

# Biosensors

**B. Tech.**

**Course No.: EEL 3050**

**L-T-P [C]: 3-0-2 [4]**

  
***Prof. AJAY AGARWAL***

**ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING**

**IIT JODHPUR**

*Lecture 01 dated 31<sup>st</sup> July 2024*

Course Title	<i>Biosensors</i>	Course No.	EEL3050			
Department	Electrical Engineering	Structure (LTPC)	3	0	2	4
Offered for	B.Tech.	Status	Elective/ Compulsory-BB			
Prerequisite: Fundamentals of Electrical Engineering and Bioengineering						

***Class: Slot C (10 AM TO 10.50AM)***

***MON***

***WED***

***THU***

***Co-instructors: DR SWATI RAJPUT***

***PROF MEENU CHHABRA***

# Objective

1. Make the students understand the **fundamentals of working principles of biosensors**
2. Describe the **bio-specific interaction** used for various **applications**
3. **Evaluate & compare techniques** used in today's time like electric, optics and mechanical
4. Show & explain the examples of **practical & real-world biosensors**

# Contents

1. Introduction to basics of biosensors and biospecific interactions: Different components of biosensors, functionalization layers and their importance, Biomolecules for biosensors, catalytic biosensors, affinity biosensors, biomolecular interaction. (8 lectures)
2. Electrical and optical techniques for biosensing: Electrical (CV, ISFET), optical (fluorescence, ELISA, SERS, SPR) (8 lectures)
3. Electrochemical, mechanical and advanced techniques for biosensing: Electrochemical (sub classifications like impedimetric, voltammetric, amperometric), mechanical (Bio-MEMS), color based, microfluidics (including packaging), AI based biosensors (11 lectures)
4. Sensor key parameters and examples of commercially available biosensors: Sensitivity, selectivity, response- and recovery time, LOD etc., Explain and describe few industry standards and commercially available bio-sensors and their functioning. The need and relevance of biosensors in our Indian context (7 lectures)
5. Readout Electronics: Basic circuitry to make readout electronics, Potentiostats, amperometric circuits, charge to voltage converter, variable gain amplifier, low noise amplifier, high resolution and low noise data converters, mismatch insensitive data converters (8 lectures)

# Contents

## Lab work:

Biosensor material selection and characterization;

Biochemical reagents and assays;

Surface functionalization (Covalent/non-covalent) for Biosensing;

Biosensor fabrication;

Biosensor operation and signal generation;

Biosensor sensitivity assay;

Biosensor reproducibility;

Biosensor Selectivity;

Determination of limit of detection;

Use of appropriate controls; Biosensor application on real samples.

# Course Evaluation

## 1. Continuous evaluation: 40%

- i. Lab 20%
- ii. Quizzes
- iii. Assignments
- iv. Minor projects

## 2. Minor examination: 20%

## 3. Major/ final examination: 40 %

# Textbooks

1. Yoon J.-Y., (2016), Introduction to Biosensors, Springer
2. Banica F.-G., (2012), Chemical Sensors and Biosensors: Fundamentals and Applications , Wiley
3. Rasooly A., Herold K. E., (2008), Biosensors and Biodetection, Humana Press, Science

## Self Learning Material:

1. Materials for Biomedical Applications, MIT Open Courseware,  
<https://ocw.mit.edu/courses/materials-science-and-engineering/3-051j-materials-for-biomedicalapplications-spring-2006/lecture-notes/>

# Introduction to Sensors

What is a **Sensor**?

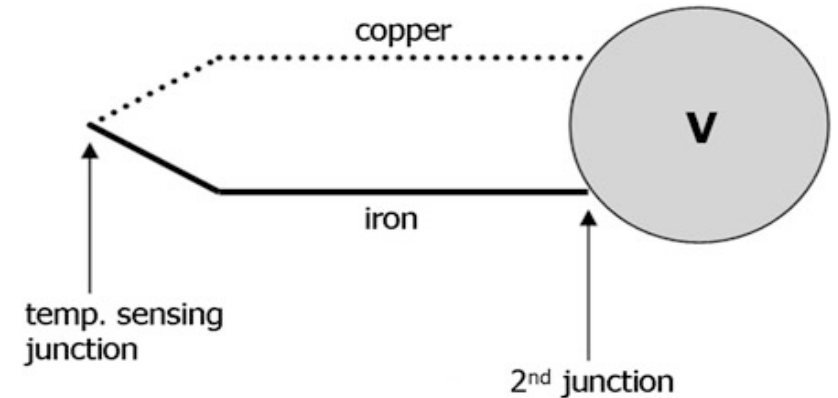
- Sensor
  - a **device** which **detects or measures** a **physical** property and records, indicates, or otherwise responds to it.
  - **Example**: temperature, strain, humidity, pressure, mass, light, and voltage
- Transducer
  - A device that converts one form of energy into another, such as converting mechanical energy into electrical signals.



# Difference between a **Sensor & Transducer**

- All transducers are **Not** sensors, but most sensors are transducers.
- For example, a **thermistor** is a type of sensor; it will respond to the **change in temperature** but **does not convert the energy** into a different format to what it was originally sensed in.

- **Thermocouple**, the oldest and the simplest temperature transducer



Thermocouple

# What is a **Biosensors**?

- a **device** or **sensor** which **detects or measures** a **biologically** relevant analyte...

## Example:

- a simple biochemical compound (e.g., glucose),
- a sequence of nucleic acid (DNA or RNA),
- a specific protein,
- a virus particle,
- a bacterium, and so on ...

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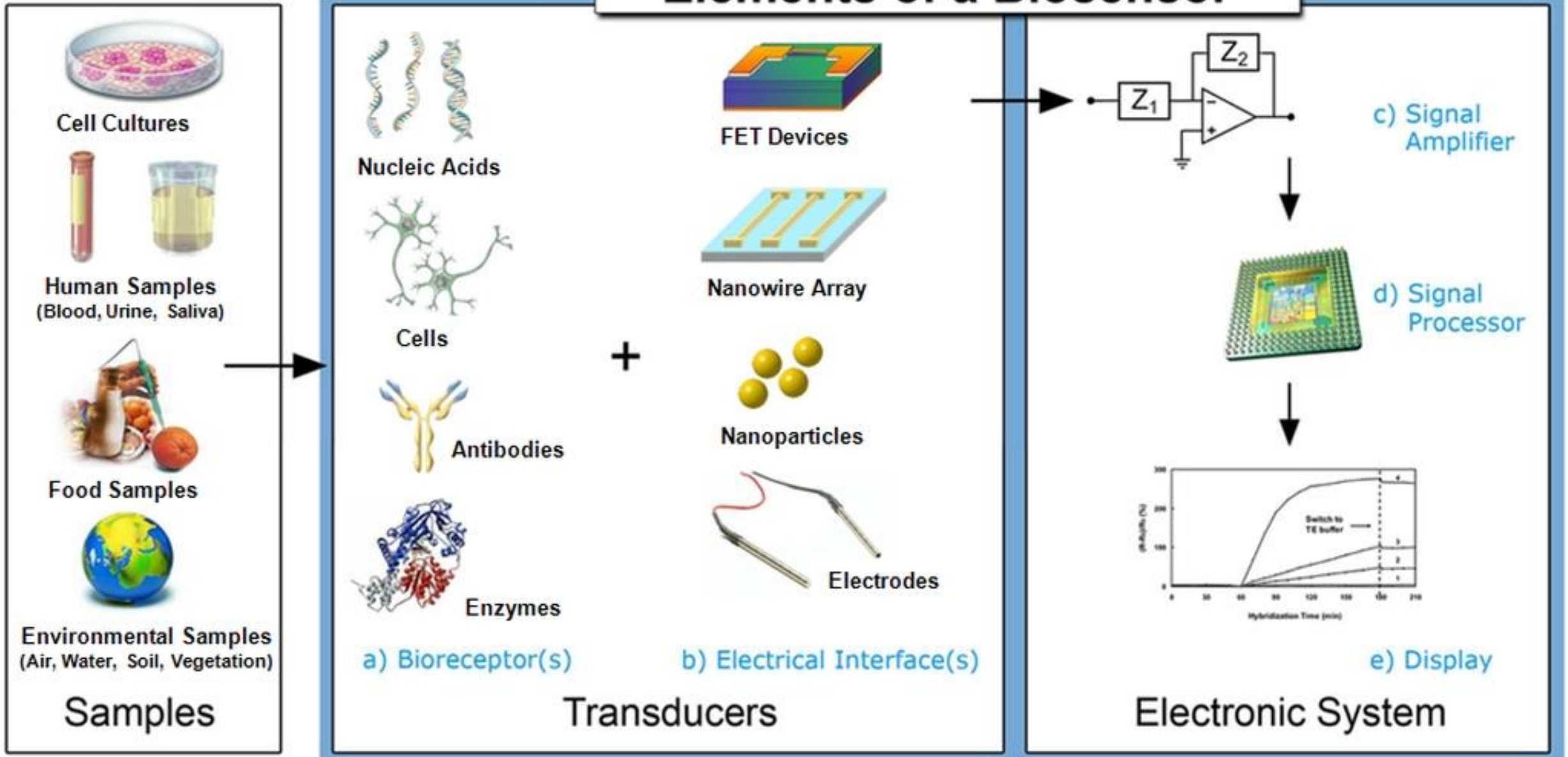
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*Lecture 02 dated 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024*

# **Elements of Biosensors ...**

# Elements of a Biosensor



# Biosensors

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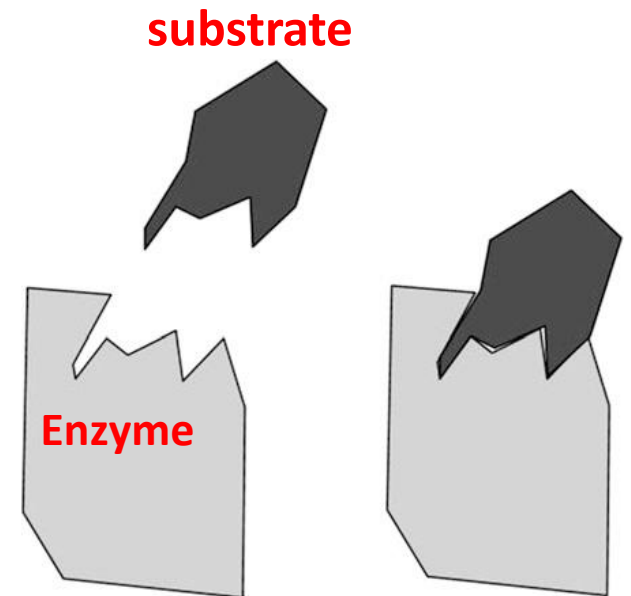
*Lecture 03 dated 5<sup>th</sup> August 2024*

# Bioreceptors:

A molecule that **specifically recognizes** the **analyte** is known as a **bioreceptor**. Ex. Enzymes, cells, aptamers, deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and antibodies, etc.

- **Enzyme:**

- An **enzyme** is a protein molecule that acts as a **biological catalyst**, and it **always binds** to a **specific substrate** molecule, which is usually a chemical compound smaller than a protein molecule.
- Upon binding, the **enzyme** chemically converts the substrate into a **different molecule**.
- This enzyme-substrate **binding** is highly specific to shape, similar to a lock-and-key mechanism



## • Enzyme:

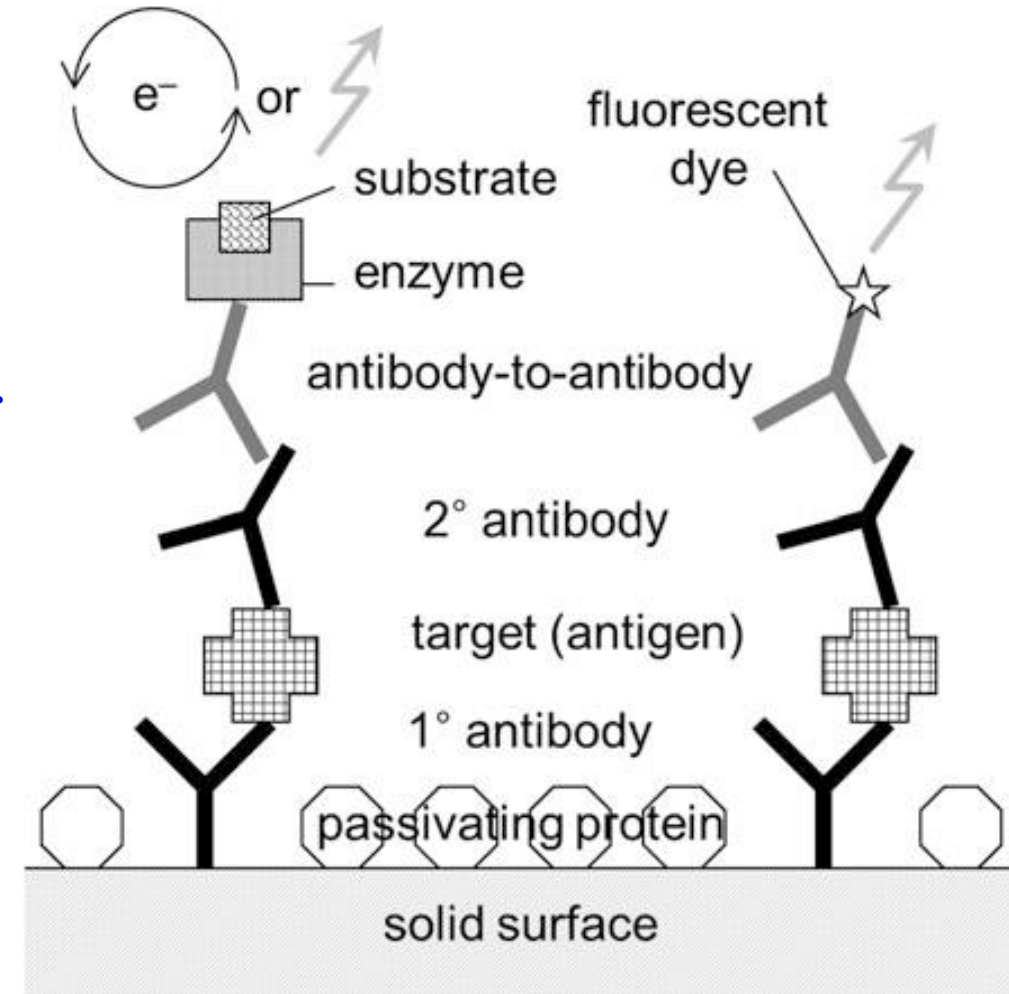
- In a **glucose sensor**, an enzyme called **glucose oxidase (GOx)** is used to capture & detect the **glucose** molecule (names of enzymes usually end with -ase.).
- **GOx binds only** to **glucose**, & **oxidizes** it into another chemical called **gluconolactone**, & eventually to gluconic acid.
- A series of further reactions creates an **oxidation**/reduction cycle that **generates**/consumes electrons and can be represented as an electric current.
- This current is directly proportional to the concentration of glucose.
- The current can be converted easily into voltage using a resistor.
- This transducer is specifically called an electrochemical transducer.





- **Antibody-antigen binding:**

- **Antibody-antigen binding** can also be quantified with both **electrochemical** & **optical** transducers
- First, the **antibody** is **immobilized** on a solid surface.
- **Empty spaces** on a surface are filled with a **passivating protein**, typically bovine serum albumin (**BSA**), to **prevent nonspecific reaction**.
- A **specimen** containing the **target molecule** (protein, virus, bacterium, etc.) is added.
- **Upon rinsing**, only a **target molecule** specific to an antibody remains on the surface.
- The **same antibody** is added again (**secondary antibody**), followed by the addition of “**antibody-to-antibody**” (or **anti-IgG**) that is **tagged** with an **enzyme** or a **fluorescent dye**.



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*Lecture 04 dated 7<sup>th</sup> August 2024*

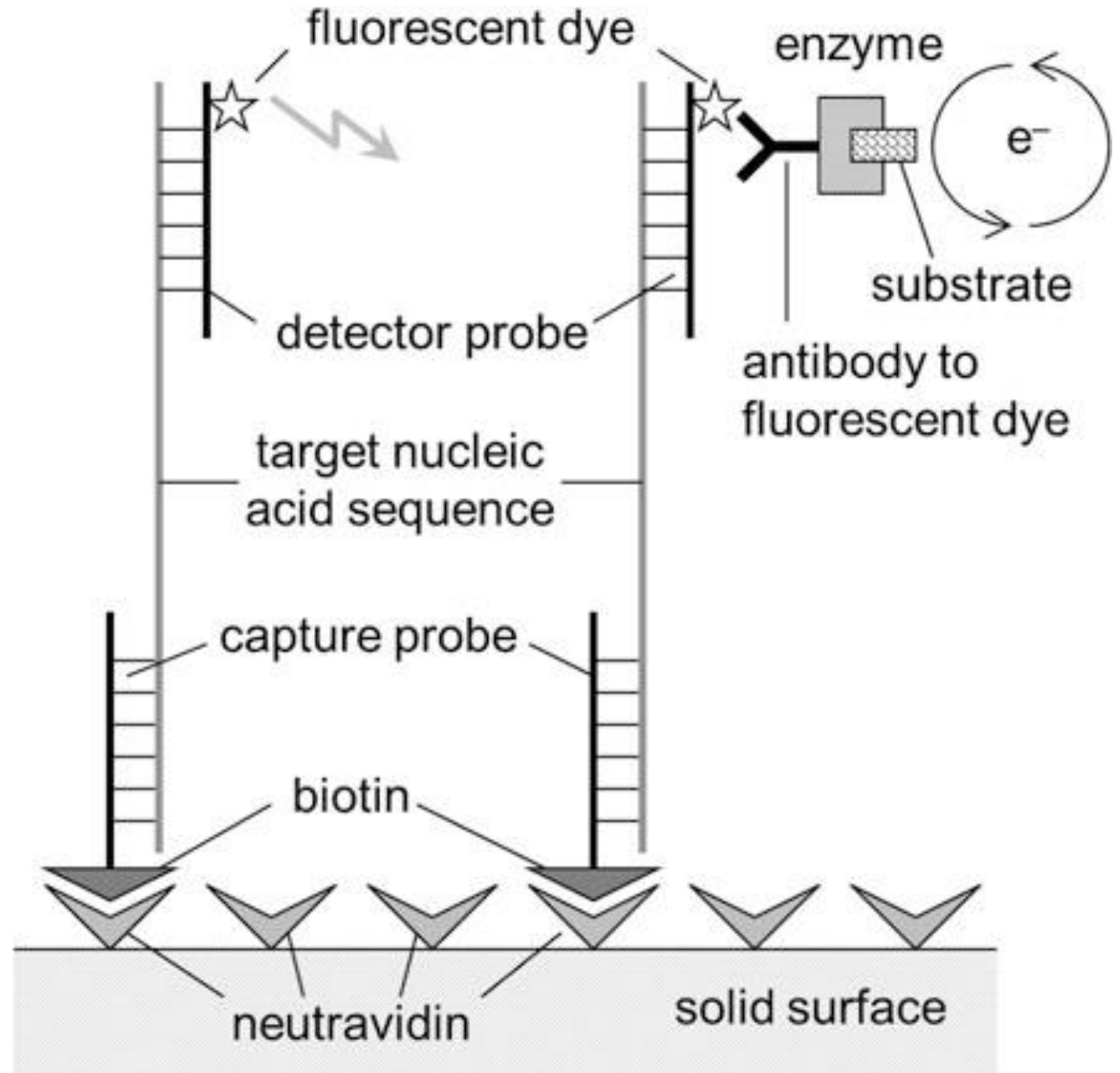
## • Nucleic acids:

- These include **specific sequences** of deoxyribonucleic acid (**DNA**) or ribonucleic acid (**RNA**).
- **Genetic information** is stored within DNA or RNA in quaternary (base-4) system consisting of four different bases:
  - **adenine** (A), **thymine** (T), **guanine** (G) and **cytosine** (C) for **DNA**; &
  - **adenine** (A), **uracil** (U), **guanine** (G), and **cytosine** (C) for **RNA**.
- **A** always binds to **T** (**U** for RNA) &
- **G** always binds to **C**.
- A specific **RNA sequence** of bases, e.g., **AGA GGA GAU**, can be used to **detect** their **complementary sequence**, **UCU CCU CUA**.
- The **specificity** of the **nucleic acid bioreceptor** is enhanced by increasing the length of the DNA/RNA sequence.
- For **practical applications**, **several hundred codes** can be used.
- **Longer** the **sequence** is, the **better** the **specificity** is, but the **binding** of **complementary sequences** becomes **harder & harder**.

## • Nucleic acids (cont ...)

- The nucleic acid bioreceptor is **powerful** in **identifying** different **viruses** or **bacteria**.
- E.g., it is possible to distinguish **influenza A virus subtype H1N1** (known as **swine flu**) and the **subtype H5N1** (highly **pathogenic bird flu**), with a well-designed nucleic acid sequence.

An example of a nucleic acid bioreceptor with a fluorescent dye (left) or an enzyme (right)



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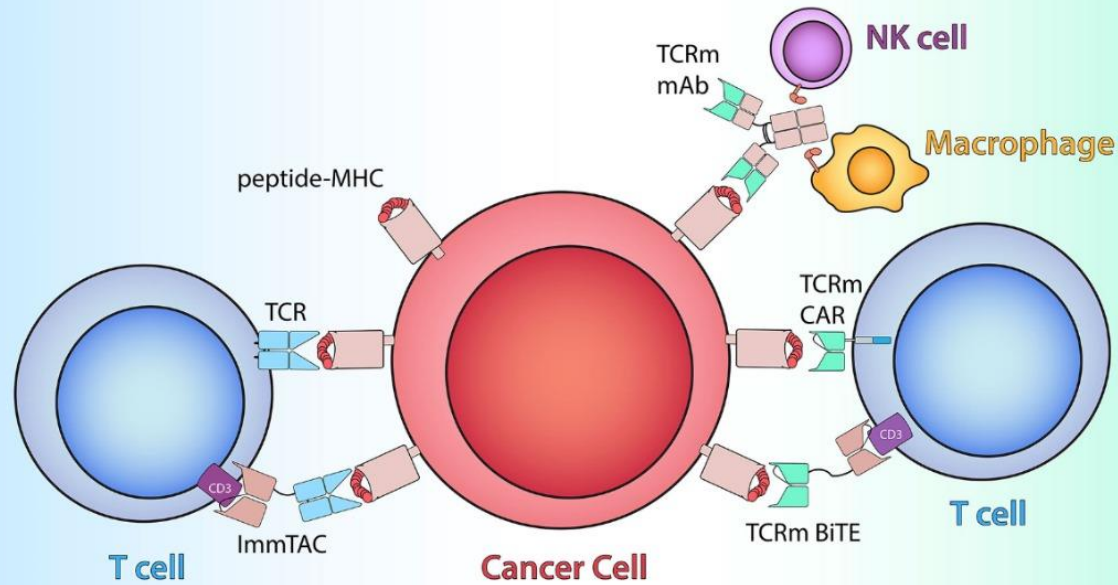
*Lecture 05 dated 7<sup>th</sup> August 2024*

## • Cells:

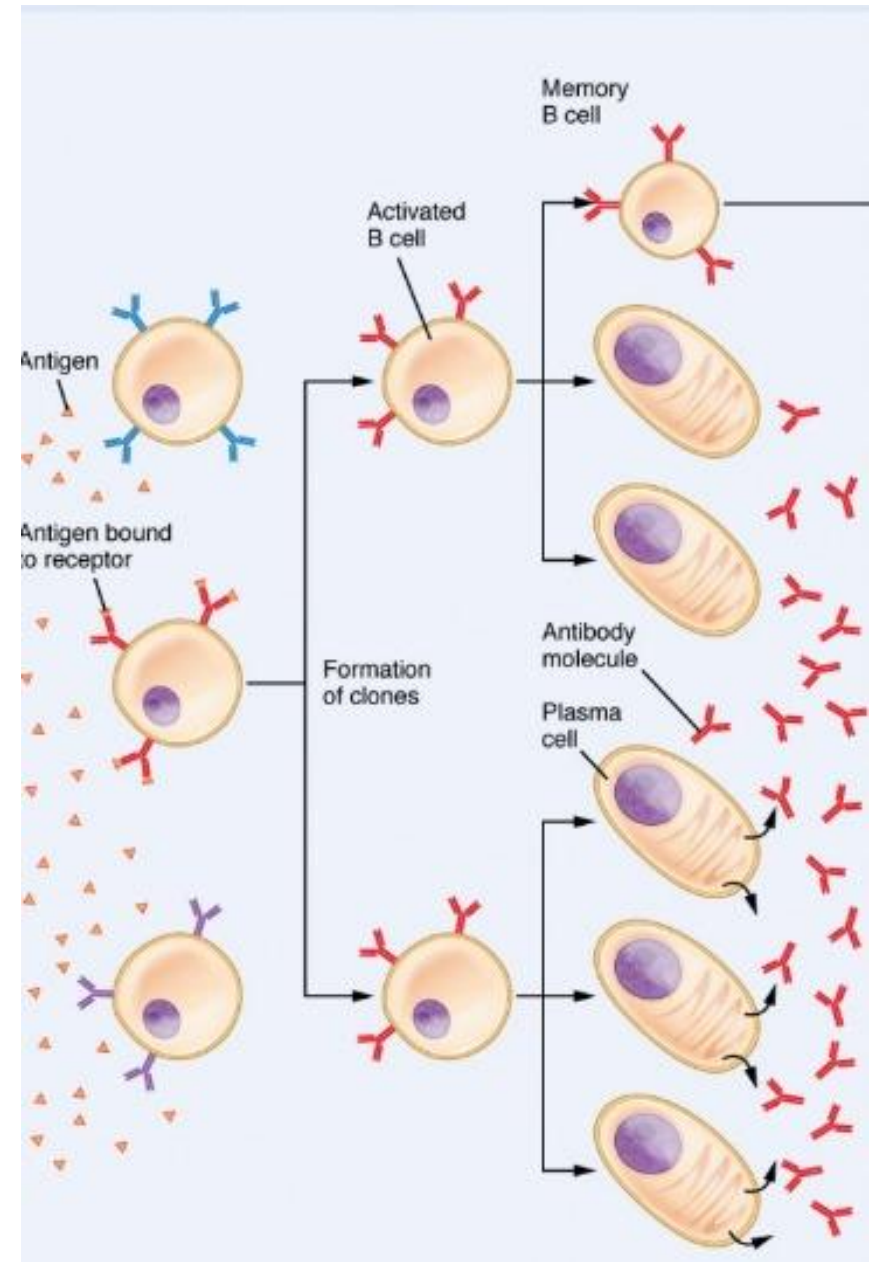
- Certain cells that possess a strong affinity for a specific target can also be used as a bioreceptor.
- **T cell** is a good example.
- Recall that the antibody is one of the major players in the immune system. There are three important cells in charge of the body's immune response: the **B cell**, the **T cell**, and the **natural killer cell (NK cell)**.
- B cell produces antibodies to fight against foreign molecules, whereas the
- T cell recognizes and fights against the foreign molecules by itself. This indicates that the T cell can also be used as an excellent bioreceptor.
- In fact, any group of cells that forms a tissue can be used as a bioreceptor, provided they can recognize and bind to a target molecule.



## TCR binding and effector cells



## TCRm binding and effector cells



Questions?



# Signal Transducers used in sensors:

- **Potentiometric Transducers:**

- Based on charge related to the analyte

- **Amperometric Transducers:**

- Rely on enzyme system that converts analytes into products, that is oxidized or reduced at a working electrode.
  - Conductance/ capacitance change of the soln. is measured

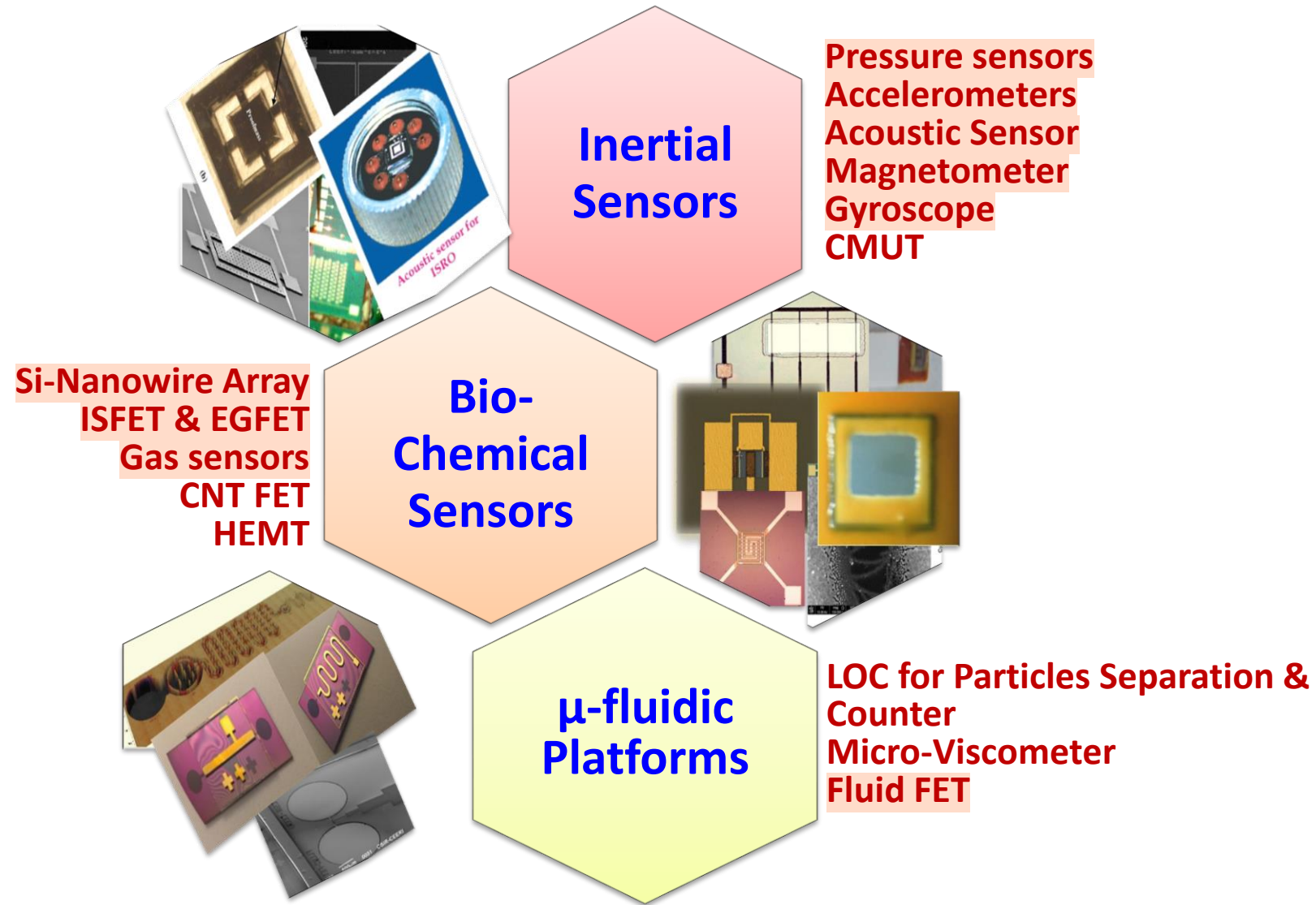
- **Optical measurements:**

- linear phenomenon - adsorption, fluorescence, phosphorescence, polarization, interference, etc.
  - non-linear phenomena - 2<sup>nd</sup> harmonic generation

- **Acoustic Transducers:**

- Use of piezoelectric crystal as a mass sensor resulting in its oscillating frequency change

# Platform Sensors Devices ...



End of lecture 5

Questions??