

Flow Cytometry

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MRC | Laboratory of
Molecular Biology



Talk Overview

- Our Facility
- What is Flow Cytometry?
- Components of a Flow Cytometer
- Applications in Biology

Our Facility: the People



Maria Daly

Fan Zhang

Martyn Balmont

Our Facility at the LMB

MoFlo High Speed Sorter:

- 4 lasers, 8 colour detection



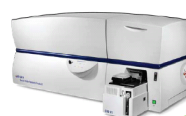
Synergy dual channel High Speed Sorter :

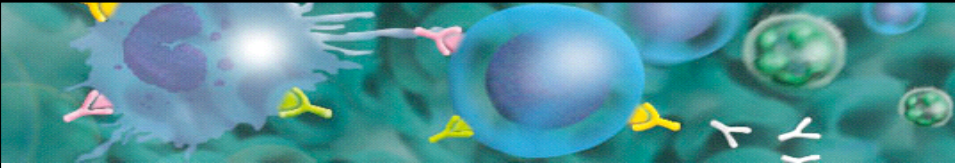
- 1) 5 lasers, 15 colour detection
- 2) 3 lasers, 10 colour detection



LSRII Analyser:


- 4 lasers, 14 colour detection





2 x Fortessa Analysers:


1. 4 lasers, 16 colour detection
2. 5 lasers, 18 colour detection



1 x Sony SP6800 Spectral Analyser:

This is a 3 laser, 34 PMT detection system which captures the spectral fingerprint of each fluorochrome

- 405nm, 50mW laser, with 2 PMT detectors (420-440, 460-480nm)
- 488nm, 50mW laser
- 640nm, 40mW laser



Emission spectra from above 3 excitation lasers is detected across a band of 32 fluorescence detectors detecting emission wavelengths from 500 – 800nm



Eclipse Analyser:

- 3 lasers, 5 colour detection



FACSCalibur Analysers:

- 2 lasers, 4 colour detection



Publications supported by the Facility from October 2016 – September 2017

Gammons M. V., Rutherford T. J., Steinhart Z., Angers S., Blenz M.
Essential role of the Polycomb PRC2 domain in a Wnt-dependent human-cell-based complementation assay
Journal of Cell Science 129(20):3892-3902. 15 October 2016
Division: Protein & Nucleic Acid Chemistry

Bottermann M., Lode H. E., Watkinson R. E., Foss S., Sandlie I., Andersen J. T., James L. C.
Antibody-antigen kinetics constrain intracellular humoral immunity
Scientific Reports 6:37457. 24 November 2016
Division: Protein & Nucleic Acid Chemistry

Wu Y. L., Stubbington M. J., Daly M., Teichmann S. A., Rada C.
Intrinsic transcriptional heterogeneity in B cells controls early class switching to IgE
Journal of Experimental Medicine 214(1):183-196. 1 January 2017
Division: Protein & Nucleic Acid Chemistry

McEwan W. A., Falcon B., Vaysburd M., Clift D., Oblak A. L., Ghetti B., Goedert M., James L. C.
Cytosolic Fr-receptor TRIM21 inhibits synaptic transmission
Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America 114(3):574-579. 17 January 2017
Division: Protein & Nucleic Acid Chemistry, Neurobiology

Saluzzo S., Gorki A. D., Rana B. M., Martins R., Scanlon S., Starki P., Lakovits K., Hladik A., Korosec A., Sharif O., Warszwaska J. M., Jolin H., Mesteri I., McKenzie A. N., Knapp S.
Fluid-Phase-Induced Type 2 Pathways Shape the Lung Immune Environment
Cell Reports 18(8):1893-1905. 21 February 2017
Division: Protein & Nucleic Acid Chemistry

van Tienen L. M., Mieszczynek J., Fiedler M., Rutherford T. J., Blenz M.
Constitutive scaffolding of multiple Wnt pathway core components by *Legless/PC10*
Elife 6: e20882. 15 March 2017
Division: Protein & Nucleic Acid Chemistry

Houlihan G., Arangundy-Franklin S., Holliger P.
Exploiting the Chemistry of Genetic Information Storage and Propagation through Polymerase Engineering
Accounts of Chemical Research 50(4):1079-1087. 18 April 2017
Division: Protein & Nucleic Acid Chemistry

Šviković S., Sale J. E.
The Effects of Replication Stress on S Phase Histone Management and Epigenetic Memory
Journal of Molecular Biology 429(13):2011-2029. 20 June 2017
Division: Protein & Nucleic Acid Chemistry

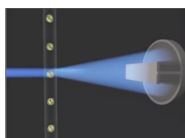
Burgos-Barragan G., Wit N., Meiser J., Dingler F. A., Pietzke M., Mulderrig L., Pontel L. B., Rosado I. V., Brewer T. F., Cordell R. L., Monks P. S., Chang C. J., Vazquez A., Patel K. J.
Manually derived endogenous genetic forms of *HydA* from *Arabidopsis thaliana*
Nature 548(7669):549-554. 31 August 2017
Division: Protein & Nucleic Acid Chemistry

Flow Cytometry



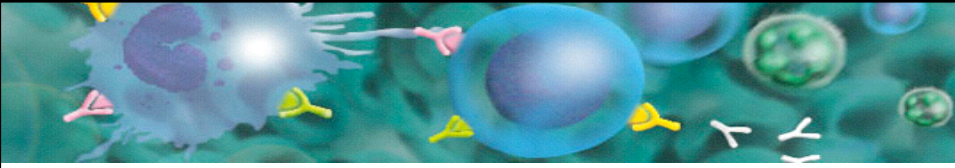
The value of the technique:

- measurements of large numbers of single cells in suspension within a short period of time



The major disadvantage:

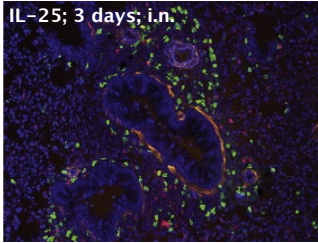
- It requires a suspension of single cells or other particles with minimum clumps and debris
- The tissue architecture and any information about the spatial relationship between different cells are lost when single cells are prepared



Cytometry

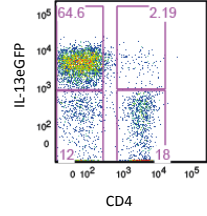
- Localization of antigen is possible
- Poor enumeration of cell subtypes
- Tissue architecture

DAPI IL-13eGFP CD3
IL-25; 3 days; i.n.

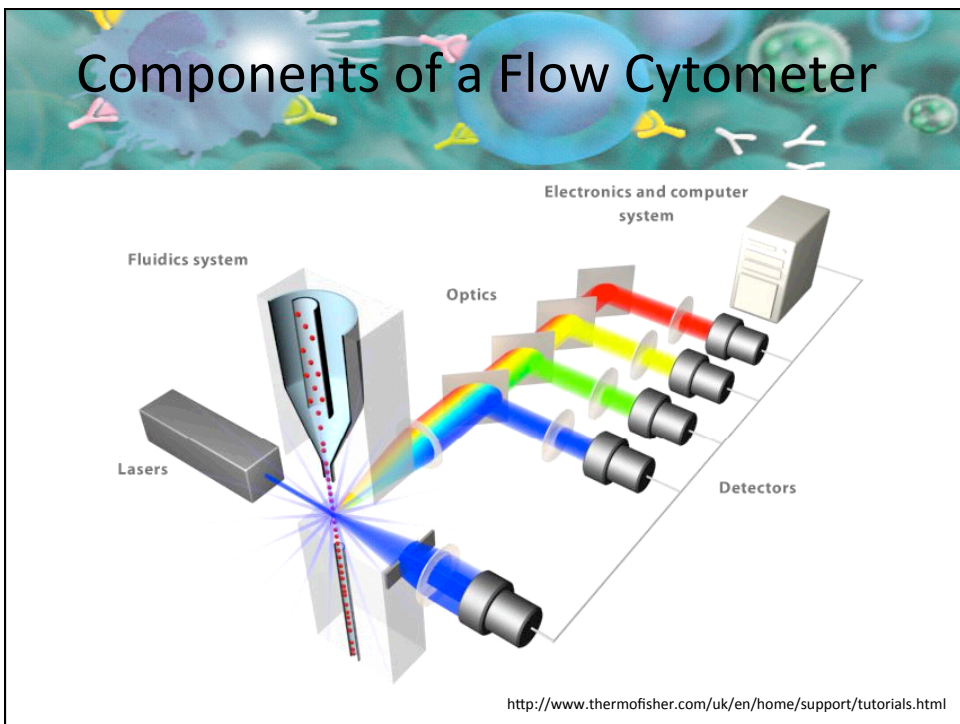


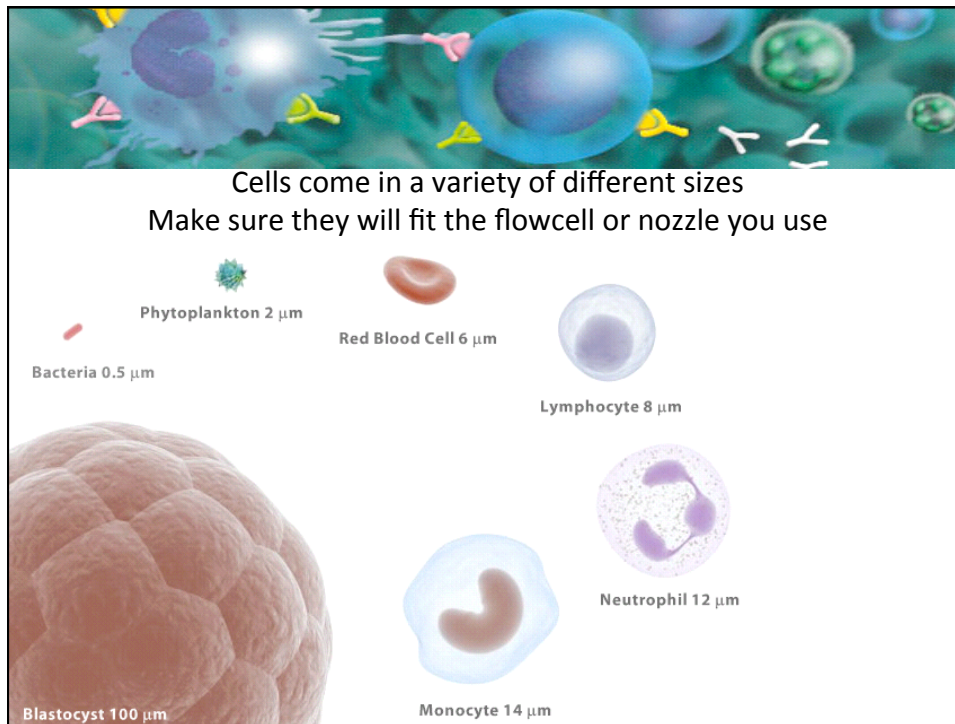
Flow Cytometry

- Cannot tell you where antigen is
- Can analyze many cells in a short time frame
- Can look at numerous parameters at once



Jillian Barlow and Veera Panova, MRC-LMB





Sample Preparation

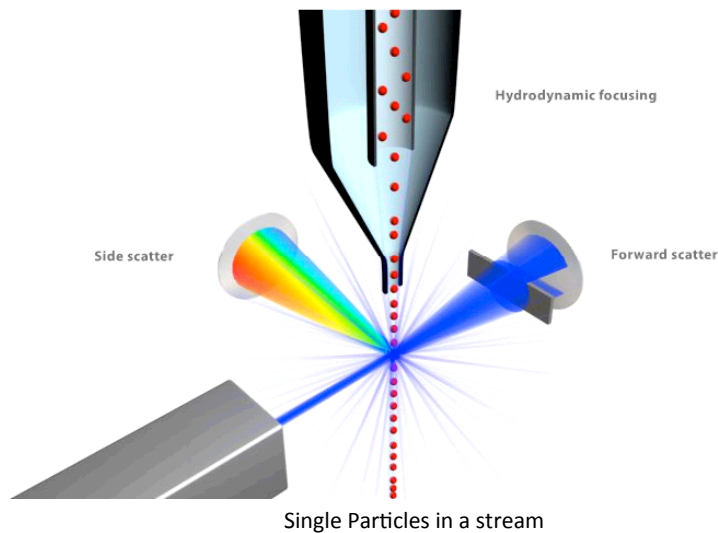
- Sample preparation is key to getting good data
- A single cell suspension is necessary
- Dissociate cells with appropriate reagents
- Titrate your antibodies to find optimal conc.
- Filter cell samples which are aggregated through a nylon mesh to remove clumps
- 70 μm , 100 μm , or 150 μm as appropriate
- Rubbish in = Rubbish out

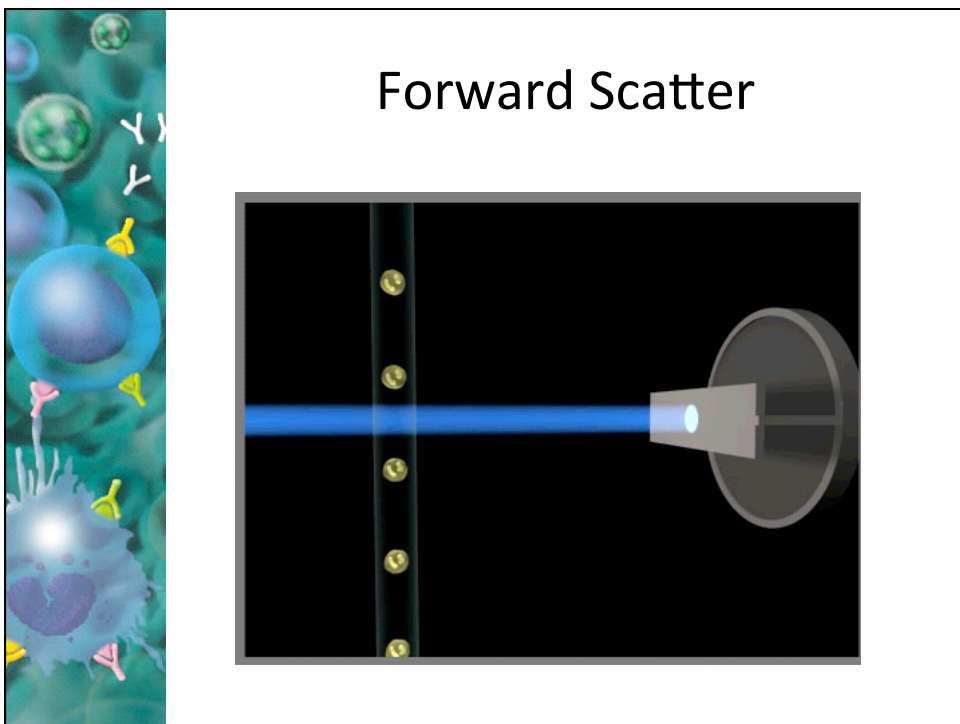
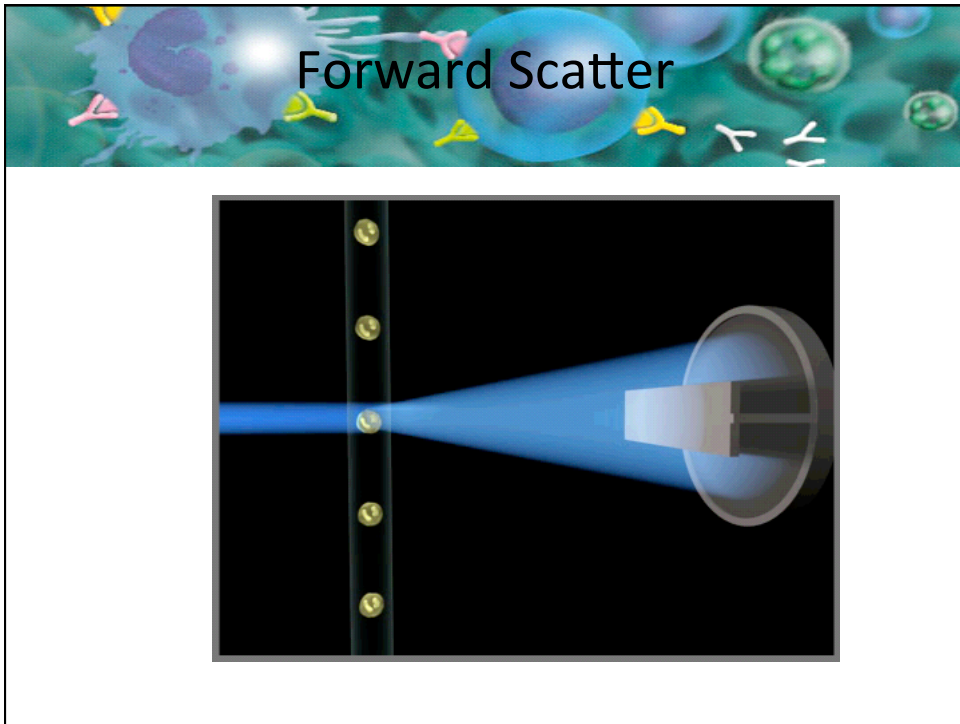
Obtaining a single cell suspension

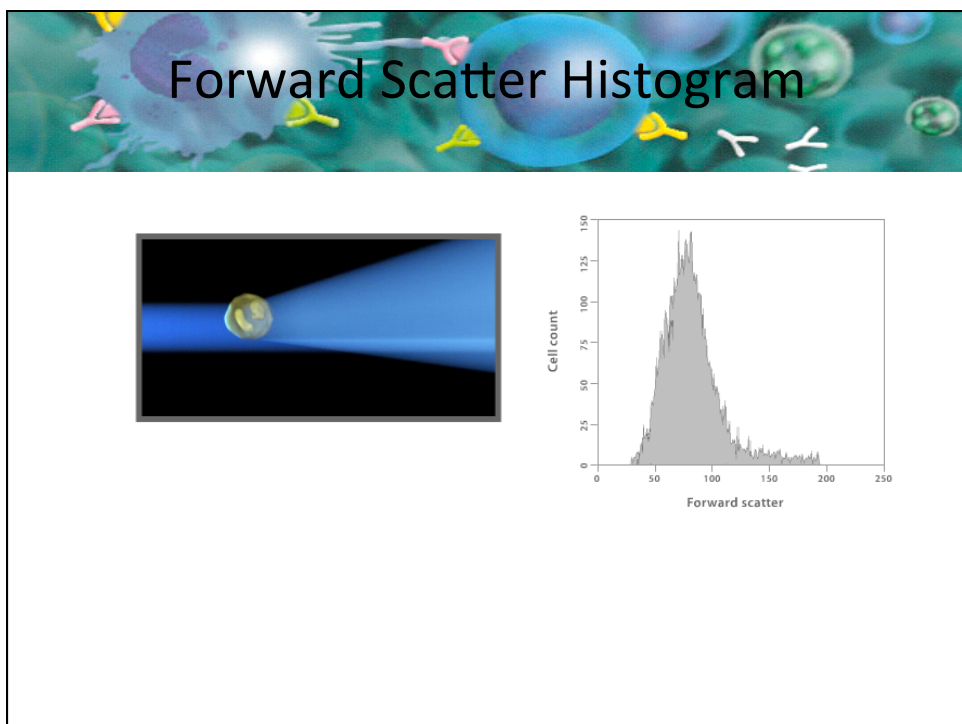
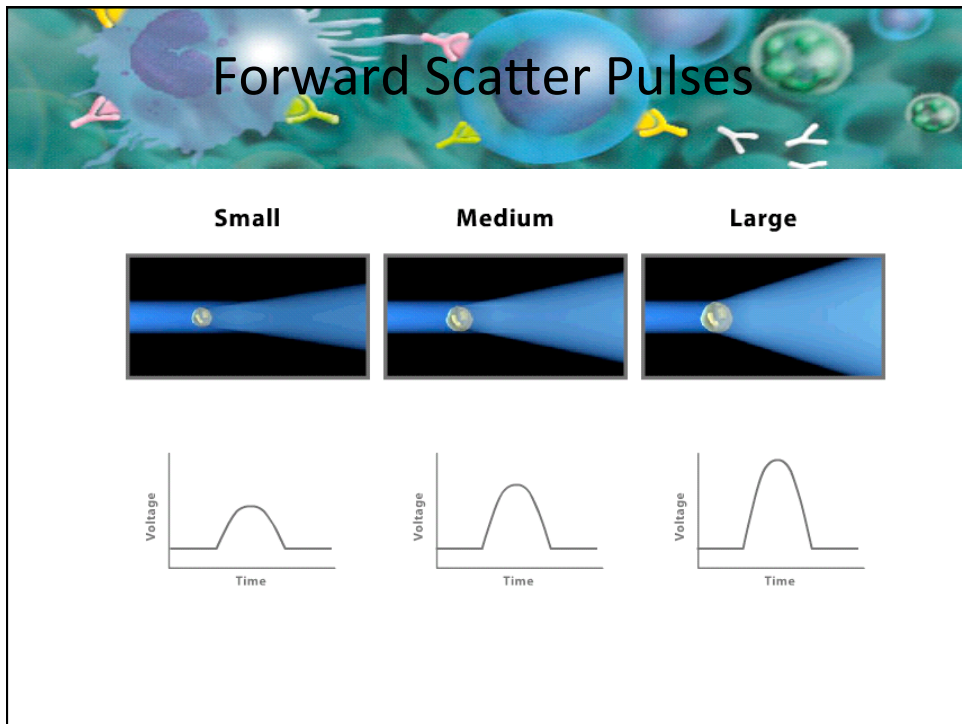
- Some cells come naturally in suspension
 - splenocytes
 - cell lines e.g. Jurkat,
- Some cell lines grow adherent on plastic
 - remove from plastic with e.g. EDTA, Trypsin, Accutase
- Tissues are more difficult and need mechanical or enzymatic dissociation
 - Collagenase
 - Press through a fine mesh
- The sample should contain as little debris and as few clumps as possible

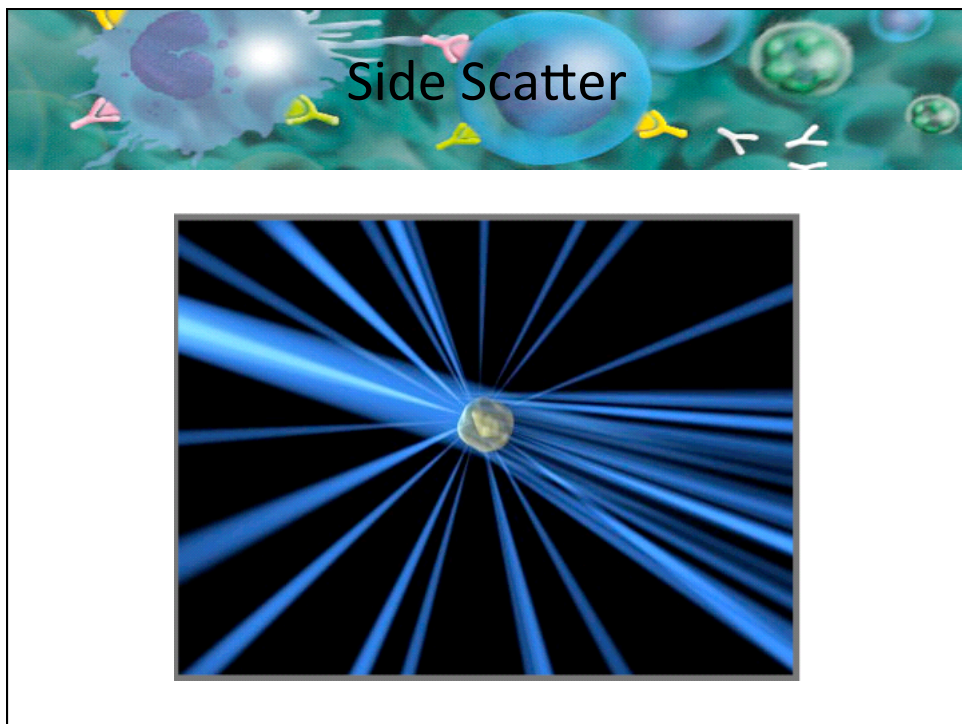
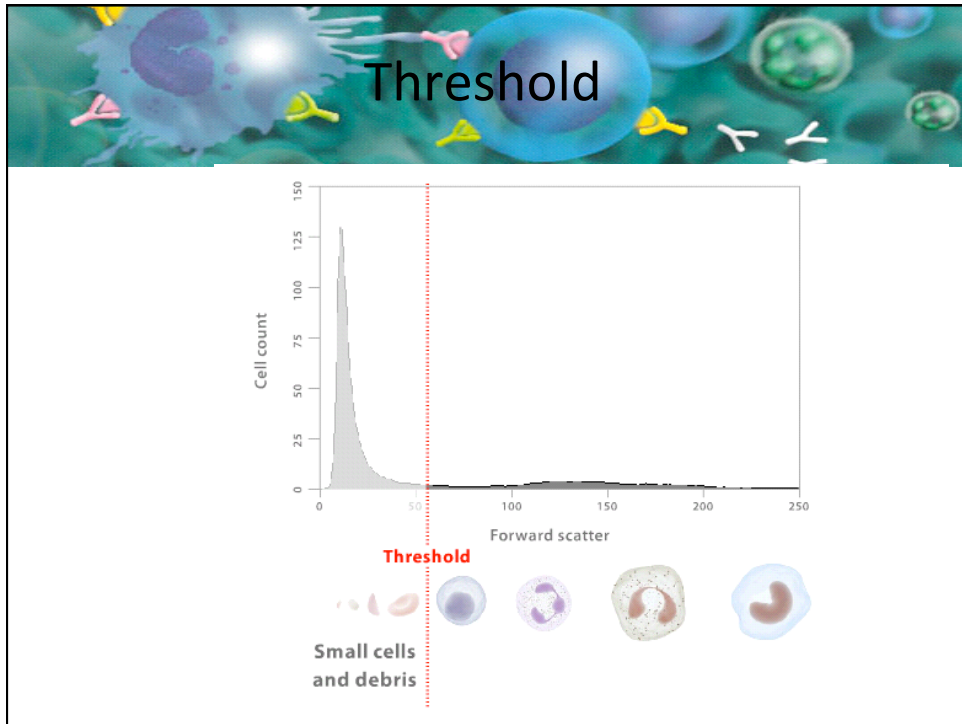


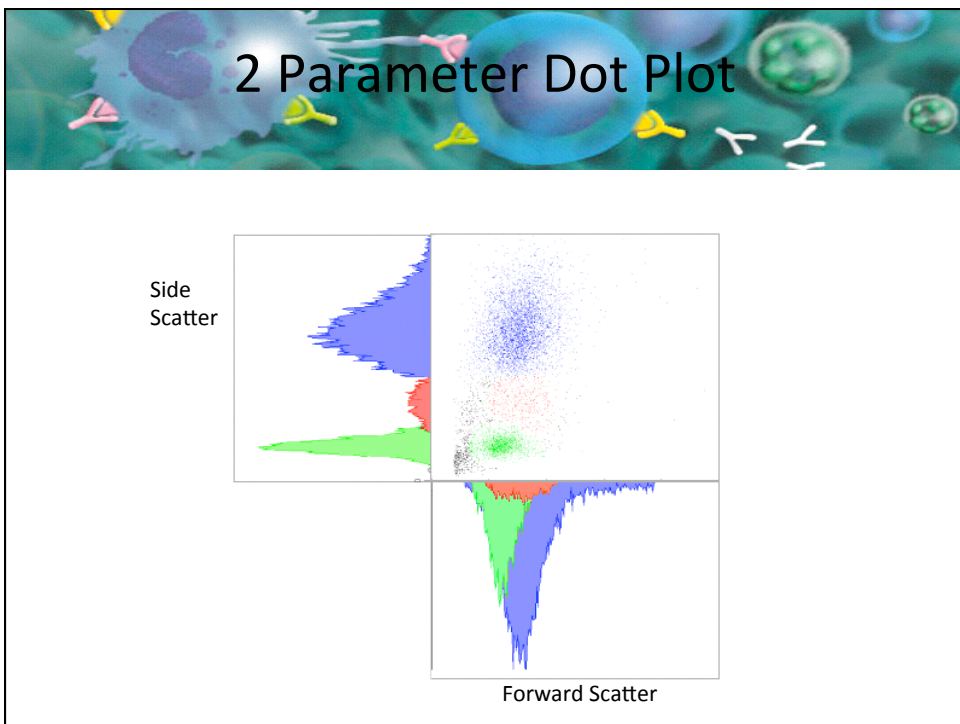
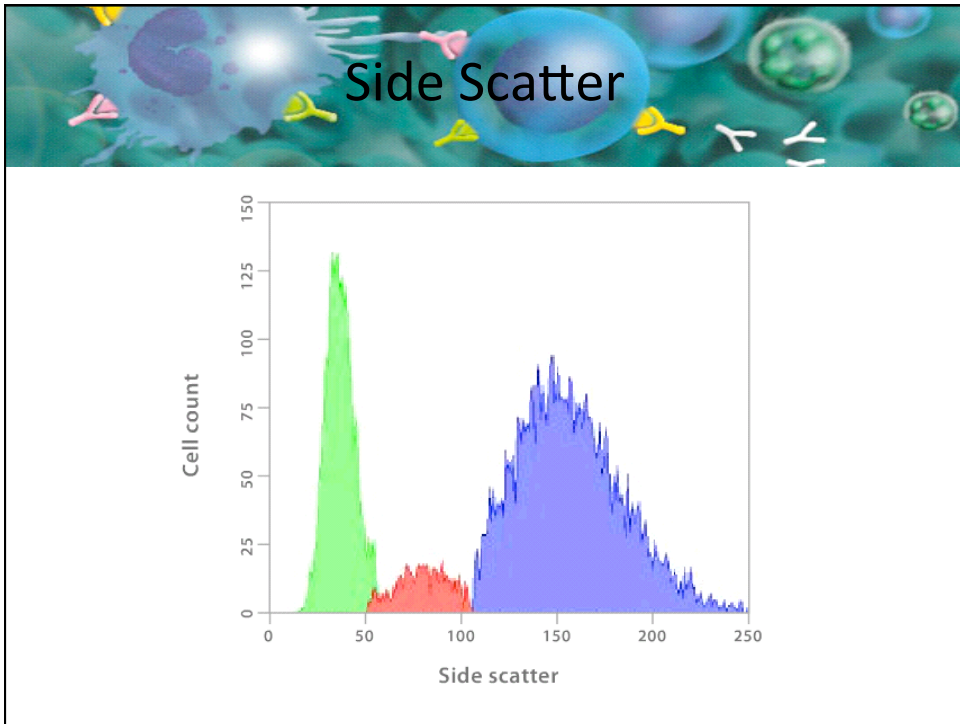
Hydrodynamic focusing

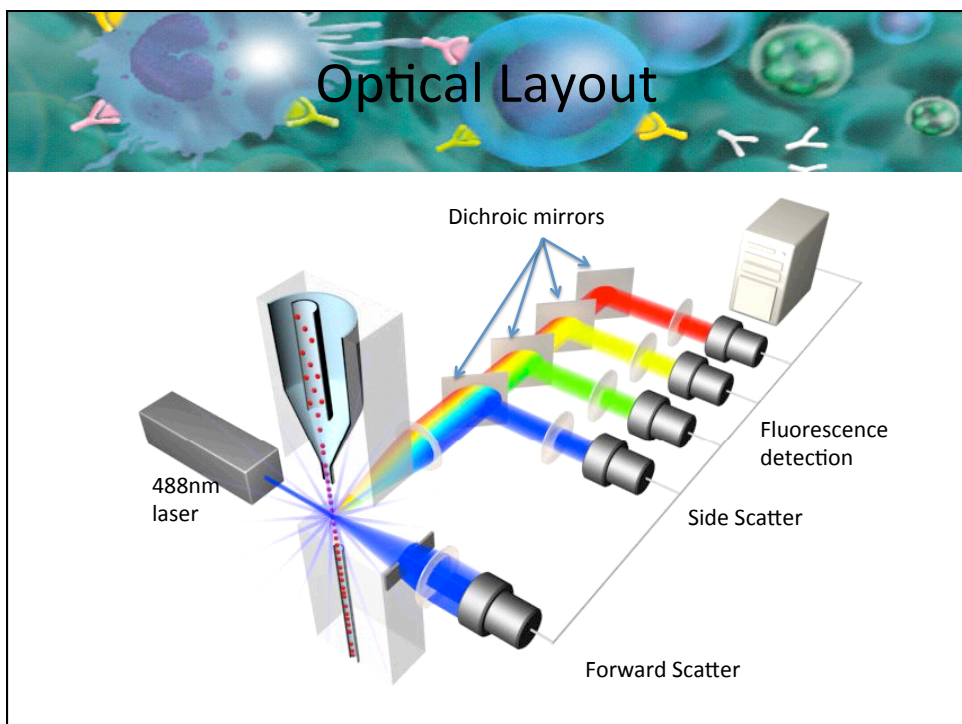
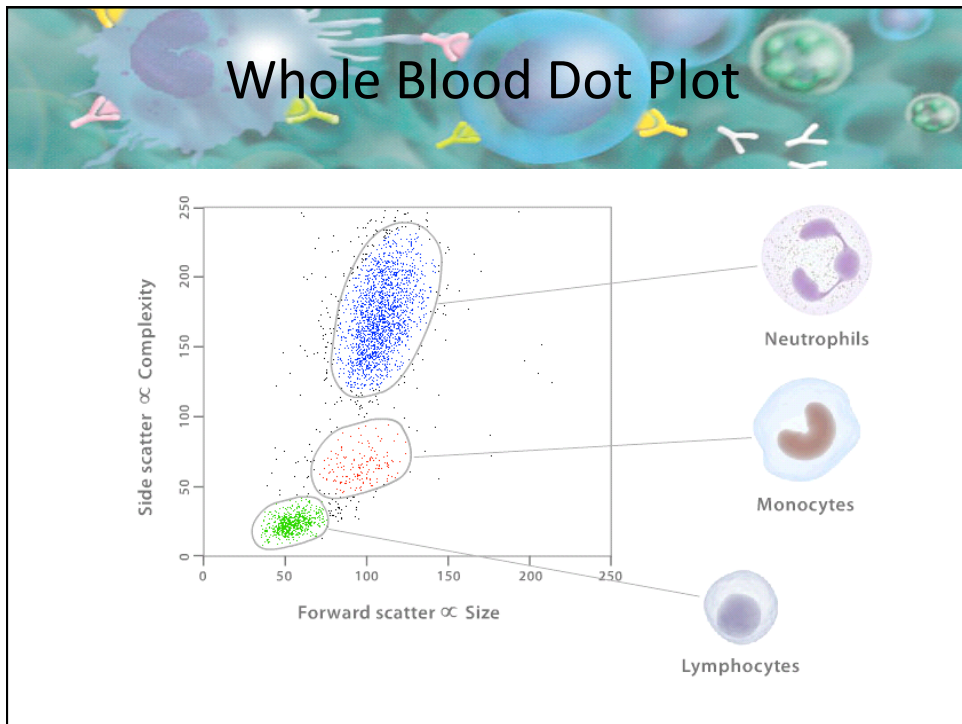


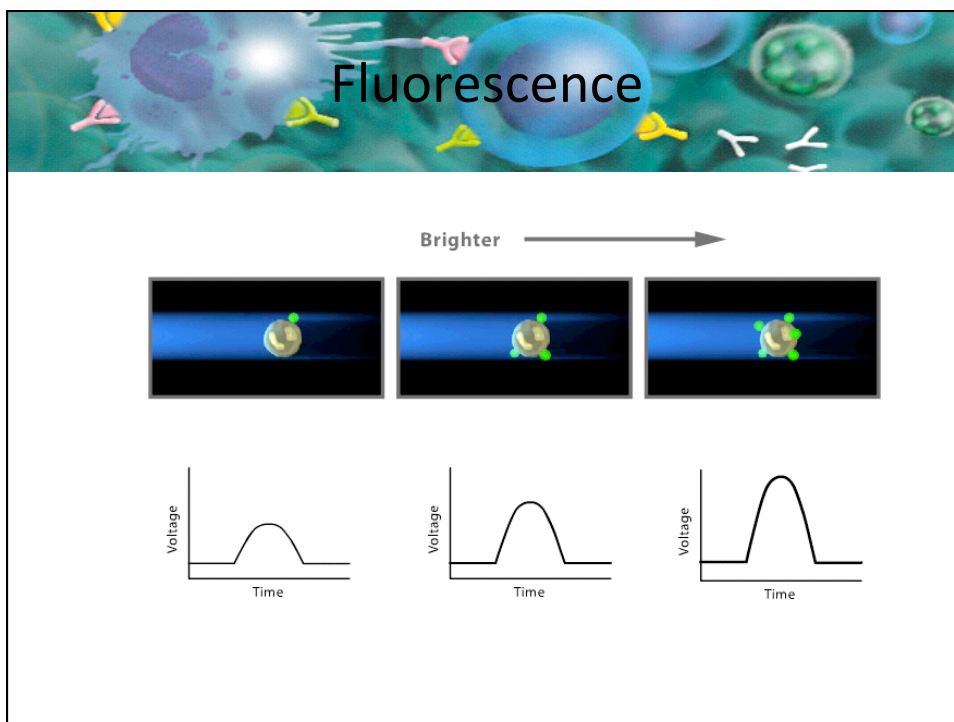
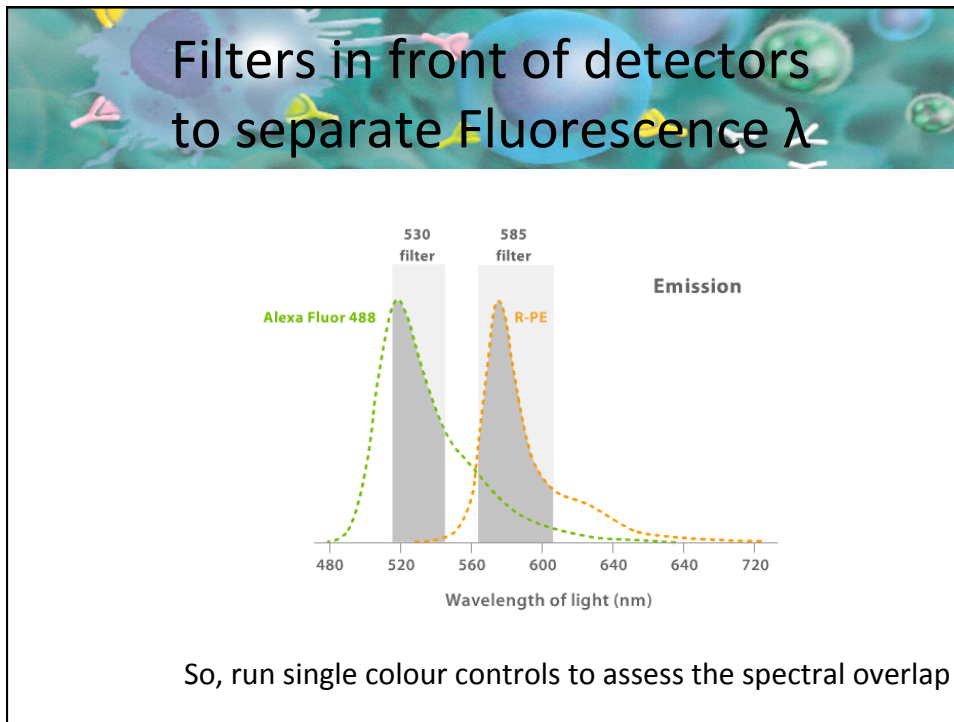


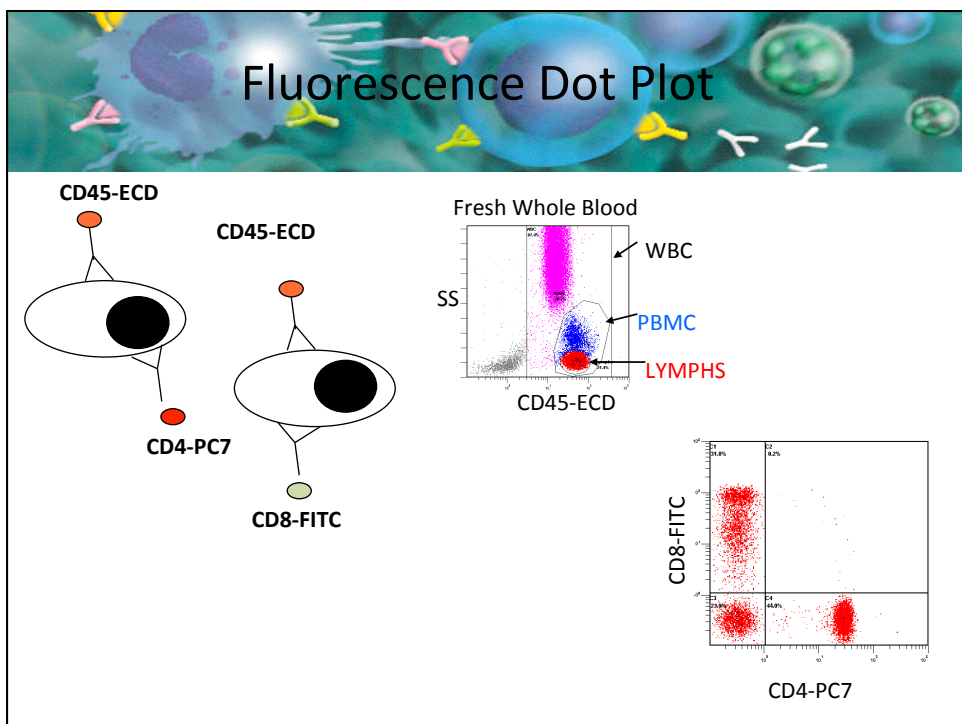
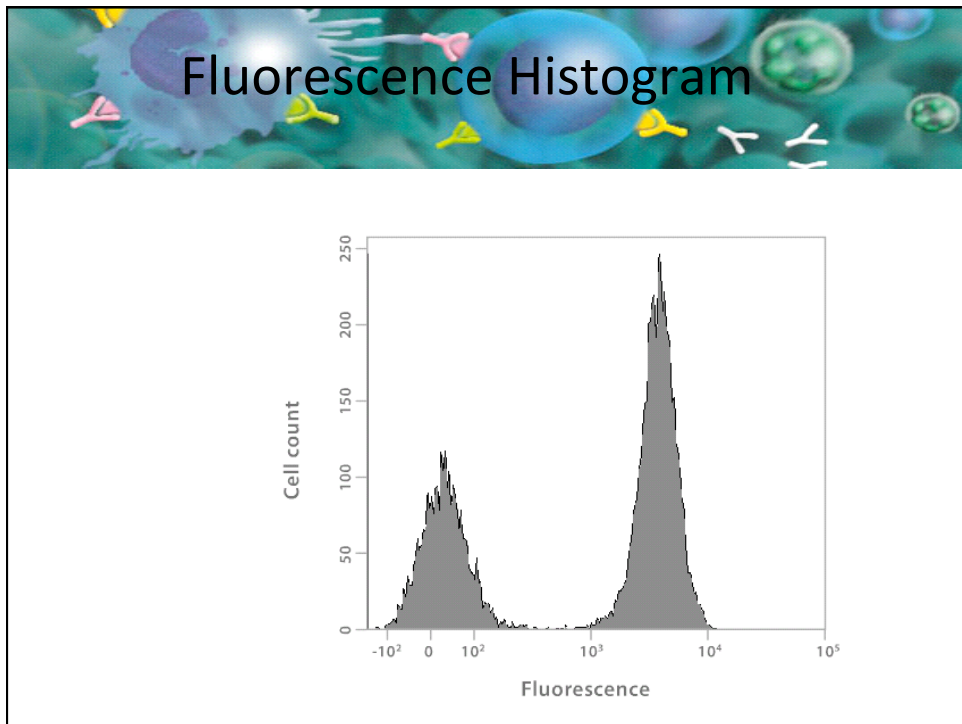


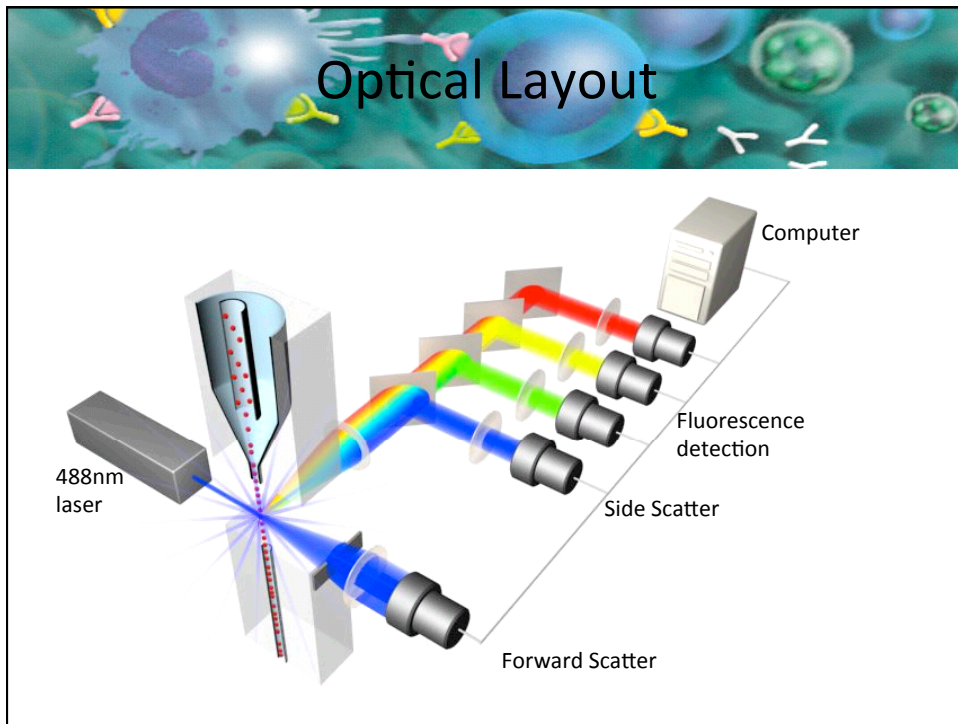












Other considerations

- Avoid co-incidence
 - Dilute the sample to a concentration the instrument can handle
- Get rid of unwanted cells
 - Lyse RBC
 - Ammonium Chloride
 - RBC lysing reagents e.g acid lysis
 - Carbonic anhydrase
 - Ficoll or Lympholyte M
 - Separates mononuclear cells from Granulocytes and RBC

A small diagram of a flow cytometer nozzle is shown in the bottom right corner. It illustrates the sample stream and the detection paths for Side Scatter, Hydrodynamic focusing, and Forward Scatter.



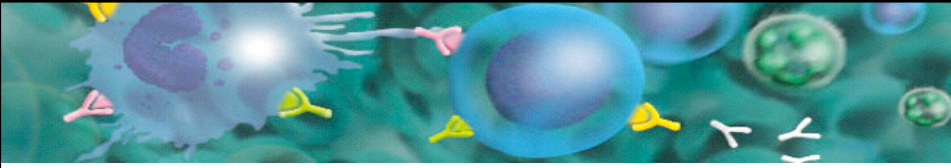
Always include controls

- The instrument settings for collecting cell measurements are set by you
- Use controls to set your background values
- Use single colour - samples to set your colour compensation and position of positive cells
- Choose dyes used in your experiments wisely
 - ✓ brightest dye on least expressed antigen
 - ✓ choose dyes with least spectral overlap or which use different lasers for excitation



Labelling Cells with Fluorescent Dye/Marker

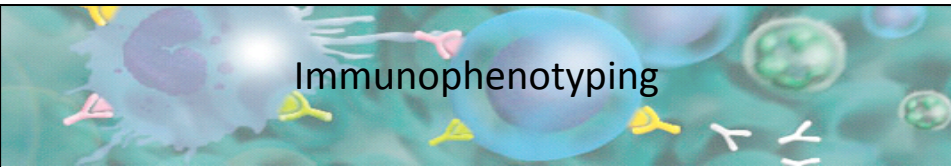
- Optimise the staining conditions for YOUR cells in your model system
 - Immunophenotyping
 - DNA analysis
 - Intracellular Cytokine Staining
 - CFSE proliferation assay



Immunophenotyping

Protocol:

- 100µl sample
- 10µl antibody
- 10 mins RT
- Wash with PBS + 2.5% FCS
- Centrifuge to pellet, remove supernatant
- Re-suspend in PBS + 2.5% FCS
- Analyse

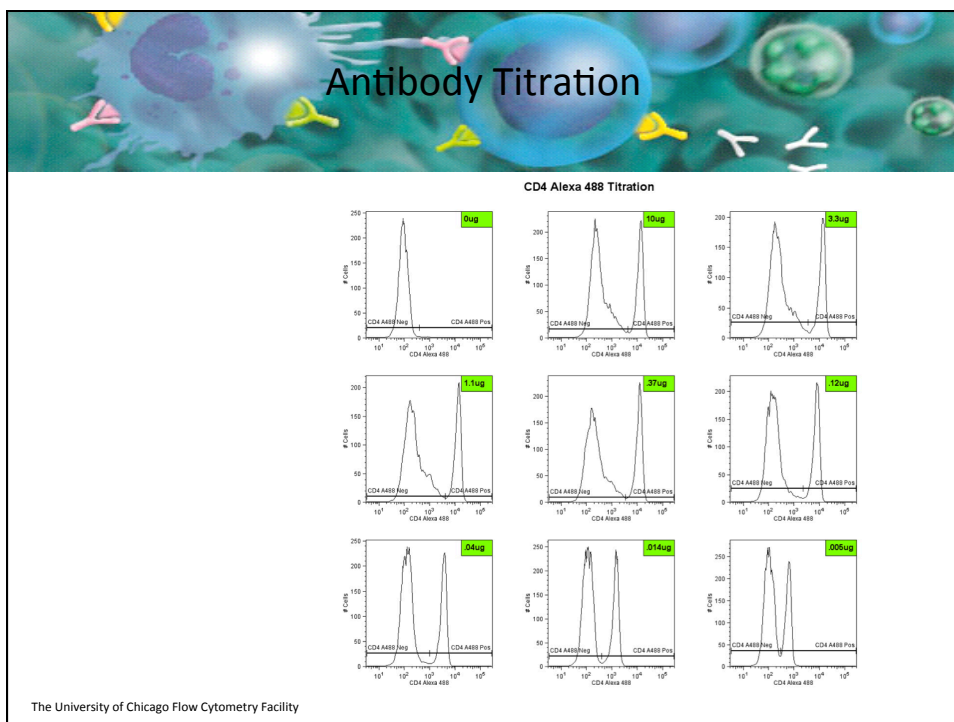


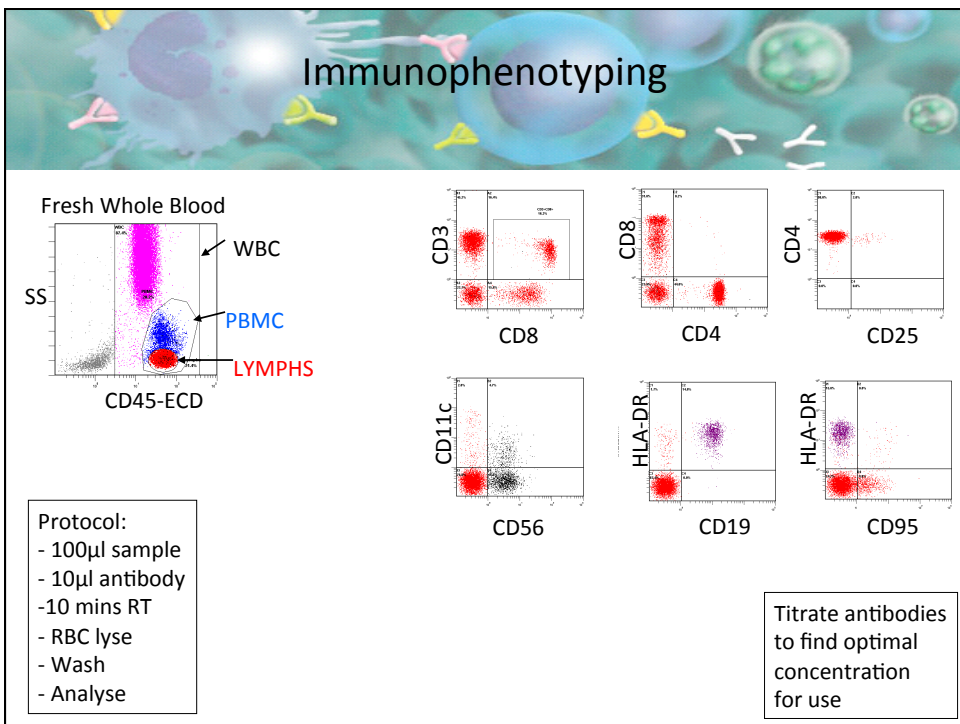
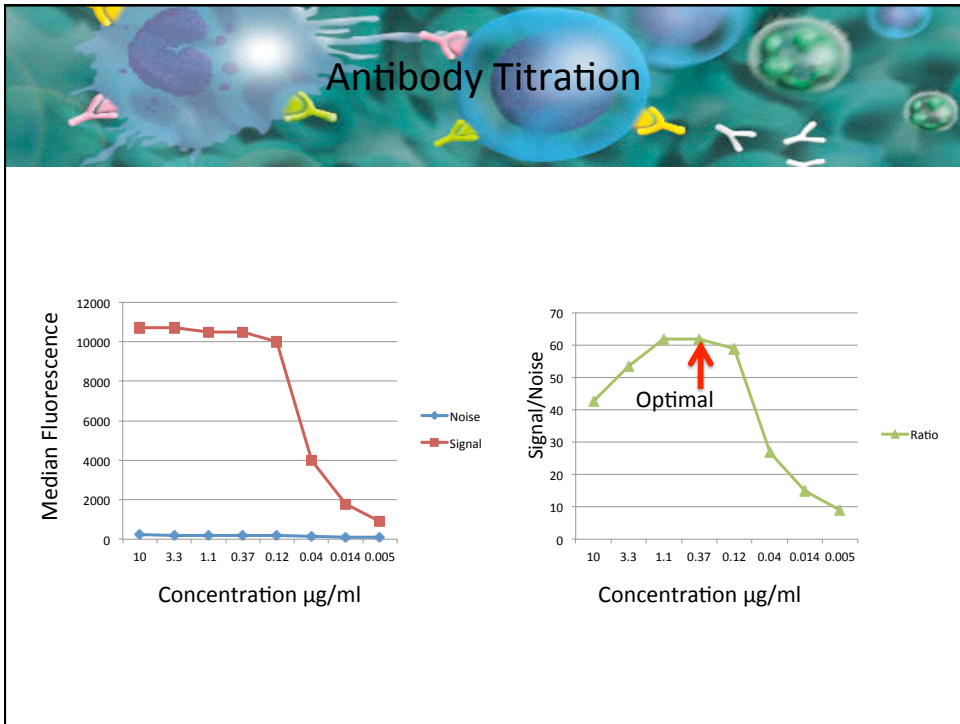
Immunophenotyping

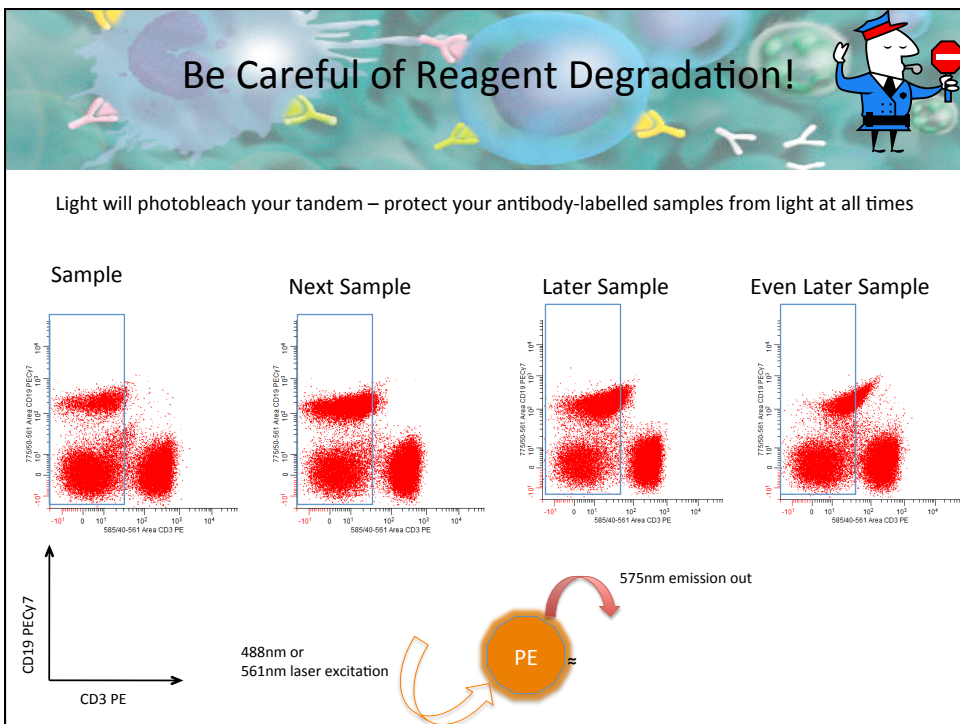
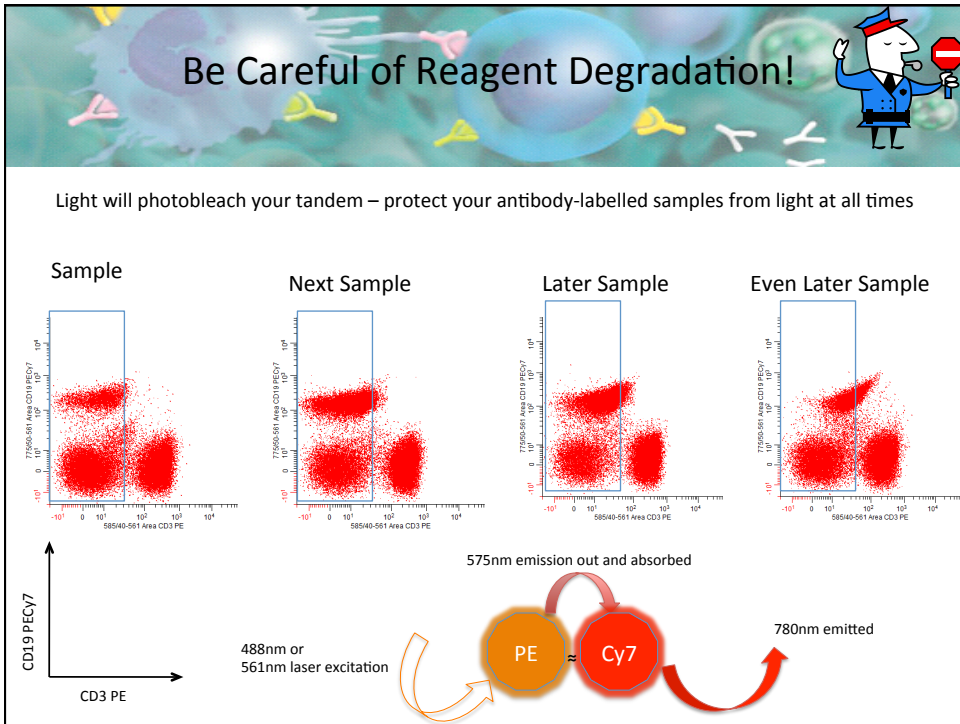
- **Read the product insert sheet**
 - Find the concentration of the reagent e.g. mg antibody/ml
 - Read off range of antibody concentration manufacturer recommends for use
- **Titrate your antibodies to find the optimal concentration for use**
 - Keep final volume constant e.g. 100µl
 - Antibody concentration is vital, cell numbers may vary
 - Add range of antibody concentration at constant volume
 - Find saturating concentration for use
- **Be consistent**
 - Use same staining conditions each time you do the experiment

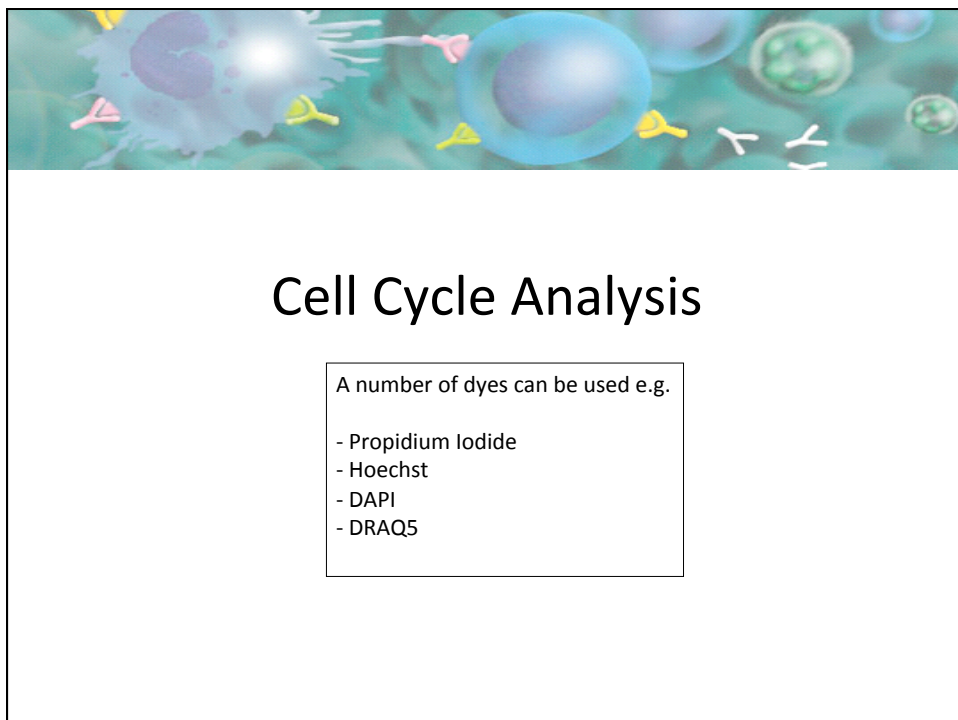
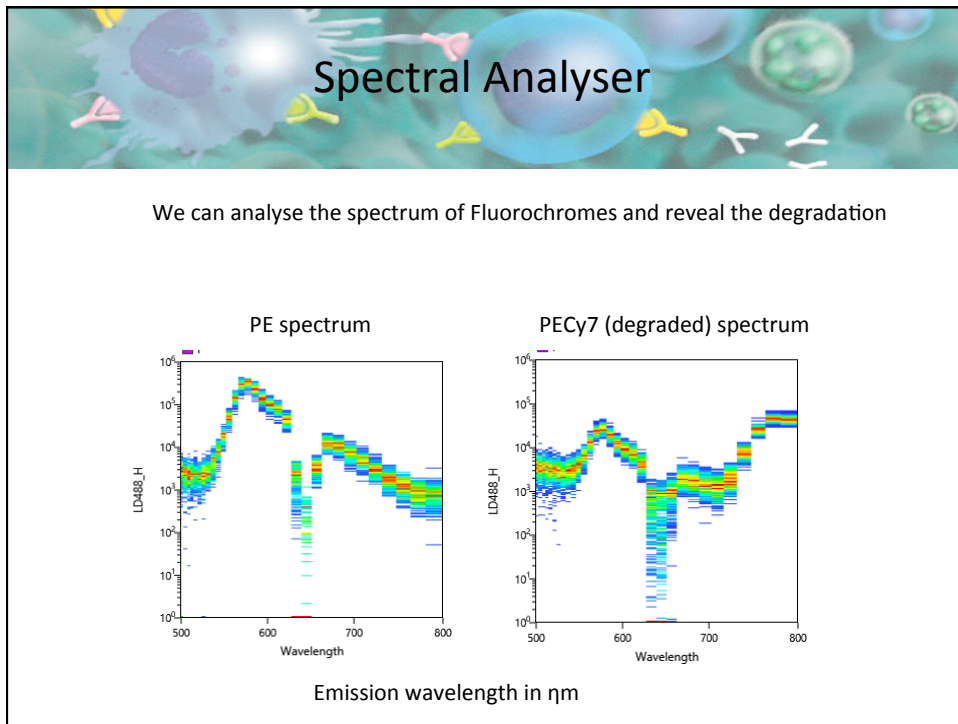
Antibody Titration

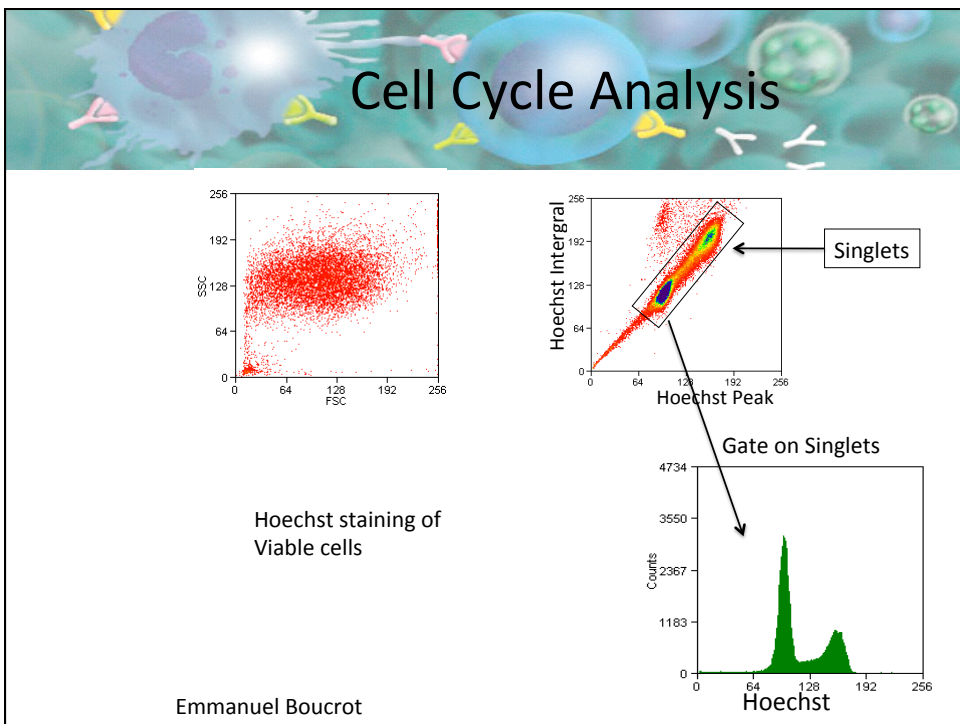
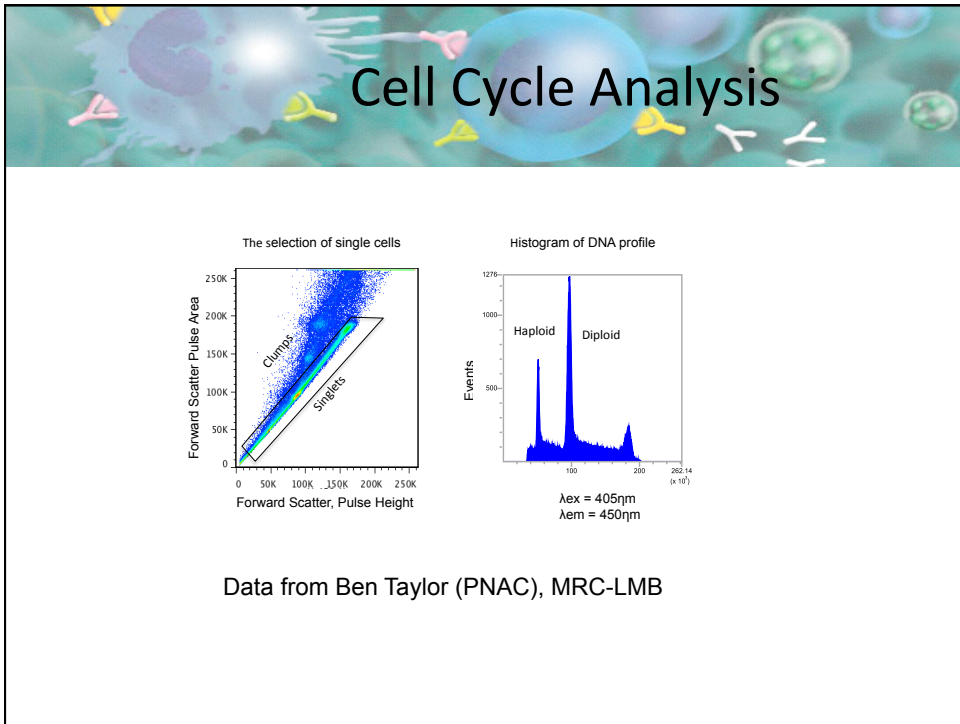
- For most purposes, the main objective is to maximize signal : noise (pos/neg separation)
 - This may occur at less than saturated staining
 - This may or may not be the manufacturer's recommended titer
- Titer is affected by:
 - Staining volume (e.g., 100 μ L)
 - Number of cells (not critical up to $\sim 5 \times 10^6$)
 - Staining time and temperature (e.g., 10 min RT)
 - Type of sample (whole blood, PBMC, splenocytes.)

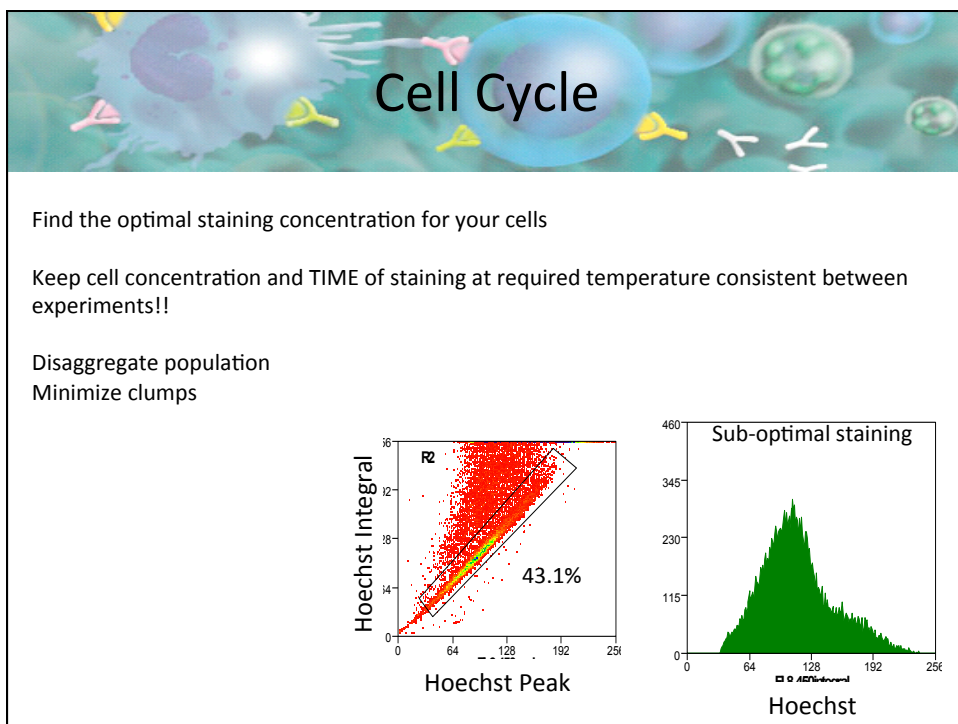
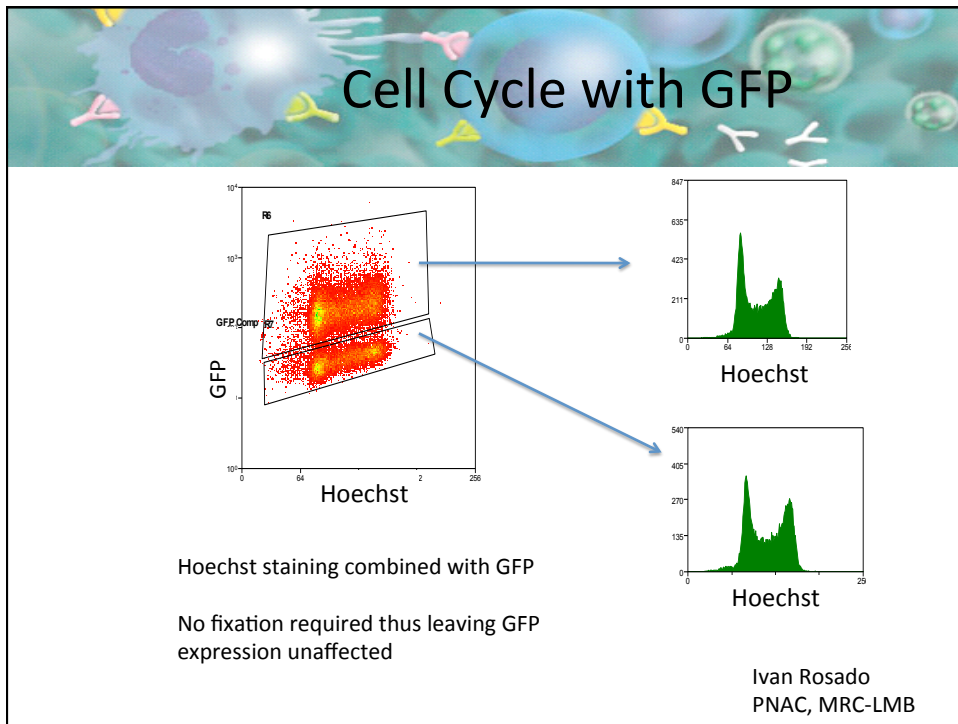


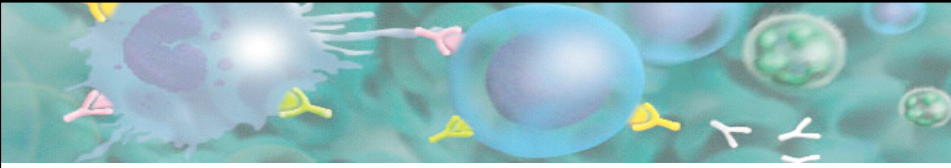








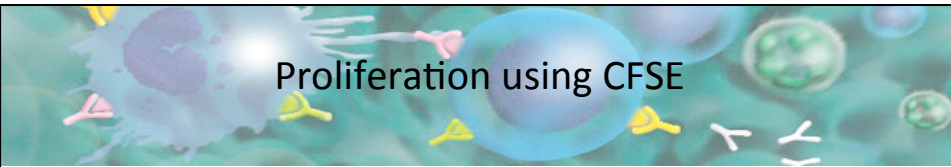




Proliferation using CFSE

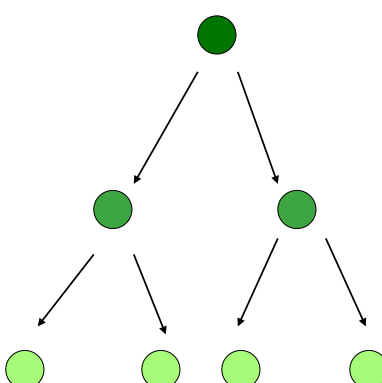
Protocol:

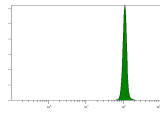
- Wash sample with PBS, no protein
- Re-suspend cells in 5uM CFSE
- 10 mins at 37°C
- Wash
- Culture
- Analyse



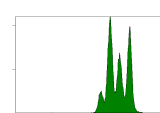
Proliferation using CFSE

As the CFSE loaded cell divides, the fluorescence is halved





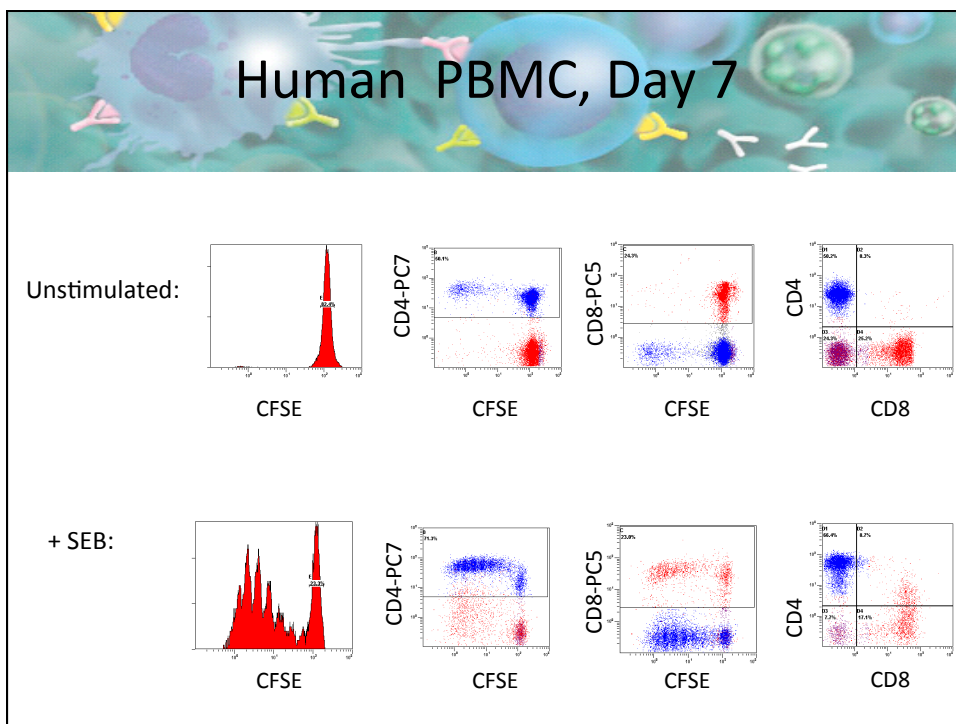
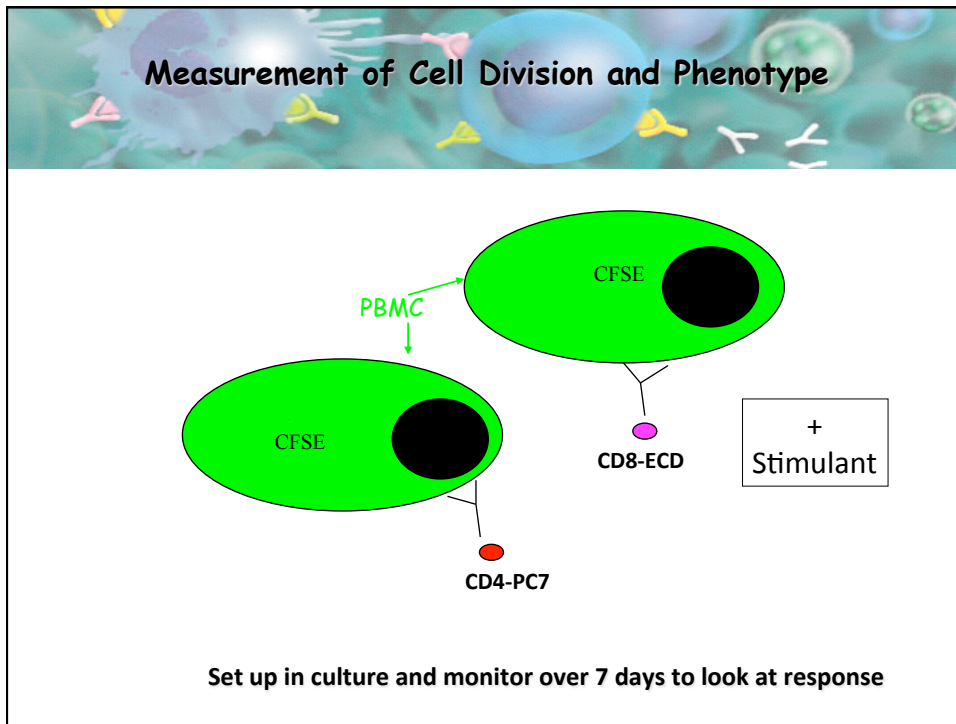
Log FL1

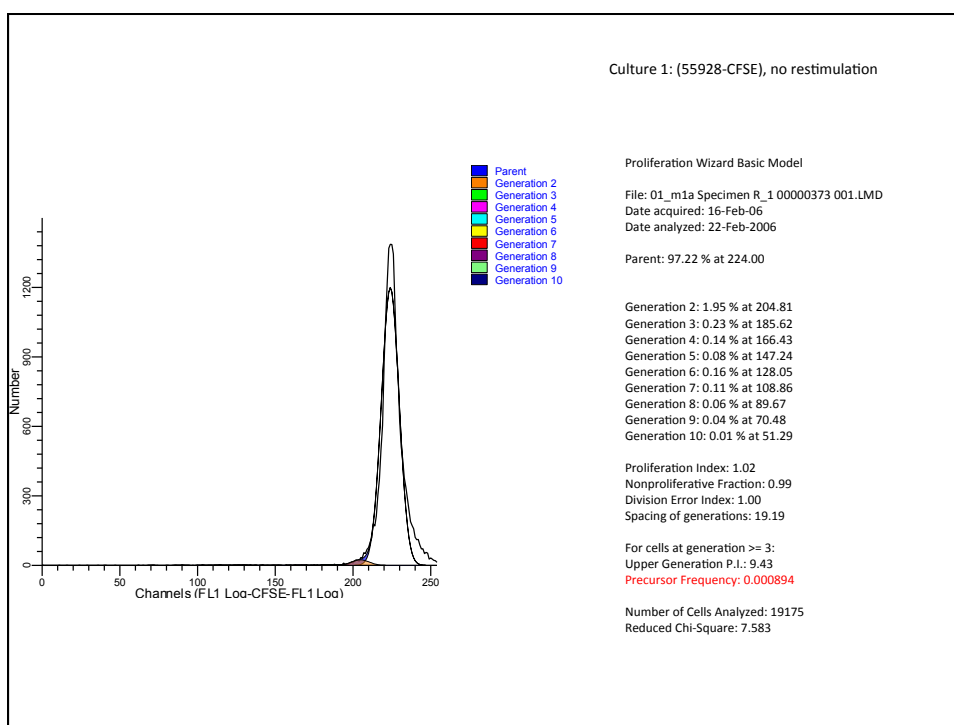
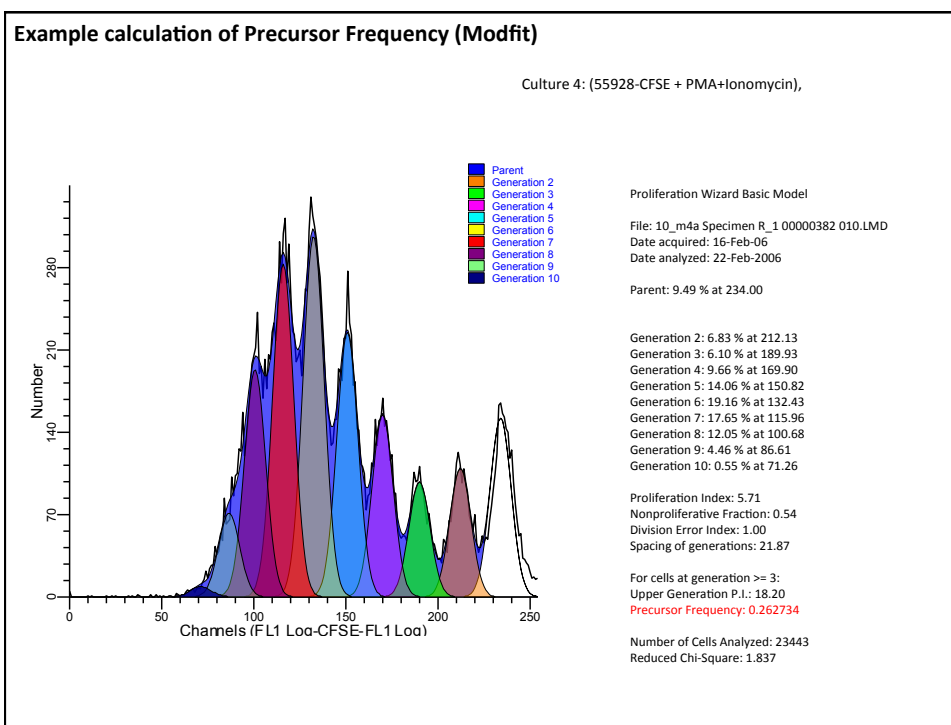


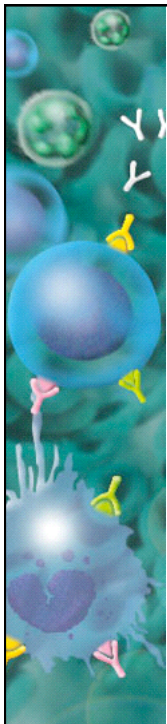
Log FL1


Alternative colours:

- CellTrace Violet Cell Proliferation Kit (Invitrogen)
- Cell Proliferation Dye eFluor 670 (eBioscience)












Fix
15mins




Wash



Permeabilize
+ antibodies
15 mins



Wash



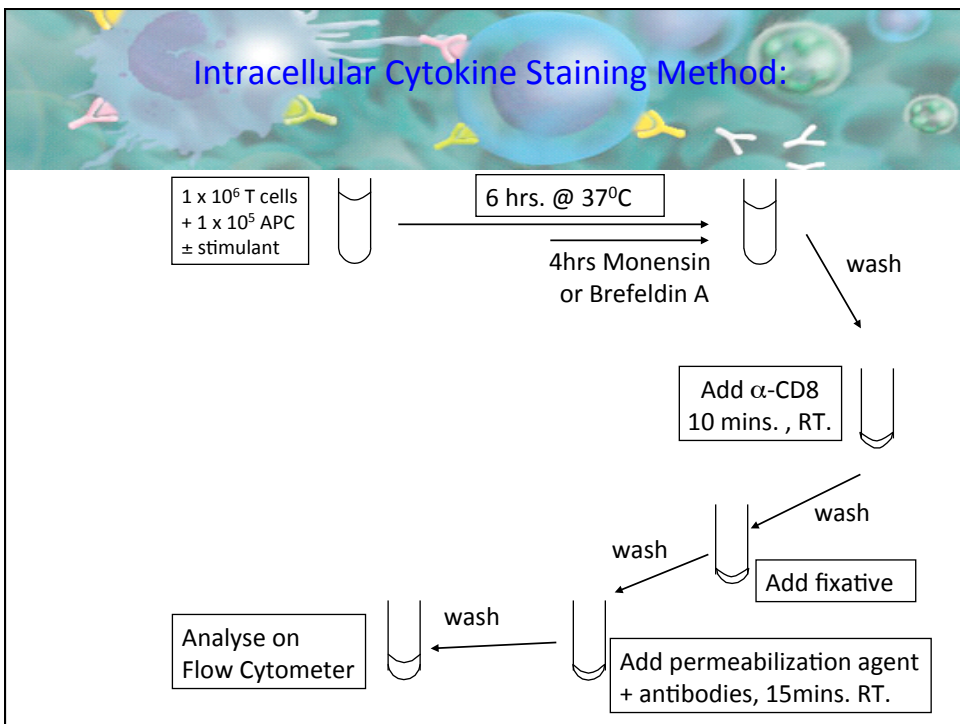
Add buffer
Analyse

Intracellular Cytokine Staining

Protocol:

- Pellet cells (1 to 3 x 10⁶)
- Add IntraPrep Fixative
- Incubate 15 mins RT
- Wash
- Add IntraPrep Permeabilization reagent
- Add appropriate antibody concentration
- Incubate 15 mins RT
- Wash
- Analyse

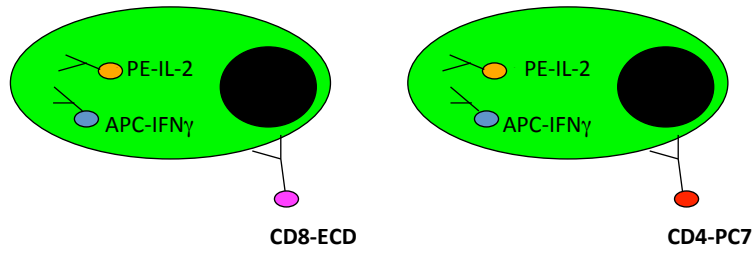
Intracellular Cytokine Staining Method:



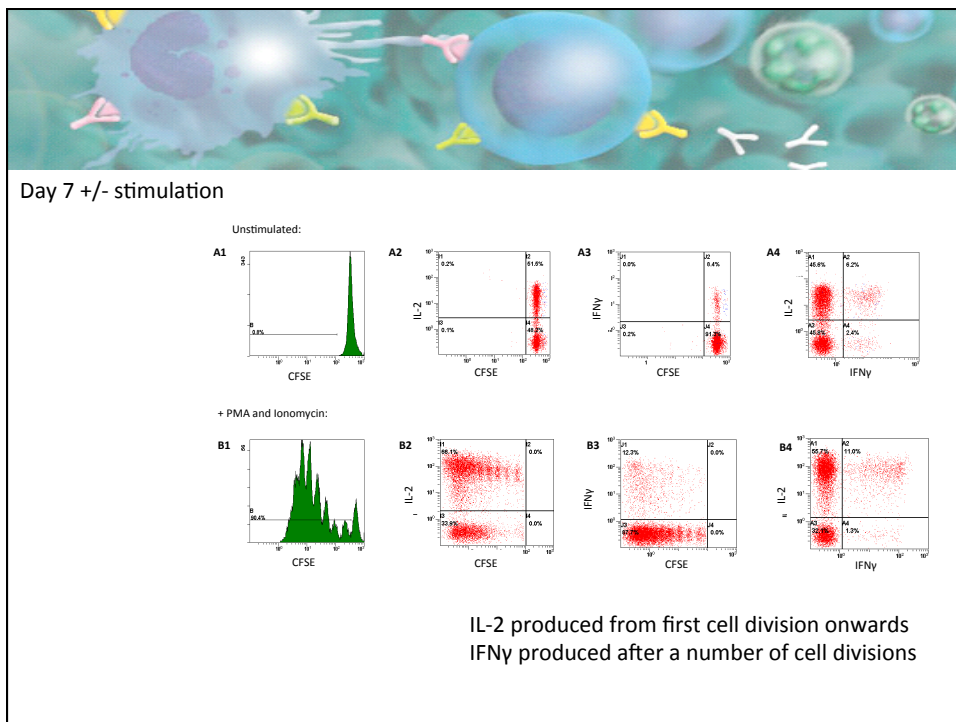
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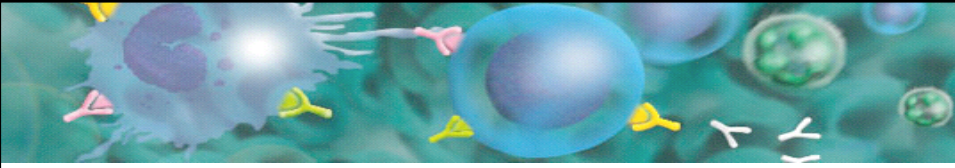
    graph TD
      A["1 x 106 T cells  
+ 1 x 105 APC  
± stimulant"] --> B["6 hrs. @ 37°C  
4hrs Monensin  
or Brefeldin A"]
      B --> C["wash"]
      C --> D["Add α-CD8  
10 mins. , RT."]
      D --> E["wash"]
      E --> F["Add fixative"]
      F --> G["wash"]
      G --> H["Add permeabilization agent  
+ antibodies, 15mins. RT."]
      H --> I["wash"]
      I --> J["Analyse on  
Flow Cytometer"]
    
```

CFSE and Immunophenotype and Intracellular Cytokines

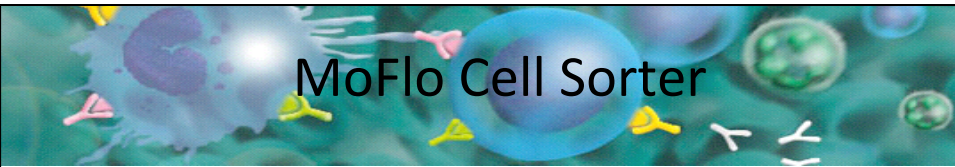



5-Colour Combination with dual Cytokine





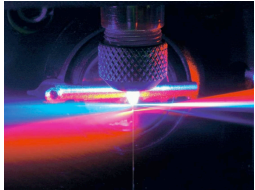
Sorting



MoFlo Cell Sorter

Upper Chamber

Lasers intercept sample stream




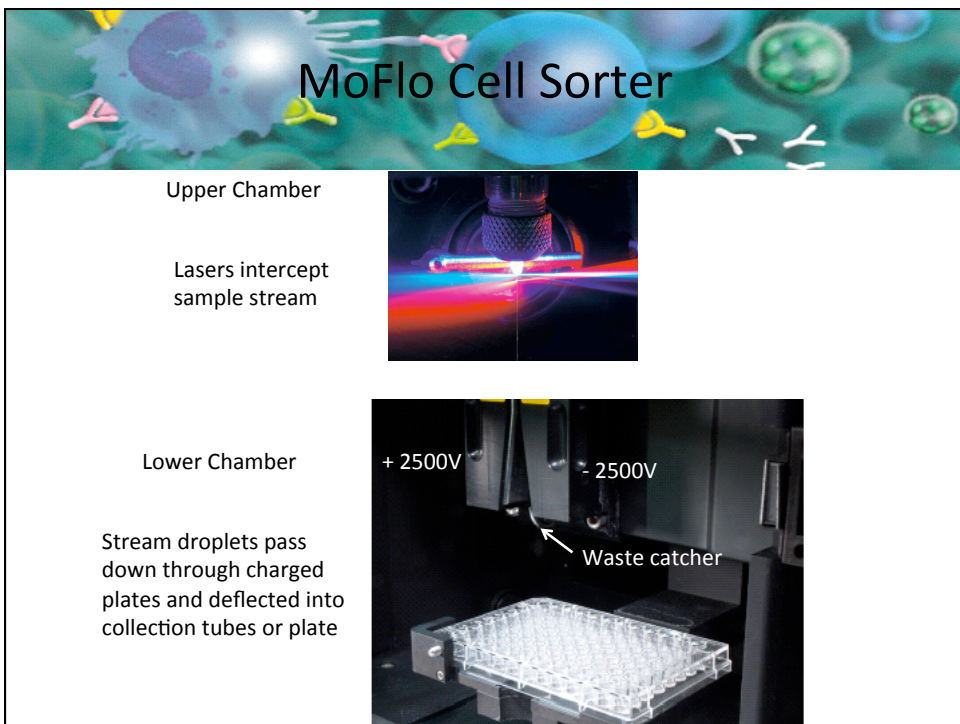
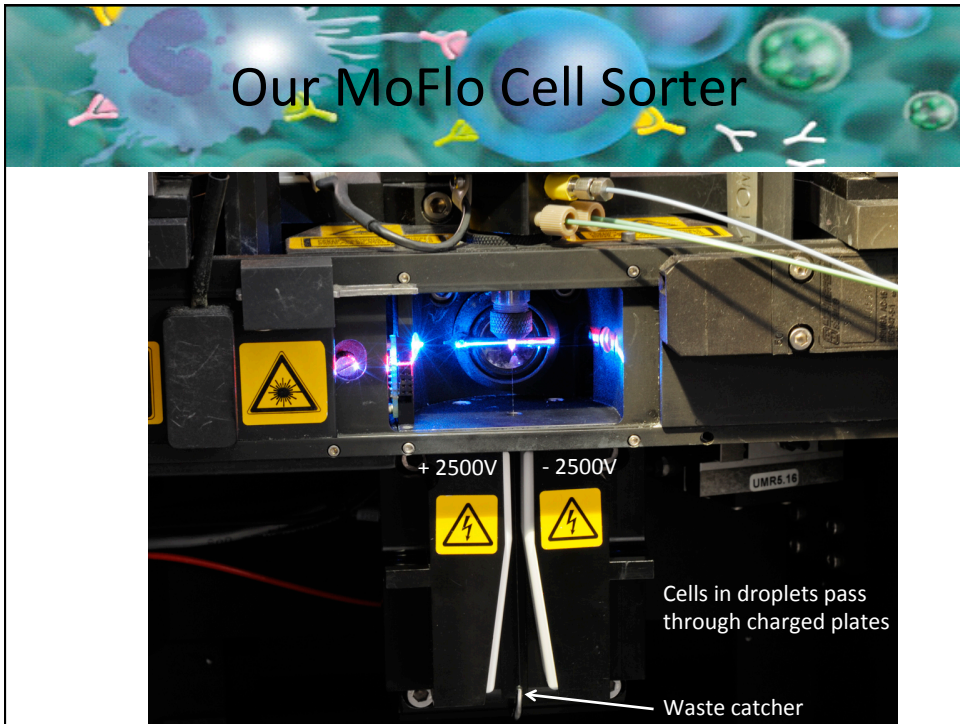
Stream view

The stream is vibrated at high frequency so that droplets are formed

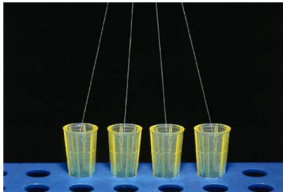

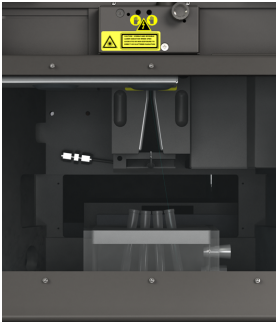
Droplets can be charged either

- Positive $+$
- Negative $-$





Sort into tubes, plates, whatever

Purify the population you want based on fluorescence and light scatter

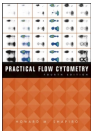
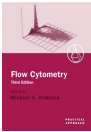
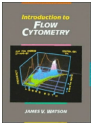

References

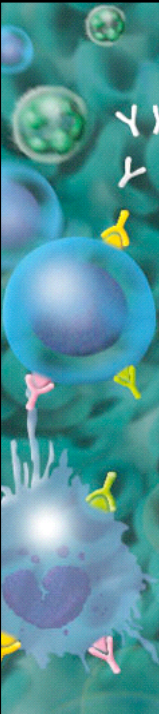
Reference Books:

- Practical Flow Cytometry. Howard M Shapiro (free pdf)
- Flow Cytometry A Practical Approach. MG Ormerod
- Cytometric Analysis of Cell Phenotype and Function. McCarthy & Macey
- Introduction to Flow Cytometry. JV Watson.

Web References:

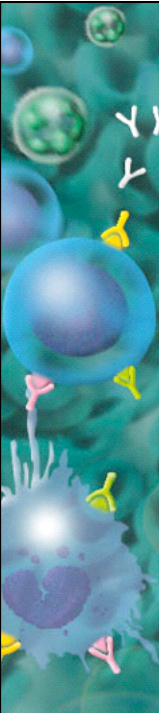
- FLOW CYTOMETRY A basic introduction. Michael G. Ormerod
<http://flowbook.denovosoftware.com/>

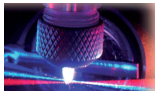


History

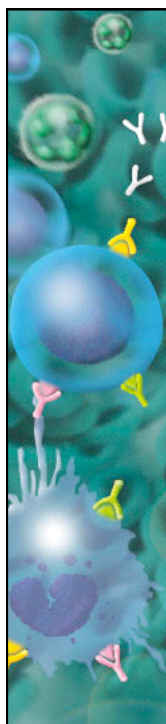
- 1965:** L. Kamensky (IBM Labs) and M. Fulwyler (Los Alamos Nat Lab) experimented with fluidic switching and electrostatic cell sorters.
- 1967:** Mack Fulwyler purified (>95%) blood granulocytes and lymphocytes by passing cells through a Coulter orifice, then breaking the stream into droplets which could be charged, and then deflected into a collection vessel as they passed between voltage plates
- 1967:** Kamensky built the Rapid Cell Spectrophotometer (RCS) a syringe pump based sorter which measured nucleic acid content of cervical cells and cells size by light scatter
- 1968:** First fluorescence-based flow cytometry device (ICP11) was developed by Wolfgang Göhde. Commercialized by German developer and manufacturer Partec through Phywe AG in Göttingen. The technology was termed Pulse Cytophotometry. Partec was acquired by Sysmex in 2013
- 1969:** Ethidium bromide first used by Dittrich and Göhde
- 1971:** The Cytofluorograph from Bio/Physice Systems Inc (later Ortho Diagnostics)
- 1972:** L. Herzenberg (Stanford) developed a cell sorter which separated cells stained with fluorescent antibodies.
- 1973:** Crissman and Steinkamp introduced Propidium Iodide



History



- 1973:** Crissman and Steinkamp introduced Propidium Iodide
- 1973:** PAS 8000 from Partec
- 1974:** first FACS instrument from Becton Dickinson
- 1974:** first commercial flow cytometric differential blood counter (Hemalog D)
- 1975:** the ICP22 from Partec/Phywe
- 1976:** Hoechst dyes introduced by Latt and Stetten
- 1977/78:** The Epics from Coulter
- 1977:** Stohr introduced DAPI
- 1978:** The term Flow Cytometry was coined at the Conference of the American Engineering Foundation in Pensacola, Florida

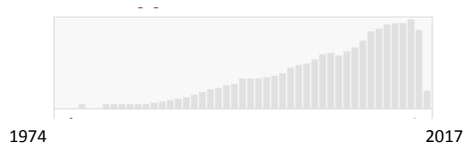


Growth in Flow Cytometric Studies

March 5th 2010: PubMed search on

"flow cytometry" : 107,139 citations (March 5th 2010)
: 179,485 citations (March 8th 2016)
"cytometry" : 110,489 citations (March 5th 2010)
: 184,309 citations (March 8th 2016)

First citation on both lists: 1974 paper by Mack Fulwyler



The Society for Analytical Cytology, founded in 1978, established Cytometry as its journal title from the beginning, but only recently changed its name to the International Society for the Advancement of Cytometry.

