

# Gas and Particle Sensors for Air Quality Monitoring

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# Allowed levels of emissions of toxic gas molecules and particles are today very low Sensors systems for control are needed



Toxic substances include:  $\text{NO}_x$ ,  $\text{SO}_2$ ,  $\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{O}_3$ , PAH/VOC,  $\text{PM}_{10}$ ,  $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ ,  $\text{PM}_1$

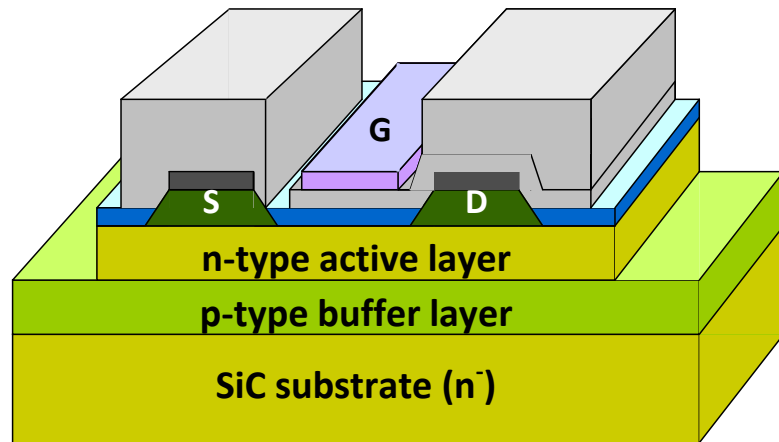


# Outline

- SiC-FET improved sensor devices
  - commercialization
  - monitoring SO<sub>2</sub> in power plants
- Monitoring of particles by
  - Heating and detection of emissions
  - Integration of functionality in LTCC packaging
  - The cell clinic, toxic effect of particles



# SiC-FET new transducer platform for gas sensors



Cross section of depletion SiC-FET  
Gate sensing layer:  
porous catalytic metal, Pt, Ir

A new design of the SiC-FETs, a hybrid between a MESFET and a depletion type MOSFET, performed by SenSiC AB in collaboration with ASCATRON AB /ACREO:

- Optimized gate length increases the sensitivity
- The design allows gate bias control of selectivity and sensitivity



Mike Andersson

Eurosensors, A. Lloyd Spetz September 2014



# SiC-FET new transducer platform for gas sensors

SiC-FET sensor with

**Improved selectivity:**

**NH<sub>3</sub>** also in environments with high CO and low O<sub>2</sub> concentration

**Applications:** SCR control in trucks and stationary engines

**Improved sensitivity**

**VOCs** ppb concentrations

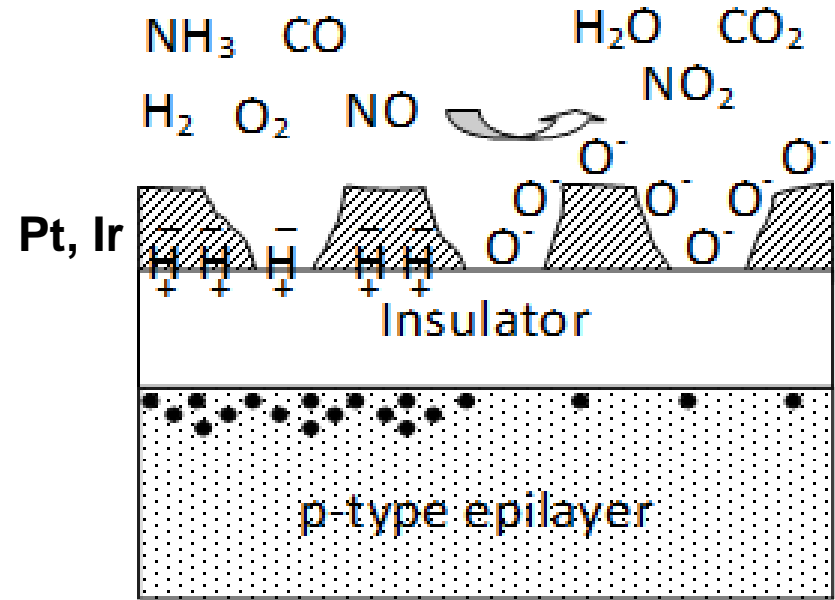
**Application** Indoor air quality control

**SENSIndoor** EU project

**Smart sensing**

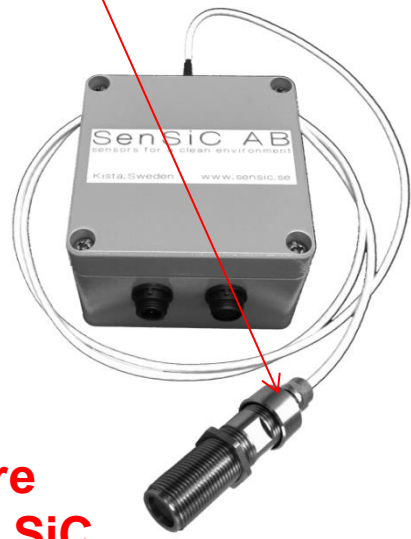
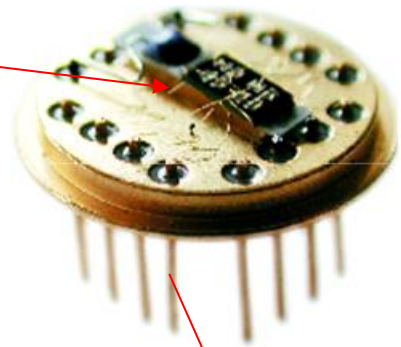
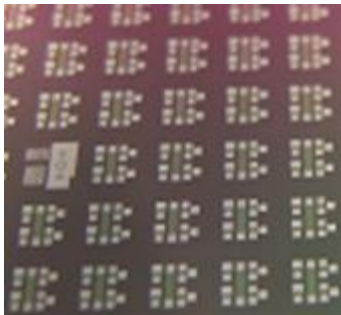
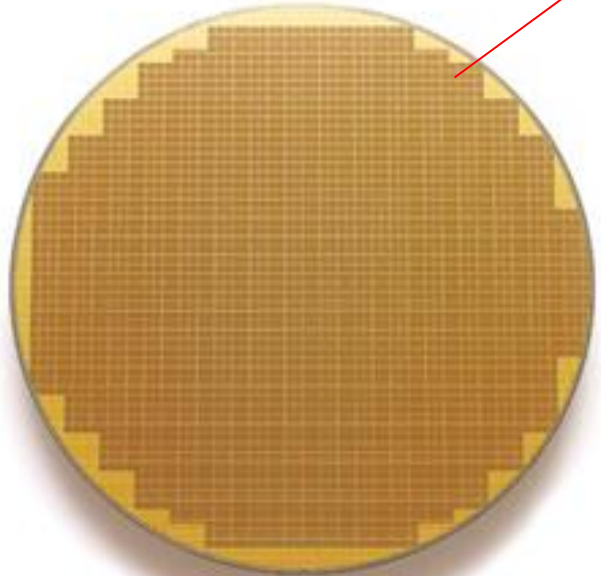
**SO<sub>2</sub>** monitoring

**Application:** control of desulfurization unit in power plants



Molecule decomposition and reactions on the catalytic metal – charging of the gate area - **a change in the current through the transistor**

# SiC-FET sensors, wafer and mounting



SiC-FET  
sensor system

4" SiC wafer, ~2000 chip

**Technology especially suitable for high temperature devices and power components. Processing on 4" SiC wafers using standard methods. Price of chip far less than cost for mounting and electronics.**





# SiC-FET gas sensors

A SiC-FET sensor system is being commercialized for control of the inlet air to small and medium sized wood fuelled power plants:



Increased efficiency  
of the combustion  
and lower emissions



**SENSIC**  
Sensors for cleaner air

Eurosensors, A. Lloyd Spetz September 2014

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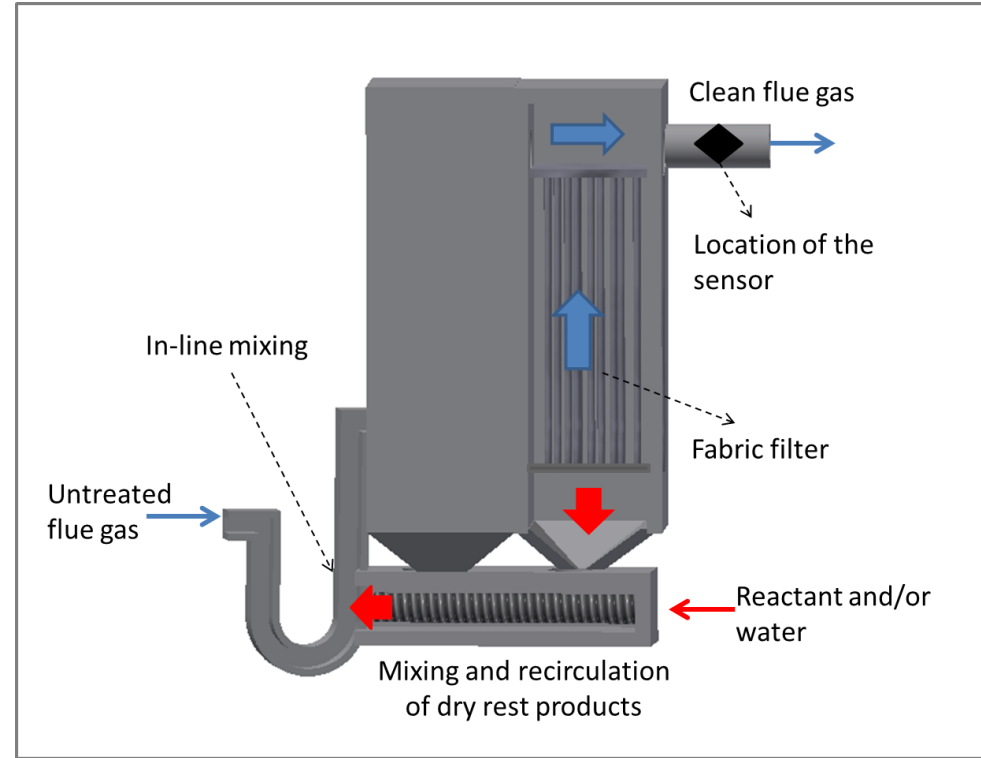


# SiC-FETs for detection of SO<sub>2</sub>

ALSTOM



NID™ SYSTEM 3D ILLUSTRATION



Desulphurization unit in pilot plant:  
calciumhydroxide + sand is blown in and  
absorbs the sulphur, then removed in a filter  
and reused



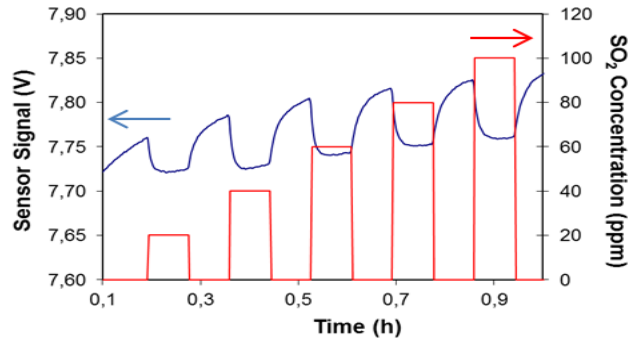
Zhafira Darmastuti and Peter Möller



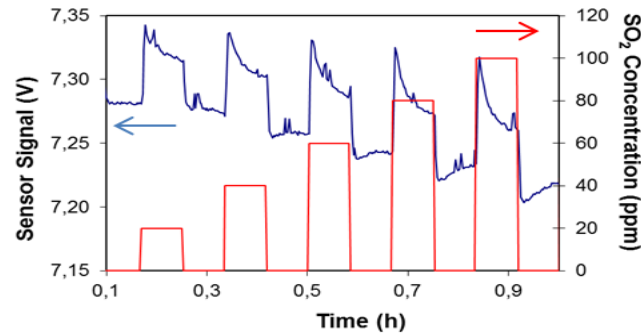


# SO<sub>2</sub> sensitivity of SiC-FETs

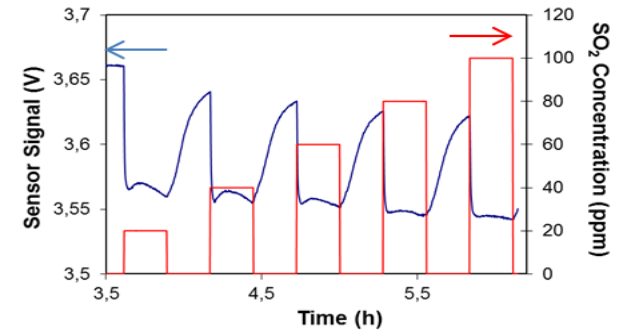
(a) Pt-gate at 300°C



(b) Ir-gate at 300°C



(c) Au-gate at 350°C



Poor resolution of the sensor response to different concentrations of SO<sub>2</sub>



Zhafira Darmastuti

Eurosensors, A. Lloyd Spetz September 2014



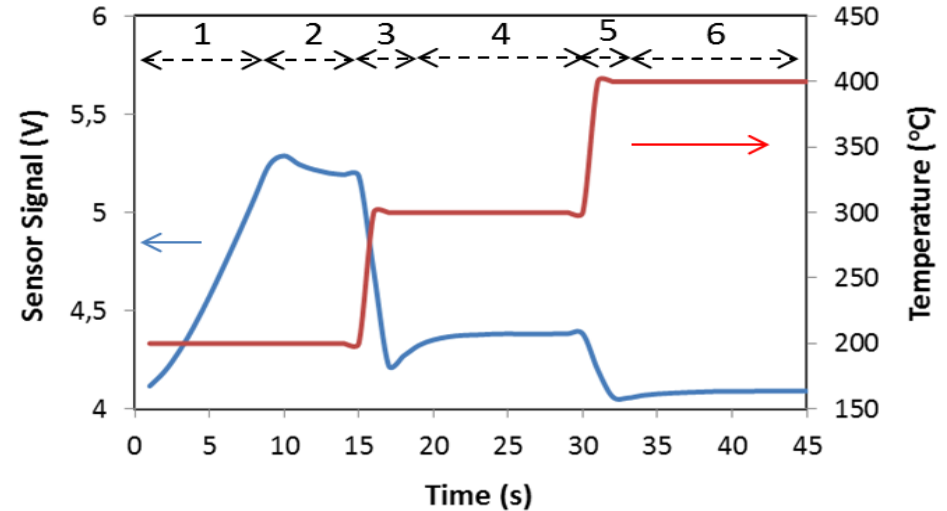
# Dynamic Operation and smart data processing

## Virtual multisensors:

- Temperature cycling operation mode
- single sensor producing multidimensional signal patterns

## Advantages:

- Noise reduction
- Less influenced by background gases
- Cleaning of the sensor surface (high T)



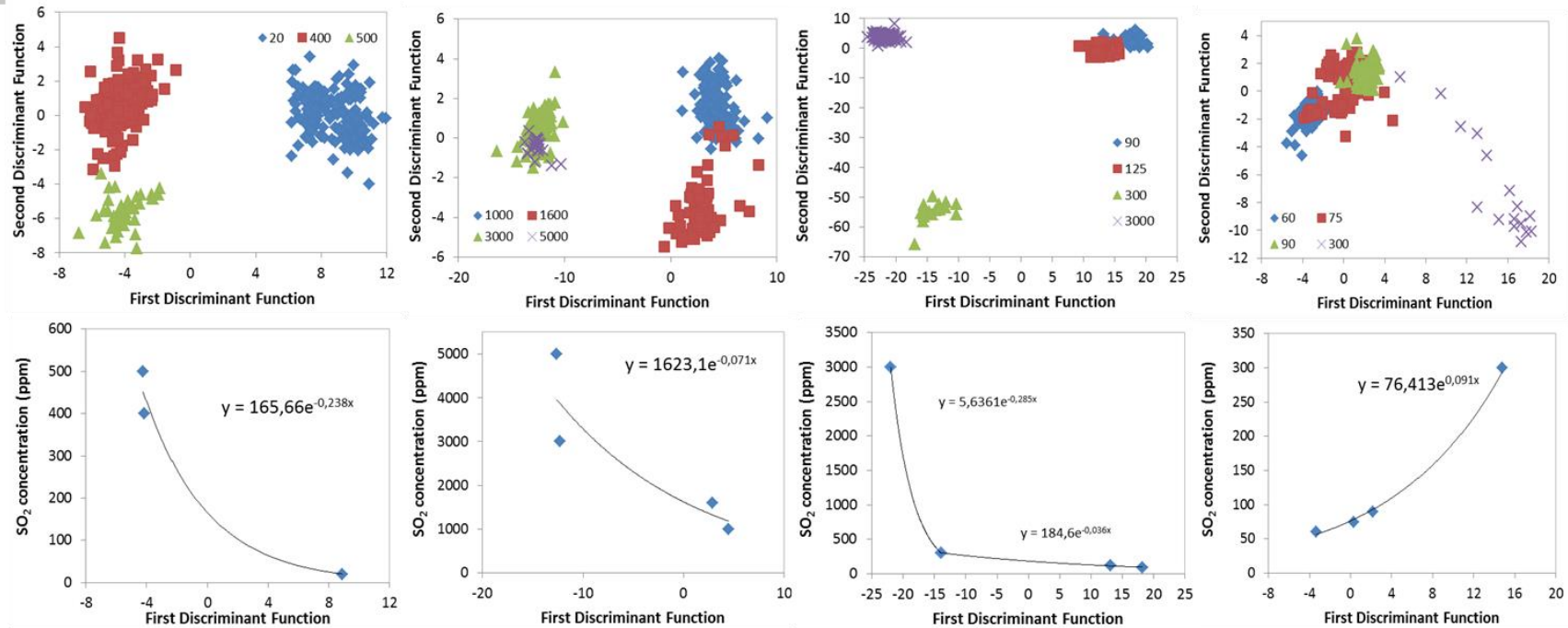
## *Temperature cycle and sensor signal*

Temperature cycling operation developed together with Saarland University, Andreas Schütze and **Christian Bur** (talk on Tuesday, B1L-A02)

\*



# SO<sub>2</sub> detection by temperature cycled operation



*Second step LDA for SO<sub>2</sub> quantification*

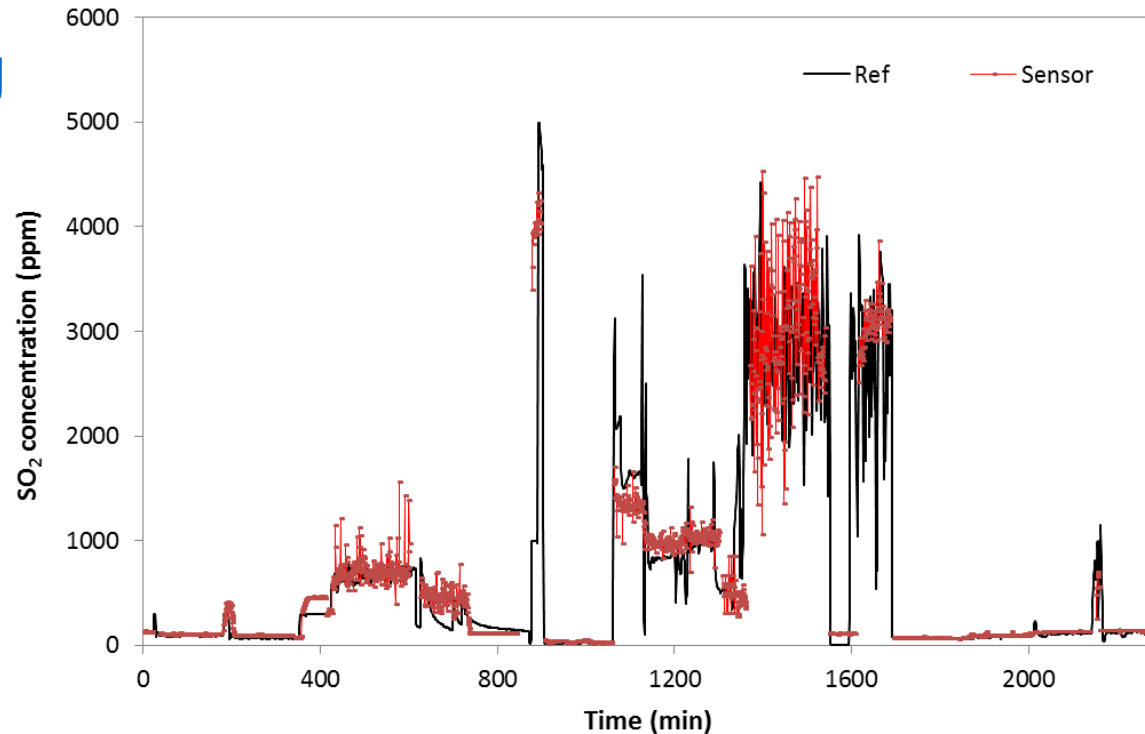
*The plot to correlate SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations to the first discriminant functions in every background group*

# SO<sub>2</sub> detection by temperature cycled operation and 2-step LDA

## Pilot unit testing at Alstom

Zhafira Darmastuti  
Christian Bur

Collaboration with  
Saarland University,  
Germany



*SO<sub>2</sub> concentration in the pilot plant measurements.*

*The sensor signal processed by exponential fit from the 2- step LDA (red dotted line). (different algorithms for each background) )  
FTIR reference instrument (black solid line)*



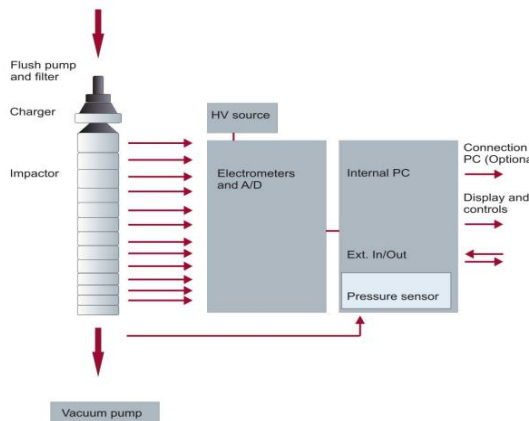
# Present commercial particle detectors



**DEKATI ELPI** (Electrical Low Pressure Impactor (6 nm – 10  $\mu$ m))



**Nano-ID™ NPS500** based on DMA (Differential Mobility Analyzer) technology, portable particle measurement device (5-500nm)



# Vision

Miniaturized device for the on-line monitoring of particles for

- Work places (specific)
- Public use (general)

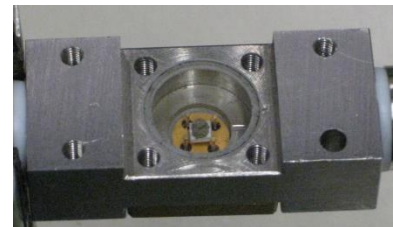
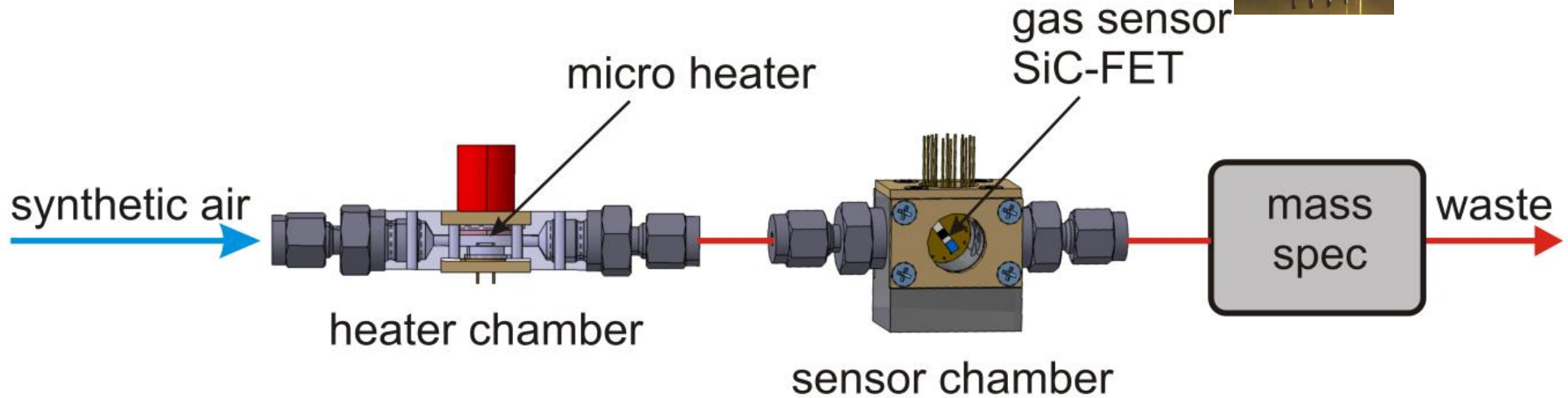
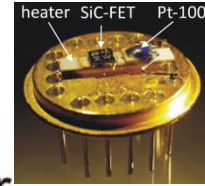


Giving information about particle **number** (**concentration**), **size**, “**shape**”, and **content** since these parameters influence the adverse health effect of particles

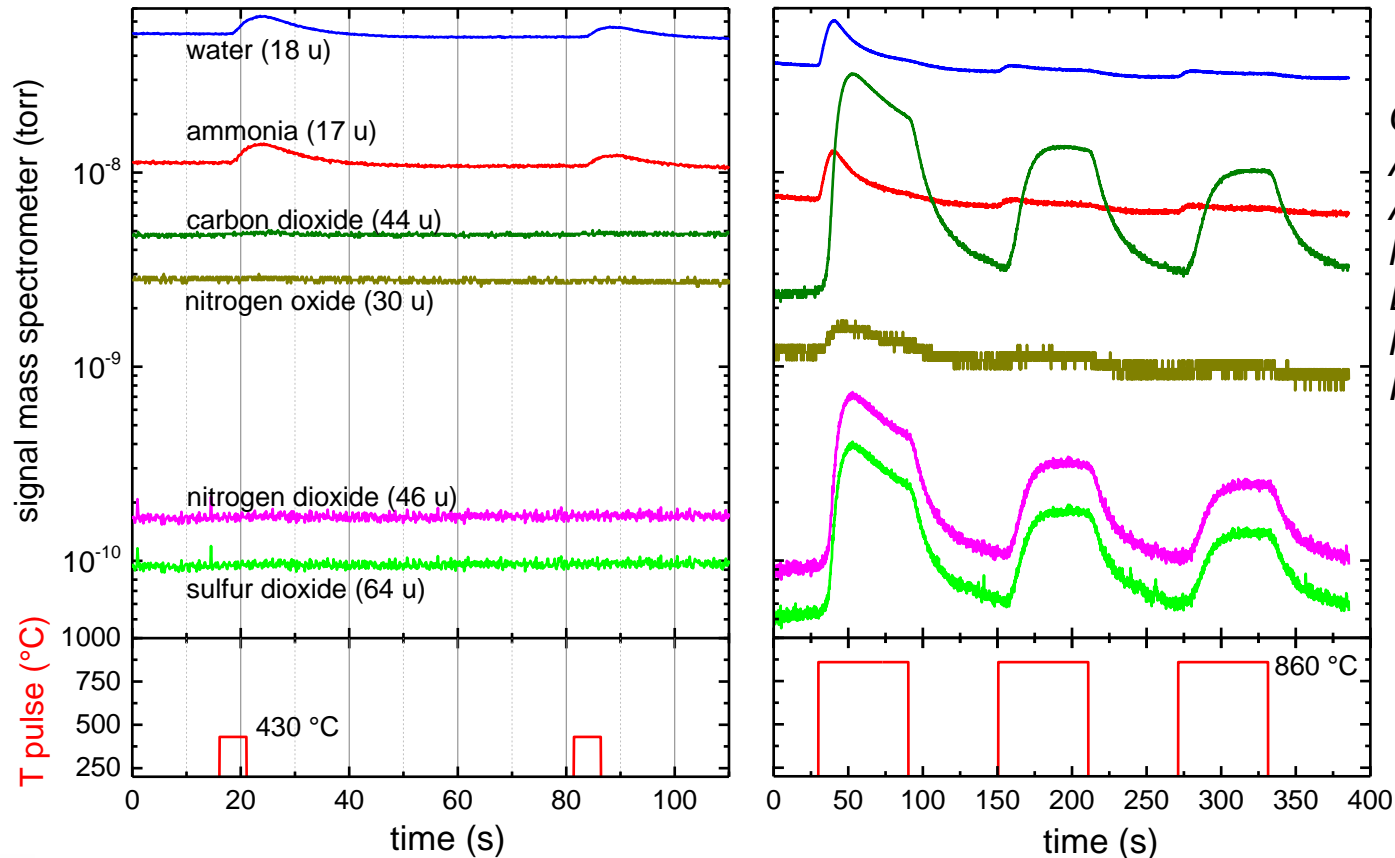




# Particle content measurement set up



# Detection of particle content



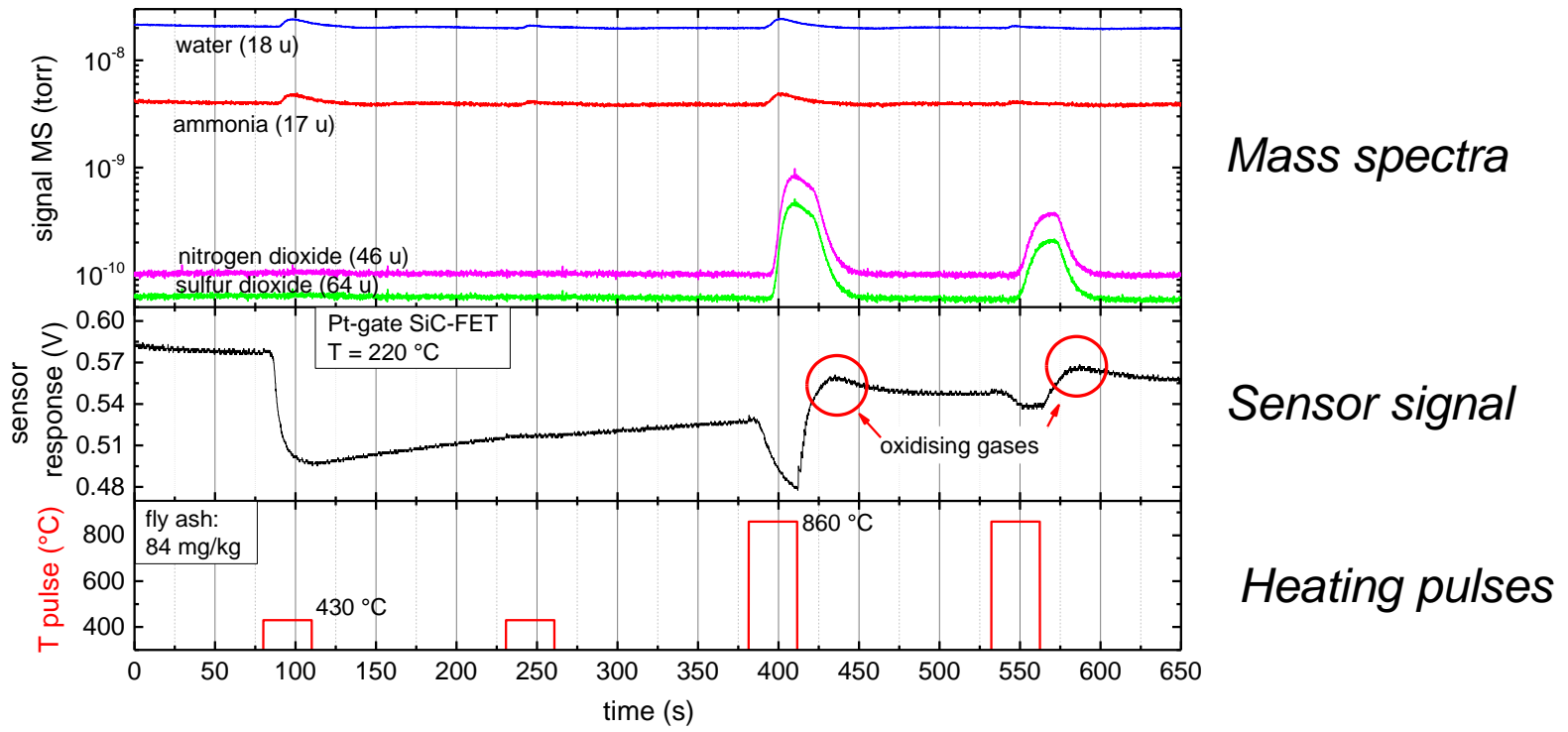
*C. Bur, M. Bastuck,  
A. Schütze, J. Juuti,  
A. Lloyd Spetz,  
M. Andersson,  
E-MRS 2014,  
May 26-30, Lille,  
France, poster.*

Mass spectra of fly ash with 84 mg/kg ammonia when heated to 430 °C (left) and 860 °C (right).



# Detecting particle content

C. Bur, M. Bastuck,  
A. Schütze, J. Juuti,  
A. Lloyd Spetz,  
M. Andersson,  
E-MRS 2014,  
May 26-30, Lille,  
France.

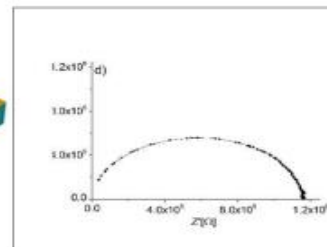
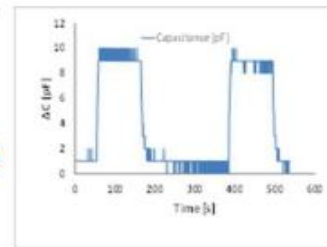
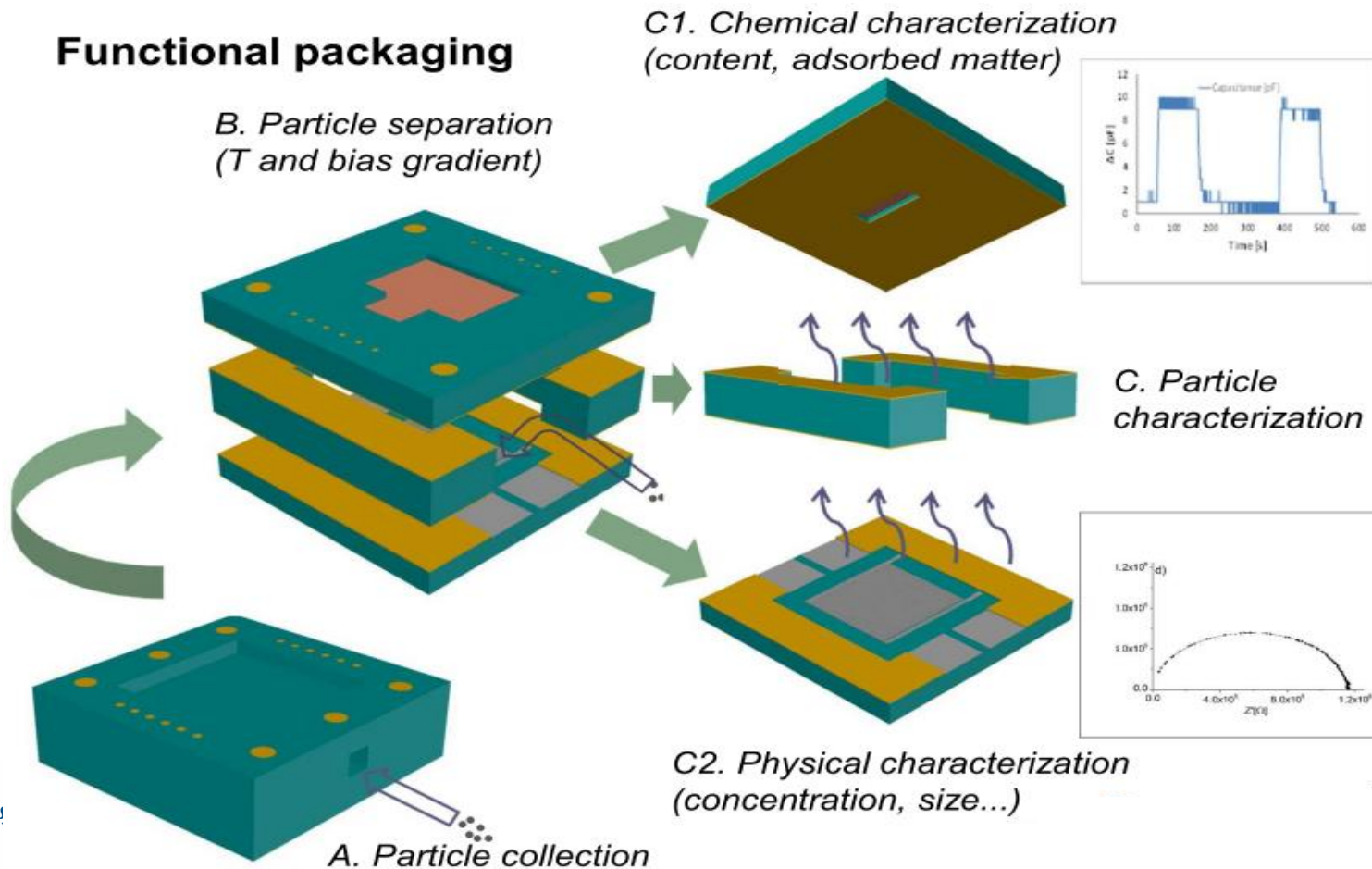


Sensor response (middle) and mass spectra (top) for heated  $\text{NH}_3$  contaminated fly ash (84 mg/kg).  
carrier gas: synthetic air

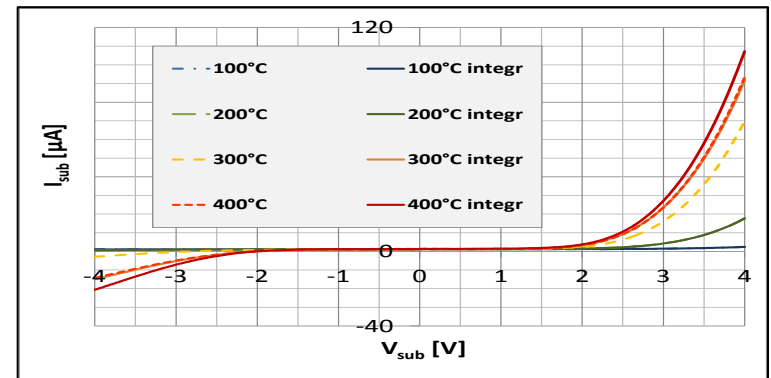
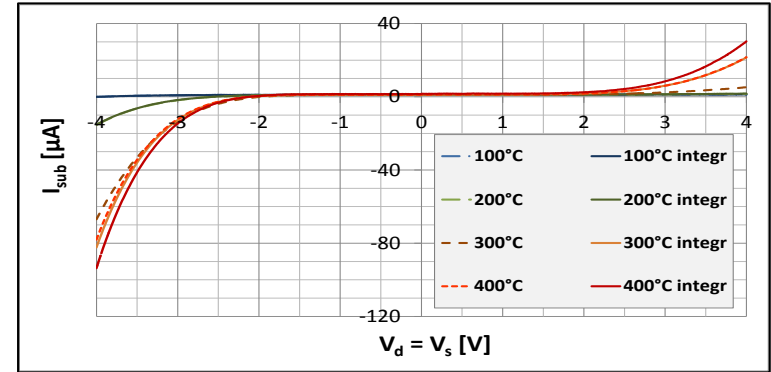
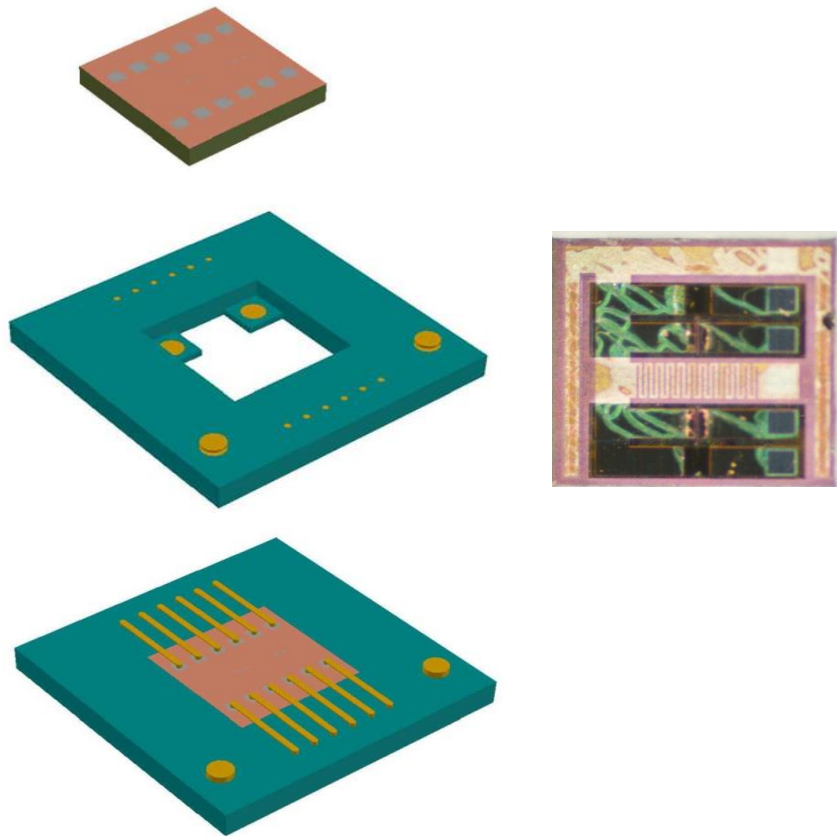


# Nanoparticle detector LTCC platform - overview

## Functional packaging



# Characterization of particle content

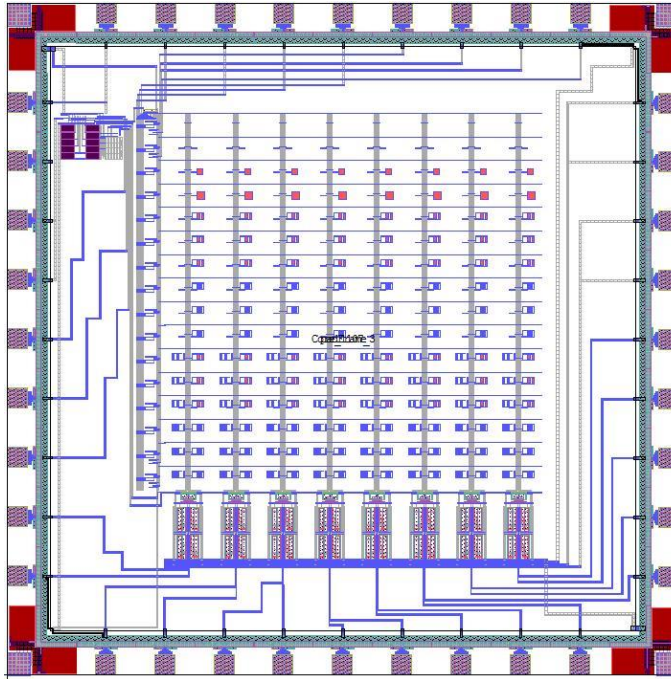


Direct, hermetic sensor  
integration

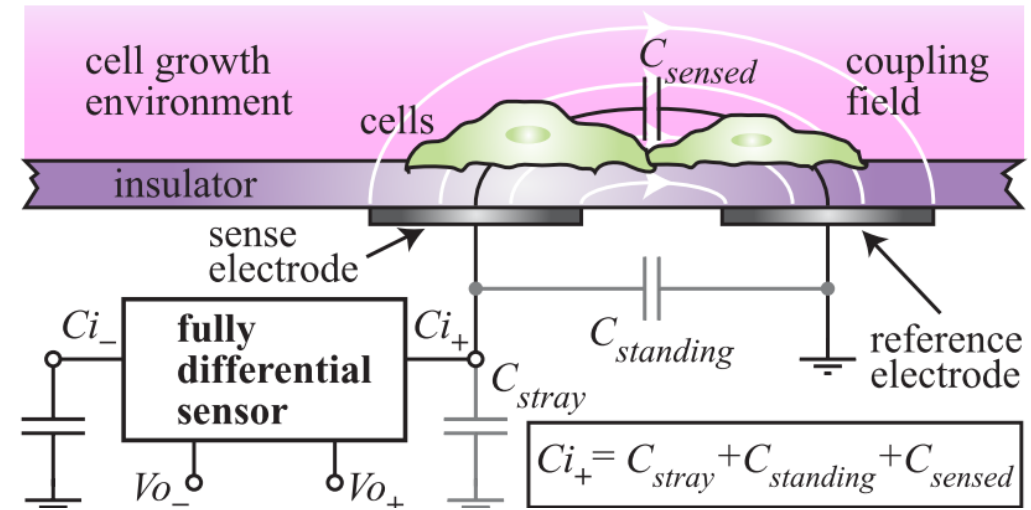
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# Cell Clinic: Measurement of Toxic effect of particles



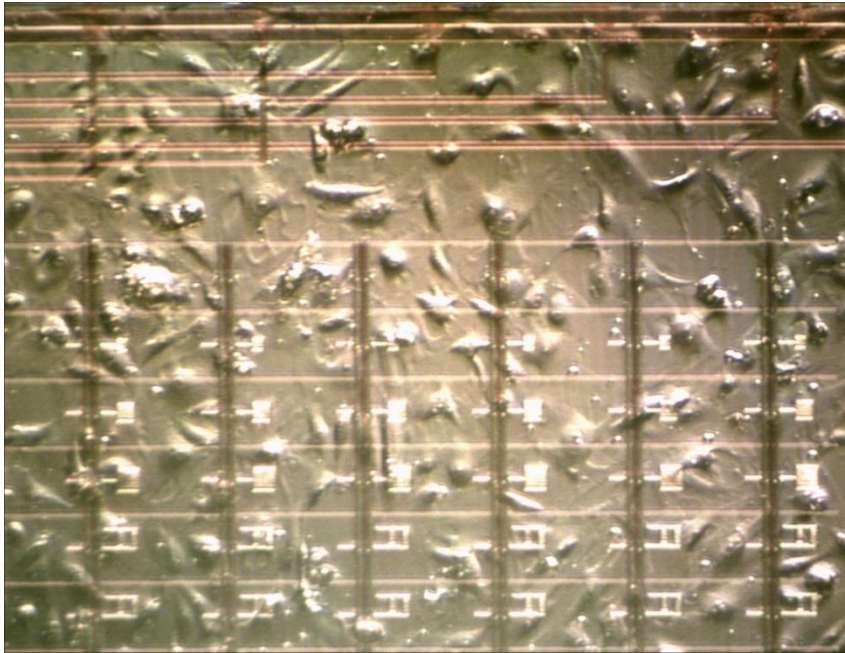
Sensor chip layout.



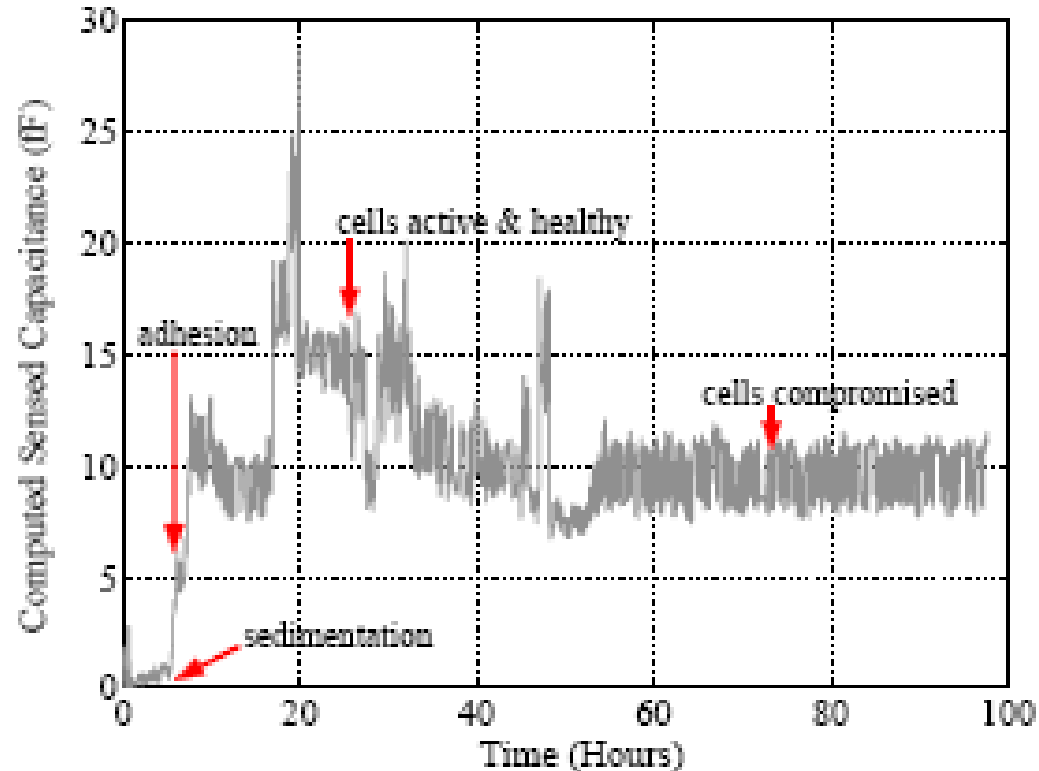
Schematic picture of capacitive signal monitoring from cell adhesion on the CMOS chip.  
Healthy cells spread out, dead cells curl up.



# Cell clinic, sensor chip



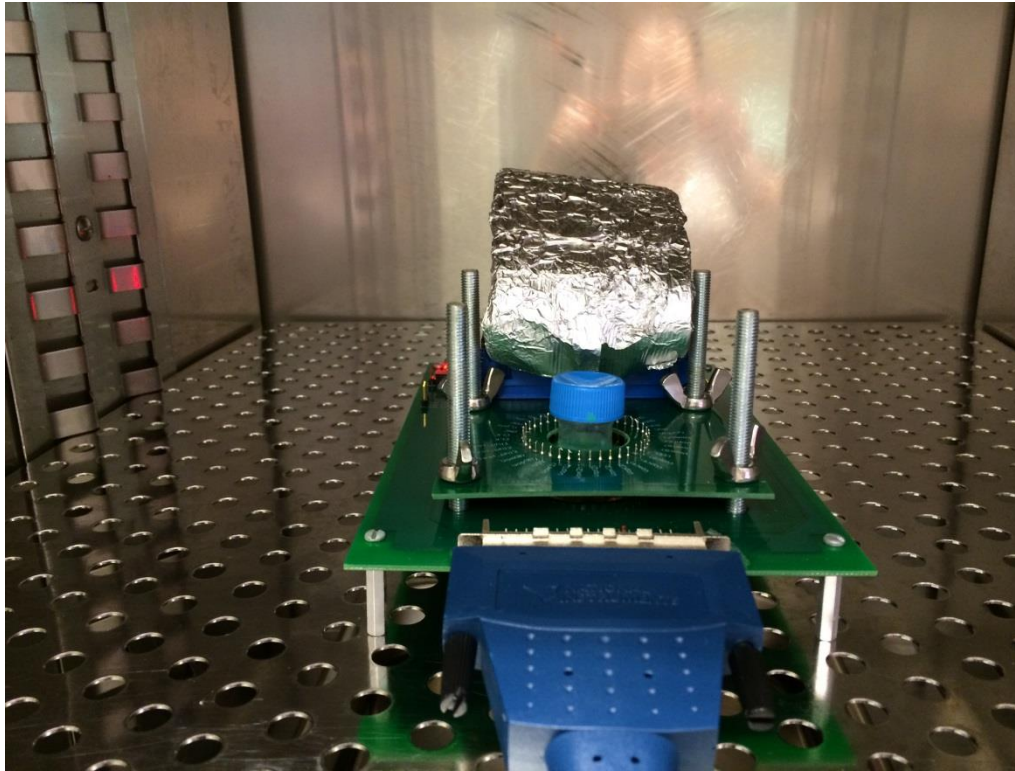
Microscope image of viable adherent kidney cells on the surface of the IC chip.



The capacitance measured with healthy or dead cells on the sensor surface



# Cell clinic, in incubator



*Niina Halonen, Timir Datta-Chaudhury, Antti Hassinen, Somashekar Bangalore Prakash, Peter Möller, Pamela Abshire, Elisabeth Smela, Sakari Kellokumpu, Anita Lloyd Spetz, Cell clinic, CMOS chip measuring capacitance as indication of cell adhesion applied in evaluating the cytotoxicity of nanomaterials*  
*Poster A4P\_G20*



# Conclusions

- Toxic gases and airborne nanoparticles need to be monitored for environmental control
- The new generation SiC-FETs provide a powerful sensor platform for detection of gases with improved sensitivity and selectivity
- The content of nanoparticles is important to measure. Our present approach is based on LTCC technology housing with integrated devices and measurement capability like impedance spectroscopy or heating particles and subsequent detection of the emissions

A cell clinic is under development: electrical monitoring of health status of cells adherant to a CMOS chip, during nanoparticle exposure



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***European Network on New Sensing Technologies for Air-Pollution Control and Environmental Sustainability***



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Ass. Prof. Jari Juuti  
Dr Mike Andersson  
Dr Niina Halonen, post doc  
Joni Huotari, PhD student  
Maciej Soboskinskij, PhD student

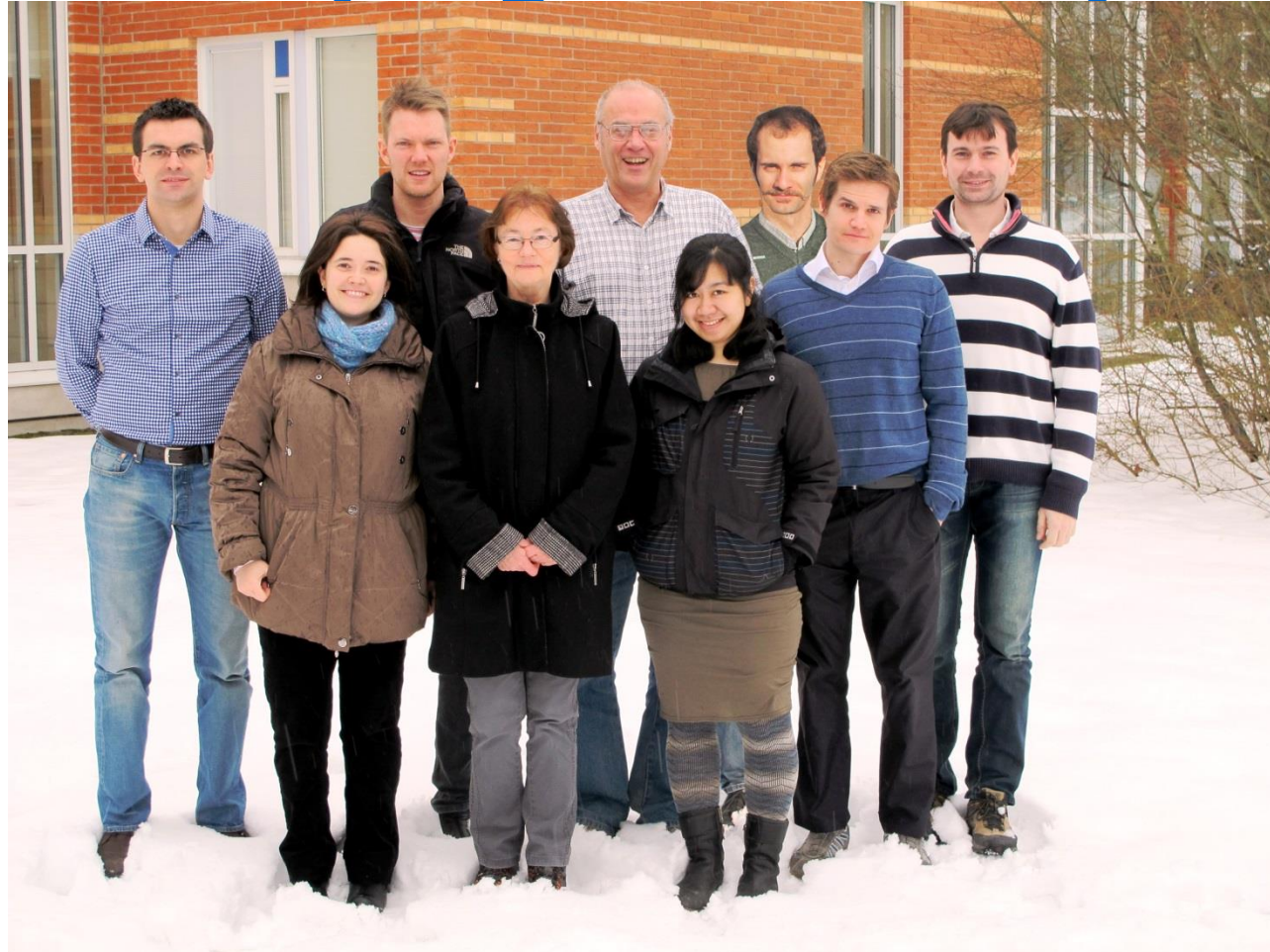
## Maryland University, USA:

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Prof. Pamela Abshire  
Timir Datta, PhD student





# Applied Sensor Science Linköping University



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