

Cybermanufacturing: Cloud-Based Incubation Ecosystem for EWOD Digital Microfluidics #1720499; 8/15/2017; CJ Kim and Lei He, University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA)

Challenge:

- Digital microfluidics operates liquids electrically with no pump
- Despite its simplicity and flexibility, the required technology limits the user base to mostly engineers

Solution:

- Build standard engineering, i.e., chip design, chip fabrication, control electronics
- Establish a cloud ecosystem that offers the engineering
- Users share their experience in the ecosystem, building collective knowledge

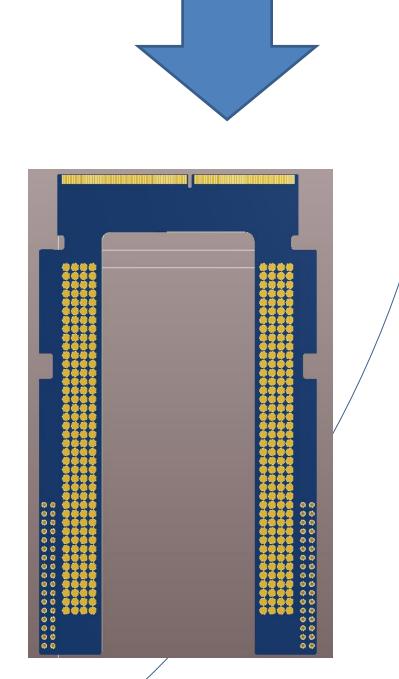
System lays out digital microfluidic chip

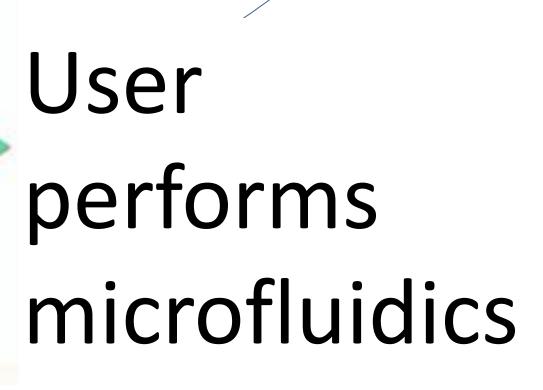
System provides operating electronics Knowledge accumulates

Factory fabricates the chip

A user has an idea

> Add modules





Scientific Impact:

Broader Impact:

 Scientific discoveries by collective efforts

 New applications found and validated by the users

 Increased user base will induce more engineering tools, leading to more scientific discoveries

 The incubation ecosystem will allow a huge user base -chemists, biologists, hobbyists -- to use digital microfluidics • The virtual lab will help K-12 education by allowing students design and perform own experiments safely