

# Adaptation and Design of Panels for the CyTOF

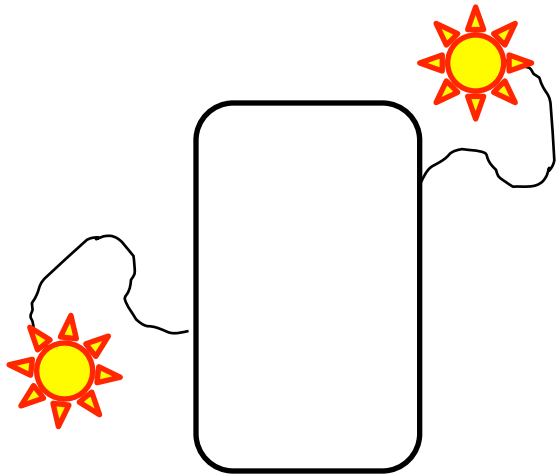
December 5, 2014

CyTOF User Meeting – University of Virginia

Mike Leipold

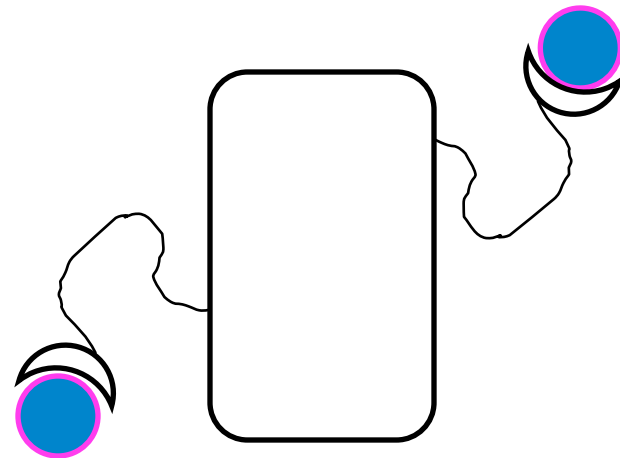
# Two Different Approaches to Simultaneous Detection

Fluorophores



Fluorometer

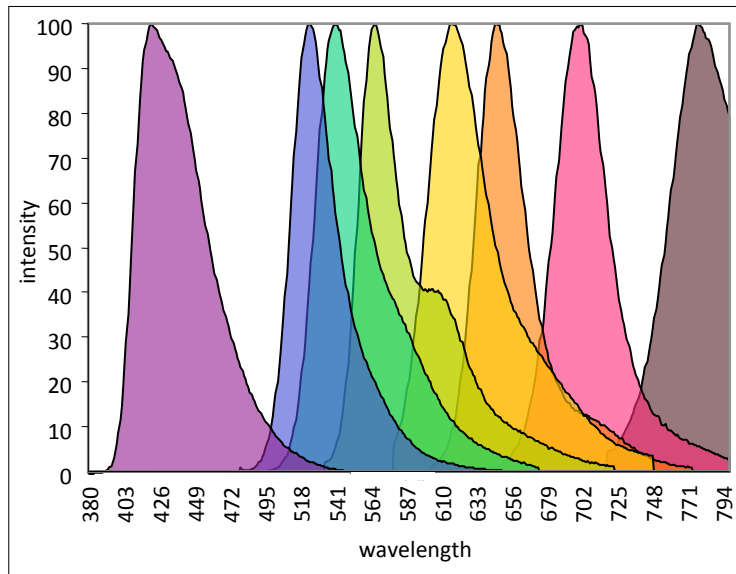
Elemental Tagging



Inductively Coupled Plasma  
Mass Spectrometry  
(ICP-MS)

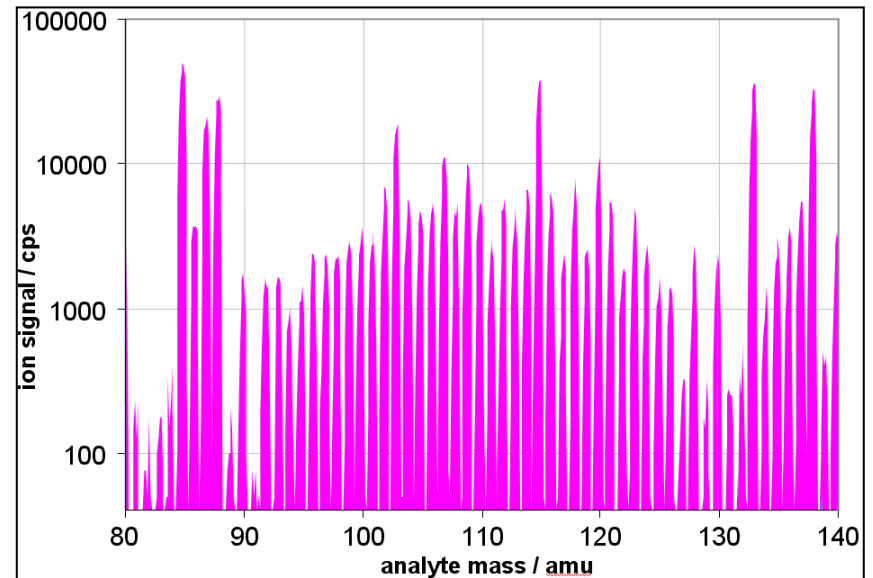
# Two Different Approaches to Simultaneous Detection

8 Alexa Fluorophores



LSR II

Elemental Tagging



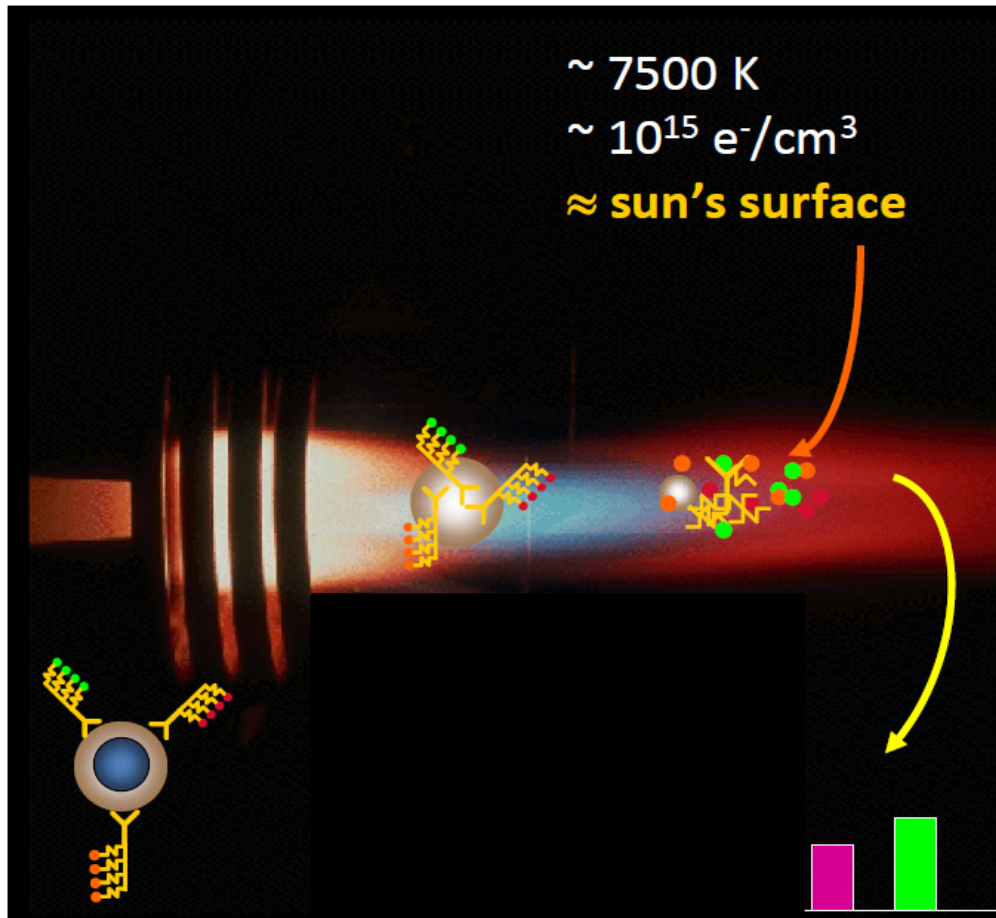
CyTOF

# Overview

1. CyTOF – the machine, pros and cons
2. Panel development – background, desired signals
3. Experimental procedures – antibodies, reagents
4. Running samples – example data
  - LSRII vs CyTOF
  - Flu 2010, 2011

# Part 1 – The CyTOF

# Single Cell Analysis - CyTOF™ Machine

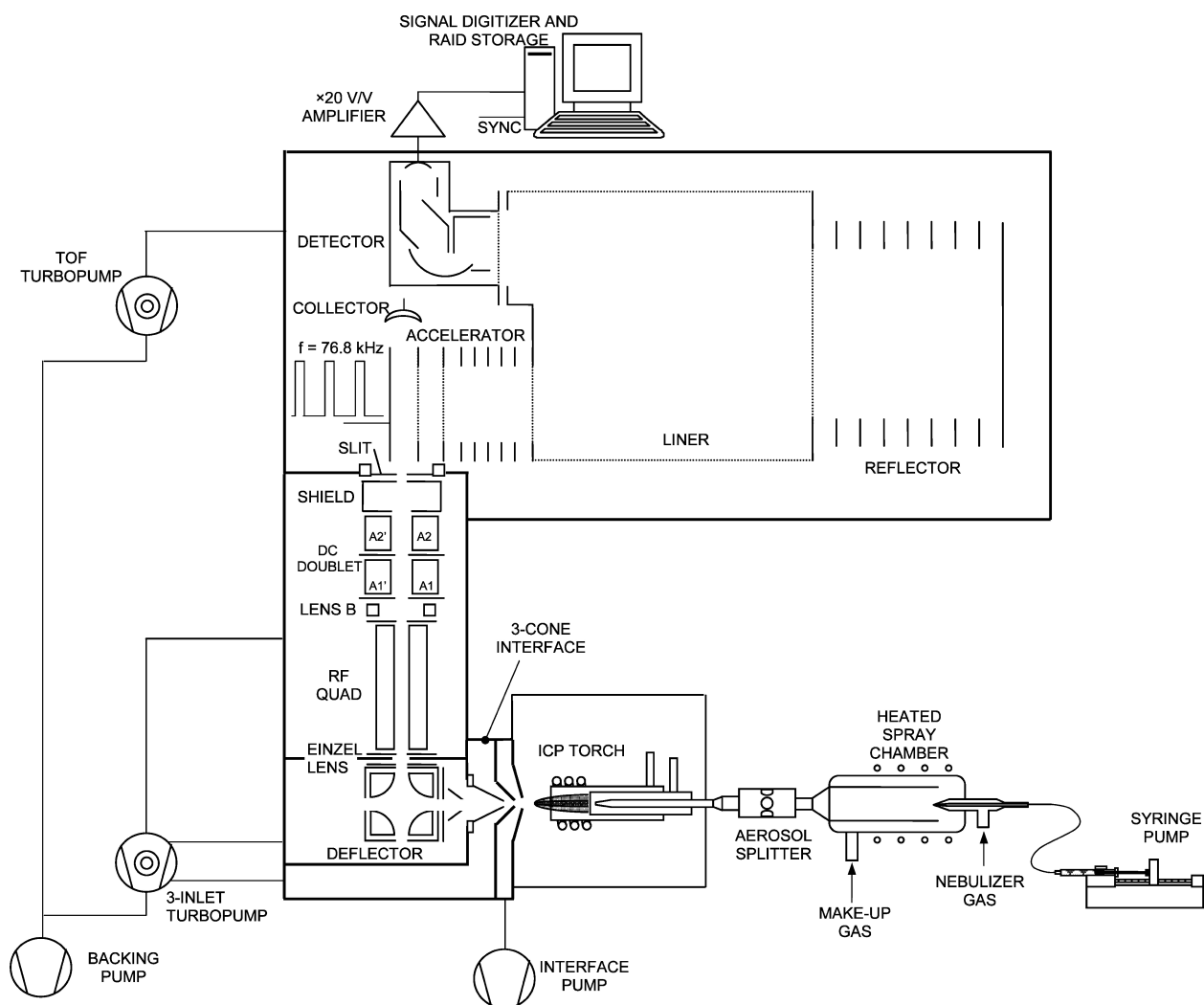


Flow Interface to ICP-MS

- Nebulizer – vaporizes
- Argon Plasma – atomizes and ionizes
- Mass analyzer

Figure courtesy O. Ornatsky

# Single Cell Analysis - CyTOF™ Machine

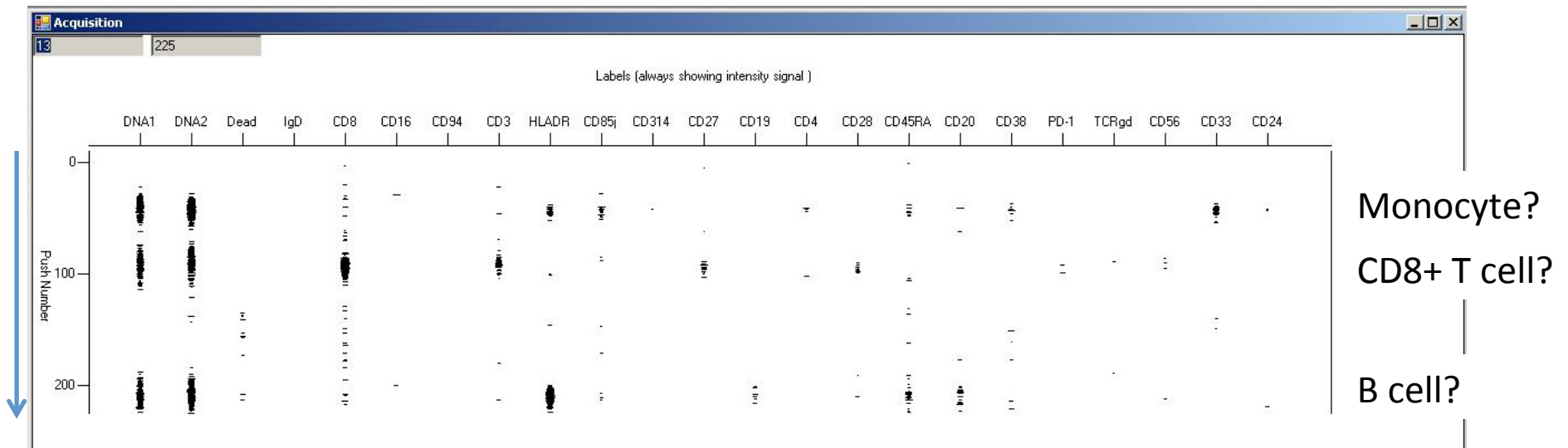


Published in: Dmitry R. Bandura; Vladimir I. Baranov; Olga I. Ornatsky; Alexei Antonov; Robert Kinach; Xudong Lou; Serguei Pavlov; Sergey Vorobiev; John E. Dick; Scott D. Tanner; *Anal. Chem.* **2009**, 81, 6813-6822.

DOI: 10.1021/ac901049w

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# Display of Cell Events



- "Push" analogous to time: 76,800 pushes/sec: 220 displayed here (1/400 of data)



# Pros of CyTOF

- Advantages:
  - Minimal "spectral" overlap – higher dimensionality (more probes at once)
  - Quantitative – broad dynamic range
  - Not light- or time-sensitive
  - Minimal background
    - no analogy to autofluorescence: low/nil biological background for lanthanides

# Cons of CyTOF

- Disadvantages:
  - Destructive: (currently) no way to recover interesting cells
  - Slower: limit of 1000 cells/sec; practical limit for best resolution often in ~400 cells/sec range
  - Cell transmission efficiency: only ~20-30% of cells that enter machine get counted
  - Ion transmission efficiency: only ~1 in 10,000 ions that enter machine get counted

# Cons of CyTOF

- Disadvantages:
  - Postprocessing: cannot set “on fly” gates to get only “live intact singlets”
    - Events registered by CyTOF contains debris, doublets, etc
    - Might only get ~50% of total events as “live intact singlets”
  - No analogy to FSC or SSC: MUST have marker ( $M^{n+}$ ) for any gating

# Single Cell Analysis - CyTOF™ Machine

- CyTOFv1 – ~2010-May 2013
  - Mass window ~93 units: eg, AW 103-195
- CyTOFv2 – May 2013-current
  - Mass window ~135 units: eg, AW 78-212
  - More automated tuning, including recordkeeping
  - Improvements in ion optics
    - tighter peaks, less "spillover"

## Part 2 – Panel Design

# Relevant Issues to Panel Design

1. Background – any non-desired signal
  - contaminating signals
  - antibody titer (not discussed)
2. Desired Signal
  - antibody clone
  - metal label – analogous to fluorophore choice

# Relevant Issues to Panel Design – Background Signals

\* Desired signal only at Mass "M"

1. M+16 – oxide – cannot eliminate, can only limit
2. Metal salt impurities – M+1, M-1, etc; Ln
3. Environmental contamination – sample
4. Instrument

\* All potential sources of background, even spillover!

# Relevant Issues to Panel Design – Background Signals

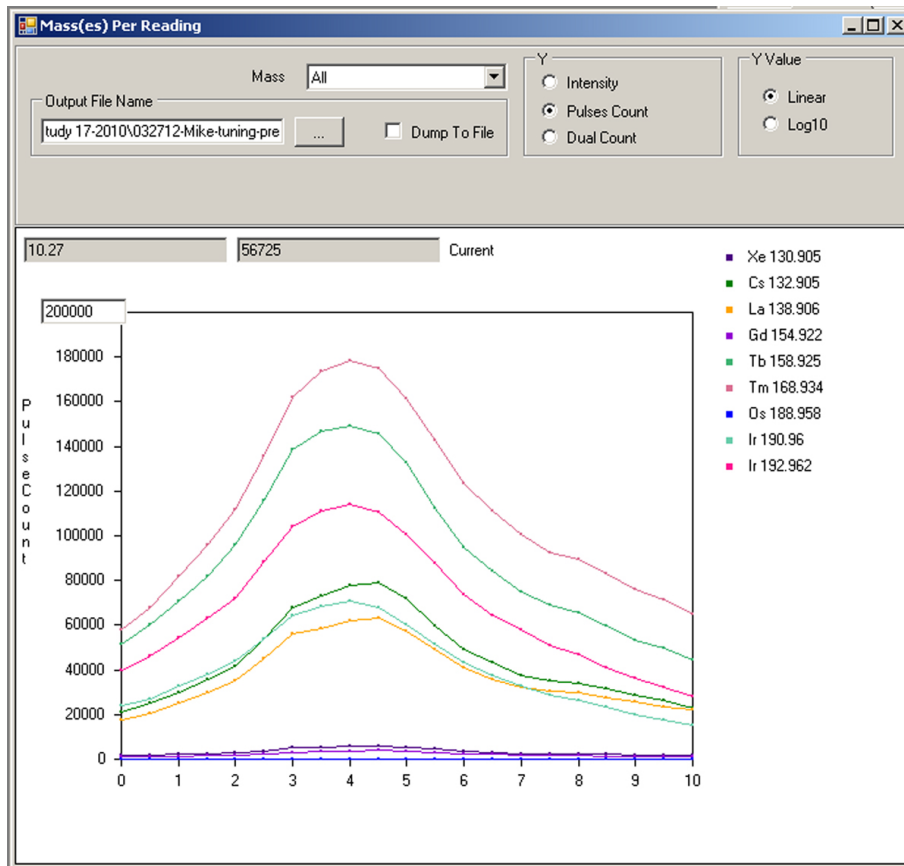
\* Desired signal only at Mass "M"

1. M+16 – oxide – cannot eliminate, can only limit
  - Proper daily machine tuning
  - Lower AW Ln = worse

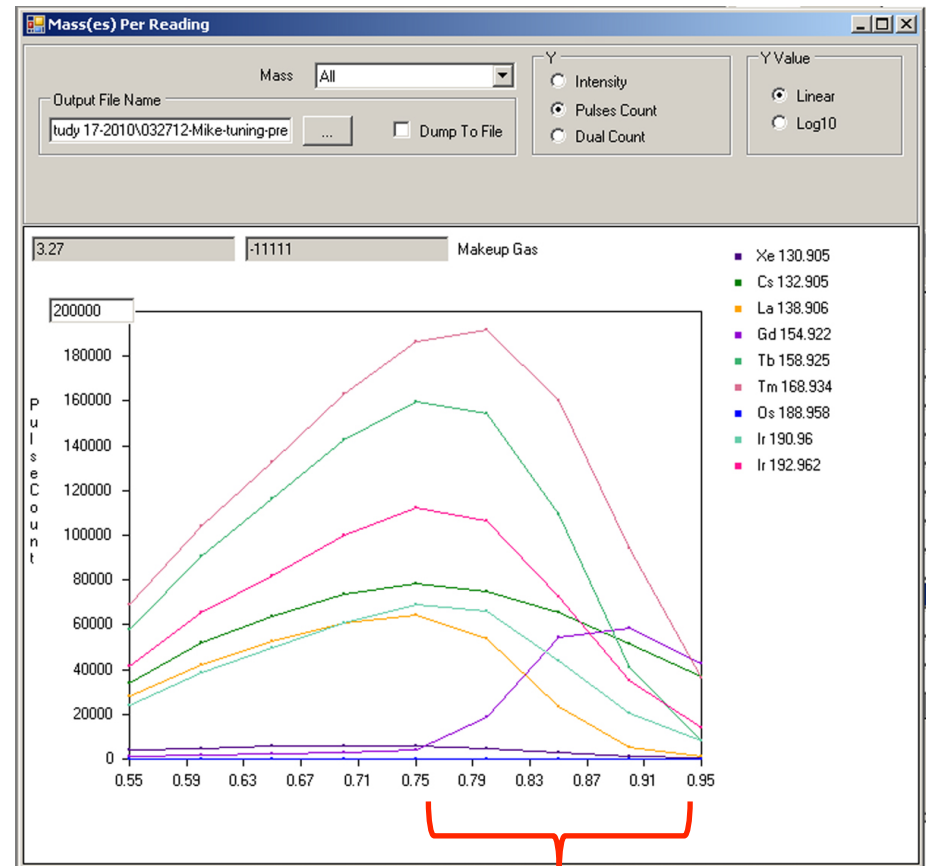


# Daily Tuning – Liquid Tuning Solution

## Current profile

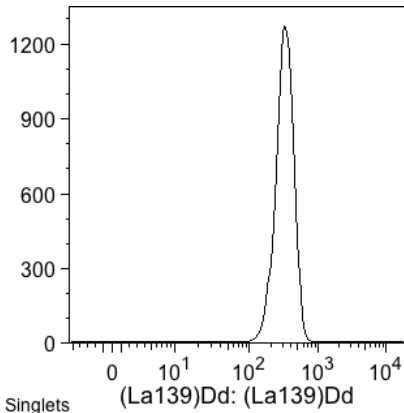


## Make-up Gas profile

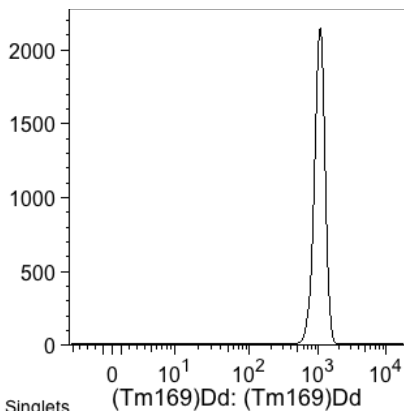
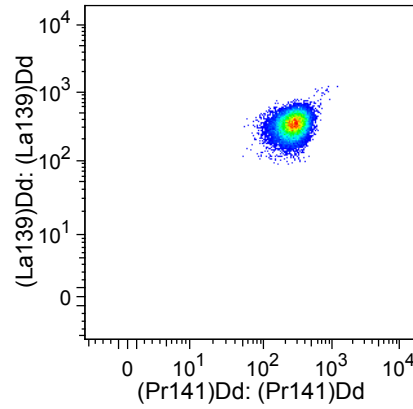


# DVS Elemental Beads – "Cells"

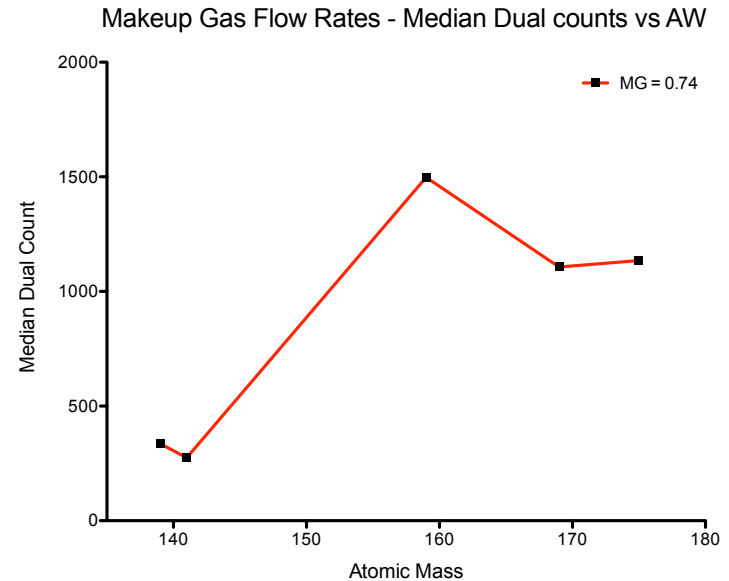
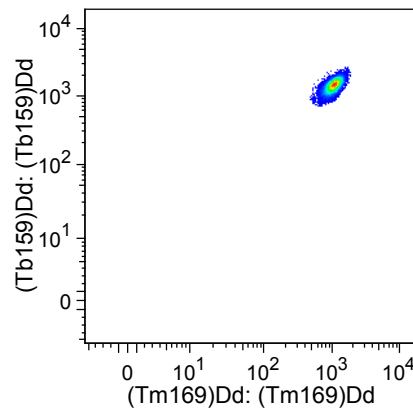
- Polystyrene beads: contain nat. abund. Eu; or La, Pr, Tb, Tm, Lu
- Act as "cells" run in acquisition mode (vs. tuning/solution mode)



Singlets  
051812-Mike-multiLn beads-MG074\_cells\_found.txt  
Event Count: 20959

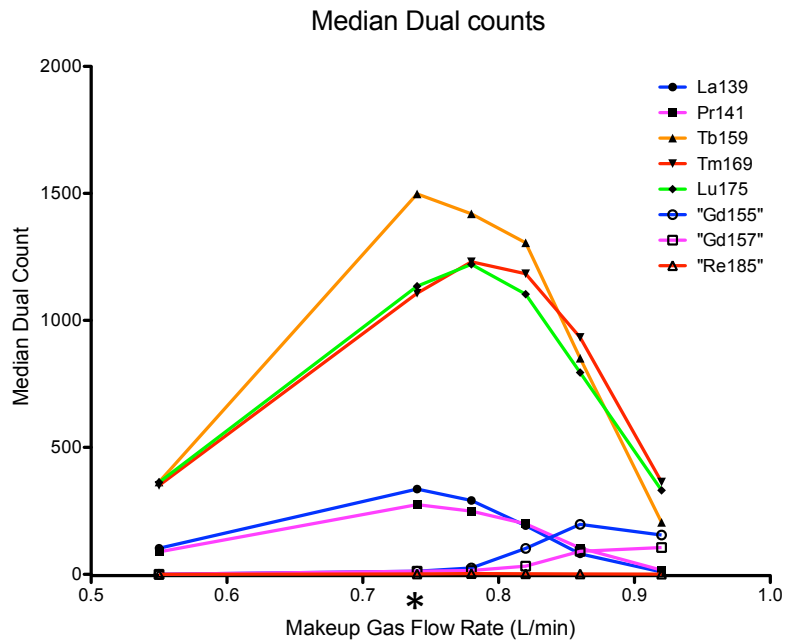


Singlets  
051812-Mike-multiLn beads-MG074\_cells\_found.txt  
Event Count: 20959

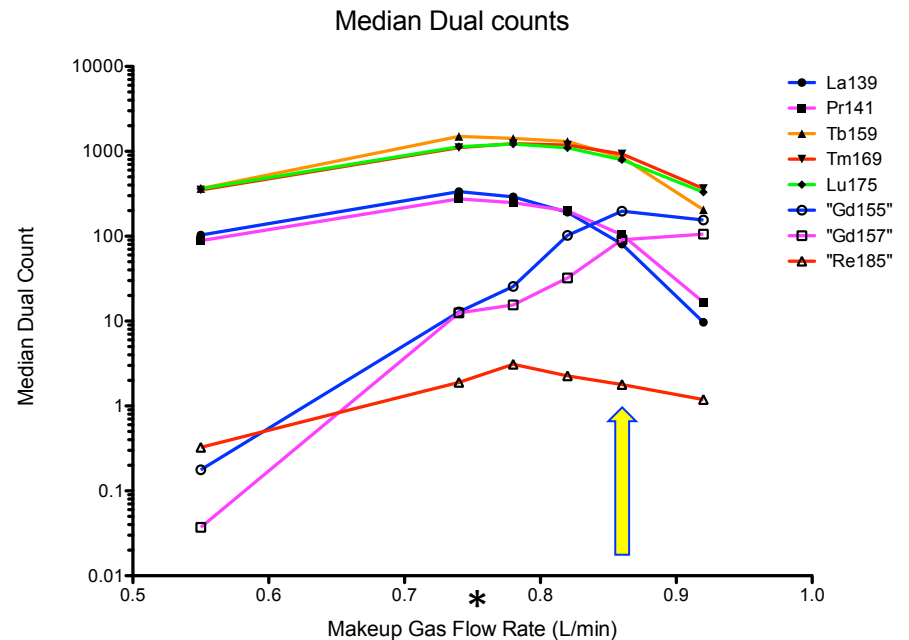


# Effect of Tuning – Beads - Oxidation

## Linear Scale



## Log Scale



- At high MG flow rate, oxidation can be significant (decreases M, increases M+16 spillover)
- Even a few percent can be significant for high-abundance markers (eg, CD57, histone proteins, CD45, etc)

# Relevant Issues to Panel Design – Background Signals

\* Desired signal only at Mass "M"

## 2. Metal salt impurities

a) Few lanthanides are naturally 100% monoisotopic

- e.g., Nd144 signal in Nd145 salt
- M+1, M-1, etc

b) Other lanthanide contaminations – all Ln chemistry is similar

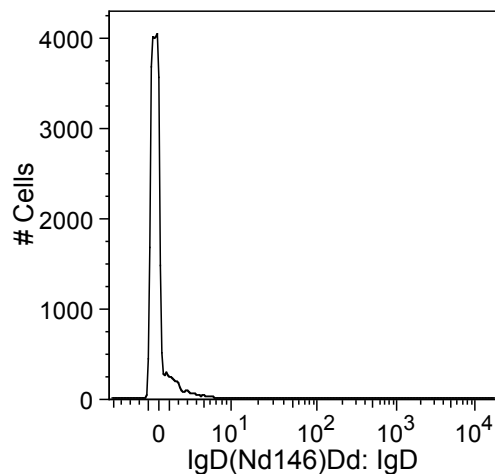
- La139 most common contaminant



# BD Ig K Capture Beads and MAXPAR Antibodies

M-1

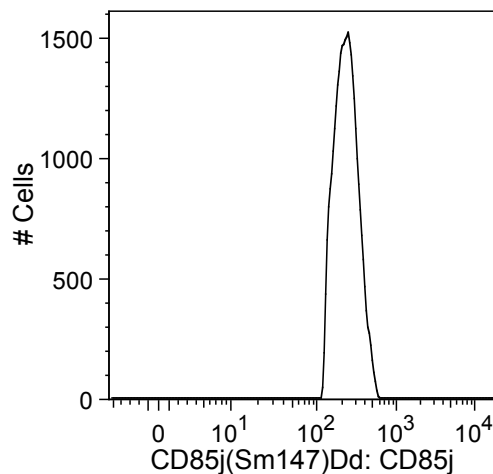
146



No "Sm146"  
- 146 is Nd

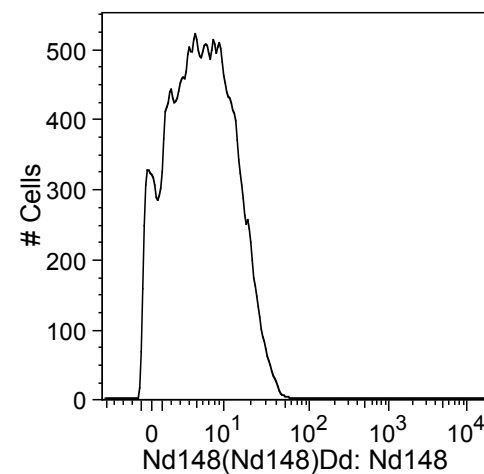
M

Sm147



M+1

148



\* Spillover due to elemental and/or isotopic impurities, not strictly mass proximity

# Major Contaminants/Spillovers: Percentage of M

	M-2	M-1	M	M+1	M+2	M+16
In113	0	-0.3	100	-0.1	1	0
Nd142	-0.2	-0.2	100	0.53	-0.1	3.39
Nd143	-0.4	-0.2	100	1.32	-0.3	3.06
Nd144	-0.4	-0.3	100	0.2	-0.3	2.68
Nd146	-0.1	-0.1	100	0.42	-0.1	2.99
Sm147	-0.2	-0.2	100	2.58	0.09	0.44
Sm149	-0.2	-0	100	1.71	-0.3	-0.08
Nd150	-0.2	-0.2	100	0.43	-0.2	1.67
Eu151	-0.1	-0.1	100	0.52	0.11	-0.12
Sm152	-0.2	-0.2	100	0.43	-0.1	-0.08
Sm154	0.25	-0	100	0.5	-0.1	0.3
Gd156	-0.1	0.31	100	2.46	0.24	0.72
Dy164	0.05	0.77	100	0.37	-0	0.72
Ho165	-0.1	-0.1	100	0.71	-0.1	0.53
Er166	-0.1	-0	100	1.16	-0	0.67
Er167	-0.2	0.27	100	2.14	-0.1	0.52
Er168	-0	0.6	100	0.72	0.01	0.99
Er170	0.3	-0.1	100	0.86	-0.1	0.97
Yb171	-0.2	-0.1	100	3.15	-0.1	-0.47
Yb174	-0	0.24	100	0.66	0.06	-0.03
Lu175	-0.2	-0.1	100	2.33	-0.1	63.8
Yb176	0.74	-0.1	100	1.31	-0.1	-0.22

- M+1 and M+16 are usually the major spillovers

- Only Fluidigm metals shown; non-Fluidigm metals can be worse

\* Ir191 contam?

# Major Contaminants/Spillovers: Cell Data

- \* Formerly, Fluidigm sold Dy162 and Dy164, but not Dy163
  - Dy purity issues

Regular Phenotyping panel:

CD45RA-Dy162

CD20-Dy164

- \* no Dy163 antibody in experiment, so not usually monitored



# Major Contaminants/Spillovers: Cell Data

CD45RA-Dy162

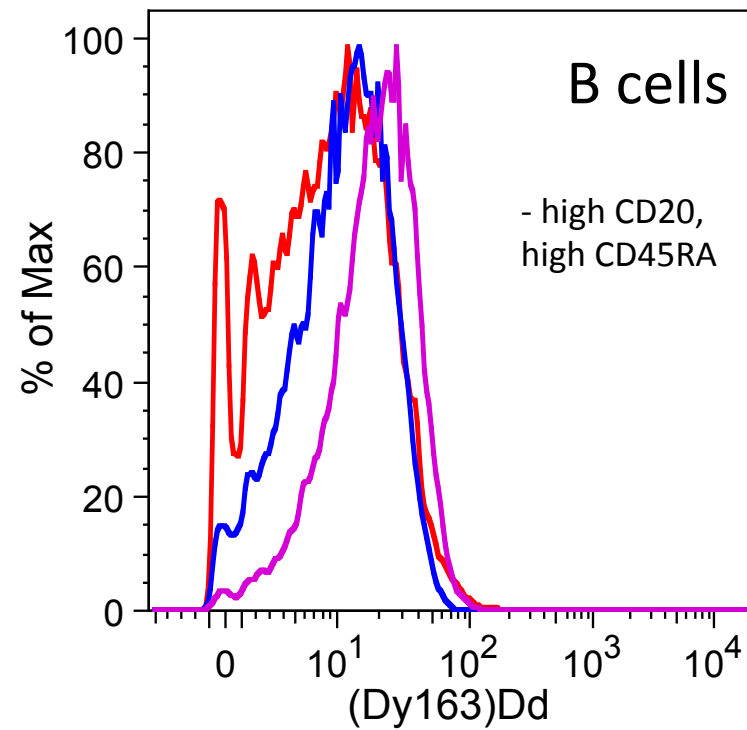
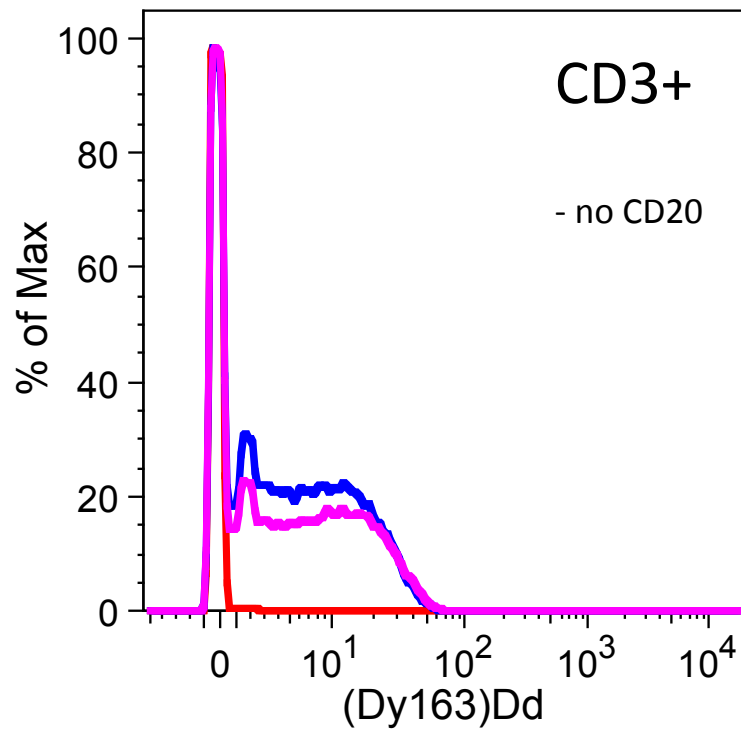
CD20-Dy164

\* no Dy163 antibody in experiment!

Magenta: both Dy162, Dy164

Blue: Dy162 only

Red: Dy164 only



# Relevant Issues to Panel Design – Background Signals

## 3. Environmental contamination

- Reagents – PFA lots with microparticles, MeOH with free metal, Ar gas with Sn
- Biological sourcing – Iodine (free I vs IdU), Pt in cisplatin-treated donor samples
- Lab dust
- Barium, lead, etc – dish soap, syringes, reagent sourcing, striker flint, etc

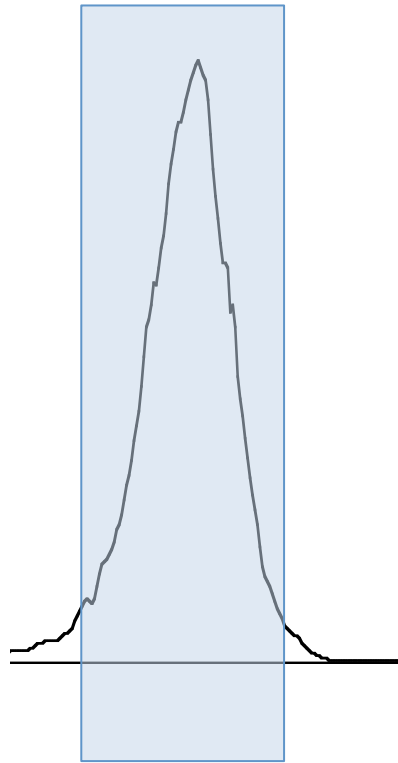
# Relevant Issues to Panel Design – Background Signals

## 4. Instrument Abundance Sensitivity

– left (M-1) and right (M+1) leg of ion peak

- CyTOFv1: 0-1%

- CyTOFv2: <0.3%



- Worse with high AW masses:  
peak less Gaussian, M+1 leg  
wider

# Major Contaminants/Spillovers: Percentage of M

- \* CyTOF spillover - still much less than Fluorescence spillover!
- \* All proportional to signal at Mass "M" .....

## 1. Match marker abundance with metal brightness

- 1% of 300 is 3 (background)
- 1% of 3000 is 30 (probably not background)

## 2. Mutually exclusive lineages

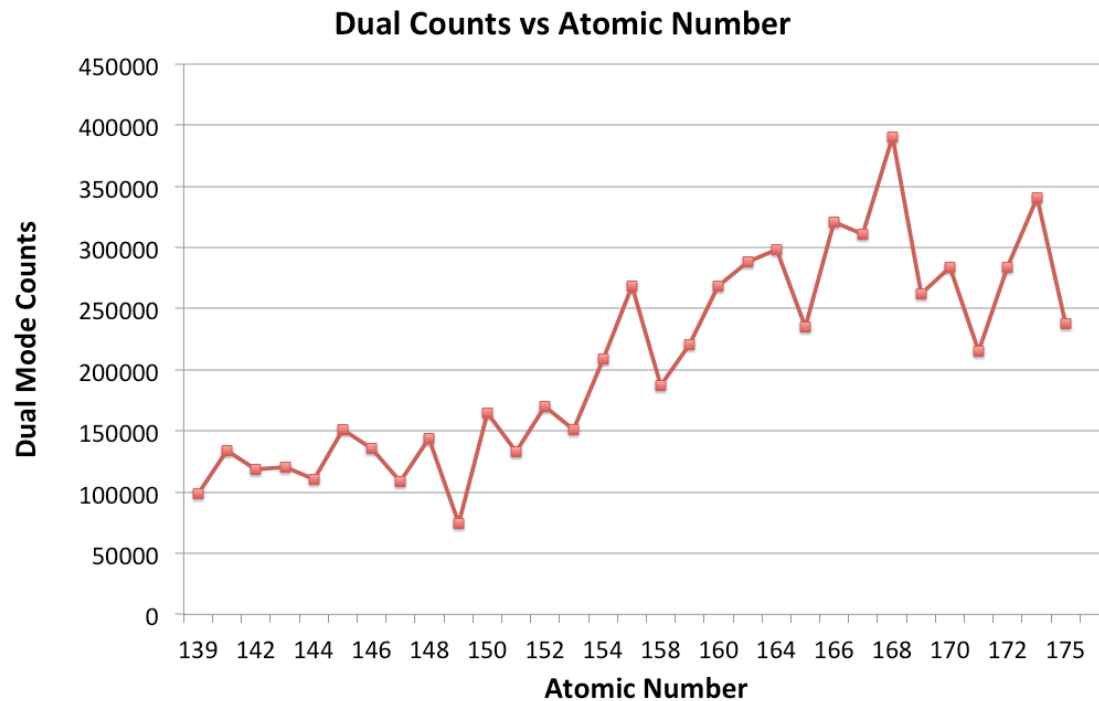
- T cell marker followed by B cell marker

## 3. Dump channels for most contaminated isotopes

- analyze the "negative" cells

# Desired Signal Intensity- Choice of Metal

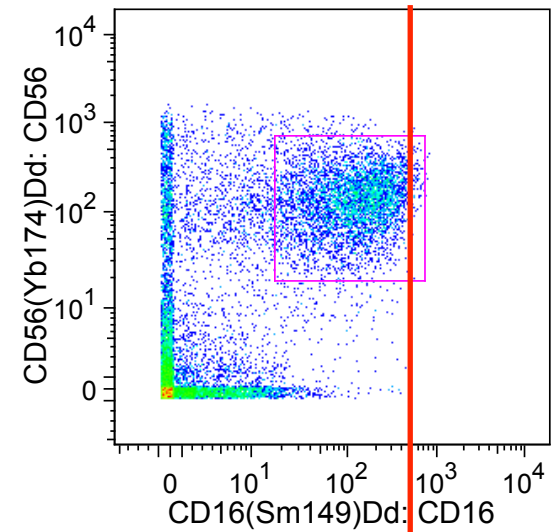
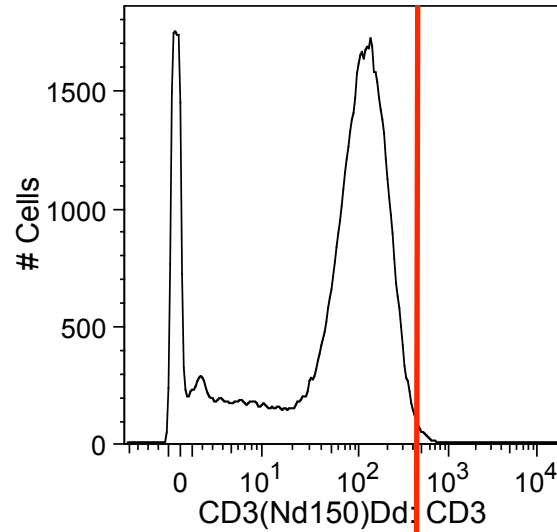
Reminder: you cannot detect anything that doesn't have bound metal  
- No scatter to gate monocytes from lymphocytes, etc



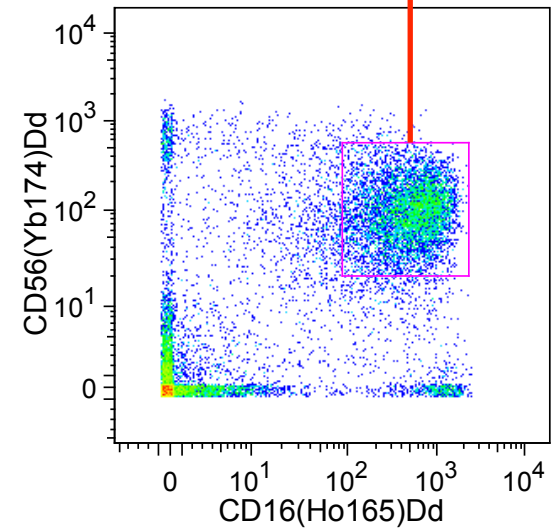
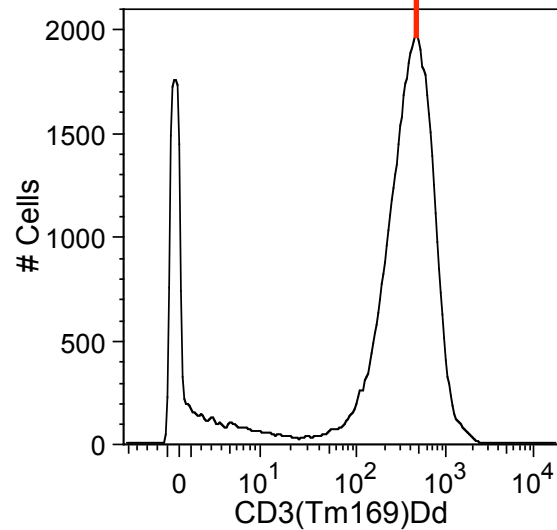
- Only about 3-fold difference in signal across lanthanides
- Switching lanthanides might help only in borderline cases

# Desired Signal Intensity- Choice of Metal

Lower sensitivity  
(139-150)

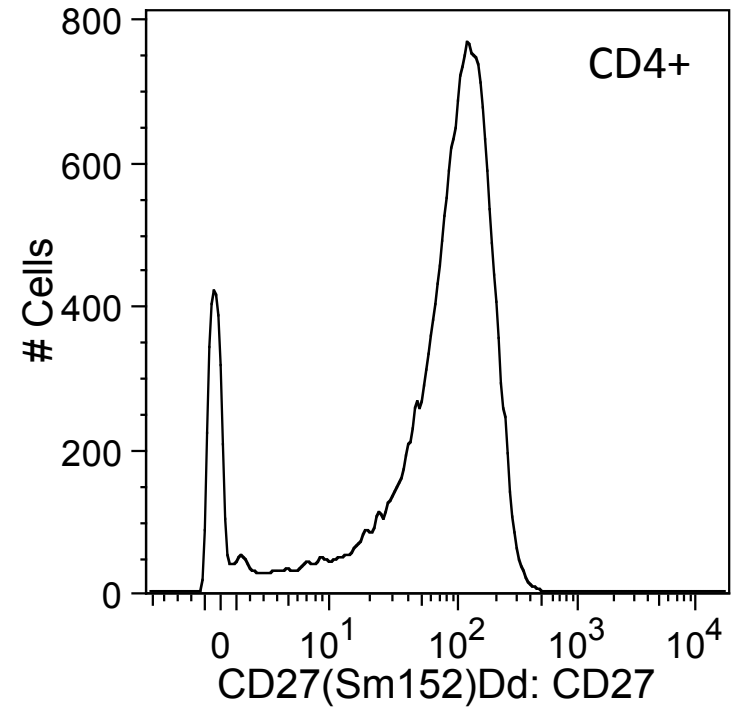
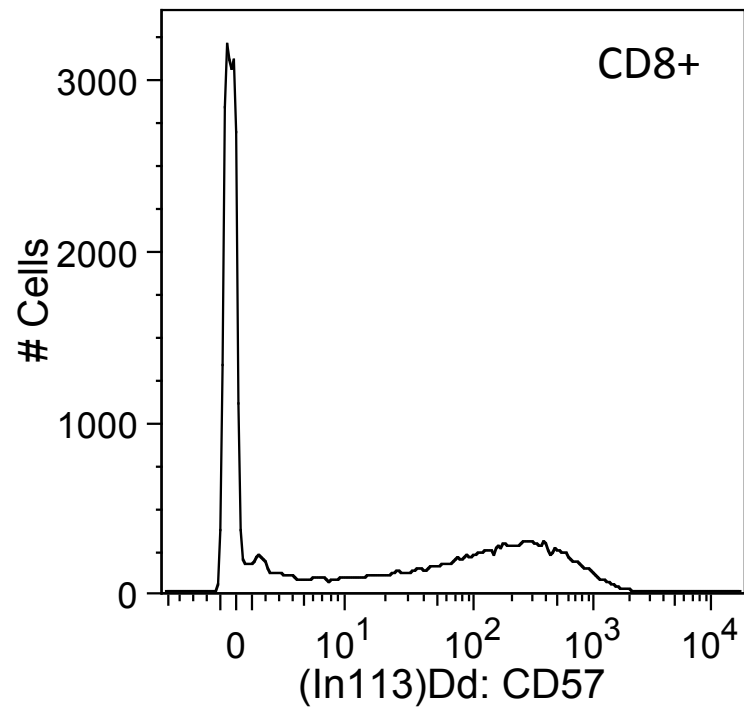


Higher sensitivity  
(165-170)



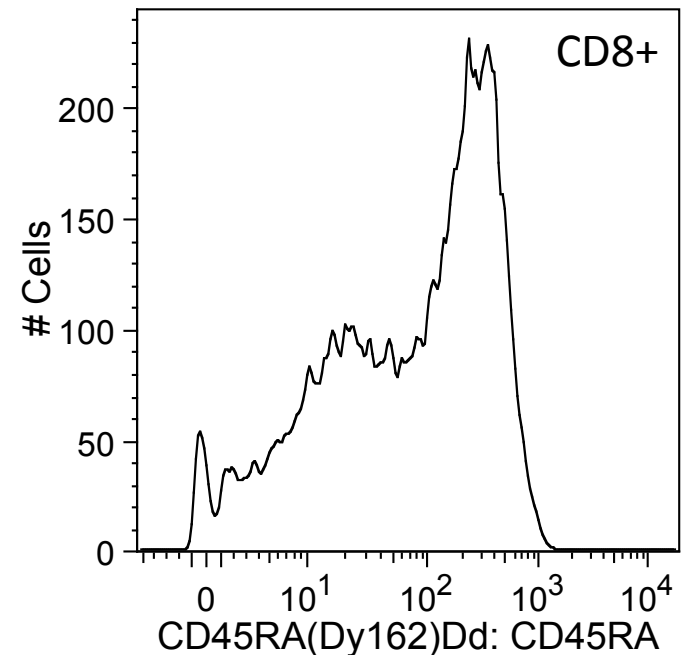
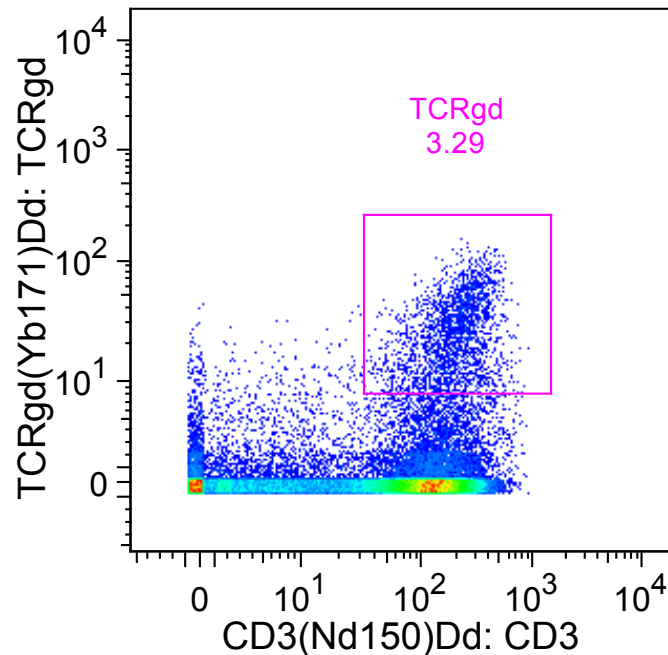
# Desired Signal Intensity- Choice of Metal

1. "Dim" metals – In, La, Pr, Nd, Sm
  - Bright/abundant markers (eg, CD57)
  - True bimodal (eg, CD27)



# Desired Signal Intensity- Choice of Metal

- "Bright" metals – Tb, Dy, Tm, Yb
  - Dim/rare markers
  - "Smear" distribution (eg, CD45RA, CCR7)
  - Small fold-change

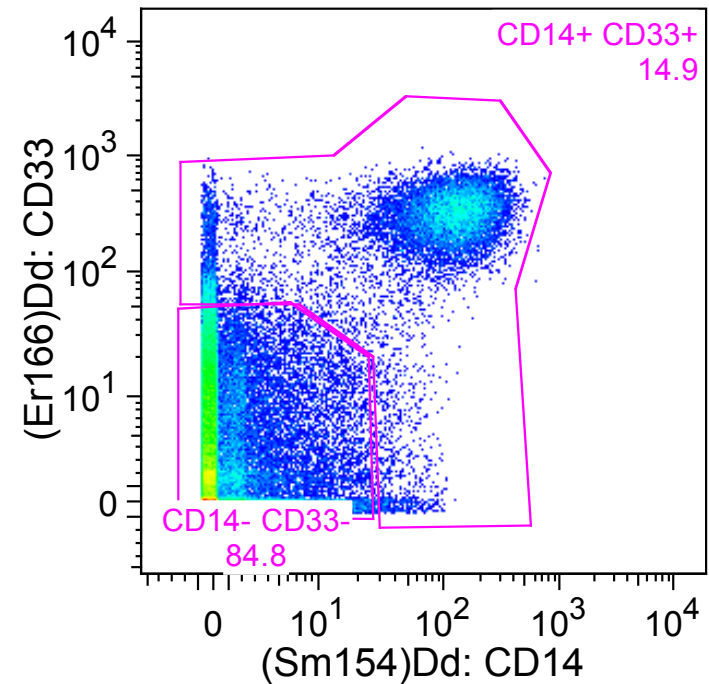
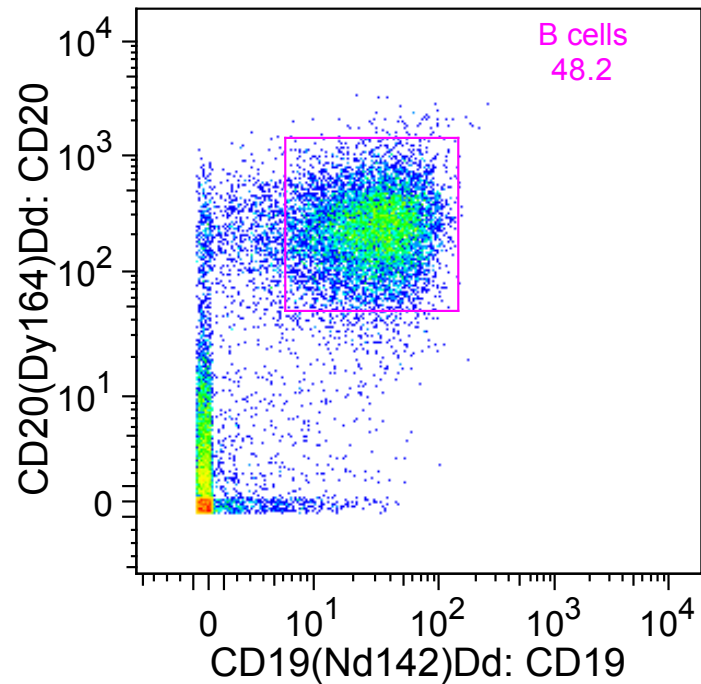




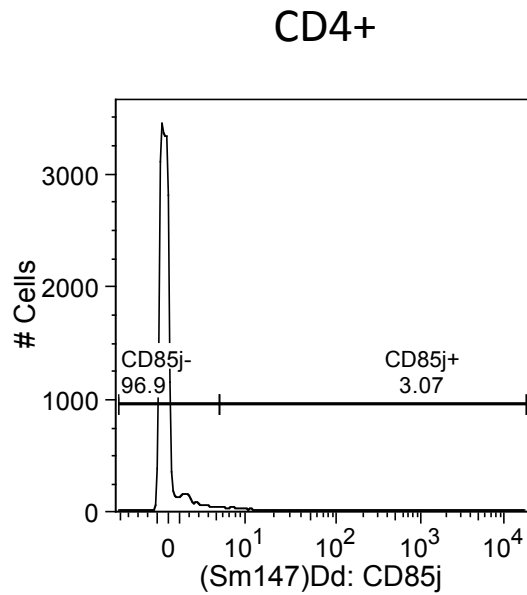
# Desired Signal Intensity- Choice of Metal

## 3. Recommend bivariates

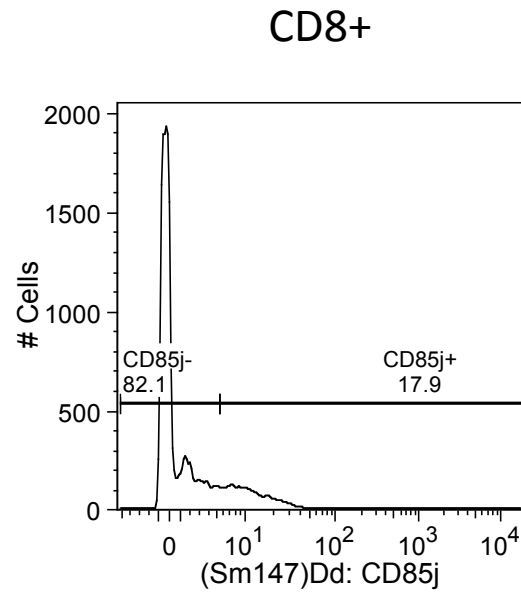
- one bright, one dim
- two mediums – "smear", or subpopulations



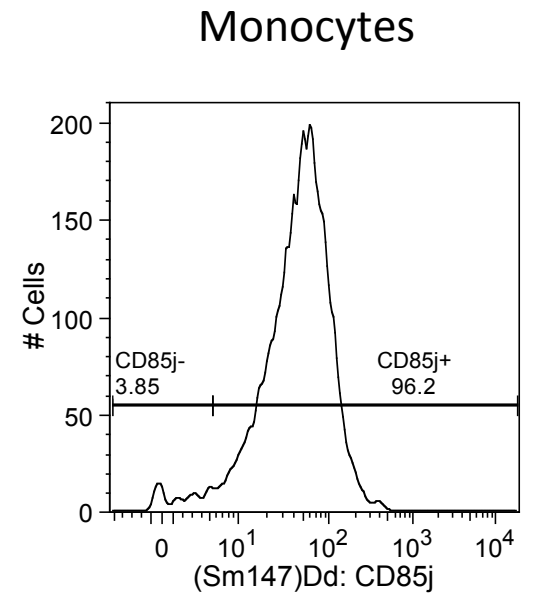
# Desired Signals – CD85j as a Borderline Case



"negative"



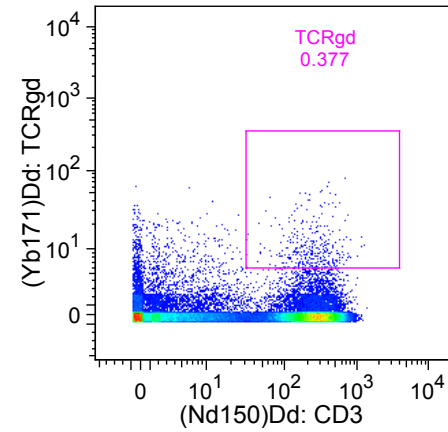
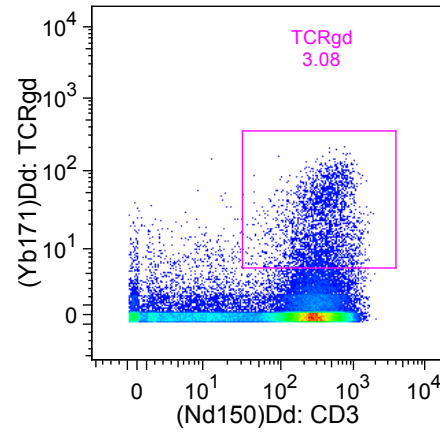
subpopulation



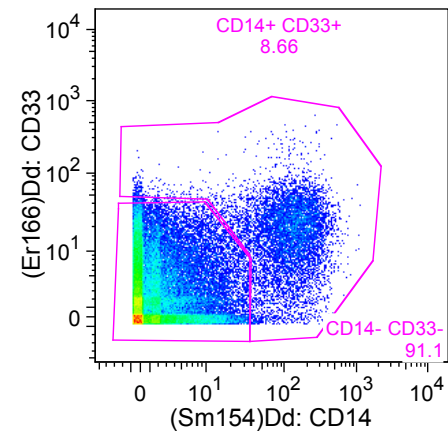
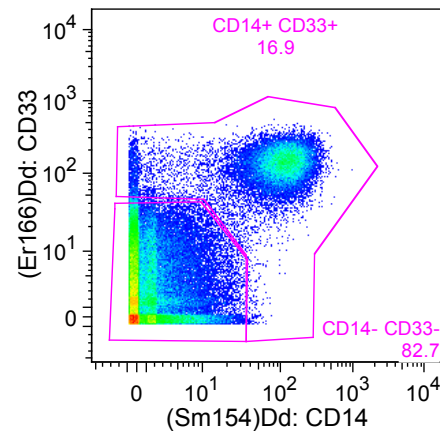
"positive"

# Confirm New Markers With More Than One Donor

TCRgd



CD33



## Part 3 – Experimental Procedure

# CyTOF Sample Info

1. Reagent purity is paramount
  - MilliQ water only
  - trace metal pure salts and buffers, if possible
2. All samples - fixed and permeabilized
  - Thorough fixation - Fresh PFA!
3. MilliQ water washes at the end
  - Proper fixation ensure intact cells
  - Minimizes buffer salt introduction into machine
4. Titrate all reagents for your assay conditions
  - Commercial
  - Every batch of in-house reagents – re-verify before use

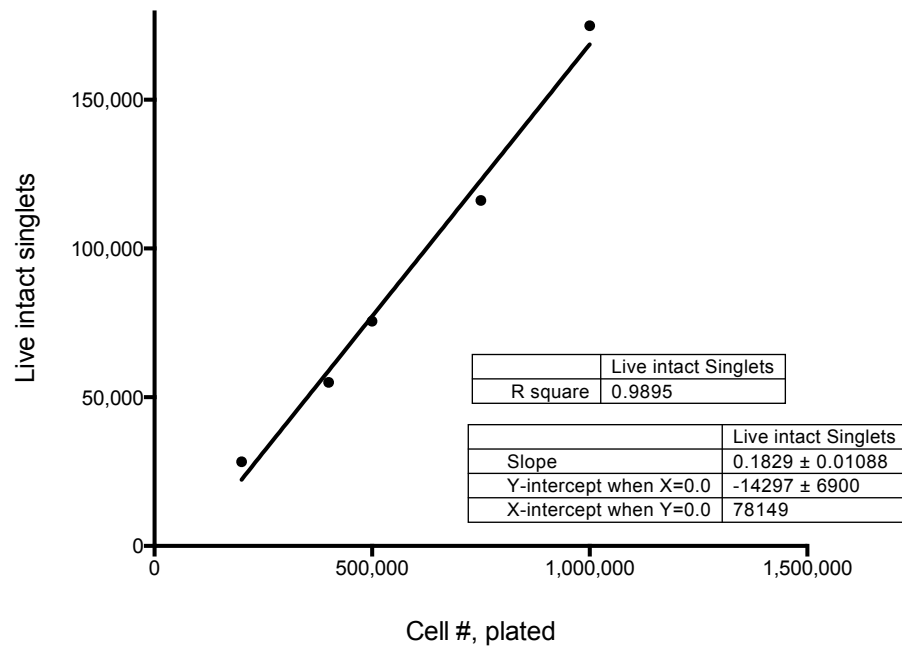
# CyTOF Sample Info – Starting Cell Count

- \* Remember: only 20-30% cell transmission efficiency  
- also, processing losses

Cells Plated	Live intact singlets
200K	28K
500K	76K
1M	175K

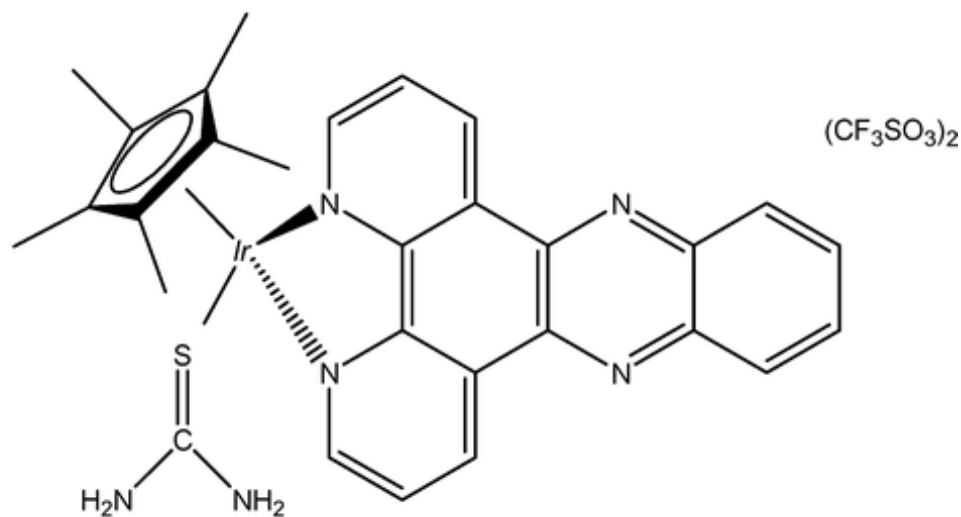
Yao et al: down to 10K (major only)  
HIMC: recommend at least 500K

Titration of cell numbers - Plated vs Live Intact Singlets



# Metal Staining of Cells - DNA Intercalator

Structure of  $[\text{Cp}^*\text{Ir}(\text{dppz})\{(\text{NH}_2)_2\text{CS}\}](\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3)_2$



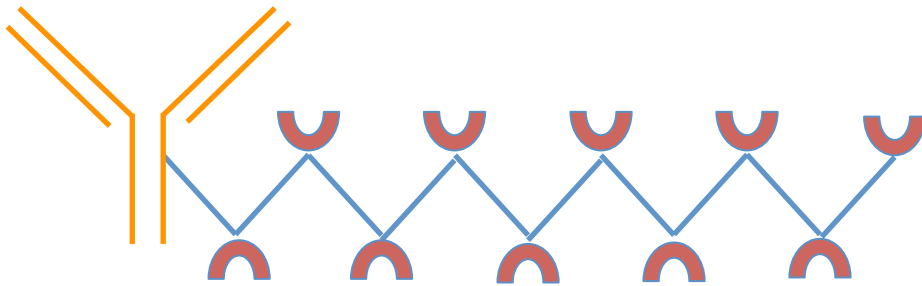
$\text{C}_{31}\text{H}_{29}\text{F}_6\text{IrN}_6\text{O}_6\text{S}_3$   
Mol.Wt.:984.08 Da

- Labels any cell containing DNA regardless of whether any labelled antibodies bind

# Chelating Polymer Structures

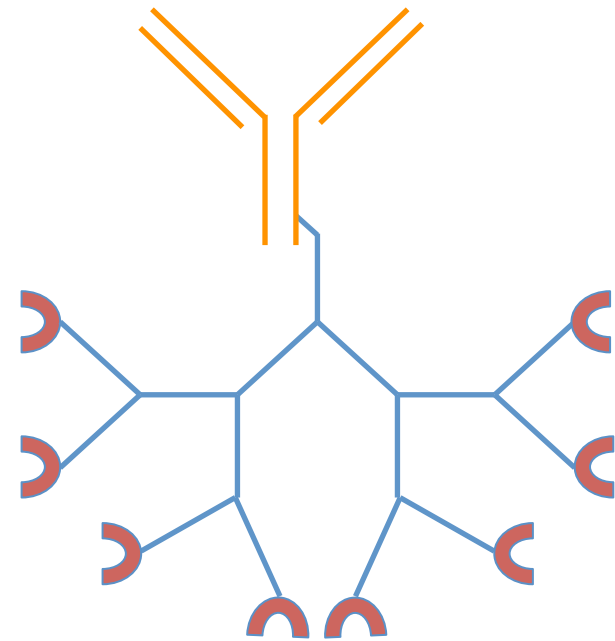
X8

linear polymer with ~22 chelation sites



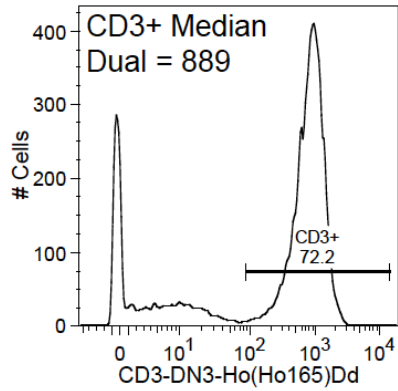
DN3

branched dendrimer, ~16 chelation sites

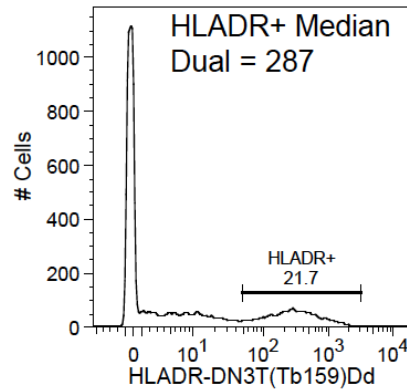




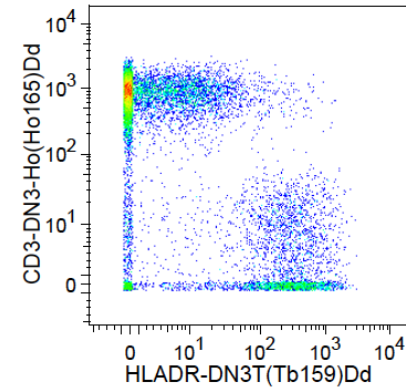
# Antibodies – X8 vs DN3 Comparison



Live intact singlets  
011411-PBMC-DN3-duplex-TbHo\_cells\_found.txt  
Event Count: 14144

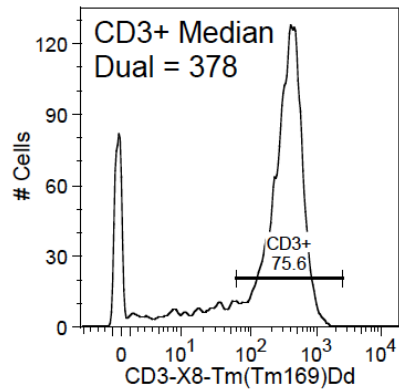


Live intact singlets  
011411-PBMC-DN3-duplex-TbHo\_cells\_found.txt  
Event Count: 14144

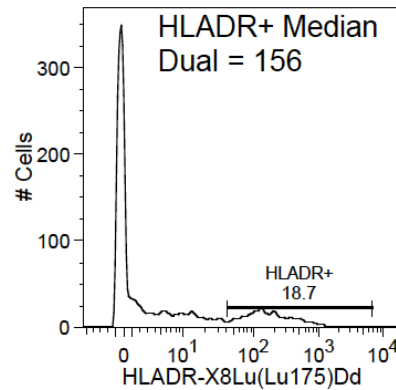


Live intact singlets  
011411-PBMC-DN3-duplex-TbHo\_cells\_found.txt  
Event Count: 14144

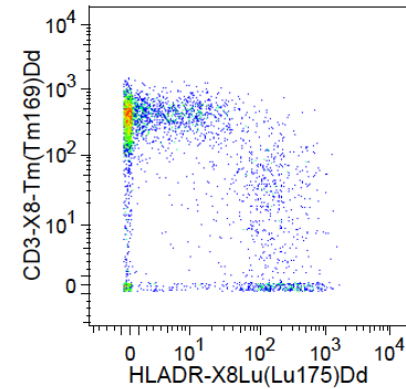
DN3



Live intact singlets  
011411-PBMC-X8-duplex-TmLu\_cells\_found.txt  
Event Count: 4519



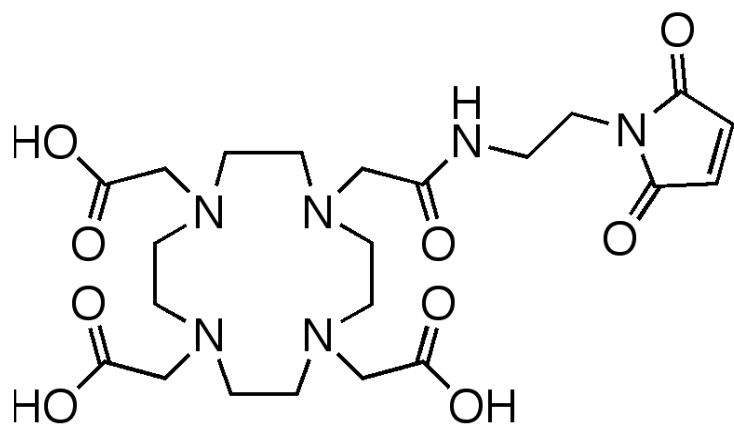
Live intact singlets  
011411-PBMC-X8-duplex-TmLu\_cells\_found.txt  
Event Count: 4519



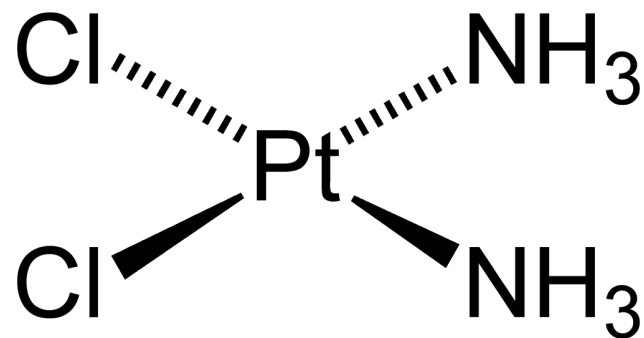
Live intact singlets  
011411-PBMC-X8-duplex-TmLu\_cells\_found.txt  
Event Count: 4519

X8

# Live-Dead



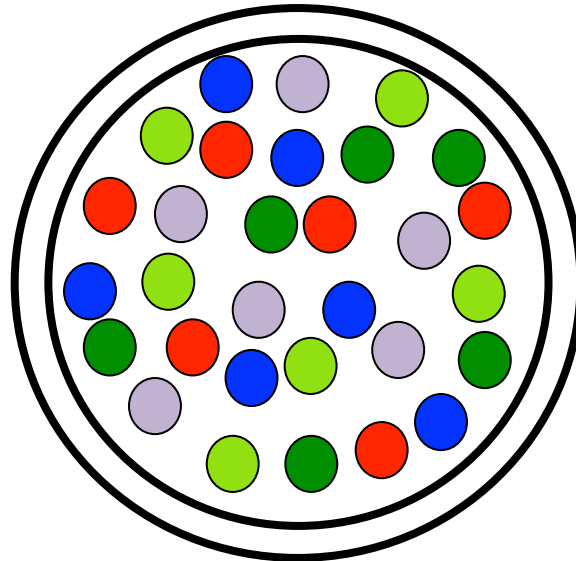
maleimide-DOTA



cisplatin

# Normalization – EQ Four-Element Beads

- Polystyrene beads: contain elemental Ce, Eu, Ho, Lu
  - burn like cells, but are defined composition

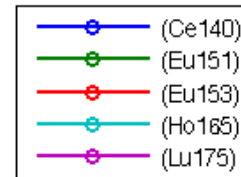
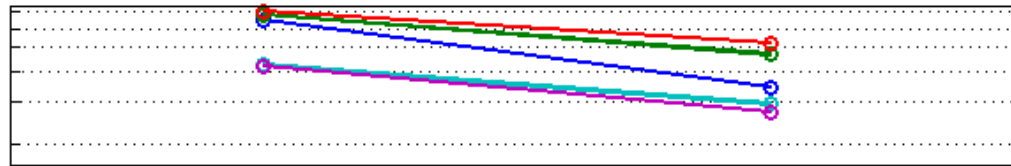


# Normalization Beads - Long Runtime Decrease in Signal Intensity

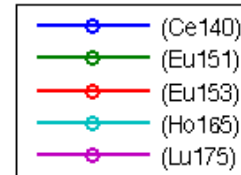
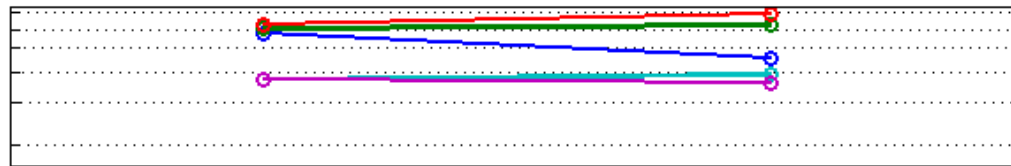
10:33 AM

6:55 PM

Before Normalization



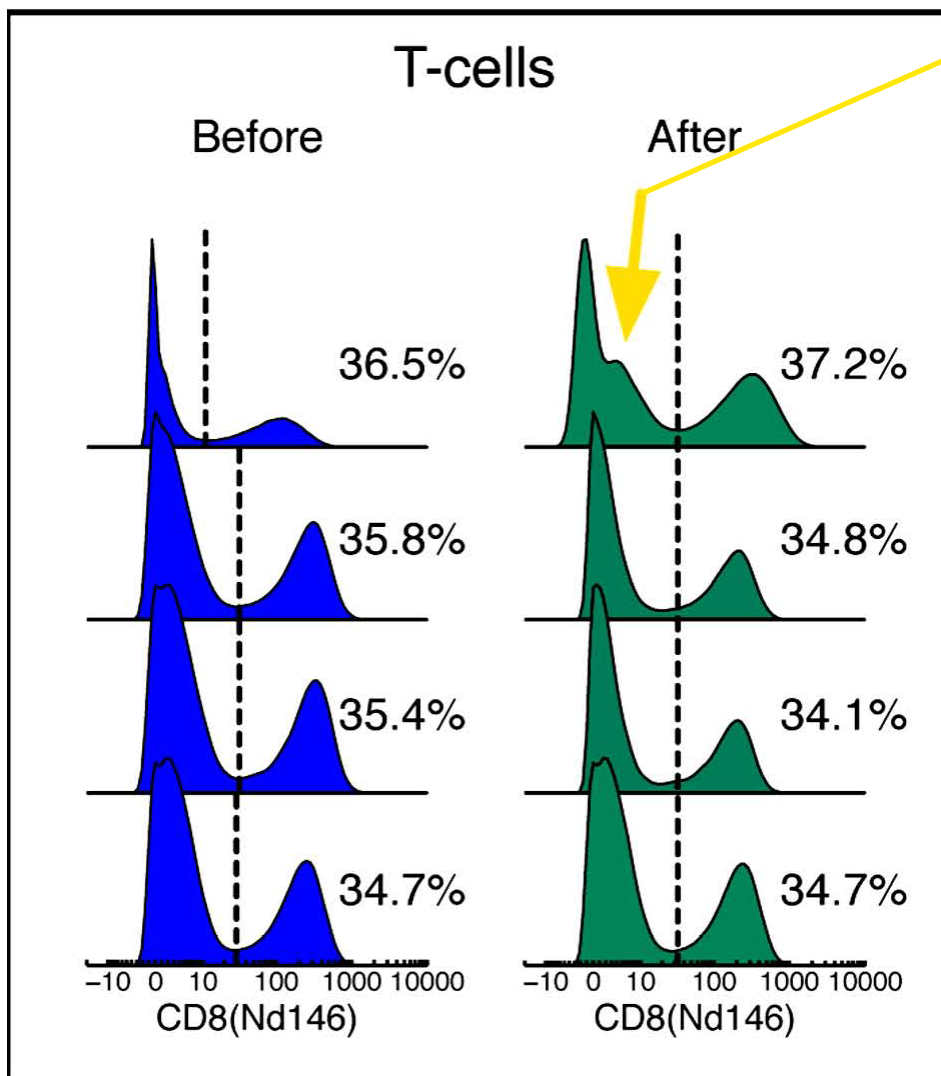
After Normalization



061614-Mk-e-Study 21-2018-al-885 cil-1

061614-Mk-e-Study 21-2018-al-885 cil-2

# Normalization Affects All Signals



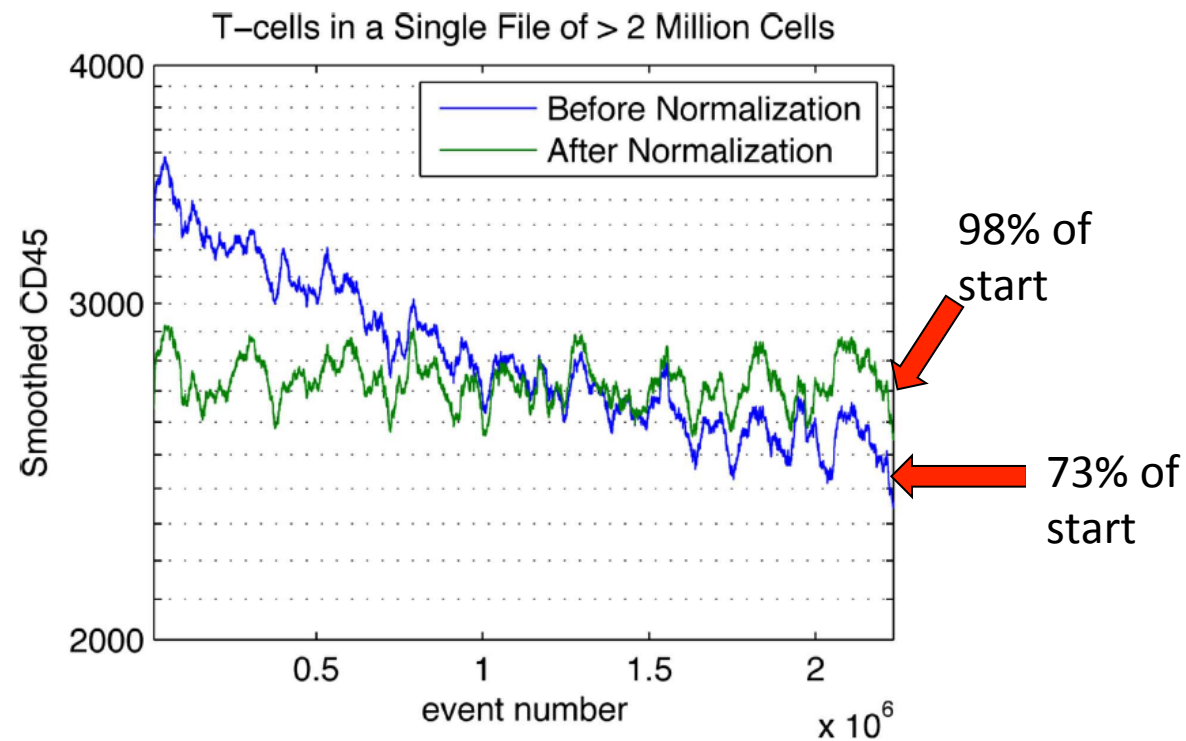
Noise amplification!

\* Global Mean as baseline, rather than Minimum or Maximum  
- limits noise amplification

Normalization CANNOT correct for improper machine cleaning/tuning (undetectable analyte signals).

# Signal Decrease Over Very Long Run-Times

- Single file: >2 million cells = >3 hr

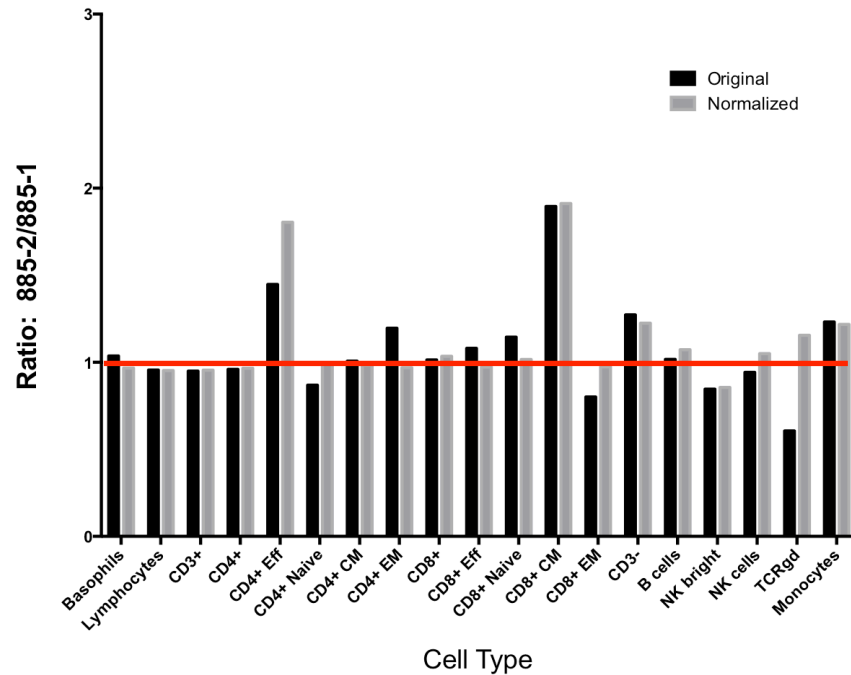


\* Highlights need for moving window normalization

# Effects of Normalization

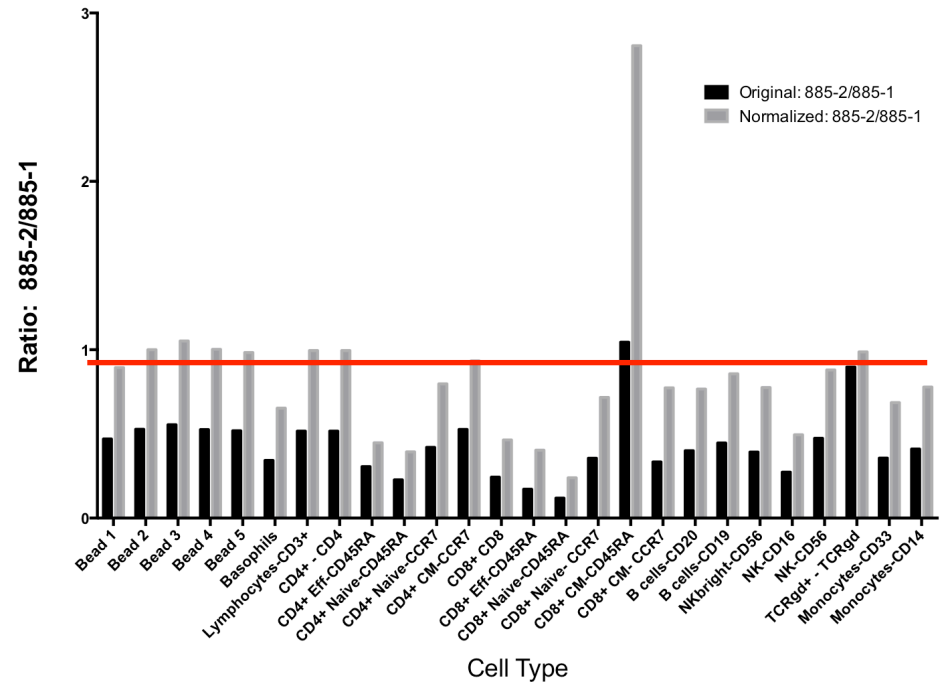
- Control sample split in half, run 8.5hr apart; ratio after manual gating

## Freq Parent



\* Freq Parent fairly robust;  
only small gains from normalization

## Median Intensity



\* Median Intensity more affected by  
normalization (phosphoflow...)

## Part 4 – Sample Running



# Running Samples

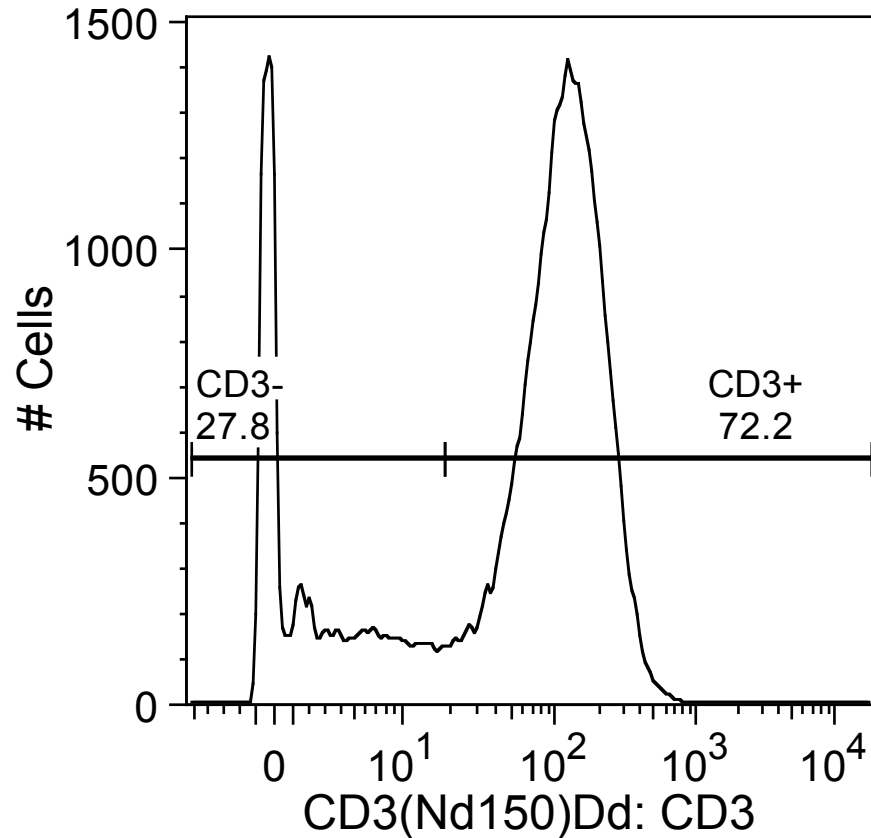
1. Warm up machine – ~15-20 min to create and maintain fully hot and stable plasma
2. Tune machine –maximize M signal while minimizing M+16 oxide formation
3. Finish washing cells – final wash in MilliQ water, then resuspension and dilution in MilliQ water.
  - residual buffer salts can affect Current value
4. Resuspend and filter immediately before injection
  - Reduces aggregates (clogs)
5. Appropriate dilution – minimize doublets
  - Around 1 cell event/screen refresh; usually ~750K/mL on cell counter

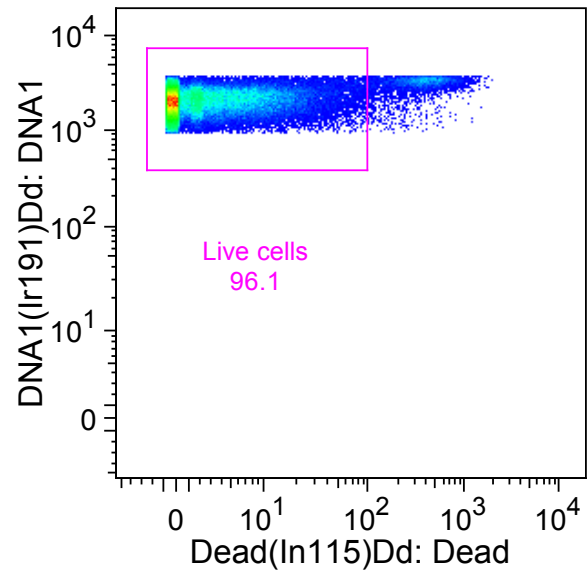
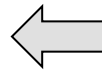
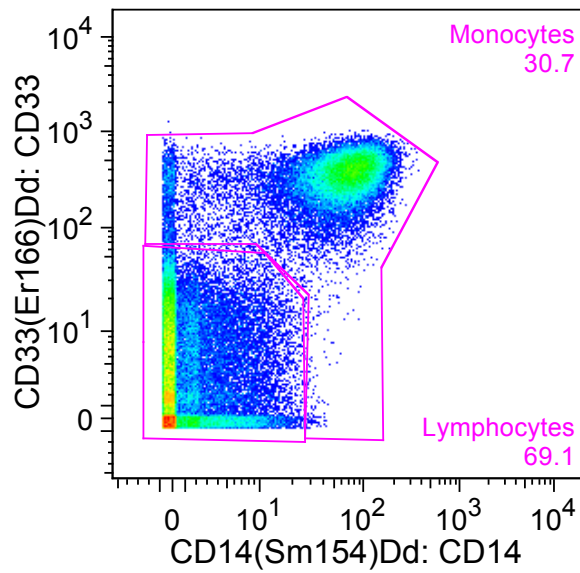
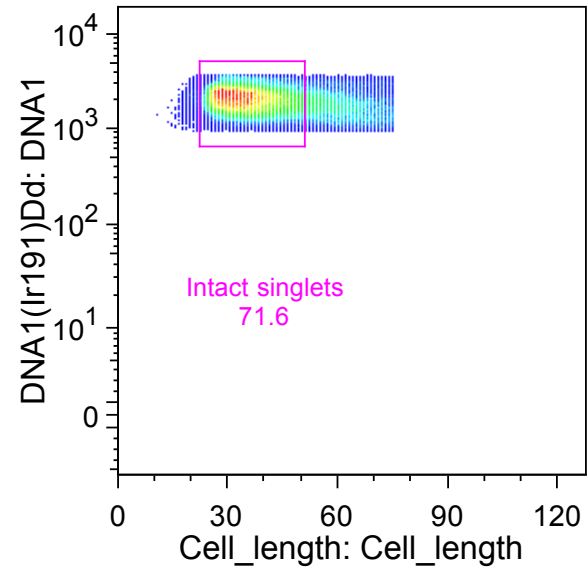
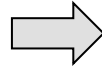
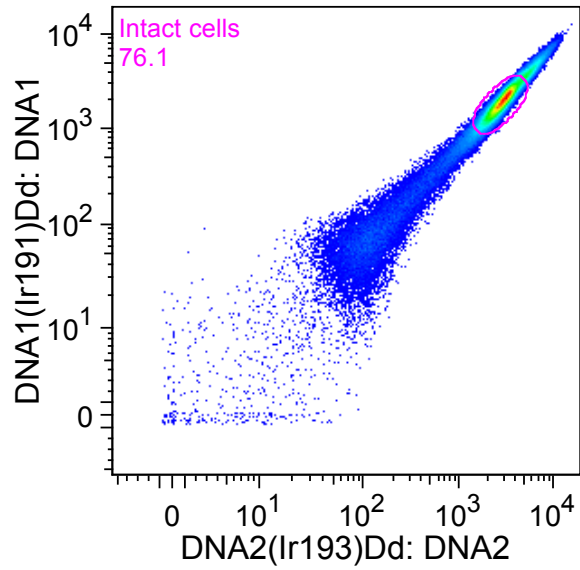
# Standard CyTOF Output Appearance

- Spike at ~0 is legitimate  
("true zero")

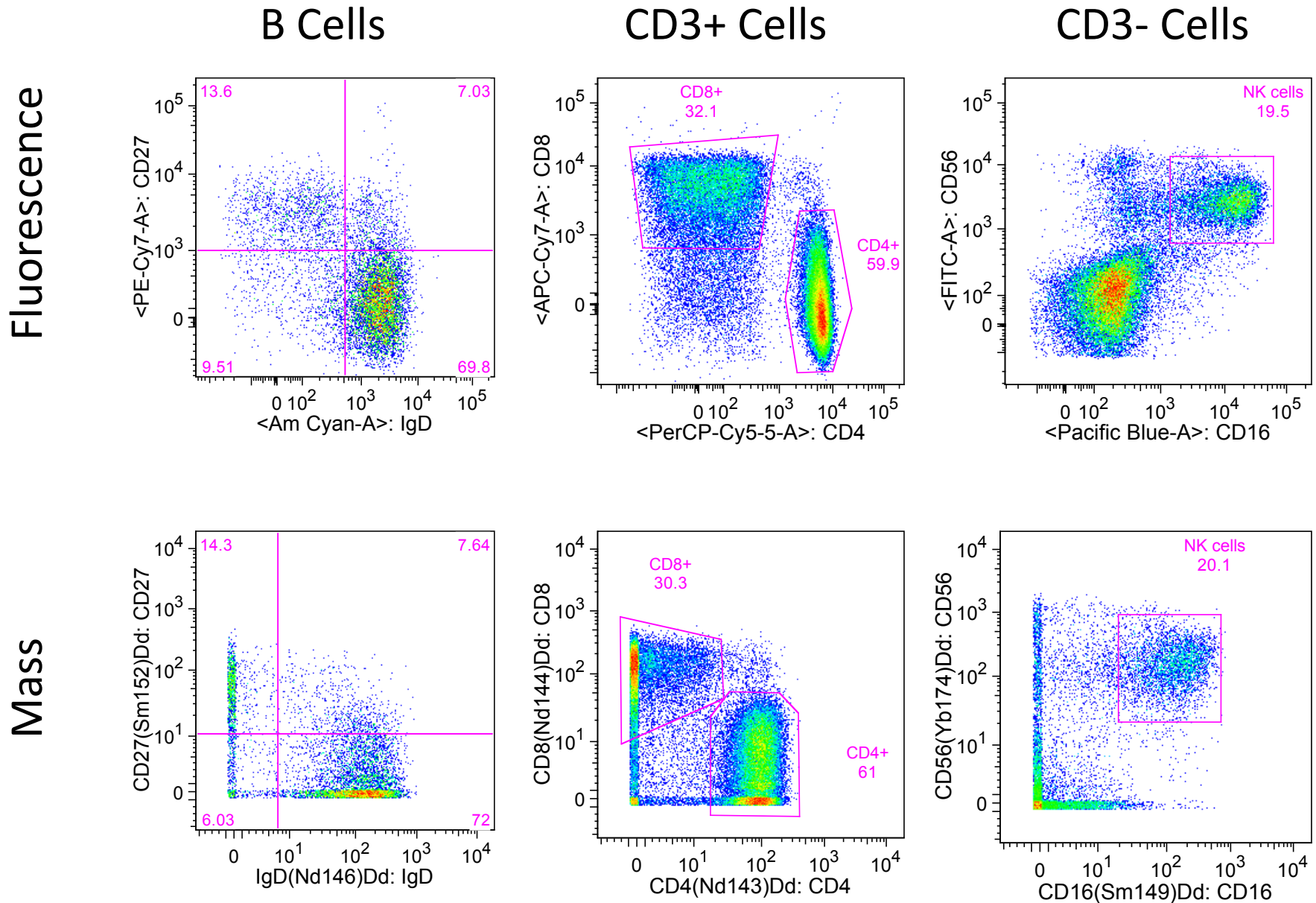
- Flow data is usually distributed above and below zero due to comps and auto-fluorescence.

\* FlowJo settings must be changed for CyTOF data





# CyTOF vs LSRII – Representative Examples



# Flu 2010-2011 - CyTOF Phenotyping Panel

- Collapse 6 tube LSRII panel into 1 tube CyTOF panel – 23 markers

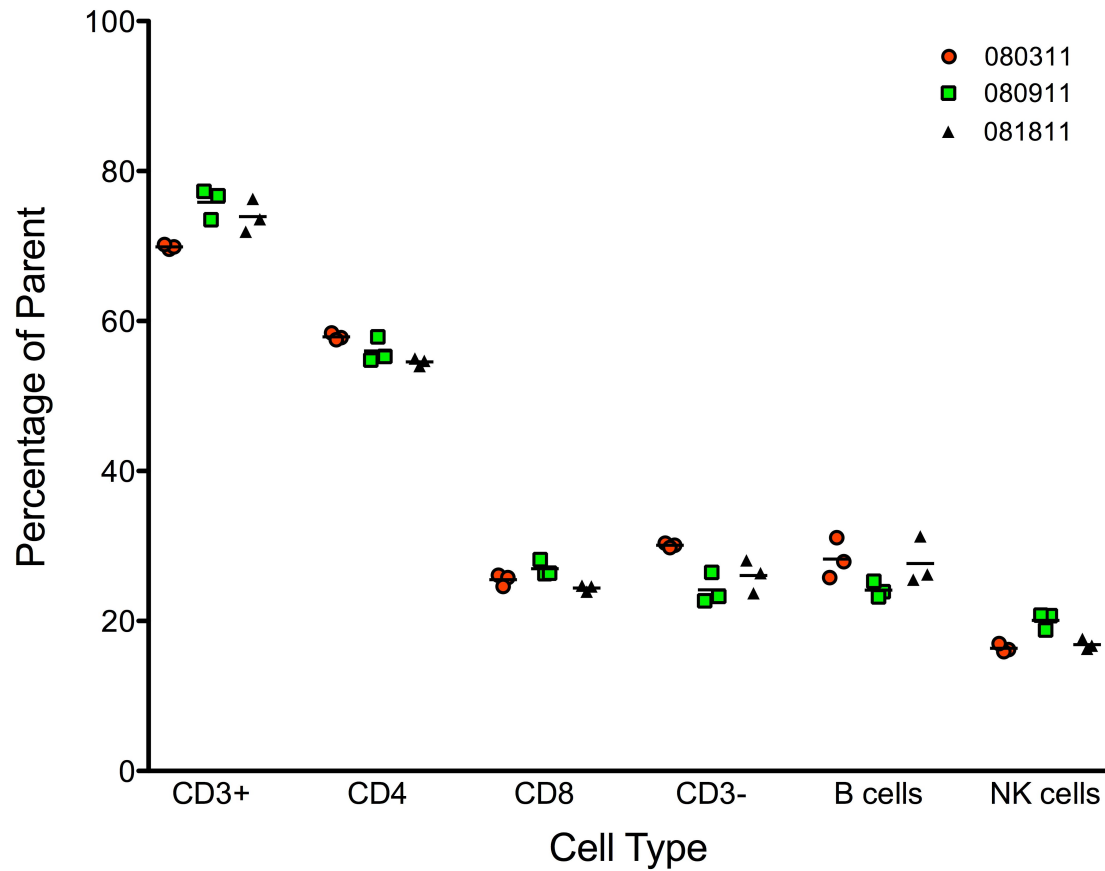
CD14	CD45RA
CD33	CCR7
	CD25
CD3	CD127
CD4	CD27
CD8	CD28
TCRgd	CD38
	CD85j
CD19	
CD20	IgD
	HLADR
CD16	CD24
CD56	
	CD94
	CD161

# Flu 2010, Flu 2011 Studies

- On-going Flu vaccine studies – U19
- CyTOF Phenotyping – 2010, 2011 years
  - Day 0 (pre-vaccination) only – Study 15, 17, 18
  - Day 0, 1, 4, 7 – Study 23-2011
- 2010-2011: >300 unique donors – between-donor variability

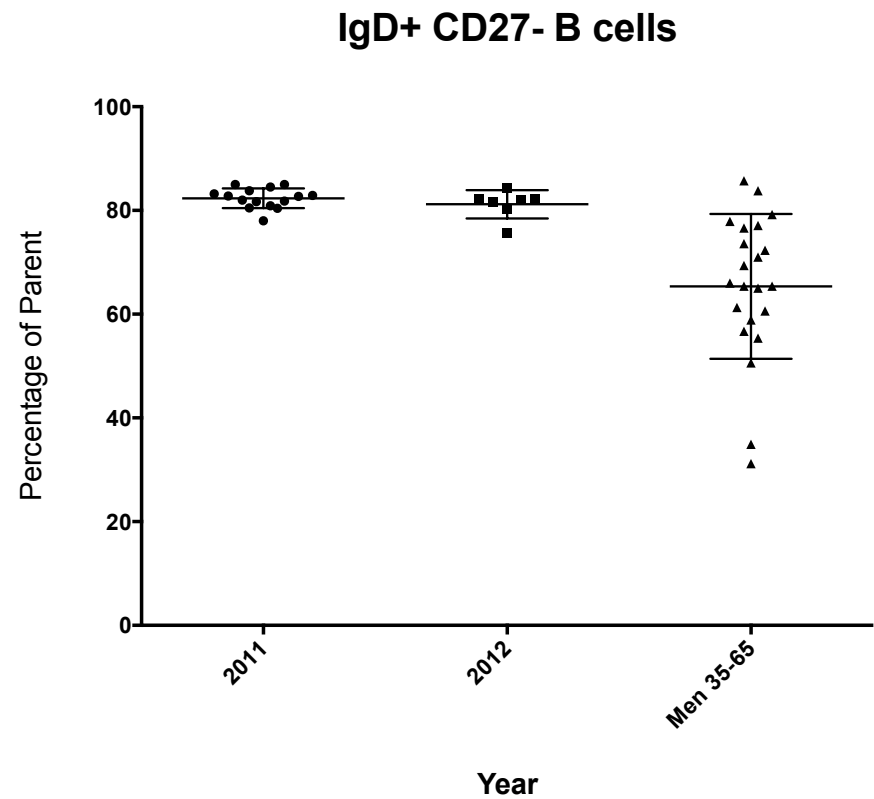
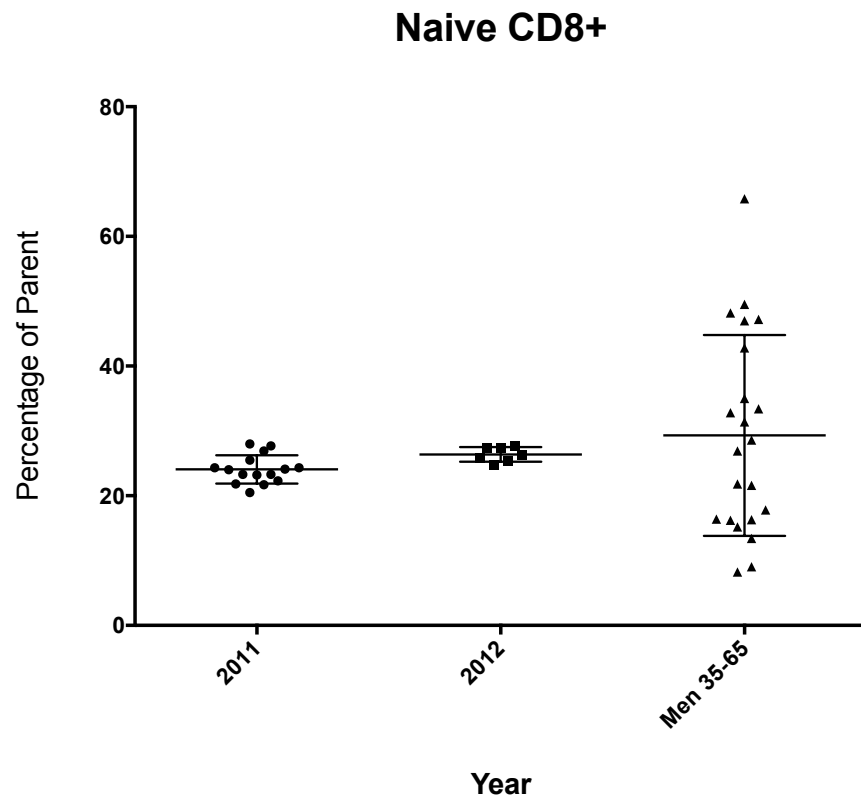
	Age Band (y/o)			Total
	<35	35-65	>65	
Male	62	22	46	130
Female	84	47	65	196
Total	146	69	111	326

# 2010 Flu Studies – Consistency – 284 Control - Same Draw, Same Year Replicates



# Flu 2011, 2012 Studies – Consistency – 885 Control

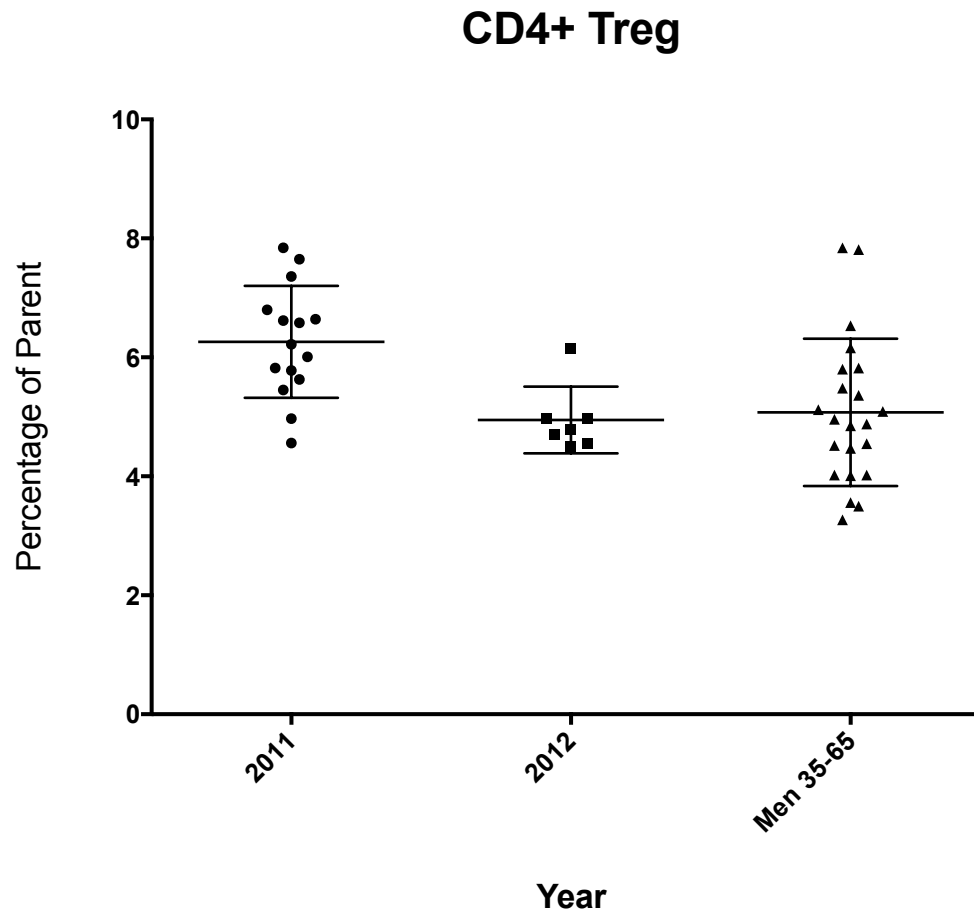
- Generally good year-to-year agreement from same 885 donor draw





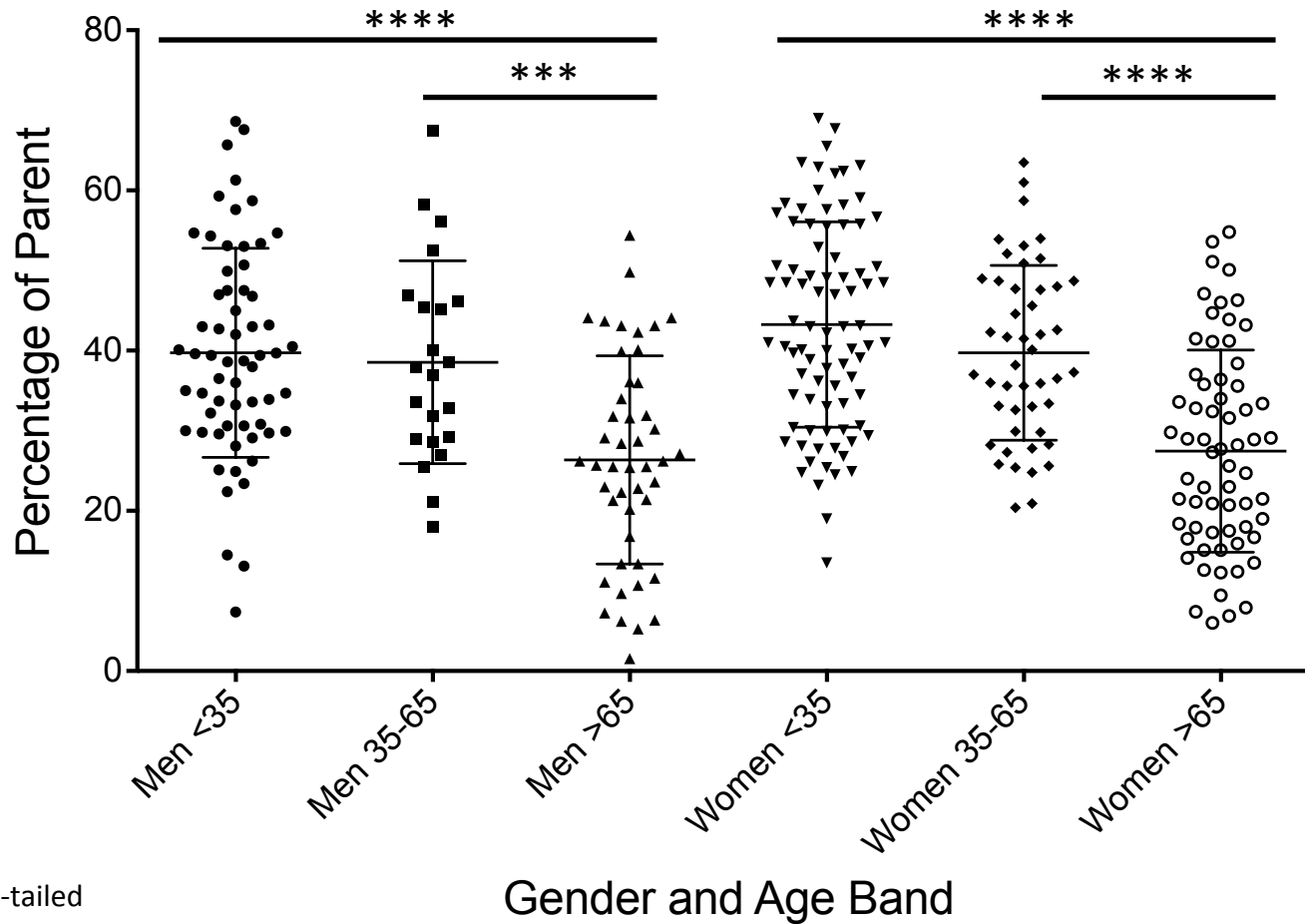
# Flu 2011, 2012 Studies – Consistency – 885 Control

- Sometimes greater variability in less-frequent populations



# Flu 2010, Flu 2011 Studies – Donor Variability

## B cells total



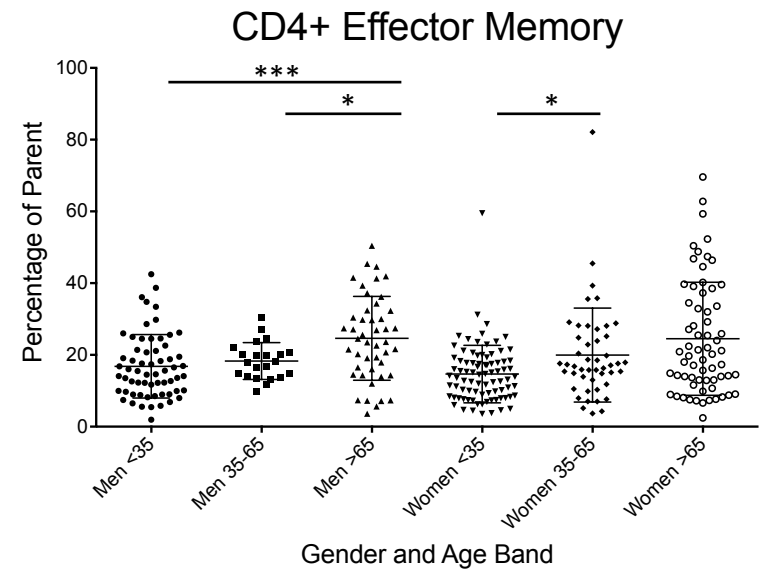
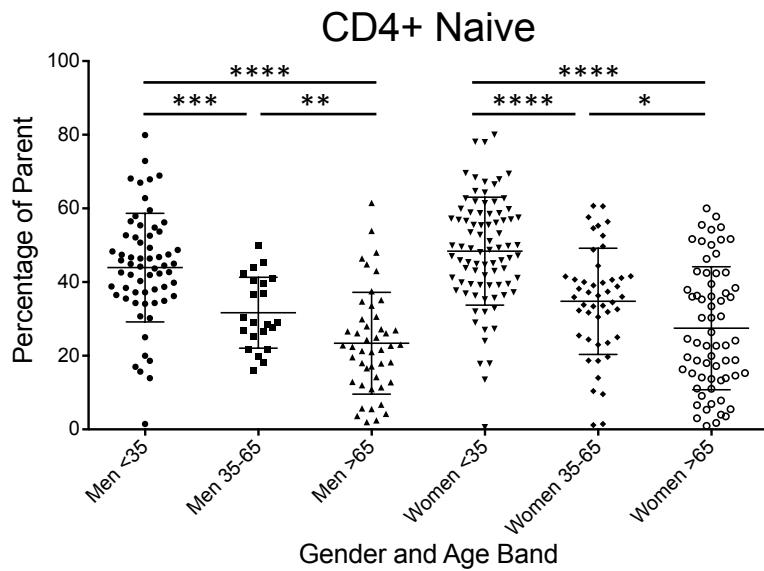
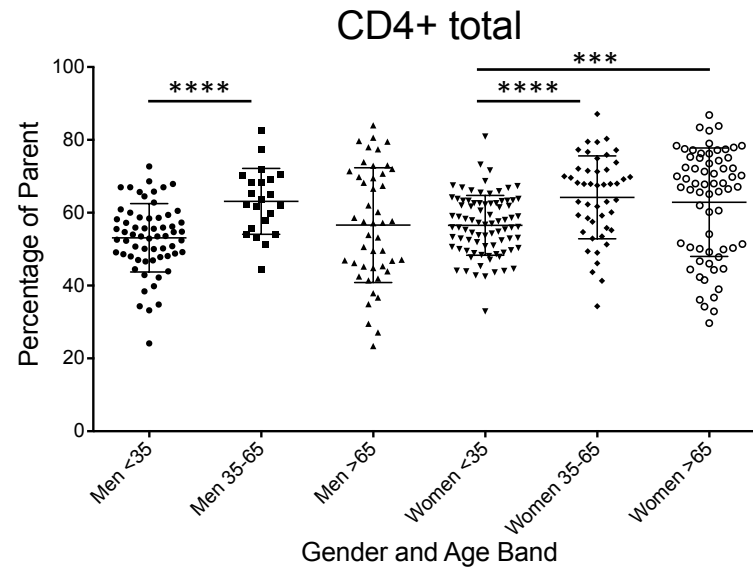
Mann-Whitney two-tailed

- \* <0.05
- \*\* <0.01
- \*\*\* <0.001
- \*\*\*\* <0.0001

# Flu 2010, Flu 2011 Studies – Donor Variability

Mann-Whitney two-tailed

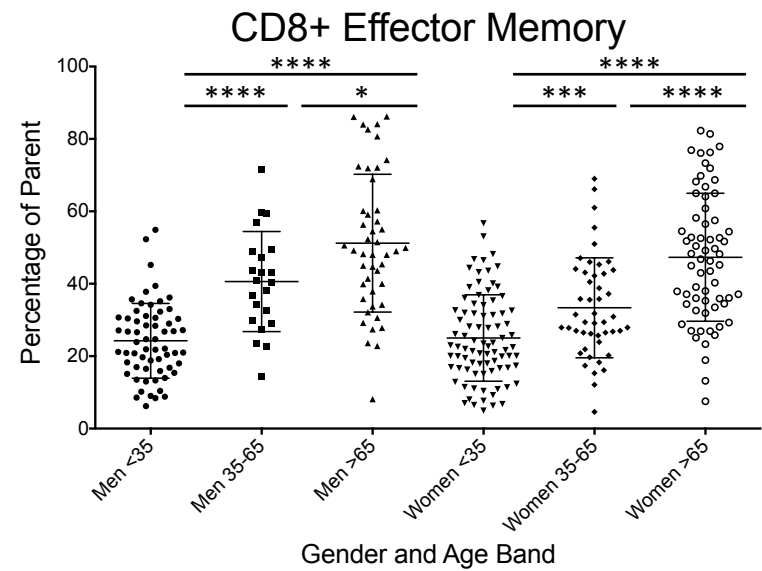
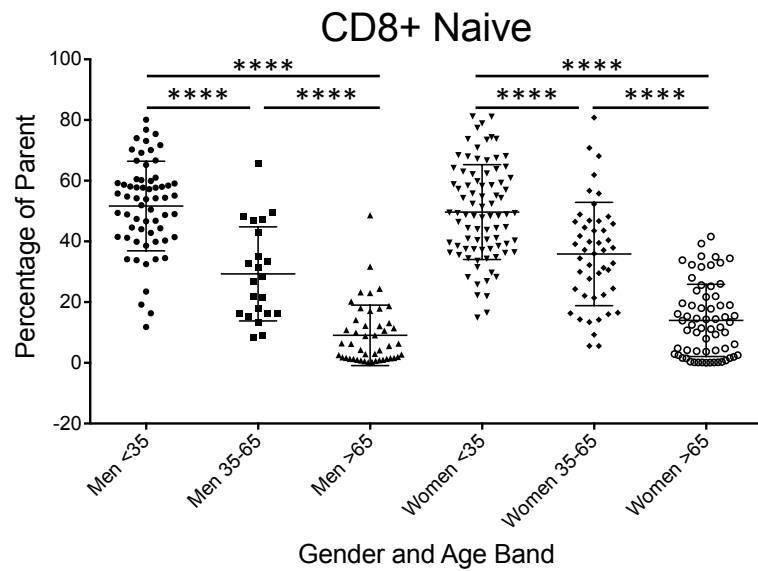
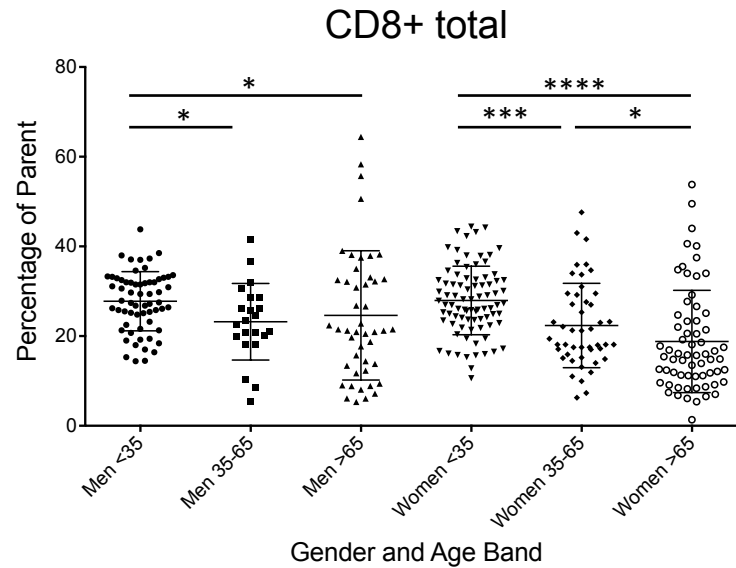
- \* <math><0.05</math>
- \*\* <math><0.01</math>
- \*\*\* <math><0.001</math>
- \*\*\*\* <math><0.0001</math>



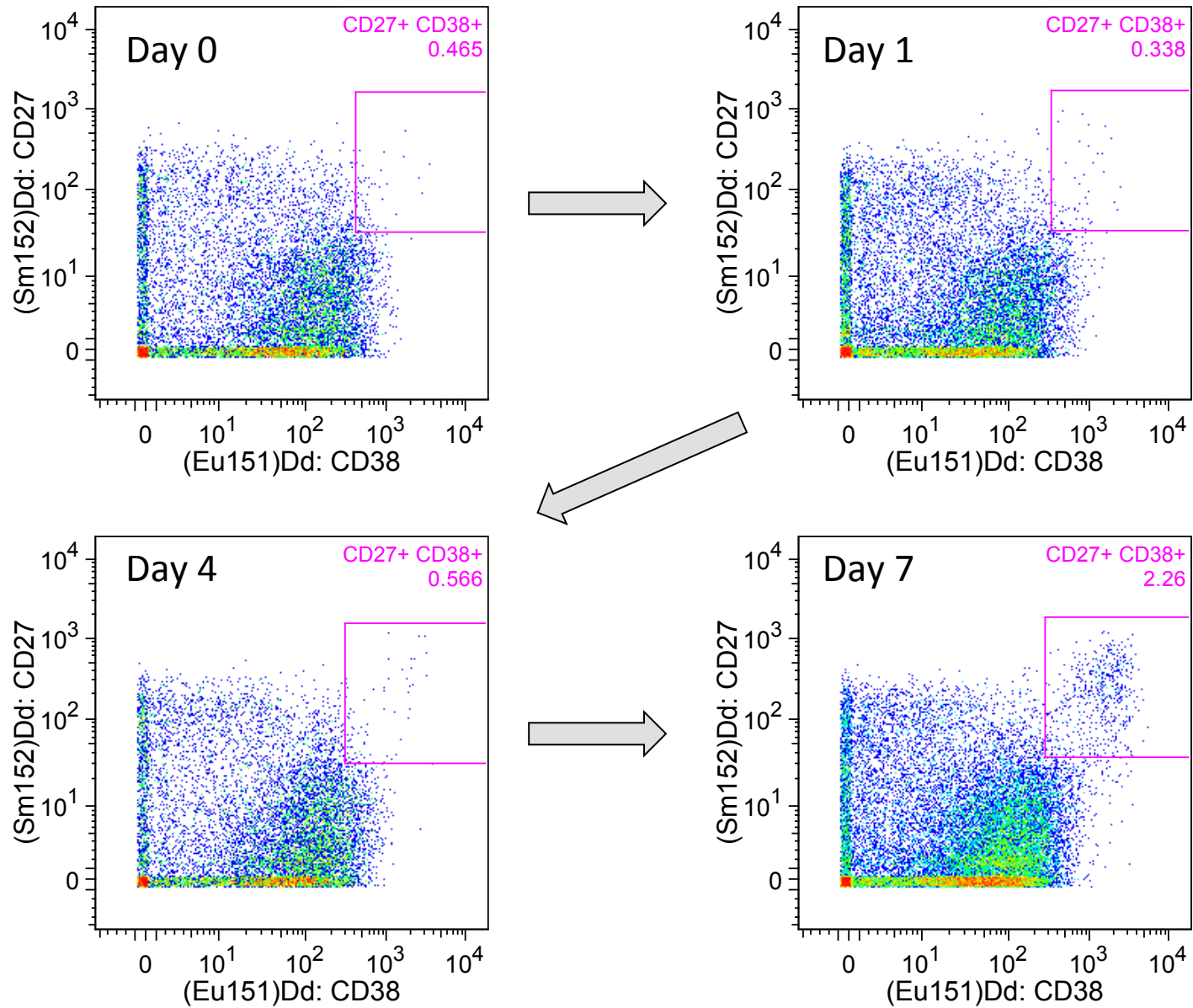
# Flu 2010, Flu 2011 Studies – Donor Variability

Mann-Whitney two-tailed

- \* <0.05
- \*\* <0.01
- \*\*\* <0.001
- \*\*\*\* <0.0001



# Study 23-2011



# Conclusions

1. Proper tuning of the CyTOF ensures minimal sample oxidation.
2. Metal purity (both elemental and isotopic) is highly important.
3. The choice of metal label is dependent upon marker abundance, modality, and resolution needed (fold-change).
4. All samples must be stained with metals to be detected by the CyTOF. Proper fixation is important, as are MilliQ water washes.
5. Head-to-head comparisons with LSRII assays are consistent.
6. The Flu studies are an example of how a CyTOF panel can be used to monitor the surface phenotype for hundreds of donors to detect variations between gender, age-band, and time-point.

# Acknowledgements

- HIMC staff
  - Henrik Mei, Meena Malipotlalla, Holden Maecker
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  - Davis lab: Evan Newell, Bill O'Gorman, Petter Brodin
  - Fluidigm/DVS Sciences
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<http://himc.stanford.edu>