Supplementary Information for

Interfacing Digital Microfluidics with High-Field Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy

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A.R.W email: <u>aaron.wheeler@utoronto.ca</u> tel: +1 (416) 946 3864 fax: +1 (416) 946 3865 The planar microcoils used here were fabricated using multi-layer technology and optimized for RF performance. The base material and photoresist coating were chosen to reduce material losses of the RF signal. The photoresist also allows for the use of high-aspect-ratio copper in the coil, which facilitates a large surface area in the limited (planar) space above it for detection.



Figure S1: Side-view schematic of microcoil. The completed device is formed from seven layers with multiple fabrication steps required for each layer. To increase inductance, multiple turns are used, which required means to form an electrical a cross-over with reasonable size and stability.



Figure S2: Top-view schematic of microcoil. The inner diameter is 500 μ m, the outer diameter is 920 μ m, the wire width and the gap between wires is 30 μ m.



Figure S3: Nutation curve for water from 0-20 μ s for the microcoil used in this study (collected at 0.1 W). While it is useful in determining the correct 90° pulse for the coil, the curve never reaches a true 180° null or leads to peak inversion beyond 180°. This is expected and well documented for single-sided surface coils (Ehrmann and Gersbach, *J. Mag. Res.*, 2006, *178*, 96-105). This is a considerable drawback of a single-sided planar coil design, limiting the range of NMR experiments that can be performed. While Figure 4 in the main text illustrates a ¹H-¹H TOCSY data set collected on this coil, it should be pointed out that the TOCSY spin-lock is relatively forgiving in terms of RF homogeneity. More elaborate experiments that rely on inversion and cancelation of signals or accurately shaped pulses will suffer in performance because of the poor *B*₁ field homogeneity afforded by a single-sided surface coil. In future experiments, the coils will be redesigned to improve the *B*₁ field homogeneity (for example a Helmholtz configuration with using 2 coils on either side of the droplet) to permit a wider range of NMR experiments to be performed.