



Single molecular motors

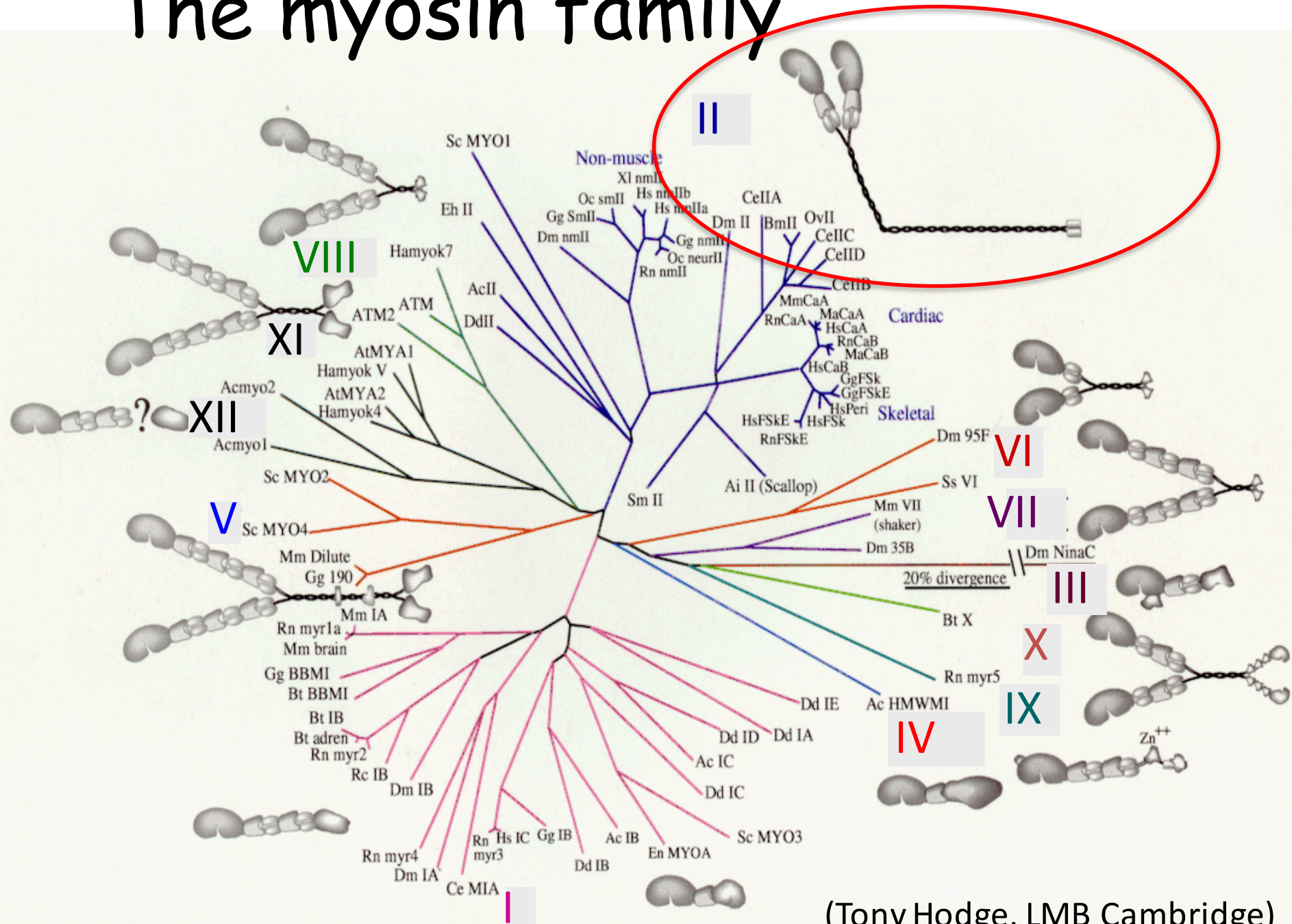
Claudia Veigel

Lehrstuhl für Zelluläre Physiologie, Centre for Nano-
Sciences CeNS, LMU München

Many types of cellular motility are driven by cytoskeletal stepping motor proteins

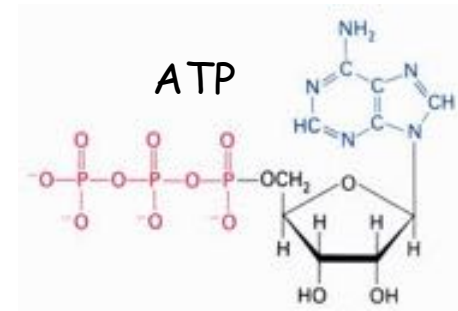
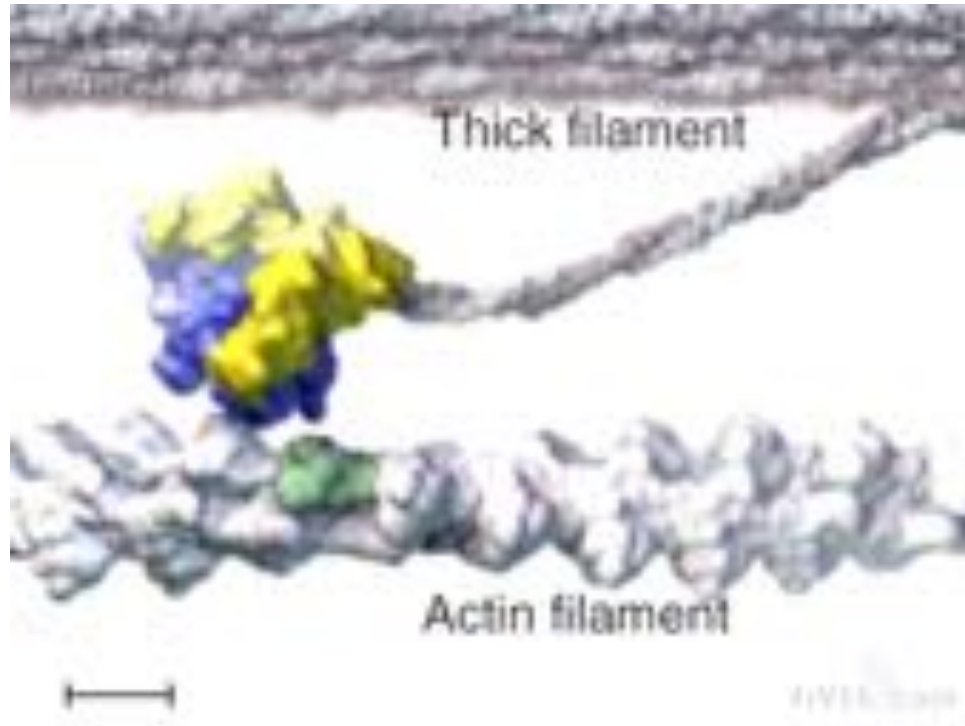
- Cell locomotion
- Cell division
- Intracellular transport processes and membrane trafficking
- Endo-and exocytosis
-

The myosin family



(Tony Hodge, LMB Cambridge)

Myosin motors: current model



- Movement and conformational changes are driven by thermal motion
- Thermal energy (kT) at room temp $\sim 4 \times 10^{-21} \text{ J} = 4 \text{ pNnm}$
- 1 ATP molecule $\rightarrow \text{ADP} + \text{Pi}$; $\Delta G \sim 10^{-19} \text{ J} = 100 \text{ pNnm}$

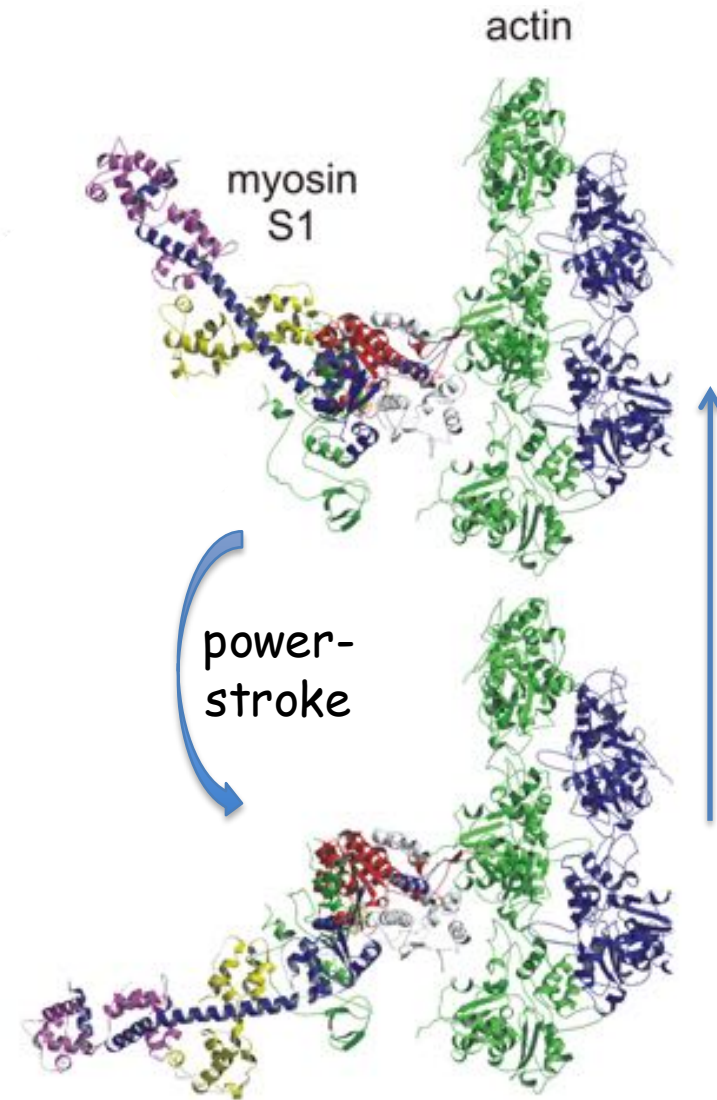
Single molecule studies of myosins: **Aims**

1. Basic mechanisms of chemo-mechanical energy transduction

- correlate structural, biochemical and mechanical states
- role of various parts of structure for the production of force and movement
- mechanics under load

2. Properties of ensembles of motors in the cellular context, regulation

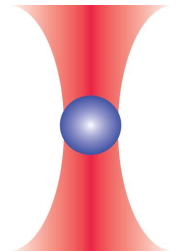
- Monomers / dimers / oligomers
- Targeting
- Activation / inactivation



(Geeves and Holmes, Annual Reviews)

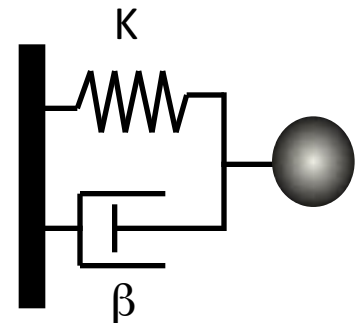
Optical tweezers:

- Mechanical energy differences on the order of thermal energy, i.e. **4 pN.nm**, can be measured: e.g. $\sim 1/25$ of energy of a single ATP molecule
- Resolution limited not by detection electronics but by thermal motion.
- The transducer is usually a $1\mu\text{m}$ diameter plastic bead
 - damping constant $\beta = 6\pi\eta r = 10^{-8} \text{ Nsm}^{-1}$
 - Stiffness $\kappa \leq 0.1 \text{ pNnm}^{-1}$
 - Movement of bead in trap: equipartition principle
$$\frac{1}{2} kT = \frac{1}{2} \kappa \langle x^2 \rangle$$

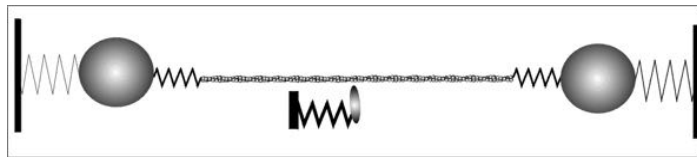
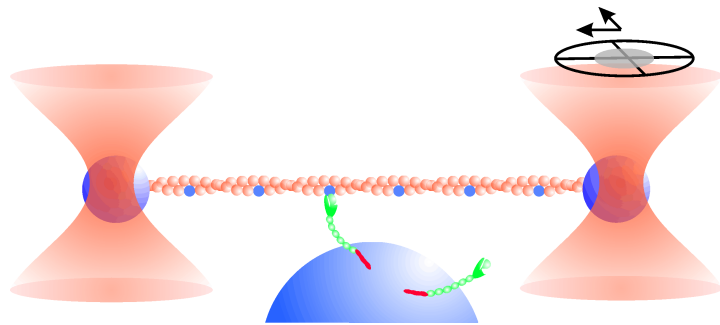


Therefore:

- **Positional noise is 6 nm** (r.m.s. $x = (kT/\kappa)^{0.5}$),
- **Force noise is 0.6 pN** ($= (kT\kappa)^{0.5}$) and
- **Bandwidth is 1.5 kHz** ($f_c = \kappa/2\pi\beta$) (Lorentzian).

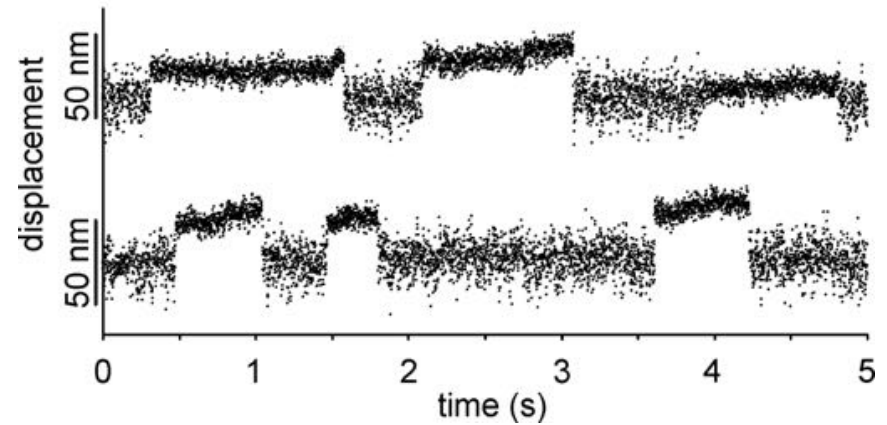


'Three-Bead-Assay' to study myosin motors



$$\frac{1}{2} kT = \frac{1}{2} K \langle x^2 \rangle$$

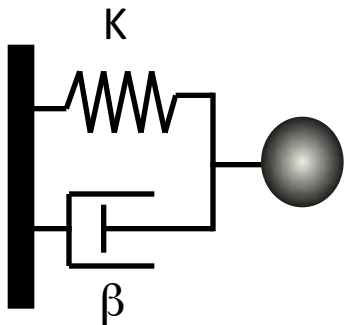
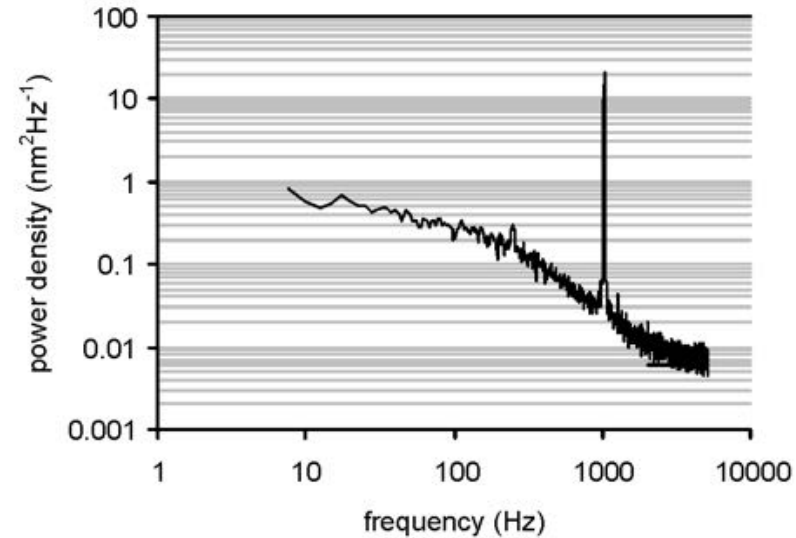
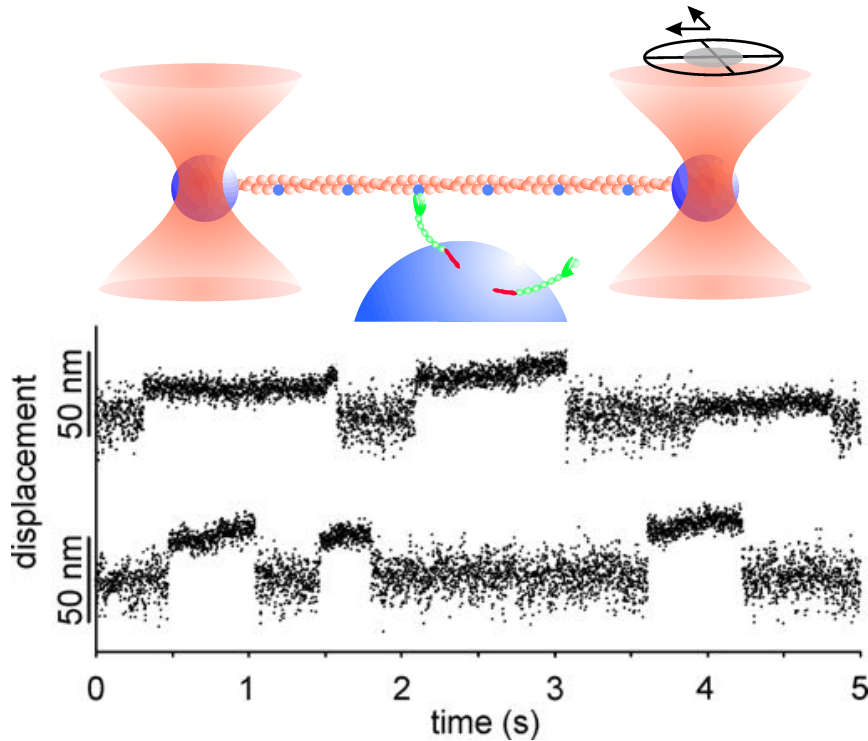
'Three-Bead - Assay':
Finer *et al.* (1994) Nature



Identification of myosin
binding events from the
change in thermal noise

Data analysis:
Molloy *et al.* (1995) Nature

'Three-Bead-Assay' to study myosin motors



$$1/2 kT = 1/2 K \langle x^2 \rangle$$

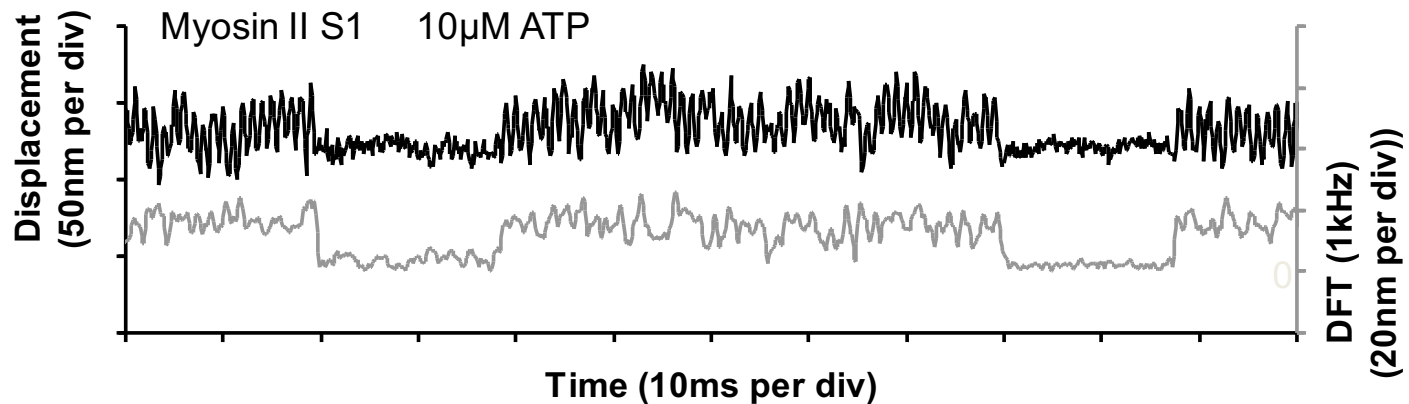
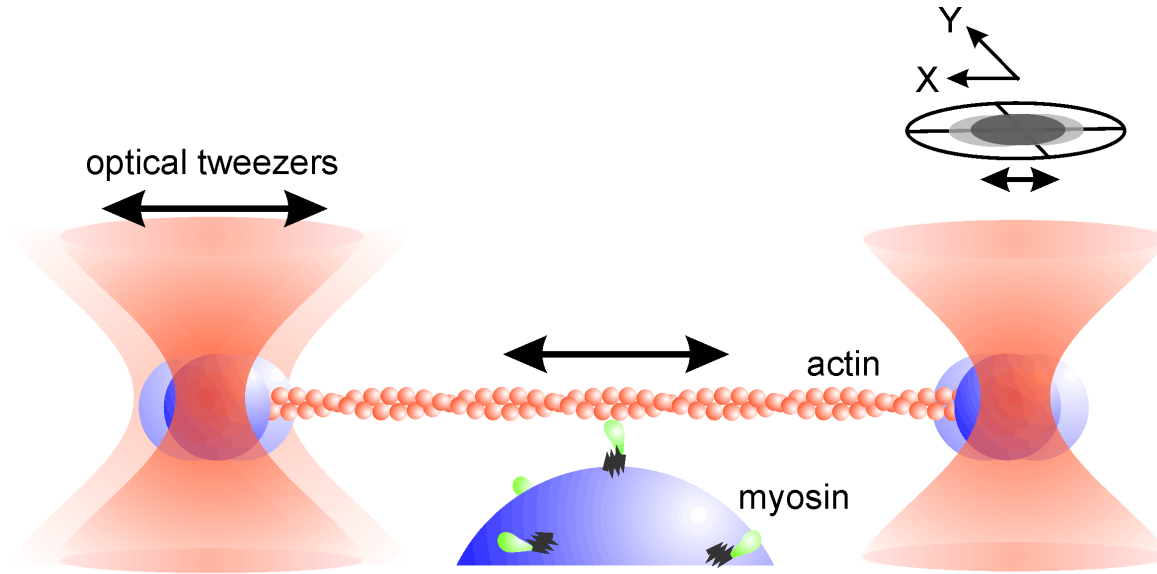
$$f_c = \kappa / 2\pi\beta$$

time resolution

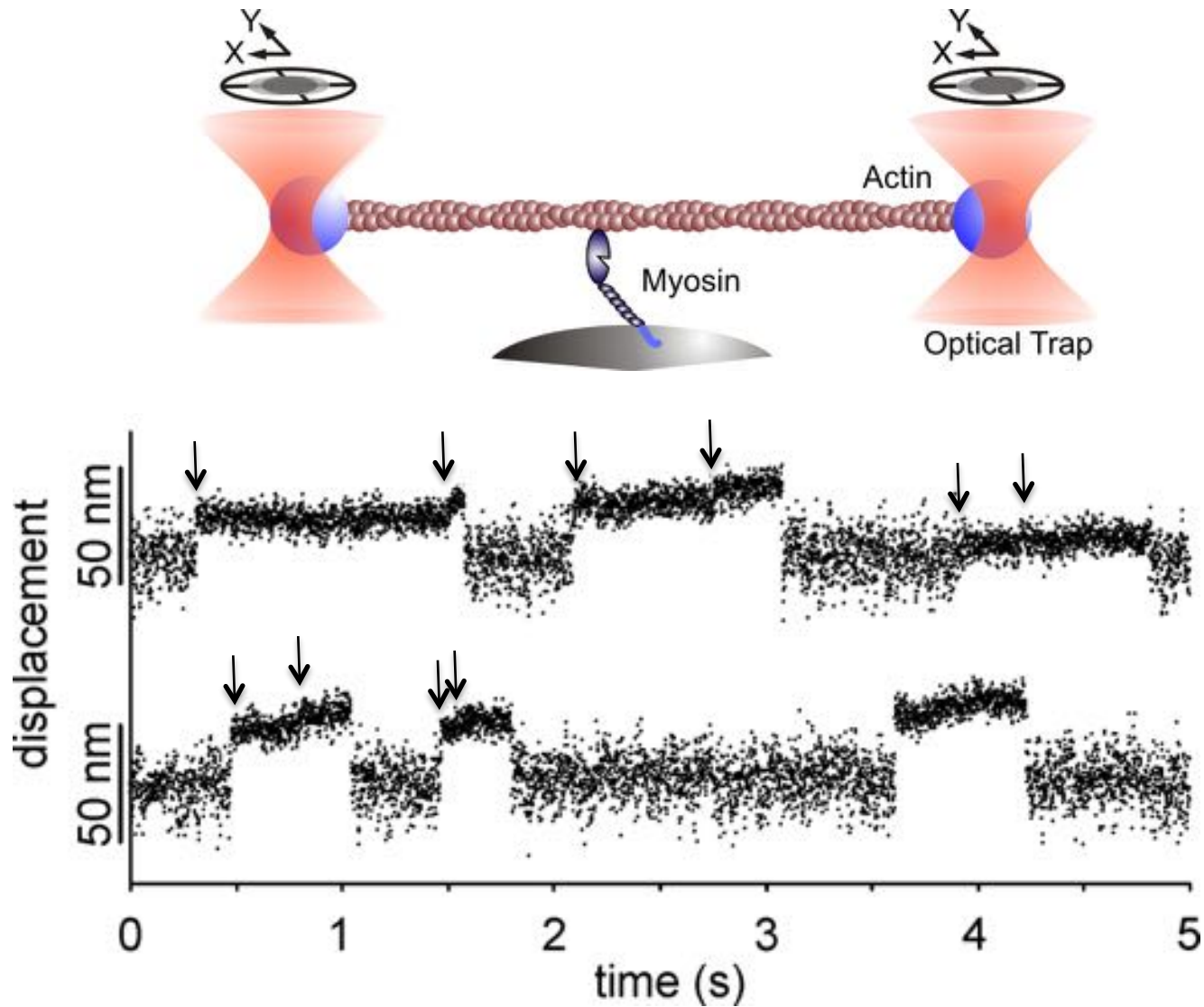
Methods to improve time resolution with different advantages and disadvantages:

Veigel and Schmidt (Nat Rev Mol Cell Biol)

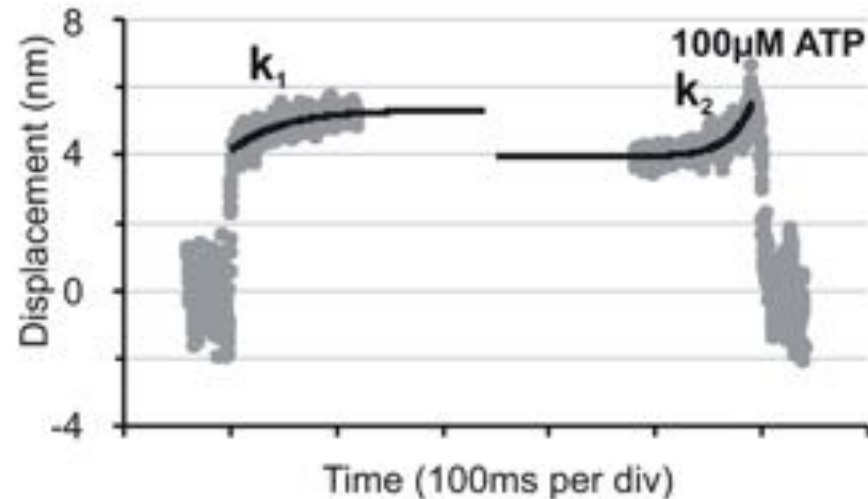
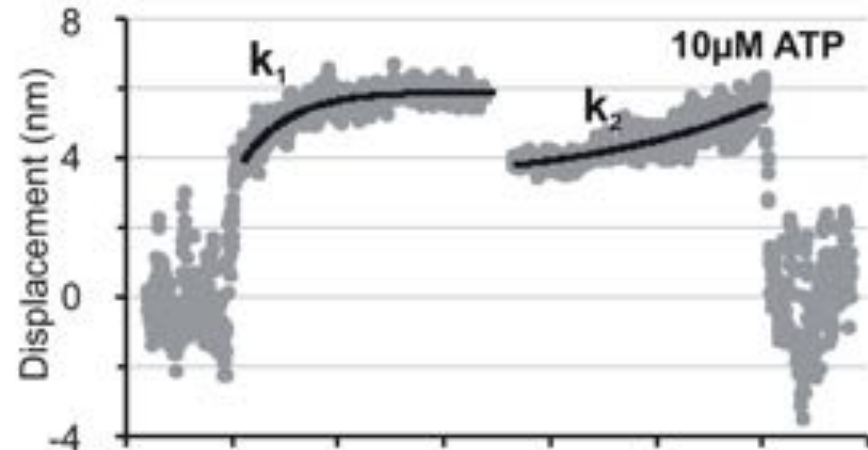
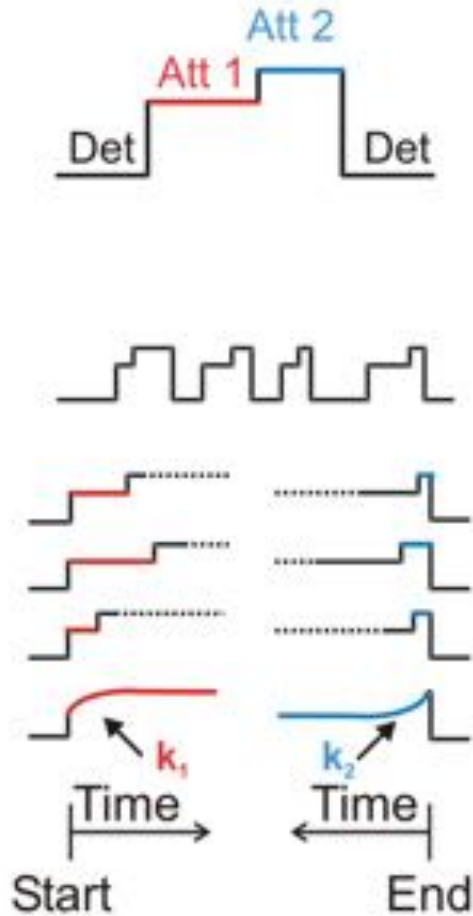
Using kHz carrier signals to achieve sub-millisecond time resolution



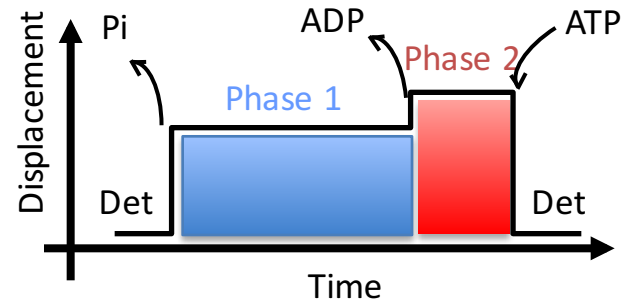
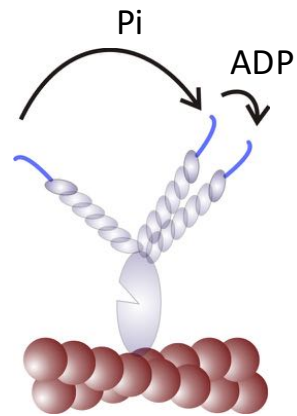
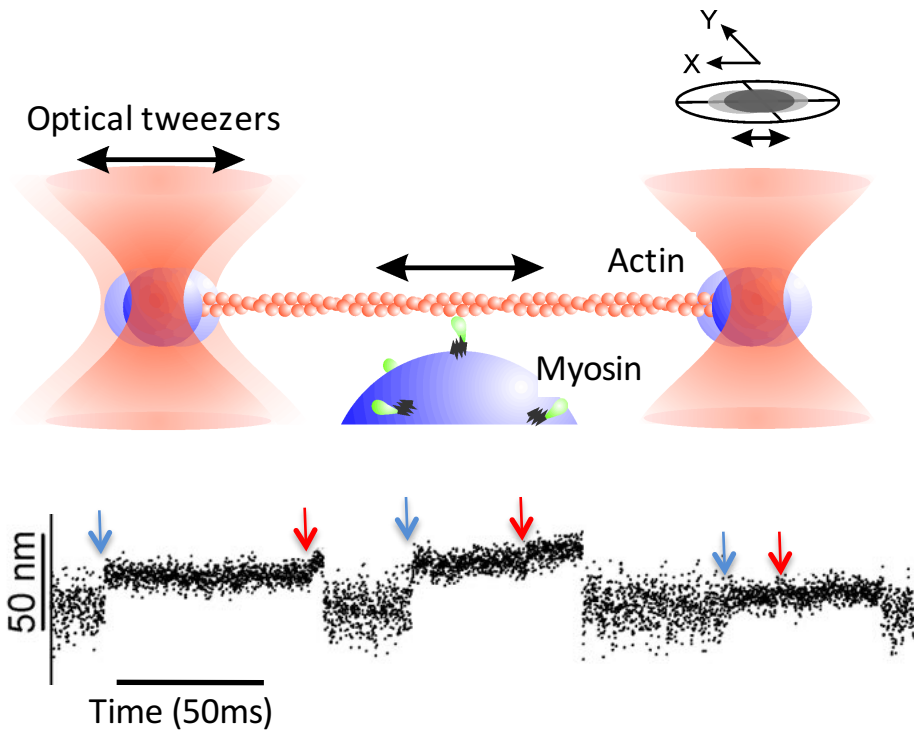
Myosin working stroke produced in two phases



Myosin working stroke is produced in two phases



The basic mechanics of single myosins

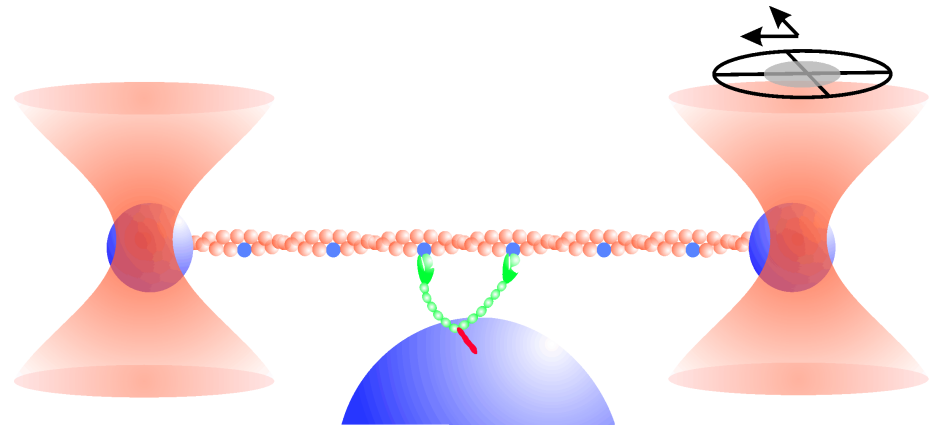
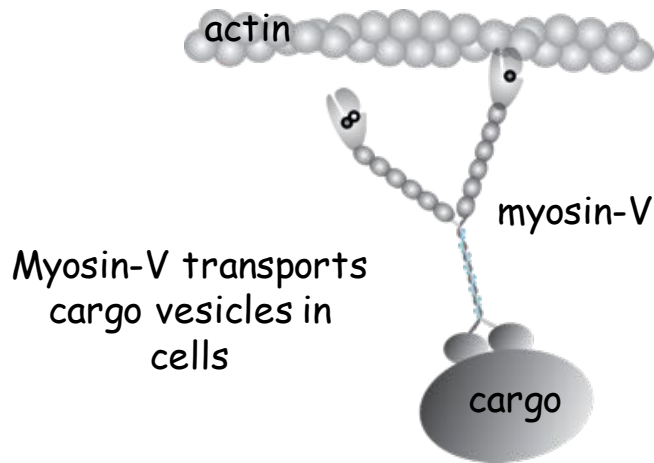


Mechanism 1:

- working stroke in 2 phases
- w/s proportional to lever arm length

Myosin **I**: Veigel *et al.* (1999) *Nature*; Laakso *et al.* (2008) *Science*,
Myosin **II**: Veigel *et al.* (2003) *Nat Cell Biol.*; Capitanio *et al.* (2006) *PNAS*; Non-muscle myosin **IIa**: Veigel -lab (unpub)
Myosin **V**: Veigel *et al.* *Nat Cell Biol.*; *Nat Struct Mol Biol* (2002, 2005, 2010)
Myosin **VI**: Lister *et al.* (2004) *EMBO J.*; Myosin **X**: Takagi *et al.* (2014) *PNAS*

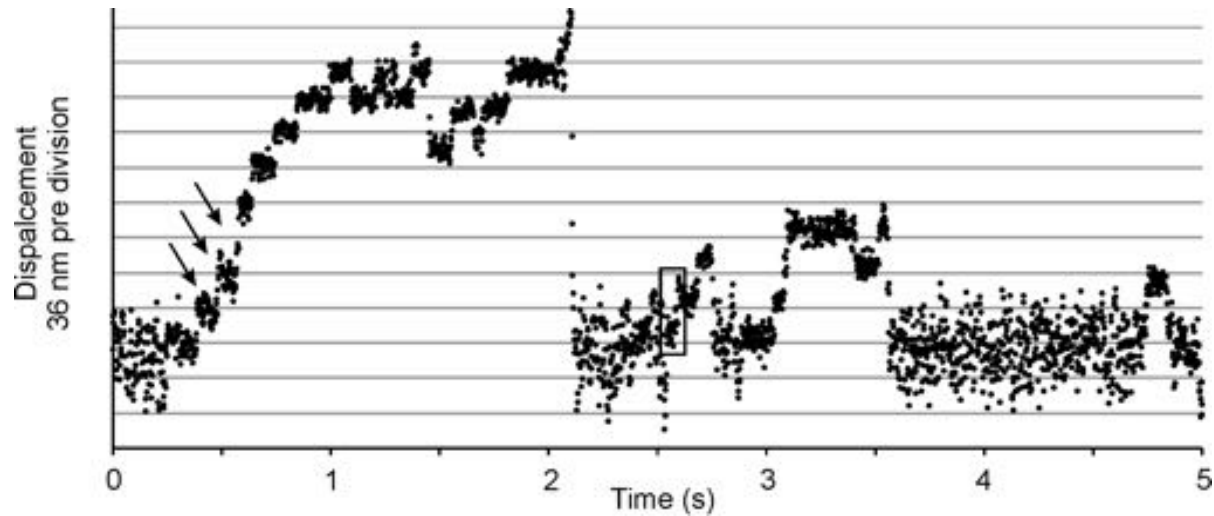
Processive movement of dimeric myosins: e.g. Myosin-V



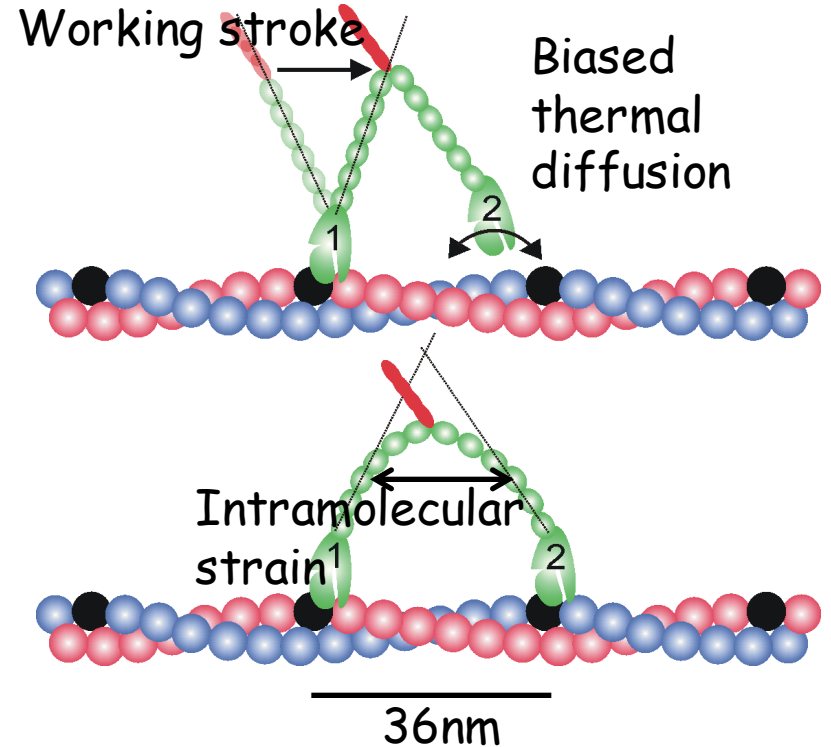
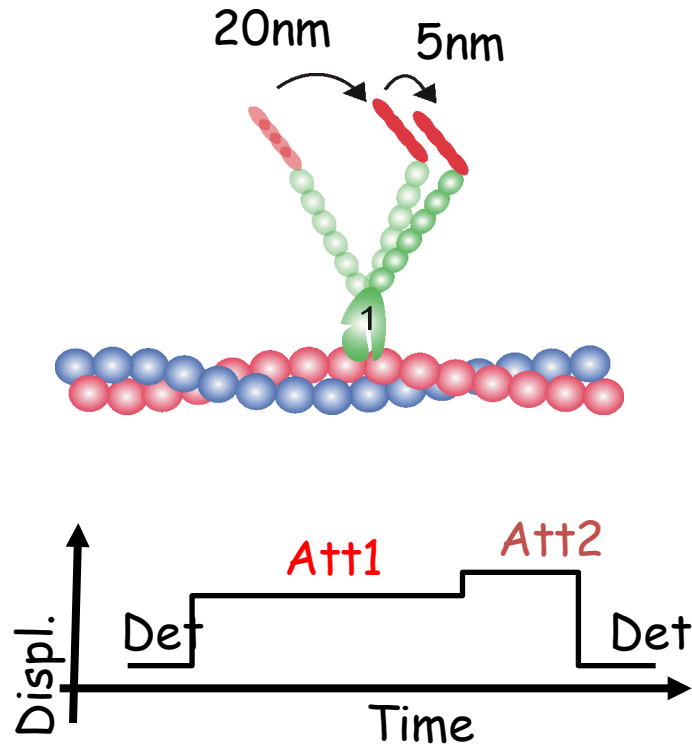
Uncoordinated heads



Coordinated heads



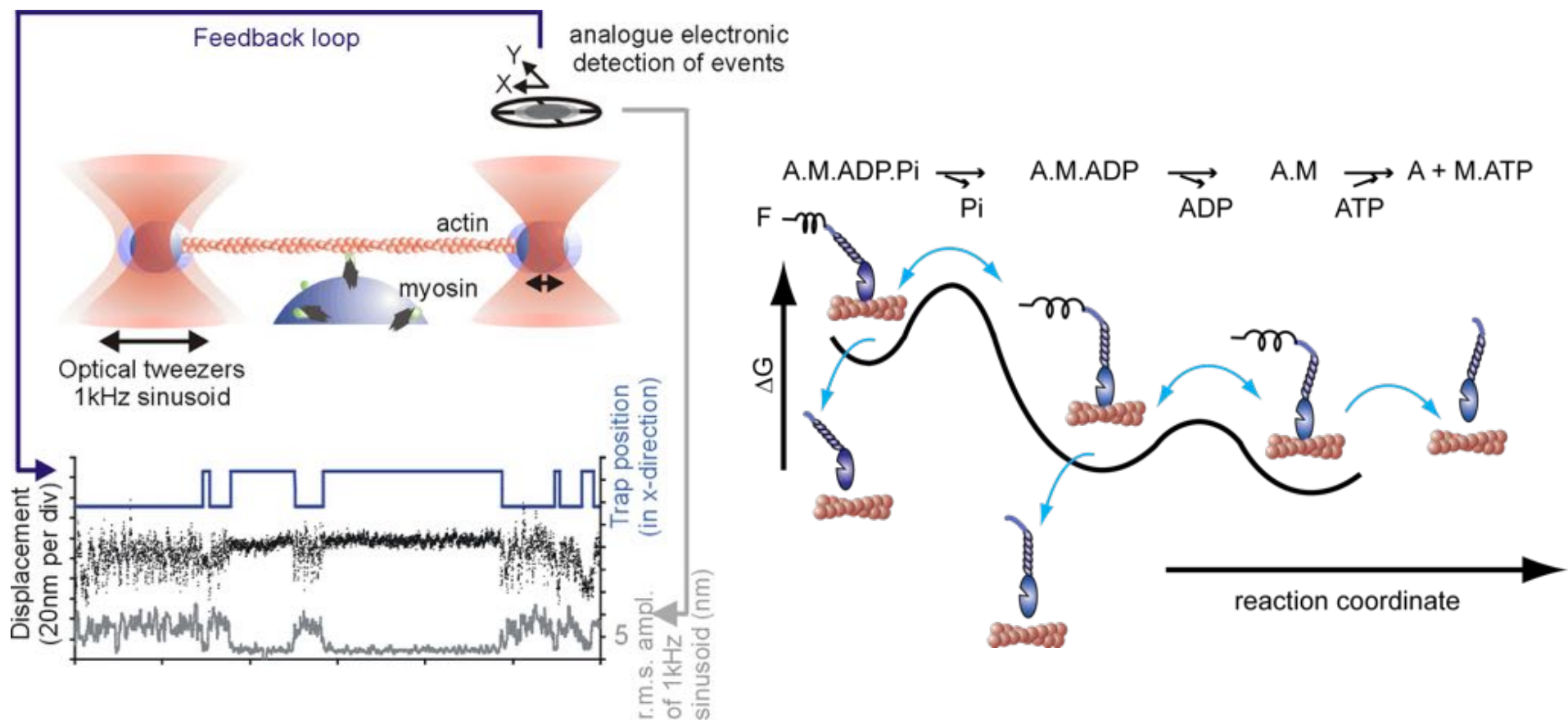
Processivity and strain dependent kinetics

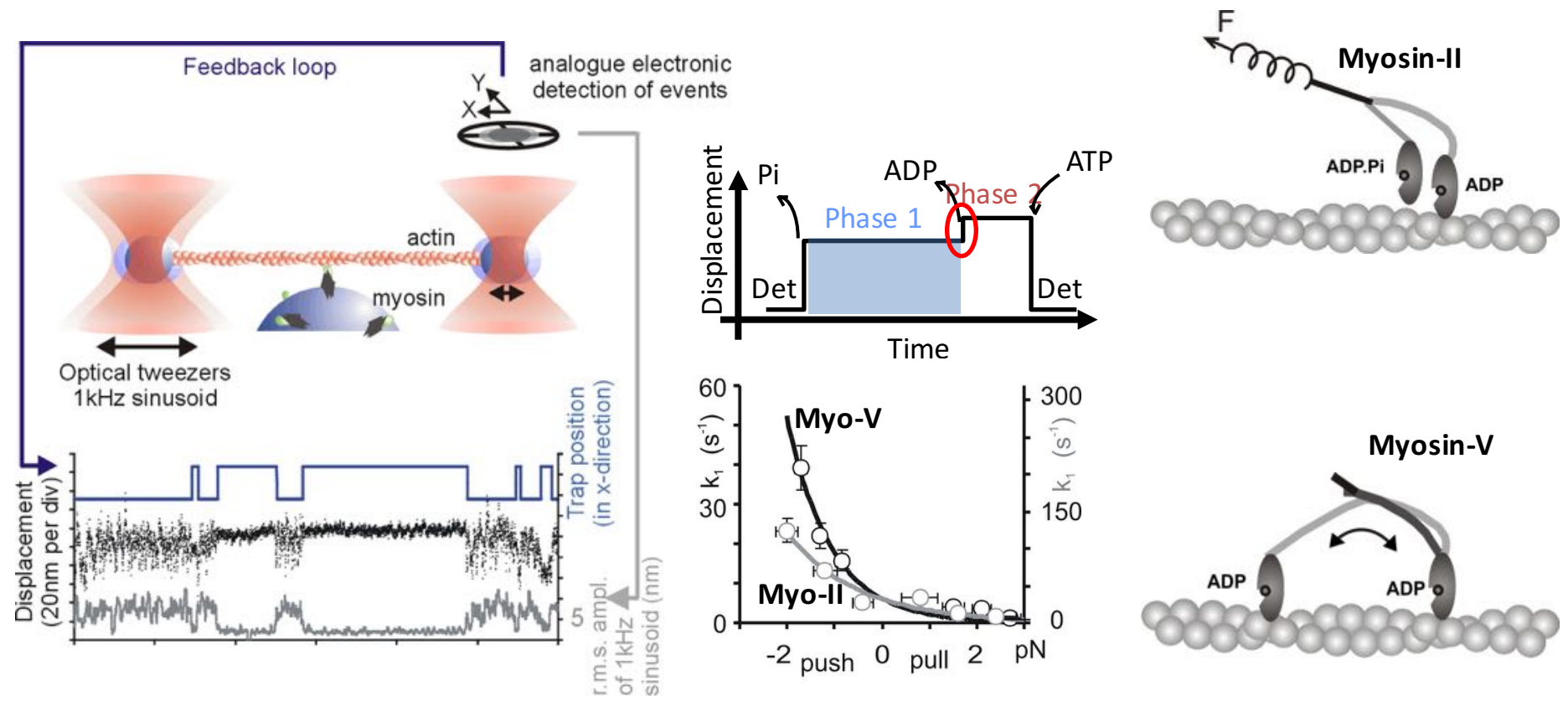


Questions:

- Intramolecular strain: Cooperativity between the heads?
- Kinetics gated by intramolecular strain?
- Are the kinetics of a single head load dependent?

Use kHz 'carrier signal' to obtain sub-ms time resolution and fast application of load



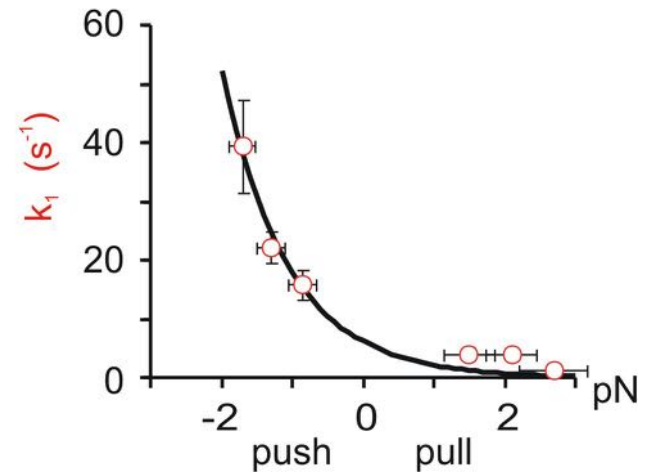
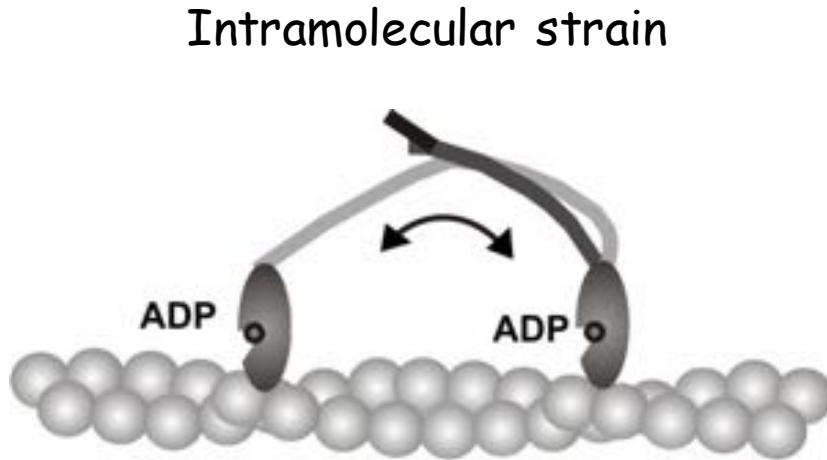


Mechanism 2:

- ADP release strongly load dependent
- ATP binding little load dependent

Myosin **II**: Veigel *et al.* (2003) *Nat Cell Biol*; Non-muscle myosin **IIa**: Veigel -lab (unpub)
 Myosin **V**: Veigel *et al.* *Nat Cell Biol*; Sellers & Veigel *Nat Struct Mol Biol* (2002, 2005, 2010)
 Myosin **I**: Laakso *et al.* (2008) *Science*
 Myosin **VI**: Veigel-lab (unpub)

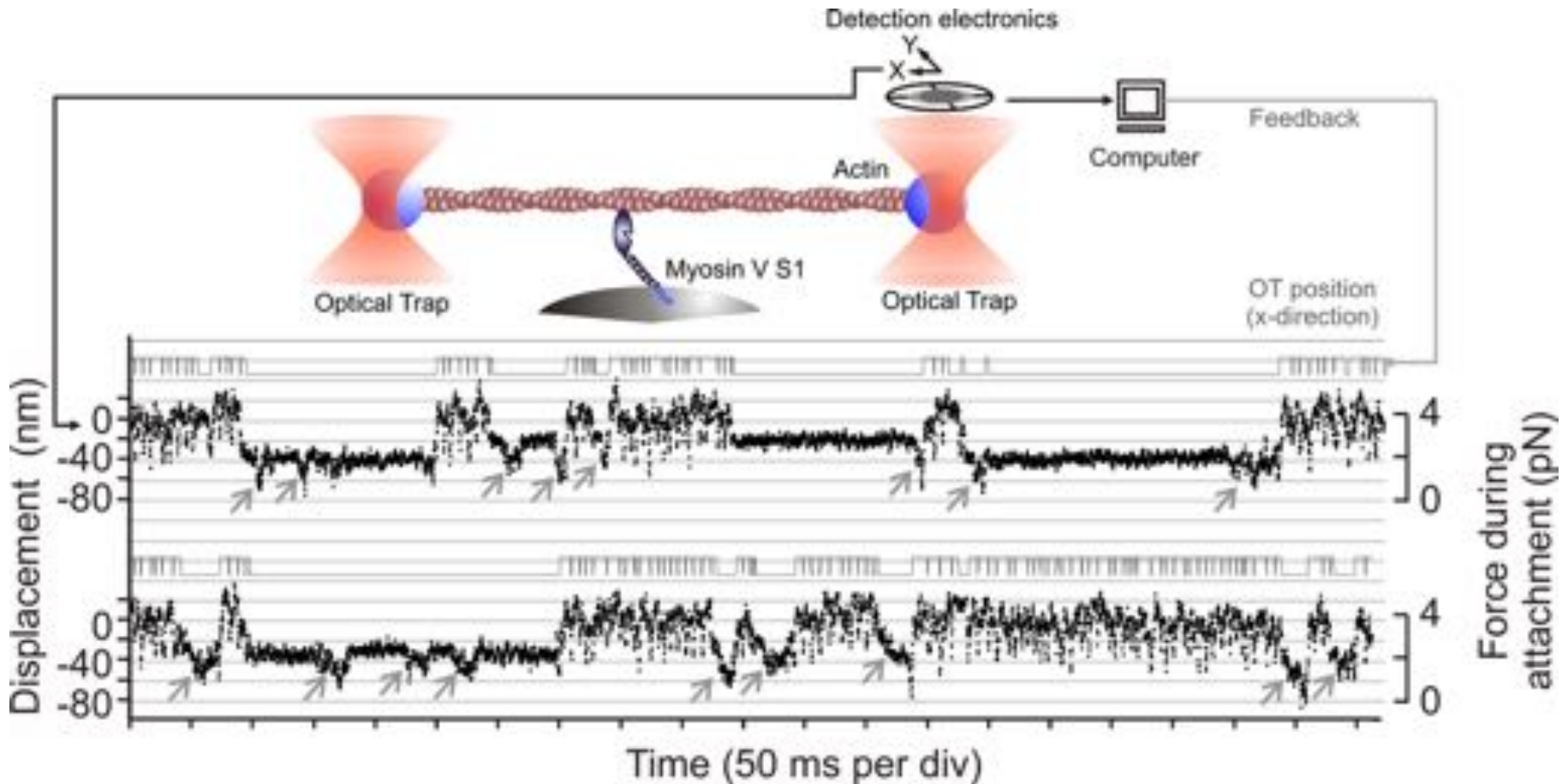
Gated processive movement for myosin-V

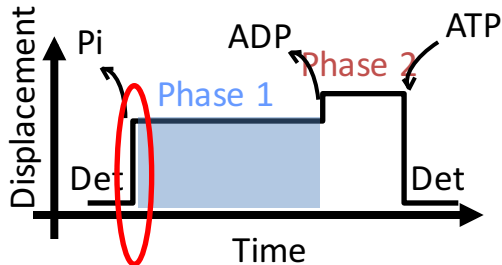
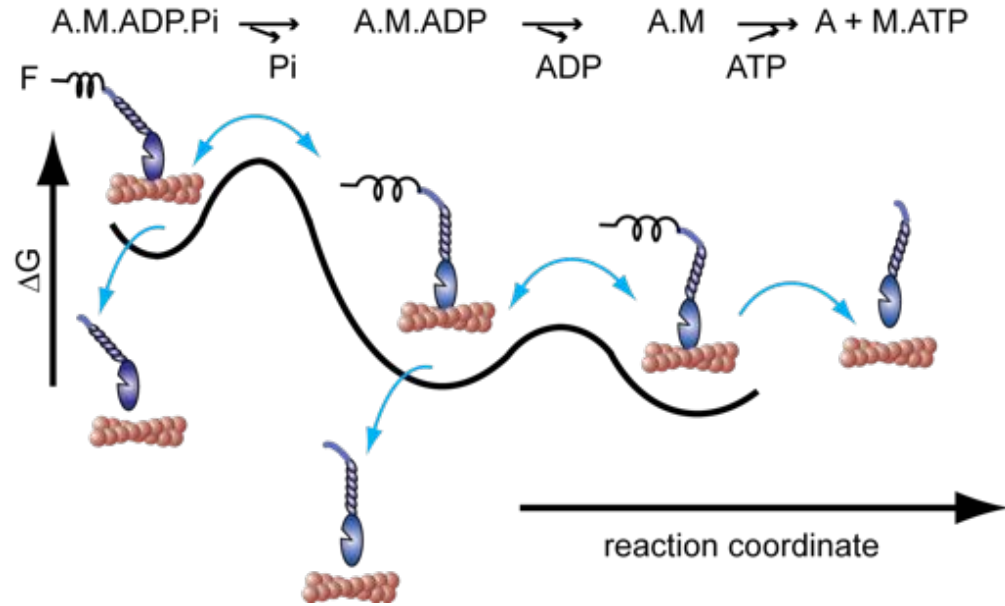
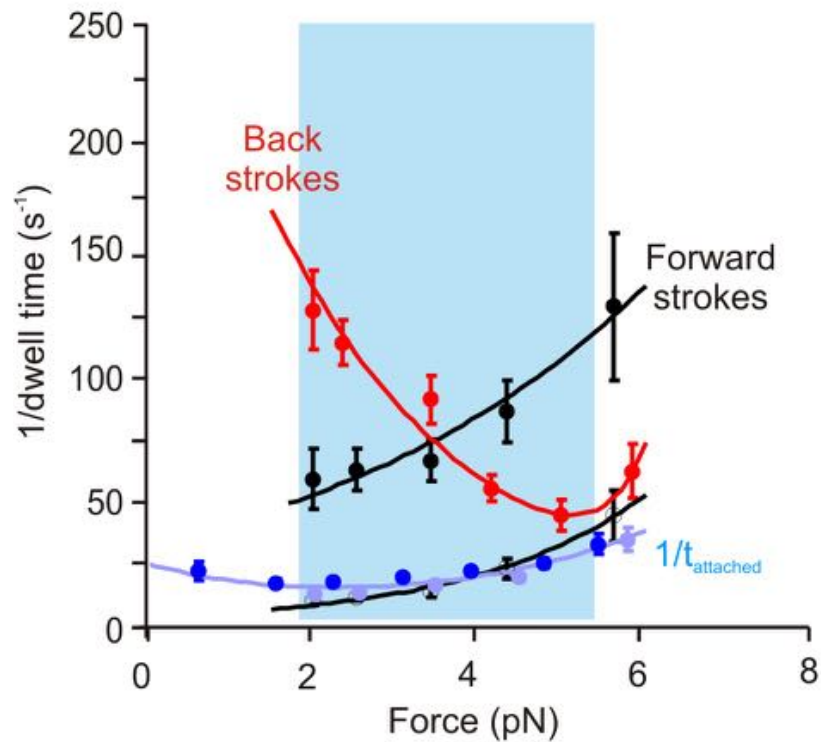


Force during attachment: ~ 1.5 to 3.6 pN; (average stiffness during attachment ~ 0.2 pN.nm⁻¹ per head)

k_1 (head1) $> 40-60 \times k_1$ (head2); $> 40-60$ steps per diffusional encounter

Reversal of the myosin power stroke at forces near stall



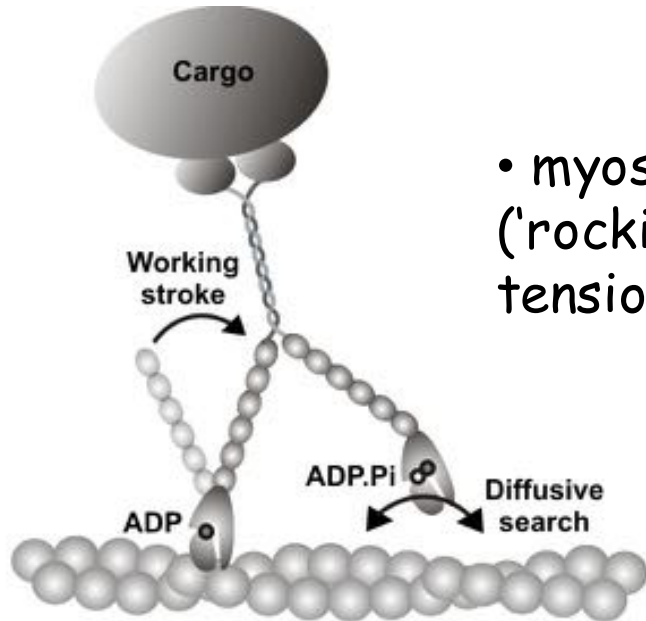


Mechanism 3:

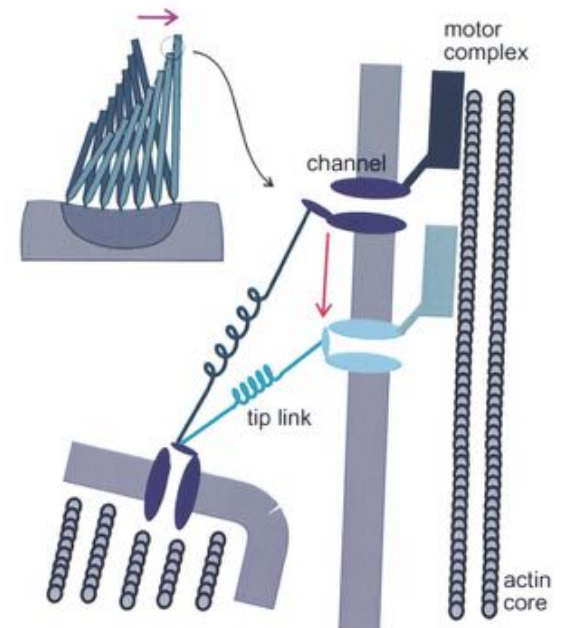
- Power stroke is reversible

Power stroke reversibility:

- myosin V: change in directionality of processive movement under load

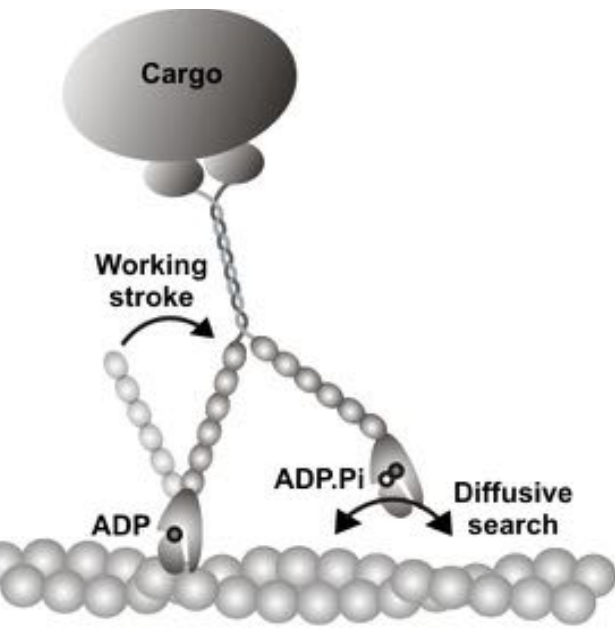


- myosin Ic: fast adaptation in hearing? ('rocking crossbridge' might regulate tip link tension, hair cells, inner ear)



Conclusion:

basic mechanisms can be tuned for diverse myosin functions



Mechanisms 1 and 2

Two-step w/s and load dependent ADP release:

- myosin II: sustain tension at low cost
- myosin V: head coordination, processivity
- myosin I: force sensing
- ...

Mechanism 3

Working stroke reversibility:

- myosin V: change in directionality
- myosin Ic: fast adaptation in hearing?
- ...

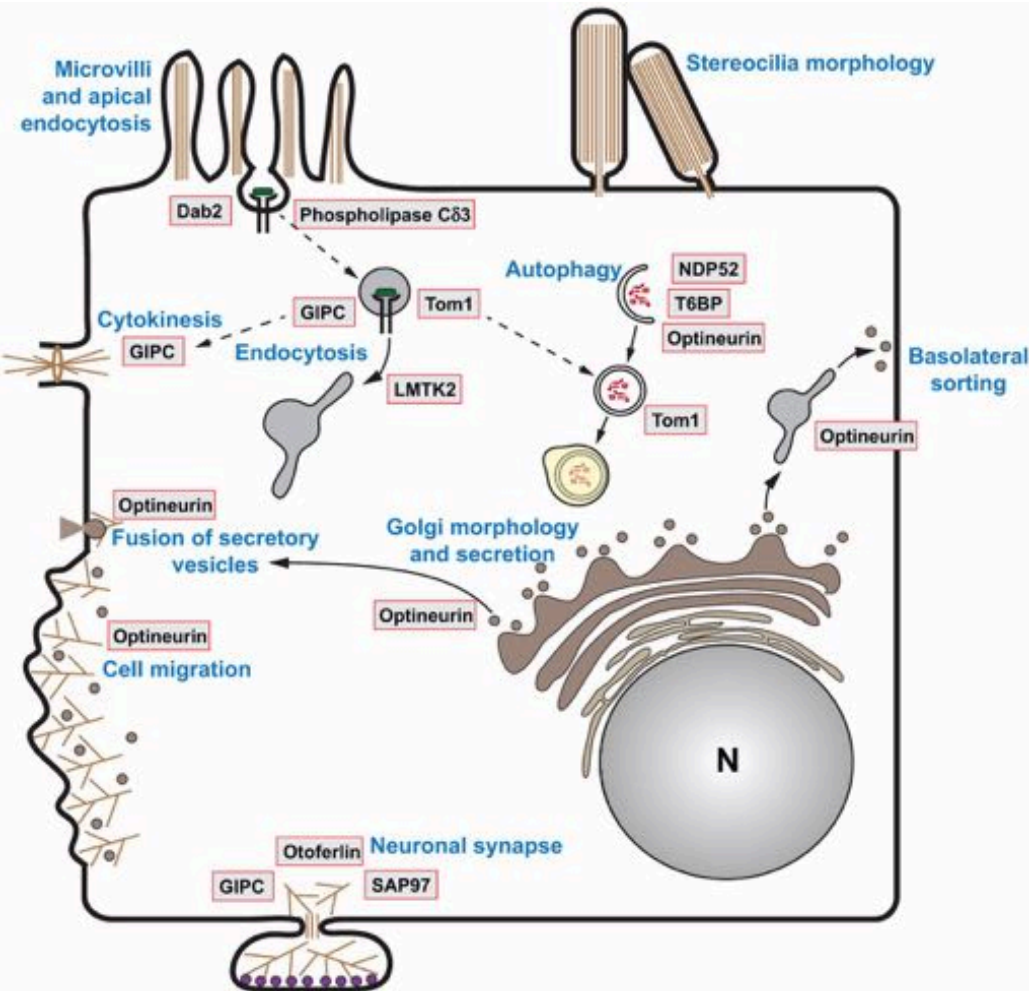
These are all mechanisms of the activated motors.

Motor mechanics in the cell biological context?

Regulation of motor targeting and motor activation

2. Regulation of myosin motors

Example 1: targeting and activation of **myosin-VI**



- only myosin to move towards (-) end of actin filaments
- monomer or dimer? maybe both?
- involved in a myriad of cellular motile functions including:
 - formation of **stereocilia** in hair cells
 - **endo- and exocytosis**
 - **membrane delivery** to leading edge in migrating cells
 - ...
- upregulated in **migrating carcinoma cells** (used as a marker)

Migrating cells

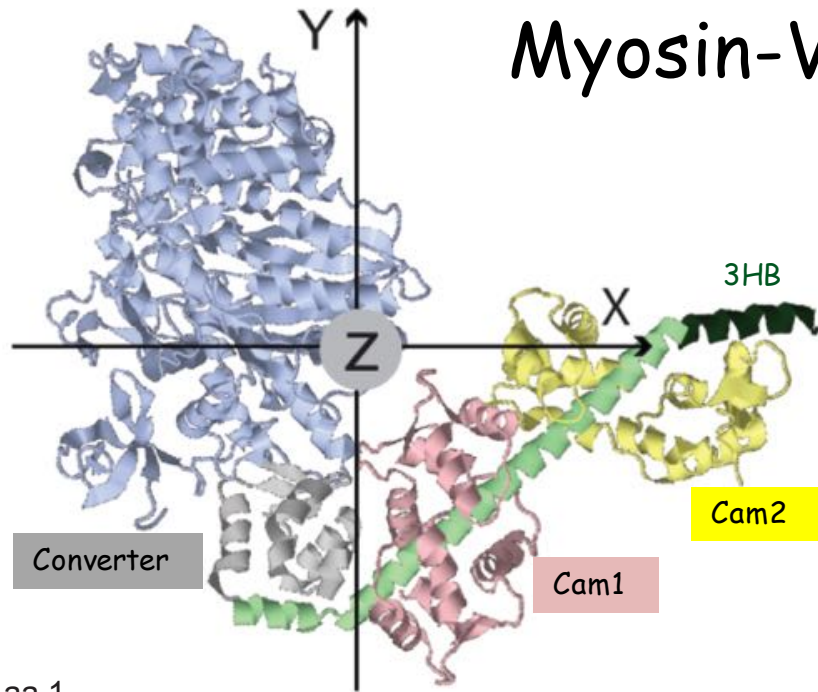
- localised calcium transients play a multifunctional role:
 - ⇒ steering directional movement of the cell
 - ⇒ cytoskeleton redistribution, relocation of focal adhesions

Effects of calcium transients on the mechanics of myosin-VI?

Required background information before designing mechanical experiments:

- effect of calcium on the myosin-VI structure (**conformation**)
 - ⇒ effect on the calmodulin (Cam) binding **neck** (leverarm)
 - ⇒ effect on the myosin-VI target binding **tail**

Myosin-VI structure



Our modelled myosin-VI structure
(no nucleotide, head + neck + 3HB)



crystal structure: parts of the molecule, no structures of the whole tail

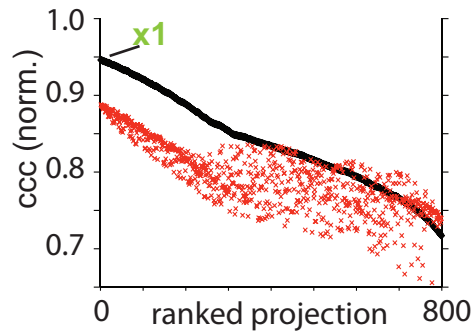
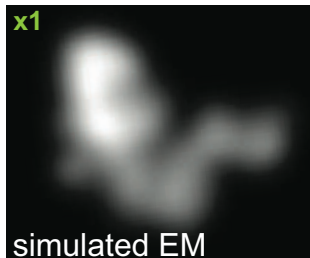
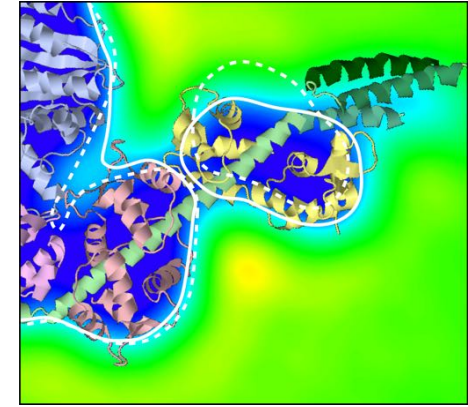
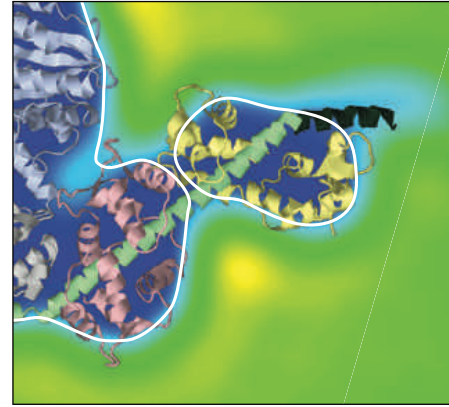
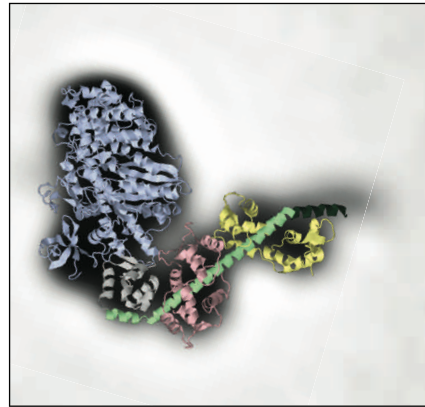
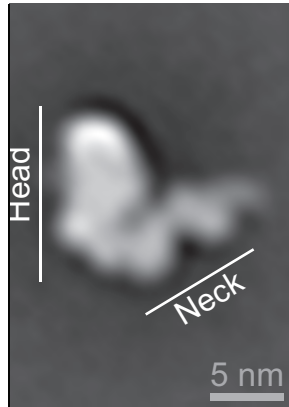
Electron microscopy:

Cryo: Head + Neck bound to actin, no tail

Negative stain: Head + Neck without actin, no tail

Full-length Myosin-VI at low Ca^{2+} (negative stain EM)

Minus Calcium



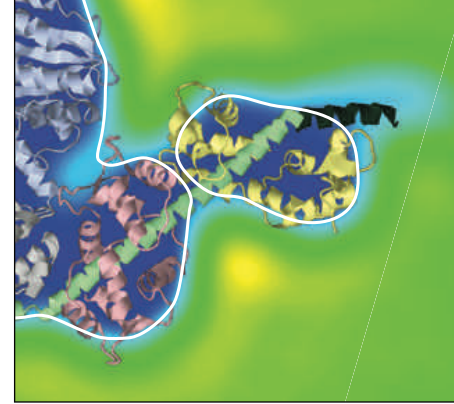
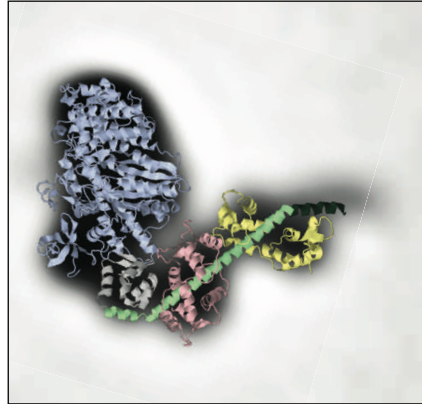
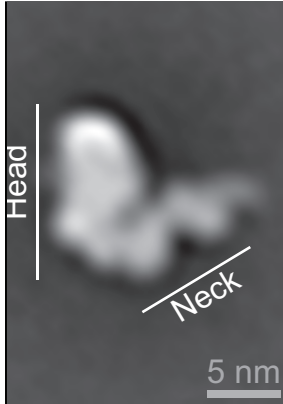
Low calcium:

Modelled structure fits nicely to negative stain EM of full-length myoVI

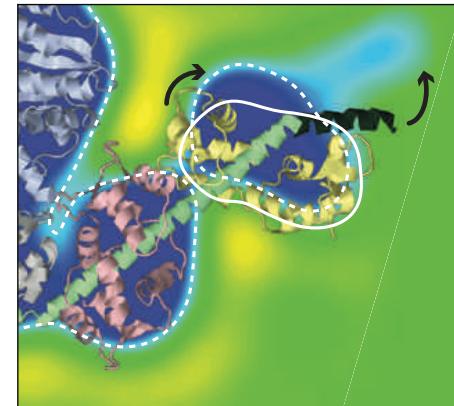
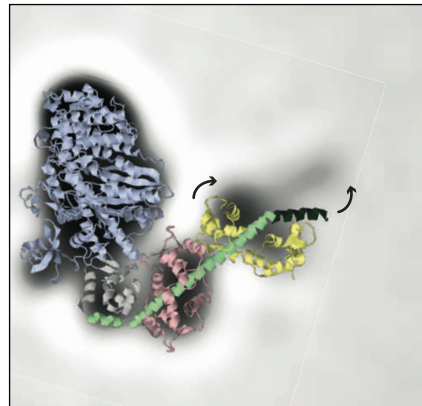
=> some additional mass between 1st calmodulin, converter, catalytic domain

Full-length Myosin-VI at high Ca^{2+} (negative stain)

Minus Calcium



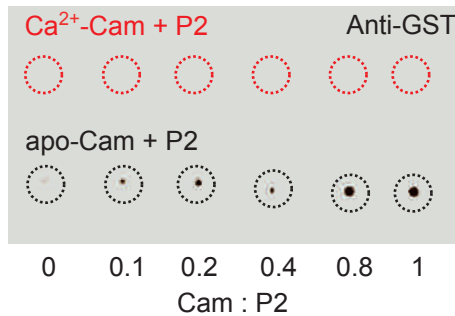
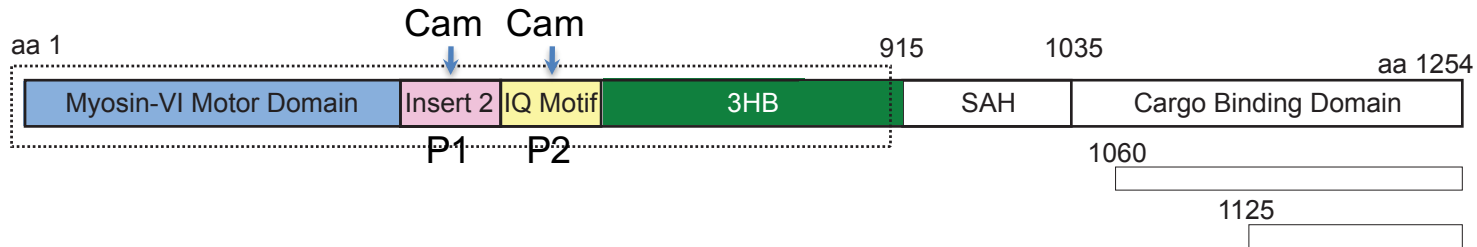
Plus Calcium



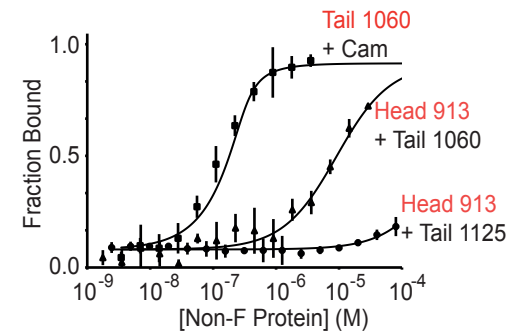
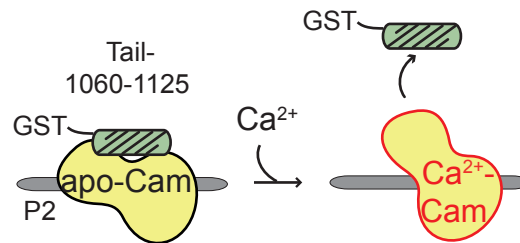
High calcium:

- ⇒ catalytic domain of the model fits the EM even better (no extra mass between 1st Cam, converter, catalytic domain, i.e. no tail bound to the head?)
- ⇒ conformational change of the 2nd calmodulin
- ⇒ conformational change of the 3HB (i.e. tail)

Myosin-VI tail (1060-1125) backfolds onto apo-calmodulin



Dot far Western blot



Fluorescence based binding study (MST)

Conclusion of binding studies:

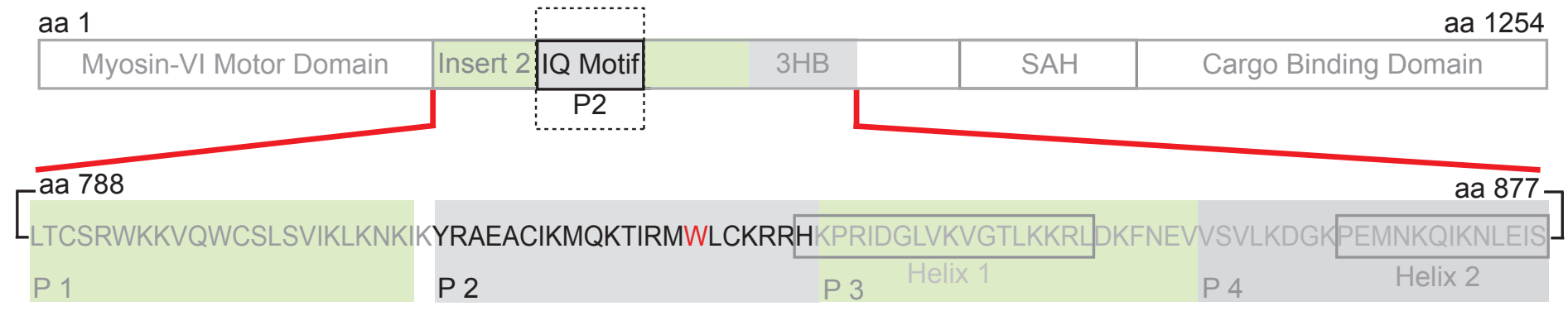
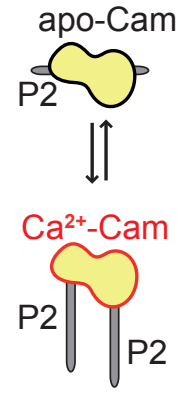
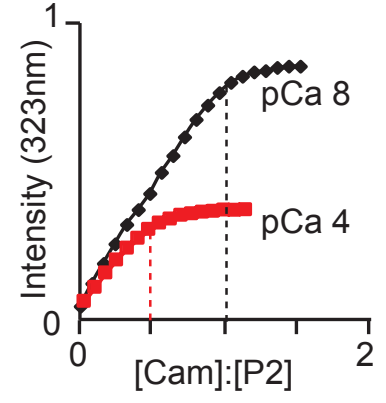
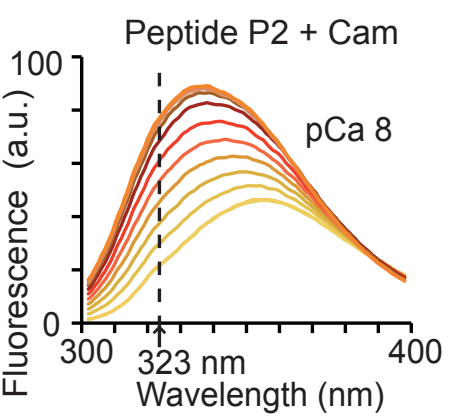
⇒ Tail 1060-1125 binds to apo-calmodulin, not to Ca^{2+} -calmodulin

⇒ **Backfolding of the tail onto calmodulin at low calcium**

(apo calmodulin = calmodulin without calcium ions bound)

Calmodulin binding to P2

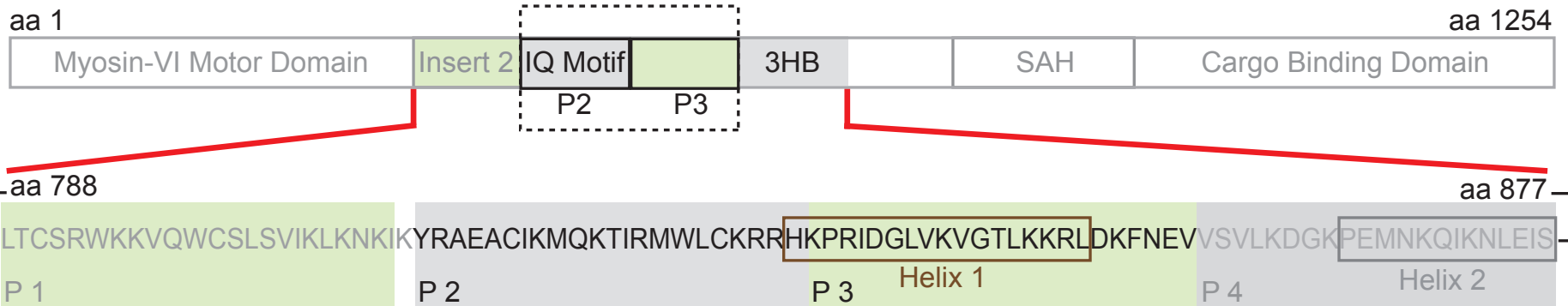
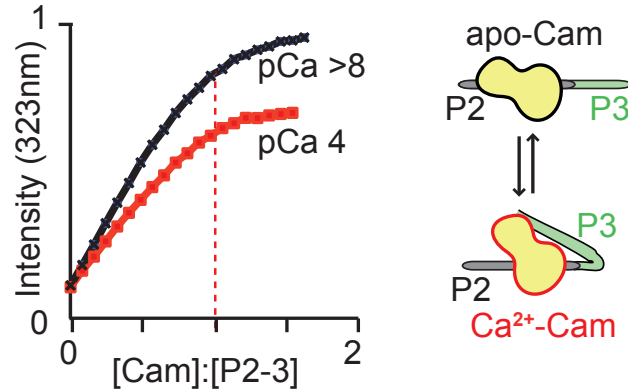
Tryptophan fluorescence studies



Result:

- ⇒ Low calcium: binding stoichiometry 1 Cam : 1 P2
- ⇒ High calcium: 1 Cam : 2 P2

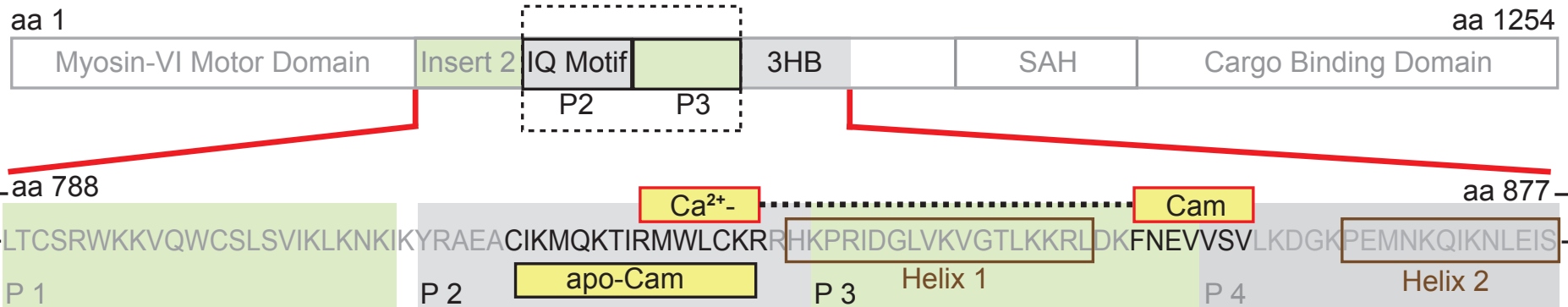
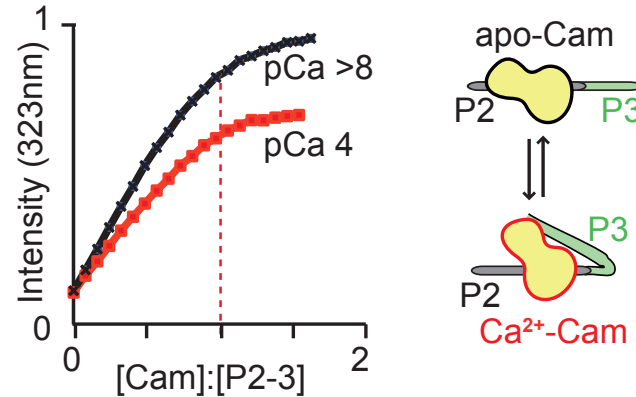
Calmodulin binding to P2-3



Result:

- ⇒ Low calcium: binding stoichiometry 1 Cam : 1 P2-3
- ⇒ High calcium: 1 Cam : 1 P2-3

Bi-partite calmodulin binding site at high calcium

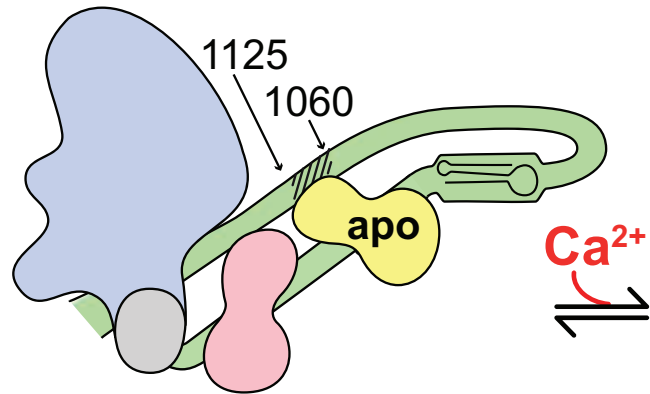


Conclusion from 16 different peptides:

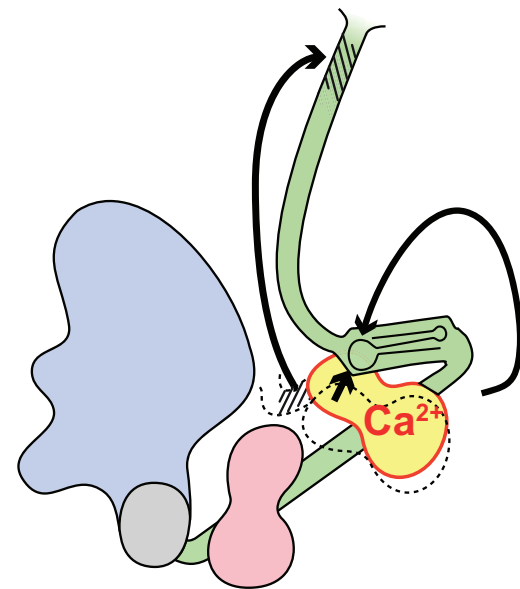
⇒ Low calcium: binding stoichiometry 1 Cam : 1 P2

⇒ High calcium: 1 Cam : 1 P2-3, bi-partite site

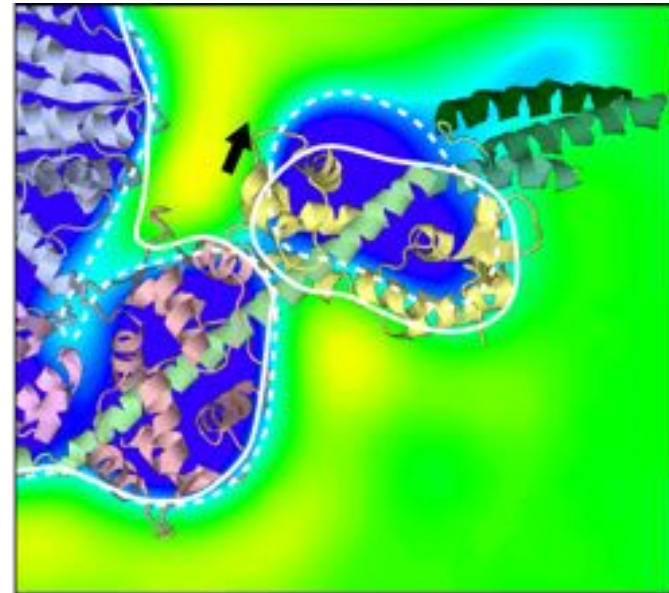
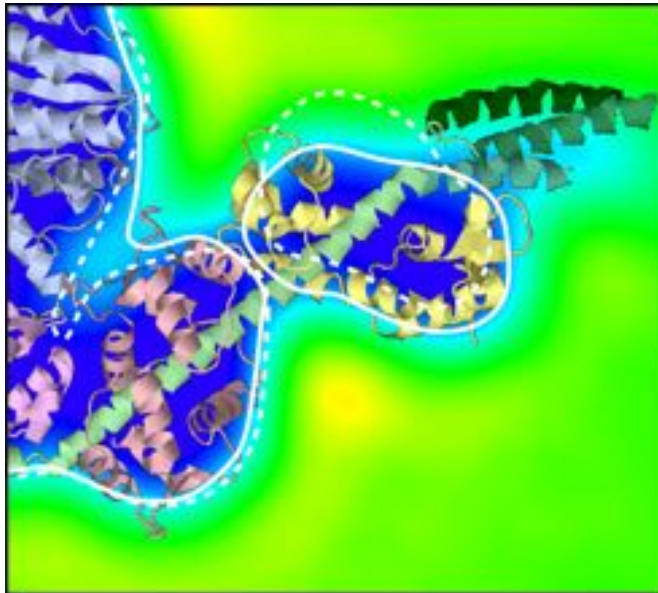
Model so far...



(i) backfolded

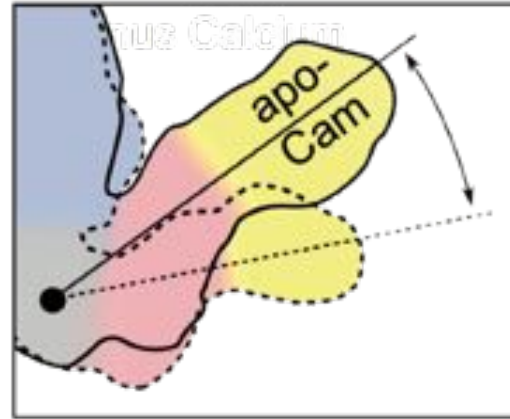


(ii) primed



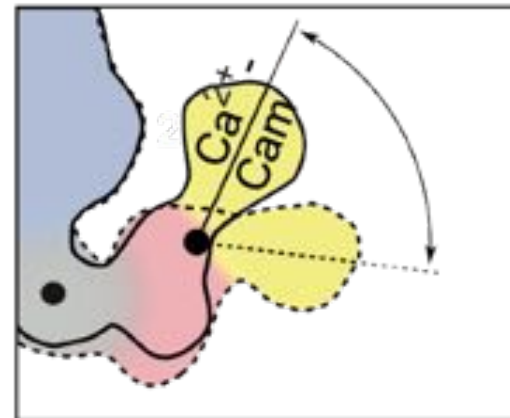
But the mechanical properties ...? Destabilised leverarm..?

Flexibility of the neck region at low and high Calcium



Low calcium:

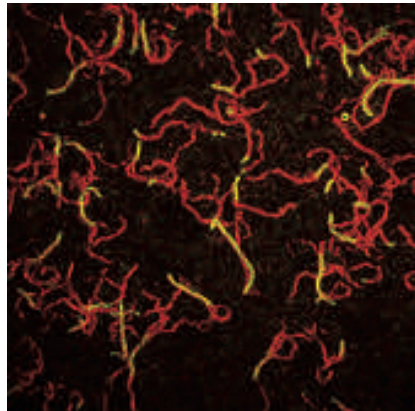
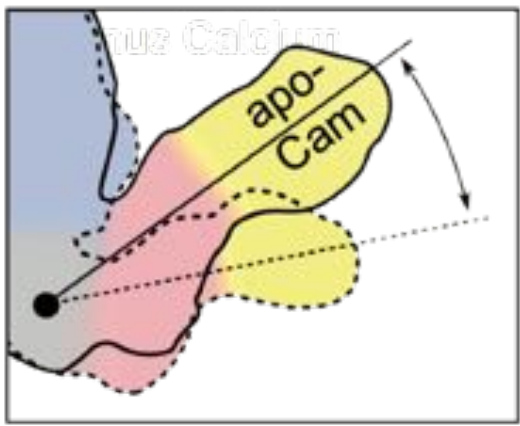
- **single** pivot
=> at the converter



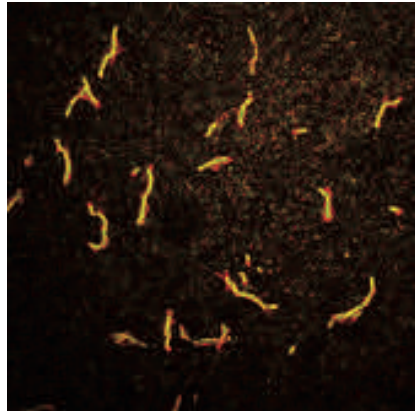
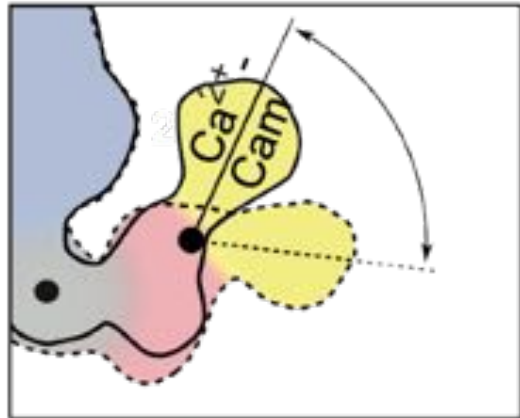
High calcium:

- **two** pivots
=> at the converter
=> between the two calmodulins

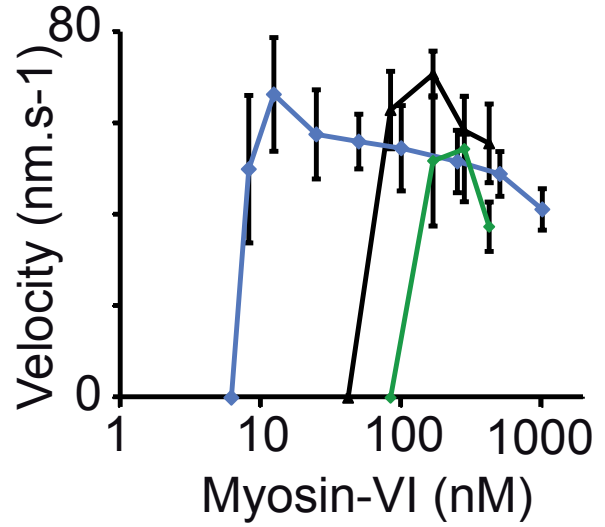
In vitro motility requires low Calcium



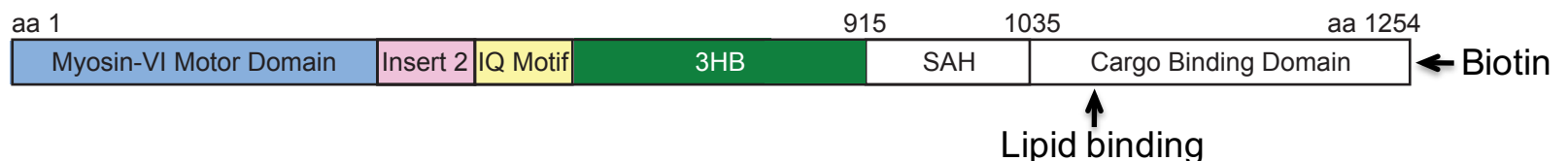
motile



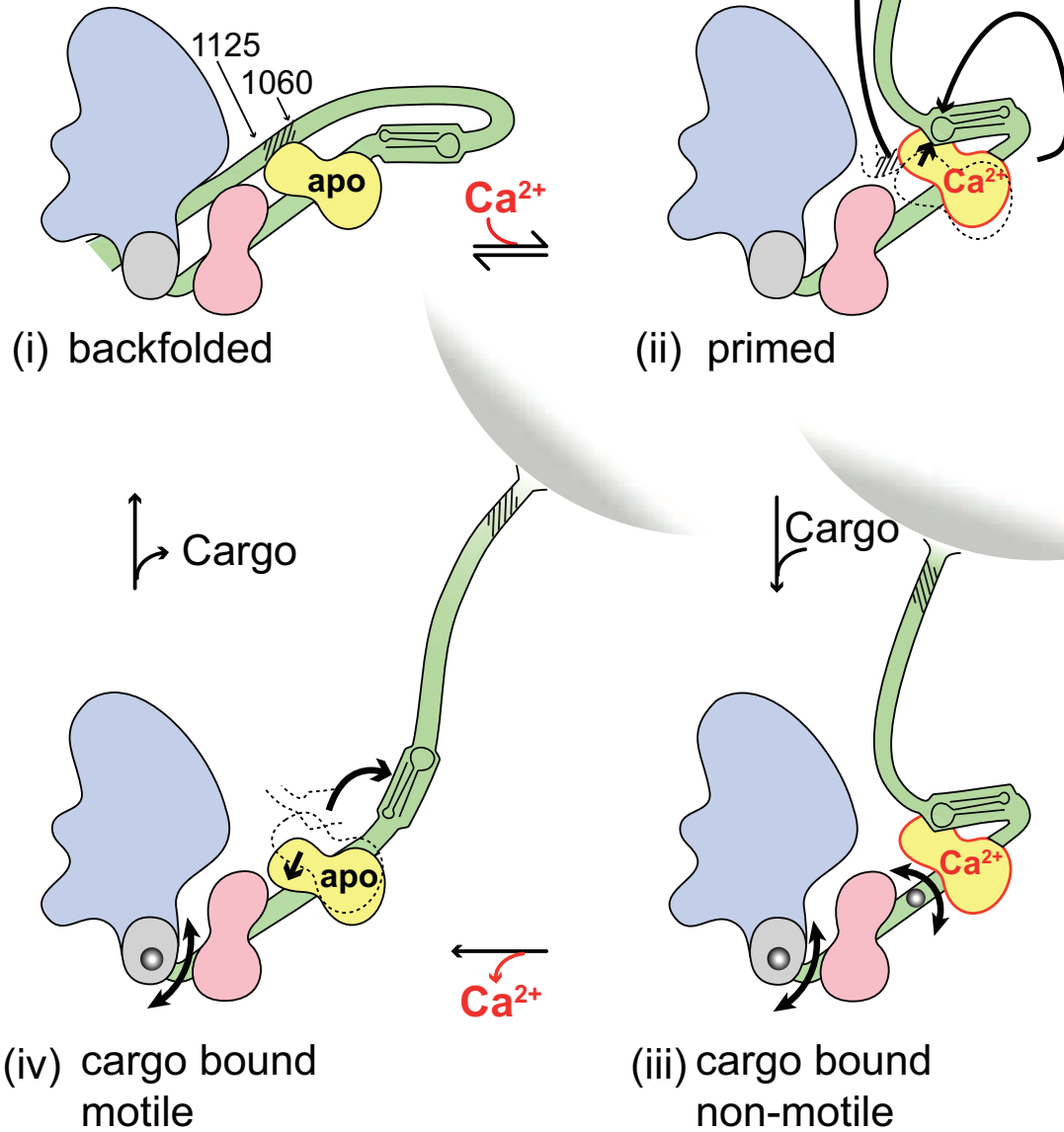
non-motile



- █ Folch lipid bilayer
- █ GT-tail antibody
- █ C-terminal biotin (Streptavidin surface)



Current model



Calcium regulation of myosin-VI is a two-stage process:

1. Priming -> target binding
2. Mechanical activity

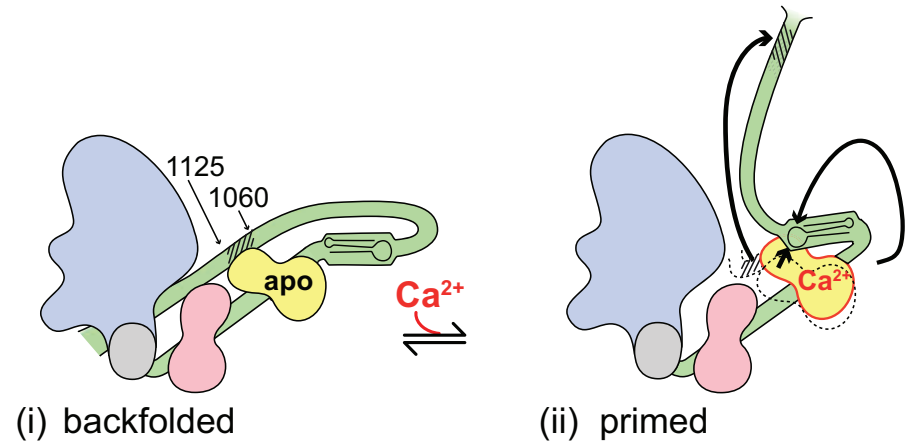
Next:

- effect of the nucleotide state?
- di-/oligomerisation when target binding?
- single molecule mechanics

Single molecule mechanics, regulation, targeting and activation of myosin motors



movie



Our group:

Masters-students, PhD-Students, and Postdocs from Physics und Biochemistry
(international, from England, France, Italy, Ukraine, and Germany)

**New Masters- and PhD-Projects in electro-
microscopy and single molecule mechanics**

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