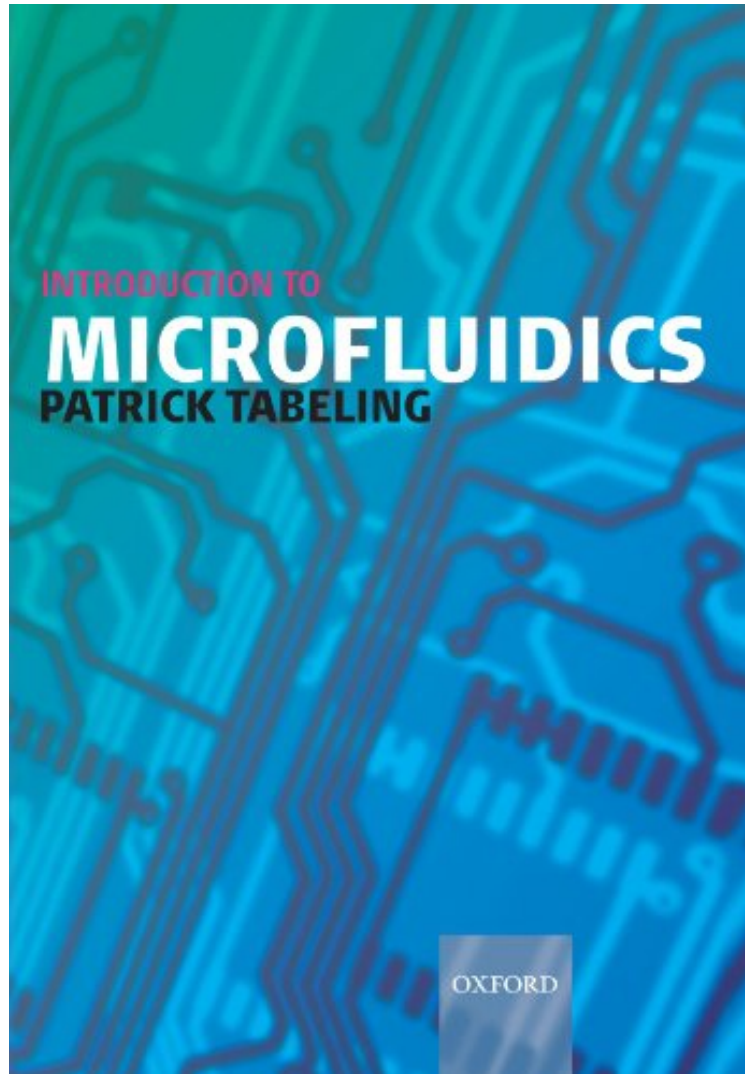


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Introduction to Microfluidics

Patrick Tabeling

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Microfluidics deals with fluids flowing in miniaturized systems. It is a young discipline, which is expected to substantially expand over the next few years, stimulated by the considerable development of applications in the pharmaceutical, biomedical and chemical engineering domains. The book is an introduction to this discipline. The first chapter presents a short historical background and discusses the main perspectives of the domain, at economical and

scientific levels. Then the physics of miniaturization and the fluid mechanics of microflows are discussed. In the following three chapters, dispersion, electrical and thermal phenomena in miniaturized devices are presented. A brief introduction to microfabrication techniques is given in Chap VI and the book concludes by providing a few examples of microfluidic systems. Introduction to Microfluidics is written in a simple, direct, pedagogical way; it emphasizes concepts and understanding, rather than technical detail. It offers a cross-disciplinary view of the field, embracing biological, chemical, physical and engineering perspectives. The book will provide the reader with the concepts, methods and data they need to grasp situations which typically arise in microfluidic systems.

"Introduction to Microfluidics is likely to intrigue those interested in commercial devices who wish to peek under the covers to learn more about the fundamentals governing small-scale flows." --Physics Today
About the Author
Dr. Patrick Tabeling is CNRS Director of Research and Professor at the Ecole Supérieure de Physique et de Chimie Industrielles de la Ville de Paris. He was a Visiting Professor at UCLA (1999-2000), and won the Stichting Award in 1996.