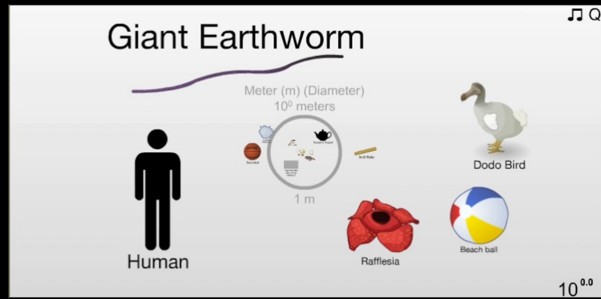
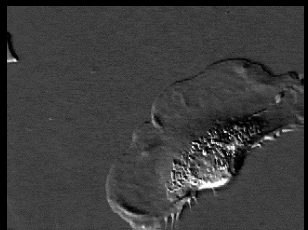
Single molecule biological activity

Kellermayer Miklós

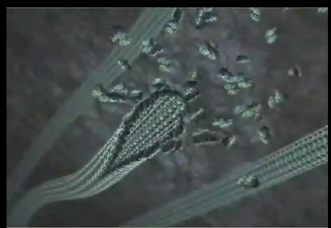


Cary and Michael Huang (http://htwins.net)

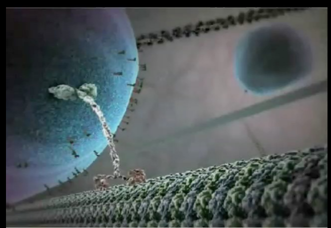
The living cell is a complex network of nanoscale machines



Crawling keratinocyte



Microtubule dynamic instability



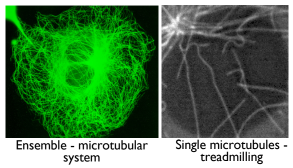
Kinesin-driven vesicular transport

Protein synthesis on the ribosome

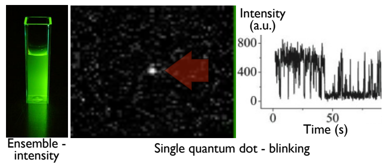
http://multimedia.mcb.harvard.edu

Why single molecules?

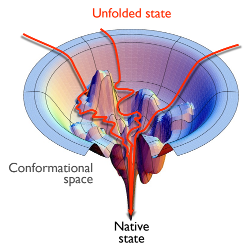
1. Individuals (spatial and temporal trajectories) may be identified in a crowd



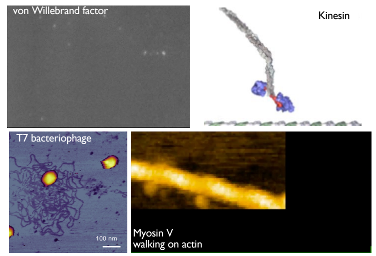
2. Stochastic processes may be uncovered



3. Parallel-pathway events may be identified



4. Mechanics of biomolecules may be characterized



Brief history of single-molecule science

1976: Fluorescence microscopy of a single antibody molecule

1986: J. Spudich, T. Yanagida, *in vitro* motility assay

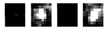
1991: J.Spudich, T.Yanagida, J.Molloy, single myosin mechanics

1994: T.Yanagida, single ATP turnover on myosin

1994: K.Svoboda, S. Block, single kinesin mechanics

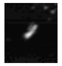
1996: C.Bustamante, D.Bensimon, mechanical stretch of a single dsDNA molecule

1996: T.Ha, S.Weiss, single-pair FRET



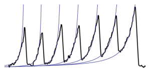
1997: W.E. Moerner, GFP blinking

1997: M.Kellermayer, M.Rief, L.Tskhovrebova, mechanical stretch of a single protein (titin)



1998: Kinosita, F1F0 ATPase stepping kinetics

1998: J. Fernandez, nanomechanics of a genetic polymer



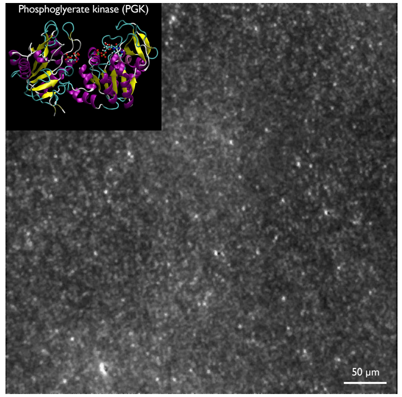
2001: J.Liphardt, C.Bustamante, single RNA manipulation

2004: J.Fernandez, single protein molecule folding

2008: Bustamante, Tinoco: ribosome mechanics

Measurable parameters I. Fluorescence

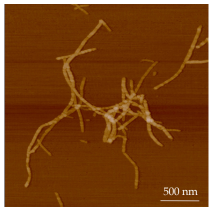
What are the conformational states of a molecule?



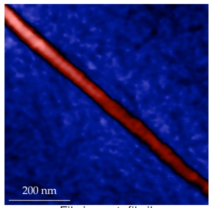
PGK molecules labeled with Alexa488, TIRF microscopy

Measurable parameters II. Structure - topography

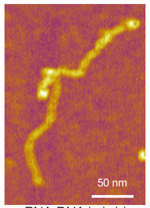
What are the conformational states of a molecule?



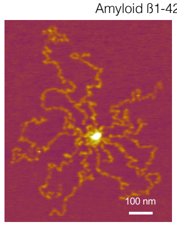
Amyloid ß1-42



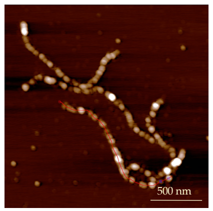
Fibrin protofibril



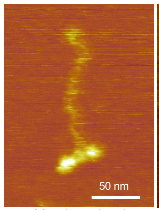
RNA-DNA hybrid



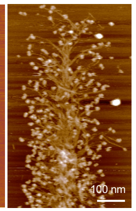
Titin molecule



Desmin filament



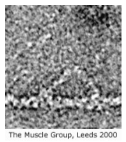
Myosin molecule



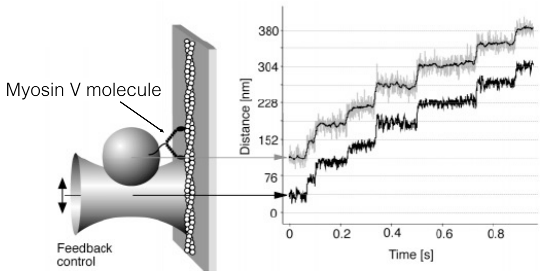
Myosin thick filament

Measurable parameters III. Distance

What is the step size of a motor protein?

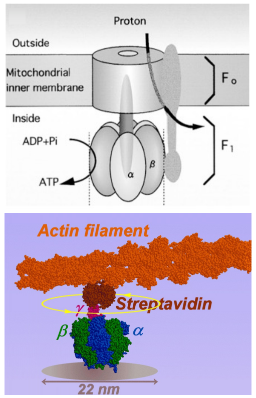


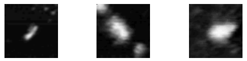
Myosin V cryoelectron-microscopic image series



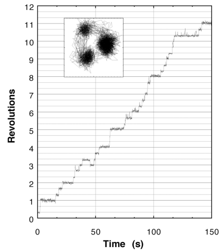
Measurable parameters IV. Rotational angle

How does the ATP synthase work?



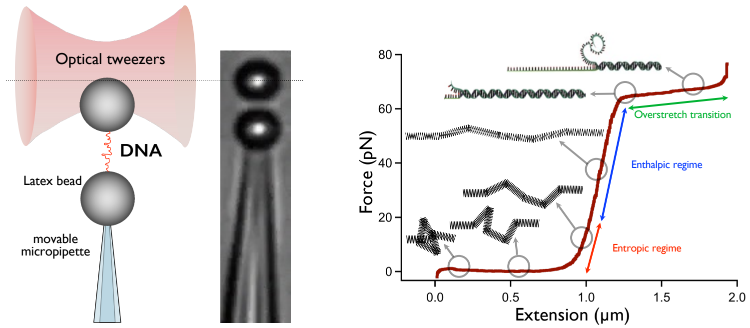


Discrete rotational steps of 120˚



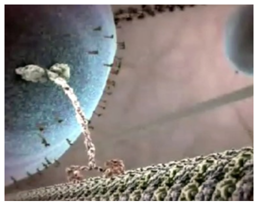
Measurable parameters V. Force

How much force develops during the stretch of a single dsDNA molecule?

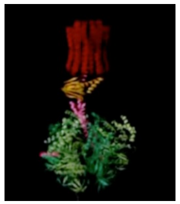


1. Force: develops

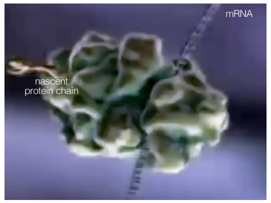
Kinesin



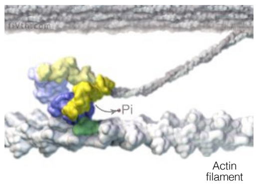
F1F0 ATPase



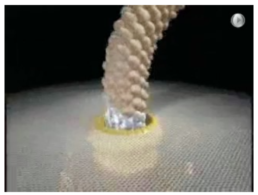
Ribosome



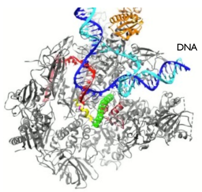
Myosin II



Bacterial flagellar motor

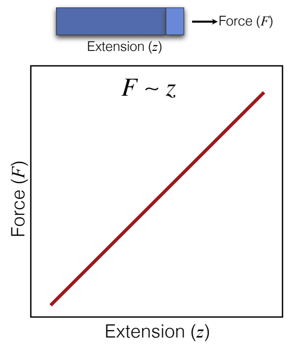


RNA polymerase

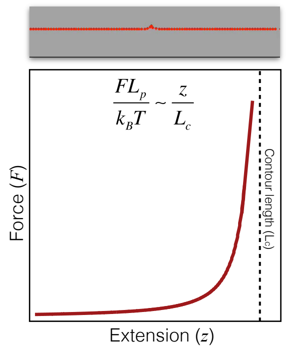


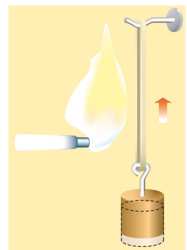
2. Force: deforms shape

Rigid body:
Hooke's law



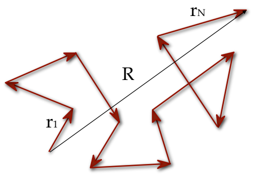
Polymer chain:
fluctuations, configurational entropy





Macroscopic manifestation of entropic elasticity: Gough-Joule effect

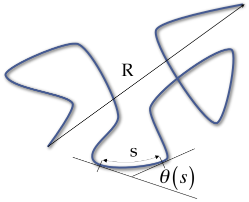
Models of entropic elasticity



Freely jointed chain

$$\langle R^2 \rangle = N \langle \vec{r}_i \rangle^2 = N l_K^2 = L_C l_K$$

R = end-to-end distance
L_C = contour length
l_K = Kuhn segment length



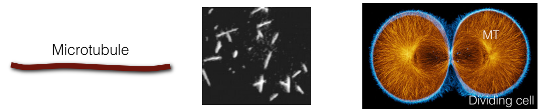
Wormlike chain

$$\langle \cos\theta(s) \rangle = e^{-\frac{s}{L_P}} \qquad L_P = \frac{EI}{k_B T}$$

L_P = persistence length
EI = bending rigidity
$l_K = 2L_P$

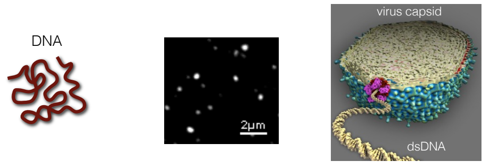
Equilibrium shape and bending rigidity of a polymer chain are related

Rigid chain
$L_P >> L_C$
(mm >> 10 μm)



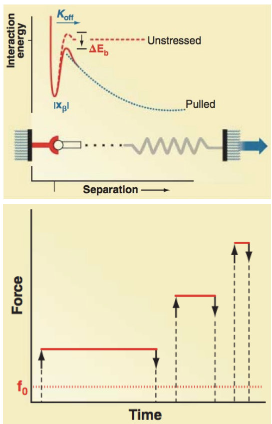
Semiflexible chain
$L_P \approx L_C$
(μm ≈ μm)

Flexible chain
$L_P << L_C$
(50 nm << cm)



L_P = persistence length
L_C = contour length

3. Force: reduces bond lifetime

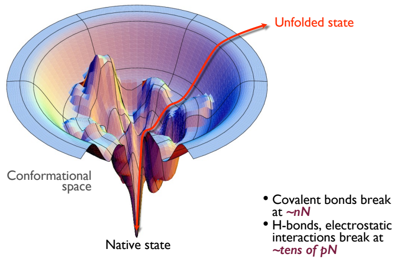


Evan A. Evans and David A. Calderwood Science 316, 1148 (2007)

Under thermal activation: $\tau(0) = \omega e^{\frac{E_a}{k_B T}}$

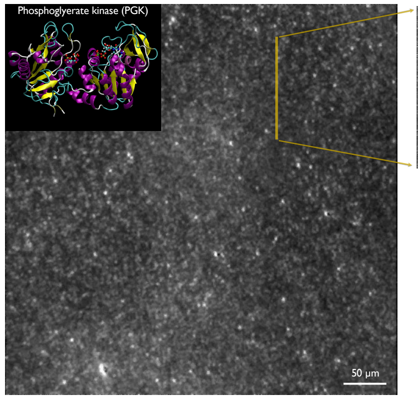
Under mechanical load: $\tau(F) = \omega e^{\frac{E_a - F\Delta x}{k_B T}} = \tau(0) e^{-\frac{F\Delta x}{k_B T}}$

ω = characteristic time
E_a = activation energy
Δx = distance between bound and transition states

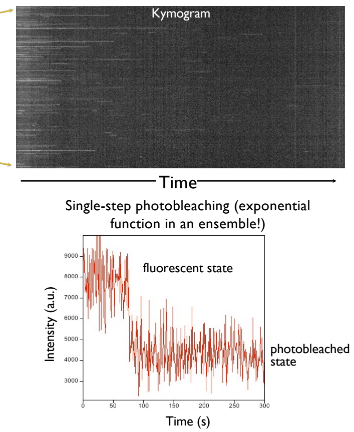


- Covalent bonds break at ~*nN*
- H-bonds, electrostatic interactions break at ~*tens of pN*

Molecular singularity I. Single-step photobleaching

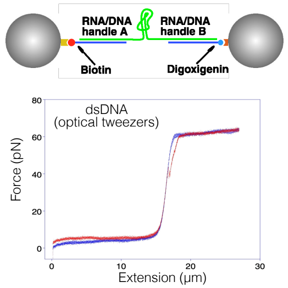


PGK molecules labeled with Alexa488, TIRF microscopy



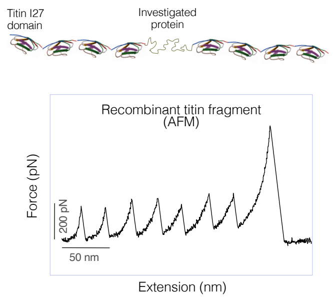
Molecular singularity II. Nanomechanical fingerprint

DNA handle



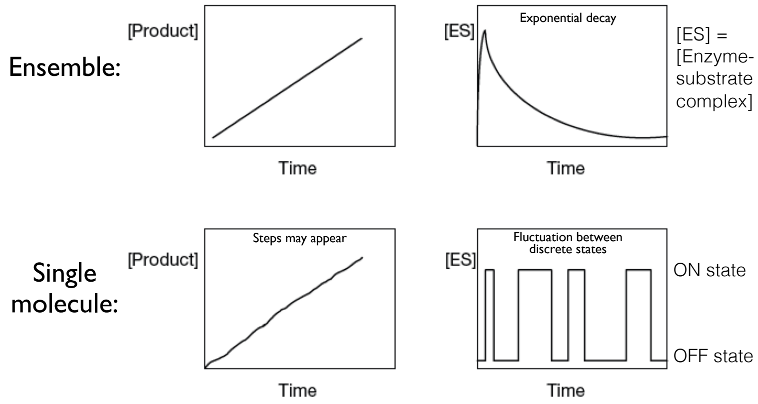
Cooperative transition at 65 pN

Recombinant polyprotein



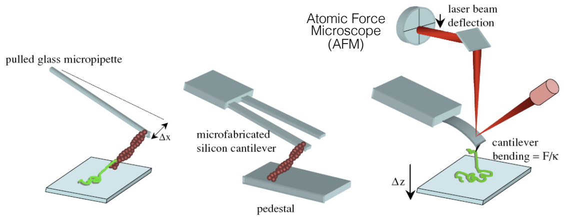
Sawtooth-shaped, equidistant transitions

Ensemble *versus* single molecule behavior

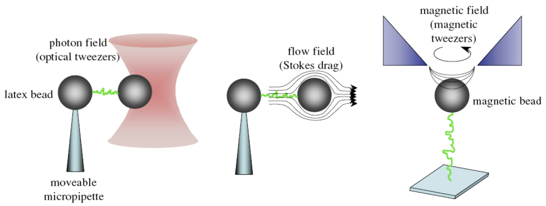


Methods of manipulation

Cantilever methods

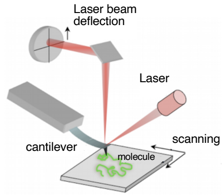


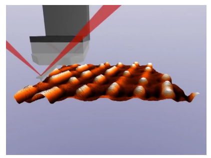
Field-based methods

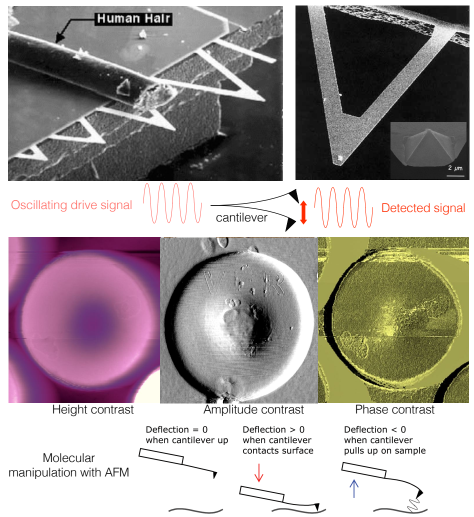


Manipulation with AFM

Atomic Force Microscopy

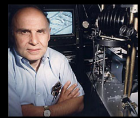






Manipulation with light

Optical tweezers



Arthur Ashkin, Nobel-prize 2018

E. coli bacterium

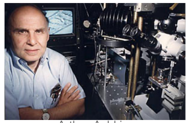
Actin filament

DNA

Phase contrast image

Fluorescence image

Optical tweezers - brief history



Arthur Ashkin

1970: Arthur Ashkin: optical tweezers (Nobel-prize, 2018)

1991: J.Spudich, T.Yanagida, J.Molloy, single myosin mechanics

1994: T.Yanagida, single ATP turnover on myosin

1994: K.Svoboda, S. Block, single kinesin mechanics

1996: C.Bustamante, D.Bensimon, DNS molecule manipulation

1997: S. Chu, W.D. Phillips and C. Cohen-Tanoudji (Nobel-prize, 1997): atom cooling with optical tweezers.

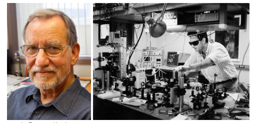
1997: M.Kellermayer, M.Rief, L.Tskhovrebova, titin manipulation

2000: Galajda P., Ormos O., microfabrication and optomechanical manipulation of artificial motors

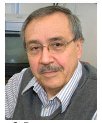
2001: J.Liphardt, C.Bustamante, RNA stretch

2002: Holographic optical tweezers (spatial light modulator, SLM)

2008: Bustamante, Tinoco: ribosome mechanics



J.Spudich J.Finer



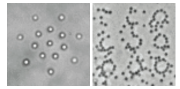
C.Bustamante

S. Chu, W.D. Phillips és C. Cohen-Tanoudji

J.Molloy

S. Block

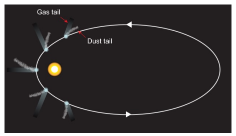
Microfabricated propeller



Simultaneous manipulation of many particles with holographic optical tweezers

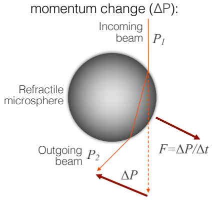
Photonic momentum changes upon interaction with particles

Johannes Kepler (1571-1630)



Comet tail stands away from the sun: mechanical effect of the light rays?

Refraction is accompanied by photonic momentum change (ΔP):



Einstein: mass-energy equivalence $E = mc^2$

Planck: radiation law $E = hf$

Maxwell: speed of light $c = \lambda f$

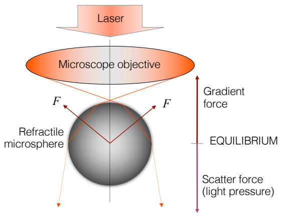
Louis-Victor-Pierre-Raymond, 7th duc de Broglie (1892-1987)

$$mc^2 = h \cdot \frac{c}{\lambda}$$

Momentum of photon:

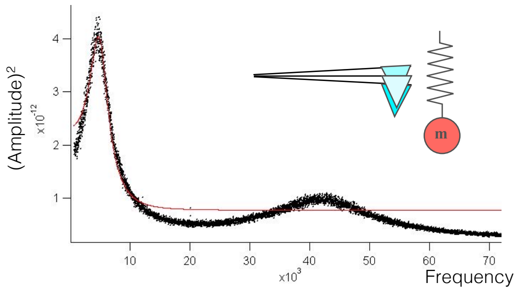
$$P = \frac{h}{\lambda}$$

In the optical trap a momentum change occurs between the photons and the trapped particle:



Calibrating the probe

- Direct force measurement (photonic momentum change)
- Application of known forces (added weight, Stokes drag)
- Thermal method (equipartition theorem)



$$\kappa = m\omega^2$$

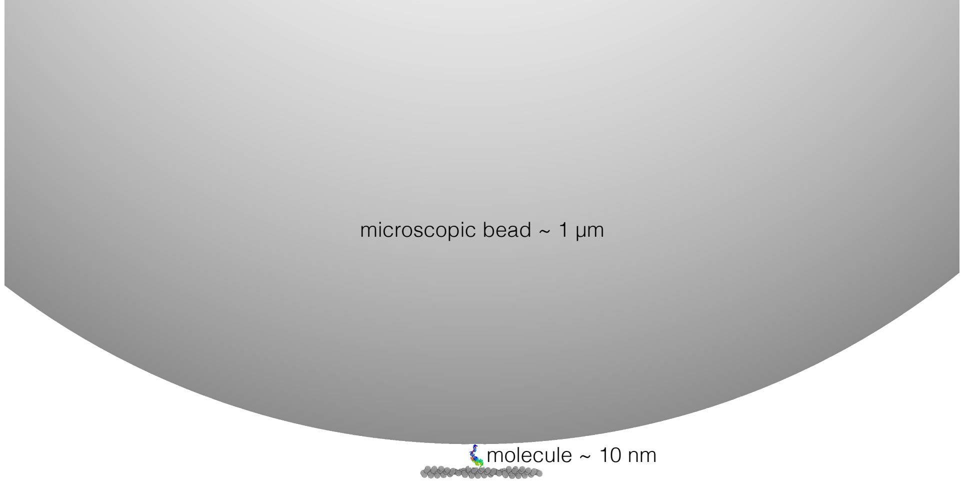
$$\frac{1}{2}\kappa\langle x^2\rangle = \frac{1}{2}k_B T$$

κ = stiffness
m = mass
ω = resonance frequency
x = deflection

AFM cantilever stiffness ~ 10-1000 pN/nm

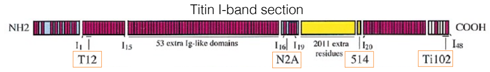
Optical trap stiffness ~ 0.1-1.0 pN/nm

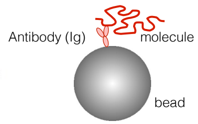
Molecule - handle geomety



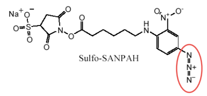
Attaching the molecule to the handle

Sequence-specific antibodies

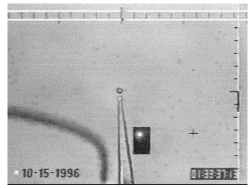




Photoreactive cross-linker - "molecular welding"

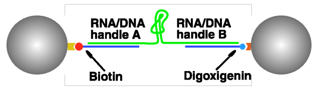


- Non-specific
- Photoreactive N_3- (azido) group (reacts with amines)
- UV illumination

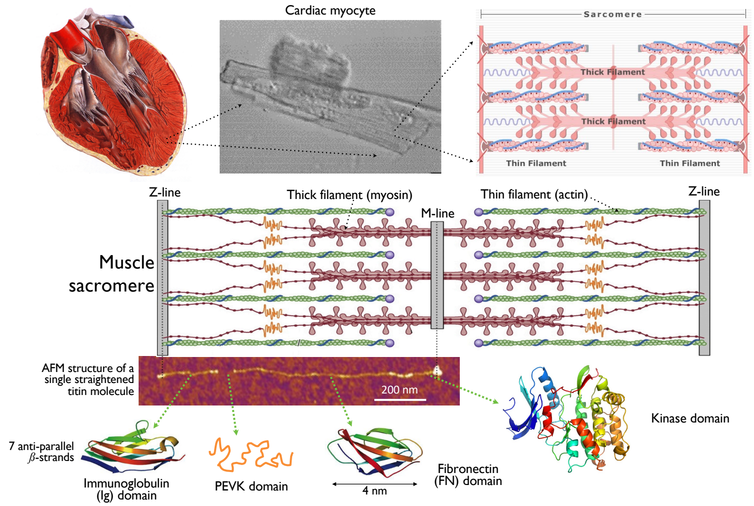


DNA handle

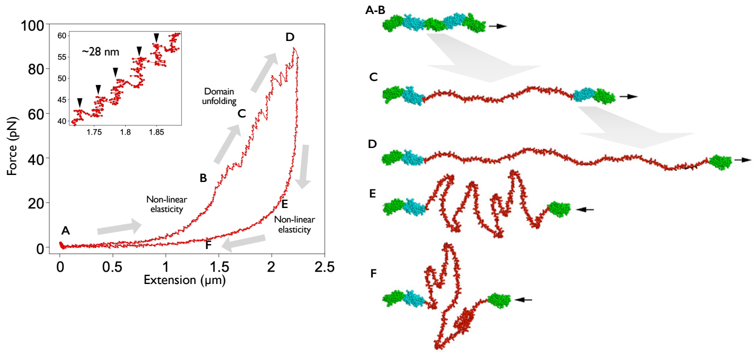
- Molecular dimension
- Can be made specific with cloning techniques
- Provides mechanical fingerprint



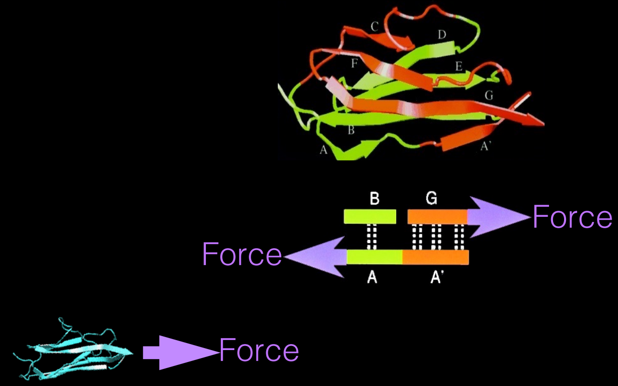
1. Titin: giant elastic muscle protein



Titin mechanics - constant-velocity experiment:
non-linear elasticity + domain unfolding

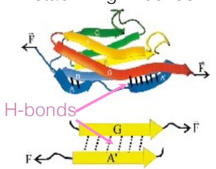


Structural basis of mechanical stability

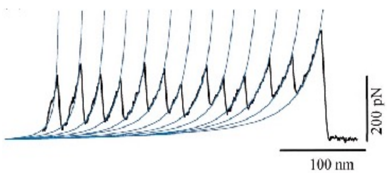


Biological logic of mechanical stability

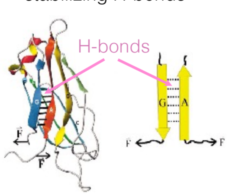
Parallel coupling of structure-stabilizing H-bonds



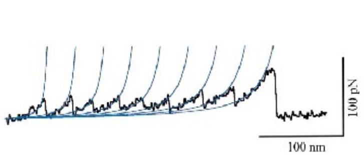
High unfolding forces



Serial coupling of structure-stabilizing H-bonds



Low unfolding forces

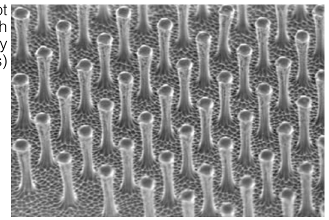


Macroscopic mechanical stability

Highly efficient glue based on the principle or parallel coupling

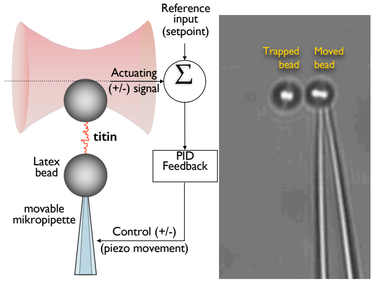
Surface attachment of the gecko foot: Numerous Van der Waals interactions - between bristles and surface - coupled in parallel

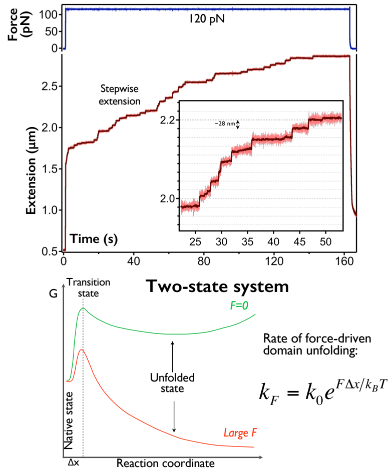
Artificial gecko foot (prepared with nanotechnology methods)



Titin mechanics - constant-force experiment:
extension *via* stepwise domain unfolding

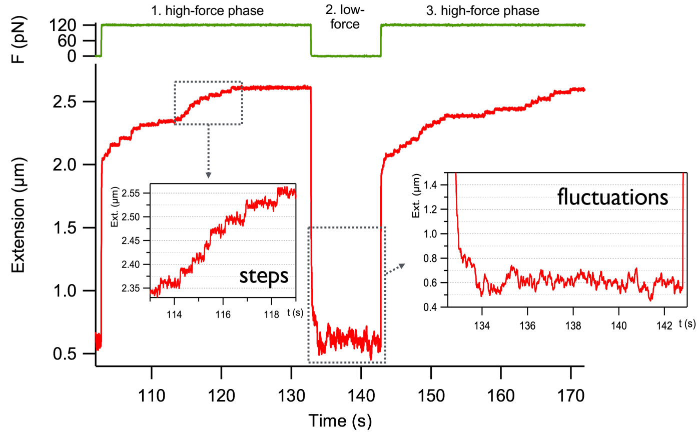
Manipulation with force-clamp optical tweezers





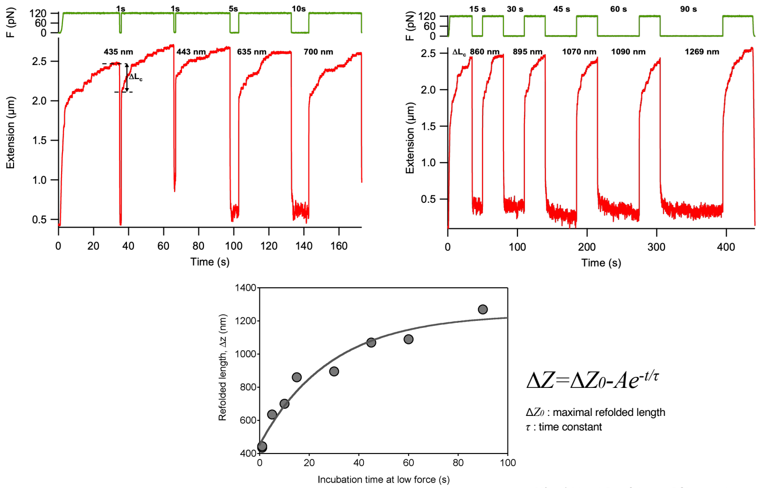
Bianco et al. Biophys J. 109:340-5, 2015.

No steps, only fluctuations during refolding



Mártonfalvi et al. Prot. Sci. 2017. DOI 10.1002/pro.3117

Refolding follows first-order kinetics



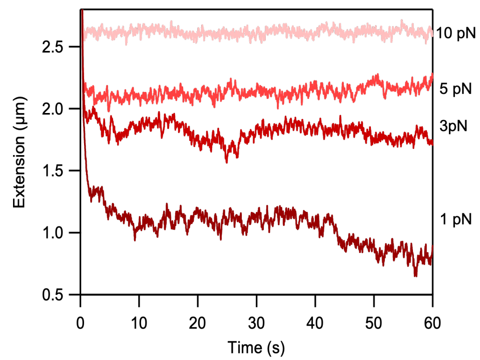
$\Delta Z = \Delta Z_0 - Ae^{-t/\tau}$

ΔZ_0 : maximal refolded length
τ : time constant

Mártonfalvi et al. Prot. Sci. 2017. DOI 10.1002/pro.3117

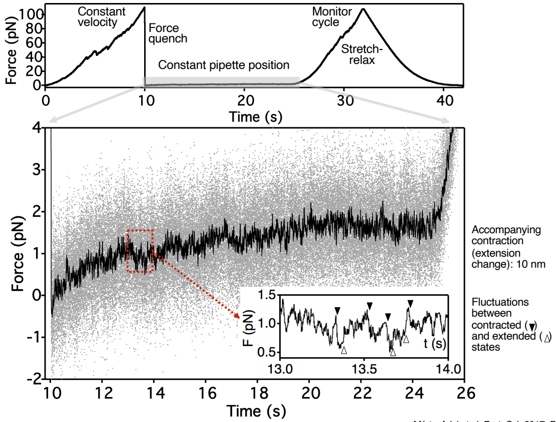
Titin refolds against force

Large length fluctuations occur during refolding



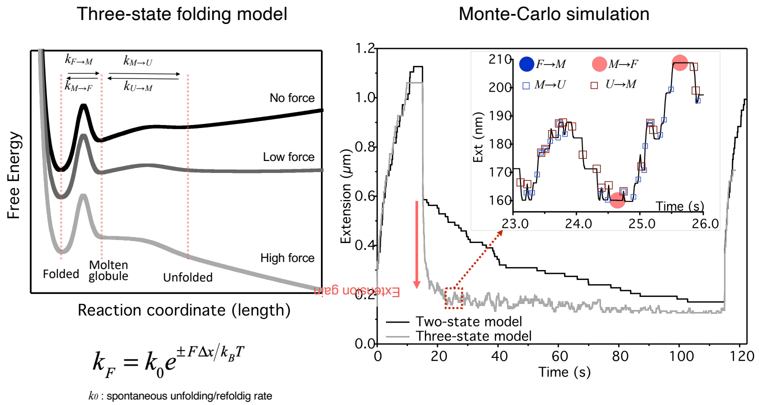
Mártonfalvi et al. Prot. Sci. 2017. DOI 10.1002/pro.3117

Force is generated during refolding
Position clamp experiment



Mártonfalvi et al. Prot. Sci. 2017. DOI 10.1002/pro.3117

Fluctuations are explained by molten-globule dynamics

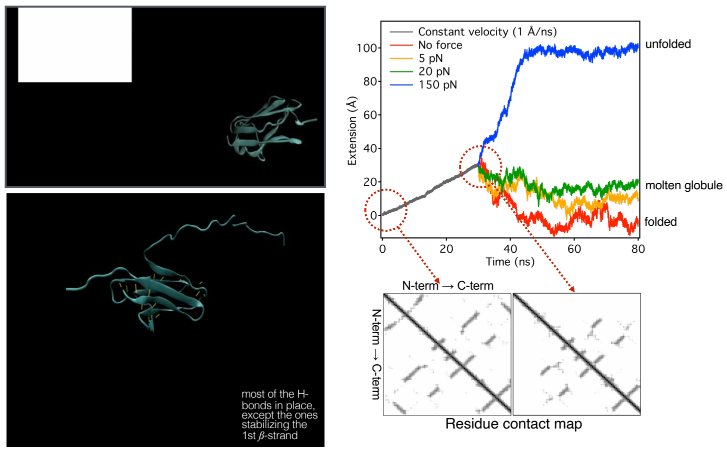


$$k_F = k_0 e^{\pm F\Delta x / k_B T}$$

k_0 : spontaneous unfolding/refoldig rate

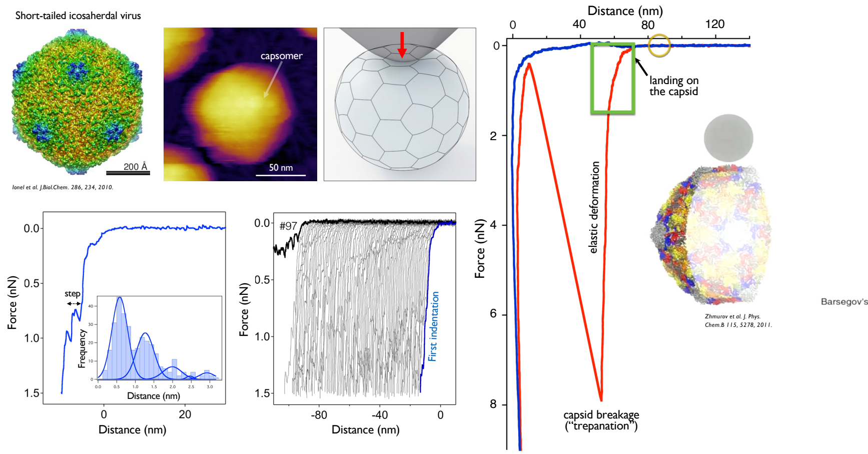
Mártonfalvi et al. Prot. Sci. 2017. DOI 10.1002/pro.3117

Molten-globule structure explored with sMDS



Mártonfalvi et al. Prot. Sci. 2017. DOI 10.1002/pro.3117

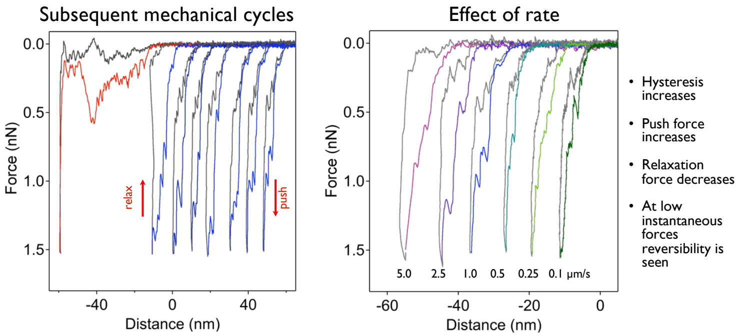
2. T7 phage nanomechanics



Reversible 6 Å buckling steps, followed by rapid relaxation.

Vörös, Z…Kellermayer, M. Nanoscale 9, 1136, 2017.

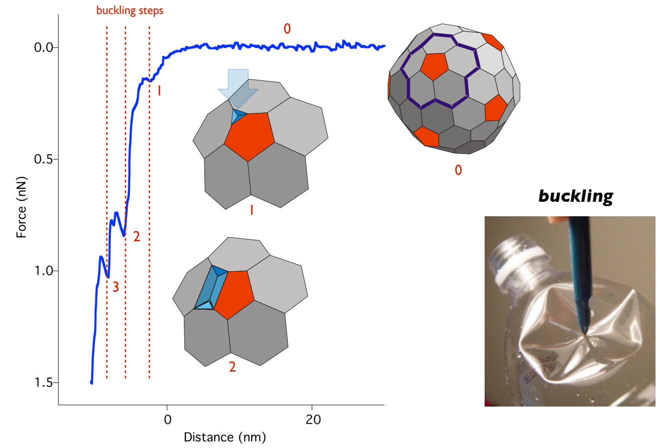
Similar discrete steps occur during mechanical relaxation



- Hysteresis increases
- Push force increases
- Relaxation force decreases
- At low instantaneous forces reversibility is seen

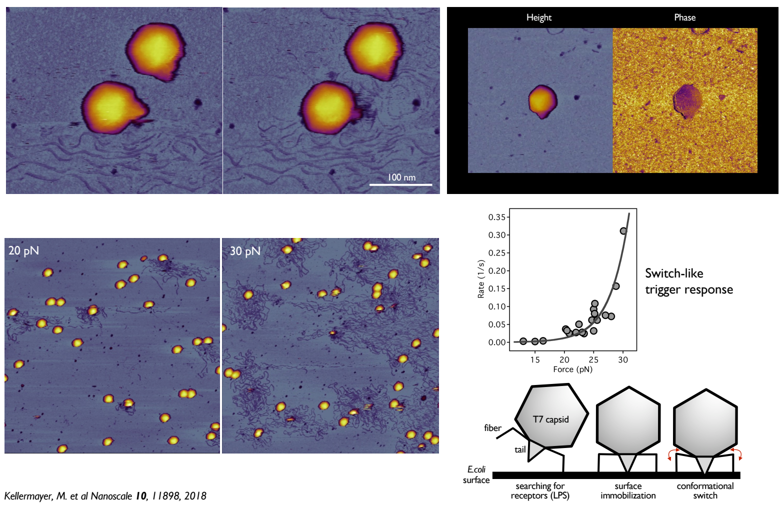
Vörös et al. Nanoscale 9, 1136-1143, 2017.

Mechanical buckling of the T7 capsid



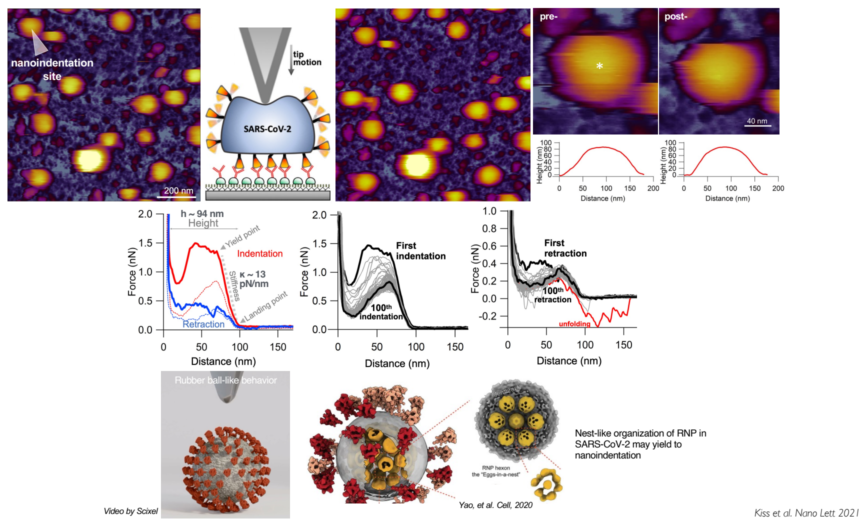
Vörös et al. Nanoscale 9, 1136-1143, 2017.

Force triggers T7 DNA ejection



*Kellermayer, M. et al Nanoscale **10**, 11898, 2018*

3. SARS-CoV-2 nanomechanics: the virus is highly compliant and resilient



Kiss et al. Nano Lett 2021

Cary and Michael Huang (http://htwins.net)