Ellen Dobrijevic '17

Max Planck Institute for Dynamics and Self Organisation

Goettingen, Germany

The Max Planck Institute of Dynamics and Self Organisation



The town of Goettingen



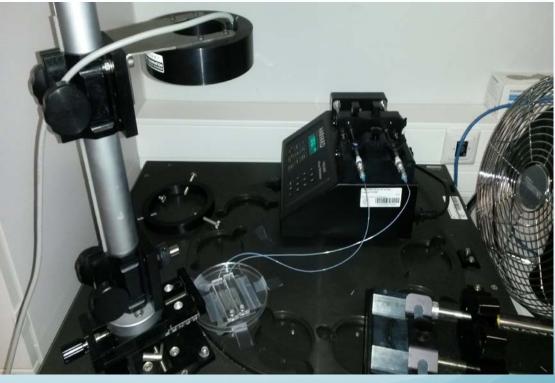
My Work

- I injected Dictyostelium discoideum (an amoeba) into microfluidic channels and induced a flow to look at;
 - Their resonance or phase-locking with injected cAMP
 - The effect of the flow's velocity on the waves formed
 - Cell aggregation in the channels

My Work cont.

 I was in charge of both running experiments and analysing the images and data collected from them (with ImageJ and Matlab)

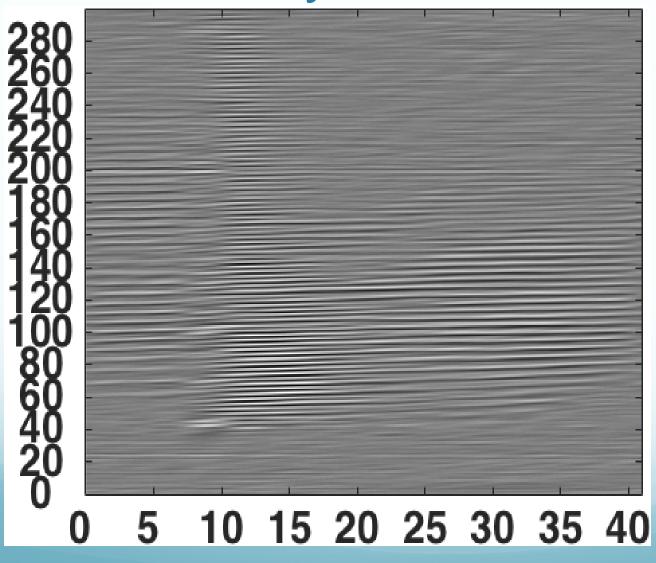




The microfluidic channels

The experimental set-up under the microscope

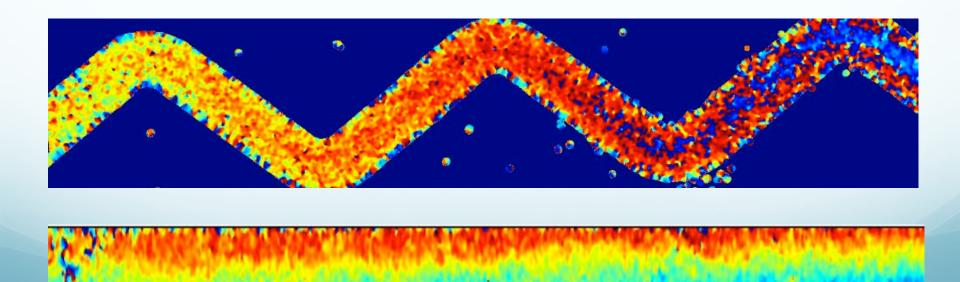
My Work cont.



An example of one of the processed images of an experiment, made using ImageJ and Matlab.

A rewarding part of my work;

 Finally getting a piece of Matlab code working and the right ImageJ processing to be able to make these colourful phase map videos of my experiments!



Another fun experience at work;

- I got to go into the clean room (where I had to wear one of the sterile suits, like this) and help make some of the silicon wafer molds for the microfluidic channel
- We then tried to measure the channel heights to check our method, expecting it to be around 100um
- We had some problems but it meant that I got to see two different ways to measure the channels which was really interesting



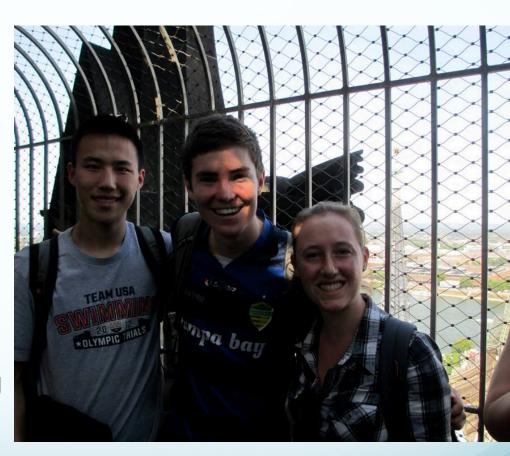
The PhD Graduation Ceremony;



- My work should hopefully be incorporated into an upcoming paper, it is also possible for someone else to continue from where I left off
- I really enjoyed working at the MPIDS, I got a good sense of some of the career options available, however, my personal plan is still to go into either bioengineering or study medicine
- One of my co-workers also put me in touch with someone who is coming to work at Princeton who is involved with Dictyostelium so that if I want I can continue to work in the field here

Working Abroad;

- Working abroad was a great experience!
- At times the language barrier lead to some small difficulties or confusion but overall it was really interesting and fun to experience another culture
- The location of Goettingen allowed me (and the other interns) to do a lot of travelling on the weekends, we went to other parts of Germany as well as France.



The other MPIDS interns and I on top of Koeln (Colonge) cathedral!