

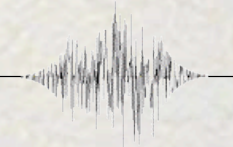
Rumore e dinamica non-lineare: **Risonanza Stocastica** e altri fenomeni "sorprendenti"

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N.i.P.S Laboratory, Dipartimento di Fisica - Università degli Studi di Perugia and INFN Perugia



N.i.P.S Laboratory
Noise in Physical Systems



www.fisica.unipg.it/nipslab, Fisica "in vivo" Milano Bicocca, 14 Mar 2007

Things should be made as simple as possible, but not any simpler.

A. Einstein



» **list of contents**

- A. What do we mean with **noise**
- B. Noise and non-linearity: a simple cartoon
- C. The strange case of the **Stochastic Resonance** phenomenon
- D. Other “surprising” noise induced phenomena
- E. Stochastic nonlinear dynamics at the nanoscale: modeling protein dynamics

A) What do we mean with **noise**

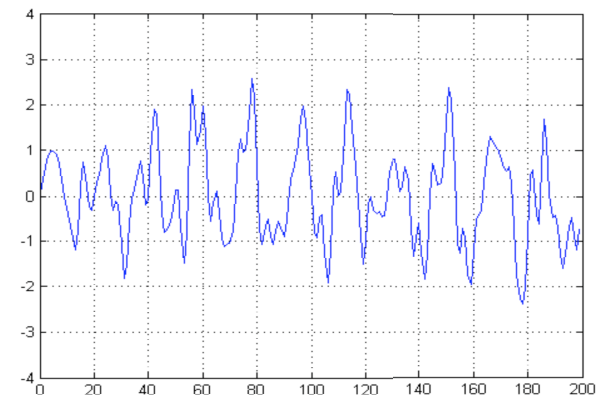
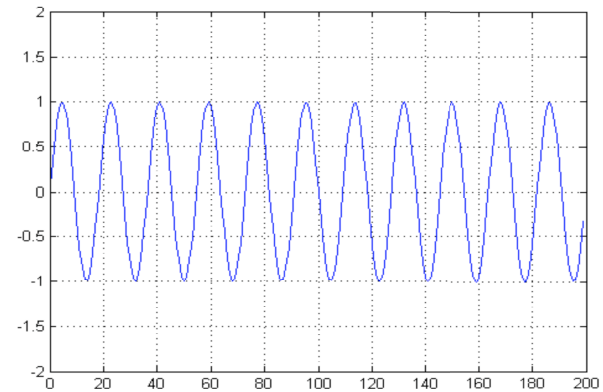
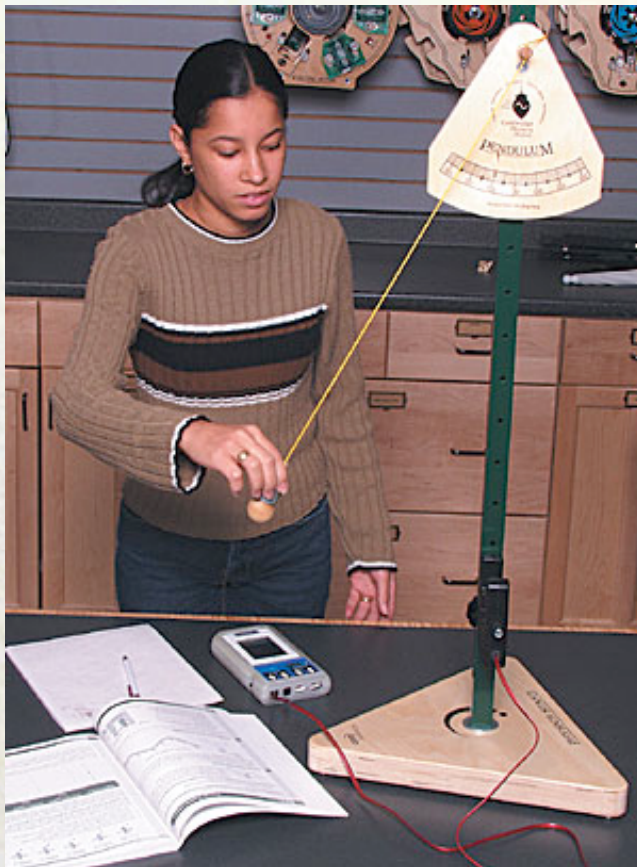
Noise in Physics means:

A disturbance, especially a random and persistent disturbance, that obscures or reduces the clarity of a signal.

Noise becomes relevant when we try to measure a physical quantity with high **precision**

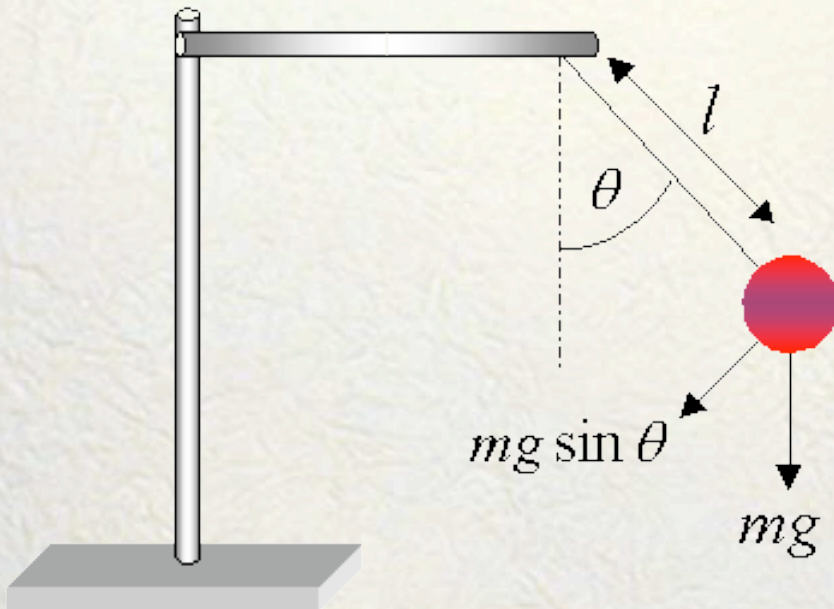
“Precision is the ability of an instrument to produce the same value or result, given the same input”

Example: the measurement of the pendulum position



Where does this noise comes from?

The almost “simple” pendulum

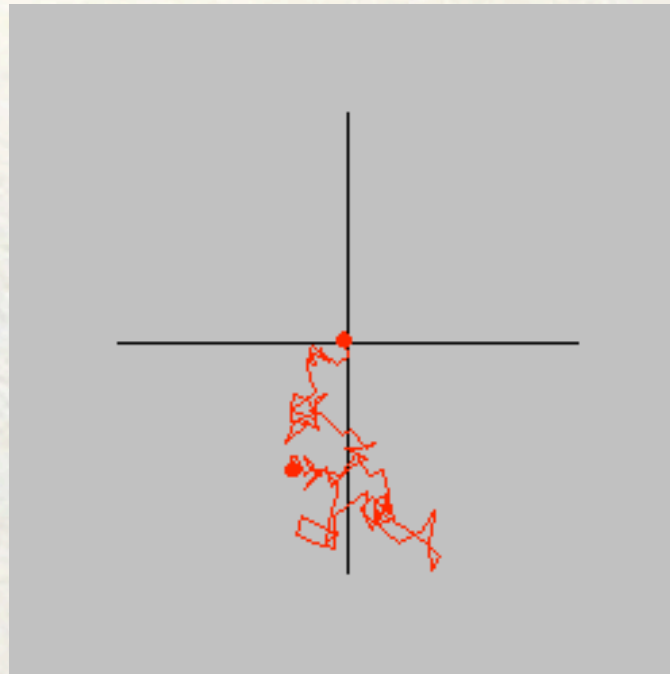


Motion equation

$$ml^2 \frac{d^2 \theta}{dt^2} + mgl \sin \theta = 0$$

What if we wait long enough ?

The very small oscillation limit.
Let the pendulum swing freely...

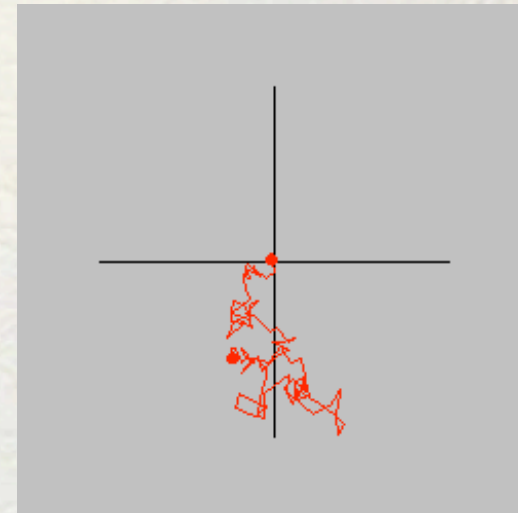


Example: the real measurement of a free swinging pendulum

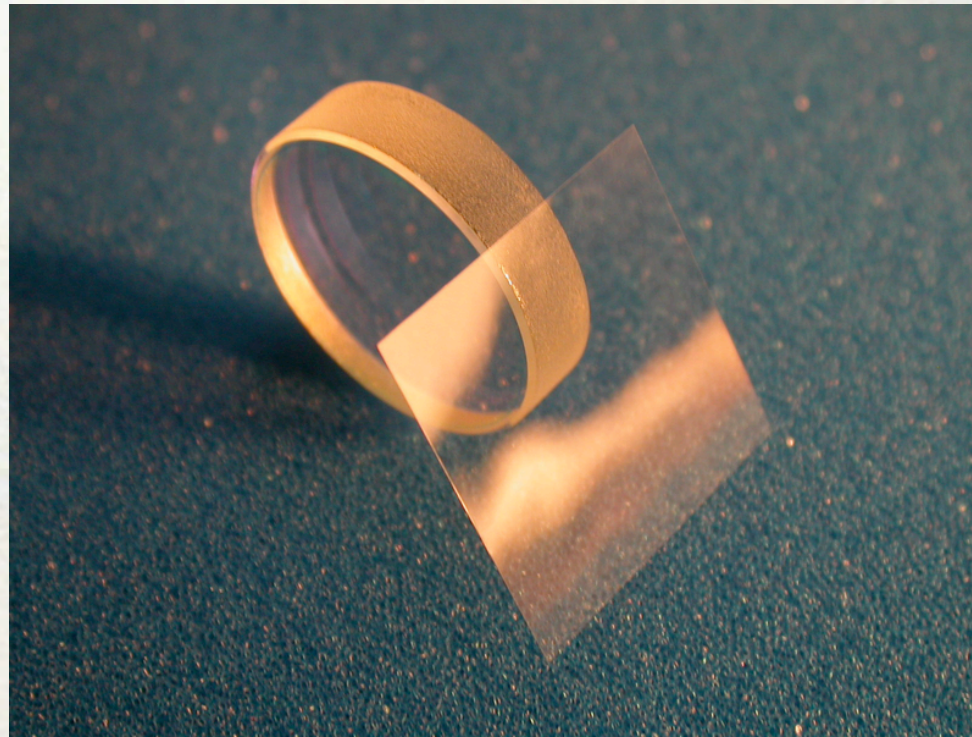
Mass $m = 1 \text{ Kg}$
Length $l = 1 \text{ m}$
rms motion = $2 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ m}$

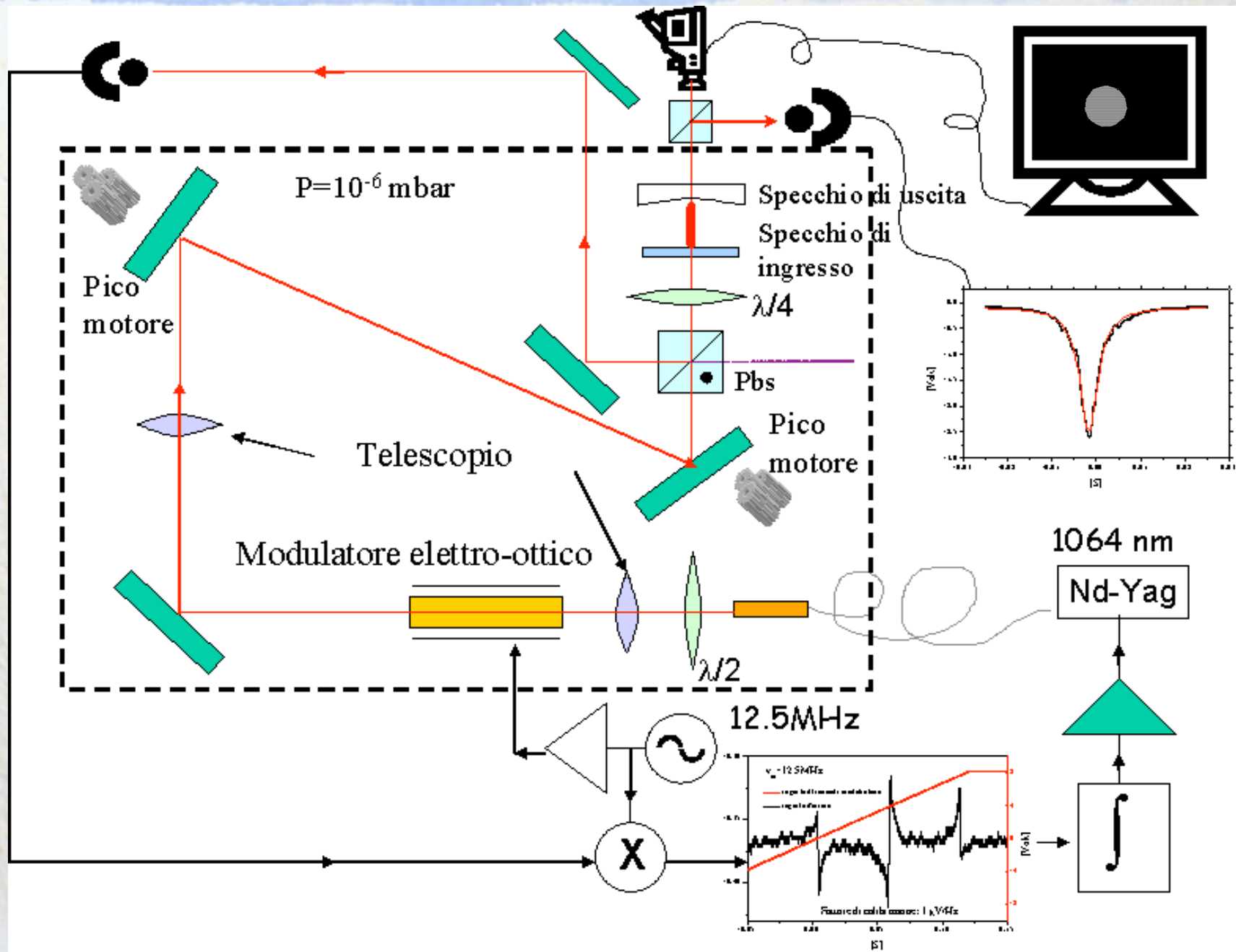
Mass $m = 1 \text{ g}$
Length $l = 1 \text{ m}$
rms motion = $6 \cdot 10^{-10} \text{ m}$

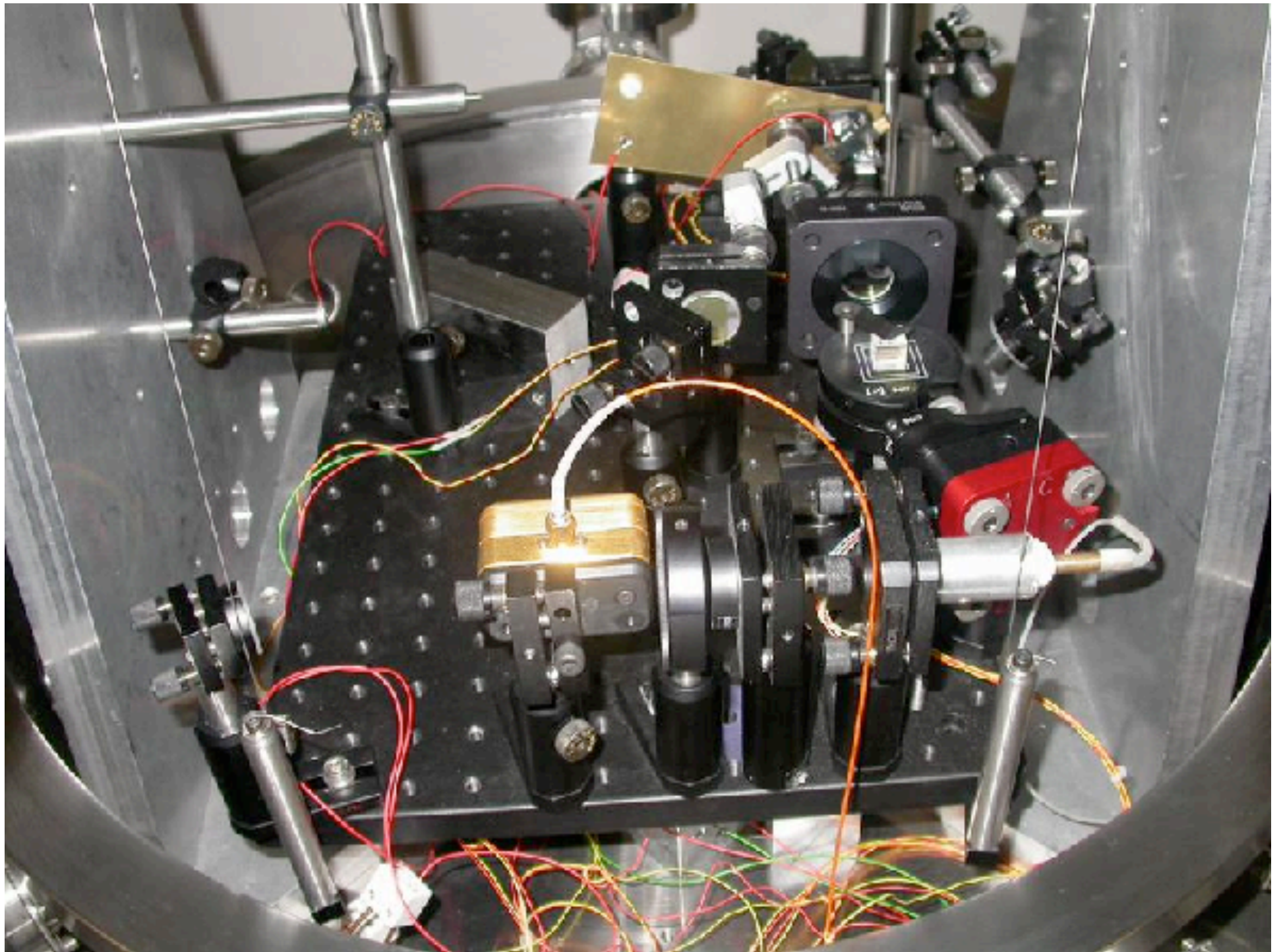
Mass $m = 10^{-6} \text{ g}$
Length $l = 1 \text{ m}$
rms motion approx 1 micron



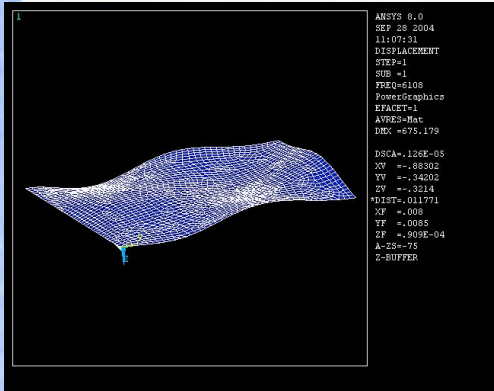
Direct measurement of internal vibration on a thin fused silica slab





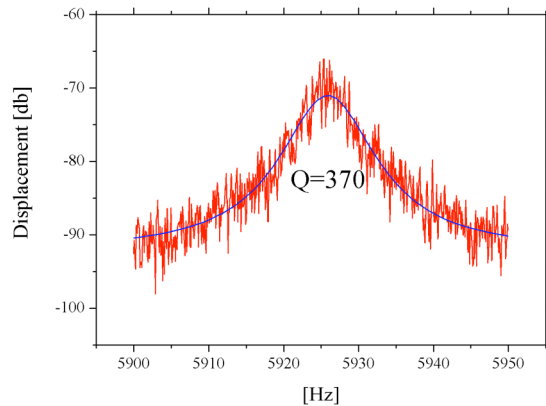
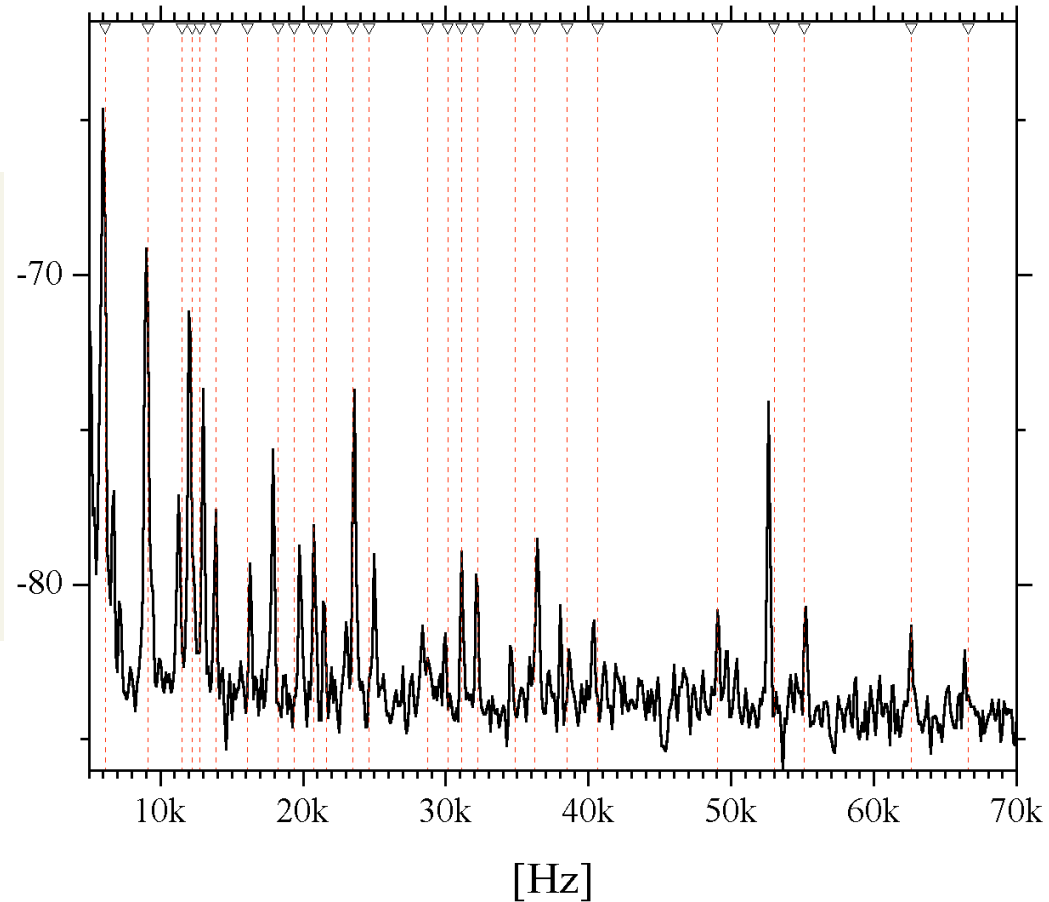


FEM mechanical characterization



20 layer
quarter wave
TiO₂-SiO₂
(SILO)

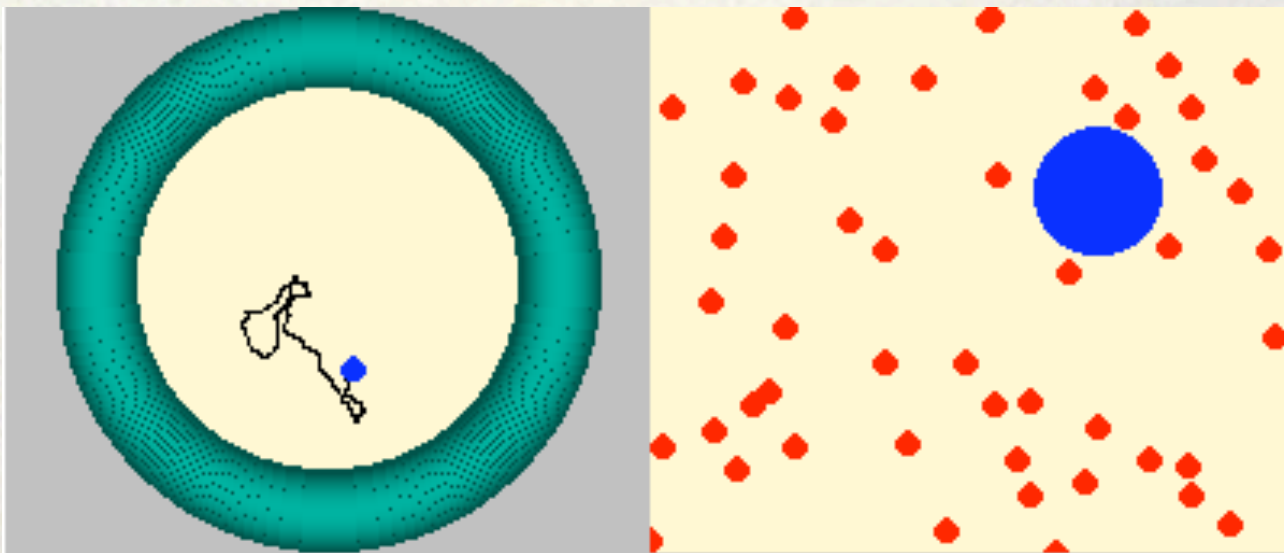
Displacement [db]



Where all these fluctuations come from?

1828 R. Brown

1905 A. Einstein



The mother of all noises: **thermal noise**

Brownian motion → **thermal noise**

thermal noise is the name commonly given to **fluctuations** affecting a physical observable of a macroscopic system at **thermal equilibrium** with its environment.

The **internal energy** of a macroscopic apparatus at thermal equilibrium is shared between all its degrees of freedom or, equivalently, between all its normal modes each carrying an average energy **kT** , where T is the equilibrium temperature.

This is true also for such modes as the oscillations of springs, pendula, needles, etc. Such an **energy** manifests itself as a **random fluctuation** of the relevant observable experimentally perceived as the noise affecting its measured value.

How to model **thermal noise**



To describe such a dynamics it is necessary to introduce a statistical approach

- a) Fokker-Plank equation
- b) Langevin Equation

The usual equation of motion (Newton $f = ma$) should be changed in order to accommodate non deterministic forces. What we get is called **Langevin equation**:

There are two kinds of forces acting on the pollen grain:

1) A viscous drag (motion in a fluid)

$$-6\pi\eta a \dot{x}$$

2) A fluctuating force (representing the incessant impact of the molecules)

$$\zeta(t)$$

$$m \ddot{x} = -6\pi\eta a \dot{x} + \zeta(t)$$

Generalization:

The viscous drag expression can be generalized in order to describe a wider class of damping functions

$$-m \int_{-\infty}^t \gamma(t - \tau) \dot{x} d\tau$$

Generalized Langevin equation

$$m \ddot{x} = -m \int_{-\infty}^t \gamma(t - \tau) \dot{x} d\tau + \zeta(t)$$

$\zeta(t)$ Is the stochastic force with known statistical properties:
Probability density function, moments, correlations, ...

For the pendulum we get:

$$\ddot{x} = -\omega_p^2 x - \int_{-\infty}^t \gamma(t - \tau) \dot{x} d\tau + \frac{\zeta(t)}{m}$$

The arbitrariness in our choice of the damping function and the stochastic force is constrained by the so-called **Fluctuation-Dissipation theorem** which suffices to enforce the energy equipartition

$$\langle \zeta(t)\zeta(0) \rangle = k T m \gamma(|t|)$$

In the spectral domain, for a linear system, is always possible to write its response to an external force like:

$$X(\omega) = H(\omega)F(\omega)$$

Where H is the system transfer function.

$$H(\omega) = H'(\omega) + i H''(\omega) = |H(\omega)| e^{i\phi(\omega)}$$

The F-D Theorem can be written here as:

$$S_x(\omega) = -4kT \frac{H''(\omega)}{\omega}$$

The **dissipative properties** of the dynamical system are thus directly related to the equilibrium fluctuations.

Fluctuation-Dissipation theorem

The **dissipative properties** of the dynamical system are thus directly related to the equilibrium fluctuations.

Physical connection:

the source of the **fluctuations** is the very same of the source of the **dissipation**

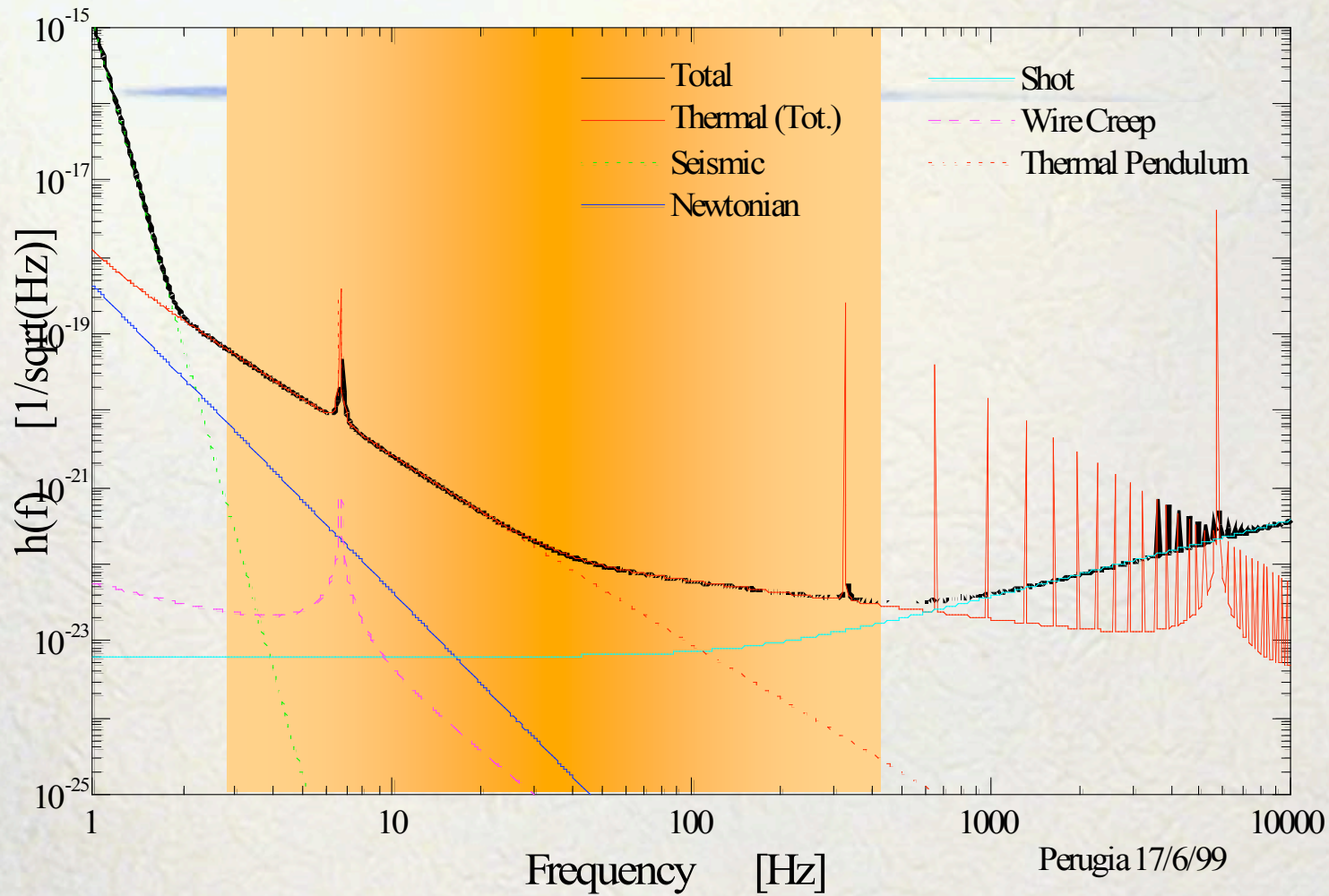
Why should we bother with **thermal noise** ?



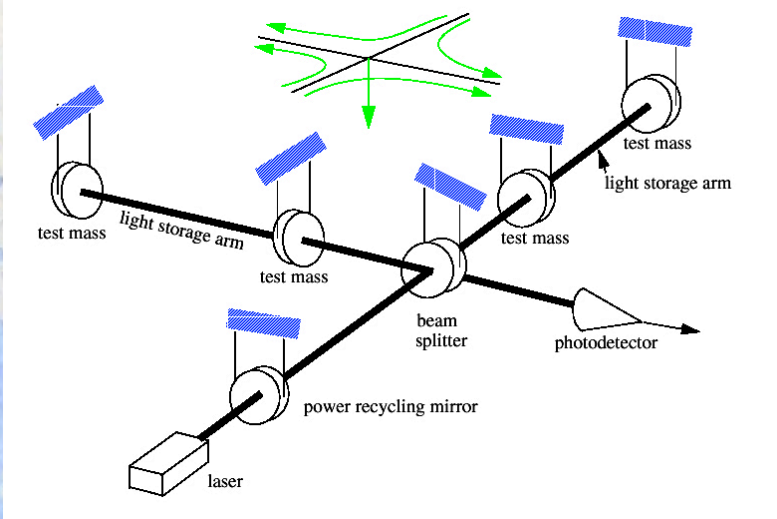
**Physics is like sex.
Sure, it may give some
practical results,
but that's not why we
do it.**

Richard Feynman

A very sensitive displacement measurement device...



Gravitational wave interferometric detector !!!



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B) Noise and non-linearity: a simple cartoon

Langevin Equation for the linear pendulum

$$\ddot{x} = -\omega_p^2 x - \int_{-\infty}^t \gamma(t - \tau) \dot{x} d\tau + \frac{\zeta(t)}{m}$$

For the generic physical dynamic system we can use the “potential” description (conservative forces):

$$\ddot{x} = -V'(x) - f(\dot{x}) + \zeta(t)$$

Where we set $m=1$ and introduced the dissipation function

B) Noise and non-linearity: a simple cartoon

Langevin Equation for the linear pendulum

$$\ddot{x} = -\omega_p^2 x - \int_{-\infty}^t \gamma(t - \tau) \dot{x} d\tau + \frac{\zeta(t)}{m}$$

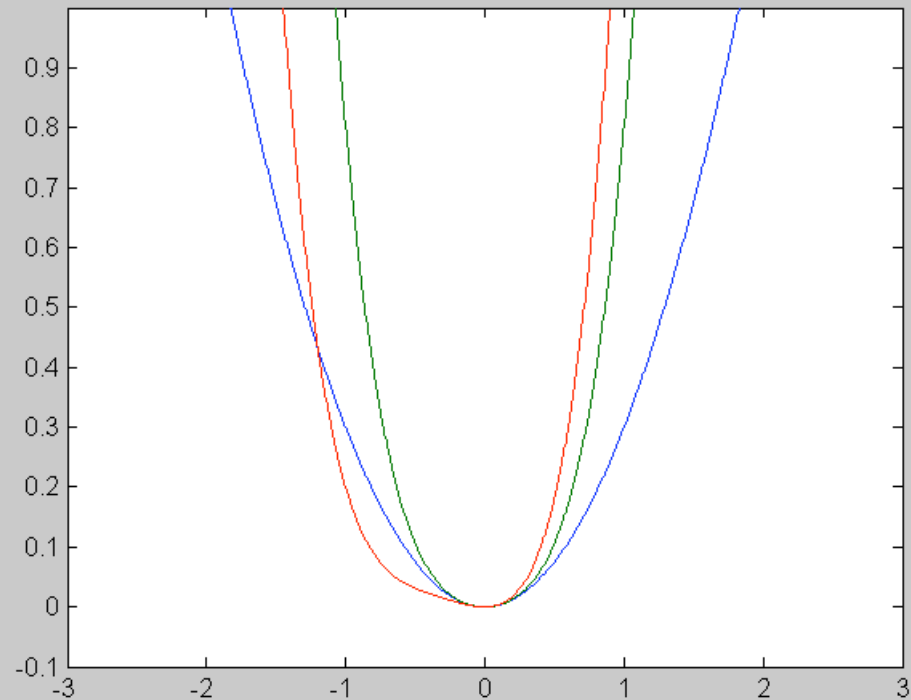
For the linear pendulum = harmonic oscillator

$$V(x) = \frac{1}{2} m \omega_p^2 x^2$$

The potential of a linear system is a parabolic one!

nonlinear dynamics in **nonlinear** potential

We can change the shape of the curve by adding terms to the polynomial expression of the potential



Monostable nonlinear potential

Bistable (nonlinear) potential

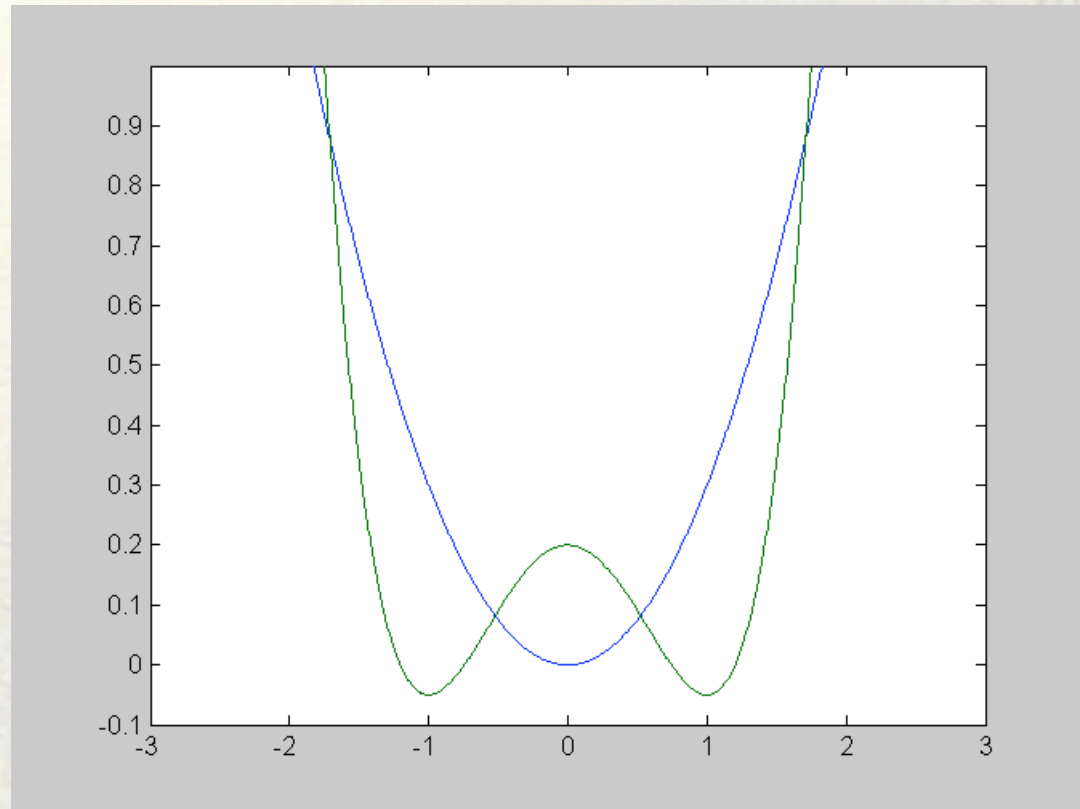
$$V(x) = -\frac{1}{2}ax^2 + \frac{1}{4}bx^4$$

Bistable ...

Add cubic term

Add quartic term

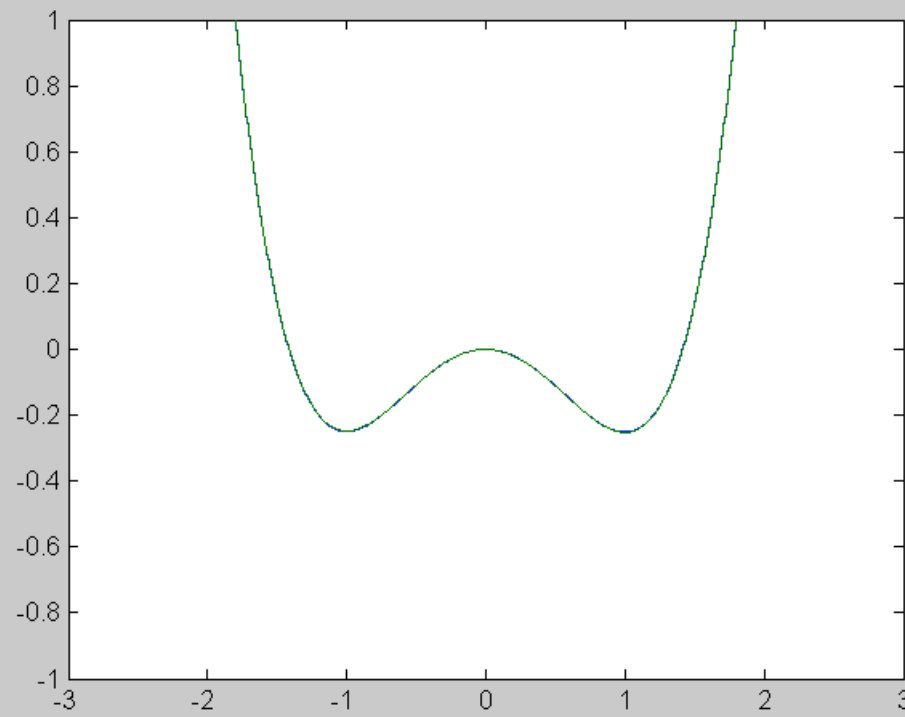
symmetric
quartic



What if ...

I introduce the time dependent part into the potential ?

$$V(x,t) = V(x) + A(t) \quad A(t) = A \sin(\omega t)$$

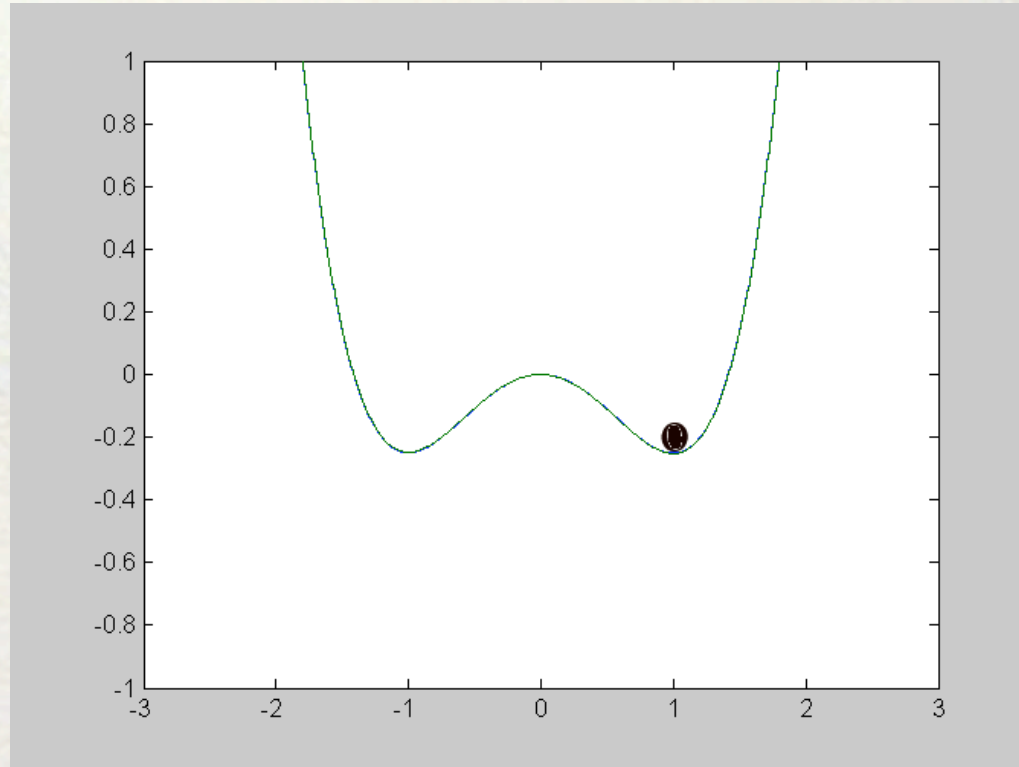




Marble in a cartoon: let's play dynamics!

$$\ddot{x} = -V'(x) - \gamma\dot{x} + A(t)$$

$$V(x) = -\frac{1}{2}ax^2 + \frac{1}{4}bx^4 \quad A(t) = A \sin(\omega t)$$



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C) The strange case of the **Stochastic Resonance** phenomenon

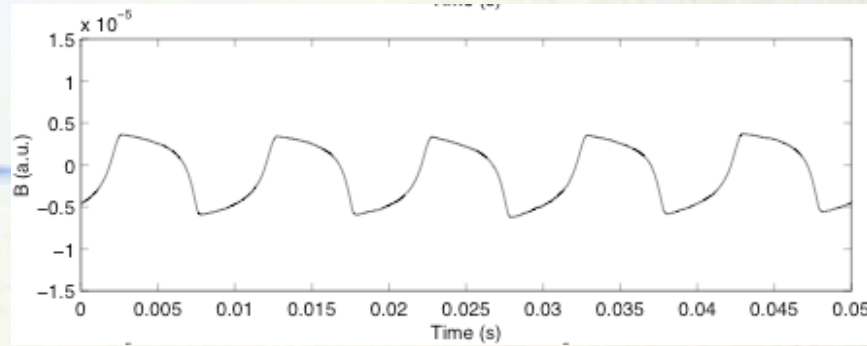
Let's consider our very basic ingredients:

$$\ddot{x} = -V'(x) - \gamma\dot{x} + A(t)$$

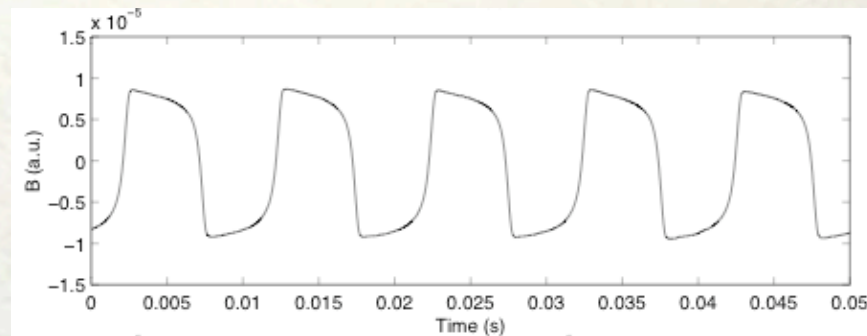
$$V(x) = -\frac{1}{2}ax^2 + \frac{1}{4}bx^4 \quad A(t) = A \sin(\omega t)$$

Let's look for the time evolution of $x(t)$

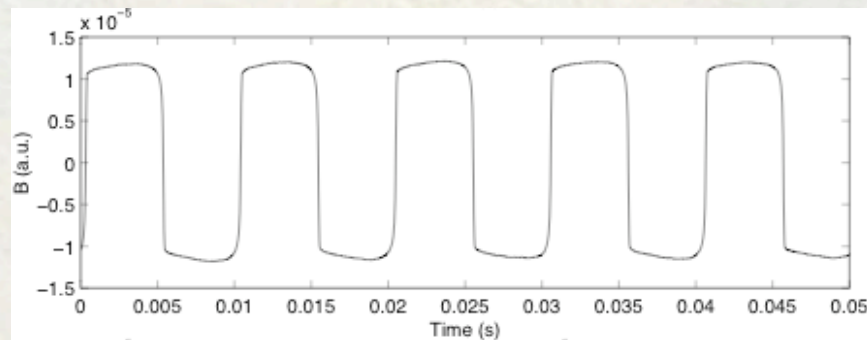
How does it look?



A = 3

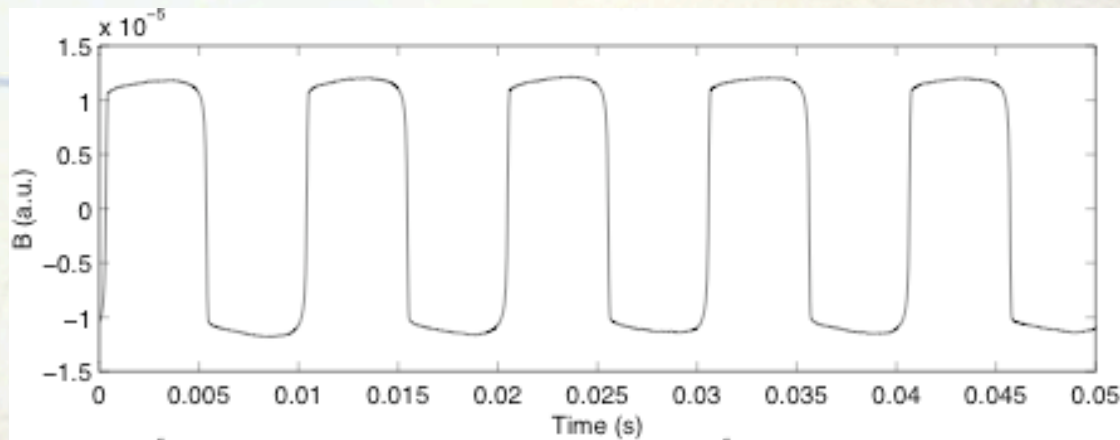


A = 4

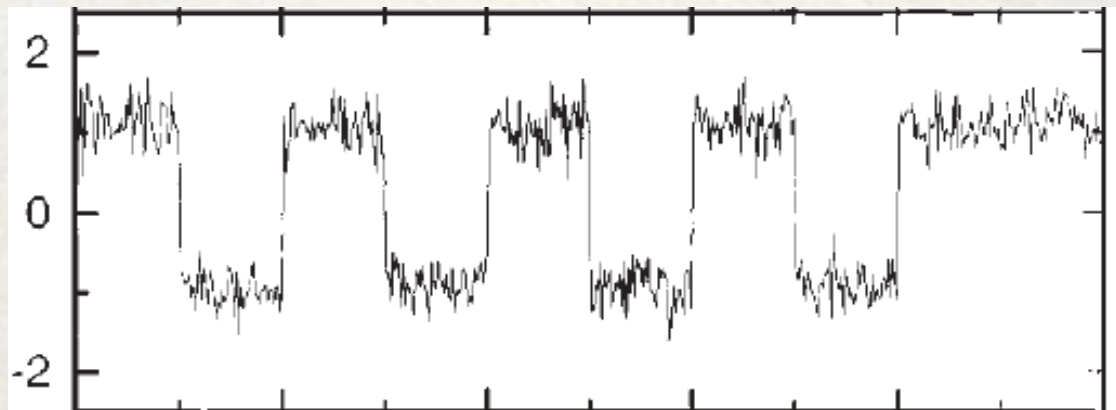


A = 5

What if we add the noisy force?



No noise

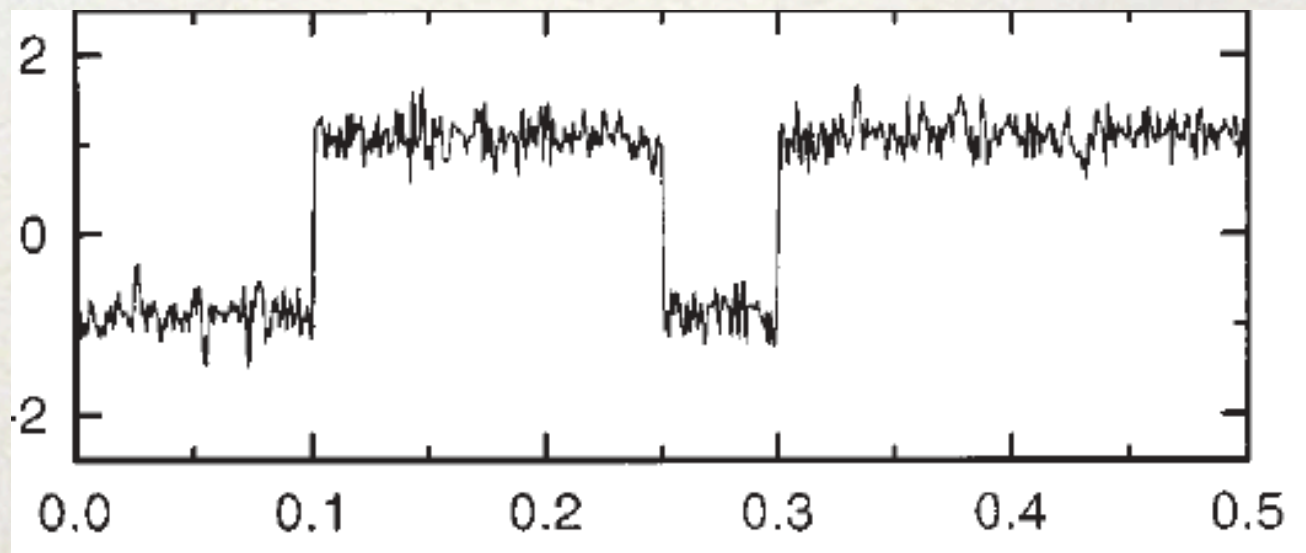


With noise

What if the periodic driving is too small
to let the marble to jump??

The marble would stay trapped into one well unless
The noise provide some help...

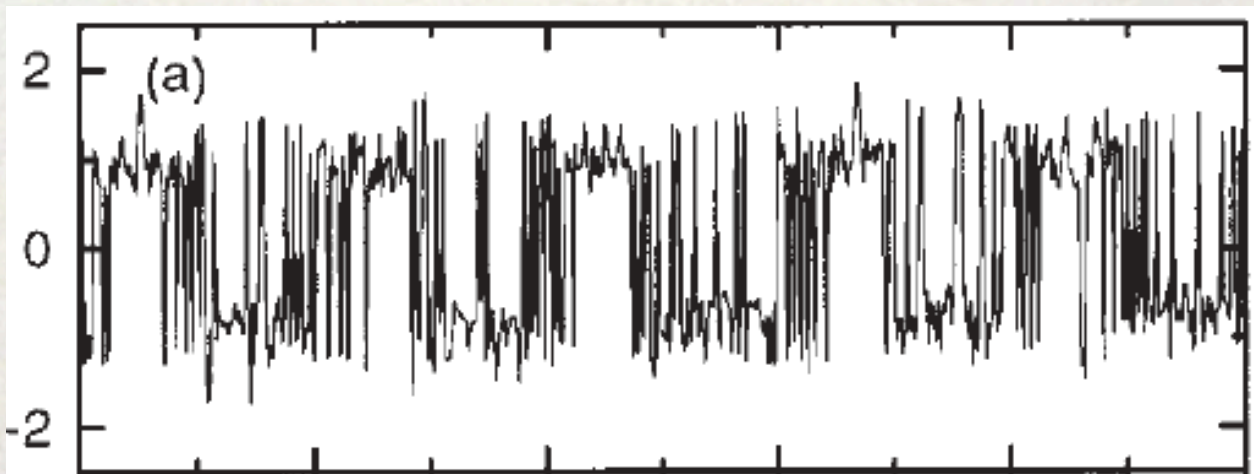
For **small** noise we will have **occasional** jumps



What if the periodic driving is too small
to let the marble to jump??

The marble would stay trapped into one well unless
The noise provide some help...

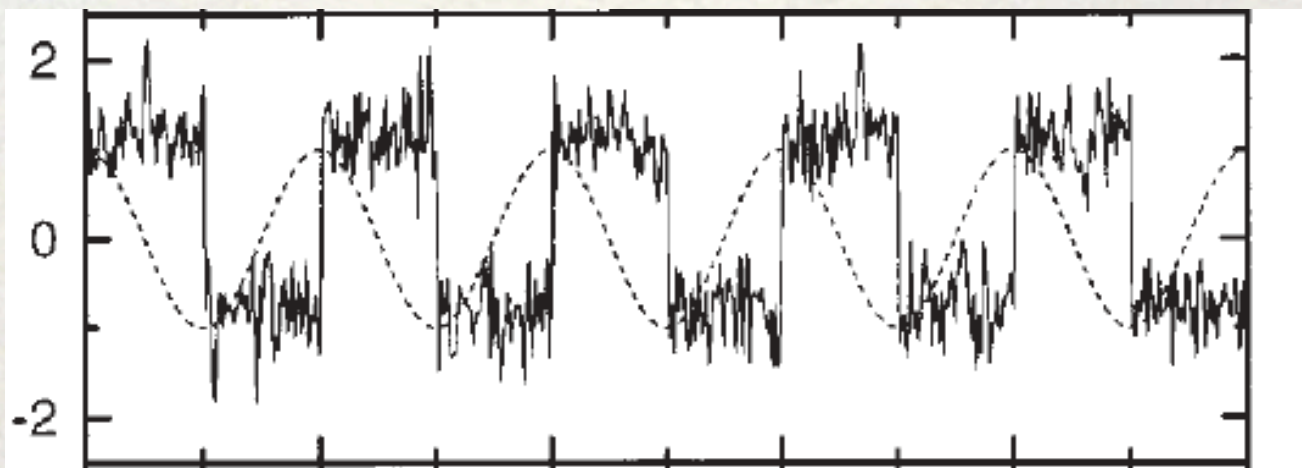
For **large** noise we will have **frequent** jumps



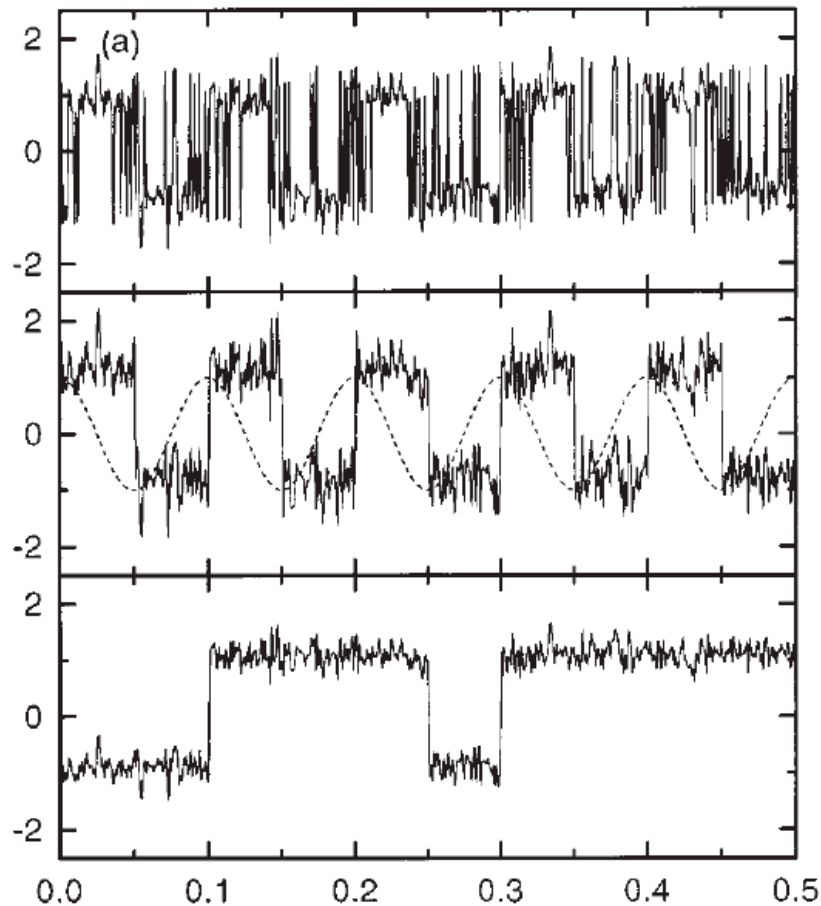
What if the periodic driving is too small
to let the marble to jump??

And in between ?

It exists an optimal noise intensity that produces the
Jumps **in synchrony** with the forcing !!!



The **Stochastic Resonance** Phenomenon

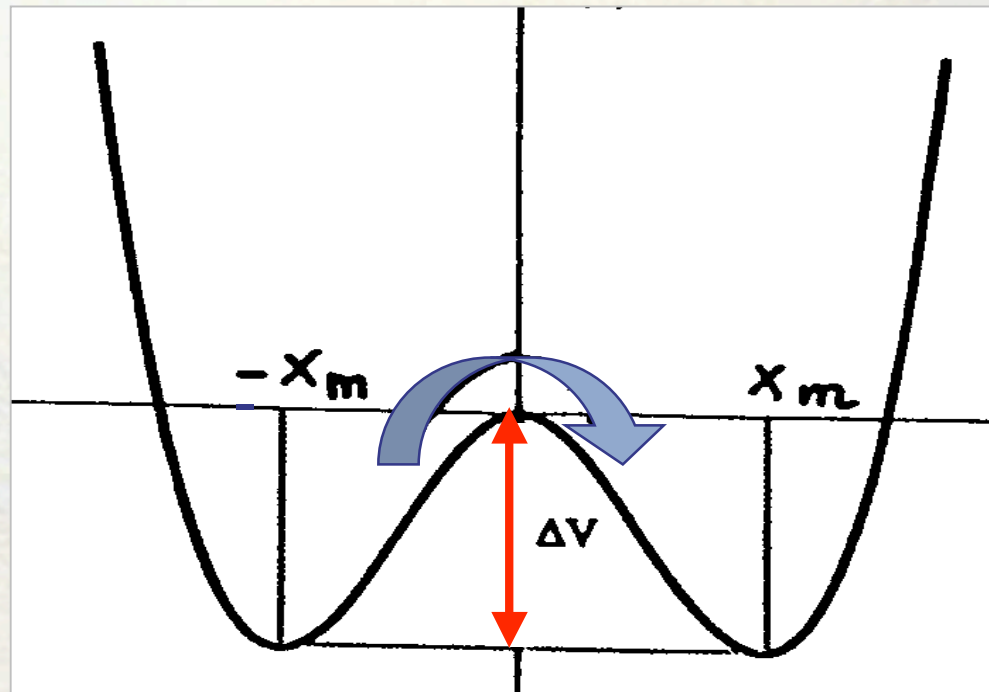


Large noise

Optimal noise

Small noise

Why such a peculiar behavior?



SR is the matching of two different time scales:

deterministic t.s. \longleftrightarrow **stochastic t.s.**

Quantitative description:

approximations

$$A_0 x_m \ll \Delta V$$

bistability

$$A_0 x_m \ll D$$

modulation as a perturbation

$$\omega \ll \mu_k(D)$$

adiabatic approximation

➤ **Kramers' mechanism:** rate

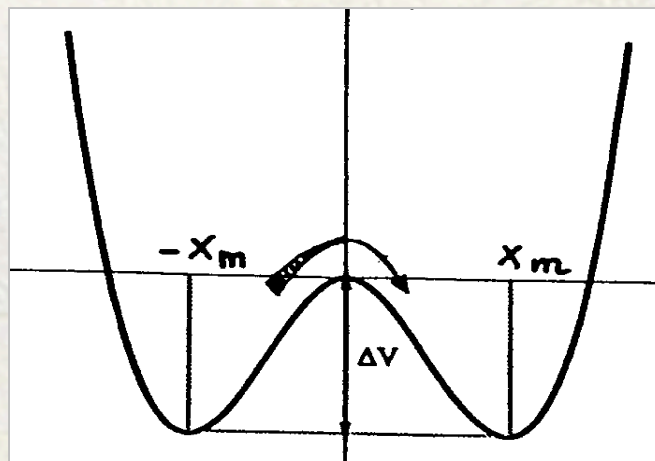
$$\mu_K(D) = (a\sqrt{2}/\pi) \left[1 - 3/8 (D/\Delta V) + \dots \right] e^{-\Delta V/D} \quad (D \ll \Delta V)$$

$$= 2 \times (\text{escape time})^{-1} \quad \pm x_m \rightarrow 0$$

SR is the matching of two different time scales:

deterministic t.s. \longleftrightarrow **stochastic t.s.**

$$T_K = \mu_K^{-1} \quad T_K = \frac{T_\omega}{2}$$



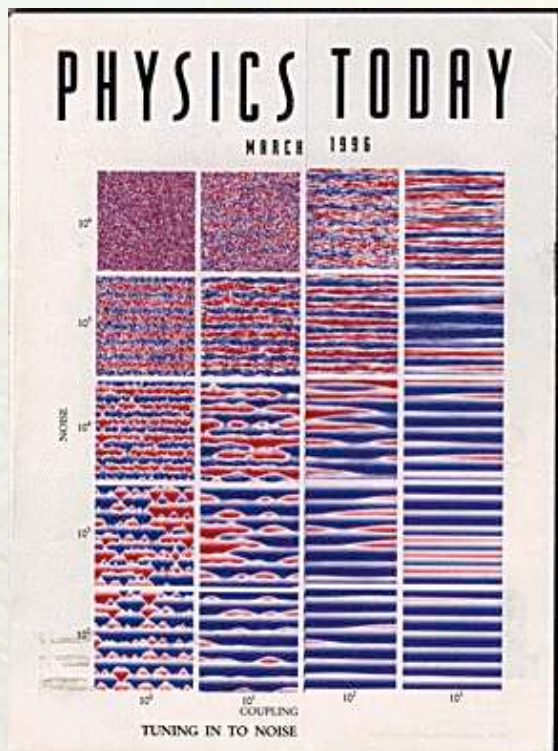
This was SR approximately 10 year ago

Since then a huge number of extensions of the very basic idea of SR where proposed and the situation got... slightly out of hand...

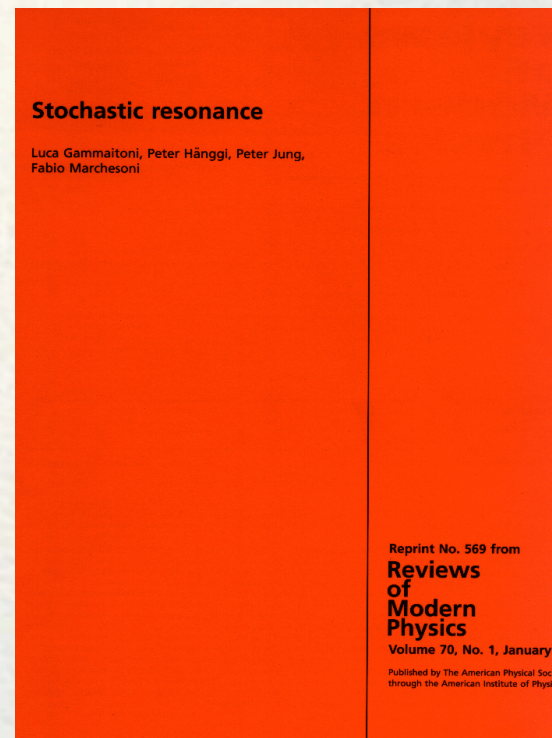
The Google logo is centered on the page. It consists of the word "Google" in its characteristic multi-colored font (blue, red, yellow, blue, green, red) with a trademark symbol. The logo is set against a white rectangular background.

Risultati **1 - 10** su circa **228.000** per "**stochastic resonance**". (0,12 s)

The **Stochastic Resonance** Phenomenon



A. R. Bulsara, L. Gammaitoni,
Physics Today Vol. 49, NO. 3, p. 39, 1996



L. Gammaitoni, P. Hanggi, P. Jung, F. Marchesoni
Rev. Mod. Phys. 70, 225 (1998)

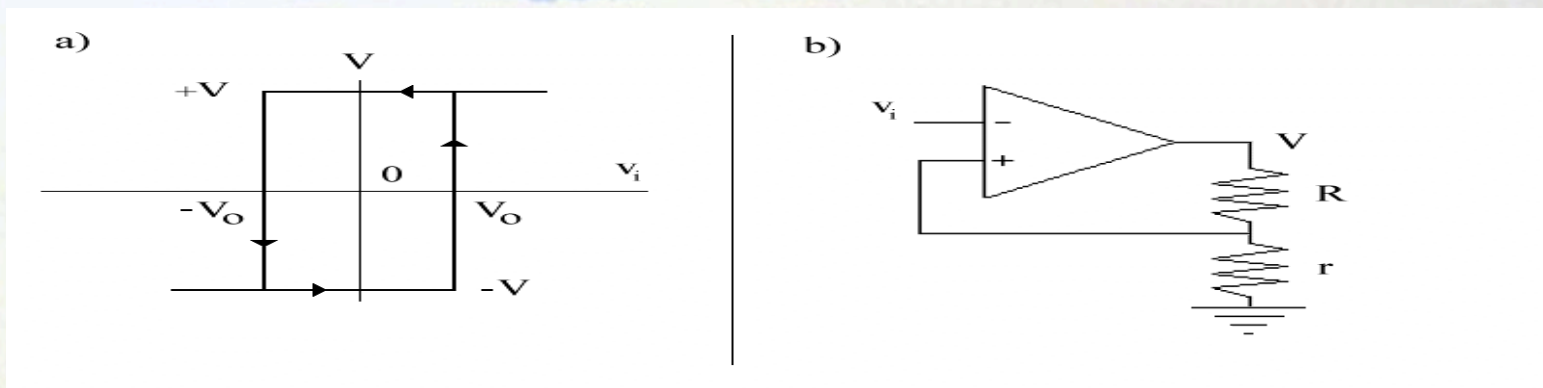
Where are we !?

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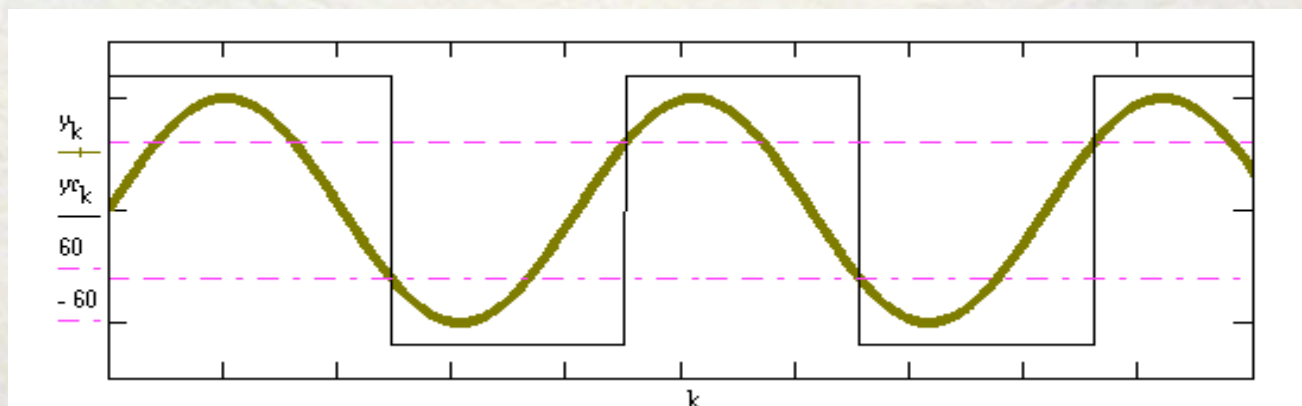
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C) Other “surprising” noise induced phenomena

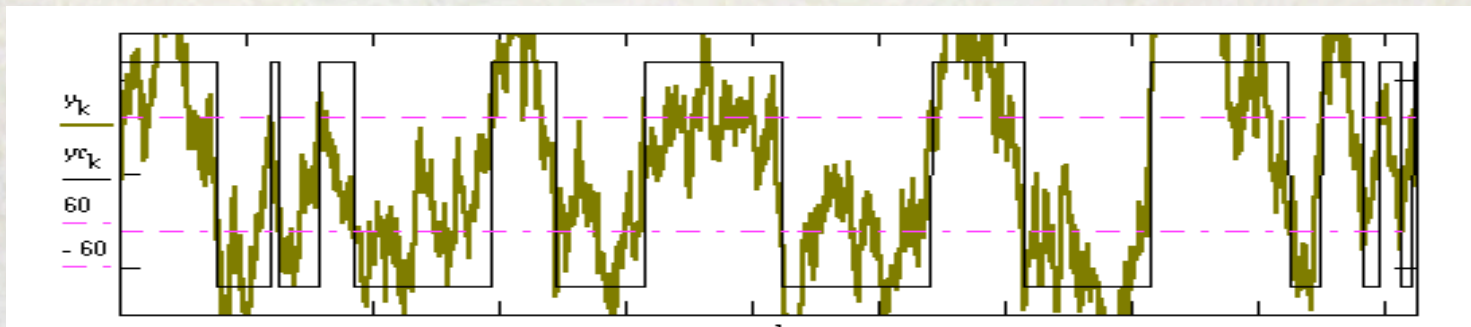
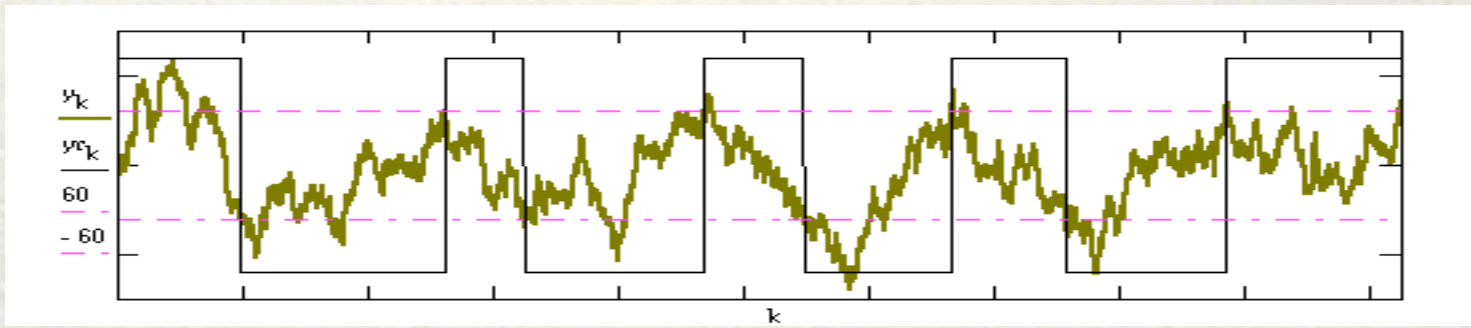
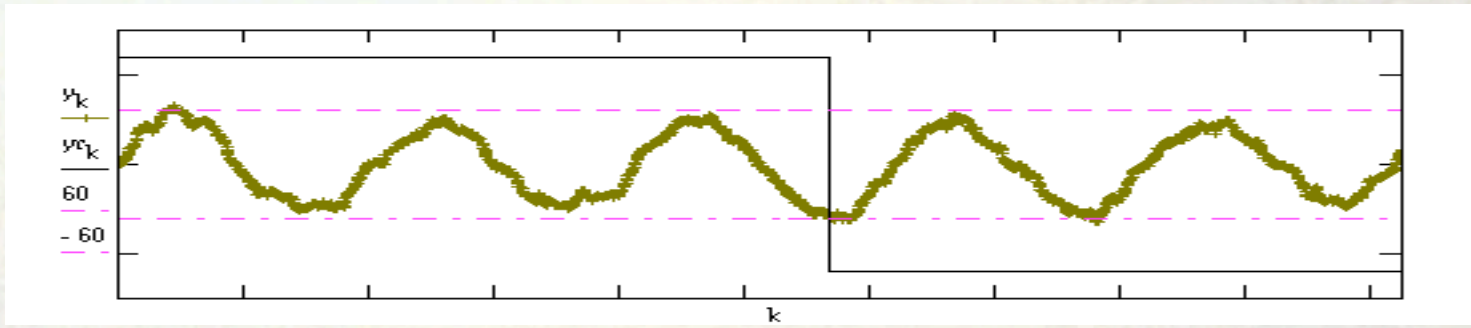
1. **Resonant Trapping**
2. Dithering Effect
3. Resonant Activation
4. Brownian Ratchet
5. Resonant crossing
6. ...



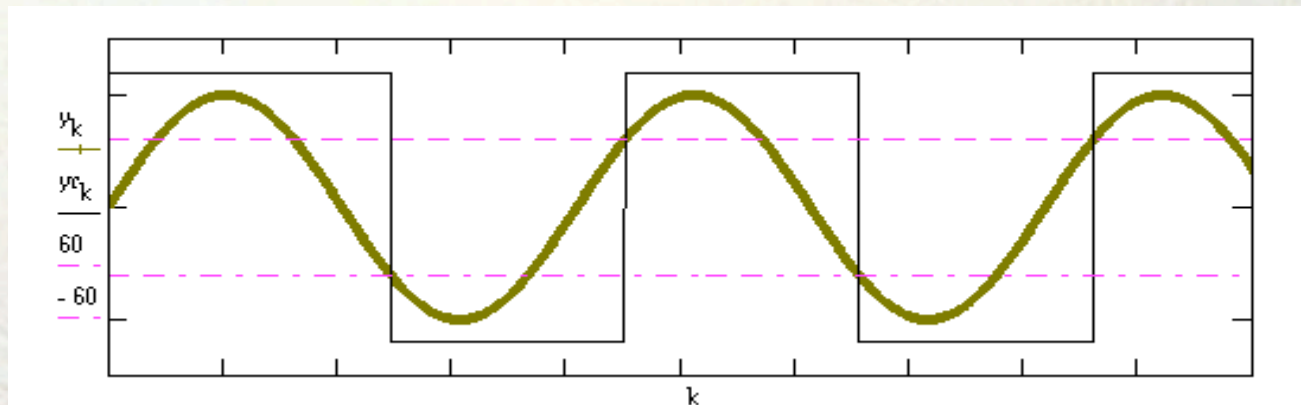
SCHMIDT TRIGGER: trasformation of a sinusoid



Stochastic Resonance in ST (after S. Fauve and F. Heslot - Phys. Lett. 97A 5 (1983))



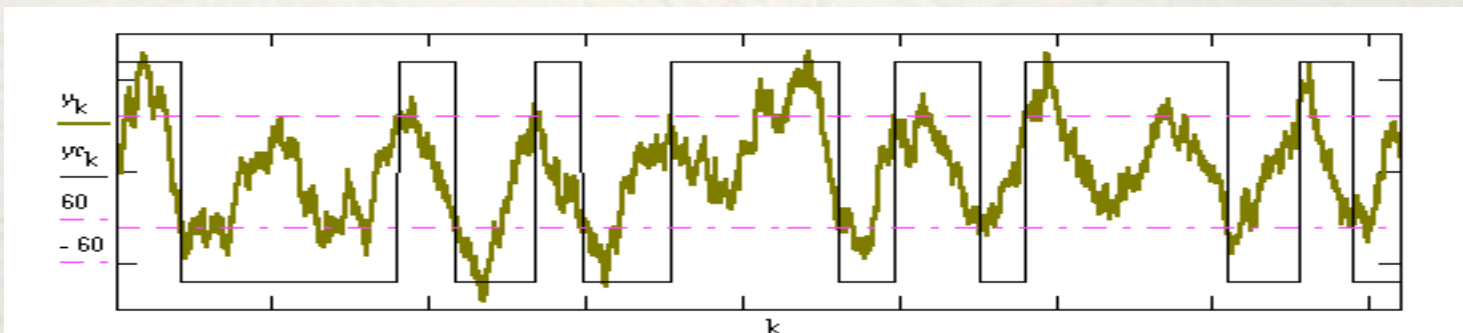
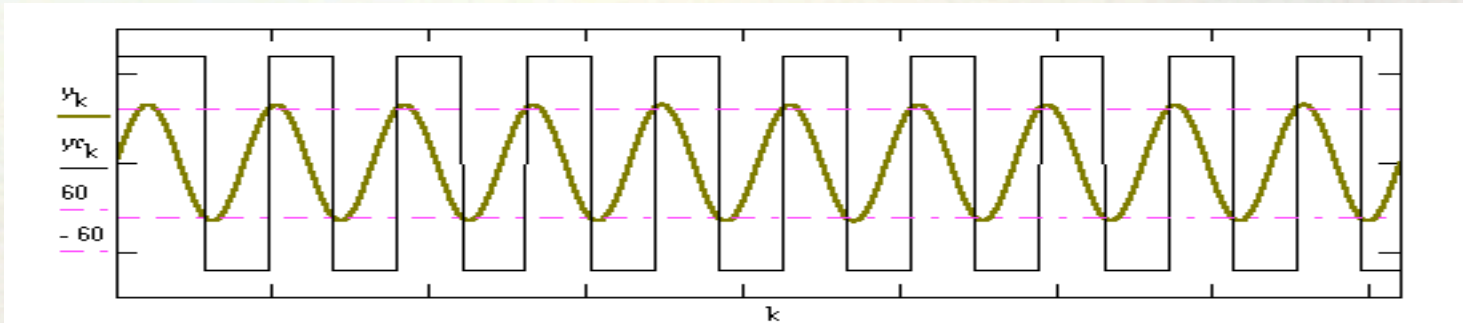
SCHMIDT TRIGGER in the SUPRA-THRESHOLD regime



The RESONANT TRAPPING effect:

The trigger switches are tightly driven by the input periodic modulation, random failure events occurring sparsely in time due to the noise input component.

SCHMIDT TRIGGER in the SUPRA-THRESHOLD regime

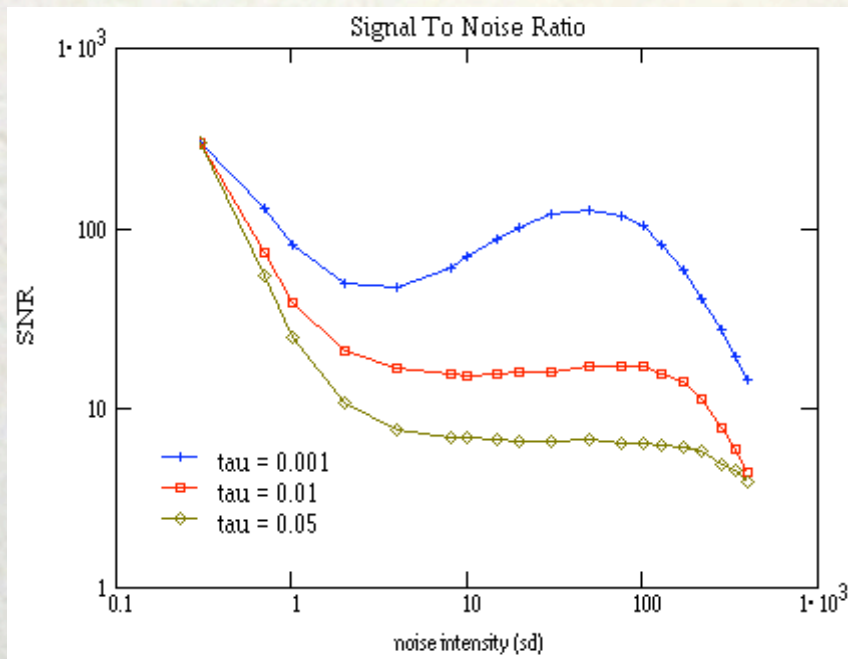


Resonant Trapping: A Failure Mechanism in Switch Transitions

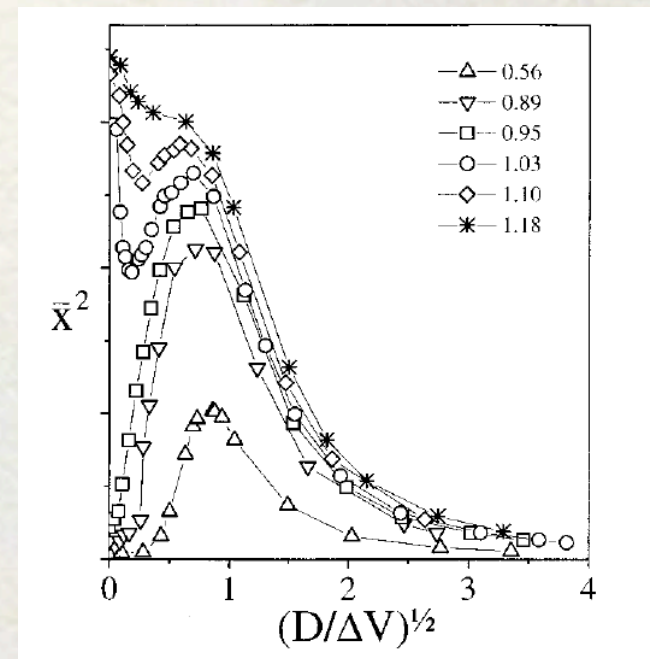
F. Apostolico, L. Gammaitoni, F. Marchesoni, S. Santucci

Phys. Rev. E 55, 36 (1997)

Resonant Trapping in a Schmidt Trigger



Resonant Trapping in a double well



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Stochastic nonlinear Dynamics at the nanoscale: modelling protein dynamics

An example from
the neighbors:

*Pre-Unfolding Resonant
Oscillations of Single Green
Fluorescent Protein Molecules*

Giancarlo Baldini, Fabio Cannone,
Giuseppe Chirico
Science 309, 1096 (2005);

Pre-Unfolding Resonant Oscillations of Single Green Fluorescent Protein Molecules

Giancarlo Baldini,* Fabio Cannone, Giuseppe Chirico

Fluorescence spectroscopy of a green fluorescent protein mutant at single-molecule resolution has revealed a remarkable oscillatory behavior that can also be driven by applied fields. We show that immediately before unfolding, several periodic oscillations among the chemical substates of the protein chromophore occur. We also show that applied alternating electric or acoustic fields, when tuned to the protein characteristic frequencies, give rise to strong resonance effects.

Proteins exhibit a large number of conformational substates that are associated with a complex energy landscape. At physiological temperature, internal specific motions enable a protein to sample its energy landscape by frequent jumps among the different states. This conformational flexibility appears to be intimately connected to protein reactivity; examples include heme proteins during the kinetics of ligand binding (1, 2), enzyme-substrate dynamics (3), and folding of RNA metastable

intermediates (4). In the past decade, attention has been extended to the internal dynamics of various biomolecules by fluorescence resonance energy transfer of engineered proteins (5, 6) and by atomic force microscopy (7). Classical investigations on biosystems have been performed mainly on ensembles that contain extremely large numbers of molecules; consequently, conformational distributions have only been indirectly inferred through models, as experiments have yielded data averaged over all the states simultaneously.

It is thus expected that the nature, the dynamics, and the role of the conformational substates can be successfully unraveled by single-molecule experiments, provided that sufficiently high space and time resolution is available. Improved experimental techniques

have recently shown great promise in revealing single-molecule dynamics (8–11). Fluorescence spectral fluctuations, for example, could be attributed to specific enzyme-substrate dynamics (4, 12). Another study revealed the protein conformational kinetics underlying fluorescence fluctuations in staphylococcal nuclease molecules (13). Single-molecule techniques have also been used to investigate protein folding and unfolding (5, 6, 14). In addition, theoretical predictions of fluorescence fluctuations associated with oscillations among different chemical states of a single molecule have been published (15).

Transitions among the conformations of green fluorescent protein (GFP), a bioluminescent protein from the jellyfish *Aequorea victoria*, have been widely investigated both experimentally (16) and theoretically (17). The intrinsic fluorescence emission of GFP has received considerable attention for its applications to molecular biology and biotechnology (18, 19). The GFP chromophore can adopt four distinct chemical substates: anionic A (deprotonated), neutral N (protonated), intermediate I (chemically similar to A), and zwitterionic Z (nonfluorescent) (20–22). Several photoreversion (fig. S1) pathways among the A, N, and I substates have been established (21, 23, 24). Under laser illumination, the GFP fluorescence displays random switching between A and N substates in the microsecond to millisecond range (24–27).

When dealing with single proteins, the contributions of each conformational substate

Laboratory for Advanced BioSpectroscopy, Physics Department, and Centro Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR)–Istituto Nazionale per la Fisica della Materia (INFN), University of Milano–Bicocca, Milano I-20126, Italy.

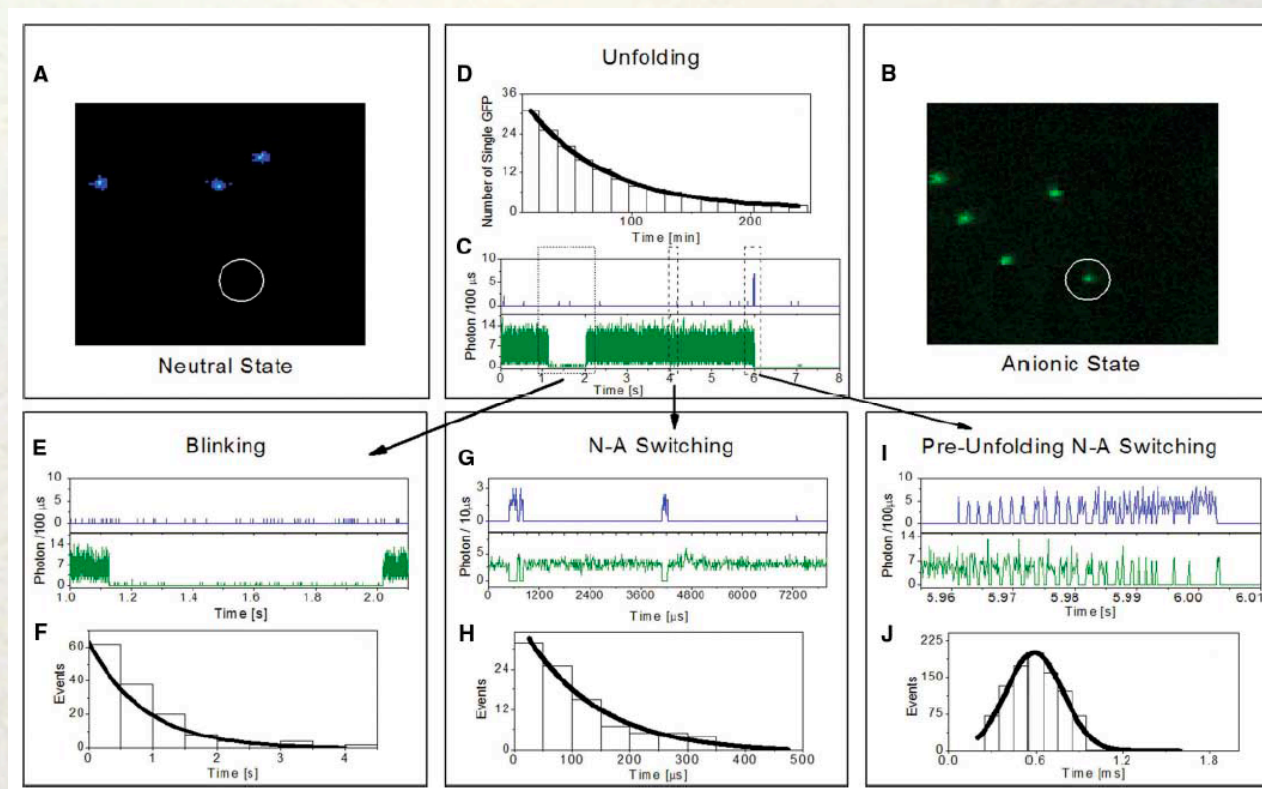
*To whom correspondence should be addressed.
E-mail: baldini@mib.infn.it

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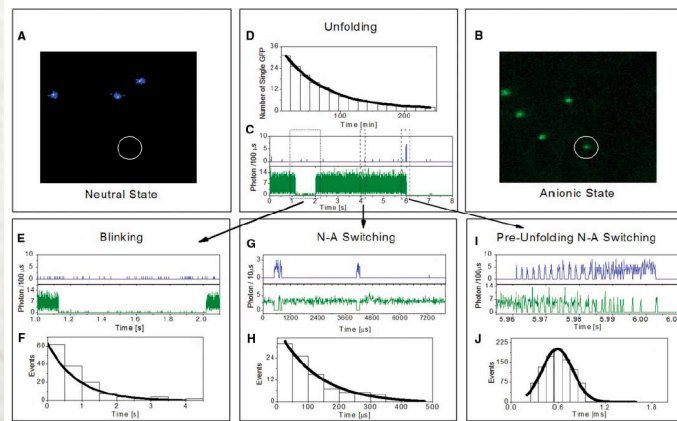
12 AUGUST 2005 VOL 309 SCIENCE www.sciencemag.org

Two-photon fluorescence images of eight single GFPs in the 8 mm by 8 mm field of view.

Blue spots are molecules in the neutral state N; green spots are molecules in the anionic state A.



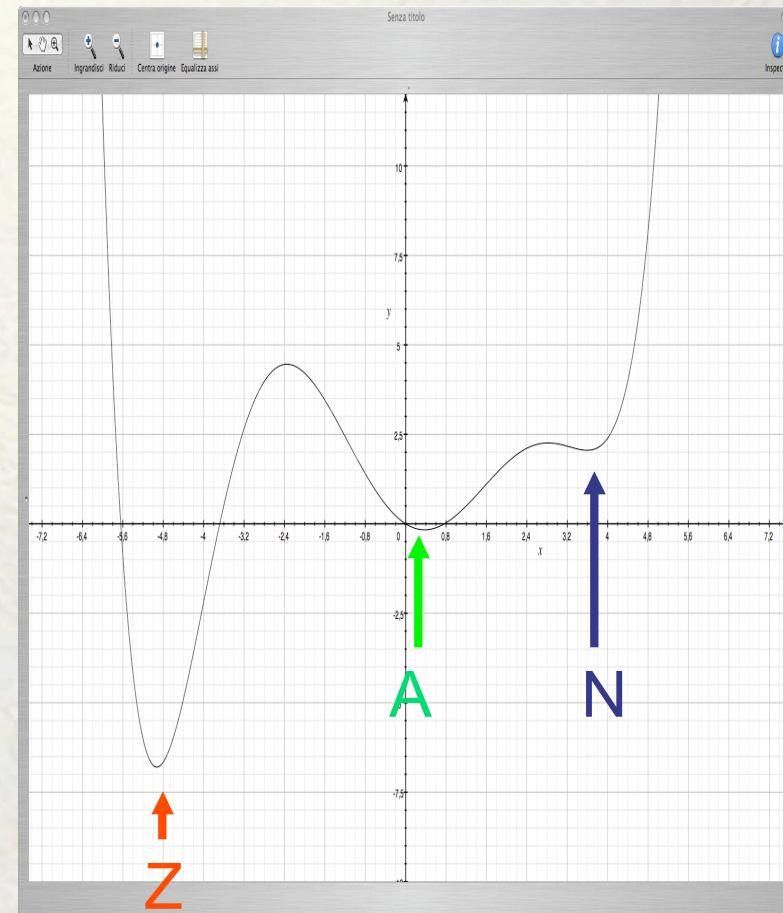
Phenomenological approach



Nonlinear **stochastic**
Dynamical model

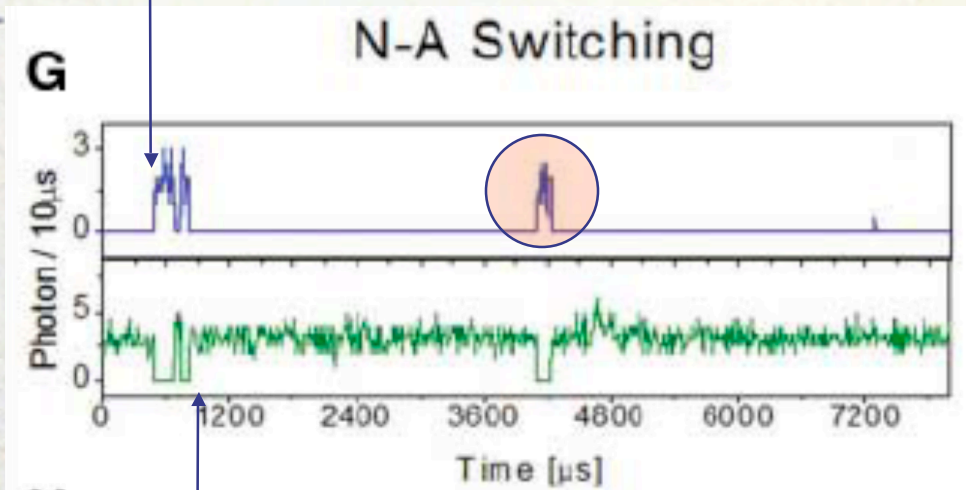
$$dx/dt = -dV(x)/dx + \xi(t)$$

↑
Noise !!!

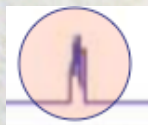


Phenomenon: N-A switching

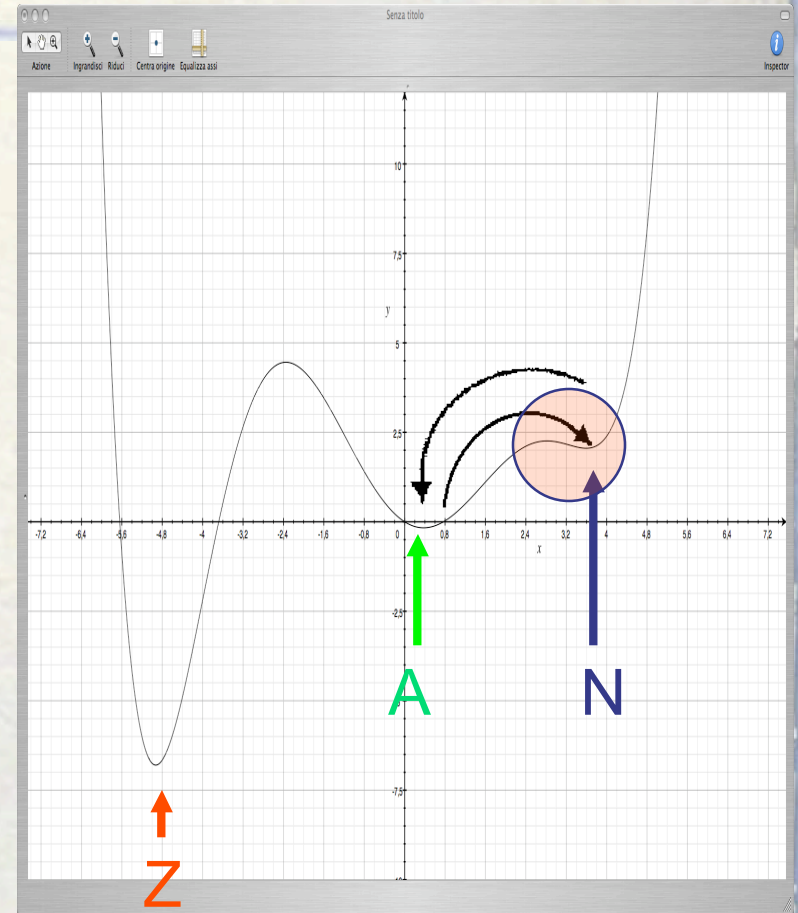
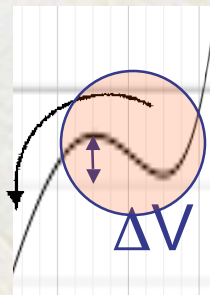
Transition A-N



Transition N-A

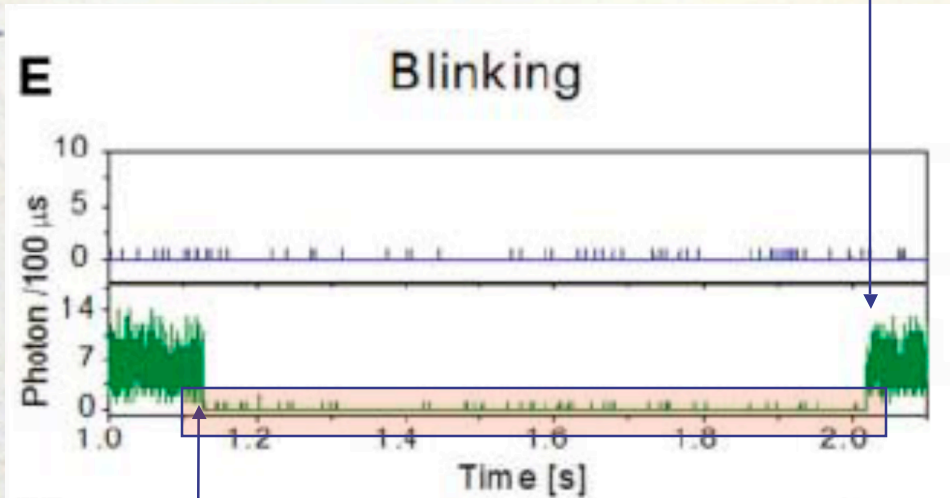


The average width is related to the height of the potential barrier



Phenomenon: A-Z Blinking

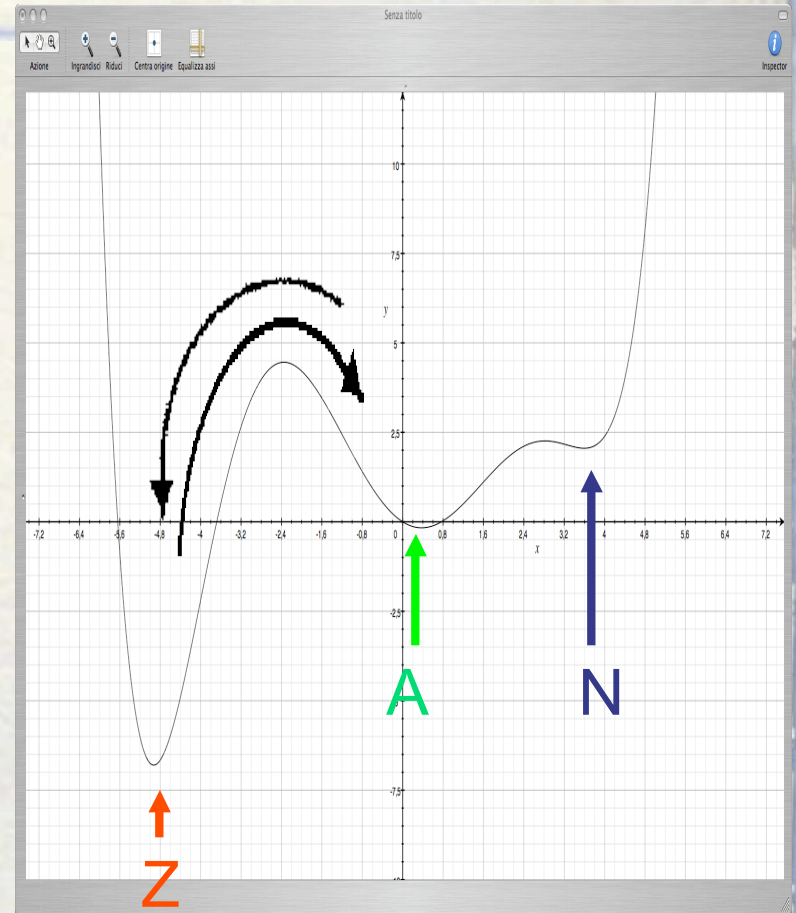
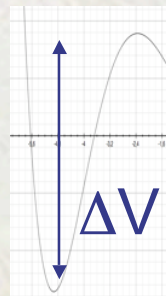
Transition Z-A



Transition A-Z

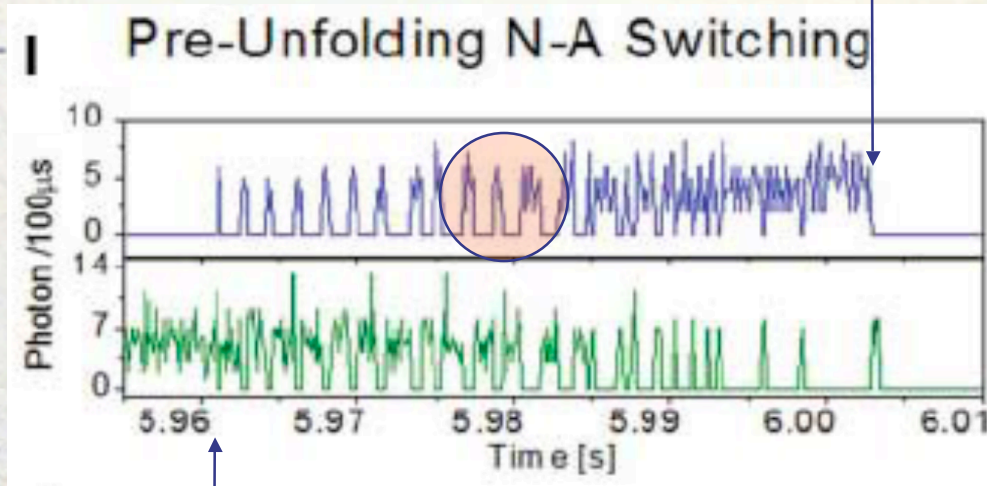


The average width is related to the height of the potential barrier



Pre-Unfolding: N-A Switching

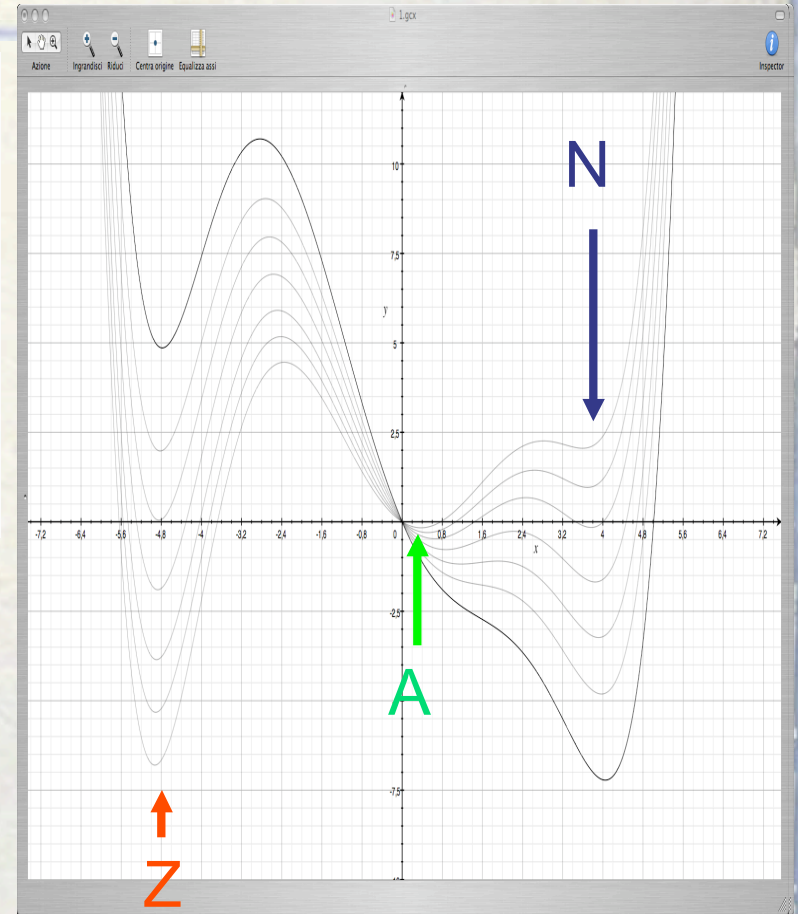
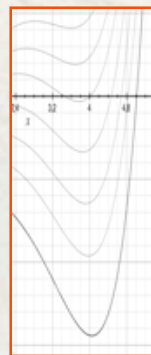
End unfolding N prevalence



beginning unfolding A prevalence



The width (res. Time) changes as the unfolding proceeds.



Conclusions...

Noise and Nonlinearity: an interesting mix!!!

*There are more things in heaven
and earth, Horatio, than are
dreamt of in our philosophy.*

W. Shakespeare, Hamlet

