

# The 16th U.S.-Korea Forum on Nanotechnology



## DIAGNOSING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE THROUGH DETECTION OF TAU PROTEIN IN HUMAN BLOOD USING ULTRASENSITIVE NANO-GAP SENSOR: FROM CSF TO BLOOD

- Nanosensors related to human cognition and brain research

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Center for BioMicrosystems

Brain Science Institute

Korea Institute of Science and Technology

*Venue: Qualcomm Institute, UCSD*

## ● Introduction

- Alzheimer's Diseases and Diagnosis Methods
- Alzheimer's Biomarkers: A $\beta$ , Tau, NfL, Neurogranin
- Why we choose Tau and Tau PTM as a novel biomarker?

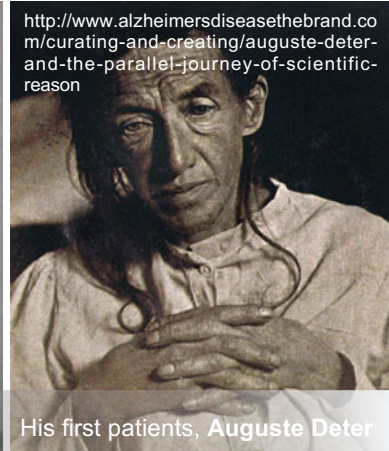
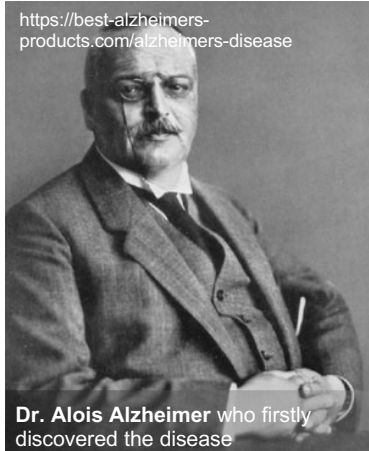
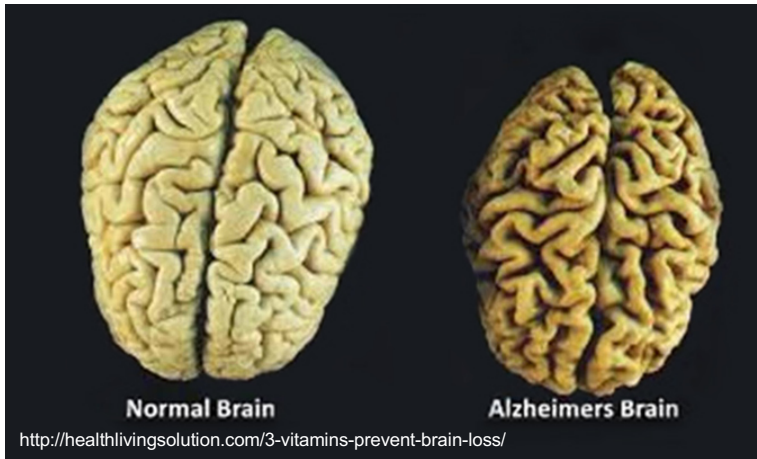
## ● Magnetic Beads Based Nanogap Sensor

- Sensing Platform for Detecting Tau, Tau PTM
- Sensing Mechanism of Bead Based Nanogap Sensor
- Experimental Results
  - Impedance Analysis using Tau recombinant
  - Limit of Detection and Dynamic Range
  - The Results of **AD Mouse Blood** (plasma)
  - The Results of **Human Blood** (plasma)





## ● Summary





## ● Acknowledgements

## What is Alzheimer's disease?

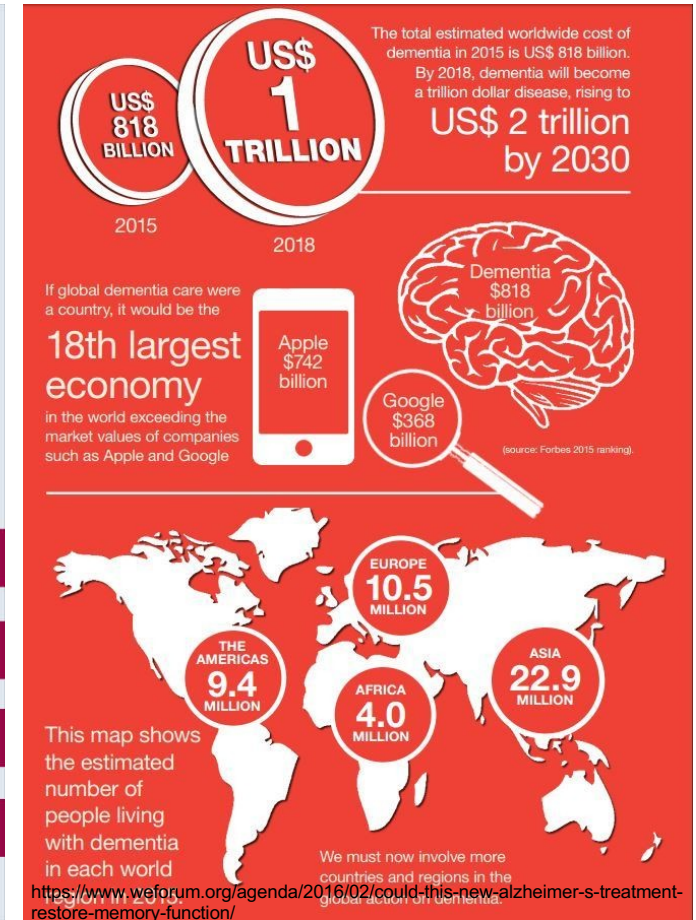


## Symptoms of Alzheimer's Disease

- Memory loss 
- Gradual loss of ability to perform normal tasks 
- Loss of vision and coordination 
- Inability to recognize and use familiar objects 

-  Challenges in Planning or Solving Problems
-  Confusing day from night
-  Inappropriate use of words
-  Mood changes

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## Current diagnostic methods

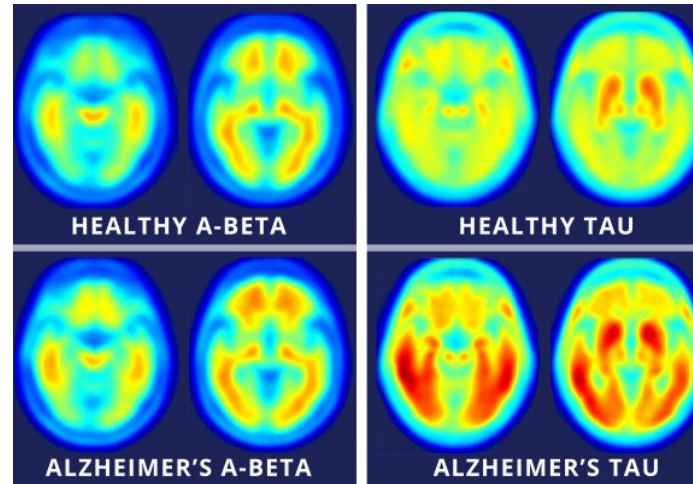
### MMSE scoring



NC 29 ( $\pm 1.4$ )  
MCI 27 ( $\pm 1.6$ )  
AD 19 ( $\pm 4.9$ )

Zetterberg, H.; Plasma tau levels in Alzheimer's disease. *Alzheimer's research & therapy* 2013, 5 (2), 9.

### Brain Imaging (PET)

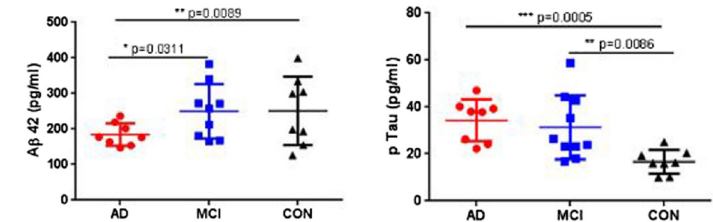
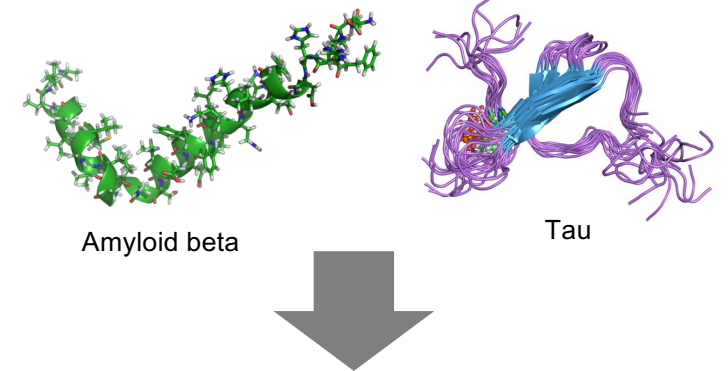


<https://medcitynews.com/2016/05/brain-imaging-agent-alzheimer/>

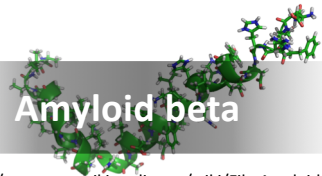
### Biomarker quantification in CSF and blood

National Institute On Aging/YouTube

<https://www.drugtargetreview.com/>



Yang, T et al. *Alzheimer's research & therapy* 2015, 7(1), 14.



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Amyloid-beta-42\\_1IYT.png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Amyloid-beta-42_1IYT.png)

Sensing platform	Journal/year	Title (corresponding)	Protein form	Limit of detection	Dynamic range	Sensitivity	Specificity
IP-MS	Nature 554, 249-254	High performance plasma amyloid- $\beta$ biomarkers for Alzheimer's disease (Katsuhiko Yanagisawa)	APP 669-711/Abeta 1-42	2.5Da	~180ng/ml	96.7% (AUC)	81.0% (AUC)
	2018						



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tau\\_protein#/media/File:PDB\\_1i8h\\_EBI.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tau_protein#/media/File:PDB_1i8h_EBI.jpg)

IMR	Journal of Alzheimer's Disease, vol. 61, no. 4, pp. 1323-1332	Assay of plasma phosphorylated tau protein (threonine 181) and total tau protein in early-stage Alzheimer's disease (Shieh-Yueh Yang)	Tau	0.0028 pg/ml	0.001-10000pg/ml	0.793 (ROC)	0.836 (ROC)
	2018						



<https://www.labmedica.com/molecular-diagnostics/articles/294777864/neurofilament-light-considered-as-niv-biomarker-for-alzheimers-disease.html>

Digital ELISA	Alzheimer's Research & Therapy 10:71	Plasma neurofilament light as a potential biomarker of neurodegeneration in Alzheimer's disease (Piotr Lewczuk)	nfl	0.62 pg/ml	unknown	0.84 (ROC)	0.78 (ROC)
	2018						

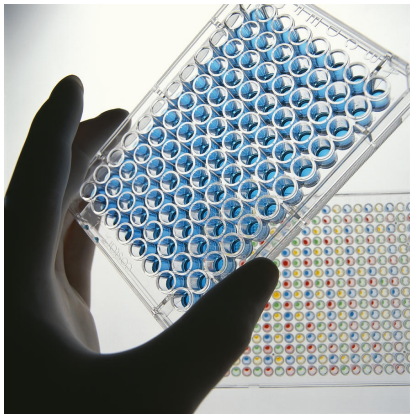


<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/pdbe/entry/pdb/4e50/analysis>

ELISA	Alzheimer's & Dementia 11 1461-1469	C-terminal neurogranin is increased in cerebrospinal fluid but unchanged in plasma in Alzheimer's disease (Eugeen Vanmechelen)	neurogranin	3 pg/ml	3-2000 pg/ml	x	x
	2015						

# CURRENT DETECTION METHODS USING BIOMARKERS IN BLOOD

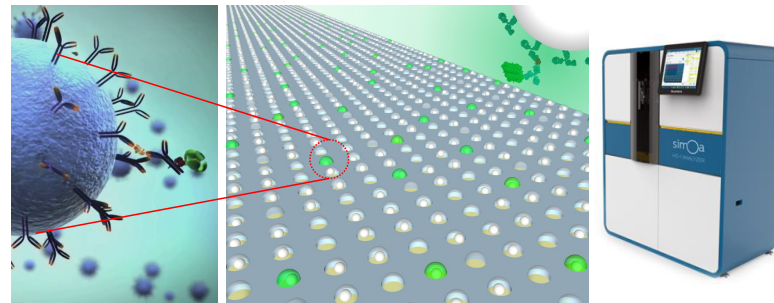
## ELISA



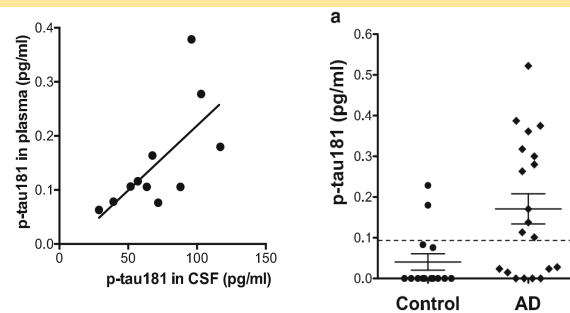
Low sensitivity for  
detecting Tau in  
blood  
(10~1000 pg/ml)

Not enough LOD

## Digital ELISA - Quantarix



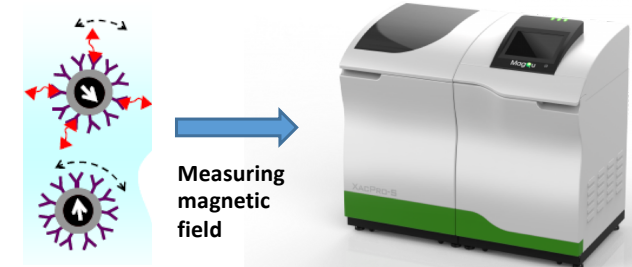
Results : p-Tau181 in Human Blood (Plasma) & CSF



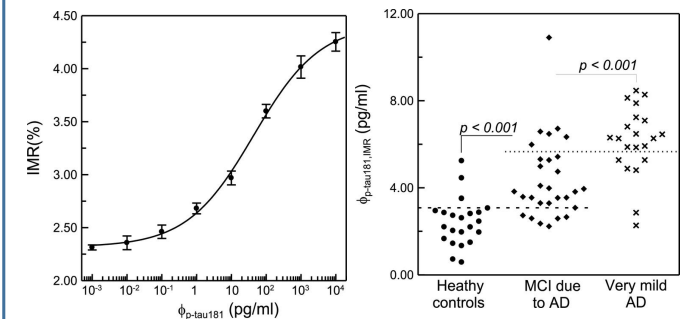
Molecular Neurodegeneration 2017, 12 (1), 63.

LOD of p-Tau 181 : 0.1 pg/ml

## IMR sensor -MagQu



Results: Tau in Human Plasma



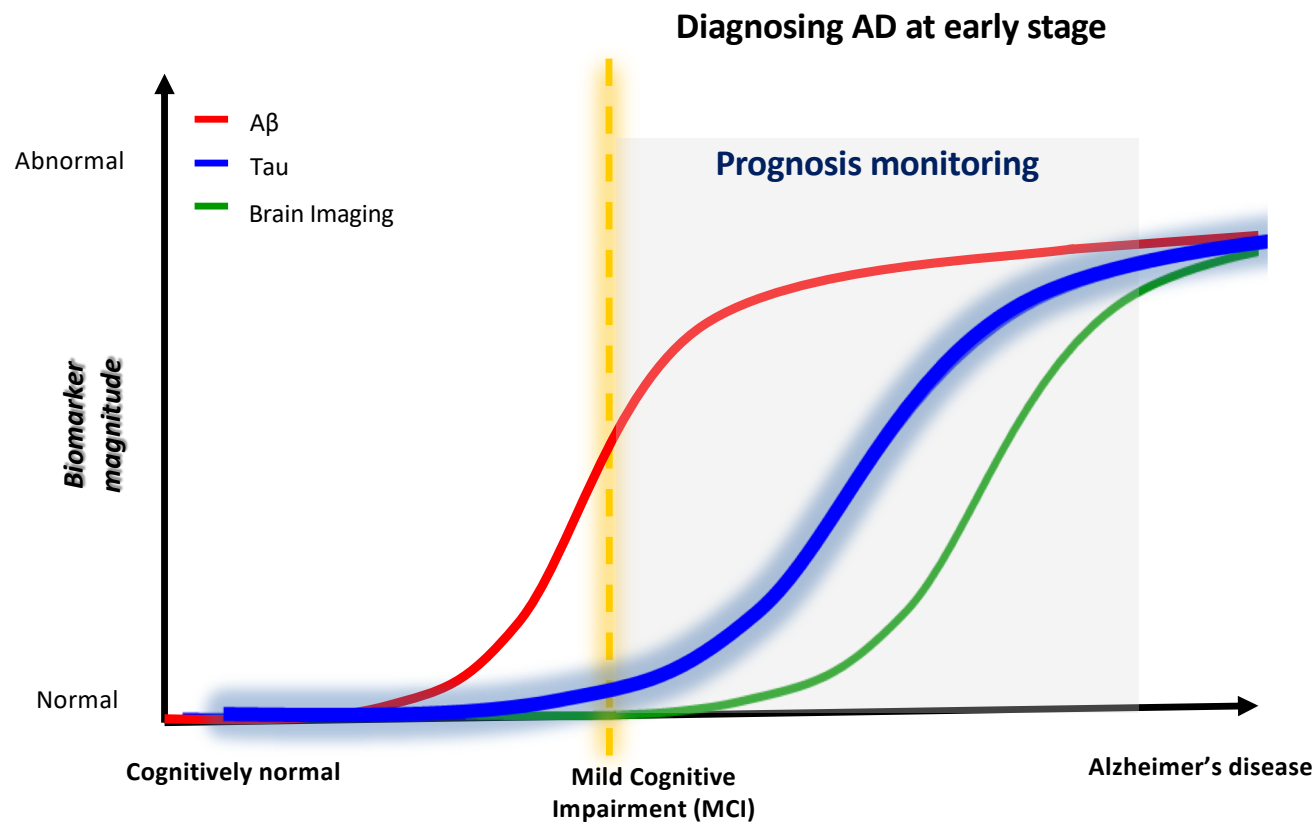
LOD of Tau : 0.03 pg/ml

Journal of Alzheimer's Disease 2018, 61(4), 1323-1332.

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# WHY WE CHOOSE **TAU** AND **TAU PTM** AS A NOVEL BIOMARKER

- Prognosis monitoring
- P tau and O-g Tau
- Ratio: P tau/tau vs. O-g tau/tau



AD : Alzheimer's diseases

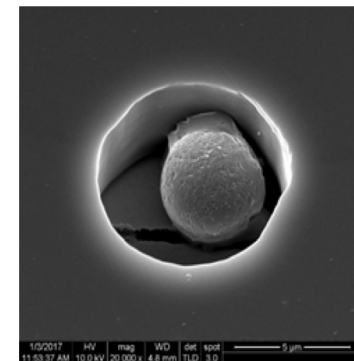
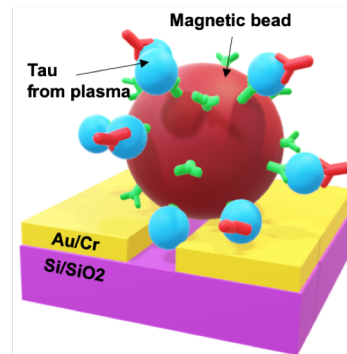
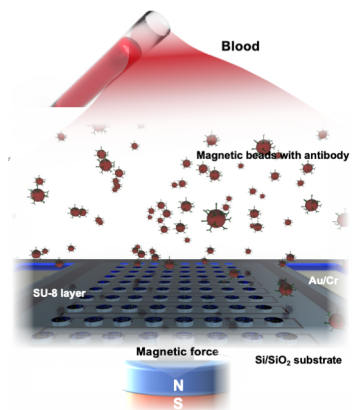
- Brain Imaging (PET) can be diagnosed after the progression of Alzheimer's diseases
- A $\beta$  is unable to prognosis because it is being saturated quickly
- Tau is more suitable for monitoring Alzheimer's disease by detecting concentration of Tau or P Tau continuously

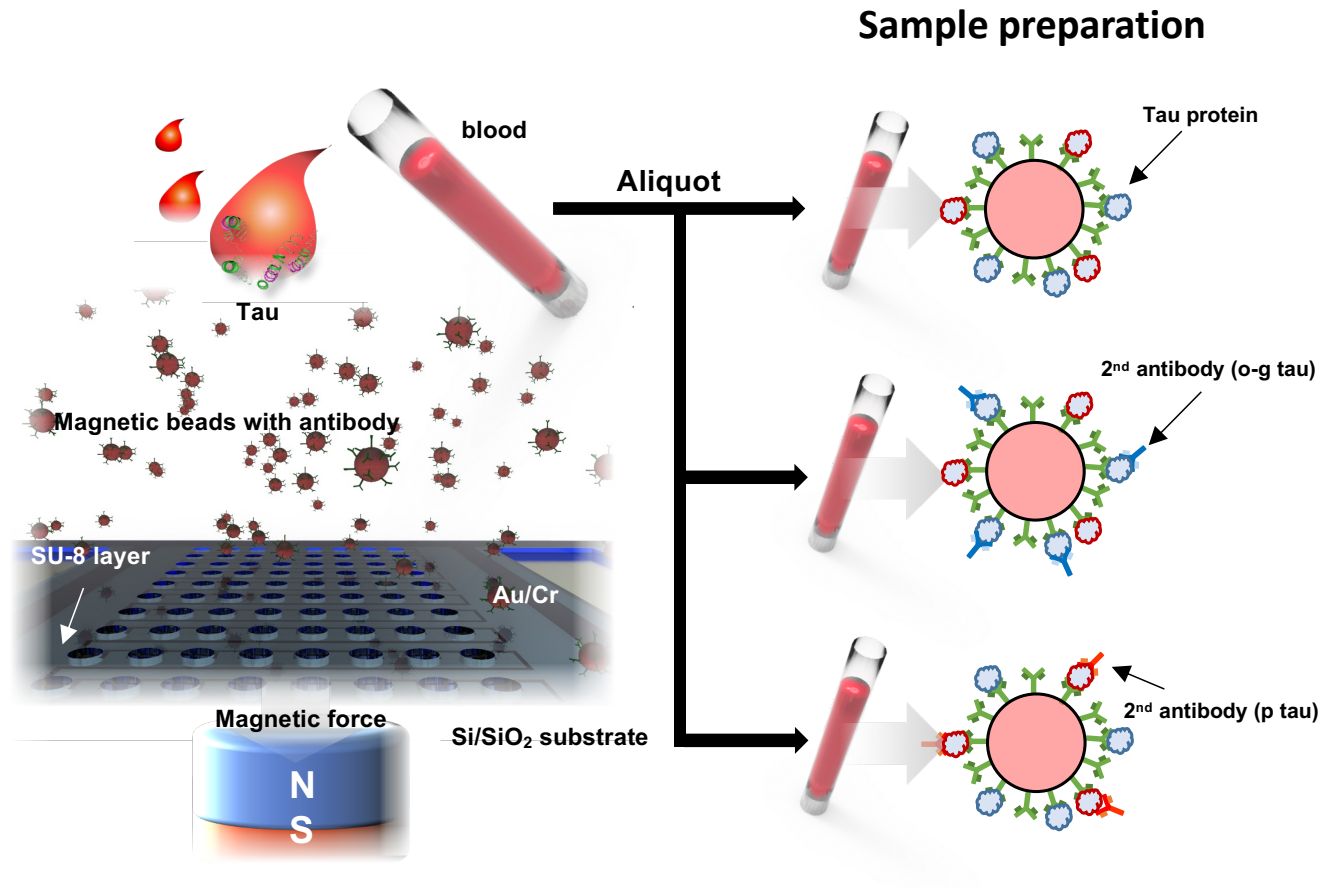
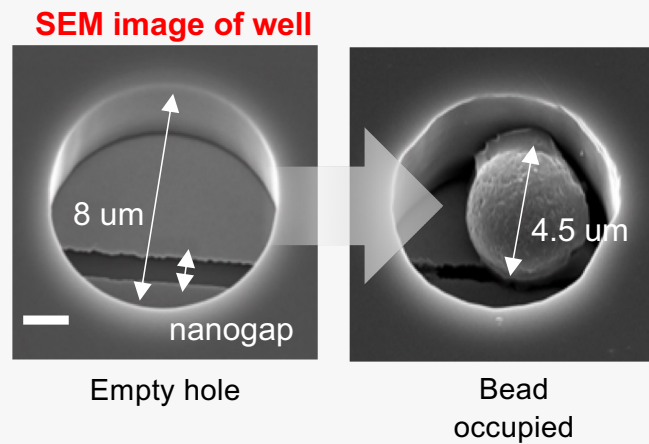
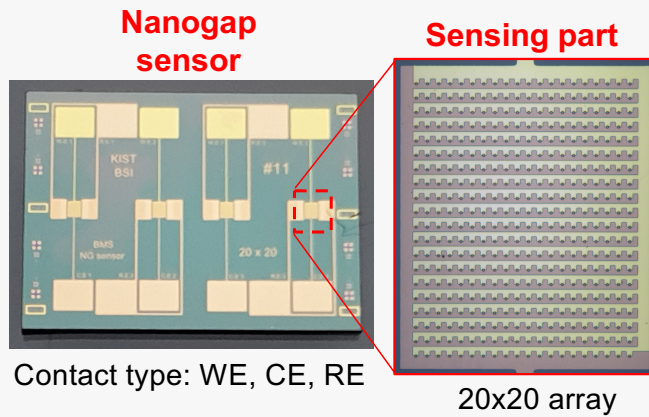
이 그래프의 reference 추가하기



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# MAGNETIC BEADS BASED NANOGAP SENSOR





# FABRICATION PROCESS OF MAGNETIC BEAD BASED NANOGAP SENSOR

SU-8 Lithography & development

Lift-off process

Metal deposition

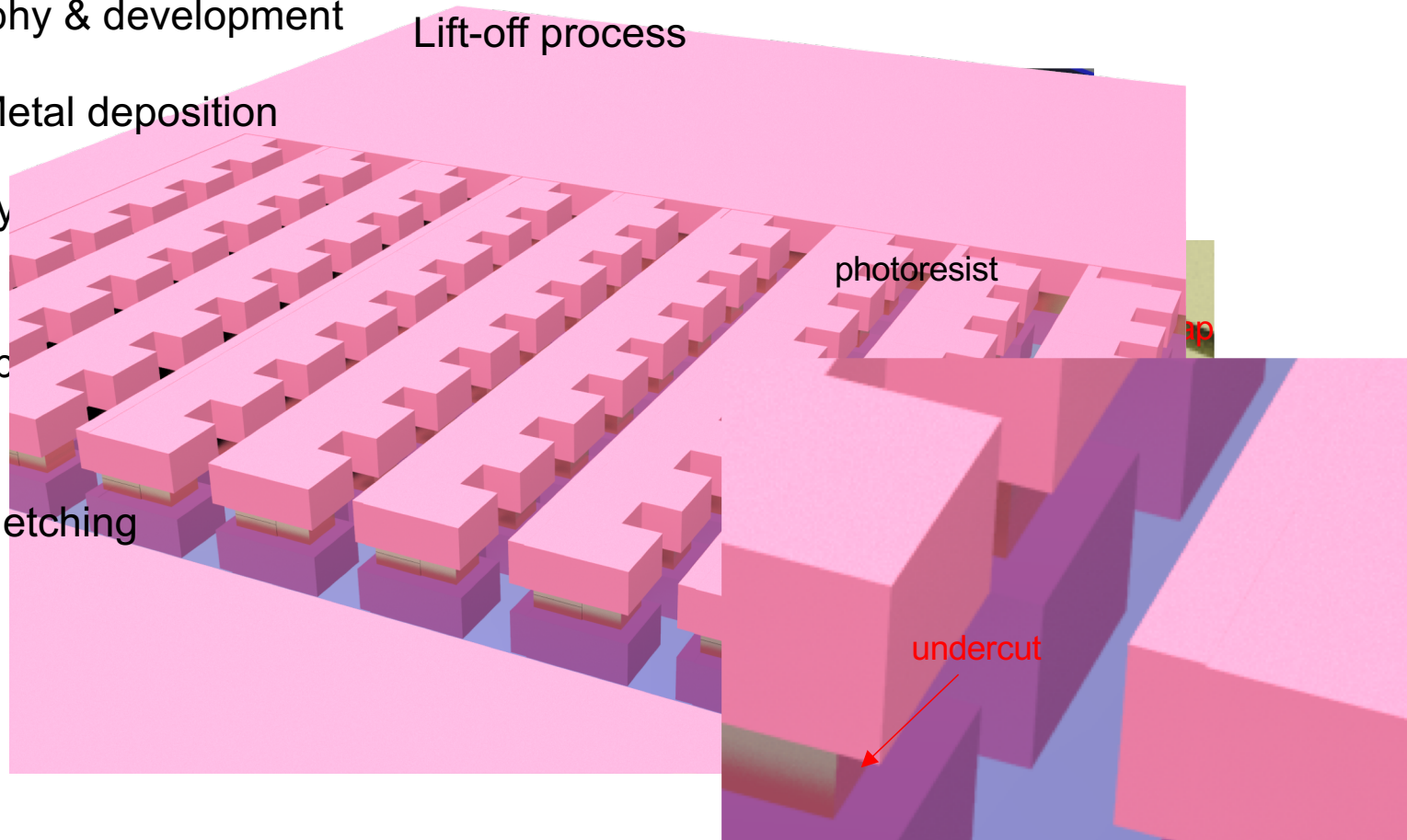
Lithography

Metal dep

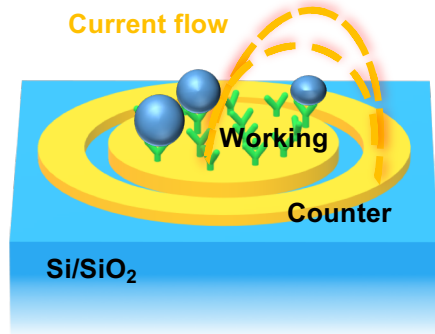
Wet etching

photoresist

undercut



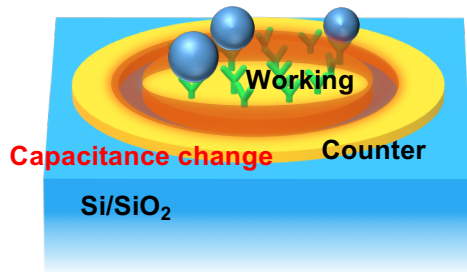
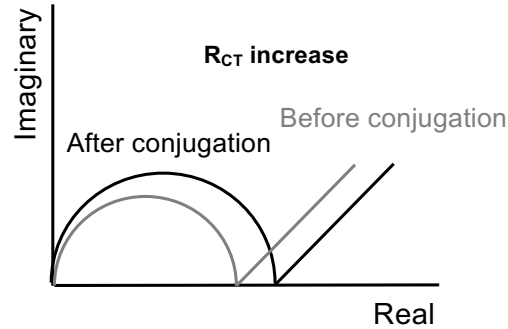
## Conventional EC sensor



### Faradaic type

The interaction of the charged redox species with the charged probe layer can significantly impact  $R_{ct}$

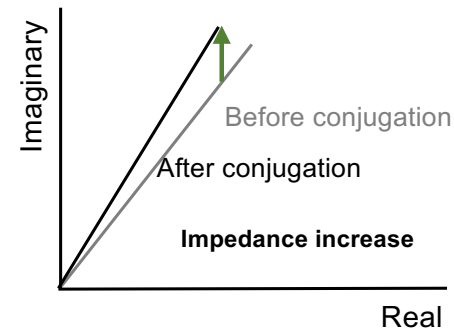
### Nyquist plot



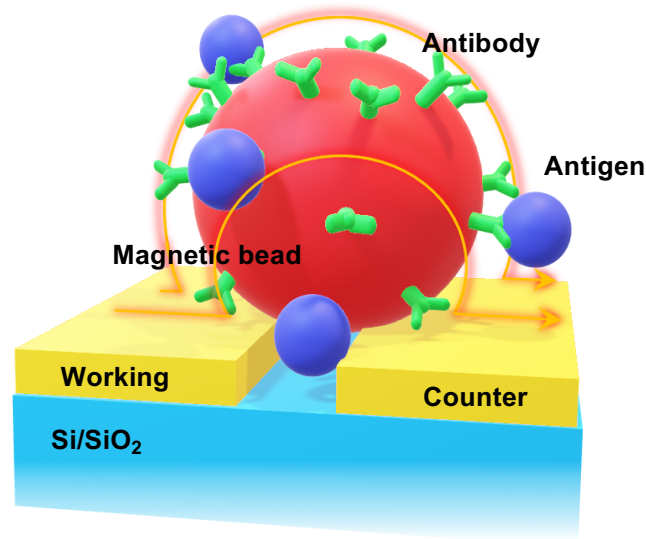
### Non-faradaic type

It is common to rationalize changes in  $C_{surf}$  as occurring due to displacement of water and ions from the surface upon target binding.

### Nyquist plot

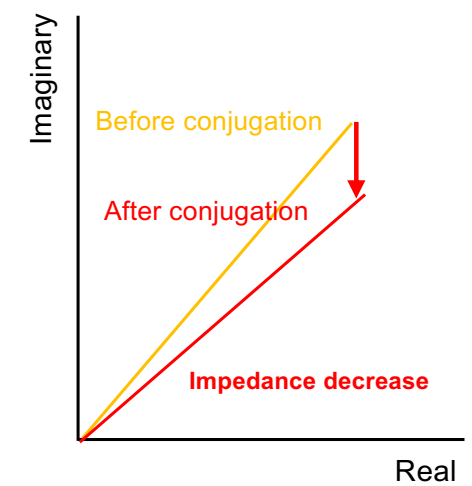


## Developed sensor







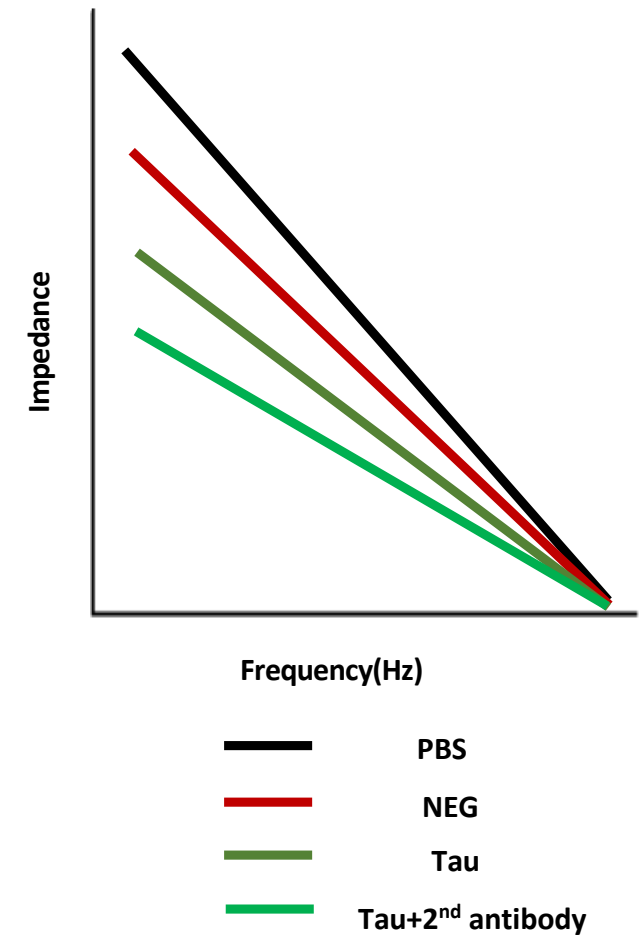
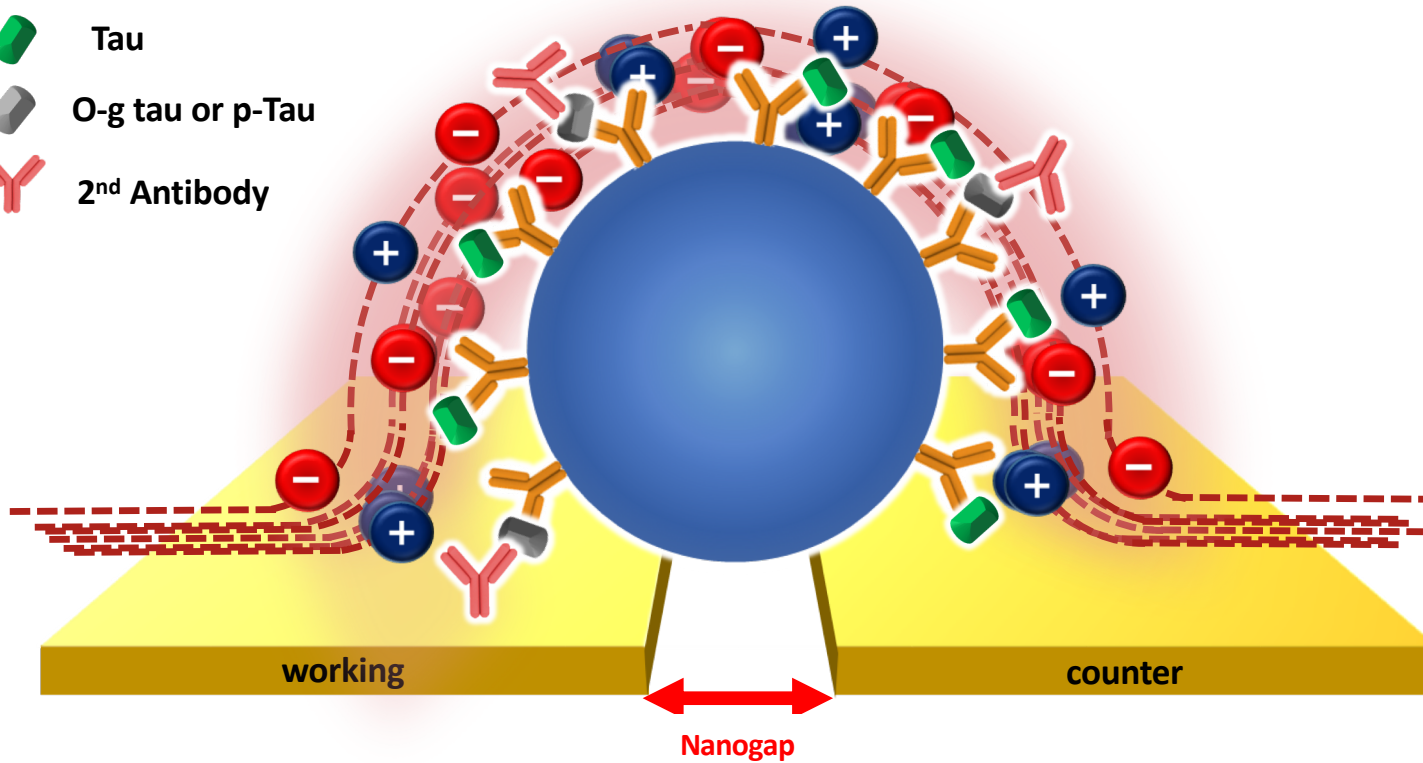
### New concept

### Nyquist plot

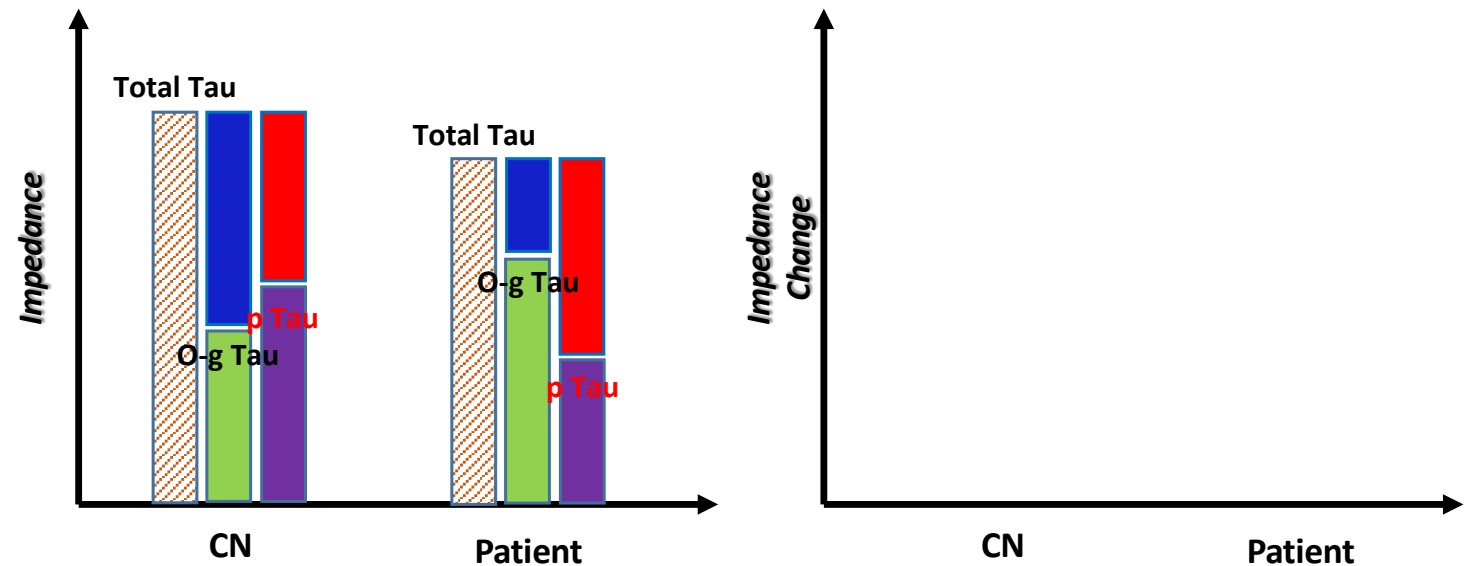
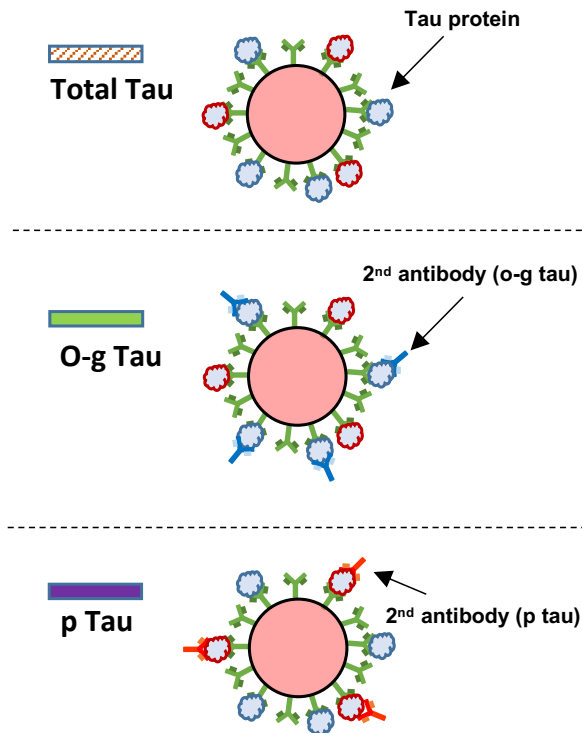


# SENSING MECHANISM OF MAGNETIC BEAD BASED NANOGAP SENSOR

-  1<sup>st</sup> Antibody
-  Tau
-  O-g tau or p-Tau
-  2<sup>nd</sup> Antibody



❖ AD diagnostic and prognosis monitoring using tau PTM analysis



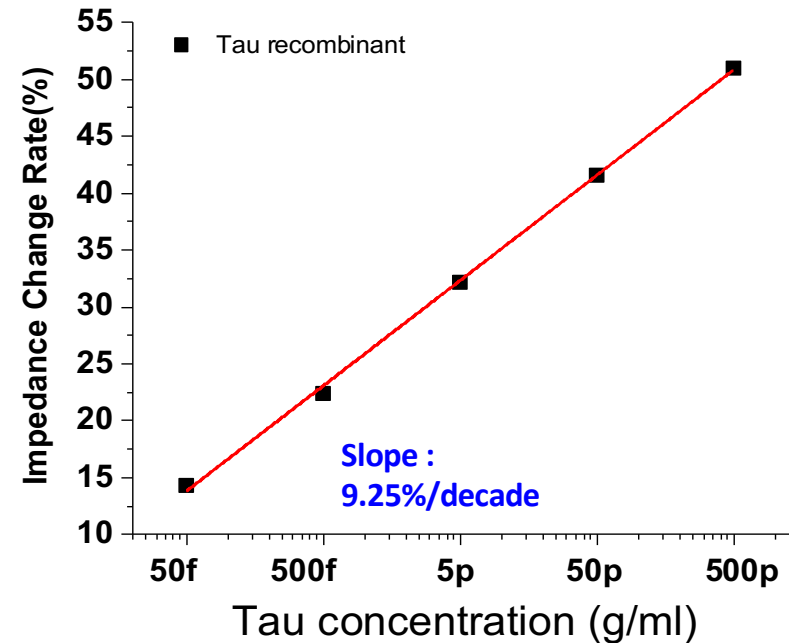
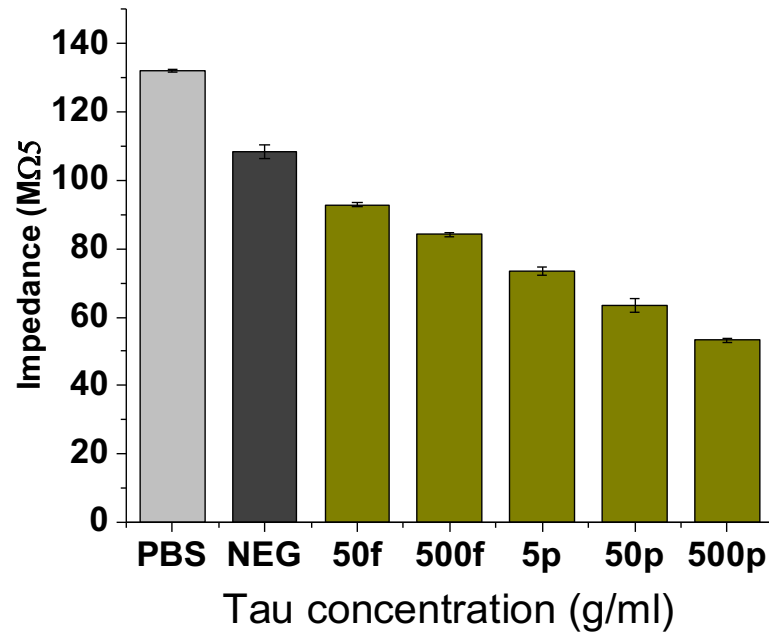
U.S. patent, "Method for monitoring post-translational modification of protein", 15/696302, notice of allowance  
EU patent, "Method for monitoring post-translational modification of protein", 17895180.2, patent pending

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# EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

- **Impedance analysis using Tau recombinant**
- **Limit of Detection and Dynamic Range using cell lysates**
- **The results of AD mouse blood**
- **The results of Human blood**

❖ **Tau Recombinant measurement (Dynamic Range)**

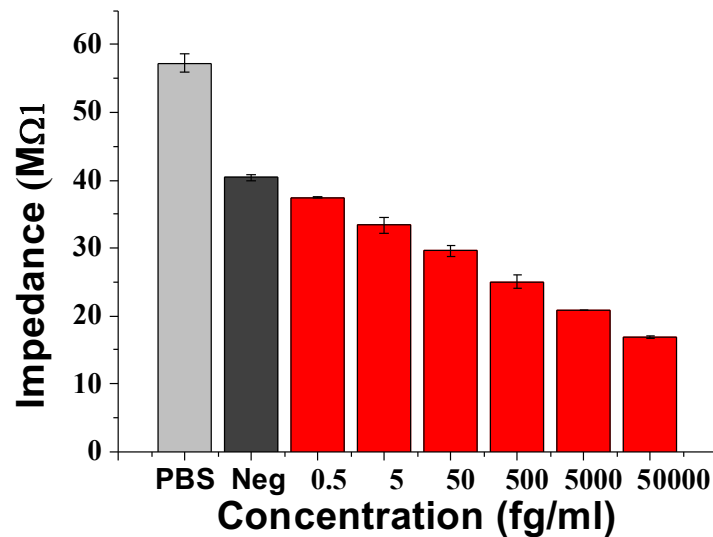


- **Tau-441 human, recombinant, 2N4R**
- **Concentration of Tau protein range: 50 fg/ml ~ 500 pg/ml**



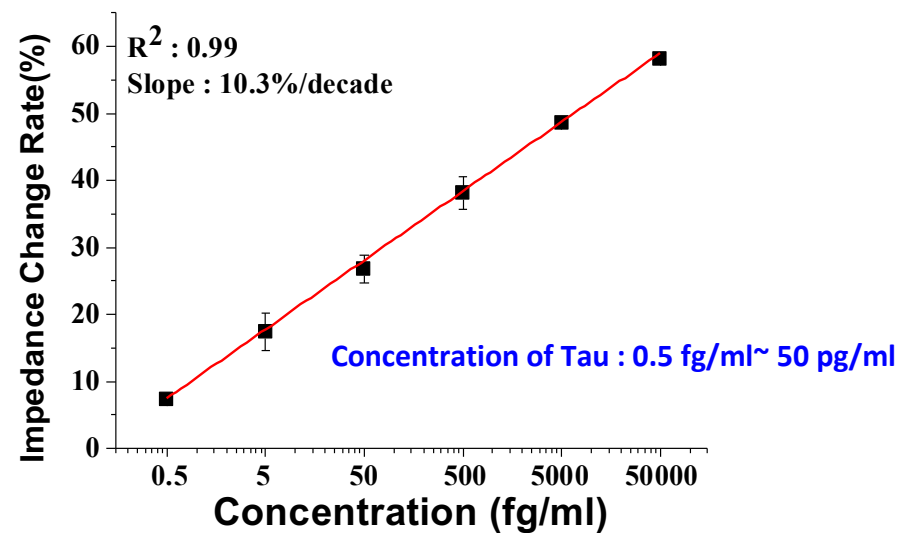
# EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS: LIMIT OF DETECTION AND DYNAMIC RANGE USING CELL LYSATES

- Impedance is decreased by Tau concentration



- Ultra-high sensitivity

- Wide Dynamic range



	ELISA	Digital ELISA (quanterix)	Nanogap array sensor
LOD	10 pg/ml	19 fg/ml	0.5 fg/ml
DR	10 pg/ml ~ ug/ml	0 ~ 360 pg/ml	0.5 fg/ml ~ 500 pg/ml

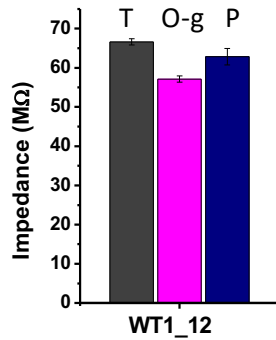
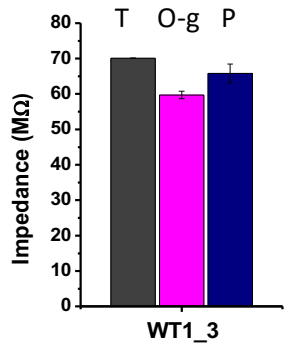
LOD : Limit of Detection

DR : Dynamic Range

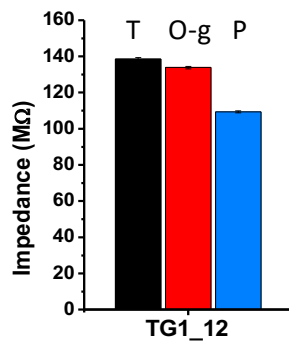
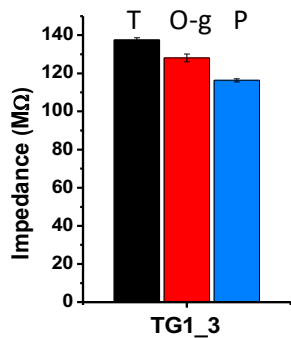
- Tau P301L mouse



- Wild type mouse 3, 12 month



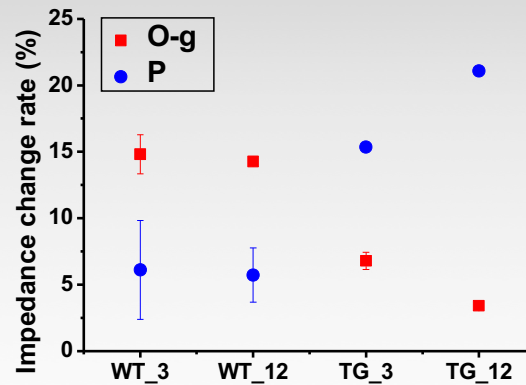
- Transgenic mouse 3, 12 month



$$\text{Impedance change rate(\%)} = \frac{Z_{Neg} - Z_{T\tau}}{Z_{Neg}} \times 100\%$$

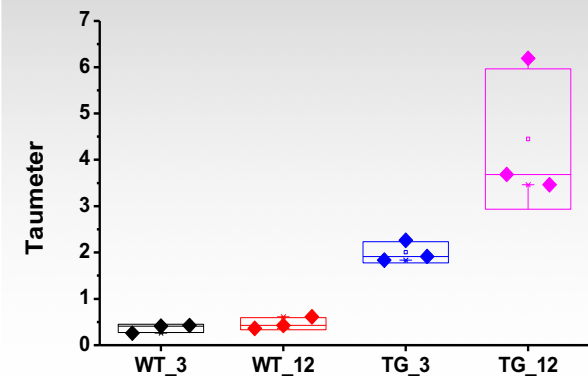
$$\text{O-g tau impedance change rate(\%)} = \frac{Z_{T\tau} - Z_{O-g\tau}}{Z_{T\tau}} \times 100\%$$

$$\text{P tau impedance change rate(\%)} = \frac{Z_{T\tau} - Z_{P\tau}}{Z_{T\tau}} \times 100\%$$



**Taumeter**

$$\text{Taumeter} = \frac{\text{P tau impedance change rate}}{\text{O-g tau impedance change rate}}$$



# SUMMARY

- ✓ Nanogap sensor platform was successfully developed to measure Tau and Tau PTM in blood for AD's diagnosis and prognosis
- ✓ Tau, O-g tau, and P tau were measured and analyzed using cell lysates (Tau-BiFC), Tau 301pL mouse blood, and human blood.
- ✓ As a novel biomarker to diagnose AD using blood, **Taumeter** (P tau/O-g tau) is suggested and measured.
- ✓ Taumeter from mouse and human bloods can improve diagnostic accuracy
- ✓ Taumeter can be a promising biomarker to diagnose and prognose AD

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