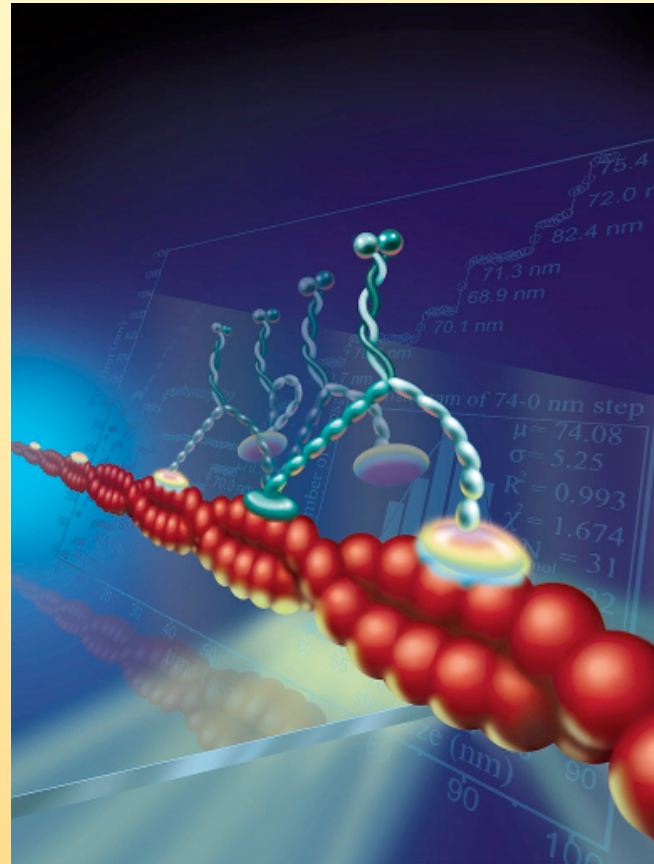


Molecular Motors and Nanoscale Devices

Heiner Linke

Physics Department

University of Oregon



A. Yildiz, ..., P. Selvin,
Science **300**, 2061 (2003).

CIS 170, March 6, 2008

The size of stuff:



flea
1 mm



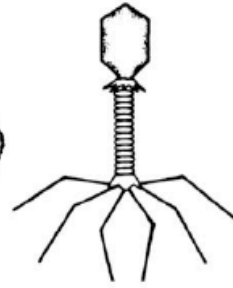
protozoan
0.1 mm



white blood
cell
0.01 mm



E. coli
1 μm



T2 phage
0.1 μm



microtubule
25 nm

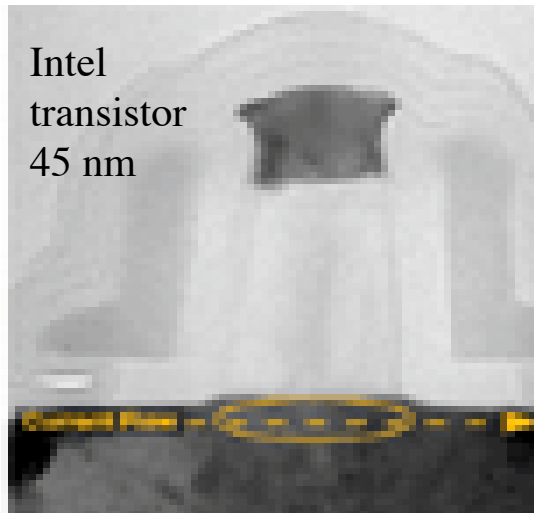


DNA
2 nm



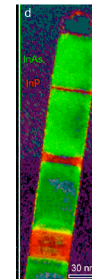
atoms in
DNA
0.2 nm

Human hair
 $\approx 10 \mu\text{m}$

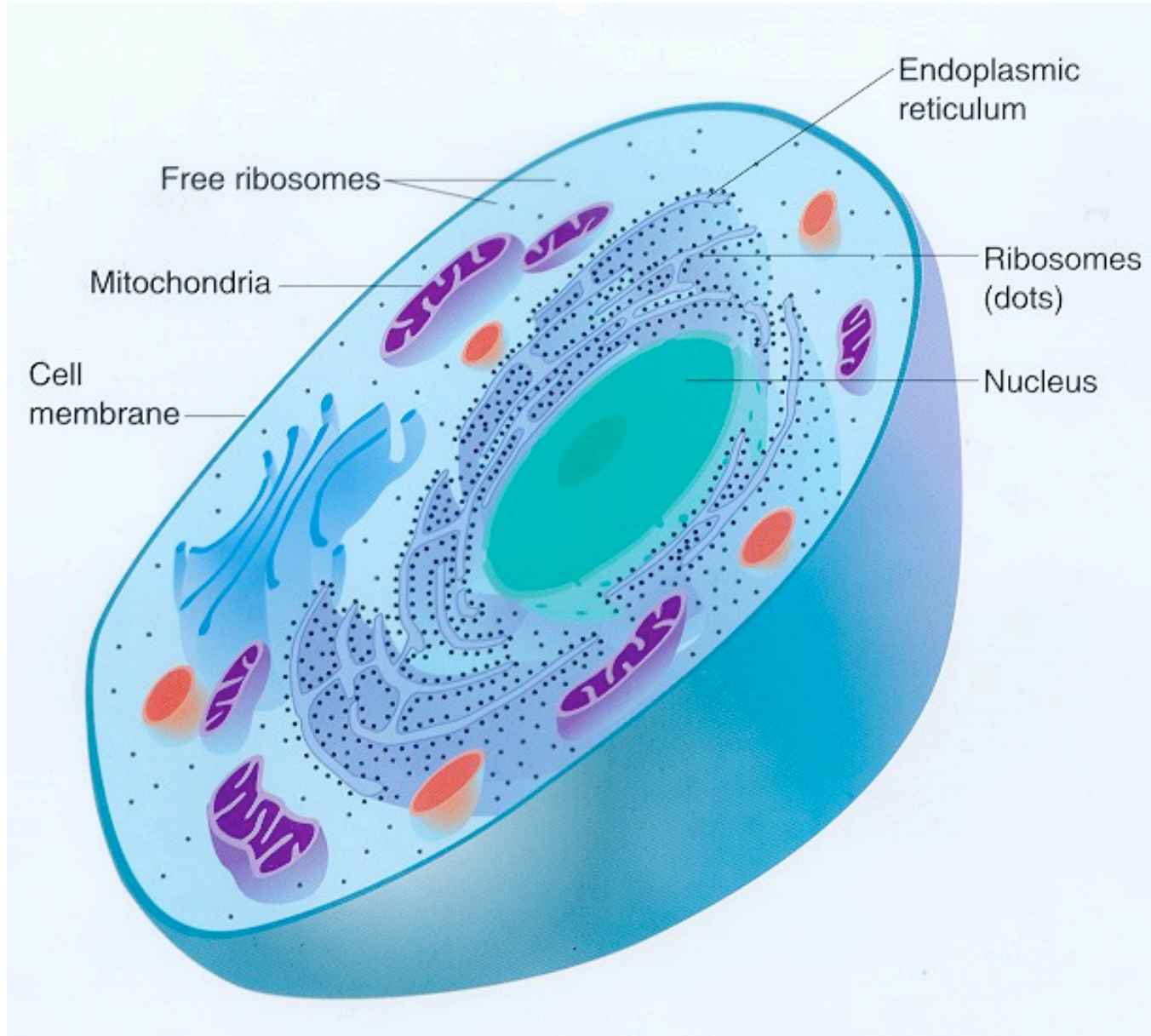


Intel
transistor
45 nm

Man-made
nanowire
30 nm

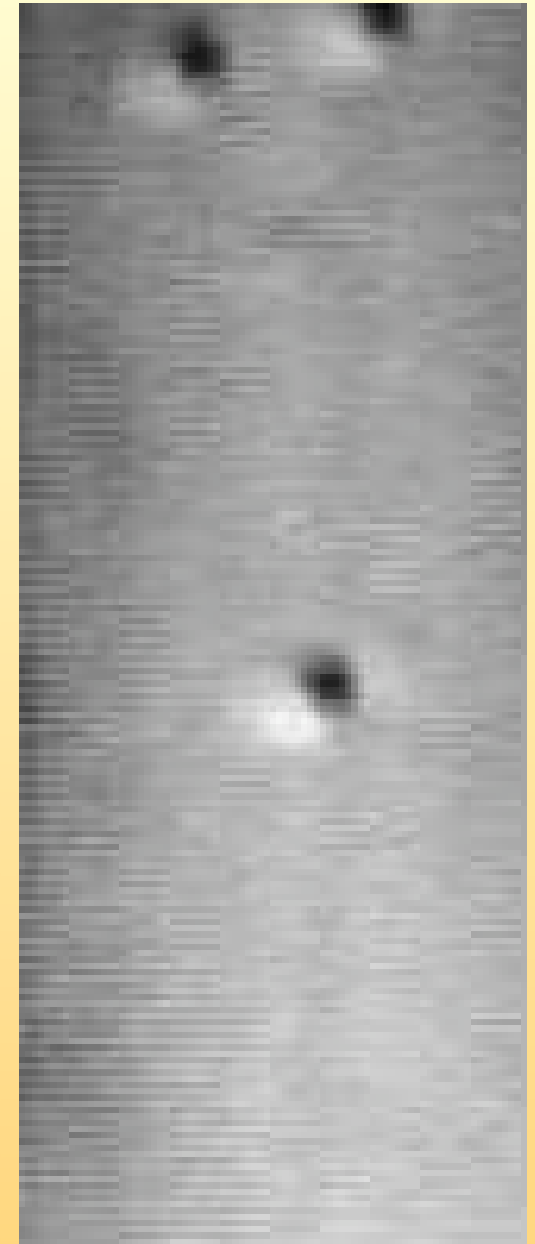
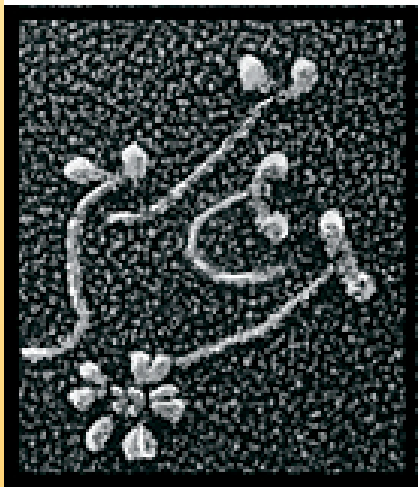
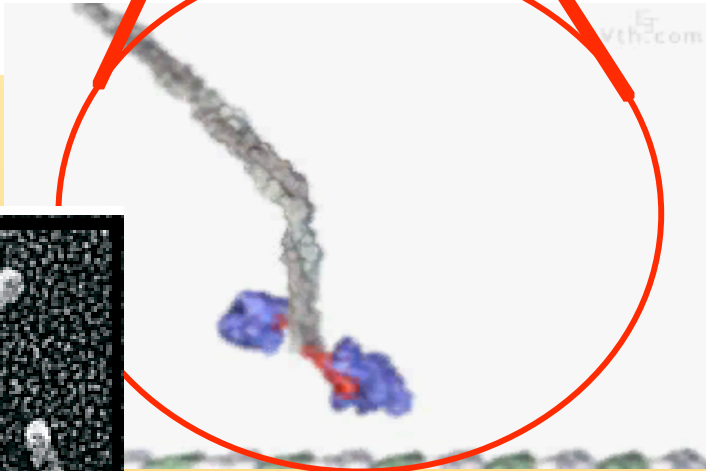
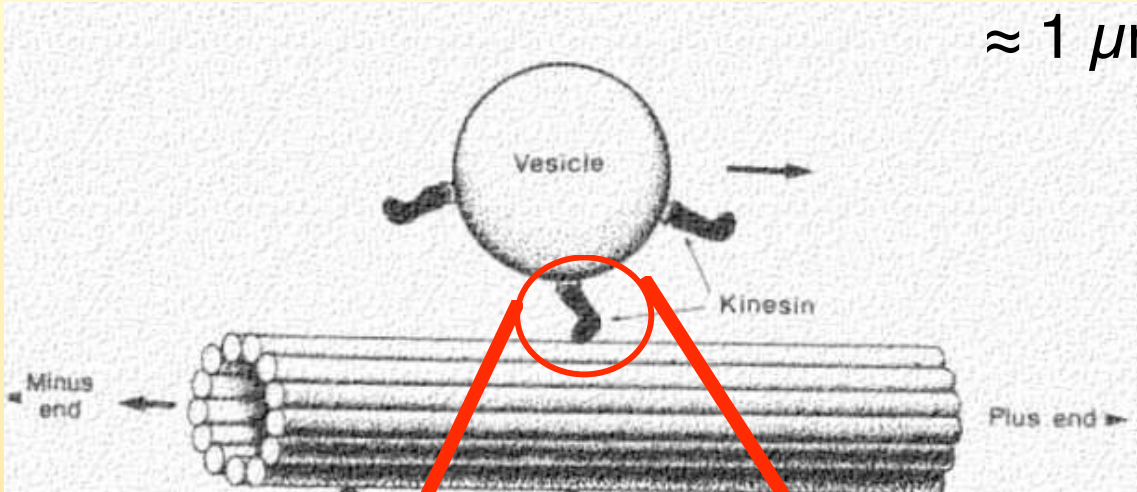


Eukaryotic cell

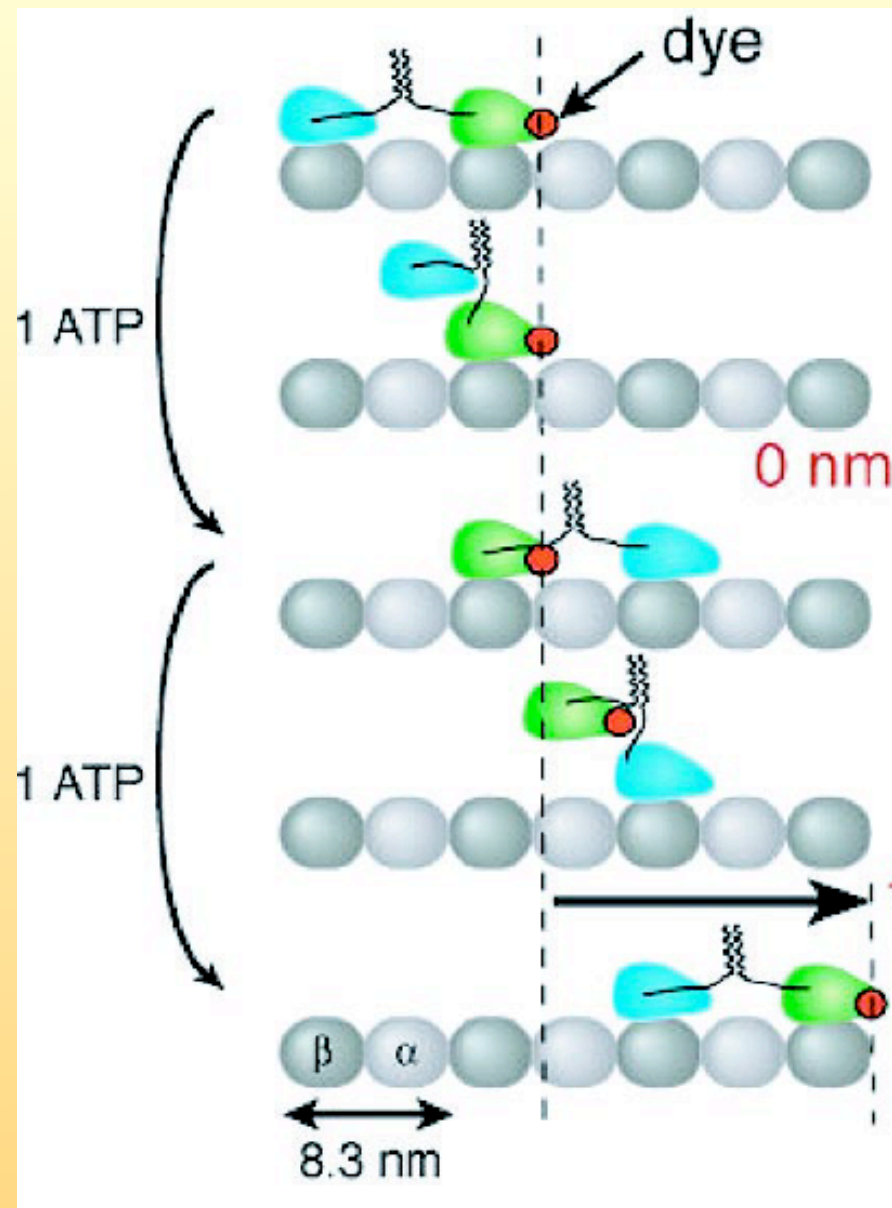
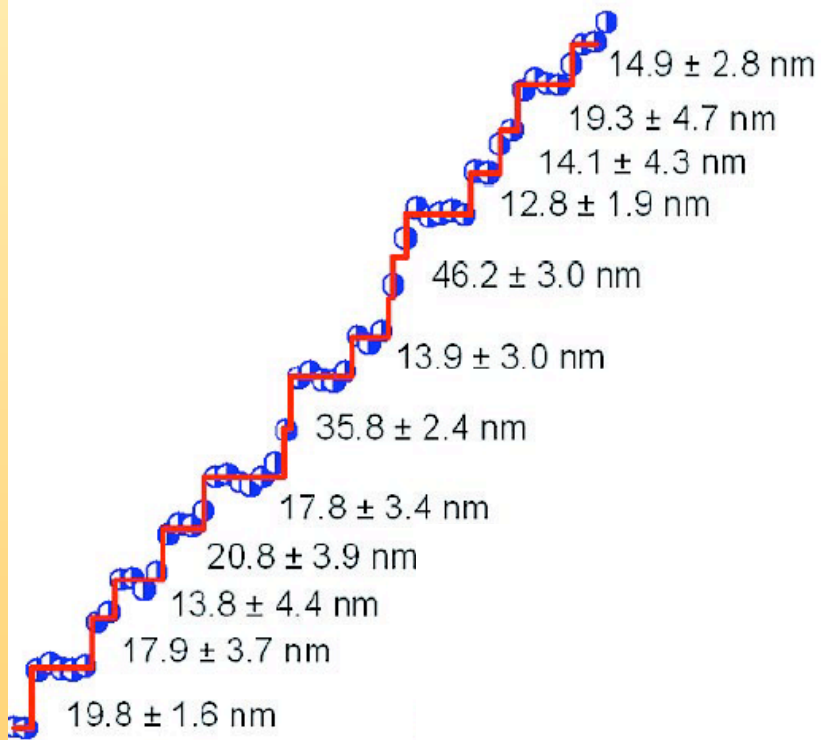
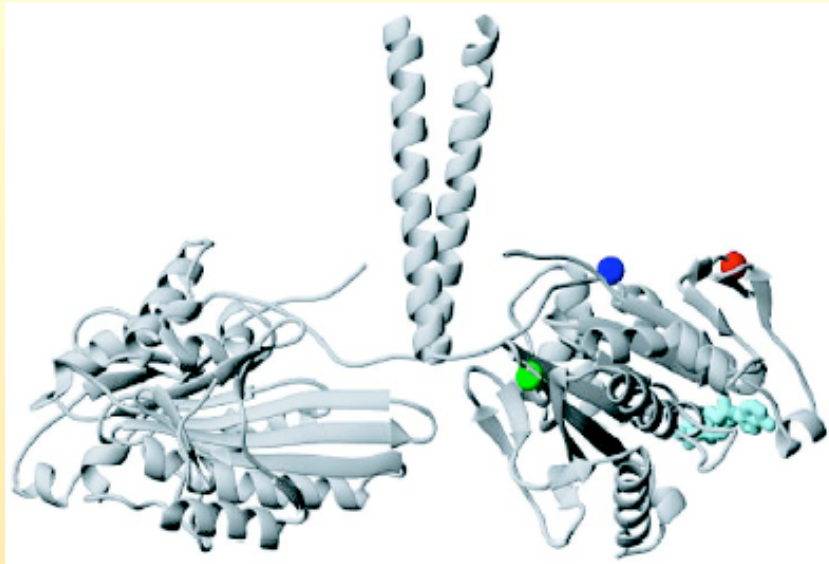


A molecular motor: kinesin

$\approx 1 \mu\text{m/s}$



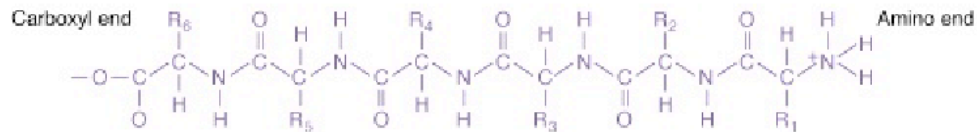
Nobutaka Hirokawa et al



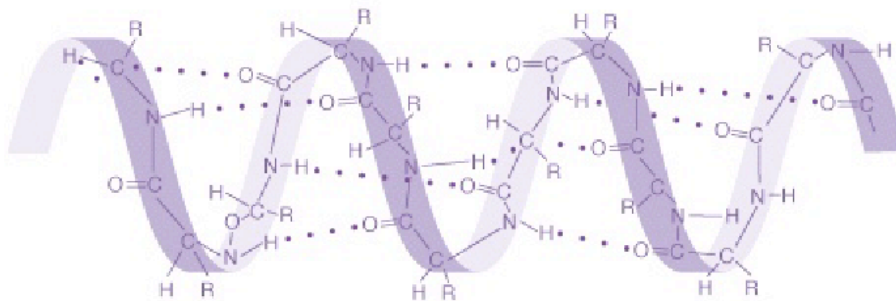
Yildiz, Selvin et al.,
 Science **303**, 676 (2004)

Protein Structure Overview

(a) Primary structure

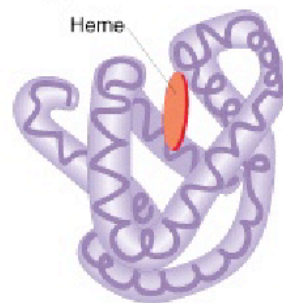


(b) Secondary structure



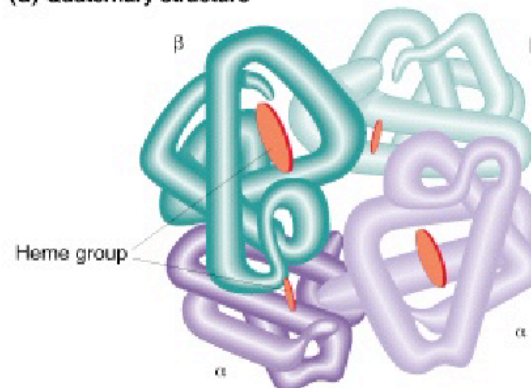
Hydrogen bonds between amino acids at different locations in polypeptide chain

(c) Tertiary structure



β polypeptide

(d) Quaternary structure



Heme group

Primary Structure

= AA sequence

Secondary Structure

= Local regularities in chain conformation

- Alpha helix
- Beta sheet
- Regular turns

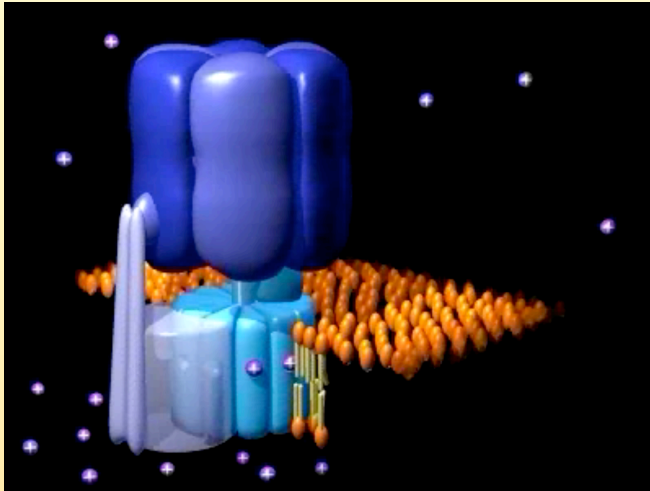
Tertiary structure

= Self assembly of secondary structure into compact globule

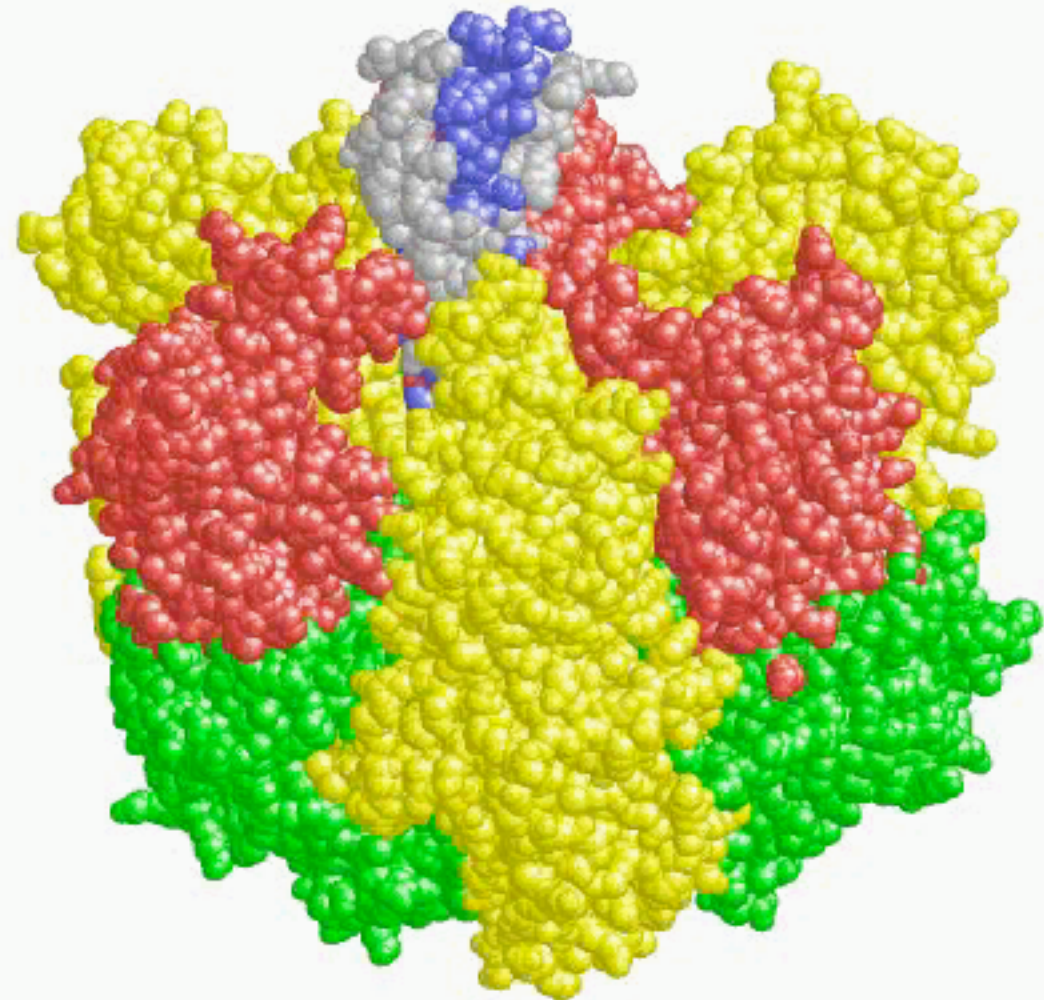
Quaternary structure

= Self assembly of subunits into particles

ATP Synthase

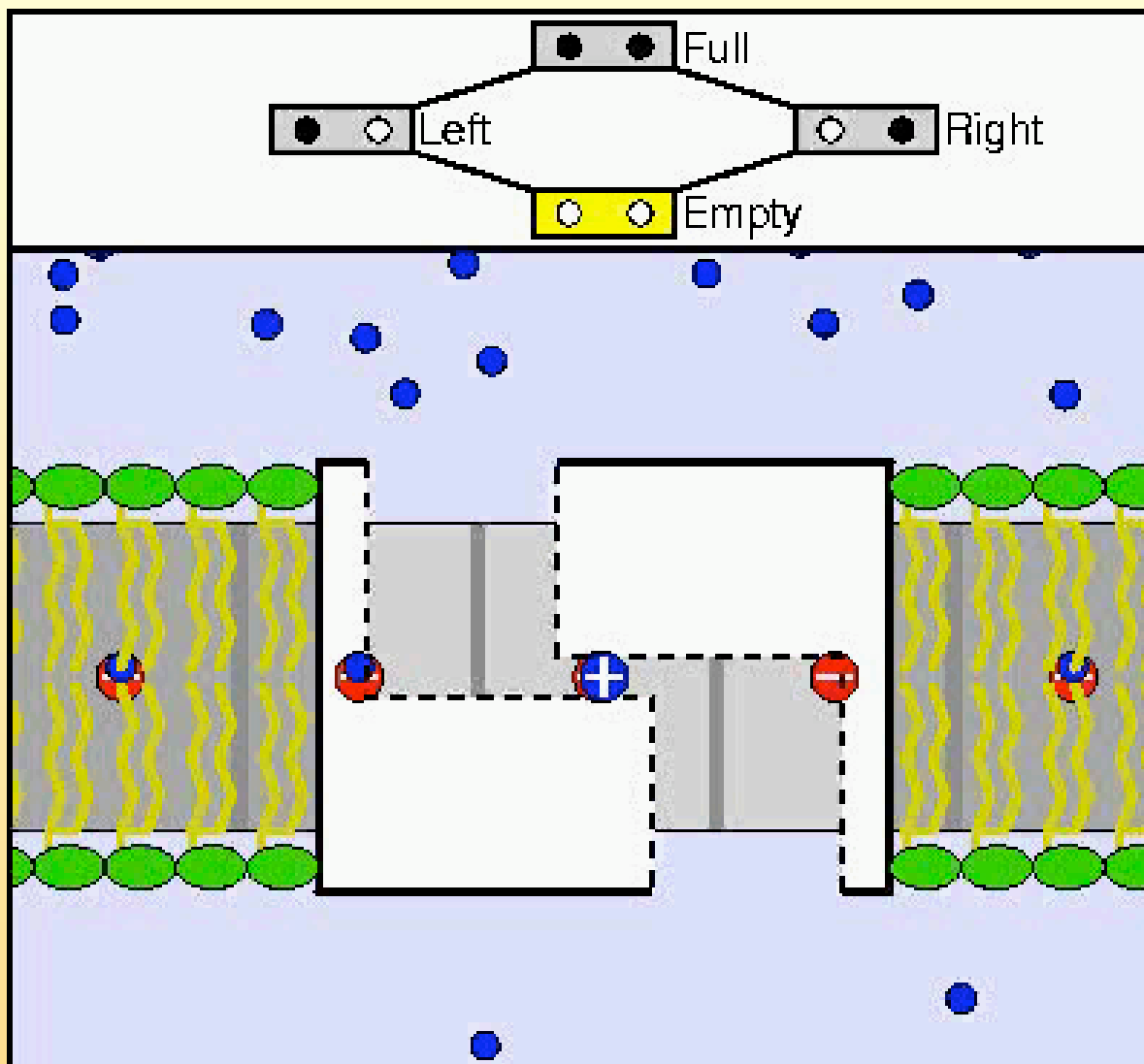


Rotation
of
F₁-ATPase



A 3D view of alpha₃-beta₃-gamma
By Hongyun Wang & George Oster, U.C. Berkeley

Kinosita et al. (1999)



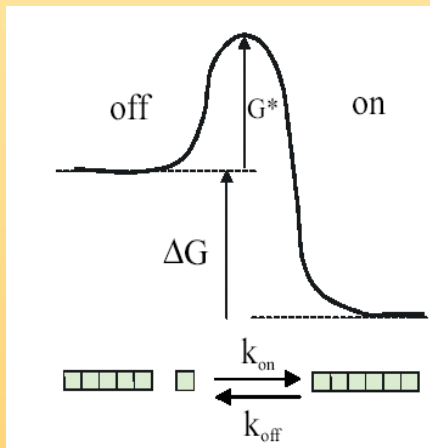
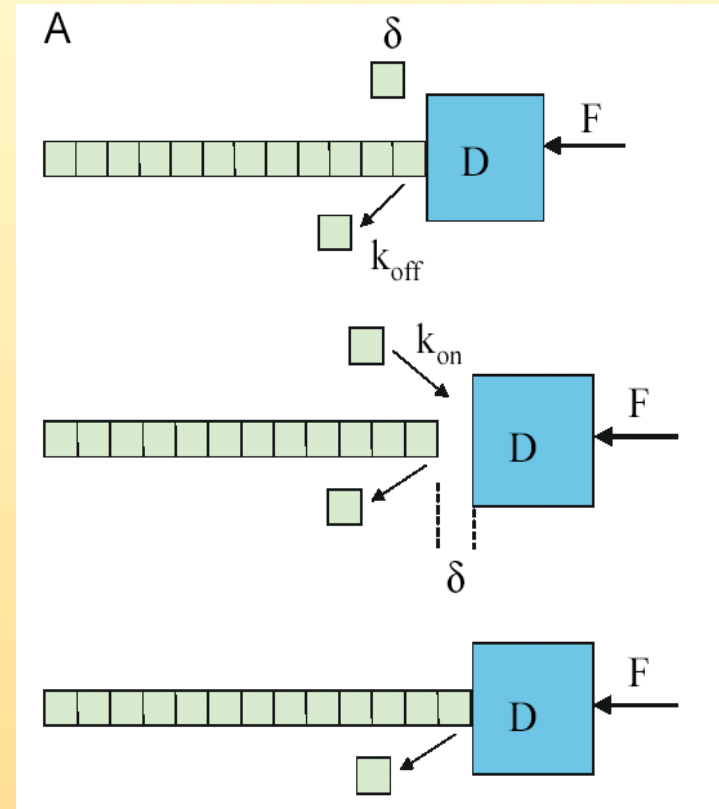
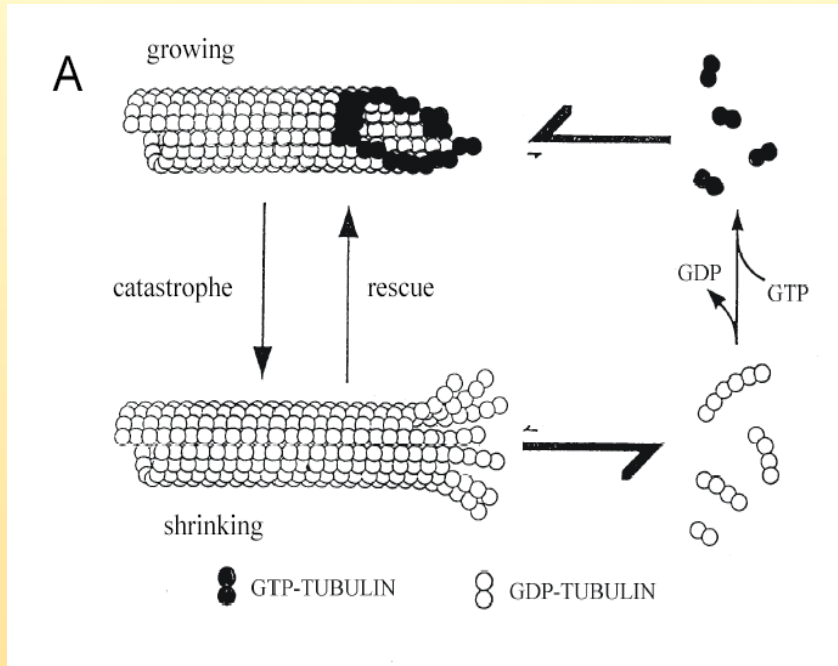
Hongyun Wang and George Oster
Nature **396**, 279 (1998)
Nature **399**, 510 (1999)
nature.berkeley.edu/hongwang

Listeria are bacterias that hijack the cell's skeleton to propel themselves



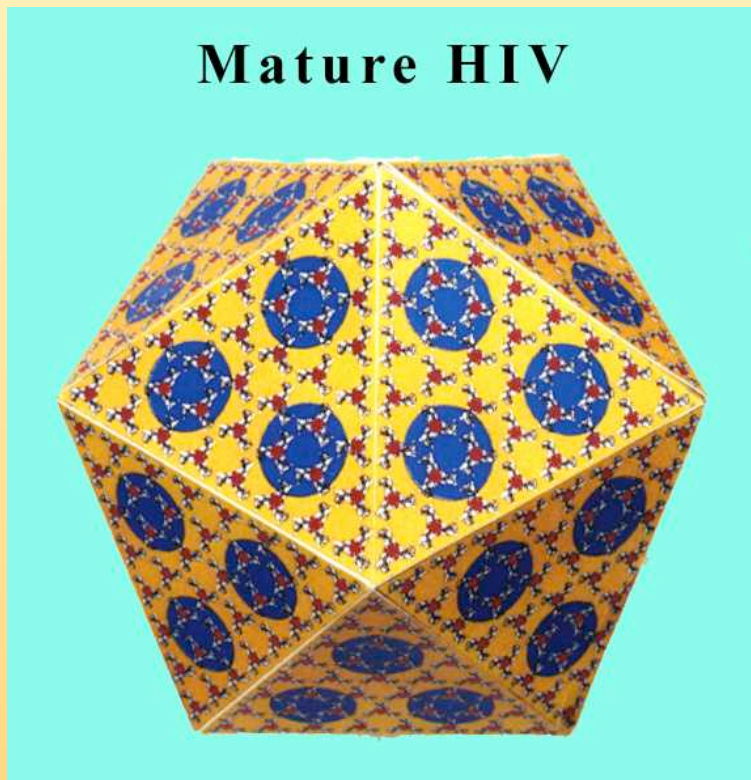
<http://cmgm.stanford.edu/theriot/movies.htm#Hits>

Force generation by polymerizing microtubules

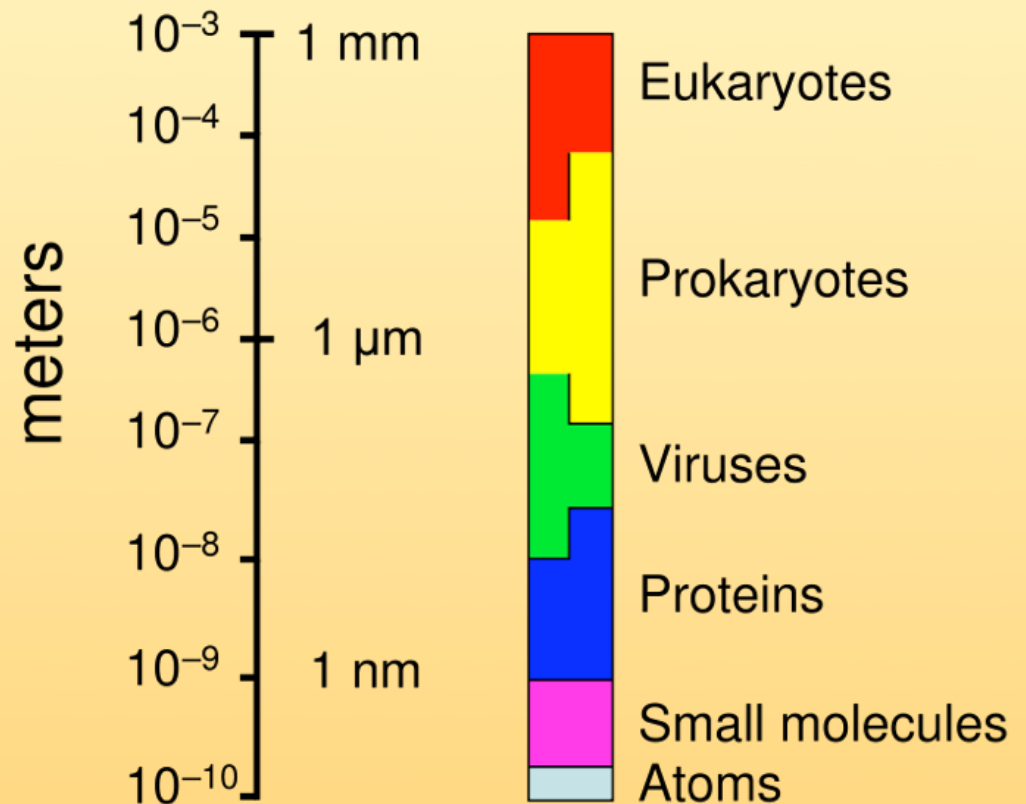


Peskin, Odell, Oster *Biophys. J.* 65, 316 (1993)
 Oster and Mogilner, *Eur. Biophys. J.* 28, 235 (1997)
 M. Dogterom et al, *Appl. Phys A* 75, 331 (2002)

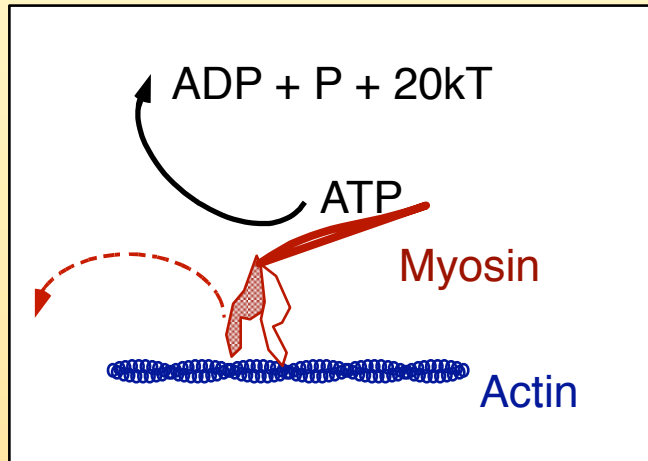
Viruses are containers for genetic material.
They need a host cell to generate new viruses
using the genetic code



80 - 100 nm diameter

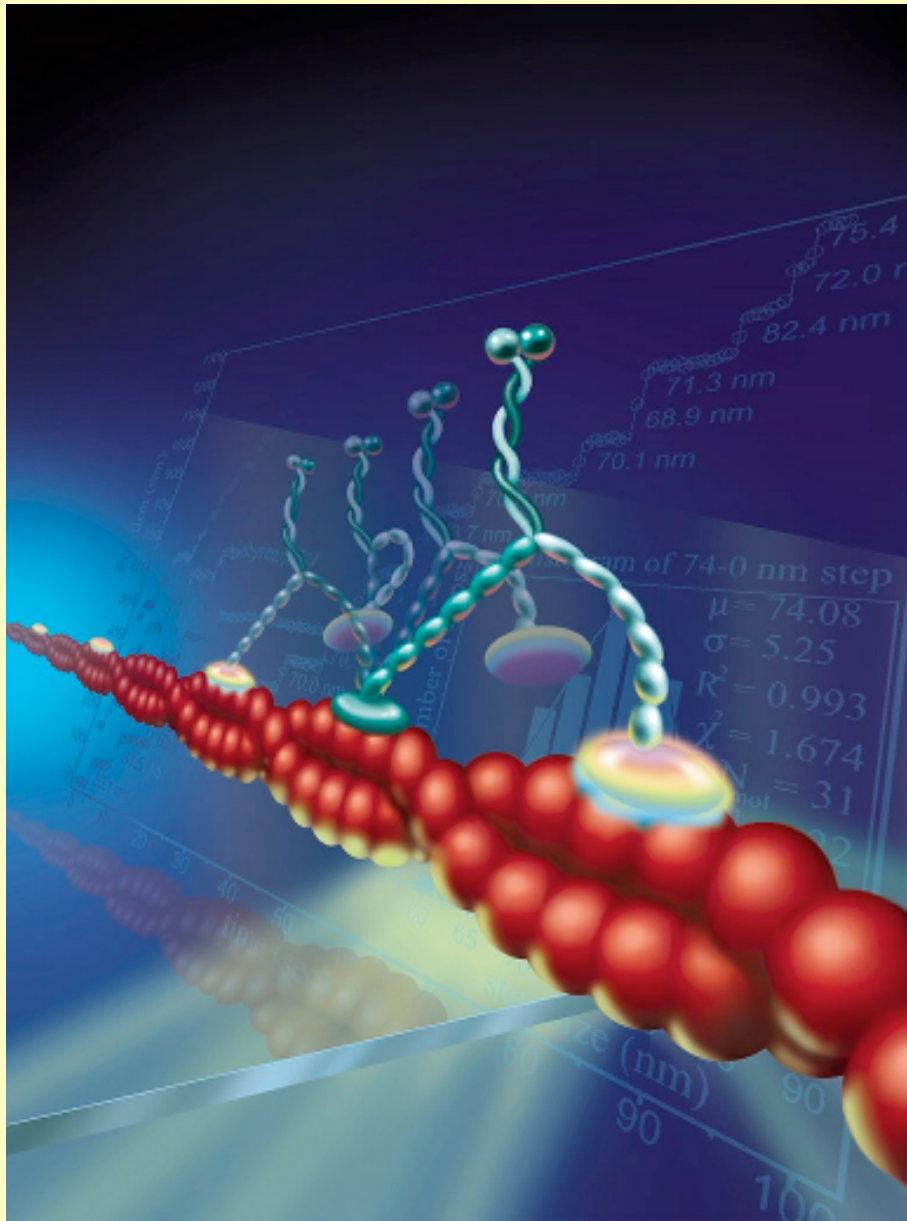


Inherent to nanodevices: Thermal fluctuations are huge!

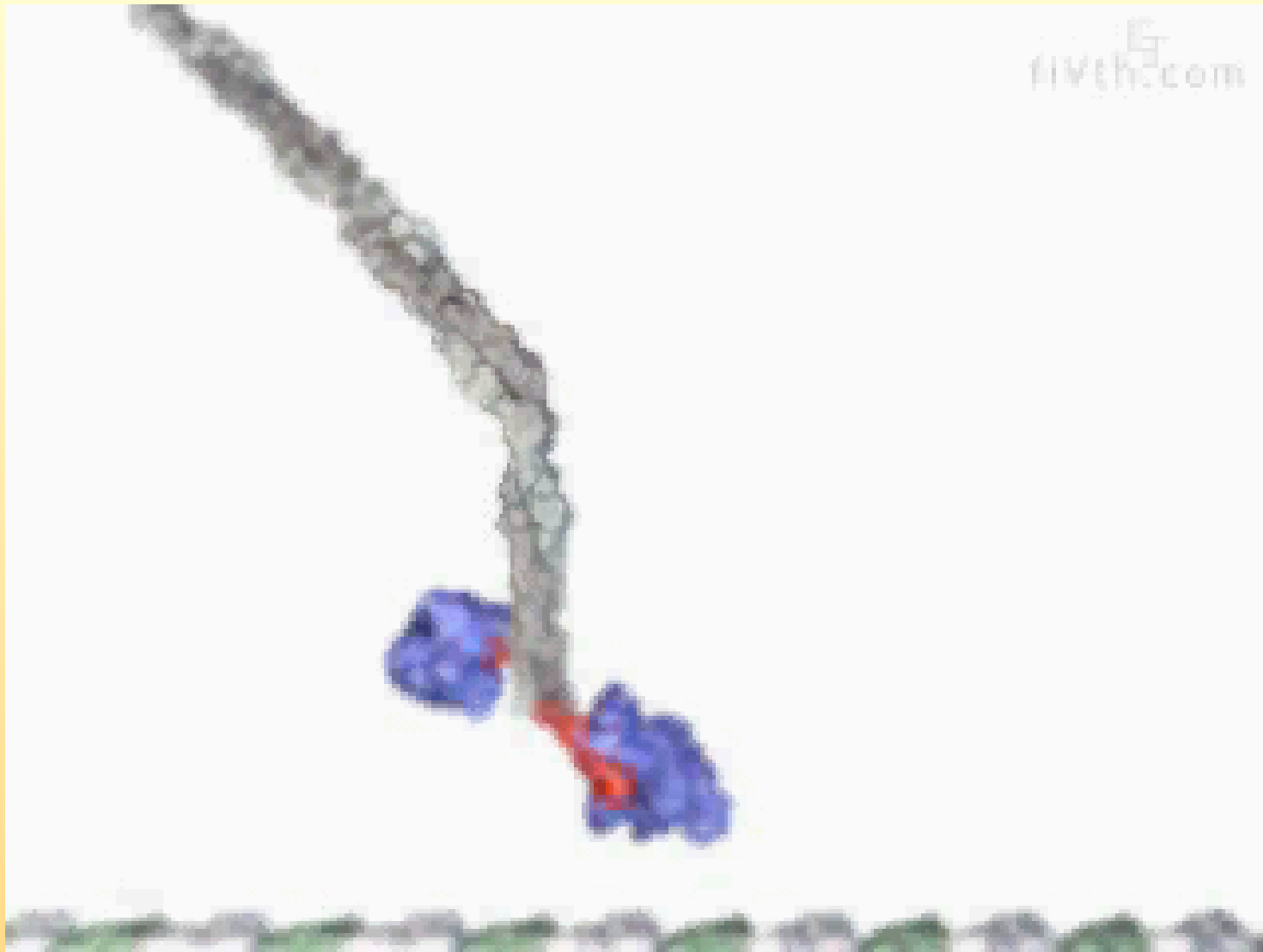


- Average speed $\approx 0.1 - 1 \mu\text{m/s}$
- Thermal fluctuations $\approx \text{cm/s}$
- Free energy budget $1 \text{ ATP} \approx 10 - 20 \text{ kT}$
- Step size $\Delta x \approx 10 \text{ nm}$
- Stall force $0.1 - 1 \text{ pN}$
- Work output $1 \text{ kT} \approx 4 \text{ pN nm}$

Myosin V walks hand-over-hand



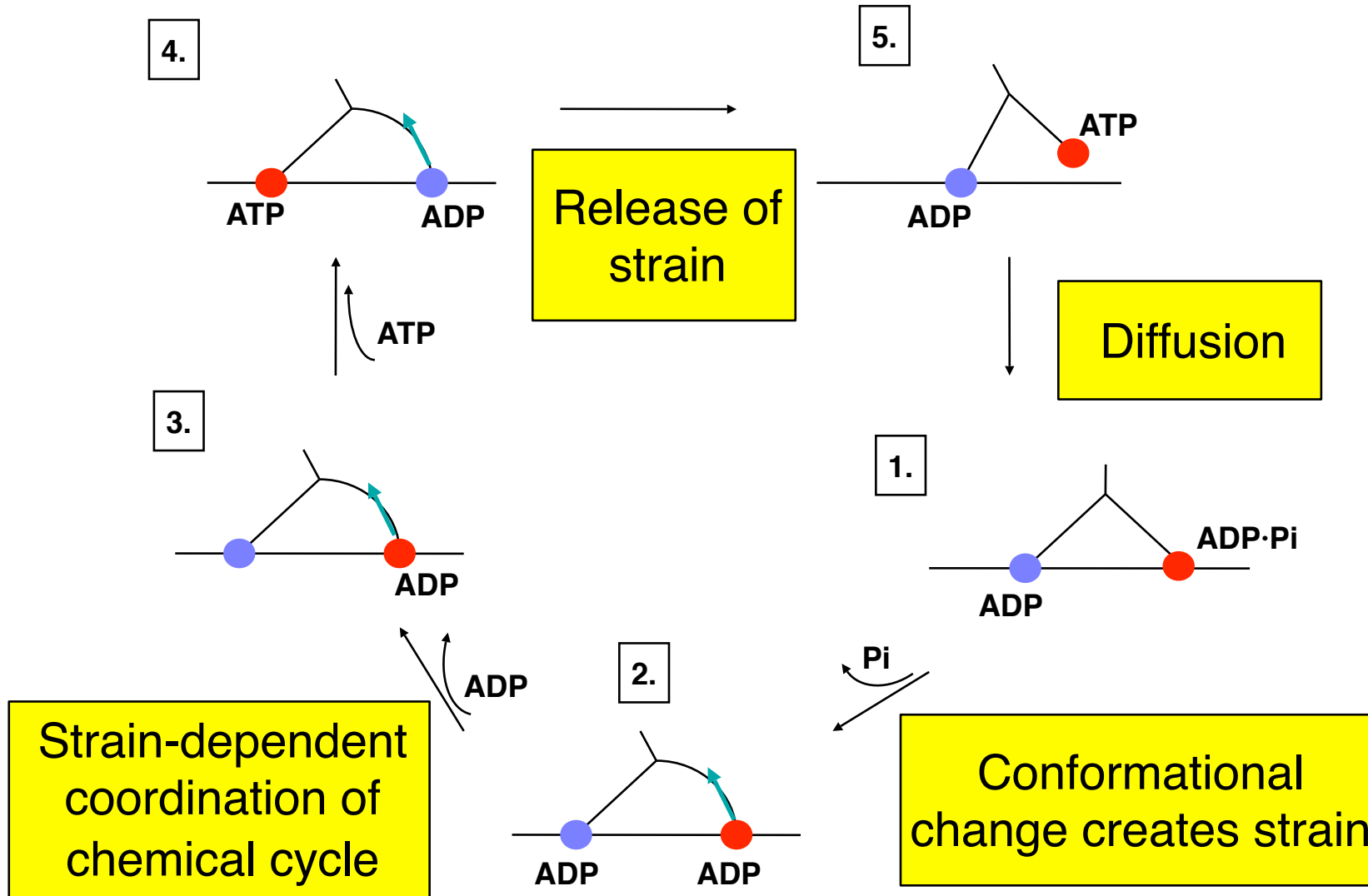
A. Yildiz, ..., P. Selvin,
Science **300**, 2061 (2003).



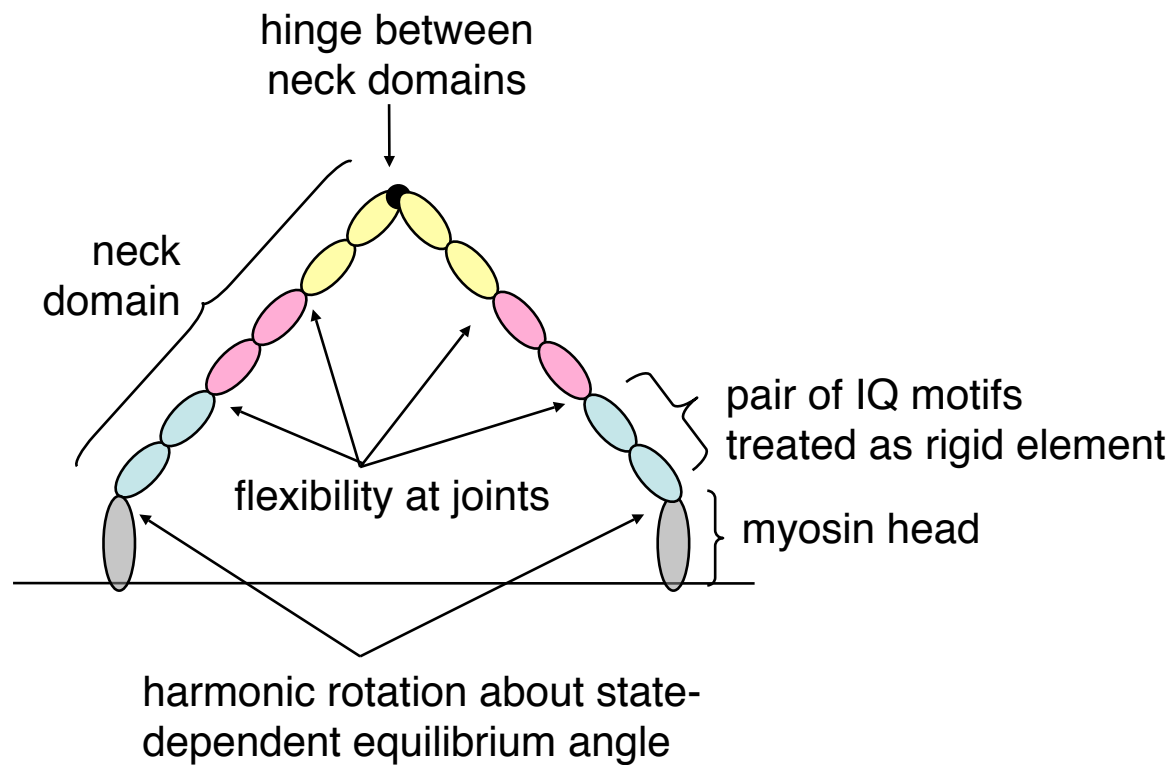
R.D. Vale and R.A. Milligan
Science **288**, 88 (2000)

Myosin V mechanochemical cycle

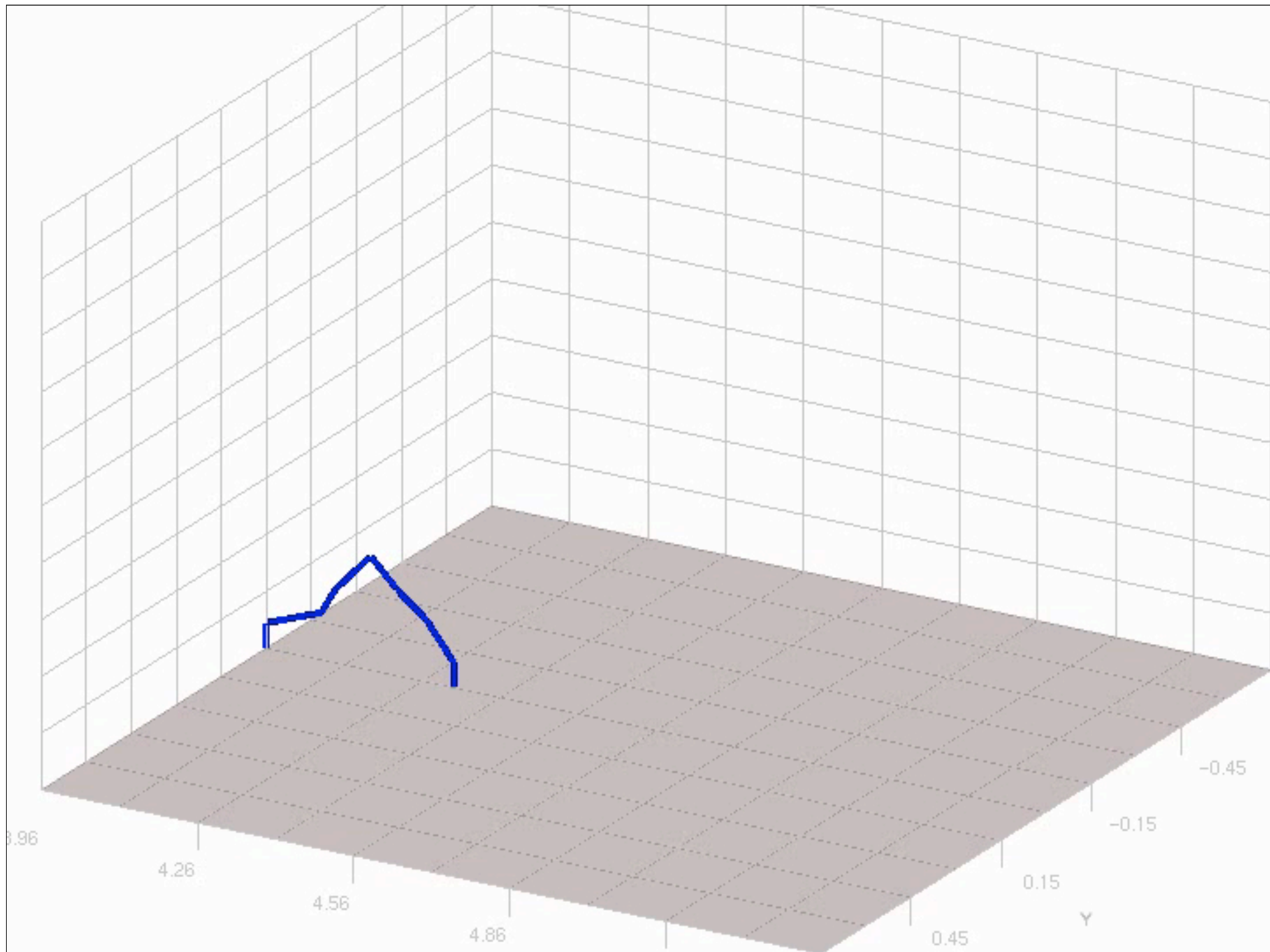
K.I. Skau et al. BPJ 91, 2475 (2006)
M. Rief et al. PNAS 97, 9482 (2000)



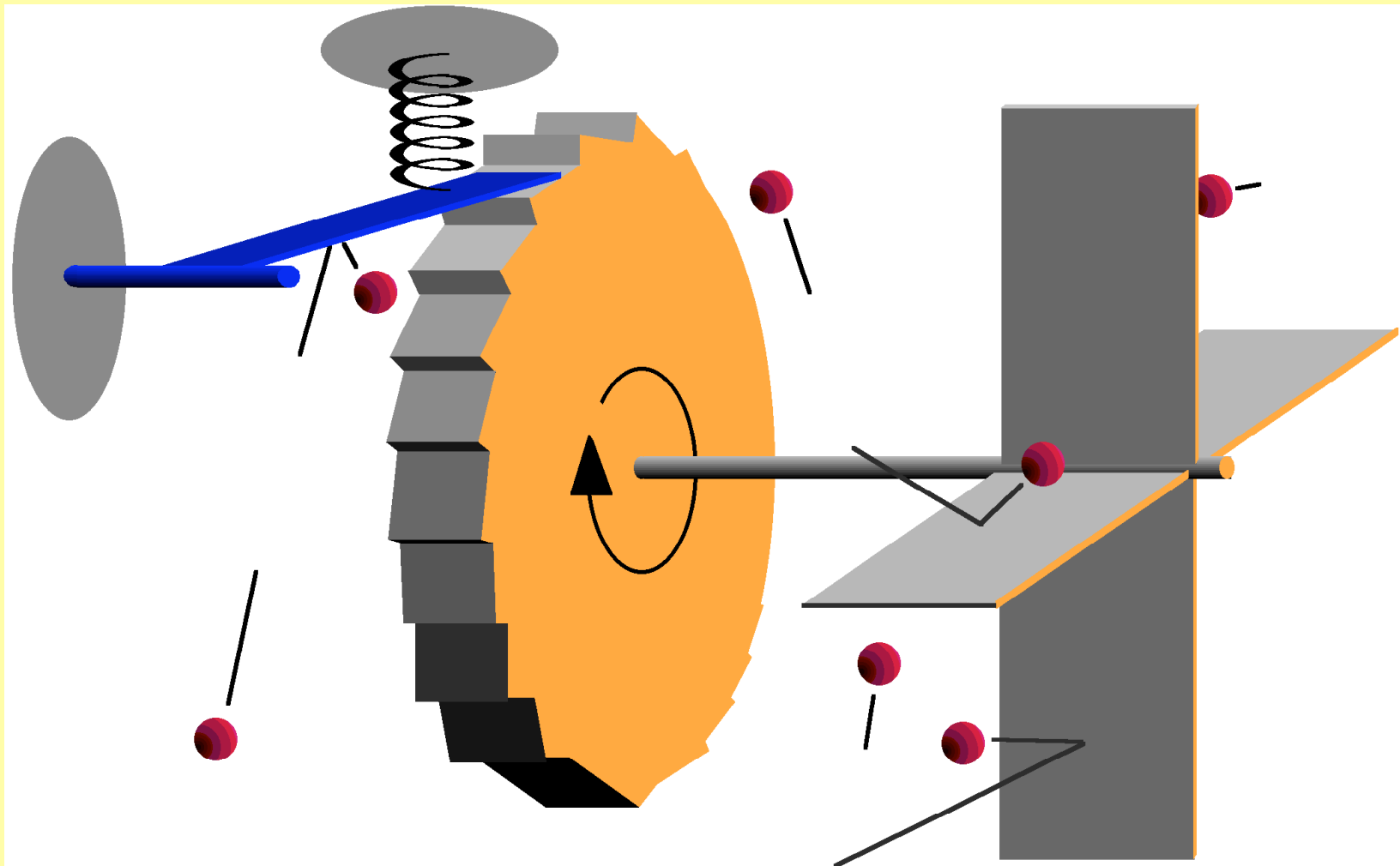
Myosin V: 3D model



Erin Craig



Feynman's Ratchet



Adapted from: Feynman Lectures on Physics, Vol. 1, Ch. 46

Lessons from thermal fluctuations

Forget about “**robot arms**” (Kurzweil, p. 233):

At body temperature, the motion or position of a nanoscale arm cannot be controlled.

Its very notion becomes meaningless.

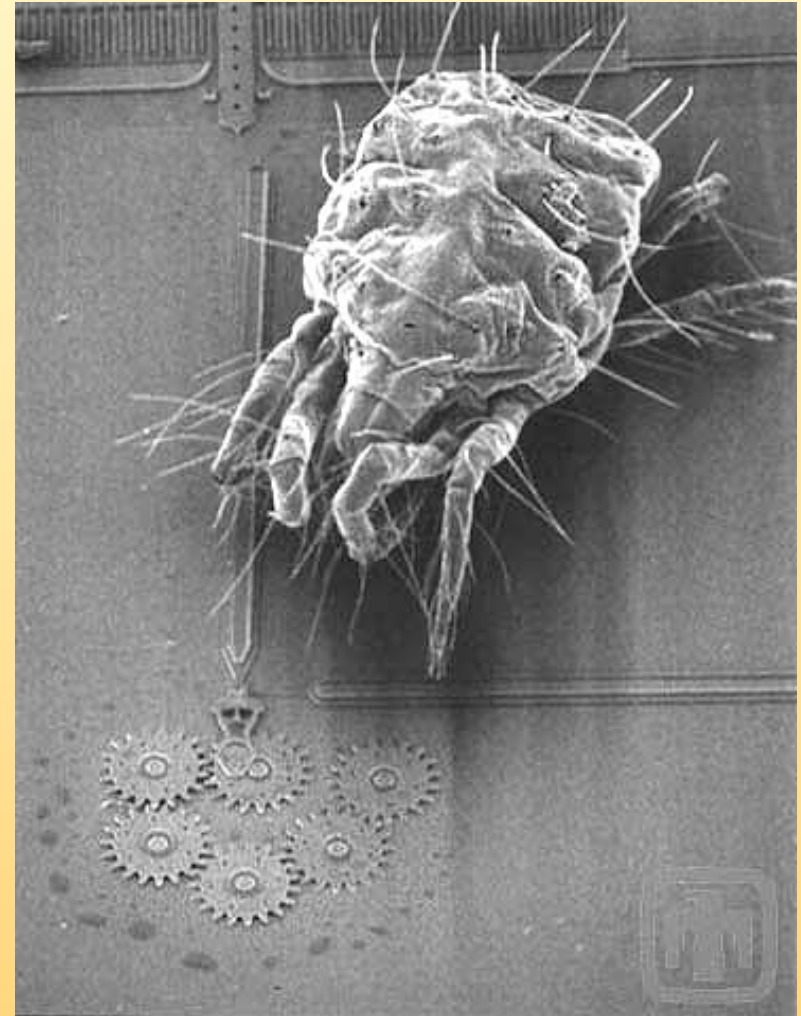
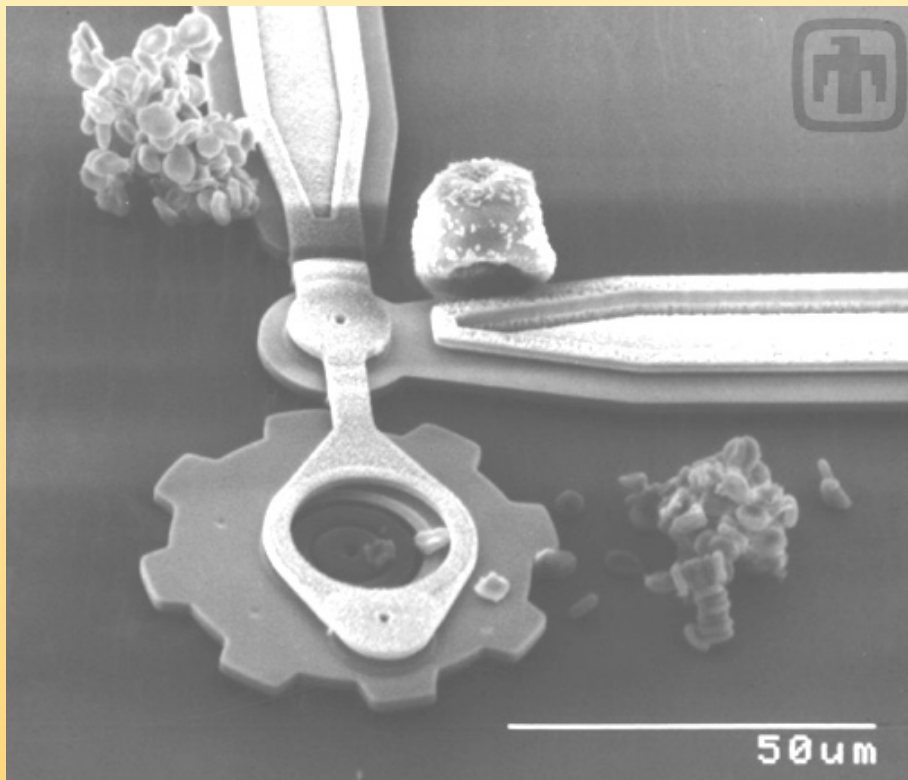
Lessons from thermal fluctuations

Forget also about “**molecular-scale mechanical components such as gears, rotors, and levers**” (Kurzweil, p. 234):

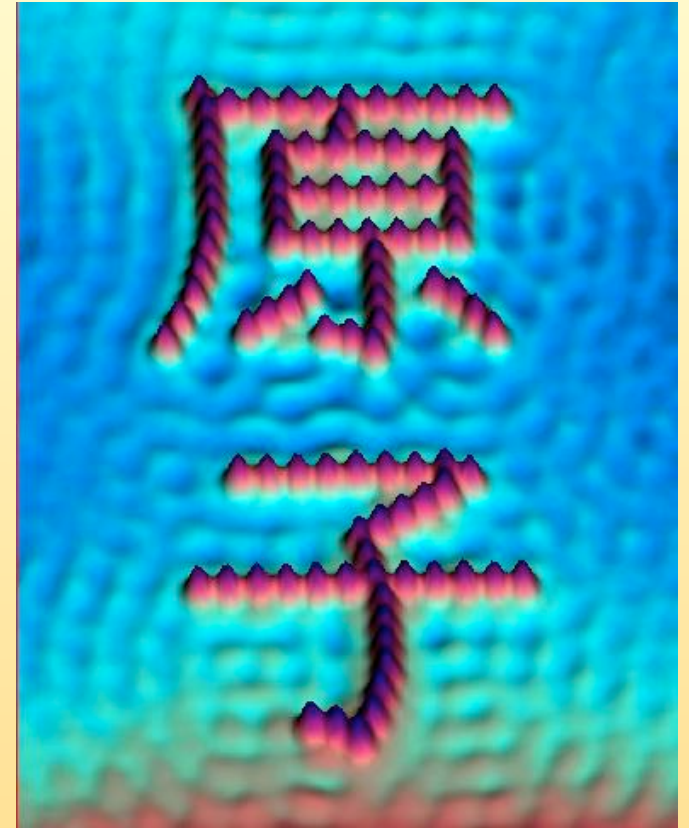
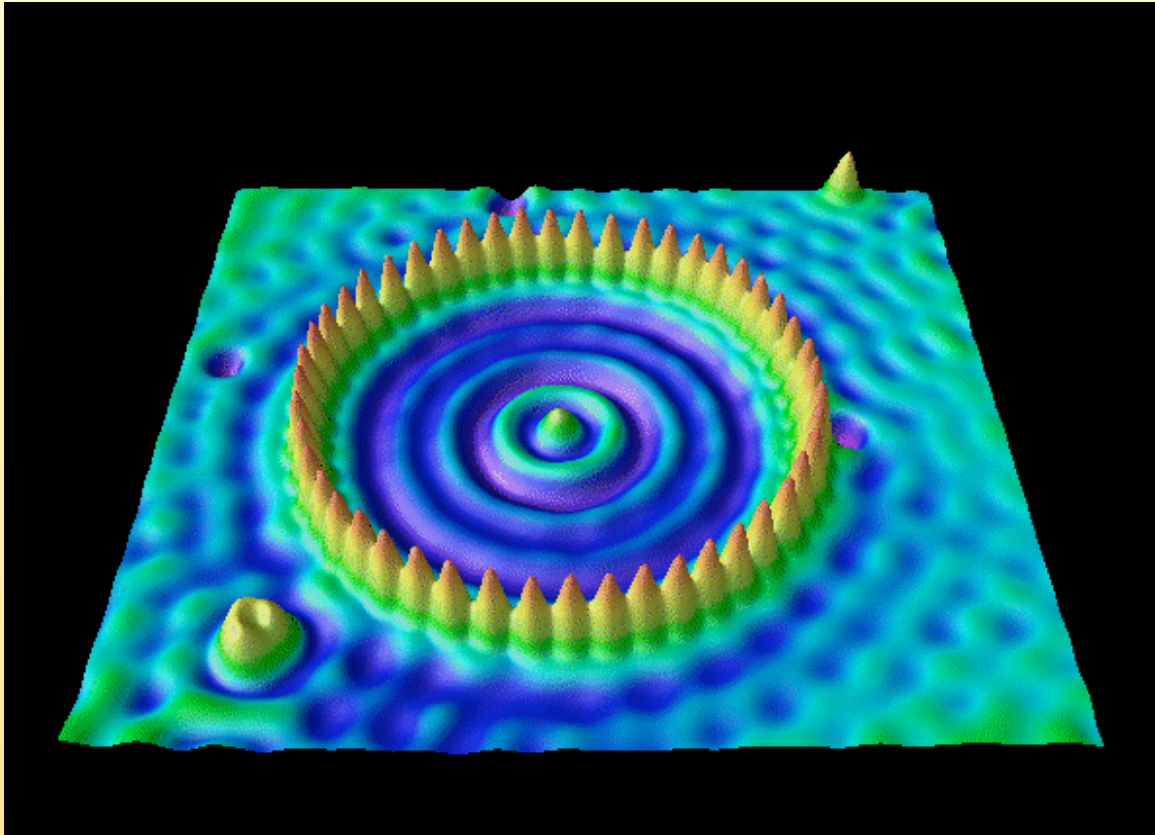
Near room or body temperature, none of these can function the way their names suggest.

Some synthetic systems that do exist

Gears
(but **not**
molecular scale)

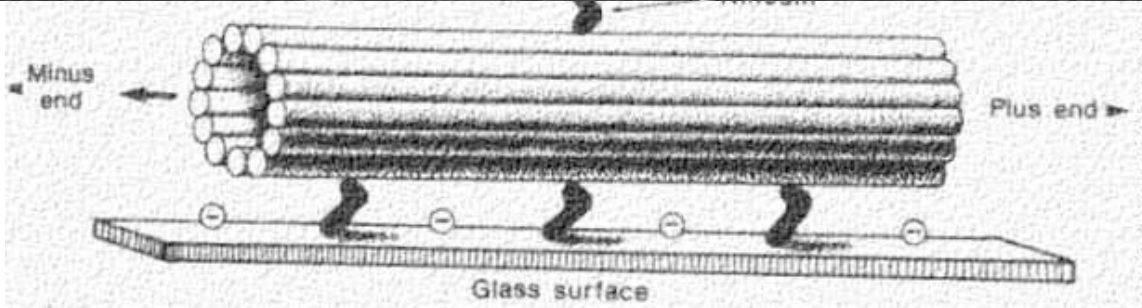
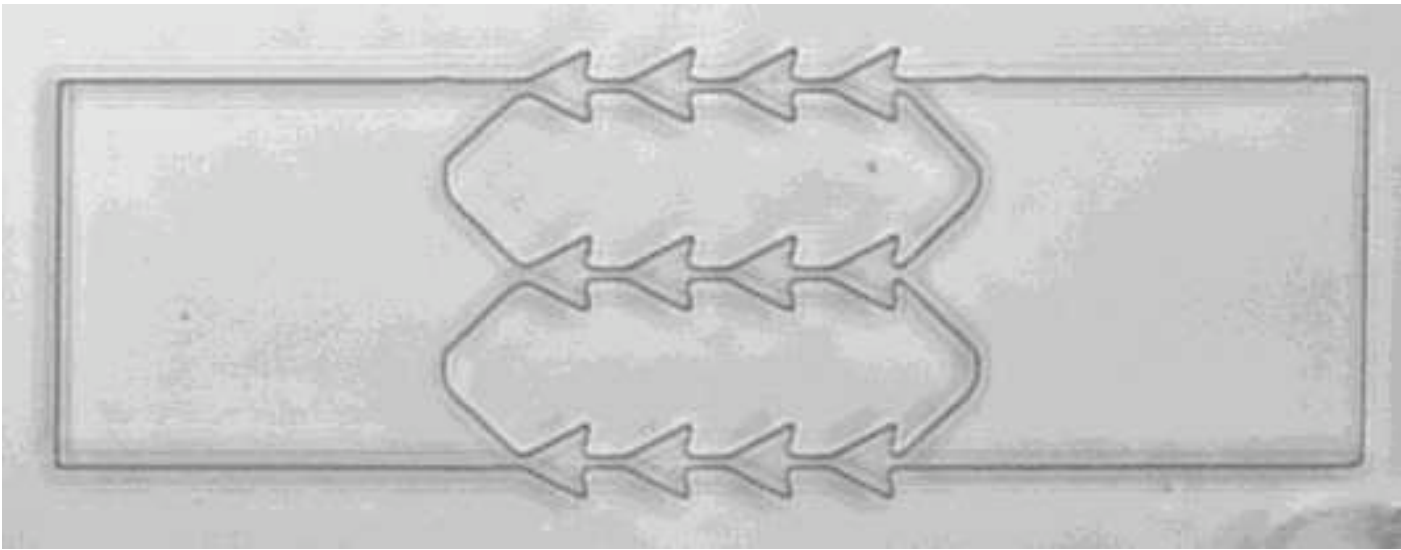


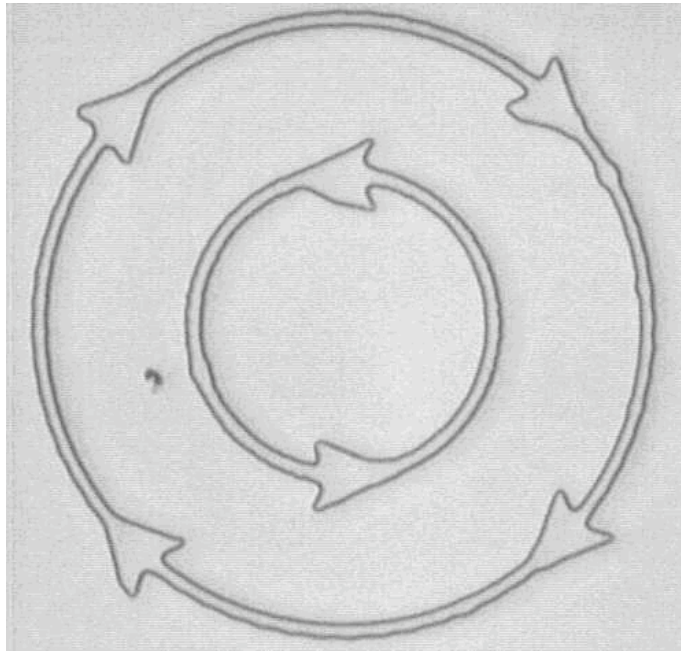
Positioning of atoms



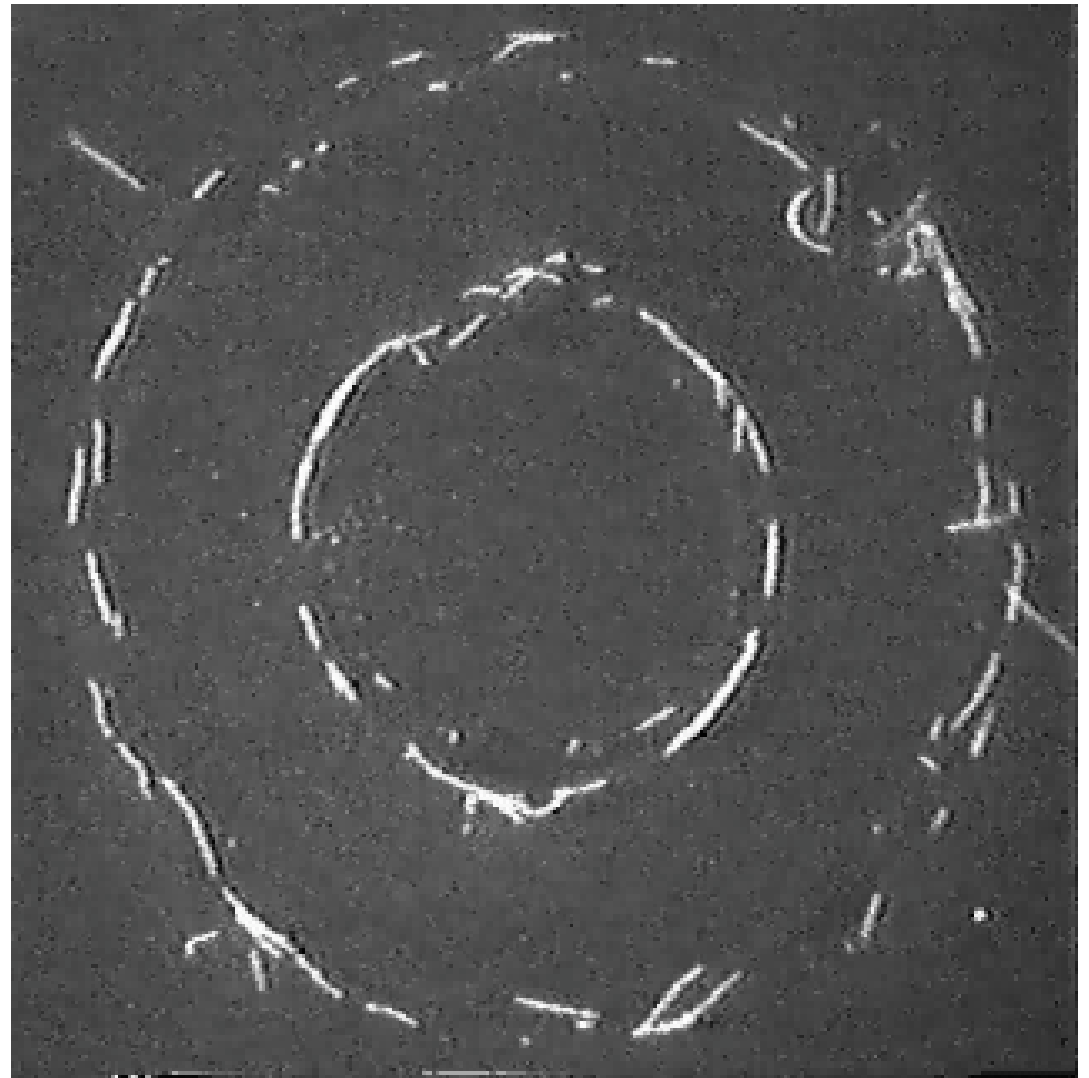
<http://www.almaden.ibm.com/vis/stm/images/stm.gif>

This really is “molecular scale”. Performed at -296 C (4K from absolute zero) under ultra-high vacuum conditions.





—
20 μm



Hiratsuka, Tada, Oiwa, Kanayama, Uyeda

Biophys. J. 81, 1555 (2001)

<http://unit.aist.go.jp/genediscry/motility/biophysj/moviedl.html>

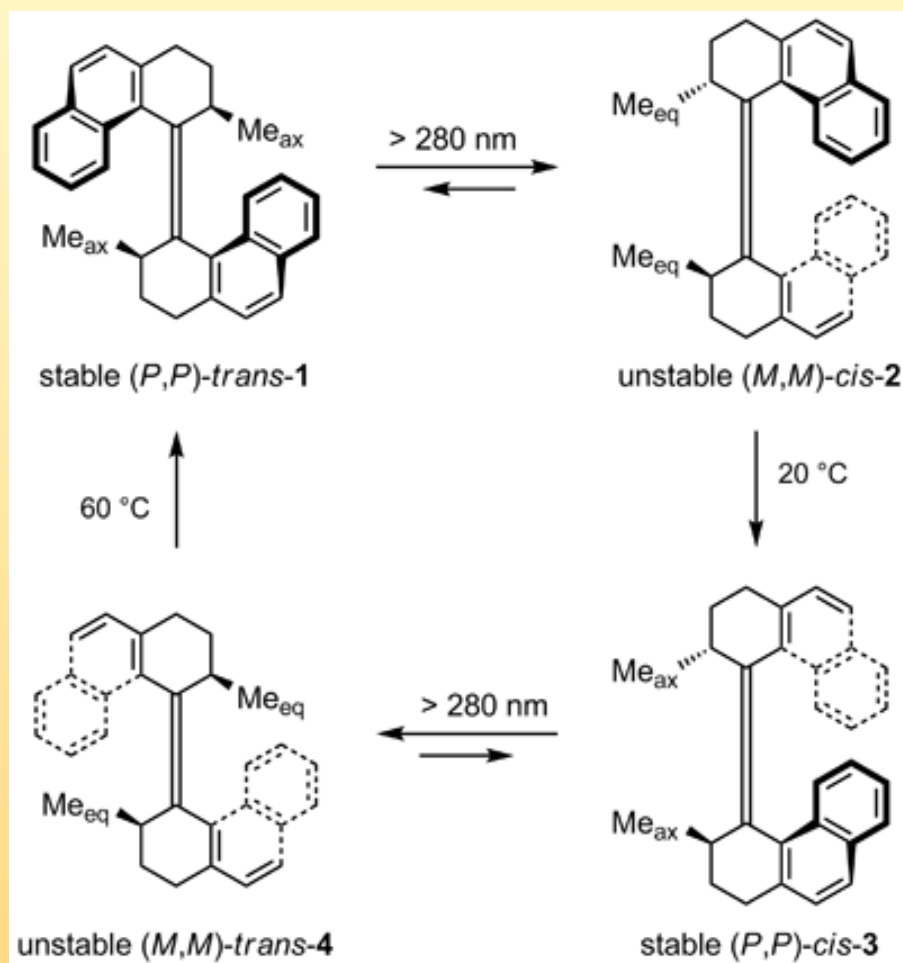
Kurzweil, p. 234

“In the decade since publication of Drexler’s *Nanosystems*, each aspect of Drexler’s conceptual designs has been validated...through simulations...and...actual construction of related molecular machines....

Another molecular sized motor fueled by solar energy was created out of 58 atoms by Ben Feringa ... in the Netherlands.”

What really has been done

- Solution chemistry
- NMR needed to detect any changes
- Several hours per “revolution”
- Light wave length 280 nm (UV).
- Thermal cycling needed (impossible in human body)



Kurzweil, p. 241

“By the 2020s molecular assembly will provide tools to effectively combat poverty, clean up our environment, overcome disease, extend human longevity...”

Molecular assembly = chemistry: will likely achieve some progress in some areas.

Molecular assembly = nanobots: Basis for 2020 claim? No serious *nanoscientist* would agree with any of this.

Today's headline:
Former royal butler
could face inquiry
over allegations he
lied to Diana inquest.

Micro-robot that can clear arteries

A microscopic robot small enough to travel through blood vessels has been built by scientists.

Less than a millimetre in size, the robot walks like a crab on six legs and has been designed to clear blocked arteries.

It was produced by researchers at Chonnam National University in Korea, who found the robot was able to travel 55 yards in a week.

Once inside a blocked artery, it is able to release drugs to dissolve blood clots, which are often the cause of heart attacks.

By attaching grafted heart muscle to the legs, the scientists found the legs would bend as the muscle cells contracted. The cells get their energy from sugar in the patient's blood.