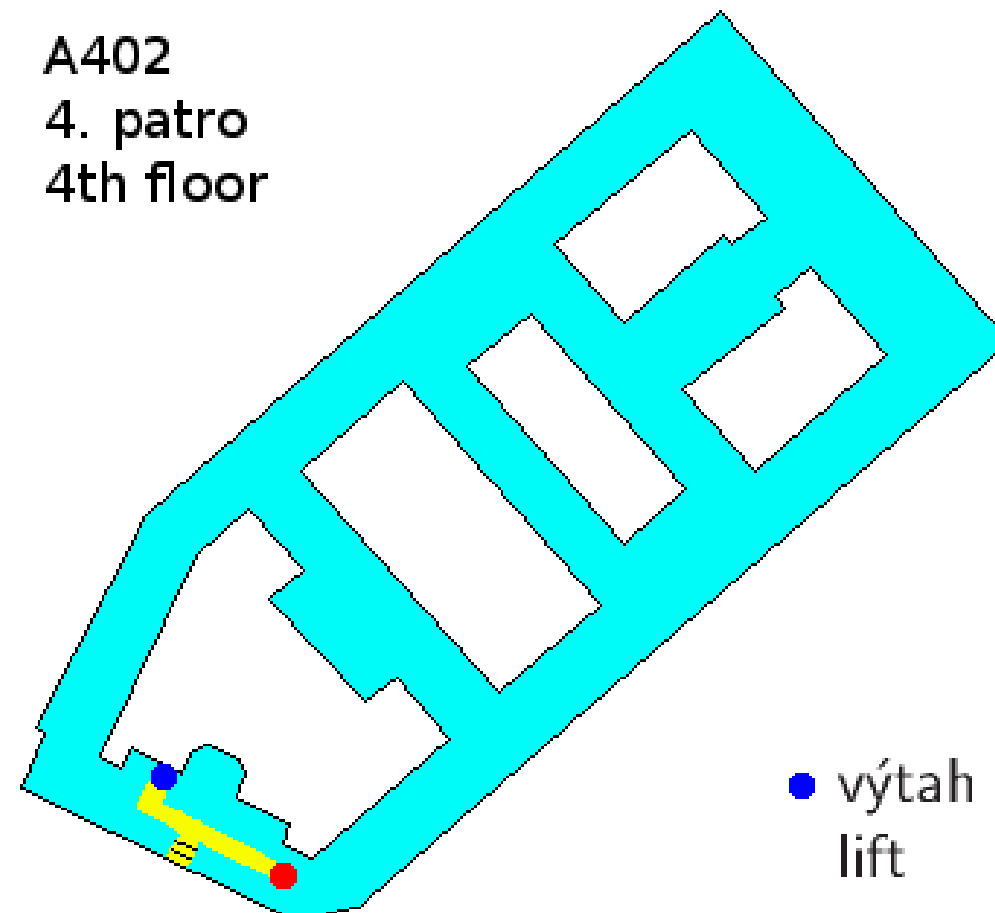


Jiří Kolafa  
Department of Physical Chemistry  
University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague  
Technická 5 (building A)  
room 402  
<http://www.mapy.cz/s/98vC>  
[jiri.kolafa@vscht.cz](mailto:jiri.kolafa@vscht.cz)  
220 444 257

Google: Kolafa Molecular modeling and simulation  
Kolafa Molekulární modelování a simulace



# Elements of modeling

- ? *elementary particles + gravity*, GUT, dark energy, ...
- *known elementary particles*: Standard model, atomic nuclei, ...
- *Nuclei + electrons + photons*: QED, accurate spectroscopy
- *Nuclei + electrons*: Schrödinger equation – small molecules, spectra, gas-phase equilibria, chemical kinetic, photochemistry ...
- *Atoms\** – classical (or quantum) atomistic modeling
- *implicit solvent*: continuum + random forces
- *Coarse-grained models*: meso/nanoscale scale  
element = polyatomic group  
(surfactant = head + tail, polymer = [bead]<sub>n</sub>...)
- *Microscopic scale* (dispersions, granular materials)
- *Continuum*: partial differential equations – heat, weather models, neutrons in A-bomb, statics in civil engineering
- *gravity*: spacetime – black holes, gravitational waves

see DOI: [10.1017/S0033583515000256](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0033583515000256)  
for time- and size-scales of simulation techniques

**multiscale modeling**: QM/MM (enzymes etc.) ...

\*optionally: auxiliary interaction centers (sites), bigger groups (-CH<sub>3</sub>)

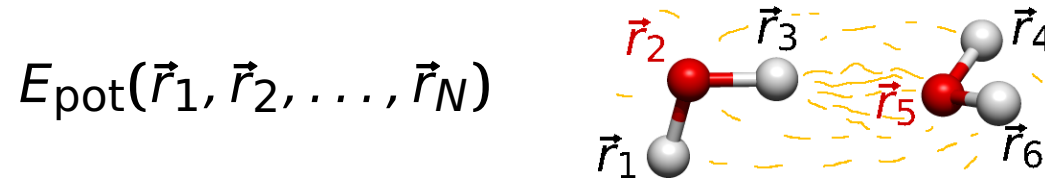
# Potential Energy Surface (PES)

Nuclei are much heavier than electrons  $\Rightarrow$  electron motion is much faster (Born–Oppenheimer **approximation**)

Potential energy surface (PES):

energy as a function of positions of all nuclei

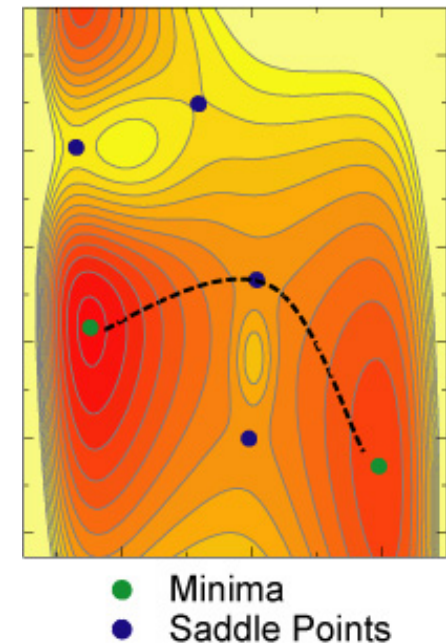
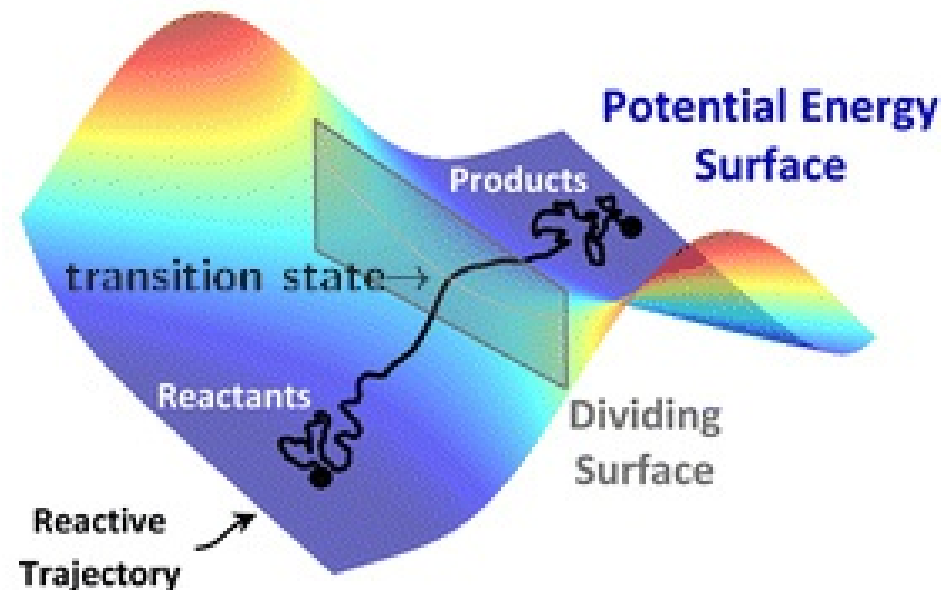
for me (show/SPCEdimer.sh):  
- change cfg  
- click [info]



## Chemical example:

reaction coordinate

A reaction proceeds over (near to) a saddle point (transition state)



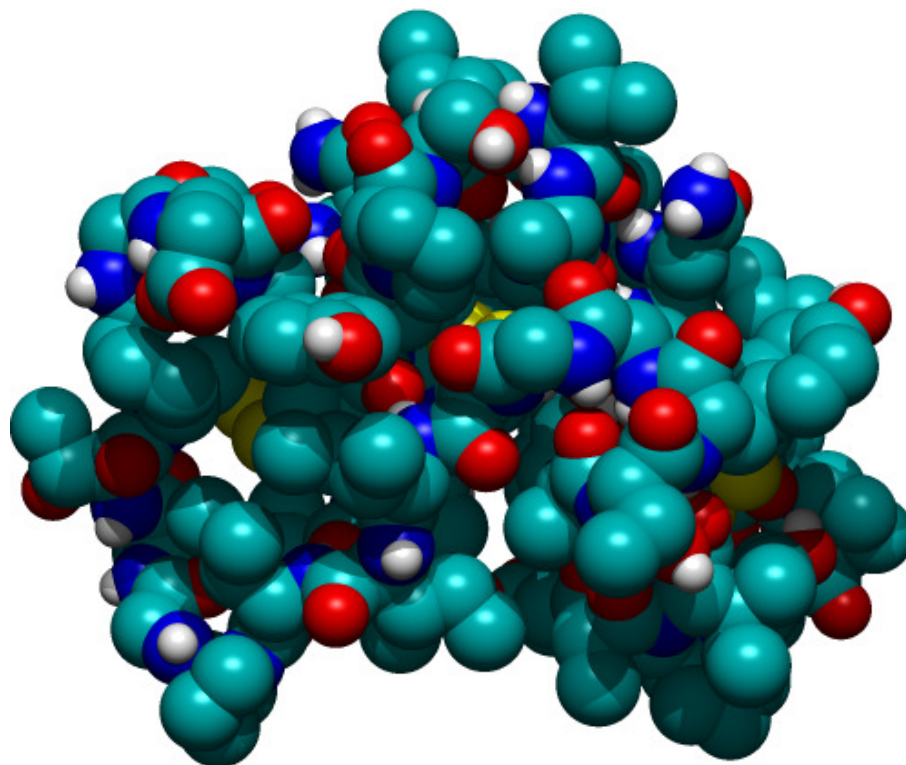
- from quantum calculations (Schrödinger equation: *ab initio*, DFT) – expensive
- via neural network trained on quantum data – medium cost
- approximated by a formula (“force field”, “potential”, “model”, ...) – cheap
  - force field**:  $E_{\text{pot}}$  = sum of many terms
  - term = function form + parameters for atoms/groups
- combination: QM/MM methods (**q**uantum **m**echanics/**m**olecular **m**echanics)

## PES and modeling in chemistry

- using classical mechanics:
    - static calculations: minimum of energy, potential around a molecule
    - time development of system (**m**olecular **d**ynamics, MD);
      - with *ab initio* PES = AIMD (demanding!)
    - thermodynamic variables by sampling (**M**onte **C**arlo, MC)
  - using quantum mechanics to nuclei:
    - path integral methods (PI MC, PI MD); with AIMD extremely demanding
    - classical mechanics + quantum corrections
- combination force field + classical mechanics = “**m**olecular **m**echanics” (MM); strictly speaking does not include MC and MD

We use PES, usually described by a force field

- Energy minimization ( $T = 0$ )  
“molecular mechanics”, “structure optimization”
- Refinement – more accurate structure (from diffraction data)
- Biochemistry: molecular shape (lock and key), hydrophilic/hydrophobic
- QSAR (**Q**uantitative **S**tructure–**A**ctivity **R**elationship) descriptors



... but what about **motion**?

- molecular dynamics (MD)
  - time development of a system composed of many molecules
  - instantaneous forces acting on atoms cause their motion
- Monte Carlo (MC); more precisely: Metropolis method and its variants
  - a sequence of configurations of the system is generated using random numbers
  - an attempt is made to move a molecule (randomly with a certain distribution)
  - this trial move is accepted or rejected so that its probability is the same as in reality
- kinetic Monte Carlo
  - the simulated process is divided into elementary events  
(e.g., adsorption of an atom on a growing crystal, catalytical reaction)
  - the event to happen is chosen according to a known probability
- quantum simulations – MD, MC
- Las Vegas algorithms – deterministic result (random pivot, search for minimum )

## ● Liquids:

- how structure affects properties (anomalies of water), solutions
- phase equilibria, solubility
- surfaces, interfaces, surfactants

## ● Solids:

- crystal structure, materials (defects)
- adsorption (zeolites)

## ● Biochemistry:

- proteins, nucleic acids, ion channels, lipid membranes

## ● Nanoobjects:

- micelles, polymers, self-assembly (coarse-grained models, lattices)

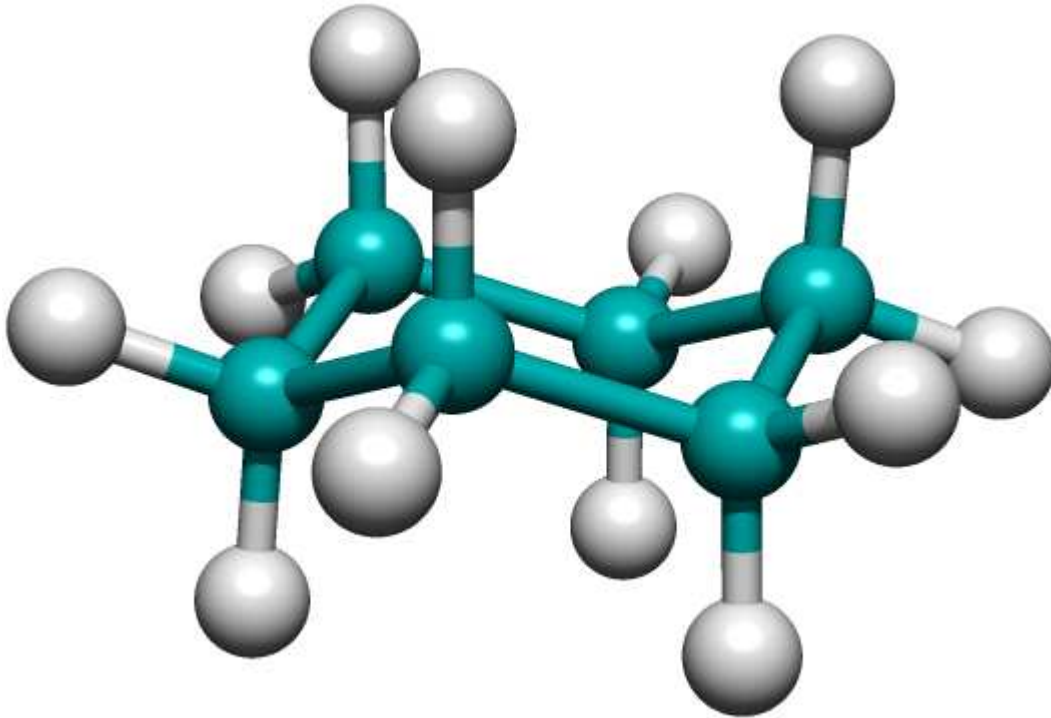
## ● Similar methods can be used for:

- granular materials, optimization, spreading of epidemics, active matter, agent-based models, evo-devo (evolutionary developmental biology)...

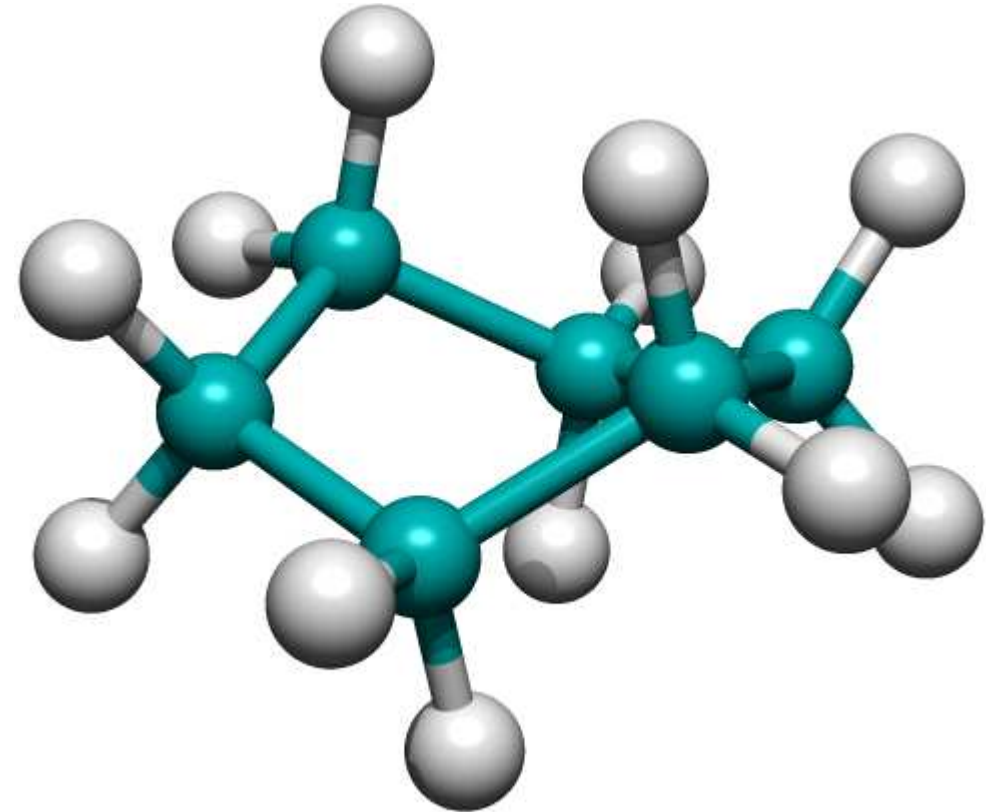


# Structure optimization (example of molecular mechanics)

uvodsim/blend.sh 8/25  
s00/3



chair  
experiment: 28 kJ/mol  
model: 26 kJ/mol



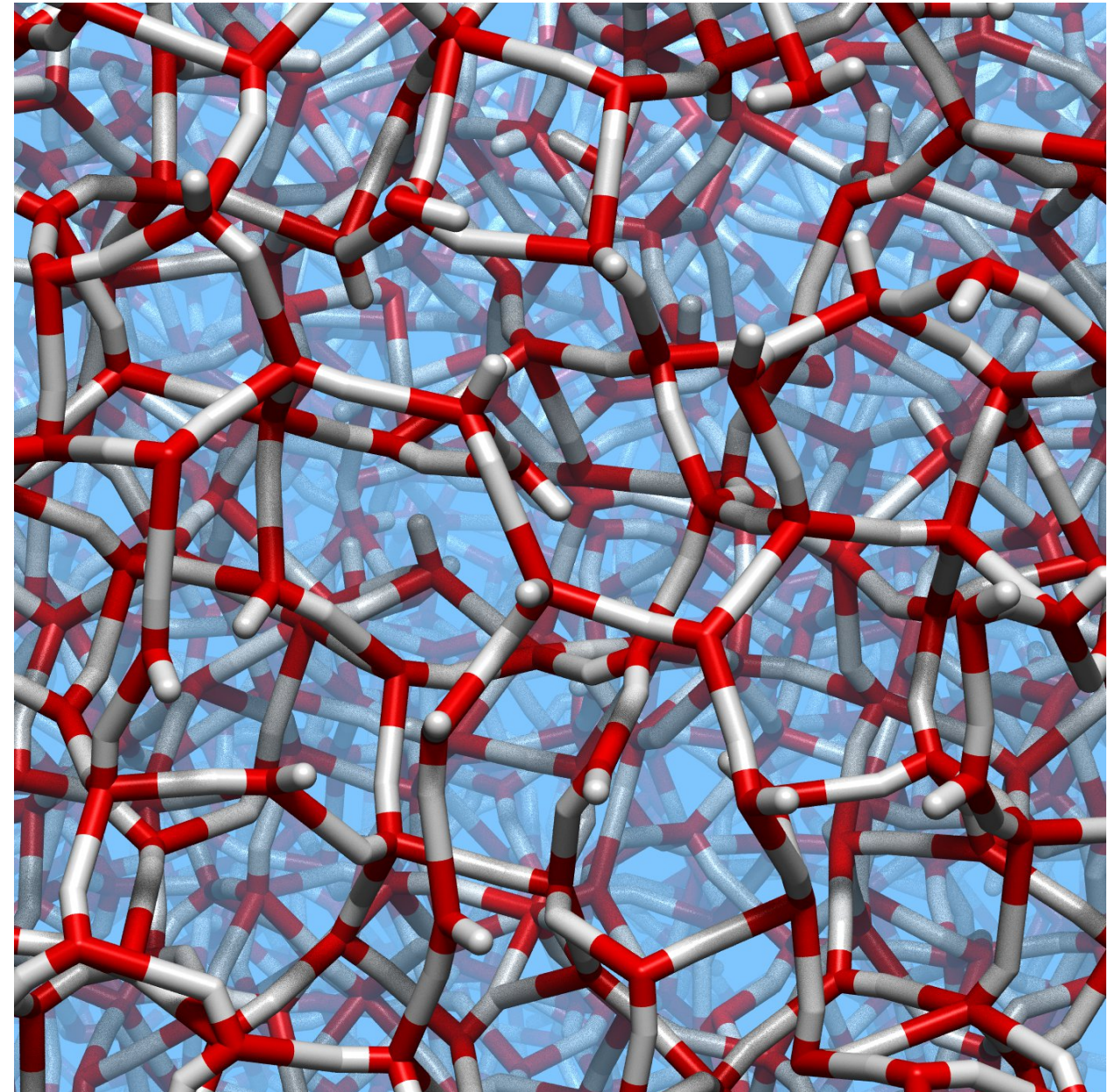
twist (skew) boat  
experiment: 45 kJ/mol  
model: 53 kJ/mol



# Liquid water (example of equilibrium molecular dynamics)

water/liquidwater.sh 9/25  
s00/3

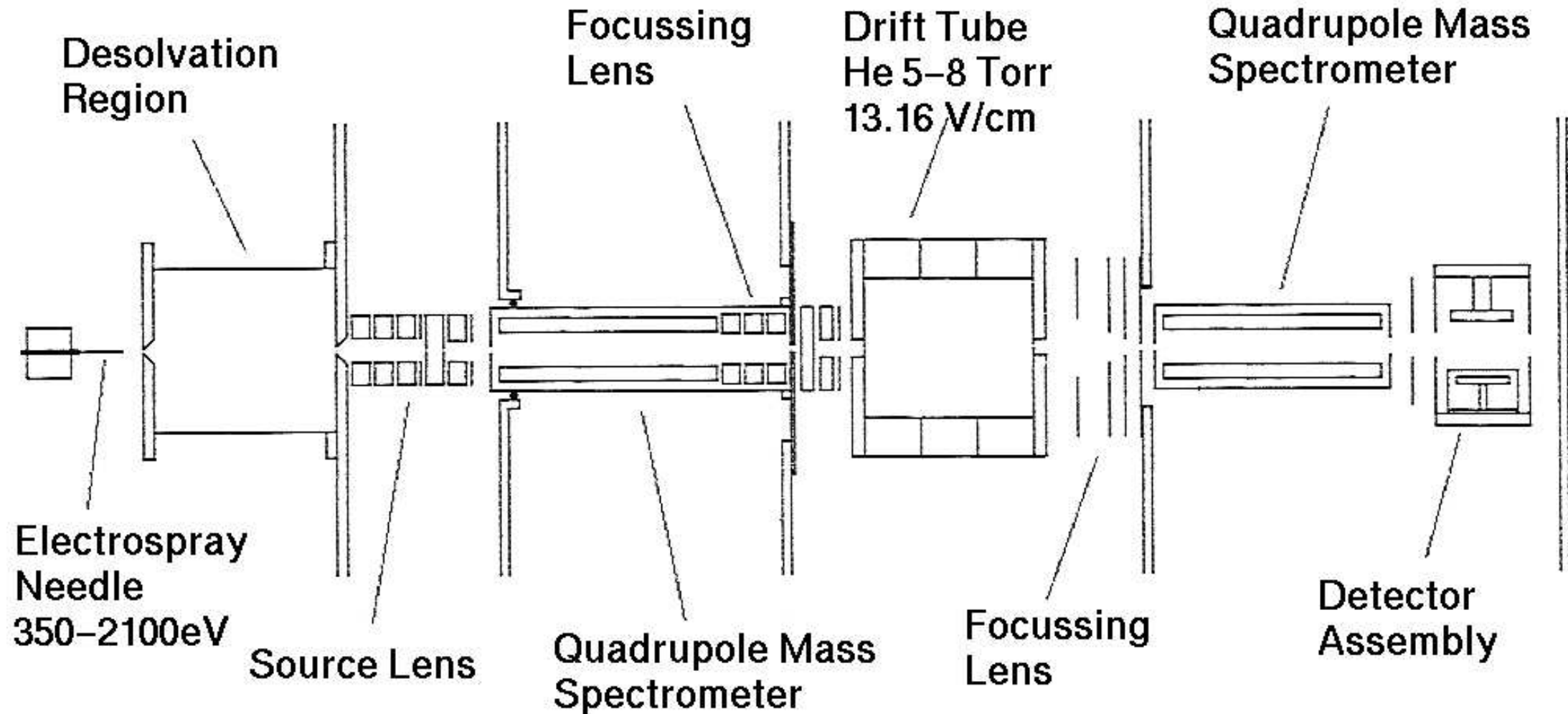
- 10000 molecules
- 300 K
- periodic in x, y
- adhesive pad
- nonadhesive lid



More movies: <https://vesmir.cz/cz/on-line-clanky/2014/07/struktura-anomalie-vody.html>

# Electrospray of Cytochrome C

- Electrospray: spray of charged aerosol
- Cross section is determined



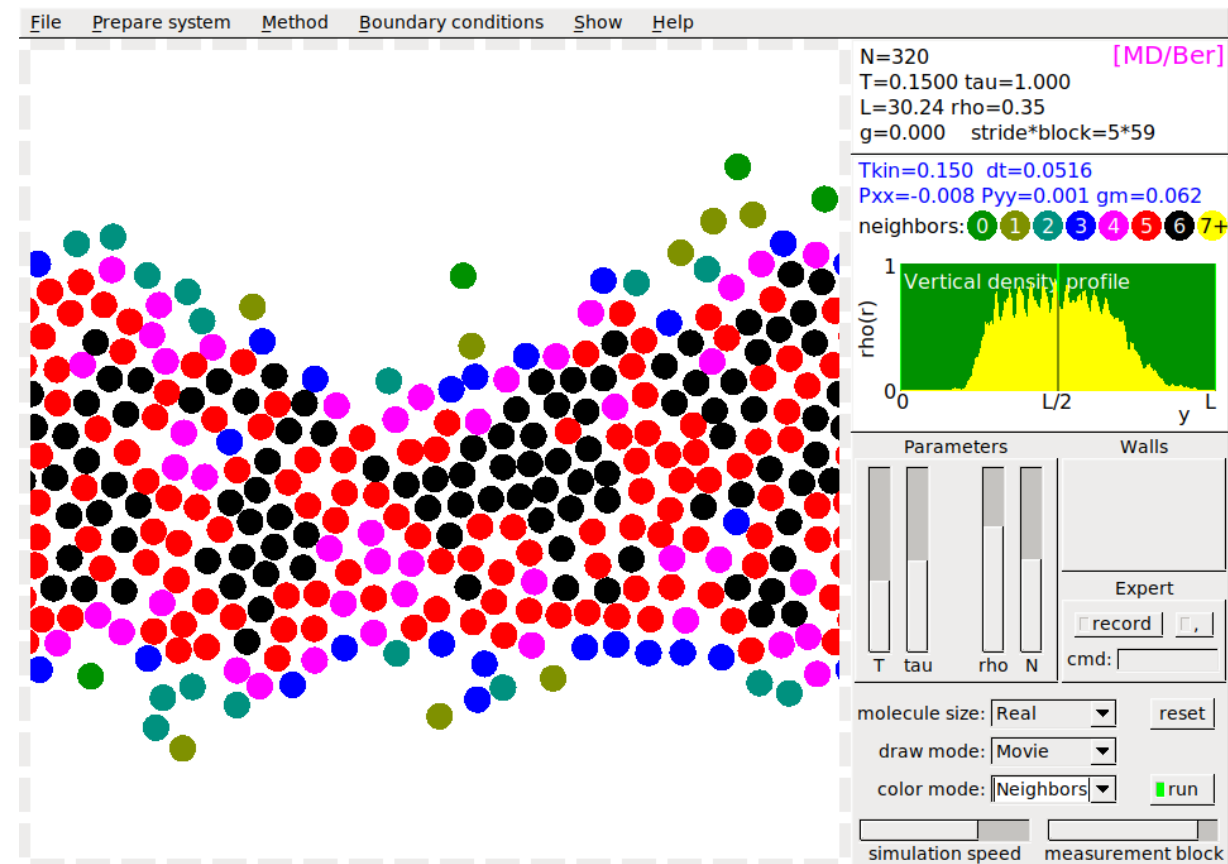


## Features:

- 2D “atoms” with a Lennard-Jones type potential (8–4)
- repulsive/attractive walls, gravity
- MC and MD
- constant energy and thermostat

## Phenomena:

- condensation of vapor
- freezing of a droplet
- crystal defects
- capillary action
- gas in a gravitational field
- vapor-liquid equilibrium
- nucleation

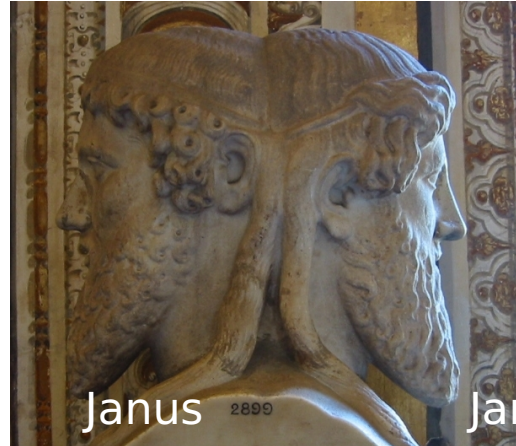
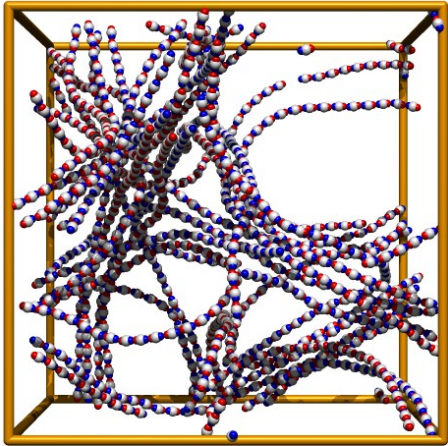


Install SIMOLANT: <http://old.vscht.cz/fch/software/simolant/index-en.html>

# Self-assembly (primitive example)

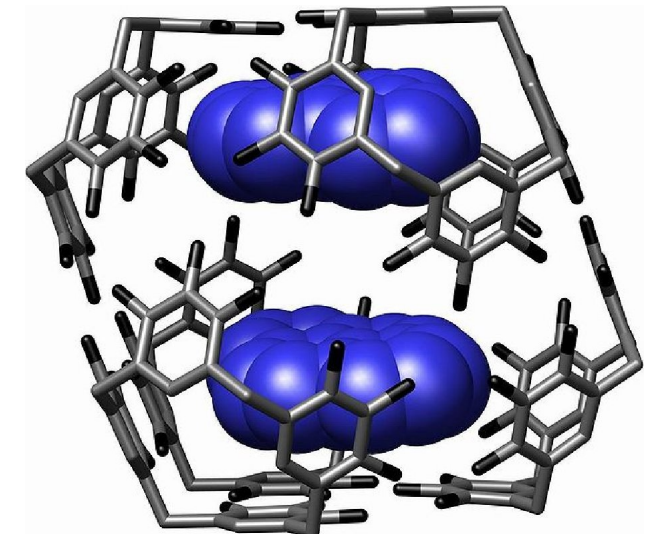
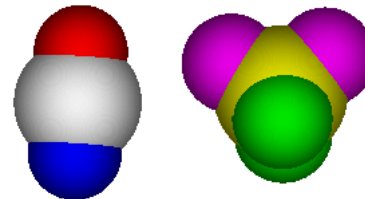
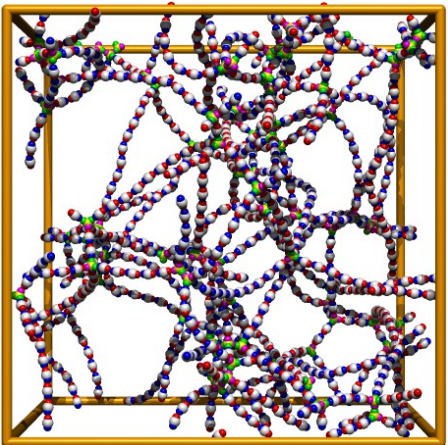
**Supramolecular chemistry:** assembling molecules using noncovalent forces (van der Waals, hydrogen bonds) to higher structural elements

● Show: bivalent particles in a solution  $\approx$  “Janus particles”



credit: wikipedia, [www.nasa.gov/mission\\_pages/cassini](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/cassini)

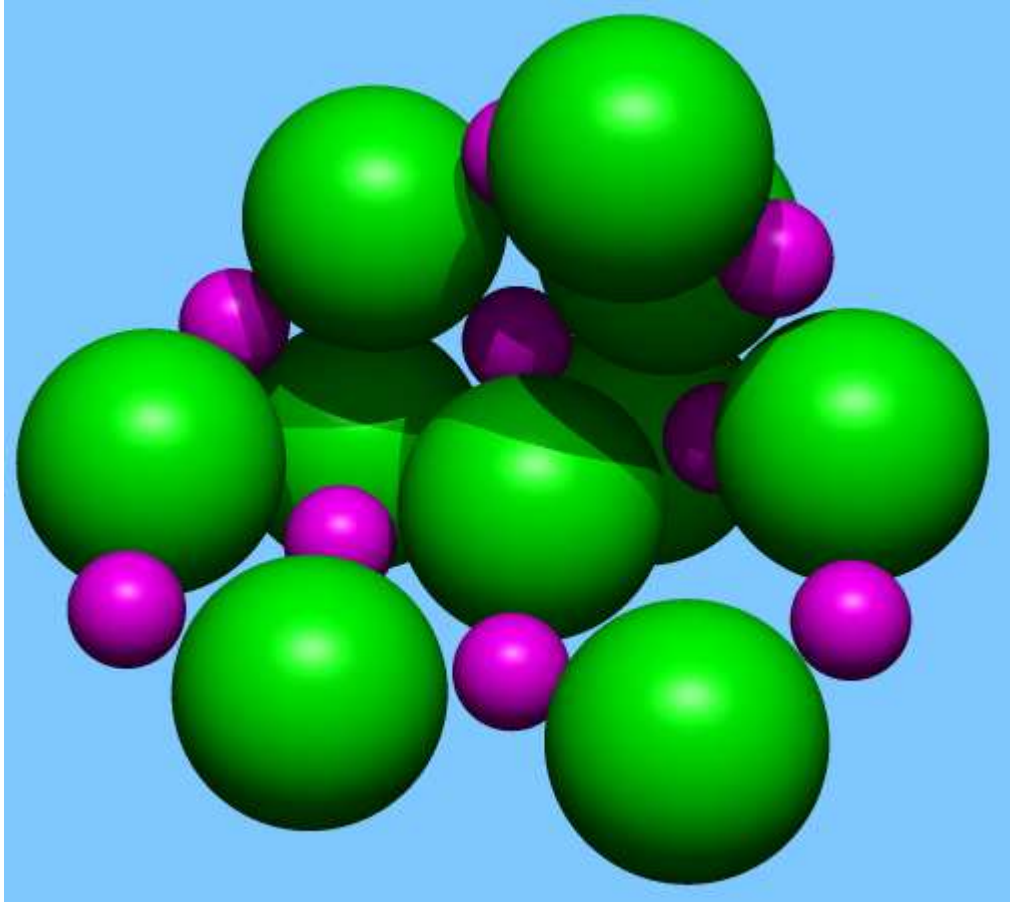
● Show: + tetravalent particles



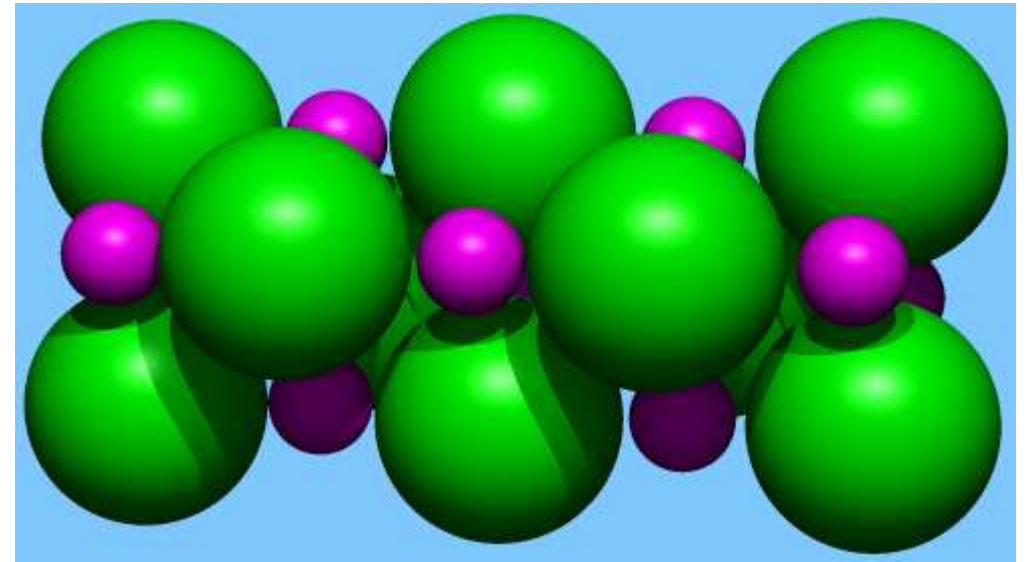
credit: Atwood et al., *Science* 309, 2037 (2005)

# How to get energy minimum (simulated annealing)

Minimum energy of (a model of)  $\text{Na}_{10}\text{Cl}_{10}$  cluster



fast cooling (quenching)



slow cooling (annealing)

# Optimization by simulated annealing

We are looking for the **global minimum** of function  $U(A_i)$  (with many local minima)

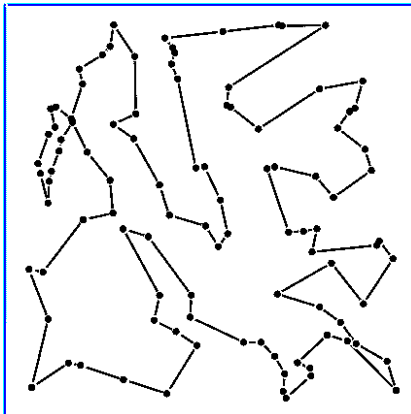
- Configuration changes  $A_i \rightarrow A_j$
- Metropolis MC simulation while decreasing “temperature”  $T$

**Example:** Traveling salesman problem

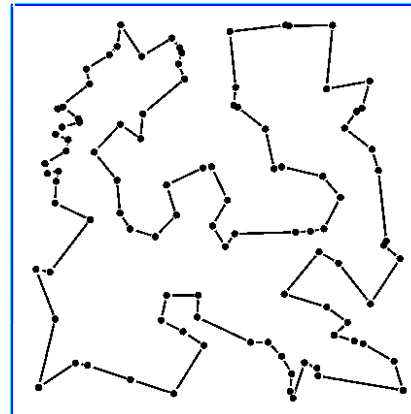
- 100 cities randomly in square  $1 \times 1$
- Configuration = sequence of cities
- $U$  = path length
- Configuration change = interchange of 2 randomly chosen cities

```
for me (uvodsim/salesman.sh):  
- random start  
- numerical results in the console
```

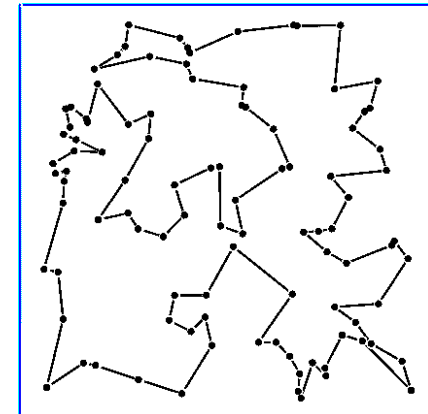
“greedy”  
(Metropolis  
 $T = 0$ )  
 $l = 8.5778$



simulated  
annealing  
 $l = 7.6663$



genetic  
algorithm  
 $l = 8.1817$





# Genetic algorithms (evolutionary programming)

+ 15/25  
s00/3

The function to maximize is called here “fitness”

● configuration → individual → genom = chromosome = list of alleles (“column of numbers”)

● initial (e.g., random) population

- next generation:
- kill the least fit individuals
  - copying (parthenogenesis) with a mutation
  - breeding from two parents with crossover

Numbers are coded by a Gray code  
(consecutive integers differ by one bit)

## Application:

- logistics, economy, control of processes
- biochemistry – protein folding
- electronics – circuit design, antenna shape
- algorithm design

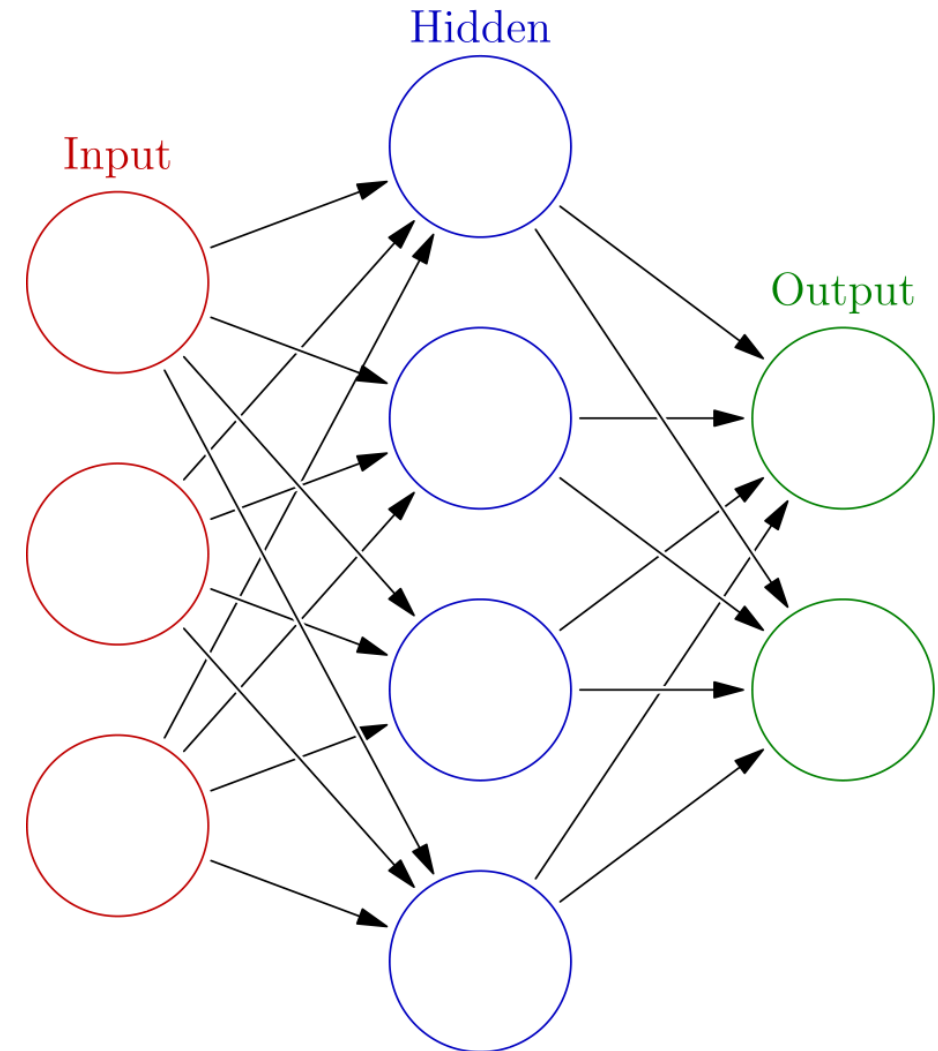
|    |      |
|----|------|
| 0  | 0000 |
| 1  | 0001 |
| 2  | 0011 |
| 3  | 0010 |
| 4  | 0110 |
| 5  | 0111 |
| 6  | 0101 |
| 7  | 0100 |
| 8  | 1100 |
| 9  | 1101 |
| 10 | 1111 |
| 11 | 1110 |
| 12 | 1010 |
| 13 | 1011 |
| 14 | 1001 |
| 15 | 1000 |



# Artificial neural networks

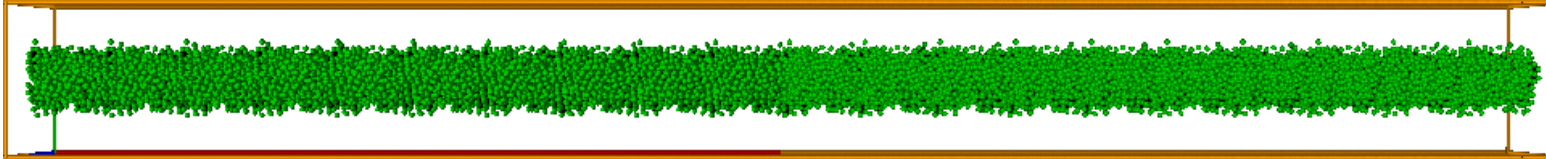
+ 16/25  
s00/3

- several layers
  - discrete or continuous signal
  - usually  $\rightarrow$ , rarely with feedback
  - nonlinear activation function (sigmoid)
  - weights for input mixing are adjustable
- learning** = determining the weights using a training set (optimization)

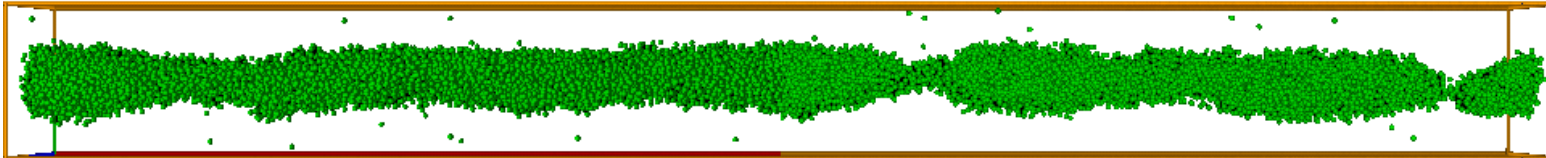


# (Plateau-)Rayleigh instability

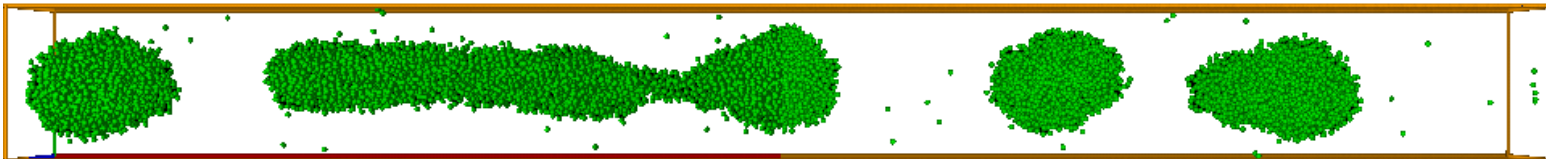
A stream of water splits into droplets. Instability for  $kr < 1$  (for perturbation  $\propto \sin(kz)$ ), max. instability for  $kr = \ln 2$ .



1/2101



992/2101



1366/2101



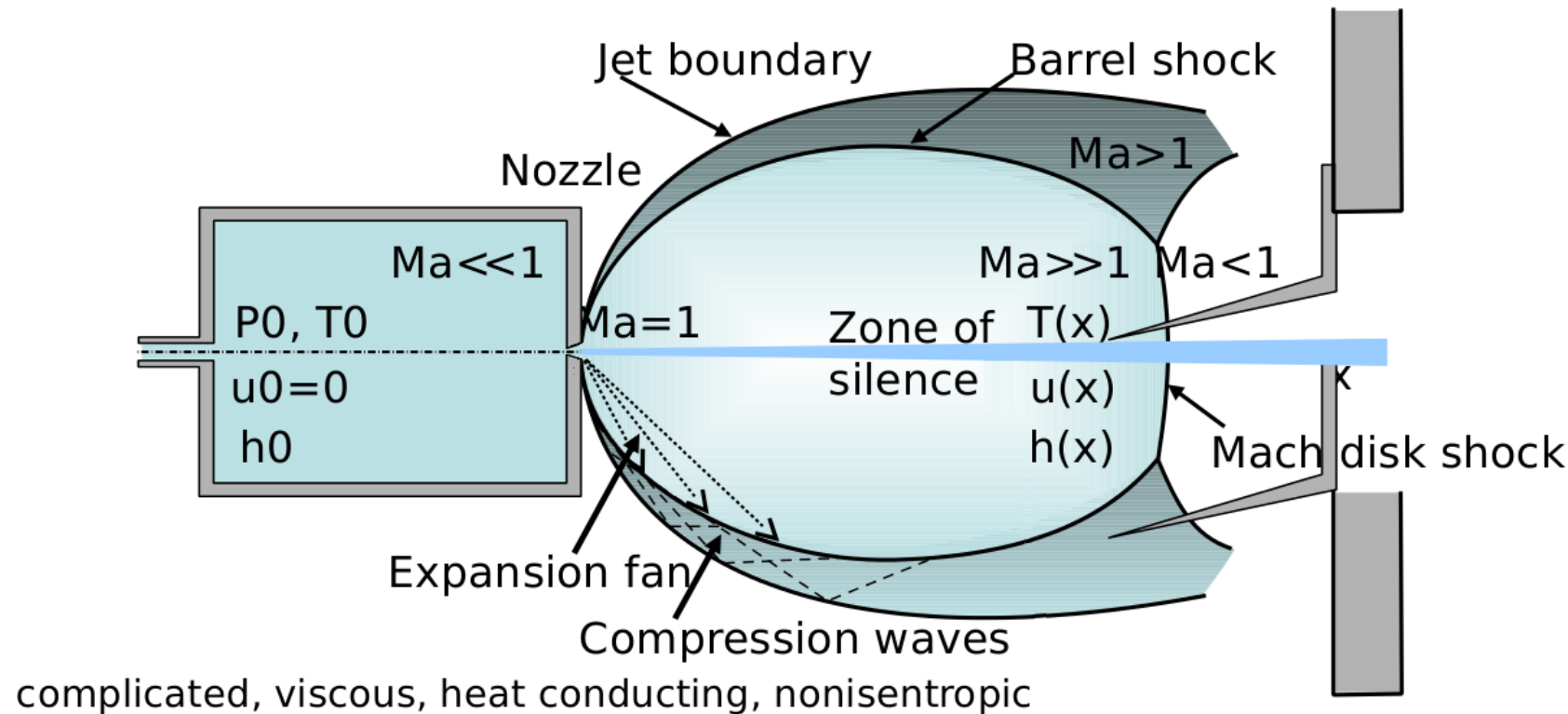
NB: “ $\propto$ ” = “is proportional to”

# Nucleation at supersonic expansion

Water vapor (about 150 °C and 5 bar) expands through a small (100  $\mu\text{m}$ ) nozzle to a vacuum. It cools adiabatically below freezing point.

**Motivation:** stratospheric physical chemistry.

## Free Jet Expansion



credit: M. Fárník

**Question:** what is the shape and structure of ice clusters?

J. Klíma, J. Kolafa: *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* **14**, 2332–2340 (2018)



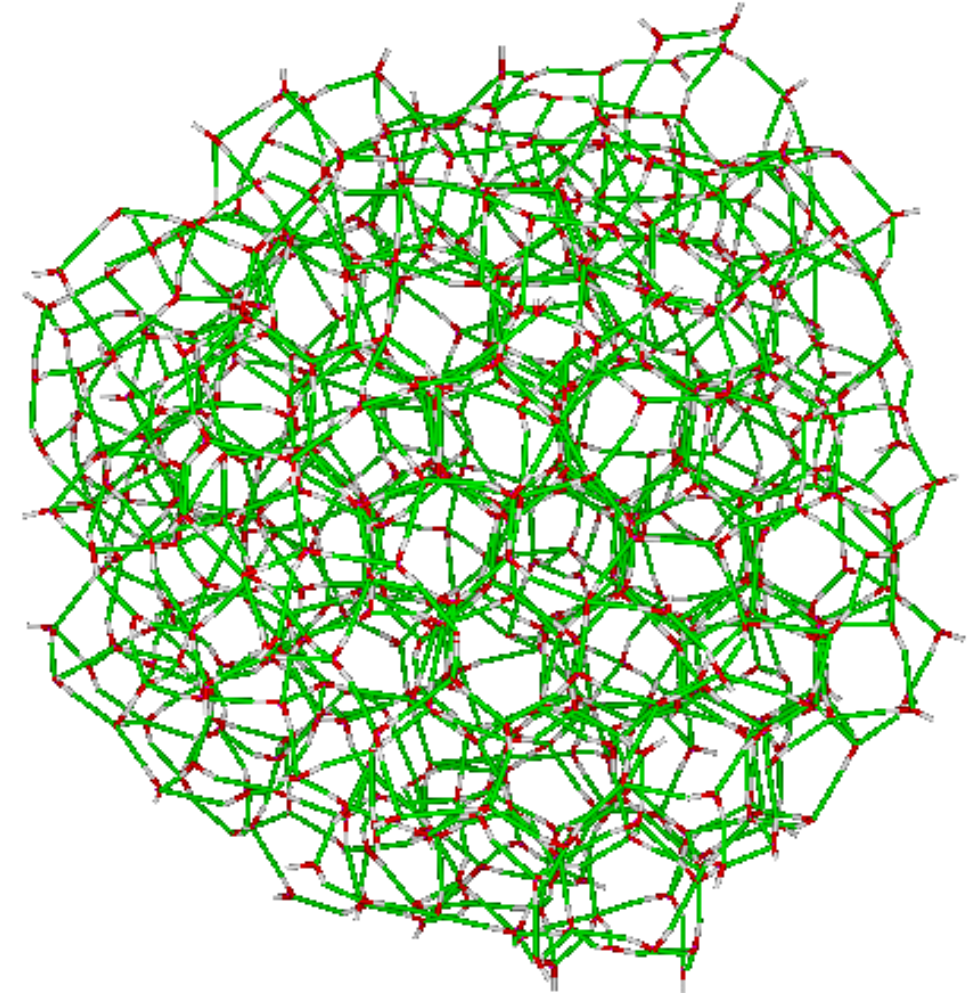
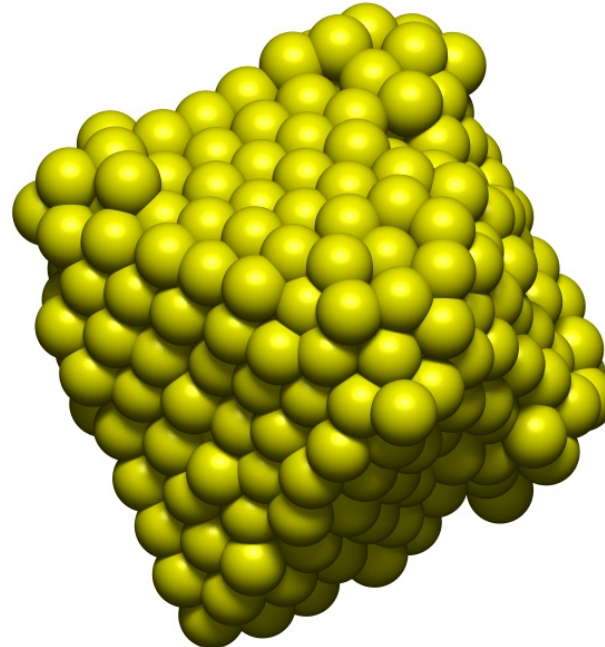
## Ice

- hail of 600 water molecules (ice Ih)
- gradual heating
- simulation time = 5 ns
- this model of water melts at 250 K

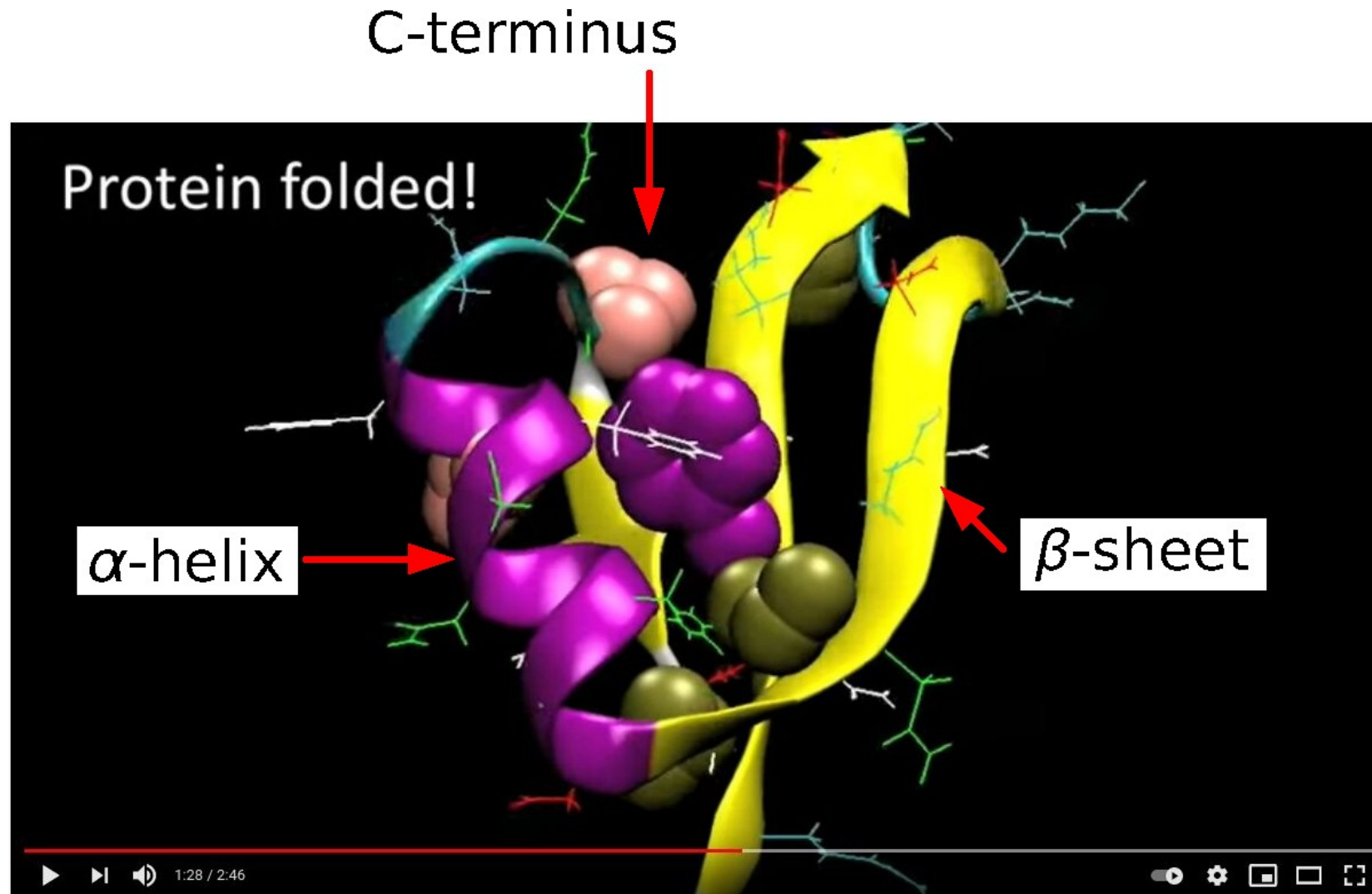
## Gold

- nanocrystal of 489 gold atoms
- gradual heating
- simulation time = 77 ps

the melting point  
of nanoparticles  
is lower than in the bulk



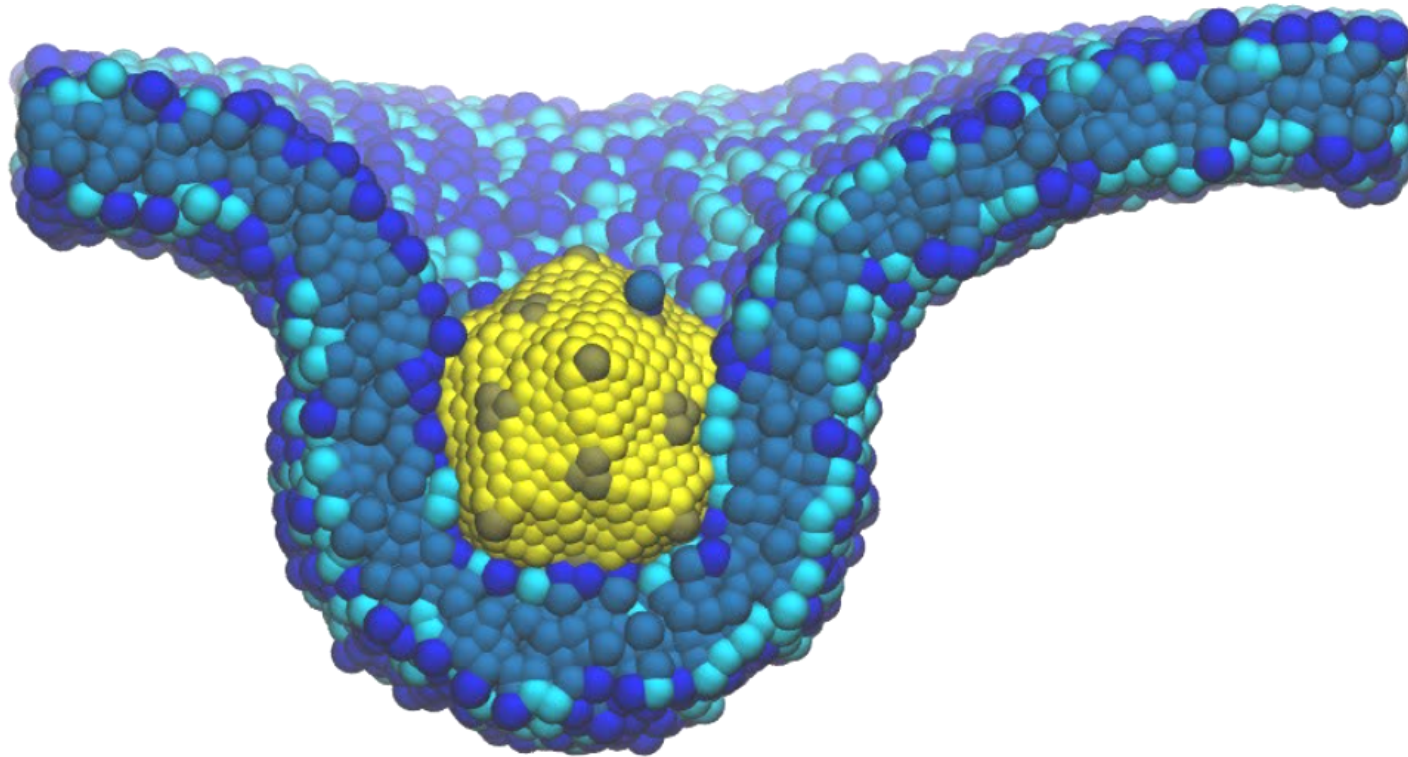
# Protein folding on the millisecond timescale



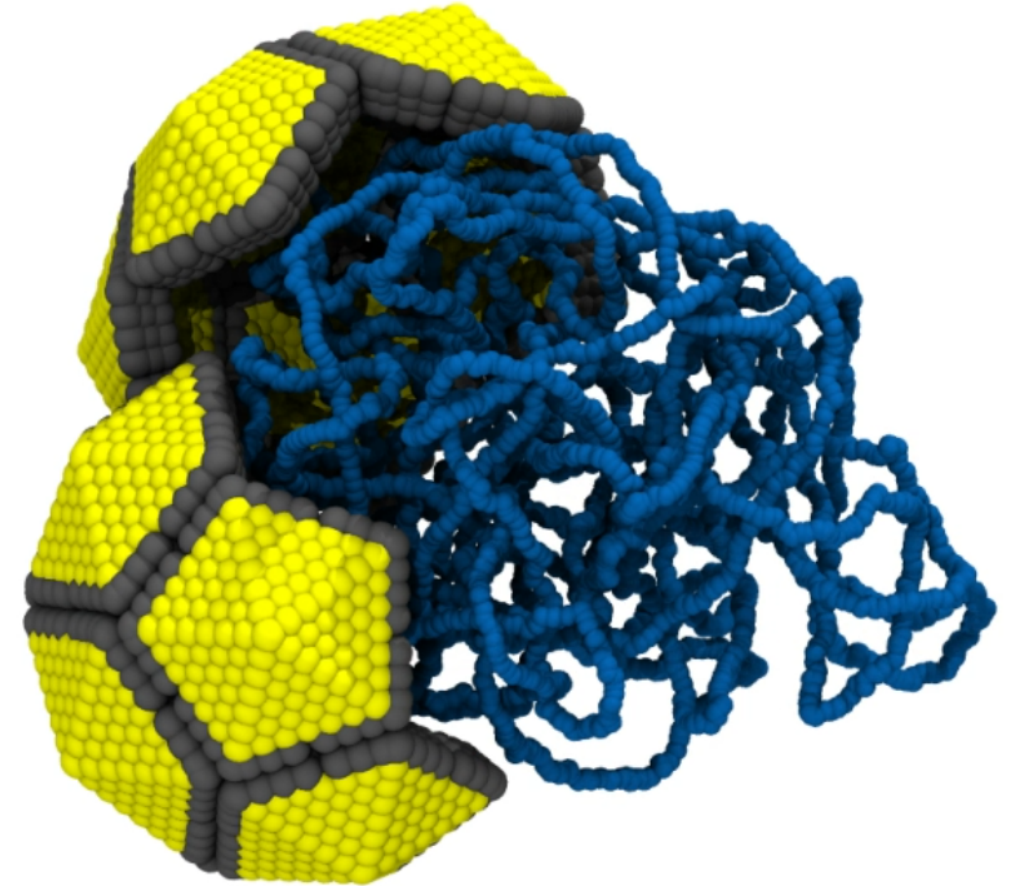
Credit: Pande Lab Science, <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/abs/10.1021/ja9090353>

# Coarse-grained simulations

- Coarse-grained model, Langevin thermostat (random forces)
- Water not shown



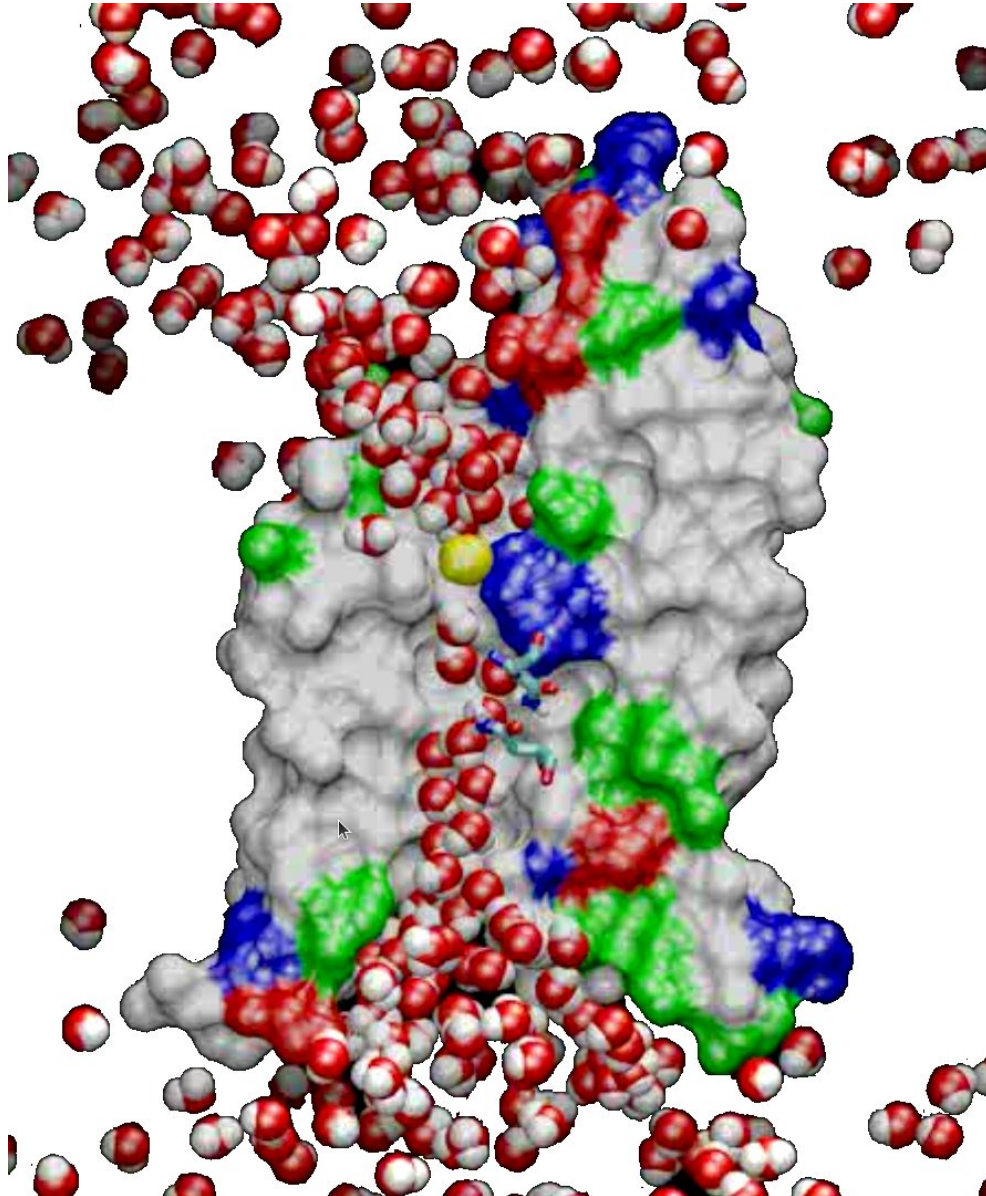
endocytosis



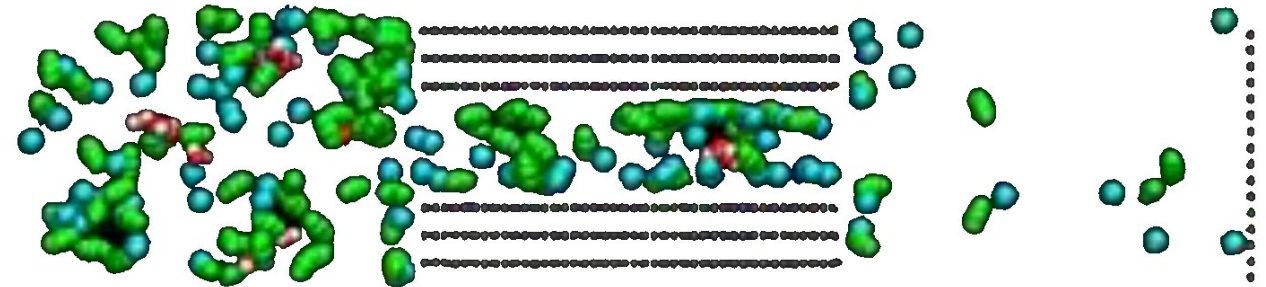
release of RNA from the capsid



diffusion of water through aquaporine channel

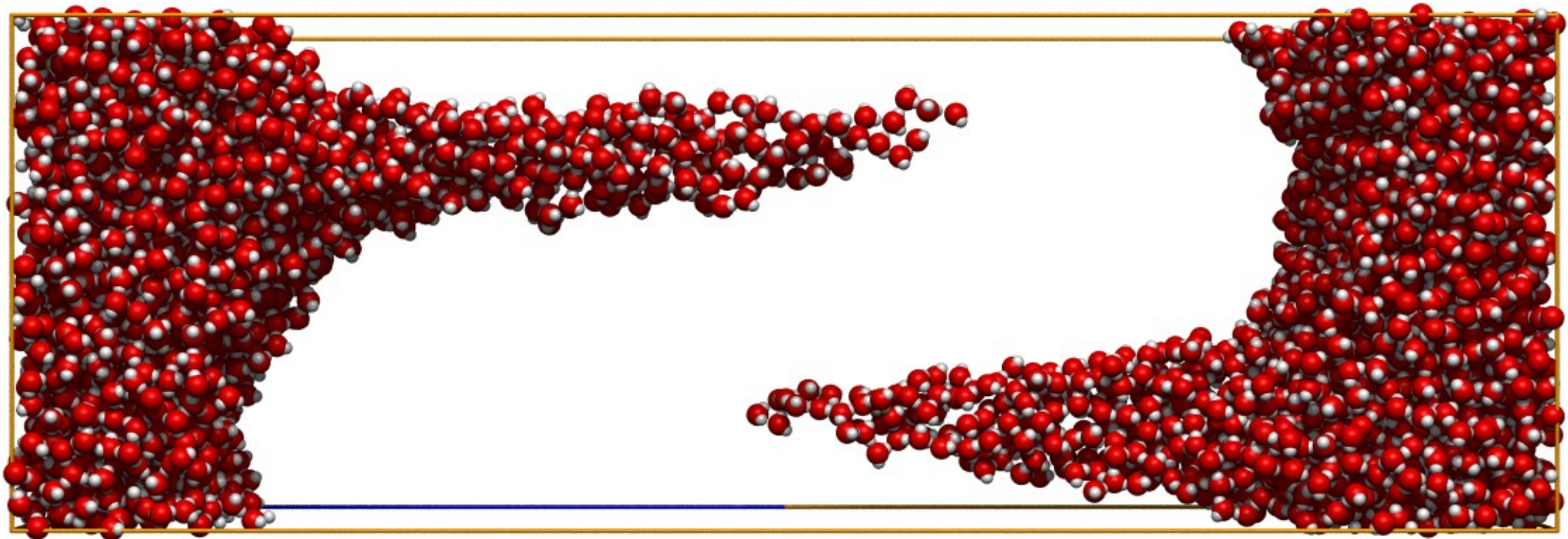


diffusion of water vapor, nitrogen, and carbon dioxide through a carbon nanotube





- 5000 SPC/E water molecules, field 1.5 V/nm, simulation time 135 ps
- electrospinning starts by the “Taylor cone”
- the tip elongates and produces a jet stabilized by electric field

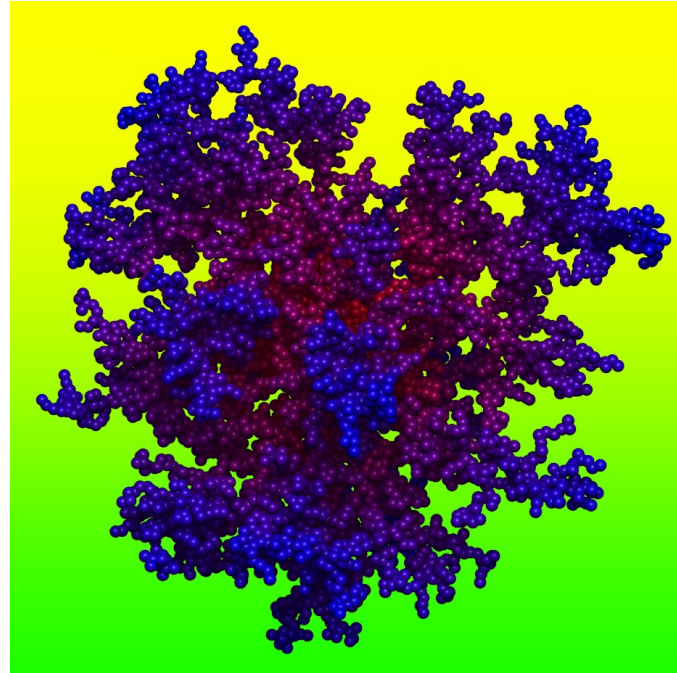




# Dendrimers by diffusion-limited aggregation

## Fractals:

- Trajectory of Brownian motion = random walk = linear polymer in  $\theta$ -solvent:  $D = 2$
- Self-avoiding random walk = linear polymer in good solvent (in 3D):  $D = 1.7$
- Dendrimer in 2D:  $D = 1.7$
- Dendrimer in 3D:  $D = 2.5$
- Broccoli:  $D = 2.66$
- Lung surface:  $D = 2.97$



copper electrodeposition →

credit: Wikipedia

