

---

# ***The Road to a Real-Time In Situ Monitoring System***

**Denise K. MacMillan  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
Environmental Laboratory  
420 S 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Omaha, NE 68102**

**Conference on Accelerating Site Closeout,  
Improving Performance, and Reducing Costs  
Through Optimization**

# ***Long Term Monitoring Focus Area***

---

- **Long Term Monitoring (LTM) of groundwater :**
  - **Required component of closure on many DoD sites undergoing restoration.**
  - **All military services, other Federal agencies (e.g., DOE), states, and responsible parties share similar responsibility.**
  - **Costs associated with sampling and laboratory analysis over 10 years estimated to approach \$500M.**
  - **Sample collection and laboratory analysis**
    - ◆ **70% of the total monitoring cost.**
    - ◆ **50% of the total investigation cost.**

# ***Long Term Monitoring Focus Area***

---

- **Field analytical methods could reduce costs**
  - **Eliminate sample transport**
  - **Replace expensive fixed laboratory analytical costs**
- **Available field analytical methods may not be appropriate**
  - **Screening data produced**
  - **Delicate instrumentation unable to tolerate harsh conditions**
  - **Instrument operation requirements not compatible with field use**
  - **Inadequate for chemicals important to military**



# Focus Area Requirements

---

- **A(1.1.a) EQT Operational Requirements Document (EQT-ORD)**
  - Reduce LTM costs from 25 – 50%
  - Applicable to HMX, 1,3-DNB, NB, 3NT, 4NT,  $\text{ClO}_4^-$ , DU, propellants, pyrotechnics, and degradation products
  - Definitive data
  - 4 hour TAT
  - Portable or *in situ*
  - Easy to operate
  - Capable of remote operation
  - Comparable data to laboratory analysis
  - Meets requirements of & accepted for SW-846

# ***Focus Area Project Delivery Team***

---

- **ERDC - S&T (BA1-BA3)**
  - Dr. M. John Cullinane – Manager for S&T effort.
  - Dr. Denise MacMillan - S&T Focus Area Manager
- **AEC - T&E (BA4-BA6)**
  - Mr. James Daniels - Manager for T&E effort
  - Mr. William Houser - T&E Focus Area Manager
- **ERDC Principal Investigators**
  - Environmental Laboratory
  - Cold Regions Research Laboratory
  - Construction Engineering Laboratory

# Thrust Areas

---

✓ Interim Improvements



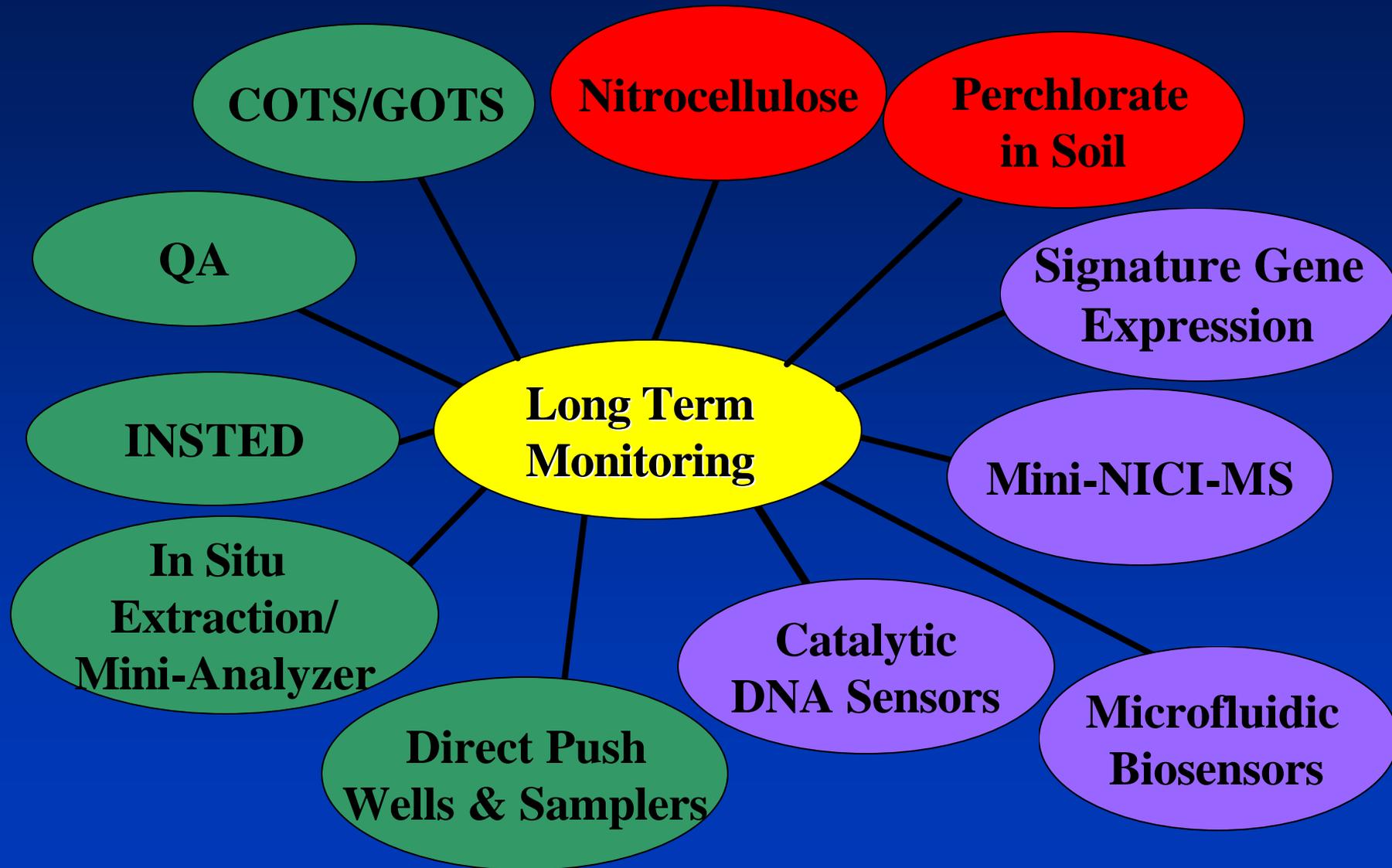
✓ Leap Ahead Technologies



✓ Special Analytical Method Development

# Long Term Monitoring Focus Area

---



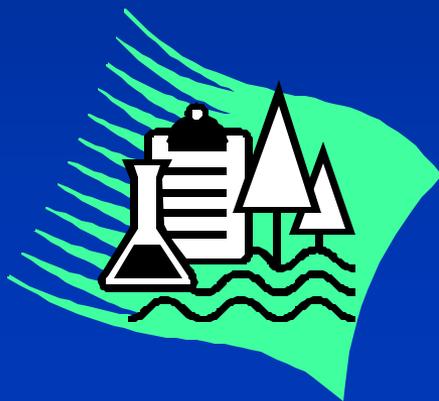
# COT/GOTS

---

## POC: Dave Splichal – EL, ERDC

- ✓ 2004 ERDC Technical Report

- ✓ Sampling Devices
- ✓ Field Instrumentation – GC/MS
- ✓ Sensors

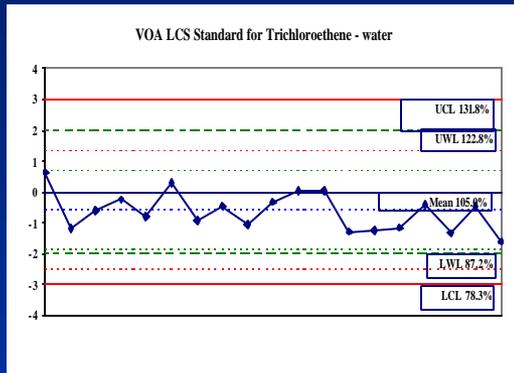


- ✓ Applicability to LTM

- ✓ Detection Limits
- ✓ Quality Control
- ✓ Cost Savings

# QA Processes & Protocols

## POC: Denise MacMillan – EL, ERDC



*Key Component of LTM Technologies is Ability to Generate Definitive Data*

- ✓ Identify Essential QA/QC for Field Analytics
- ✓ Identify Reduced Cost Steps for Fixed Lab
- ✓ Evaluate Proposed Processes & Protocols
- ✓ 2004 ERDC Technical Report

# *In Situ Extraction Technologies*

POC: Dave Splichal – EL, ERDC



**In Situ  
Solid Phase  
Tubular  
Extraction  
Device**



**Twister™**



# ***In Situ Extraction Technologies***

---

## **INSTED with Spiked Standards**

<b><u>Analyte</u></b>	<b><u>% Recovery</u></b>	<b>Method 8330 Control <u>Chart, % Recovery</u></b>
<b>HMX</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>39-126</b>
<b>RDX</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>35-119</b>
<b>Tetryl</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>14-120</b>
<b>TNT</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>71-117</b>
<b>2,4-DNT</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>76-110</b>

---

# *In Situ Extraction Technology*

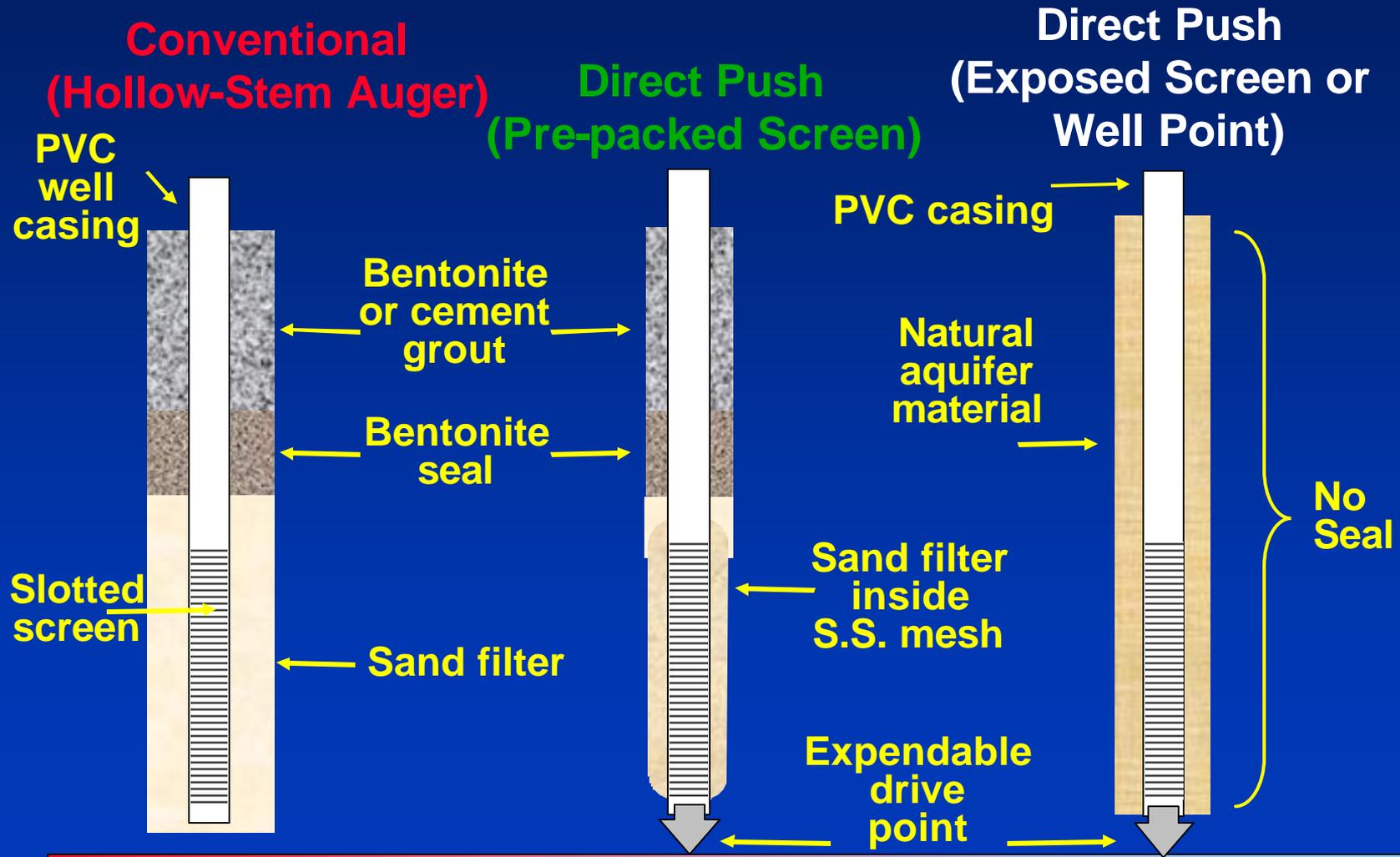
---

## INSTED with Real World Samples

<u>Analyte</u>	<u>INSTED</u> <u>ug/L</u>	<u>Method 8330</u> <u>ug/L</u>	<u>% Diff</u>
RDX	153	159	3.8
HMX	21.4	21.6	0.93
MNX	1.99	2.26	13
4-A-DNT	1.53	1.49	2.6

# Direct Push Wells & Samplers

## POC: Louise Parker – CRREL, ERDC



# Jar-Type Sampler Study



<b>Day 7</b>	<u>Control</u>	<u>Sampler</u>	<u>Difference</u>
HMX	1.63	1.55	-4.8
TNB	14.6	14.2	-2.7
RDX	9.20	8.90	-3.3
1,3-DNB	0.635	0.619	-2.4
TNT	2.66	2.58	-3.2
2,4-DNT	0.095	0.092	-2.8

<b>Day 35</b>			
HMX	1.46	1.46	0
TNB	13.3	13.1	-1.5
RDX	8.18	8.22	+0.5
1,3-DNB	0.564	0.564	0
TNT	2.32	2.32	0.1
2,4-DNT	0.080	0.078	-2.6



# Snap Sampler

- ✓ Spring activated
- ✓ No sample transfer
- ✓ VOCs, explosives, pesticides



# *In Situ Extraction/ Mini-Analyzer*

## POC: June Mirecki & Dave Splichal – EL, ERDC

- ✓ Develop Field Analytical Capability for Twister™ & SPME
- ✓ Perform Lab & Field Studies for Explosives Detection
  - ✓ Characteristic Spectra (GC/MS)
  - ✓ Sensitive and Precise
  - ✓ Quality Control



**Minotaur 400s**



# *Catalytic DNA Sensors*

---

**POC: Don Cropek – CERL, ERDC**

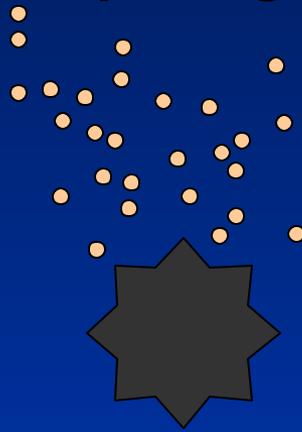
**Collaboration with Dr. Yi Lu, University of Illinois**



- ✓ **Specific – Reacts with a single chemical, reliable without false positives**
- ✓ **Sensitive – Ultra-low concentration**
- ✓ **Flexible – Detector for many different compounds**
- ✓ **Convenient – Fast, small sensor array**

# Catalytic DNA Sensors

Contaminated Water or  
Vapor Signature

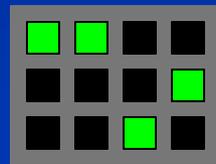


Explosive-  
sensitive DNA

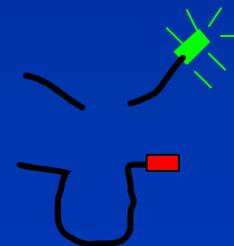


DNA reacts  
with vapor  
signature

Reaction  
cleaves the  
DNA, causing  
detectable  
fluorescence.

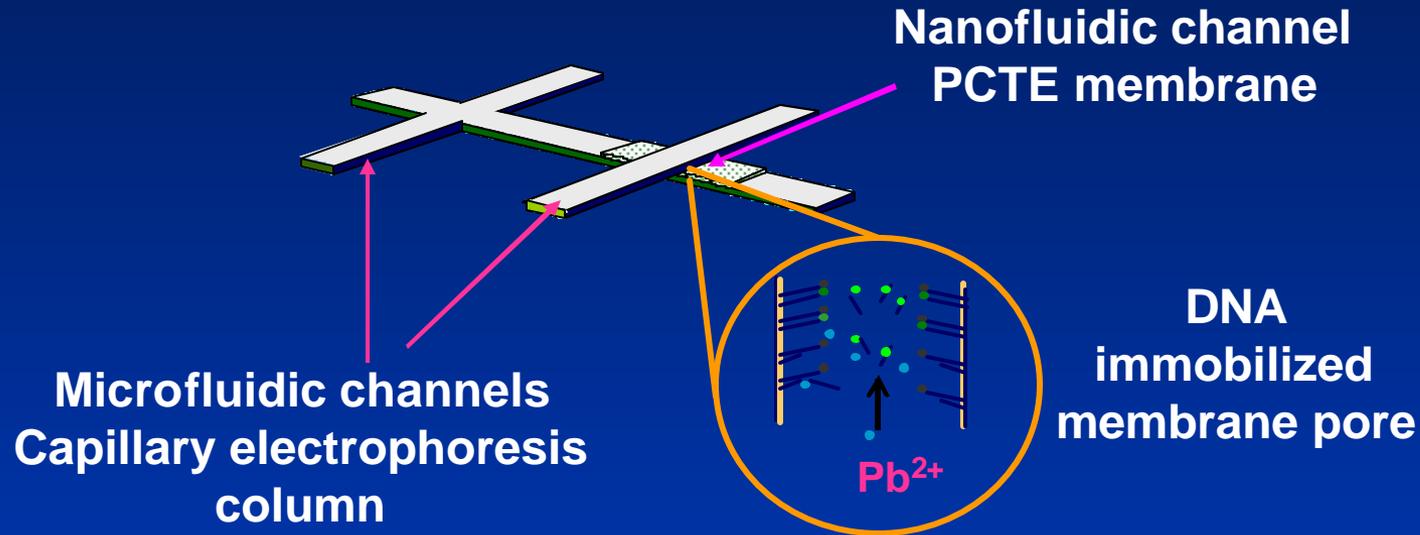


Sensor array



# Catalytic DNA Sensors

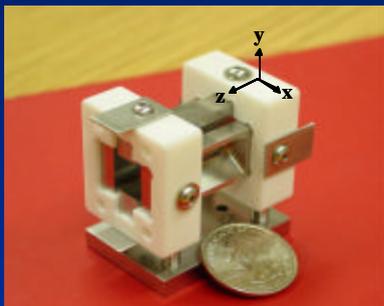
## Nanofluidic Molecular Gate Membranes



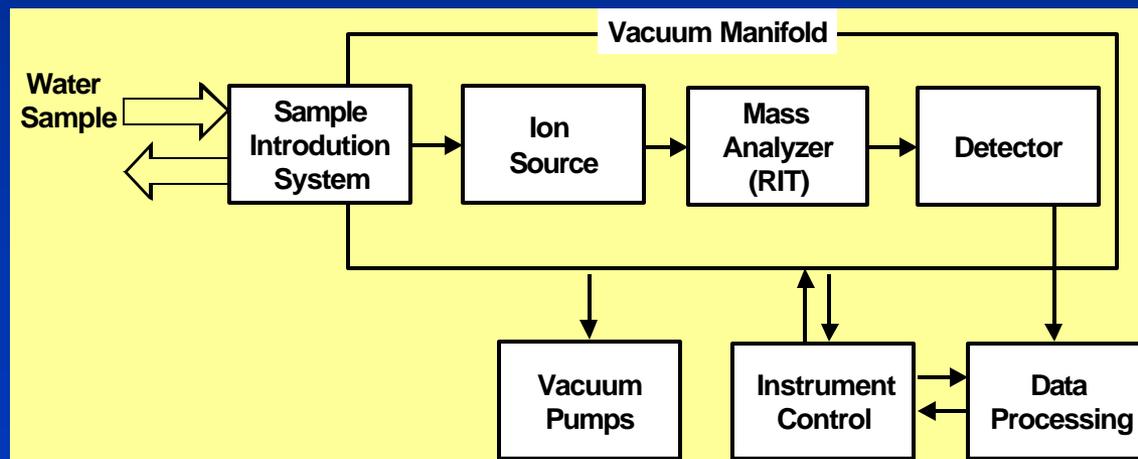
Expanded view of the microfluidic channels and the nanofluidic molecular gate membrane

# Miniature Mass Spectrometer

POC: Denise MacMillan – EL, ERDC



Collaboration with Dr. Graham Cooks, Purdue University



# ***Microfluidic Biosensors***

---

**POC: Shana Dalton & Denise MacMillan**  
**– EL, ERDC**

***Biosensor: Sensor that uses biochemicals to detect chemicals***

***Bioprobe: Sensor that detects biochemicals***

- ✓ **Develop Sensitive & Selective in situ Detection Capability for Explosives with Antibody Capture Technology**
- ✓ **Identify & Develop Biosensor Technology for Perchlorate**

# Microfluidic Biosensors

---



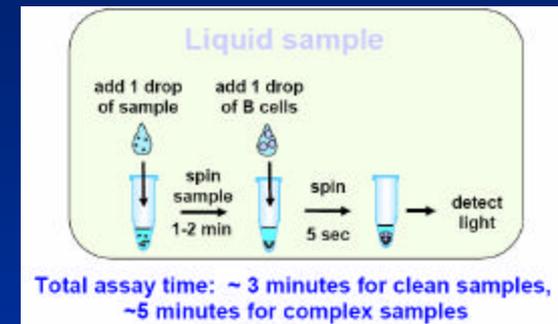
- ✓ Immunoassays with commercially available RDX and TNT antibodies immobilized on magnetic beads
- ✓ Expand the number of antibodies to MUCs
  - ✓ Developing antibodies to HMX and 2, 4-DNT with Strategic Biosolutions (~ 9 months / analyte)
- ✓ Collaborate with other laboratories currently developing immunoassay-based technologies

# Microfluidic Biosensors

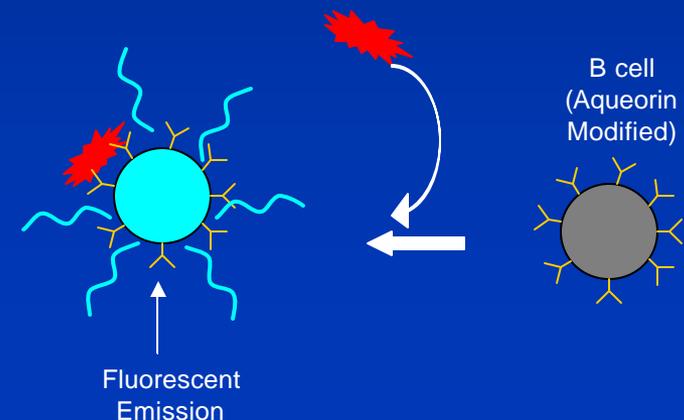
## CANARY

### (Cellular Analysis & Notification of Antigen Risk & Yields)

- ✓ Developed at MIT-LL
- ✓ Excellent for Biological Agents
  - ✓ *Bacillus anthracis* (anthrax)
  - ✓ *Yersinia pestis* (plague)
  - ✓ FMD (Foot and Mouth Disease) virus
  - ✓ *E. coli*
- ✓ Highly sensitive response in seconds
- ✓ Detection of Toxins – Developmental Stage



### CANARY Bioassay



# Signature Gene Expression

---

POC: Ed Perkins – EL, ERDC



- ✓ Expose *Daphnia* to contaminant
  - ✓ Characterize signature gene response
  - ✓ Immobilize *Daphnia* in microchip flow cell
  - ✓ Mixture separation by micro-chromatography
  - ✓ Amplify signal with micro-PCR
-

# Special Analytical Methods



## Nitrocellulose

- ✓ Gun cotton, pyroxilin, ~12% N
- ✓ Occurs with NG at firing points
- ✓ Differential solubility method & pyrolysis method

- ✓ Used primarily as a solid rocket fuel
- ✓ Through soils with little, if any, adsorption occurring
- ✓ Little literature evidence to support hypothesis
- ✓ Competes with iodine in thyroid – low action level expected

## Perchlorate



# Special Analytical Methods

## ✓ Soils utilized in the project

✓ “Average” Soil

✓ Sandy Soil

✓ High Iron Soil

✓ High pH Soil

✓ High Total Organic Soil

## ✓ Experimental Conditions

✓ Oxidic

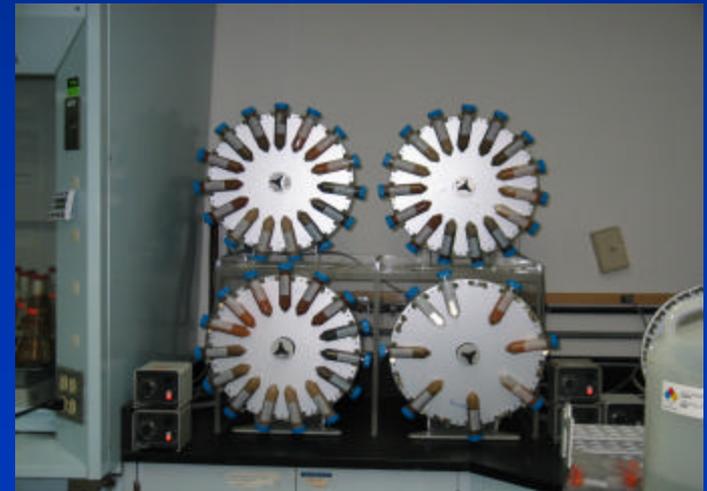
✓ Anoxic

✓ Controls

✓ No Soil

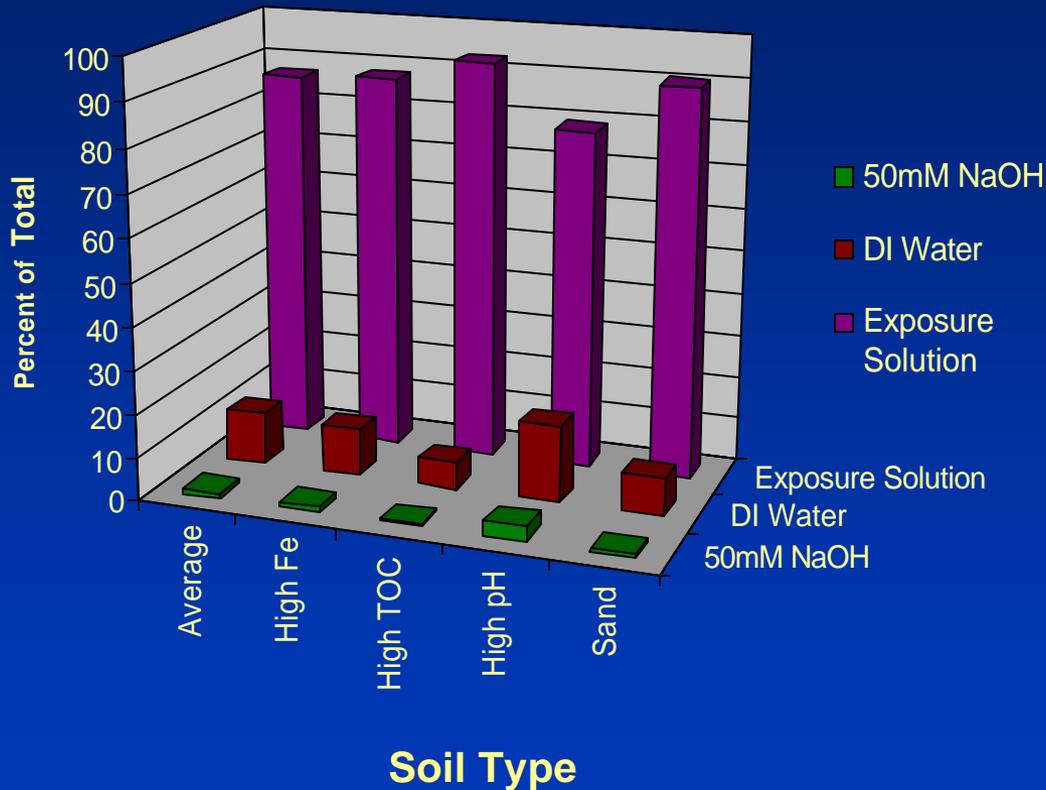
✓ No Perchlorate

Soil Characteristic	Average Soil [WES Reference]	Sandy Soil [Ottawa Sand]	High Fe Soil [Telleco Loam]	High pH Soil [Crot Sandy Loam]	High TOC Soil
UCS Classification	Clay (CH), Brown	SP	Sandy Clay (CL), Red	Sandy Clay (CH) Grey	
Total Ca (mg/kg)	1440	<20	416	59500	
Total Fe (mg/kg)	21100	103	51600	13500	
Total Mg (mg/kg)	2090	<25	1050	15000	
TOC (mg/kg)	5320	13.85	6033	4746	
Percent sand	0.5	97.6	30.9	49.1	
Percent Fines	99.5	2.4	69.1	50.9	
pH of 20% Slurry	4.97	6.2	4.28	9.73	



# Special Analytical Methods

## Perchlorate Distribution



Total (Perchlorate) = sum of the three different fractions

## Preliminary Data

- Most  $\text{ClO}_4^-$  recovered from exposure solution; trace in NaOH wash
- No differences between soil type or  $\text{O}_2$  conditions
- Results must be corrected for pore water

# ***Future Plans***

---

- ✓ **Sensor arrays & additional analytes**
- ✓ **Robotics**
- ✓ **Data processing and communication**
- ✓ **Systems integration**
- ✓ **Dual use with Homeland Security**
- ✓ **Field evaluation**
- ✓ **Demonstration and validation**

# ***Acknowledgements***

---

**Agnes Hindemith**

**Dan Sanders**

**Glenda Miller**

**Rich Meyer**

**John Shannon**

**Lynn Escalon**

**Laura Percifield**

**Jim Elwell**

**Doug Taggart**

**Scott Waisner**

**Steve Schnitker**

**Tony Bednar**

**Prem Arora**

**Anne Weathersby**

