



sensors



3D-PRINTING MICRO-OPTOFLUIDIC SYSTEMS: *TECHNOLOGIES AND PROCESSES*

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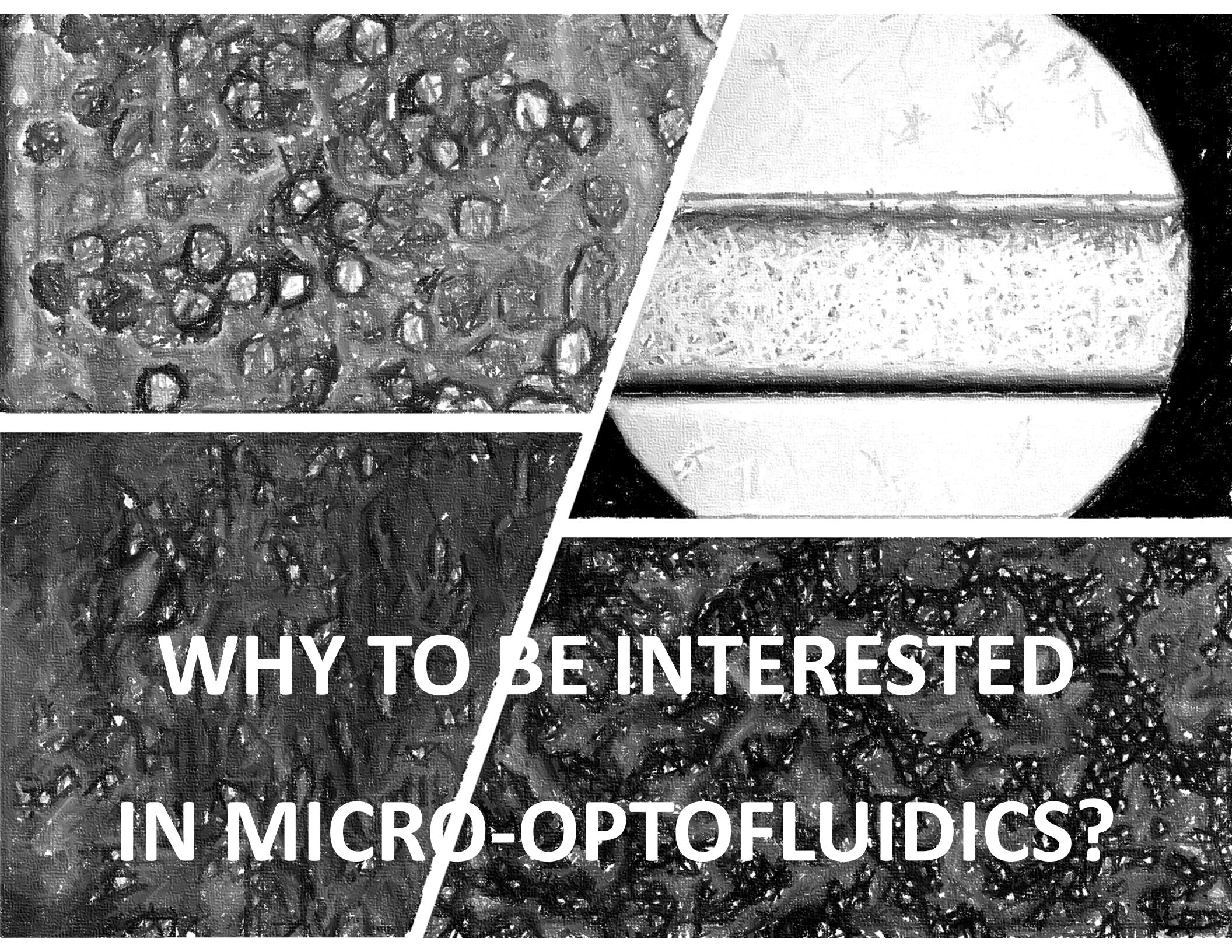


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di Catania



DIEEI

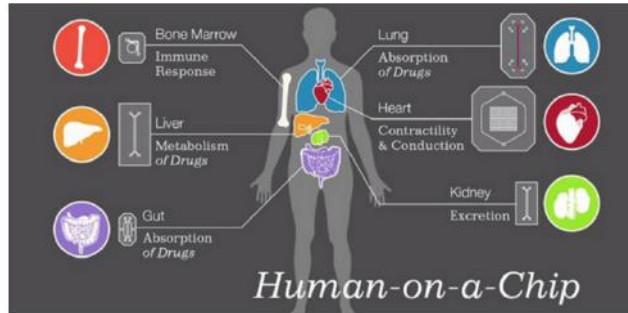
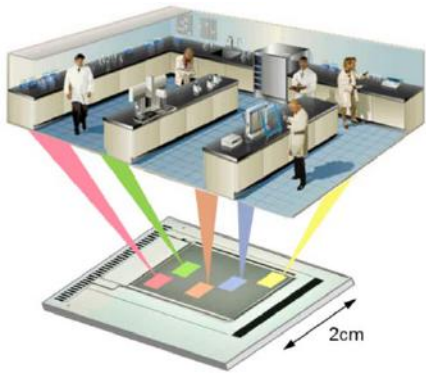
Dipartimento di Ingegneria Elettrica
Elettronica e Informatica



**WHY TO BE INTERESTED
IN MICRO-OPTOFLUIDICS?**

Microfluidics & Optic Detection

MICROFLUIDICS SYSTEMS ARE THE CORE OF THE “*LAB ON A CHIP*” USED TO TEST BIOLOGICAL SAMPLES, FOOD QUALITY AND POLLUTION (AIR, SOIL, WATER..)



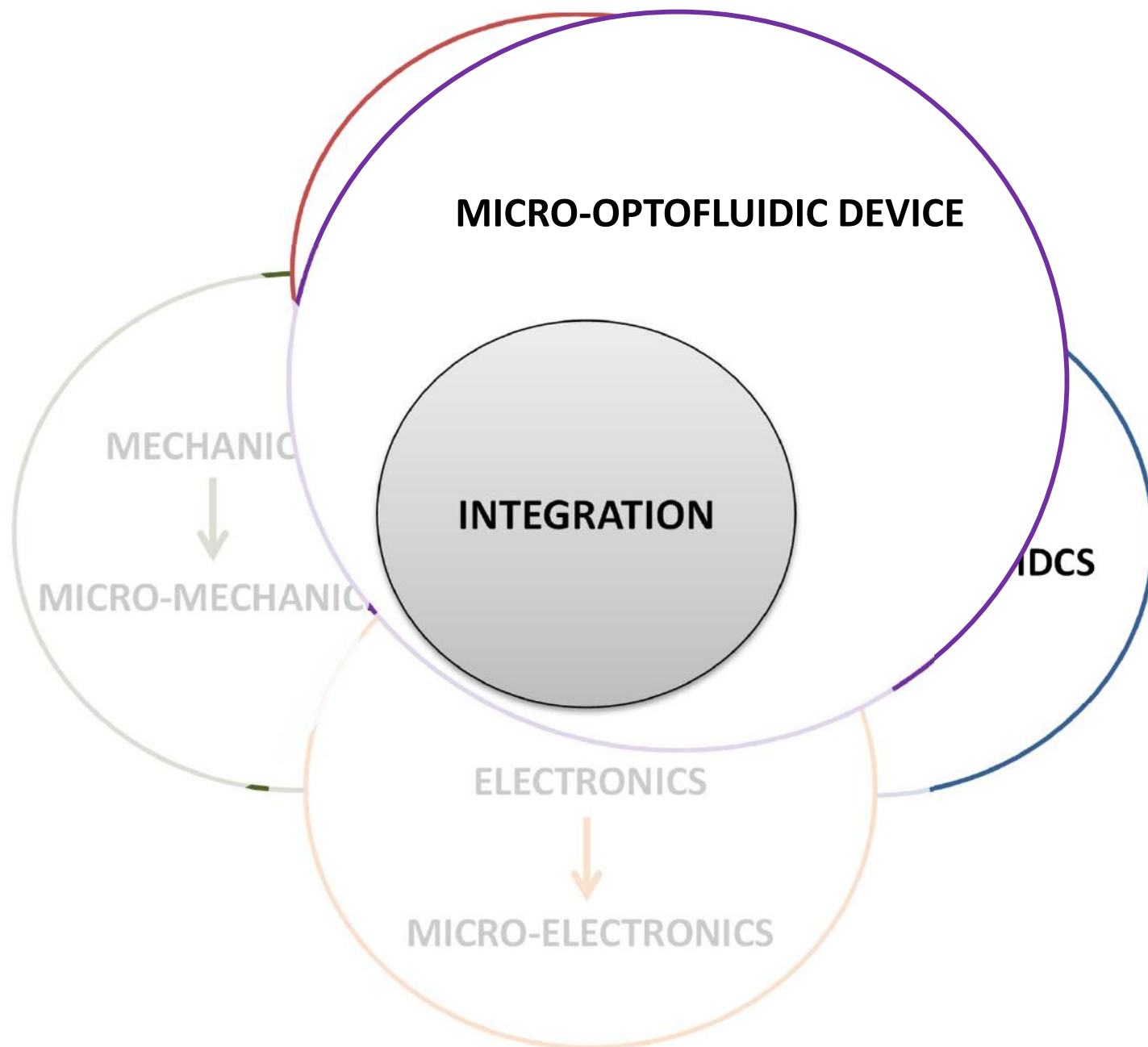
- (1) LOW SPACE**
- (2) LESS REAGENTS**
- (3) FASTER TEST**
- (4) LOW COST**



OPTICAL DETECTION IS THE STANDARD

- (1) GIVING A DIRECT ACCESS TO THE SAMPLE**
- (2) EXTRACT MULTIPLE INFORMATION**
- (3) LESS INVASIVE (LABEL FREE)**

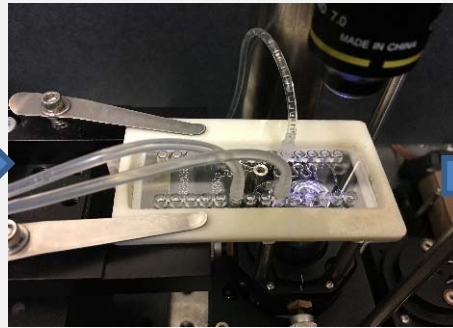
Microfluidics & Optic Detection



MICRO-OPTOFLUIDICS: DATA ANALYSIS

MICROFLUIDIC PROCESS

From MACRO
To MICRO



From MICRO To
MACRO



OPTIC DETECTION

IMAGE
ANALYSIS



MICRO-OPTOFLUIDIC PROCESS

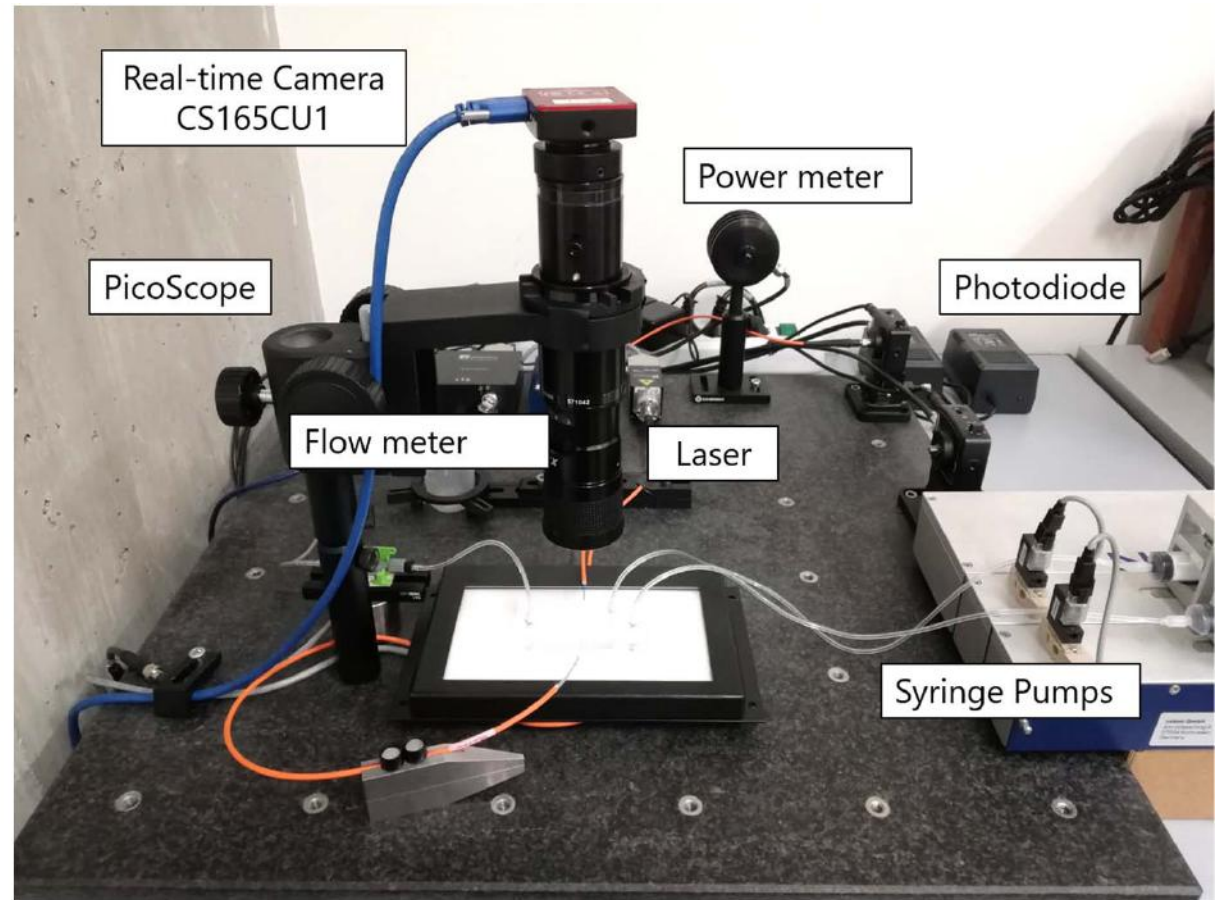
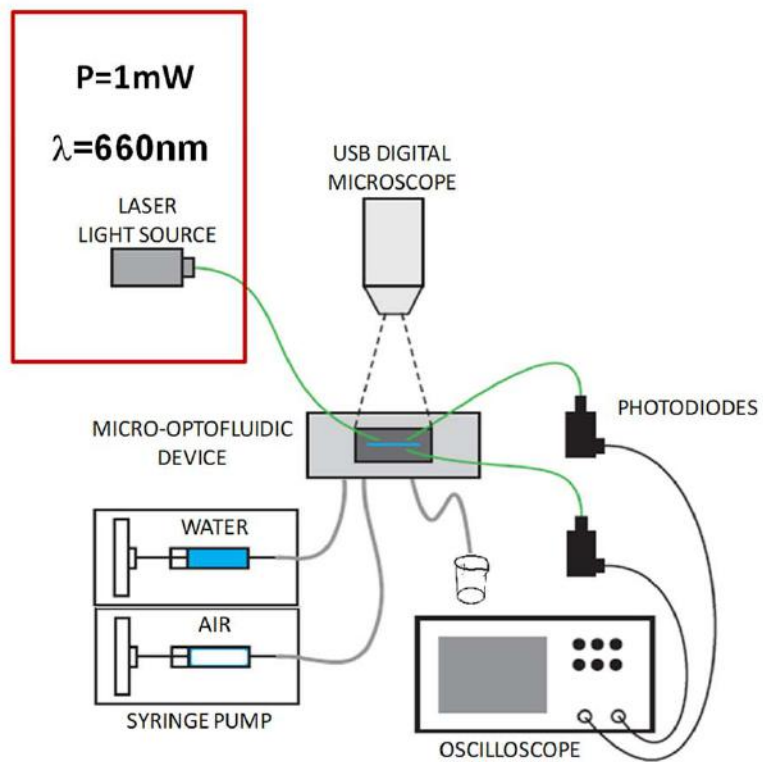
From MACRO
To MICRO



OPTIC DETECTION

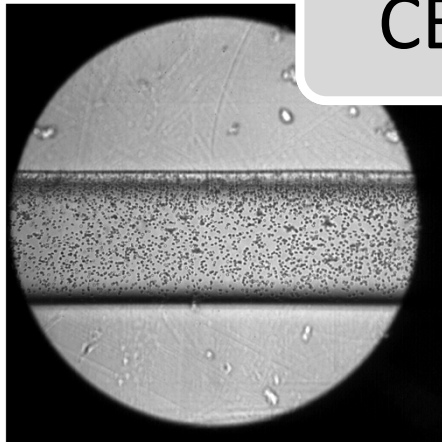


MICRO-OPTOFLUIDIC SYSTEM SET-UP



Microfluidics

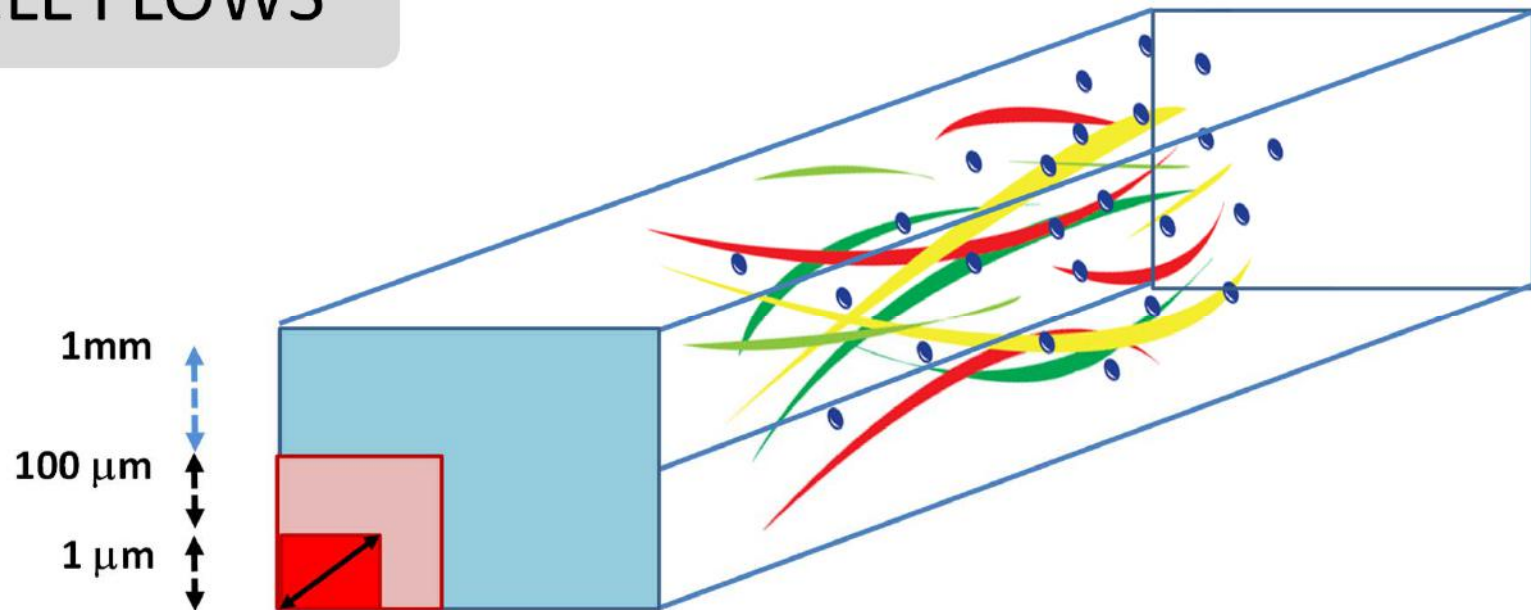
Two-Phase Flows



CELL FLOWS



SLUG FLOWS



Microfluidics
Standard

Microfluidics
High Nonlinearity

Macro-fluidics

100μm

320μm

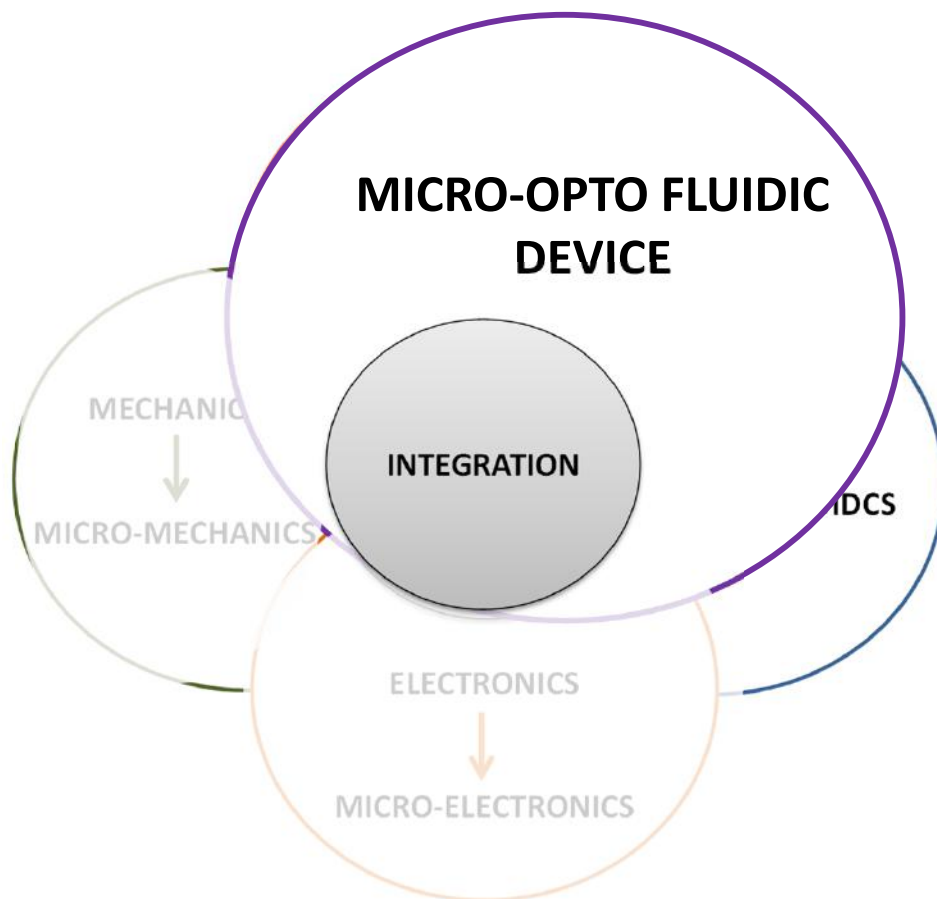
640μm

1 mm



MICRO-OPTOFLUIDICS: DEVICES FABRICATION

3D-PRINTING MASTER-SLAVE PDMS-based Protocol

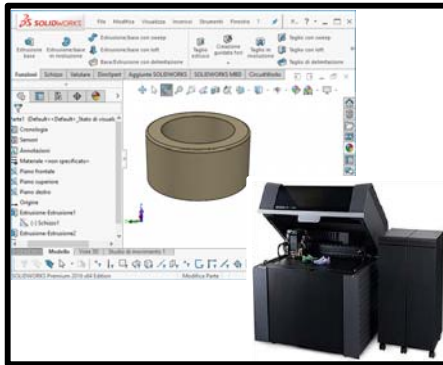


PDMS

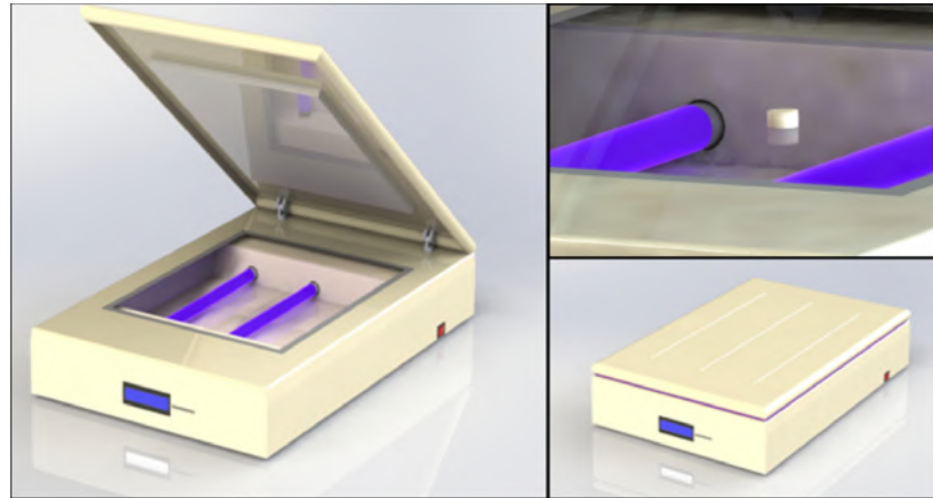
- TRANSPARANCE
- BIOCOMPATIBILITY
- OPTICAL PROPERTY
- CHEMICAL PROPERTY
- CMOS COMPATIBLE
- RAPID PROTOTYPE

MICRO-OPTOFLUIDICS: DEVICES FABRICATION

PDMS MASTER-SLAVE PROTOCOL



Design of the project
and realization by 3D printer



Exposition of master's surfaces to UV-light
for 1 hour at 35°C



Extraction of the device



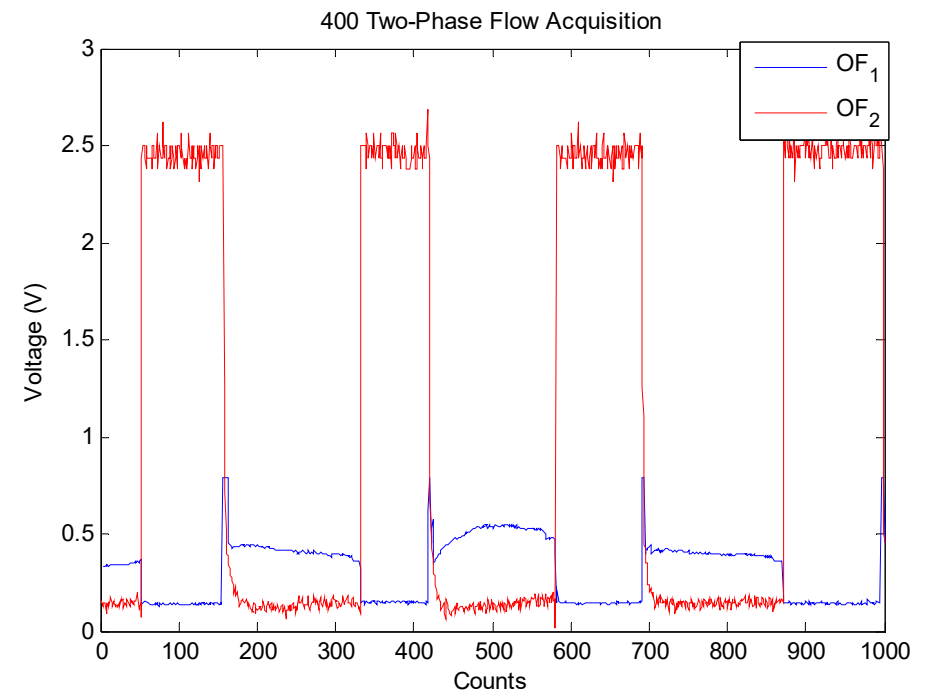
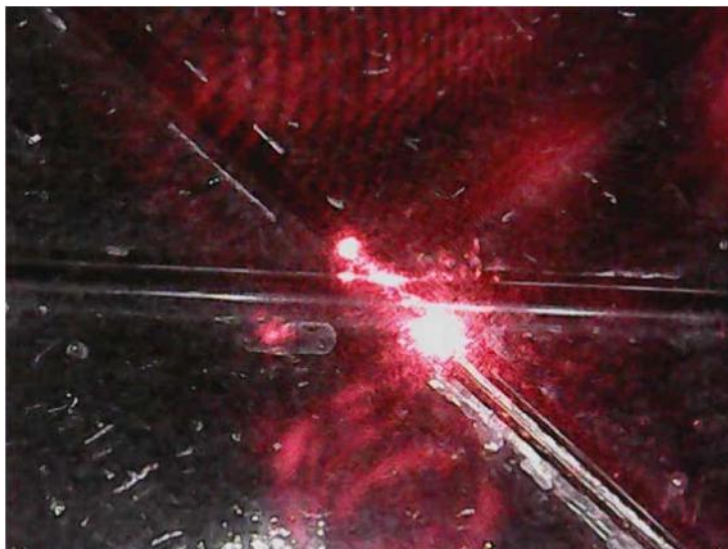
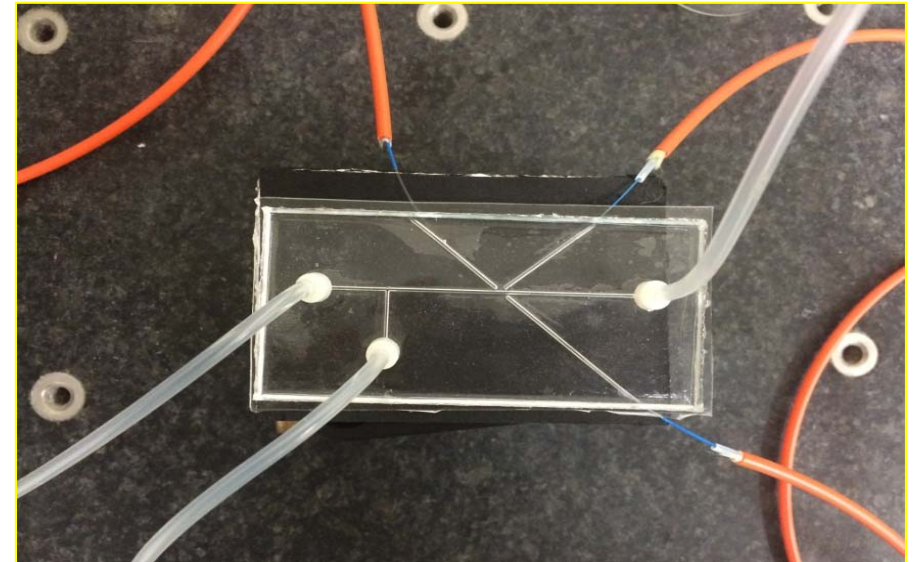
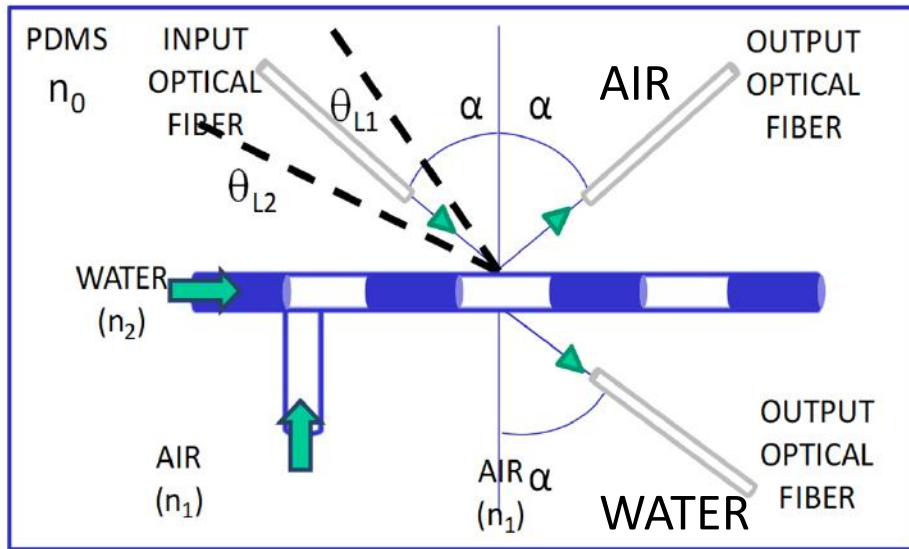
Put the beaker in the
oven for 36 hours



Inject liquid PDMS in
the beaker

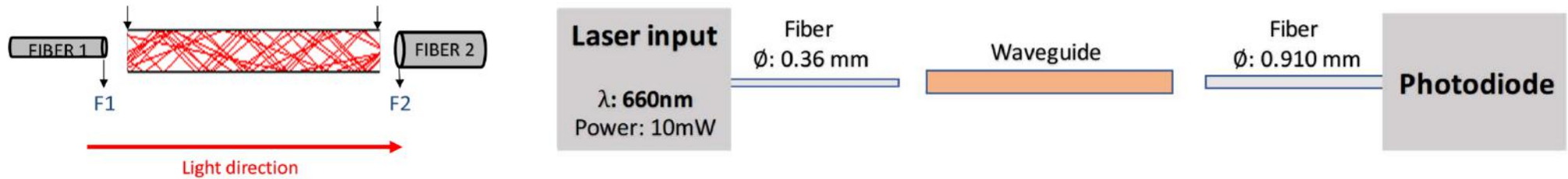
MICRO-OPTOFLUIDIC FLOW DETECTOR-1

Chip size 10 cm



MICRO-OPTICAL COMPONENTS

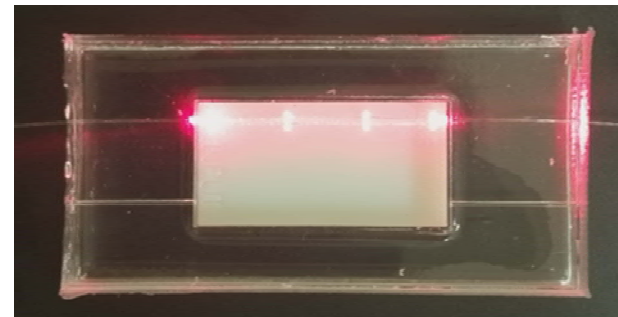
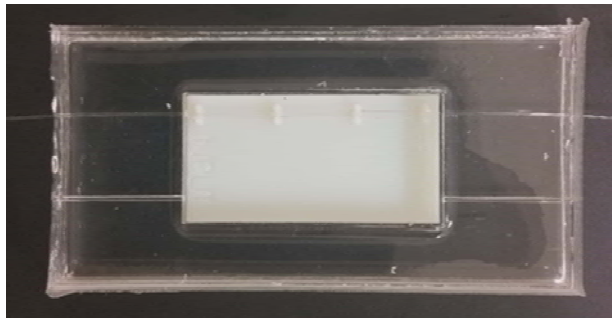
WAVEGUIDE



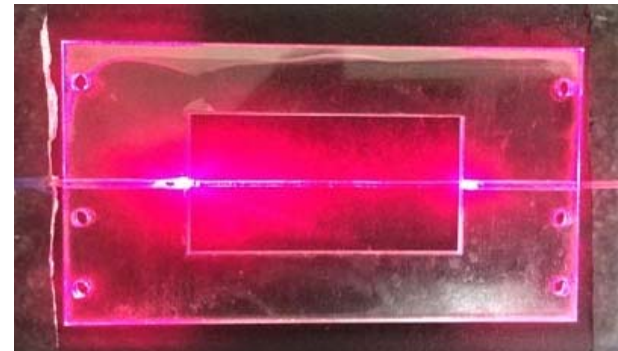
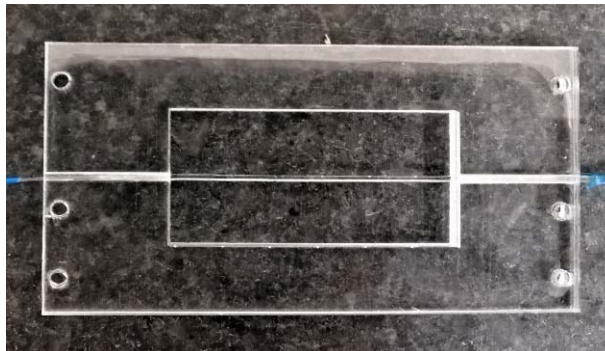
SYSTEM OFF

SYSTEM ON

PDMS
3D-PRINTING



PMMA
LASER CUTTING



Refractive index

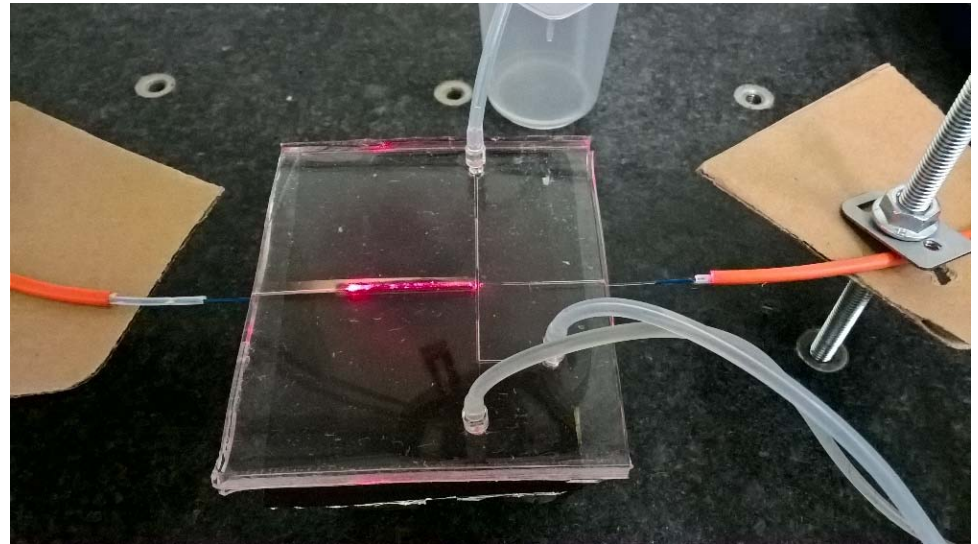
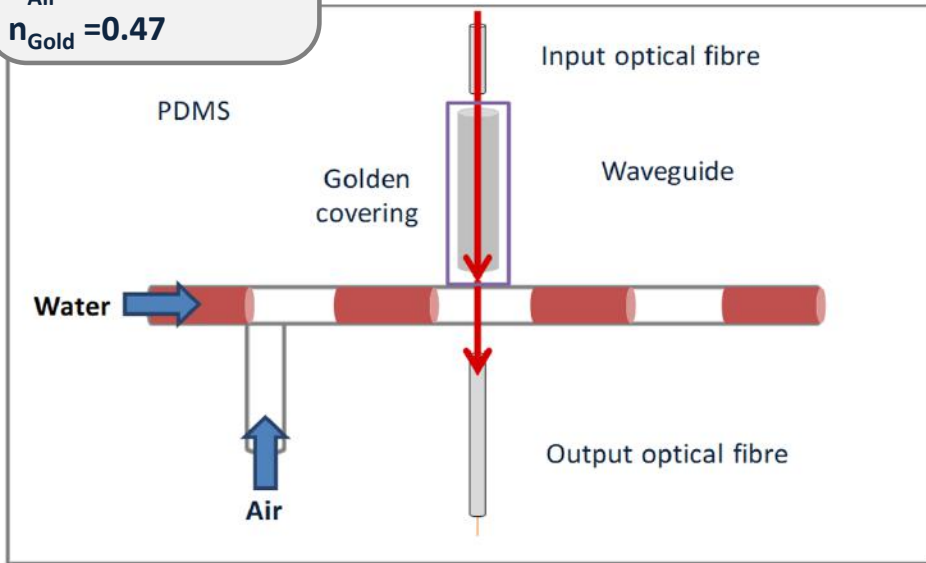
$$n_{\text{PDMS}} = 1.41$$

$$n_{\text{Water}} = 1.33$$

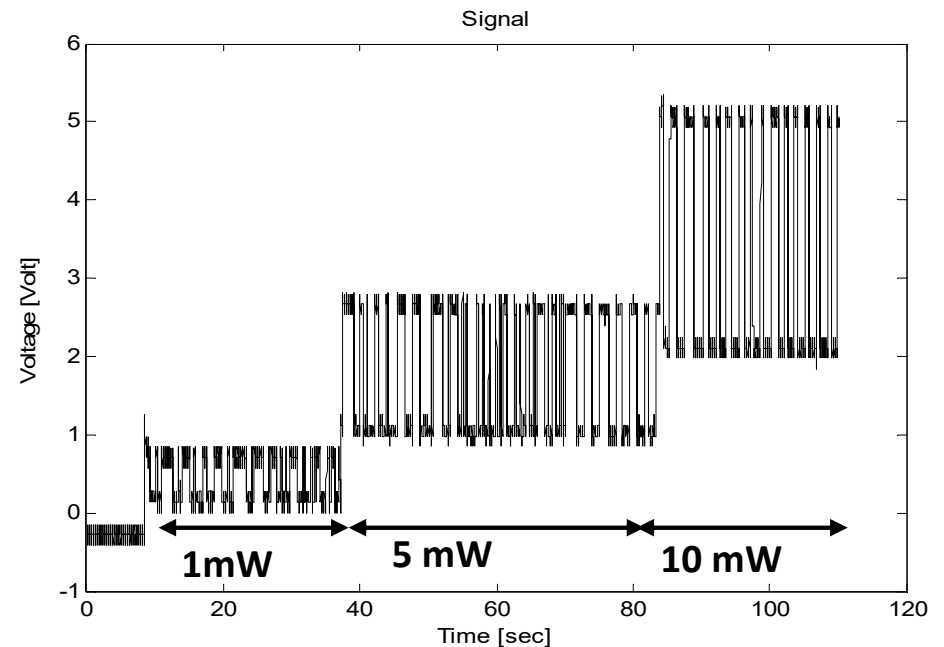
$$n_{\text{Air}} = 1$$

$$n_{\text{Gold}} = 0.47$$

MICRO-OPTOFLUIDIC FLOW DETECTORS-2



Water 0,15 ml/mm – Air 0,3 ml/mm



Refractive index

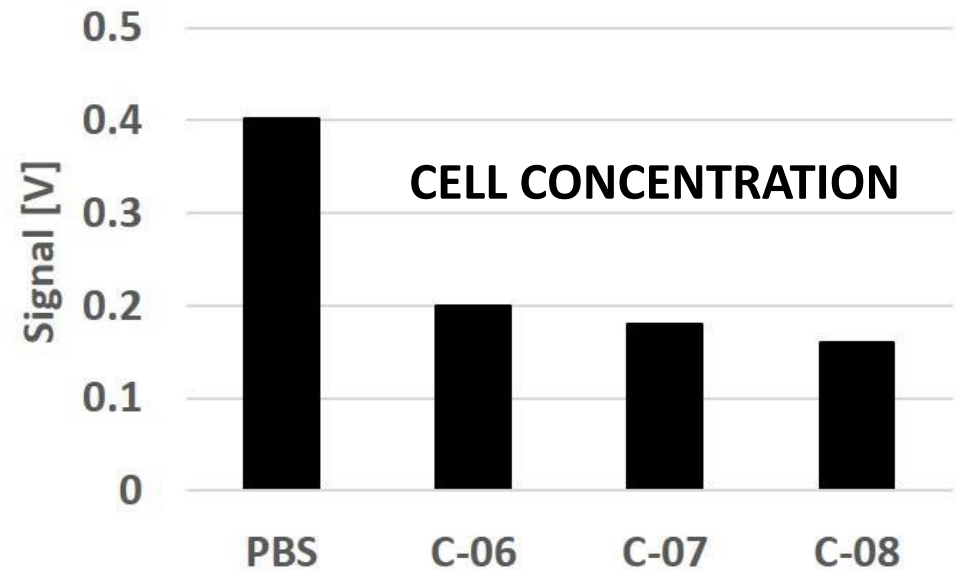
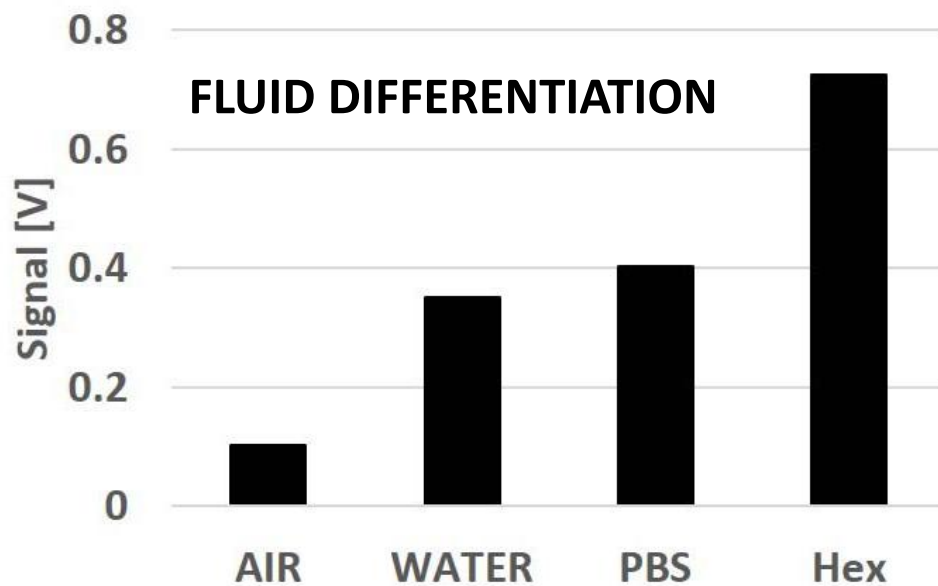
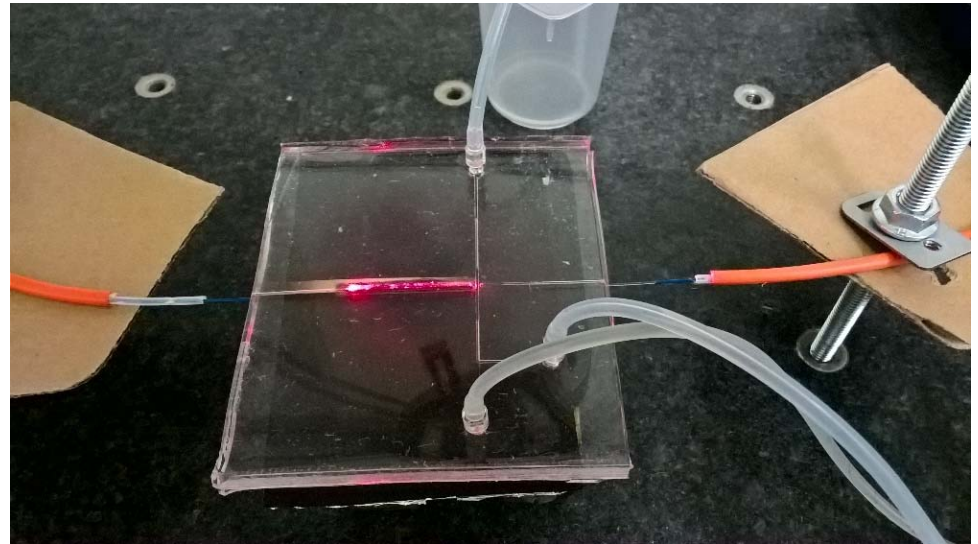
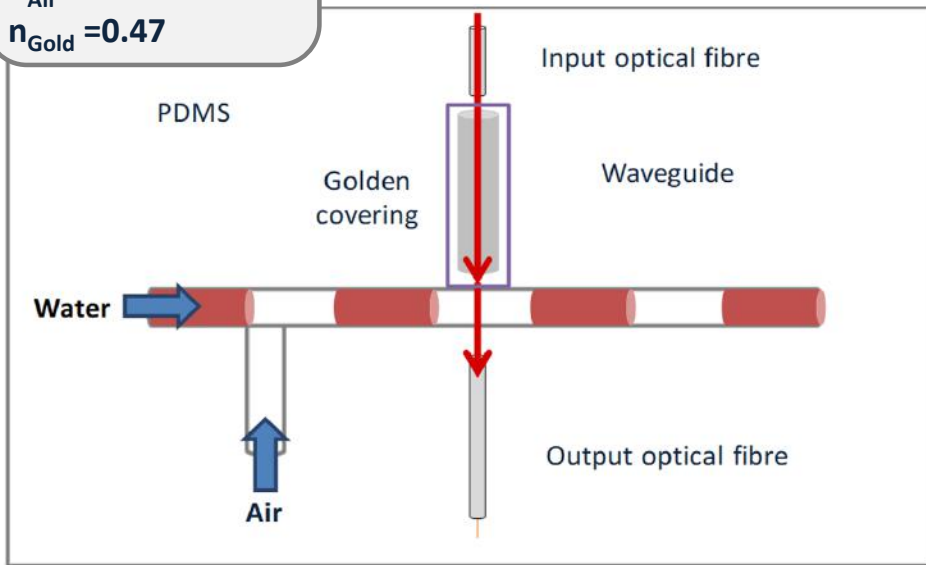
$$n_{\text{PDMS}} = 1.41$$

$$n_{\text{Water}} = 1.33$$

$$n_{\text{Air}} = 1$$

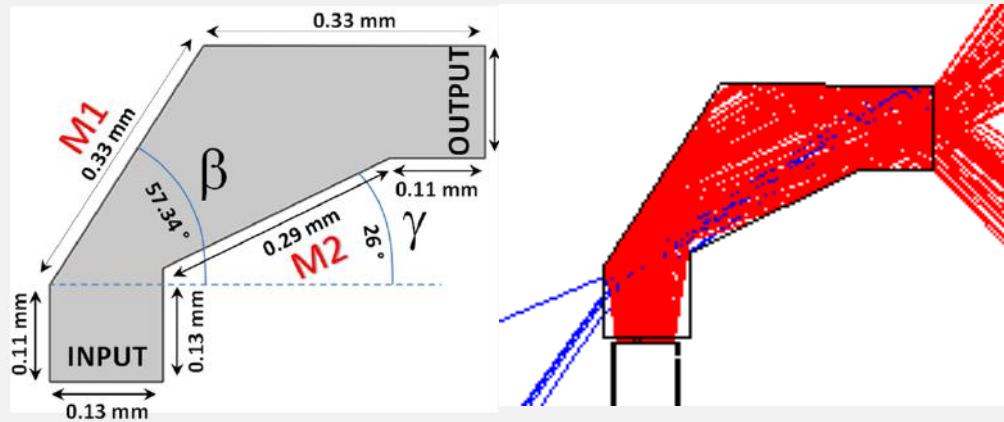
$$n_{\text{Gold}} = 0.47$$

MICRO-OPTOFLUIDIC FLOW DETECTORS-2

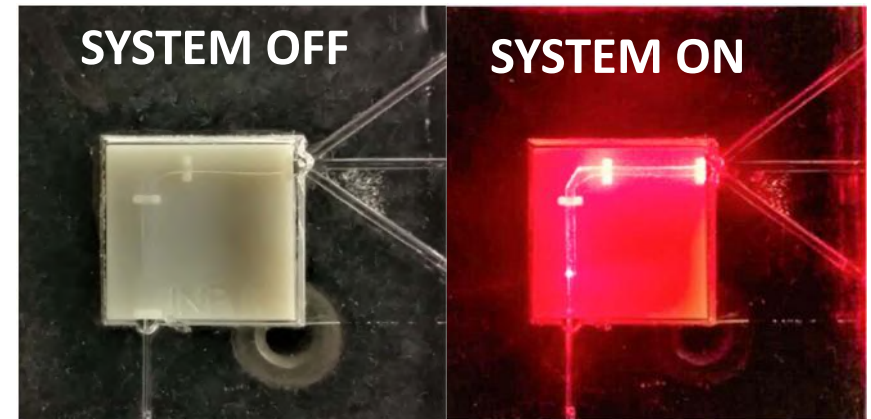


MICRO-OPTICAL COMPONENTS

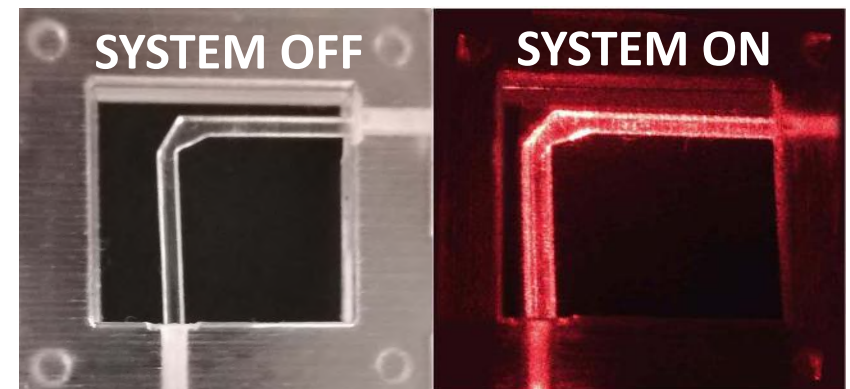
OPTICAL SPLITTER



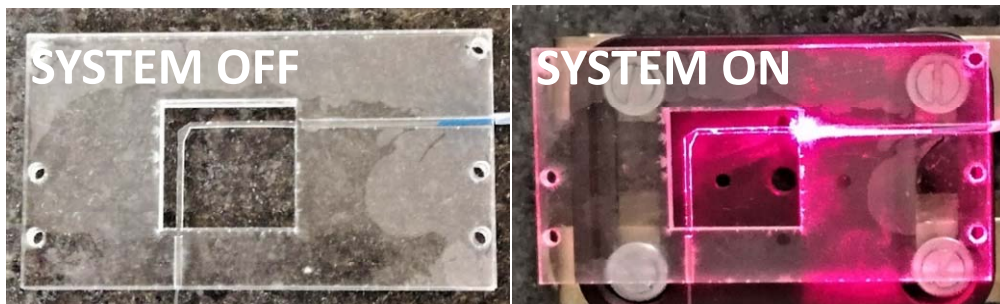
PDMS MASTER-SLAVE



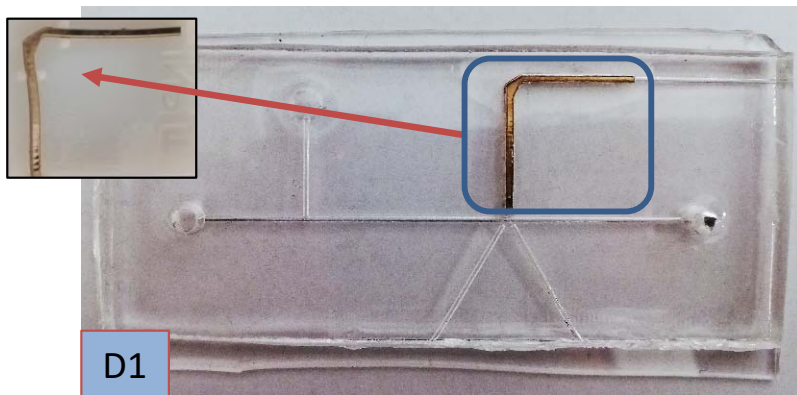
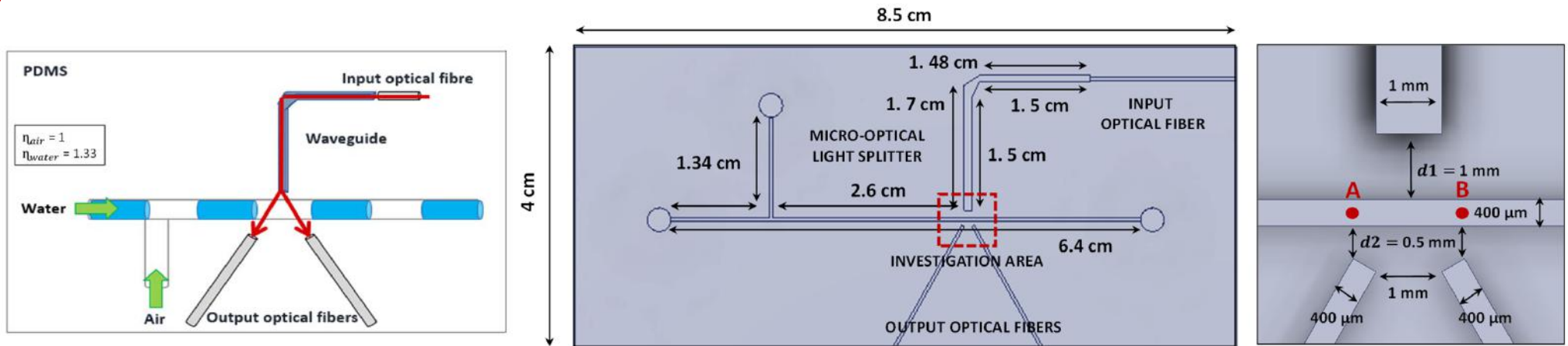
VERO-CLEAR DIRECT PRINTING



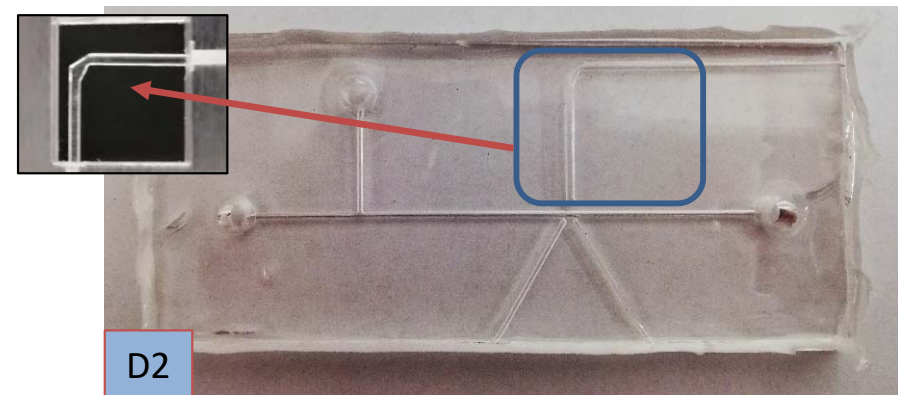
PMMA –LASER CUTTING



MICRO-OPTOFLUIDIC VELOCITY DETECTOR

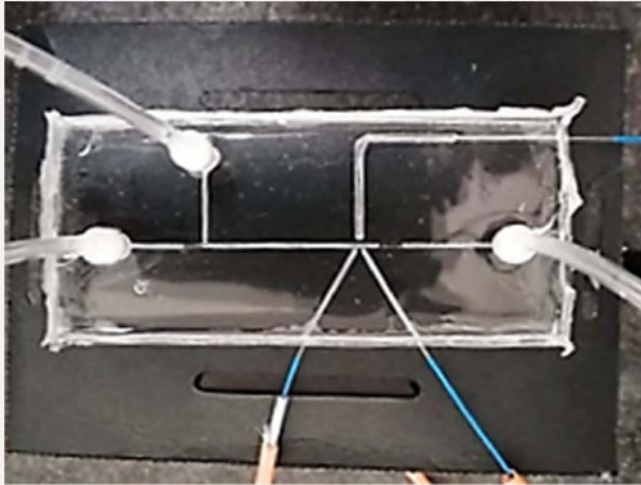


PDMS micro-optofluidic velocity detector with gold-PDMS micro-splitter.

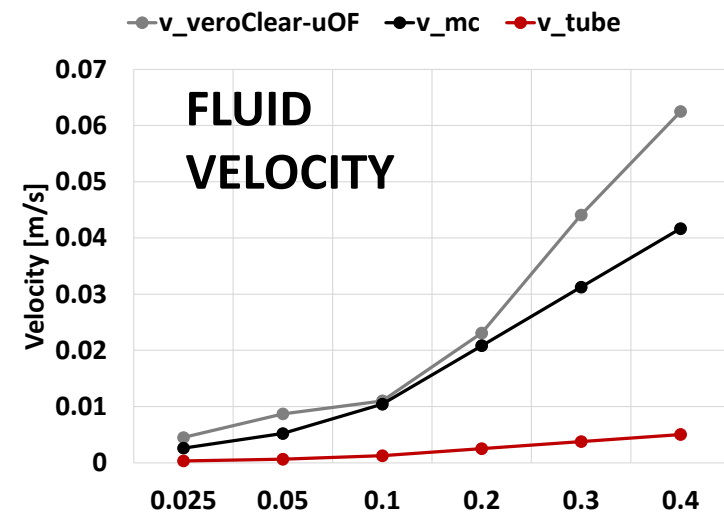
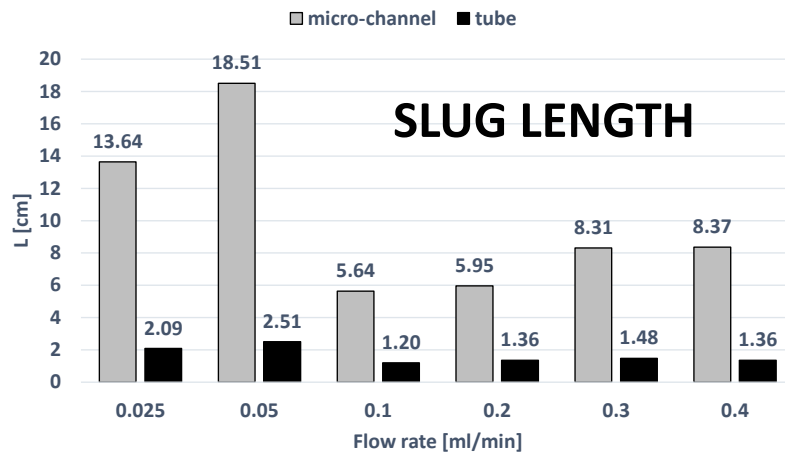
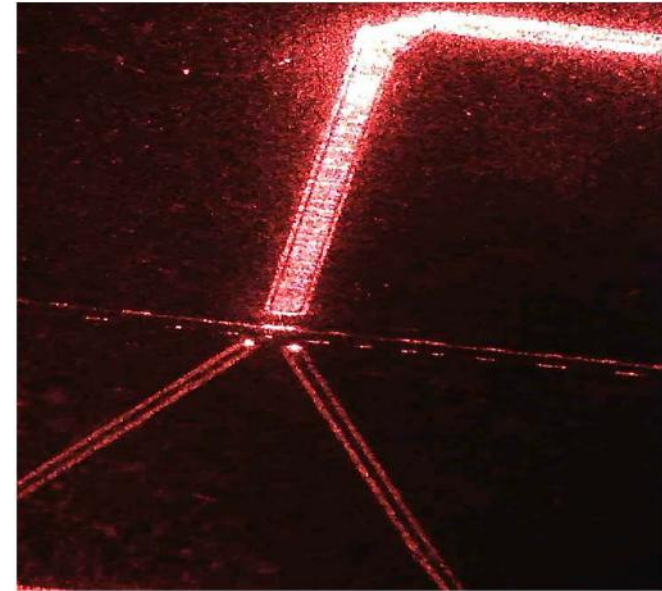


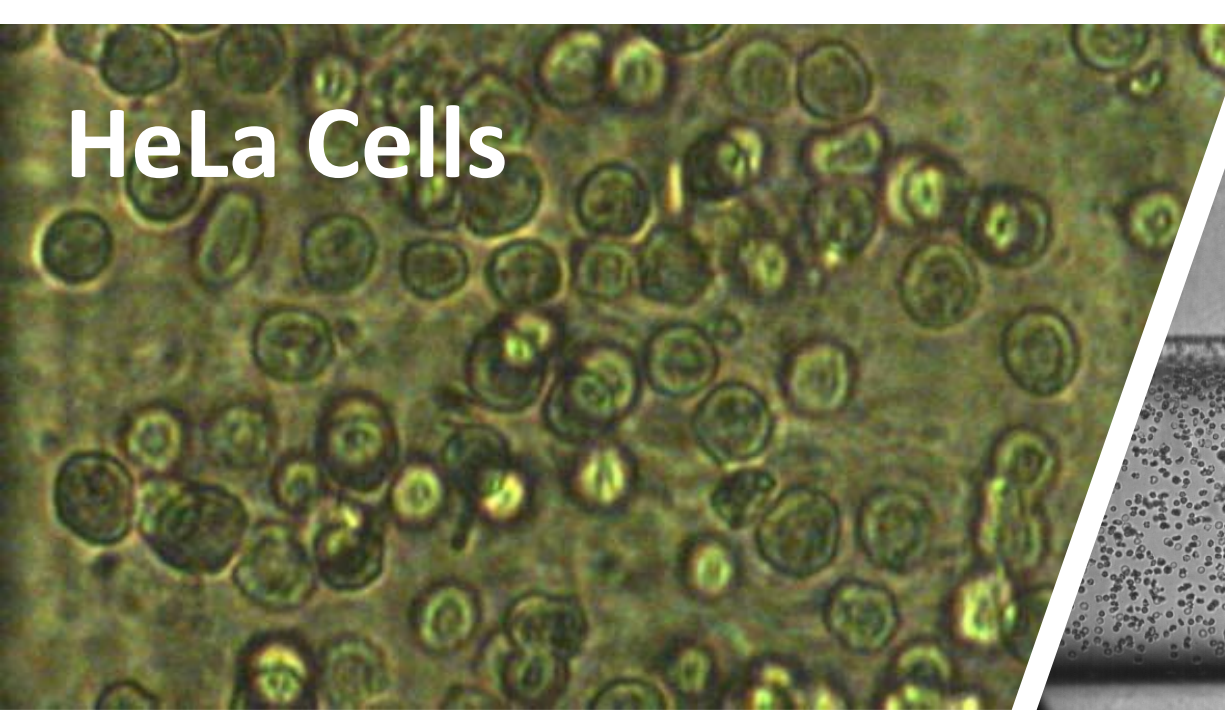
PDMS micro-optofluidic velocity detector with 3D printed micro-splitter.

MICRO-OPTOFLUIDIC VELOCITY DETECTOR



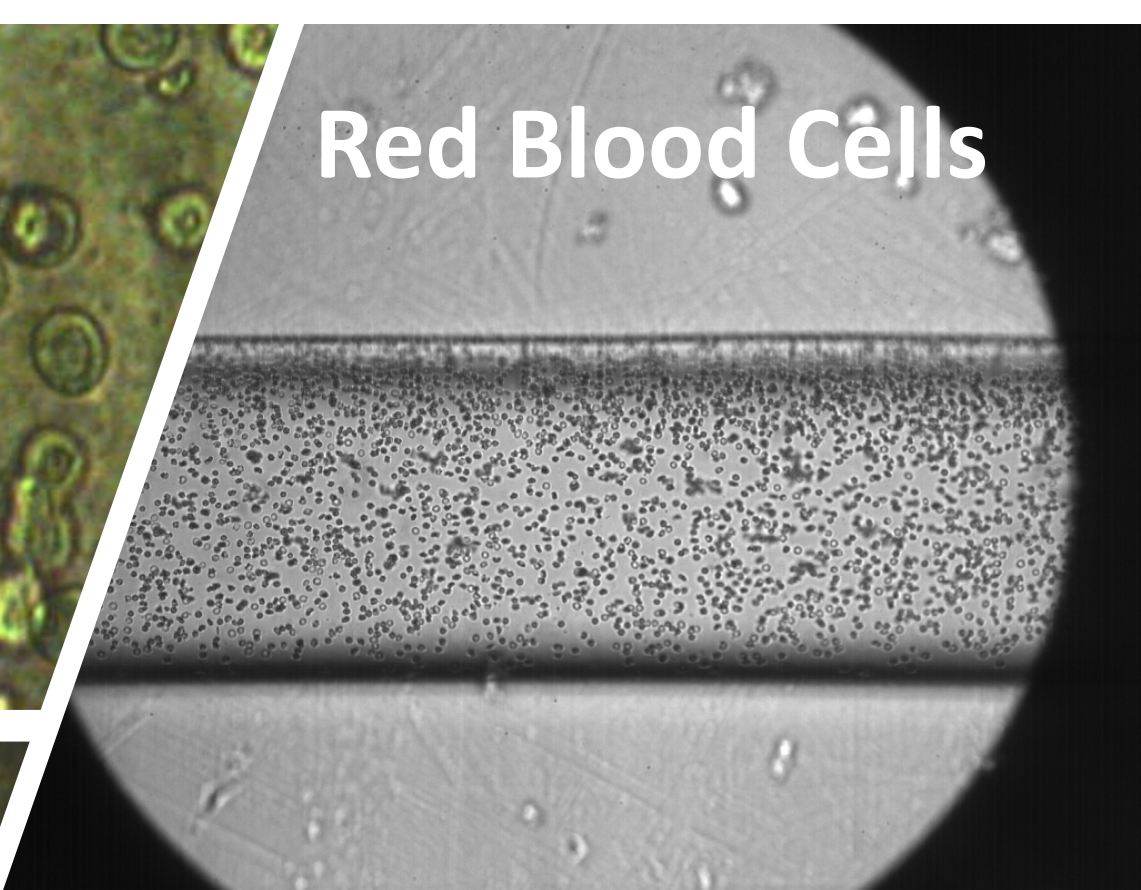
Photodiode signals





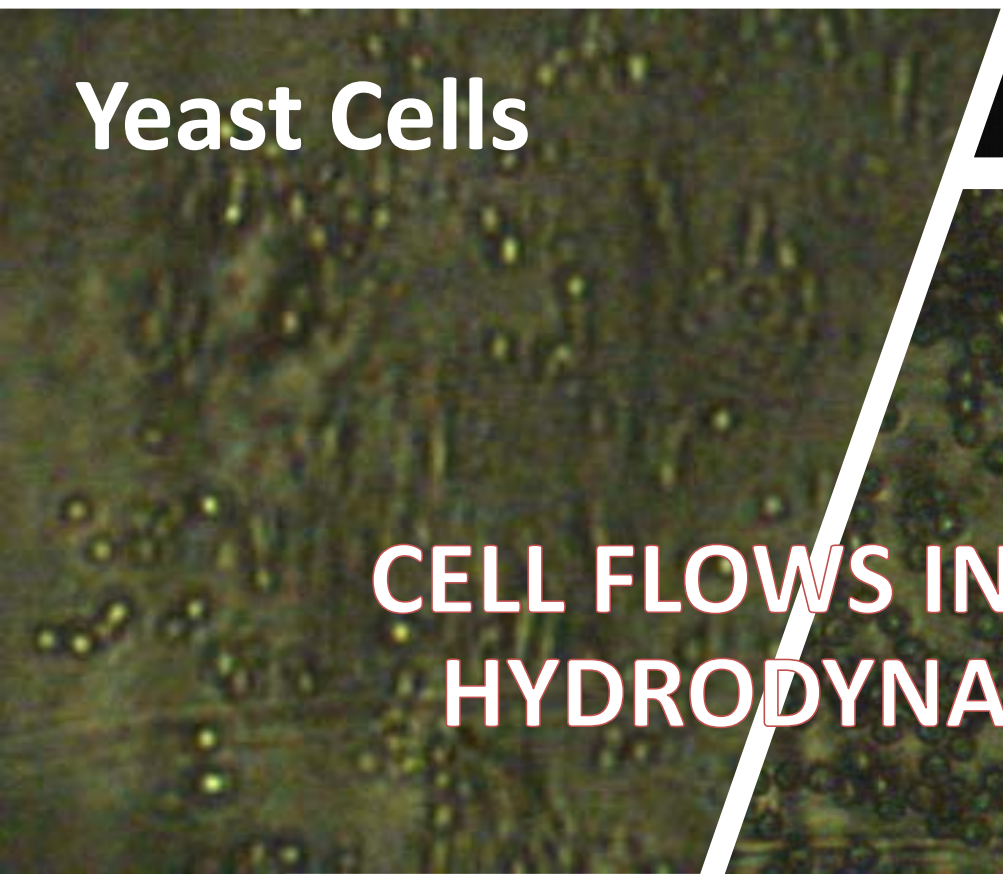
HeLa Cells

A phase-contrast micrograph showing a dense population of HeLa cells. The cells are roughly spherical with prominent nuclei and some visible internal structure. They are distributed across the field of view.



Red Blood Cells

A phase-contrast micrograph showing a dense population of red blood cells. The cells are small, biconcave discs, and are tightly packed in a central horizontal band, with fewer cells visible in the upper and lower regions.



Yeast Cells

A phase-contrast micrograph showing a dense population of yeast cells. The cells are small and appear as bright, somewhat irregular spots against a darker background.

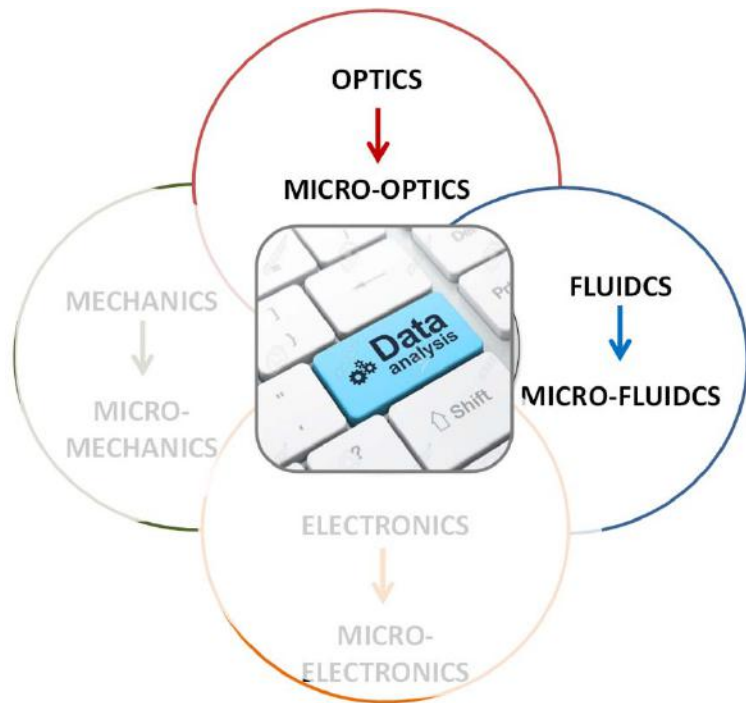


Micro-Beads

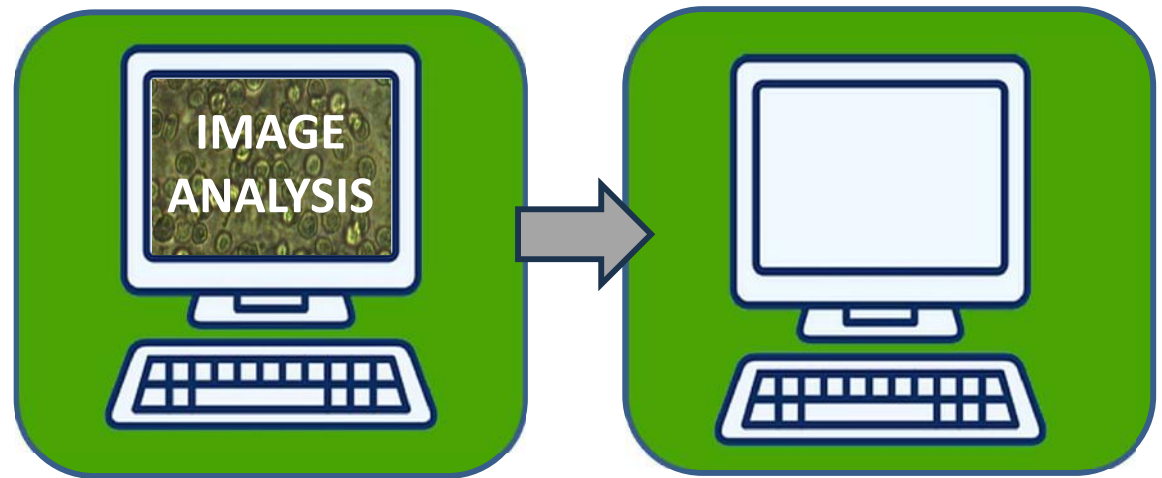
A phase-contrast micrograph showing a dense population of micro-beads. The beads are small, dark, and spherical, distributed throughout the field of view.

**CELL FLOWS INVESTIGATION BY
HYDRODYNAMIC RESPONSE**

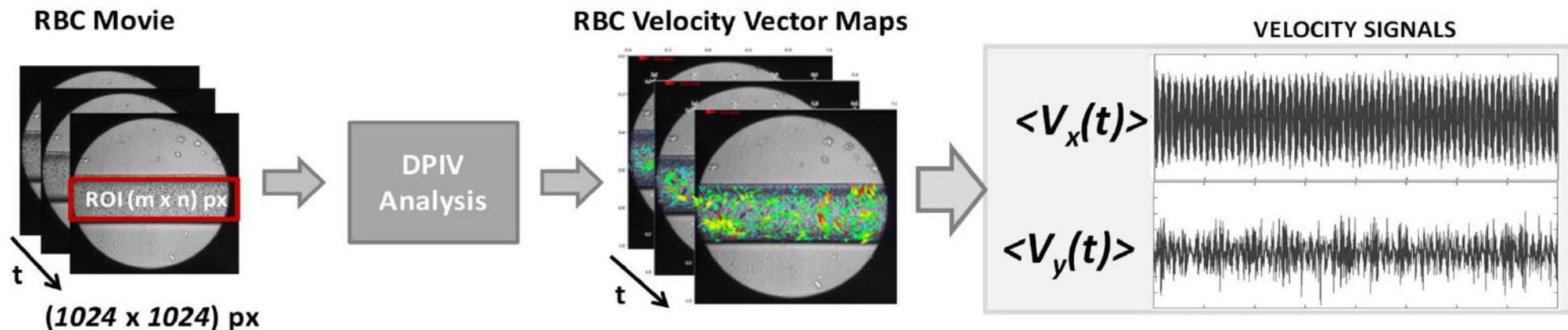
WHAT WE NEED



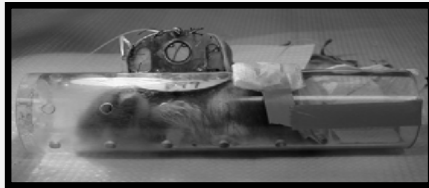
DETECTION



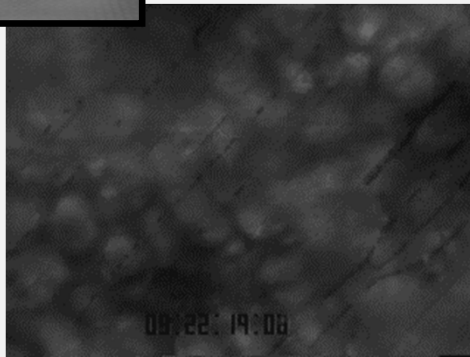
Ad-hoc Digital Particle Image Velocimetry (DPIV) Algorithm



DETECTION OF RBCs FLOWS

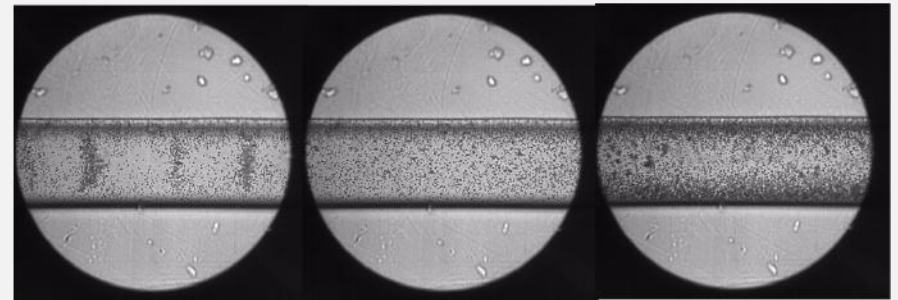
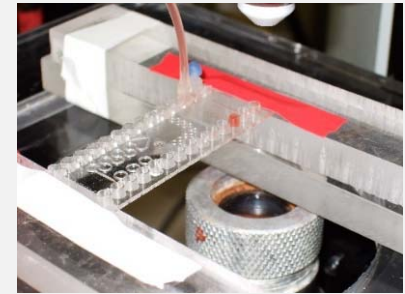


In Vivo



**TRACKING RBCs VELOCITY IN
MICROVESSELS NETWORKS**

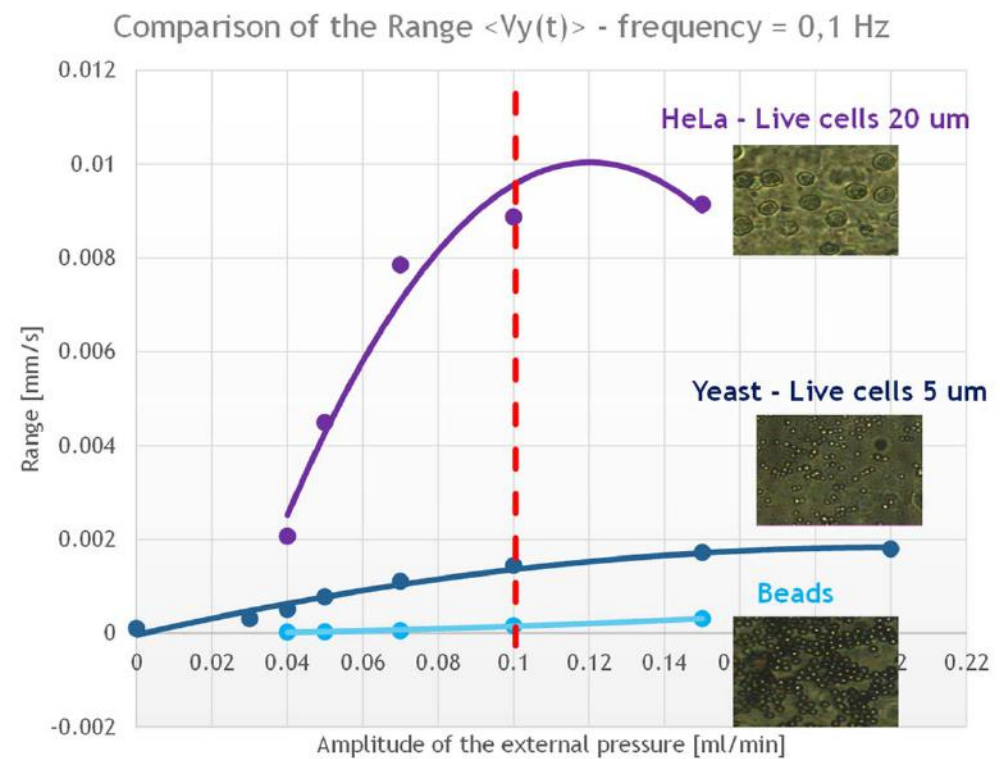
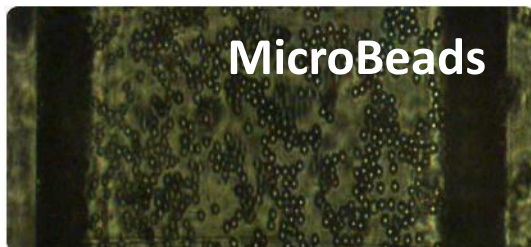
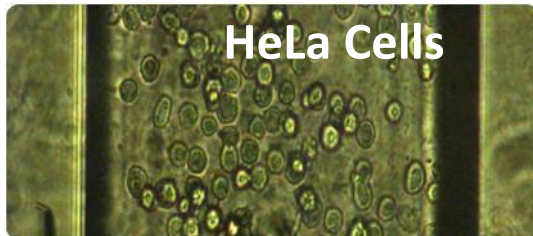
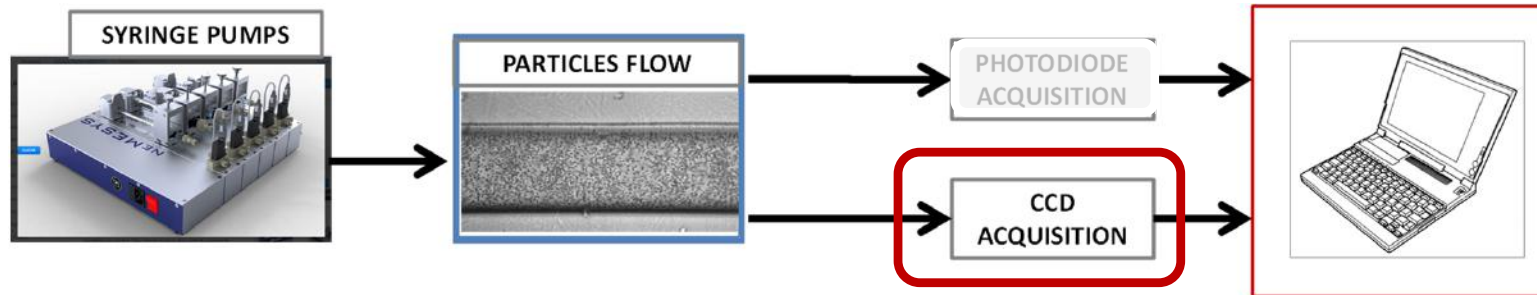
In Vitro



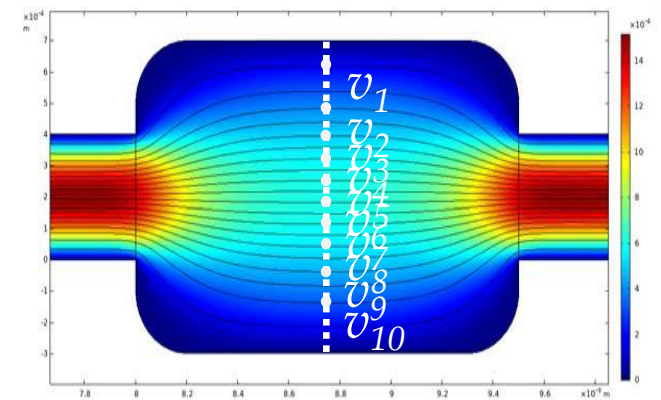
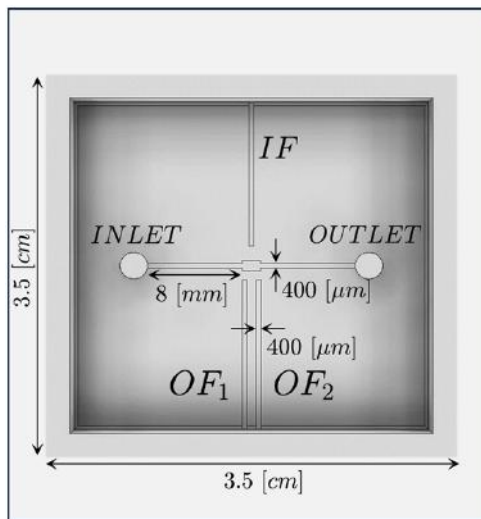
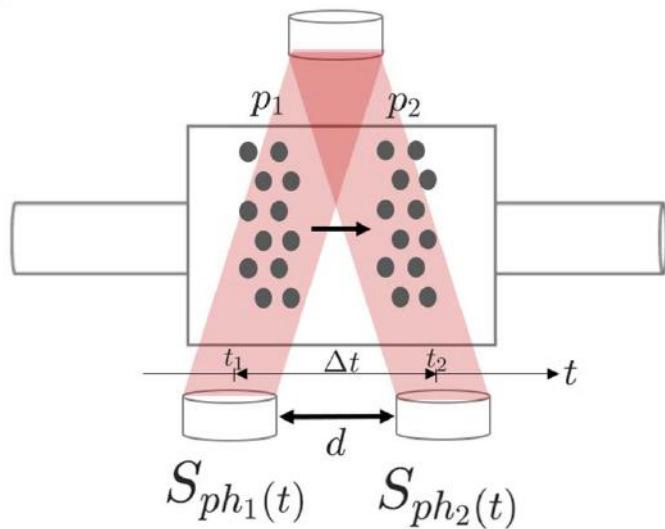
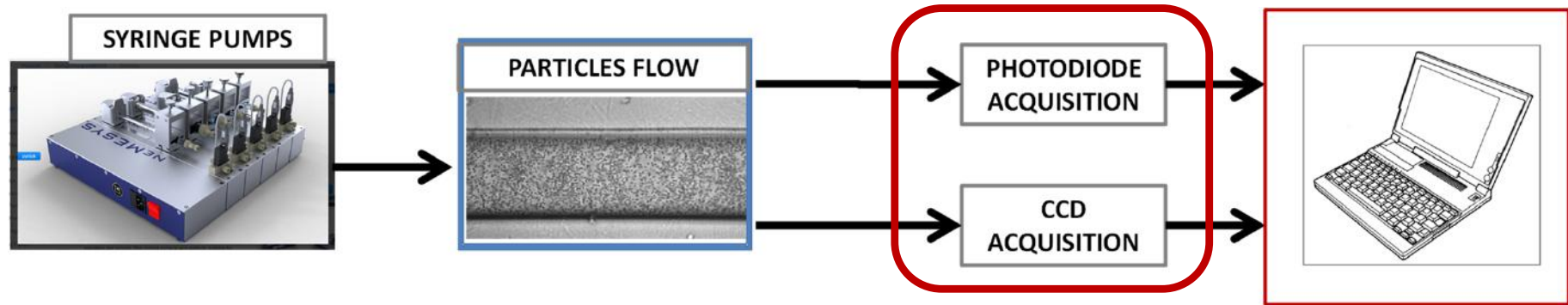
**BEHAVIOURAL INVESTIGATION OF
RBCs IN LOW CONCENTRATION**

- [F. Cairone et al., Quantitative Analysis of Spatial Irregularities in RBCs Flows, Chaos Solitons and Fractals \(2018\)](#)
- [F. Cairone et al., Emergent Behaviors in RBCs Flows in Micro-Channels using Digital Particle Image Velocimetry, Microvascular Research, 2017](#)
- [F. Sapuppo et al., Microfluidics real-time monitoring using CNN technology' IEEE Trans. on Biom. Circuits and Systems 2008](#)

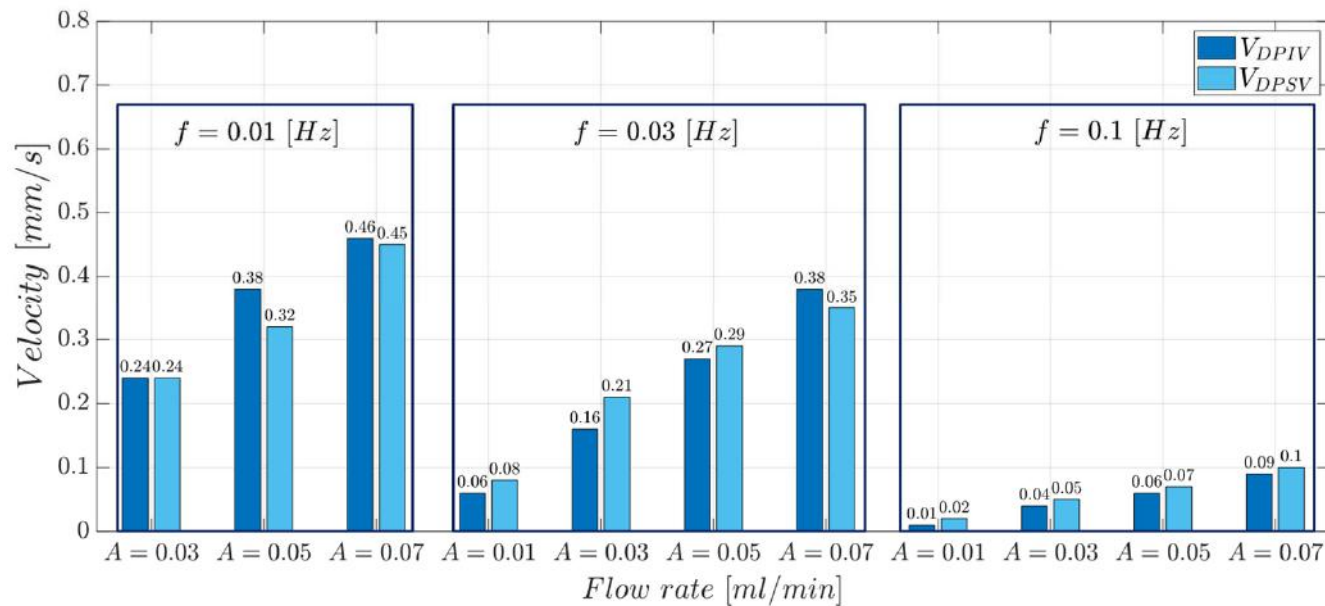
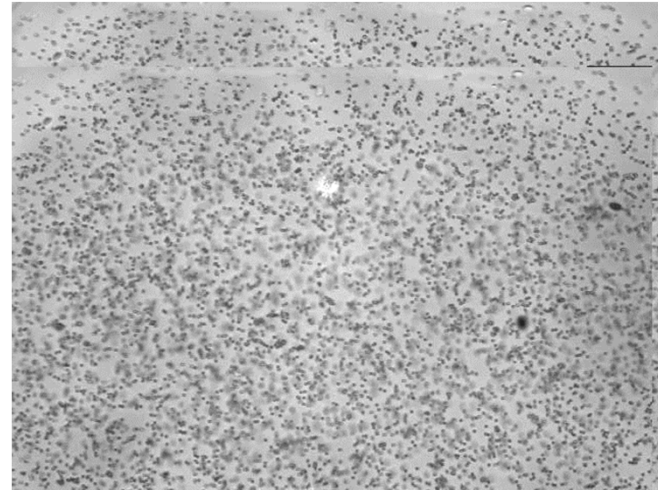
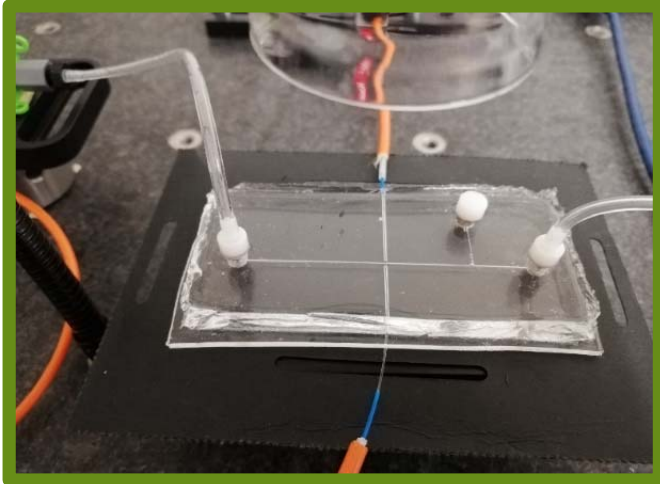
CLASSIFICATION OF CELL FLOWS

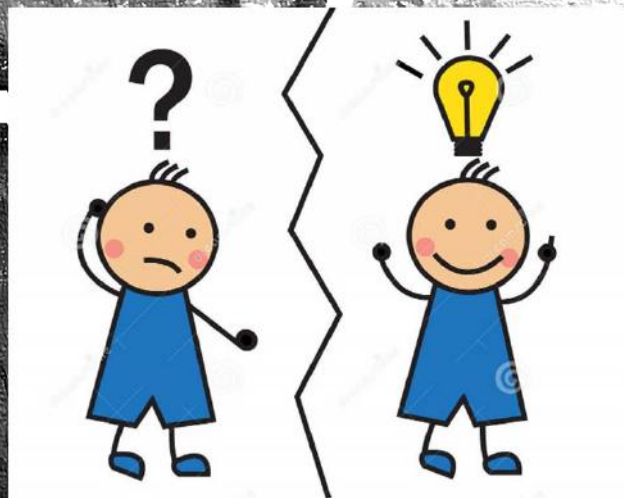


MICRO-OPTOFLUIDIC CHAMBER

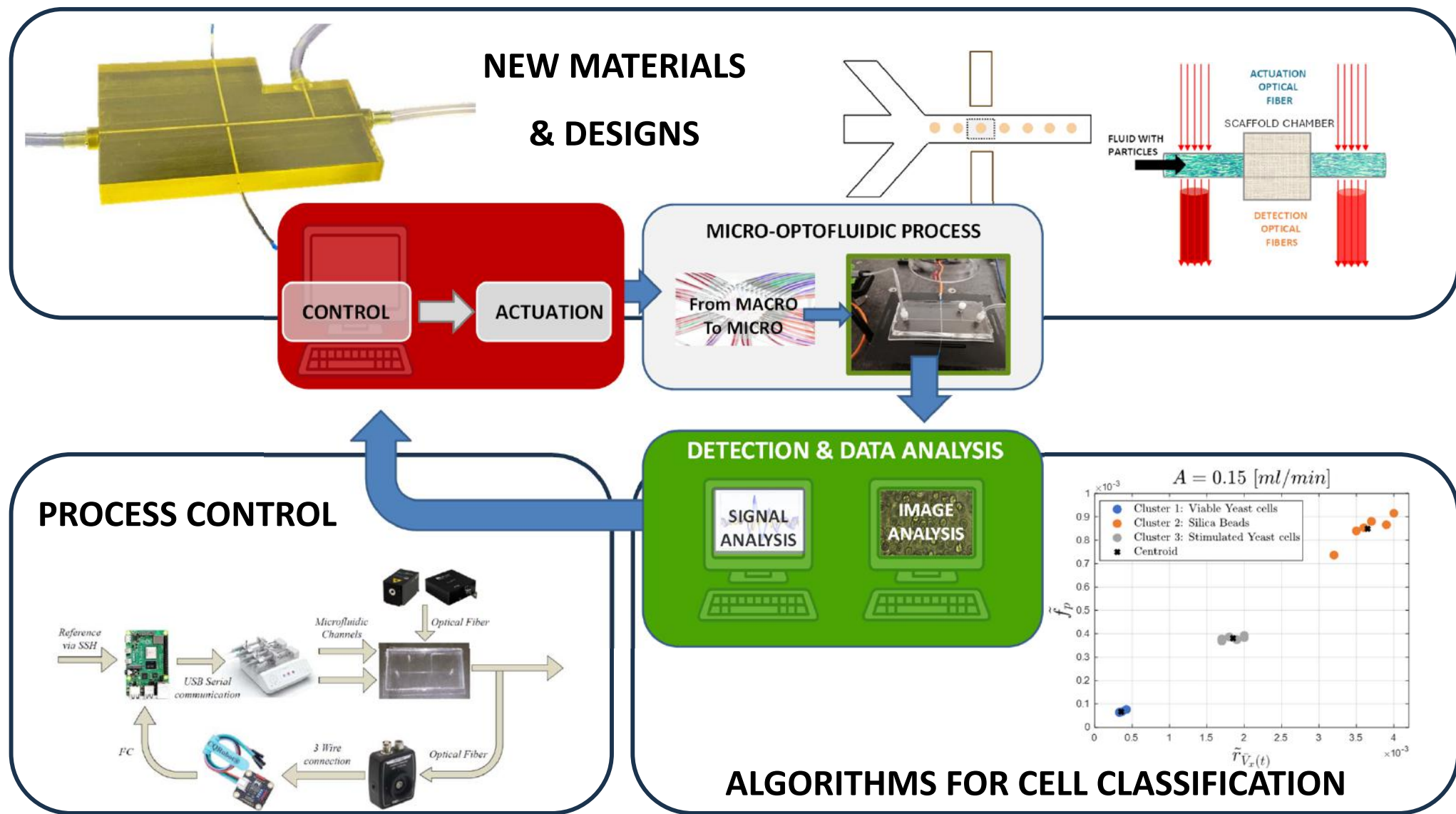


MICRO-OPTOFLUIDIC CHAMBER





WHAT'S NEXT?



[L. Saitta et al., **Projection Micro-Stereolithography to Manufacture a Biocompatible Micro-Optofluidic Device for Cell Concentration Monitoring**, Polymers, 2023](#)

[S. Moscato et al. , **Model Predictive Control framework for slug flow microfluidics processes** Polymer, Control Engineering Practice, 2024](#)

[E. Cutuli et al., **Automatic Label-Free Classification of Viable Cell on-a-Chip**, Biomedical Signal Processing and Control,](#)

MATERIALS & FABRICATION

[L. Saitta et al., A Regression Approach to Model Refractive Index Measurements of Novel 3D Printable Photocurable Resins for Micro-Optofluidic Applications, Polymers, 2023](#)

[G. Stella et al., 3D Printing Manufacturing of Polydimethyl-Siloxane/Zinc Oxide Micro-Optofluidic Device for Two-Phase Flows Control , Polymers, 2022](#)

[L. Saitta et al. , Projection micro-stereolithography versus master–slave approach to manufacture a micro-optofluidic device for slug flow detection, International Journal of Advanced Manufacturing Technology, 2022](#)

PROCESSES CONTROL

[S. Gagliano et. al. , A Real Time Feed Forward Control of Slug Flow in Microchannels, Energies, 2019](#)

MIICROFLUIDC SLUG PROCESSES

[S. Gagliano et. al. , Real-Time Detection of Slug Velocity in Microchannels, Micromachines, 2020](#)

[F. Cairone et al., Experimental Study on the Slug Flow in a Serpentine Micro-channel, Exp. Thermal and Fluid science , 2016](#)

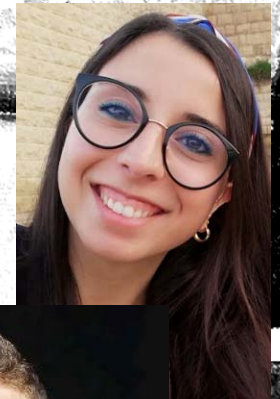
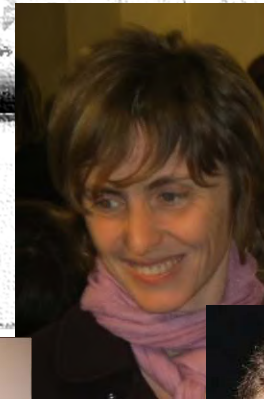
[P. Anandan et al. , Computational models in microfluidic bubble logic, Microfluidics and Nanofluidics , 2014](#)

[F. Schembri et al., Experimental Classification of Nonlinear Dynamics in Microfluidics Bubbles' Flow, Nonlinear Dynamic, 2012](#)

[F. Sapuppo et al., A Polymeric Micro-optical System for Spatial Monitoring in Two-Phase Microfluidics, Microfluidics and Nanofluidics , 2012](#)

[F. Schembri et al., Periodic Input Flows Tuning Nonlinear Two-phase Dynamics in a Snake Micro-channel, Microfluidics and Nanofluidics , 2011](#)

THANKS



BioControl LAB@UNIVERSITY OF CATANIA