

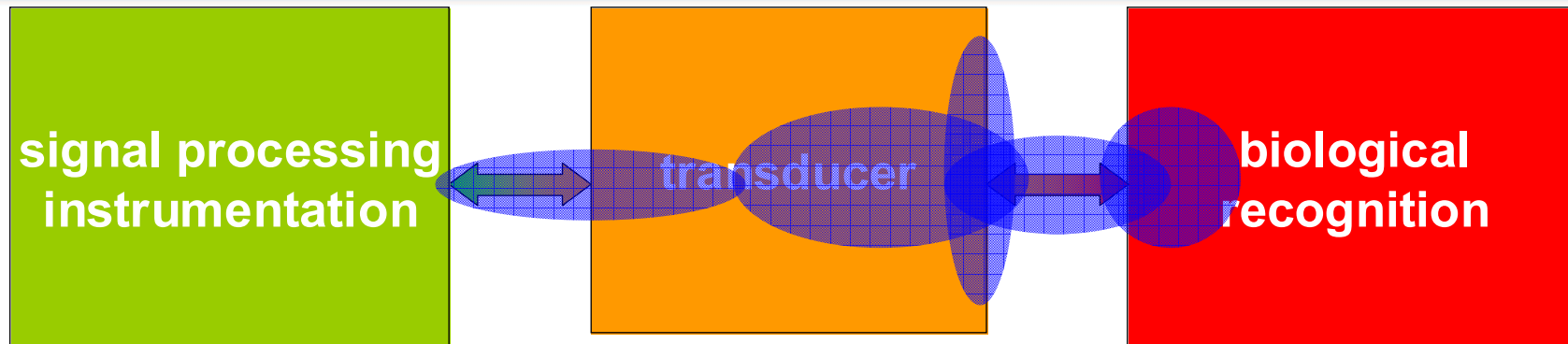


# Label-free electrical DNA and protein sensors for portable instrumentation

**Pedro ESTRELA**

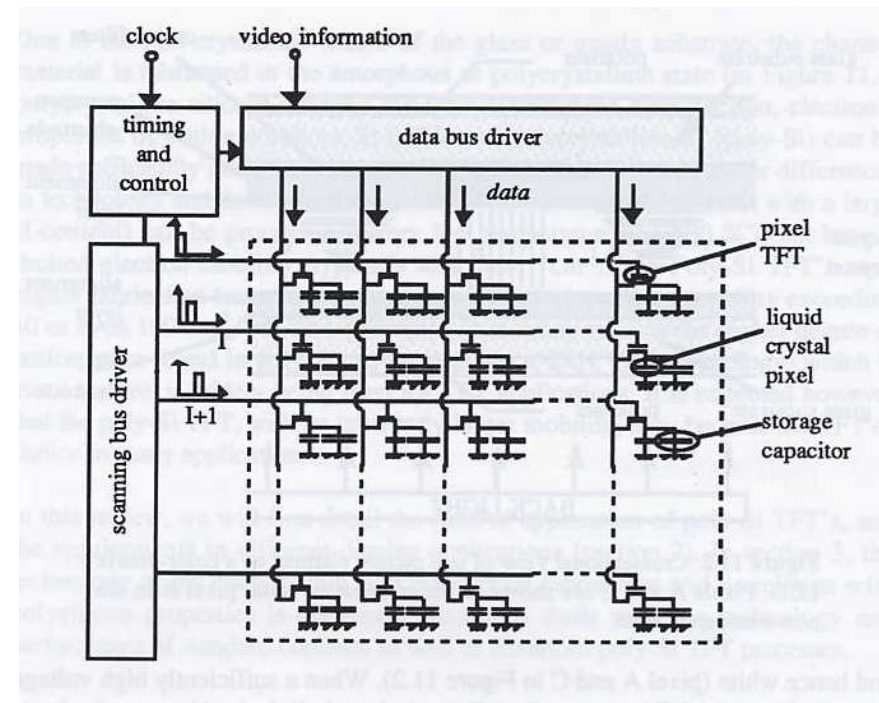
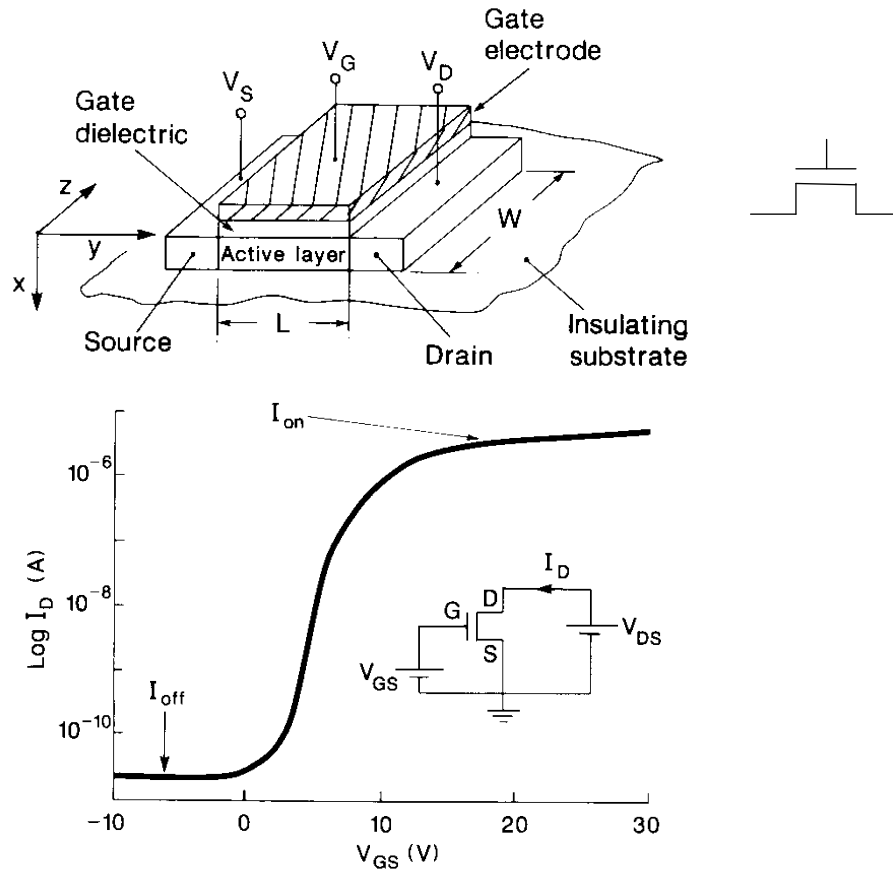
Department of Electronic & Electrical Engineering  
Center for Advanced Sensor Technology

## Biosensors – areas of research



- **Interfacing transducers with biomolecules**
- **Determine type of sensor useful for specific biomolecular interactions**  
**Surface immobilisation of biomolecules**
- **Adapting electric and electronic devices for biosensor/aqueous use**
- **Optimization of transducer characteristics for biosensor application**
- **Specification of transducer characteristics for signal processing**

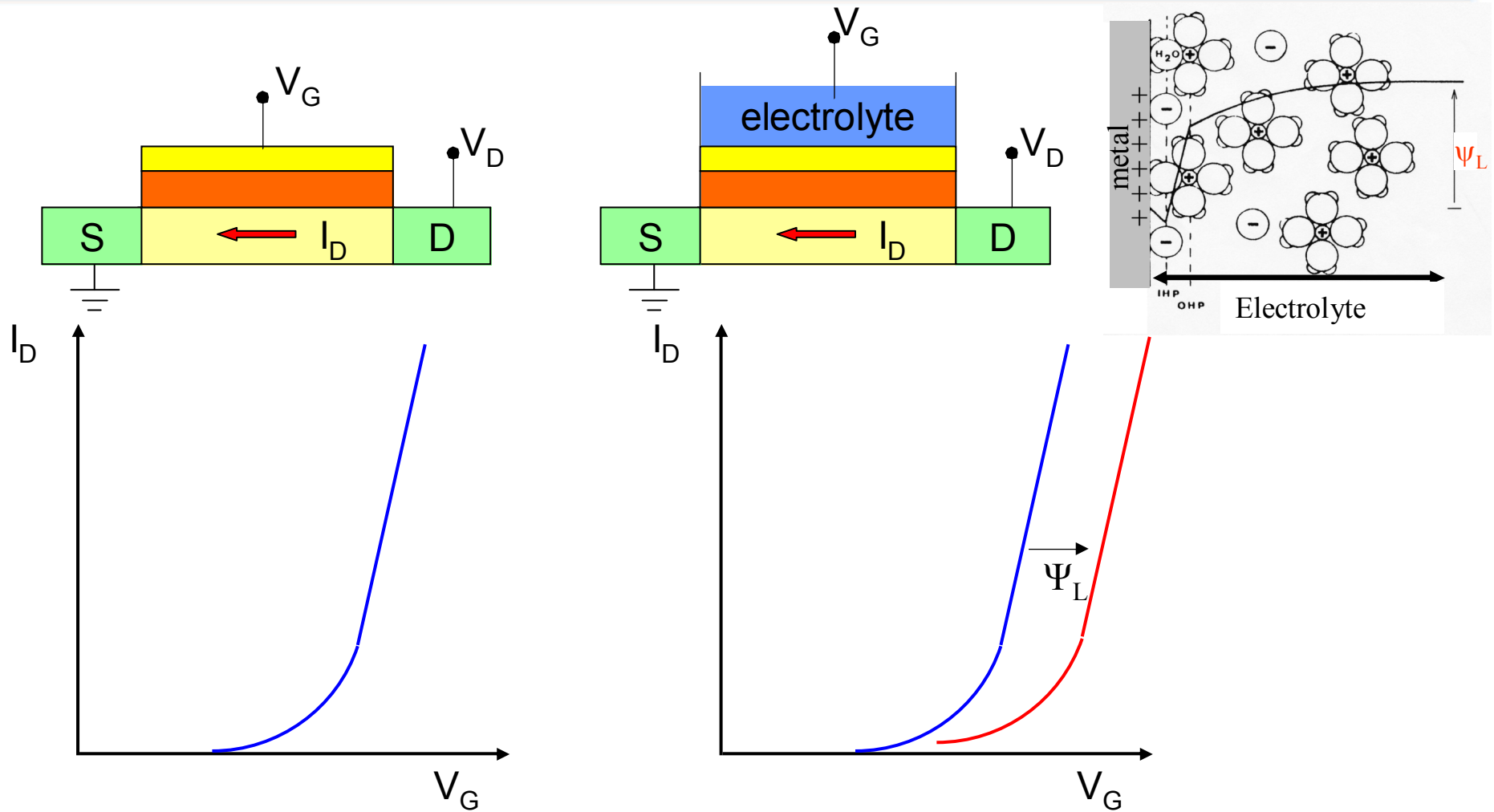
# Field-Effect Transistors



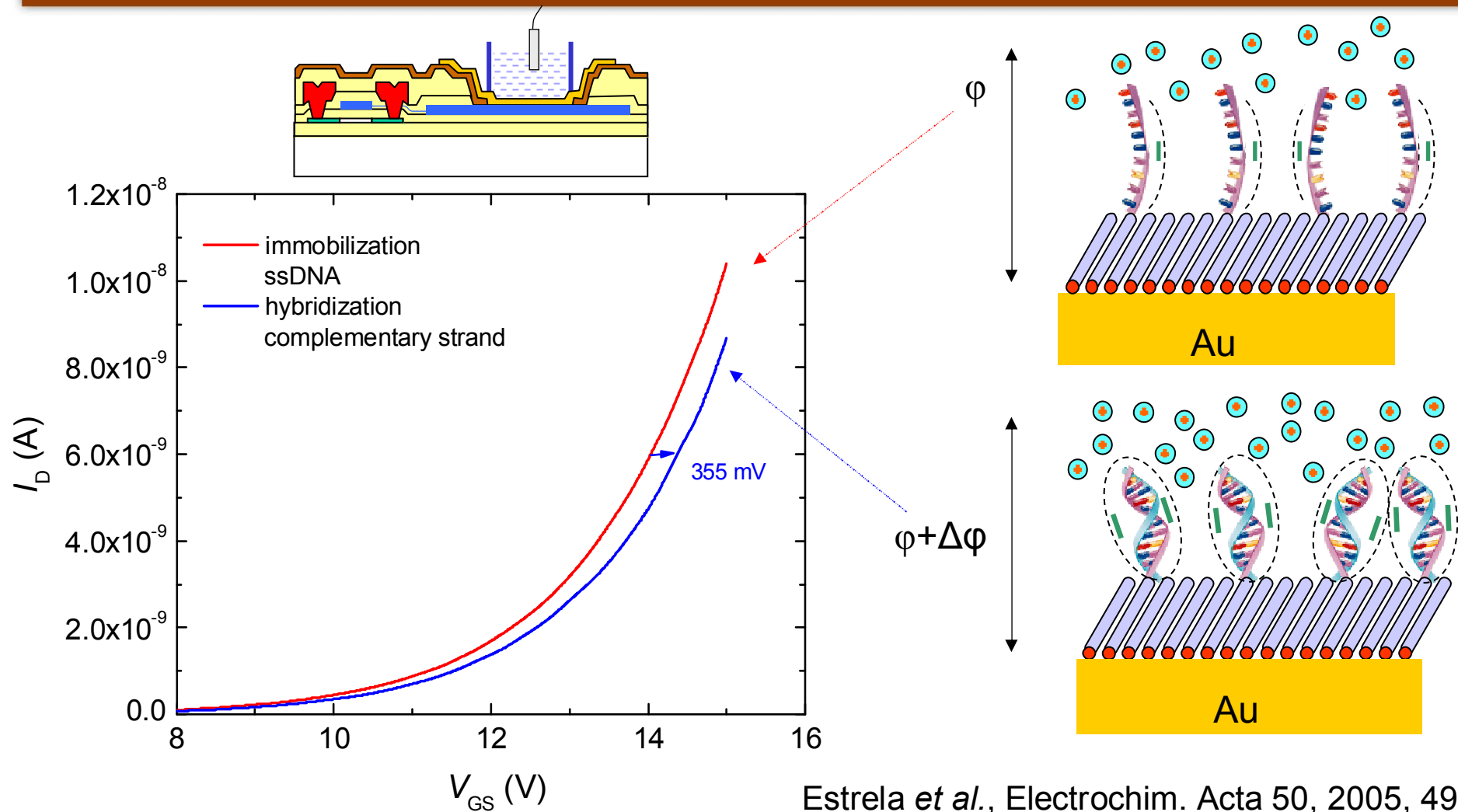
Circuit Architecture of a TFT-addressed LCD

**Technologies: CMOS,  $\alpha$ -Si:H TFT, Poly-Si TFT, organic TFT, amorphous oxide semiconductor TFT, nano-FET (SiNW, CNT, ...)**

# BioFETs

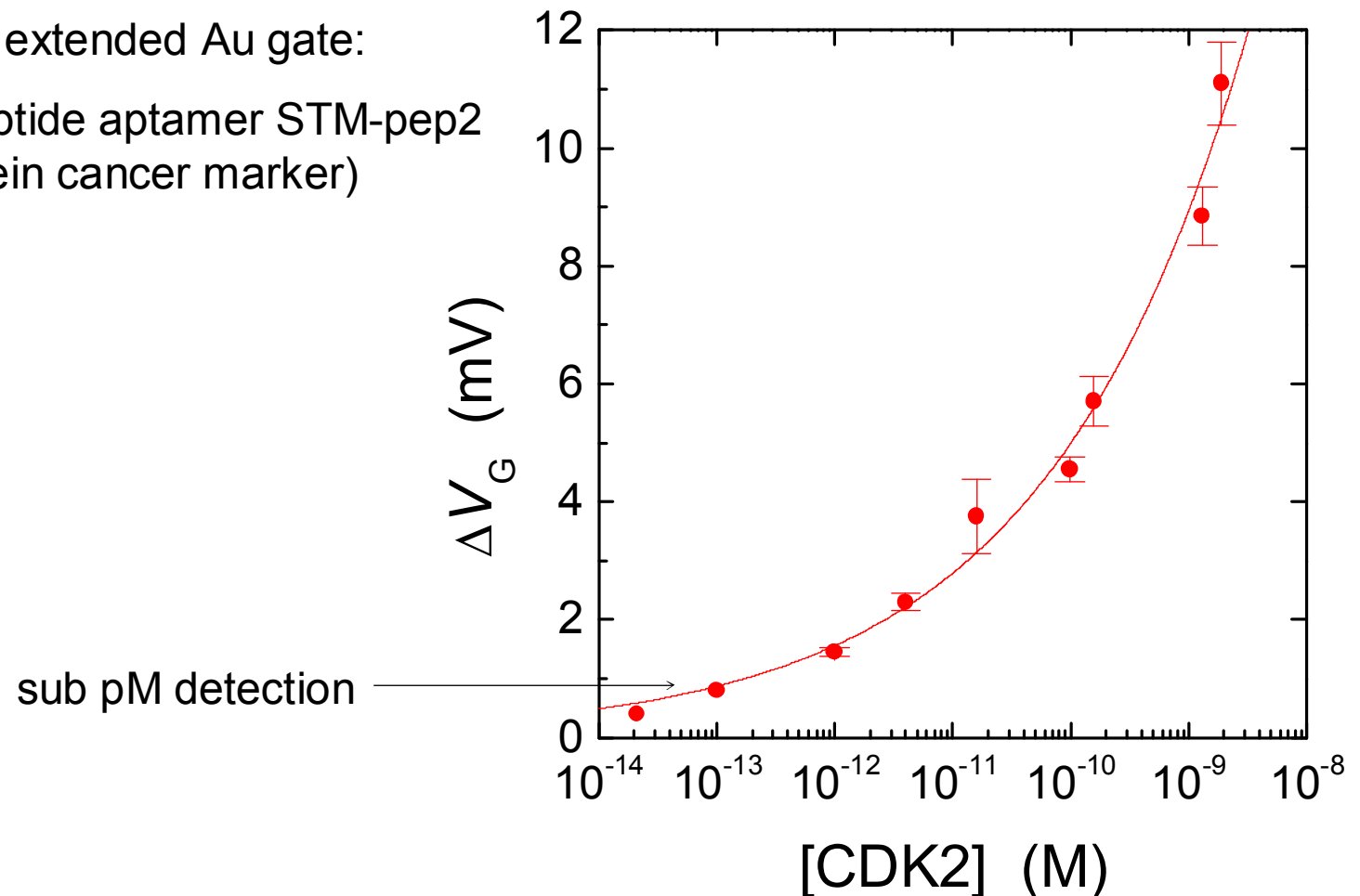


# BioFET: DNA



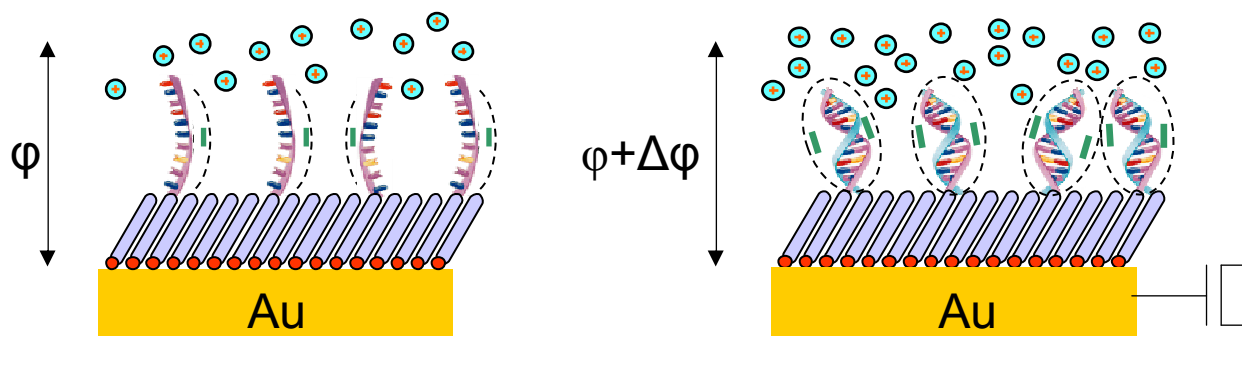
## BioFET: proteins

- CMOS FET with extended Au gate:  
interaction of peptide aptamer STM-pep2  
with CDK2 (protein cancer marker)

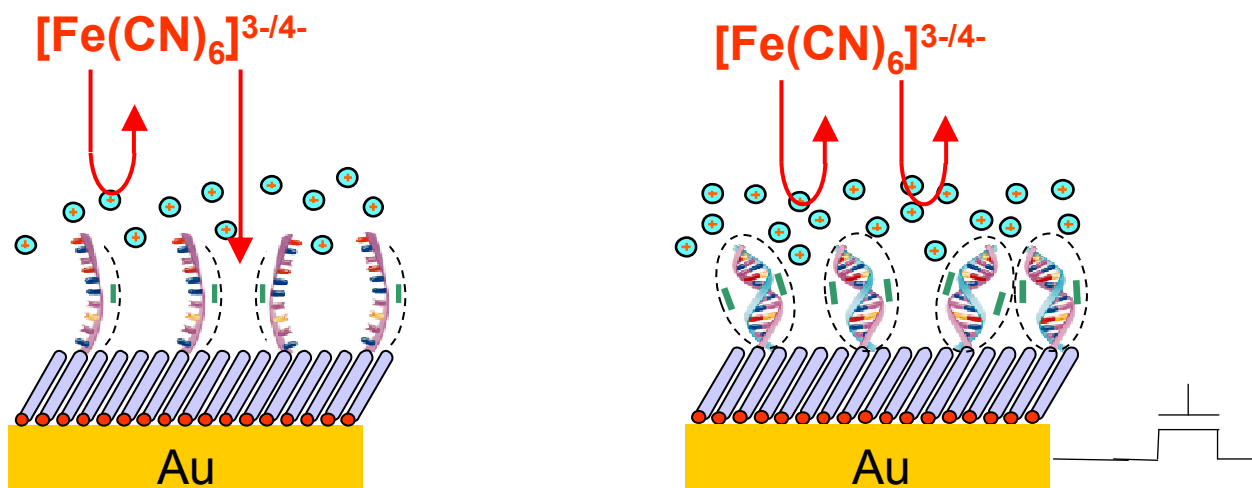


# Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy

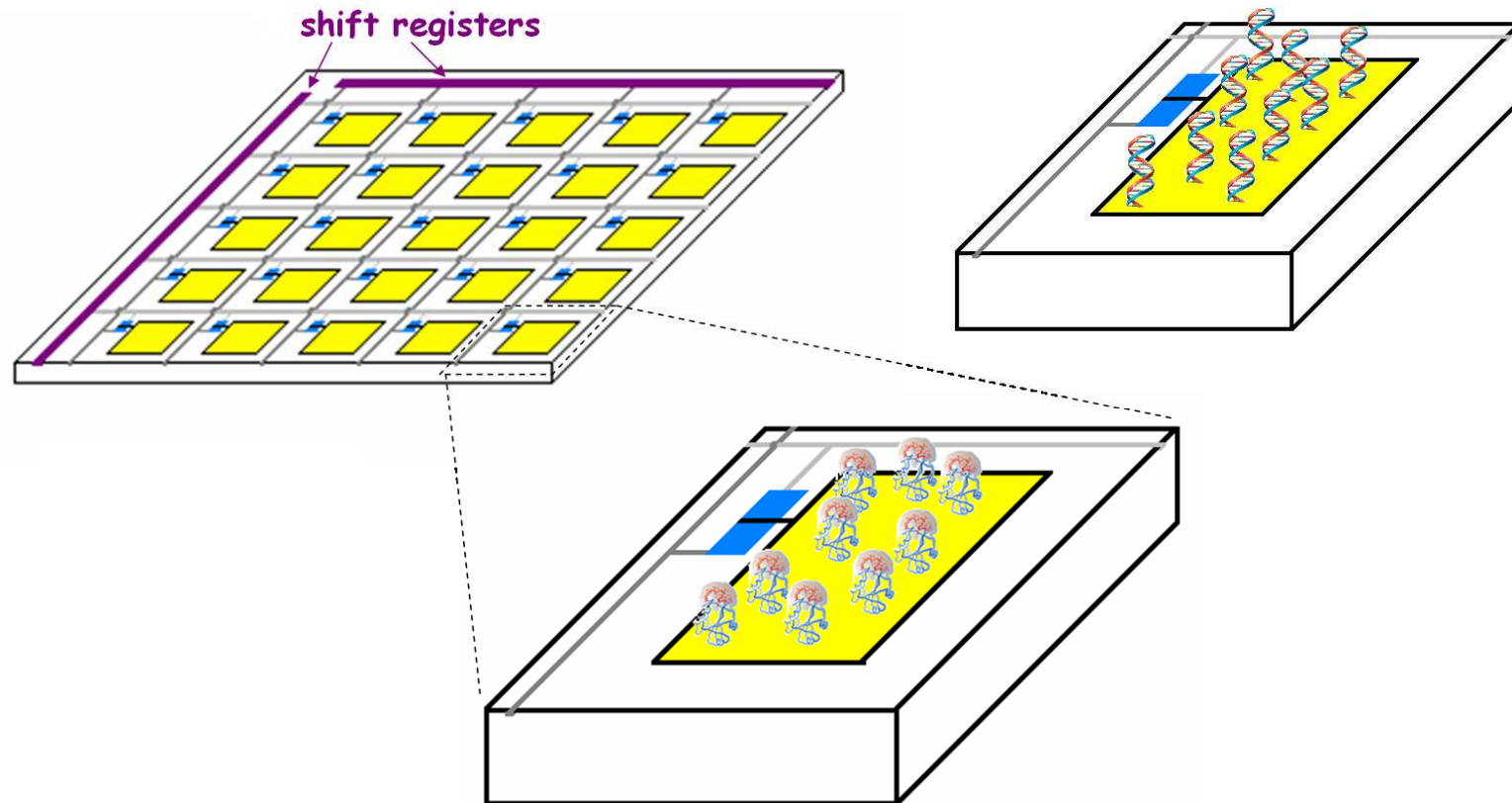
**Field effect detection**



**EIS detection**



## DNA / Protein Arrays



Potentiometric: signal mainly depends on charge density effects  
- signal-to-noise ratio independent of sensing pad area

# Arrays

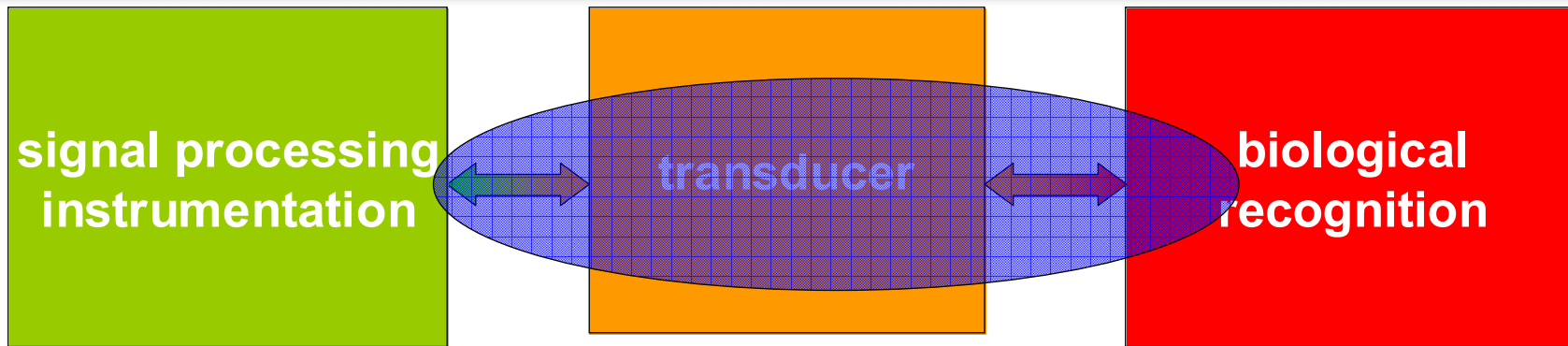
- Requirements for next generation (micro)arrays:
  - ▶ label-free assay
  - ▶ suitable for DNA, proteins, cells, etc
  - ▶ compact, high-performance
  - ▶ portability: integrated detection and read-out
  - ▶ low cost & disposable

## ➡ Electrical detection

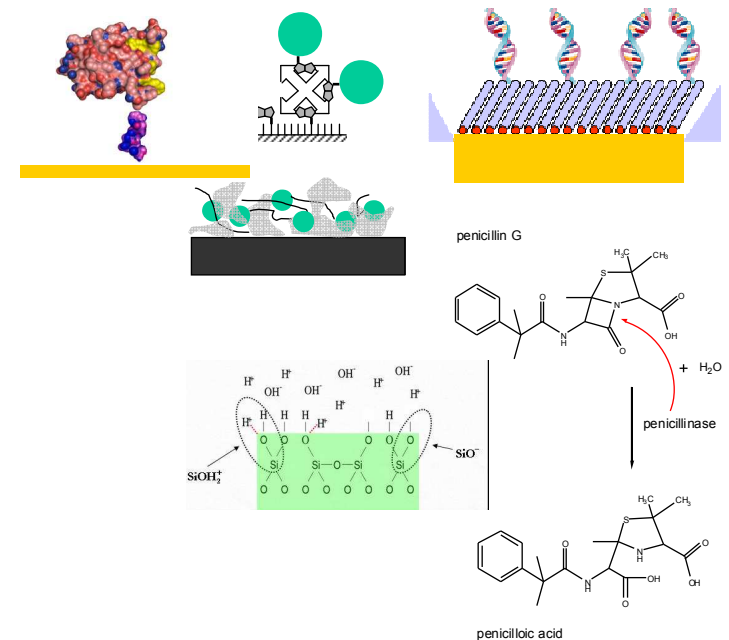
- integrated scanning
- integrated drivers for low number edge connectors
  - ↳ multichannel array detachable from instrument



# Biosensors – areas of research



**pH**  
**enzymatic reactions**  
**DNA hybridisation**  
**protein interactions**



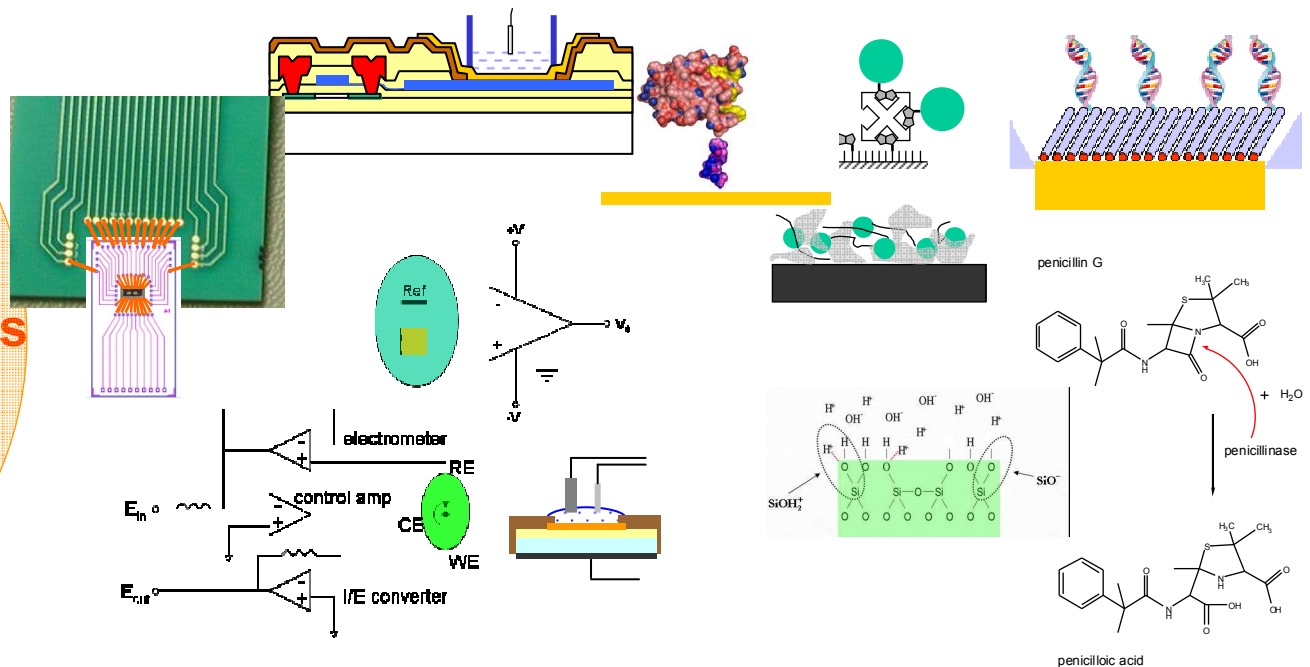
# Biosensors – areas of research

signal processing  
instrumentation

transducer

biological  
recognition

MOS  
electrolyte-OS  
FET (metal gate)  
FET (dielectric gate)  
electrochemical sensors  
(impedance spectroscopy)  
(potentiometric)  
(amperometric)

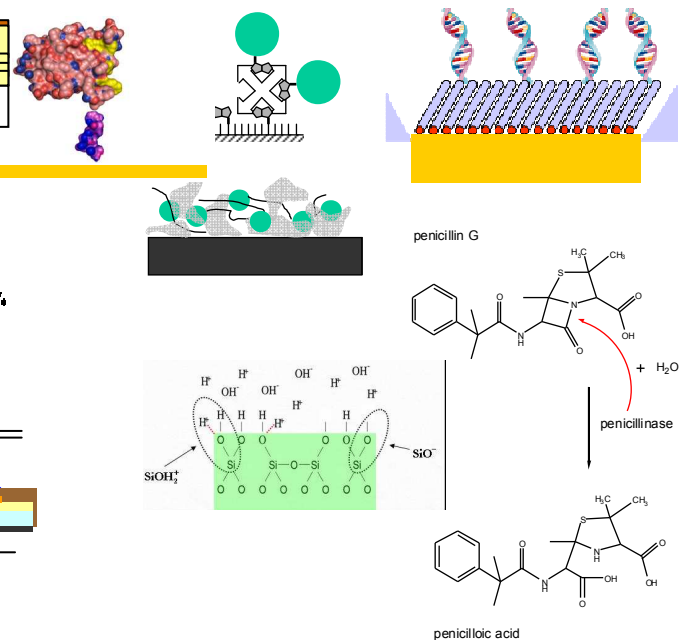
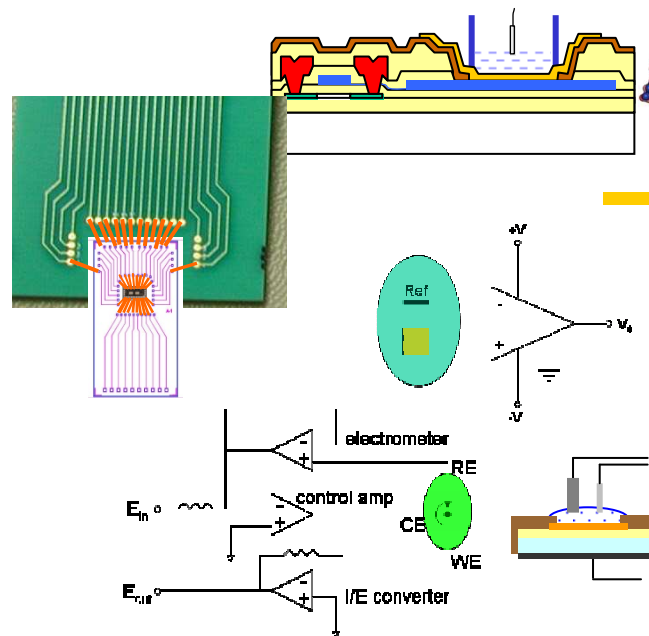
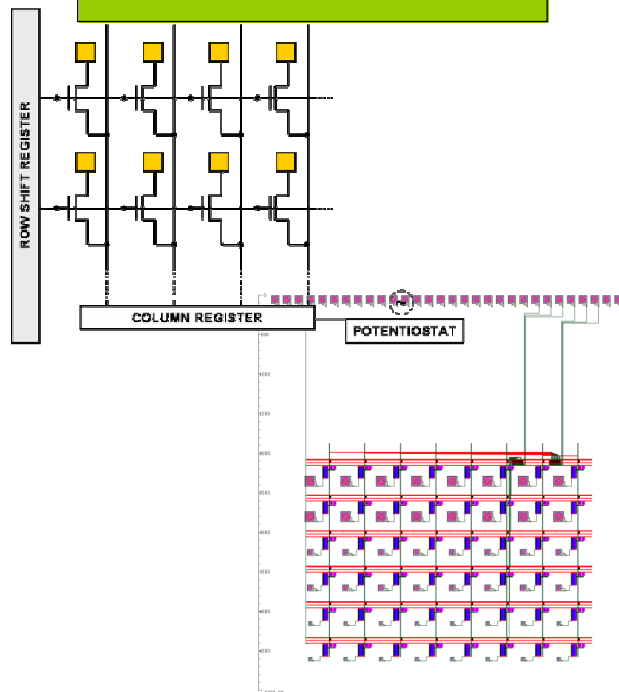


# Biosensors – areas of research

signal processing  
instrumentation

transducer

biological  
recognition





## References:

Estrela and Migliorato, *J. Mater. Chem.* 17 (2007) 219

Estrela *et al.*, *Electrochim. Acta* 53 (2008) 6489

Keighley *et al.*, *Biosens. Bioelectron.* 24 (2008) 912

## Interested in:

New label-free techniques (electrical and otherwise)

Nanobiosensors

Biological systems for label-free detection

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