

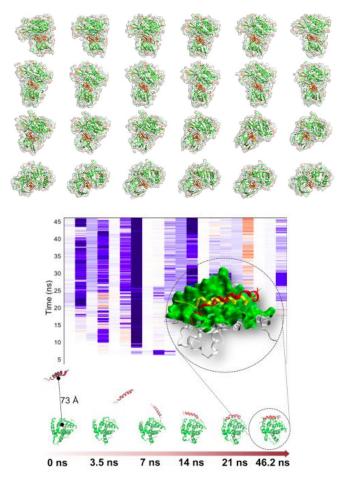
# Molecular dynamics

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## **Molecular dynamics**

- 1. MD simulations mimic the physical motions of atoms present in the actual environment;
- The atoms and molecules are allowed to interact for a fixed period of time, giving <u>a view of the</u> <u>dynamic "evolution" of the system.</u>
- to explore conformational space
- to explore biological process of molecular recognition
- to investigate ligand pose stability
- to explore protein flexibility
- to estimate binding affinity of protein-ligand (protein-protein) complexes





#### Run MD simulation (10 ps):

https://privatecloud.imtm.cz/s/xgUMAHX2iX1TJmg

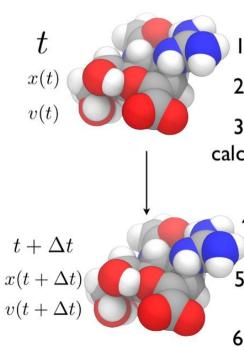
*mkdir md\_tutorial\_student cd md\_tutorial conda activate md* 

pip uninstall streamd pip install git+<u>https://github.com/ci-lab-cz/md-scripts.git</u>

run\_md -p protein\_HIS.pdb -I ligand.mol --md\_time 0.01 --nvt\_time 10 --npt\_time 10 --ncpu 8 -d mdrun



Simulation process is based on Newton's second law



#### **Molecular Dynamics**

I.Assign velocities to all atoms

2. Calculate forces on all atoms

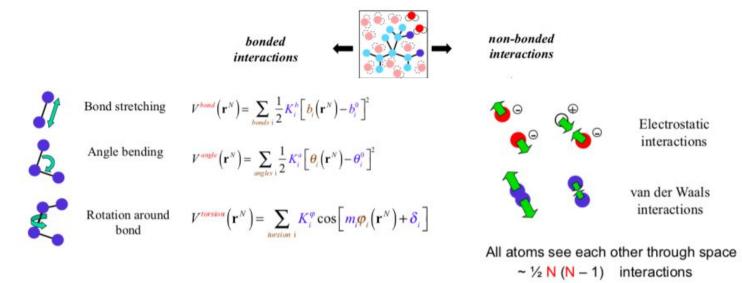
3. Use Newton's second law to calculate acceleration on each atom F=ma

- 4. Calculate velocities for the next timestep
- 5. Use change of velocities to get coordinates for next timestep

6. Go to step 2.



# Theory: molecular interactions



#### Goals of classical (semi-empirical) force fields

- Definition of empirical potential energy functions  $V(\mathbf{r})$  to model the molecular interactions

- These functions need to be differentiable in order to compute the forces acting on each atom:  $F = -\nabla V(r)$ 

The computational bottleneck



## Theory: force fields

All force fields were developed using different experimental data and for slightly different purposes

The most popular FFs for protein and protein-ligand simulations are:

CHARMM – proteins, lipids, nucleic acids

AMBER - peptide, protein, nucleic acids, lipid14, GAFF

**OPLS** - optimized to fit experimental properties of liquids, such as density and heat of vaporization

**GROMOS** – proteins, small molecules, also optimized for experimental parameters

#### Implementation of calssical potential energy functions

- 1. Theoretical functional forms are derived for the potential energy V(r).
- Definition of atom types that differ by their atomic number and chemical environment, e.g. the carbons in C=O or C-C are of different types.

Each FF works with a particular set of simulation parameters → they should not be mixed!

#### examples of \*.mdp files

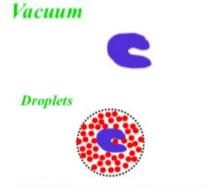
#### md.mdp

#### ions.mdp

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11 coulombtype 12 rcoulomb 13 rvdw	= cutoff = 1.0 = 1.0	; Treatment of long range electrostatic interactions ; Short-range electrostatic cut-off ; Short-range Van der Waals cut-off	15 continuation 16 constraint_algorithm 17 constraints 18 lincs iter	= yes = lincs = h-bonds = 1	; Restarting ; holonomic ; bonds invo : accuracy o	constraints lving H are constrained
em.mdp		; Periodic Boundary Conditions in all 3 dimensions	19 lincs_order 20 ; Neighborsearching 21 cutoff-scheme 22 ns_type 23 nstlist 24 rcoulomb 25 rvdw 26 ; Electrostatics	= 4 = Verlet = grid = 10 = 1.0 = 1.0	; also relat ; Buffered n ; search nei ; 20 fs, lar ; short-rang	ed to accuracy eighbor searching ghboring grid cells gely irrelevant with Verlet scheme e electrostatic cutoff (in nm) e van der Waals cutoff (in nm)
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7 8; Parameters d 9 cutoff-scheme 10 ns_type 11 coulombtype 12 rcoulomb	= Verlet = grid = PME = 1.0	<pre>; Maximum number of (minimization) steps to perform to find the neighbors of each atom and how to calculate the interactions ; Buffered neighbor searching ; Method to determine neighbor list (simple, grid) ; Treatment of long range electrostatic interactions ; Short-range electrostatic cut-off . Short area of the local set off</pre>	35; Pressure coupling is 36 pcoupl 37 pcoupltype 38 tau_p 39 ref_p 40 compressibility 41; Periodic boundary cor 42 pbc 43; Dispersion correction 44 DispCorr	= Parrinello = isotropic = 2.0 = 1.0 = 4.5e-5 ditions = xyz	; 3-D PBC	; Pressure coupling on in NPT ; uniform scaling of box vectors ; time constant, in ps ; reference pressure, in bar ; isothermal compressibility of water, bar^-1 or cut-off vdW scheme
13 rvdw 14 pbc	= 1.0 = xyz	; Short-range Van der Waals cut-off ; Periodic Boundary Conditions in all 3 dimensions	45; Velocity generation 46 gen_vel	= no		eneration is off

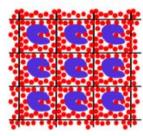


# Theory: solvent and periodic boundary conditions (PBC)



- Surface effects (surface tension)
- No dielectric screening
- · Still surface effects
- Only partial dielectric screening
- Evaporation of the solvent

Periodic: rectangular system is surrounded by copies of itself

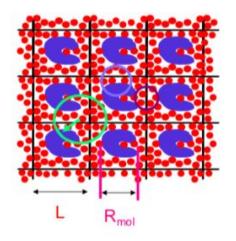


Advantage: • No surface effects Disadvantage: • Artificial periodicity • High effective concentration

Probably still the best approach ...



### Periodic Boundary Conditions



Required (no atom sees another one twice):  $L > 2R_c$   $R_c < \frac{1}{2}L$ Preferred

(protein does not see a copy of itself)

 $L > R_c + R_{mol}$   $R_c < L - R_{mol}$ 

 $L > 2R_c + R_{mol}$   $R_c < \frac{1}{2}(L - R_{mol})$ 

To simulate an infinite system, **periodic boundary conditions** are often applied. This allows atoms that leave one side of the simulation box to re-enter on the opposite side.

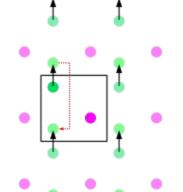
- PBCs are often used in computer simulations and mathematical models.
- The topology of two-dimensional PBC is equal to that of a world map of some video games; the geometry of the unit cell satisfies perfect two-dimensional tiling, and when an object passes through one side of the unit cell, it reappears on the opposite side with the same velocity.

Cubic:

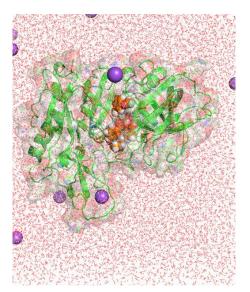


(no solvent sees two proteins)

Even better









#### **Structure Preparation Force-field** Definitions of inter-atomic bonded and non-bonded forces (ligand and protein) Simulation box setup box size/shape Solvate system add HOH molecules Neutralize system add NA+/CL- ions **Energy minimization** 100 ps to ensure that the system has no steric clashes or inappropriate geometry

#### **NVT and NPT equilibration**

• 1000 ps

Preprocessing

Pre-simulation

steps

 equilibrate the solvent and ions around the protein

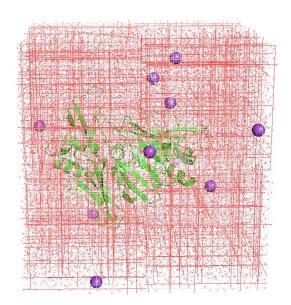
#### **Product Simulation**

**Analysis** 



After we got simulated trajectory:

1) Remove Periodic boundary conditions

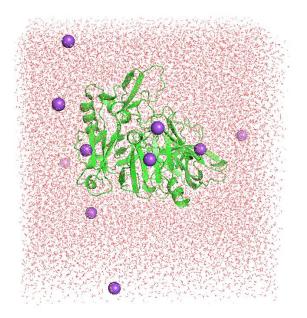




After we got simulated trajectory:

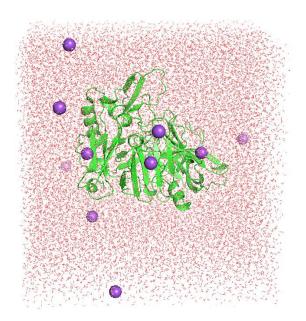
2) Center system (solvate, ions, atoms) over protein

3) Remove rotations of the system





Now you are ready to analyze your trajectory





#### **Metrics**

#### 1) Root-mean-square deviation (RMSD):

the RMSD is a measure of the difference between a initial conformation of the ligand/protein conformation and the analysed conformation

#### Root mean square deviations in structure

#### gmx rms, gmx rmsdist

The root mean square deviation (RMSD) of certain atoms in a molecule with respect to a reference structure can be calculated with the program gmx rms by least-square fitting the structure to the reference structure ( $t_2 = 0$ ) and subsequently calculating the RMSD ((458)).

$$RMSD(t_1, t_2) = \left[\frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^N m_i \|\mathbf{r}_i(t_1) - \mathbf{r}_i(t_2)\|^2\right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(458)

where  $M = \sum_{i=1}^{N} m_i$  and  $\mathbf{r}_i(t)$  is the position of atom i at time t. **Note** that fitting does not have to use the same atoms as the calculation of the RMSD; e.g. a protein is usually fitted on the backbone atoms (N, C<sub>a</sub>, C), but the RMSD can be computed of the backbone or of the whole protein.

Instead of comparing the structures to the initial structure at time t = 0 (so for example a crystal structure), one can also calculate (458) with a structure at time  $t_2 = t_1 - \tau$ . This gives some insight in the mobility as a function of  $\tau$ . A matrix can also be made with the *RMSD* as a function of  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ , which gives a nice graphical interpretation of a trajectory. If there are transitions in a trajectory, they will clearly show up in such a matrix.

Alternatively the RMSD can be computed using a fit-free method with the program gmx rmsdist:

$$RMSD(t) = \left[\frac{1}{N^2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \|\mathbf{r}_{ij}(t) - \mathbf{r}_{ij}(0)\|^2\right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(459)

where the *distance*  $\mathbf{r}_{ij}$  between atoms at time t is compared with the distance between the same atoms at time 0.



#### **Metrics**

#### 2) Radius of gyration (Rgyr):

To have a rough measure for the compactness of a structure, you can calculate the *radius of gyration* with the program gmx gyrate as follows:

$$R_g = \left(\frac{\sum_i \|\mathbf{r}_i\|^2 m_i}{\sum_i m_i}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(456)

where  $m_i$  is the mass of atom i and  $\mathbf{r}_i$  the position of atom i with respect to the center of mass of the molecule. It is especially useful to characterize polymer solutions and proteins. The program will also provide the radius of gyration around the coordinate axis (or, optionally, principal axes) by only summing the radii components orthogonal to each axis, for instance

$$R_{g,x} = \left(\frac{\sum_{i} \left(r_{i,y}^{2} + r_{i,z}^{2}\right) m_{i}}{\sum_{i} m_{i}}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$
(457)

Value of Rgyr:

**Decreasing** - compression

**Increasing** - extension



### What can be done

- To explore different conformation of protein
  - To investigate internal-flexibility of protein Ο
  - For practical use we select conformations from the most populated clusters of all Ο conformations

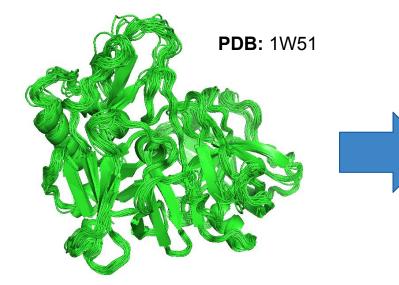
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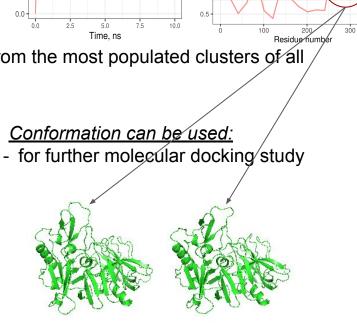
'1.0' BWSD' 0.5

0.0

RMSD example 10ns 310K

1W51\_protein





2.5

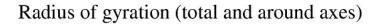
2.0

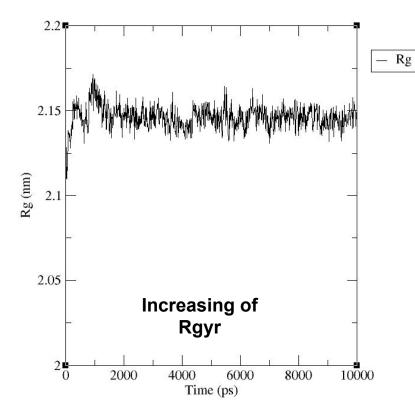
RMSD, A

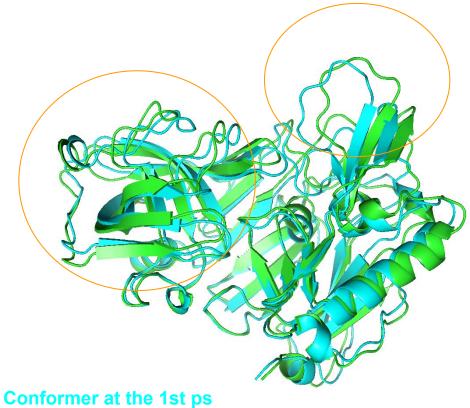
RMS fluctuation example 10ns 310K 1W51\_protein

400







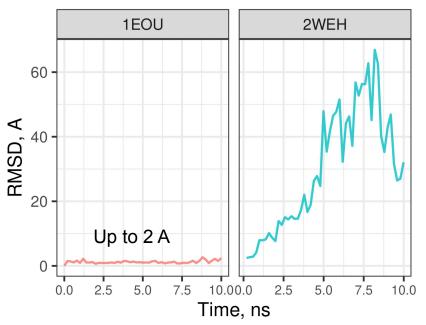


Conformer at the 1000th ps

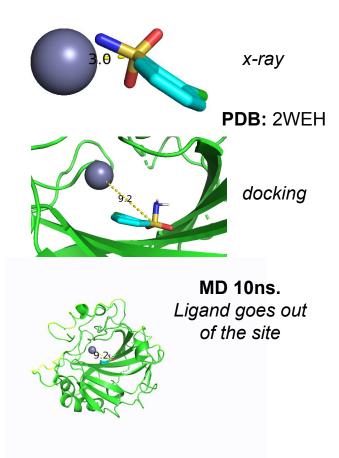


• To explore stability of ligand pose

#### RMSD example 10ns 310K



#### Example of incorrect pose:



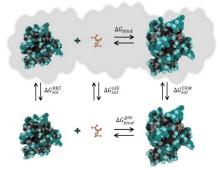


- to estimate binding affinity of protein-ligand complexes
- Molecular mechanics Poisson–Boltzmann surface area (MM/PBSA)
- Molecular mechanics generalized Born surface area (MM/GBSA)

$$\Delta G_{\rm bind} = G_{\rm RL} - G_{\rm R} - G_{\rm L} \tag{4}$$

can be decomposed into contributions of different interactions and expressed as (58)

$$\Delta G_{\text{bind}} = \Delta H - T\Delta S = \Delta E_{\text{MM}} + \Delta G_{\text{sol}} - T\Delta S \tag{5}$$



in which

$$\Delta E_{\rm MM} = \Delta E_{\rm int} + \Delta E_{\rm ele} + \Delta E_{\rm vdW} \tag{6}$$

$$\Delta G_{\rm sol} = \Delta G_{\rm PB/GB} + \Delta G_{\rm SA} \tag{7}$$

$$\Delta G_{\rm SA} = \gamma \cdot {\rm SASA} + b \tag{8}$$

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Valdés-Tresanco, M.S., Valdés-Tresanco, M.E., Valiente, P.A. and Moreno E. *gmx\_MMPBSA: A New Tool to Perform End-State Free Energy Calculations with GROMACS.* Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation, 2021 17 (10), 6281-6291. <u>https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.jctc.1c00645</u>. *MMPBSA.py:* An Efficient Program for End-State Free Energy Calculations Bill R. Miller III, T. Dwight McGee Jr., Jason M. Swails, Nadine Homeyer, Holger Gohlke, and Adrian E. Roitberg Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation 2012 8 (9), 3314-3321 DOI: 10.1021/ct300418h



 to estimate binding affinity of protein-ligand complexes

Total G<sub>Binding</sub>=

- Gas-phase molecular mechanics energy ∆E<sub>MM</sub>:
  - Changes in the internal energies 
     \[
     \Lefta E\_{int} (bond, angle, and dihedral energies)
     \]
  - electrostatic energies  $\Delta E_{ele}$
  - van der Waals energies  $\Delta E_{vd}$
- sum of the electrostatic solvation energy G<sub>sol</sub>
- **The polar contribution** is calculated using either the PB or GB model ( $\triangle$ GPB/GB). Where the GB method gives an analytical expression for the polar solvation energy and is thus much faster than the PB method.
- nonpolar energy is usually estimated using the solvent-accessible surface area (SASA)
- The change in **conformational entropy** -TΔS
  - is usually calculated by normal-mode analysis (or Interaction entropy) on a set of conformational snapshots taken from MD simulations.

In the MM/PBSA or MM/GBSA approach, the free energy for binding of the ligand (L) to the protein receptor (R) to form the complex (RL),

$$\Delta G_{\rm bind} = G_{\rm RL} - G_{\rm R} - G_{\rm L} \tag{4}$$

can be decomposed into contributions of different interactions and expressed as (58)

in which

$$\Delta G_{\text{bind}} = \Delta H - T\Delta S = \Delta E_{\text{MM}} + \Delta G_{\text{sol}} - T\Delta S \tag{5}$$

$$\Delta E_{\rm MM} = \Delta E_{\rm int} + \Delta E_{\rm ele} + \Delta E_{\rm vdW} \tag{6}$$

$$\Delta G_{\rm sol} = \Delta G_{\rm PB/GB} + \Delta G_{\rm SA} \tag{7}$$

$$\Delta G_{\rm SA} = \gamma \cdot {\rm SASA} + b \tag{8}$$

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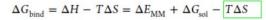
# GBSA/PBSA We can perform end-state free energy calculations

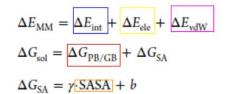
	$\Delta G_{\text{bind}} =$	$G_{\rm RL} - G_{\rm R} - G_{\rm L}$	
--	----------------------------	--------------------------------------	--

Energy Component	Average	SD(Prop.)	SD	SEM(Prop.)	SEM
ΔBOND	0.00	3.90	0.00	0.17	0.00
AANGLE	0.00	4.77	0.00	0.21	0.00
ADIHED	0.00	3.87	0.00	0.17	0.00
AVDWAALS	-102.13	2.26	4.27	0.10	0.19
ΔEEL	-16.56	0.74	4.83	0.03	0.22
Δ1-4 VDW	-0.00	1.70	0.00	0.08	0.00
Δ1-4 EEL	-0.00	0.64	0.00	0.03	0.00
ΔEGB	51.30	0.77	4.38	0.03	0.20
ΔESURF	-11.85	0.02	0.36	0.00	0.02
∆GGAS	-118.69	2.38	5.68	0.11	0.25
ΔGSOLV	39.45	0.77	4.34	0.03	0.19
ΔTOTAL	-79.23	2.50	4.49	0.11	0.20

Using Interaction Entropy Approximation:

ΔG binding = -68.17 +/- 6.10





GENERALIZED BORN:

Complex:		and the second second second second		and the second se	
Energy Component	Average	SD(Prop.)	SD	SEM(Prop.)	SEM
BOND	2858.30	46.32	46.32	2.07	2.07
ANGLE	7239.59	66.97	66.97	2.99	2.99
DIHED	9131.55	44.47	44.47	1.99	1.99
VDWAALS	-7387.25	51.90	51.90	2.32	2.32
EEL	-55344.22	317.42	317.42	14.18	14.18
1-4 VDW	3275.97	24.44	24.44	1.09	1.09
1-4 EEL	36478.79	82.81	82.81	3.70	3.70
EGB	-18524.97	275.82	275.82	12.32	12.32
ESURF	280.64	5.77	5.77	0.26	0.26
GGAS	-3747.27	345.71	300.04	15.45	13.40
GSOLV	-18244.33	275.88	274.96	12.33	12.28
TOTAL	-21991.60	442.29	99.56	19.76	4.45

#### Complex energy terms

		<u> </u>			
Receptor: Energy Component					SE
BOND	2835.83	46.26	46.26	2.07	2.6
NGLE	7133.13	66.61	66.61	2.98	2.9
DIHED	9079.29	44.14	44.14	1.97	1.9
/DWAALS	-7277.88	51.88	51.88	2.32	2.3
EL	-55330.60	315.81	315.81	14.11	14.1
L-4 VDW	3251.42	24.39	24.39	1.09	1.6
I-4 EEL	36494.62	82.78	82.78	3.70	3.7
GB	-18549.75	274.33	274.33	12.26	12.2
SURF	285.40	5.69	5.69	0.25	0.2
GAS	-3814.19	344.09	299.04	15.37	13.3
SOLV	-18264.35	274.39	273.49	12.26	12.2
TOTAL	-22078.54		99.05	19.66	4.4
.igand:					
nergy Component	Average	SD(Prop.)	SD	SEM(Prop.)	SE
BOND	22.47		3.96	0.18	0.1
NGLE	106.46	5.13	5.13	0.23	0.2
DIHED	52.26	4.20	4.20	0.19	0.1
/DWAALS	-7.24	2.28	2.28	0.10	0.1
EL	2.93	0.87	0.87	0.04	0.0
L-4 VDW	24.55	1.75	1.75	0.08	0.6
I-4 EEL	-15.83	0.67	0.67	0.03	0.0
GB	-26.51	0.72	0.72	0.03	0.0
SURF	7.08	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.6
GAS	185.60	8.32	7.01	0.37	0.3
SOLV	-19.43	0.72	0.71	0.03	0.6
OTAL	166.17	8.35	6.96	0.37	0.3

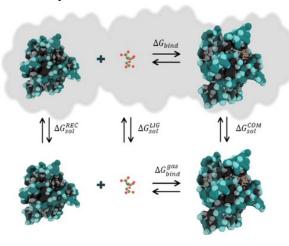
#### Protein energy terms

#### Ligand energy terms

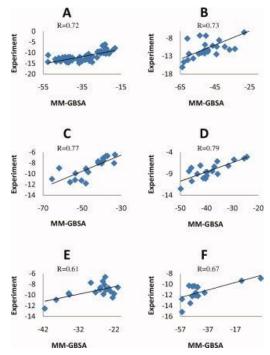
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 to estimate binding affinity of protein-ligand complexes



#### Correlation between **MM-GBSA** predicted and experimental binding free energy.

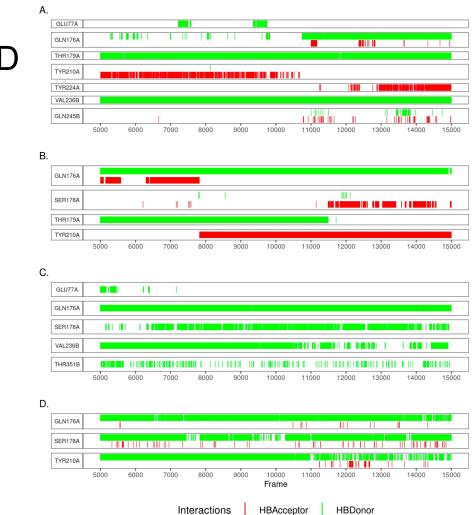


Yang T, Wu JC, Yan C, Wang Y, Luo R, Gonzales MB, Dalby KN, Ren P. Virtual screening using molecular simulations. Proteins. 2011 Jun;79(6):1940-51. doi: 10.1002/prot.23018. Epub 2011 Apr 12. PMID: 21491494; PMCID: PMC3092865.

Valdés-Tresanco, M.S., Valdés-Tresanco, M.E., Valiente, P.A. and Moreno E. *gmx\_MMPBSA: A New Tool to Perform End-State Free Energy Calculations with GROMACS.* Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation, 2021 17 (10), 6281-6291. <u>https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.jctc.1c00645</u>. *MMPBSA.py:* An Efficient Program for End-State Free Energy Calculations Bill R. Miller III, T. Dwight McGee Jr., Jason M. Swails, Nadine Homeyer, Holger Gohlke, and Adrian E. Roitberg Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation 2012 8 (9), 3314-3321 DOI: 10.1021/ct300418h



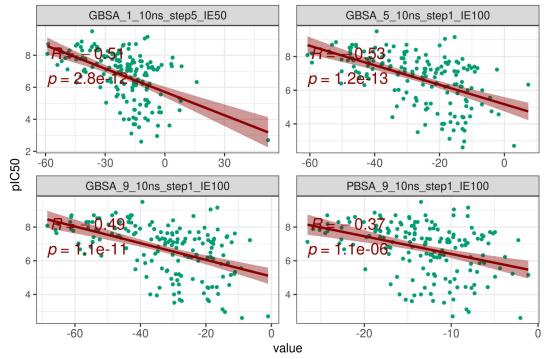
• to investigate protein-ligand (protein) interaction stability





### **Beta Secretase**

#### CA2. 10ns. 310K. GBSA. Pearson

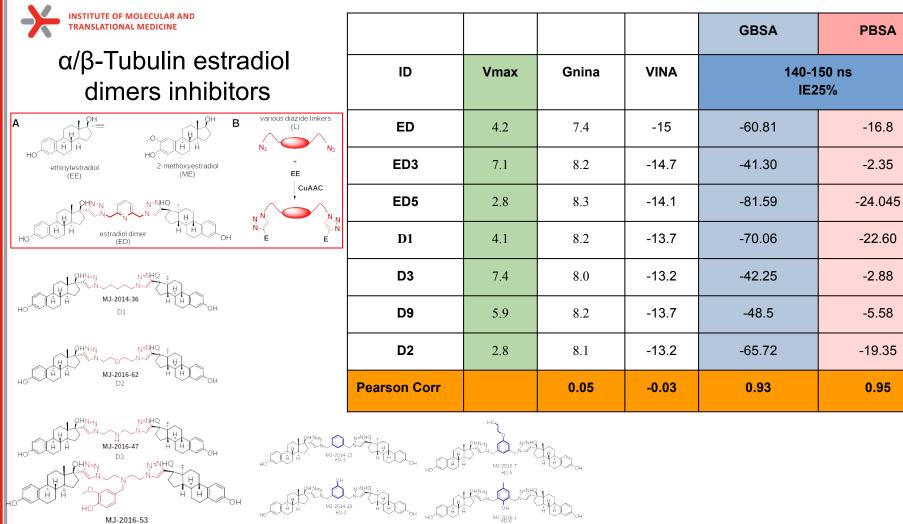


#### **Tested parameters:**

- Time of analysis
  - from 1 to 10 ns
  - $\circ$  from 5 to 10 ns
  - $\circ$  from 9 to 10 ns
- GBSA/PBSA methods
- The best correlation: -0.53
- Results depends on parameters but not drastically
- Further analysis may help to investigate number of the most optimal parameters

#### ~ time of running

- 1 hour for 10 ns of MD
- 0.5 sec per compound for GBSA



J-2016 D9



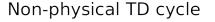
### Limitations of Classical Molecular Dynamics:

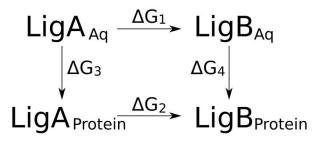
- 1) MD simulations on very large systems may require such large computer resources that they cannot easily be studied by traditional all-atom methods.
- Simulations of processes on long timescales\* (beyond about 1 microsecond) are prohibitively expensive, because they require so many time steps.
- 3) not accurate calculation of binding energy

\*The microscopic observation of biomolecular processes such as protein folding, protein interactions, agonist-antagonist functional recognition and enzyme reactions occur on timescales ranging from microseconds to seconds.



### Free energy perturbation (FEP)





 $\Delta \Delta G = \Delta G_4 - \Delta G_3 = \Delta G_2 - \Delta G_1$ 

**Free Energy Perturbation (FEP)** is a computational technique in molecular dynamics simulations used to calculate the free energy difference between two different states of a molecular system. This method is widely employed in computational chemistry and drug discovery to understand thermodynamic properties, such as binding affinities or conformational changes.

# Uses for predicting relative binding free energy between similar ligands

#### **Basic Concept:**

Free Energy Difference: FEP aims to calculate the free energy difference ( $\Delta$ G) between two states of a system, typically denoted as **State A** and **State B**. This can include changes in conformation, solvation state, or interactions with other molecules.

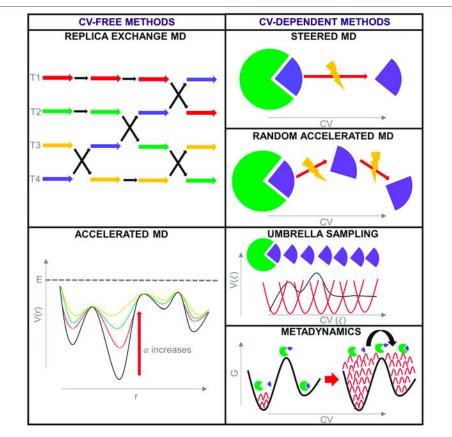


#### perturbation

FEP calculations are **based on molecular dynamics (MD) simulations** and therefore explicitly consider both enthalpy and entropy effects of the conformational flexibility of the ligand, as well as desolvation effects within the ligand binding domain (LBD) of certain receptors. Simulations must be stable.



#### Enhanced sampling methods for molecular dynamics simulations

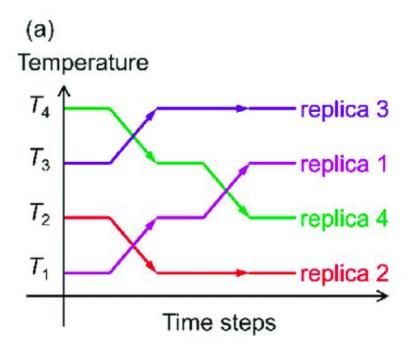


Enhanced sampling methods in molecular dynamics simulations are designed to overcome the limitations of traditional simulations: which may struggle to *explore rare events*, *transitions between different states*, or *high-dimensional spaces efficiently.* 

These methods aim to enhance the sampling of relevant regions in the configuration space, providing more accurate and comprehensive insights into the behavior of the system.



### Replica exchange method



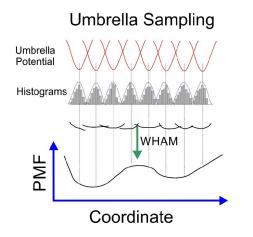
#### **Replica Exchange Molecular Dynamics (REMD):**

**Idea:** REMD involves running parallel simulations at different temperatures and occasionally swapping configurations between neighboring replicas.

**Implementation:** By exchanging configurations, REMD promotes exploration of the entire temperature space, facilitating transitions between different energy basins.



## Umbrella sampling



**Idea:** Umbrella Sampling is used to sample a reaction coordinate by applying harmonic restraints to the system along that coordinate.

**Implementation:** Windows are defined along the reaction coordinate, and simulations are run independently in each window. The resulting data are then combined to obtain the free energy profile.

**1. Definition of Reaction Coordinate:** A reaction coordinate is chosen to describe the progress of the system throughout the simulation. This could be a distance between specific atoms, an angle, or any other coordinate that characterizes the process of interest.

**2. Harmonic Restraints:** Along the chosen reaction coordinate, harmonic restraints (springs) are applied to confine the system to specific values of the coordinate. These restraints prevent the system from moving too far away from the chosen values.

**3. Simulation in Windows:** The simulation is divided into multiple windows along the reaction coordinate. In each window, the system is simulated under the influence of the harmonic restraint. The strength of the restraint varies between windows, covering the entire range of the reaction coordinate.

**4. Independent Simulations:** Simulations are run independently in each window. These simulations sample different regions of the free energy landscape along the reaction coordinate. Typically, each window is equilibrated before production runs.

**5. Biasing Potential:** The biasing potential applied to the system is essentially a harmonic potential due to the restraints. This potential introduces a bias along the reaction coordinate, making it easier for the system to explore different states.

**6. Sampling in Each Window:** In each window, the system samples the region around the constrained value of the reaction coordinate. The biasing potential helps overcome energy barriers, allowing the system to explore different conformations.

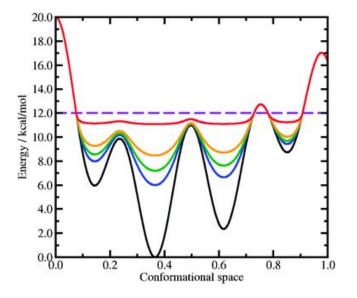
**7. Combining Data:** The data from simulations in each window are combined to construct the overall free energy profile along the reaction coordinate. This is typically achieved by using the Weighted Histogram Analysis Method (WHAM) or other similar methods.

**8. Free Energy Profile:** The resulting free energy profile provides information about the thermodynamics of the system along the chosen reaction coordinate. It reveals the relative stability of different states and the energy barriers between them.



### **Accelerated Molecular Dynamics**

Accelerated Molecular Dynamics (aMD) is an enhanced sampling technique used in molecular dynamics simulations to overcome energy barriers and explore conformational space more efficiently. The primary idea behind aMD is to selectively boost the potential energy of the system in regions of high energy, making it easier for the simulation to overcome barriers and sample rare events.



**Potential Energy Boosting:** In traditional molecular dynamics simulations, the potential energy surface may have high-energy barriers that slow down the exploration of certain regions of conformational space. Accelerated Molecular Dynamics addresses this issue by applying a biasing potential to selectively boost the potential energy in high-energy regions.

**Boosting Function:** A boosting function is defined to modulate the potential energy. This function is typically based on the potential energy of each atom or a collective variable. The boosting function is designed to be higher in regions of high potential energy, effectively reducing energy barriers.

**Boosted Force Calculation:** The boosted potential energy modifies the forces acting on the atoms. The forces experienced by the atoms are adjusted based on the boosting function, making it easier for the system to explore high-energy states.

**Simulation Setup:** The simulation is set up similarly to traditional molecular dynamics, with an initial configuration, force field, and integration algorithm. The only difference is the inclusion of the boosting function in the potential energy calculations.

**Sampling:** The simulation proceeds with the modified potential energy, allowing the system to explore regions that would be energetically unfavorable in traditional simulations. The boosted potential energy helps overcome barriers and facilitates the sampling of rare events.

**Equilibration and Production Runs:** The simulation typically starts with an equilibration phase to allow the system to adjust to the modified potential energy. After equilibration, production runs are performed to collect data for analysis.

**Analysis:** Trajectories from the simulation are analyzed to extract information about the system's behavior, such as structural changes, thermodynamic properties, and the exploration of different conformational states.

**Applications:** Accelerated Molecular Dynamics is applied to study various biological and chemical processes, including protein folding, ligand binding, and conformational changes. It is particularly useful for simulating rare events that occur on longer timescales.

**Challenges:** While aMD can be a powerful tool for enhancing sampling, care must be taken in choosing the boosting function and parameters to ensure that the accelerated dynamics do not introduce artifacts. Validation 31 against experimental data or other simulation methods is essential.



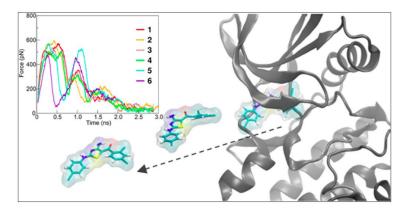
### Collective variable

A **collective variable** is a descriptor of the molecular system studied predefined by the user. It must be a differentiable function of the atomic coordinates. Furthermore, its value should reflect the state of the simulated system, including metastable states



### Steered molecular dynamics (SMD)

**Steered Molecular Dynamics (SMD)** is a simulation technique used to study the behavior of a system by applying external forces to specific atoms or groups of atoms, often to mimic a pulling or stretching action. This method is particularly useful for investigating processes such as protein unfolding, ligand binding, or other conformational changes in biological molecules



**Idea:** In SMD, external forces are applied to specific atoms or groups of atoms, effectively guiding the system along a particular reaction coordinate.

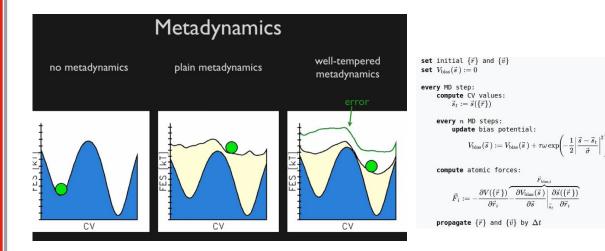
**Implementation:** Forces are applied to mimic an experimental process (e.g., ligand binding or unfolding of a protein) to explore the associated energy landscape.

50 SMD simulations



#### **Metadynamics**

Metadynamics involves enhanced sampling over collective variables using a biased potential to force the system to leave local minima and thus sample low-probability states (Laio and Parrinello, 2002). Metadynamics is an adaptive method, automatically biasing configurations away from those most visited.



**Idea:** Metadynamics adds a history-dependent bias potential to the potential energy surface, encouraging the system to explore regions that are rarely visited.

**Implementation:** Gaussian potentials are added along chosen collective variables. As the simulation progresses, these Gaussians are deposited, preventing the system from revisiting the same states.



### Supervised Molecular Dynamics (SuMD)

**Supervised MD (SuMD)** is a computational method that enables the exploration of ligand–receptor recognition pathway in a reduced timescale.

It involves integrating machine learning models, often neural networks, with molecular dynamics simulations to improve the accuracy and efficiency of the simulations.

**Prediction Step:** At each simulation step, the current state of the system (positions, velocities, etc.) is input into the trained machine learning model. The model predicts the desired property or behavior based on the current state.

**Influence on Dynamics:** The predicted information is used to guide or influence the dynamics of the simulation. This can involve adjusting forces acting on particles, modifying the potential energy landscape, or altering other parameters to match the predicted behavior.

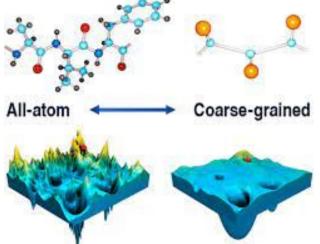


### Coarse grained molecular dynamics

*Coarse-grained molecular dynamics (CGMD) is* a simulation technique that simplifies the representation of molecular systems by grouping multiple atoms into a single interaction site. This approach reduces the computational cost and allows for the simulation of larger and longer time-scale processes compared to all-atom simulations.

Coarse-grained models are widely used for molecular modeling of biomolecules at various granularity levels.

• Allows us to model extremely large systems





### Take-home message

- 1) **Molecular dynamics (MD)** is a computer simulation method for analyzing the physical movements of atoms and molecules.
- 2) Molecular dynamics gives us more accurate information about molecular interaction than docking
- 3) Molecular dynamics allows us:
- to explore dynamic evolution of the system (flexibility of protein, protein-ligand complex, etc.)
- to calculate binding free energy
- to explore conformation space
- to explore protein-ligand (protein-protein) interaction profile
- 4) The accuracy of the simulation depends on the choice of an appropriate force field, and validation against experimental data is crucial.



# Sources:

### GROMACS documentation -

http://manual.gromacs.org/documentation/2016/index.html

### • GROMACS reference manual -

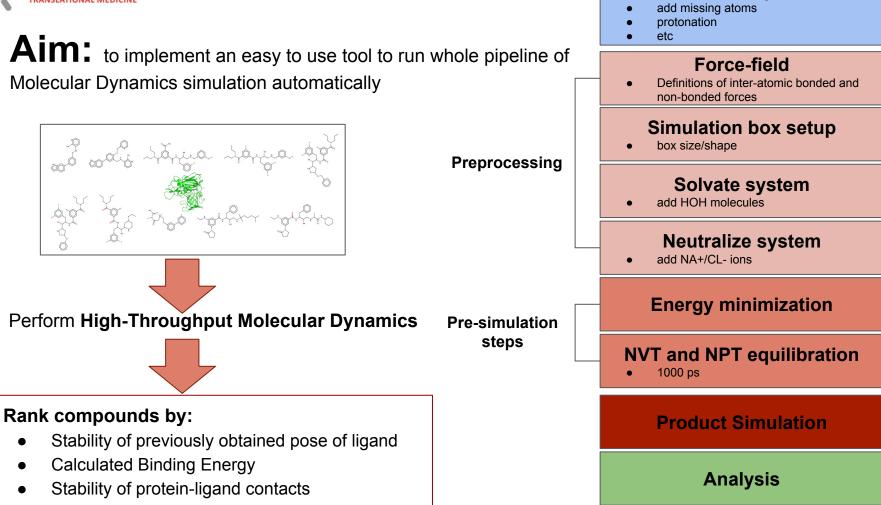
http://manual.gromacs.org/documentation/2016/manual-2016.pdf

• J. Lemkul tutorials – http://www.mdtutorials.com/gmx/index.html



# High-throughput MD





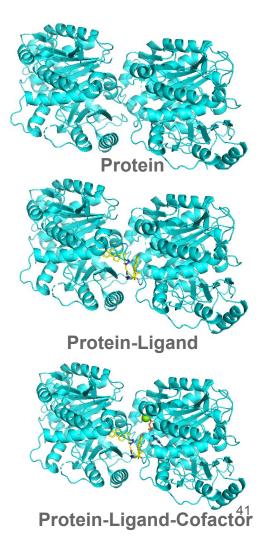
**Structure Preparation** 

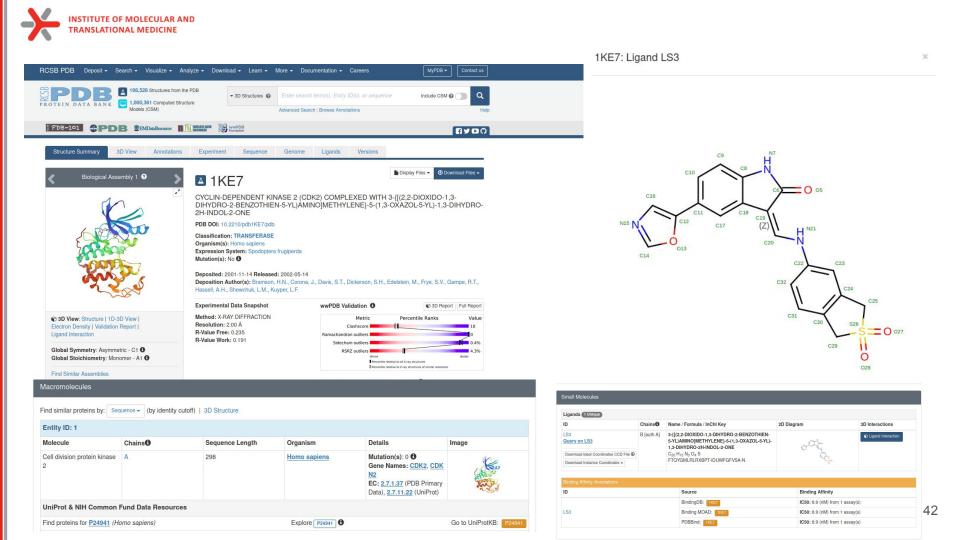
40



### Main features of the tool:

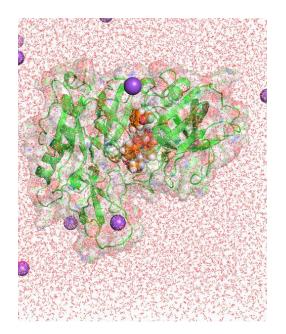
- User control of simulation time
  - $\circ$  ~ from 10 ps to 1  $\mu s$
- Default preset optimal parameters to run Molecular Dynamics
  - can be easily modified
  - useful as teaching source
- Support of modeling of different molecular systems
  - o protein only, protein-ligand, protein-ligand-cofactors
- Support of simulation of boron-containing molecules (Gaussian-based calculations)
- Support of simulation with parameterized by MCPBPY metal atoms
- Automatic analysis of simulation:
  - RMSD plots for both protein and ligand objects
  - Plot of flexibility of each amino acids (RMSF)
- Support of analysis by additional instruments:
  - **ProLIF**: Ligand-Protein interactions (time-dependent function, stability analysis)
  - MM(PB)GBSA: Calculation of Binding Energy







### **Classical Molecular Dynamics**





### **Structure Preparation Force-field** Definitions of inter-atomic bonded and no-bonded forces (ligand and protein) Simulation box setup Preprocessing box size/shape Solvate system add HOH molecules Neutralize system add NA+/CL- ions **Energy minimization** 100 ps to ensure that the system has no steric Pre-simulation clashes or inappropriate geometry steps **NVT and NPT equilibration** 1000 ps equilibrate the solvent and ions around the protein **Product Simulation** Analysis



→ C @ O A https://www.cgl.ucsf.edu/chimera/ E ☆ ♡ 🡱 🛝 🗊 🗎 ≡ about \_\_\_\_\_ projects \_\_\_\_\_ people \_\_\_\_\_ publications **UCSF CHIMERA** an Extensible Molecular Modeling System **Quick Links** Chimera Search UCSF Chimera is a program for the interactive visualization and analysis of molecular structures and related data, including density maps, trajectories, and sequence alignments. It is available free of charge for Documentation noncommercial use. Commercial users, please see Chimera commercial licensing. **Getting Started** Go We encourage Chimera users to try ChimeraX for much better performance with large structures, as well as other major advantages and completely new features. ChimeraX includes a significant subset of Chimera User's Guide Google " Search features (with more to come, see the missing features list) and is under active development. Users may choose to use both programs, and it is fine to have both installed. **Command Index** Chimera is no longer under active development, and is only updated for critical maintenance. Chimera development was supported by a grant from the National Institutes of Health (P41-GM103311) that ended in Tutorials and Videos News 2018. Guide to Volume Data **Release Notes** September 27, 2022 Feature Highlight Download Website downtime: The RBVI website (Chimera, ChimeraX, What's New in Daily Builds **Pipes and Planks** etc.) and RBVI-hosted web Map of Download Locations services will be down for Galleries The PipesAndPlanks tool shows protein helices as "pipes" (cylinders) and strands as "planks" (rectangular boxes), with connectors for the intervening coil. Adjustable settings include pipe maintenance from Tue, Sep 27 9pm PDT, through Wed, possibly extending to Thu, Sep 29 5pm radius, plank width, colors, and whether to include arrowheads to show chain N→C directionality (see image how-to). Image Gallery Animation Gallery (More features...) **Publications and Talks** December 20, 2021 The RBVI wishes you a safe and happy holiday season! **Related Databases and** Software See our 2021 card and the **Citing Chimera** gallery of previous cards back to 1985. Contact Us December 17, 2021 Chimera production release 1.16 **Recent Citations** is now available. This will be the last release to support Windows 7. See the release notes for Imprinted antibody responses against SARS-CoV-2 Omicron Gallery Sample what's new. sublineages. Park YJ, Pinto D et al. Science. 2022 Nov Previous news... **Peroxiredoxin Wreath** 11;378(6620):619-627. Peroxiredoxins are enzymes that help cells cope with stressors such as high levels of reactive oxygen species. The image shows a decameric peroxiredoxin from human red blood Bending forces and nucleotide Upcoming Events state jointly regulate F-actin structure. Reynolds MJ, Hachicho cells (Protein Data Bank entry 1gmv), styled as a holiday wreath. C et al. Nature, 2022 Nov See also the RBVI holiday card gallery 10:611(7935):380-386. Bestrophin-2 and glutamine (More samples...) synthetase form a complex for glutamate release. Owji AP, Yu K et al. Nature, 2022 Nov 3;611(7934):180-187. Cryo-EM structures of human m6A writer complexes, Su S, Li S et al. Cell Res. 2022 Nov;32(11):982-994 Algorithmic design of 3D wireframe RNA polyhedra, Elonen A, Natarajan AK et al. ACS Nano. 2022 Oct 25;16(10):16608-16616. Previously featured citations... About RBVI | Projects | People | Publications | Resources | Visit Us

#### https://www.cgl.ucsf.edu/chimera/



1. Download structure from PDB (<u>https://www.rcsb.org/</u>) using PDBID

Download Files -> PDB Format



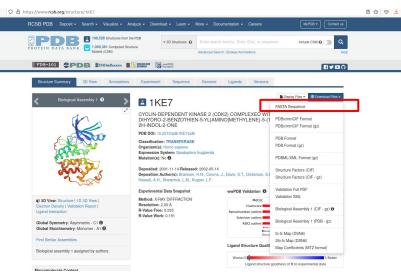


1. Download structure from PDB (<u>https://www.rcsb.org/</u>) using PDBID

Download Files -> PDB Format

2. Download sequence from PDB or from UniProt

Download Files -> Fasta Sequence





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### **Protein preparation**

1. Download structure from PDB (<u>https://www.rcsb.org/</u>) using PDBID

Download Files -> PDB Format

2. Download sequence from PDB or from UniProt

Download Files -> Fasta Sequence

3. Save smiles of ligand into file (ligand.smi)

CSB PDB Deposit + Search + Visualize + Analyz PDB-101 💭 PDB #EMDeaResource	e - Download - Learn - More - Docum suestee Foundation	entation - Careers MyPDB - Conta
		Display Files - O Download File
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K.		Find entries where: LS3 So is present as a standalone ligand in 1 entries Search Find related ligands:
	Rotate Hydrogens Labels	Similar Ligands (Stereospecific) Similar Ligands (including Stereoisomers) Similar Ligands (Quick Screen) Similar Ligands (Substructure Stereospecific) Similar Ligands (Substructure including Stereoisomers

Ligands 1 Unique				
ID	Chains	Name / Formula / InChI Key	2D Diagram	3D Interactions
LS3	B [auth A]	3-{[(2,2-DIOXIDO-1,3-DIHYDRO-2-BENZOTHIEN-		C Ligand Interaction
Query on LS3		5-YL)AMINO]METHYLENE}-5-(1,3-OXAZOL-5-YL)- 1,3-DIHYDRO-2H-INDOL-2-ONE	all'	
Download Ideal Coordinates CCD File ④		C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>15</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> S	- A	
Download Instance Coordinates -		FTQYGMLRLRXBPT-IDUWFGFVSA-N		

	Chemical Deta
3-{[(2,2-DIOXIDO-1,3-DIHYDRO-2-BENZOTHIEN-5-YL)A	Formal Charge
MINOJMETHYLENE)-5-(1,3-OXAZOL-5-YL)-1,3-DIHYDRO -2H-INDOL-2-ONE	Atom Count
3-[[(2,2-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2-benzothiophen-	Chiral Atom Coun
5-yl)amino]methylidene]-5-(1,3-oxazol-5-yl)-1H-indol-2-one	Bond Count
C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>15</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> S	Aromatic Bond Co
393.42	
NON-POLYMER	
c1cc2c(cc1c3cnco3)C(=CNc4ccc5c(c4)CS(=O) (=O)C5)C(=O)N2	
InChI-1S/C20H15N3O4S (c24.20-17(7-22-15-3-1-13-9-28(25,28)10-14(13)5-15)16-6 -12(2-4-18(16)23-20)19-8-21-11-27-19 (h1-8.11,22H-0H2,H23.23,24/b17-7-	
	MINO(METHYLENE)-511.3-CXA2QL-5-YL-1.3-DIHYDRO           -8H-INOL2-ONE           3/[0.2-46xx-1.3-dhydro.2-benzothisphen- 5-ylamino)methylidene]-5.1.3-cxazel-5-yl-1H-indel-2-one           Cp. His N/; 0, 1           3/3.4           NON POLYMER           elscazet-5-yl-1H-indel-2-one           chis N/; 0, 2           3/3.4           NON POLYMER           elscazete1cd/modul(L-QNetecc5c(eRUS(-c)))           L-OC55CI-ONE           InOh-15-C3C4H1491ACM5           /r24:40-1772:251:5-1-13-9-88(55,50) 10-14(13)5-15)16-6           -122(24-11472:40-21-12;719



- 4. Open Fasta and PDB in **Chimera** 
  - a. Dock Prepare

Structure Editing -> Dock Prep

		Dock Prep					
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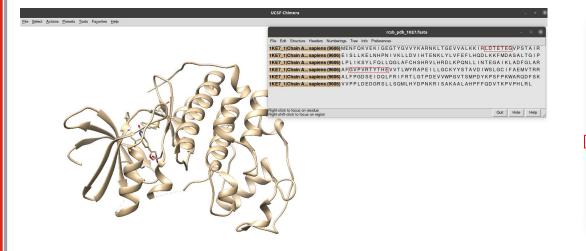


- 4. Open Fasta and PDB in Chimera
  - b. fill missing loops by Modeller

Tools -> Sequence -> Sequence

Sequence -> Structure -> Modeller (loops/refinement)

c. add Hs to selected model



Model	10/1 2012 2 2			
#1.1	1.00	-1.52		
#1.2		-1.53		
#1.3	1.00	-1.45		
#1.4	1.00	-1.55		
#1.5	1.00	-1.61		
#1.6	1.00	-1.60	select the model with	
#1.7	1.00	-1.65		
#1.8	1.00	-1.52	the lowest zDOPE	
#1.9	1.00	-1.50	the lowest 2001 L	
#1.10	1.00	-1.59		
#1.11	1.00	-1.48		
#1.12	1.00	-1.55		
#1.13	1.00	-1.60		
	1 00	-1.60		

Browse

49

1ke7.pdb (#0)

Close

Model Loops / Refine Structure

Chimera selection region

all missing structure

Loop modeling protocol: standard \_\_\_\_ Run Modeller using: web service Modeller license key:

Publications using Modeller results should cite:

Comparative protein modelling by satisfaction of spatial restraints.

Modeller Home Page

non-terminal missing structure

active region

Allow this many residues adjacent to missing regions to move: 1 Number of models to generate: 19

Temporary folder location (optional):

J. Mol. Biol. 234, 779-815, 1993.

Apply

A. Sali and T. L. Blundell.

OK

#1.15 1.00 -1.49

Model/remodel:



- 4. Open Fasta and PDB in Chimera
  - d. Set HIS protonated state

Tools -> General Controls -> Command line

Put in the Command line:

setattr r type HID :HIS@HD1,DD1,TD1,HND setattr r type HIP :HID@HE2,DE2,TE2 setattr r type HIE :HIS@HE2 https://ambermd.org/Questions/HIS.html

### **AMBER Histidine residues**

Histidine (HIS in normal pdb files) is really one of three possible residues:

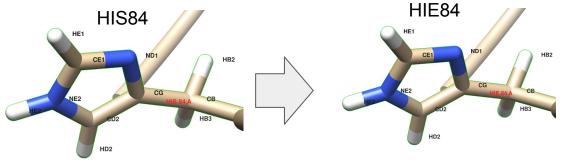
HID: Histidine with hydrogen on the delta nitrogen

HIE: Histidine with hydrogen on the epsilon nitrogen

HIP: Histidine with hydrogens on both nitrogens; this is positively charged.

It is up to the user to inspect the environment of each histidine and identify the type that is appropriate.

check visually active site





### Chimera preparation

- 4. Open Fasta and PDB in Chimera
  - e. Save protein only (plus ions, metals) and ligand only in *pdb* formats separately

Select -> Residue -> Ligand\_id

*File -> Save PDB -> Save selected only* 

ligand.pdb

Select -> Invert (all models)

File -> Save PDB -> Save selected only

protein\_prepared.pdb

QSAR/	MD/ MD_tut/	1ke7.pdb 1ke7 full.pdb
cture/	WD_CO	1ke7_full_all.pdb 1ke7_start.pdb
102022/ 152/22/		iker_start.pdu
ile name: ligand.pdb		
	Add .pdb suffix if none given	
File type: PDB [.pdb]	New fo	der
	ŧ0)	
1ke7_full_all.pdb (#	1 contraction of the second se	
Save models:		
1ke7_full_all.pdb (#		
Save models:		



# Ligand preparation

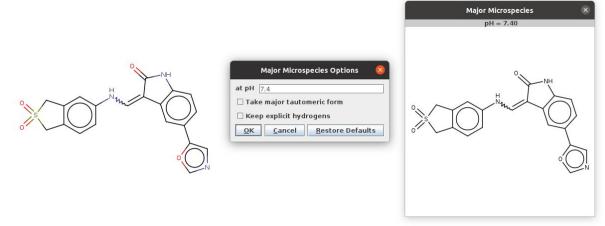
5. Save protonated smiles (pH 7.4) by Marvin into ligand\_74.smi

Open Marvin Sketch

File -> Open -> ligand.smi

Calculations -> Protonation -> Major Microspecies -> 7.4 -> Ctrl+L (copy as Smiles)

Save to ligand\_74.smi





# Ligand preparation

6. Transform pdb of ligand into mol format (add bonds information from smiles)

Script <u>https://github.com/ci-lab-cz/md-scripts/blob/master/scripts/pdb2mol.py</u> Run in Bash/Shell:

python md-scripts/scripts/pdb2mol.py -i ligand.pdb --smiles ligand\_74.smi -o ligand.mol



### Protein Ligand preparation

Input Files for MD:

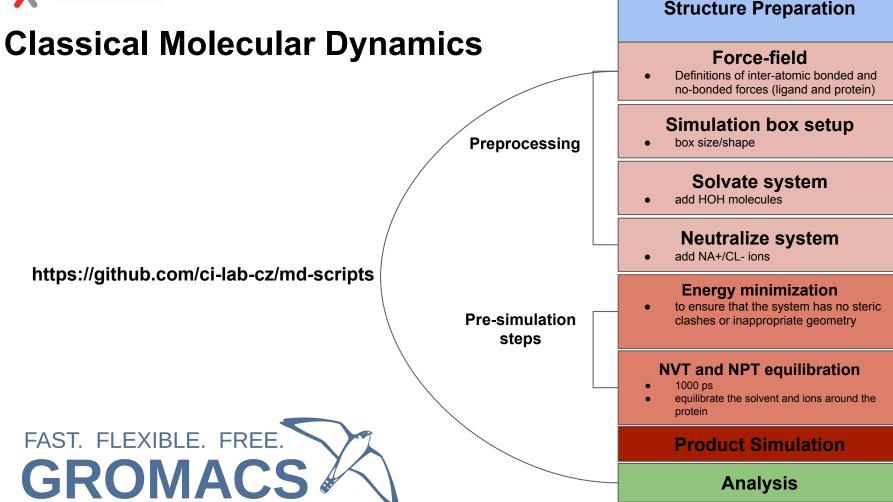
### protein\_prepared.pdb

- no missing non-terminal atoms/residues
- removed non-protein residues
- added all hydrogens
- set HID/HIE/HIP states of HIS

### ligand.mol

- protonated at 7.4 pH
- added all hydrogens







### Practice: force fields

### Prepare the protein topology with pdb2gmx

gmx pdb2gmx

### Synopsis

gmx pdb2gmx [-f [<.gro/.g96/...>]] [-o [<.gro/.g96/...>]] [-p [<.top>]]
[-i [<.itp>]] [-n [<.ndx>]] [-q [<.gro/.g96/...>]]
[-chainsep <enum>] [-merge <enum>] [-ff <string>]
[-water <enum>] [-[no]inter] [-[no]ss] [-[no]ter]
[-[no]lys] [-[no]arg] [-[no]asp] [-[no]glu] [-[no]gln]
[-[no]his] [-angle <real>] [-lost <real>] [-[no]una]
[-[no]ignh] [-[no]missing] [-[no]v] [-posrefc <real>]
[-vsite <enum>] [-[no]chargegrp] [-[no]cmap] [-[no]renum] [-[no]rtpres]

### Description

gmx pdb2gmx reads a .pdb (or .gro) file, reads some database files, adds hydrogens to the molecules and generates coordinates in GROMACS (GROMOS), or optionally .pdb, format and a topology in GROMACS format. These files can subsequently be processed to generate a run input file.

gmx pdb2gmx -f protein.pdb -o protein.gro -water tip3p -ignh <<< "AMBER99SB-ILDN"

New files:

protein.gro: a molecular structure in Gromos87 format. topol.top: molecular topology posre.itp: position restraints

https://manual.gromacs.org/documentation/current/onlinehelp/gmx-pdb2gmx.html



### Practice: force fields

Prepare the protein topology with pdb2gmx

gmx pdb2gmx

### Synopsis

gmx pdb2gmx [-f [<.gro/.g96/...>]] [-o [<.gro/.g96/...>]] [-p [<.top>]]
[-i [<.itp>]] [-n [<.ndx>]] [-q [<.gro/.g96/...>]]
[-chainsep <enum>] [-merge <enum>] [-ff <string>]
[-water <enum>] [-[no]inter] [-[no]ss] [-[no]ter]
[-[no]lys] [-[no]arg] [-[no]asp] [-[no]glu] [-[no]gln]
[-[no]his] [-angle <real>] [-dist <real>] [-[no]una]
[-[no]igh] [-[no]missing] [-[no]v] [-posrefc <real>]
[-vsite <enum>] [-[no]heavyh] [-[no]deuterate]
[-[no]chargegrp] [-[no]cmap] [-[no]renum] [-[no]rtpres]

### pdb2gmx does not work on ligand

#### Description

gmx pdb2gmx reads a .pdb (or .gro) file, reads some database files, adds hydrogens to the molecules and generates coordinates in GROMACS (GROMOS), or optionally .pdb, format and a topology in GROMACS format. These files can subsequently be processed to generate a run input file.

gmx pdb2gmx -f protein.pdb -o protein.gro -water tip3p -ignh <<< "AMBER99SB-ILDN"

https://manual.gromacs.org/documentation/current/onlinehelp/gmx-pdb2gmx.html



### Automation tools for ligand topology

AMBER	<u>Antechamber</u> <u>acpype</u>	Parametrizes molecules using GAFF A Python interface to Antechamber, writes GROMACS topologies
CHARMM	<u>CGenFF</u>	The official CHARMM General Force Field server
GROMOS87/ GROMOS96	<u>PRODRG 2.5</u> <u>ATB</u>	An automated server for topology generation A newer server for topology generation, uses GROMOS96 54A7
OPLS-AA	<u>Topolbuild</u>	Converts a Tripos .mol2 file into a topology
	<u>TopolGen</u>	A Perl script to convert an all-atom .pdb file to a topology
	<u>LigParGen</u>	A server from the Jorgensen group to produce OPLS topologies



### Practice: water model

Select the Water Model: 1: TIP3P TIP 3-point, recommended 2: TIP4P TIP 4-point 3: TIP4P-Ew TIP 4-point optimized with Ewald 4: TIP5P TIP 5-point (see http://redmine.gromacs.org/issues/1348 for issues) 5: SPC simple point charge 6: SPC/E extended simple point charge 7: None

**TIP3P** - 3-site rigid water molecule with charges and Lennard-Jones parameters assigned to each of the 3 atoms.

	SPC	TIP3P	SPC/E
r(OH), Å	1.0	0.9572	1.0
HOH, deg	109.47	104.52	109.47
A, 10³ kcal ʲ/mol	629.4	582.0	629.4
B, kcal Å <sup>6</sup> /mol	625.5	595.0	625.5
q(O)	-0.82	-0.834	-0.8476
q(H)	+0.41	+0.417	+0.4238

gmx pdb2gmx -f protein.pdb -o protein.gro -water tip3p -ignh <<< "AMBER99SB-ILDN"

https://manual.gromacs.org/documentation/current/onlinehelp/gmx-pdb2gmx.html



# Ligand Force fields

Prepare the ligand topology using external tools

antechamber -i ligand.pdb -fi pdb -o lig.mol2 -fo mol2 -c bcc -pf y -s 2 parmchk2 -i lig.mol2 -f mol2 -o lig.frcmod python pmed\_amb2gmx.py -p lig.prmtop -x lig.inpcrd -o UNL

Build the topology for the protein-ligand system Insert a line that says #include lig.itp" into topol.top after the position restraint file is included Make adjustments is in the [ molecules ] directive

New files:

*lig.mol2* - file of ligand with charges and bonds *lig.frcmod* - Parameter modification file *posre\_ligand.itp* - positional restraints *ligand.gro* - ligand in Gromos87 format *ligand.inpcrd* - Amber coordinate file of ligand *ligand.prmtop* - Amber topology file *ligand.top* - Gromacs topology file

#### Changed files: topol.top



# Solvation

To perform simulation we should add water molecules to mimic real environment.

There are two steps to defining the box and filling it with solvent:

- 1) Define the box dimensions using the editconf module
- 2) Fill the box with water using the solvate module.

We will use a simple cubic box as the unit cell.

First define the box using editconf:

gmx editconf -f protein.gro -o protein\_newbox.gro -c -d 1.0 -bt cubic

a solute-box distance of 1.0 nm will mean that there are at least 2.0 nm between any two periodic images of a protein. This distance should be sufficient for just about any cutoff scheme commonly used in simulations.

New files: protein\_newbox.gro: protein+box system



# Solvation

To perform simulation we should add water molecules to mimic real environment.

On the previous step we have defined a box, then we should fill it with solvent (water). Solvation is accomplished using solvate command:

gmx solvate -cp protein\_newbox.gro -cs spc216.gro -o protein\_solv.gro -p topol.top

- -cp the configuration of the protein (-cp)
- -cs the configuration of the solvent (-cs)

spc216.gro is a generic equilibrated 3-point solvent model (suitable for SPC, SPC/E, or TIP3P water, since they are all three-point water models)

New files: protein\_solv.gro: protein + solvent system Changed files: topol.top



# Adding ions

We need to add ions of CL- or NA+ to neutralize our protein:

gmx grompp -f ions.mdp -c protein\_solv.gro -p topol.top -o ions.tpr

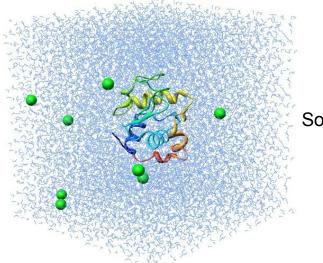
gmx genion -s ions.tpr -o protein\_solv\_ions.gro -p topol.top -pname NA -nname CL -neutral

#### New files:

protein\_solv\_ions.gro: protein + solvent +
ions system

*ions.tpr:* portable binary run input file. This file contains the starting structure, the molecular topology and all the simulation parameters.

Changed files: topol.top



#### Solvated protein with ions



# **Energy** minimization

Before we can begin dynamics, we must ensure that the system has no steric clashes or inappropriate geometry (equilibrium state). The structure is relaxed through a process called energy minimization (EM).

Prepare files:

gmx grompp -f minim.mdp -c protein\_solv\_ions.gro -p topol.top -o em.tpr

Run the minimization:

gmx mdrun -v -deffnm em -s em.tpr

**New files:** *em.log: ASCII-text log file of the EM process em.edr: Binary energy file em.tpr: Contains the starting structure, the molecular topology and all the simulation parameters. em.trr: Binary full-precision trajectory em.gro: Energy-minimized structure* 

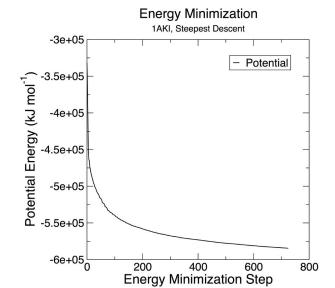


### Energy minimization

### How to do an analysis:

The em.edr file contains all of the energy terms that GROMACS collects during EM. You can analyze any .edr file using the GROMACS energy module:

gmx energy -f em.edr -o potential.xvg << "Potential"



**Epot** should be negative, and (for a simple protein in water) on the order of  $10^{5}$ - $10^{6}$  maximum force, **Fmax**, "emtol = 1000.0" should be no greater than target 1000 kJ mol-1 nm-1.



# Equilibration

*Energy Minimization* ensured that we have a reasonable starting structure, but to begin real dynamics, we must equilibrate the solvent and ions around the protein.



### Why do we need equilibration?

### If we were to attempt unrestrained dynamics at this point, the system may collapse.

<u>The reason is that the solvent is mostly optimized within itself, and not necessarily with the solute.</u> It needs to be brought to the temperature we wish to simulate and establish the proper orientation around the solute (the protein). After we achieved the correct temperature (based on kinetic energies), we will apply pressure to the system until it reaches the proper density.



# Controlling the system

Thermodynamic system has a number of state variables which describe its macroscopic state such as

• Particle number, volume, temperature, pressure, total energy

They are not all independent, but connected by equations of state

Example: Ideal gas of non-interacting point particles

$$p = p(V,T) \qquad p \cdot V = N \cdot k_B \cdot T$$

$$E = E(V,T) \qquad p = S k_B T$$

$$E = \frac{3}{2} N k_B T$$

https://web.mst.edu/~vojtat/class\_5403/MolecularDynamics.pdf



### Restrain the system

To equilibrate the solvent and ions around the protein we need to apply position restraints on the heavy atoms of the protein.

The purpose of **posre.itp** is to apply a position restraining force on the heavy atoms of the protein (anything that is not a hydrogen). Movement is permitted, but only after overcoming a substantial energy penalty.



# NVT equilibration

### Canonical ensemble (NVT)

- Particle number N
- Volume V
- Temperature T

· External parameters

- Total energy E
- Pressure P

Observables to be calculated

In MD simulation: some state variables are external parameters, others are observables to be calculated

Requires a **thermostat**, an algorithm that adds and removes energy to keep the temperature constant

Velocity rescaling based on equipartition theorem

$$\langle \overline{f}_{kin} \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\lambda} m_{\lambda} \langle \overline{V_{\lambda}}^{\prime L} \rangle = \frac{3}{2} N k_{B} T$$

Berendsen thermostat, Anderson thermostat

https://web.mst.edu/~vojtat/class\_5403/MolecularDynamics.pdf



# NVT equilibration

### to run NVT equiibration:

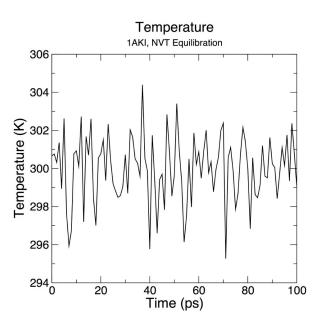
gmx grompp -f nvt.mdp -c em.gro -r em.gro -p topol.top -o nvt.tpr

gmx mdrun -deffnm nvt -s nvt.tpr

An analysis:

gmx energy -f nvt.edr -o temperature.xvg <<< "Temperature"

New files: nvt.log: ASCII-text log file of the equilibration process nvt.edr: Binary energy file nvt.trr: Binary full-precision trajectory nvt.gro: NVT-minimized structure





# **NPT** equilibration

### Isothermal-isobaric ensemble (NPT)

- Particle number N •
- Pressure P
- Temperature T
- Total energy E
  Volume V
  Observables to be calculated

Requires a **barostat** in addition to the thermostat, an algorithm that changes volume to keep the pressure constant

External parameters

https://web.mst.edu/~vojtat/class 5403/MolecularDynamics.pdf



## **NPT** equilibration

Note that we are now including the -t flag to include the checkpoint file from the NVT equilibration

The coordinate file (-c) is the final output of the NVT simulation.

### to run NPT equiibration:

gmx grompp -f npt.mdp -c nvt.gro -r nvt.gro -t nvt.cpt -p topol.top -o npt.tpr gmx mdrun -deffnm npt -s npt.tpr

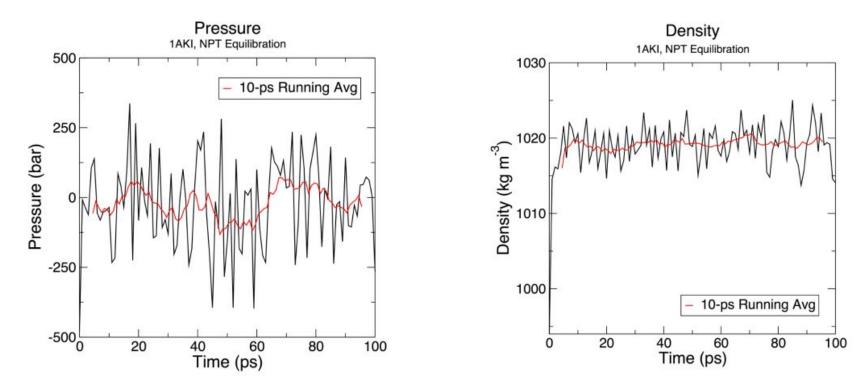
### An analysis:

gmx energy -f npt.edr -o pressure.xvg <<< "Pressure" gmx energy -f npt.edr -o density.xvg <<< "Density"

New files: *nvt.log:* ASCII-text log file of the equilibration process *nvt.edr:* Binary energy file *nvt.trr:* Binary full-precision trajectory *nvt.gro:* NVT-minimized structure



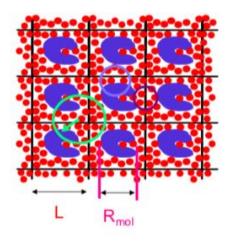
## NPT equilibration



In our tool we run 1000 ps NPT equilibration by default



## Periodic Boundary Conditions



· Cubic:

Required (no atom sees another one twice):  $L > 2R_{o}$   $R_{o} < \frac{1}{2}L$ Preferred (protein does not see a copy of itself)

 $L > R_c + R_{mol}$   $R_c < L - R_{mol}$ 

Even better (no solvent sees two proteins)

$$L > 2R_c + R_{mol}$$
  $R_c < \frac{1}{2}(L_{$ 

Rectangular:



- Periodic boundary conditions (PBCs) are a set of boundary conditions which are often chosen for approximating a large (infinite) system by using a small part called a unit cell.
- PBCs are often used in computer simulations and mathematical models.
- The topology of two-dimensional PBC is equal to that of a world map of some video games; the geometry of the unit cell satisfies perfect two-dimensional tiling, and when an object passes through one side of the unit cell, it reappears on the opposite side with the same velocity.



## **Production MD**

the system is now well-equilibrated at the desired temperature and pressure. We are now ready to release the position restraints and run production MD

#### We will run MD simulation

gmx grompp -f md.mdp -c npt.gro -t npt.cpt -p topol.top -o md\_0\_1.tpr

gmx mdrun -deffnm md\_0\_1 -s md\_0\_1.tpr

#### New files:

md\_0\_1.tpr: portable binary run input file. It contains the starting structure of the simulation, the molecular topology and all the simulation parameters. md\_0\_1.log: ASCII-text log file of the equilibration process md\_0\_1.cpt: portable checkpoint file. The complete state of the simulation is stored in the checkpoint file, including extended thermostat/barostat variables, random number states and NMR time averaged data md\_0\_1.edr: Binary energy file md\_0\_1.xtc: Binary full-precision trajectory md\_0\_1.gro: starting structure of the simulation in

 $t + \Delta t$ 

 $x(t + \Delta t)$ 

 $v(t + \Delta)$ 

#### **Molecular Dynamics**

I.Assign velocities to all atoms

2. Calculate forces on all atoms

3. Use Newton's second law to calculate acceleration on each atom F=ma

- 4. Calculate velocities for the next timestep
- 5. Use change of velocities to get coordinates for next timestep
  6. Go to step 2.



## Analysis of calculated MD simulation

### **Remove PBC:**

gmx trjconv -s md\_out.tpr -f md\_out.xtc -pbc nojump -o md\_out\_noj\_noPBC.xtc <<< "System"

### Center system:

gmx trjconv -s md\_out.tpr -f md\_out\_noj\_noPBC.xtc -o md\_centermolsnoPBC.xtc -pbc mol -center -n index.ndx <<< "Protein\_UNL System"

### Alignment of all frames (Remove rotations and translations):

gmx trjconv -s md\_out.tpr -f md\_centermolsnoPBC.xtc -fit rot+trans -o md\_fit.xtc -n index.ndx <<< "Protein\_UNL System"



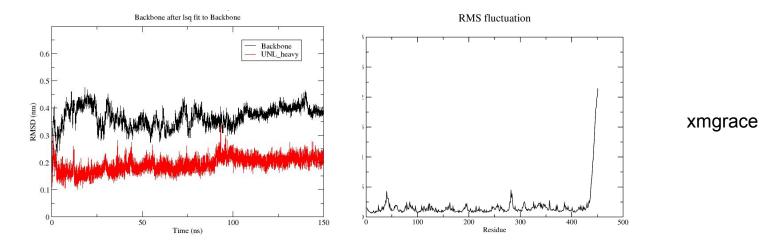
## Analysis of calculated MD simulation

#### **RMSD**:

gmx rms -s md\_0\_1.tpr -f md\_0\_1\_noPBC.xtc -o rmsd.xvg -tu ns

#### RMSF:

gmx rmsf -s md\_0\_1.tpr -f md\_0\_1\_noPBC.xtc -o rmsf.xvg -oq rmsf.pdb -res





### MD simulation by one command:

#### **Output files:**

md\_out.tpr: portable binary run input file. It contains the starting structure of the simulation, the molecular topology and all the simulation parameters.
md\_out.log: ASCII-text log file of the equilibration process
md\_out.cpt: portable checkpoint file. The complete state of the simulation is stored in the checkpoint file, including extended thermostat/barostat variables, random number states and NMR time averaged data
md\_out.edr: Binary energy file
md\_out.xtc: Binary full-precision trajectory
md\_out.gro: starting structure of the simulation

<u>md\_fit.xtc</u>: fitted trajectory (removed PBC and the rotation and translation, centered) to use for rmsd and energy calculation analysis md\_short\_forcheck.xtc: fitted short trajectory (each 100 step is skipped) frame.pdb: a frame from the trajectory to provide topology

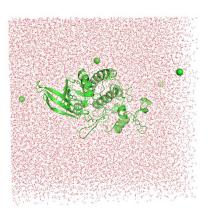
#### MD trajectory analysis files:

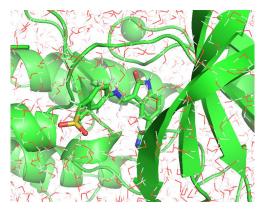
rmsd.xvg - rmsd of Backbone of protein rmsd\_UNL.xvg - rmsd of the heavy atoms of ligand gyrate.xvg - radius of gyration of the protein rmsf.xvg - root mean square fluctuation of each amino acids



## Check your own MD trajectory

frame.pdb - a frame from the trajectory to provide topology
md\_fit.xtc - your fitted MD trajectory
md\_short\_forcheck.xtc - short part of the simulation





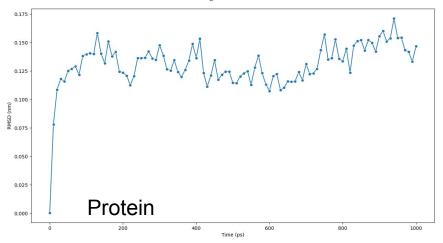


## Analysis of calculated MD simulation

(md) [anikonenko1@cn299.karolina MD_tutorial]\$ ls mdrun/md_files/md_run/protein_HIS_ligand_1/								
all.itp	em.tpr	ligand_1.itp	mdout.mdp	npt.edr	nvt.gro	pressure.png	rmsf.pdb	topol.top
all_ligand_resid.txt	em.trr	<pre>md_centermolsnoPBC.xtc</pre>	<pre>md_out_noj_noPBC.xtc</pre>	npt.gro	nvt.log	pressure.xvg	rmsf.png	
complex.gro	frame.pdb	<pre>md_fit.xtc</pre>	md_out.tpr	npt.log	nvt.mdp	rmsd_ligand_1.png	rmsf.xvg	
density.png	gyrate.png	md.mdp	md_out.xtc	npt.mdp	nvt.tpr	rmsd_ligand_1.xvg	solv.gro	
density.xvg	gyrate.xvg	md_out.cpt	<pre>md_short_forcheck.xtc</pre>	npt.tpr	nvt.trr	rmsd.png	solv_ions.gro	
em.edr	index.ndx	md_out.edr	minim.mdp	npt.trr	posre.itp	rmsd_xtal.png	streamd_bash_protein_HIS_ligand26-11-2023-20-10-17.log	
em.gro	ions.mdp	md_out.gro	newbox.gro	nvt.cpt	potential.png	rmsd_xtal.xvg	temperature.png	
em.log	ions.tpr	md_out.log	npt.cpt	nvt.edr	potential.xvg	rmsd.xvg	temperature.xvg	

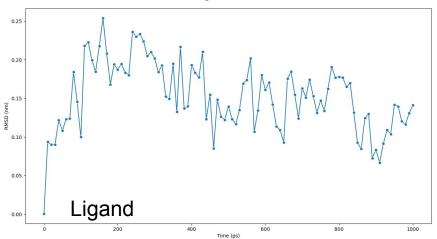






@ subtitle "UNL\_&\_!H\* after lsq fit to Backbone'

@ title "RMSD"



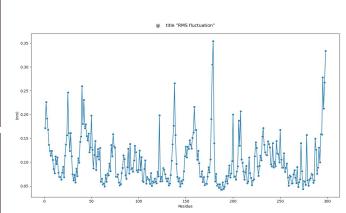


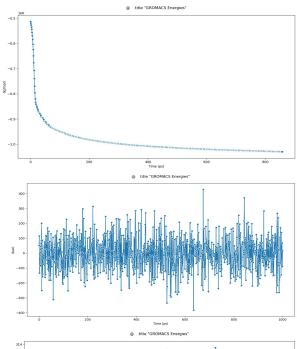
## Analysis of the calculated MD simulation

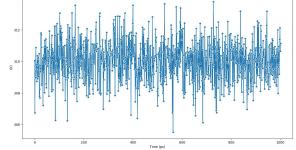
:-)	GROMACS - gmx rms, 2021.4-EasyBuild-4.5.1-PLUMED-2.7.3 (-:
F # Executable:	/apps/all/GROMACS/2021.4-foss-2020b-PLUMED-2.7.3/bin/gmx
	/apps/all/GROMACS/2021.4-foss-2020b-PLUMED-2.7.3
Working dir:	
Command line	
amx rms -s	s md out.tpr -f md fit.xtc -o rmsd.xvg -n index.ndx -tu ps
	bart of G R O M A C S:
God Rules Ov	ver Mankind, Animals, Cosmos and Such
title "RM	
	abel "Time (ps)"
	abel "RMSD (nm)"
TYPE xy	
	ackbone after lsq fit to Backbone"
	0.0004955
10.0000000	
20.0000000	
30.0000000	
40.0000000	
50.0000000	
60.0000000	
70.0000000	
80.0000000	
90.0000000	
100.0000000	0.1420962

# :-) GROMACS - gmx rms, 2021.4-EasyBuild-4.5.1-PLUMED-2.7.3 (-:
# Executable: / apps/all/GROMACS/2021.4-foss-2020b-PLUMED-2.7.3
# Data prefix: /apps/all/GROMACS/2021.4-foss-2020b-PLUMED-2.7.3
# Working dtr: / nmt/proj1/dd-22-84/MD\_tutorial/ligand\_0ins
# Gomx rms -s md\_out.tpr -f md\_fit.xtc -o rmsd\_UNL.xxg -n index.ndx -tu ps
# gmx rms is part of G & O M A C S:
# God Rules Over Mankind, Animals, Cosmos and Such
# God Rules Over Mankind, Animals, Cosmos and Such
# title "RMSD"
% yaxis label "Time (ps)"
% yaxis label "Time (ps)"
% yakis Label "Time fit to Backbone"

0.000000	0.0005219	
10.0000000	0.0578194	
20.0000000	0.0515443	
30.000000	0.1366709	
40.0000000	0.1673483	
50.0000000	0.1613055	
60.0000000	0.1436562	
70.0000000	0.1480425	
80.000000	0.1522363	
90.0000000	0.1496438	
100.0000000	0.0998629	









# MMPBSA / MMGBSA

End-state free energy calculations with GROMACS files



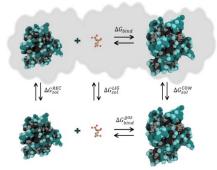
## What can be done by MD

- to estimate binding affinity of protein-ligand complexes
- Molecular mechanics Poisson–Boltzmann surface area (MM/PBSA)
- Molecular mechanics generalized Born surface area (MM/GBSA)

$$\Delta G_{\rm bind} = G_{\rm RL} - G_{\rm R} - G_{\rm L} \tag{4}$$

can be decomposed into contributions of different interactions and expressed as (58)

$$\Delta G_{\text{bind}} = \Delta H - T\Delta S = \Delta E_{\text{MM}} + \Delta G_{\text{sol}} - T\Delta S \tag{5}$$



in which

$$\Delta E_{\rm MM} = \Delta E_{\rm int} + \Delta E_{\rm ele} + \Delta E_{\rm vdW} \tag{6}$$

$$\Delta G_{\rm sol} = \Delta G_{\rm PB/GB} + \Delta G_{\rm SA} \tag{7}$$

$$\Delta G_{\rm SA} = \gamma \cdot {\rm SASA} + b \tag{8}$$

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Valdés-Tresanco, M.S., Valdés-Tresanco, M.E., Valiente, P.A. and Moreno E. *gmx\_MMPBSA: A New Tool to Perform End-State Free Energy Calculations with GROMACS.* Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation, 2021 17 (10), 6281-6291. <u>https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.jctc.1c00645</u>. *MMPBSA.py:* An Efficient Program for End-State Free Energy Calculations Bill R. Miller III, T. Dwight McGee Jr., Jason M. Swails, Nadine Homeyer, Holger Gohlke, and Adrian E. Roitberg Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation 2012 8 (9), 3314-3321 DOI: 10.1021/ct300418h



## What can be done by MD

 to estimate binding affinity of protein-ligand complexes

Total G<sub>Binding</sub>=

- Gas-phase molecular mechanics energy ∆E<sub>MM</sub>:
  - Changes in the internal energies dihedral energies)
  - electrostatic energies  $\Delta E_{ele}$
  - van der Waals energies  $\Delta E_{vd}$
- sum of the electrostatic solvation energy G<sub>sol</sub>
- **The polar contribution** is calculated using either the PB or GB model ( $\triangle$ GPB/GB). Where the GB method gives an analytical expression for the polar solvation energy and is thus much faster than the PB method.
- nonpolar energy is usually estimated using the solvent-accessible surface area (SASA)
- The change in **conformational entropy** –**TΔS** 
  - is usually calculated by normal-mode analysis (or Interaction entropy) on a set of conformational snapshots taken from MD simulations.

In the MM/PBSA or MM/GBSA approach, the free energy for binding of the ligand (L) to the protein receptor (R) to form the complex (RL),

$$\Delta G_{\rm bind} = G_{\rm RL} - G_{\rm R} - G_{\rm L} \tag{4}$$

can be decomposed into contributions of different interactions and expressed as (58)

in which

$$\Delta G_{\text{bind}} = \Delta H - T\Delta S = \Delta E_{\text{MM}} + \Delta G_{\text{sol}} - T\Delta S \tag{5}$$

$$\Delta E_{\rm MM} = \Delta E_{\rm int} + \Delta E_{\rm ele} + \Delta E_{\rm vdW} \tag{6}$$

$$\Delta G_{\rm sol} = \Delta G_{\rm PB/GB} + \Delta G_{\rm SA} \tag{7}$$

$$\Delta G_{\rm SA} = \gamma \cdot {\rm SASA} + b \tag{8}$$

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### **MMPBSA.in**

```
Sample input file for PB/GB calculation
#This input file is meant to show only that gmx_MMPBSA works. Although, we tried to use the input
files as recommended in the
#Amber manual, some parameters have been changed to perform more expensive calculations in a
reasonable amount of time. Feel free to change the parameters
#according to what is better for your system.
&general
sys_name="PB_GB_IE",
startframe=1, interval=1, verbose=2, PBRadii=3,
interaction_entropy=1, ie_segment=100, temperature=310
/
&gb
igb=5, saltcon=0.150,
/
&pb
istrng=0.15, fillratio=4.0, radiopt=0, indi=1, exdi=80.0
```

run\_gbsa -i mdrun/md\_files/md\_run/protein\_HIS\_ligand\_1/



	-1407.08	18.20	18.20	5.49	5.49
GGAS	-3184.42	101.56	74.86	30.62	22.5
SOLV	-2452.28	57.05	52.79	17.20	15.9
OTAL		116.49			
igand:		11,21,111,112			
nergy Component	Average	SD(Prop.)	SD	SEM(Prop.)	SEI
OND	11.40	2.28	2.28	0.69	0.69
NGLE	45.46	2.79	2.79	0.84	0.8
IHED	23.24	2.06	2.06	0.62	0.6
/DWAALS	-3.31	0.62	0.62	0.19	0.19
EL	95.11	0.99	0.99	0.30	0.30
L-4 VDW	7.97	0.54	0.54	0.16	0.10
-4 EEL	-225.15	1.58	1.58	0.48	0.4
PB	-34.82	0.85	0.85	0.26	0.2
ENPOLAR	40.24	0.17	0.17	0.05	0.0
DISPER	-42.92	0.18	0.18	0.06	0.00
GAS	-45.28	4.62	3.37	1.39	1.0
SOLV	-37.50	0.89	0.95	0.27	0.2
OTAL	-82.78	4.71	2.96	1.42	0.8
			SD	SEM(Prop.)	SEI
nergy Component	Average	SD(Prop.)			
nergy Component	Average -0.00	SD(Prop.) 2.08	0.00	0.63	0.0
nergy Component BOND ANGLE	Average -0.00 -0.00	SD(Prop.) 2.08 2.09	0.00 0.00	0.63 0.63	0.0 0.0
Energy Component ABOND ANGLE ADIHED	Average -0.00 -0.00 0.00	SD(Prop.) 2.08 2.09 1.45	0.00 0.00 0.00	0.63 0.63 0.44	0.0 0.0 0.0
Energy Component MBOND MANGLE MDIHED MVDWAALS	Average -0.00 -0.00 0.00 -46.46	SD(Prop.) 2.08 2.09 1.45 0.60	0.00 0.00 0.00 2.50	0.63 0.63 0.44 0.18	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
Energy Component BBOND DANGLE DDIHED DUHED NEEL	Average -0.00 -0.00 0.00 -46.46 -41.29	SD(Prop.) 2.08 2.09 1.45 0.60 0.26	0.00 0.00 0.00 2.50 7.77	0.63 0.63 0.44 0.18 0.08	0.00 0.00 0.01 0.7 2.3
Energy Component BBOND LANGLE JDIHED JVDWAALS JEEL L1-4 VDW	-0.00 -0.00 0.00 -46.46 -41.29 -0.00	SD(Prop.) 2.08 2.09 1.45 0.60 0.26 0.30	0.00 0.00 2.50 7.77 0.00	0.63 0.63 0.44 0.18 0.08 0.09	0.00 0.00 0.01 0.7 2.3
inergy Component BBOND LANGLE LDIHED LVDWAALS LEEL L1-4 VDW L1-4 EEL	Average -0.00 -0.00 0.00 -46.46 -41.29 -0.00 0.00	SD(Prop.) 2.08 2.09 1.45 0.60 0.26 0.30 1.33	0.00 0.00 2.50 7.77 0.00 0.00	0.63 0.63 0.44 0.18 0.08 0.09 0.40	0.0 0.0 0.0 0.7 2.3 0.0 0.0
Energy Component BBOND LANGLE DDIHED LVDWAALS WEEL L1-4 VDW L1-4 EEL WEPB	Average -0.00 -0.00 -46.46 -41.29 -0.00 0.00 64.17	SD(Prop.) 2.08 2.09 1.45 0.60 0.26 0.30 1.33 0.71	0.00 0.00 2.50 7.77 0.00 0.00 4.26	0.63 0.63 0.44 0.18 0.08 0.09 0.40 0.40 0.22	0.00 0.01 0.7 2.3 0.00 0.01 0.01
nergy Component BOND ANGLE JDHED VDWAALS EEL 1-4 VDW 1-4 EEL IEPB ENPOLAR	Average -0.00 -0.00 -0.00 -46.46 -41.29 -0.00 0.00 64.17 -32.09	SD(Prop.) 2.08 2.09 1.45 0.60 0.26 0.30 1.33 0.71 0.07	0.00 0.00 2.50 7.77 0.00 0.00 4.26 0.75	0.63 0.63 0.44 0.18 0.08 0.09 0.40 0.22 0.22	0.00 0.00 0.7 2.3 0.00 0.00 1.2 0.2
inergy Component BBOND JANCLE JDIHED IVDWAALS IEL 1-4 VDW 11-4 EEL JEPB LENPOLAR	Average -0.00 -0.00 -46.46 -41.29 -0.00 0.00 64.17	SD(Prop.) 2.08 2.09 1.45 0.60 0.26 0.30 1.33 0.71	0.00 0.00 2.50 7.77 0.00 0.00 4.26	0.63 0.63 0.44 0.18 0.08 0.09 0.40 0.40 0.22	0.00 0.00 0.7 2.3 0.00 0.00 1.2 0.2
Delta (Complex - F Energy Component JANGLE JANGLE JUDHED JVDWAALS SEEL JI-4 VDW A1-4 EEL JEPB SENPOLAR DEDISPER JGGAS	Average -0.00 -0.00 -0.00 -46.46 -41.29 -0.00 0.00 64.17 -32.09	SD(Prop.) 2.08 2.09 1.45 0.60 0.26 0.30 1.33 0.71 0.07	0.00 0.00 2.50 7.77 0.00 0.00 4.26 0.75	0.63 0.63 0.44 0.18 0.08 0.09 0.40 0.22 0.22	SEI 0.00 0.01 2.33 0.00 0.00 1.22 0.22 0.22 0.22
Energy Component BOND JANGLE JUDHED JVDWAALS VEEL J1-4 VDW J1-4 EEL JEPB JENPOLAR JEDISPER	Average -0.00 -0.00 -46.46 -41.29 -0.00 0.00 64.17 -32.09 57.51	5D(Prop.) 2.08 2.09 1.45 0.66 0.26 0.30 1.33 0.71 0.07 0.07	0.00 0.00 2.50 7.77 0.00 0.00 4.26 0.75 0.85	0.63 0.63 0.44 0.18 0.08 0.09 0.40 0.22 0.02 0.02	0.00 0.00 0.7 2.3 0.00 0.00 1.28 0.2 0.2

Using Interaction Entropy Approximation:

∆G binding = 4.51 +/- 6.93

#### GENERALIZED BORN: POISSON BOLTZMANN:

### **PBSA**

A	В	C	
fname	∆G_binding	∆G_binding_+/-	
protein_HIS_igand_1	-35.81	0.74	

### GBSA

fname	∆G_binding	∆G_binding_+/-	
protein_HIS_ligand_1	-24.31	4.1	

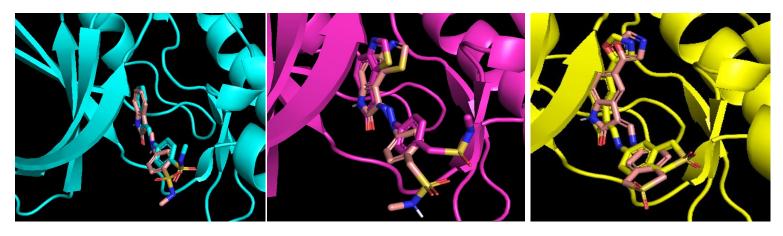
#### MMPBSA Energy and MMGBSA

Energy cannot be compared within the different methods. But you can rank your molecules by energies obtained from each method separately.

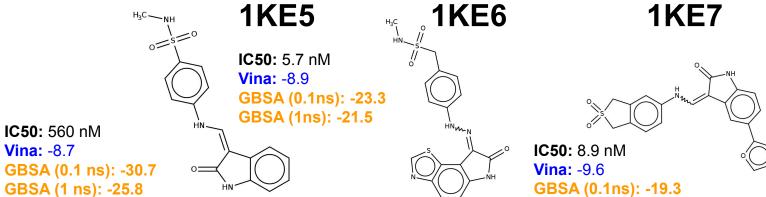


Vina: -8.7

### **CYCLIN-DEPENDENT KINASE 2 (CDK2)**



GBSA (1ns): -27.1





# Thank you for your attention!

