

## Identifying nanobiotechnology-based solutions for opportunities in personalized healthcare

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IBM T.J. Watson Research Center

Nanobiotechnology Group

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**NCI**  
Southwest +



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## Today's Presenters



### **IBM Research Staff Member**

- Technology development
- Electrical engineering



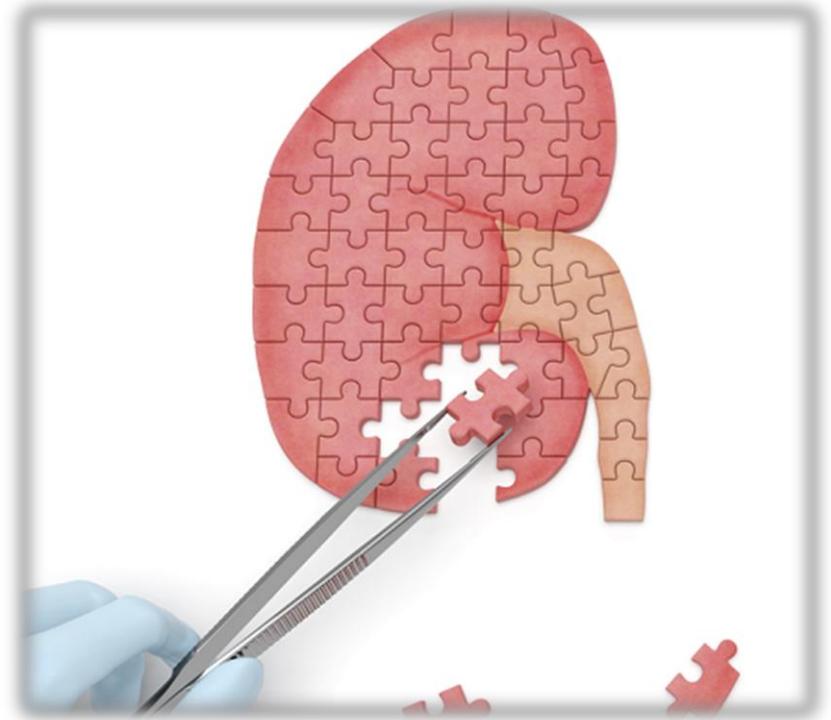
### **IBM Research Staff Member**

- Biological applications
- Biochemistry

# Challenges with the gold standard of tissue biopsy

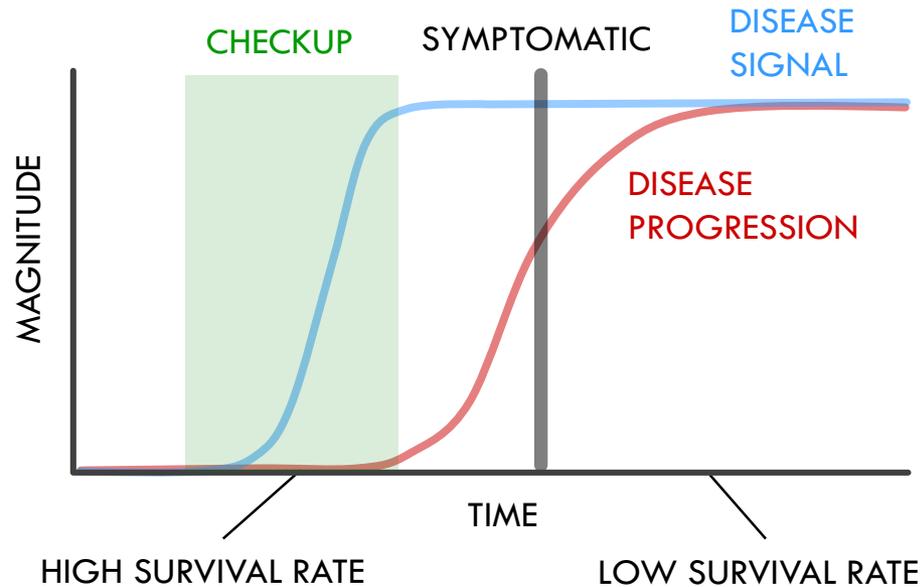
Tissue biopsy requires removal of tissue for histopathological analysis to determine malignancy

- Invasive
- Side effects include pain and infection
- Time-consuming
- Incomplete sampling of tumor tissue
- Limited sample size
- Incompatible with continuous monitoring and screening



# Liquid biopsy offers advantages over tissue biopsy

Biomarker sampling from bodily fluids offers a non-invasive alternative to tissue biopsy

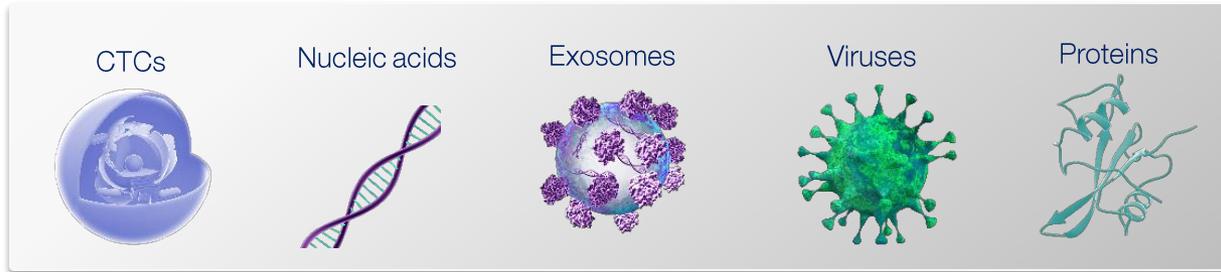


- Non-invasive or minimally invasive
- Low-risk and few side effects
- Early screening and detection
- Continuous monitoring
- Small volumes required
- More complete sampling of many tissues
- Diversity of biofluid sources
- Monitor health and disease beyond cancer

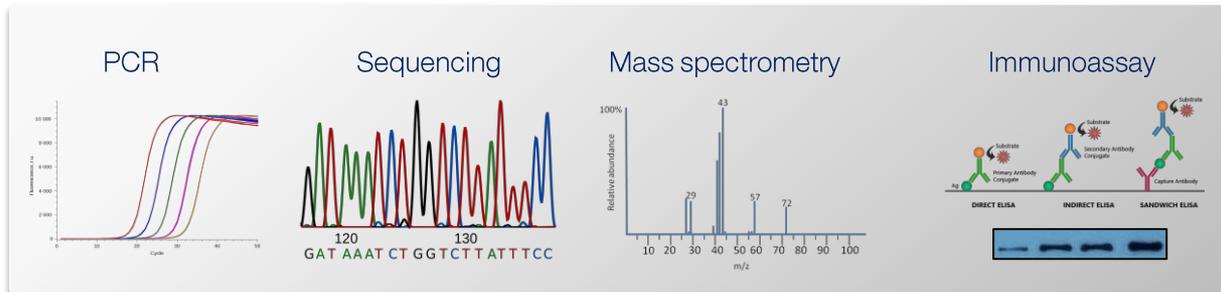
# Diversity in liquid biopsy biomarkers and analysis

Biomarkers can be derived from nearly all biofluids including urine, blood, and saliva

## Types of biomarkers

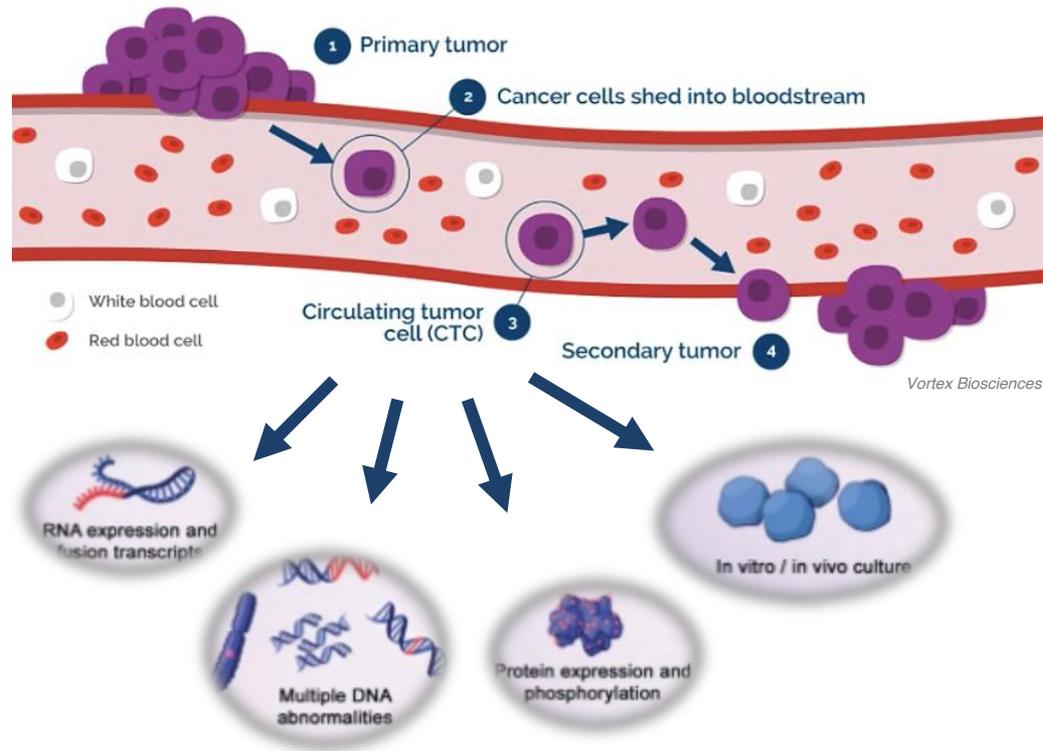


## A subset of biomarker analysis methods



# Circulating tumor cells in liquid biopsy

Cells migrating from the primary tumor to sites of metastasis carry molecular information to guide treatment



# CELLSEARCH® is the only CTC-based liquid biopsy test

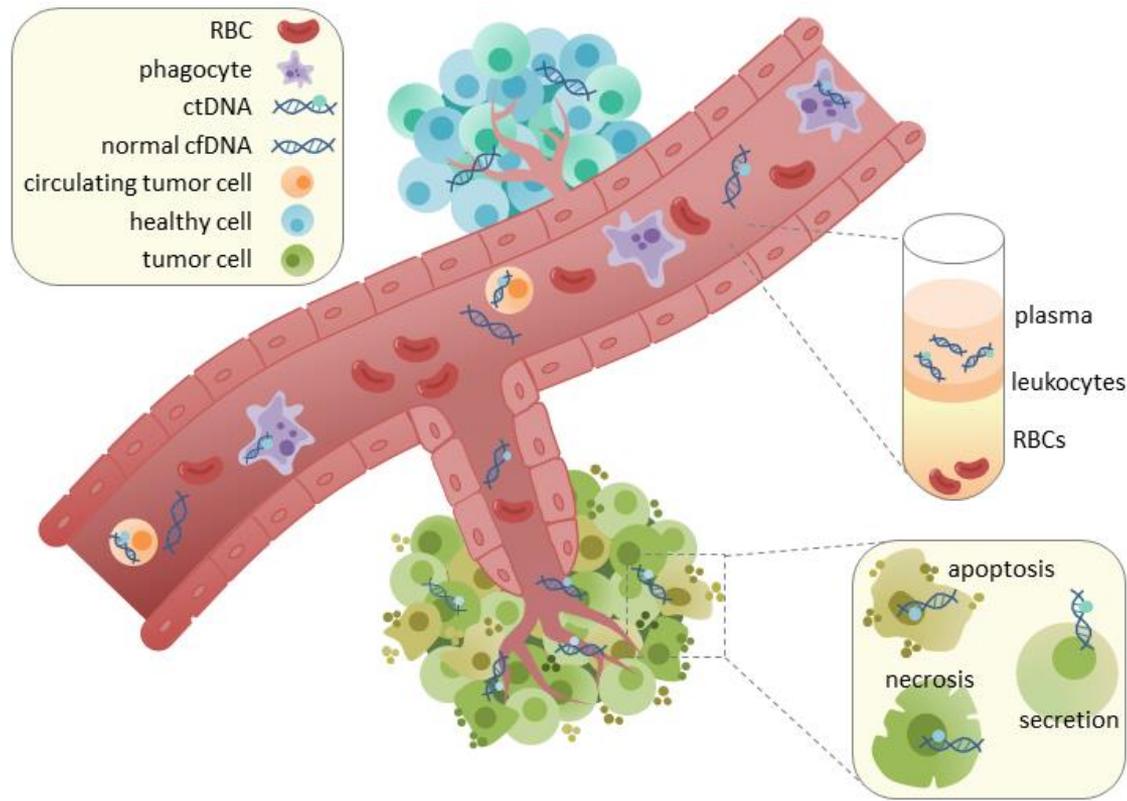
EpCAM-positive circulating tumor cells offer prognostic value for epithelial cancers



- Counts EpCam<sup>+</sup> and CD45<sup>-</sup> epithelial CTCs
- Sensitive to 1 cell per 7.5 mL whole blood
- CTCs in peripheral blood associated with decreased survival in metastatic breast, colorectal, and prostate cancer patients
- Limited predictive power in drug response and resistance
- Dropped from Medicare coverage in 2017 citing lack of impact on patient outcomes

# Circulating tumor DNA and cell-free DNA as biomarkers

ctDNA and cfDNA are derived primarily from blood and can serve as biomarkers for diseases



# Many cfDNA and ctDNA tests available

IVDs offer test from companion diagnostics to prenatal screening, but not all are FDA-approved



**cobas EGFR Mutation Test v2**  
 Non-small cell lung cancer  
 Companion diagnostic



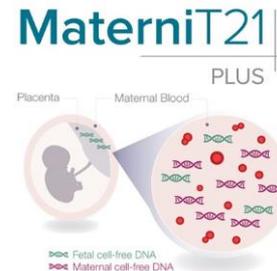
**Guardant360**  
 Non-small cell lung cancer  
 Comprehensive mutation  
 analysis



**Abbot RealTime IDH2**  
 Acute myeloid leukemia  
 Companion diagnostic



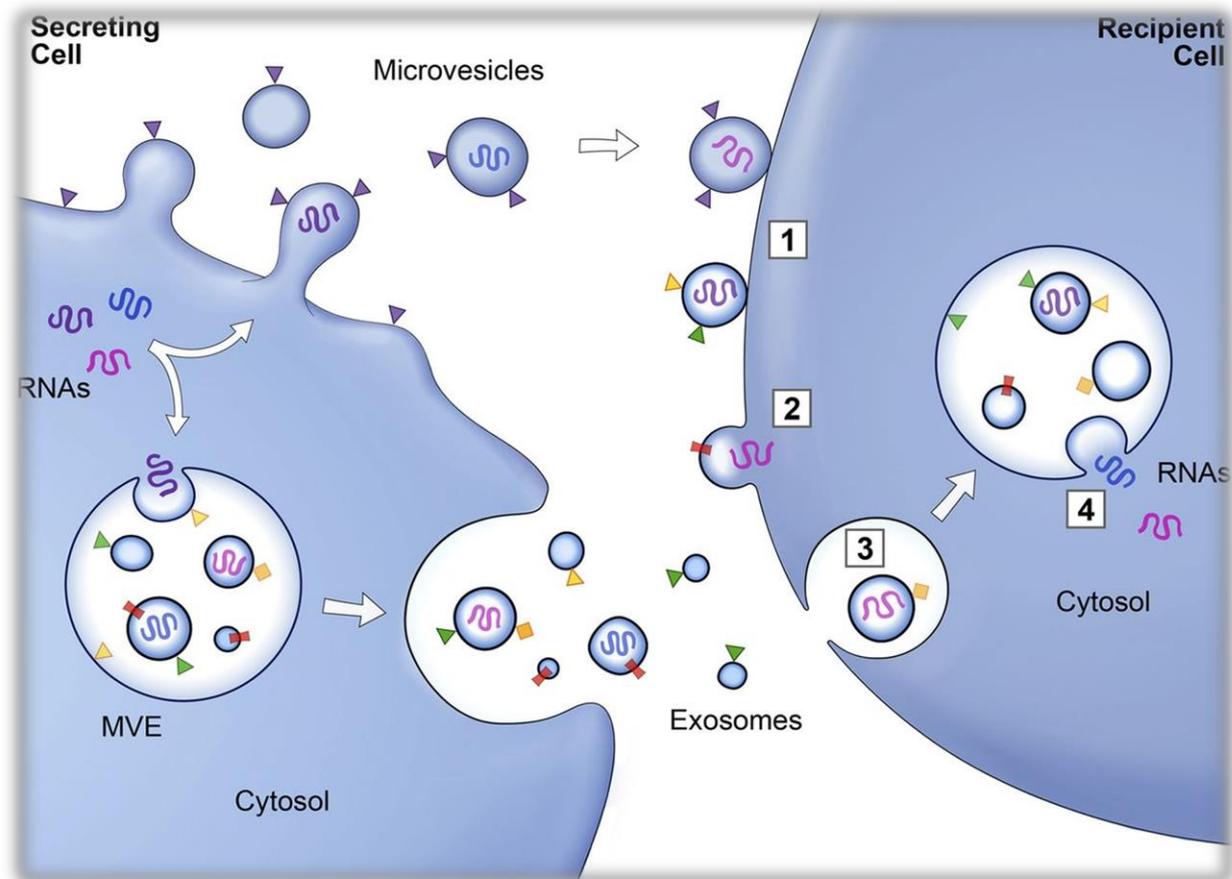
**Natera panorama**  
 Prenatal screening  
 Aneuploidies and common  
 mutations



**MaterniT21 Plus**  
 Prenatal screening  
 Trisomy screening

# Extracellular vesicles as biomarkers for disease

EVs offer a diverse array of biomarkers for many diseases from nearly all biological fluids



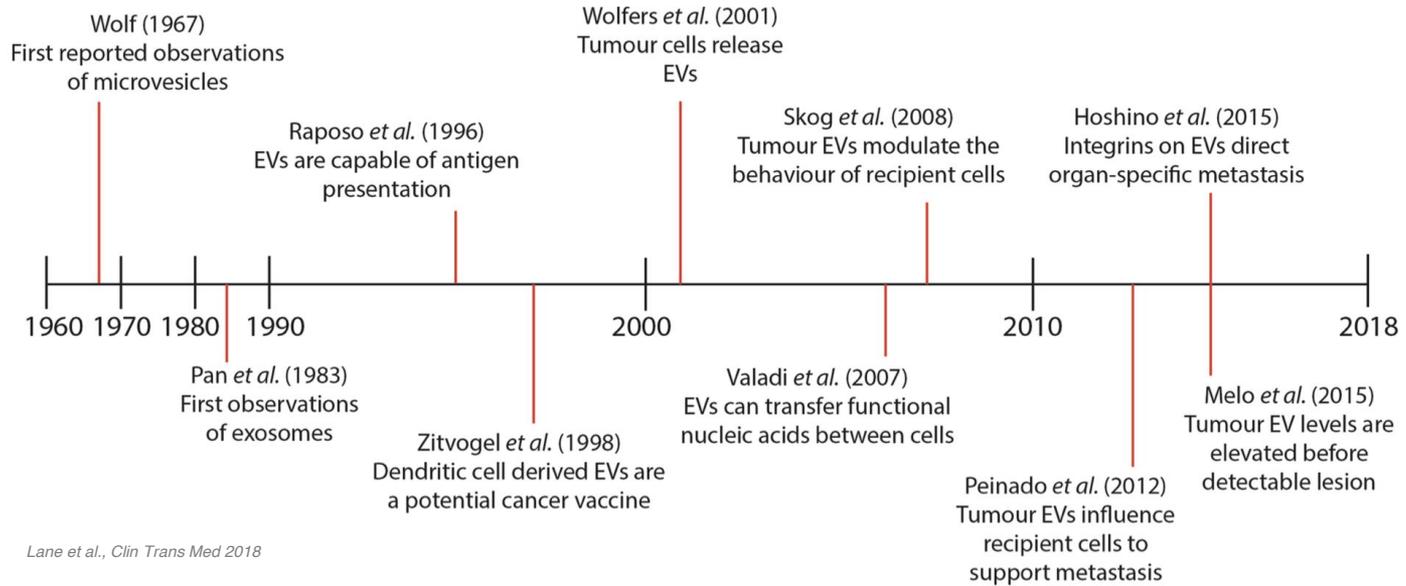
Raposo and Stoorvogel, JCB 2013

# Circulating biomarkers in disease

<b>Applications</b>	Metastatic cancer	Tumor, heart, brain, prenatal, autoimmune, infectious	
<b>Biomarker</b>	 CTCs	 ccfDNA	 Exosomes
<b>Concentration</b>	1-10 per mL	10-1,500 ng/mL	10 <sup>9</sup> -10 <sup>12</sup> per mL
<b>Size</b>	10 μm	100-10,000 bp (R <sub>G</sub> = 5-250 nm)	30-150 nm
<b>Challenges</b>	Rare	High background	Small

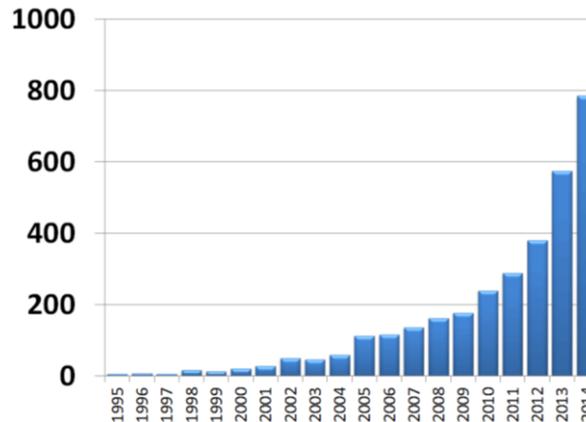
- Abundantly available
- Broad application to disease
- Accessible in most bodily fluids
- Contain RNA, DNA, and proteins
- Protected from degradation

# Timeline of extracellular vesicle discovery



Lane *et al.*, *Clin Trans Med* 2018

## EV-related Publications per Year



exosome-ma.com

## Extracellular vesicles in the clinic

A promising new modality for diagnostics and therapeutics

- Exosome Diagnostics released exosomal RNA-based diagnostic tools for prostate cancer diagnosis and lung cancer treatment guidance
- Prostate(IntelliScore) reimbursable by Medicare
- Codiak Biosciences developing exosome-based therapeutics using engEx™ system of custom engineered exosomes with specific targeting and drug delivery

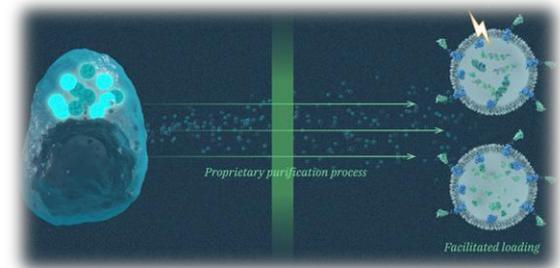
**ExoDx®**  
*Prostate(IntelliScore)*



**ExoDx®**  
*Lung(ALK)*



**CODIAK**

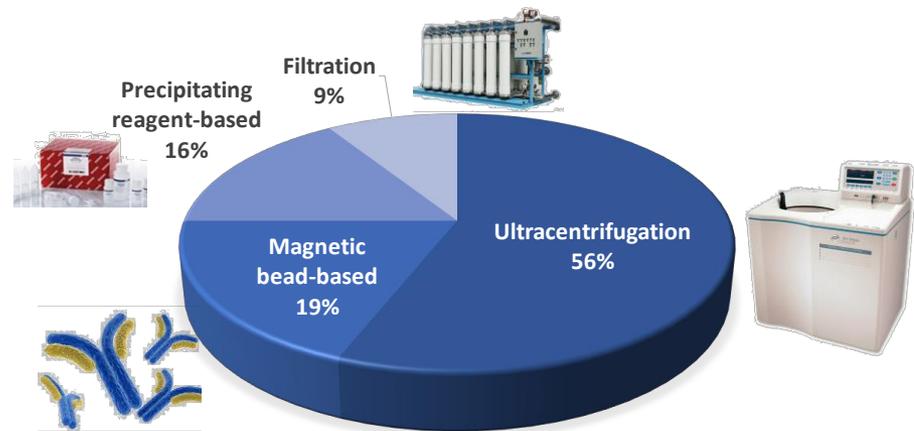


# EV isolation techniques and challenges

Difficulty in isolation has hindered progress in EV applications

- Sub-fractionation of exosomes by size and chemistry is extremely limited
- Contamination high and poorly characterized
- Lacks reproducibility and standardization
- Methods are non-automated
- Methods require sophisticated lab equipment and long run time

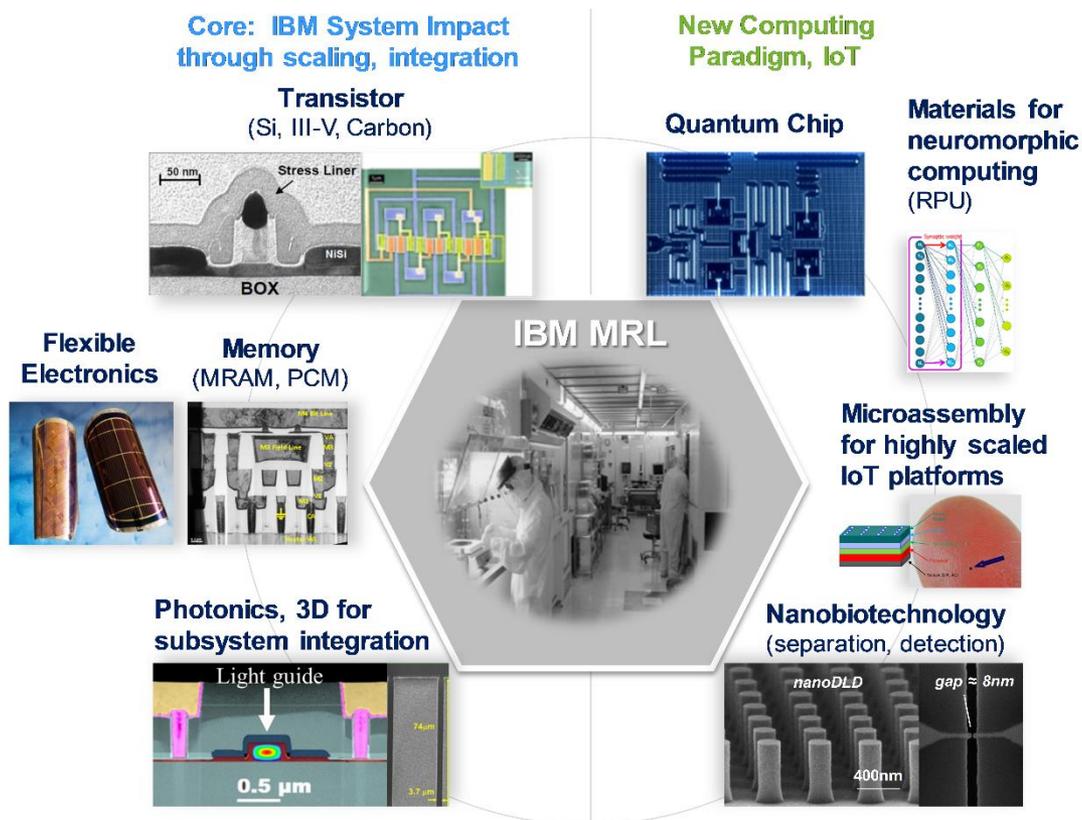
## Exosome isolation



# IBM Research nanofabrication strategy in MRL

Microelectronic Research Laboratory provides a foundation for core/new technology development

- State-of-the-art design, fabrication and packaging facility to rapidly prototype and integrate novel materials and structures for devices, sensors, and systems
- 40,000 sq.ft. class 100 CR, 200 mm wafer line w/ advanced CMOS and packaging capabilities



# Redefining healthcare at the nanoscale

Early-stage disease detection and overall health wellness requires a new set of tools

## Today

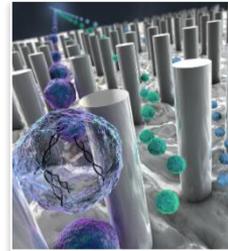


## Future



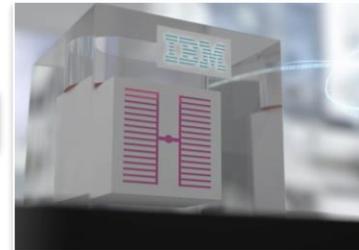
### Goals

#### Research



- High fidelity biomarker isolation on-chip
- Automated liquid-biopsy processing solutions

#### Clinical



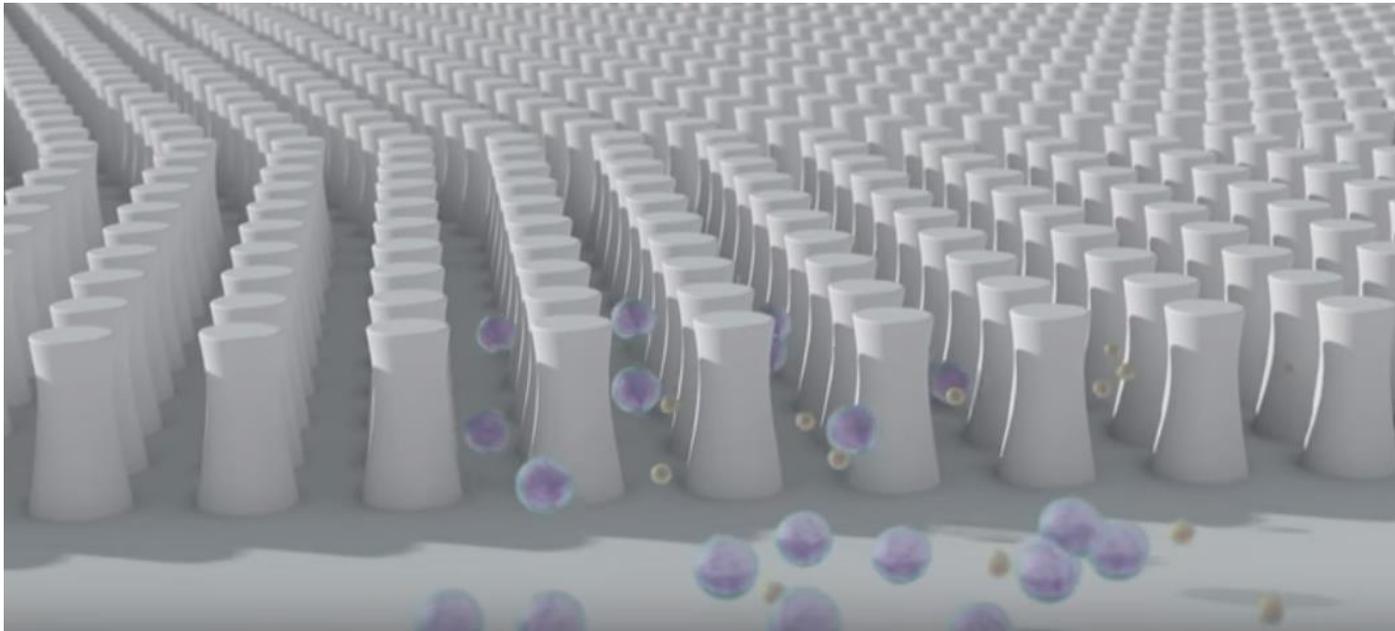
- POC diagnostic results for patients at the clinic
- Collect molecular data for IVD development

#### Consumer



- Regular self-monitoring of molecular profiles
- Cognitive healthcare assistant for personalized wellness

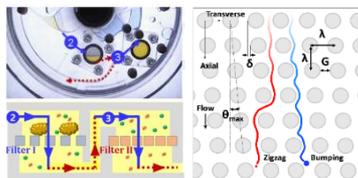
# IBM nanoDLD for accelerating early detection of diseases



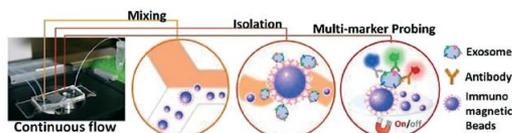
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FBJ02gheVFM>

# LOC implementations for EV isolation

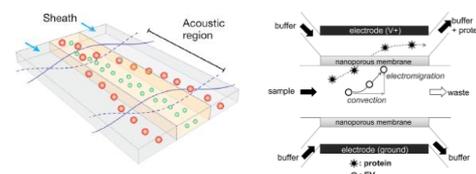
## Size-based



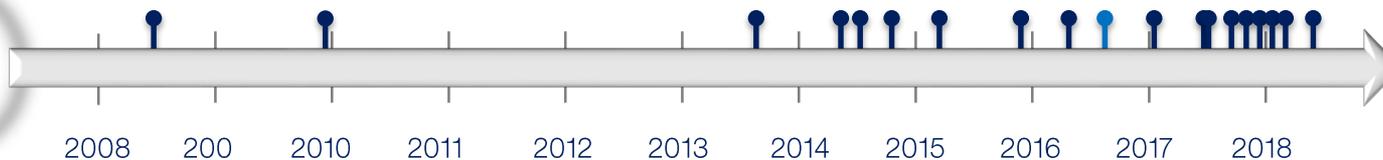
## Immunoaffinity



## Dynamic forces



## Publication chronology on microfluidic-based exosome isolation techniques



9

### 1. Flow field-flow fractionation

University of Medicine and Science, Korea  
D. Kang et al., *J. Proteome Res.*, 7, p. 3475 (2008)

### 2. Immunoaffinity-based microfluidics

MGH, Harvard Medical School  
C. Chen et al., *Lab Chip*, 10, p. 505 (2010)

### 3. Ciliated micropillars

University of Texas at Austin  
Z. Wang et al., *Lab Chip*, 13, p. 2879 (2013)

### 4. ExoChip (immunoaffinity assay)

University of Michigan  
S. S. Kanwar et al., *Lab Chip*, 14, p. 1891 (2014)

### 5. Integrated immunomagnetic isolation

University of Kansas  
M. He et al., *Lab Chip*, 14, p. 3773 (2014)

### 6. Deterministic lateral displacement

Cornell University  
S. M. Santana et al., *Biomed Microdevices*, 16, p. 869 (2014)

### 7. Acoustic nanofilter (SSAW)

MGH, Harvard  
K. Lee et al., *ACS Nano*, 9, p. 2321 (2015)

### 8. ExoSearch chip (immunomagnetic bead capture)

University of Kansas  
Z. Zhao et al., *Lab Chip*, 16, p. 489 (2016)

### 9. Electrophoretic migration through a dialysis membrane

Pohang University of Science and Technology, Korea  
S. Cho et al., *Sensors and Actuators B*, 233, p. 289 (2016)

### 10. Nanoscale DLD (nanoDLD)

IBM Research  
B. Wunsch et al., *Nature Nanotech*, 11, p. 936 (2016)

### 11. Exodisc isolation of exosomes (nanofilter)

UNIST, Korea  
H.-K. Woo et al., *ACS Nano*, 11 (2), p. 1360 (2017)

### 12. Alternating current electrokinetic microarray

University of California San Diego  
S. D. Ibsen et al., *ACS Nano*, 11 (7), p. 6641 (2017)

### 13. Viscoelastic flows

Chinese Academy of Sciences, China  
C. Liu et al., *ACS Nano*, 11 (7), pp. 6968 (2017)

### 14. Acoustofluidics (taSSAW)

Duke University  
M. Wu et al., *PNAS*, 114 (40), p. 10584 (2017)

### 15. Exosome total isolation chip (ExoTIC) filtration

Stanford University  
F. Liu et al., *ACS Nano*, 11 (11), p. 10,712 (2017)

### 16. Nanowires

Nagoya University, Japan  
T. Yasui et al., *Sci. Adv.*, 3, p. e1701133 (2017)

### 17. HB-Chip

MGH, Harvard Medical School  
E. Reáteguet et al., *Nat. Commun.*, 9, p. 175 (2018)

### 18. Asymmetric flow field-flow fractionation

Drukier Institute for Children's Health  
H. Zhang et al., *Nat. Cell Biology*, 20, p. 332 (2018)

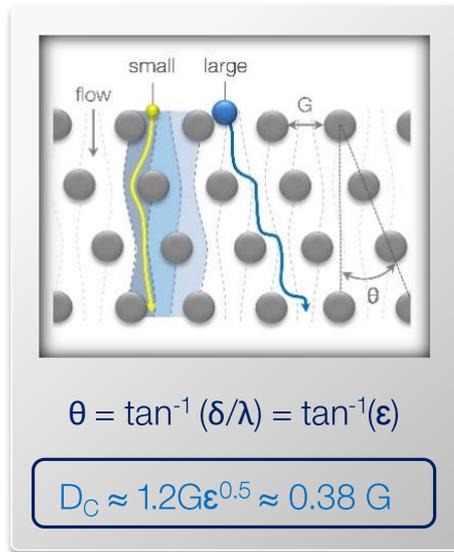
### 19. ICP electrokinetic concentrator

New York Univ., Adu Dhabi  
L. S. Cheung et al., *Micromachines*, 9, p. 306 (2018)

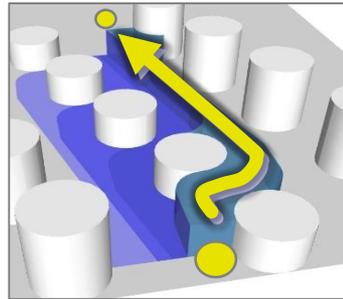
# Deterministic lateral displacement (DLD) technology

An adaptable technology offering concentration and purification of analyte in continuous flow

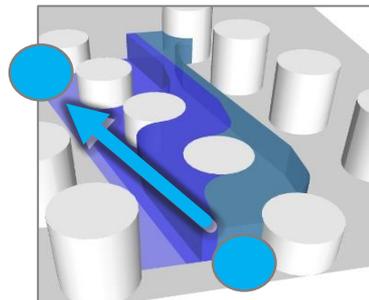
## Principle of Operation



$$D_P \leq D_C$$

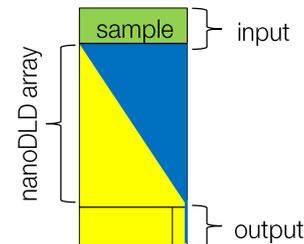


$$D_P > D_C$$

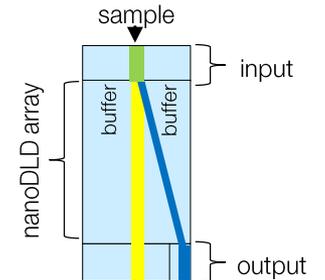


## Operational Modalities

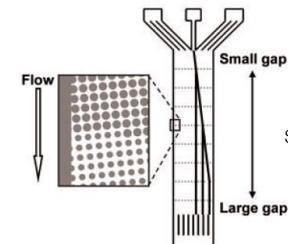
Enrichment and concentration



Purification and isolation



Staged separation

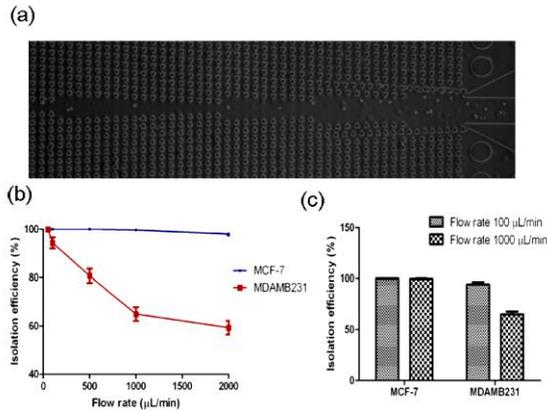


L. R. Huang, et al.,  
 Science, 304, p. 987  
 (2004)

# Deterministic lateral displacement (DLD) technology

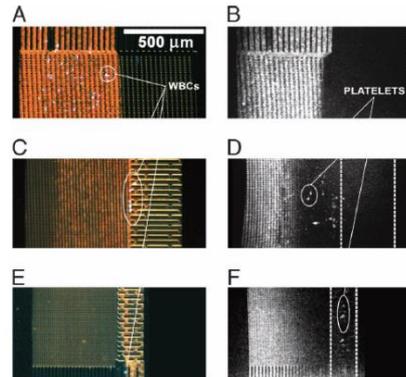
A diverse set of applications in biology have been demonstrated at the micron scale

## CTC Isolation



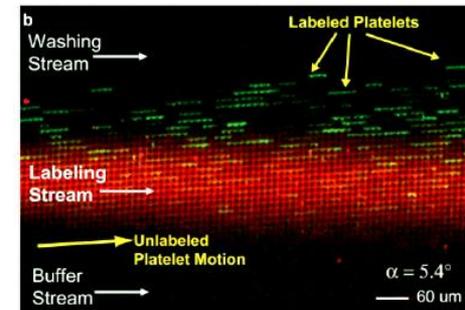
Z. Liu, *et al*, *Biomicrofluidics*, 7, p. 011801 (2013)

## Blood Cell



J. A. Davis, *et al*, *PNAS*, 103, p. 14779 (2006)

## Lysis and Labeling

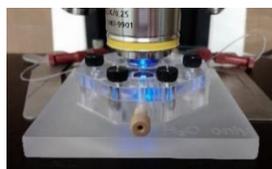


K. J. Morton, *et al*, *Lab Chip*, 8, p. 1448 (2008)

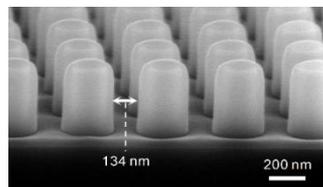
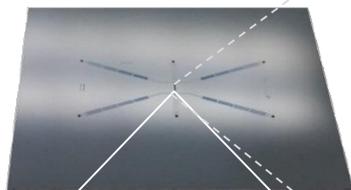
# nanoDLD separation of nanoscale colloids

nanoDLD-based separation is applicable to a variety of nanoscale materials

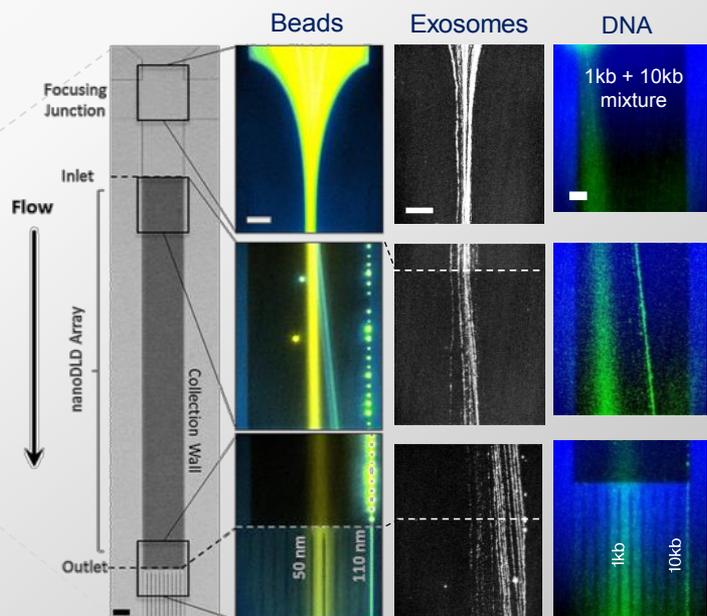
## Test Platform



nanoDLD chip mounted in flow cell for fluorescence imaging



## Separation down to 20 nm with nanoscale resolution

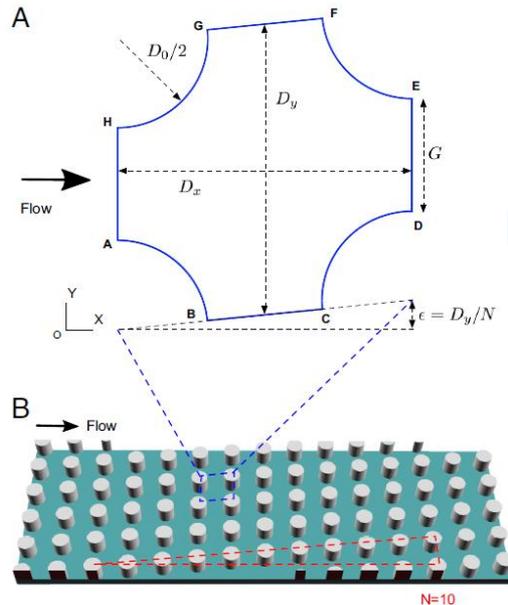


B. Wunsch *et al.*, Nature Nanotech, 11, pp. 936 (2016)

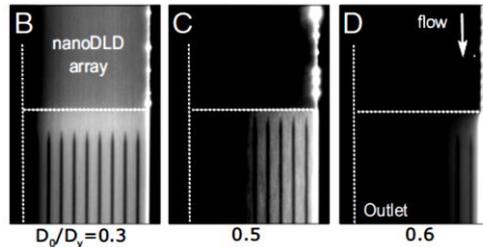
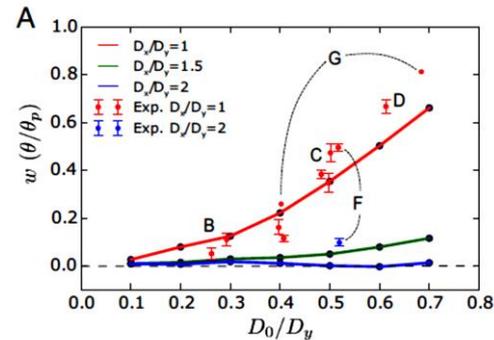
# Understanding and utilizing the physics of nanoDLD

Partial displacement modes between zigzag and bump conditions can be modelled

## Simulation model



## Experimental verification



S.-C. Kim *et al.*, *PNAS*, 114, pp. E5034 (2017)

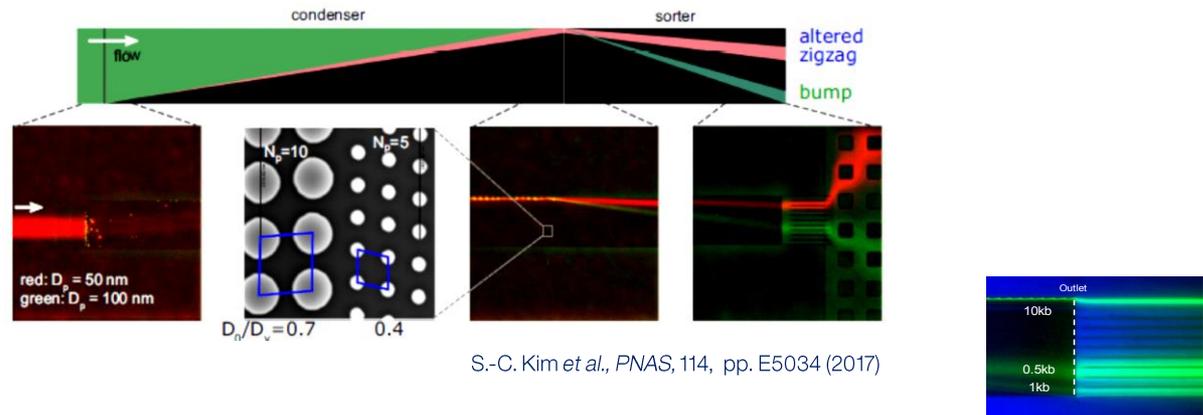
- Unified theoretical framework describes multi-modal trajectories
- $D_0 / D_y$  ratio provides a mechanism for tuning displacement behavior

# Understanding and utilizing the physics of nanoDLD

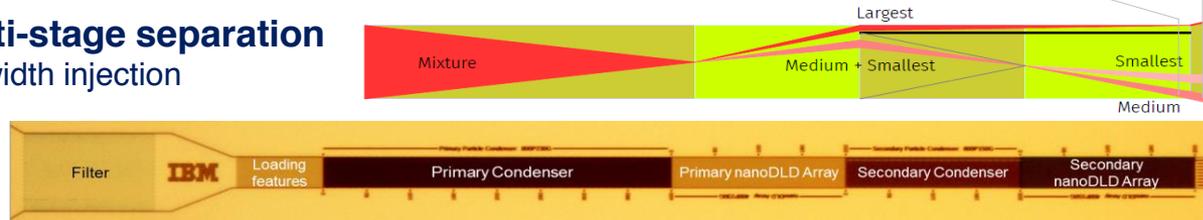
Partial displacement behavior can be exploited to offer devices with new functionality

## Full-width separation with no dilution

- Altered trajectories provide a route toward dilution-free processing
- Multi-mode separation of DNA achieved in a multi-staged array series



## Multi-stage separation full-width injection

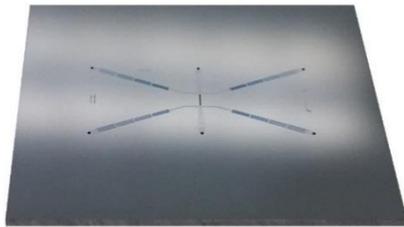


# Advancing nanoDL as a sample preparation technology

Parallel array processing of sample fluids greatly enhances throughput volumes

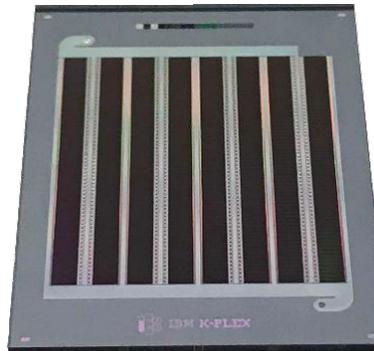
## Large-Scale Integrated Designs

### Prototyping



- Observational layout
- Single array prototyping
- Throughput  $\sim 0.2\mu\text{L/hr}$  @ 10 bar

### lightly scaled



- 1,024 arrays in parallel
- Fluid rates:  $\sim 140\mu\text{L/hr}$  @ 2 bar  
 $\sim 900\mu\text{L/hr}$  @ 10 bar

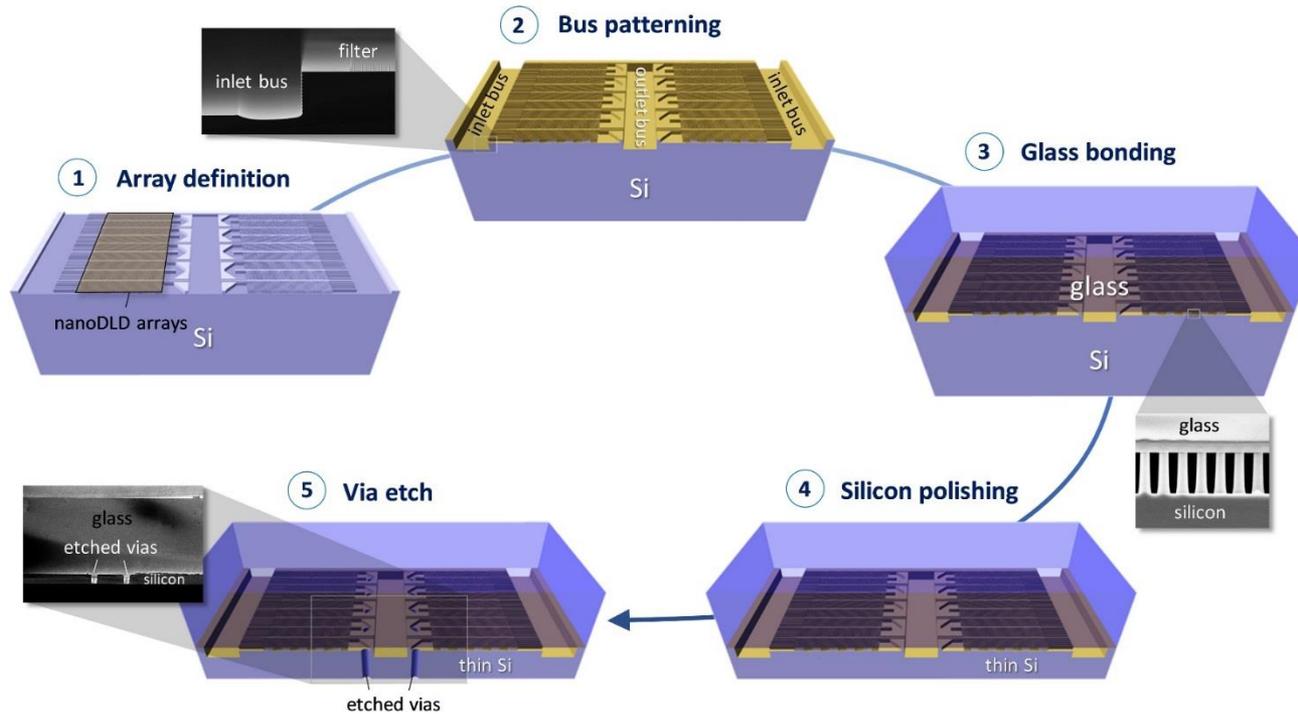
### moderately scaled



- 7,600 arrays in parallel
- Fluid rate:  $\sim 940\mu\text{L/hr}$  @ 2 bar

# Technology designed for large-scale manufacturing

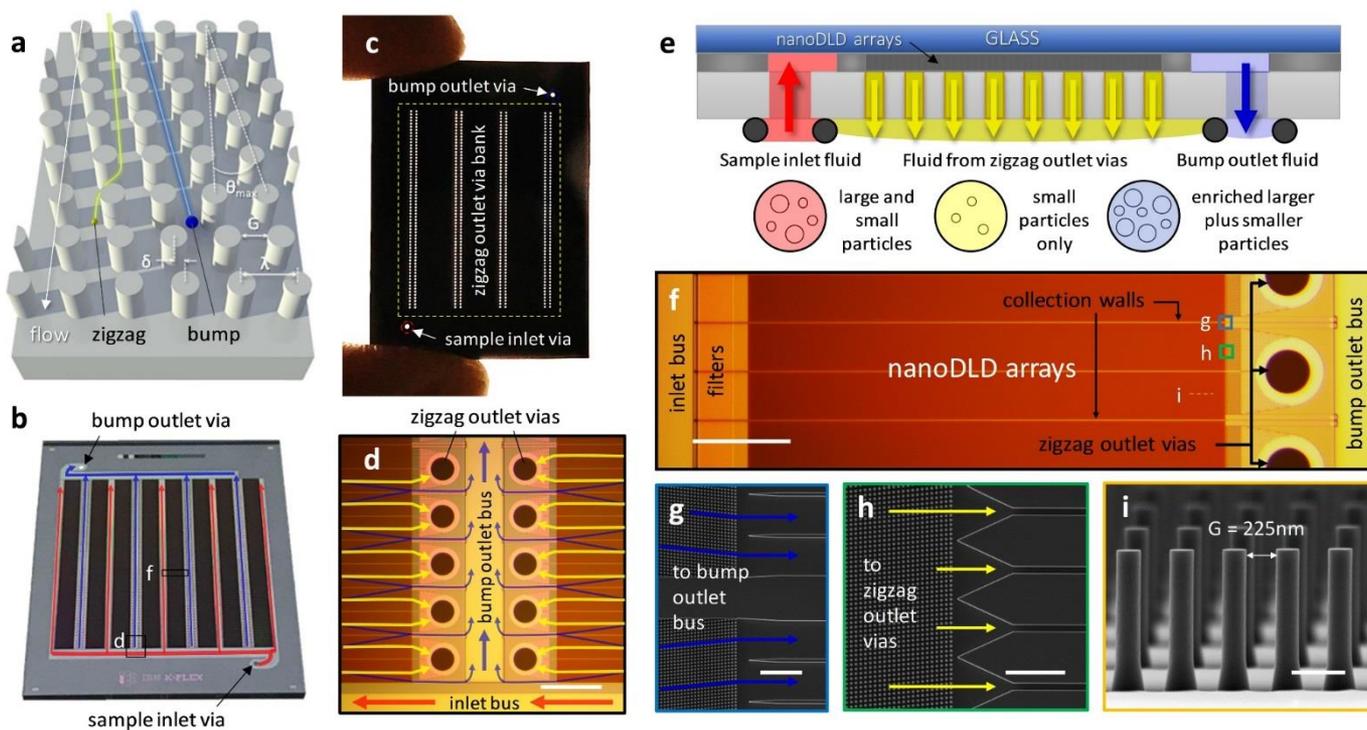
Integrated nanoDLD chip process flow designed for scalability



J. T. Smith *et al.*, Lab Chip, accepted

# Multiplexed array chip architecture and operation

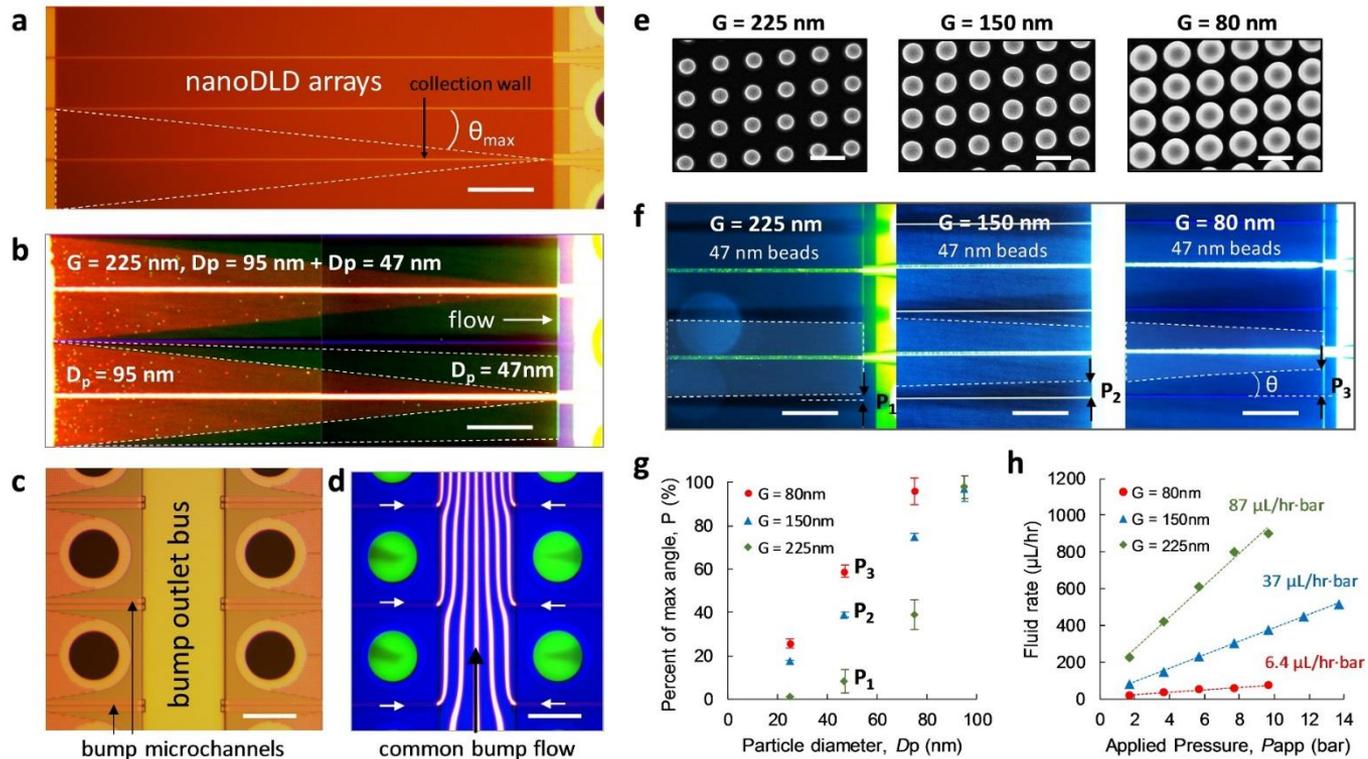
Common collection reservoirs permit efficient extraction of separated material



J. T. Smith *et al.*, Lab Chip, accepted

# In situ operation and calibration of integrated arrays

Parallel array systems preserve displacement behavior observed in single array chip designs



J. T. Smith *et al.*, Lab Chip, accepted

# Automated liquid biopsy processing

Integrated array architectures to push-button processing

## Integrated array designs

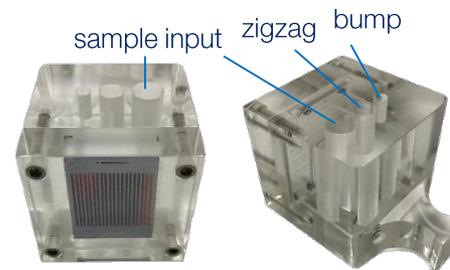


## Wafer-level processing



Processed 200 mm wafer

## Cartridge-based sample loading



## Demonstration of sample processing

load-and-go



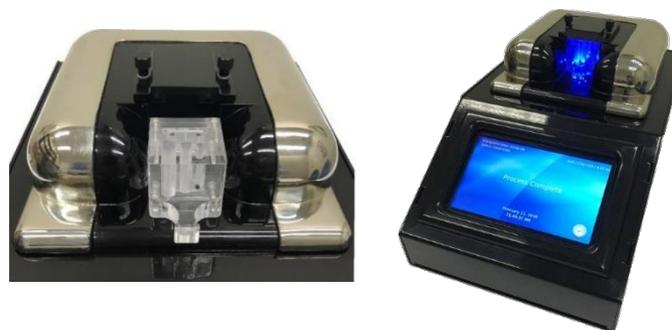
starting (t = 0)



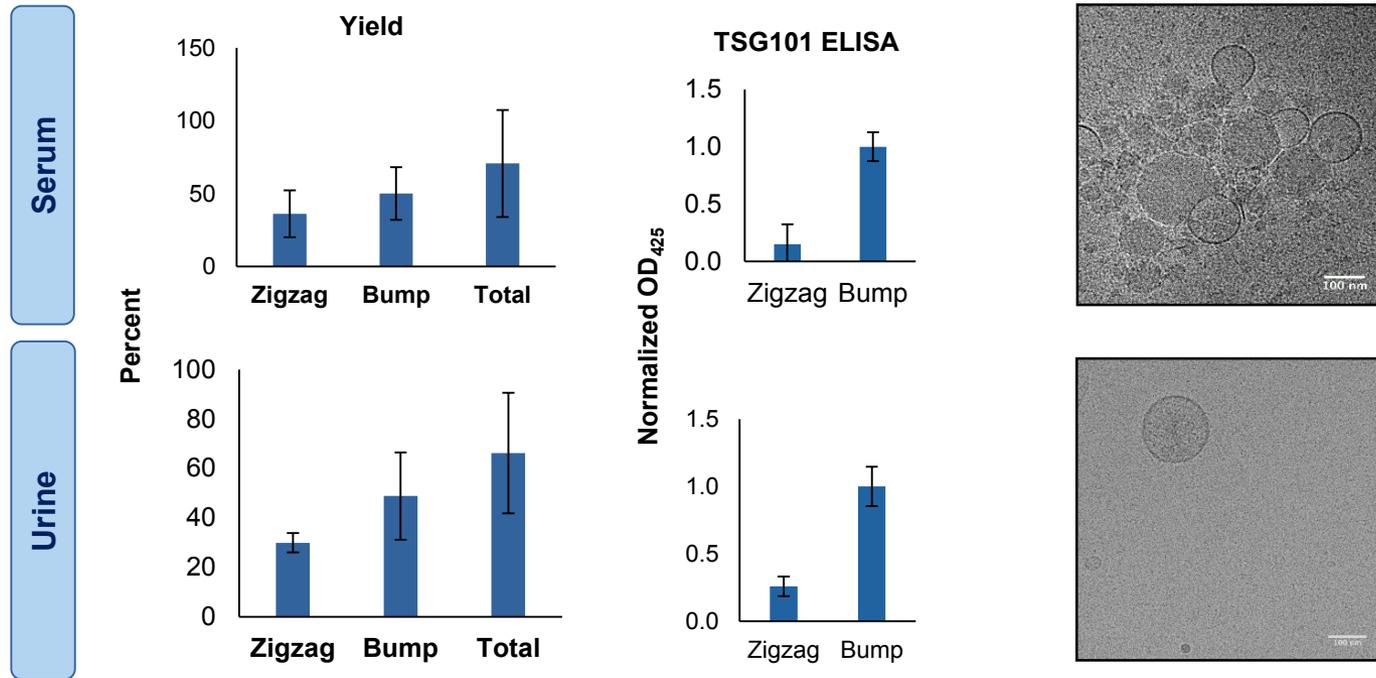
processed fluid



## Benchtop ARES prototype system



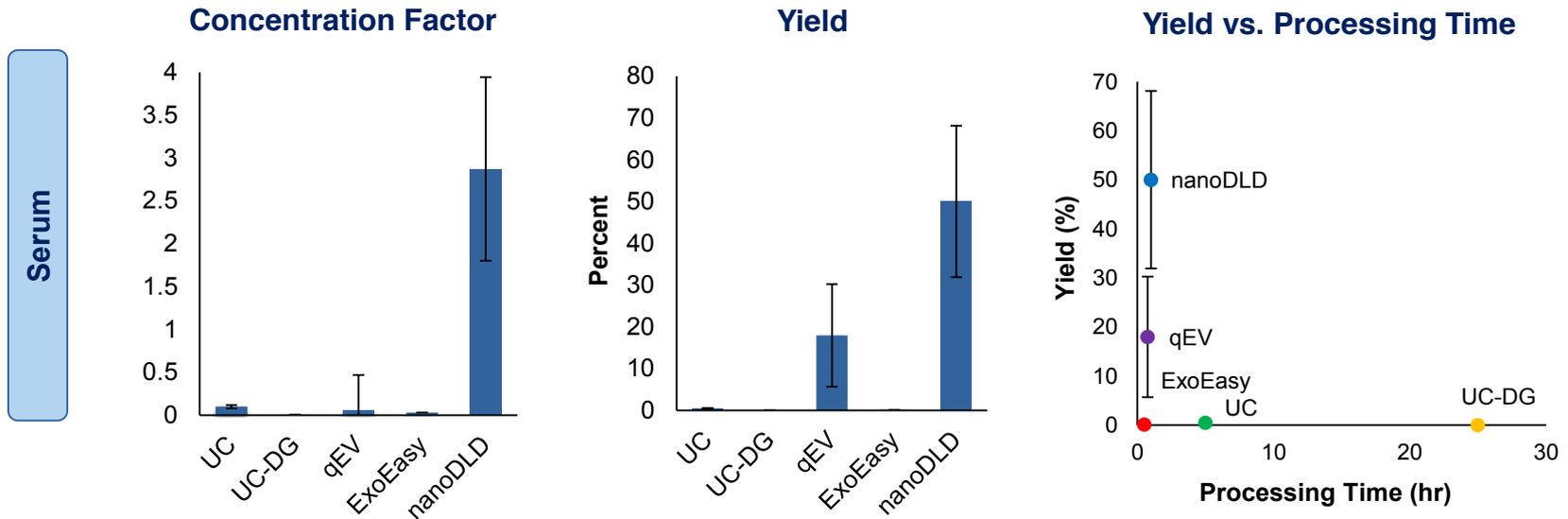
# nanoDLD isolation of urine and serum EVs for off-chip analysis



J. T. Smith *et al.*, Lab Chip, accepted

# Benchmarking of nanoDLD exosome isolation

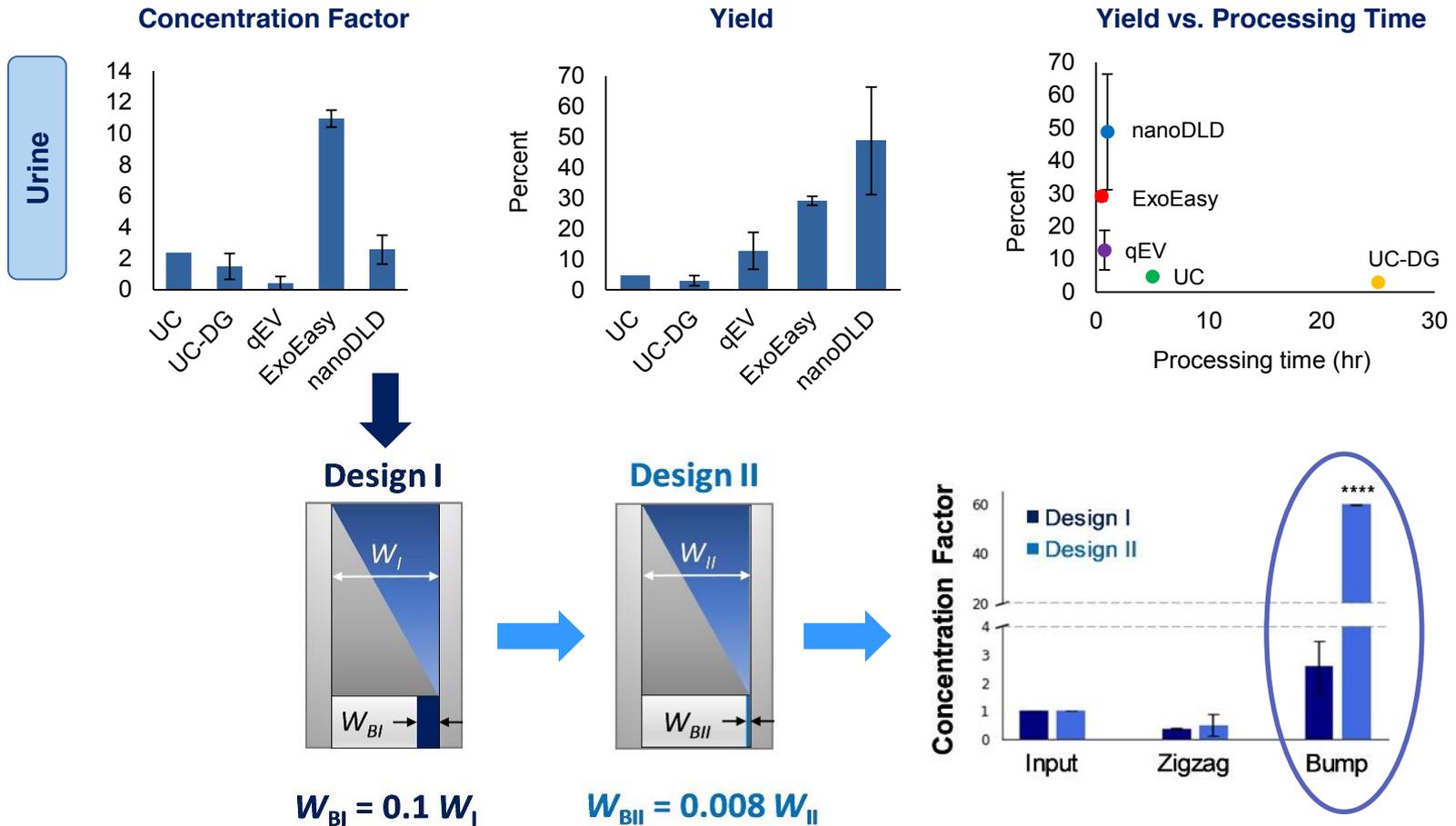
Improving yield and processing time with smaller volumes



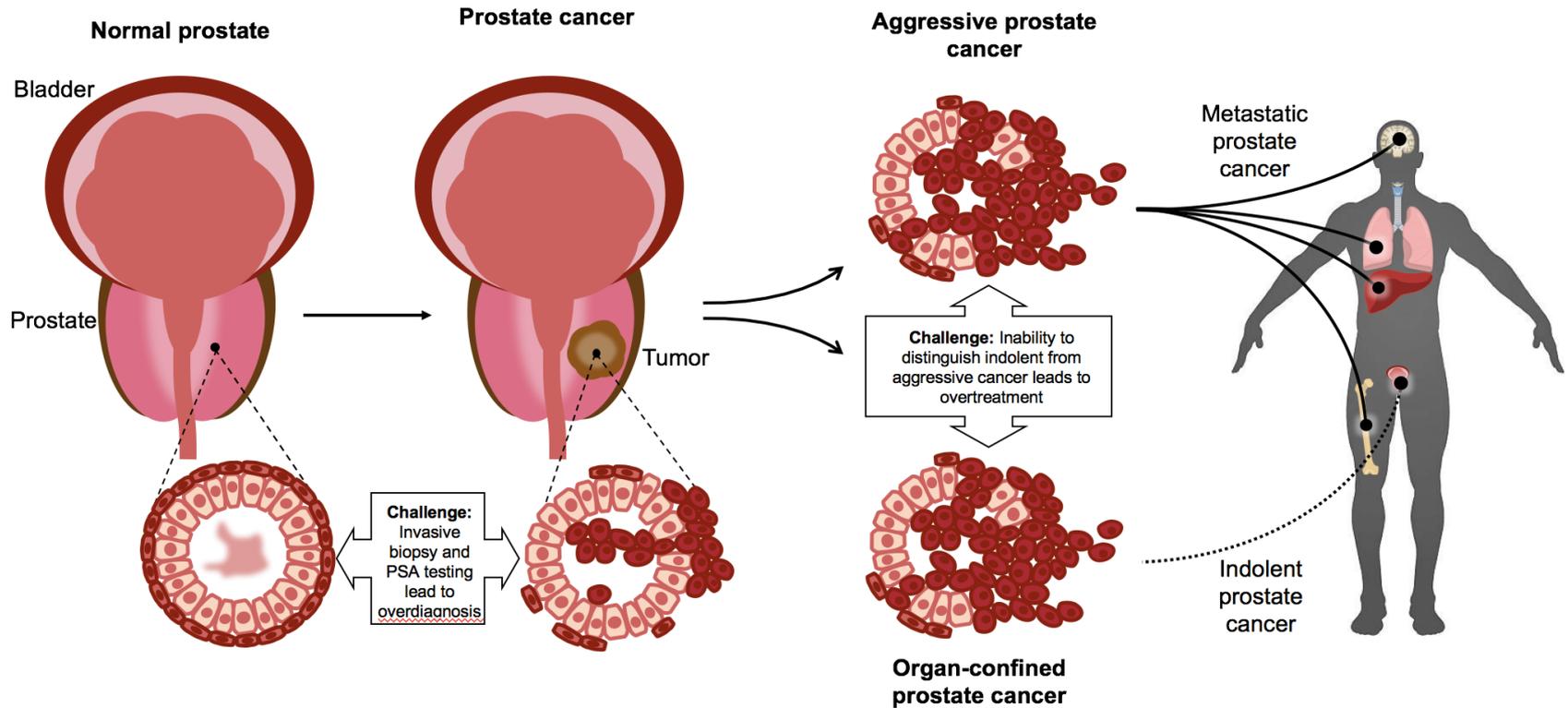
J. T. Smith *et al.*, Lab Chip, accepted

# Increasing concentration through chip engineering

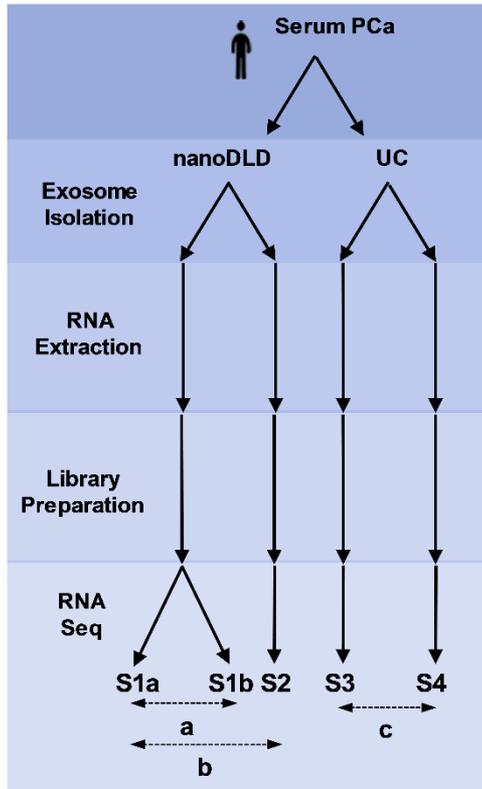
Decreasing bump volume increases EV concentration



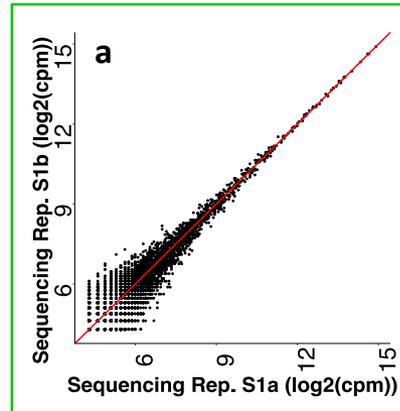
# Applying nanoDLN to prostate cancer prognosis and treatment



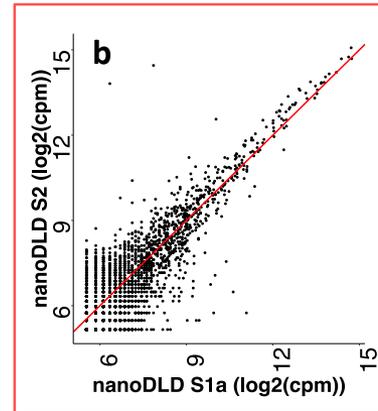
# nanoDLD-isolated RNA shows greater sequencing reproducibility



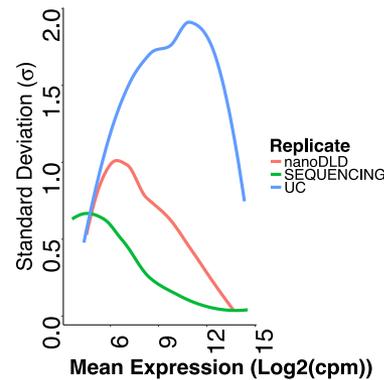
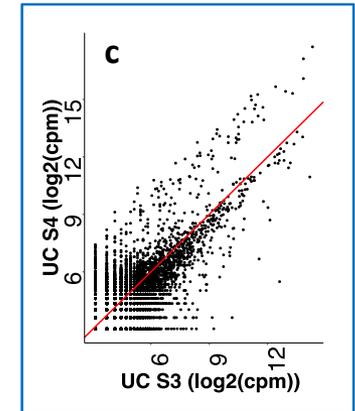
Sequencing only replicates



nanoDLD replicates



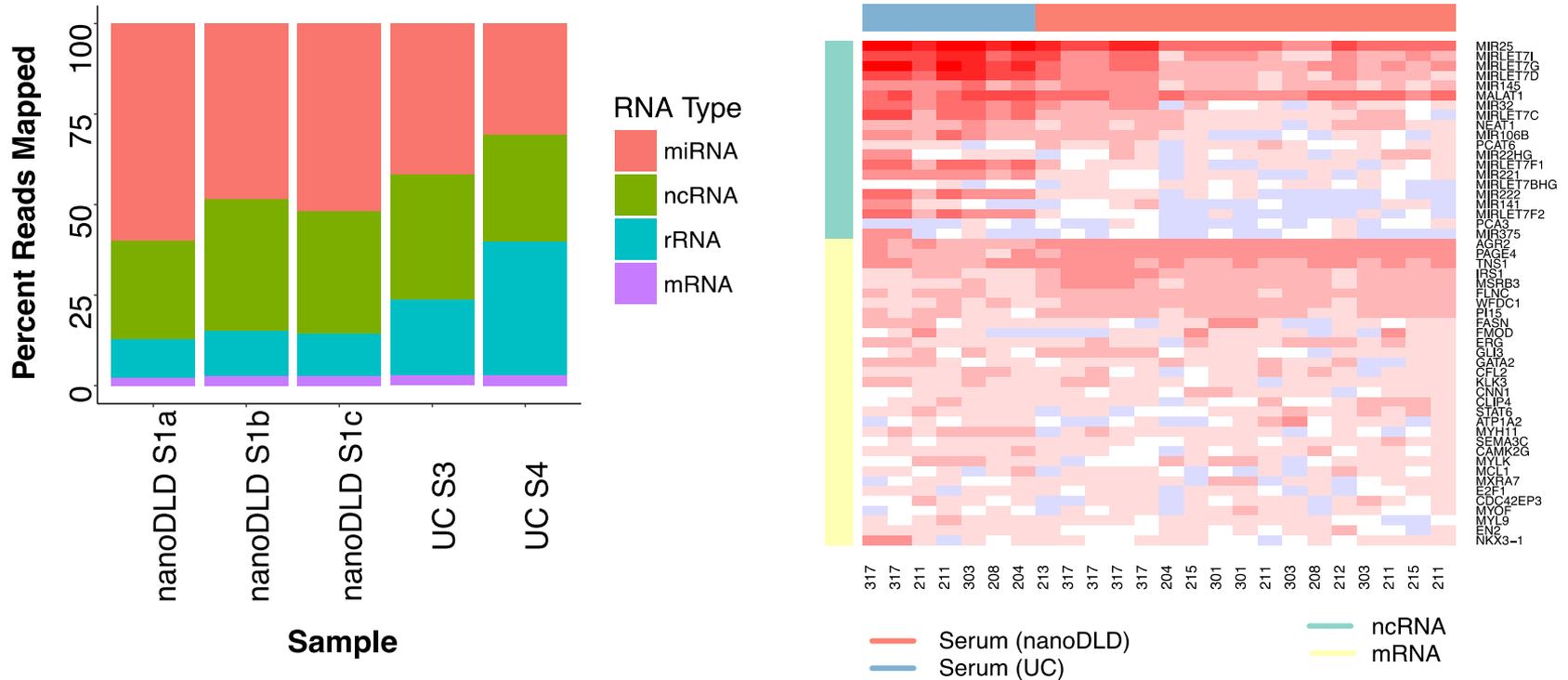
UC replicates



- Sequencing contributes minimal sequencing variability
- nanoDLD shows reduced variability compared to UC

# Serum exosomes as prostate cancer (PCa) biomarkers

Candidate PCa markers are enriched in nanoDLD-isolated serum exosomes of PCa patients



## Conclusions

- Extracellular vesicles offer a diverse array of biomarkers for disease
- EV isolation presents the greatest challenge in clinical applications
- nanoDLD offers improved concentration, yield, and processing time over existing EV isolation methods
- nanoDLD isolates EV RNA with greater reproducibility than UC and isolates known prostate cancer RNA biomarkers

## Future work

- Develop prostate cancer RNA biomarker panel to differentiate indolent and aggressive disease
- Engineer nanoDLD chips to increase purity
- Partner with new collaborators for EV applications and beyond