

# Protein Modeling Methods

## Bioinformatics Methods

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- **Ab initio methods:**  
solution of a protein folding problem  
search in conformational space
- **Energy-based methods:**  
energy minimization  
molecular simulation
- **Knowledge-based methods:**  
homology modeling  
fold recognition

## Ab initio Methods

### Simplified models

- simplified alphabet (HP)
- simplified representation (lattice)

### Build-up techniques

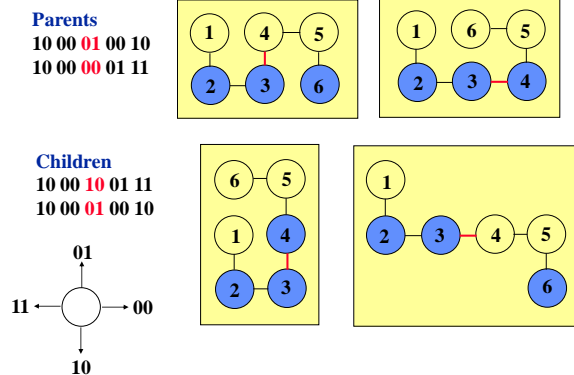
#### Deterministic methods

- quantum mechanics
- diffusion equations
- DFT

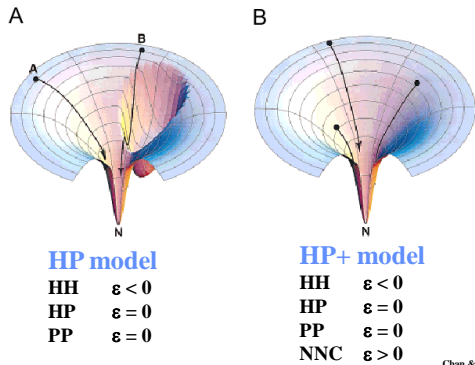
#### Stochastic searches

- Monte Carlo
- genetic algorithms

## Genetic Algorithms Applications

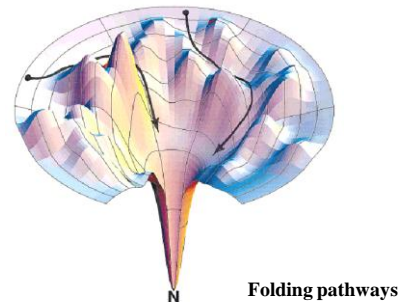


## HP Lattice Models



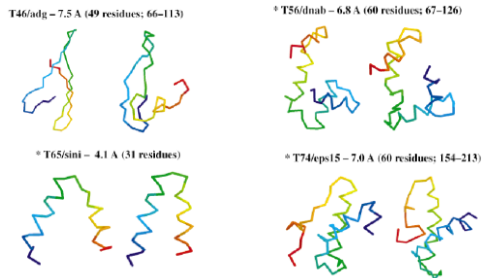
Chan & Dill, 1998

## HP Lattice Models



Chan & Dill, 1998

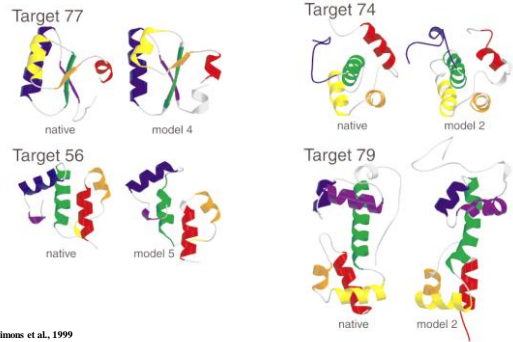
## Hierarchical *ab initio* prediction



Lattice models  
Knowledge-based scoring functions

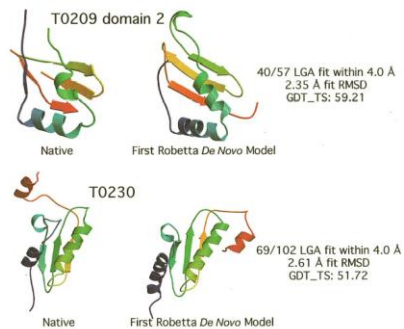
Samudrala et al., 1999

## *Ab initio* prediction using Rosetta



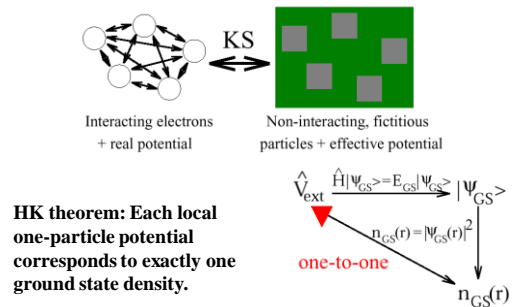
Simons et al., 1999

## *Ab initio* prediction using Robetta



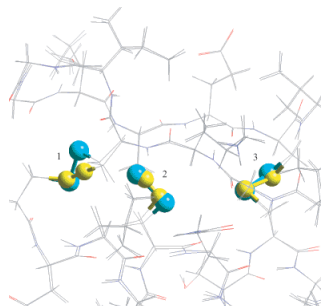
Chivian et al., 2005

## Density Functional Theory



Adopted from Wilfried Andhar, OSU

## Density Functional Theory



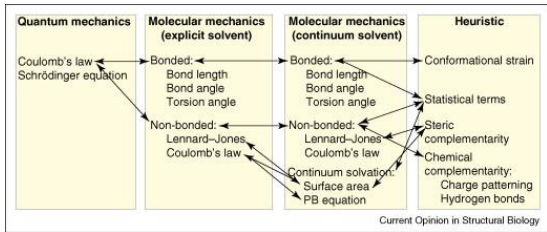
DFT optimization of NMR structure (IPNH)

Androni et al., 1999

## Protein Modeling Methods

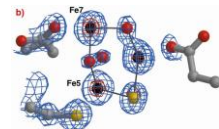
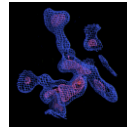
- Ab initio* methods:**  
 solution of a protein folding problem  
 search in conformational space
- Energy-based methods:**  
 energy minimization  
 molecular simulation
- Knowledge-based methods:**  
 homology modeling  
 fold recognition

# Potential Energy Functions

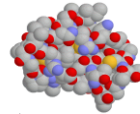


Boas & Harbury, 2007

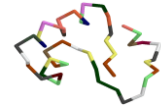
# Molecular structure representation



Elementary particles



Atoms



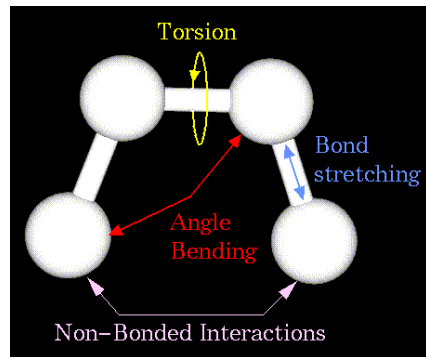
Groups of atoms

# Potential Energy Function

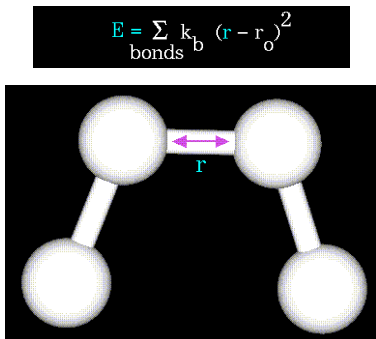
$$PEF(R) = \sum_{\text{bonds}} K_b \{b(R) - b_{eq}\}^2 + \sum_{\text{angles}} K_\theta \{\theta(R) - \theta_{eq}\}^2 + \sum_{\text{dihedrals}} \frac{K_\phi}{2} \{1 + \cos[n\phi(R) - \gamma]\} + \sum_{\text{non-bonded atom pairs } ij} \left[ \frac{A_{ij}}{r_{ij}(R)^{12}} - \frac{B_{ij}}{r_{ij}(R)^6} + \frac{q_i q_j}{\epsilon_r \epsilon_0 r_{ij}(R)} \right] \quad (1)$$

Forcefields: [AMBER](#), [CHARMM](#), [CVF](#), [ECEPP](#), [GROMOS](#)

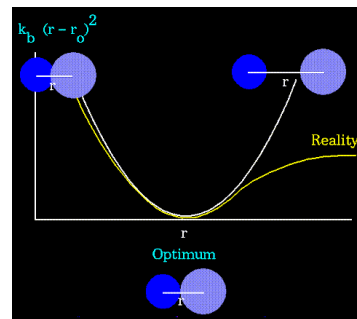
# Non-Bonded Interactions



# Bond length

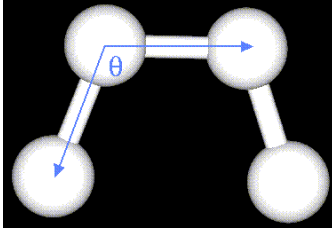


# Bond length

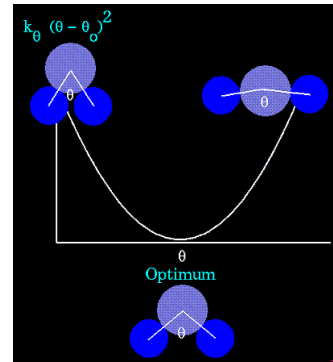


## Bond angle

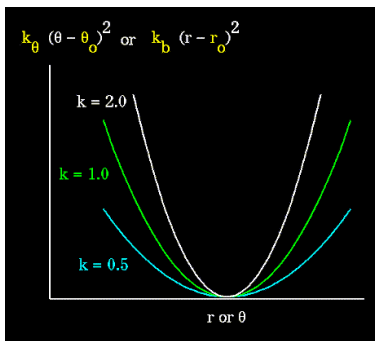
$$E = \sum_{\text{angles}} k_{\theta} (\theta - \theta_0)^2$$



## Bond angle

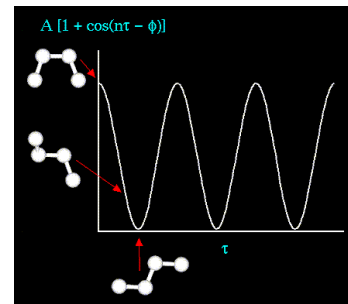


## Bond length and angle (parameters)

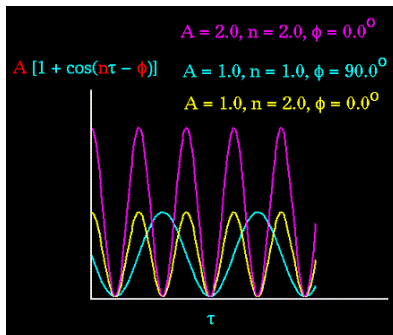


## Torsional angle

$$E = \sum A [1 + \cos(n\tau - \phi)]$$



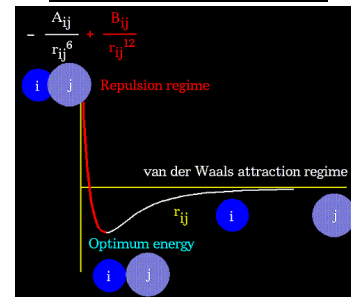
## Torsional angle (parameters)



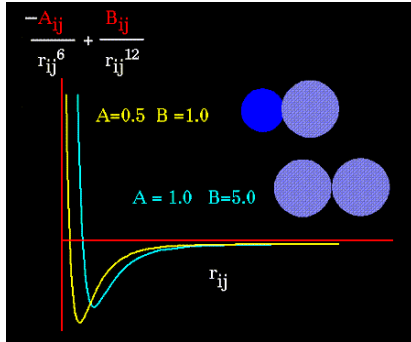
## Non-bonded terms

$$E = \sum_i \sum_j \frac{-A_{ij}}{r_{ij}^6} + \frac{B_{ij}}{r_{ij}^{12}} + \sum_i \sum_j \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}}$$

van der Waals term      Electrostatic term



## Non-bonded terms (parameters)

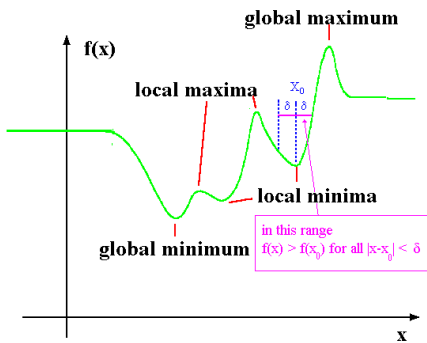


## Potential Energy Function

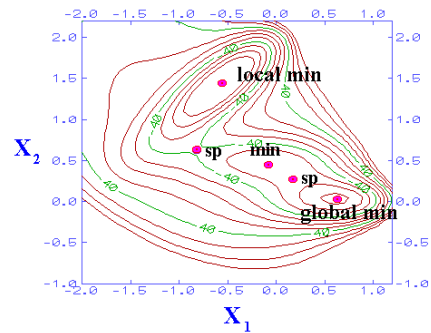
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Forcefields: [AMBER](#), [CHARMM](#), [CVF](#), [ECEPP](#), [GROMOS](#)

## Energy Minimization



## Energy Minimization



## Molecular Dynamics

- Model system
- Initial conditions
- Boundary conditions
- Integration algorithm
- Constraints
- Ensemble
- Results

## Molecular Dynamics

$$F_i = m_i a_i$$

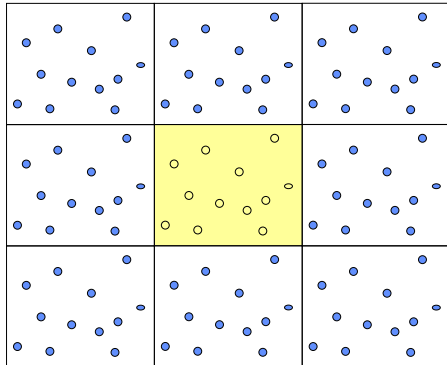
$$a_i = dv_i / dt$$

$$v_i = dr_i / dt$$

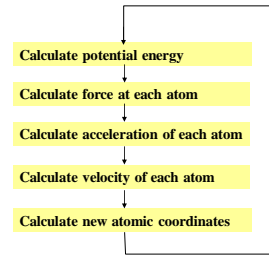
$$-dE / dr_i = F_i$$

$$-dE / dr_i = m_i d^2 r_i / dt^2$$

## Periodic Boundary Conditions



## MD cycle and integration algorithm



- 1 solve for  $a_i$  at  $t$  using:  $-\frac{dE}{dr_i} = F_i = m_i a_i(t)$
- 2 update  $v_i$  at  $t + \Delta t/2$  using:  $v_i(t + \Delta t/2) = v_i(t - \Delta t/2) + a_i(t) \Delta t$
- 3 update  $r_i$  at  $t + \Delta t$  using:  $r_i(t + \Delta t) = r_i(t) + v_i(t + \Delta t/2) \Delta t$

## Time scales

Motion	Characteristic time (sec)
Relative vibration of bonded atoms	$10^{-14}$
Rotation of side chains at protein surface	$10^{-11} - 10^{-10}$
Torsional libration of buried groups	$10^{-11} - 10^{-9}$
Relative motion of different globular regions	$10^{-11} - 10^{-7}$
Rotation of medium-sized side chains in protein interior	$10^{-4} - 1$
Local denaturation	$10^{-5} - 10$

## Temperature in molecular dynamics

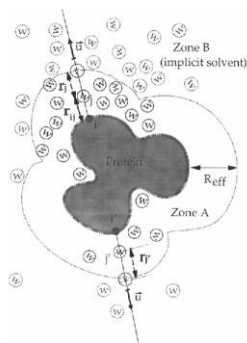
$$U_{kin} = \sum \frac{1}{2} m_i v_i^2 = \frac{3}{2} NkT$$

$N$  – number of atoms

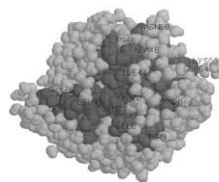
$k$  – Boltzmann constant

$T$  – absolute temperature

## MD of proteins: Solvent model

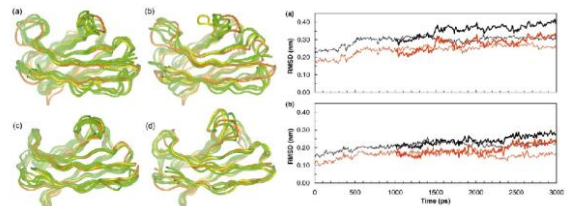


Adopted from V.Daggatt (1999)



MD simulation of ubiquitin (400 ps)

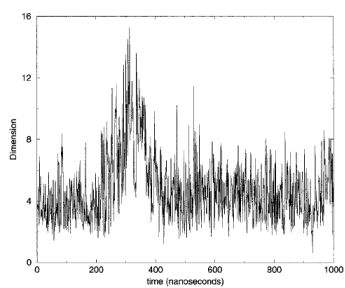
## MD of proteins: mobile regions



Snapshots of  $V_H$  domain simulation at 300 and 340 K

Adopted from W.F.VanGunsteren (2001)

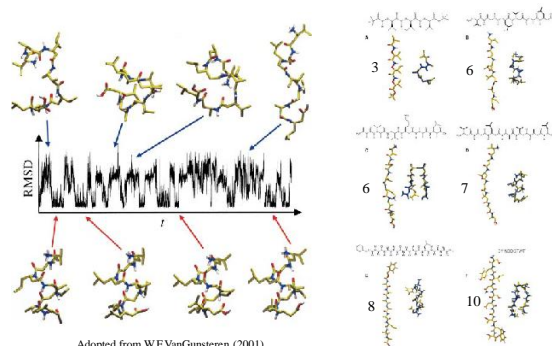
## MD of proteins: long runs



1 microsecond  
simulation of  
villin

Adopted from I.D.Kuntz and P.Kollman (2001)

## MD: Reversible folding of peptides



Adopted from W.F.VanGunsteren (2001)