Table S1. Statistical analysis of the data displayed as Fig. 4. Correlations have been sought between the values for the changes in beat frequency (Δf), arc wave velocity ($\Delta \mathrm{arc}\mathbf{v}_w$) and swimming velocity (ΔU_c) and, in each case, the means of the individual values and the differences between the individual values

Comparison	Number of pairs	Correlation coefficient (R)	P value	Significance
Δf relative to $(f_A+f_B)/2$	32	0.19	0.30	NS
Δf relative to $\lvert f_A-f_B\rvert$	32	–0.17	0.36	NS
$\Delta \mathrm{arc}\mathbf{v}_w$ relative to $(\mathrm{arc}\mathbf{v}_{wA}+\mathrm{arc}\mathbf{v}_{wB})/2$	32	–0.36	0.04	*
$\Delta \mathrm{arc}\mathbf{v}_w$ relative to $\lvert \mathrm{arc}\mathbf{v}_{wA}-\mathrm{arc}\mathbf{v}_{wB}\rvert$	32	0.50	0.004	**
ΔU_c relative to $(U_{cA}+U_{cB})/2$	31	–0.11	0.54	NS
ΔU_c relative to $\lvert U_{cA}-U_{cB}\rvert$	31	–0.04	0.84	NS
$\Delta \mathrm{arc}\mathbf{v}_w$/mean $\mathrm{arc}\mathbf{v}_w$ relative to Δf/mean f	32	0.49	0.004	**

Attention is drawn to the negative correlation between $\Delta \mathrm{arc}\mathbf{v}_w$ and $(\mathrm{arc}\mathbf{v}_{wA}+\mathrm{arc}\mathbf{v}_{wB})/2$. This is suggestive of a metabolic limit to the rise in wave velocity. The positive correlation between the relative change in f and the relative change in $\mathrm{arc}\mathbf{v}_w$ (bottom row) was perhaps to be expected. A and B refers to Sperm A and Sperm B, respectively. NS, not significant; *P<0.05; **P<0.01.