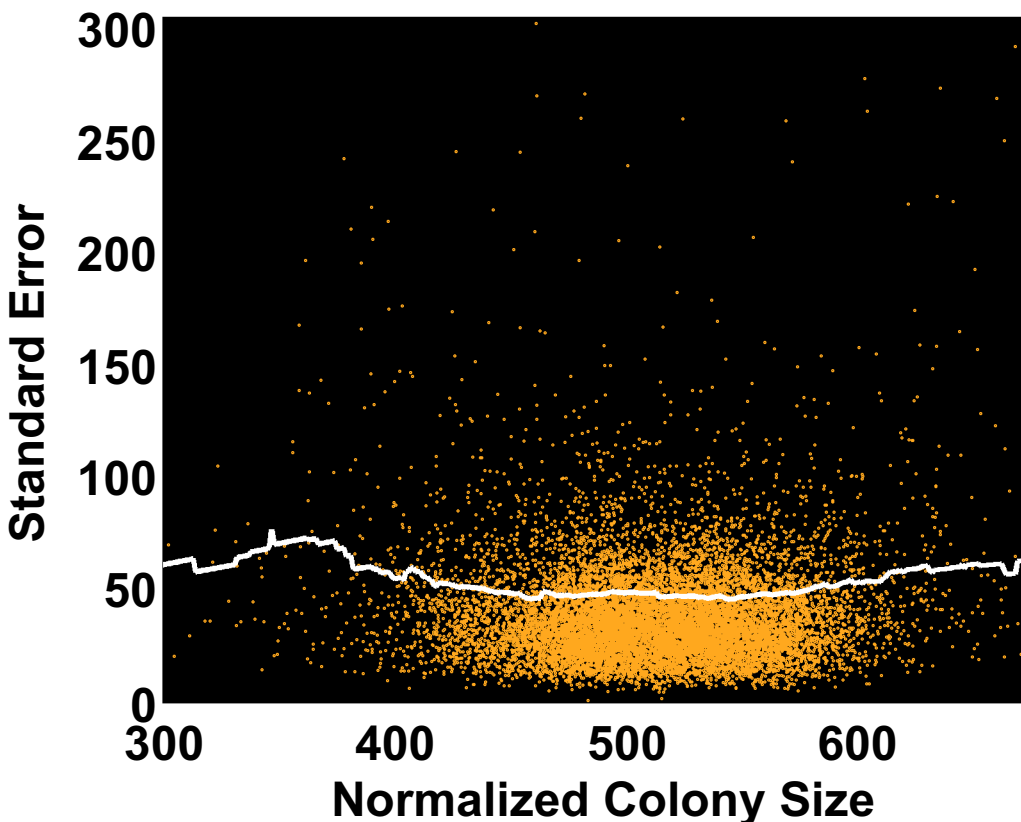


Additional File 1 - Minimum bound for variance



Use of a minimum bound on the measure of experimental variability. The standard deviations of measurements are plotted against the mean normalized colony size for colonies on plates with typical median sizes prior to normalization (490 to 510 pixels). In white is a curve of the minimum bound applied to the standard deviation (as a function of normalized colony size).