



Hungarian ELI project



# Lasers in Medicine and Life Sciences Advanced Summer School

16<sup>th</sup> July 2017

“Optical Tweezers”

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ROLAND  
EÖTVÖS  
PHYSICAL  
SOCIETY  
(HUNGARY)

*TÁMOP-4.1.1.C-12/1/KONV-2012-0005*  
*project*



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by the European Social Fund.

# Lecture Plan:

- Optical Tweezers have the correct mechanical properties to push and pull on single biological macro-molecules (picoNewtons and nanometres).
- The time-resolution is limited by the mechanical time-constant  $\sim 10\text{kHz}$  (recently improved to  $\sim 100\text{kHz}$ )
- It is possible to measure mechanical events powered by the energy from a single ATP molecule (only  $10k_bT$ ).
- Optical Tweezers are easily compatible with other optical (laser-based) single molecule methods.
- Motor proteins are a model biological system for development of new biophysical methods and especially single molecule approaches.

$$E = mC^2$$

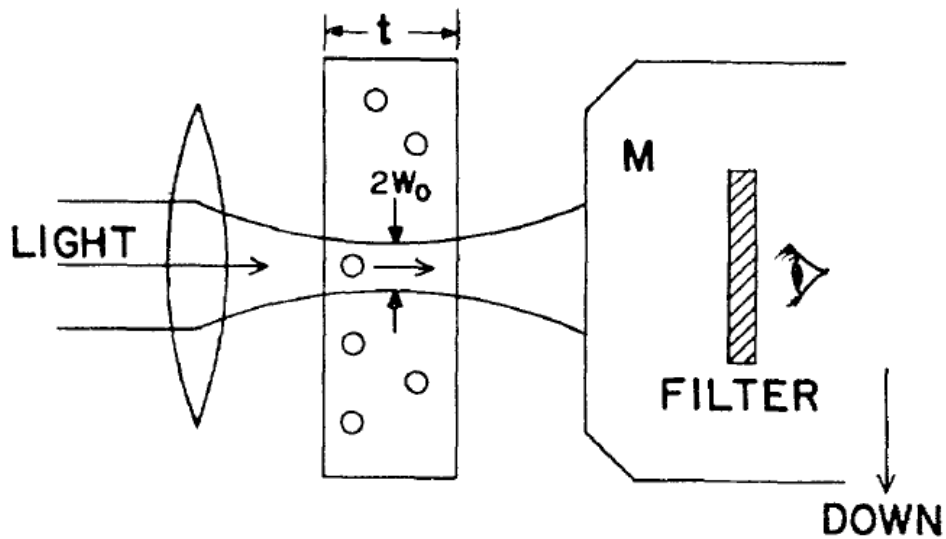
$$\text{Momentum, } mC = E/C$$

$$\text{Force} = mC/t = P/C$$

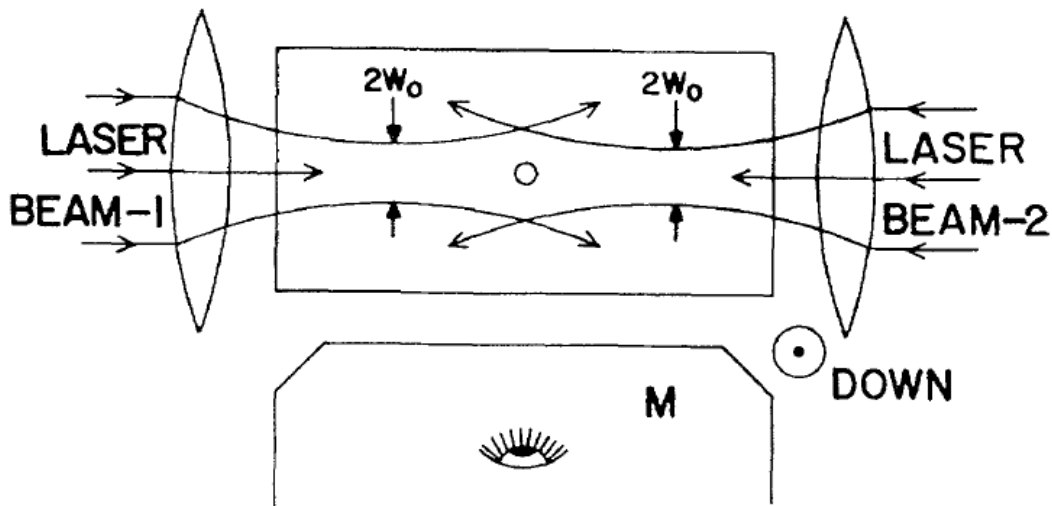
(P = optical power)

...calculate for a 3mW laser pointer...





(a)



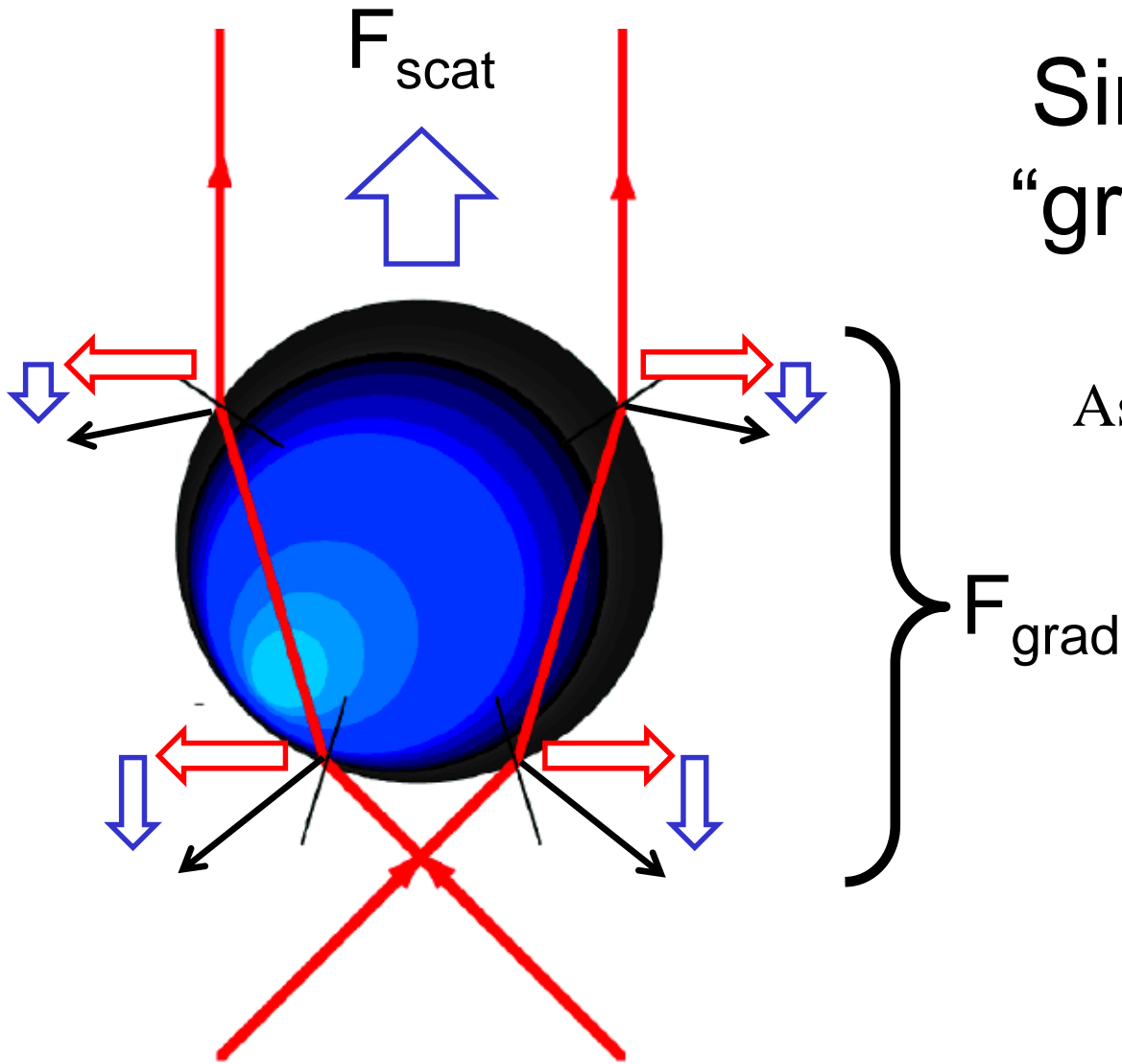
(b)

3-D trap using  
counter-propagating  
laser beams

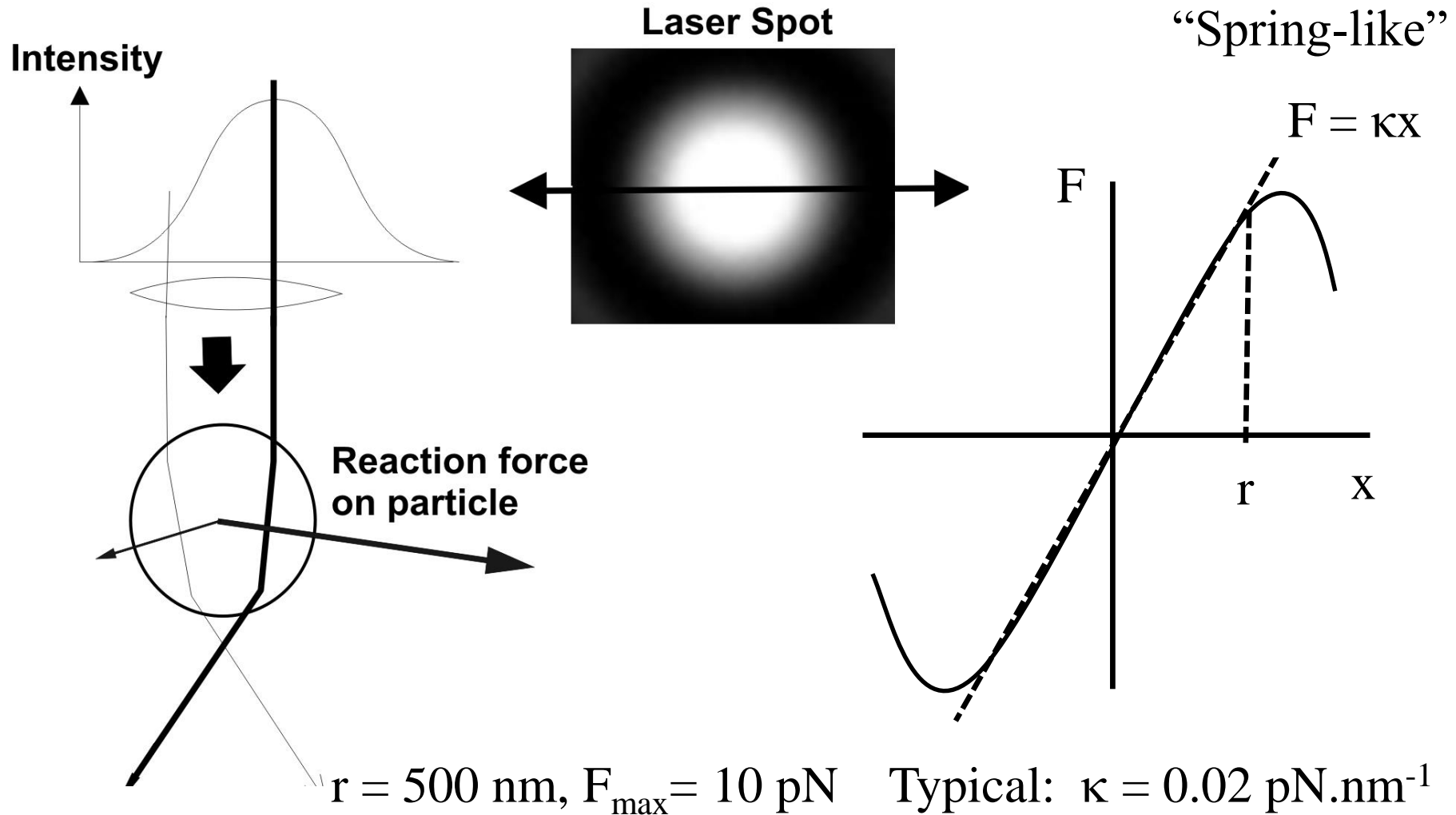
Ashkin & Dziedzic, 1971

# Single beam “gradient trap”

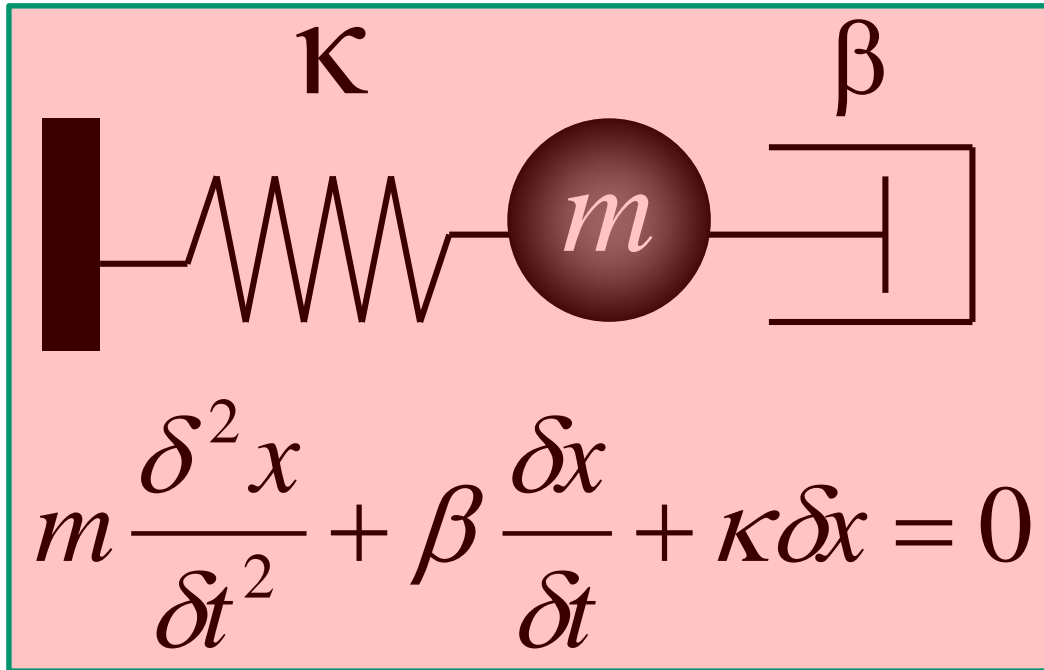
*Ashkin et al. 1986*



Laser beam has Gaussian intensity profile.  
Restoring force is proportional to displacement



# Dynamic response



Stoke's drag  
 $\beta = 6\pi\eta r$

Typical values:

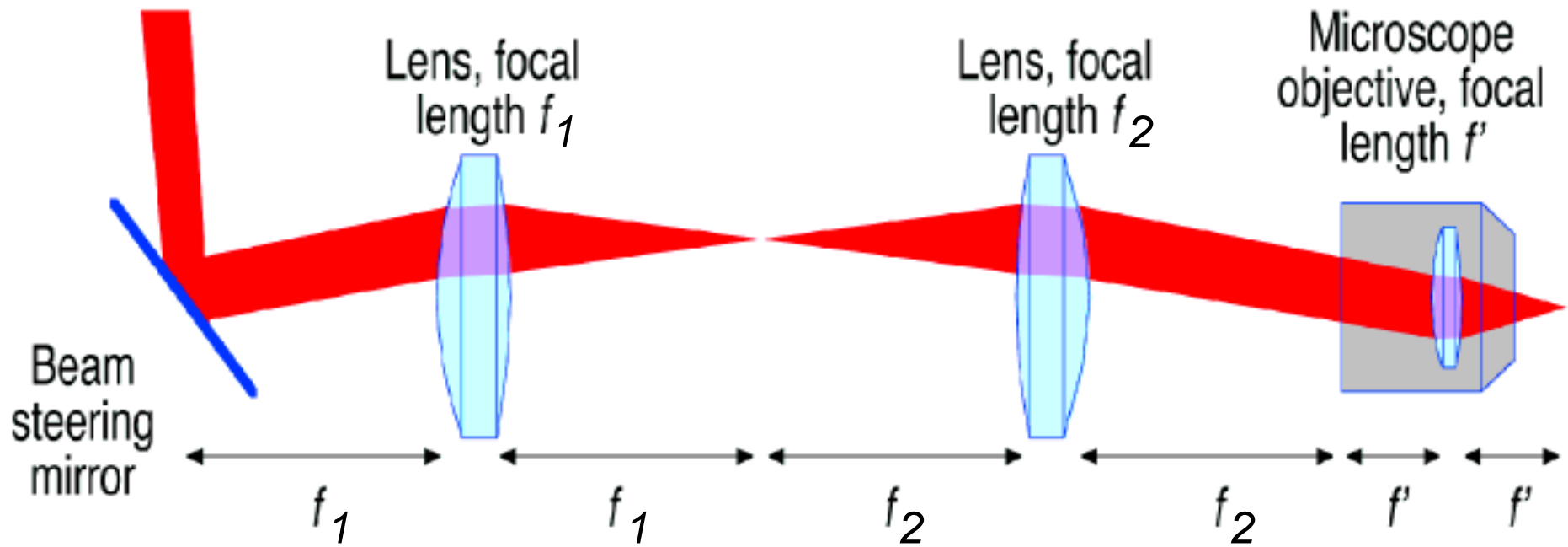
$$f_{res} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{m}} > \mathbf{50 \text{ kHz}}$$

$$f_c = \frac{\kappa}{2\pi\beta} < \mathbf{1 \text{ kHz}}$$

$$m = 5 \times 10^{-16} \text{ kg}$$

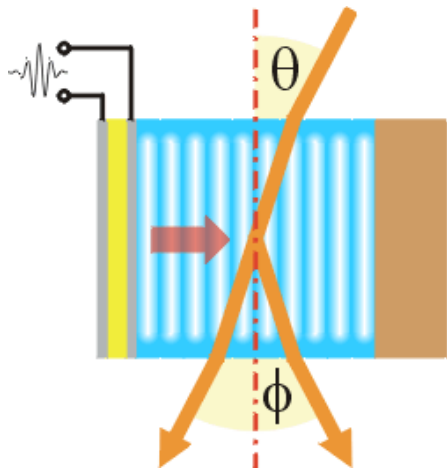
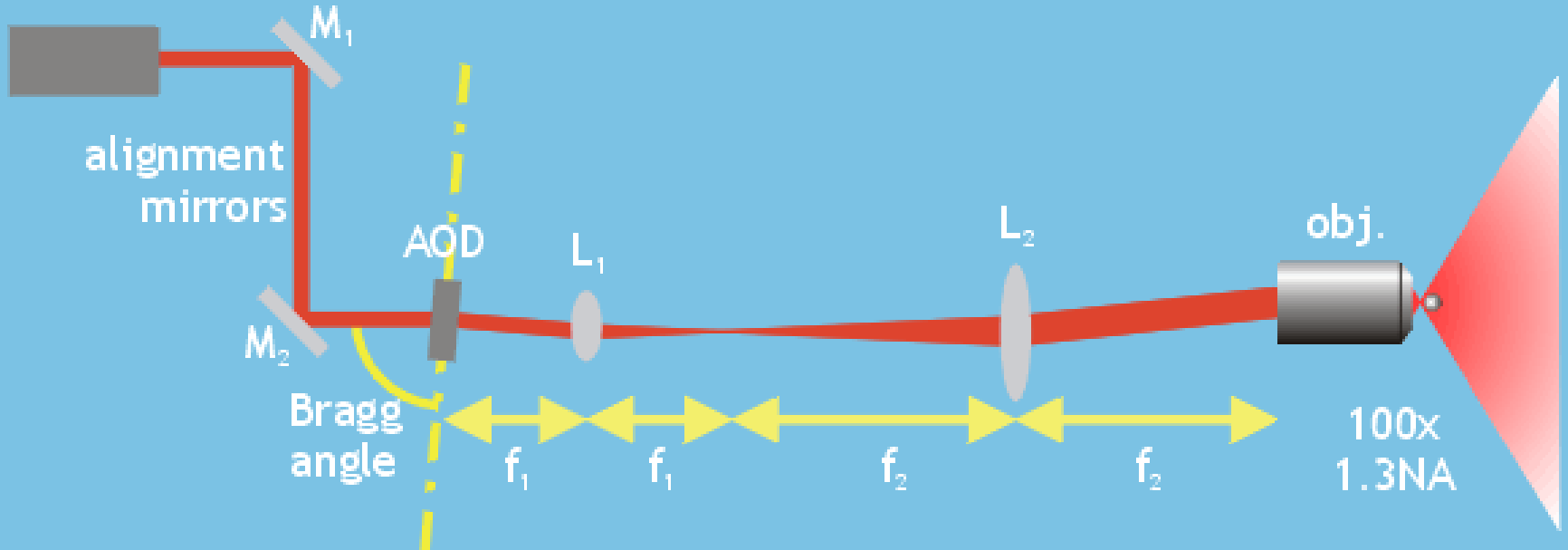
$$\beta = 1 \times 10^{-8} \text{ N.s.m}^{-1}$$

$$\kappa \sim 1 \times 10^{-5} \text{ N.m}^{-1}$$



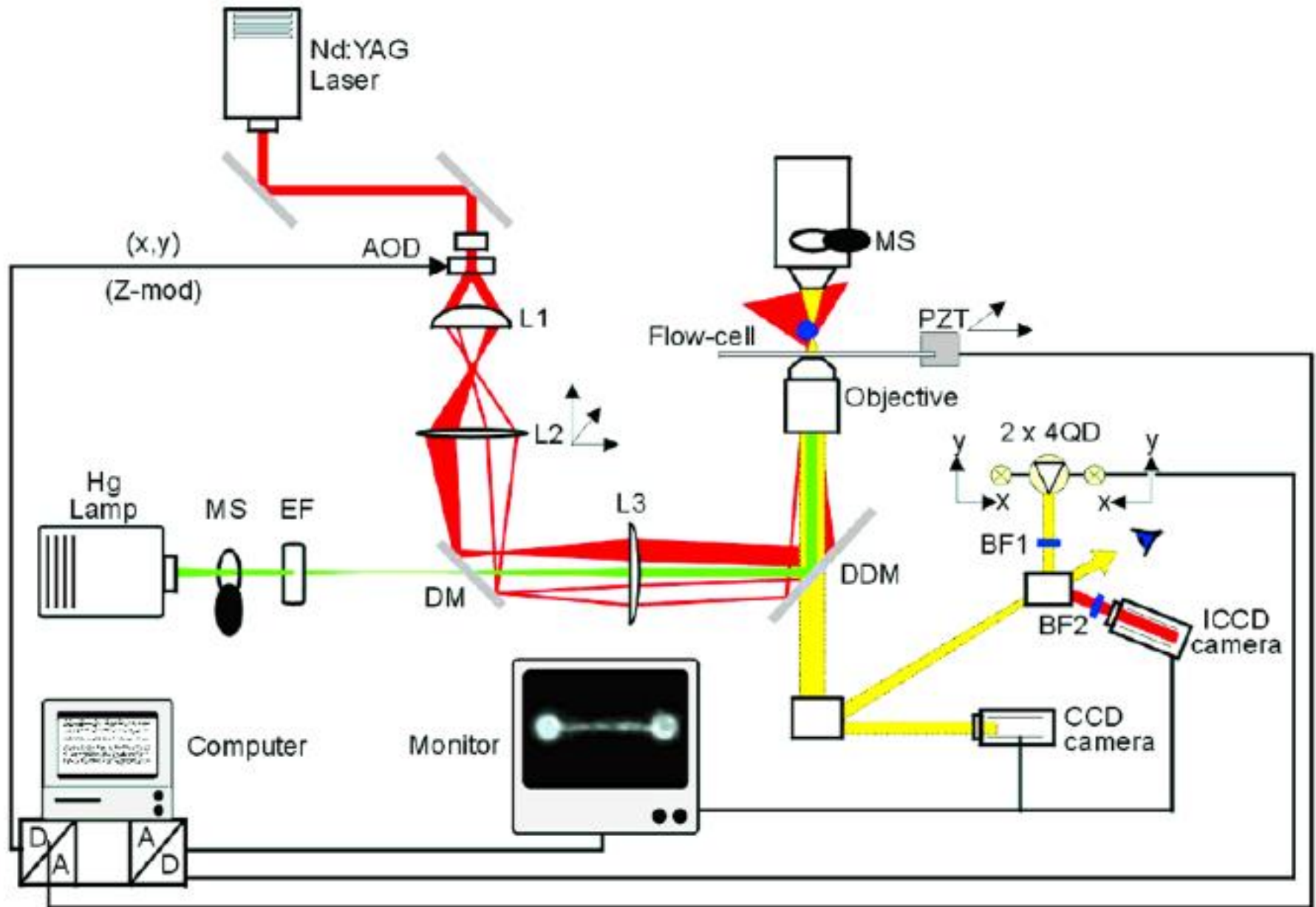


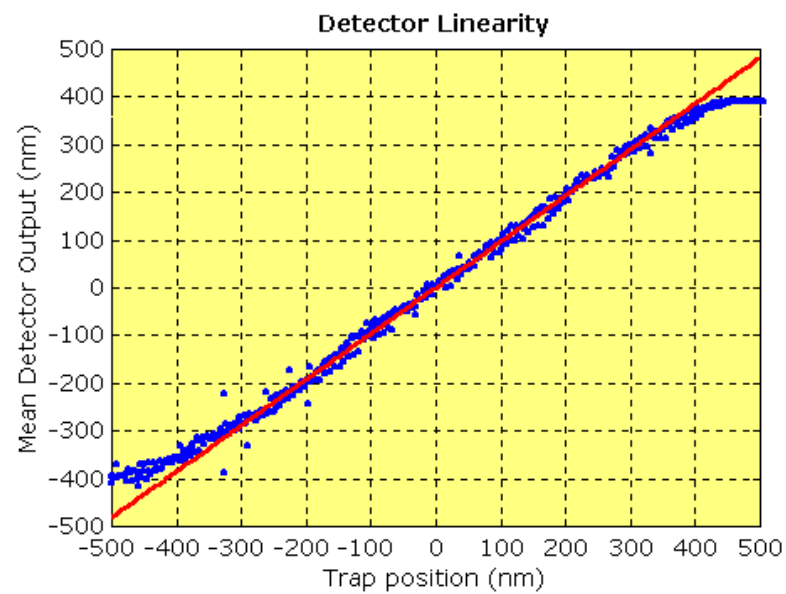
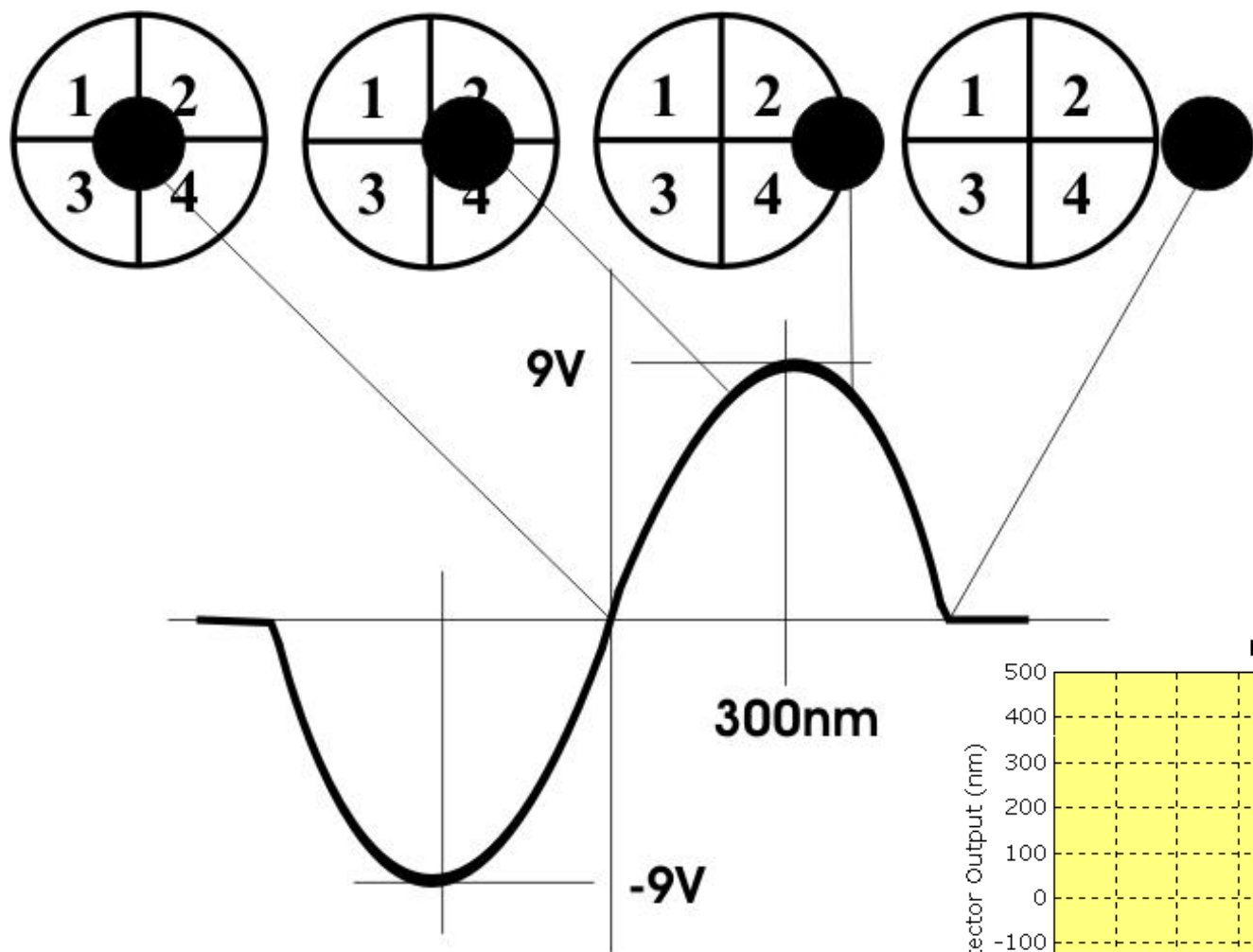
Nd:YAG laser



Move Laser beam very rapidly using Acousto-Optic Device "AOD"

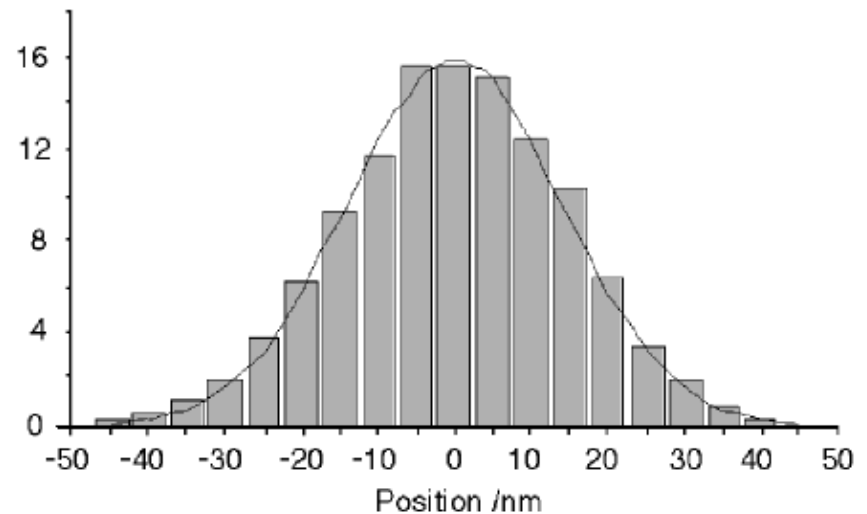
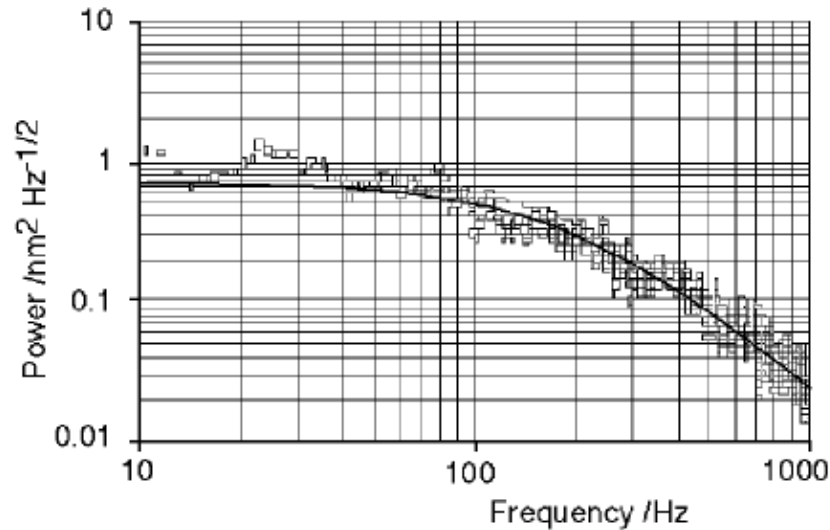
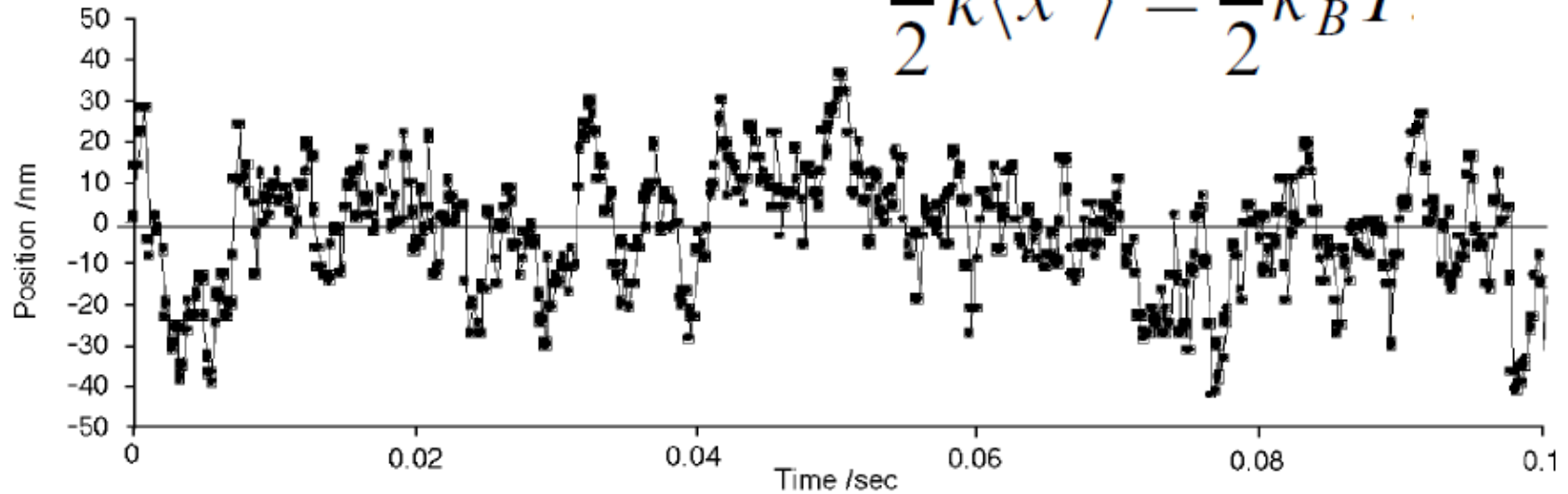
Realistically – things are a bit more complicated!





# Thermal motion of an optically trapped particle

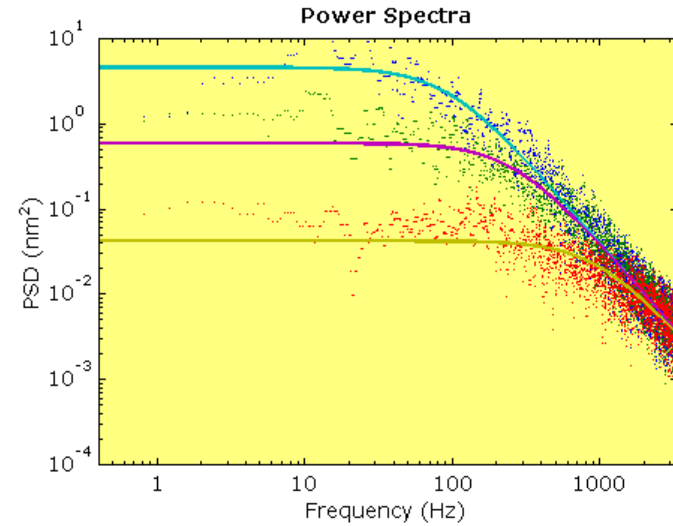
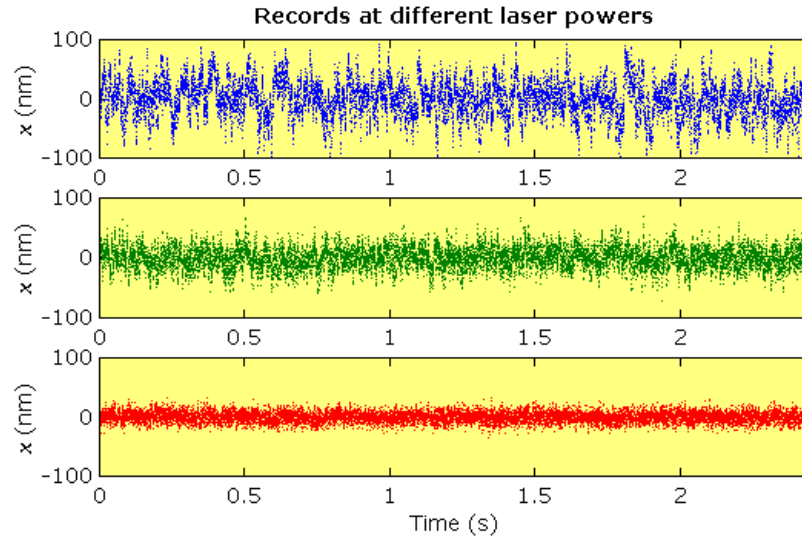
$$\frac{1}{2}\kappa\langle x^2\rangle = \frac{1}{2}k_B T.$$



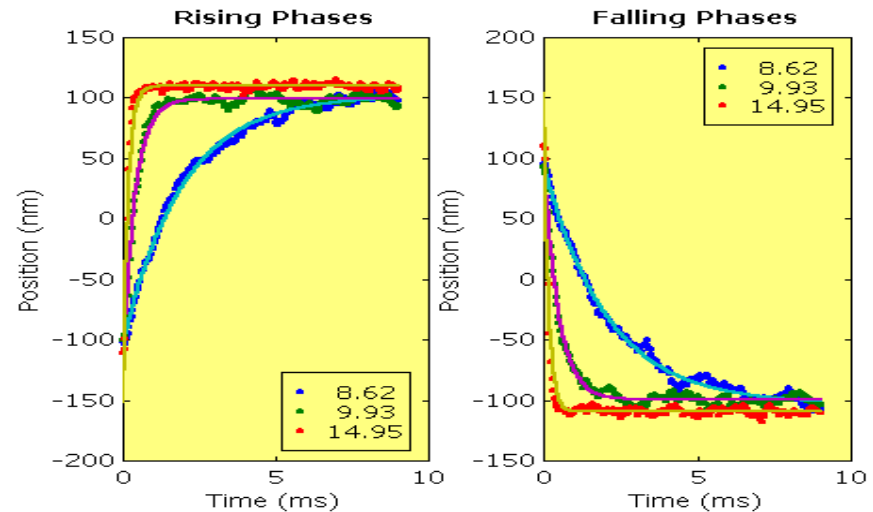
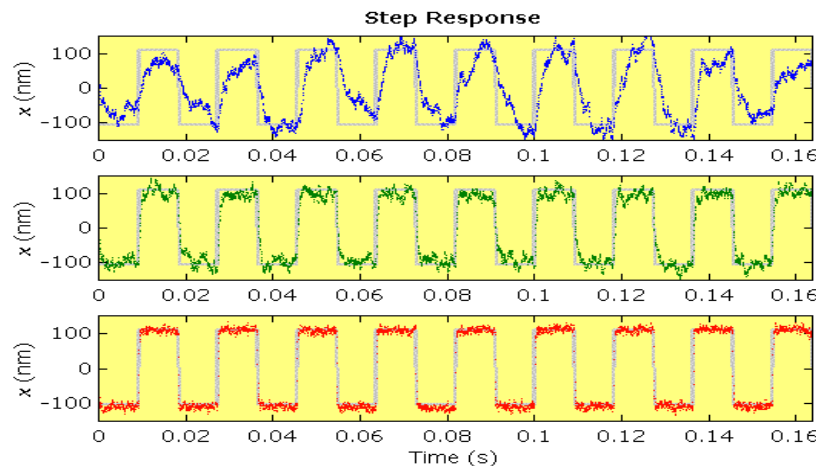
Thermal noise is  $\sim 14$  nm r.m.s.

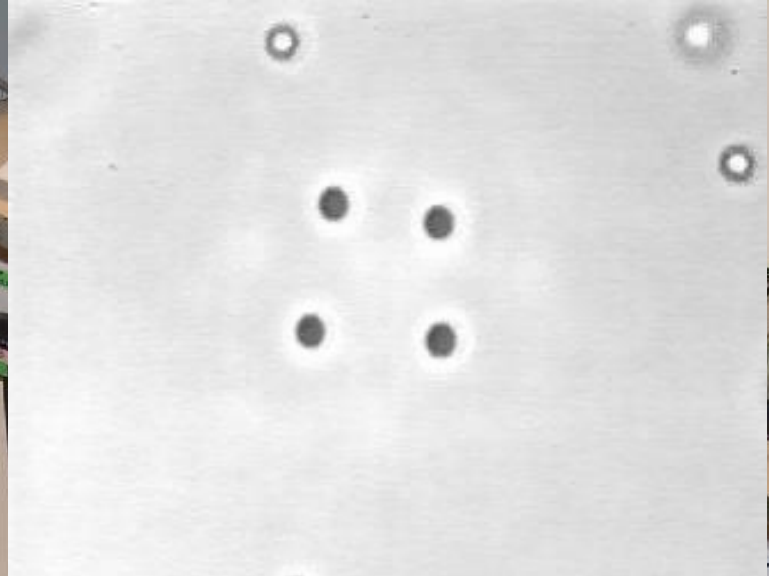
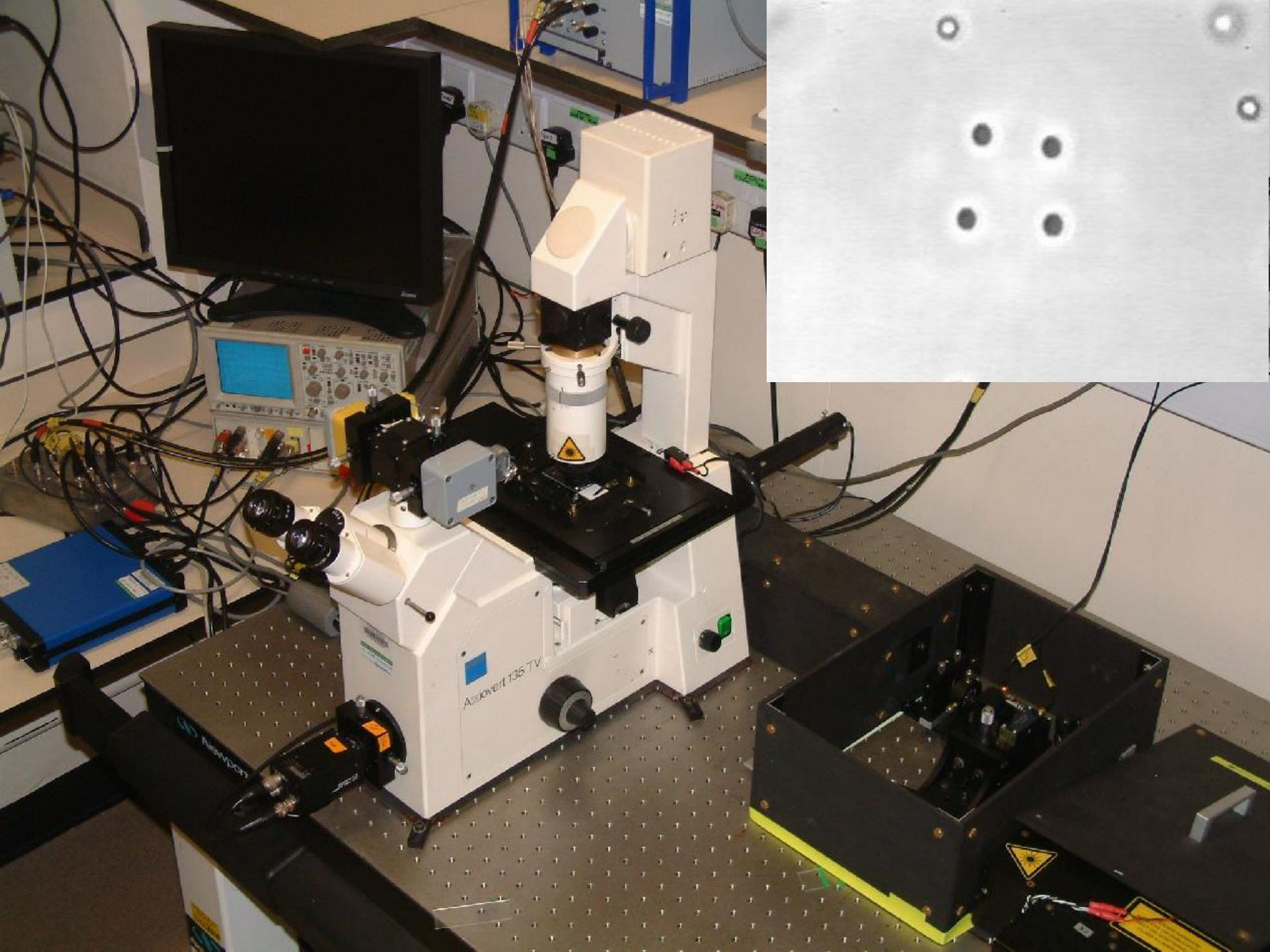
# Calibrate optical trap stiffness

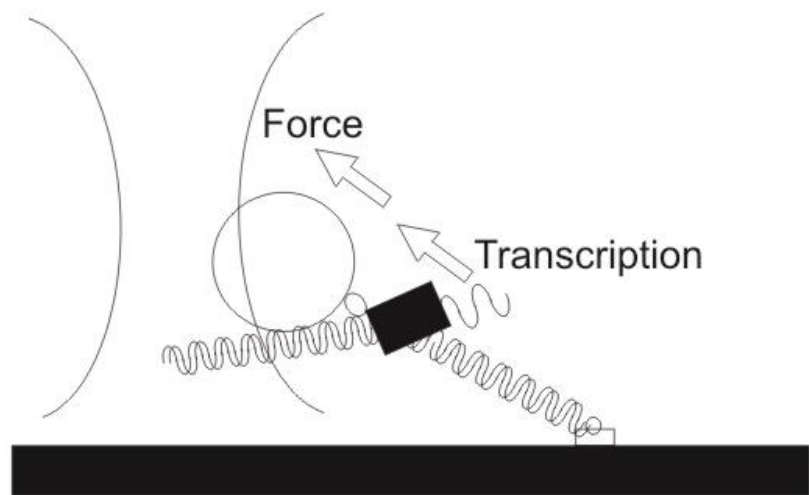
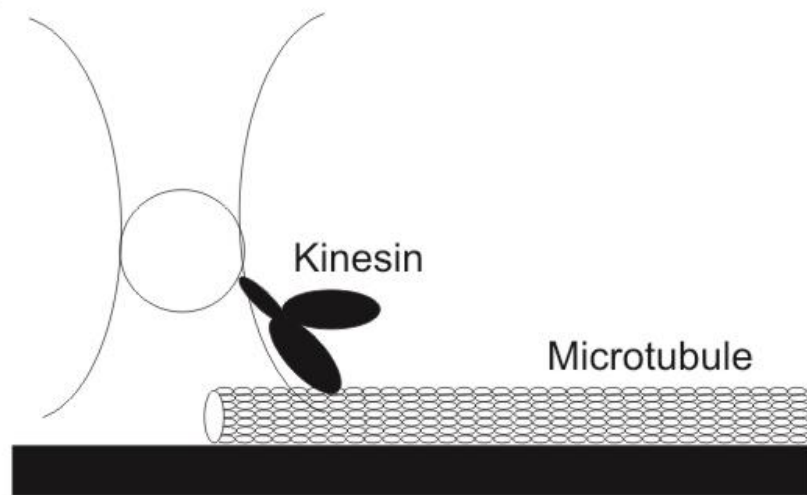
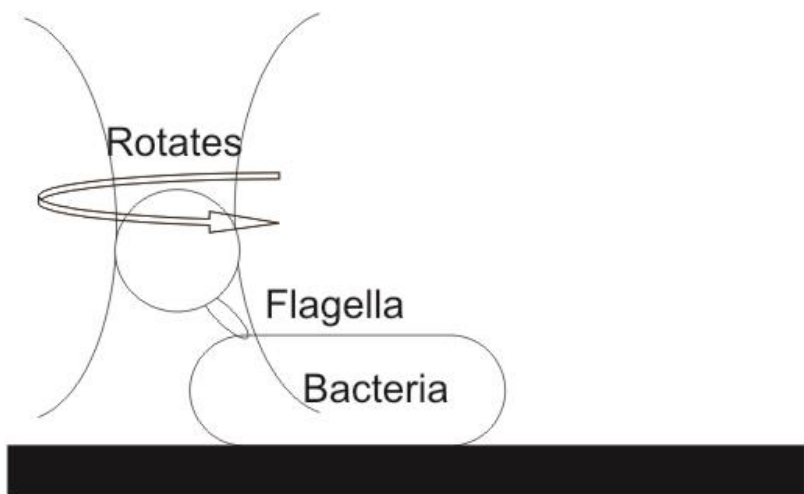
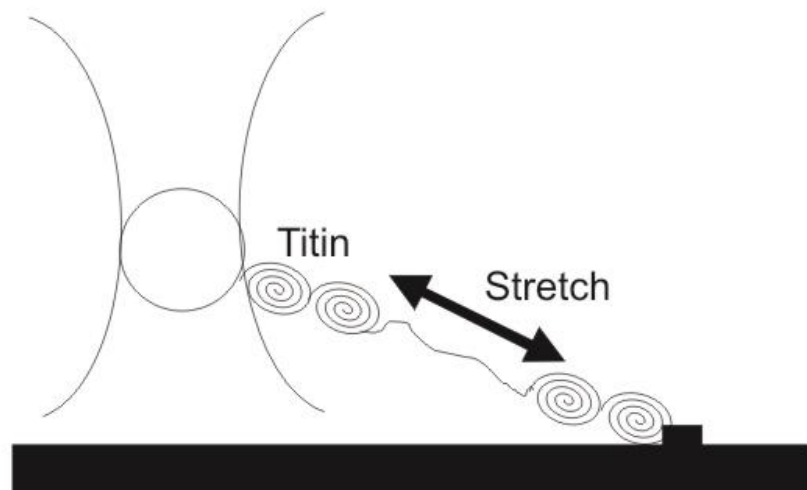
## 1) Record thermal noise



## 2) Impose viscous drag





**A****B****C****D**

# Why work with individual molecules?

- Single molecule experiments can give unequivocal information about how enzymes work and can provide new insights into enzyme mechanism.
- Sequential steps that make up biochemical pathways can be observed directly. The chemical trajectory of an individual enzyme can be followed in space and time.
- There is no need to synchronise a population in order to study the biochemical kinetics
- Single molecule data sets can be treated in a wide variety of ways – e.g. can specifically look for heterogeneity in behaviour (ie strain dependence of rate constants, effects of membrane structure, etc).



# Single molecule experiments:

## Energy calculations:

1 Photon	= 400 pN.nm
1 ATP	= 100 pN.nm
1 Ion moving across a membrane	= 10 pN.nm
Thermal energy ( $k_bT$ )	= 4 pN.nm

$$\{ \underline{1\text{pN.nm} = 1 \times 10^{-21} \text{Joules}} \}$$

# SINGLE MOLECULE TECHNOLOGIES:

- **Some single molecule methods have built-in *gain* (or signal amplification)**
  - **Electrical measurements:** – opening of a single ion channel allows thousands of ions to flow across a membrane – this can be measured without greatly affecting the state of the channel
  - **Optical methods:** – A single fluorophore can emit millions of photons and output does not (usually) affect the mechanical or chemical properties of the system being studied.

# Mechanical Studies “no built-in gain” - ***DIFFICULTY 6.6***

- Optical Tweezers

- Low force regime (e.g. “conformational” changes)
- Total spatial control in 3-dimensions
- Protein-Protein & Protein-Ligand interactions

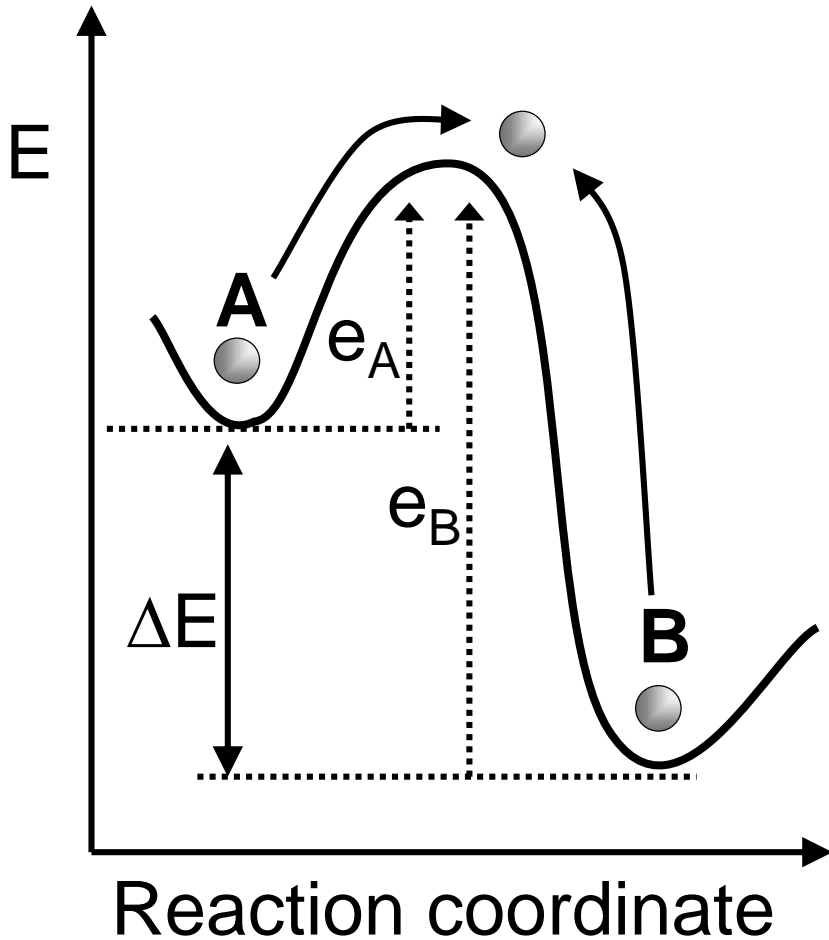
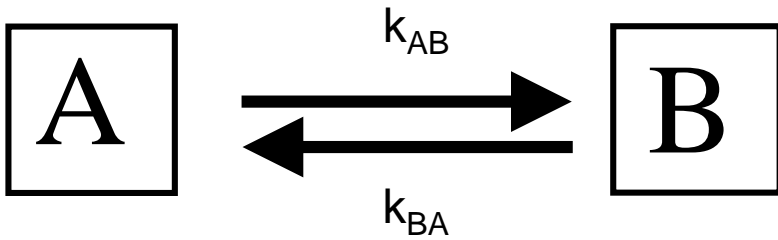
- Magnetic Tweezers

- Low force regime (only z-axis control)
- Ability to apply torque (twist)
- DNA topology and DNA-protein interactions

- AFM

- High force regime (e.g. unfolding)
- Imaging (e.g. surface profiling + other methods)
- Protein-Protein & Protein-Ligand interactions

# SINGLE MOLECULE DATA SETS

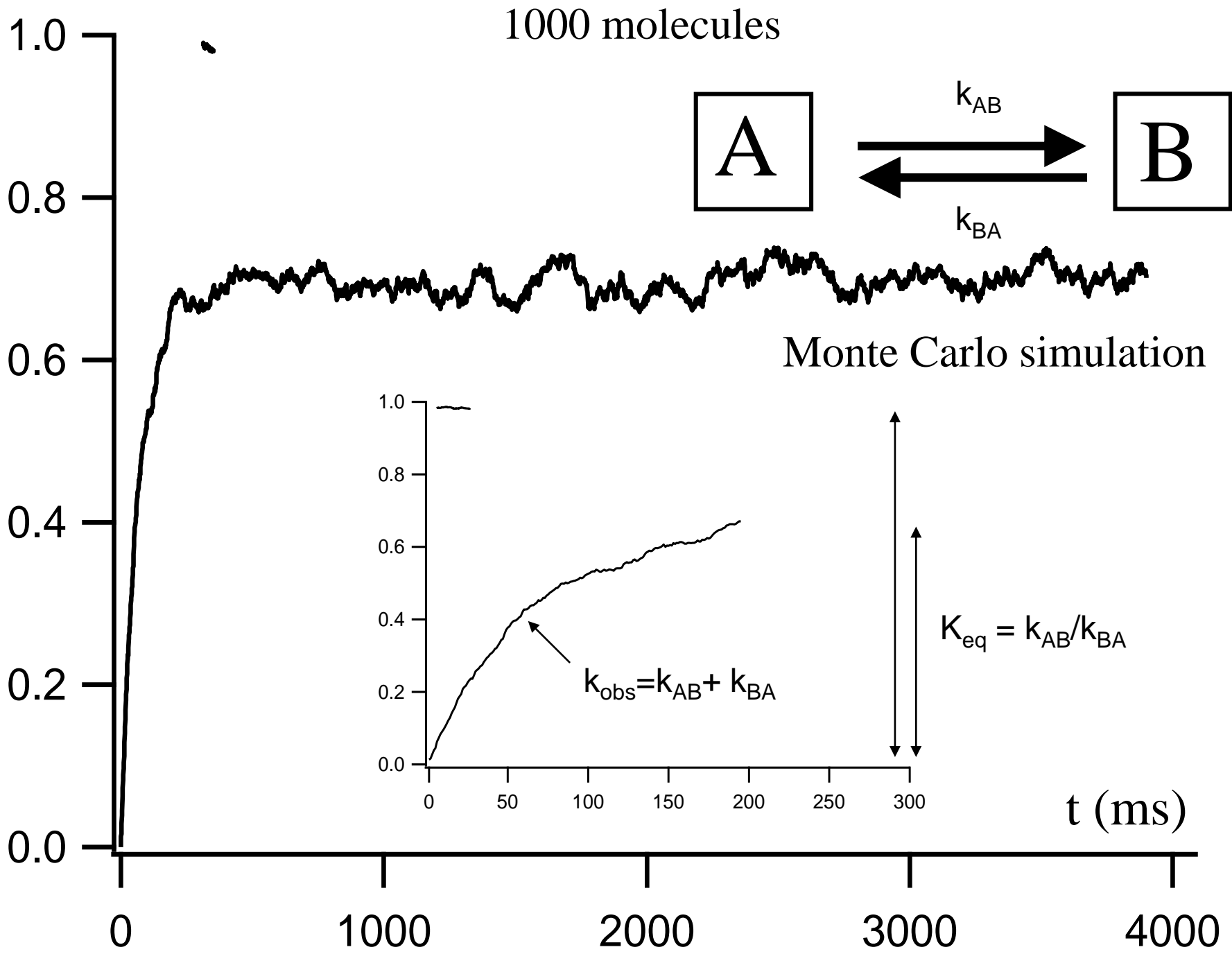


Transition state theory describes the kinetic properties of the system

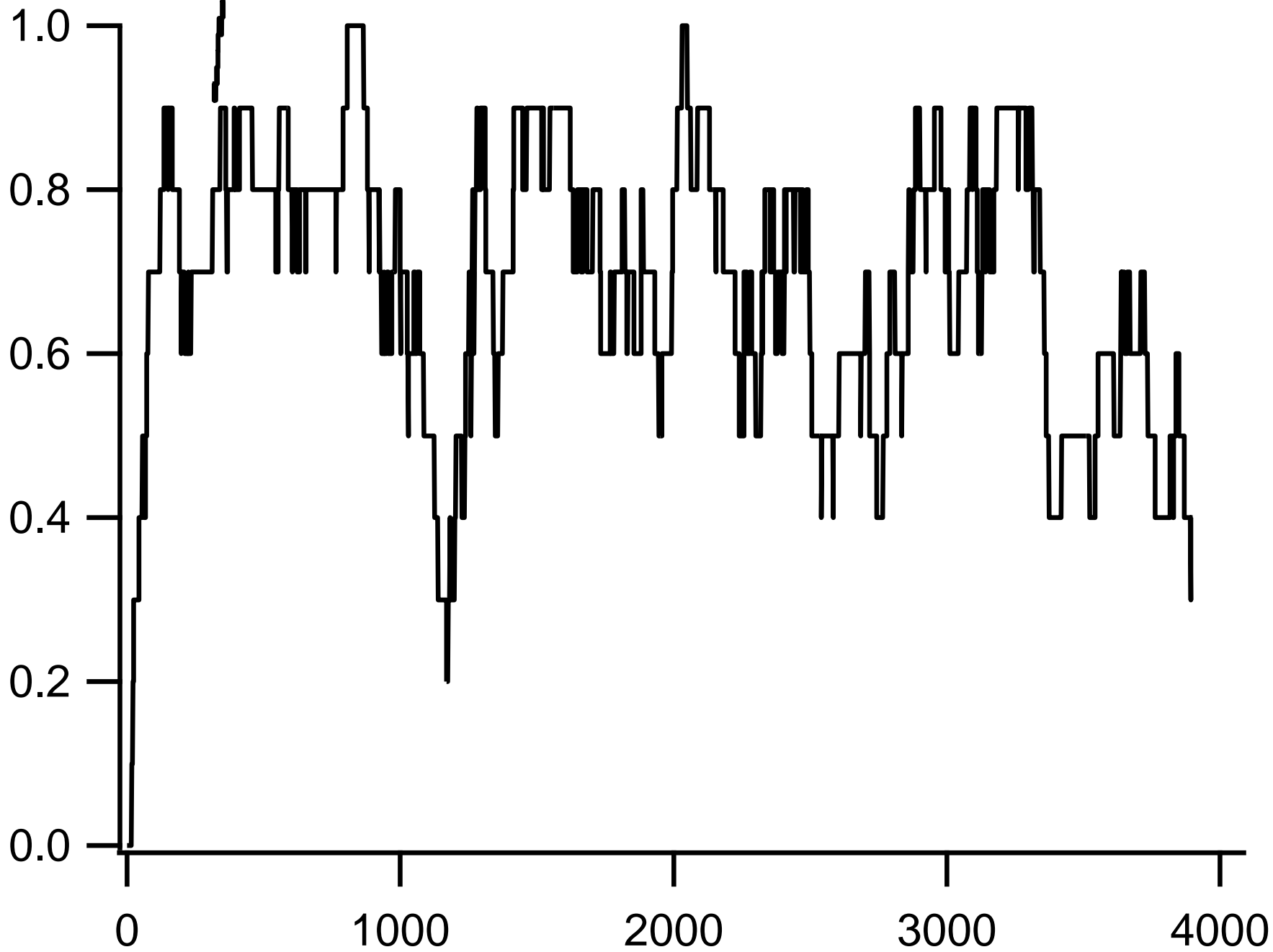
$$k_{AB} \propto e^{\frac{-e_A}{k_b T}} \quad k_{BA} \propto e^{\frac{-e_B}{k_b T}}$$

$$K = \frac{k_{AB}}{k_{BA}} = e^{\frac{-(e_B - e_A)}{k_b T}} = e^{\frac{-\Delta E}{k_b T}}$$

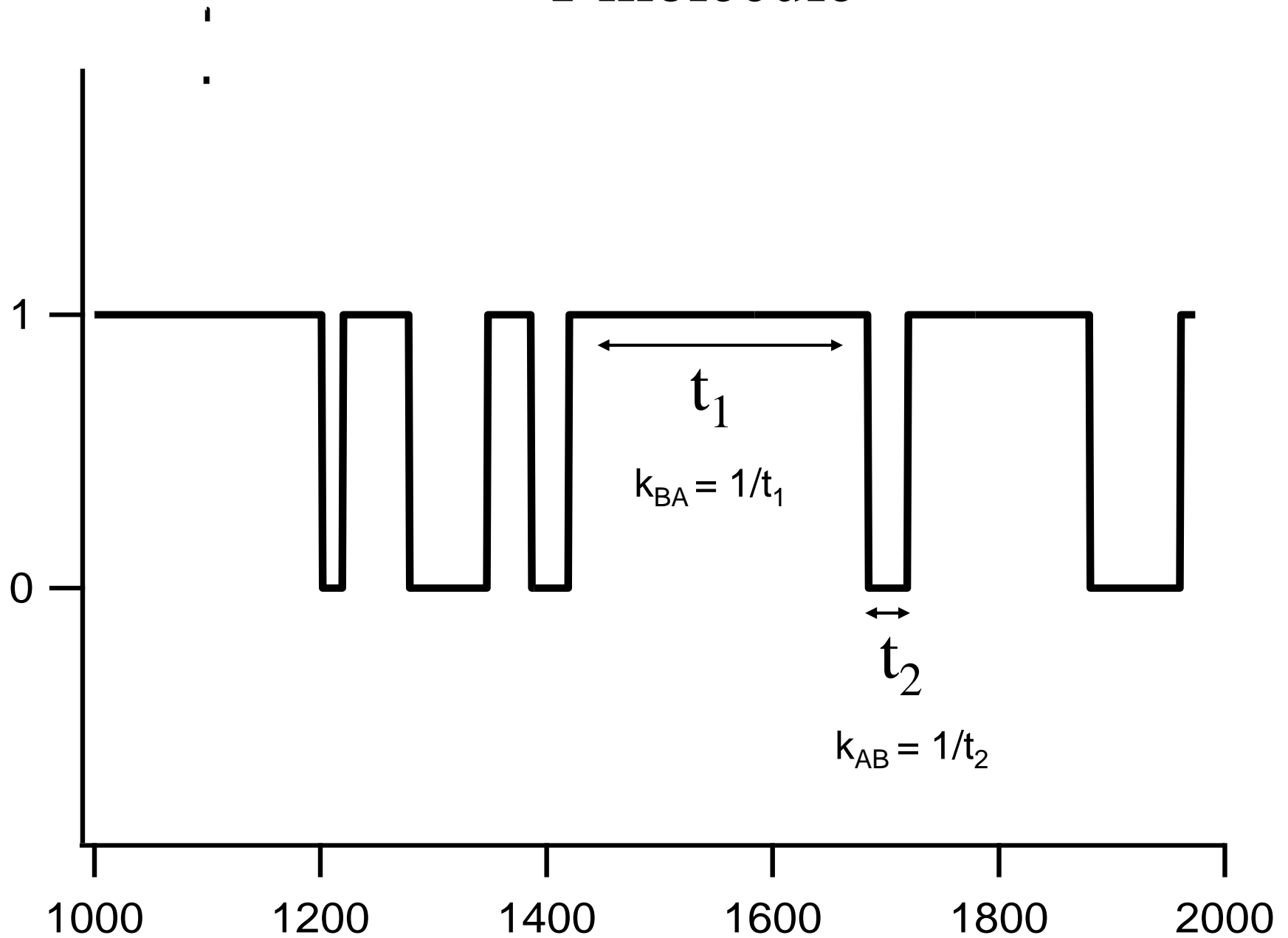

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10 molecules



# 1 molecule

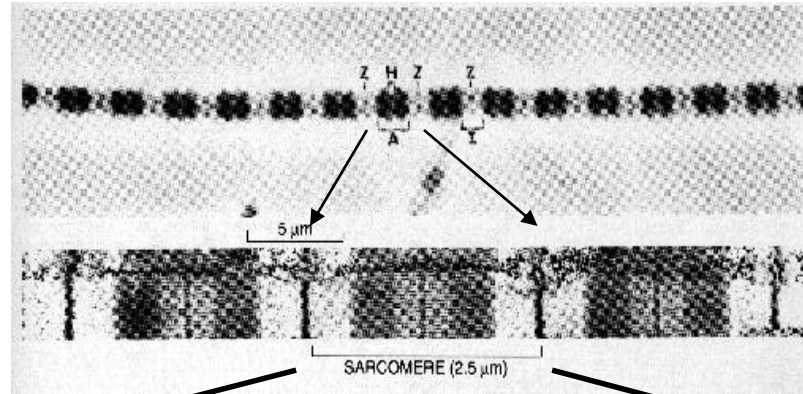




How can we use optical tweezers to understand how molecular motors produce force and movement from ATP?

# Filament sliding causes muscle to shorten:

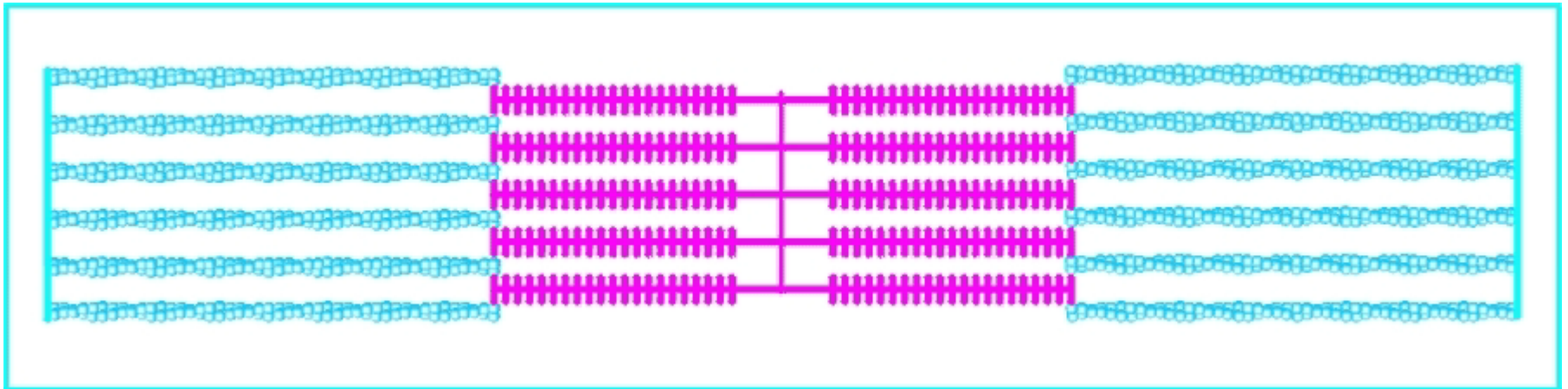
myofibril



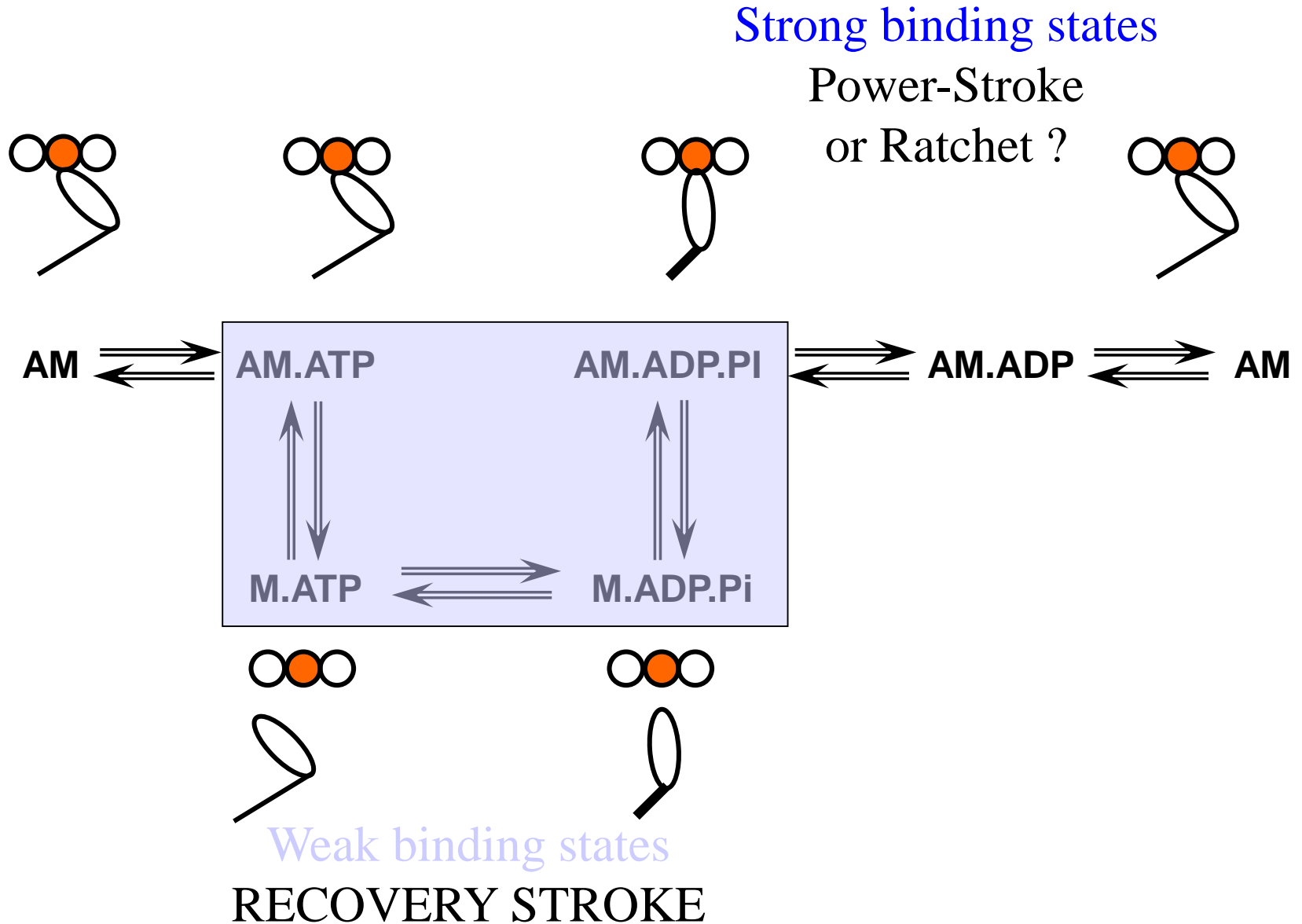
Light micrograph

Electron micrograph

sarcomere

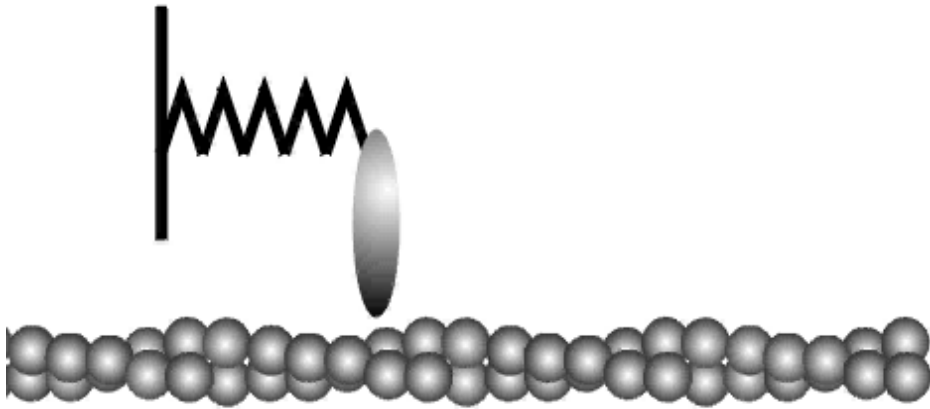


# Acto-myosin ATPase pathway



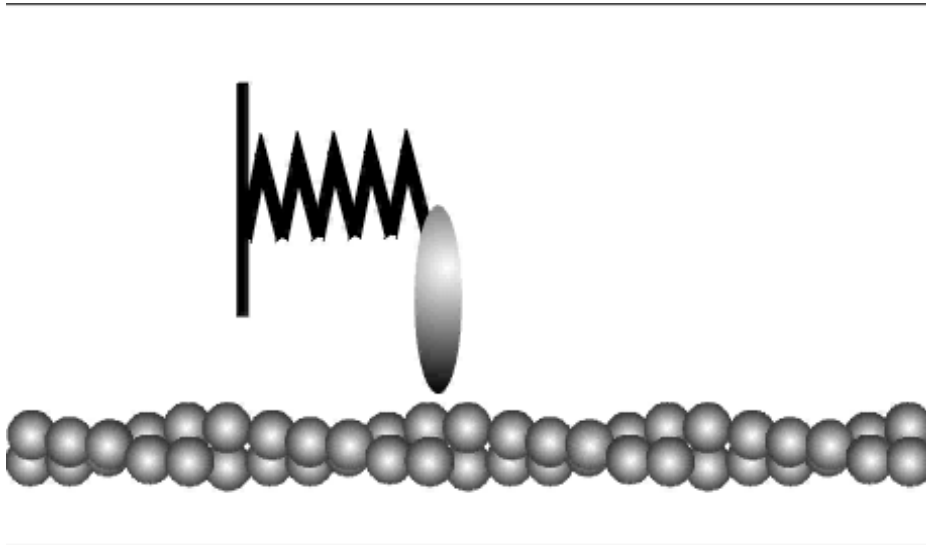
# How do myosin motors actually produce force and movement?

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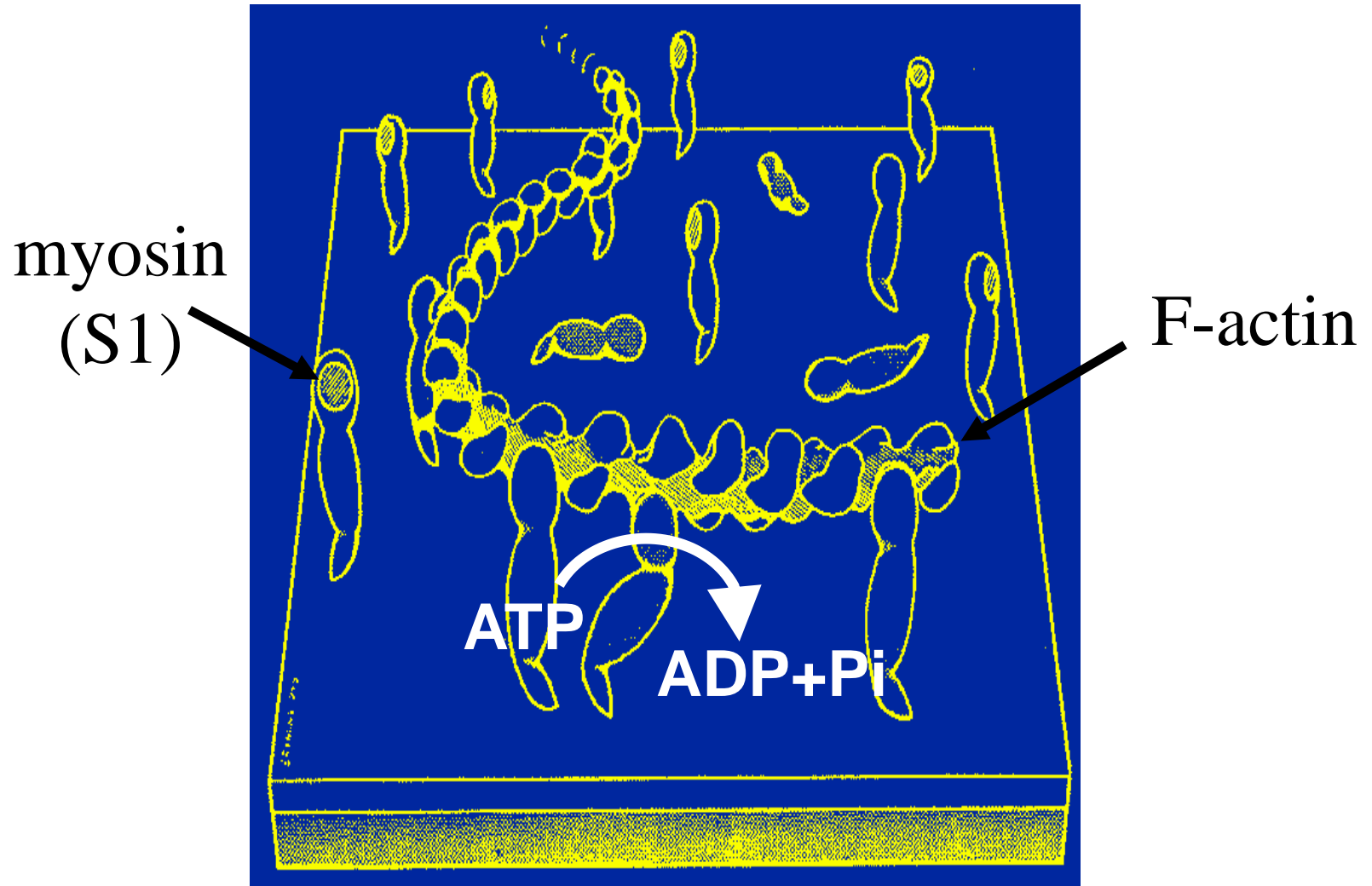
Thermal Ratchet

or



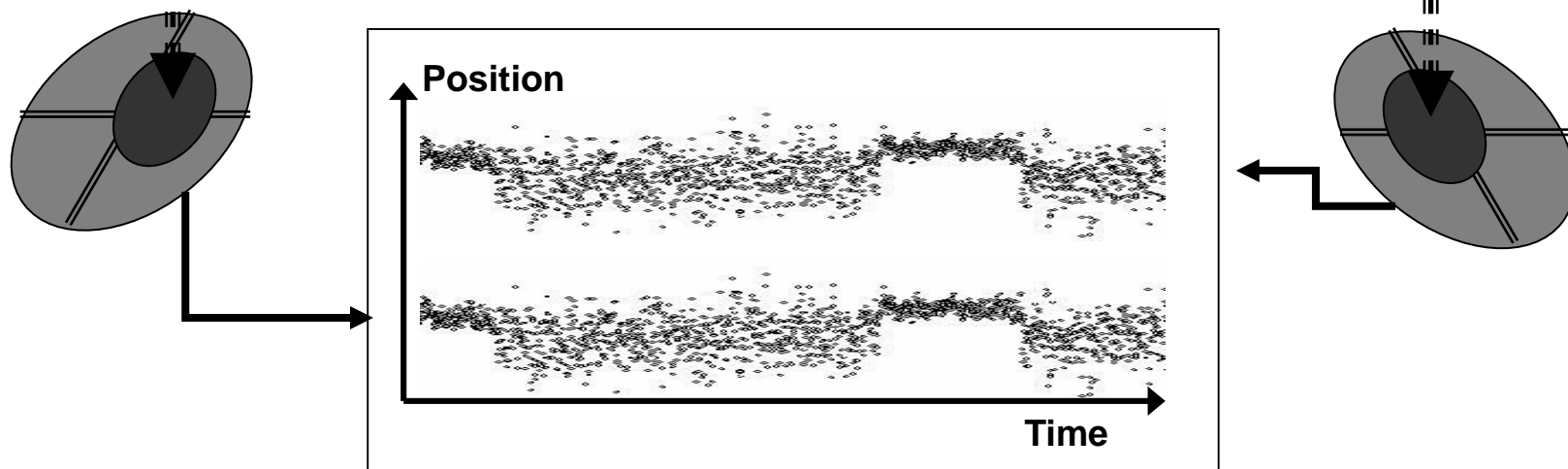
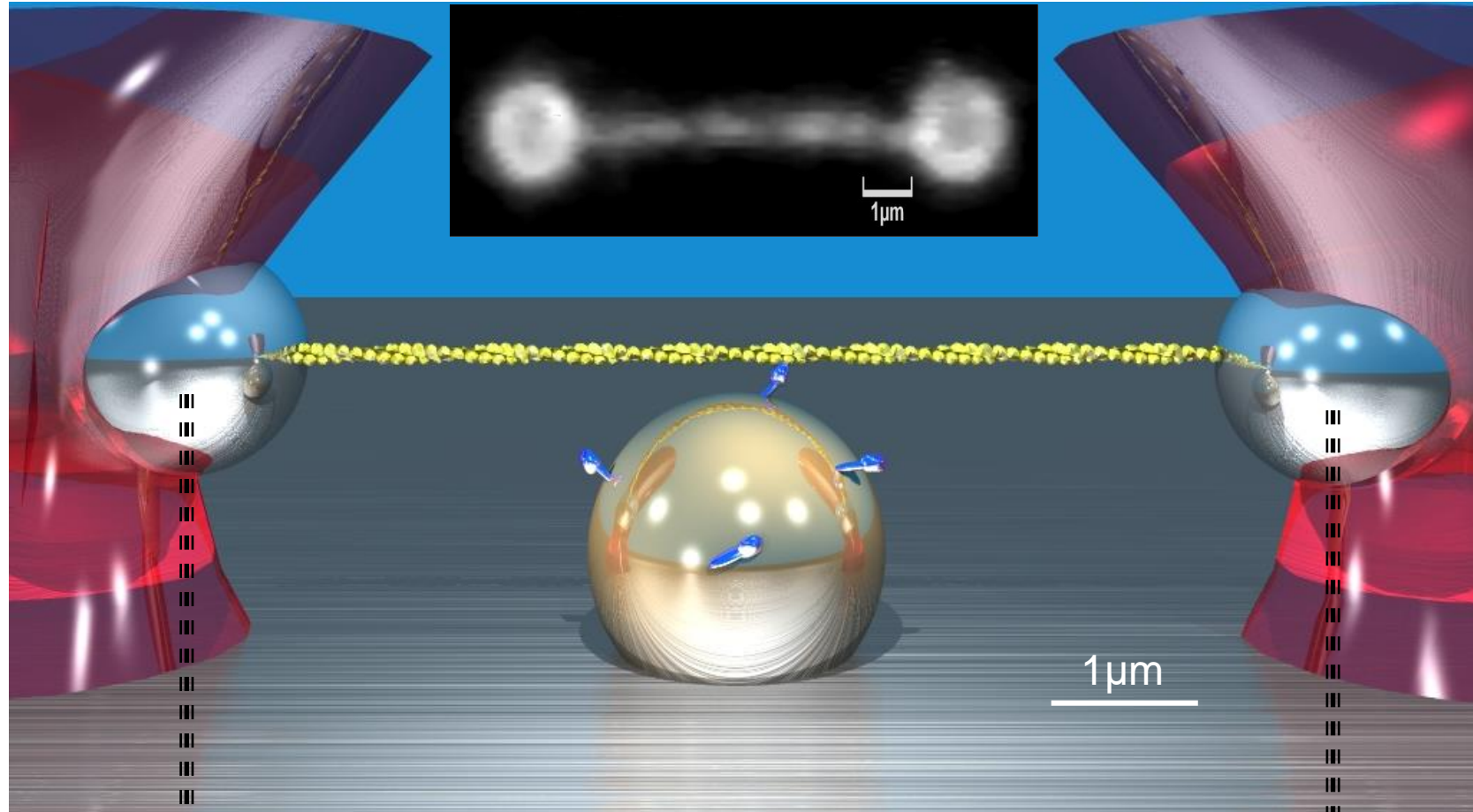
Powerstroke  
conformational  
change

# Acto-myosin *in vitro* motility assay :





—————  $10\mu\text{m}$



# Optical trapping of acto-myosin

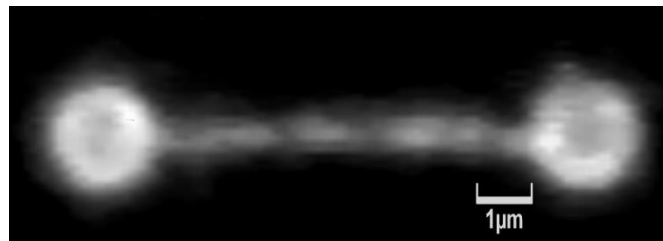
**Actin Filament Held Between  
Two Latex Beads**

**Coated with :  
Monomeric NEM-Myosin  
& BSA-TRITC**

**Interacting with :  
1.7 $\mu$ m glass bead**

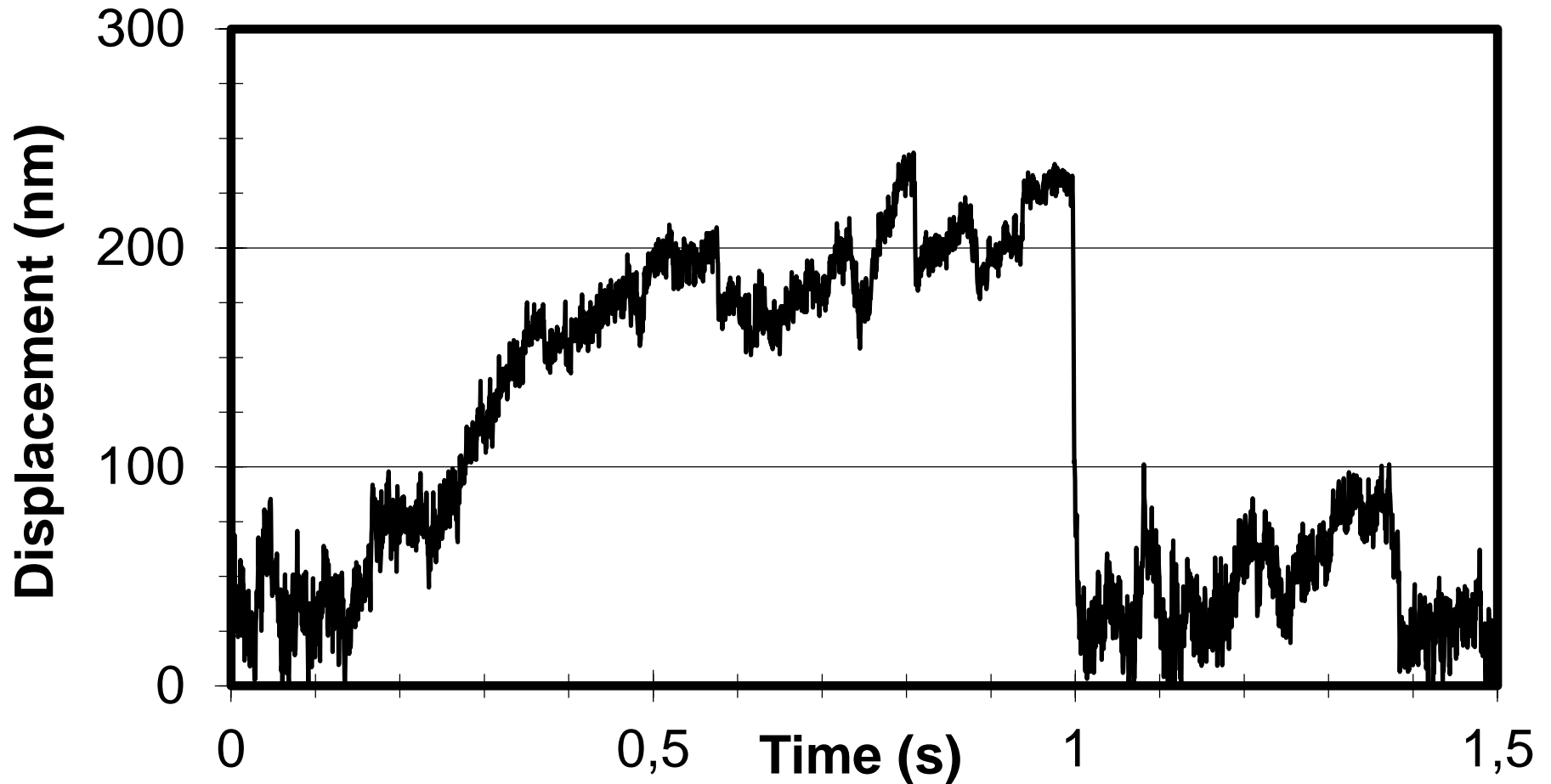
**Coated with :  
HMM @ 50 $\mu$ g/ml**

**[ATPI] = 2 $\mu$ M**

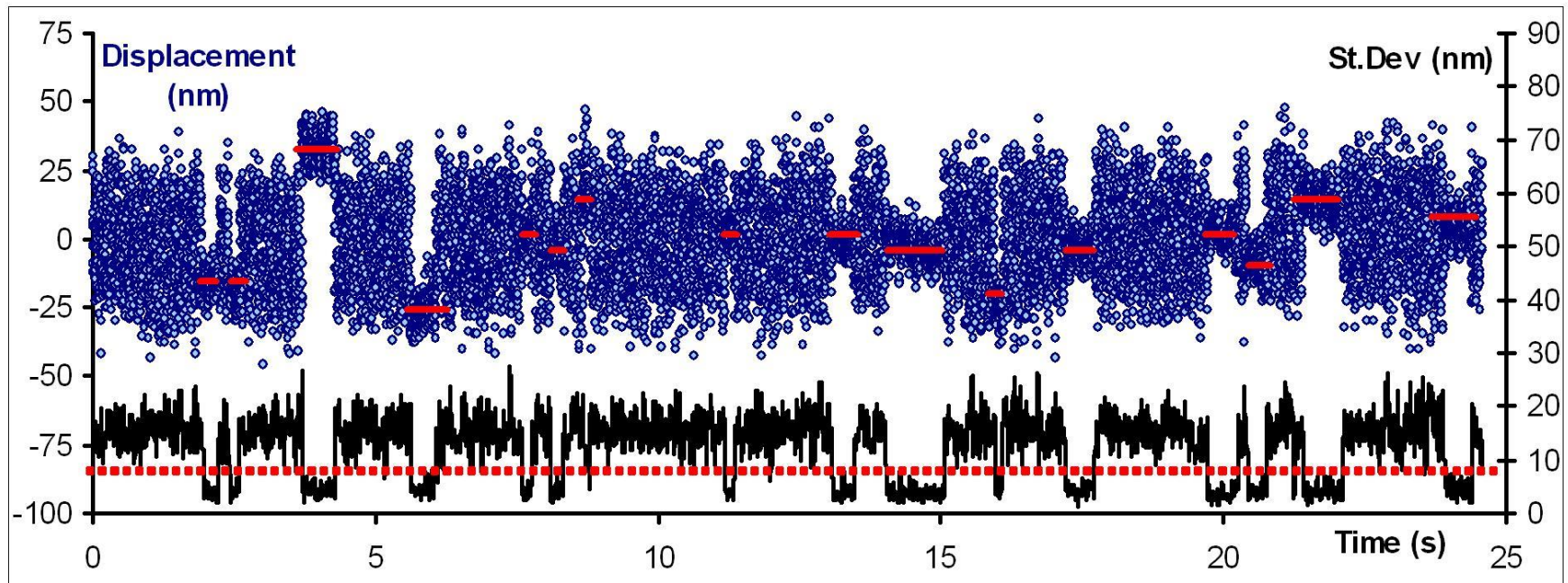




At HIGH myosin surface density many molecules work together to produce sliding.

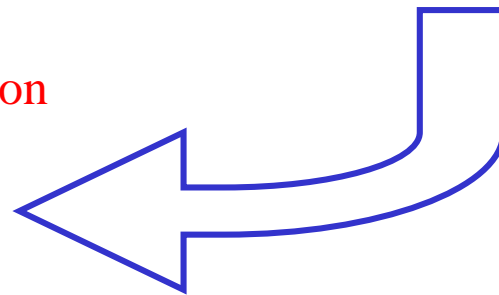
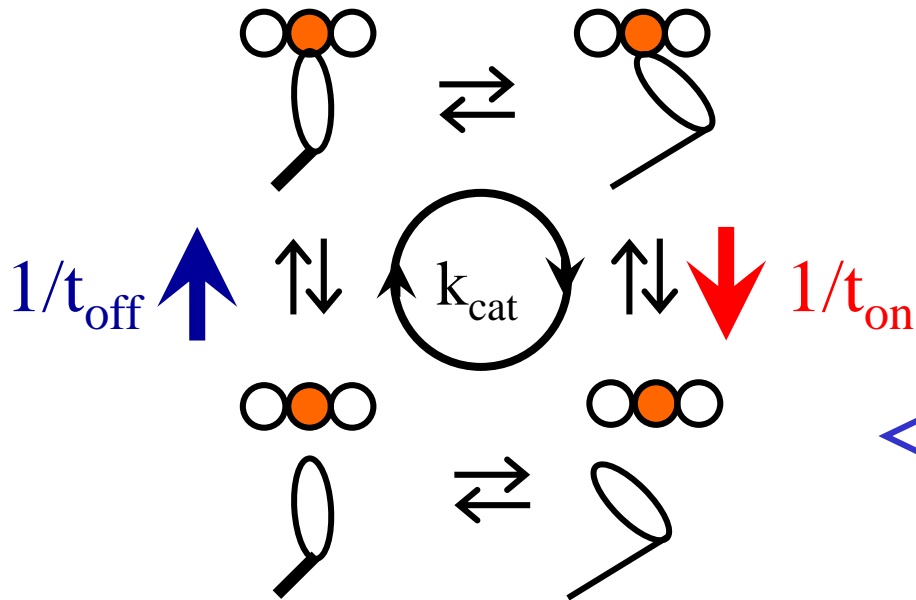
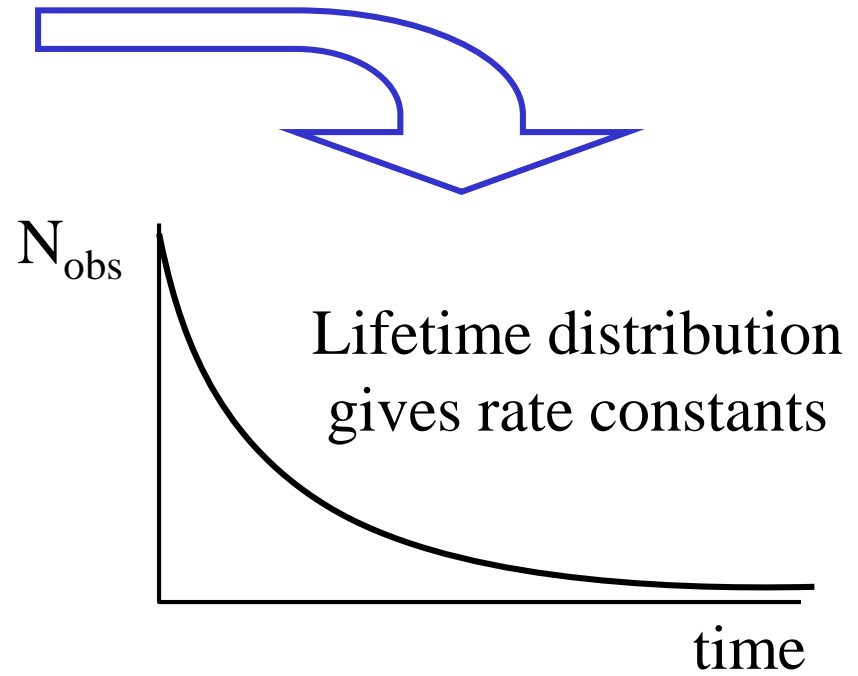
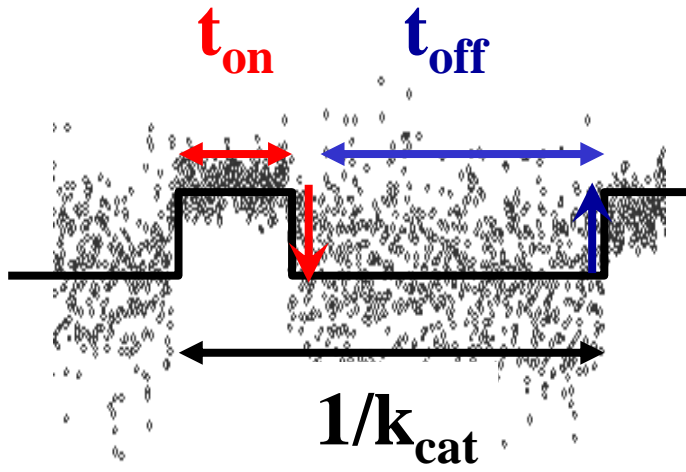


At LOW myosin surface density  
single binding interactions become visible.

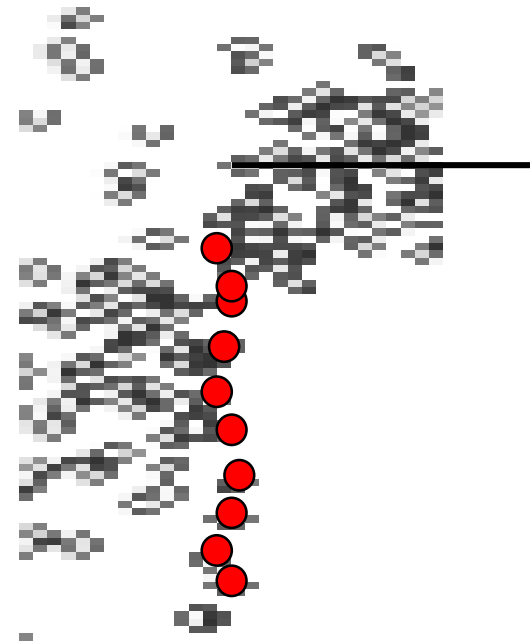
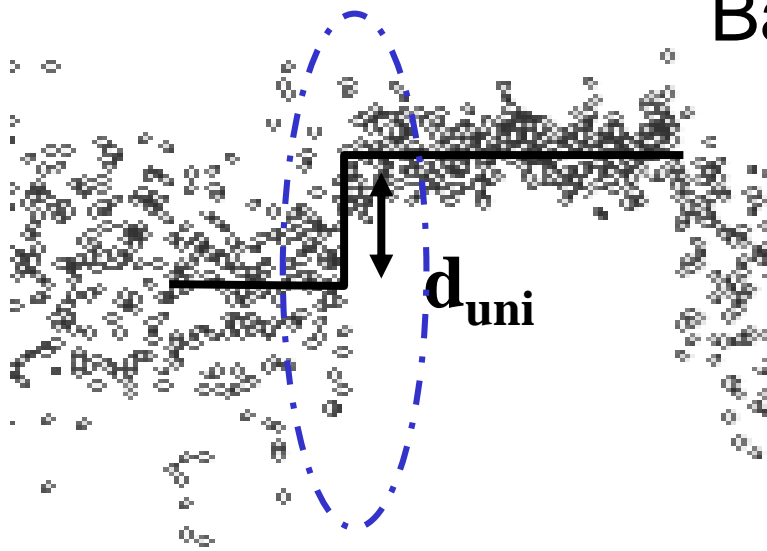


Note: The individual events are “mixed up” with the Brownian noise.  
But, when myosin binds the VARIANCE falls, this helps identify events.

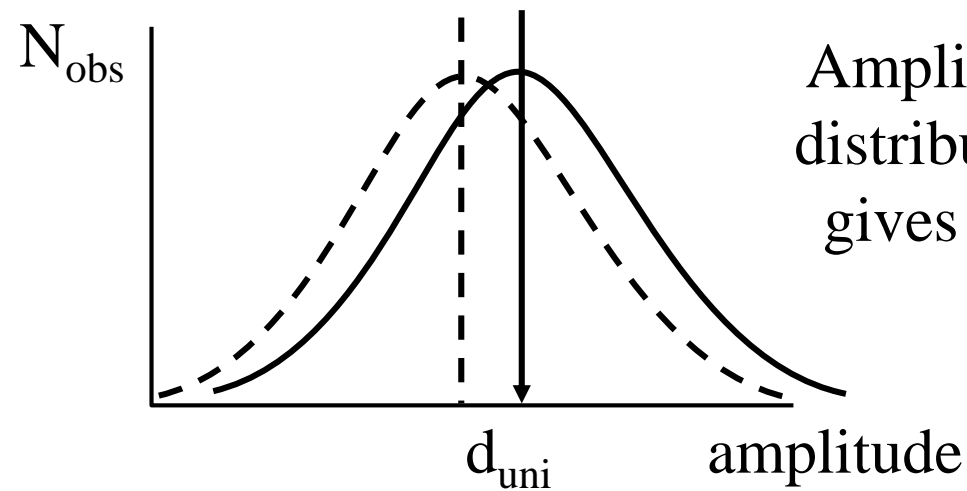
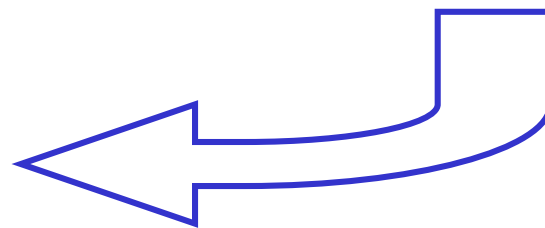
# Basic Analysis (I)



## Basic Analysis (II)

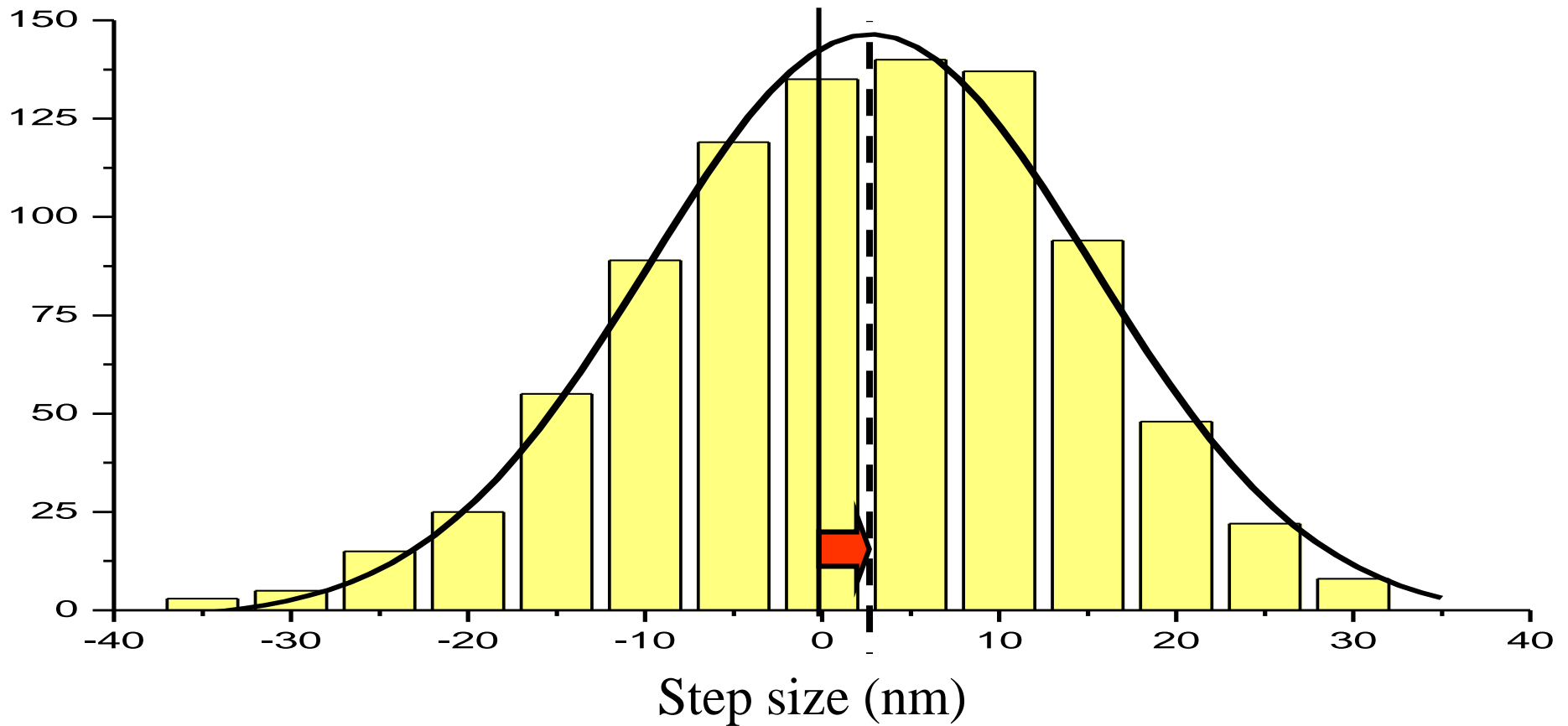


Start point is uncertain

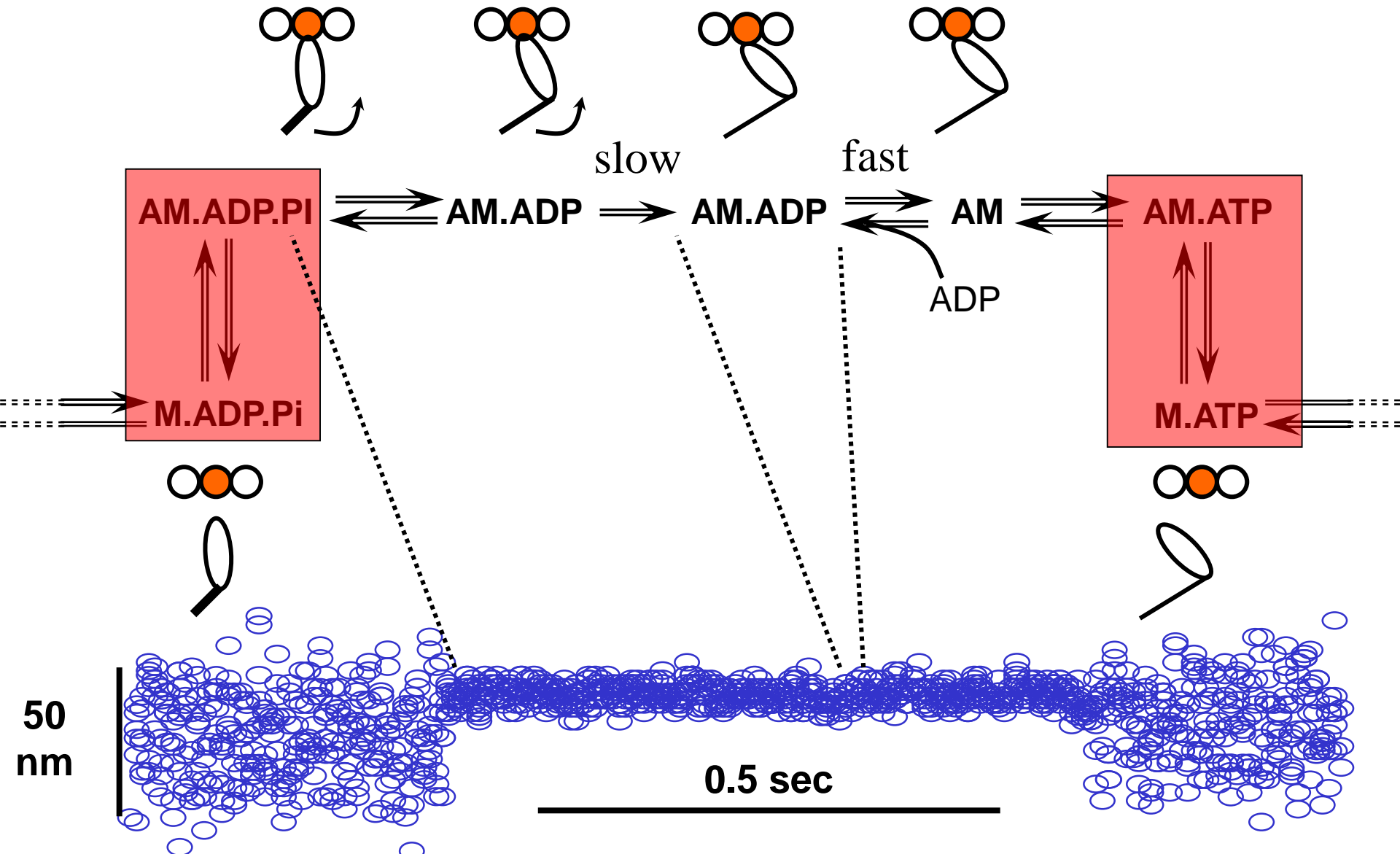


Amplitude distribution gives  $d_{\text{uni}}$

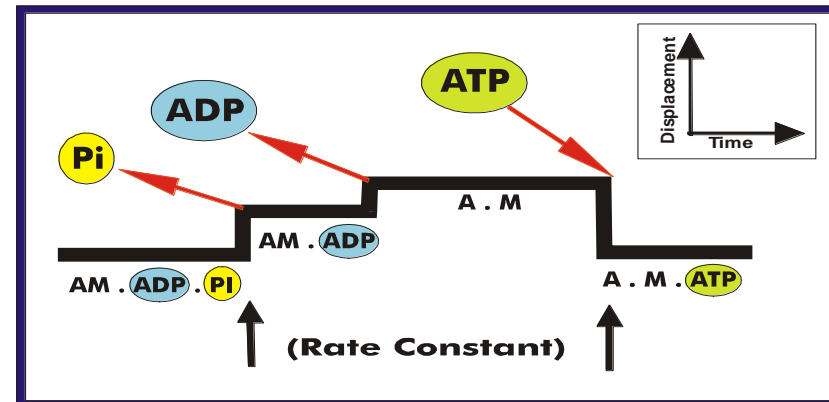
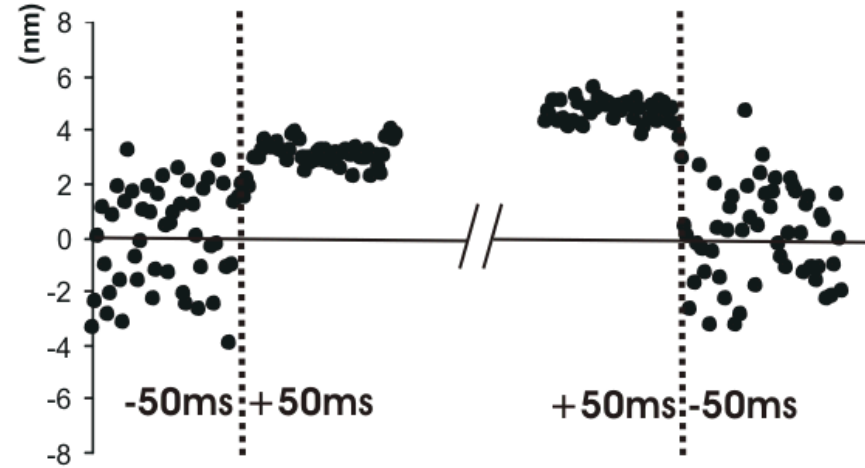
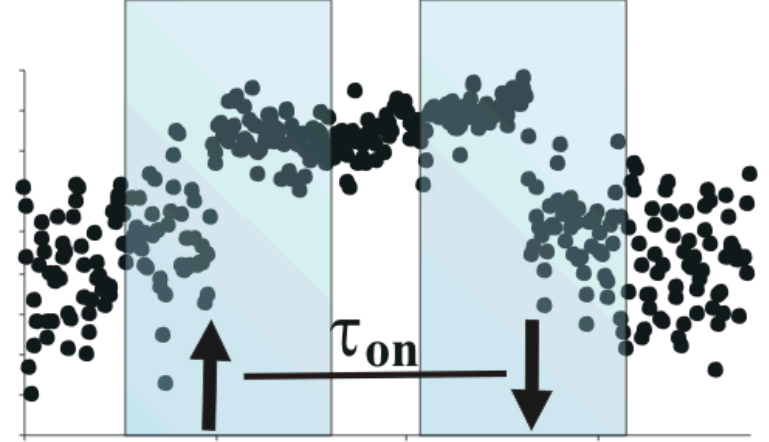
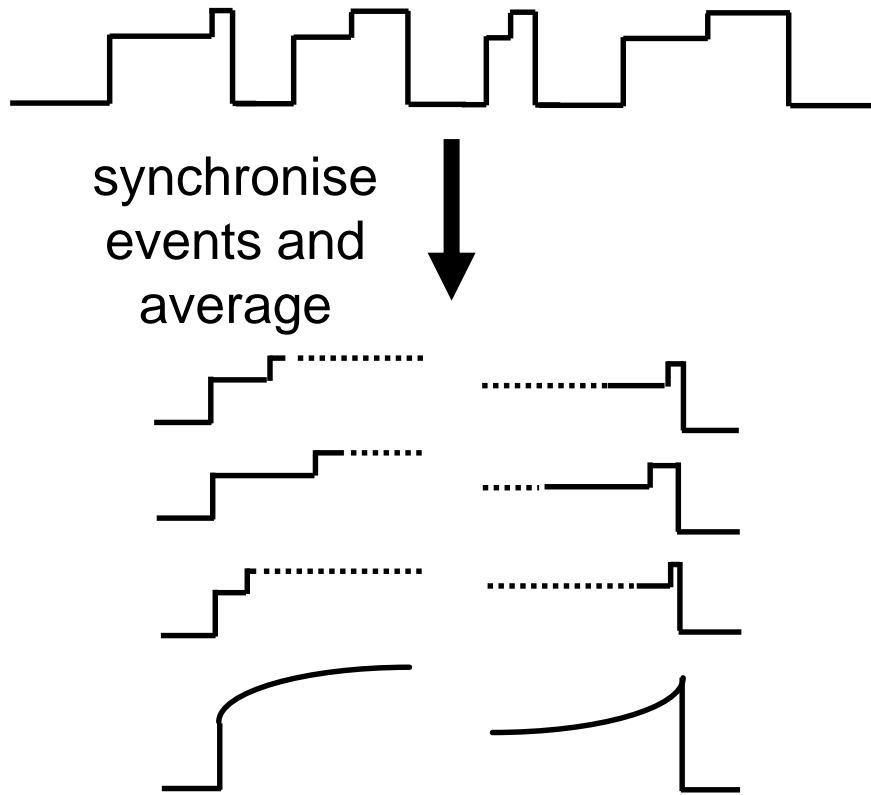
# Size of the power-stroke



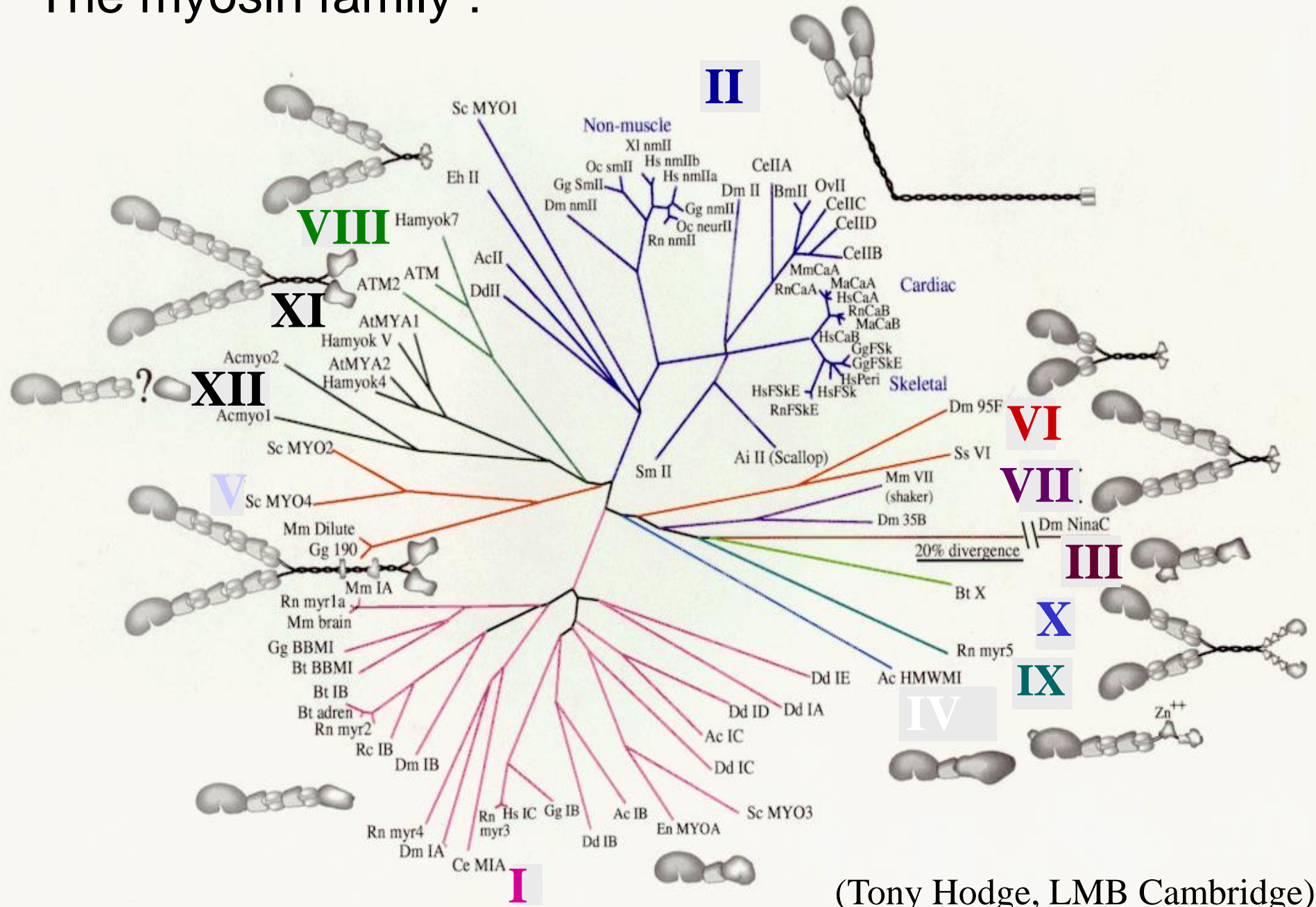
# Mapping mechanics onto the Acto-myosin ATPase



# Ensemble Average



# The myosin family :

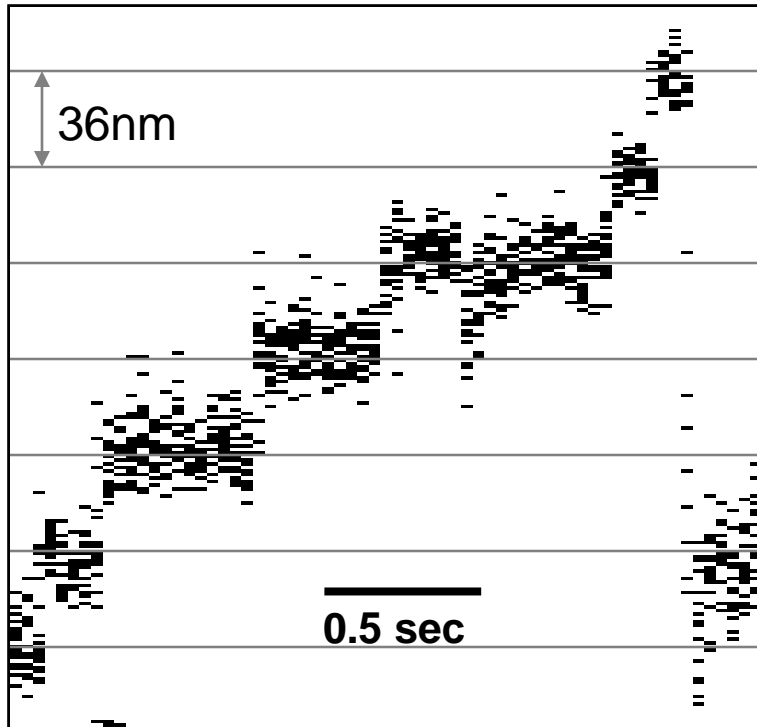
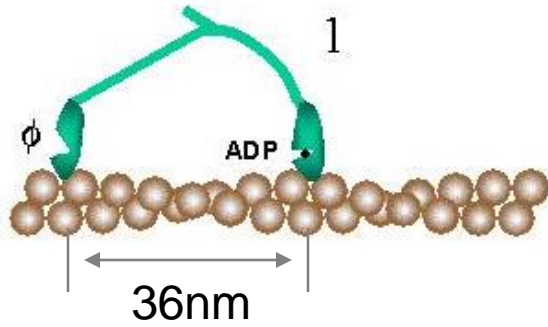




# “Processive” and “Intermittent” motors

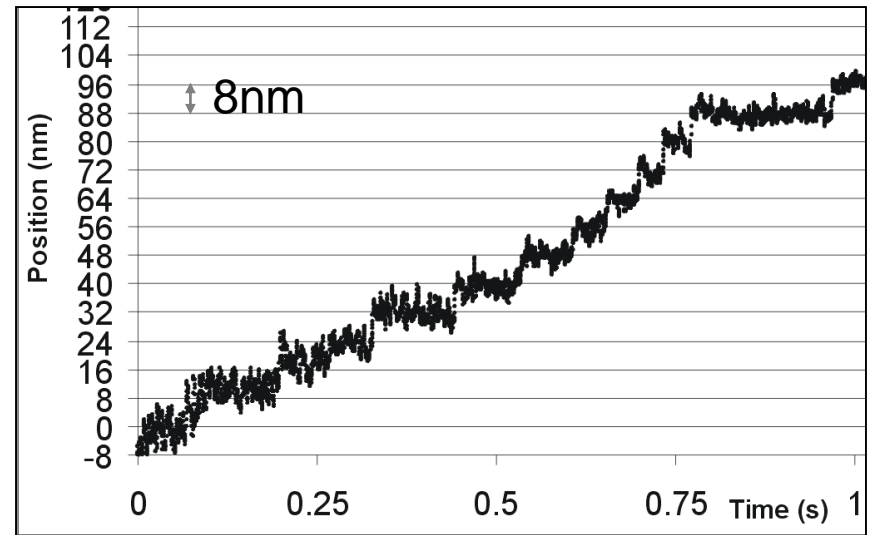
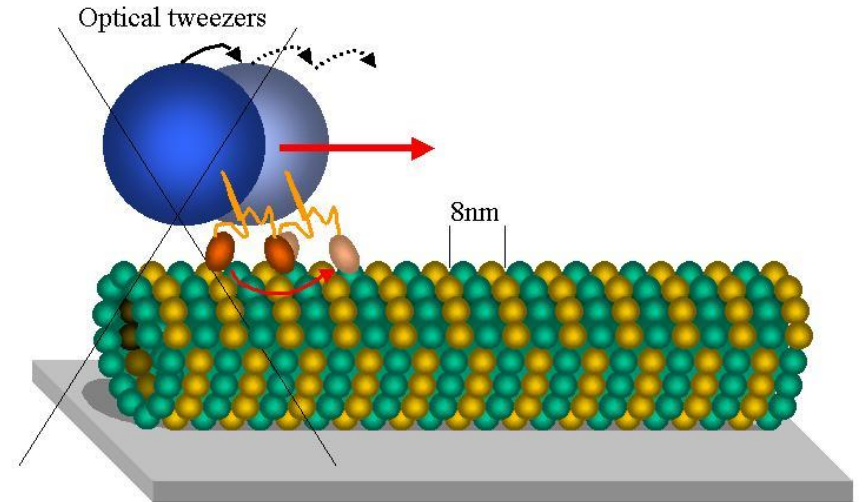
- Most myosins and many kinesins interact in an ***“Intermittent”*** manner with their track. They must **work in teams** to produce large movements and forces.
- kinesin 1, myosin 5, and most DNA processing enzymes are ***“Processive”*** motors and take many steps before detaching from their track. They **work as single molecules.**

# Myosin V

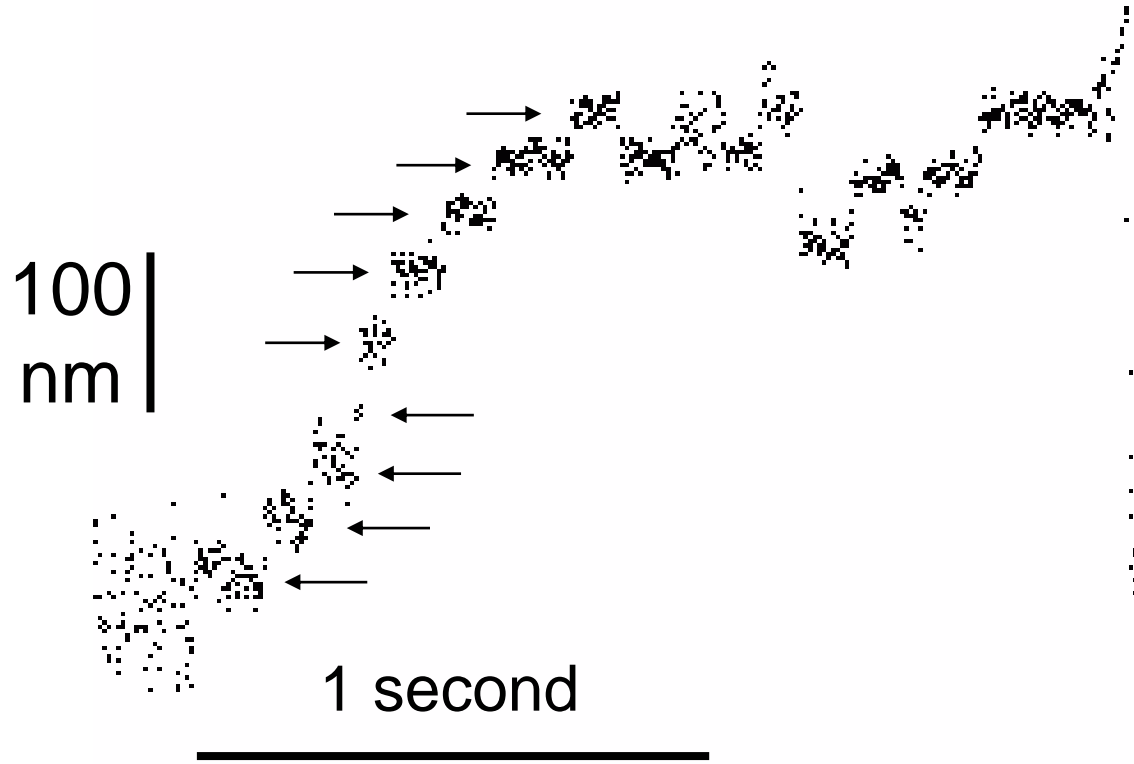


Veigel & Molloy

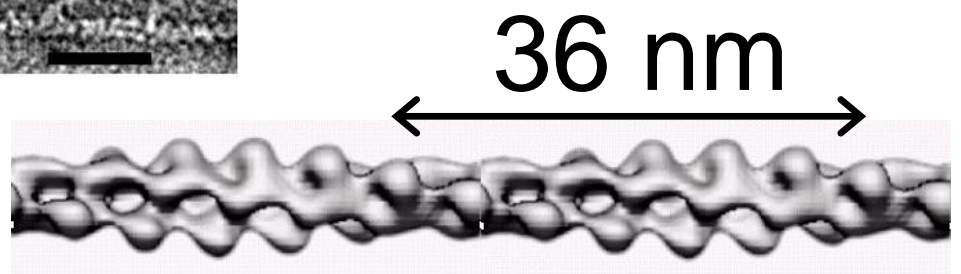
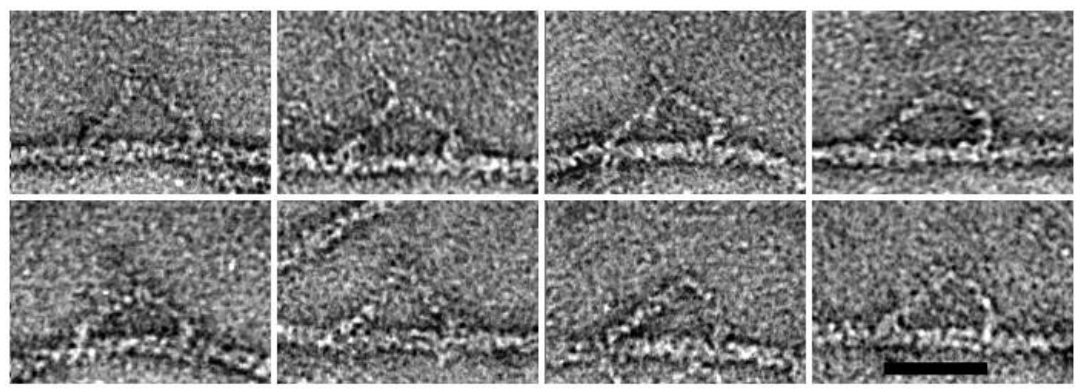
# Conventional kinesin

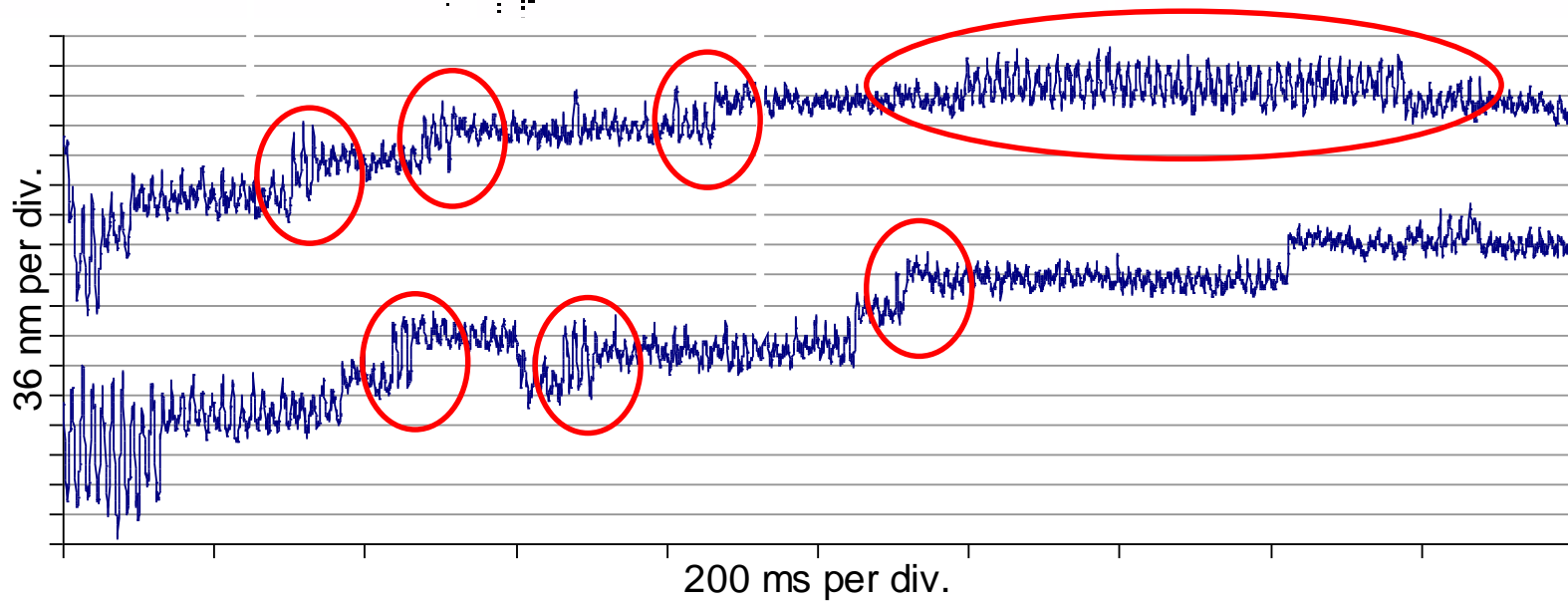


Carter & Cross



Myosin 5 walks  
along actin -  
taking 36nm steps





Veigel *et al.* (2002) *Nat. Cell Biol.* 4:59-65.

How does myosin V walk??.....

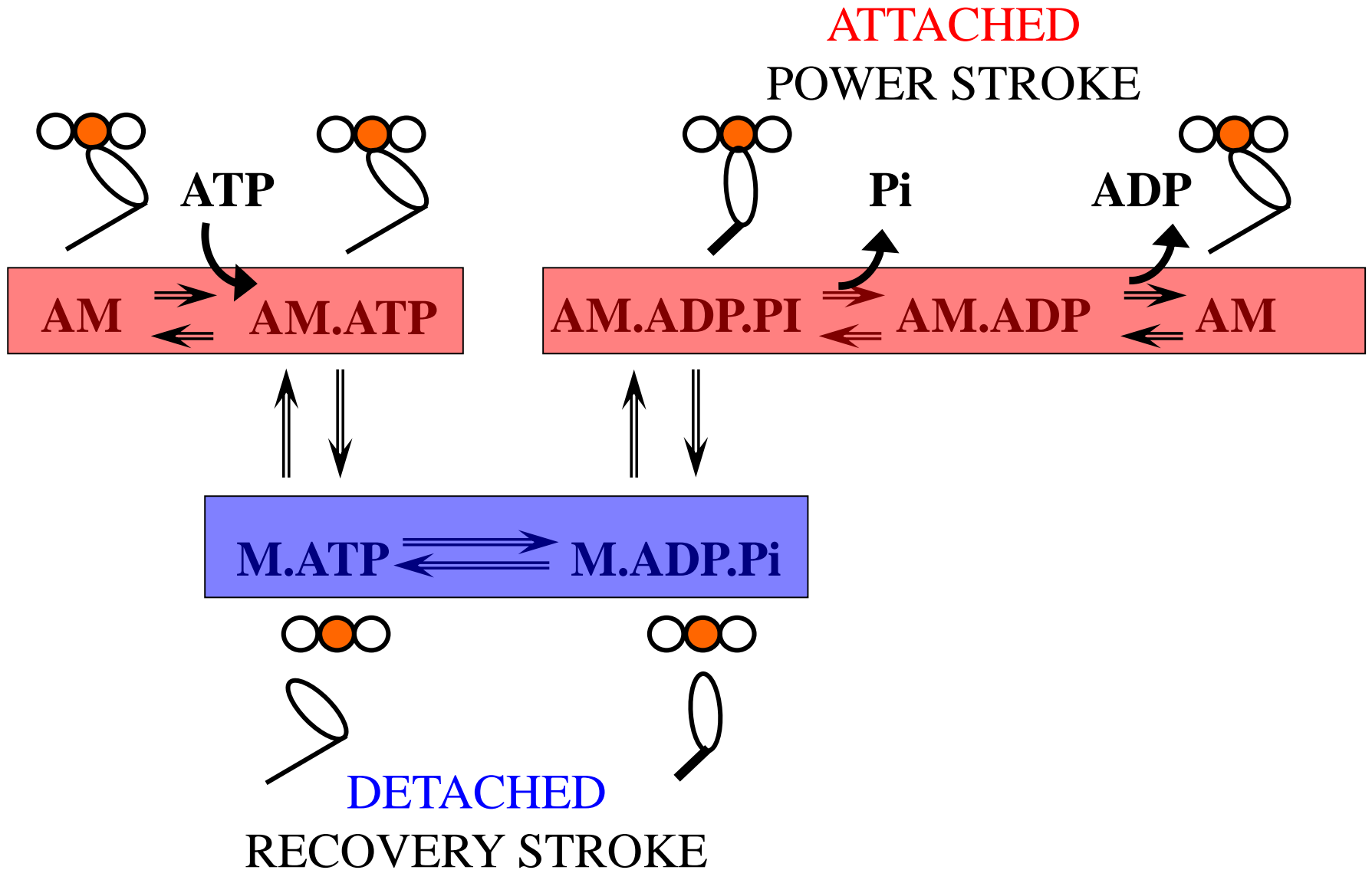


# Lecture Overview:

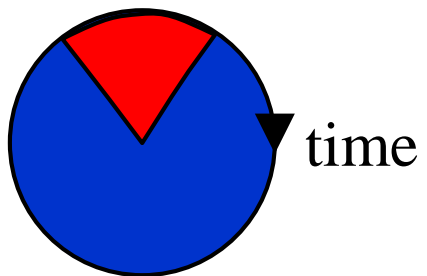
- Optical Tweezers are relatively simple to build and are compatible with standard laboratory microscopes
- They have a sensitivity and time-resolution suitable for studying biological macromolecules and cells
- They have contributed to our understanding of the mechanism and function of molecular motors (like kinesin, dynein and myosin) and also of DNA processing enzymes.

## THE FUTURE.....

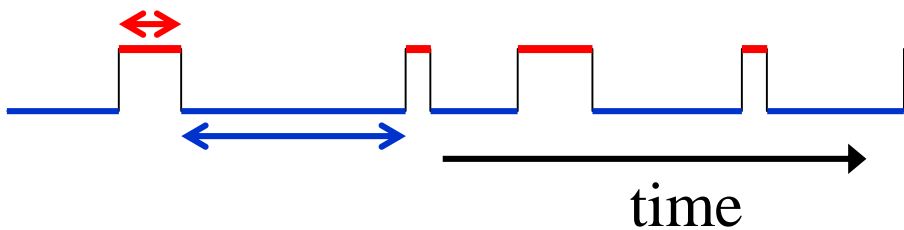
- The advent of fast cameras, fast parallel processing, and more powerful lasers mean that time-resolution is now in the microsecond regime; and forces of  $\sim 100$  pN are possible opening the possibility to study molecular dynamics and cellular mechanics.



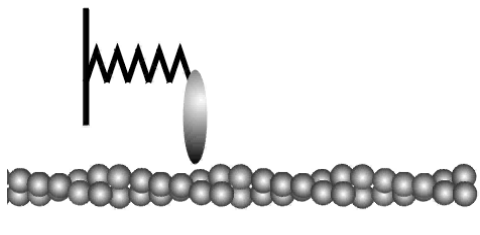
Attached time



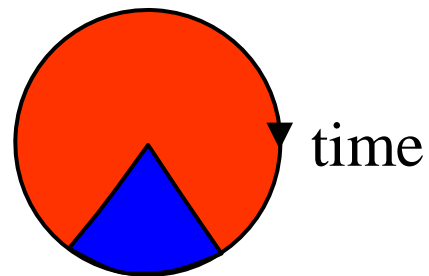
Detached time



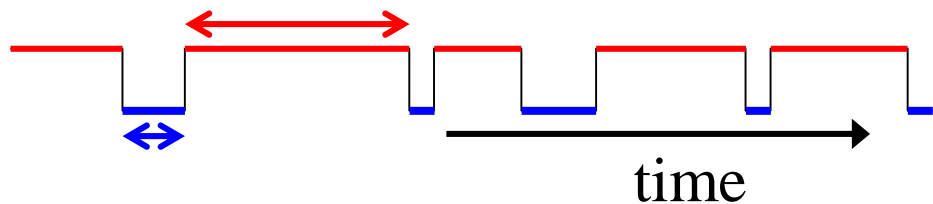
Intermittent  
Motors  
E.g. muscle  
myosin II



Attached time



Detached time

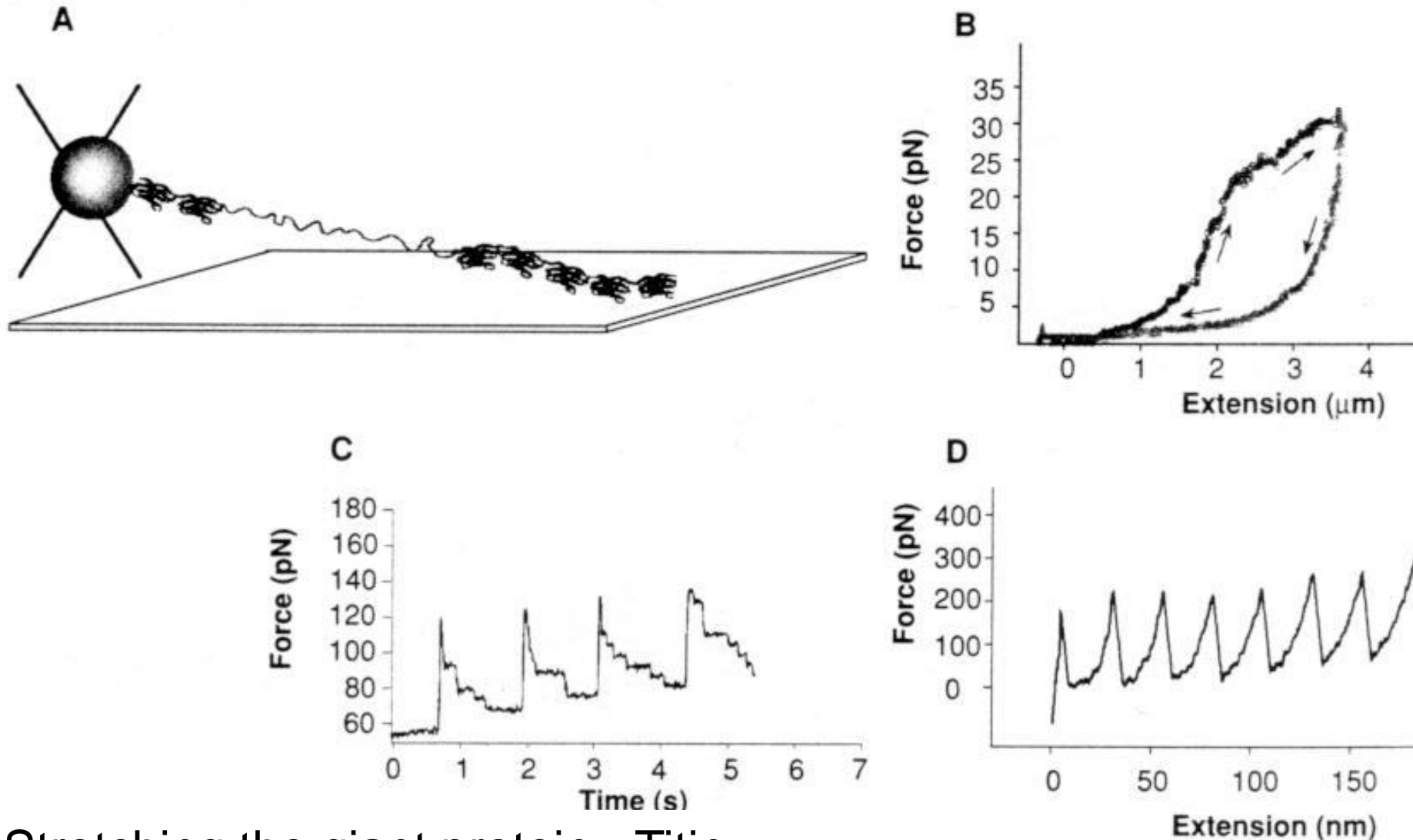


Processive  
Motors  
E.g.  
myosin Va



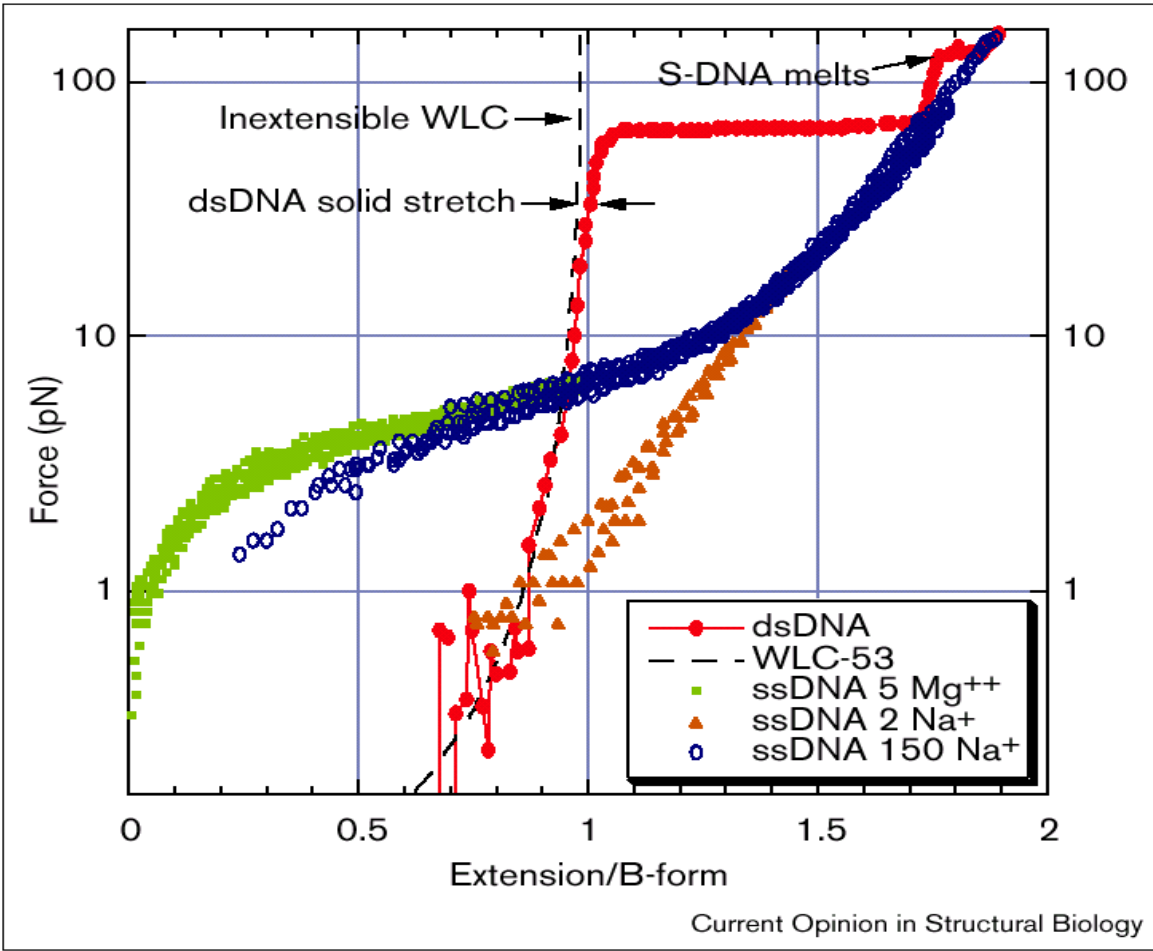


Optical tweezers can be used to stretch DNA and unfold proteins.



Stretching the giant protein - Titin  
(Sleep *et al. Nature* 1999)

# Stretching DNA with optical tweezers:



## Single-molecule studies of DNA mechanics

Carlos Bustamante, Steven B Smith, Jan Liphardt and Doug Smith  
*Current Opinion in Structural Biology* 2000, **10**:279–285

[Force/extension behavior of dsDNA and ssDNA. Different DNA molecules were pulled with force-measuring laser tweezers (Lambda phage DNA)]