

# DECHEMA-Kolloquium Organische Synthesen in Mikrostrukturreaktoren Grundlagen des Wärme- und Stofftransports in Mikrostrukturreaktoren

## Fundamentals of Heat and Mass Transfer in Microreactors

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Dr.-Ing. Norbert Kockmann

Design of Microsystems,  
Department of Microsystems Engineering – IMTEK,  
Albert-Ludwig University of Freiburg

now at: Lonza AG, CH-3930 Visp, R&D Exclusive Synthesis

### Intro

Fluid properties  
Fluid dynamics  
Heat transfer  
Mass transfer  
Chemical reactions  
Conclusions

## Contents

### Fundamentals of Heat and Mass Transfer

- ◆ Introduction and motivation
- ◆ Scaling and fluid properties
- ◆ Fluid dynamics
- ◆ Pressure loss
- ◆ Heat transfer in straight channels
- ◆ Heat transfer in curved channels and networks
- ◆ Convective mixing in microchannels
- ◆ Chemical reactions and transport processes
- ◆ Conclusions
- ◆ References

**Intro**

- Fluid properties
- Fluid dynamics
- Heat transfer
- Mass transfer
- Chemical reactions
- Conclusions

## University of Freiburg, IMTEK

- ◆ IMTEK: 18 professor ships
- ◆ approx. 300 employees
- ◆ approx. 500 students, diploma, bachelor, master
- ◆ 9300 m<sup>2</sup> laboratories and bureaus
- ◆ 600 m<sup>2</sup> clean room



**Intro**

- Fluid properties
- Fluid dynamics
- Heat transfer
- Mass transfer
- Chemical reactions
- Conclusions

## Microreactors at Lonza, Visp

- ◆ Area 90 ha
- ◆ Employees ~2700
- ◆ Plants
  - Naphtha cracker
  - Single product, multi-product and multipurpose facilities
  - Fully integrated waste management
- ◆ Products
  - Active pharmaceutical ingredients and Biopharmaceuticals)
  - Vitamines (Vitamin B<sub>3</sub>)
  - Peptides and oligonucleotides
  - ...
- ◆ Microreactors
  - pioneering work of D. Roberge
  - 3 modules for various reactions
  - GMP production



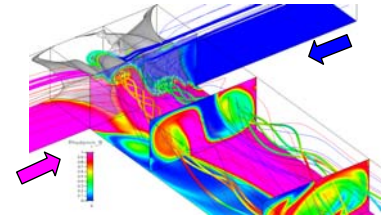
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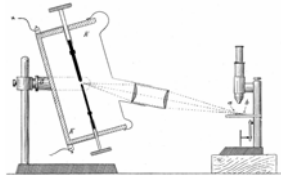
# Microfluidics and Micro Process Engineering

## Main characteristics

- ▶ small channels:  $d_h$  from ca. 10  $\mu\text{m}$  to 1 000  $\mu\text{m}$
- ▶ cross sections: rectangular, trapezoidal, semi-circular
- ▶ often laminar flow:  $\text{Re} = \frac{w d_h}{\nu} < 1000$



- ▶ Analysis of small volumes  $\Rightarrow$   $\mu\text{TAS}$  (micro total analysis systems)
- ▶ Process design in microstructures  $\Rightarrow$  **Lab-on-a-chip**
- ▶ Production of chemicals in small amounts  $\Rightarrow$   $\mu\text{VT}$ , **MPE**



© MicroChemTec backbone

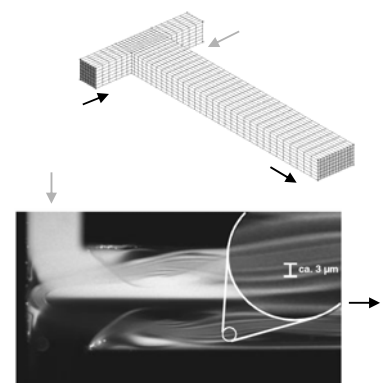
**Intro**

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# Microfluidics and Micro Process Engineering

## Why micro process engineering?

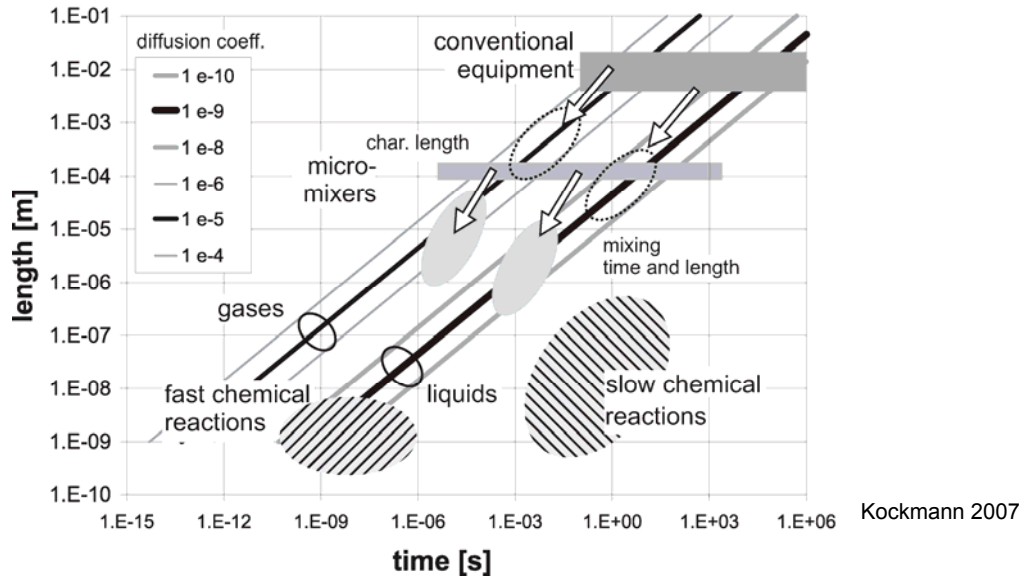
- ▶ Defined flow regimes and properties
  - mainly laminar flow
  - defined residence time and distribution
  - small hold-up
- ▶ Augmented transport processes
  - rapid mixing
  - high heat transfer
  - flame suppression
  - small inertia and capacities
  - integrated processes and sensors
- ▶ Frequently questions to be answered
  - Why has this device these dimensions and materials?
  - Why do I operate under these conditions? (temperature, pressure, concentrations, ...)
  - Why do I need these solvents?
  - Why do I need this reaction time and constellation?



Schlüter et al. 2004

## Length scales

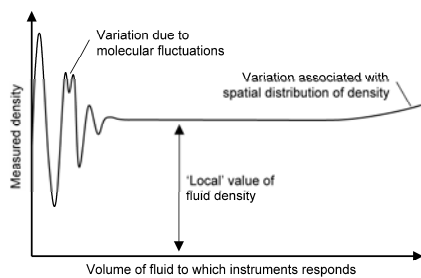
- ▶ typical regimes in conventional and microstructured devices



- ▶ diffusion in liquids is slow
- ▶ fast convective mixing

## Fluid behavior

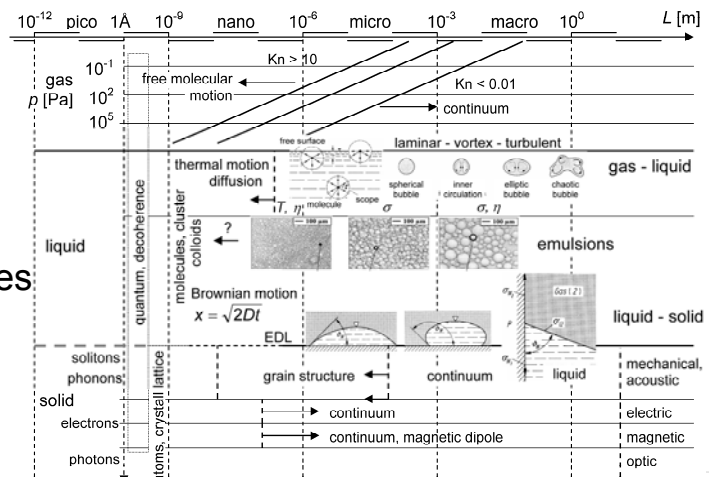
- ▶ Fluid properties and control volume



- ▶ Phase limits
  - number of gas molecules
  - free surfaces
  - system boundaries

Batchelor, 2000

Kockmann 2007



## Properties of gases

- Free mean path

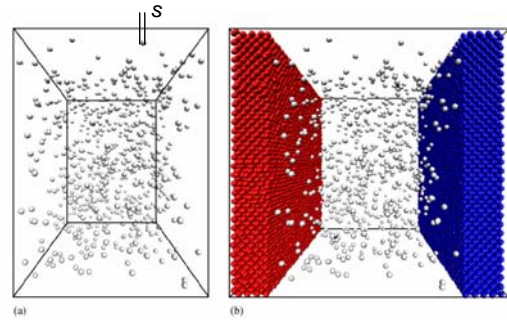
$$\Lambda = \frac{\bar{w} k T}{w_{rel} \pi s^2 \rho} = \frac{k T}{\sqrt{2} \pi s^2 \rho}$$

- Knudsen number Kn

$$Kn = \frac{\Lambda}{L}$$

Knudsen number regimes

$Kn < 0.001$	continuum (sometimes 0.01 as limit)
$0.001 < Kn < 0.1$	rarefied gases
$0.1 < Kn < 10$	transition regime
$10 < Kn$	free molecular regime



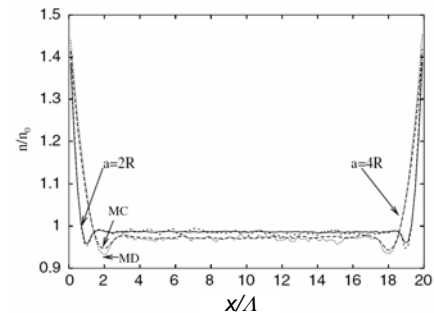
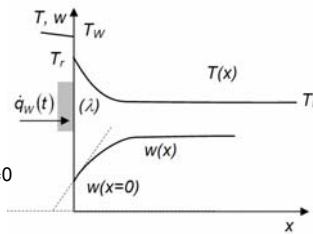
S.Nedea et al. 2006

- Molecule behavior at the wall

- Slip length

$$w(x=0) = \zeta \left( \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} \right)_{x=0}$$

$$\zeta \approx \frac{2 - \beta}{\beta} \Lambda$$

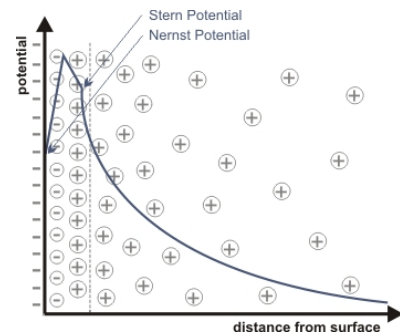


Micro Process Engineering, Dr.-Ing. Norbert Kockmann, Slide 9

## Behavior of liquids

- Number of molecules  $N > 10^6$  gives cube with 100 molecules on corner length: approx. 10 – 30 nm  
 → continuum in the range of  $L > 1 \mu\text{m}$

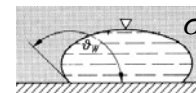
- Surfaces play major role  
 Stern layer  
 Generation of electrically charged layer  
 → electro-kinetic pumps



- hydrophilic / hydrophobic  
 Wettability and surface tension  
 contact angle

$$L = \sqrt{\frac{\sigma}{g(\rho_l - \rho_v)}} \quad \text{Laplace Länge}$$

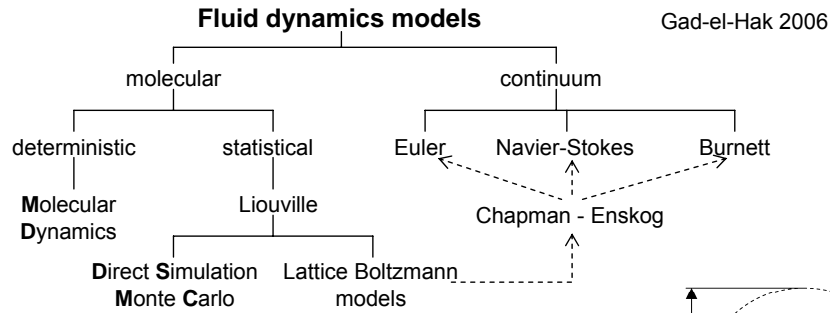
$$Co = \frac{1}{d_h} \sqrt{\frac{4\sigma}{g(\rho_l - \rho_v)}} \quad \text{Confinement number}$$



L. Cheng, D. Mewes, 2006

# Balance equations

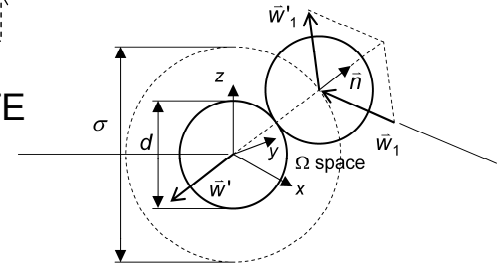
## Overview of balance equations



## Boltzmann transport equation BTE

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \bar{w} \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{x}} + \frac{1}{m} F \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{x}} = J_{win} - J_{loss}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \bar{w} \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{x}} + \frac{1}{m} F \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{w}} = \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \int |\bar{v} \cdot \bar{e}| (f' f'_1 - f f_1) d\omega d w_{x,1}$$

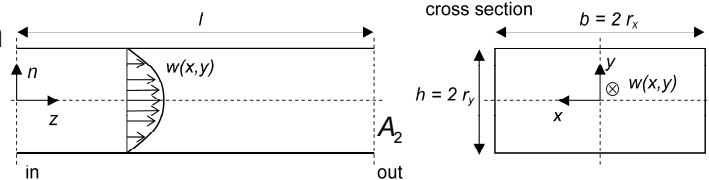


- balance equations can be derived from BTE
- direct solution only possible for few special cases, Cercignani (1988), Sone (2002)

# Conservation Equations

## continuity equation

$$\frac{D\rho}{Dt} + \rho \operatorname{div} \bar{w} = 0$$



## momentum equation

### Navier-Stokes equations

$$\rho \frac{D\bar{w}}{Dt} = \rho \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \bar{w} \operatorname{div} \right) \bar{w} = \rho \bar{g} - \operatorname{grad} p + \operatorname{Div} \left[ \eta \left( 2 \operatorname{grad} \bar{w} - \frac{2}{3} \bar{\delta} \operatorname{div} \bar{w} \right) \right]$$

$$\text{with } \operatorname{grad} \bar{w} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \operatorname{grad} \bar{w} + (\operatorname{grad} \bar{w})^T \right]$$

Reynolds number

$$\operatorname{Re} = \frac{w d_h}{\nu}$$

## for long straight channels in z-direction

$$\frac{\partial(\rho A)}{\partial t} = 0 = \frac{\partial(\rho w A)}{\partial z} \quad \rho w_2 A_2 = \rho w_1 A_1$$

$$\frac{\partial(\rho A w)}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial(\rho w A w)}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial(\rho A)}{\partial z} + \rho \frac{\partial A}{\partial z} - \tau L_c - \rho A g$$

## Euler equations for $\eta = 0, \tau = 0$

## Energy equations

- First law of thermodynamics

$$de = de_{kin} + de_{pot} + du = dq + dw_v$$

- energy equation

$$\frac{\rho}{2} w_2^2 + p_2 - \rho g y_2 = \frac{\rho}{2} w_1^2 + p_1 - \rho g y_1 + w_{t12} - \varphi_{12}$$

energy dissipation  $\varphi_{12} = p_1 - p_2 = \Delta p_{12}$   $\varepsilon_{12} = \frac{\varphi_{12} \cdot \dot{V}}{m} = \frac{\varphi_{12} \cdot \bar{w}}{\rho \cdot L}$

- kinetic ansatz for pressure loss in channels

$$\Delta p = \sum \left( \lambda_i \frac{L_i}{d_{h,i}} + \zeta_i \right) \frac{\rho}{2} w_i^2$$

Euler number  $Eu = \frac{\Delta p}{\rho w^2} = \frac{1}{2} \sum \left( \lambda_i \frac{L_i}{d_{h,i}} + \zeta_i \right)$

- laminar flow

$$\lambda_i = \frac{C_{f,i}}{Re_i} = \frac{C_{f,i} \nu}{w_i \cdot d_{h,i}} \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta p = \sum \left( \frac{\eta C_f L_i}{2 d_{h,i}^2} w_i + \zeta_i \frac{\rho}{2} w_i^2 \right)$$

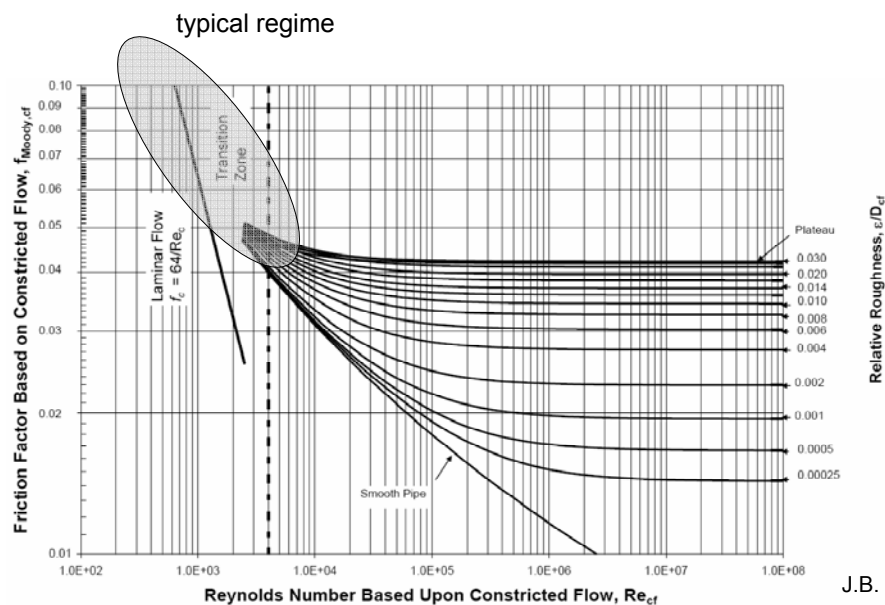
## Pressure loss

- Influence on the flow resistance

- transition laminar-turbulent
- available flow cross section

$$\Delta p = \sum \left( \frac{\eta C_f L_i}{2 d_{h,i}^2} w_i + \zeta_i \frac{\rho}{2} w_i^2 \right)$$

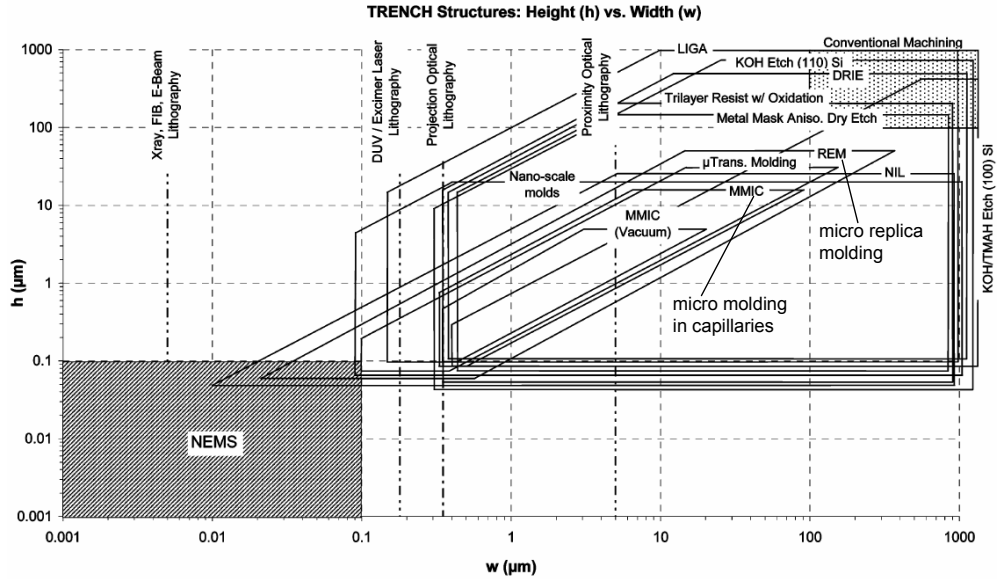
- influence on pressure loss → Moody diagram



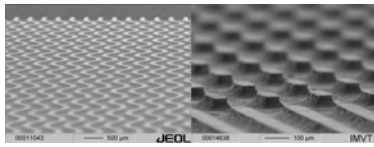
J.B. Taylor et al., 2005

# Surface structure and texture

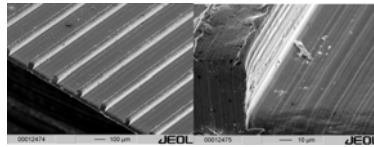
► Fabrication processes, overview from Quinn et al. 2006



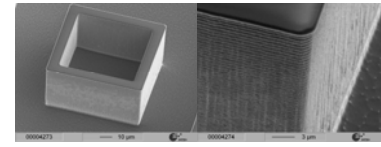
Kockmann, 2006, Chap. 10, 11, 12



isotropic wet-etching of stainless steel



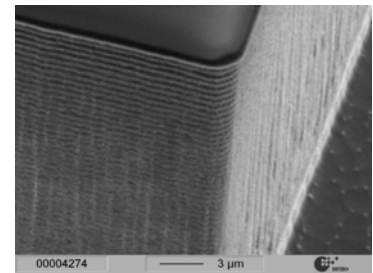
mechanical fabrication of stainless steel



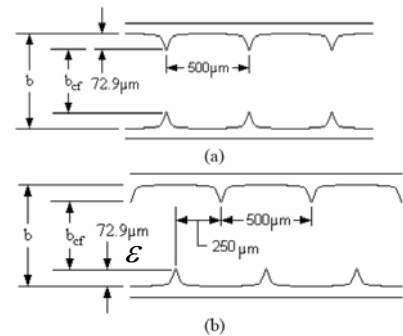
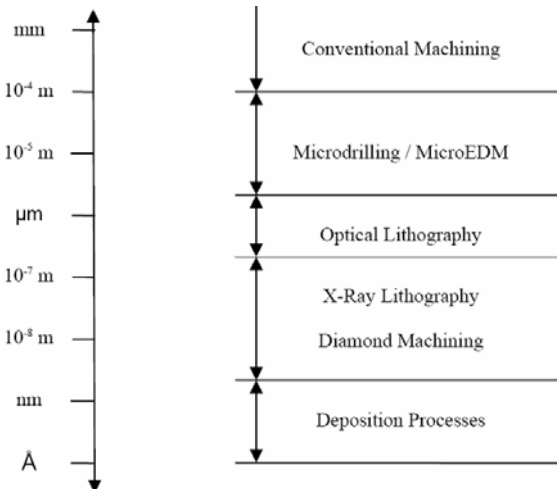
Reactive ion etching of silicon, DRIE, ASE

# Surface roughness or texture

- Fabrication technologies
  - silicon etching
  - isotropic etching
  - mechanical fabrication



► feasible surface roughness



$$D_{cf} = d_h - 2\varepsilon \quad \text{or}$$

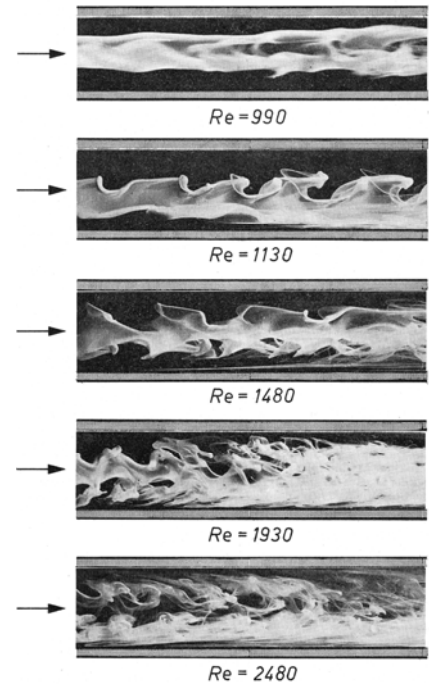
$$D_{cf} = d_h - \varepsilon_1 - \varepsilon_2$$

J.B. Taylor et al., 2005

## Transition regime

- turbulent flow regime transition depends on
  - surface roughness
  - inlet conditions
- critical Reynolds number
 
$$Re_{krit} = \frac{w_{krit} d_h}{\nu} \approx 2300$$
- in microchannels
  - high flow velocities
  - high pressure loss
  - dissipative heating
- flow in bends and curves
  - first vortices at  $Re \approx 10$
  - secondary vortices at higher Re numbers
  - transient fluctuations at  $Re \approx 200 - 400$

Streak lines in tubular flow in transition regime laminar-turbulent



W. Albring, 1988

## Analytical solutions

- Hagen- Poiseuille, capillary flow

$$\frac{\Delta p}{\Delta L} = \frac{128 \eta \dot{V}}{\pi d_h^4}$$

$$w(r) = \frac{\Delta p D^2}{4 \eta \Delta L} \left[ \left( \frac{r}{D} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{4} \right]$$

- flow in rectangular channel  
Fourier series or Prandtl's membrane analogy

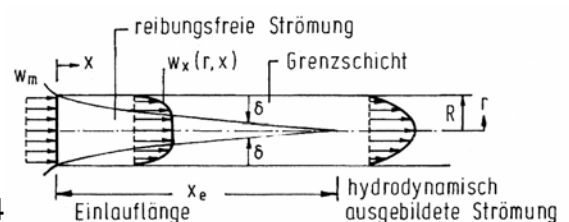
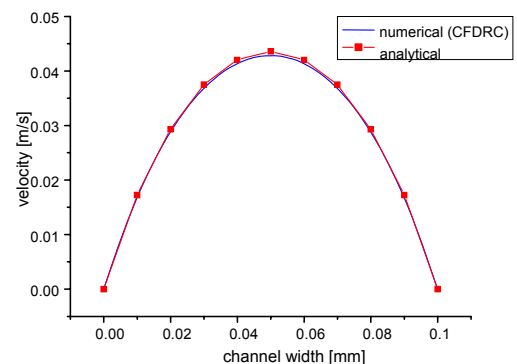
$$w(x, y) = \frac{\Delta p}{\eta L} \sum_{m,n} \frac{16 b^2 h^2}{m n \pi^4 (n^2 b^2 + m^2 h^2)} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{b} x\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{h} y\right)$$

- entrance flow

$$\frac{L_{in}}{d_h} = 0.056 Re \quad \text{or}$$

$$\frac{L_{in}}{d_h} = \frac{C_1}{1 + C_2 Re / C_1} + C_2 Re$$

tube :	$C_1 = 1.2$	$C_2 = 0.224$
channel :	$0.89$	$0.164$



Baehr/Stephan, Wärme- und Stoffübertragung, 2004

# Laminar flow in straight channels

- ▶ pressure loss

$$\Delta p = p_1 - p_2 = \sum_i \left( \lambda_i \frac{L_i}{d_{h,i}} \right) \cdot \frac{\rho}{2} w_1^2$$

$$\lambda_i = \frac{C_f}{\text{Re}}$$

$$C_f = 64 \quad \bigcirc$$

$$= 56.92 \quad \square$$

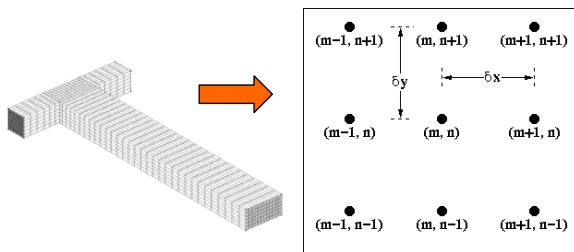
$$= 96 \quad \text{////}$$

- ▶ channel cross section

Cross section, char. length	$C_f = \lambda_i \text{Re}$	$w_{\text{max}}/\bar{w}$
circle, $D$	64	2.000
square, $h$	56.92	2.0962
rectangular, $h; b$ aspect ratio $\alpha_A = h/b$	$96 \left[ 1 - 1.3553\alpha_A + 1.9467\alpha_A^2 - 1.7012\alpha_A^3 + 0.9564\alpha_A^4 - 0.2537\alpha_A^5 \right]$	-
slab, $\alpha \rightarrow 0$	96	1.500
hexagon	60	-
60° trapezoid $h/b =$	4.00 55.66	2.181
	2.00 55.22	2.162
	1.00 56.60	2.119
	0.50 62.77	1.969
	0.25 72.20	1.766
KOH trapezoid $h/b = 1.00$	56.15	2.137

# Numerical solvers

- ▶ Finite Difference FD



$$\delta x \rightarrow x = m \delta x$$

$$\delta y \rightarrow y = n \delta y$$

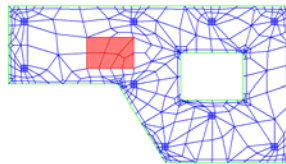
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \approx \frac{f(x_{m+1}) - f(x_{m-1}))}{2\Delta x}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \approx \frac{f(x_m, y_{n+1}) - 2f(x_m, y_n) + f(x_m, y_{n-1}))}{(\Delta y)^2}$$

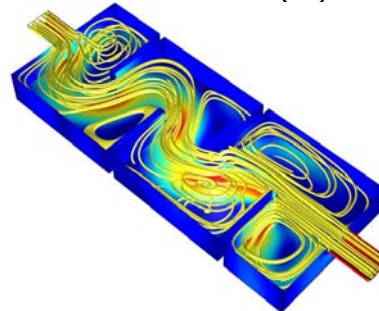
$$\nabla^2 f = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2}$$

$$\approx \frac{f(x_m, y_{n+1}) + f(x_m, y_{n-1}) + f(x_{m+1}, y_n) + f(x_{m-1}, y_n) - 4f(x_m, y_n)}{(\Delta x)^2}$$

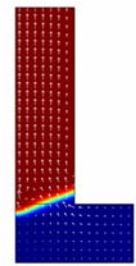
- ▶ FEM; z.B: COMSOL



Polynomial function in the element as solution function



flow and residence time in a reactor with baffles



Capillary filling of a microchannel

- ▶ Multiphysics Simulation

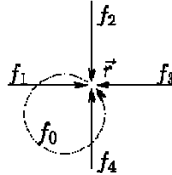
## Numerical solvers

- ▶ Lattice Boltzmann methods LBM
- Cellular Automata

approximation of the continuous Boltzmann equation on grid points

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \vec{w} \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{x}} + \frac{1}{m} F \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{w}} = \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \int |\vec{V} \cdot \vec{e}| (f' f'_1 - f f_1) d\omega d\vec{w}_{x,1}$$

- ▶ formulation of collision term



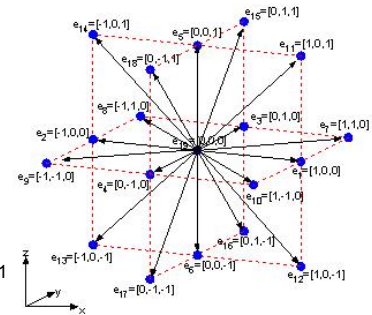
$$f_i(\vec{r} + \lambda \vec{e}_i, t + \tau) - f_i(\vec{r}, t) = \sum_j \Omega_{ij} f_j(\vec{r}, t)$$

summation over in- and outlet flows

- ▶ Multiphysics simulation
  - turbulent flow and mixing
  - heat transfer
  - diffusion and chemical reactions

Chen, Doolen, 1998

D3Q19: 3 dimensions, 19 points



[www.latticeboltzmann.com/](http://www.latticeboltzmann.com/)

D3Q27: 3 dimensions, 27 points



[www.imtek.de/simulation](http://www.imtek.de/simulation)

## Numerical solvers

- ▶ Finite Volume VOF: CFD-ACE+, Fluent, CFX, a.o.

Einteilung des Rechengebietes in einzelne, nicht überlappende Kontrollvolumina (Zellen)

⇒ Integration der Transportgleichungen über KV:

$$\int_V \frac{\partial(\rho\phi)}{\partial t} dV + \int_V \text{div}(\rho\vec{v}\phi) dV = \int_V \text{div}(\Gamma \text{grad}\phi) dV + \int_V S_\phi dV$$

(Integrale Form der allg. Transportgl. in Vektorschreibweise)

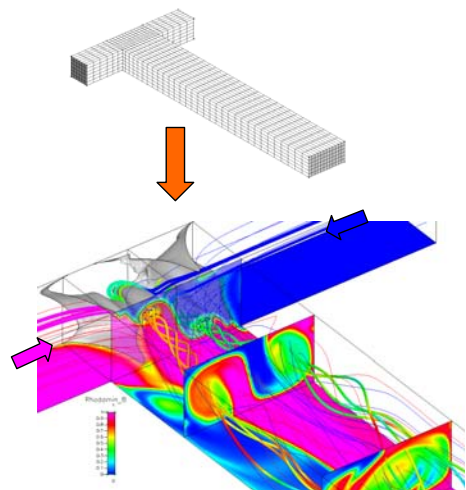
Instationärer (zeitabh.) Term ⇒ z.B. Approx. 1. Ordnung:

$$\int_V \frac{\partial(\rho\phi)}{\partial t} dV \approx \frac{(\rho\phi V)^{n+1} - (\rho\phi V)^n}{\Delta t}$$

Konvektiver Term:  $\int_V \text{div}(\rho\vec{v}\phi) dV = \int_A (\rho\vec{v}\phi) d\vec{A} = \sum_J (\rho\vec{v}\phi \vec{A}_J)_J$   
(Gaußscher Satz)

Quellterm: z.B.  $\int_V S_\phi dV \approx V \cdot S_{\phi, \text{Zellmitte}}$

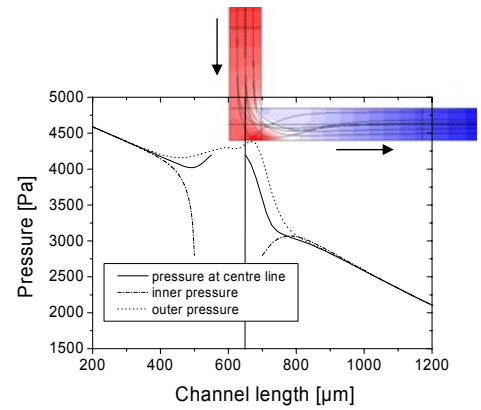
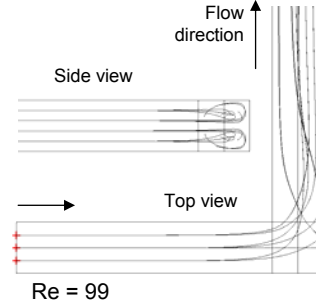
[www-ifkm.mach.uni-karlsruhe.de](http://www-ifkm.mach.uni-karlsruhe.de)



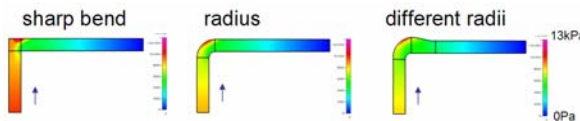
- ▶ Pro's and Con's of numerical solutions:
  - ▶FD, "exact" approximation, rectangular lattice,
  - ▶VOF, "exact" approximation, various elements,
  - ▶LBM, rapid method with arbitrary geometries,
  - ▶FEM, multiphysics, solution depends on applied polynom.

## Channel structures, bends

- ▶ laminar flow in curves and bends
- ▶ Dean flow
- ▶ generation of vortex pairs

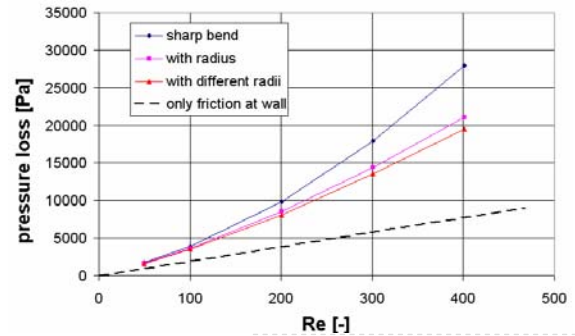


- ▶ pressure loss



$$\Delta p = p_1 - p_2 = \sum_i \left( \lambda_i \frac{L_i}{d_{h,i}} + \zeta_i \right) \cdot \frac{\rho}{2} w_1^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta p = m \cdot \frac{\rho}{2} w_1^n = m Re^n; \quad n = 1.2 - 1.8$$



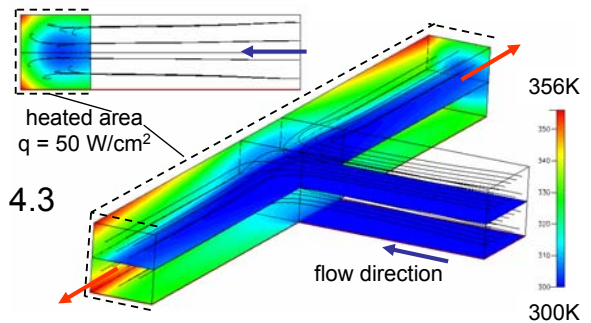
## Heat Transfer – Laminar Flow

- ◆ Simulation of the heat transfer in a micro channel:
  - ▶ Constant wall heat flux, 50 W/cm<sup>2</sup>,
  - ▶ Single phase flow, water,
  - ▶ Definition of the Nusselt number:

$$Nu_q = \frac{h_q d_h}{k} = \frac{q d_h}{k(\bar{T}_W - \bar{T}_F)}$$

- ▶ Laminar developed flow:
  - $q = const. \rightarrow Nu = const. = 4.3$
- ▶ Entrance flow and bend flow lead to vortices:
  - $\rightarrow Nu$  number increases.

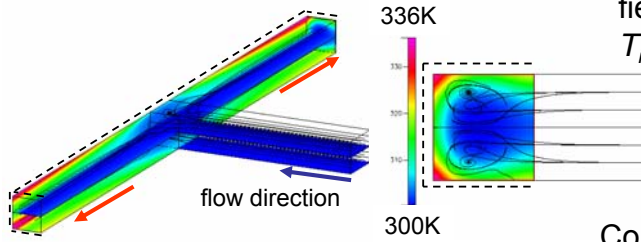
$T_{in} = 300K$ , water,  $Re_{in} = 26$   
 $d_h = 100\mu m$ , water



$h_q \approx 25.8 \text{ kW/m}^2\text{K}$

## Heat Transfer – Curved Flow

- ◆ Heat transfer in a T-joint micro channel with constant heat flux:



Streamlines and temperature fields,  $Re_{in} = 155$ ,  $Re_{out} = 109$ ,  $T_{in} = 300\text{ K}$

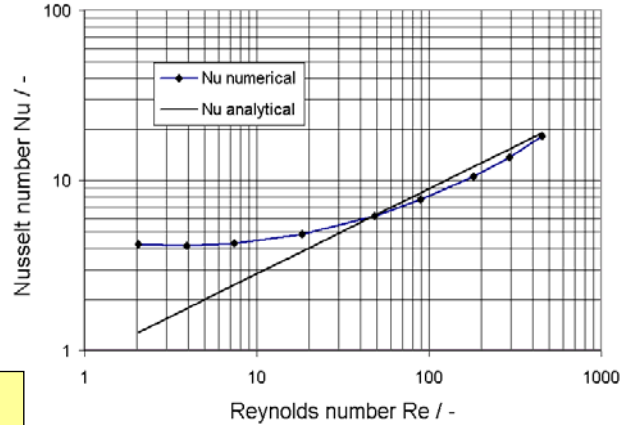
Heat transfer enhancement due to vortices.

Analytical calculation for developing flow conditions:

$$Nu_q = 0.664 Pr^{1/3} \sqrt{Re \frac{d_h}{L}}$$

$$Nu_q \approx 20 \rightarrow h_q \approx 120 \text{ kW/m}^2\text{K}$$

Comparison simulation - theory



## Heat Transfer – Curved Flow

- ◆ Microchannels with bends and joints:
- ▶ Entrance flow at each bend leads to vortices:  $\rightarrow$  Nu number is increased.

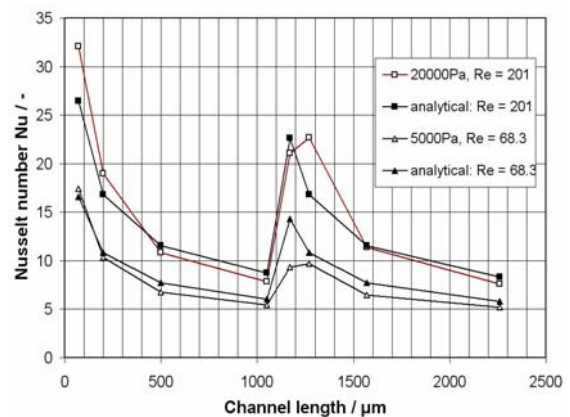
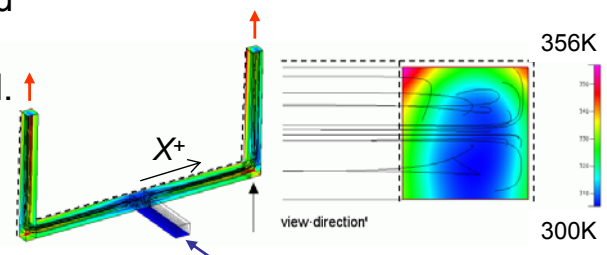
- ▶ Dimensionless length  $X^+$

$$X^+ = \frac{L}{d_h Pe} = \frac{L}{d_h Re \cdot Pr}$$

- ▶ Mean Nu number for the channel

$$Nu_{me} = \frac{Nu_m}{\tanh(2.432 Pr^{1/6} X^{+1/6})}$$

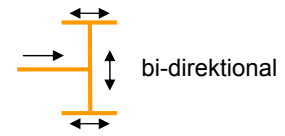
- ▶ Good agreement between simulation and analytical results.



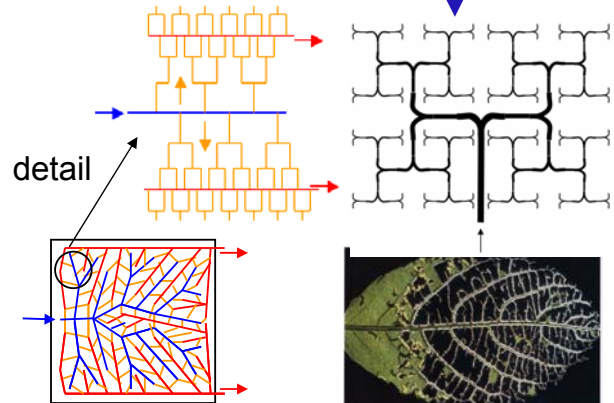
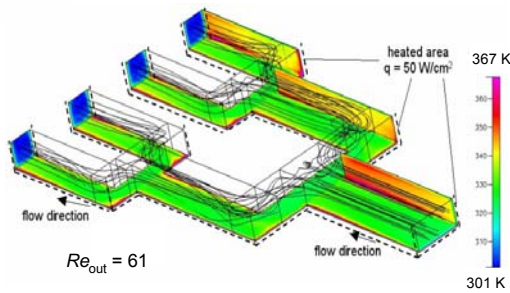
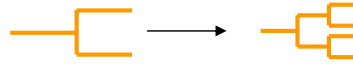
## Channel networks

- Layout acc. to Bejan's „*constructal*“ design method:  
 - element of 0th. order

- systems setup



- design of complex structures



▶ but: high pressure loss

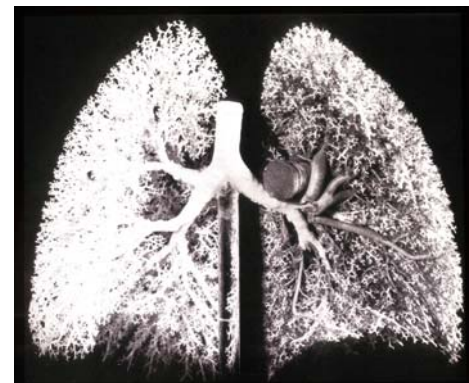
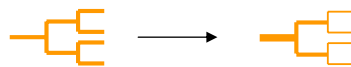
## Cross sections in channel systems

- Biological structures follow a certain pattern
- Murray's Law (also W.R. Hess, 1914)
- Example: Fork-shaped structure

1. Level                      z-Level

$$d_{h,0}^3 = \sum_i d_{h,i}^3$$

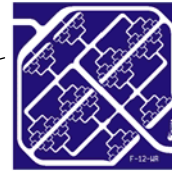
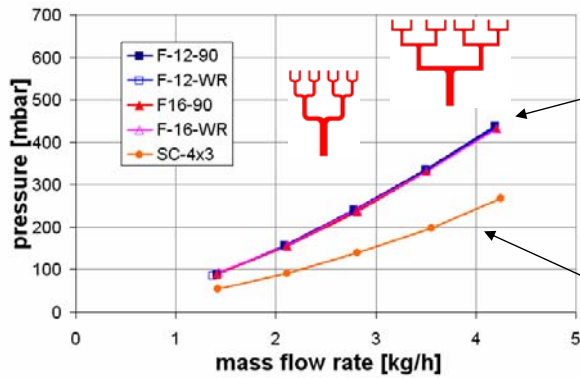
$$d_{h,1} = d_{h,0} 2^{-1/3}; \quad d_{h,z} = d_{h,0} 2^{-z/3}$$



Lungenflügel, [www.uni-ulm.de/klinik/chirurgie2/images/SPL-009.jpg](http://www.uni-ulm.de/klinik/chirurgie2/images/SPL-009.jpg)

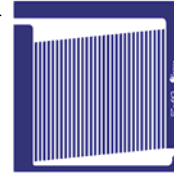
- ▶ Constant wall shear stresses  $\tau_w$
- ▶ Biggest resistance at the smallest parts
- ▶ Stabilized flow and homogeneous flow distribution

## Channel networks: Pressure loss



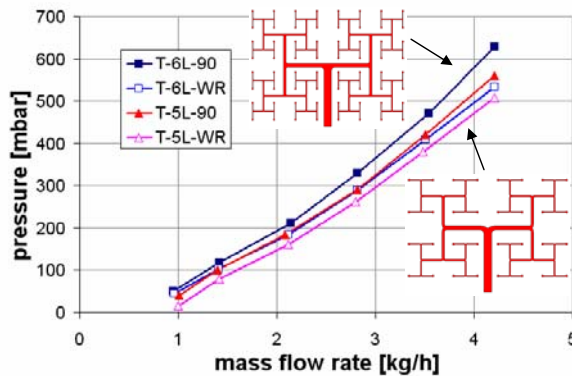
**Fork-shaped device**

- No influence of single branches



**Conventional device**

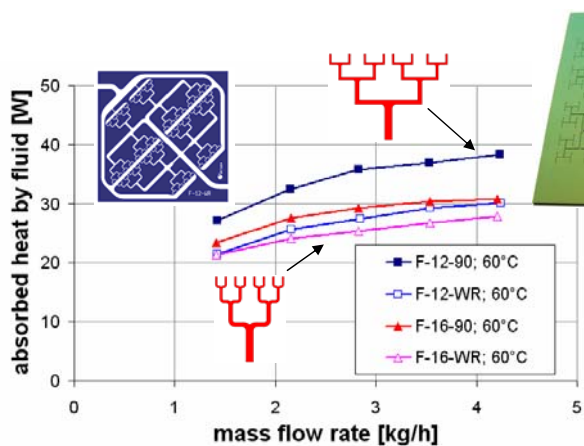
- Half of the pressure loss



**T- tree device**

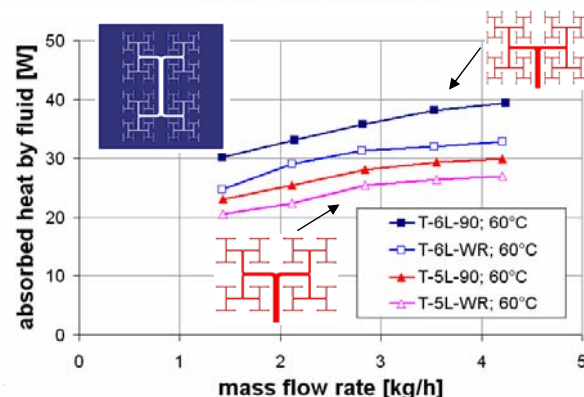
- Has the highest pressure loss
- Wedges reduce the pressure loss by 10-15%

## Channel networks: Heat transfer



**Fork-shaped device**

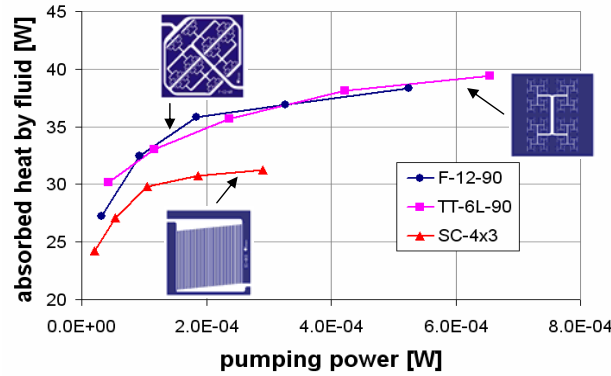
- Wider branches have a higher heat transfer rate
- Pressure optimized versions reduce the heat transfer significantly



**T- tree device**

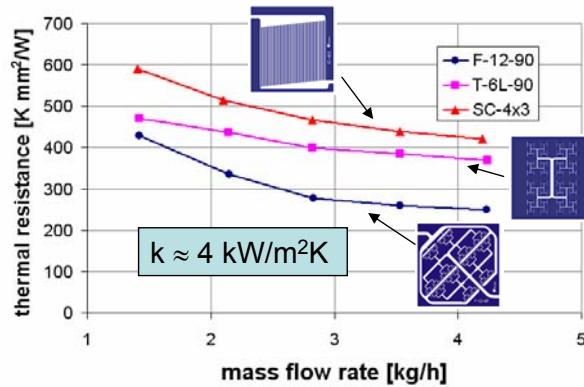
- More levels increase the heat transfer significantly
- Pressure optimized versions reduce the heat transfer significantly

## Experimental results: Comparison



### Absorbed heat

- 18% higher heat transfer rate at equal pumping power
- 26% higher heat transfer rate at equal mass flow rate



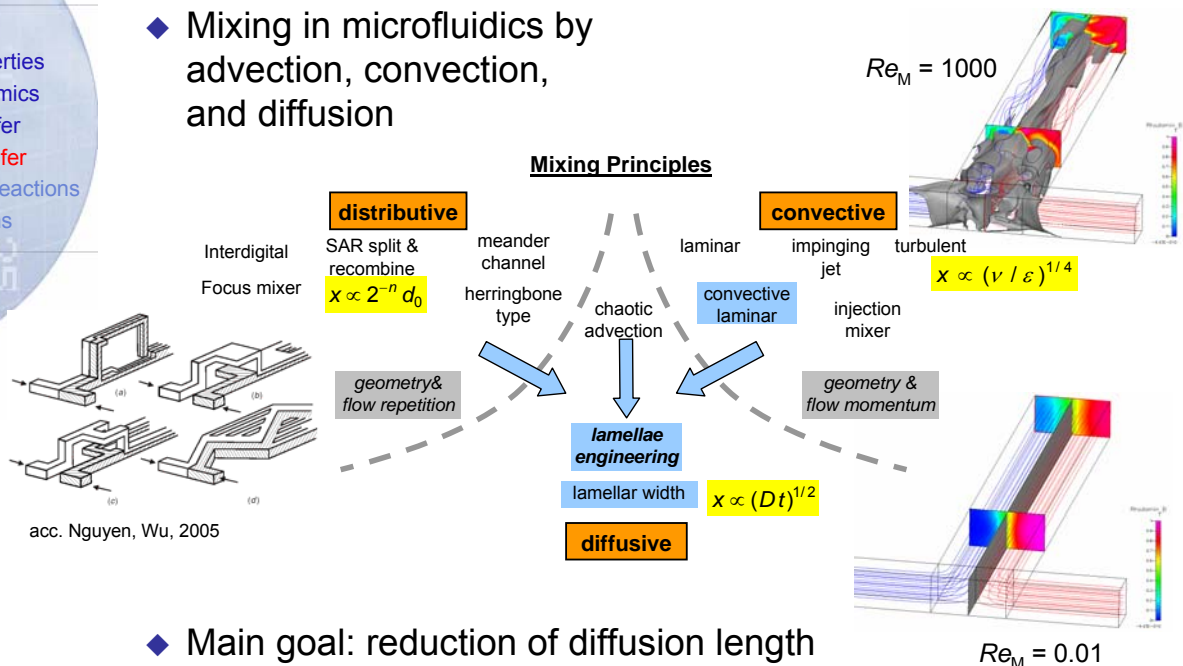
### Thermal resistance

$$R_{th} = \frac{(\bar{T}_{chip} - \bar{T}_{fluid}) \cdot A_{chip}}{\dot{Q}}$$

- 38% lower thermal resistance at equal pumping power
- 41% lower thermal resistance at equal mass flow rates

## Overview mixing principles

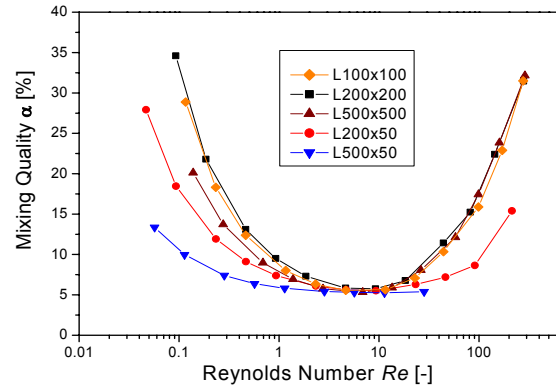
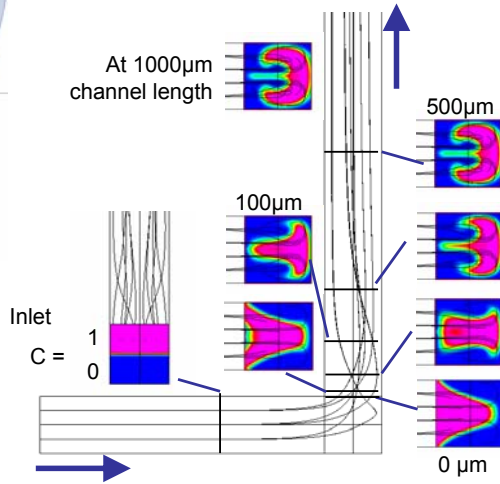
- ◆ Mixing in microfluidics by advection, convection, and diffusion



- ◆ Main goal: reduction of diffusion length
- ◆ Control of striation thickness

## Mixing in sharp 90° bend

- Simulation: streamlines and concentration fields
- 90° sharp bend (100×100 μm<sup>2</sup>)
- Re = 99, w = 0,85 m/s
- Re > 10 → vortex generation



residence time:  $t_p = \frac{l}{u}$

diffusion time:  $t_D = \frac{(d/2)^2}{2D} = \frac{d^2}{8D}$

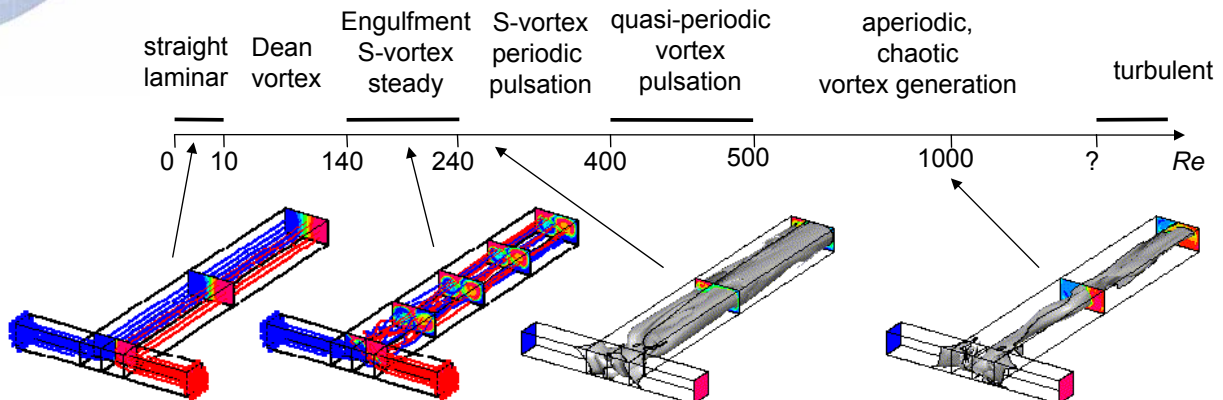
$\frac{t_D}{t_p} = \frac{d}{8l} Re \cdot Sc = \frac{Pe d}{8 l} \quad \alpha \propto \frac{1}{Re Sc} = \frac{1}{Pe}$

Dean number  $Dn = Re \left( \frac{d_h}{2R} \right)^{1/2}$

Schmidt number  $Sc = \frac{\nu}{D}$

## Channel structures, T-mixer

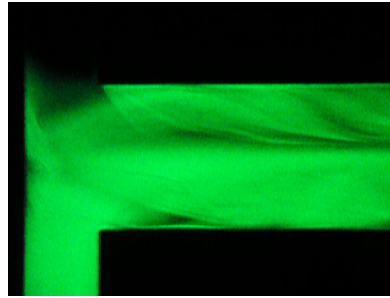
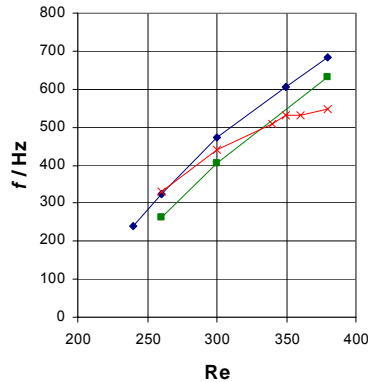
- transient flow in T-shaped micromixers  
 generation of vortex pairs and vortex shedding, wake flow
- symmetrical mixing 1:1
- asymmetrical flow for Re > 140
- periodic vortex pulsation for 240 < Re < 400
- quasi-periodic pulsation for 400 < Re < 500
- chaotic pulsations for 500 < Re < 1000 (min.)



## Transient flow regimes

- ▶ transient flow regimes in T-mixers, rectangular cross section typical frequencies

~ 500 Hz for T600x300x300,  $d_h = 400\mu\text{m}$   
 ~ 4500 Hz for T200x100x100,  $d_h = 133\mu\text{m}$

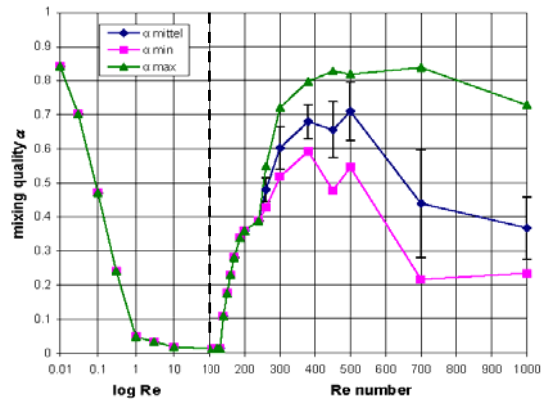


Re = 300, channel depth 300  $\mu\text{m}$   
 mixing channel width 600  $\mu\text{m}$   
 $f = 440$  Hz  
 fluorescence color Uranin

$$\text{Strouhal-Zahl } Sr = \frac{f \cdot d_h}{w} \approx 0.2$$

- ▶ Influence on mixing  
 Mixing quality

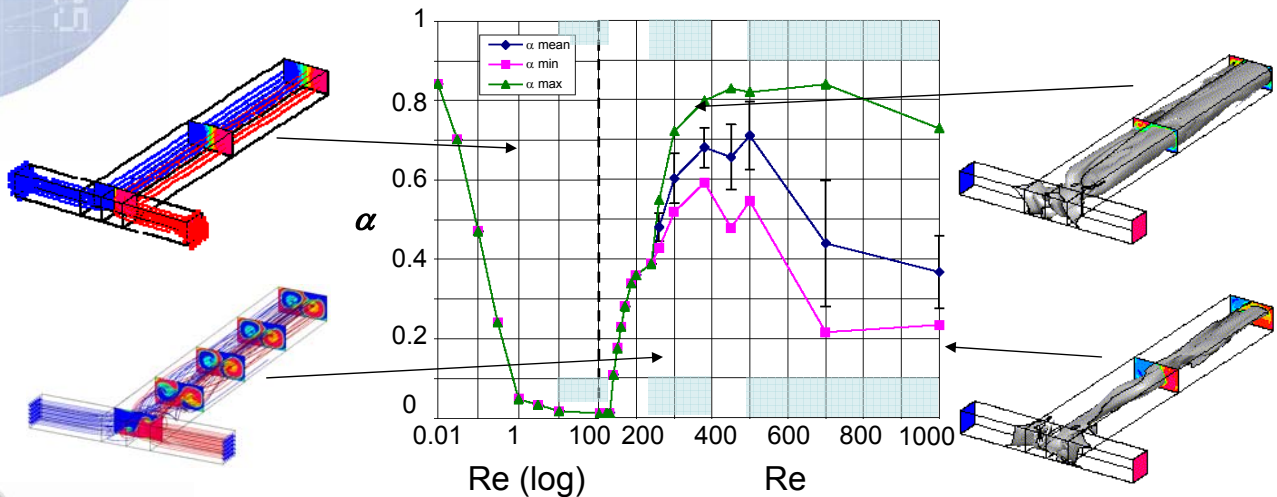
$$\alpha = 1 - \sqrt{\sigma^2 / \sigma_{\text{max}}^2}$$



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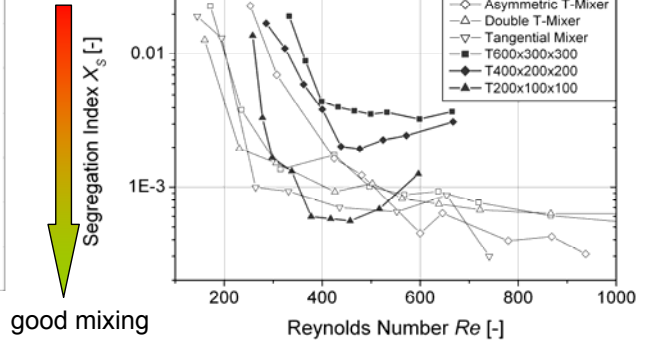
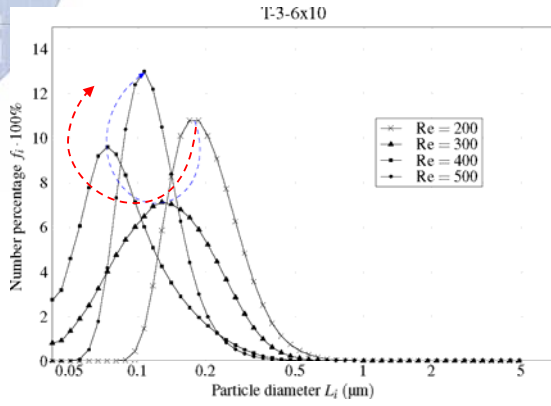
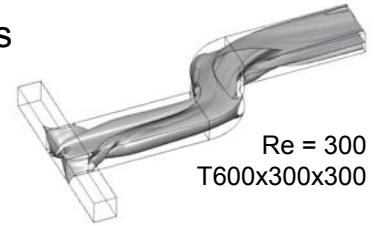
## Mixing regimes: Influence on the mixing quality

- ◆ Mixing quality (after 2 mm) depending on Re:
  - straight laminar und vortex flow: residence time is important
  - Engulfment and periodic pulsation: lamellae generation
  - chaotic flow: separation interface with bursts



## Results from chemical reactions

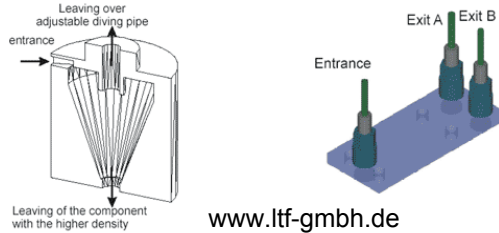
- ◆ Mixing in T-shaped device
- ◆ unsteady flow behavior in micromixers
- ◆ mixing in convective mixers
- ◆ particle precipitation  $BaSO_4$
- ◆ parallel-competitive reaction



- ➔ comparable behavior in precipitation and chemical reaction
- ➔ advanced devices necessary

## Channel structures, mixer

### ► Cyclone

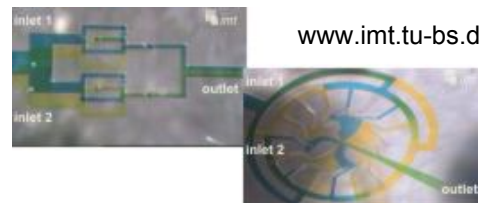
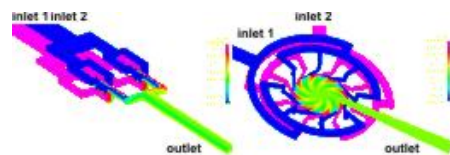


www.ltf-gmbh.de



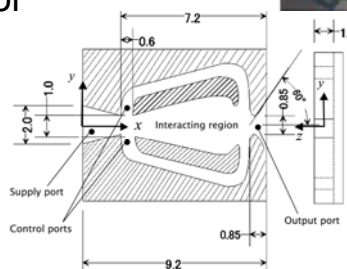
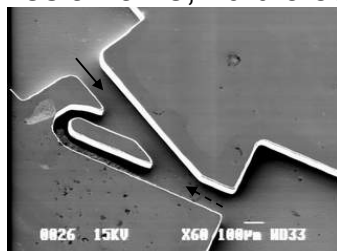
cyclone insert, FZK, Germany

### ► Vortex mixer



www.imt.tu-bs.de

### ► Tesla valve, fluidic oscillator



## Channel structures, axial dispersion

- ▶ mean residence time, plug flow

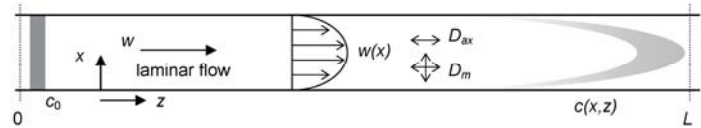
$$t_p = L / \bar{w}$$

- ▶ axial dispersion by diffusion and laminar convection

$$J_n = -D_{ax} A \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} \quad \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = -w \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} + D_{ax} \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial z^2}$$

$$D_{ax} = D_m + \frac{w^2 d_h^2}{C_D \cdot D_m}$$

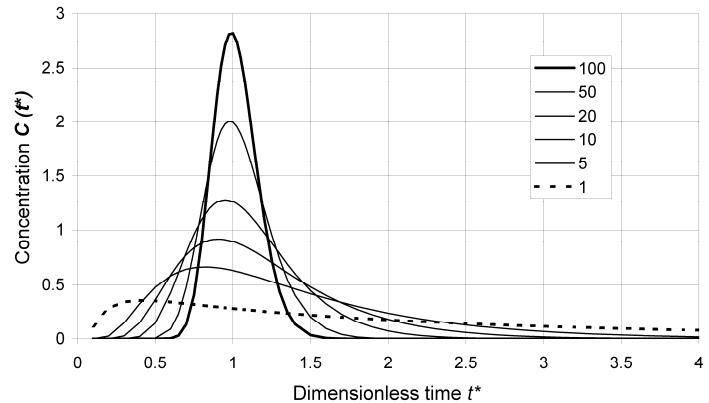
$$C_D \approx 192 - 210$$



- ▶ Bodenstein number

$$Bo = \frac{w \cdot L}{D_{ax}}$$

$$\frac{\partial c^*}{\partial t^*} = -\frac{\partial c^*}{\partial z^*} + Bo \frac{\partial^2 c^*}{\partial z^{*2}}$$



- ▶ residence time distribution

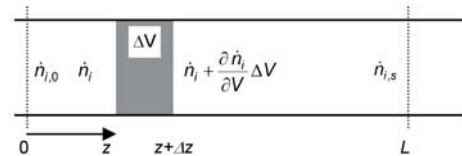
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## Chemical reactions in continuous flow

- ▶ reaction rate

$$\dot{n}_i - \dot{n}_{i,0} = V \cdot R_i = V \rho_m \sum_j v_{ij} \cdot r_j$$

$$\text{with } r_j = \pm k_j \prod_i c_i^{m_i}$$



- ▶ chemical reaction with diffusion and convection

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = -w \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} + D_{ax} \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial z^2} + \sum_j v_{ij} \cdot r_j$$

- ▶ typical time scales

- reaction time

$$t_R = \frac{c_i}{v_i r} \sim 1/k$$

- residence time

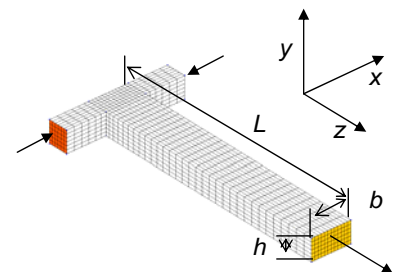
$$t_p = \frac{L_R}{w}$$

- diffusive mixing time

$$t_D = \frac{(b/2)^2}{2D_m} = \frac{b^2}{8D_m}$$

„turbulent“ micro mixing

$$t_E = 17.3 \left( \frac{V}{\varepsilon} \right)^{1/2}$$



- ▶ time scale ratio is expressed by Damköhler numbers

## Characteristic times of reaction and transport

- ▶ reactions and mass transfer
  - residence time  $\frac{t_P}{t_R} = \frac{v_i r L}{c_i \bar{w}} = DaI$
  - diffusive mixing time  $\frac{t_m}{t_R} = \frac{v_i r d_h^2}{c_i D_m} = DaII$

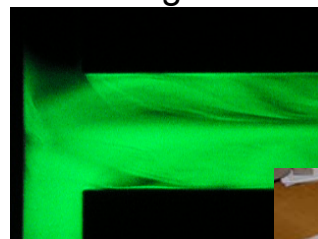
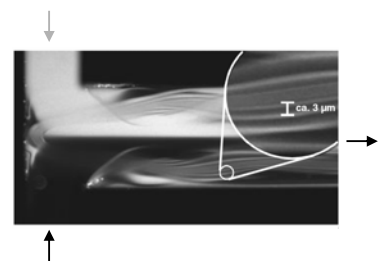
- ▶ design criteria
  - $DaI > 1$  complete reaction
  - $DaII < 1$  fast mixing, „pre-mixed“ reaction

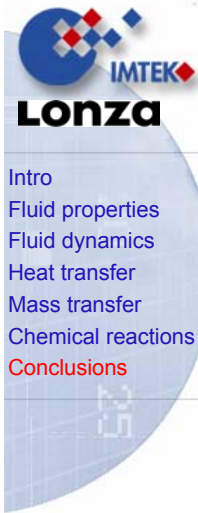
- ▶ reaction heat  $\Delta H_r$  and heat transfer
  - heat capacity of fluids  $\frac{\rho_m \Delta H_r r L}{\rho c_p \Delta T_z \bar{w}} = DaIII$
  - convective heat transfer  $\frac{\rho_m \Delta H_r r d_h^2}{\lambda_w \Delta T_w} = DaIV$

- ▶ design criteria
  - $DaIII \sim 1$  isothermal reaction
  - $DaIV < 1$  mitigation of hot spots

## Summary

- ▶ Why micro process engineering?
- ▶ Scaling and fluid behavior
- ▶ Laminar flow regime and vortex generation
- ▶ Channel elements
- ▶ Microfluidic devices with chemical reactions





## Thanks to

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Research project „Effective micromixer“



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„Integrated Processes with Microreactors“



Lonza AG, Visp, R&D Exclusive Synthesis



**Thank You for Your Attention!**



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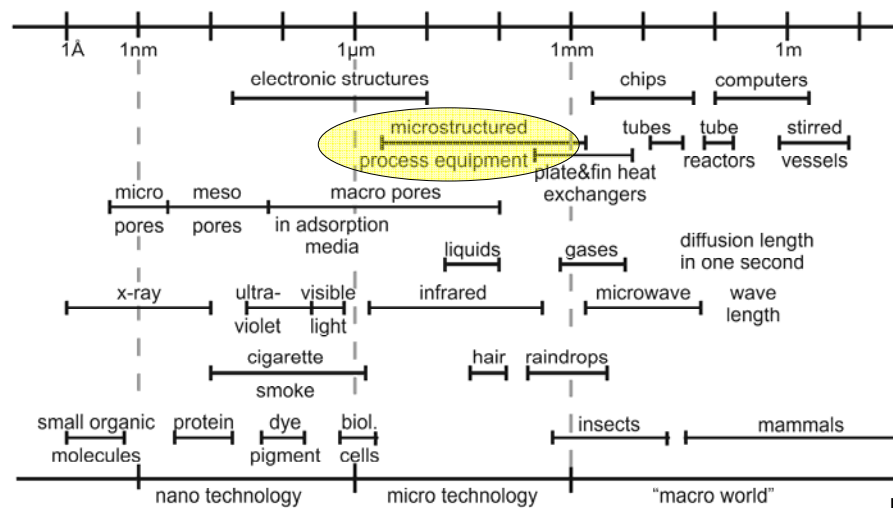
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- ▶ N. Kockmann, M. Engler, P. Woias, Theoretische und experimentelle Untersuchungen der Mischvorgänge in T-förmigen Mikroreaktoren – 3: Konvektives Mischen und chemische Reaktionen, Chemie-Ingenieur-Technik 76 (2004) 1777-1783
- ▶ S. Nedeia et al. Density distribution for a dense hard-sphere gas in micro/nano-channels: Analytical and simulation results, J. Comp. Physics 219 (2006) 532–552
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# Length scales

## typical regimes



- ▶ micro structures enlarge the process space
- ▶ on small length scales, the behavior of single atoms or molecules becomes important
- ▶ fluid properties may change!

## Typical dimensions, where pulsations do occur?

- ◆ periodic fluctuations at  $240 < Re < 400$
- ◆ typical frequencies of 500 Hz,  $Sr \approx 0,2$
- ◆ typical channel dimensions  $100 < d_h < 1000 \mu\text{m}$  for water at 20 °C

