



Canadian Association
of Physicists

Association canadienne
des physiciens et physiciennes

Contribution ID: 4500

Type: Oral (Non-Student) / Orale (non-étudiant(e))

When enzymes are active, are they active matter?

Tuesday 28 May 2024 14:45 (15 minutes)

Enzymes are valuable because they can catalyze reactions by binding transiently and greatly enhance the reaction probability for “substrate” molecules to convert to “product” molecules. But do they receive a physical kick while this reaction is proceeding? This would make them substrate-driven nanometers, or nanoscale active matter. Numerous fluorescence-based measurements (and a few others) say yes; several other measurements now say no!

We examine the diffusion of enzymes attached to nanoparticles (NPs) by multiple techniques. We also measure the enzyme activity of these enzyme-functional NPs. I will talk about the interesting behaviour of the enzyme activity of enzyme-functional NPs. And I might even answer the question in the title!

Keyword-1

enzymes

Keyword-2

active matter

Keyword-3

diffusion

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Session Classification: (DPMB) T2-3 Active Matter | Matières actives (DPMB)

Track Classification: Technical Sessions / Sessions techniques: Physics in Medicine and Biology / Physique en médecine et en biologie (DPMB-DPMB)