

Applications of Thermal Lens Spectrometry and Microscopy

Bio-imaging and bioanalysis

Mladen Franko

University of Nova Gorica

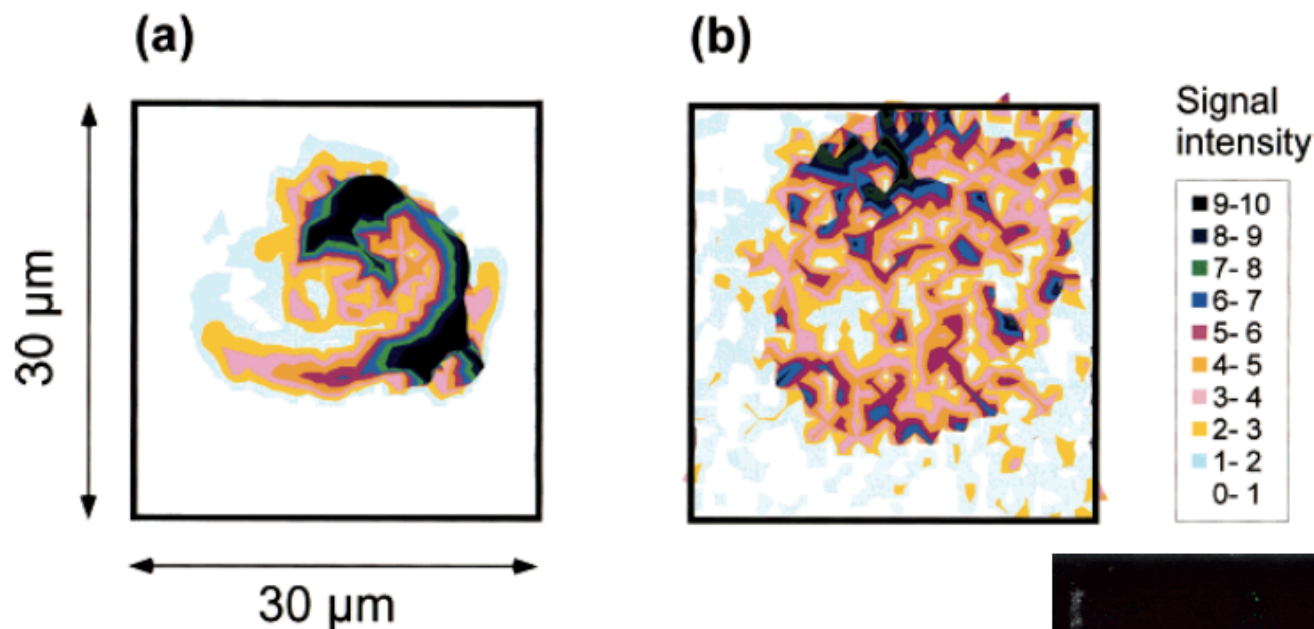
WINTER COLLEGE ON OPTICS:

Advanced Optical Techniques for Bio-imaging

ICTP, Trieste: February 13th -24th, 2017



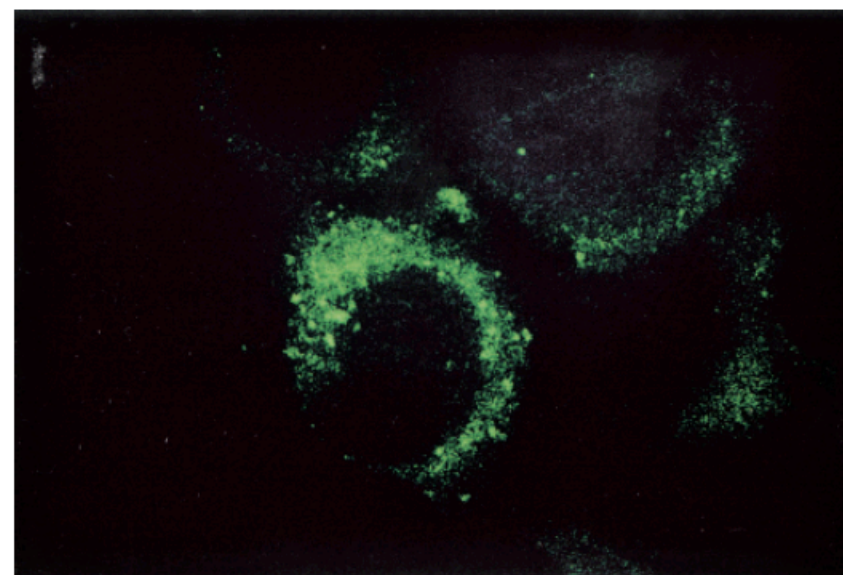
Single-Cell Analysis in a Microchip by a Scanning TLS Microscope



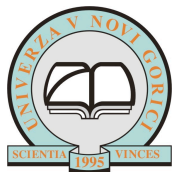
- Cytochrome c distribution during apoptosis

E. Tamaki et. al:

Anal. Chem. 2002, **74**, 1560-1564.

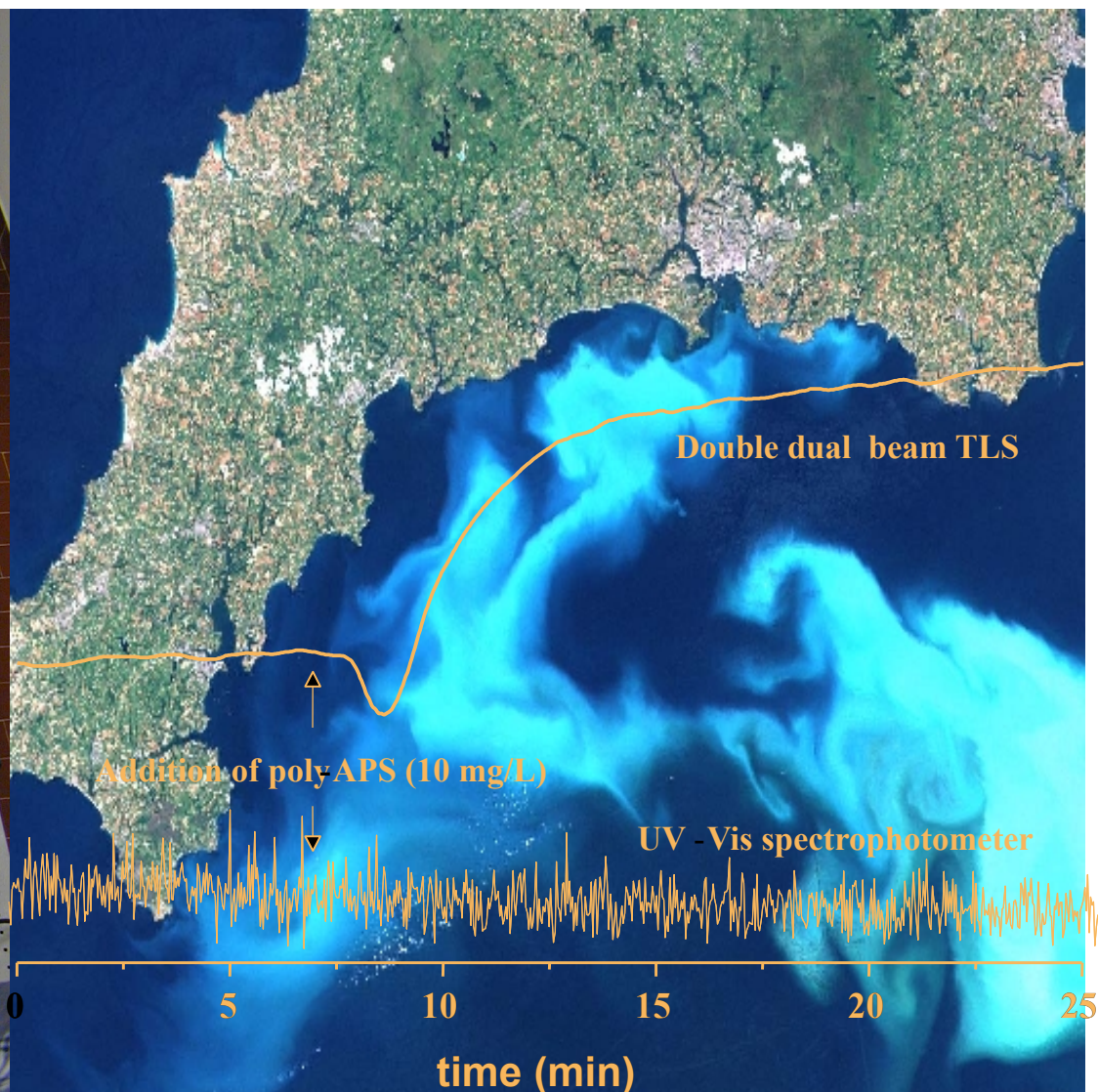
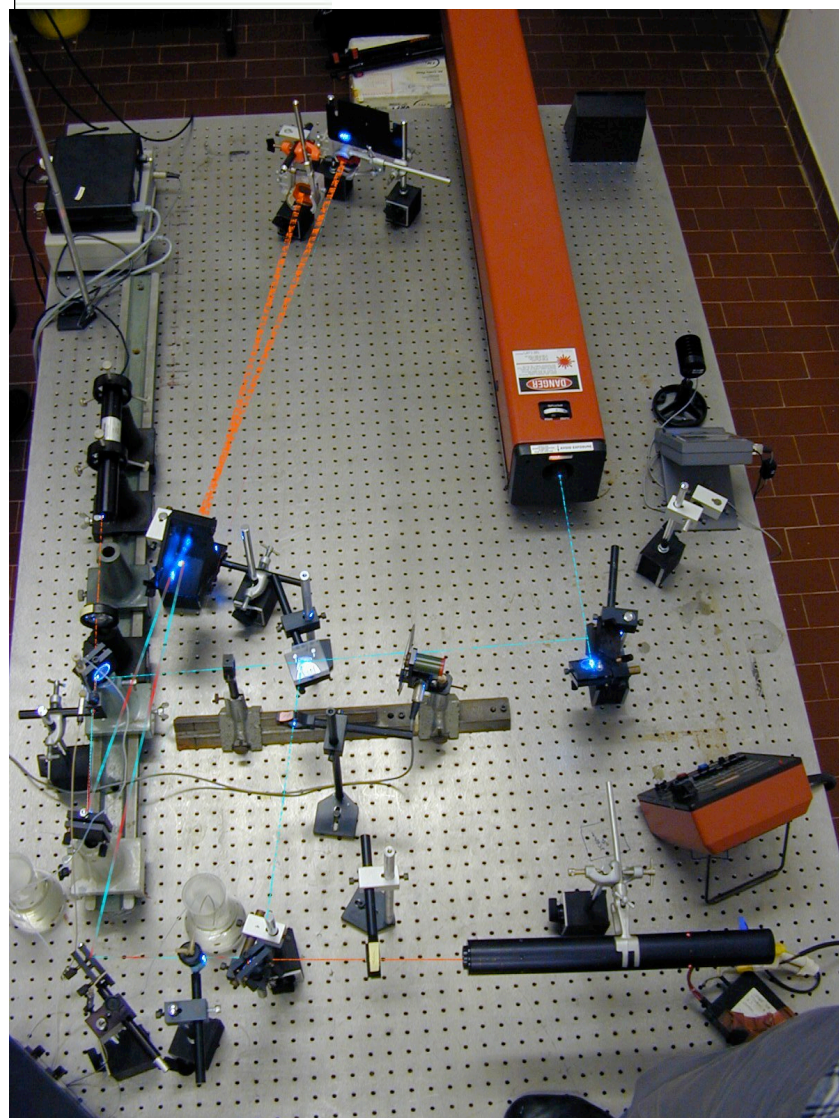


5 μm

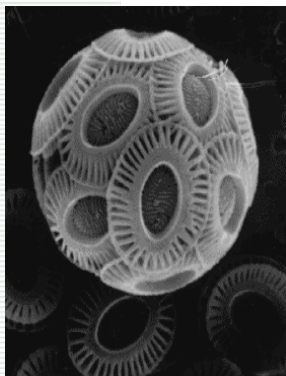


Advantages of TLS: extremely high sensitivity, small sample capability

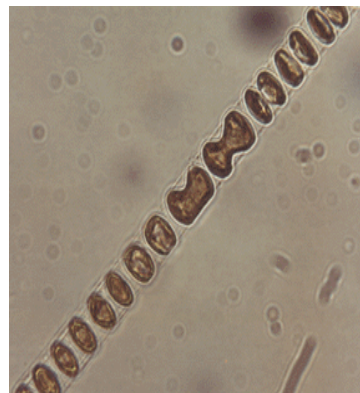
(100 – 1000 times lower LOD than SF)



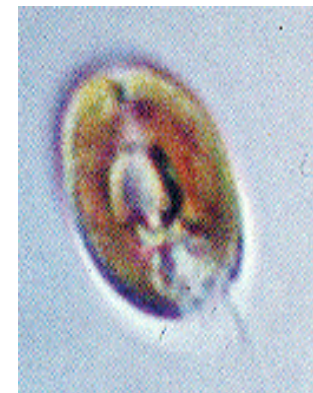
Investigated species of phytoplankton



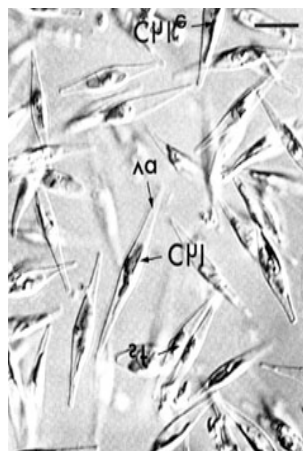
Emiliana huxleyi



Skeletonema costatum



Chromonas salina



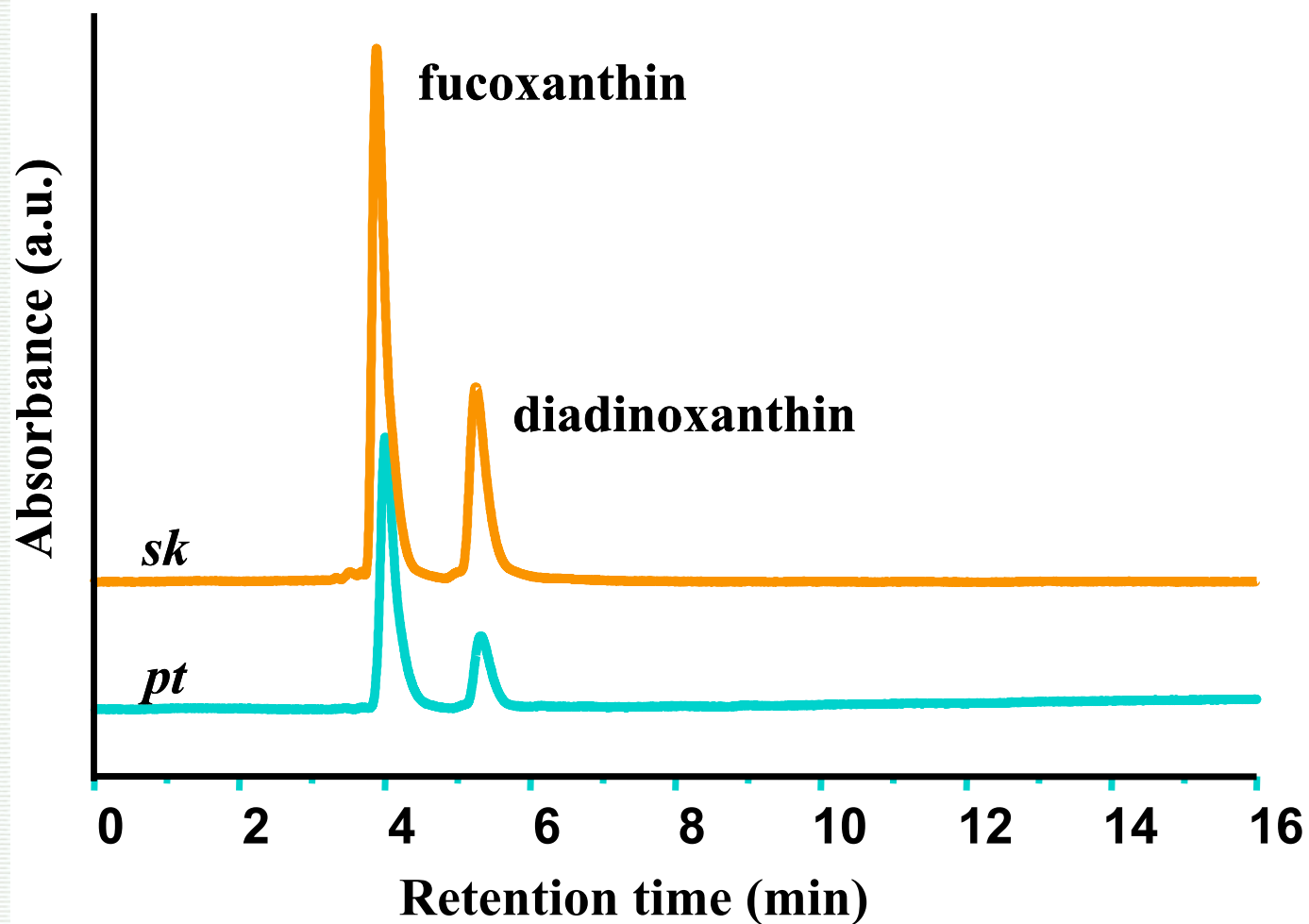
Phaeodactylum tricornutum



Amphidinium carterae

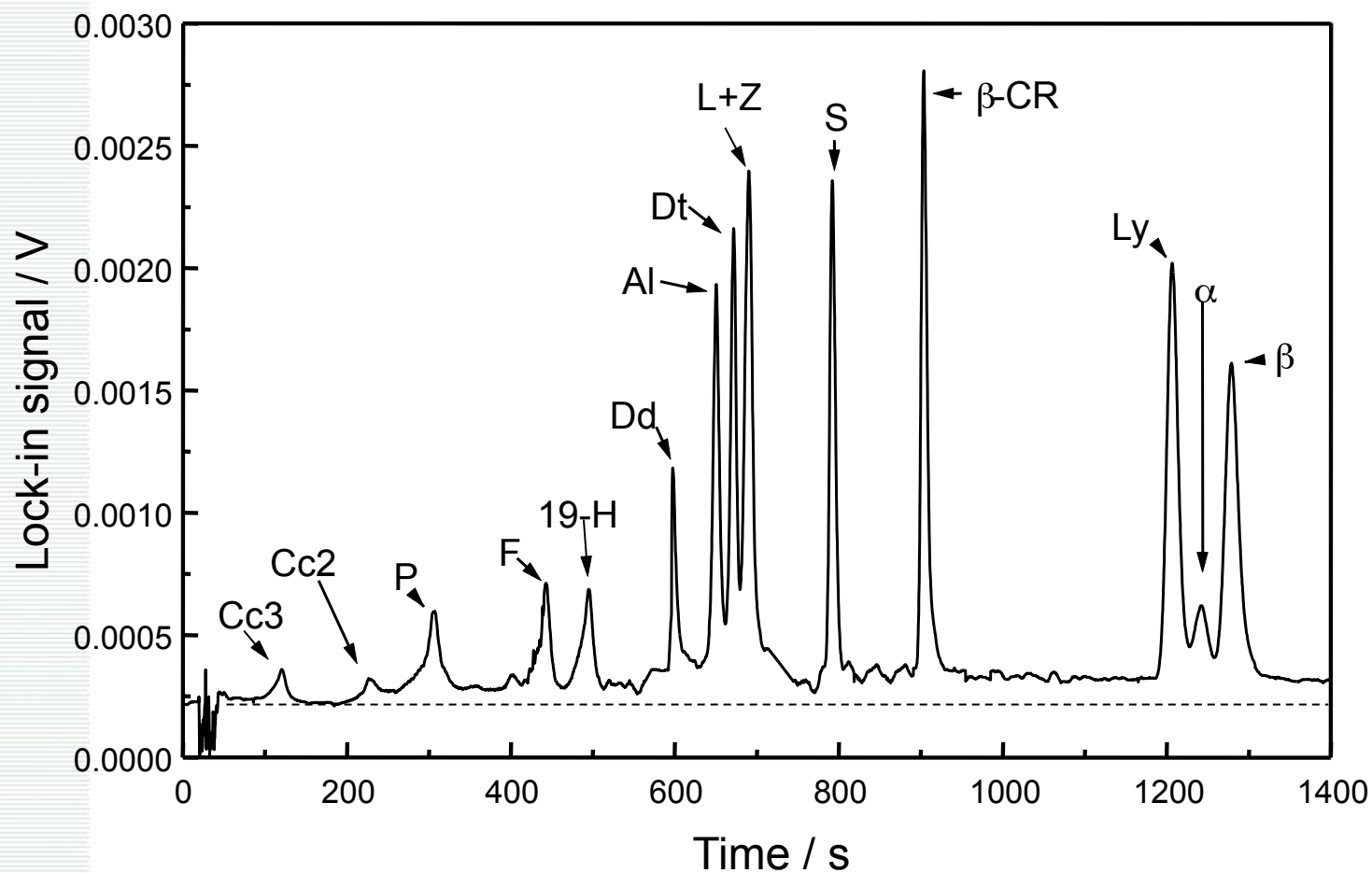


Carotenoids in diatoms



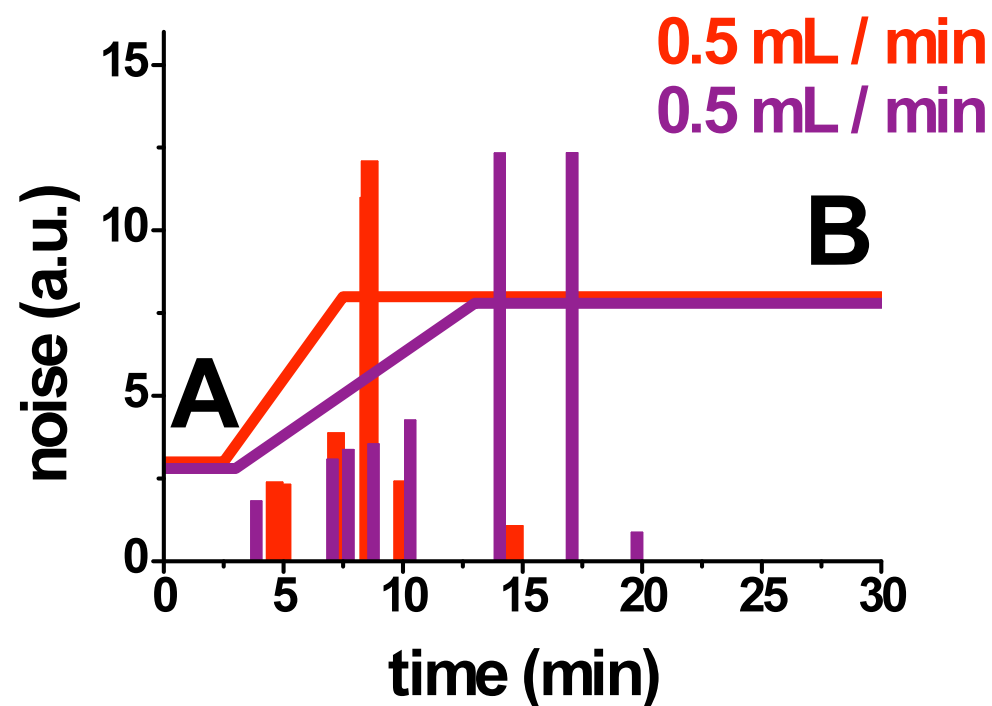
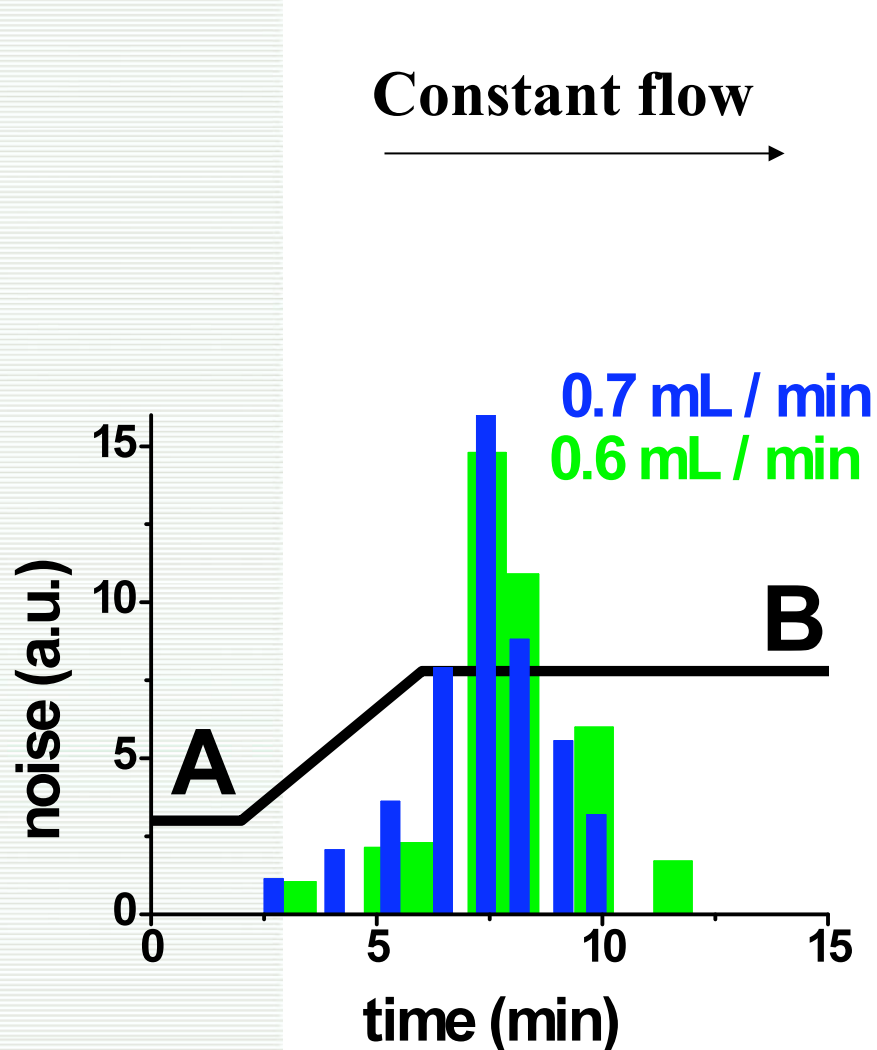


HPLC-TLS chromatogram of a mixed standard of carotenoids and chlorophylls





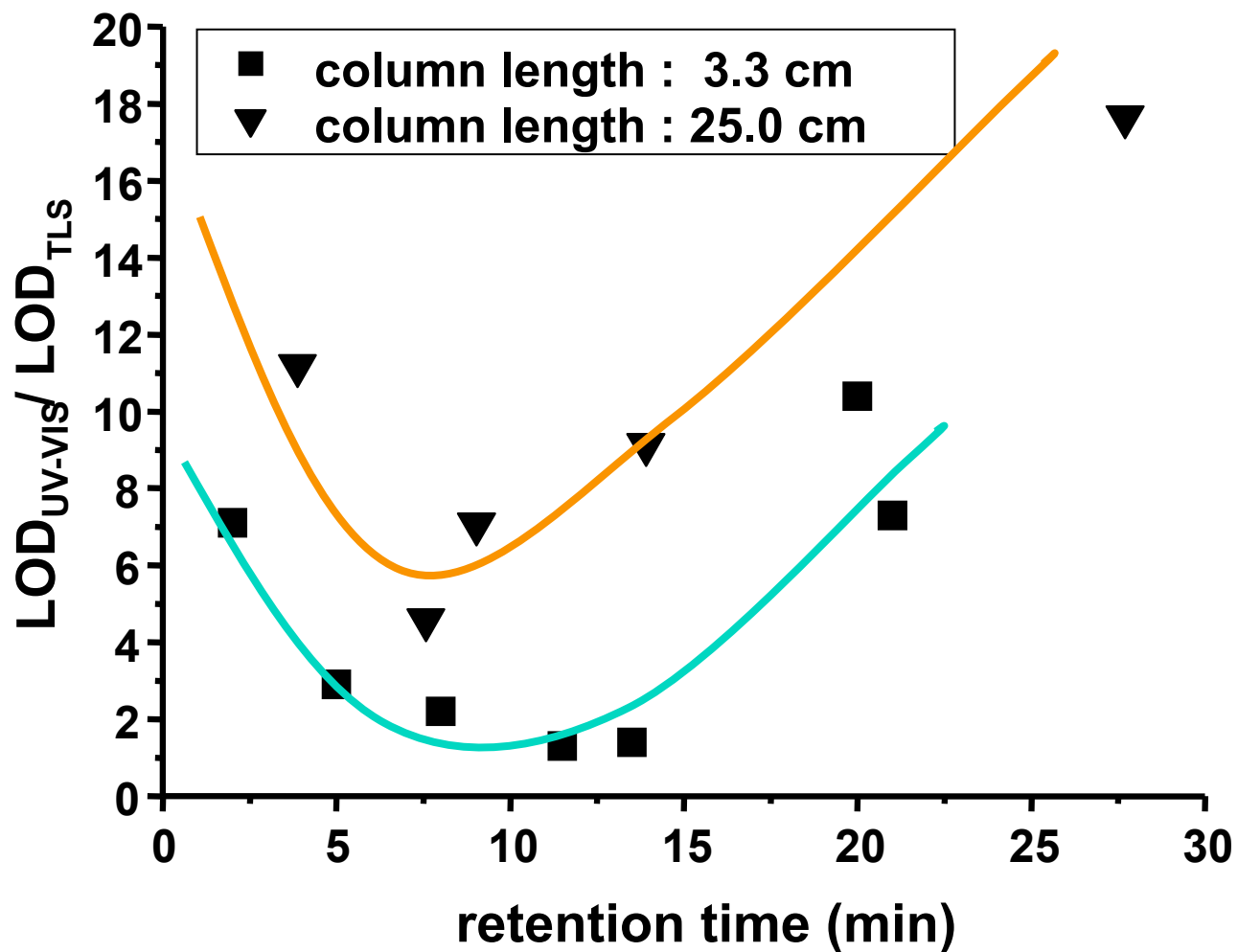
Signal noise in gradient HPLC-TLS



Constant gradient protocol



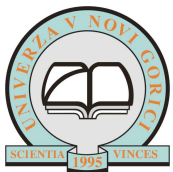
$\text{LOD}_{\text{UV-Vis}} / \text{LOD}_{\text{TLS}}$ (gradient HPLC)



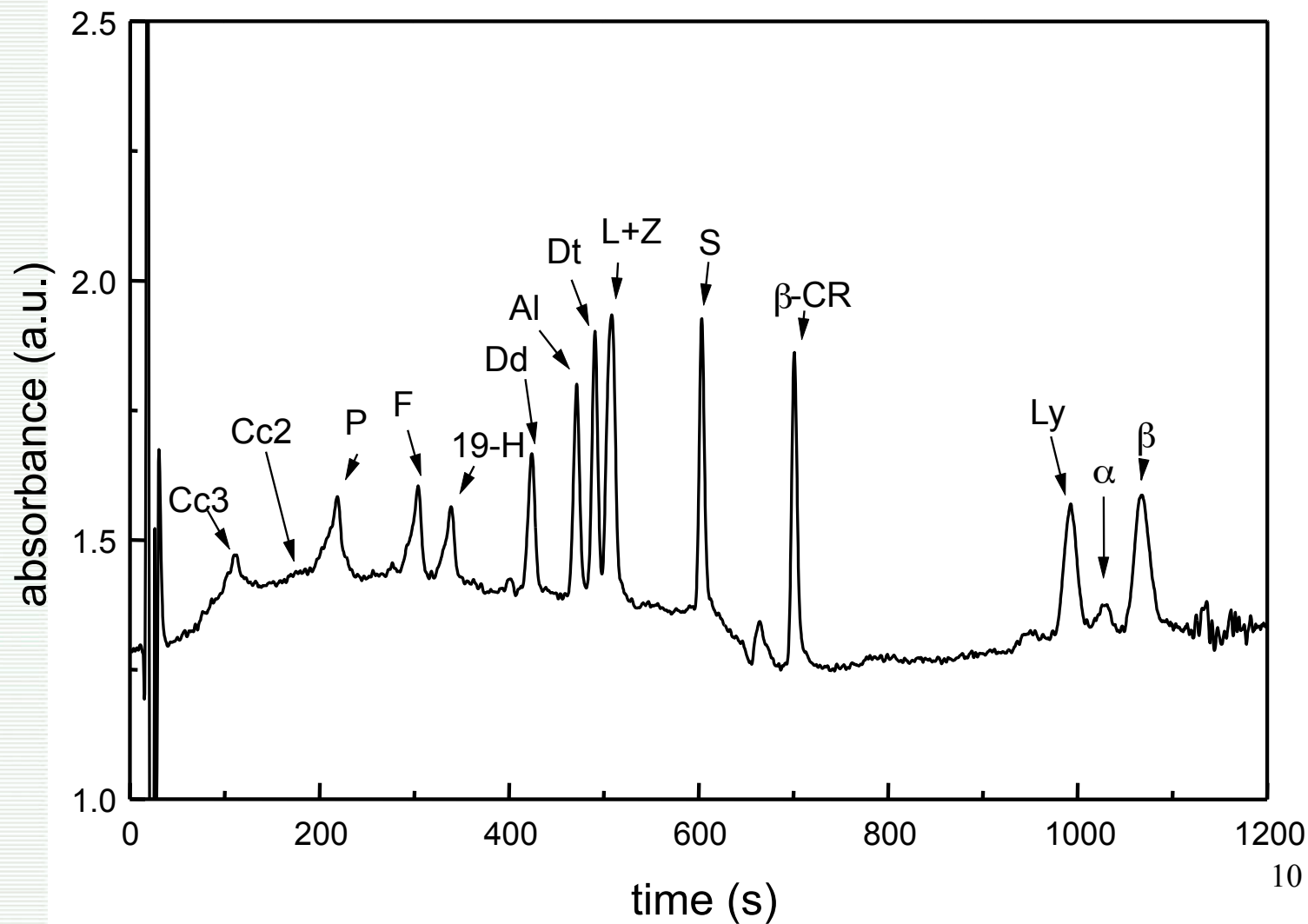


LODs for carotenoids and chlorophylls in gradient and isocratic HPLC-TLS

| | gradient | isocratic |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| • β -cryptoxanthyn | 0.1 μgL^{-1} | 0.07 μgL^{-1} |
| • lycopene | 0.2 μgL^{-1} | 0.12 μgL^{-1} |
| • peridinin | 0.5 μgL^{-1} | - |
| • chlorophyll | > 1 μgL^{-1} | |

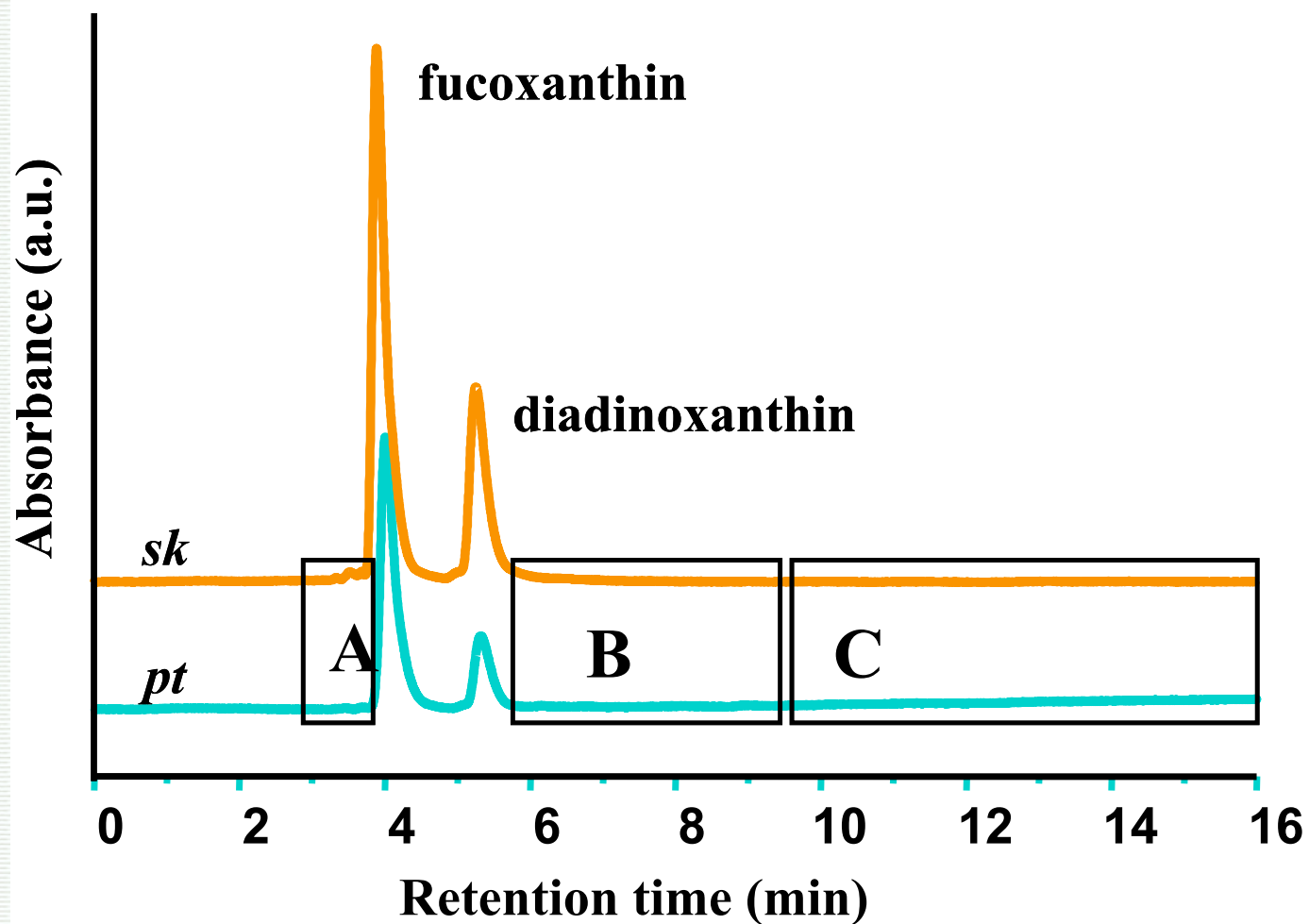


HPLC/UV-Vis chromatogram of a mixed standard of carotenoids and chlorophylls



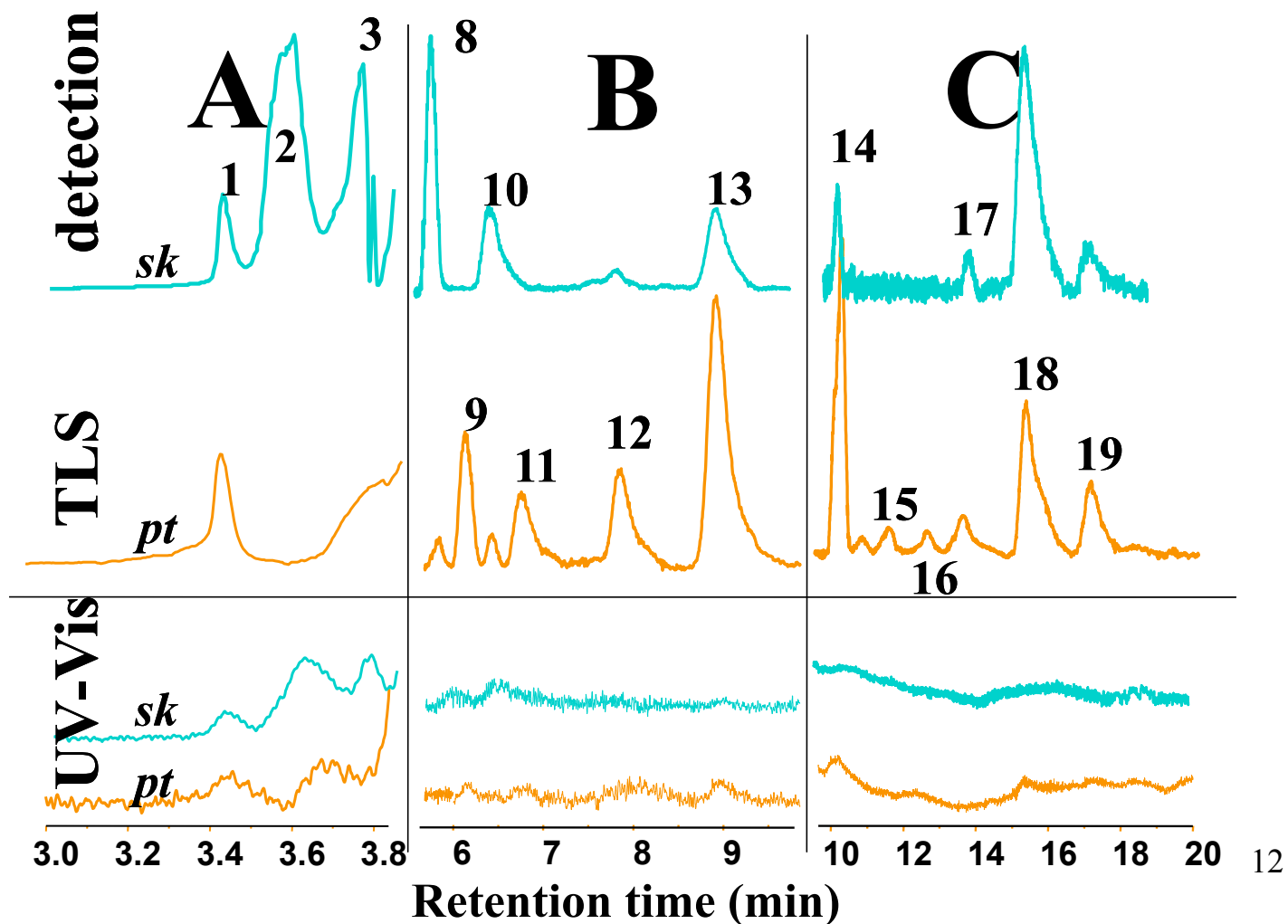


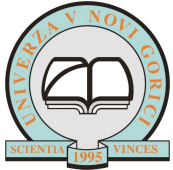
Carotenoids in diatoms



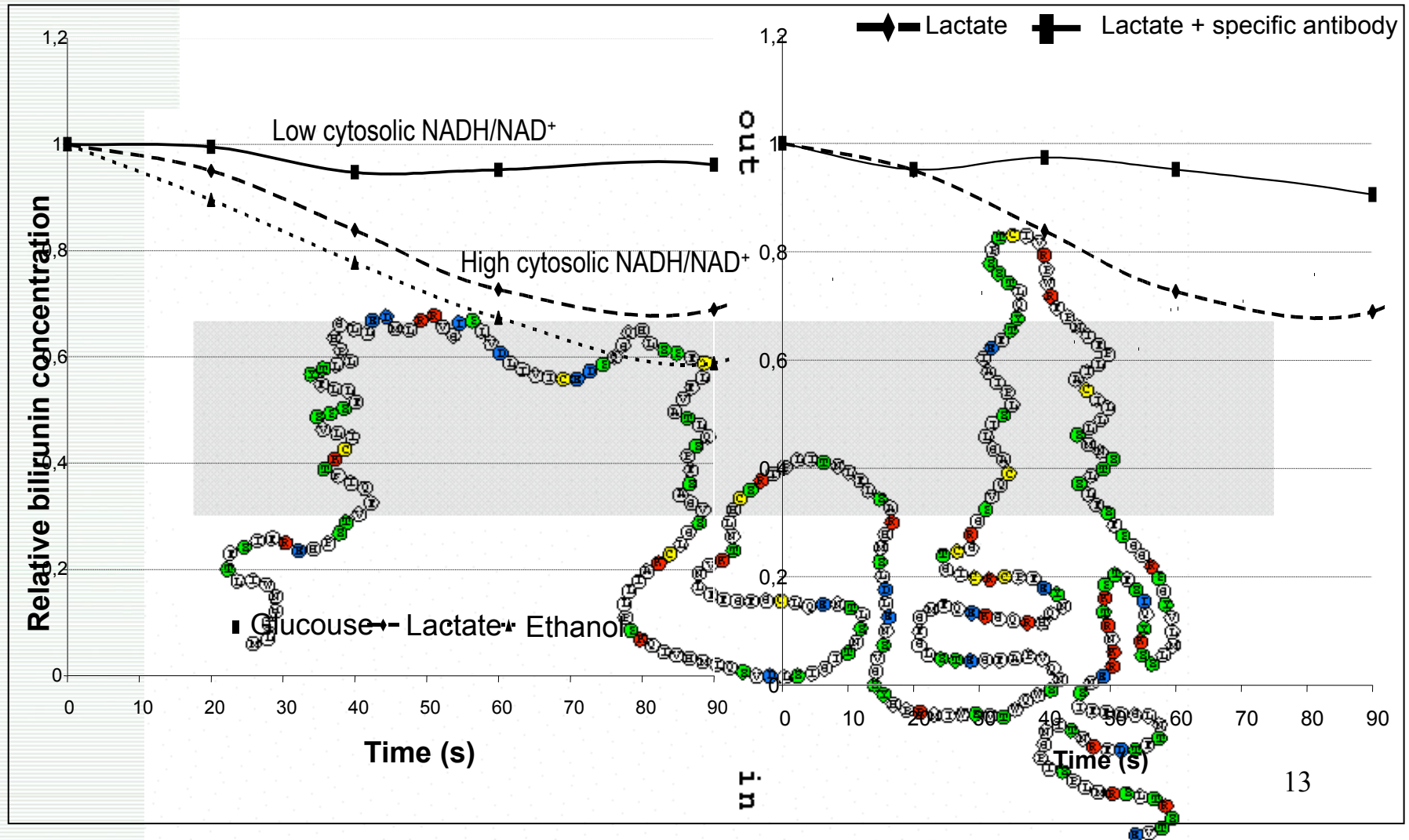


Detection of minor and trace carotenoids in diatoms



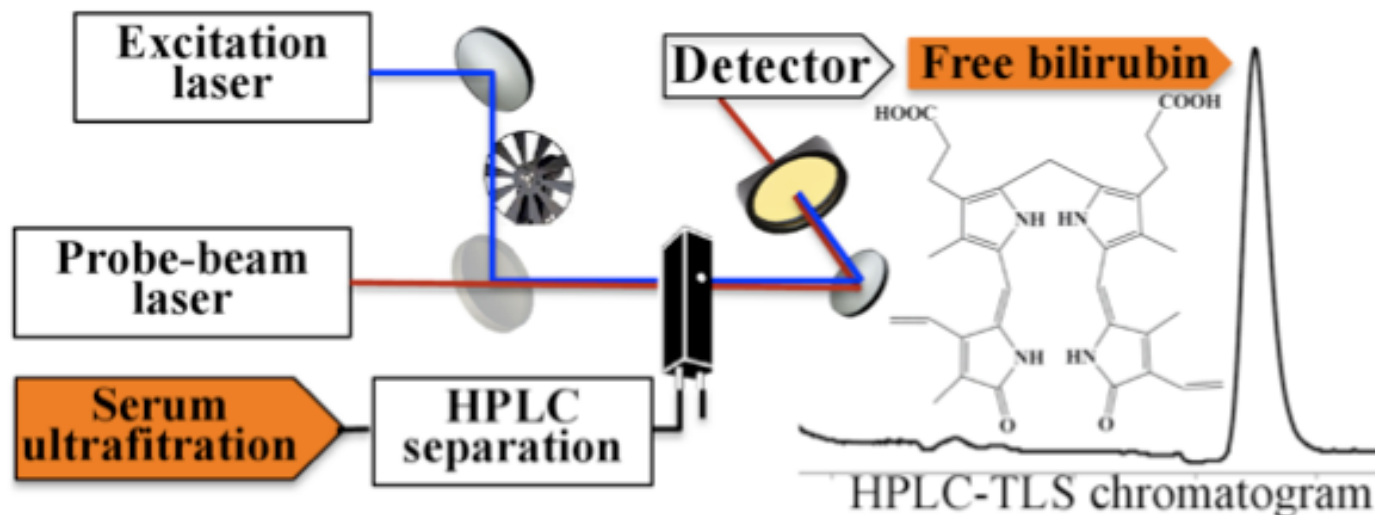


The role of BTL in the transport of antioxidants across the cellular wall





Improvement of selectivity by separation techniques (HPLC, IC)



LOD: 90 pM

LOQ: 250 pM

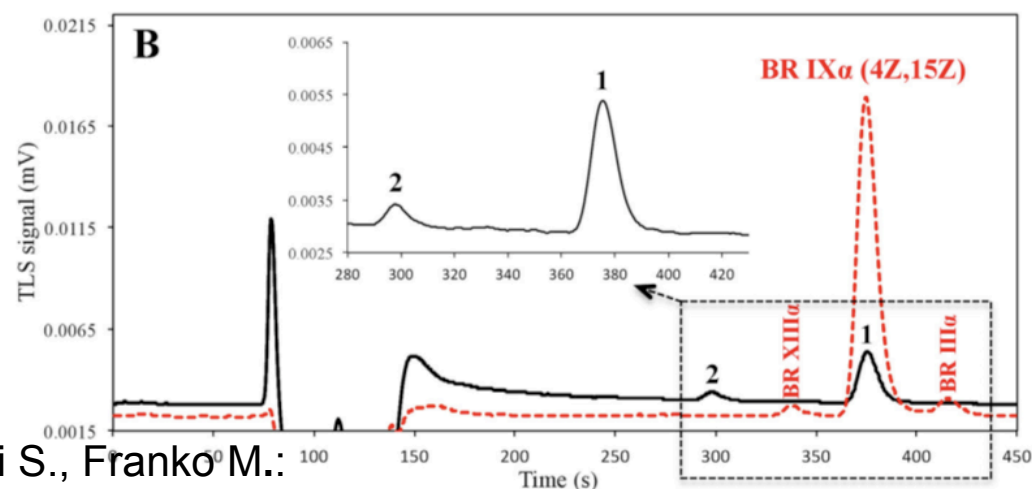
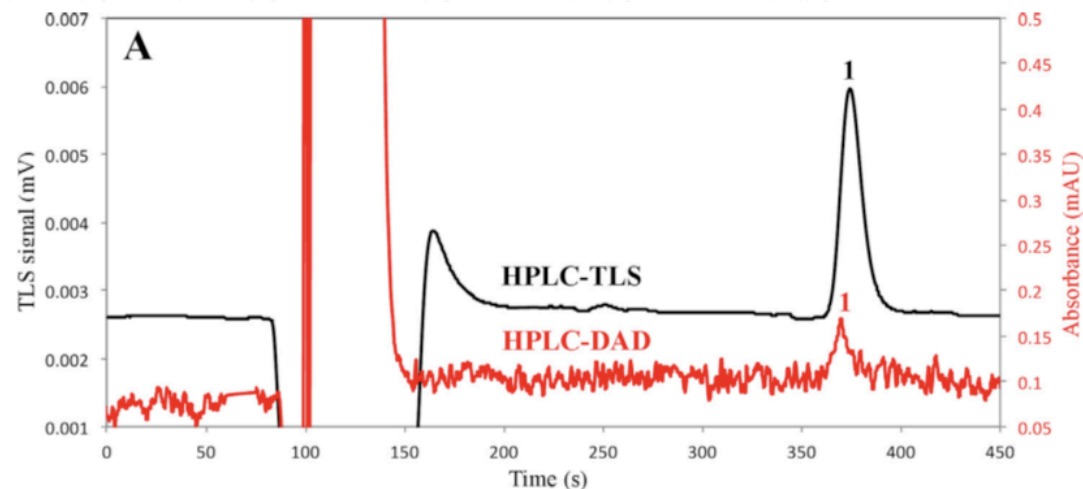
Martelanc M., Žiberna L., Passamonti S., Franko M.:
Anal. Chim. Acta **809**, 2014, 174–182.



Free bilirubin in blood serum samples

| Serum samples | Male (aged 25) | Male (aged 30) | Male (aged 32) | FBSHI | FCSHI |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Serum free bilirubin (nM) | 13.1 ± 1.1 | 9.1 ± 0.6 | 8.5 ± 0.7 | 13.6 ± 1.2 | 17.3 ± 1.3 |

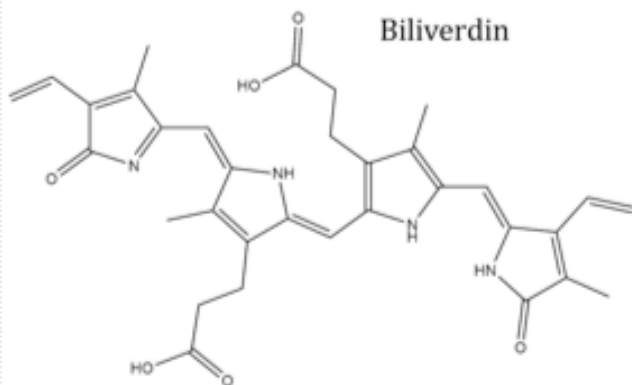
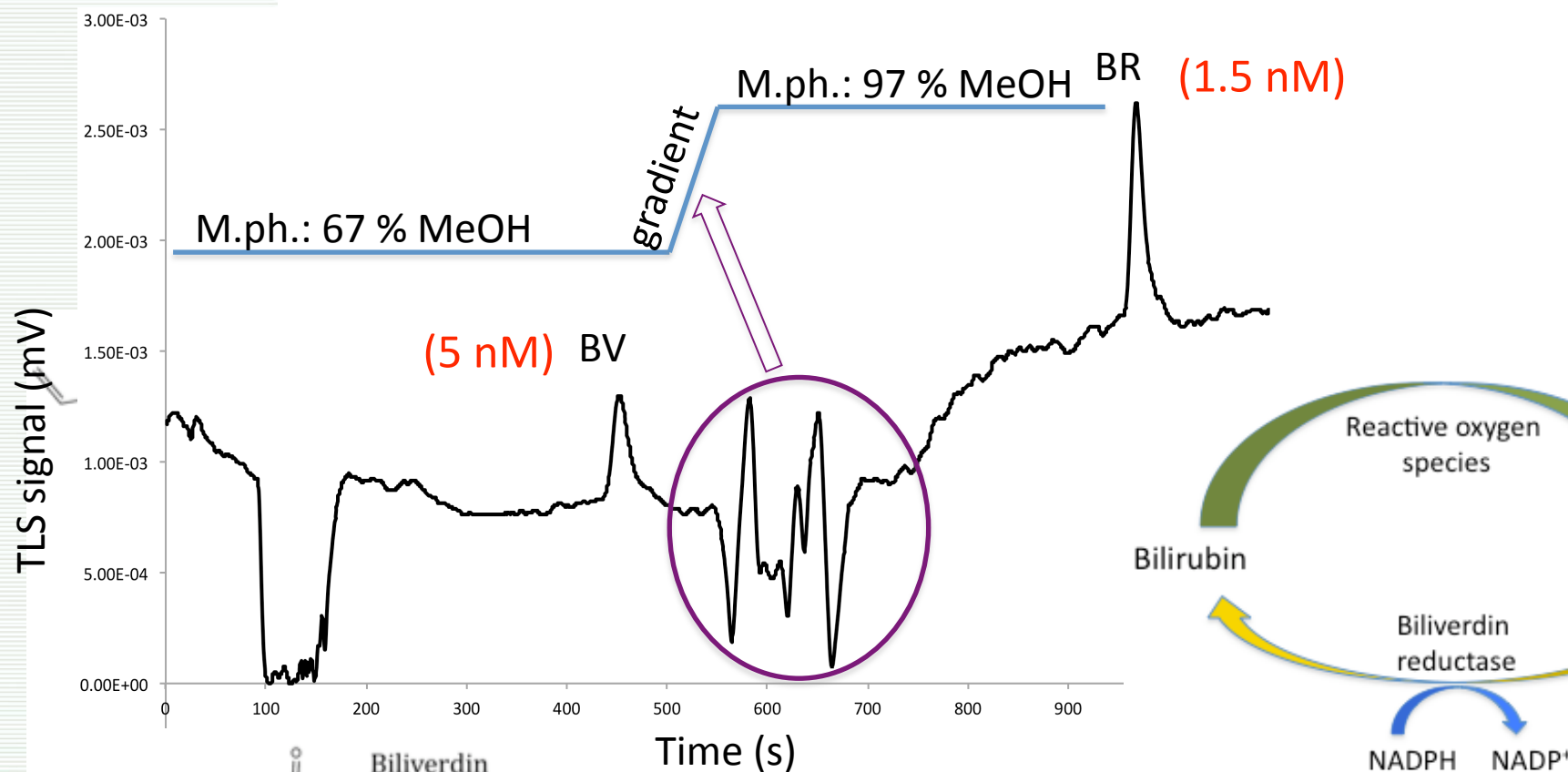
LOD: 90 pM
LOQ: 250 pM



Martelanc M., Žiberna L., Passamonti S., Franko M.:
Anal. Chim. Acta **809**, 2014, 174–182.



Simultaneous determination of bilirubin and biliverdin



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Talanta 154(2016)92–98

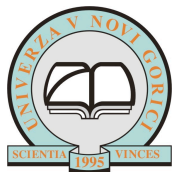
journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/talanta



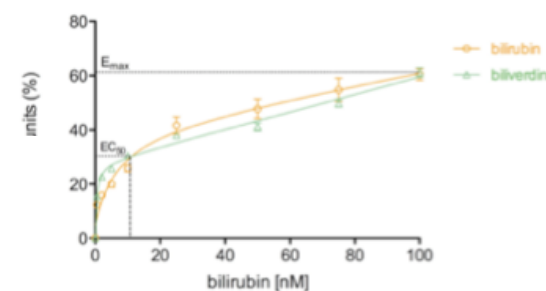
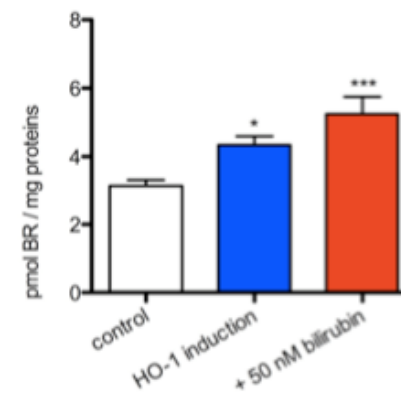
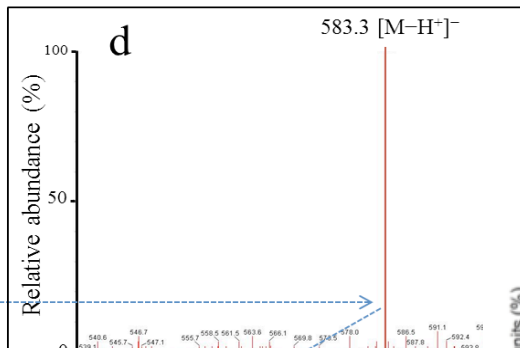
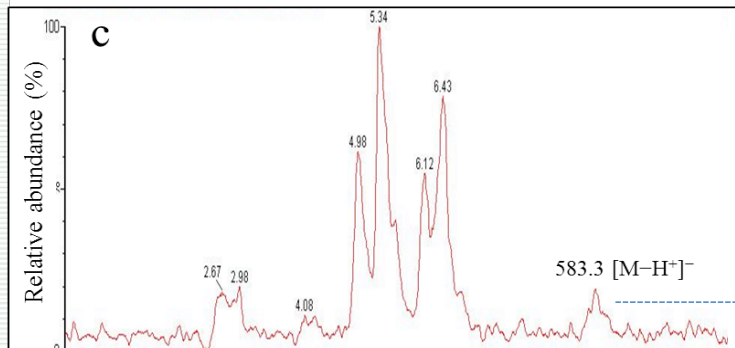
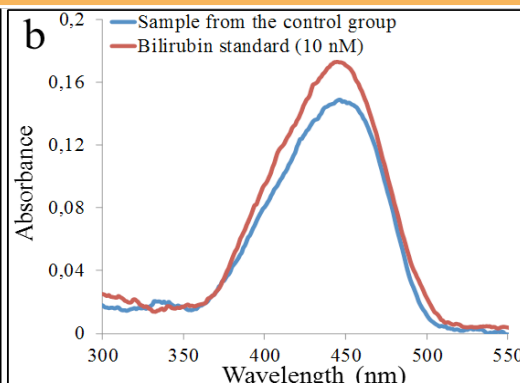
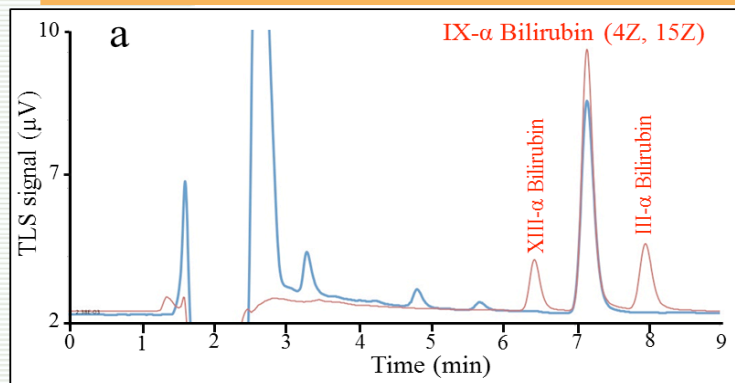
Application of high-performance liquid chromatography combined with ultra-sensitive thermal lens spectrometric detection for simultaneous biliverdin and bilirubin assessment at trace levels in human serum



Mitja Martelanc^a, Lovro Žibera^b, Sabina Passamonti^b, Mladen Franko^{a,*}



First detection and modulation of bilirubin in vascular endothelial cells



SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN

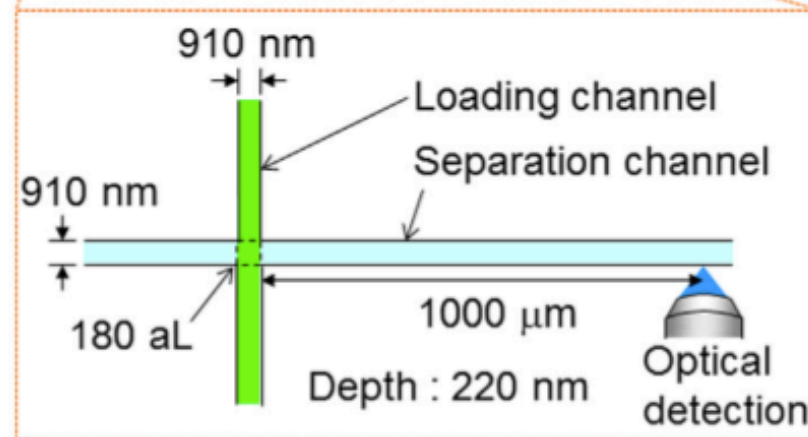
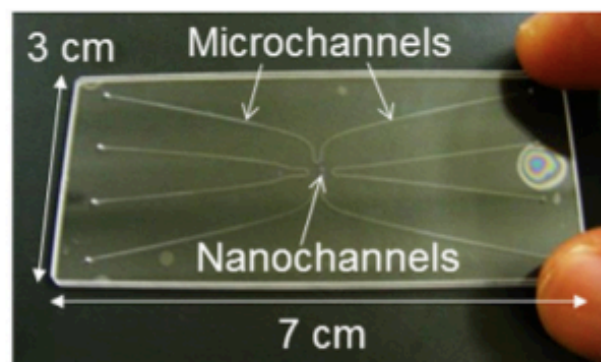
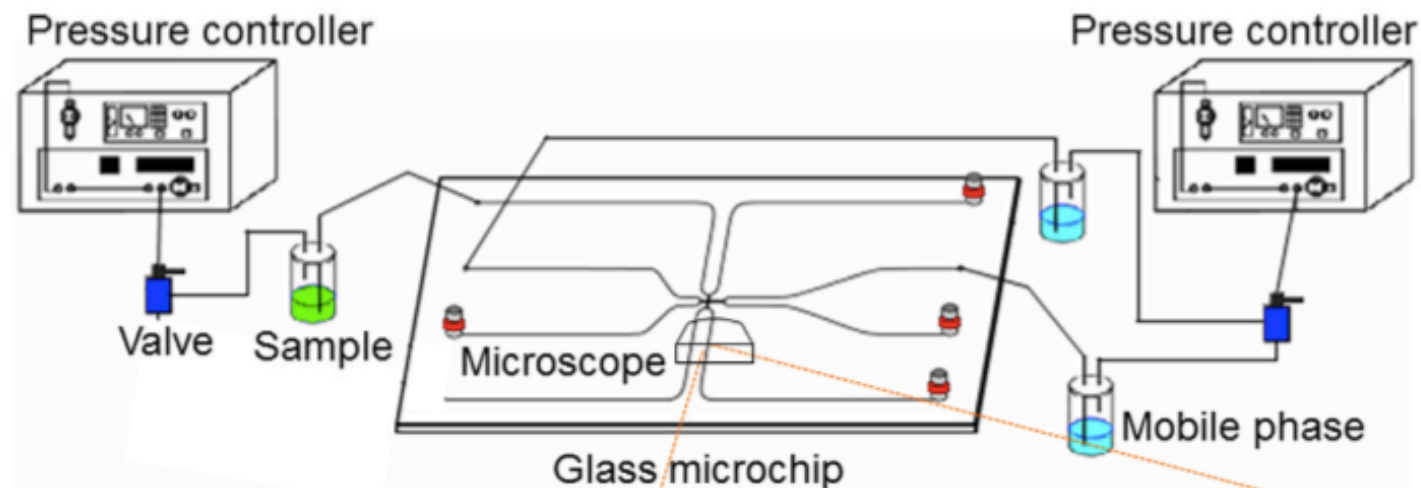
Bilirubin is an Endogenous Antioxidant in Human Vascular Endothelial Cells

Received: 29 December 2015
Accepted: 14 June 2016

Lovro Zibera^{1,2}, Mitja Martelanc³, Mladen Franko³ & Sabina Passamonti¹

Scientific Reports 6:29240
DOI: 10.1038/srep29240

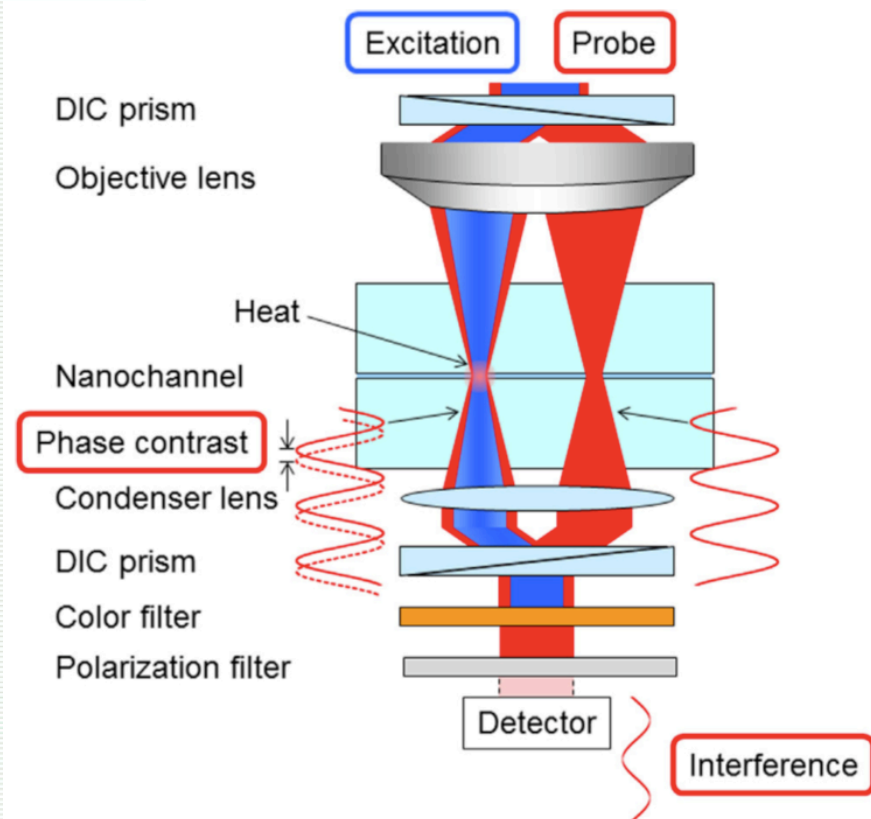
HPLC in extended nano-space



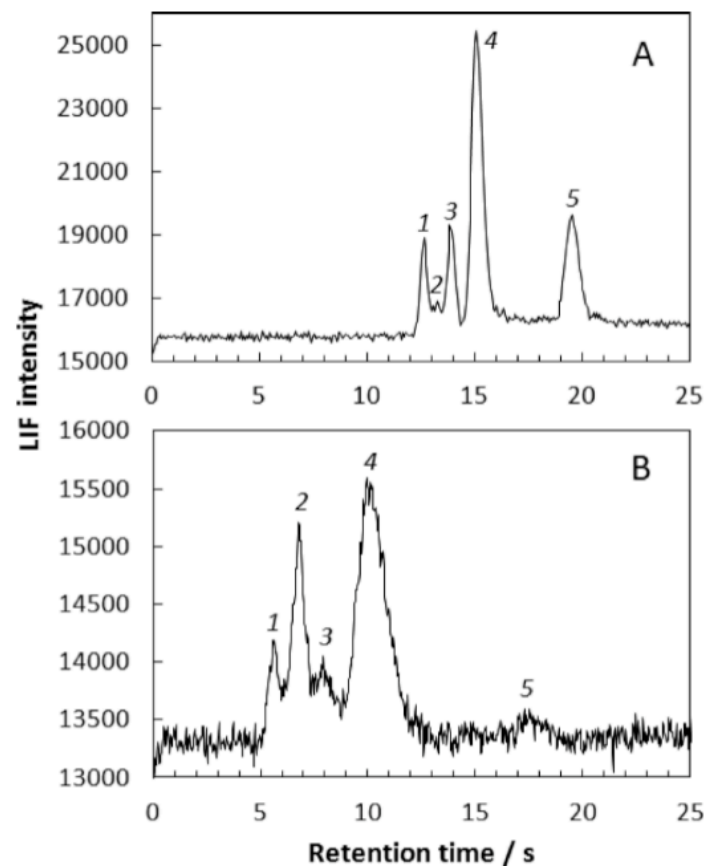
Schematic image of nanochannels



Differential interference contrast thermal lens microscope



LOD: 370 molecules in a 350-nm-deep microchannel few μM i.e. 10-100 ppb

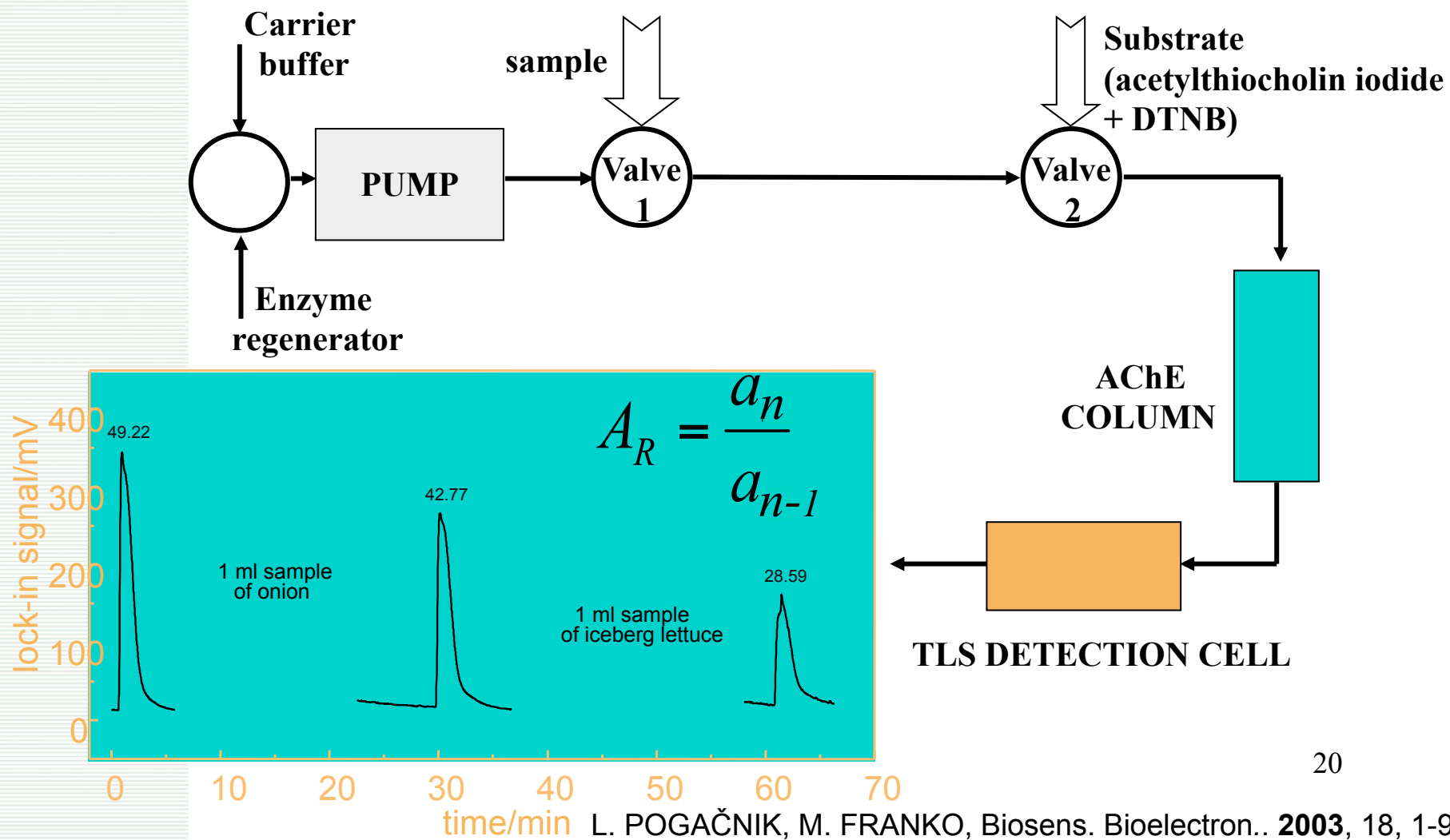


Separation of NBD-F derivatized amino acids: 1- serine, 2 - NBD-OH, 3 – alanine, 4 – proline, 5 – valine

From: A. Smirnova et al. Anal. Sci. 31(2015)1201

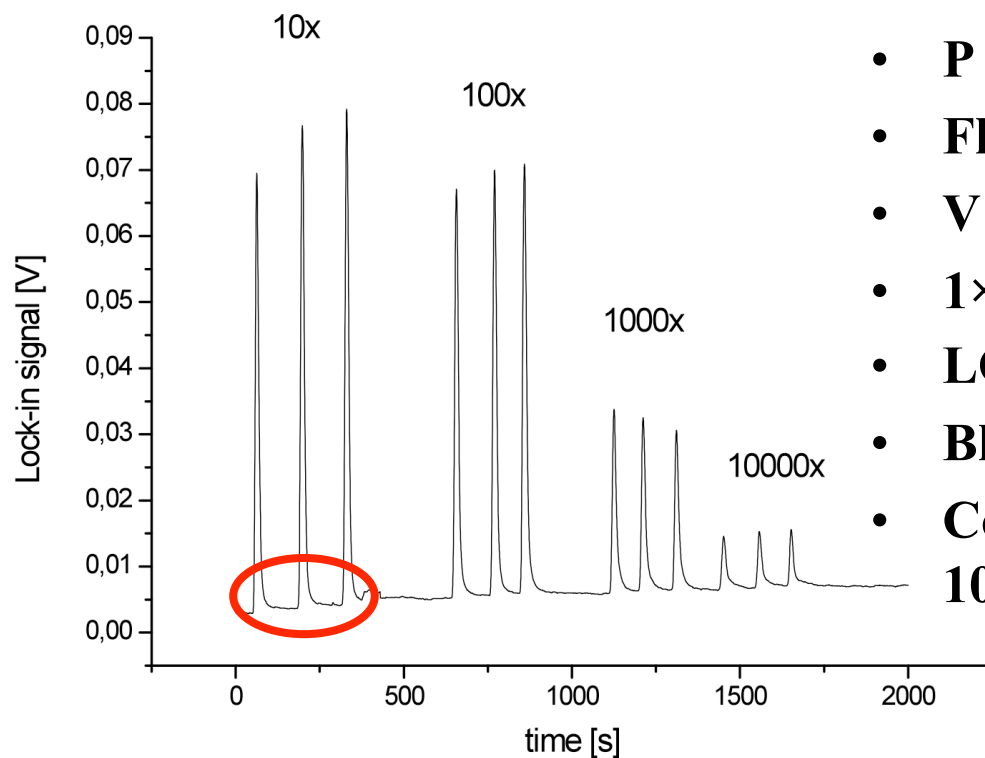
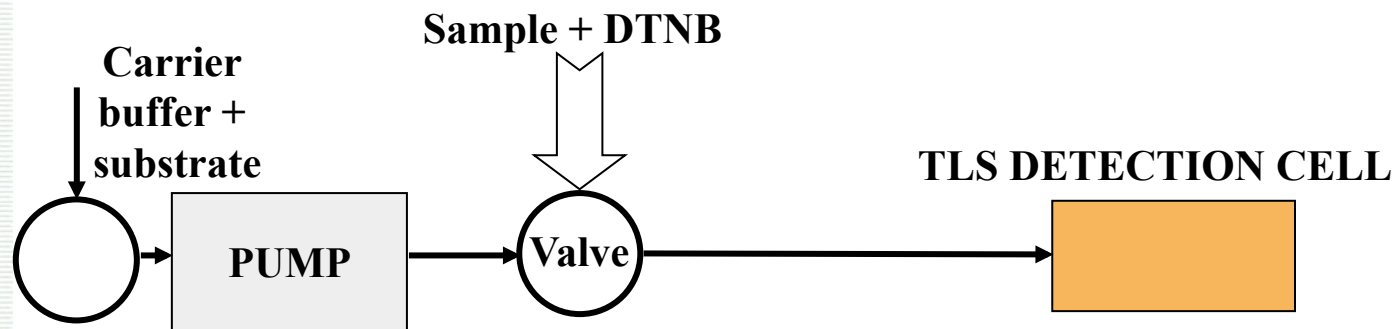


Bioanalytical FIA system

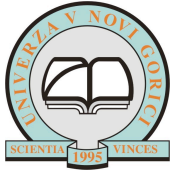




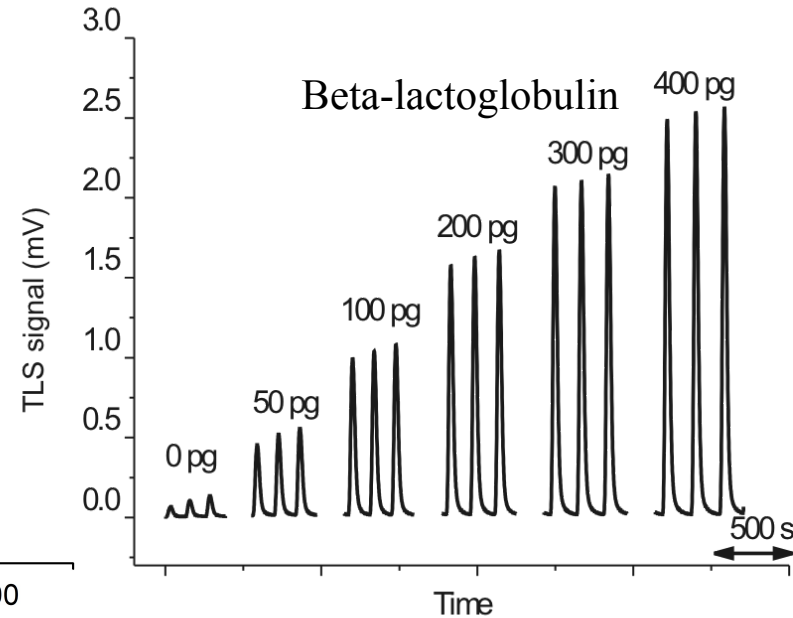
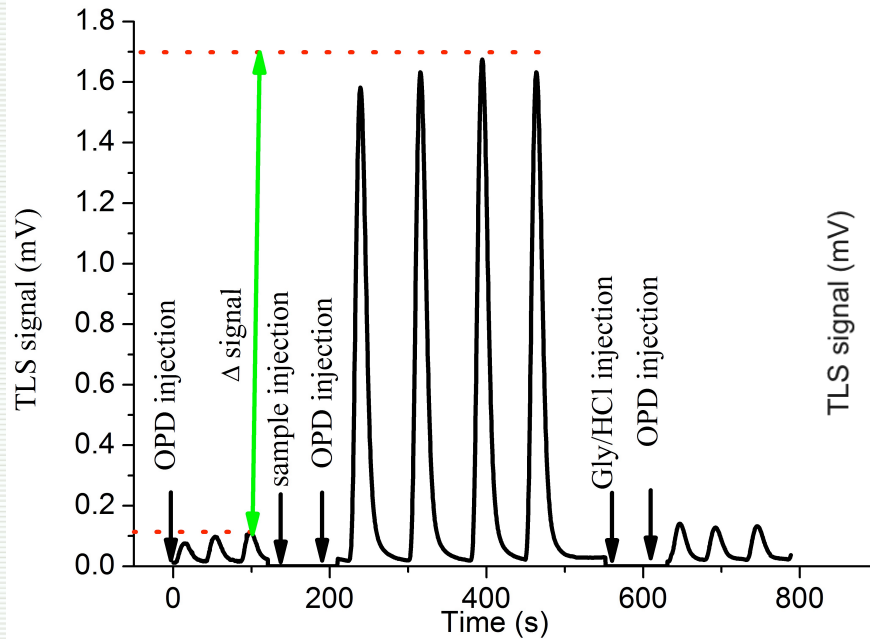
FIA-TLS for determination of AChE activity in human blood



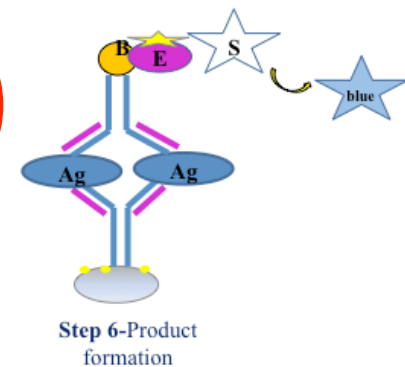
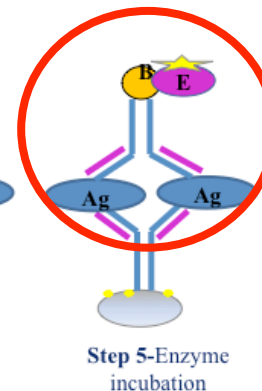
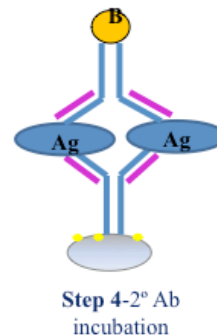
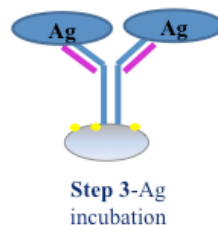
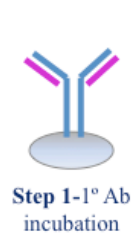
- $P = 30 \text{ mW}$
- Flow rate = 1 mL/min
- $V = 20 \mu\text{L}$
- $1\times = 146 \text{ U/mL}$
- LOD = 9.4 mU/mL
- Blood levels: $2\text{-}8 \text{ U/mL}$
- Commercial assay time $10\text{-}30 \text{ min}$ (ABCAM)



FIA-ELISA-TLS detection of food allergens

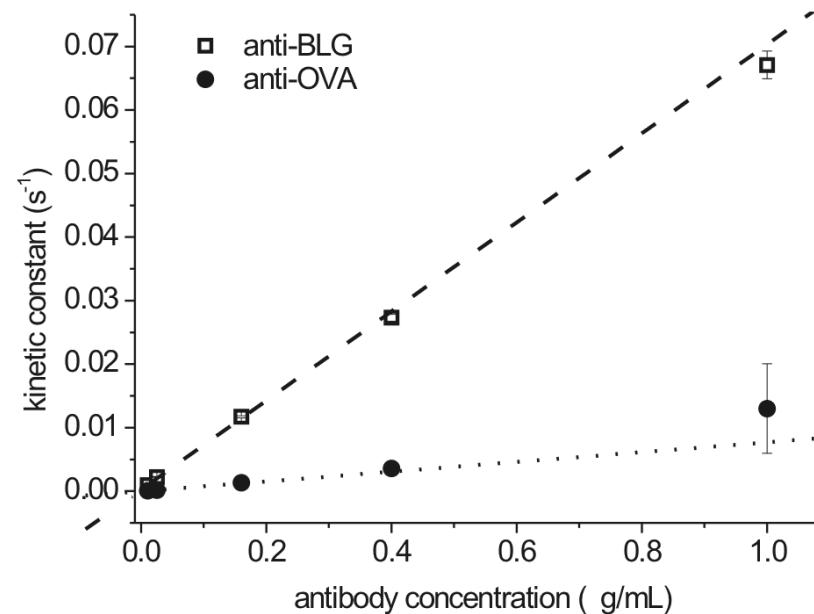
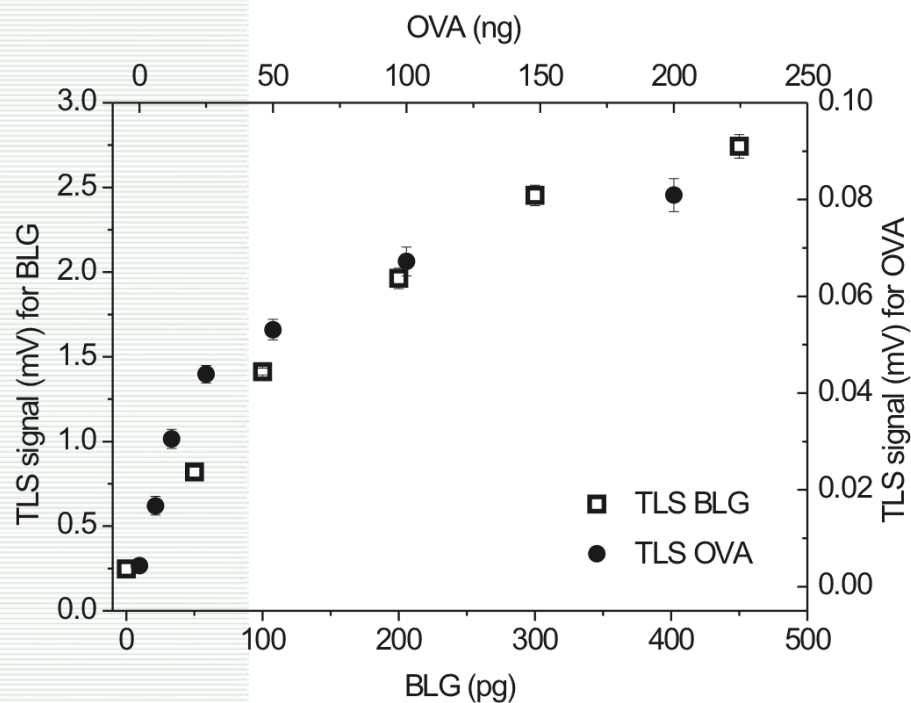


- TLS signal proportional to the amount of allergen retained on the immunocolumn
- Analysis time < 8 min

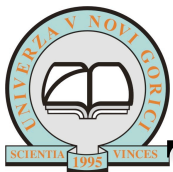




Determination of BLG and OVA by FIA-ELISA-TLS



LOD for beta-lactoglobulin (BLG) = 2.3 pg/100 μ L (190 pg by ELISA – Bethyl)
LOD for ovalbumin (OVA) = 1 ng/100 μ L (1 μ g by ELISA – Abcam)

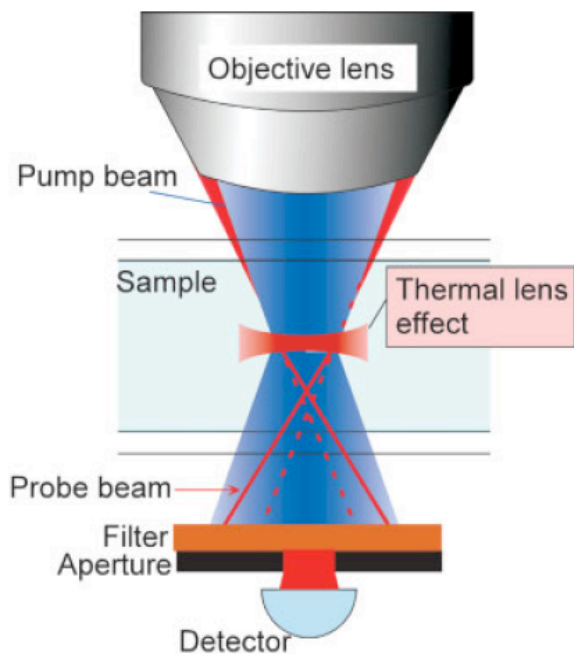


TLM detection in microfluidic systems



Microchip

TLM



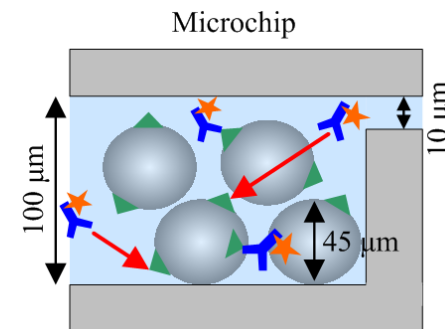
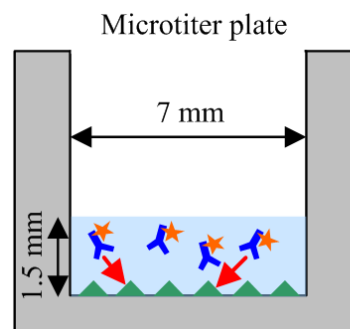
Microchannel-based immunoassay

assay time of s-IgA
24 h → 20 min

channel size

$$t_m = L_m^2 / D_m$$

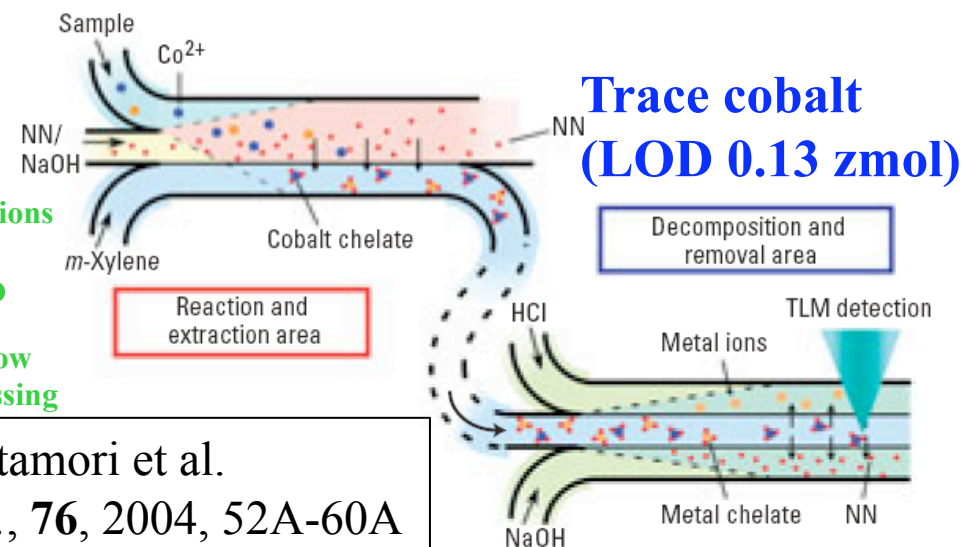
$$\sigma_m = S_m / V_m \propto 1 / L_m$$



MUOs Microunit operations

CFCP Continuous flow chemical processing

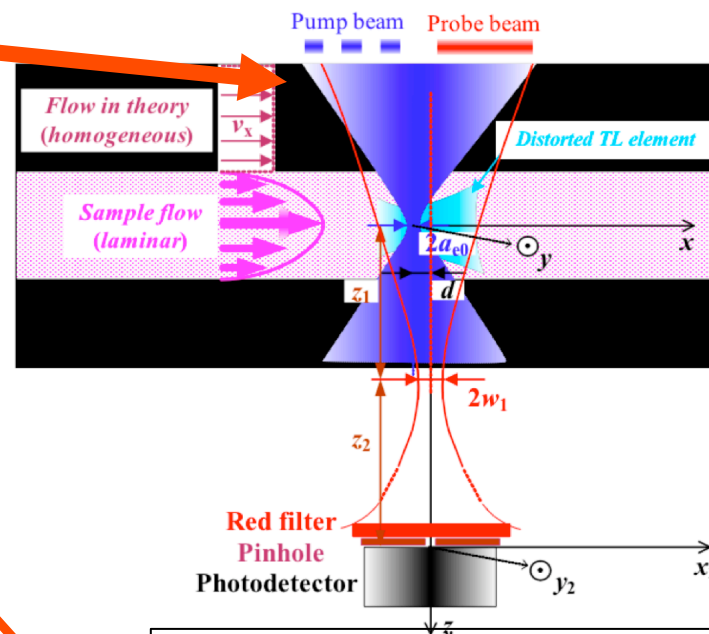
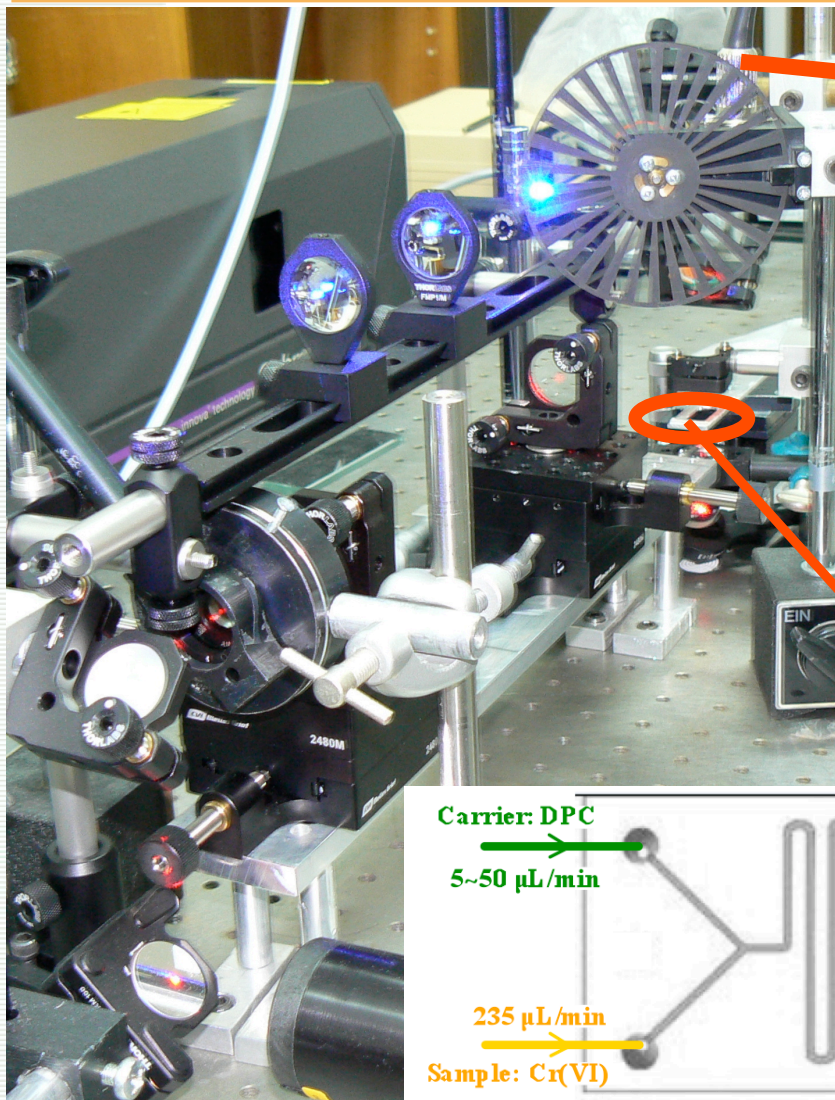
From: T. Kitamori et al.
Anal. Chem., **76**, 2004, 52A-60A



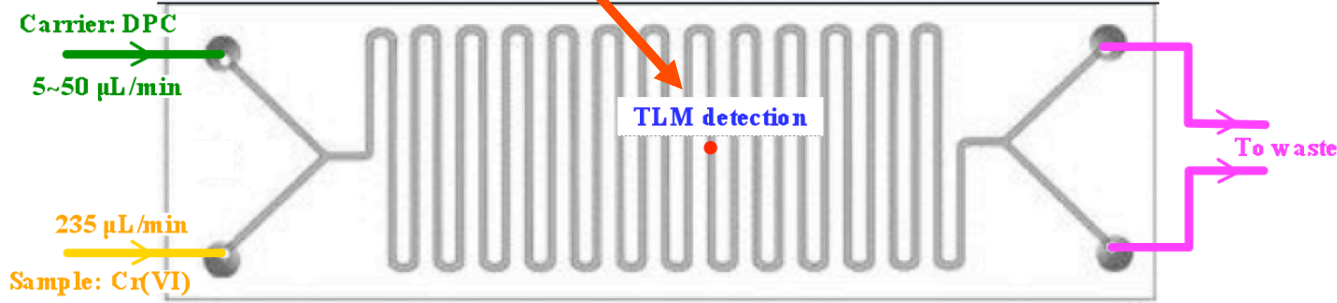
Trace cobalt
(LOD 0.13 zmol)



Microfluidic-FIA and TLM

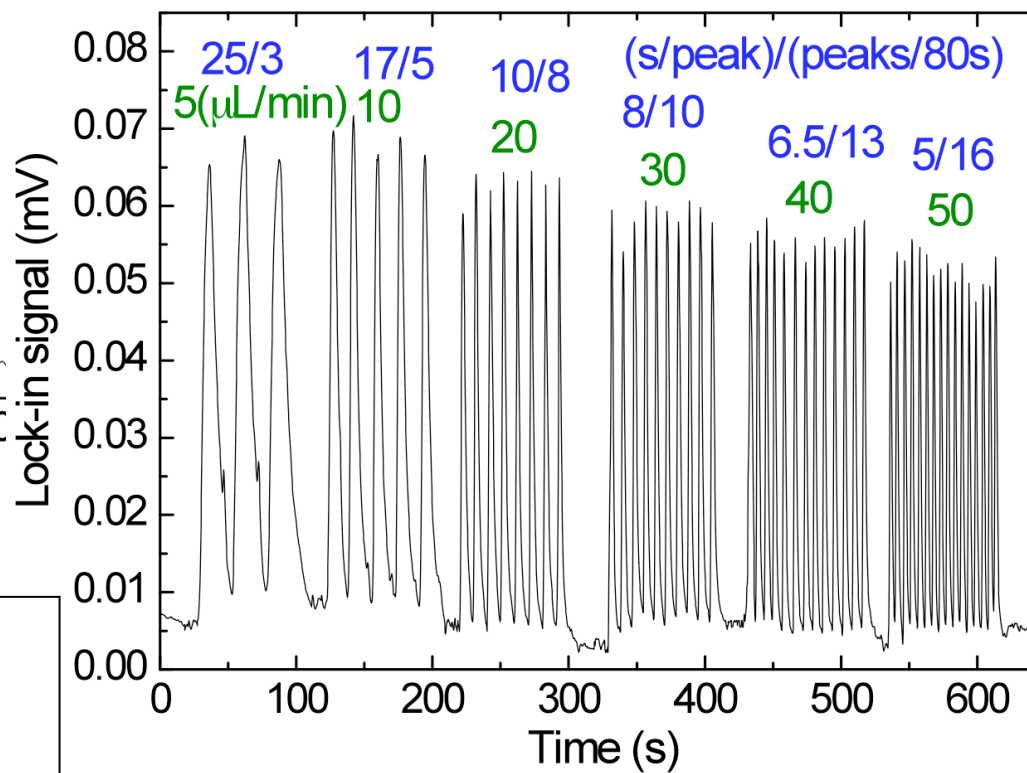
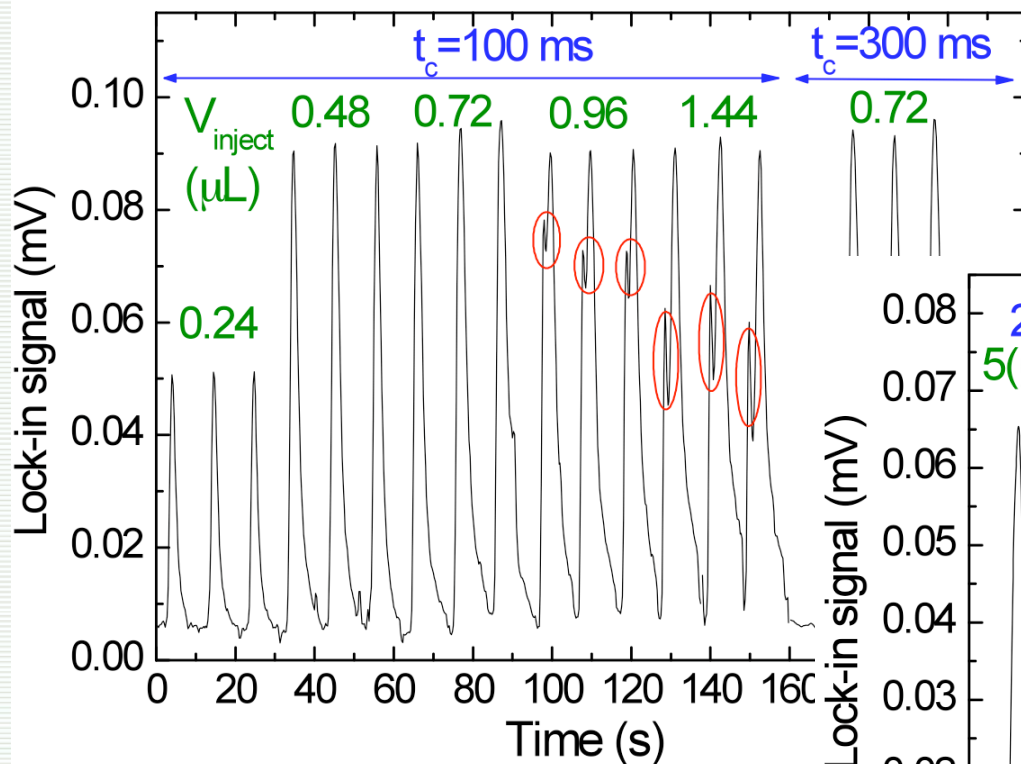


Liu M., Franko M. *Crit. Rev. Anal. Chem.* 44, 2014, 328-353.





Optimization of carrier flow and sample volume for μ FIA-TLM detection of Cr(VI)

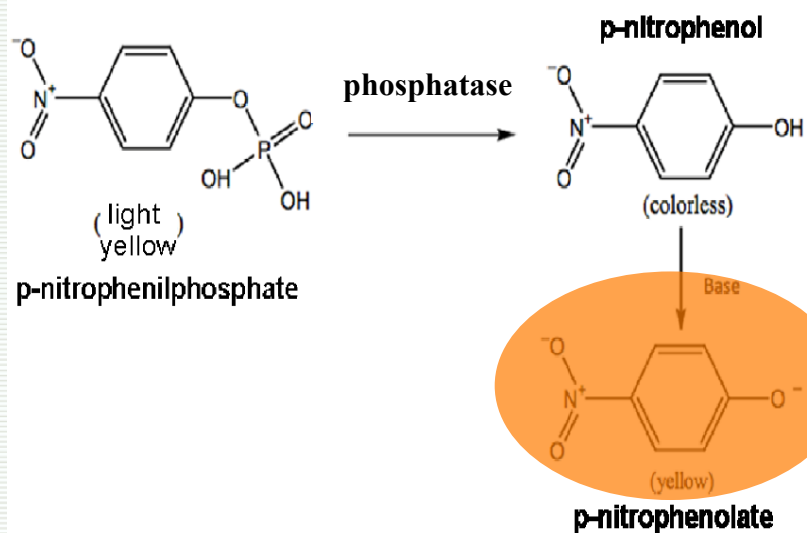


At $P=60$ mW, and $V_{\text{inject}}=0.72$ μL :
LOD = 3.5 ng/mL, corresponding to
 9×10^{-6} AU for Cr(VI)-DPC

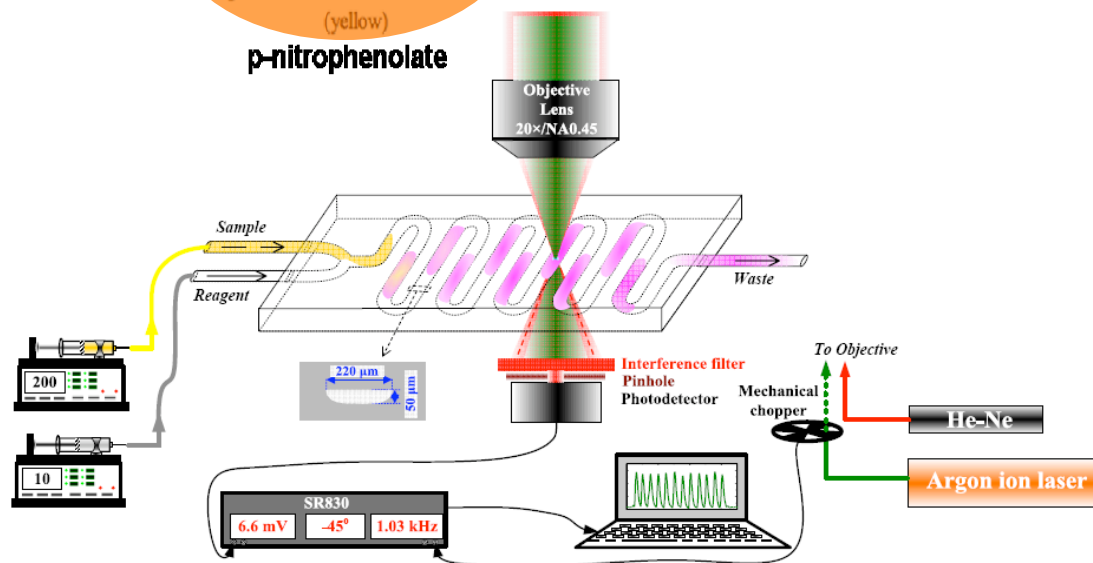
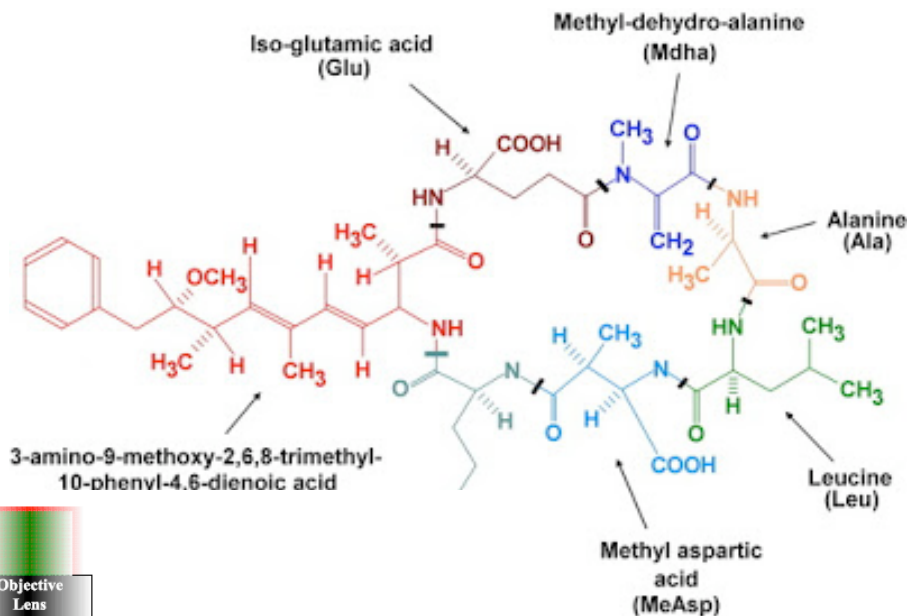


Determination of microcystin by PP2A inhibition assay

Colorimetric reaction catalyzed by PP

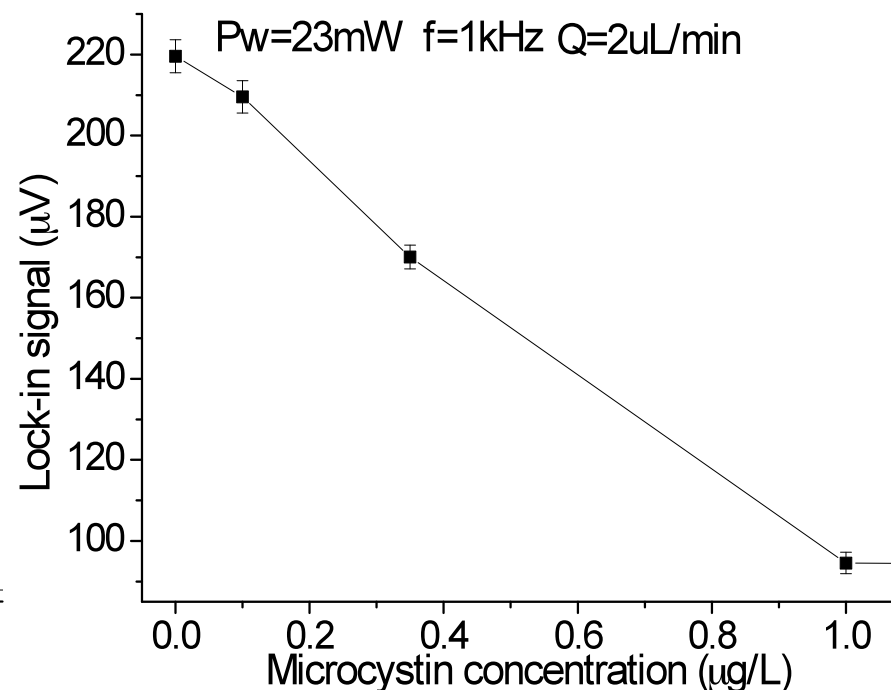
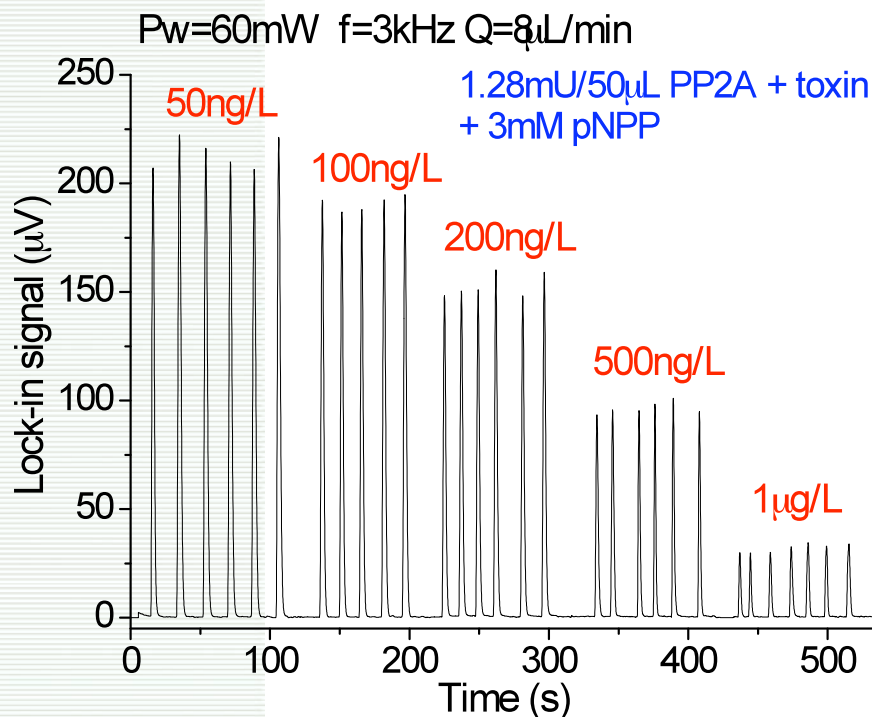


Reaction inhibited by cyanotoxin





TLM-PP2A inhibition assay



Enzyme consumption: 0.5 μL per injection

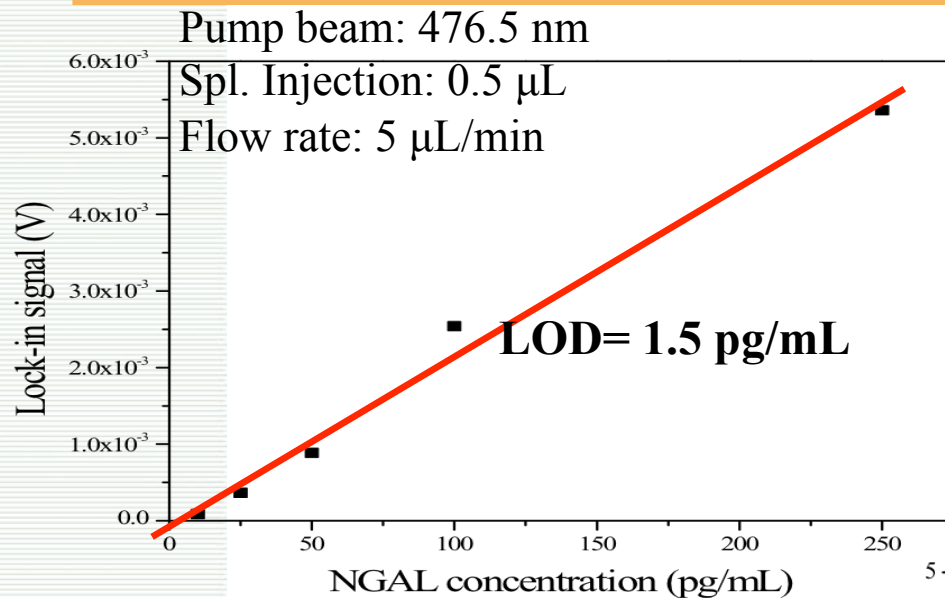
Detection limit: $\sim 80\text{ng}/\text{L}$

-12 times lower below the WHO limit for drinking water

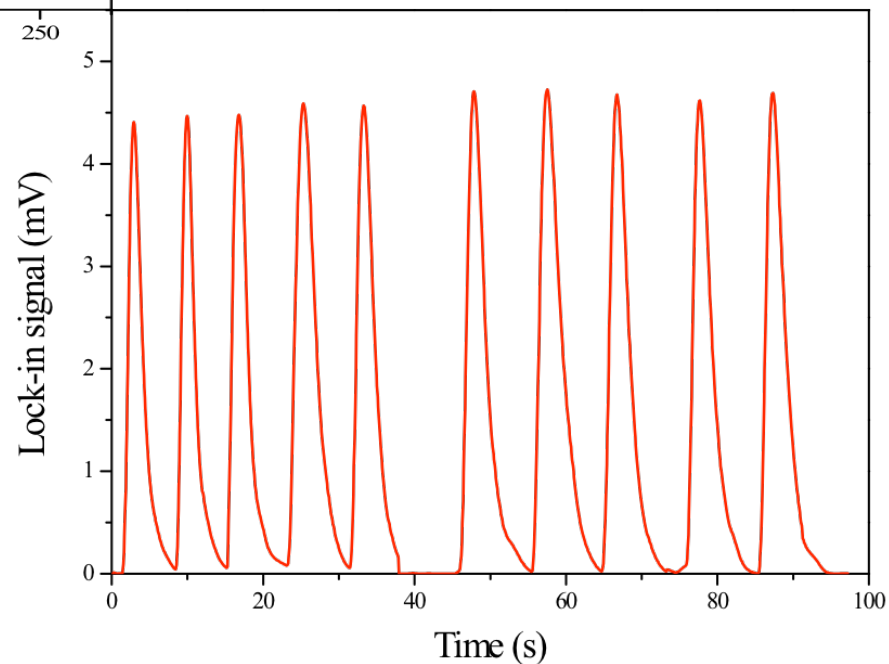
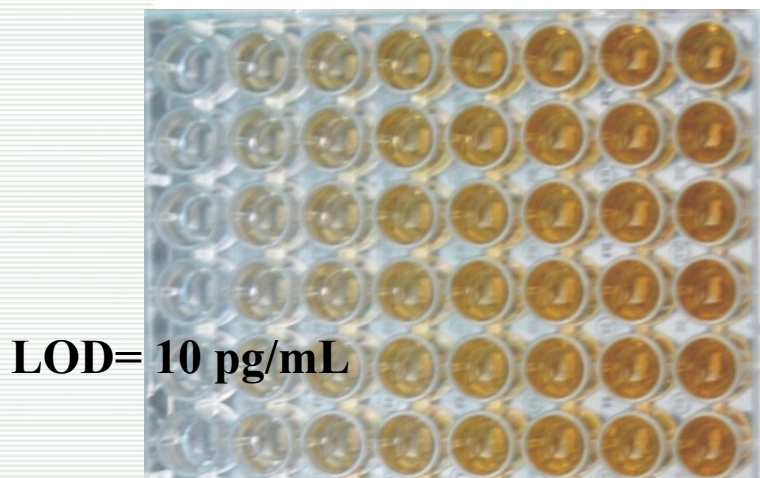
-8 times faster than batch mode assay



Determination of NGAL - a biomarker of acute kidney injury

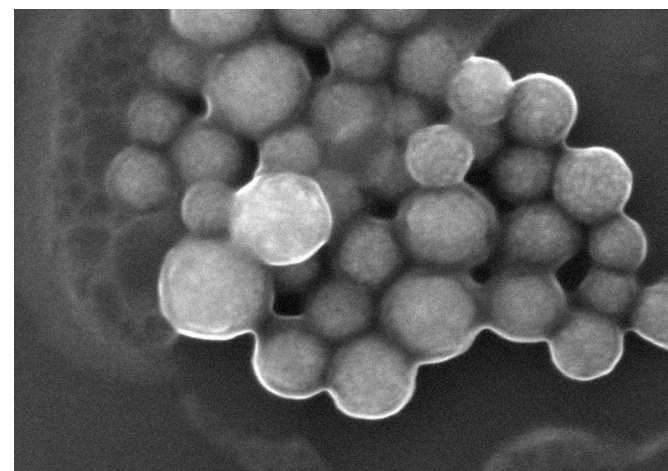
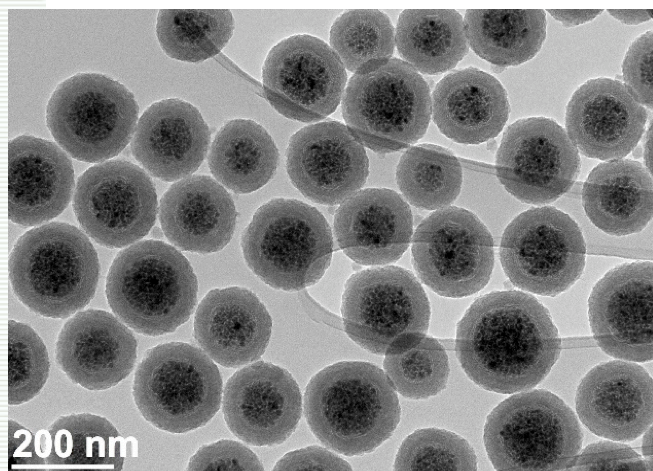


TLS signals for replicate injections of two aliquots of 500-times diluted blood plasma sample (217 pg/mL)



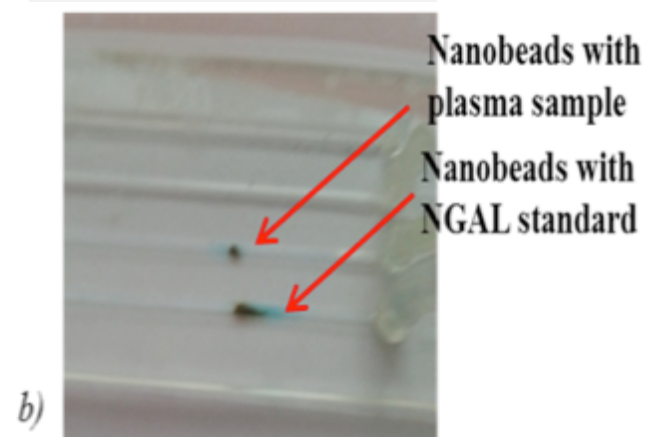
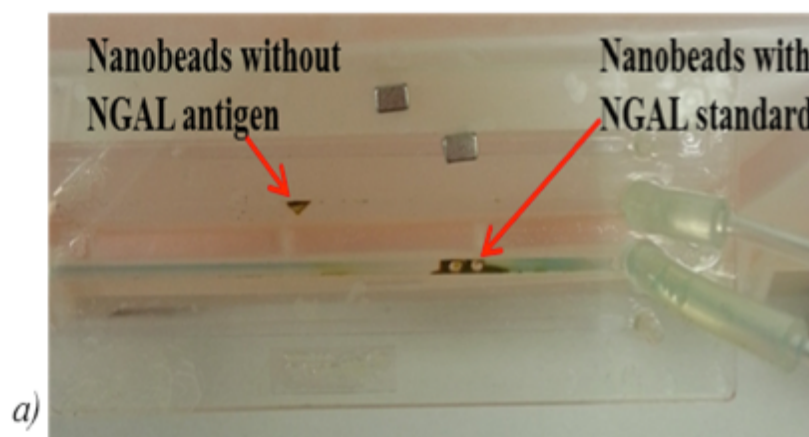


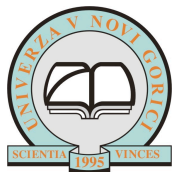
Immobilization of NGAL antibodies on magnetic nanobeads



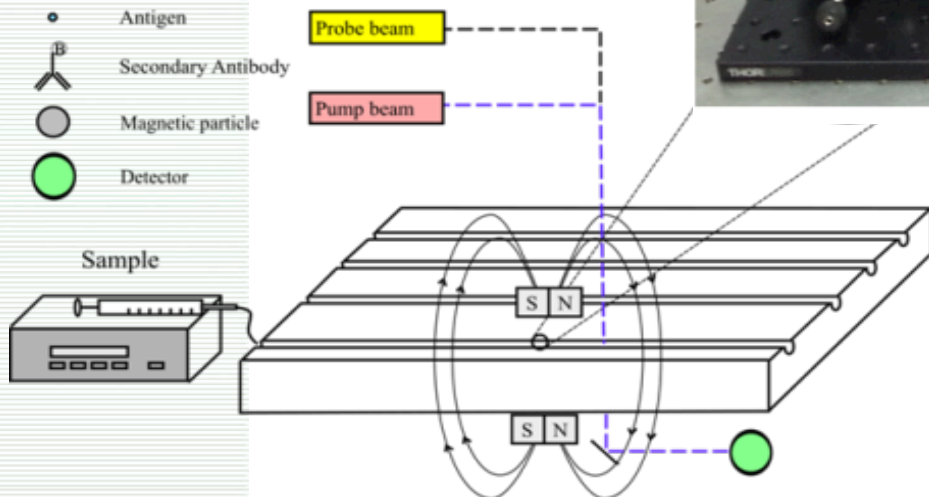
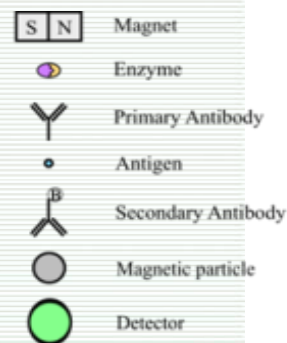
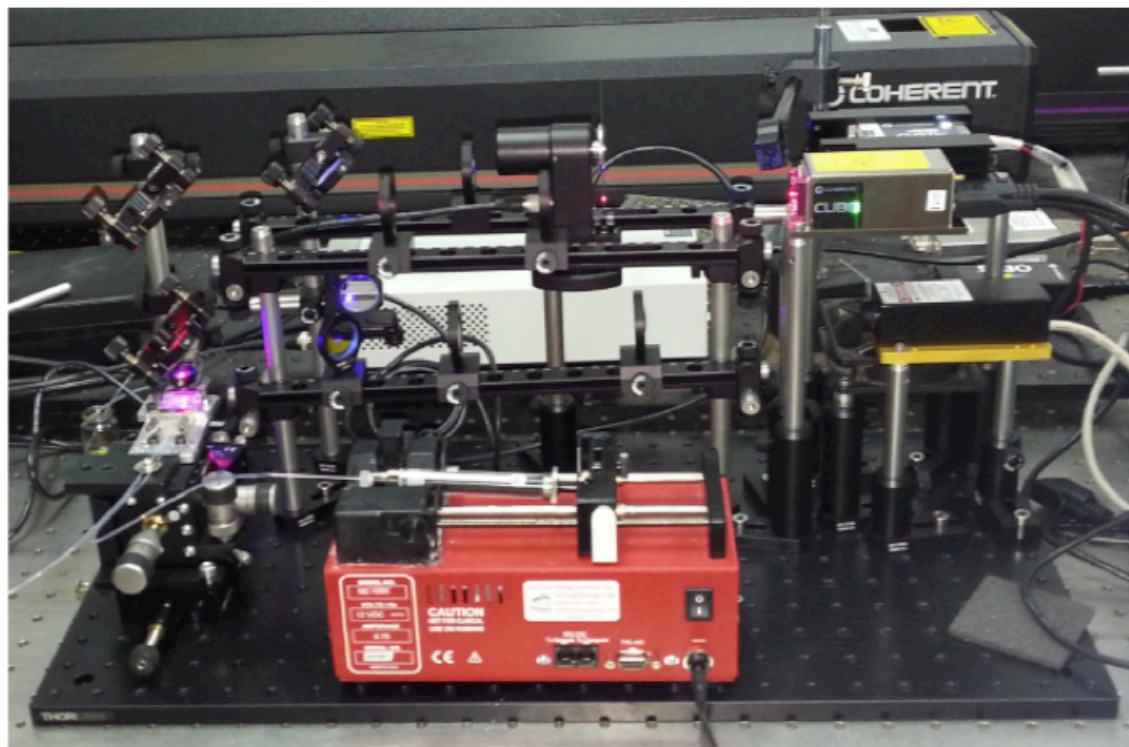
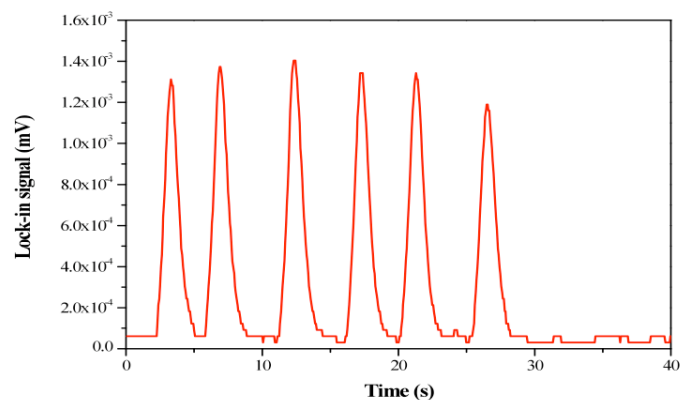
iNANOvative™|BIO amine nano beads by:

NANOSCI.





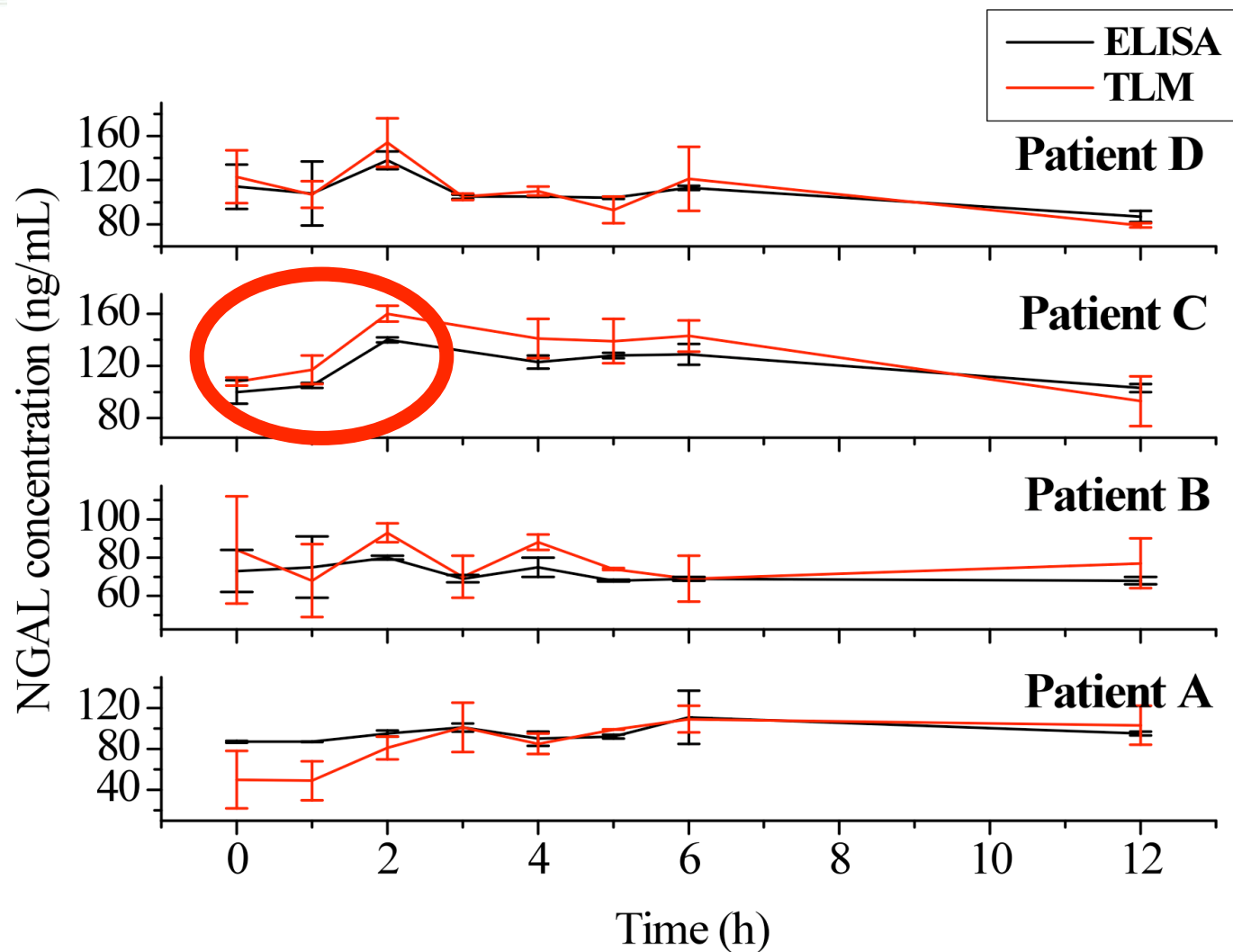
Activity of HRP on secondary NGAL antibodies retained by magnetic NPs

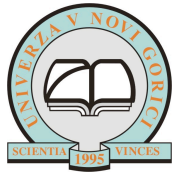


LOD = 5 pg/mL
Total analysis time 35 min
(for ELISA 4h)



Detection of NGAL in blood plasma of patients after percutaneous coronary angiography (injection of contrast agents) by

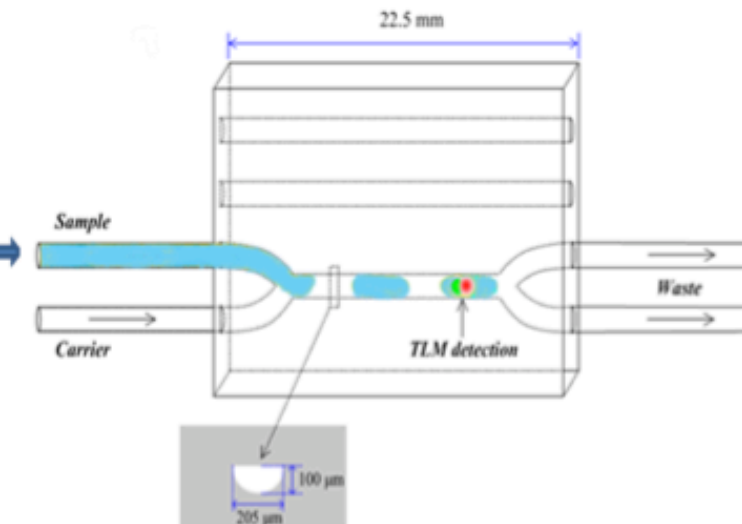
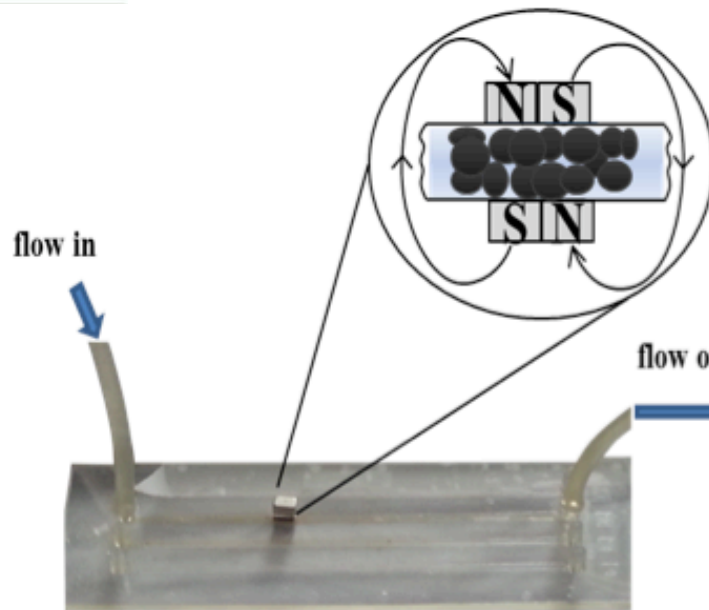
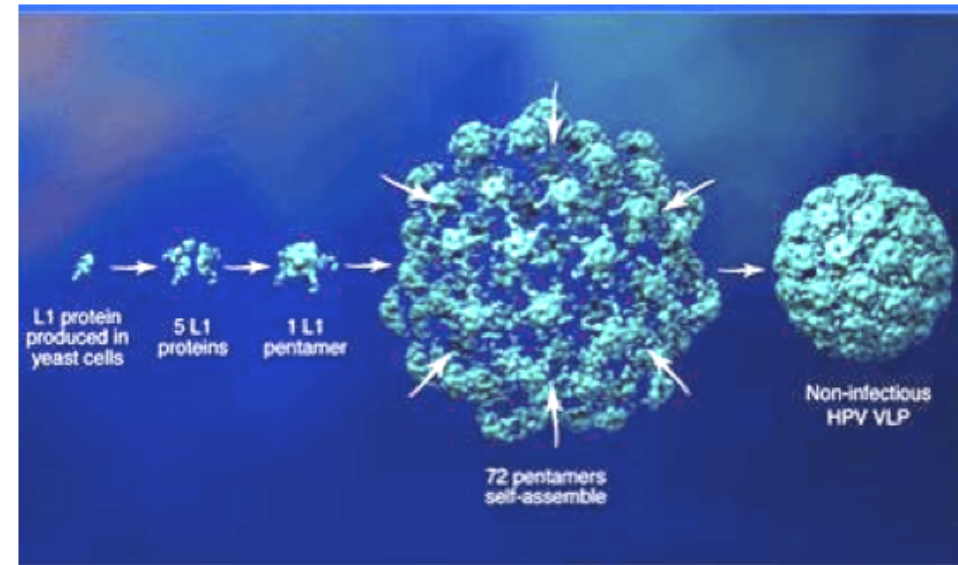




Detection and utilization of virus-like proteins and pseudovirions

HPV is a cause of cervical cancer.
By using HPV antibodies one can detect HPV.

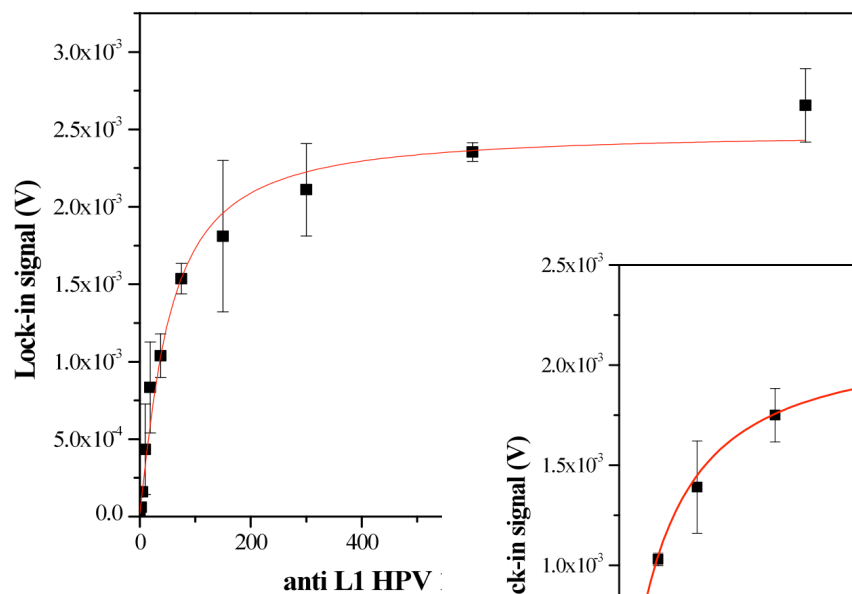
By using HPV-VLPs one can detect HPV antibodies and past or current infection



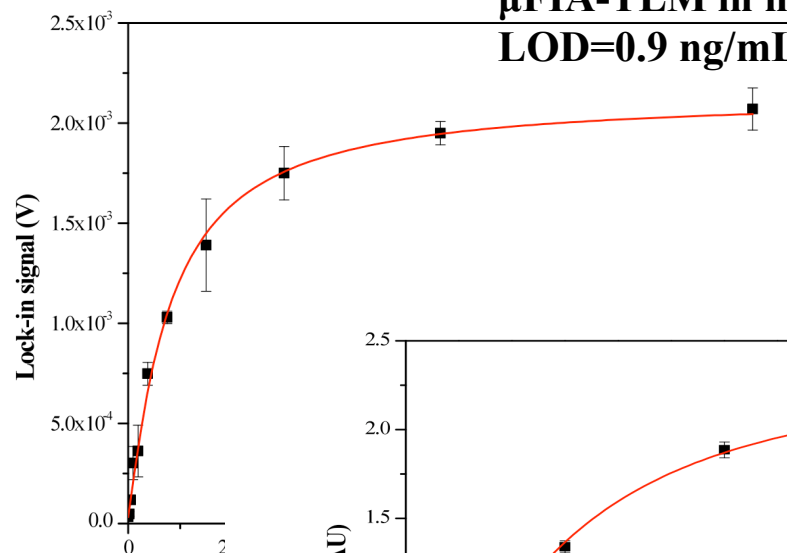


Calibration curves for HPV-16 antibodies

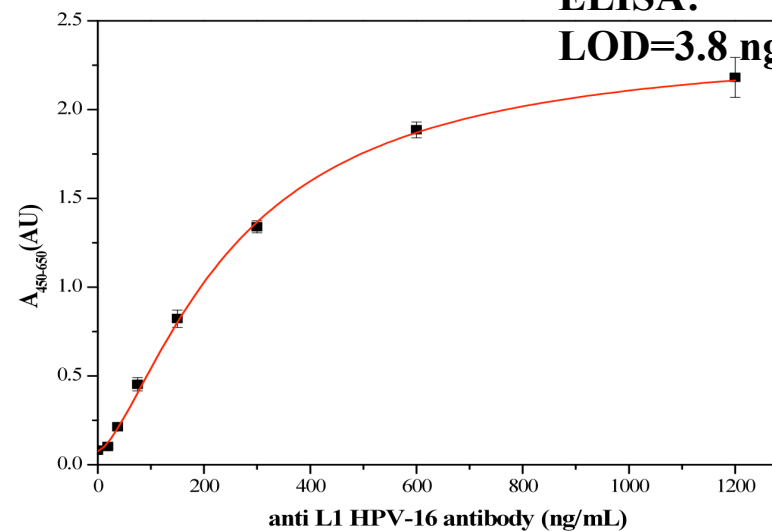
μ FIA-TLM on nanobeads: LOD=0.65 ng/mL



μ FIA-TLM in microtiter plate: LOD=0.9 ng/mL



ELISA: LOD=3.8 ng/mL





Concentrations of L1 HPV 16 antibodies in HPV diagnosed persons

| <i>Sample</i> | <i>ELISA (ng/mL)</i> | <i>Microtiter μFIA-TLM (ng/mL)</i> | <i>Nanobeads μFIA-TLM (ng/mL)</i> |
|---------------|--------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | 6.9 ± 0.1 | 7 ± 1 | 6.8 ± 0.9 |
| 2 | 8.2 ± 0.8 | 7.3 ± 0.2 | 8 ± 1 |
| 3 | 5.9 ± 0.5 | 5.2 ± 0.8 | 5.4 ± 0.2 |
| 4 | below LOD | 3.0 ± 0.4 | 3.8 ± 0.6 |
| 5 | 3.9 ± 0.3 | 4 ± 2 | 4 ± 1 |
| 6 | 8.4 ± 0.7 | 8.2 ± 0.6 | 8 ± 2 |
| 7 | 10 ± 2 | 9.5 ± 0.5 | 9 ± 2 |
| 8 | 6 ± 1 | 7.7 ± 0.4 | / |
| 9 | 10.7 ± 0.7 | 11.2 ± 0.7 | / |
| 10 | 9 ± 1 | 10.2 ± 0.8 | / |
| 11 | 9 ± 1 | 9.7 ± 0.2 | / |



Conclusions

- μ FIA-TLM enables high throughput (over 10 samples/minute) analysis of sub μ L samples with LODs in sub ppb concentration range
- Spatial and temporal resolution of μ FIA-TLM enabled studies of diffusion processes in microfluidic systems, which are dominated by convective diffusion
- TLM is at the brink of becoming a routine portable “point of care” technique for medical diagnostics