

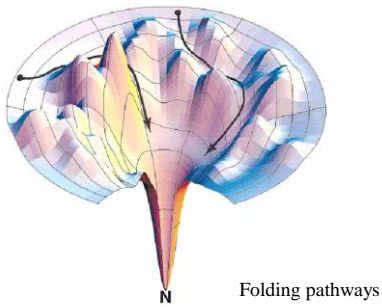
# Protein Structure Analysis

Iosif Vaisman

2023

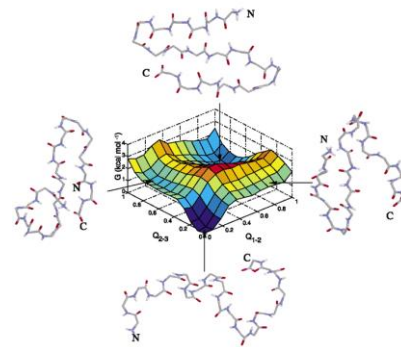
- **Ab initio methods:**  
solution of a protein folding problem  
search in conformational space
- **Energy-based methods:**  
energy minimization  
molecular simulation
- **Knowledge-based methods:**  
homology modeling  
fold recognition

## HP Lattice Models



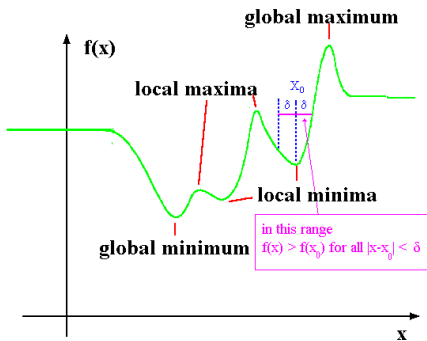
Chan & Dill, 1998

## Free energy surface in protein simulation

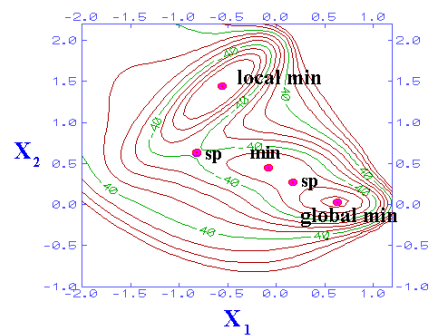


M.Karplus and J. A. McCammon, 2002

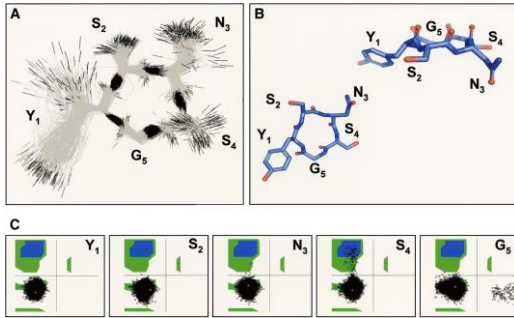
## Energy Minimization



## Energy Minimization

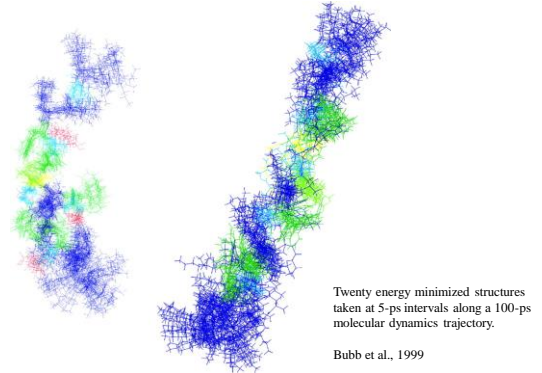


## Molecular dynamics



YSNSG cyclopeptide as observed along the 20 ns molecular dynamics trajectory (Thevenard et al., 2006)

## Molecular dynamics



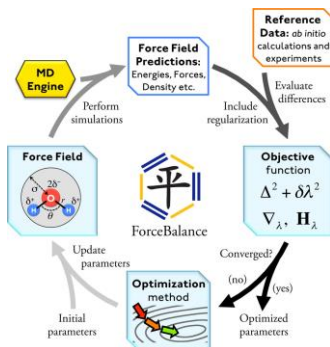
## Molecular Dynamics

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

## Potential Energy Function and Force Field

$$V(\vec{R}) = \sum_{\text{bonds}} K_d(d - d_0)^2 + \sum_{\text{Urey-Bradley}} K_{UB}(S - S_0)^2 + \sum_{\text{angle}} K_\theta(\theta - \theta_0)^2 + \sum_{\text{dihedrals}} K_\chi(1 + \cos(n\chi - \delta)) + \sum_{\text{impropers}} K_\phi(\phi - \phi_0)^2 + \sum_{\text{nonbond}} \left\{ \epsilon_{ij} \left[ \left( \frac{R_{ij}^{\text{min}}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{R_{ij}^{\text{min}}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right] + \frac{q_i q_j}{\epsilon_{r_{ij}}} \right\}$$

## Force Field Development and Parametrization



L.-P. Wang et al., 2014

## Molecular Dynamics

$$\mathbf{F}_i = m_i \mathbf{a}_i$$

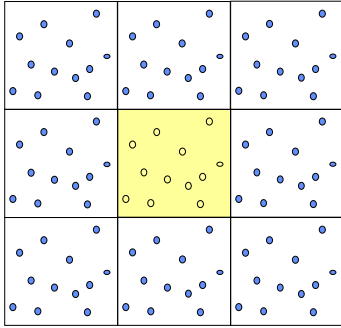
$$\mathbf{a}_i = d\mathbf{v}_i / dt$$

$$\mathbf{v}_i = d\mathbf{r}_i / dt$$

$$-dE / d\mathbf{r}_i = \mathbf{F}_i$$

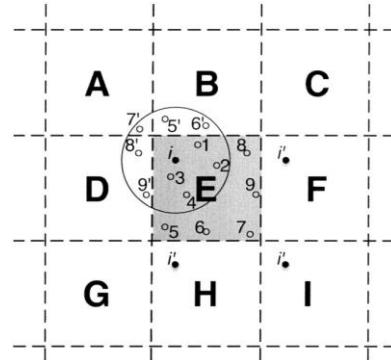
$$-dE / d\mathbf{r}_i = m_i d^2\mathbf{r}_i / dt^2$$

## Periodic Boundary Conditions



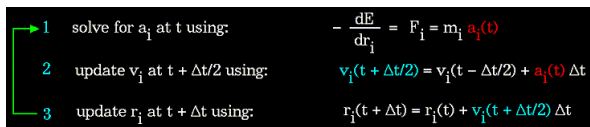
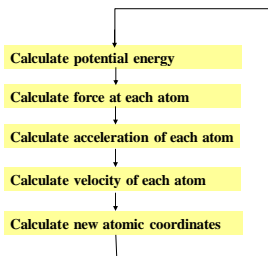
J. Jensen, [animation](#)

## Periodic Boundary Conditions



Adopted from D.van der Spoel et al. (2005)

## MD cycle and integration algorithm



## Characteristic Time Scales for Protein Motions

event	spatial extent (nm)	amplitude (nm)	time (s)	appropriate simulations
bond-length vibration	0.2-0.5	0.001-0.01	$10^{-14}$ - $10^{-13}$	QM methods
elastic vibration of globular domain	1.0-2.0	0.005-0.05	$10^{-12}$ - $10^{-11}$	conventional MD
rotation of solvent-exposed side chains	0.5-1.0	0.5-1.0	$10^{-11}$ - $10^{-10}$	conventional MD
torsional libration of buried groups	0.5-1.0	0.05	$10^{-11}$ - $10^{-9}$	conventional MD
hinge bending (relative motion of globular domains)	1.0-2.0	0.1-0.5	$10^{-11}$ - $10^{-7}$	Langevin dynamics, enhanced sampling MD methods?
rotation of buried side chains	0.5	0.5	$10^{-4}$ -1	enhanced sampling MD methods?
allosteric transitions	0.5-4.0	0.1-0.5	$10^{-5}$ -1	enhanced sampling MD methods?
local denaturation	0.5-1.0	0.5-1.0	$10^{-5}$ - $10^1$	enhanced sampling MD methods?
loop motions	1.0-5.0	1.0-5.0	$10^{-8}$ - $10^{-5}$	Brownian dynamics?
rigid-body (helix) motions	1.0-5.0	1.0-5.0	$10^{-8}$ - $10^{-6}$	enhanced sampling MD methods?
helix-coil transitions		>5.0	$10^{-7}$ - $10^4$	enhanced sampling MD methods?
protein association	>>1.0			Brownian dynamics

S. A. Adcock and J. A. McCammon, 2006

## MD Ensemble

### Microcanonical ensemble (NVE):

The thermodynamic state characterized by a fixed number of atoms,  $N$ , a fixed volume,  $V$ , and a fixed energy,  $E$ . This corresponds to an isolated system.

### Canonical Ensemble (NVT):

This is a collection of all systems whose thermodynamic state is characterized by a fixed number of atoms,  $N$ , a fixed volume,  $V$ , and a fixed temperature,  $T$ .

### Isobaric-Isothermal Ensemble (NPT):

This ensemble is characterized by a fixed number of atoms,  $N$ , a fixed pressure,  $P$ , and a fixed temperature,  $T$ .

### Grand canonical Ensemble ( $\mu$ V $T$ ):

The thermodynamic state for this ensemble is characterized by a fixed chemical potential,  $\mu$ , a fixed volume,  $V$ , and a fixed temperature,  $T$ .

## Temperature in molecular dynamics

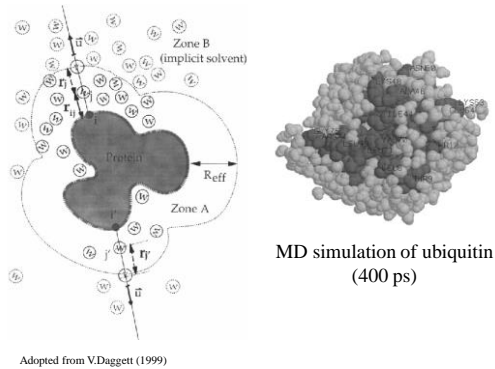
$$U_{kin} = \sum \frac{1}{2} m_i v_i^2 = \frac{3}{2} NkT$$

$N$  – number of atoms

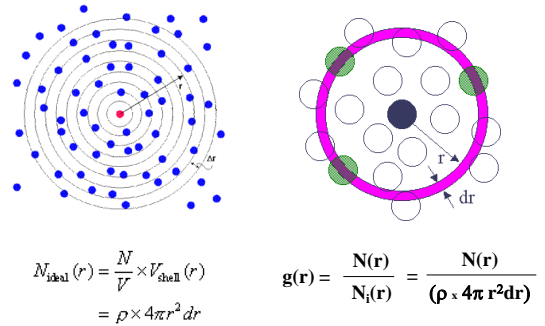
$k$  – Boltzmann constant

$T$  – absolute temperature

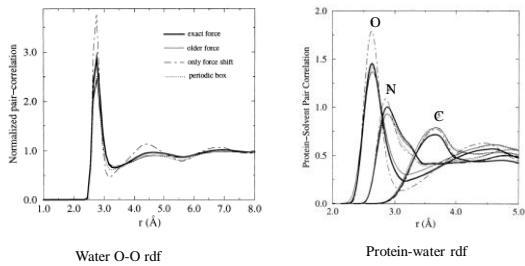
## MD of proteins: Solvent model



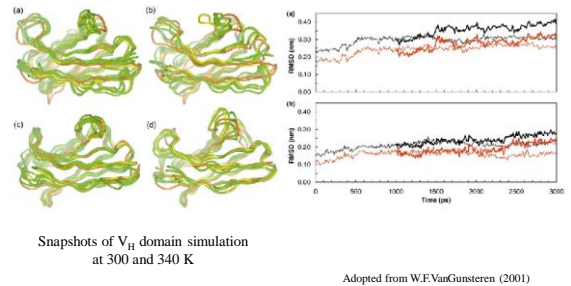
## MD of proteins: radial distribution functions



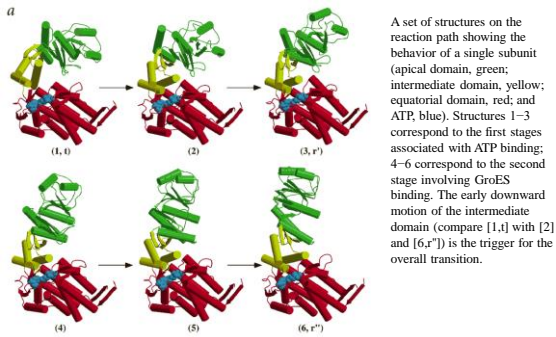
## MD of proteins: radial distribution functions



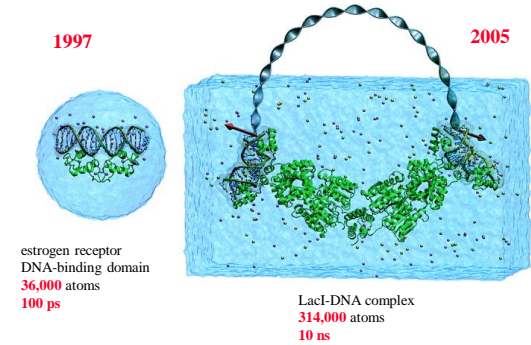
## MD of proteins: mobile regions



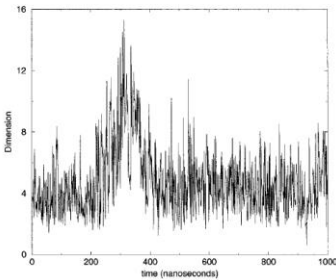
## MD of proteins: Conformational change



## MD of proteins: scale of simulation



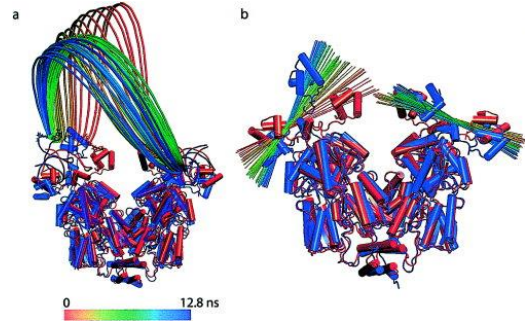
## MD of proteins: long runs



1 microsecond simulation of villin

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

## MD of proteins: long runs



Adopted from J.C.Phillips et al. (2005)

## MD of proteins: performance

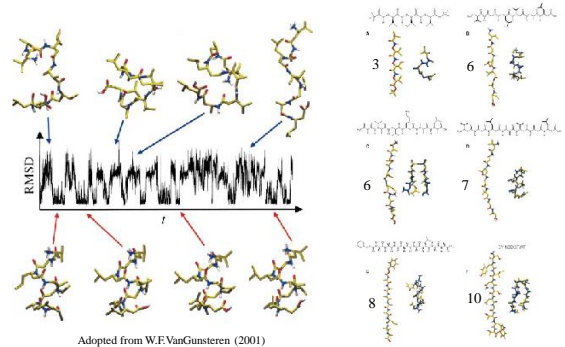
Simulation setup			Performance, ps/day					
System	FF	virtH	Water	Coulomb	LJ	ia32	x86-64	ppc
Vil	G	no	TIP3P	cutoff 0.8	cutoff 0.8	9744	9574	14,385
Vil	G	yes	TIP3P	cutoff 0.8	cutoff 0.8	16,900	16,895	23,681
Vil	G	yes	TIP3P	RF 1.0	cutoff 1.0	10,308	9719	12,934

1999

System (PDB ID)	Number of atoms	Approximate performance (μs/machine-day)
*DHFR (5DFR)	23,558	17.4
aSFP (1SFP)	48,423	11.7
FtsZ (1FSZ)	98,236	5.7
T7Lig (1A01)	116,650	5.5
bILAP (1BPM)	132,362	4.8

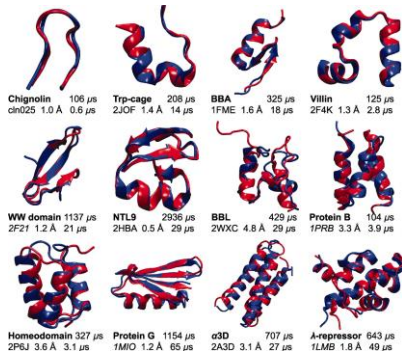
2014

## MD: Reversible folding of peptides



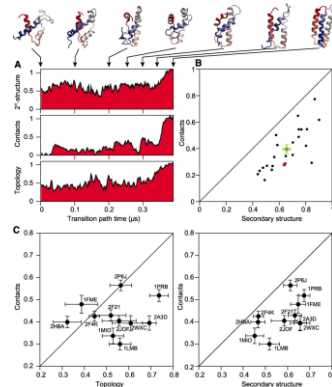
Adopted from W.E.VanGunsteren (2001)

## MD: Reversible folding of small proteins



K. Lindorff-Larsen et al., 2011

## MD: Reversible folding of small proteins



Formation of topology, native contacts, and secondary structure during protein folding.

- (A) The three panels show the accumulation of native secondary structure, nonlocal native contacts, and native topology during a single folding event for α3D
- (B) The 24 transitions of α3D in a scatter plot are represented, with each of the black points corresponding to the time series integral for a single folding event
- (C) Each point shows the average value over all folding and unfolding events observed for one protein. Each point is labeled with the PDB code of the relevant protein. Most proteins fall below the diagonal in these plots, showing that topology and secondary structure develop earlier than the full set of native contacts.

K. Lindorff-Larsen et al., 2011