Technological parameters used for anisotropic Si etch and non-conformal deposition of PECVD SiO₂ layers

Table S1. Bosch etch parameters optimized for etching of high aspect ratio pillars with diameters in the range of 0.7 to $1.6 \,\mu\text{m}$ and diameter-to-height ratios of up to 1:25

| | | | | RF | ICP | C ₄ F ₈ | SF ₆ flow |
|------------|----|------|----------|-------|-------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| | Т | Time | Pressure | power | Power | flow rate | rate |
| | °C | S | mTorr | W | W | sccm | sccm |
| Deposition | 15 | | | | | | |
| cycle | | 4 | 20 | 10 | 1750 | 140 | 1 |
| Etch cycle | 15 | 5 | 20 | 30 | 1750 | 1 | 120 |

Table S2. PECVD parameters optimized for highly non-conformal deposition of SiO₂ on high aspect ratio pillars

| Temperature | Pressure | High frequency RF power | SiH₄ (5%) / Ar flow rate | N₂O flow rate | Deposition rate |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| °C | mTorr | W | sccm | sccm | nm/min |
| 250-350 | 1600-1800 | 50 | 170 | 710 | 100 |

Effect of camera exposure time on apparent broadening of sample plugs moving in a microfluidic channel

Figure S1 shows a series of seven Gaussian profiles with σ = 200 µm (dashed lines) and maximum shift along x axis by Δx =150 µm, *i.e.* the distance traveled by a sample plug in 90 ms at a linear velocity of approximately 1.7 mm s⁻¹. Analysis of the normalized superposition (solid blue line) of this series of curves yields σ '=206 µm. Figure S2 shows the same shift of a series of Gaussian profiles with σ = 50 µm (dashed lines) and their normalized superposition characterized by σ '=74 µm (solid green line). Figure S3 summarizes this dependency of apparent band broadening on the actual band dispersion, σ .



Figure S1. A series of Gaussian profiles with σ = 200 µm (gray and red lines) and maximum shift along x axis by Δx =150 µm. Analysis of their normalized superposition (blue line) yields σ '=206 µm.



Figure S2. The same shift of a series of Gaussian profiles with σ = 50 µm (dashed lines) yields a normalized superposition characterized by σ' =74 µm (solid green line).



Figure S3. Dependency of apparent band broadening on the actual band dispersion, σ . The sample plug travel distance during the camera exposure time, $\Delta x=150 \ \mu m$.