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# NANO MICRO small

## Supporting Information

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### Exhaustion of Racing Sperm in Nature-Mimicking Microfluidic Channels During Sorting

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# Supporting Figures & Movie

## Exhaustion of racing sperm in nature-mimicking microfluidic channels during sorting

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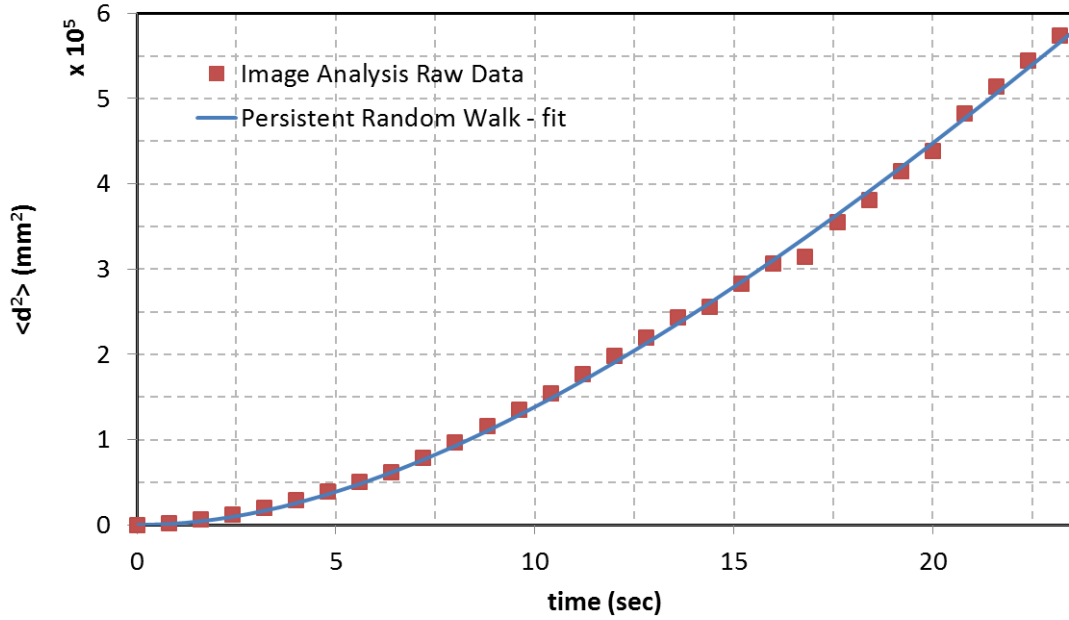
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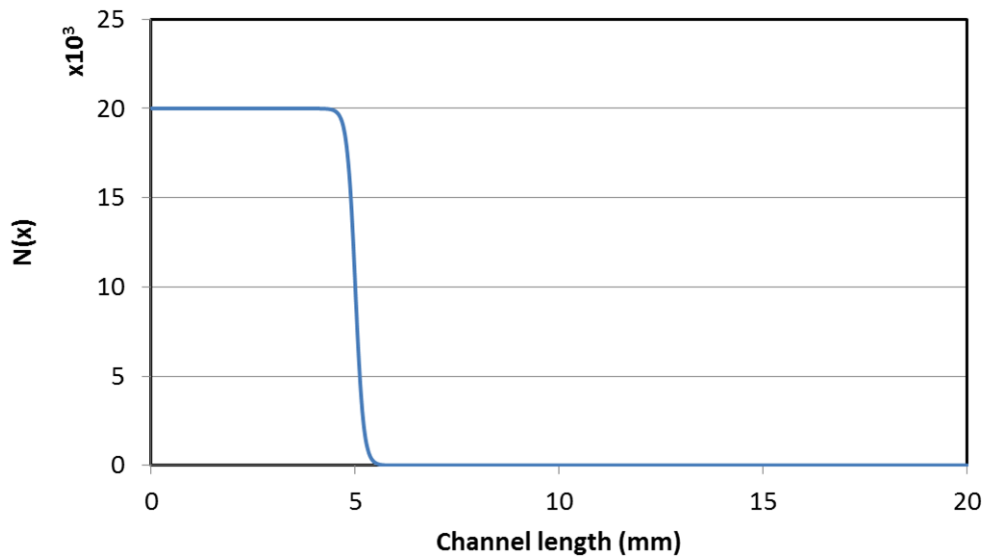
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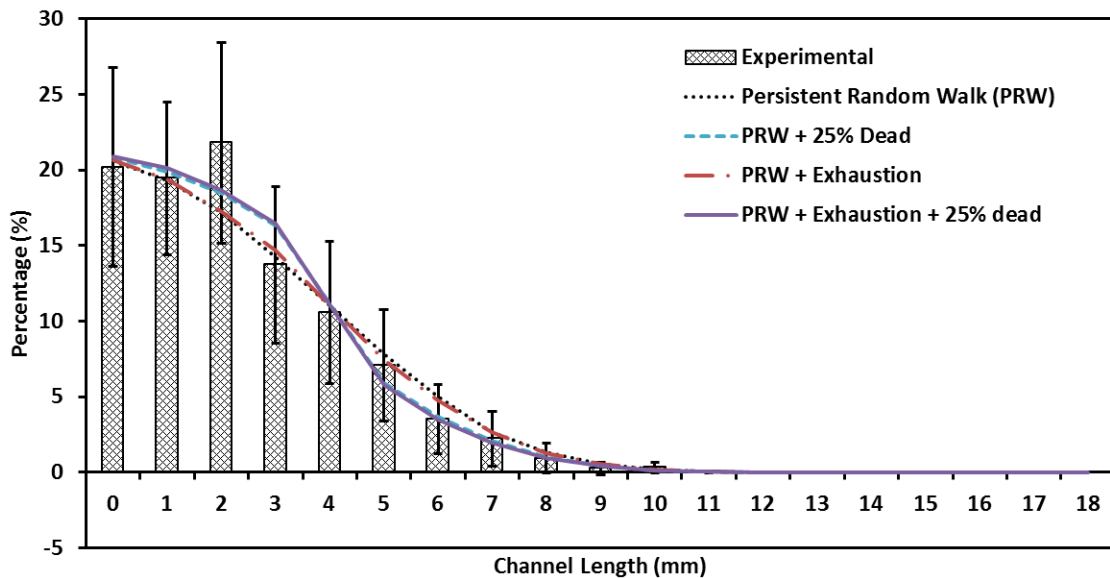
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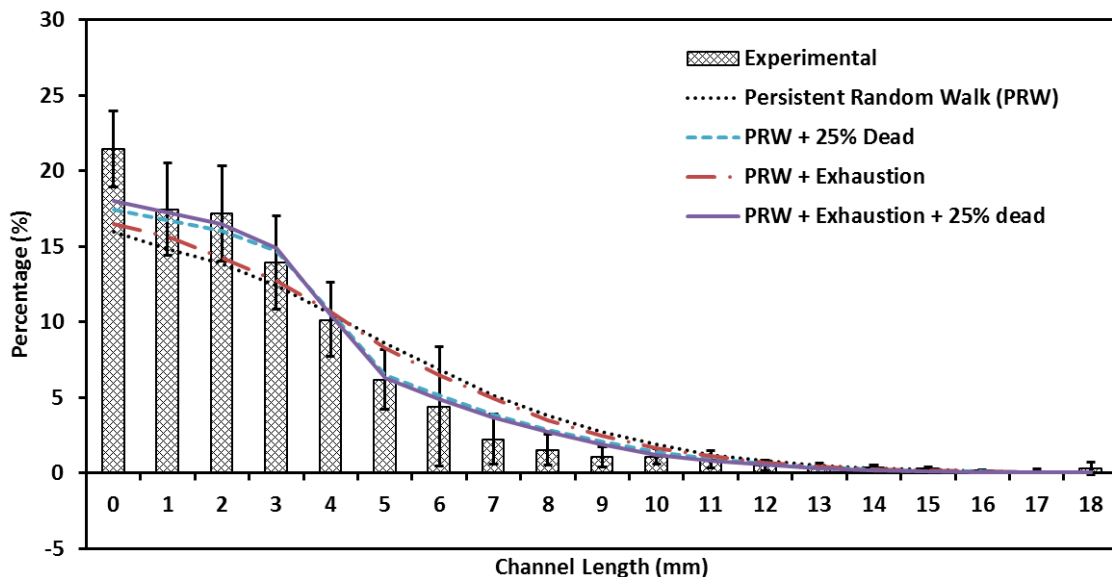
**Fig. S1.** Image analysis was performed for 20 sperm tracks (as illustrated in Fig. 1E), and the mean-squared-displacements (MSD) were calculated. The resulting averaged MSDs were then fitted to the persistent random walk (PRW) model (see Eq. (2)).



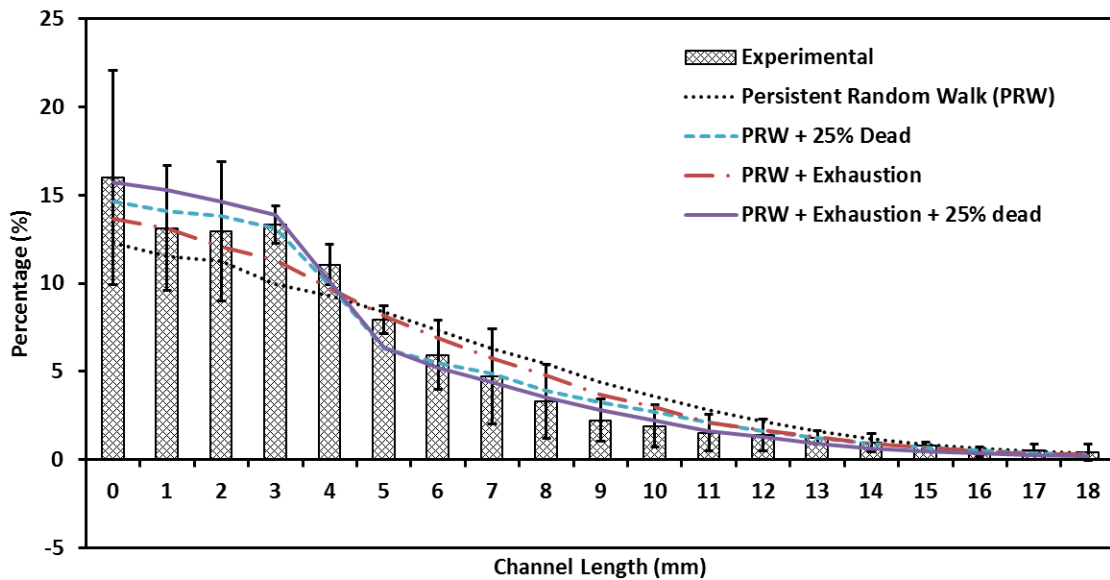
**Fig. S2.** Distribution  $N(x)$  of sperm as a function of channel length. A Fermi-like distribution, as discussed in Ref. [42], is used (see Eq. (9)). The mean interface location,  $\mu$ , is chosen to be 5mm, and the sharpness parameter  $\beta = 10 \text{ mm}^{-1}$ . The total number of sperm in the channel,  $N_T$ , is  $10^5$ .



**Fig. S3.** Comparison of experimental and simulated sperm distributions after incubation for 5 minutes. Experimental results are compared with computational models: (1) Persistent Random Walk (PRW), (2) PRW and initially 25% of sperm are dead, (3) PRW including 30 minutes exhaustion time of sperm ( $\pm 15$  minutes), and (4) PRW including both exhaustion time and initially 25% dead. Data were presented as average  $\pm$  standard error.



**Fig. S4.** Comparison of experimental and simulated sperm distributions after incubation for 15 minutes. Experimental results are compared with computational models: (1) Persistent Random Walk (PRW), (2) PRW and initially 25% of sperm are dead, (3) PRW including 30 minutes exhaustion time of sperm ( $\pm 15$  minutes), and (4) PRW including both exhaustion time and initially 25% dead. Data were presented as average  $\pm$  standard error.



**Fig. S5.** Comparison of experimental and simulated sperm distributions after incubation for 30 minutes. Experimental results are compared with computational models: (1) Persistent Random Walk (PRW), (2) PRW and initially 25% of sperm are dead, (3) PRW including 30 minutes exhaustion time of sperm ( $\pm 15$  minutes), and (4) PRW including both exhaustion time and initially 25% dead. Data were presented as average  $\pm$  standard error.



**Supporting Movie.** A visualization of the simulated sperm swimming in a microchannel. Sperm use the persistent random walk model described in the paper, with  $S = 42 \mu\text{m/s}$ ,  $P = 13 \text{ s}$ , and  $N = 1000$ . Exhaustion is set to 30 minutes with a standard deviation of 15 minutes, and 25% of the starting sperm are non-motile. Each frame corresponds to one second, for a total time of one hour.