

*Messung der Dispensiergenauigkeit bei der  
Picoliterdosierung*  
Christian Wurzel

***Kleine Volumenströme in der Medizintechnik***  
*Zentrum für Biomedizintechnik FH Lübeck 17.6.2009*

# Scienion operates from two locations

Distance 500 km or 3.25 hours train ride

scienion



*Scienion Dortmund*  
-sciFLEXARRAYER  
S100  
- sciSWIFT  
- R&D  
- Service



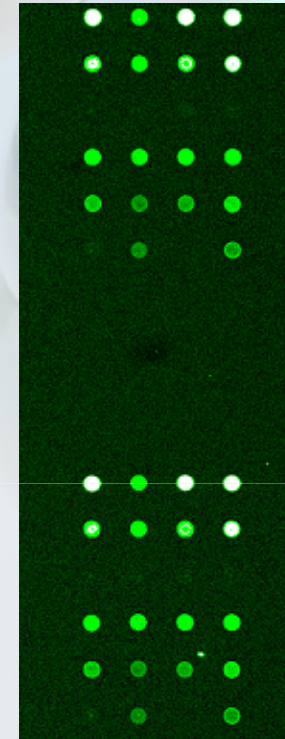
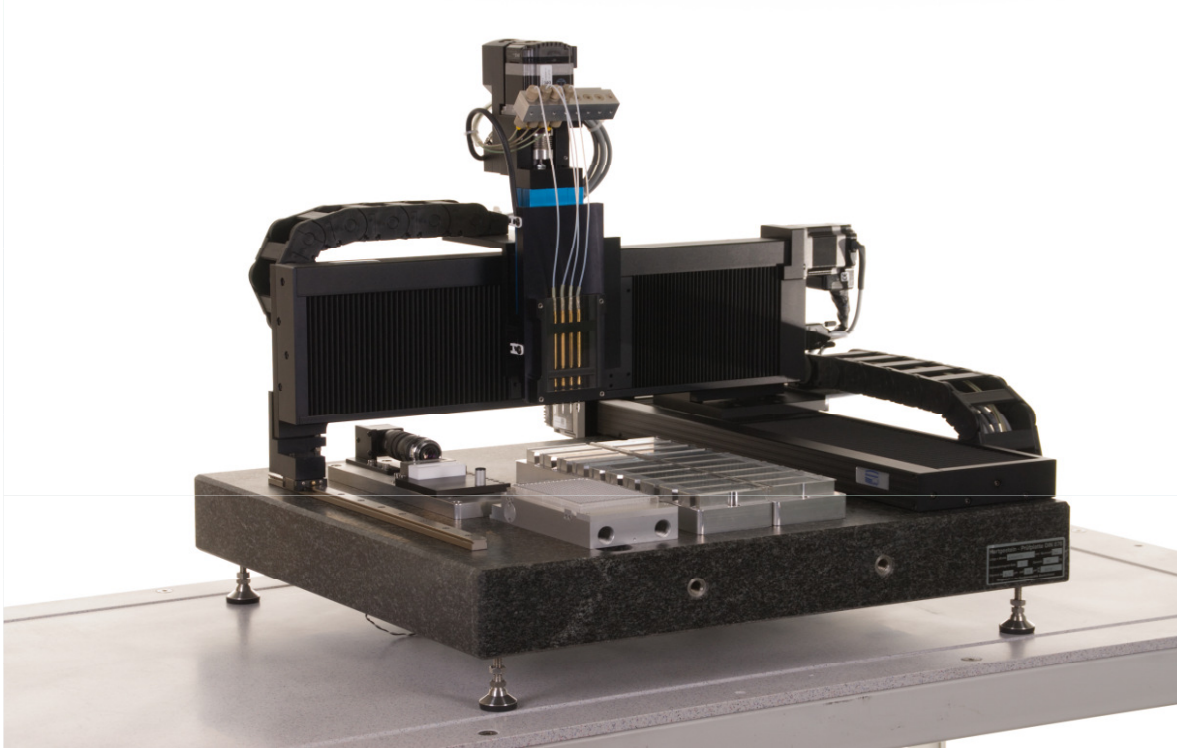
*Scienion Berlin*  
-sciFLEXARRAYER  
S3, S5, S11  
- R&D  
- Service  
- Administration

scienion



# sciFLEXARRAYER – S3

scienion



Spindle stage

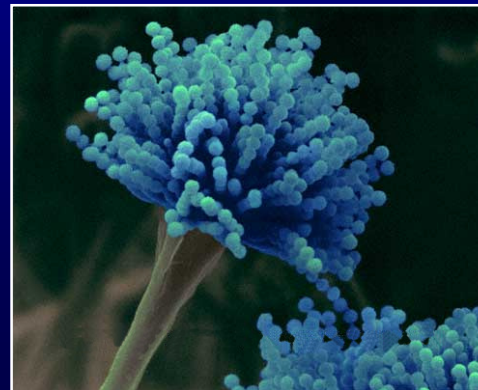
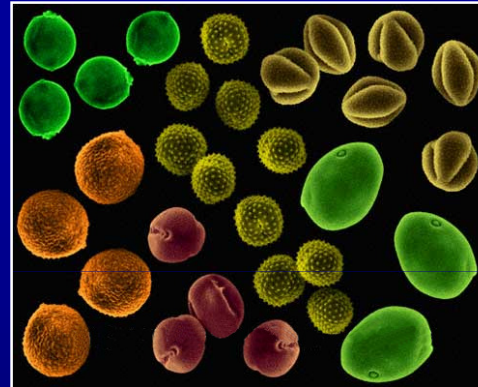
Up to 20 slides or 5 MTP / batch

Other formats, e.g. sensors or  
membranes on request

R&D

# ISAC, Immuno solid-phase Allergen Chip scienion (CE certified), by VBC Genomics

## Allergy: A severe pandemic disease



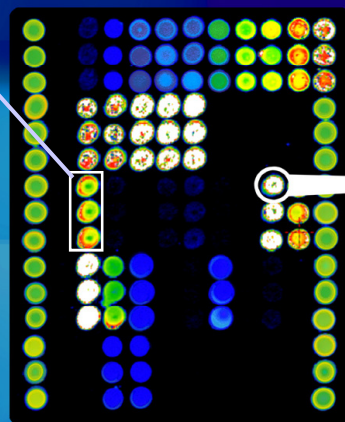


# ISAC Immuno Solid-phase AllergenChip



VBC-GENOMICS

Allergen-triplet after fluorescence-reaction



Allergen molecule

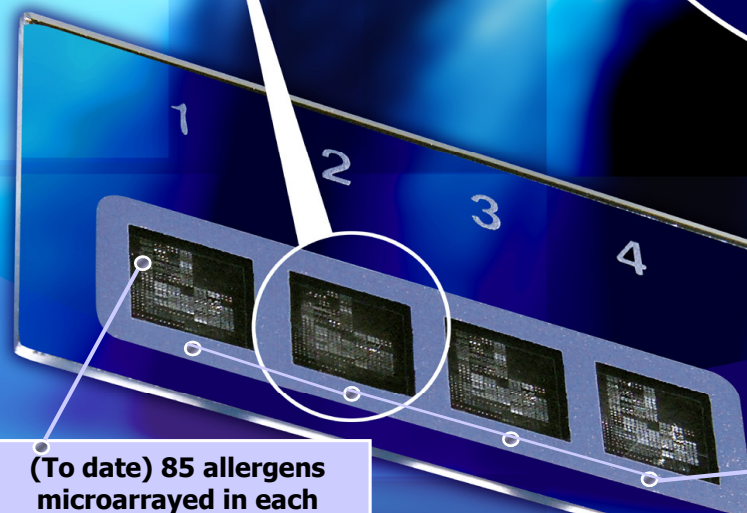
Fluorescence-labelled secondary anti-human IgE antibody

IgE-antibody (in patient's serum)

Biochip: Modified glass slide (25x75 mm)

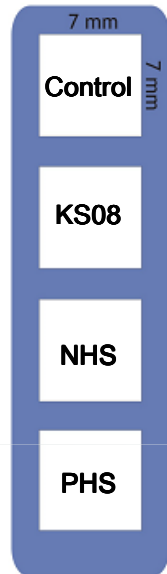
4 reaction sites (3 samples + 1 control)

(To date) 85 allergens microarrayed in each reaction site (4 identical copies)

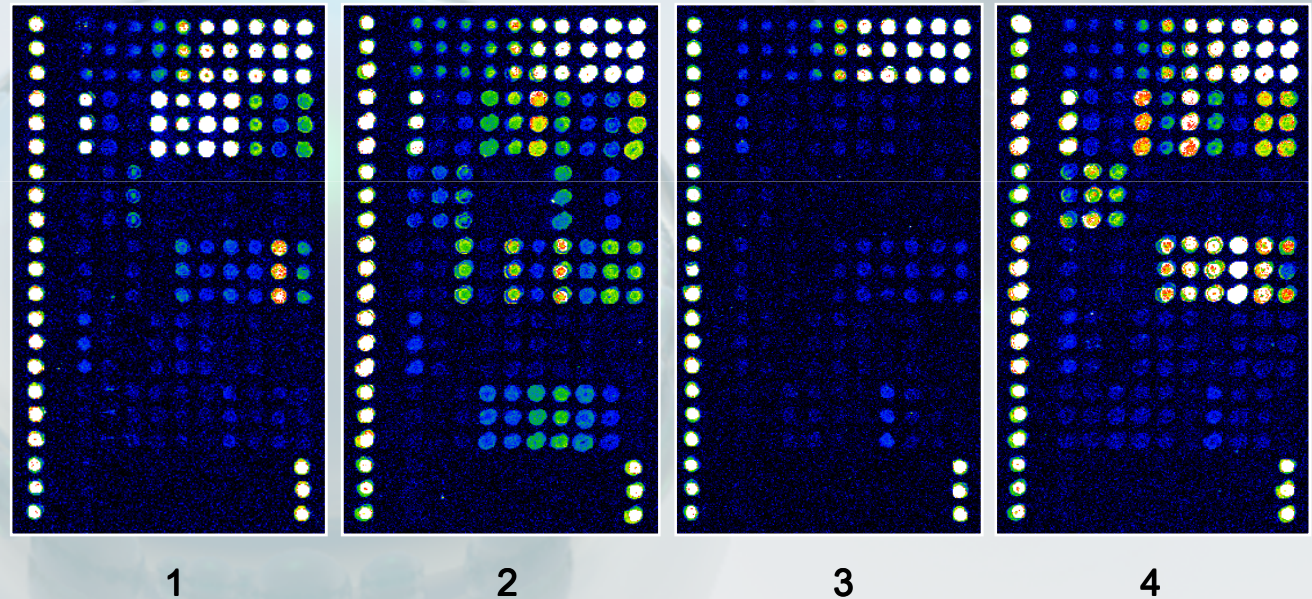
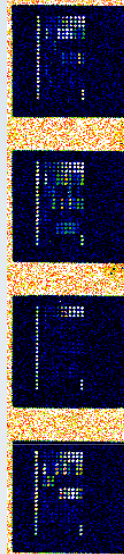


# Assay scheme

- (1) **Control:** Serum used for batch quality control
- (2) **KS08:** Serum used for heterologous IgE quantification
- (3) **NHS:** Negative human serum
- (4) **PHS:** Positive human serum (patient's sample)



VBC-GENOMICS

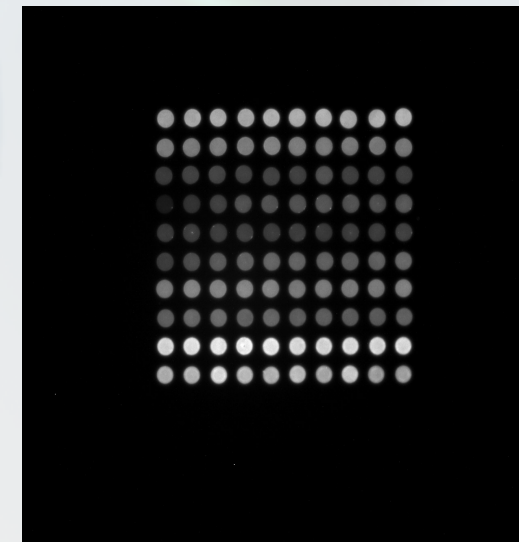




# Typical User Requirement

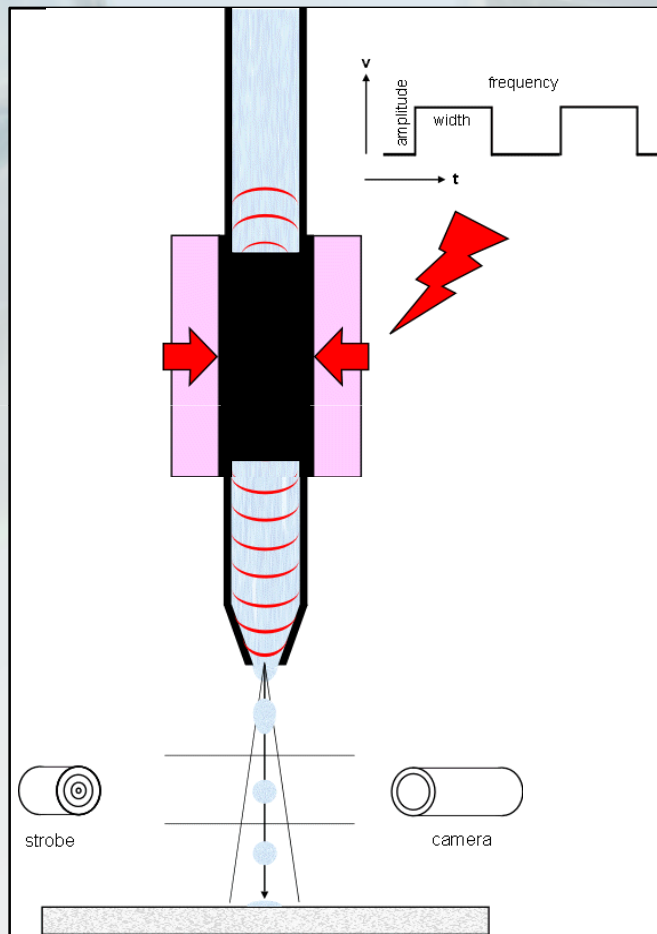
scienion

- Array 50 to 400 probes on the bottom of a MTP well
- Grid with a 200 $\mu$ m pitch
- Overall average deviation from the grid <10 $\mu$ m
- Maximum deviation from the grid < 20 $\mu$ m
- Inter array grid accuracy better 100 $\mu$ m
- Spot size 150 $\mu$ m  $\rightarrow$  120pl (+/- 15%)



# Piezo Pipetting - Theory

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Piezo ceramic mounted around glass capillary

Piezo effect: voltage causes extension of ceramic which results in pressure onto glass

➔ Influenced by the voltage (height, length and frequency)

Pressure on glass results in a shock wave

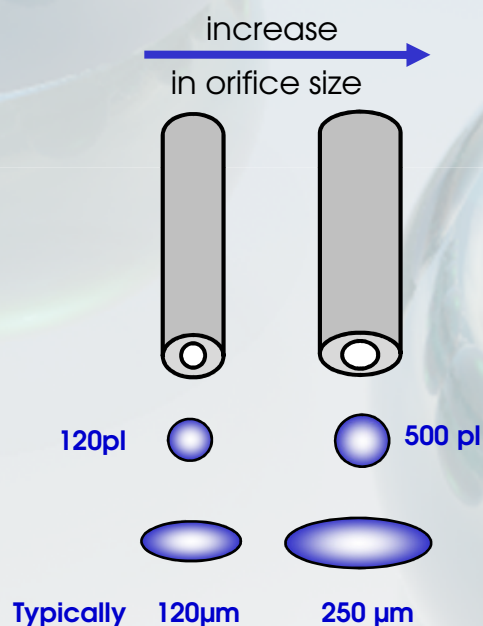
➔ Uniform action and drops



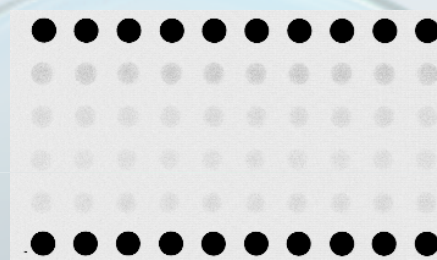
# SCIENIONS DROP ON DEMAND DISPENSING TECHNOLOGY

scienion

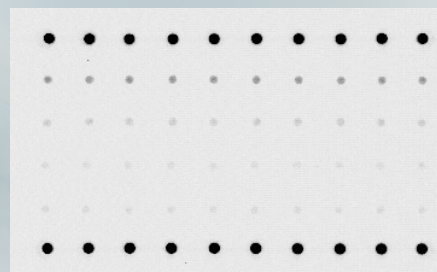
## NOZZLE ORIFICE SIZE



## TARGET SURFACE



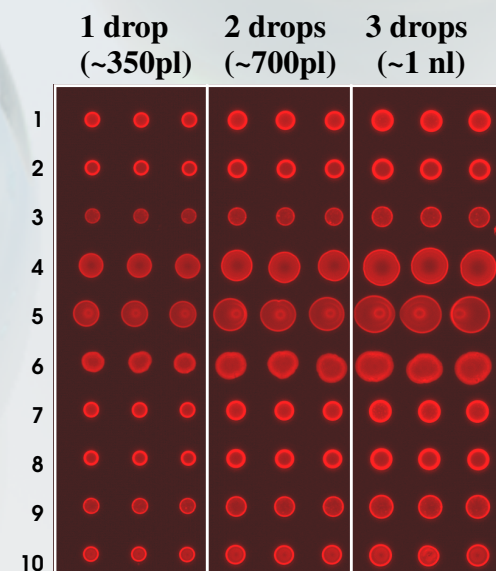
sciCHIP epoxy  
CV = 2%, n = 240



Schott Hydrogel  
CV = 4%, n = 240

## BUFFER

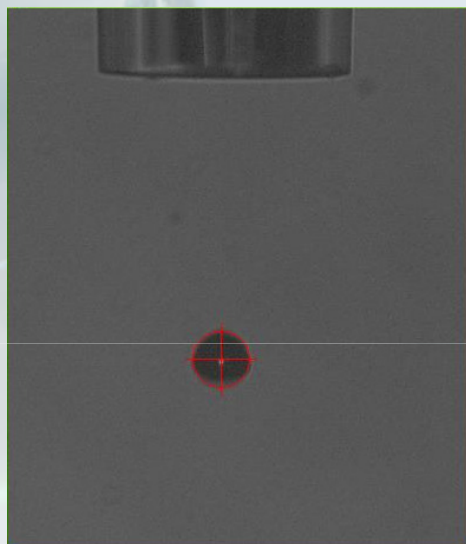
BSA 1 mg/ml  
Diluted in 10 different buffers  
Scanned directly after spotting



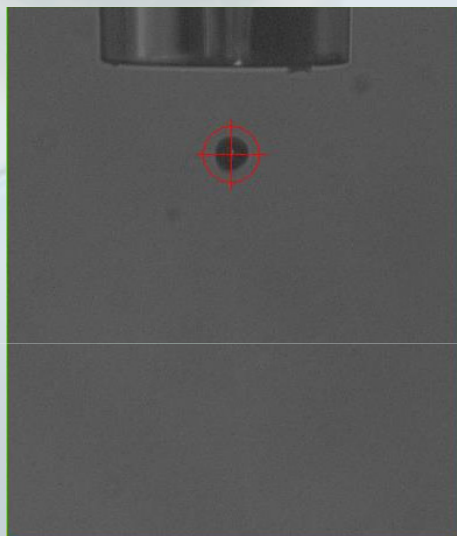
# sciSWIFTs operate reliably with DMSO solutions

scienion

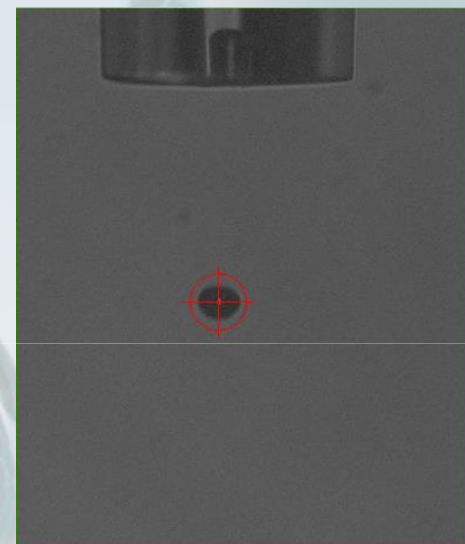
*H<sub>2</sub>O 87V 48μs*



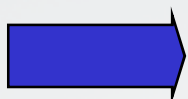
*100% DMSO 80V 28μs*



*100% DMSO 82V 30μs*



*Auto Drop Control*



*Easy Nozzle Tuning (Voltage, Pulsewidth)*

*Automated Droplet QC*





## ***air buffered dispensing***

*e.g. Volumes*  
1 - 5,0  $\mu\text{L}$

### *Accuracy*

1  $\mu\text{L}$       +- 5 %  
5  $\mu\text{L}$       +- 2,5 %

### *Precision*

1  $\mu\text{L}$       +- 5 %  
5  $\mu\text{L}$       +- 1,5 %

*Pipetting error at 0,2  $\mu\text{L}$ ...*

# Measurement principles

scienion

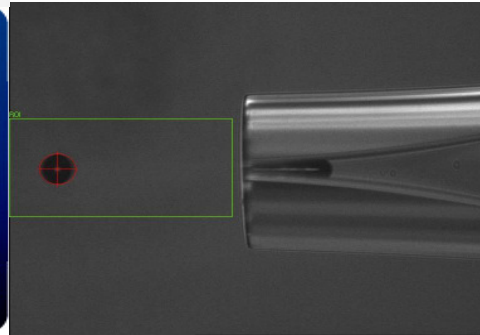
*Gravimetry*



*Fluorescence emission  
(cuvettes)*



*Fluorescence emission  
(slides)*



*Video imaging*



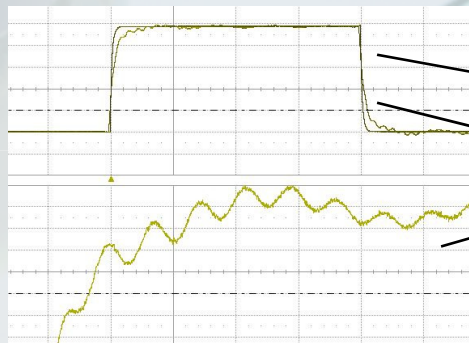
# Bubble sensor detects dispensing failures easily **scienion**

## **Pulse and reflection**

**Figure 1:**

**Reflection is not disturbed**

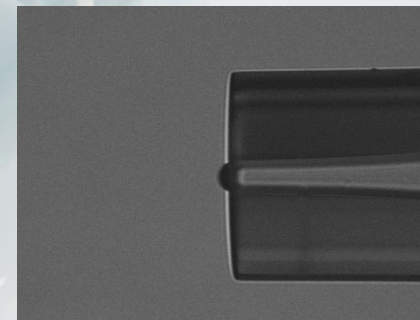
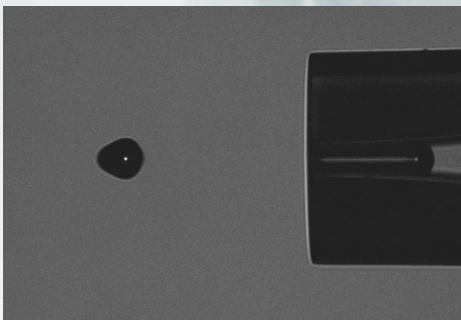
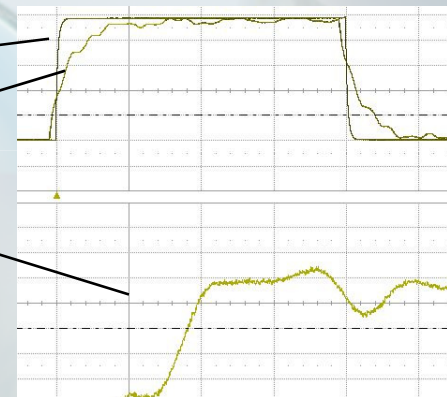
**Resulting in a proper dispensing**



**Figure 2:**

**Reflection is distorted due to an air bubble in the tip**

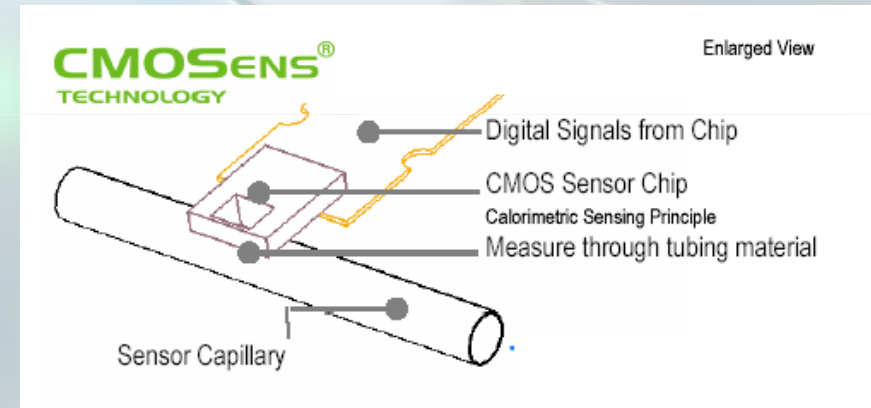
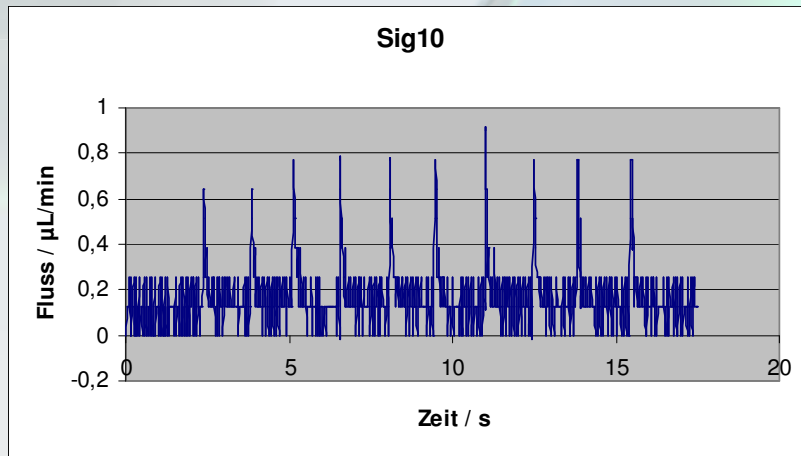
**No drop dispensing**



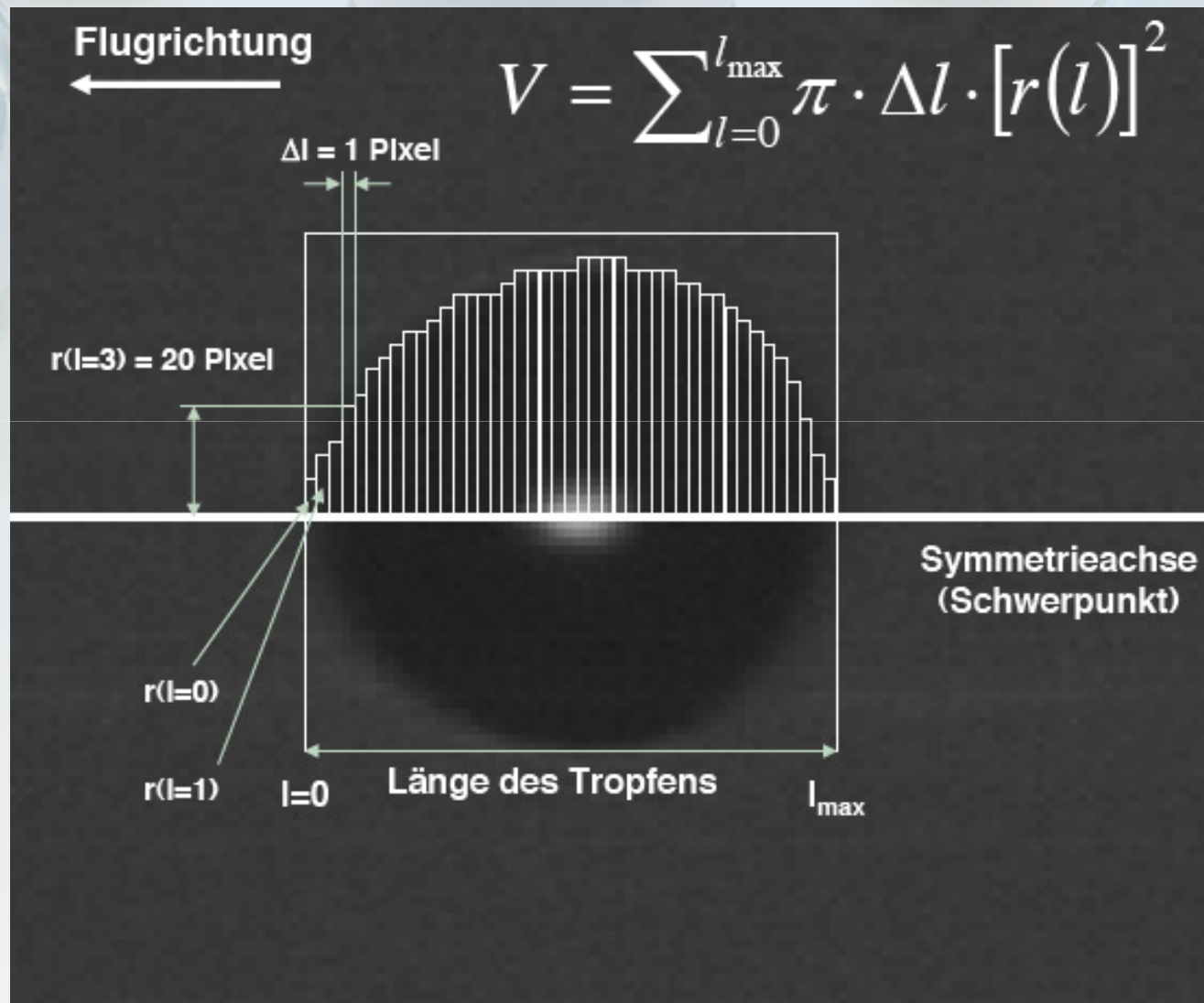
# Tropfenbestimmung mittels Flowsensor **scienion**

Düse 342  
1.Mode  
85 V, 12  $\mu$ s  
Volumen ca 100pl  
Frequenz 500 Hz  
Tropfenanzahl 10

*Sensirion SLG 1430 - 420*



# Online drop volume analysis allows for accurate results scienion

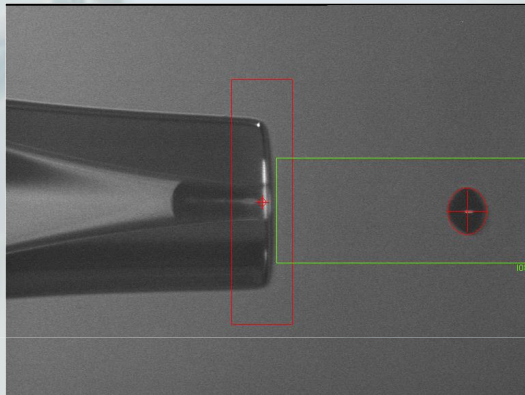




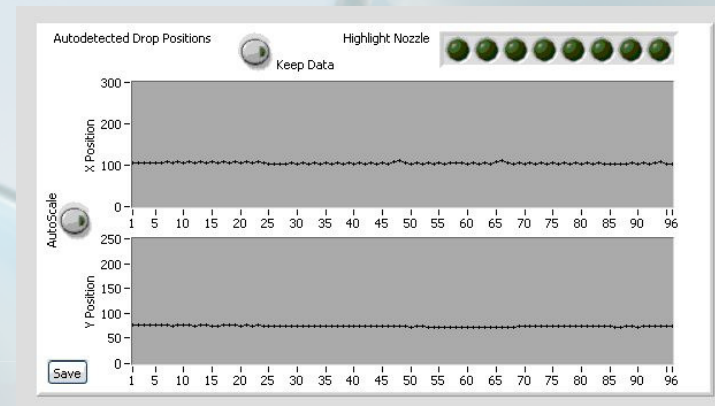
# AutoDrop Control

scienion

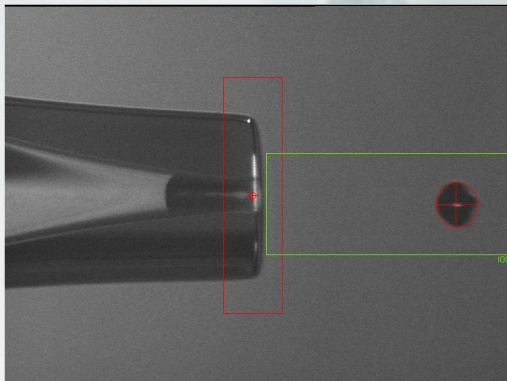
Prespot



Dropgraph



Postspot

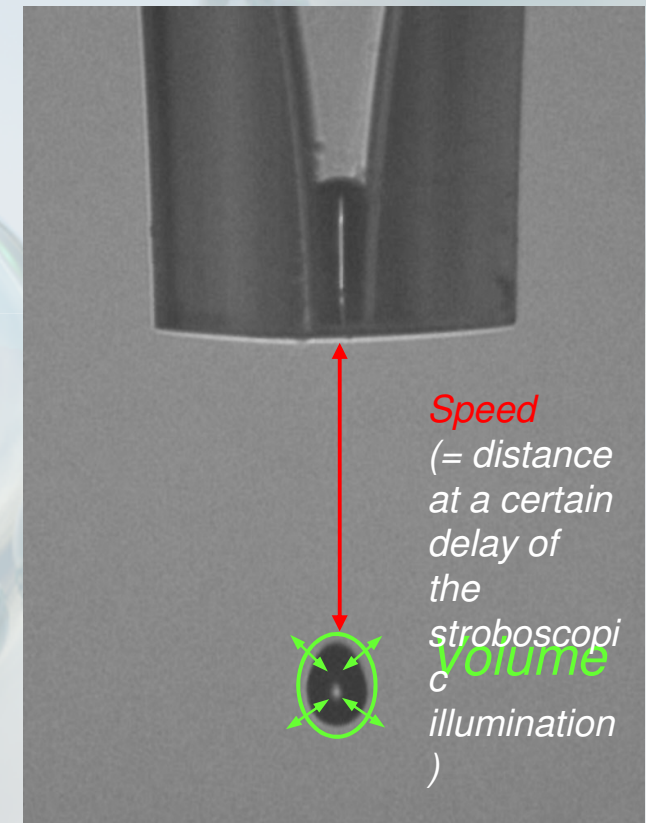
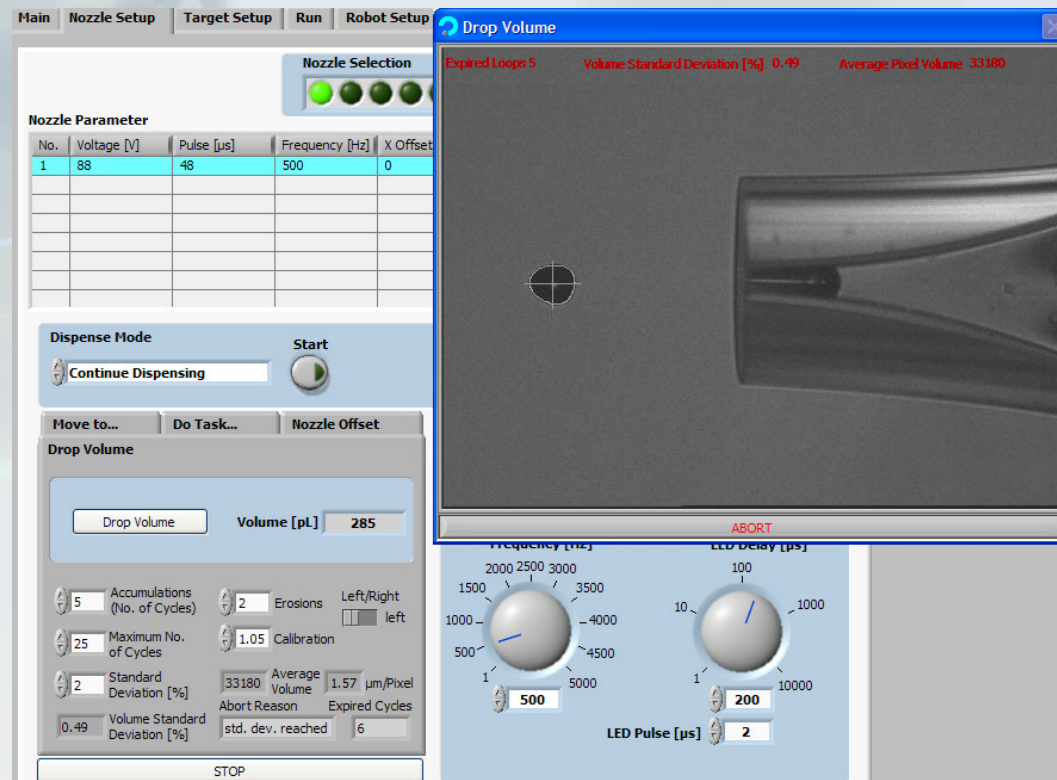


## ***Stability of spot formation can be tracked***

- *Software detects drop (red spot)*
- *x- and y-coordinates are logged*
- *each sample (with image) is logged*
- *enables quick spotting development and in-process QC*

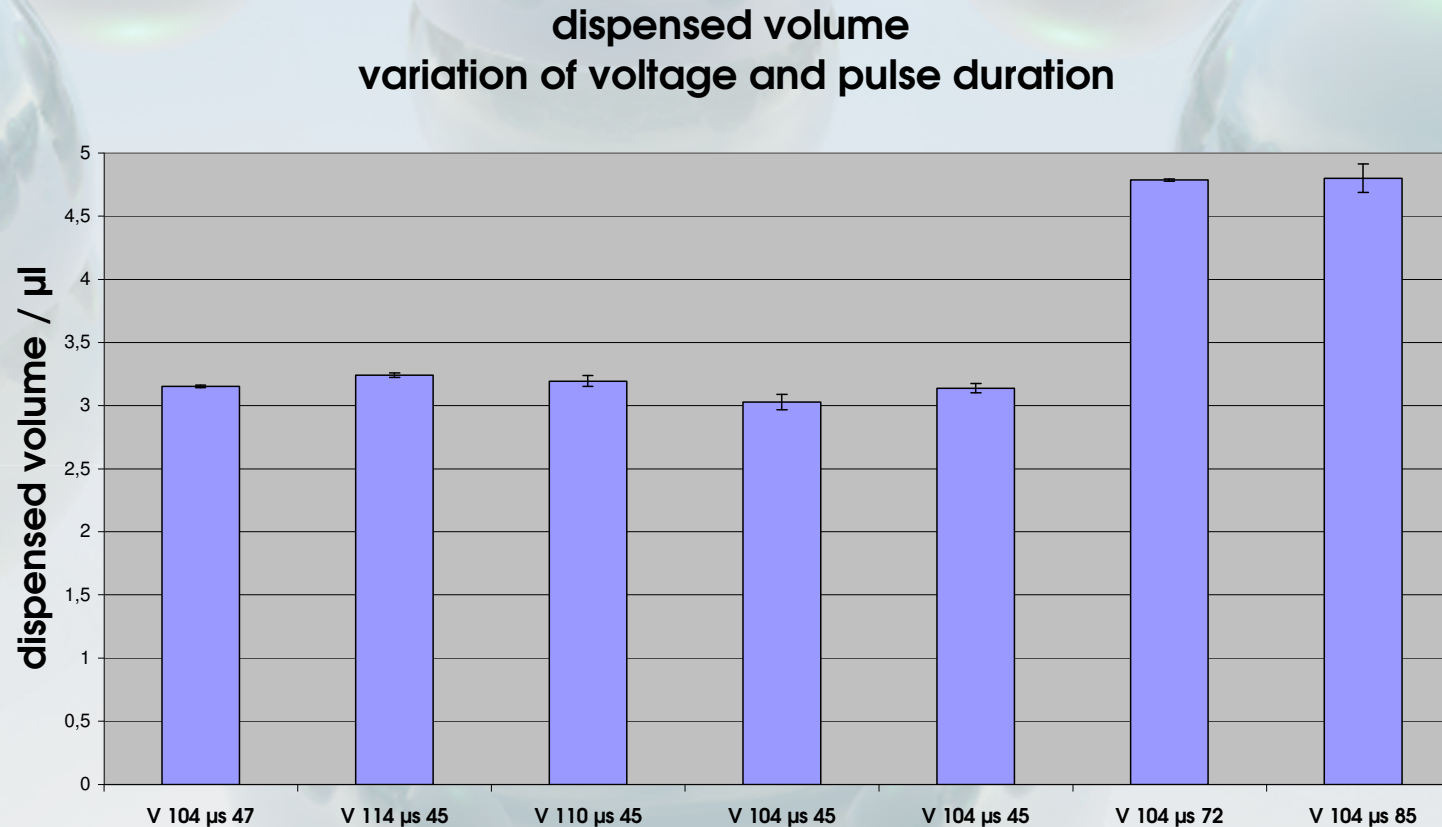
# Software features sciDROPVOLUME and sciAUTOTUNE

scienion



CONFIDENTIAL

# Outstanding accuracy of dispensing volume **scienion**



## **Measurement: Gravimetrically**

*calculations: mean value*

*error bars: standard deviation*

*repetitions: n=10*

## **Conditions:**

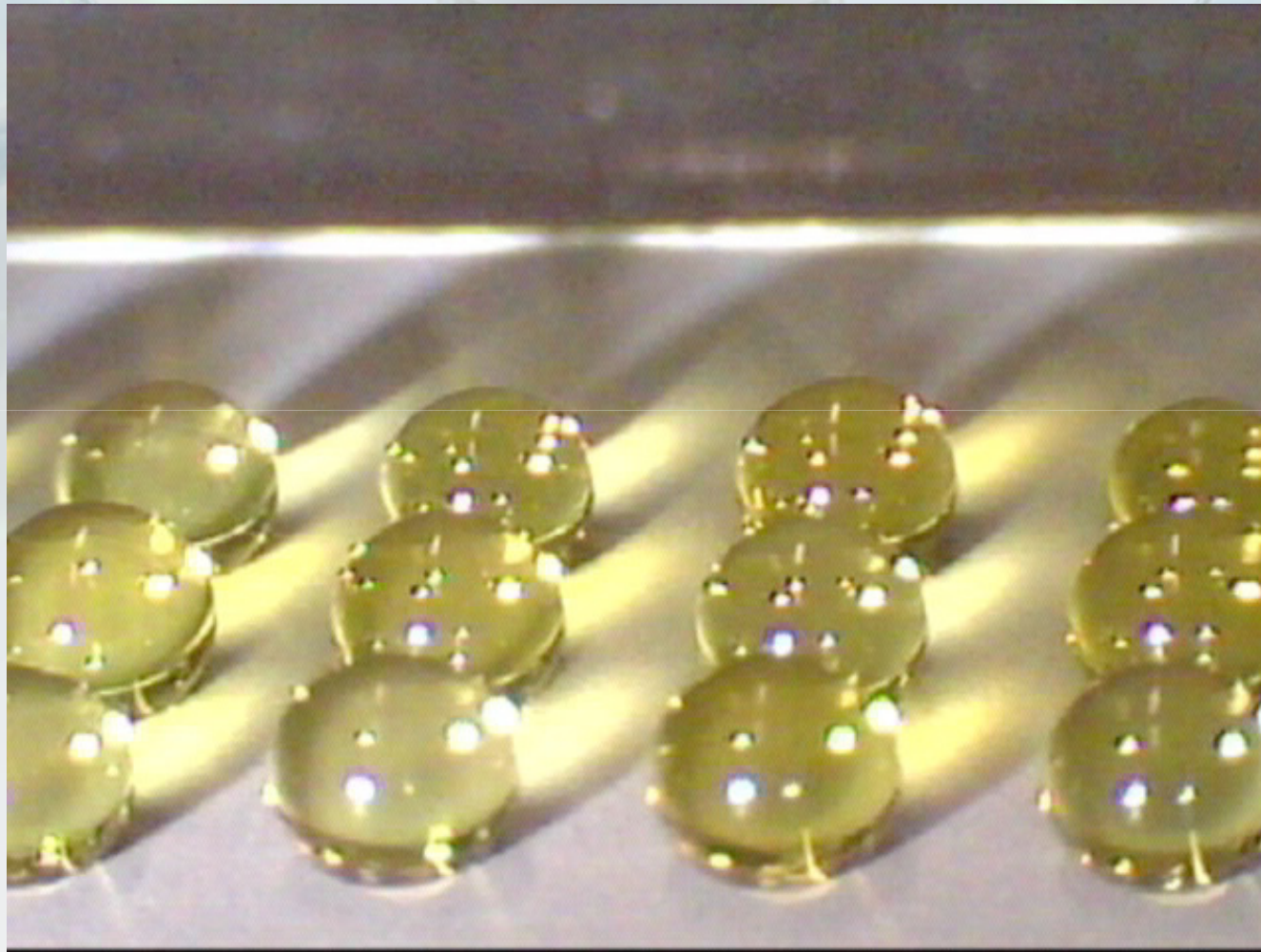
*dispensed liquid: water*

*mode: spotting 10,000 drops @ 500 Hz*

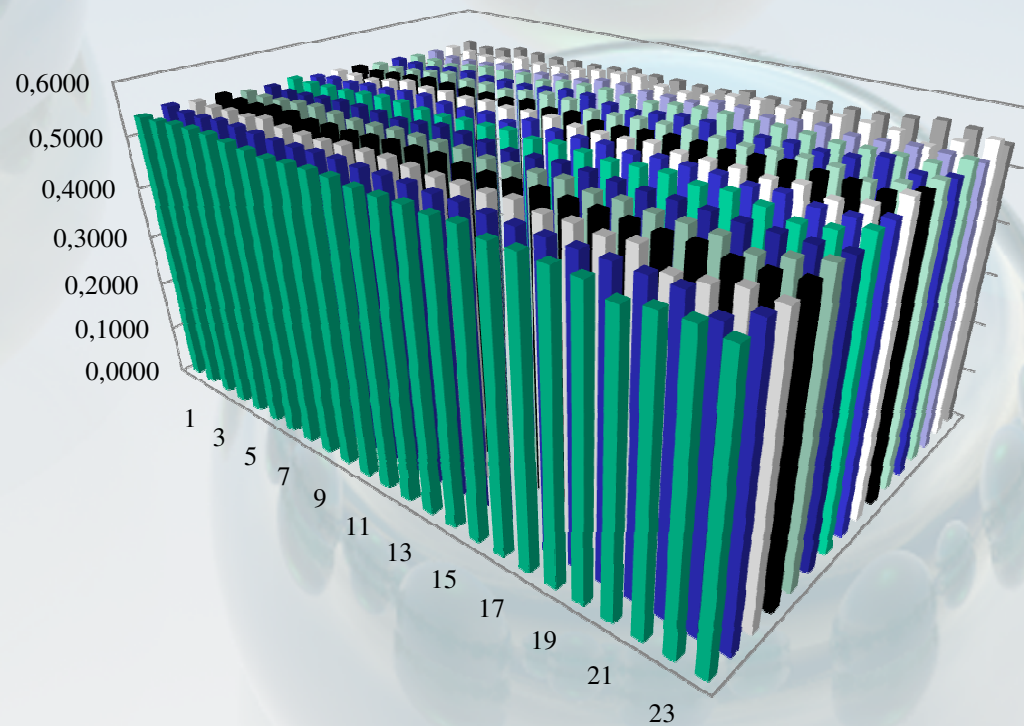


# *Drop Dispensing on the fly*

scienion



# sciSWIFTfordispensingassays in 384 MTPs



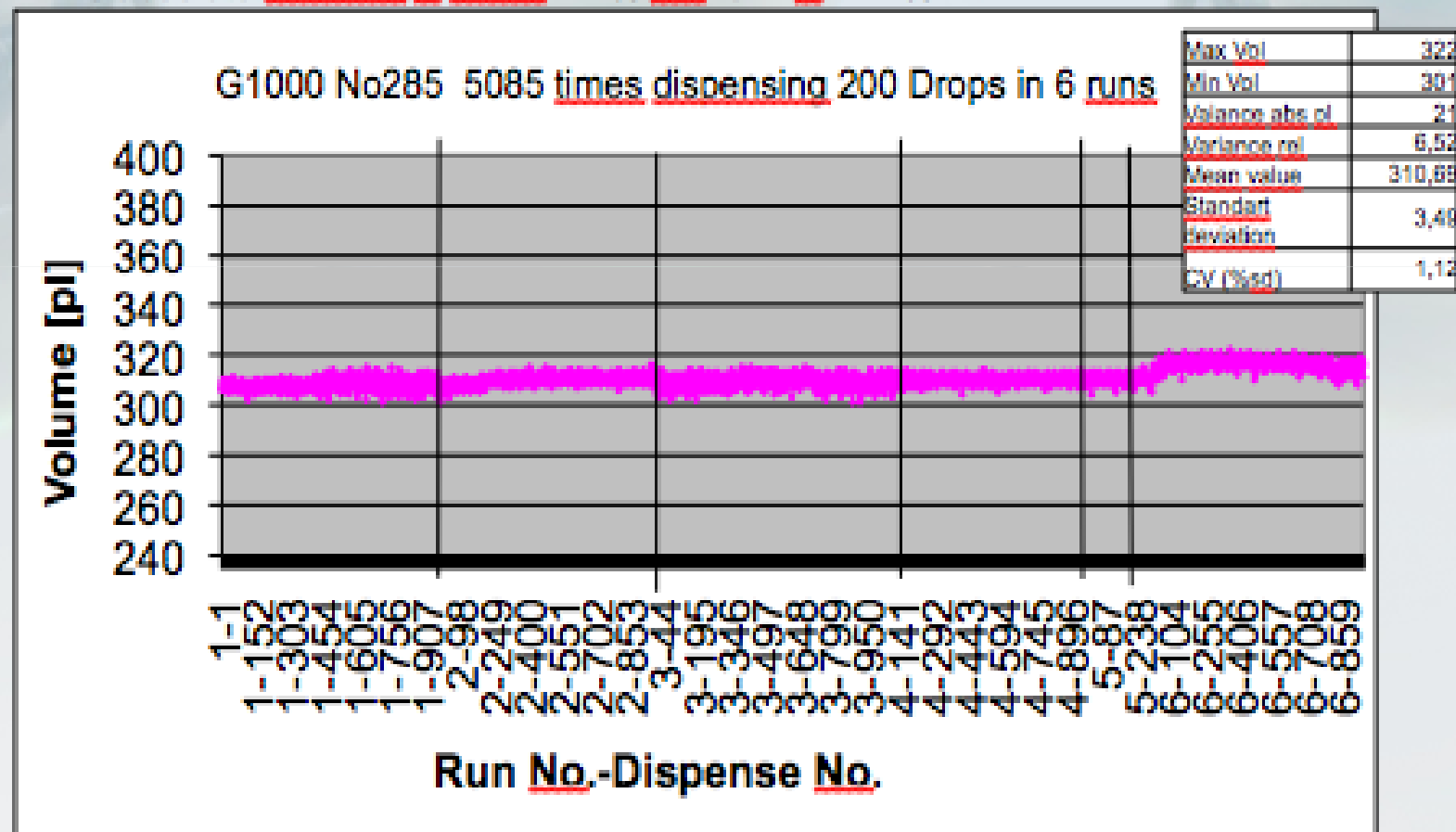
*Filling one plate with  
520 nL*

*CV < 1,5%*

# SWIFTER: Drop volume accuracy and repeatability

Six runs, filling 960 wells of each 1536 well plate, 62 nL per well, online drop control

The absolute variance is below  $\pm 4\%$  the CV is 1.12%

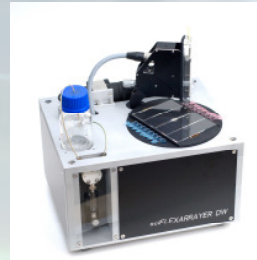




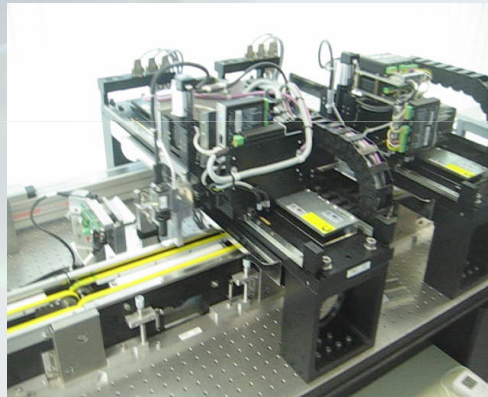
# Scienion : One technology from R&D to Production

scienion

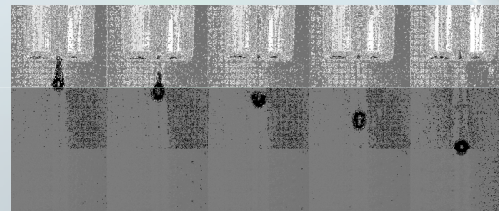
*sciFLEXARRAYER DW*



*sciFLEXARRAYER S3*



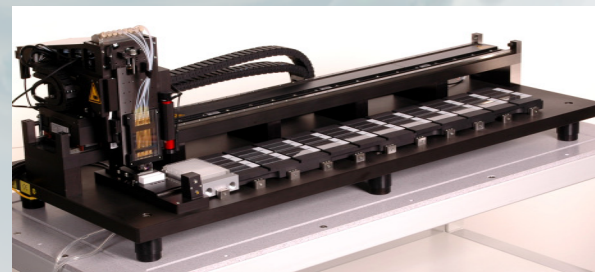
*sciFLEXARRAYER S100*



sciDROP & sciSWIFT Technology



*sciFLEXARRAYER S5*



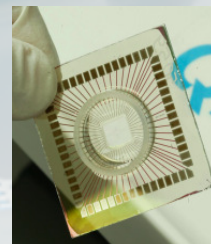
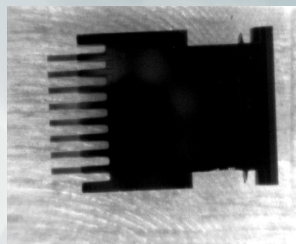
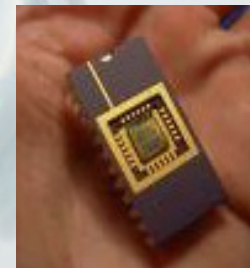
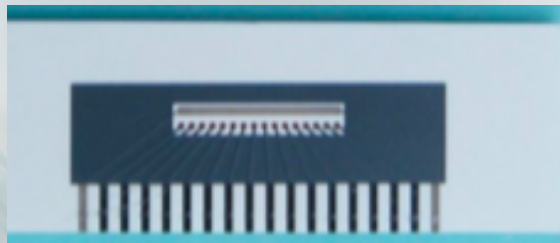
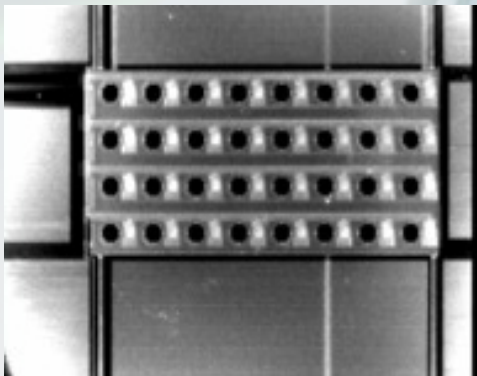
*sciFLEXARRAYER S11*

# Scienion is a specialist in Biosensor production

scienion

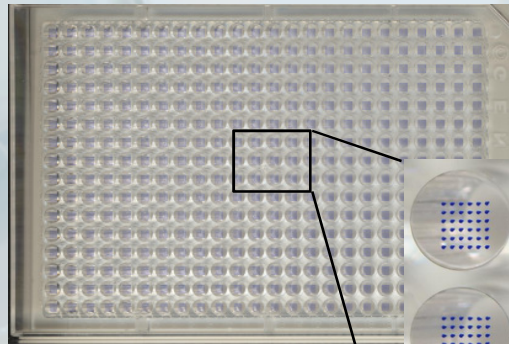
*A Biosensor is a sensor device for detecting and measuring very small quantities or changes in a biochemical or chemical substance, in which a microelectronic component registers reactions related to the substance and translates them into data.*

*Scienion has established multiple Biosensor/Biochip production sites*

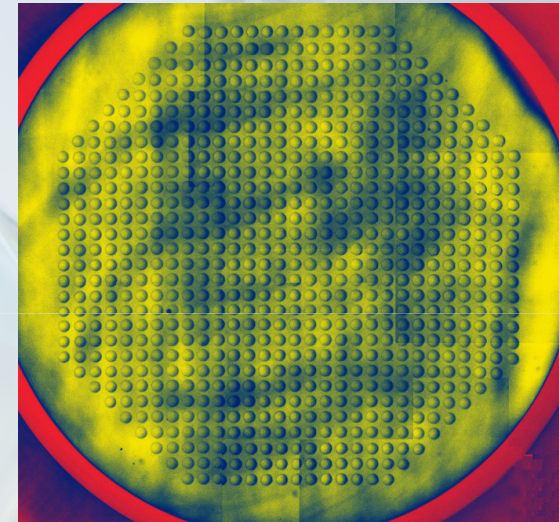
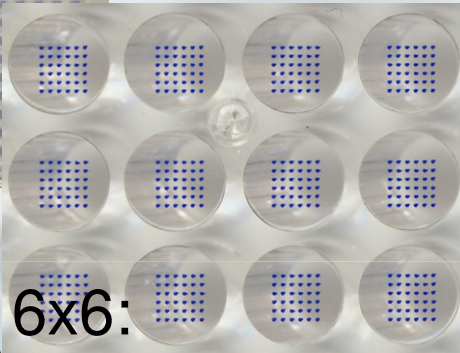


# Arrays in Microplates

scienion



Well pattern 6x6:



756 Spots



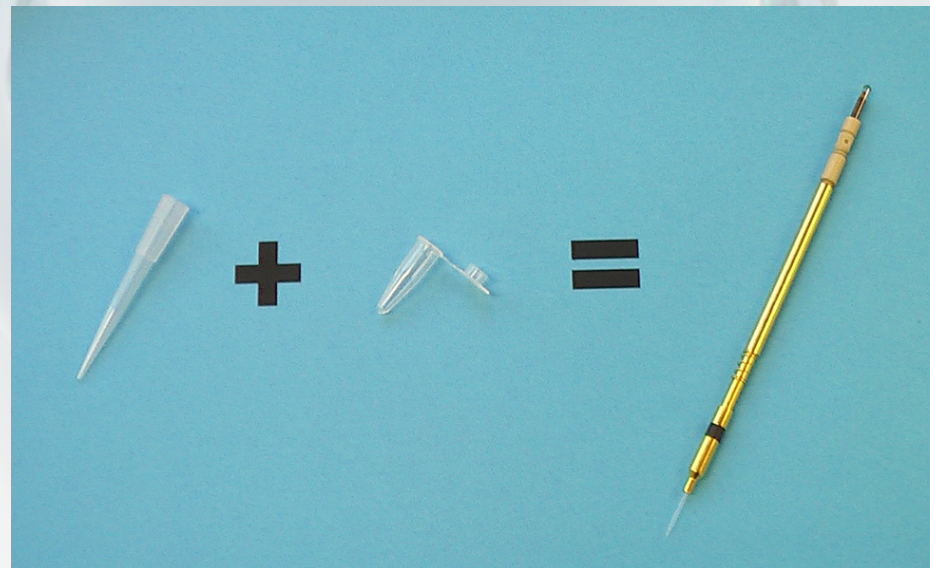
# sciSWIFT Dispensing Pens

scienion

## sciSWIFT

(Scienion Washfree Identifiable Fluid Technology)

sciSWIFT Dispensing Pens are  
integrated **storage AND dispensing** devices  
for  
ultra-low volume liquid handling



# Multiple challenges of today's systems scienion

| <i>Challenge</i>                                                                                                                                            | <i>Implications</i>                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Water condensation</i></li><li>• <i>Precipitation</i></li><li>• <i>Washing and aspiration required</i></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Wrong concentrations</i></li><li>• <i>Difficult to handle</i></li><li>• <i>Dilution &amp; cross-contamination</i></li><li>• <i>Suboptimal speed</i></li></ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Restricted dispensing volume flexibility</i></li><li>• <i>Tracking of probes</i></li></ul>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Complicated liquid handling systems</i></li><li>• <i>Too much valuable reagent might be used</i></li><li>• <i>Loss or mixing up of probes</i></li></ul>       |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Retesting, new assay testing</i></li></ul>                                                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Reagents must be recreated or at least filled into the system again</i></li></ul>                                                                             |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>mixing small volumes</i></li></ul>                                                                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>key to miniaturization</i></li></ul>                                                                                                                          |

# sciSWIFT – Core Characteristics and Benefits scienion



- Valve
- RFID tag
- Liquid storage
- Piezo pump
- Sealing

- Simplified workflow through elimination of process steps
- Full traceability and high process reliability through RFID tag
- Sealed and sterile long-term sample storage
- Reduced loss of substance through washfree setup and high-precision dispensing
- No water condensation and less precipitation
- Sonicator included
- Elimination of contamination
- Convenient exchange between operational sites



**Significant cost savings possible through combination of efficient substance use and reduced operational risk (lower process variability, six sigma)**



# Advantages of the sciSWIFT

scienion

## sciSWIFT g1000



- *Aliquot preparation*
- *Precision in dose response tests*
- *Dilution series*
- *Cross contamination*
- *Ultra low quantities*
- *Handling errors*
- *Labels on vials*
- *Array generation / throughput*
- *etc...*
- *Ready to use*
- **Disposable** product – no contamination
- *Picoliters to Microliters @ highest accuracy*
- *No Handling errors*
- *RFID label (others possible)*
- *Highthroughput / Speed*
- *Sterile filling*
- *Flexible storage volumes*
- *etc...*

# P30 drops from 200 pL to 1.8 nL

scienion

The screenshot displays the Scienion AG software interface, which is used for controlling a liquid handling robot. The main window is titled "Scienion AG" and includes a menu bar (File, Target, Field, Task List, Help) and a toolbar (Main, Nozzle Setup, Target Setup, Run, Robot Setup). The date and time "15:07 - 20.08.2008" are shown in the top right corner.

**Nozzle Selection**

**Nozzle Parameter**

| No. | Voltage [V] | Pulse [μs] | Frequency [Hz] | X Offset | Y Offset | Z Offset | Volume [μL] |
|-----|-------------|------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
| 1   | 135         | 56         | 500            | 179      | 47       | 878      | 1199        |
|     |             |            |                |          |          |          |             |
|     |             |            |                |          |          |          |             |
|     |             |            |                |          |          |          |             |
|     |             |            |                |          |          |          |             |
|     |             |            |                |          |          |          |             |
|     |             |            |                |          |          |          |             |
|     |             |            |                |          |          |          |             |
|     |             |            |                |          |          |          |             |
|     |             |            |                |          |          |          |             |

**Dispense Mode**

**Move to...** **Do Task...** **Nozzle Offset**

**Drop Volume** **Auto Tuning**

**Volume [pL]** **1199**

**Accumulations (No. of Cycles)**  **Erosions**  **Left/Right** ☐ **left**

**Maximum No. of Cycles**  **Calibration**

**Standard Deviation [%]**  **Average Volume**  **1,57 μm/Pixel**

**Volume Standard Deviation [%]**  **Abort Reason**  **Expired Cycles**

**Voltage [V]**  **Pulse [μs]**

**Frequency [Hz]**  **LED Dela**

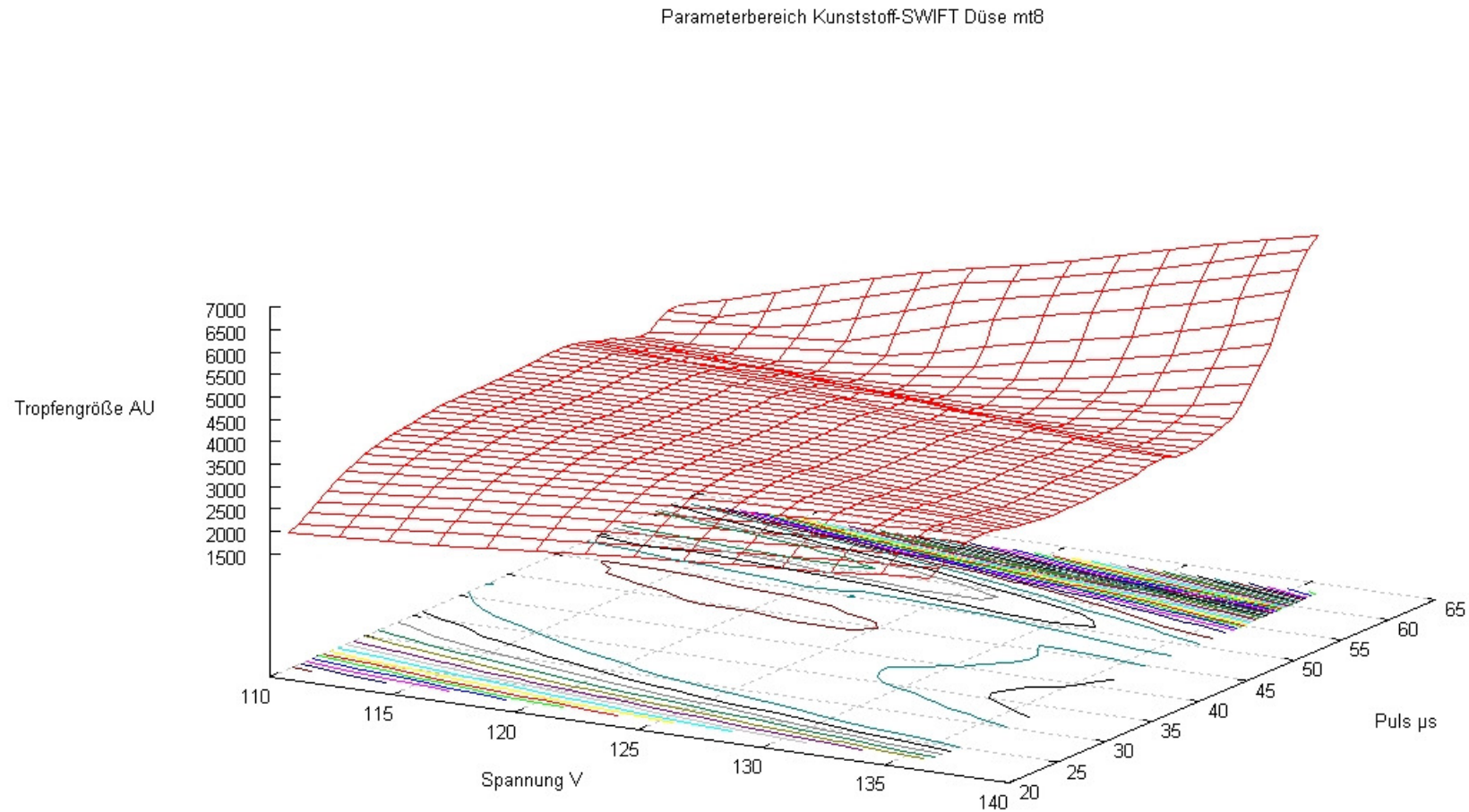
**LED Pulse [μs]**

**Drop Volume** window: **Expired Cycles**  **Volume Standard Deviation [%]**  **Average Pixel Volume**

**Snapshot** window: **Close** **Image** **Save**

# Piezo Dispense Capillaries and sciSWIFTs operate reliably over a wide parameter range

scienion





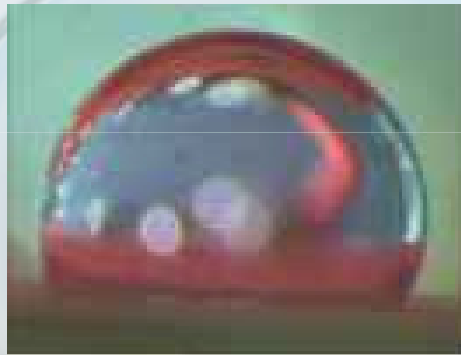
# Nanoliter Cell Based Screening. Workflow scienion



Courtesy of CEA

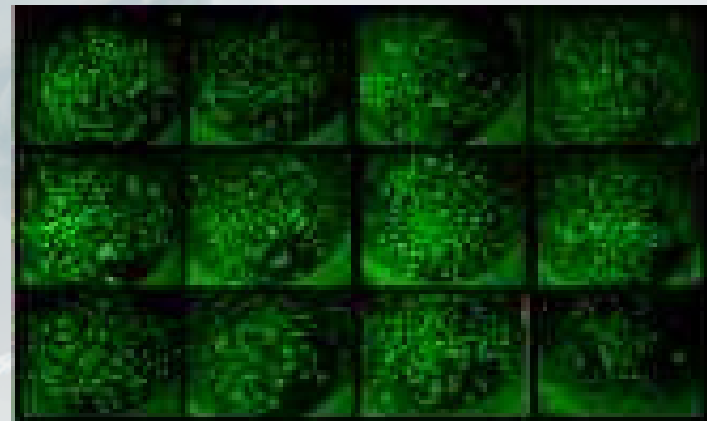
Array Generation with sciFLEXARRAYER

Local Transfection or  
adding chemicals  
on arrays utilising  
sciFLEXARRAYER



Courtesy of CEA

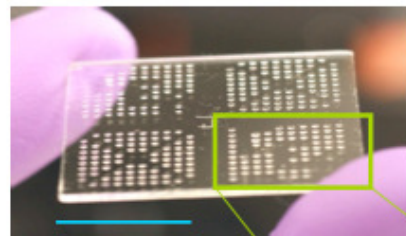
Read Out:  
Any detector



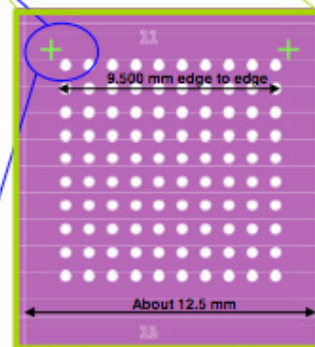
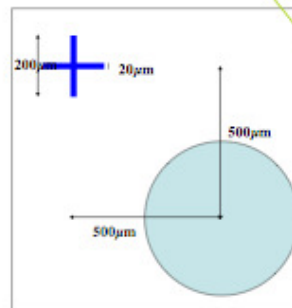
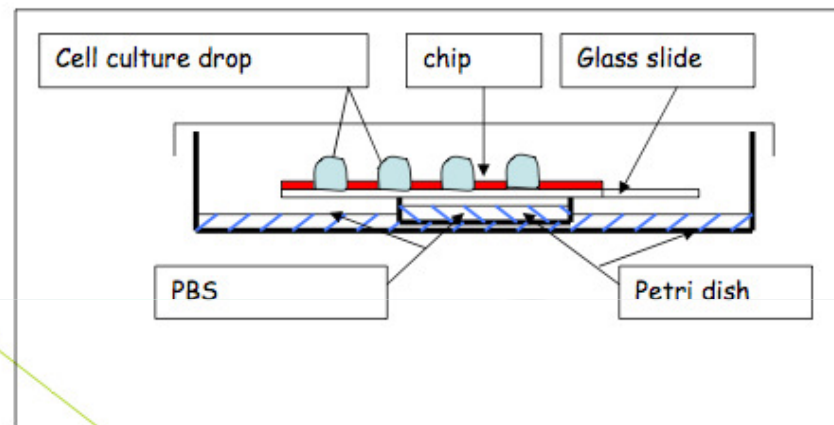
Courtesy of CEA

# Cell based assays: Vessel free reaction set-up

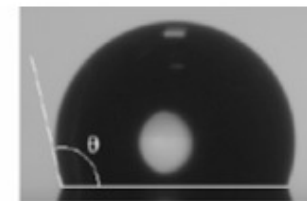
## Cellchip for 400 cell based assays



1 cm

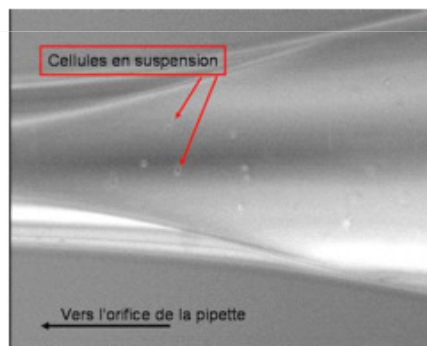


100 hydrophilic spot per cm<sup>2</sup>

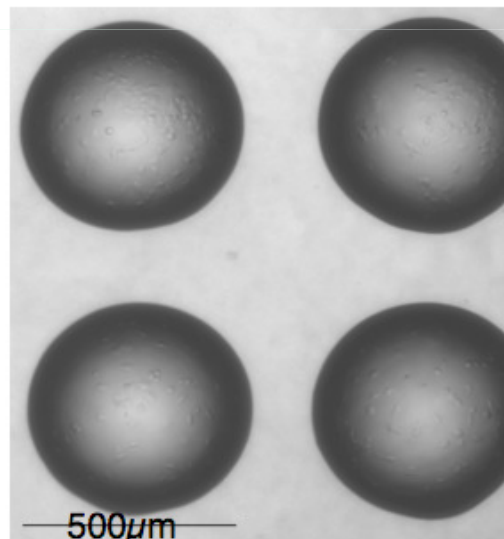


## protocols

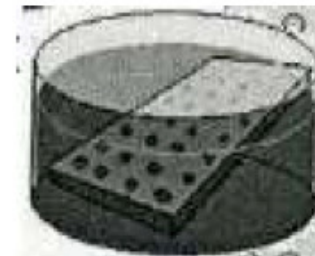
- T0: cell spotting (200 drops)
- T1: drug spotting (20 drops)
- T4 or T5: fixation of the cells, labelling and microscopic observations



*T0 : observation of the nozzle during the cell spotting*



*T1: Microscopic view of the cells in drops*

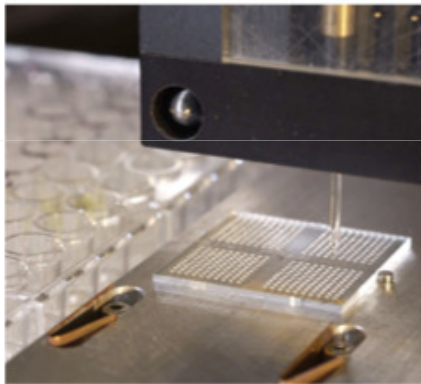


*T4/5: cellchip labelling*

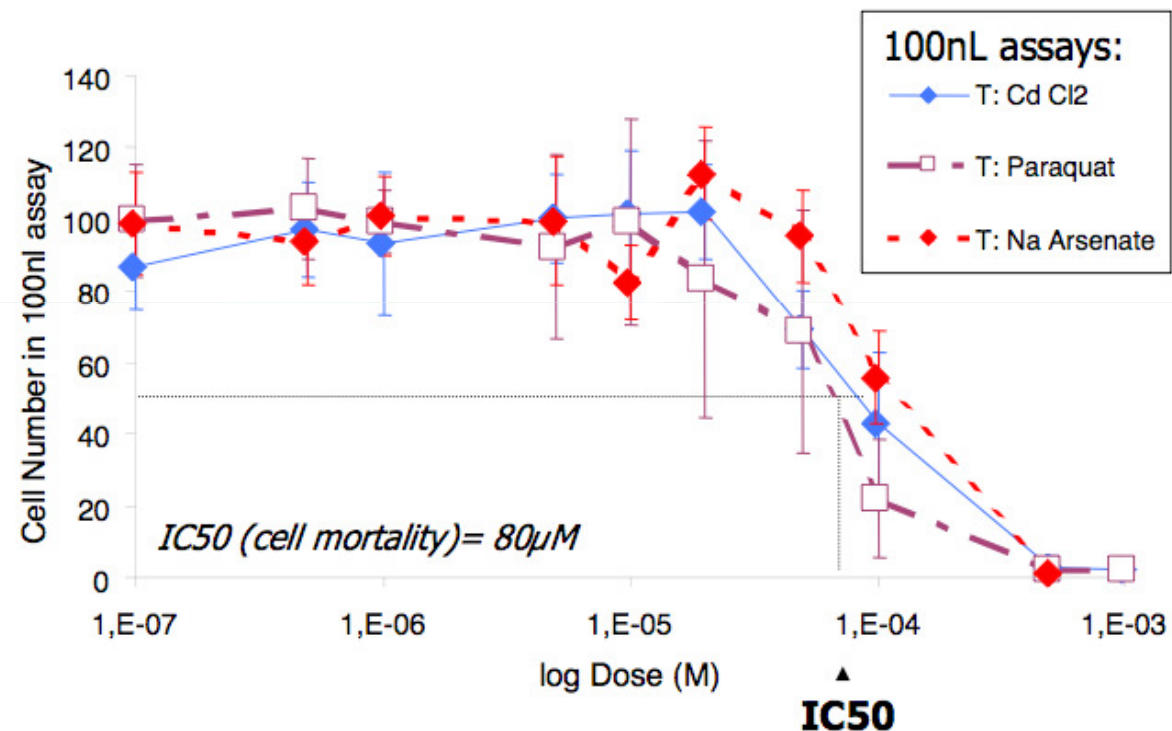


# Cellbased assays: IC 50 set-up

Quintuplicate assays,  
10 toxic doses, 3  
toxics, 2 cell lines, 2  
independent  
experiments

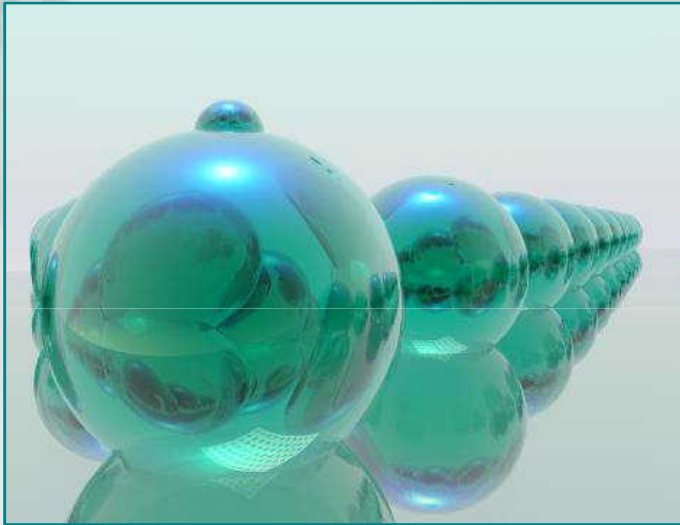


- massively parallel processing
- cyto-Tox activity assays: eg. cell mortality
- strong standard operating protocol (SOP)



# Thank You for Your Interest

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