Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Lab on a Chip. This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2023





Nominal diameter (µm)	^σ measured displacment (μm)	σ _{measurement noise} (μm)	Experimental diffusion length (µm)	Theoretical diffusion length (µm)
0.53 ± 0.013	0.14 ± 0.03	0.02 ± 0.02	0.12	0.128
1.00 ± 0.016	0.11 ± 0.08	0.04 ± 0.02	0.07	0.092
1.90 ± 0.095	0.10 ± 0.06	0.07 ± 0.04	0.03	0.066

Table S1. Comparison between experimental and theoretical diffusion lengths. Experimental diffusion lengths are recorded from particle displacements in the y-dimension between frames in the suspended particles and the sum of the Brownian motion and the measurement noise. Measurement noise measures particle displacements in a control with stationary particles captured in a thin PDMS layer. Experimental diffusion lengths are the subtracted values between the measured displacement and noise. The time between each frame is 0.01s. Theoretical diffusion length is calculated using $l = \sqrt{2Dt}$, where t = 0.01 s.



Fig S3. Electric field variation. A finite element analysis model of microchannel cross-sectional to quantify the variation in the electric field along the z-axis height. The width and height of the microchannel is $300 \ \mu m$ and $50 \ \mu m$ respectively, and the electrodes are $100 \ \mu m$ apart from one another on top of the glass substrate. We focus on quantifying the divergence in the electric field in the middle of the microchannel as we only analyze the particles traveling within this region experimentally. The plot is computed with the boundary conditions of one electrode at 1 V and the other at ground.









mobility is independent of the frequency, but the electroosmotic mobility decreases with increasing frequency. As the change in total mobility approaches zero, the remaining mobility is the electrophoretic mobility. The total mobility of 2 μ m carboxyl particles is calculated from the particle's y-displacement at frequencies 1, 10, 50, and 100 Hz. Thus, the electrophoretic mobility measurements at 50 and 100-hz have a negligible contribution from EOF.

	No PVP	1% PVP	2% PVP
Mean electrophoretic mobility (µm-cm/V-s)	-5.2 ± 0.7	-4.8 ± 0.4	-4.9 ± 0.3
Sample size	12	26	21

Table S2. Mean electrophoretic mobility with and without a PVP coating layer. A particle's electrophoretic mobility is measured based on the y-velocity in three different conditions: 1) No PVP in the channel, 2) 1% PVP coating layer in the channel, and 3) 2% PVP coating layer in the channel. The sample size is equal to the number of particles analyzed. Experimental conditions are 0.1mM phosphate buffer at pH 7.4 with the specified PVP concentration. The amplitude of the applied square wave is 1 V amplitude, and the frequency is 50 Hz. The mean electrophoretic mobility is calculated by averaging all the electrophoretic mobilities in each condition. No significant difference in the mean electrophoretic mobility is observed across all three conditions.



Fig S8. Measured spatial fluctuations ($^{\sigma_x j}$ as a function of particle size. Spatial fluctuations in the xdimension are measured for each particle in 0.53, 0.84, 1, and 2 µm particle populations. The histogram shows four distinct normal distributions with peaks at different $^{\sigma_x}$.

