

Experimental Methods in Systems Biology

Part of the Coursera Certificate in Systems Biology

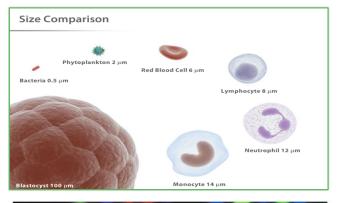
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Fall 2014, Week 5 Flow and Mass Cytometry

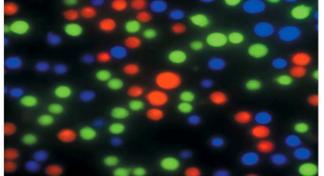


Outline

- Flow Cytometry
 - How does it work?
 - What can you measure?
- Mass Cytometry
 - How does it work?
 - What can you measure?
- Analysis
 - Gating strategies
 - Debris vs. cells
 - Singlets vs. doublets
 - Automated gating strategies
 - Compensation—what to do when signals overlap
 - Quantification
 - DNA stains
 - Antibody stains

Flow Cytometry





- Flow cytometry is a technology for characterizing and sorting cells as they move in a fluid stream through laser beams
- Allows simultaneous quantitative measurements of multiple parameters on a single cell level in a heterogeneous cell population
- Allows quantitative measurements of cell frequencies

Flow Cytometers: Analyzers

BD FACS Calibur 2 lasers; 4 colors



BD FACS Canto 2 lasers; 6 colors 3 lasers; 8 colors



BD LSRII 5 lasers; 18 colors



BD LSR Fortessa 5 lasers; 18 colors



Mass Cytometer

DVS CyTOF2 No lasers; > 40 colors



Flow Cytometers: Cell sorters



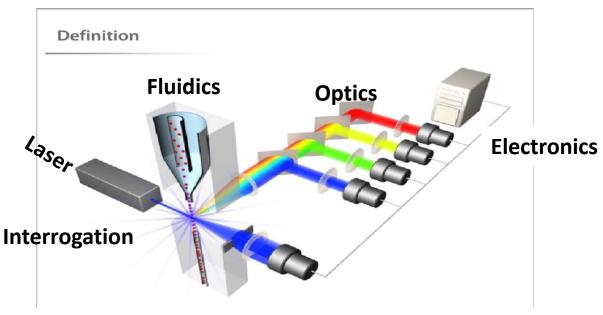
BD FACSAria II
3L, 4L & 5L
Up to 4-way sorting
Non-BSL and BSL2+



BD Influx
5L
Up to 6-way sorting
Non-BSL

Flow Cytometer

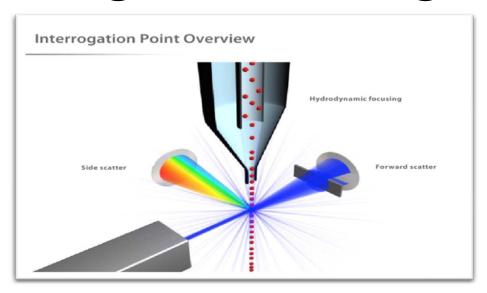
Components & Principles



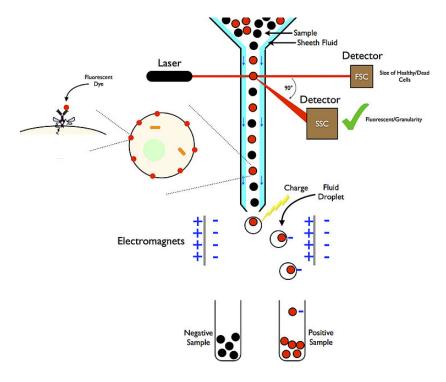
Liquid management: fluidics cart



The Flow Cell: hydrodynamic focusing and interrogation

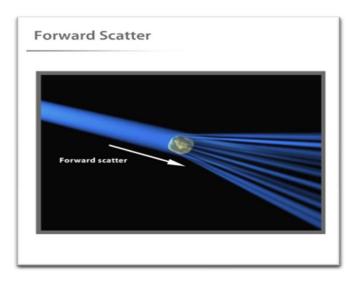


Fluorescence Activated Cell Sorting (FACS)

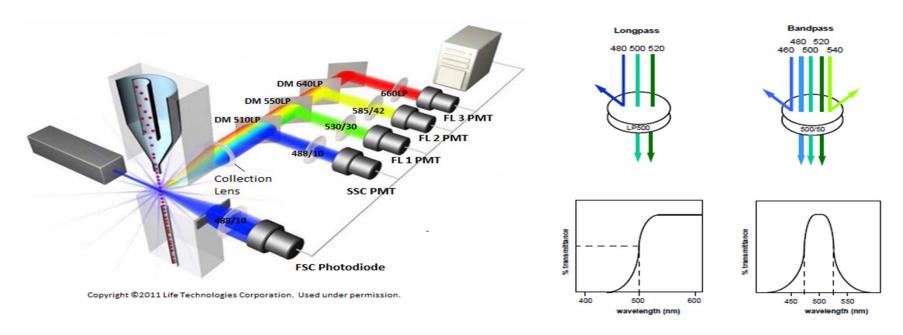


Light Scatter: FSC & SSC

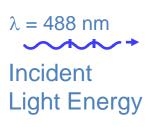


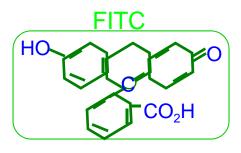


Fluorescence Detection: Filters

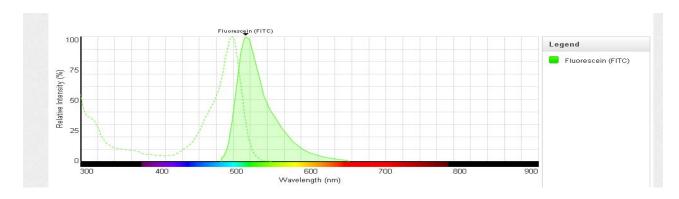


Example: Fluorescein (FITC)









Linear vs. Logarithmic scales

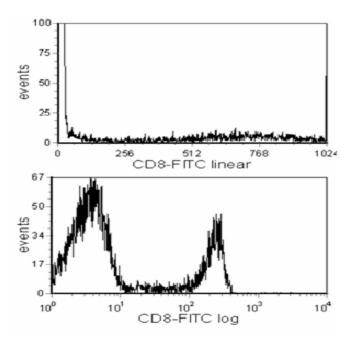
Generally speaking...

- FSC and SSC parameters are displayed on a linear scale
- Fluorescent parameters are displayed on a log scale

Some notable exceptions:

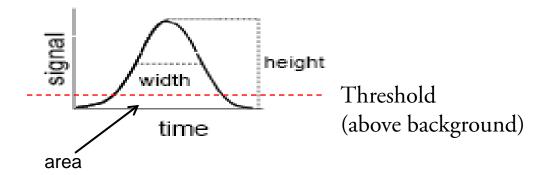
- RBC/platelet analysis is often done using FSC on log scale
- DNA content should be examined on a linear scale

Linear: x = y Log: y = ln(x)

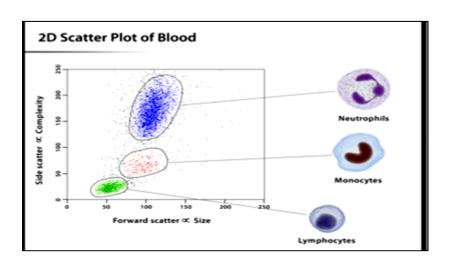


What Can Be Measured with a Flow Cytometer

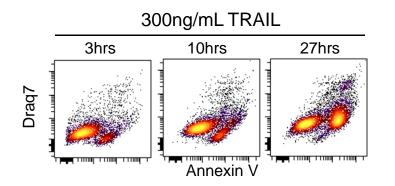
Events



2D scatter plot of FSC vs SSC

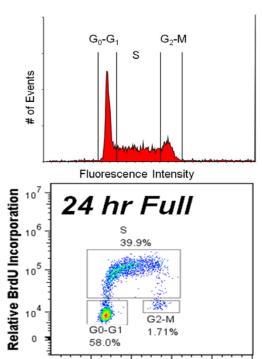


Viability and Apoptosis



- Many fluorescent dyes are cell impermeant unless the membrane is compromised
 - E.g. propidium iodide, Draq7
- This allows detection of viability
- That can be combined with fluorophore-labeled Annexin-V
 - binds to exposed phosphatidylserine, a marker of apoptosis

Cell Cycle Analylsis

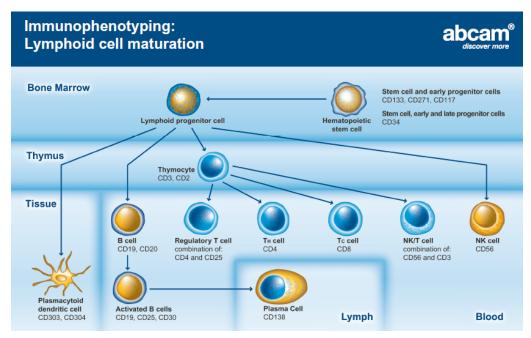


400K

600K Relative DNA Content

- There are many fluorescent dyes that can stoichiometrically bind to DNA
 - E.g. propidium iodide
- DNA dyes can be combined with BrdU staining to separate cells actively replicating their DNA
 - A pulse of BrdU gets incorporated into the DNA, which can then be recognized by an antibody

Immunophenotyping



http://docs.abcam.com/pdf/immunology/lymphoid_cell.pdf

 One can stain cells with labeled antibodies against lineage-specific extracellular markers

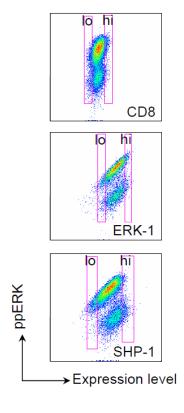
Intracellular Immunostaining

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Variability and Robustness in T Cell Activation from Regulated Heterogeneity in Protein Levels

Ofer Feinerman, 1* Joël Veiga, 1* Jeffrey R. Dorfman, 1† Ronald N. Germain, 2 Grégoire Altan-Bonnet 1;

- After cell fixation, one can detect intracellular epitopes
- E.g. panels of phosphorylated proteins



Fluorescent Cell Barcoding (FCB) for Multiplex Flow Cytometry

