## Cytometry Past, Present, and Future

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## Outline

- History
- Flow Cytometry and Imaging Principles
- Important applications
- New developments
- Opportunities for Acoustic Science
- Outlook
- Summary and Conclusions

#### History of Cytometry Technologies (Microscopy)



- •1665 English physicist, Robert Hooke used a microscope lens to observe "pores" in cork
- 1674 Anton van Leeuwenhoek built a simple microscope with only one lens to examine blood cells
- •1872 Ernst Abbe calculated the maximum resolution in microscopes
- •1932 Frits Zernike invented the phase-contrast microscope (label-free observations)
- •1969 Willard Boyle and George E. Smith at Bell laboratories invented the CCD
- •1971 Intel launches 4-bit 4004 microprocessor

#### History of Cytometry Technologies (Flow Cytometry)

1968 1<sup>st</sup> fluorescence-based flow cytometry device (ICP 11) by Prof. Göhde from the University of Münster, Germany, and first commercialized in 1968/69 by German developer and manufacturer Partec through Phywe AG in Göttingen.

- 1971 Cytofluorograph, Ortho
- 1973 PAS 8000, Partec
- 1974 1st FACS instrument, BD
- 1977 Epics Instrument, Coulter
- 2002 Microfluidic Cytometer, Quake, Caltech

## Flow and Imaging Cytometry Features

Single cell analysis with

• High sensitivity (single molecule sensitivity by fluorescence) I,F Wide dynamic range ( $10^3$  to  $10^7$  cells mL<sup>-1</sup>) F High analysis rates to ~10<sup>5</sup> particles sec<sup>-1</sup> F Light scatter F Direct size and 3D spatial information Multi-color fluorescence, multi-parameter analysis I,F Direct kinetic measurements Live/dead discrimination I,F Viable cells can be re-covered F,(I) Measurement of adherent cells Good ease-of-use F,(I)

## Physical Parameters used for Cytometry

- Light scatter
- Absorbance
- Fluorescence
- Phosphorescence
- Raman
- Electrical properties
- Mechanical properties
- Element mass



http://www.dvssciences.com/technical.html

#### **Flow Cytometer Fluidics**



CD-ROM Vol 3 Purdue University Cytometry Laboratories



#### "Droplet-based" Sorting







#### **Basic Data Processing**





Cell	<b>P1</b>	P2	<b>P</b> 3	P4	P5	Pop#
1	242	135	704	175	612	. 1
2	146	132	690	178	566	1
3	269	147	89	206	580	3
4	442	143	399	250	255	4
5	212	167	155	926	526	2
6	269	2	659	207	575	1
7	204	232	112	171	679	3
8	152	74	160	828	532	2
9997	215	119	138	936	662	2
9998	244	50	72	261	543	3
9999	214	137	174	1014	597	2
10000	312	87	110	904	560	2



"Dotplot"



#### Single Cell Cytometry vs. Bulk Analysis



Cell by cell intensity analysis detects population heterogeneity.

#### Single Cell Cytometry vs. Bulk Analysis

Coutesy Dr. Ji

#### **Instrument Evaluation Br**

Relative B (Br) is a measure of true optical background in the fluorescence detector.



Source: Joseph Trotter

#### **Instrument Evaluation Qr**







Source: Joseph Trotter

#### **Optimizing cytometry measurements**

Background light





 Dye properties (brightness and spectral overlap)





http://www.dvssciences.com/technical.html

Source: Joseph Trotter

#### **Quantitative Multi-color Microscopy**

Additional factors

- Field to field focus
- Photobleaching

Differential Photobleaching in Multiply-Stained Tissues





Images from

http://micro.magnet.fsu.edu/ primer/index.html

## **Key Applications**

- Immunology Research
- Stem Cell Biology
- Clinical Diagnostics
  - Immune status
  - Tumor Cell Cycle
- Cell Sorting
  - Single cell genomics
  - Cell population proteomics
  - Cloning for research and industrial biotechnology
- Marker quantitation
- Molecule counting
- In-vivo molecular analysis

#### Single Cell Sorting for PCR

Nucleic Acid Amplification - Highest sensitivity down to ONE single cell



FACS sorting of single cells onto a slide followed by automated miniaturized single cell PCR (Advalytix).



Source: Advalytix

#### Sorting for Cell Surface Proteomics

#### Cell surface proteome by FACS sorting, followed by LC MS

(in collaboration with Thermo Finnigan, San Jose, CA)





The dot plots show the sorting strategy used for stained peripheral blood cells and population purity after sorting for CD4- and CD8-positive cells, CD4 cells were gated on scatter and FITC fluorescence; CD8 bright cells were gated on scatter and RPE fluorescence. Sorted populations showed >95% purity.

Peptide mixtures were separated by reverse phase HPLC (A) as described in Methods. Eluted peptides were subjected to electrospray injection into the mass spectrometer and analyzed for their mass/charge ratio (m/z value) (B). Selected ions were collected in the ion trap. These parent ions were cacked by collision ion dissociation to produce a range of fragment sizes (C) that were compared to predicted peptide sequences in the human database using TurboSequest (D).

## Quantitative Multi-Parameter Microscopy

#### Selected capabilities

- Intensity calibration by volume exclusion
- Single molecule observation
- Low complexity, low resolution cytometry
  (Shapiro H, "Cellular Astronomy")









Single m-RNA molecule analysis. Robert H Singer's group, Nature S&MB 2008





Rodriguez WR, McDavitt JT, PLoi: Maderina 2006, (CDD+CD4+ yallow, CDD+CD8+ ind, monocrytax green

### Intra-vital Cytometry

#### Single cell analysis in living animals

#### Flow cytometry in blood vessels



2010, Zharov VP and coworkers

#### Microscopy



2011, Runnels JM et al; homing of multiple myeloma cells in bone marrow



Signals from

- 2-photon fluorescence
- bioluminescence
- photo-acoustic effect
- . . .

Review paper: Niesner RA, Cytometry 79A (2011)

#### **New Developments**

- Labels
  - High brightness fluorescent labels
  - Raman labels
- Light sources
  - Solid state lasers
  - LEDs
- Detectors
  - Photomultiplier arrays
  - CMOS
- Fluidics
  - Microfluidic channels for manipulating particles

#### **Bright Fluorescent Polymer Dyes**

#### **Polymer Based Fluorochromes**

BV421™

1.2

1

0.8

0.6

0.4

0.2

Normalized signal intensity, au

FITC

500

450

550 600

Wavelength, nm

- Well defined synthetic organic polymer structures
  - Single conjugation site, defined size, etc.
- Backbone comprised of π-conjugated repeat units
  - Affords massive light harvesting (ε > 10<sup>6</sup>) materials with high quantum yields

DL633

 Tunable architecture adapted for low NSB, high aqueous solubility and spectral performance

DL594

650

700

750



#### **Brilliant Violet Tandems**

- Provides a wider range of colors spanning the visible spectrum
  - >6 unique colors validated
- Chemically controlled ratio of donor/acceptor provides:
  - Reproducible performance
  - Low (<5%) compensation at 450nm



#### Brilliant Violet 421™

- PE level performance w/ 405nm Laser
- >10x the Stain Index of Pacific Blue
- Enables detection of low abundance targets in multicolor assay panels (e.g. CD56, CD127, etc.)
- Wide range of Ab clones validated



www.sirigen.com

## New Developments for Multi-parameter Cytometry

- Element-Label Flow Cytometry (CyTOF, addresses fluorescence spectral overlap issue by using elements as labels, Anal. Chem., 2009, 81 (16), pp 6813–6822)
- SERS-Label Flow Cytometry (uses spectral fine-structure to distinguish labels, Cytometry, 2008, 73A(2), pp 119-128)
- Sequential Stain Destain Cytometry (Cytometry, 2009, 75A(4), pp 362-370)
- Spectral analysis, SONY



CDANING CDR2, CTUA 14-LNA PRINTCRAD\*CDING CORS, CORS, CORT,

## Microfluidic Analyzer/Sorter Example



Biomedical Inc

#### **Opportunities for Acoustic Science**

#### **Sample Preparation**

- particle trapping
- particle concentration
- particle washing

#### **Particle/cell sorting**

- label free
- special labels

#### **Cell Analysis**

- acoustic particle focusing
- acoustic parameters

#### **Cell Washing System**



From: Warner, Yu, Blom, Buesink, Lenshof, and Laurell; Improving Flow Cytometric Performance Using Modular In-Line Acoustophoretic Washing; CYTO 2012; Leipzig, Germany; Poster 184

#### **Cell Washing Results**



From: Warner, Yu, Blom, Buesink, Lenshof, and Laurell; Improving Flow Cytometric Performance Using Modular In-Line Acoustophoretic Washing; CYTO 2012; Leipzig, Germany; Poster 184

#### **Conclusions** Evolving Technologies

Technology developments in fields outside of biology e.g. acoustics, create the basis for new reliable analytical approaches for cell biology / diagnostic medicine.

Automation of critical steps (sample preparation, instrument setup, data analysis) makes cytometry more widely useable.

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## **Backup Slides**

#### Quantitation and Limit of Detection for Particle Fluorescence (routine flow cytometer)

Molecule	#/cell
CD3	8.1 x 10 <sup>4</sup>
CD4	5.0 x 10 <sup>4</sup>
CD8	1.4 x 10 <sup>5</sup>
CD11a	2.7 x 10 <sup>4</sup>
CD16	7.9 x 10 <sup>4</sup>
CD18	3.1 x 10 <sup>4</sup>
CD45	1.9 x 10⁵

Appendix A, Cell Separation Methods and Applications. Marcel Dekker 1998. Recktenwald D and Radbruch A, eds.



# Single molecule sensitivity with a special flow cytometer





- A: 200 ms corrected data showing 3 molecules of B-PE
- B: 2645 photon burst areas (backgroundgrey)
- **C,D**: each 256 bin (row) = 25.6 ms data. **C** is B-PE showing single molecules. **D** is  $H_20$ control

(Rob Habbersett & Jim Jett, LANL)

#### **Limit of Detection for Rare Cells**



Optimized instrument >0.01%Optimized system  $>10^{-7}$ 

>0.2%

Routine

Gross HJ et al, Cytometry 14 (1993) 519-526 Gross HJ et al, PNAS 92 (1995) 537-541

## Fluorescence Microscopy Quantitation



System calibration in number of molecules by volume exclusion fluorescence microscopy



Figure 4. Intensity drop versus volume for four solutions of (R)-phycoerythrin (numbers in parentheses) after slope estimates are coefficients of variation. Inset shows intensity drop over volume versus concentration. Relation is 0.30 CCD units/molecule.

## Fluorescence Microscopy Single Molecule Analysis



Single PE molecule microscopy, Verwer, Phi, Recktenwald 1994

Single m-RNA molecule analysis. Robert H Singer's group, Nature S&MB 2008

## Fluorescence Microscopy for Low Cost Cytometry







Rodriguez WR, McDevitt JT, PLos Medicine 2005; (CD3+CD4+ yellow, CD3+CD8+ red, monocytes green)