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## A Highly Compact Lensless High-Resolution Optofluidic Microscope (OFM)



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#### **Redesigning the microscope**

We abandon the conventional microscopy design and uses a novel aperture array for high resolution cell-level imaging.



X. Cui et. al, PNAS, **105**, 10670 (2008)



#### **Overview**

- Motivation
- Intensity contrast OFM
  - (a) Gravity driven OFM (GD OFM)
    - Automated and quantitative OFM microscopy
    - Phenotype characterization of C. elegans
    - Resolution issue
  - (b) Electrokinetic OFM (EK OFM)
    - Spherical/ellipsoidal cells imaging
- Conclusions and future directions



#### **Motivation**



## **Conventional optical microscopy**

#### **Advantages:**

- Noninvasive
- High resolution
- Comprehensive microscopy information
- Gold diagnosis standard

#### **Disadvantages:**

- Bulky
- Expensive







X. Heng, Lab on a Chip, 6, 1274 (2006)

## **Advantages of OFM**

#### • On-chip high resolution imaging

- Compact
- Low cost

#### • Microfluidics

- Sharp projection
- Bio-friendly
- High efficiency and throughput
- Automatic operation



#### C. elegans images



#### **Intensity contrast OFM**



#### **Complete on-chip OFM**



X. Cui et. al, PNAS, **105**, 10670 (2008)



### **Gravity driven OFM (GD OFM)**





*C. elegans* flowing in OFM (top view)

- Complete on-chip device
- Self-sustained flow
- Bio-compatible



## **Automated and quantitative OFM microscopy**





## **Resolution comparison**



C. elegans

#### **OFM** imaging parameters:

- Illumination:
  - ~ 20 mW/cm<sup>2</sup> white light, the intensity of sunlight
- CMOS sensor line rate:
- 1k fps
- Specimen velocity (V): ~500 µm/s
- Sampling grid:
  δX = δY =0.5 μm
- Aperture size (D):
  1 μm
- Microfluidic channel: width 50 µm, height 15 µm

# **OFM** has comparable resolution as a conventional microscope.



#### Phenotype characterization of C. elegans



#### **Performed automated**

#### phenotype characterization

- a) Automated
- b) Image 1 worm / 2.5 sec
- c) Computerized worm length and area measurement
- d) Drop and go



#### **Resolution Issues**



Prototype resolution = 0.9 microns (Sparrow's Criterion)



15 micron tall channel

25 micron tall channel

#### Shallow channels give better images.



## **Electrokinetic OFM (EK OFM)**

(Collaborated with Lap Man Lee)



- Spherical/ellipsoidal cells imaging
- Easy to be integrated on a chip



#### **Electrokinetic Drive: Why?**







- 1. EK enables uniform cell transportation.
- 2. Electroorientation aligns cells.



### **On-chip EK OFM**



#### **Conclusions and future directions**



#### **Conclusions**

- Created world's smallest high resolution microscope on a single chip
- Automated & parallelizable on-chip cell microscopy method
- The low cost and compactness of OFM can change the way we use microscopes





Chlamy



C. elegans



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