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 Beyond classical CMOS scaling driven performance increases, summarized as "More Moore", the ITRS roadmap considers a second branch entitled "More than Moore".

There, CMOS generates value by functional diversification and application specific extensions.

• Among the related areas, "Biochips" are explicitly highlighted.



- Biotechnology and life sciences as such have gained huge attention in recent years due to the achievements of these disciplines on the one hand and due to the belief in their potential for forthcoming decades on the other.
- Purpose of this talk is to provide an overview about status, challenges, and opportunities where Silicon and CMOS meet these disciplines.

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## **DNA\* Microarray Chips**

#### Purpose:

Highly parallel investigation concerning the presence / absence / quantitative amount of specific (pre-defined) DNA sequences in a given sample

#### **Basic setup:**

Slide ("chip") of the order mm<sup>2</sup> ... cm<sup>2</sup> made of glass / polymer material / Si

#### Most important applications:

- · Genome research
- Drug development
- Medical diagnosis

#### Application dependent requirements:

- Sensitivity / dynamic range ( $\rightarrow$  gene expression, drug development)
- Specificity (→ medical diagnosis)
- \* Within the context of this lecture, the DNA molecule is taken as a representative also for other important bio molecules such as proteins etc, since the biochemical boundary conditions required here can be easily explained by using the example of DNA only and since technical statements concerning CMOS extension etc. apply for other bio molecules as well.

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### Functionalization

by electrophoresis driven movement of off-chip synthesized DNA receptor molecules to their on-chip target position (I)









### CMOS Requirements For Electronically Driven Functionalization

- Chip must be chemically inert against applied fluidic samples and related compounds and withstand contact with "the wet world of biology"
- Introduction of noble metal electrodes / Extension of standard CMOS processes
- provision of *low-frequency* logic circuitry
- handling & switching of *large bias signals* to operate the electrodes
  - → <u>relaxed requirements</u> concerning CMOS circuit design and CMOS process performance in case CMOS functionality is used for functionalization purposes only
  - → requirements concerning *electrical readout* more challenging!

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# Summary

CMOS chips for in-vitro biotechnology applications - related to bio molecules as well as to nerve cells and neural tissue - have proven feasibility.

For such purposes, CMOS usually requires process extensions which must not deteriorate CMOS frontend properties.

Required/used CMOS minimum feature sizes are between 100 nm and 1  $\mu m.$ 

From the user's point of view the entire system (including packaging, storage, microfluidics, software, ...) must be considered.

The full potential of CMOS-based biosensor arrays is still under development as well as appropriate business models.

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Thank you