



VTT Technologies for health – tools for future personalized, pre-emptive and predictive health care

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Senior Chief Scientist, Programme director

December, 13. 2011

Japanese-Finnish joint symposium

ICT and Technology in Medical and Health Research



VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland

■ Turnover 292 M€

■ Personnel 3,167



Customer sectors

- Biotechnology, pharmaceutical and food industries
- Electronics
- Energy
- ICT
- Real estate and construction
- Machines and vehicles
- Services and logistics
- Forest industry
- Process industry and environment

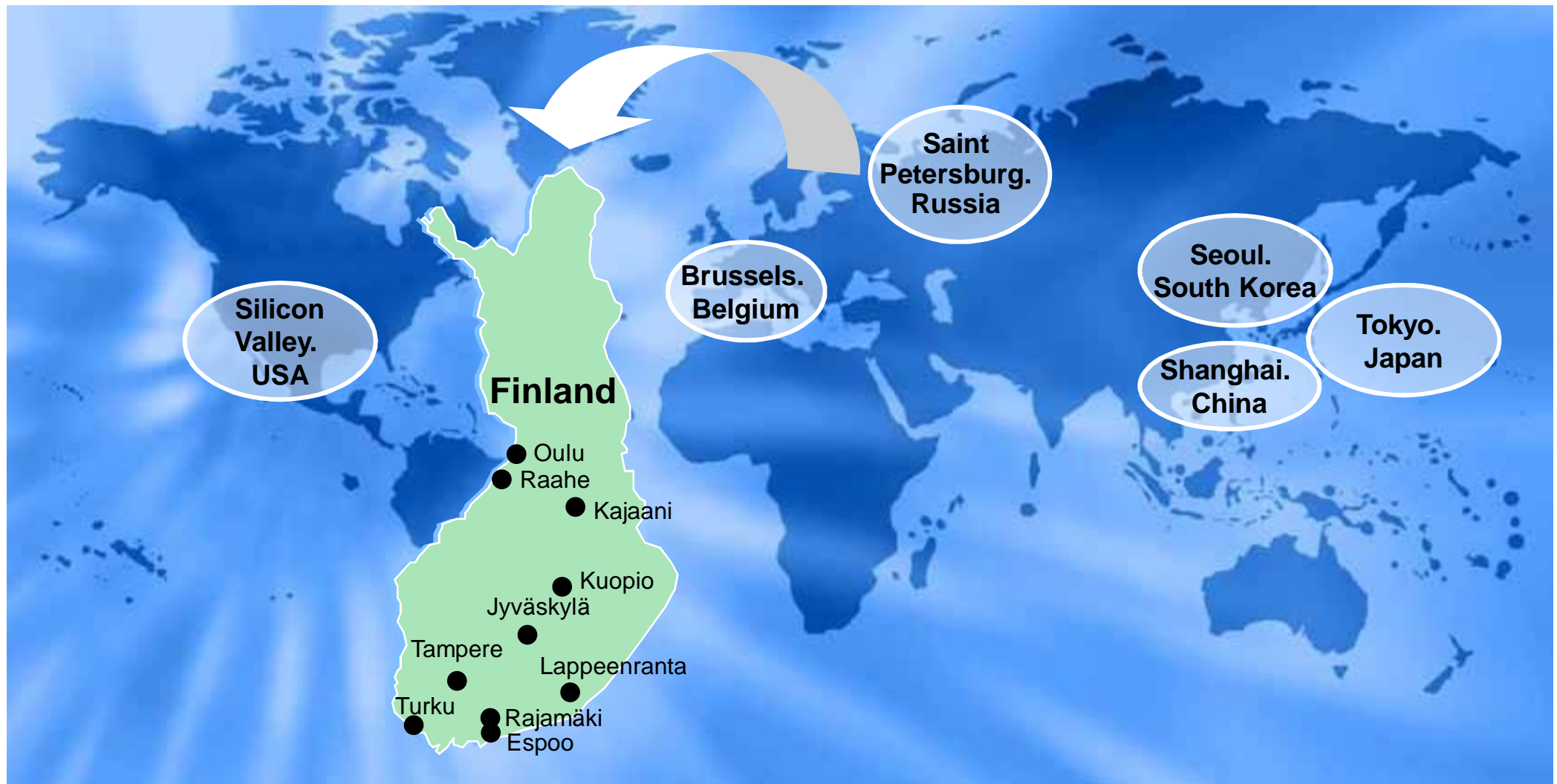
Focus areas of research

- Applied materials
- Bio- and chemical processes
- Energy
- Information and communication technologies
- Industrial systems management
- Microtechnologies and electronics
- Services and the built environment
- Business research



A globally networked multi-technological applied research organisation with extensive cross-disciplinary technological and business expertise

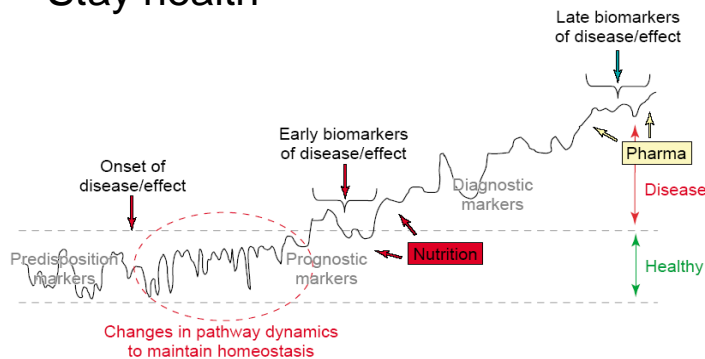
VTT on map



Future health care?

Goals for predictive, preventive and participatory HC

Stay health



Disease management Living at home

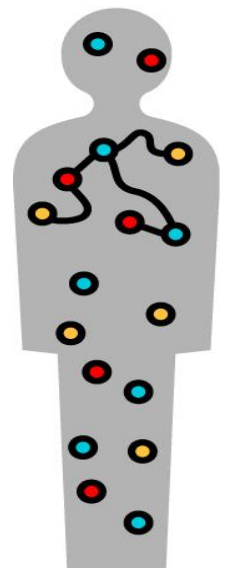


Cost efficient Processes in Health care

Follow-up health

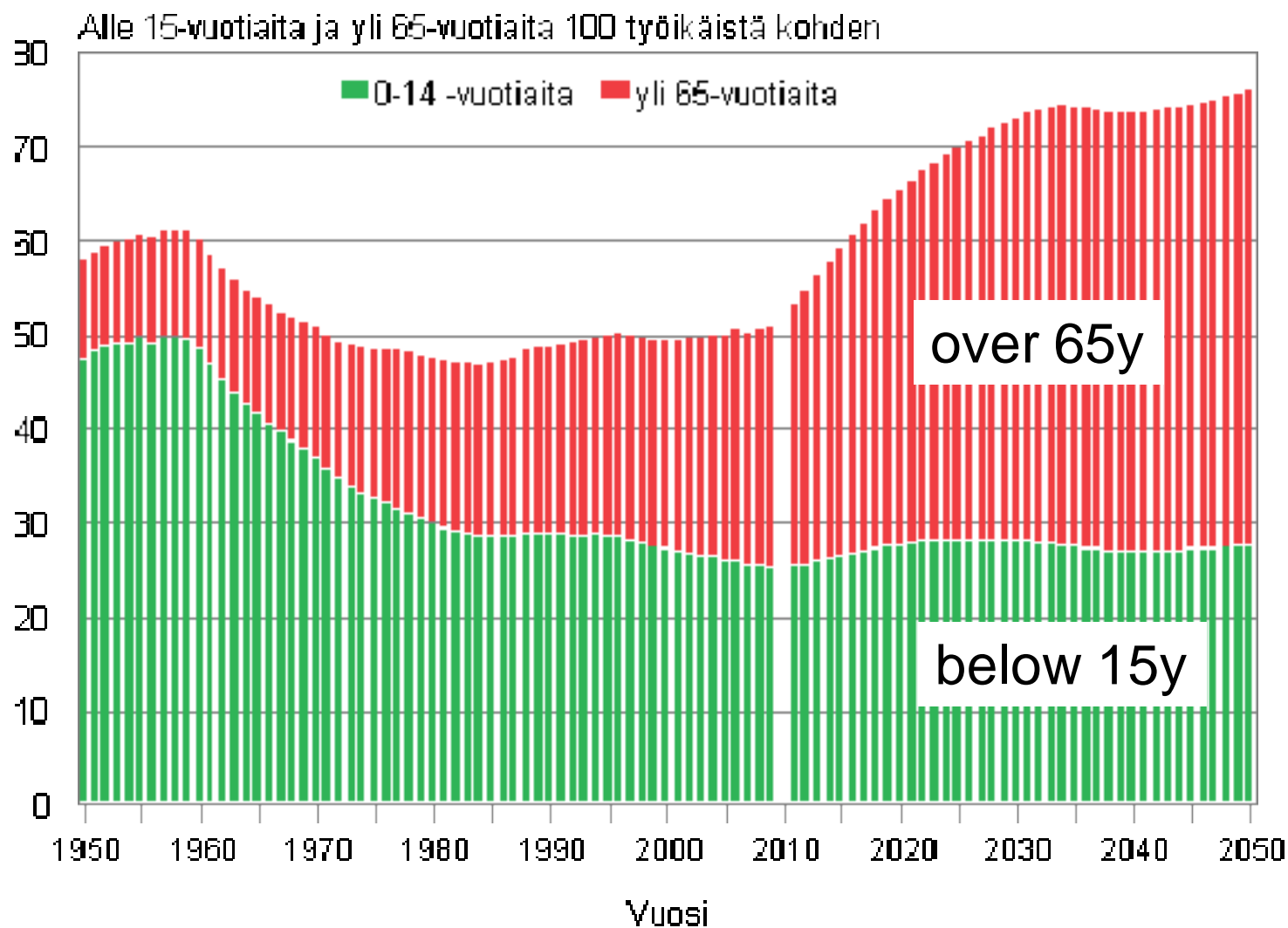


DISEASED



Right drug
Right disease
Right time

Future age distribution in Finland



Finland - Resource usage I; primary health care

Measured as inpatient hospital days

Age group	35 - 39 y-o	20 000	inpatient days	
	55 - 59 y-o	200 000		
	over 85 yo	2 Million		
	over 65 y-o	approx. 6 Million		All age
	groups together	7.3 Million inpatient days		

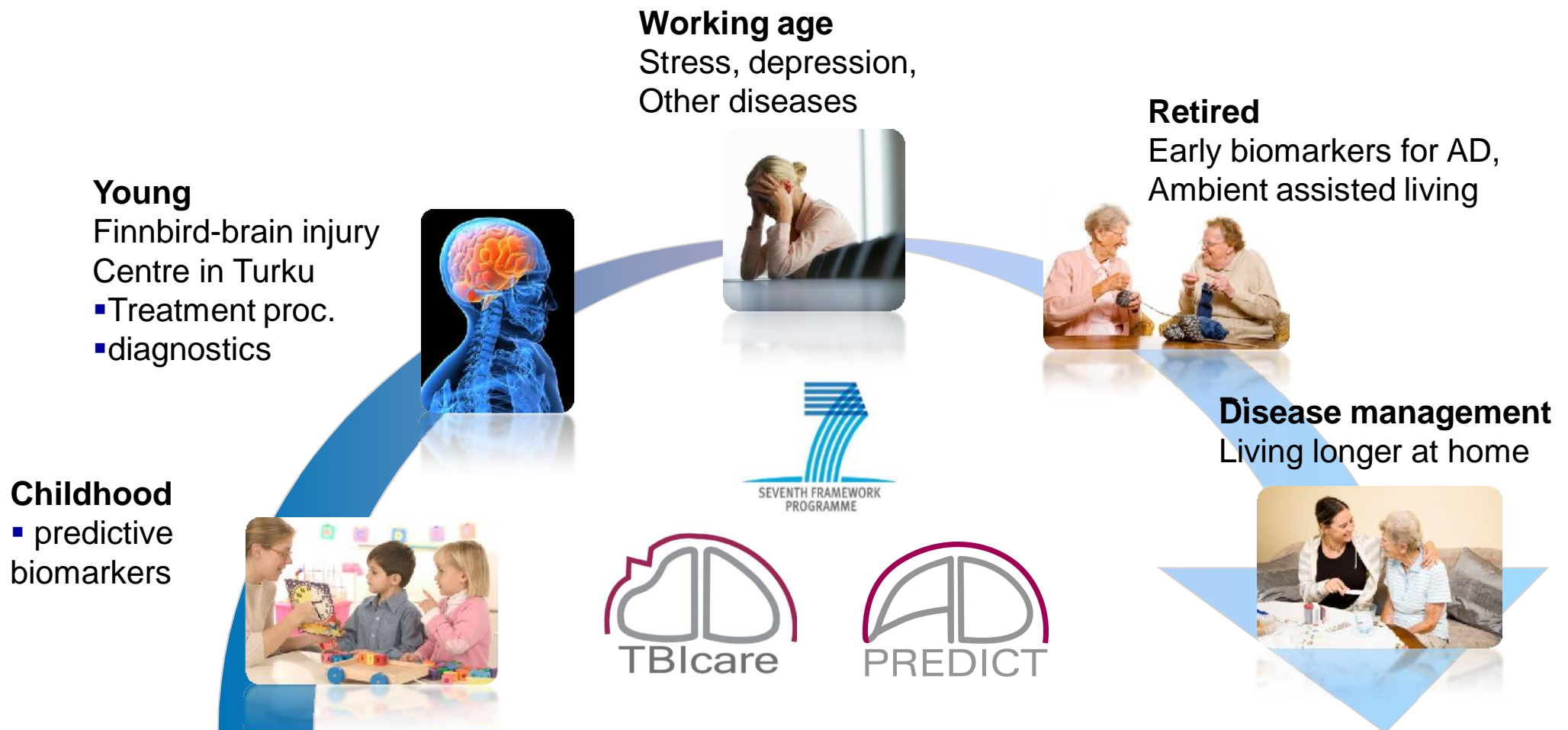
-> Resource usage strongly increasing with age

Diagnosis groups requiring most inpatient hospital days (as inpatient days):

- Cardiovascular diseases 1 800 000
- Psychiatric disorders (**dementia**) 2 000 000 (**1.6 M**)
- Malignancies 306 000
- Musculoskeletal diseases 278 000
- Gastrointestinal system diseases 139 000
- Neurological disorders (**Alzheimer**) 856 000 (**453 000**)
- Injuries 596 000

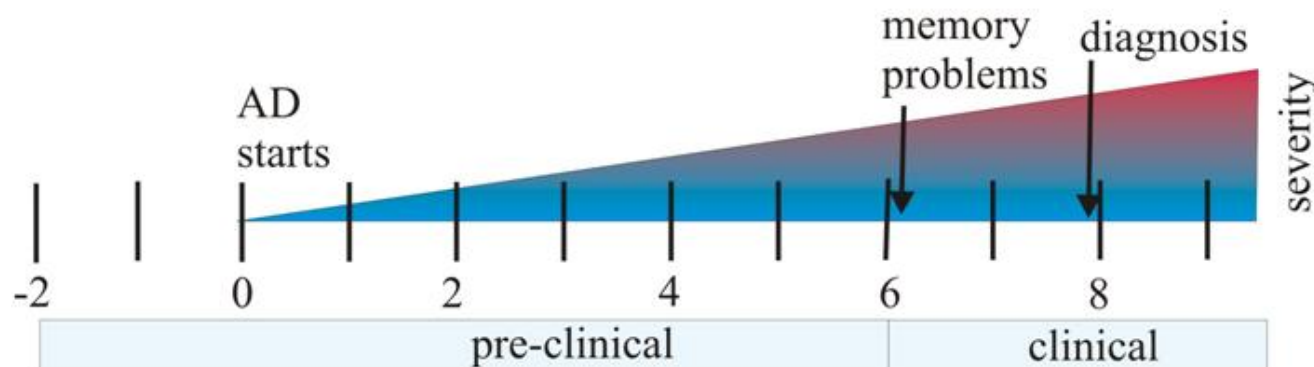
total inpatient hospital days: 7.3 milj

Key research area 1: Life span strategy in Brain and cognition



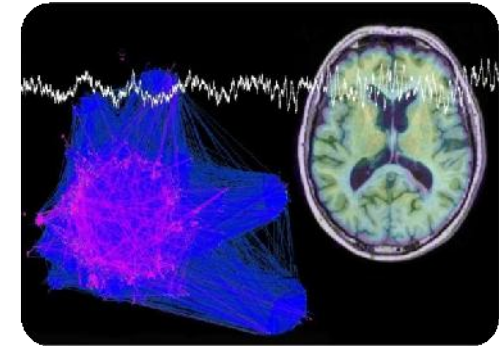
Motivation - Alzheimer's Disease

- Alzheimer's disease is a progressive neurodegenerative disease.
- Alzheimer's disease will be one of the main health issues of the next decades:
 - costs are 1 % of the gross-domestic product (GDP) of the whole world, and
 - 27 million people (2006) -> 114 million (2050).
- Delaying both the onset and progression only by modest one year would reduce the number of Alzheimer's cases by 10 %.
- Current medical problems:
 - no effective medication but new drugs under development, and
 - **no objective and efficient early diagnostics.**



ICT-based solutions for diagnostics?

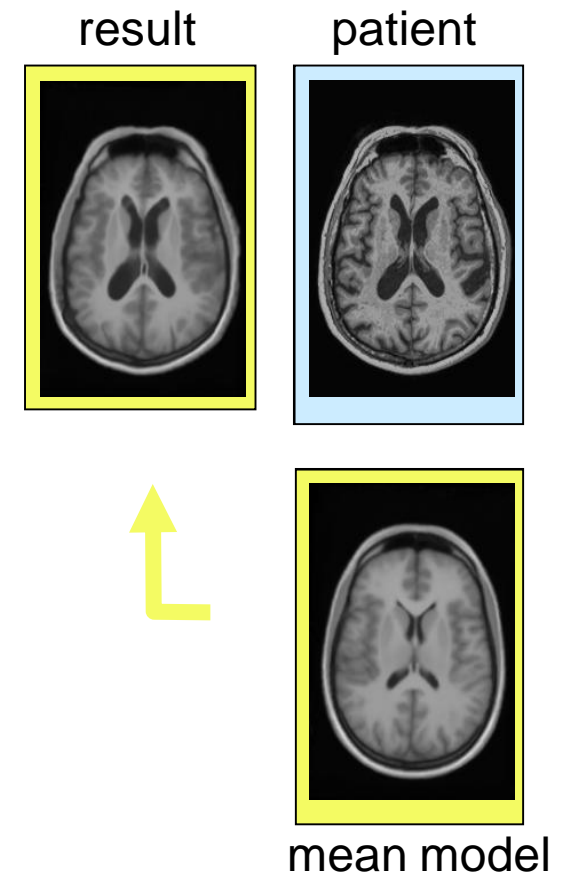
- In healthcare domain, **huge amounts of data** are acquired from patients: various databases contain **hidden information** about variability of humans that could be utilized in diagnostics.



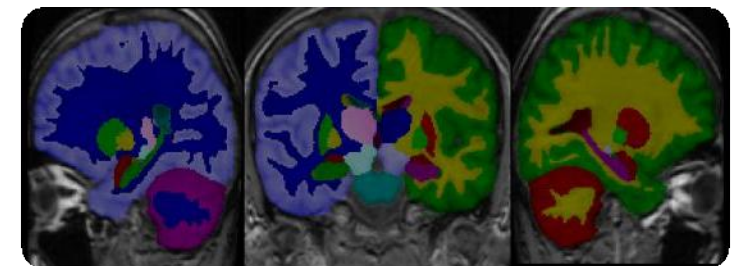
- **data quantification** is difficult, e.g., automated image segmentation tools are rare in clinical practice,
- there are no solutions for **integrating heterogeneous data** (holistic view) although 85 % of clinicians would like to have, and
- diagnostics should be performed at very early stage for successful treatments – a need for **pre-clinical screening**.

Image quantification - Brain

- VTT has developed a new VolumeWarp solution to image segmentation:
 - only 2 minutes in a standard laptop,
 - accuracy comparable to manual segmentation (gold standard)
 - licensed already to one global player, discussions going on with three other companies.
- Other solutions for tensor-based morphometry, manifold learning, and atrophy measurements.



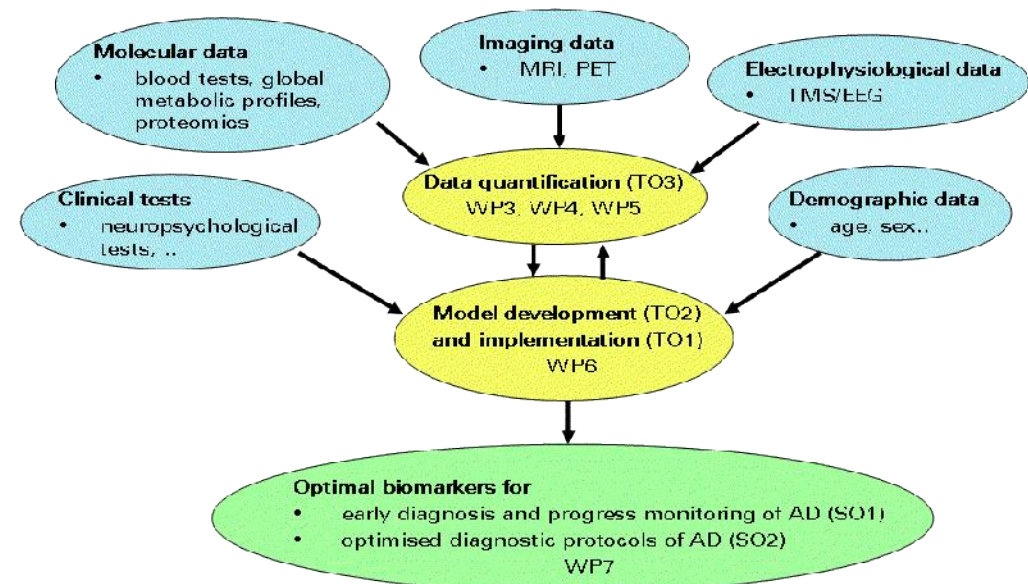
HIPPOCAMPUS FROM MRI	Similarity index	Correlation of volumes
VolumeWarp (N=340)	0.87	0.94
Manual segmentation (inter-rater):		
Morra, Neurolmage, 2009 (N=21)	0.85	0.71
van der Lijn, Neurolmage, 2008 (N=20)	0.86	0.83
Niemann, Psych. Res, 2000 (N=20)	-	0.93



Lötjönen: Neurolmage, 2010 & 2011
Koikkalainen: Neurolmage, 2011

VTT & Alzheimer's Disease

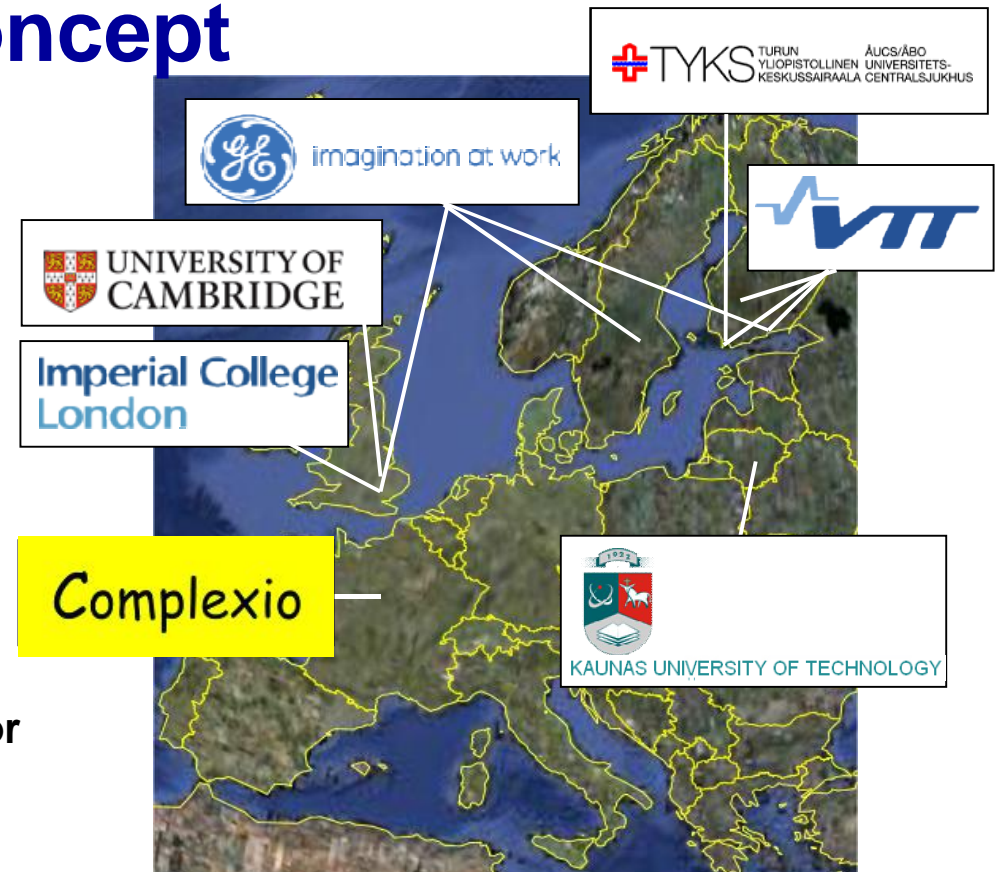
- VTT has diverse **offering** in the scope of Alzheimer's disease:
 - **image quantification tools** (segmentation, multi-template tensor-based morphometry),
 - **metabolomic biomarkers from blood**, and
 - **decision support solution** for integrating heterogeneous patient data and for providing evidence based objective index of the state of the patient.
- Solutions developed in an EU funded research project of eight partners:
PredictAD (www.predictad.eu).



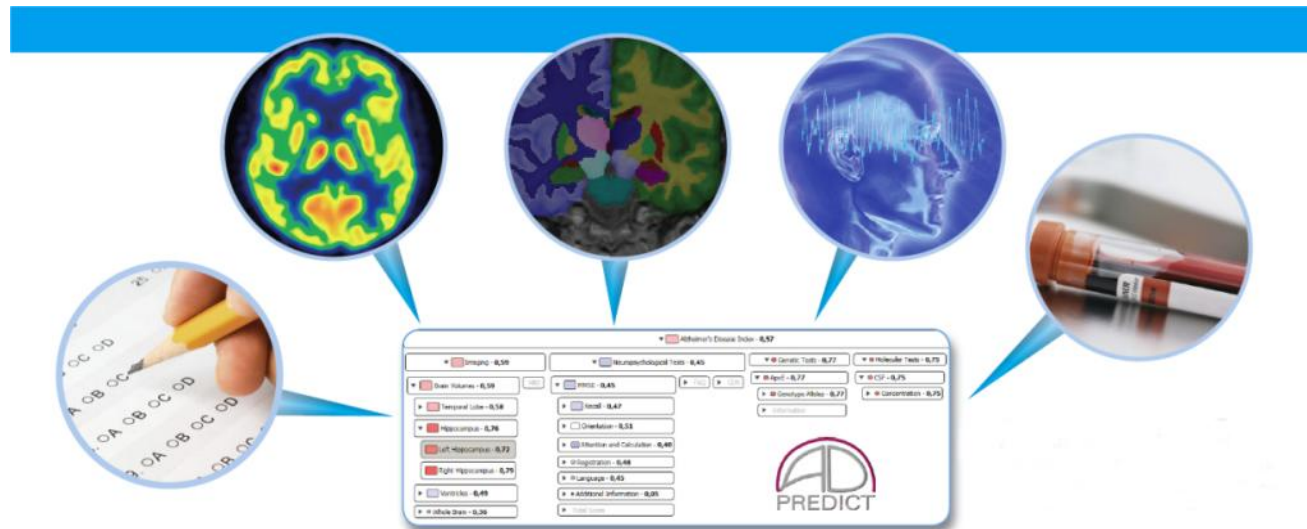
TBIcare - Concept

Expected results:

- a strictly evidence based software solution for diagnostics and treatment planning,
- new biomarkers and their combinations for TBI,
- datamining-based statistical framework for fusing highly heterogenous data, and
- new efficient data quantification tools.
- software tools for clinicians use



Biomarkers from imaging and blood samples



Key research area 2 : biomarkers/metabolomics platform

Experiment design + Analytical chemistry + Chemometrics + Bioinformatics

EU FP6

HEPADIP (metabolic syndrome // partner)

EU FP7

ATHEROREMO (vulnerable plaques // WP leader)

DIAPREPP (type 1 diabetes // WP leader)

METACANCER (breast cancer // WP leader)

MITIN (insulin resistance // WP leader)

PredictAD (Alzheimer's disease // partner)

ETHERPATHS (systems biology & nutrition // coordinator)

TORNADO (gut microbiota // WP leader)

Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

T1D prevention project (coordinator)

Human Frontier Science Program

Gut microbiota project (co-applicant)



Biomarkers, biological insight

Dysregulation of lipid and amino acid metabolism precedes islet autoimmunity in children who later progress to type 1 diabetes

Matej Orešič,¹ Satu Simell,² Marko Sysi-Aho,¹ Kirsti Nääntö-Salonen,² Tuulikki Seppänen-Laakso,¹ Vilhelmiina Parikka,² Mikko Katajamaa,¹ Anne Hekkala,⁴ Ismo Mattila,¹ Päivi Keskinen,⁵ Laxman Yetukuri,¹ Arja Reinikainen,⁶ Jyrki Lähde,⁵ Tapani Suortti,¹ Jari Hakalax,² Tuula Simell,² Heikki Hyöty,^{7,8} Riitta Veijola,⁴ Jorma Ilonen,^{3,9} Riitta Lahesmaa,⁶ Mikael Knip,^{5,10} and Olli Simell²

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J. Exp. Med. (2008)

This sort of metabolomic approach to T1D natural history may be a pioneering example of environmental data-driven approaches.

From commentary about our T1D study
by P. Bougnères & A.-J. Valleron
J. Exp. Med. (2008)

Key research area 2: Diagnostics

Understanding diagnostics needs



- Biomarker search
- Marker genes
- Microbes
- Lipids
- Antigens

Reagent development



- Antibody development
- Probes and primers
- Large-scale production of reagents

Assay development



- HTtranscription profiling
- Immunoassays
- Microbial population profil.
- Metabolomics
- Multiplexed detection

Device development for point-of-care applications

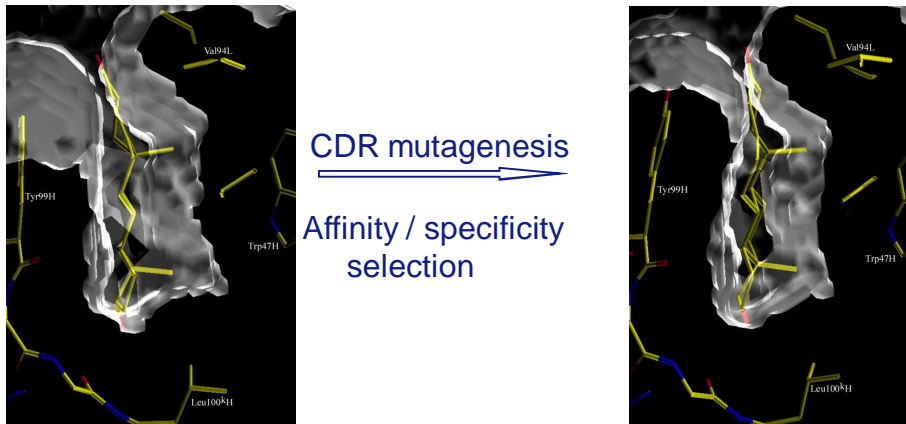


- Portable detectors
- Microfluidics
- Roll-to-roll printing
- Label free detection
- Capillary electrophoresis
- Wireless data processing and transfer

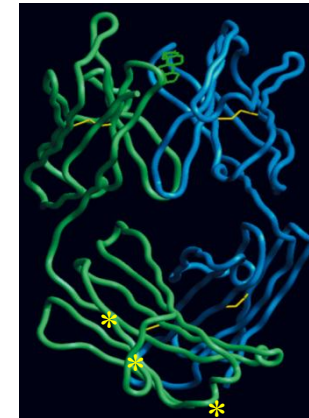
By integrating VTT's know-how on biotechnology, electronics, material sciences and ICT new innovative bioanalytical and diagnostic platforms are developed

Antibody engineering possibilities

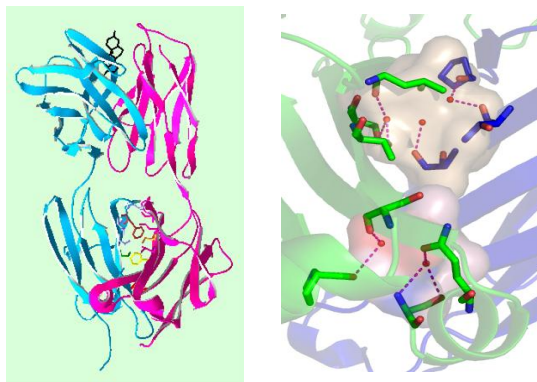
Tailoring the affinity and specificity



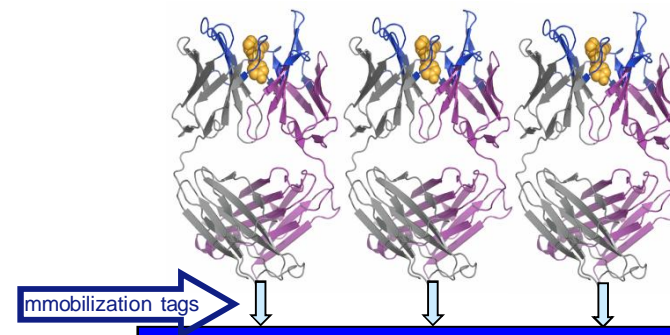
Improved labelling



Stability improvement



Oriented immobilization



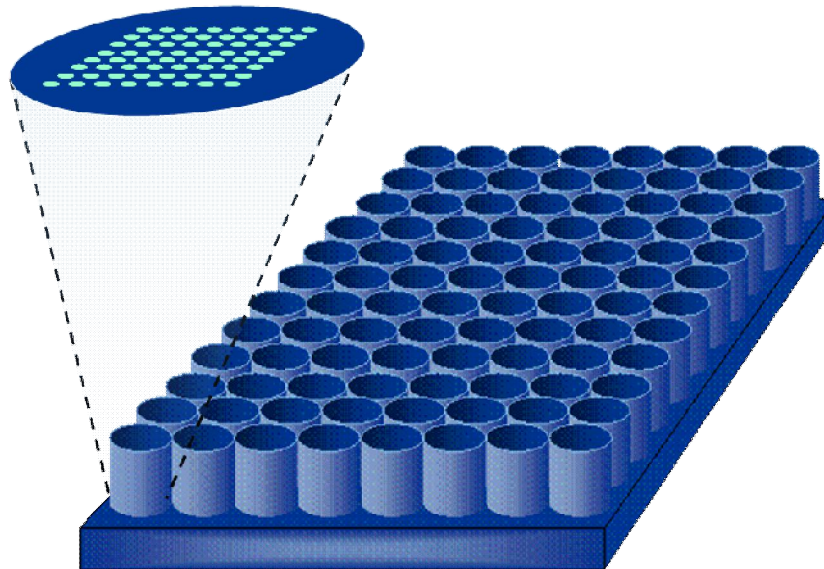
His tag, protein- and peptide tags, Cys-tag, tag for biotinylation

Arrays-in-Wells for Multiplexed Bioassays

Array types

- Oligonucleotide
- Antibody
- Antigens
- Allergens

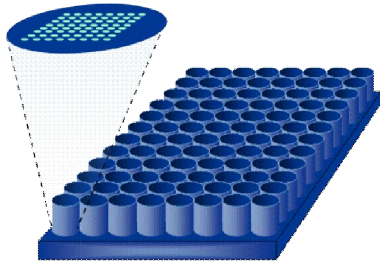
- *Microarrays in 96-well plates*
- *Compatible with standard lab equipment*
- *Simple Assays – Multiple Results*



Applications

- Rapid viral diagnostics
- Analyte panels e.g. CVD
- Pathogen diagnostics
- Autoimmune disease
- Allergy
- Genotyping

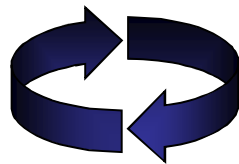
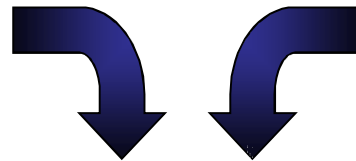
Dr. Petri Saviranta, VTT
Liisa Hattara, VTT



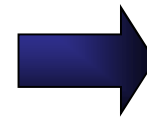
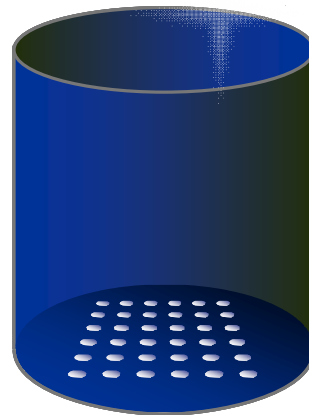
Assay Logistics

Sample
25 μ l

Buffer
25 μ l



- Shake 15 min
- Wash
- Dry



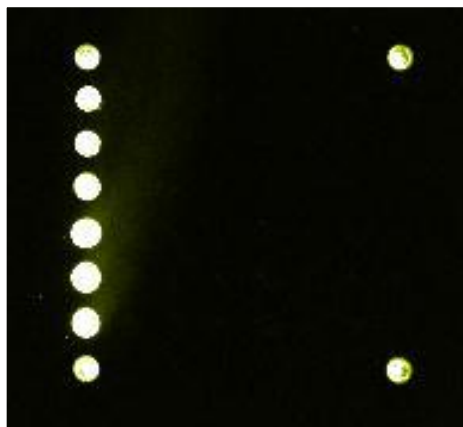
Readout:

- Optical scan (fluorescence)
- Automated image analysis
- Quantification spot signals
- Data analysis

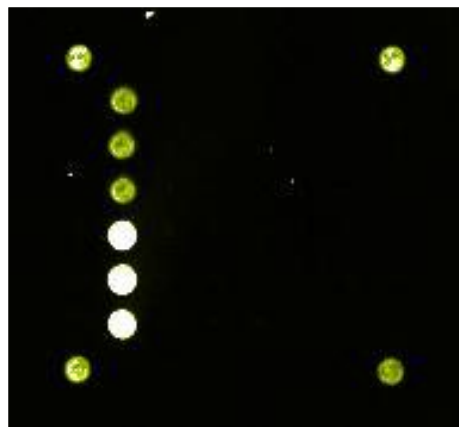
=> Result

Control samples

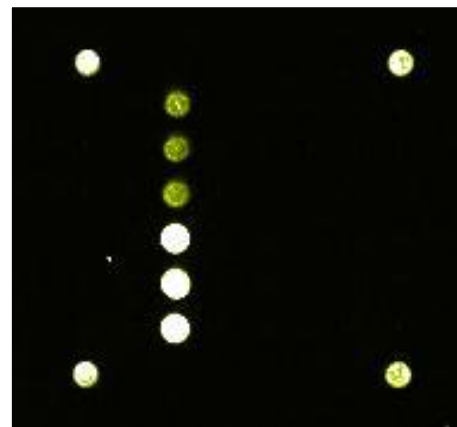
Adeno



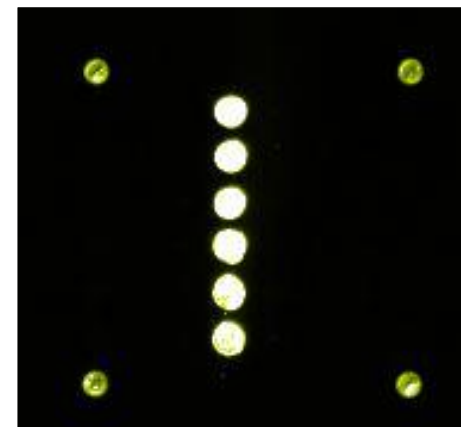
RSV



Influenza A

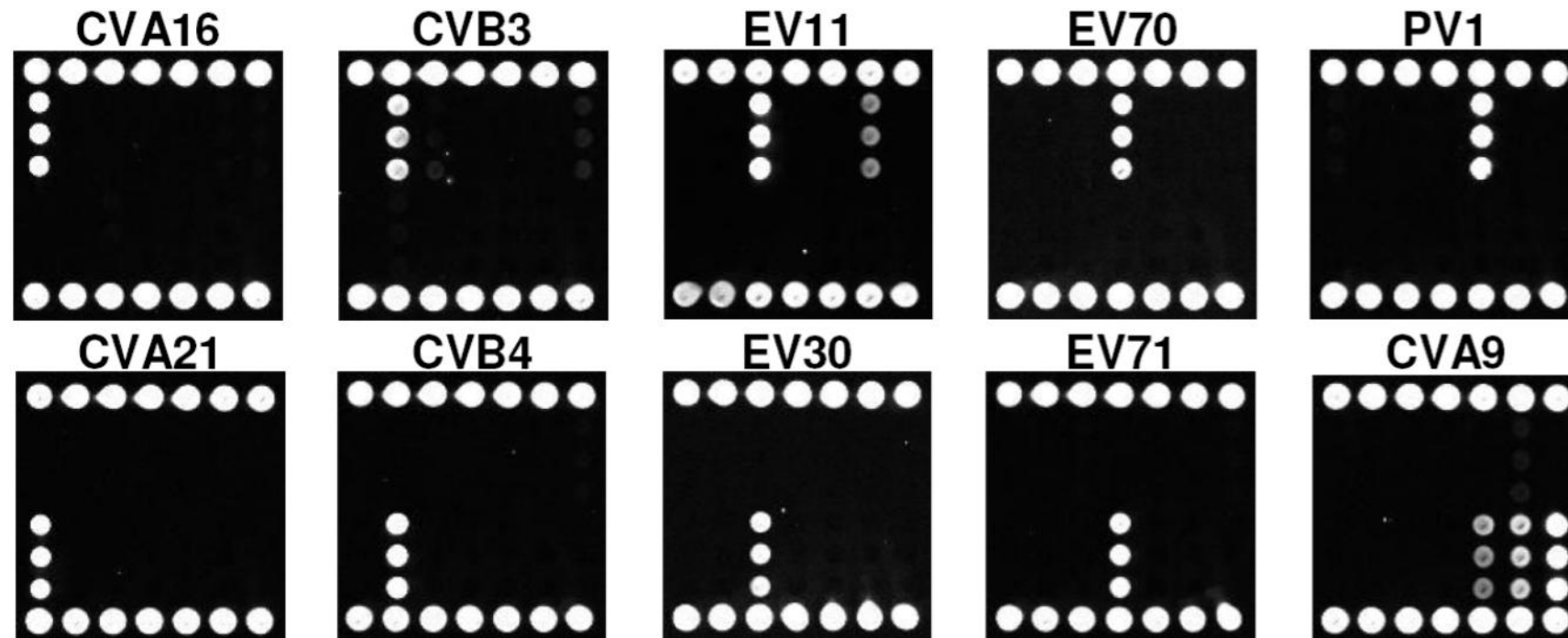


Influenza B



	Adeno	RSV	Inf A	Inf B	PIV1	PIV2	PIV3	neg	Total
Routine assay	16	33	0	4	2	0	2	521	578
Arrays-in-wells	16	33	0	4	3	1	1	520	578

Clear discrimination between serotypes



JOURNAL OF CLINICAL MICROBIOLOGY, June 2009, p. 1863–1870
0095-1137/09/\$08.00+0 doi:10.1128/JCM.02226-08
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Vol. 47, No. 6

Typing of Enteroviruses by Use of Microwell Oligonucleotide Arrays^{▽†}

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Business from technology



19/01/2012

22



Arrays-in-Wells for Multiplexed Bioassays

Microarrays in 8-well strips
Compatible with standard lab equipment
Simple Assays – Multiple Results

Array types

- Oligonucleotide
- Antibody
- Antigens
- Allergens

Applications

- Rapid viral diagnostics
- Analyte panels for e.g. cardiovascular Diseases
- Pathogen diagnostics
- Autoimmune disease
- Allergy
- Genotyping
- Diagnostics for animal diseases, food borne pathogens and environment

Arrays-In-Wells Reader Features

- Easy to use
- Portable, compact size (90 x 170 x 250 mm)
- Quantitative analysis
- Compatible with standard 8-well microtiter strips
- Fast, measurement and analysis of 8-well strip in 60 seconds
- Powerful laser excitation
- High efficiency imaging of the emission

Additional information

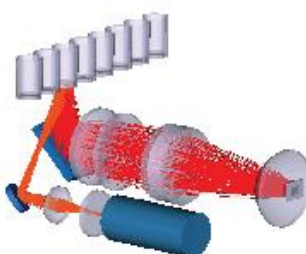
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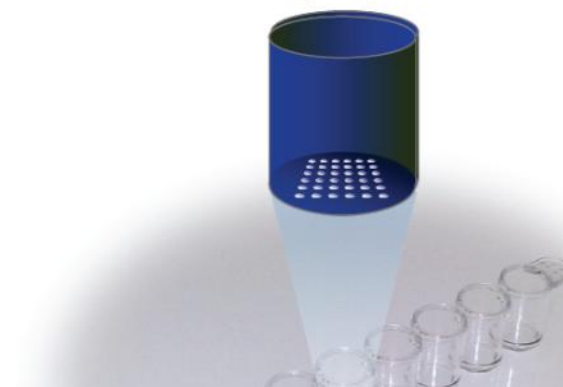
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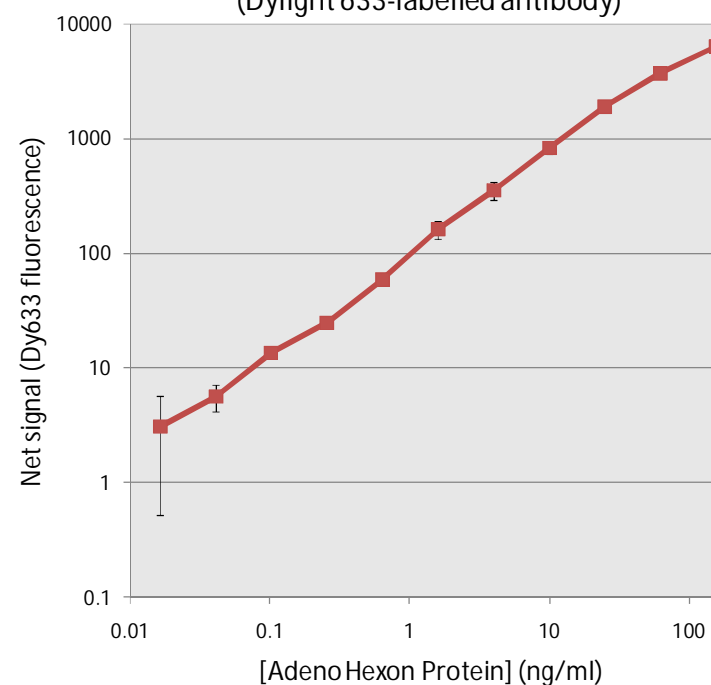
Rapid diagnostics of respiratory viruses



Incubate 15 min
Sample 25 µl
Buffer 25 µl



Adenovirus antigen assay on AIW
(Dylight 633-labelled antibody)



Pioneering R2R pilot manufacturing machinery for printed electronics and intelligence



Fig 7: PICO 3 printing unit pilot line, 2003

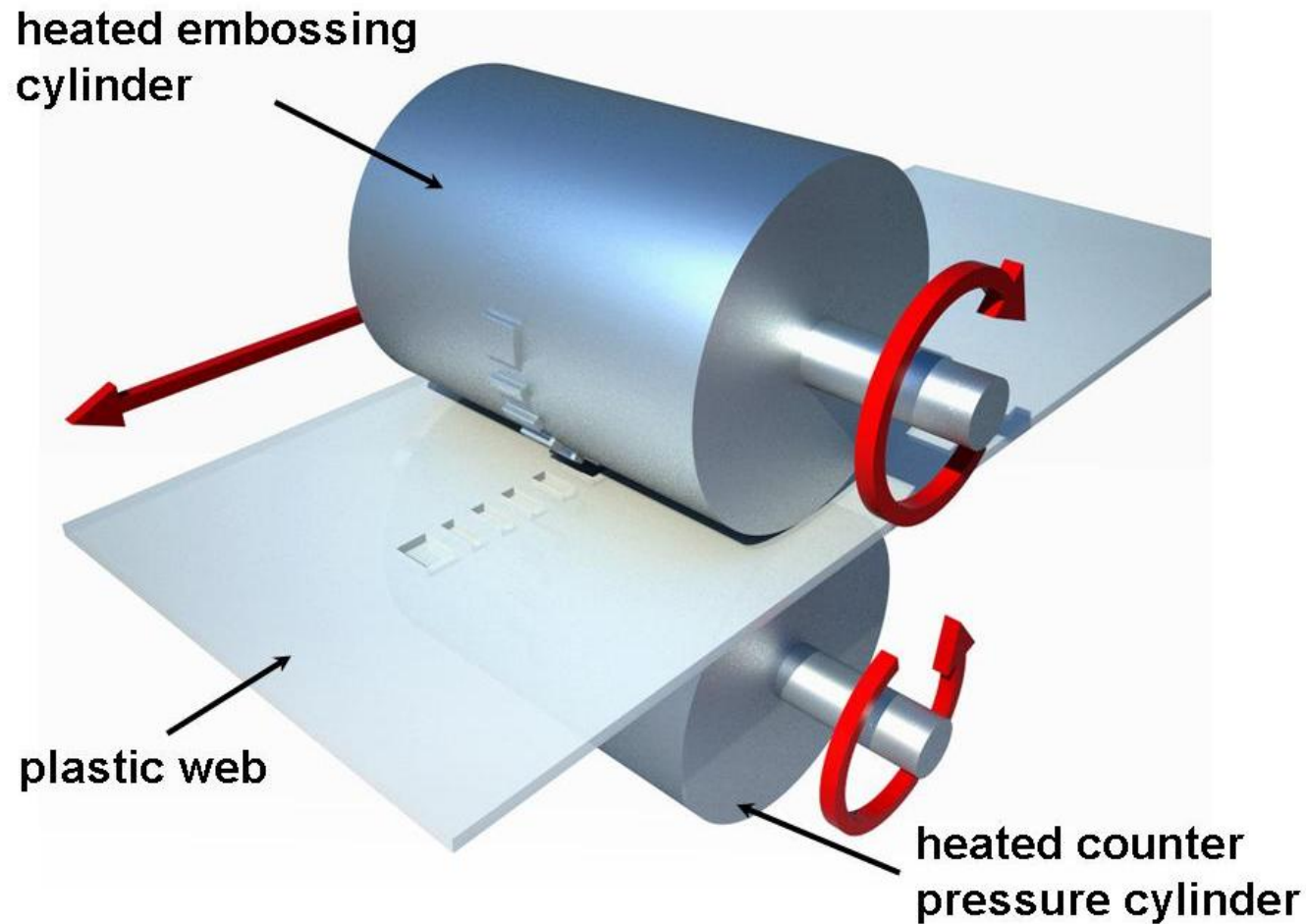
- *units: gravure, hot-embossing, lamination*
- *web width: 20 cm*
- *web speeds: 0.5-100 m/min*



Fig 8: ROKO 4 printing unit pilot line, 2007

- *units: gravure, reverse gravure, flexo, rotary screen, lamination (printing units in register)*
- *web width: 30 cm*
- *web speed: 10 m/min max*

Roll-to-Roll (R2R) hot-embossing principle



Schematic model of roll-to-roll (R2R) hot-embossing process.

Advantages over static hot embossing:

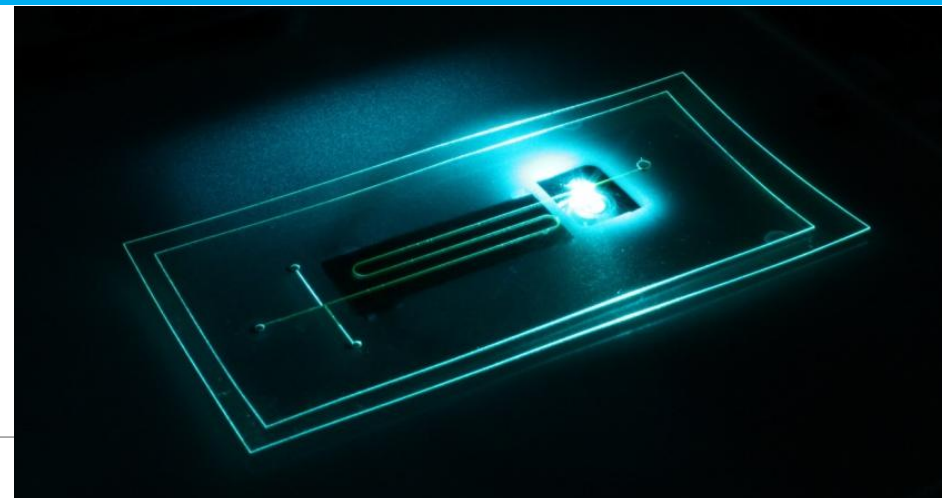
- rotating stamp cylinder enables continuous chip manufacturing (parallel and continuous)
- uniform chip quality
- large area embossings possible
- integration of other roll-to-roll processes in production line (e.g. printing of biomarkers, lamination, online quality control)

Examples of our current activities

Lab on a Chip

Cite this: DOI: 10.1039/c0xx00000x

www.rsc.org/loc



Disposable roll-to-roll hot embossed electrophoresis chip for detection of antibiotic resistance gene *mecA* in bacteria

Ralph Liedert,^{*a} Lotta K. Amundsen,^{*b} Ari Hokkanen,^b Minna Mäki,^c Anne Aittakorpi,^c Mikko Pakanen,^b James R. Scherer,^d Richard A. Mathies,^d Marika Kurkinen,^a Sanna Uusitalo,^a Leena Hakalahti,^a Tarja K. Nevanen,^b Harri Siitari,^e and Hans Söderlund^b

Received (in XXX, XXX) Xth XXXXXXXXX 20XX, Accepted Xth XXXXXXXXX 20XX

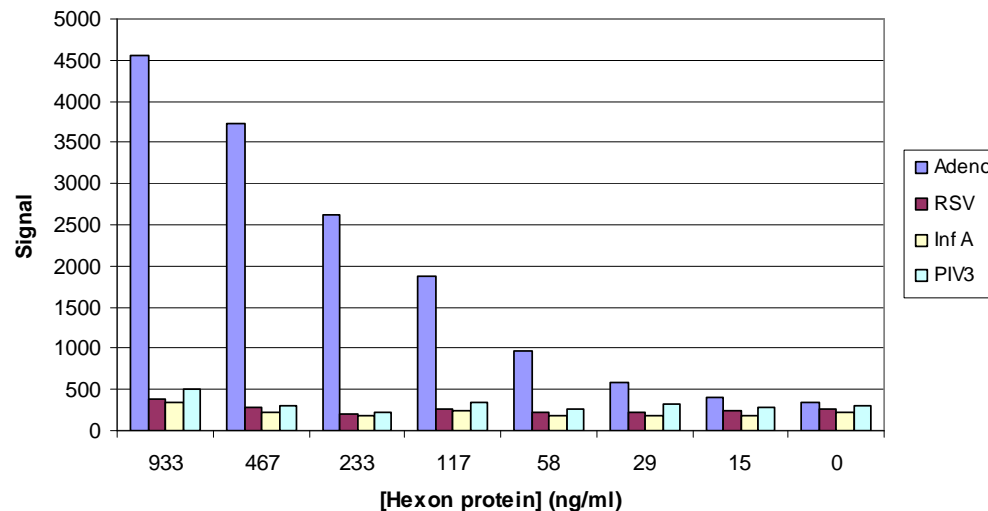
DOI: 10.1039/b000000x

We present a high-throughput roll-to-roll (R2R) manufacturing process for foil-based polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA) chips of excellent optical quality. These disposable, R2R hot embossed microfluidic chips are used for the identification of the antibiotic resistance gene *mecA* in *Staphylococcus epidermidis*. R2R hot embossing is an emerging manufacturing technology for polymer microfluidic devices. It is based on continuous feeding of a thermoplastic foil through a pressurized area between a heated embossing cylinder and a blank counter cylinder. Although mass fabrication of foil-based microfluidic chips and their use for biological applications was foreseen already some years ago, no such studies have been published previously.

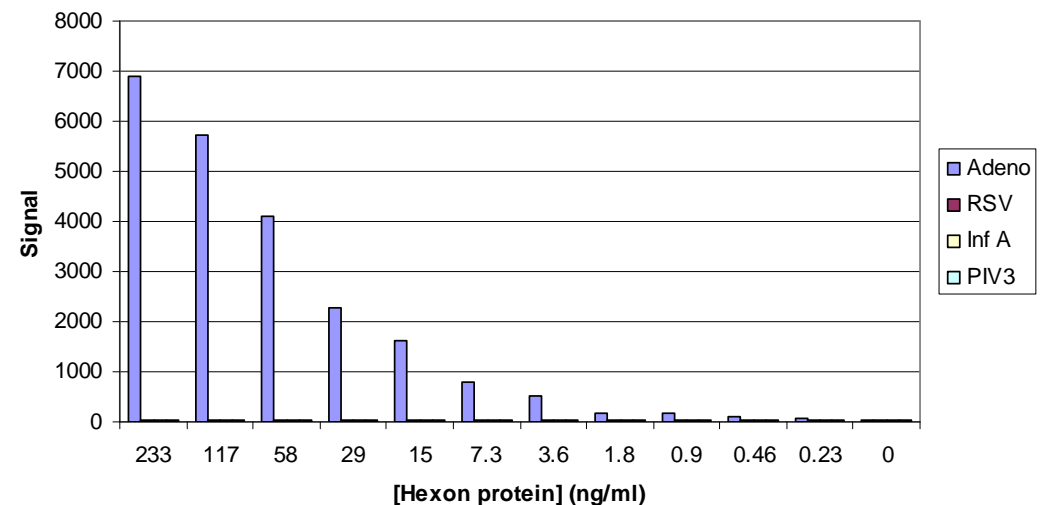
Analysis of Adeno Hexon Protein with Arrays-in-channels vs Arrays-in-wells

- Common dilution series was made for AIC and AIW:
- Two-fold dilution series starting from 933 ng/ml
- Dilutions from 933 down to 15 ng/ml were analyzed with AIC
- Dilutions from 233 down to 0.23 ng/ml were analyzed with AIW

AIC, 200 μ m channels



AIW

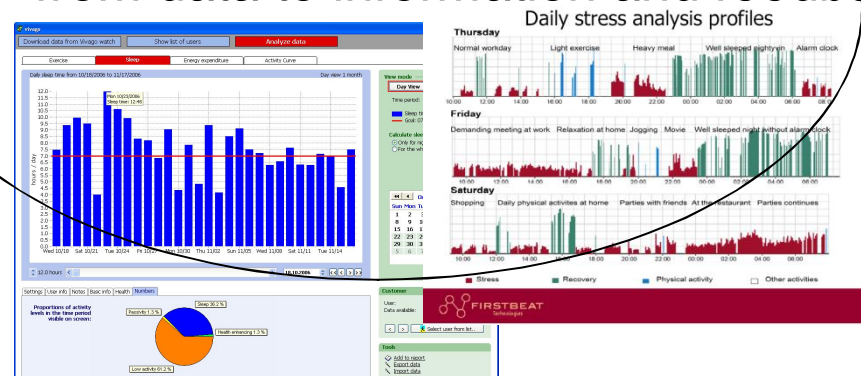


Key research area 3: Personal Health Systems

New wearable devices
- easy, affordable, accurate



Advanced analysis tools
and psychophysiological models
- from data to information and feedback



- + New service models
- + New delivery and business models
- + New peer and social networks

*Easy, available, affordable, efficient,
personalised, trusted, standard-based,
interoperable, citizen-driven*

Vivago IST: ACTIVITY RECOGNITION WITH MOVEMENT SENSORS



- An intelligent wearable social alarm system for elderly
- Enables cost efficient continuous 24/7 monitoring of wellness of the subject
- Reliable user-triggered and automatic alarms for emergency



Conclusions

- VTT has developed and validated state-of-the-art scientific methods for the diagnostics of AD but tools are **applicable also in other domains**.



VTT diagnostics for multiple biomarkers :

- the disease state fingerprint provides a **holistic view of the status** of the patient and allows both **diagnostics** and the **follow-up of treatment efficacy** quantitatively based on the principles of evidence-based medicine,
- the disease state fingerprint profiling technology has potential in **personalized medicine**: to match patients for clinical studies and for treatments.
- Recombinant antibody development with **low-cost multiplexed technologies** provides platforms for future diagnostics

Acknowledgements

Biomarkers

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Liisa Jäntti, Scientist

ICT

Jussi Mattila, Scientist
Kimmo Jaakkola, Medical doctor
Jyrki Lötjönen, Chief scientist
Mark van Gils, Team leader
Niilo Saranummi, Research Professor

Diagnostics

Lotta Amundsen, Senior scientist
Tarja Nevanen, Team Leader
Petri Saviranta, Team Leader
Kristiina Takkinen, Research professor
Hans Söderlund, Research professor

Diagnostic technologies

Inger Vikholm-Lundin, Chief Scientist
Leena Hakalahti, Team Leader
Ari Hokkanen, Senior scientist
Päivi Heimala, Team Leader
Kirsi Tappura, Team Leader



**VTT creates business
from technology**

Disease state index and disease state fingerprint techniques

- Decision support system developed allows easy visualization of the status of a person relative to different populations available in large databases.

