

MD Simulations with OpenMM



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Thesis projects available

<https://github.com/giorginolab/MD-Tutorial-Data>

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This class

- Molecular dynamics is a powerful tool for studying molecular systems
- OpenMM is a software library that allows for efficient and customizable MD simulations
- It's exemplary of a modern well-maintained open-source library:
 - CI infrastructure, developed on GitHub
 - C++ w/ Python bindings
- We'll use the latter, testing *live* on Google Colab.

Molecular Dynamics

What is MD?

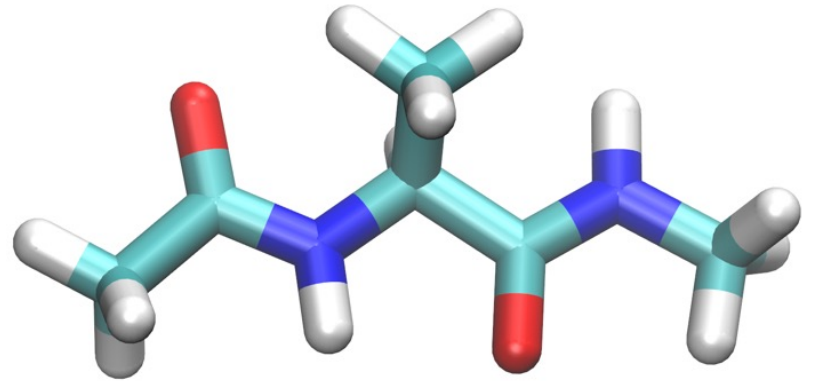
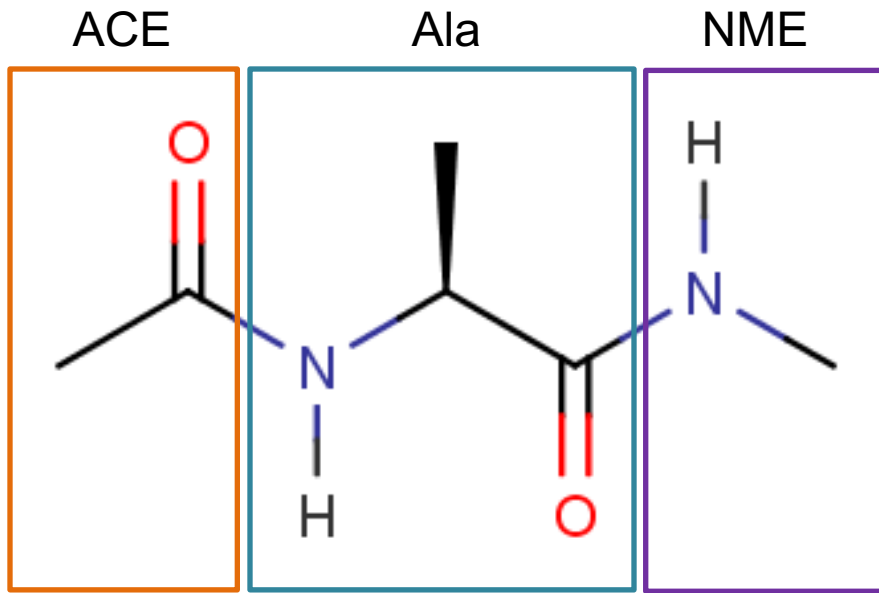
- Attempt the most detailed description of a system which is
 1. atomistic
 2. classical
- Model the internal *forces*...
- ...in order to *integrate* the motion
- Hope in convergent *sampling*

$$\vec{F}_i(\mathbf{x}) = m_i \ddot{\mathbf{x}}_i$$

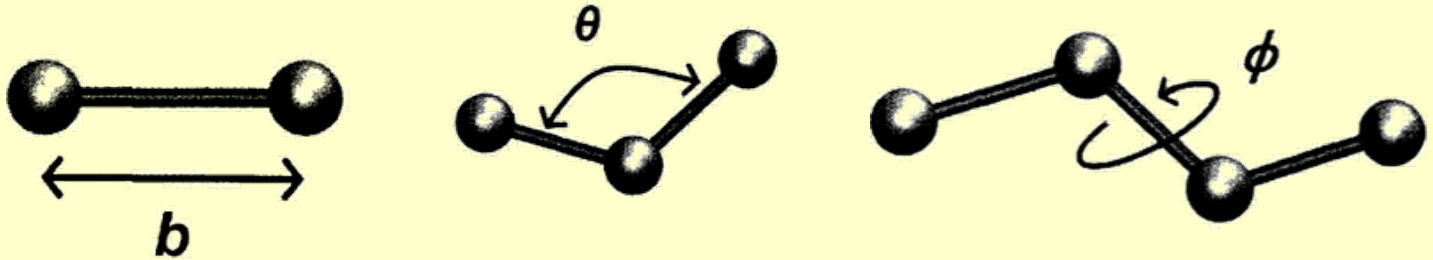
Assumptions

- In this tutorial we shall deal with **unbiased** sampling approaches with **explicit** solvent, i.e.
 - no added forces except the "physical" ones in your system;
 - all of the system (including water molecules) have atomic resolution.
- Also, current classical MD does not address, by design, the following:
 - Chemical reactions, e.g. catalysis, phosphorylation, ubiquitination etc.
 - Protonation changes
- Finally, small molecules pose distinct challenges and need a separate, expensive **parameterization** step.

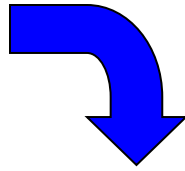
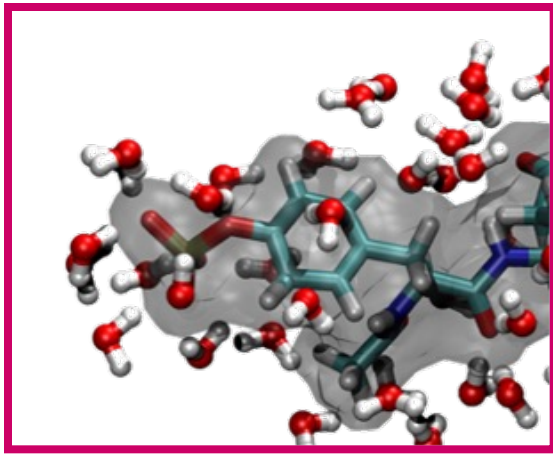
Alanine “dipeptide”



Bonded
energy terms
+ Electrostatics
+ VdW

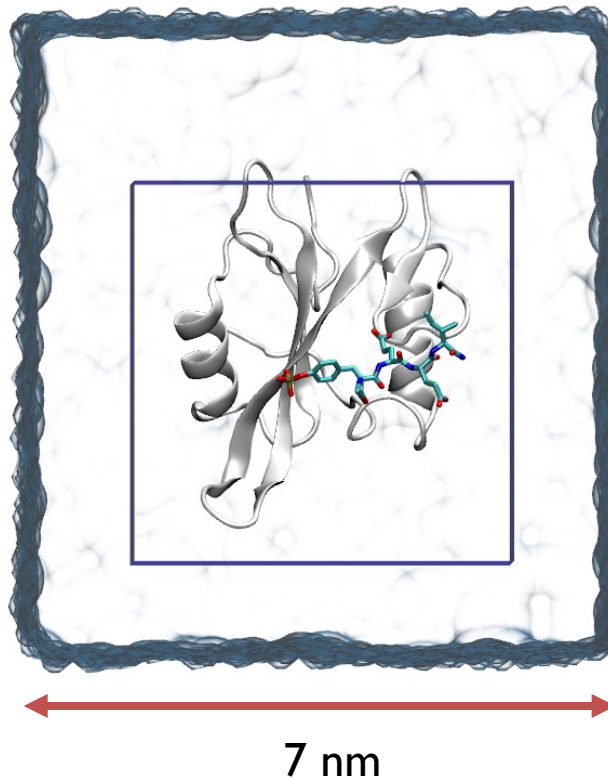


The forcefield is a database of interatomic parameters

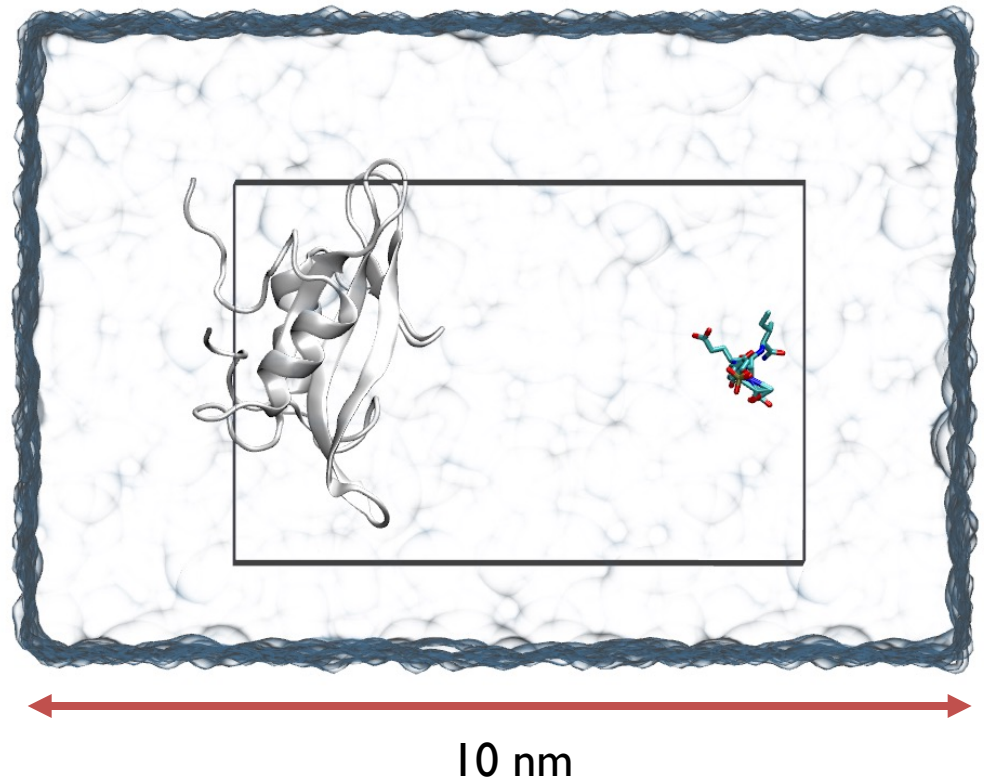


- **Explicit solvation**
- $\rightarrow O(10^5)$ atoms
- **Unbiased dynamics**
- Update every 10^{-15} s (1 fs)

7 nm



7 nm



10 nm

MD is entirely about timescales

- Your ability to obtain quantitative results is severely limited by the sampling ability you have. You will only be able to reach phenomena occurring on the sampled timescales, or shorter.
 - Sidechain rearrangements, diffusion-limited processes: usually possible *
 - Local flexibility: usually possible *
 - Membrane environments: ok-ish
 - Binding: hard but not impossible
 - Folding: very hard but not impossible
 - [*] Unless there are significant barriers.

Patience and limits

- The following factors affect the running speed (usually expressed in ns per simulation day, ns/day)
 - System size. Reasonable is 100 AA ~ 30,000 atoms.
 - Computer speed. Forget laptops.
 - Definitely use GPUs.
 - Software.

OpenMM



OpenMM

High performance, customizable molecular simulation.

.org

- OpenMM is a molecular dynamics simulation toolkit that allows for high-performance simulations of biomolecules.
- Allows for simulation of a variety of molecular systems, including proteins, nucleic acids, and small molecules
- OpenMM supports a wide range of force fields and integrators and can run on CPUs and GPUs.
- Open source, written in C++ with Python and other language bindings available

Basic Workflow (object-oriented)

1. Download, complete and edit the structure:
 - **Topology** (i.e. the identity of atoms, bonds, etc)
 - **Positions** (i.e. the starting coordinates)
2. Create the **system** object.
3. Create the **integrator** object.
4. Create and add custom **forces** to system if needed.
5. Define the **simulation** object.
6. Set the initial positions and velocities.
7. Minimize.
8. Run the simulation.
9. (Analyze the results.)

Integrators

- ...are algorithms that solve the equations of motion for a system
- OpenMM includes several integrators, e.g. Langevin dynamics, Verlet integrator, and Monte Carlo barostat
- Different integrators are appropriate for different types of simulations and conditions (e.g.: NPT vs NVT)

Simulating a system

- Once a system has been defined and the force field and integrator selected, it can be simulated
- The simulation (run) involves running a series of steps, where each step involves calculating the forces on each atom, integrating the equations of motion, and updating the system's coordinates
- After the simulation, data analysis can be performed to obtain information about the system's behavior and properties

30k atoms ~ 100 ms/day
200AA ~ 1000 ms/day A 100

100ms sample time

Let's pick a test system

6H1F: Gelsolin G2+nanobody

Structure Summary

3D View

Annotations

Experiment

Sequence

Genome

Versions

Biological Assembly 1 ?



3D View: [Structure](#) | [1D-3D View](#) | [Electron Density](#) | [Validation Report](#) | [Ligand Interaction](#)

Global Symmetry: Asymmetric - C1 ⓘ

Global Stoichiometry: Hetero 2-mer - A1B1 ⓘ

[Find Similar Assemblies](#)

Biological assembly 1 assigned by authors and generated by PISA (software)

Biological Assembly Evidence: gel filtration

Macromolecule Content

- Total Structure Weight: 28.49 kDa ⓘ
- Atom Count: 1,896 ⓘ
- Modelled Residue Count: 229 ⓘ
- Deposited Residue Count: 259 ⓘ
- Unique protein chains: 2

6H1F

Structure of the nanobody-stabilized gelsolin D187N variant (second domain)

PDB DOI: [10.2210/pdb6H1F/pdb](#)

Classification: [STRUCTURAL PROTEIN](#)

Organism(s): [Lama glama](#), [Homo sapiens](#)

Expression System: [Escherichia coli](#)

Mutation(s): Yes ⓘ

Deposited: 2018-07-11 **Released:** 2019-01-23

Deposition Author(s): [Hassan, A.](#), [Milani, M.](#), [Mastrangelo, E.](#), [de Rosa, M.](#)

Funding Organization(s): [Amyloidosis Foundation](#)

Experimental Data Snapshot

Method: X-RAY DIFFRACTION

Resolution: 1.90 Å

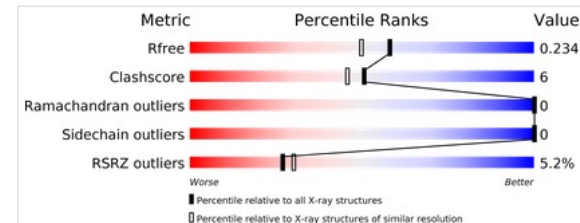
R-Value Free: 0.233

R-Value Work: 0.199

R-Value Observed: 0.202

wwPDB Validation ⓘ

[3D Report](#) [Full Report](#)



This is version 1.0 of the entry. See complete [history](#).

Literature

[Download Primary Citation](#)

Nanobody interaction unveils structure, dynamics and proteotoxicity of the Finnish-type amyloidogenic gelsolin variant.

[Giorgino, T.](#), [Mattioni, D.](#), [Hassan, A.](#), [Milani, M.](#), [Mastrangelo, E.](#), [Barbiroli, A.](#), [Verhelle, A.](#), [Gettemans, J.](#), [Barzago, M.M.](#), [Diomedea, L.](#), [de Rosa, M.](#)

(2019) *Biochim Biophys Acta Mol Basis Dis* **1865**: 648-660

PubMed: [30625383](#) [Search on PubMed](#)

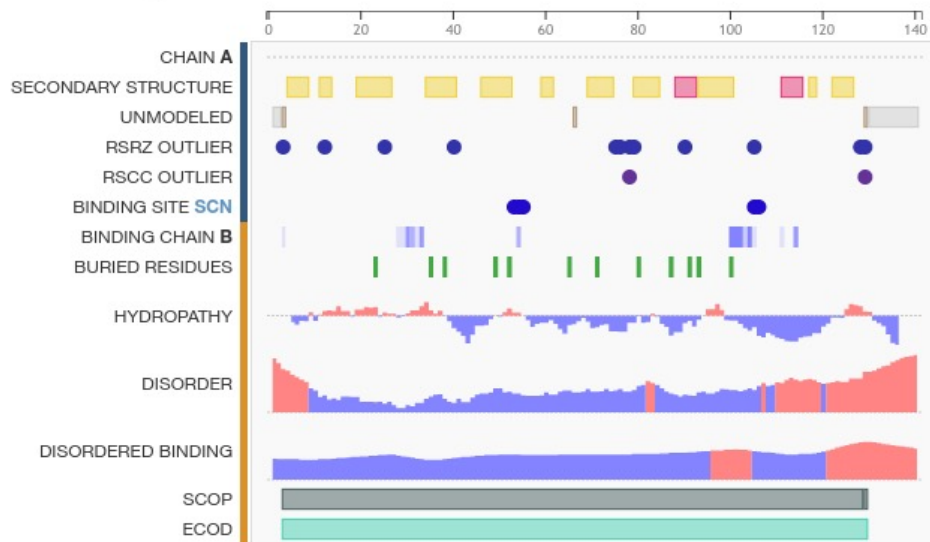
DOI: [10.1016/j.bbdis.2019.01.010](#)

Primary Citation of Related Structures:

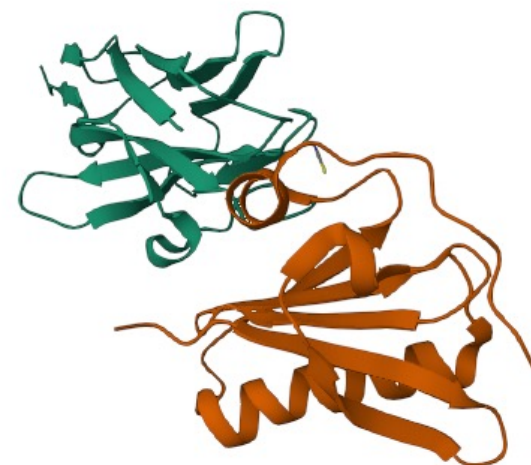
Structure of the nanobody-stabilized gelsolin D187N variant (second domain)

Chain

A
 ▼
 Gelsolin nanobody - Lama glama



Residue



Giorgino T, Mattioni D, Hassan A, Milani M, Mastrangelo E, Barbiroli A, et al.
Nanobody interaction unveils structure, dynamics and proteotoxicity of the Finnish-type amyloidogenic gelsolin variant. *Biochimica et Biophysica Acta (BBA) - Molecular Basis of Disease*. 2019 Mar 1;1865(3):648–60.

[Journal link.](#)

[Preprint.](#)

BBA - Molecular Basis of Disease 1865 (2019) 648–660



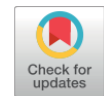
Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

BBA - Molecular Basis of Disease

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/bbadis



Nanobody interaction unveils structure, dynamics and proteotoxicity of the Finnish-type amyloidogenic gelsolin variant



Toni Giorgino^{a,b}, Davide Mattioni^{a,c,1}, Amal Hassan^{b,1}, Mario Milani^{a,b}, Eloise Mastrangelo^{a,b}, Alberto Barbiroli^d, Adriaan Verhelle^e, Jan Gettemans^f, Maria Monica Barzago^c, Luisa Diomede^c, Matteo de Rosa^{a,b,*}

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^e Department of Molecular Medicine, Department of Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience, Dorris Neuroscience Center, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, CA 92037, USA

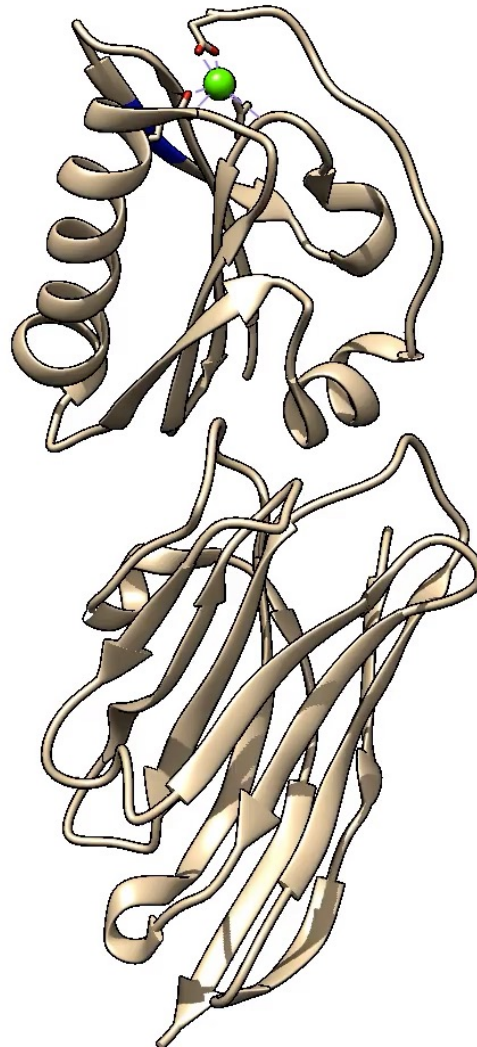
^f Nanobody Lab, Department of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium

Three puzzles!

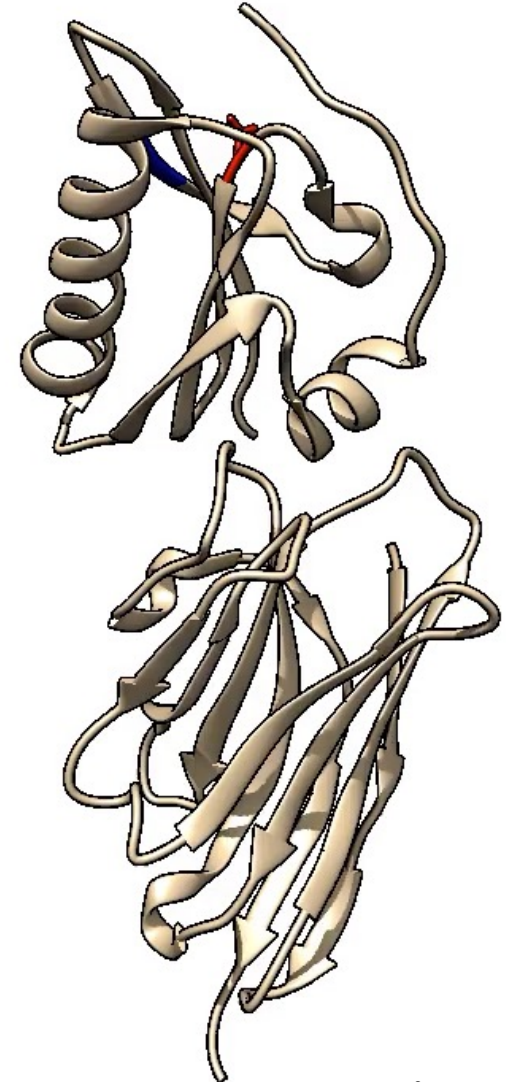
WT:NbII complex compared to D187N:NbII.

1. WT and **D187N** are **virtually identical***: same structure, different function
2. NbII binds far from the furin cleavage site...
3. ...and far from the **Ca²⁺** ion

* Except Ca²⁺ binding



WT: 4S10, 2.6 Å



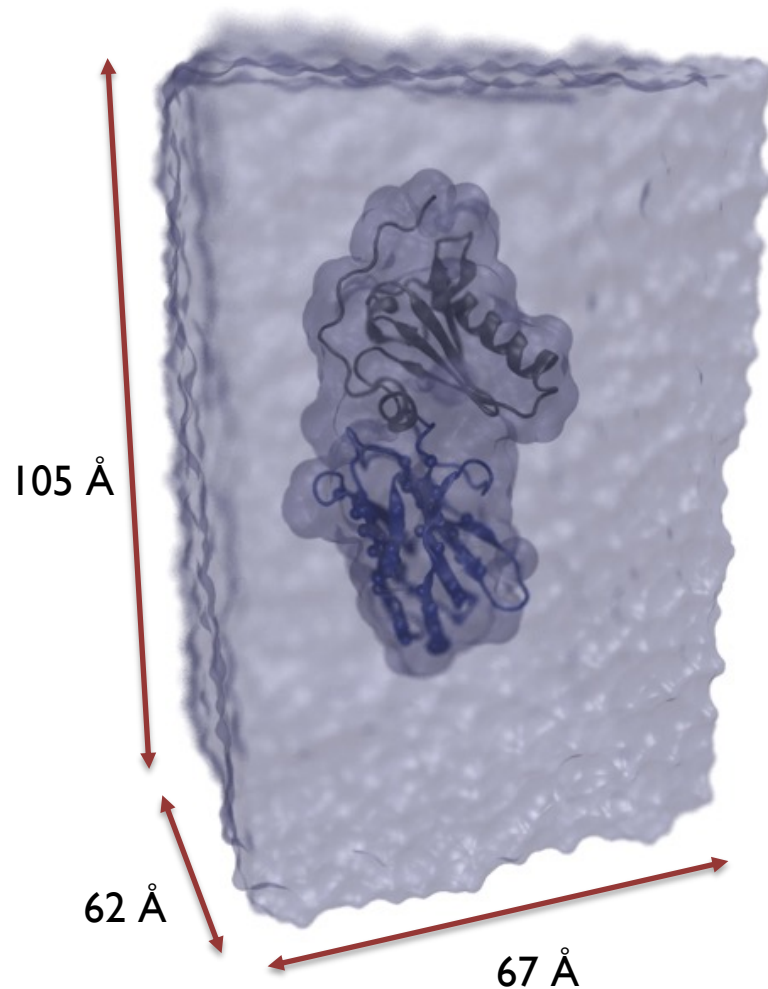
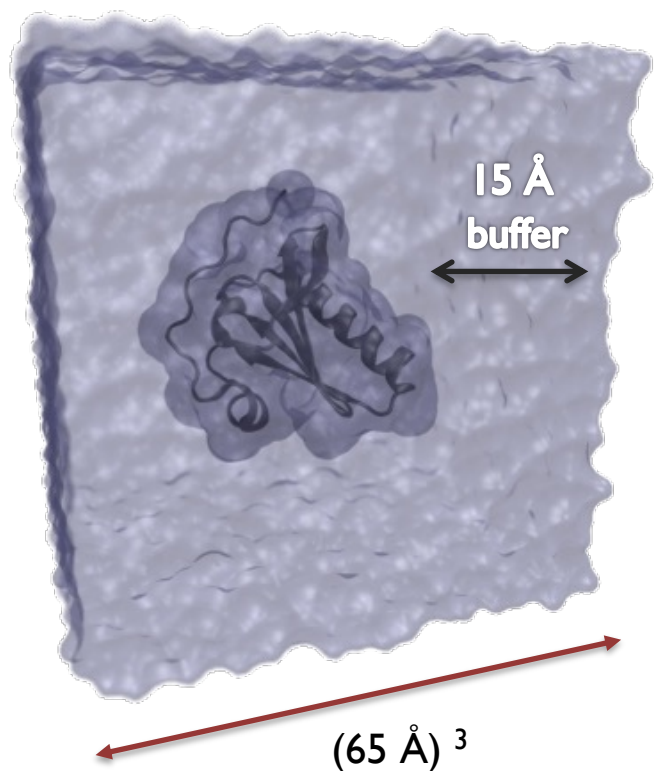
D187N: **6HIF**, 1.9 Å

GSN \pm Nb I MD simulations

- Unbiased sampling @300 °K
- 100 mM NaCl
- Harmonic restraints:
SS Nb I @ 0.03 kcal/mol/Å²

CHARMM36

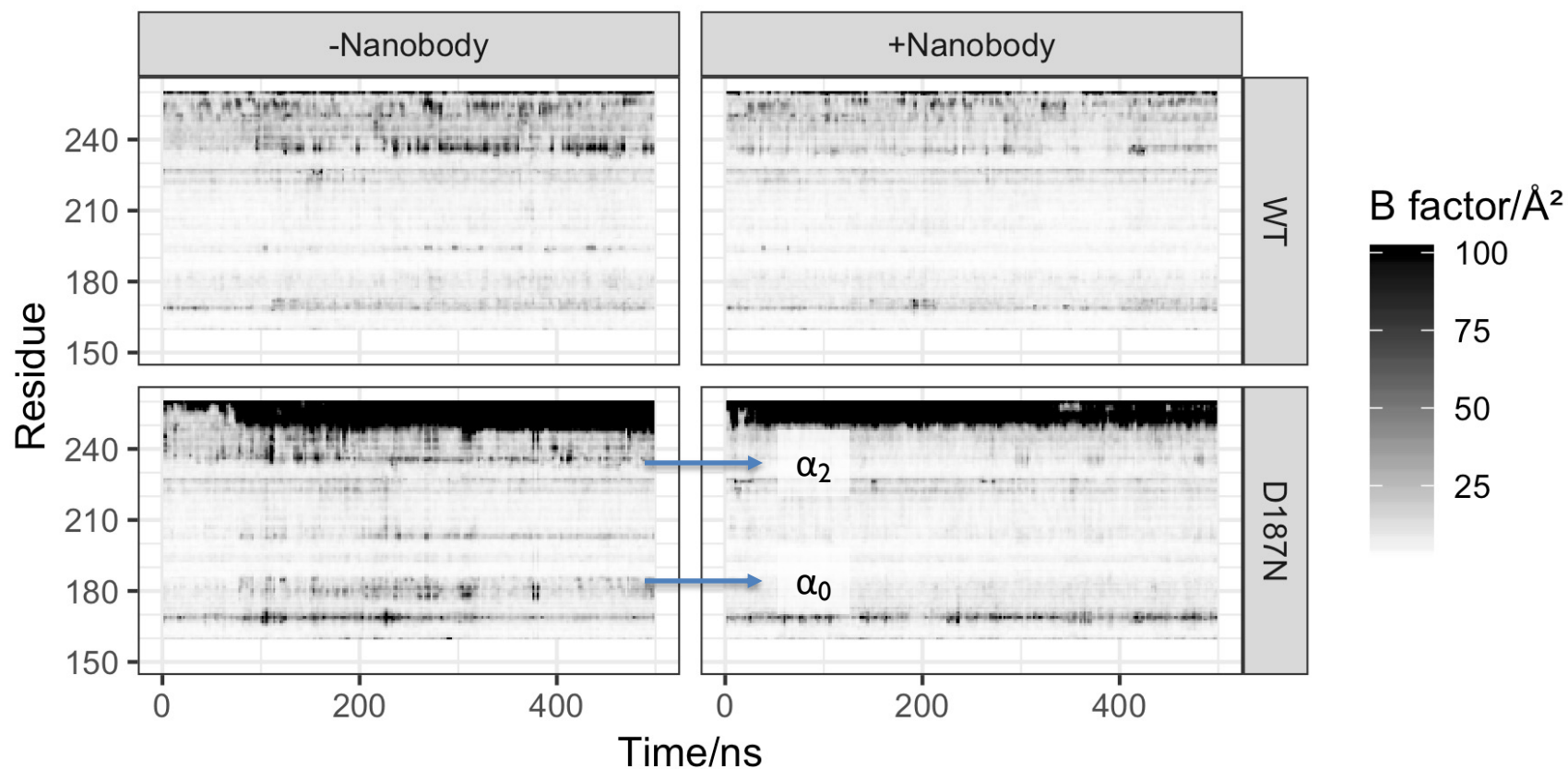
~3 μ s tot. ~25k/43k atoms



MD results

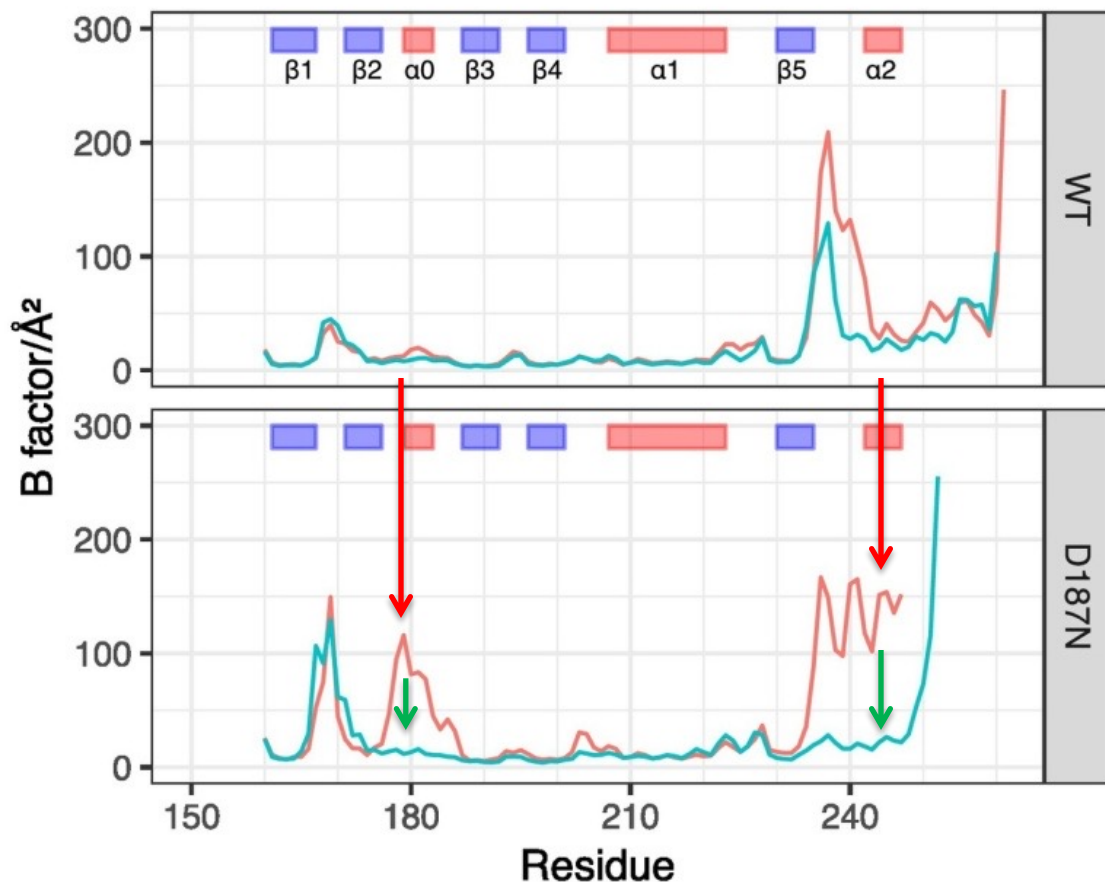


Sample	Nb11	Ca ²⁺	Simulated time (ns)	C-terminal disorder onset
WT _{G2}	—	+	800	Not observed
WT _{G2}	+	+	750	Not observed
D187N _{G2}	—	—	748	After 83 ns
D187N _{G2}	+	—	512	After 40 ns



A matter of dynamics?

$$B = (8\pi^2/3) \text{RMSF}^2$$

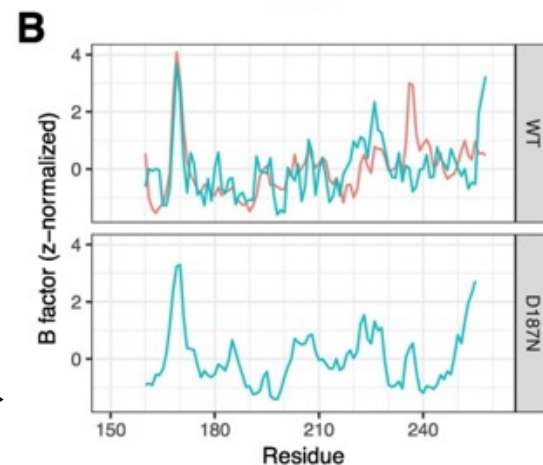


← WT: Nb I I has ~ no effect on fluctuation profile (control)

← Mutant: destabilized α₀, α₂

← Nb I I: complete stability recovery

MD vs exp. B-factors →




In practice

Using OpenMM on Google Colab

- We'll test OpenMM on Google Colab to run molecular dynamics simulations without the need for installing any software on your local machine.
- **Google Colab** is a free Jupyter environment that allows you to run Python code in the cloud. GPUs runtimes are available.
- To use OpenMM on Google Colab or locally, open the provided notebook (read the comments)








<https://github.com/giorginolab/MD-Tutorial-Data>


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 **tonigi** Created using Colaboratory 6a4dcdf 7 hours ago 5 commits

 GSN	import	3 weeks ago
 HIVPR	import	3 weeks ago
 notebooks	Created using Colaboratory	7 hours ago
 README.md	Initial commit	3 weeks ago

README.md

MD-Tutorial-Data

Data for various MD analysis tutorials

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Code

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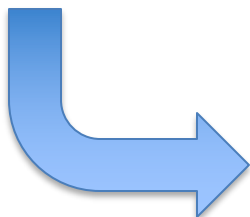
- > GSN
- > HIVPR
- ▼ notebooks

MD-Tutorial-Data / notebooks / 1_OpenMM_build.ipynb

tonigi Created using Colaboratory

Preview Code Blame 573 lines (573 loc) · 15.2 KB

 Open in Colab



OpenMM_2023.ipynb

File Modifica Visualizza Inserisci Runtime Strumenti Guida

+ Codice + Testo Copia su Drive

Connetti

Colab-specific instructions start here

```
[ ] # Here we use a Conda environment inside Google Colab. Blocks specific for Colab
# (like this one) mention "condacolab". On "normal" platforms the procedure
# for installation may be different - you need to check the system's documentation.

# Colab notebooks are "brittle": in the course of time Colab is updated
# and dependencies no longer work properly. Proper HPC platforms are more
# stable (and supported)

# After executing this cell, Colab restarts.

!pip install -q condacolab
import condacolab
condacolab.install_miniforge()

[ ] # Verify Python version
import sys
sys.version

[ ] import condacolab
condacolab.check()

[ ] # Colab-specific workaround for a weird error upon shell escape:
# NotImplementedError: A UTF-8 locale is required. Got ANSI_X3.4-1968
import locale
def getpreferredencoding(do_setlocale = True):
    return "UTF-8"
locale.getpreferredencoding = getpreferredencoding
```

...when done...

Visualize

- After you have done the simulation, load the minimized PDB and output.dcd in PyMOL
- What about PBCs? Fix with: `pbs_unwrap` ...



Questions

- How many atoms?
- How many residues?
- Disulfide bridges?
- How many trajectory frames?
- Simulation length in *actual* time?

More questions

- Does density change? Should it?
- What is the box size? Is it appropriate?
- Relaxation time?
- Plot the log file

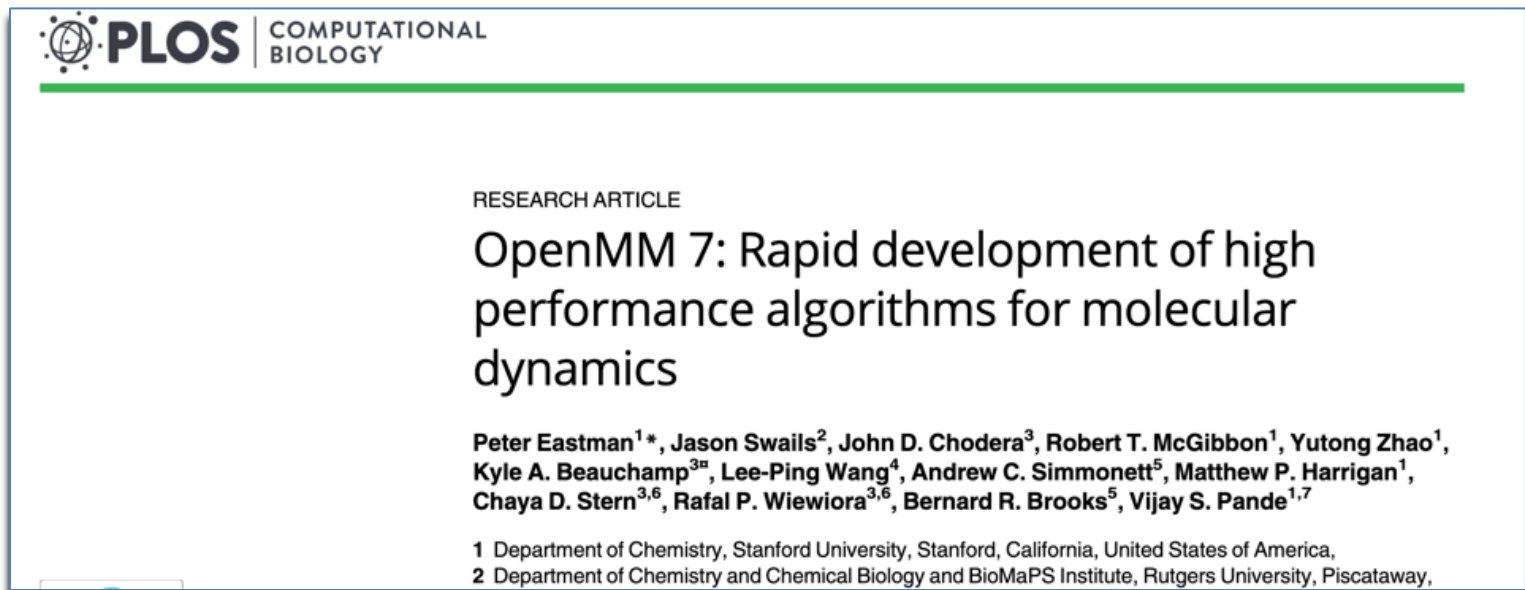
Conclusion

Conclusion

- OpenMM is a powerful tool for molecular dynamics simulations
- Good, if fragmented, documentation
- With its customizable force fields and integrators, it can be used to study a wide range of atomistic systems, e.g.
 - “toy” polymers
 - all-atom MD with major FFs
 - ANN potentials

Resources for learning OpenMM

- OpenMM.org website and documentation
- GitHub repository with examples and tutorials
- Community forums and mailing lists for support and discussion
- See also
 - OpenMMtools
 - <https://openforcefield.org/>
 - HTMD, ACEMD
 - <https://github.com/openmm/pdbfixer>
 - Charmm-GUI



End