

School on Information, Noise, and Physics of Life



Welcome!

Добродошли!

19 - 30 September 2022
Nis, Serbia

Further information:
<http://indico.ictp.it/event/9826/>
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The Abdus Salam
**International Centre
for Theoretical Physics**

www.ictp.it
Trieste, Italy



Introduction to Biophysics part I

Édgar Roldán



The Abdus Salam International Centre
for Theoretical Physics (Trieste, Italy)

“School of Information, Noise, and Physics of Life”

Niš (Serbia), 19-9-2022

Biophysics

Motivation, examples, focus

Why biophysics?



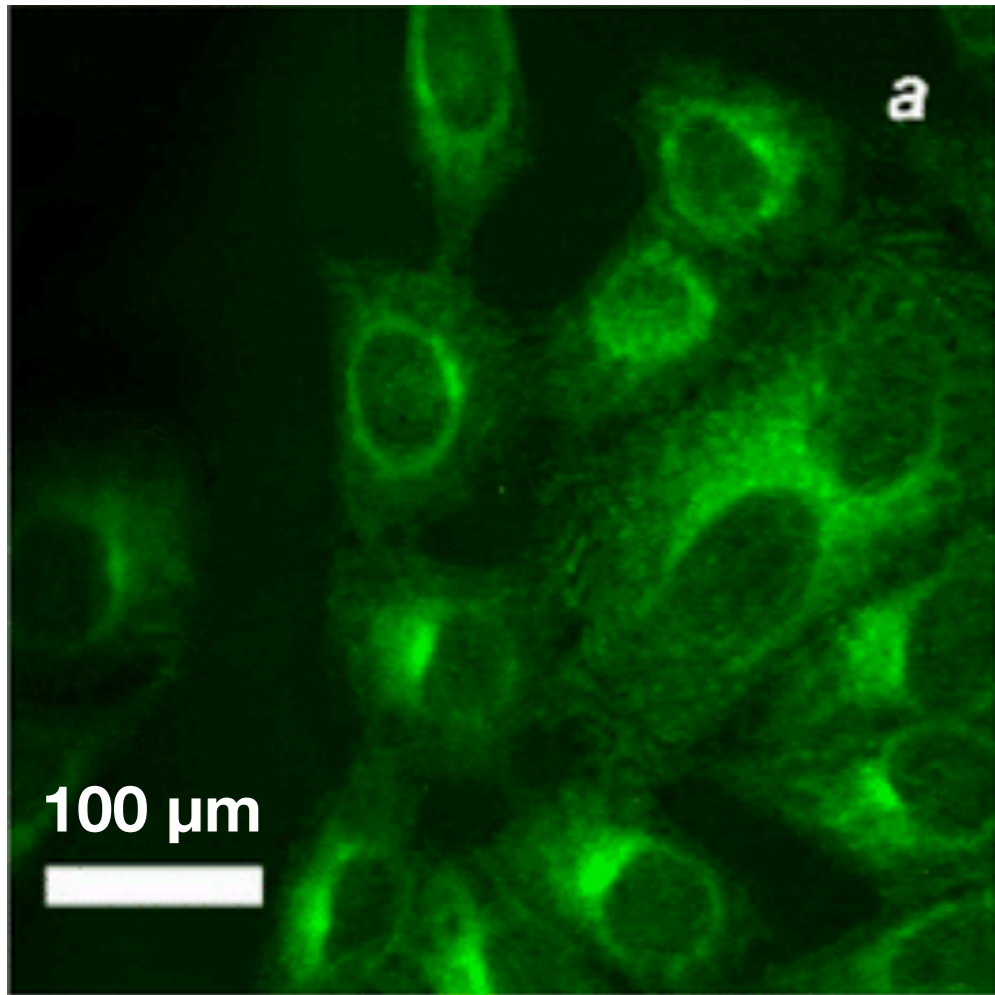
a alamy stock photo

We can **SEE** cells and biomolecules under the microscope

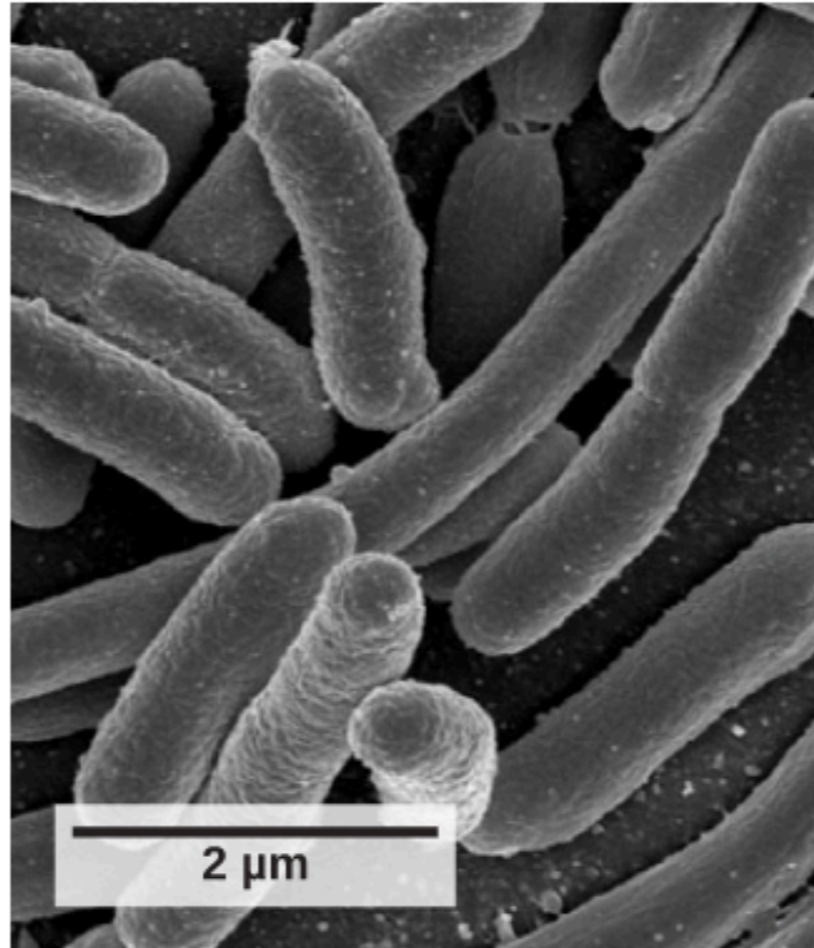
We can **MEASURE** their physical properties (forces, position, etc.)

Cells

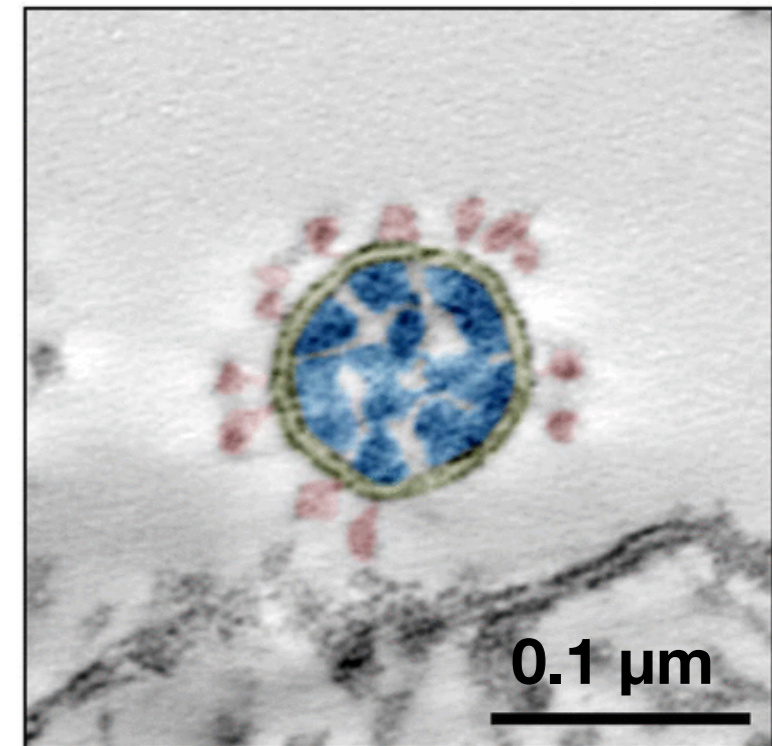
Human cells



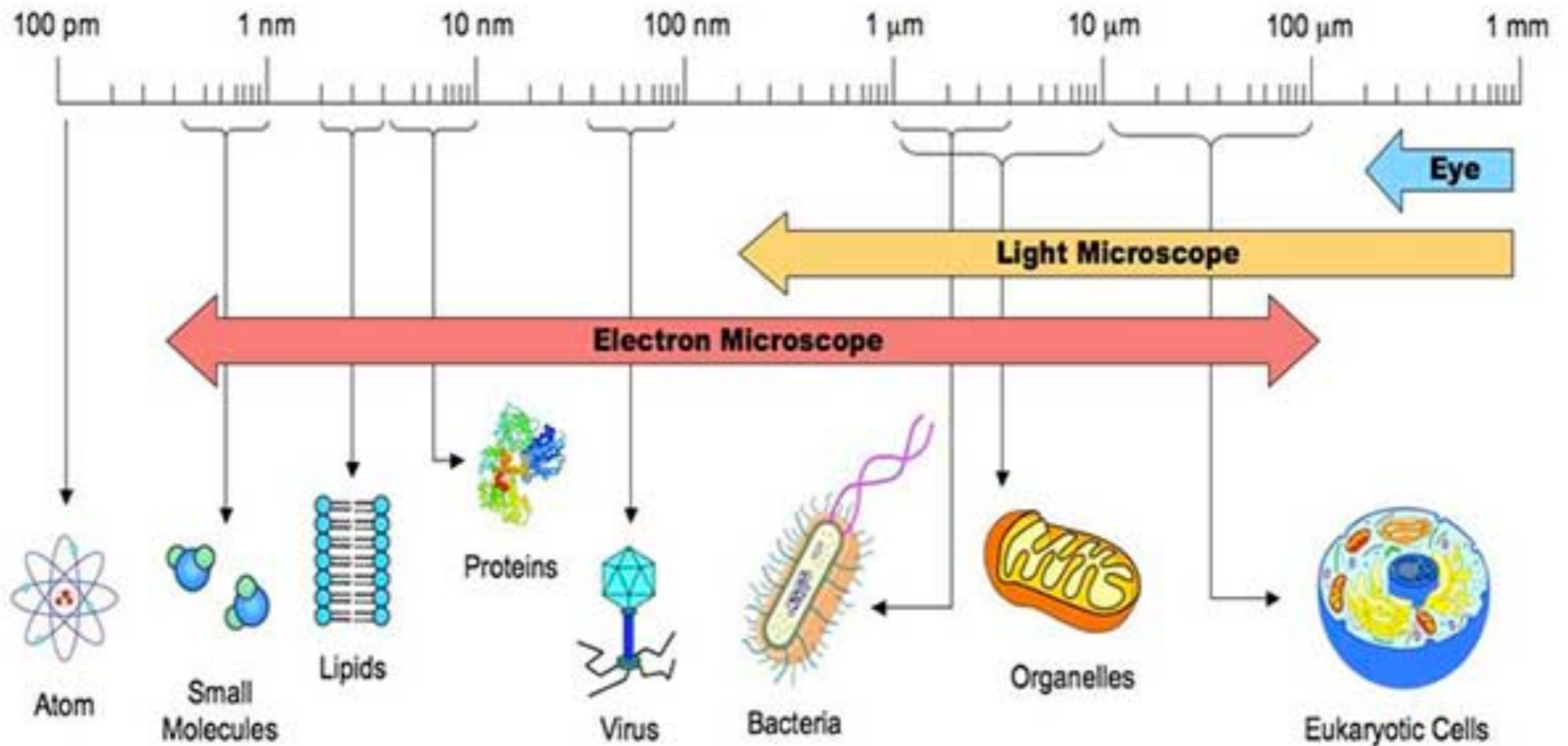
Bacteria



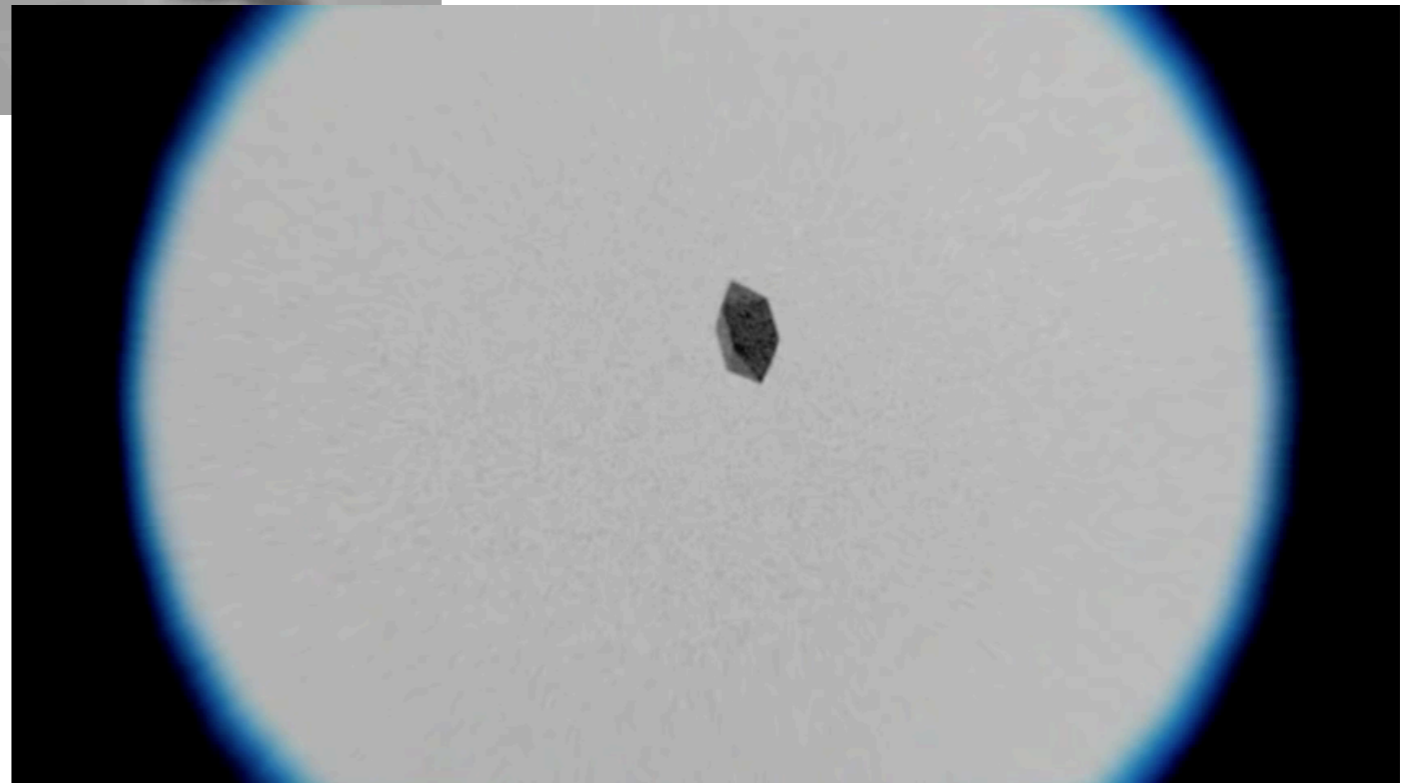
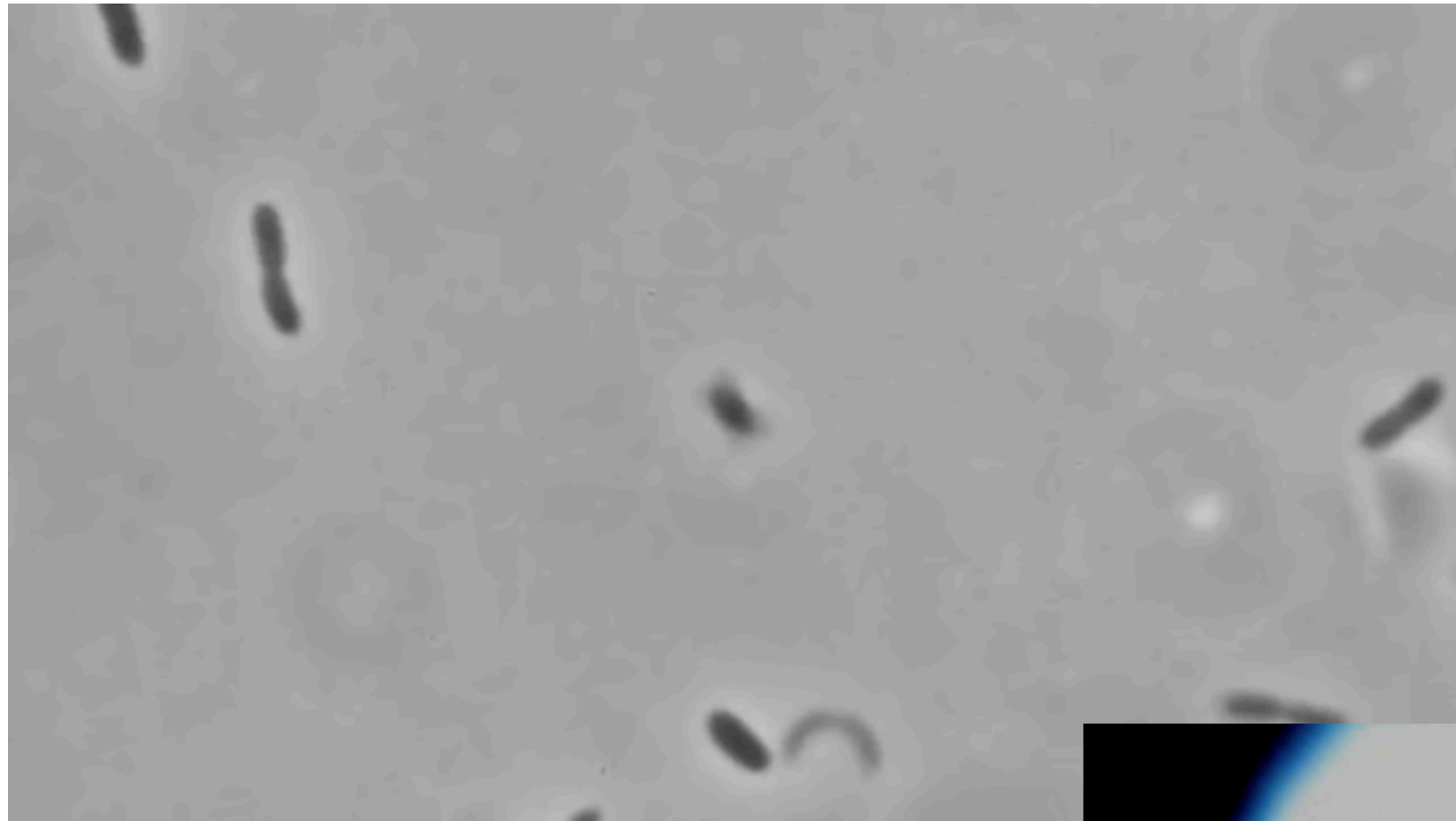
Virus



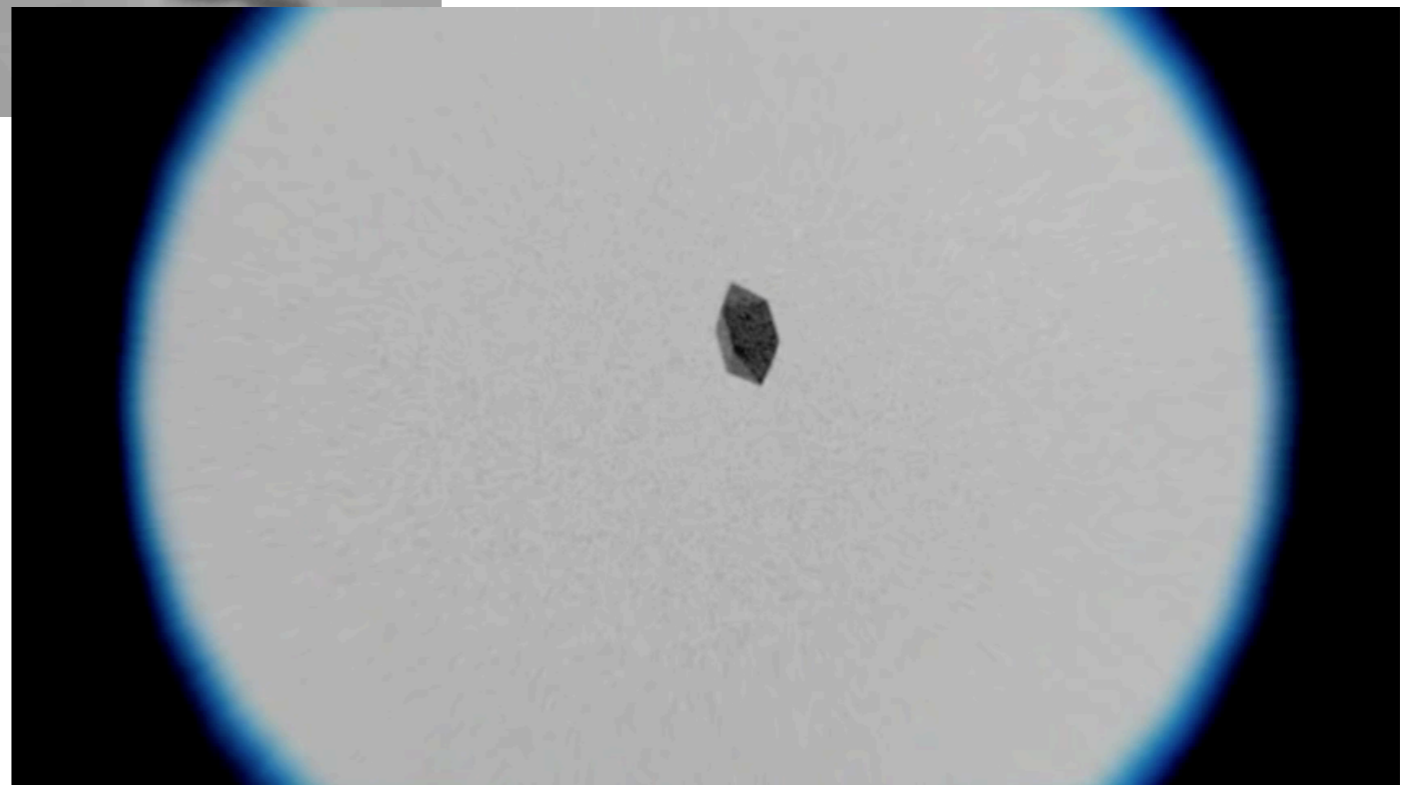
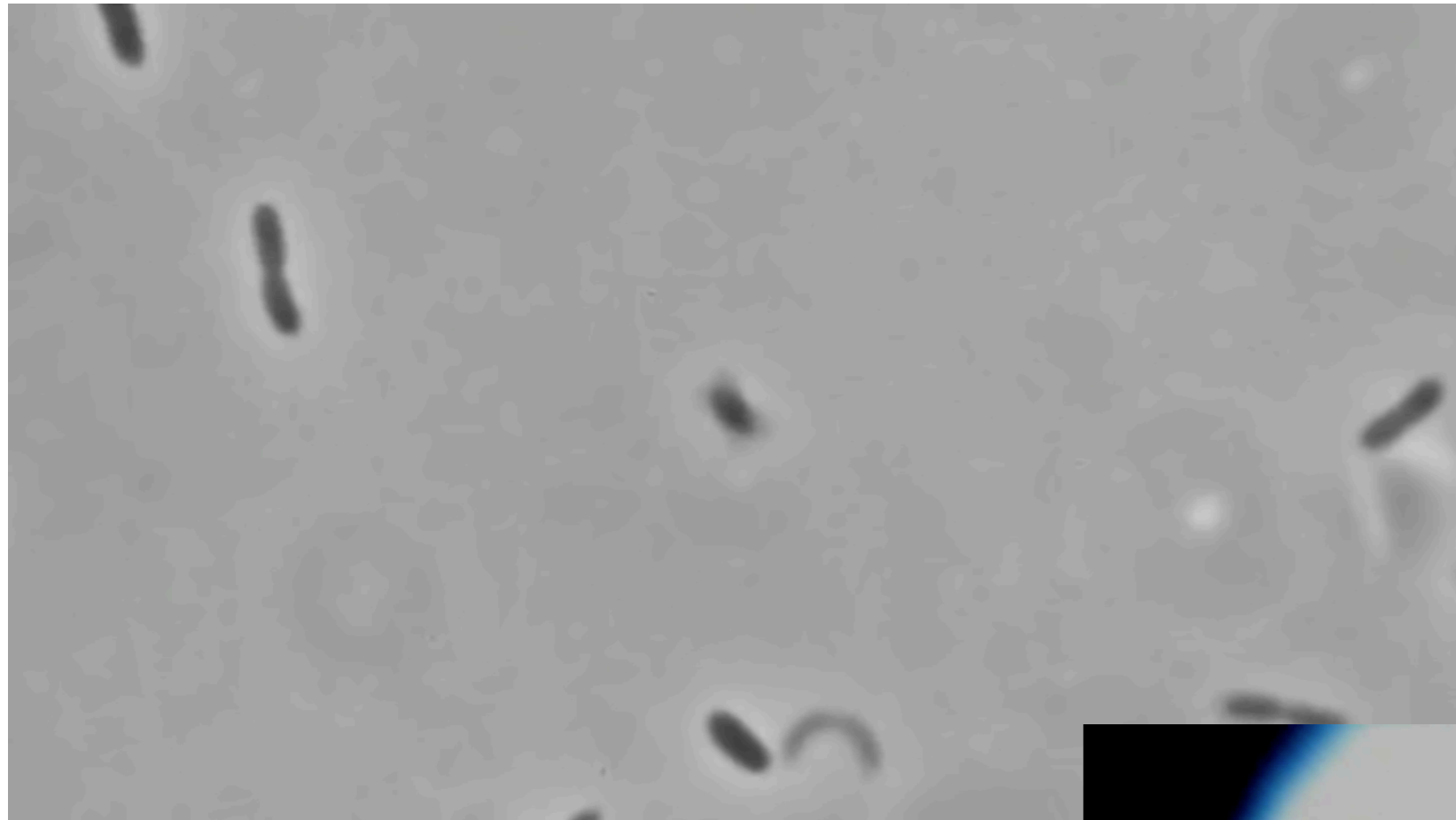
Life under the microscope



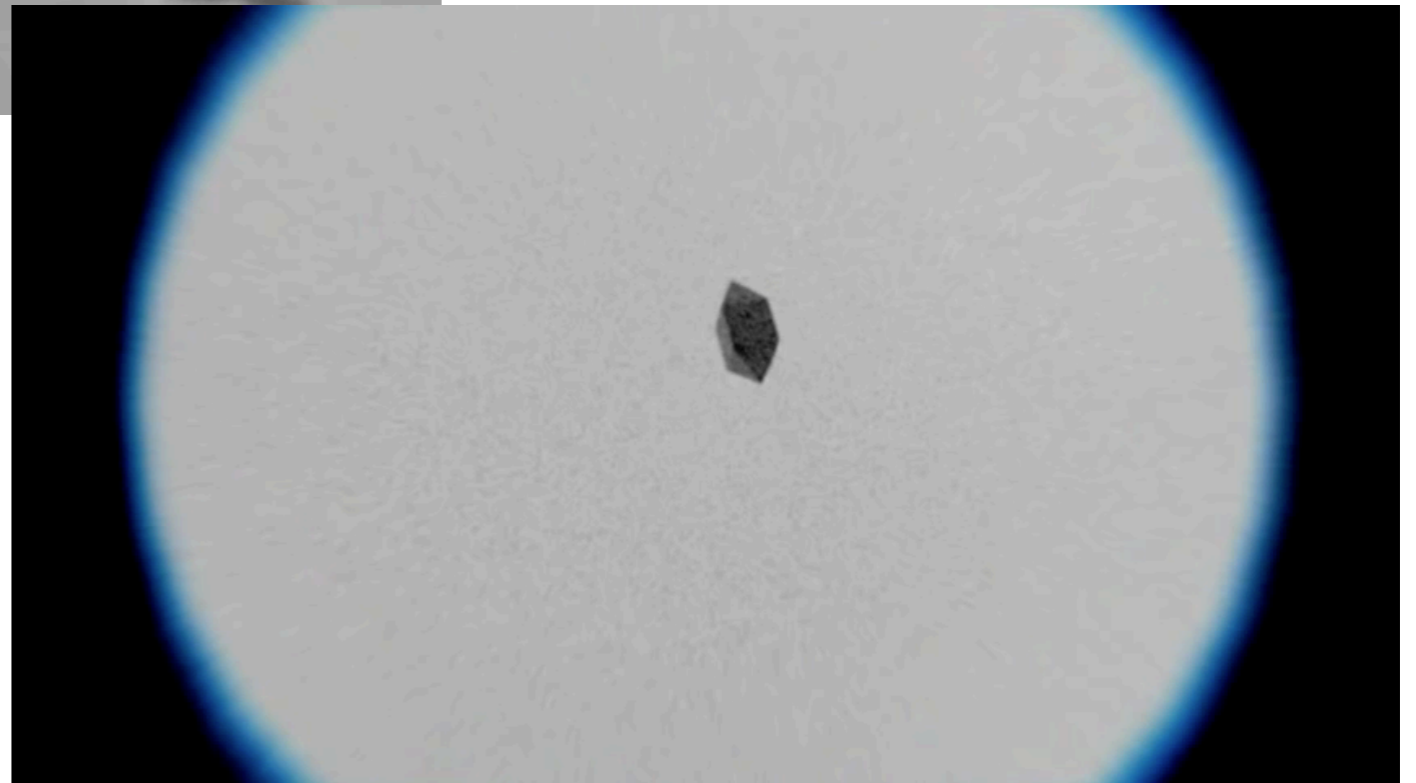
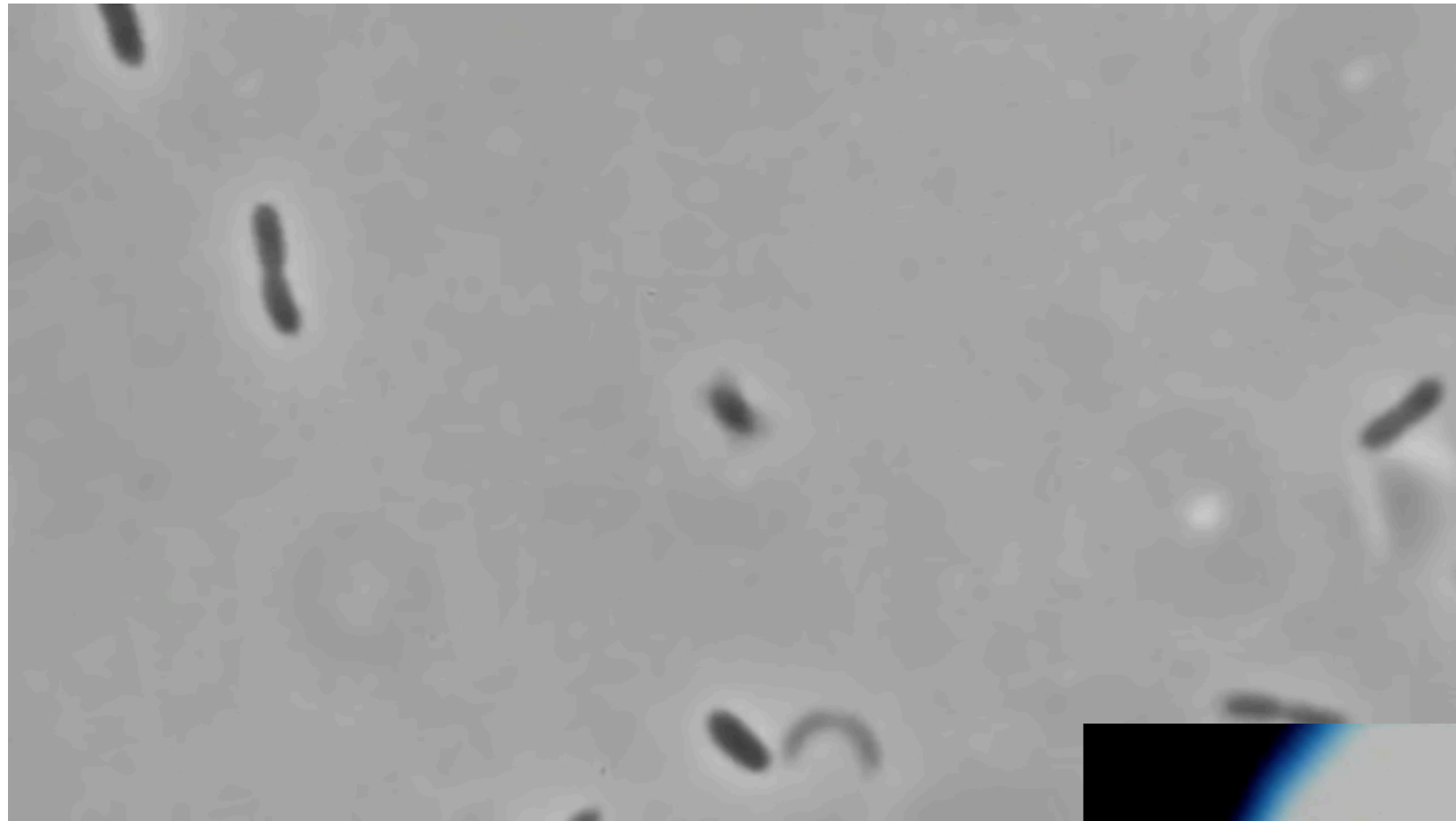
Cellular motion



Cellular motion

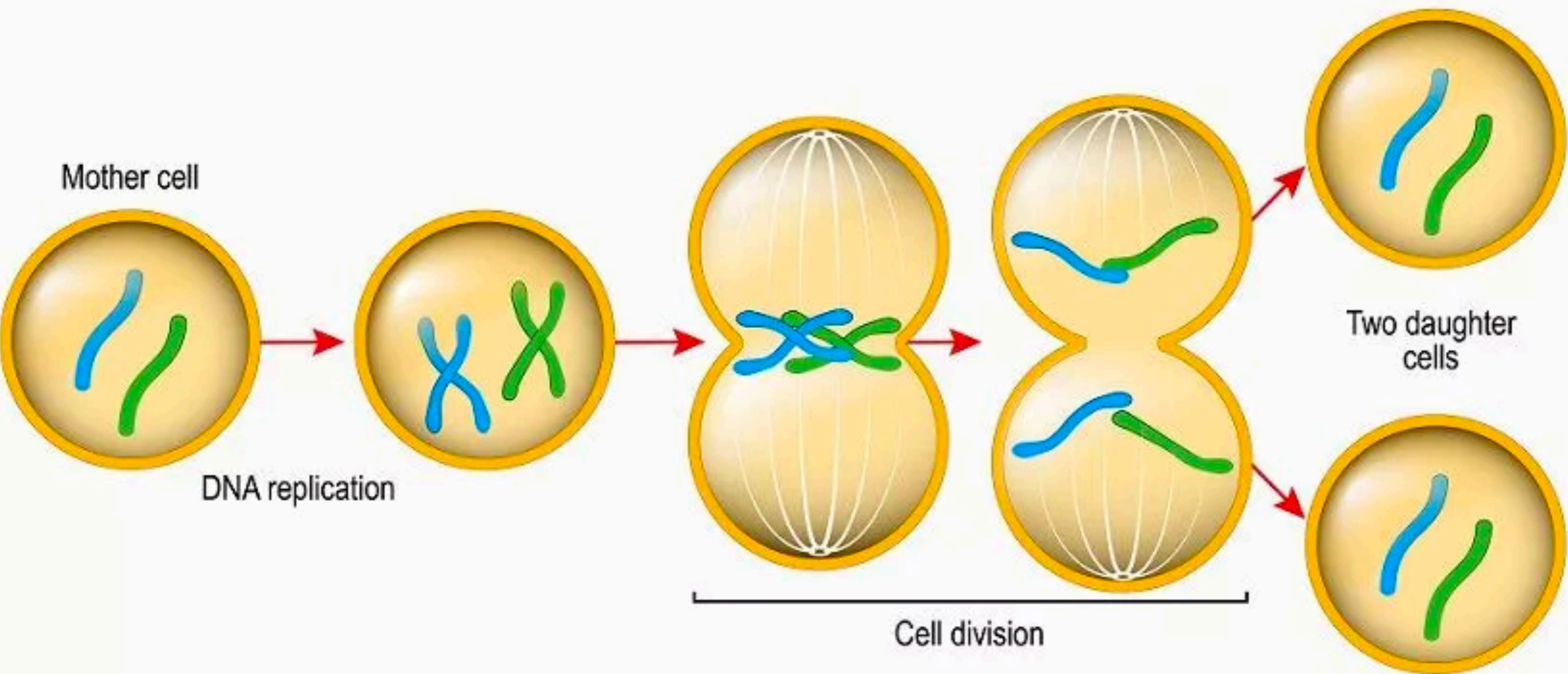


Cellular motion

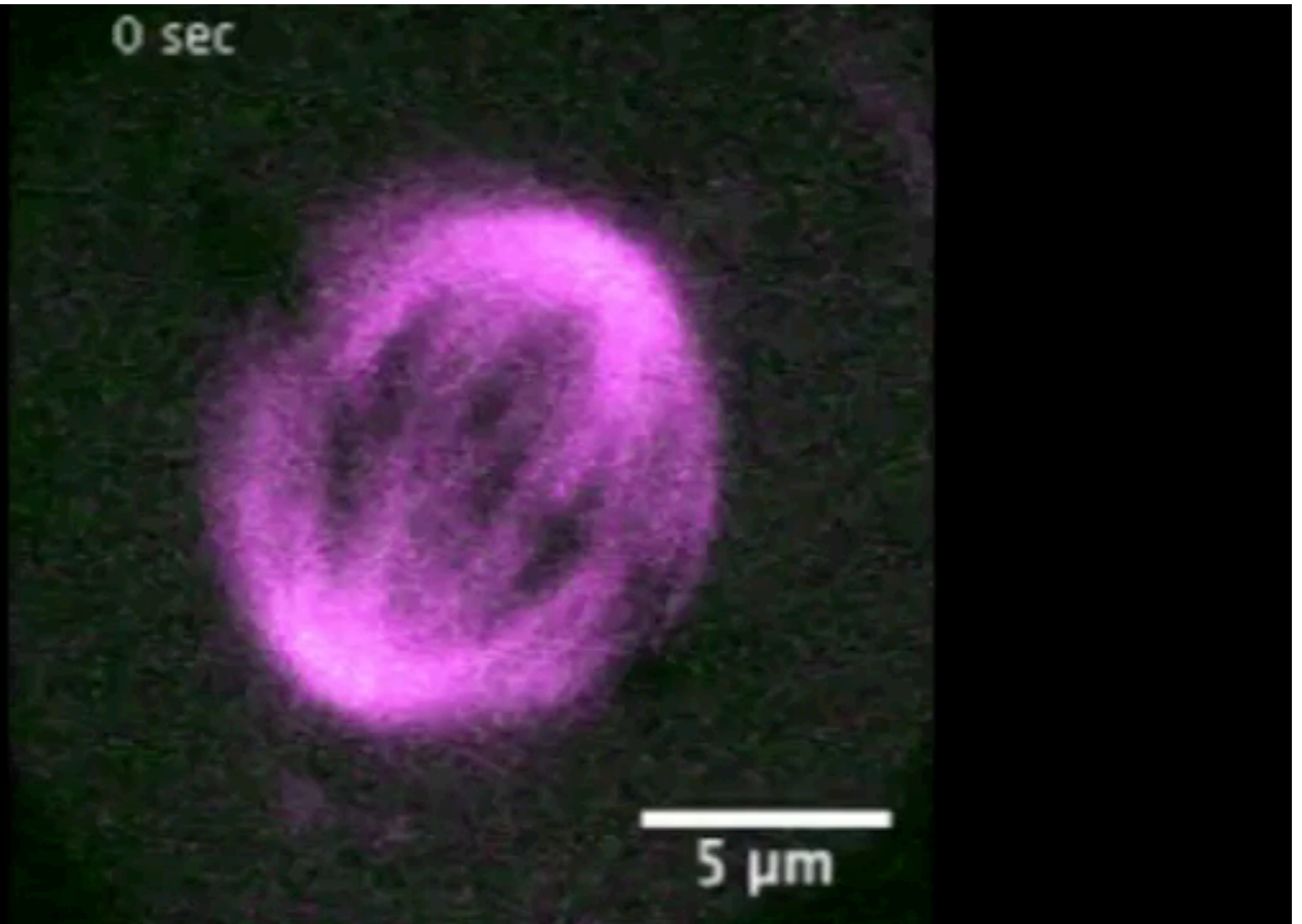


Cell division

MITOSIS



Cell division



Iva Tolic lab (Ruder Boskovic Institute, Zagreb, Croatia)

Life at the microscale



Macroscopic scale (“macroscale”)

Deterministic Hamiltonian dynamics

Classical mechanics: Newton’s laws

Life at the microscale

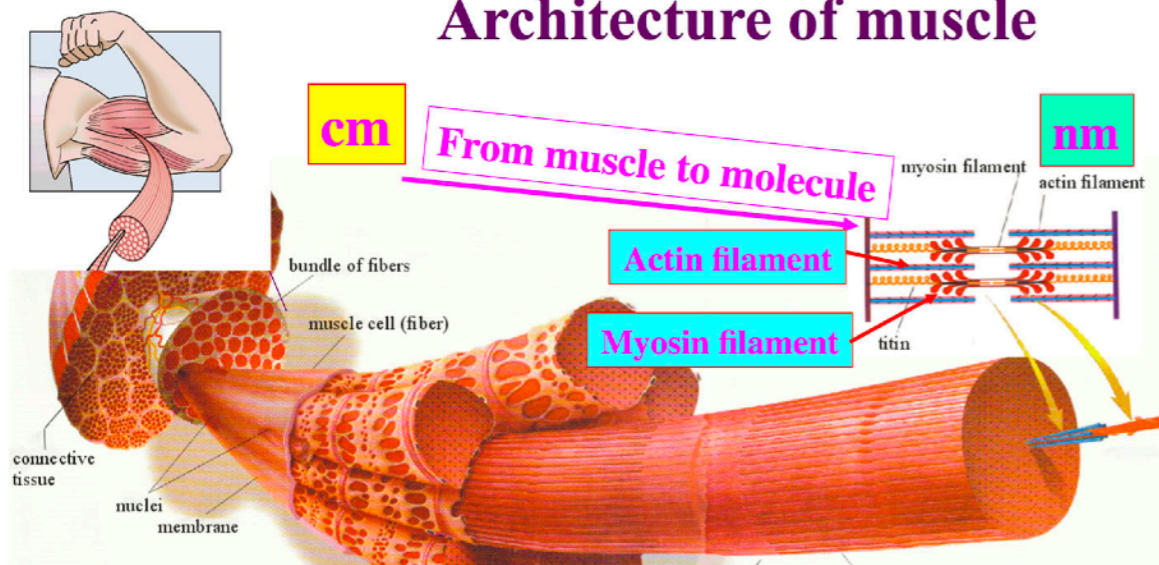


Macroscopic scale (“macroscale”)

Deterministic Hamiltonian dynamics

Classical mechanics: Newton’s laws

Architecture of muscle



Mesoscopic scale (“mesoscale”)

Stochastic dynamics

Noise and fluctuations

Life at the microscale

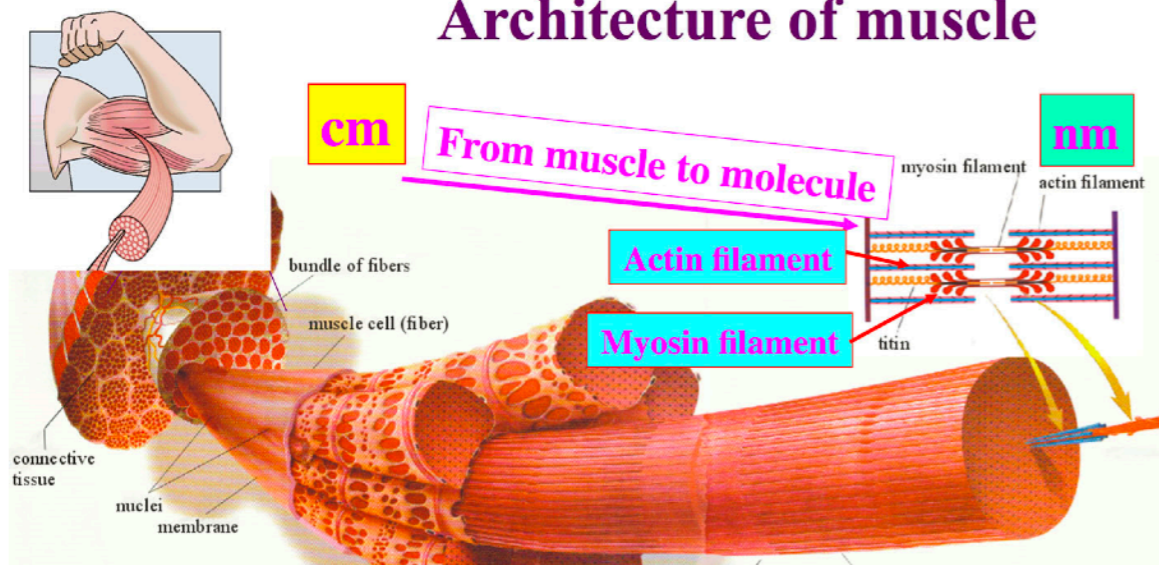


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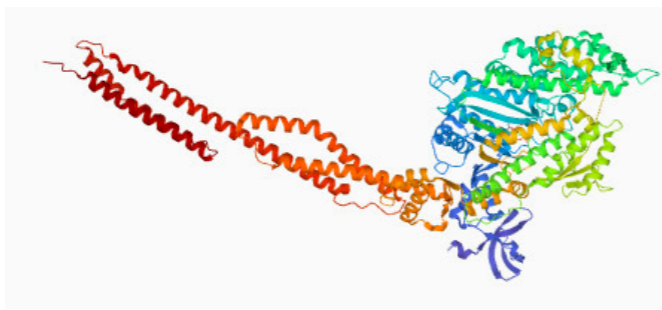


Mesoscopic scale (“mesoscale”)

Stochastic dynamics

Noise and fluctuations

Myosin motor



Atomic scale

Molecular dynamics simulations

Quantum dynamics

Life at the microscale

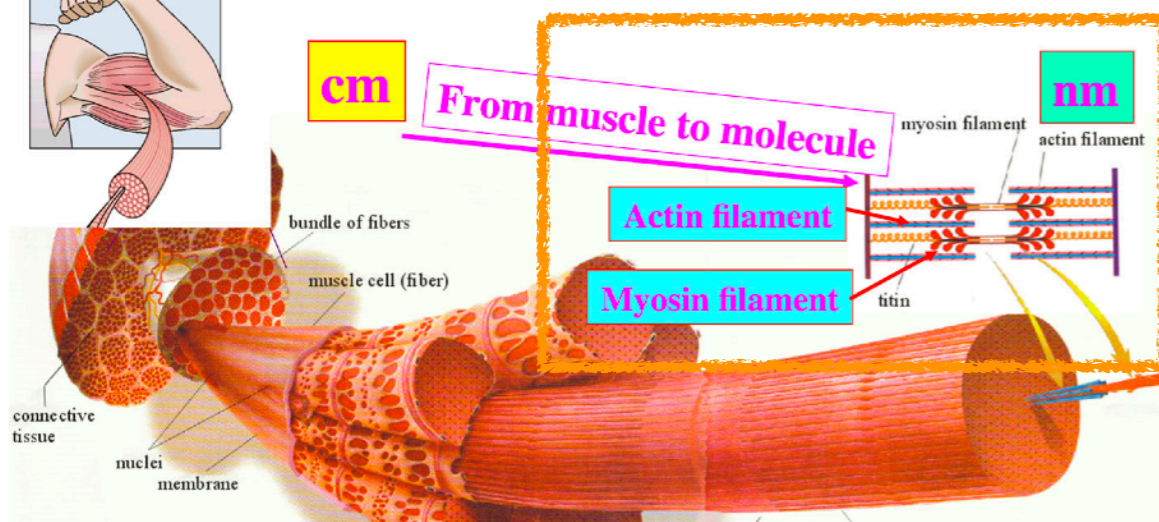


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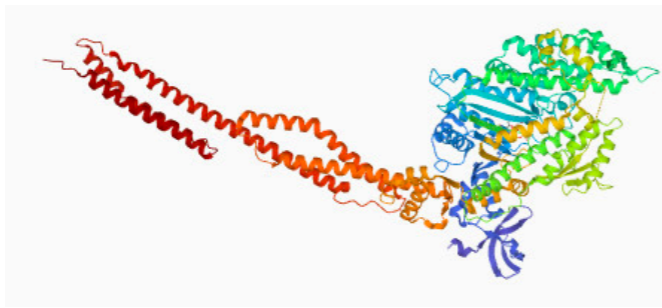


Mesoscopic scale (“mesoscale”)

Stochastic dynamics

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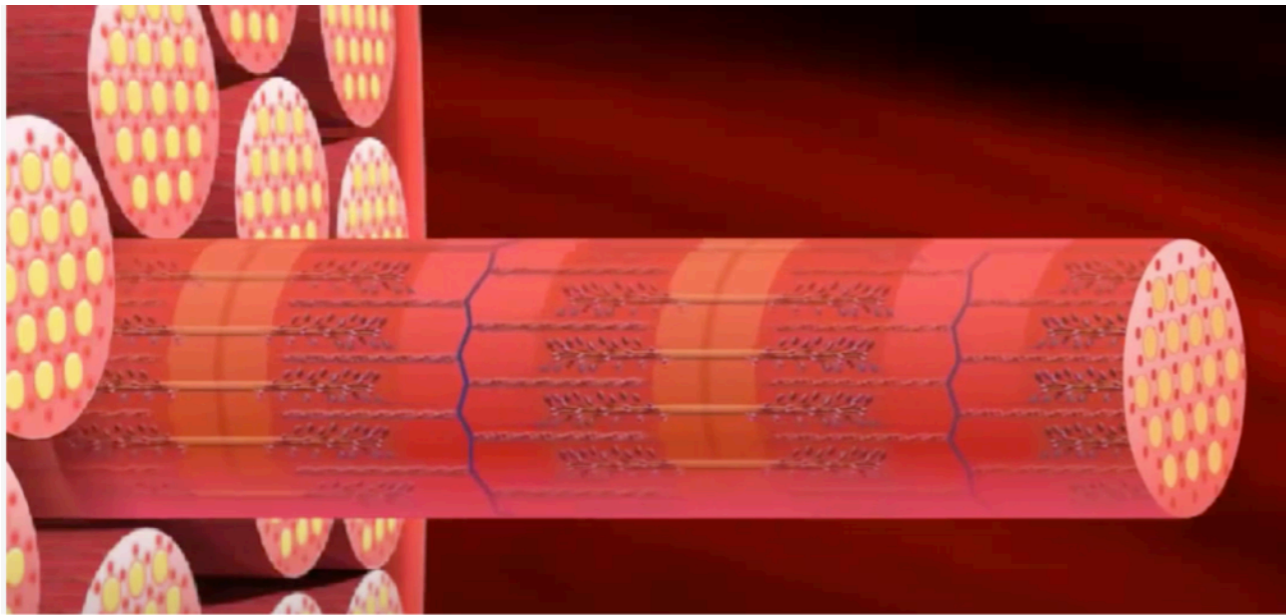


Atomic scale

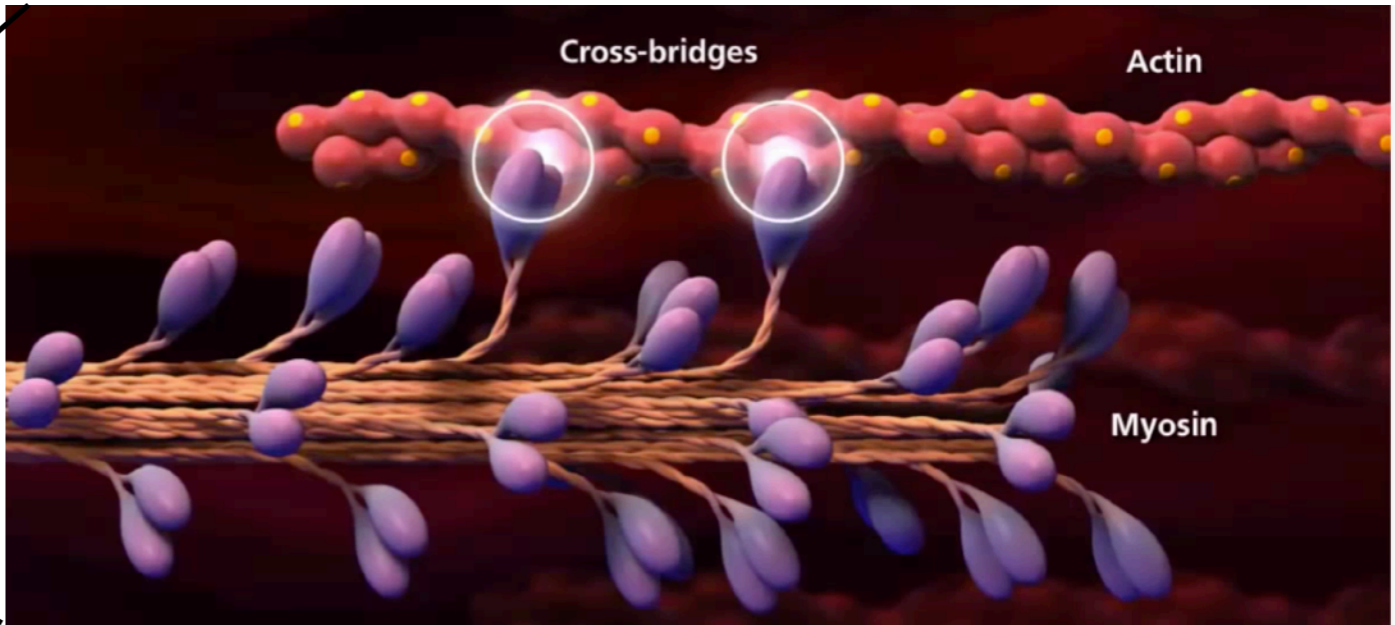
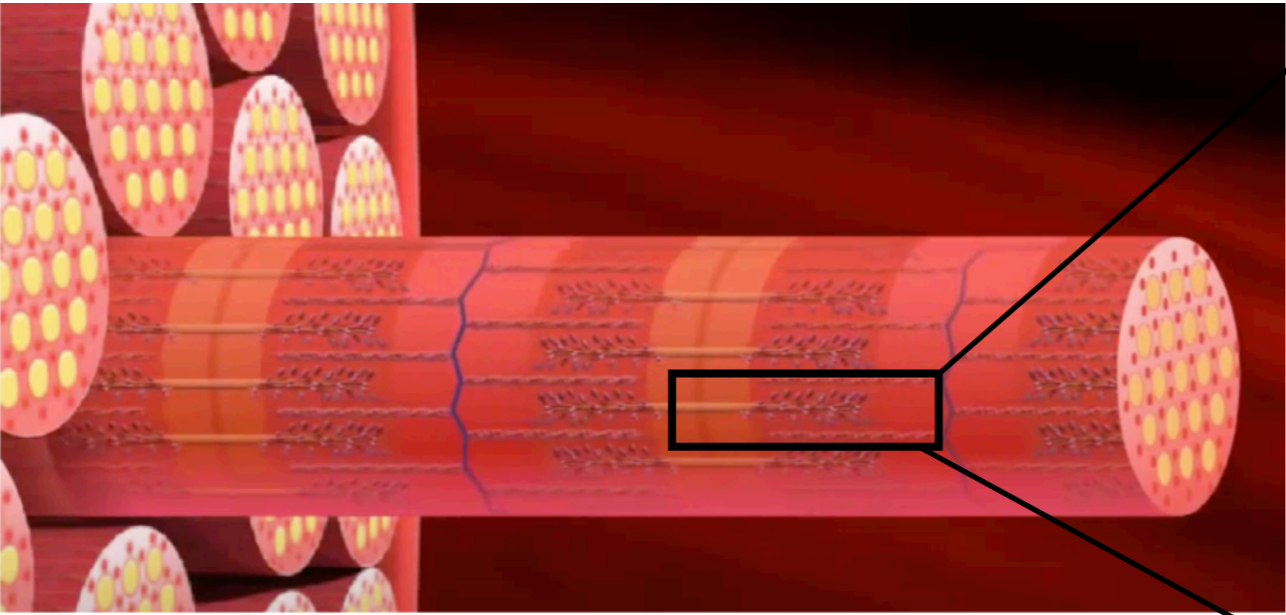
Molecular dynamics simulations

Quantum dynamics

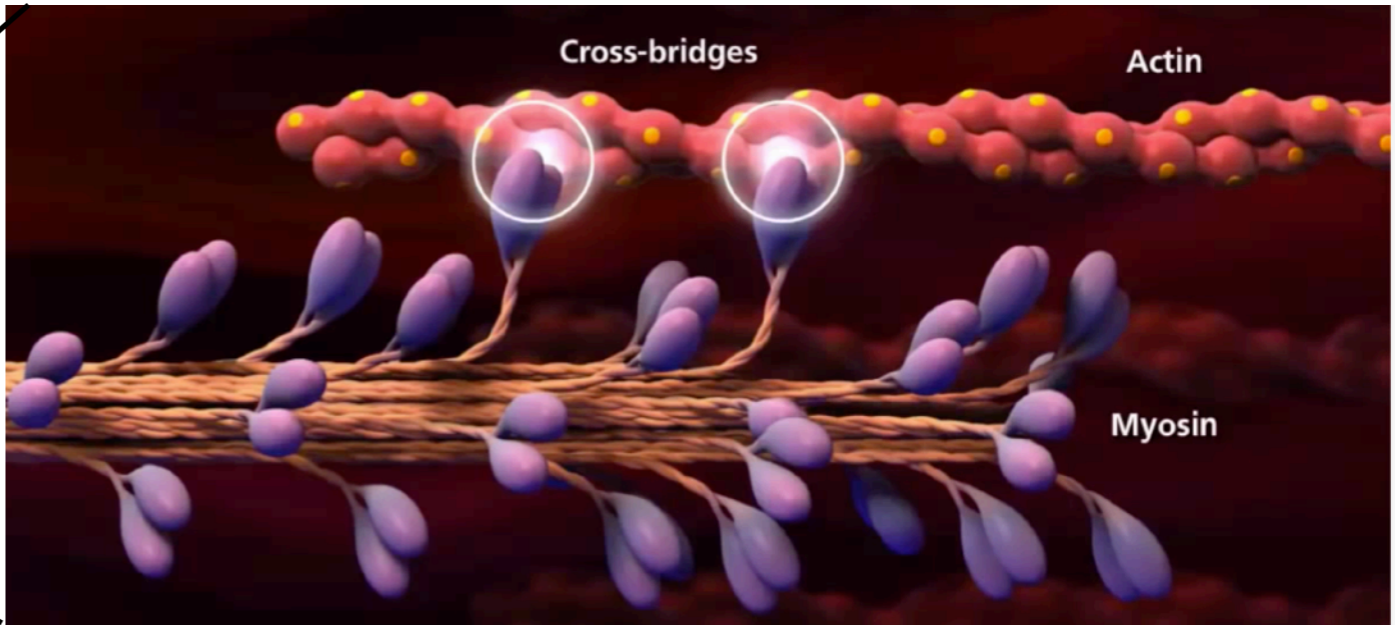
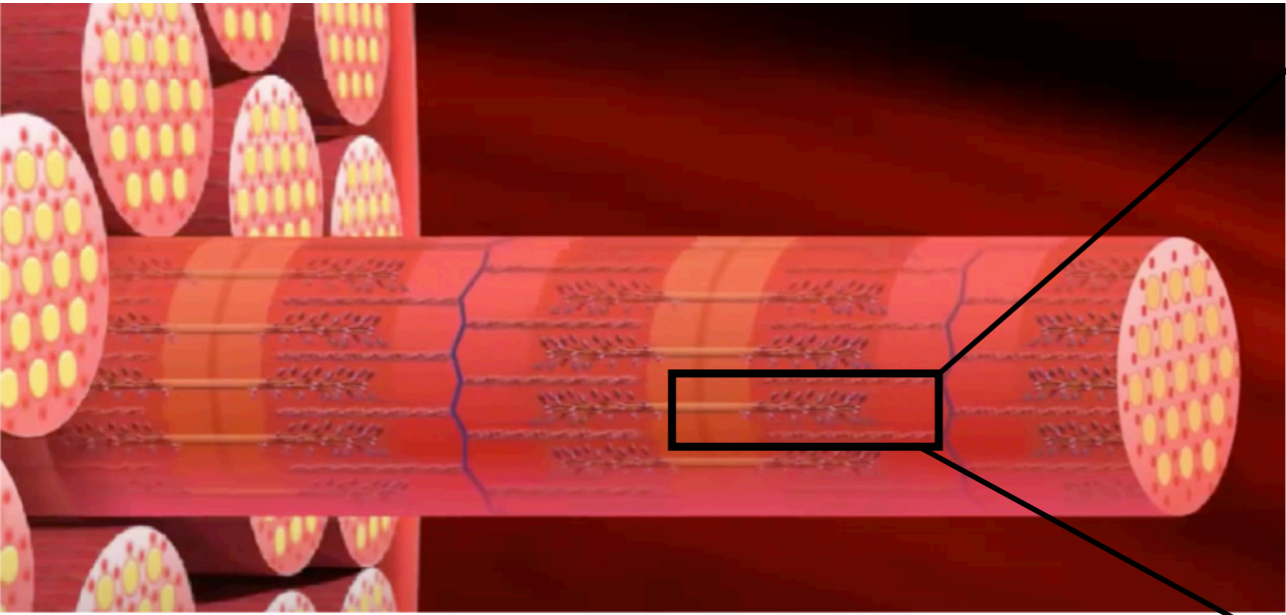
Muscle contraction at the microscale



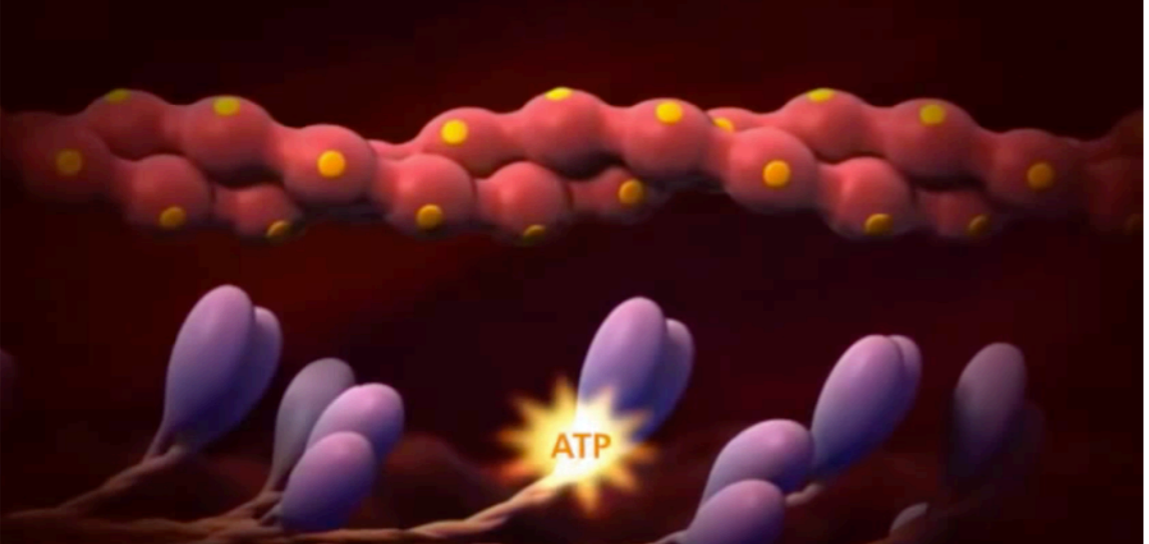
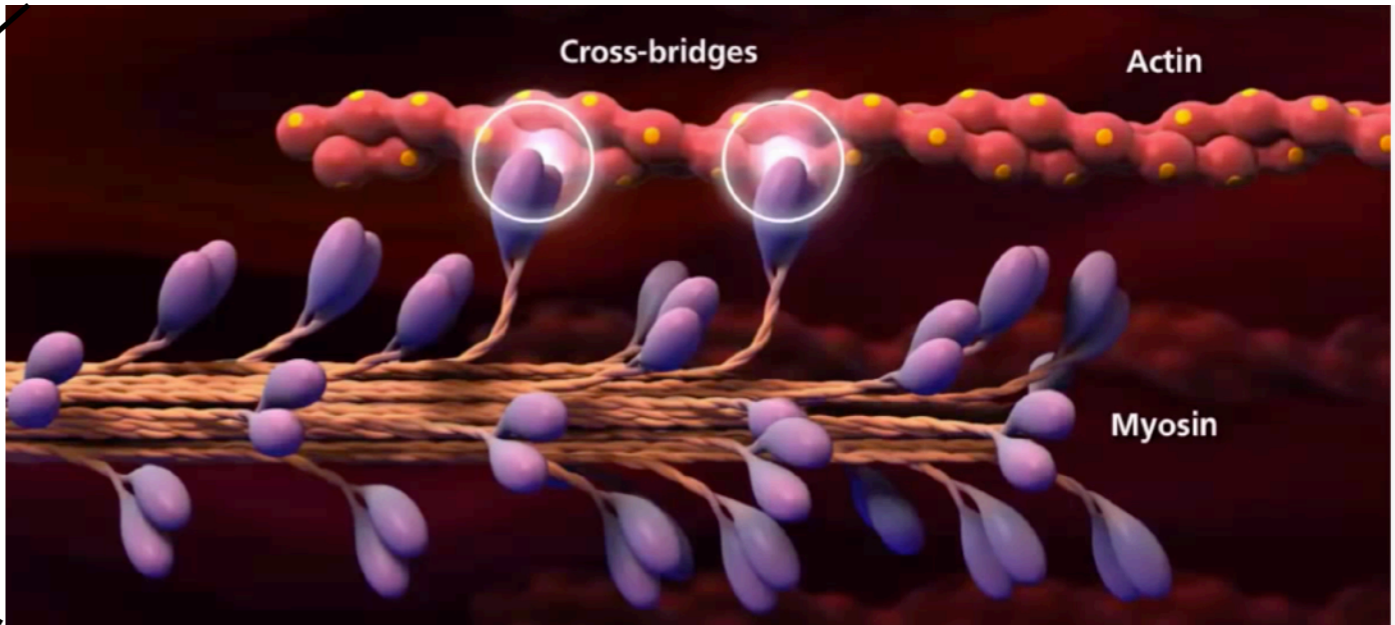
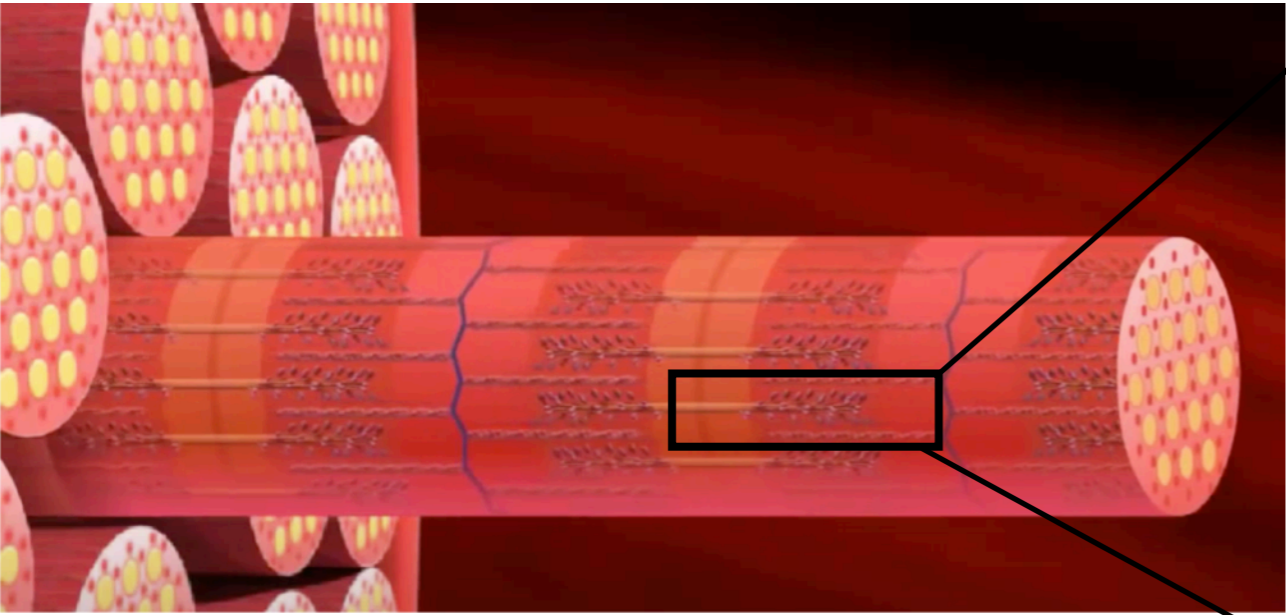
Muscle contraction at the microscale



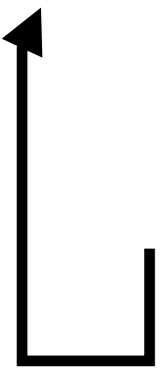
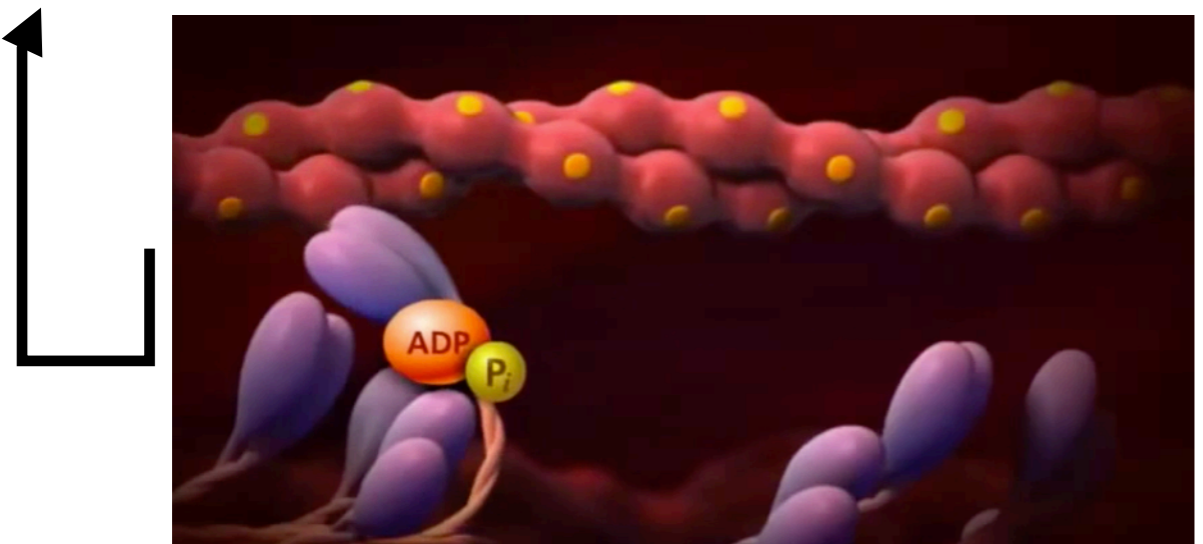
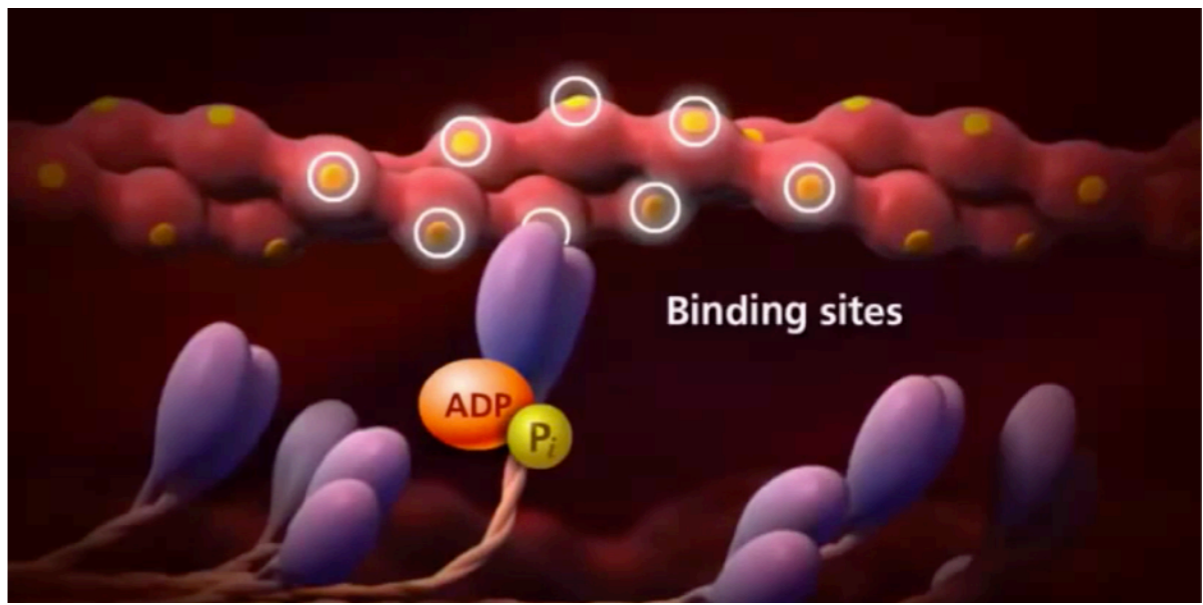
Muscle contraction at the microscale



Muscle contraction at the microscale



Cross-bridge cycle



Vesicle transport by Kinesins

A 3D molecular model showing a large, blue, spherical vesicle being transported along a microtubule. The microtubule is a long, cylindrical structure composed of dark blue protofilaments. A kinesin motor protein, shown in yellow and green, is attached to the vesicle and the microtubule. The vesicle is positioned at the plus end of the microtubule, and the kinesin is shown in a conformation that suggests it is moving the vesicle along the microtubule. The background is a dark, textured surface representing the cytoplasm.

"I hydrolyze ATP and I move"

Vesicle transport by Kinesins

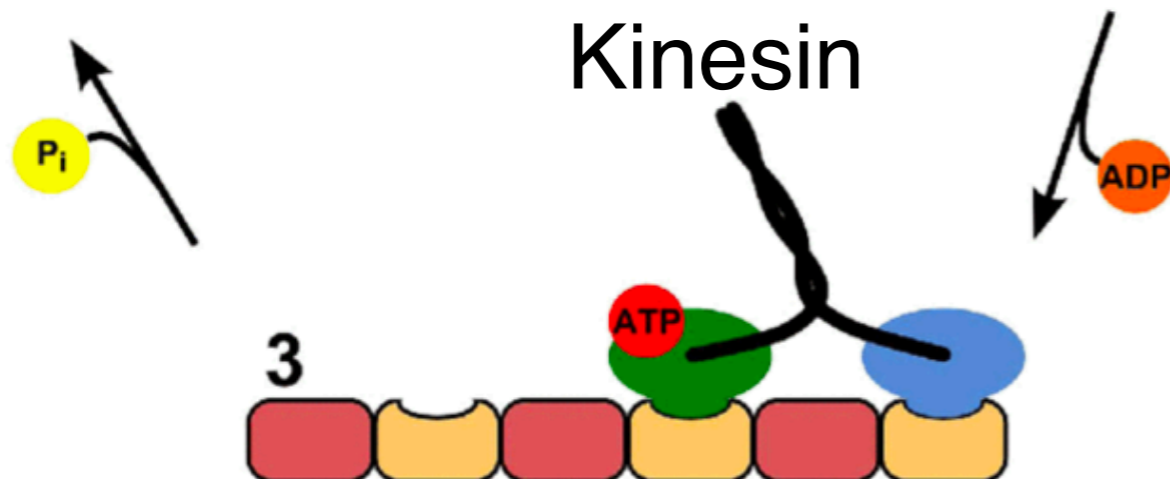
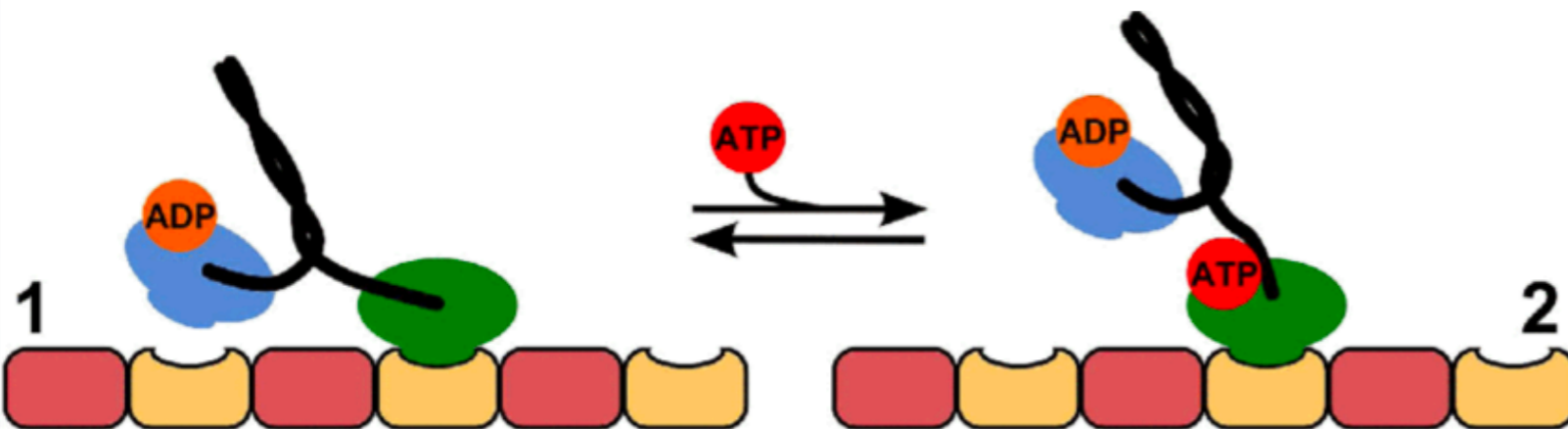


"I hydrolyze ATP and I move"

Vesicle transport by Kinesins



$$\Delta G = -14 \text{ kBT}$$



"I hydrolyze ATP and I move"

The mesoscale

Orders of magnitude

Nanometers (10^{-9} m)

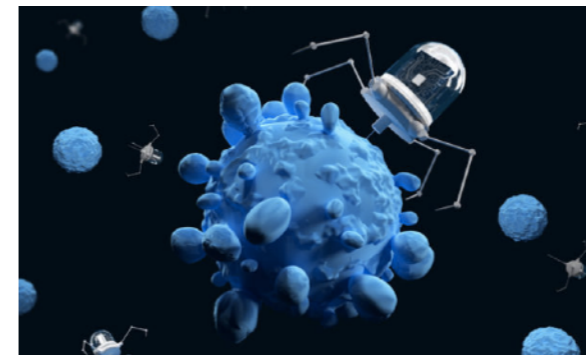
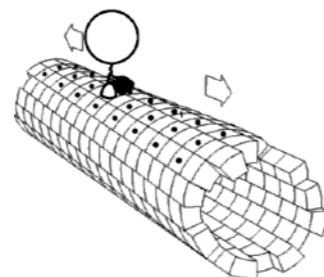
Microseconds (10^{-6} s)

ZeptoJoules (10^{-21} J)

Two-side challenge: natural and artificial

Understand nature: molecular motors

Build artificial nanomachines



The mesoscale

Orders of magnitude

Nanometers (10^{-9} m)

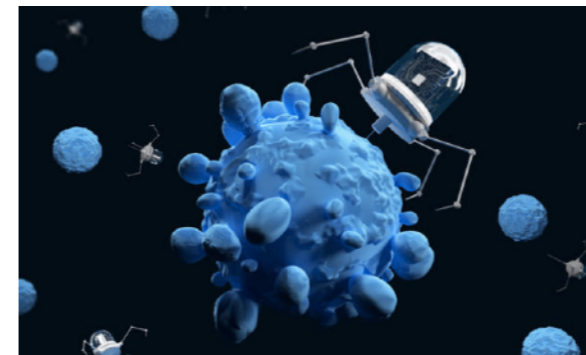
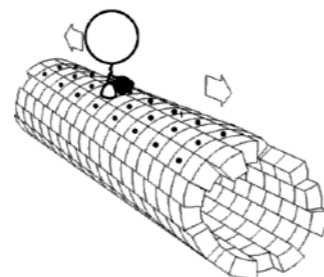
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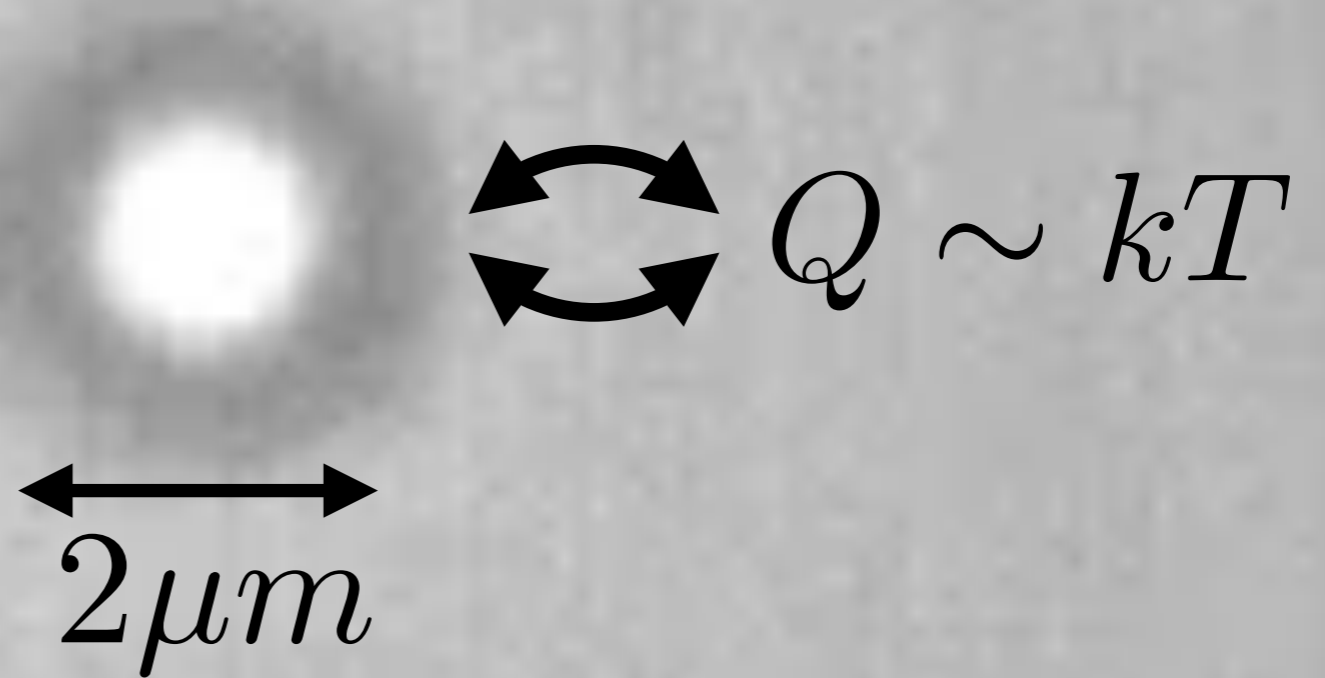
Two-side challenge: natural and artificial

Understand nature: molecular motors

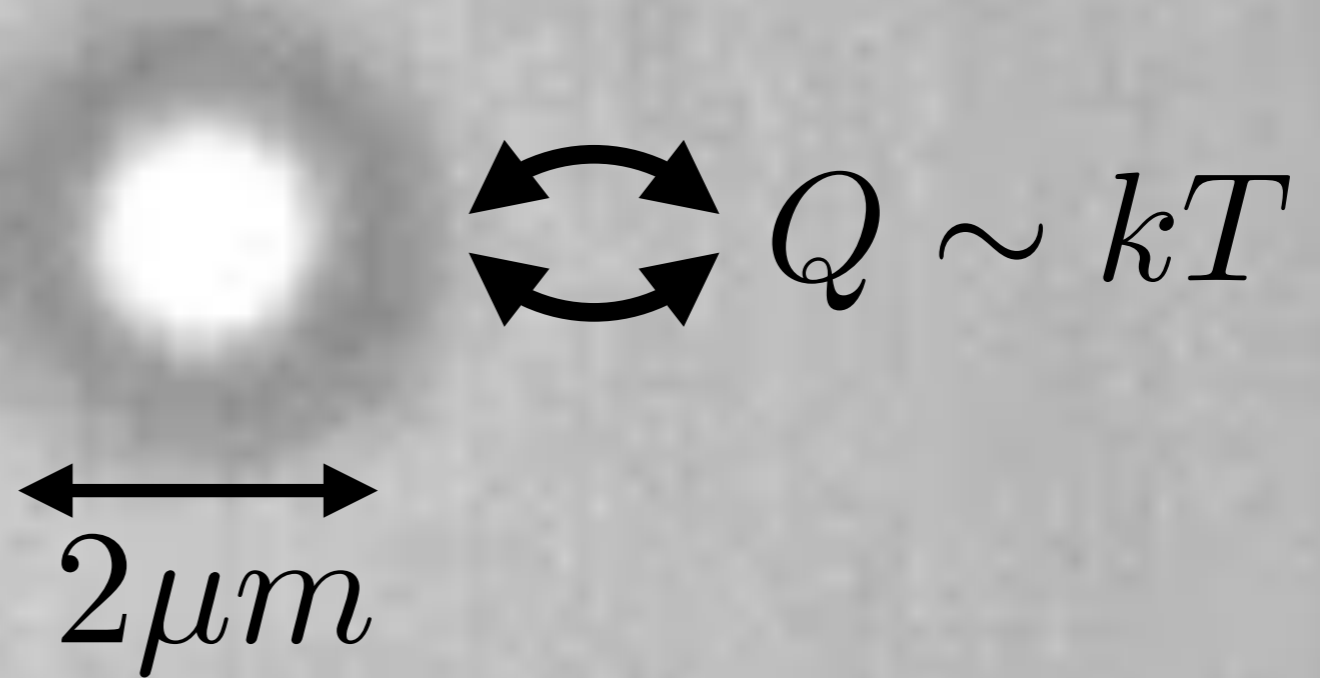
Build artificial nanomachines



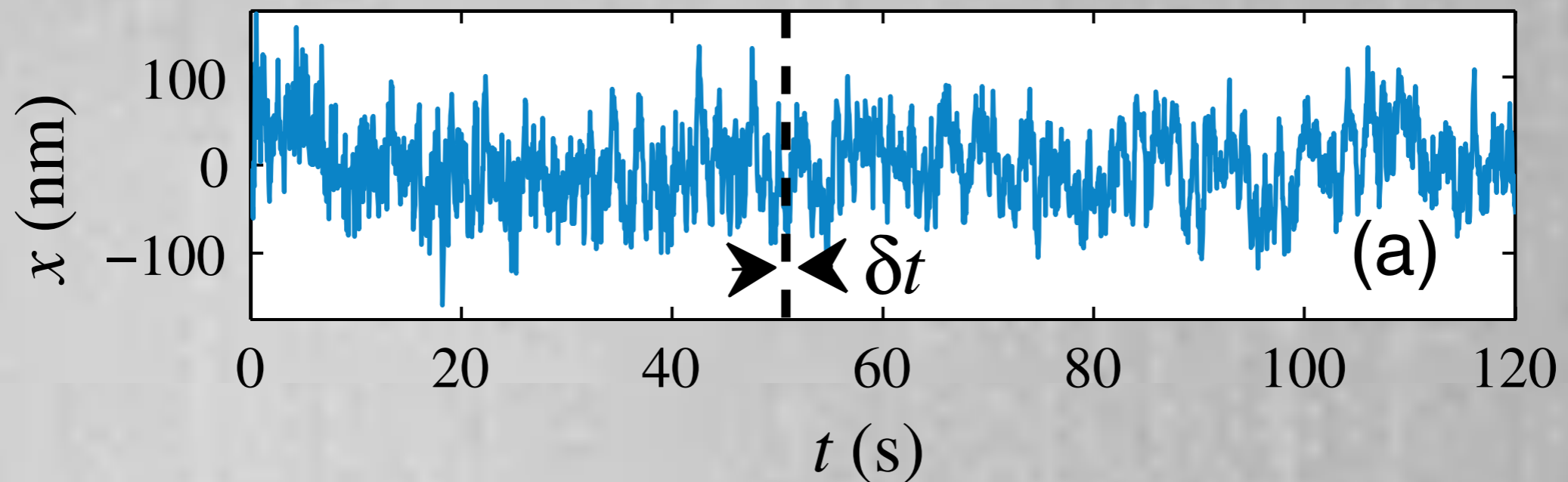
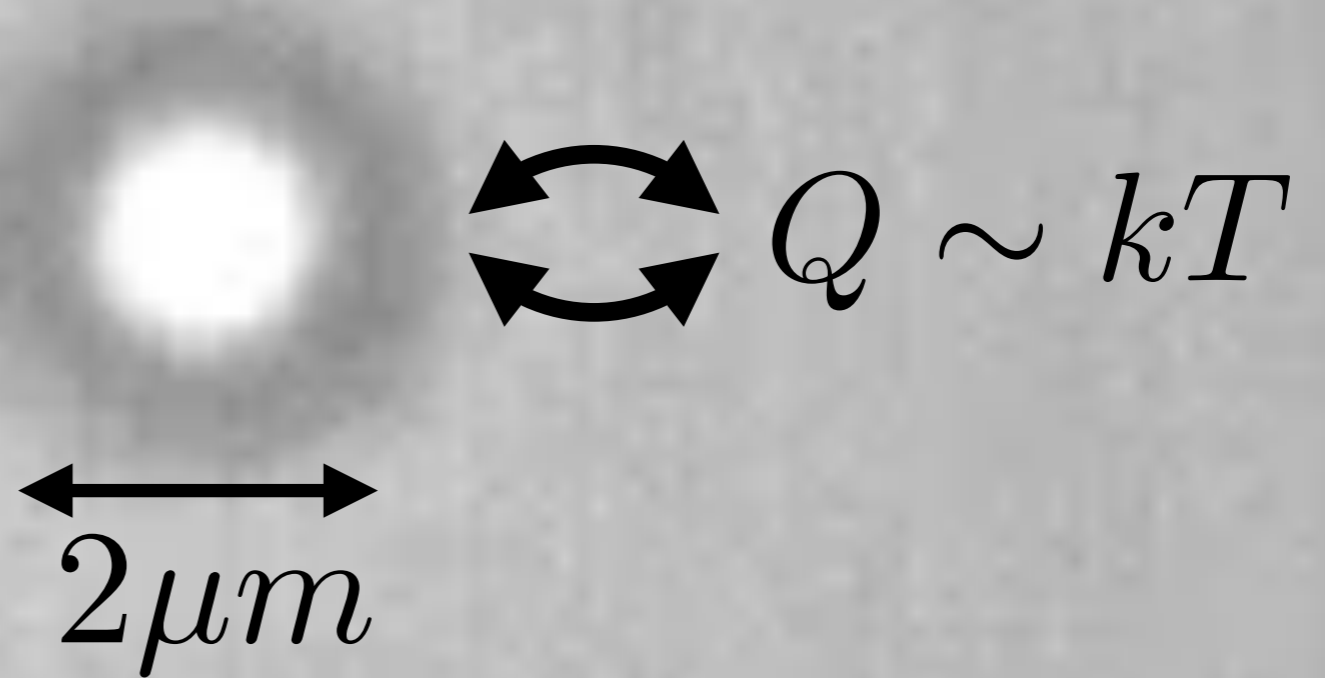
Fluctuations are intrinsic to any small system



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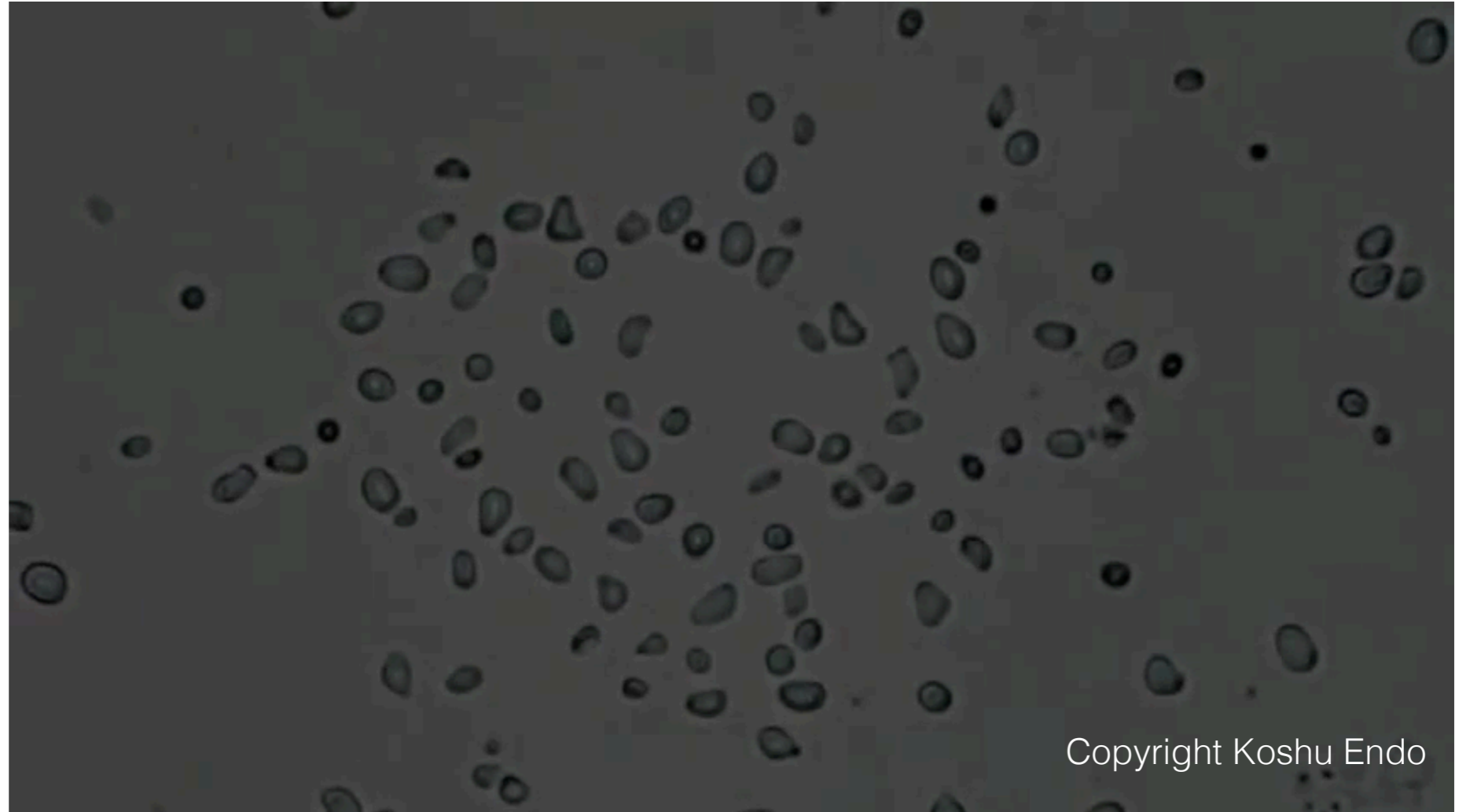


Brownian motion

1827



Robert Brown



Copyright Koshu Endo

Pollen grains (20 micrometers) under the microscope

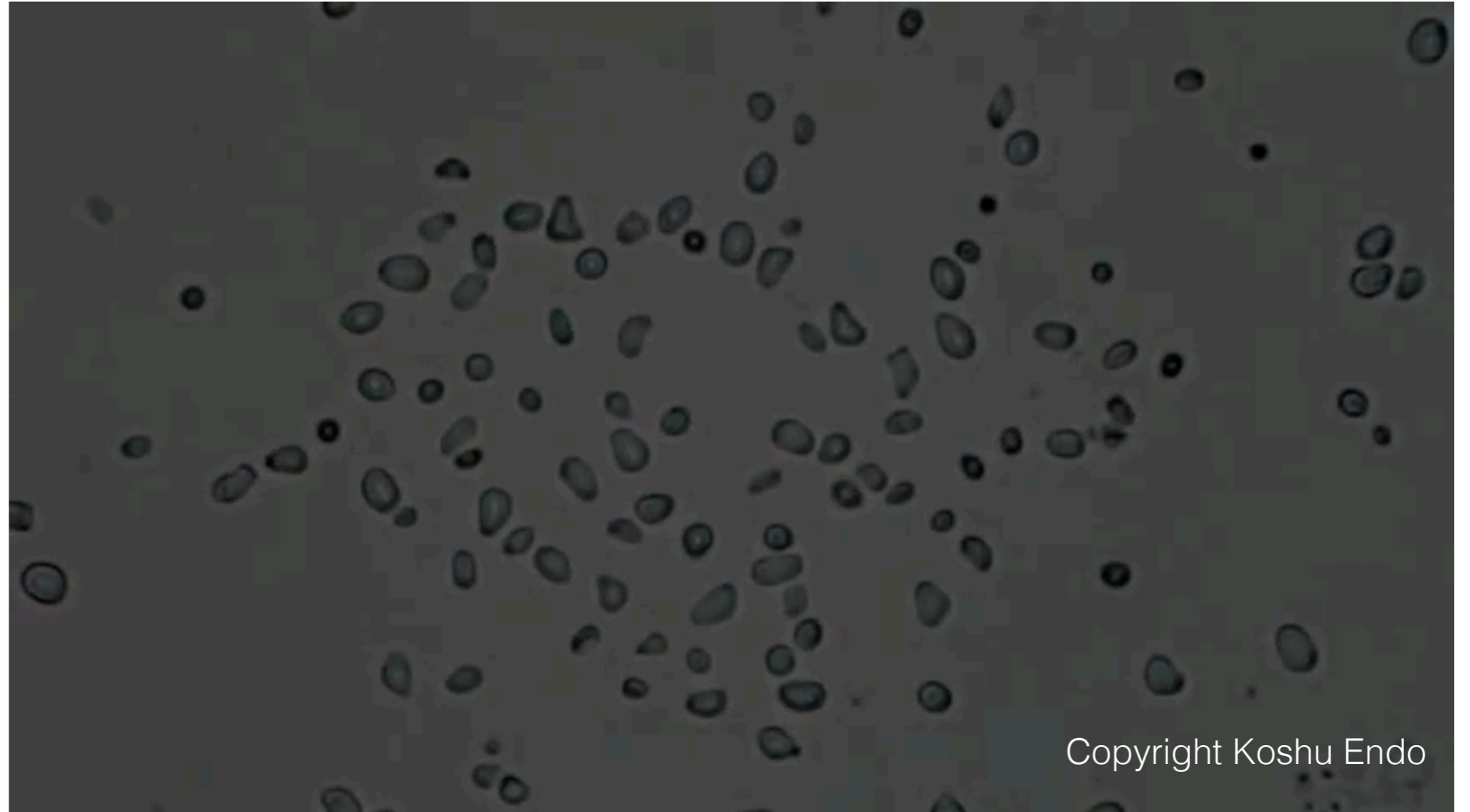
Why do they move?

Brownian motion

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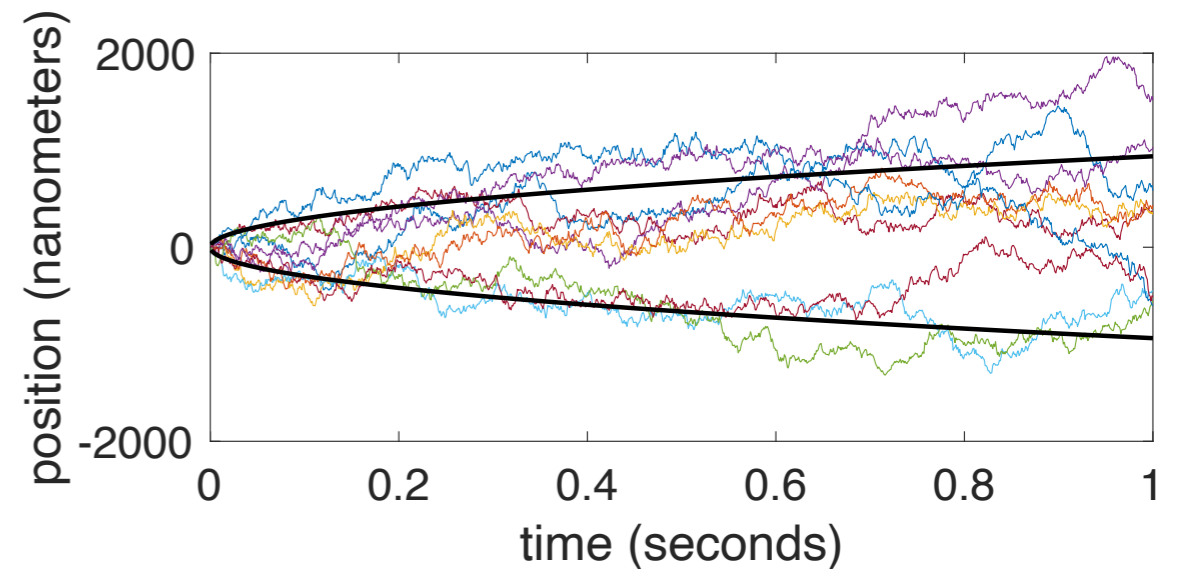
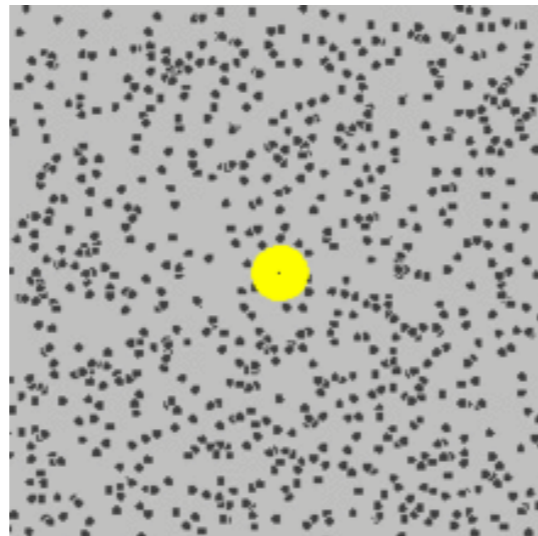
Why do they move?

Einstein's theory

1827



1 micra



1905



Brownian motion is a manifestation of the **thermal energy** of the molecules comprising the particle's environment

$$\langle x^2(t) \rangle = 2Dt = \frac{RT}{6\pi\eta RN_A}$$

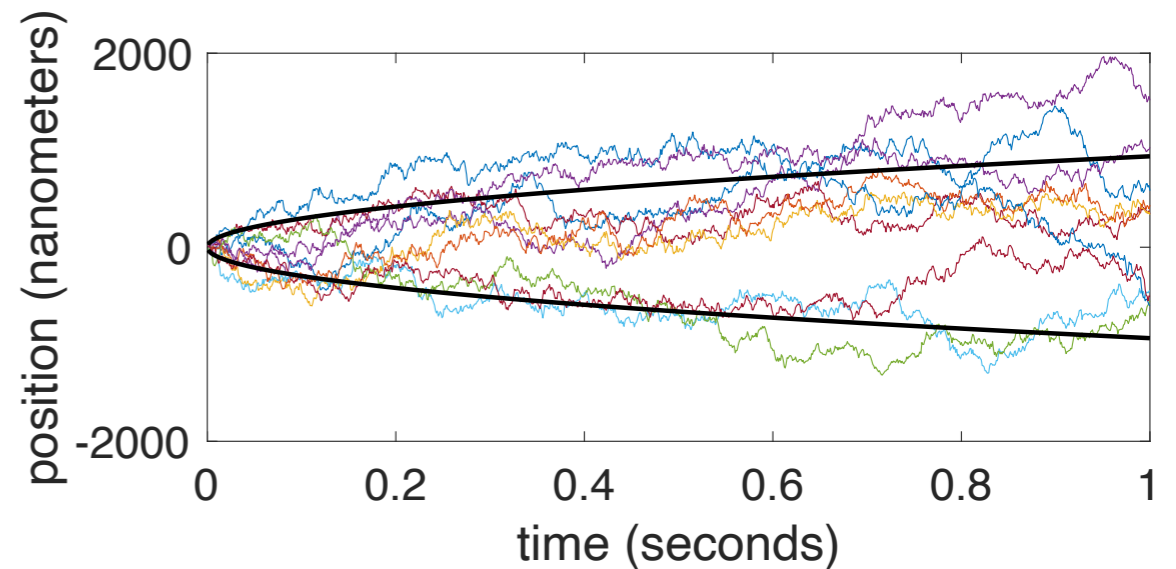
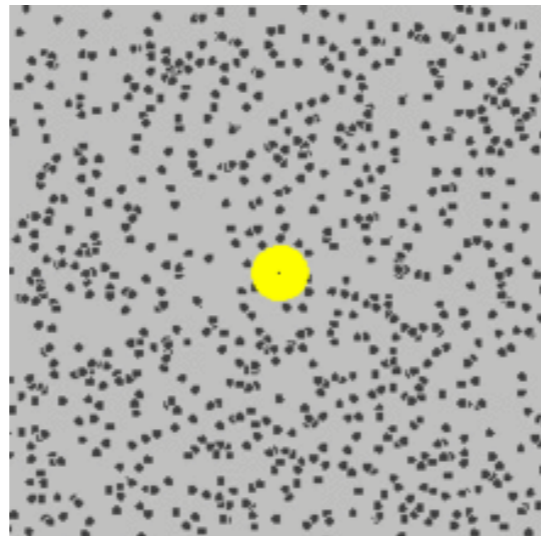
Empirical evidence of molecular theory

Einstein's theory

1827



1 micra



1905



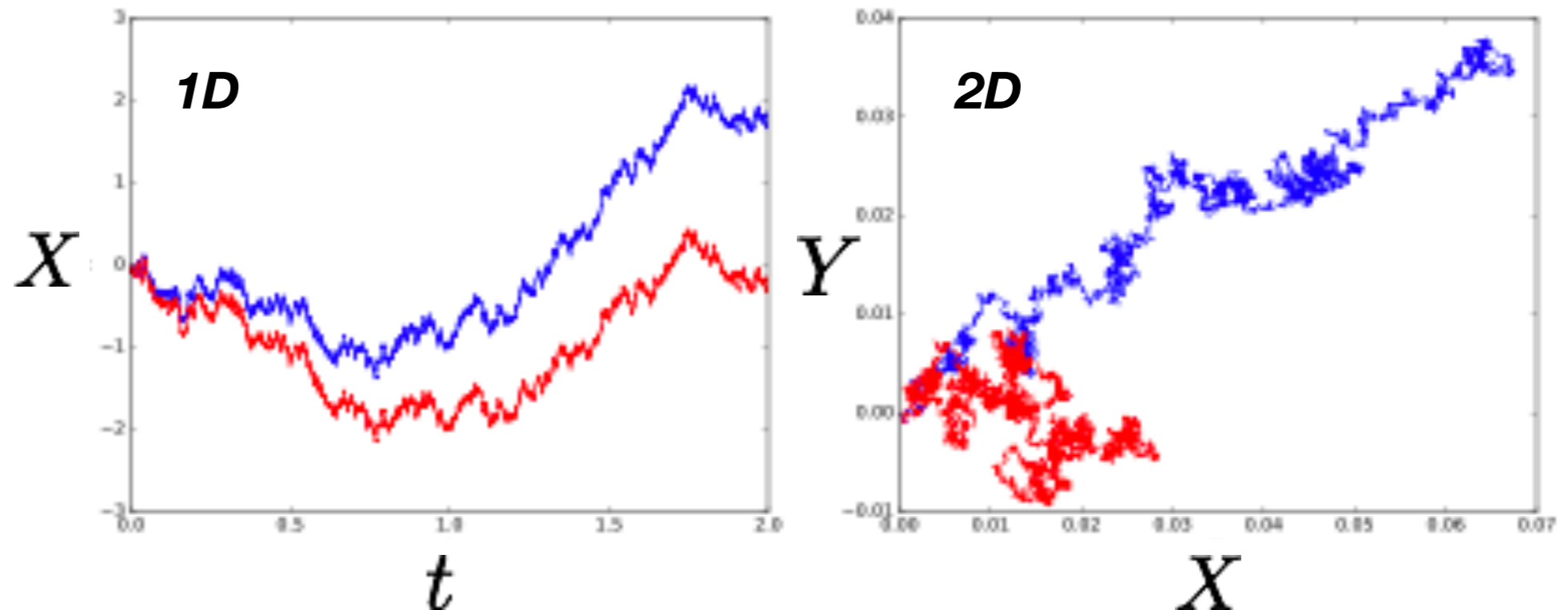
Brownian motion is a manifestation of the **thermal energy** of the molecules comprising the particle's environment

$$\langle x^2(t) \rangle = 2Dt = \frac{RT}{6\pi\eta RN_A}$$

Empirical evidence of molecular theory

Statistical nature

1827



1905



Brownian motion is a **stochastic** process
Each realization of the *same* experiment produces a *different* output trajectory, even if the initial condition is the same

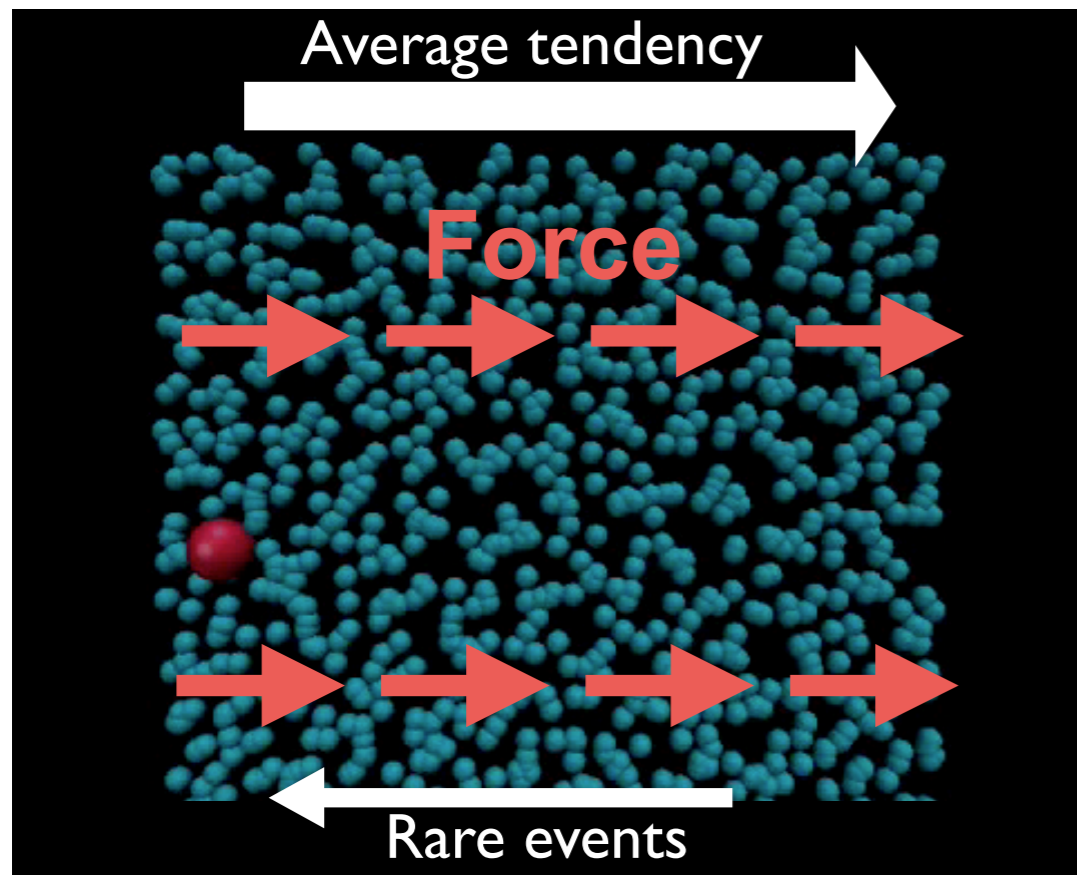
We study the particle position not as a “number” but as a probability density

$$x \rightarrow \rho(x)$$

Rare events at the microscale

Physics

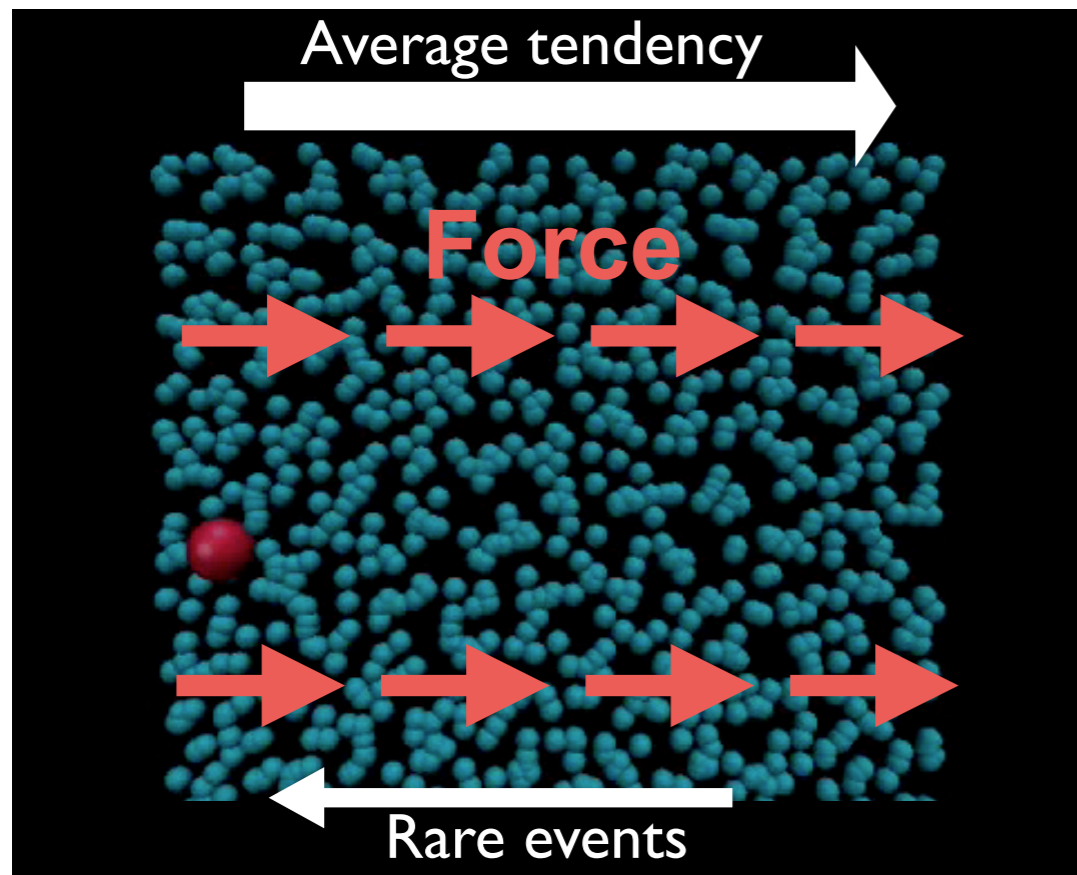
Biased random walks



Rare events at the microscale

Physics

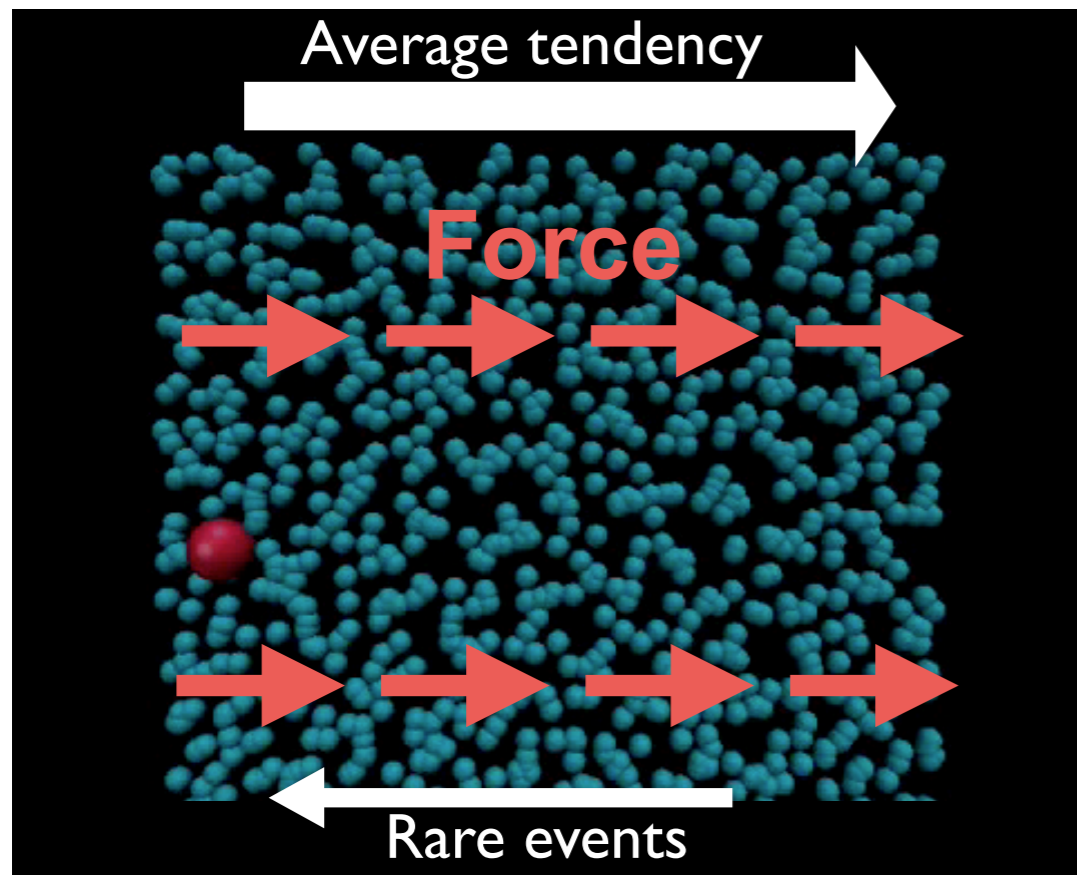
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Rare events at the microscale

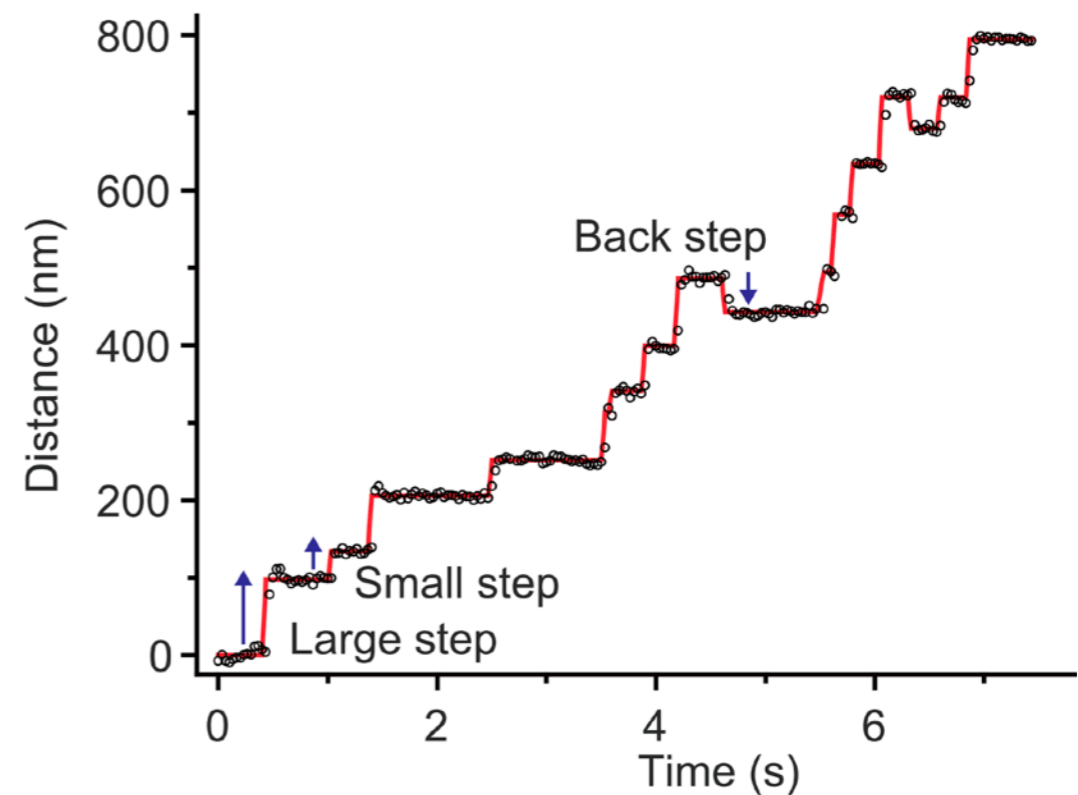
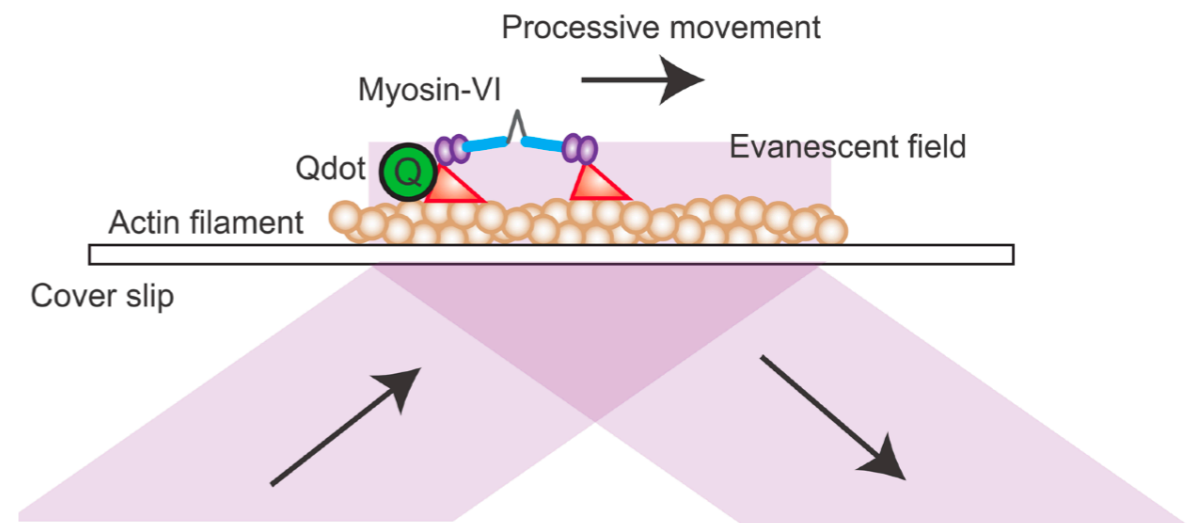
Physics

Biased random walks



Biology

Molecular motor stepping



Minimal stochastic models in biophysics

Molecular motors and beyond

Biophysics YouTube lectures



biophysics QLS-BIO



- 2020-2021 Biophysics (QLS-BIO)
ICTP Postgraduate Diploma Programme - 1/25
- 14 Biophysics (QLS-BIO) Lecture 14 1:12:13
 - 15 Biophysics (QLS-BIO) Lecture 15 1:29:33
 - 16 Biophysics (QLS-BIO) Lecture 16 1:23:20
 - 17 Biophysics (QLS-BIO) Lecture 17 1:23:56
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 - 19 Biophysics (QLS-BIO) Lecture 19 1:10:57

Biophysics (QLS-BIO) Lecture 17

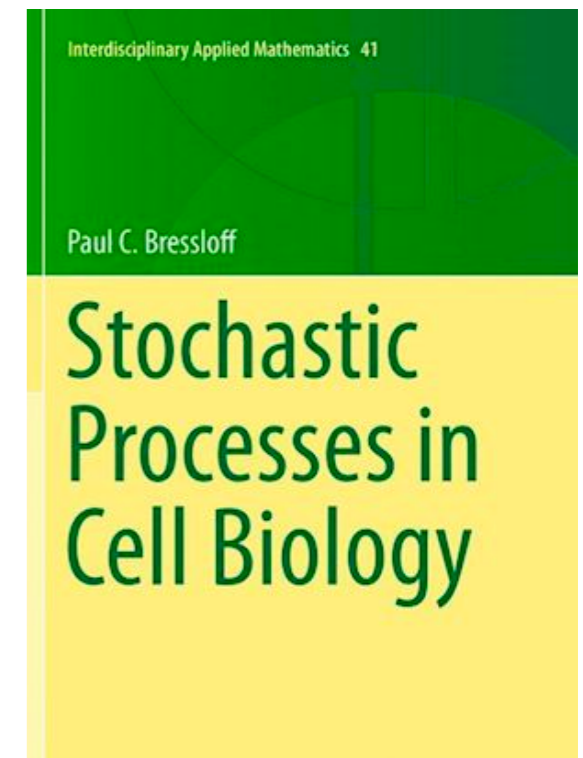
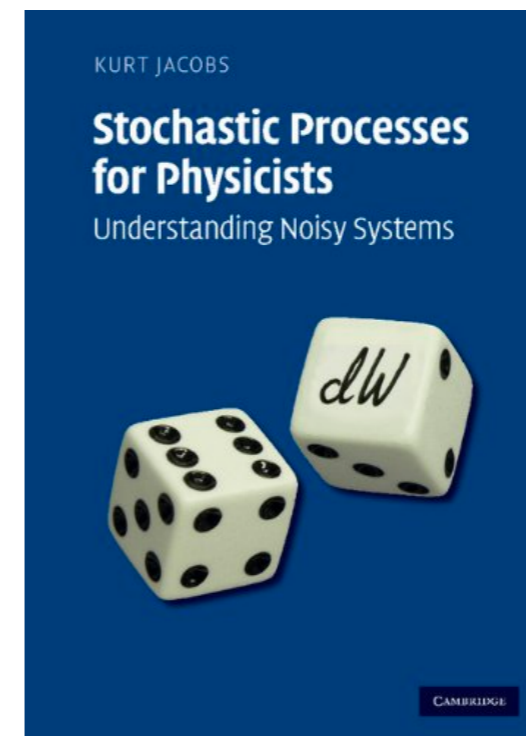
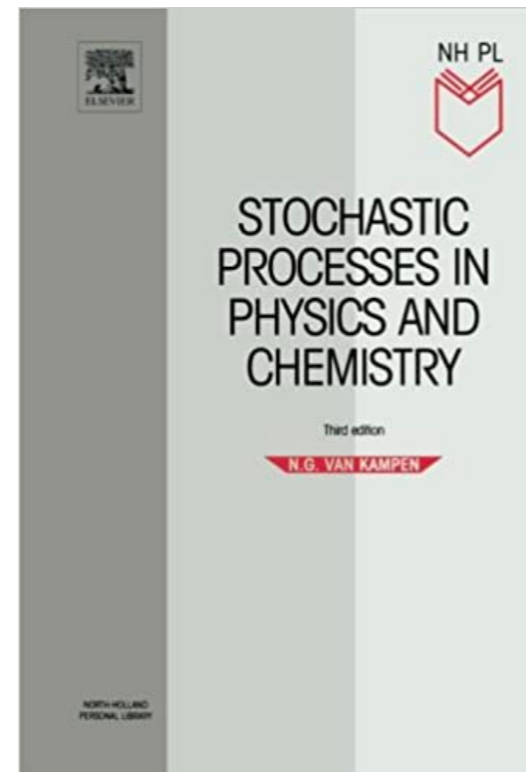
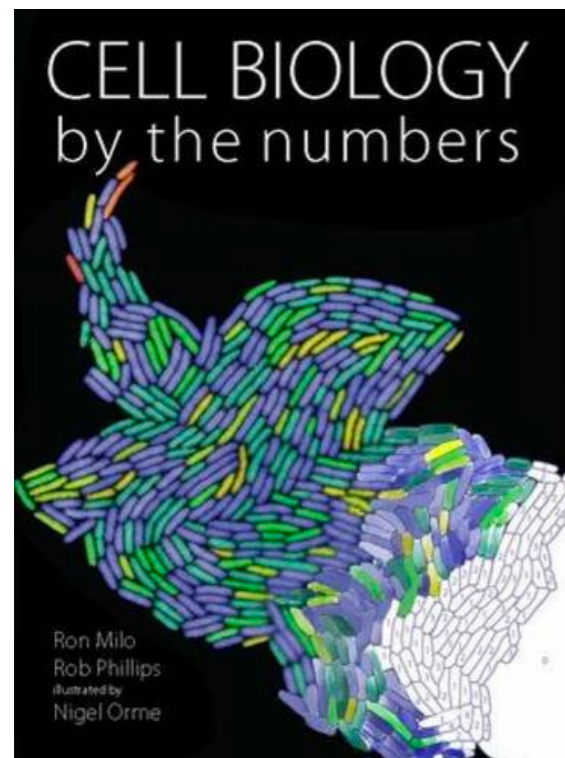
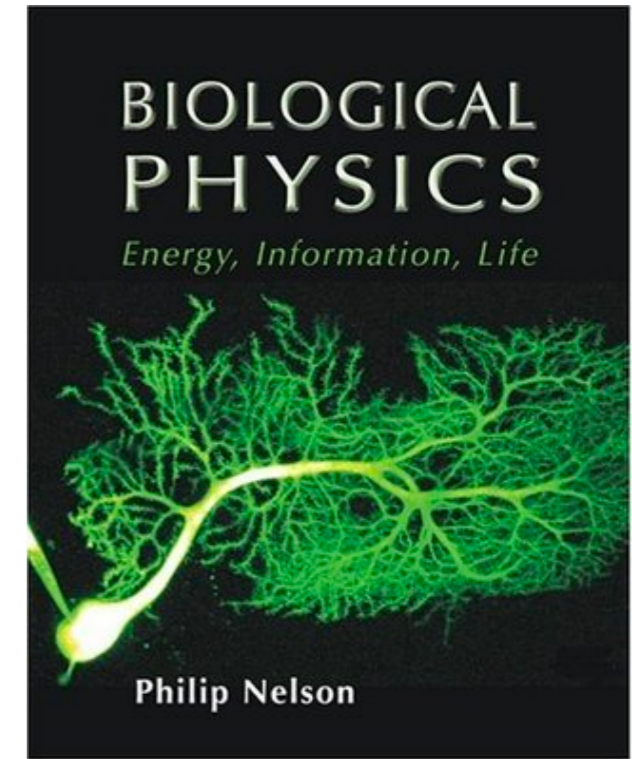
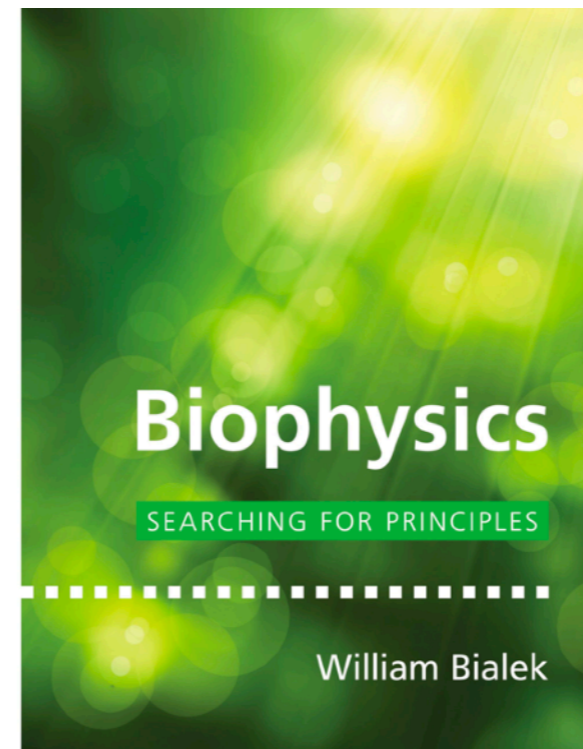
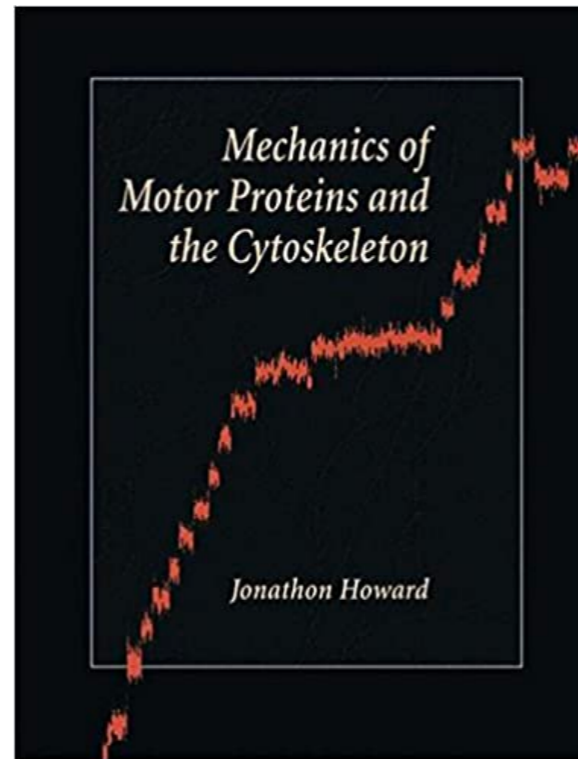
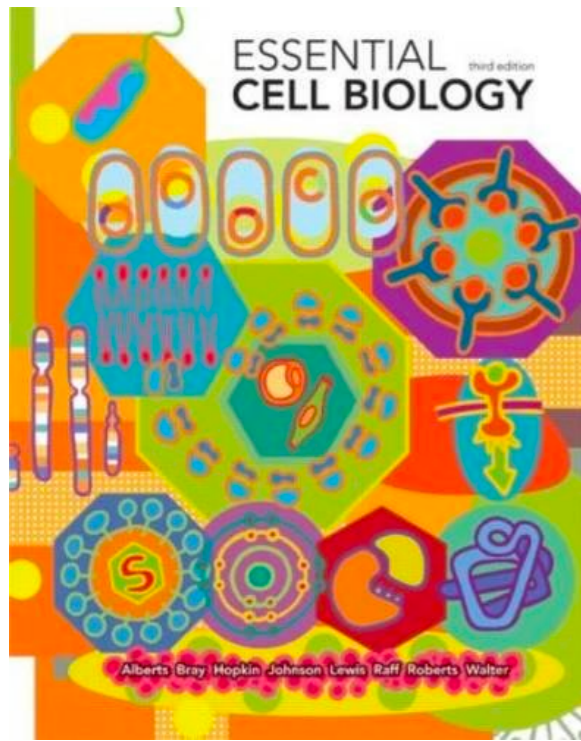
164 visualizaciones • 26 nov 2020

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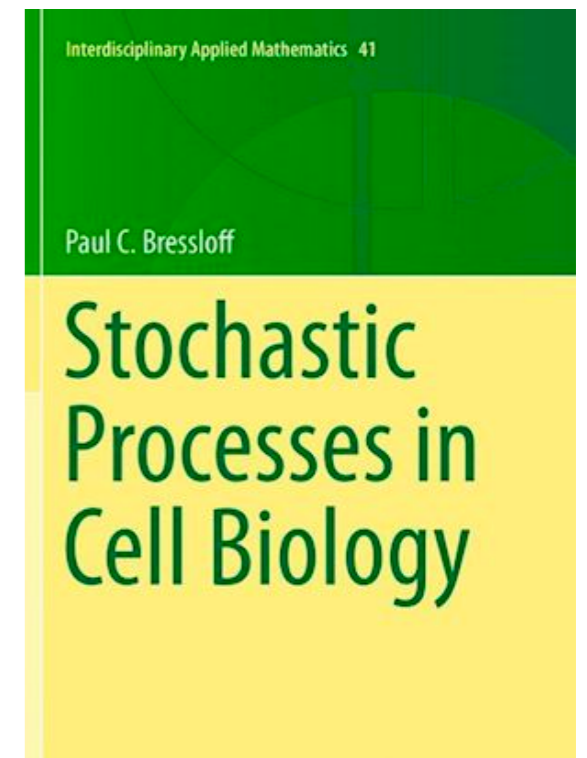
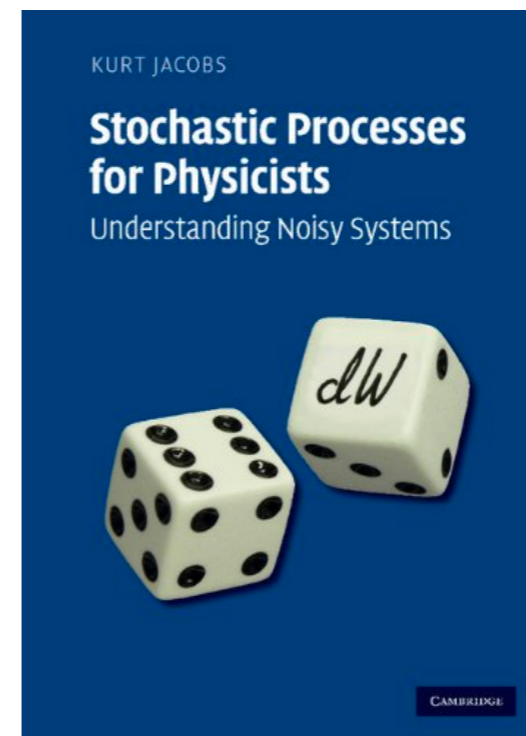
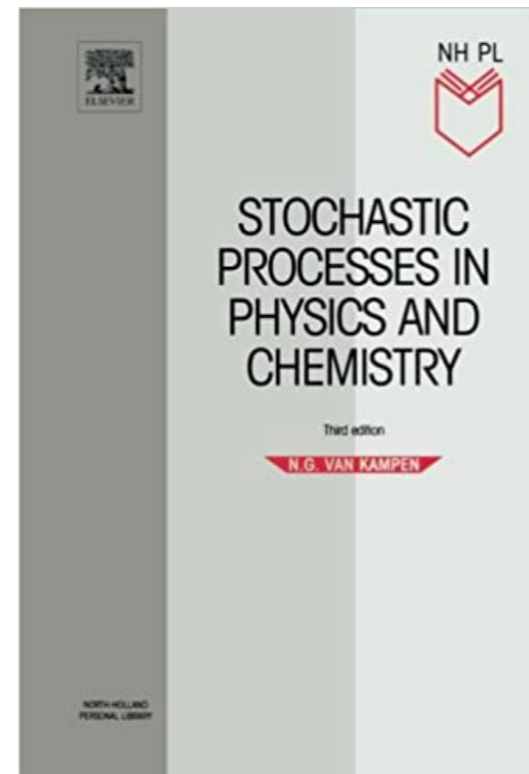
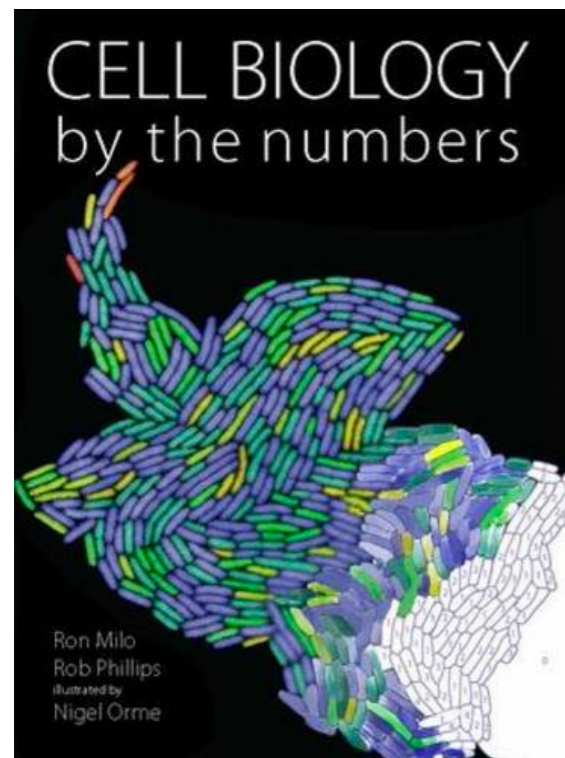
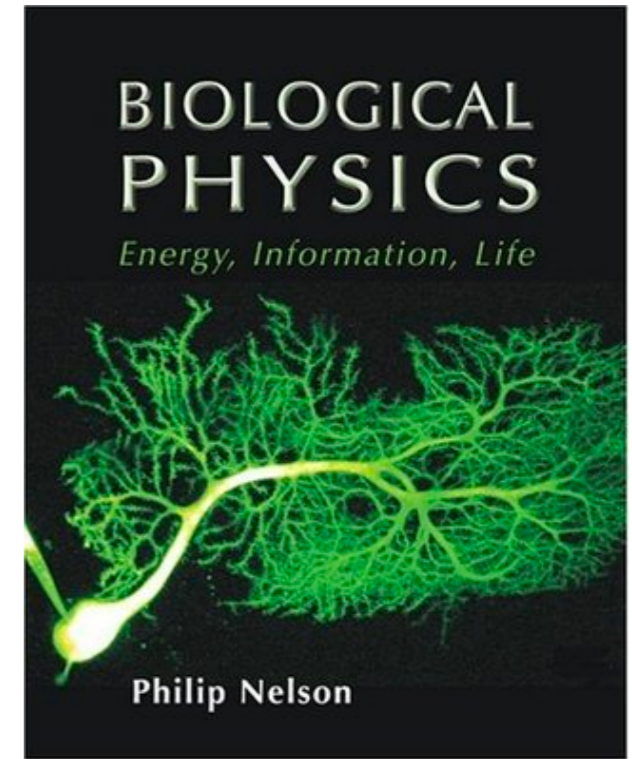
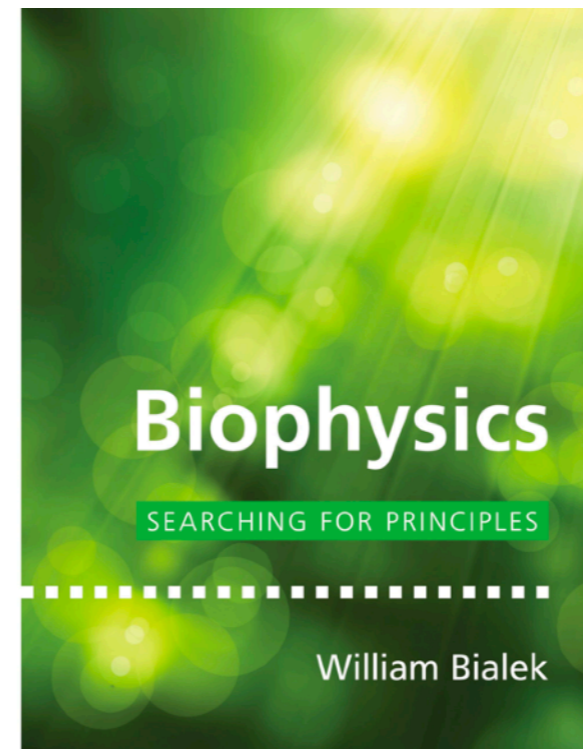
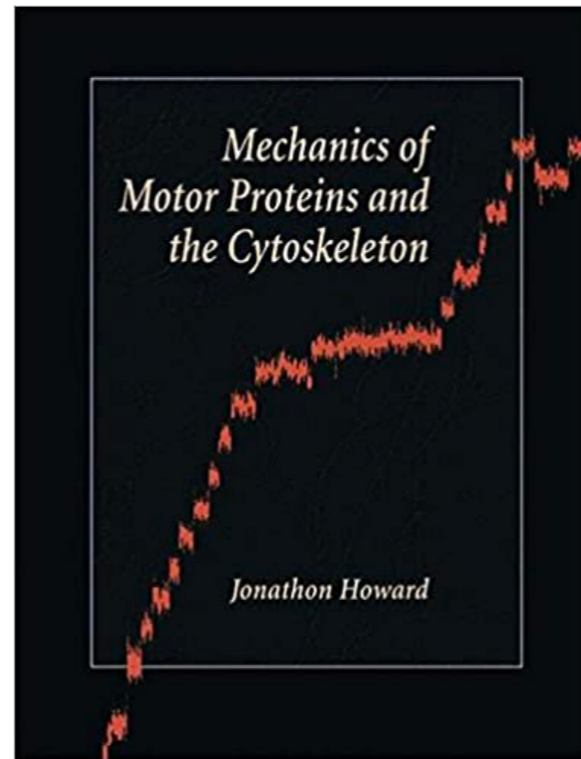
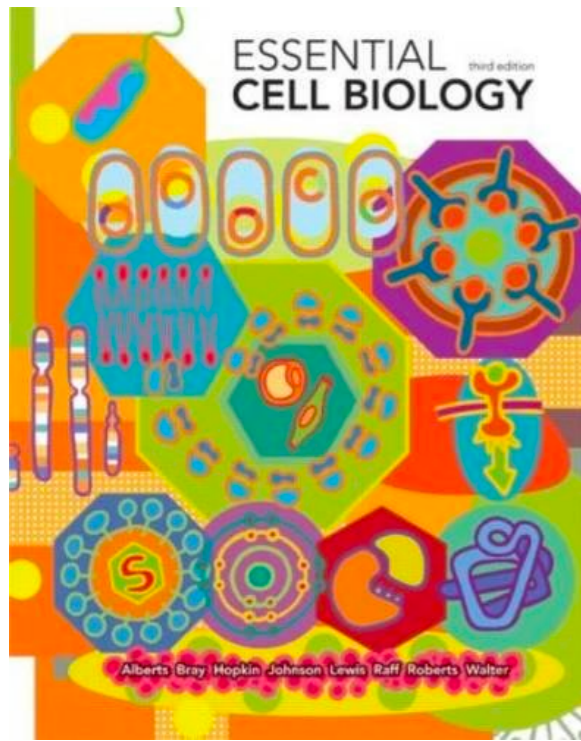
DIPL ICTP Postgraduate Diploma Programme
10.800 suscriptores

SUSCRIBIRME

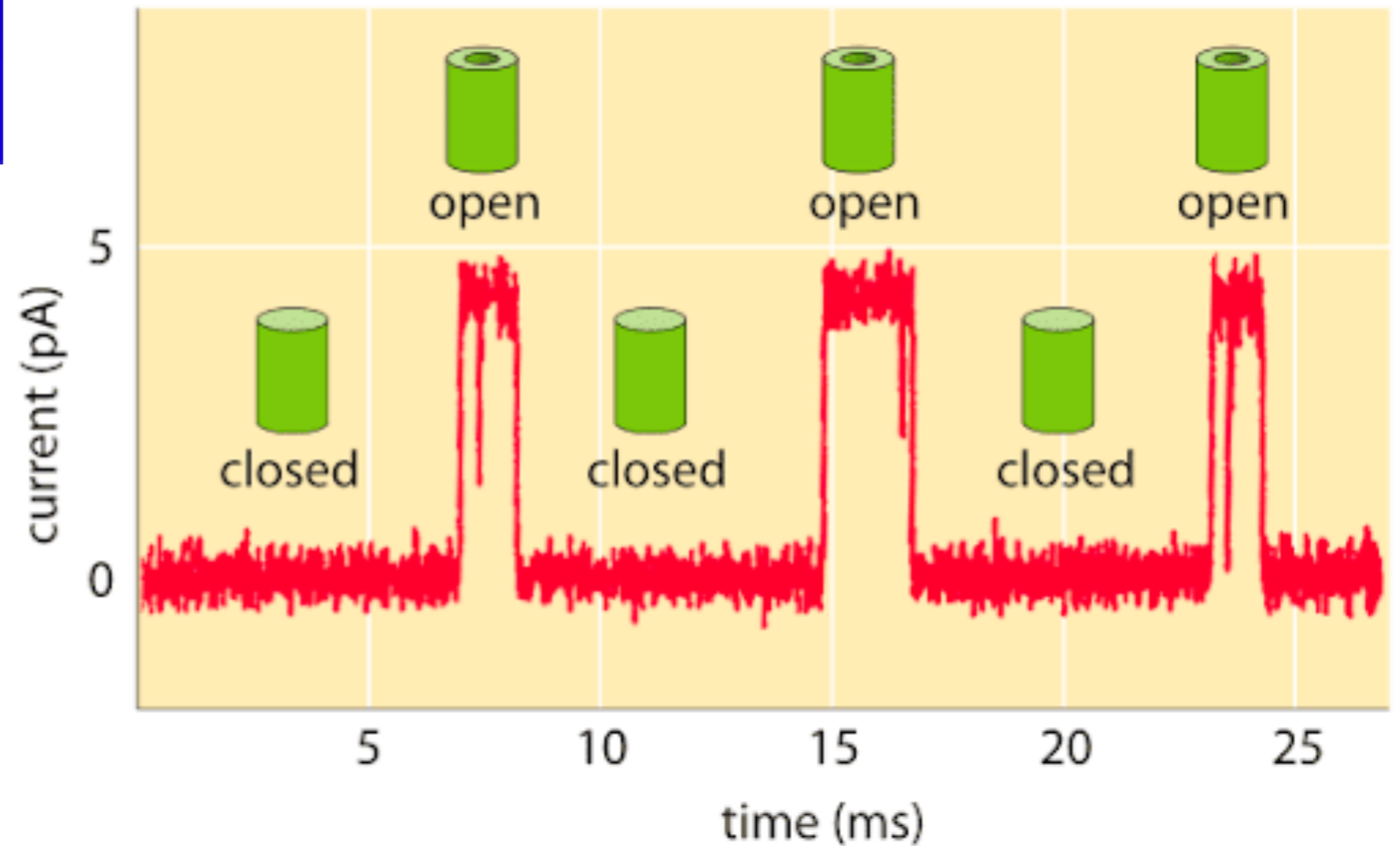
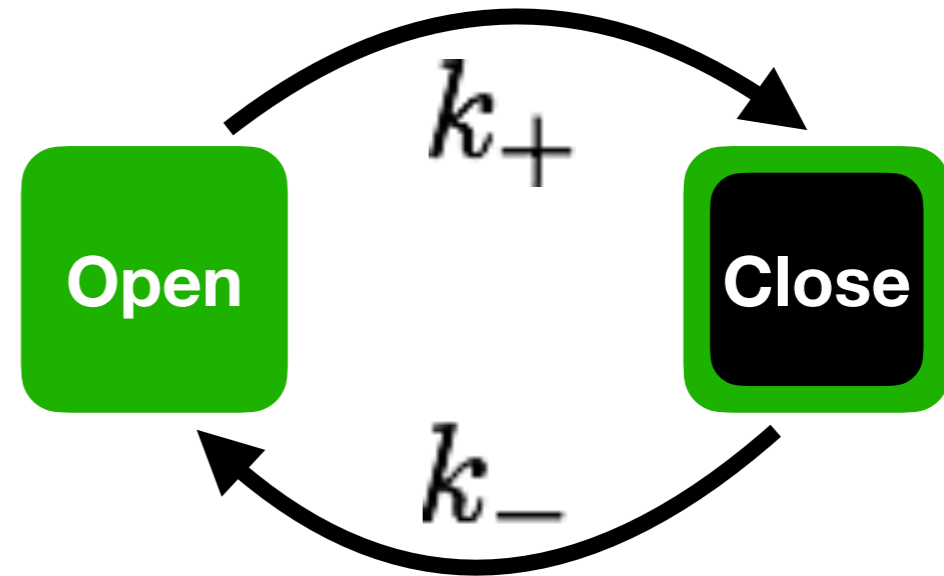
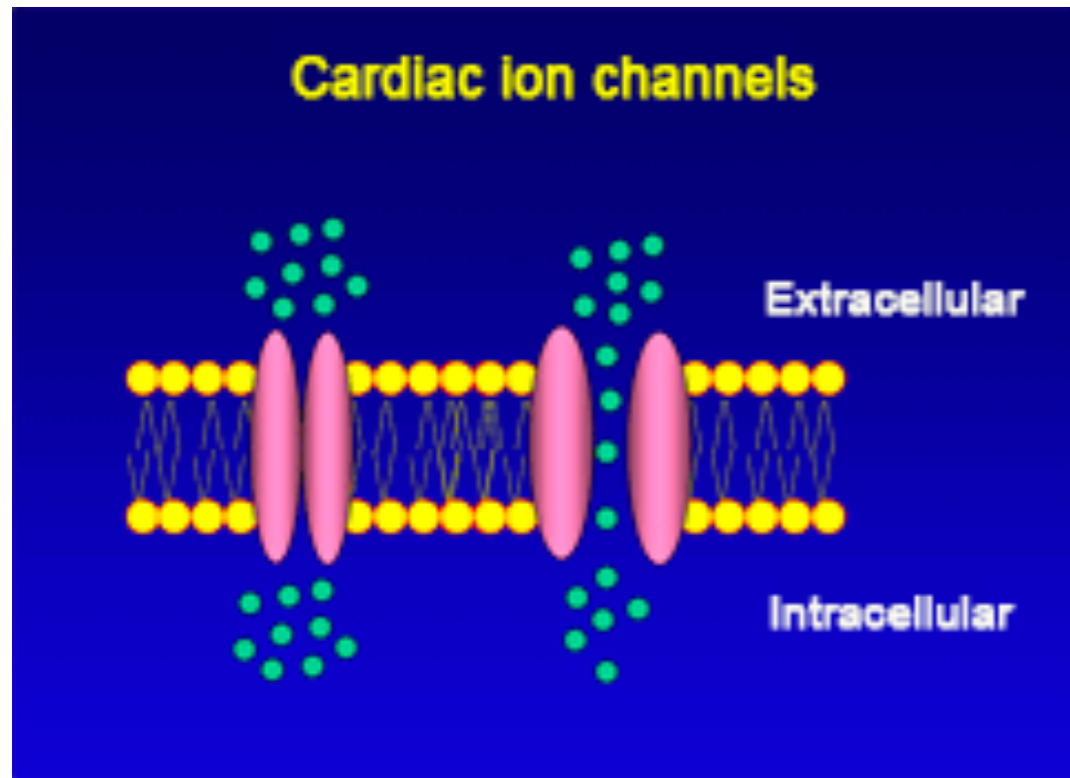
Reference textbooks



Reference textbooks

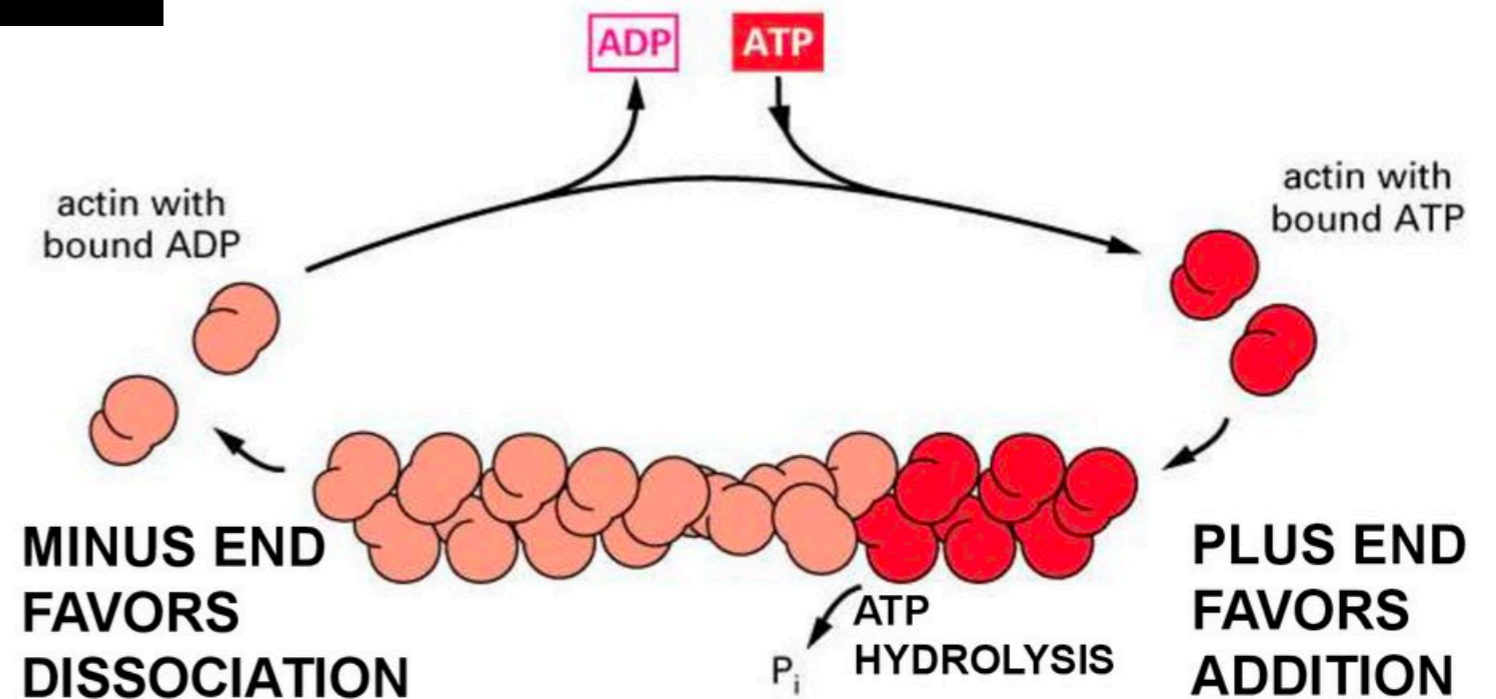
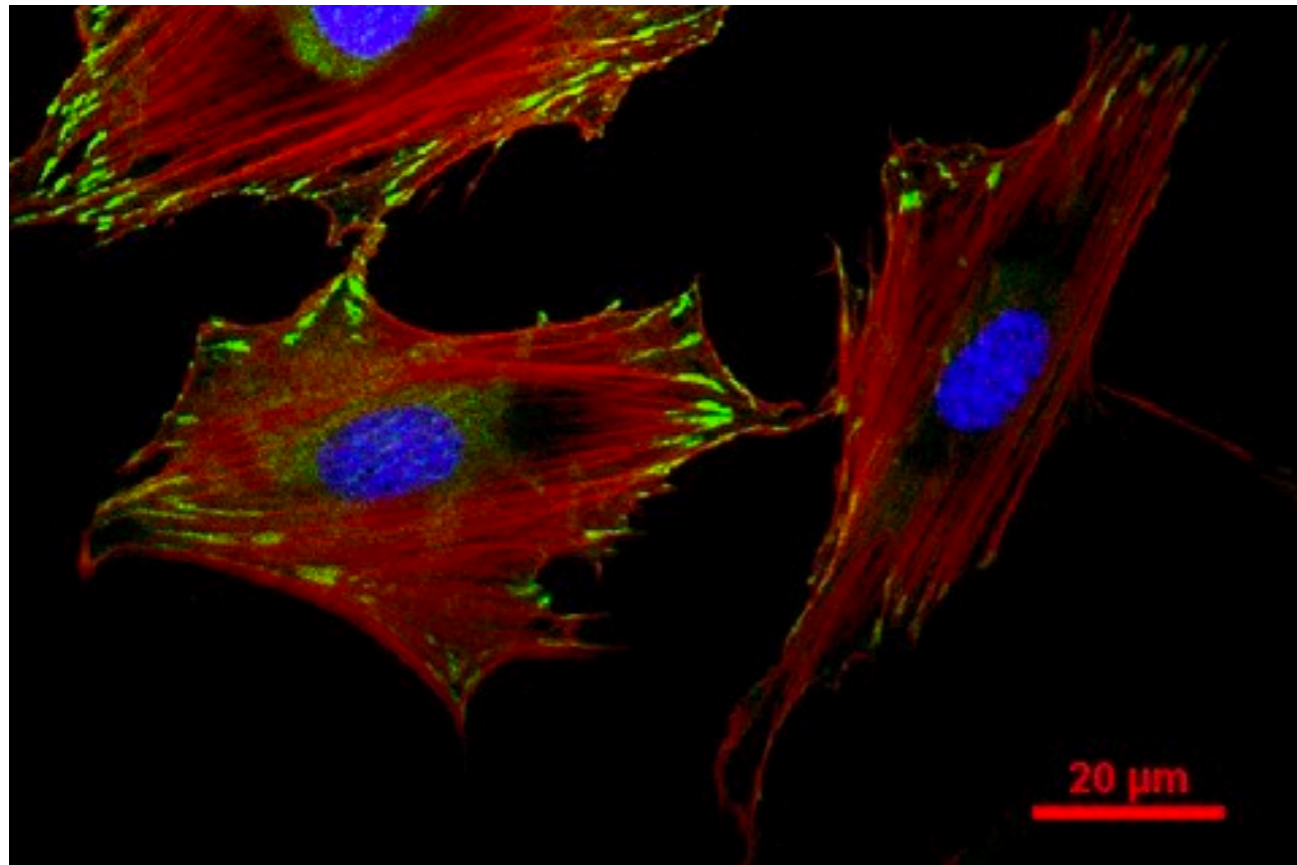


Ion channels



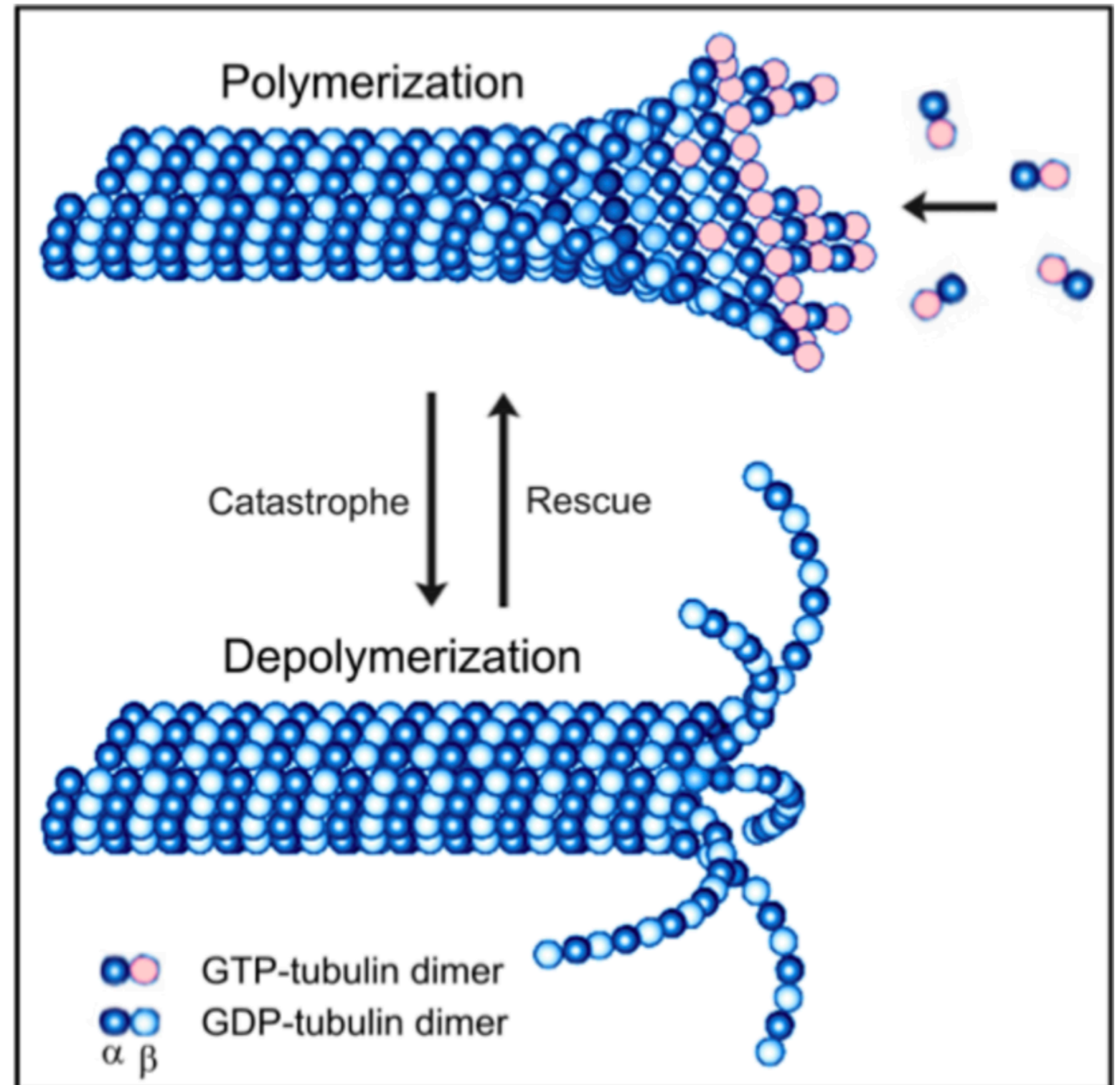
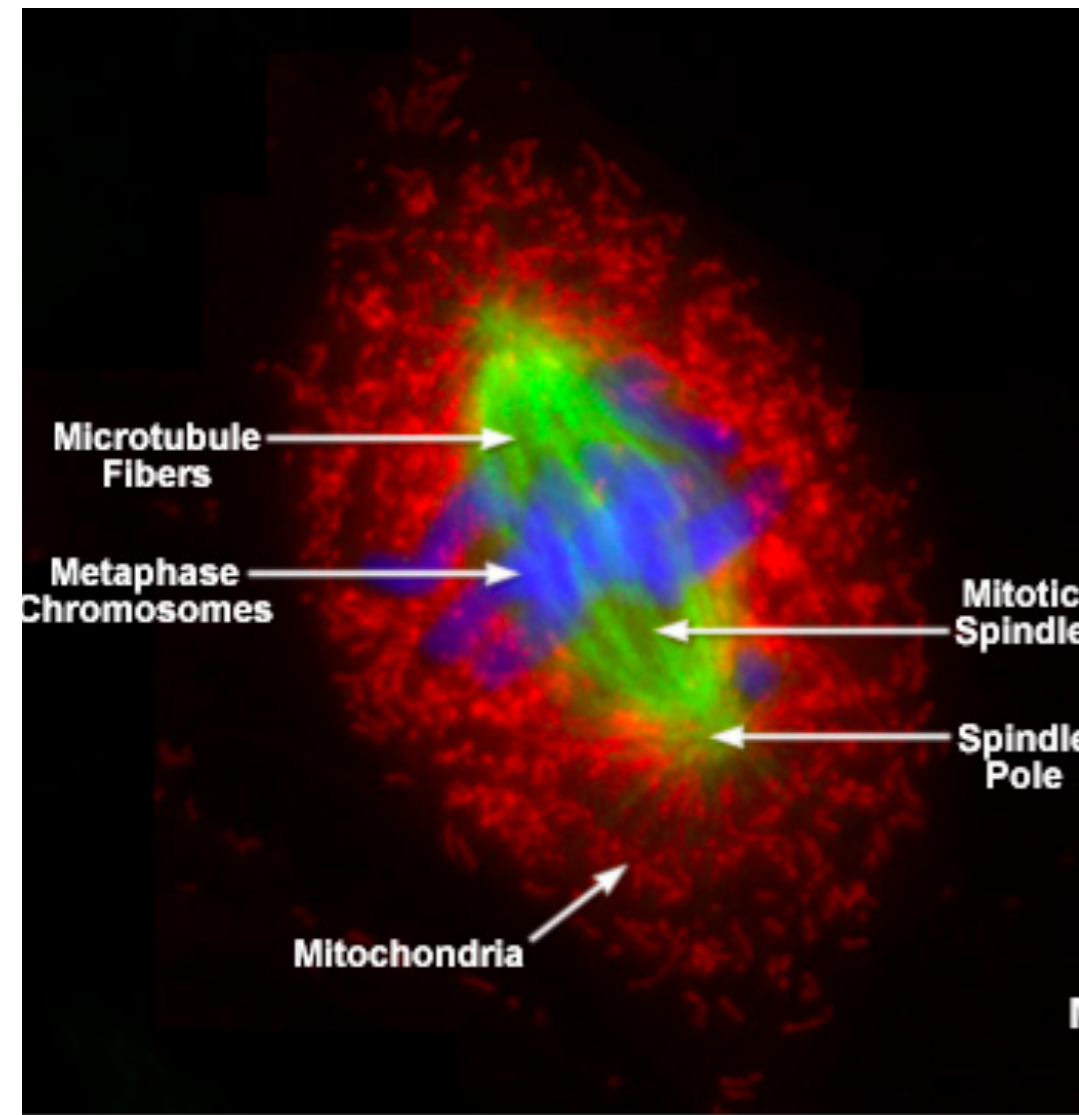
Biopolymer dynamics

Actin polymerization and depolymerization



Biopolymer dynamics

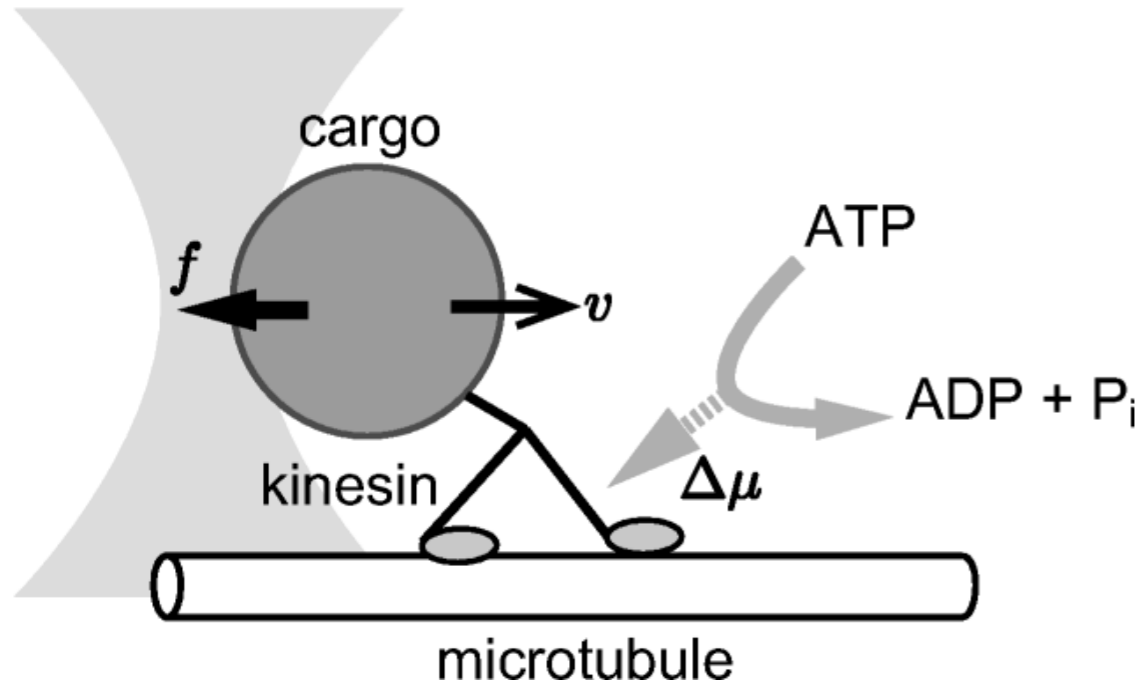
Microtubule growth and shrinkage



Molecular motors

Single-molecule experiments

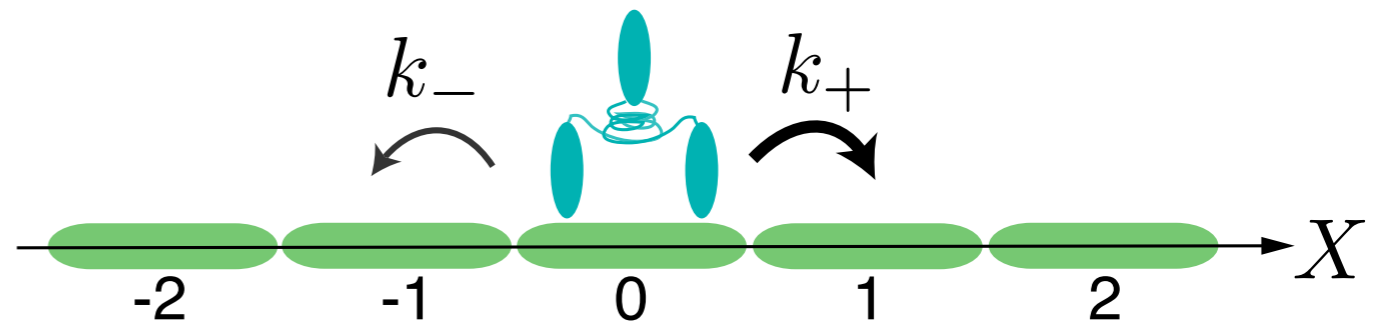
optical tweezers



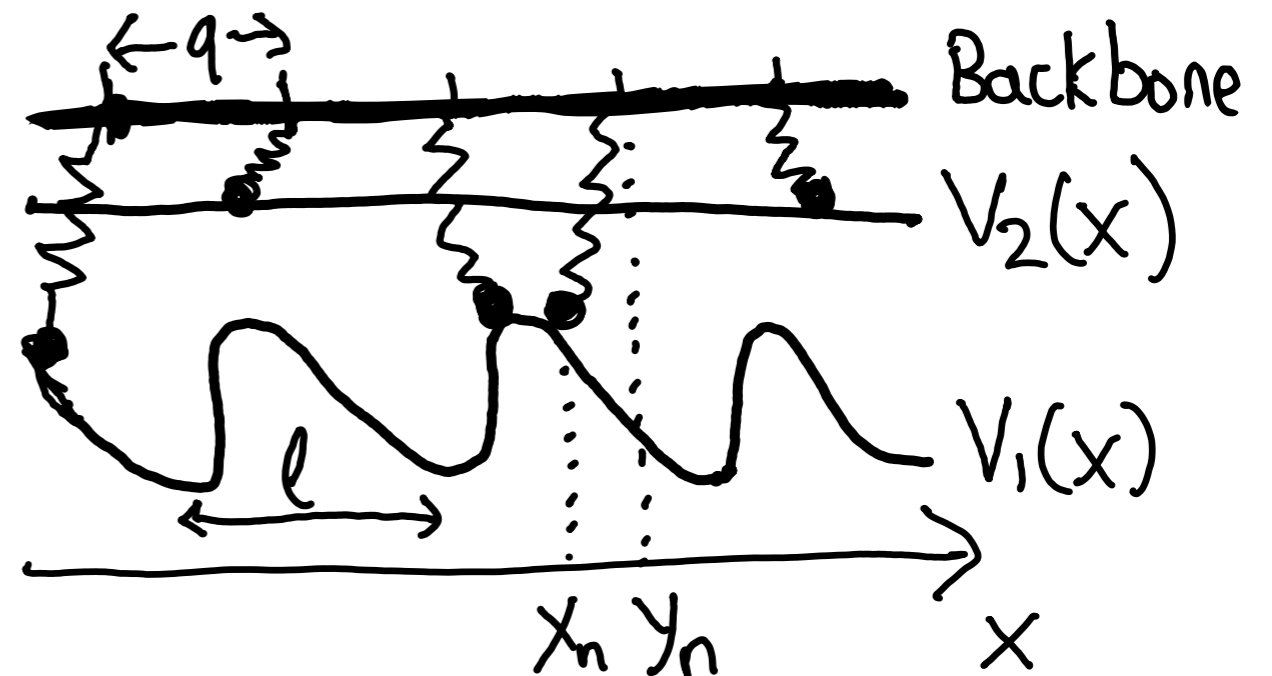
Biophysical reviews 12.2 (2020): 419-423

Collective effects

Biased random walks



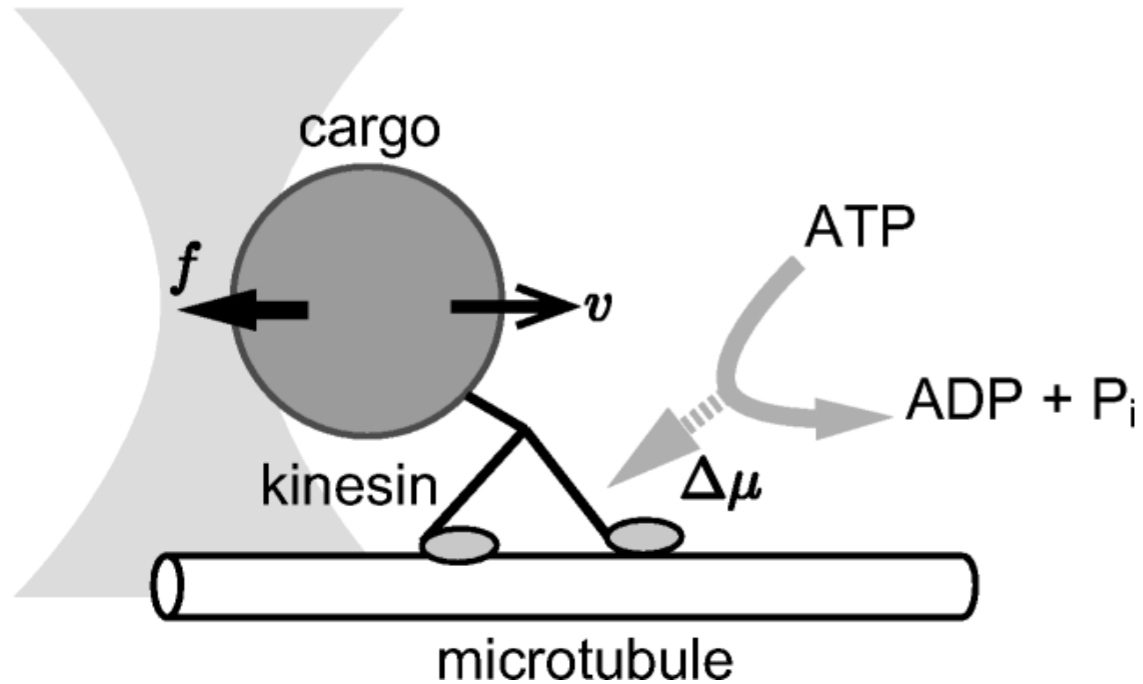
Flashing ratchets



Molecular motors

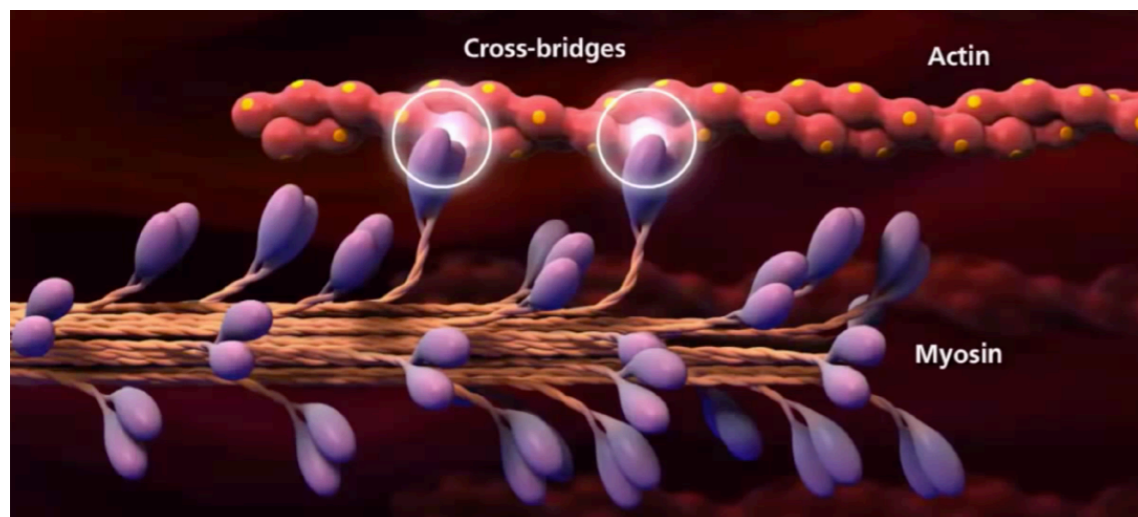
Single-molecule experiments

optical tweezers

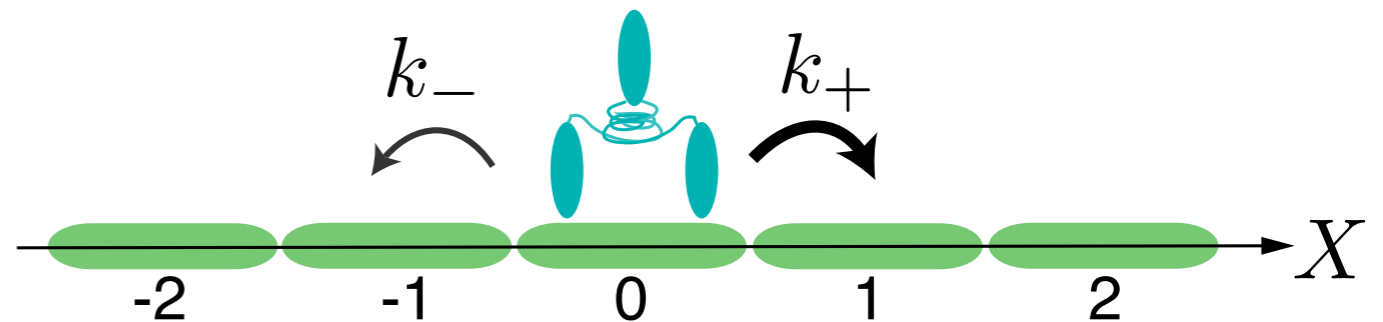


Biophysical reviews 12.2 (2020): 419-423

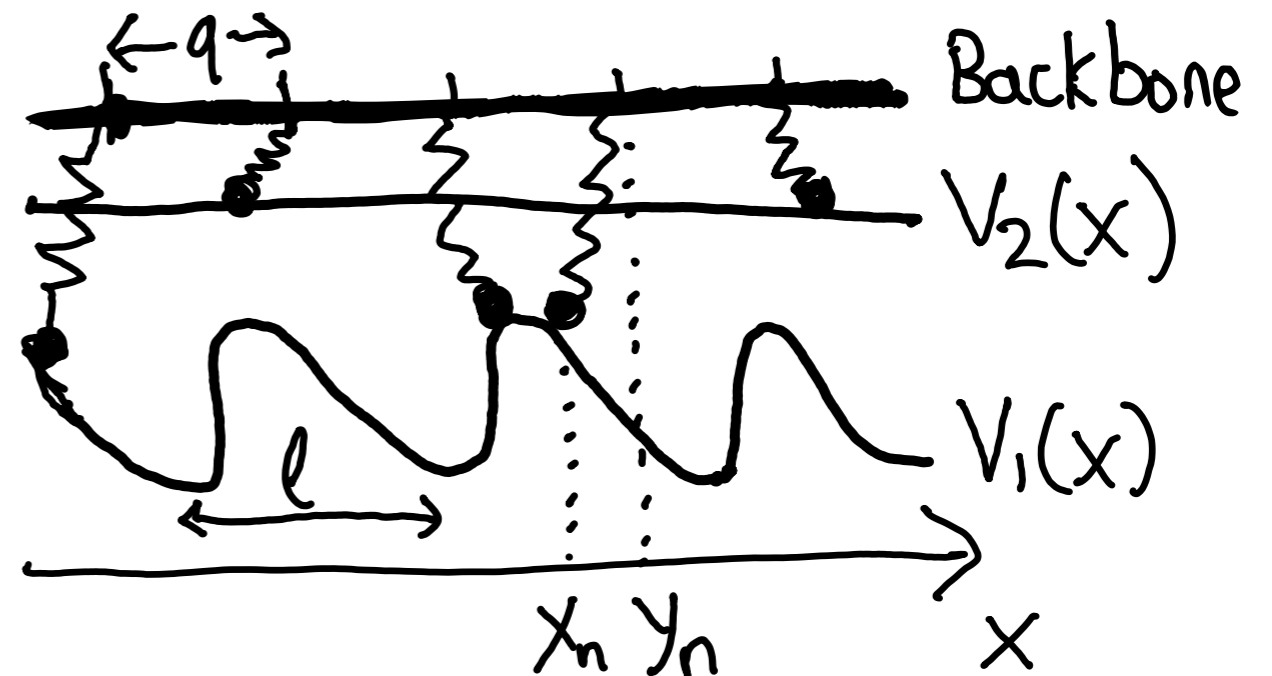
Collective effects



Biased random walks

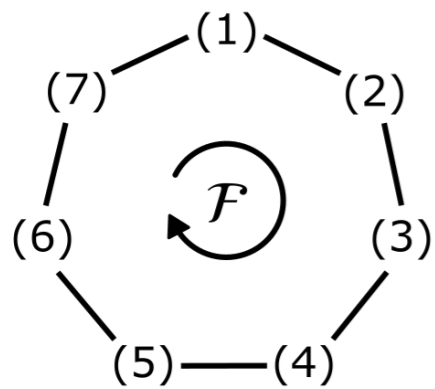


Flashing ratchets

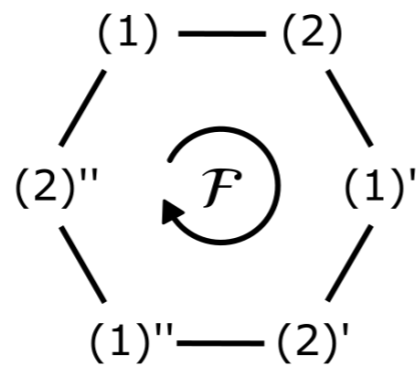


Enzymatic cycles

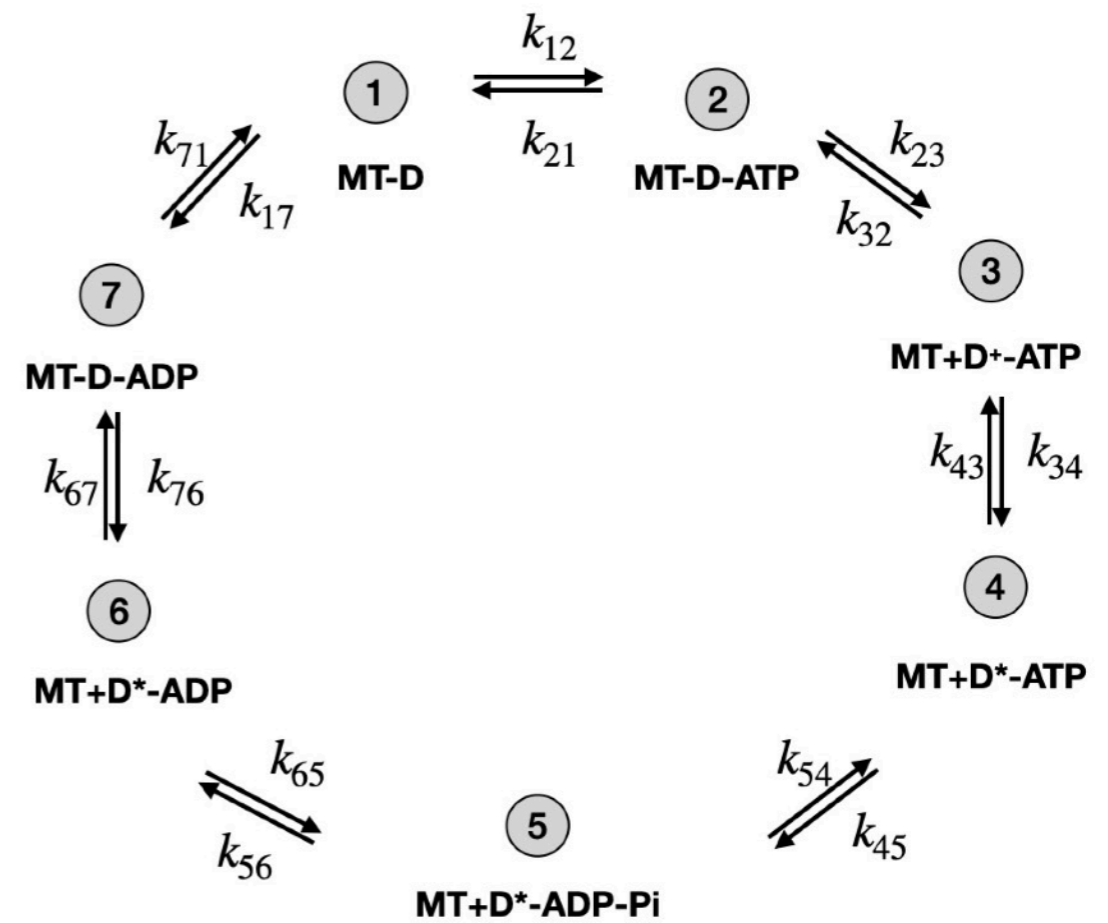
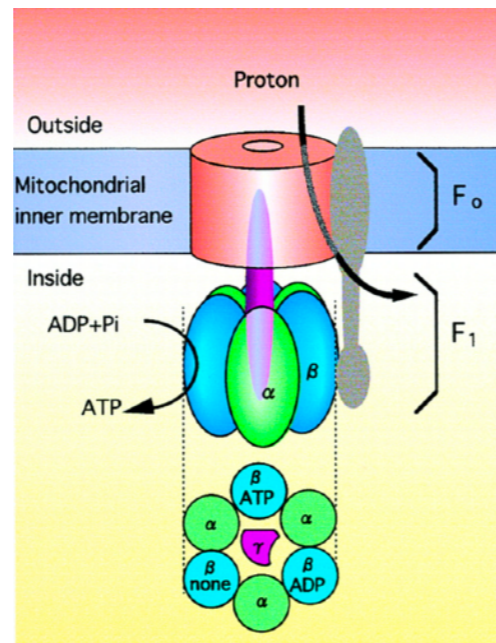
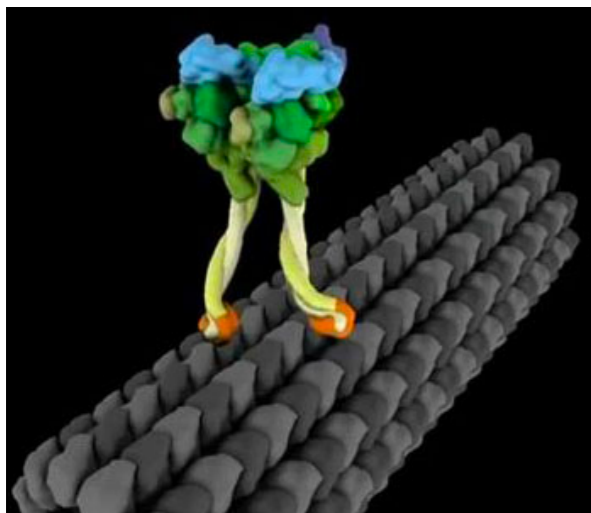
Dynein
(N=7)-uni cyclic



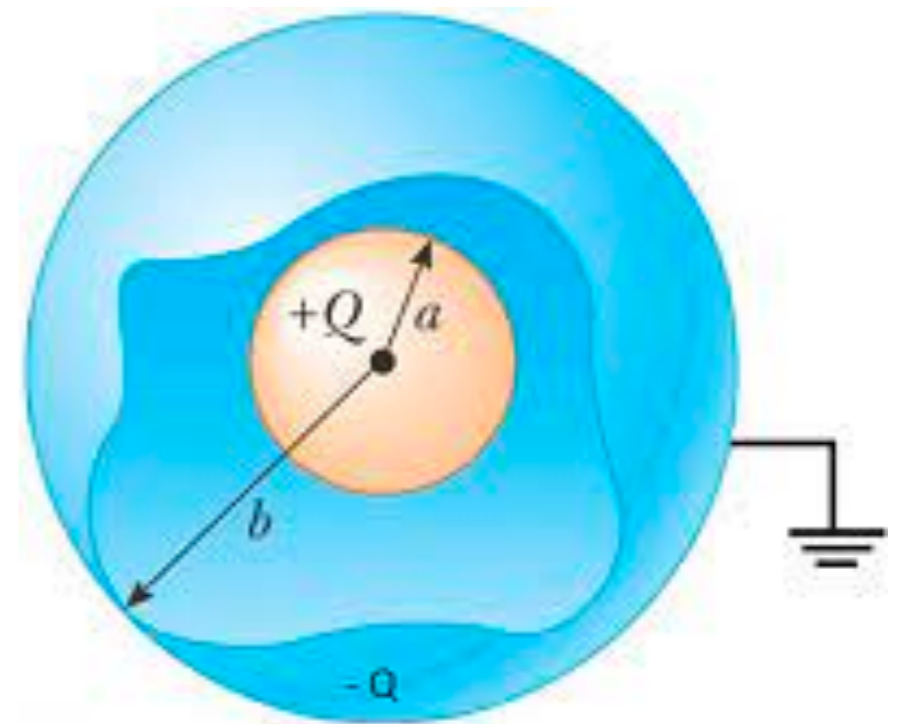
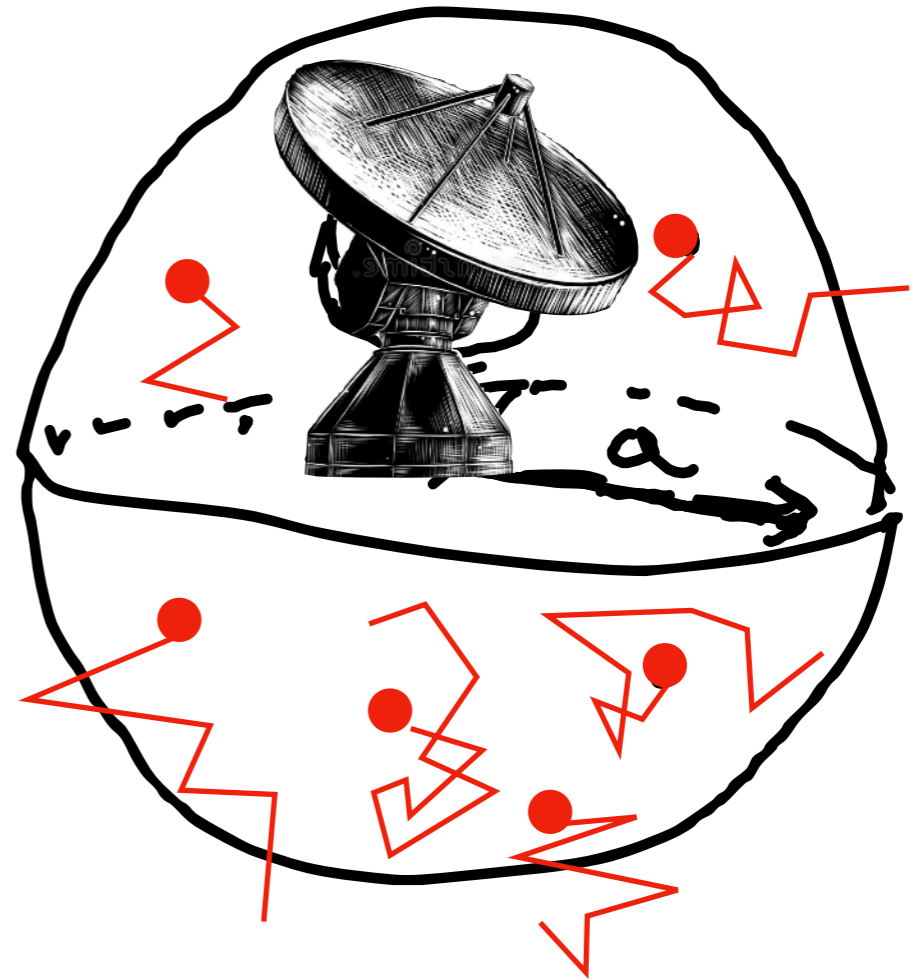
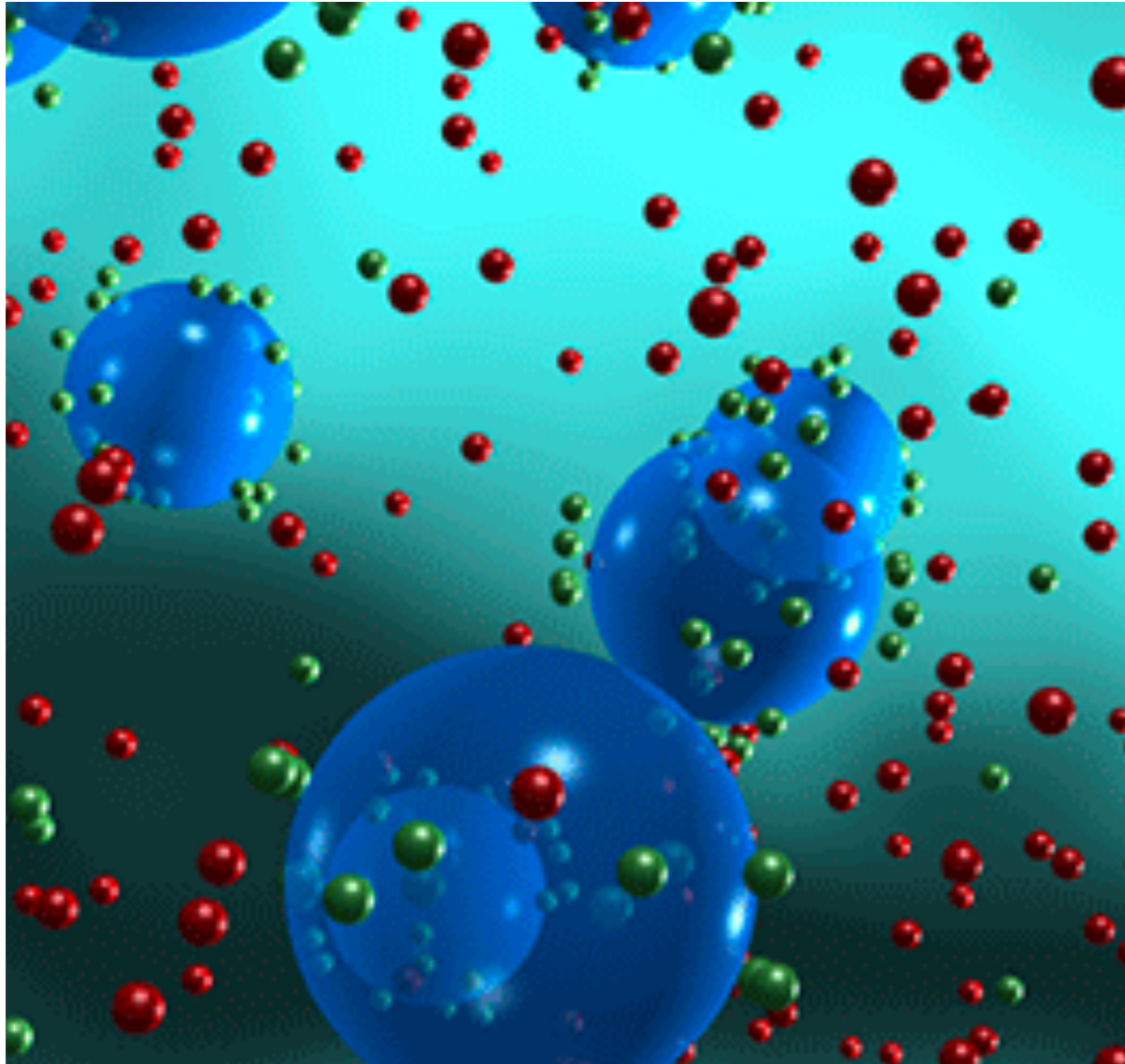
F₁-ATPase



arXiv:1710.03499 (2017)



Cell sensing

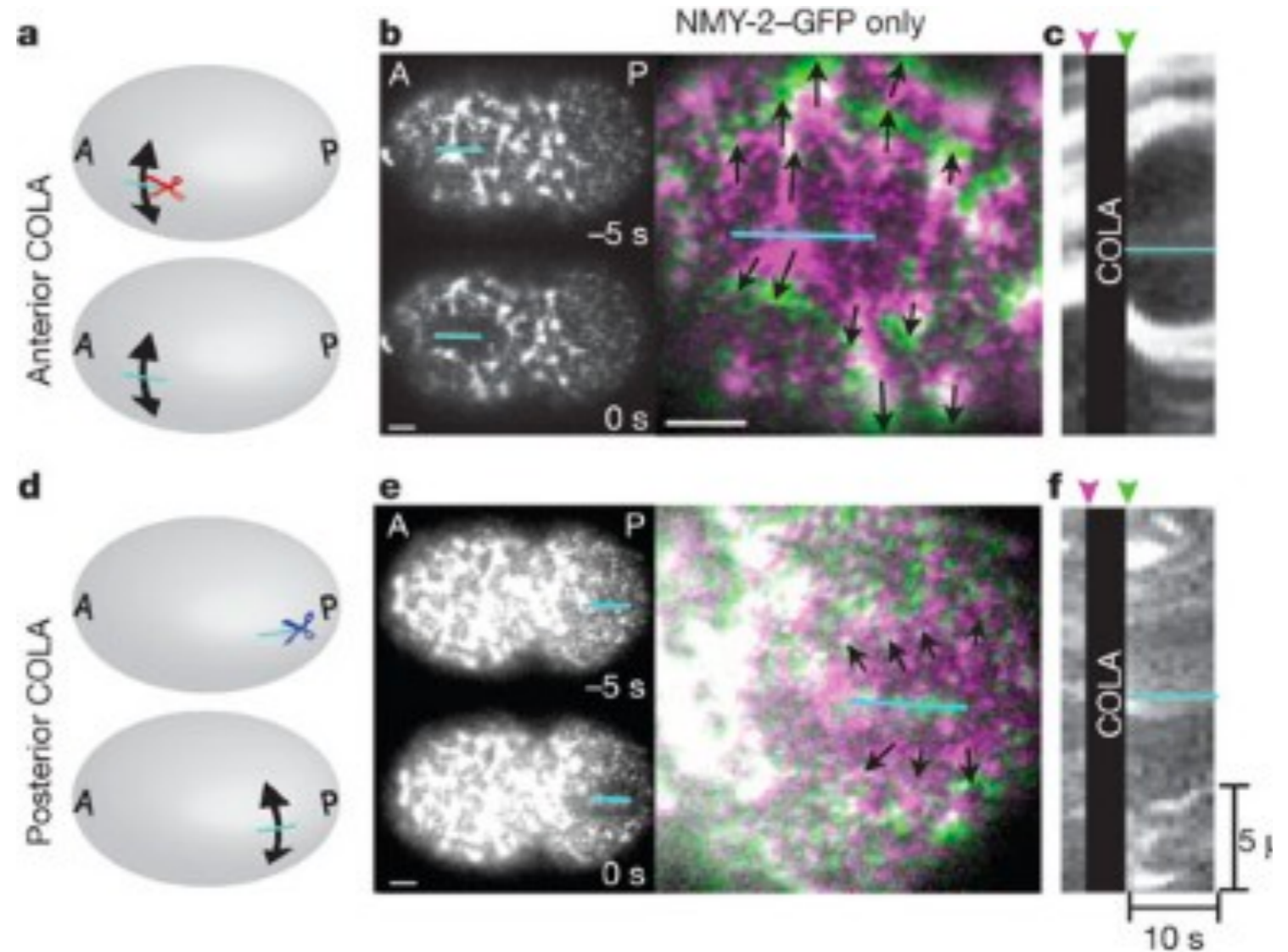


Further applications of biophysics

Beyond motors

Development of *C. Elegans* embryo

C. Elegans



Nature 467, 617–621 (2010)

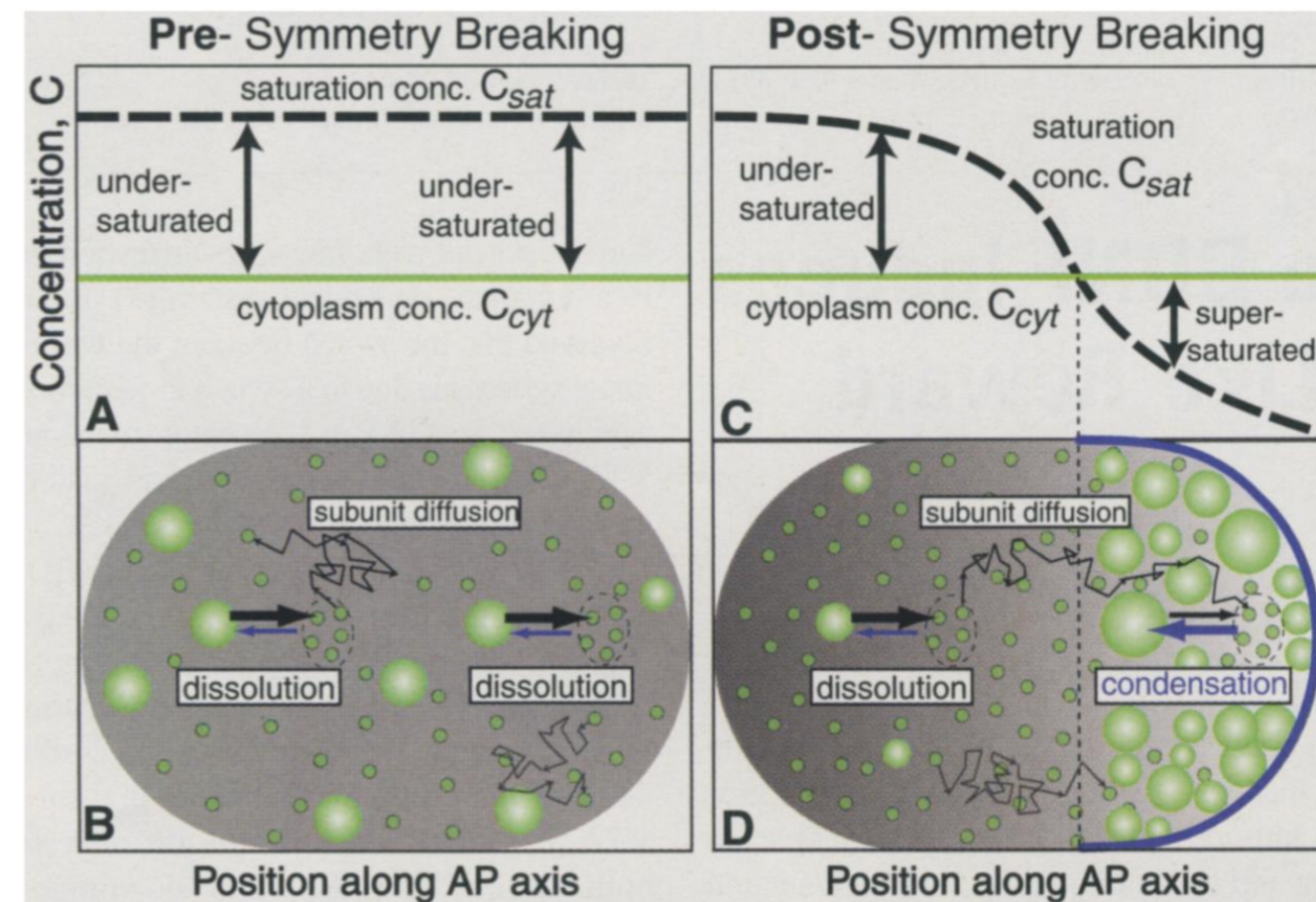
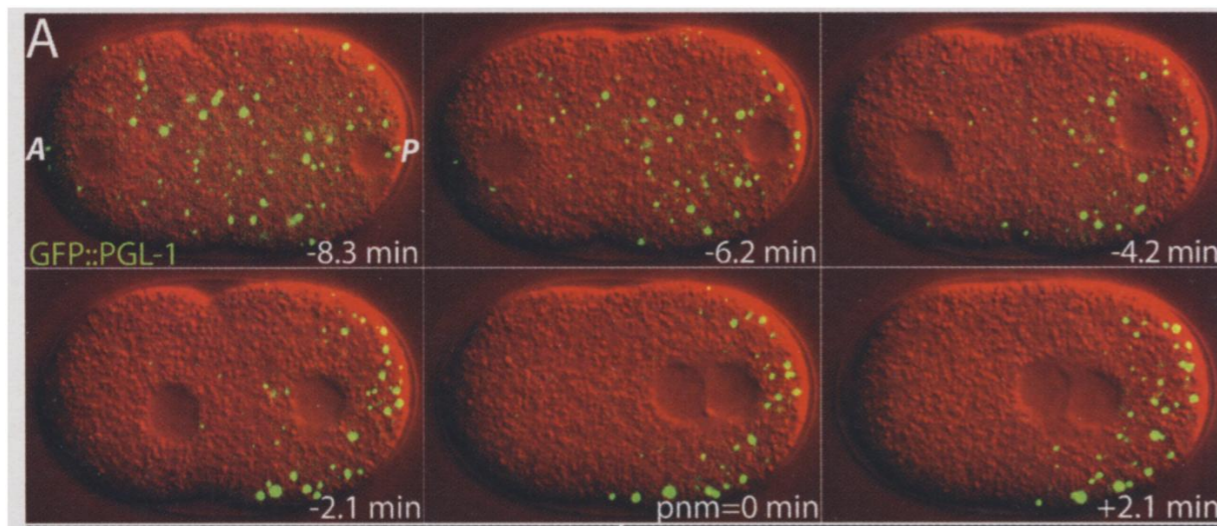
Physics tools: classical fluid dynamics, differential geometry

Membrane-free compartments

Science
AAAS

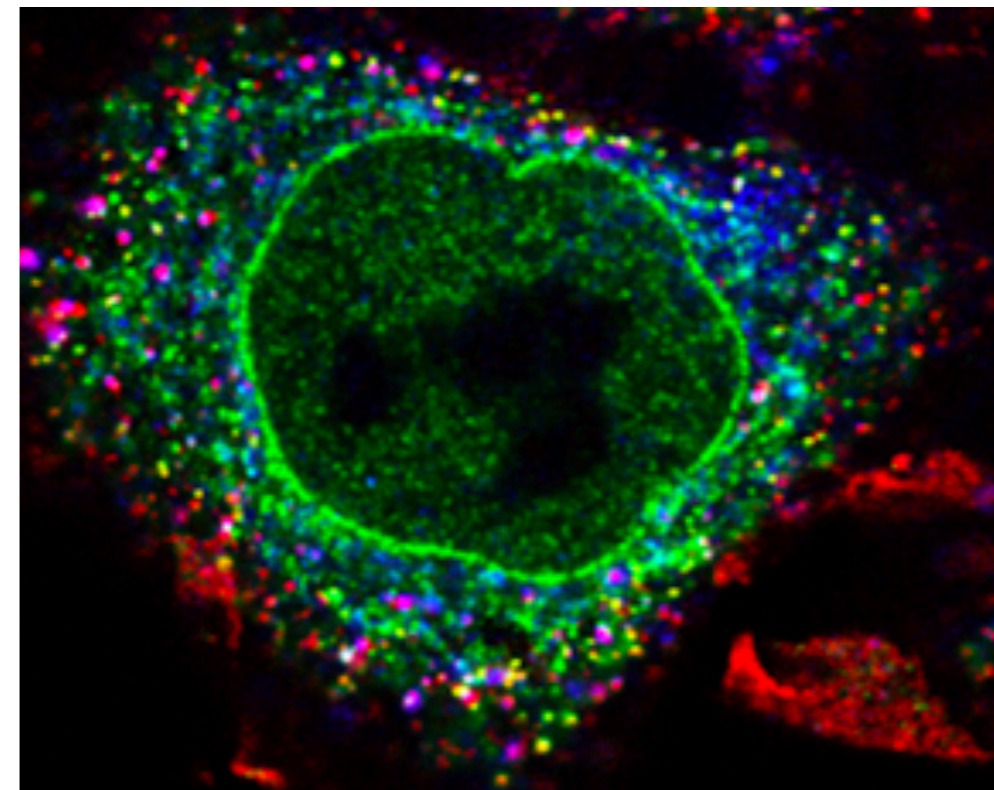
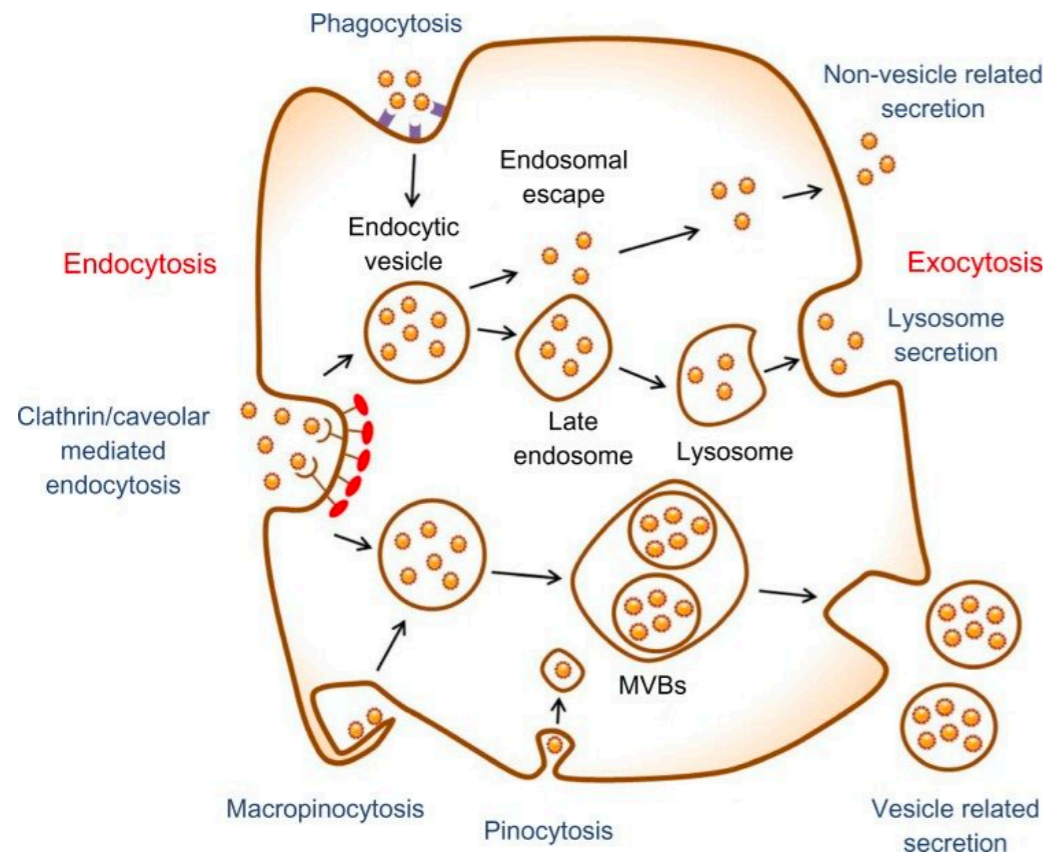
Germline P Granules Are Liquid Droplets That Localize by Controlled Dissolution/Condensation

Clifford P. Brangwynne,^{1,2,3} Christian R. Eckmann,¹ David S. Courson,³ Agata Rybarska,¹ Carsten Hoegge,¹ Jöbin Gharakhani,^{2,3} Frank Jülicher,^{2,3} Anthony A. Hyman^{1,3*}



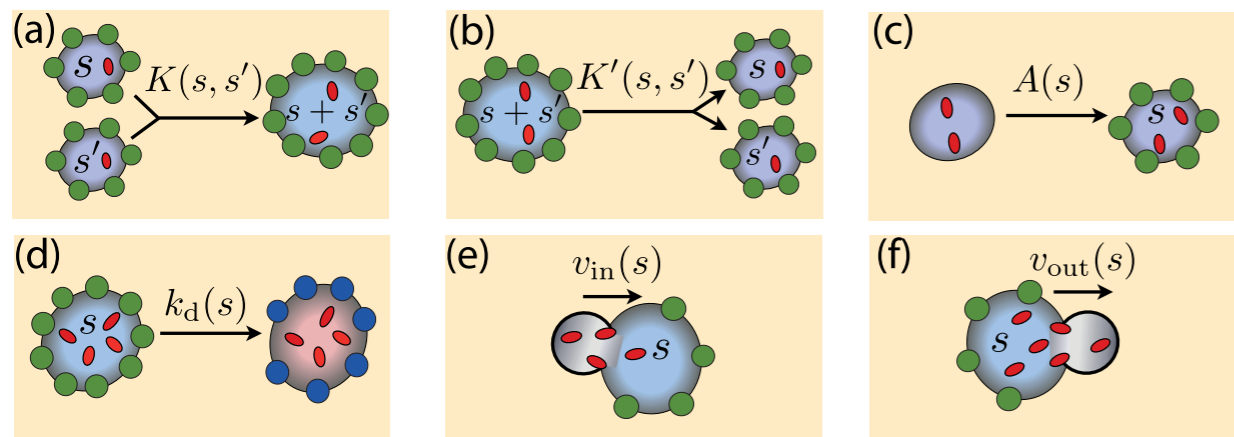
Physics tools: equilibrium thermodynamics, phase transitions

Endocytosis in human cells



Imaging of endocytic vesicles (Zerial Lab)

B



$$\frac{\partial n(s, t)}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^s K(s', s-s') n(s') n(s-s') ds' - \int_0^\infty K(s, s') n(s) n(s') ds' \quad (a)$$

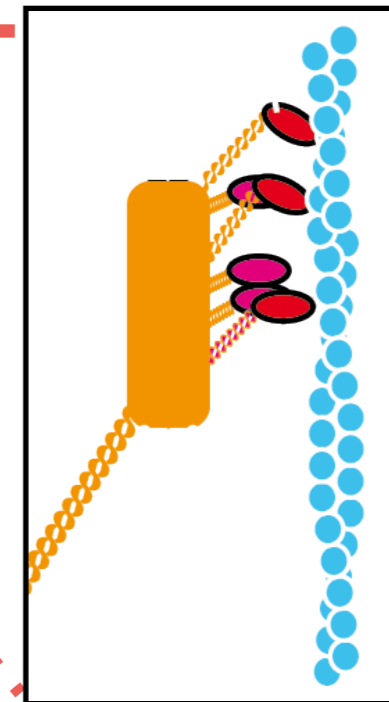
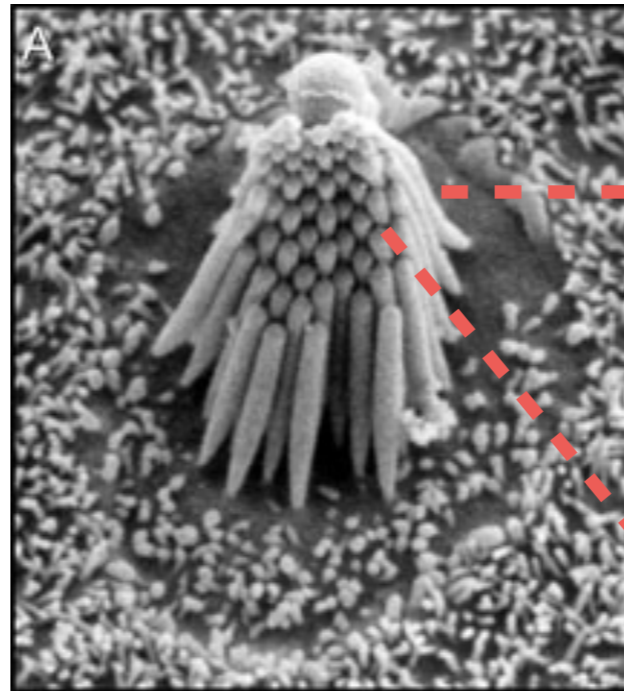
$$+ \int_0^\infty K'(s, s') n(s+s') ds' - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^s K'(s', s-s') n(s) ds' \quad (b)$$

$$+ A(s) - k_d(s) n(s) - \frac{\partial}{\partial s} (v_{in}(s) n(s)) + \frac{\partial}{\partial s} (v_{out}(s) n(s))$$

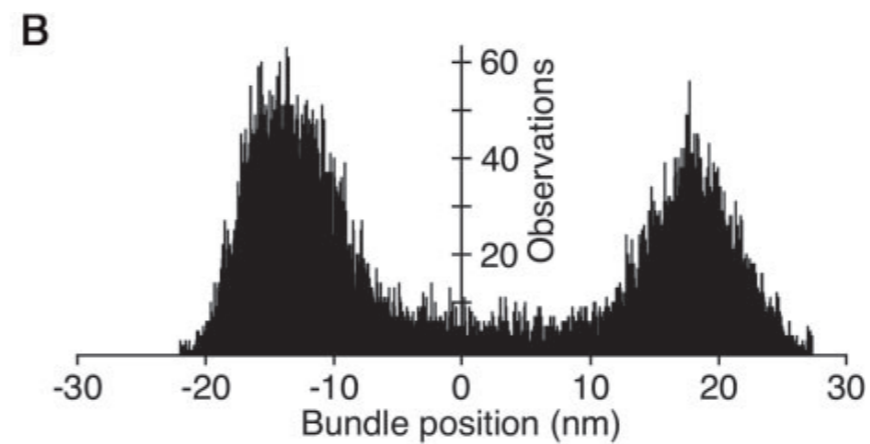
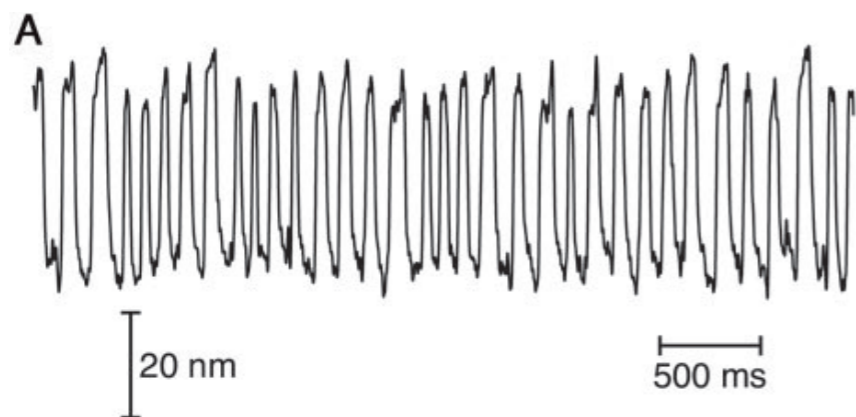
(c) (d) (e) (f)

Physics tools:
statistical physics, population dynamics

Hearing in bullfrogs



P. Martin et. al, PNAS (2011)



Physics tools: dynamical systems, stochastic thermodynamics

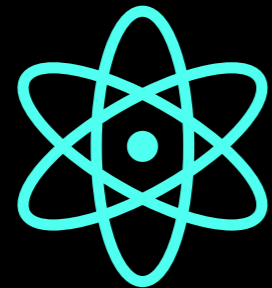
A two-way journey

Biophysics

Bioinformatics

Mathematical biology

Ecology



A



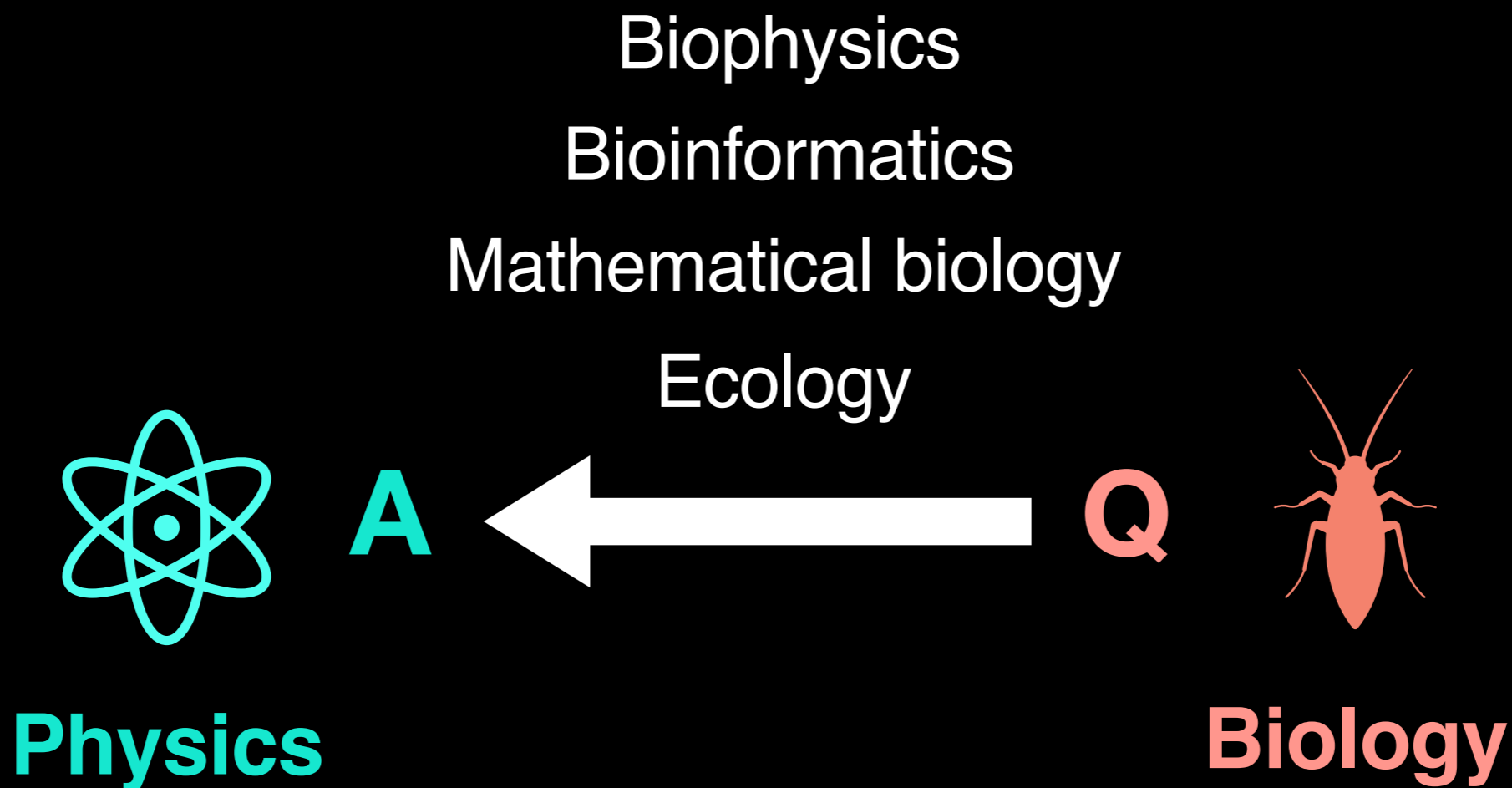
Q



Physics

Biology

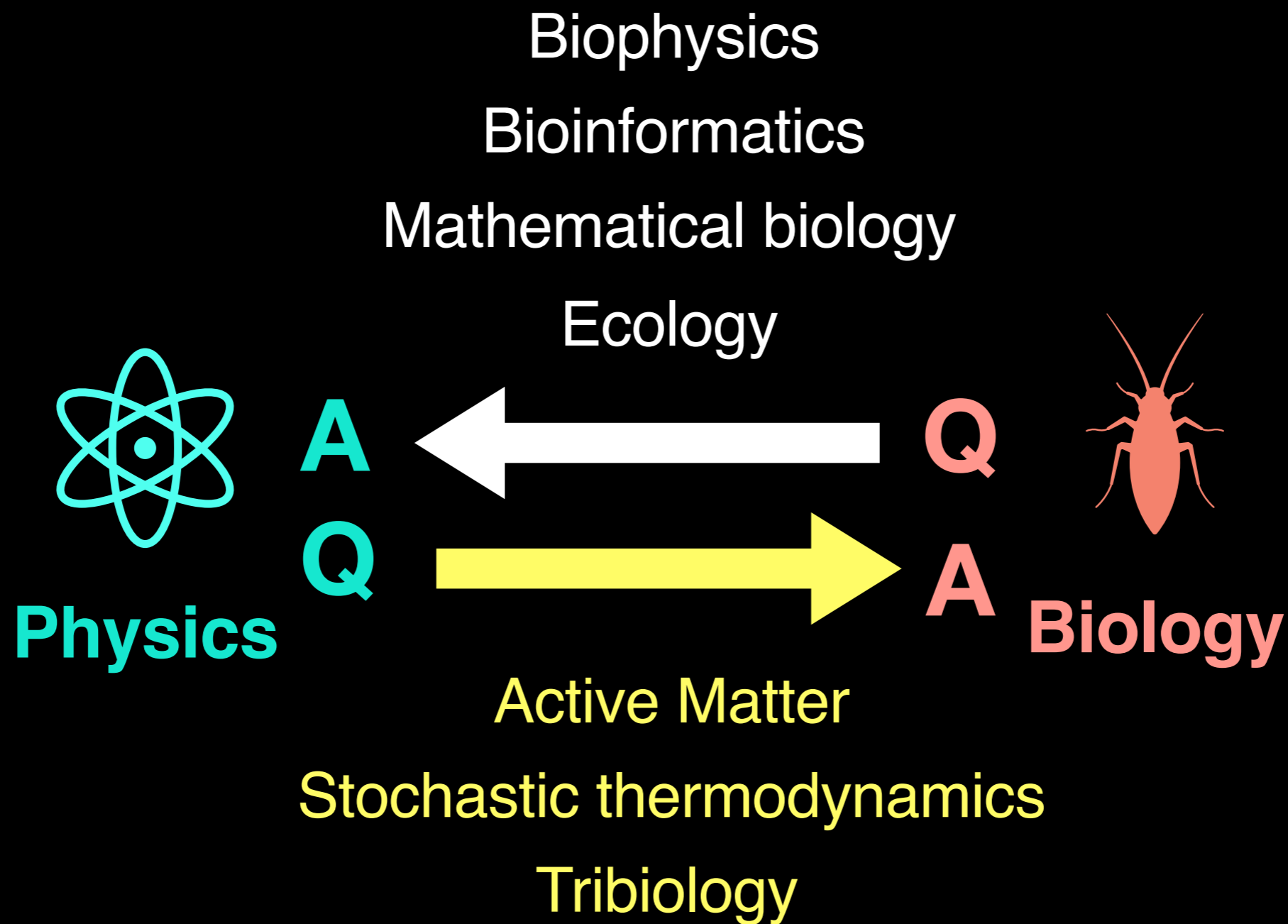
A two-way journey



Q *How can molecular motors move such big loads ?
How do birds fly in flocks?*

A *Conversion of chemical energy into mechanical work
Collective phenomena of complex systems*

A two-way journey

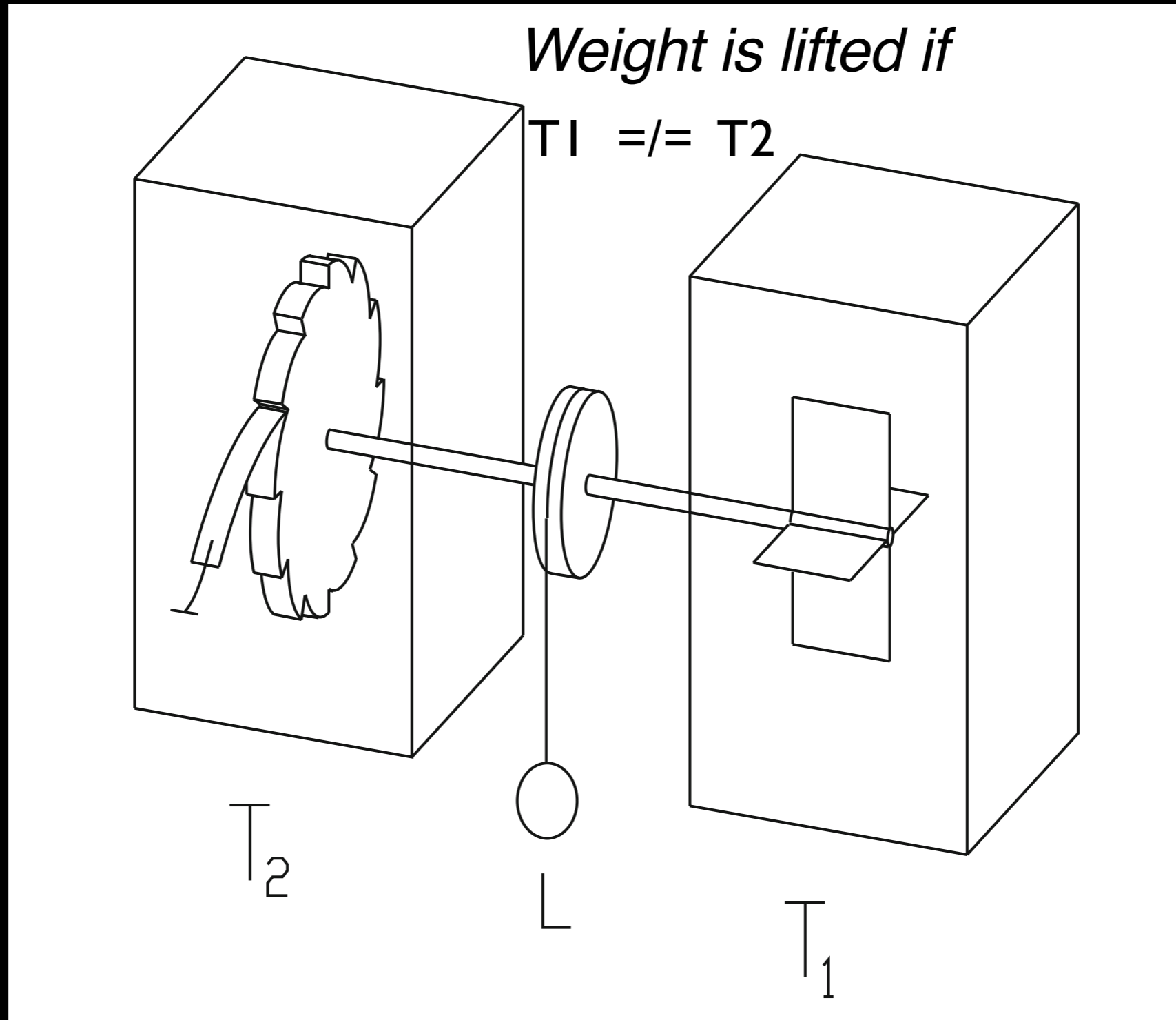


Q *What is the heat capacity of a bacteria?*

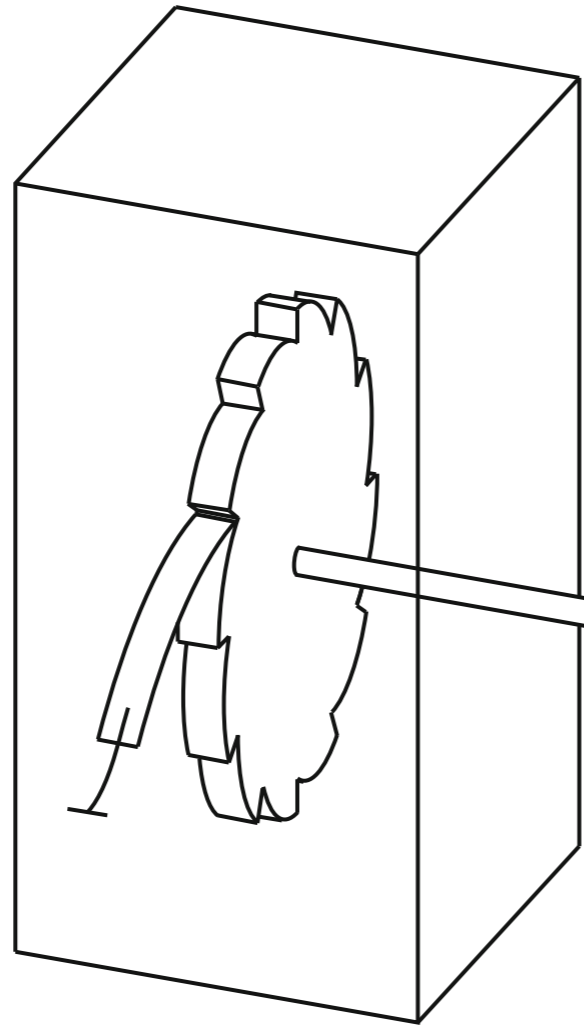
Active matter

Recent experimental insights

Feynman's Ratchet



Feynman's Ratchet



*Without an external torque
the wheel DOES NOT
rotate*

T_2

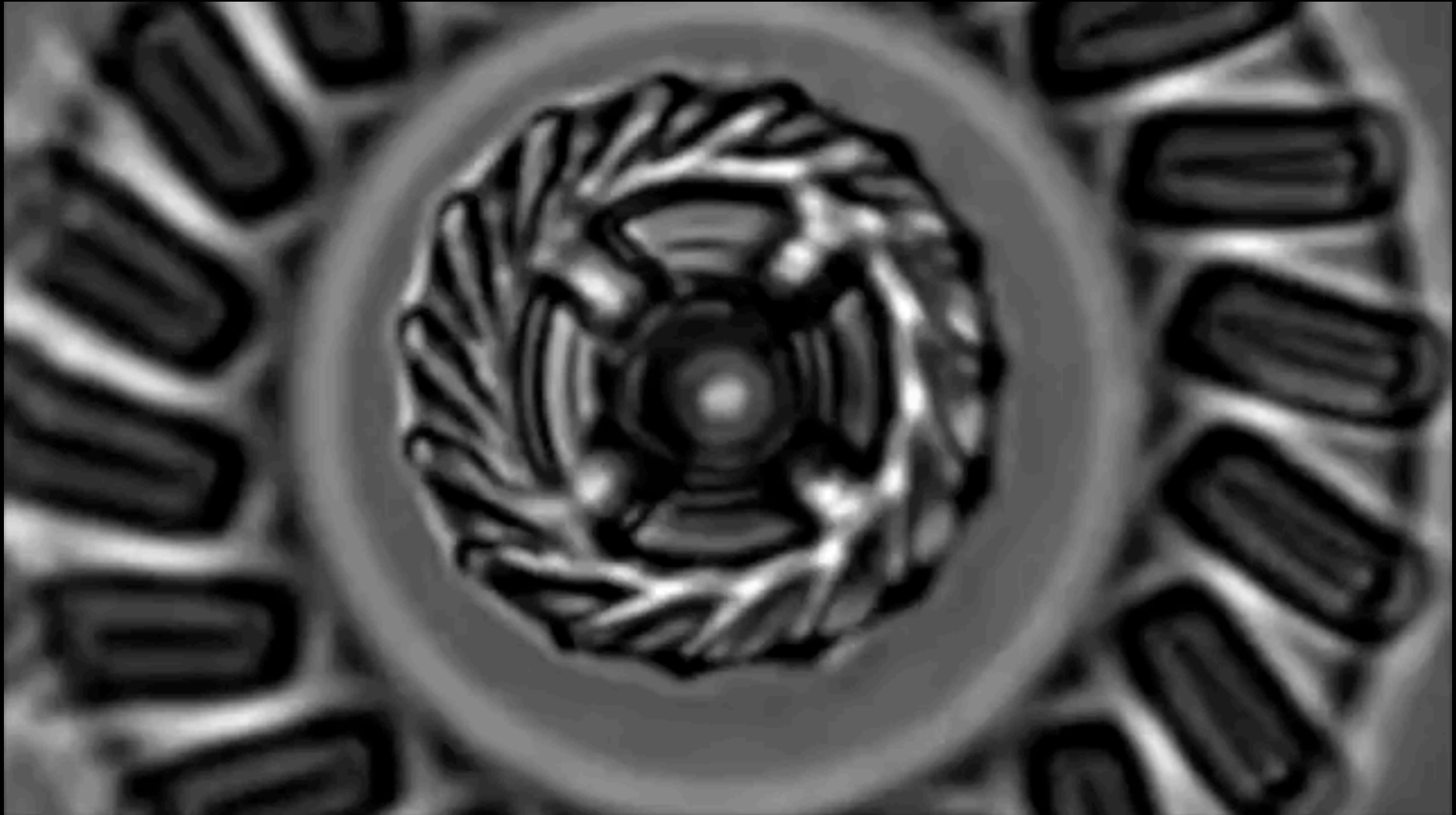
Bacterial ratchets



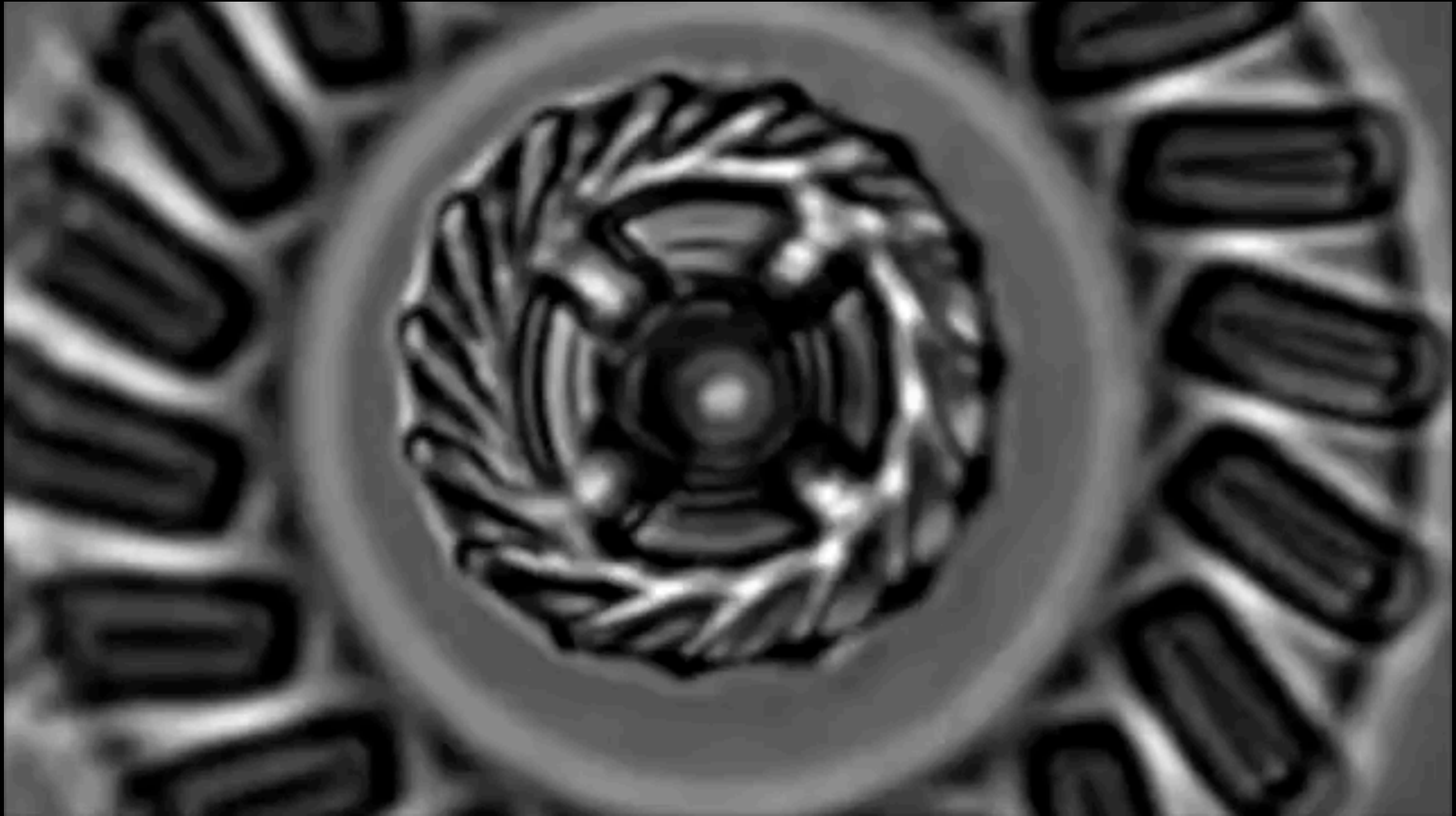
Bacterial ratchets



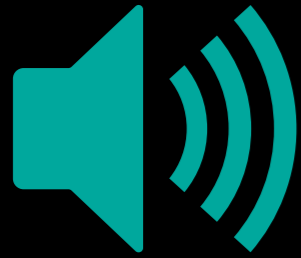
Bacterial ratchets



Bacterial ratchets

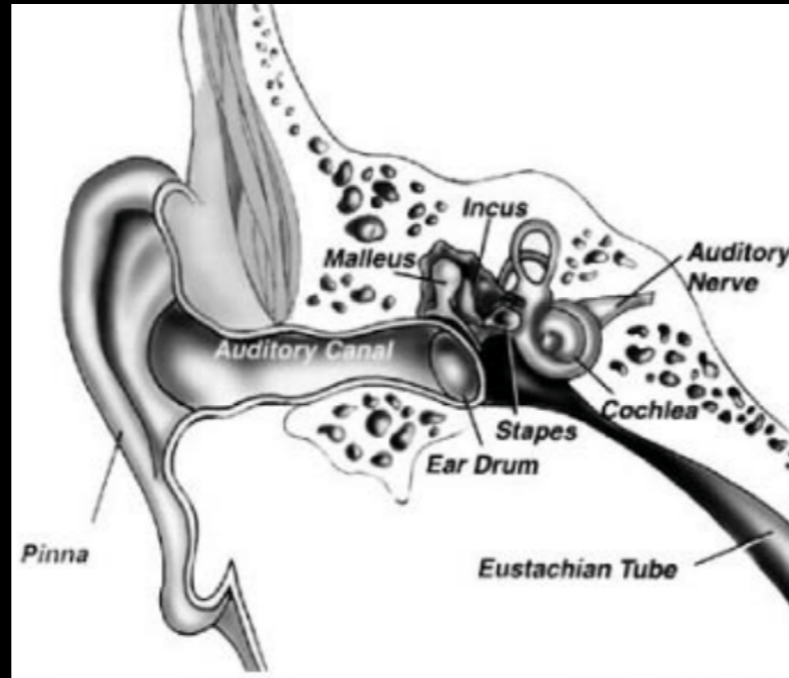


“Photoelectric effect” in active matter



Sound

Mechanical stimuli



Electric current

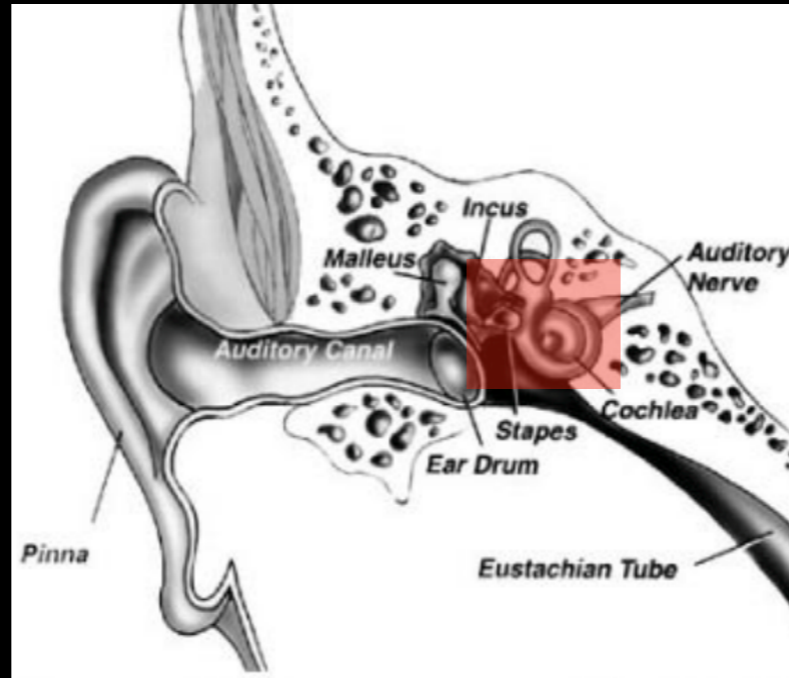
To the auditory nerve

“Photoelectric effect” in active matter



Sound

Mechanical stimuli



Electric current

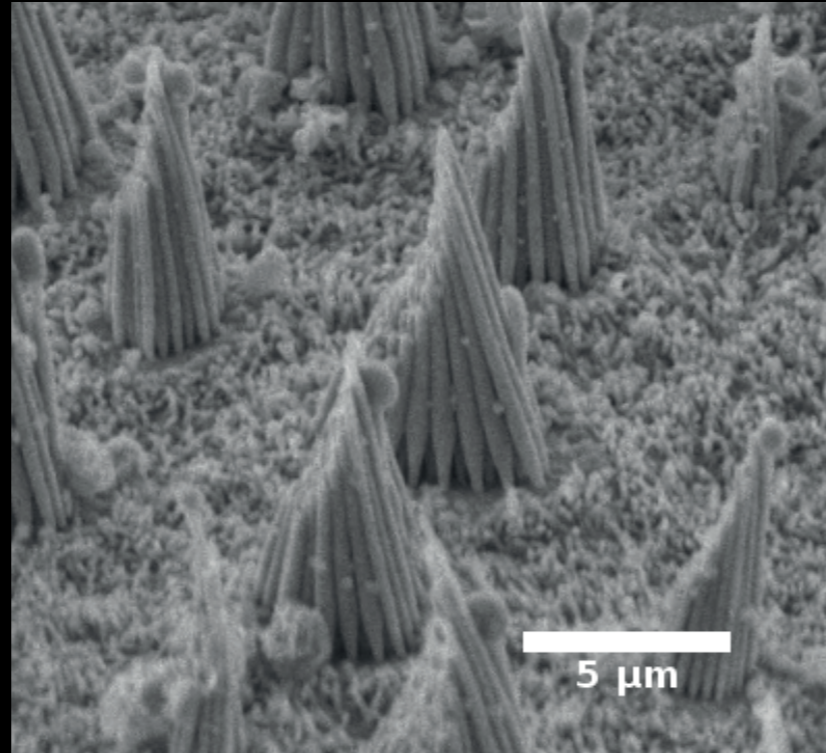
To the auditory nerve

“Photoelectric effect” in active matter

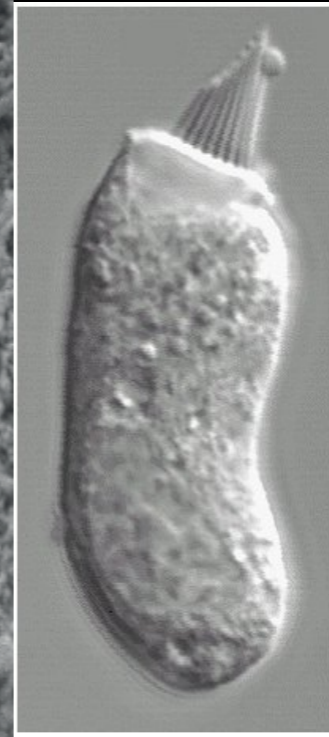


Sound

Mechanical stimuli



Epithelium bullfrog's sacculus
(P. Martin Lab)



Ear hair cell
(A. J. Hudspeth)



Electric current

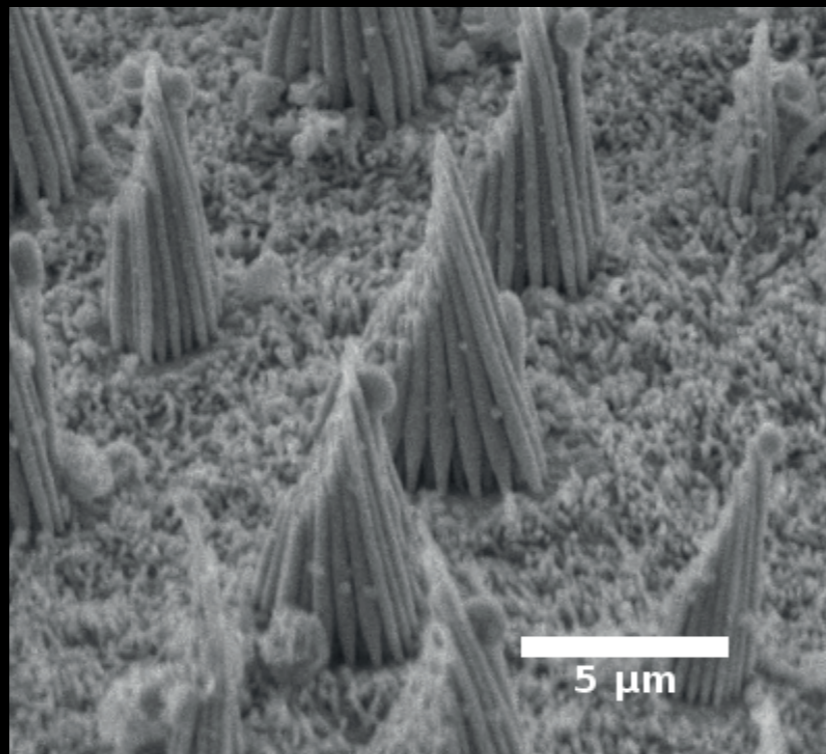
To the auditory nerve

“Photoelectric effect” in active matter



Sound

Mechanical stimuli



Epithelium bullfrog's sacculus
(P. Martin Lab)

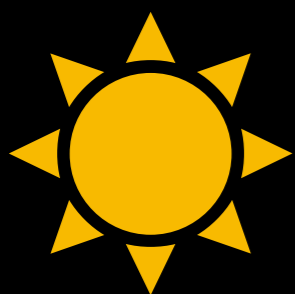


Ear hair cell
(A. J. Hudspeth)



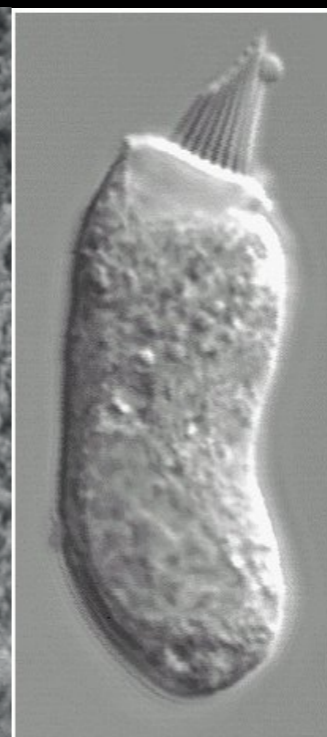
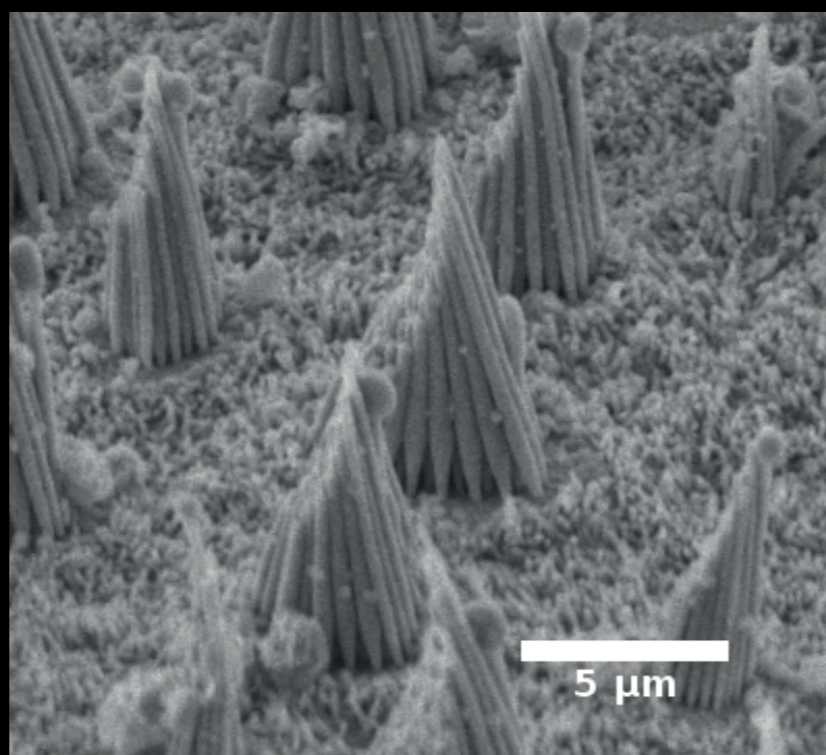
Electric current

To the auditory nerve



Light

UV light



Electric current

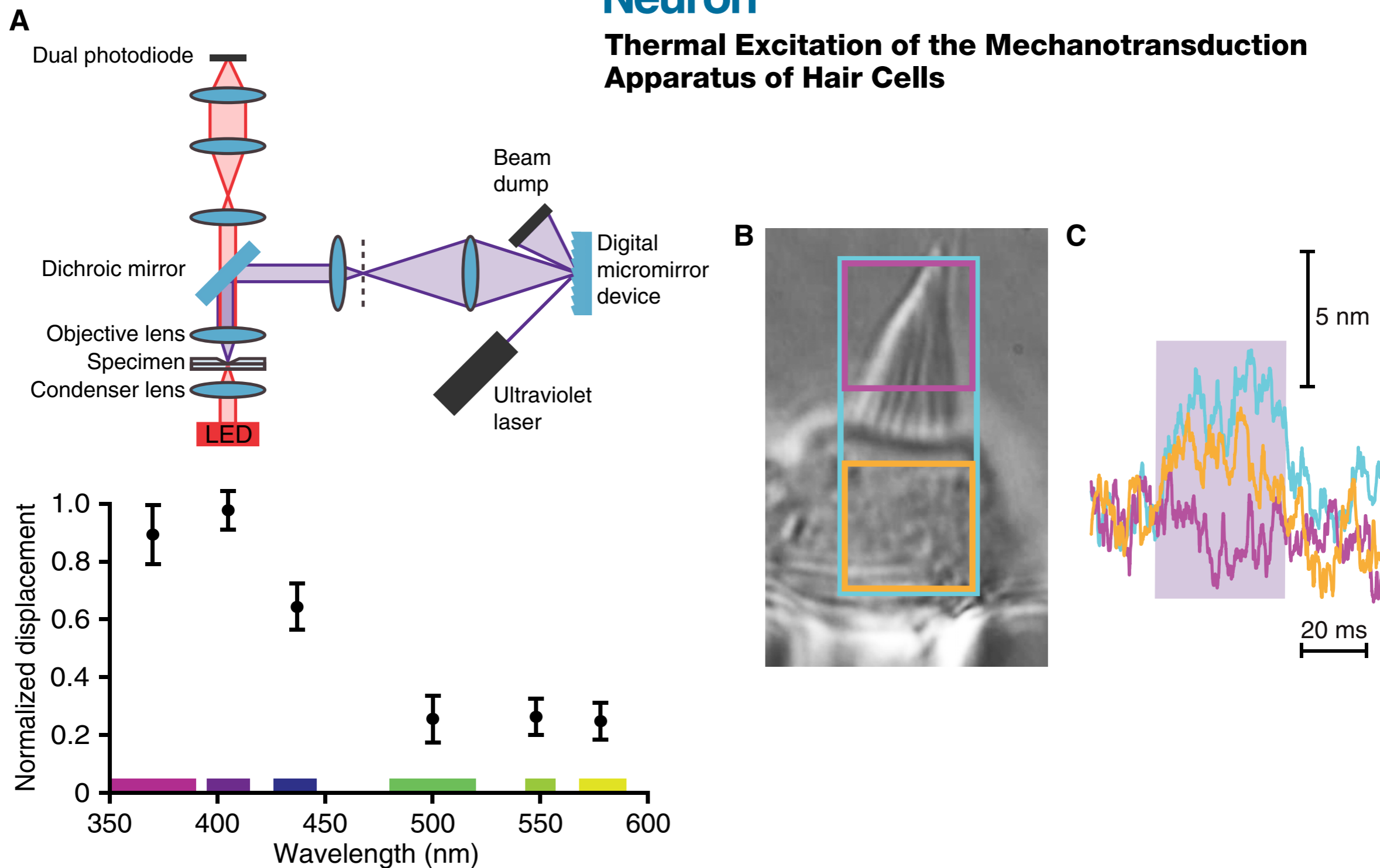
To the auditory nerve

“Photoelectric effect” in active matter

Article

Neuron

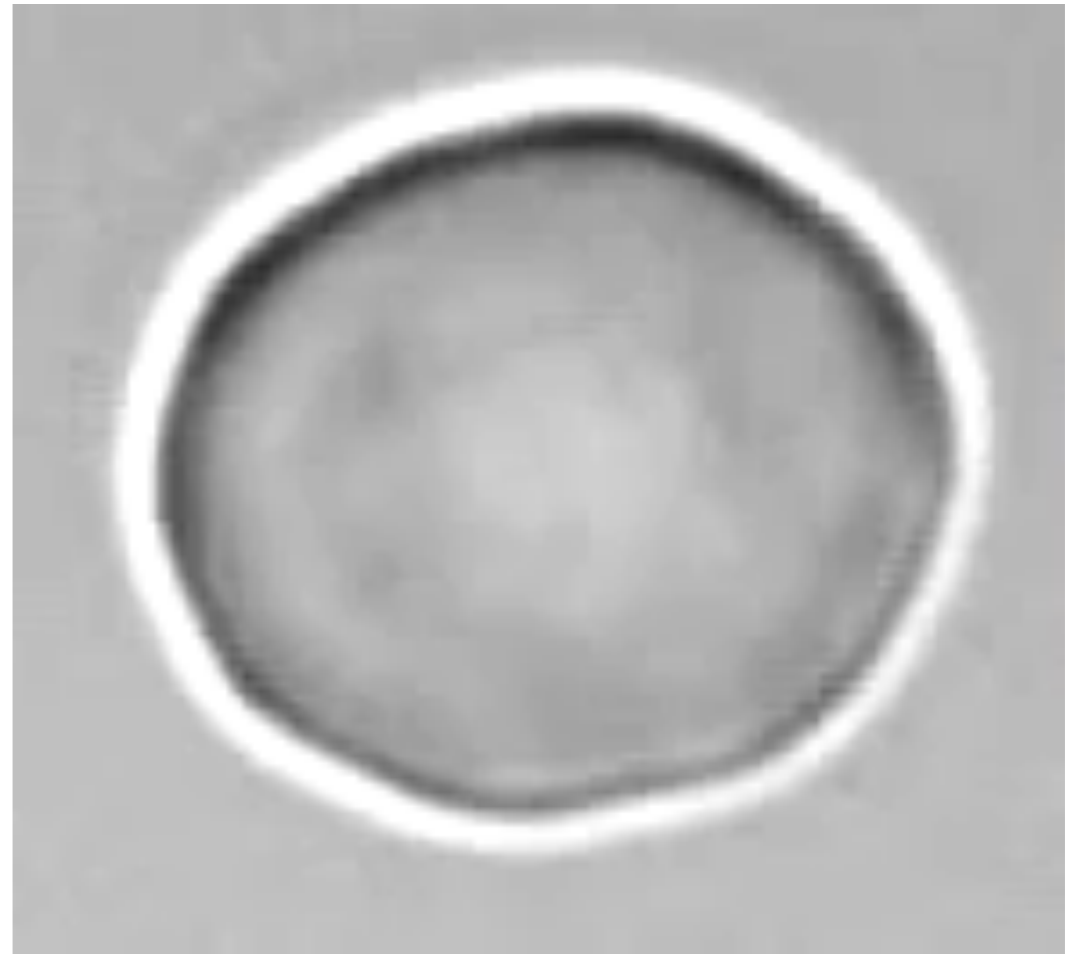
Thermal Excitation of the Mechanotransduction Apparatus of Hair Cells



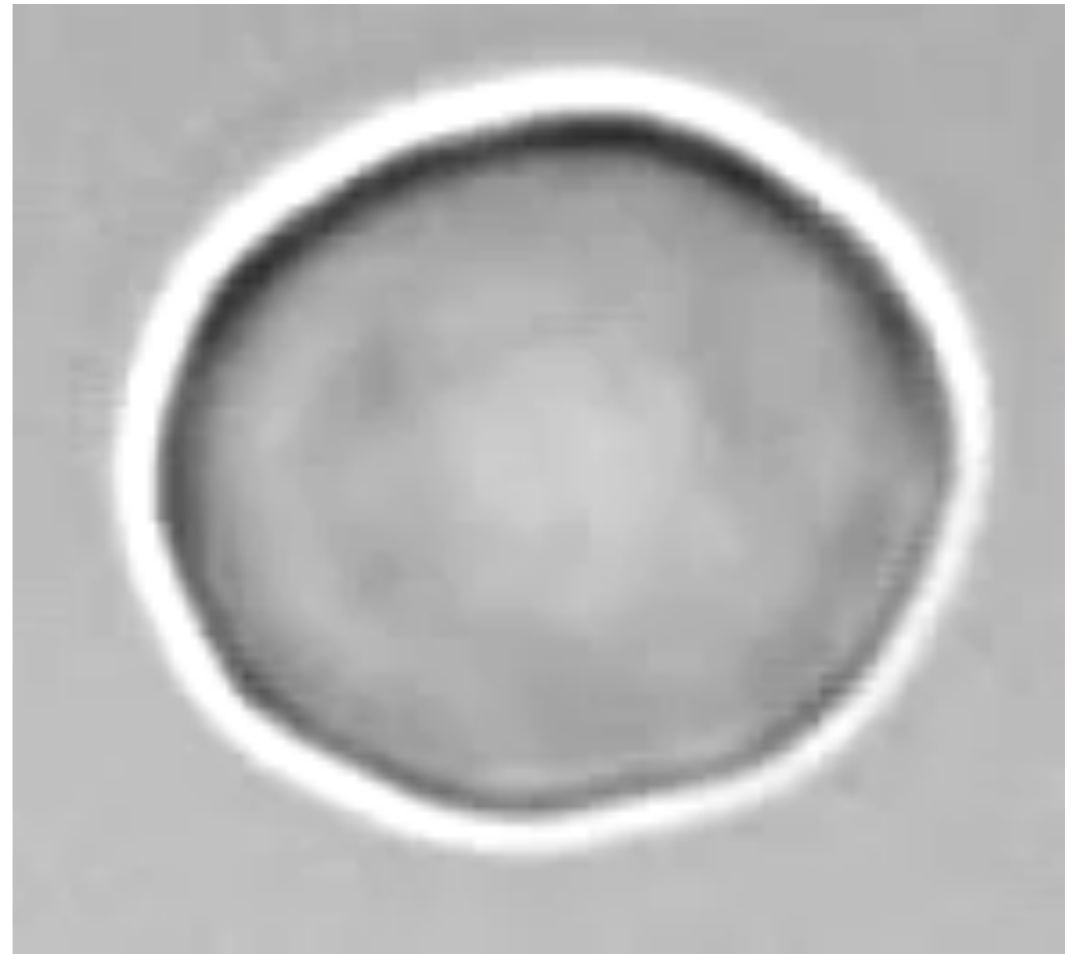
Stochastic thermodynamics

**Searching for universal laws
governing biological phenomena**

Nonequilibrium signatures of life?



Nonequilibrium signatures of life?



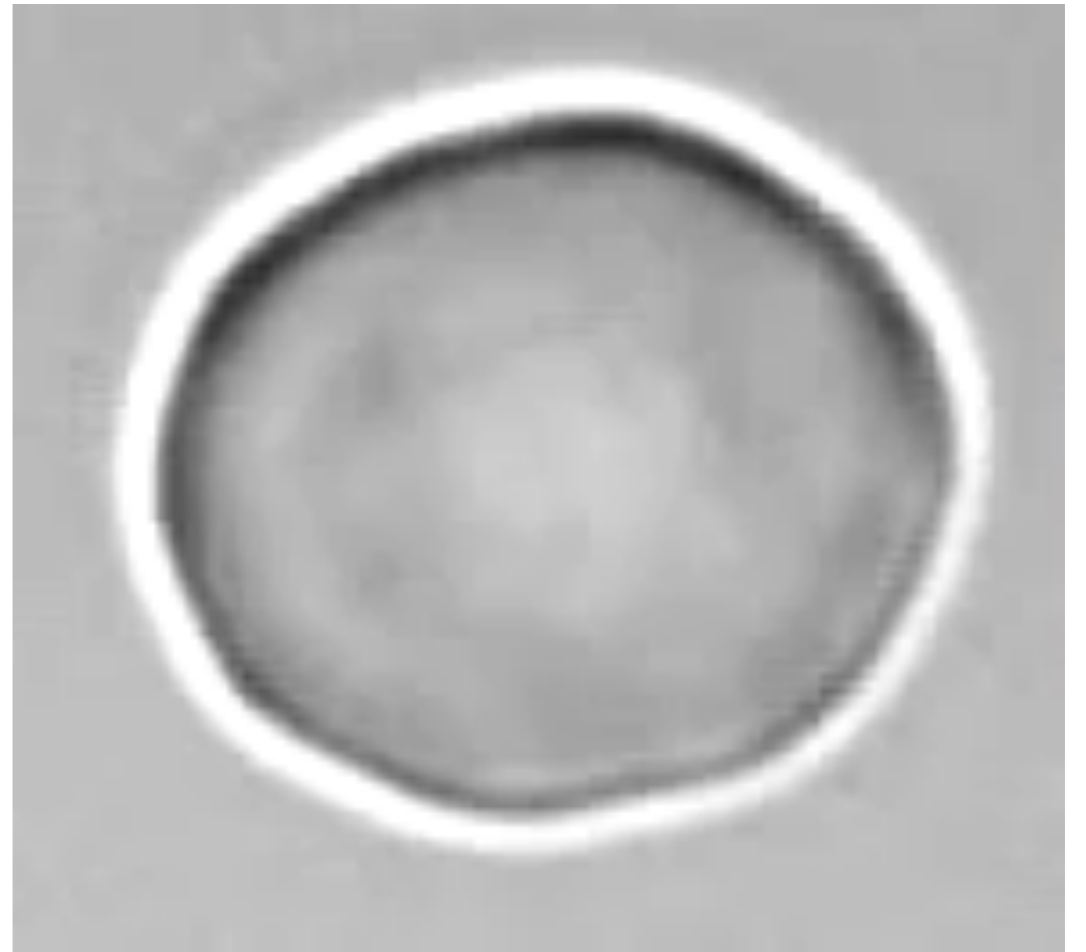
Nonequilibrium signatures of life?



Colloidal particle

“Passive” equilibrium dynamics

Reversibility



Red-blood cell

“Active” nonequilibrium dynamics

Irreversibility, heat dissipation

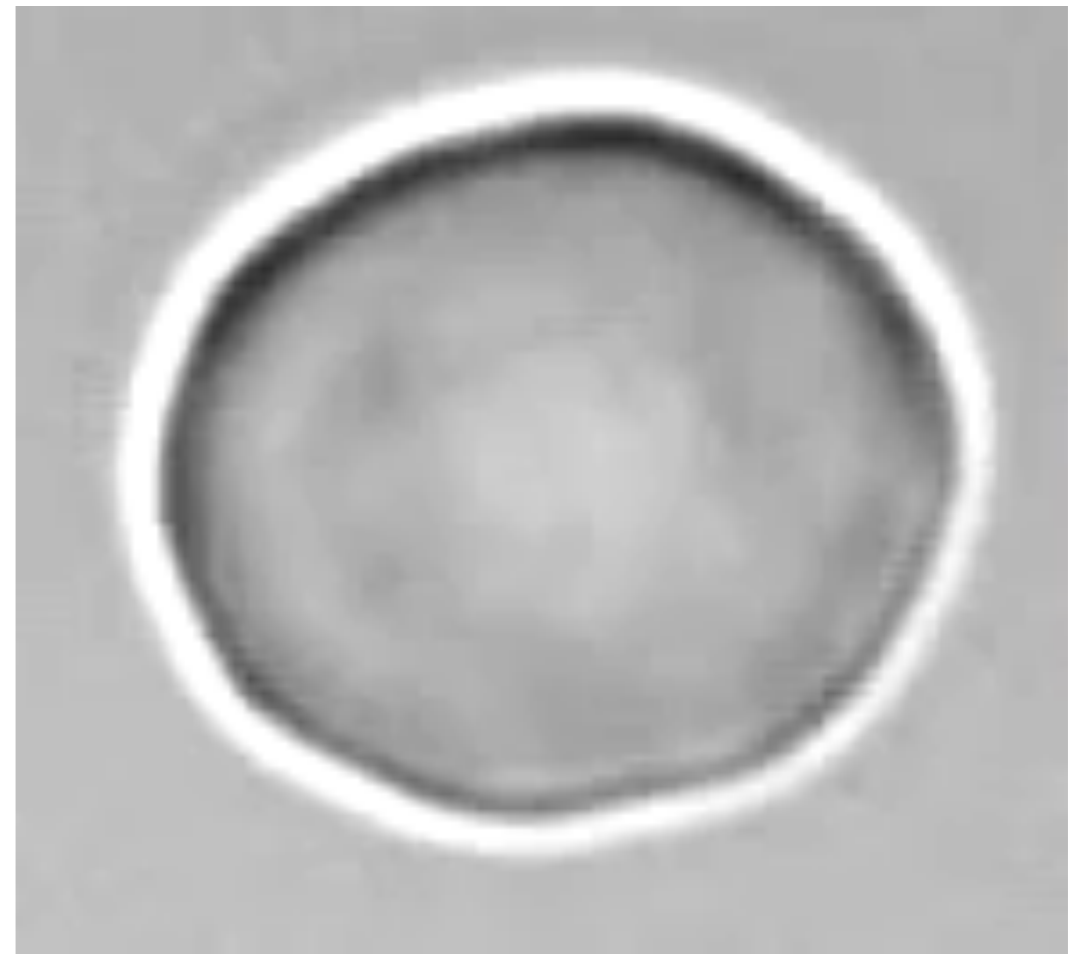
Nonequilibrium signatures of life?



Colloidal particle

“Passive” equilibrium dynamics

Reversibility



Red-blood cell

“Active” nonequilibrium dynamics

Irreversibility, heat dissipation

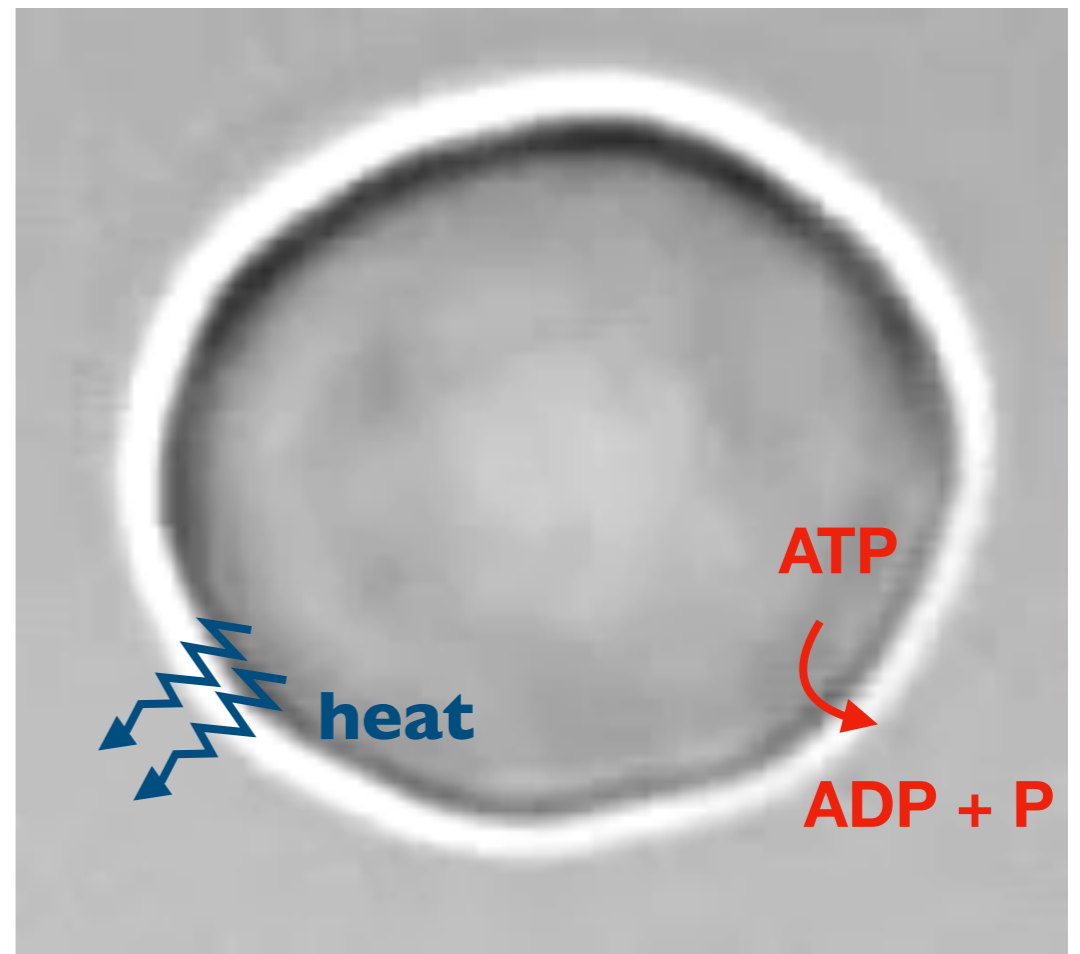
Nonequilibrium signatures of life?



Colloidal particle

“Passive” equilibrium dynamics

Reversibility

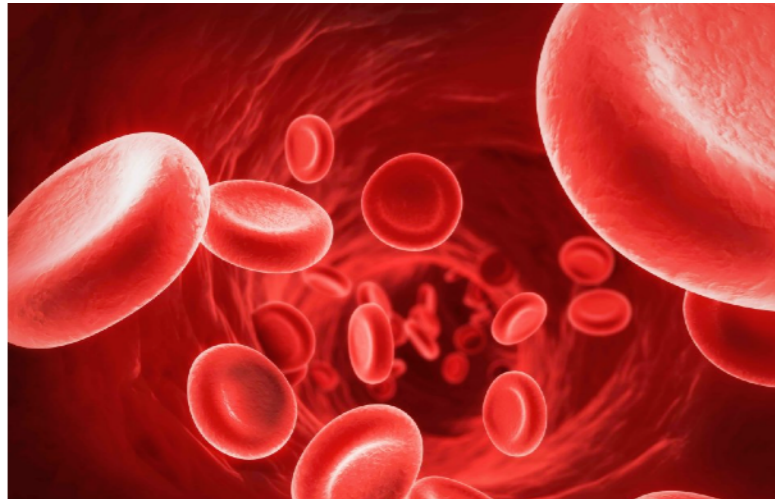


Red-blood cell

“Active” nonequilibrium dynamics

Irreversibility, heat dissipation

Nonequilibrium signatures of life?

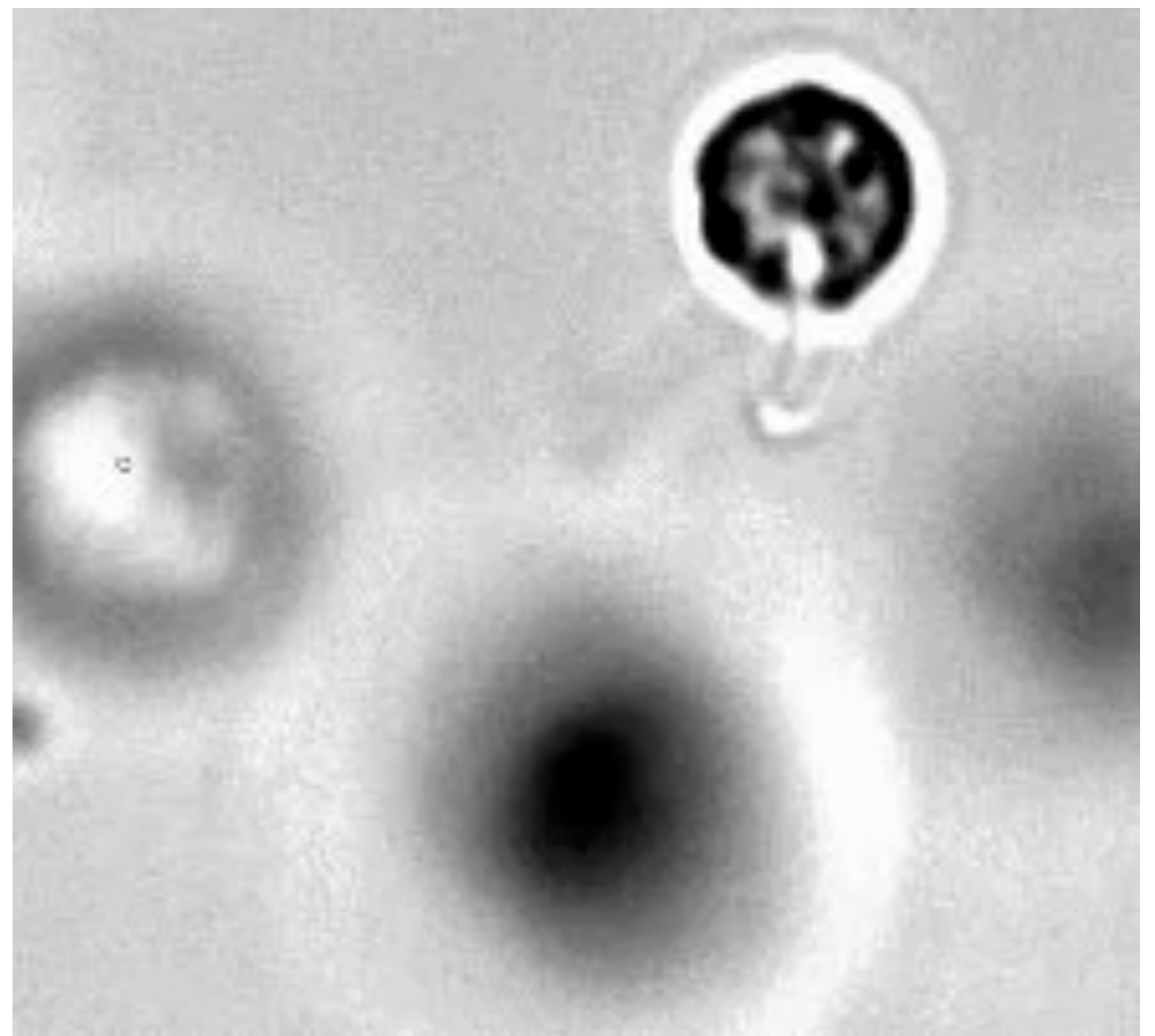


Swimming Clamydomonas:
strong irreversibility

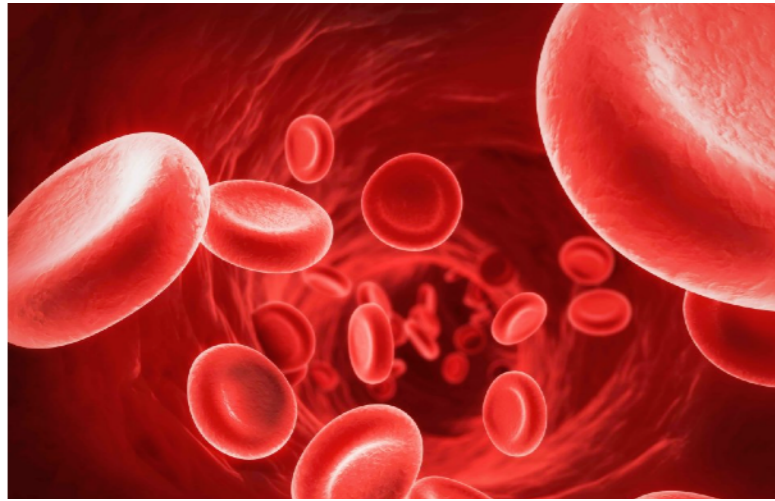


Betz Lab

Red Blood Cell:
weak irreversibility



Nonequilibrium signatures of life?

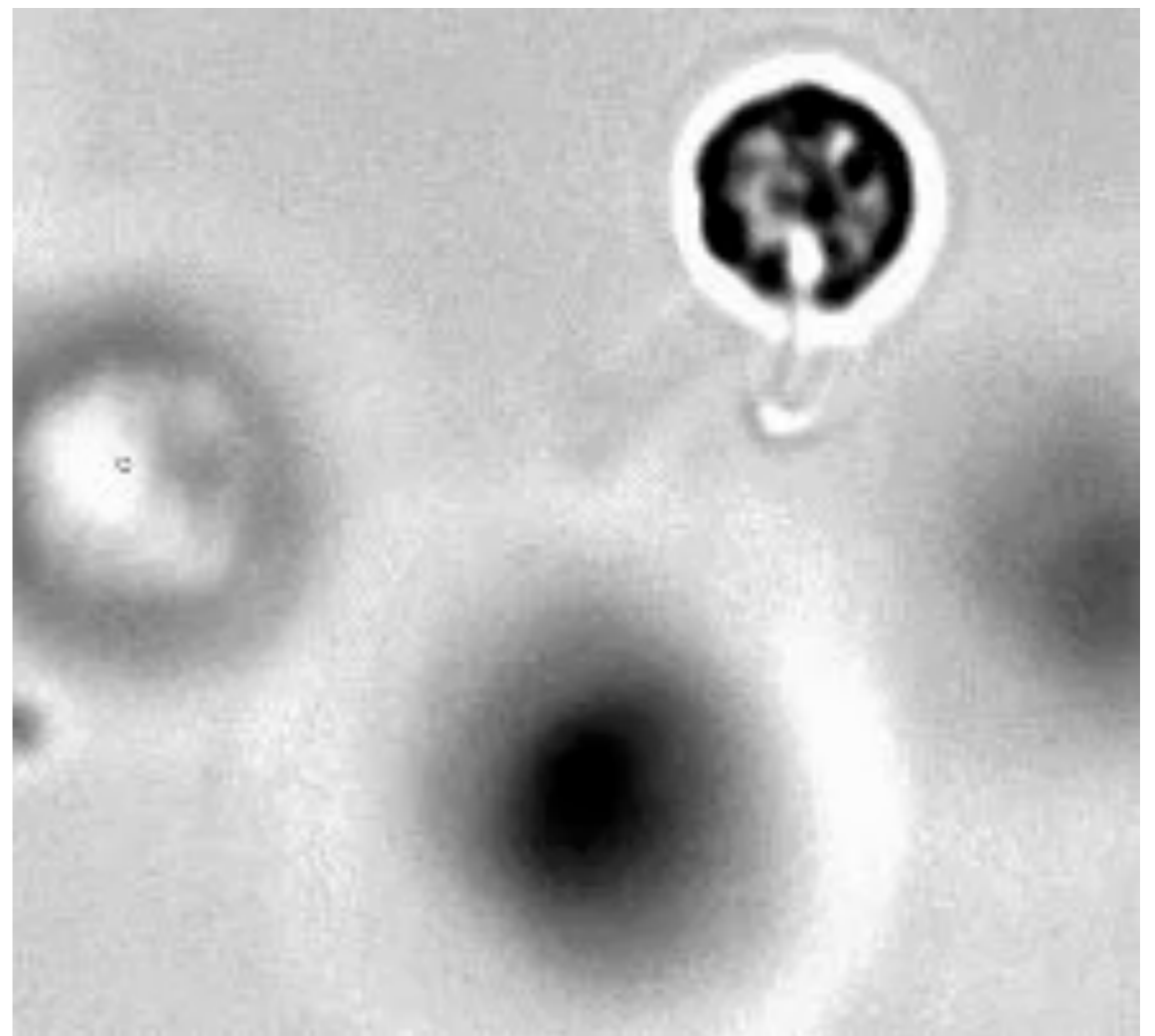


Swimming Clamydomonas:
strong irreversibility

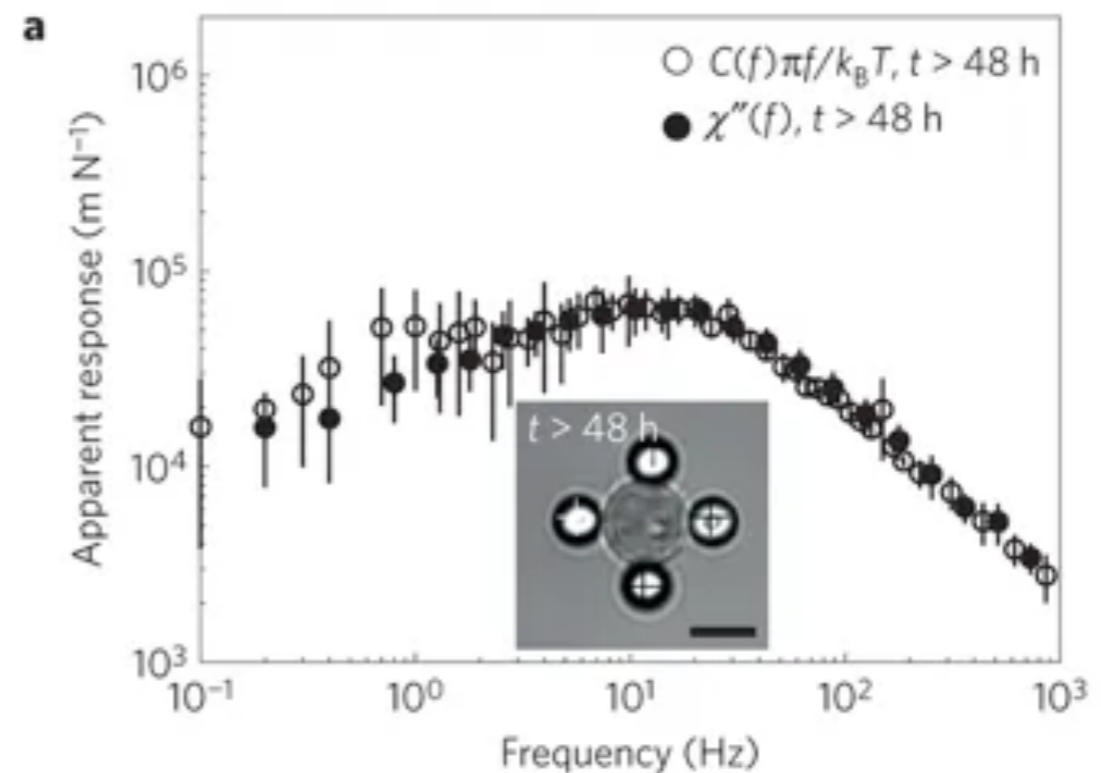
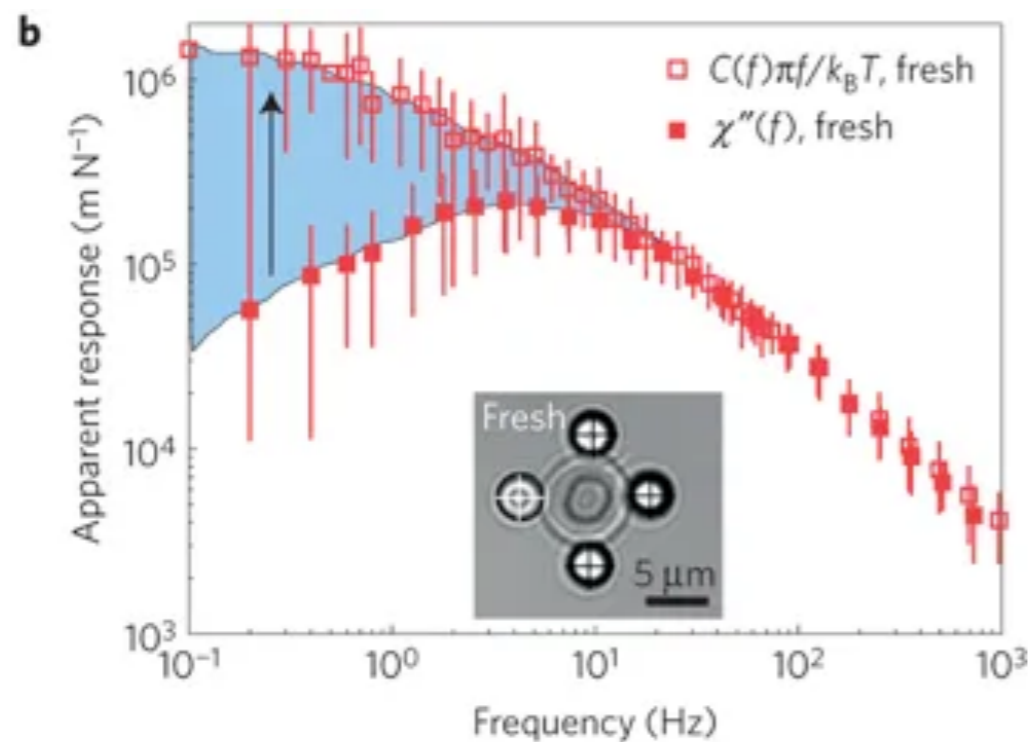
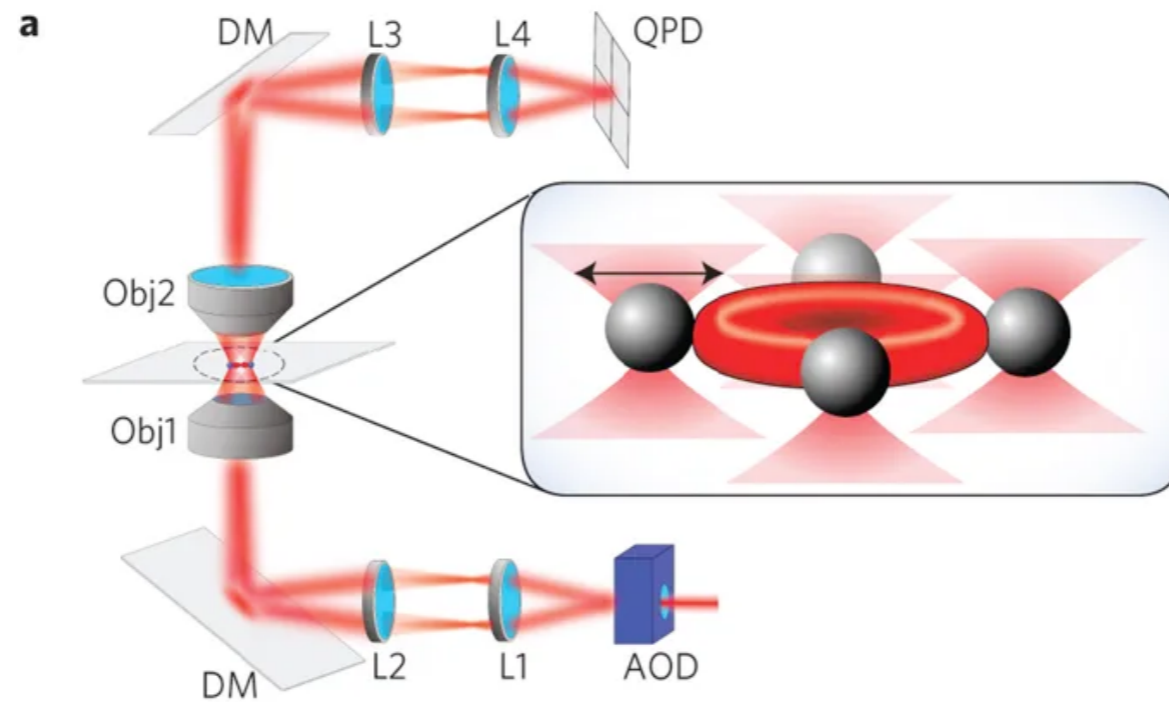


Betz Lab

Red Blood Cell:
weak irreversibility



Fluctuation-response of red blood cells



Arrow of time in hair-cell bundles

J. Barral, PhD Thesis (2014)

LOTHAR



Arrow of time in hair-cell bundles

J. Barral, PhD Thesis (2014)

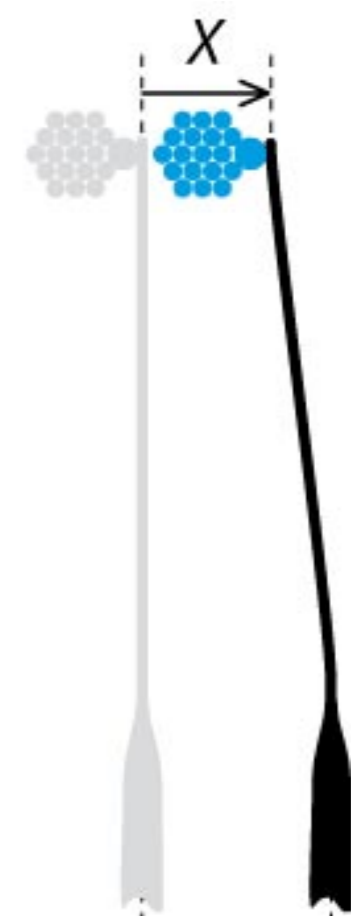
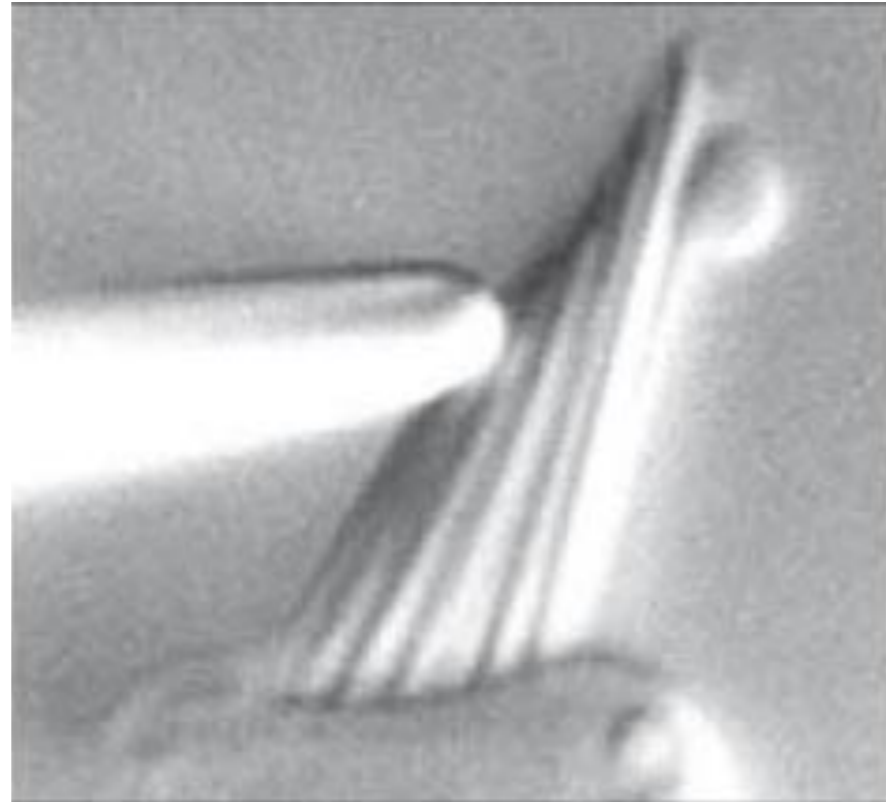
LOTHAR



Arrow of time in hair-cell bundles

J. Barral, PhD Thesis (2014)

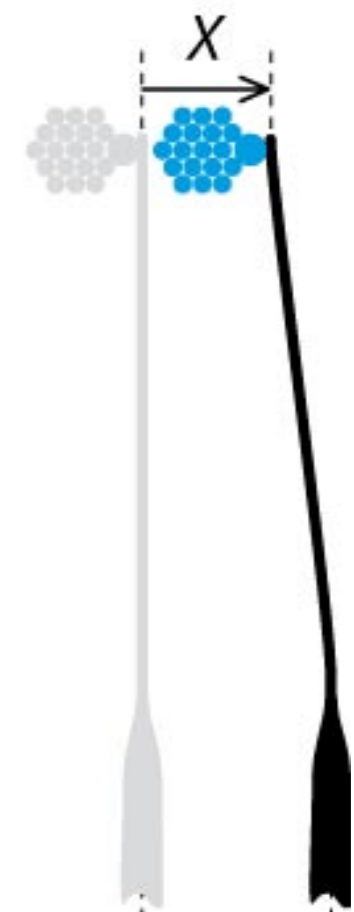
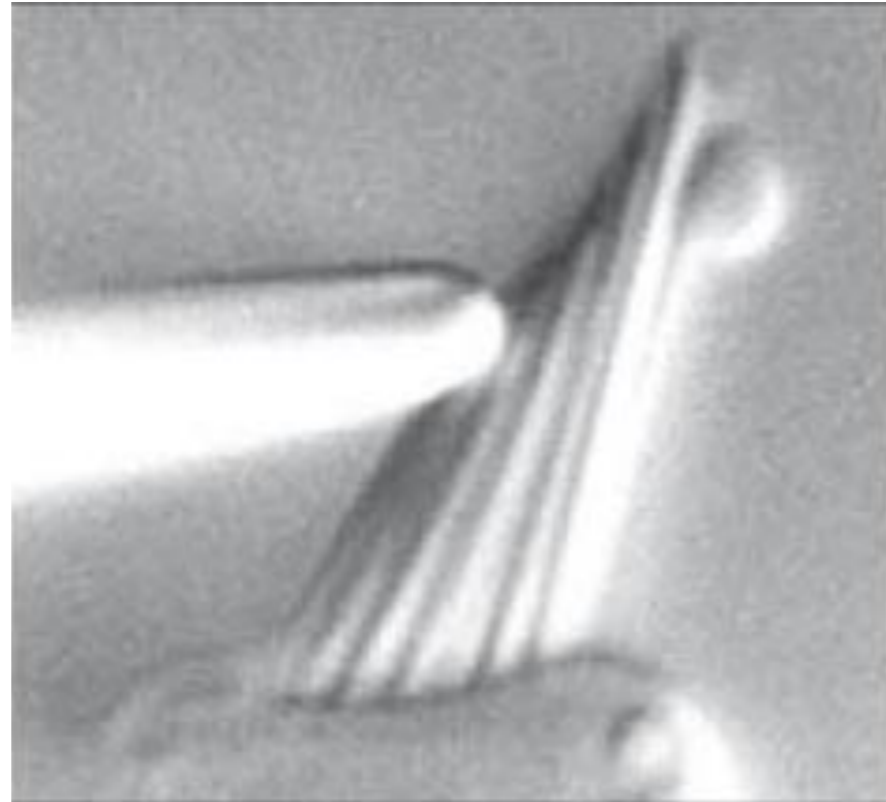
LOTHAR



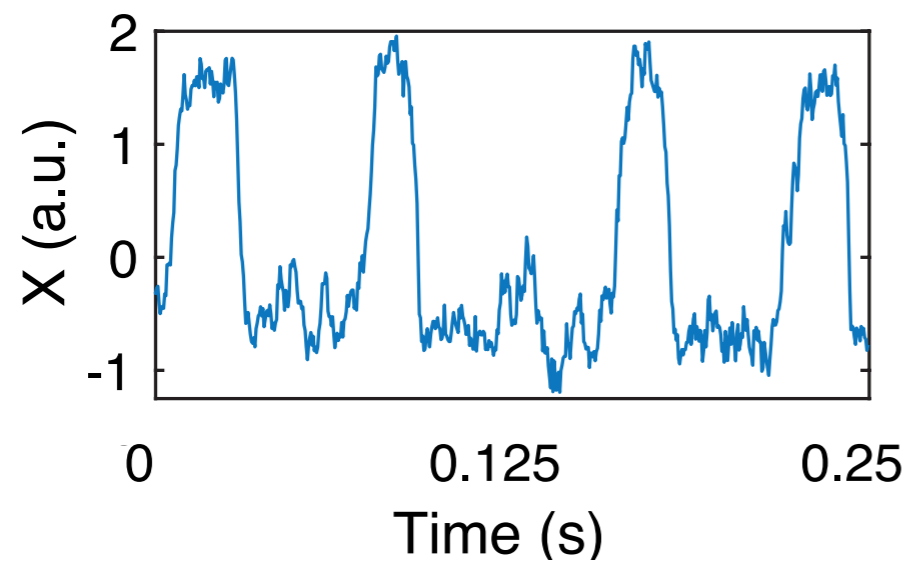
Arrow of time in hair-cell bundles

J. Barral, PhD Thesis (2014)

LOTHAR



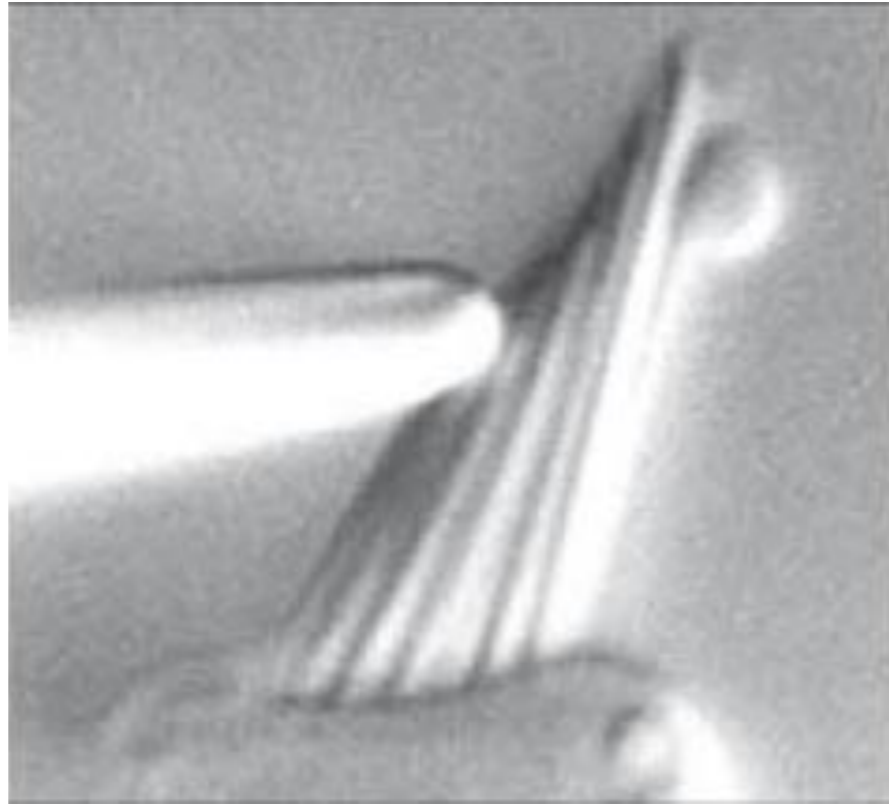
Experimental time series



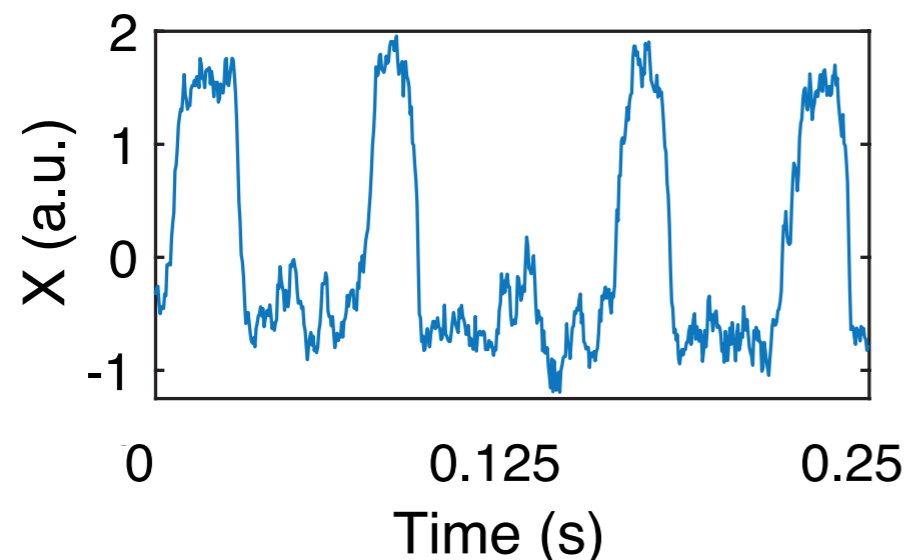
Arrow of time in hair-cell bundles

J. Barral, PhD Thesis (2014)

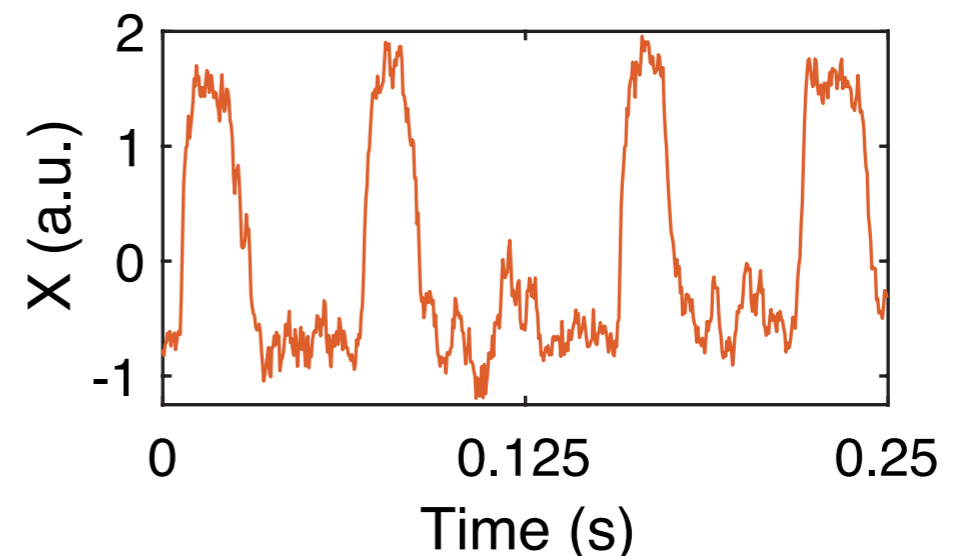
LOTHAR



Experimental time series



Time-reversed signal



Arrow of time in hair-cell bundles

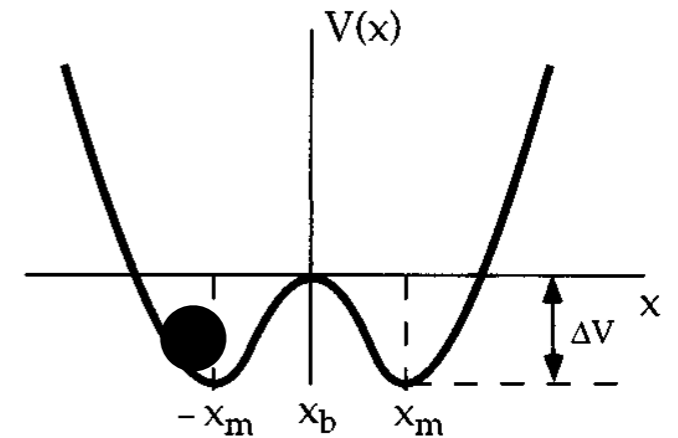
LOTHAR



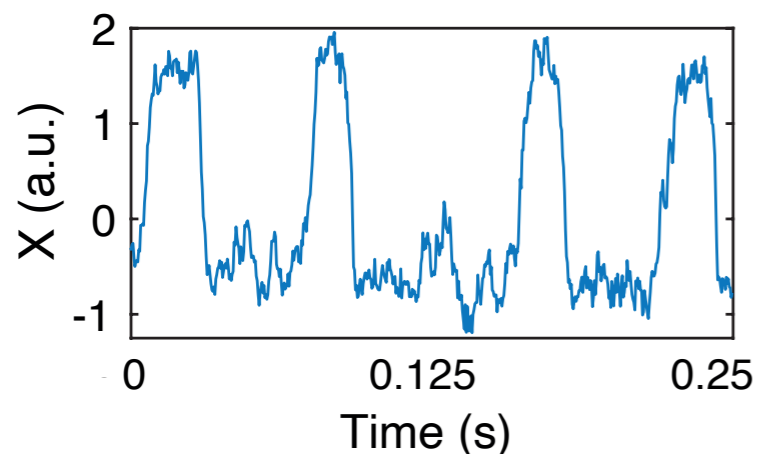
MANFRED



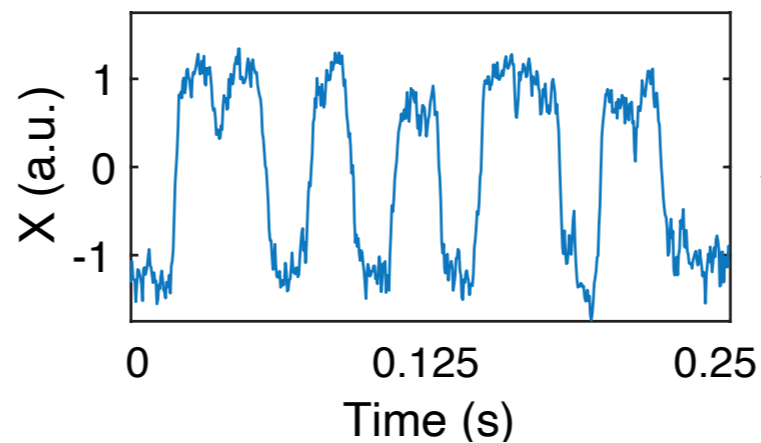
Gammaitoni et al, RMP 98



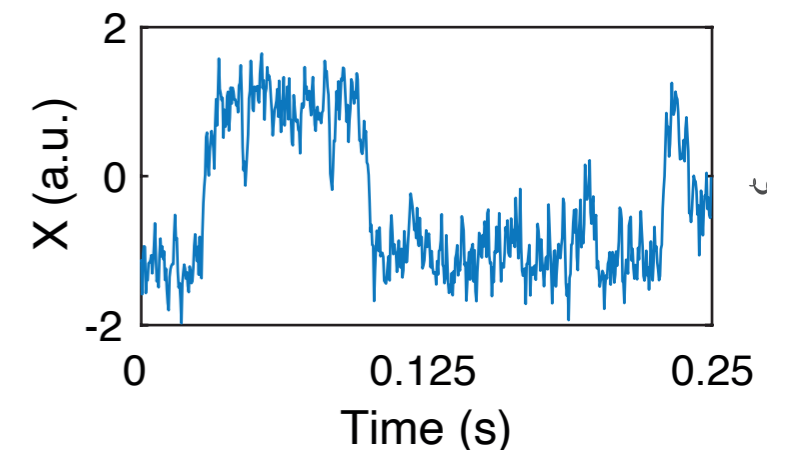
Experimental time series
“Lothar”



Experimental time series
“Manfred”

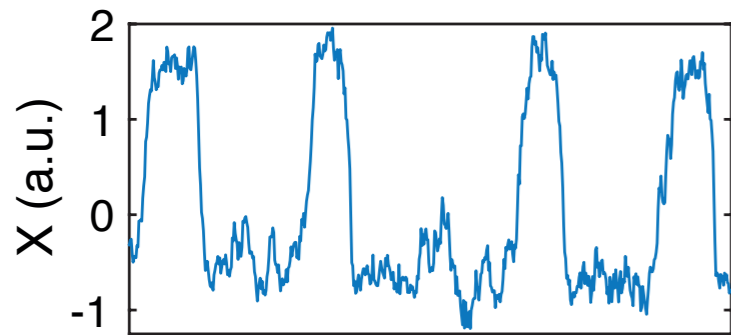


Simulation:
equilibrium fluctuations



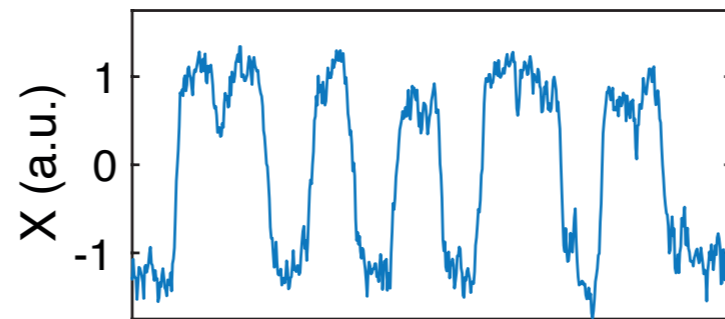
Arrow of time in hair-cell bundles

B) Strongly irreversible



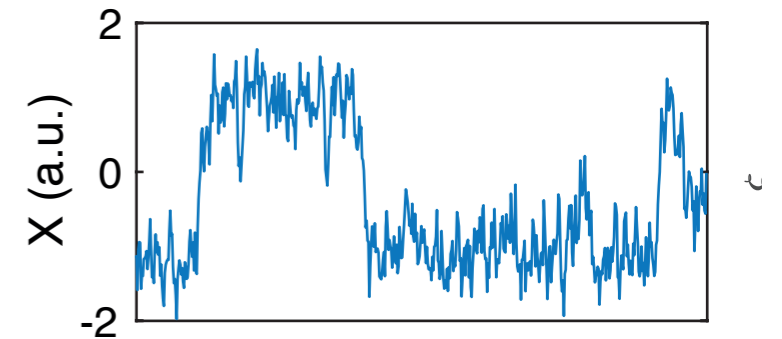
Experimental

C) Weakly irreversible

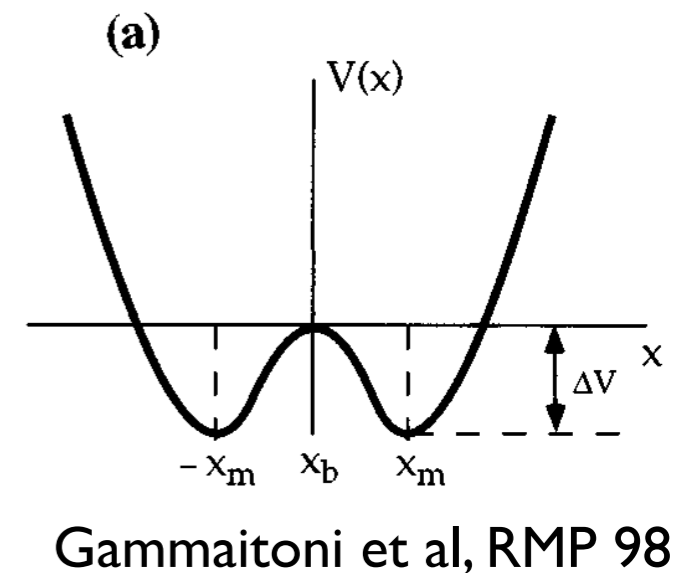
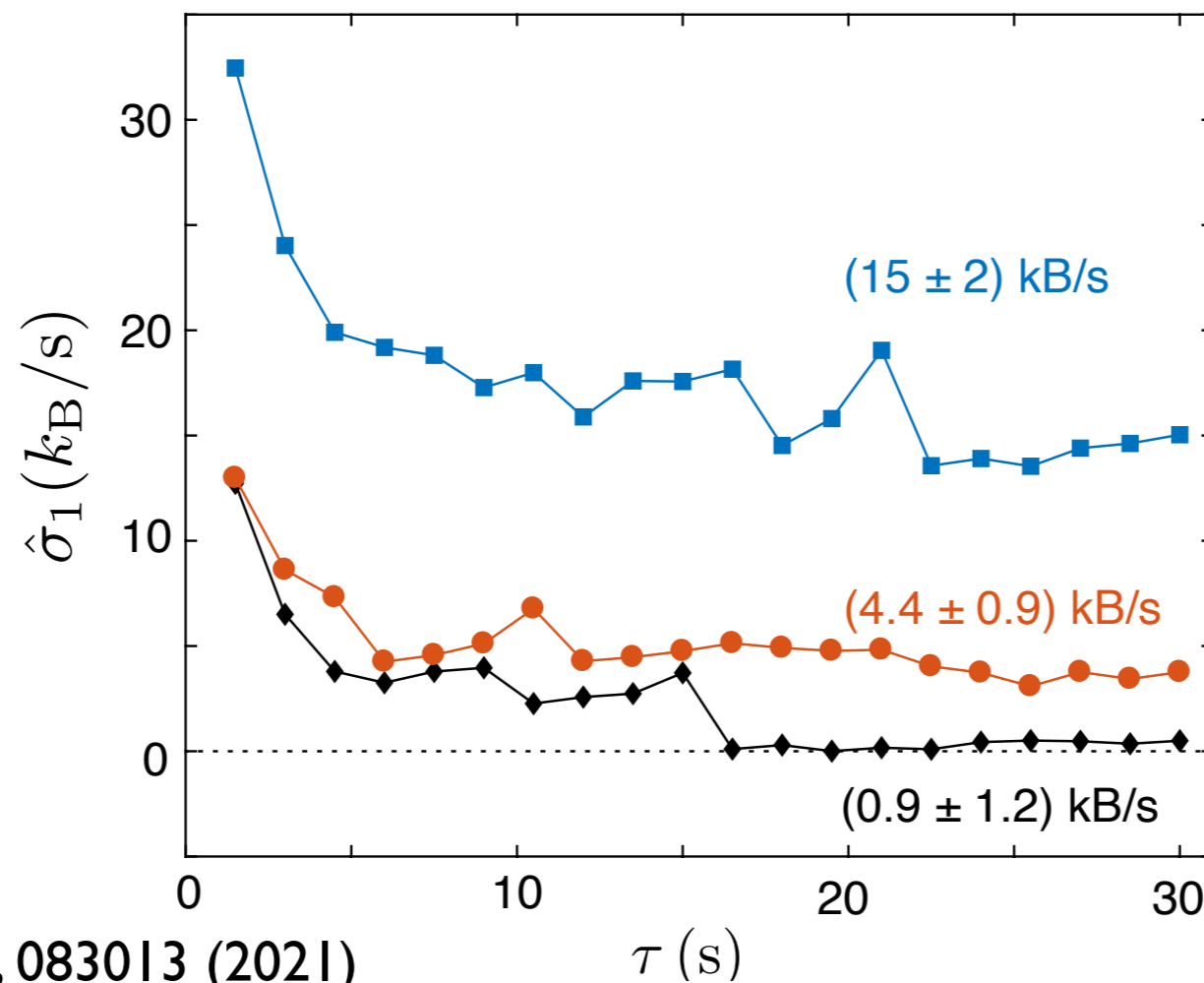


Experimental

D) Reversible

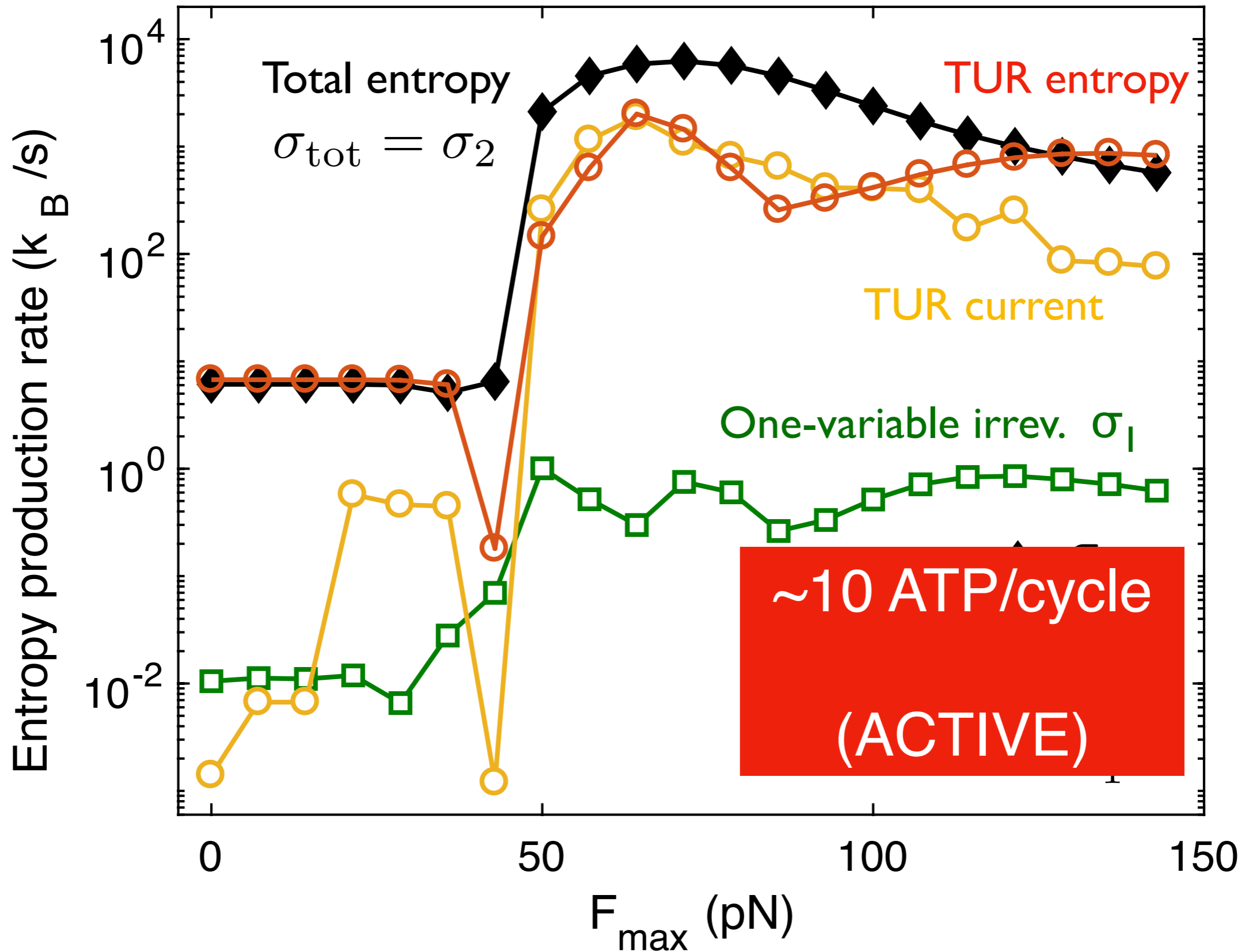


Simulation



Energy dissipation

ER, et al., New J. Phys. **23**, 083013 (2021)



**Thanks for your
attention!**

Хвала на пажњи!