

# Ultrasensitive 3D Nano plasmonic Microarray for Multiplex Detection of EGFR Mutations via Liquid Biopsy

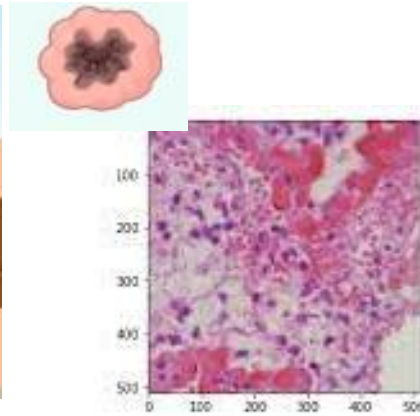
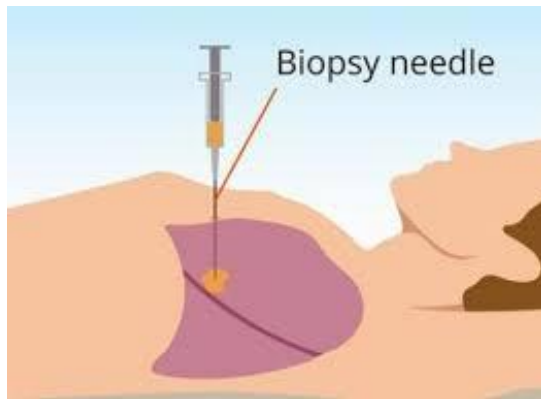
Korea Institute of Materials Science  
Bio and Healthcare Materials Research Division

Lee Ji Young ph. D.

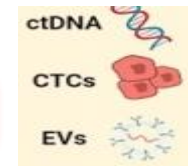
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실현합니다

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# Cancer Liquid Biopsy



**Tissue biopsy**



**Liquid biopsy**

**Invasive**

**Long duration  
required**

**High sensitivity**

**High cost of sample  
separation**

**Lack of monitoring  
of tumor evolution**

**No heterogeneity in  
tumor response**

**Minimal  
invasiveness**

**Low sensitivity**

**Real-time  
monitoring of drug  
response**

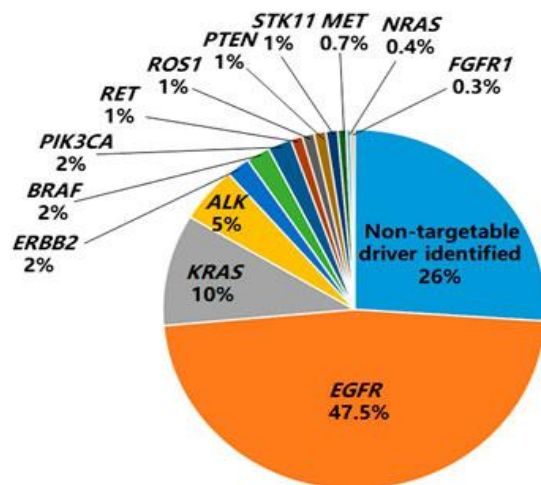
**Short duration**

**Low sensitivity**

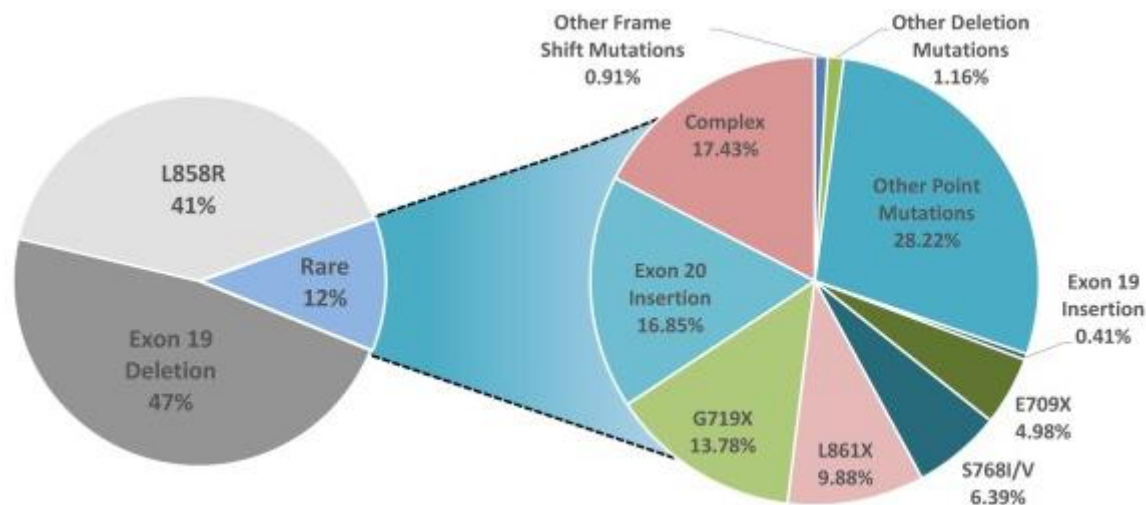
**Heterogeneity in  
tumor response**

# The importance of EGFR mutations in non-small cell lung cancer patients

## Mutation frequency in lung cancer patients



## EGFR mutation frequency



Carcinoma	Biomarker	Targeted therapies
Non-small cell lung cancer	EGFR exon 19 deletions, EGFR exon 21 L858 alterations	erlotinib, afatinib, gefitinib
	EGFR exon 20 T790M alterations	Osimertinib
	ALK rearrangements	crizotinib, alectinib, certinib
	BRAF V600E	dabrafenib

EGFR: Epidermal growth factor receptor

ALK: Anaplastic lymphoma kinase



# EGFR Exon 19 Deletion target detection



## Representative Exon 19 deletion sequences

TGCTGGGCTCCGGTGCCTTCGGACCGGTGATATAAGGACTCTGGATCCAGAGGTGAGAAAGTAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGAATTAAGAGAAGCAACATCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCTCGATGAAGCCTACGTGATGGCAAGCGTGACAAACCCACGTGTCCGCTGCTGGCATCTGCCTCACCC

Wild type exon19 sequence, 200bp

2230 2240 2250 2260 2270

```

1 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGAATTAAGAGAAGCAACATCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
2 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGAATCATCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
3 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGAATGCAACATCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
4 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGATCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
5 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGAACATCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
6 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGATCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
7 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGACCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
8 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
9 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGAATCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
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11 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGAACCAACATCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
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13 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGTTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
14 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGAATAATCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
15 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGATATCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
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20 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGCATCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
21 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGTCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
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26 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGAATTAAGAGAAGCACT
27 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGTCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
28 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGGATCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
29 TAAATTCCTCGCTATCAAGCATCATCTCCGAAAGCCAAACAGGAAATCCT
    
```

### cobas® EGFR Mutation Test v2

Exon 19	ExonDel	Position	Sequence
	1	2240_2251del12	6210
	2	2239_2247del9	6218
	3	2238_2255del18	6220
	4	2235_2249del15	6223
	5	2236_2250del15	6225
	6	2239_2253del15	6254
	7	2239_2256del18	6255
	8	2237_2254del18	12367
	9	2240_2254del15	12369
	10	2240_2257del18	12370
	11	2239_2248TTAAGAGAAG>C	12382
	12	2239_2251>C	12383
	13	2237_2255>T	12384
	14	2235_2255>AAT	12385
	15	2237_2252>T	12386
	16	2239_2258>CA	12387
	17	2239_2256>CAA	12403
	18	2237_2253>TTGCT	12416
	19	2238_2252>GCA	12419
	20	2238_2248>GC	12422
	21	2237_2251del15	12678
	22	2236_2253del18	12728
	23	2235_2248>AATTC	13550
	24	2235_2252>AAT	13551
	25	2235_2251>AATTC	13552
	26	2253_2276del24	13556
	27	2237_2257>TCT	18427
	28	2238_2252del15	23571
	29	2233_2247del15	26038

Lung cancer



Exon 19 deletion

Mutant type : Exon19 deletion sequences

Number of possibilities,  $2^{26} = 67,108,864$

# Spectral Signal Enhancement through Plasmonic Nanomaterials



## ◆ Spectral Signal Amplification Technology Using Plasmonic Nanomaterials:

This technology uses plasmon resonance in noble metal nanomaterials triggered by light–electron interactions.

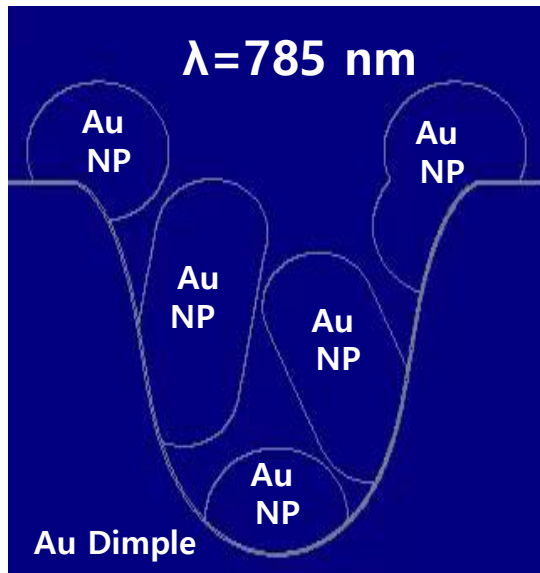
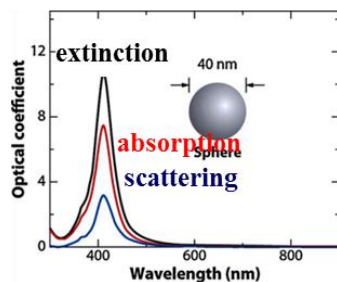
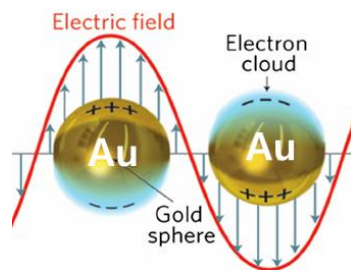
It greatly enhances Raman (SERS) and fluorescence (PEF) signals from surface-bound molecules.

As a result, it allows ultra-sensitive detection of disease biomarkers at trace levels (below ppb) in biological samples.

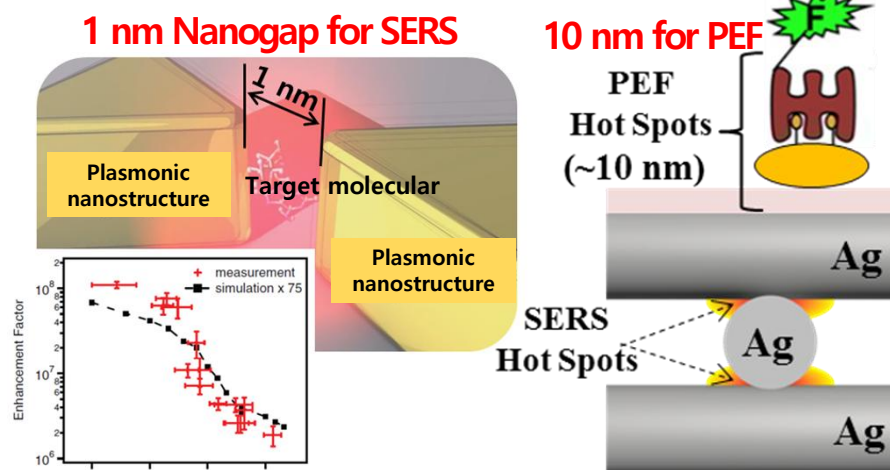
• **SERS:** Noble metal nanogaps where plasmonic coupling is maximized (SERS enhancement factor  $> 10^8$ )

• **PEF:** Nanogaps of  $\sim 10$  nm, corresponding to the optimal distance for fluorescence signal generation (PEF enhancement factor  $\sim 10^2$ )

### • LSPR and Plasmonic Hot-Volume



### • SERS and PEF Hot Spots



Appl. Spectro. Rev., 2018, 1467440

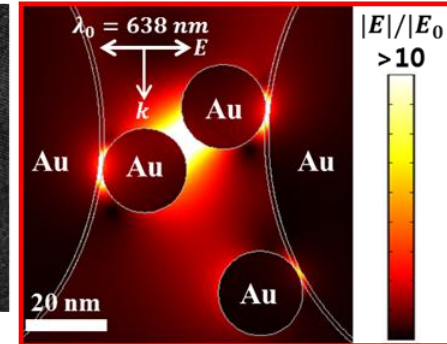
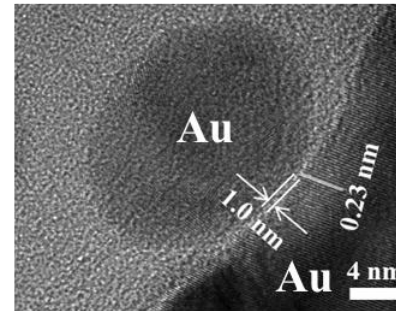
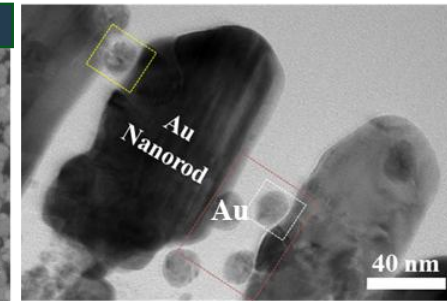
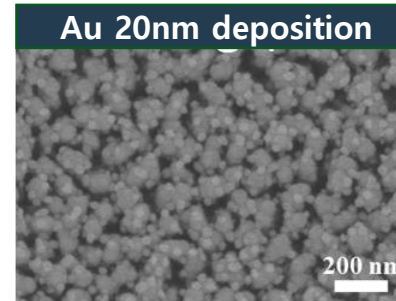
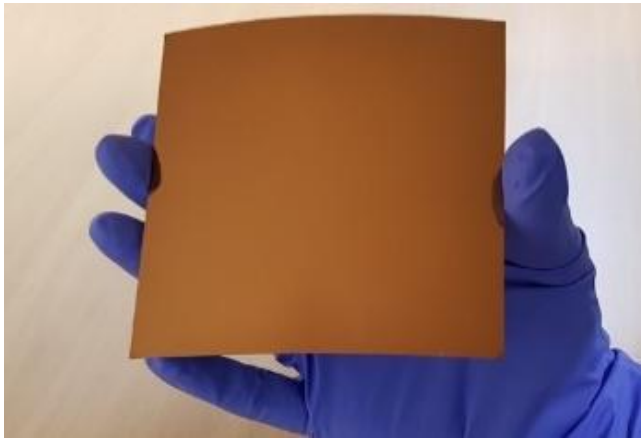
\*LSPR: Localized Surface Plasmon Resonance

\*SERS: Surface-Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy

\*PEF: Plasmon-Enhanced Fluorescence

# Large-Area, Ultra-Sensitive Nanoplasmonic Substrate

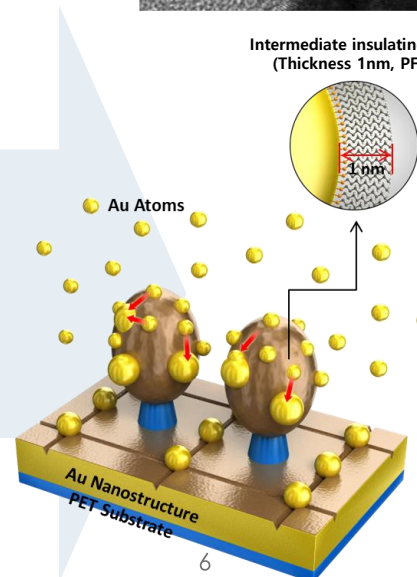
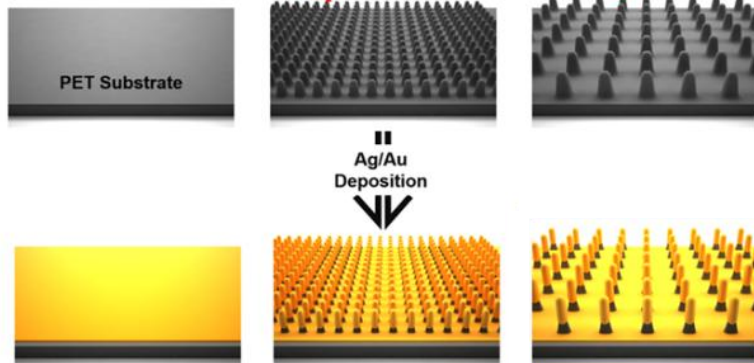
## Surface-Enhanced Fluorescence Multilayer Nanomaterial



Ar Plasma Treatment Time

Nanoprotrusions

HAR Nanopillars



- Formation of Large-Area Nanopillars on Plastic Substrates
- Densely Packed Gold Nanoparticles on Gold Nanopillar Structures
- Scalable Large-Area Substrate Fabrication (> 4 inches)

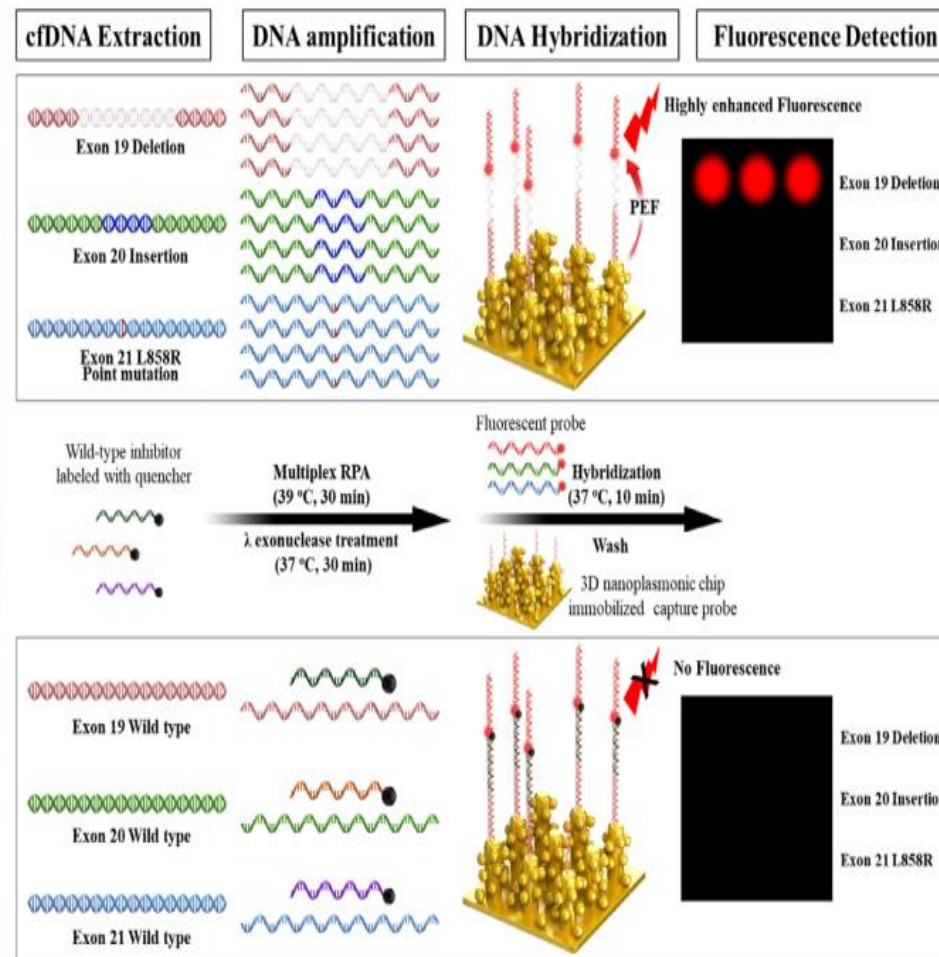
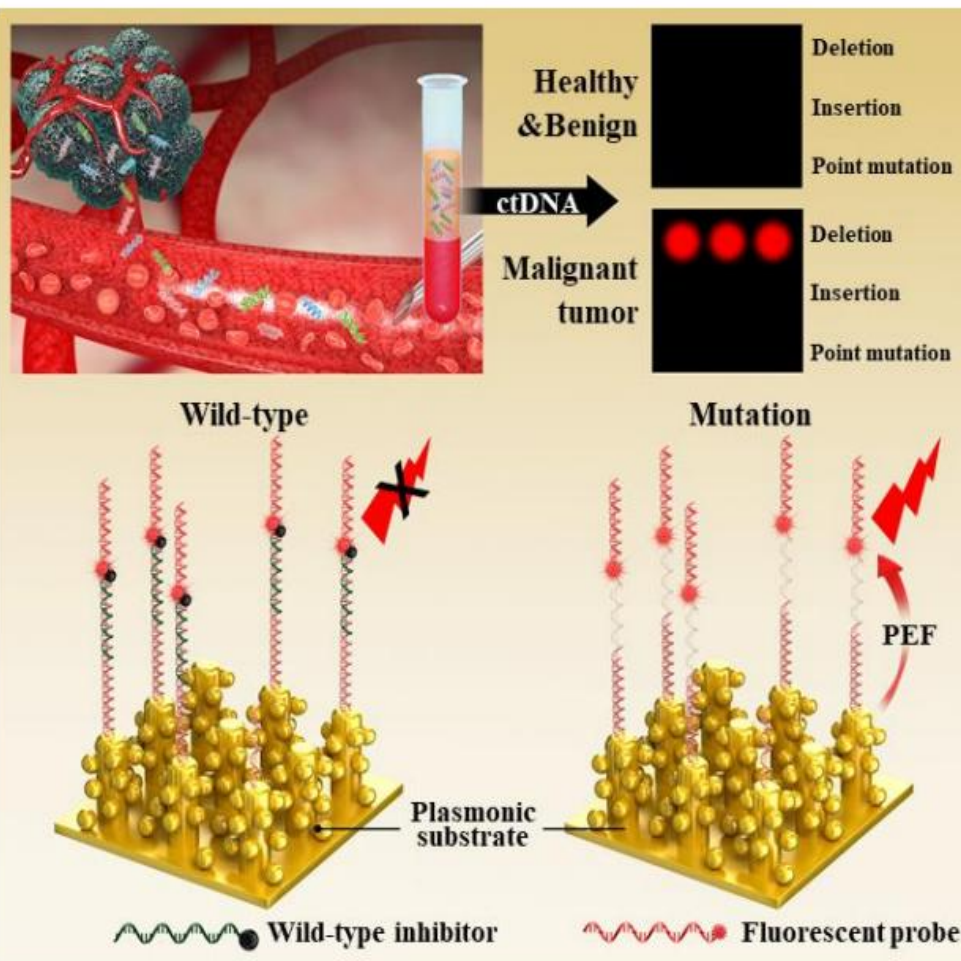


# Plasmonic microarray design and method

조재광  
실험



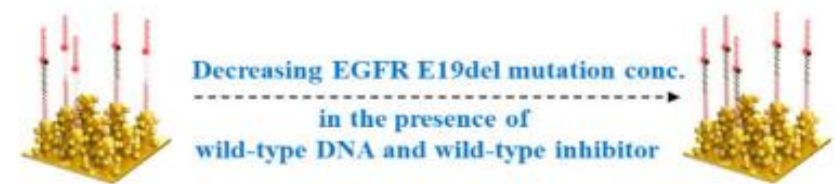
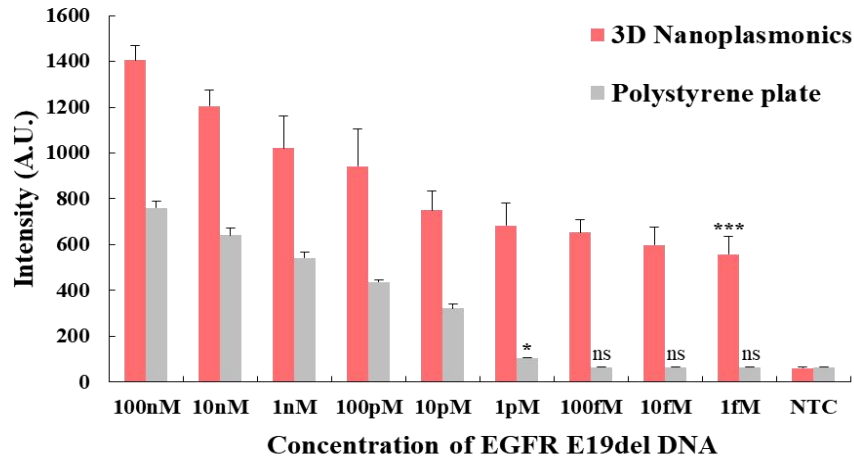
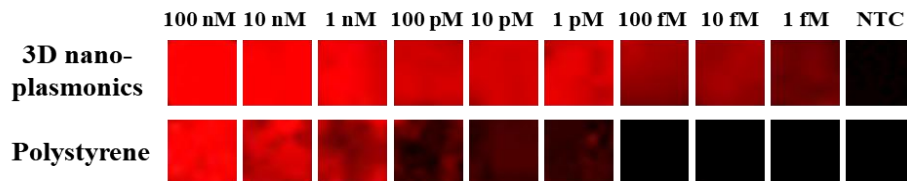
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published inside cover



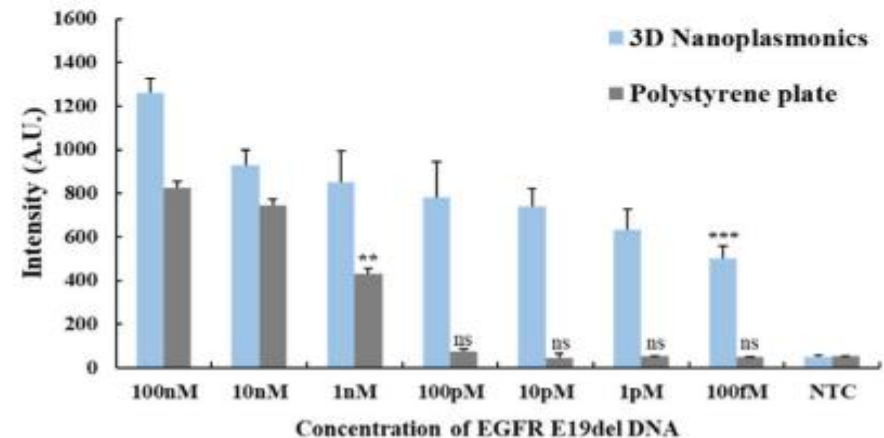
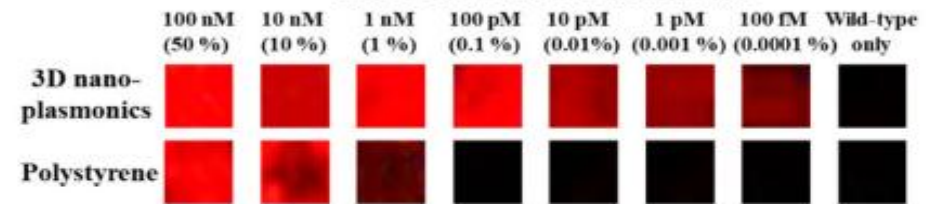
# Detection sensitivity of plasmonic substrates (without nucleic acid amplification)



EGFR E19del DNA concentrations



EGFR E19del DNA concentrations

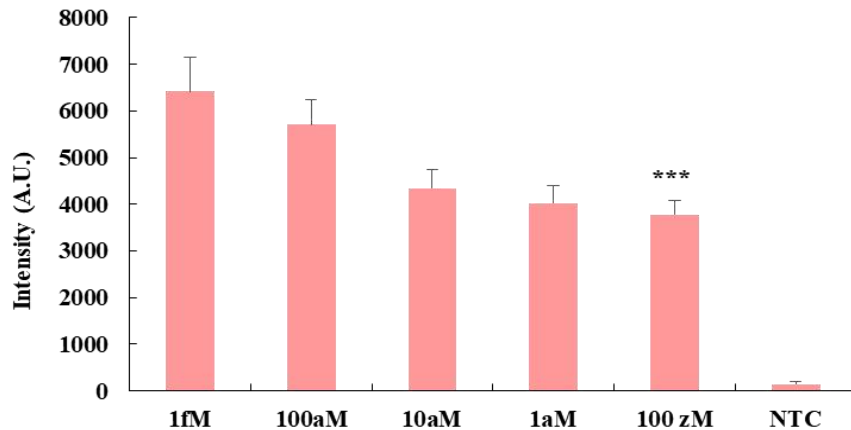
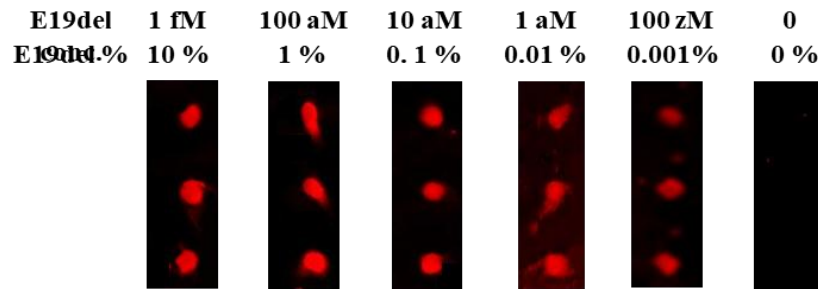


- Detection limit of mutant genes in a 3D plasmonic substrate without the normal gene: ~1 fM
- Detection of mutant genes at 0.0001% (100 fM) when the normal gene (100 nM) is present in a 3D plasmonic substrate



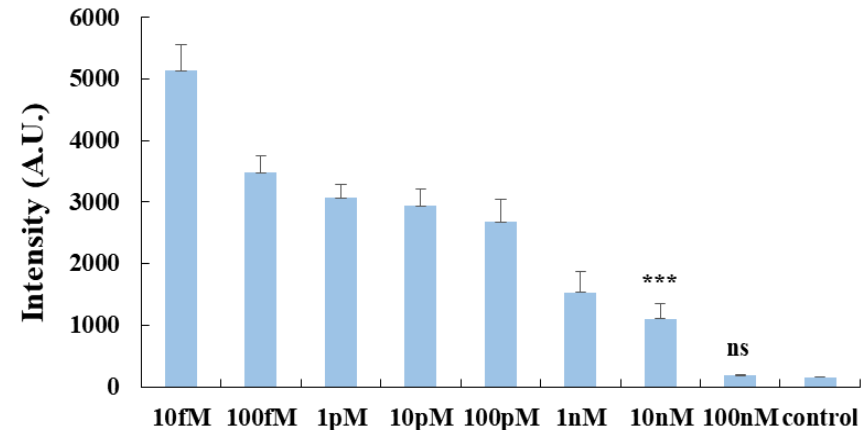
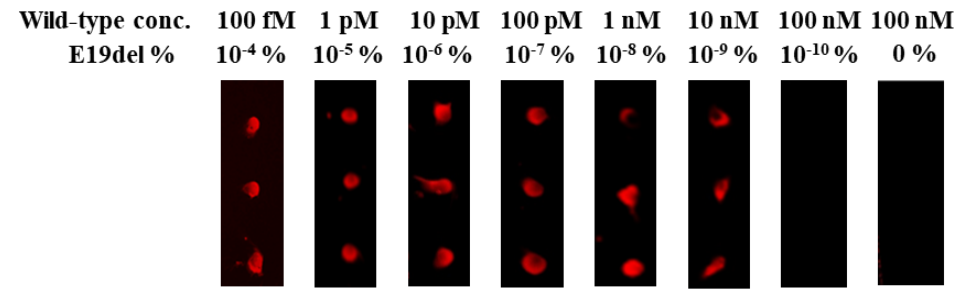
# Plasmonic microarray analytical sensitivity (with nucleic acid amplification)

Fixed concentration of wild-type DNA (10 fM)



Concentration of EGFR E19del DNA

Fixed concentration of E19del DNA (100 zM)

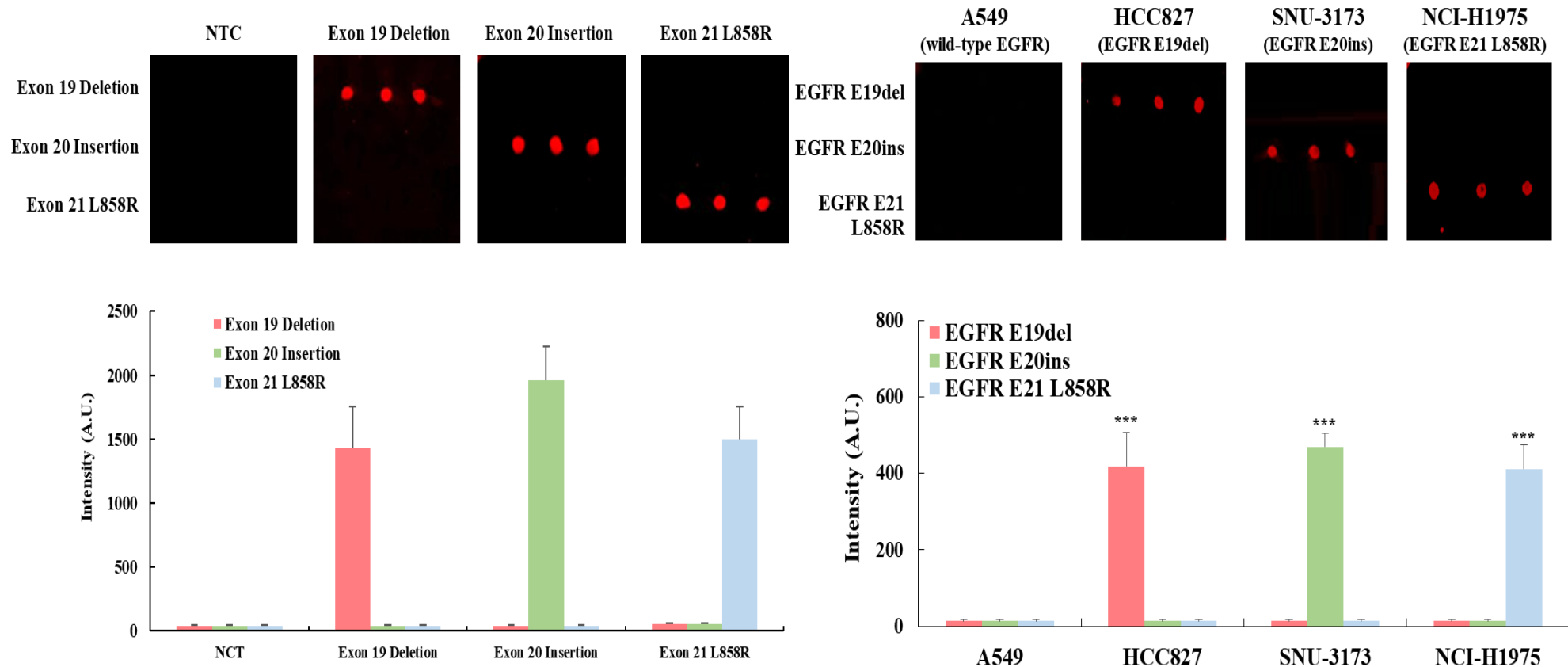
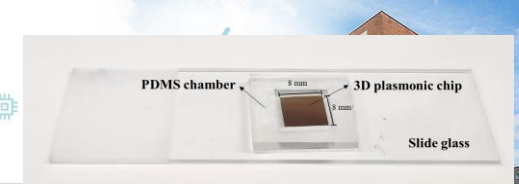


Concentration of Wild-Type

- Detection limit of deletion mutant genes in a 3D plasmonic substrate without the normal gene

10<sup>-9</sup>% Detection (100zM; 3 copies/rxn)

# Plasmonic microarray analytical specificity



- 3D plasmonic microarray fabrication
- Exon 19 Deletion, Exon 20 Insertion, Exon 21 L858R point mutation 3-plex
- > Fluorescent signal emission only at the specific mutation gene locations: ensuring high specificity.

# Performance evaluation using clinical samples

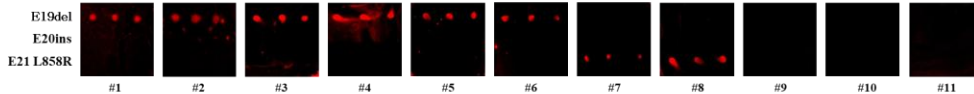


**Clinical sensitivity : 93%**

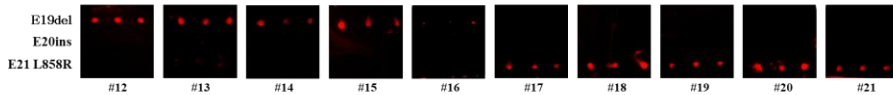
**Clinical Specificity: 100%**

**Malignant (n=43)**

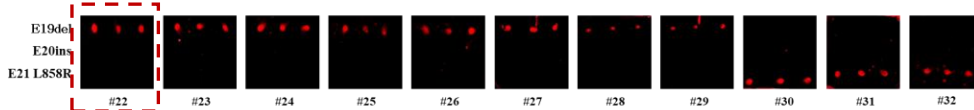
**Stage 1**



**Stage 2**

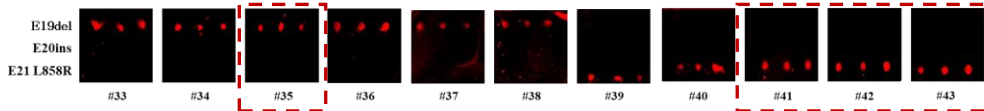


**Stage 3**



Detected by  
NGS E19del

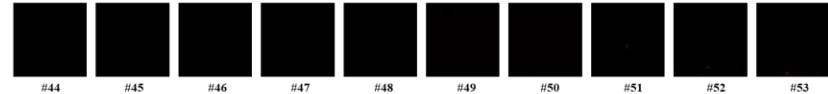
**Stage 4**



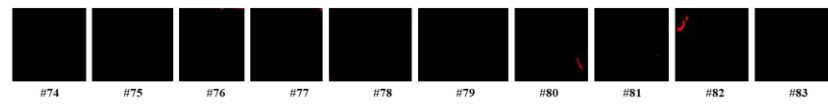
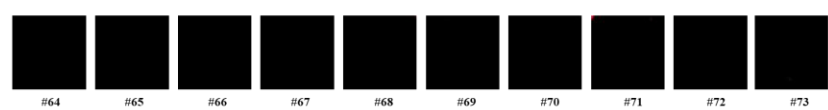
Detected by  
NGS E19del

Detected by  
NGS E21 L858R

**Benign (n=10)**



**Normal (n=30)**



- Evaluation of 52 clinical samples (Malignant lung cancer n=21, Benign n=10, Normal n=21)  
-> Clinical sensitivity **93%** Clinical specificity **100%** (agreement 100 % with NGS results)



# Performance evaluation using clinical samples



Methods	Mutation frequency sensitivity (%)	Number of detectable deletions or insertions using one primer-probe set
<b>Our assay</b>	<b><math>1 \times 10^{-9}</math></b>	<b>All mutations in the target region (In this study, all deletions occurred within 26 bp and all insertions occurred within 45 bp)</b>
Digital PCR	0.01	1
PNA-LNA PCR clamp	0.01	1
PCR invader	0.1	1
CastPCR	0.1	1
Real-time PCR	0.1	1
NGS	1	All mutations
Direct sequencing	10	All mutations

- Sensitivity improved by more than  $10^7$  times compared to existing EGFR mutation detection technologies  
Detection expected in clinical samples not detected by NGS



- In summary, we developed a 3D-nanoplasmonic-based EGFR mutation multiplex assay chip for detecting EGFR E19del, E20ins, and E21L858R point mutations with exceptional sensitivity.
- Compared to previously reported EGFR detection methods with a sensitivity range of 0.01%–1%, our approach achieved a superior higher sensitivity of  $1 \times 10^9$  % mutant frequency due to the synergistic effects of the PEF of the 3D-nanoplasmonic and wild-type inhibitor.
- Based on this synergistic effect, clinical plasma ctDNA testing using the 3D-nanoplasmonic-based EGFR mutation multiplex assay chip not only diagnosed malignant tumors from stages 1 to 4, but also accurately distinguished benign and normal cases from malignant cases. As a result, it achieved 100% sensitivity and specificity.
- This method takes  $\approx 70$  min post-DNA extraction, and the total process takes around 2 h, including cfDNA extraction. This timeframe is shorter than that of the real-time PCR-based approach (cobas EGFR Mutation Test), which typically takes around 4 h.
- Our economical and effective rapid analysis method with high accuracy can aid in early cancer diagnostic screening, elimination of unnecessary tissue examinations, and monitoring of the therapeutic efficacy of EGFR-targeted treatments and cancer recurrence in clinical settings.
- The 3D-nanoplasmonic-based mutation multiplex assay chip, which functions as a microarray with the ability to immobilize various capture probes, can be readily applied for the detection of various cancer biomarkers.

# Thank you for your attention

