

## SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

**Supplemental Table 1.** Set of DMD constraints and interaction radii used to model the nucleosomal DNA.  $S^i$ ,  $P^i$ ,  $A^i$ ,  $C^i$ ,  $G^i$  and  $T^i$  represent the  $i^{\text{th}}$  nucleotide’s sugar, phosphate, adenine-base, cytosine-base, guanine-base and thymine-base beads, respectively.  $r_0$ ,  $r_1$ ,  $r_2$ ,  $r_3$  are the corresponding interaction radii used in the model, modeled (refer: Fig. 2).  $K^j$  and  $R^j$  denote the side chain beads of  $j^{\text{th}}$  lysine and arginine amino acids, respectively.

(a) *Distance constraints:*

| Interacting Pair  | $r_0$ (Å) | $r_1$ (Å) |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|
| $S^i$ - $P^i$     | 4.050     | 4.394     |
| $S^i$ - $P^{i+1}$ | 3.794     | 3.954     |
| $A^i$ - $S^i$     | 4.901     | 5.101     |
| $C^i$ - $S^i$     | 3.801     | 3.956     |
| $G^i$ - $S^i$     | 4.868     | 5.066     |
| $T^i$ - $S^i$     | 3.795     | 3.949     |

(b) *Angular constraints:*

| Interacting Pair  | $r_0$ (Å) | $r_1$ (Å) |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|
| $A^i$ - $P^i$     | 7.130     | 8.214     |
| $C^i$ - $P^i$     | 5.887     | 6.703     |
| $G^i$ - $P^i$     | 7.137     | 8.289     |
| $T^i$ - $P^i$     | 5.865     | 6.703     |
| $P^i$ - $P^{i+1}$ | 6.450     | 6.990     |
| $S^i$ - $S^{i+1}$ | 5.284     | 5.696     |
| $A^i$ - $P^{i+1}$ | 7.479     | 7.979     |
| $C^i$ - $P^{i+1}$ | 6.884     | 7.452     |
| $G^i$ - $P^{i+1}$ | 7.484     | 7.990     |
| $T^i$ - $P^{i+1}$ | 6.801     | 7.276     |

(c) *Dihedral constraints:*

| Interacting Pair  | $r_0$ (Å) | $r_1$ (Å) |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|
| $P^i$ - $S^{i+1}$ | 9.041     | 9.709     |
| $A^i$ - $S^{i+1}$ | 5.648     | 6.530     |
| $C^i$ - $S^{i+1}$ | 6.294     | 7.468     |
| $G^i$ - $S^{i+1}$ | 5.710     | 6.806     |
| $T^i$ - $S^{i+1}$ | 5.993     | 7.049     |
| $S^i$ - $P^{i+2}$ | 8.881     | 9.367     |
| $S^i$ - $A^{i+1}$ | 5.907     | 7.155     |
| $S^i$ - $C^{i+1}$ | 5.055     | 5.715     |
| $S^i$ - $G^{i+1}$ | 5.876     | 6.936     |
| $S^i$ - $T^{i+1}$ | 5.403     | 6.213     |

(d) *Adenine-Thymine base pairing:*

| Interacting Pair               | $r_0$ (Å) | $r_1$ (Å) | $r_2$ (Å) |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| A <sup>i</sup> -T <sup>j</sup> | 5.375     | 5.813     | 6.251     |

(e) *Cytosine-Guanine base pairing:*

| Interacting Pair               | $r_0$ (Å) | $r_1$ (Å) | $r_2$ (Å) |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| C <sup>i</sup> -G <sup>j</sup> | 5.464     | 5.758     | 6.052     |

(f) *Lysine-Phosphate attraction:*

| Interacting Pair               | $r_0$ (Å) | $r_1$ (Å) | $r_2$ (Å) | $r_3$ (Å) |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| P <sup>i</sup> -K <sup>j</sup> | 3.306     | 4.0       | 6.0       | 8.0       |

(g) *Arginine-Phosphate attraction:*

| Interacting Pair               | $r_0$ (Å) | $r_1$ (Å) | $r_2$ (Å) | $r_3$ (Å) |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| P <sup>i</sup> -R <sup>j</sup> | 3.306     | 4.0       | 6.0       | 8.0       |

(h) *Base stacking*

| Interacting Pair                 | $r_0$ (Å) | $r_1$ (Å) |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| A <sup>i</sup> -A <sup>i+1</sup> | 3.425     | 4.697     |
| A <sup>i</sup> -C <sup>i+1</sup> | 3.582     | 4.686     |
| A <sup>i</sup> -G <sup>i+1</sup> | 3.376     | 5.816     |
| A <sup>i</sup> -T <sup>i+1</sup> | 3.481     | 4.441     |
| C <sup>i</sup> -A <sup>i+1</sup> | 4.111     | 6.791     |
| C <sup>i</sup> -C <sup>i+1</sup> | 3.85      | 6.602     |
| C <sup>i</sup> -G <sup>i+1</sup> | 3.901     | 6.701     |
| C <sup>i</sup> -T <sup>i+1</sup> | 3.927     | 6.623     |
| G <sup>i</sup> -A <sup>i+1</sup> | 3.582     | 4.798     |
| G <sup>i</sup> -C <sup>i+1</sup> | 3.824     | 6.912     |
| G <sup>i</sup> -G <sup>i+1</sup> | 3.408     | 5.128     |
| G <sup>i</sup> -T <sup>i+1</sup> | 3.627     | 4.395     |
| T <sup>i</sup> -A <sup>i+1</sup> | 4.527     | 6.407     |
| T <sup>i</sup> -C <sup>i+1</sup> | 3.735     | 4.999     |
| T <sup>i</sup> -G <sup>i+1</sup> | 4.207     | 6.871     |
| T <sup>i</sup> -T <sup>i+1</sup> | 3.791     | 5.263     |

(i) *Base-Sugar repulsion:*

| Interacting Pair | $r_0$ (Å) |
|------------------|-----------|
|------------------|-----------|

|                                |        |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| A <sup>i</sup> -S <sup>j</sup> | 8.296  |
| C <sup>i</sup> -S <sup>j</sup> | 10.325 |
| G <sup>i</sup> -S <sup>j</sup> | 8.348  |
| T <sup>i</sup> -S <sup>j</sup> | 10.259 |

## Supplemental Figure Legends

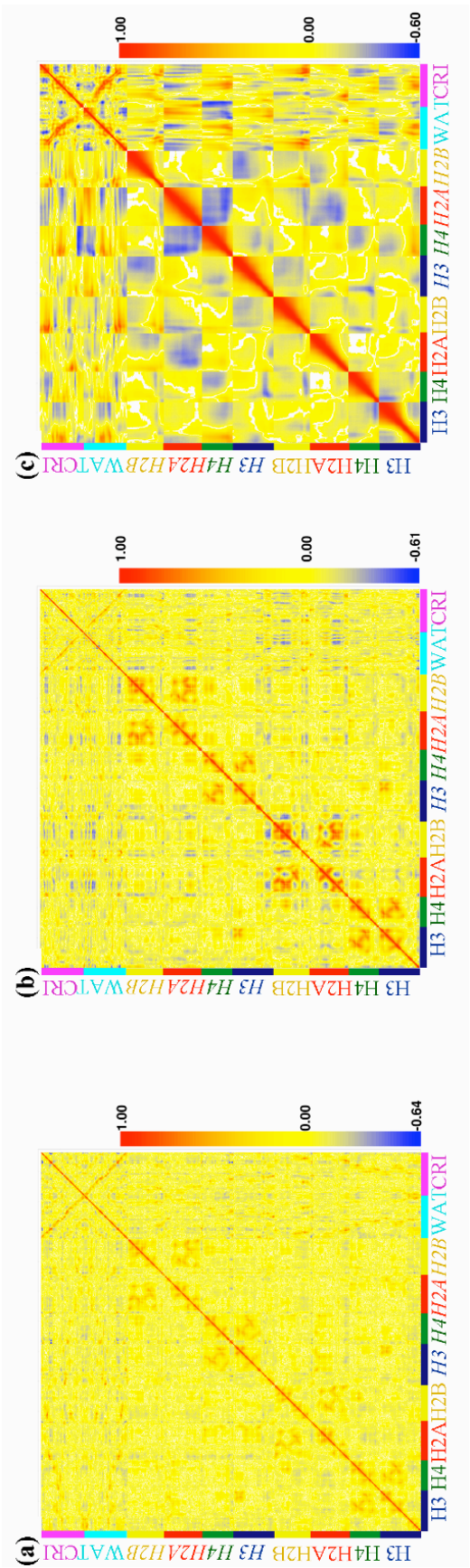
**Supplemental Fig. S1** Temperature dependence of normalized correlation matrices of the nucleosome core particle for temperature range ((a)  $T = 0.1\epsilon/k_B$ ; (b)  $T = 0.8\epsilon/k_B$ ; (c)  $T = 1.2\epsilon/k_B$ ). These normalized correlation matrices depict regions of the nucleosome undergoing correlated, uncorrelated and anti-correlated motions in the fixed temperature DMD simulation of the nucleosome core particle. Observed correlation in motion is color coded as anti-correlated (blue), uncorrelated (yellow) and correlated (red).

**Supplemental Fig. S2** Per-residue contact map of frequencies of intra/inter-histone contacts. Detailed per-residue contact map of frequencies of intra- and inter- histone contacts is plotted for (A)  $T = 0.1$ , corresponding to low temperature regime; and (B)  $T = 0.8$ , corresponding to near-transition temperature regime of constant-temperature DMD simulations of the nucleosome core particle. Contact frequency data is averaged over five independent simulation runs starting with different initial velocity distributions.

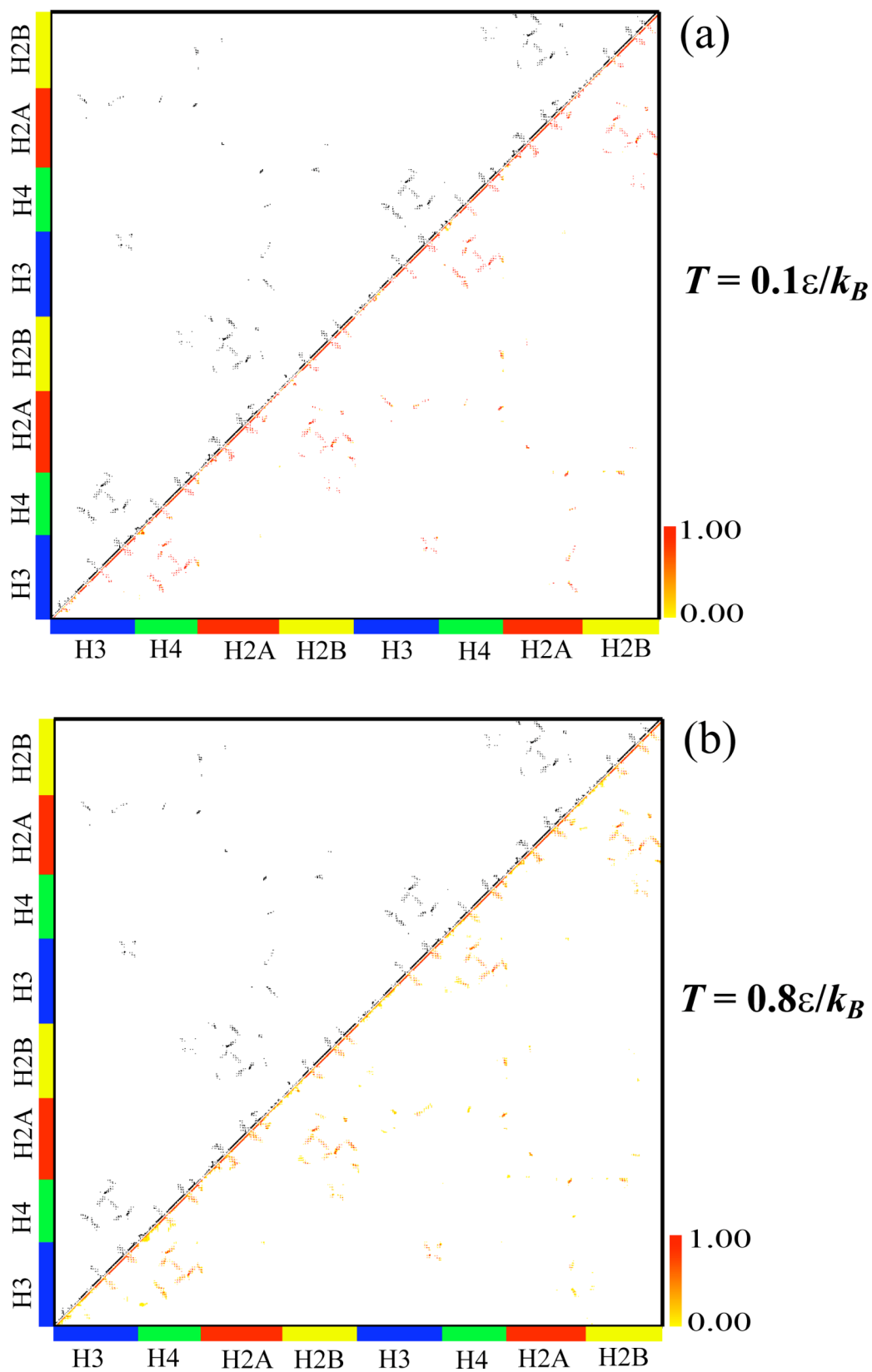
**Supplemental Fig. S3** Trajectory of the nucleosome core particle, i.e. the potential energy of the nucleosome core particle system as observed in constant temperature DMD simulations is shown as a function of time for temperatures shown in the adjoining legend. Temperature is measured in units of  $E/k_B$  and energy in DMD units (*cf.* Materials and Methods). Equilibration of simulations occurs in the initial  $5 \times 10^4$  t.u.

**Supplemental Fig. S4** Thermodynamics of the histone octamer assembly. The dependence on temperature of the energy,  $E$  is shown. The error bars represent a standard deviation of energy fluctuations. (B), Variation of the constant volume heat capacity,  $C_v$  of the histone octamer assembly with temperature. The error bars are the standard deviation of  $C_v$  fluctuations. The unfolding of histone octamer occurs at temperature  $T = 0.8$ .

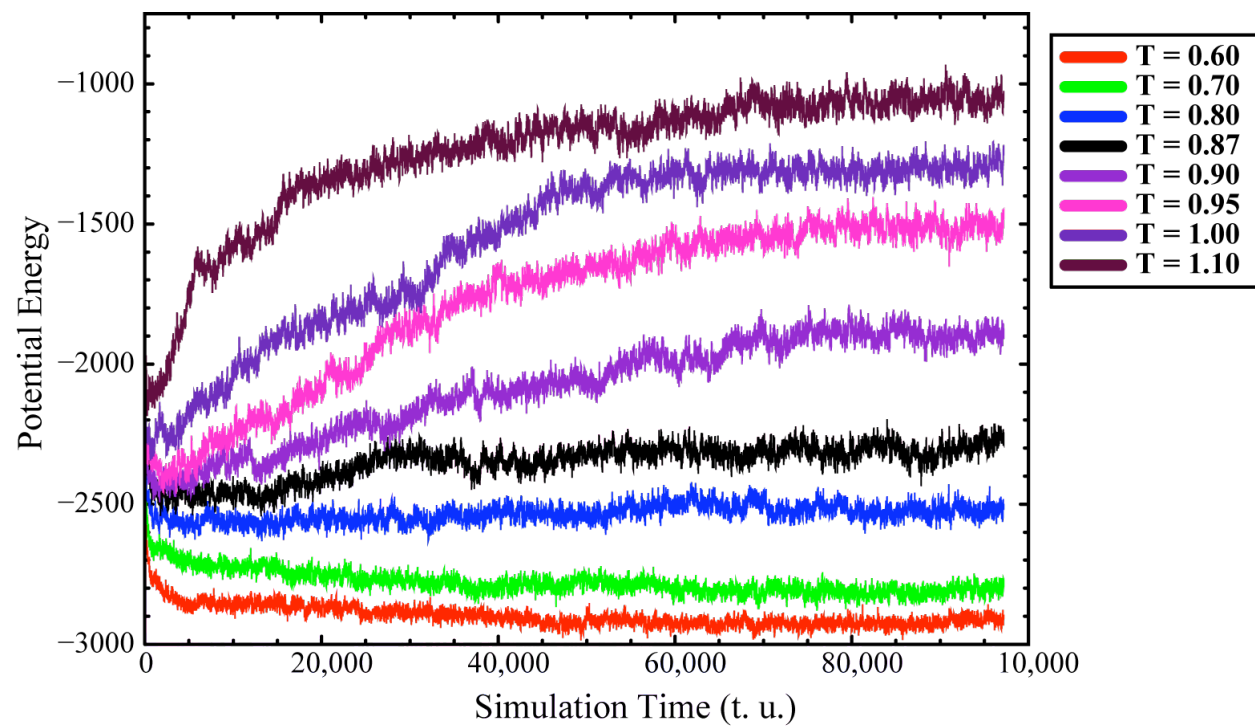
Supplemental Figure S1



Supplemental Figure S2



Supplemental Fig. S3



Supplemental Fig. S4

