

# CyberMAGICS Workshop: Reactive Molecular Dynamics

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*CyberMAGICS Workshop, June 25, 2024*



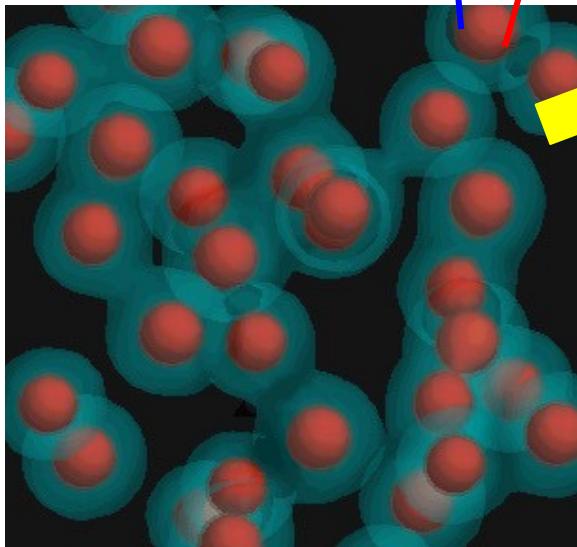
**HOWARD  
UNIVERSITY**

# Hierarchy of Molecular Dynamics Methods

$$m_i \frac{d^2 \mathbf{r}_i}{dt^2} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{r}_i} E_{\text{MD}}(\{\mathbf{r}_i\})$$

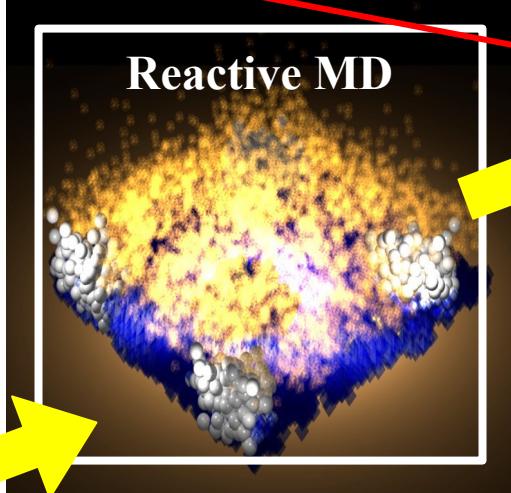
$$\min E_{\text{QM}}(\{\psi_n(\mathbf{r})\})$$

Electron wave function

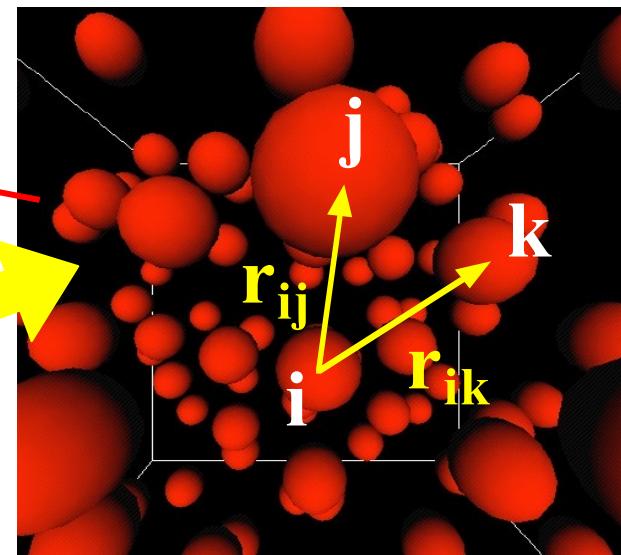


Quantum Mechanics (QM)

Atom

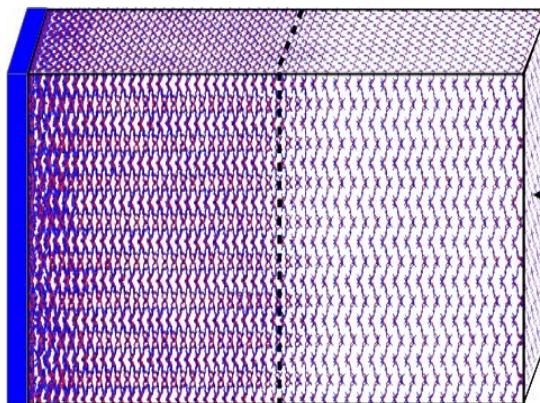


Molecular Dynamics (MD)

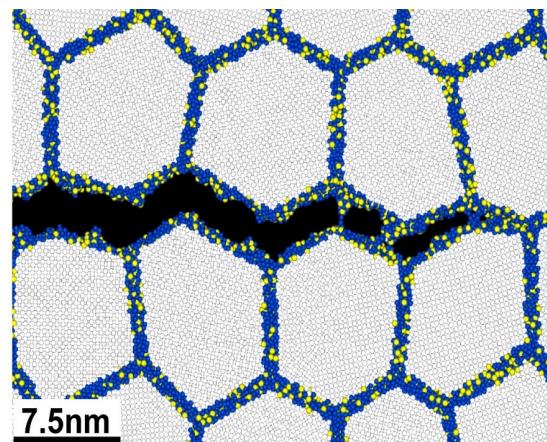


- MD with empirical interactions  $\sim O(N)$   
Long-time ( $10^9$  steps) & large size ( $10^{12}$  atoms)
- DFT quantum MD  $\sim O(N^3)$   
Short-time ( $10^4$  steps) & small size ( $\sim 400$  atoms)
- Divide-and-Conquer QMD  $\sim O(N)$  : Al/Li nanoparticle in water using 16K atoms for 30,000 steps

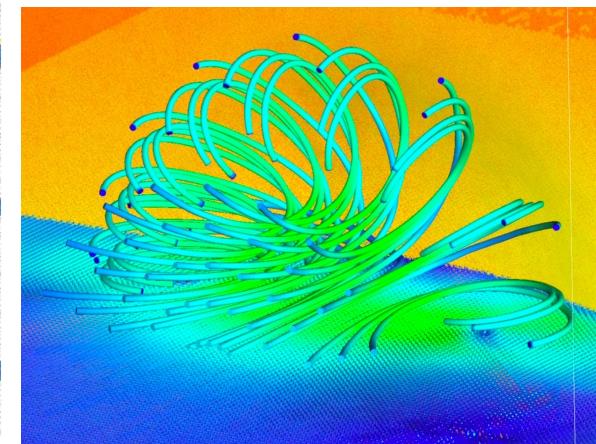
# Large-Scale Reactive MD Simulations



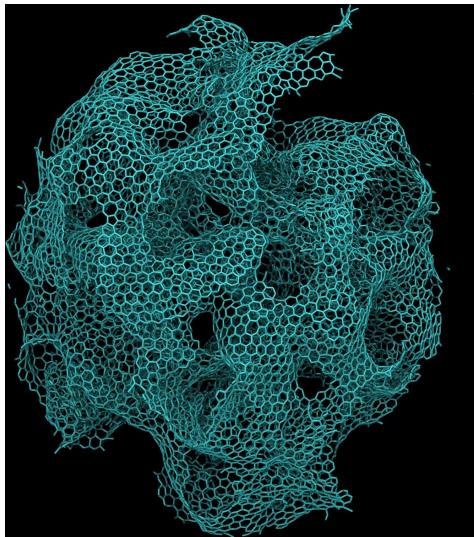
Shock-induced chemical reaction



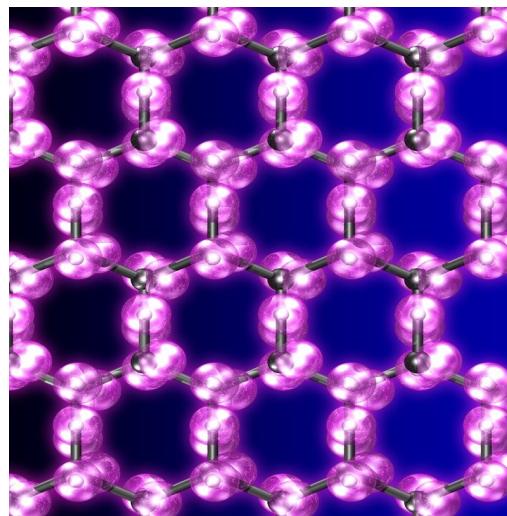
Stress corrosion cracking



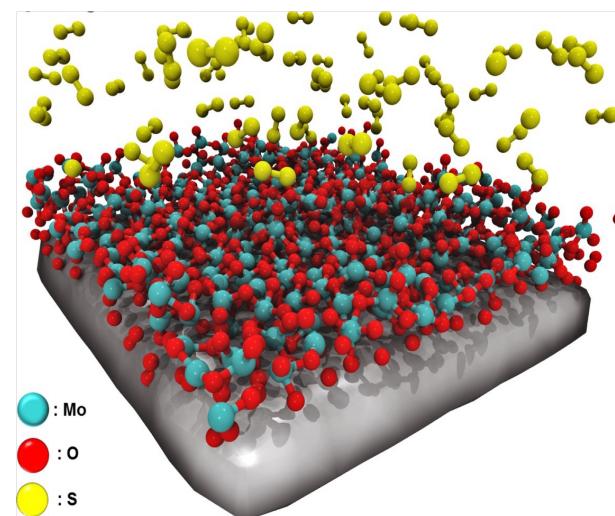
Underwater bubble collapse



Oxidation of nanoparticle



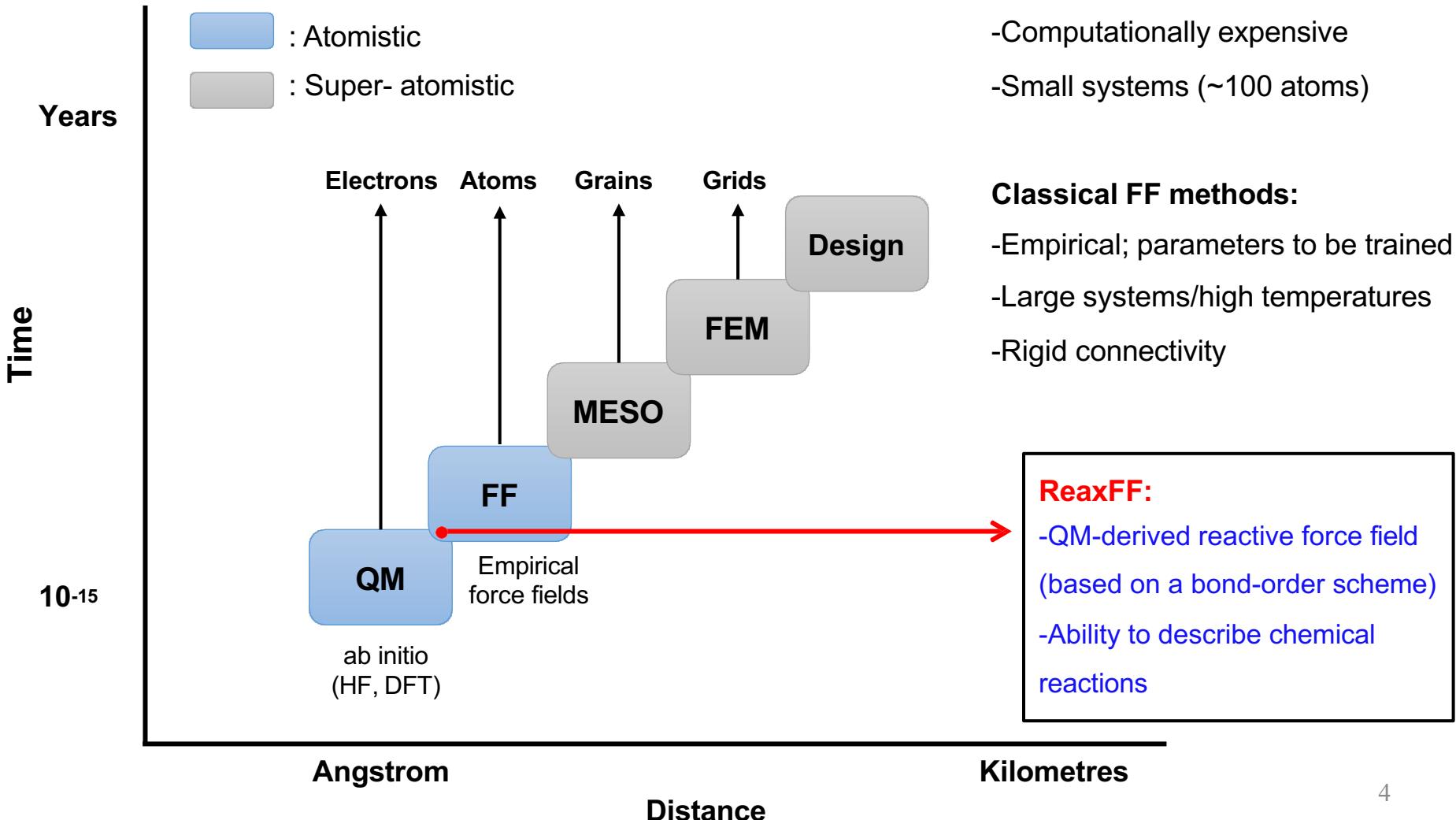
Dielectric polymers



2D material synthesis

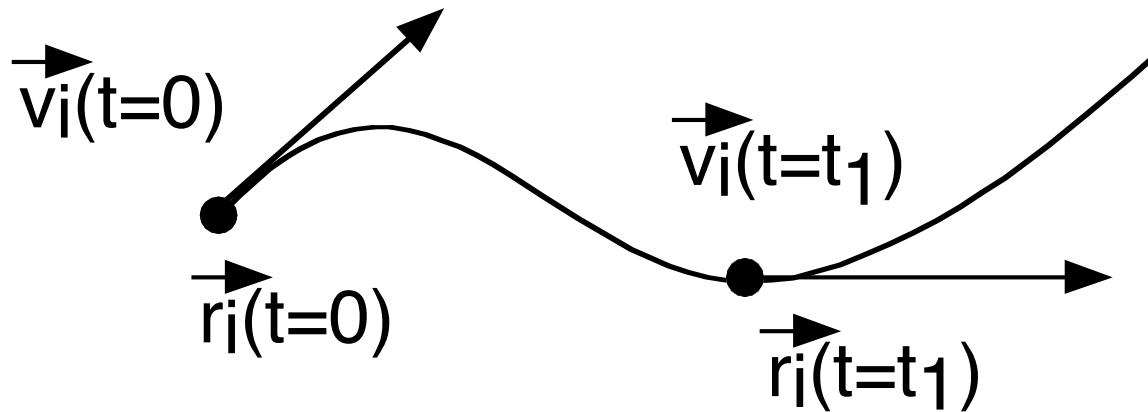
# Basic Concepts of ReaxFF Forcefield

## • Multi-scale Computational Modeling



# Basic Concepts of ReaxFF Forcefield

- What is Molecular dynamics (MD) simulation?



Numerically solve Newton's  
equation of motion

$$\vec{F}(t) = m \frac{d^2 \vec{r}_i}{dt^2} = - \frac{d}{d \vec{r}_i} V(\vec{r}_i \dots \vec{r}_N)$$

Interatomic potential; force field

# Basic Concepts of ReaxFF Forcefield

- ReaxFF general energy terms\*

$$E_{\text{system}} = E_{\text{bond}} + E_{\text{over}} + E_{\text{val}} + E_{\text{tors}} + E_{\text{vdWaals}} + E_{\text{Coulomb}}$$

The equation is shown with a large brace underneath grouping all terms from  $E_{\text{bond}}$  to  $E_{\text{Coulomb}}$ . This large brace is further divided by a smaller brace under  $E_{\text{bond}}$ ,  $E_{\text{over}}$ ,  $E_{\text{val}}$ , and  $E_{\text{tors}}$ , which is labeled "Bonded interactions" in red. The remaining terms,  $E_{\text{vdWaals}}$  and  $E_{\text{Coulomb}}$ , are grouped by another small brace and labeled "Non-bonded interactions" in red.

$E_{\text{bond}}$ : Bond energy; two-body attractive term

$E_{\text{over}}$ : Over-coordination energy; penalty for overcoordinating atoms

$E_{\text{val}}$ : Angle strain energy; three-body term

$E_{\text{tors}}$ : Torsion energy; four-body term

$E_{\text{vdWaals}}$ : van der Waals interactions

$E_{\text{Coulomb}}$ : Coulomb interactions

\*van Duin, Adri CT, et al. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A* **105** (2001): 9396-9409.

# Basic Concepts of ReaxFF Forcefield

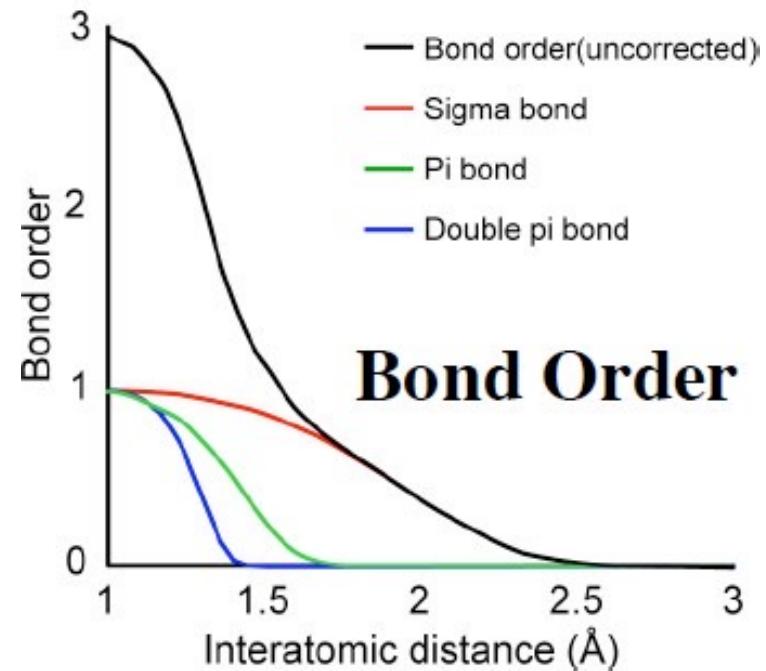
- Key features of ReaxFF – 1\*

- A bond order is calculated and updated every step, thus allowing for chemical reactions during MD simulations.

A bond-order/distance relationship

$$BO_{ij} = \exp \left[ p_{bo,1} \cdot \left( \frac{r_{ij}}{r_o^\sigma} \right)^{p_{bo,2}} \right] + \exp \left[ p_{bo,3} \cdot \left( \frac{r_{ij}}{r_o^\pi} \right)^{p_{bo,4}} \right] + \exp \left[ p_{bo,5} \cdot \left( \frac{r_{ij}}{r_o^{\pi\pi}} \right)^{p_{bo,6}} \right]$$

C-C bond order



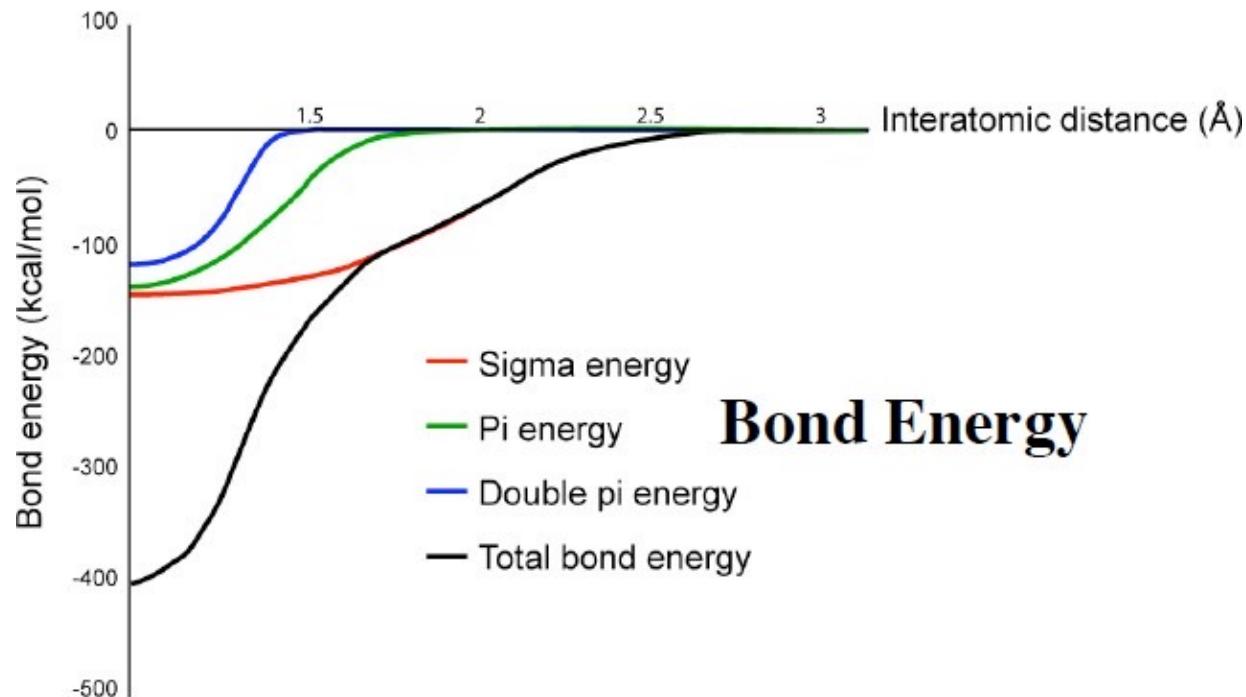
\*Russo, Michael F., and Adri CT van Duin. *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section B: Beam Interactions with Materials and Atoms* **269** (2011): 1549-1554.

# Basic Concepts of ReaxFF Forcefield

- Key features of ReaxFF – 2\*

- All bonded-interactions are made of bond-order dependent.

$$E_{bond} = -D_e^\sigma \cdot BO_{ij}^\sigma \cdot f(BO_{ij}^\sigma) - D_e^\pi \cdot BO_{ij}^\pi - D_e^{\pi\pi} \cdot BO_{ij}^{\pi\pi}$$



\*Russo, Michael F., and van Duin, Adri. *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section B: Beam Interactions with Materials and Atoms* **269** (2011): 1549-1554.

# Basic Concepts of ReaxFF Forcefield

- Key features of ReaxFF – 3\*

- Non-bonded interactions (van der Waals and Coulomb) are calculated between every atom pair. (*i.e.*, no exception)
- ReaxFF employs the QEq method,\*\* a geometry-dependent point charge calculations scheme, to update point charges for the entire system.

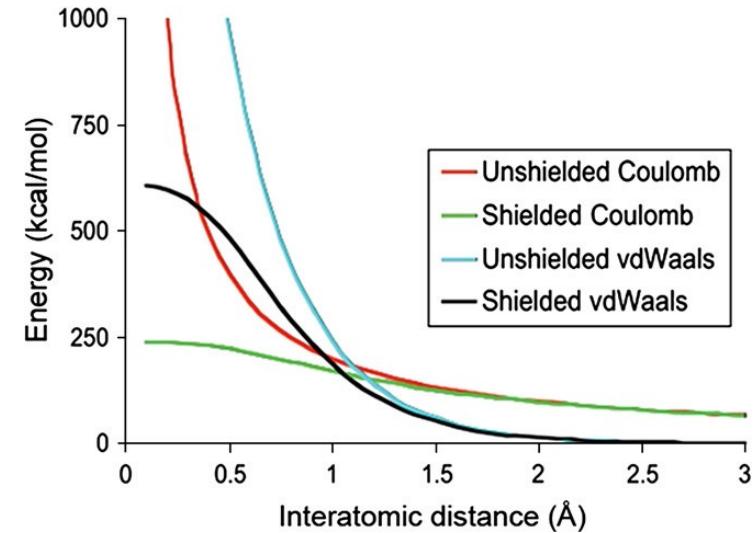
$$E_{vdWaals} = Tap \cdot D_{ij} \cdot \left\{ \exp \left[ \alpha_{ij} \cdot \left( 1 - \frac{f_{13}(r_{ij})}{r_{vdW}} \right) \right] - 2 \cdot \exp \left[ \frac{1}{2} \cdot \alpha_{ij} \cdot \left( 1 - \frac{f_{13}(r_{ij})}{r_{vdW}} \right) \right] \right\}$$

A shielded Morse potential

$$f_{13}(r_{ij}) = \left[ r_{ij}^{p_{vdW1}} + \left( \frac{1}{\gamma_w} \right)^{p_{vdW1}} \right]^{\frac{1}{p_{vdW1}}}$$

$$E_{Coulomb} = C \cdot \frac{q_i \cdot q_j}{[r_{ij}^3 + (1/\gamma_{ij})^3]^{1/3}}$$

A shielded Coulomb potential



\*.Russo, Michael F., and Adri CT van Duin. *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research Section B: Beam Interactions with Materials and Atoms* **269** (2011): 1549-1554.

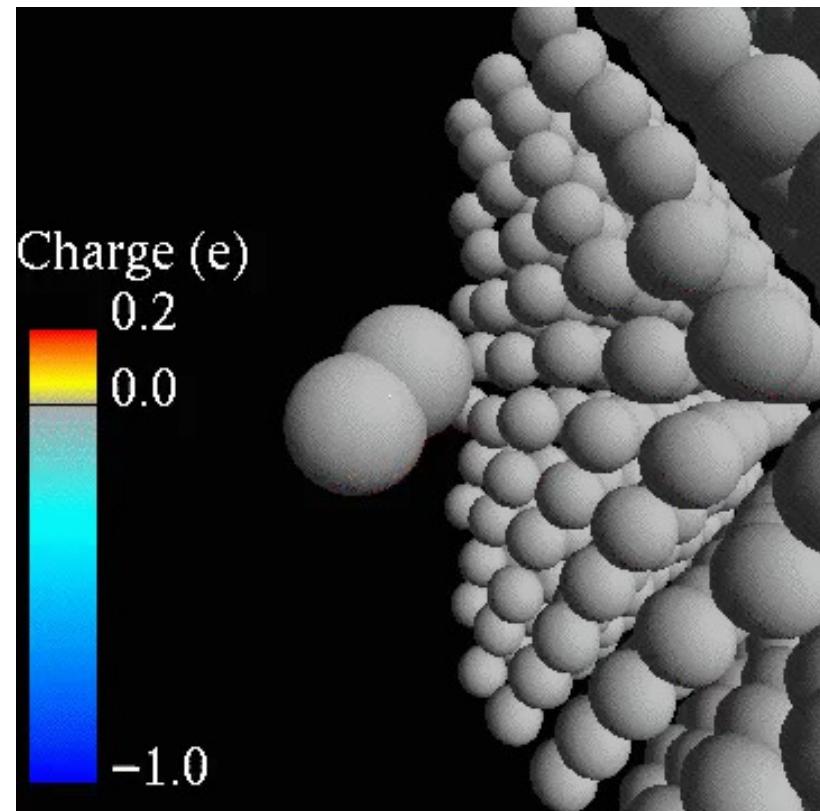
\*\*Rappe, Anthony K., and William A. Goddard III. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry* **95** (1991): 3358-3363.

# Basic Concepts of ReaxFF Forcefield

## Key features of ReaxFF – 4\*\*

- Charge-equilibration (QE<sub>q</sub>)  
→ Charge transfer

Determine atomic charges  
 $\{q_i \mid i = 1, \dots, N\}$  every MD step  
to minimize  $E_{\text{ES}}(\mathbf{r}^N, q^N)$  with  
charge-neutrality constraint:  
 $\sum_i q_i = 0$

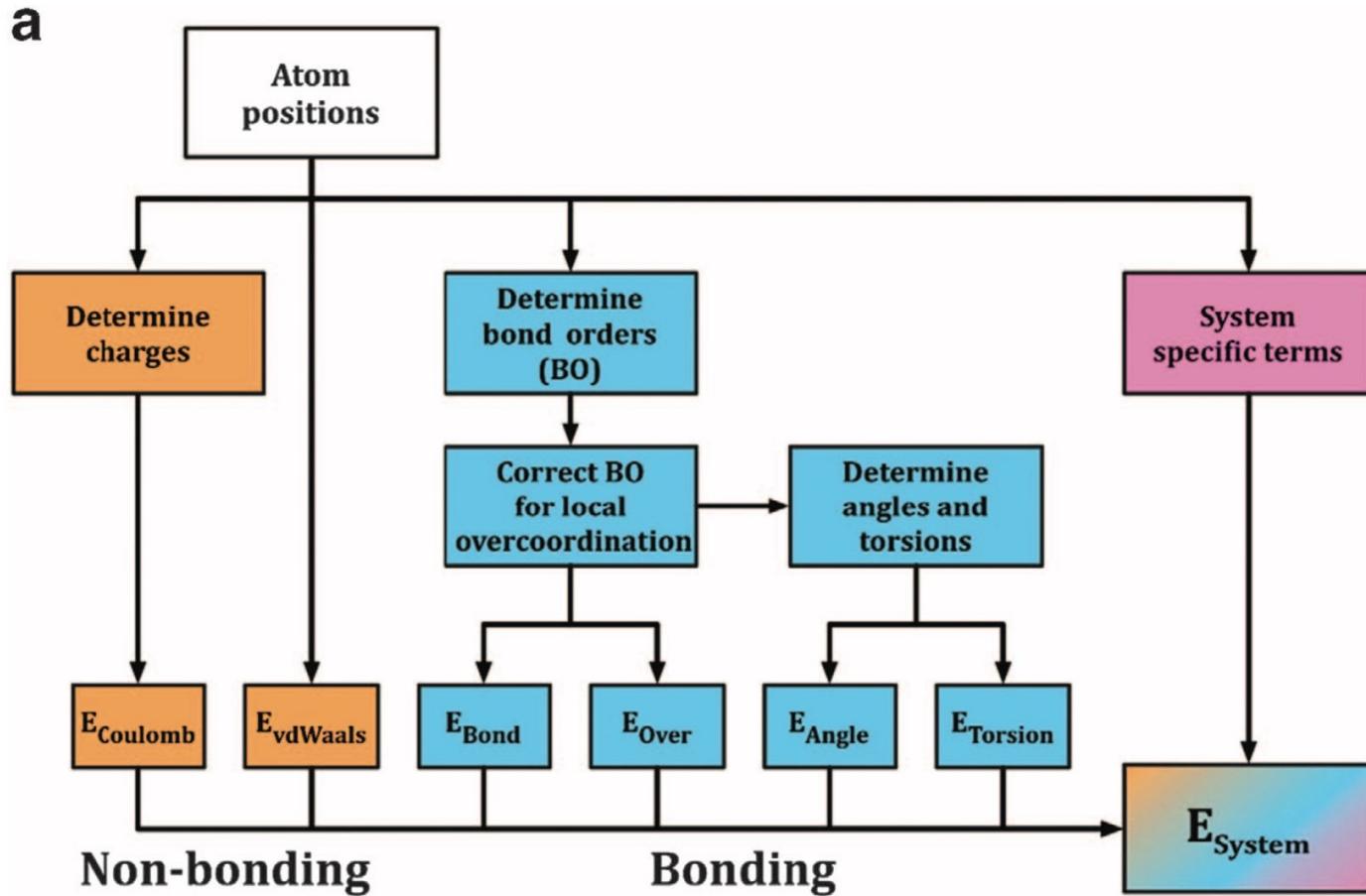


O<sub>2</sub> dissociation on Al(111)

$$E_{\text{ES}}(\mathbf{r}^N, q^N) = \sum_i \left( \chi_i q_i + \frac{1}{2} J_i q_i^2 \right) + \sum_{i < j} \int d\mathbf{x} \int d\mathbf{x}' \frac{\rho_i(q_i; \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{r}_i) \rho_j(q_j; \mathbf{x}' - \mathbf{r}_j)}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'|}$$

# Basic Concepts of ReaxFF Forcefield

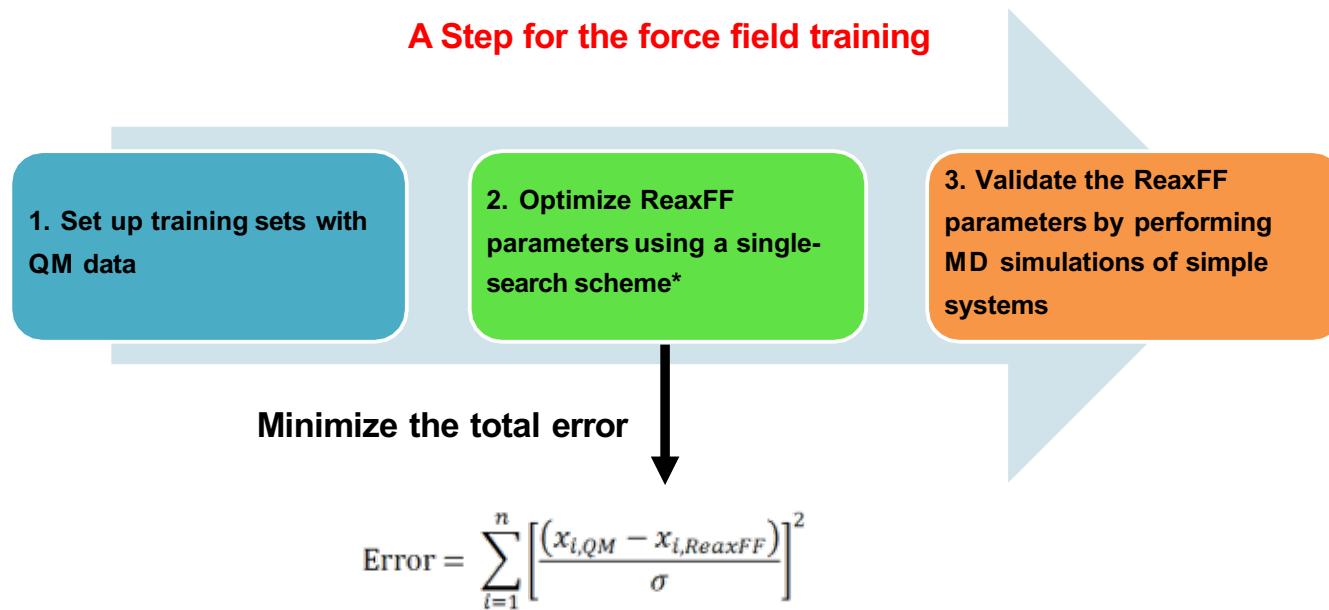
- ReaxFF flow diagram\*



\*Senftle, Thomas, et al. *npj Computational Materials* **2** (2016).

# Basic Concepts of ReaxFF Forcefield

- How to get ReaxFF reactive force field parameters?
  - Do search Google Scholar:  
<https://scholar.google.com/>
  - Develop your ReaxFF force field parameters (non-trivial)

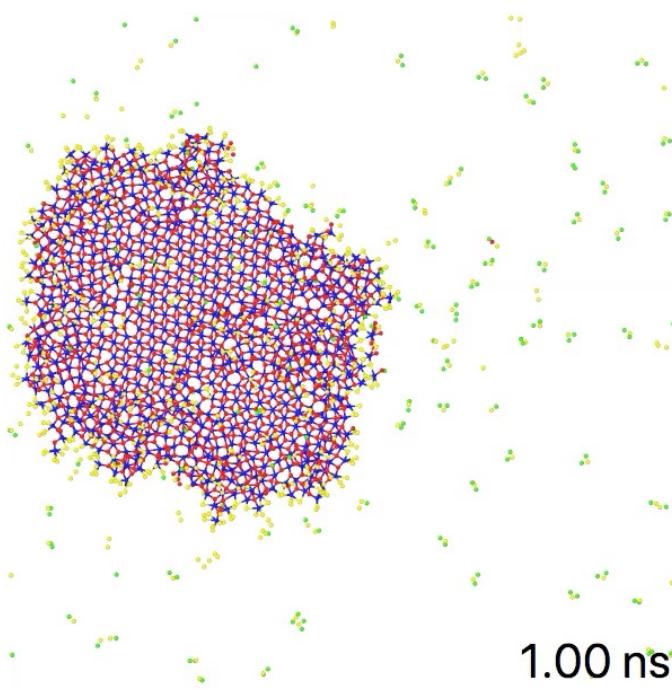


\* van Duin, A. C. T.; Jan, M.; de Graaf, B. *J. Chem. Soc., Faraday Trans.* **1994**, 90, (19), 2881-2895.

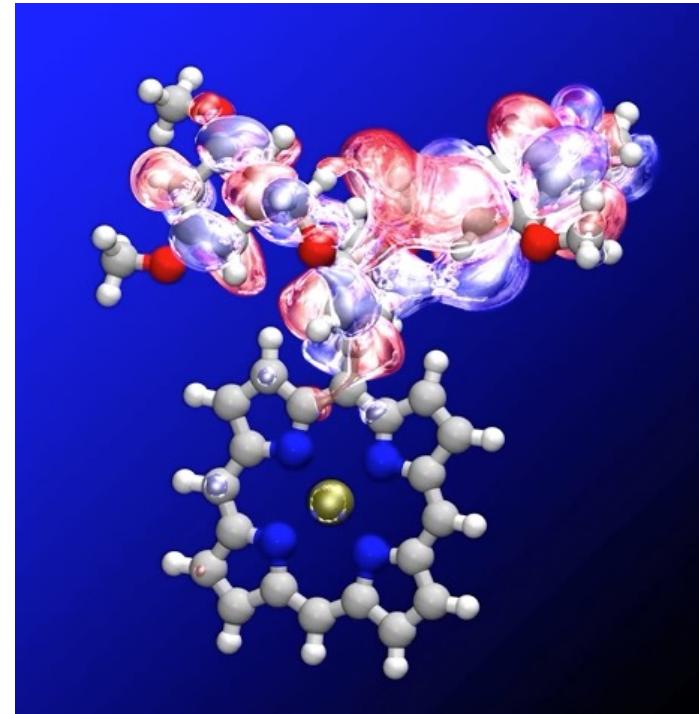
# Reactive and Quantum MD Software

**RXMD:** Reactive molecular dynamics software for desktop to supercomputing platforms

**QXMD:** Quantum dynamics software with non-adiabatic extensions



Sulfidization of  $\text{MoO}_3$  nanoflake



Electron transfer in light-harvesting molecule

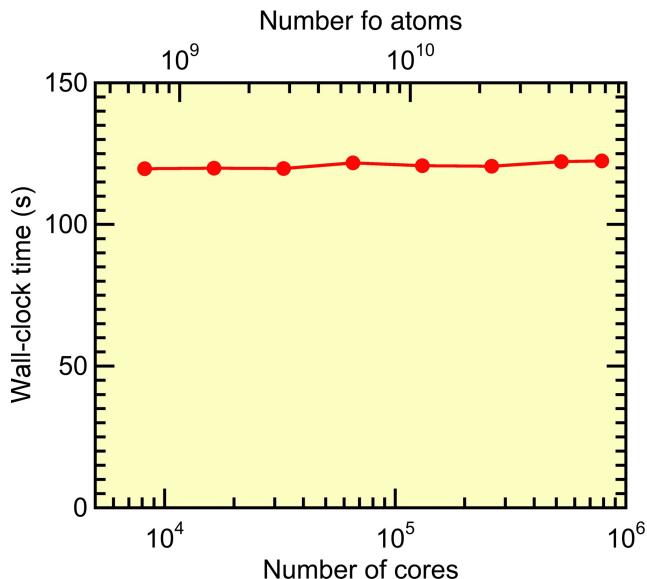
# Extended-Lagrangian Method

- Eliminated speed-limiting iteration for charge-equilibration (QE<sub>q</sub>) in ReaxFF by adapting an extended-Lagrangian scheme proposed for QMD

$$L_{\text{XRMD}} = L_{\text{RMD}} + \frac{\mu}{2} \sum_i \dot{\theta}_i^2 - \frac{\mu \omega^2}{2} \sum_i (\theta_i - q_i)^2$$

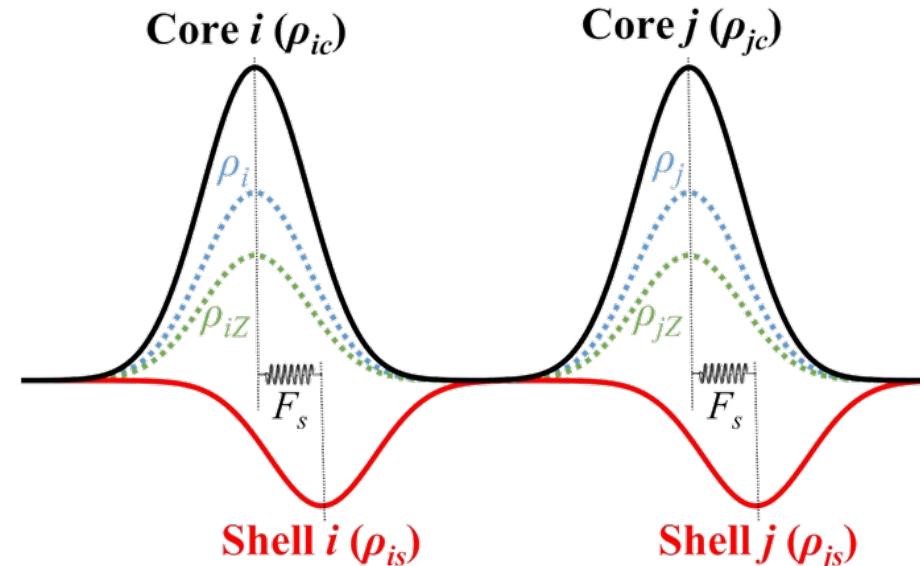
Auxiliary charge: dynamic variable  
Physical charge

- Extended-Lagrangian RXMD achieves 8.6x speed up with the same energy conservation as fully converged QE<sub>q</sub>
- Parallel efficiency 0.977 on 786,432 Blue Gene/Q cores for 67.6 billion atoms



# Polarizable Charge Equilibration (PQEeq) Method

- PQEeq method has been implemented in RXMD to study dielectric response as a function of time, electric field and temperature.
- Each atom is partitioned into two charged sites, i.e., core and shell
- The core consists of variable charge  $\rho_i$  and with fixed charge  $\rho_{iz}$
- The shell is connected with the core by an isotropic harmonic spring with force constant  $F_s$



**self energy of *i*-atom**

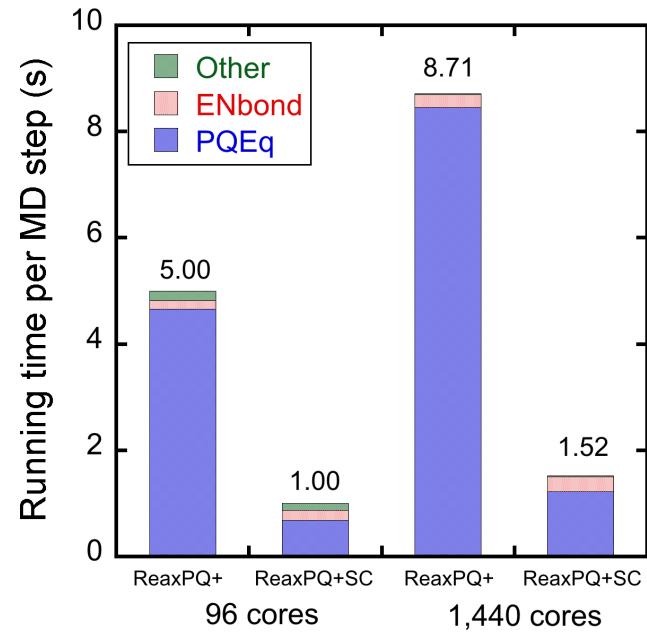
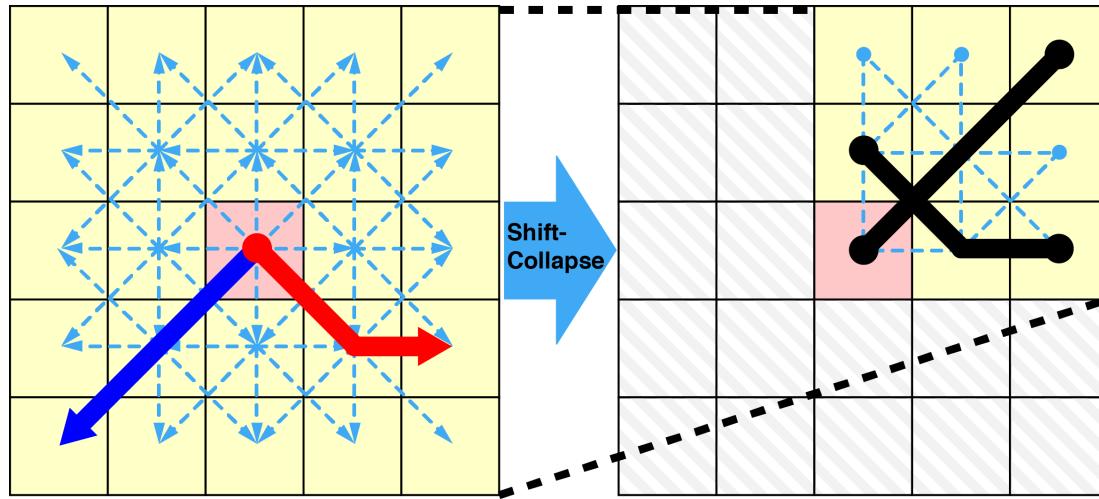
$$E(\{\vec{r}_{ic}, \vec{r}_{is}, q_i\}) = \sum_i^N \left\{ E_i^0 + \chi_i^0 q_i + \frac{1}{2} J_{ii}^0 q_i^2 + \boxed{\frac{1}{2} K_s r_{ic,is}^2} \right\}$$

**core-shell interaction on *i*-atom**

$$+ \sum_{i>j} [C(\vec{r}_{ic,jc})q_{ic}q_{jc} - C(\vec{r}_{ic,js})q_{ic}Z_j - C(\vec{r}_{is,jc})q_{jc}Z_i + C(\vec{r}_{is,js})Z_iZ_j]$$

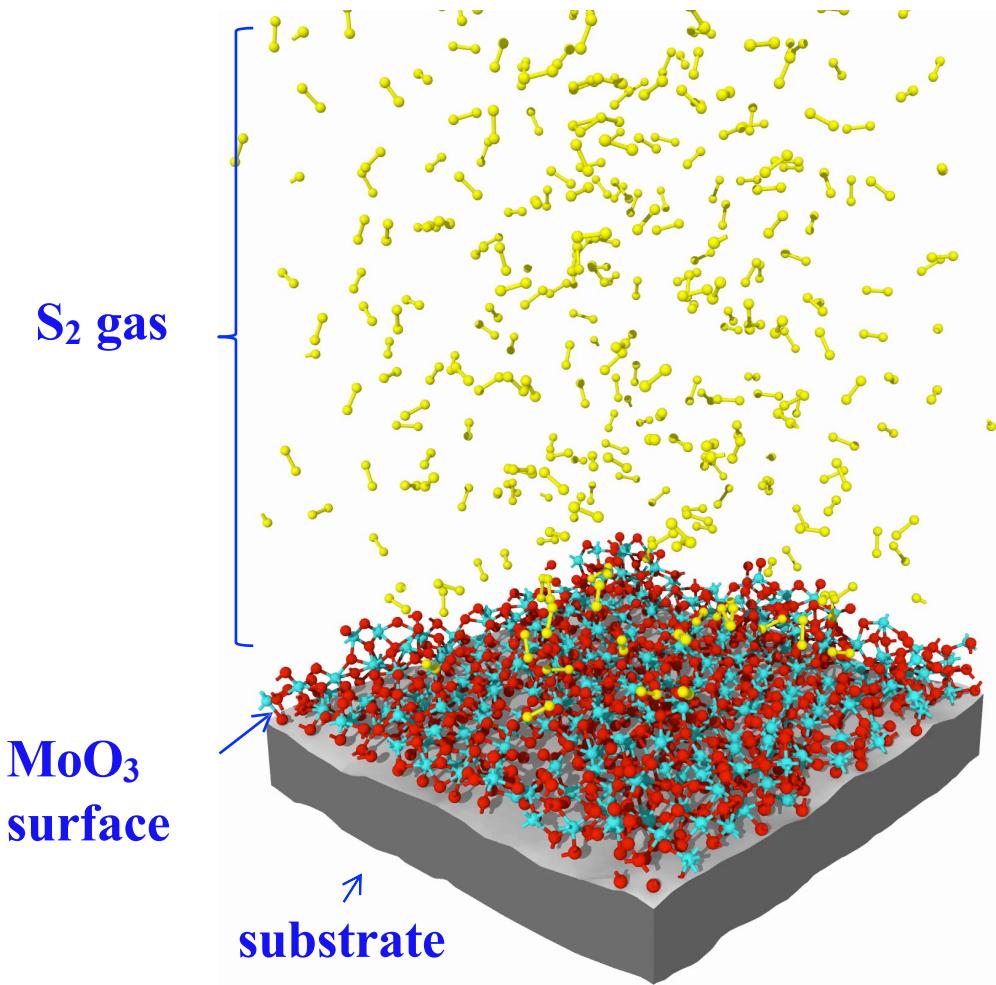
**core-shell interaction between *i*- and *j*-atoms**

# Shift-Collapse (SC) Algorithm for Time-to-Solution



- SC algorithm generates optimal computation pattern for general finite-range  $n$ -tuple energy/force computations.
- SC-accelerated PQEq+SC achieves 5.0x speedup compare to the original PQEq.

# RMD Simulations of MoS<sub>2</sub> Monolayer Synthesis



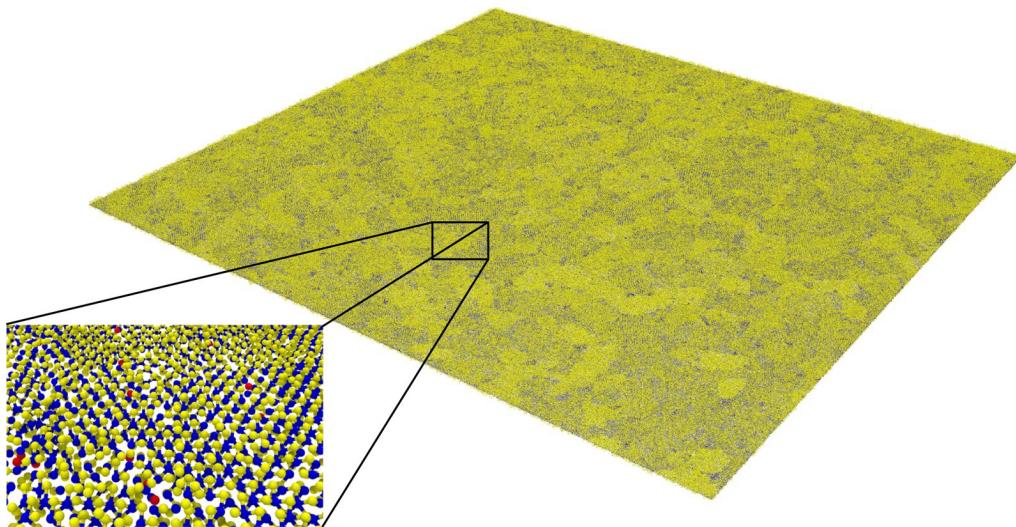
High-temperature  
sulfurdization of MoO<sub>3</sub>  
monolayer with S<sub>2</sub> gas

Step 1. O<sub>2</sub> evolution  
from a MoO<sub>3</sub> surface

Step 2. SO/SO<sub>2</sub>  
formation from a  
MoO<sub>2.6</sub> surface

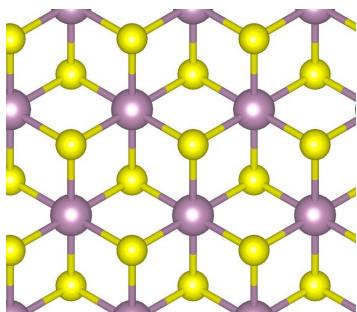
Step 3. Mo-S bond  
formation on MoO<sub>x</sub>S<sub>y</sub>

# MoS<sub>2</sub> Crystal Growth Simulation



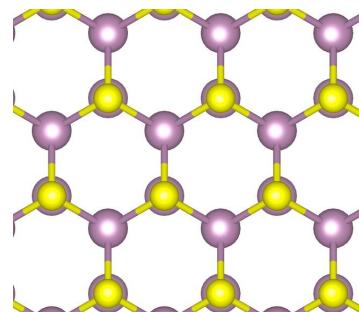
- Number of atoms:  
4,305,600 atoms (1,497,600 O; 2,347,200 S and 460,800 Mo)
- System dimensions:  
 $211.0 \times 196.3 \times 14.5$  (nm<sup>3</sup>)
- Timestep: 0.75 fs.

1T Structure



Sulfur

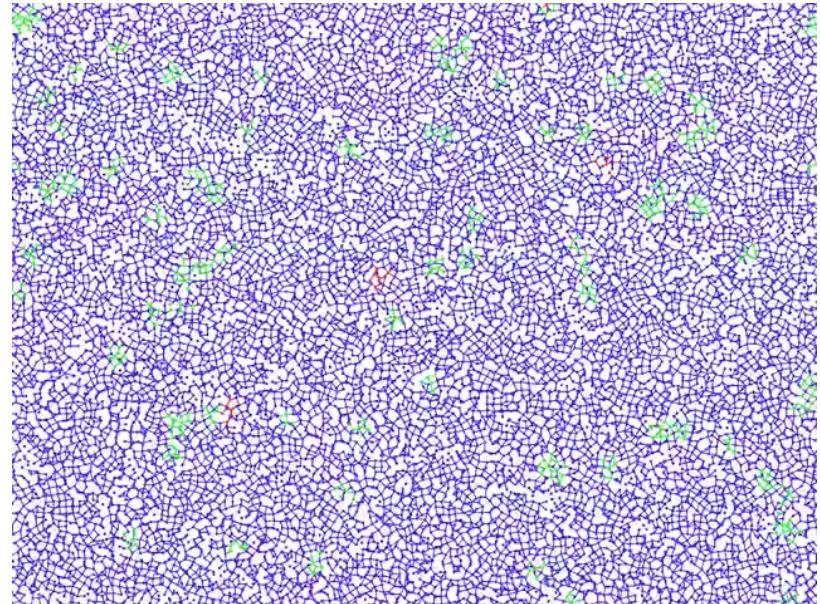
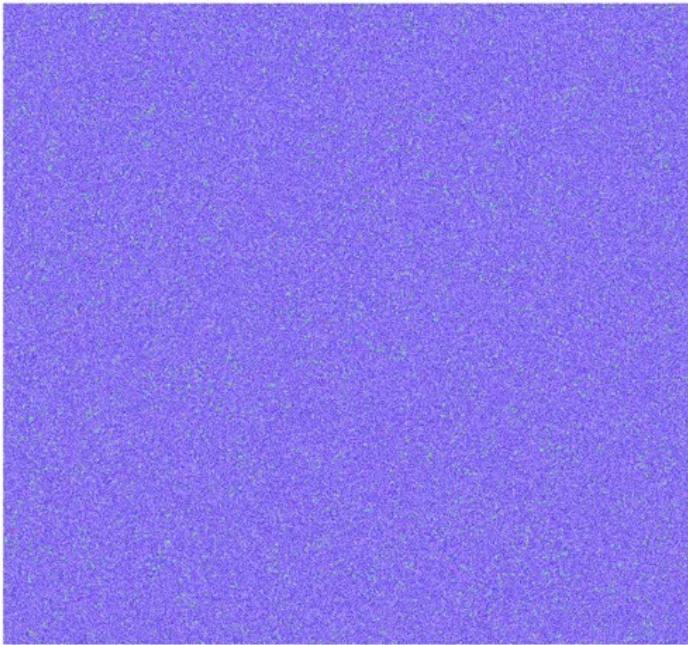
2H Structure



Molybdenum

The pre-sulfurized MoS slab is thermalized at 3000K for 1 nsec, quenched to 1000K, then subjected to temperature cycle to improve its crystallinity.

# Grain Growth by Annealing

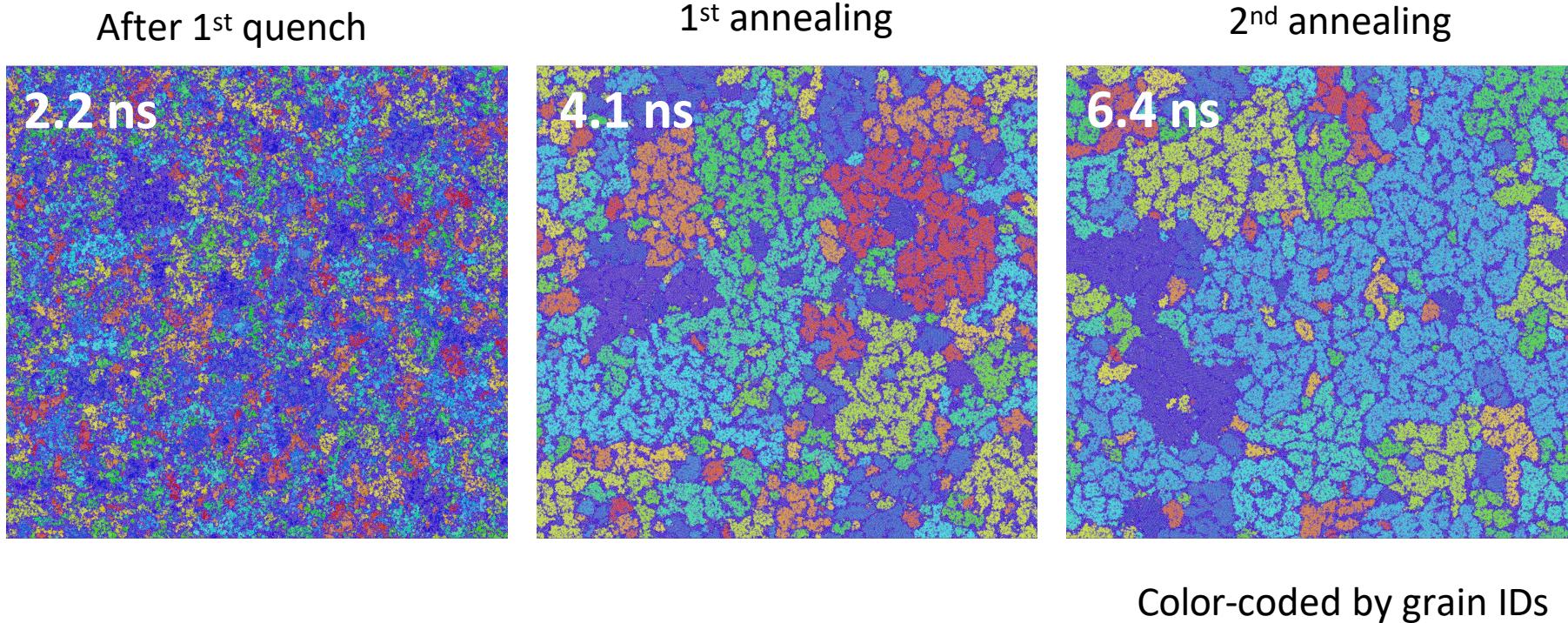


Zoom-in view

● 1T ● 2H ● disordered

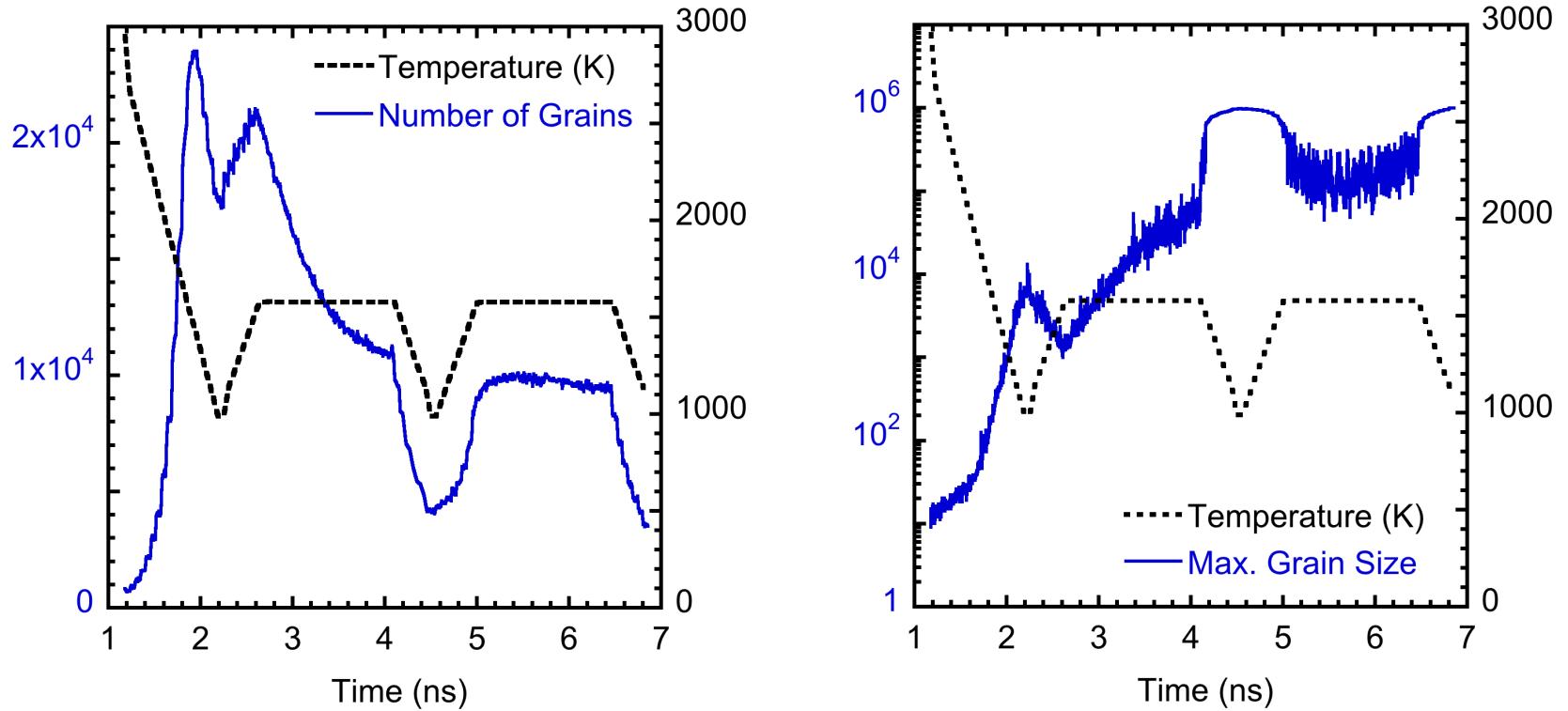
- Atoms in the sulfidized slab are classified into 1T, 2H and disordered phases.
- Areas of connected 2H phase atoms indicates  $\text{MoS}_2$  crystal grains, separated by 1T or disordered phases.

# Grain Growth by Annealing



- Highly disordered structure is obtained by the rapid quenching at 2.2ns.
- Grain growth and crystallinity improvement at 6.4 ns due to the active grain boundary migration.

# Grain Growth by Annealing



- Rapid decrease in the number of grains and increase in the size of grain during the 1<sup>st</sup> annealing.
- The largest grain continues to grow with a lower rate during the 2<sup>nd</sup> annealing step.

# Moving Forward

## Review: The ReaxFF reactive force-field: development, applications and future directions\*

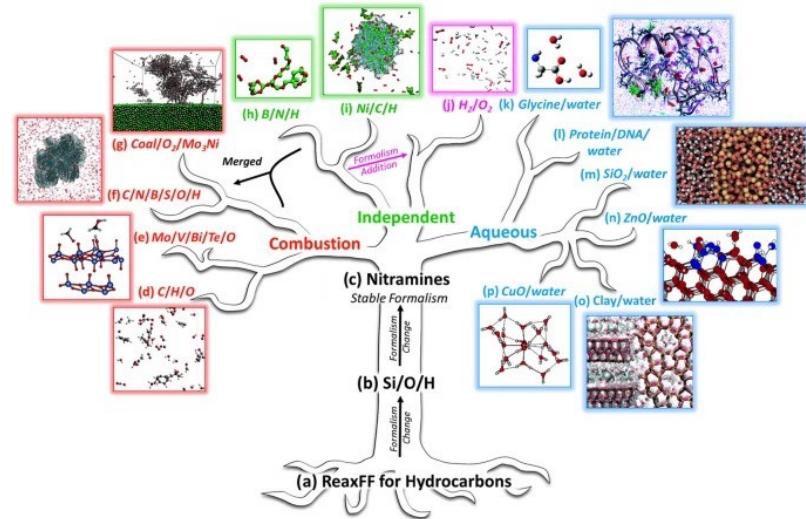
<https://www.nature.com/articles/npjcompumats201511>

## List of published ReaxFF force fields

[https://www.scm.com/doc/ReaxFF/Included\\_Forcefields.html](https://www.scm.com/doc/ReaxFF/Included_Forcefields.html)

## Interatomic potential repository

<https://www.ctcms.nist.gov/potentials/>



ReaxFF development tree\*

## Recent advances in RMD:

- eReaxFF: A Pseudoclassical Treatment of Explicit Electrons within Reactive Force Field Simulations <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.jctc.6b00432>
- JAX-ReaxFF: A Gradient Based Framework for Extremely Fast Optimization of Reactive Force Fields <https://chemrxiv.org/engage/chemrxiv/article-details/60e0d9496b8d89786e6b8a06>
- Machine learning potentials for extended systems: a perspective <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1140/epjb/s10051-021-00156-1>