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nucleosome core particle:



- 1 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> turns
- 147 bp, 50nm
- 14 binding sites



Luger et al., 97





## BREATHING

SLIDING

PROOFREADING









ratio of decay constants:















 ${\mathcal X}$ 





Leonard Euler, Methodus, 1744:





Gustav Kirchhoff, 1859



Hamiltonian (wormlike chain model):

$$H = \int_0^L \left[\frac{A}{2}\dot{\theta}^2 - f\cos\theta\right] ds$$

Lagrangian action:

$$S = \int_0^T \left[\frac{Ml^2}{2}\dot{\theta}^2 - Mgl\cos\theta\right]d\tau$$









leading terms:

$$E_{\text{tot}}(\alpha) \approx 2R_0 \left(f_{\text{crit}} - f\right) \alpha - \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \sqrt{Af} \cos 2\alpha$$
  

$$\underbrace{F_{\text{tot}}}_{\text{filling term}} \qquad \text{barrier term}$$







## Leonardo da Vinci:

"The greater the weight held by this lifting tong, the better and stronger it will be supported."









Two turn design combines accessibility and stability:







 $D \approx 1bp^2/s$ 







DNA wrapping:

adsorption energy per length > bending energy per length















core particle reconstituted from histones and 146 bp DNA has twist defect, but with 147 bp DNA it has not (Davey et al. J. Mol. Biol. **319** (2002) 1097)













## SLIDING Fig.8. Twist, Roll, Slide: The base pair ballet Twist, Roll, Slide: The base pair ballet





Mergell, Ejtehadi & Everaers, Phys. Rev. E 68 (2003) 021911

Rigid base pair model:

$$U = \frac{1}{2} \left( \psi - \psi_0 \right)^T \cdot \mathbf{K} \cdot \left( \psi - \psi_0 \right)$$

6x6 stiffness matrix (bp-step dependent)

crystal structures: Olson et al. (1998) all atom MD simulation: Lankas et al. (2003) mixed parametrization: Becker, Wolff, Everaers (2006)





twist defect energy

energy landscape

crossing probability 1/9000

diffusion constant  $\,Dpprox 240\,{
m bp/s}$ 





5S rDNA positioning sequence

 $D_{\rm eff} \approx \frac{100 \, {\rm bp}^2}{2T_{\rm eff}} \approx 8 {\rm bp}^2 / {\rm s}$ 

$$T_{\rm eff}^{-1} = \frac{\sqrt{U''(x_{\rm min})U''(x_{\rm max})}}{2\pi\zeta} e^{-A/k_B T}$$

 $\zeta = k_B T / D$ 



second genetic code Segal et al., Nature 2006





Actively pushing or pulling nucleosomes along DNA:



Becker(2002)





Lanzani & HS, EPL 97 (2012) 38002

















 $2k_BT$  increases discrimination ratio by factor 50

Narlikar, Curr. Op. Chem. Biol. **14** (2010) 1 Blossey & HS, Biophys. J. **101** (2011) L30



