

# Heterogeneity and chaos: Granular chains and DNA models

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Adrian Schwellnus, Malcolm Hillebrand, George Kalosakas

# Outline

- Chaotic behavior of granular chains
  - ✓ Weakly nonlinear regime: Long-lived chaotic Anderson-like localization
  - ✓ Highly nonlinear regime: equilibrium chaotic state
- DNA models
  - ✓ Lyapunov exponents
  - ✓ Different dynamical regimes
  - ✓ DNA melting
  - ✓ Deviation Vector Distributions
- Summary

# Energy Distributions

We consider normalized **energy distributions**

$$z_v \equiv \frac{E_v}{\sum_m E_m} \text{ with } E_v \text{ being the energy of particle } v.$$

**Second moment:**  $m_2 = \sum_{v=1}^N (v - \bar{v})^2 z_v \quad \text{with} \quad \bar{v} = \sum_{v=1}^N v z_v$

**Participation number:**  $P = \frac{1}{\sum_{v=1}^N z_v^2}$

measures the number of stronger excited modes in  $z_v$ .

Single site excitation  $P=1$ . Equipartition of energy  $P=N$ .

# Lyapunov Exponents (LEs) and Deviation Vector Distributions (DVDs)

Consider an orbit in the  $2N$ -dimensional phase space with **initial condition  $x(0)$**  and an **initial deviation vector from it  $v(0)$** . Then the mean exponential rate of divergence is:

$$m \text{ LCE} = \lambda_1 = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t} \ln \frac{\|\vec{v}(t)\|}{\|\vec{v}(0)\|}$$

$\lambda_1=0 \rightarrow$  Regular motion  $\propto (t^{-1})$

$\lambda_1 \neq 0 \rightarrow$  Chaotic motion

Deviation vector:

$$v(t) = (\delta u_1(t), \delta u_2(t), \dots, \delta u_N(t), \delta p_1(t), \delta p_2(t), \dots, \delta p_N(t))$$

$$\text{DVD: } w_l = \frac{\delta u_l^2 + \delta p_l^2}{\sum_l (\delta u_l^2 + \delta p_l^2)}$$

# Granular media

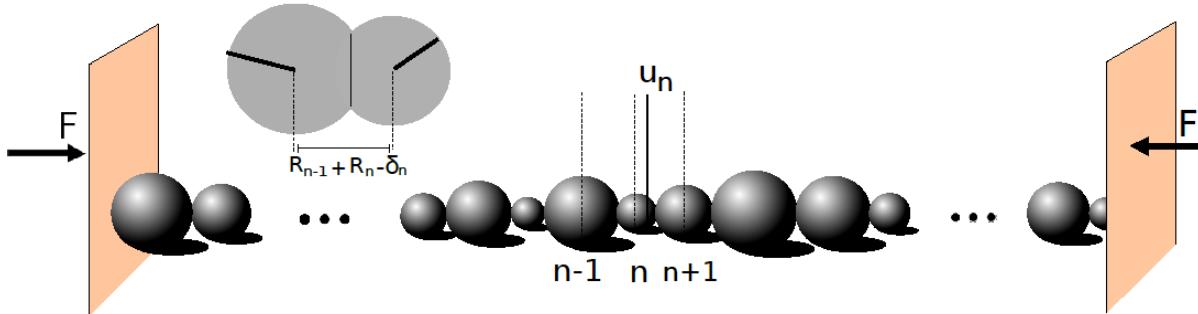


**Examples: coal, sand, rice, nuts, coffee etc.**

**1D granular chain (experimental control of nonlinearity and disorder)**



# Hamiltonian model



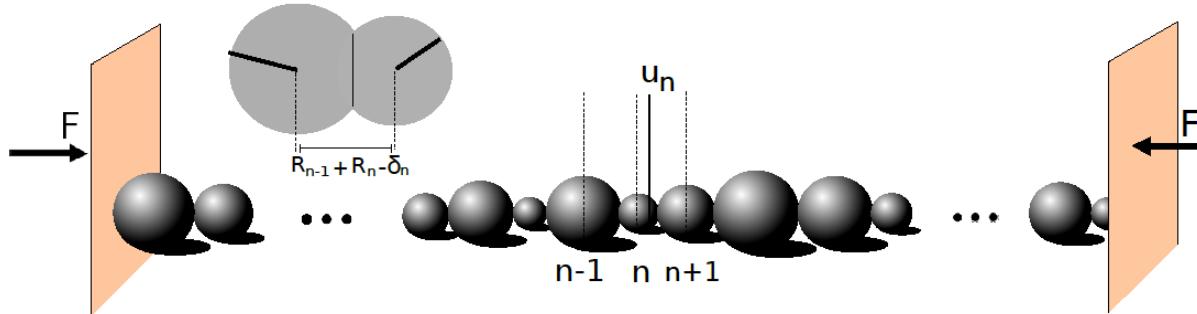
$$H = \sum_{n=1}^N \left( \frac{p_n^2}{2m_n} + \frac{2}{5} A_n [\delta_n + u_{n-1} - u_n]_+^{5/2} - \frac{2}{5} A_n \delta_n^{5/2} - A_n \delta_n^{3/2} (u_{n-1} - u_n) \right)$$

$$\delta_n = (F/A_n)^{2/3} \quad A_n = (2/3)\mathcal{E}\sqrt{(R_{n-1}R_n)/(R_{n-1} + R_n)}/(1 - \nu^2)$$

$[x]_+$ =0 if  $x<0$ : **formation of a gap.**  $\nu$ : Poisson's ratio,  $\mathcal{E}$ : Elastic modulus.

Hertzian forces between spherical beads. Fixed boundary conditions.

# Hamiltonian model



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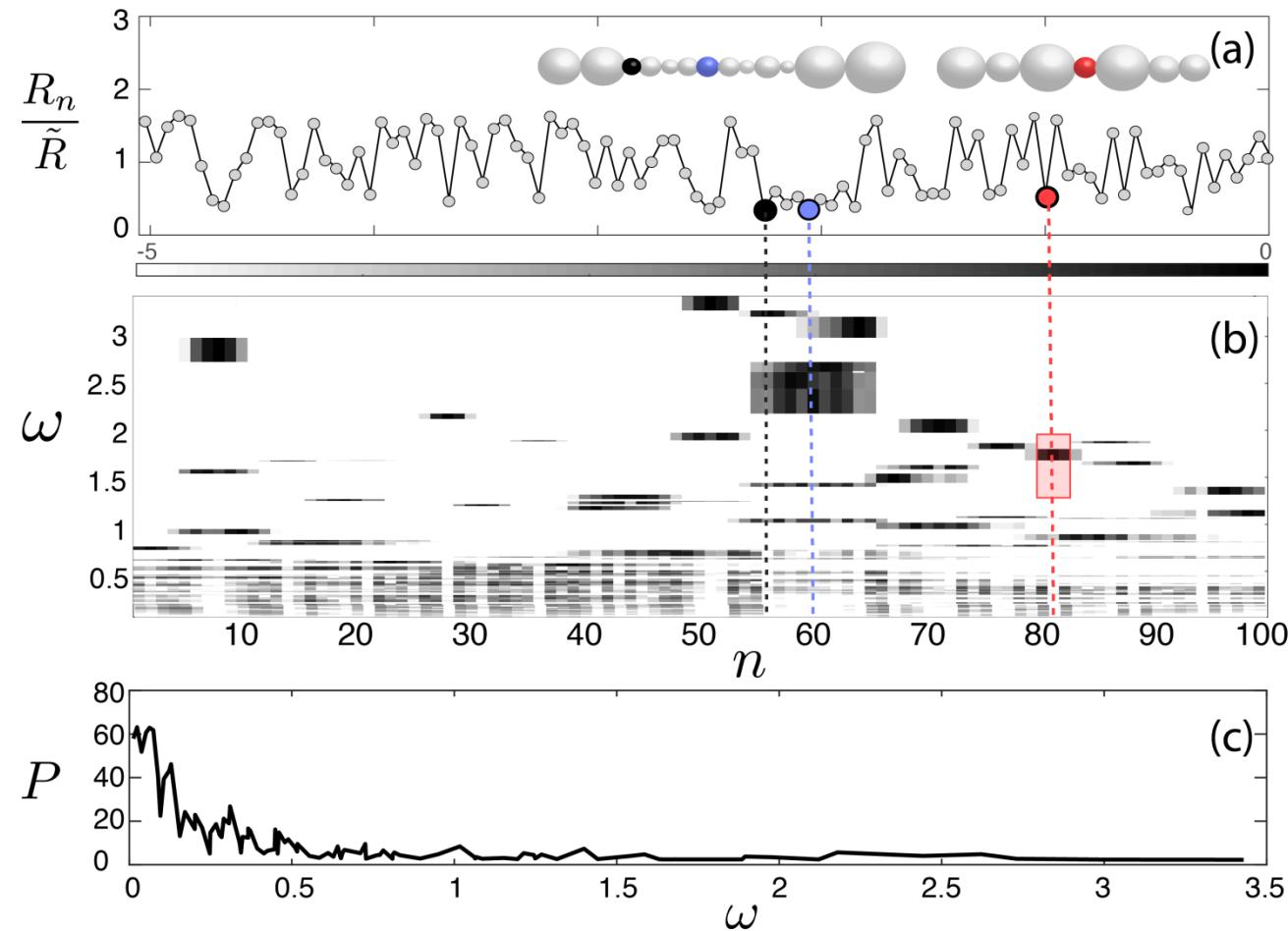
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**Disorder both in couplings and masses**

$R_n \in [R, \alpha R]$  with  $\alpha \geq 1$

# Eigenmodes and single site excitations

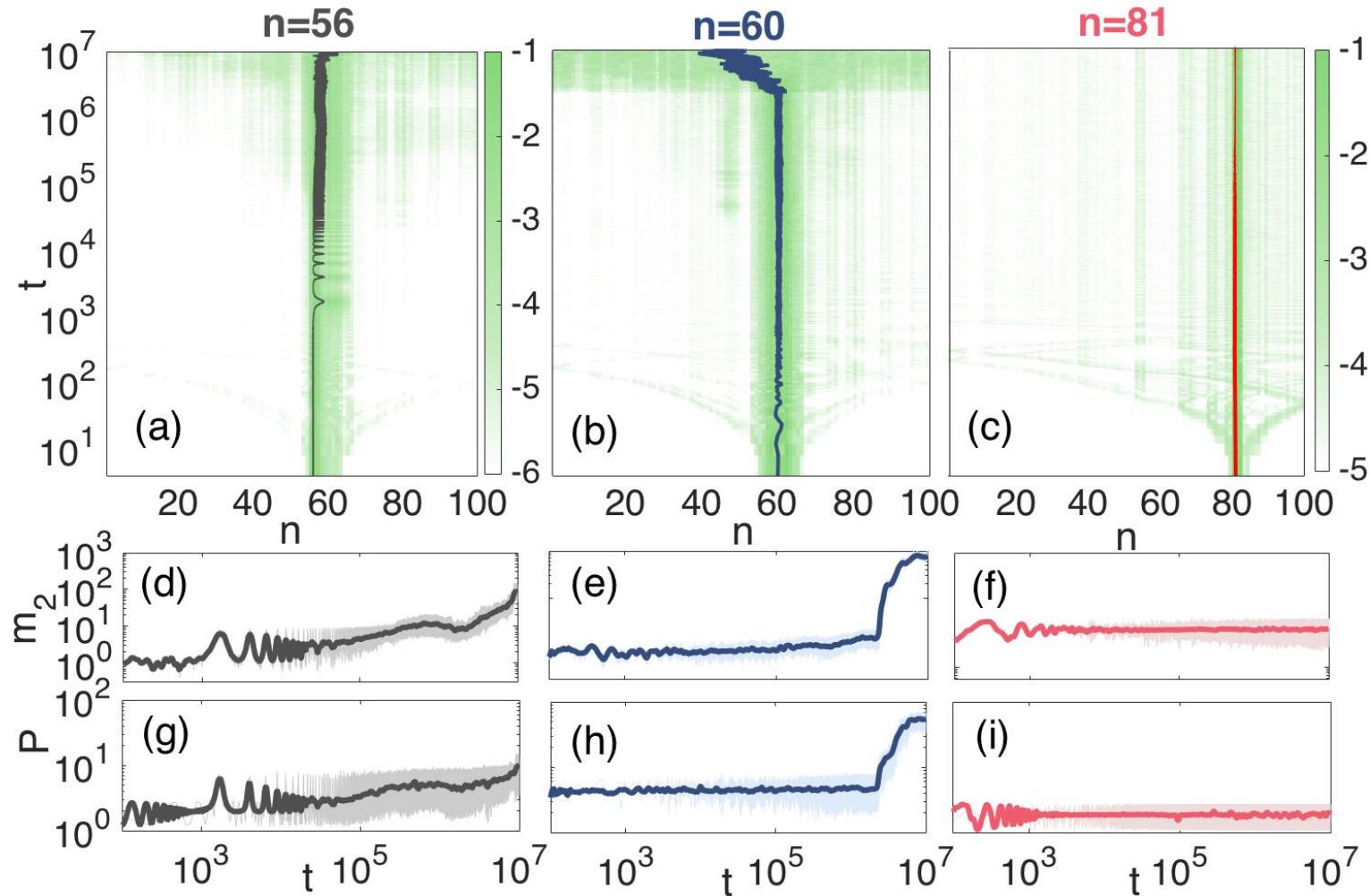


Disorder realization  
with  $N=100$  beads

Displacement  
excitation of bead  $n$

Participation number  
of eigenmodes.  
About 10 extended  
modes with  $P > 40$

# Weak nonlinearity: Long time evolution

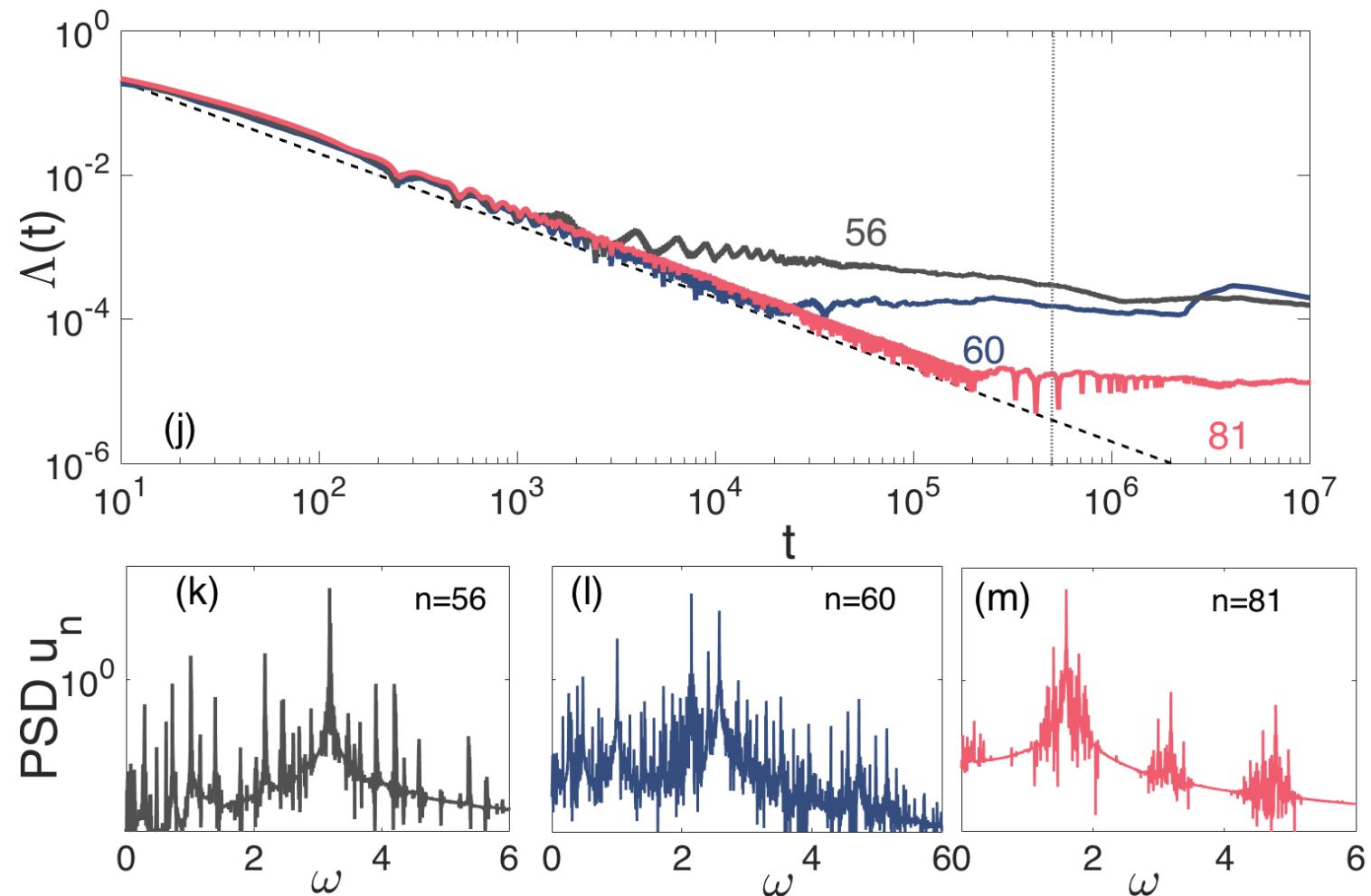


**Delocalization**

**Delocalization**

**Localization**

# Weak nonlinearity: Chaoticity



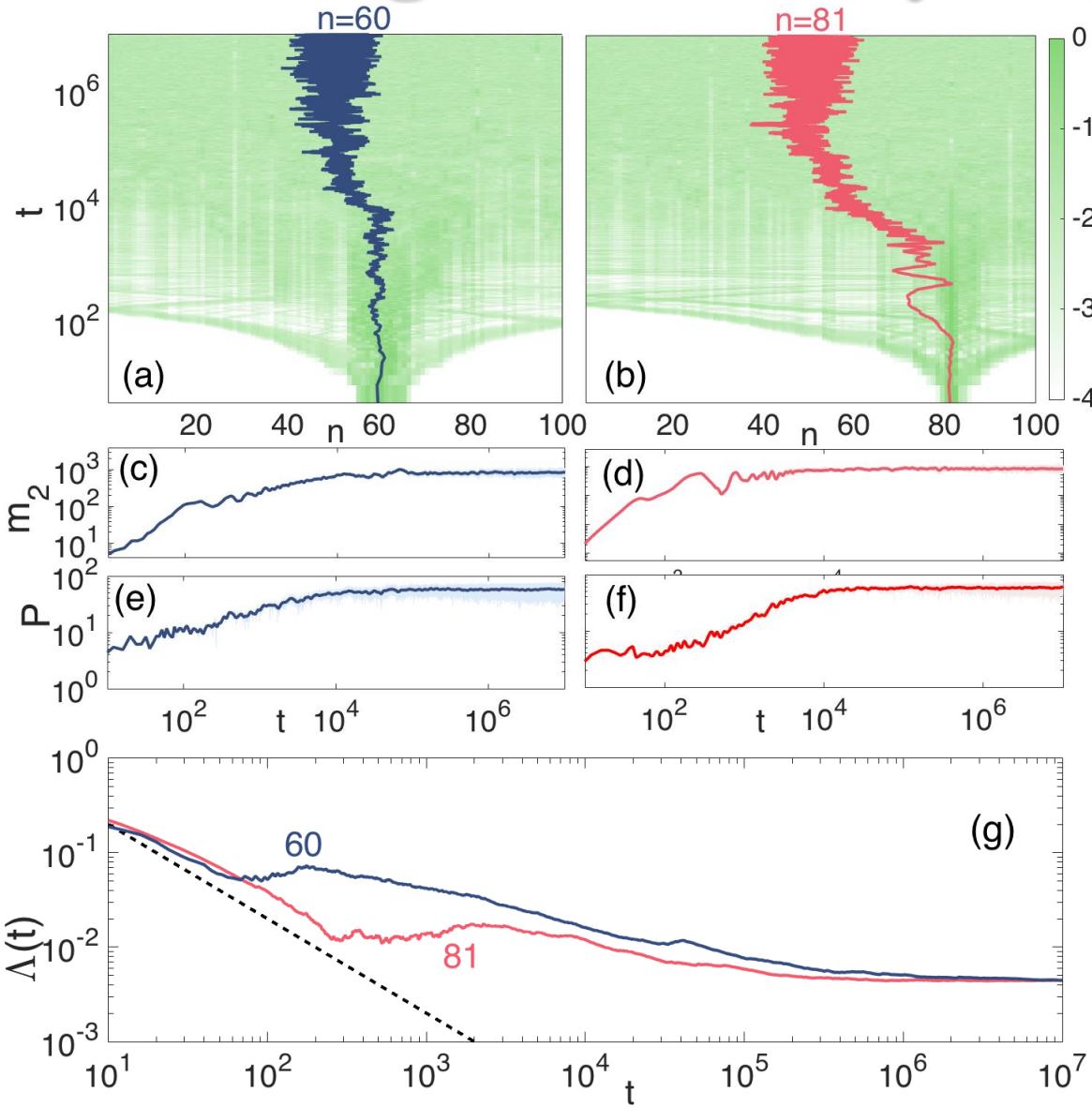
Weakly chaotic motion:  
Delocalization

Long-lived chaotic  
Anderson-like  
Localization

mLCE

Power  
Spectrum  
Distribution

# Strong nonlinearity: Equipartition

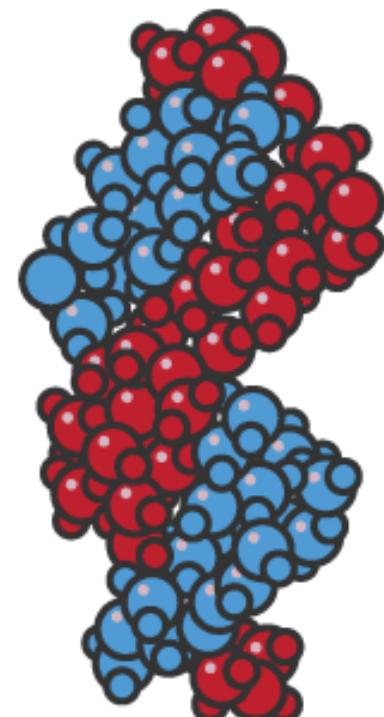
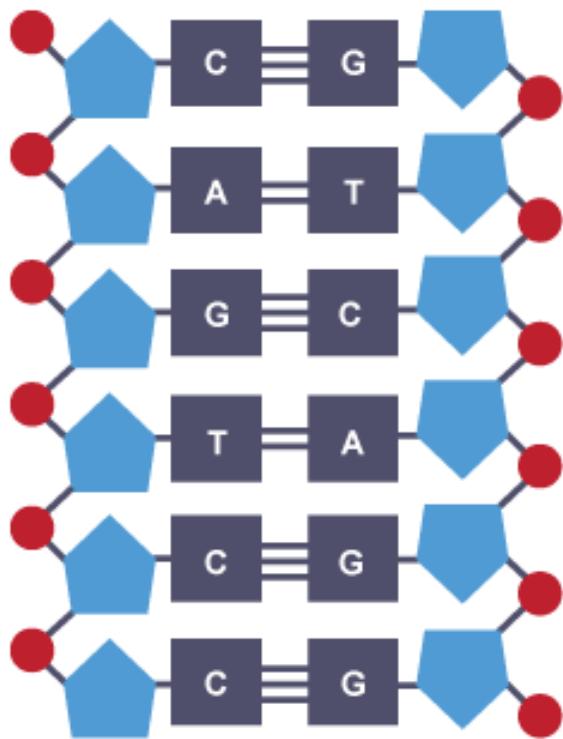


The granular chain reaches energy equipartition and an equilibrium chaotic state, independent of the initial position excitation.

# DNA structure

Double helix with two types of bonds:

- Adenine-thymine (AT) – two hydrogen bonds
- Guanine-cytosine (GC) – three hydrogen bonds



# Hamiltonian model

**Peyrard-Bishop-Dauxois (PBD) model**  
[Dauxois, Peyrard, Bishop, PRE (1993)]

$$H_N = \sum_{n=1}^N \left[ \frac{1}{2m} p_n^2 + D_n (e^{-a_n y_n} - 1)^2 + \frac{K}{2} (1 + \rho e^{-b(y_n + y_{n-1})}) (y_n - y_{n-1})^2 \right]$$

**Bond potential energy (Morse potential)**

GC: D=0.075 eV, a=6.9 Å<sup>-1</sup>

AT: D=0.05 eV, a=4.2 Å<sup>-1</sup>

**Nearest neighbors coupling potential**

K=0.025 eV/Å<sup>2</sup>, ρ=2, b=0.35 Å<sup>-1</sup>

# Disorder realizations

Different arrangements of **AT** and **GC** bonds.

AT AT AT AT AT AT AT AT AT AT



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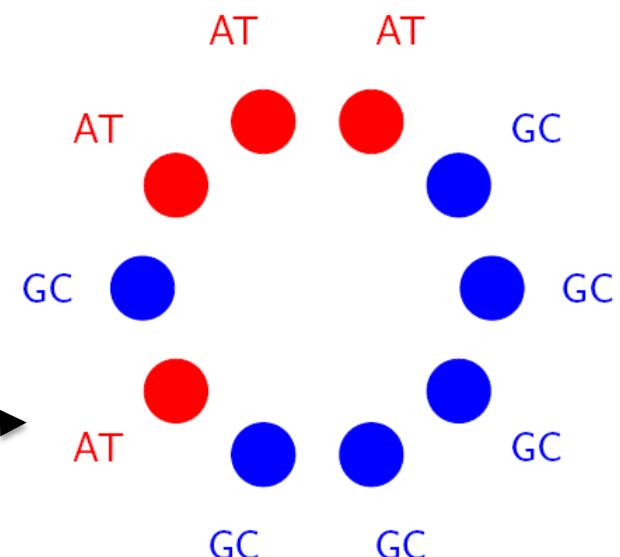
$$P_{AT}=1 \text{ (100\% AT bonds)}$$



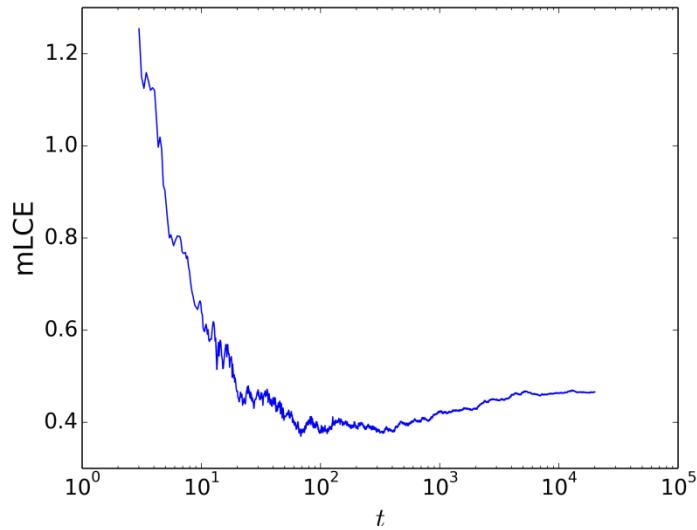
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Periodic boundary conditions

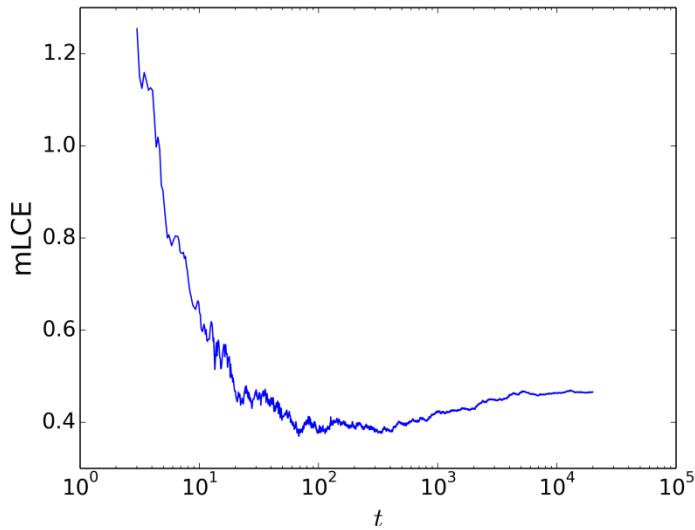


# Lyapunov exponents ( $E/n=0.04$ , $P_{AT}=0.3$ )



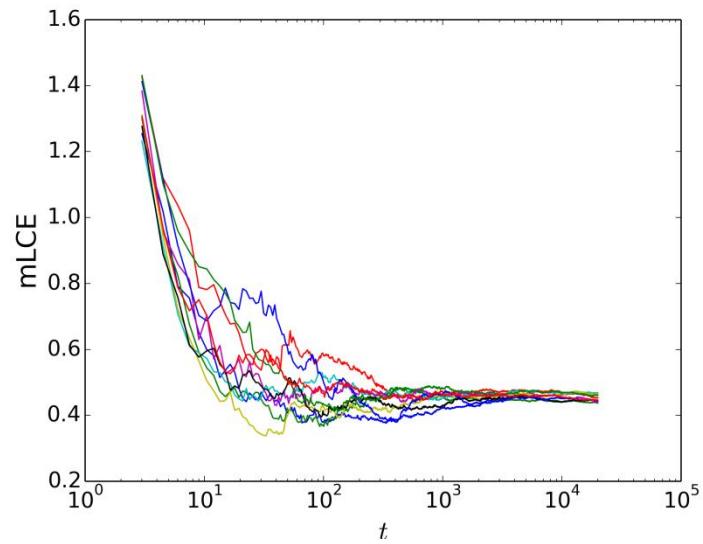
1 realization, 1 initial condition

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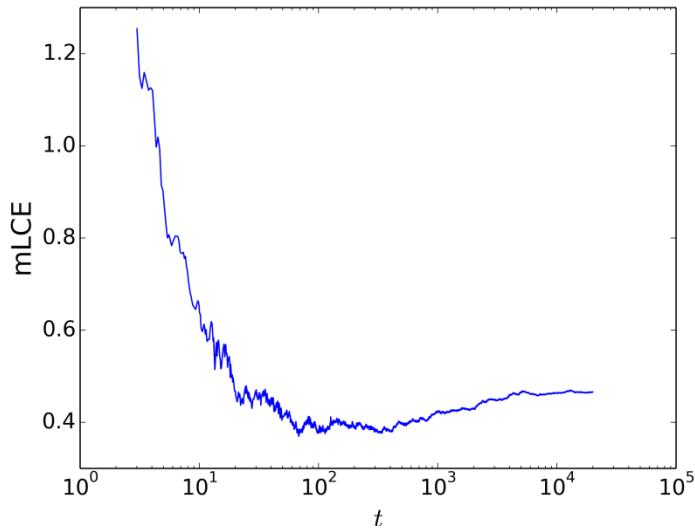


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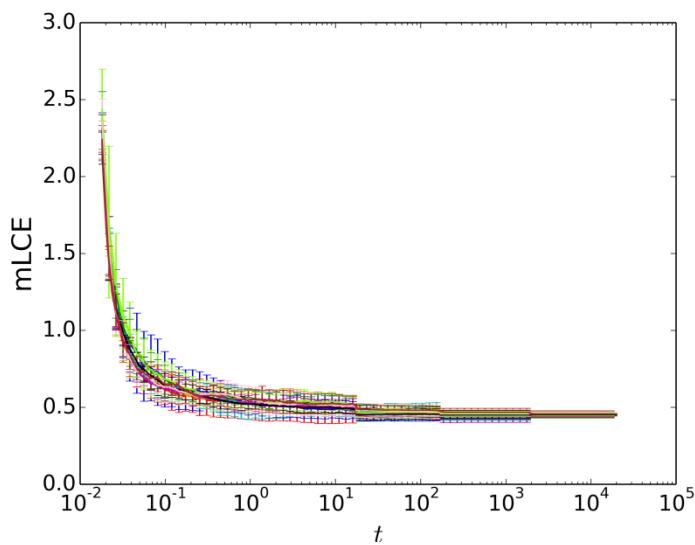
1 realization, 10 initial conditions



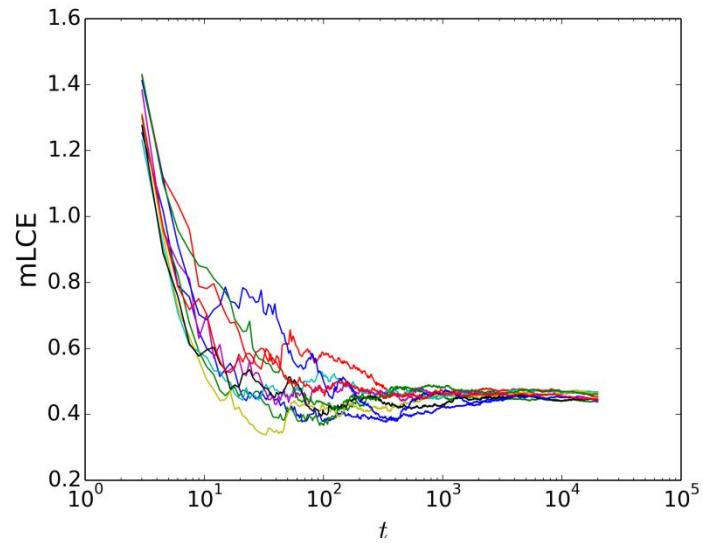
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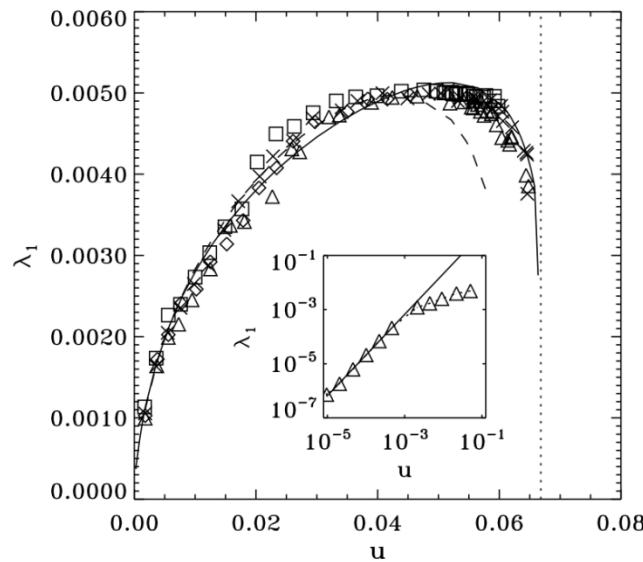


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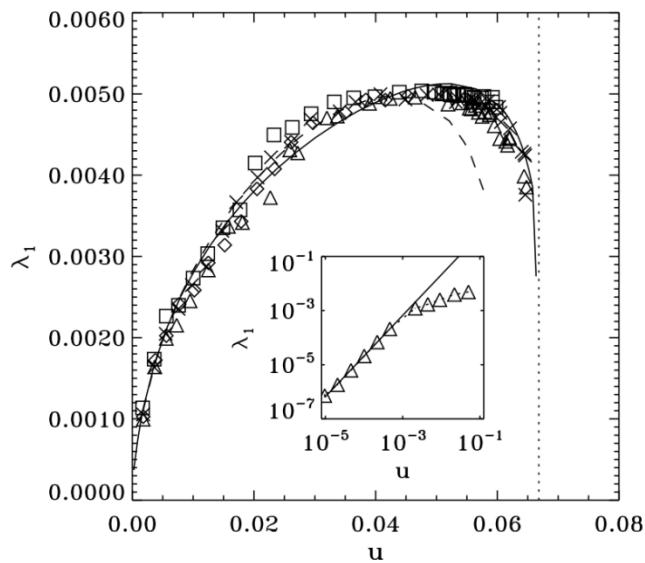
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# Lyapunov exponent vs. energy per particle

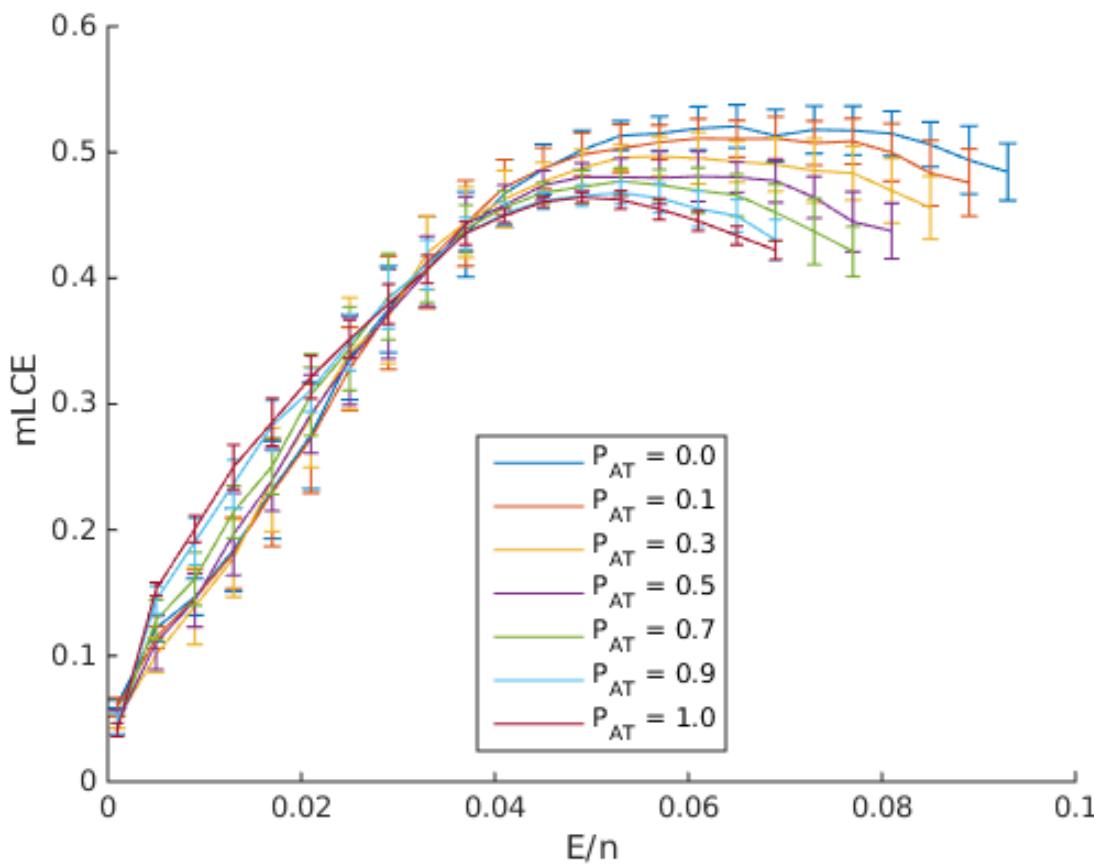


**Homogeneous chain**  
[Barré & Dauxois,  
EPL (2001)]

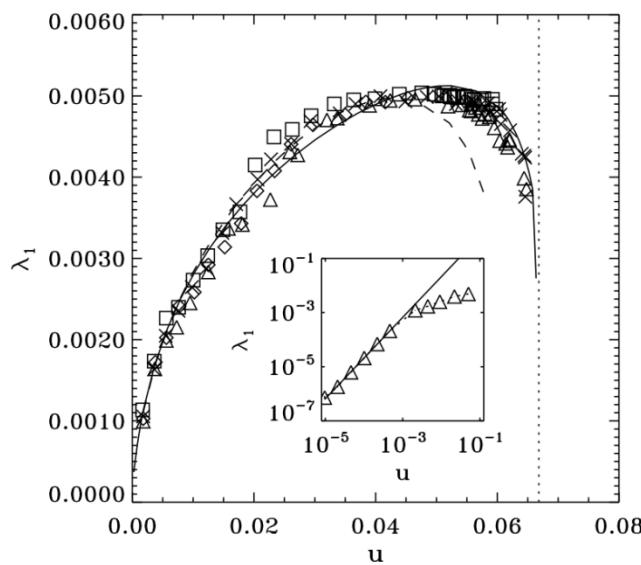
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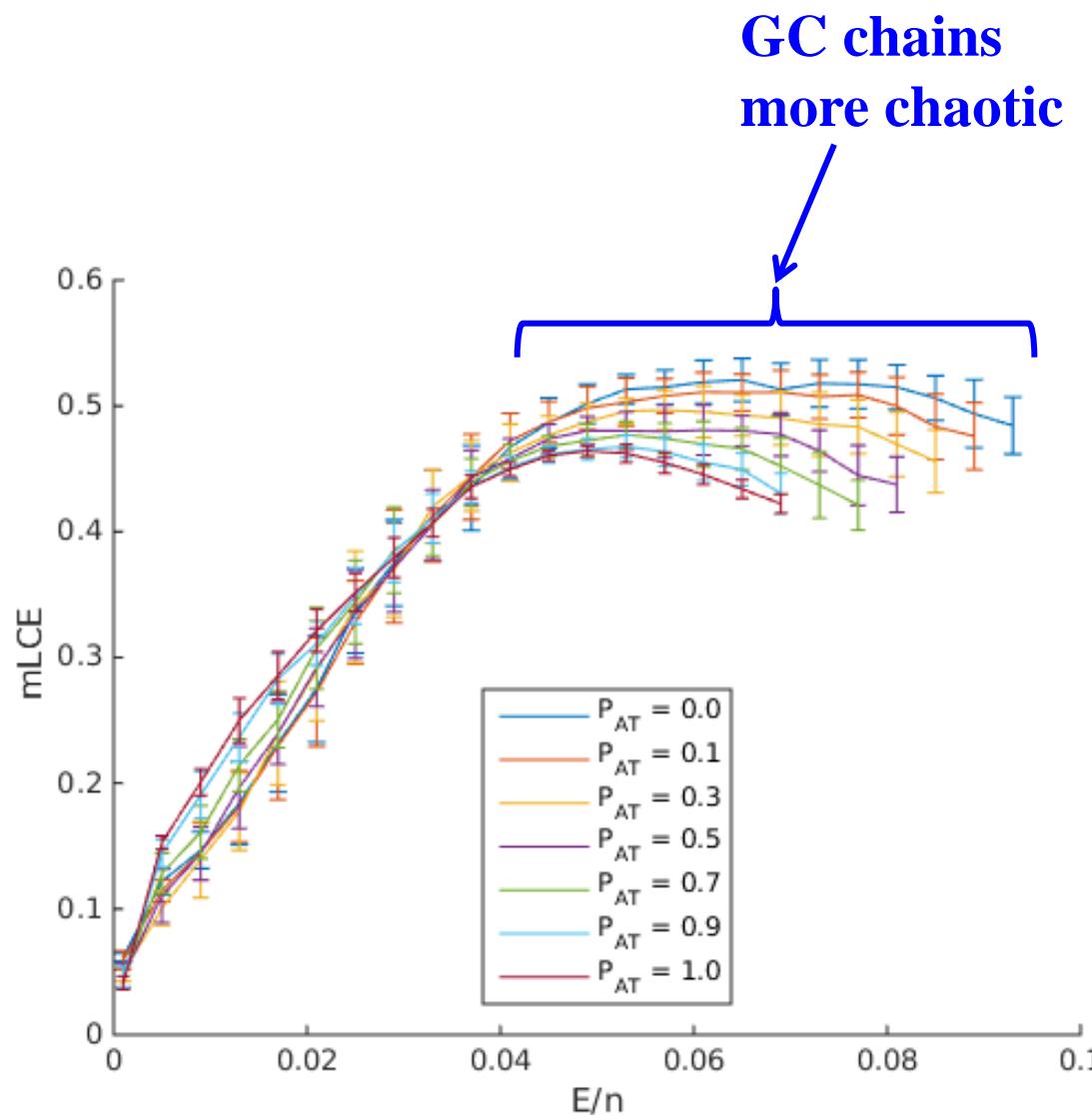
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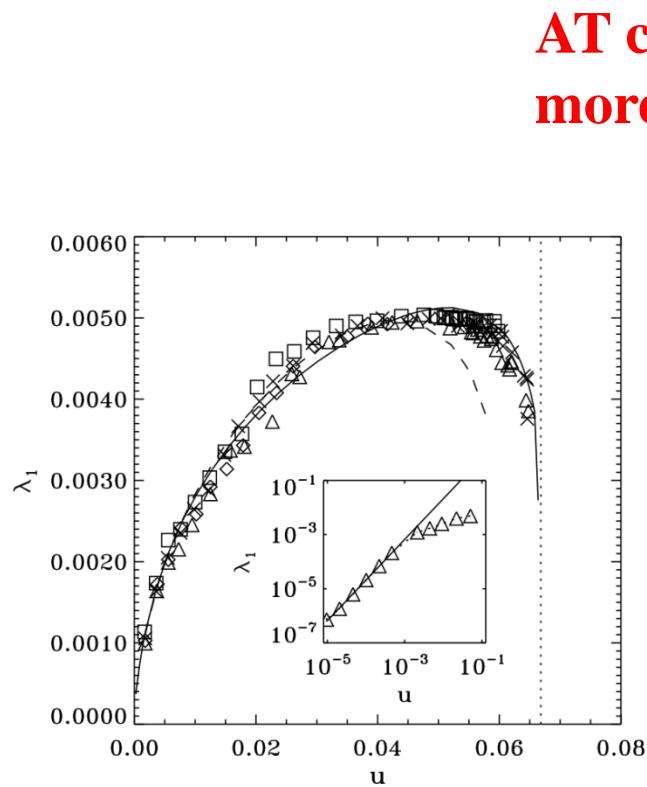
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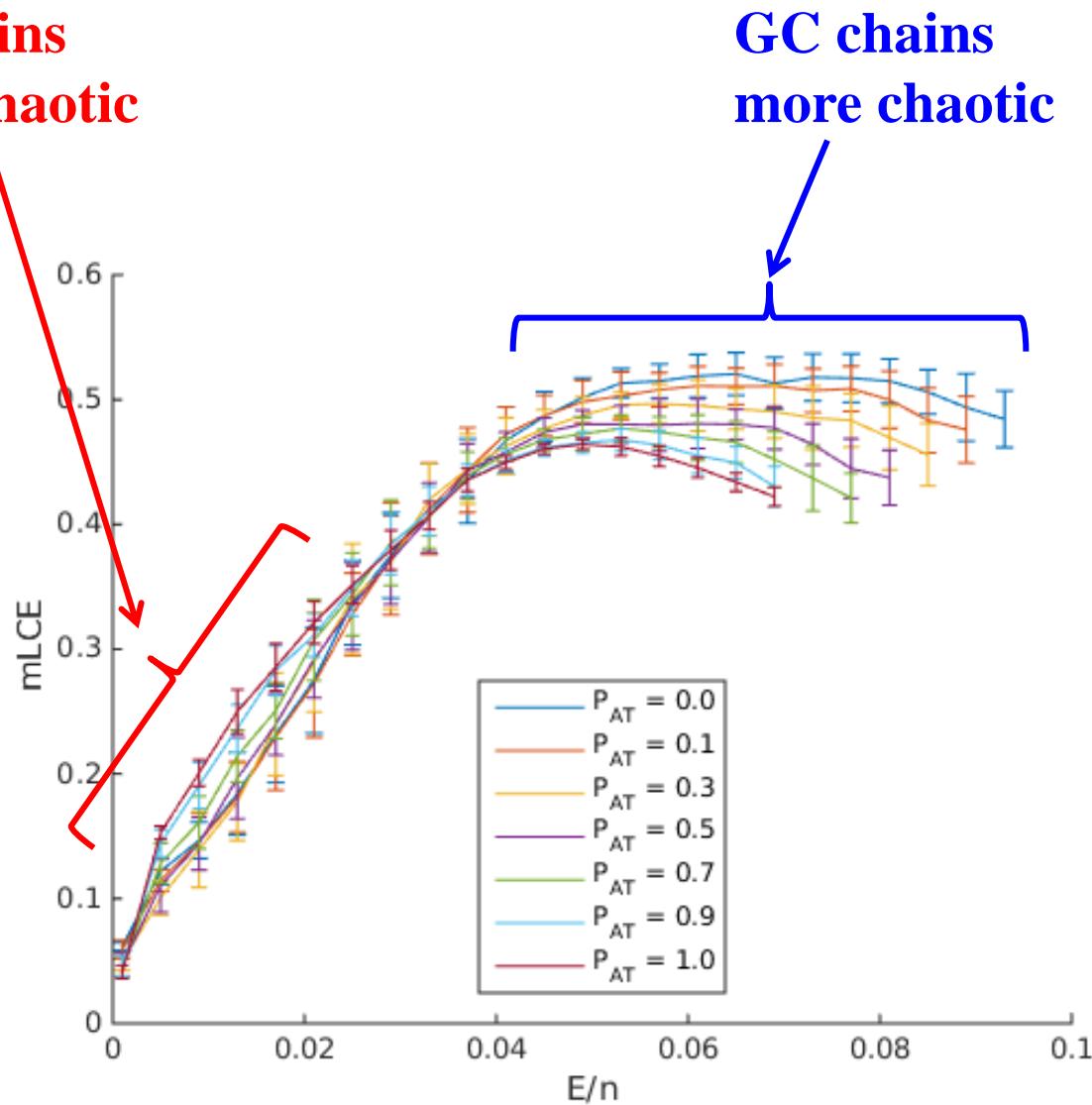
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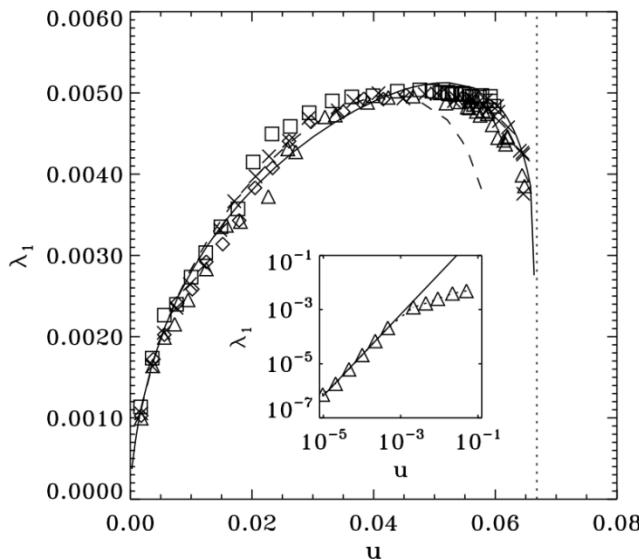


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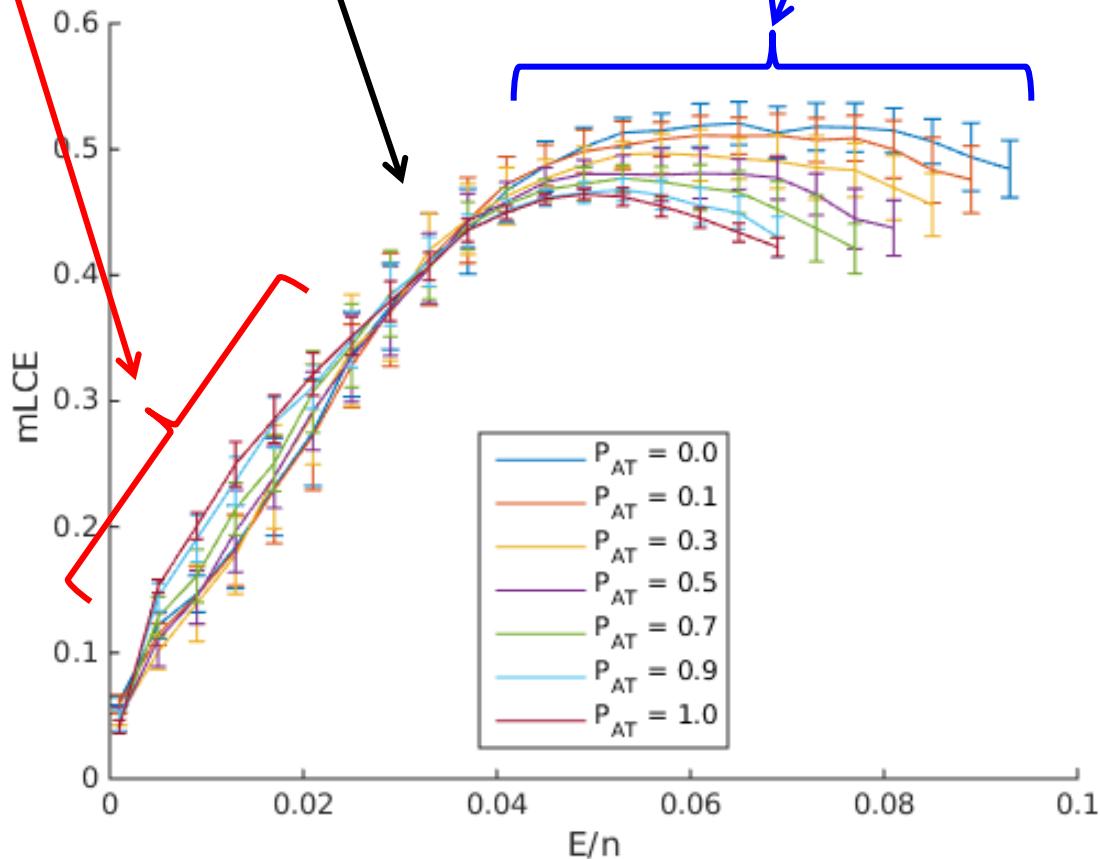
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**AT chains  
more chaotic**



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[Barré & Dauxois,  
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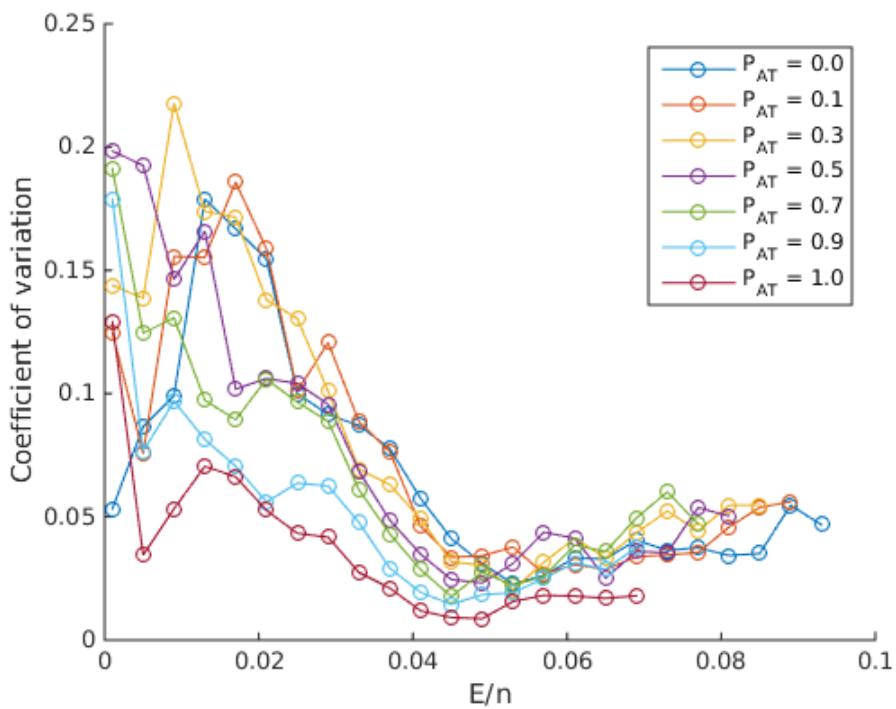
**Type of chain  
does not play  
a role**



**GC chains  
more chaotic**

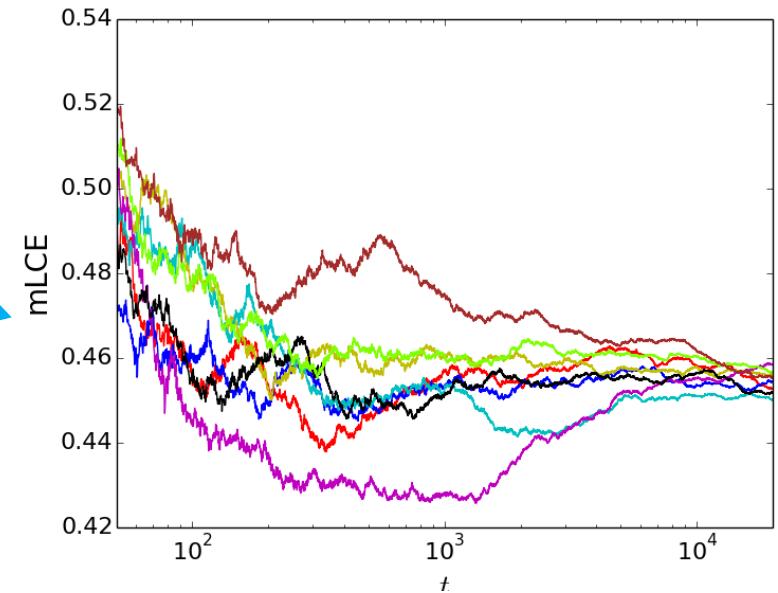
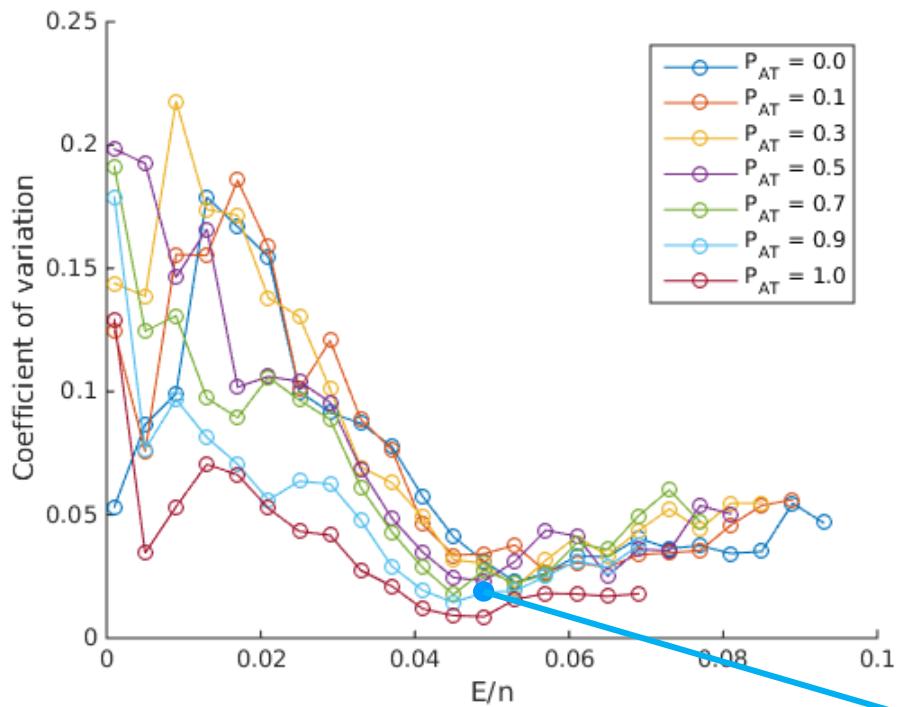
# Values of Lyapunov exponents

## (Error of mLCE)/mLCE



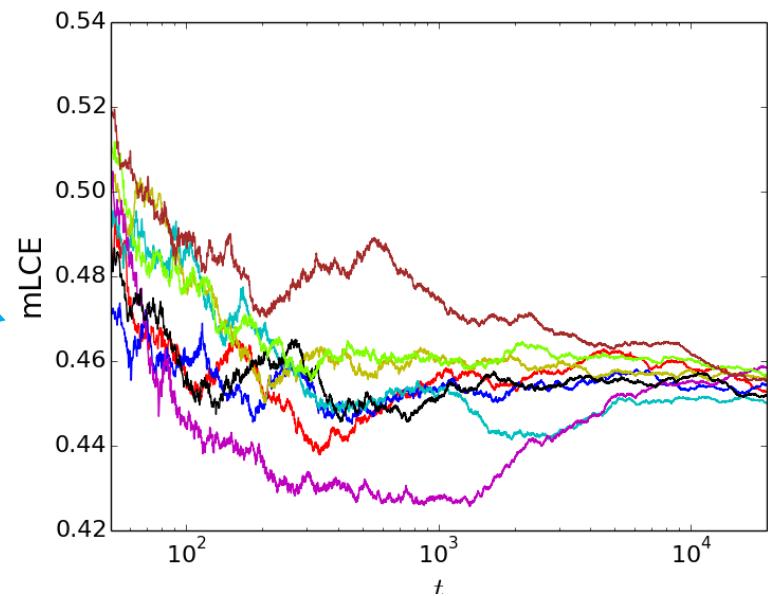
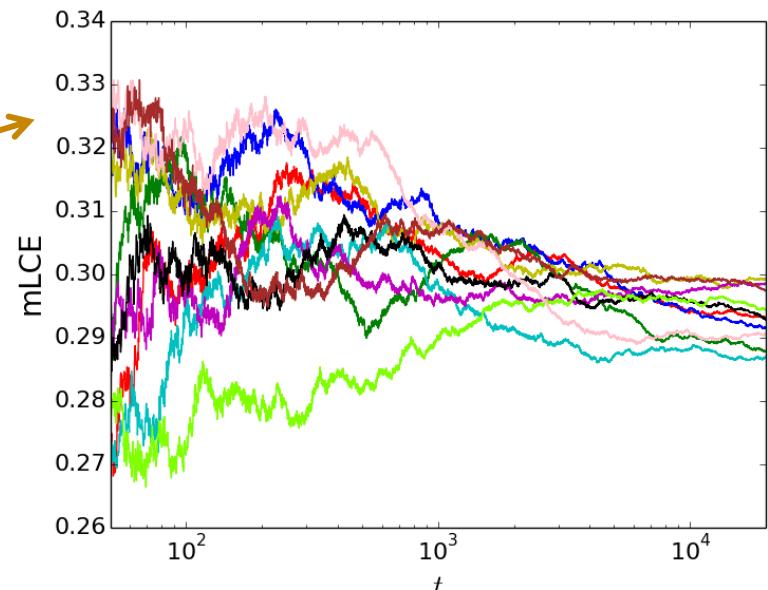
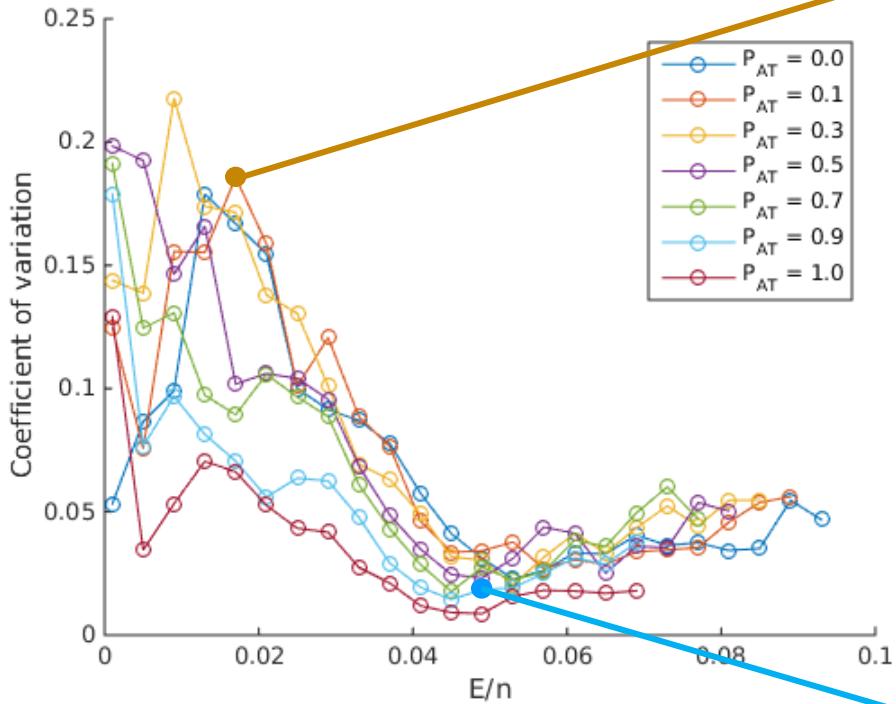
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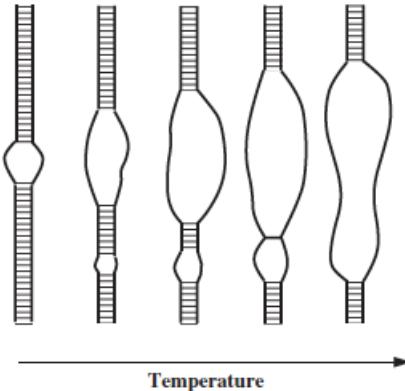
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# DNA denaturation (melting)

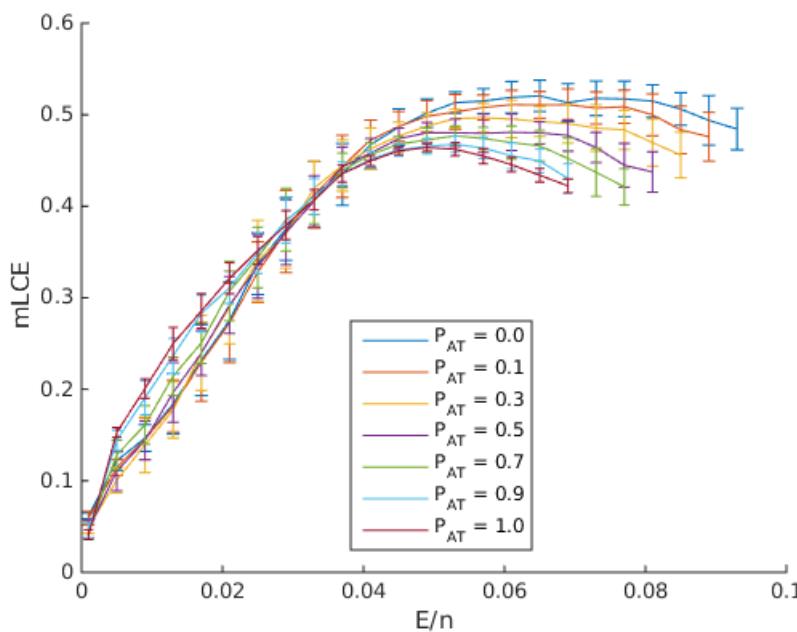
**Melting: large bubbles forming in the DNA chain as bonds break**



As  $y_n$  increases the exponentials in

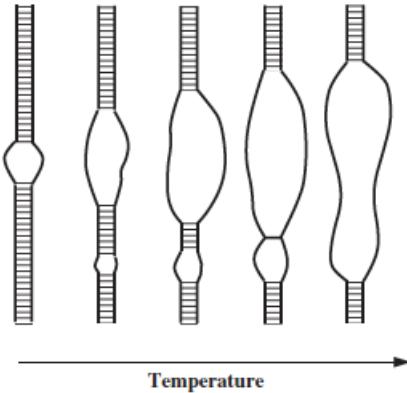
$$D_n(e^{-a_n y_n} - 1)^2 + \frac{K}{2}(1 + \rho e^{-b(y_n + y_{n-1})})(y_n - y_{n-1})^2$$

tend to 0, the system becomes effectively linear and the mLCE  $\rightarrow 0$ .



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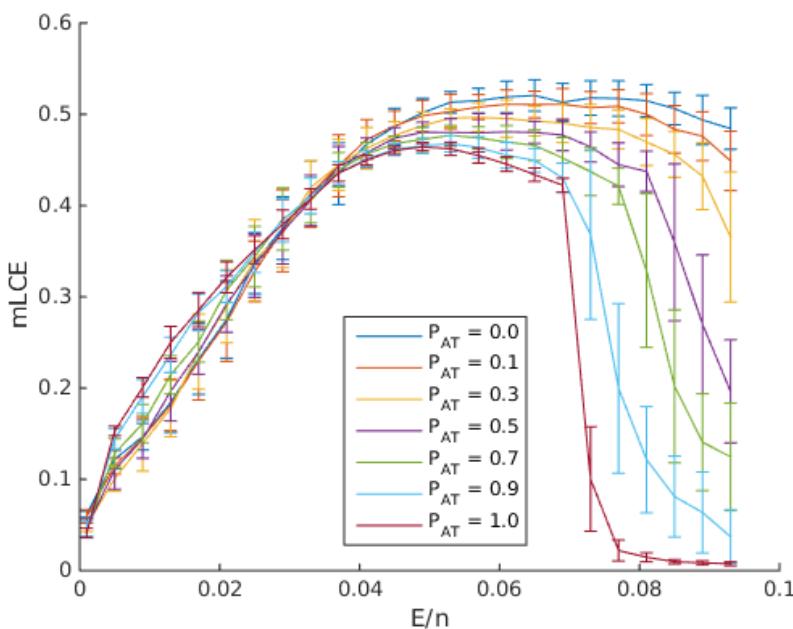
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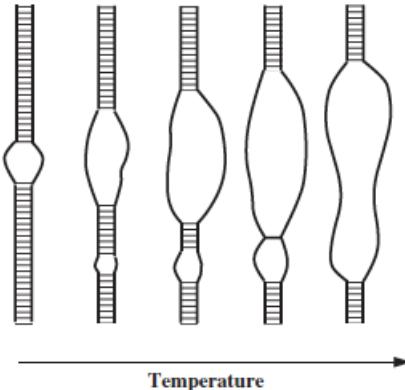
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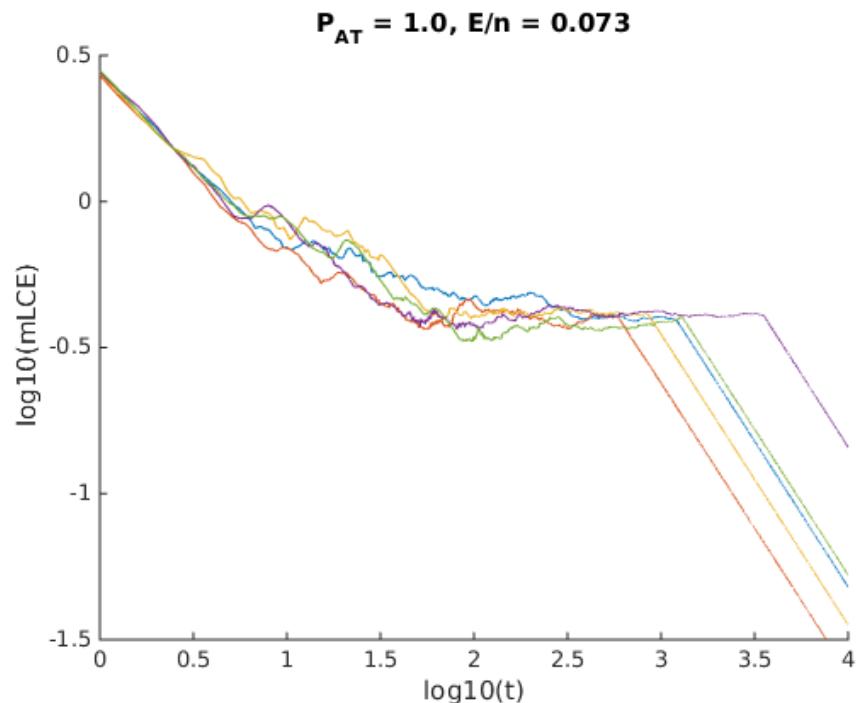
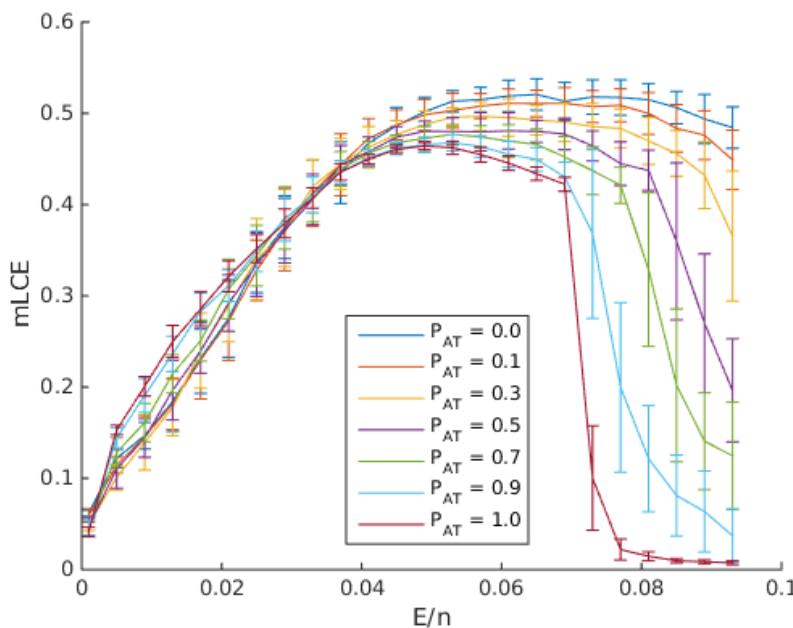
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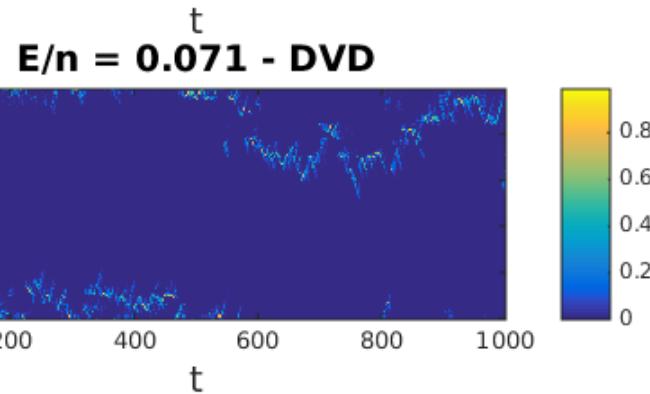
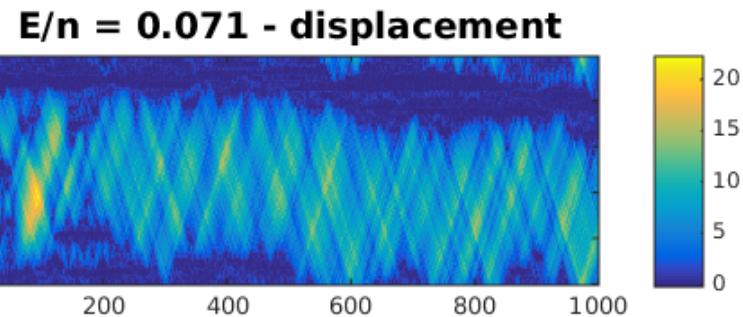


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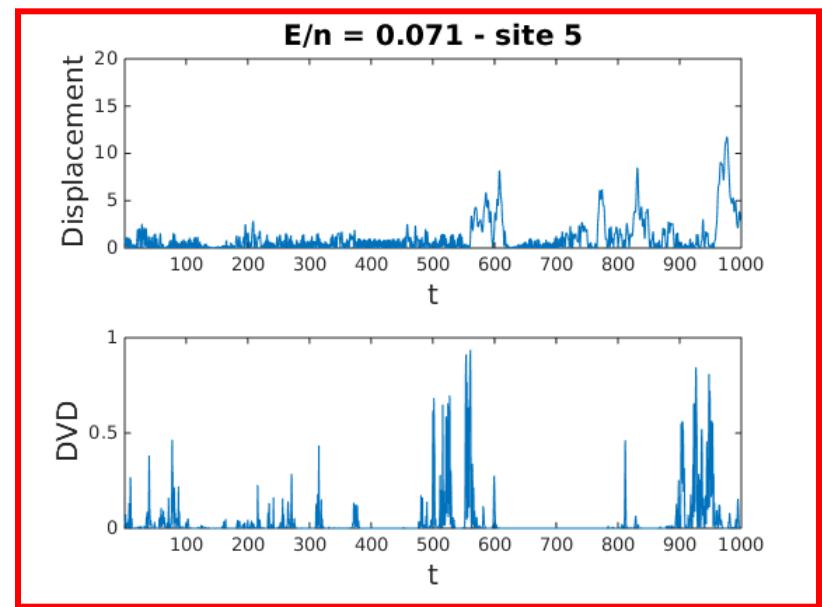
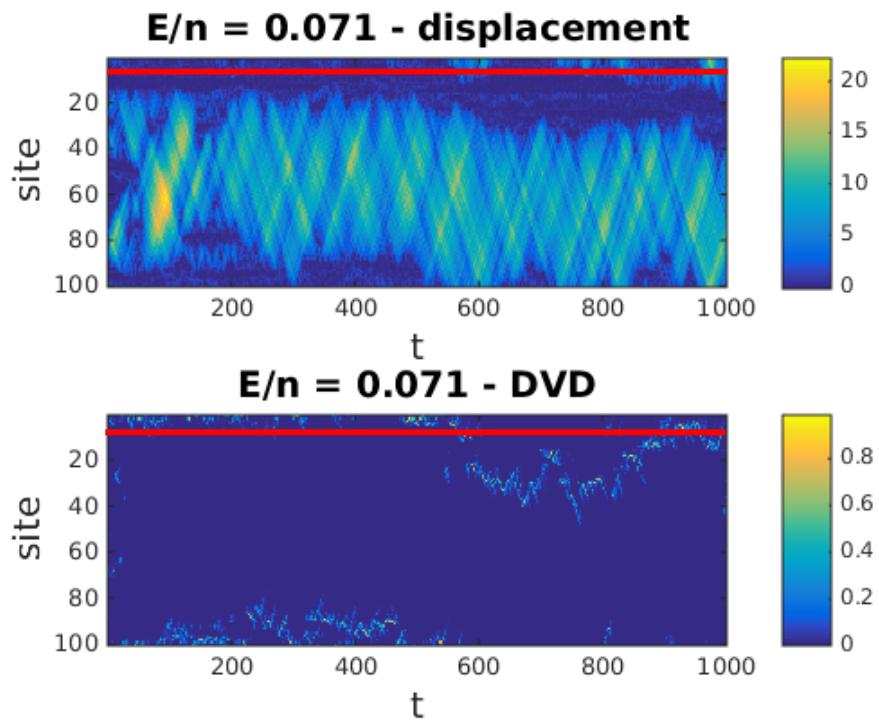
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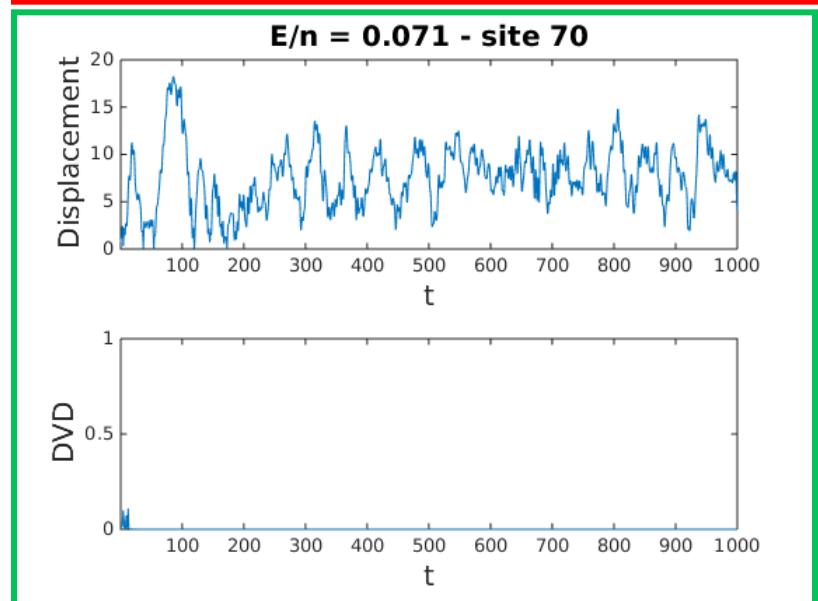
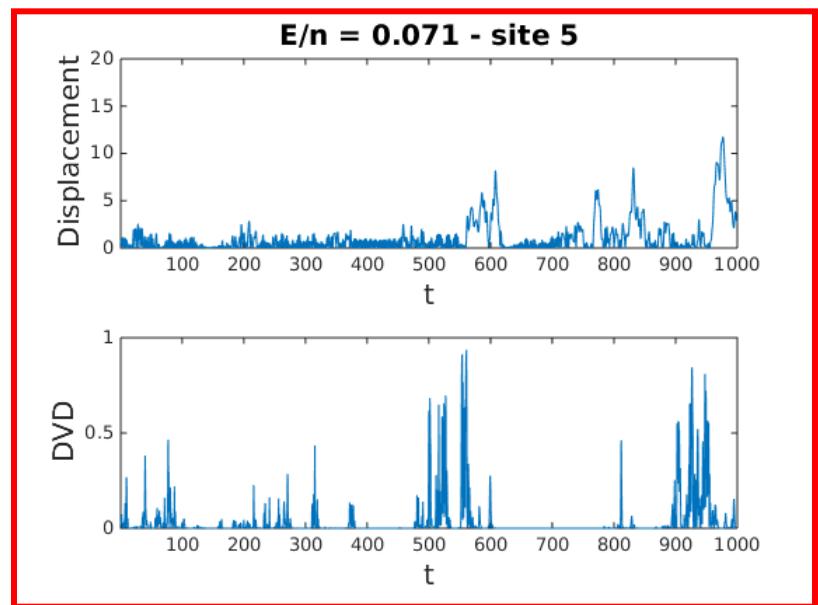
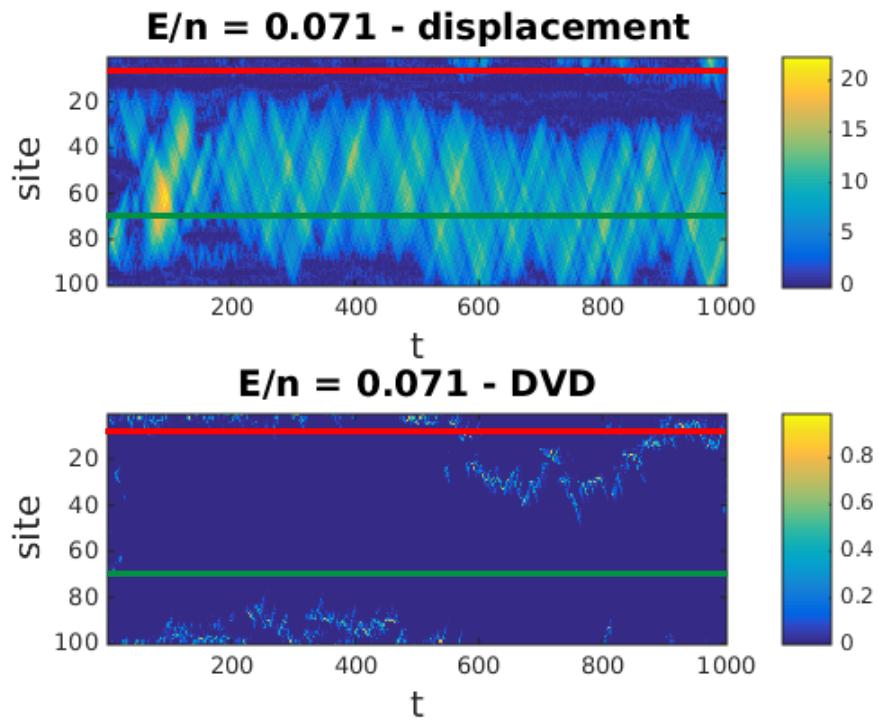
# DVD and the formation of bubbles



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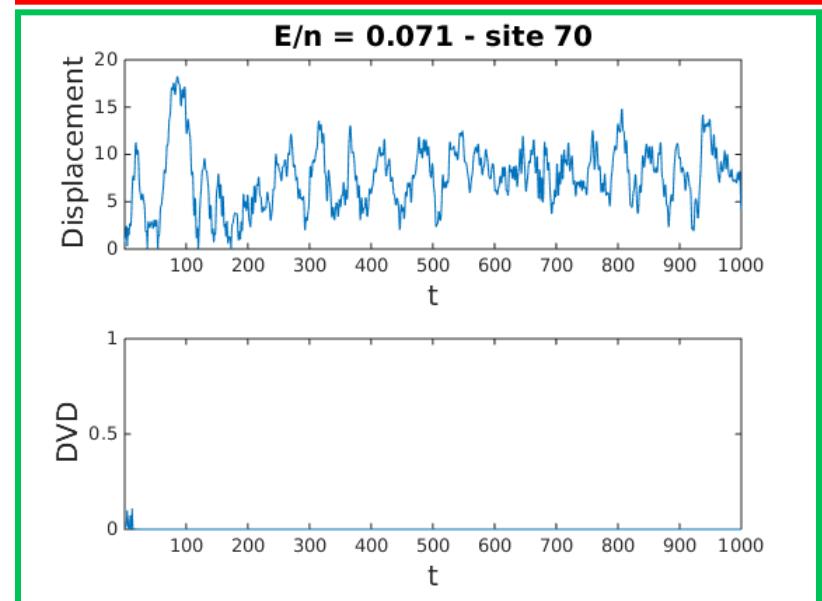
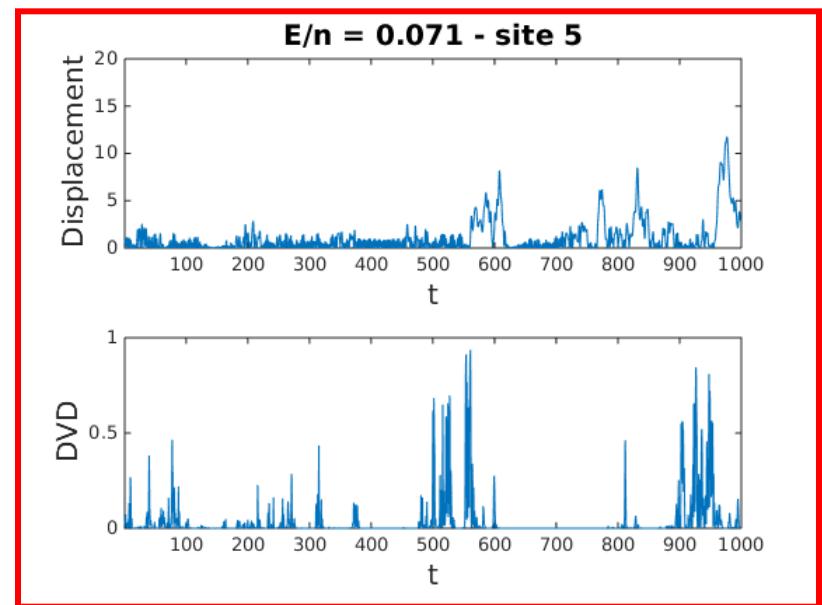
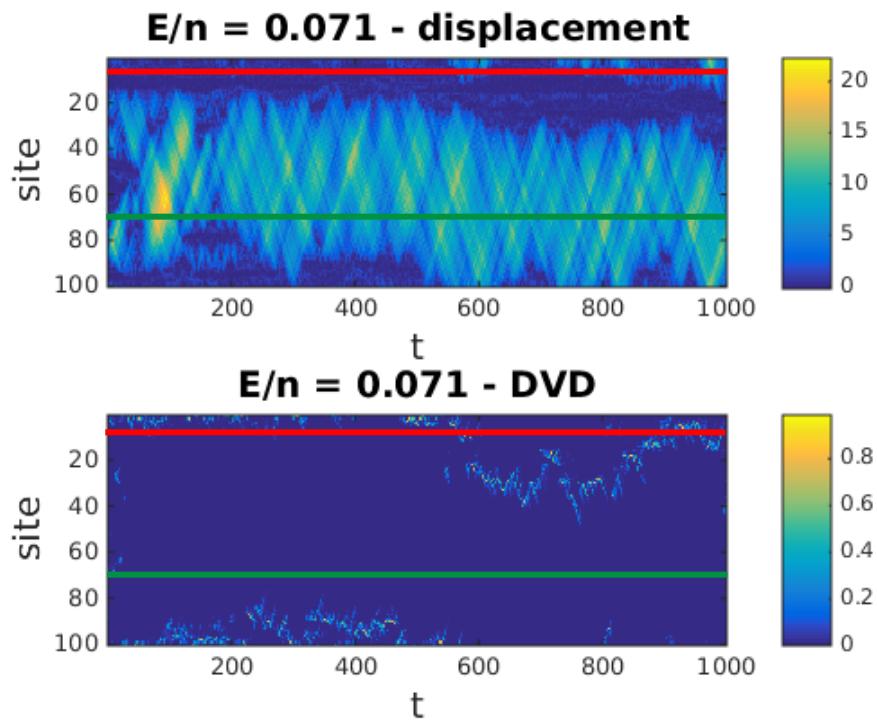


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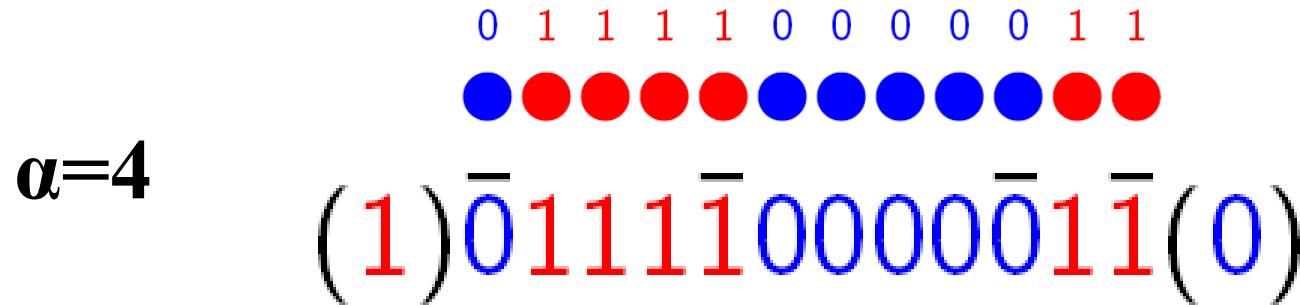
# DVD and the formation of bubbles

Relation between the concentration  
of the deviation vector at a site and  
the formation of a bubble at that site.



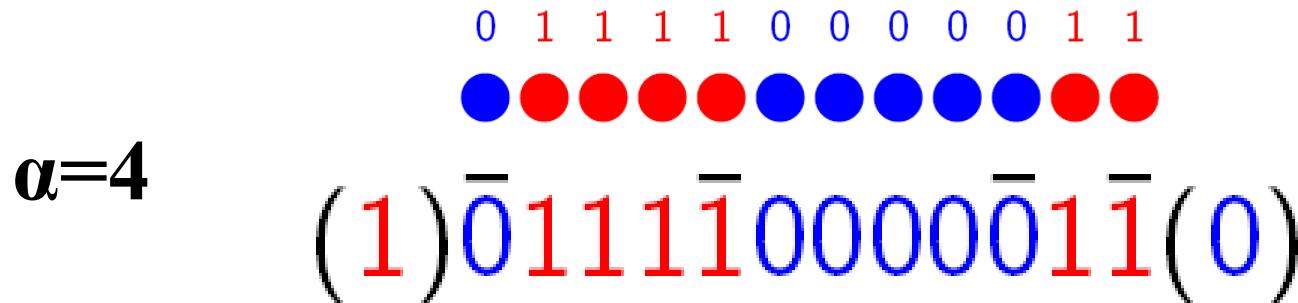
# Mixing of the DNA chain

Mixing parameter  $\alpha$  = Number of alternations in the chain (AT and GC).



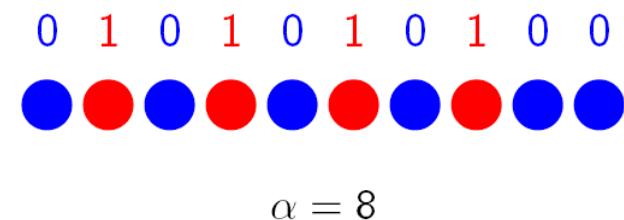
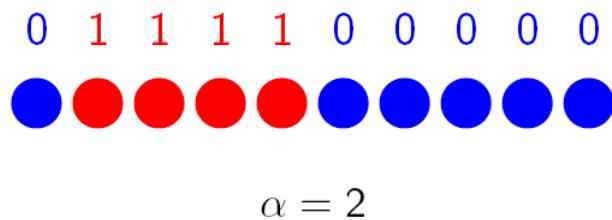
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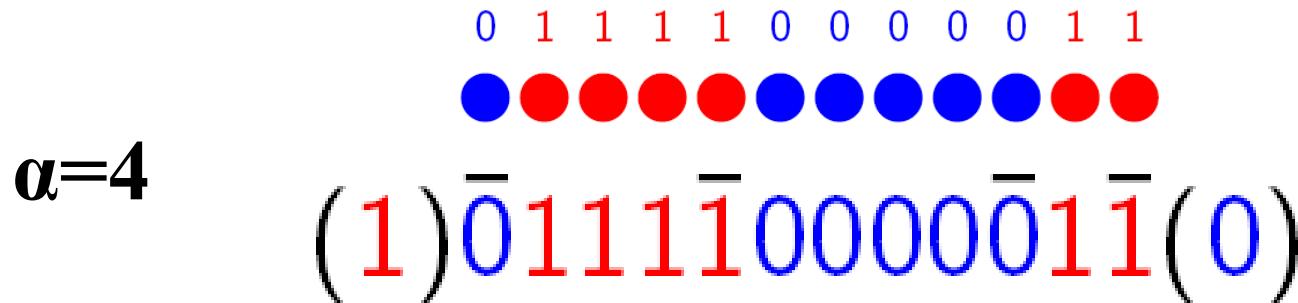
Example case:  $N=10$ ,  $N_{AT}=4$ ,  $N_{GC}=6$ .

Extreme cases:  $a=2$  and  $a=8$



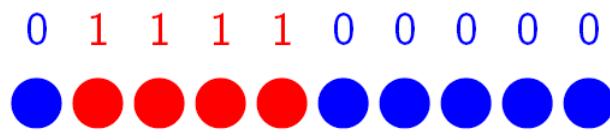
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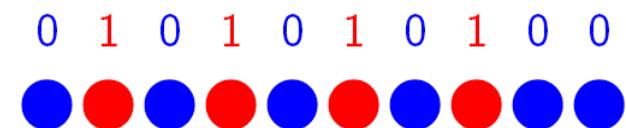


Example case:  $N=10$ ,  $N_{AT}=4$ ,  $N_{GC}=6$ .

Extreme cases:  $\alpha=2$  and  $\alpha=8$



$$\alpha = 2$$

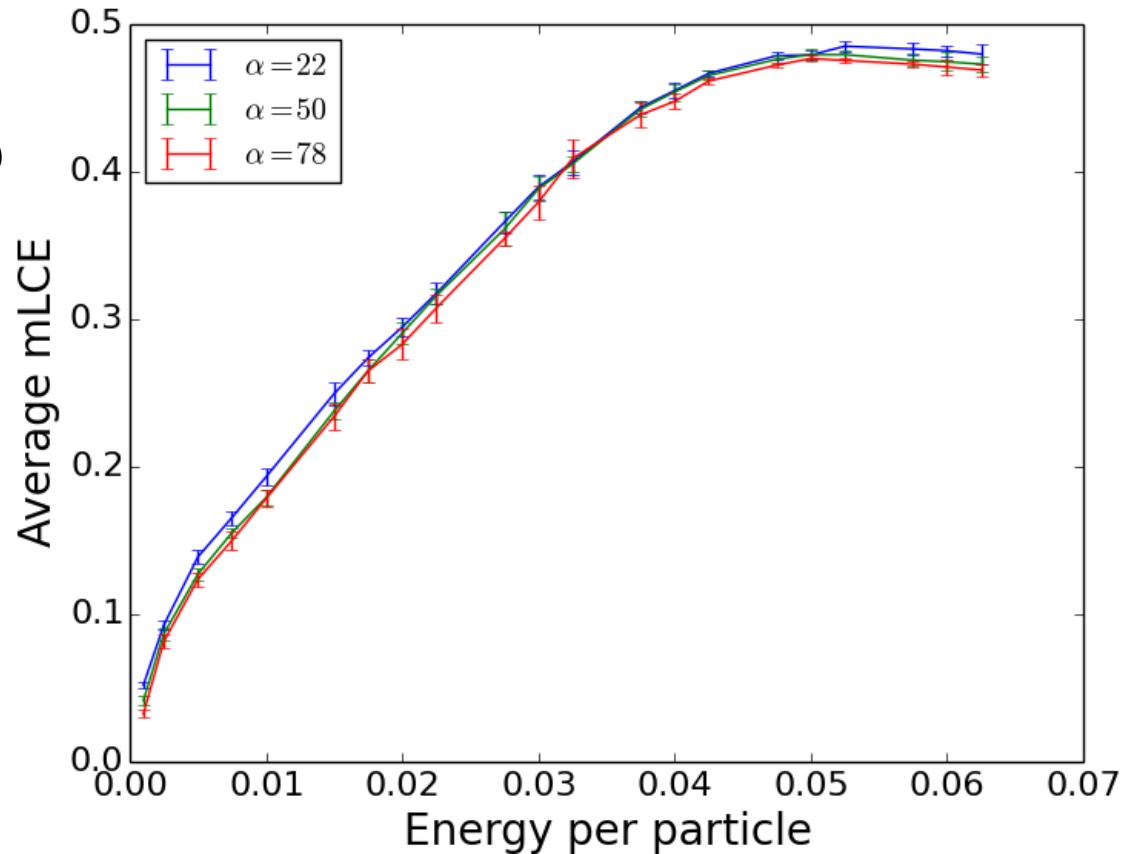
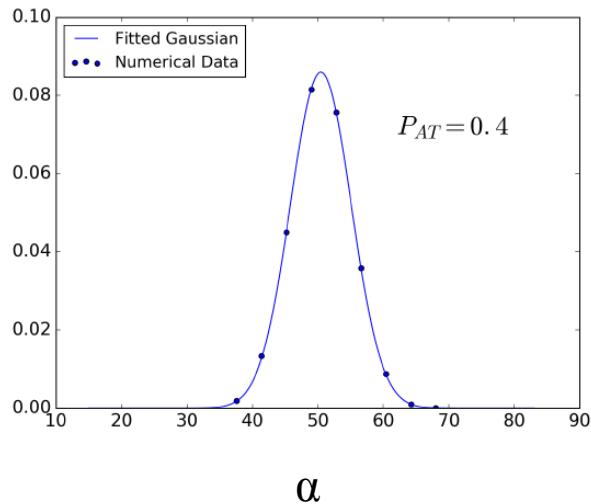


$$\alpha = 8$$

$$2 \leq \alpha \leq \min\{2N_{AT}, 2N_{GC}\}, \quad \alpha \text{ even}$$

# Effect of mixing

Probability distribution function  $P(\alpha)$



The more heterogeneous chains are slightly less chaotic

# Summary

- Granular chain model
  - ✓ Moderate nonlinearities: although the overall system behaves chaotically, it can exhibit long lasting energy localization for particular single particle excitations.
  - ✓ Sufficiently strong nonlinearities: the granular chain reaches energy equipartition and an equilibrium chaotic state, independent of the initial position excitation.
- DNA model
  - ✓ Heterogeneity influences the behavior of the mLE and the system's chaotic behavior.
  - ✓ There seems to be a relation between the concentration of the DVD at a site and the formation of a bubble.
  - ✓ Mixing does not influence significantly the system's chaoticity.
  - ✓ The behavior of DVDs can provide important information about the chaotic behavior of a dynamical system.