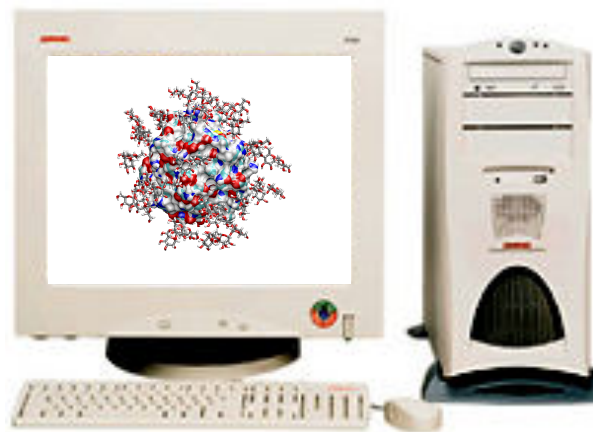


There are several topics from BFCH1 (lectures: Structure of biopolymers (2), Canonical ensemble) that are expected that students know:

- canonical ensemble
- Boltzmann probability
- free energy, enthalpy, entropy
- free energy cycle

BIOMOLECULAR SIMULATIONS



JOZEF HRITZ
CEITEC - MU

For which problems are simulations useful ?

Simulation can replace or complement the experiment:

1. Experiment is impossible

Inside of stars

Weather forecast

2. Experiment is too dangerous

Flight simulation

Explosion simulation

3. Experiment is expensive

High pressure simulation

Windchannel simulation

4. Experiment is blind

*Some properties cannot be
observed on very short time-
scales and very small space-
scales*

5. Fantasy

*It is possible to simulate
unrealistic phenomena*

For which problems are simulations useful ?

Simulations can complement the experiment:

- Simulation explains experiments

Properties of water
Folding of protein molecules



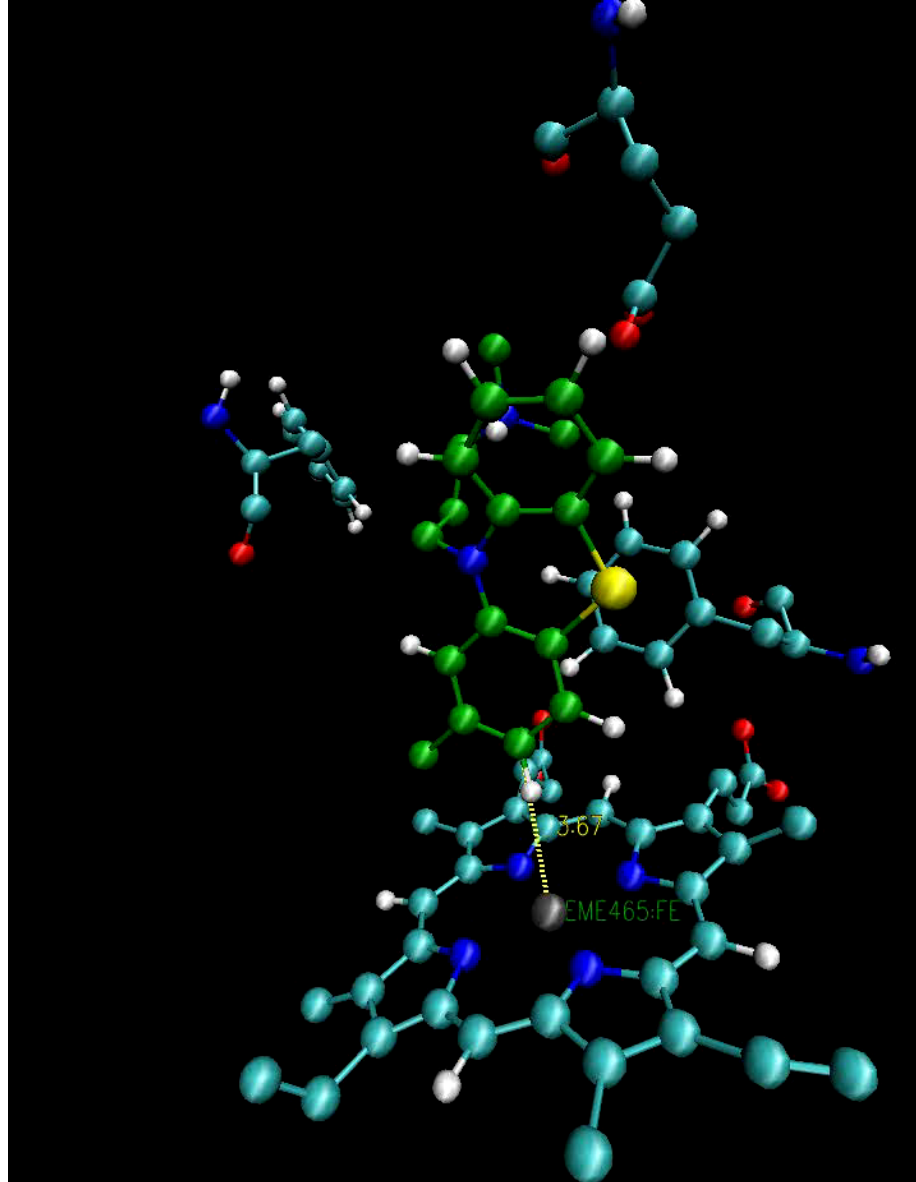
knowledge
new ideas

- Simulation suggests
new experiments

Design of drugs, enzymes
Stock market prices



less experiments
better chance of success



Hritz, J.; de Ruiter, A.; Oostenbrink, C. Impact of plasticity and flexibility on docking results for Cytochrome P450 2D6: a combined approach of molecular dynamics and ligand docking. *J. Med. Chem.* **2008**, 51, 7469-7477

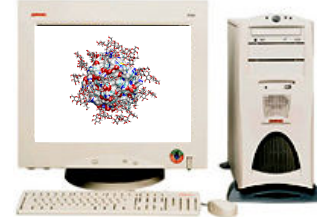
Molecular simulation and experiment

experiment



(restricted)

simulation



(unrestricted)

Resolution*

<i>size :</i>	10^{23} molecules	1 molecule
<i>time :</i>	1 second	10^{-15} seconds

*: Single molecules / 10^{-15} seconds possible
(but not both in the liquid phase)

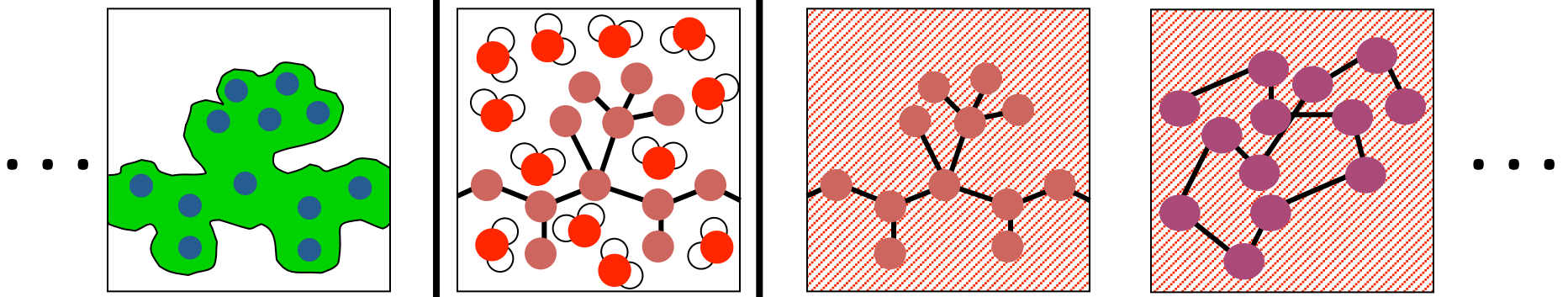
Typical space / time scales

<i>size :</i>	10^{-3} meter	10^{-7} meter
<i>time :</i>	10^3 seconds	10^{-3} seconds

**Simulation and experiment are complementing methods
to study different aspects of nature**

How would you calculate movement
of planets in our solar system?

Choose relevant degrees of freedom: elementary particles



Particles:
*atomic nuclei
 + electrons*

Description:
quantummechanics

Interactions:
electrostatics

all atoms

*classical
 mechanics*

*Force Field
 (atomistic)*

*all atoms
 (excluding solvent)*

*classical
 mechanics*

*Force Field
 (including solvent)*

monomers

*classical
 mechanics*

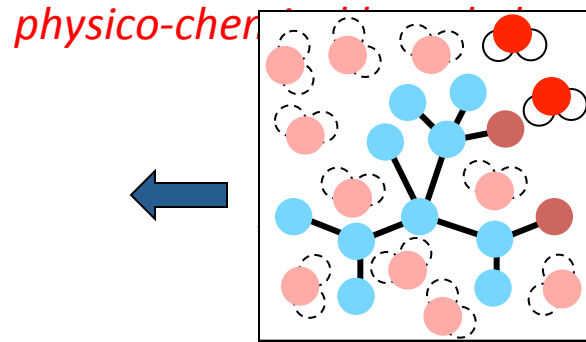
*Force Field
 (statistic)*



*Broader applicability
 Less model parameters
 Physical parameters
 More expensive*

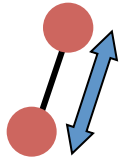
*Restricted applicability
 More model parameters
 Empirical parameters
 Less expensive*

Interactions in atomic simulaties : Force Field

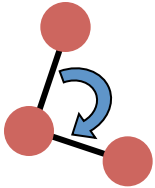


bonded interactions

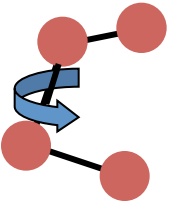
non-bonded interactions



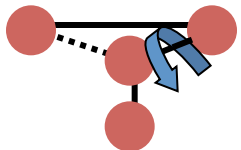
Bond stretching



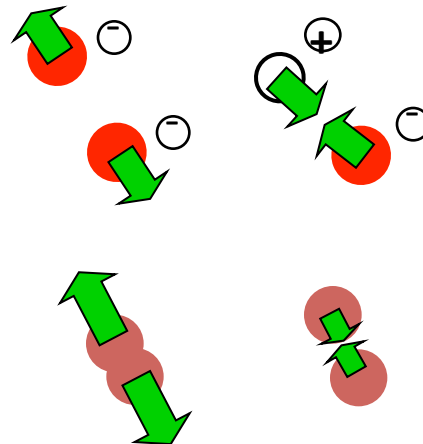
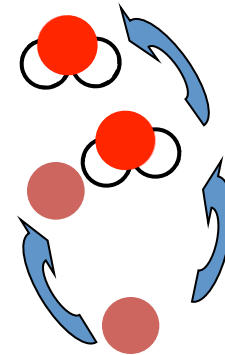
Angle bending



Rotation around
bond



Planar
atomgroups



Electrostatic
interactions

van der Waals
interactions

Interacting Particles

Physical Terms

$$V^{bond}(\vec{r}^N) = \sum_{bonds\ i} \frac{1}{2} K_i^b \left[b_i(\vec{r}^N) - b_i^0 \right]^2$$

$$V^{v.d.Waals}(\vec{r}^N) = \sum_{pairs\ i<j} 4\epsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]$$

$$V^{angle}(\vec{r}^N) = \sum_{angles\ i} \frac{1}{2} K_i^a \left[\theta_i(\vec{r}^N) - \theta_i^0 \right]^2$$

$$V^{Coulomb}(\vec{r}^N) = \sum_{pairs\ i<j} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0\epsilon_r} \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}}$$

$$V^{torsion}(\vec{r}^N) = \sum_{torsion\ i} K_i^\varphi \cos \left[m_i \varphi_i(\vec{r}^N) + \delta_i \right]$$

$$V^{pol}(\vec{r}^N) = \text{N-body polarization energy}$$

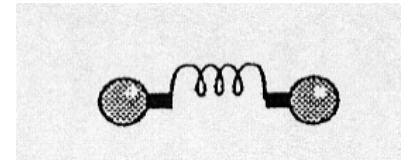
$$V^{ext}(\vec{r}^N) = \text{external fields energy}$$

Special Interaction Terms examples

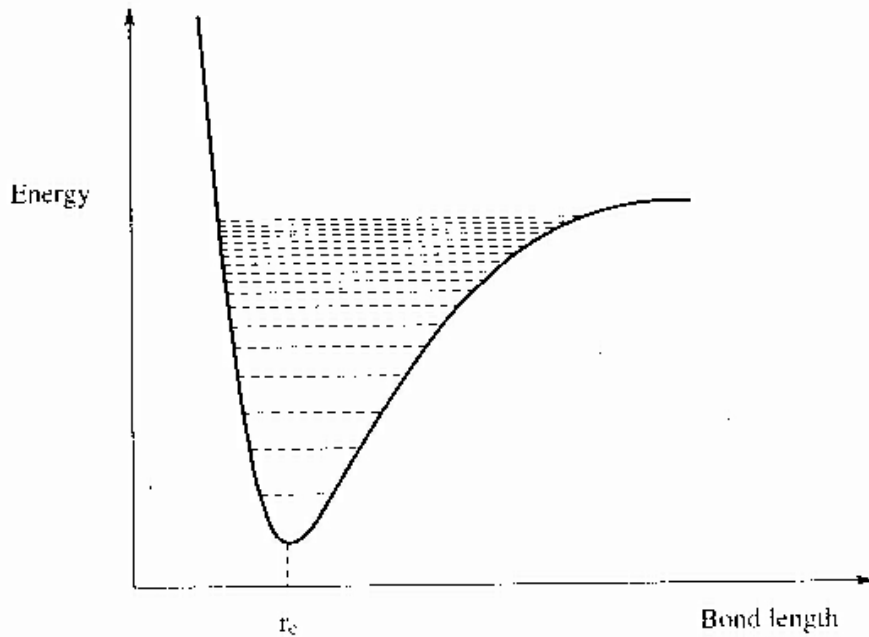
restraints on the system:

- from experimental data
- to bias the sampling

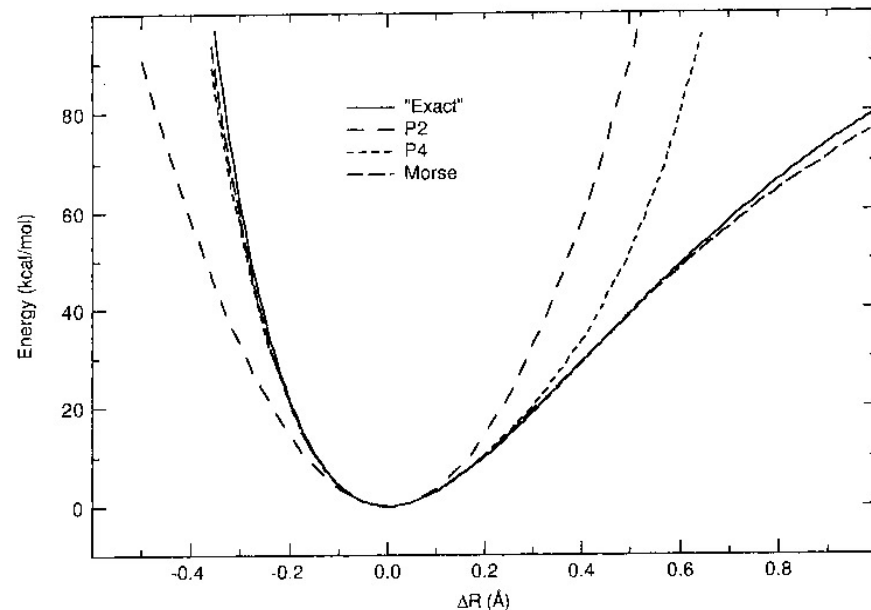
Bond stretch term



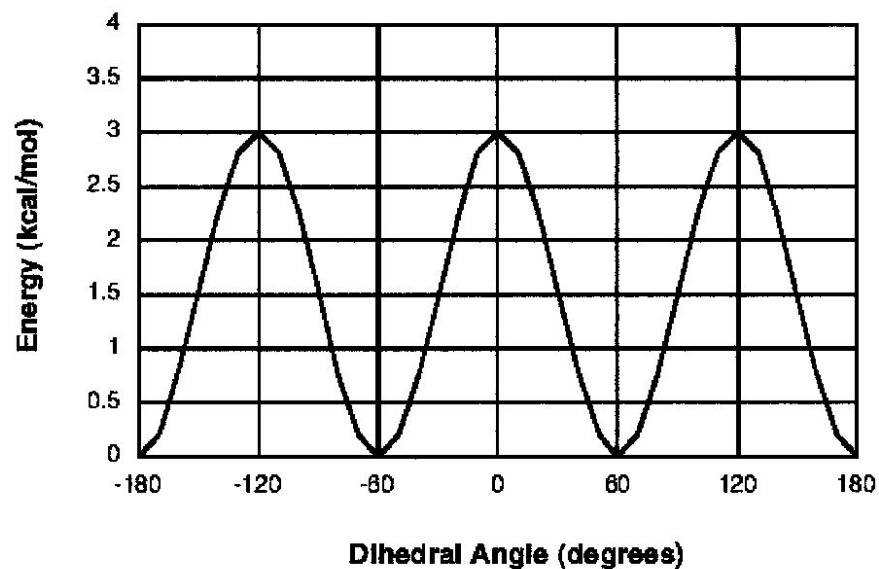
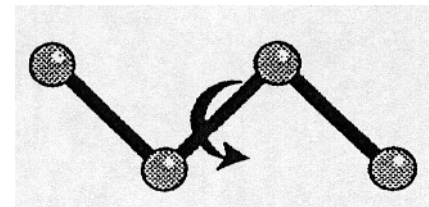
- The bond stretch term is almost always approximated with a harmonic potential:



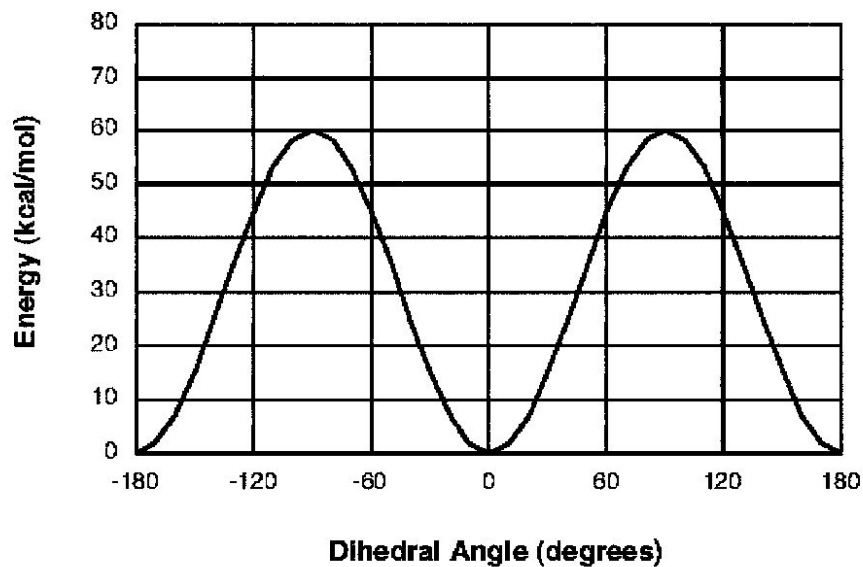
)²



Torsion term

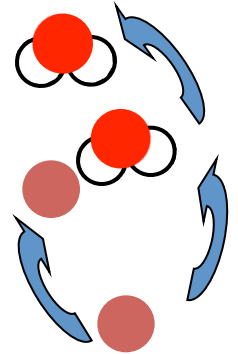


ethane: sp^3-sp^3 bond
CH₃-CH₃
periodicity = 3
phase = 0 degrees



ethene: sp^2-sp^2 bond
CH₂=CH₂
periodicity = 2
phase = 0 degrees

Nonbonded interactions



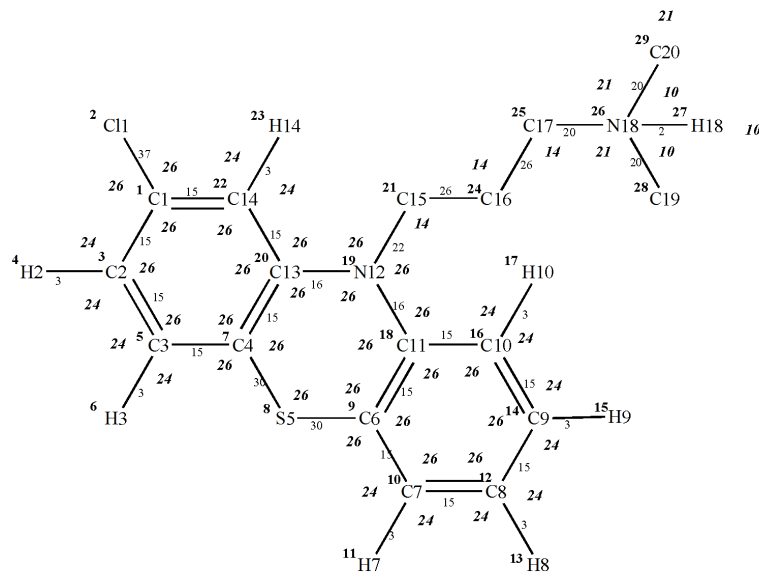
- All atoms see each other through space
 $\sim \frac{1}{2} N(N - 1)$ interactions
- Bonded atoms (1,2 neighbours) and their neighbours (1,3 neighbours) are often excluded because the bonded interactions already take these into account
- Sometimes 1,4 neighbours are treated differently to keep the proper torsional profile
- Often we work with a cutoff for the nonbonded interaction

Other interactions

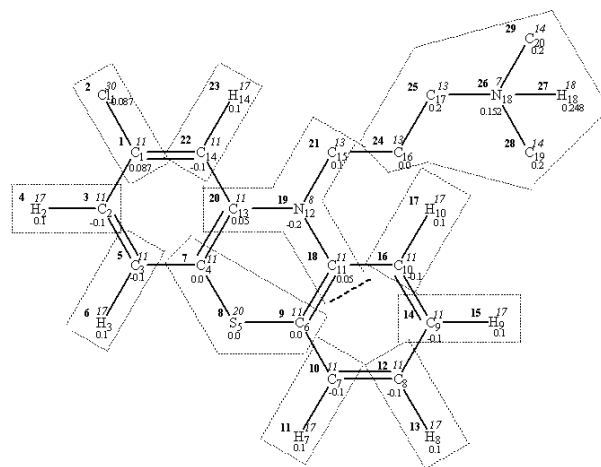
- Some force fields show alternative interactions
 - Specific hydrogen bond interactions
usually a balance between vdw and electrostatics
 - Crossterms, e.g. Energy as function of bond length and angle: $U(r,\theta)$
needed to reproduce vibrational spectra
 - ...

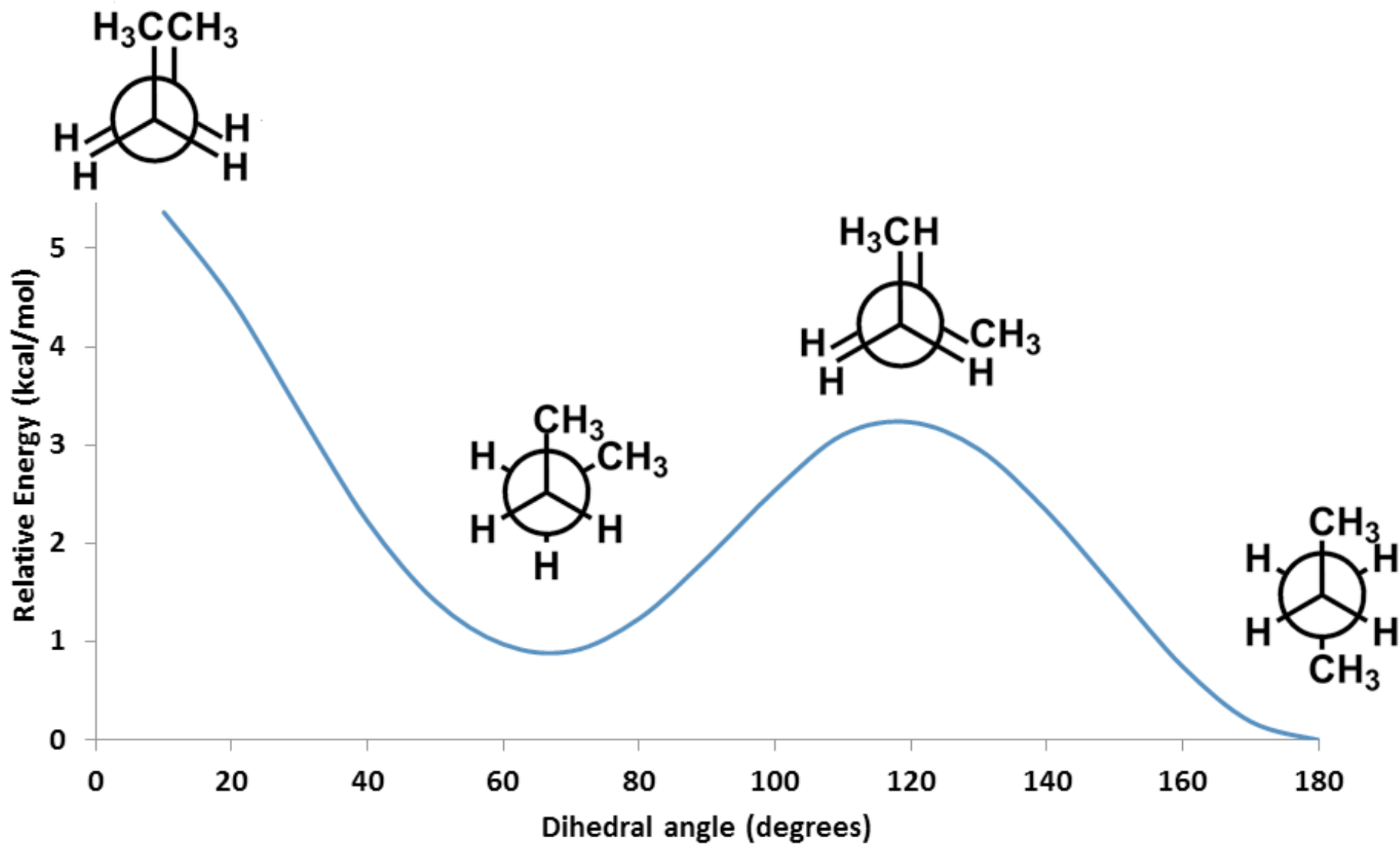
Example of force field parameters

A

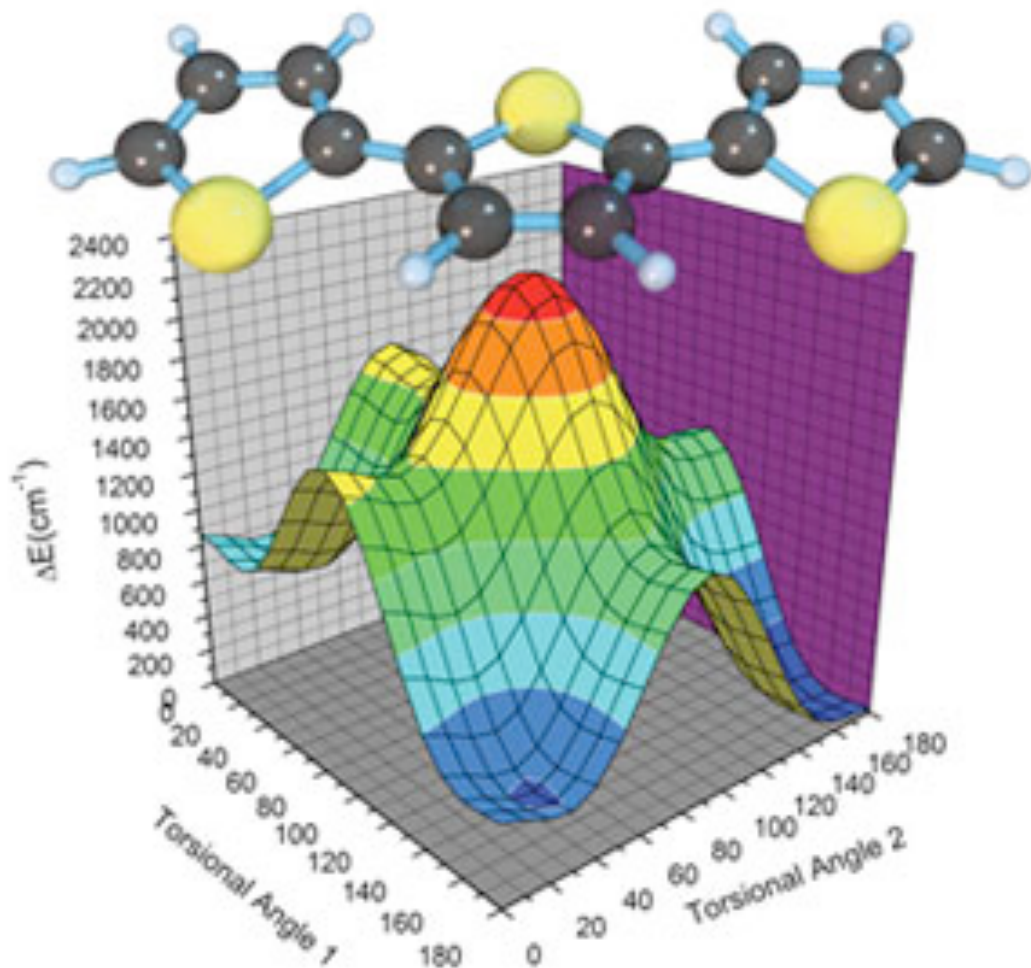


B





Potential Energy Surface (PES)

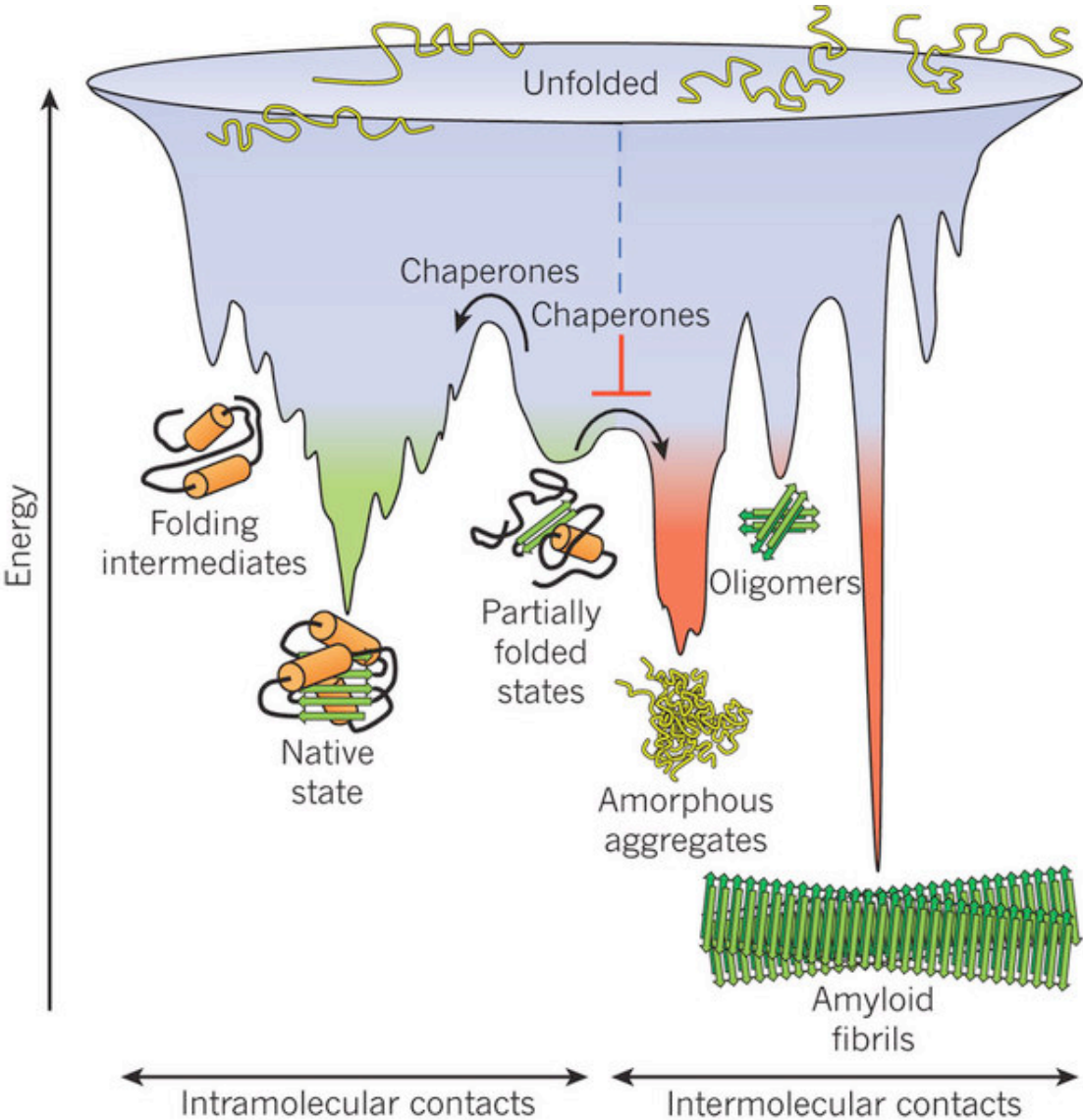


Levinthal's Paradox

Heuristic energy minimization techniques:

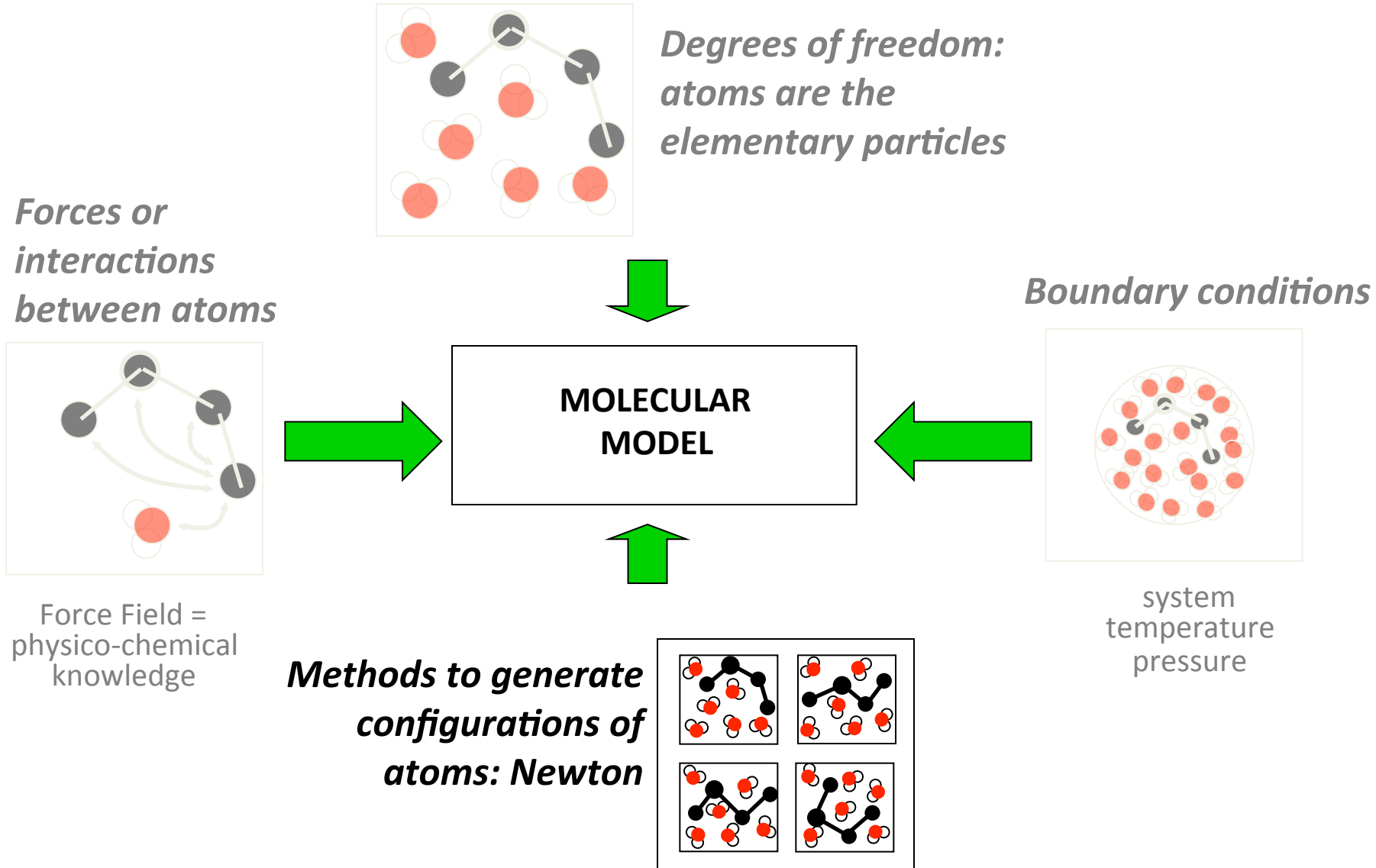
- Simulated annealing
- Genetic algorithm
- Interpretation of EM

Potential Energy Surface (PES)

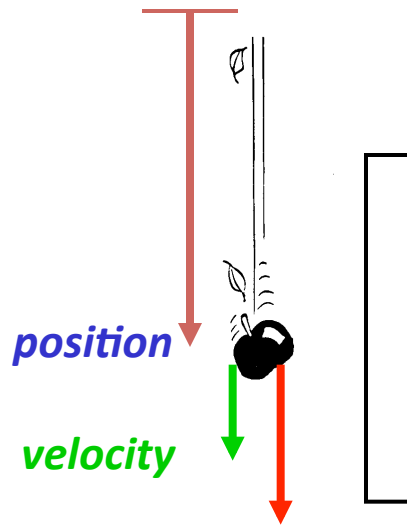


Definition of a model for molecular simulation

Every molecule consists of atoms that are very strongly attached



Classical dynamics



Situation at time t



Force is determined by relative positions

$$\text{acceleration} = \text{force} / \text{mass}$$

$$\Delta \text{velocity} = \text{acceleration} \times \Delta t$$

$$\Delta \text{position} = \text{velocity} \times \Delta t$$



Situation at time t+Δt



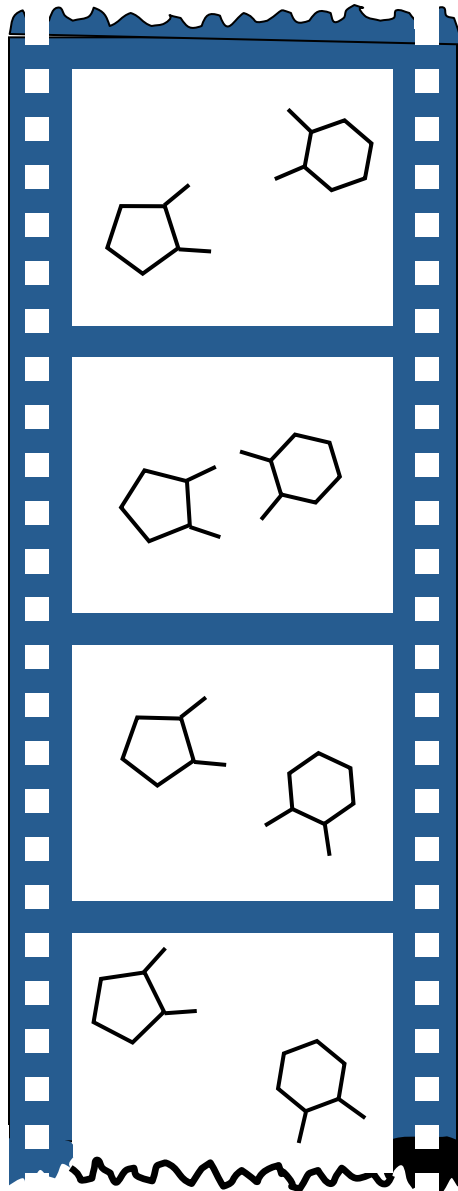
Sir Isaac Newton
1642 -1727



Determinism ...

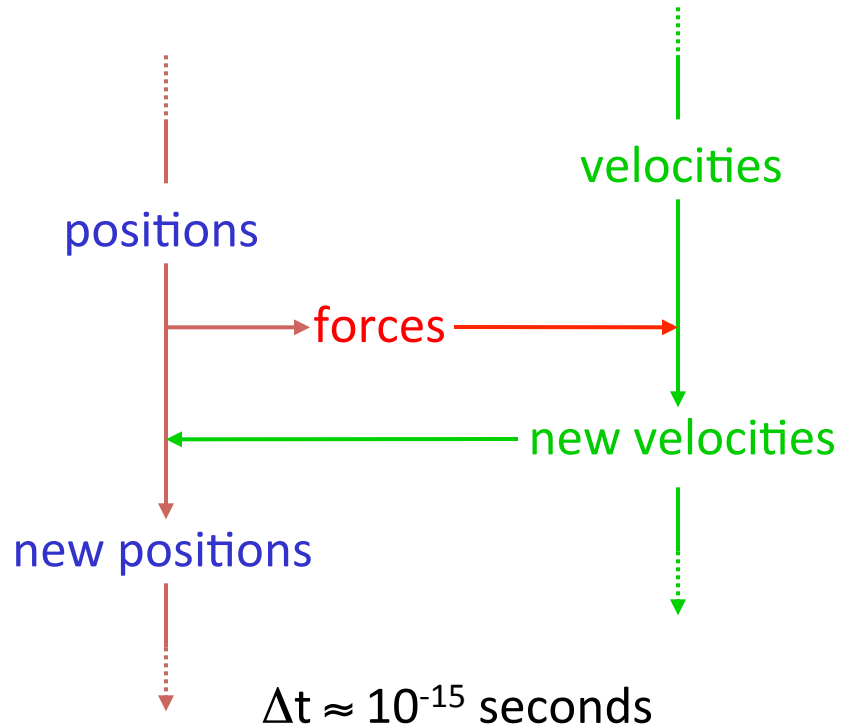
Generating configurations in atomic simulations: molecular dynamics

... comparable to shooting a movie of a molecular system...

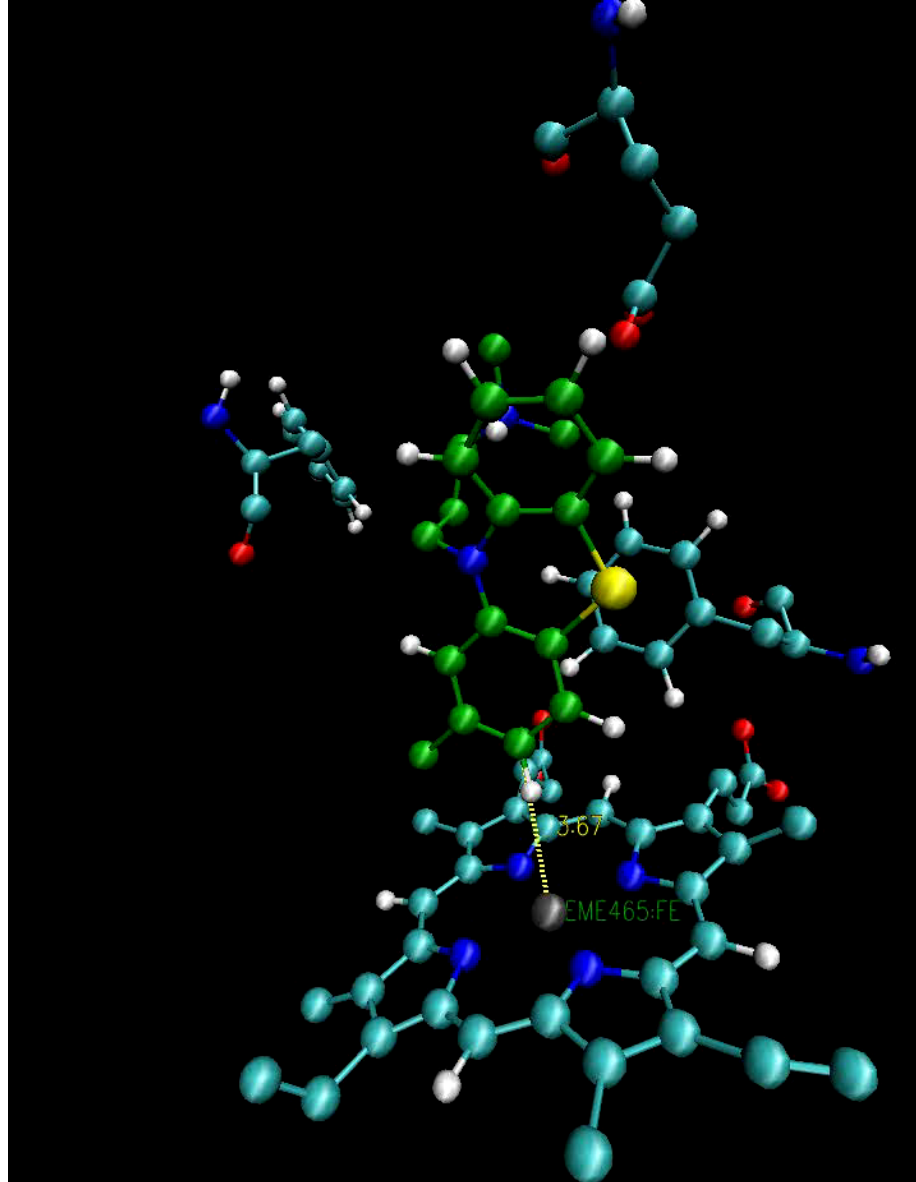


Time t

Time (t+ Δt)



Monte-Carlo: Alternative methodology for generating canonical



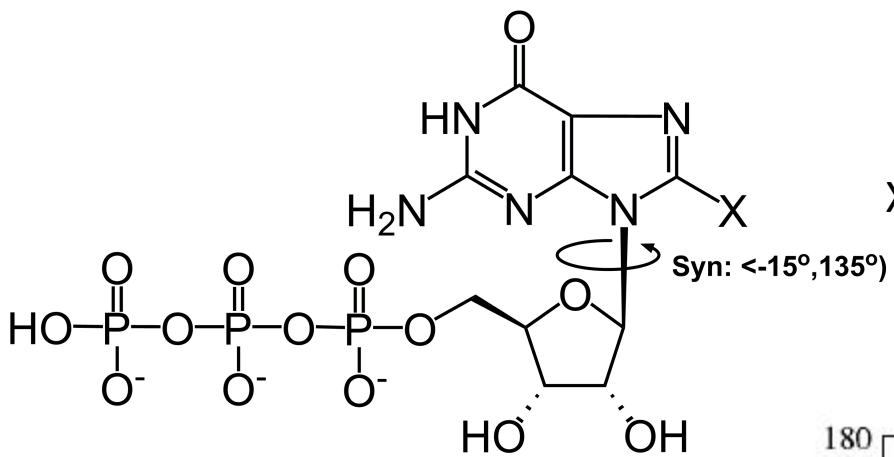
Hritz, J.; de Ruiter, A.; Oostenbrink, C. Impact of plasticity and flexibility on docking results for Cytochrome P450 2D6: a combined approach of molecular dynamics and ligand docking. *J. Med. Chem.* **2008**, 51, 7469-7477

Monte-Carlo: Alternative methodology for generating canonical structural ensemble

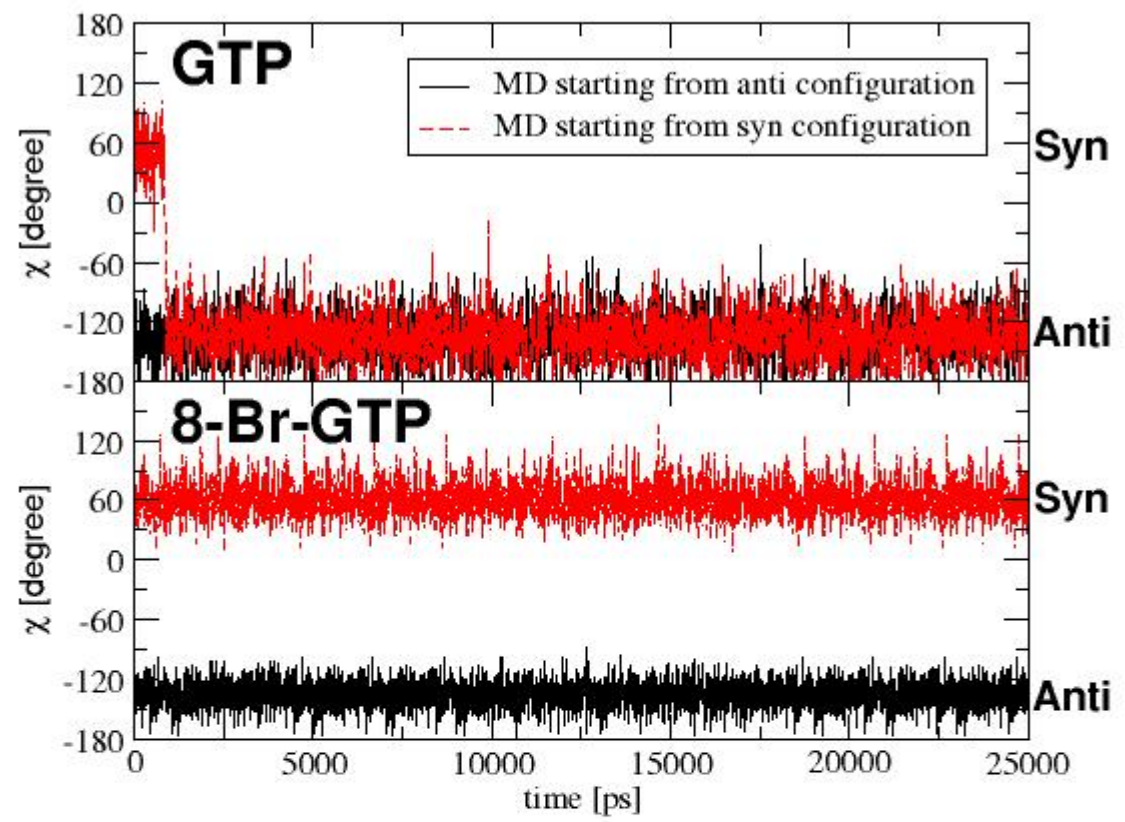
Metropolis criterion

-probability of moving from state 1 (having energy E_1) to the state 2 (having energy E_2) is:

$$p_{12}^{\text{acc}} = \min\left[1, e^{-\frac{E_2 - E_1}{kT}}\right]$$



X = H, F, Cl, Br, CH₃



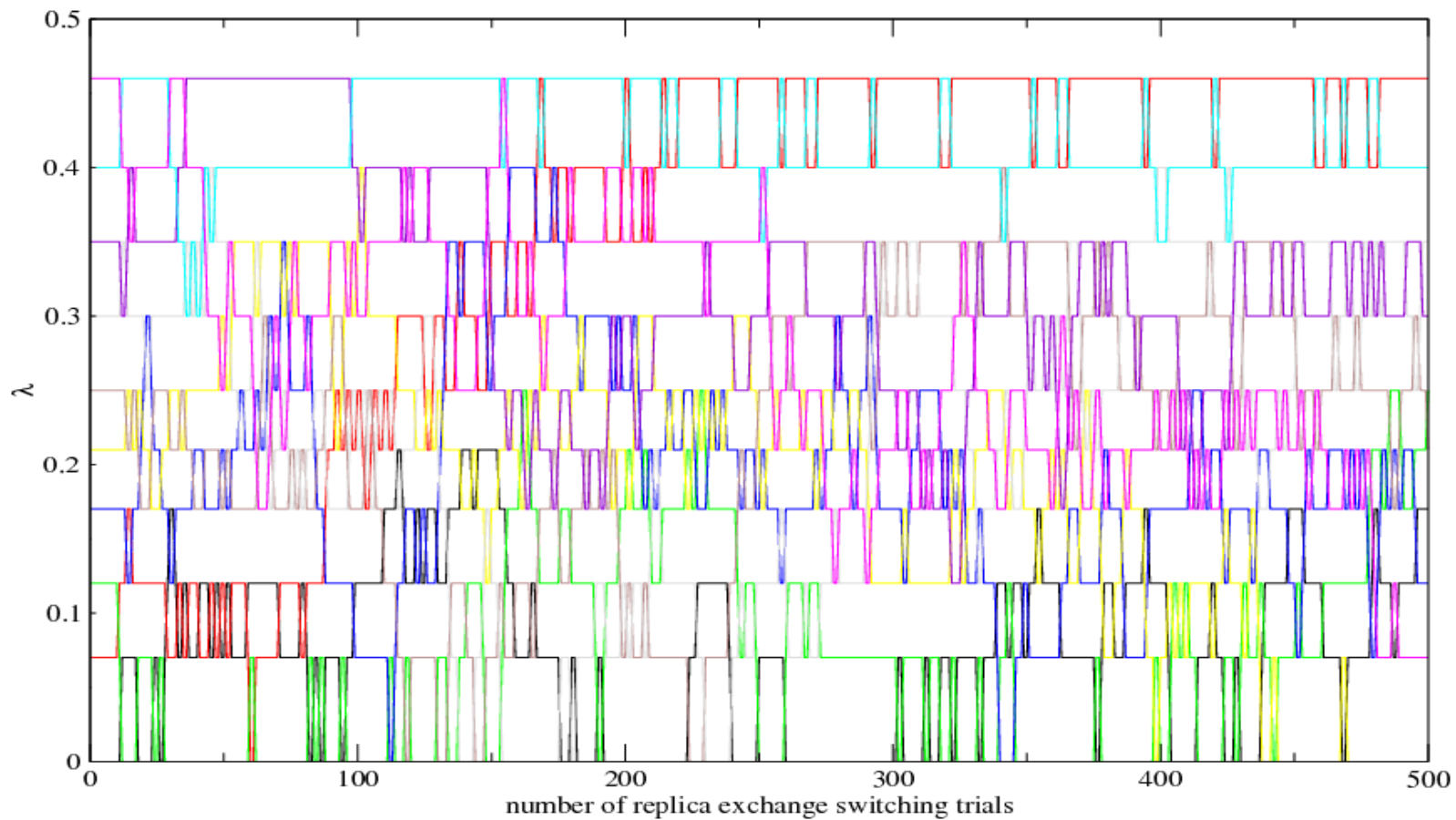
Enhanced sampling by replica exchange molecular dynamics (REMD)

Hritz J., Oostenbrink C.

Hamiltonian replica exchange molecular dynamics using soft-core interactions. *J. Chem. Phys.* **2008**, 128, 144121

Hritz J., Oostenbrink C.

Optimization of Replica Exchange Molecular Dynamics by Fast Mimicking. *J. Chem. Phys.* **2007**, 127, 204104



Replica exchange probabilities

Hansmann, U.H.E.; Chem. Phys. Lett. **1997**, 281, 140-150.

$$W(x) = \exp(-\beta H(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}))$$

probability of state x
(Boltzmann factor)

$$W_{REM}(X) = \exp\left(-\sum_i^M \beta_i H(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{p}_i)\right)$$

probability of global state X
(product of single state x
probabilities)

detailed balance condition on the transition probability $w(X \rightarrow X')$:

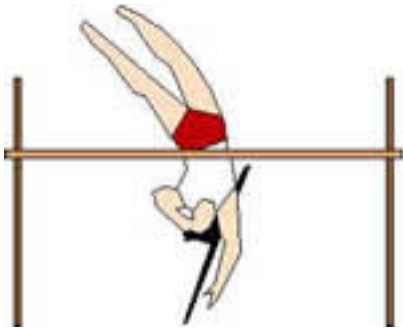
$$W_{REM}(X)w(X \rightarrow X') = W_{REM}(X')w(X' \rightarrow X)$$

Metropolis criterion for the exchange probability:

$$p(X \rightarrow X') = \frac{w(X \rightarrow X')}{w(X' \rightarrow X)} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } \Delta \leq 0 \\ \exp(-\Delta) & \text{for } \Delta > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Delta = (\beta_i - \beta_j)(U(\mathbf{r}_j) - U(\mathbf{r}_i)) \quad \beta = 1/k_B T$$

Temperature REMD



$$\Delta T \sim (\text{square root of degrees of freedom})^{-1}$$

Is there alternative way how to get from one side of barrier to other one?

Hamiltonian replica exchange

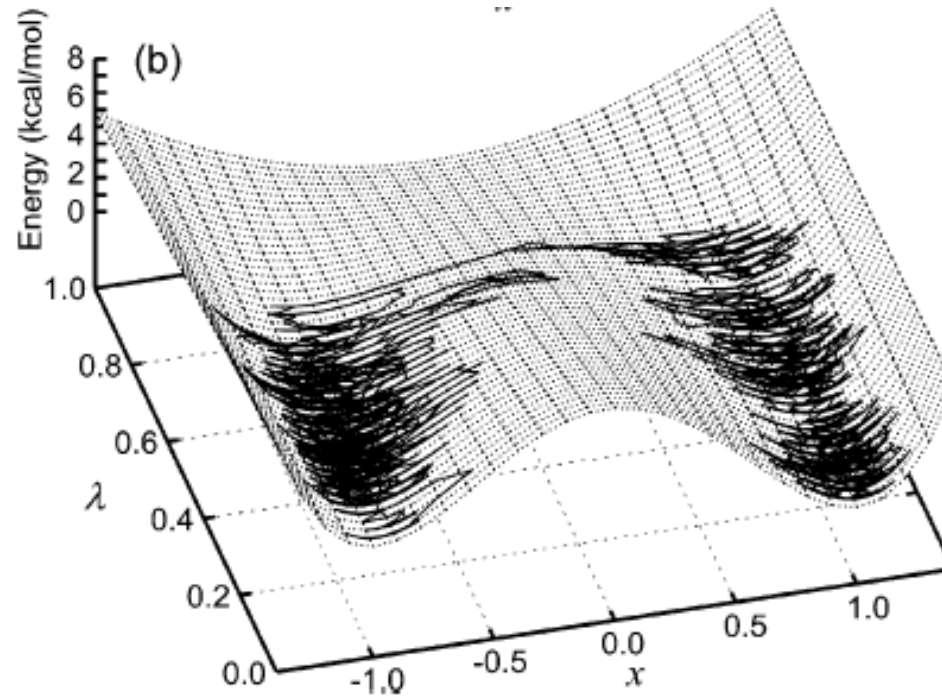
(Fukunishi, H.; Watanabe, O.; Takada, S.; J. Chem. Phys. **2002**, 113, 6042-6051.)

IDEA: instead of changing a temperature,
rather alter specific interactions

$$H_i(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{p}_i) = K(\mathbf{p}_i) + U_i(\mathbf{r}_i)$$

$$\Delta = \beta_i (U_i(\mathbf{r}_j) - U_i(\mathbf{r}_i)) - \beta_j (U_j(\mathbf{r}_j) - U_j(\mathbf{r}_i))$$

Soft core interactions



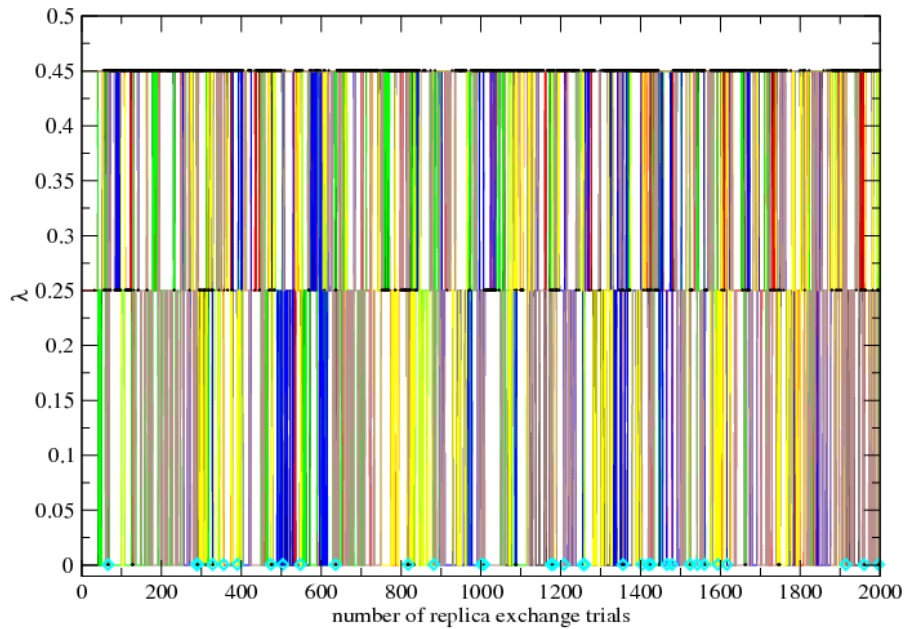
$$E_{\alpha}^{vdw}(r_{ij}) = \left(\frac{C_{12}}{A + r_{ij}^6} - C_6 \right) \frac{1}{A + r_{ij}^6}; A = \alpha_{vdw} \frac{C_{12}}{C_6} \lambda^2$$

$$E_{\alpha}^{el}(r_{ij}) = \frac{q_i q_j}{4\pi\epsilon} \frac{1}{\sqrt{B + r_{ij}^2}}; B = \alpha_{el} \lambda^2$$

Where else to get crazy ideas 😊?



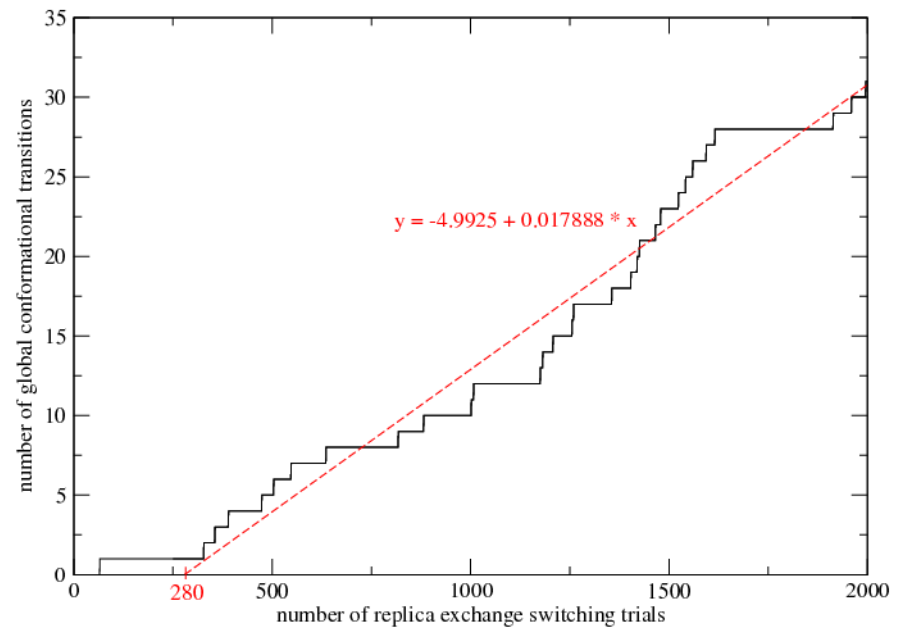
Real REMD of GTP



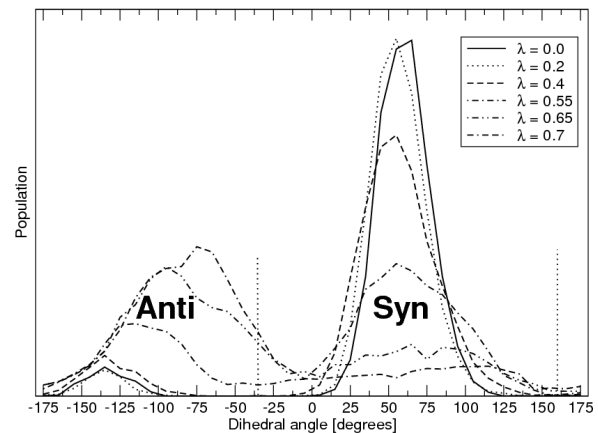
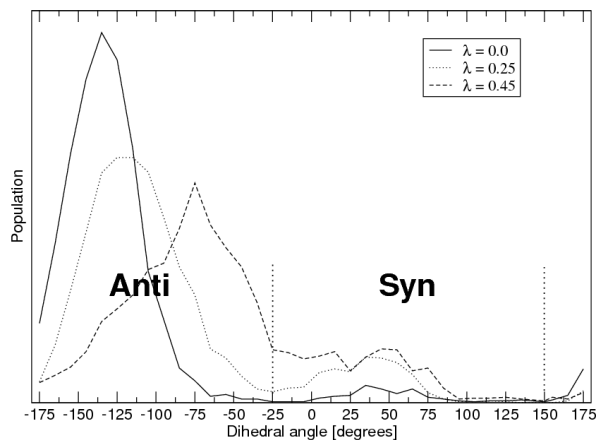
REMD costs: $6 \times 5ns = 30ns$
anti \rightarrow syn transitions: 16
syn \rightarrow anti transitions: 16

MD costs: $2 \times 20ns = 40ns$
anti \rightarrow syn transitions: 0
syn \rightarrow anti transitions: 1

Relaxation

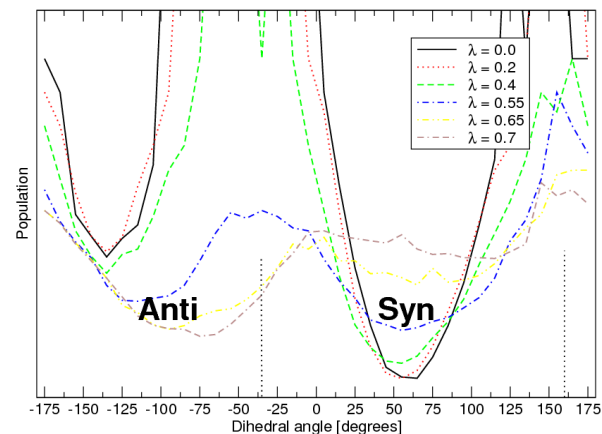
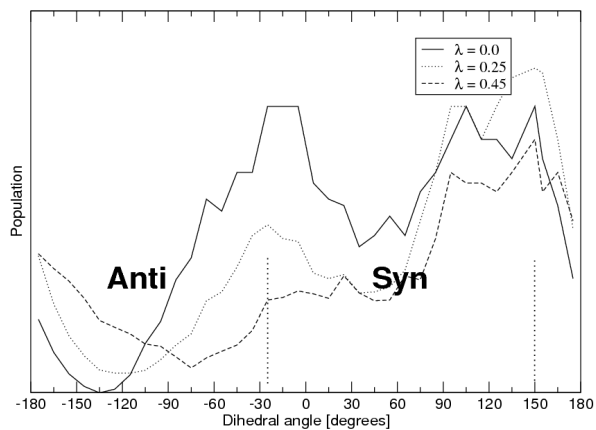


Potential of mean force



(REMD) $\Delta G_{syn-anti}^{GTP} = 7.6 \pm 0.3 \text{ kJ.mol}^{-1}$
 (TI) $\Delta G_{syn-anti}^{GTP} = 7.7 \pm 1.2 \text{ kJ.mol}^{-1}$

(REMD) $\Delta G_{syn-anti}^{8-Br-GTP} = 6.8 \pm 0.9 \text{ kJ.mol}^{-1}$
 (TI) $\Delta G_{syn-anti}^{8-Br-GTP} = 8 \pm 1.6 \text{ kJ.mol}^{-1}$



Molecular dynamics is more than
super-microscope!

ENERGY!

Efficient free energy calculations for compounds with high intramolecular energy barriers

[Hritz, J.; Lappchen T.; Oostenbrink, C.](#)

Calculations of binding affinity between C8-substituted GTP analogs and the bacterial cell-division protein FtsZ.

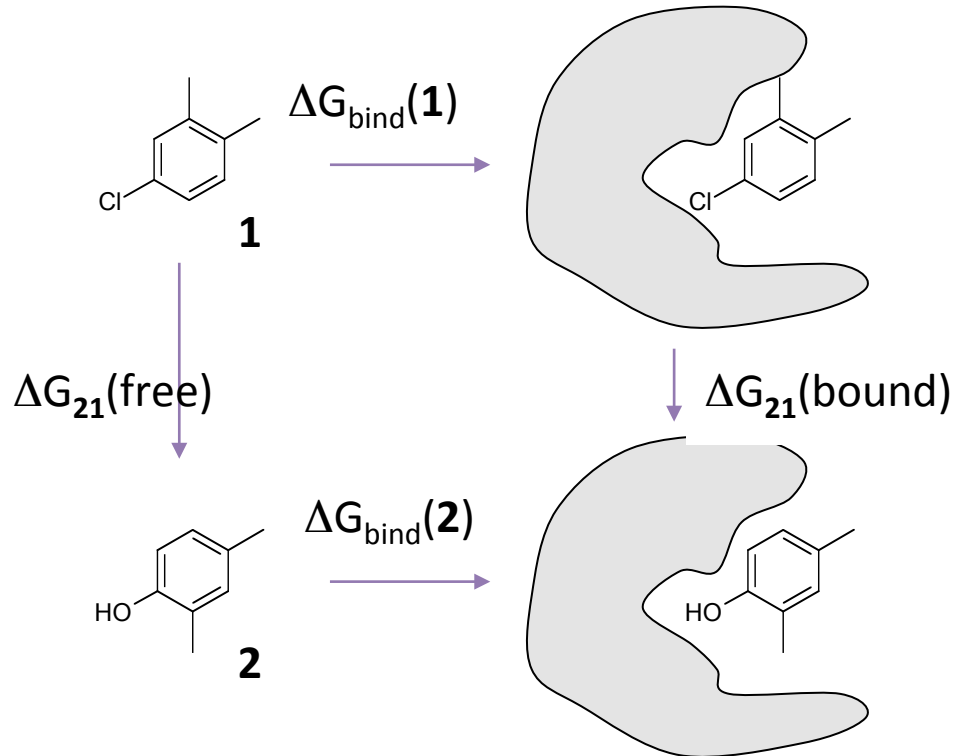
Eur. Biophys. J. **2010**, 39, 1573-1580

[Hritz, J.; Oostenbrink, C.](#)

Efficient free energy calculations for compounds with multiple stable conformations separated by high energy barriers.

J. Phys. Chem. B **2009**, 113, 12711-12720

Thermodynamic cycle



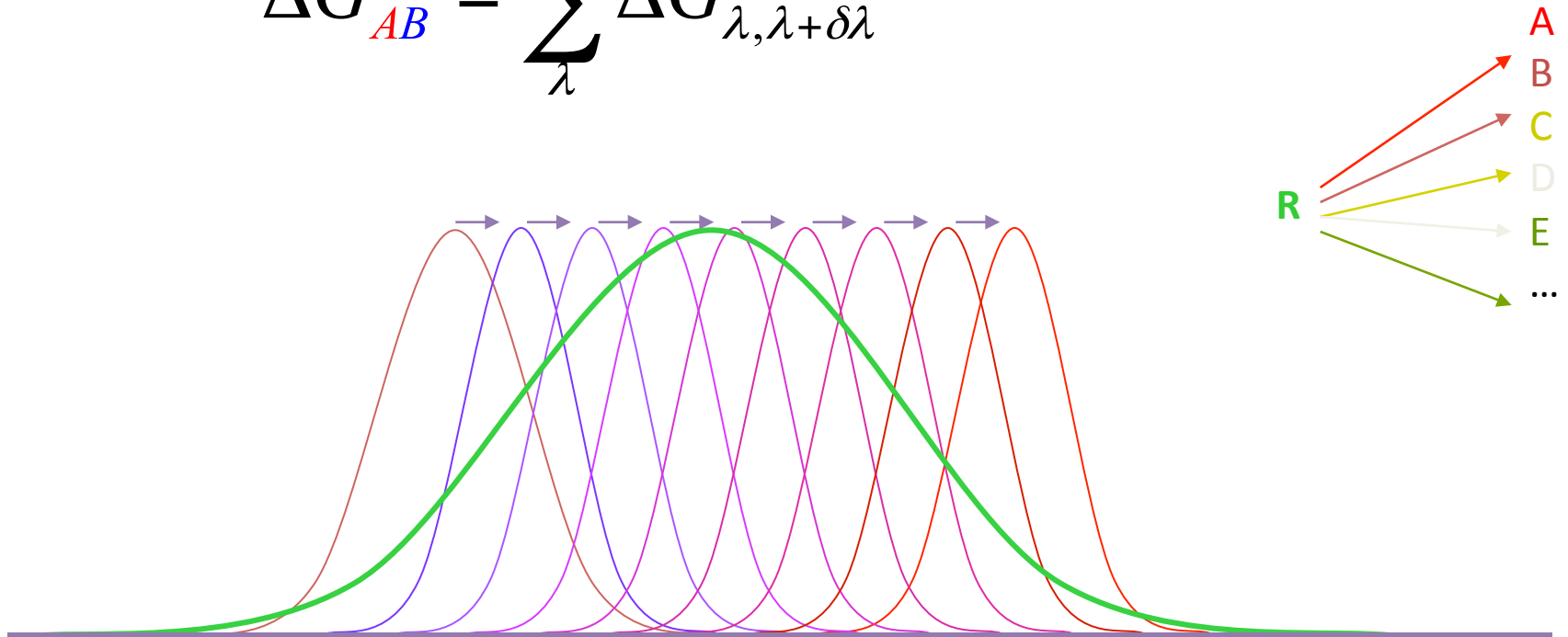
$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\Delta G_{bind} &= \Delta G_{bind}(2) - \Delta G_{bind}(1) \\ &= \Delta G_{21}(free) - \Delta G_{21}(bound)\end{aligned}$$

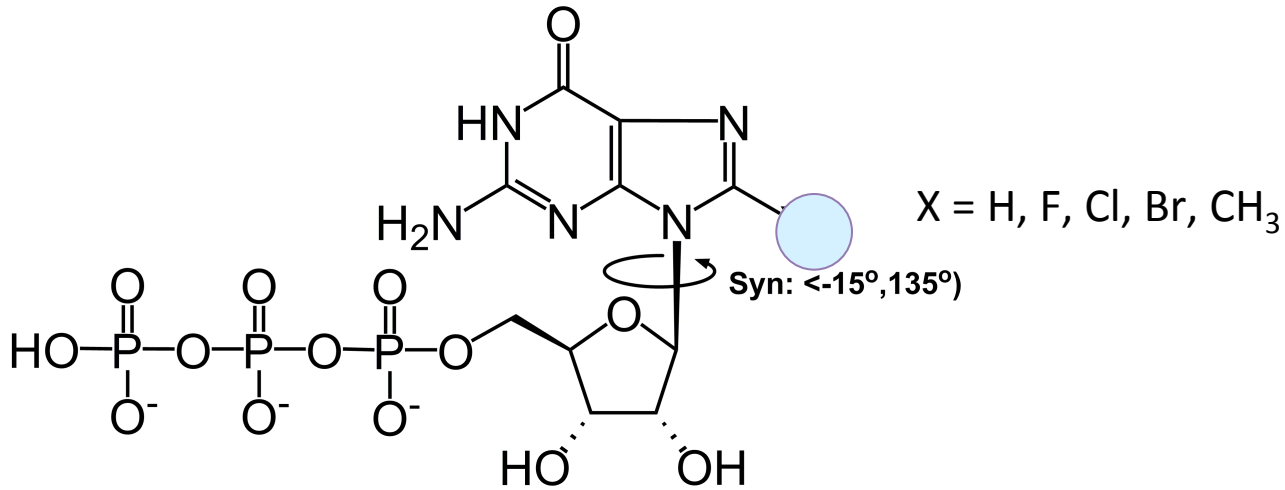
One-step perturbation

$$\Delta G_{AB} = -k_B T \ln \left\langle e^{-(E_A - E_B)/k_B T} \right\rangle_B$$

$$\Delta G_{AB} = \Delta G_{AR} - \Delta G_{BR}$$

$$\Delta G_{AB} = \sum_{\lambda} \Delta G_{\lambda, \lambda + \delta\lambda}$$





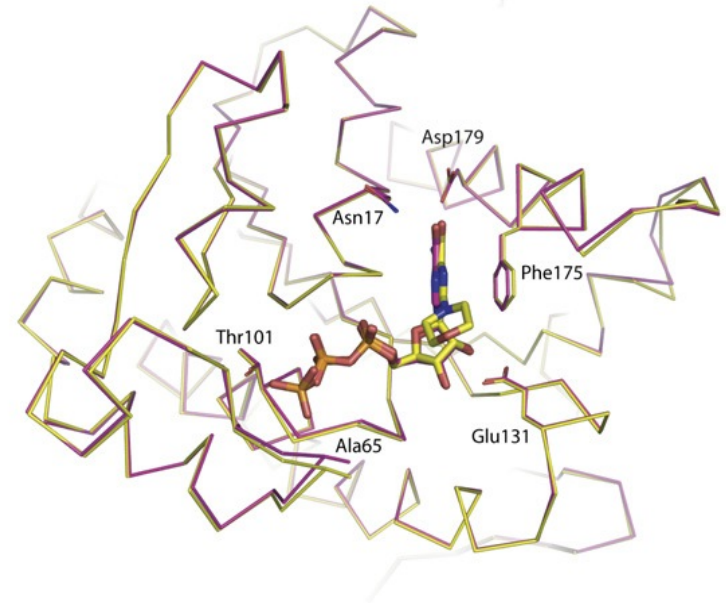
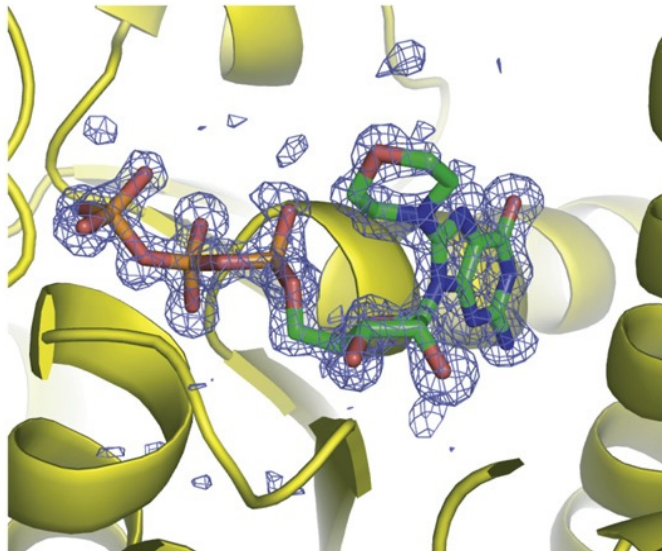
$$\Delta G_{SR} = G_R - G_S = -k_B T \ln \left\langle e^{-\frac{(H_R(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p}) - H_S(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p}))}{k_B T}} \right\rangle_S$$

$$P_i^R = \frac{e^{-\frac{(H_R(\mathbf{q}_i, \mathbf{p}_i) - H_S(\mathbf{q}_i, \mathbf{p}_i))}{k_B T}}}{\sum_i e^{-\frac{(H_R(\mathbf{q}_i, \mathbf{p}_i) - H_S(\mathbf{q}_i, \mathbf{p}_i))}{k_B T}}}$$

Enhanced sampling one step perturbation method (ES-OS)

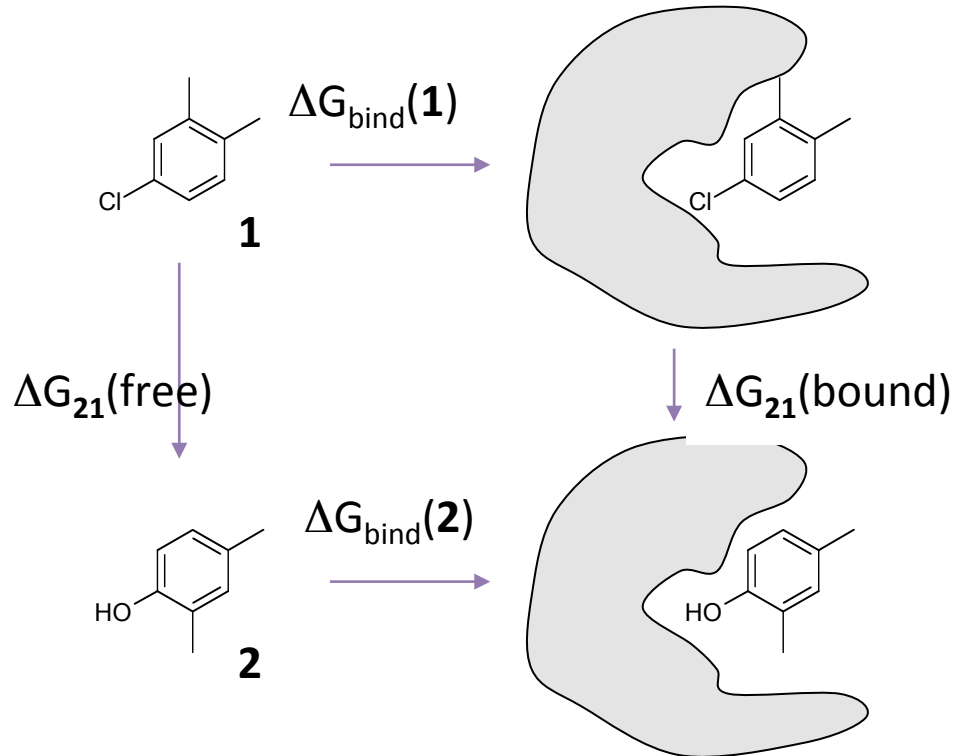
Crystal structures of FtsZ from *Aquifex aeolicus*

(Oliva et al. *J. Mol. Biology* (2007); Lappchen et al. *Chemistry & Biology* (2008))



Figures taken from Lappchen et al. *Chemistry & Biology* (2008)

Thermodynamic cycle



$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\Delta G_{bind} &= \Delta G_{bind}(2) - \Delta G_{bind}(1) \\ &= \Delta G_{21}(free) - \Delta G_{21}(bound)\end{aligned}$$

The comparison of relative binding affinities obtained from computational (Hritz, J. et al. Eur.Biophys. J. (2010)) simulations and experimental assays (Lappchen et al. Chemistry & Biology (2008)).

	$\Delta G_{GTP.R}^{OS} (FtsZ)$ [kJ.mol ⁻¹]	$\Delta G_{GTP.R}^{ES-OS} (aq)$ [kJ.mol ⁻¹]	$\Delta\Delta G_{GTP.R}^{calc} (bind)$ [kJ.mol ⁻¹]	$\Delta\Delta G_{GTP.R}^{exp} (bind)$ [kJ.mol ⁻¹]
GTP	0	0	0	0
8-F-GTP	14.56±1.08	15.03±1.38	-0.47±2.46	-----
8-Cl-GTP	16.45±1.03	12.75±1.25	3.7±2.28	8.01±4.4
8-Br-GTP	15.96±0.99	5.85±1.34	10.11±2.33	9.24±1.8
8-CH ₃ -GTP	23.03±1.02	12.55±1.41	10.48±2.43	~8.7±2.6 ^a

^a Value for $\Delta\Delta G_{GTP,8-CH_3-GTP}^{exp} (bind)$ was estimated from an experimental IC₅₀ value of GTPase activity.

Conclusion

- Visualization of biomolecular structures, their electrostatics potential, etc. can provide very useful information
- Dynamical features can be obtained from molecular dynamics simulations. Be aware about a lot of used approximations, simplifications and restricted time length of simulation.
- Potential of molecular dynamics can be enhanced sampling methods such as replica exchange molecular dynamics: T-REMD or H-REMD.
- Free energy calculations allows for calculating the binding affinities, solvation free energies, lipophilicities, etc.