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On-Chip Integration of Cell-Free Gene Expression AMNON BUXBOIM, Department of Materials and Interfaces, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel, MARGHERITA MORPURGO, Department of Biological Chemistry, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel, MAYA BAR-DAGAN, Department of Materials and Interfaces, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel, VERONICA FRYDMAN, Chemical Research Support, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel, DAVID ZBAIDA, Department of Materials and Interfaces, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel, ROY BAR-ZIV, Department of Materials and Interfaces, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel — We present a synthetic approach for the study of gene networks in vitro which is complementary to traditional in vivo methodologies. We have developed a technology for submicron integration of functional genes and on-chip protein synthesis using a cell-free transcription/translation system. The interaction between genes is facilitated by diffusion of on-chip gene expression products from 'source' genes towards 'acceptor' genes. Our technology is simple and inexpensive and can serve as an improved platform for a wide variety of protein and DNA biochip applications.

> Amnon Buxboim Department of Materials and Interfaces, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel

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