

Supplementary Materials

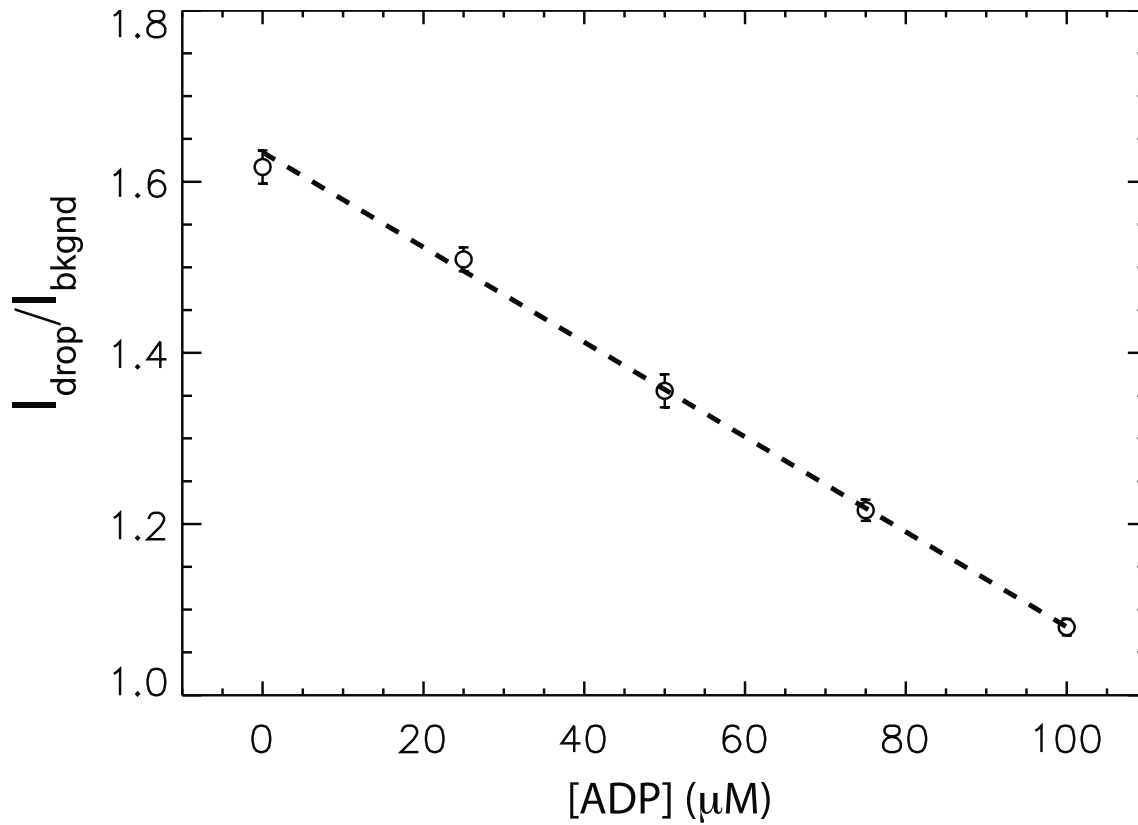


Figure S1: Calibration Curve of NADH fluorescence in droplet without sperm cell. Plot of mean intensity ratio of drop to background vs. $[\text{ADP}]$. Error bars are \pm SEM ($n=4$). The dashed line is a least squares fit to the data.

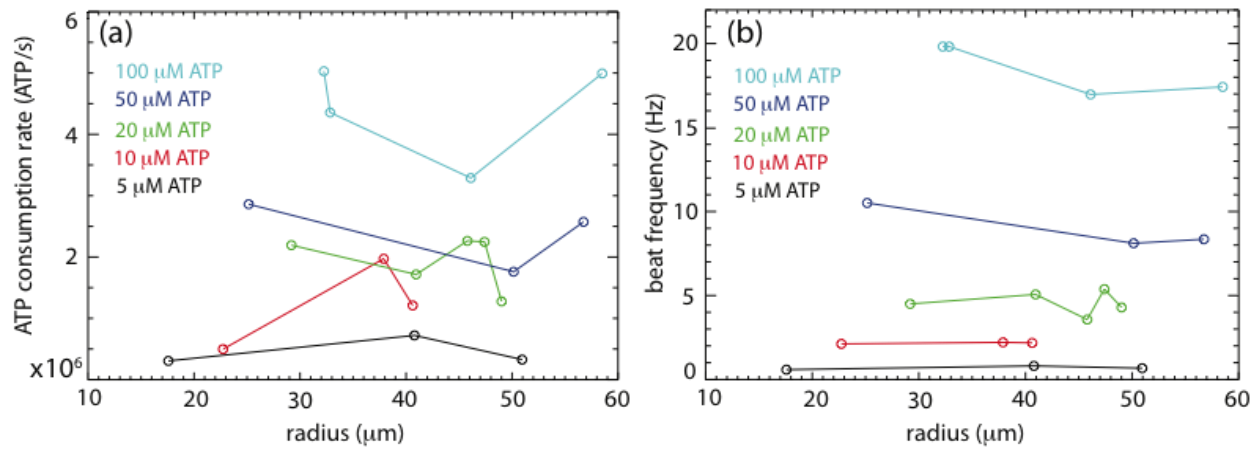


Figure S2: The analyses of droplet radius dependence in relation to ATP consumption rate (a) and beating frequency (b) for various [ATP] show absence of systematic trends with droplet size. Lines are eye-guides.

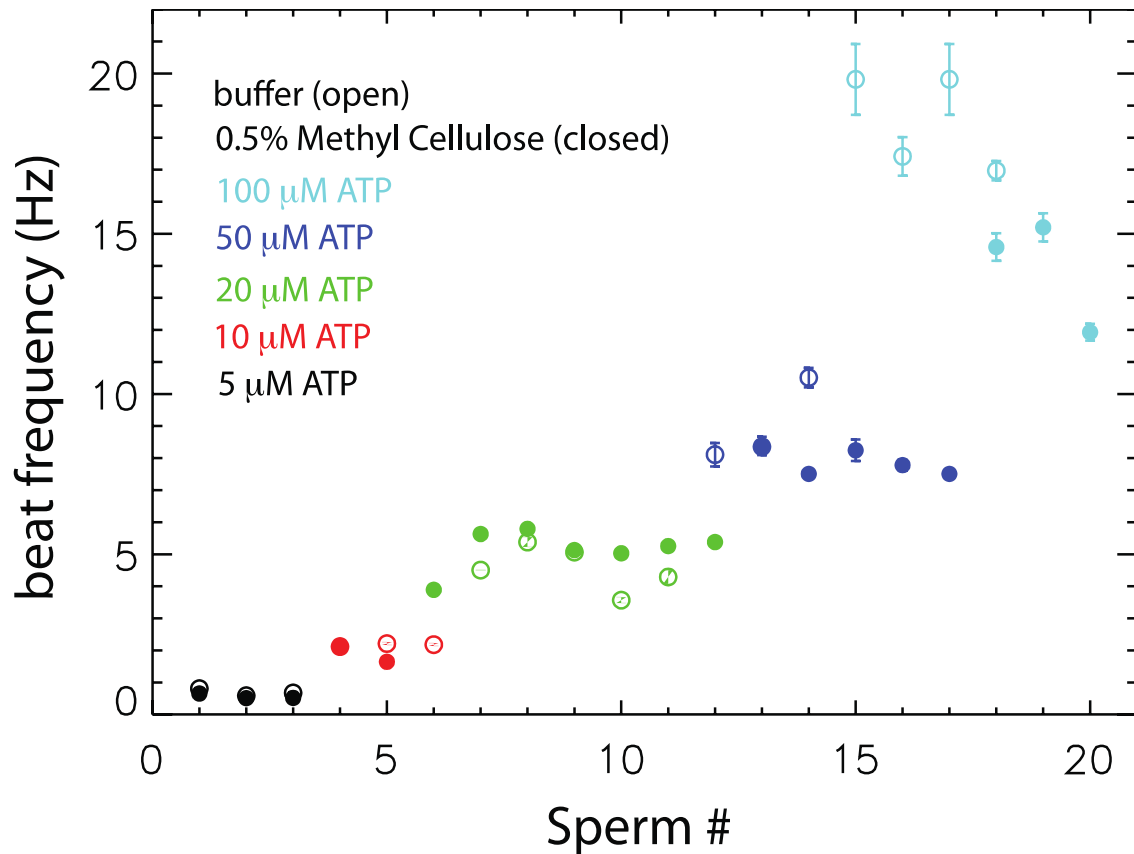


Figure S3: Measured beat frequency for each sperm in the dataset. Each point is the mean beat frequency \pm SEM for $n=5$ independent measurements of the beating frequency at different times. Open circles are for sperm in standard buffer; filled circles are sperm in 0.5% w/v methyl cellulose (high viscosity). Error bars are smaller than the scatter between individual sperm at each concentration showing that inter-sperm variation is large relative to experimental resolution of the beating frequency.

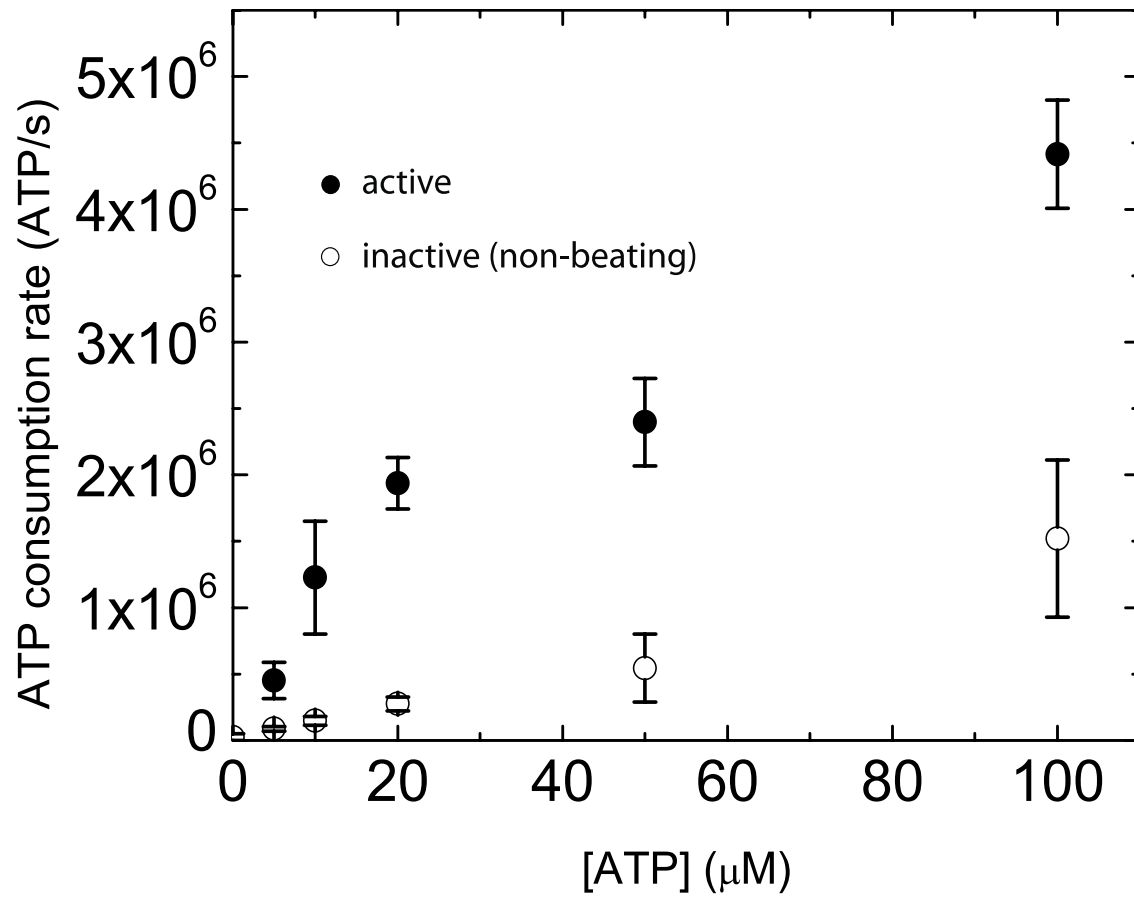


Figure S4: Mean ATP consumption rate vs. [ATP] for active and inactive (non-beating) sperm. Error bars are \pm SEM (n=4).

	b (μm)	L (μm)	β (mPa s)	α (N m ²)	λ (μm)	f (Hz)	U ($\mu\text{m s}^{-1}$)	P _{mech} (J s ⁻¹)	P _{drag} (J s ⁻¹)	P _{ATP} (J s ⁻¹)	ϵ_{chemo}	ϵ_{hydro}	ϵ_{swim}
Low Viscosity	5	45	4	4.5×10^{-21}	30	5	46.4	5.25×10^{-14}	1.94×10^{-16}	1.52×10^{-13}	0.34	.004	.001
High Viscosity	3.5	45	35	4.5×10^{-21}	21	4	38.7	9.15×10^{-14}	1.18×10^{-15}	1.52×10^{-13}	0.6	.013	.008

Table S1: Values of beating waveform parameters in Eq. (1) used to calculate various measures of efficiency for low and high viscosity beating waveforms for [ATP] = 20 μM sperm in buffer (low-viscosity) and 0.5% Methyl Cellulose (high-viscosity).

Movie S1: Movie of sperm swimming in droplet, [ATP] = 5 μM . Scale bar is 20 μm .

Movie S2: Movie of NADH fluorescence in two neighboring droplets. The left droplet does not contain a sperm cell, whereas the right droplet contains one actively swimming sperm. [ATP] = 50 μM . Scale bar is 20 μm .