

Table of contents

Symbols and abbreviations	vii
Table of figures	ix
Table of tables	xix
1 Introduction	1
2 State of the art	3
2.1 Optical skin biopsies and their applications	3
2.1.1 Skin lesion analysis by imaging and angiographies . .	3
2.1.2 Skin lesion analysis by using optical probes	7
2.2 In-vitro phantoms for translational studies of optical biopsies	11
2.2.1 Challenges in phantom validations for optical biopsies	11
2.2.2 Microphysiological phantoms with optical features .	13
2.3 Skin lesion analysis by using diffuse optical biopsies	17
2.3.1 Diffuse optics in use of skin lesion analysis	17
2.3.2 Diffuse optics and skin optical models	18
2.4 Challenges in phantom validations for diffuse optical biopsies	22
3 Objective and work flow	25
3.1 Scientific aim	25
3.2 Hypothesis and work flow	25
4 Material and methodology	29
4.1 Preparation and characterization of in-vitro vascular phantoms	29
4.1.1 Optical characterization of human skin in-vivo	29
4.1.2 Turbid optofluidic phantoms to mimic vascularized skin	31
4.1.3 Turbid elastofluidic phantoms to mimic soft skin . . .	34
4.1.4 Optical elastography of light propagation in phantoms	38
4.1.5 Preparation and optical characterization of artificial whole blood	39
4.2 Translational studies of diffuse optical biopsy	41
4.2.1 Experimental setup of diffuse optical biopsy	41
4.2.2 Investigation of blood oxygenation on phantoms . . .	42
4.2.3 Pilot studies of lesion analysis on human volunteers .	44

5	Optofluidic and elastofluidic in-vitro vascular phantoms	47
5.1	Equivalences of artificial blood to human whole blood	47
5.1.1	Spectra of water mass and artificial lipid	47
5.1.2	Spectra of artificial hemoglobin dilutions	49
5.2	Turbid optofluidic vascular phantoms to mimic turbid skin tissue	52
5.2.1	OCT reconstruction of turbid optofluidic phantoms .	52
5.2.2	Tunability in optical properties of optofluidic matrices	54
5.3	Elastofluidic microphysiological phantoms to mimic soft skin tissue	55
5.3.1	OCT reconstruction of turbid elastofluidic phantoms	55
5.3.2	Tunability in optical properties of elastofluidic matrices	59
5.3.3	Optical equivalences to in-vivo human skin	62
5.3.4	Tunability in mechanical/acoustical properties of elastofluidic matrices	63
5.3.5	Heterogeneity in chromophores' distribution in elastofluidic phantoms	65
5.3.6	Delamination of elastofluidic sub-/superstrate	67
5.3.7	Comparison to established in-vitro microphysiological vascular phantoms	70
6	Translational studies of diffuse optics	73
6.1	Lesion analysis on optofluidic in-vitro phantoms	73
6.1.1	Optical path length measurements on optofluidic phantoms	73
6.1.2	Oxygenation measurements on optofluidic phantoms	77
6.1.3	Factors affecting accuracy of measurements	80
6.2	Lesion analysis on elastofluidic in-vitro phantoms	82
6.2.1	Light propagation shifts in elastofluidic phantoms . .	82
6.2.2	Oxygenation measurements on elastofluidic phantoms	85
6.3	In-vivo studies on benign nevi lesion	88
6.4	In-vivo studies on potential cutaneous nodule lesion	91
6.5	Uses of microphysiological phantoms in other applications .	93
7	Summary and outlook	97
8	Zusammenfassung und Ausblick	99
9	Appendix	101
	Bibliography	119