



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND



Scaling down the laws of thermodynamics

What do the laws of thermodynamics “look like”
when applied to very small systems?

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Department of Physics

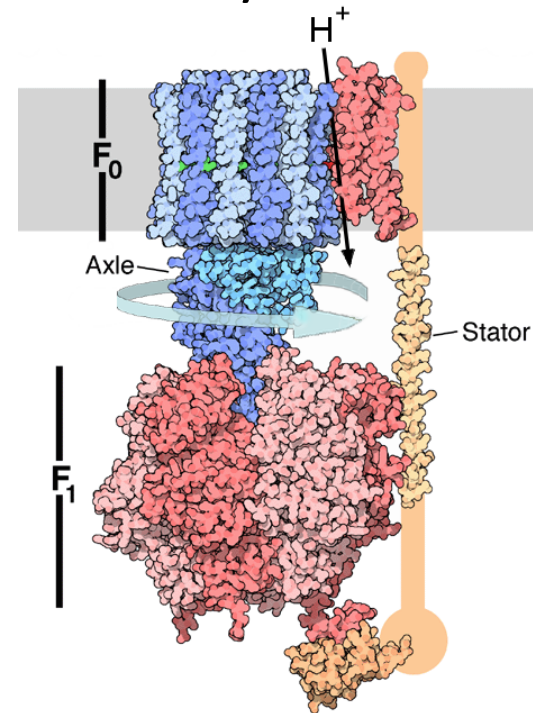


Macroscopic and microscopic machines

steam engine



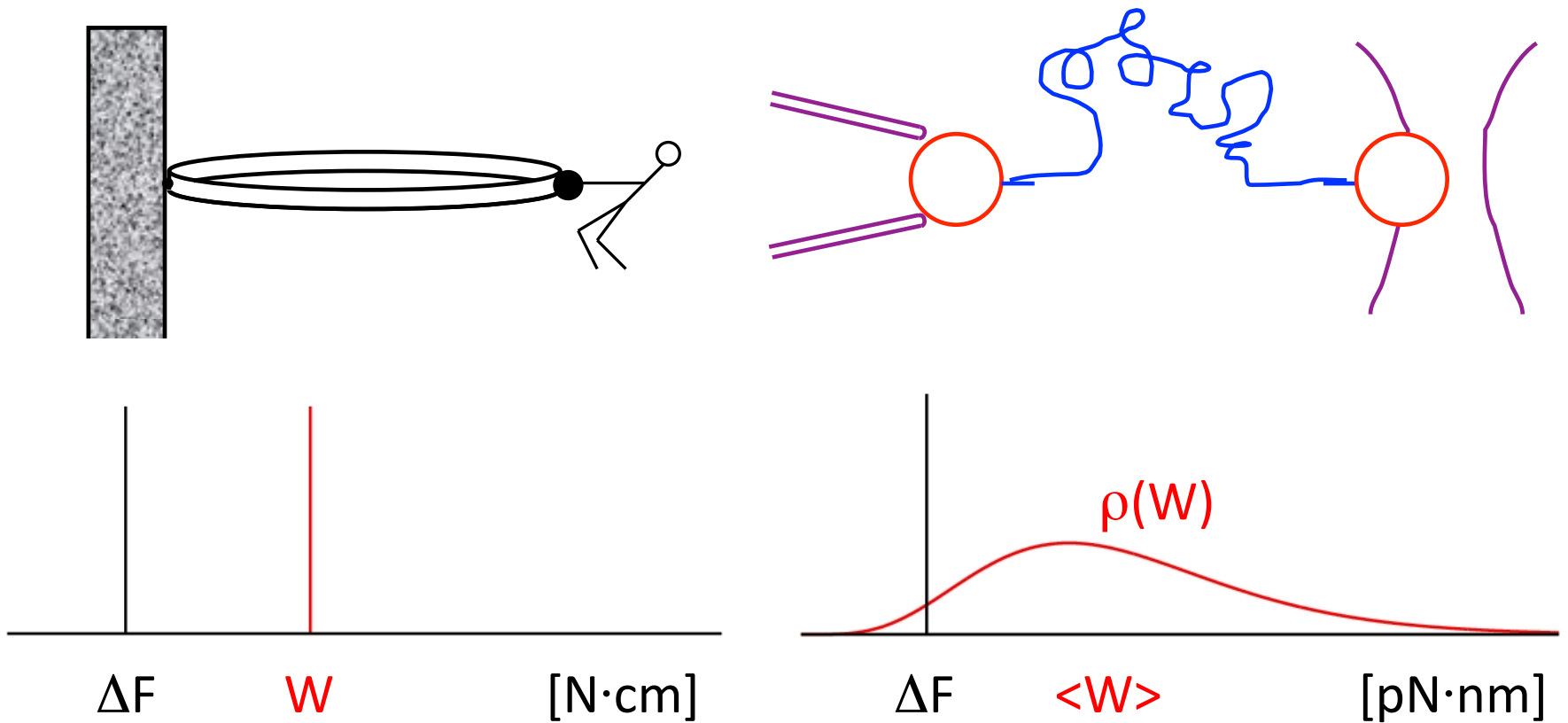
ATP synthase



RCSB Protein
Data Bank

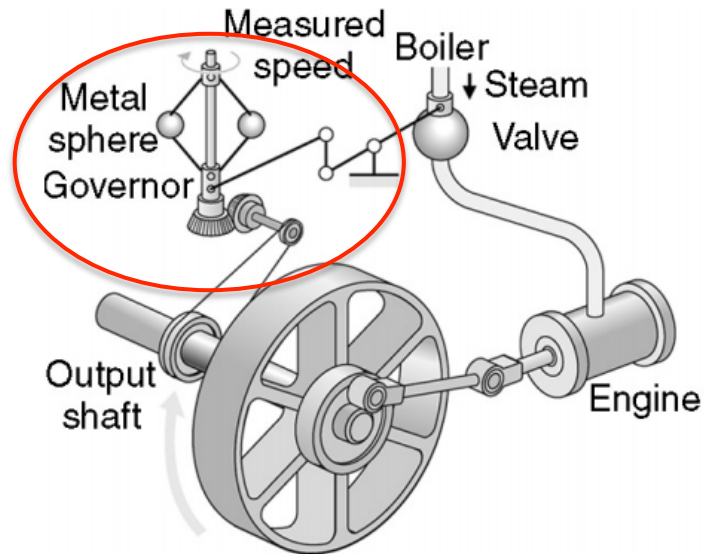
New features of thermodynamics at the nanoscale

- Prominence of fluctuations

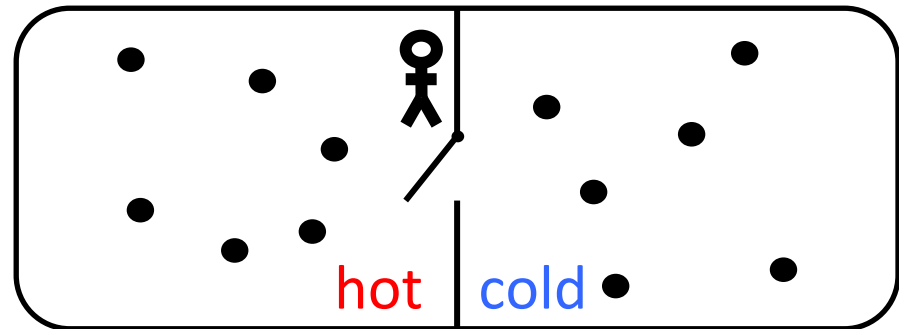


New features of thermodynamics at the nanoscale

- Prominence of fluctuations
- **Implications of feedback control**



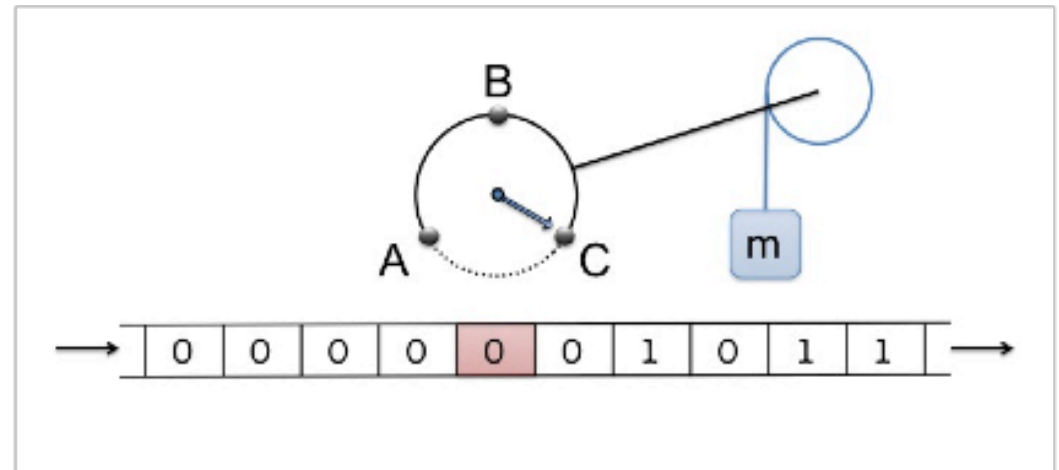
James Watt (1788)



James Maxwell (1867)

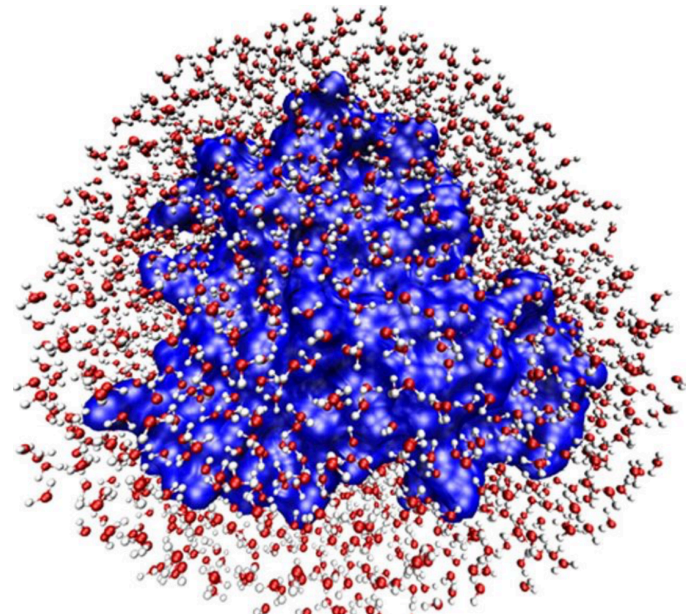
New features of thermodynamics at the nanoscale

- Prominence of fluctuations
- Implications of feedback control
- **Thermodynamics of information processing**

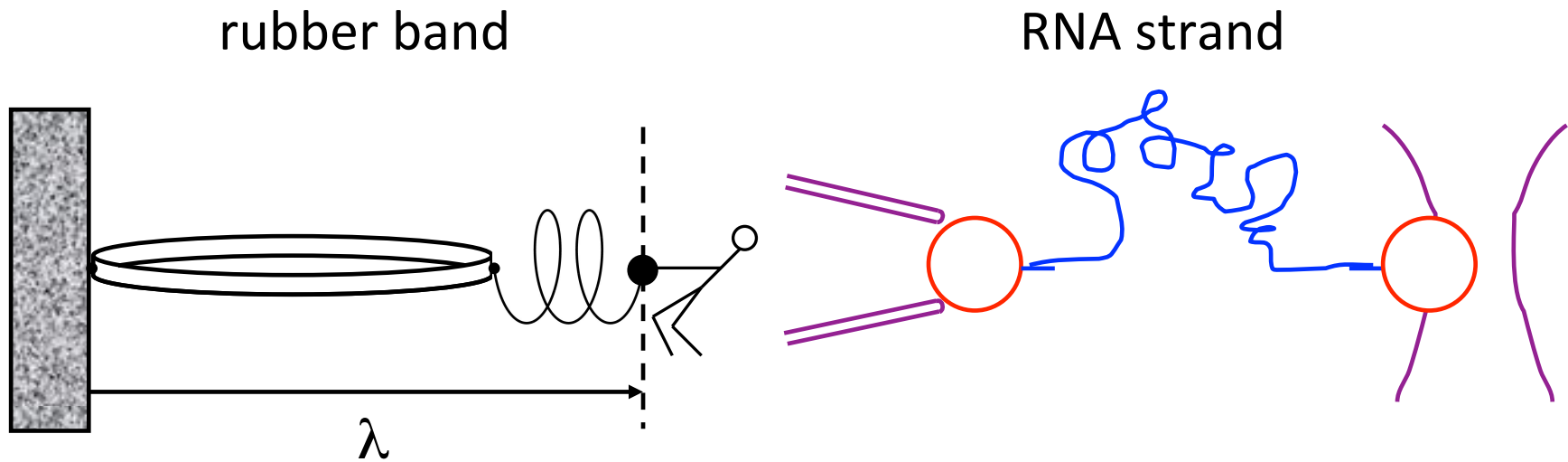


New features of thermodynamics at the nanoscale

- Prominence of fluctuations
- Implications of feedback control
- Thermodynamics of information processing
- **Strong system-environment coupling**



Macro- and nanoscale thermodynamic processes



Irreversible process (rubber band):

1. Begin in equilibrium
2. Stretch the system

$$W = \text{work performed} \geq \Delta F = F_B - F_A$$

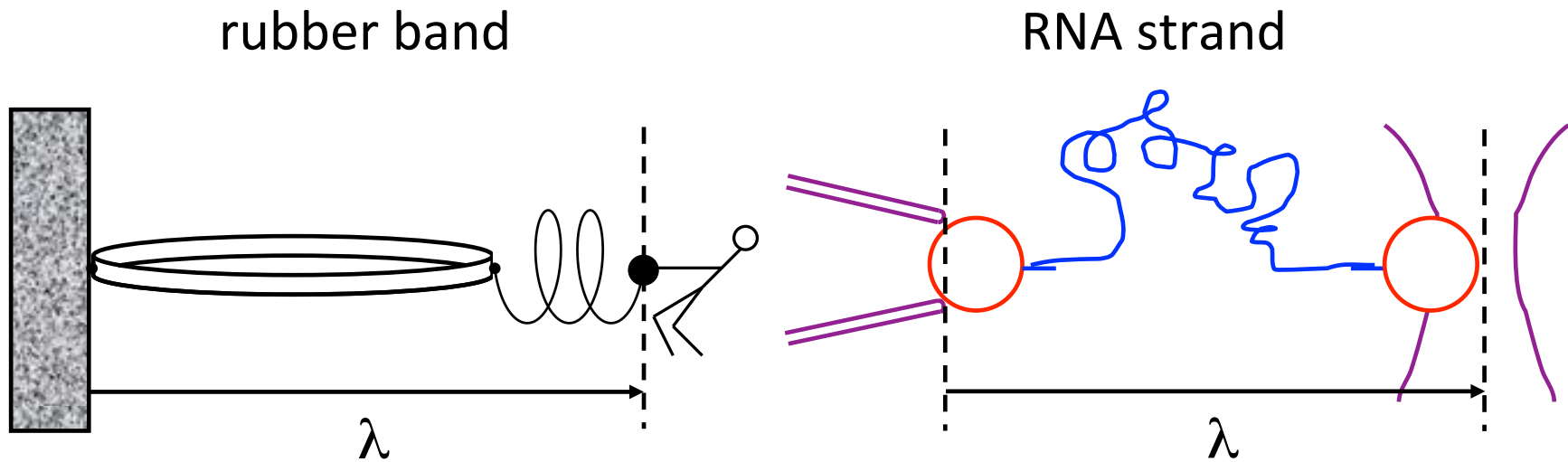
3. End in equilibrium

$$\lambda = A$$

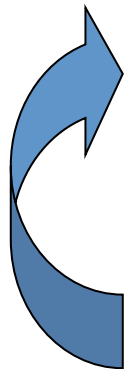
$$\lambda : A \rightarrow B$$

$$\lambda = B$$

Macro- and nanoscale thermodynamic processes



Irreversible process (RNA):



1. Begin in equilibrium

$$\lambda = A$$

2. Stretch the system

$$\lambda : A \rightarrow B$$

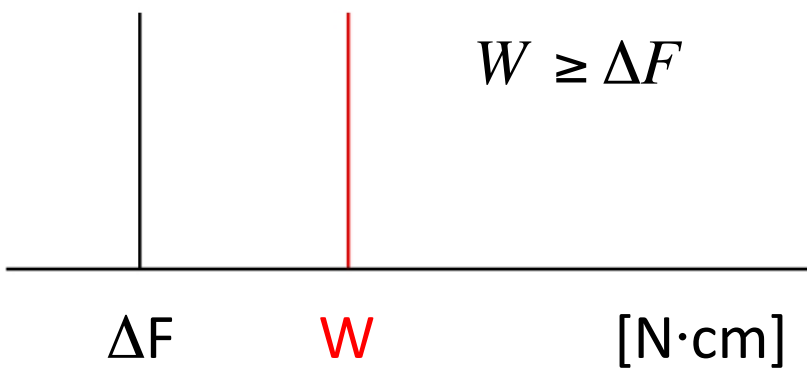
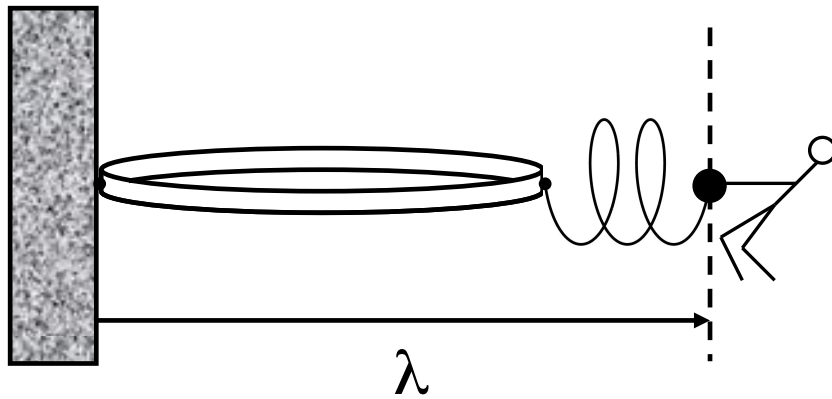
$$\langle W \rangle = \text{average work} \geq \Delta F = F_B - F_A$$

3. End in equilibrium

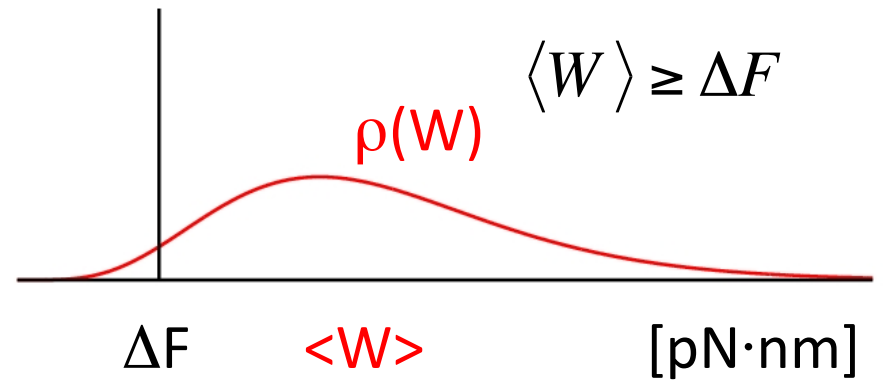
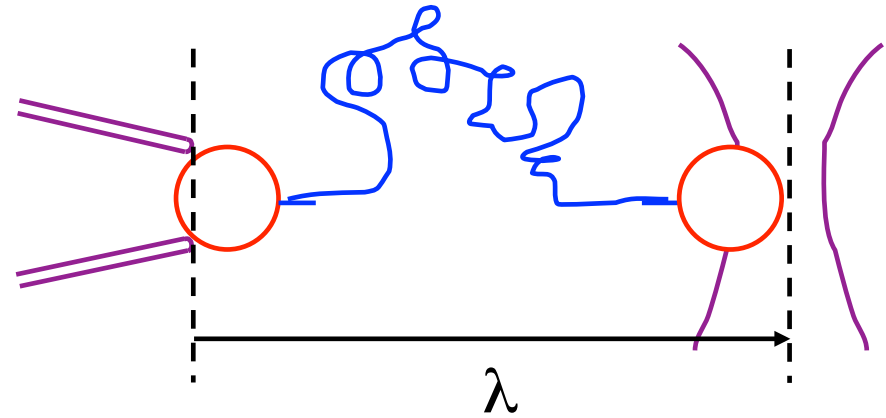
$$\lambda = B$$

Macro- and nanoscale thermodynamic processes

rubber band

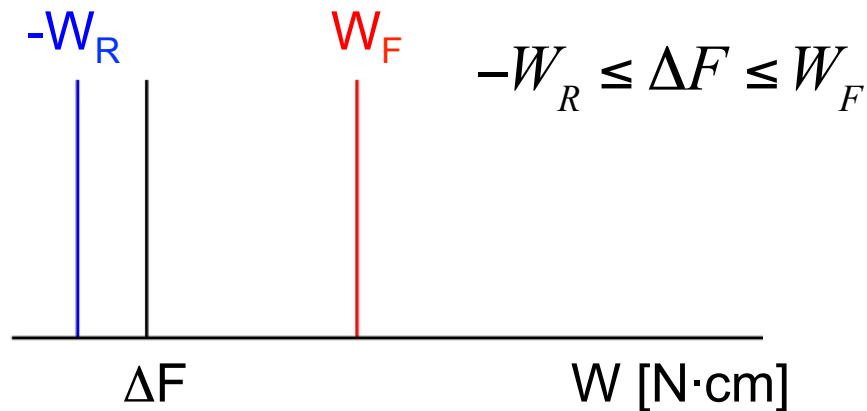
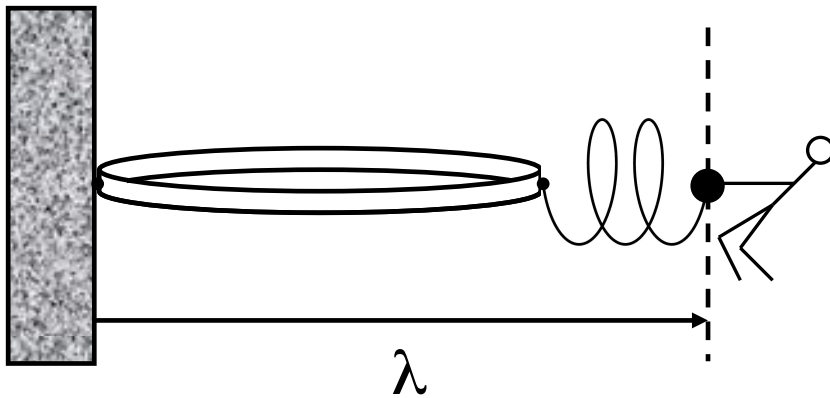


RNA strand

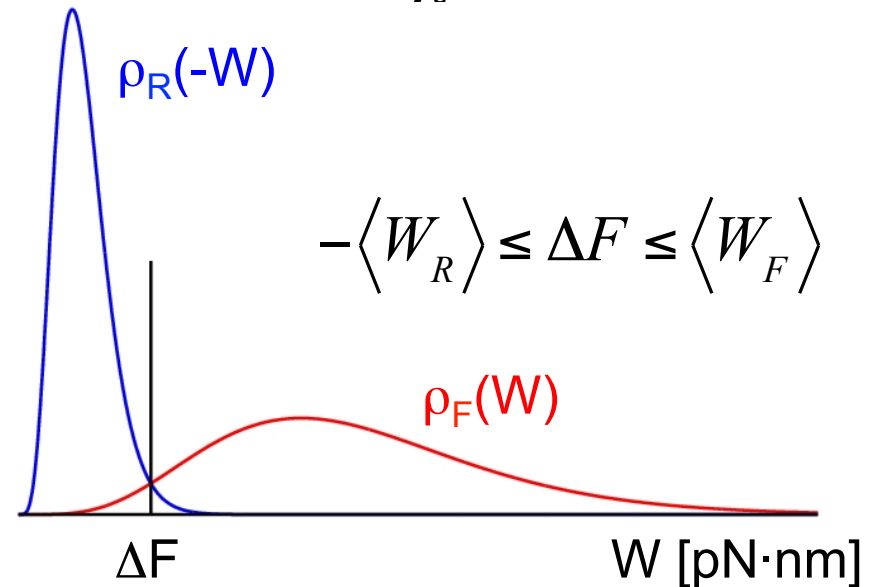
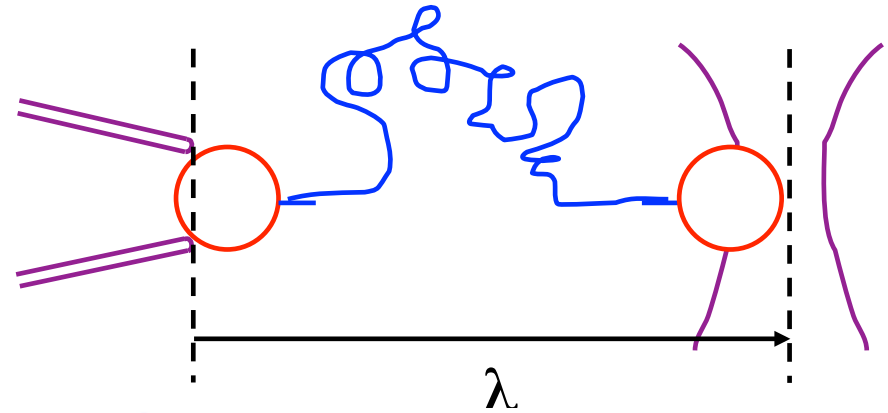


Macro- and nanoscale thermodynamic processes

rubber band



RNA strand



Fluctuations in W satisfy unexpected laws.

Fluctuation theorems / non-equilibrium work relations

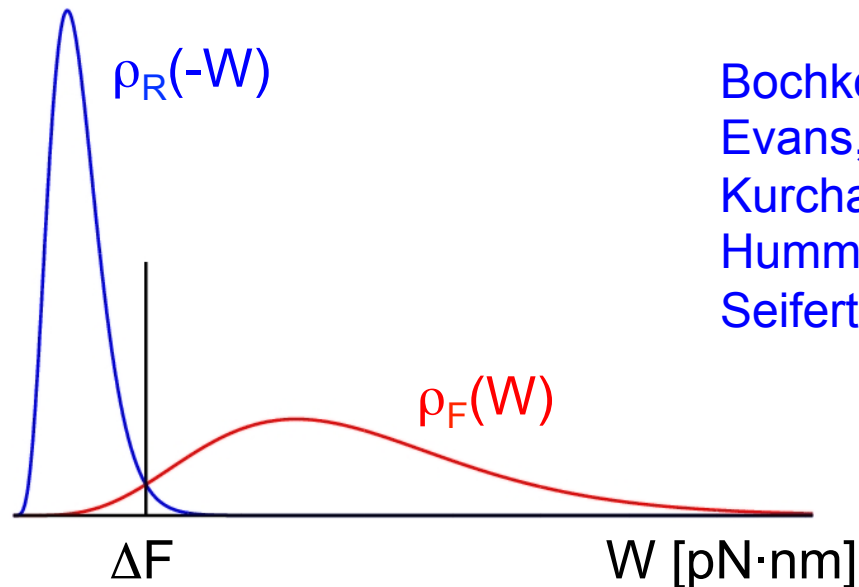
$$\left\langle e^{-\beta W} \right\rangle = e^{-\beta \Delta F}$$

C.J., *PRL* **78**, 2690 (1997)

$$\frac{\rho_F(+W)}{\rho_R(-W)} = \exp[\beta(W - \Delta F)]$$

Crooks, *PRE* **60**, 2721 (1999)

[*J Stat Phys* **90**, 1481 (1998)]



Bochkov & Kuzovlev

Evans, Cohen, Morriss, Searles, Gallavotti

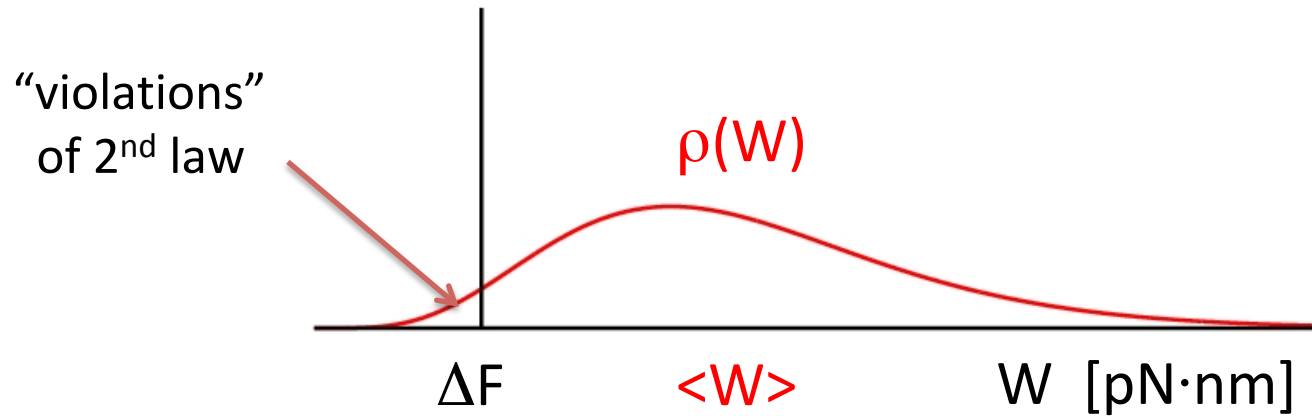
Kurchan, Lebowitz, Spohn

Hummer & Szabo

Seifert ...

Irreversibility in microscopic systems

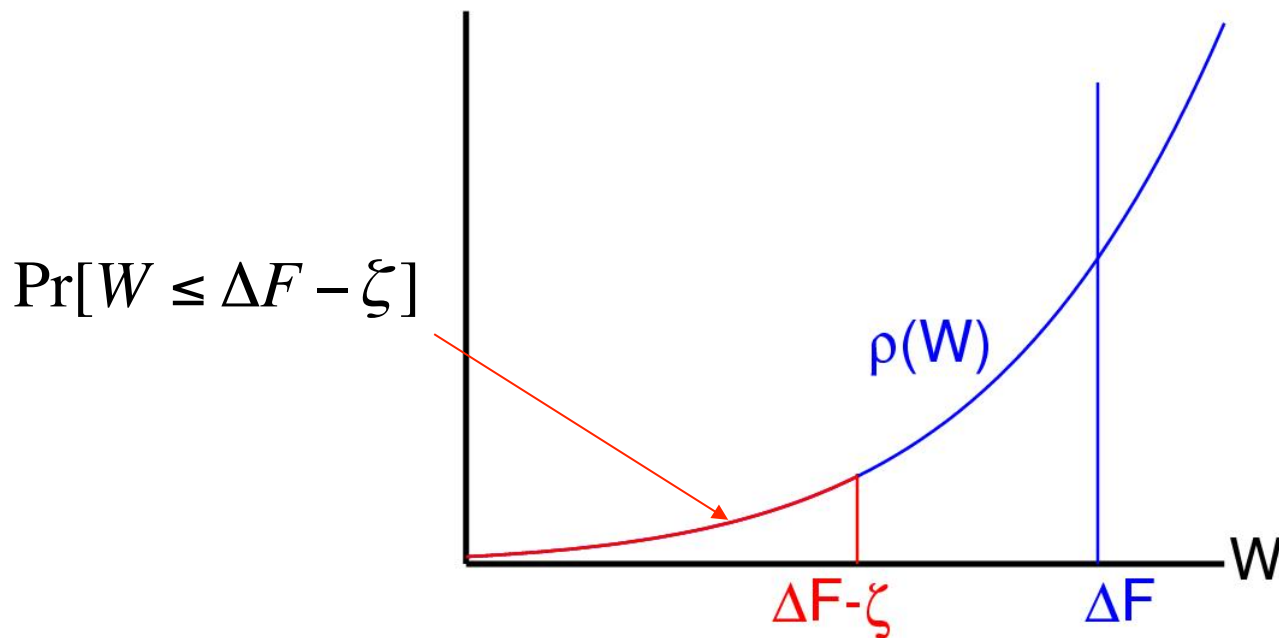
$$\langle e^{-\beta W} \rangle = e^{-\beta \Delta F} \quad \text{implies} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle W \rangle \geq \Delta F \\ \Pr[W \leq \Delta F - \zeta] \leq \exp(-\zeta / k_B T) \end{array} \right.$$



Irreversibility in microscopic systems

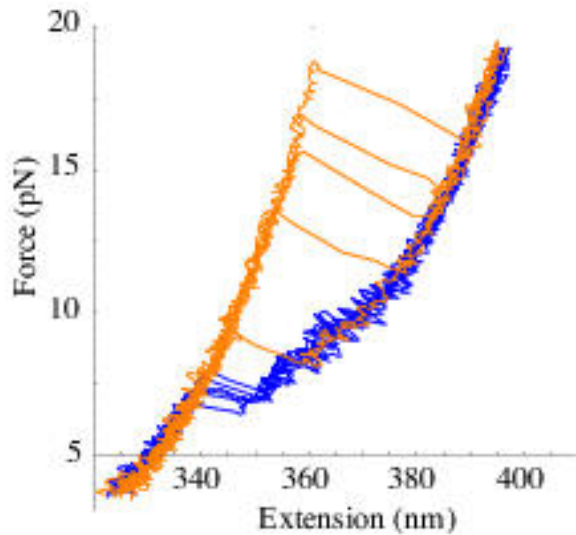
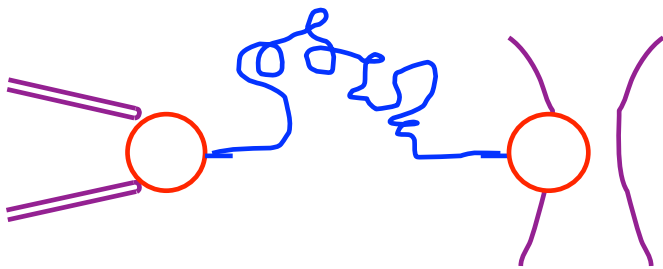
$$\langle e^{-\beta W} \rangle = e^{-\beta \Delta F} \quad \text{implies} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle W \rangle \geq \Delta F \\ \Pr[W \leq \Delta F - \zeta] \leq \exp(-\zeta / k_B T) \end{array} \right.$$

What is the probability that the 2nd law is “violated” by at least ζ ?

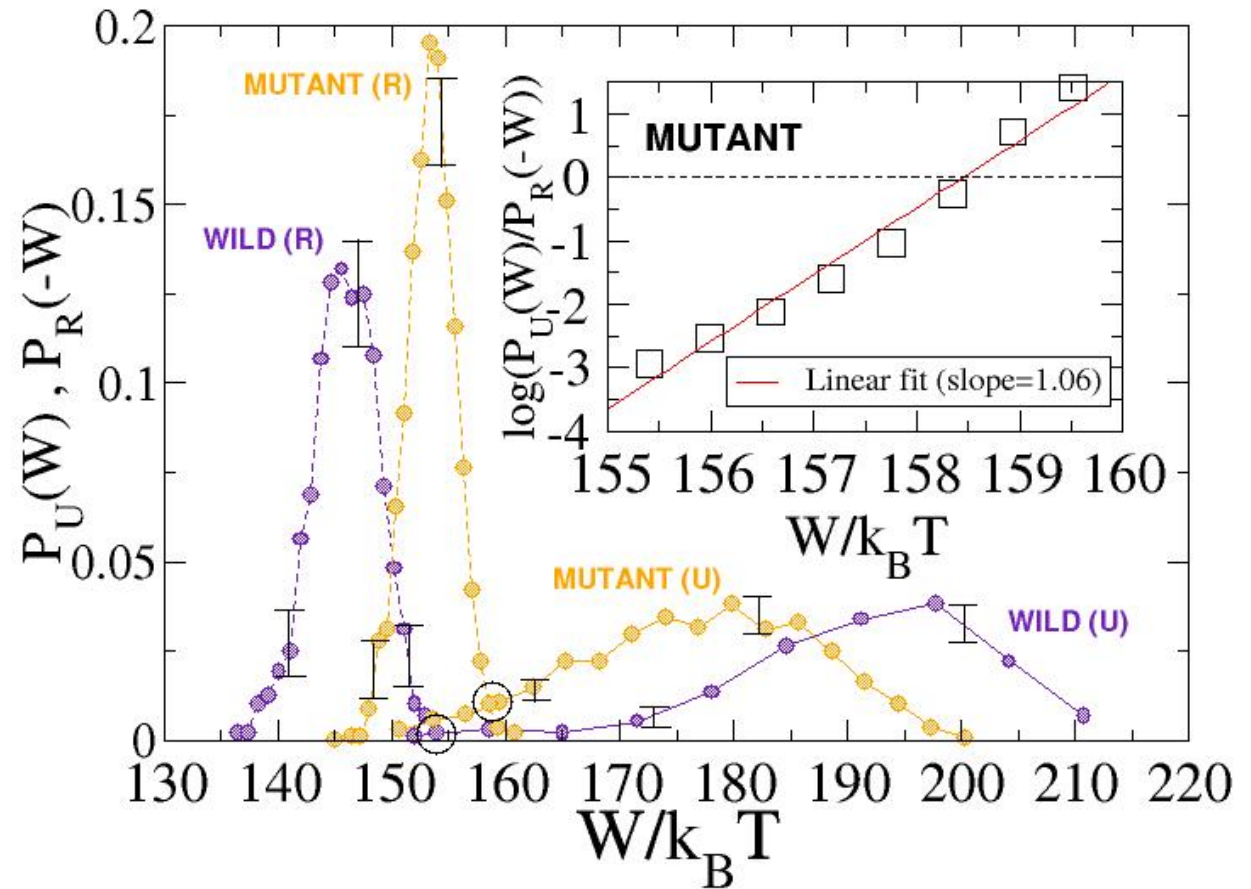


Unfolding & refolding of ribosomal RNA

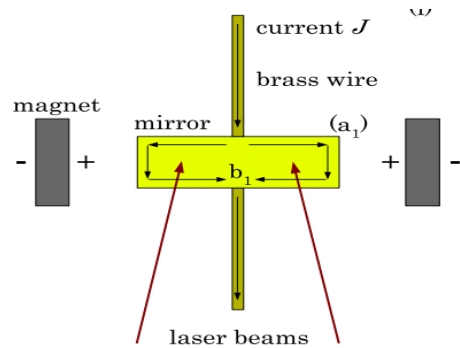
$$\frac{\rho_{unfold}(+W)}{\rho_{refold}(-W)} = \exp[\beta(W - \Delta F)]$$



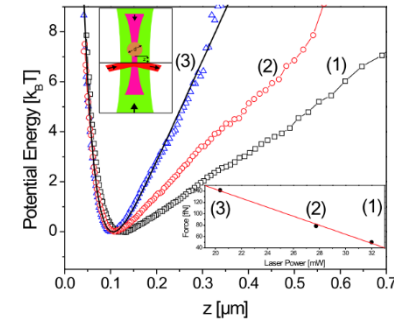
Collin et al, *Nature* **437**, 231 (2005)



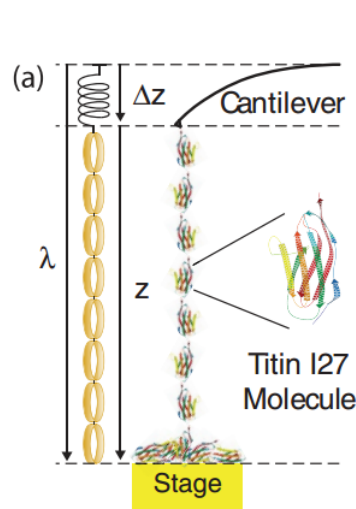
Further experimental verification



Mechanical oscillator
 Douarche *et al*, *EPL* **70**, 593 (2005)



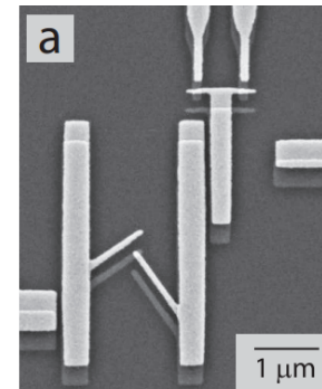
Trapped colloidal particle
 Blicke *et al*, *PRL* **96**, 070603 (2006)



$$\langle e^{-\beta W} \rangle = e^{-\beta \Delta F}$$

$$\frac{\rho_{unfold}(+W)}{\rho_{refold}(-W)} = \exp[\beta(W - \Delta F)]$$

Protein unfolding
 Harris, Song and Kiang,
PRL **99**, 068101 (2007)



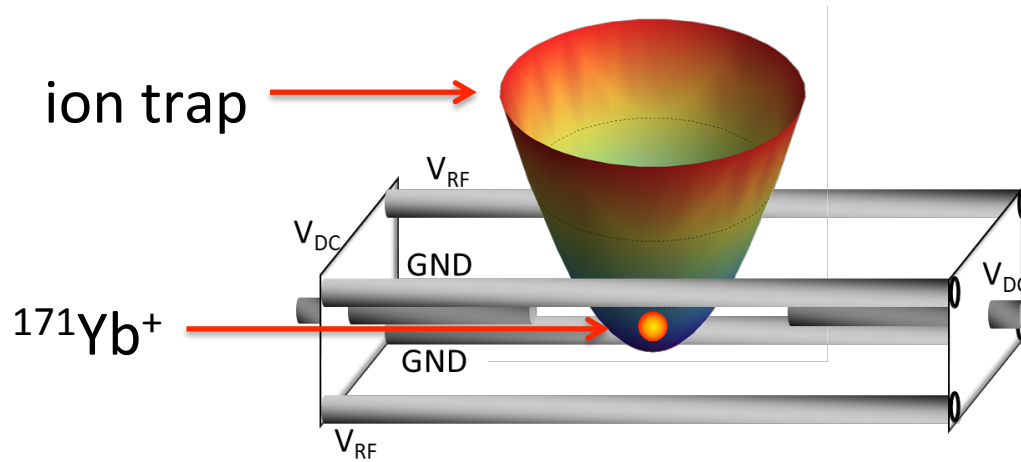
Single electron box
 Saira *et al*, *PRL* **109**, 180601 (2012)

& others ...

Quantum nonequilibrium work relation $\langle e^{-\beta W} \rangle = e^{-\beta \Delta F}$

Mukamel, *PRL* **90**, 170604 (2003)

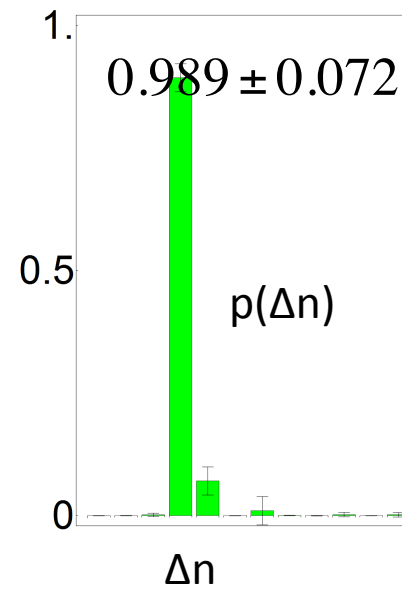
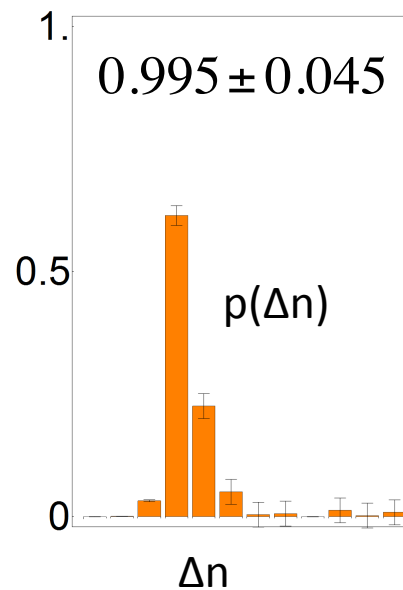
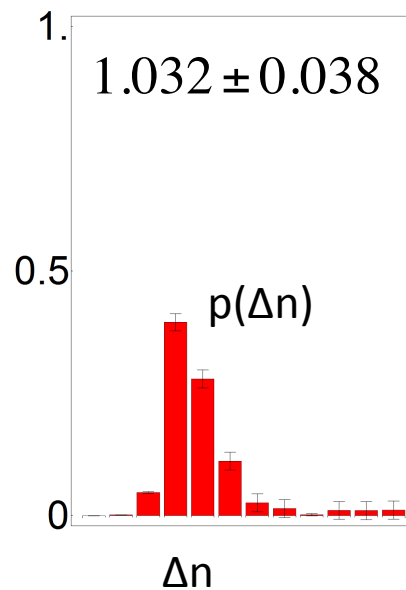
Kurchan, cond-mat/0007360 ; Tasaki, cond-mat/0009244



$$E_n = \hbar\omega \left(n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$W = \hbar\omega (n_f - n_i) = \hbar\omega \Delta n$$

An et al,
Nat. Phys. **11**, 193 (2015)



$$\Delta F = 0$$

$$\langle e^{-\beta W} \rangle \stackrel{?}{=} e^{-\beta \Delta F} = 1$$

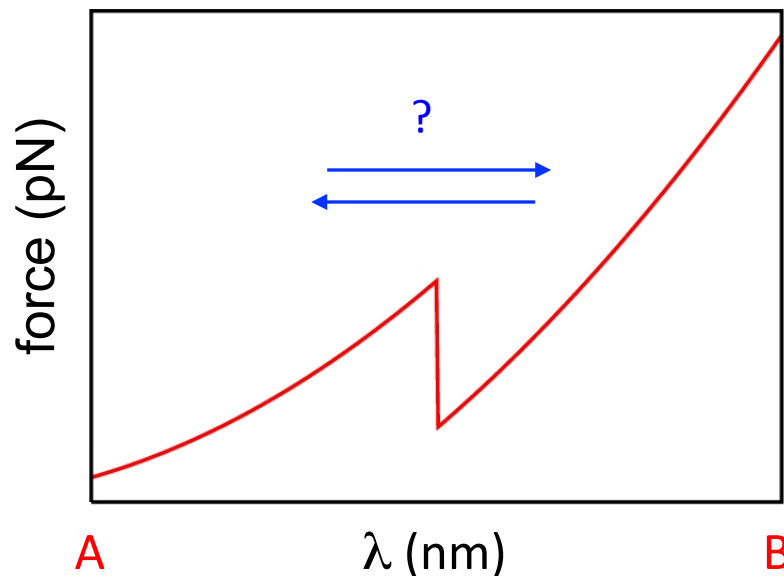
Guessing the direction of the arrow of time

C.J., *Annu Rev Cond Matt Phys* **2**, 329 (2011)

You are shown a movie depicting a thermodynamic process, $A \rightarrow B$.

Task: determine whether you are viewing the events in the order in which they actually occurred, or a movie run backward of the reverse process.

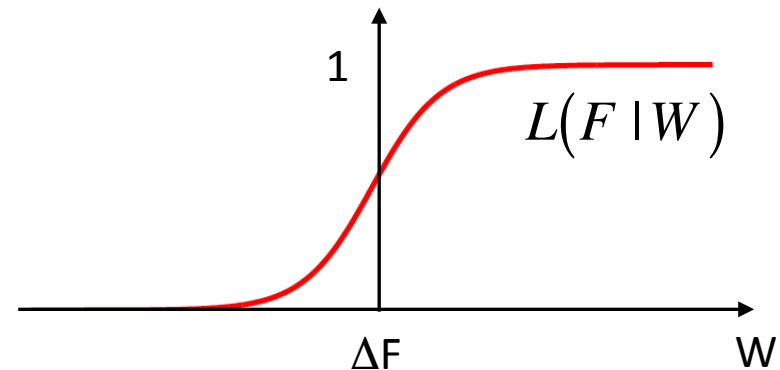
e.g.



Two hypotheses:

- The molecule was stretched (F)
- The molecule was contracted (R)

$$L(F | W) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[-\beta(W - \Delta F)]}$$



Shirts *et al*, *PRL* **91**, 140601 (2003),
Maragakis *et al*, *JCP* **129**, 024102 (2008)

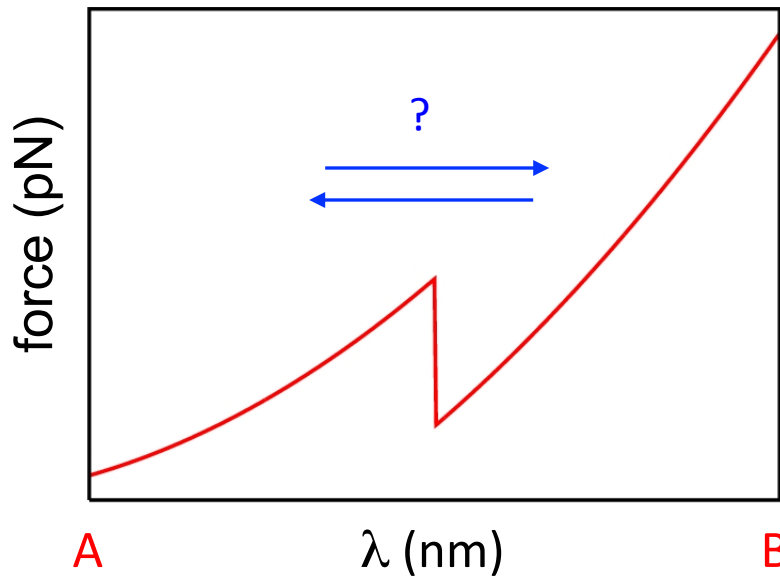
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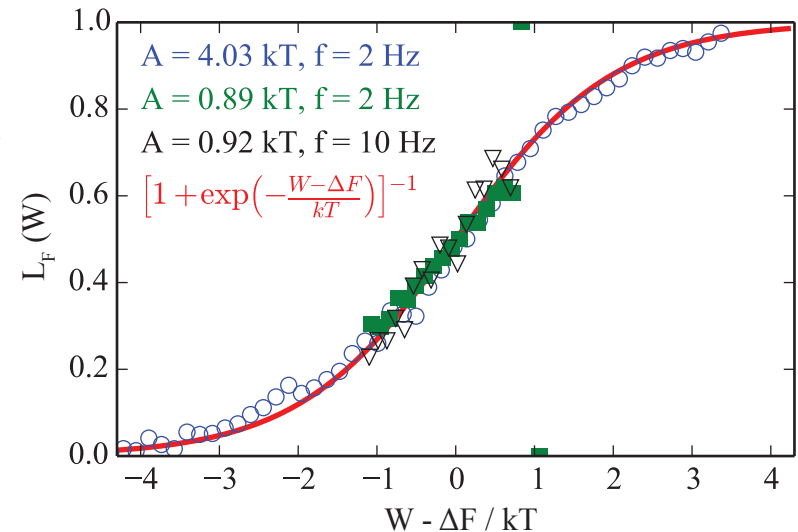
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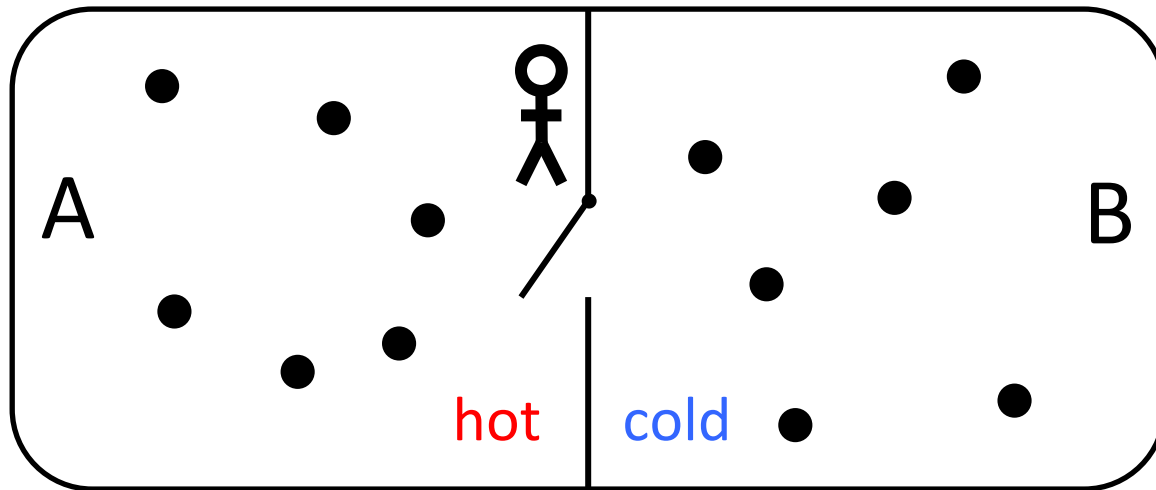
Hofmann *et al*, *Phys Status Solidi* **254**, 1600546 (2017)

$$L(F | W) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[-\beta(W - \Delta F)]}$$

Shirts *et al*, *PRL* **91**, 140601 (2003),
Maragakis *et al*, *JCP* **129**, 024102 (2008)



Nanoscale feedback control: Maxwell's demon

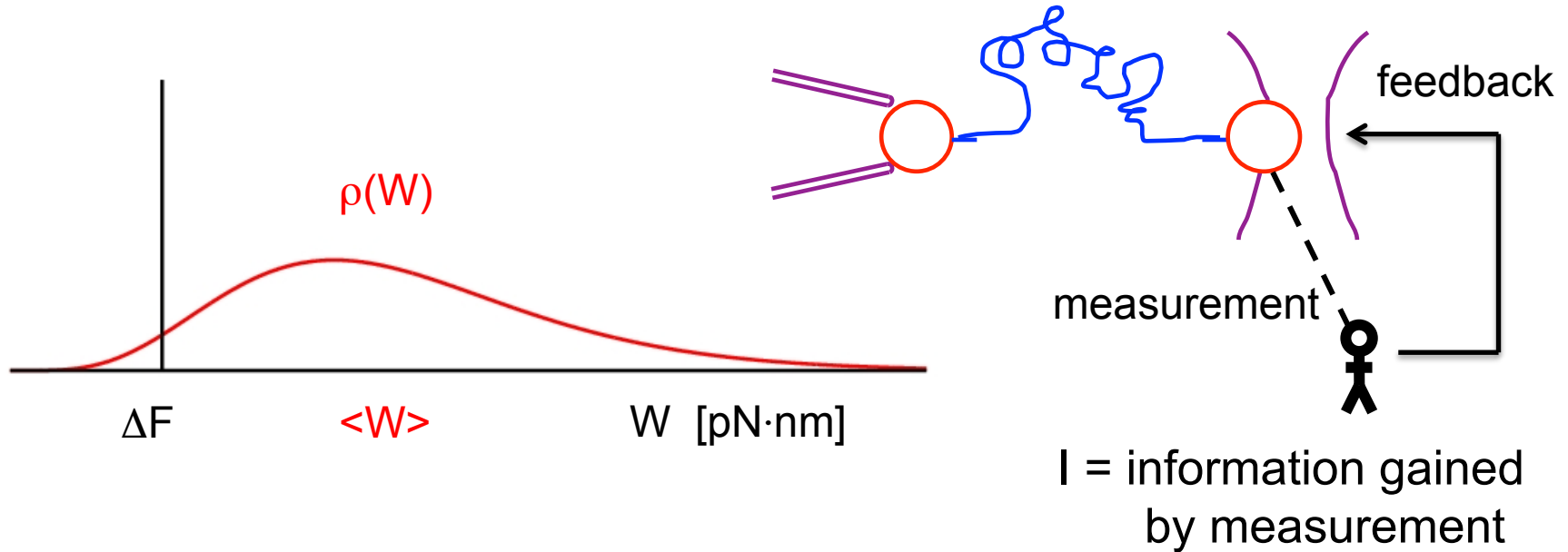


“... the energy in A is increased and that in B diminished; that is, the hot system has got hotter and the cold colder and yet no work has been done, only the intelligence of a very observant and neat-fingered being has been employed”

J.C. Maxwell, letter to P.G. Tait, Dec. 11, 1867

Second Law of Thermodynamics

... with measurement and feedback



$$\langle W \rangle \geq \Delta F - k_B T \langle I \rangle$$

Sagawa & Ueda, *PRL* **100**, 080403 (2008)

$$\langle e^{-\beta W - I} \rangle = e^{-\beta \Delta F}$$

Sagawa & Ueda, *PRL* **104**, 090602 (2010)

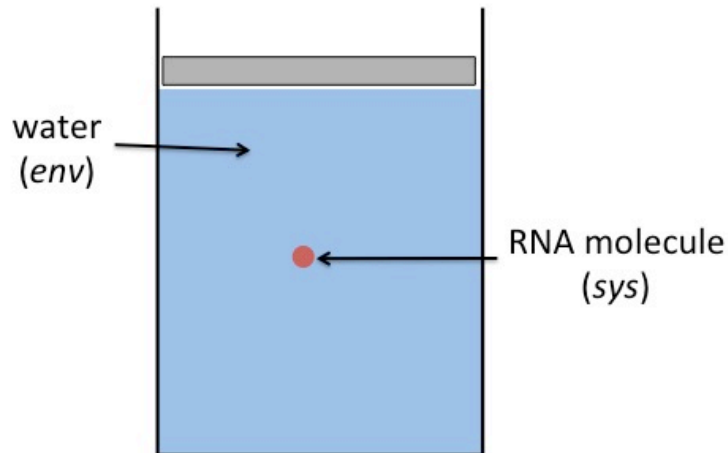
experiment:

Toyabe *et al*, *Nature Phys* **6**, 988 (2010)

Strong system-environment coupling

$$W \geq \Delta F \quad \left\langle e^{-\beta W} \right\rangle = e^{-\beta \Delta F} \quad \frac{\rho_F(+W)}{\rho_R(-W)} = \exp[\beta(W - \Delta F)]$$

- ΔF (Helmholtz) or ΔG (Gibbs) ? macro: $G = F + PV$
- How to define the volume of a single molecule ?
- How to define heat ? first law: $\Delta U = W - P\Delta V + Q$



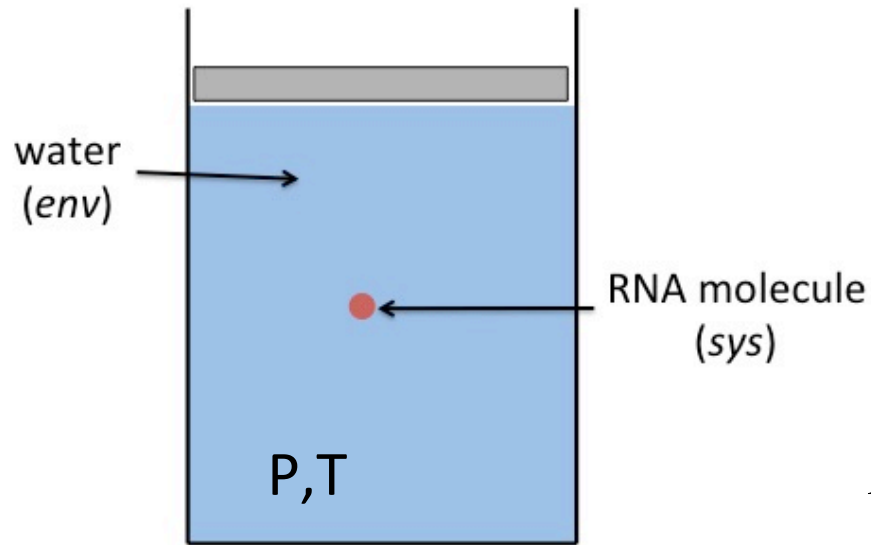
Total energy of sys + env:

$$U_{S+E} = U_{sys} + U_{env} + U_{int}$$

non-negligible!

Strong system-environment coupling

C.J., *PRX* 7, 011008 (2017)

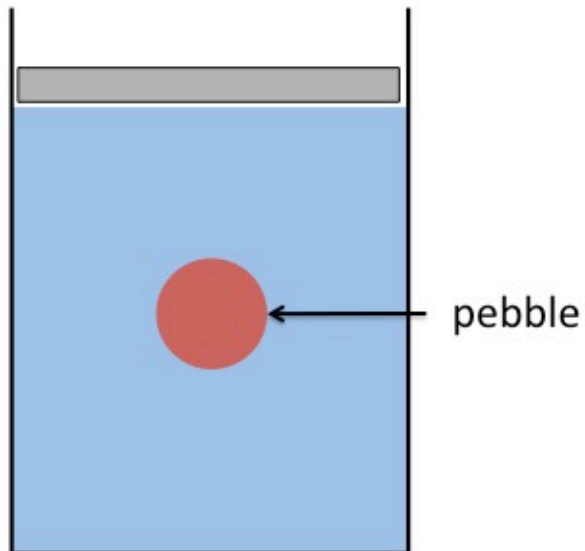


$$U_{S+E} = U_{sys} + U_{env} + U_{int}$$

$\phi(q; P, T)$ = solvation potential
of mean force

↑
microscopic configuration of molecule

$$p^{eq}(sys) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp[-\beta(U_{sys} + \phi)]$$



$\phi(q; P, T)$ = reversible work required
to insert pebble into water

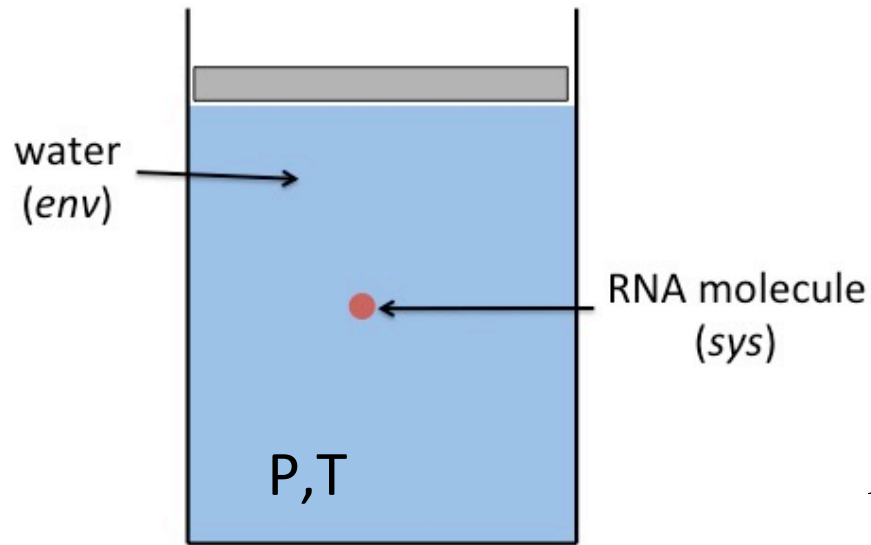
$$= P \times V_{pebble}$$

$$V_{pebble} = \phi / P$$

“thermodynamic
volume”

Strong system-environment coupling

C.J., *PRX* 7, 011008 (2017)



$$U_{S+E} = U_{sys} + U_{env} + U_{int}$$

$\phi(q; P, T)$ = solvation potential
of mean force

↑
microscopic configuration of molecule

$$p^{eq}(sys) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp[-\beta(U_{sys} + \phi)]$$
$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{Z} \exp[-\beta(U_{sys} + Pv)]$$

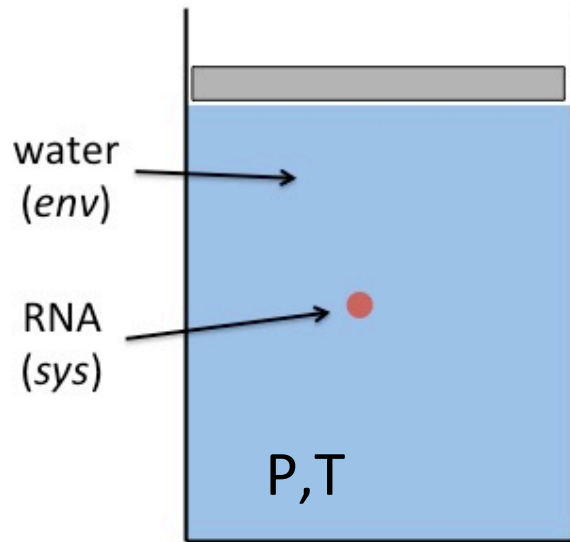
define volume of system: $v(q; P, T) \equiv \phi / P$

Strong system-environment coupling

C.J., *PRX* **7**, 011008 (2017)

Seifert, *PRL* **116**, 020601 (2016)

Strasberg & Esposito, *PRE* **95**, 062101 (2017)



$$v \equiv \phi / P$$

... leads to natural microscopic definitions of *internal energy, enthalpy, entropy, Helmholtz & Gibbs free energies, heat and work*

First law: $\Delta U_{sys} = Q + W - P\Delta v$

Second law: $\langle e^{-\beta W} \rangle = e^{-\beta \Delta G}$, $\frac{\rho_F(+W)}{\rho_R(-W)} = \exp[\beta(W - \Delta G)]$

$$\langle W \rangle \geq \Delta G \quad , \quad \left\langle \int_A^B \frac{dQ}{T} \right\rangle \leq \Delta S$$