

# Magnetically Enhanced Microflow Cytometer for Bead-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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# List of Abbreviations

## A

$\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  - aluminium oxide..... 10, 14

## H

$\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  - sulfuric acid..... 11

HCl - hydrochloric acid..... 11

hydroxyl -  $-\text{OH}$ ..... 11, 15

## P

PAA - Poly(acrylic) Acid..... 11, 15

PCB - printed circuit board..... 7, 14

PDMS - poly(dimethyl siloxane)..... 11, 15

## S

SAM - self-assembled monolayer..... 11, 15

$\text{Si}_3\text{N}_4$  - silicon nitride..... 10, 14





# 1. Results

## 1.1. Virtual Prototyping of Cell Signals

During the course

### **1.1.1. Numerical investigation of immunomagnetic label density and size on quantitative magnetoresistive sensing of single cells and cell aggregates**

Signal Similarity For Cells With Varying Bead Coverages

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

simulation of cell rolling velocity and forces

### **1.1.2. Single Cell Signal**

### **1.1.3. Cell Aggregates**

## 1.2. Reference Bead Surface Functionalization

### **1.2.1. Amine-Surface Biotinylation**

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

## 1.3. Concentration Measurements in MRCyte

Explain v-c

### **1.3.1. Calibration of Flow Field**

### **1.3.2. Count Stability**

Measurement over 1h

**Concentration Measurement in Diluted Whole Blood**

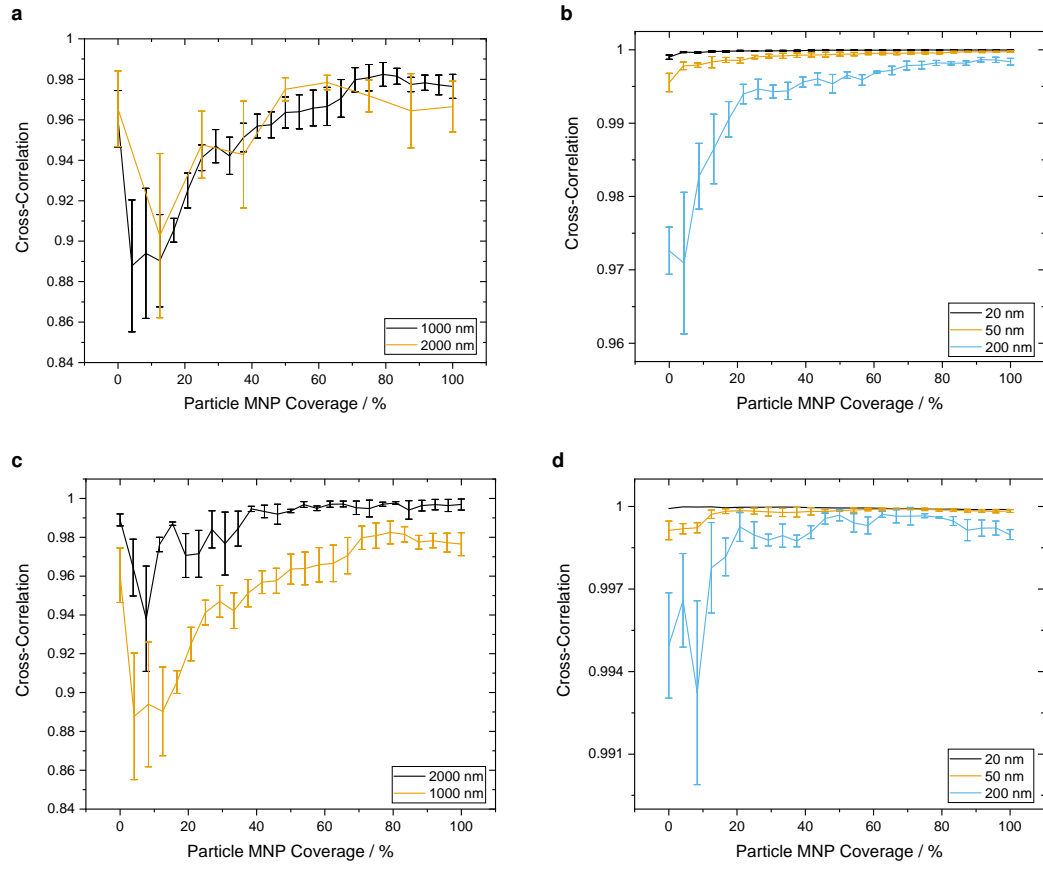
### **1.3.3. Differential Counting Setup**

**Sensitivity Calibration**

**Concentration Measurement in Buffer Solution**

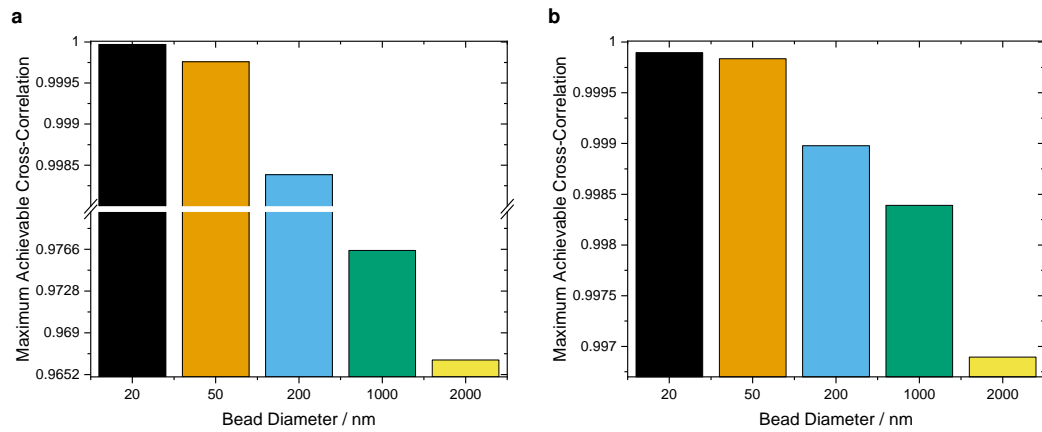
### **1.3.4. Surface Magnetization of Biofunctionalized Beads**

Somehow BNF-Dextran showed unspecificity initially, but not anymore later on



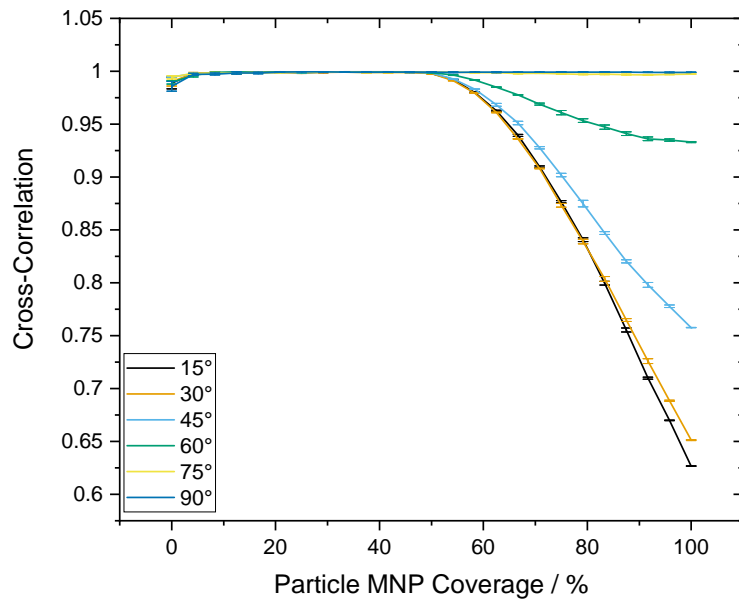
**Figure 1: Coverage Dependent Signal Correlation**

Mean from 3 differently distributed particles, SEM (a)  $d = 4 \mu\text{m}$  (b)  $d = 4 \mu\text{m}$  (c)  $d = 8 \mu\text{m}$  (d)  $d = 8 \mu\text{m}$

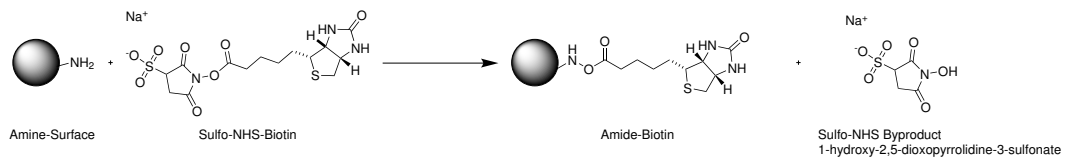


**Figure 2: Difference of Cross-Correlation at Maximum Coverage**

Mean from 3 different particle distributions at maximum coverage (a)  $d = 4 \mu\text{m}$  (b)  $d = 8 \mu\text{m}$



**Figure 3: Sensor Signals Correlation between Two Cell Aggregates At Shifting Angles with a Reference Dipole**  
Mean from 3 differently distributed particles, SEM



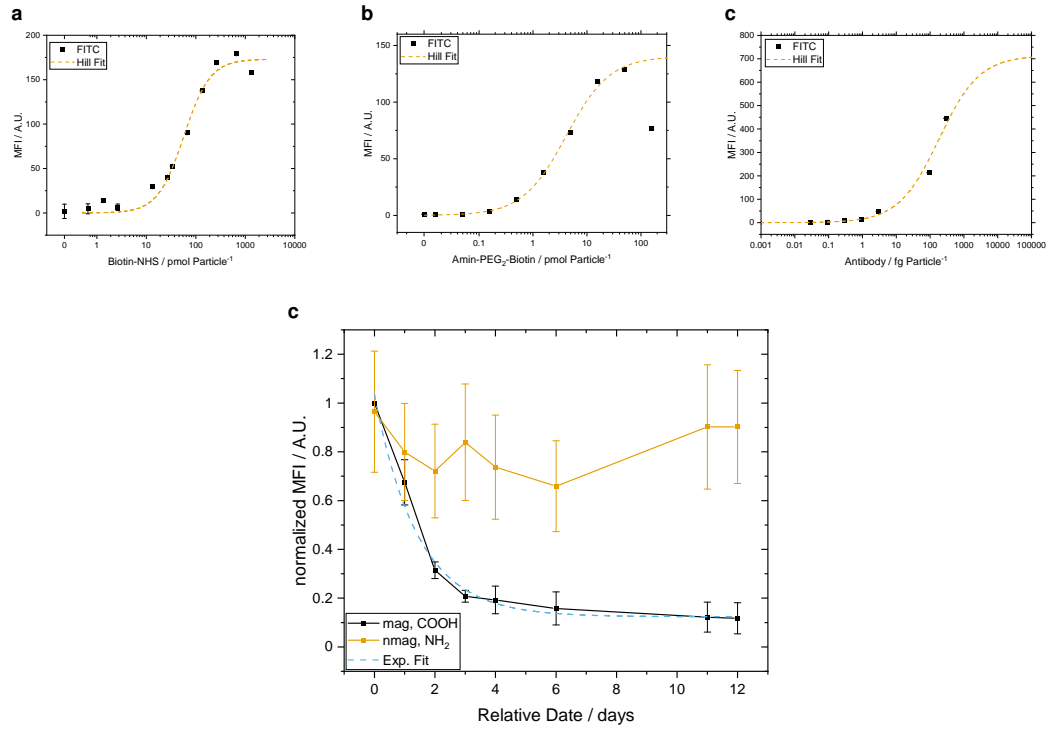
**Figure 4: Amine Bead Modification with Sulfo-NHS-Biotin**

An amine terminated bead is incubated with sulfo-NHS-Biotin to cover its surface by amide-Biotin. As byproduct the sulfo-NHS-ester 1-hydroxy-2,5-dioxopyrrolidine-3-sulfonate splits off.

## 1.4. Surface Modification and Biofunctionalization of the Sensor Chip Substrate

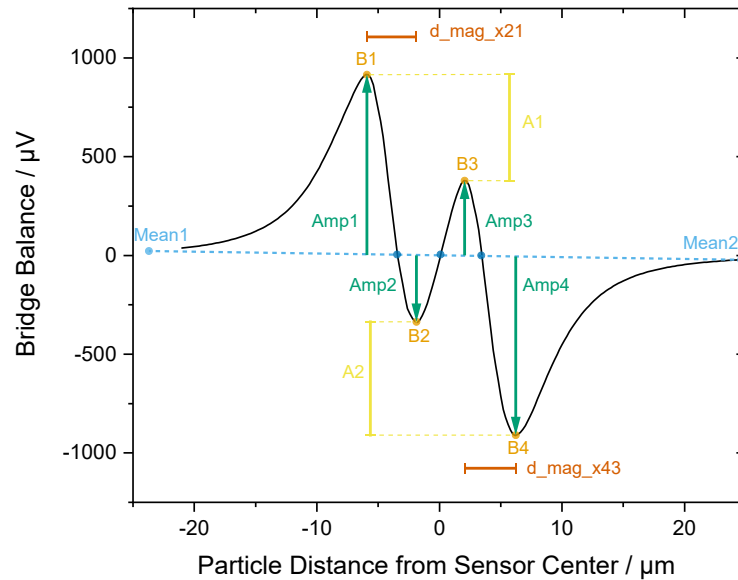
### 1.4.1. Physisorption

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



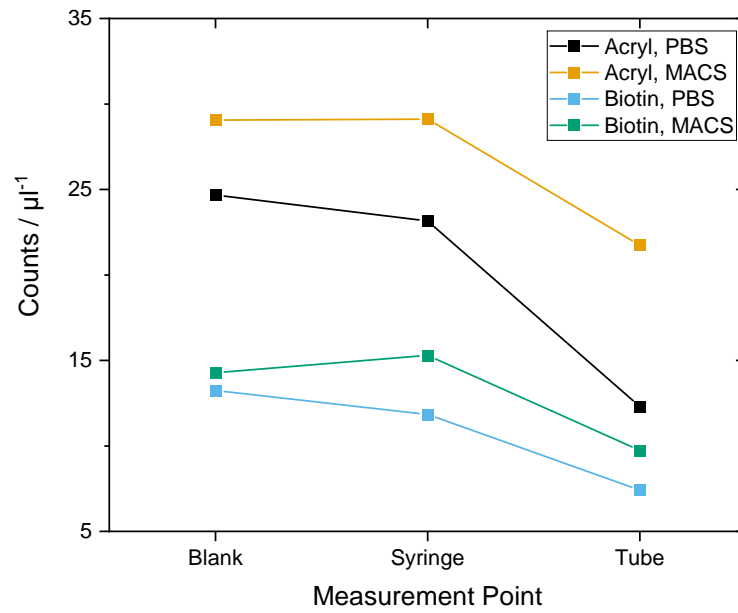
**Figure 5: Titration of Biofunctional Molecules on 8µm Particles**

(a) NHS-Biotin, MFI, CV, reduced chi square = 275.19597, Hill Fit  $y = Vmax * x^n / (k^n + x^n)$ ,  $Vmax = 173.077$ ,  $k = 0.0572831$ ,  $n = 1.63554$  (b) Amin-PEG<sub>2</sub>-Biotin MFI, CV, outlier neglected Gleichung:  $y = Vmax * x^n / (k^n + x^n)$   $Vmax = 171.02602$ ,  $k = 0.04201$ ,  $n = 0.91338$ , Chi-Quadr Reduziert 4.07387 (c) MFI, CV, reduced chi square = 0.91011, Hill Fit  $y = Vmax * x^n / (k^n + x^n)$ ,  $Vmax = 713.83643$ ,  $k = 182.83011$ ,  $n = 0.72458$  (d) MFI, SEM,  $\tau_{decay} = 1.42557 \pm 0.16188$  Equation  $y = A \exp \frac{-x}{\tau_{decay}} + y_0$   $y_0 = 0.12369 \pm 0.01576$   $A = 0.91263 \pm 0.06964$   $t_1 = 1.42557 \pm 0.16188$  Reduced Chi-Sqr 0.00542

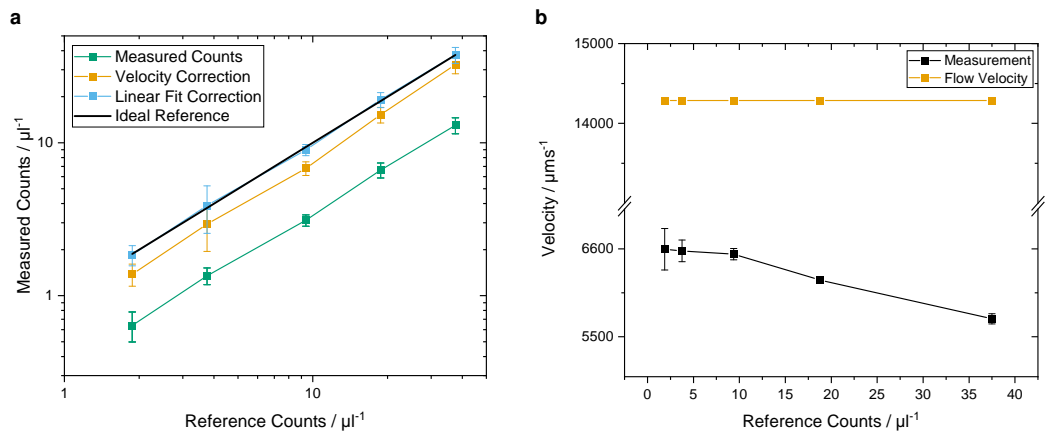


**Figure 6: Example Signal of Magnetic Measurement**

explain all

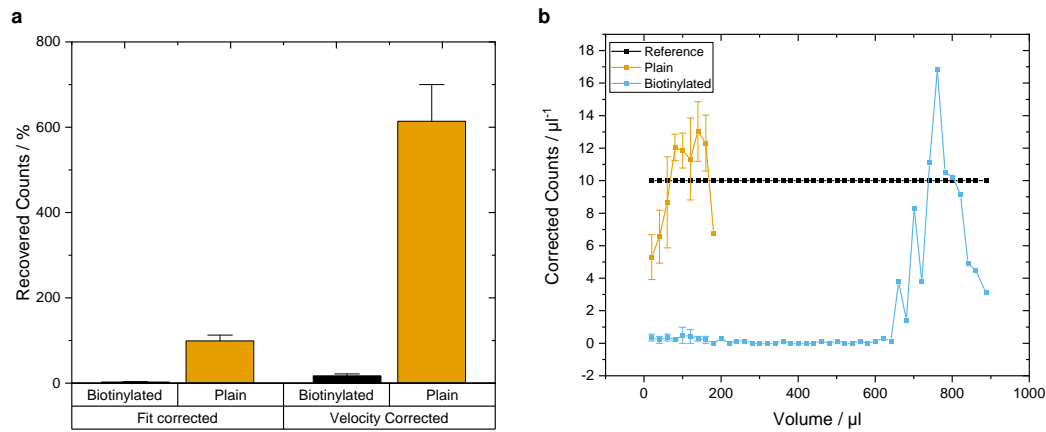


**Figure 7: Bead Loss Evaluation in Connectors**  
Losses in different buffers and bead surfaces.



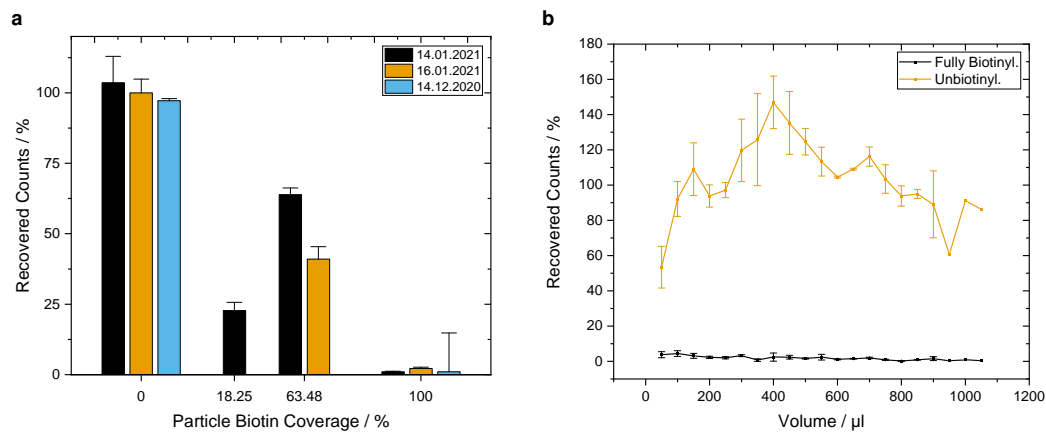
**Figure 8: Absolute Concentration Measurements**

Mean from 3 independent measurements(a) mean, sd (b) mean, SEM, Reference Count based error: Linear fit steepness  $0.34622 \pm 0.00968 \rightarrow$  Correction Factor (inverse)  $2.88833 \pm 0.08075$ , Velocity Based Correction:  $Q/A$  Dims:  $700\mu\text{m} \times 50\mu\text{m}$   $Q = 30\mu\text{L min}^{-1} \rightarrow 2.26109$



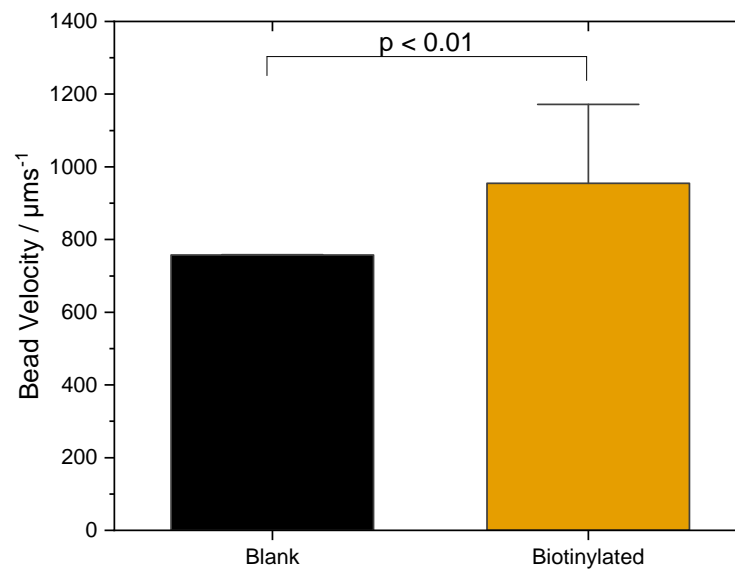
**Figure 9: Error Sources in Concentration Measurements**

(a) mean, SEM Fit factor comparison with protein coated surfaces (b) mean, SEM



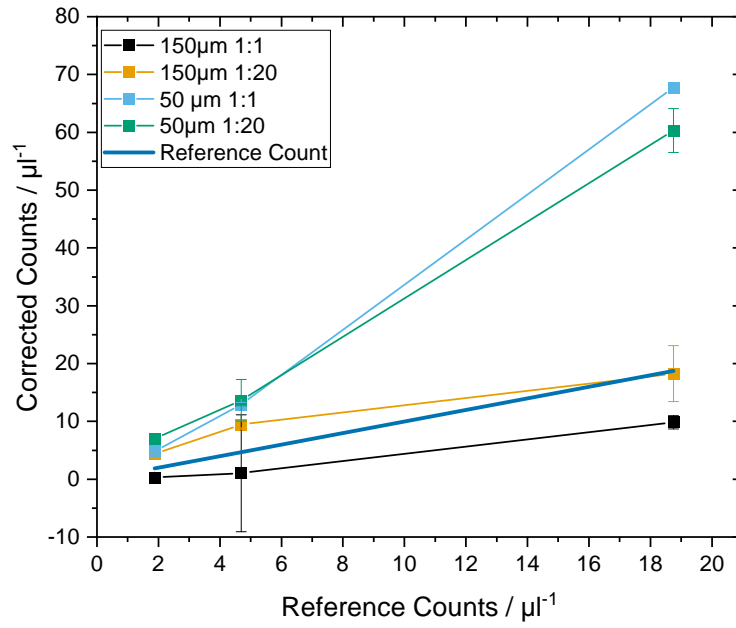
**Figure 10: Reproducibility of Concentration Measurements with Saturated Neutravidin Surface**

(a)  $80 \mu\text{L min}^{-1}$  mean, SEM (b) All, mean, SEM,

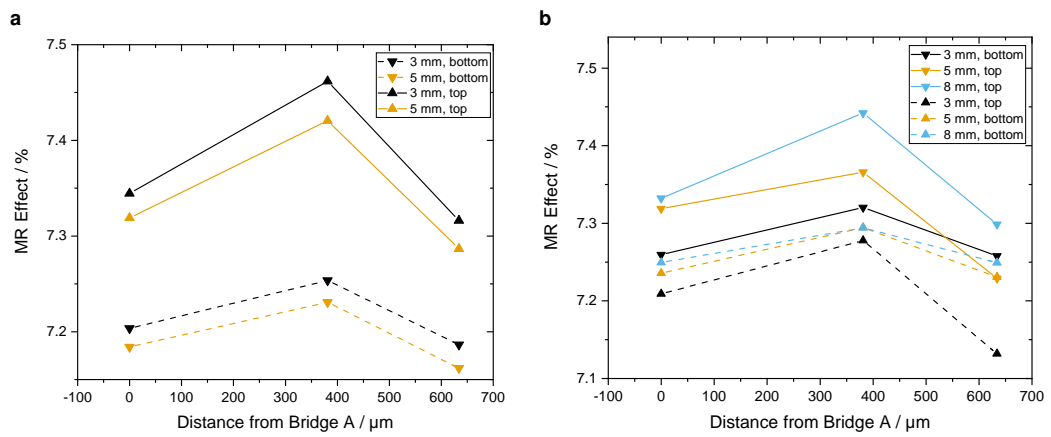


**Figure 11: Measured Bead Velocity**

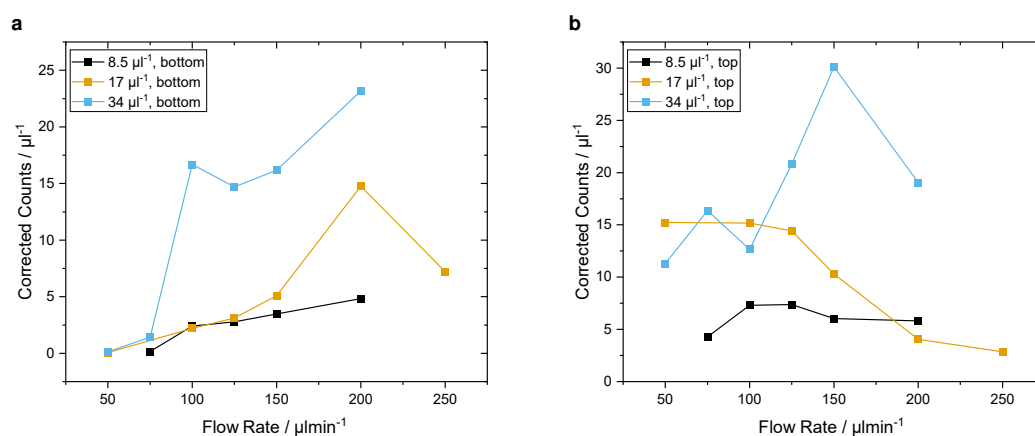
$p < 0.01$



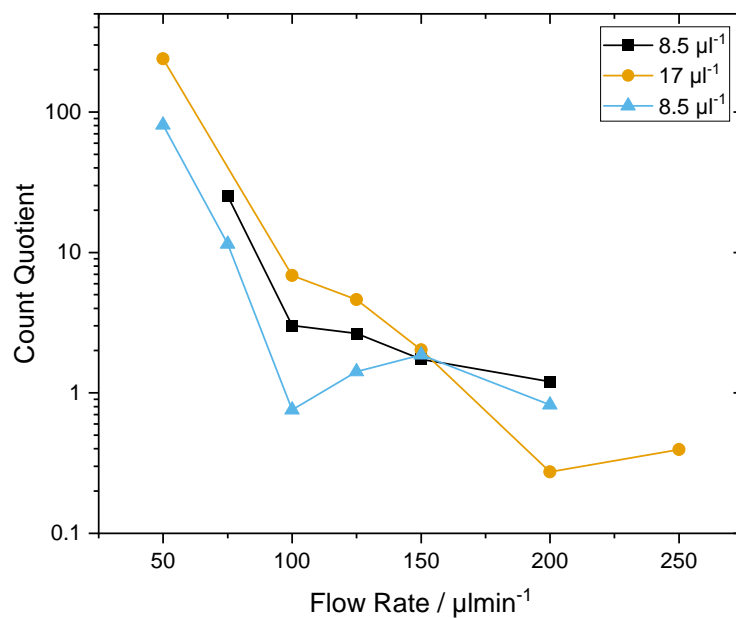
**Figure 12: Absolute Concentration Measurement in Blood Samples Under Varying Channel Height**  
Velocity Correction does not work for high concentrations in 50  $\mu\text{m}$



**Figure 13: Hysteresis Calibration for Stacked Printed circuit board (PCB)**  
(a) Optimized for top sensor (b) Optimized for bottom sensor

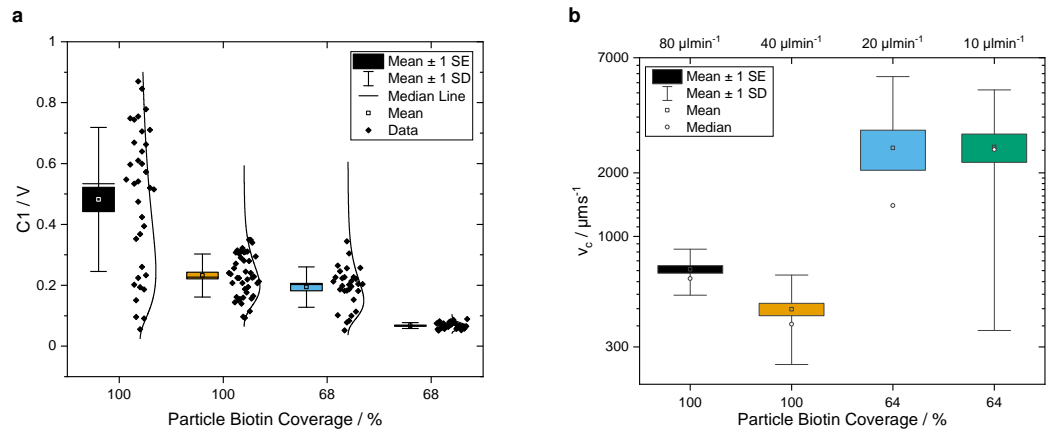


**Figure 14: Flow Rate Dependency of Counting Setup**  
(a) Optimized for top sensor (b) Optimized for bottom sensor

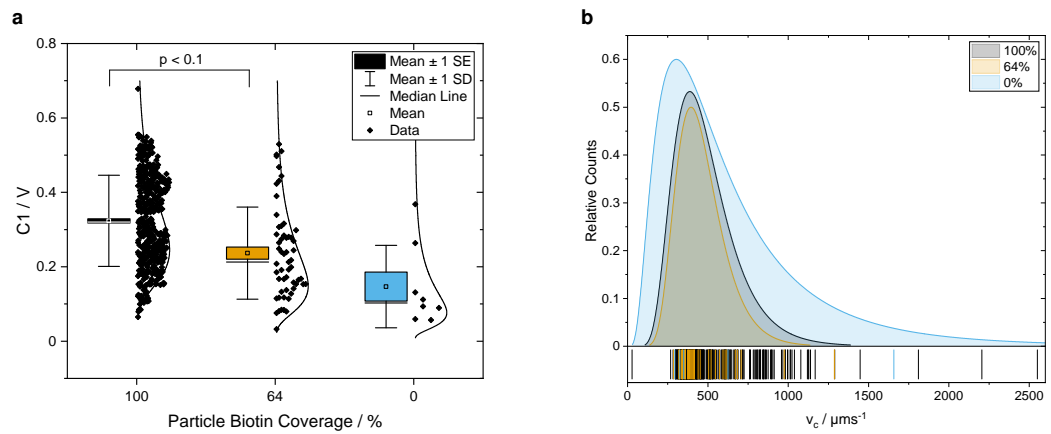


**Figure 15: Optimal Differential Counting Flow Rate**  
Losses in different buffers and bead surfaces.

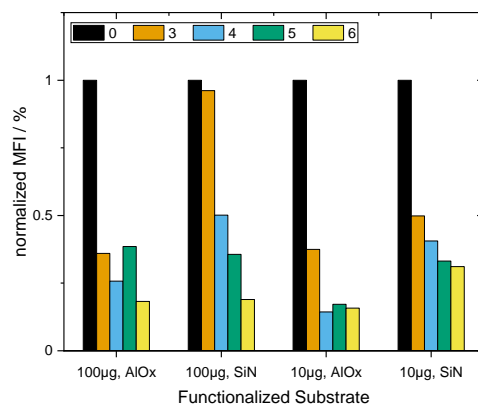




**Figure 16: Bead Coverage Assay with BNF-Dextran-redF-100 nm**  
 (a) 1. 80  $\mu\text{L min}^{-1}$  2. 40  $\mu\text{L min}^{-1}$  3. 20  $\mu\text{L min}^{-1}$  4. 10  $\mu\text{L min}^{-1}$  (b)  $d = 8 \mu\text{m}$

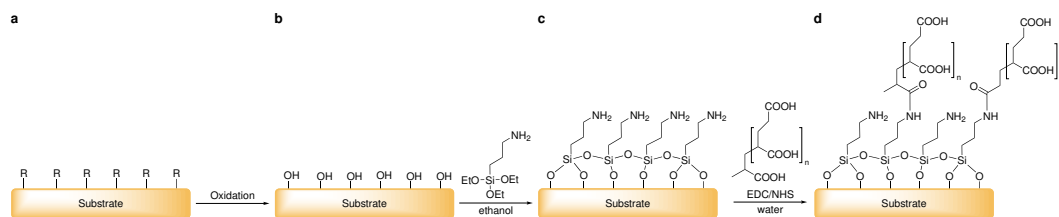


**Figure 17: Bead Coverage Assay with OceanNanotec 50 nm**  
 Mean from 3 different particle distributions at maximum coverage, SEM(a)  $d = 4 \mu\text{m}$  (b)  $d = 8 \mu\text{m}$



**Figure 18: Surface Adsorption Stability of Neutraavidin on Silicon nitride ( $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_4$ ) and Aluminium oxide ( $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ )**  
Blank with PBS and Blank substrate, corrected, then normalized, absolute protein per ~25 mm

### 1.4.2. Covalent Attachment



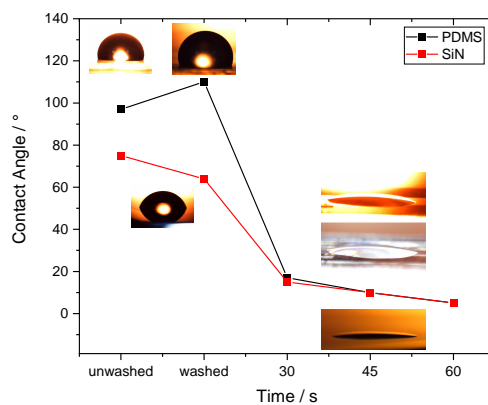
**Figure 19: General process chain of chemical surface modification**

Any substrate with various surface groups  $R$  (a) is oxidized to exhibit  $-OH$  (hydroxyl) groups. (b). Then a silane self-assembled monolayer (SAM) is attached (c) and subsequently modified by carbodiimide chemistry with Poly(acrylic) Acid (PAA). (d)

## Plasma-Based Approach

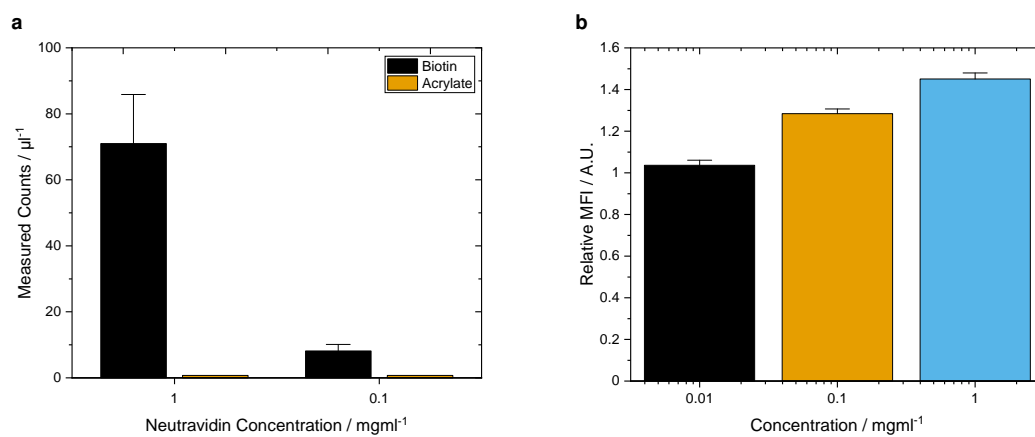
### Water-Based Approach

Sonicate in Acetone and Water 5' 1:1 hydrochloric acid (HCl):Methanol sulfuric acid ( $H_2SO_4$ ) Treat for 30 min in light boiling water



**Figure 20: Hydrophobicity Analysis of poly(dimethyl siloxane) (PDMS) under Plasma Exposure**

test123



**Figure 21: Neutravidin Titration Fluorescence and Bead Capture Assay**

Mean from 3 different particle distributions at maximum coverage, SEM(a)  $d = 4 \mu\text{m}$  (b)  $d = 8 \mu\text{m}$

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Figure 19 **General process chain of chemical surface modification**

Any substrate with various surface groups R (a) is oxidized to exhibit hydroxyl groups.(b). Then a silane SAM is attached (c) and subsequently modified by carbodiimide chemistry with PAA. (d) ..... 11

Figure 20 **Hydrophobicity Analysis of PDMS under Plasma Exposure**

test123 ..... 11

Figure 21 **Neutravidin Titration Fluorescence and Bead Capture Assay**

Mean from 3 different particle distributions at maximum coverage, SEM(a)  
d = 4  $\mu\text{m}$  (b) d = 8  $\mu\text{m}$  ..... 12

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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.

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Munich, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020, Signature