

From vortex ratchets to rectification of self-propelled swimmers

Alejandro V. Silhanek

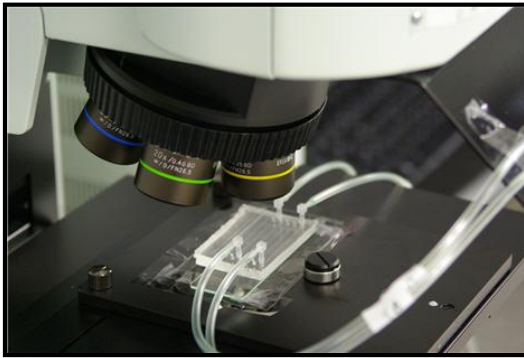
Experimental physics of nanostructured materials
Physics Department, University of Liège
BELGIUM



LABORATORY OF PHYSICS OF
NANOSTRUCTURED MATERIALS

The 3M collaboration

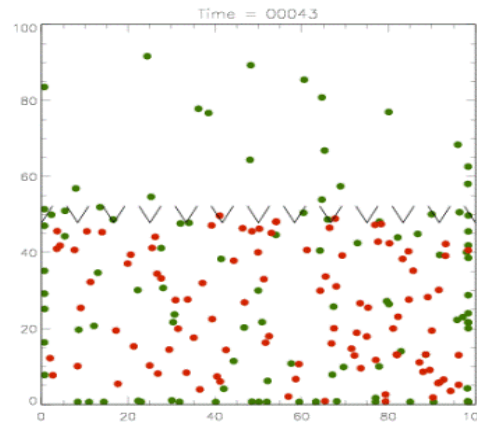
MICROFLUIDIC CHIPS



Y. Jeyaram
V. V. Moshchalkov

*KULeuven
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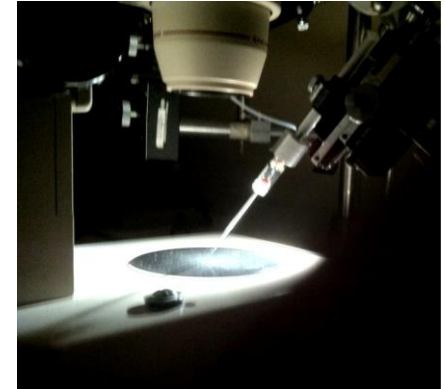
MD SIMULATIONS



V. Marconi
I. Berdakin
C. Condat

*University of Cordoba
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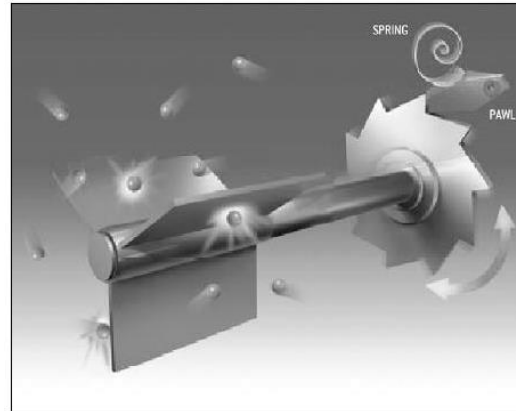
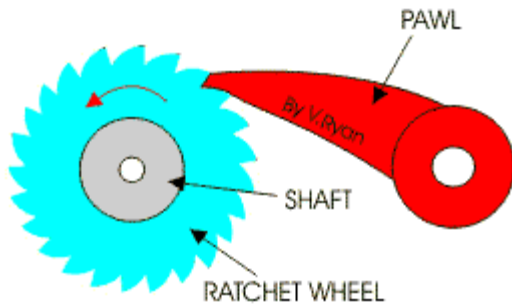
MICROSWIMMERS



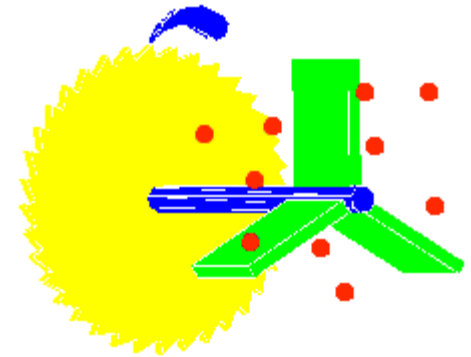
A. Guidobaldi
L. Giojalas

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Brownian Ratchets



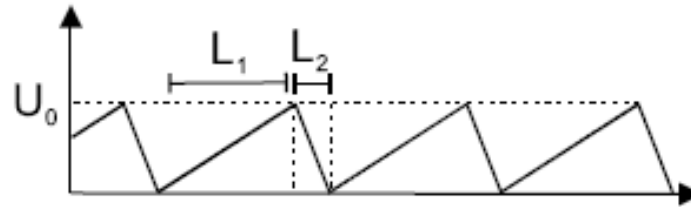
An artistic representation of a molecular ratchet mechanism that shows how Brownian motion is harnessed to spin the gear unidirectionally.



Directed transport in spatially periodic systems far from equilibrium under alternating excitation, without the need of a non-zero applied force and/or temperature gradients.

Rocking ratchets

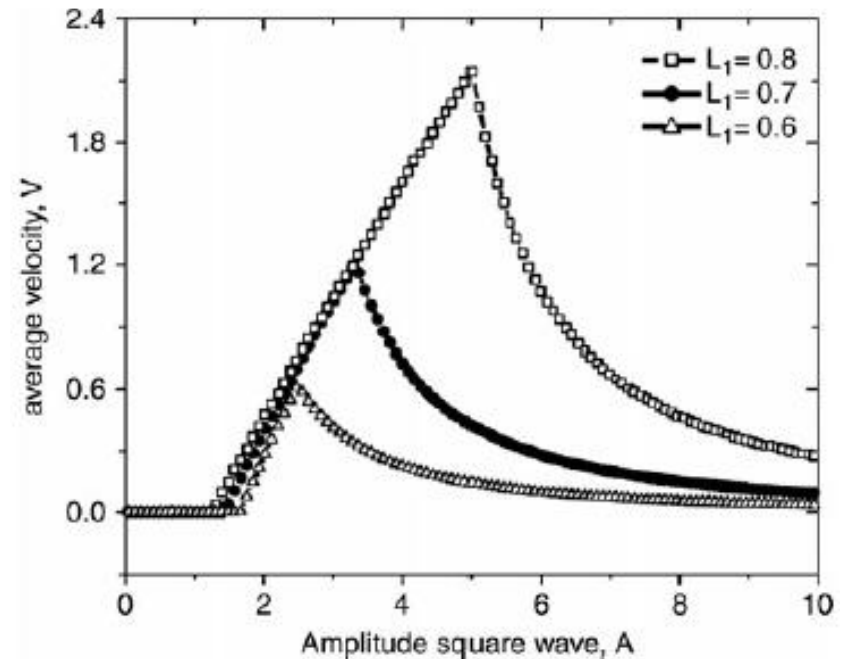
- breaking the inversion symmetry of the underlying periodic potential



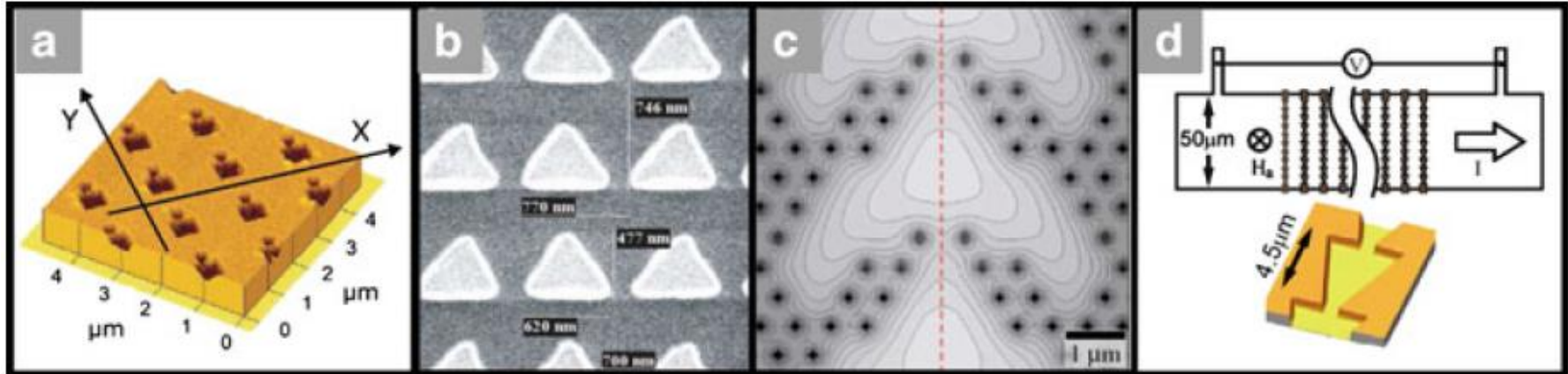
- the system has to be driven out of equilibrium

$$F_{ext} = A \sin \omega t$$

$$m\ddot{x} = -U'_p(x) - \eta\dot{x} + F_{ext} + \Gamma(t)$$



Realization in Type-II superconductors



J. Van de Vondel *et al.*,
Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**,
057003 (2005)

J. E. Villegas *et al.*,
Science **302**
1188 (2003)

Y. Togawa *et al.*,
Phys. Rev. Lett.
95, 087002(2005)

K. Yu *et al.*,
Phys. Rev. B **76**
220507(R) (2007)

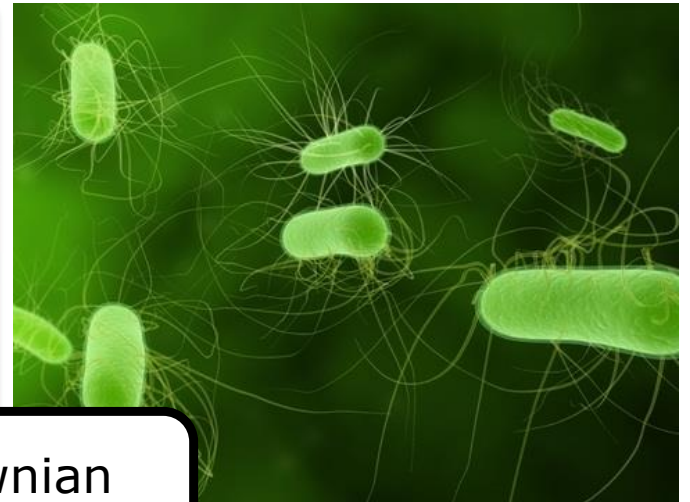
- simi-rigid objects
- size of ~ 0.1 to $1 \mu\text{m}$
- no-inertia
- guided by physical boundaries
- Repulsive interactions
- very homogeneous population
- externally excited

Deterministic
ratchet

From fluxon ratchets to rectification of self-propelled objects

BACTERIA

- semi-rigid objects
- size of $\sim 1 \mu\text{m}$
- no-inertia ?
- Repulsive interactions ?
- guided by physical boundaries ?
- heterogeneous population
- driven by internal motor

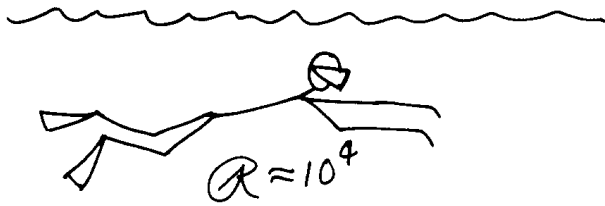


Brownian
ratchet

Life without inertia

~~Navier - Stokes:~~

$$-\nabla p + \eta \nabla^2 \vec{v} = \cancel{\rho \frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t}} + \cancel{\rho (\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v}}$$



$$\text{Re} = \frac{\text{inertial term}}{\text{viscous term}} \approx \frac{\rho L v}{\eta}$$

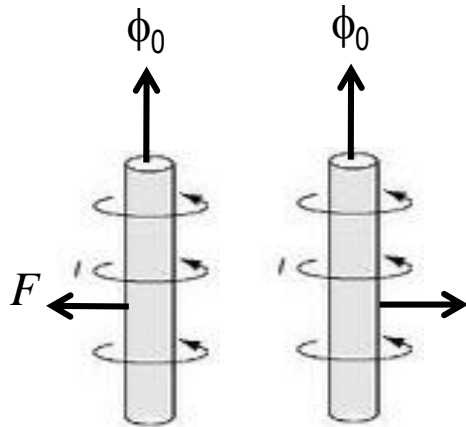
~~$\text{Re} \approx 10^2$~~



HOW FAR AN E-COLI WILL COAST IF SUDDENLY STOPS SWIMMING ?

$\sim 0.1 \text{ \AA}$ IN ABOUT $1 \mu\text{s}$

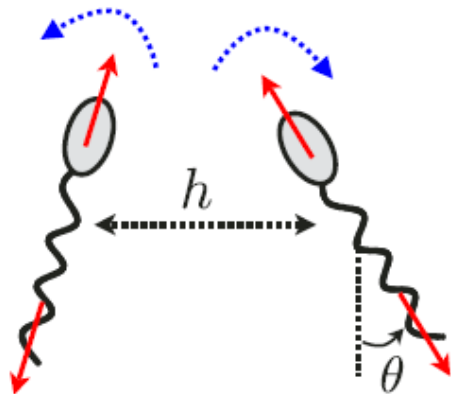
swimmer-swimmer interaction



$$-\nabla p + \eta \nabla^2 u = 0, \quad \nabla \cdot u = 0$$

$$u(r) = \frac{P}{8\pi\eta r^3} [3 \cos^2 \theta - 1] r$$

$$|p| \sim \eta U L^2$$

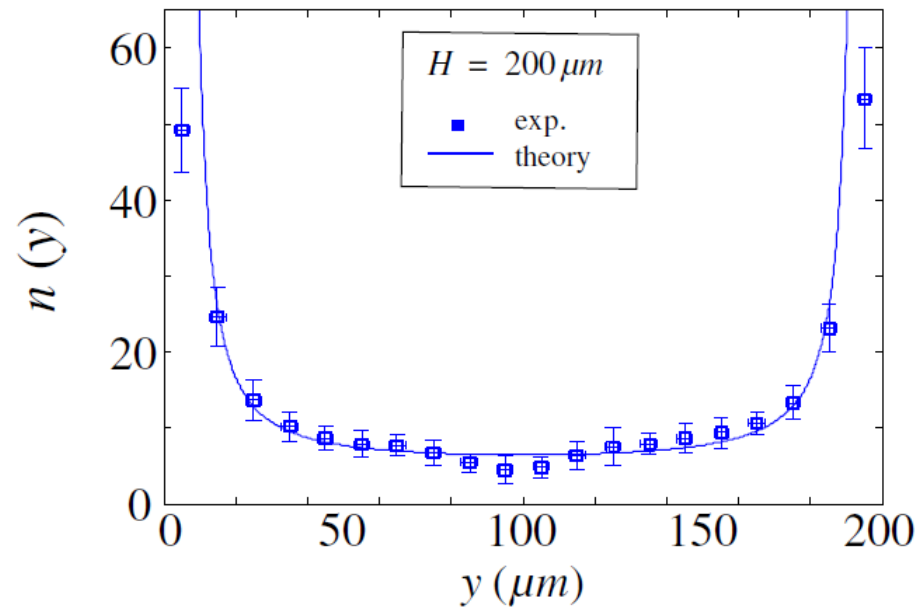
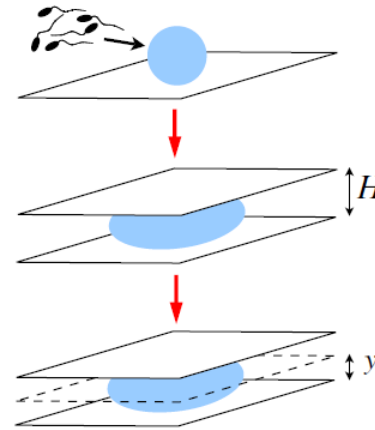
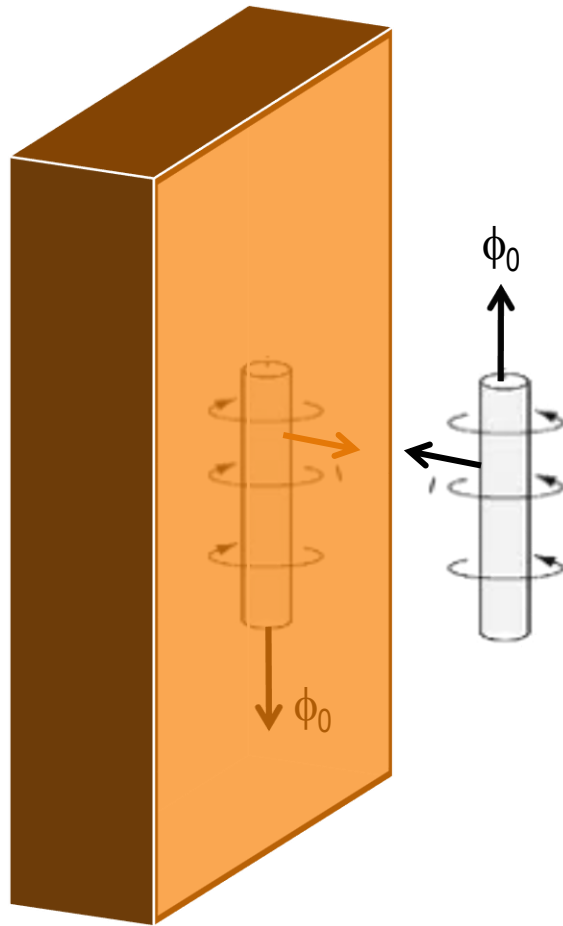


TWO SIDE BY SIDE ($\theta = \pi/2$) E-COLI
ATTRACT EACH OTHER

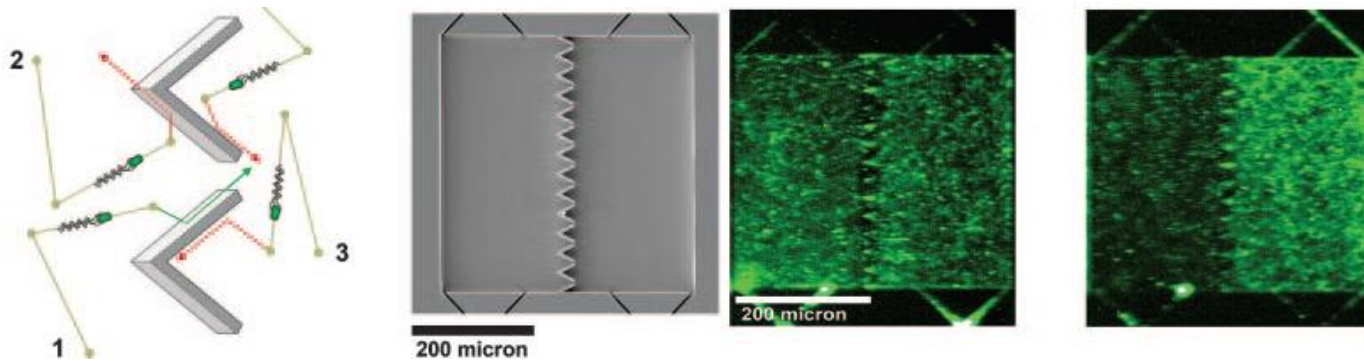
TWO SWIMMERS ALIGNED ($\theta = 0$)
REPEL EACH OTHER

→ Local force on the fluid

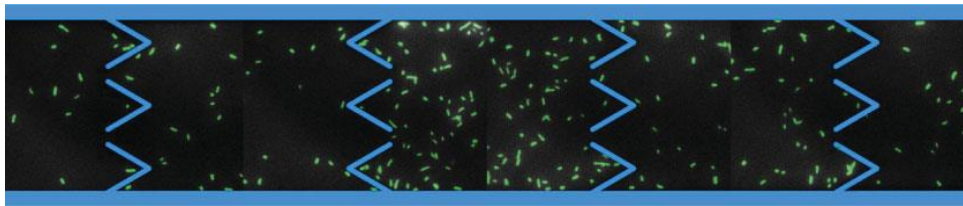
Swimmer-wall interactions



Ratchet of self-propelled swimmers



Galajda *et al.*, *J. Bacteriol.* **189**, 8704 (2007)

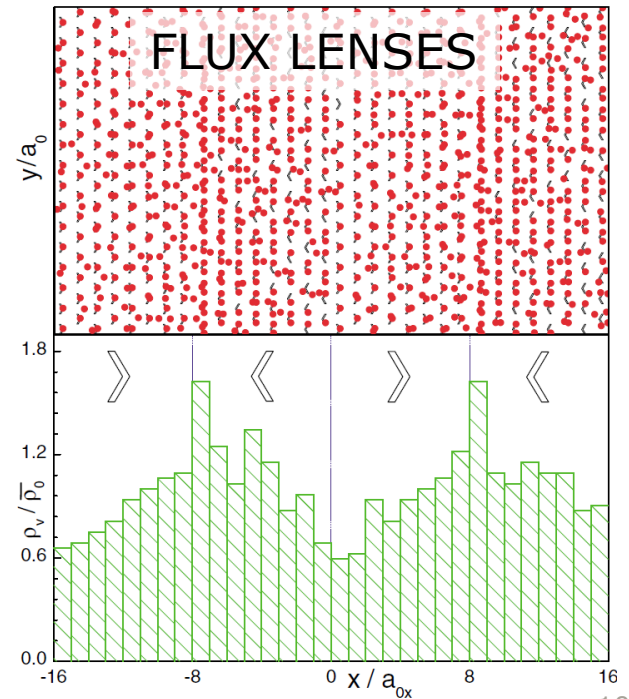


Hulme *et al.*, *Lab on a chip* (2008)

Mahmud *et al.*, *Nature Physics* **5**, 606 (2009)

Lambert *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **104**, 168102 (2010)

Zhu, Marchesoni, Nori, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **92**, 180602 (2004)



Now we know that ratchets work for self-propelled microorganisms, what next?

- Does the swimming strategy play a role in the rectification efficiency ?
- Assuming heterogeneity in a swimmer population, say different “smartness”, can we separate them?

Life without inertia

~~Navier - Stokes :~~

$$-\nabla p + \eta \nabla^2 \vec{v} = \cancel{\rho \frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t}} + \cancel{\rho (\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v}} \quad \leftarrow$$

LINEAR AND TIME INDEPENDENT !

AT LOW Re THE RESPONSE IS DETERMINED BY THE FORCES EXERTED AT THAT MOMENT AND BY NOTHING IN THE PAST

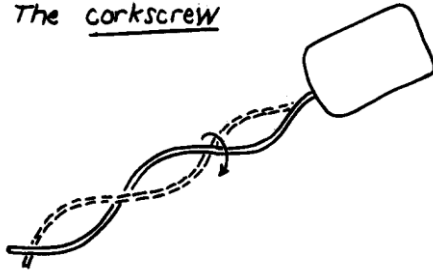
THE SCALOP CANNOT SWIM AT LOW Re



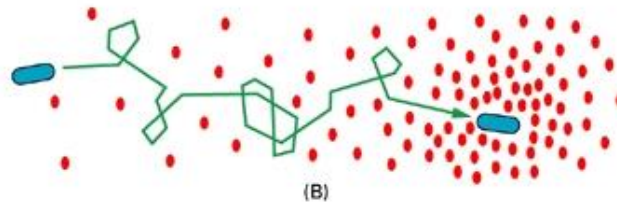
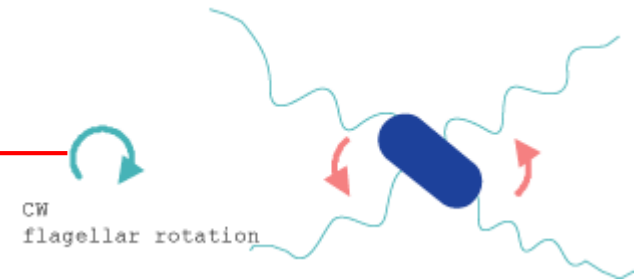
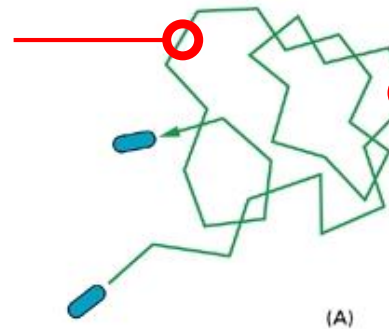
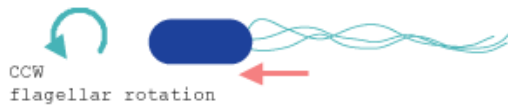
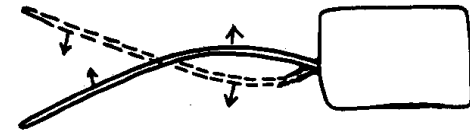
Avoiding the scallop theorem

WE NEED NON RECIPROCAL BODY KINEMATICS

The corkscrew

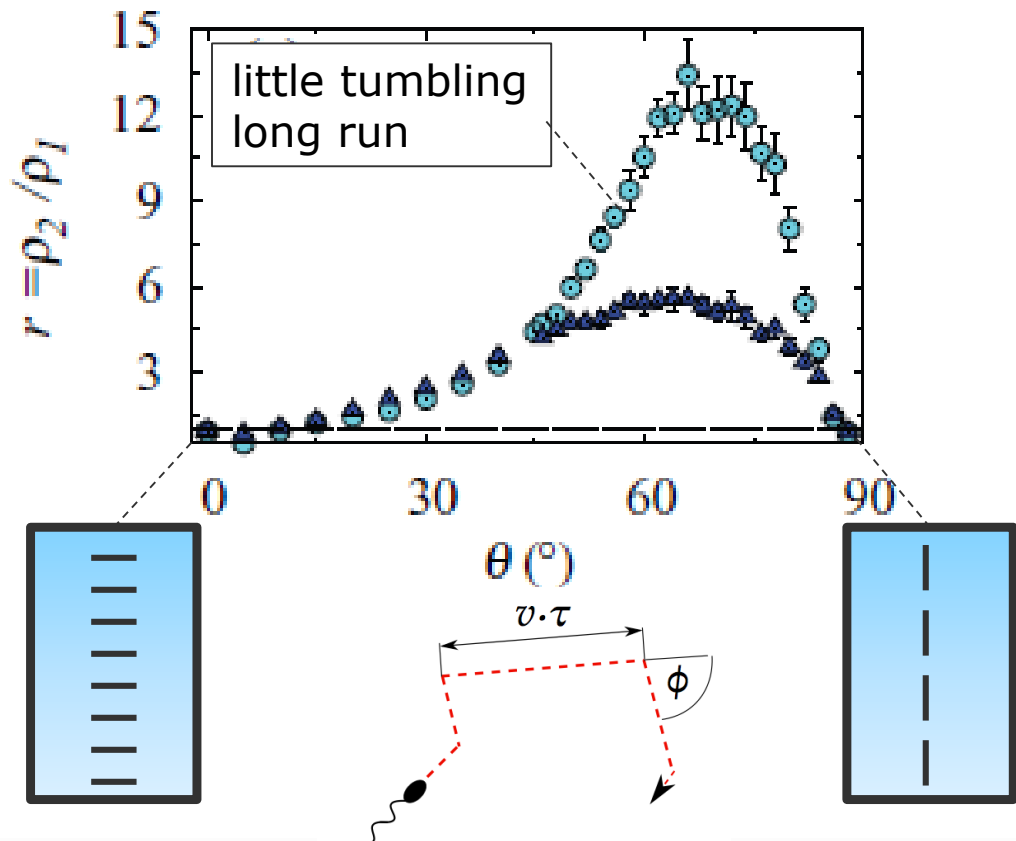
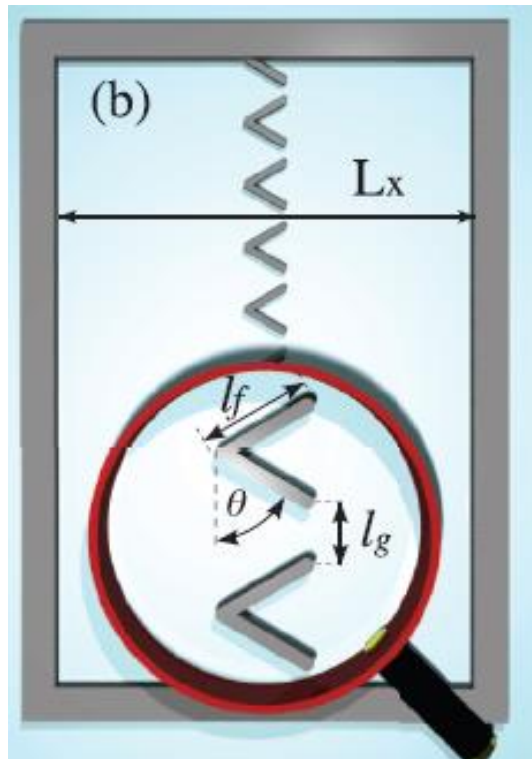


The flexible oar



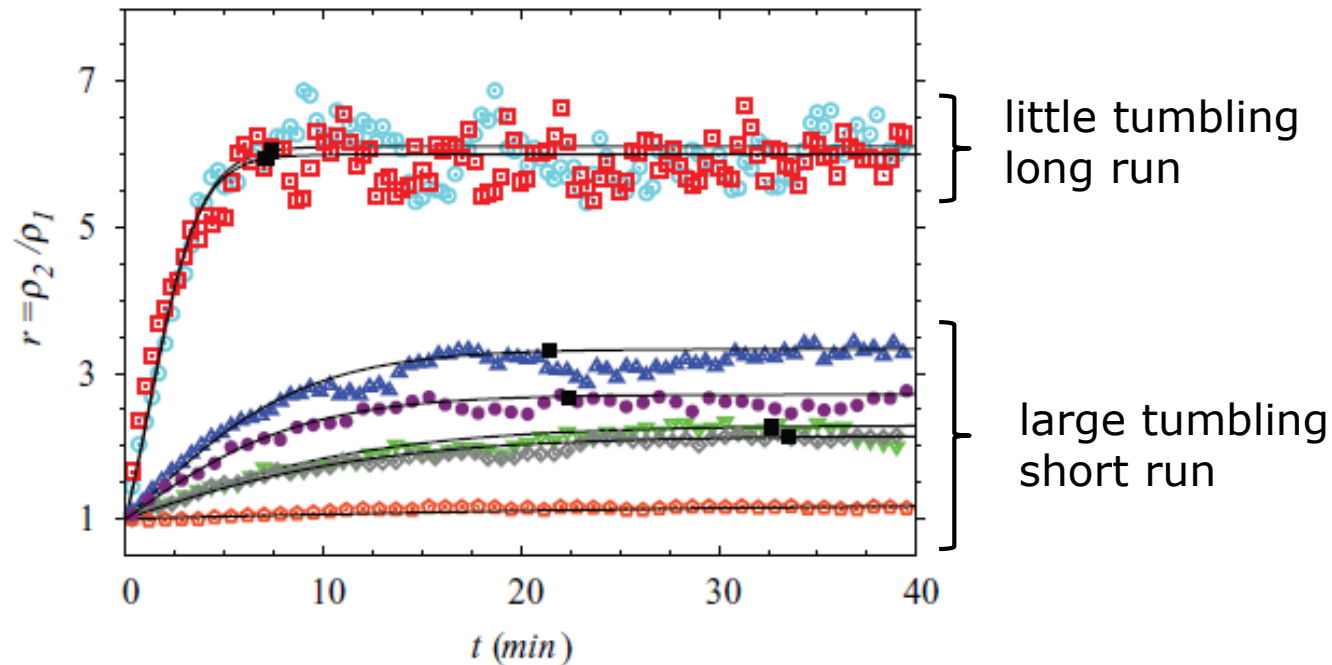
Optimization of the ratchet geometry

$$\gamma \frac{d\mathbf{r}_i}{dt} = \mathbf{F}_i^m + \mathbf{F}_i^{sw} + \mathbf{F}_i^s,$$



Little tumbling improves the rectification

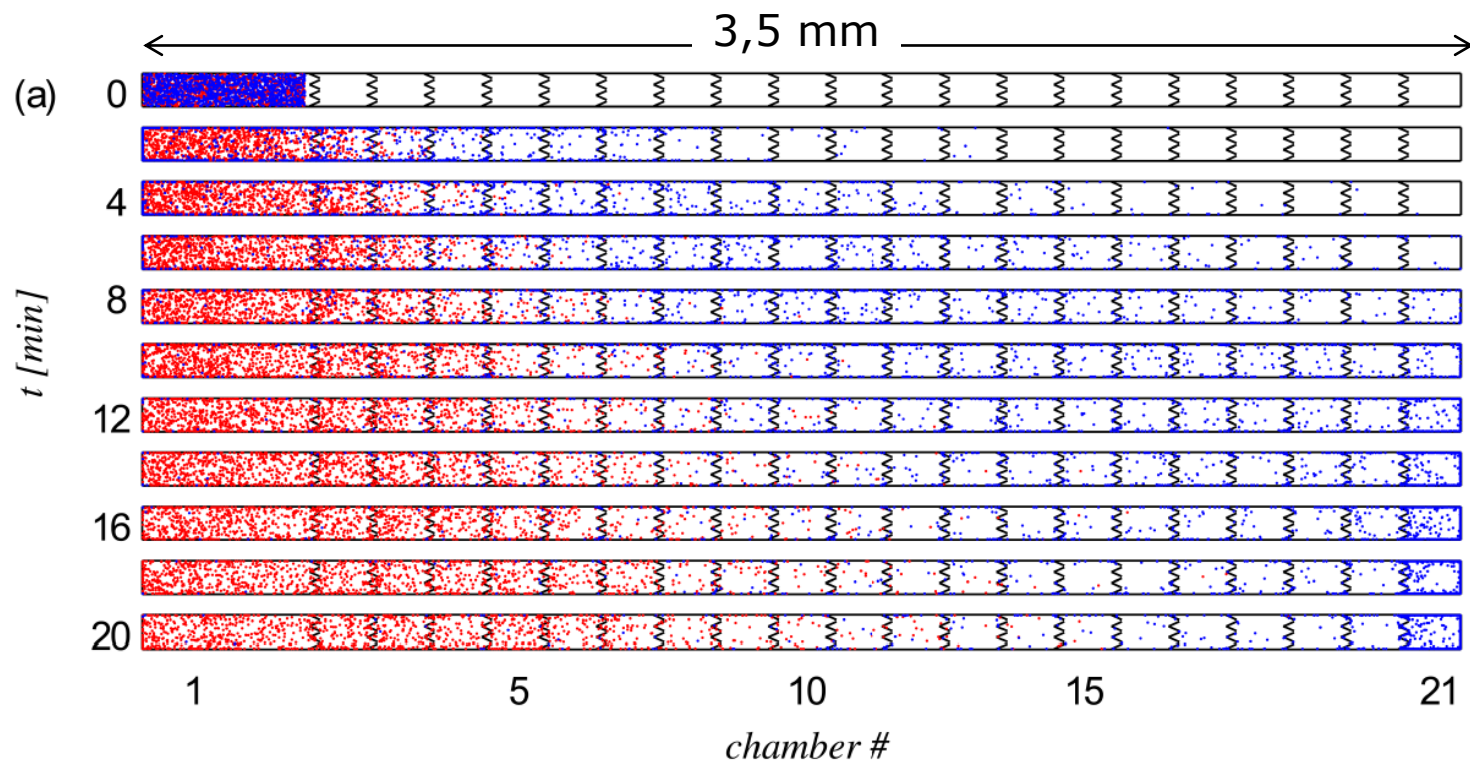
	Mean direction change, $\bar{\phi}$ ($^\circ$)	Mean run duration, τ (s)	Mean speed, \bar{v} ($\mu\text{m/s}$)	D ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$)	Rectification time (min)
s_1	33 ± 15	6.3	20 ± 4.9	1788	7.1
s_2	0 ± 36	100	14.2 ± 3.4	1293	7.4
s_3	68 ± 36	0.86	14.2 ± 3.4	128	21.4
s_4	74 ± 33	0.42	14.4 ± 3.9	48	32.7
s_5	180 ± 36	0.86	14.2 ± 3.4	51	33.5
s_6	68 ± 36	0.01	14.2 ± 3.4	1.6	95.9
s_7	90(srw)	0.86	14.2 ± 3.4	87	22.4



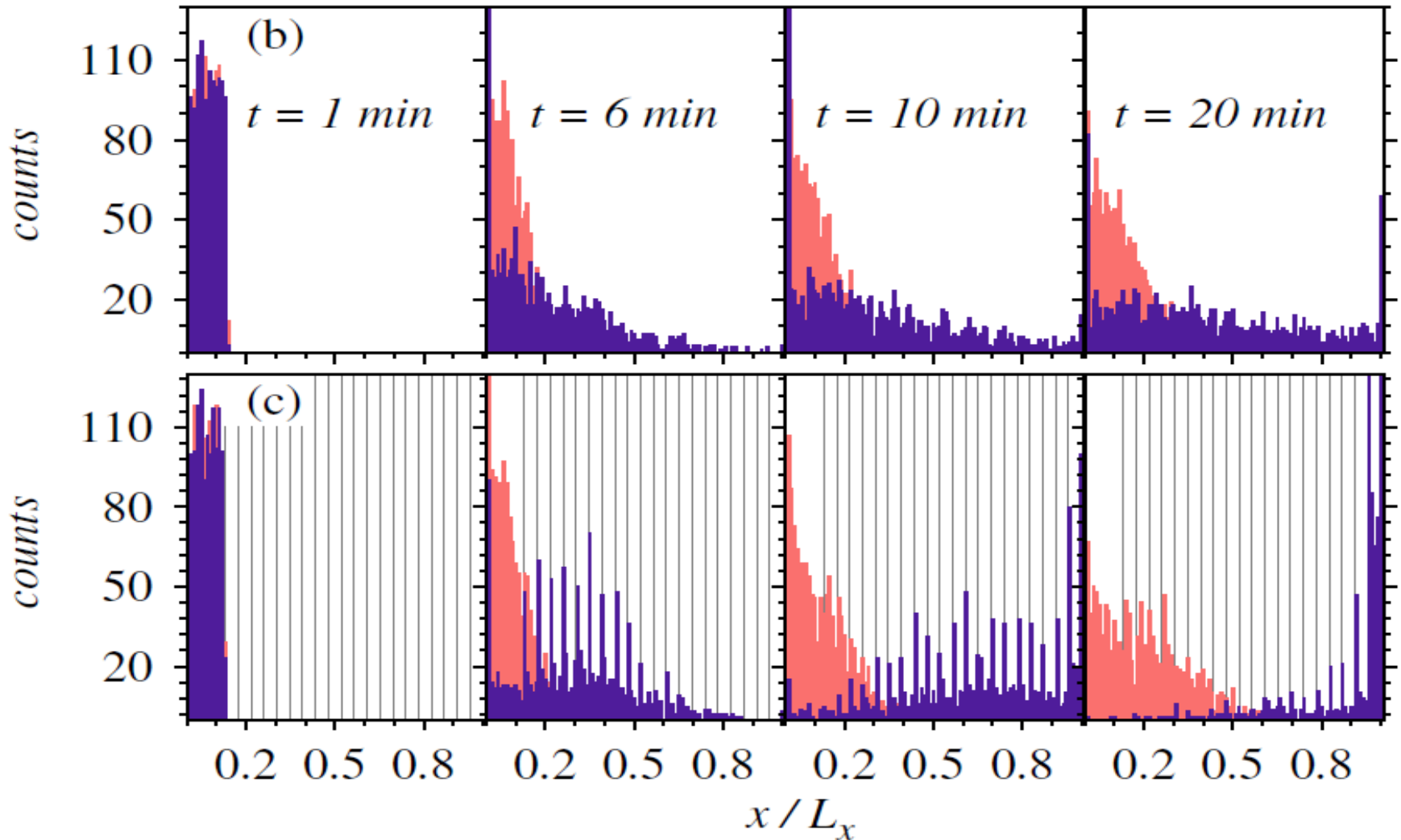
Quantification of the sorting efficiency

Table 1. Motility parameters of two different *E. coli* strains: s_1 corresponds to AW405 and s_2 to CheC497 in Ref. [31].

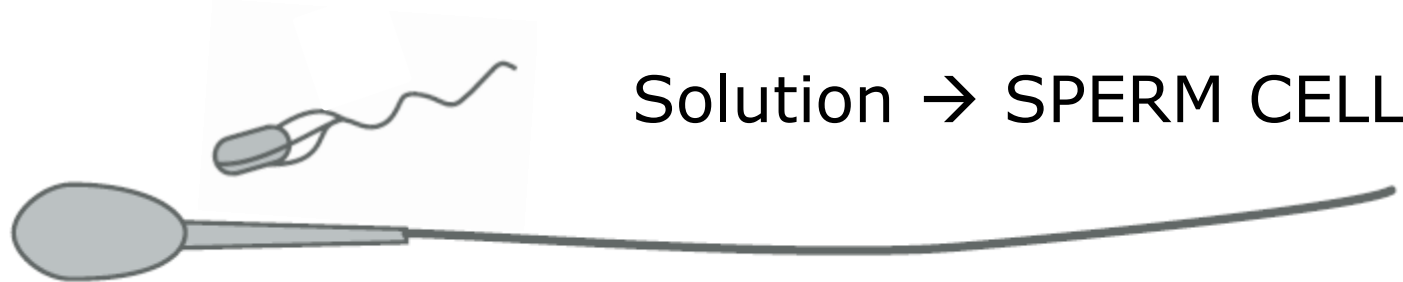
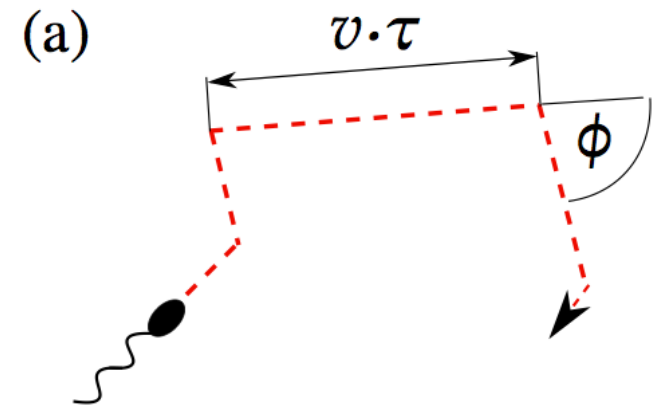
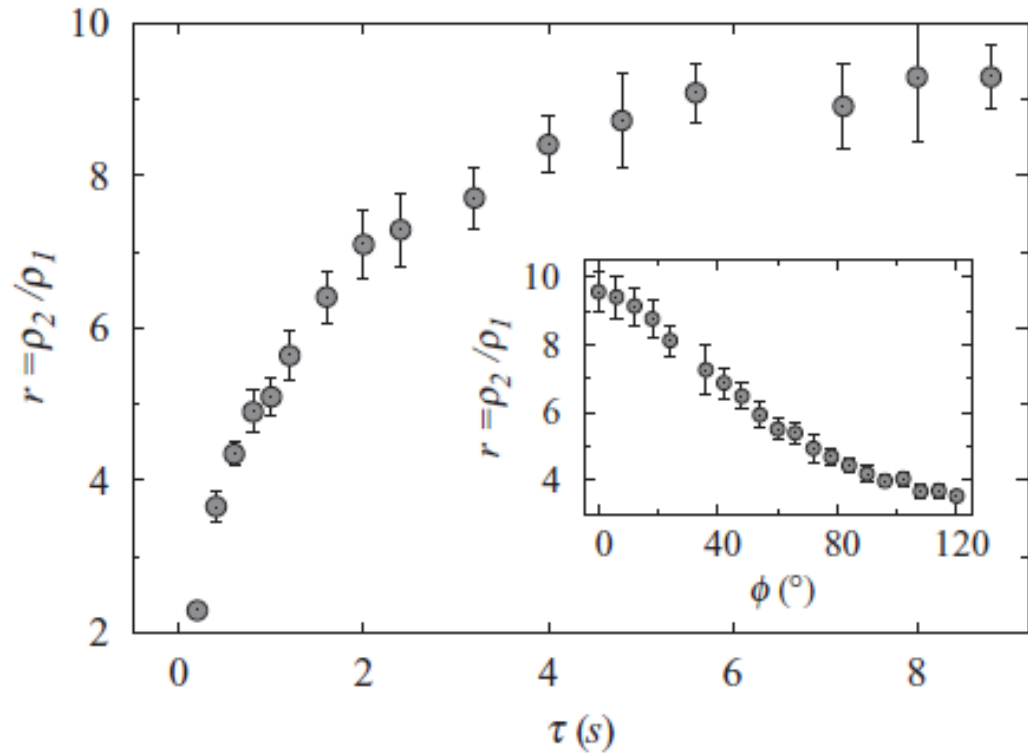
Swimmer	$\bar{v}[\mu\text{m/s}]$	$\sigma_v[\mu\text{m/s}]$	$\bar{\phi}[^{\circ}]$	$\sigma_{\phi}[^{\circ}]$	$\tau[\text{s}]$	$D_R[\text{rad}^2/\text{s}]$
● s_1 (wild type)	14.2	3.4	68	36	0.86	0.18
● s_2 (mutant)	20.0	4.9	33	15	6.30	0.06



Ratchet enhanced diffusion

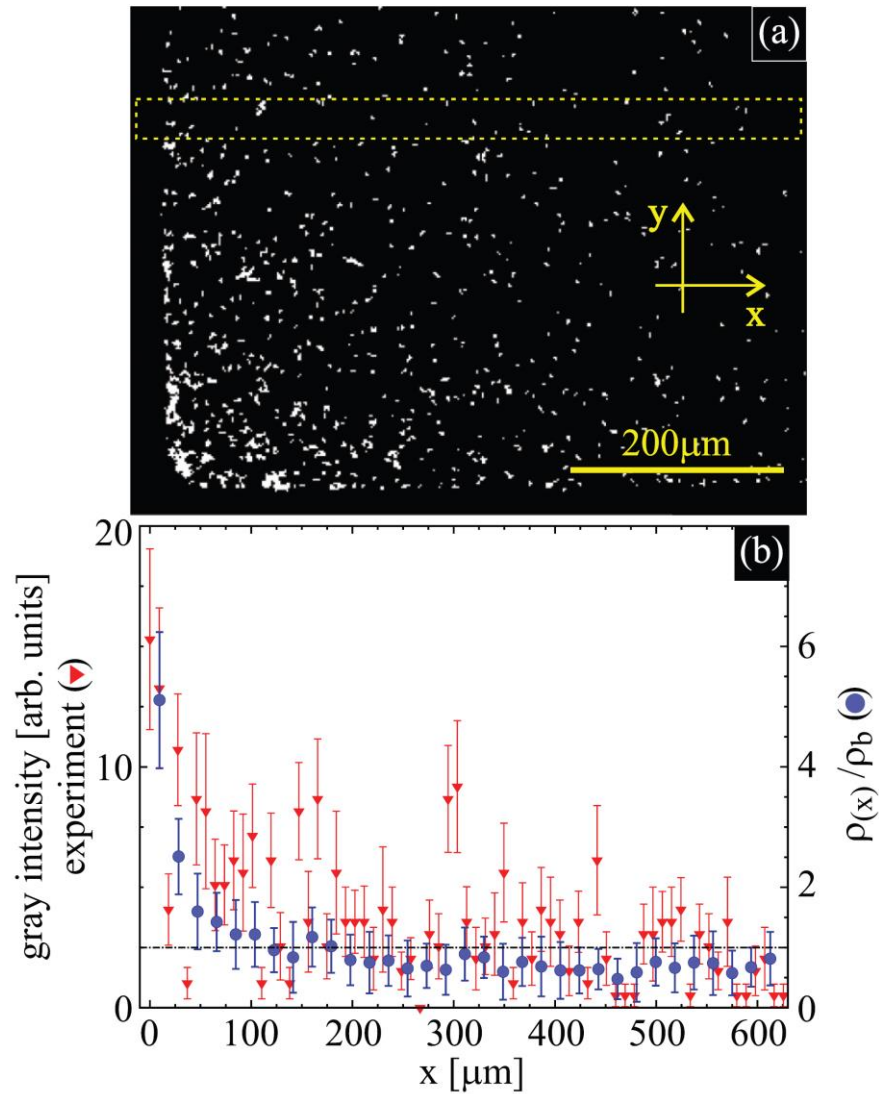


No tumbling at all improves the rectification

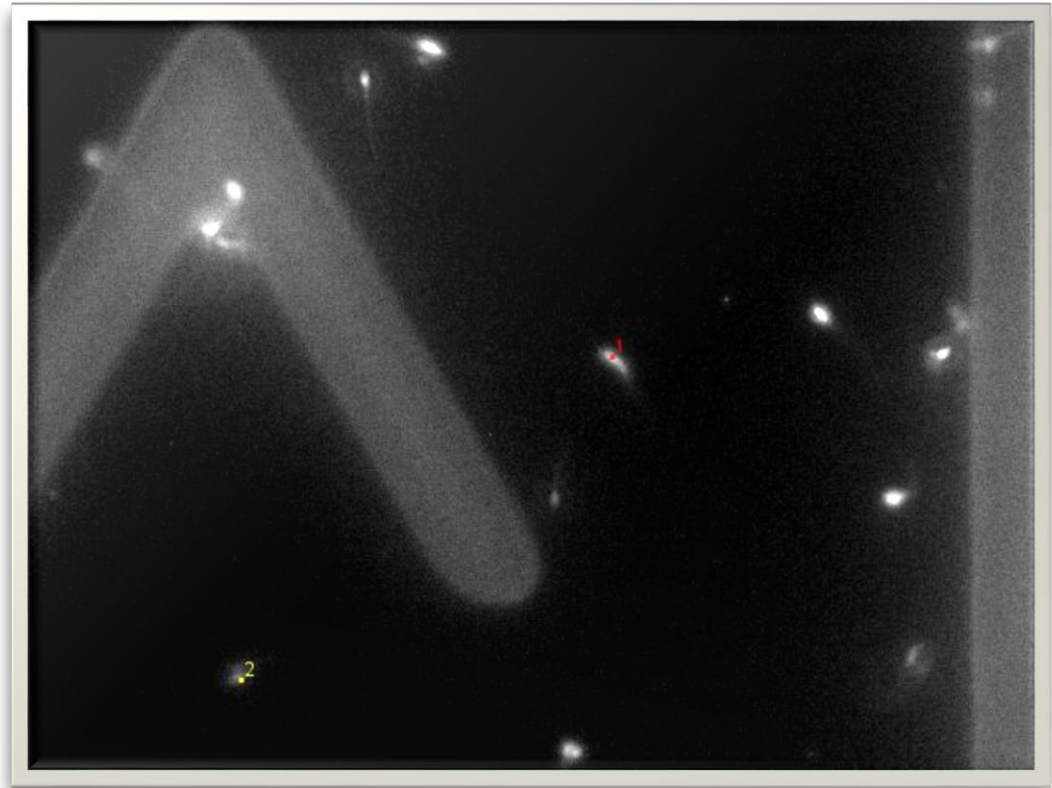
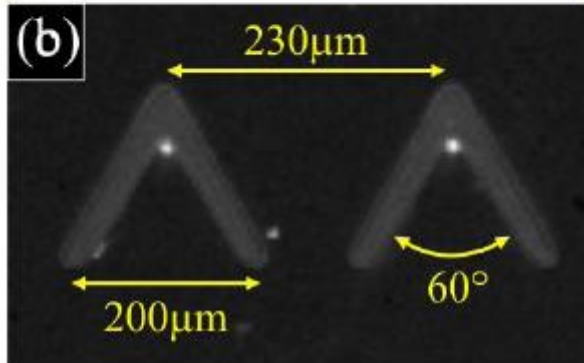
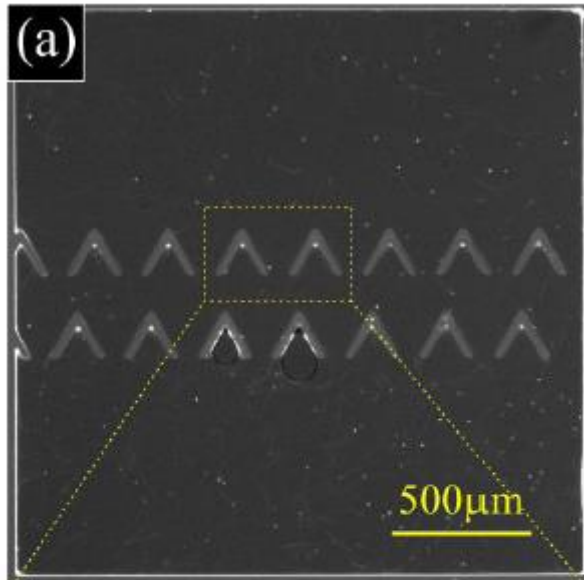


Solution \rightarrow SPERM CELLS

Wall accumulation

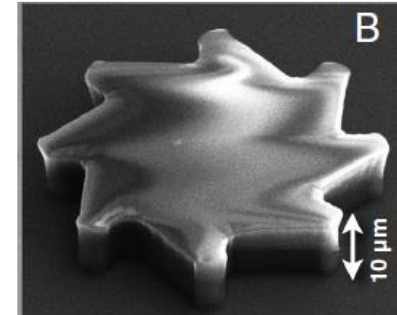
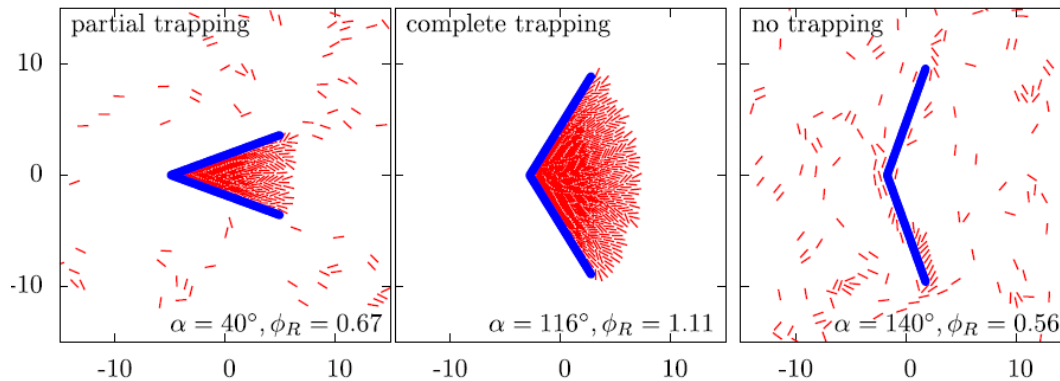


No separation but trapping



How to Capture Active Particles

A. Kaiser,¹ H. H. Wensink,^{1,2,*} and H. Löwen¹



Di Leonardo *et al.*, *PNAS*. **107**, 9541 (2010)

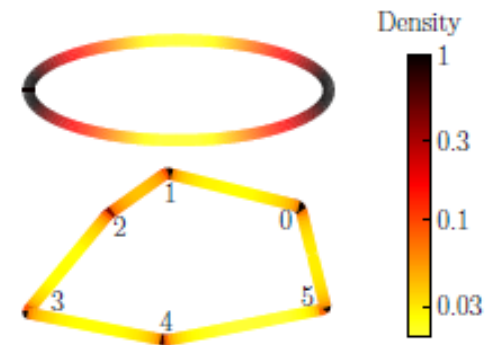
Dynamics of Self-Propelled Particles Under Strong Confinement

Yaouen Fily, Aparna Baskaran, Michael F. Hagan

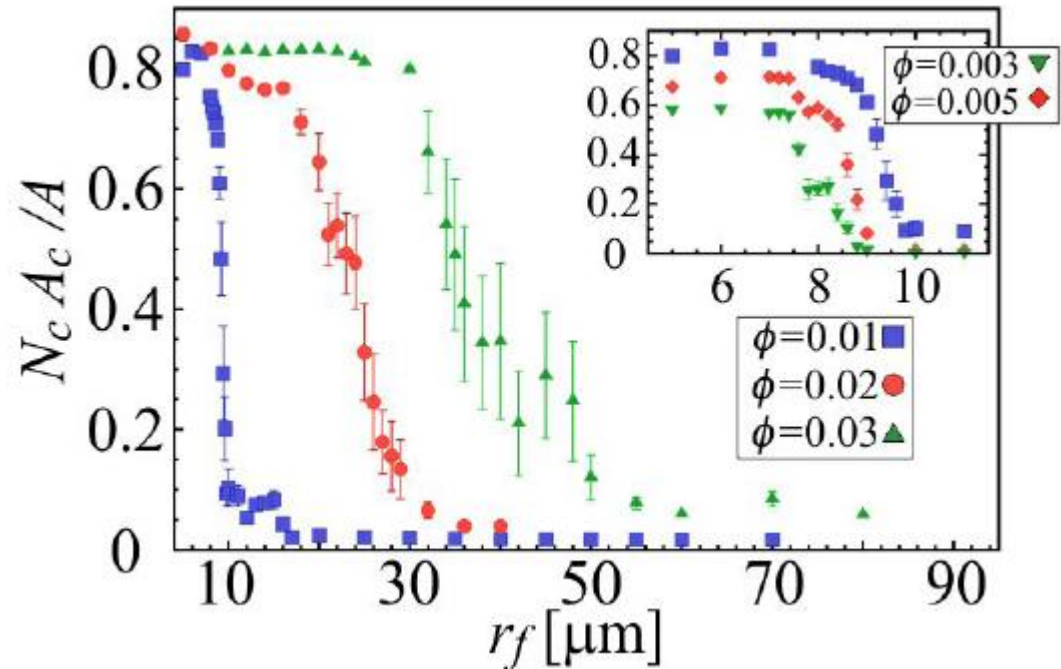
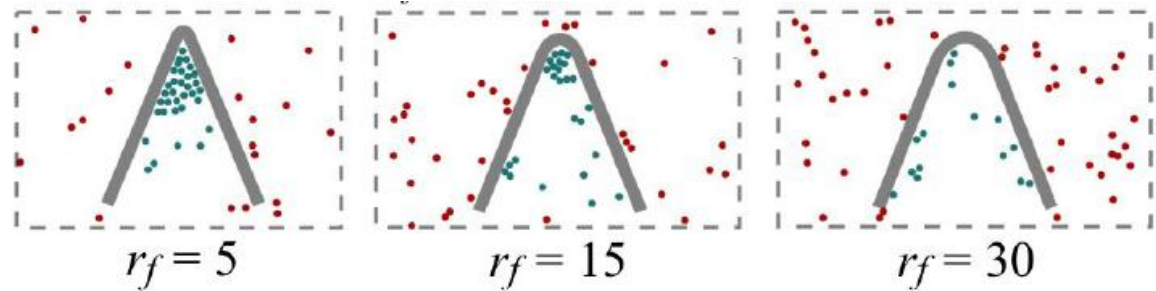
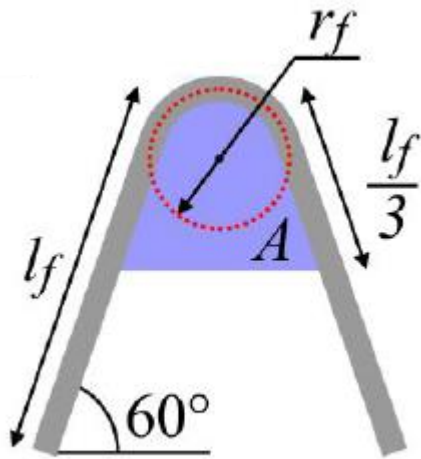
Martin Fisher School of Physics, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA 02453, USA

(Dated: February 25, 2014)

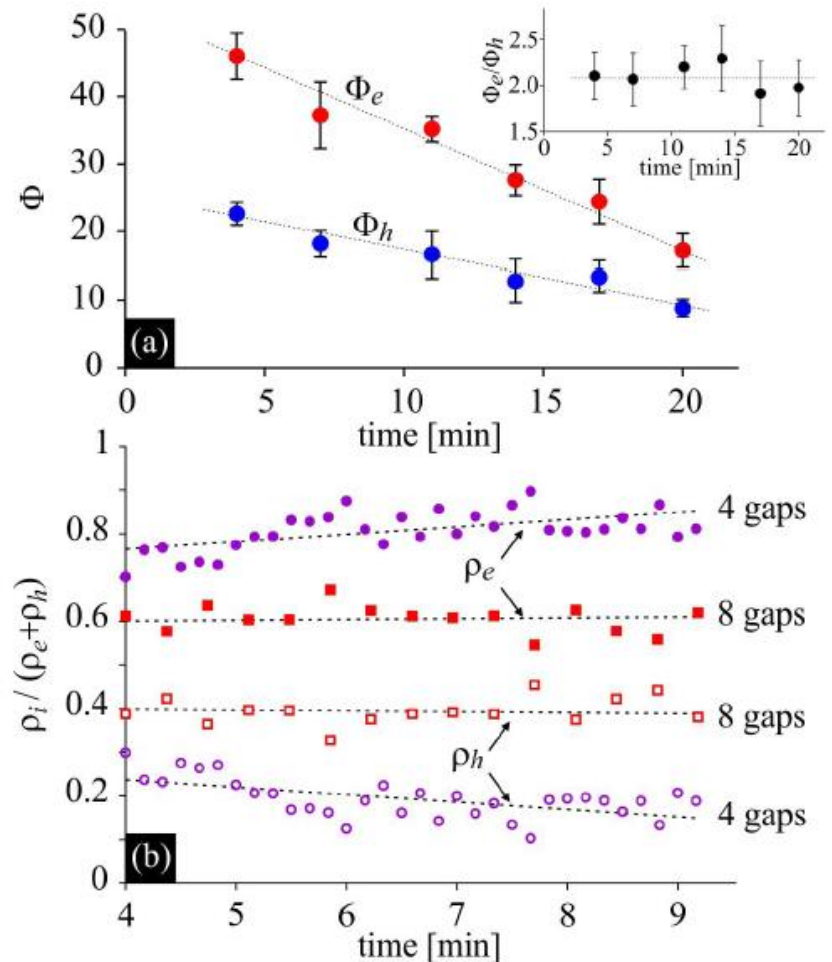
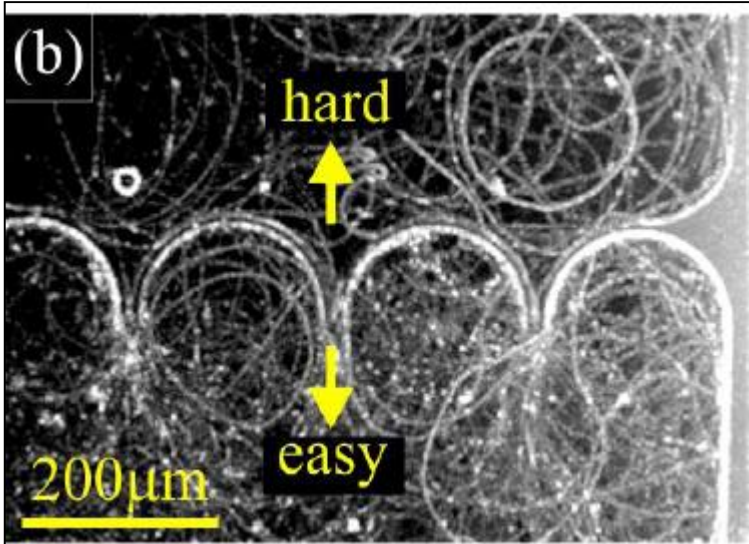
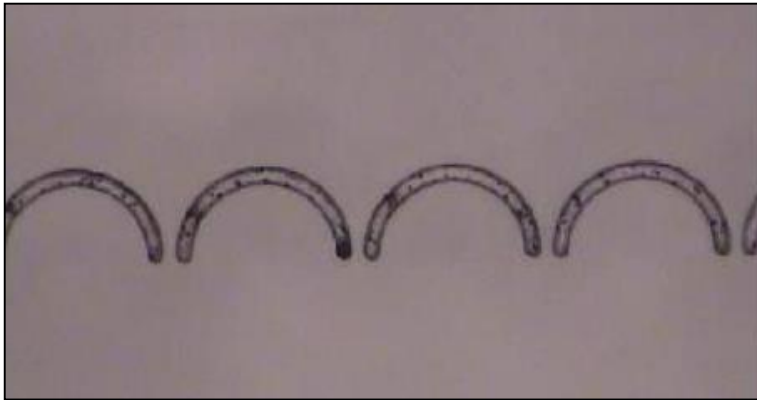
The steady-state distribution of particles at the boundary is proportional to the local curvature



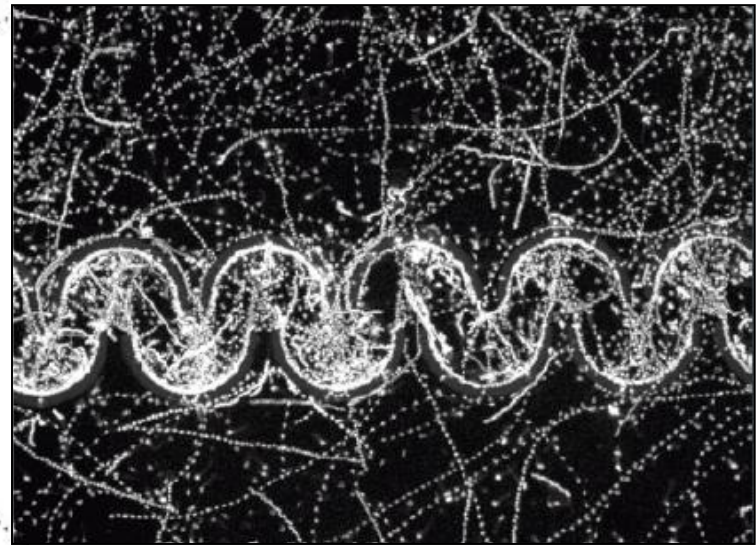
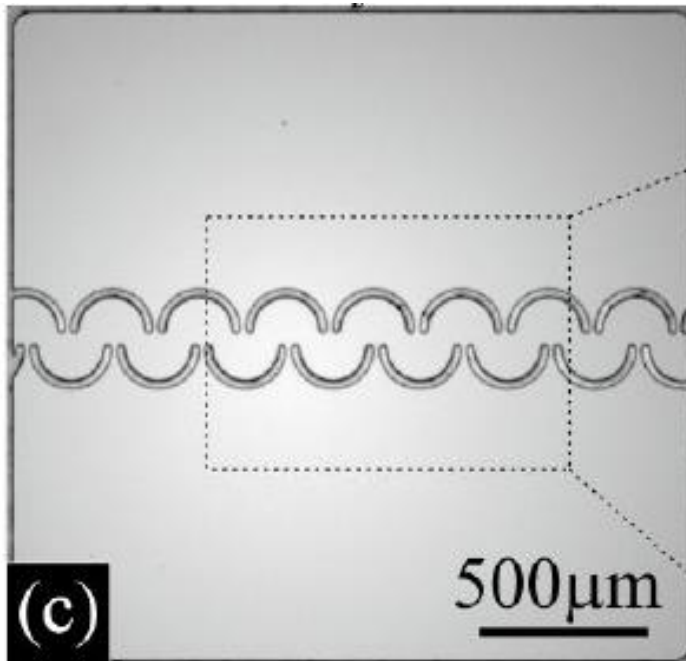
U-shape instead of V-shape



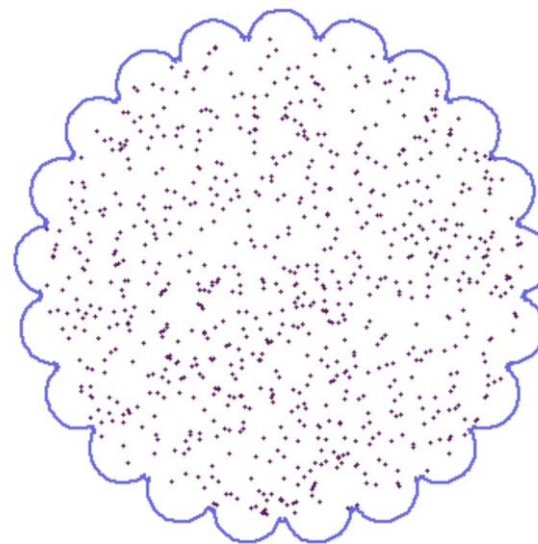
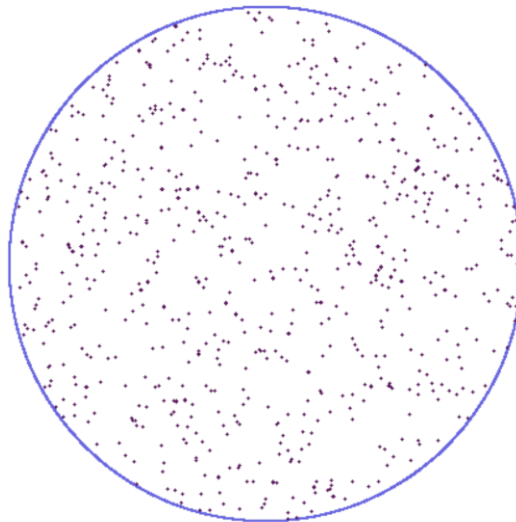
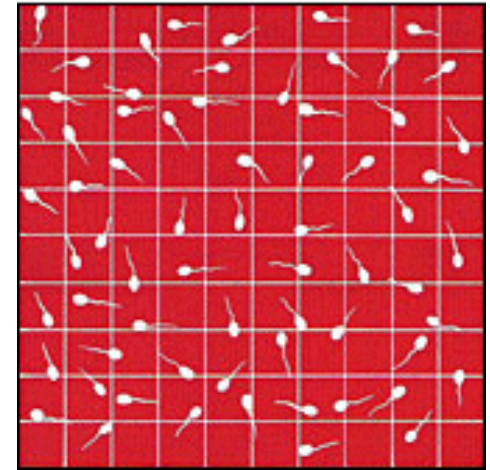
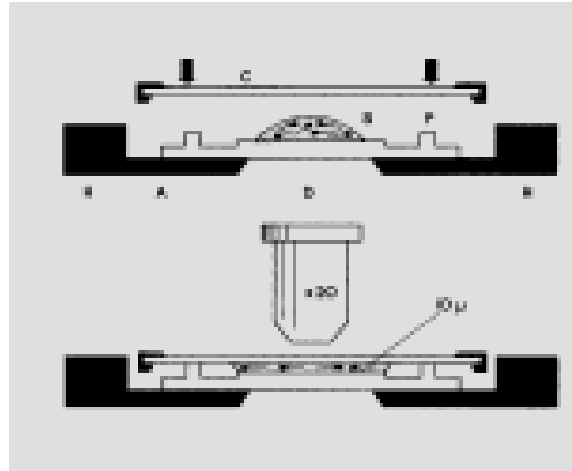
U-shape instead of V-shape



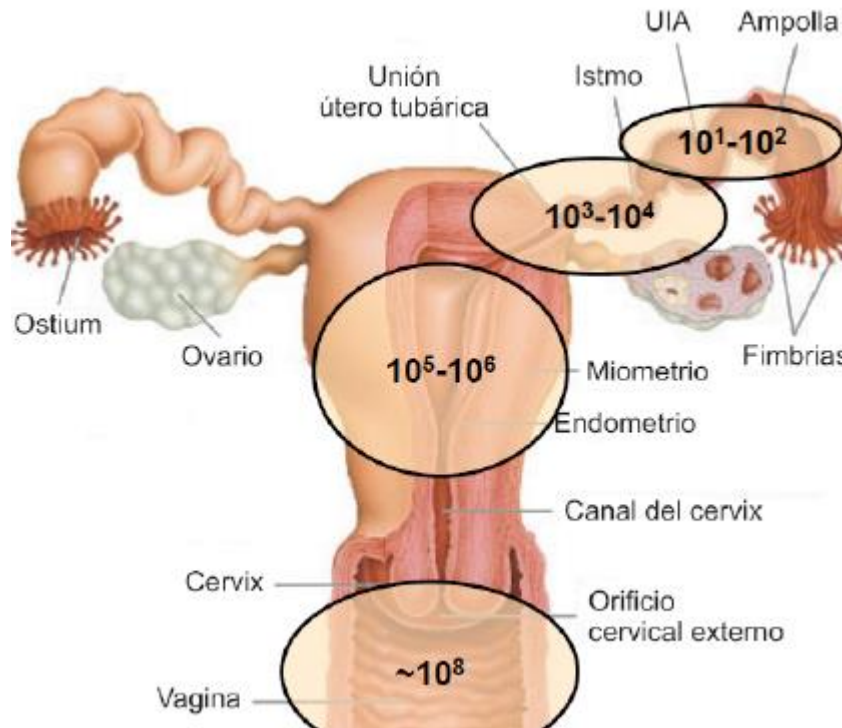
Sperm concentrator



Where are we heading to ?



What for ?



From millions
only 10-100 arrive!

ONLY selected and
capacitated
spermatozoa will be
useful..

HOW TO DIRECT AND
SELECT the smarter
IN VITRO?

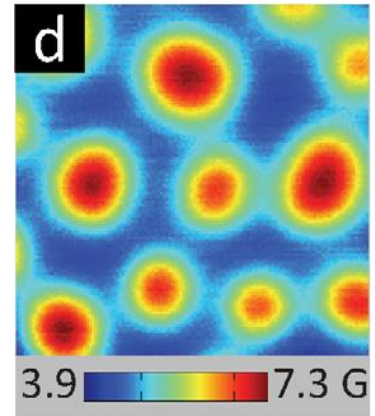
Odds of winning the lottery are about 18 million to 1

The likelihood you'll be killed by lightning is roughly 2,650,000 to 1

Odds of becoming a saint: 1 in 20 million

Conclusion

- Mapping of dissimilar problems: control of micro-objects via surface patterning
- Reversal due to swimmers interactions?
- Ratchets in type I superconductors?
- Geometrical ratchet may help to eliminate cellular stress and damage associated with centrifugation
- A sizable fraction of swimmers can be 100% purified even if the original mixture are dynamically slightly different
- Hyperactivation may prevent sperm from becoming trapped with the convoluted epithelial folds of the fallopian tubes



Thank you



KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT
LEUVEN

fnrs
LA LIBERTÉ DE CHERCHER



COST



CONICET

