

# Diffusion in biological cells: transport & signalling

— Acco, 26th & 27th September 2017 —

— Typeset by Foil $\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$  —

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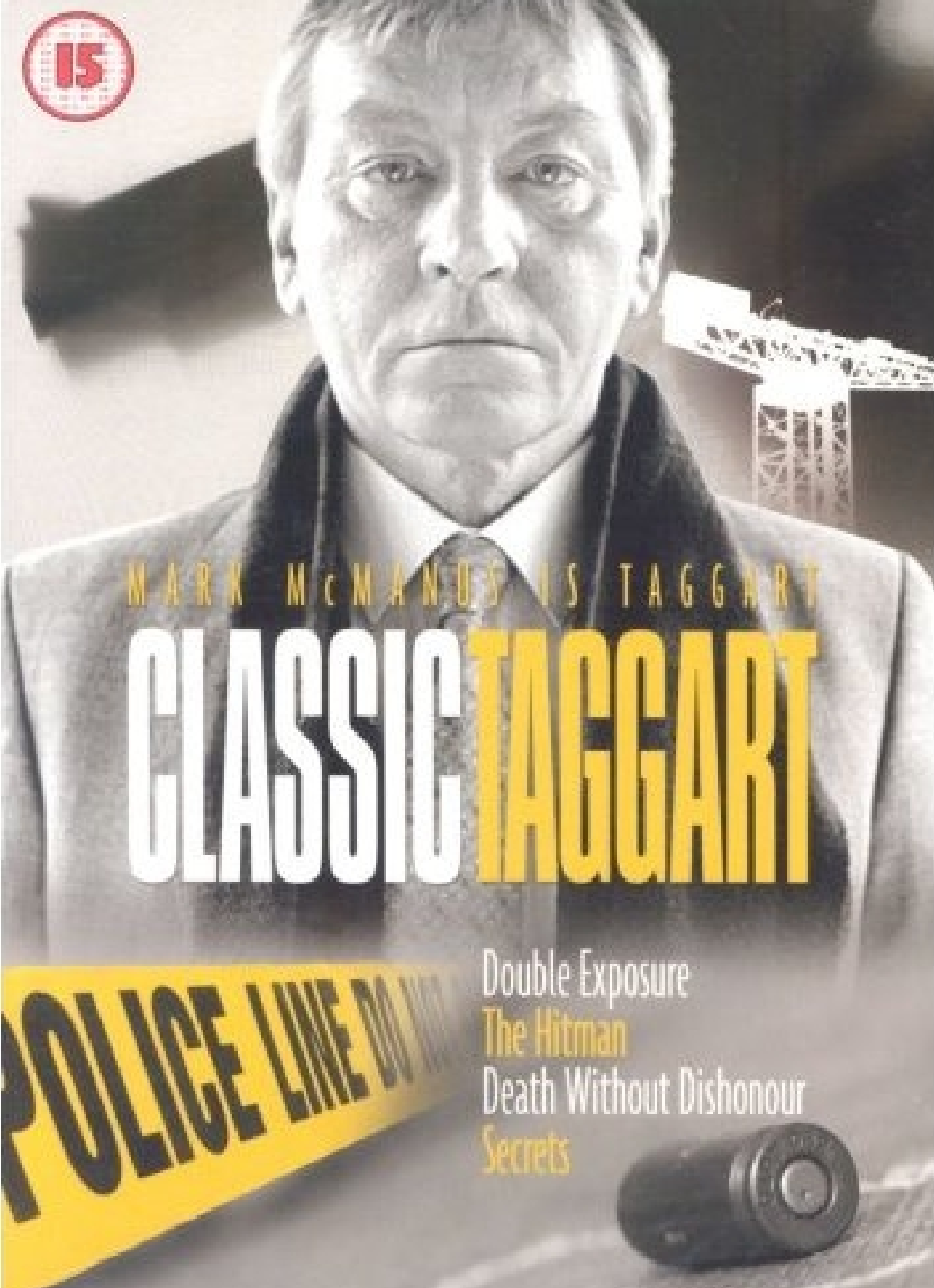
GOLIX 8434

# Agenda

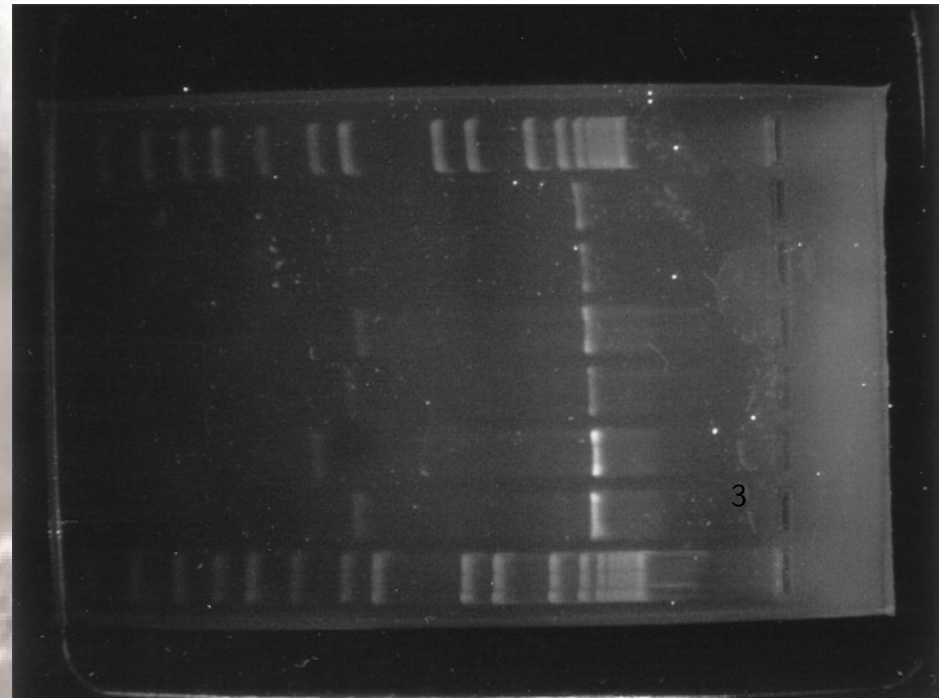
- I Some facts on DNA
- II Central dogma of molecular biology
- III Basics of gene regulation
- IIII Facilitated diffusion model
- IIII Macromolecular crowding
- IIII Anomalous diffusion
- IIII First passage problem
- IIIIII Few-encounter limit



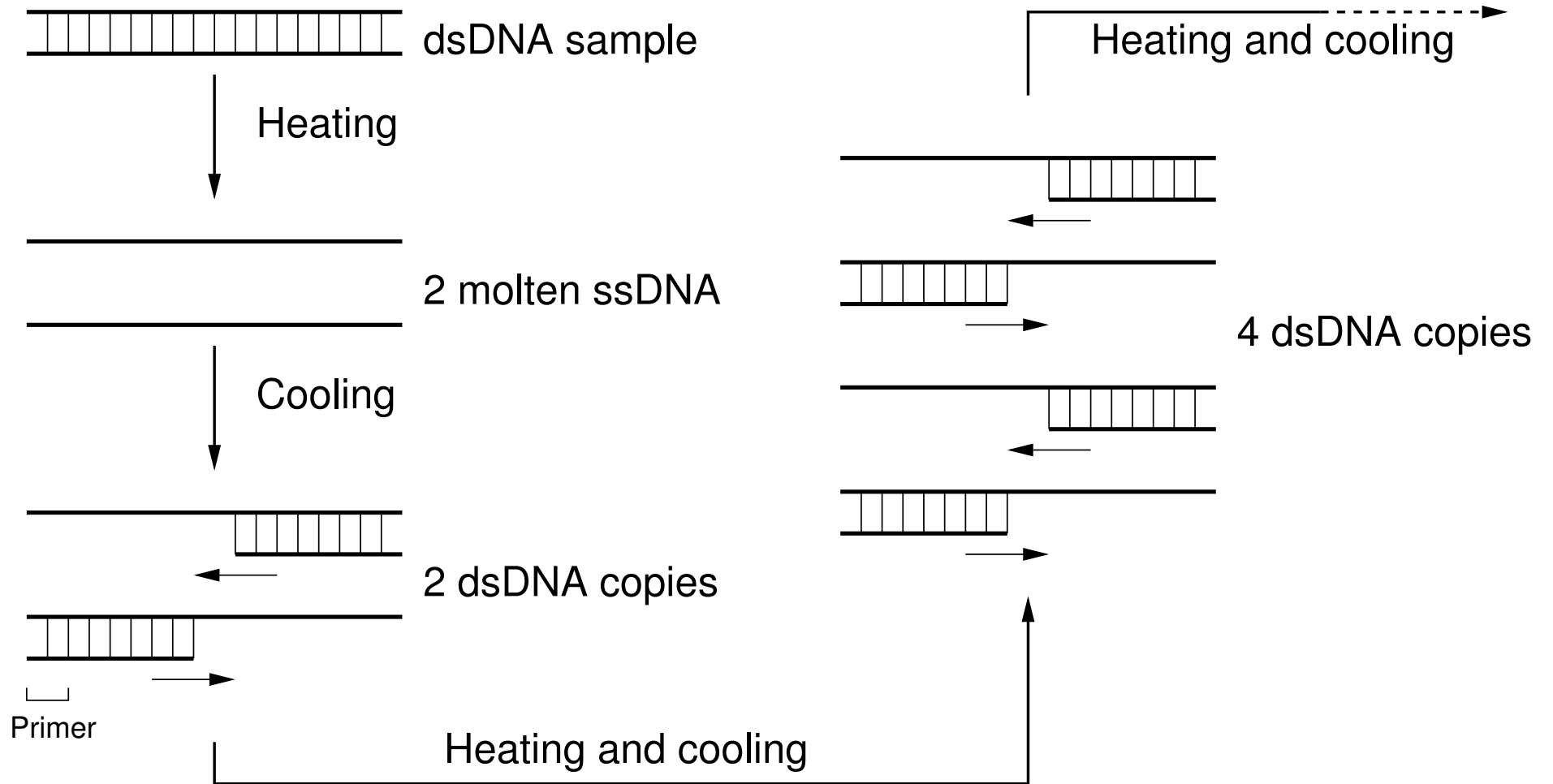
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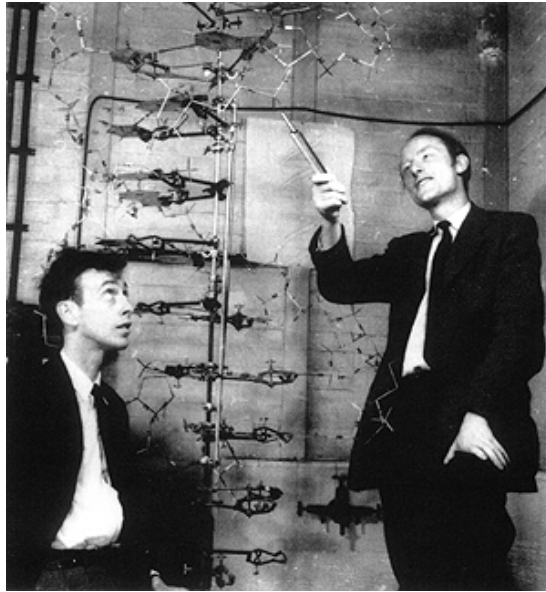
# Whodunnit...



# Polymerase chain reaction



# Chief character: DeoxyriboNucleic Acid



$$d \simeq 2\text{nm}$$

$$\Delta_{\text{bp-bp}} \simeq 3.5\text{\AA}$$

$$l_p(\text{dsDNA}) \simeq 50\text{nm}$$

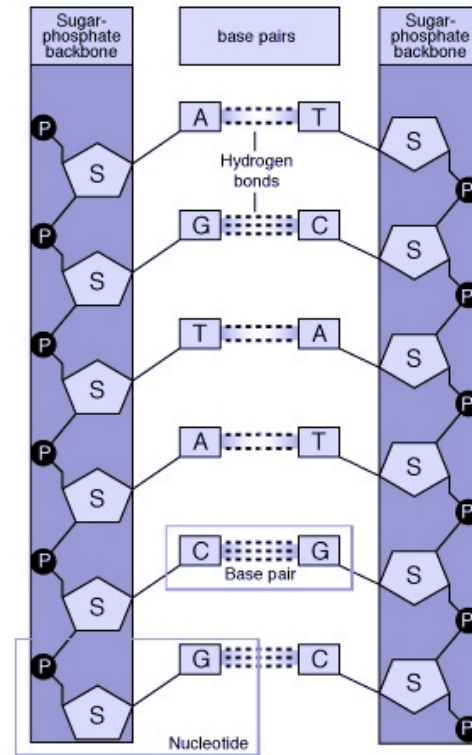
$$l_p(\text{ssDNA}) \simeq 1\text{nm}$$

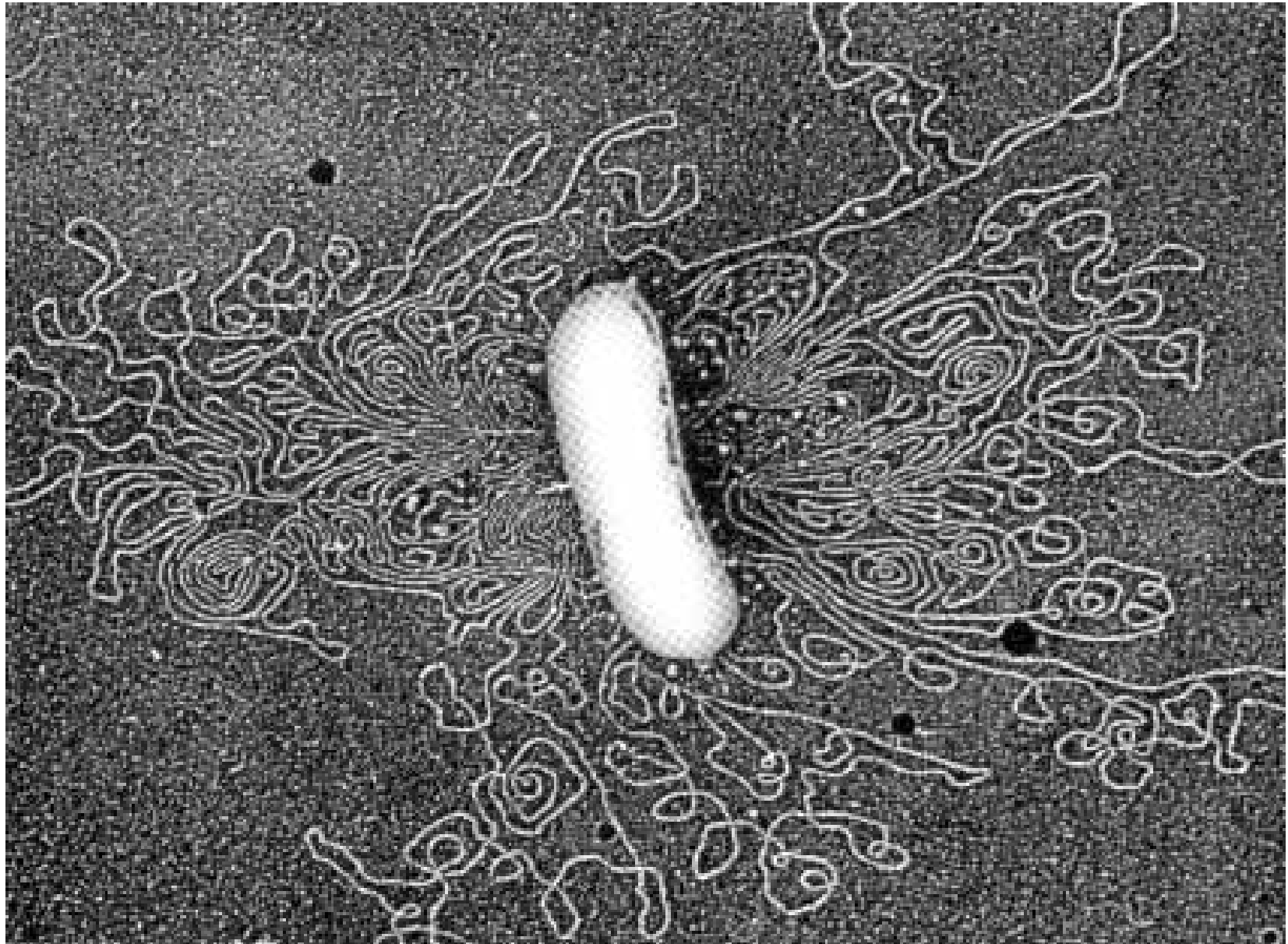
$$\phi 29\text{-phage} \quad 6\mu\text{m}$$

$$\text{E.coli} \quad 3\text{mm}$$

$$\text{Human cell} \quad 2\text{m}$$

$$\text{Sth Amer lungfish} \quad 35\text{m}$$





# Persistence length

Flexible rod:

$$\ell_p = \frac{\pi Y (R^4 - R_i^4)}{4k_B T} \quad \therefore \text{Young's modulus } Y$$

Spaghetti  $\varnothing = 2\text{mm}$ ,  $Y = 10^9\text{erg/cm}^3$ ,  $T = 300\text{K}$ ;  $k_B = 1.38 \times 10^{-16}\text{erg/K}$ :

$$\ell_p \approx 2 \times 10^{18}\text{cm} = 2 \times 10^{13}\text{km} \approx 2 \text{ ly}$$

or 1/2 distance to Proxima centauri

Spaghetti of  $\varnothing = 2\text{nm}$ :

$$\ell_p \approx 20\text{nm}$$

Double-stranded DNA:

$$\ell_p \approx 53\text{nm}$$

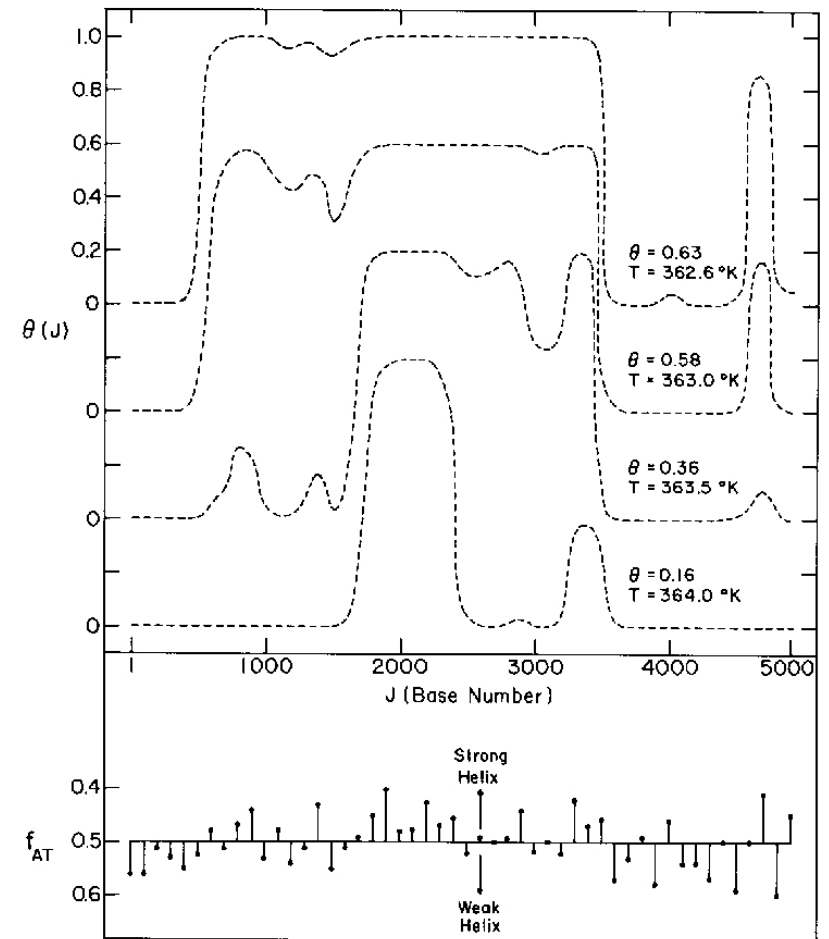
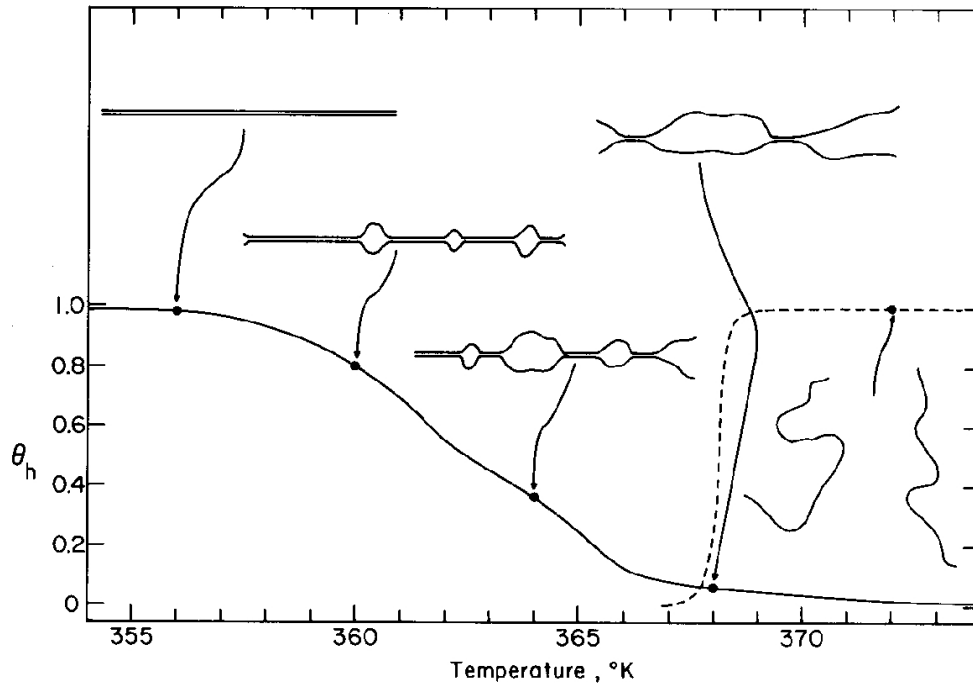
# DNA melting





# DNA melting in bulk solution (UV absorption)

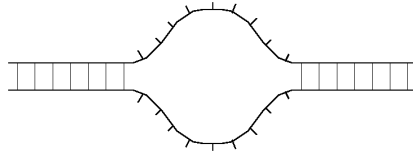
Thermal melting profile:



# DNA stability landscape

Partition factor for bubble of  $m$  broken bps:

$$\mathcal{Z}(m) = \sigma_0 u^m (1 + m)^{-c}$$



$$u = \exp\left(\beta[\Delta G_{ij} + \mathfrak{T}\theta_0]\right) \therefore \theta_0 = \frac{2\pi}{10.35}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \cdot\text{AA}\cdot \\ \cdot\text{TT}\cdot \end{array} \Delta G = -8.45 \frac{\text{kcal}}{\text{mol}} + \underbrace{24.86 \frac{\text{cal}}{\text{mol} \cdot \text{K}} T}_{7.72 \text{kcal/mol@}37^\circ\text{C}}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \cdot\text{AA}\cdot \\ \cdot\text{TT}\cdot \end{array} T_m \approx 68^\circ\text{C} \wedge \begin{array}{l} \cdot\text{GG}\cdot \\ \cdot\text{CC}\cdot \end{array} T_m \approx 102^\circ\text{C}$$

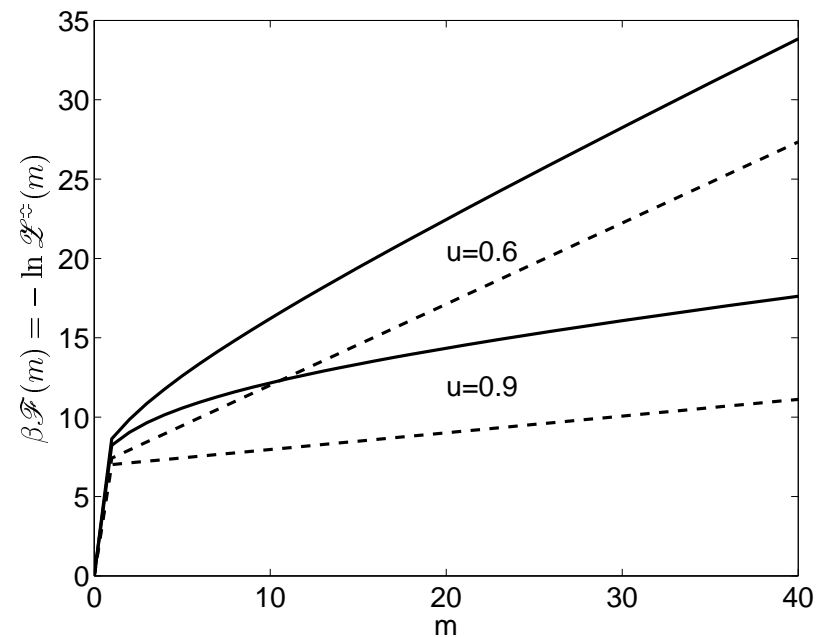
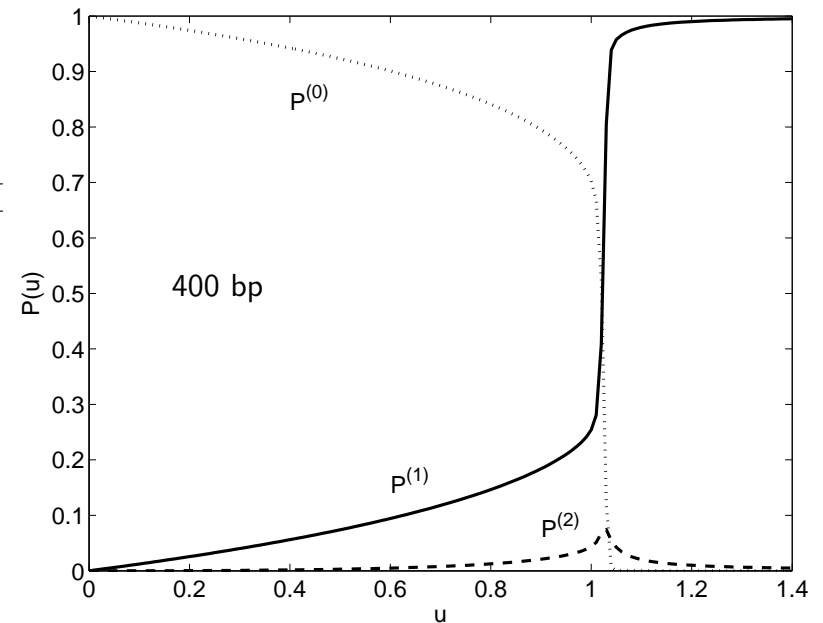
$$\begin{array}{l} \cdot\text{TA}\cdot \\ \cdot\text{AT}\cdot \end{array} \Delta G = 0.1 k_B T \wedge \begin{array}{l} \cdot\text{GC}\cdot \\ \cdot\text{CG}\cdot \end{array} \Delta G = -3.9 k_B T$$

Loop initiation:  $\sigma_0 \simeq 10^{-3 \dots -5} \triangleq 7 \dots 12 k_B T$

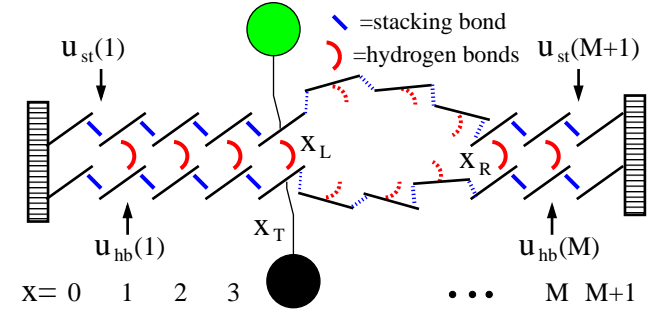
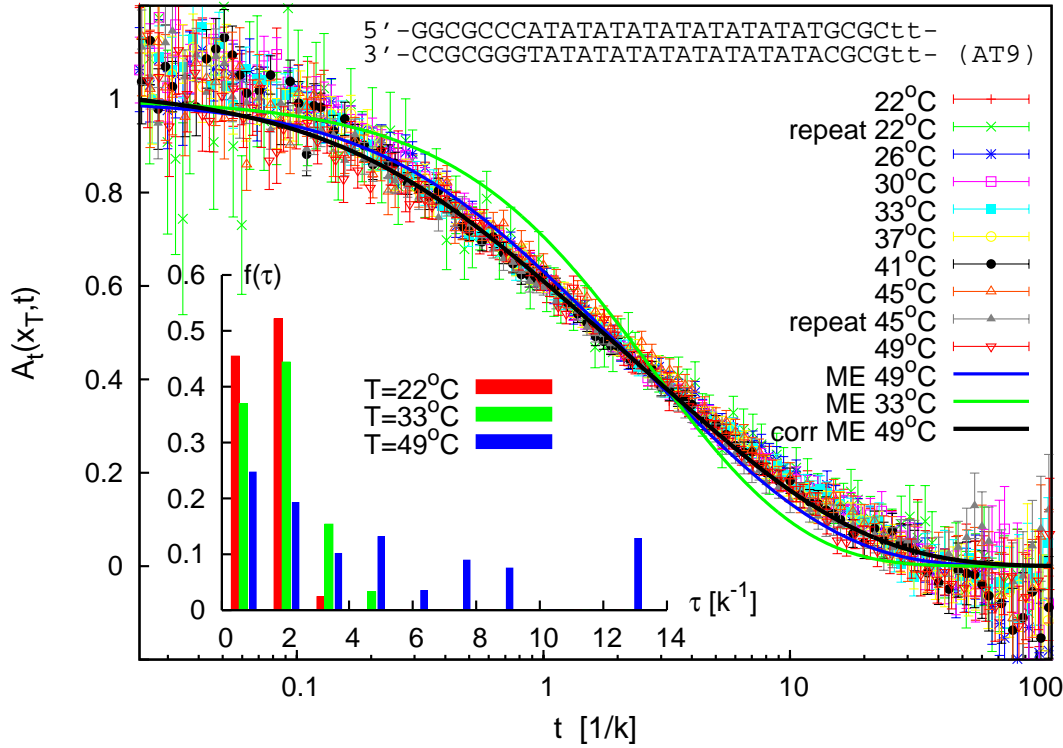
Loop closure exponent:  $c \approx 1.76^{(1)}$

Zippering rate:  $k^{-1} \simeq 20 \dots 100 \mu\text{sec}$

Bubble lifetime:  $\tau_{\text{bubble}} \simeq 1 \text{ msec}$



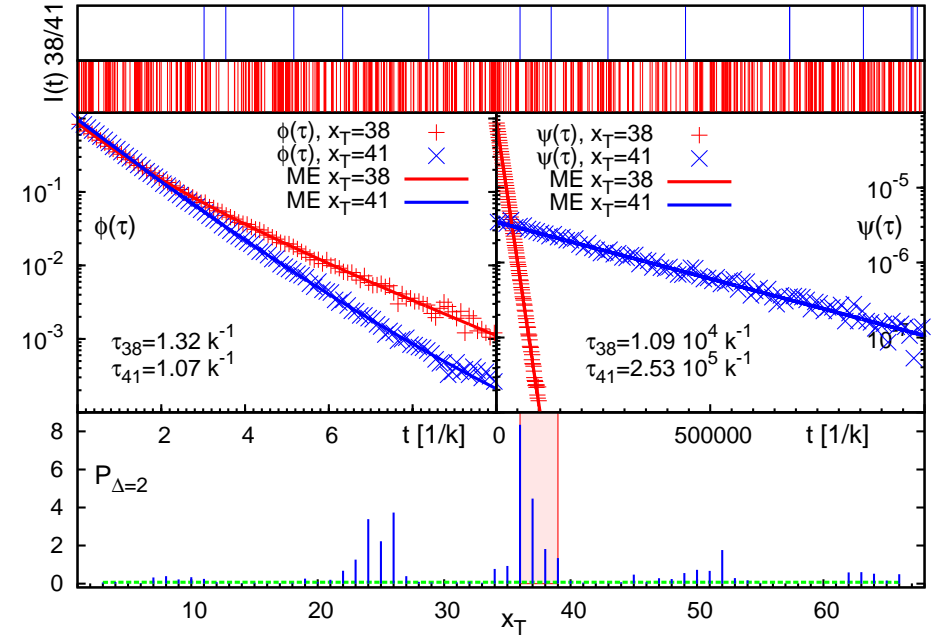
# DNA-breathing may assist transcription initiation



T7 phage promoter: TATA @ bps 36-39, TSS @ bp 40



$\Delta G_{\text{TATA}} = -9.2\text{kcal/mol} \vee \Delta G_{\text{rand}} = -11.9\text{kcal/mol}$   
 TATA-binding protein:  $\Delta G_{\text{TATA-bind}} = -10.5\text{kcal/mol}$   
 RNA polymerase:  $\Delta G_{\text{polymerase}} = -11.5\text{kcal/mol}$



T Ambjörnsson, SK Banik, O Krichevsky & RM, PRL (2006); Biophys J (2007); HC Fogedby & RM, PRL (2007)

# DNA bubble dynamics as quantum Coulomb problem

Continuum form of the Poland-Scheraga free energy:

$$\mathcal{F} = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 \left(1 - \frac{T}{T_m}\right) x + c \ln x$$

Langevin equation for bubble breathing

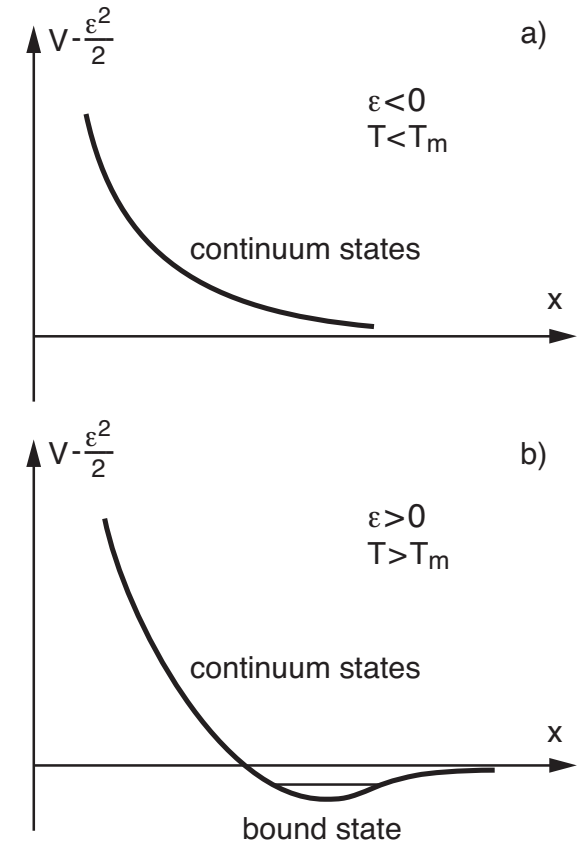
$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -D \frac{d\mathcal{F}}{dx} + \xi(t), \quad \langle \xi(t)\xi(t') \rangle = 2Dk_B T \delta(t - t')$$

Fokker-Planck equation ( $\mu = c/2k_B T$ ):

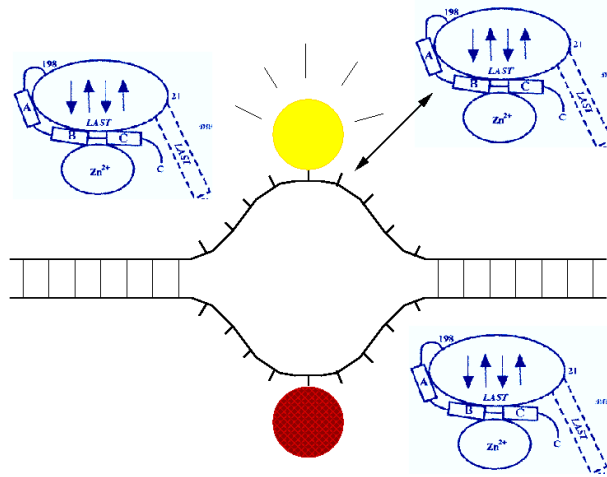
$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{\mu}{x} - \underbrace{\frac{\gamma_1}{2k_B T} \left[ \frac{T}{T_m} - 1 \right]}_{\epsilon} \right) P + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial x^2}$$

With  $P = e^{\epsilon x} x^{-\mu} \tilde{P}$ , obtain imaginary time Schrödinger Eq:

$$-\frac{\partial \tilde{P}}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{P}}{\partial x^2} + \left( \frac{\mu(\mu + 1)}{2x^2} - \frac{\mu\epsilon}{x} + \frac{\epsilon^2}{2} \right) \tilde{P}$$



# DNA and single-stranded DNA binding proteins (SSBs):



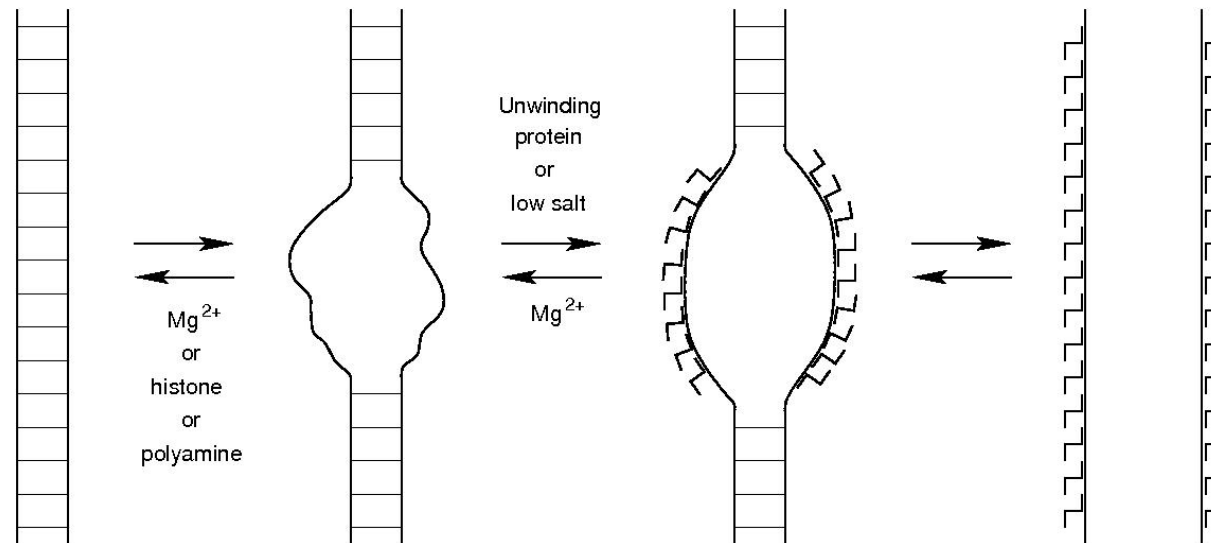
Binding strength  $\kappa = c_0 K^{\text{eq}}$

Equilibrium constant  $K^{\text{eq}}$

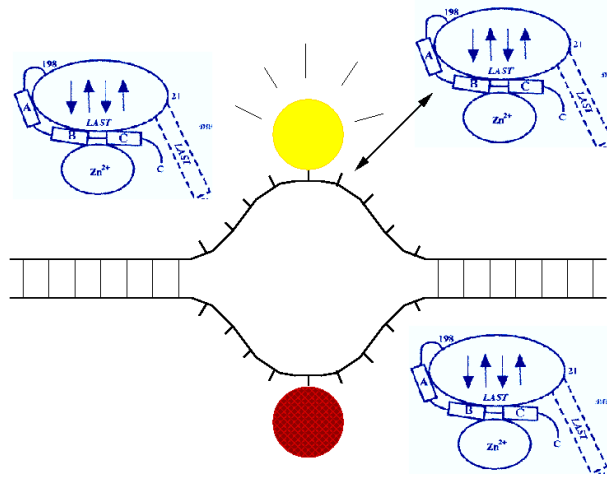
SSB-concentration  $c_0$

SSB-size  $\lambda$  in units of bp

Classical view  
SSB-induced  
denaturation:



# DNA and single-stranded DNA binding proteins (SSBs):



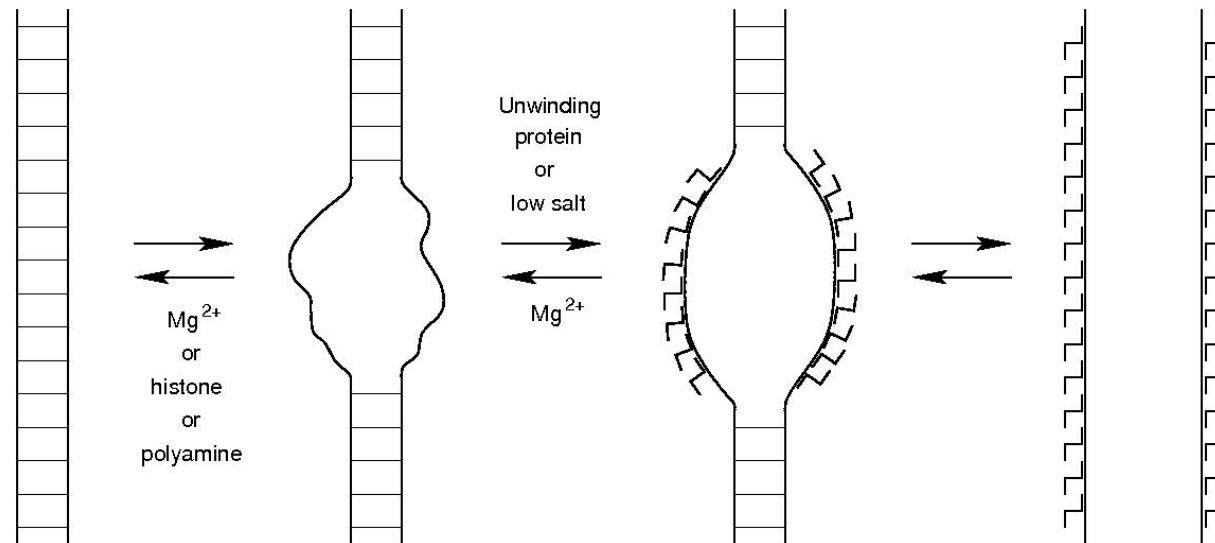
Binding strength  $\kappa = c_0 K^{\text{eq}}$

Equilibrium constant  $K^{\text{eq}}$

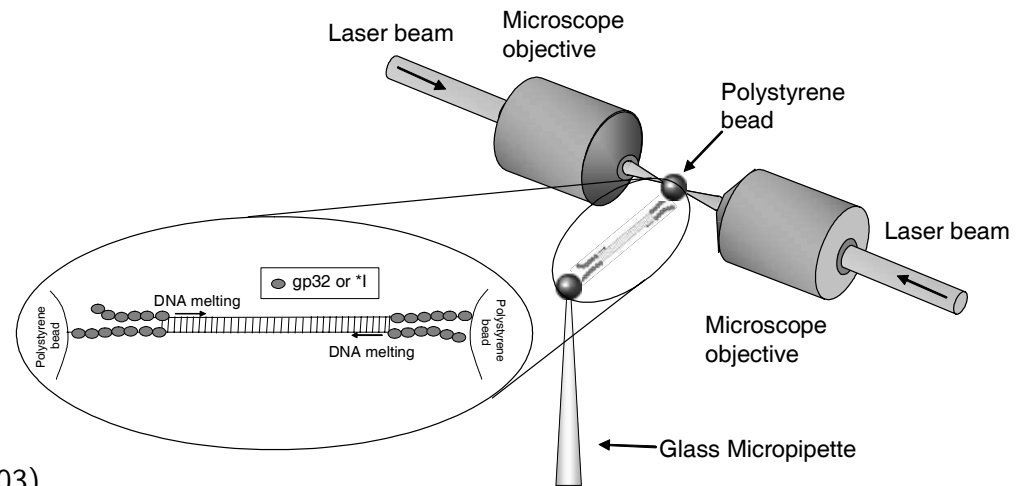
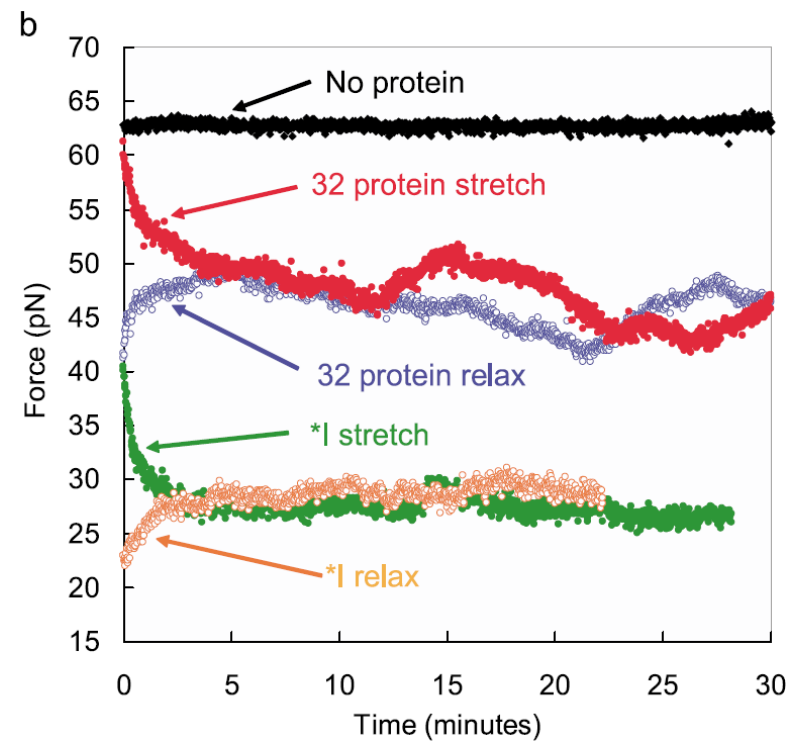
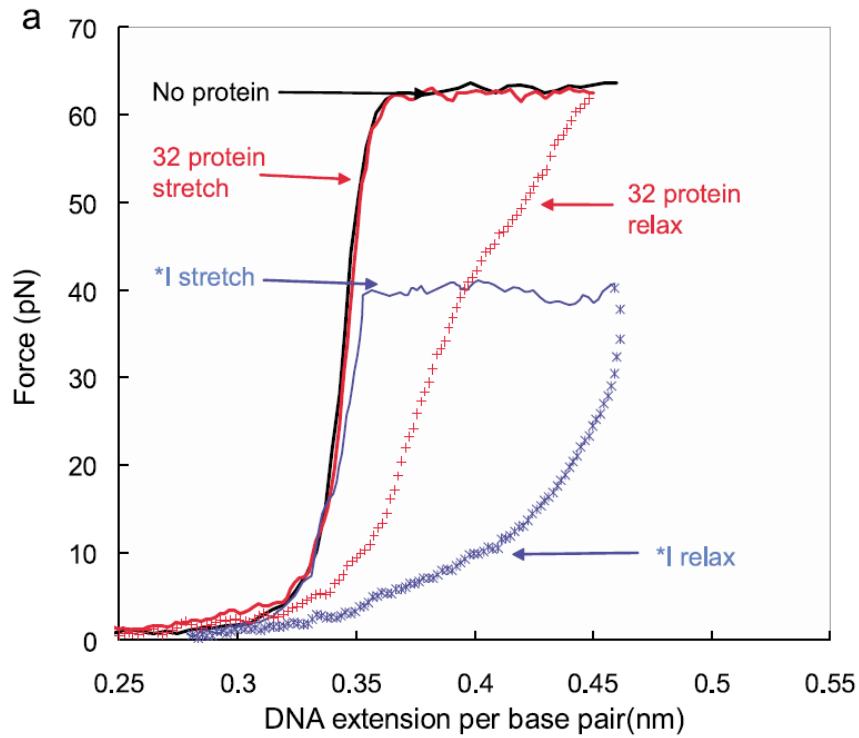
SSB-concentration  $c_0$

SSB-size  $\lambda$  in units of bp

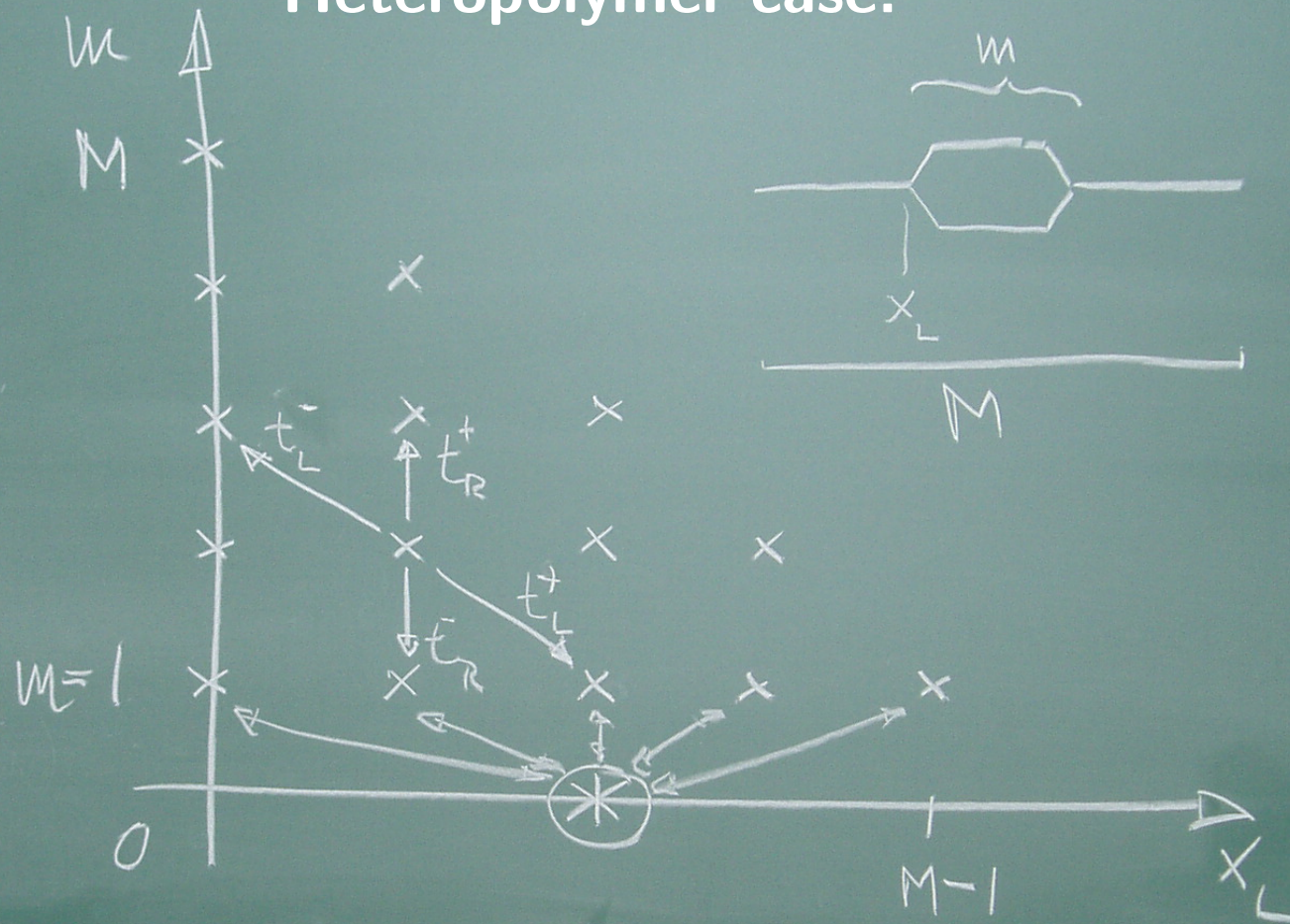
Classical view  
SSB-induced  
denaturation:



# DNA and single-stranded DNA binding proteins (SSBs):



# Heteropolymer case:

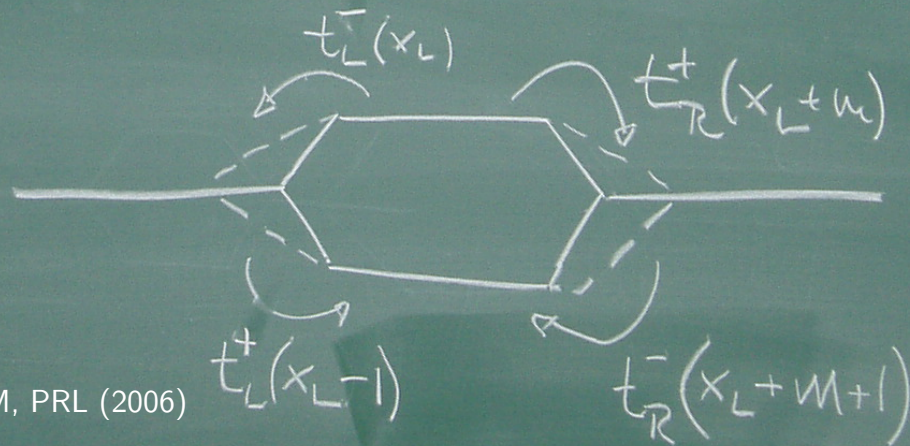


Sequence dependence:

$$u, \sigma_0 \rightarrow u(x), \sigma_0(x)$$

$$t^\pm \rightarrow t_{R/L}^\pm(x_{R/L})$$

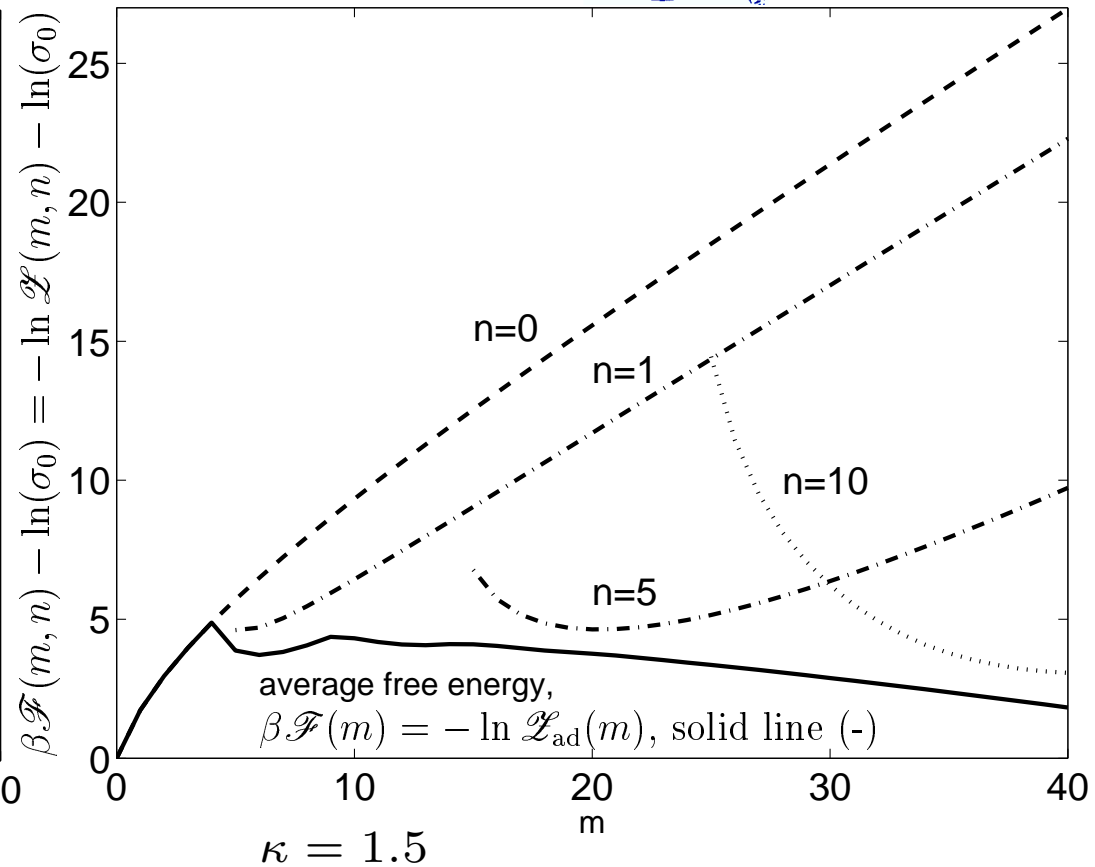
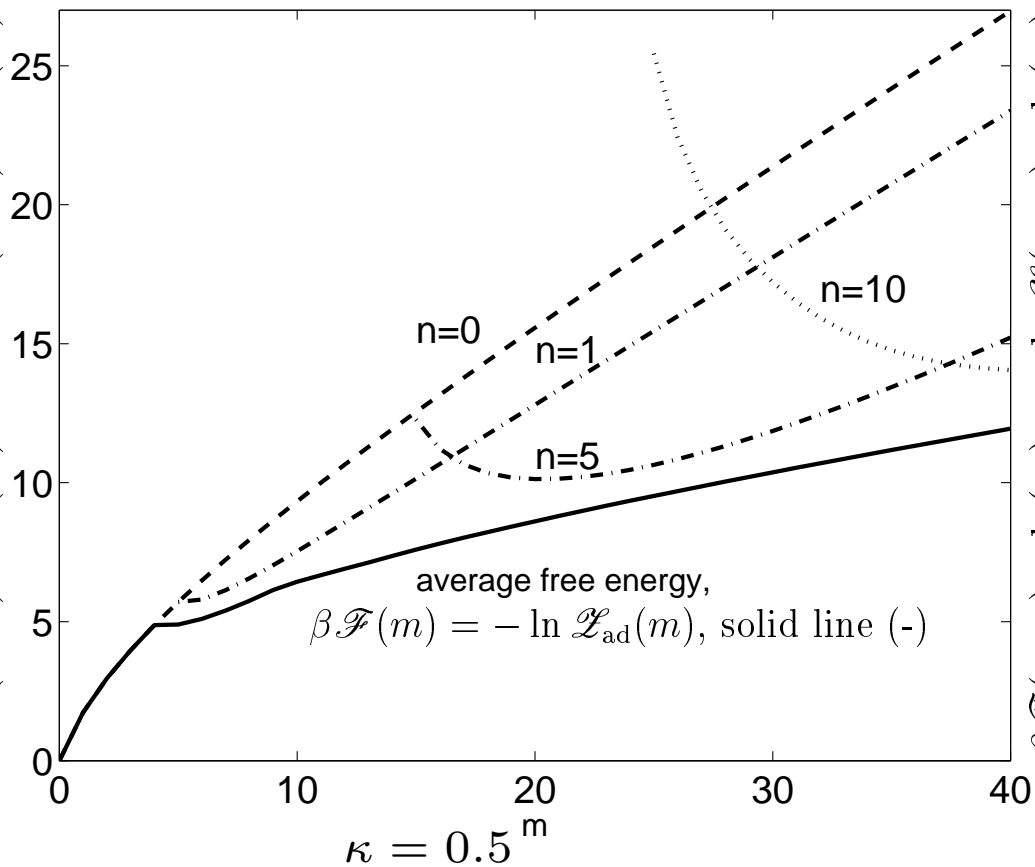
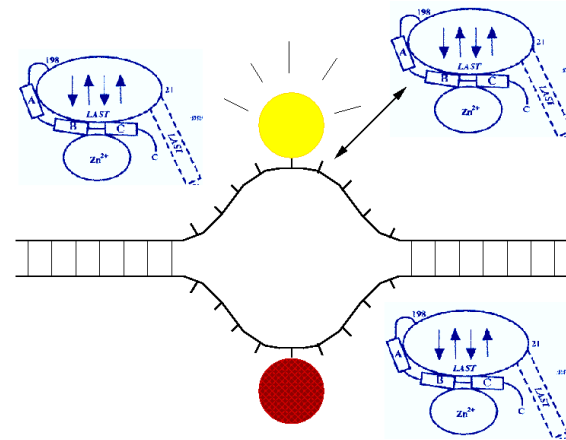
$$P \rightarrow P(m, x_L, t)$$



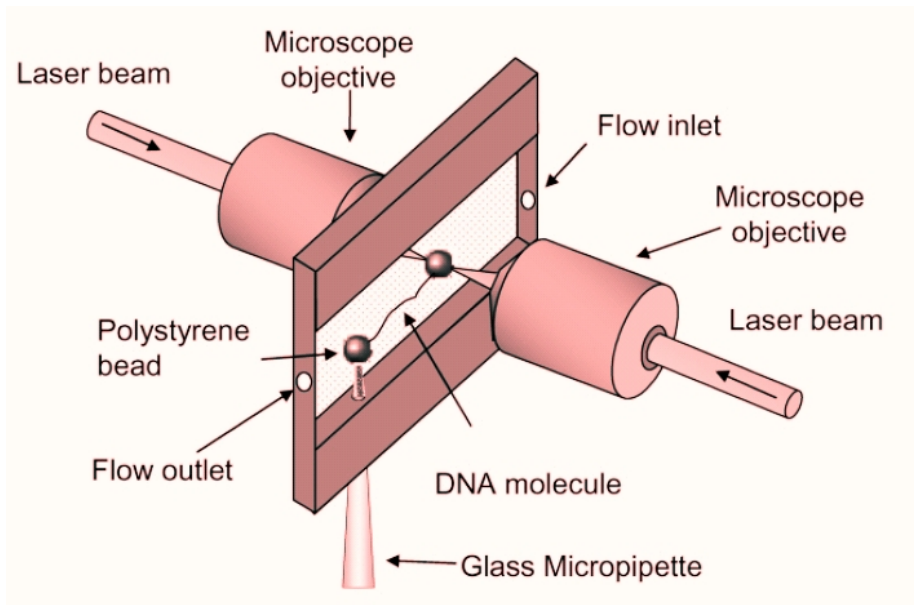
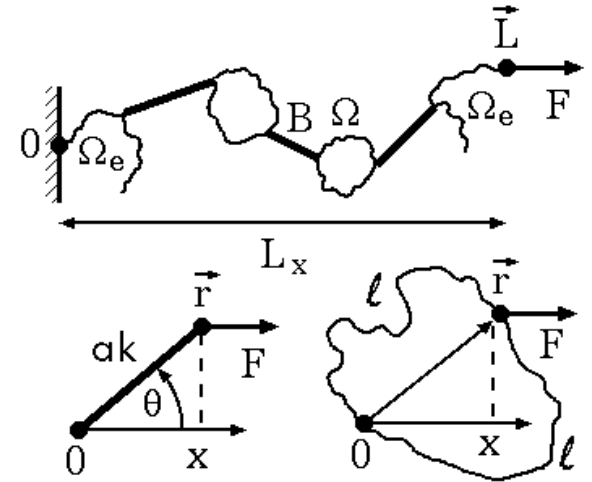
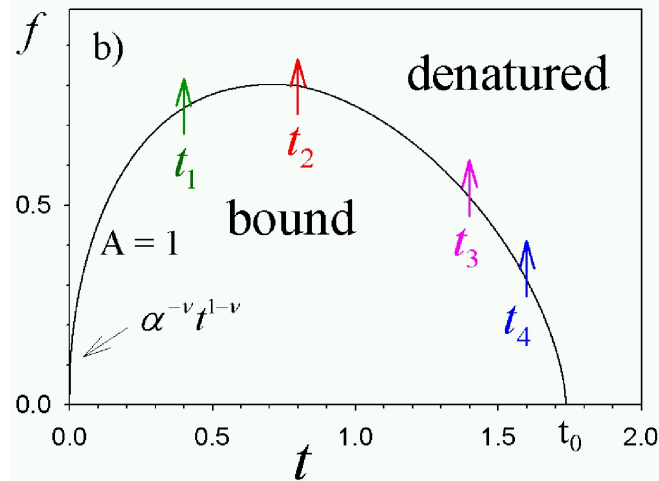
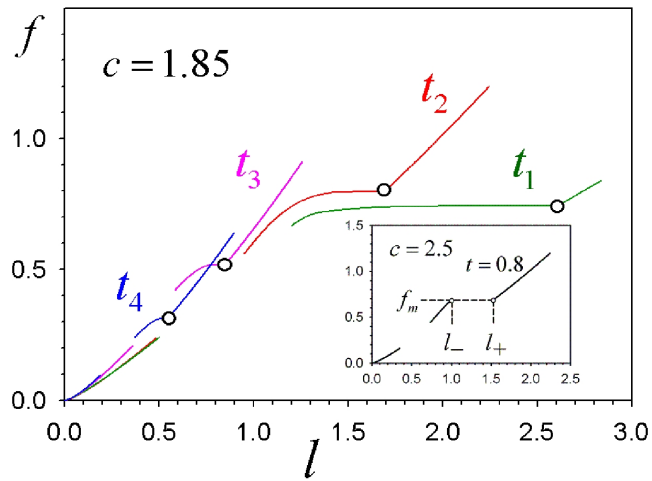


# Breathing bubbles and ssDNA binding proteins (SSBs)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} P(m, n, t) = \mathcal{M}(m, n) P(m, n, t)$$



# Stretching denaturation transition of DNA



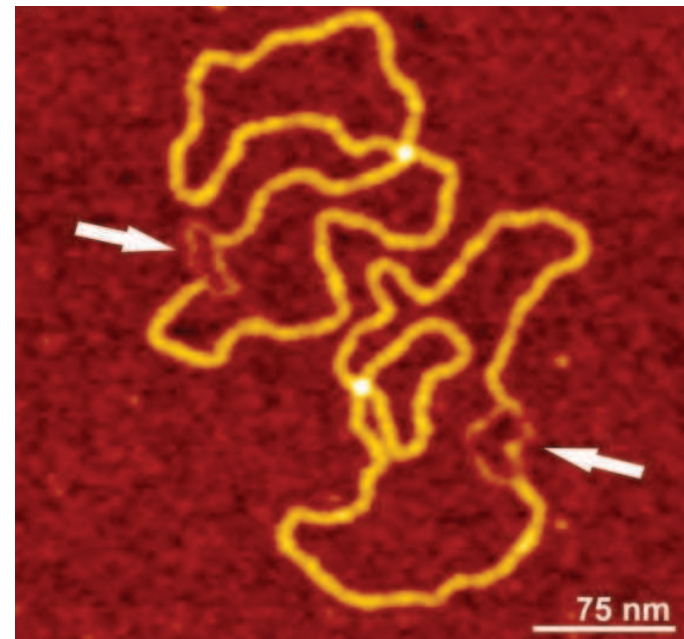
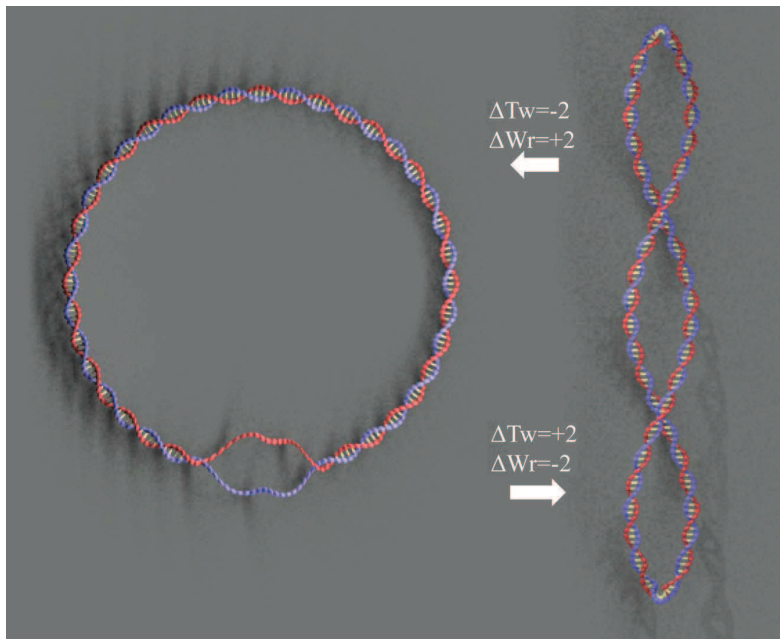
@  $F > 0$  new critical exponent:

$$c = 4\nu - 1/2 \approx 1.85$$

$$(c = 3\nu \approx 1.76 @ F = 0)$$

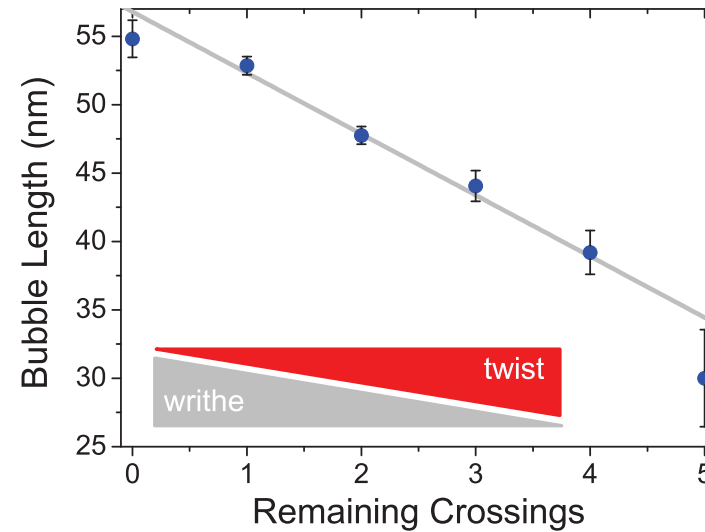
Melting temperature:  $T_m = T_m(F)$

# Quantifying undertwist-induced bubble formation

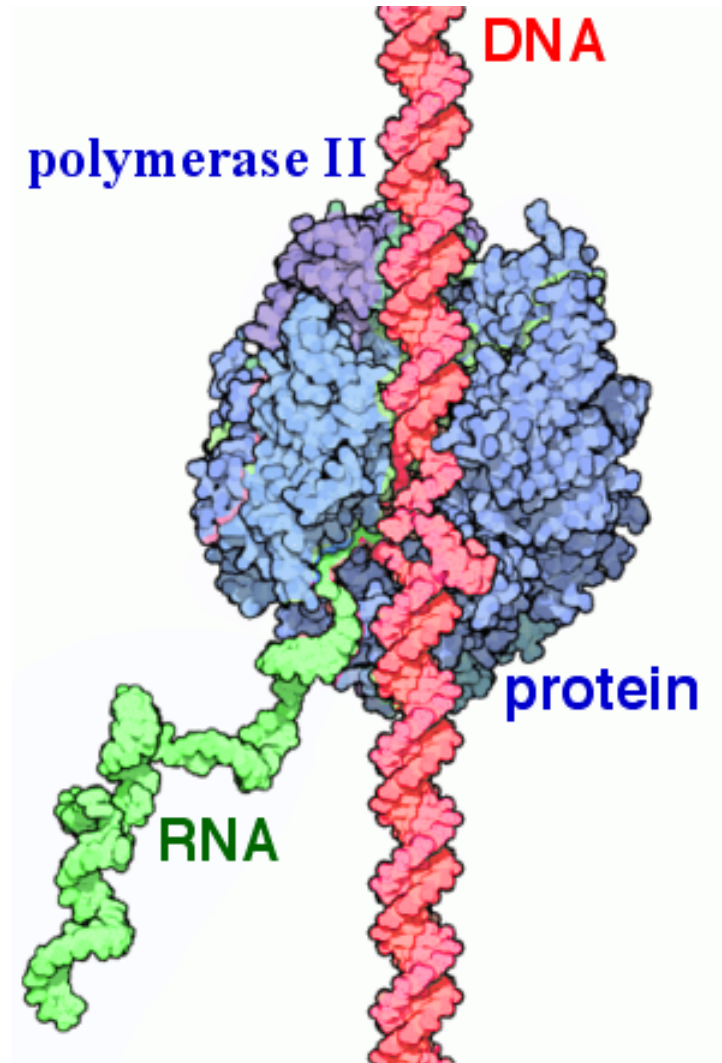


DNA superhelical density:

$$\sigma = \frac{Lk - Lk_0}{Lk_0} \approx -0.06$$



# Polymerase action



# Gene expression: producing proteins from genetic code



# Luria-Delbrück experiment (1943)

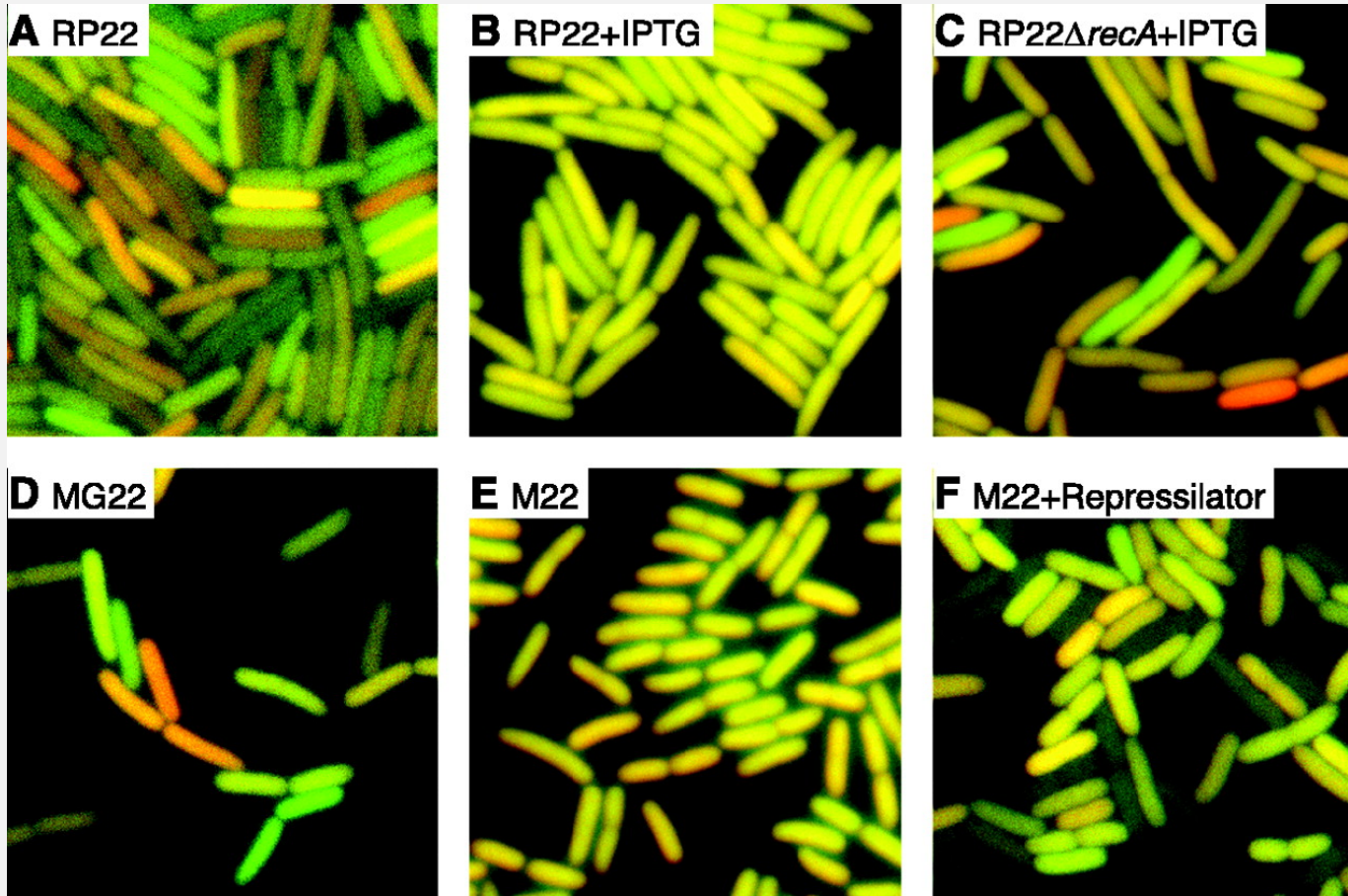


The Luria-Delbrück experiment or Fluctuation Test demonstrates that in bacteria mutations against a specific viral infection arise *randomly over time*, and are not induced by exposure to the virus itself. Those bacteria with the appropriately mutated genes will survive and proliferate the resistance.

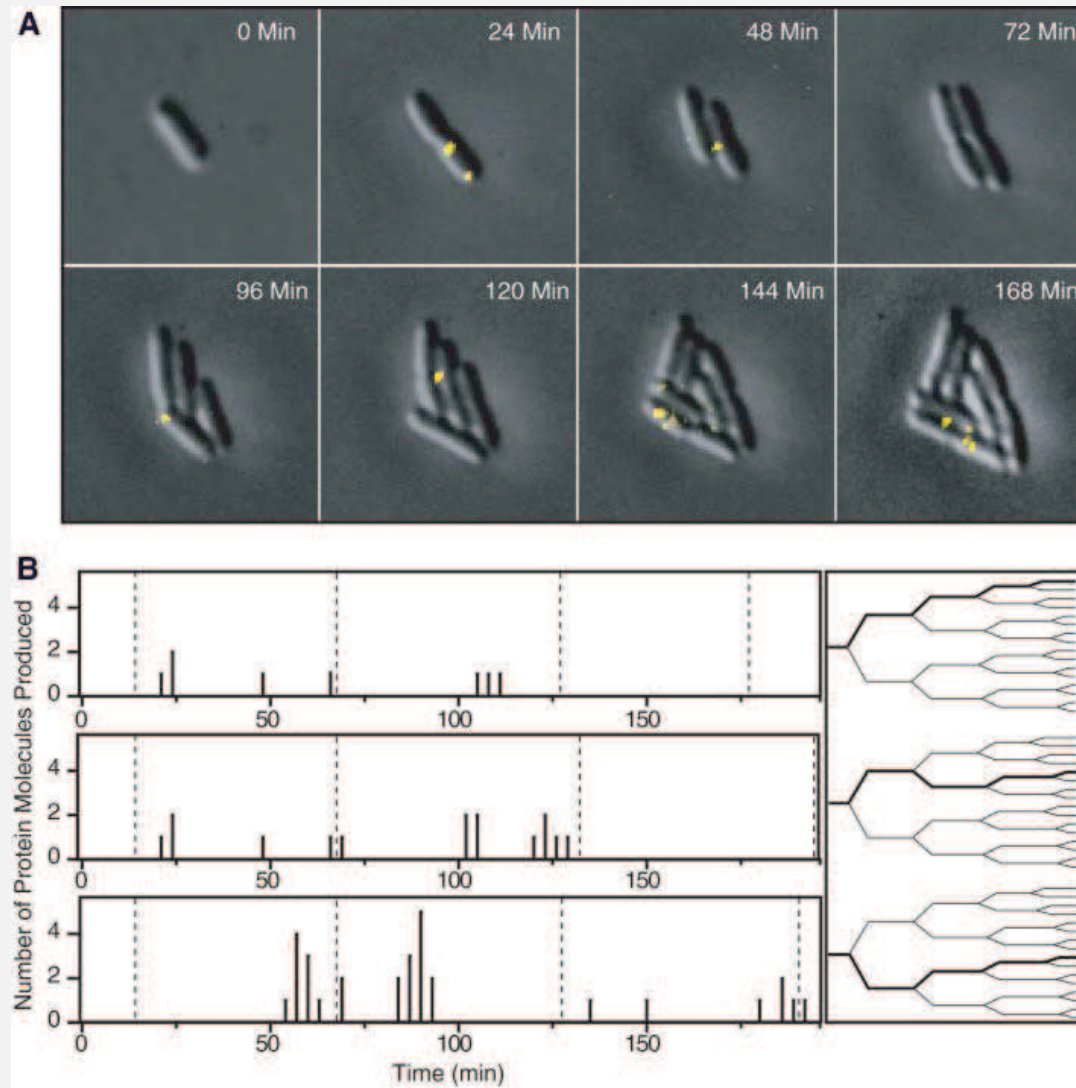
Max Delbrück and Salvador Luria (Nobel Prize, 1969)

# Gene regulation is intrinsically stochastic

Phenotypic difference in a single cell line:



# Gene expression one molecule at a time

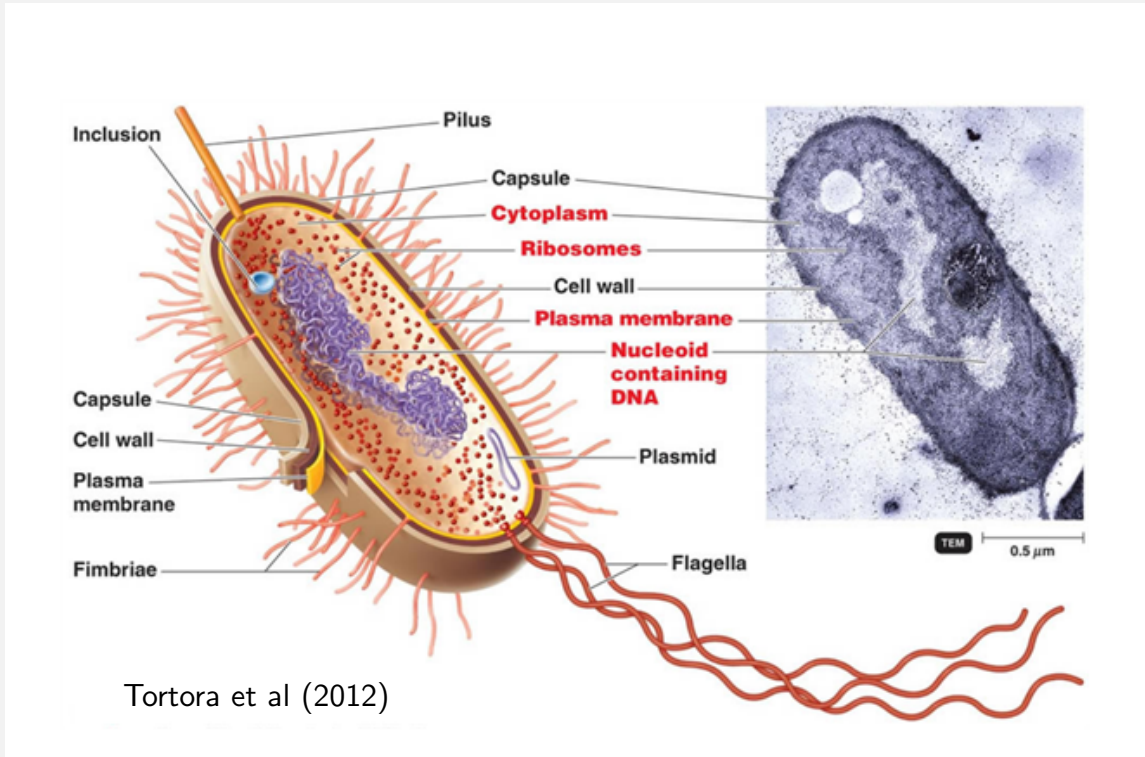


# synthesised proteins (bursty) along three cell lineages, dashed lines marking cell divisions

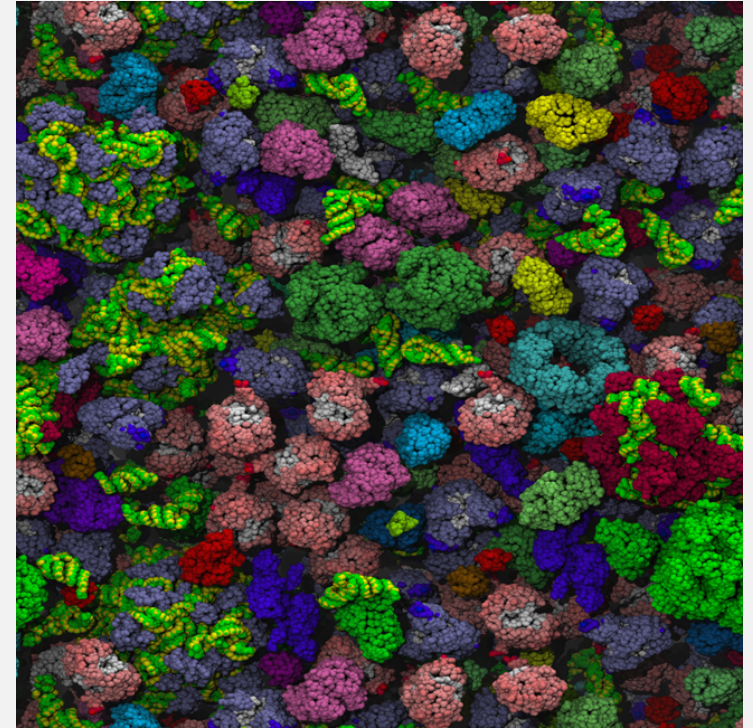
Yu et al, Science (2006); I Golding et al, Cell (2005)



# Main protagonist: bacteria cells such as E.coli

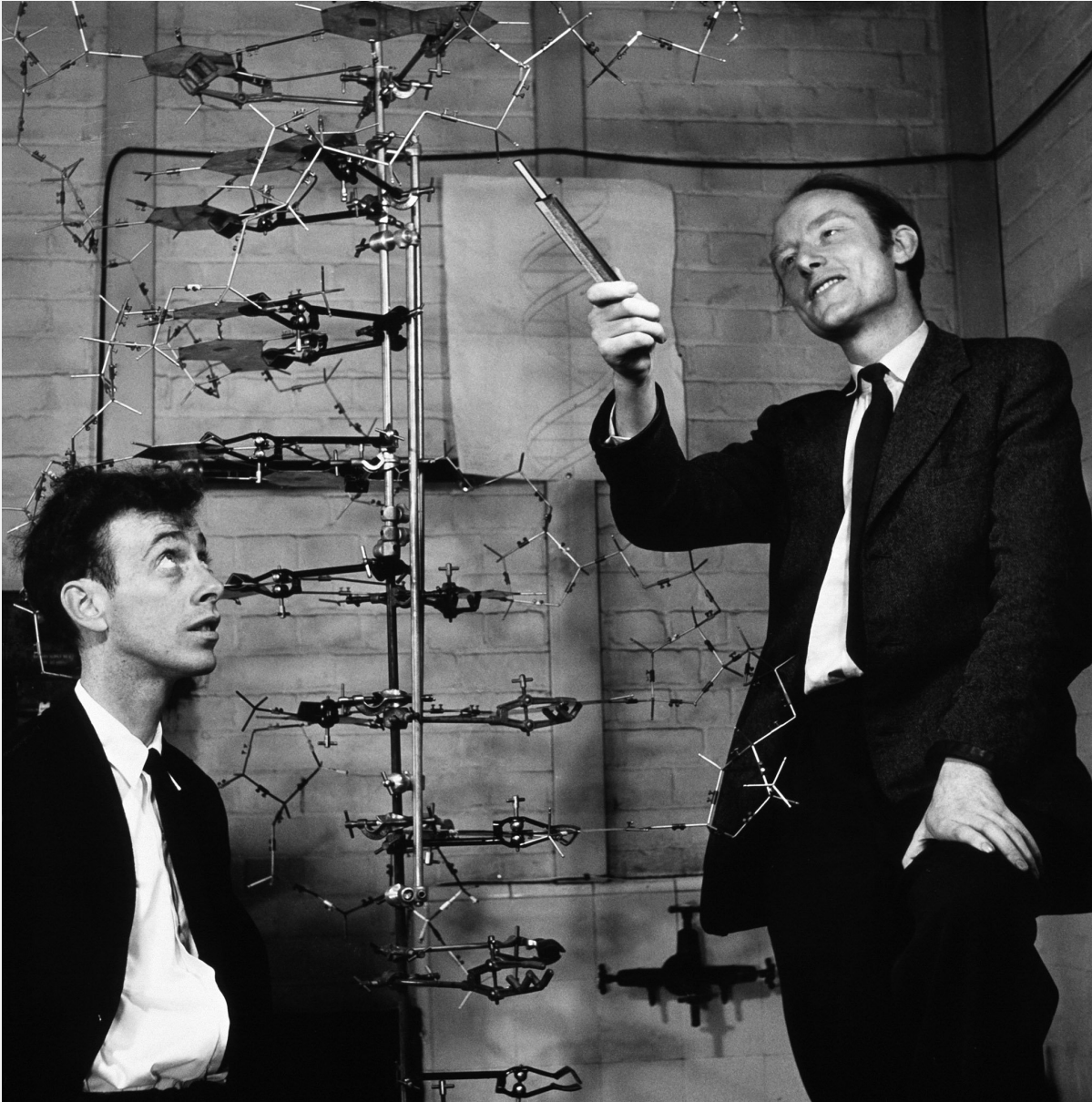


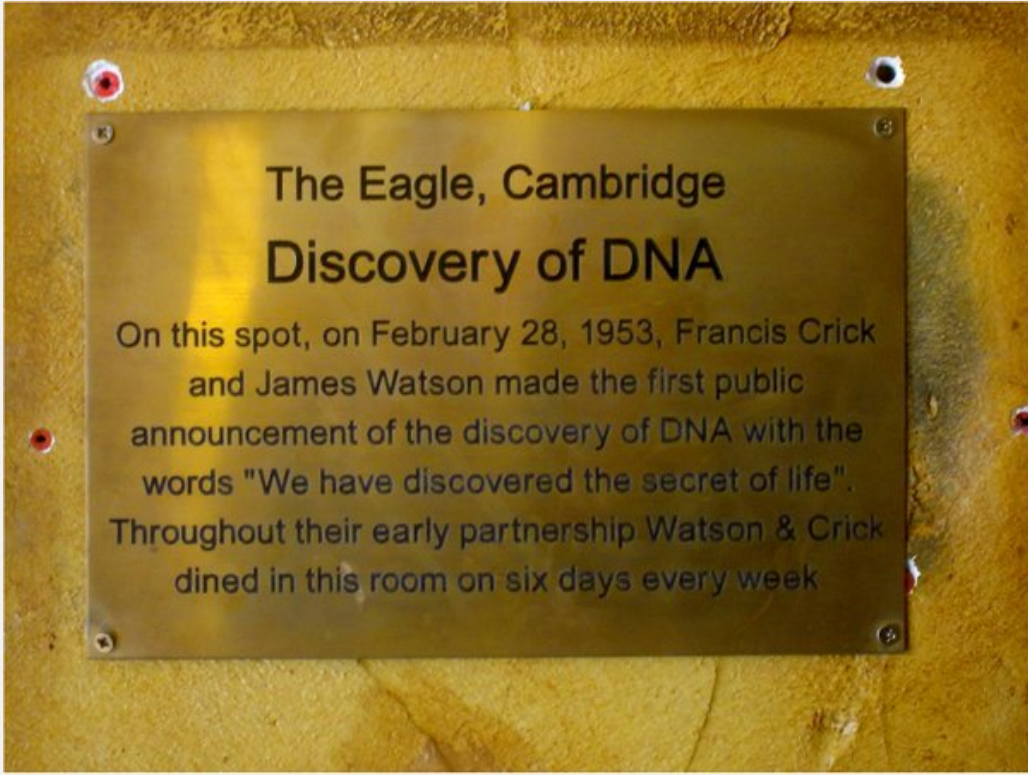
McGuffee & Elcock, PLoS Comp Biol (2010)



( $\exists$  also cells with fully delocalised chromatin)

# Genetic information is stored on DNA





# Central Dogma of Molecular Biology

by  
**FRANCIS CRICK**  
 MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology,  
 Hills Road,  
 Cambridge CB2 2QH

The central dogma of molecular biology deals with the detailed residue-by-residue transfer of sequential information. It states that such information cannot be transferred from protein to either protein or nucleic acid.

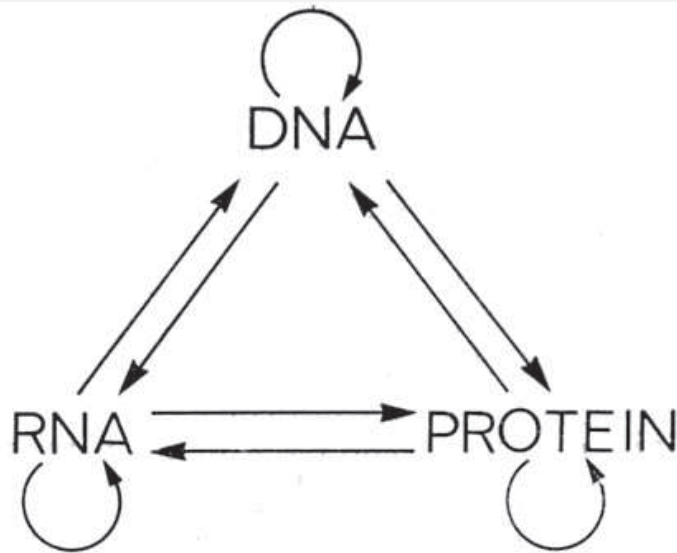


Fig. 1. The arrows show all the possible simple transfers between the three families of polymers. They represent the directional flow of detailed sequence information.

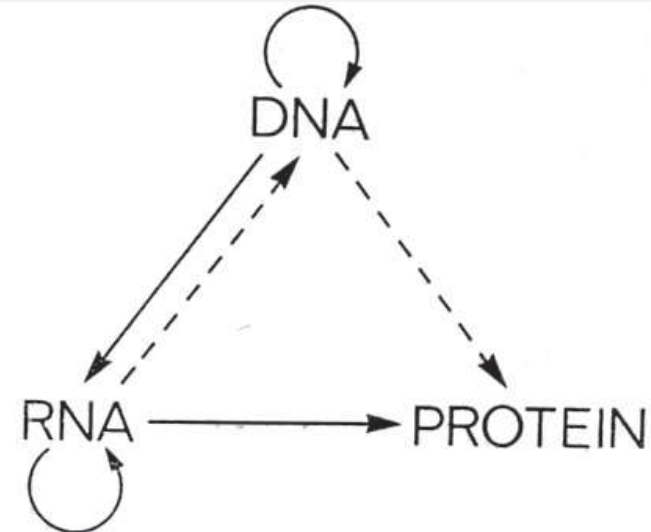
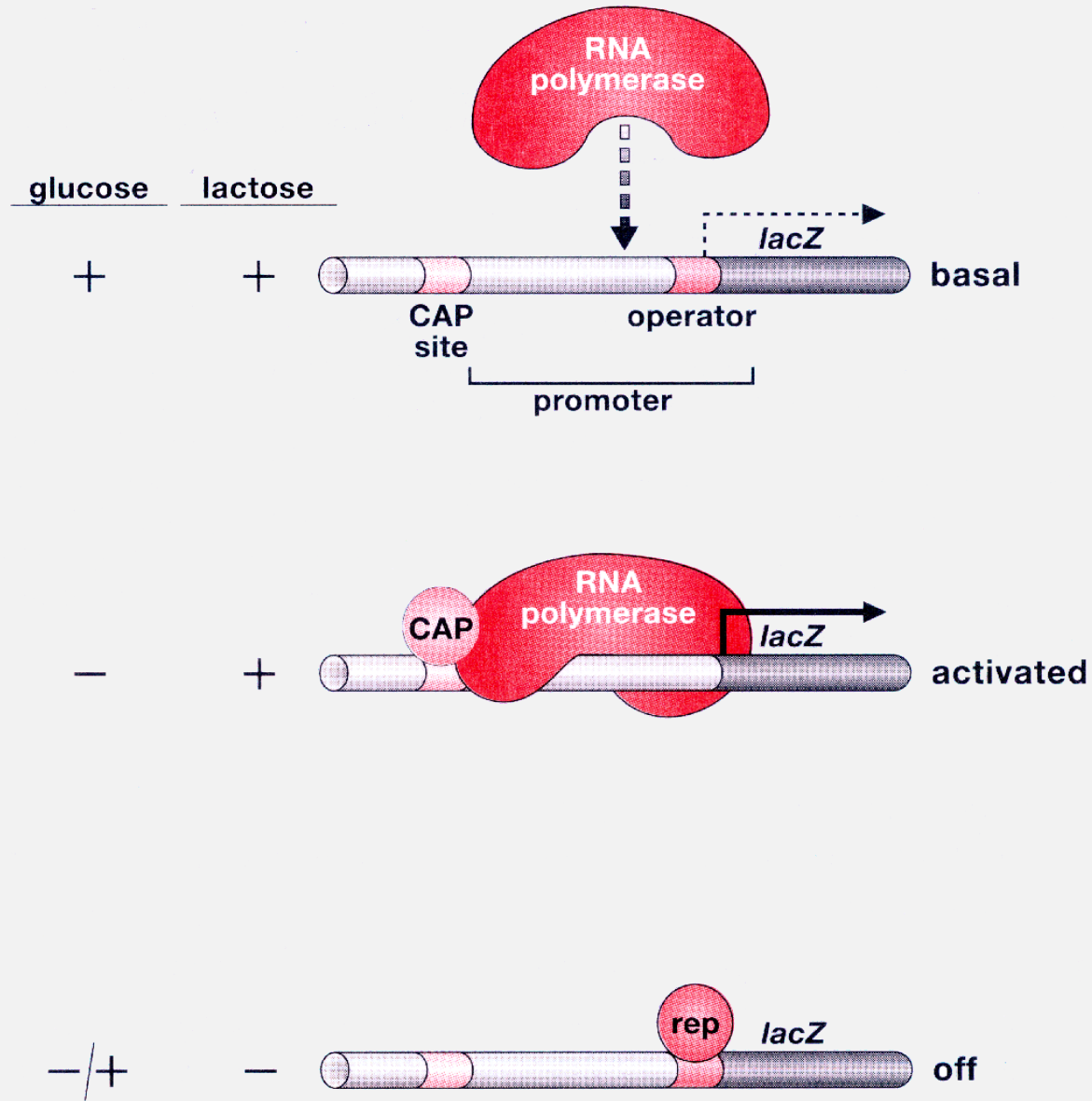


Fig. 2. The arrows show the situation as it seemed in 1958. Solid arrows represent probable transfers, dotted arrows possible transfers. The absent arrows (compare Fig. 1) represent the impossible transfers postulated by the central dogma. They are the three possible arrows starting from protein.

# Gene regulation by transcription factors: Lac repressor



# Smoluchowski search picture

Search rate for a particle with diffusivity  $D_{3d}$  to find an immobile target of radius  $a$  (assuming immediate binding):

$$k_{\text{on}}^S = 4\pi D_{3d}a$$

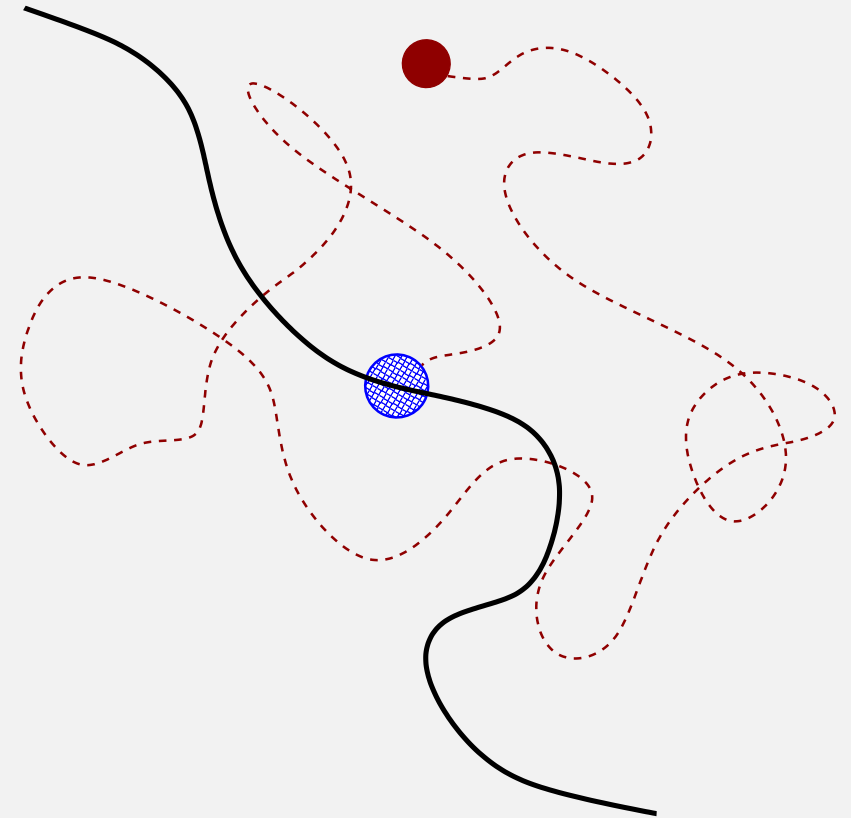
Protein-DNA interaction:  $a \approx \{\text{few bp}\} \approx 1\text{nm}$   
 $D_{3d} \approx 10\mu\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$  (typically  $\varnothing_{\text{TF}} \approx 5\text{nm}$ ):

$$k_{\text{on}}^S \approx \frac{10^8}{(\text{mol/l}) \times \text{sec}}$$

Lac repressor [AD Riggs, S Bourgeois, M Cohn, J Mol Biol 53, 401 (1970)]:

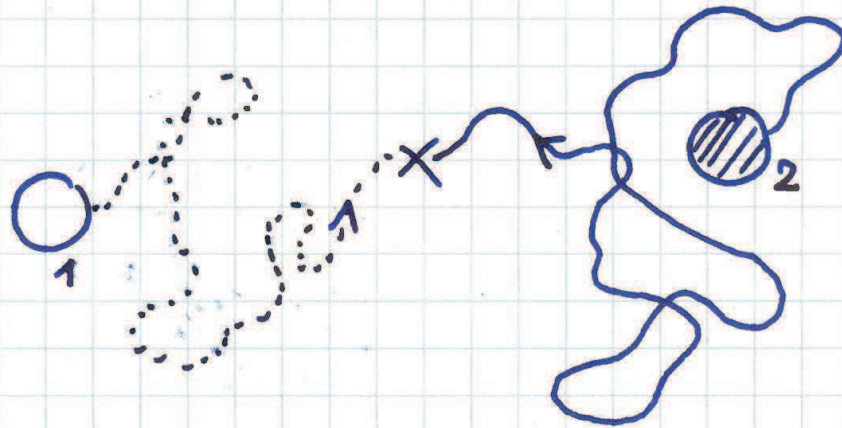
$$k_{\text{on}} \approx \frac{10^{10}}{(\text{mol/l}) \times \text{sec}}$$

→ Facilitated diffusion picture



## Smoluchowski approach to diffusion limited reactions

We consider a two-body reaction. Once the particles meet, they react with infinite rate:



Diffusivities  $D_1$  &  $D_2$  &  $\langle x_i^2(t) \rangle = 2D_i t$  Brownian motion

The encounter requires that the relative co-ordinate vanishes:  
effective relative diffusivity?

$$R^2 = \langle (x_1 - x_2)^2 \rangle = \langle x_1^2 \rangle - \underbrace{2 \langle x_1 x_2 \rangle}_{\rightarrow 0} + \langle x_2^2 \rangle = 2(D_1 + D_2)t$$

$$\Rightarrow D_{rel} = D_1 + D_2$$

In  $d=3$  according to Stokes:  $\overline{D}_i = \frac{k_B T}{6\pi\eta a_i}$

Consider now the volume density  $n(\underline{r}, t)$  of transcription factors searching for a reaction centre of radius  $b = a_1 + a_2$

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = \overline{D}_{rel} \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r^2 \frac{\partial n}{\partial r} \quad \text{for radial symmetry}$$

Boundary condition:  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} n = n_{bulk}$ ;  $n|_{r=b} = 0$  absorption

Stationary state:

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = 0 = \overline{D}_{rel} \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r^2 \frac{\partial n}{\partial r}$$

$$\Rightarrow n_{st}(r) = n_{bulk} \left(1 - \frac{b}{r}\right).$$



Rate constant for binding yields from stationary flux:

$$\underline{k_a} = \frac{j_{st}}{n_{bulk}} = \frac{1}{n_{bulk}} 4\pi b^2 D_{rel} \left. \frac{\partial n_{st}}{\partial r} \right|_{r=b} = \underline{4\pi D_{rel} b}$$

Berg & von Hippel refine this result (J. Biol. Chem. 264, 675 (1989))

$$k_a = 4\pi \kappa a f \frac{D_{TF} + D_{DNA}}{1000} N_A$$

$\kappa$ : unitless interaction parameter measuring fraction of surfaces, that are reactive

$a$ : interaction distance in cm

$f$ : dimensionless factor reflecting increase/decrease of diffusional rate due to electrostatic attraction or repulsion of particles.

$N_A$ : Avogadro's number

1000: factor to normalize units of  $k_a$  to  $M^{-1} \text{sec}^{-1}$ ,  $[D_i] = \text{cm}^2/\text{sec}$

$a_{TF} \approx 40 \text{ \AA}$ ,  $a_{\text{DNA cylinder}} \approx 10 \text{ \AA} \rightarrow a \approx 5 \times 10^{-8} \text{ cm}$

$f$  estimated to  $\approx 1$  (TF & DNA carry negative charge but  $\exists$  salt and TF has positive binding domain)

$\kappa \approx 0.05$  ( $\approx 1/5$  of TF surface represents active site,  $\approx 1/4$  of cylindrical DNA surface interacts with TF)

$$\Rightarrow \underline{k_a \approx 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{sec}^{-1}}$$

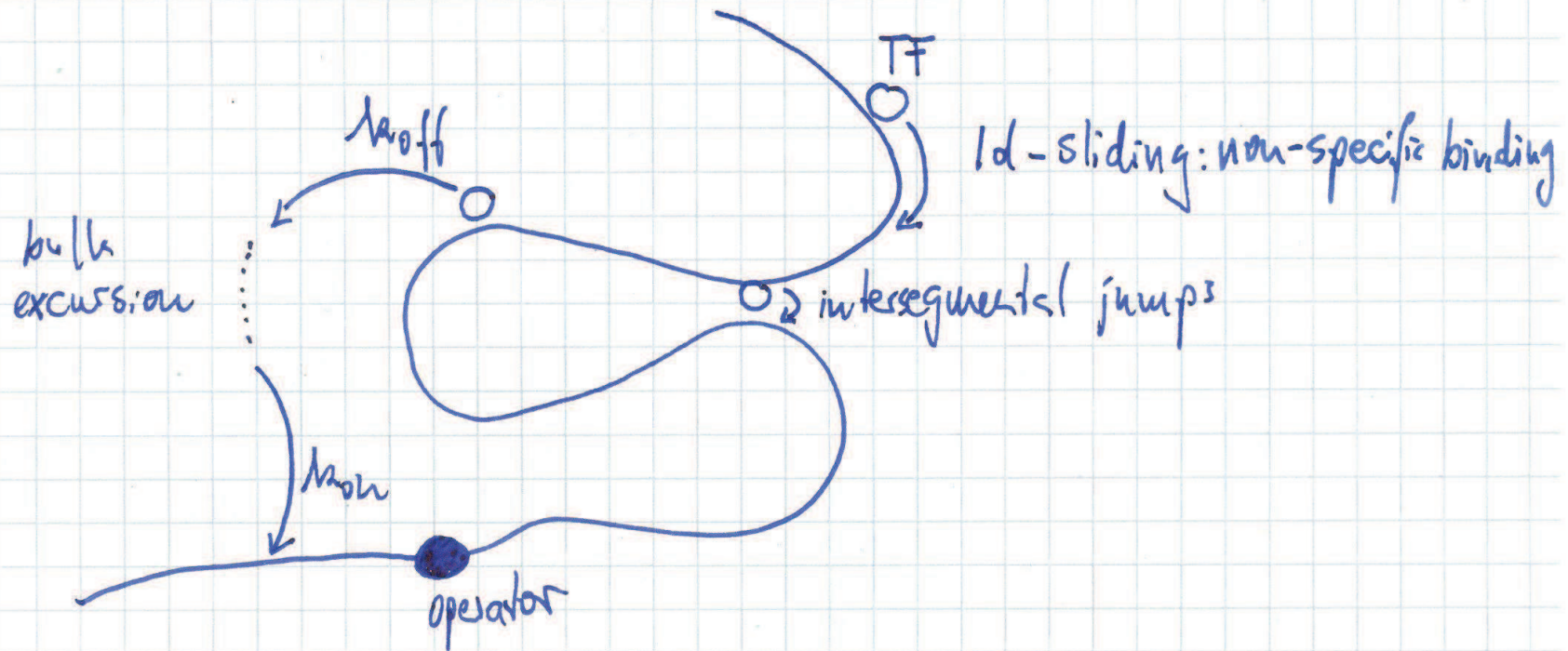
Measurements:  $k_a \approx 5 \times 10^{10} \text{ M}^{-1} \text{sec}^{-1}$  ⚡

(Riggs et al, J. Mol. Biol. 53, 401 (1970))

(Winter et al, Biochem. 20, 6961 (1981))

Adam & Delbrück (1968): idea of facilitated diffusion

Richter & Eigen (1974): first mathematical description



Polya problem: 1d diffusion is recurrent, 3d diffusion is transient

advantage of sliding: if operator in vicinity, it will be located with high fidelity

advantage of bulk excursions: they decorrelate the search, i.e., there is a high probability, that the TF lands on a previously unexplored part of the DNA

disadvantage sliding: oversampling  $\Rightarrow$  needs to be limited by  $k_{off}$   
disadvantage bulk excursions: location of small target in 3d difficult

$\Rightarrow$  optimisation of TF-search by facilitated diffusion!

$\exists$  many different approaches to calculate  $k_{on}$  for this Berg-van Hippel model  
We use the diffusion eq. for the 1d line density of TF on the DNA:

$$\frac{\partial n(x,t)}{\partial t} = \left( D_{1d} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - k_{off} \right) n(x,t) - j(t) \delta(x) + G(x,t) \\ + k_{off} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx' \int_0^t dt' W_{bulk}(x-x', t-t') n(x', t')$$

$x$ : "chemical co-ordinate" along DNA

$k_{\text{off}}$ : unbinding rate from non-specifically bound state

$D_{1d}$ : 1d diffusion constant along DNA

$j(x)$ : flux into the target, represented by  $\delta$ -sink:  $n(x=0, t) = 0$

$\Theta$ : "virgin" flux of TF, from bulk that have not previously bound to DNA

$W_{\text{bulk}}$ : 3d diffusion kernel for bulk excursion from  $x'$  to  $x$  during time span  $t - t'$

In steady state the flux defines the association rate:  $j_{\text{st}} = k_{\text{on}} \times n_{\text{st}}$

$W_{\text{bulk}}(x, t)$  is the solution (Green's fct.) of the diffusion eq.

From above dynamic eq:

$$\frac{1}{k_{\text{on}}} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{dq}{2\pi} \frac{1}{D_{1d} q^2 + k_{\text{off}} [1 - \lambda_{\text{bulk}}(q)]}$$

$$\lambda_{\text{bulk}}(q) = \int_0^{\infty} dt \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{iqx} W_{\text{bulk}}(x, t)$$

Finally  $\lambda_{on} = \frac{l_{sl}}{v_{bulk}}$

For a cylindrical DNA:

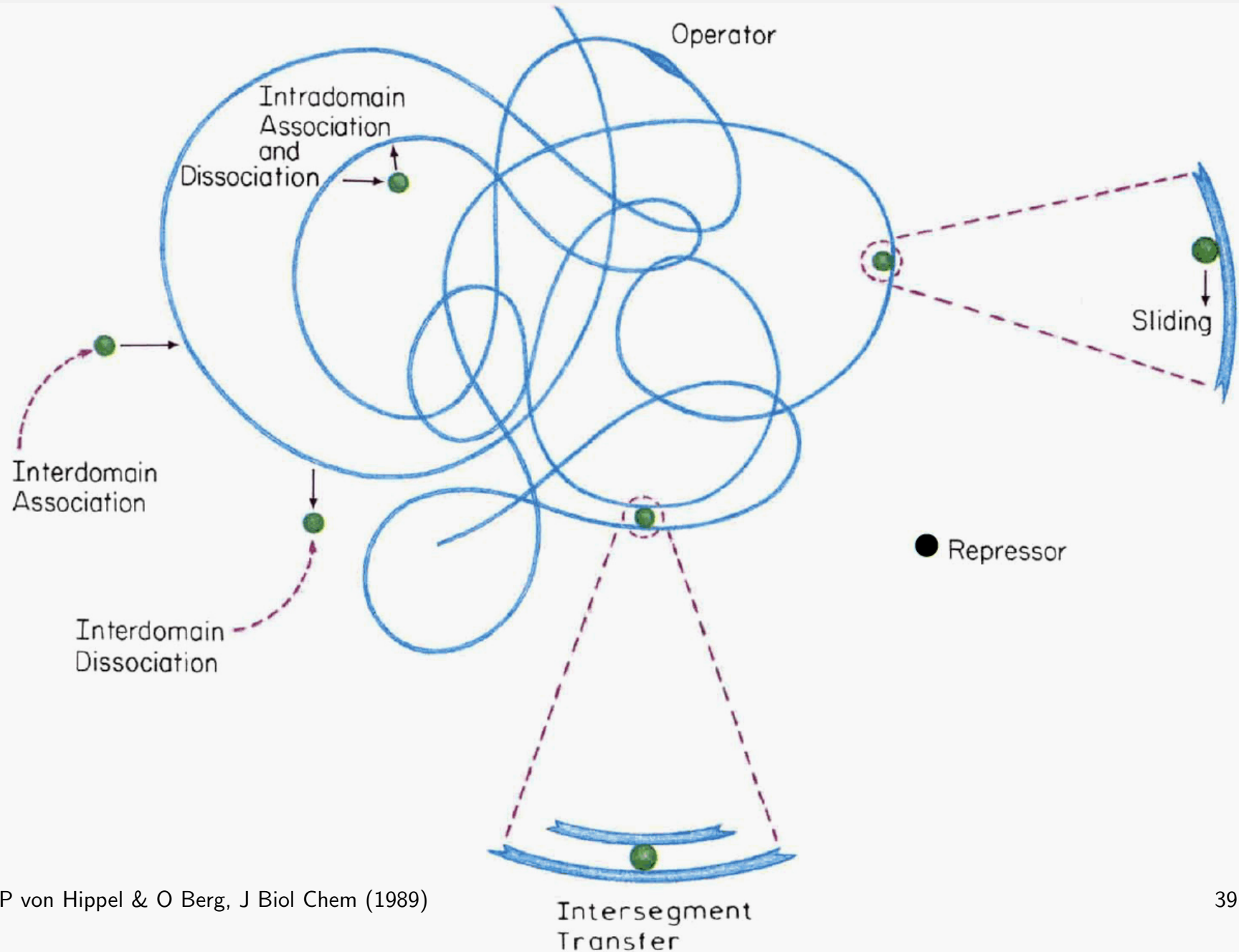
$$\lambda_{on} \sim 4\pi D_{3d} l_{sl}^{eff} \cdot \frac{1}{[\ln(l_{sl}^{eff}/r_{int})]^{1/2}}$$

$$l_{sl}^{eff} = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_{on}}{2\pi D_{3d}}} l_{sl} \quad \therefore \quad l_{sl} = \sqrt{D_{1d}/\lambda_{on}^{eff}} \quad \text{sliding length (antenna)}$$

effective sliding length:  $l_{sl}$

corrected by immediate re-binding events

# Facilitated diffusion: the Berg-von Hippel model



# Non-specific binding energy based on *in vivo* data



Lac repressor, nonspecific binding

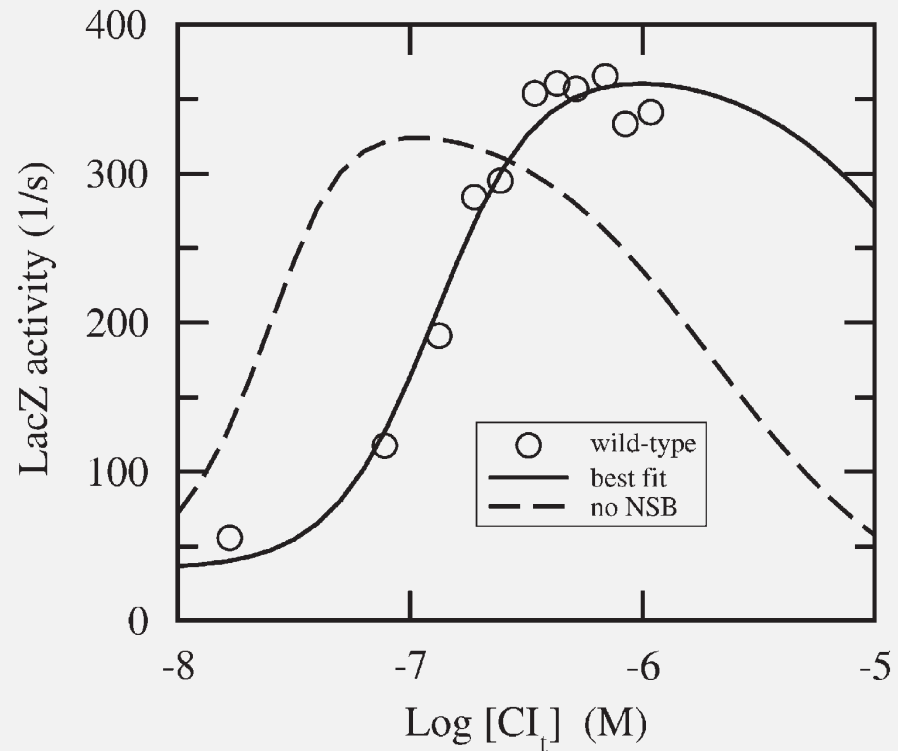


Lac repressor, specific binding

$$[X] = [X_{\text{free}}] + [X_{\text{@O}_P}] + [X_{\text{NSB}}]$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{NSB}}(\text{CI}) = -4.1 \pm 0.9 \text{ kcal/mol,}$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{NSB}}(\text{Cro}) = -4.2 \pm 0.8 \text{ kcal/mol}$$

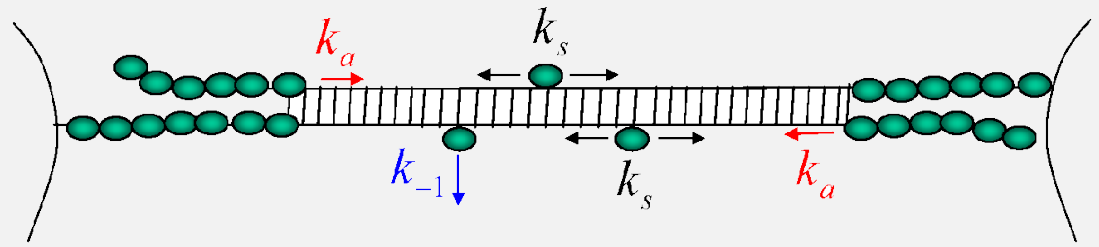




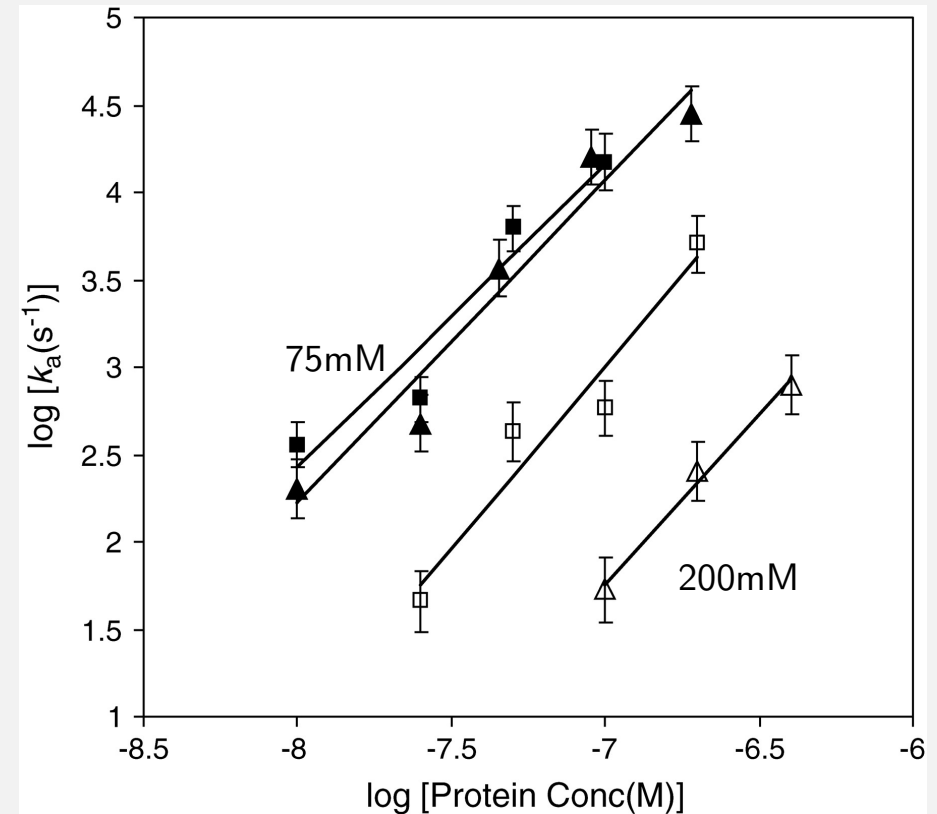
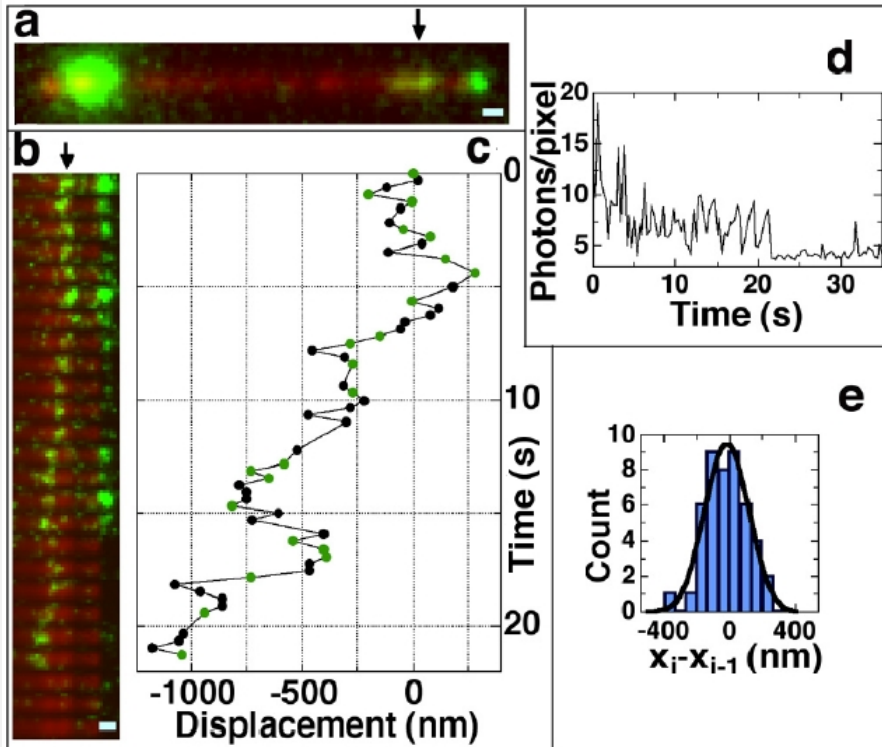
# Proof of 1D search mode

McGhee & von Hippel isotherm

$$f = \frac{N\lambda}{L} \simeq K_{ns}\lambda C, \quad f \ll 1$$



$$k_a \simeq \begin{cases} C, & \text{1D/3D Berg \& von Hippel} \\ C^2, & \text{Pure 1D search} \end{cases}$$



$$\Delta = 1.74 \pm 0.35, 1.85 \pm 0.24, 2.08 \pm 0.39, 1.95 \pm 0.17$$

# Calculating facilitated diffusion (our version)

$$\frac{\partial n(x, t)}{\partial t} = \left( D_{1d} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - k_{\text{off}} \right) n(x, t) - j(t) \delta(x) + G(x, t) + k_{\text{off}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx' \int_0^t dt' W_{\text{bulk}}(x - x', t - t')$$

$n$ : line density of TFs

$x$ : chemical co-ordinate along DNA

$k_{\text{off}}$ : unbinding rate of non-specifically bound TFs

$D_{1d}$ : 1D diffusion constant ( $\sim 10^{-2} D_{3d}$ )

$j(t)$ : flux into target ( $\delta$  sink @  $x = 0$ )

$G$ : virgin flux of previously unbound TFs

$W_{\text{bulk}}$ : 3D diffusion propagator

Long chain, fast dynamics: Lévy flights

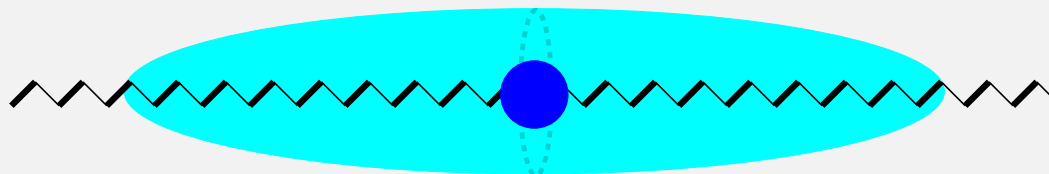
# The antenna effect

Target search rate for cylindrical DNA model:

$$k_{\text{on}} \sim 4\pi D_{3d} \ell_{\text{sl}}^{\text{eff}} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{\ln(\ell_{\text{sl}}^{\text{eff}} / r_{\text{int}})}}$$

Sliding length:

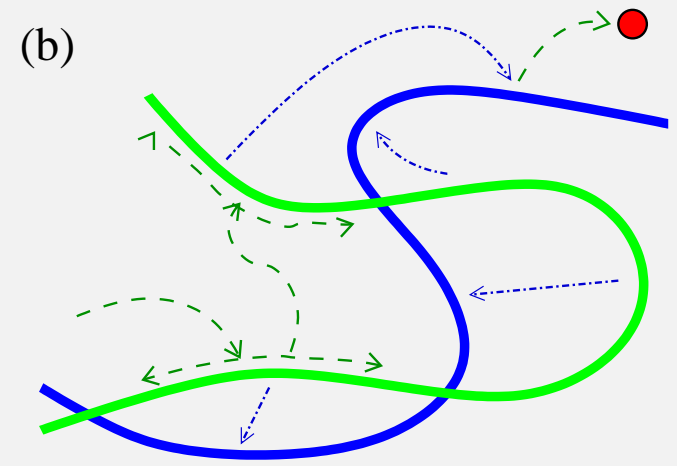
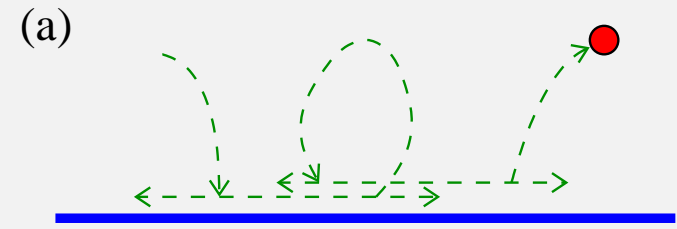
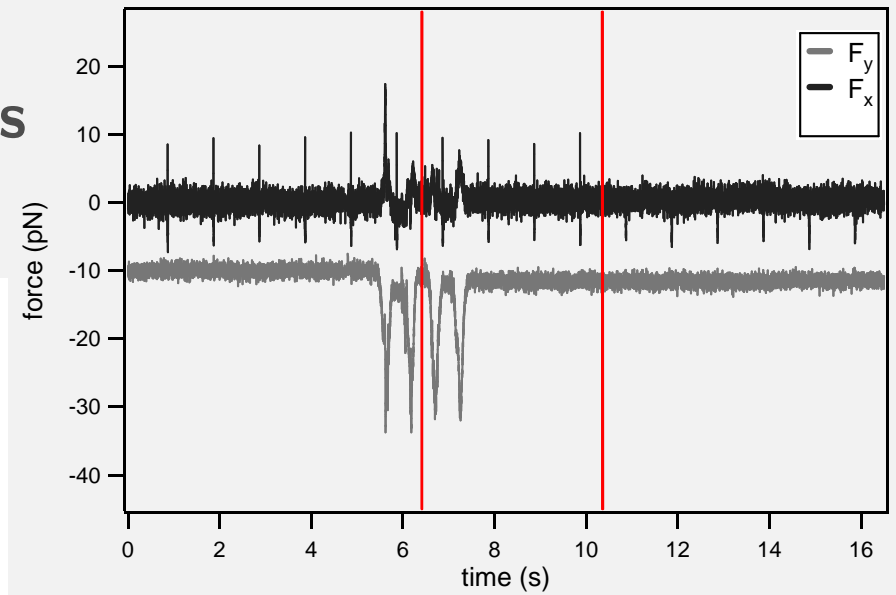
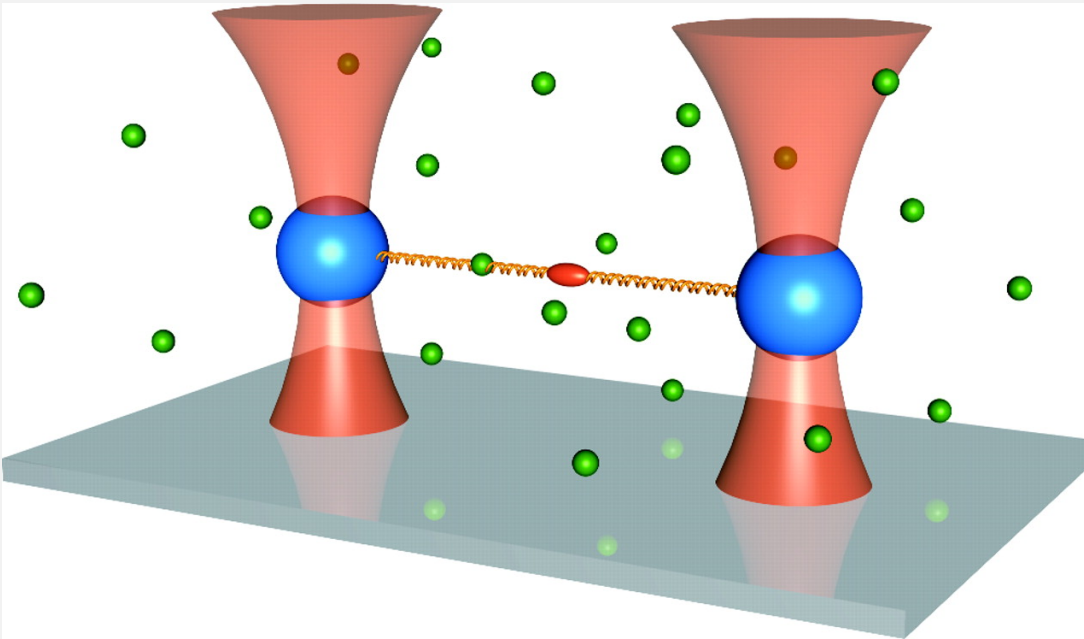
$$\ell_{\text{sl}} = \sqrt{\frac{D_{1d}}{k_{\text{off}}}}$$



Effective sliding length:

$$\ell_{\text{sl}}^{\text{eff}} = \sqrt{\frac{k_{\text{on}}}{2\pi D_{3d}}} \times \ell_{\text{sl}} \quad \text{microhop correction: } \sqrt{\frac{k_{\text{on}}}{2\pi D_{3d}}}$$

# The rôle of DNA conformations

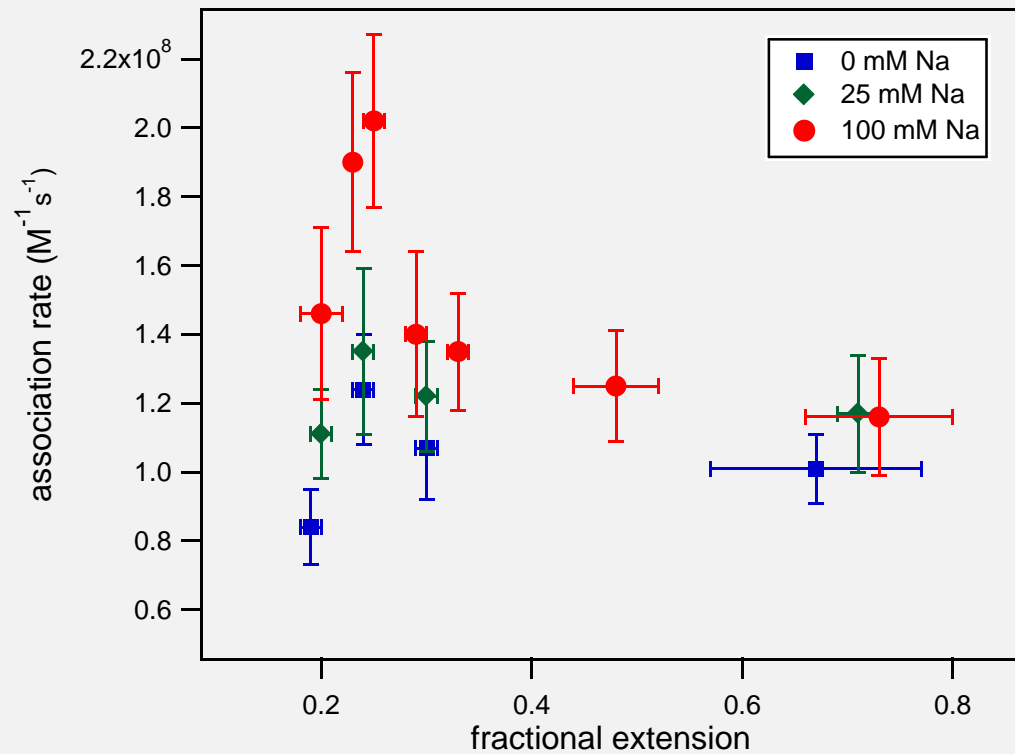
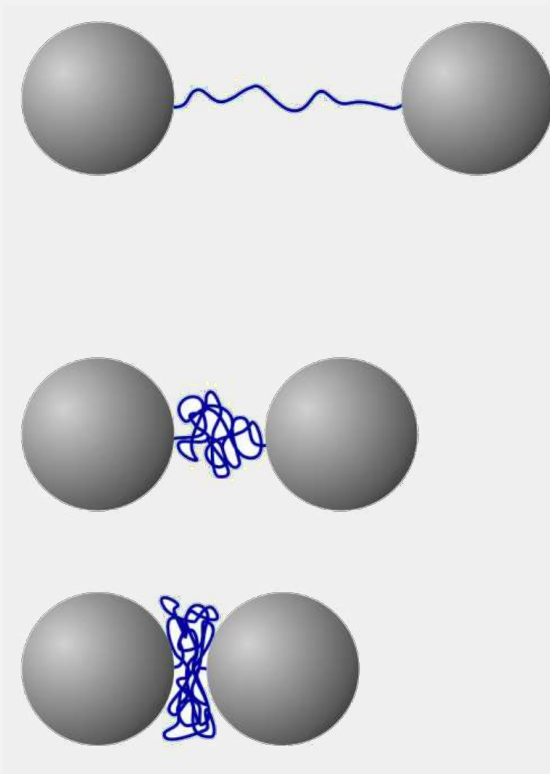


pCco5 plasmid DNA:  $6538\text{bp} \approx 2.2\mu\text{m} \approx 45\ell_p$   
 [comp  $\lambda$  DNA 48.5kbp]

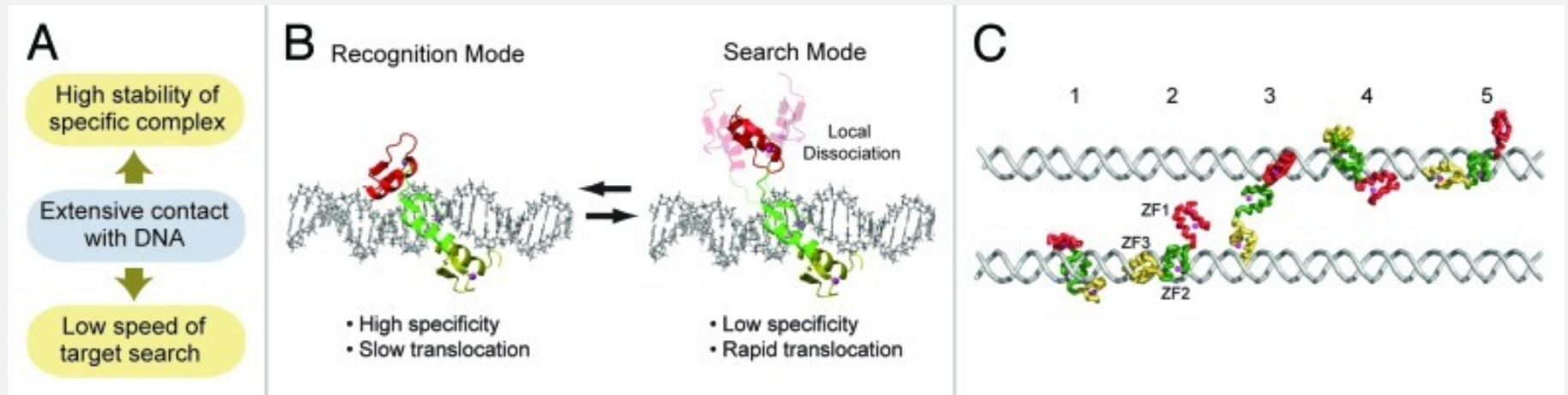
# More compact DNA conformations speed up the search

[NaCl]	$k_{\text{on}}^{\text{straight}}$ [Ms]	$l_{\text{sl}}^{\text{eff}}$ [bp]	$1/\sqrt{l_{\text{DNA}}}$ [bp]	$l_p$ [bp]	$R_{\text{theory}}$	$R_{\text{measured}}$
0 mM	$0.8 \times 10^8$	195	518	188	1.18	$1.3 \pm 0.2$
25 mM	$1.0 \times 10^8$	250	485	175	1.23	$1.1 \pm 0.2$
100 mM	$1.0 \times 10^8$	250	150	159	1.67	$1.7 \pm 0.3$
150 mM	$0.9 \times 10^9$	15.5	120	153	1.15	$1.3 \pm 0.4$

$R = k_{\text{on}}^{\text{max}} / k_{\text{on}}^{\text{straight}}$ : enhancement ratio of attachment rates @ max and straight configuration)



# Speed-stability paradox in TF search along DNA

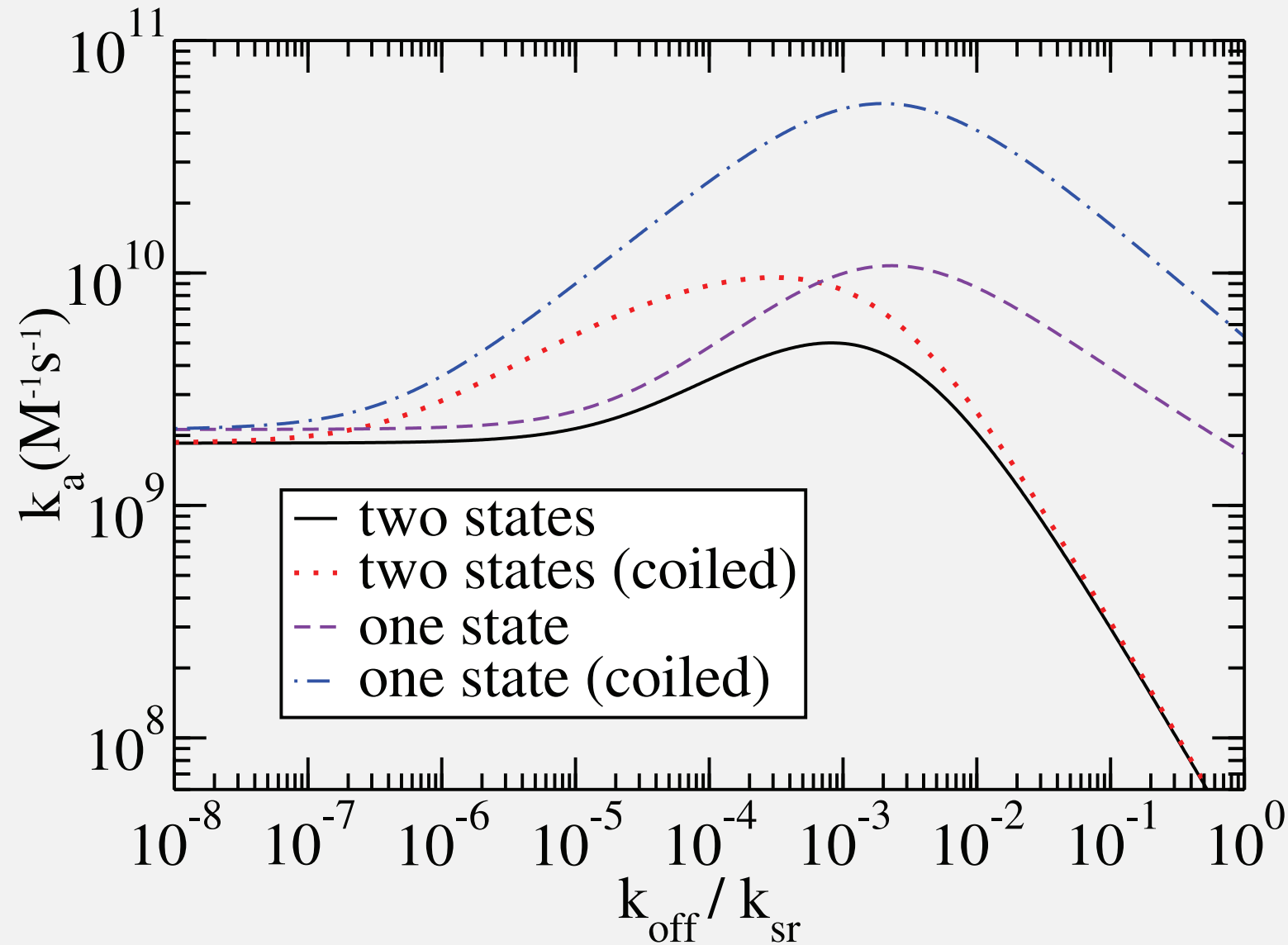


From simulations:

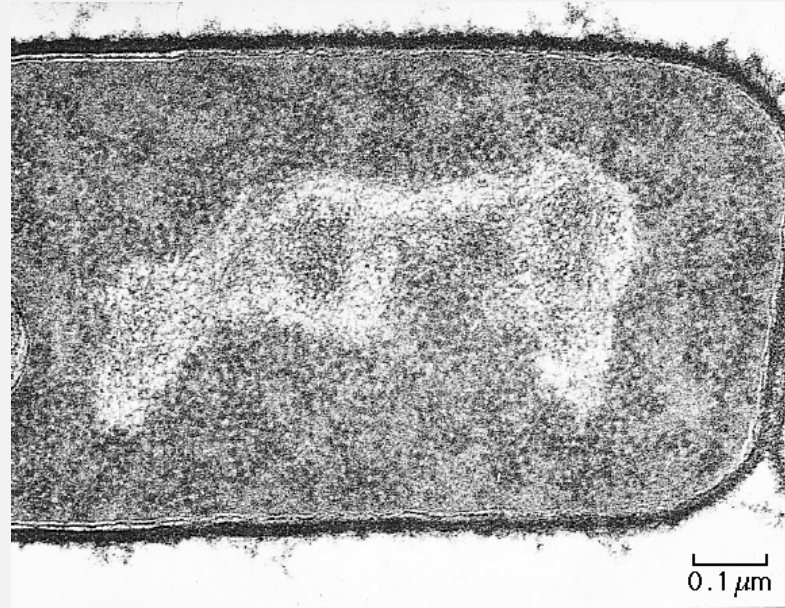
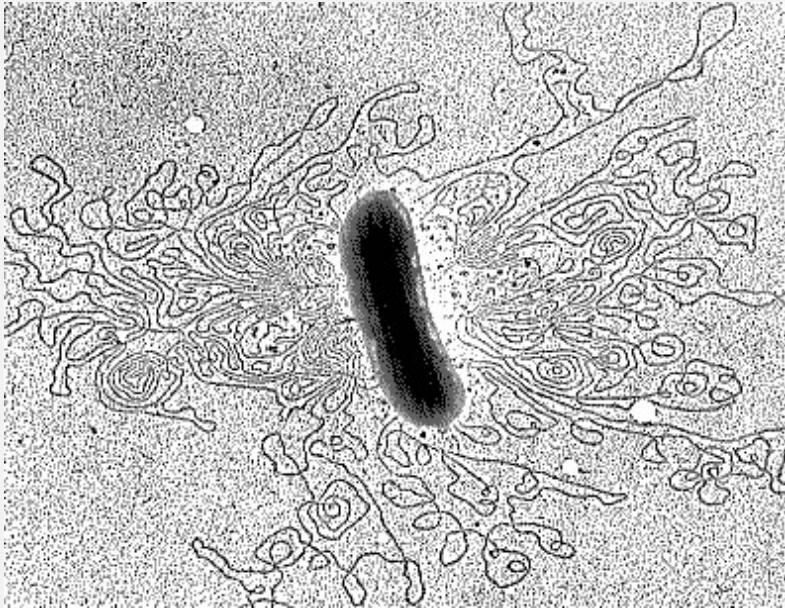
B: Search & recognition modes for a zinc finger protein

C: Intersegmental transfer of the protein

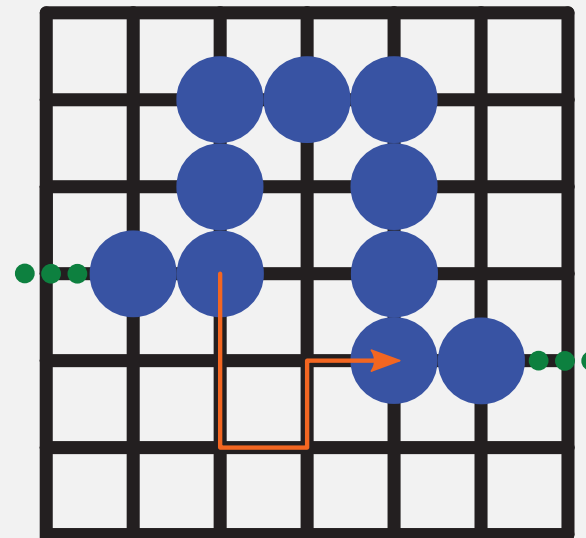
# Facilitated diffusion: rate with search & recognition states



# In vivo bacterial gene regulation: E.coli



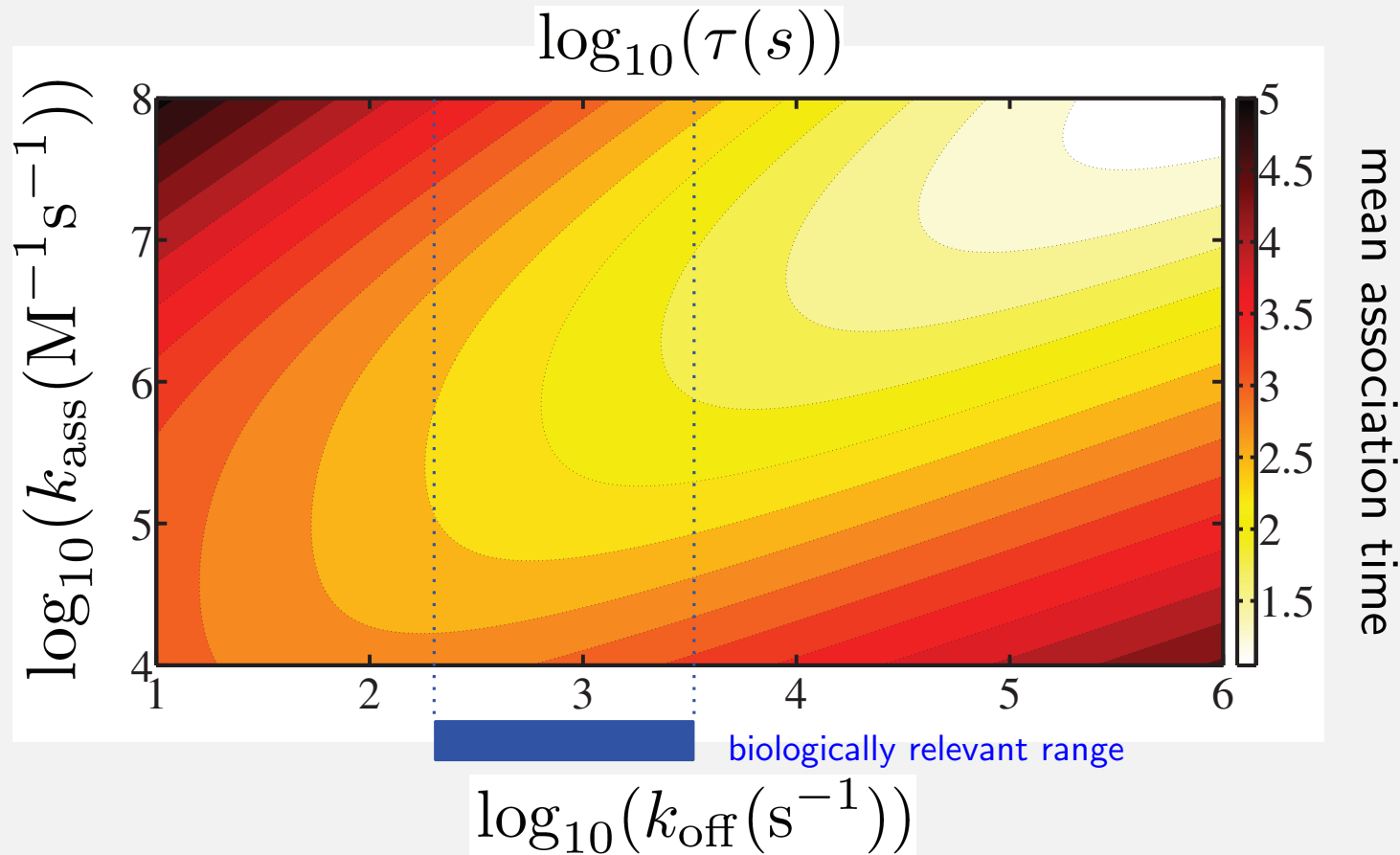
Chromosome is approx a SAW  
[M Buenemann & P Lenz, PLoS ONE (2010)]



M Bauer & RM, PLoS ONE (2013)



# In vivo gene regulation consistent with facilitated diffusion



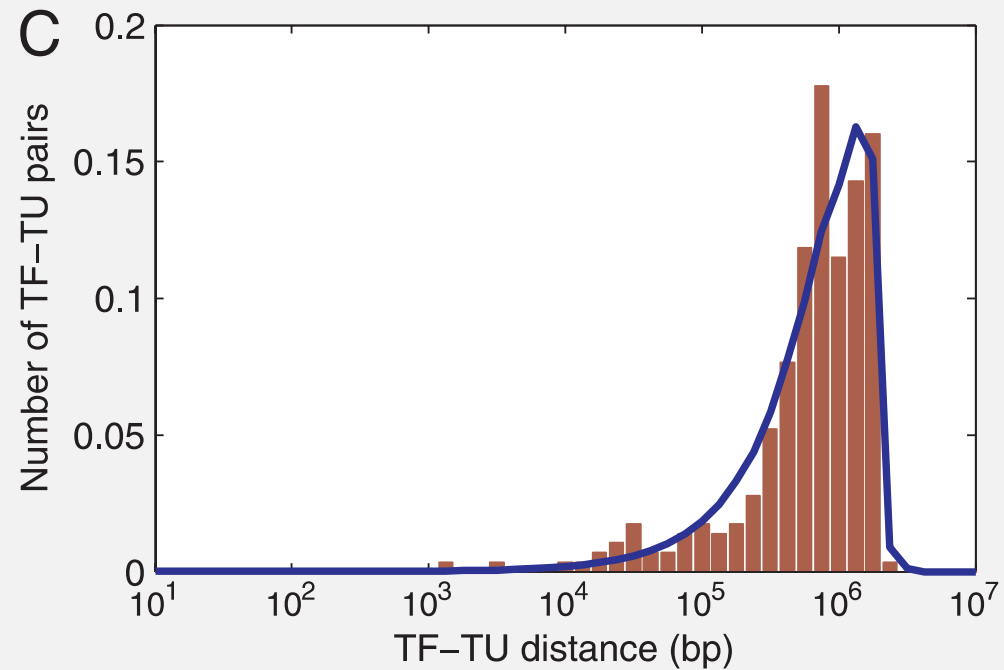
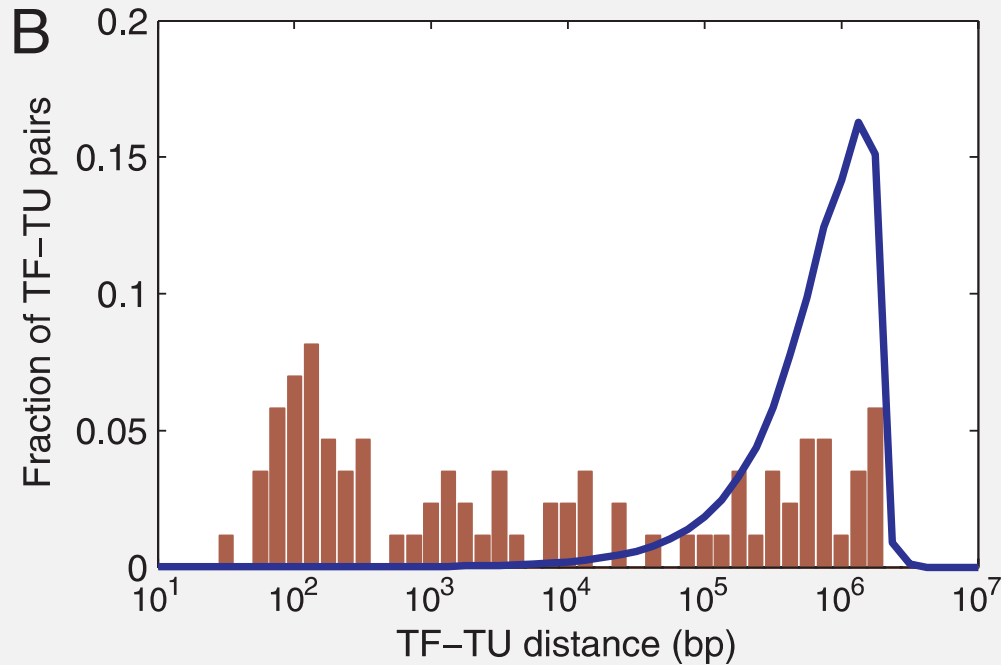
@ optimum the target association time is  $\tau \approx 311\text{sec}$  (no fit parameter)

single molecule experiment:  $\tau_{\text{exp}} = 354\text{sec}$  [Elf et al, Science (2007)]

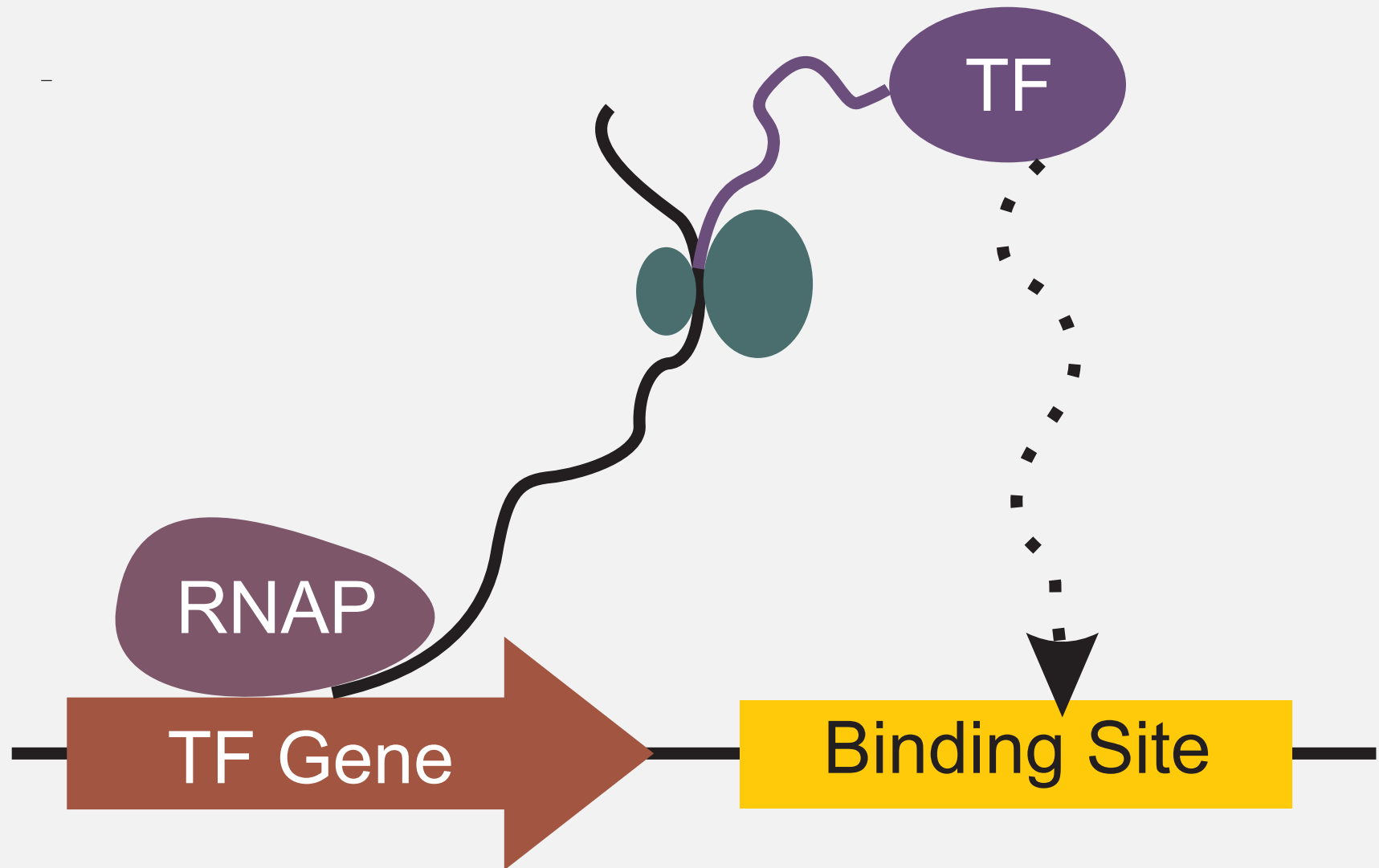
# TF regulation effects gene proximity

Does distance between genes interacting via TFs matter?

Gene-gene distance distribution for local TFs (regulate  $< 4$  operons, left) and global (regulate  $\geq 4$  operons, right). Blue line: random location of genes



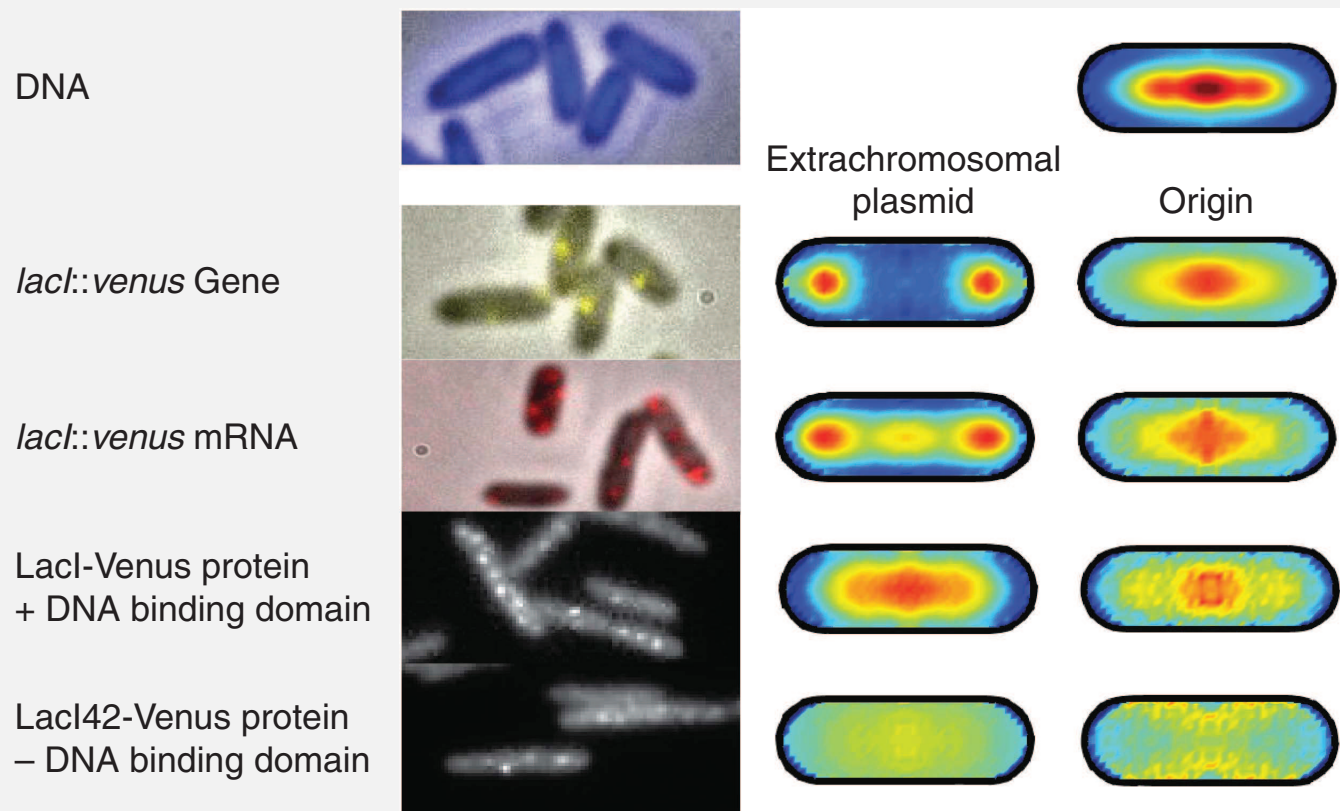
# Rapid search hypothesis



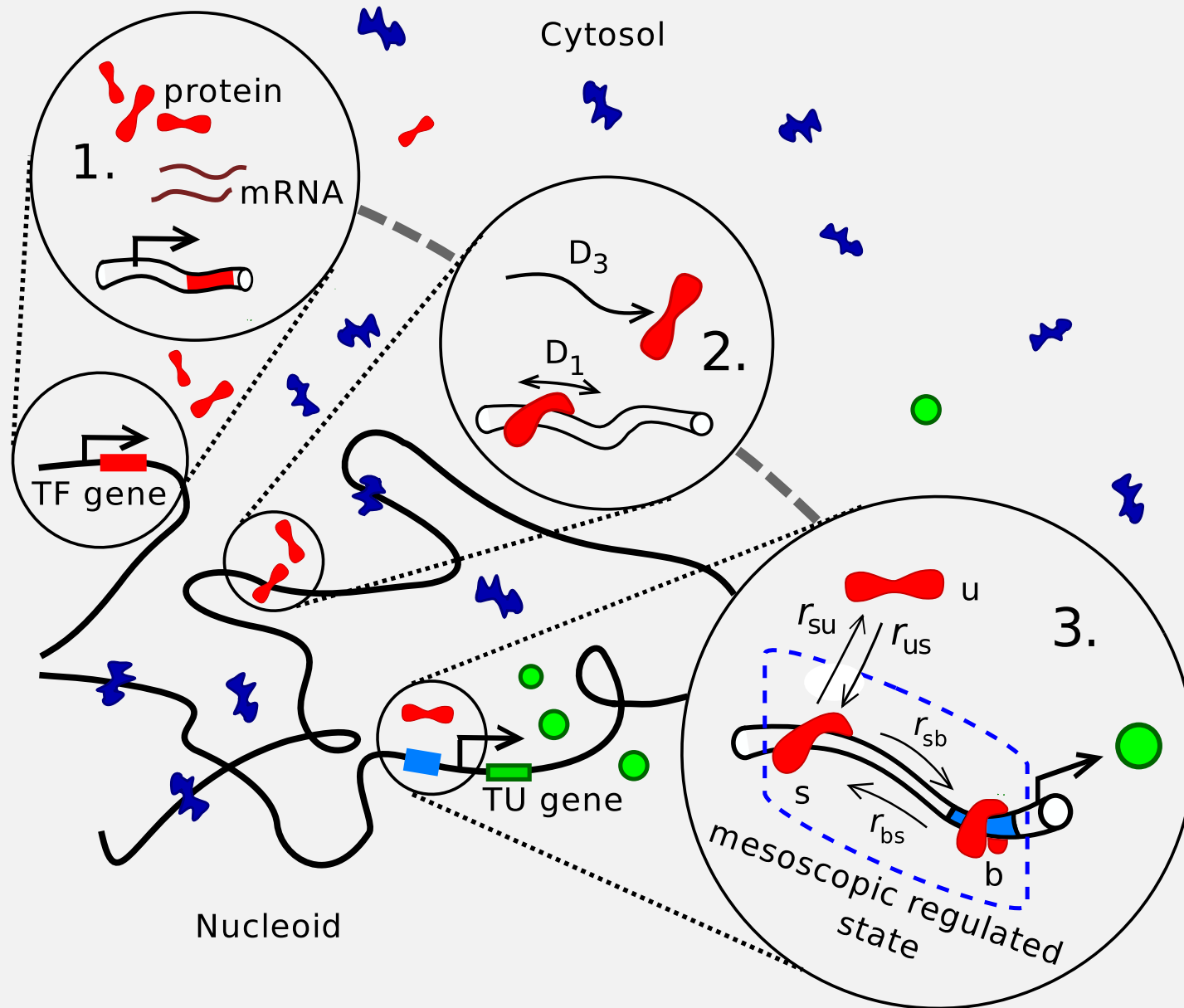
# Spatial aspects: do gene locations matter?

Képès: TF targets are typically located next to or at regular distances from the TF gene  
→ TF gene-target pairs close in 3D

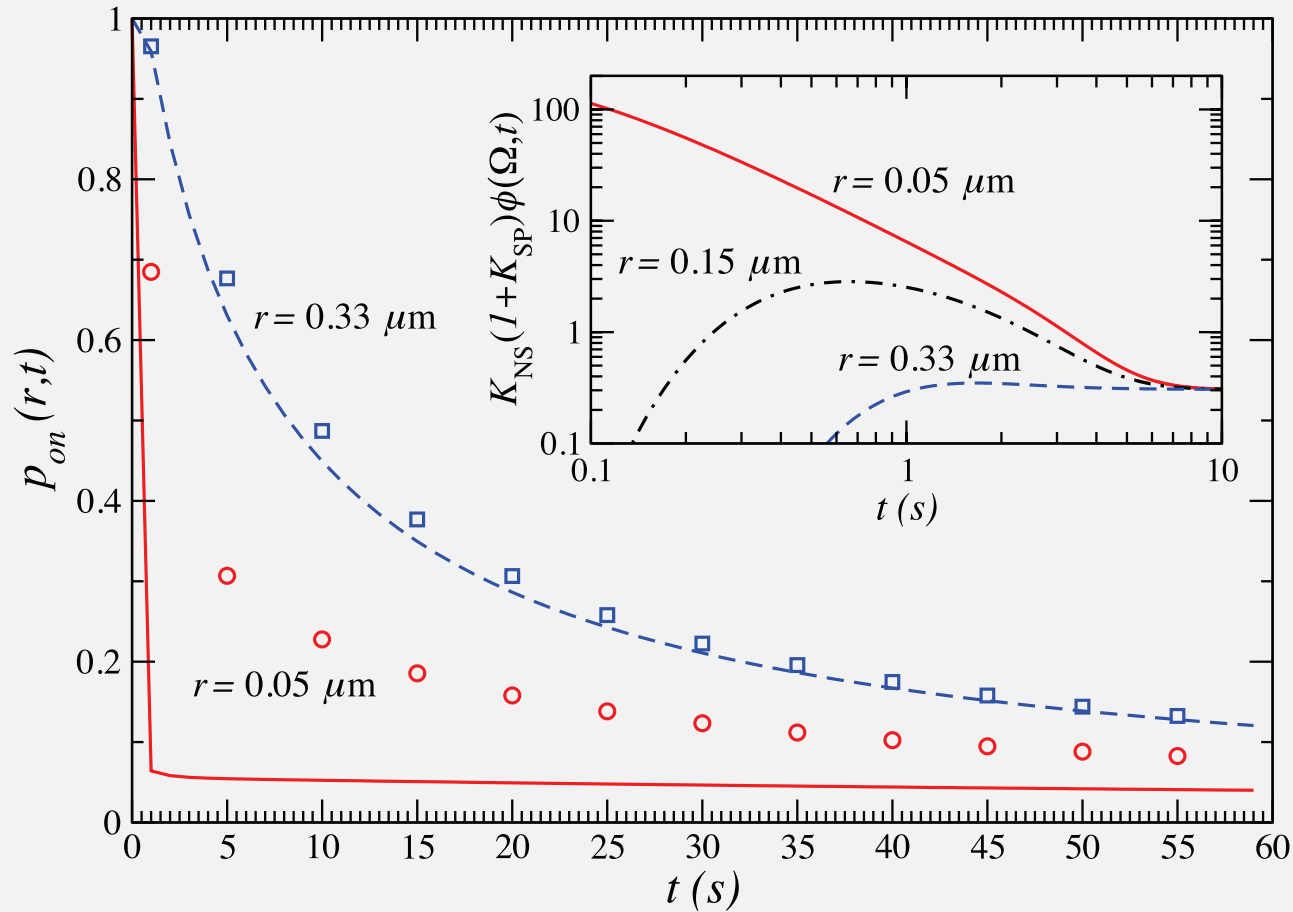
Kuhlman & Cox: • localisation of TF near TF gene • TF distribution highly heterogeneous  
• TF gene influences distribution



# Transient intracellular signalling is diffusion controlled



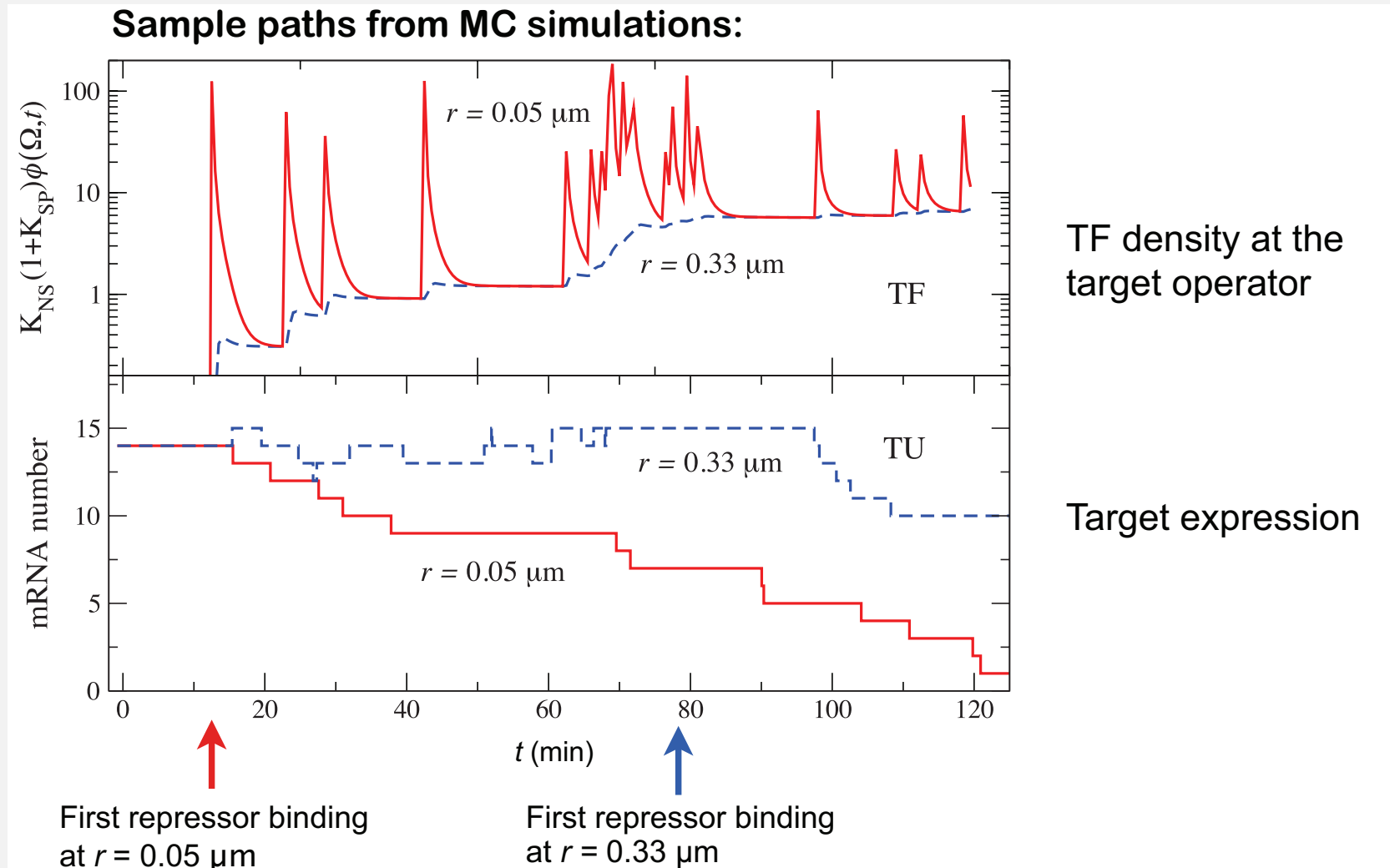
# Result 1: transient response to repression



Mean field approximation (full & dashed lines):

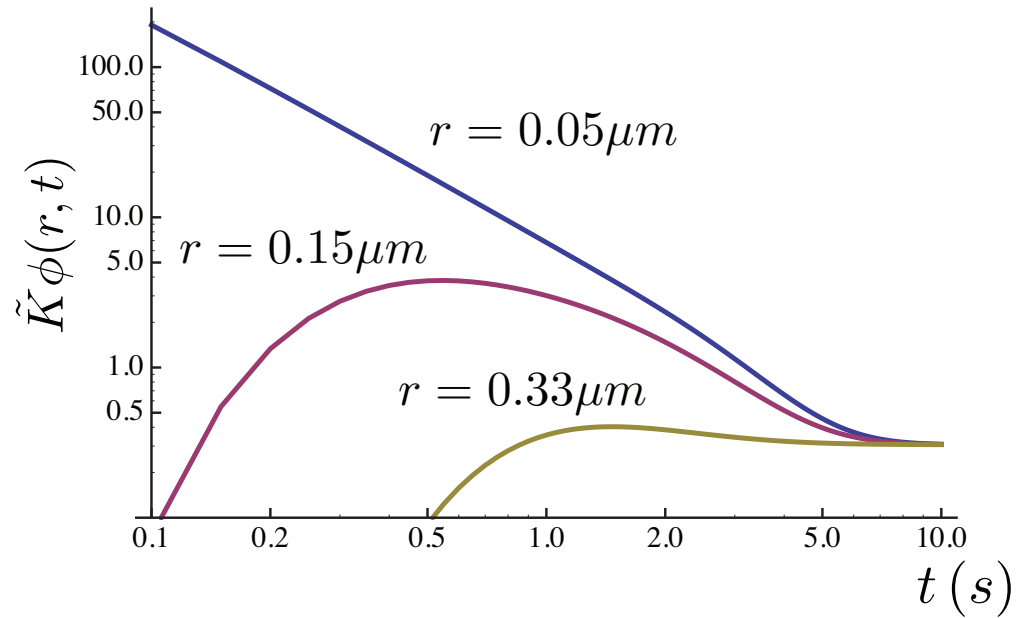
$$p_{on}(r, t) = \left\langle \frac{1 + K_{NS}\rho_{TF}(r, t)}{1 + \tilde{K}\rho_{TF}(r, t)} \right\rangle \approx \frac{1 + K_{NS}\langle\rho_{TF}(r, t)\rangle}{1 + \tilde{K}\langle\rho_{TF}(r, t)\rangle}$$

## Result 2: time dependence of gene response

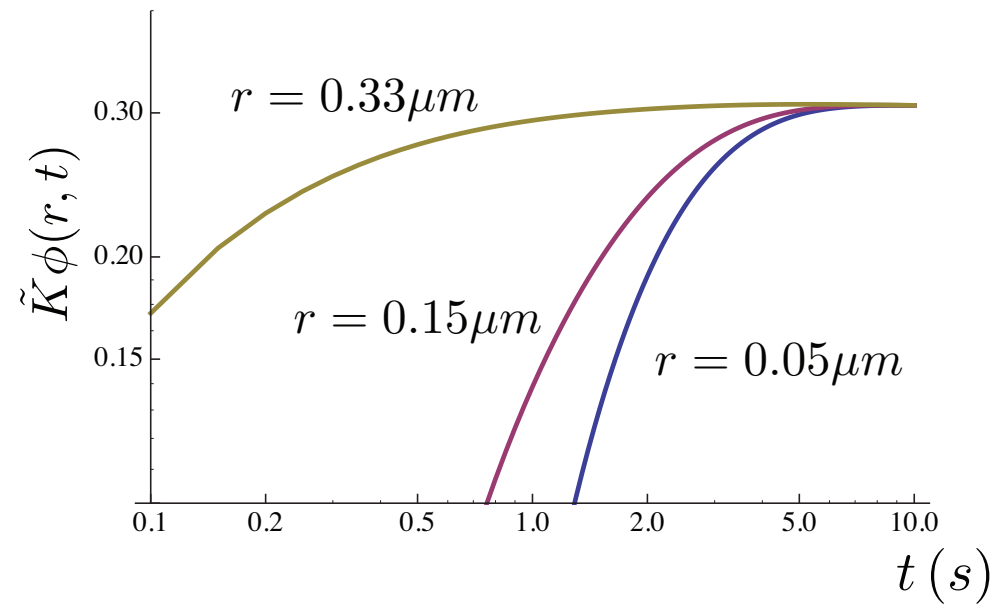


# Result 3: gene location matters

TF gene within the nucleoid

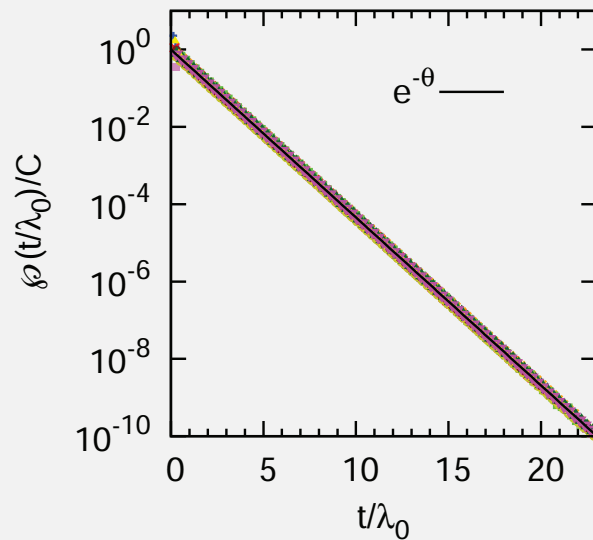
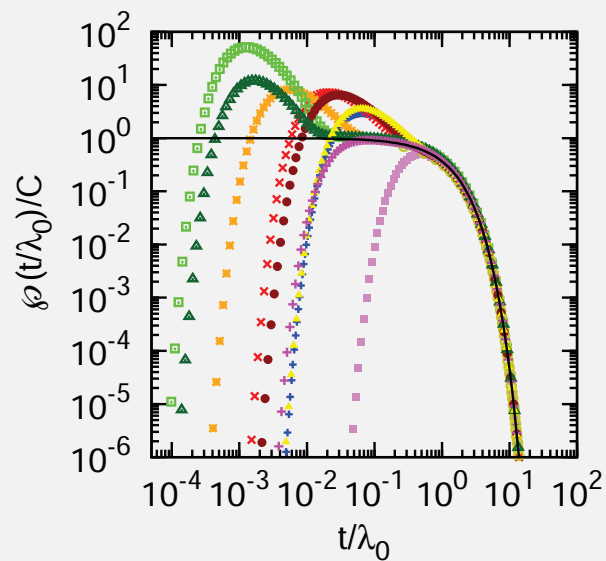


TF gene on a plasmid

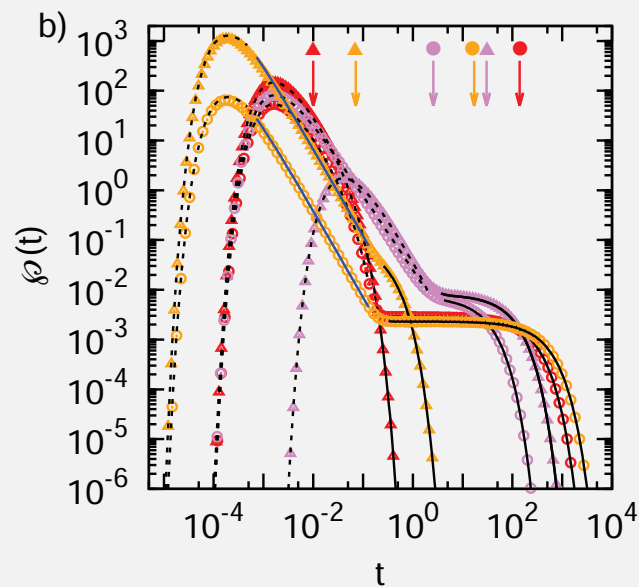
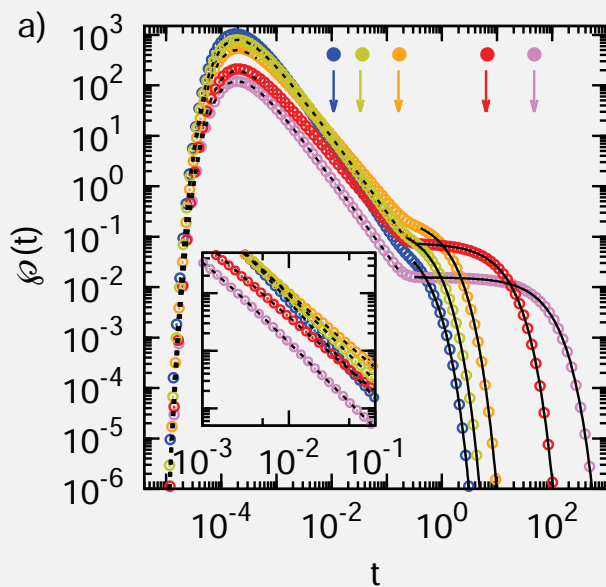




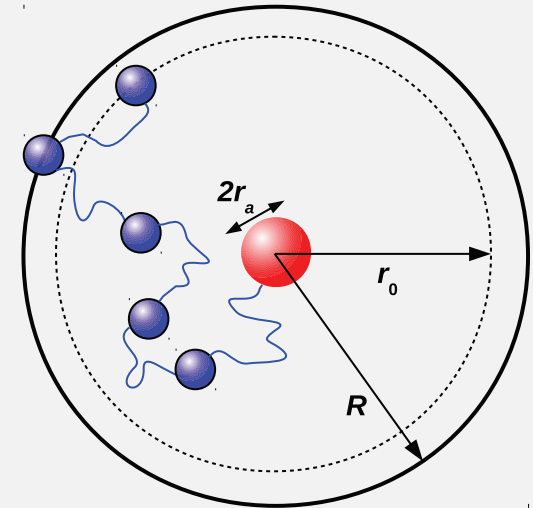
# Universal proximity effect in few encounter limit



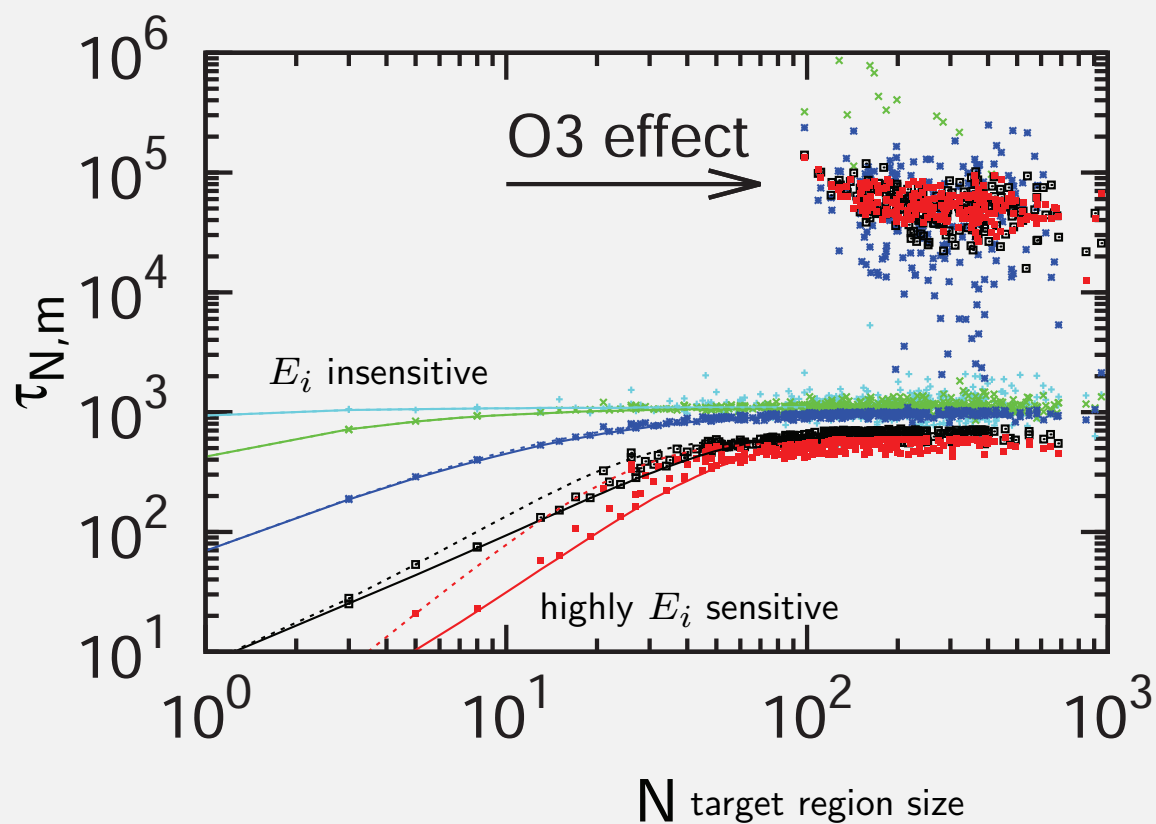
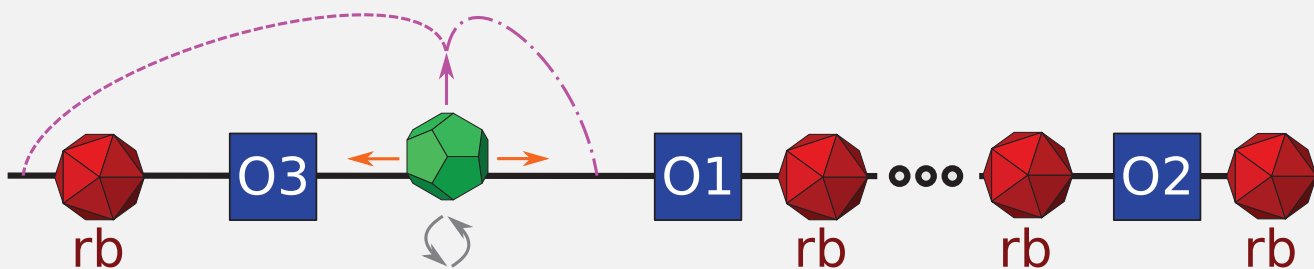
- 1D unbiased +
- 2D unbiased ×
- 3D unbiased \*
- 1D biased a □
- 1D biased t ▨
- fr. compact ○
- fr. noncompact ●
- 2D biased-a ▲
- 2D biased-t ▼
- harmonic ▾



Direct vs indirect traj:



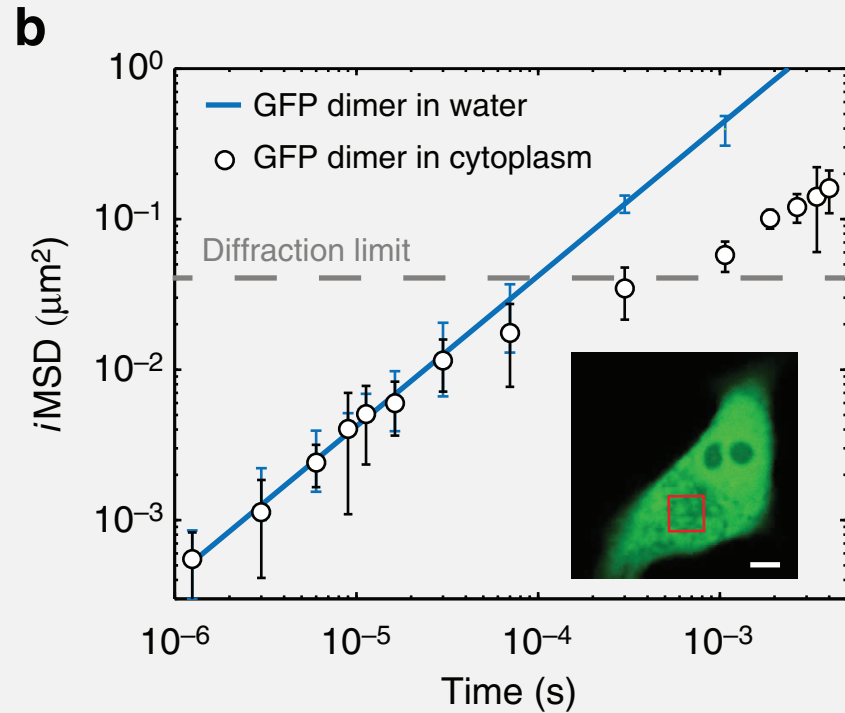
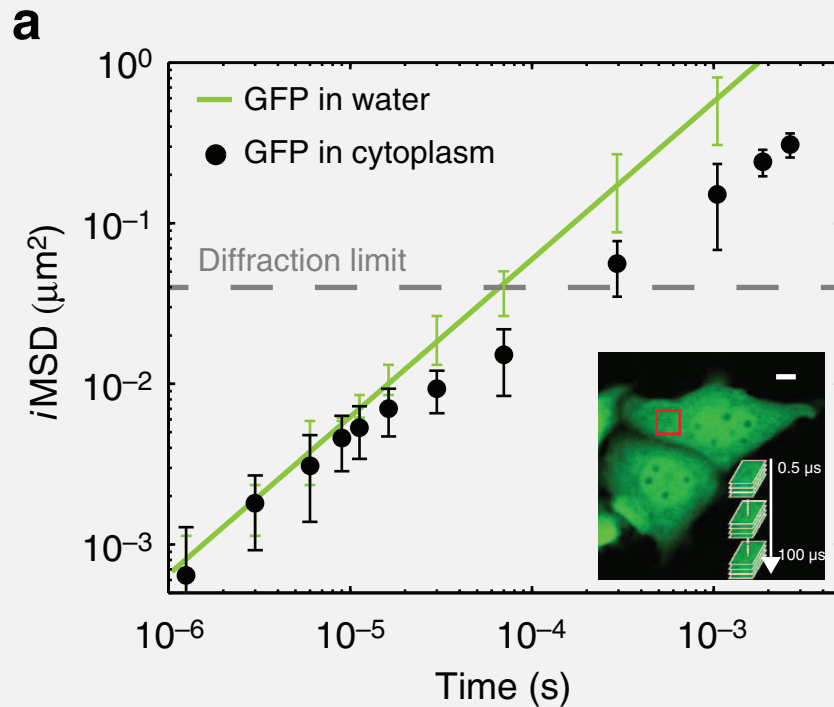
# Sequence (binding energy) effects on target search time



full line: centred target

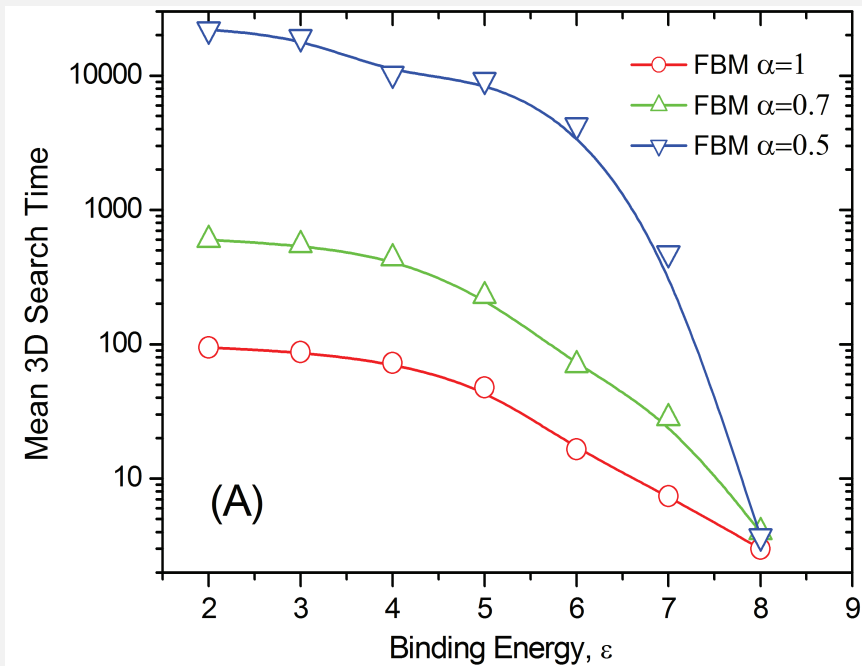
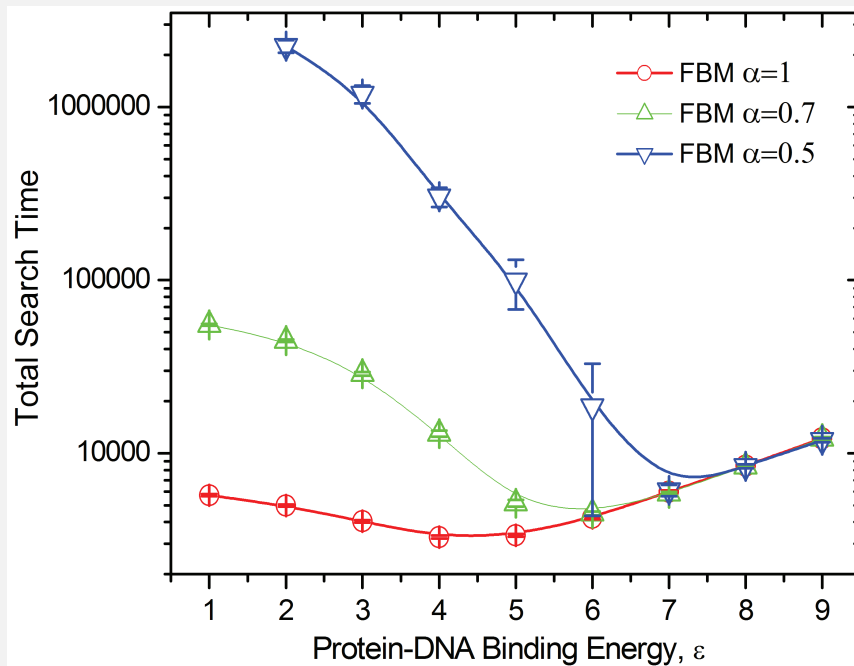
dashed line: target @ boundary

# Anomalous diffusion of GFP in cell cytoplasm & nucleus



$$\langle \mathbf{r}^2(t) \rangle \simeq K_\alpha t^\alpha : \text{Subdiffusion when } 0 < \alpha < 1$$

# Anomalous facilitated diffusion

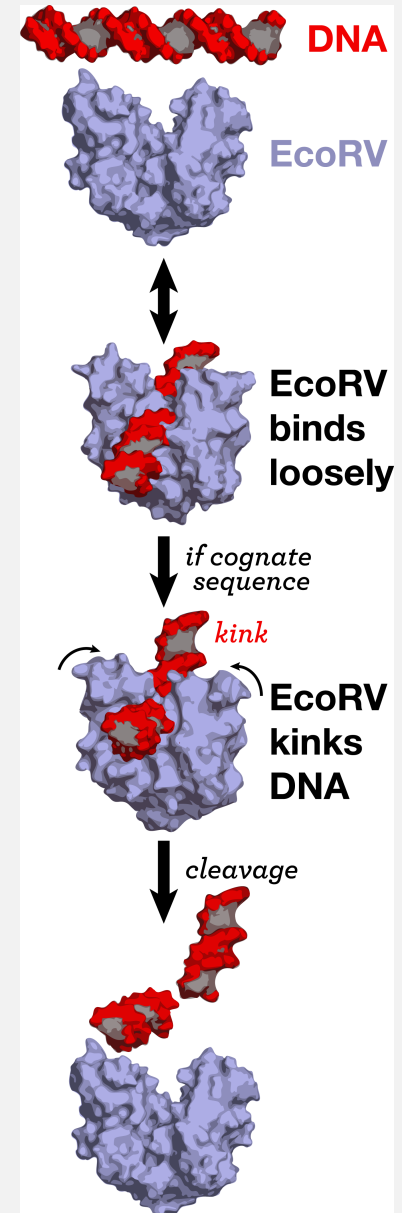
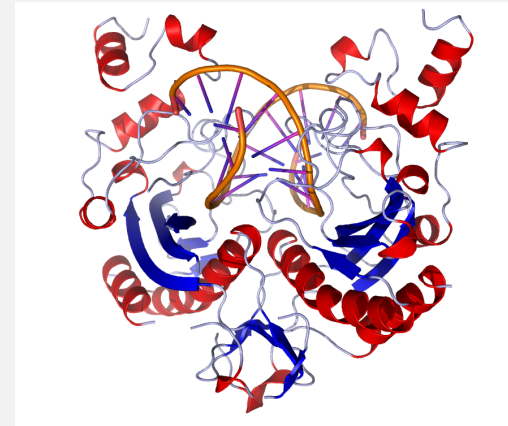
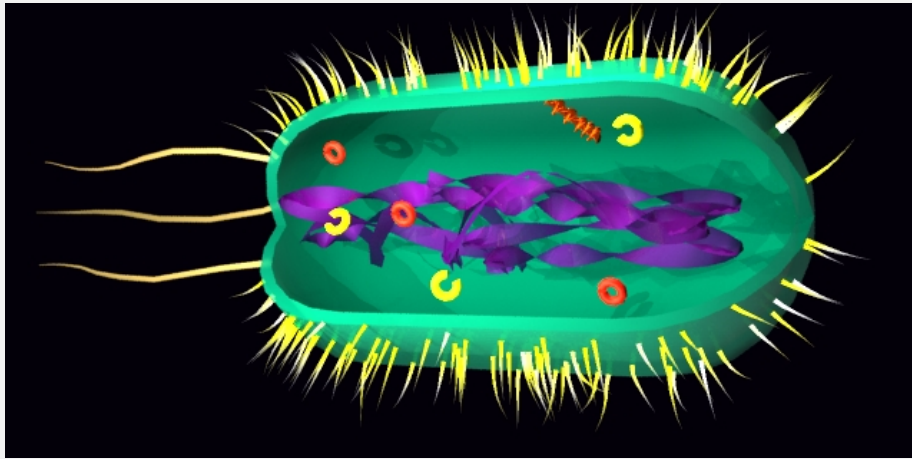


Many unknowns in the modelling:

Physical mechanism of & cutoff time of anomalous motion?

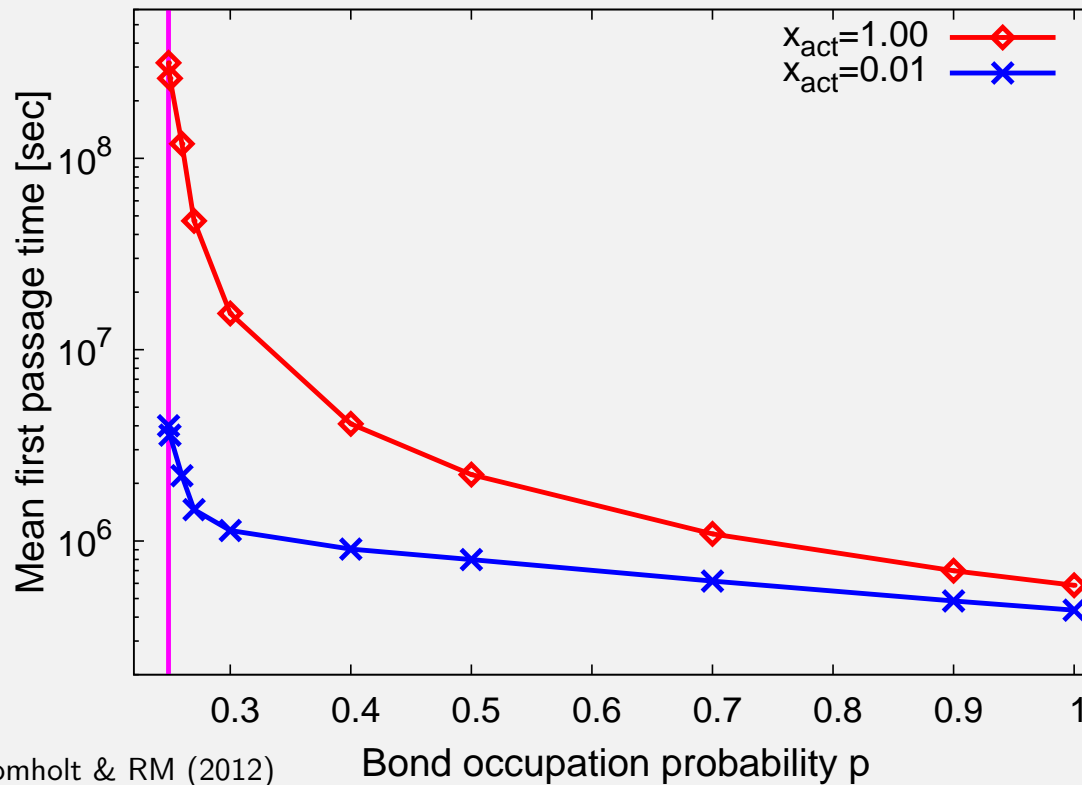
Effects of crowdors with different sizes: see eg Shin et al, Soft Matter (2015) influencing immediate rebinding?

# Subdiffusion does not compromise cellular fitness

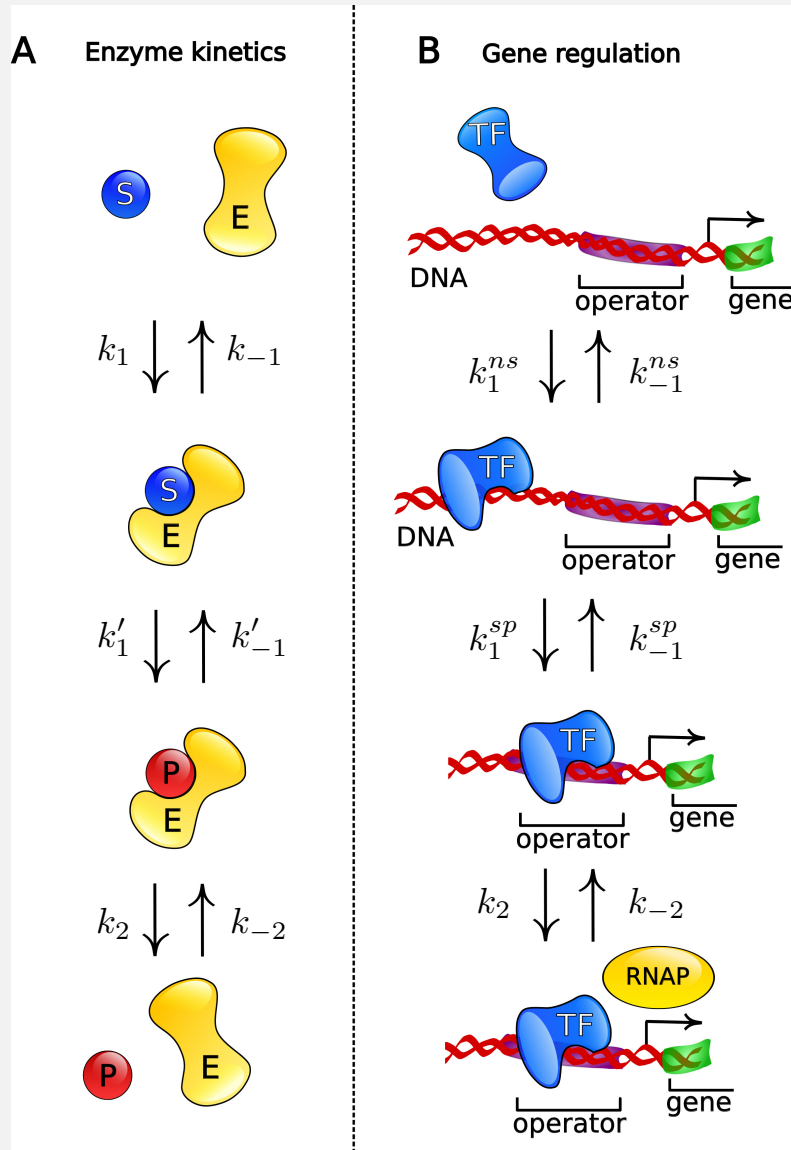


Restriction enzyme  
EcoRV  
Binding mode:  
1% active  
99% inactive

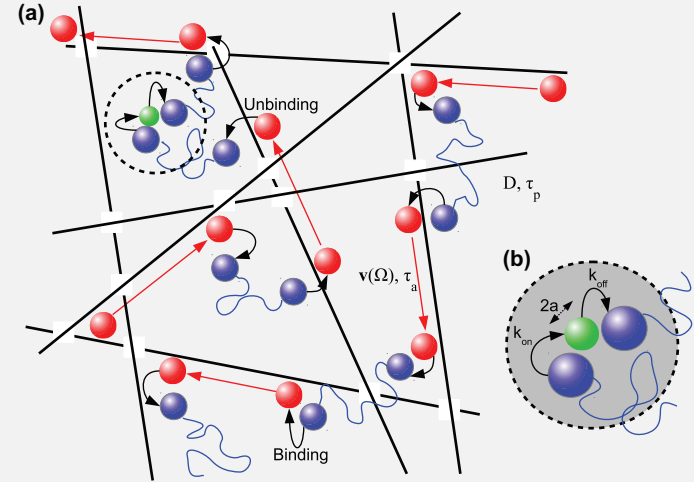
Mutant enzyme  
Binding mode:  
100% active



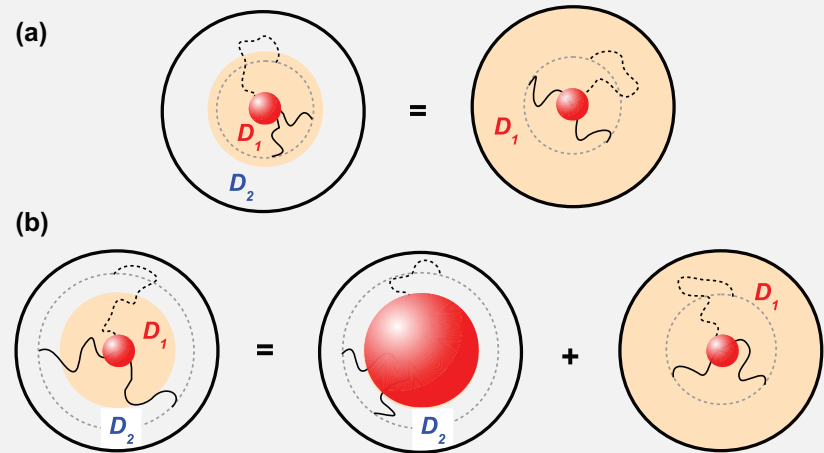
# Low-# Michaelis-Menten



# Active sensing limit

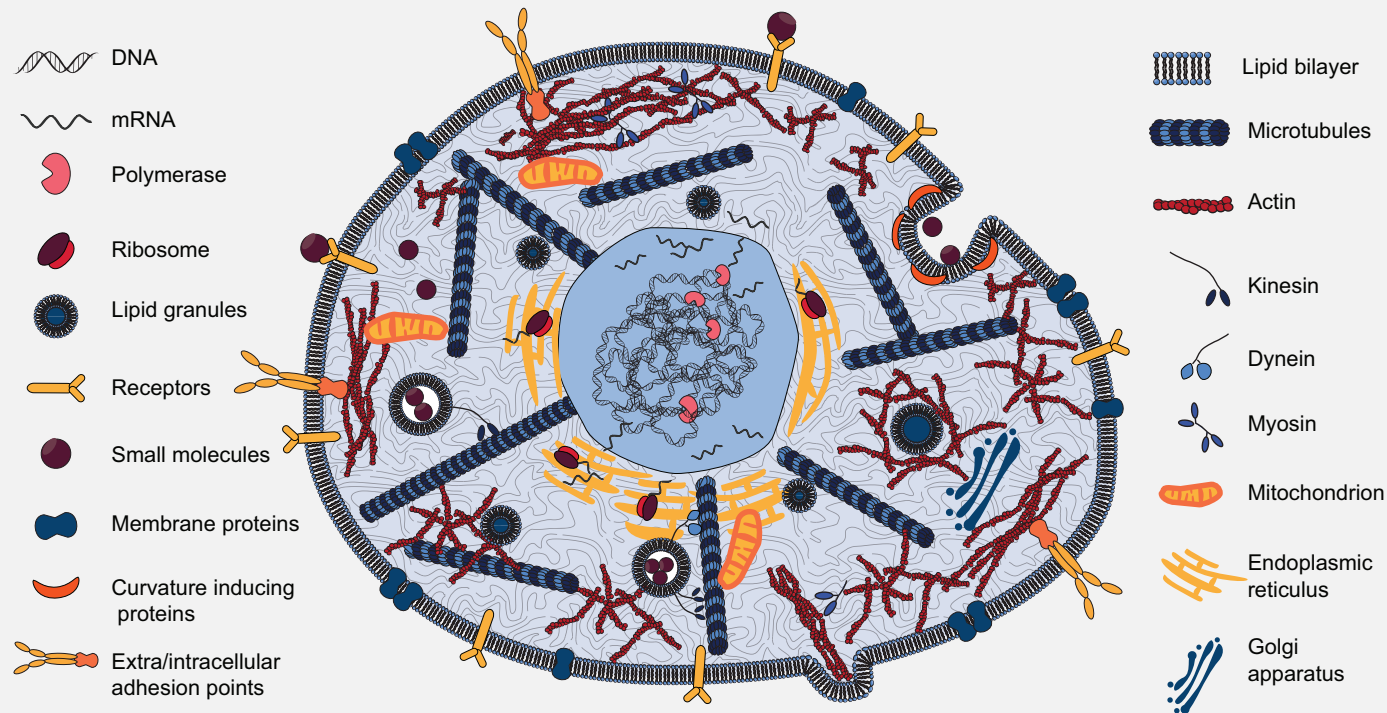


# Heterogeneous FPT



New time scale in FP PDF!

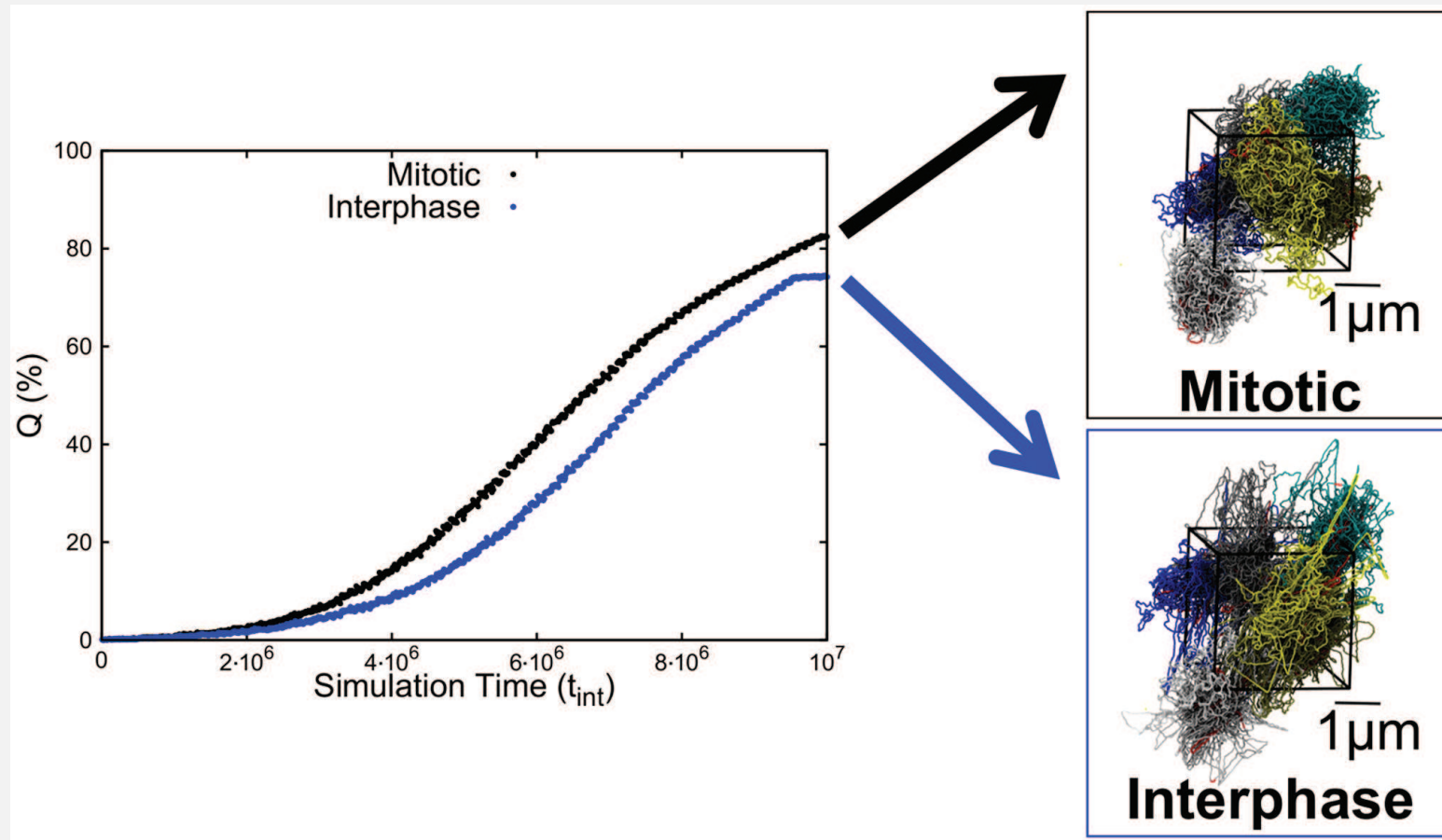
# Gene regulation in eukaryotic cells



Exchange versus nucleic membrane, chromosomal dynamics & packaging

Active motion: motor transport, drag, or swirling (cytoplasmic streaming), see, e.g., Seisenberger et al, Science (2001) or Reverey et al, Sci Rep (2015)

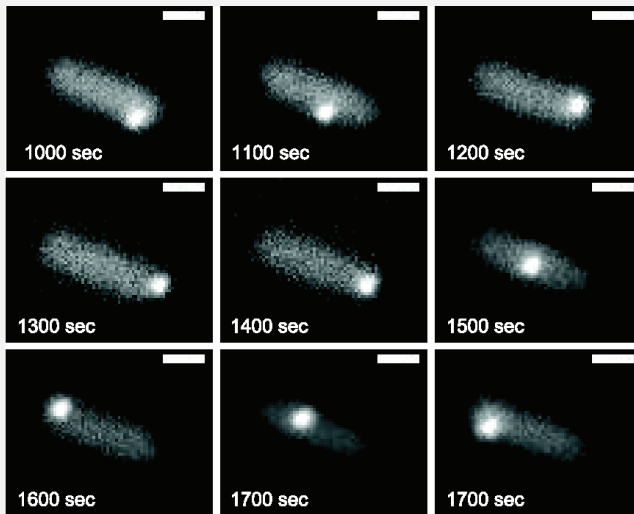
# Colocalisation still exists in the nucleus



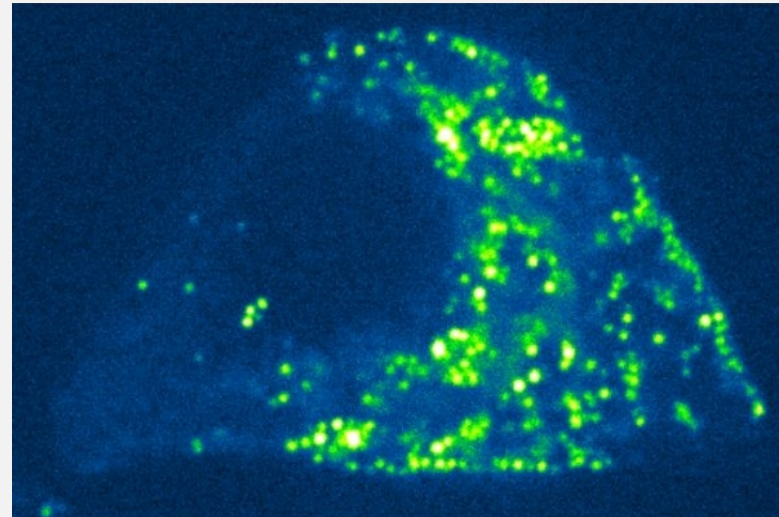
Increase of percentage  $Q$  of coregulated pairs of genes in chromosome 19 which colocalise during the MD protocol. Red (???) highlighted regions designate chromosome regions involved in the coregulatory network



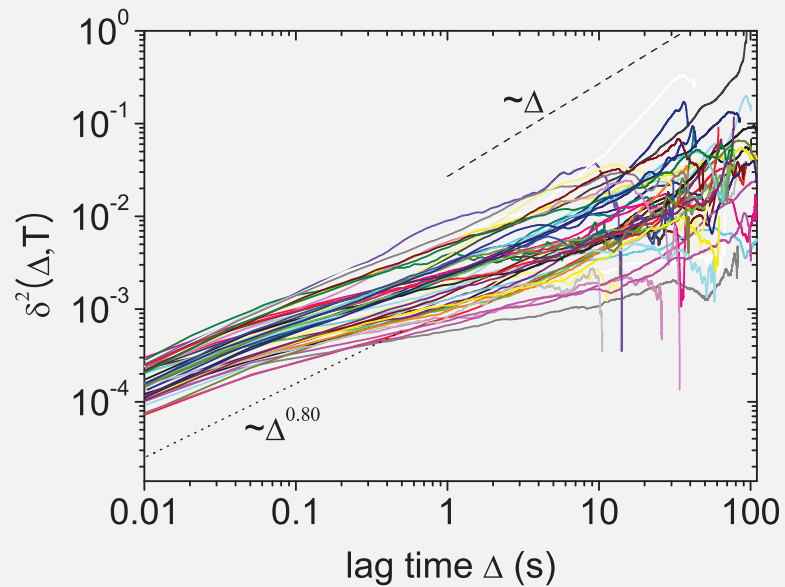
# In vivo anomalous diffusion of submicron tracers



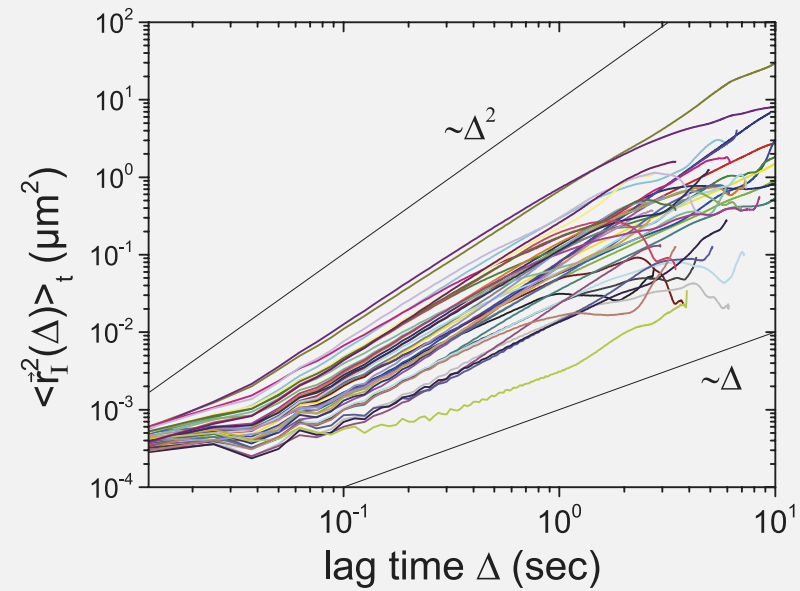
I. Golding & E.C. Cox, PRL (2006)



SMA Tabei et al, PNAS (2013)

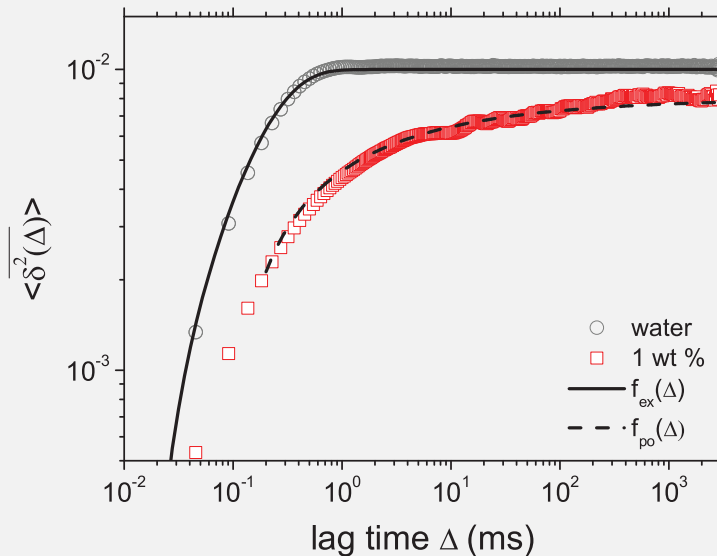
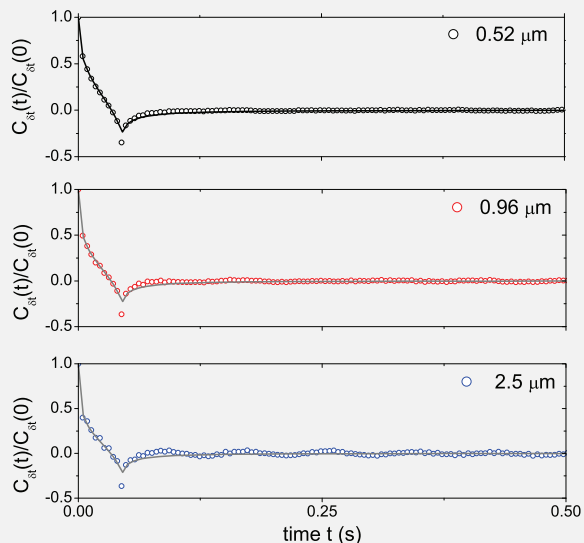
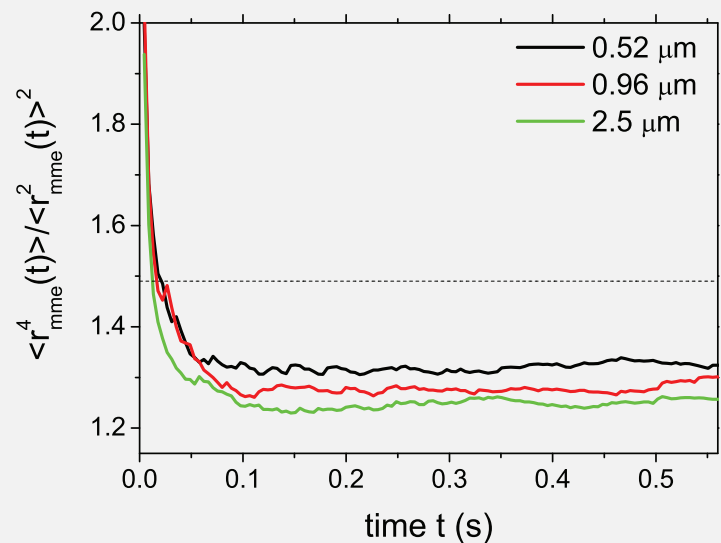
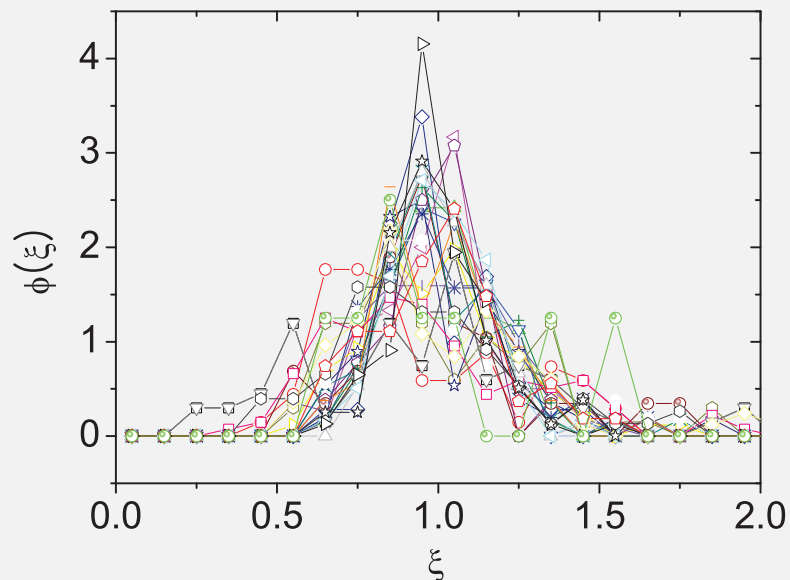
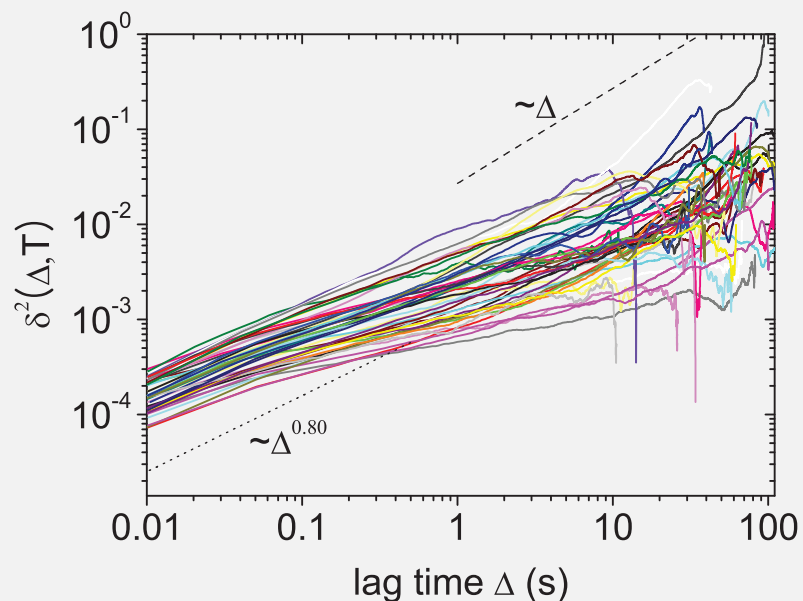


JH Jeon, . . . LB Oddershede & RM, PRL (2011)

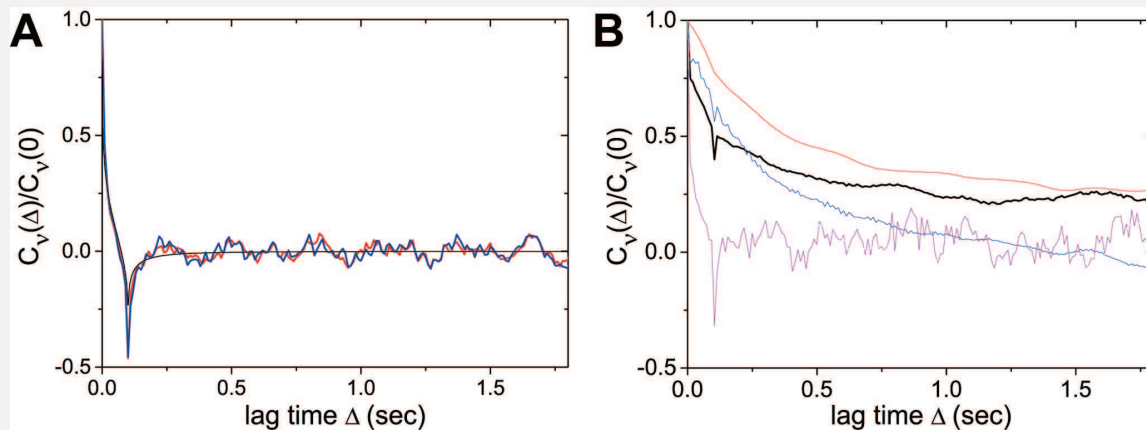
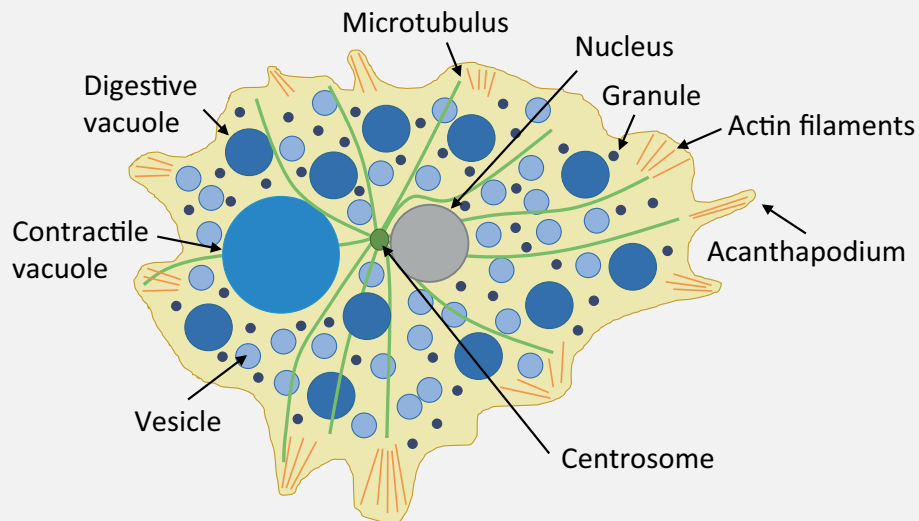
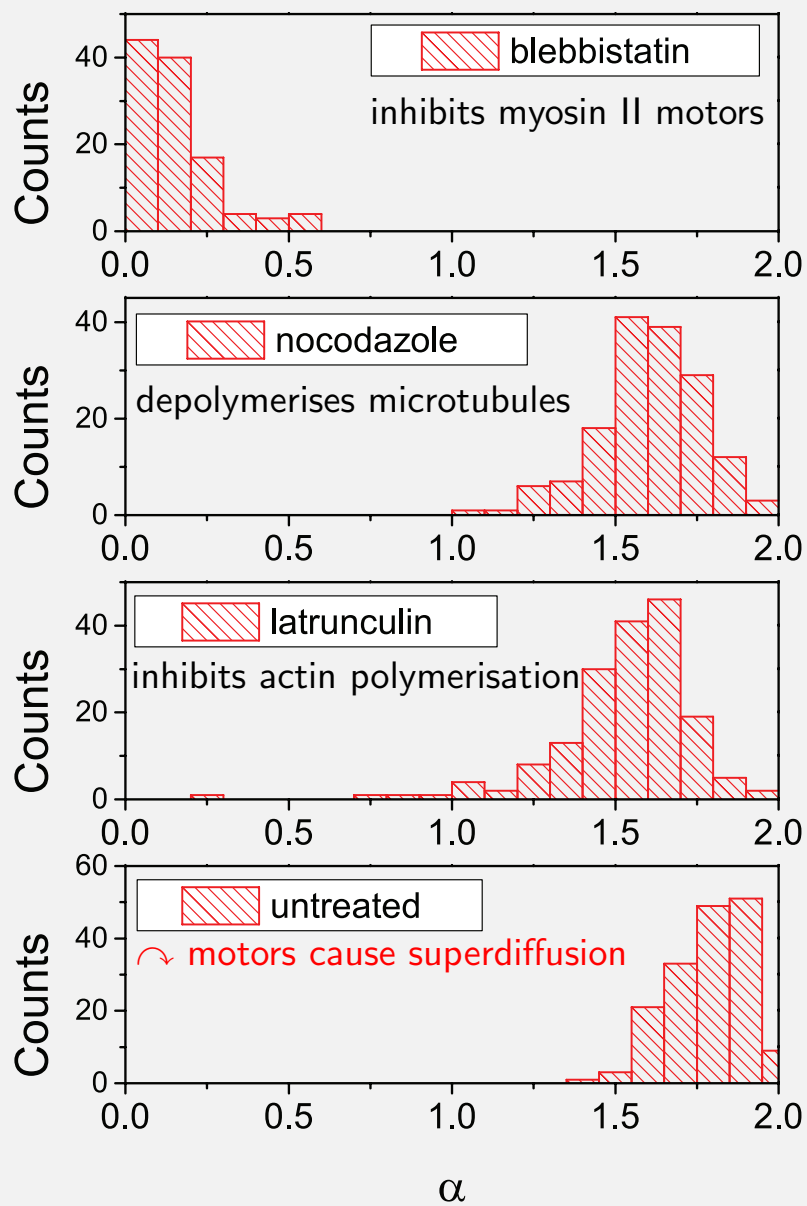


J Revere, . . . RM & C Selhuber-Unkel, Sci Rep (2015)

# Passive motion of submicron tracers is viscoelastic



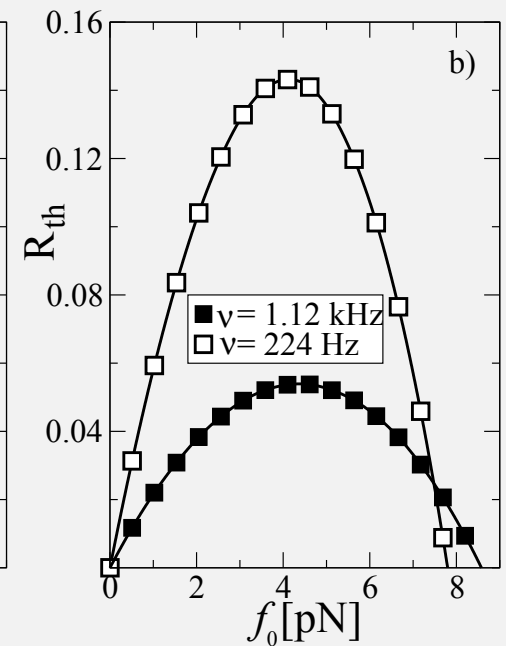
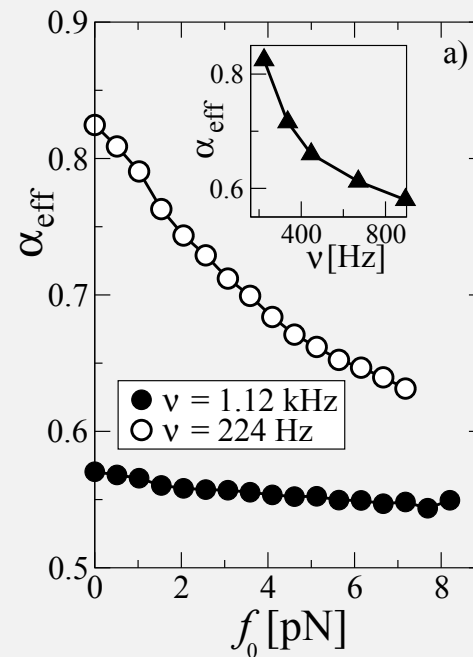
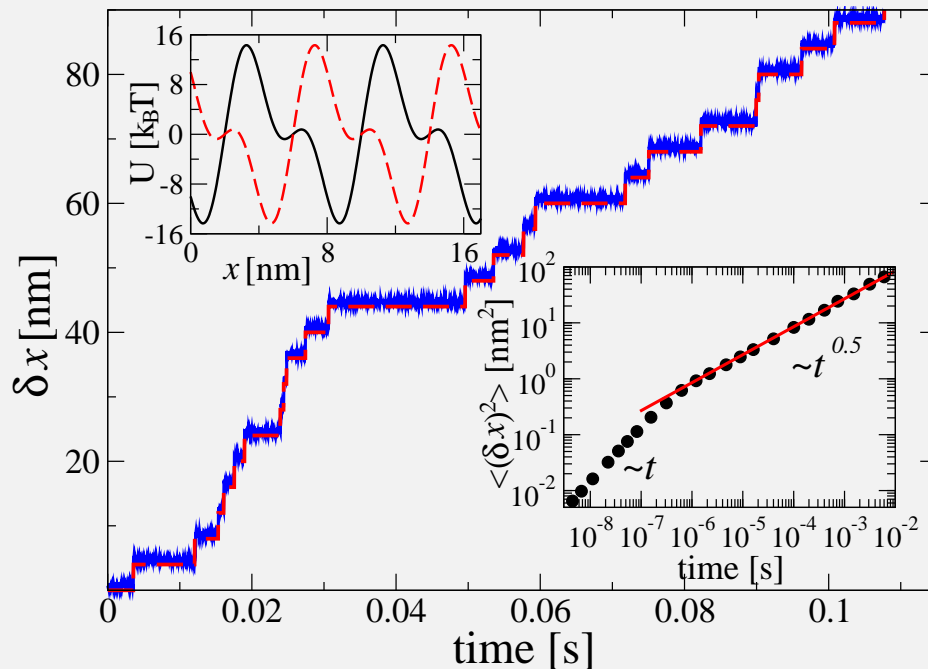
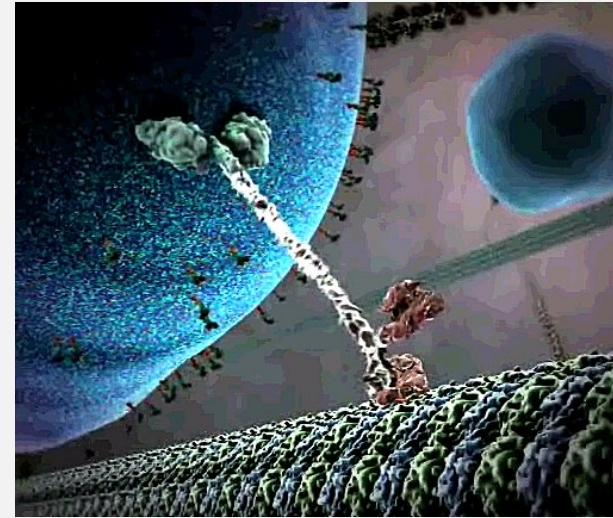
# Superdiffusion in living *Acanthamoeba castellani*



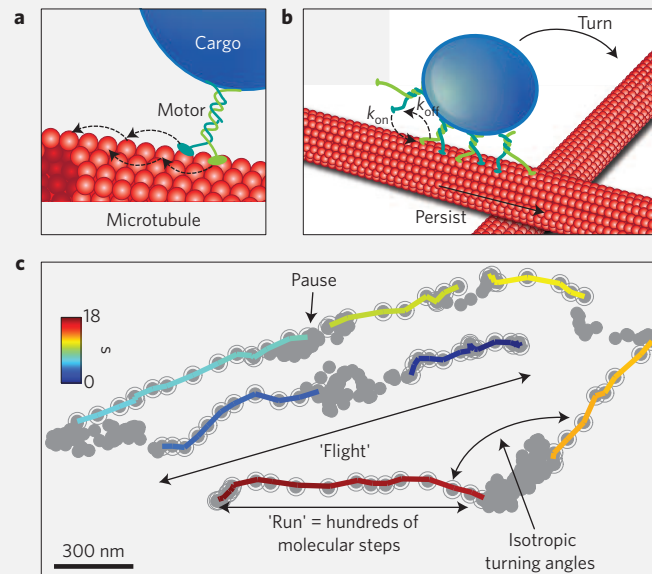
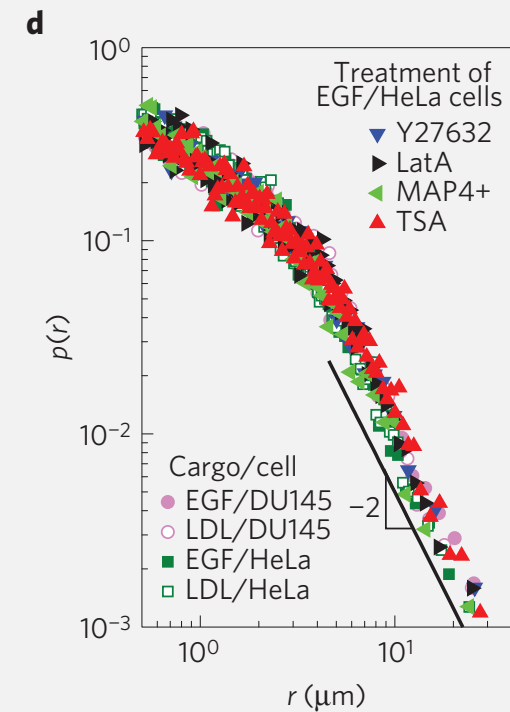
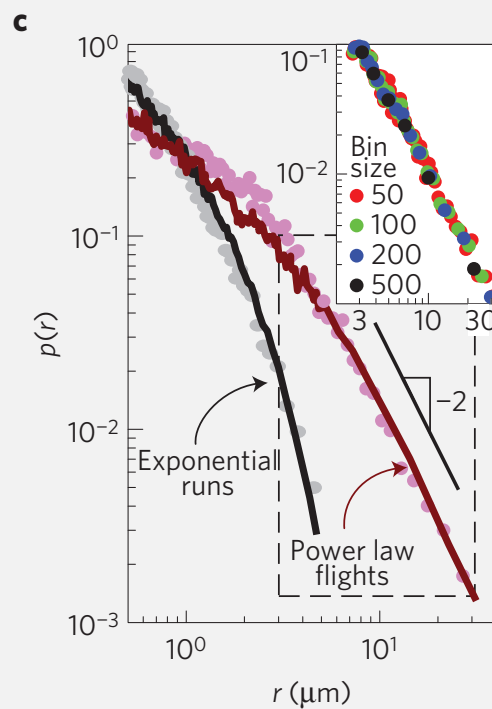
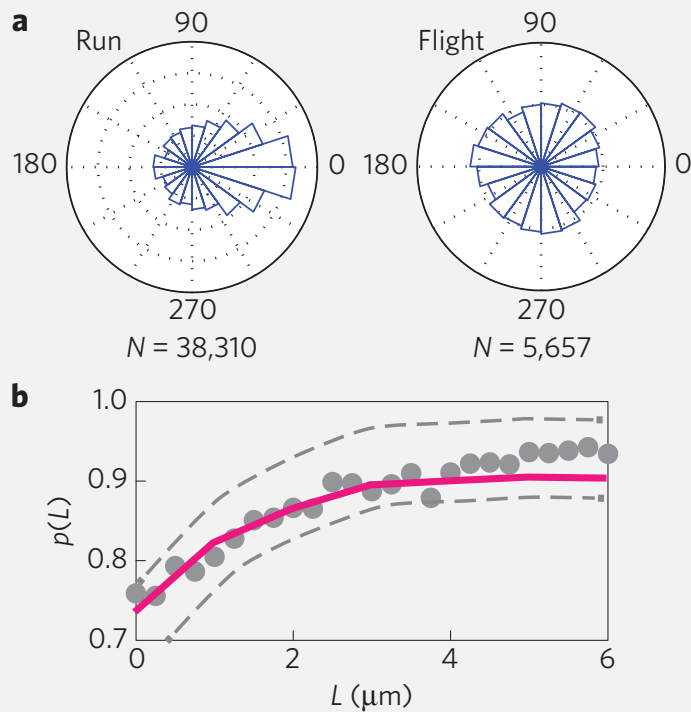
# Molecular motor dynamics

A large cargo subdiffuses freely & causes anomalous transport by the motor in the viscoelastic, crowded liquid of cells:

$$\langle x(t) \rangle \simeq t^\alpha \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \langle \Delta x^2(t) \rangle \simeq t^{2\alpha}$$



# Lévy walks of molecular motors in living cells



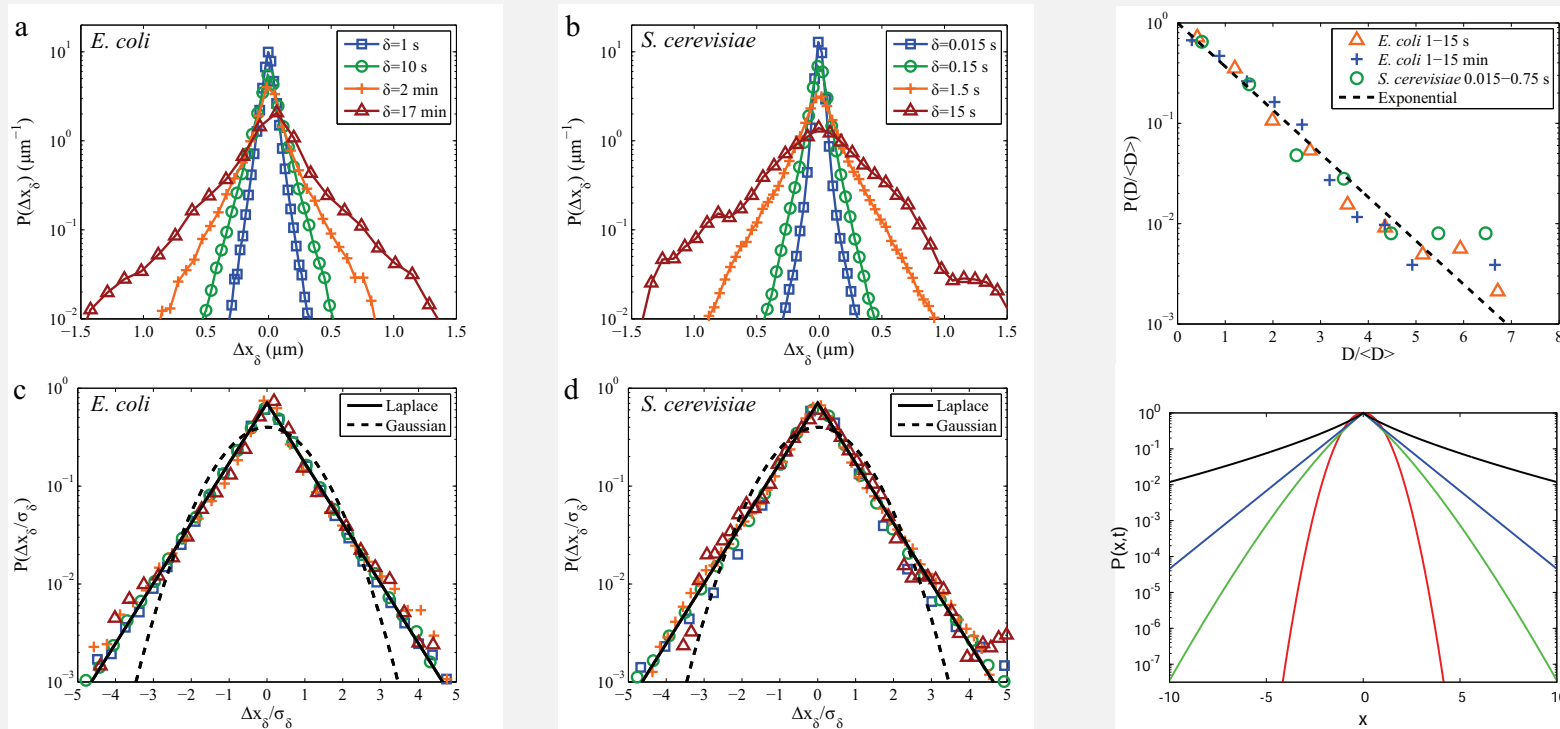
Run: motor motion on microtubule for  $1/k_{\text{off}}$

Flight: consecutive runs persisting in direction

K Chen, B Wang & S Granick, Nat Mat (2015)

# Non-Gaussian diffusion in viscoelastic systems

So far consensus: submicron tracer motion in cytoplasm is FBM-like, i.e., Gaussian RNA-protein particles in *E.coli* & *S.cerevisiae* perform exponential anomalous diffusion:



# Non-Gaussian diffusion with diffusing diffusivity

B Wang, J Kuo, SC Bae & S Granick, Nat Mat (2012): superstatistical approach

$$P(x, t) = \int_0^\infty G(x, t) p(D) dD$$

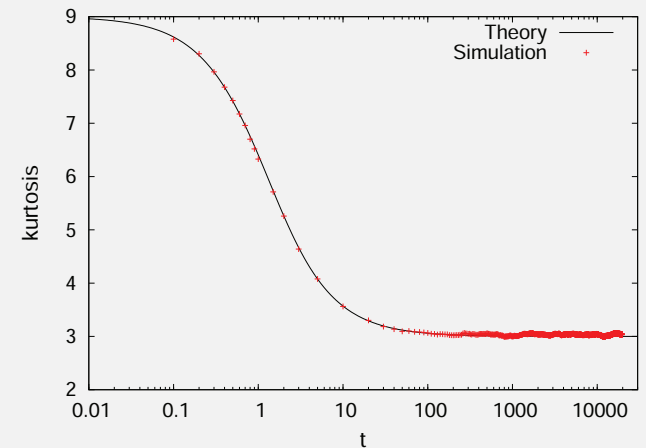
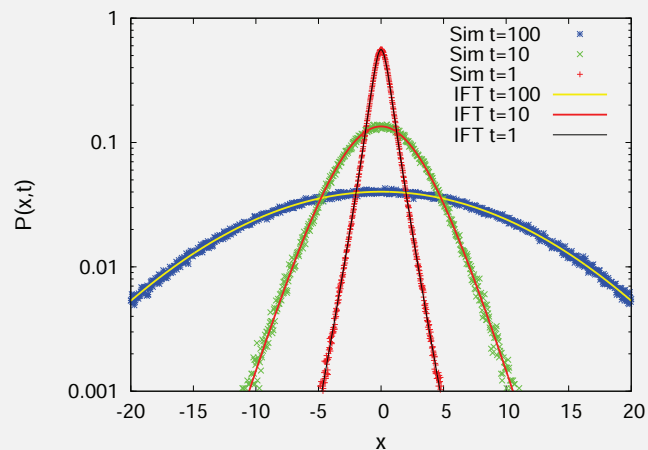
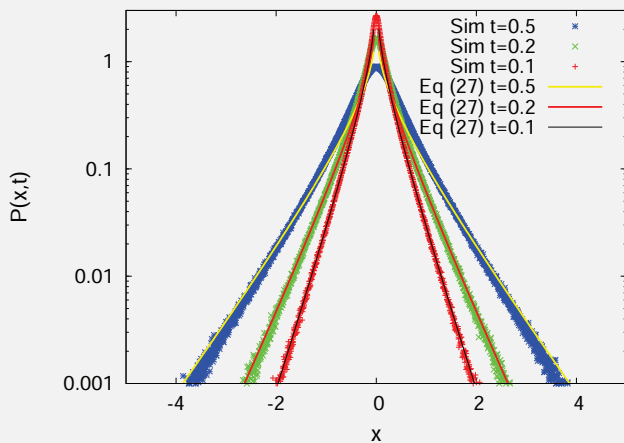
MV Chubinsky & G Slater, PRL (2014); R Jain & KL Sebastian, JPC B (2016): diffusing diffusivity

Our minimal model for diffusing diffusivity with Fickian  $\langle x(t) \rangle = 2D_{\text{eff}}t$ :

$$\dot{x}(t) = \sqrt{2D(t)}\xi(t)$$

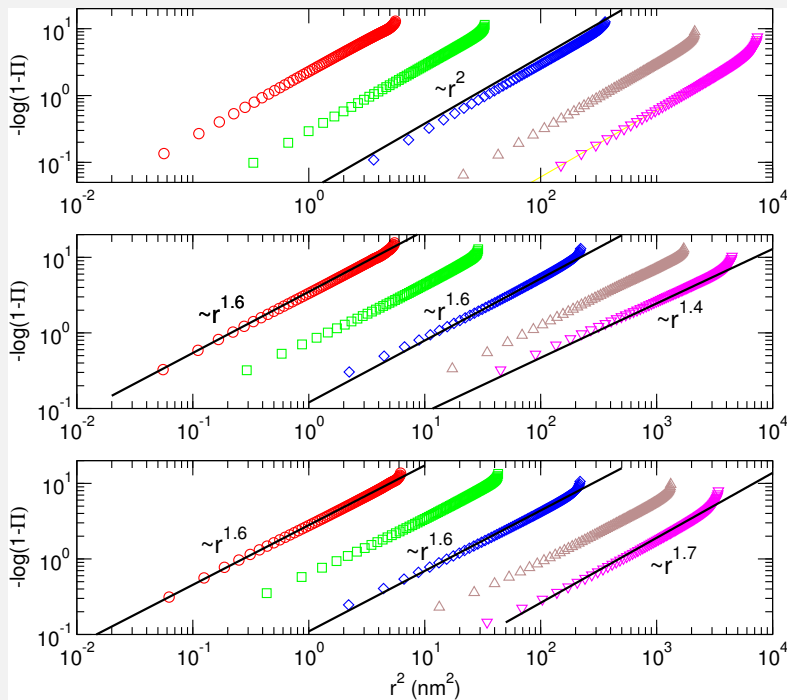
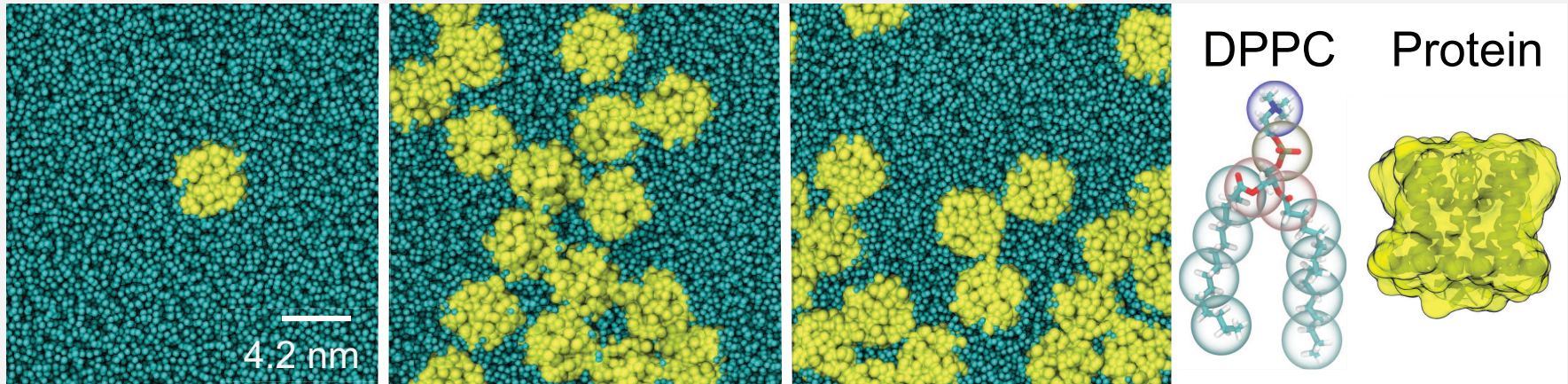
$$D(t) = y^2(t)$$

$$\dot{y}(t) = -y + \eta(t)$$



AV Chechkin, F Seno, RM & IM Sokolov, PRX (2017)

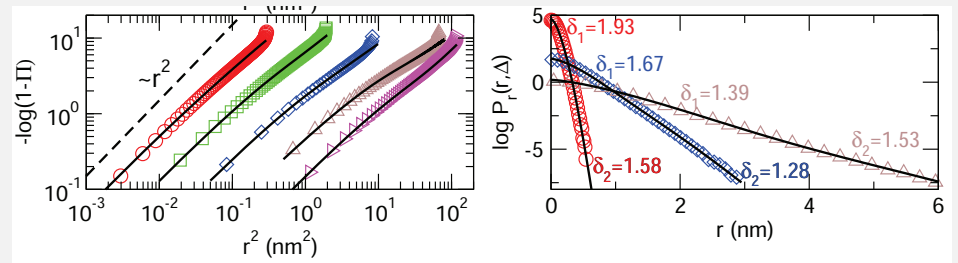
# Crowding in membranes: non-Gaussian lipid/protein diffusion



Dilute membrane:  $P(r, t)$  Gauss

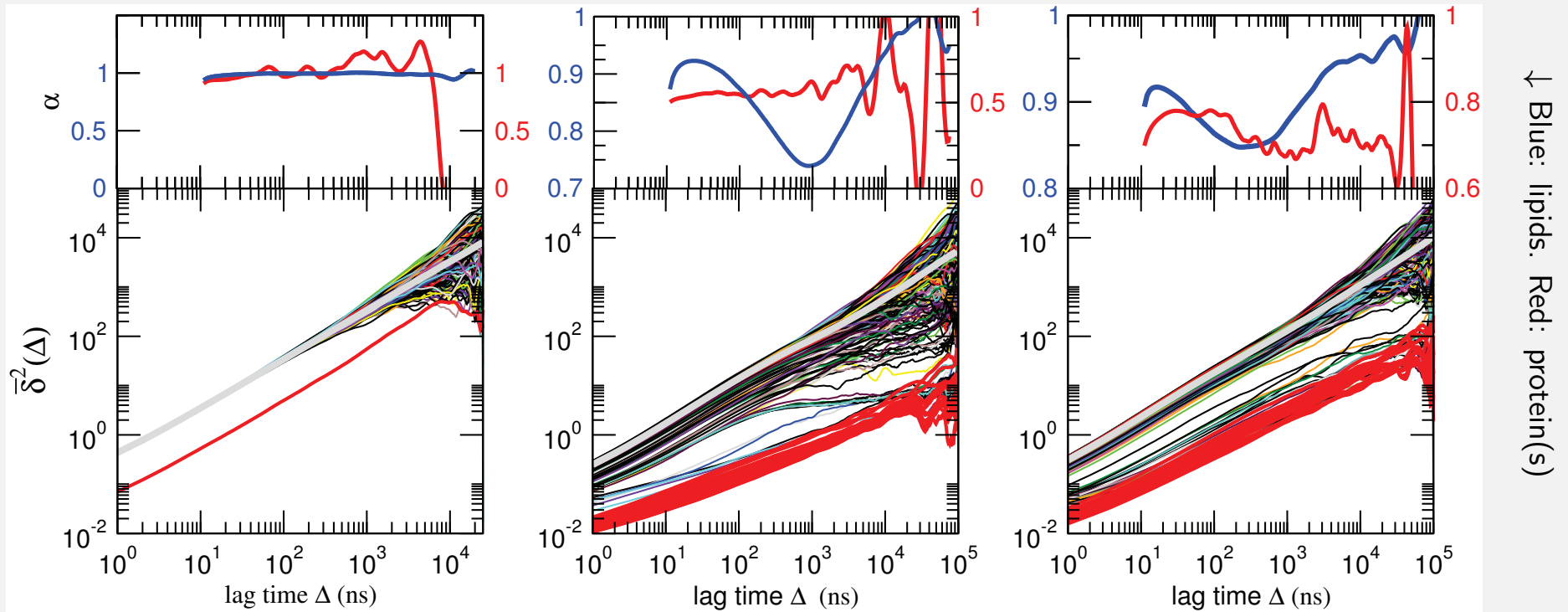
Crowded membrane ( $\delta \approx 1.3 \dots 1.7$ ):

$$P(r, t) \propto \exp\left(-\left[\frac{r}{ct^{\alpha/2}}\right]^{\delta}\right)$$





# Crowding in membranes increases dynamic heterogeneity



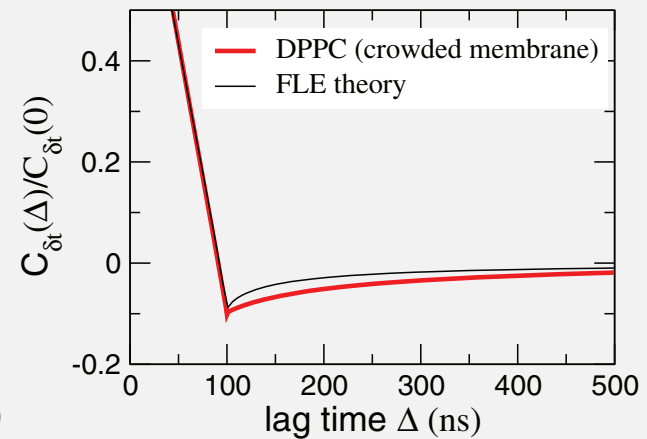
Single NaK channel

DLPC (non-aggregating)

DPPC (aggregating)

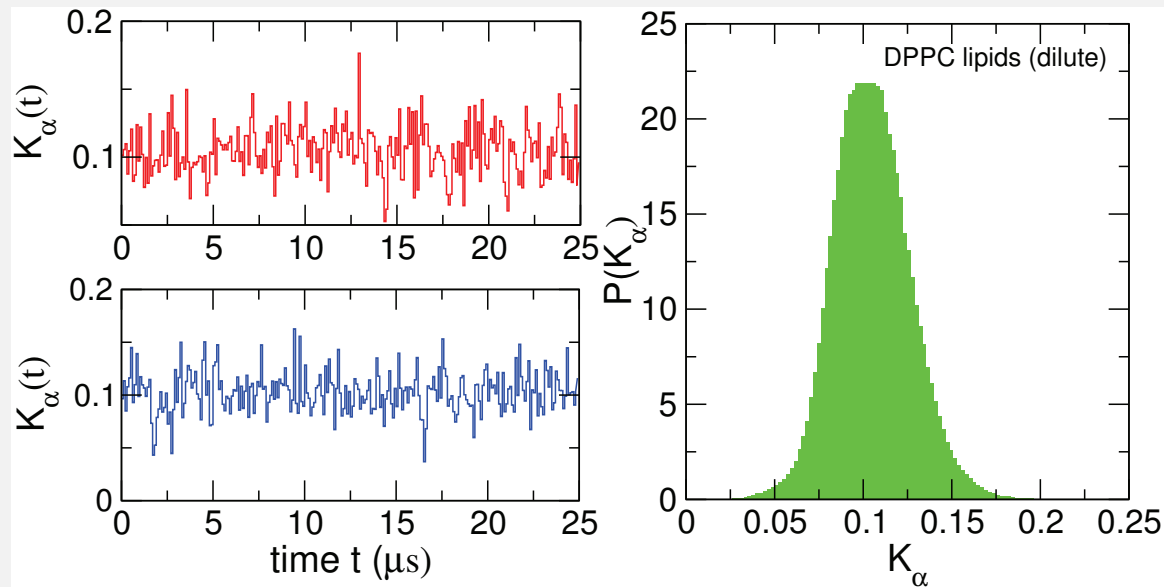
Lipids & proteins behave quite differently

Increment correlation no longer simple FBM →



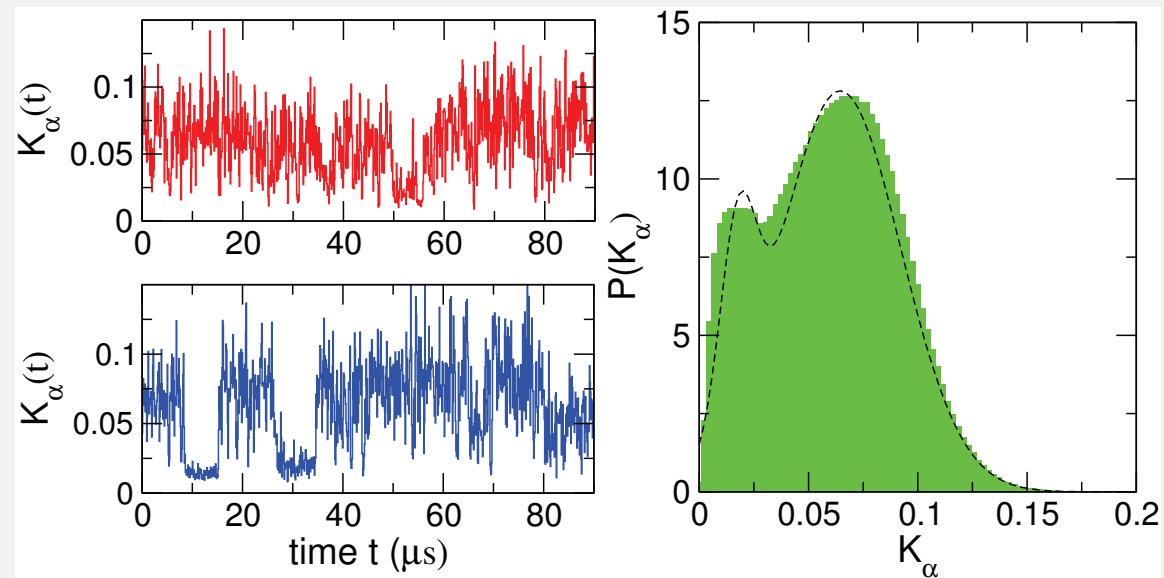
J-H Jeon, M Javanainen, H Martinez-Seara, RM & I Vattulainen, PRX (2016)

# Crowding in membranes increases dynamic heterogeneity



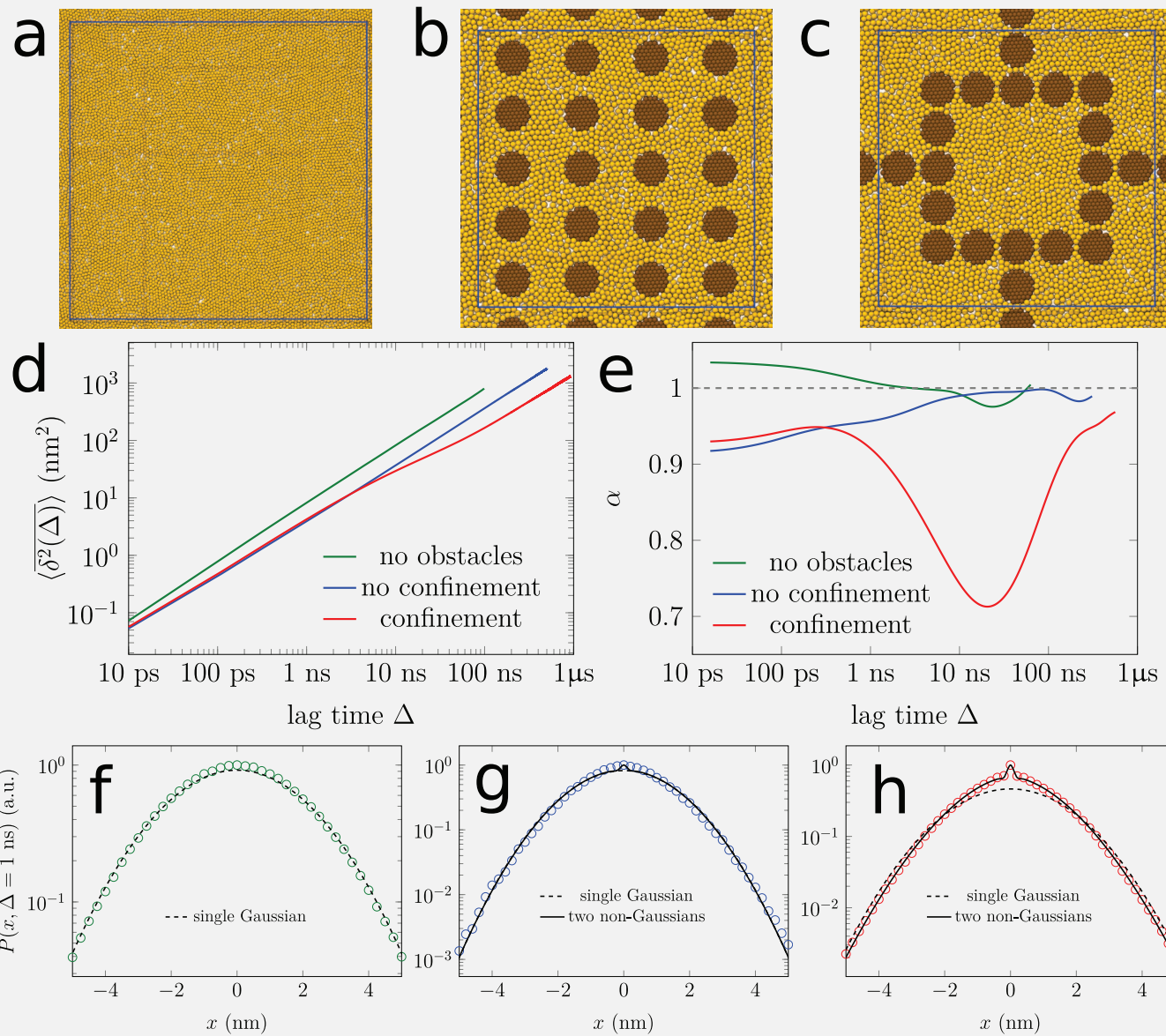
Diffusivity( $t$ ) for two lipids

Lipid diffusivity, dilute membrane

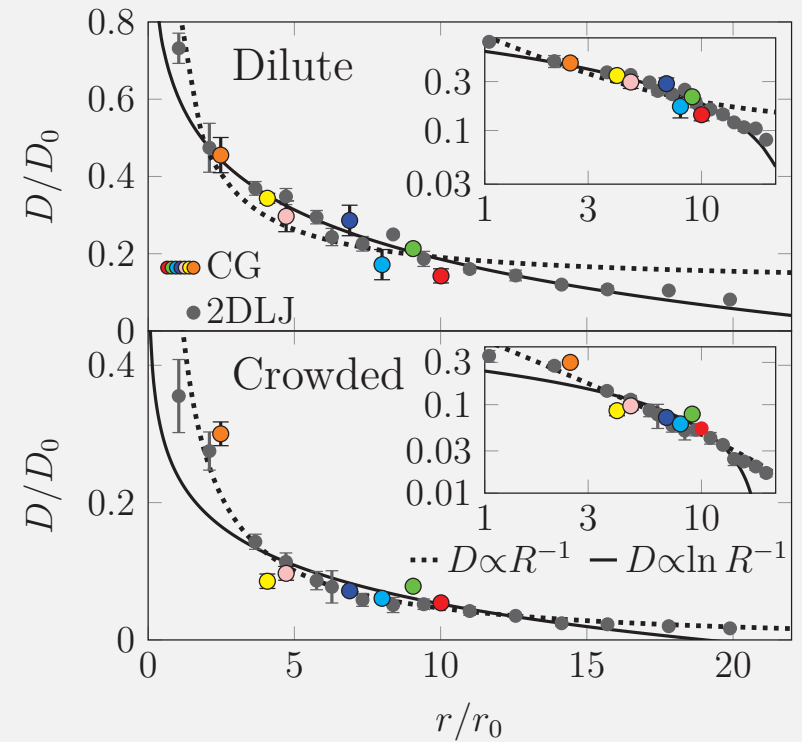
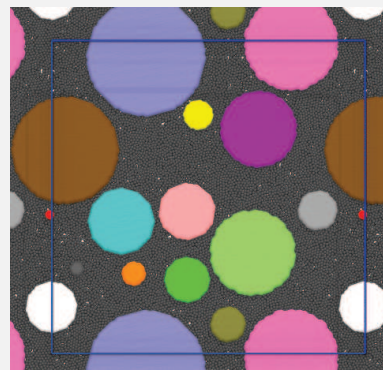
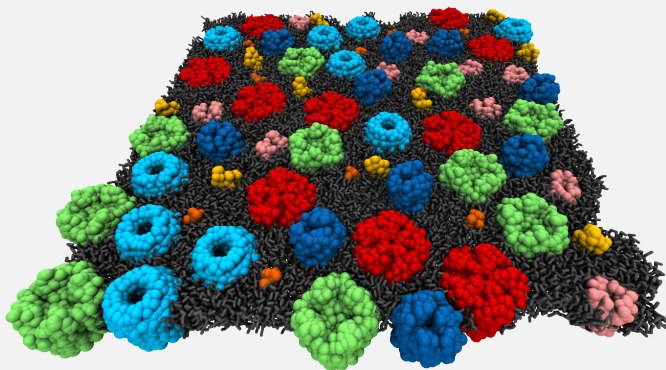
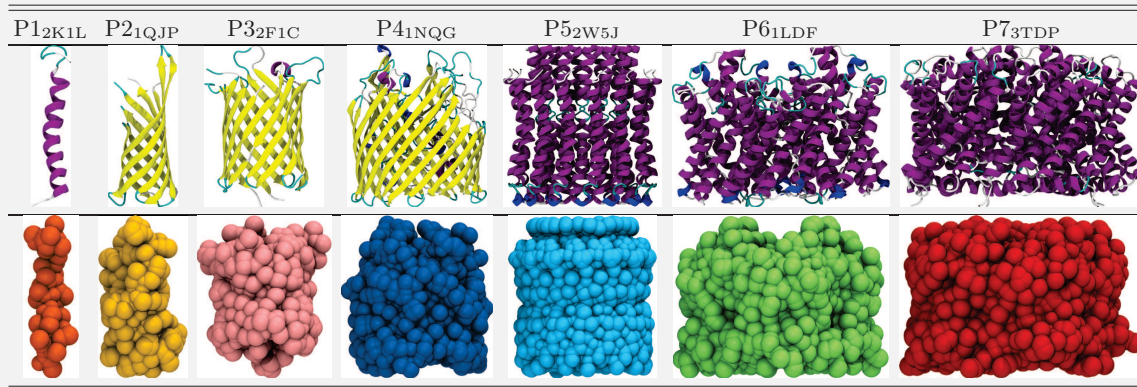


Lipid diffusivity, crowded membrane

# Confinement in argon system shows geometric origin



# Geometry-induced violation of Saffman-Delbrück relation



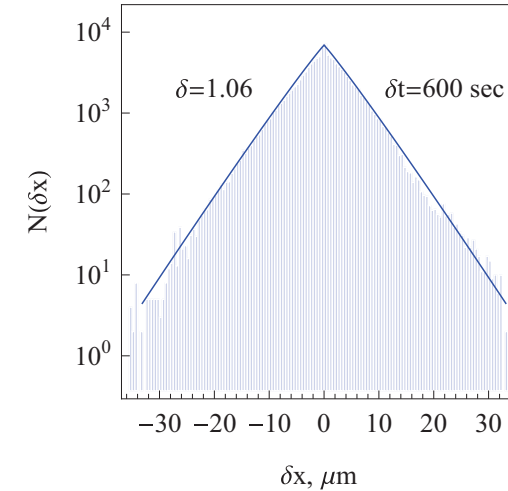
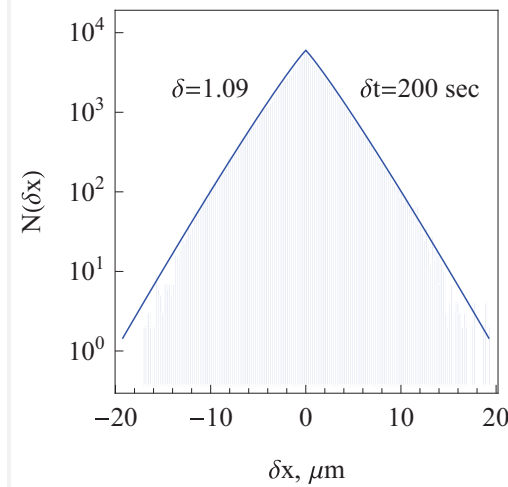
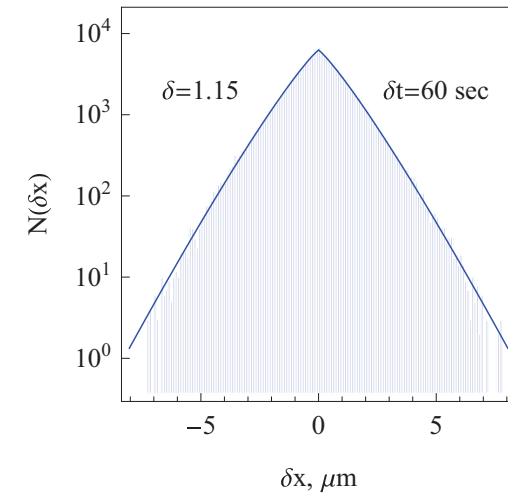
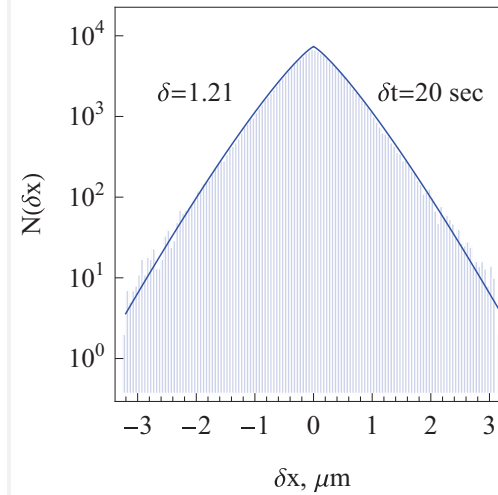
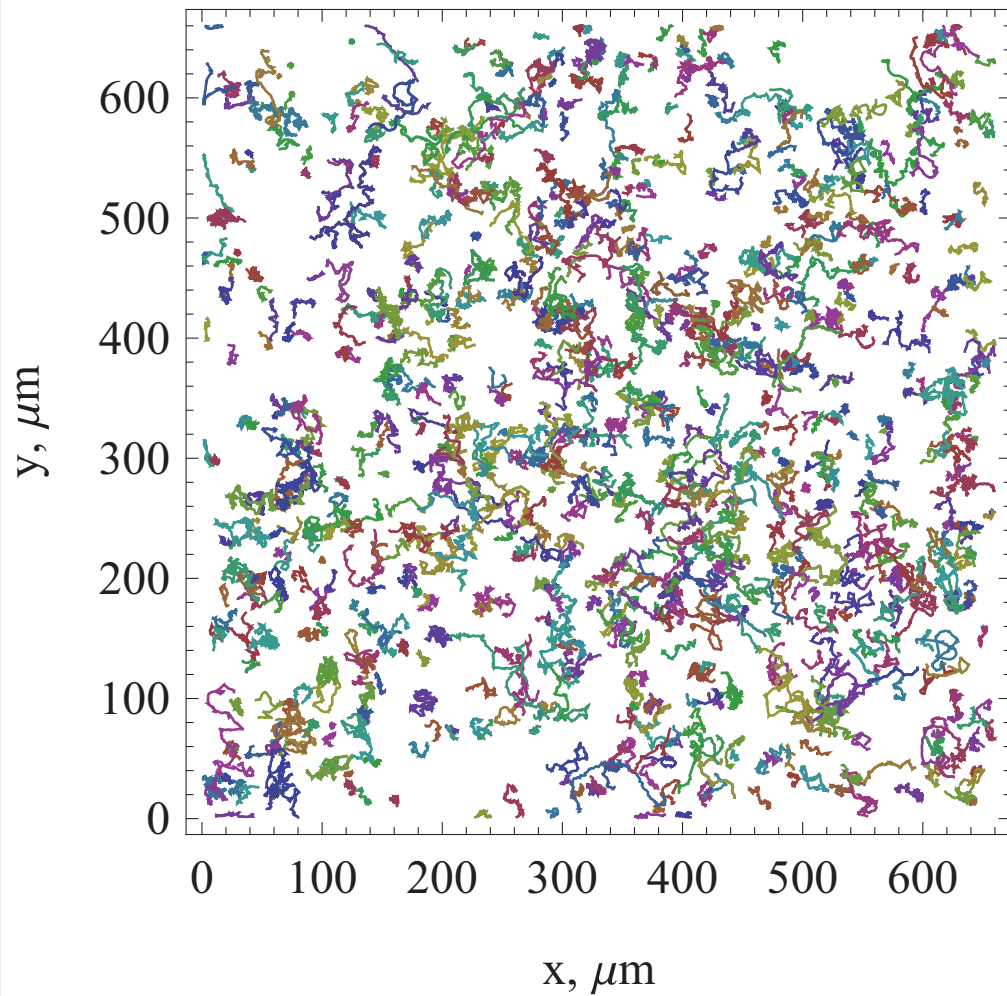
Dilute system: Saffman-Delbrück law

$$D(R) \simeq \log(1/R)$$

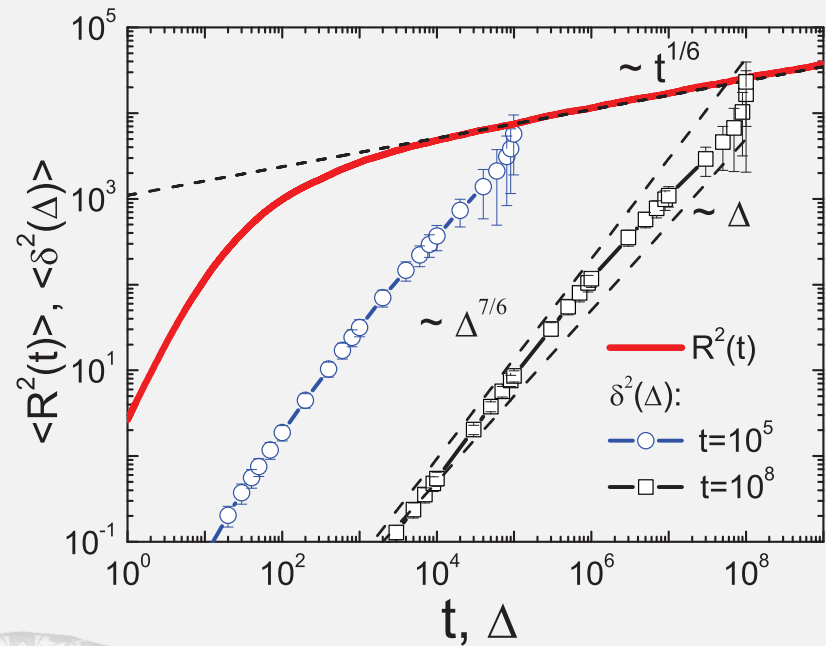
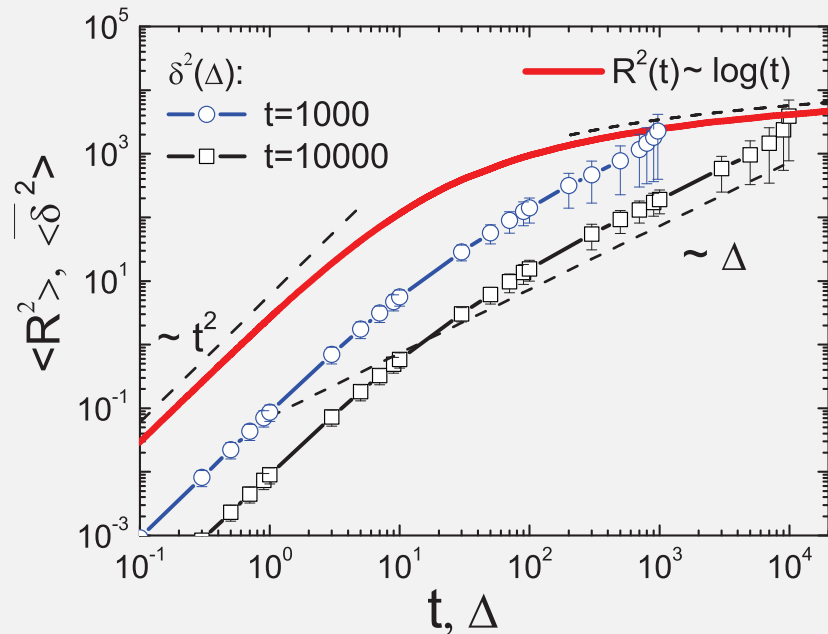
Crowded membrane & 2DLJ discs:

$$D(R) \simeq 1/R$$

# Non-Gaussian diffusion of Dictyostelium cells



# WEB in granular gas & SBM as mean field theory



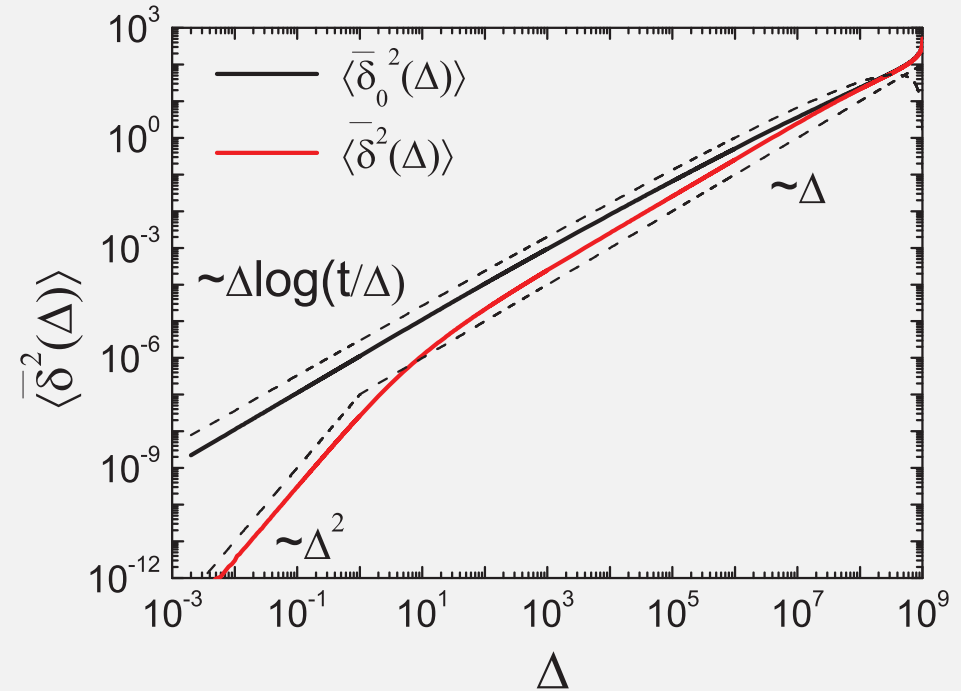
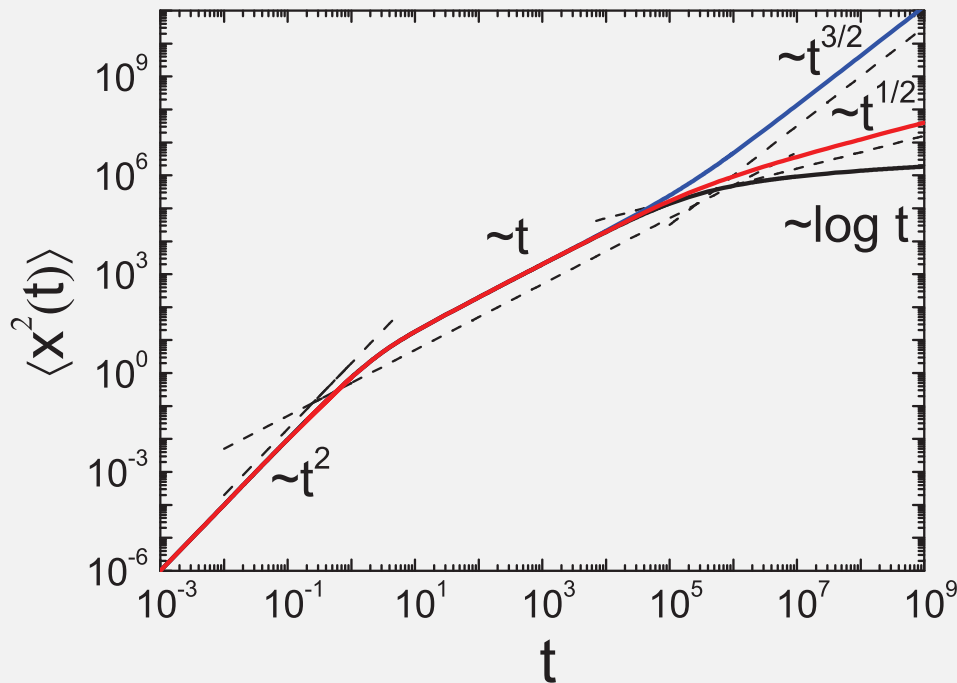
Haff's law:  $\mathcal{I}(t) = \mathcal{I}_0 / (1 + t/\tau_0)^2$

$$\langle r^2(t) \rangle \sim 6D_0\tau_0 \log(1 + t/\tau_0)$$

$$\langle \overline{\delta^2(\Delta)} \rangle \sim 6D_0\tau_0\Delta/T$$



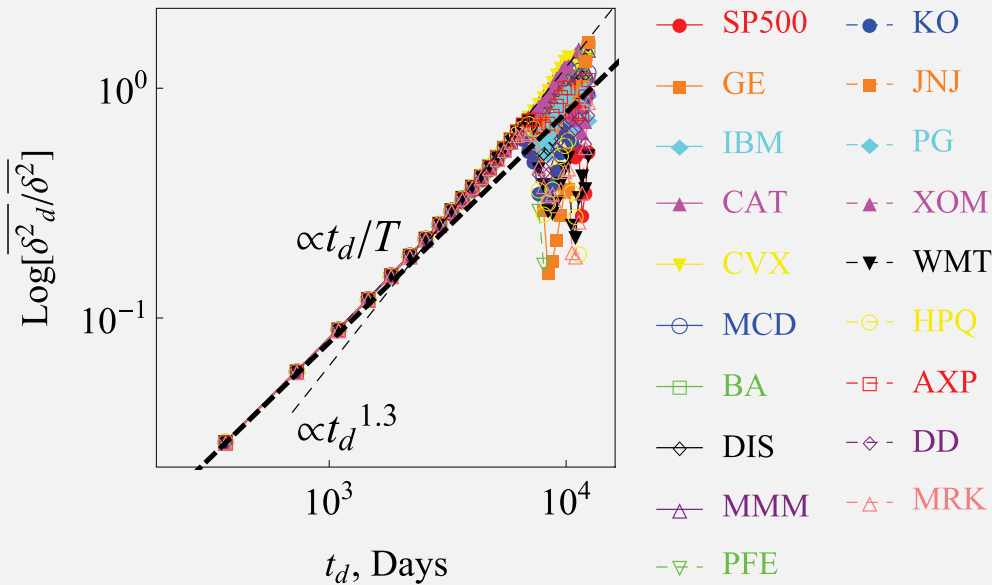
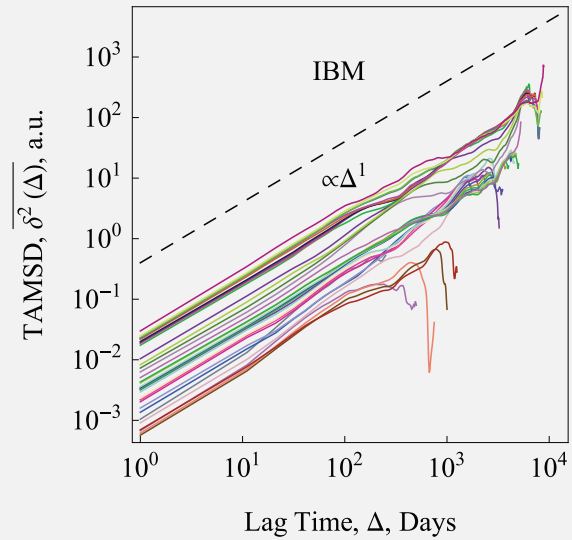
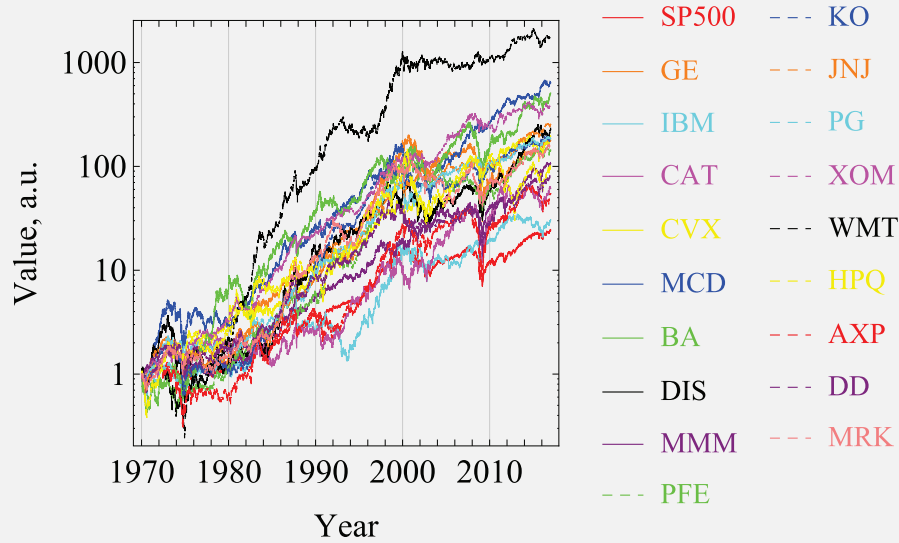
# Non-existence of the overdamped limit in slow SBM



Crossover from ballistic to overdamped motion no longer defined by time scale of inverse friction. For small  $\alpha$  & ultraslow the SBM overdamped limit is never fulfilled

Ageing case: [H Safdari, A Bodrova, AV Chechkin, AG Cherstvy & RM, PRE (2017)]

# Time averages & ageing in financial market time series



$$dX(t) = \mu X(t)dt + \sigma X(t)dW(t)$$

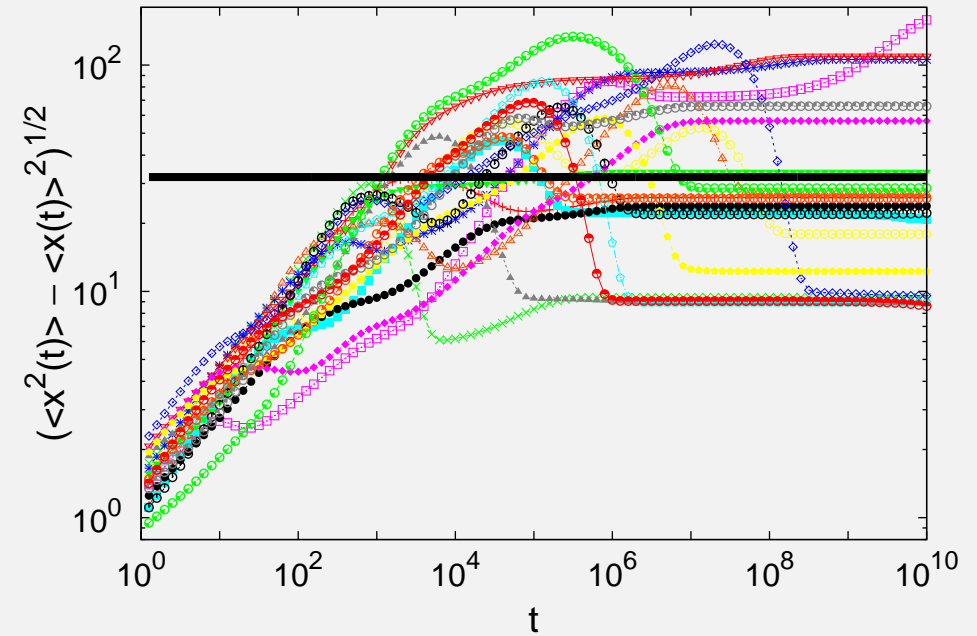
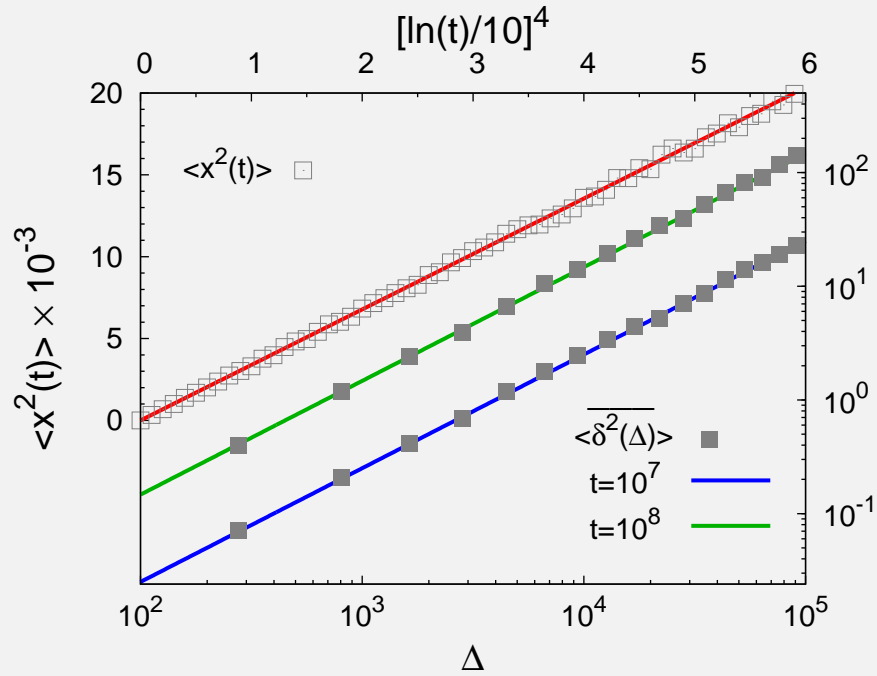
$$\overline{\delta_d^2(\Delta)} = \frac{\int_{t_d}^{T-\Delta} [X(t+\Delta) - X(t)]^2 dt}{T - t_d - \Delta}$$

$$\sim \frac{\Delta}{T - t_d} X_0^2 \left( e^{\sigma^2 T} - e^{\sigma^2 t_d} \right)$$

$$\log \left[ \frac{\langle \overline{\delta_d^2(\Delta, t_d)} \rangle}{\langle \overline{\delta^2(\Delta)} \rangle} \right] \sim t_d/T$$



# Logarithmic evolution: Sinai diffusion & mean field CTRW

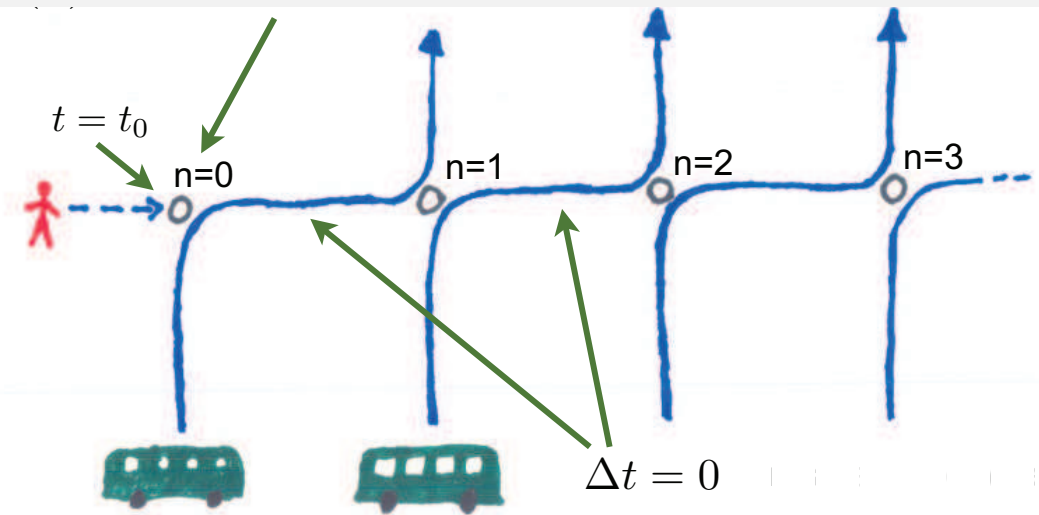
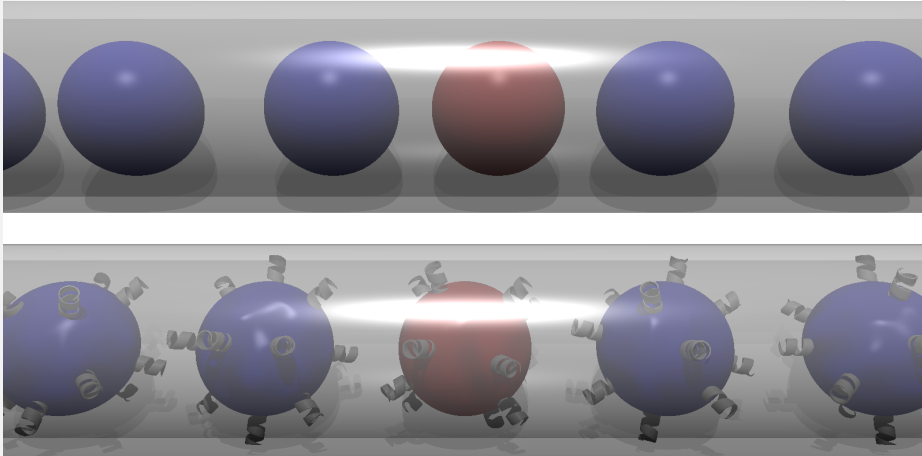


$$\langle \widetilde{x^2(t)} \rangle \simeq \log^4(t) \quad \& \quad \langle \widetilde{\delta^2(\Delta)} \rangle \simeq \log^4(T) \frac{\Delta}{T}$$

Mean field approach (comp ultraslow maps):

$$\psi(t) \simeq \frac{1}{t \log^4 t}$$

# Ultralow dynamics in ageing many-particle systems



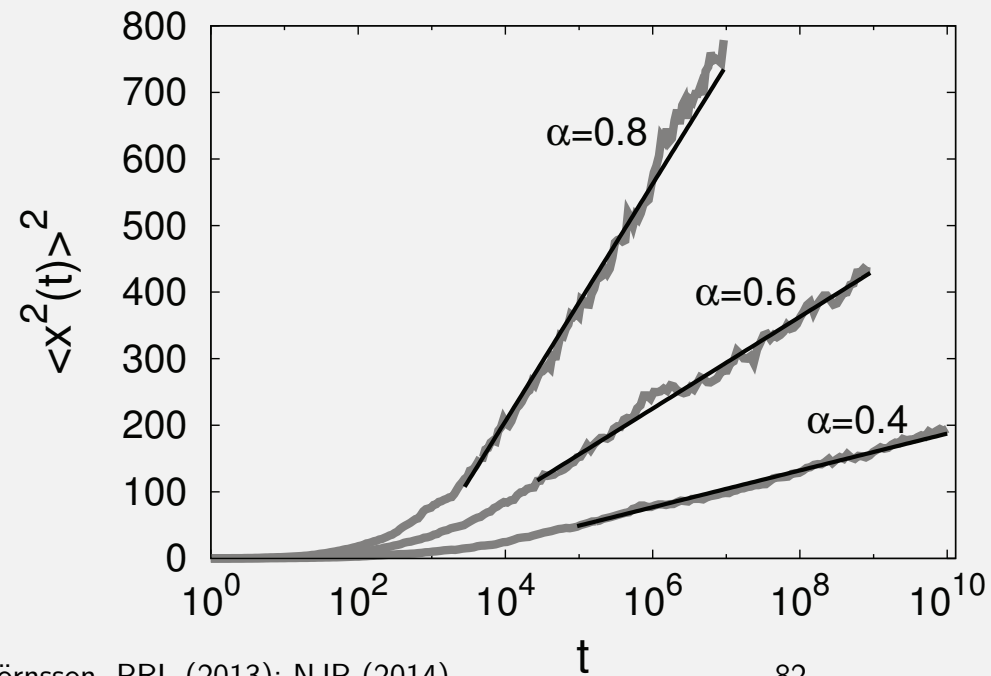
Brownian particles: Harris' law  $\langle x^2(t) \rangle \simeq t^{1/2}$

Functionalised particles moving /w  $\psi(t) \simeq t^{-1-\alpha}$

↪ scaling argument:  $n \rightarrow \log t$ :

$$\langle x^2(t) \rangle \simeq \log^{1/2} \left( \frac{t}{t_0} \right)$$

WEB:  $\overline{\delta^2(\Delta)} \simeq (\Delta/T) \log^{1/2} T$



## Journal of Physics A's new Biological Modelling section

**Journal of Physics A**  
Mathematical and Theoretical

**Biological Modelling**

For anything interesting too mathematical for Biophys J, Phys Biol, or J Theoret Biol, or not general enough for PRL or NJP ...

Suggestions for topical reviews & special issues are welcome



- I Gene expression based on stochastic binding of TFs; facilitated diffusion model verified in vitro for certain TFs. Speed-stability paradox
- II Facilitated diffusion model also applies to in vivo gene regulation
- III Distance matters I: conformation of DNA in facilitated diffusion
- IIII Distance matters II: gene-gene distance for TF-TU regulation—support for rapid search hypothesis
- IIII Sequence and auxiliary operator effects
- IIII (Transient) anomalous diffusion of TFs in vivo

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Ilpo Vattulainen, Hector Martinez-Seara, Otto Pulkkinen (TUT)

Eli Barkai, Stas Burov, Yuval Garini (Bar-Ilan U)

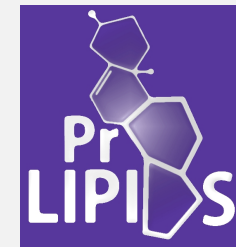
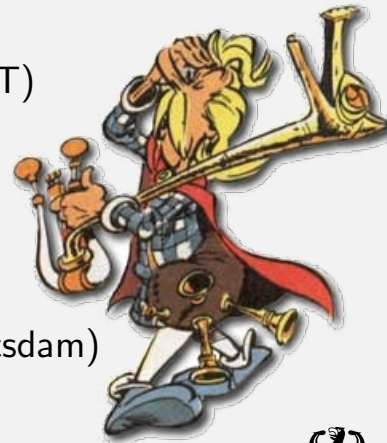
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