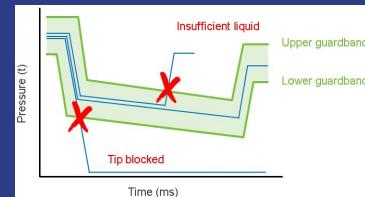


Robots in the Lab!

Abdulrahman Tuameh
Advanced Laboratory Automation Specialist
22/08/2024

Overview

- Background
- What is Automation
- Automation Examples
- Projects





Education

BEng - Bioengineering

- Yildiz Technical University - Istanbul/Turkey



MSc - Applied Biopharmaceutical Biotechnology and Entrepreneurship

- University of Nottingham - Nottingham/UK



**The University of
Nottingham**





What is automation?

Automation refers to the use of technology and machinery to perform activities with minimal human intervention.



GommeBlog.it



The
GommeBlog.it

Via D'Amico, 10 - 20131 Milano (MI) - Italy



What is Lab Automation?



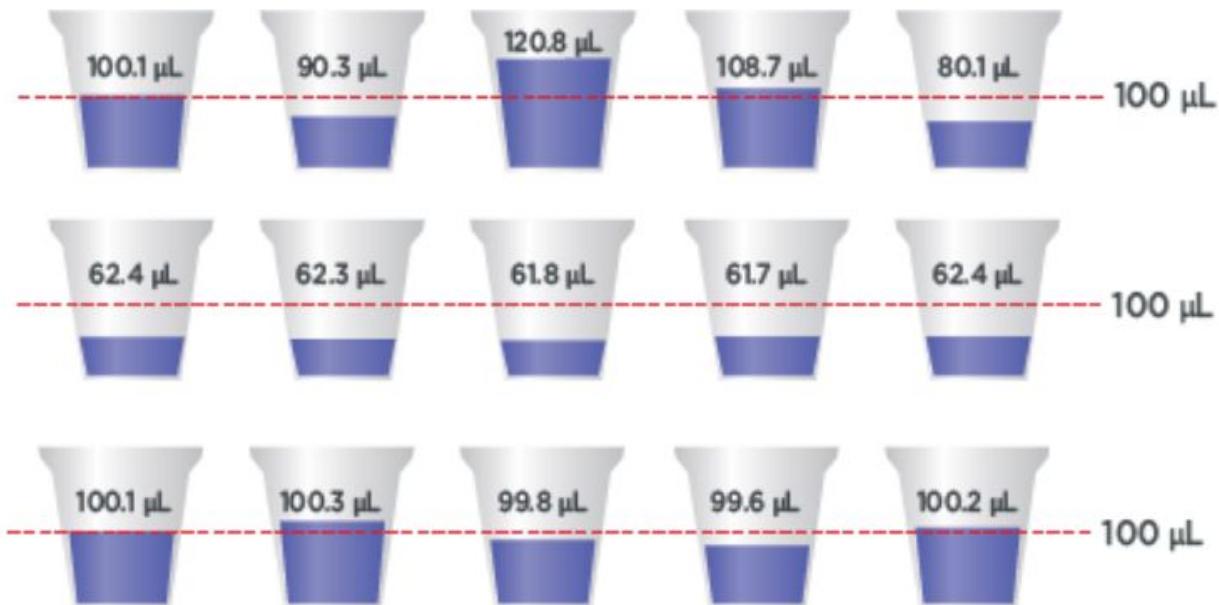
Why?

- Improved Efficiency and Throughput
- Accuracy and Precision
- Reduction of Human Errors
- Cost Savings and Resource Optimization





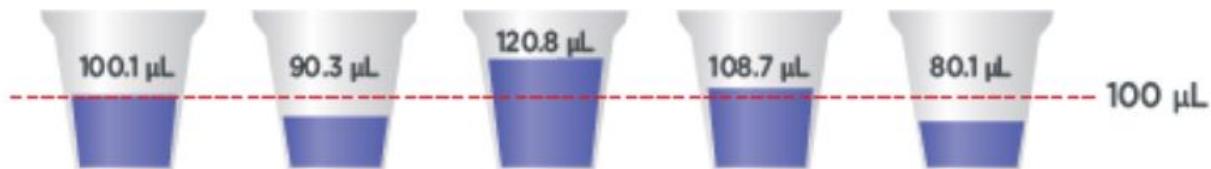
Accuracy Vs Precision



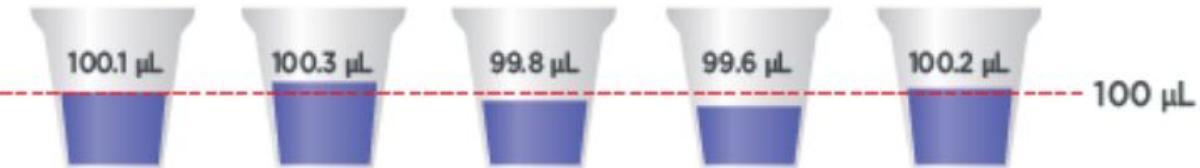
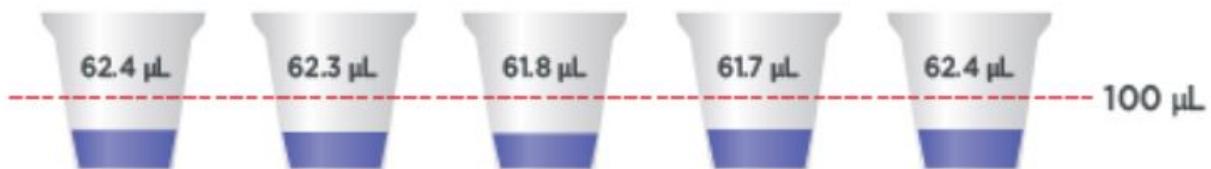


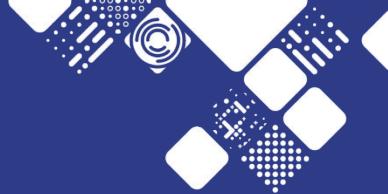
Accuracy Vs Precision

Accurate

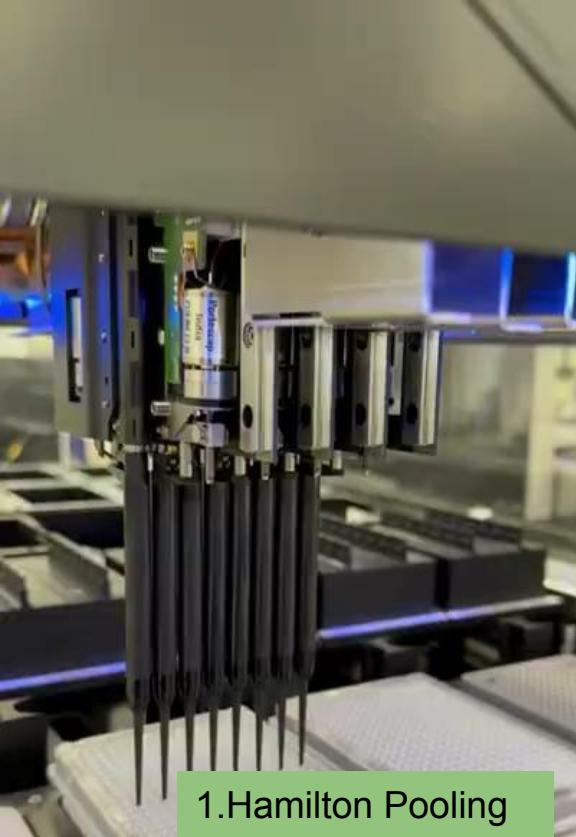


Precise





Examples of instruments used in Lab Automation



1. Hamilton Pooling

Hamilton

We have many of these Hamiltons on site. They are known for their precision and modularity (can be integrated with other instruments).

It has 8 spans and comes with a head with 96 or 384 channels.



To access the videos, use this link:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/18yzqTqsH5S5YT-Mi0_Q04Tm5pFWYcG

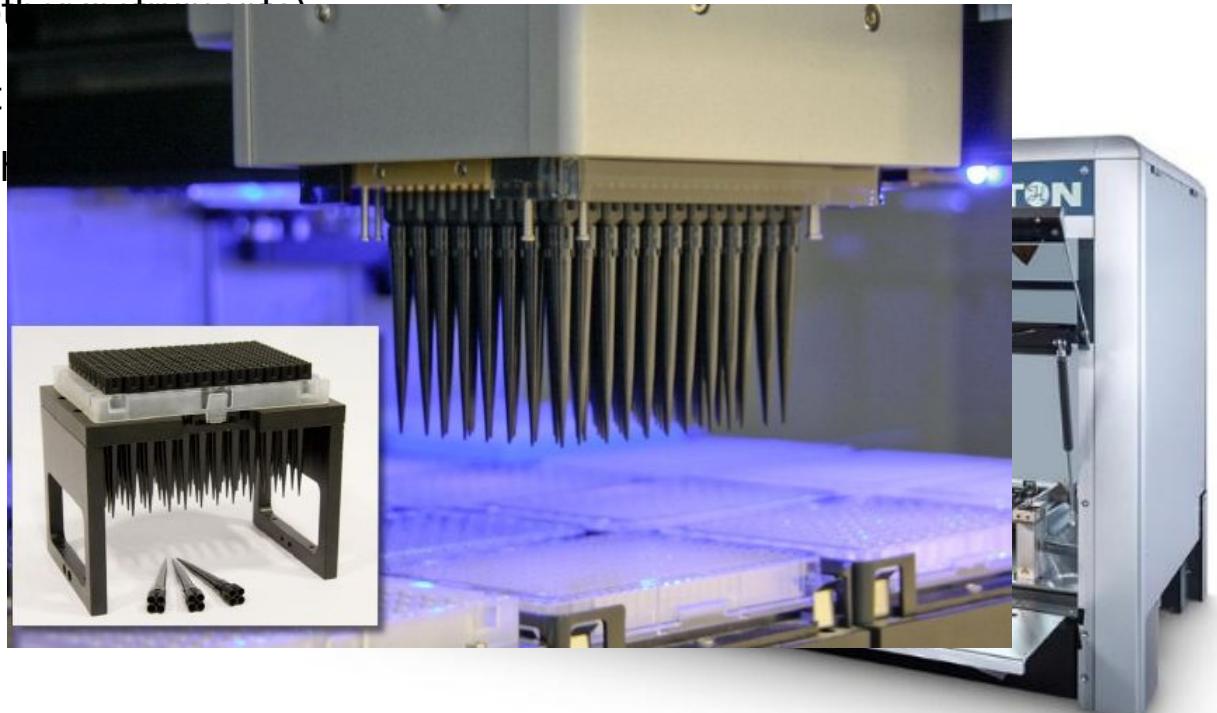


Hamilton

We have many of these Hamiltons on site. They are known for their precision and modularity (can be integrated with other instruments).

It can be used for:

ch

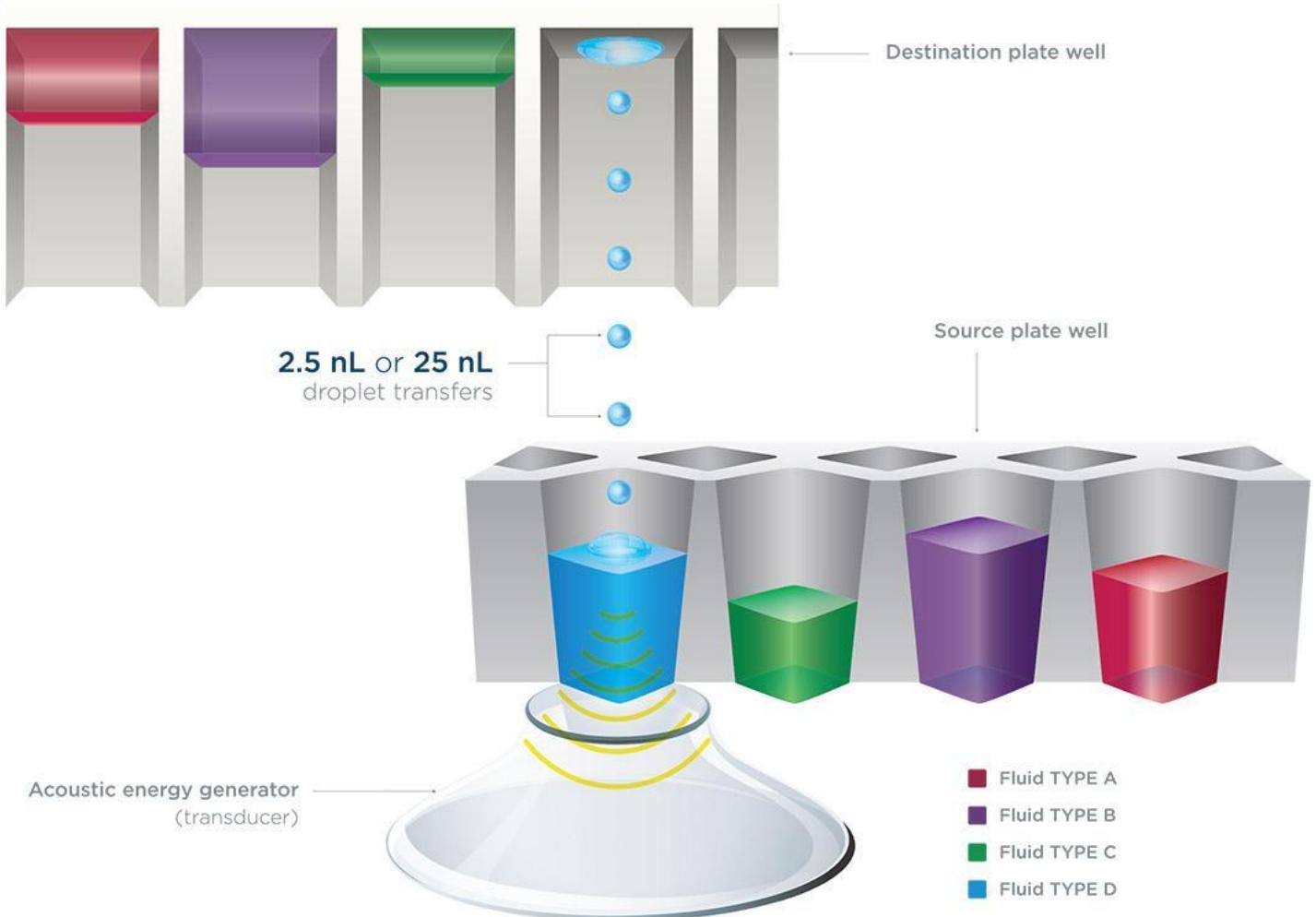


Moving Liquid with Sound!

Echo 525

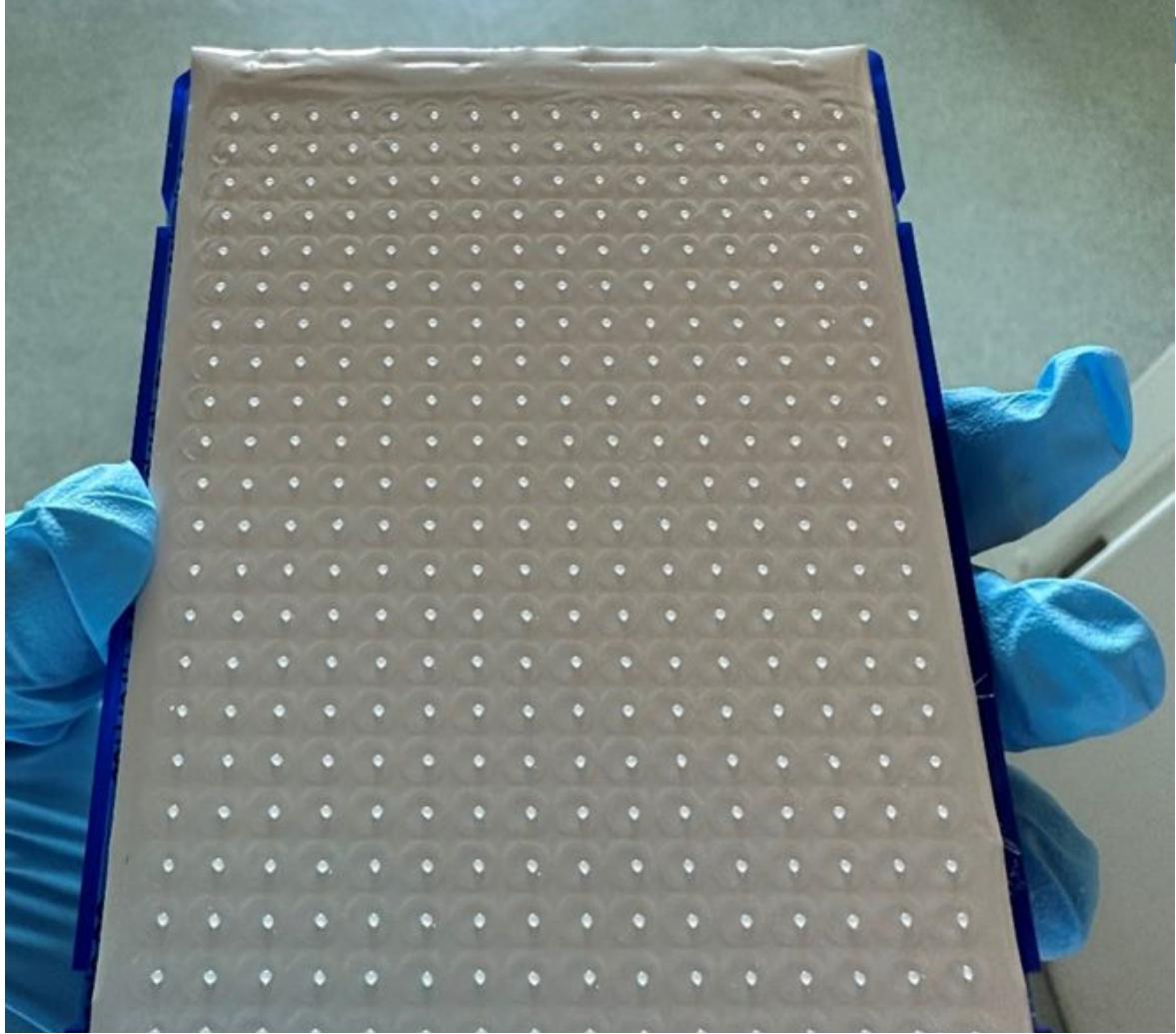
The Echo liquid handler is an instrument that uses acoustic energy to transfer samples from one source plate to another destination plate. It can transfer very small volumes of liquids in 2.5nL or 25nL.







150 nL dispensed into the
seal of the plate





Biosero



Biosero provides mobile robots that is able to move labware within the lab from one instrument to another

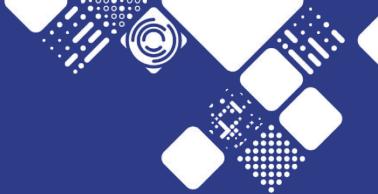
They also provide Scheduler software (Green Button Go) to allow for communication between different instruments

2. Multi-platform integration - Part 1

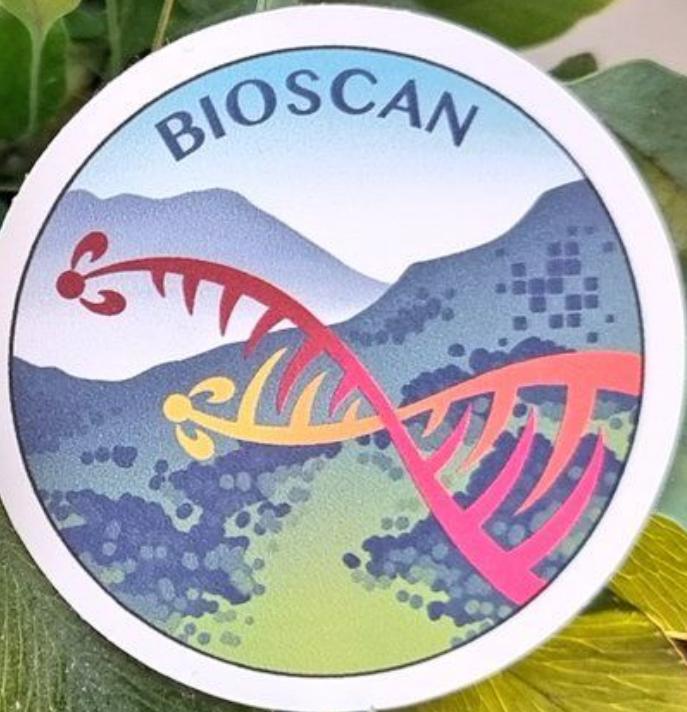


3. Multi-platform integration - Part 2





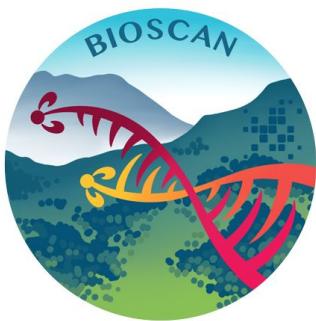
Projects



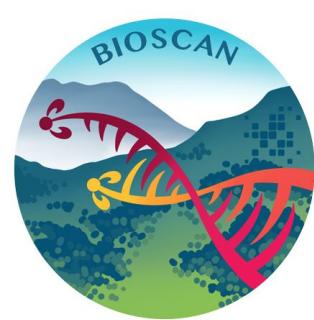


Bioscan

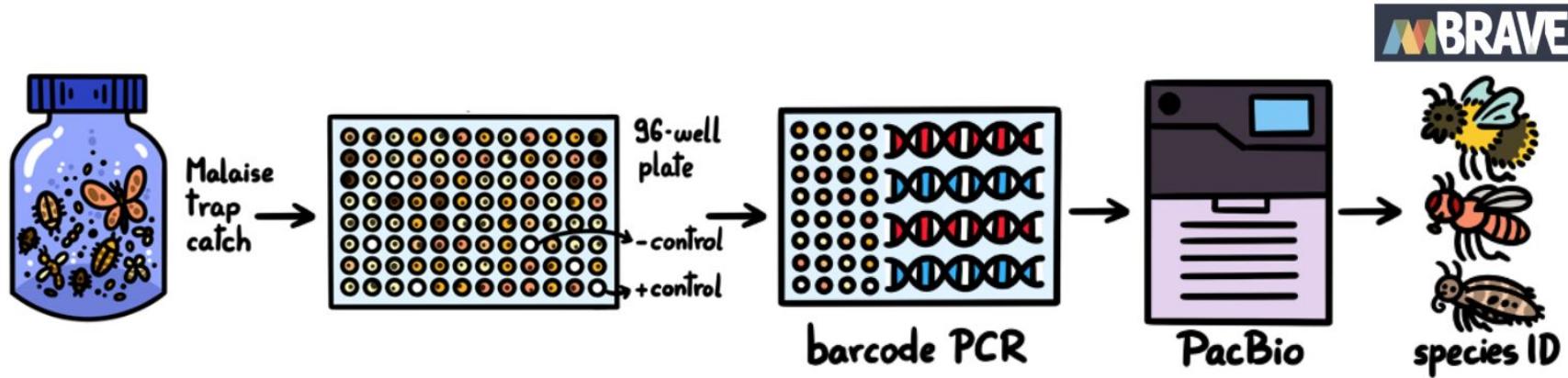
- Bioscan project aims to sequence 1 million flying insects across the UK in the next 5 years.
- Samples sent from partner sites across the UK where they capture the insects using malaise traps.







Bioscan



Illustrations by Petra Korlevic @petrathepostdoc

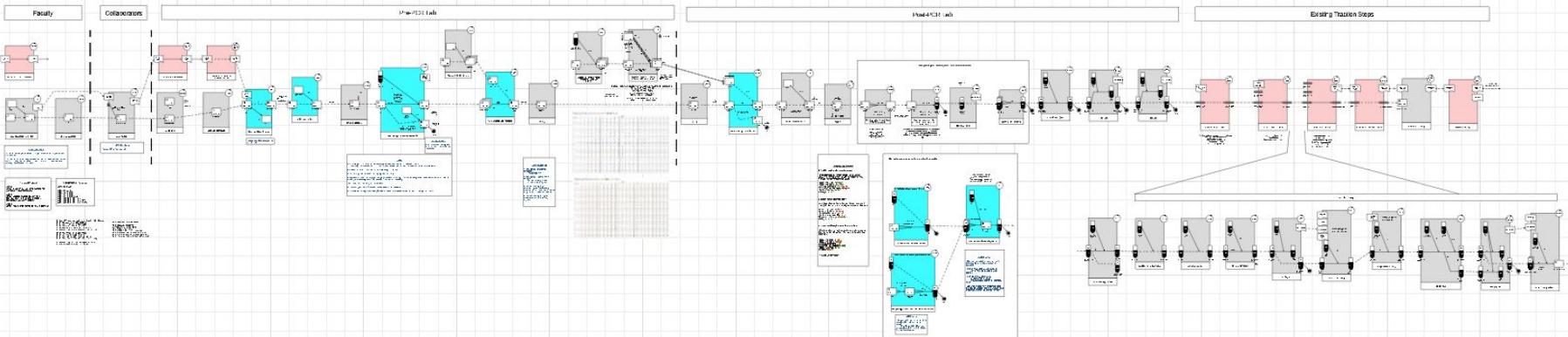


What does the Lab Automation Specialist do?

- Workflow Design and Implementation
- Programming and Scripting
- Maintenance and Troubleshooting
- Training staff on how to use robotics
- Quality Control and Assurance

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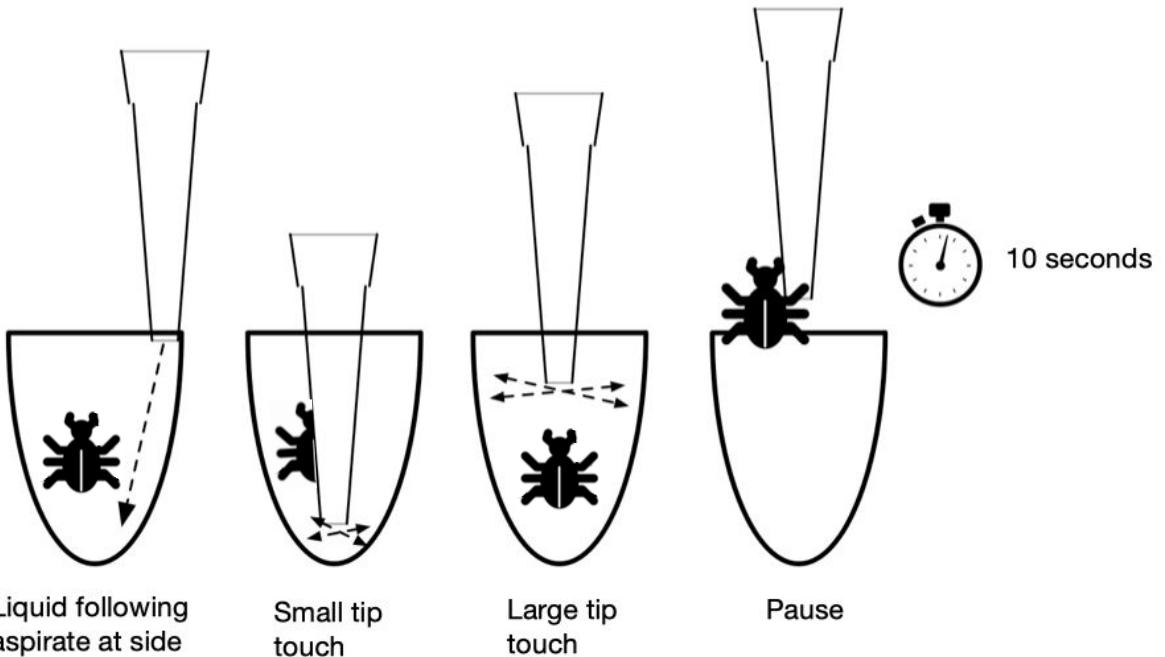


Bioscan Automation

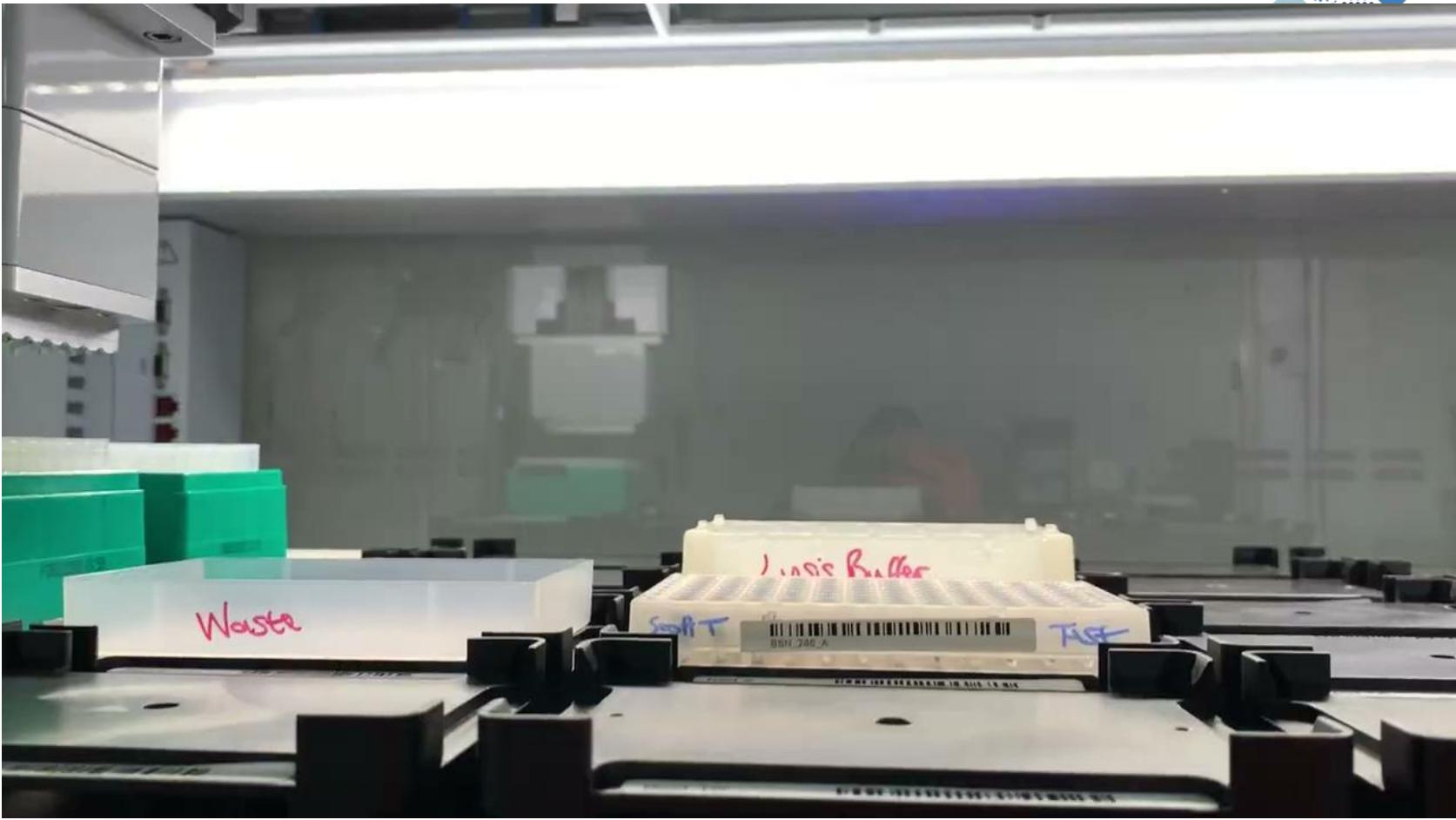


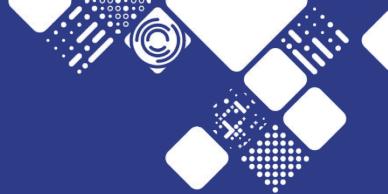






4. Aspiration technique on Beckman Biomek i5

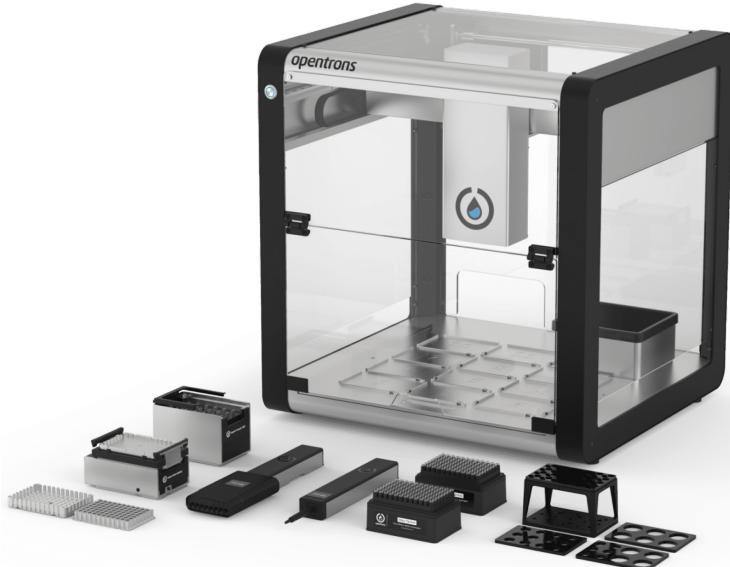




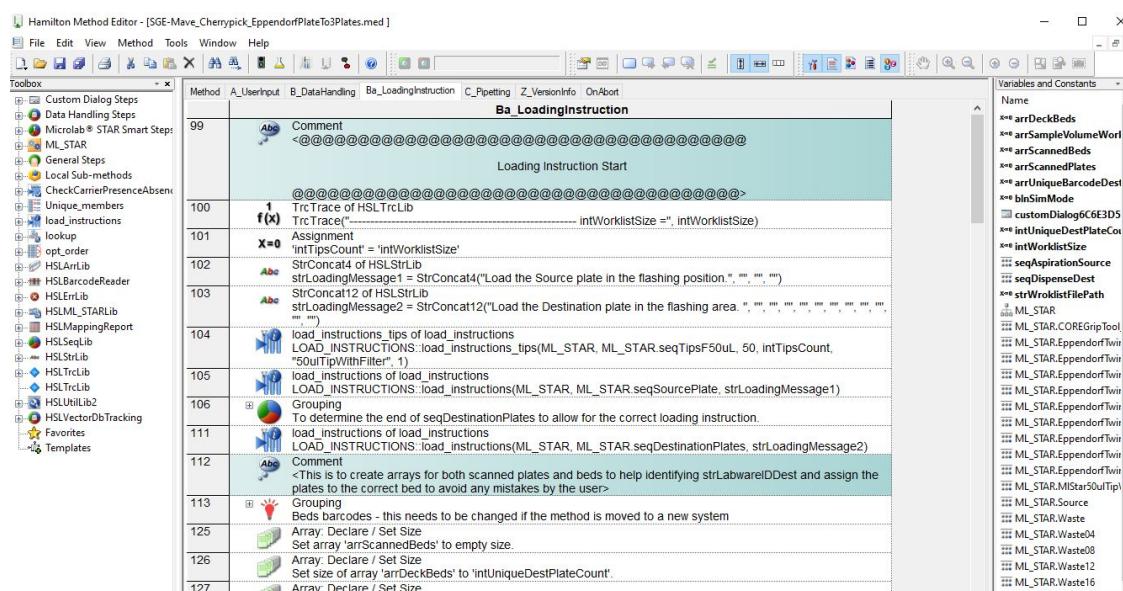
Programing and Scripting

Programming and Scripting

```
alert.py
1  from ..models import *
2  from sqlalchemy import create_engine
3  from sqlalchemy.sql import select
4  from ..globs import *
5  from app import struct_logger, LOGGING_INSTANCE
6  import copy
7  import boto3
8  from twilio.rest import TwilioRestClient
9
10 class Alert(Resource):
11     def post(self):
12         status_code = status.HTTP_400_BAD_REQUEST
13         response = None
14         try:
15             data = copy.deepcopy(request.json)
16             client = TwilioRestClient(TWILIO_SID, TWILIO_AUTH_TOKEN)
17
18             message = client.messages.create(
19                 body="Alert",
20                 to=data.get('phone_number'),
21                 from_=TWILIO_PHONE_NUMBER,
22             )
23         except Exception as e:
24             struct_logger.error(instance=LOGGING_INSTANCE, path=request.path, method=request.method, exception=e.message)
25             response = e.message
26             status_code = status.HTTP_400_BAD_REQUEST
27
28         return response, status_code
29
30     def send_sms(self, text, number, identifier):
31         try:
32             client = TwilioRestClient(TWILIO_SID, TWILIO_AUTH_TOKEN)
33
34             message = client.messages.create(
35                 body=text % identifier,
36                 to=number,
37                 from_=TWILIO_PHONE_NUMBER,
38             )
39         except Exception as e:
40             struct_logger.error(instance=LOGGING_INSTANCE, path=request.path, method=request.method, exception=e.message)
```



Programming and Scripting



Programming and Scripting

Screenshot of the VWorks Software interface showing a protocol editor and task parameters.

Main Protocol:

- Starts with "Atel MVS Plate (384 Atel MVS Plate)"
- Places plate at <no device selected>
- Add Diluent using Bravo Pipettor - 1
- Message: "Dilution message. Action needed: Please replace the tip box on position 7 with a fresh one and hit OK."
- Places plate at Bravo Pipettor - 1:5
- Begin task group
- Change how the head behaves
- Loop 4 times
 - Put tips on pipette head
 - Transfer fluid out of wells and into tips
 - Transfer fluid out of tips and into wells
 - Transfer fluid out of tips and into wells
- End task group
- Change how the head behaves
- Loop 4 times, changing tips every 4 times
 - Transfer fluid out of wells and into tips
 - Transfer fluid out of wells and into tips
 - Transfer fluid out of tips and into wells
 - Transfer fluid out of tips and into wells
- End task group
- Places plate at <no device selected>
- Add Diluent using Bravo Pipettor - 1
- Places plate at Bravo Pipettor - 1:6
- Add Range Solution using Bravo Pipettor - 1
- Places plate at Bravo Pipettor - 1:6

Cleanup Protocol:

- Range Reservoir (96 Matrix open reservoir movable)
- Places plate at <no device selected>
- Add Diluent using Bravo Pipettor - 1
- Places plate at <no device selected>

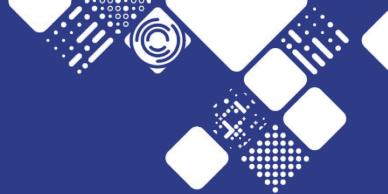
Task Parameters:

- Configure Labware Properties
 - Device to use: Bravo - 1
 - Display confirmation:
 - 1: 96 V11 LT250 T
 - 2: 96 V11 LT250 T
 - 3: 96 V11 LT250 T
 - 4:
 - 5:
 - 6:
 - 7: 96 V11 LT250 T
 - 8:
 - 9:

Protocol Options:

Advanced Settings:





Other Automation Examples



Reagents are moved, mixed, separated and incubated



FORMULATRIX®



YT Links

Echo video: <https://www.youtubeeducation.com/watch?v=azQPGFxzZul>

Voltrax - Oxford Nanopore Tech: <https://www.youtubeeducation.com/watch?v=RJ2IMSYiCiw>

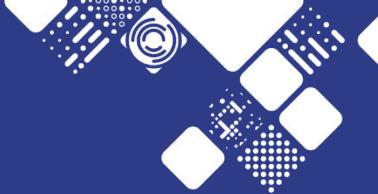
Rover - Formulatrix: <https://www.youtubeeducation.com/watch?v=kKmv6VtxMuq>

Bonus link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RcP85JHLmnI>



Automation team





Thanks for listening!