



Microfluidics for Biomedical Applications

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Microfluidics

Involves the use of microtechnologies to get networks of microscopic channels for chemical processing.

- control of small volumes of liquid (fL to μL),
- reduction of chemicals consumption,
- cheaper process



Available materials

➔ **Silicon**

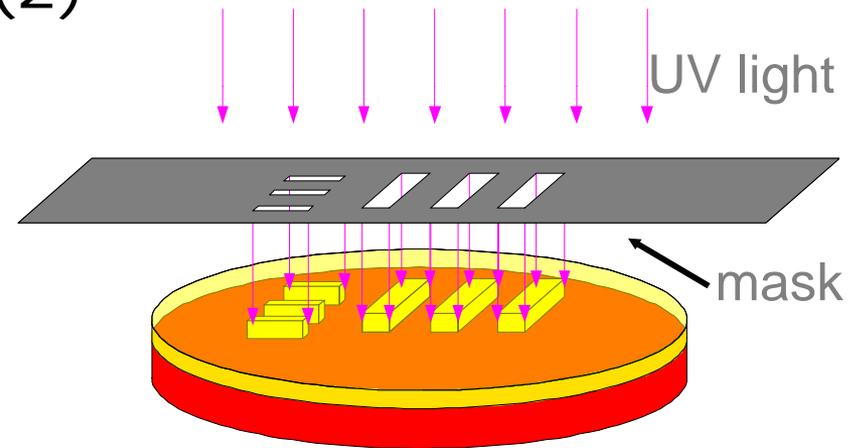
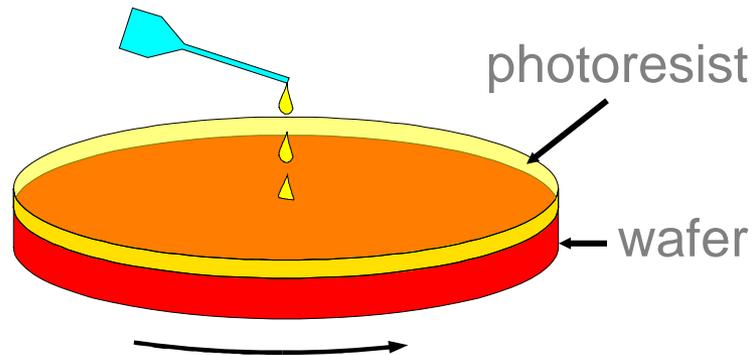
➔ **Glass** (e.g. Pyrex, borofloat)

➔ **Polymers** (e.g. PMMA, PC, PDMS, etc.)

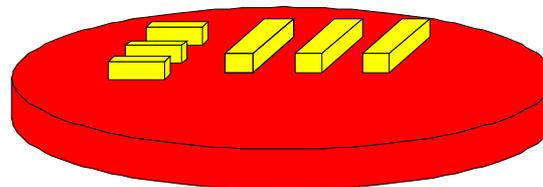


Device Fabrication

(1) resist deposition by spin-coating (2)

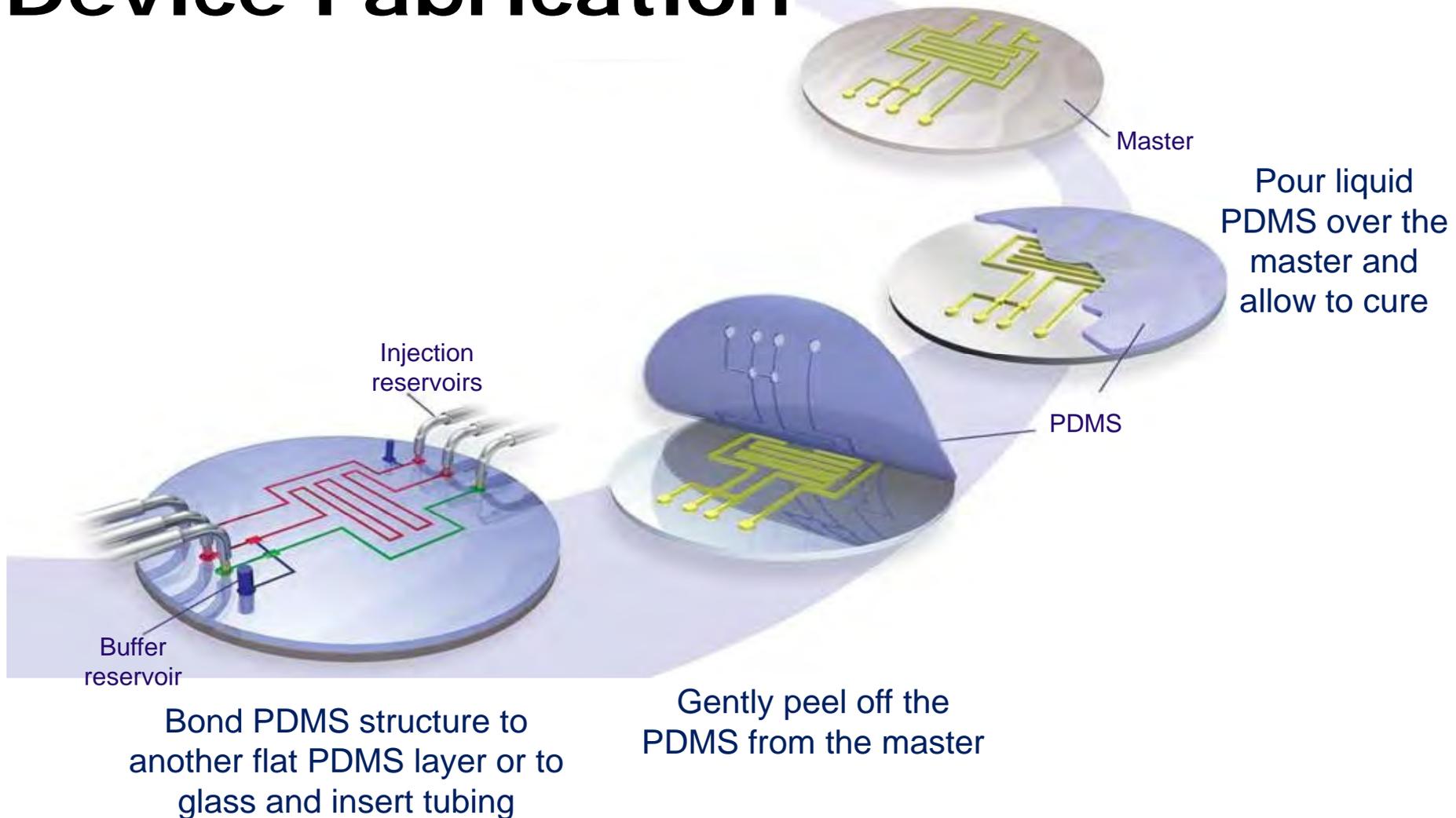


(3) development





Device Fabrication





Multiple Internal Reflection Poly(Dimethylsiloxane) Systems for on-line pH Monitoring of Cells

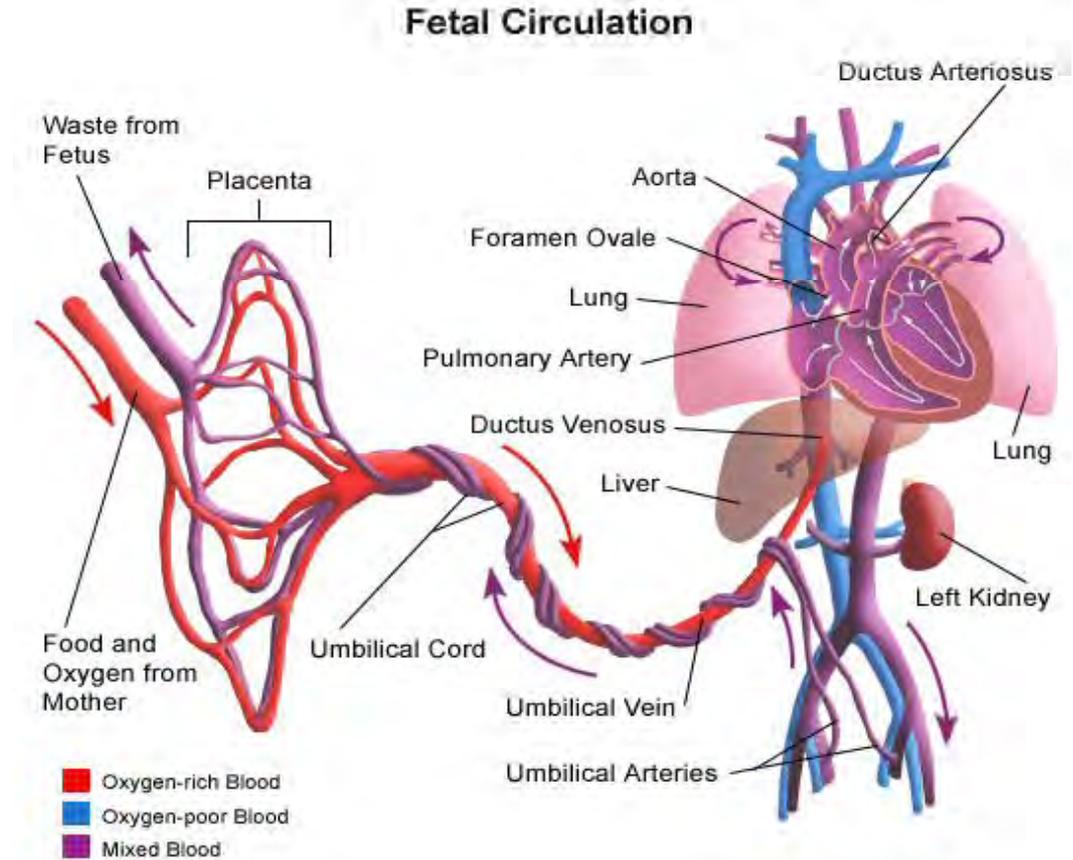


Goal

To develop a method to monitor on-line pH from cell medium, which was in contact with cells.



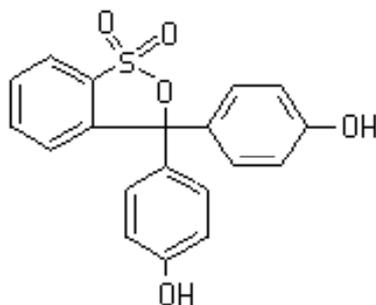
Human Umbilical Vein Endothelial Cells [HUVEC]



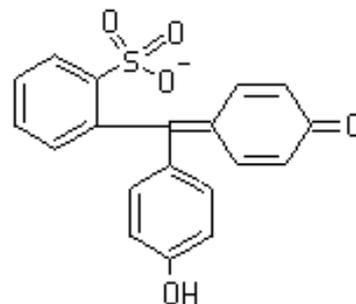


pH monitoring

Phenol red



acid form



alkaline form

450 nm

560 nm

Phenol Red

<http://chemistry-1023.wikispaces.com/Acids,+Bases+and+Buffers>

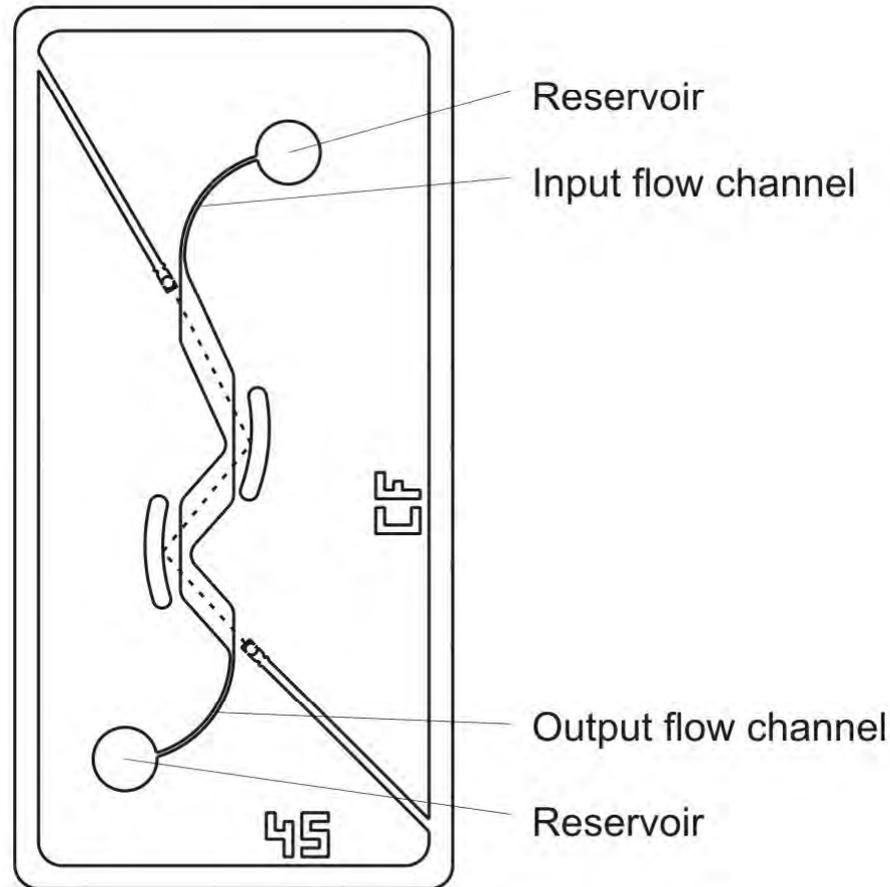
Phenol red (pH indicator)

below pH 6.8 *above pH 8.2*

| | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| 6.8 | ↔ | 8.2 |
|-----|---|-----|

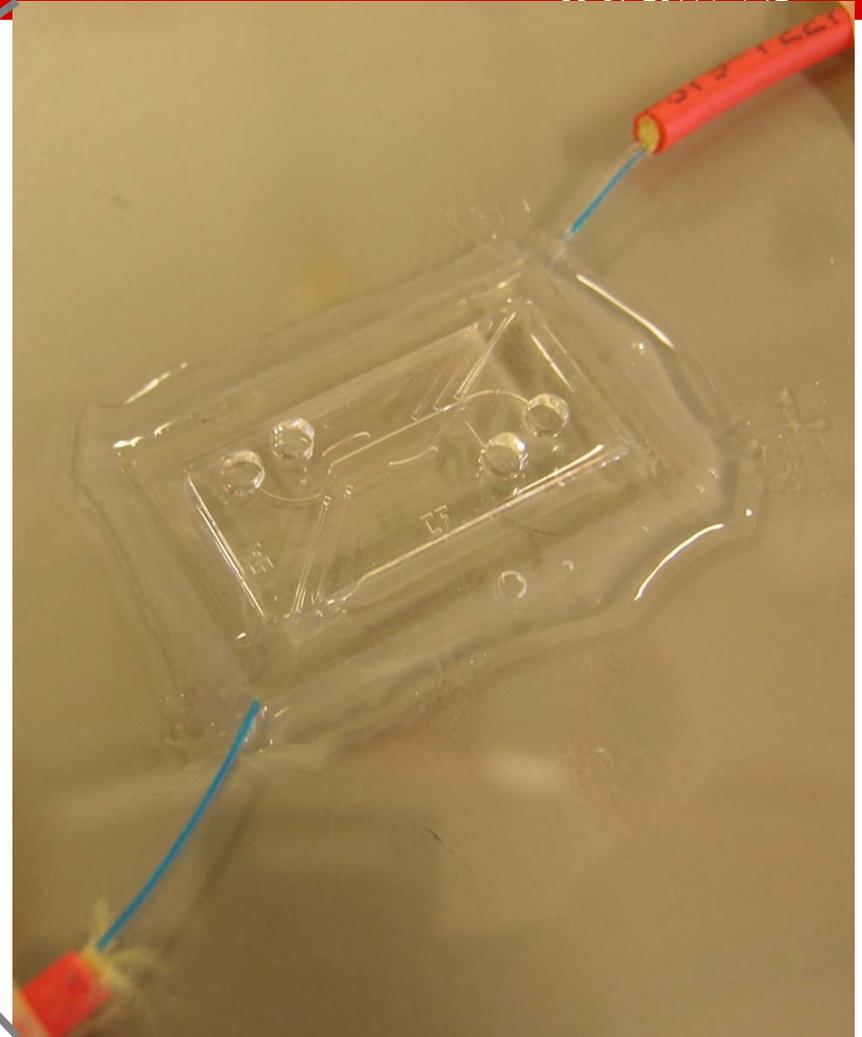
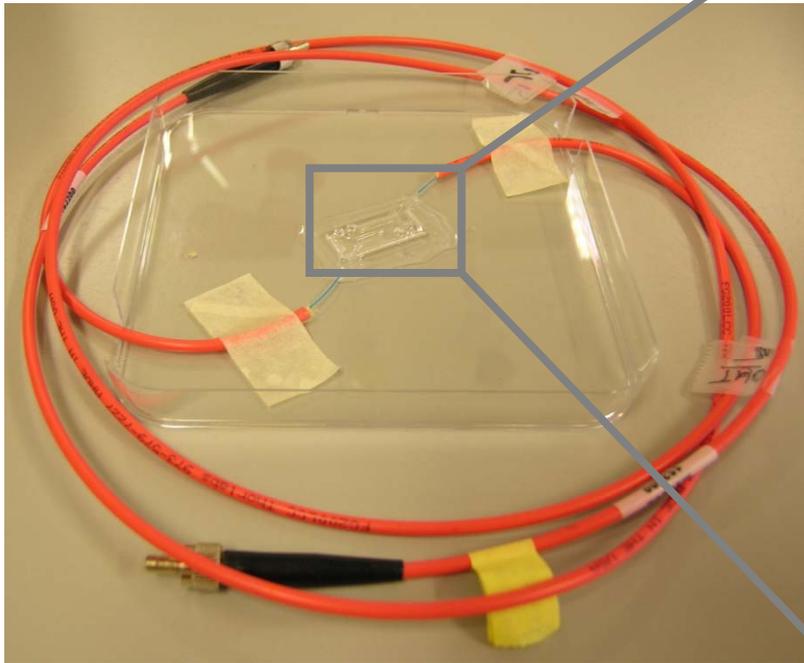


Propagating Multiple Internal Reflection System (PMIR)



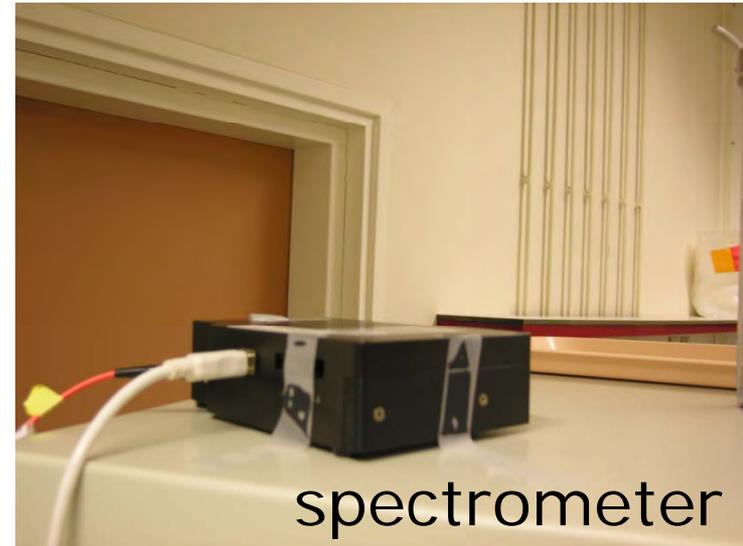


PMIR

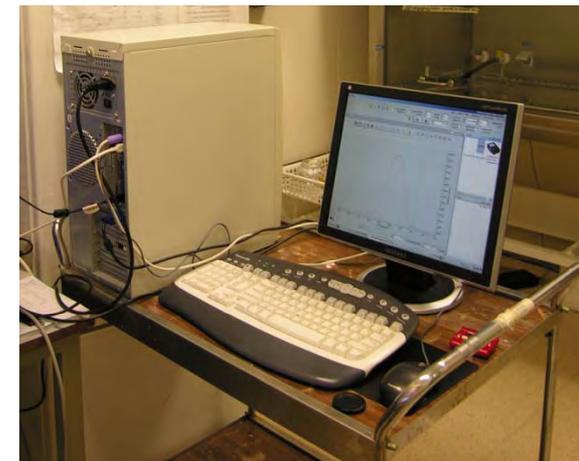




Set-up

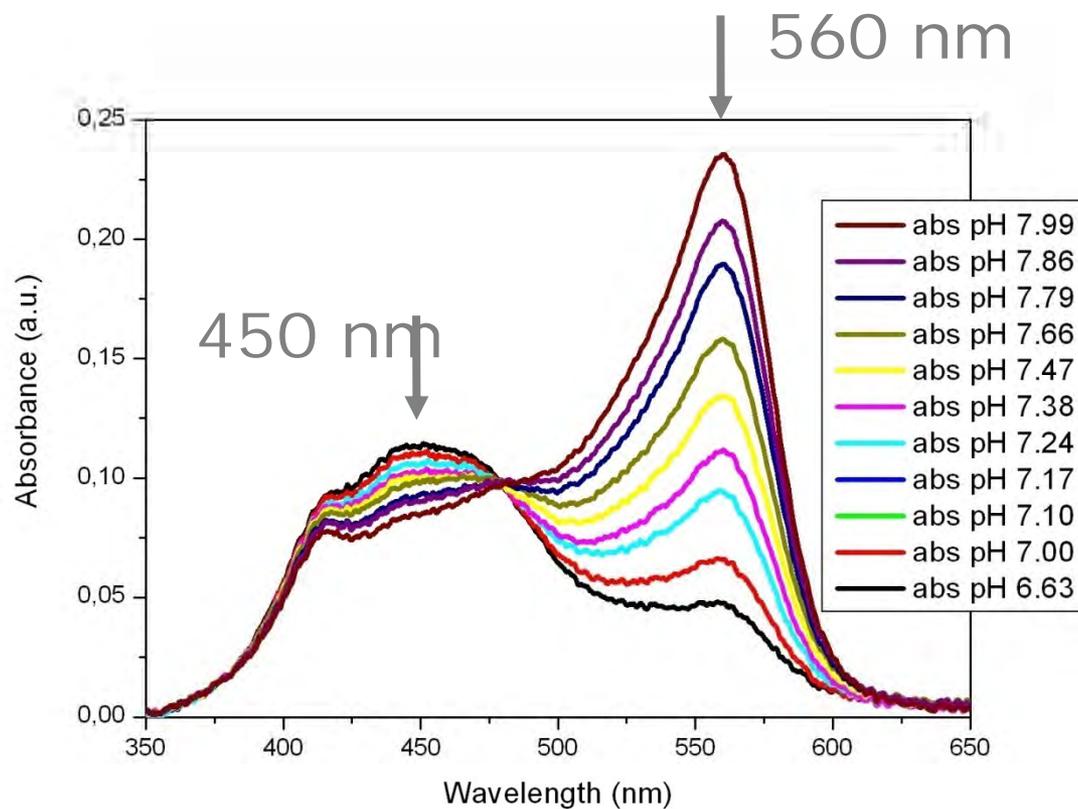


Incubator:
5% CO₂
37° C



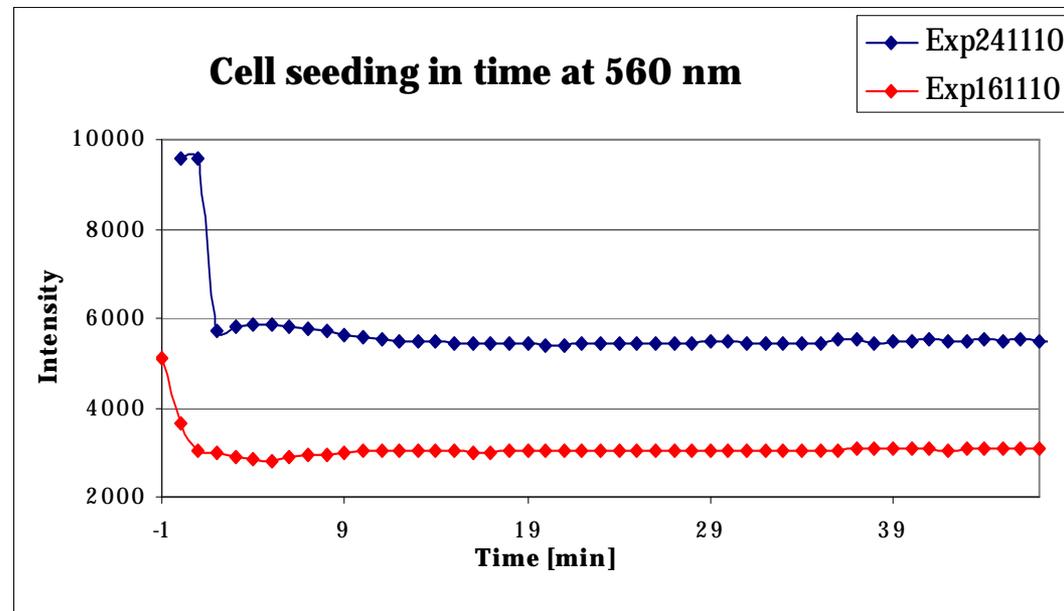
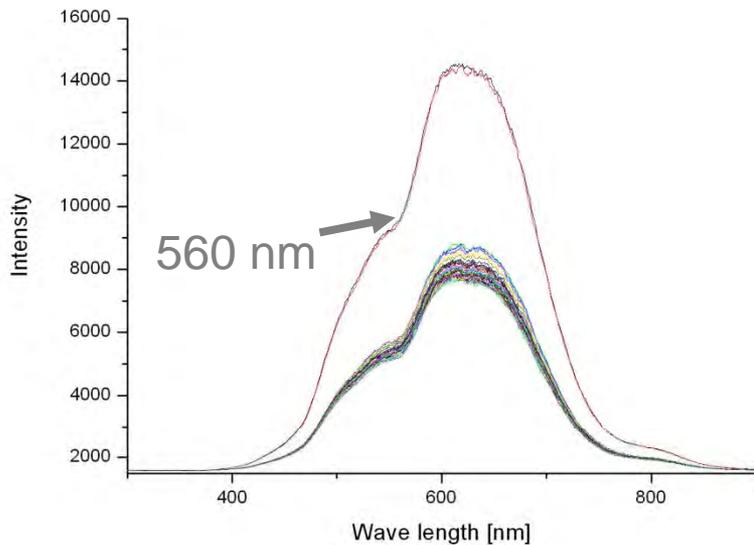


pH monitoring





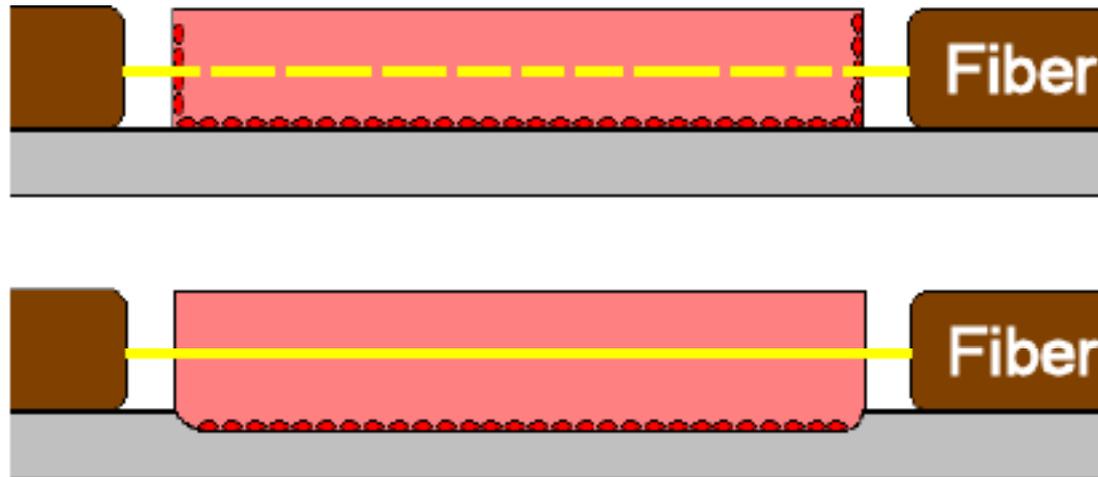
Results



Cells disturb the signal, after introducing them to the chip

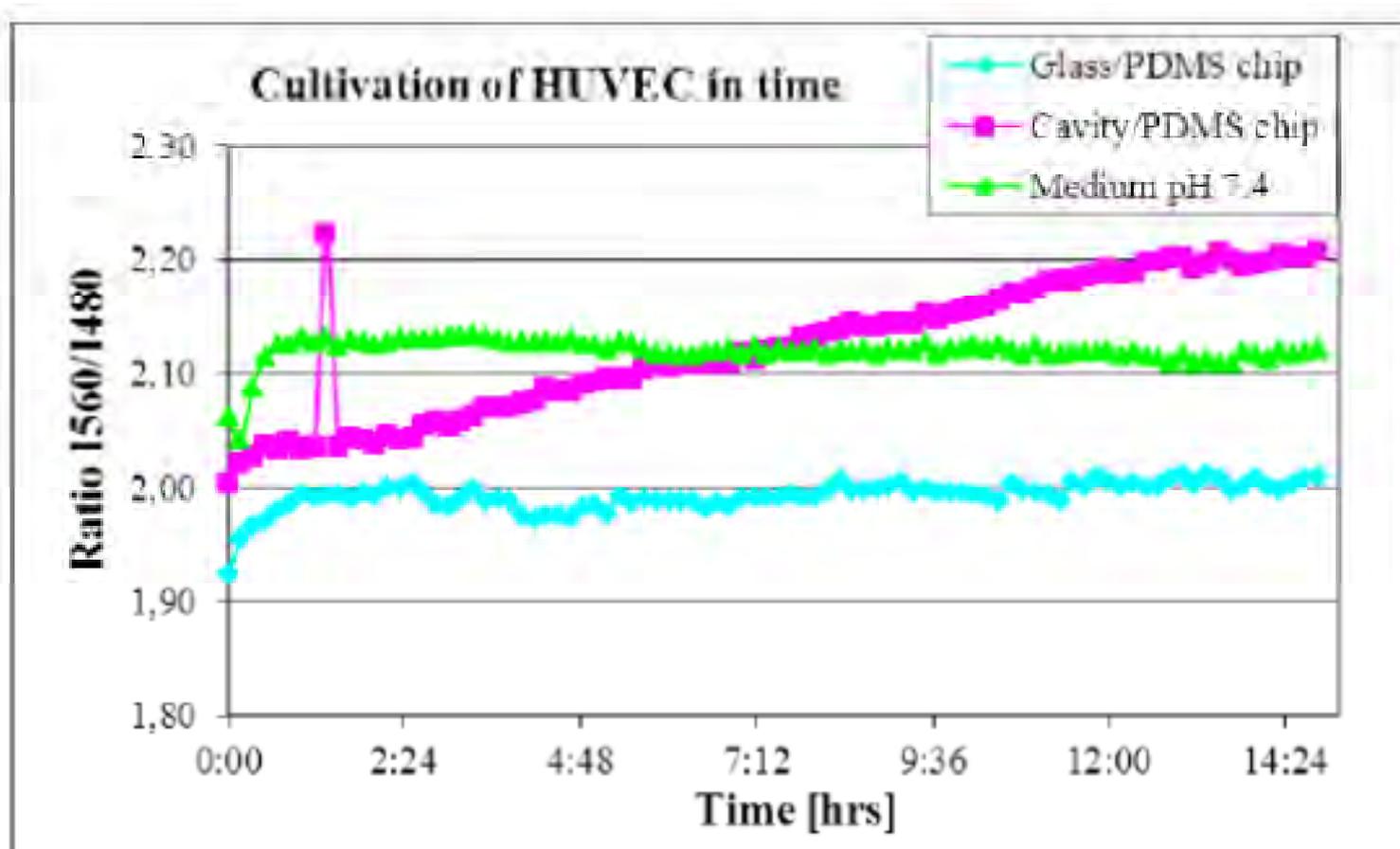


- Introduce a cavity in the glass slide using HF treatment.
- Coat only the cavity with gelatin





Results





Fast Determination of Distribution Coefficients in a Poly(Dimethylsiloxane) Chip



Goal

Calculation of $\log D$ at $\text{pH} = 7.4$ for different drugs using a microfluidic device and UV on-line measurements



Distribution coefficient

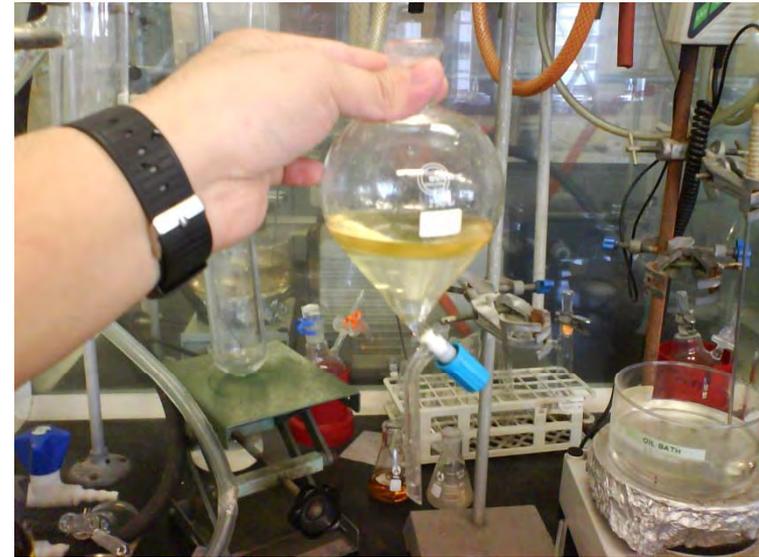
$$\text{Log}D = \text{Log} \frac{C_0}{C_w}$$

- › The distribution coefficient is the ratio between the concentration of the compound in an organic phase (C_0), and the concentration in aqueous phase (C_a) at a certain pH.



Standard method

- Liquid-Liquid extraction
- Presaturation of solvents (24h)
- Volume ratio 1:1, 2:1, 1:2



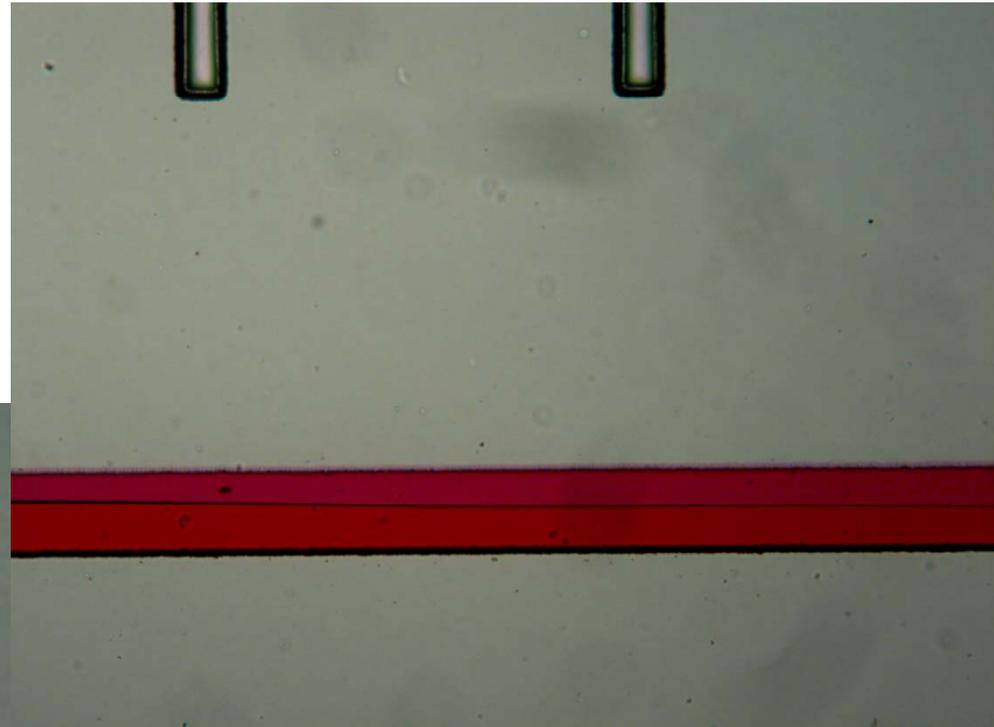
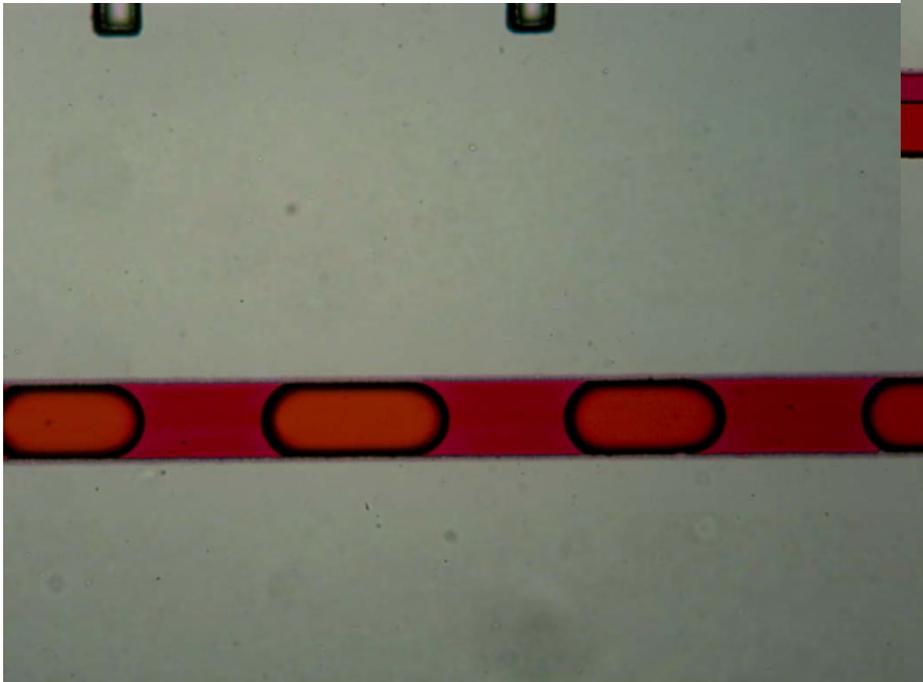
Cons:

- Time consuming (>30 minutes per sample)
- Labour-intensive procedure
- Large amounts of material are required.

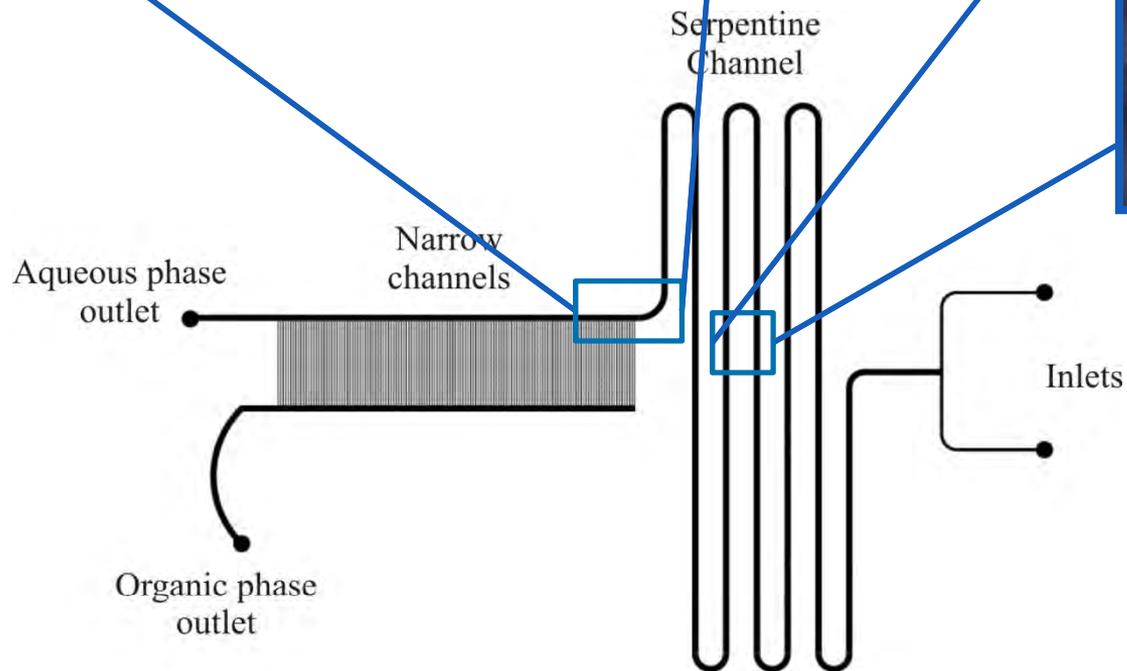
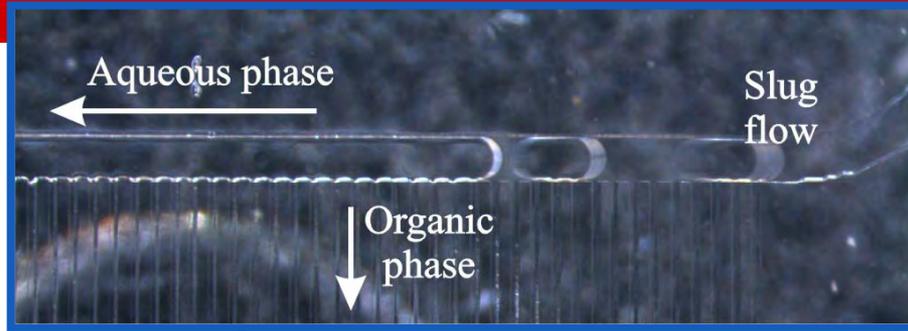


Microfluidics

Slug flow



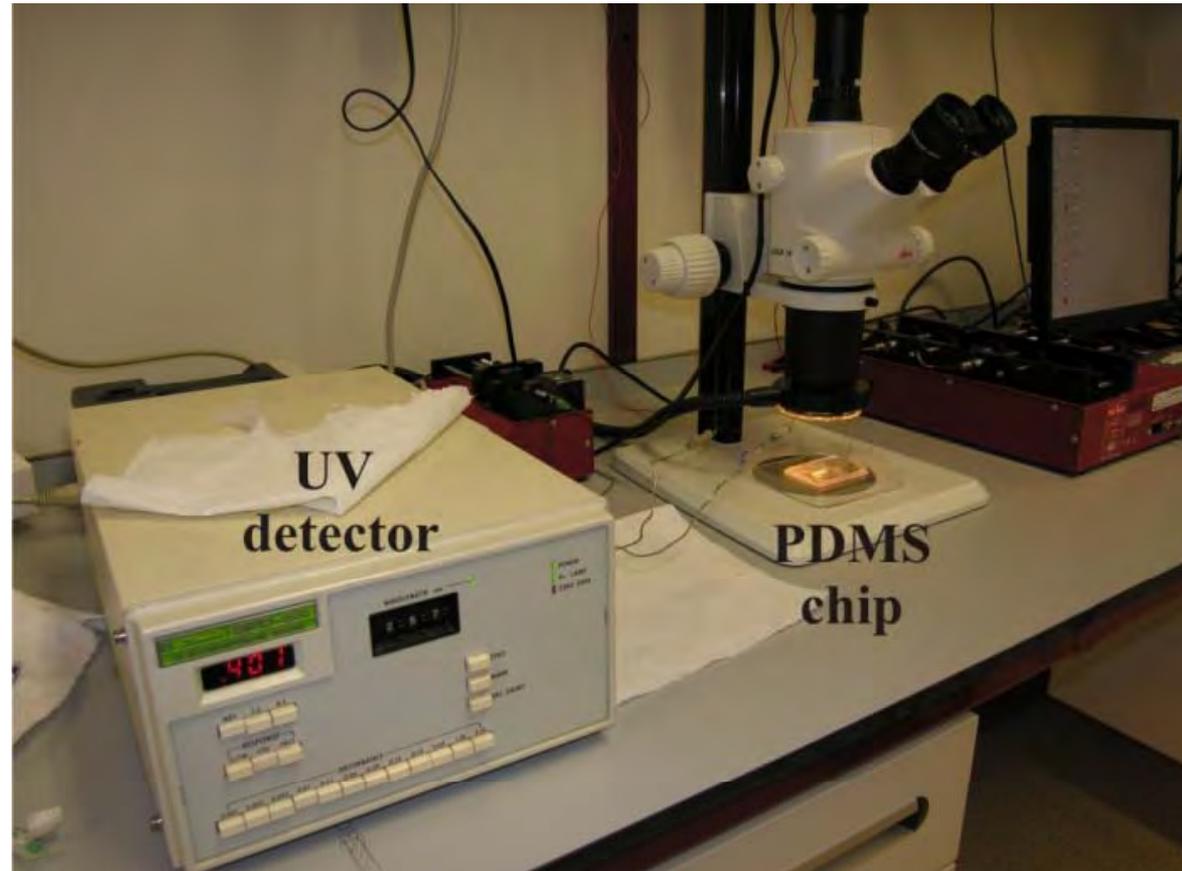
Side-by-side flow



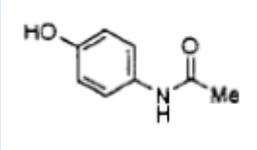
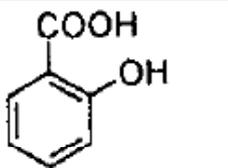


Set up

UV-Detector:
 Shimadzu SPD-6A





| Compound | λ (nm) * | Structure | pKa |
|--|------------------|---|-----------|
| Paracetamol (Mw 151.17 g/mol) | Ac - 245 |  | 9.5 -acid |
| | Alk - 257 | | |
| Salicylic Acid (Mw 138.12 g/mol) | Ac - 236 |  | 2.97-acid |
| | Alk - 298 | | |



Standard method

$V = 10 \text{ mL}$

$t = 2\text{h } 30 \text{ min}$

| Compound | Log D |
|----------------|------------------|
| Salicylic acid | -1.68 ± 0.01 |
| Paracetamol | 0.31 ± 0.01 |



Chip

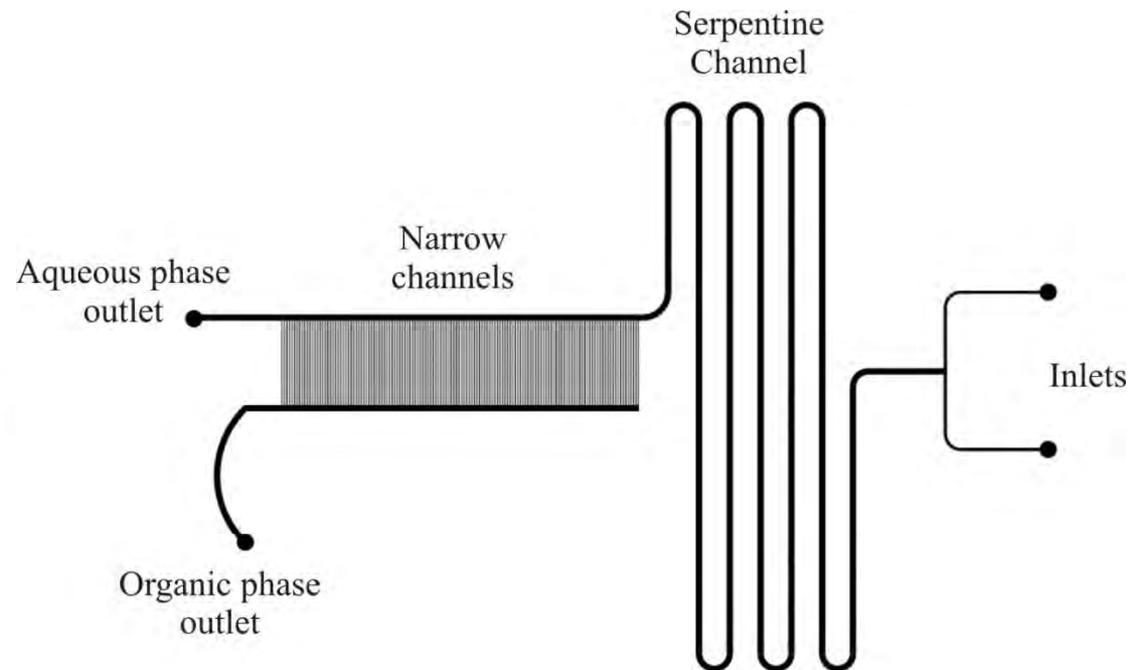
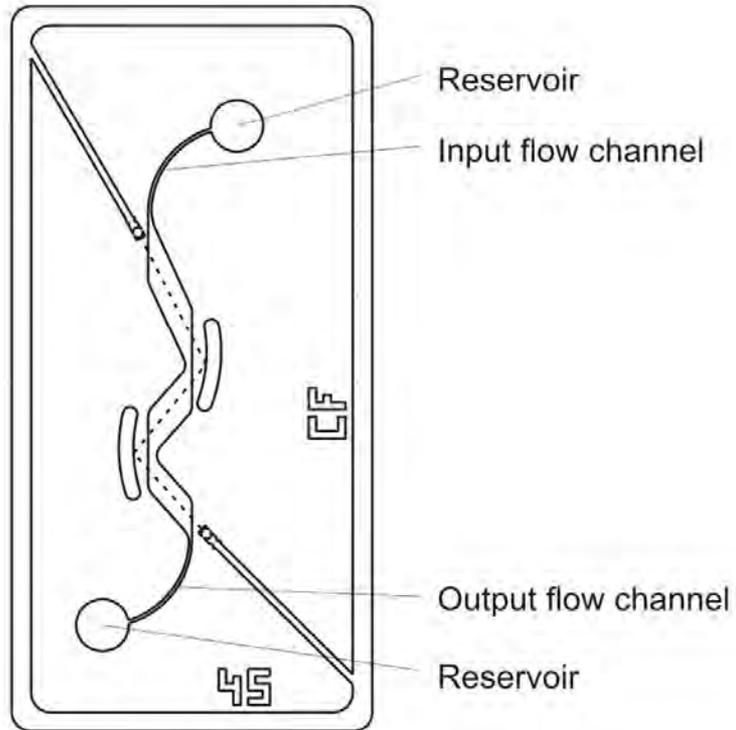
$V = 120 \text{ nL}$

$t < 2 \text{ min}$

| Compound | Log D |
|----------------|------------------|
| Salicylic acid | -1.69 ± 0.01 |
| Paracetamol | 0.36 ± 0.01 |



Summary





Acknowledgements

Prof. Dr. E.M.J. Verpoorte
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J. Meindersma





Thank you for your attention



Available materials (1)

Silicon

- crystalline
- semiconductor
- transparent at $\lambda > 1.1$ mm
- high mechanical strength
- technology well developed (integrated circuits, early 60's)
- bulk etching (3-D structures)
- surface micromachining (2-D structures)
- dry or wet processing

Glass (e.g. Pyrex, borofloat)

- amorphous
- electrical insulator
- bulk etching (like silicon)
- large research lab



Available materials (2)

Polymers

- wide variety (PMMA, PC, PDMS, etc.)
- choice of optical / chemical properties
- *Replication techniques*
 - hot embossing
 - injection molding
 - casting
- resolution: μm to nm



pH monitoring

Cell Medium contains 2 buffer systems:

- ➔ hepes buffer
- ➔ carbonate buffer

➔ Measurements will take place in a 5% CO₂ incubator at 37° C

Medium has a pH indicator: phenol red



| Compound | λ (nm) | pH | Log D |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| Paracetamol | 254 (HPLC) | 7.4 (35mM phosphate buffer) | -0.62 |
| Caffeine | 254 (HPLC) | 7.4 (35mM phosphate buffer) | -0.76 |
| Salicylic Acid | 254 (HPLC) | 7.4 (35mM phosphate buffer) | -1.31 |

Hanna et al, Anal. Chem. 70 (1998) 2092-2099

| Compound | λ (nm) | pH | Log D | |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| | | | Flow system | Batch method |
| Paracetamol | 245 | 7.4 (20mM phosphate buffer) | 0.42 | 0.38 |
| Caffeine | 272 | 7.4 (20mM phosphate buffer) | -0.08 | -0.32 |
| Salicylic Acid | 296 | 7.4 (20mM phosphate buffer) | -1.41 | -1.44 |

Carlsson et al, Analytica Chimica Acta 423 (2000) 137-144