

Microfluidics

Jens Ducreé

**School of Physical Sciences
Dublin City University
Ireland**

Email: jens.ducree@dcu.ie

Overview

1. Introduction

2. Fluids

1. General Characteristics
2. Dispersions
3. Thermodynamics
4. Transport Phenomena
5. Solutions
6. Surface Tension
7. Electrical Properties
8. Optical Properties
9. Biological Fluids

3. Physics of Microfluidic Systems

1. Navier-Stokes Equation
2. Laminar and Turbulent Flow
3. Fluid Dynamics
4. Fluid Networks
5. Energy Transport
6. Interfacial Surface Tension
7. Electrokinetics

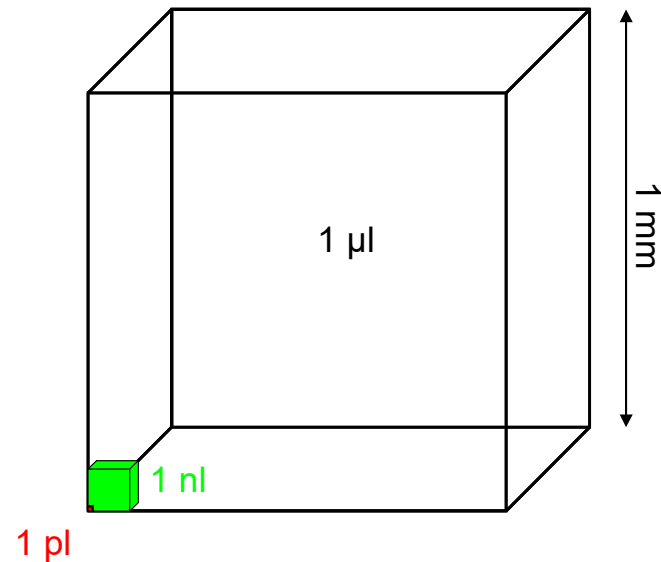
Content

1. Introduction

1. [What is microfluidics?](#)
2. Markets for microfluidic devices

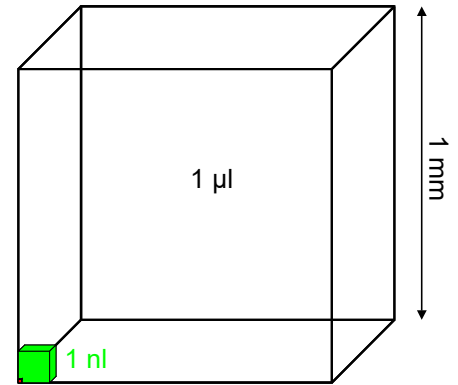
What is microfluidics?

- „Fluidics“ means handling of liquids and / or gases
- „Micro“ means at least one of the following features
 - **small volumes (μl ; nl ; pl)**
 - small size
 - low energy consumption
 - use of special “micro” effects ...



Volumes and Flow Rates

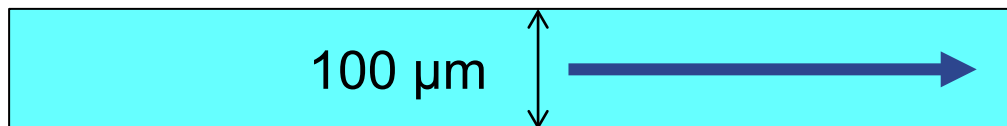
- Typical volumes on μl -scale, i.e., mm^3 , can be stored on common microfluidic chip formats
 - Cube with $100\ \mu\text{m}$ edge length $\rightarrow 1\ \text{nl}$, only!
 - Large volumes by numbering up



1 pl

- Volume flow rates: $\sim\mu\text{l}$ per min

- Cross section: $A = 100\ \mu\text{m} \times 100\ \mu\text{m} = \frac{1}{100}\ \text{mm}^2$
- Flow velocity: $v = 1\ \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{min}} = 10\ \frac{\text{mm}}{\text{min}}$
- Throughput per channel: $Q = A \times v \approx 0.1\ \frac{\mu\text{l}}{\text{min}}$



$$v \approx 1\ \text{cm/min}$$

$$Q = A \times v$$

What is microfluidics?

- „Fluidics“ means handling of liquids and / or gases
- „Micro“ means at least one of following features
 - small volumes (μl ; nl; pl)
 - **small size**
 - low energy consumption
 - use of special effects ...

LAMY



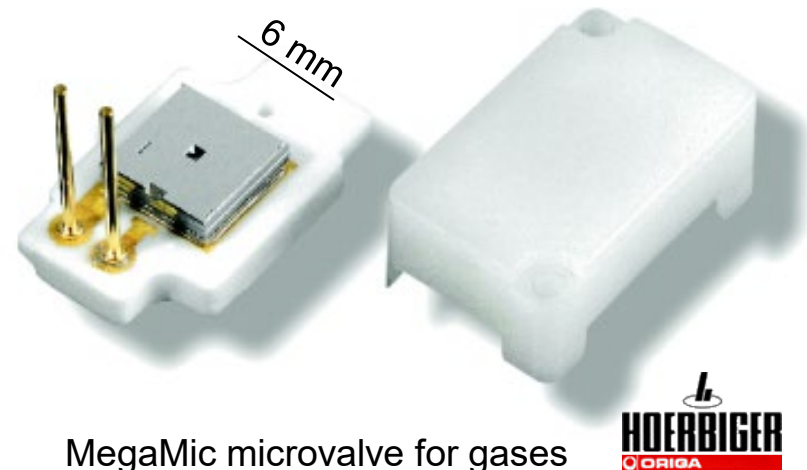
electronic fountain pen

What is microfluidics?

- „Fluidics“ means handling of liquids and / or gases
- „Micro“ means at least one of the following features
 - small volumes (μl ; nl; pl)
 - small size
 - **low energy consumption**
 - use of special effects ...



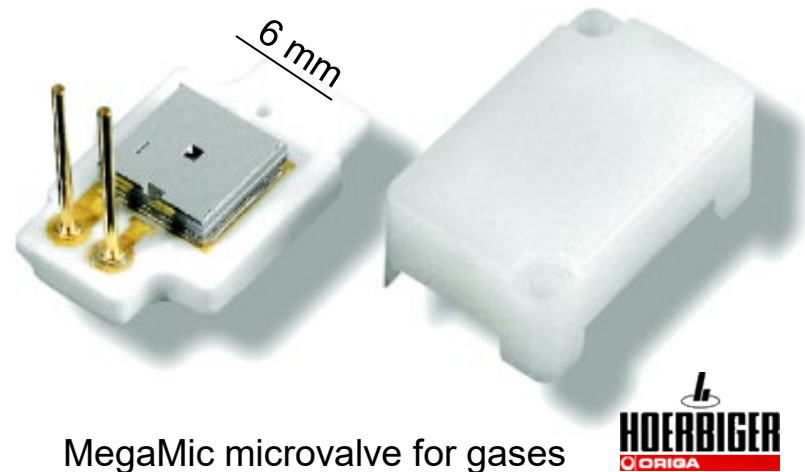
Implantable Drug Delivery System



MegaMic microvalve for gases

What is microfluidics?

- „Fluidics“ means handling of liquids and / or gases
- „Micro“ means at least one of the following features
 - small volumes (μl ; nl; pl)
 - small size
 - **low energy consumption**
 - use of special effects ...



What is microfluidics?

- „Fluidics“ means handling of liquids and / or gases
- „Micro“ means at least one of the following features
 - small volumes (μl ; nl; pl)
 - small size
 - low energy consumption
 - **use of special effects ...**
 - ➔ surface tension



From the movie „ANTZ“ (Universal Pictures)

What is microfluidics?

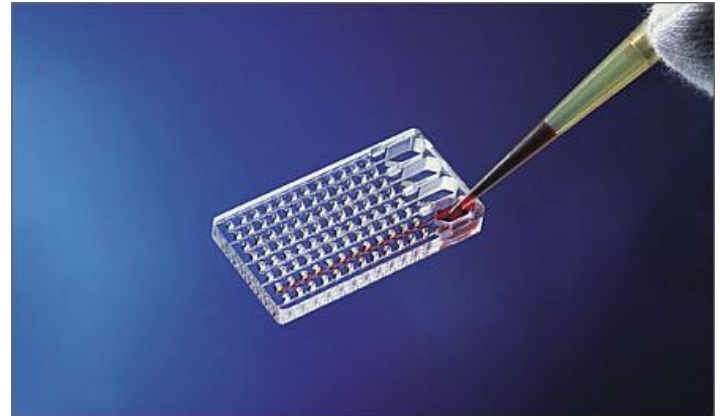
- „Fluidics“ means handling of liquids and / or gases
- „Micro“ means at least one of following features
 - small volumes (μl ; nl; pl)
 - small size
 - low energy consumption
 - **use of special effects ...**
 - surface tension
 - laminar flow



demonstration of laminar flow
(Nanostream; USA)

What is microfluidics?

- „Fluidics“ means handling of liquids and / or gases
- „Micro“ means at least one of the following features
 - small volumes (μl ; nl; pl)
 - small size
 - low energy consumption
 - **use of special effects ...**
 - surface tension
 - laminar flow
 - capillary forces
 - ...



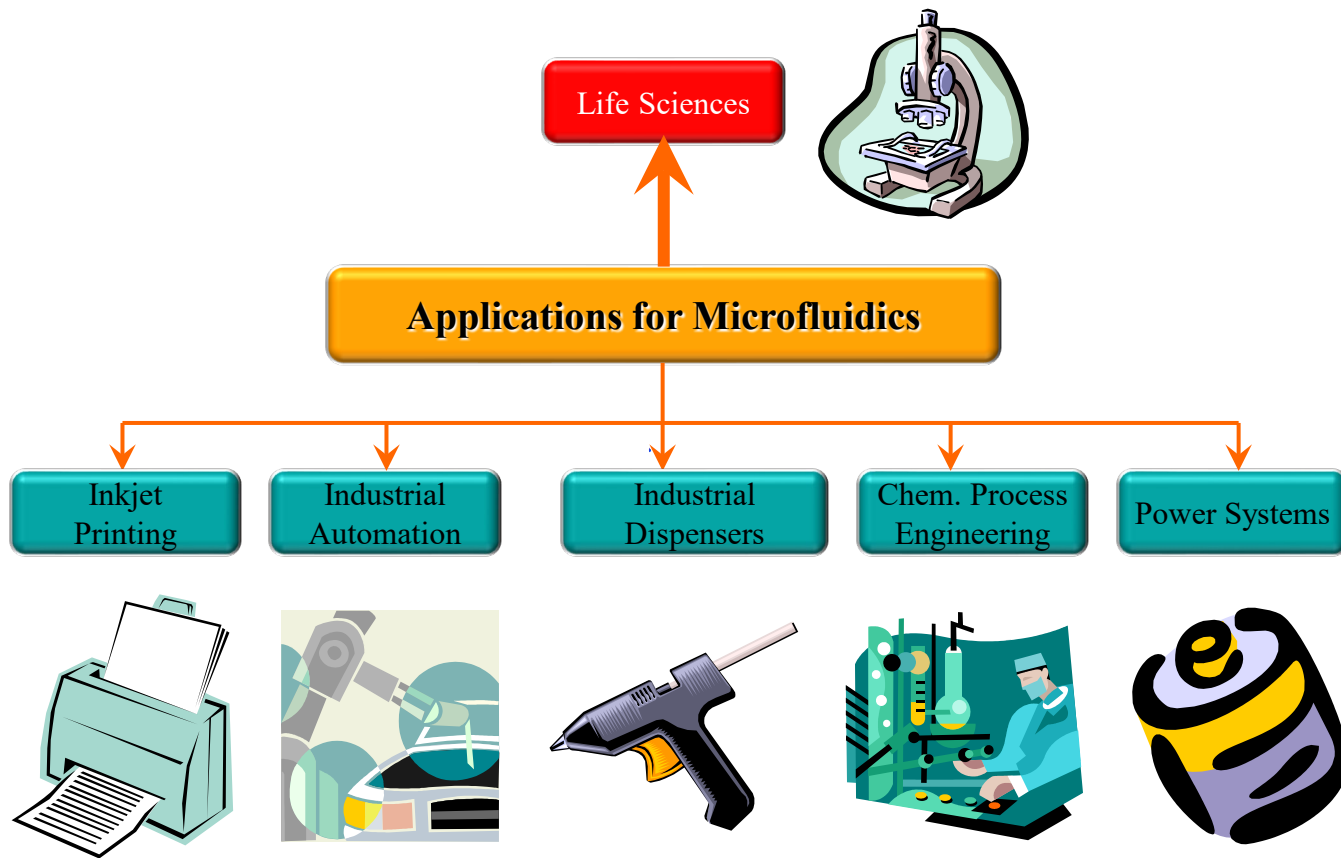
usage of capillar flow
(STEAG Microparts & Merlin; Germany)



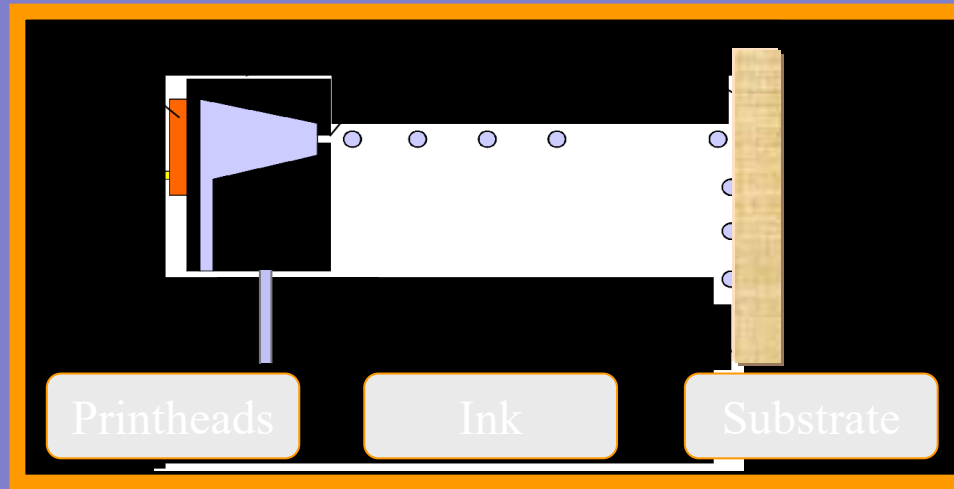
Content

1. Introduction

1. What is microfluidics?
2. [Markets for microfluidic devices](#)



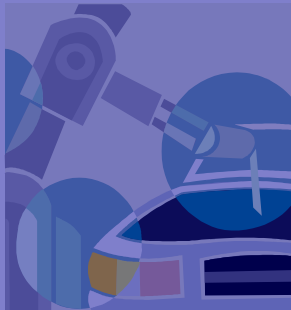
Markets for Microfluidics



Printing



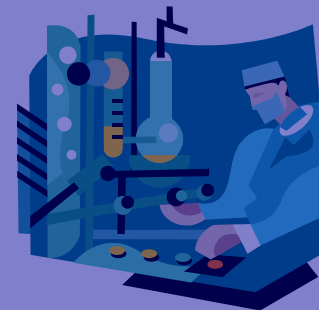
Industrial Automation



Industrial Dispensers



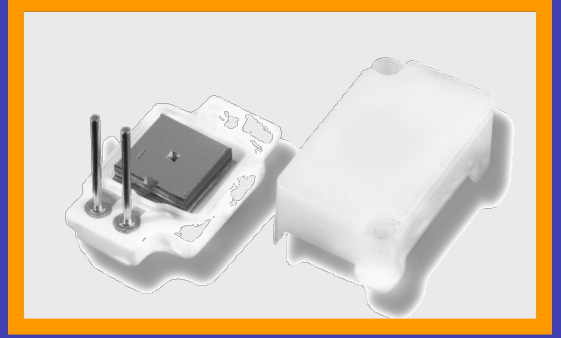
Chem. Process Engineering



Power Systems



Markets for Microfluidics



Pneumatics

Flow Control

Sensors

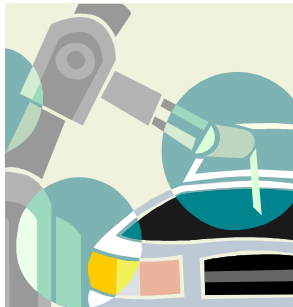
Printing

Industrial Automation

Industrial Dispensers

Chem. Process Engineering

Power Systems



Markets for Microfluidics



Technical

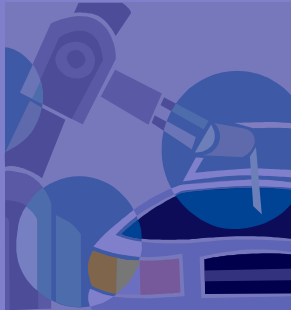


Agro- Food

Printing



Industrial
Automation



Industrial
Dispensers



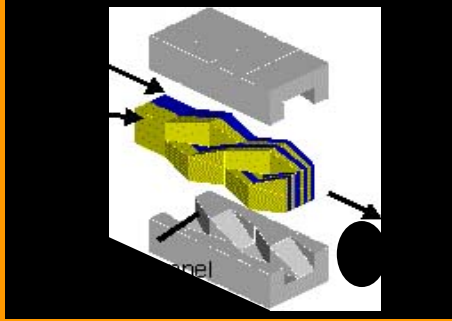
Chem .Process
Engineering



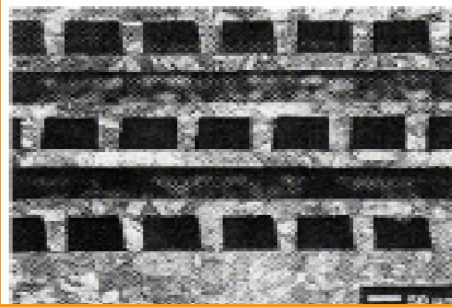
Power Systems



Markets for Microfluidics



Micromixers



Heat Exchangers

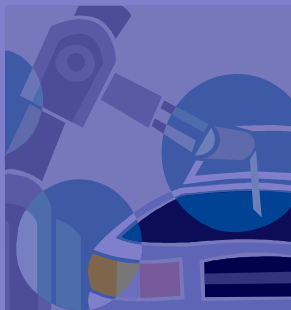


Microreactors

Printing



Industrial Automation



Industrial Dispensers



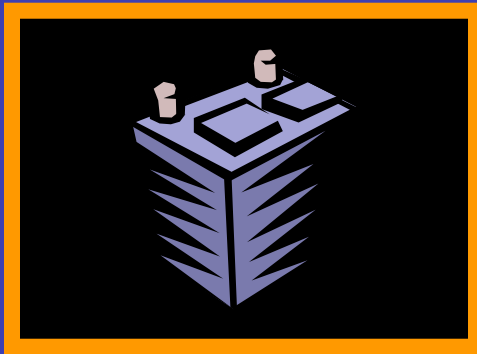
Chem. Process Engineering



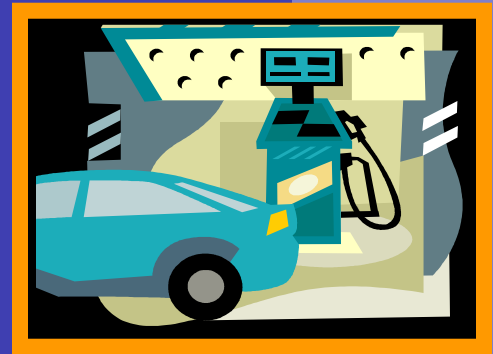
Power Systems



Markets for Microfluidics



Fuel Cells

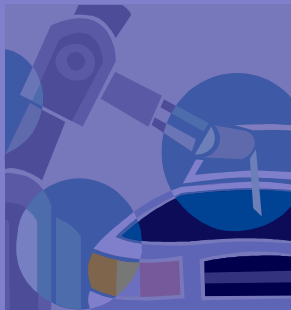


Micro-combustors

Printing



Industrial Automation



Industrial Dispensers



Chem. Process Engineering

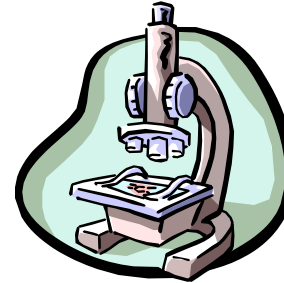


Power Systems



Markets for Microfluidics

Life Sciences



Markets for Microfluidics

Printing



Industrial Automation



Industrial Dispensers

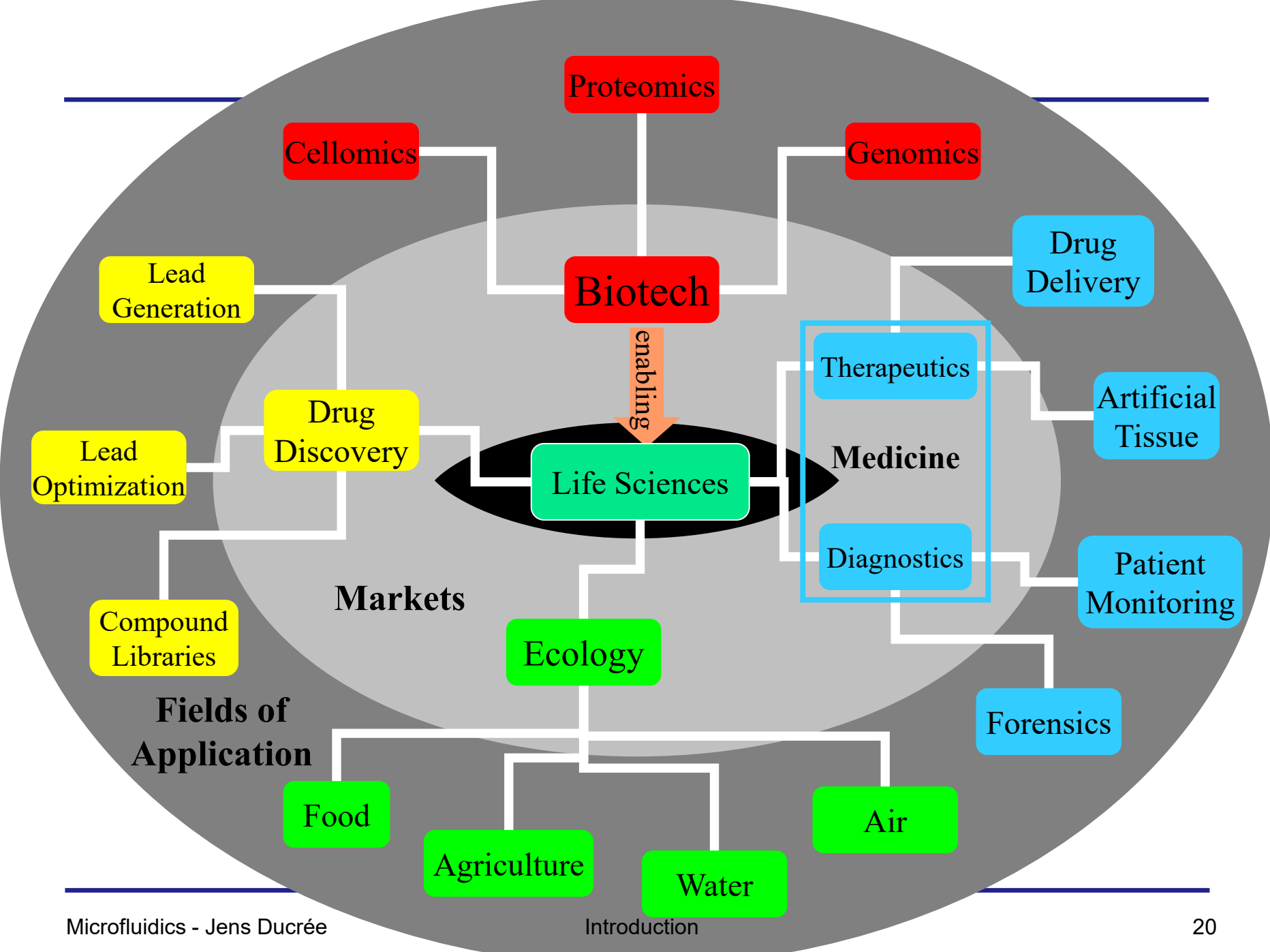


Chem. Process Engineering



Power Systems



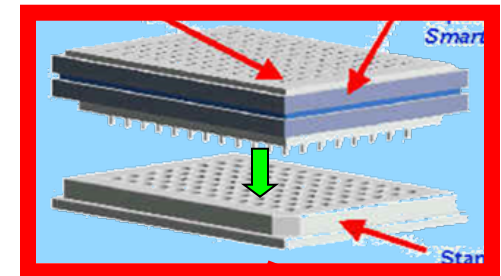
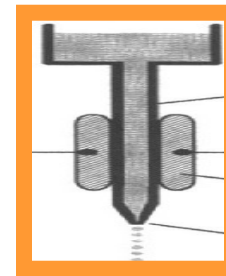
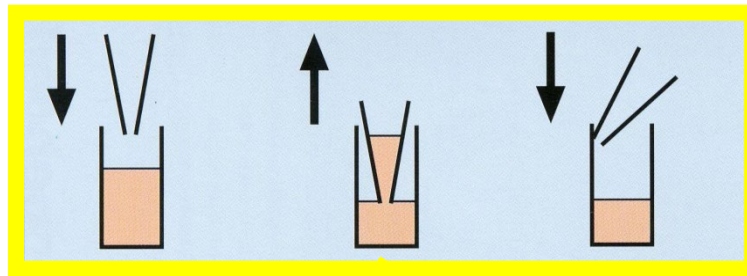


Product Groups and μ Fluidic Technologies



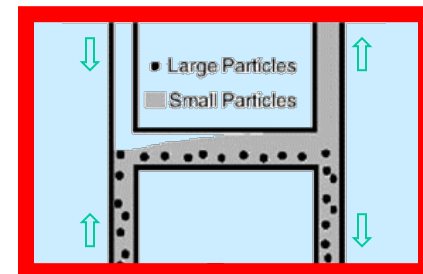
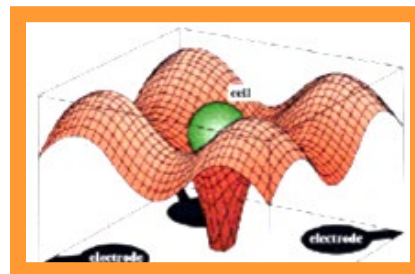
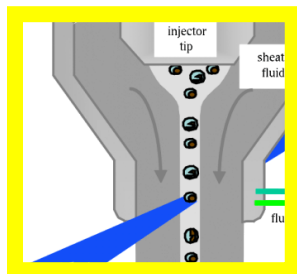
Product Groups	μ Fluidic Technologies		
Liquid Handling	Pipetting	Dispensing	Well Plate Technology
Particle Laden Fluids	Particle Counting	Particle Manipulation	Particle Separation
Flow Control	Valving	Pumping	
Sensing	Flow Sensing	Biosensitive Transduction	On Chip Detecion
Lab on a chip	On Chip Separation	On Chip Mixing	On Chip Reacting
Microarrays	Arraying	Microarray Substrates	

Product Groups and μ Fluidic Technologies



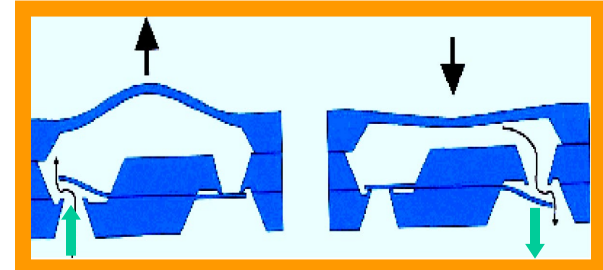
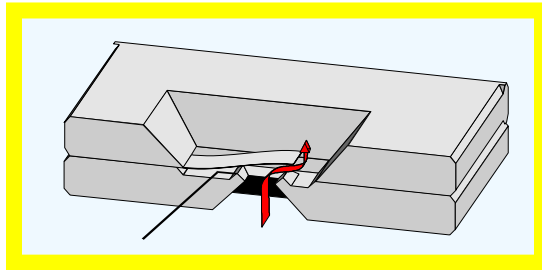
Product Groups	μ Fluidic Technologies		
Liquid Handling	Pipetting	Dispensing	Well Plate Technology
Particle Laden Fluids	Particle Counting	Particle Manipulation	Particle Separation
Flow Control	Valving	Pumping	
Sensing	Flow Sensing	Biosensitive Transduction	On Chip Detecion
Lab on a chip	On Chip Separation	On Chip Mixing	On Chip Reacting
Microarrays	Arraying	Microarray Substrates	

Product Groups and μ Fluidic Technologies



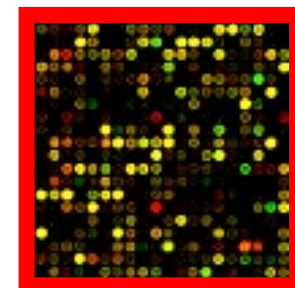
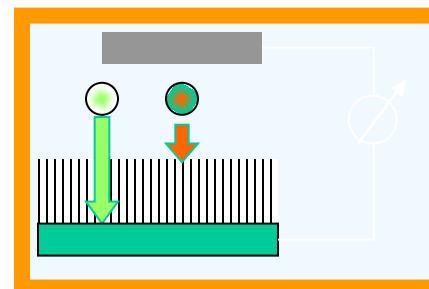
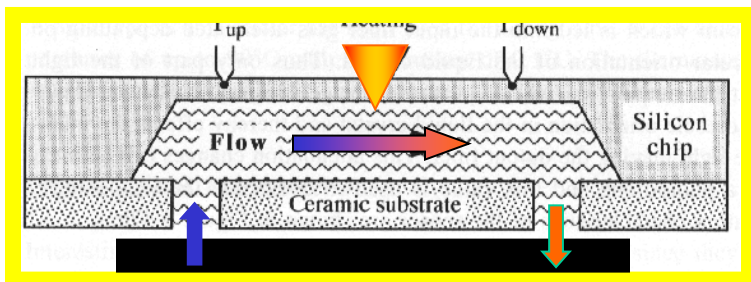
Product Groups	μ Fluidic Technologies		
Liquid Handling	Pipetting	Dispensing	Well Plate Technology
Particle Laden Fluids	Particle Counting	Particle Manipulation	Particle Separation
Flow Control	Valving	Pumping	
Sensing	Flow Sensing	Biosensitive Transduction	On Chip Detection
Lab on a chip	On Chip Separation	On Chip Mixing	On Chip Reacting
Microarrays	Arraying	Microarray Substrates	

Product Groups and μ Fluidic Technologies



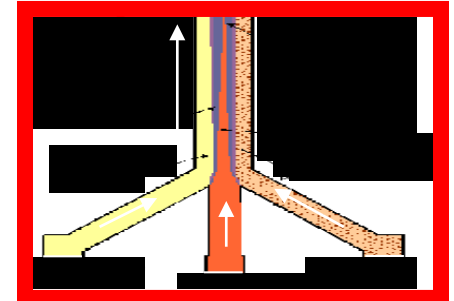
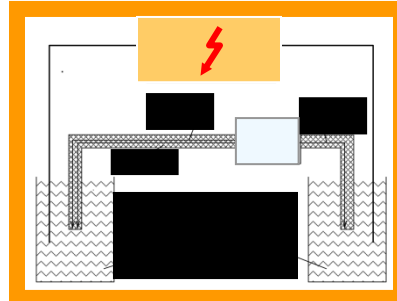
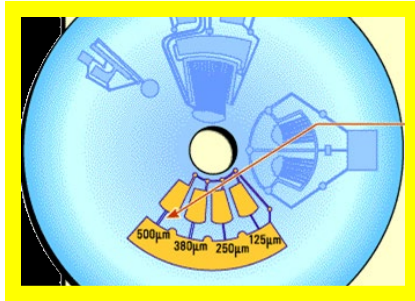
Product Groups	μ Fluidic Technologies		
Liquid Handling	Printing	Dispensing	Well Plate Technology
Particle Laden Fluids	Particle Counting	Particle Manipulation	Particle Separation
Flow Control	Valving	Pumping	
Sensing	Flow Sensing	Biosensitive Transduction	On Chip Detection
Lab on a chip	On Chip Separation	On Chip Mixing	On Chip Reacting
Microarrays	Arraying	Microarray Substrates	

Product Groups and μ Fluidic Technologies



Product Groups	μ Fluidic Technologies		
Liquid Handling	Pipetting	Dispensing	Well Plate Technology
Particle Laden Fluids	Particle Counting	Particle Manipulation	Particle Separation
Flow Control	Valving	Pumping	
Sensing	Flow Sensing	Biosensitive Transduction	On Chip Detection
Lab on a chip	On Chip Separation	On Chip Mixing	On Chip Reacting
Microarrays	Arraying	Microarray Substrates	

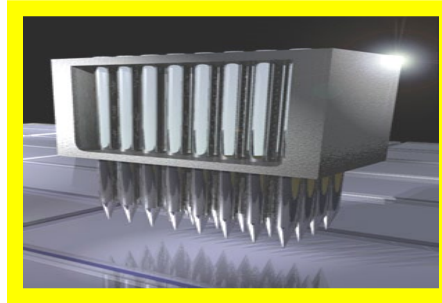
Product Groups and μ Fluidic Technologies



Product Groups	μ Fluidic Technologies		
Liquid Handling	Pipetting	Dispensing	Well Plate Technology
Particle Laden Fluids	Particle Counting	Particle Manipulation	Particle Separation
Flow Control	Valving	Pumping	
Sensing	Flow Sensing	Biosensitive Transduction	On Chip Detection
Lab on a chip	On Chip Mixing	On Chip Separation	On Chip Reacting
Microarrays	Arraying	Microarray Substrates	



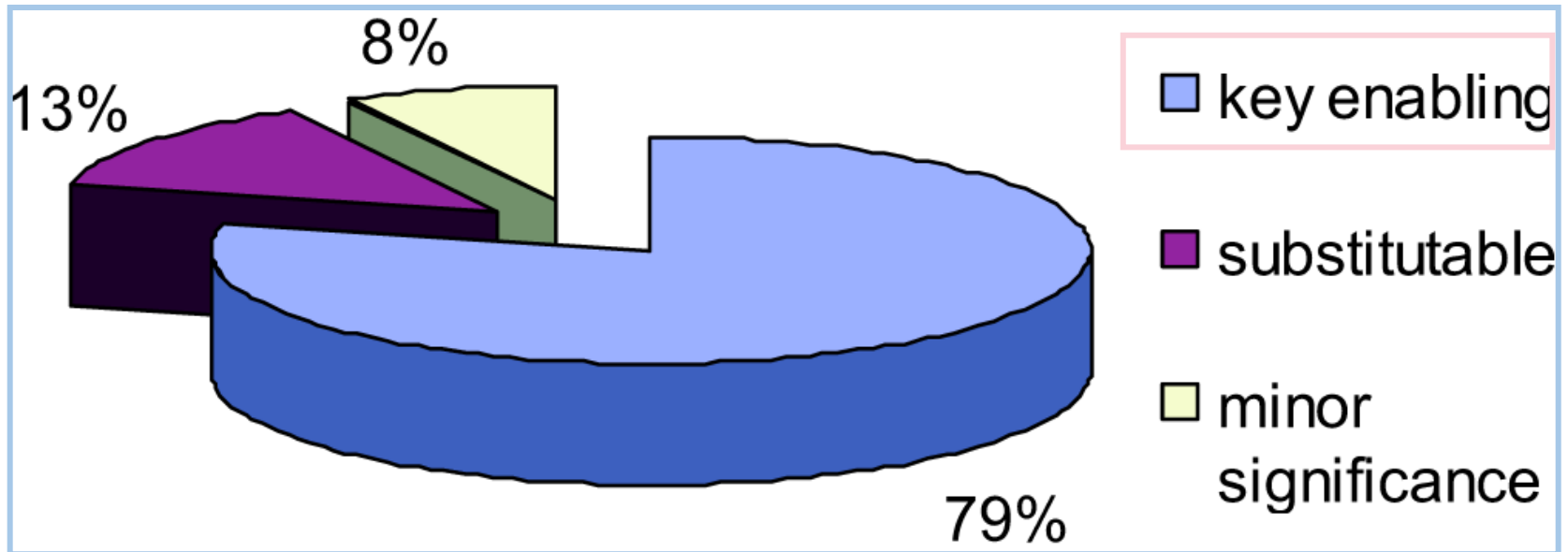
Product Groups and μ Fluidic Technologies



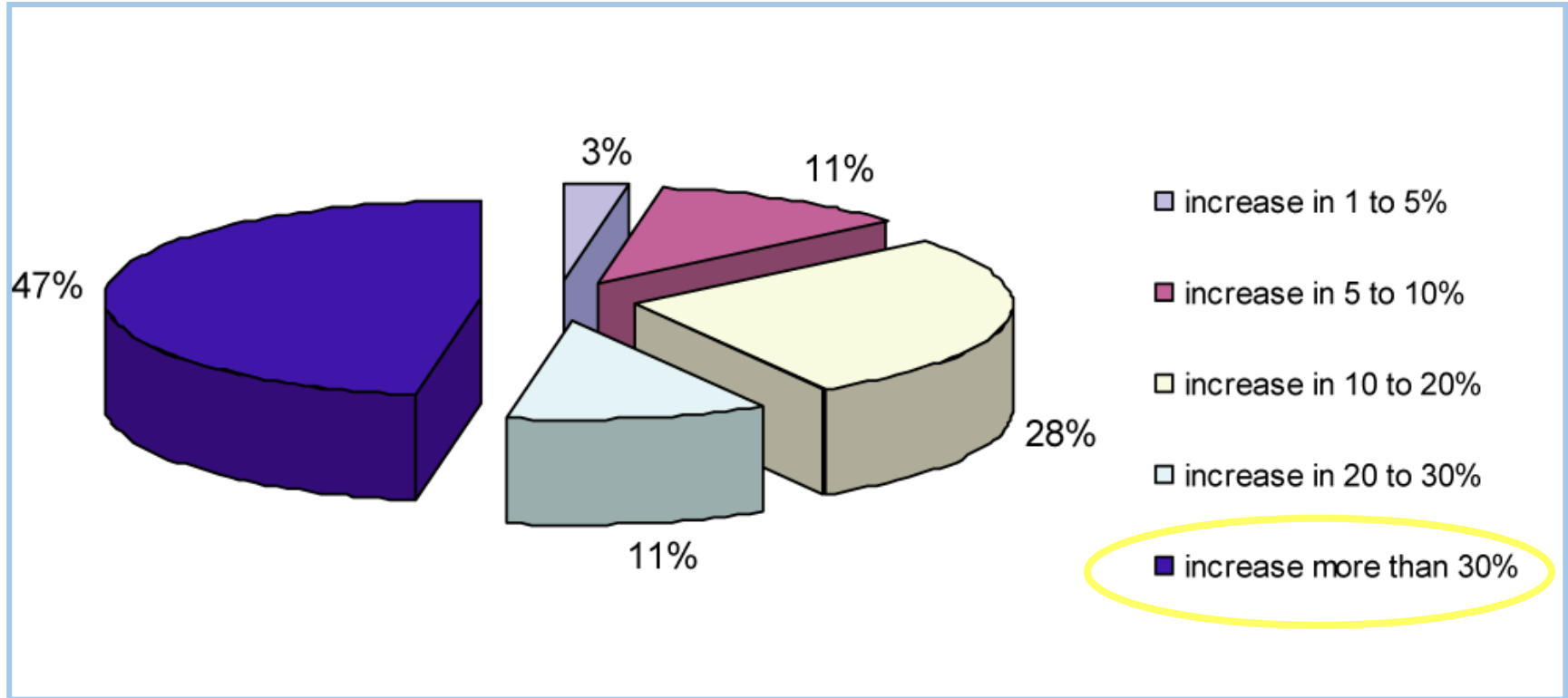
Product Groups	μ Fluidic Technologies		
Liquid Handling	Pipetting	Dispensing	Well Plate Technology
Particle Laden Fluids	Particle Counting	Particle Manipulation	Particle Separation
Flow Control	Valving	Pumping	
Sensing	Flow Sensing	Biosensitive Transduction	On Chip Detection
Lab on a chip	On Chip Mixing	On Chip Separation	On Chip Reacting
Microarrays	Arraying	Microarray Substrates	



Technical Significance of μ Fluidics



Expected Market Growth in 5 Years



Companies in Ireland (Selection) → Jobs

