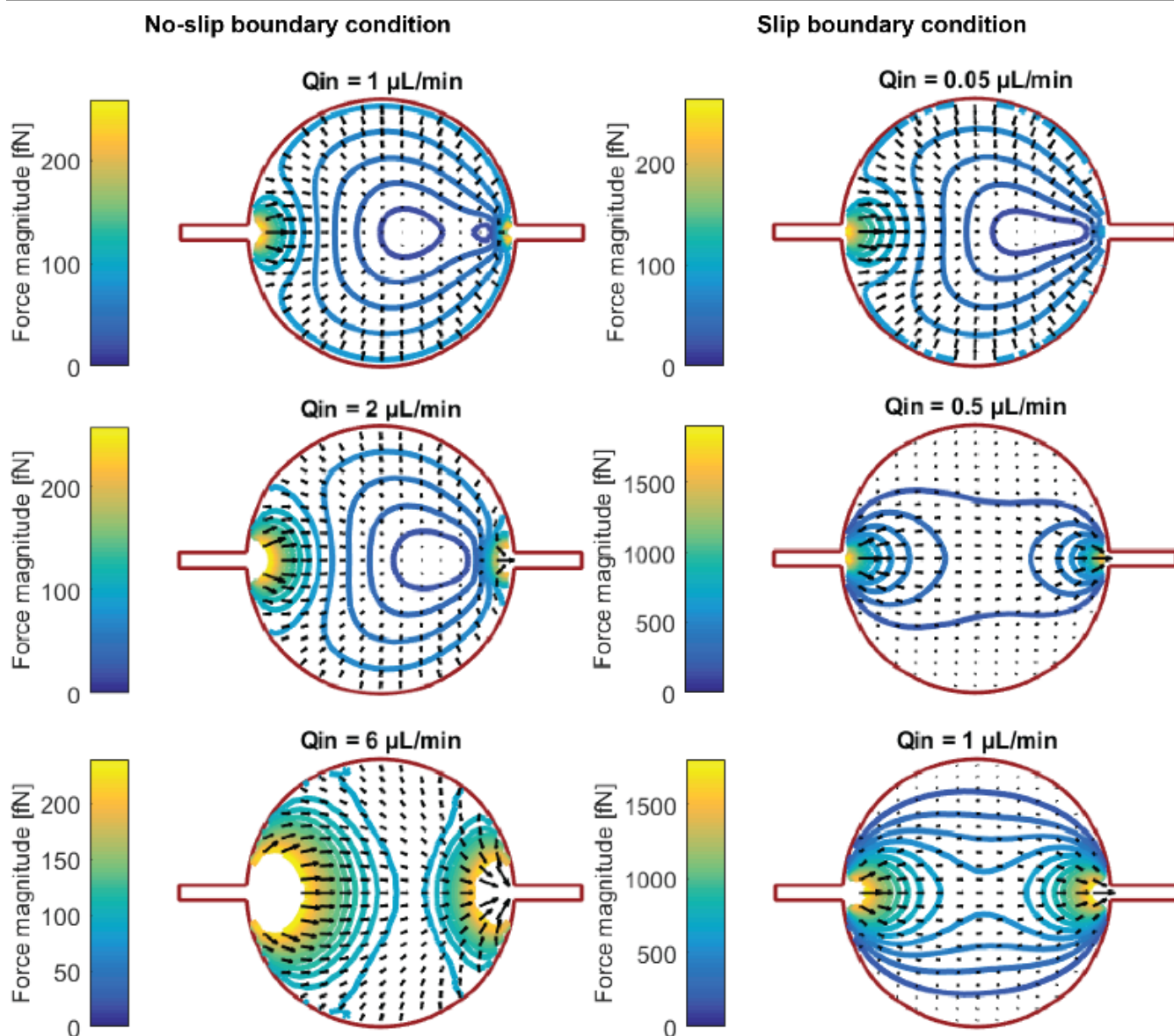


## Electronic Supplementary Information



**Supplementary Figure 1:** Net-tangential-force mapping at the ALI for no-slip and slip boundary conditions. This figure shows that only a flow rate 20-fold lower than what is experimentally feasible ( $0.05 \mu\text{L min}^{-1}$ ) can generate a stagnation area under a slip boundary condition. This figure also shows that a 6-fold higher flow rate than what is experimentally feasible could enable a free flow of cells under a no-slip boundary condition. Finally, the forces at a flow rate of  $6 \mu\text{L min}^{-1}$  show that a net tangential force above 100 fN ensures free bead flow.

**Supplementary Video 1:** Time lapse video of beads flowing or stagnating in a hanging drop for 3 different drop heights reported in Figure 6b.

**Supplementary Video 2:** Time lapse video of cells flowing or stagnating in a hanging drop for 3 different drop heights reported in Figure 6c.