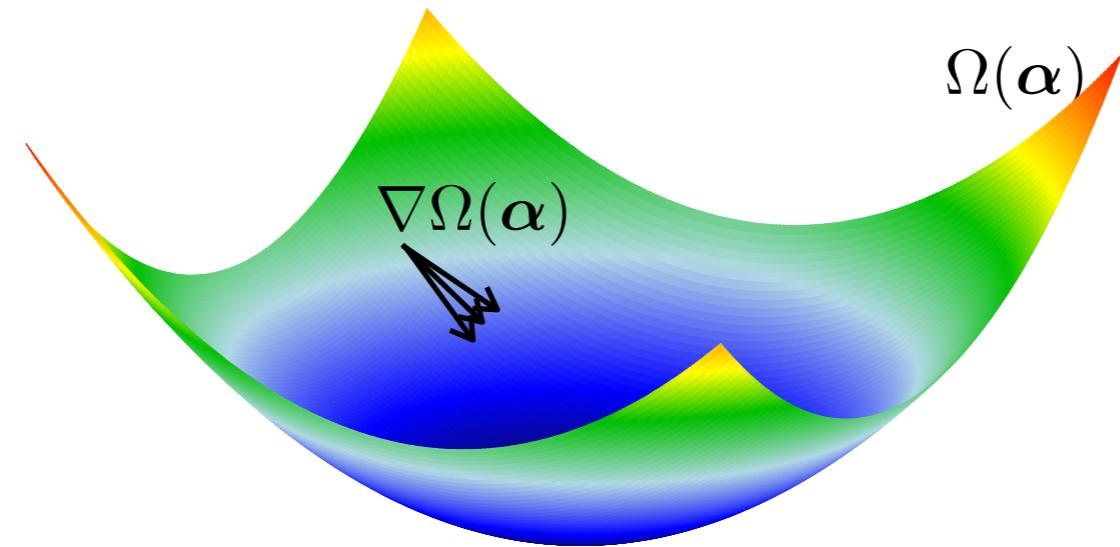


# VES Code: Module for Performing Variationally Enhanced Sampling Simulations within PLUMED



Omar Valsson

Project Leader

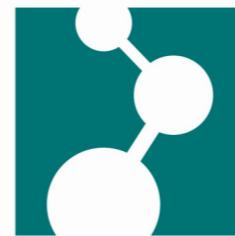
Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research, Mainz \*



MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT

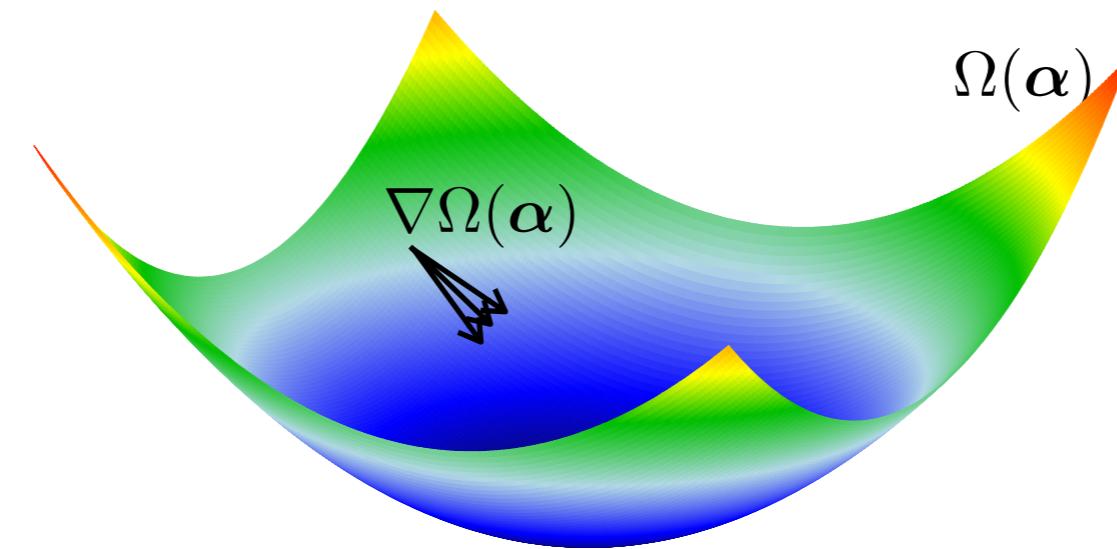
Max-Planck-Institut  
für Polymerforschung

Max Planck Institute  
for Polymer Research



THEORY  
GROUP

# VES Code: Module for Performing Variationally Enhanced Sampling Simulations within PLUMED



Omar Valsson

ETH Zürich and USI Lugano \*

**ETH** zürich



**MARVEL**

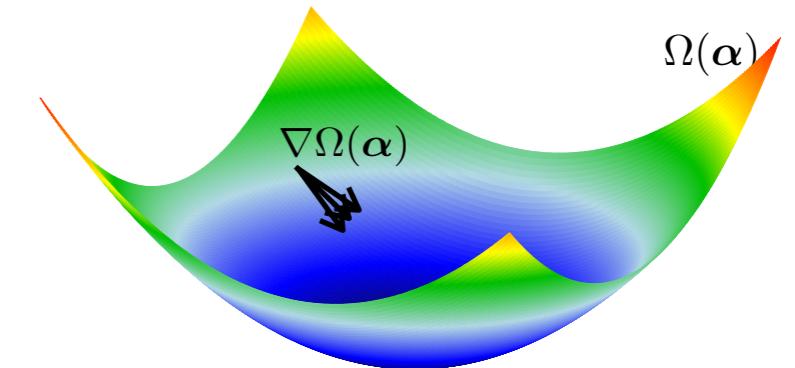


NATIONAL CENTRE OF COMPETENCE IN RESEARCH

**FNSNF**  
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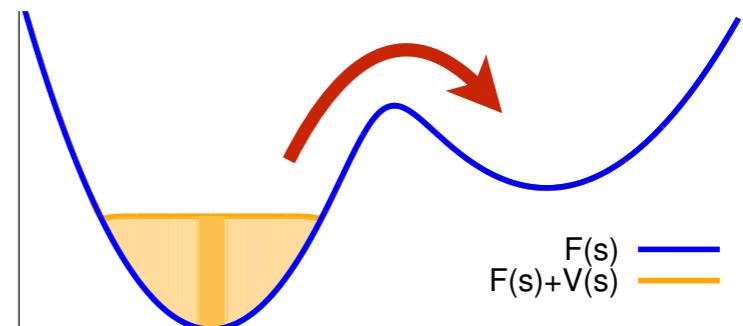
# Outline

## Variationally Enhanced Sampling (VES)



## Extensions of VES

- Kinetics, ...

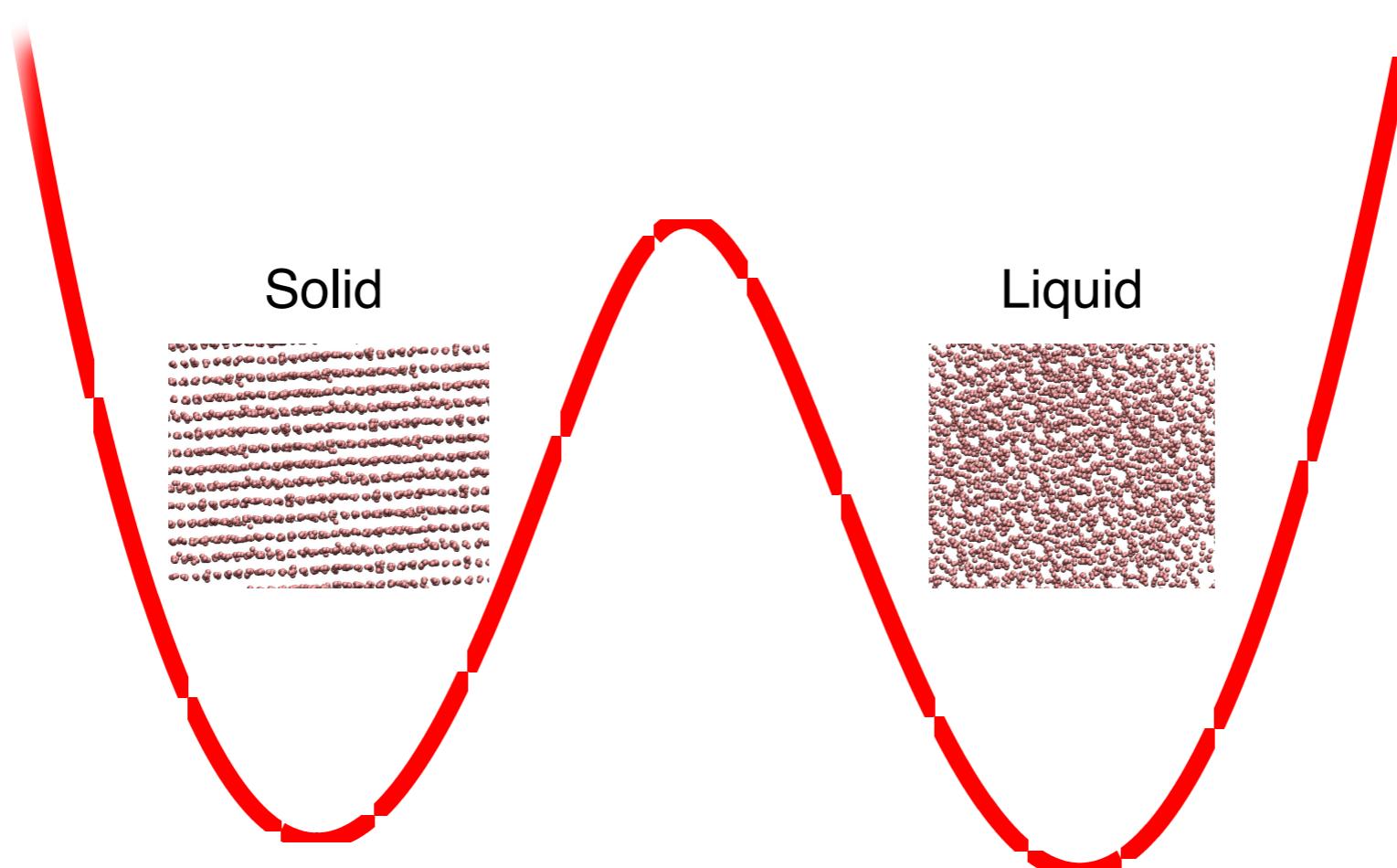


## Implementation



# The Sampling Problem in Molecular Simulations

Physical systems generally characterized by many metastable states separated by high free energy barriers

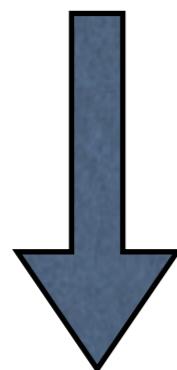
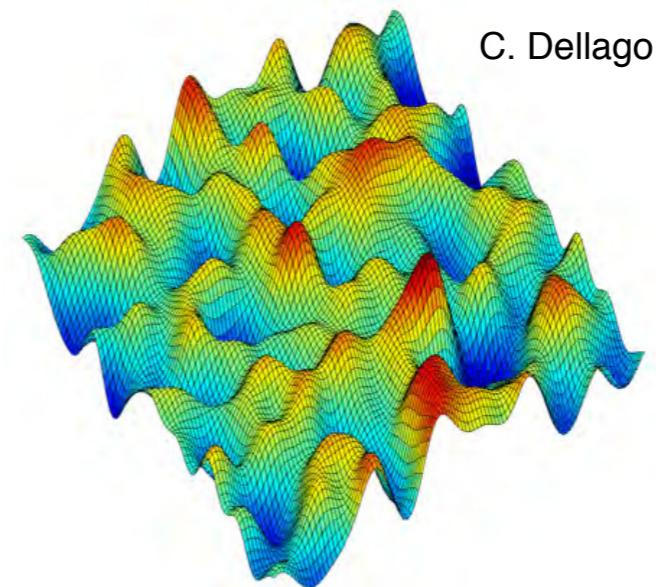


barrier crossings are **rare events** on the timescales we can afford in MD simulations  
→ need to employ enhanced sampling methods

# Mapping the Problem to a Lower Dimension

Potential Energy Surface  $U(\mathbf{R})$

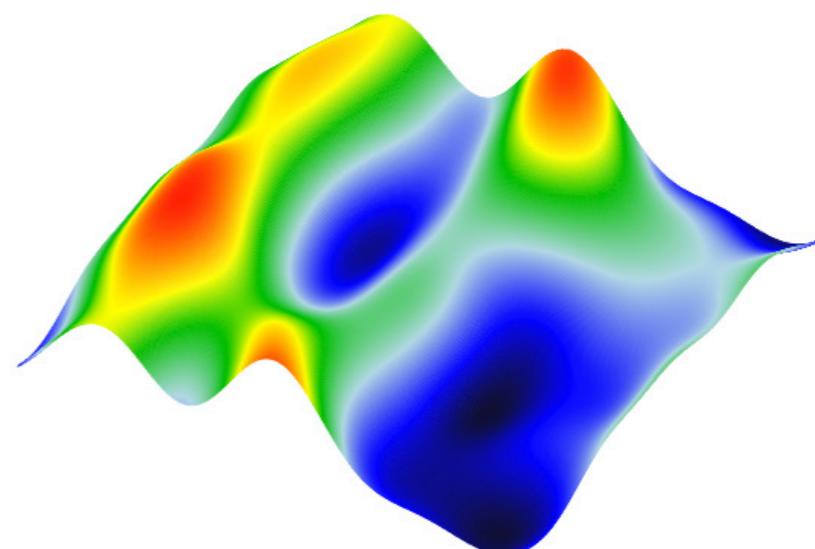
- High-dimensional,  $\mathbf{R} \in \mathbb{R}^{3N}$
- Rugged



CVs  $\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{R}) = (s_1(\mathbf{R}), s_2(\mathbf{R}), \dots, s_d(\mathbf{R}))$

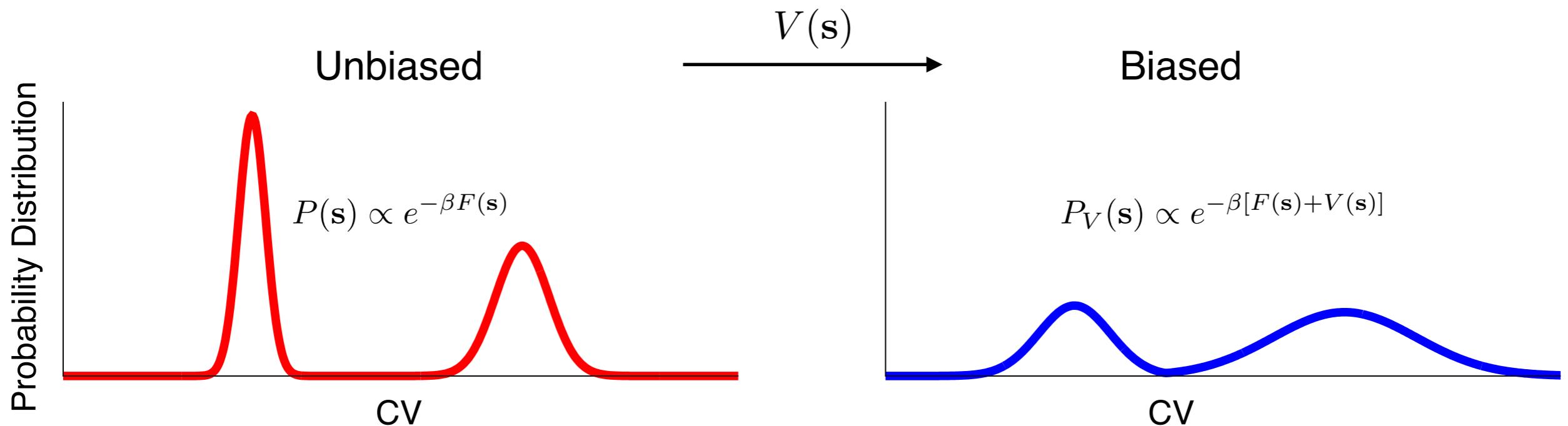
Free Energy Surface  $F(\mathbf{s})$

- Low-dimensional,  $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- Smooth



# Enhancing CV Fluctuations

introduce a bias potential  $V(\mathbf{s})$  that acts in the space spanned by the CVs  
(originally suggested within umbrella sampling<sup>a)</sup>)



enhance CV fluctuations  $\Rightarrow$  easier to overcome barriers

various methods which adaptively build  $V(\mathbf{s})$  during the simulation

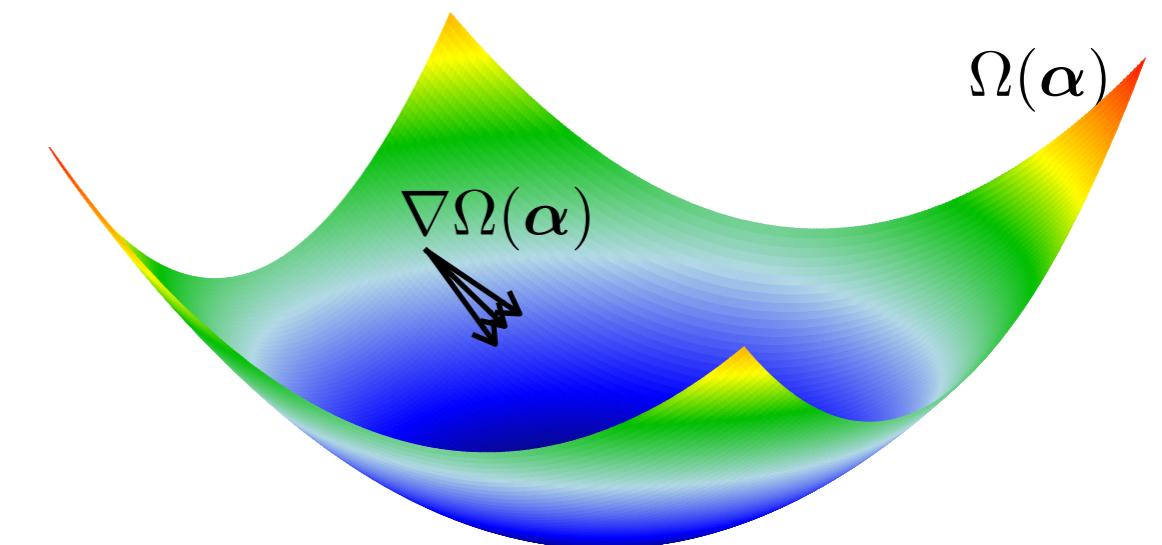
- e.g. Local Elevation, Adaptive Biasing Force, Metadynamics, ...

# Variationally Enhanced Sampling (VES)

New CV based enhanced sampling method

Based on a variational principle

$V(s)$  constructed by minimizing a convex functional



Offers many interesting possibilities in the form of  $V(s)$

Can tailor the sampling of the CVs

## Variational Principle

introduce a functional  $\Omega[V]$  of an external bias potential  $V(\mathbf{s})$

$$\Omega[V] = \frac{1}{\beta} \log \frac{\int d\mathbf{s} e^{-\beta[F(\mathbf{s})+V(\mathbf{s})]}}{\int d\mathbf{s} e^{-\beta F(\mathbf{s})}} + \int d\mathbf{s} p(\mathbf{s})V(\mathbf{s})$$

$p(\mathbf{s})$  predefined probability distribution

$$\int d\mathbf{s} p(\mathbf{s}) = 1$$

can be shown that  $\Omega[V]$  is a convex functional, i.e. fulfills

$$\Omega \left[ \frac{V_1 + V_2}{2} \right] \leq \frac{1}{2}\Omega[V_1] + \frac{1}{2}\Omega[V_2]$$

## Variational Principle

minimum of  $\Omega[V]$  is fulfills

$$0 = \frac{\partial \Omega[V]}{\partial V(\mathbf{s})} = -\frac{e^{-\beta[F(\mathbf{s})+V(\mathbf{s})]}}{\int d\mathbf{s} e^{-\beta[F(\mathbf{s})+V(\mathbf{s})]}} + p(\mathbf{s})$$

which is solved by

$$V(\mathbf{s}) = -F(\mathbf{s}) - \frac{1}{\beta} \log p(\mathbf{s}) + C$$

minimum of  $\Omega[V]$  directly related to  $F(\mathbf{s})$

→ can obtain the FES by finding the bias that minimizes  $\Omega[V]$

global minimum as  $\Omega[V]$  is convex

# Target Distribution

CVs sampled according to the target distribution  $p(\mathbf{s})$  at the minimum

$$V(\mathbf{s}) = -F(\mathbf{s}) - \frac{1}{\beta} \log p(\mathbf{s}) + C \quad \rightarrow \quad P_V(\mathbf{s}) = \frac{e^{-\beta[F(\mathbf{s})+V(\mathbf{s})]}}{\int d\mathbf{s} e^{-\beta[F(\mathbf{s})+V(\mathbf{s})]}} = p(\mathbf{s})$$

can choose the target distribution  $p(\mathbf{s})$  as we want

- can precisely tune the sampling of phase space
- brings a lot of flexibility to the method

simplest choice uniform distribution, but generally non-optimal

does not need to be known a-priori → can be iteratively updated<sup>a</sup>

## Recap of the Main Idea Behind VES

Variational principle to enhanced sampling

based on a functional  $\Omega[V]$

$$\Omega[V] = \frac{1}{\beta} \log \frac{\int d\mathbf{s} e^{-\beta[F(\mathbf{s})+V(\mathbf{s})]}}{\int d\mathbf{s} e^{-\beta F(\mathbf{s})}} + \int d\mathbf{s} p(\mathbf{s})V(\mathbf{s})$$

which is minimized by

$$V(\mathbf{s}) = -F(\mathbf{s}) - \frac{1}{\beta} \log p(\mathbf{s}) + C$$

can enhance the sampling and obtain  $F(\mathbf{s})$  by  
finding the  $V(\mathbf{s})$  that minimizes  $\Omega[V]$

the resulting CV distribution determined by the target distribution  $p(\mathbf{s})$ ,  
which we can choose freely

convex functional  $\Rightarrow$  easy optimization problem

## VES in Practice

assume some functional form for the bias  $V(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha})$  that depends on a set of variational parameters  $\boldsymbol{\alpha} = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_K)$

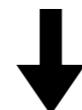
minimize the convex function  $\Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \Omega[V(\boldsymbol{\alpha})]$  using a gradient-based optimization algorithm

the gradient  $\nabla \Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})$  is defined by the elements

$$\frac{\partial \Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})}{\partial \alpha_i} = - \left\langle \frac{\partial V(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha})}{\partial \alpha_i} \right\rangle_{V(\boldsymbol{\alpha})} + \left\langle \frac{\partial V(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha})}{\partial \alpha_i} \right\rangle_p$$



averages sampled in  
a biased MD simulation



averages over  $p(\mathbf{s})$

## Linear Basis Set Expansion

most straightforward to expand the bias linearly in a set of basis functions

$$V(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \alpha_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot f_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{s})$$

such expansions can represent any general FES

the gradient then simplifies to averages of  $f_i(\mathbf{s})$

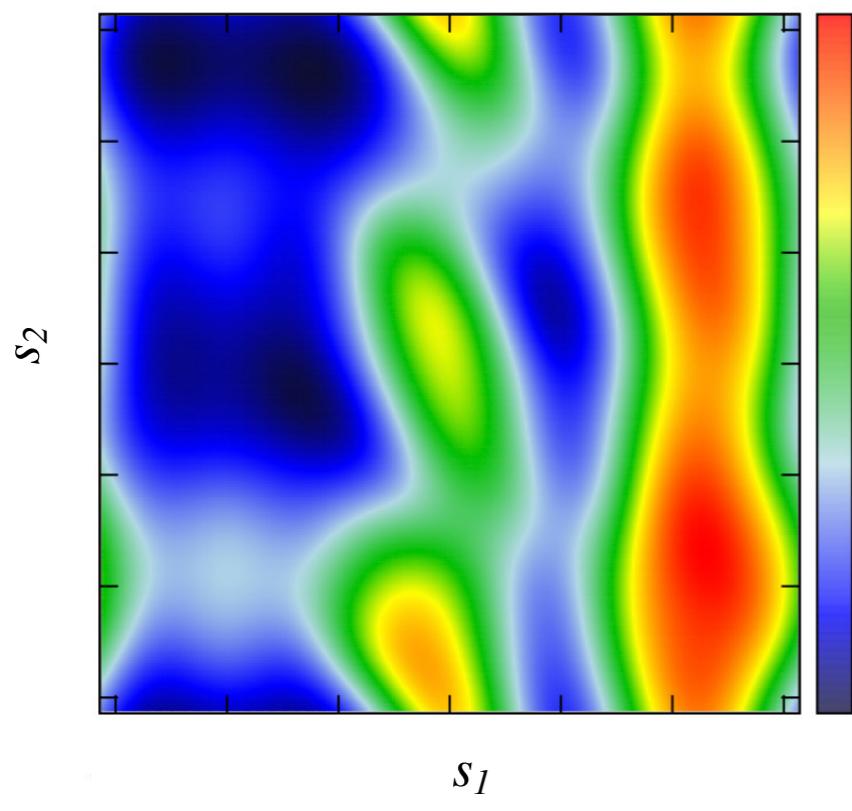
$$\frac{\partial \Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})}{\partial \alpha_i} = - \langle f_i(\mathbf{s}) \rangle_{V(\boldsymbol{\alpha})} + \langle f_i(\mathbf{s}) \rangle_p$$

# Linear Basis Set Expansion

Periodic CV

Fourier series (i.e. plane waves)

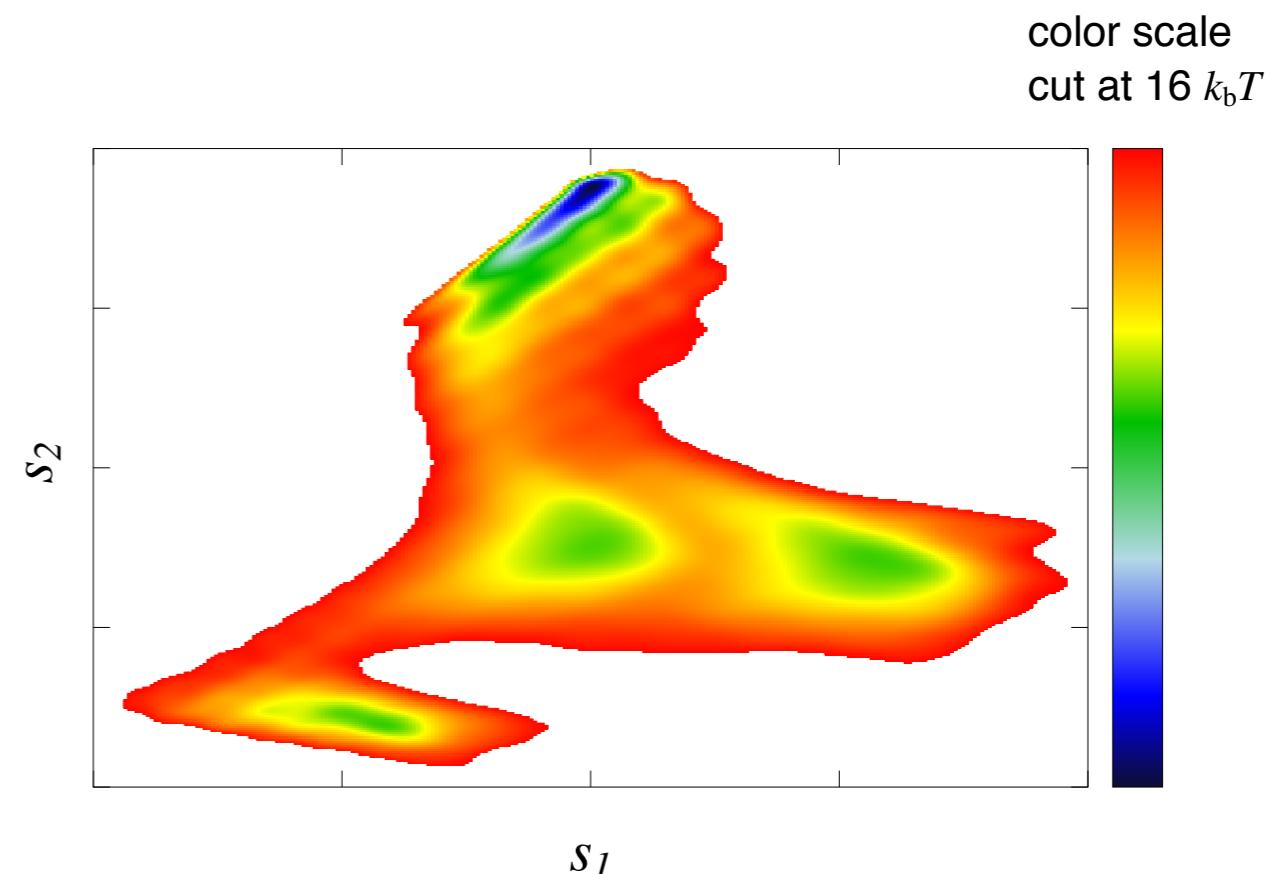
$$V(s_1, s_2) = \sum_{k_1, k_2} \alpha_{k_1, k_2} e^{ik_1 \tilde{s}_1} \cdot e^{ik_2 \tilde{s}_2}$$



Non-Periodic CV

Legendre or Chebyshev polynomials

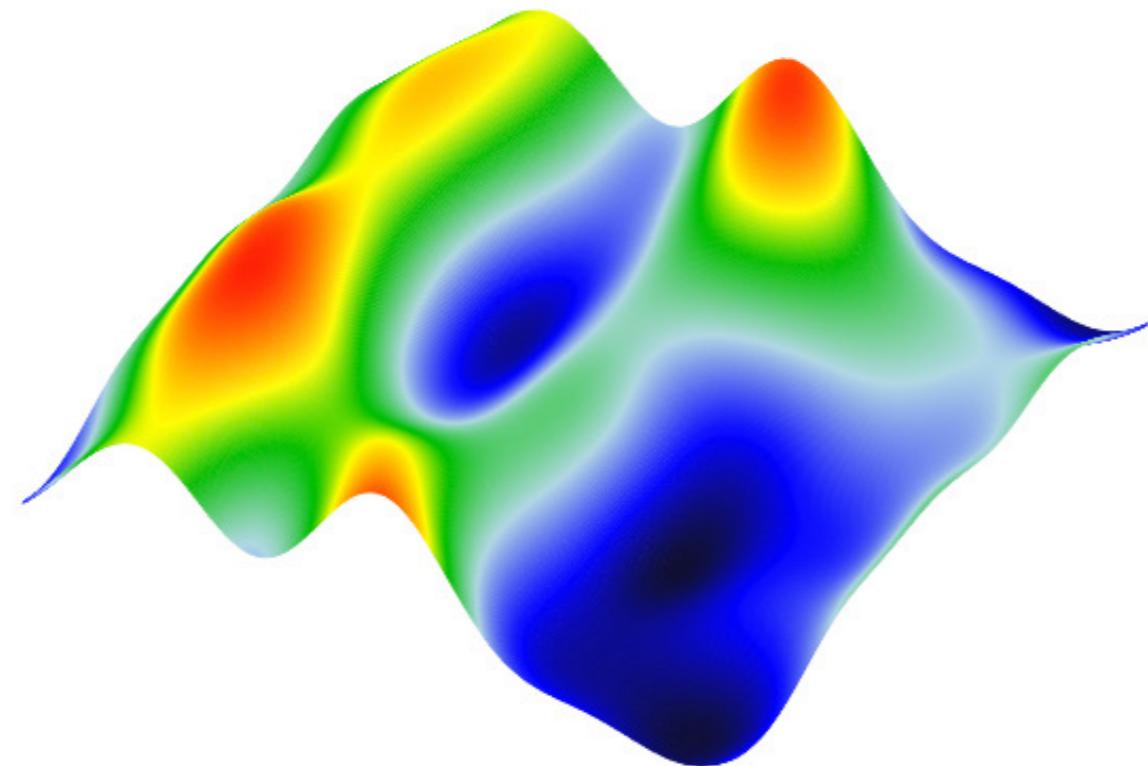
$$V(s_1, s_2) = \sum_{k_1, k_2} \alpha_{k_1, k_2} T_{k_1}(\tilde{s}_1) \cdot T_{k_2}(\tilde{s}_2)$$



many other possibilities: e.g. other orthonormal polynomials, splines, wavelets, ....

$F(\mathbf{s})$  normally smooth

→ generally do not need many terms in the linear expansion



~100 basis functions in two dimensions

~1000 basis functions in three dimensions

# Gradient-based Optimization

the gradient  $\nabla \Omega(\alpha)$  is defined by the elements

long sampling time needed to get accurate gradients if we wanted to employ deterministic optimization methods  $\Rightarrow$  not optimal

employ stochastic optimization methods instead

## Averaged Stochastic Gradient Descent<sup>a</sup>

consider two sets of coefficients, instantaneous and **averaged**

instantaneous coefficients updated according to

$$\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{(n+1)} = \boldsymbol{\alpha}^{(n)} - \mu \left[ \nabla \Omega(\bar{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}^{(n)}) + \mathbf{H}(\bar{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}^{(n)})[\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{(n)} - \bar{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}^{(n)}] \right]$$

where gradient and Hessian are obtained using **averaged** coefficients

$$\bar{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}^{(n)} = \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{k=0}^n \boldsymbol{\alpha}^{(k)}$$

the bias acting on the system depends on **averaged** coefficients

- smooth convergence of bias and estimated FES
- allows very short sampling time for each iteration ( $\sim 1000$  MD steps)

## Averaged Stochastic Gradient Descent

Now we need also the (stochastic) Hessian  $\mathbf{H}(\boldsymbol{\alpha})$

For a linear expansion it is defined by

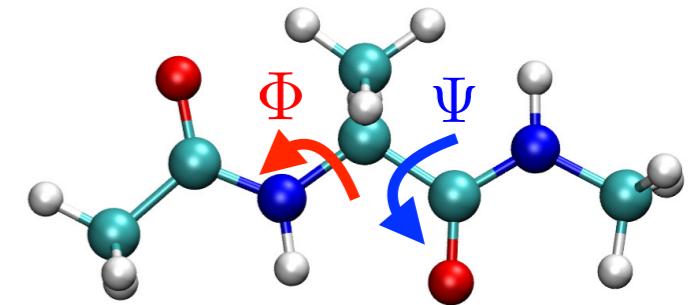
$$\frac{\partial^2 \Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})}{\partial \alpha_j \partial \alpha_i} = \beta \cdot \text{cov} [f_i(\mathbf{s}), f_j(\mathbf{s})]_{V(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha})}$$

i.e. covariance of the basis functions

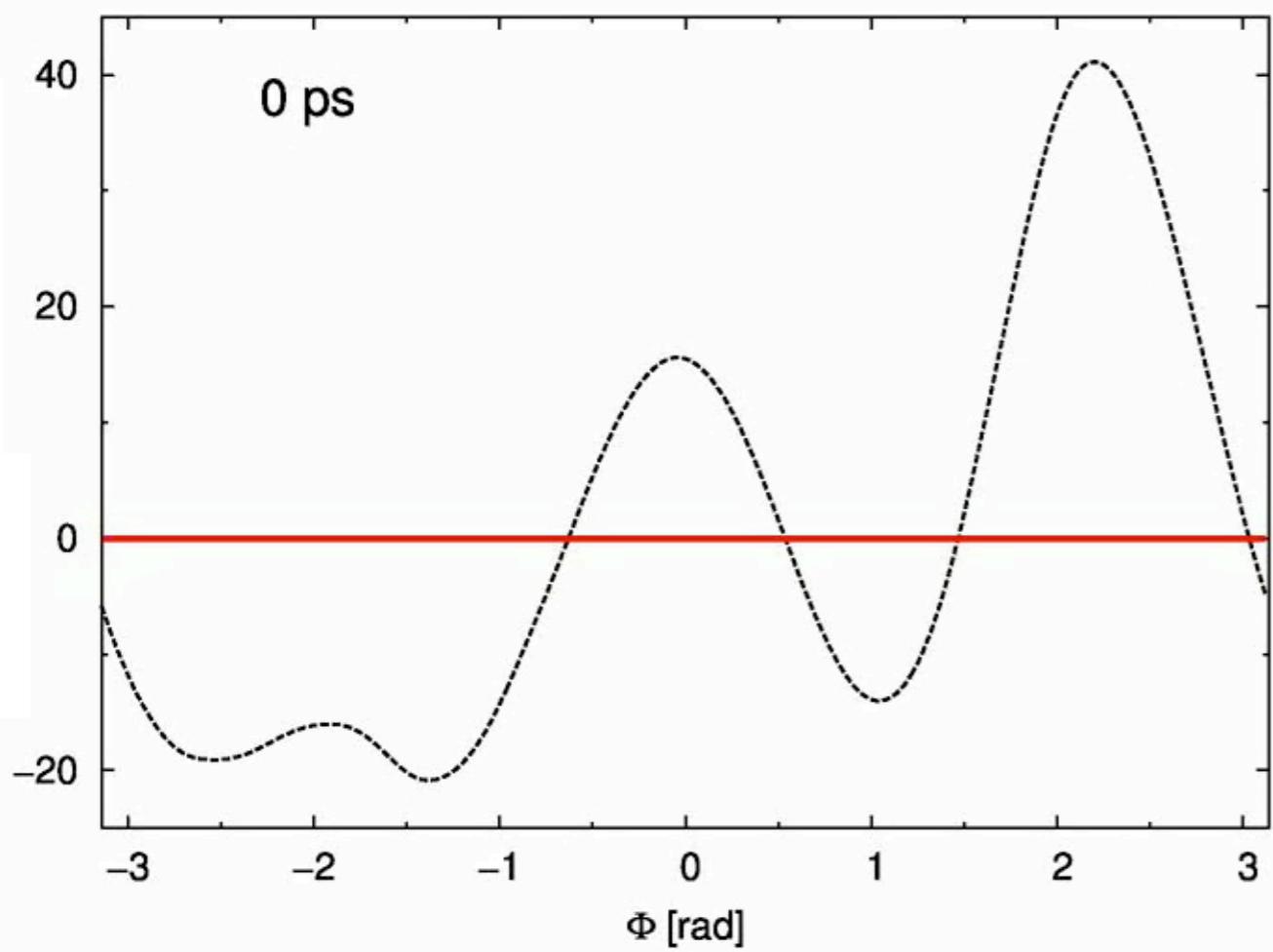
In practice it is often sufficient to consider only the diagonal part of the Hessian

# Example of Time Evolution

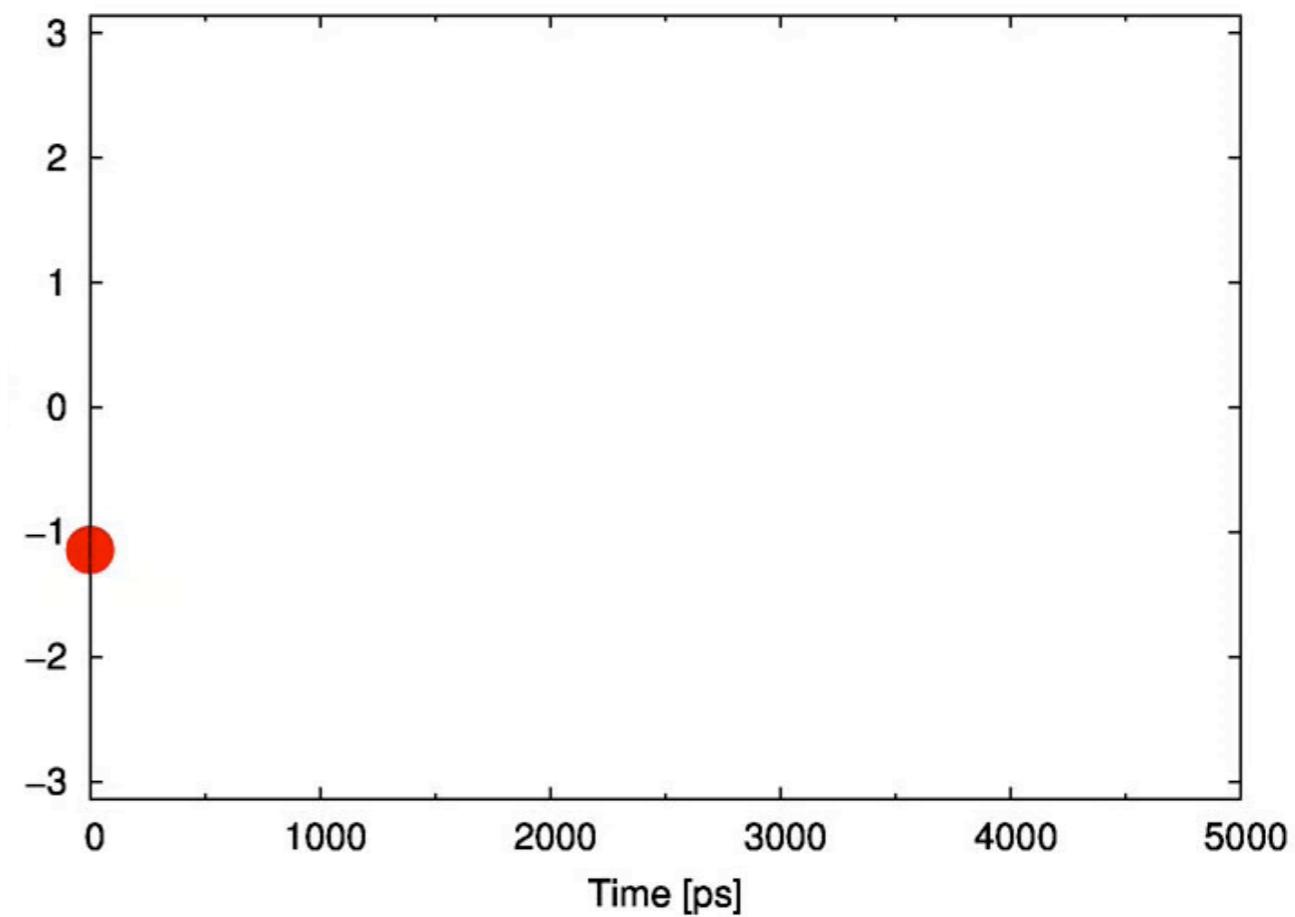
Alanine dipeptide, biasing only the  $\Phi$  dihedral angle



$$F(\Phi) = -V(\Phi) \text{ [kJ/mol]}$$

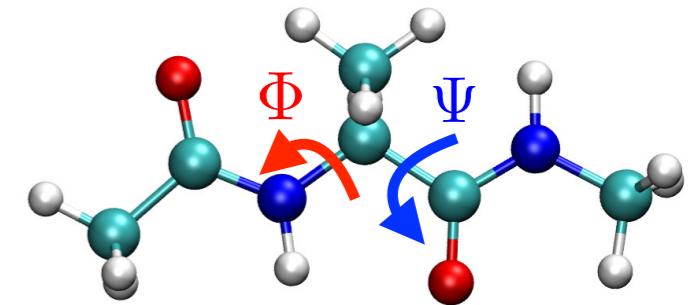


$$\Phi \text{ [rad]}$$

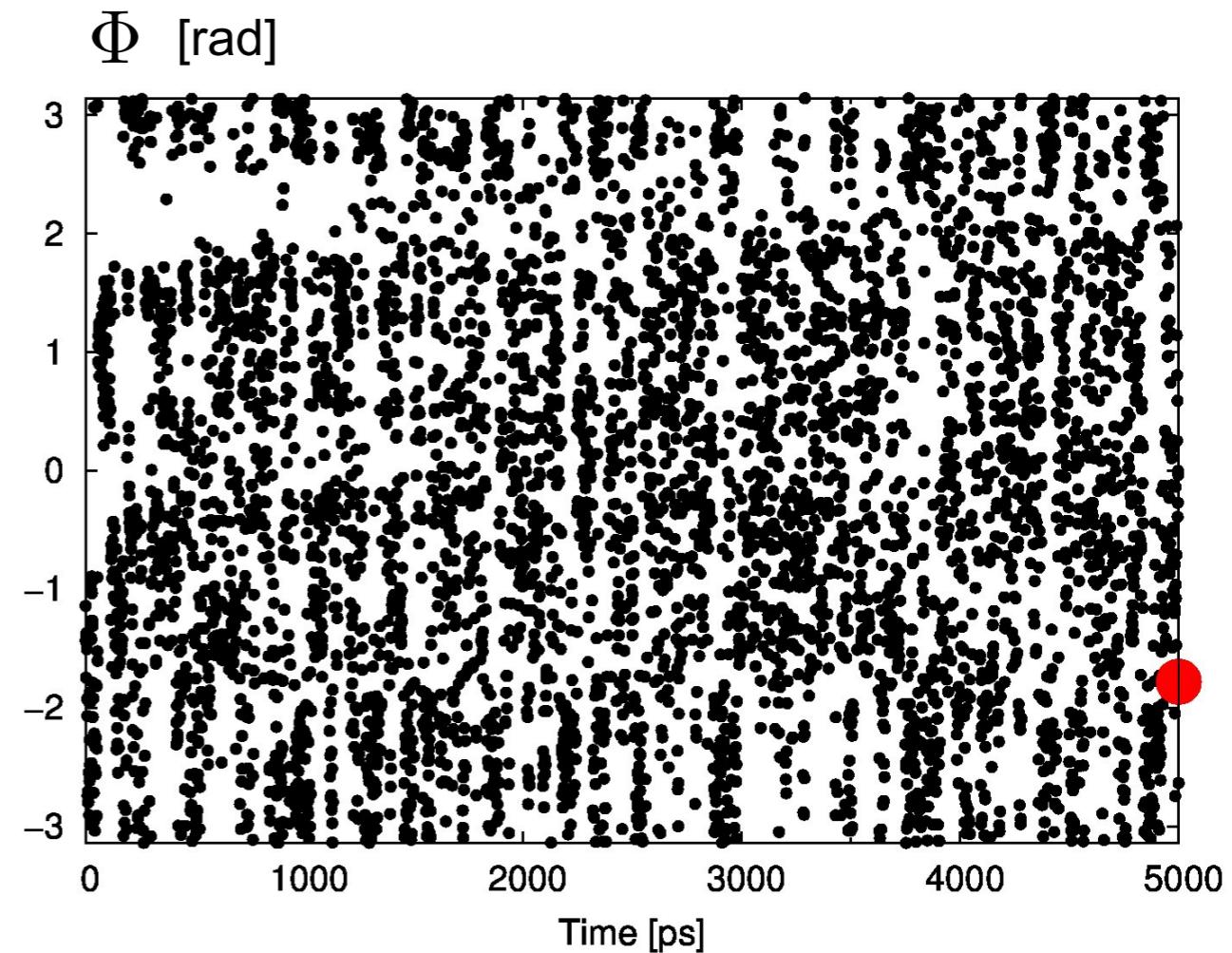
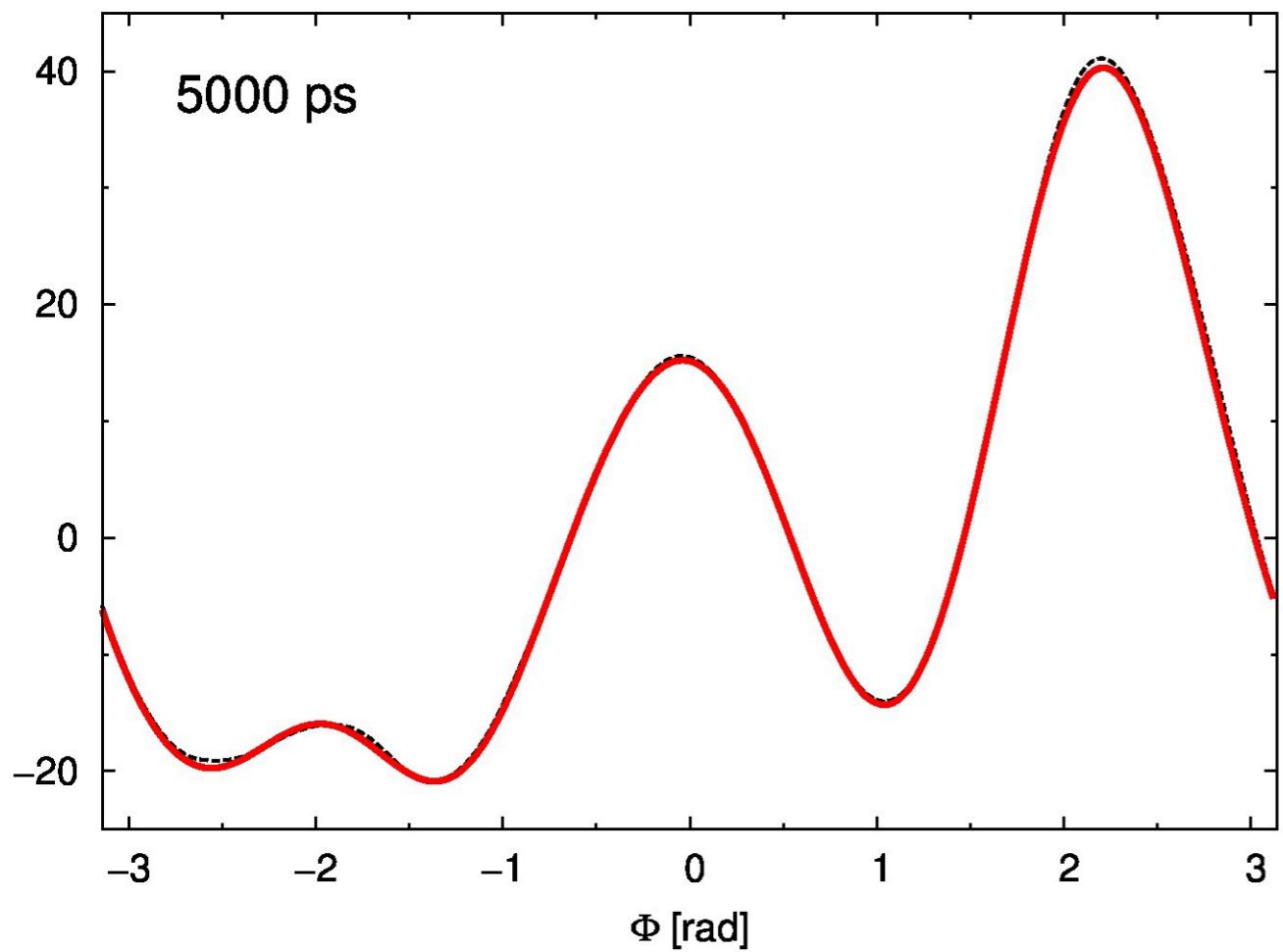


# Example of Time Evolution

Alanine dipeptide, biasing only the  $\Phi$  dihedral angle

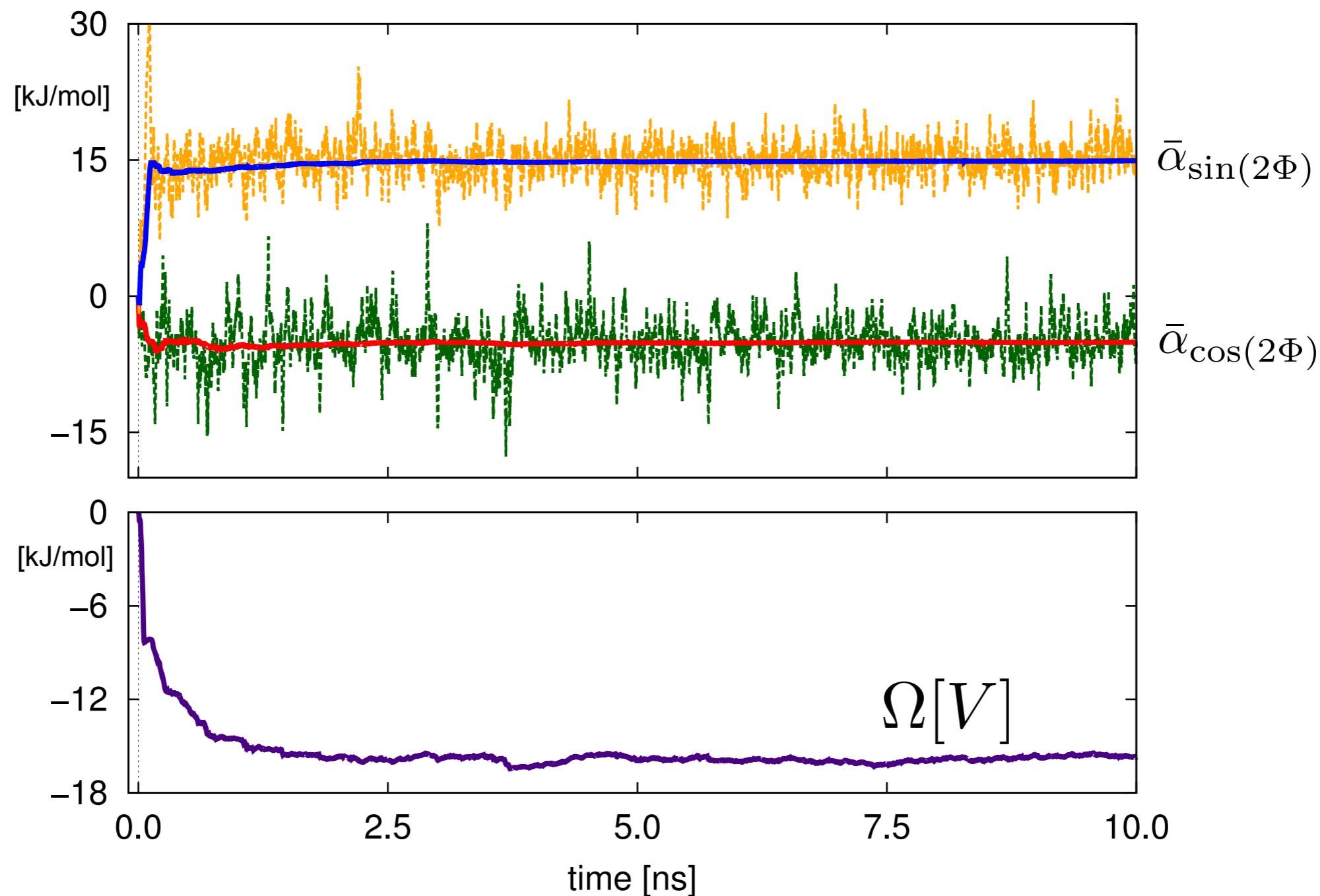


$$F(\Phi) = -V(\Phi) \text{ [kJ/mol]}$$



# Example of Time Evolution

Clear convergence behavior observed for  
variational parameters and  $\Omega[V]$

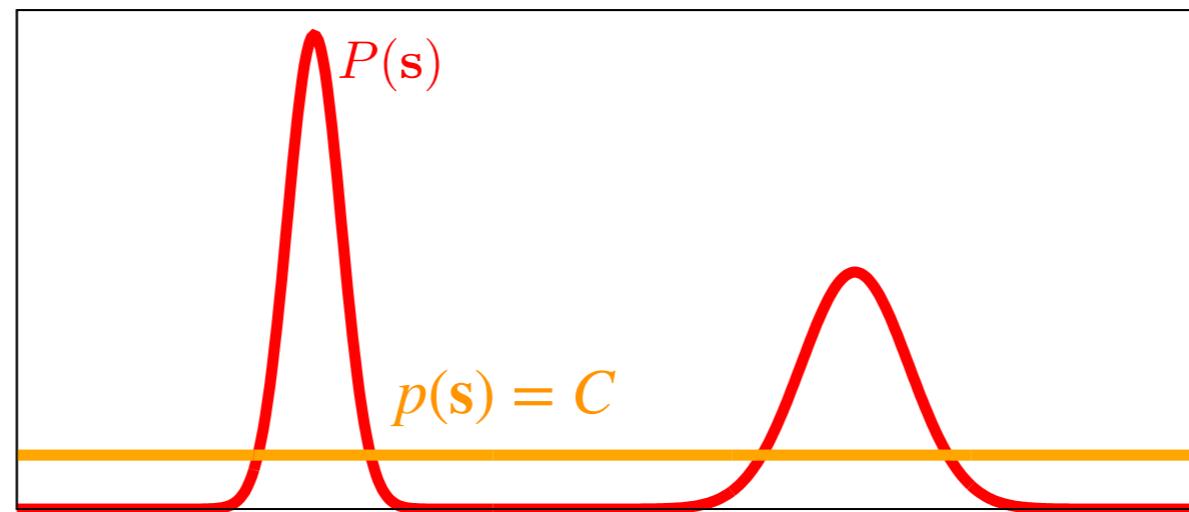


## Choice of the Target Distribution

## Uniform Target Distribution

the simplest choice for the target distribution  $p(\mathbf{s})$  is to take it as uniform

$$p(\mathbf{s}) = \frac{1}{\int d\mathbf{s}} = C \quad \rightarrow \quad V(\mathbf{s}) = -F(\mathbf{s}) \quad (\text{modulo constant})$$



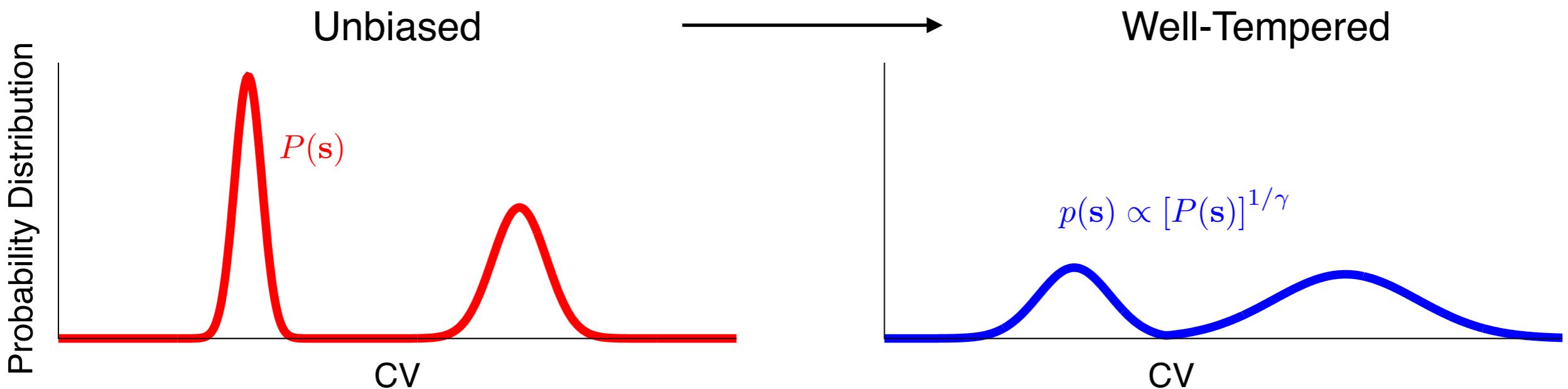
but generally rather non-optimal

- spend a lot of time sampling irrelevant regions high in free energy

instead better to focus the sampling towards the low-lying regions

# Well-Tempered Target Distribution

$$p(\mathbf{s}) = \frac{e^{-(1/\gamma)\beta F(\mathbf{s})}}{\int d\mathbf{s}' e^{-(1/\gamma)\beta F(\mathbf{s}')}} \propto [P(\mathbf{s})]^{1/\gamma} \quad \rightarrow \quad V(\mathbf{s}) = -\left(1 - \frac{1}{\gamma}\right)F(\mathbf{s})$$



enhanced CV fluctuations  $\rightarrow$  easier to overcome barriers

can control free energy exploration through the bias factor  $\gamma$

$F(\mathbf{s})$  is of course a priori unknown  $\rightarrow$  achieved through a iterate scheme<sup>b</sup>

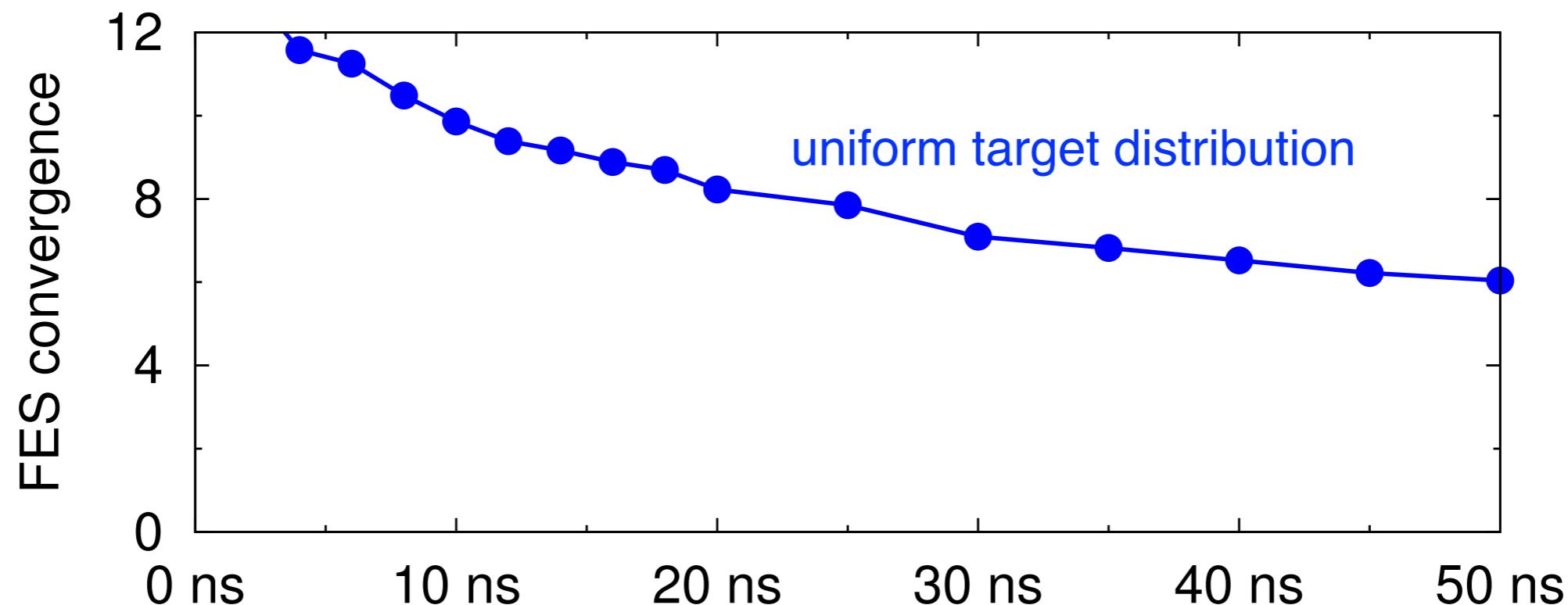
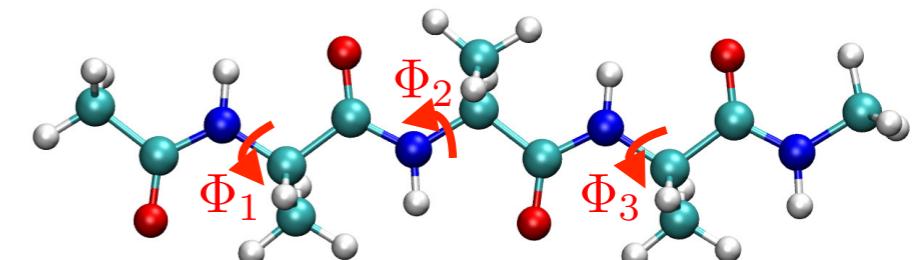
<sup>a</sup> Barducci, Bussi, and Parrinello, PRL 2008

<sup>b</sup> Valsson and Parrinello, JCTC 2015

# Choice of the Target Distribution and Convergence

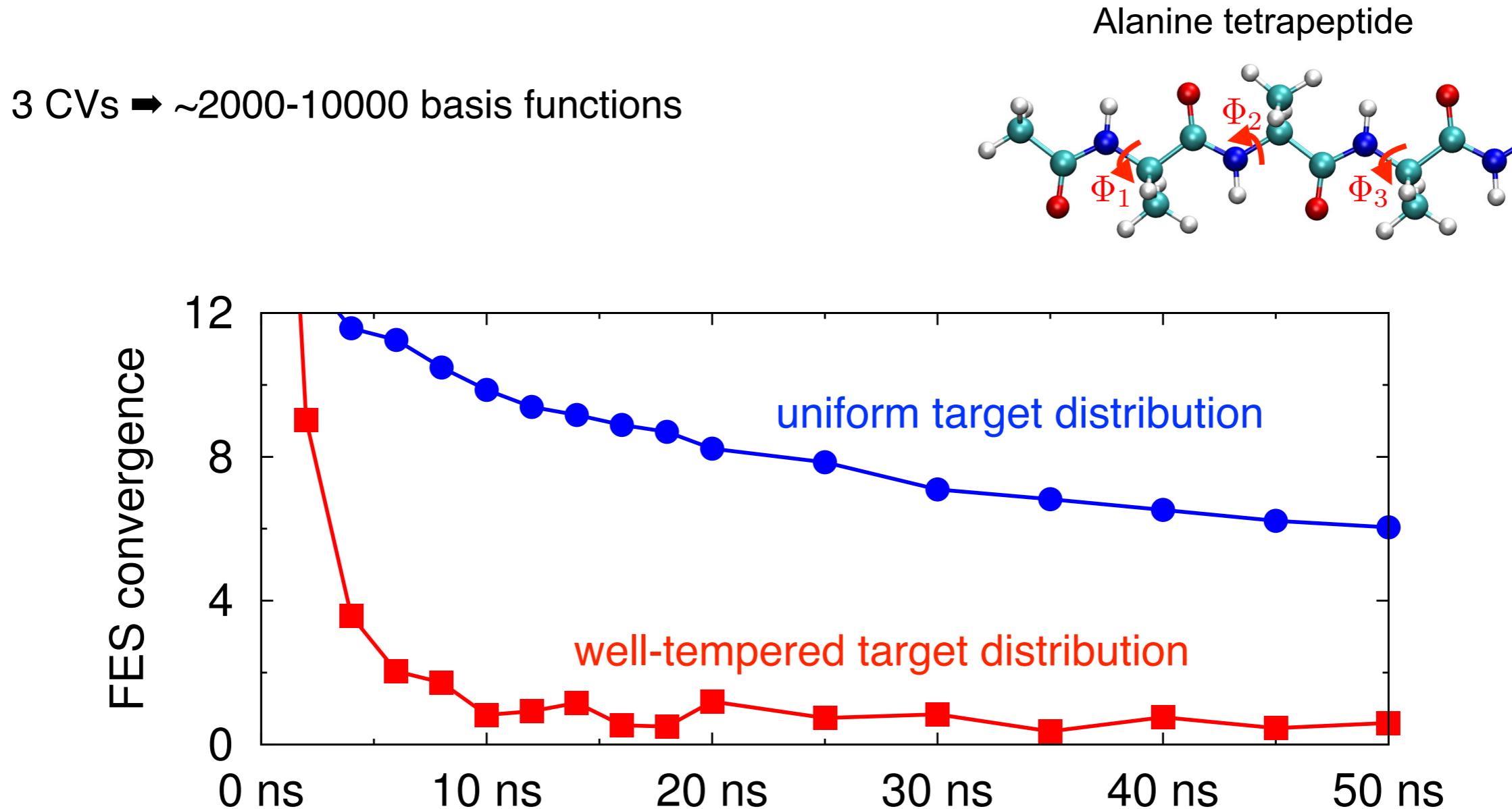
3 CVs  $\rightarrow$  ~2000-10000 basis functions

Alanine tetrapeptide



very slow convergence with a uniform  $p(s)$

# Choice of the Target Distribution and Convergence

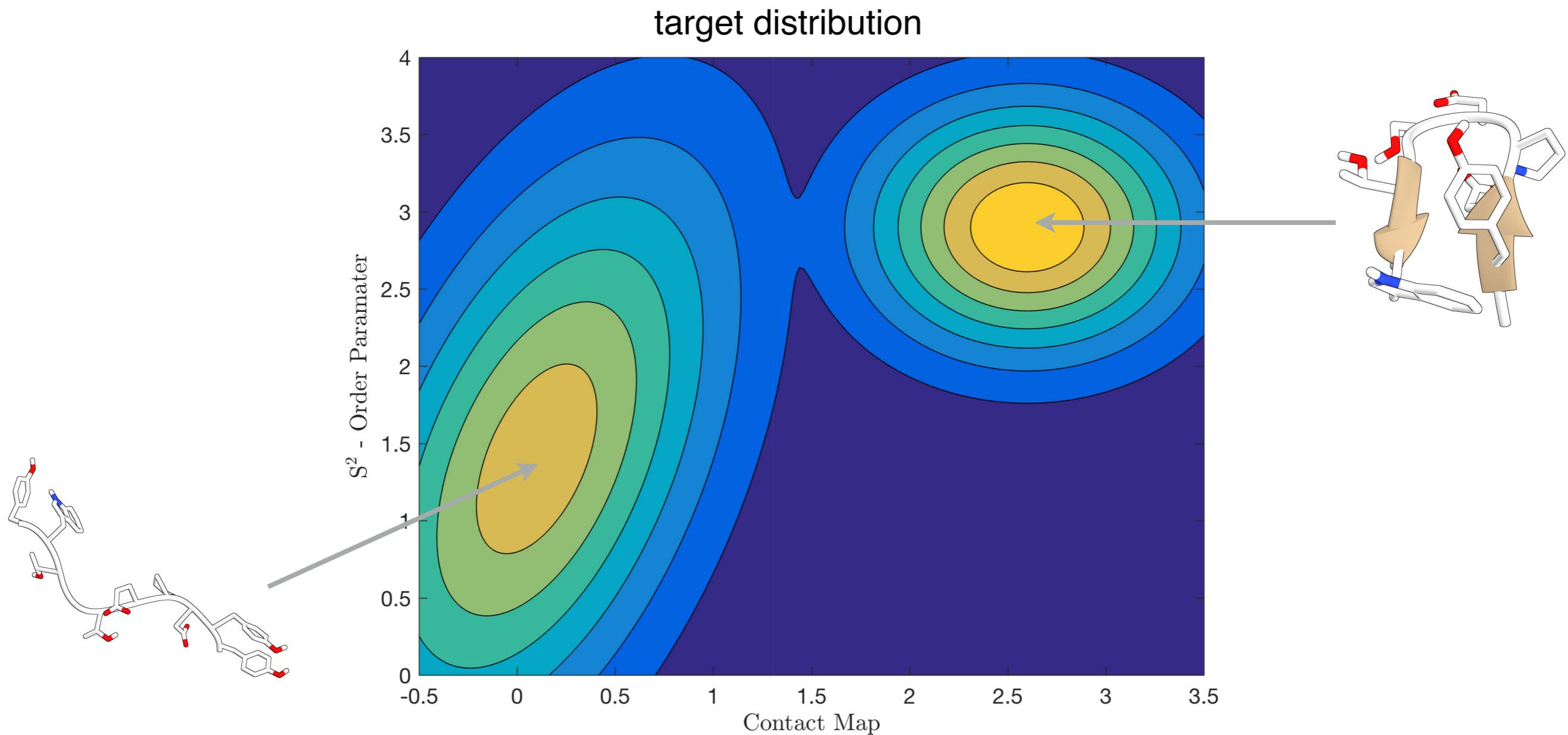


significant improvement in convergence with a well-tempered  $p(s)$

# Localized Target Distribution

Can also use the target distribution to localize the sampling

$$p(\mathbf{s}) = w_f p_f(\mathbf{s}) + w_u p_u(\mathbf{s}),$$



# Various Extensions

can employ directly many extensions from metadynamics

- multiple walkers<sup>a</sup>  
share  $V(s)$  and cooperatively sample the averages needed for  $\nabla\Omega(\alpha)$   
observed to significantly improve convergence for difficult cases
- combine with replica exchange schemes<sup>b</sup>  
i.e. parallel-tempering, parallel-tempering in the well-tempered ensemble, solute-tempering, ...  
helps with sampling missing orthogonal CVs
- bias-exchange<sup>c</sup>

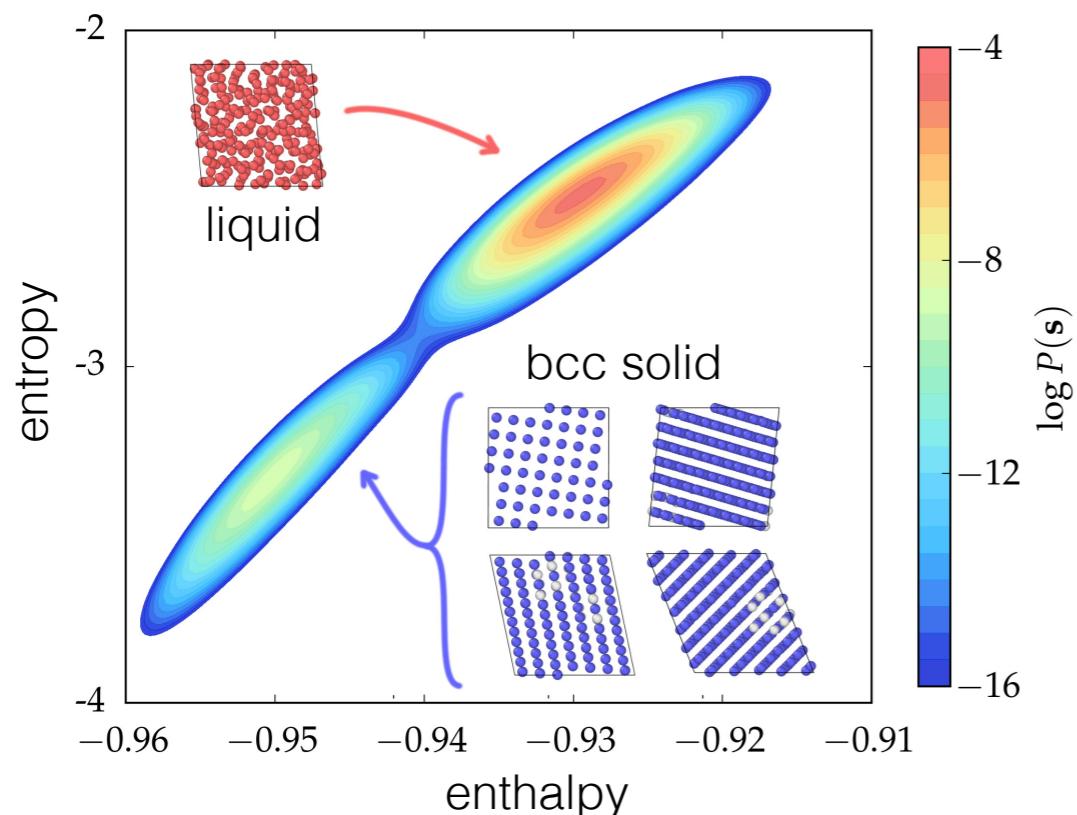
<sup>a</sup> Raiteri, Laio, Gervasio, Micheletti, and Parrinello, JPCB 2006

<sup>b</sup> Bussi, Gervasio, Laio, and Parrinello, JACS 2006

<sup>c</sup> Piana and Laio, JPCB 2007

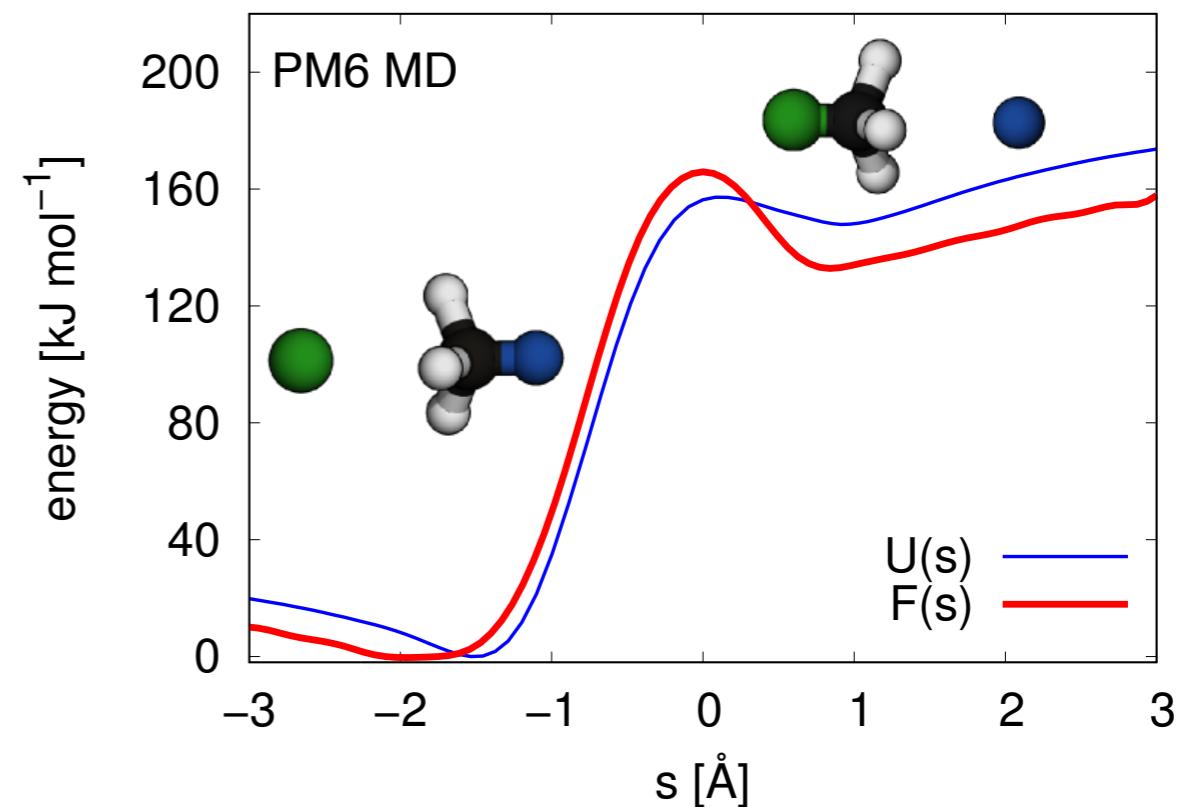
# Examples

Crystallization of sodium



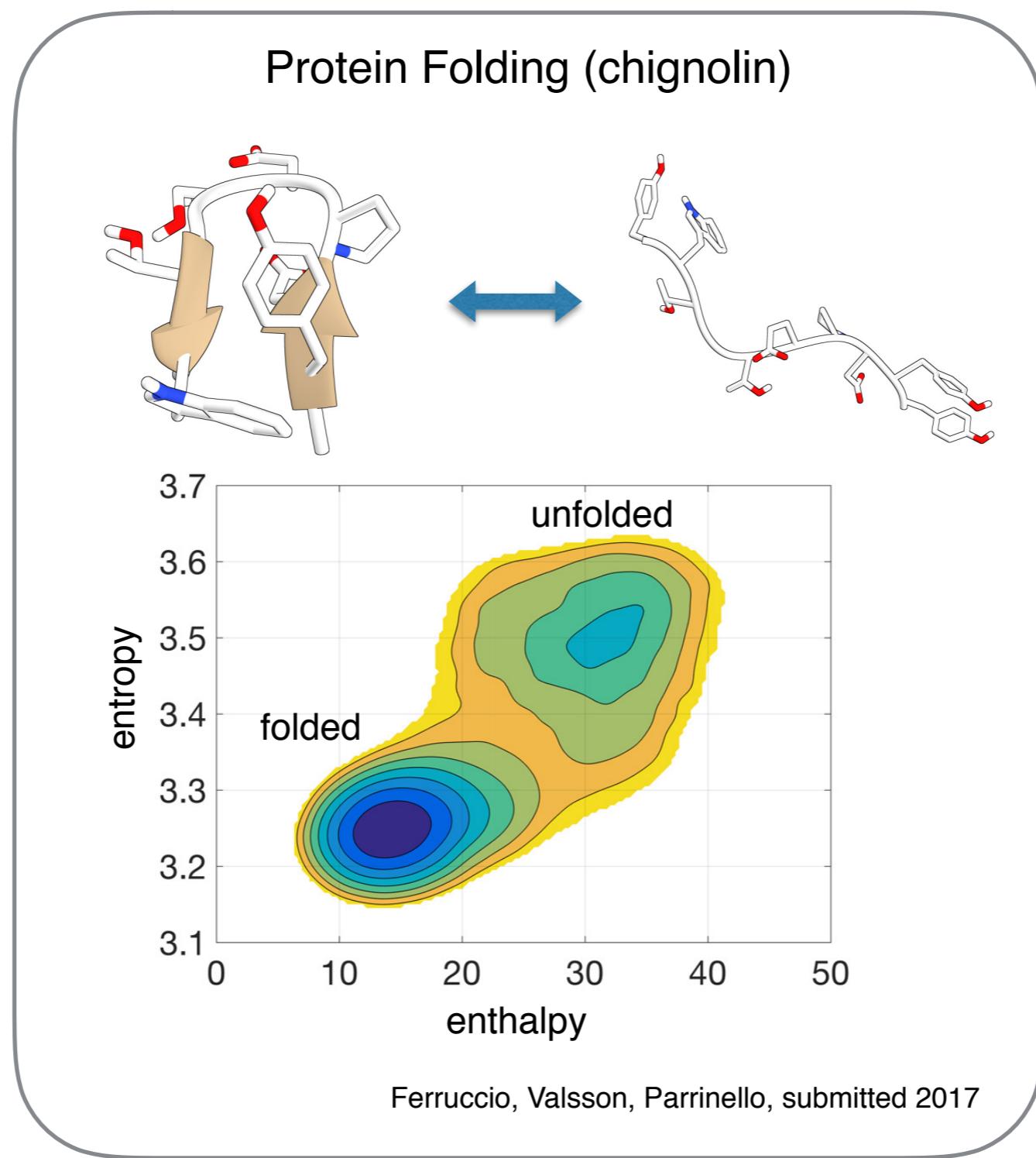
Piaggi, Valsson, Parrinello, PRL, submitted 2017

$S_N2$  reaction -  $CH_3F + Cl^- \rightleftharpoons CH_3Cl + F^-$



Piccini, McCarty, Valsson, Parrinello, J. Phys. Chem. Lett., 2017

# Examples



# Using the Variational Property of $\Omega[V]$ in Innovative Ways

$$\Omega[V] = \frac{1}{\beta} \log \frac{\int d\mathbf{s} e^{-\beta[F(\mathbf{s})+V(\mathbf{s})]}}{\int d\mathbf{s} e^{-\beta F(\mathbf{s})}} + \int d\mathbf{s} p(\mathbf{s}) V(\mathbf{s})$$

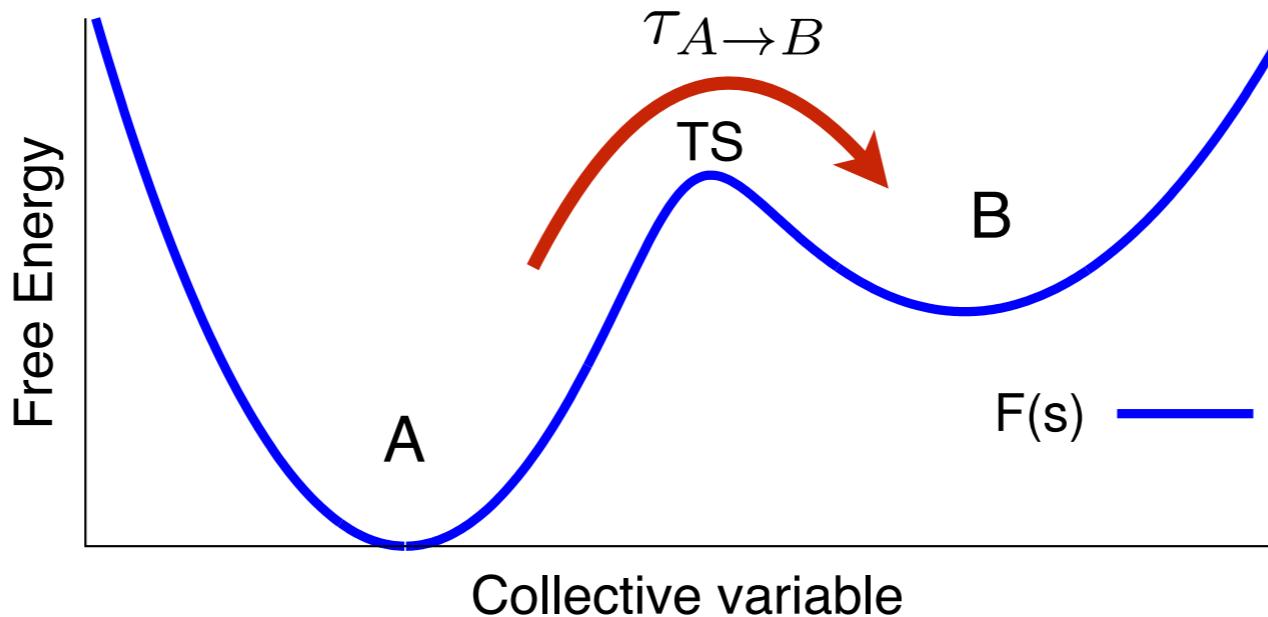
Complete flexibility in the form of the bias potential  $V(\mathbf{s})$

Can precisely tune the sampling via the target distribution  $p(\mathbf{s})$

Variational  $\rightarrow$  obtain the best results given our choice

Can make use of this in many innovative ways

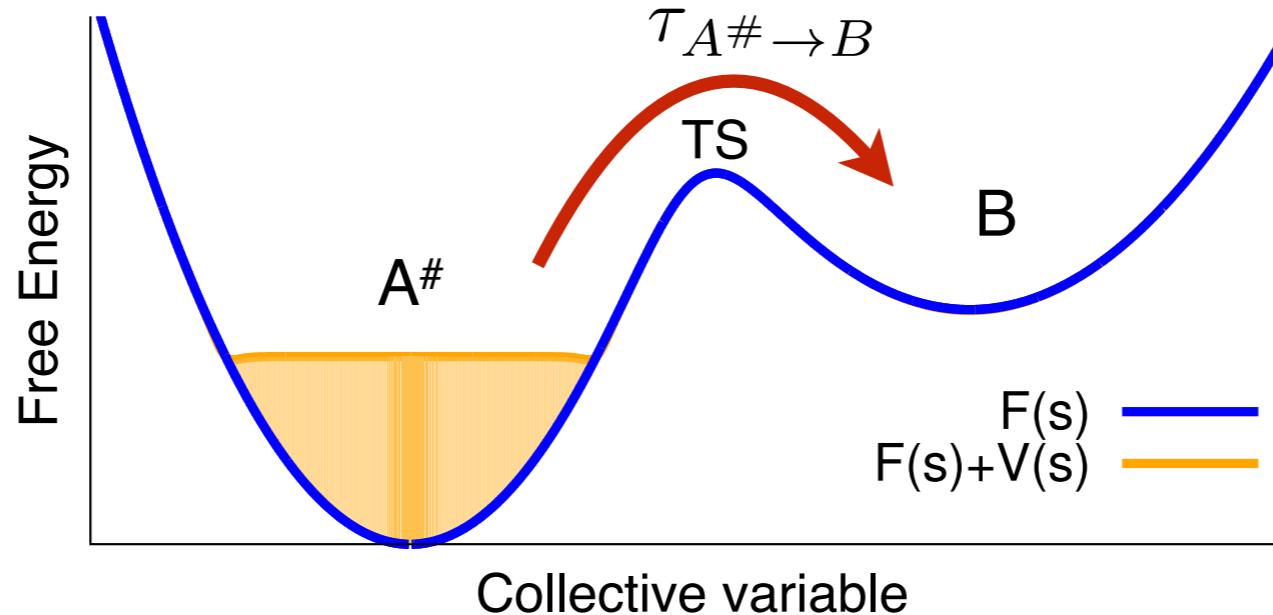
# Kinetics from Variationally Enhanced Sampling



Often interested in kinetics of rare events

e.g. how much time (on average) does it take to go between metastable states A and B

# Kinetics from Variationally Enhanced Sampling



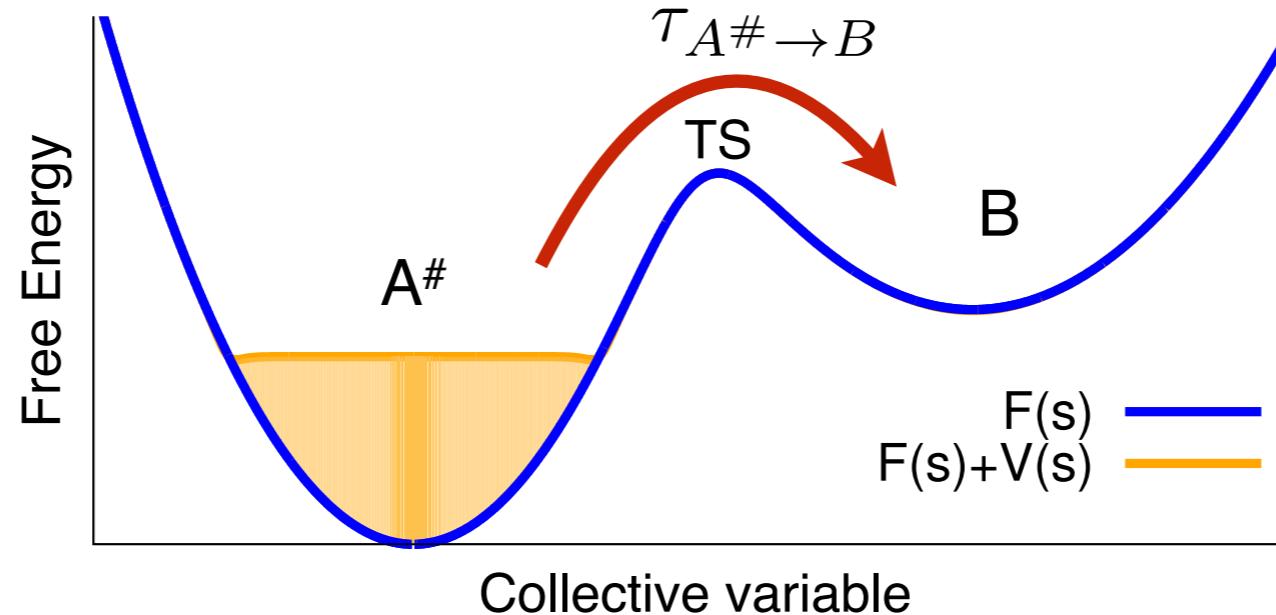
Often interested in kinetics of rare events

e.g. how much time (on average) does it take to go between metastable states  $A$  and  $B$

biasing will accelerate this (which is of course what we want)

$$\tau_{A^\#\rightarrow B} \ll \tau_{A\rightarrow B}$$

# Kinetics from Variationally Enhanced Sampling



Real kinetics can be obtained from biased MD simulation through the hyperdynamics formalism<sup>a,b</sup>

$$\tau_{A \rightarrow B} = \tau_{A^\# \rightarrow B} \cdot \langle e^{\beta V(s)} \rangle_{V(s)}$$

valid if the transition state (TS) is **bias-free**

→ can f.ex. be achieved through infrequent metadynamics<sup>b</sup>

use VES to construct a bias that fulfills this condition

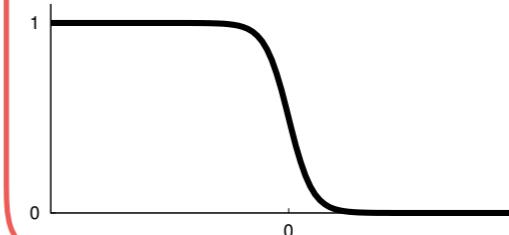
<sup>a</sup> Voter, PRL 1997; Grubmueller PRE 1995

<sup>b</sup> Tiwary and Parrinello, PRL 2013

linear expansion

$$v(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \alpha_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot f_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{s})$$

switching function



$$V(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = v(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha}) \cdot \mathcal{S}(-v(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha}) - F_c)$$

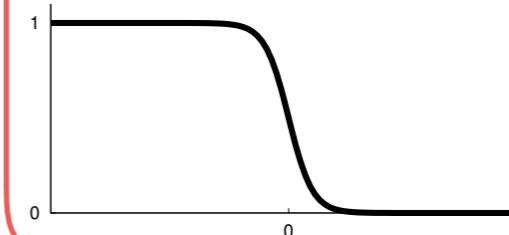
optimize  $V(\mathbf{s})$  using the target distribution

$$p(\mathbf{s}) = \frac{\mathcal{S}(F^*(\mathbf{s}) - F_c)}{\int d\mathbf{s} \mathcal{S}(F^*(\mathbf{s}) - F_c)} \quad F^*(\mathbf{s}) \approx -v(\mathbf{s}) \quad (\text{iteratively updated})$$

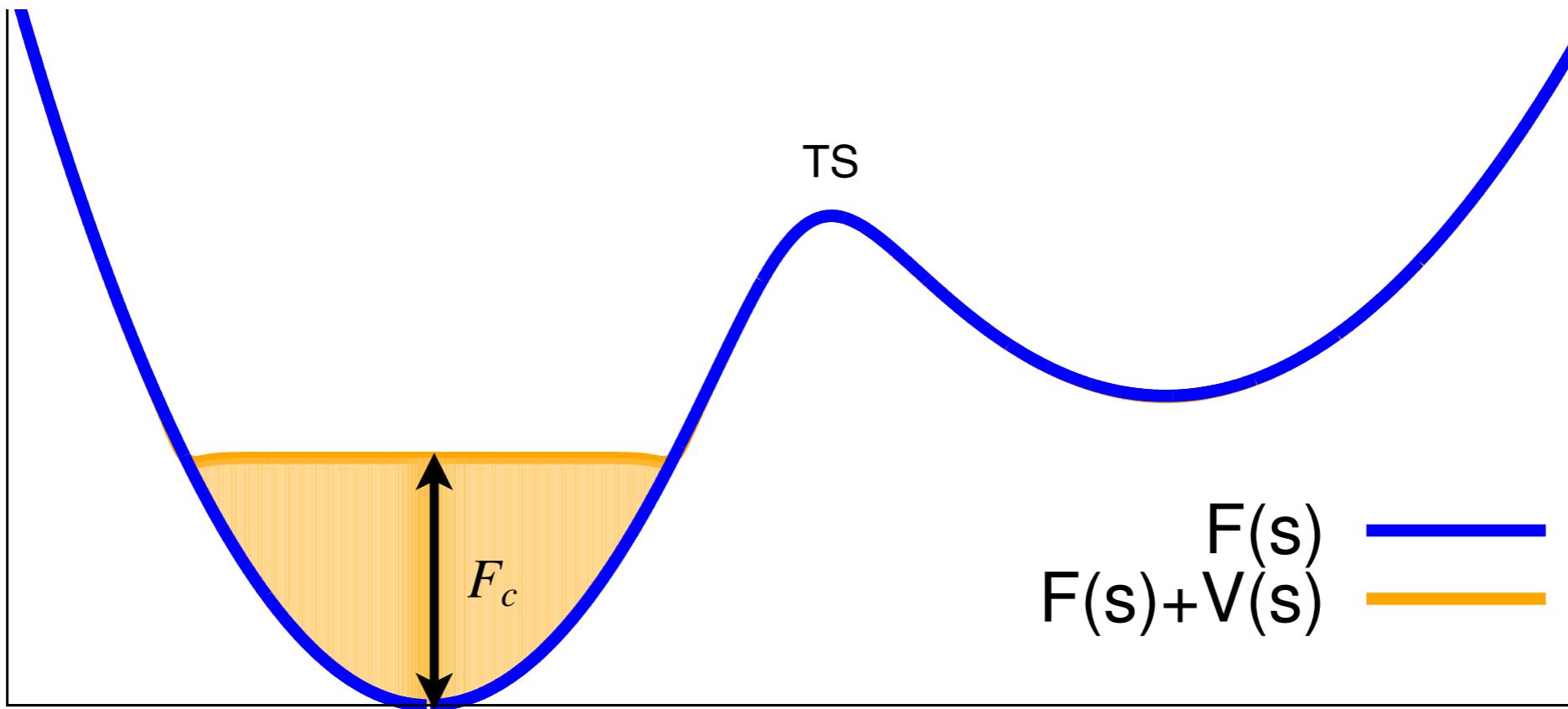
linear expansion

$$v(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \alpha_{\mathbf{k}} \cdot f_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{s})$$

switching function

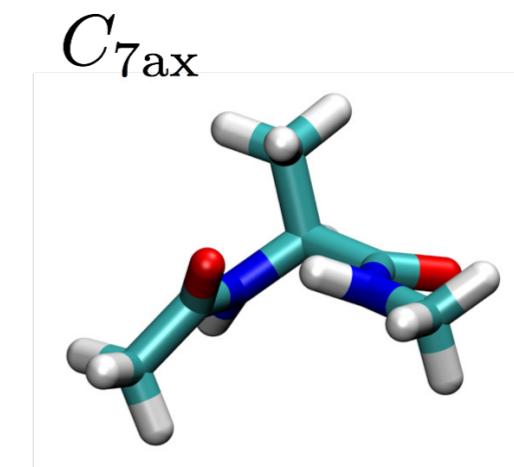
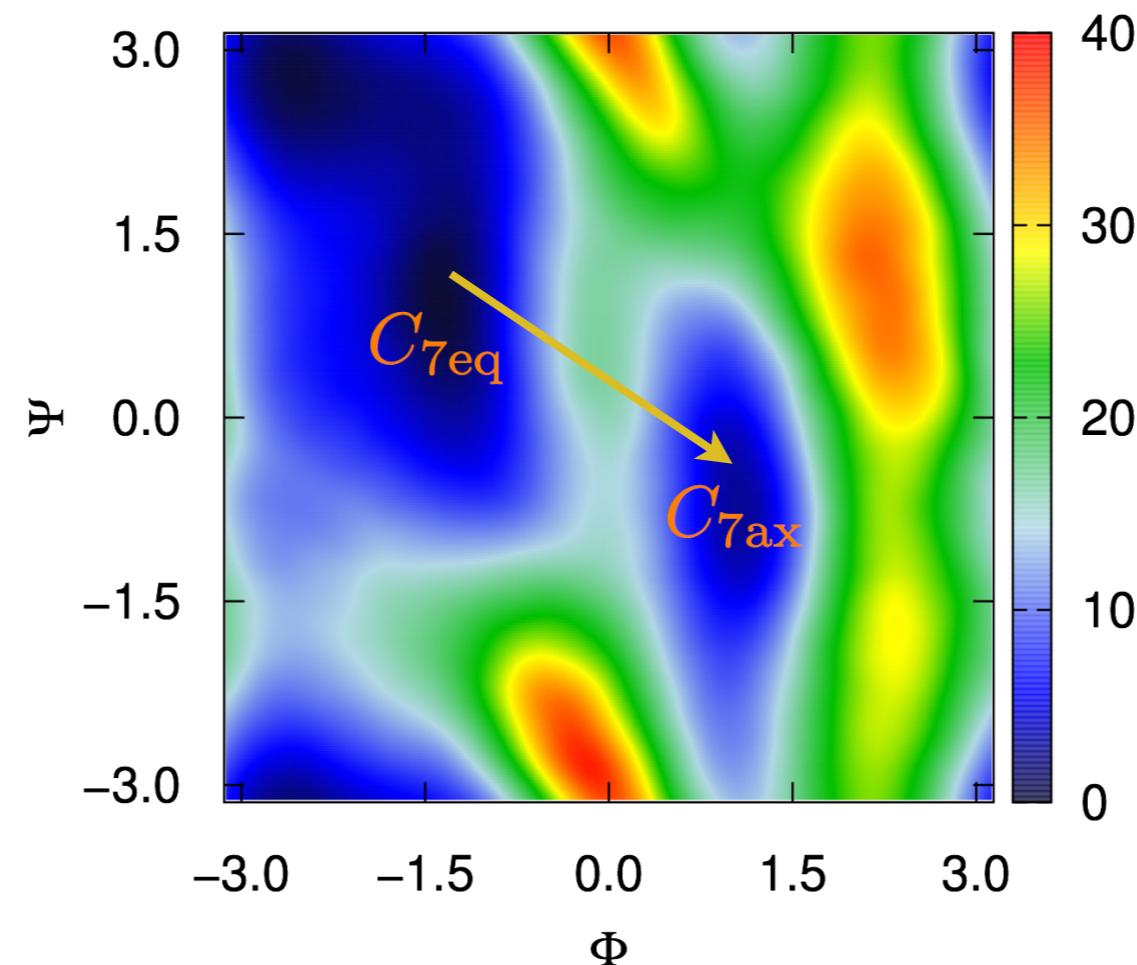
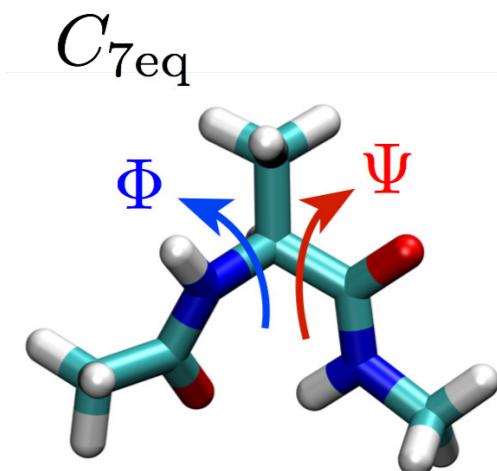


$$V(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = v(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha}) \cdot \mathcal{S}(-v(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha}) - F_c)$$



# Kinetics from VES: Example

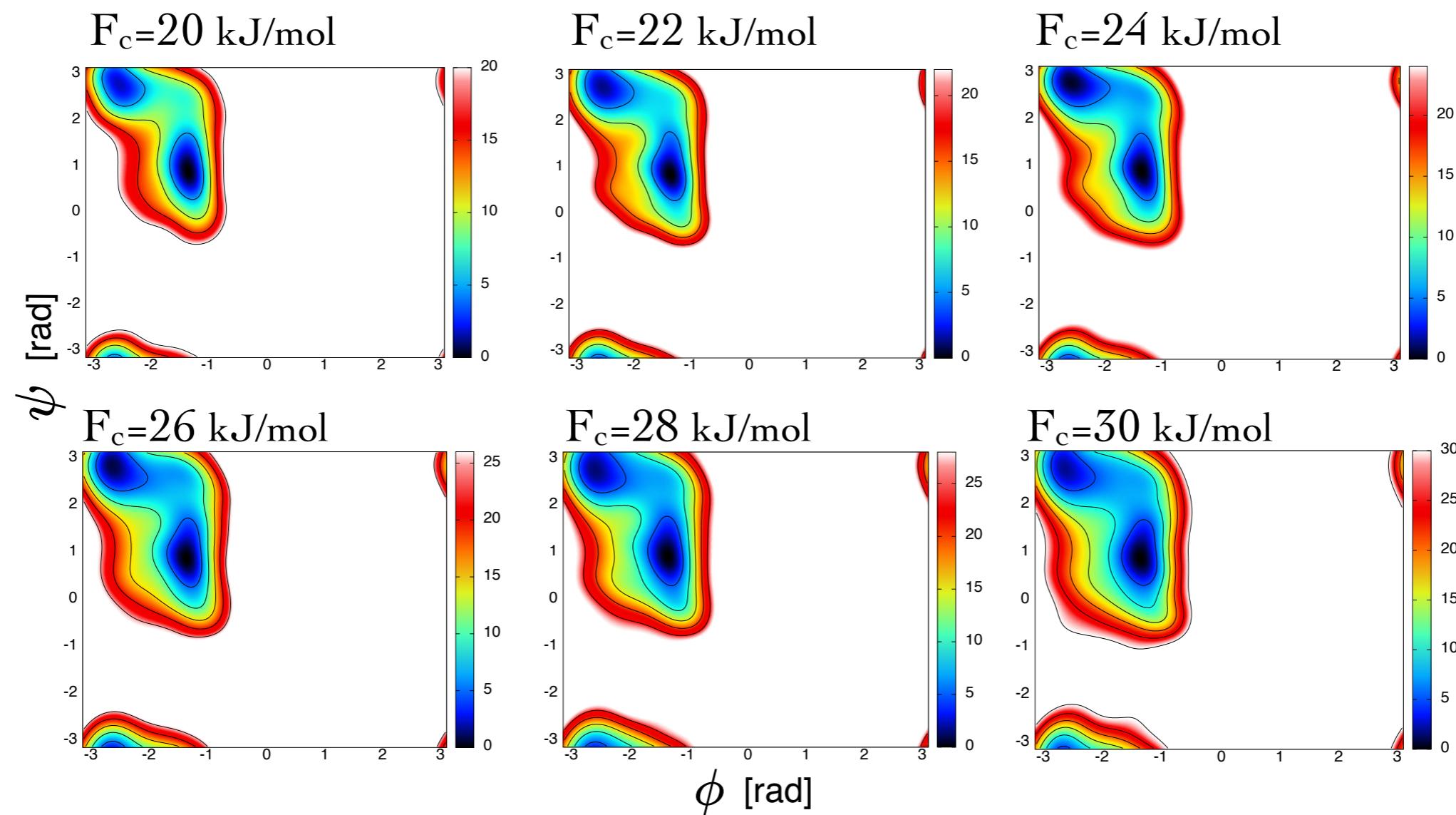
$C_{7\text{eq}}$  to  $C_{7\text{ax}}$  transition in alanine dipeptide in vacuum at 250 K



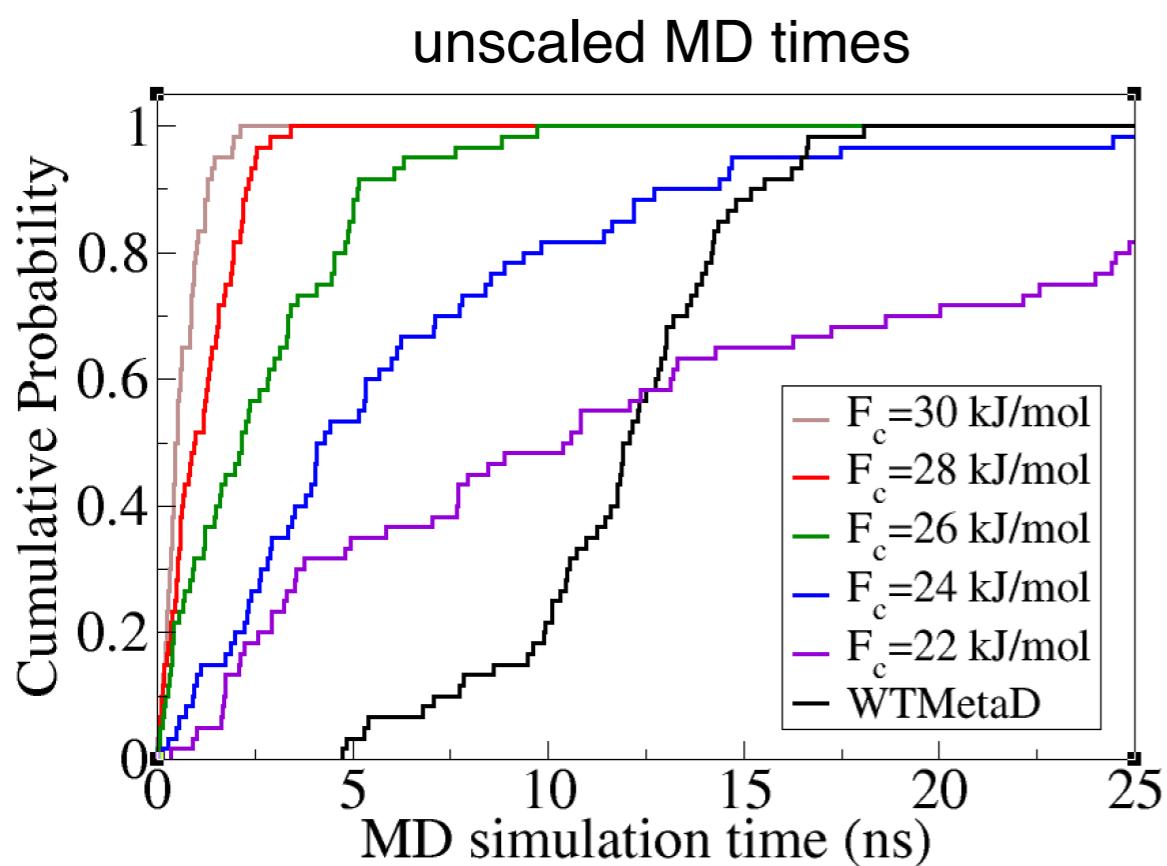
barrier around 34 kJ/mol ( $16 k_B T$ )

mean transition time around 28  $\mu\text{s}$

generate bias potentials with different  $F_c$  values from 20 to 30 kJ/mol

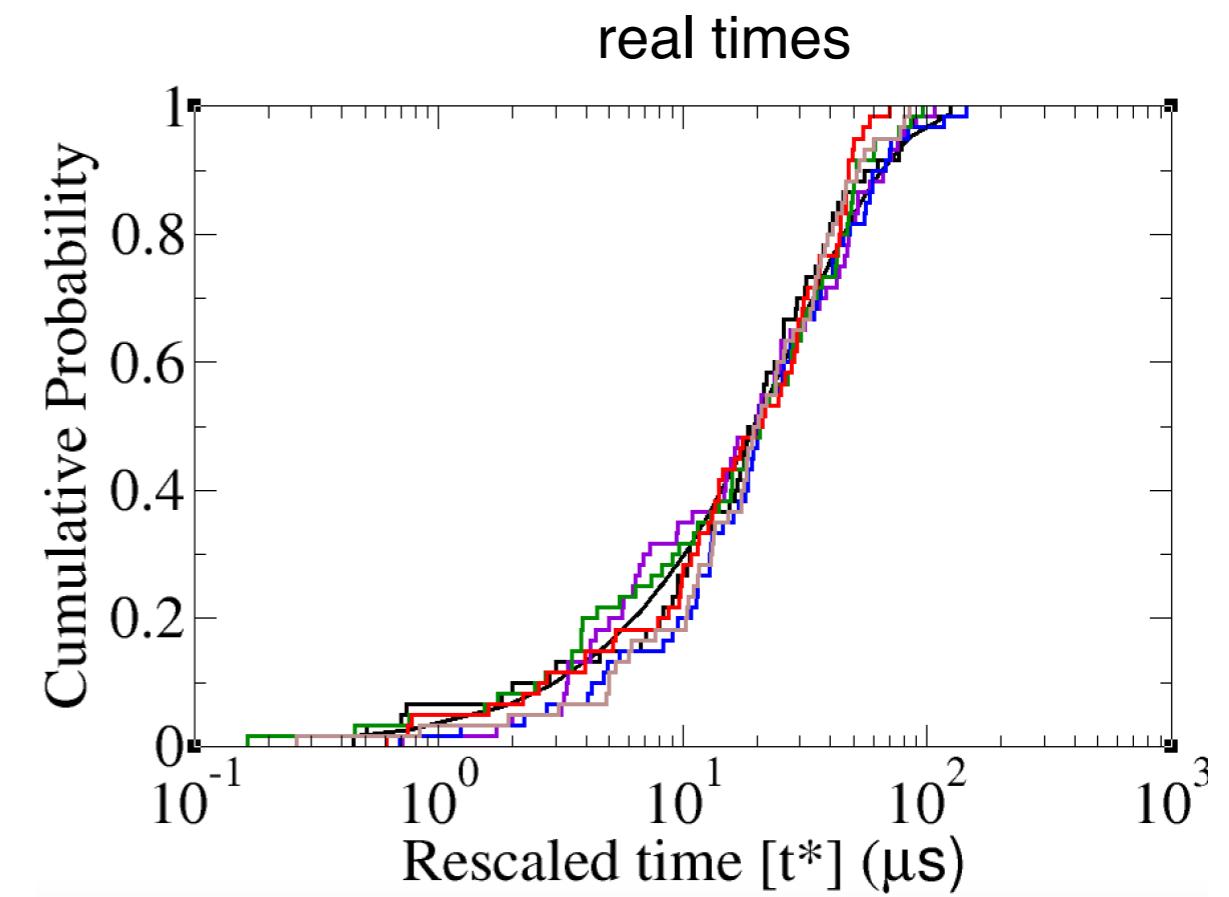
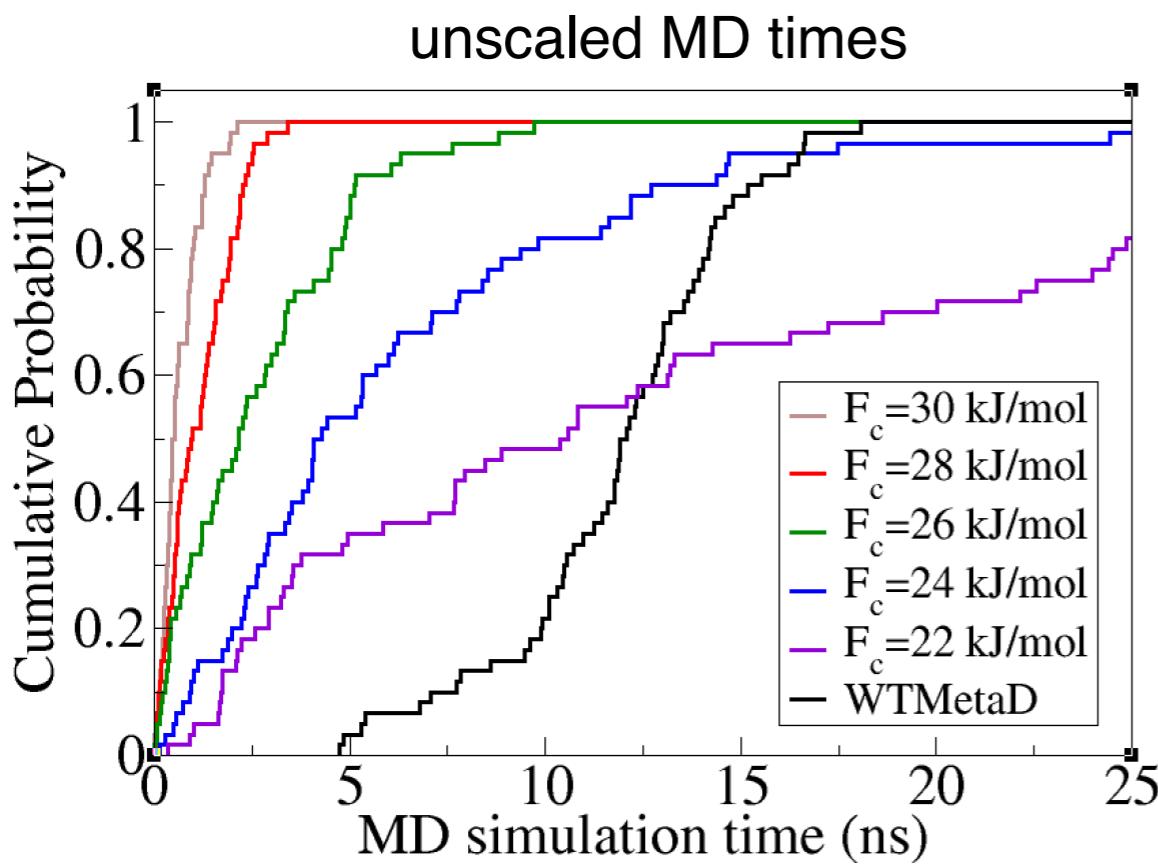


launch 60 independent runs for each  $F_c$  values (static bias potentials)

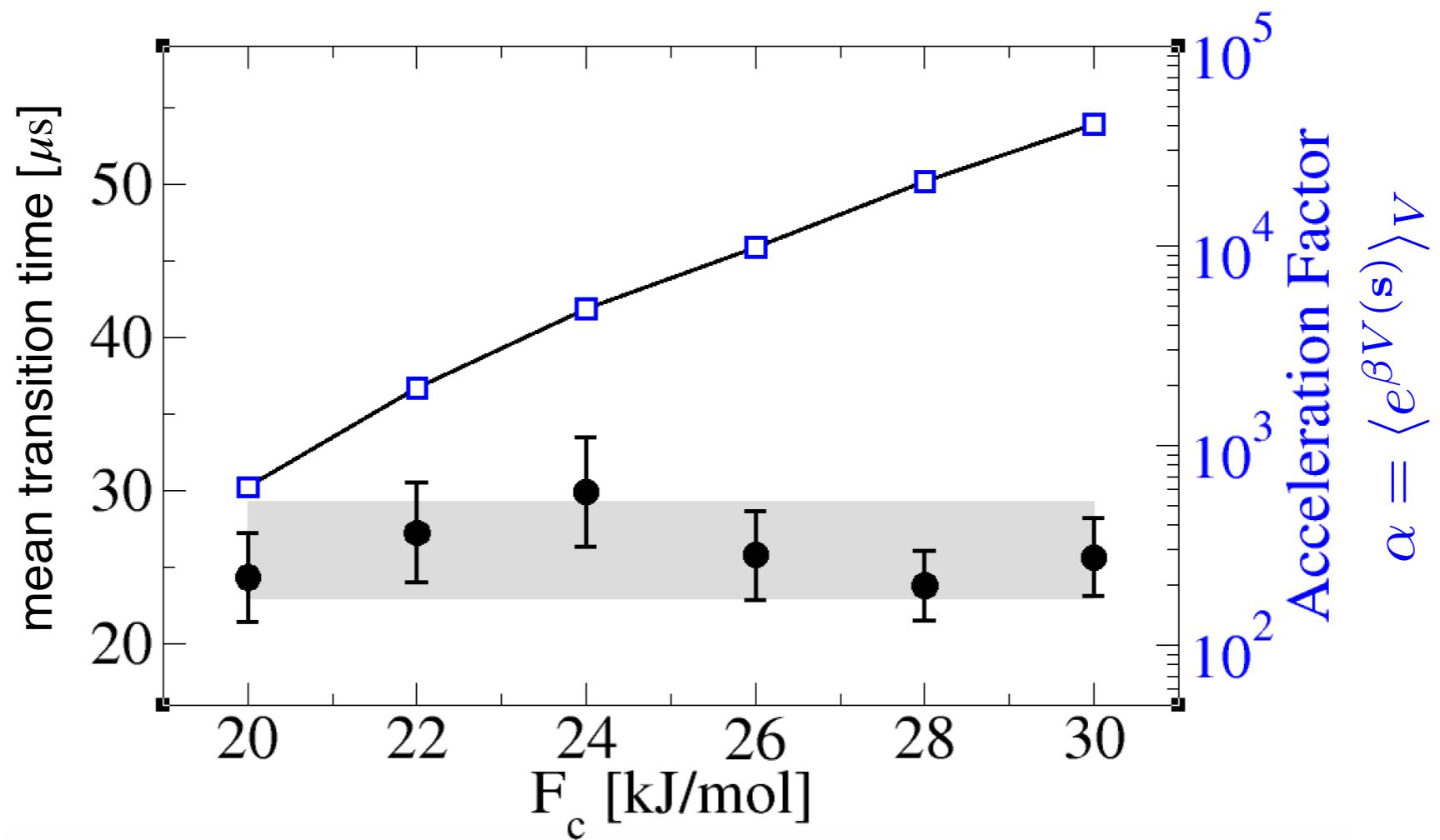


rescale times according to

$$\tau = \tau_V^* \cdot \langle e^{\beta V(\mathbf{s})} \rangle_V$$

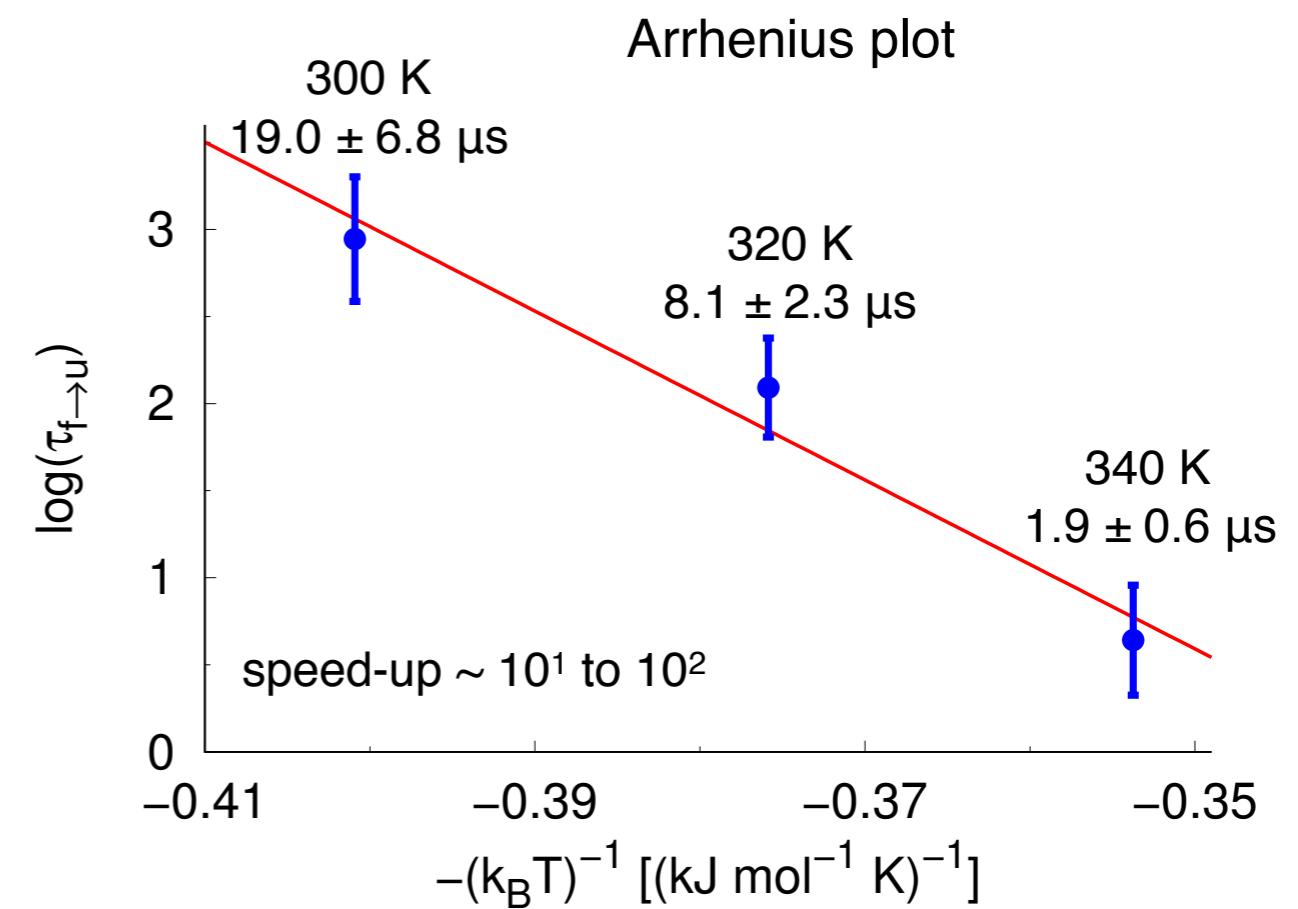
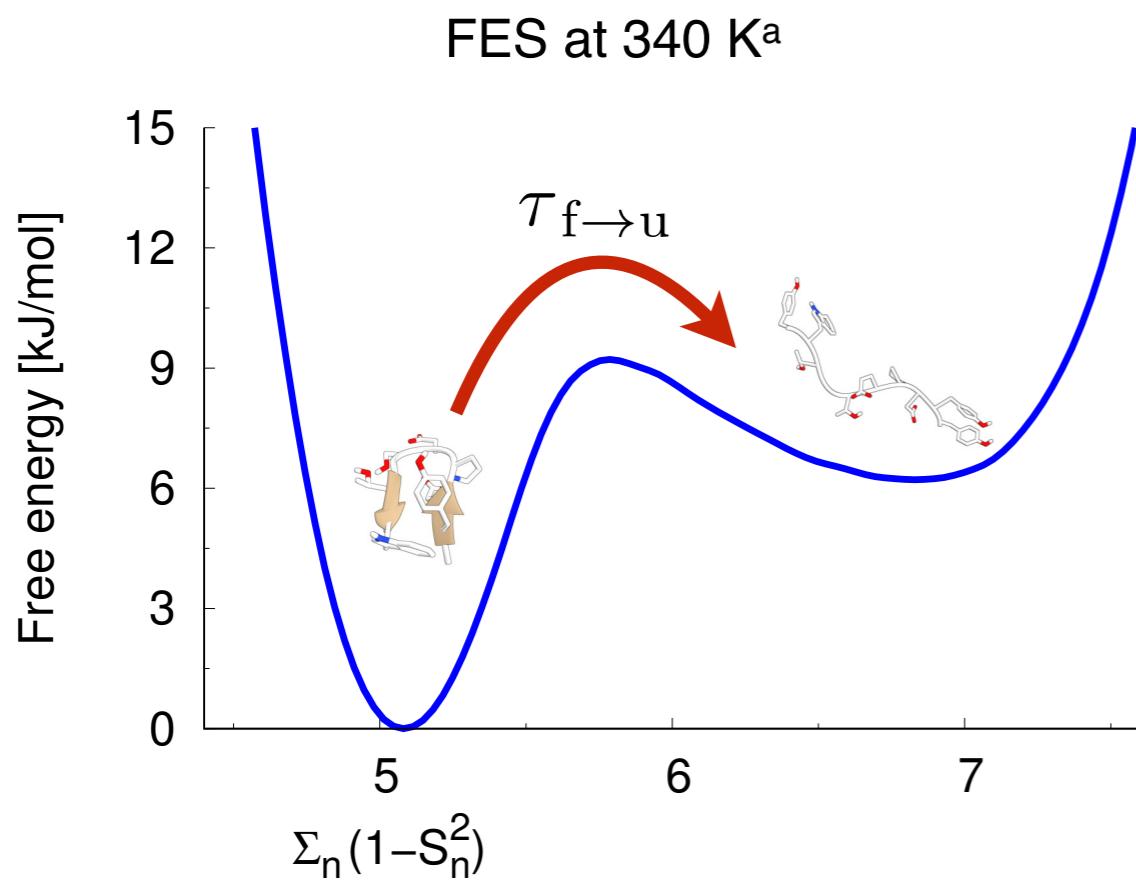
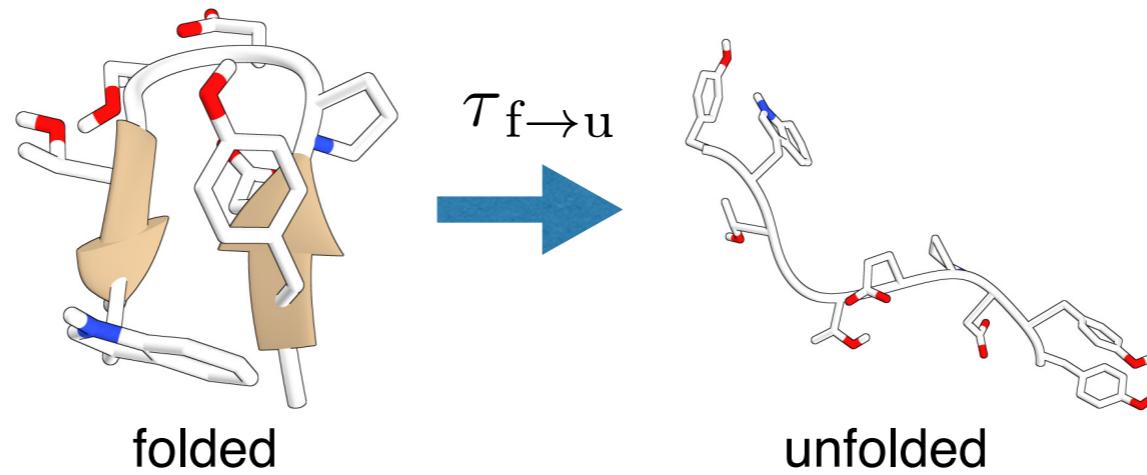


different  $F_c$  values always yield the correct distribution

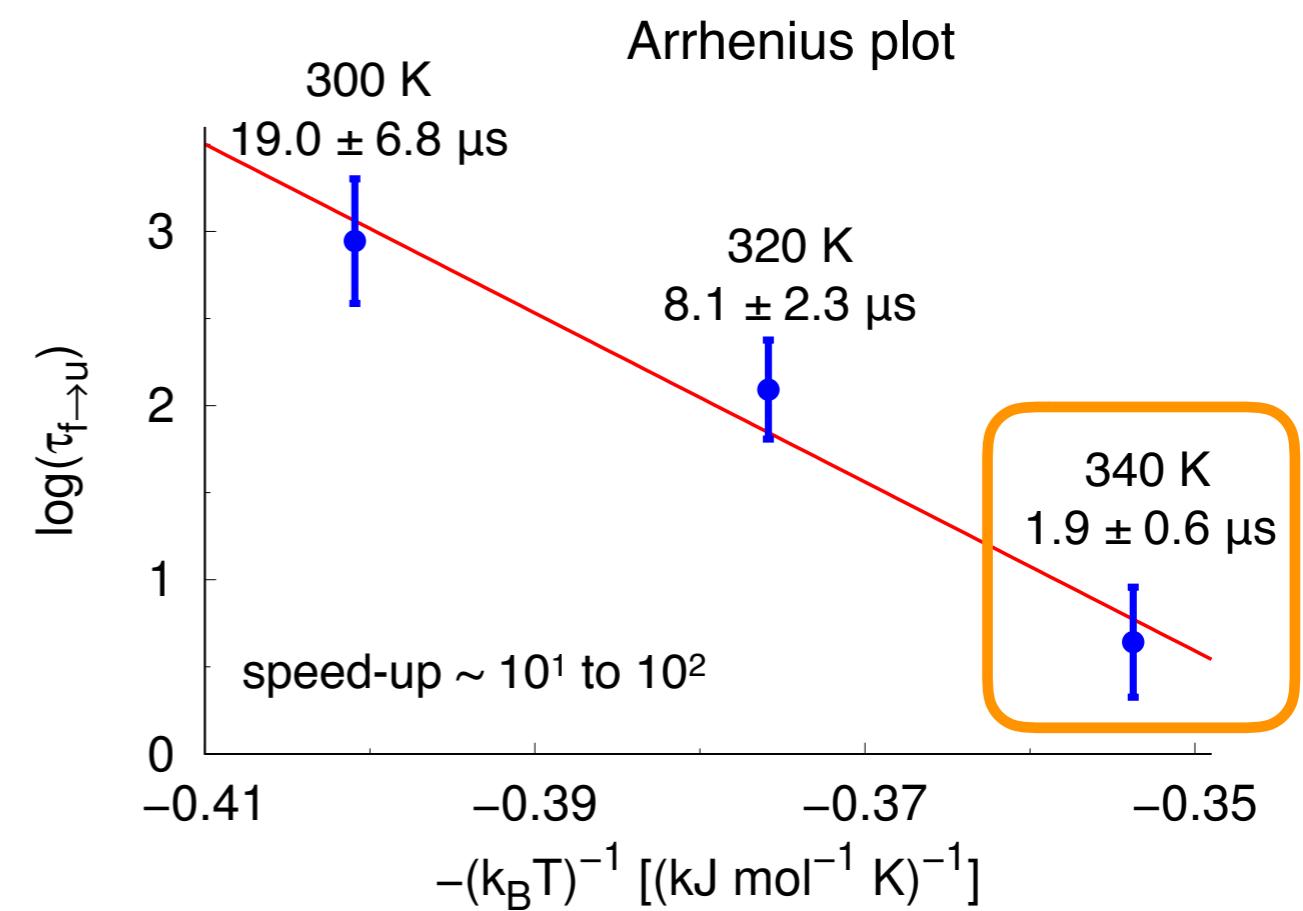
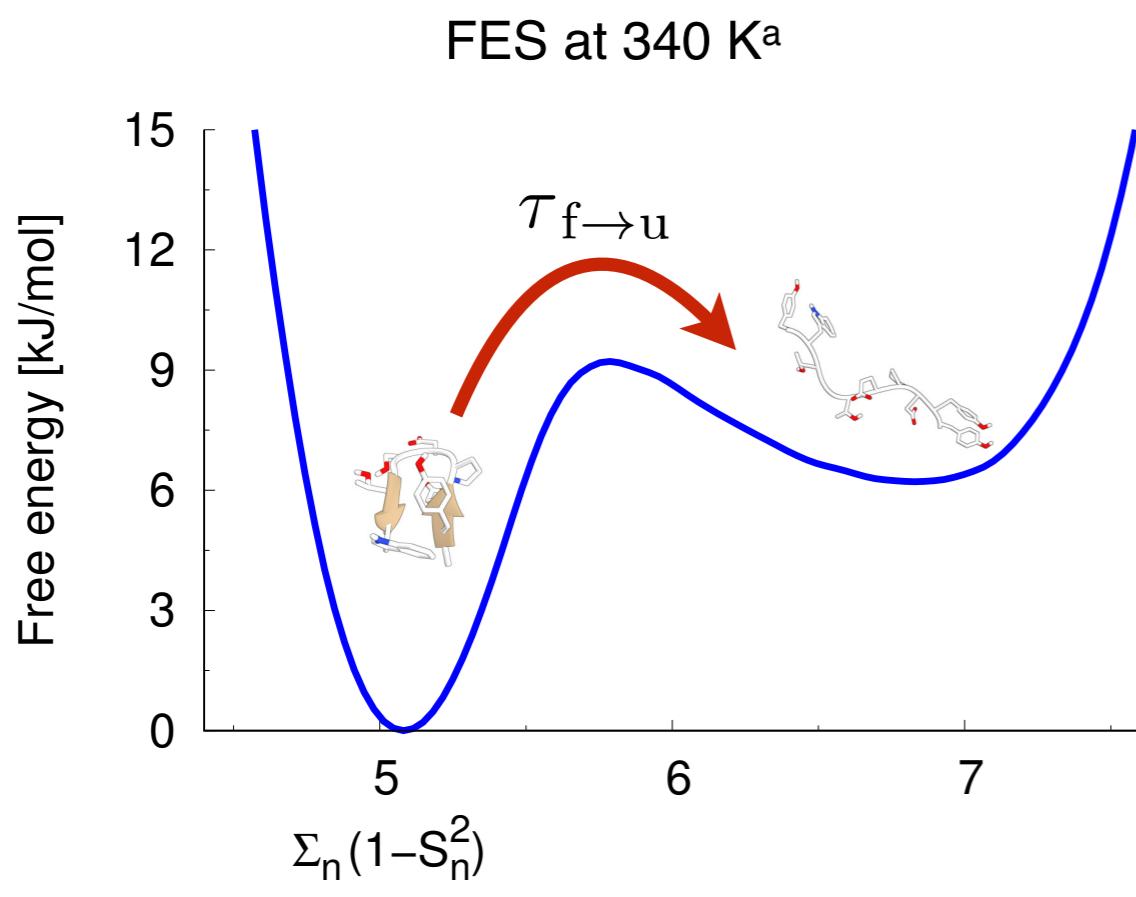
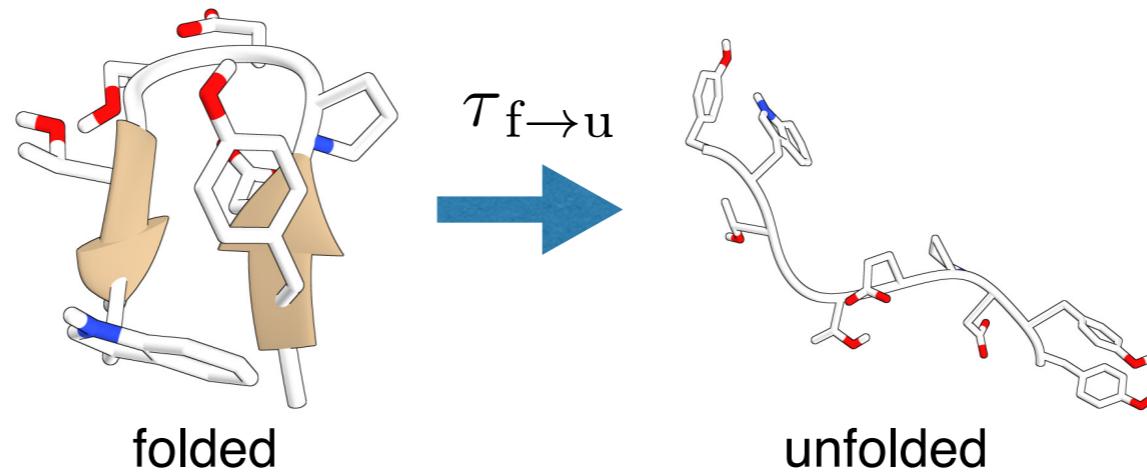


speedup of up to  $10^4$ - $10^5$  compared to unbiased simulations

# Unfolding times of chignolin



# Unfolding times of chignolin



Unbiased MD at 340K<sup>a</sup>:  $2.4 \pm 0.4 \mu s$

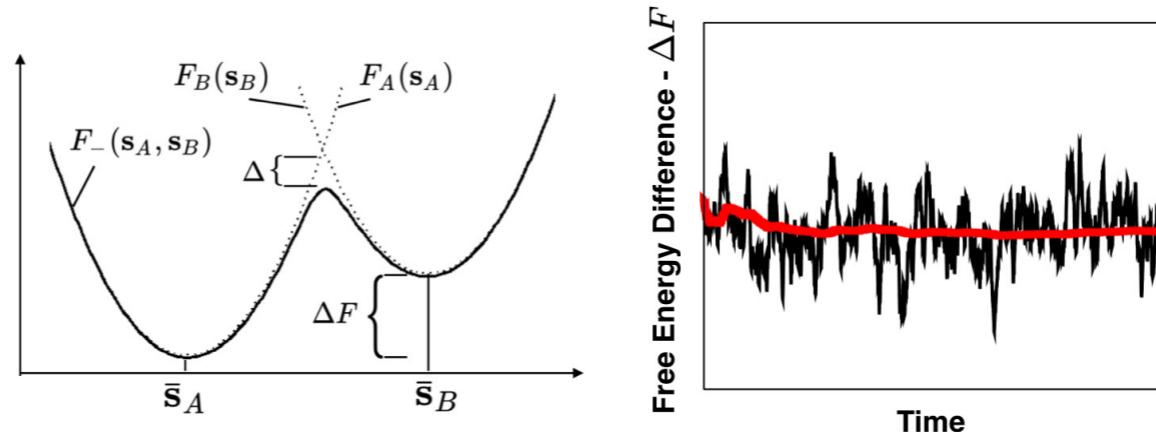
# Other Examples

## Approximate bias potentials

$$V(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_d; \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \sum_{i,j} V(s_i, s_j; \boldsymbol{\alpha}^{(i,j)}),$$

Shaffer, Valsson, Parrinello, PNAS, 2016

## Bespoke Bias for Obtaining Free Energy Differences



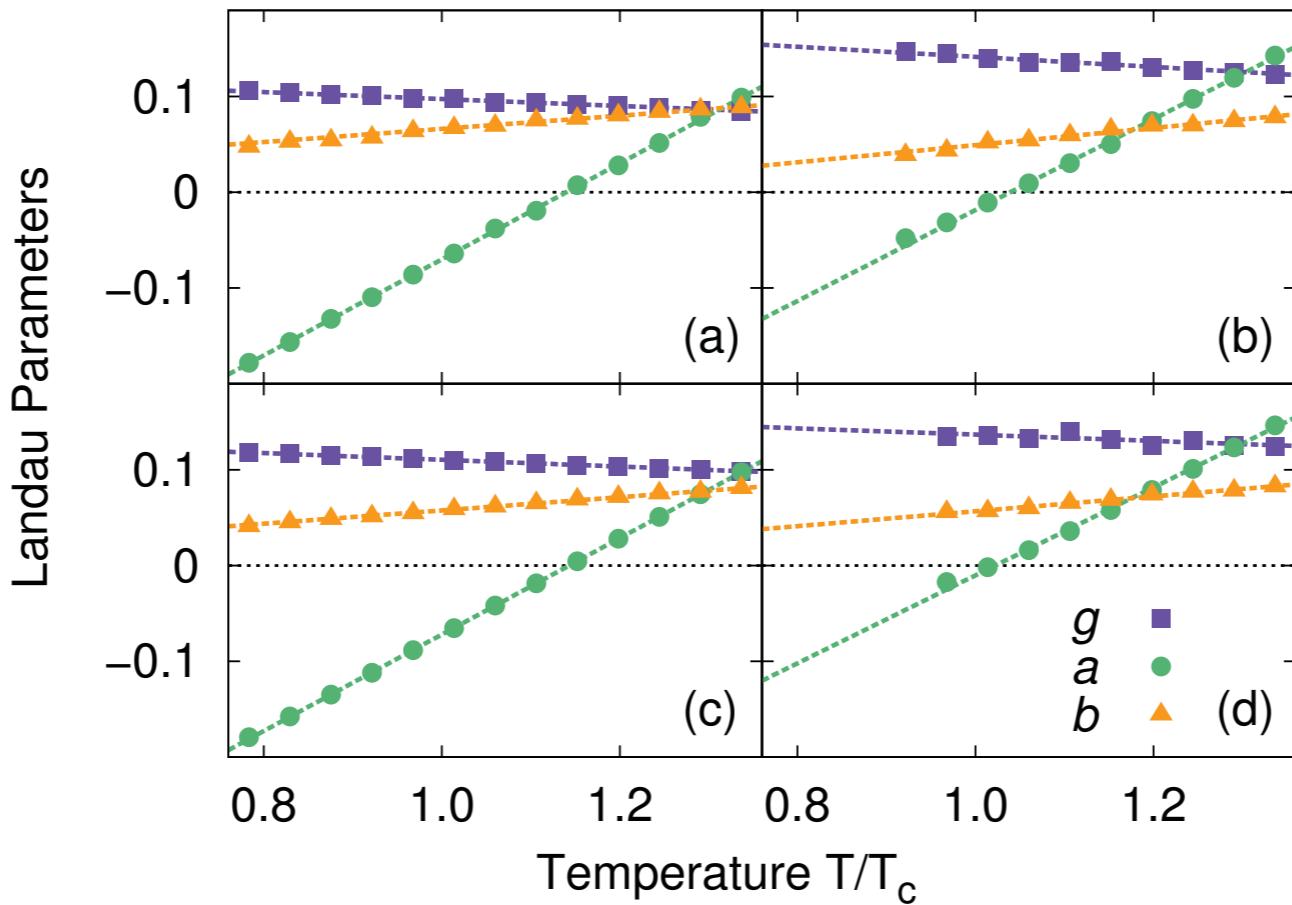
$$F_-(\mathbf{s}_A, \mathbf{s}_B) = \frac{F_A(\mathbf{s}_A) + F_B(\mathbf{s}_B)}{2} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{F_A(\mathbf{s}_A) - F_B(\mathbf{s}_B) - \Delta F}{2}\right)^2 + \Delta^2}$$

McCarty, Valsson, and Parrinello, JCTC 2016

## Calculations of parameters for phenomenological coarse-grained models

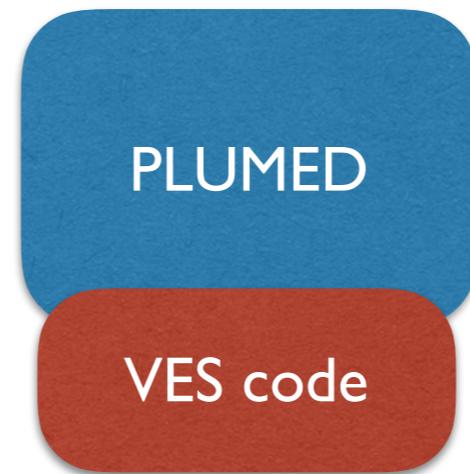
$$F[\psi] = g \int |\nabla \psi(\vec{r})|^2 d^3r + a \int \psi^2(\vec{r}) d^3r + b \int \psi^4(\vec{r}) d^3r$$

e.g. Ginzburg-Landau model for second order phase transitions



# VES code

Module for PLUMED 2 that implements methods based on VES



Modular design - easy to add new features (basis functions, target distribution, optimizers, ...)

Available in a public fork on Github - <https://github.com/ves-code/plumed2-ves>

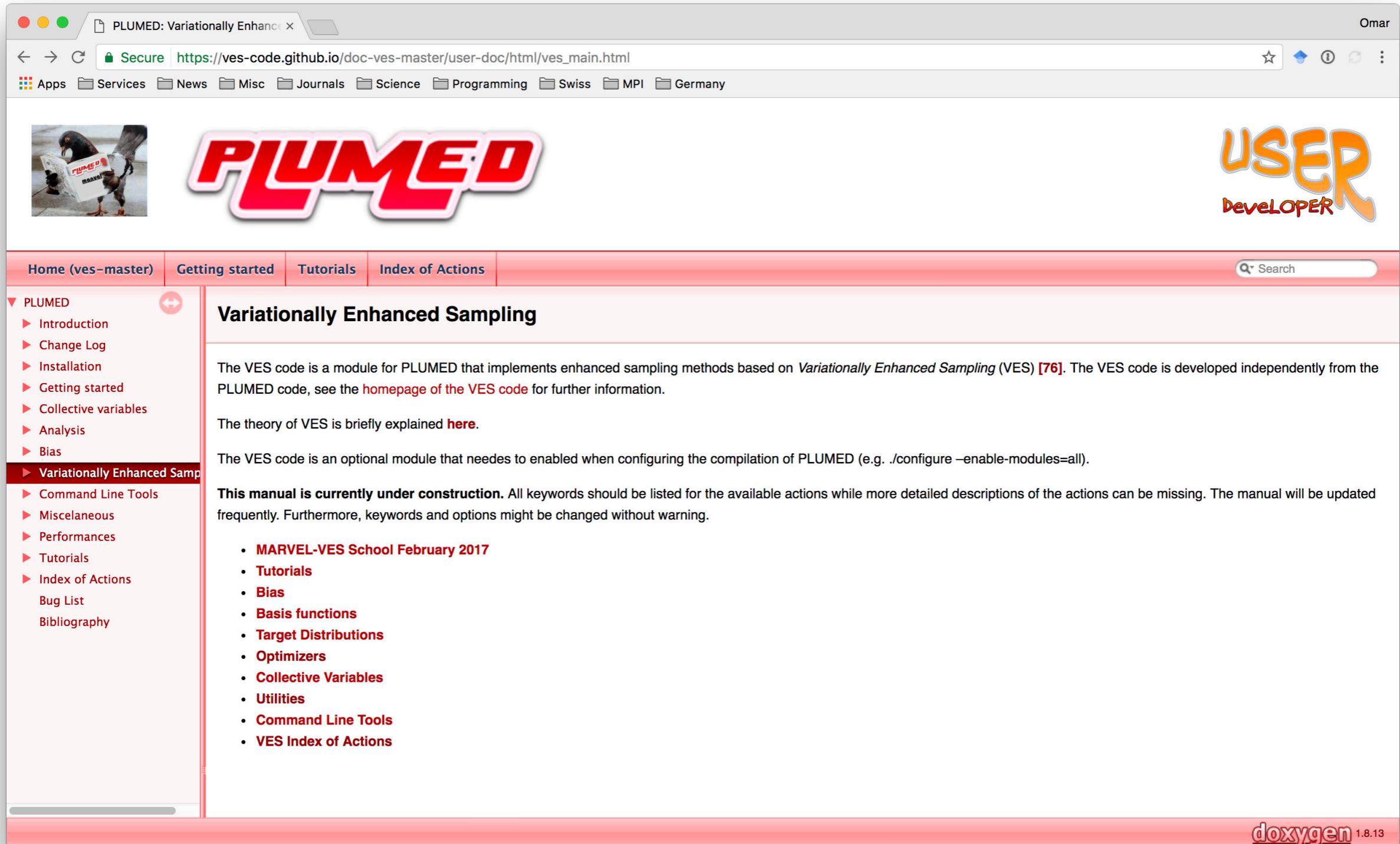
Kept in sync with master branch

Regtests: ~80% coverage

Will be contributed as a module to version 2.4 of PLUMED

# Manual

<https://ves-code.github.io/doc-ves-master>



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the title "PLUMED: Variationally Enhanced Sampling". The address bar displays the URL <https://ves-code.github.io/doc-ves-master>. The page content is the "Variationally Enhanced Sampling" manual for PLUMED. The header features the PLUMED logo (a pigeon reading a newspaper) and the text "USER Developer". The navigation menu includes links for Home (ves-master), Getting started, Tutorials, Index of Actions, and a search bar. A sidebar on the left contains a tree view of the manual structure, with "Variationally Enhanced Sampling" currently selected. The main content area describes the VES code as a module for PLUMED that implements enhanced sampling methods based on *Variationally Enhanced Sampling* (VES). It mentions that the VES code is developed independently from the PLUMED code and provides a link to the VES code homepage. The sidebar also lists various tools and resources such as Command Line Tools, Miscelaneous, Performances, Tutorials, Index of Actions, Bug List, and Bibliography.

**Variationally Enhanced Sampling**

The VES code is a module for PLUMED that implements enhanced sampling methods based on *Variationally Enhanced Sampling* (VES) [76]. The VES code is developed independently from the PLUMED code, see the [homepage of the VES code](#) for further information.

The theory of VES is briefly explained [here](#).

The VES code is an optional module that needs to be enabled when configuring the compilation of PLUMED (e.g. `./configure --enable-modules=all`).

**This manual is currently under construction.** All keywords should be listed for the available actions while more detailed descriptions of the actions can be missing. The manual will be updated frequently. Furthermore, keywords and options might be changed without warning.

- [MARVEL-VES School February 2017](#)
- [Tutorials](#)
- [Bias](#)
- [Basis functions](#)
- [Target Distributions](#)
- [Optimizers](#)
- [Collective Variables](#)
- [Utilities](#)
- [Command Line Tools](#)
- [VES Index of Actions](#)

**doxygen** 1.8.13

# Tutorials available

**MARVEL-VES tutorial (Lugano Feb 2017): VES 1**

Introduction to VES, using different target distributions and basis sets.

**MARVEL-VES tutorial (Lugano Feb 2017): VES 2**

VES, well-tempered target distribution and 2 dimensional biases.

**MARVEL-VES tutorial (Lugano Feb 2017): Kinetics**

How to obtain kinetics from biased molecular simulations using VES.

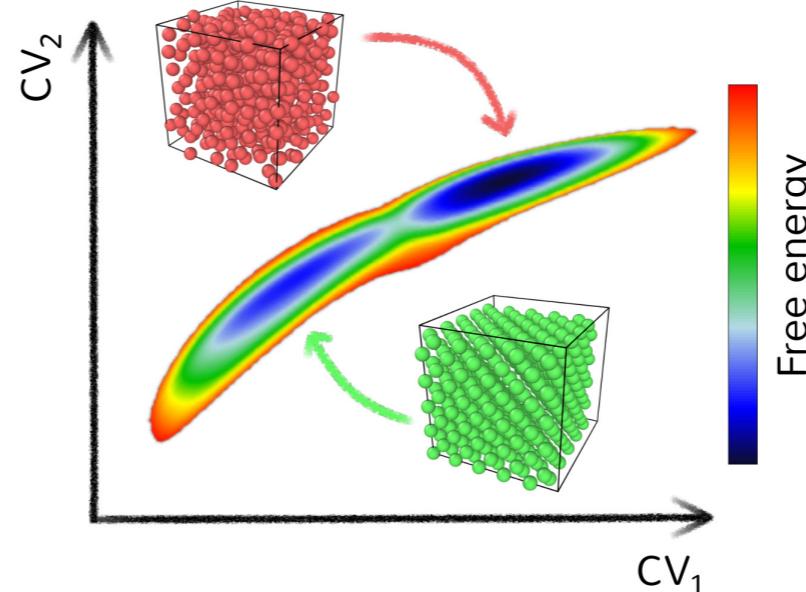


**ETH zürich**



## SCHOOL ON VARIATIONALLY ENHANCED SAMPLING

Lugano, February 14-17 2017



The National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCR) are a research instrument of the Swiss National Science Foundation

Basis Functions

$$f_0(s), f_1(s), f_2(s), \dots$$



$$V(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \alpha_{\mathbf{k}} f_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{s})$$

VES  
 $\Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})$

$$\nabla \Omega(\boldsymbol{\alpha})$$

Optimizer

$$\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{(n)} \longrightarrow \boldsymbol{\alpha}^{(n+1)}$$

Target Distribution



$$p(\mathbf{s})$$

Currently supports biases written as a product of 1-dimensional basis functions

$$V(\mathbf{s}; \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \sum_{i_1, i_2} \alpha_{i_1, i_2} f_{i_1}(s_1) g_{i_2}(s_2)$$

**BF\_CHEBYSHEV** Chebyshev polynomial basis functions.

**BF\_COMBINED** Combining other basis functions types

**BF\_COSINE** Fourier cosine basis functions.

**BF\_FOURIER** Fourier basis functions.

**BF\_LEGENDRE** Legendre polynomials basis functions.

**BF\_MATHEVAL** Basis functions given by matheval expressions.

**BF POWERS** Polynomial power basis functions.

**BF\_SINE** Fourier sine basis functions.

+ many other hidden and untested options

very easy to add new basis functions types

## Target distributions

**GAUSSIAN**

Target distribution given by a sum of Gaussians (static).

**GRID\_DIST**

Target distribution from an external grid file (static).

**LINEAR\_COMBINATION**

Target distribution given by linear combination of distributions (static or dynamic).

**MATHEVAL\_DIST**

Target distribution given by a matheval parsed function (static or dynamic).

**PRODUCT\_COMBINATION**

Target distribution given by product combination of distributions (static or dynamic).

**PRODUCT\_DISTRIBUTION**

Target distribution given by a separable product of one-dimensional distributions (static or dynamic).

**UNIFORM**

Uniform target distribution (static).

**VON\_MISES**

Target distribution given by a sum of Von Mises distributions (static).

**WELL\_TEMPERED**

Well-tempered target distribution (dynamic).

+ many other hidden and untested options

very easy to add new target distributions

## Optimizers

**AVERAGED\_SGD** Averaged stochastic gradient decent with fixed step size.

**FAKE\_OPTIMIZER** Dummy optimizer for debugging.

**ROBBINS\_MONRO\_SGD** Robbins-Monro stochastic gradient decent.

basis  
functions

```
bf1: BF_LEGENDRE ORDER=20 INTERVAL_MIN=0.0 INTERVAL_MAX=10.0
```

bias

```
VES_LINEAR_EXPANSION ...
ARG=cv1
BASIS_FUNCTIONS=bf1
LABEL=ves1
TEMP=300.0
GRID_BINS=100
... VES_LINEAR_EXPANSION
```

optimizer

```
AVERAGED_SGD ...
BIAS=ves1
STRIDE=500
LABEL=o1
STEP_SIZE=0.5
FES_OUTPUT=100
BIAS_OUTPUT=500
COEFFS_OUTPUT=10
... AVERAGED_SGD
```

basis  
functions

```
bf1: BF_LEGENDRE ORDER=20 INTERVAL_MIN=0.0 INTERVAL_MAX=10.0
bf2: BF_FOURIER ORDER=10 INTERVAL_MIN=-pi INTERVAL_MAX=pi
```

bias

```
VES_LINEAR_EXPANSION ...
ARG=cv1, cv2
BASIS_FUNCTIONS=bf1, bf2
LABEL=ves1
TEMP=300.0
GRID_BINS=100, 100
TARGET_DISTRIBUTION={WELL_TEMPERED BIASFACTOR=10}
... VES_LINEAR_EXPANSION
```

optimizer

```
AVERAGED_SGD ...
BIAS=ves1
STRIDE=500
LABEL=o1
STEP_SIZE=0.5
FES_OUTPUT=100
BIAS_OUTPUT=500
COEFFS_OUTPUT=10
... AVERAGED_SGD
```

basis  
functions

```
bf1: BF_LEGENDRE ORDER=20 INTERVAL_MIN=-4.0 INTERVAL_MAX=+4.0
bf2: BF_LEGENDRE ORDER=20 INTERVAL_MIN=-4.0 INTERVAL_MAX=+4.0
```

bias

```
VES_LINEAR_EXPANSION ...
ARG=cv1, cv1
BASIS_FUNCTIONS=bf1, bf2
LABEL=ves1
TEMP=300.0
GRID_BINS=100, 100
TARGET_DISTRIBUTION={GAUSSIAN
    CENTER1=-1.5, +1.5 SIGMA1=0.8, 0.3
    CENTER2=+1.5, -1.5 SIGMA2=0.3, 0.8
    WEIGHTS=1.0, 4.0
}
... VES_LINEAR_EXPANSION
```

optimizer

```
AVERAGED_SGD ...
BIAS=ves1
STRIDE=500
LABEL=o1
STEP_SIZE=0.5
FES_OUTPUT=100
BIAS_OUTPUT=500
COEFFS_OUTPUT=10
... AVERAGED_SGD
```

basis  
functions

```
bf1: BF_LEGENDRE ORDER=20 INTERVAL_MIN=-4.0 INTERVAL_MAX=+4.0
bf2: BF_LEGENDRE ORDER=20 INTERVAL_MIN=-4.0 INTERVAL_MAX=+4.0
```

bias

```
VES_LINEAR_EXPANSION ...
ARG=cv1, cv2
BASIS_FUNCTIONS=bf1, bf2
LABEL=ves1
TEMP=300.0
GRID_BINS=100, 100
TARGET_DISTRIBUTION={MATHEVAL_DIST
FUNCTION=1.0
*exp(-0.5*((s1+1.5)/0.8)^2)
*exp(-0.5*((s2-1.5)/0.3)^2)
+4.0
*exp(-0.5*((s1-1.5)/0.3)^2)
*exp(-0.5*((s2+1.5)/0.8)^2)
}
... VES_LINEAR_EXPANSION
```

optimizer

```
AVERAGED_SGD ...
BIAS=ves1
STRIDE=500
LABEL=o1
STEP_SIZE=0.5
FES_OUTPUT=100
BIAS_OUTPUT=500
COEFFS_OUTPUT=10
... AVERAGED_SGD
```

## Matheval defined target distribution

```
# Shifted Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution
TARGET_DISTRIBUTION={MATHEVAL_DIST
                      FUNCTION=(s1+20)^2*exp(-(s1+20)^2/(2*10.0^2))}

# Generalized error distribution
TARGET_DISTRIBUTION={MATHEVAL_DIST
                      FUNCTION=exp(-(abs(s1-20.0)/5.0)^4.0)}

# Frechet distribution
TARGET_DISTRIBUTION={MATHEVAL_DIST
                      FUNCTION=(3.0/10.0)
                        * ((s1+20.0001)/10.0)^(-1.0-3.0)
                        *exp(-((s1+20.0001)/10.0)^(-3.0))}

# Well-Tempered with gamma=10
TARGET_DISTRIBUTION={MATHEVAL_DIST FUNCTION=exp(-(beta/10.0)*FE)}
```

can also define basis functions via matheval

```
BF_MATHEVAL . .
TRANSFORM=(t-(min+max)/2)/((max-min)/2)
FUNC1=x
FUNC2=(1/2)*(3*x^2-1)
FUNC3=(1/2)*(5*x^3-3*x)
FUNC4=(1/8)*(35*x^4-30*x^2+3)
FUNC5=(1/8)*(63*x^5-70*x^3+15*x)
FUNC6=(1/16)*(231*x^6-315*x^4+105*x^2-5)
INTERVAL_MIN=-4.0
INTERVAL_MAX=4.0
LABEL=bf1
... BF_MATHEVAL
```

same as

```
BF_LEGENDRE . .
ORDER=6
INTERVAL_MIN=-4.0
INTERVAL_MAX=+4.0
LABEL=bf2
... BF_LEGENDRE
```

# Acknowledgements

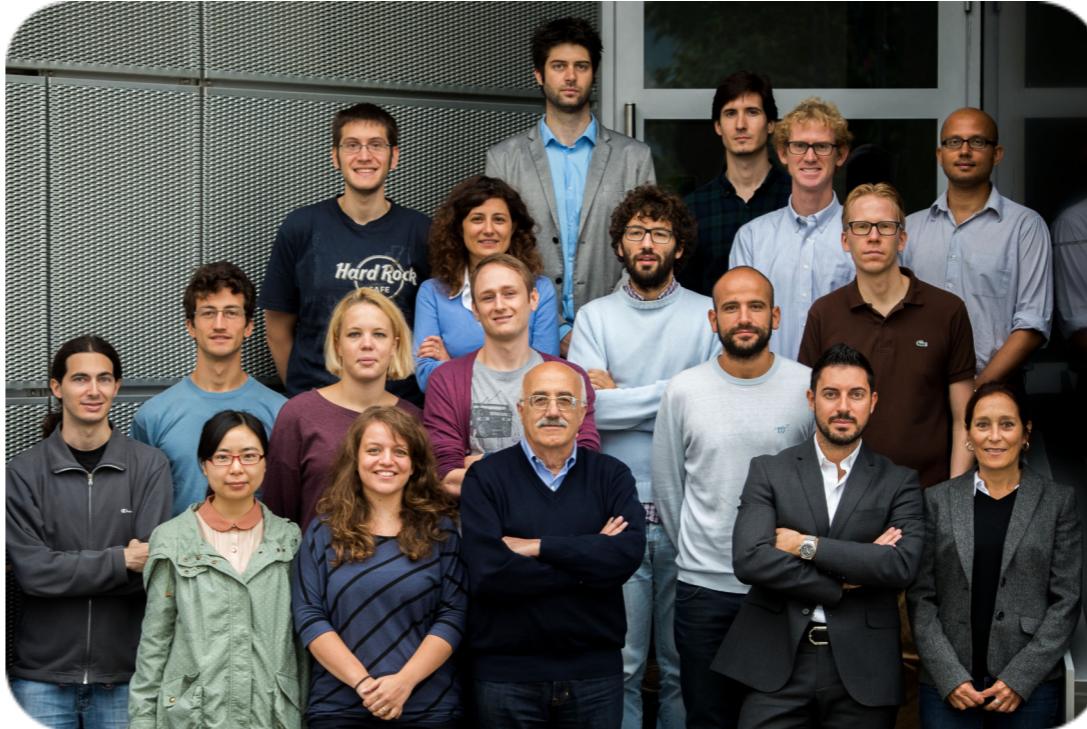
Michele Parrinello

Fellow group members

- Patrick Shaffer
- James McCarty
- Pablo Piaggi
- Michele Invernizzi
- Ferruccio Palazzi
- Vincenzo Verdolino
- Giovanni Piccini

Pratyush Tiwary

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NATIONAL CENTRE OF COMPETENCE IN RESEARCH



The National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCR) are a research instrument of the Swiss National Science Foundation

Thanks for your attention!

Questions?