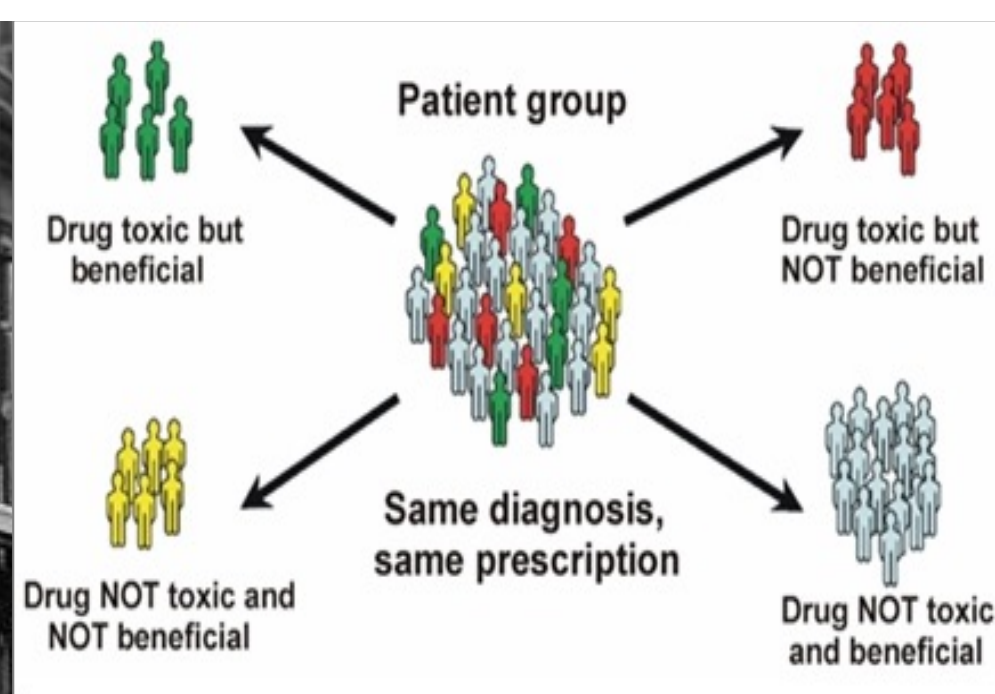


[1966 Sci. Fi. movie titled “Fantastic Voyage”]

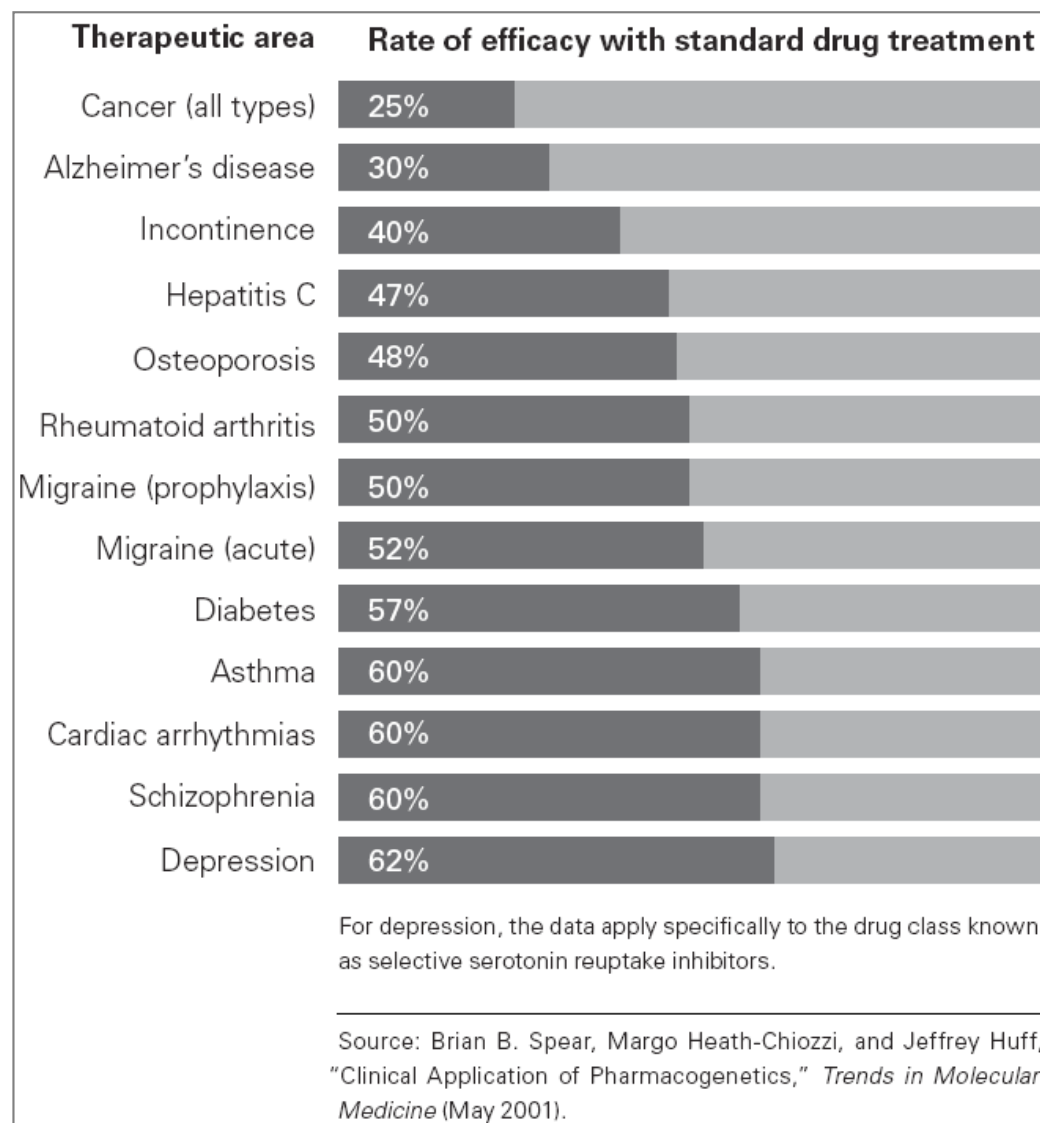
Body Dust: Drinkable CMOS Bioelectronics



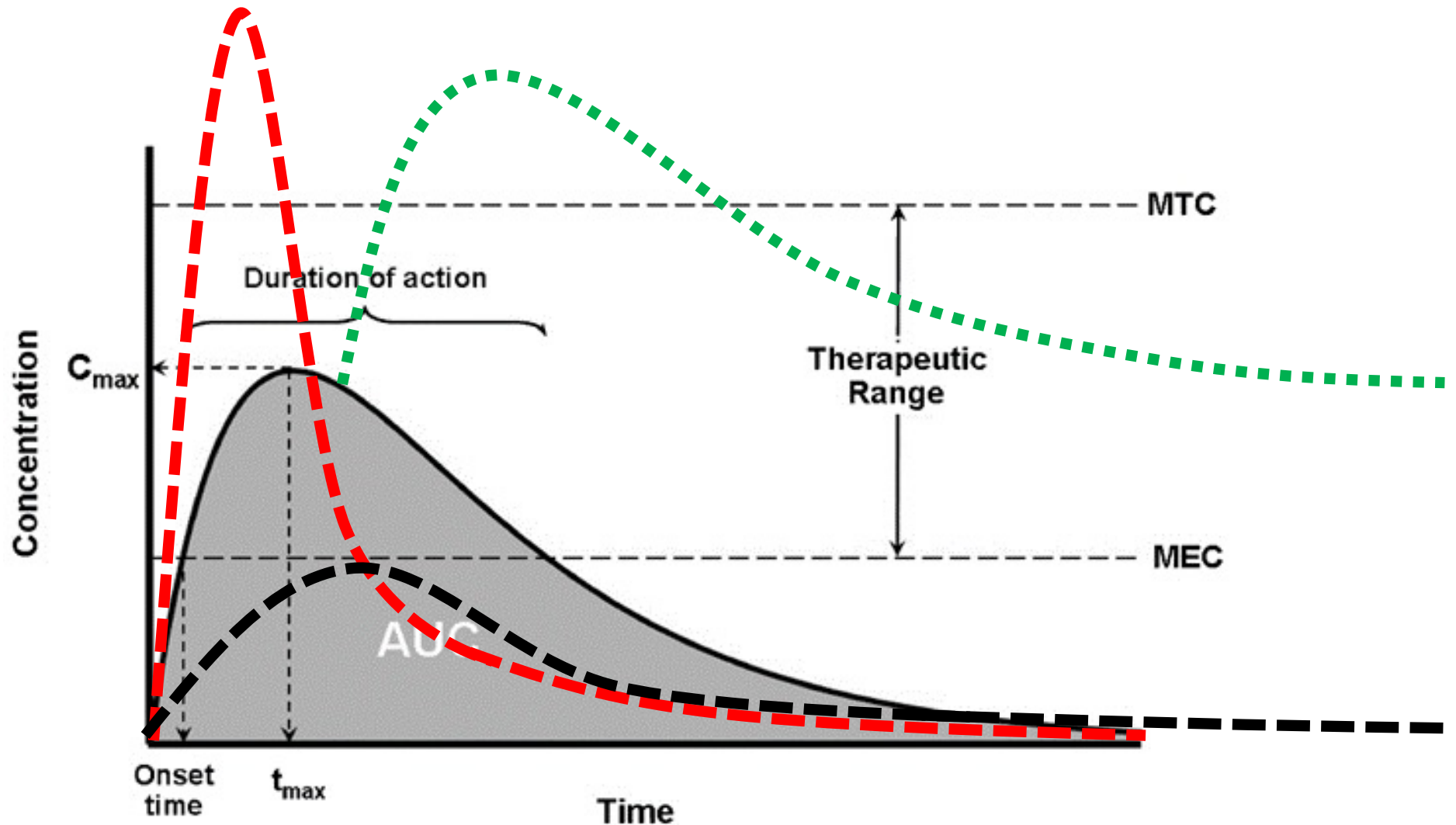
[ArXiv, May 2018]



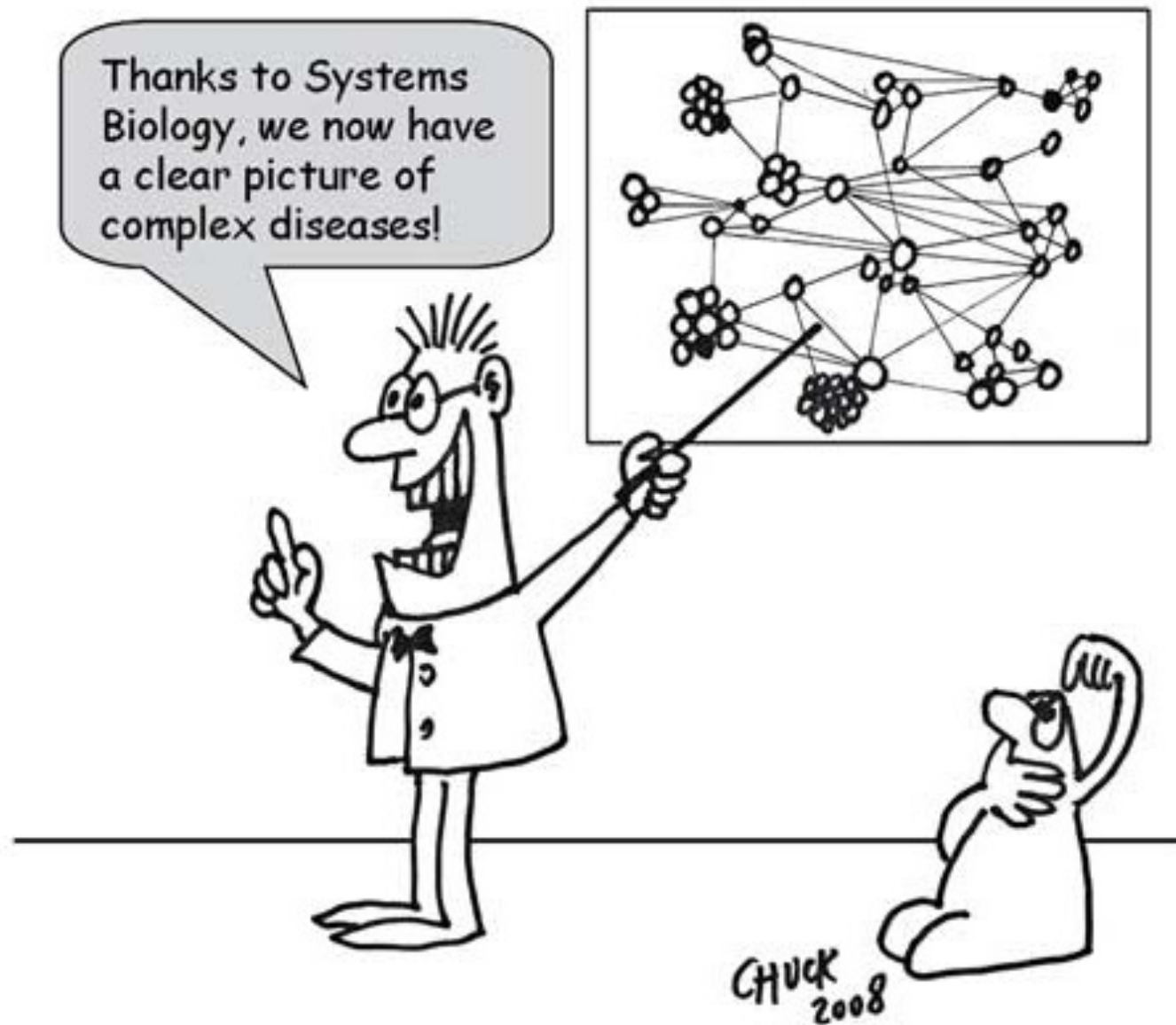
Low efficacy of used compounds



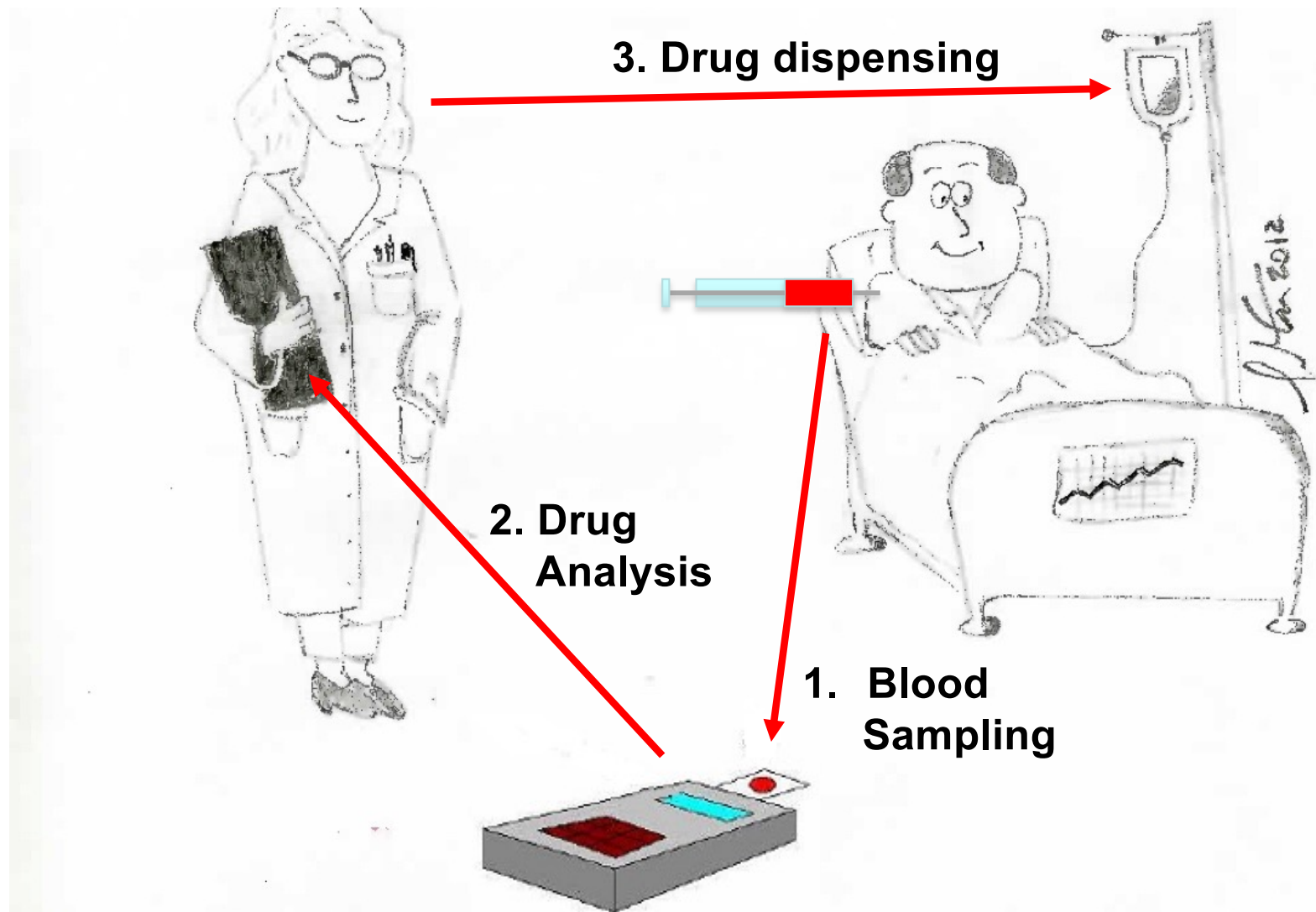
Personalized Therapy: the dose at the right moment!



System Biology is not enough



Personalized Therapy

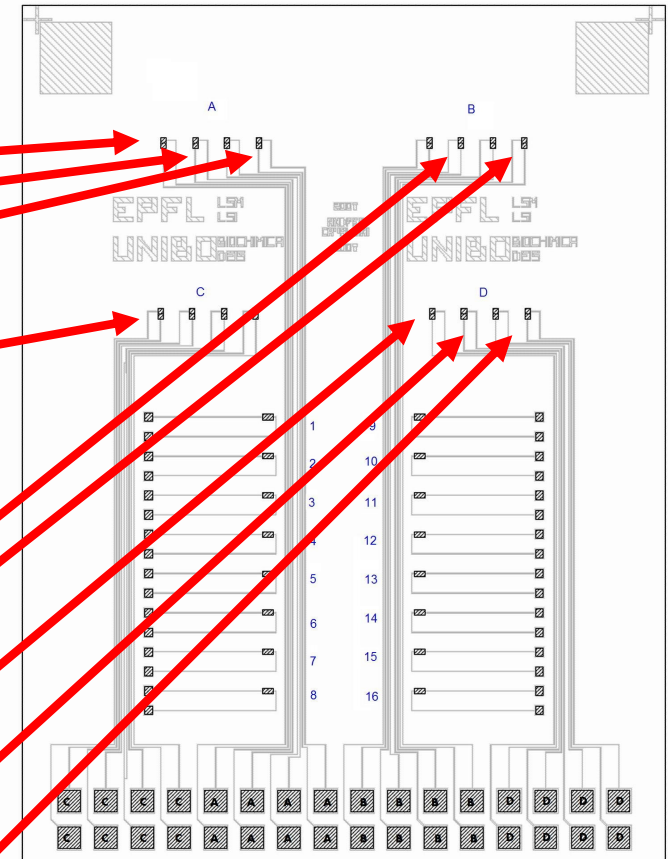


Drugs injection based on patient's pharmacokinetics

Need for new multi-panel systems

TARGETS

Endogenous metabolites	Exogenous metabolites
Glucose	
Lactate	
Glutamate	
Cholesterol	
	Benzphetamine
	Dextromethorphan
	Cyclophosphamide
	Flurbiprofen
	Naproxen

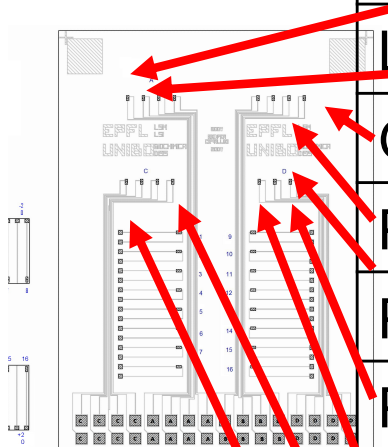


Bio-Probes for Label Free

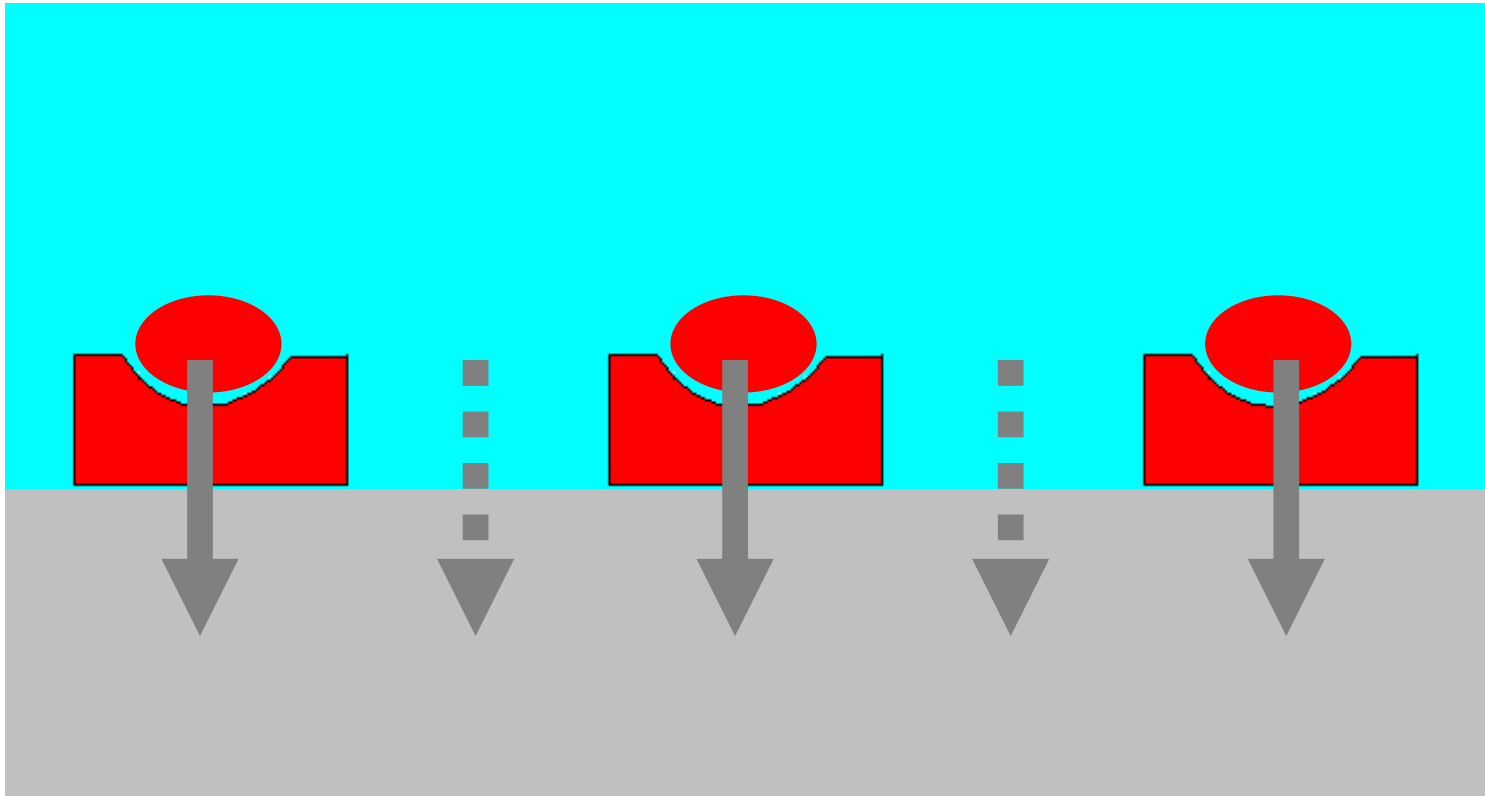


TARGETS

Probe Enzymes	Endogenous metabolites	Exogenous metabolites
Glucose Oxidase	Glucose	
Lactate Oxidase	Lactate	
Glutamate Oxidase	Glutamate	
P450 11A1	Cholesterol	
P450 2B4		Benzphetamine
P450 3A4		Dextrometorphane
P450 3A4		Cyclophocphamide
P450 2C9		Flurbiprofene
P450 2C9		Naproxene

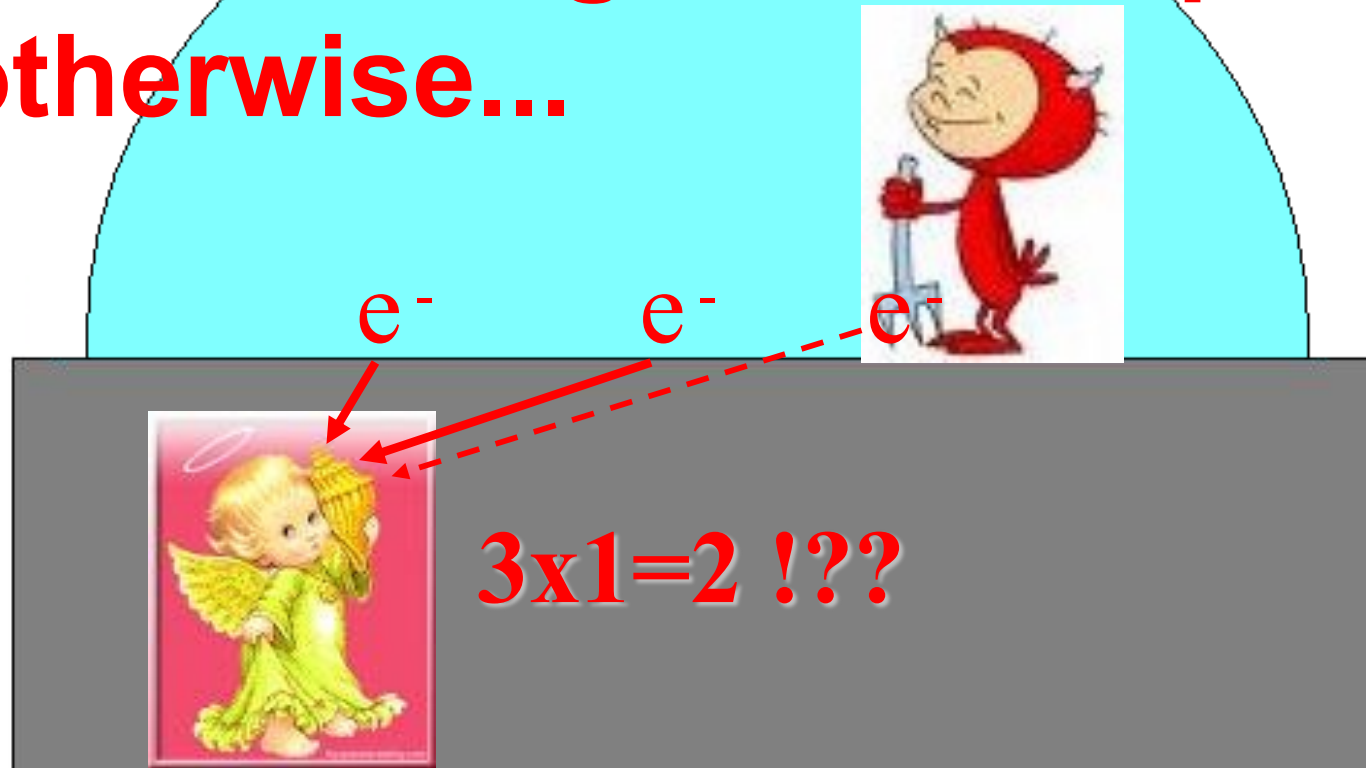


CMOS/Sample interface



The interface between the CMOS circuit and the bio-sample needs to be attentively investigated and organized

**New Paradigms are required
otherwise...**



**Excellent CMOS technology is not sufficient if
molecules are not doing their own job at the
Bio/CMOS interface!**

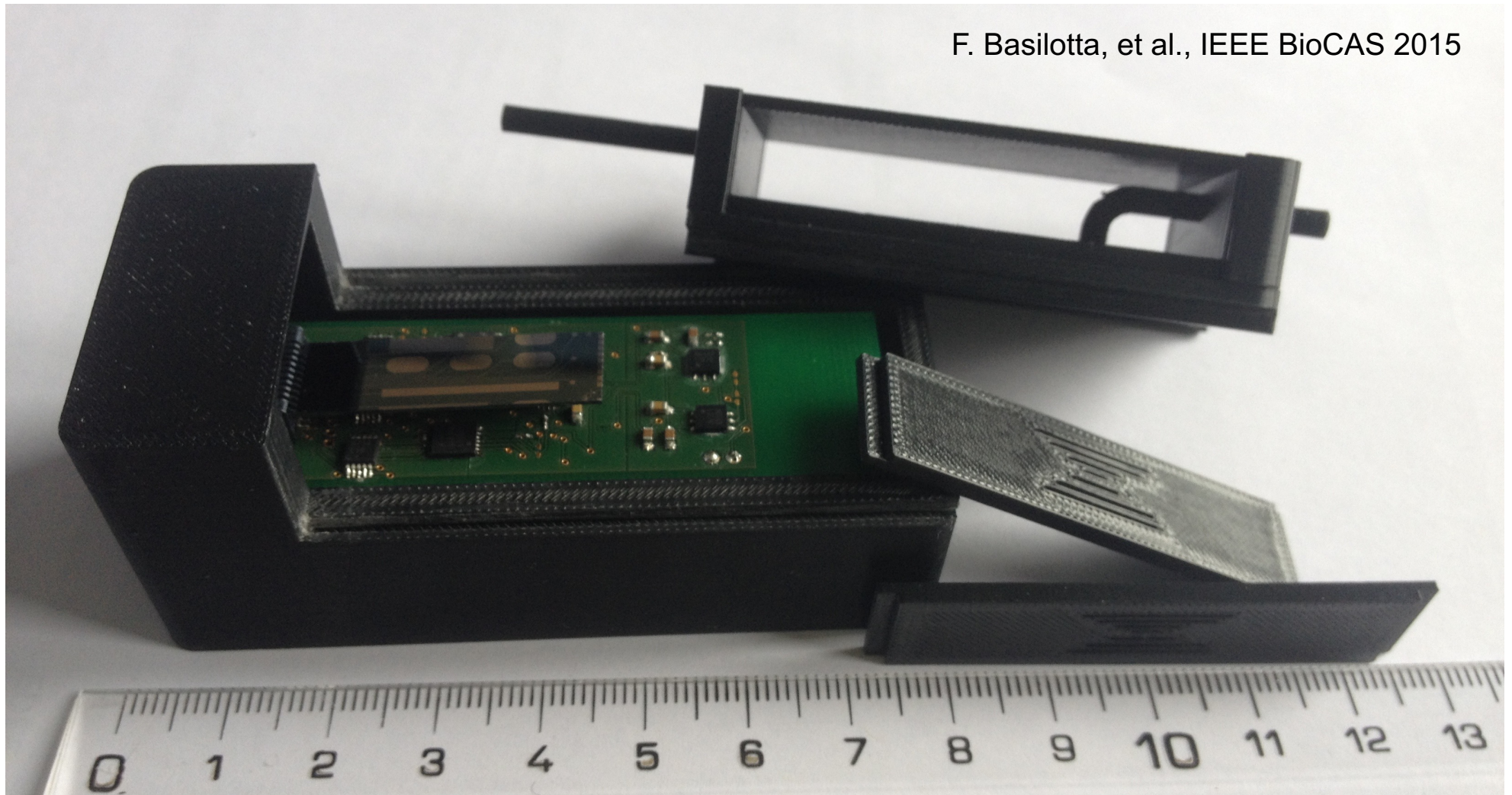
Portable, Implantable, 'n' Wearable



Monitoring scenarios

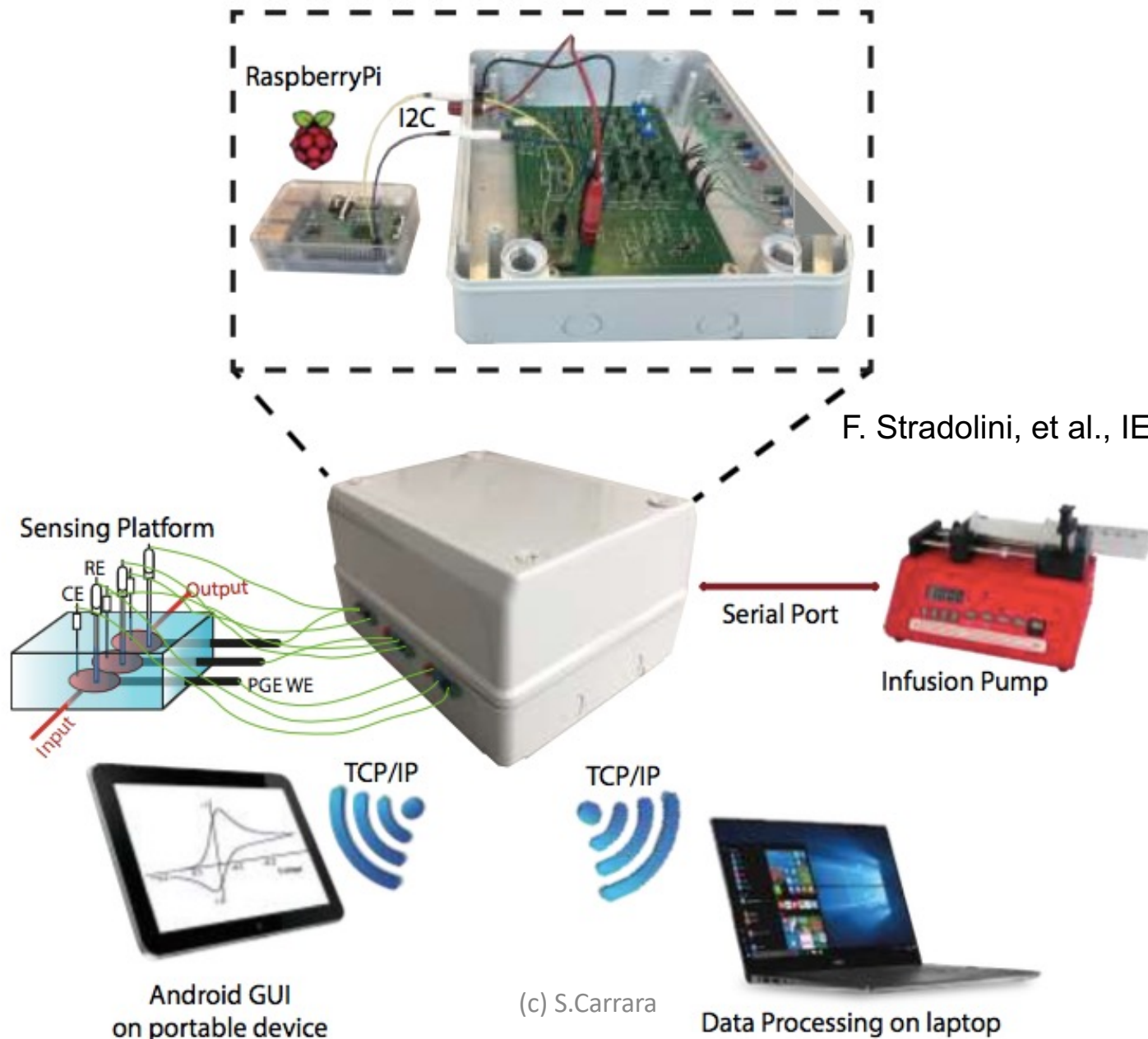
Monitoring in Intensive Care Units

F. Basilotta, et al., IEEE BioCAS 2015



The whole system with the Android™ interface that allows connectivity too

Monitoring and Injection in Surgery

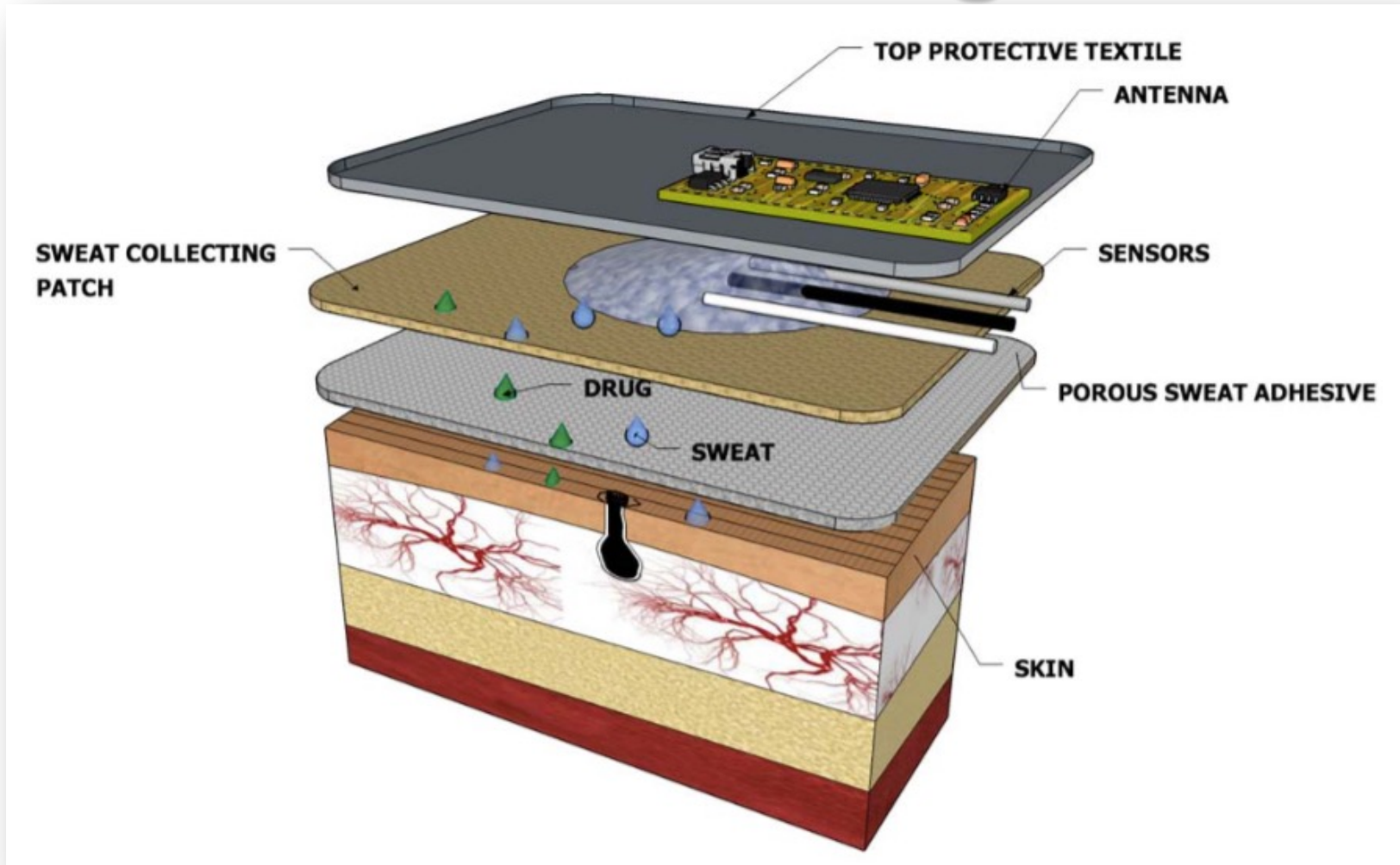


Monitoring Anaesthetics in Surgery



S. Aiassa, et al., Biosensors And Bioelectronics, 171(2021) 112666, 1-7 S. Aiassa, et al., IEEE MeMeA 2020
S. Aiassa, et al., IEEE TBCAS), 15(2021) 294 - 302 S. Aiassa, et al., IEEE Sensors Letters 3(2019) 1-4

Wearable Monitoring Devices



T.Kilic, al. et S.Carrara / ICECS 2016

Metabolites Monitoring on the skin

(c) S.Carrara

Wearable Monitoring Device Realized

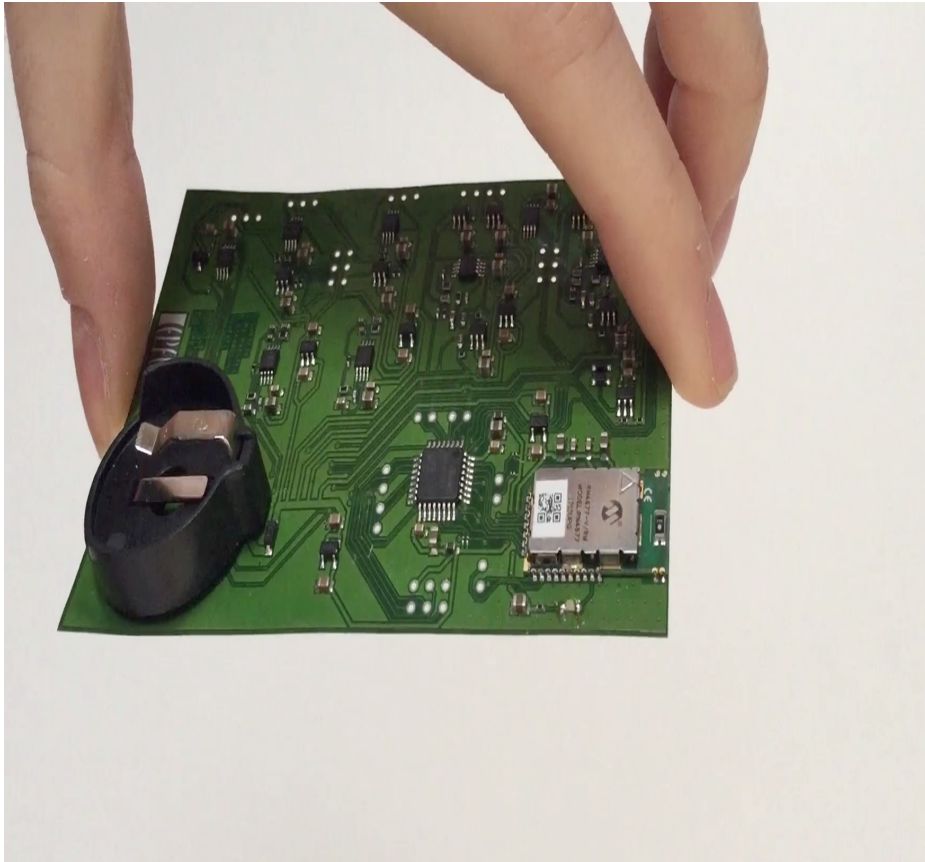
I.Ny Hanitra, et al., IEEE MeMeA 2018

Wearable Sensors

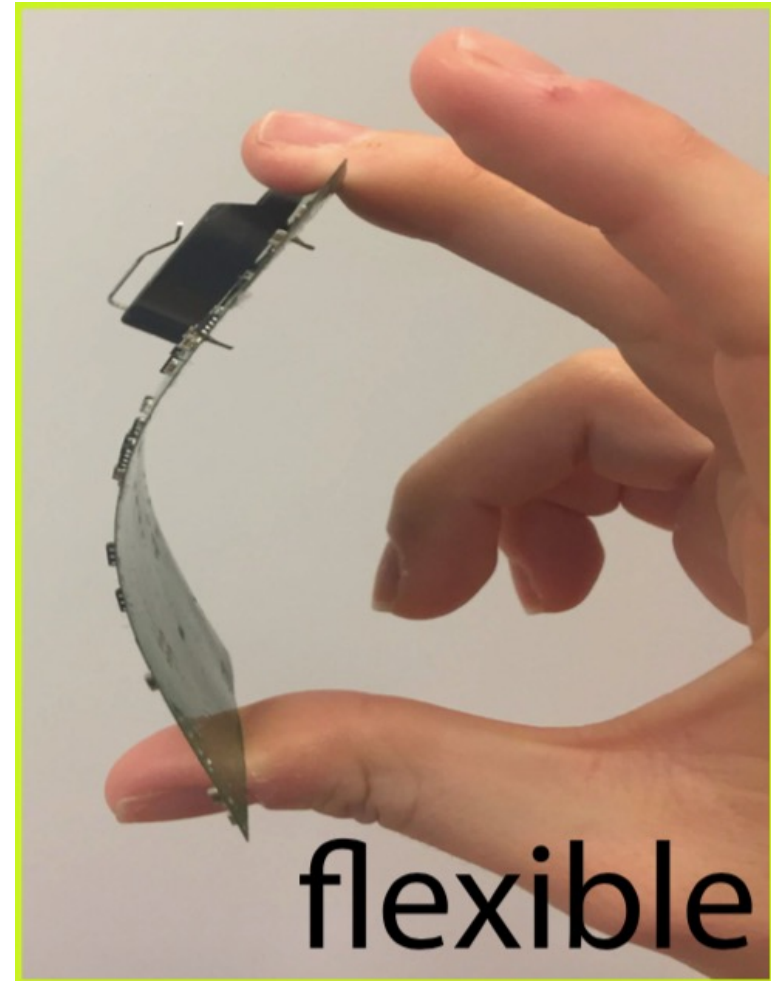


Wearable Electronics

Flexible Instrumentation



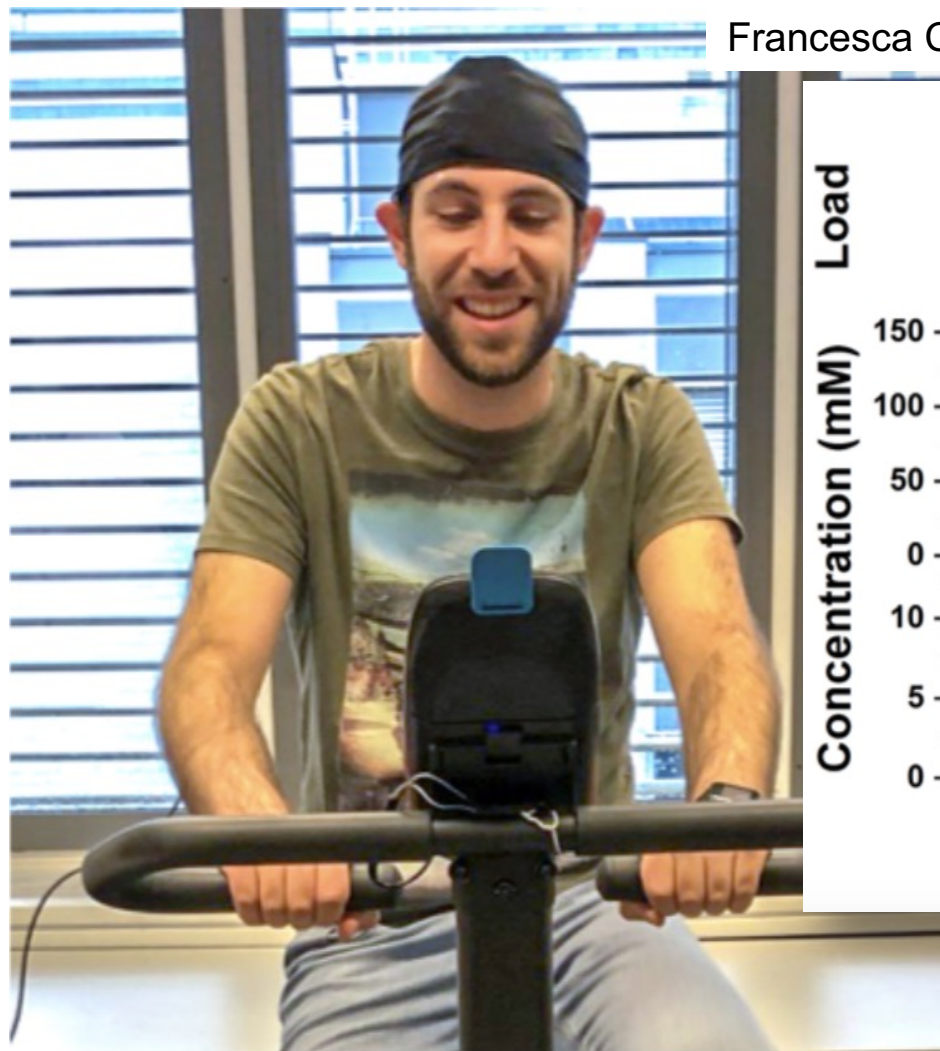
I.Ny Hanitra, et al., IEEE MeMeA 2018



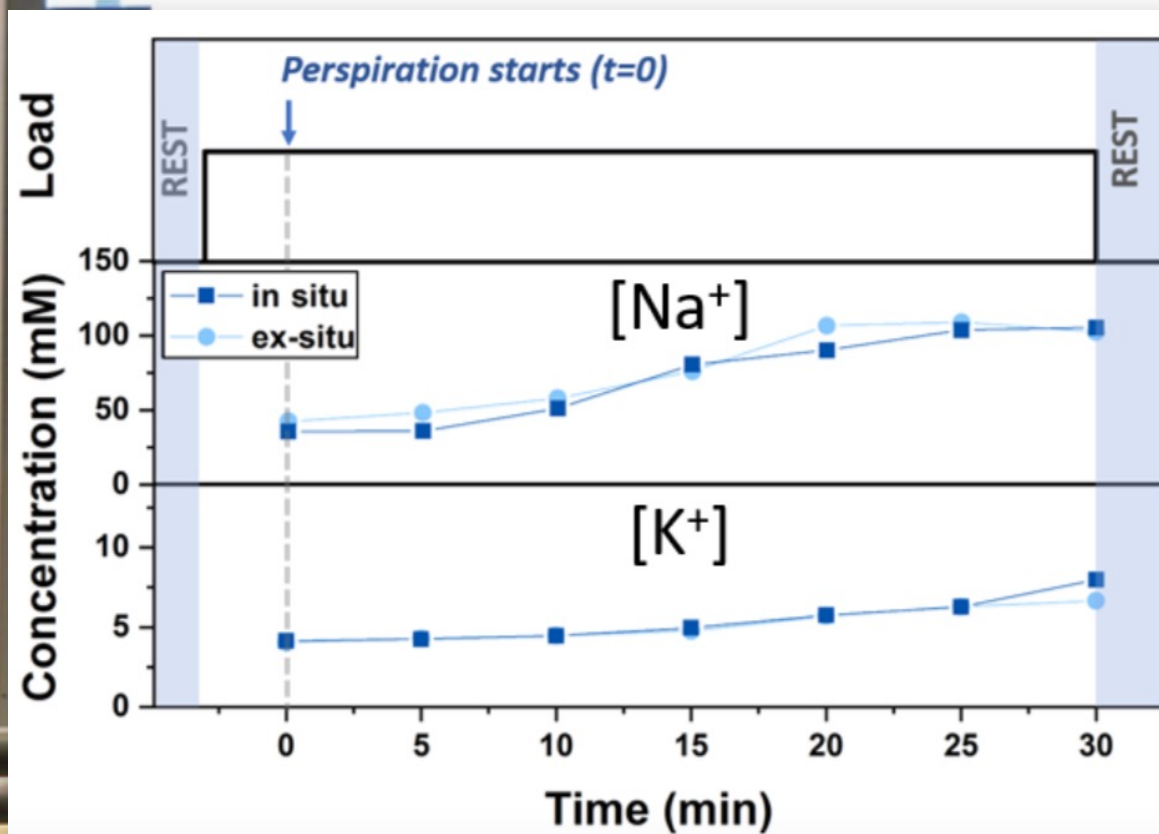
The Detection system has been realized
on flexible PCB

(c) S.Carrara

Na⁺ & K⁺ @ Wearable



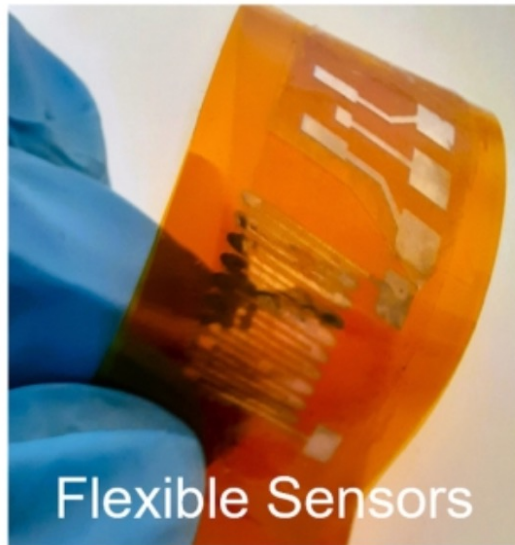
Francesca Criscuolo, al. et / Sensors And Actuator B, 2020



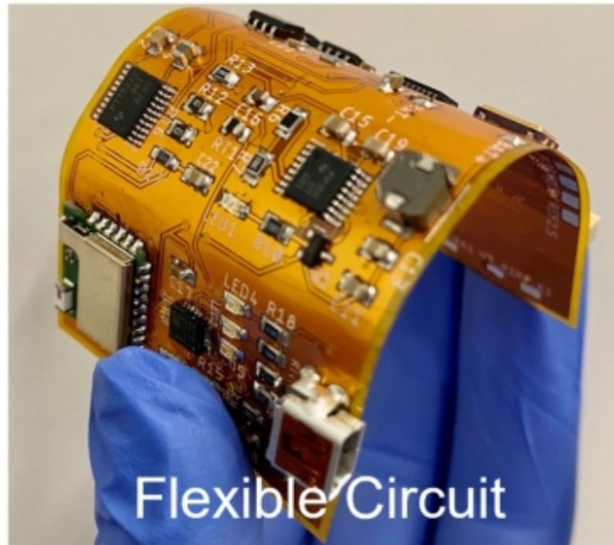
The Detection of ions in sportsmen

(c) S.Carrara

Smart Bracelet



Flexible Sensors



Flexible Circuit



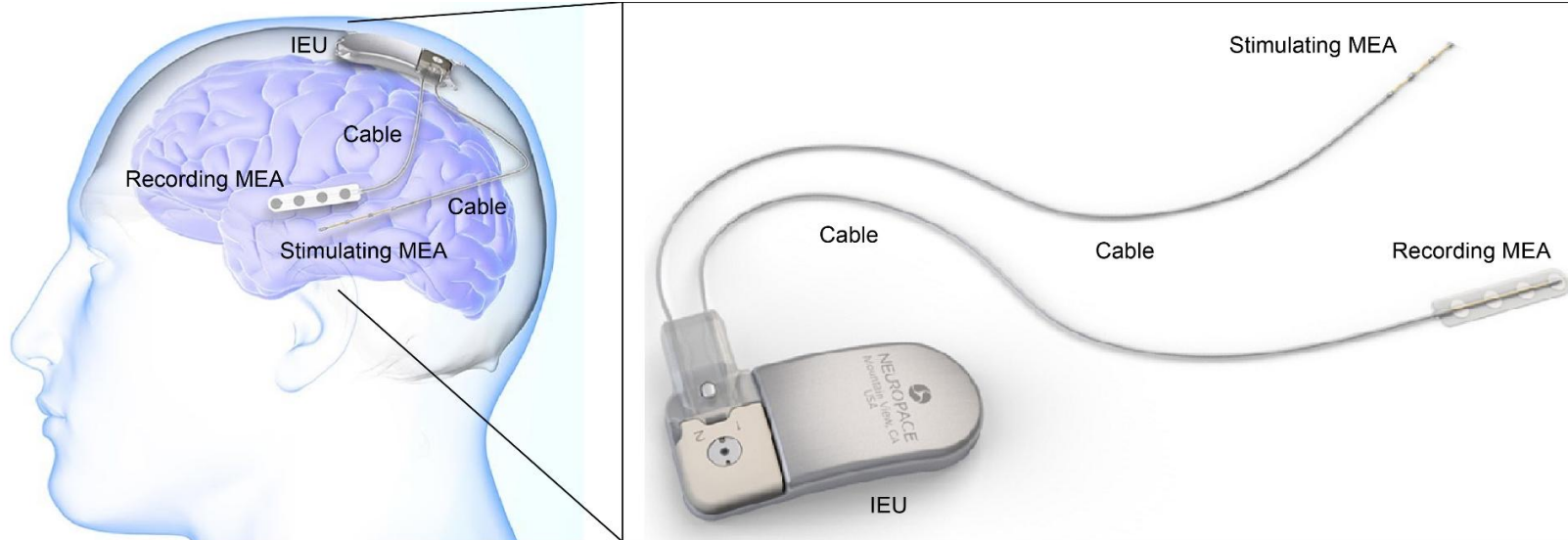
Smart Bracelet

Ata Golpoarvar, al. et / IEEE FLEPS, 2023

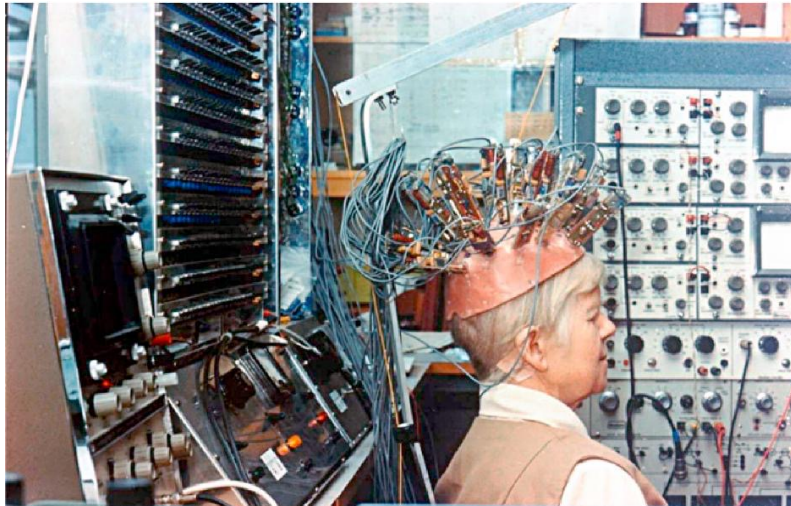
The whole system fully integrated in a
wearable light-bracelet

Neural Interfaces

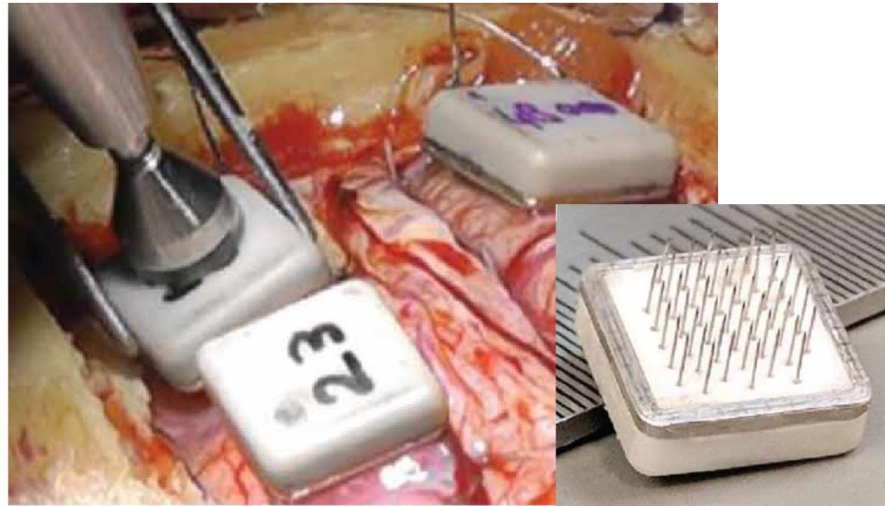
a
CONVENTIONAL APPROACH IN
NEUROTECHNOLOGY



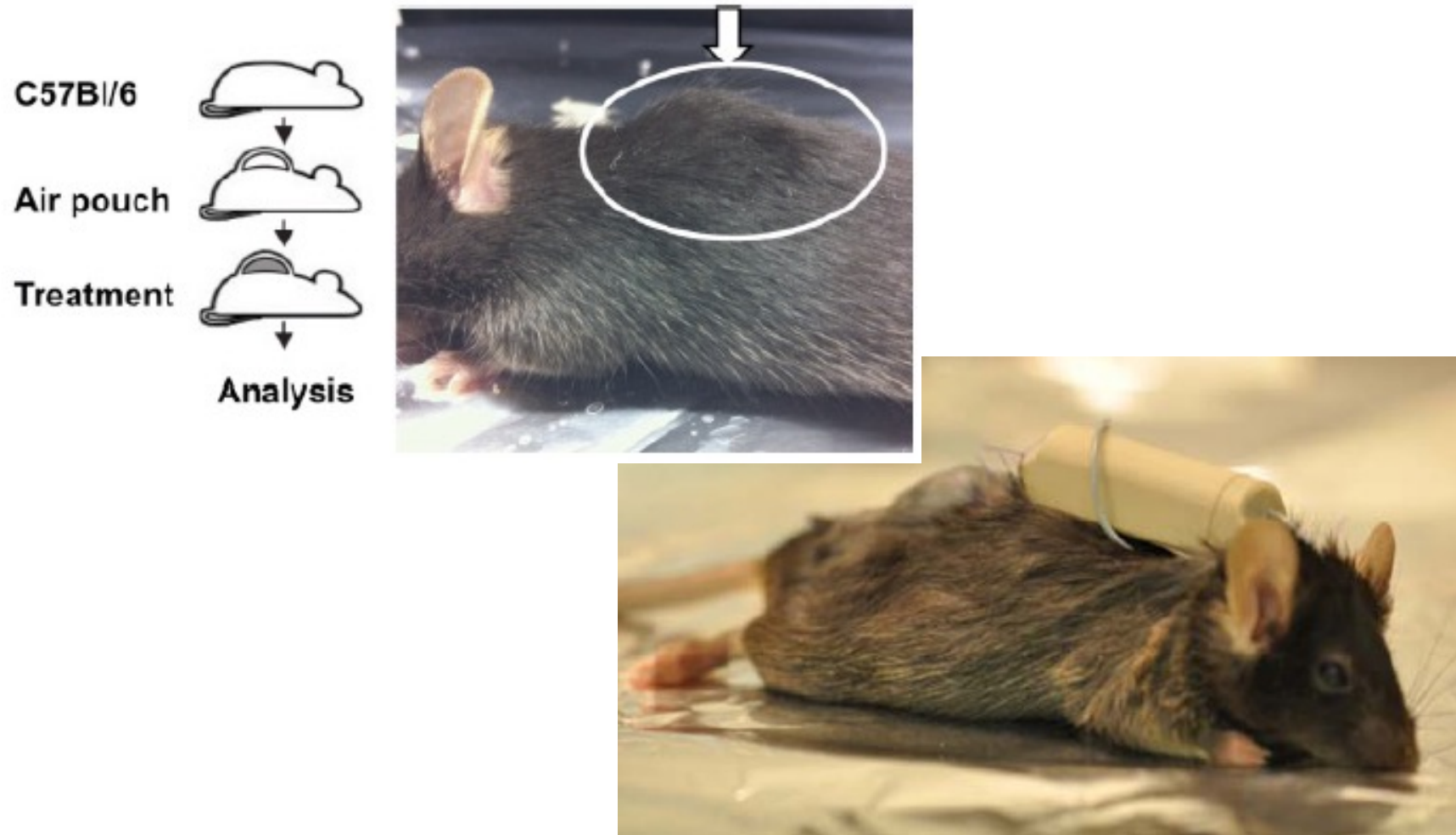
b



c

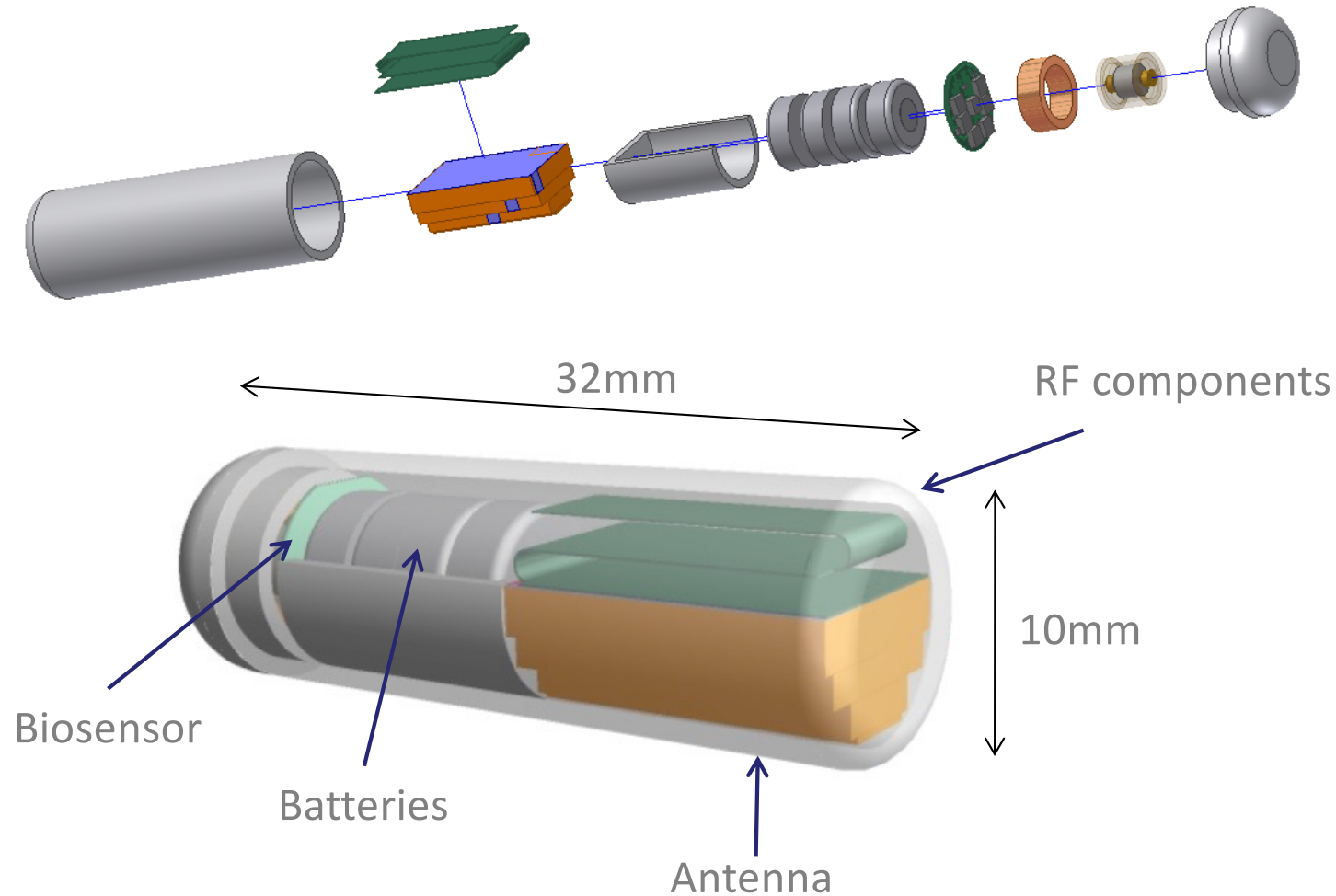


Biochips for Animals Monitoring

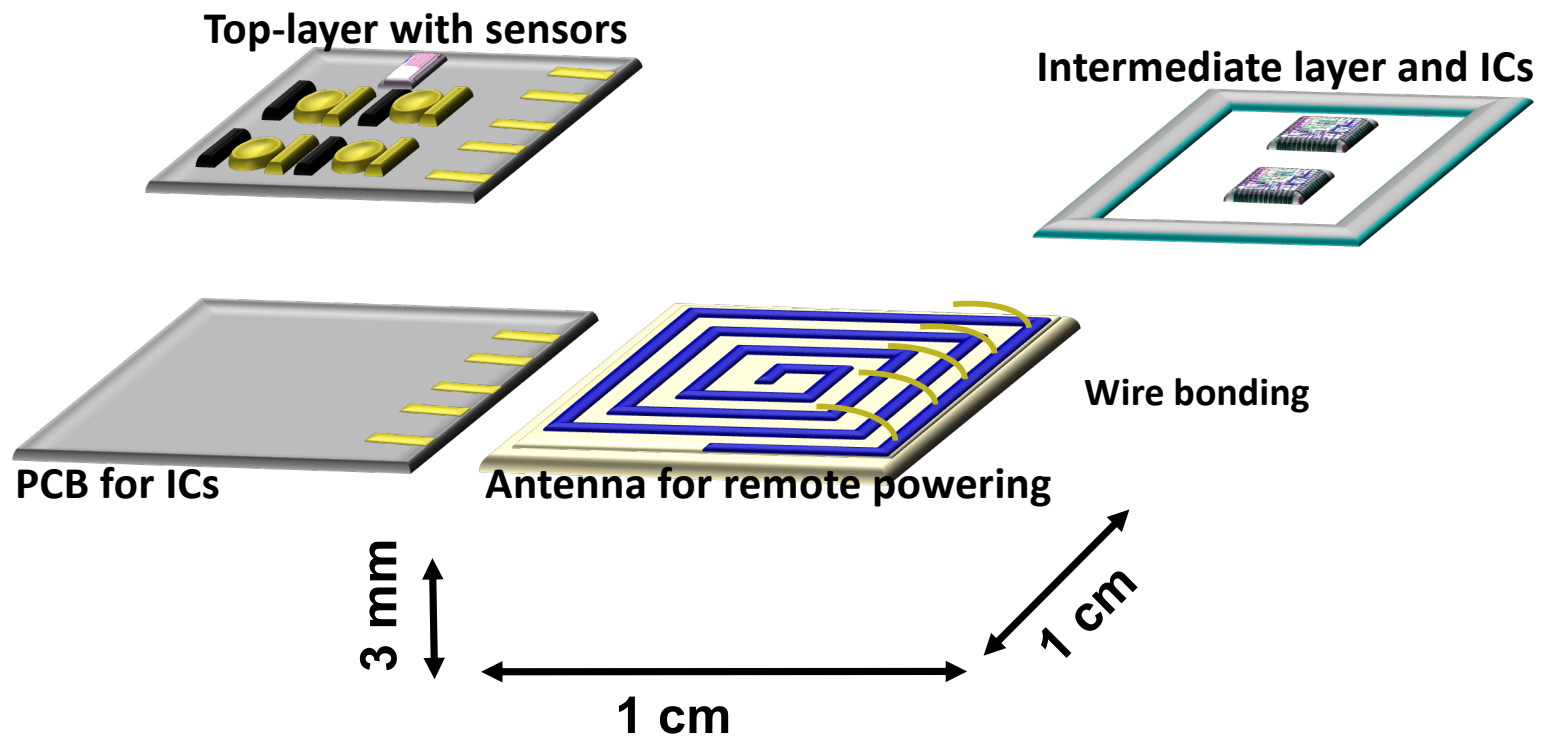


The Air Pouch Model in mice has been used
to test the monitoring implants

Full Biocompatible System Packaging



Under-the-Skin Device

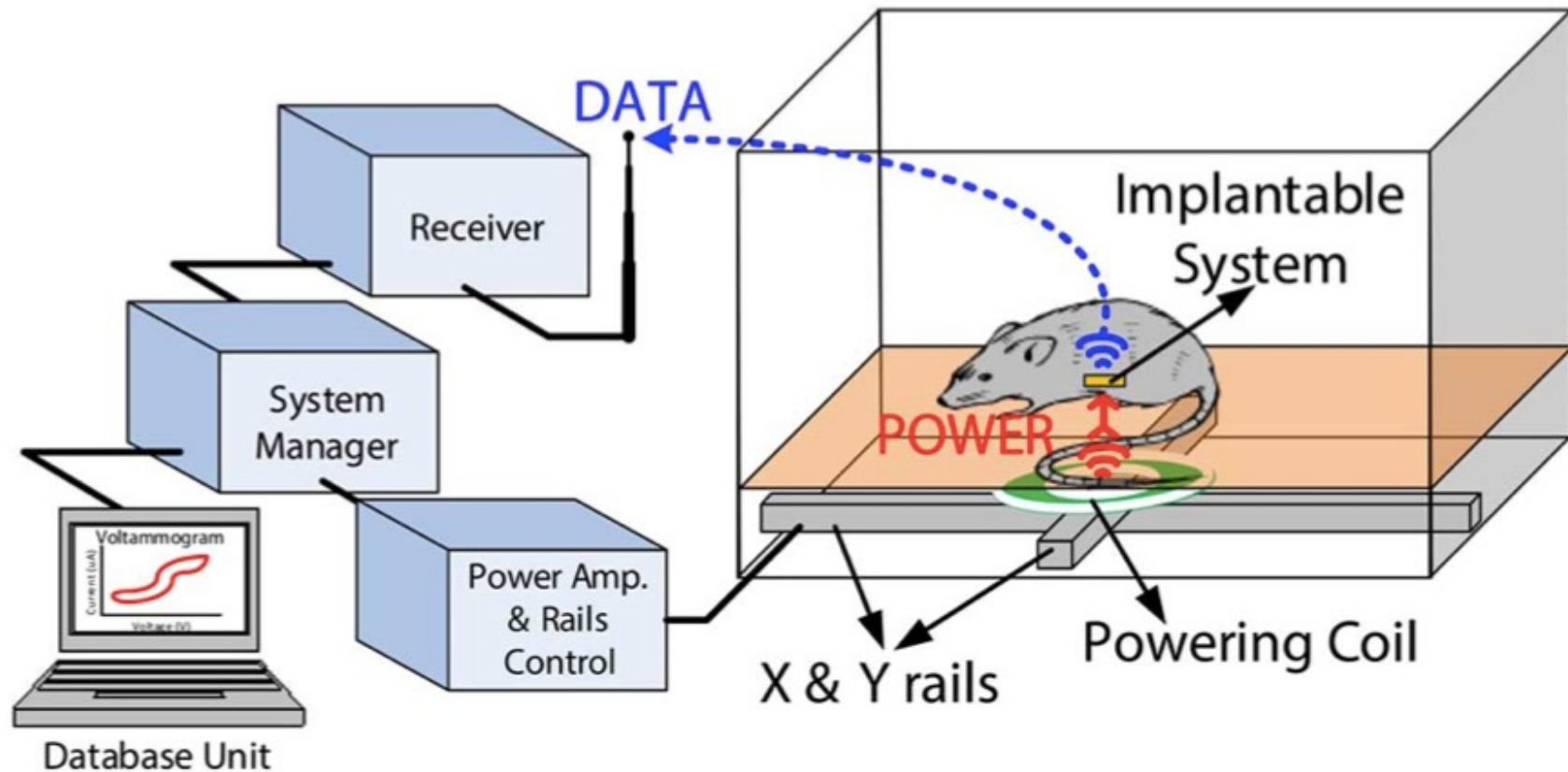


Under-the-Skin Device: implanted



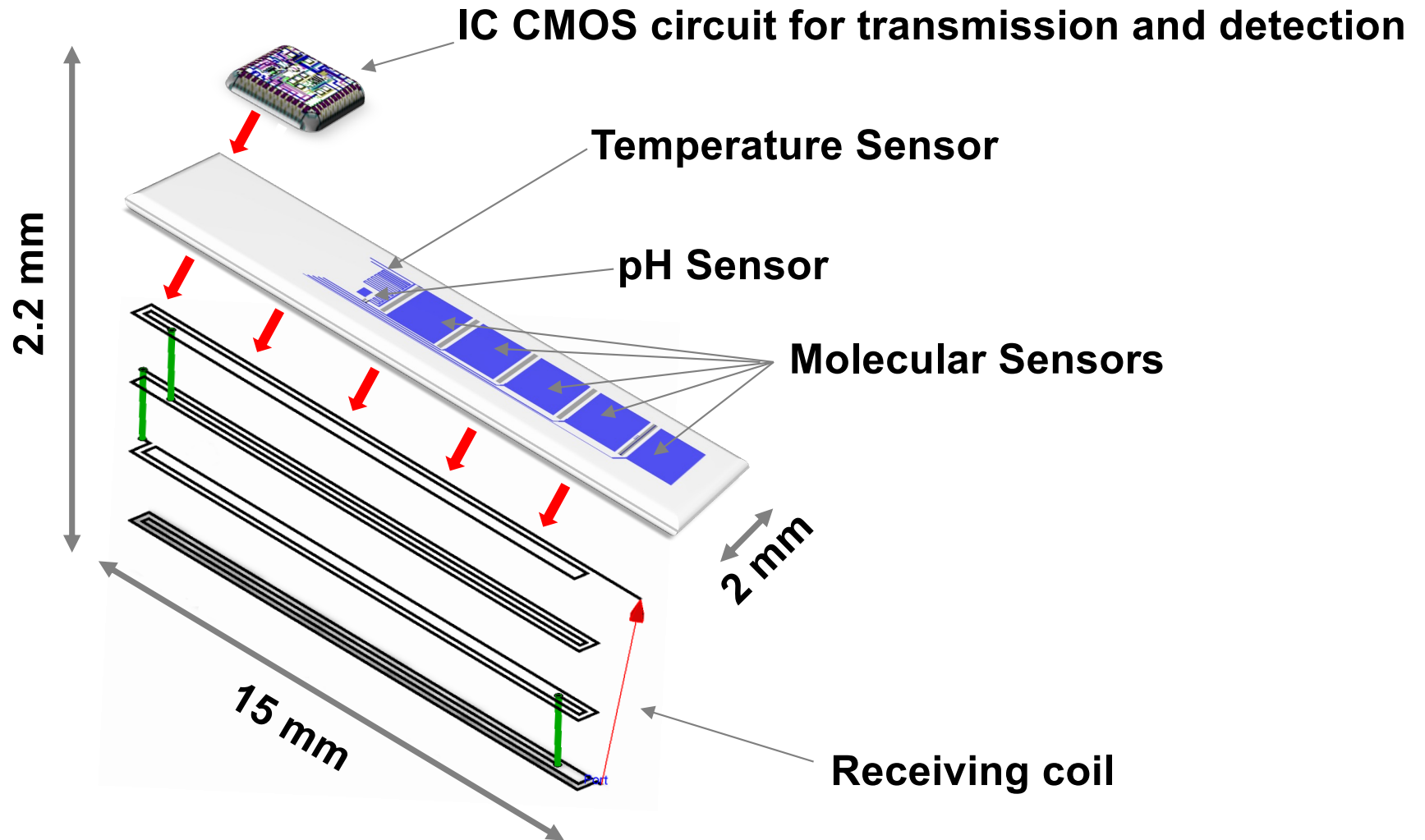
The whole device (with ARIC embedded) was implanted in the peritoneum of the animal and the suture after the surgery

Remotely Powered Implantable Devices for Animal Metabolism Telemetry



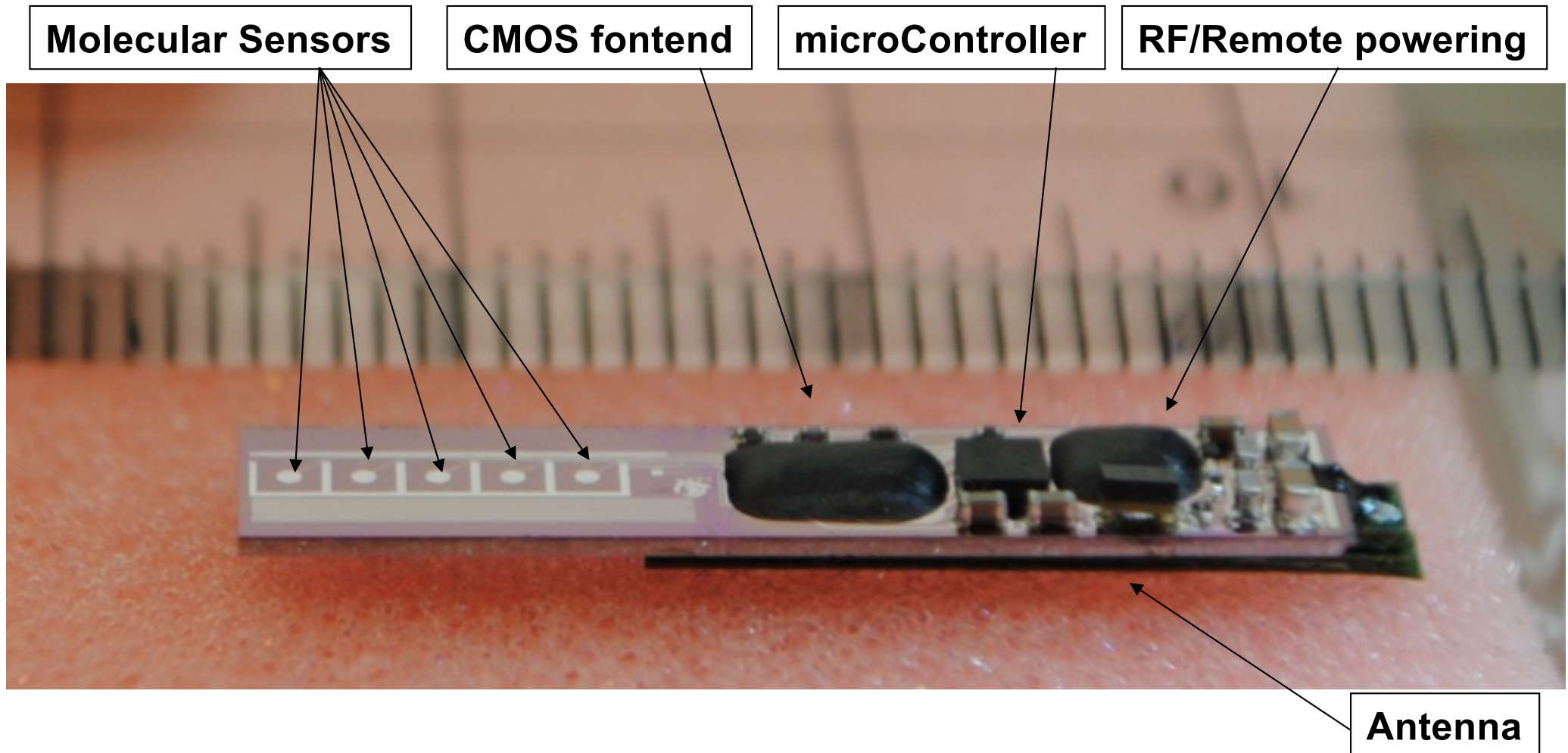
The design of remotely powered implantable systems for continuous monitoring of small-animal metabolism

Under-the-Skin Device



Minimally invasive with size within that of a surgery needle

Subcutaneous Biochip



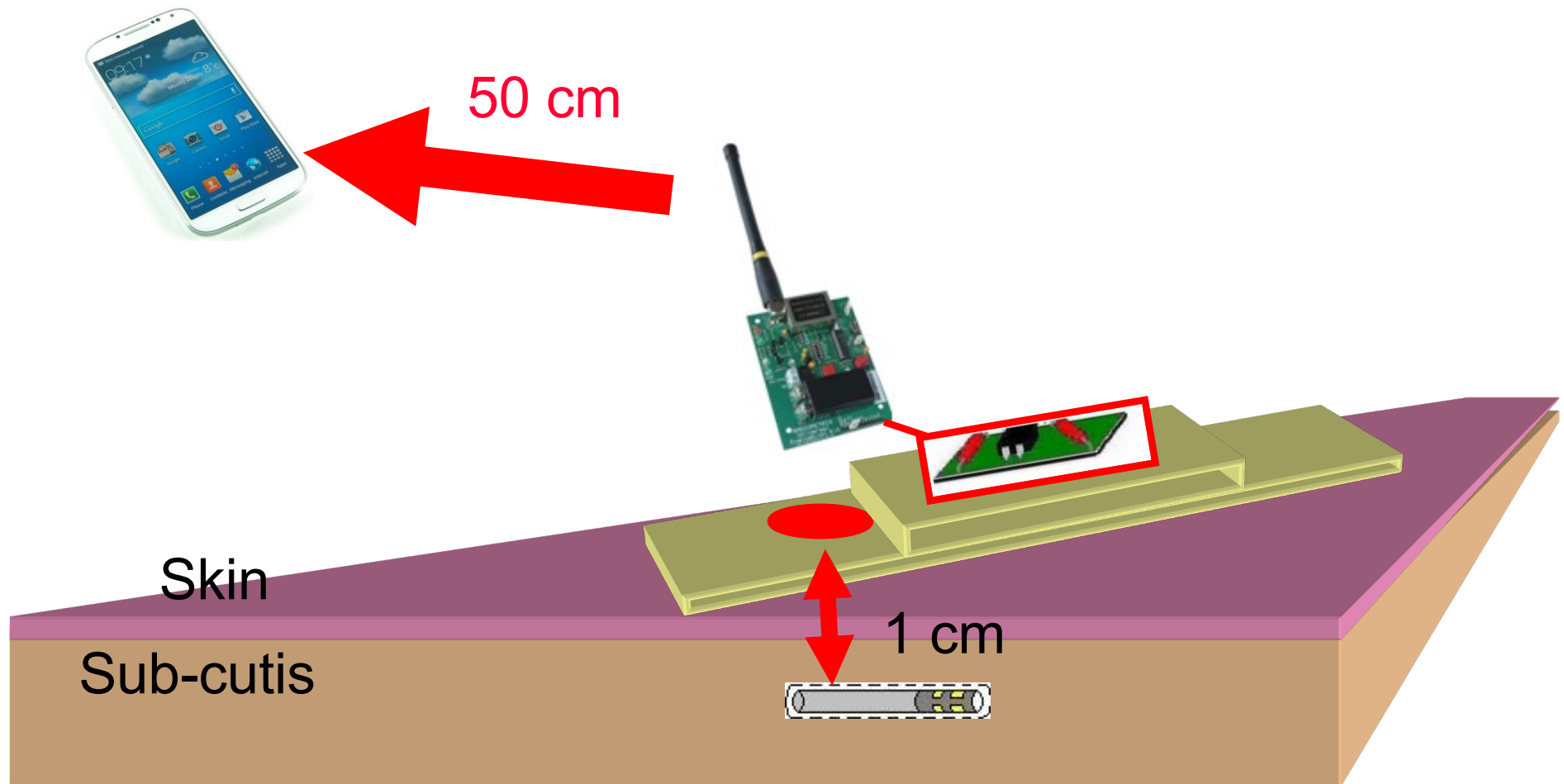
To introduce intelligence, an extremely small microcontrollers is introduced into the CMOS interface too

Injectable ECG monitoring by Medtronic



Mark Phelps by Medtronic, and the Reveal LINQ™ system

Under-the-Skin Devices with remote powering



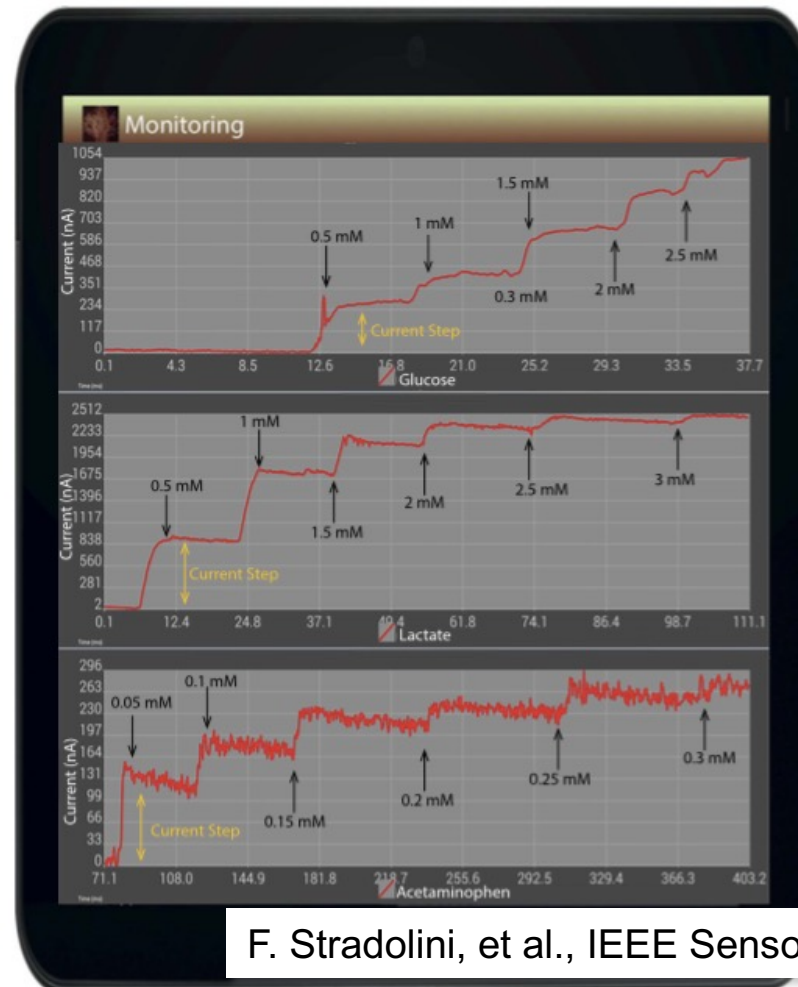
An antenna very close to the chip is required for the remote powering

Android Users Interface

Glucose →

Lactate →

Paracetamol →



The whole system with the Android™ interface that allows connectivity too

Connectivity with Smart-Watch

Smartwatches deliver alerts to intensive care doctors

Patients in intensive care must be constantly monitored. Their vital signs are recorded in real time by a series of biosensors. If an anomaly is detected, an alert is sent to the doctor on duty.



The doctor's smartwatch is connected to the main server in the intensive care unit via wifi. It keeps the doctor up to date on the patients' status and alerts the doctor if there are any problems.

Live Demo @ BioCAS17



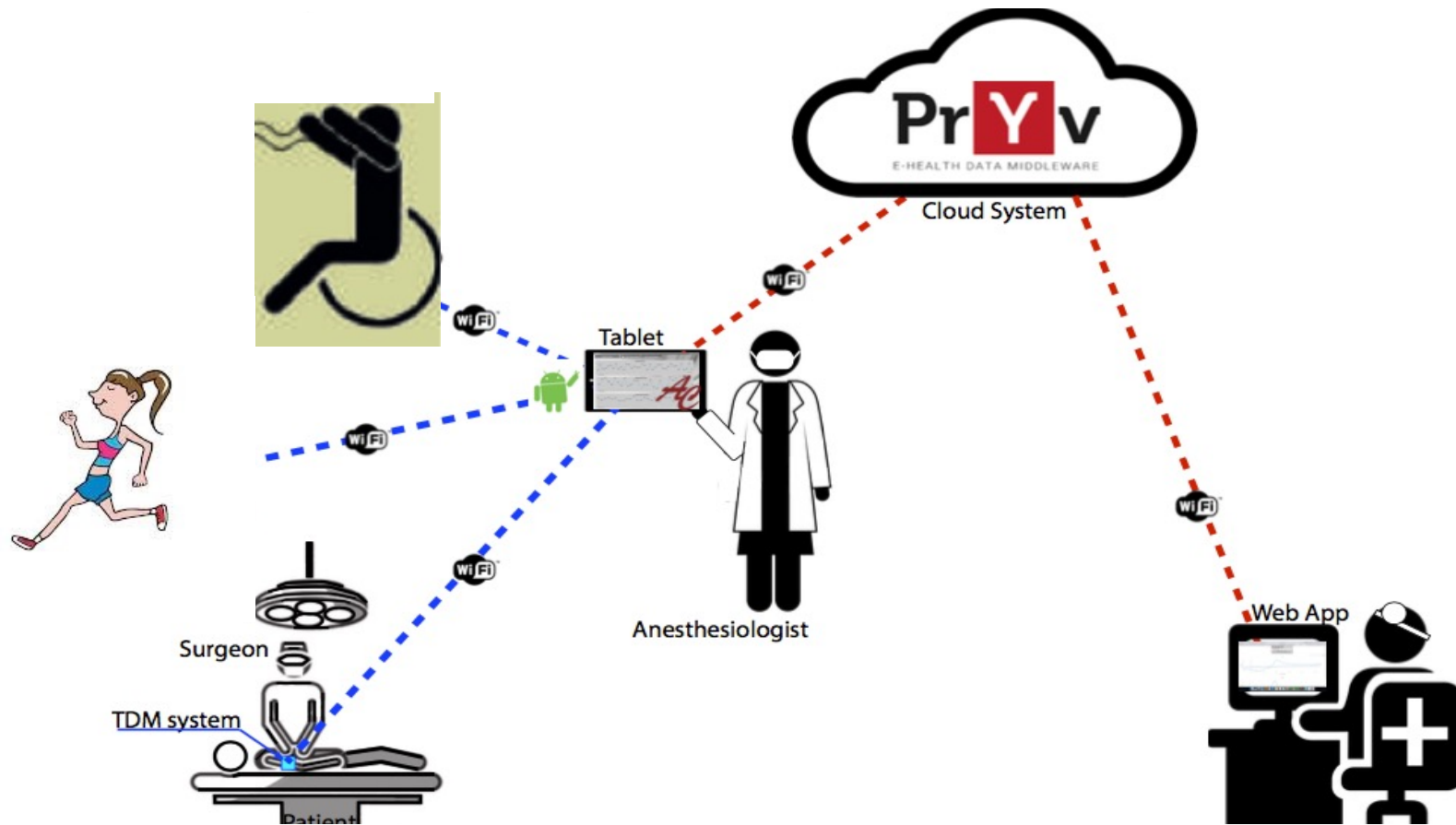
F. Stradolini, et al., MOBILHEALTH 2016



Connectivity till the smart-watch by the WiFi network has been successfully investigated as well

(c) S.Carrara

Connectivity to the Cloud



N.Tamburrano, et al., IEEE ISCAS 2018, invited paper

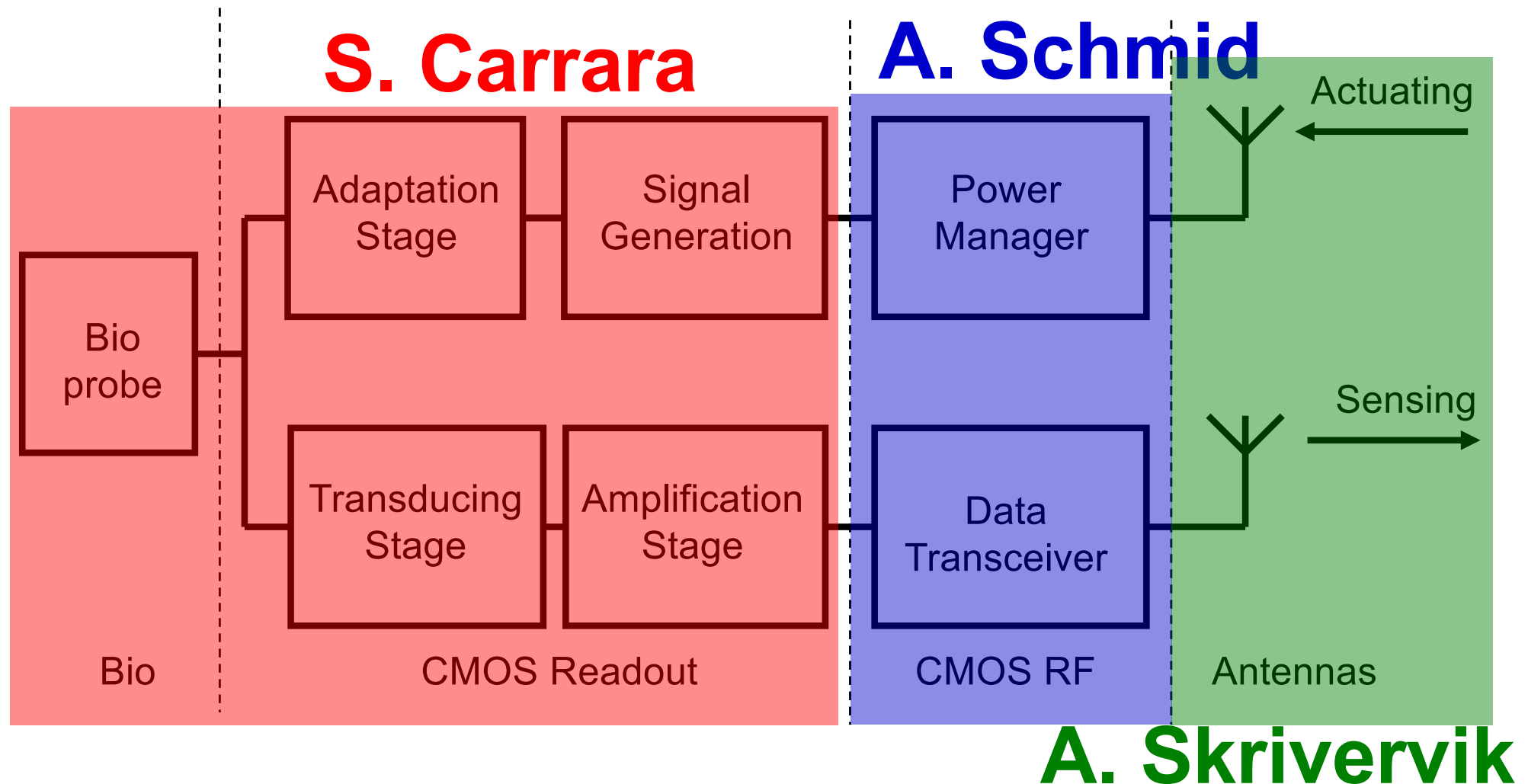
Connectivity by through the cloud has been successfully investigated too

(c) S.Carrara

In Summary

- **We can realize Bio/CMOS analog circuits for electrical and electrochemical measure in humans**
- **We can realize low-cost biochips based on CMOS technology, inject printing and other easy and low cost technologies, including microfluidics**
- **We can then provide reliable measures of many human parameters as biomarkers**
- **Automatic and continuous measurements of the humans health is actually feasible with our personal electronics and biochips, including Multisensory Platform !**

Designing Bio/CMOS interfaces



The Bio/CMOS interface