

Weekly report

1 My Accomplishments this week

1.1 Project 1: Massive Uniform Control

- Fe_3O_4 powder stands up: lowered z axis coil and hence we got more magnetic magnitude of z axis in workspace. Powder is polarized along z axis, so gradient field in x-y plane can actuate the powder.
- Camera relocation: lifted up the platform and installed the camera on the bottom.
- Gradient field: programmed Arduino to create a uniform gradient magnetic field in x-y plane.
- Clear view: calibrate the 3 knobs of the camera and got a clear and suitable view of video.
- New arena: made new mazes including "Y" shape, a square and a circle maze.
- Linear relation: measurement along x axis with coil 3 showed that the magnetic field magnitude changes linearly with Arduino input from 0 to 9.
- Control GUI: created a MATLAB GUI for magnetic field orientation and magnitude control.
- Microscope view: made a screenshot of microscope view of Fe_3O_4 particles and clusters.
- Swarm manipulation: tried manipulating particles and observed their motion. Dominated by z axis magnetic field, these clusters do not get together easily. They repel each other when they get larger.
- Fluid environment: changed from detergent to vegetable oil from Kroger. Vegetable oil is clear, with density close to water, and less sticky than detergent. Fe_3O_4 powder works excellently in oil.

2 My Goals for next week

- Particles motion observation and manipulation
- Make magnetic fields more flexible (all direction control)

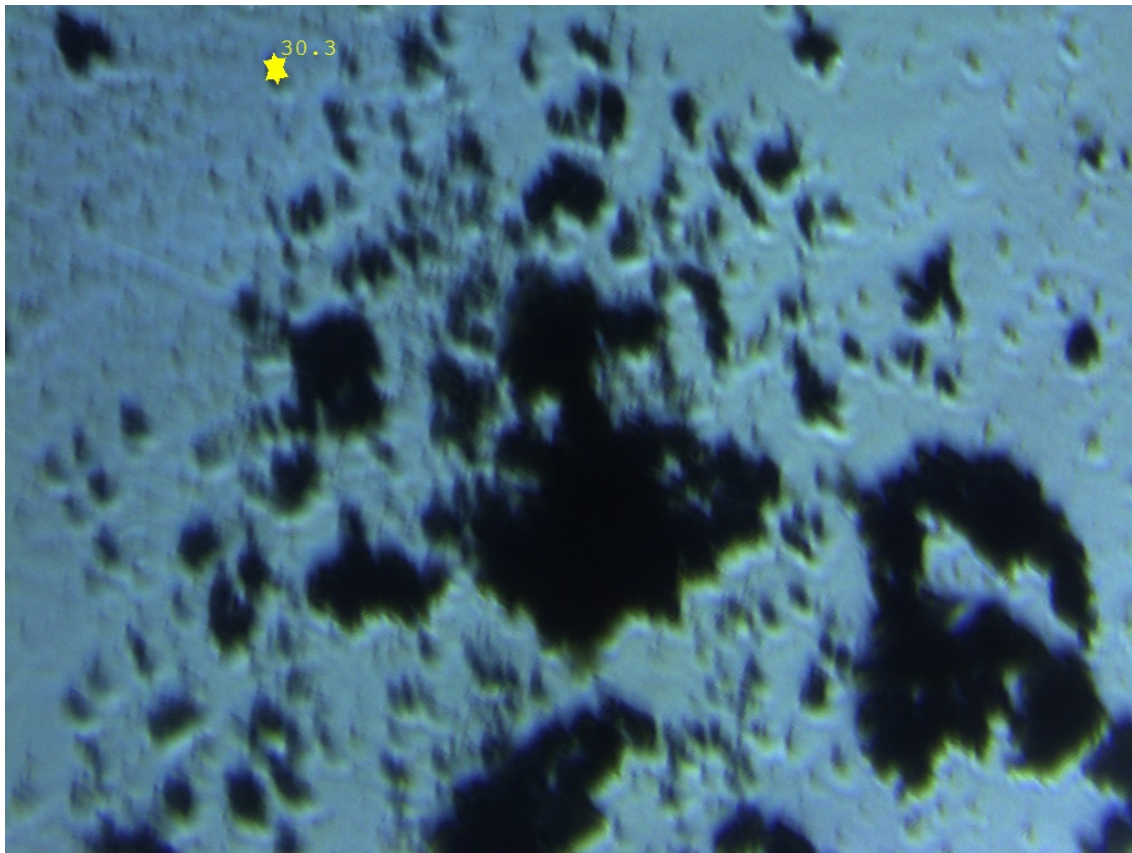


Figure 1: 40 times magnification of Fe_3O_4 powder in microscope view

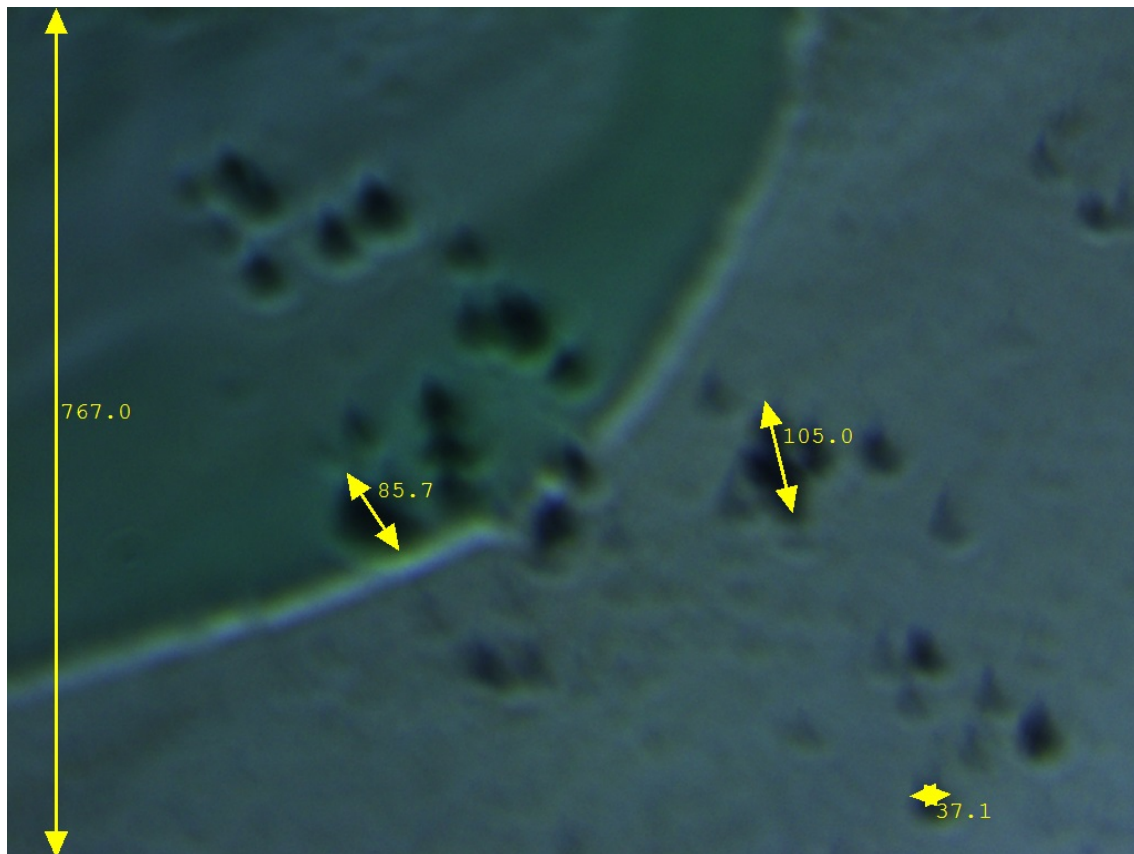


Figure 2: 40 times magnification of Fe_3O_4 powder in microscope view, and 10 pixels stands for about 4.5 microns in real scale

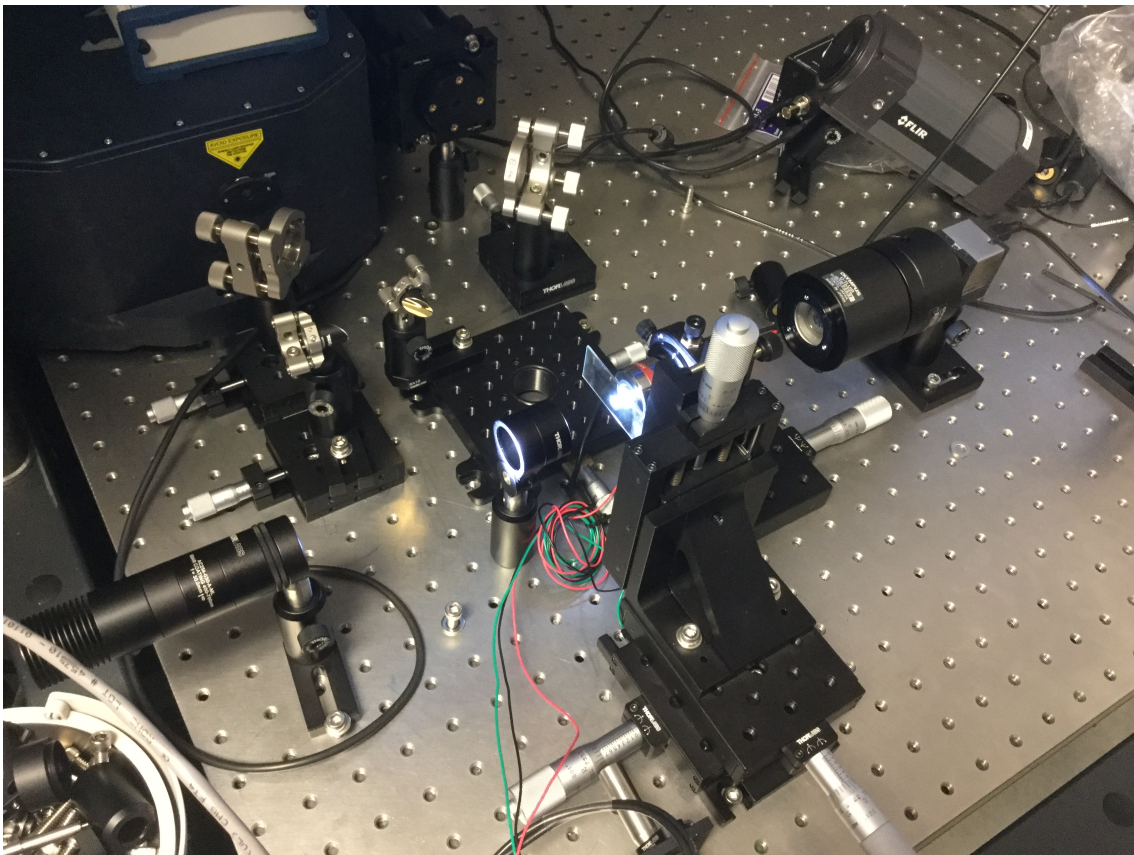


Figure 3: *Microscope setup*