

A grayscale micrograph showing a biological experiment at a T-junction. A cell, possibly a sperm cell, is positioned at the junction of two channels. The cell has a distinct head and a long tail. The background is dark and textured, with some bright, out-of-focus areas at the top.

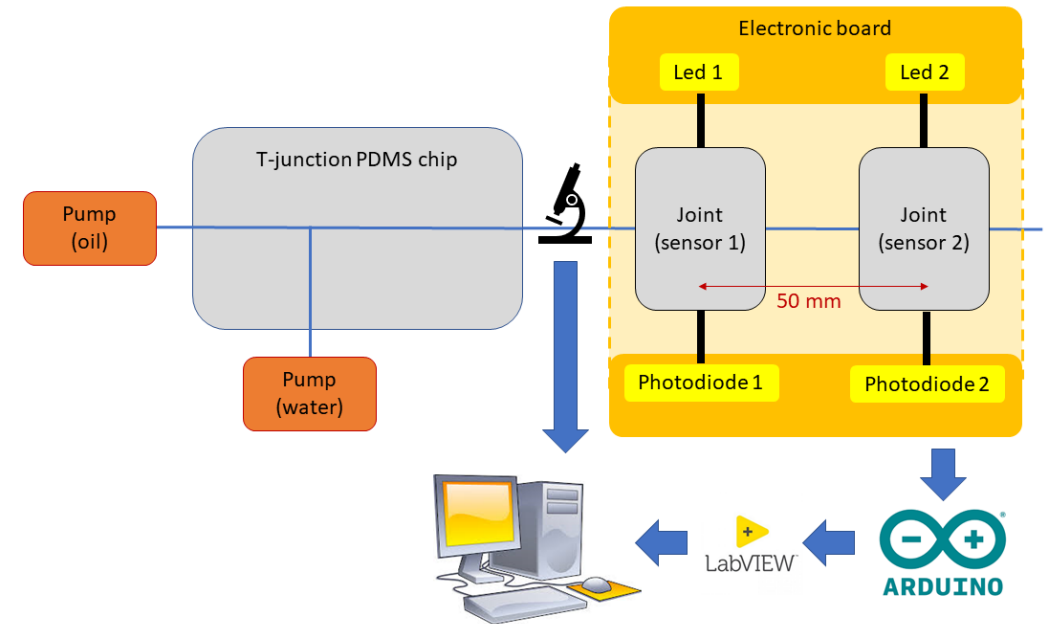
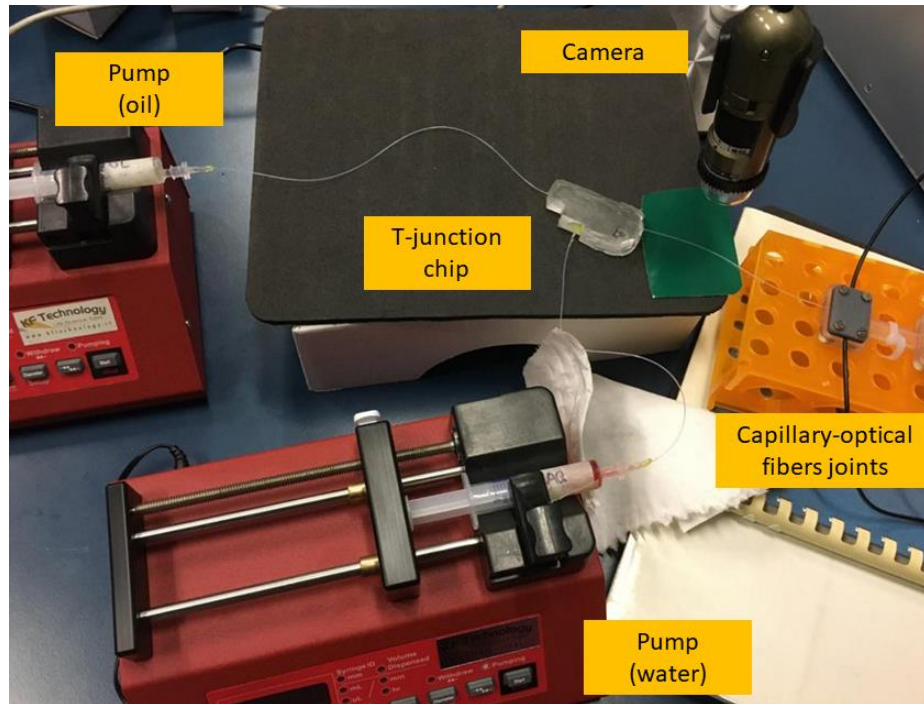
T-Junction experiment

Alessandro Lovo

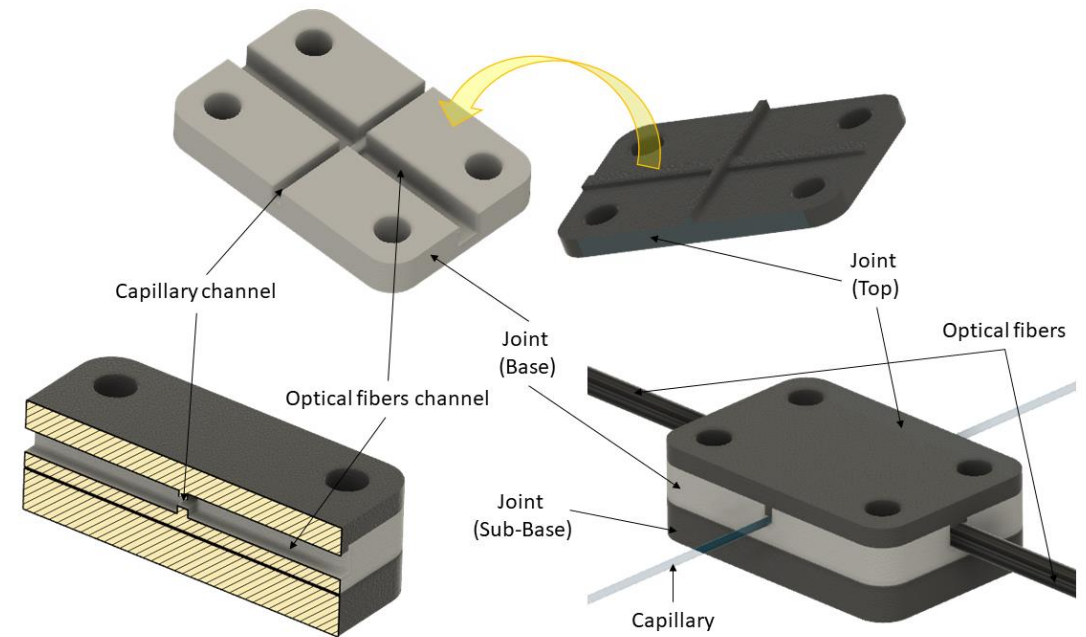
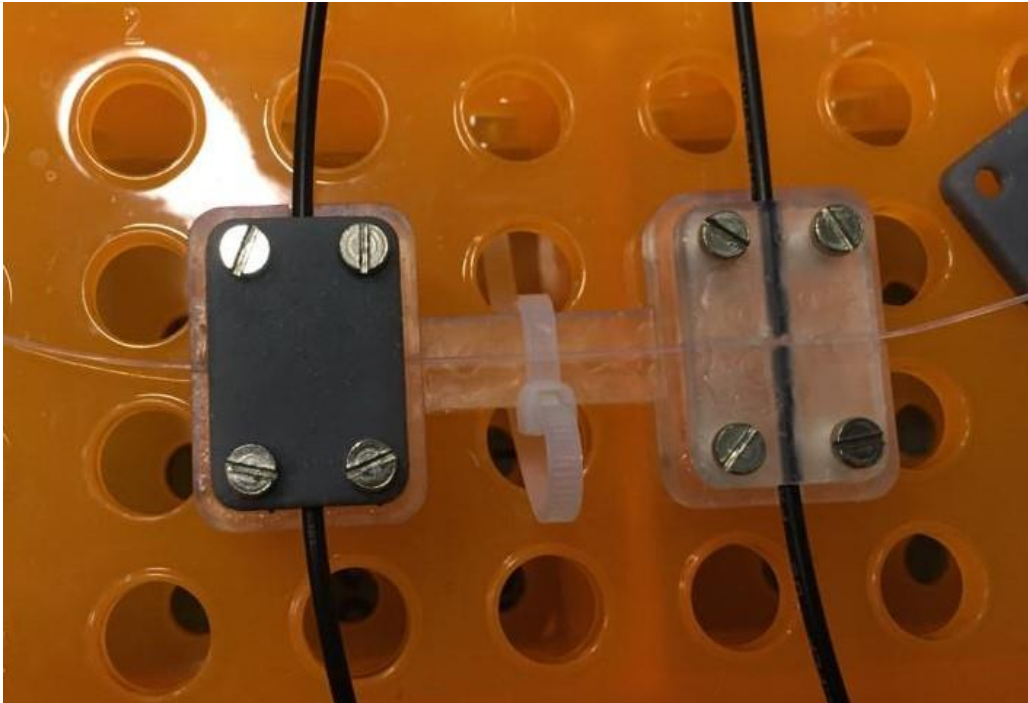
Alessandra Sabatti

Marco Ferrari

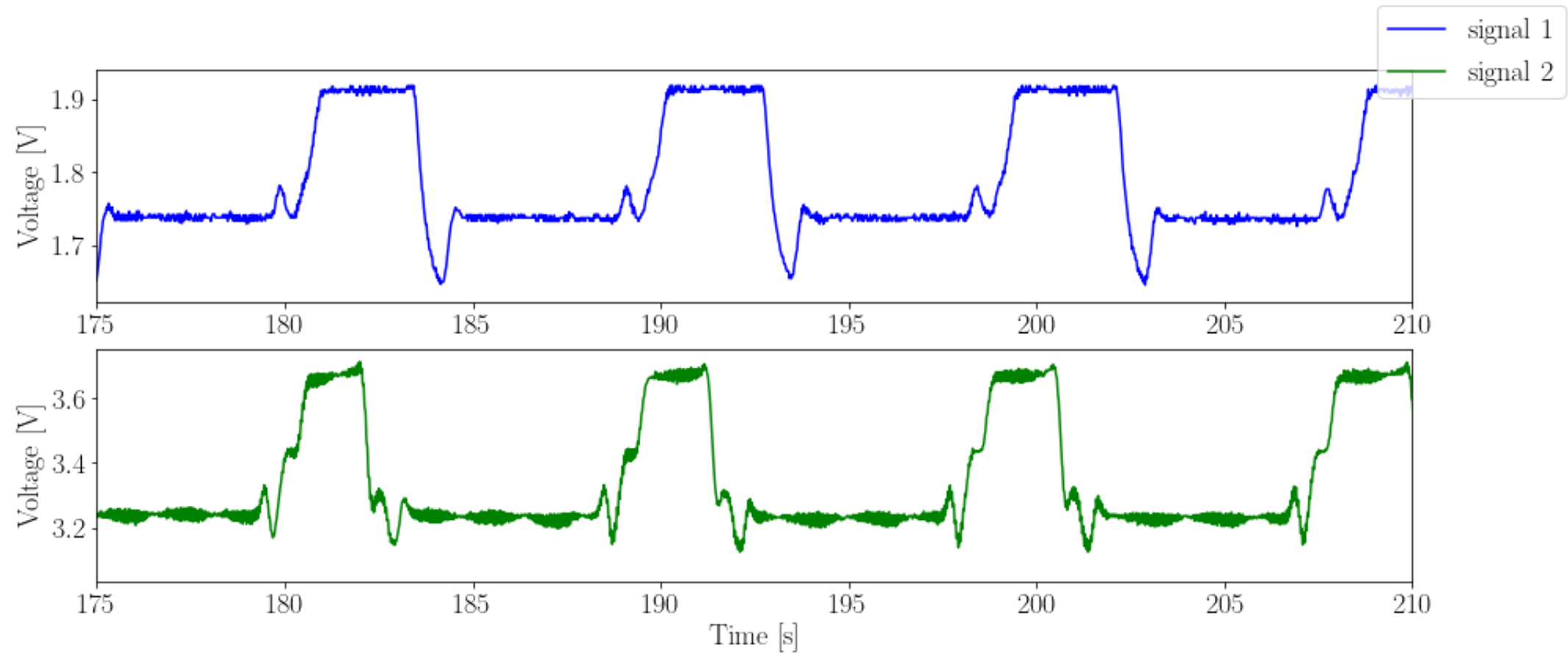
Experimental apparatus



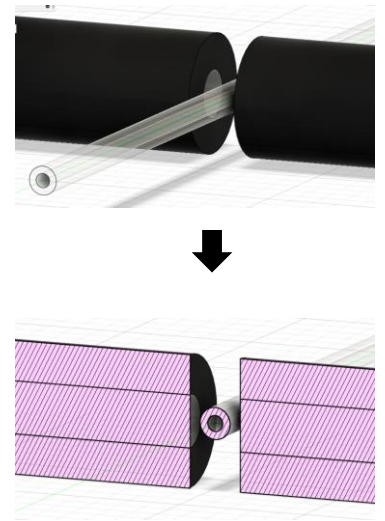
Fiber-capillary joint



Electronic waveforms

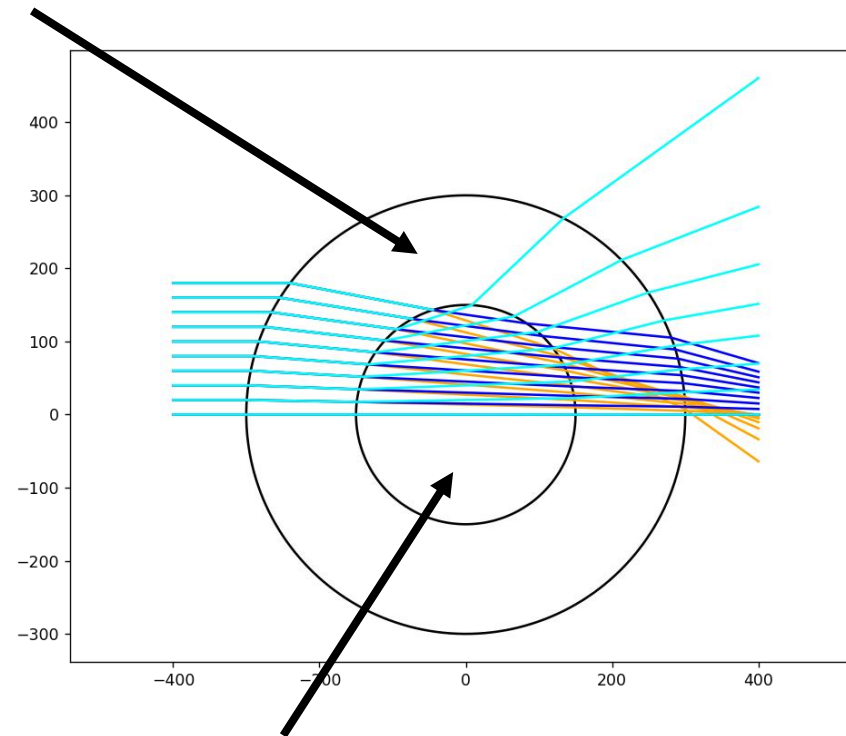


Effect of the circularity of the capillary



Capillary:
 $n_c = 1.36$

Light from LED



Light to photodiode

Fluid:

— $n_{oil} = 1.47$

— $n_{water} = 1.33$

— $n_{air} = 1$

Overly focused: low signal from the photodiode

Properly focused: high signal from the photodiode

Defocused: no signal from the photodiode

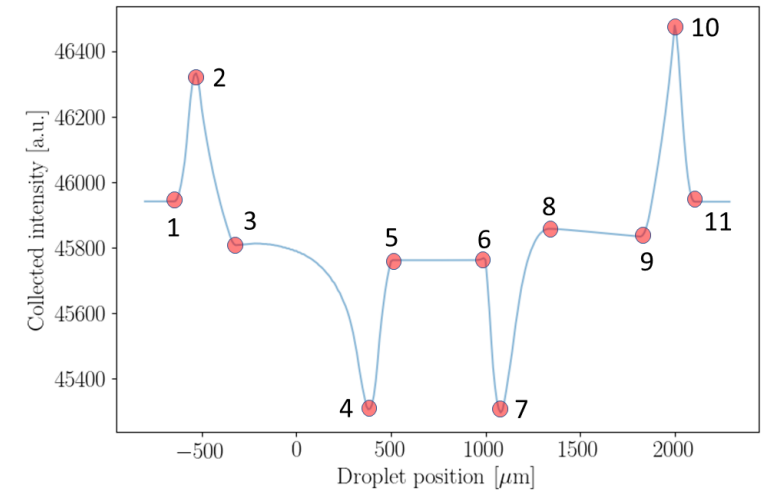
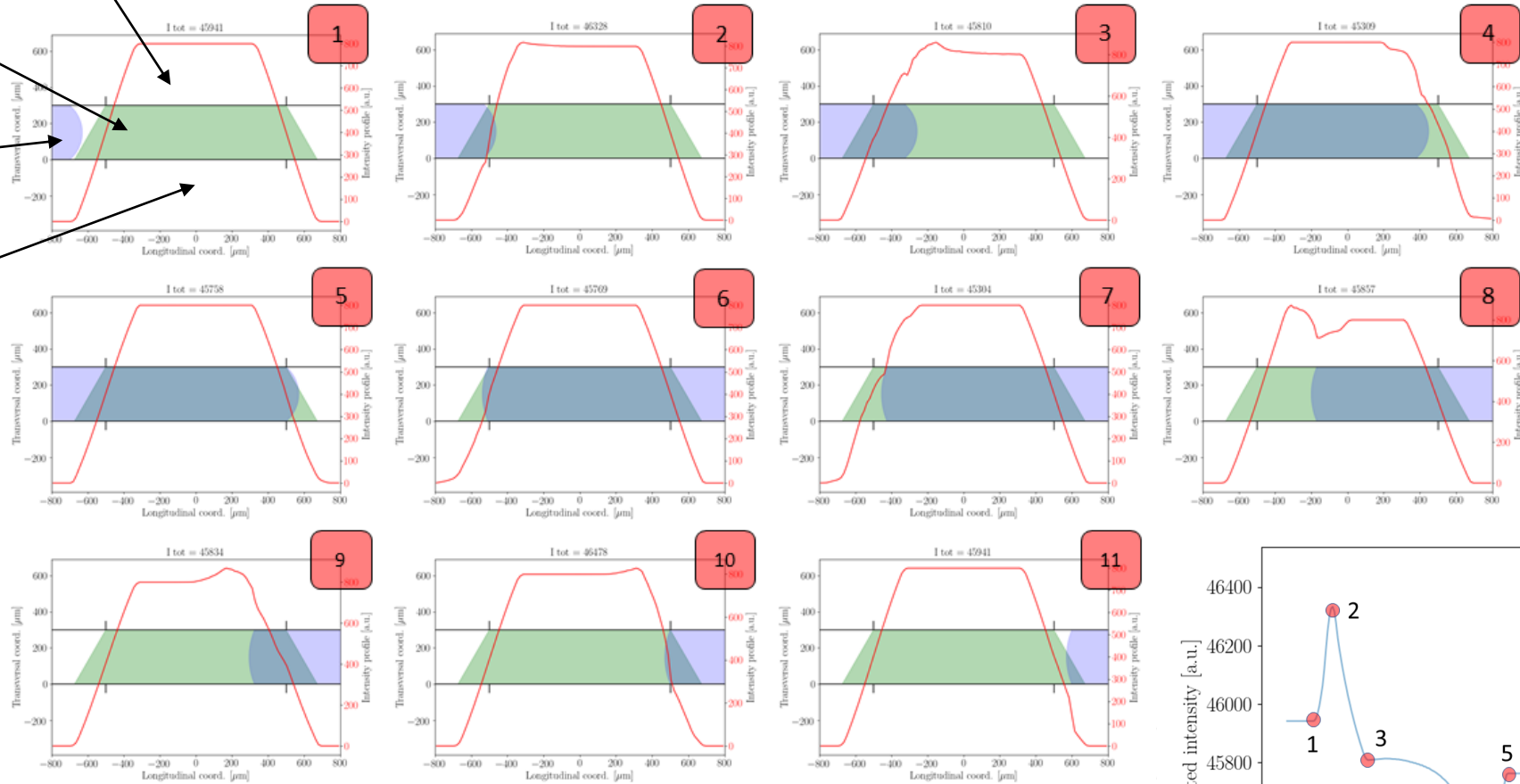
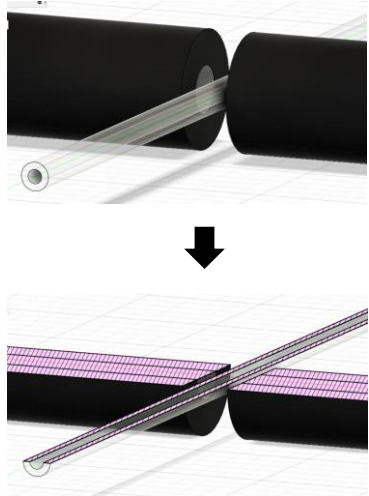
Effect of the menisci

Optical fiber from LED

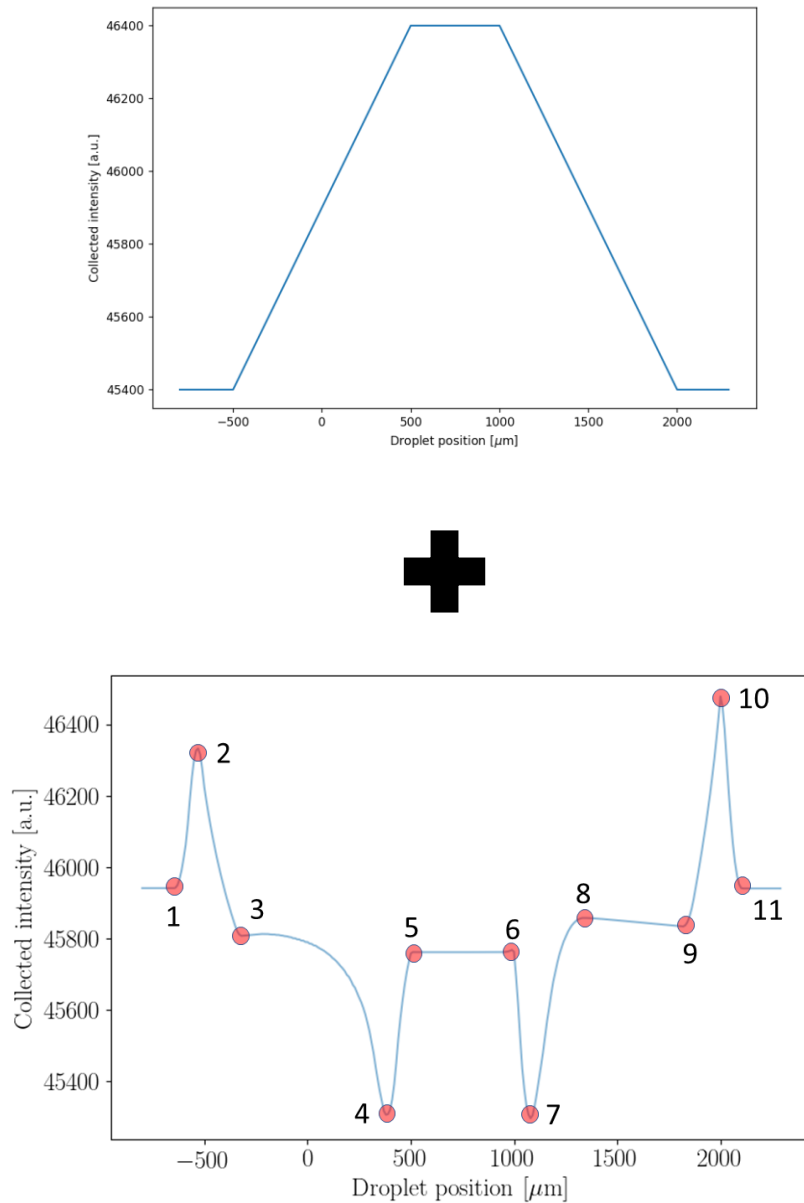
Light cone

Water droplet

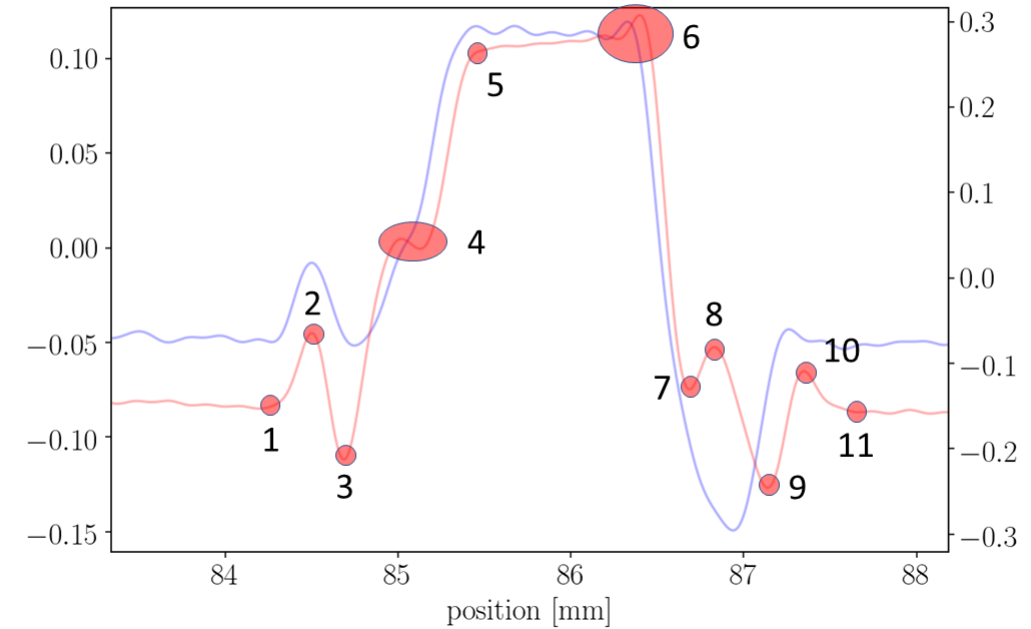
Collection fiber



Combining the two effects



Simulated waveforms

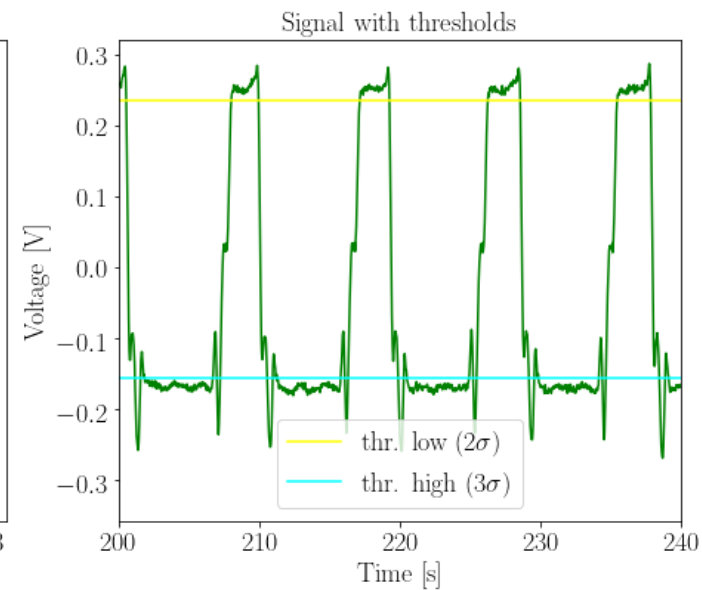
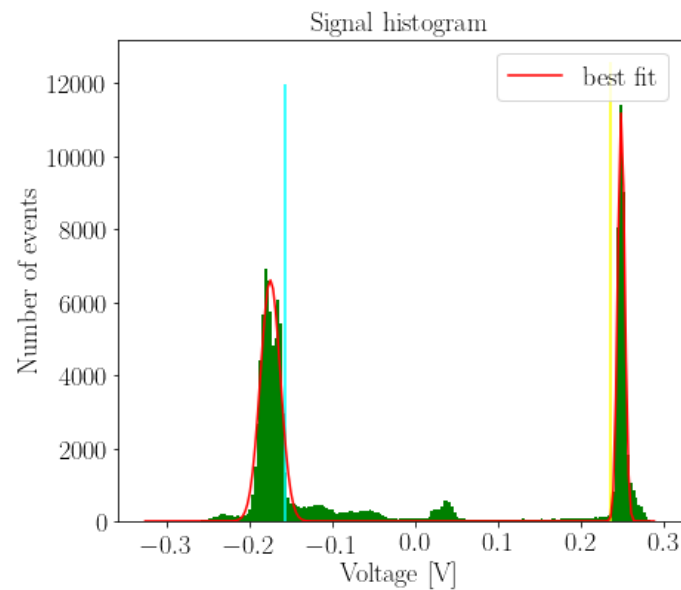
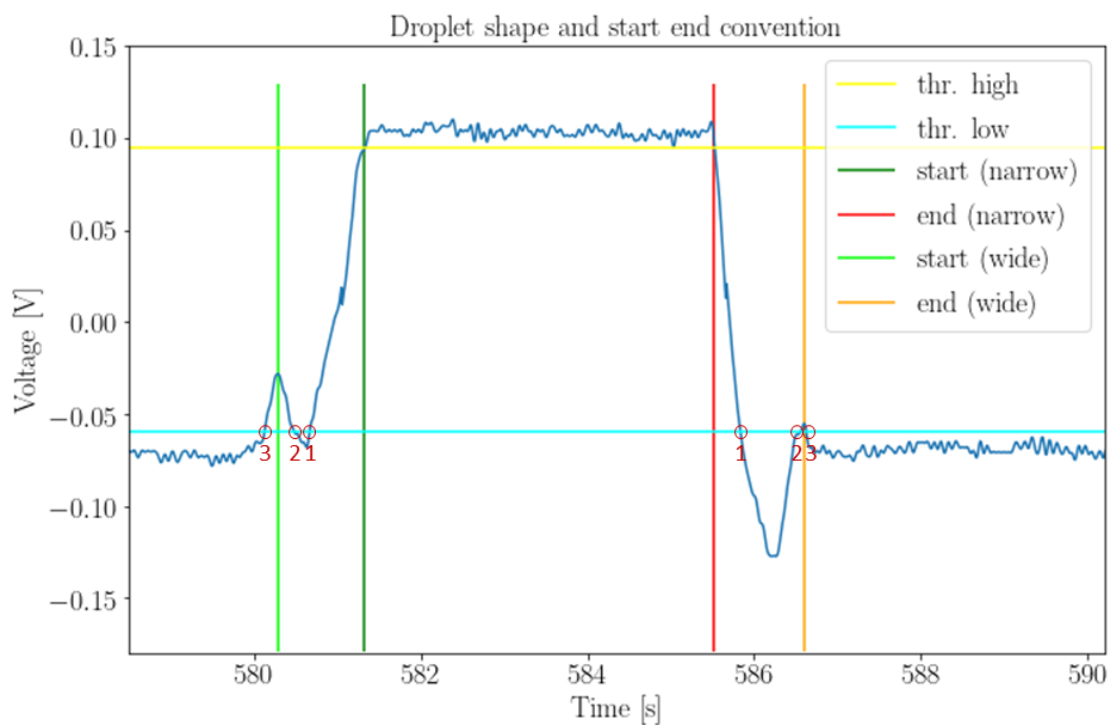
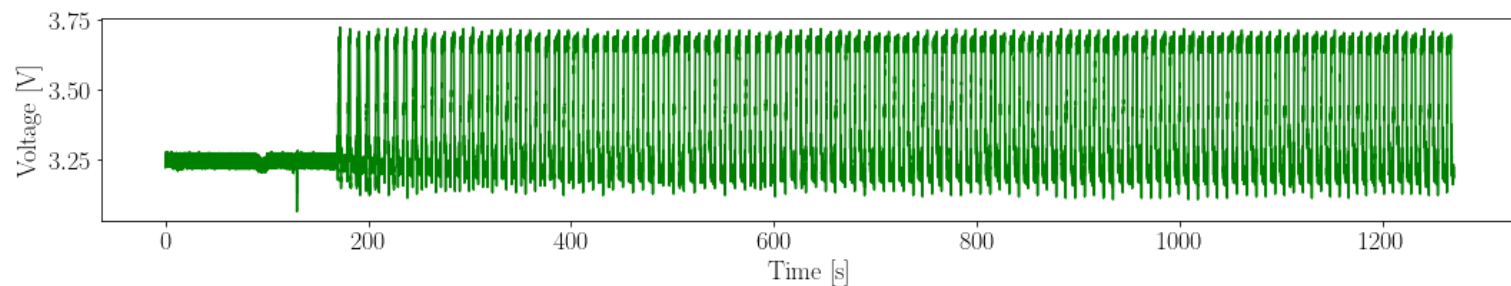
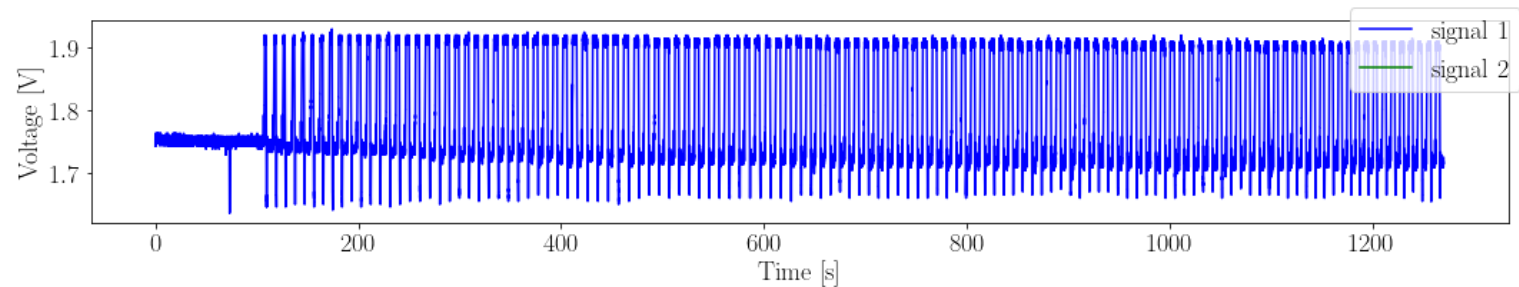


Experimental waveforms:

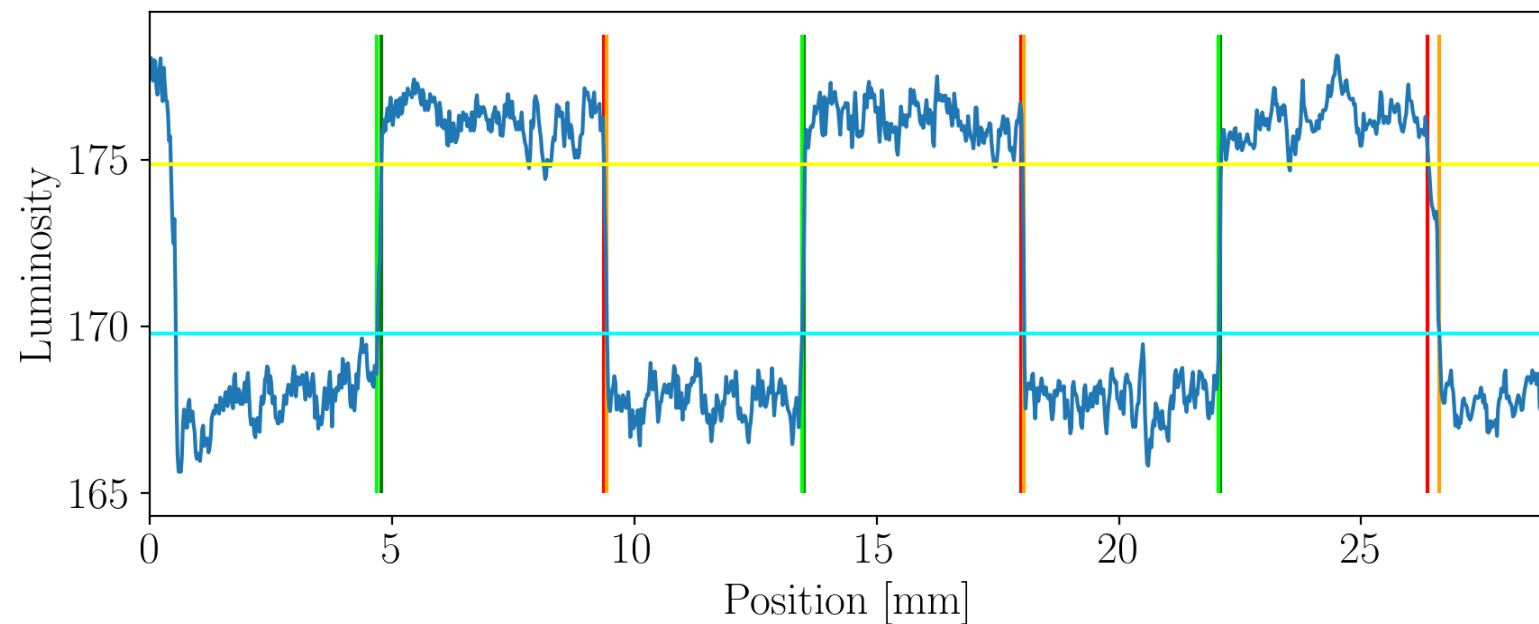
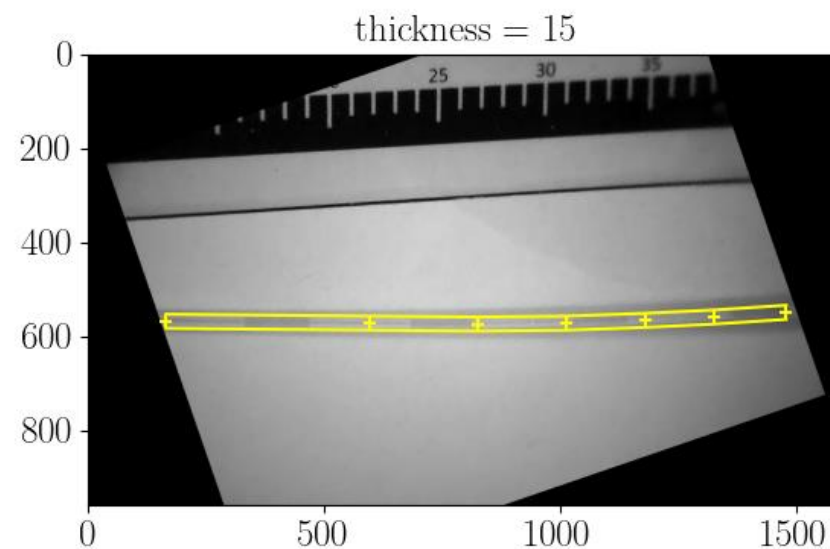
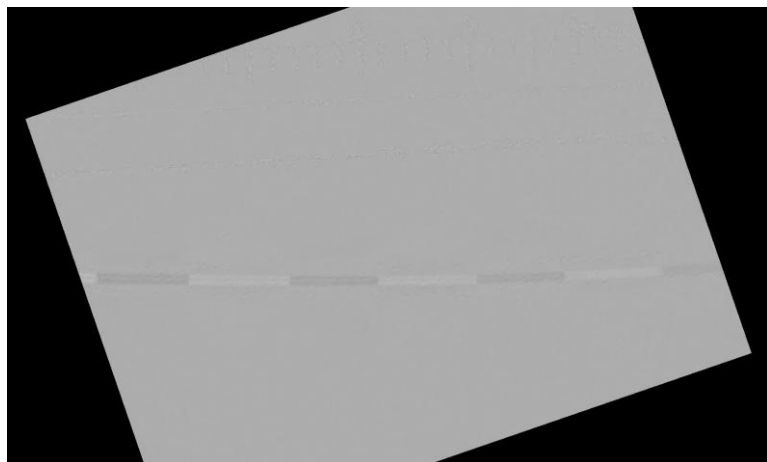
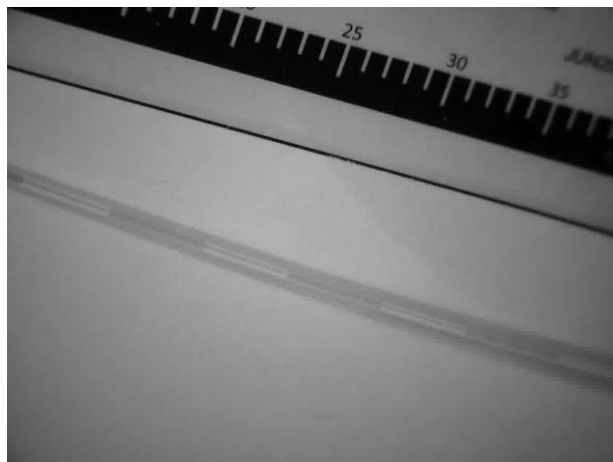
Photodiode 1

Photodiode 2

Waveforms analysis

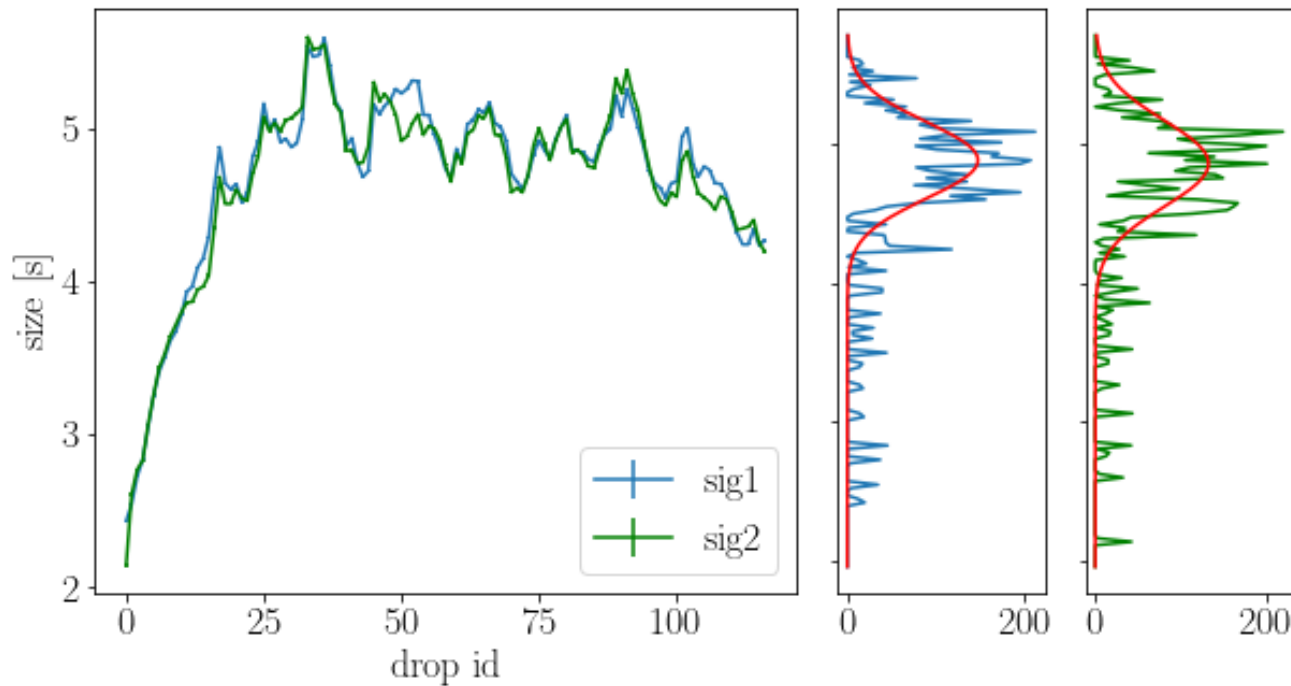


Images from the microscope

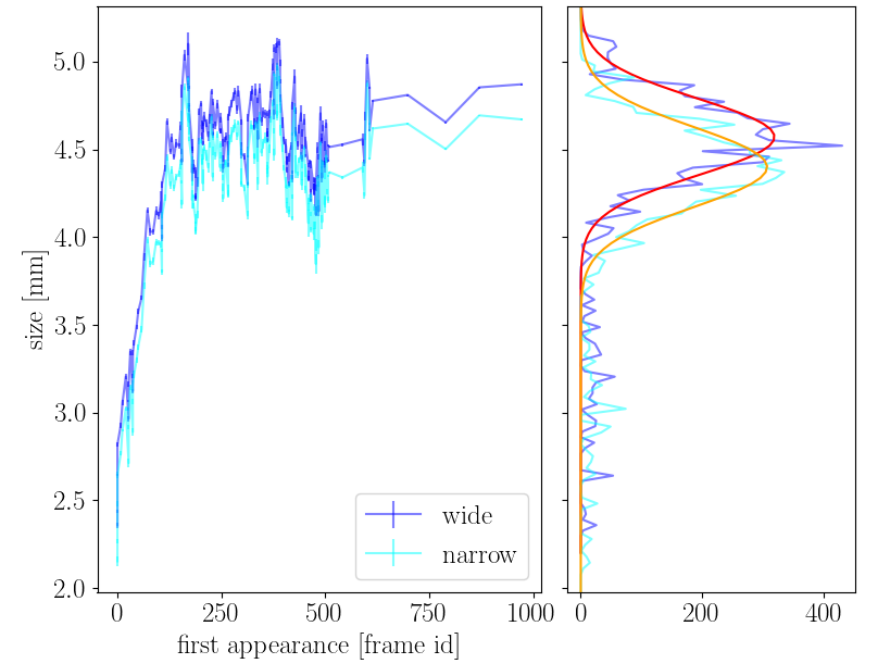


Statistics of droplet properties

Temporal size of drops in each signal, as a function of drop id number



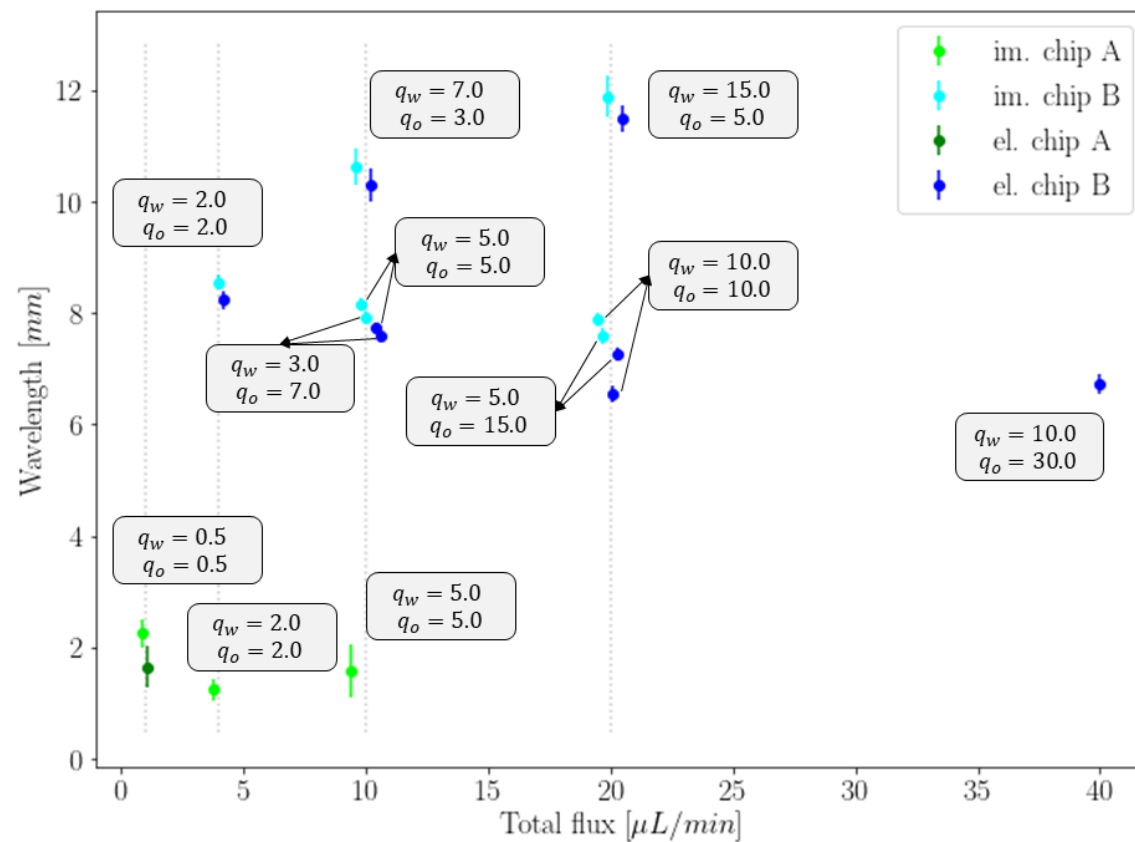
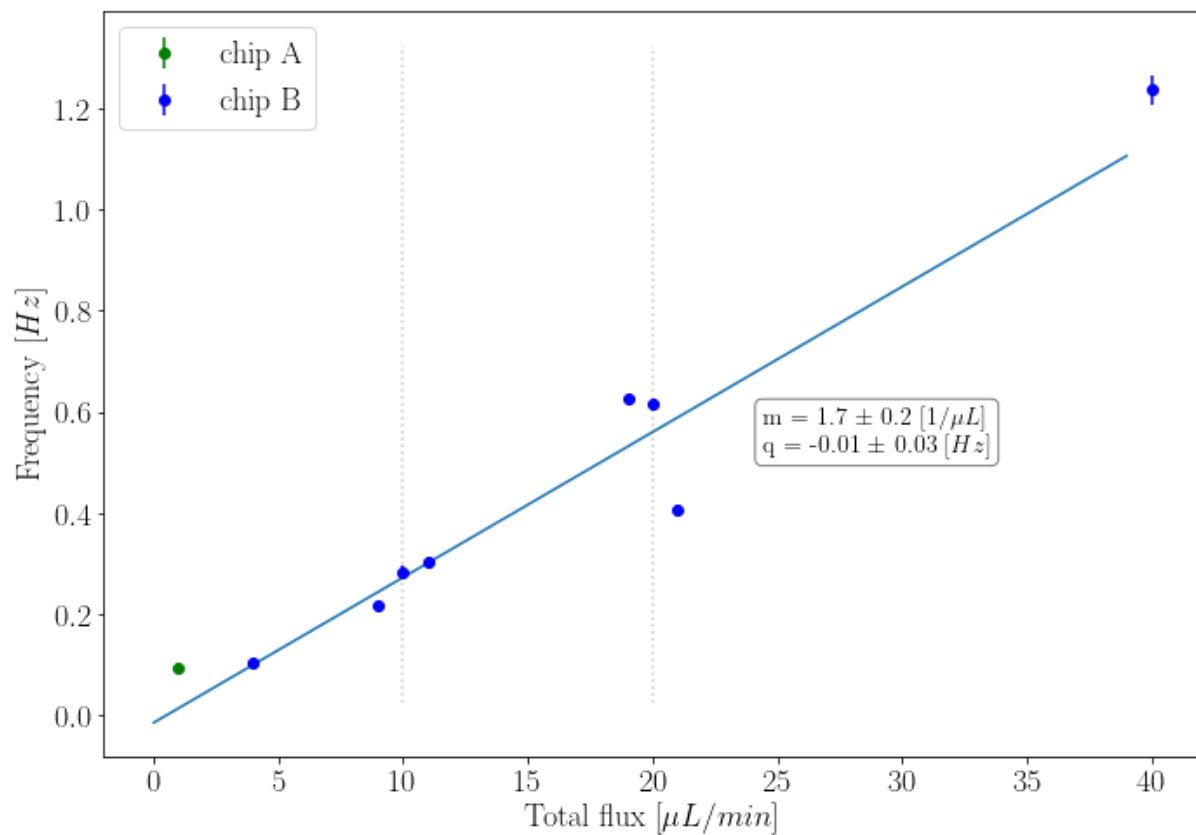
From electronic signals



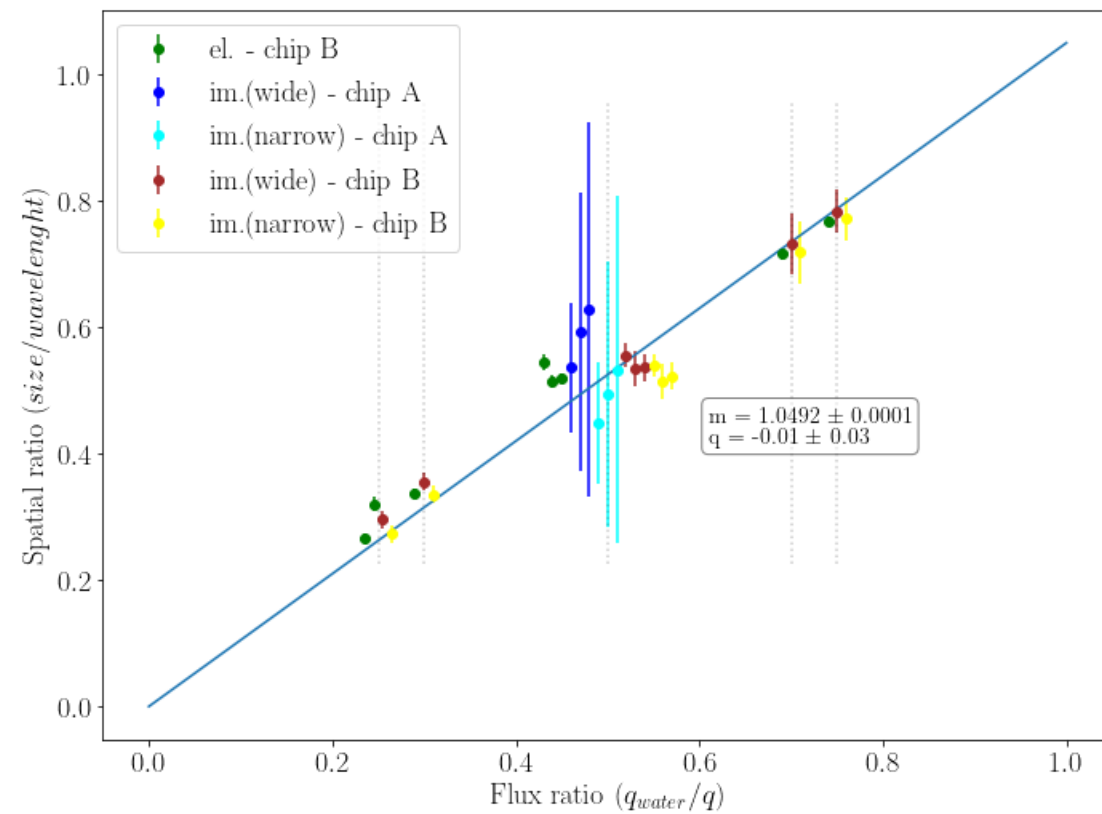
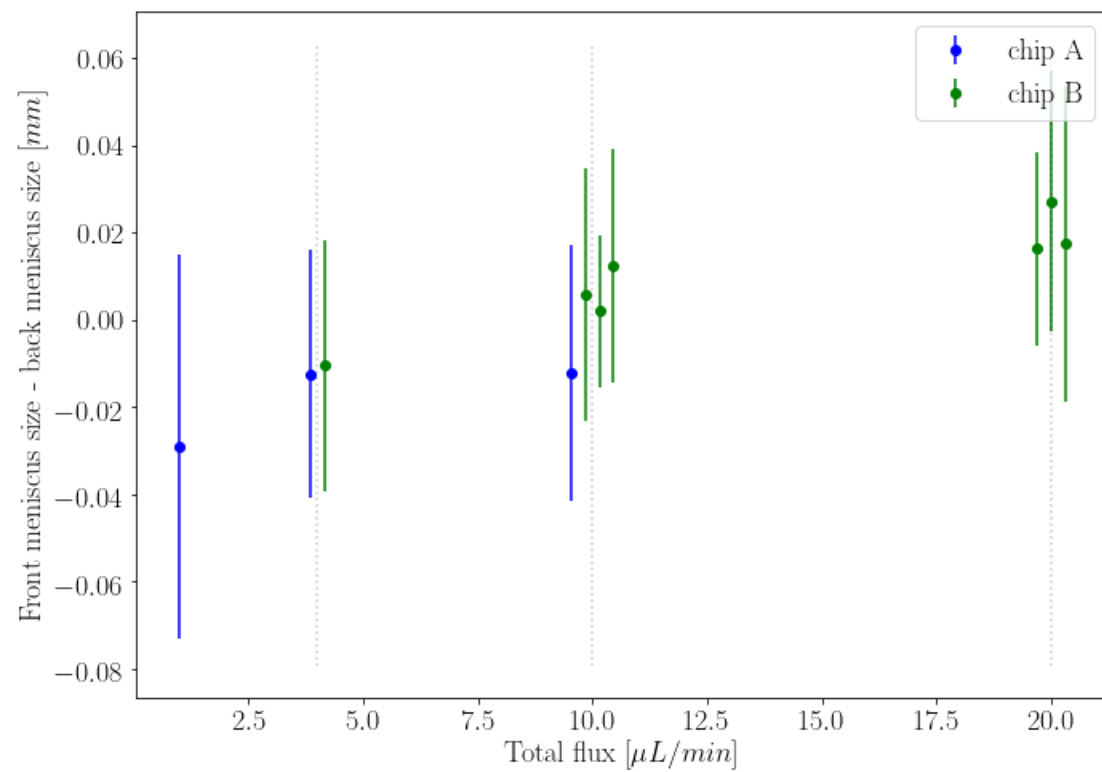
From images

Results

Data from electronic signals

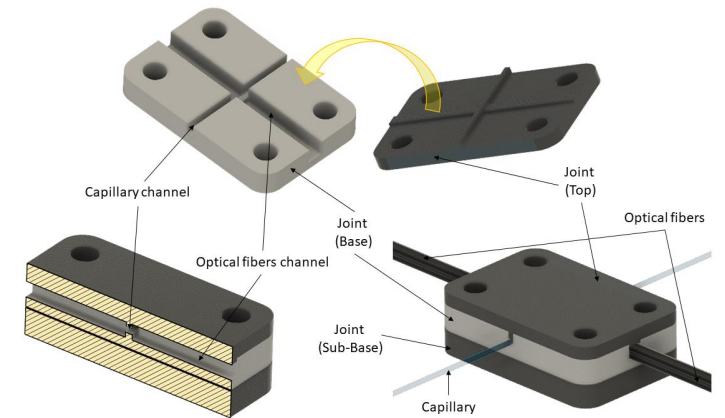
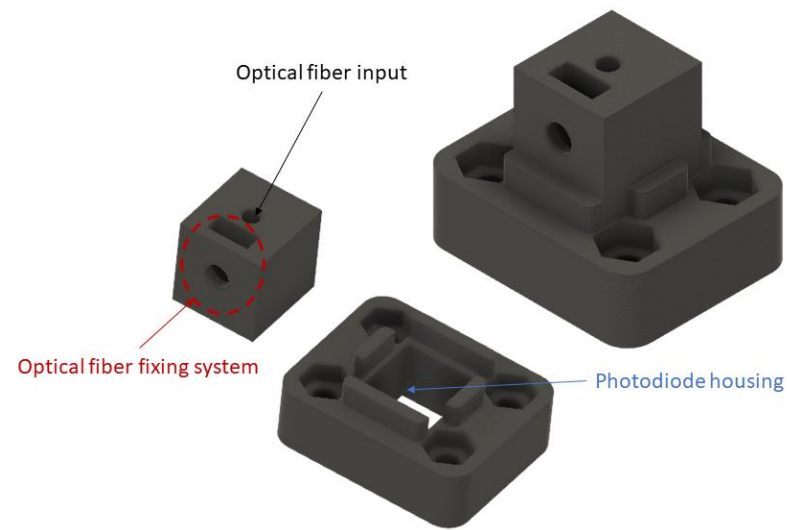
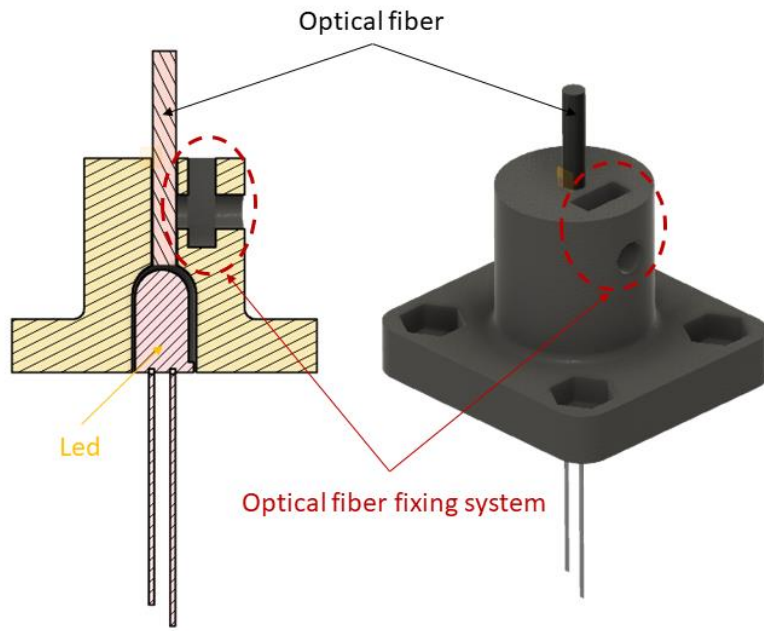


Data from video analysis



End

3D printed components



Electronic board

