

Magnetically Enhanced Microflow Cytometer for Bead- and Cell-based Immunoaffinity Measurements in Whole Blood Samples



Scientific thesis for the attainment of the academic degree Master of Science (M.Sc.) of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the Technical University of Munich.

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Contents

1	Intro	ductio	n and Motivation	4
2	The	oretica	l Prequisites	5
	2.1	Microf	luidics	5
		2.1.1	Flow Field inside Microchannels	5
		2.1.2	Particles in Microfluidics	5
	2.2	Surfac	e Chemistry	5
		2.2.1	Silane Chemistry	5
		2.2.2	Carbodiimide Crosslinker Chemistry	5
		2.2.3	Microscopic Particle Surface Physics	5
		2.2.4	The Biotin-Avidin-System	5
	2.3	MRCy	te	5
		2.3.1	Focusing Structures	5
		2.3.2	GMR	5
		2.3.3	Electrical Circuit	5
		2.3.4	Electronic Readout	5
3	Mate	erials a	nd Methods	9
	3.1	Microf	luidic Fabrication	9
		3.1.1	Development of Layout	9
		3.1.2	Patterning of Photoresist	9
		3.1.3	Soft Lithography	9
		3.1.4	Bonding of Microfluidic	9
	3.2	Surfac	e Bio-Functionalization	10
		3.2.1	Surface Activation	10
		3.2.2	Chemical Surface Functionalization	10
		3.2.3	Surface Bioconjugation	10
	3.3	Magne	etic Beadometry	10
		3.3.1	Standard Parameters	10
		3.3.2	Concentration Measurement	10
		3.3.3	Whole Blood Bead Spiking	10
		3.3.4	Bead Capture Assay	
		3.3.5	Optical Particle Tracking	
	3.4		metry	10

4	Res	ults		11
	4.1	Signal	Similarity For Cells With Varying Bead Coverages	11
		4.1.1	Single Cell Signal	11
		4.1.2	Cell Aggregates	11
	4.2	Refere	ence Bead Surface Functionalization	11
		4.2.1	Amine-Surface Biotinylation	11
		4.2.2	Carboxy-Surface Biotinylation	11
	4.3	Conce	ntration Measurements in MRCyte	11
		4.3.1	Count Stability	11
		4.3.2	Velocity Measurement	11
		4.3.3	2-Chip-Setup for Macro Measurements	11
	4.4	Proteir	n Immobilization On The Microfluidic Channel Bottom	11
		4.4.1	Physisorption	11
		4.4.2	Covalent Attachment	12
5	Disc	ussion	1	13
6	Outl	ook		14
Lis	st of	Abbrev	iations	14
Lis	st of	Figures	S	16
Lis	st of	Tables		17
Bi	bliog	raphy .		19
St	atem	ent		19

1. Introduction and Motivation

2. Theoretical Prequisites

2.1. Microfluidics

conservation of mass, momentum reynolds number

2.1.1. Flow Field inside Microchannels

Navier-Stokes-Approximation for Hagen-Poiseuille

2.1.2. Particles in Microfluidics

Stokes Drag Force Gravity Electro-static interaction Magnetic Force Friction Interface-Forces

2.1.3.

2.2. Surface Chemistry

2.2.1. Silane Chemistry

2.2.2. Carbodiimide Crosslinker Chemistry

EDC-NHS-Activation sulfo-NHS vs. NHS

2.2.3. Microscopic Particle Surface Physics

2.2.4. The Biotin-Avidin-System

2.3. MRCyte

Short intro over MRCyte Foto of setup with arrows to necessary parts Microscope Stages PEEK holder Helmholtz coils Kepco MFLI DAQ

2.3.1. Focusing Structures

test, test Loss because of reduced velocity and magnetic drag

2.3.2. GMR

Different produced GMR stacks Wheatstone Bridge setup Magnet alignment

2.3.3. Electrical Circuit

Ground PCB Stacked PCBs with spacer

2.3.4. Electronic Readout

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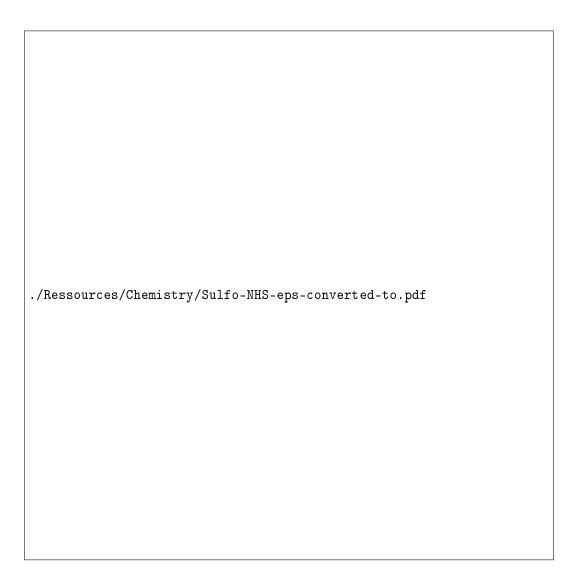


Figure 1 TestSvg

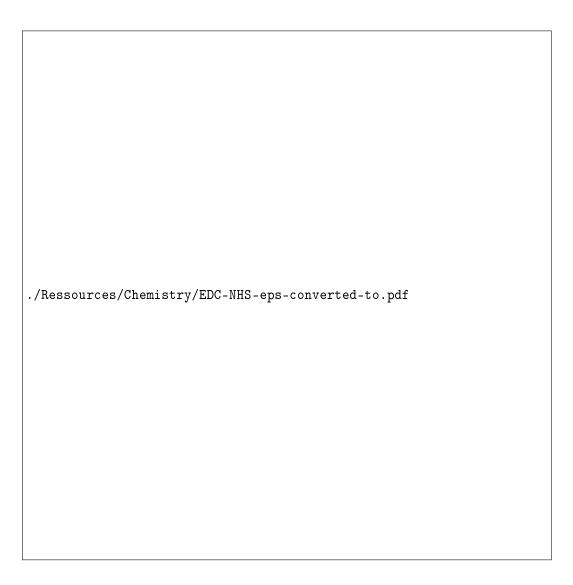


Figure 2 TestSvg

Hysteresis Alignment

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Single GMR

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Dual GMR

one MFLI supplies both at same freuqency. Aux Trigger tested, but no advantage.

3. Materials and Methods

3.1. Microfluidic Fabrication

- 3.1.1. Development of Layout
- 3.1.2. Patterning of Photoresist
- 3.1.3. Soft Lithography

The fabricated wafer was placed the center of a 90 cm petri dish. A PDMS (Poly(dimethyl siloxane)) mold was created by vigorous mixing of the pre-polymer base with its curing agent (Sygard 184, Dowsil) in a ratio of 10:1 (w/w). For 3" wafers, thin channels were casted from 15 g, normal channels from 20 g PDMS in the petri dish. Gas bubbles were removed from the mixture in a desiccator for 20 min at 2 hPa, and the clear PDMS was cured in an oven (Um, Memmert) for 1 h at 60 ℃. After curing, the PDMS mold was released from the petri dish carefully, taken off the wafer and stored in a clean petri dish upon further processing.

3.1.4. Bonding of Microfluidic

Under laminar flow, crosslinked molds were cut into pieces with the respecting single μF (Microfluidic) with a razor blade. Holes for in- and outlet were punched through the containing channels with a biopsy puncher (ID 0.5 mm, WellTech). The substrates and μFs were sonicated in acetone and diH_2O (deionized Water) for 5 min and dried with filtered N_2 (Nitrogen Gas) completely. For the bonding of PDMS to various substrates different protocols have been established:

PDMS Glueing

Here, a micron-height layer of uncured PDMS was used as an adhesive layer between μF and substrate. Approx. 3 mL were poured onto a 3" wafer and spun down for 5 min at 6000 $\frac{1}{\min}$. The microchannel was placed on the substrate by visual control of a stereo microscope (SMZ800, Nikon) with 8-fold magnification. Subsequently, the bonding process could be finished by a 1 h bake at 60 °C or over-night at room temperature.

Plasma Bonding

Due to the chemical nature of glass (or more generally oxides) and PDMS, the respective parts can be activated by the exposure to a controlled oxygen plasma which generates additional silanol (Si-OH) groups on their surfaces and removes impurities at the

same time. Bringing the activated surfaces in contact triggers the formation of covalent bonds almost immediately. First, the acetone-wiped substrates and the microchannels were centered inside the plasma cleaner (Zepto, Diener). Second, vacuum was applied to a final pressure <0.2 hPa. Third, the chamber was flushed with pure O_2 (Oxygen Gas) until a chamber pressure from 0.7 hPa to 0.8 hPa had been stabilized. Fourth, the plasma process was executed with 30 W (Power-Poti: 100) for 45 s to 60 s (Time-Poti: 15-20). Upon finish, the chamber was flushed for 5 s and ventilated. Immediately, the corresponding workpieces were brought into contact and pressed together gently. To ensure a durable bond, the assembled workpieces were baked for 1 h at 60 °C.

$$Here goes the mass flow equation$$
 (3.1)

Reversible Bonding

To bond the μF to a substrate reversibly and without residues, the channel can be brought into contact with the bottom part without any adhesinon agent. For low-pressure as well as vacuum driven flows, this method is preferrable due to its time and work efficiency.

3.2. Surface Bio-Functionalization

3.2.1. Surface Activation

To functionalize any surface with -OH

Hydrochloric-Sulfuric Acid Activation Piranha Activation Hydrofluoric Acid Activation

- 3.2.2. Chemical Surface Functionalization
- 3.2.3. Surface Bioconjugation
- 3.3. Magnetic Beadometry
- 3.3.1. Standard Parameters
- 3.3.2. Concentration Measurement
- 3.3.3. Whole Blood Bead Spiking
- 3.3.4. Bead Capture Assay
- 3.3.5. Optical Particle Tracking
- 3.4. Tensiometry

4. Results

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4.1. Signal Similarity For Cells With Varying Bead Coverages

Cross-Correlation between single dipole with sum magentic moment and surface covered with randomly distributed magnetic particles

- 4.1.1. Single Cell Signal
- 4.1.2. Cell Aggregates
- 4.2. Reference Bead Surface Functionalization

4.2.1. Amine-Surface Biotinylation

Streptavidin-Atto488 reference calibration Anti-Biotin-PE working? BNF-Dextran-Streptavidin unspecific binding?

Magnetic Polystyrene Bead Non-Magnetic Polystyrene Bead

- 4.2.2. Carboxy-Surface Biotinylation
- 4.3. Concentration Measurements in MRCyte

4.3.1. Count Stability

Measurement over 1h Measurement of Syringe Tubing Losses

- 4.3.2. Velocity Measurement
- 4.3.3. 2-Chip-Setup for Macro Measurements

Sensitivity Calibration

Concentration Measurements

4.4. Protein Immobilization On The Microfluidic Channel

Bottom

4.4.1. Physisorption

Quantification in Plate Reader Trial with Neutravidin + Sensor (Esthis Versuch)

4.4.2. Covalent Attachment Plasma-Based Approach Water-Based Approach

Sonicate in Acetone and Water 5' 1:1 HCl (Hydro-Chloric Acid):Methanol H_2SO_4 (Sulfuric Acid) Treat for 30 min in light boiling water

5. Discussion

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6. Outlook

List of Figures

1	TestSvg																				6
2	TestSvg																				7

List of Tables

Statement

I declare that I have authored this thesis independently, that I have not used other than the declared sources / resources, and that I have explicitly marked all material which has been quoted either literally or by content from the used sources.

Munich, December 4th, 2020, Signature