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Piotr Korczyk, Paweł Jawor, Ladislav Derzsi, Piotr Sieradzki

MULTIFLUIDIC FLOW IN LIQUID DROPLETS

Institute of Fundamental Technological Research, Polish Academy of Sciences, ul. Pawińskiego 5B, 02-106 Warsaw (Poland)
Institute of Physical Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences, ul. Kasprzaka 44/52, 01-224 Warsaw (Poland)
E-mail: piotr.korczyk@ippt.gov.pl, garst@ichf.edu.pl

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Techniques operating on droplets and treating them as single reactors are very promising due to their advantages: i) lack of dispersion, ii) fast mixing, iii) superior control on kinetics of reactions, iv) easy to parallelization v) small volume. The challenge is to control the size and content of each droplet simultaneously.

We present concept of microfluidic modules that taking advantage of the capillary back-pressure, allow to trap, dose and realize precise portion of liquid. The precision is encrypted in the geometry of the device and a large mismatch of shear stresses and capillary forces. This mismatch guarantees reproducibility over a wide range of rates of flow that need not be controlled precisely. We also demonstrate that these modules allow to build systems that perform complicated protocols precisely while not precise control.

![Image](image_url)

Fig. 1: Example of metering trap. a) – filling the trap by the flow of long droplet, b) – droplet passing the filled trap.

REFERENCES