

# Computational Methods in Biology



Guest Lecture  
CS267  
Spring 2005  
UC Berkeley

## Reading assignment (not mandatory):

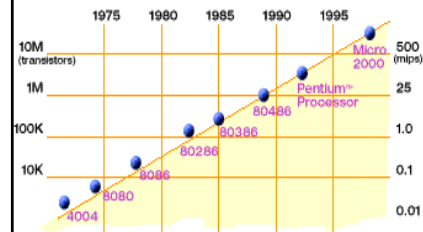
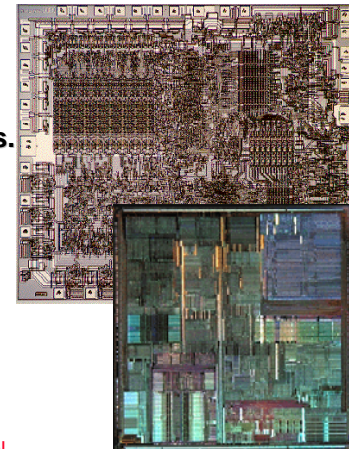
Y. Duan and PA Kollman, "Pathways to a protein folding intermediate observed in a 1-microsecond simulation in aqueous solution," Science 282, 740 (1998).

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# The Golden Age of Computing

Gordon Moore (co-founder of Intel) predicted in 1965 that the transistor density of semiconductor chips would double roughly every 18 months.

Intel 8080, 1975, 29K transistors

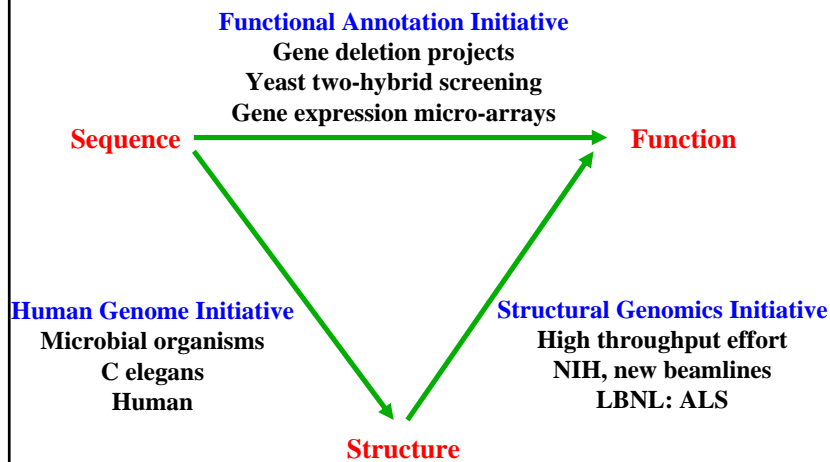


<http://www.nersc.gov/~simon/cs267/Lec1.html>

Intel Pentium Pro, 1995, 5.5M transistors

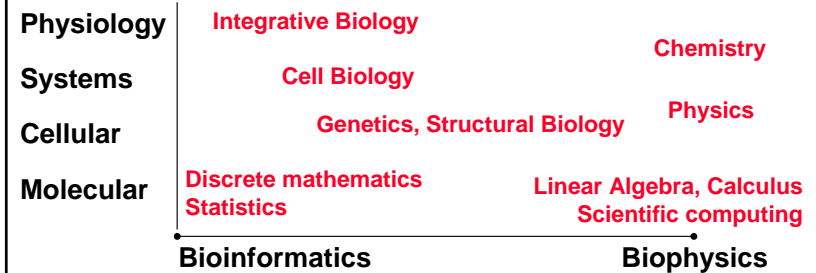
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## The Revolution in Experimental Biology



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## Computational Biology



Breadth of computational biology is enormous: underlying biology and methods are very different!

should give better idea as to which comp. bio. courses, and related areas in biology, chemistry, physics, statistics, and CS to pursue

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## BE143/243: Class Information



**Course Time and Place:** MWF 3-4P  
310 Hearst Mining

**PreReqs:** Lower division physics/chem/bio  
Math 53 & 54

**Lab:** Tu, 5-6pm, 1171 Etcheverry

**Instructor:** Teresa Head-Gordon  
Department of Bioengineering  
Donner 272  
[TLHead-Gordon@lbl.gov](mailto:TLHead-Gordon@lbl.gov)

**TA:** TA in charge of computer lab,  
all homework assignments

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## Text/Assessment

**Text:** [Understanding Molecular Simulation: From algorithms to applications](#), D. Frenkel and B. Smit (Academic Press, 1996).

**Text Resources:**

- [Computer Simulation of Liquids](#), M. P. Allen and D.J. Tildesley (Oxford Univ. Press) 1997.
- [Numerical Recipes, the Art of Scientific Computing](#), W. H. Press, B. P. Flannery, S. A. Teukolsky, W. T. Vetterling (Cambridge) 1989.
- [Molecular Modelling: Principles and Applications](#), Andrew R. Leach, Prentice Hall.

[Web-based notes and hand-outs](#)

**Assessment:** Homework (40%)  
Mid-term (20%)  
Final Project (40%)

**Homework is critical for final project that involves a class competition**

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## BE143/243: Syllabus

### (1) Class Introduction and Organization

Intro to Physical Theories of Matter/Connections to Simulations  
Molecular Biology Primer: Sequence, Structure, Function

### (2) Protein Folding, Structure Prediction, and Function

Protein folding and disease; Protein-Ligand or Protein-Protein Interactions; Protein Design

### (3,4) Physical Interactions: Proteins and liquids

All atom models: ab initio vs. empirical potential energy surfaces  
Coarse-grained models: lattice and bead protein models

### (5,6,7) Probability Theory

Elementary probability, Stochastic variables, Probability distribution functions

Discrete distributions: Binomial, Poisson; Random walk in 1D

Continuous distribution: Normal or Gaussian

Central limit theorem

### (8,9,10,11) Introduction to Monte Carlo Methods

Monte Carlo Integration; Importance Sampling; Markov chain; Detailed balance; Metropolis Monte Carlo; Illustrated for atomic clusters and for chain molecules

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## BE143/243: Syllabus

### (12, 13) Statistical and Classical Mechanics

Time vs. ensemble average; Microcanonical, canonical, and other ensembles; Symplectic properties/stable numerical trajectories

### (14,15,16) Introduction to Molecular Dynamics

Numerical integration schemes: Verlet, Velocity Verlet, Beeman, Predictor-Corrector

Liquids: Periodic boundary condition; Minimum image; Temperature; Velocity assignment: Box Mueller

### (17,18,19,20) Introduction to Optimization

Mathematical optimization: definitions

Local optimization: Golden Section; bracketing minima; Steepest descent; Conjugate gradients; Newton Method; BFGS

Global optimization: Simulated Annealing; Dynamic programming; Branch and Bound

### (21,22,23,24) Biologically Inspired Computing

Genetic Algorithms; Neural Networks; DNA computing

### (25) CASP/Class Competition in Simulation and Prediction

### (26, 27, 28) Treating Bulk Systems

Truncation schemes and corrections; Neighbor Lists; Ewald; other methods

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## BE143/243: Syllabus

Exam Review (Lectures 1-28); Exam

(29, 30, 31, 32) **Advanced Monte Carlo Methods**

Hybrid Monte Carlo/Molecular Dynamics; Smart Monte Carlo;  
Force Bias; configurational-bias Monte Carlo: Lattice chains,  
Flexible chains; Stiff chains

(33, 34, 35, 38) **Advanced Molecular Dynamics Methods**

Stochastic and Extended System methods; Algorithms for  
Dynamics in NVT and NPT ensembles; Nose- Hoover thermostats  
and barostats; multiple time step approach; constraint dynamics

(36, 37) **ab initio MD and Quantum Computing**

(Guest lectures)

(39, 40, 41, 42) **Coarse-Grained Simulation Methods**

Langevin equation; Brownian Dynamics; Multipole expansions;  
Hydrodynamic Interactions; application to enzymatics

**Finals:** Projects Due

Competition Results and Presentation by Group Leaders

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## Class Competition in Simulation and Prediction (Finals Project)

Global Optimization of  
Lennard-Jones Clusters and Lattice Proteins  
and  
Protein Design of Lattice Proteins

**Winner is announced during Finals Week. Team leaders (or appointed spokesperson) will present their teams results during the 3 hour final.**

**Every person turns in their own scientific paper on their teams problem and method**

**Start early!**

**Determine teams and starting rounding up cpu, resources**

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## Theoretical Framework for Simulation

Quantum Mechanics                      Potential energy surfaces

Classical Mechanics                    How to move on PE surfaces

**These theoretical frameworks describe physical matter at the level of microscopic atoms and molecules**

Thermodynamics                      Macroscopic Observables

**This theoretical framework describes physical matter at equilibrium at the level of macroscopic observables under certain externally controllable conditions: temperature, pressure, etc**

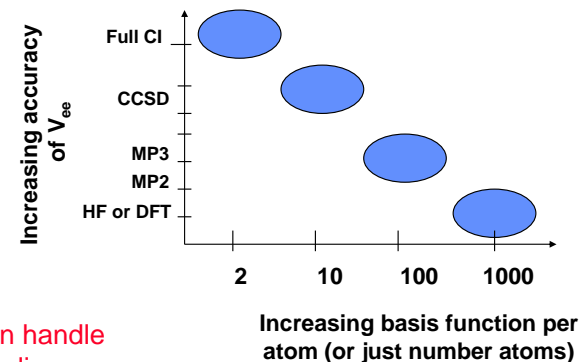
Statistical Mechanics                Microscopic to macroscopic

**This theoretical framework permits for the correct averaging of atomic level structure and dynamics, under specified conditions of T, P, etc, to connect to macroscopic observables**

Numerical simulation when analytical statistical mechanics is intractable

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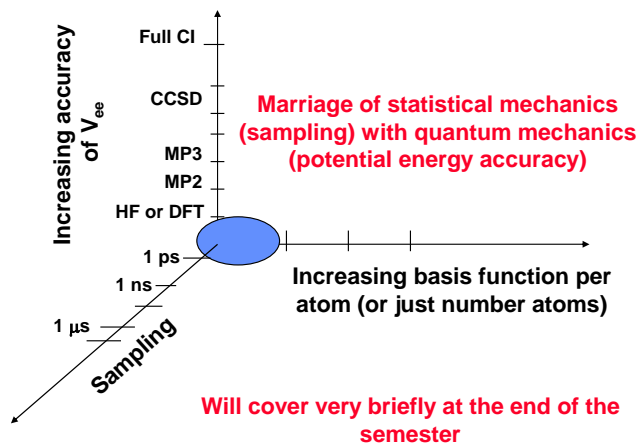
## Quantum Mechanical Potential Energy Surfaces



What we can handle without sampling dimension

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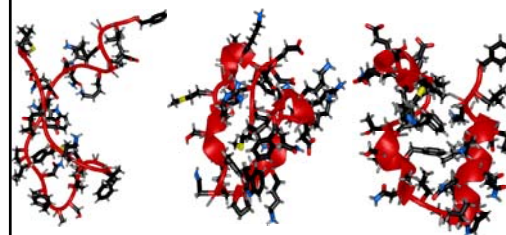
## Quantum Mechanical Potential Energy Surfaces



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## Protein Folding

The theoretical framework of quantum mechanics is what allows us formulate Potential Energy Surfaces (PES) from “the beginning”

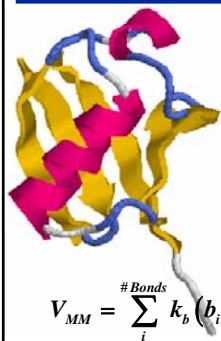


Y. Duan and PA Kollman, "Pathways to a protein folding intermediate observed in a 1-microsecond simulation in aqueous solution," *Science* 282, 740 (1998).

*What quality of the potential energy surface to be sampled with statistical precision can we afford?*

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## Empirical potential energy surfaces



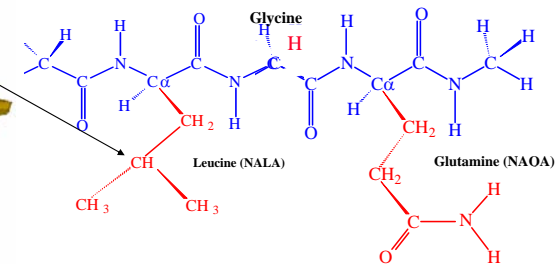
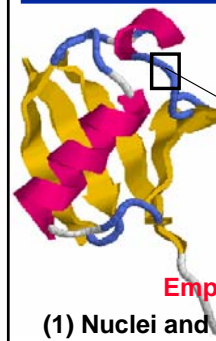
It will not be tractable to do quantum mechanical potential energy functions for proteins because (1) too many atoms for typical (or even small) proteins, and (2) for the amount of sampling we will need to do

Instead we will consider empirical potential energy functions

$$V_{MM} = \sum_i^{\# \text{ Bonds}} k_b (b_i - b_o)^2 + \sum_i^{\# \text{ Angles}} k_\theta (\theta_i - \theta_o)^2 + \sum_i^{\# \text{ dihedrals}} k_\phi [1 + \cos(n\phi + \delta)] + \sum_i^{\# \text{ atoms}} \sum_{i < j}^{\# \text{ atoms}} \left\{ \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}} + \epsilon_{ij} \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right] \right\}$$

The first three sums are covalent or “chain connectivity” terms  
The last double sum over i,j describes “non-bonded” terms  
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## Empirical potential energy surfaces



Empirical PES are based on following approximations:

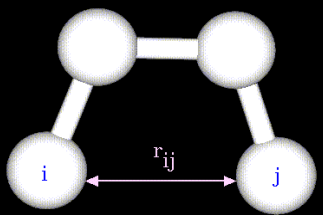
- (1) Nuclei and electrons are lumped into atom-like particles.
- (2) Atom-like particles are spherical and have a net charge
- (3) Interactions are based on classical models that mimic or approximate QM functional forms
- (4) Interaction parameters assigned to particular atoms:

C: aliphatic carbon, carbonyl carbon, etc

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## Coulomb's Law for Electrostatics



$$V_{Electrostatics} = \sum_i^{\#atoms} \sum_j^{\#atoms} \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}}$$

$q_i$  : atomic charge

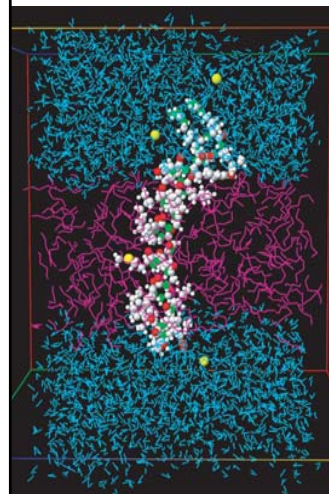
Short vs. Long-ranged interactions:

$$r^{-n} \quad \begin{array}{ll} n < 3 & \text{long} \\ n > 3 & \text{short} \end{array}$$

We will talk about Ewald descriptions of long-ranged electrostatics later in the semester

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## Water and Protein Interactions



$$V_{LJ} = \sum_i^{\#atoms_{protein}} \sum_j^{\#atoms_{water}} 4 \epsilon_{ij} \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]$$

$$\epsilon_{ij} = (\epsilon_i \epsilon_j)^{1/2}$$

$$\sigma_{ij} = \frac{\sigma_i + \sigma_j}{2}$$

$$V_{Electrostatics} = \sum_i^{\#atoms_{protein}} \sum_j^{\#atoms_{water}} \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}}$$

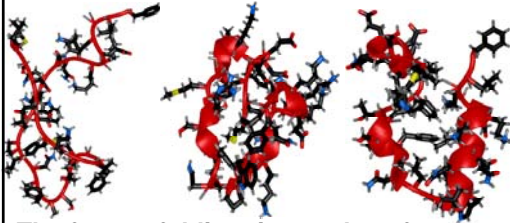
The empirical description of water (parameters) as focused on pure water liquid as opposed to its interaction with protein.

<http://amesnews.arc.nasa.gov/releases/2001/04/amesnews/512/512.html>

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## The Computational Cost of Protein Folding

Are all atom empirical force fields computationally tractable for something like protein folding?



Y. Duan and PA Kollman, "Pathways to a protein folding intermediate observed in a 1-microsecond simulation in aqueous solution," Science 282, 740 (1998).

The fastest folding timescales of measurable protein folding is on the order of tens of microseconds:  $\sim 10^{-6}$  seconds = 1  $\mu$ s.

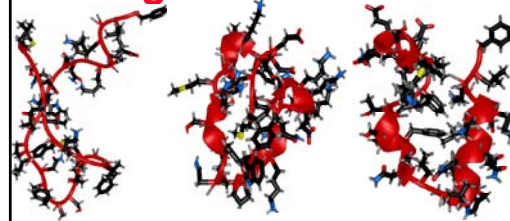
Some of the earliest folding events (formation of secondary structure, hydrophobic collapse) occur faster than 1 microsecond

What does it take (computationally) to simulate a microsecond?

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## The Computational Cost of Protein Folding

Folding



Y. Duan and PA Kollman, "Pathways to a protein folding intermediate observed in a 1-microsecond simulation in aqueous solution," Science 282, 740 (1998).

Let's consider the heroic calculation by Duan and Kollman of 1  $\mu$ s simulation of the small 36 amino acid protein villin in a molecular description of water:

~500 protein atoms

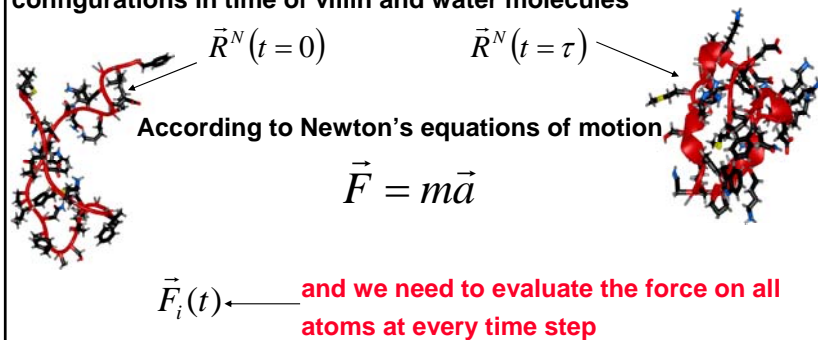
~11,500 water atoms

**N=12,000 atoms**

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## The Computational Cost of Protein Folding

In BE143/243 we will learn about basic molecular dynamics simulation. It is sufficient right now to say that we are evolving configurations in time of villin and water molecules



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## The Computational Cost of Protein Folding

The computational cost of the force, which is the position derivative of the potential energy at each time step

$$\vec{F}_i = -\frac{\partial V}{\partial \vec{r}_i}$$

is dominated by the evaluation of the double sum over non-bonded interactions

$$V_{Non-bonded} = \sum_i \sum_j 4\epsilon_{ij} \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right] + \frac{q_i q_j}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{ij}}$$

which scales as  $N^2$  where  $N$ =number of atoms.

Later lets improve on this

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## The Computational Cost of Protein Folding

Lets say that each force evaluation costs 100 operations (computer evaluations such as adds, divides, multiples, memory fetches, etc). Therefore for villin in water:

$$100 \text{ ops} \times (12,000)^2 = 1.44 \times 10^{10} \text{ ops per time step}$$

How many time steps do we have to do? To execute stable trajectories we need a time step of

$$t=1.0 \text{ femtosecond (fs) where } 1\text{fs}=10^{-15} \text{ seconds}$$

and 1.0 microsecond ( $10^{-6}$  seconds) of simulation requires

$$10^{-6} \text{ seconds} / (10^{-15} \text{ seconds/timestep}) = 10^9 \text{ time steps}$$

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## The Computational Cost of Protein Folding

Therefore one 1us simulation of villin protein in water requires

$$(1.44 \times 10^{10} \text{ ops/time step}) \times (10^9 \text{ time steps}) = 1.44 \times 10^{19} \text{ ops}$$

However, one folding trajectory is only anecdotal. We require thousands of trajectories to get the correct folding measure of a population or ensemble of folding events (more typical of real experiments).

$$10^3 \times 1.44 \times 10^{19} \text{ ops} = 1.44 \times 10^{22} \text{ ops}$$

This outlines how many computer operations we need to simulate the fastest protein folding experiment for a very small protein in water

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## The Computational Cost of Protein Folding

Current best supercomputers are 10-100 teraflops (teraops) or  $10^{13}$  ops/second wall time

Lets imagine that we have exclusive and dedicated access to this supercomputer for as long as we need to finish this protein folding calculation.

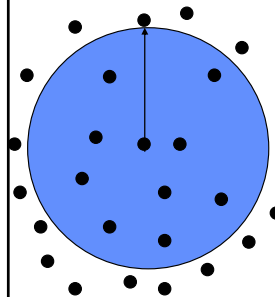
$$(1.44 \times 10^{22} \text{ ops}) / (10^{13} \text{ ops/second wall time}) = 1.44 \times 10^9 \text{ seconds}$$

$$(1.44 \times 10^9 \text{ seconds}) / (8.64 \times 10^4 \text{ seconds/day})$$

$$1.67 \times 10^4 \text{ days} \sim 46 \text{ years}$$

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## How did they do it?



- (1) They did one trajectory
- (2) This published calculation truncated electrostatic interactions at  $8 \text{ \AA}$  when ranges more like  $15\text{-}20 \text{ \AA}$  are a better estimate. So effectively  $N^2 \sim M^2$

What is M? Assume a constant density of atoms, so that atom number increases with larger volume elements  
 $\sim 8^3/15^3 \sim 15\%$  of 12,000  
or  $\sim 1800$  atoms

$$100 \text{ ops} \times (1800)^2 = 3.2 \times 10^8 \text{ ops per time step}$$
$$(3.2 \times 10^8 \text{ ops/time step}) \times (10^9 \text{ time steps}) = 3.2 \times 10^{17} \text{ ops}$$

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## How did they do it?

Best supercomputers in 1997 were ~0.1 teraflops (teraops) or  $10^{11}$  ops/second wall time

Assume again that a supercomputer is dedicated to the completion of this calculation

$$(3.2 \times 10^{17} \text{ ops}) / (10^{11} \text{ ops/second wall time}) = 3.2 \times 10^6 \text{ seconds}$$

$$(3.2 \times 10^6 \text{ seconds}) / (8.64 \times 10^4 \text{ seconds/day}) \sim 37 \text{ days}$$

(Duan and Kollman had 0.25 of Cray YMP for ~3 months and about 0.5 of Cray XMP for ~1 year)

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## Computational Protein Folding



*Duan & Kollman, Science 1998*

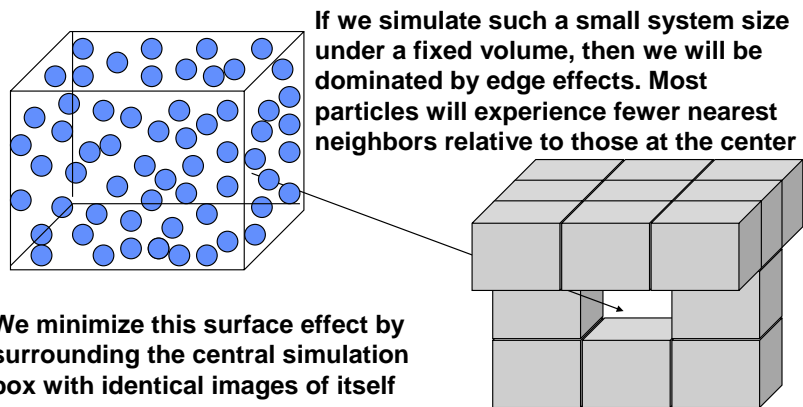
The small protein did not fold

- (1) Quality of objective function  
proper treatment of long-ranged interactions **X**  
cut-off interactions at 8Å, poor by simulation standards
- (2) severe time-scale problem  
parallelization using spatial decomposition
- (3) Statistics (1 trajectory is anecdotal) **X**  
many trajectories required for kinetics and thermodynamics

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## Treating Bulk Systems

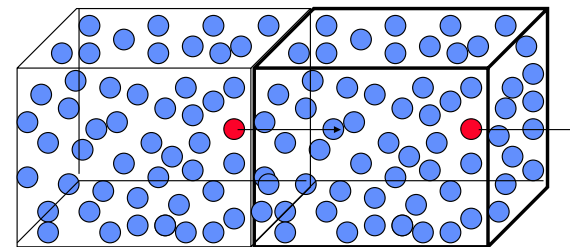
We are meant to be simulating bulk properties of a macroscopic system, but really we can only typically handle at most  $10^3$ - $10^6$  particles on today's best computers



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## Periodic Boundary Conditions

The trajectory of a particle in the central box is replicated by its periodic images in all surrounding boxes.



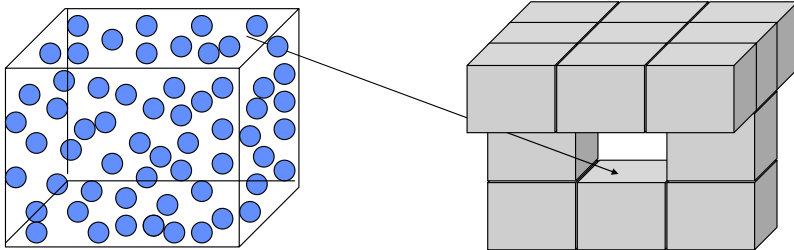
When a particle's trajectory approaches and leaves on a face of the box, its periodic image enters the box from the opposite face.

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## Treating Bulk Systems

But now we could in principle have an infinite number of interactions

$$V_{tot} = \sum_{\vec{n}} \sum_i \sum_j V(\vec{r}_{ij} + L\vec{n})$$



This reintroduces the original problem of large N needed to simulate bulk systems, and with periodicity to boot!

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## Truncation for Short-ranged Potential

(1) Simple truncation

$$V = \sum_i \sum_j V(r_{ij}) \quad r_{ij} \leq r_{cut}$$

$$V = 0 \quad r_{ij} > r_{cut}$$

(2) Truncation and Shift

$$V = \sum_i \sum_j V(r_{ij}) - V(r_{cut}) \quad r_{ij} \leq r_{cut}$$

$$V = 0 \quad r_{ij} > r_{cut}$$

Suitable only for Monte Carlo. Not suitable for molecular dynamics since forces are discontinuous at  $r_{cut}$ , and EOM become unstable

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## Truncation for Short-ranged Potential

### (3) Truncation and Shift

$$V = \sum_i^{\#atoms} \sum_j^{\#atoms} V(r_{ij}) - V(r_{cut}) - \left. \frac{dV(r)}{dr} \right|_{r=r_{cut}} (r - r_{cut}) \quad r_{ij} \leq r_{cut}$$

$$V = 0 \quad r_{ij} > r_{cut}$$

Where now discontinuity has been shifted to second derivatives

Now define a correction to the missing interactions as  $r_{cut}$

$$V_{LJ} = \sum_i^{\#atoms} \sum_j^{\#atoms} V(r_{ij}^{cut}) + \frac{N\rho}{2} \int_{r_{cut}}^{\infty} V(r) 4\pi r^2 dr$$

Which assumes that the interaction is isotropic beyond  $r_{cut}$  with constant density  $\rho$ .

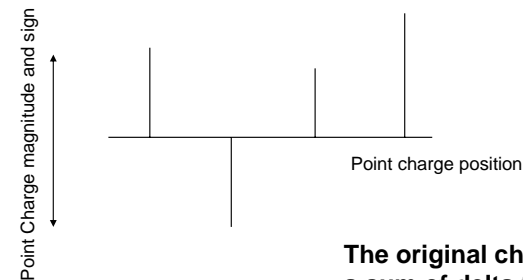
But note that correction becomes unbounded for potentials that are long-ranged:  $r^{-n}$  where  $n < 3$

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## Long-ranged potentials: Ewald Sum

$$V_{tot} = \sum_i \sum_j \sum_{\vec{n}} \frac{q_i q_j}{|\vec{r}_{ij} + L\vec{n}|} \quad \text{This sum is only conditionally convergent (depending on the order in which you add the terms).}$$

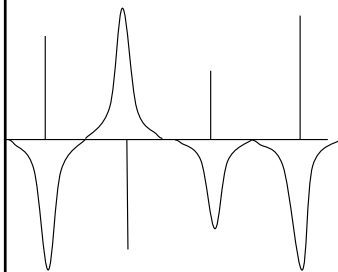
$$\vec{n} = (n_x L, n_y L, n_z L)$$



The original charge distribution is a sum of delta function charges, and the interactions between charges decays as  $1/r_{ij}$

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## Long-ranged potentials: Ewald Sum



$$\rho(r) \Rightarrow -q_i (\alpha / \pi)^{3/2} \exp(-\alpha r^2)$$

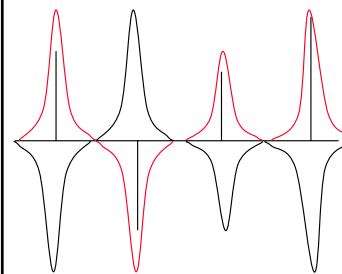
Instead we will introduce a diffuse charge distribution around charge  $i$  with opposite sign. For convenience we will make this a Gaussian charge distribution.

At large distances (near the tails) this screening charge value goes to zero rapidly.

Therefore the original sum is more rapidly convergent than  $1/r$  due to this screening.

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## Long-ranged potentials: Ewald Sum



But this is not the true charge distribution itself.

We add back in a **compensating charge distribution** that will cancel out the screened charge distribution. This now will result in two fully convergent sums.

We will reformulate the original non-convergent sum

$$V_{tot} = \sum_i \sum_j \sum_{\vec{n}} \frac{q_i q_j}{|\vec{r}_{ij} + L\vec{n}|} = \sum_i q_i \Phi(\vec{r}_i)$$

with two sums: a real-space sum (r-sum: screened) and inverse-space sum (k-sum: compensating) which we can derive from Poisson's equation

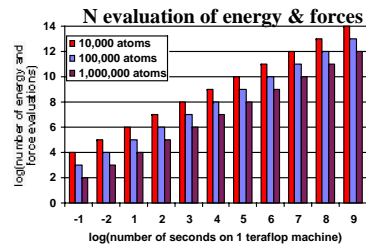
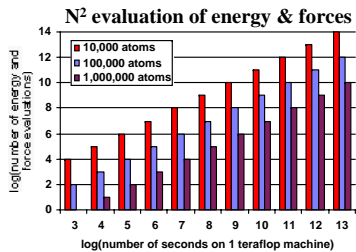
$$-\nabla^2 \Phi(\vec{r}) = 4\pi \rho(\vec{r})$$

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## Long-ranged electrostatics

$$V_{qq} = \sum_{i>j}^N \left( \sum_{|\mathbf{n}|=0}^{\infty} q_i q_j \frac{\text{erfc}(\kappa|\mathbf{r}_{ij} + \mathbf{n}|)}{|\mathbf{r}_{ij} + \mathbf{n}|} + \frac{1}{\pi L^3} \sum_{\mathbf{k} \neq 0} q_i q_j \frac{4\pi^2}{k^2} \exp(-k^2/4\kappa^2) \cos(\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{ij}) \right) + V_{self}$$

- Conventional algorithm scales as  $N^{3/2}$  at best
- Particle Mesh Ewald  $O(N \log N)$   
Spatial Decomposition in r-space; Parallelization of FFT's in k-space
- Evaluate Ewald in r-space using FMM techniques  $O(N)$ ?

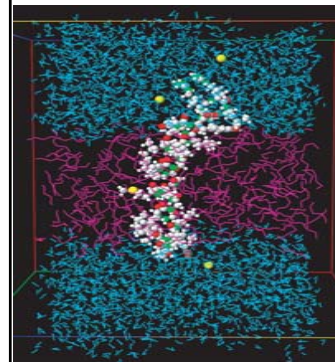


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## Water as a Dielectric Continuum

The computational cost of simulating a protein and water is dominated by water-water non-bonded interactions. Hence approximations that ignore molecular detail of water while modeling its \*effective\* influence on protein are often used.

Water "screens" electrostatic interactions between protein atoms. Protein-protein electrostatics are scaled by dielectric constant, making effective interaction more short-ranged



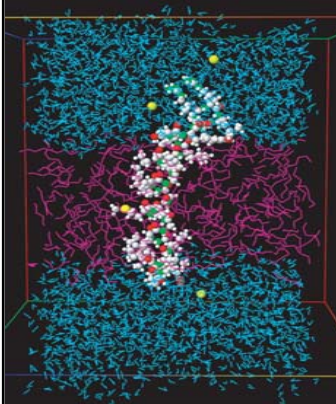
$$V_{Electrostatics} = \sum_i^{\#atoms} \sum_j^{\#atoms} \frac{q_i q_j}{\epsilon r_{ij}}$$

$\epsilon$  : dielectric constant  
~80 for liquid water

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## Free Energy of Solvation

Protein-water interactions are most importantly manifested as the free energies of amino acid or protein solvation. We can qualitatively describe this as being composed of three separable terms



$$\Delta G_{\text{solvation}} = \Delta G_{\text{electrostat}} + \Delta G_{\text{vdw}} + \Delta G_{\text{cavitation}}$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{electrostat}} = -\frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right) \frac{q^2}{a}$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{vdw}} + \Delta G_{\text{cavitation}} = \gamma SA$$

$a$ : Effective cavity (Born) radius

$SA$ : Solvent accessible surface area

$\gamma$ : Parameter derived from transfer free energy data of alkanes from vacuum to water

<http://amesnews.arc.nasa.gov/releases/2001/04/images/512/512.html>

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## Simplification of Protein Folding Simulations

Replace water molecules with Generalized Born/ Solvent

$$\Delta G_{\text{electrostat}} = -\left(1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right) \sum_{i=1}^{\#atoms} \sum_{j=1}^{\#atoms} \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}} - \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\epsilon}\right) \sum_{i=1}^{\#atoms} \frac{q_i^2}{a_i}$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{vdw}} + \Delta G_{\text{cavity}} = \gamma SA$$

100 ops x (500 protein atoms)<sup>2</sup> = 2.5 x 10<sup>7</sup> ops per time step

2.5 x 10<sup>7</sup> ops/time step x (10<sup>9</sup> time steps) = 2.5 x 10<sup>16</sup> ops

10<sup>3</sup> trajectories x (2.5 x 10<sup>16</sup> ops) = 2.5 x 10<sup>19</sup> ops

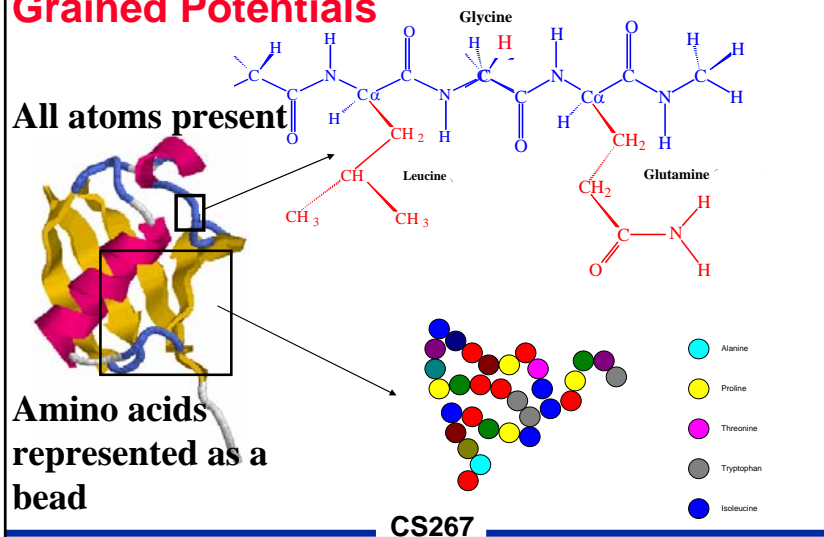
2.5 x 10<sup>19</sup> ops / (10<sup>13</sup> ops/second wall time) = 2.5 x 10<sup>6</sup> seconds

(2.5 x 10<sup>6</sup> seconds) / (8.64 x 10<sup>4</sup> seconds/day) ~ 29 days

Folding@home

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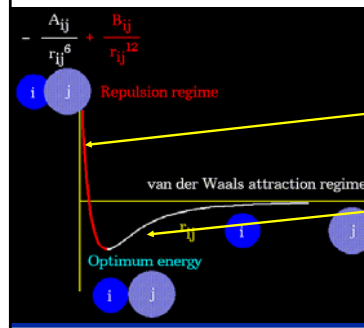
## Molecular mechanics to Coarse-Grained Potentials



## Simplifying Protein Interactions

$$H = \sum_{\text{bonds}} k_b (b - b_0)^2 + \sum_{\text{angles}} k_\theta (\theta - \theta_0)^2 + \sum_{\text{dihedrals}} \{ A [1 + \cos \phi] + B [1 - \cos \phi] + C [1 + \cos 3\phi] + D [1 + \cos(\phi + \pi/4)] \}$$

$$\sum_{i, j \geq i+3} 4\epsilon_H S_I \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - S_2 \left( \frac{\sigma}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]$$

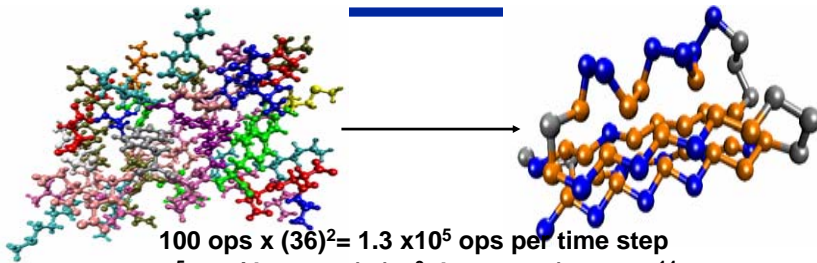


**P-, N- interactions are repulsive**  
polar groups on protein surface

**H-H interactions are attractive**  
mimics how hydrophobic groups  
segregate into core

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## Protein Bead Models



100 ops x (36)<sup>2</sup> = 1.3 x 10<sup>5</sup> ops per time step  
1.3x10<sup>5</sup> ops/time step x (10<sup>9</sup> time steps) = 1.3x10<sup>14</sup> ops  
10<sup>3</sup> trajectories x (1.3 x 10<sup>14</sup> ops) = 1.3x10<sup>17</sup> ops  
1.3x10<sup>17</sup> ops / (10<sup>13</sup> ops/second wall time) = 1.3x10<sup>4</sup> seconds

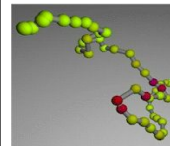
(2.5x10<sup>4</sup> seconds) / (8.64x10<sup>4</sup> seconds/day) ~ 3.5 hours

Now don't need massive computing resources but more intermediate computing platforms are adequate

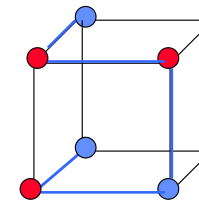
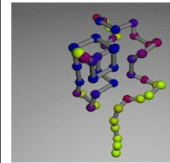
Protein bead models possible for those in class who are ambitious

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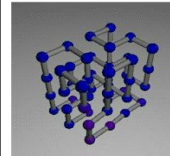
## Protein Lattice Models



Protein lattice models: amino acids on a chain are restricted to points on some type of lattice



Example sequence PPHP

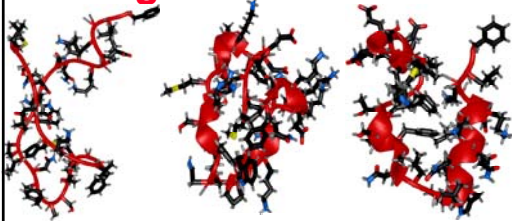


Greatly reduces the number of accessible protein states by restricting the continuous Cartesian space to discrete lattice points

<http://www.lbl.gov/Science-Articles/Archive/model-protein-folding2.html>

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## The Computational Cost of Protein Folding



Y. Duan and PA Kollman,  
"Pathways to a protein folding  
intermediate observed in  
a 1-microsecond simulation in  
aqueous solution," Science 282,  
740 (1998).

Let's consider the heroic calculation by Duan and Kollman of 1 $\mu$ s simulation of the small 36 amino acid protein villin in a molecular description of water:

**N=36 residues**

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## The Computational Cost of Protein Folding

Lets say that each **energy** evaluation costs 10 operations (computer evaluations such as adds, divides, multiples, memory fetches, etc). Therefore for villin in water:

$$10 \text{ ops} \times (36)^2 = 1.3 \times 10^4 \text{ ops per time step}$$

How many time steps do we have to do? In each lattice move I am *effectively* executing a time step of

$$t = 10.0 \text{ picosecond (ps)} \quad \text{where} \quad 10 \text{ps} = 10^{-11} \text{ seconds}$$

and 1.0 microsecond ( $10^{-6}$  seconds) of simulation requires

$$10^{-6} \text{ seconds} / (10^{-11} \text{ seconds/timestep}) = 10^5 \text{ time steps}$$

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## The Computational Cost of Protein Folding

Therefore one 1us simulation of *lattice model* of villin protein in water requires

$$(1.3 \times 10^4 \text{ ops/time step}) \times (10^5 \text{ time steps}) = 1.3 \times 10^9 \text{ ops}$$

However, one folding trajectory is only anecdotal. We require thousands of trajectories to get the correct folding measure of a population or ensemble of folding events (more typical of real experiments).

$$10^3 \times 1.3 \times 10^9 \text{ ops} = 1.3 \times 10^{12} \text{ ops}$$

This outlines how many computer operations we need to simulate the fastest protein folding experiment for a very small protein in water

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## The Computational Cost of Protein Folding

Current best laptops are ~1 gigaflops or  $10^9$  ops/second wall time

Lets imagine that we have exclusive and dedicated access to this laptop for as long as we need to finish this protein folding calculation.

$$(1.3 \times 10^{12} \text{ ops}) / (10^9 \text{ ops/second wall time}) = 1.3 \times 10^3 \text{ seconds}$$

$$(13 \times 10^2 \text{ seconds}) / (6.0 \times 10^1 \text{ seconds/hr})$$

~20 hours

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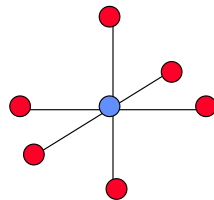
## Cubic Lattice

Each lattice point has six nearest neighbor lattice points

$$\vec{a}_1 = (1,0,0) \quad \vec{a}_2 = (0,1,0)$$

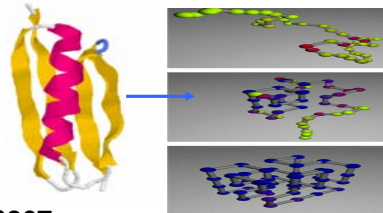
$$\vec{a}_3 = (0,0,1) \quad \vec{a}_4 = (-1,0,0)$$

$$\vec{a}_5 = (0,-1,0) \quad \vec{a}_6 = (0,0,-1)$$



Given a protein fold, and placing it on a cubic lattice, results in a Root Mean Square Deviation (RMSD) of  $>8\text{\AA}$ : low resolution

$$RMSD = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (\vec{r}_i^{lattice} - \vec{r}_i^{native})^2}$$



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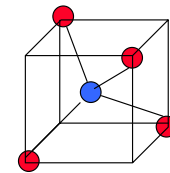
## Diamond Lattice

Each lattice point has four nearest neighbor lattice points

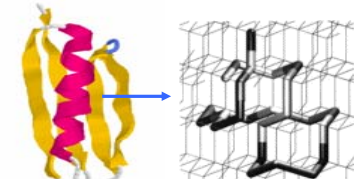
$$\vec{a}_1 = \eta(1,1,1) \quad \vec{a}_2 = \eta(1,-1,-1)$$

$$\vec{a}_3 = \eta(-1,-1,1) \quad \vec{a}_4 = \eta(-1,1,-1)$$

$$\eta = (-1)^m \quad m: \text{the number of steps from a given lattice point}$$



Given a protein fold, and placing it on a diamond lattice, results in a Root Mean Square Deviation (RMSD) of  $\sim 4\text{\AA}$ : medium resolution



J. Chem. Phys. 119, 3453-3460 (2003)

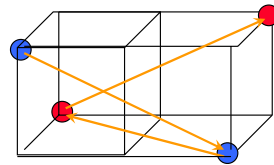
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## Chess Knight (210) Lattice

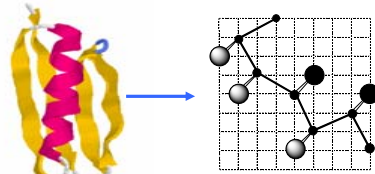
Each lattice point has up to 24 nearest neighbor lattice points

$$\vec{a}_{1-4} = (\pm 2, \pm 1, 0) \quad \vec{a}_{5-8} = (\pm 2, 0, \pm 1)$$

$$\vec{a}_{9-12} = (0, \pm 2, \pm 1) \quad \text{Etc.}$$



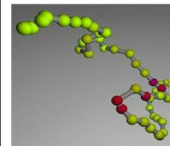
Given a protein fold, and placing it on a 210 lattice, results in a Root Mean Square Deviation (RMSD) of  $\sim 2\text{\AA}$ : high resolution



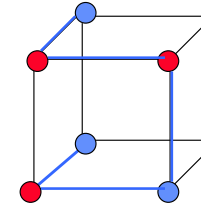
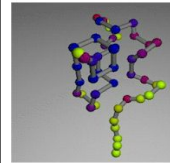
J. Chem. Phys. 119, 3453-3460 (2003)

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## Protein Lattice Model Interactions



HP models: amino acids on a chain are restricted to two flavors: Hydrophobic (H) and Polar (P)



Example sequence  
PHHPHP

$$V = \sum_{\substack{\langle i,j \rangle_{pair} \\ |i-j| \neq 1}} H_{ij}$$

Each amino acid bead interacts with only its nearest neighbors,

excepting its bonding partner

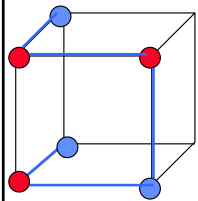
$$H_{ij} = \begin{matrix} H & P \\ P & \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

<http://www.lbl.gov/Science-Articles/Archive/model-protein-folding2.html>

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## Protein Lattice Model Interactions

Miyazawa-Jernigan (MJ) models: all twenty amino acids



Each amino acid bead interacts with only its nearest neighbors, excepting its bonding partner, but through PES:

$$V = \sum_{\substack{\langle i,j \rangle \\ |i-j| \neq 1}} H_{ij}$$

$$H_{ij} = \begin{matrix} & C & T & G & Q & L & \dots \\ C & P_{CC} & P_{CT} & P_{CG} & P_{CQ} & P_{CL} & \\ T & P_{TC} & P_{TT} & P_{TG} & P_{TQ} & P_{TL} & \\ G & P_{GC} & P_{GT} & P_{GG} & P_{GQ} & P_{GL} & \\ Q & P_{QC} & P_{QT} & P_{QG} & P_{QQ} & P_{QL} & \\ L & P_{LC} & P_{LT} & P_{LG} & P_{LQ} & P_{LL} & \\ \dots & & & & & & \end{matrix}$$

$P_{xx}$  = probability of observing a residue-residue contact in the protein databank (PDB). These are known as “statistical potentials”

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## Bigger Time Steps

Time-Scale of motions bottlenecks ( $\Delta t$ )

**Timestep limited by fastest timescale in your system**

- \* bond vibrations: period of 10-14 seconds (10fs):  $\Delta t = 1\text{fs}$
- \* shake/rattle bonds (project out force along bond)  $\Delta t = 2\text{fs}$

$$U = \sum_i^{\#Bonds} k_b (b_i - b_o)^2 + \sum_i^{\#Angles} k_\theta (\theta_i - \theta_o)^2 + \sum_i^{\#Impropers} k_\tau (\tau_i - \tau_o)^2 + \sum_i^{\#dihedrals} k_\phi [1 + \cos(n\phi + \delta)] + \sum_i^{\#atoms} \sum_{i < j}^{\#atoms} \left\{ \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}} + \epsilon_{ij} \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right] \right\}$$

Scales as N; fast timescales

Scales as N<sup>2</sup>; slow timescales

multiple timescale algorithms (~4fs to 10fs)

(active area of research)\*

\*Preserve symplectic, reversible properties!

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## Better Computers: IBM Blue Gene

### Blue Gene will do

(1) Robust objective function

All atom simulation with molecular water present

Proper treatment of long-ranged interactions (Ewald)

Part of the objective is to interrogate energy functions

(2) Severe time-scale problem

$10^9$  energy/forces: parallelization (spatial decomposition)

Blue Gene will simulate on the microsecond-millisecond

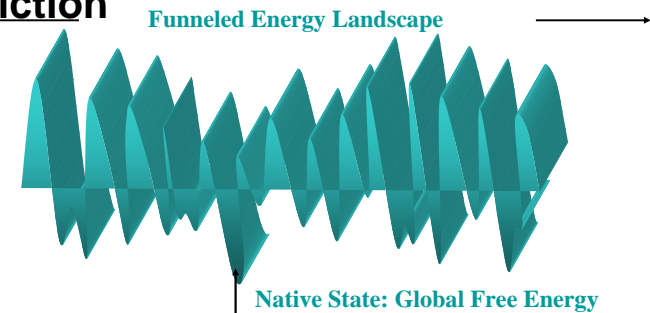
(3) Statistics (1 trajectory is anecdotal)

Blue Gene can do 1000's

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## Global Optimization: Protein Structure

### Prediction



Sequence, an objective function, a search method → Tertiary Structure

- ◆ Protein and Aqueous Solvent Energy Surface
- ◆ Incorporation of Constraints Predicted by Machine Learning Methods
- ◆ Global Optimization Approach to Predict Tertiary Structure
- ◆ Parallelization of Tree Search Problems

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## Protein Structure Prediction is Multi-disciplinary

- ◆ Use of Constraints Predicted by Machine Learning Methods  
AI/Bioinformatics
- ◆ Global Optimization Approach to Predict Tertiary Structure  
Mathematical Optimization/Applied Mathematics
- ◆ Parallelization of Tree Search Problems  
Computer Science/Tools
- ◆ Protein and Aqueous Solvent Energy Surface  
Biophysics and physical chemistry  
Experiments and theory

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## Critical Assessment of Structure Prediction (CASP)

It consists of three parts:

1. The collection of targets from the experimental community.
2. The collection of blind predictions from the modeling community over a period of ~3 months
  - ✓ Comparative modeling (high sequence homology)
  - ✓ Fold recognition (high structural homology)
  - ✓ Ab initio (genuine new folds; generally applicable)
3. The assessment and discussion of the results.

Organizers ranked protein targets by difficulty (database)

Various objective measure/metrics have been defined

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## GO Algorithm: Stochastic Perturbation

Stochastic/perturbation in sub-space of dihedral angles predicted coil

- (1) Local minimization of a set of start points in sub-space
- (2) Define a critical radius

$$r_k = \left[ \left( \frac{l}{\pi} \right)^{n/2} \Gamma \left( 1 + \frac{n}{2} \right) \frac{V \sigma \log \rho}{\rho} \right]^{1/n}$$

a measure of whether a point is within a basis of attraction

- (3) Generate many sample points in sub-space volume, V
- (4) Evaluate r.m.s. between new sample points and minimizers of (1)  
If (r.m.s. <  $r_k$ ) ignore this sample point
- (5) Minimize sample points not in critical distance, merge into (1)

Choose new set of coil dihedral angles and repeat

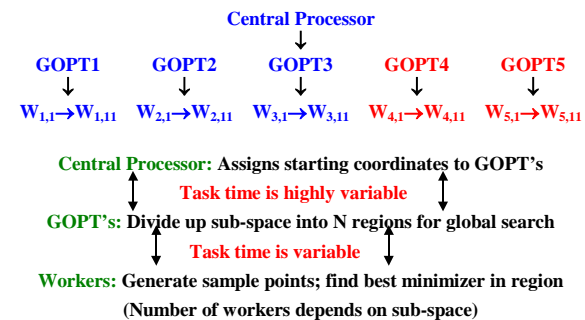
Crivelli, Philip, Byrd, Eskow, Schnabel, Yu, Head-Gordon (1999). In *New Trends in Computational Methods for Large Molecular Systems*, in press.

**Probabilistic theoretical guarantees of global optimum in sub-spaces**  
**Global optimization of full space: solve series of global optimum in sub-spaces?**

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## Parallelization Strategy

The work complexity to reach a minimum is highly variable

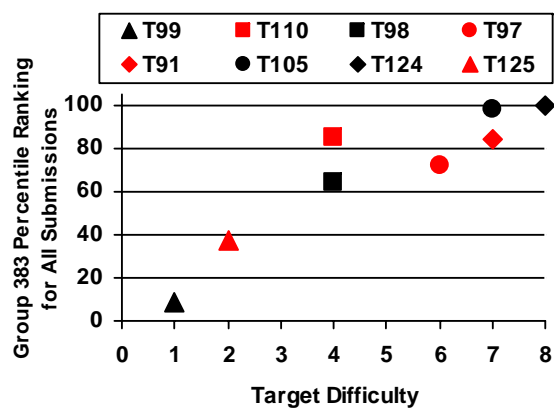


Dynamical load balancing of tasks: reassigning **GOPT/workers** to **GOPT/workers**

Crivelli, Head-Gordon, Byrd, Eskow, Schnabel (1999). *Lecture Notes in Computer Science, Euro-Par '99*

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## Our CASP Blind Prediction Results



Emphasize *ab initio* methods can be complementary to other approaches that rely on database tertiary structure information

Crivelli, Eskow, Bader, Lamberti, Byrd, Schnabel, Head-Gordon (2001). *Biophysical Journal*, in press  
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## T124: New Fold & One of Most Difficult

### Targets

Runs after CASP4

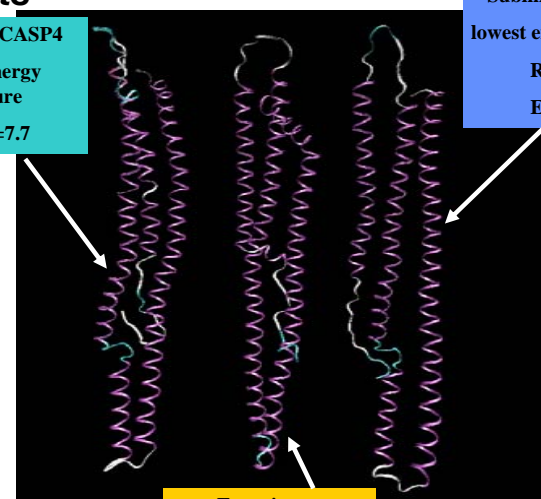
lowest energy structure  
RMSD=7.7

Submitted to CASP4

lowest energy structure

RMSD=8.8

EQR1=148



Experiment