

# PLUMED

## An introduction

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SISSA, Trieste, Italy

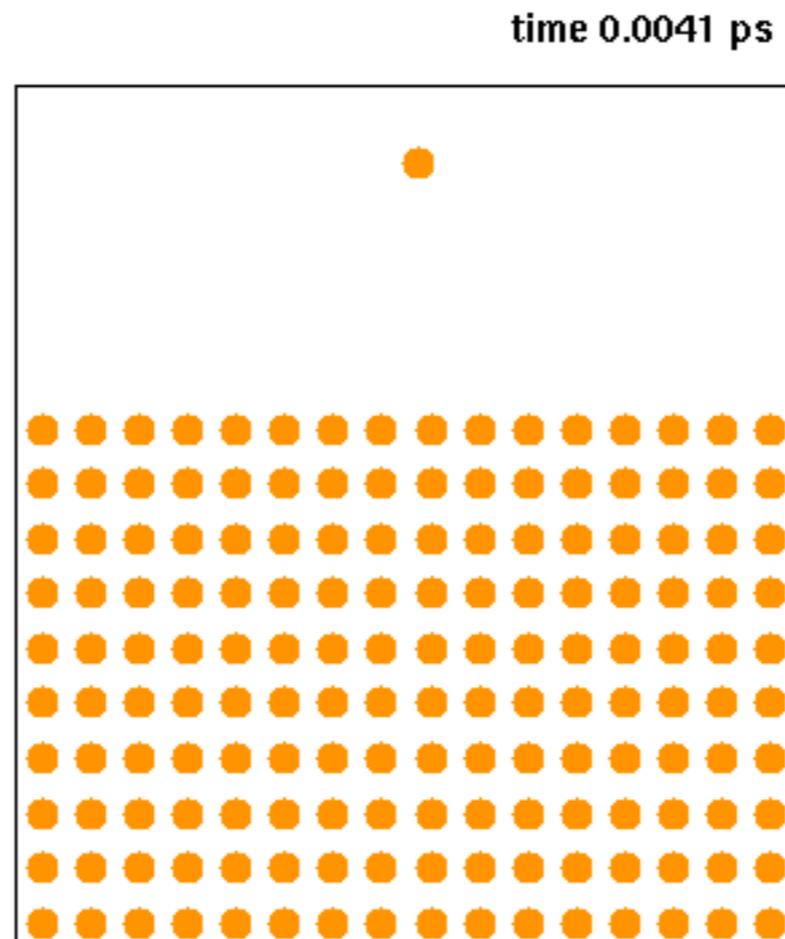
[bussi@sissa.it](mailto:bussi@sissa.it)

[www.sissa.it/~bussi](http://www.sissa.it/~bussi)

[srnas.sissa.it](http://srnas.sissa.it)



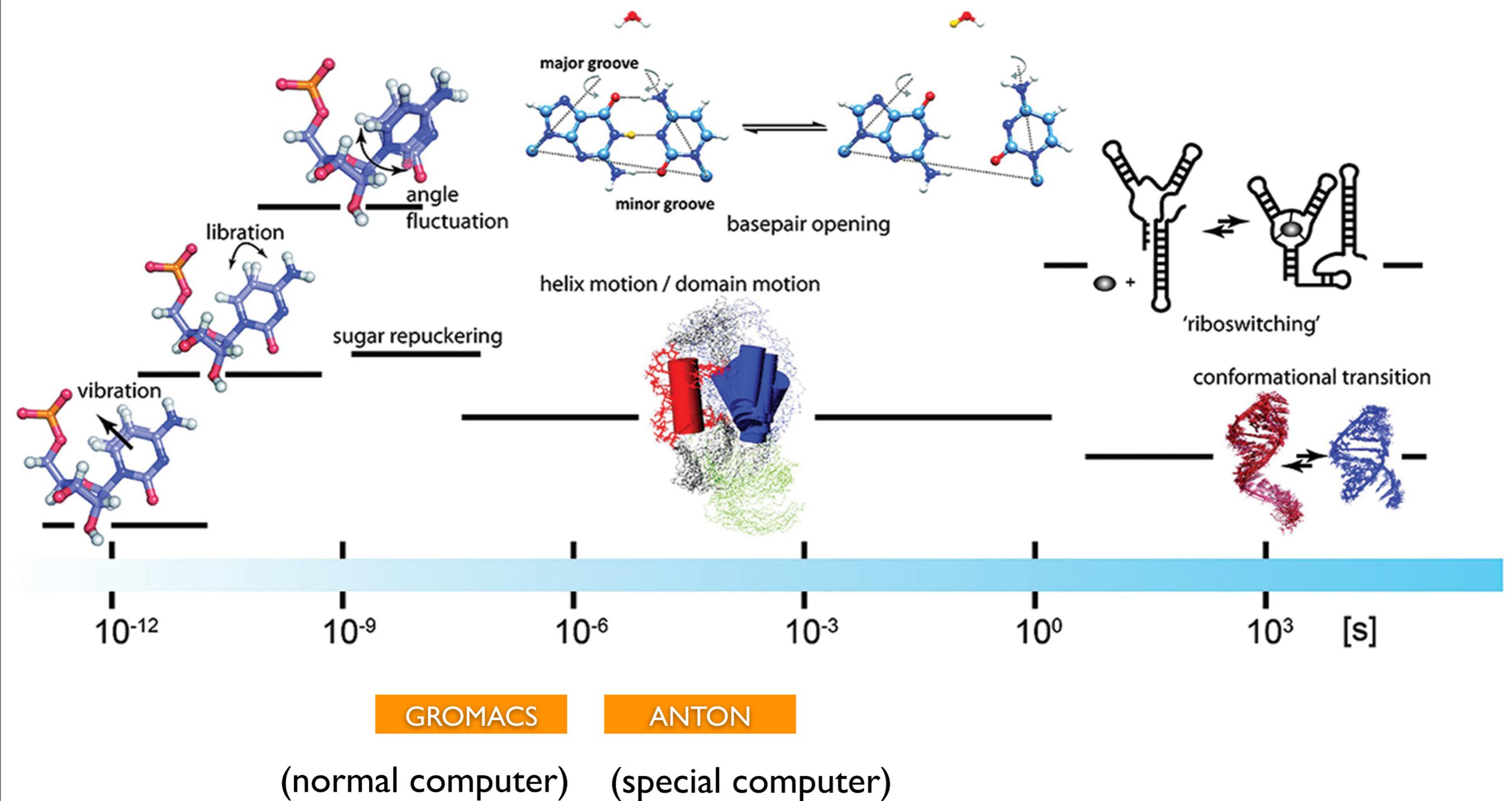
# Molecular dynamics



Molecular dynamics (MD) is a form of computer simulation wherein atoms and molecules are allowed to interact for a period of time under known laws of physics, giving a view of the motion of the atoms

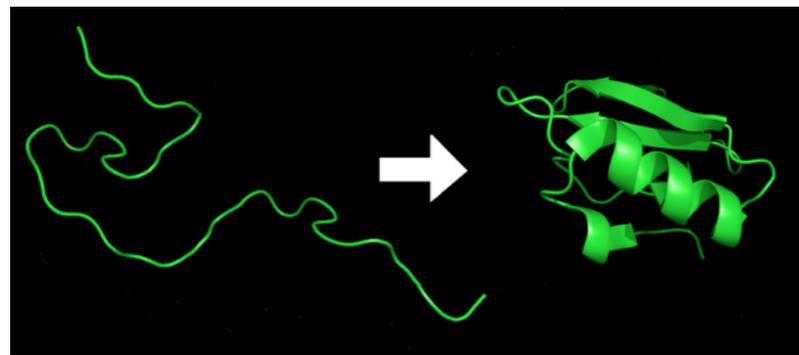
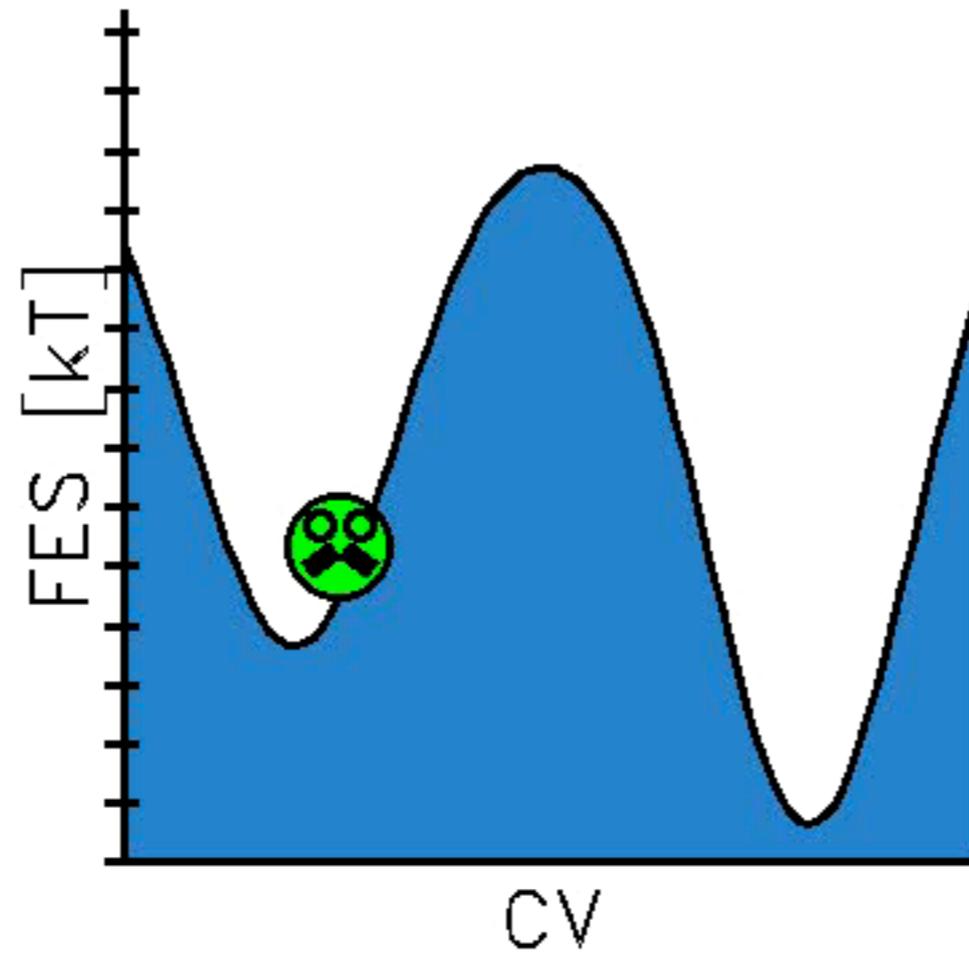
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Molecular\\_dynamics](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Molecular_dynamics)

# Timescales for, e.g., RNA dynamics

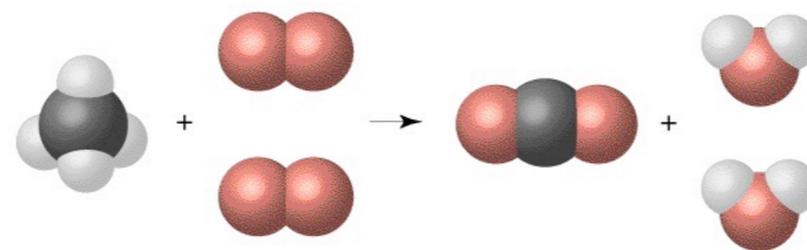


adapted from Rinnenthal, Buck, Ferner, Wacker, Fuertig, and Schwalbe Chem Res 44, 1292 (2011)

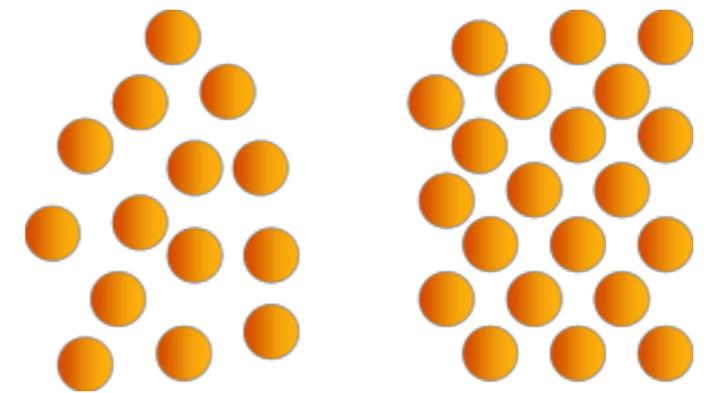
# Rare events



protein/RNA  
folding/rearrangement

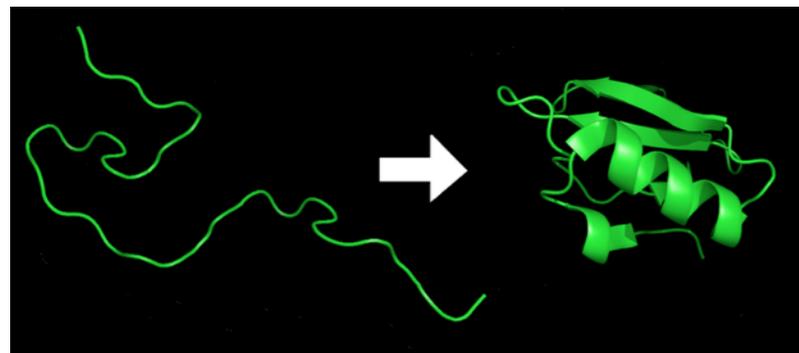
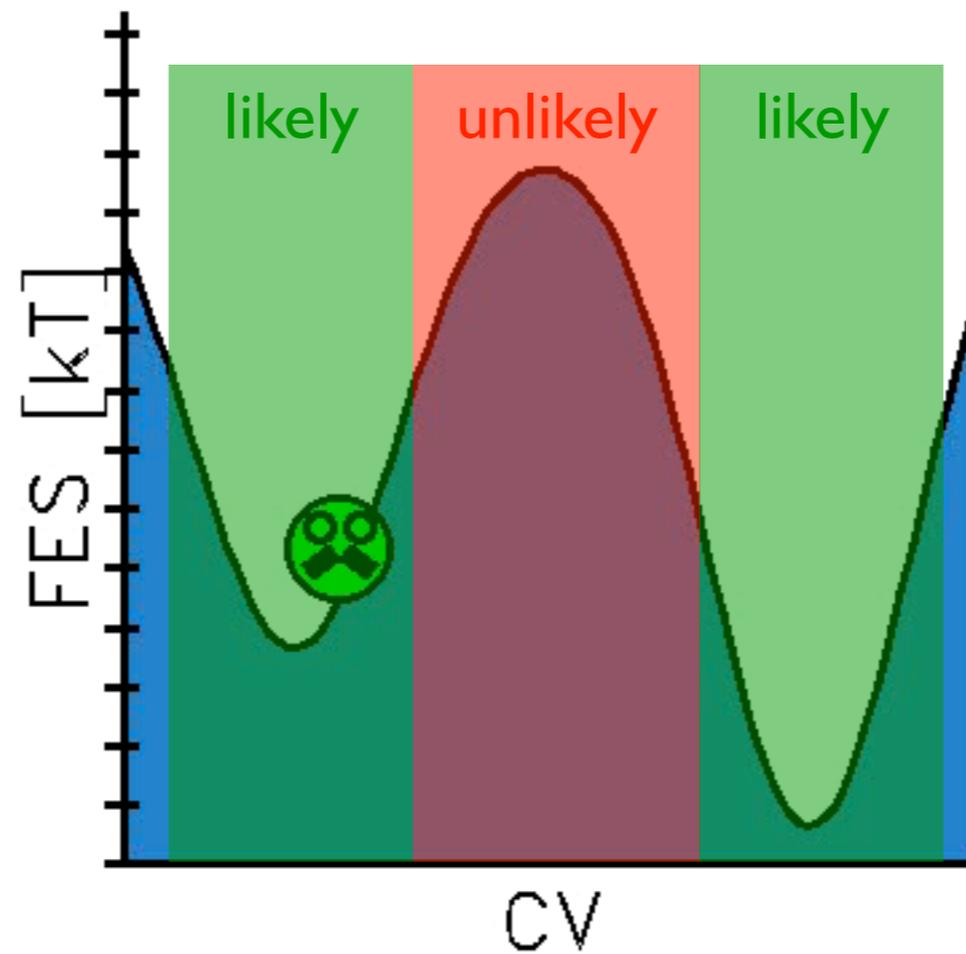


chemical reactions

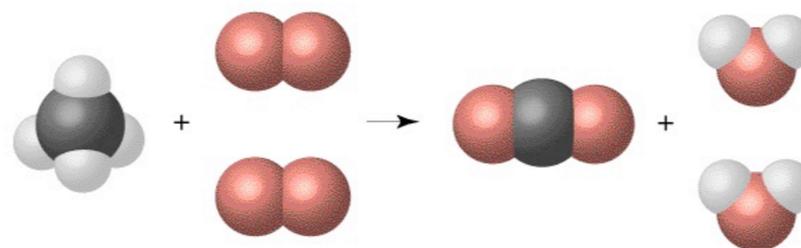


phase transitions

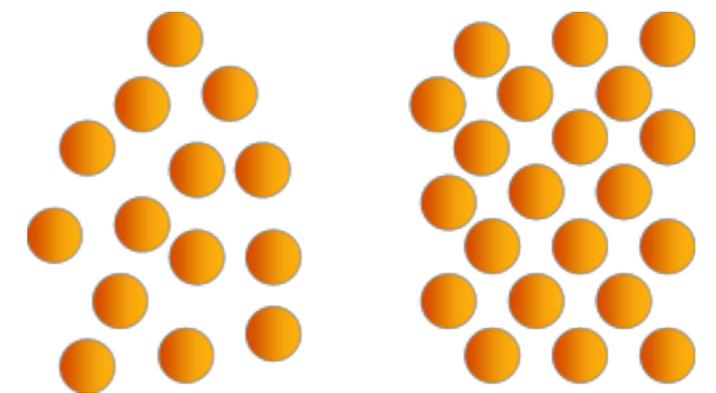
# Rare events



protein/RNA  
folding/rearrangement



chemical reactions



phase transitions

# Agenda

Tackling rare events

Introduction to PLUMED

Sample applications & recent developments

# Tackling rare events

Brute force:

very long simulations  
distributed computing

...



# Tackling rare events

## Brute force:

very long simulations  
distributed computing

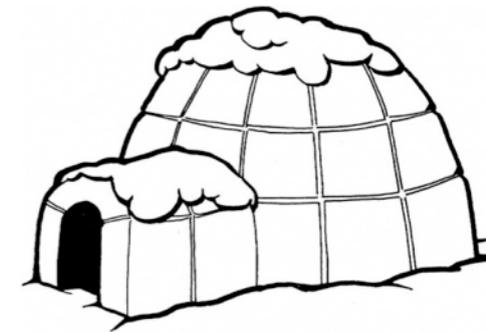
...



## Based on annealing:

simulated annealing  
parallel tempering  
simulated tempering

...



# Tackling rare events

## Brute force:

very long simulations  
distributed computing

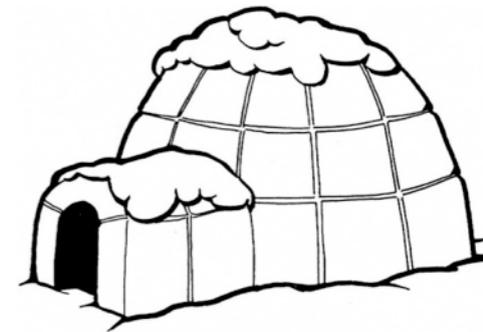
...



## Based on annealing:

simulated annealing  
parallel tempering  
simulated tempering

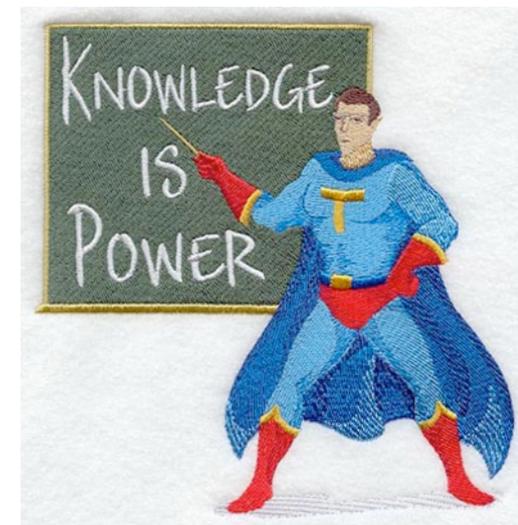
...



## Based on *a priori* physical insight:

umbrella sampling  
steered MD  
metadynamics  
adiabatic free-energy, temperature accelerated MD

...



# Tackling rare events

## Brute force:

very long simulations  
distributed computing

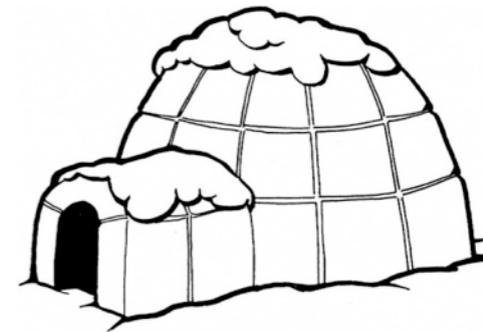
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## Based on annealing:

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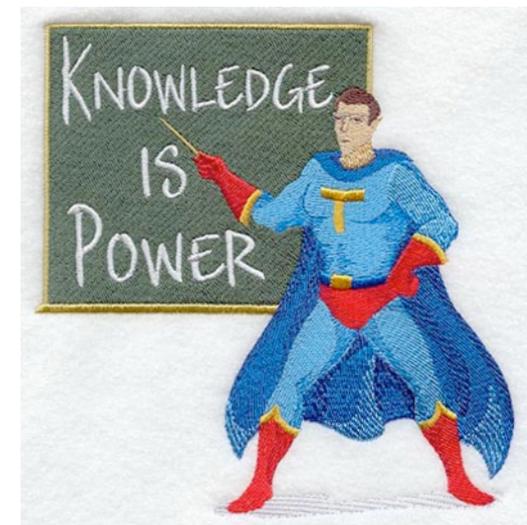
...



## Based on *a priori* physical insight:

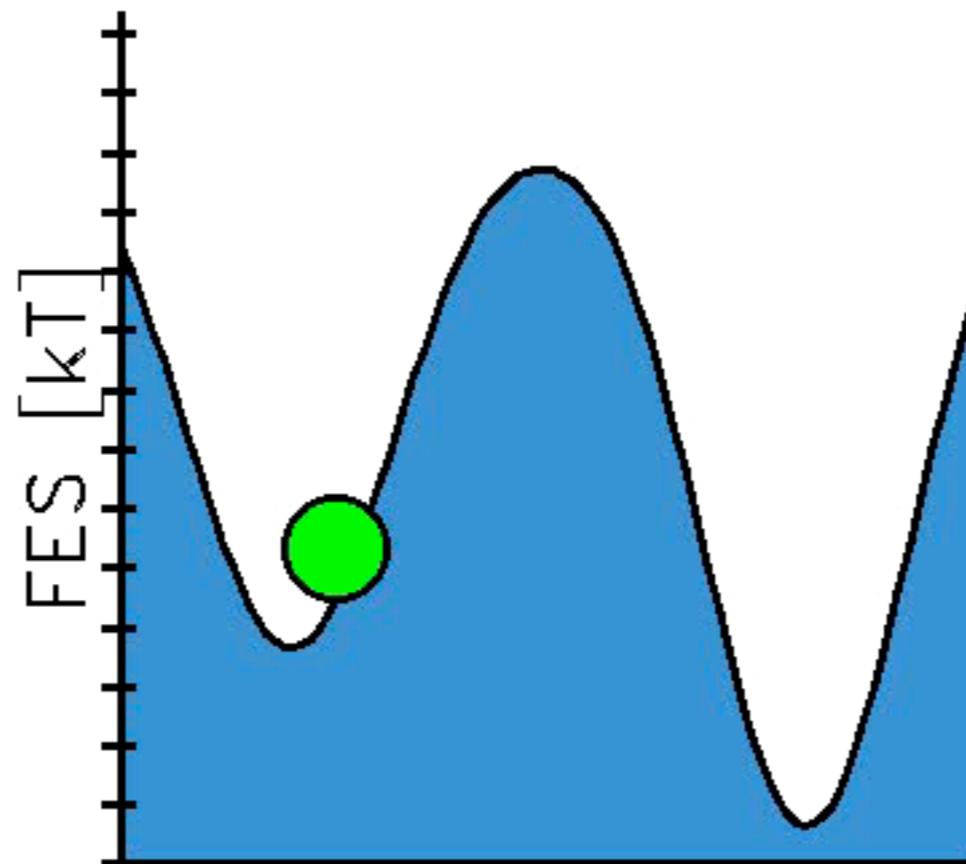
umbrella sampling  
steered MD  
metadynamics  
adiabatic free-energy, temperature accelerated MD

...



# Pulling

## Steered MD



Pulling to accelerate rare events

CV can be any possible function of the microscopic coordinates

Grubmuller, Heymann, and Tavan, Science (1996)

Jarzynsky, PRL (1997)

# Filling

## Metadynamics

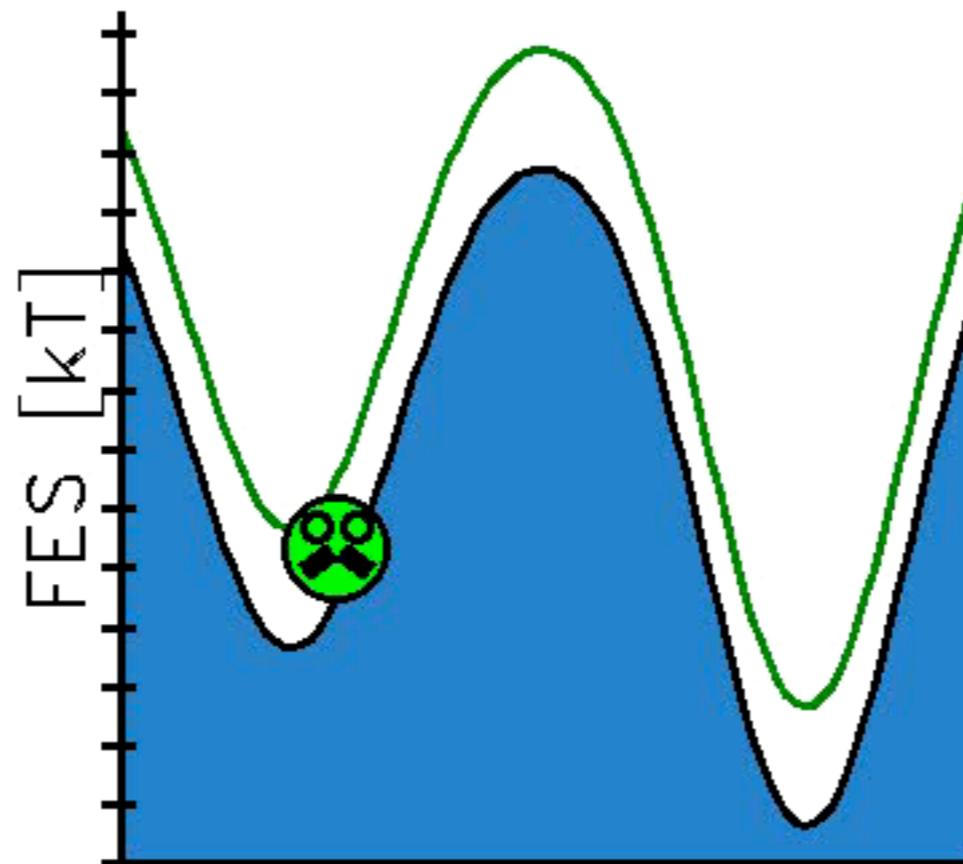
Reaction coordinate  
(AKA Collective Variable)

Fill wells in free-energy landscape, then reconstruct it!

Laio and Parrinello, PNAS (2002)  
Barducci, Bussi, and Parrinello, PRL (2008)

# Filling

## Metadynamics



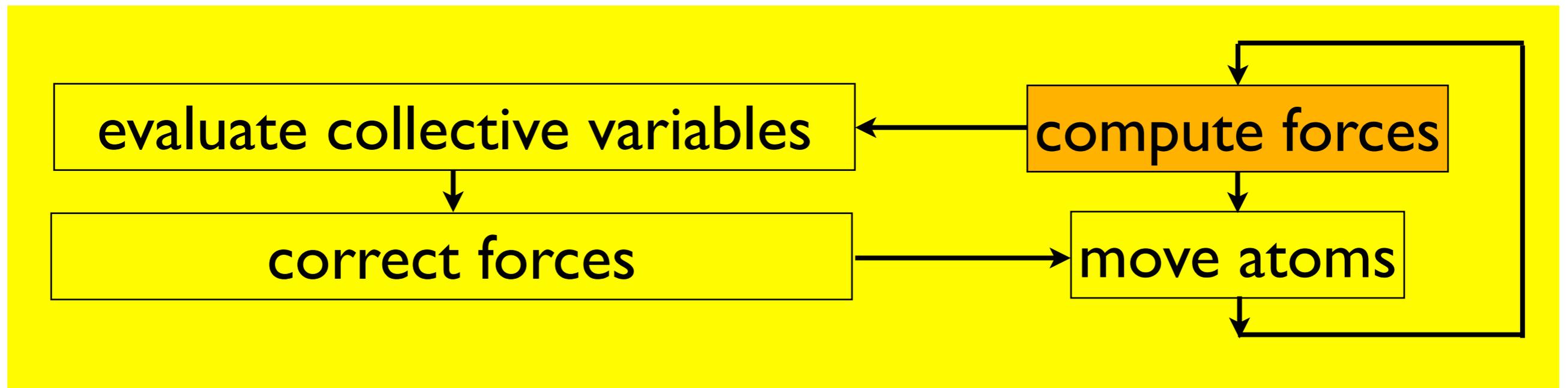
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# Actual implementation

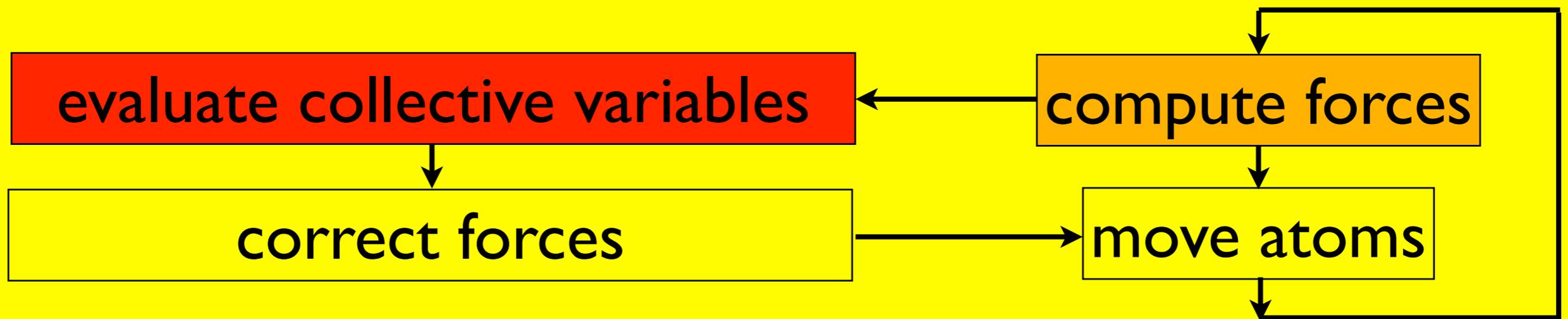
depending on physical problem/type of machine/...



# Actual implementation

depending on the physical problem:  
distances, angles, ...

depending on physical  
problem/type of machine/...



# Actual implementation

depending on the physical problem:  
distances, angles, ...

depending on physical  
problem/type of machine/...

evaluate collective variables

correct forces

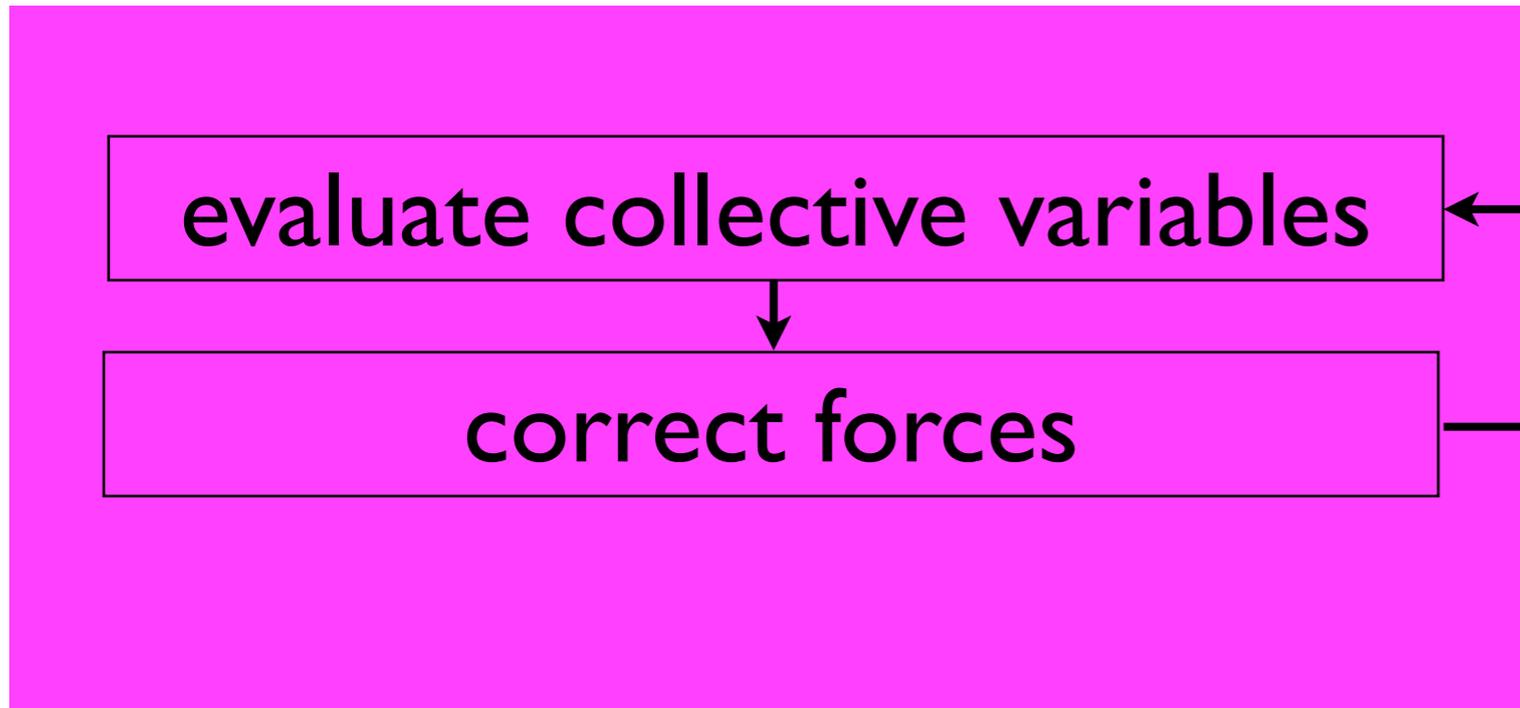
compute forces

move atoms

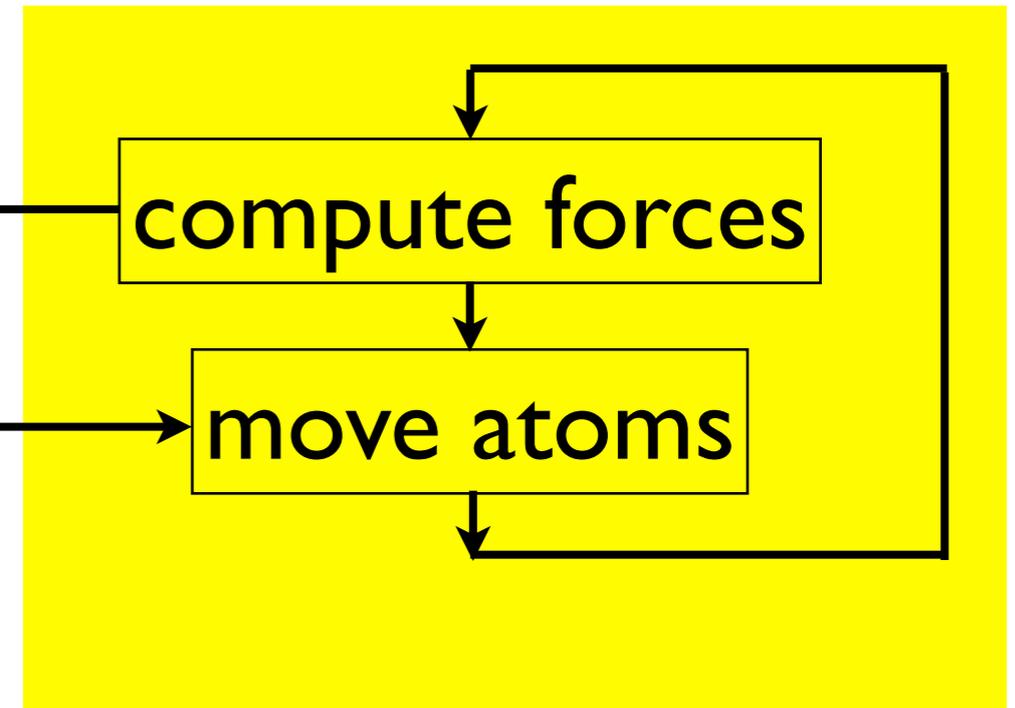
several possible algorithms  
e.g. steered MD, metadynamics, ...

# PLUMED (born 2008)

## PLUGIN



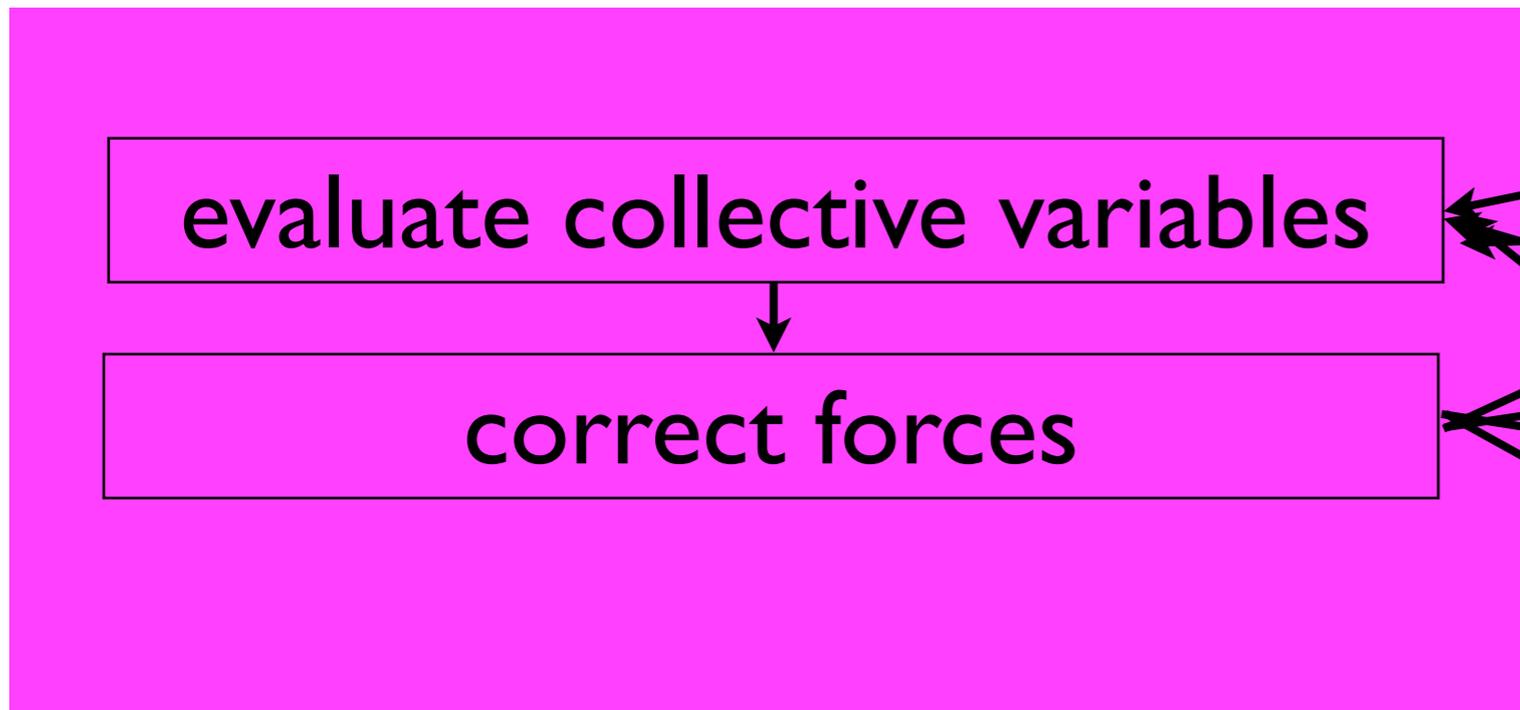
## MD code



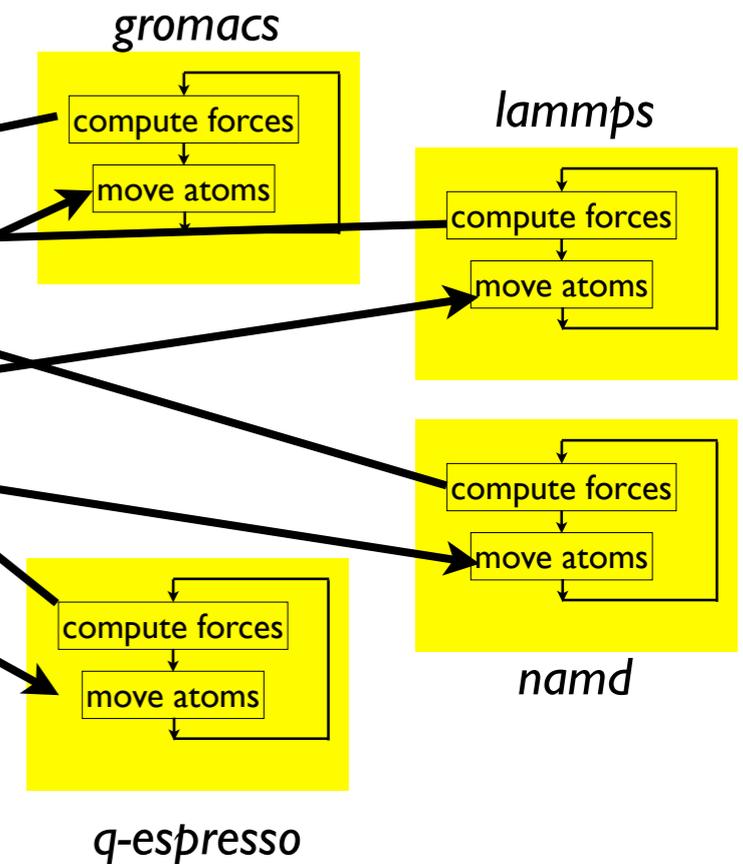
Bonomi, Branduardi, Bussi, Camilloni, Provasi, Raiteri, Donadio, Marinelli, Pietrucci, Broglia, and Parrinello, CPC (2008)

# PLUMED (born 2008)

## PLUGIN



## MD codes

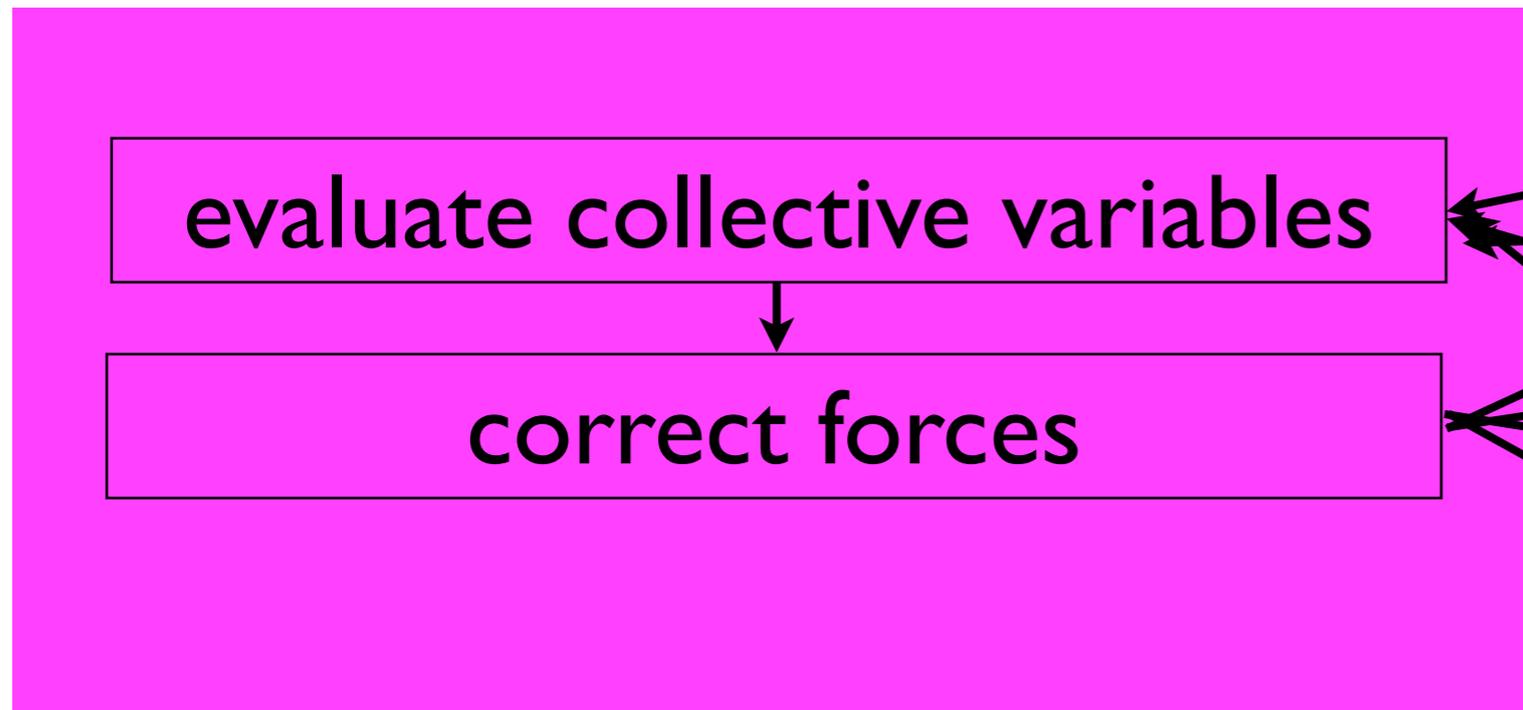


One open source plugging  
for several MD codes!

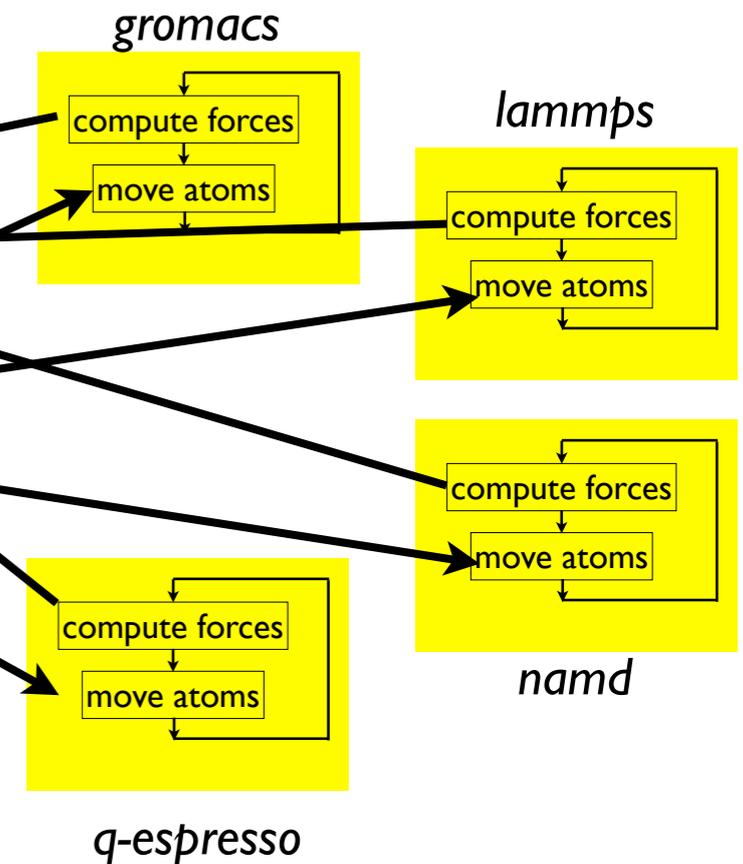
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# PLUMED (born 2008)

## PLUGIN



## MD codes



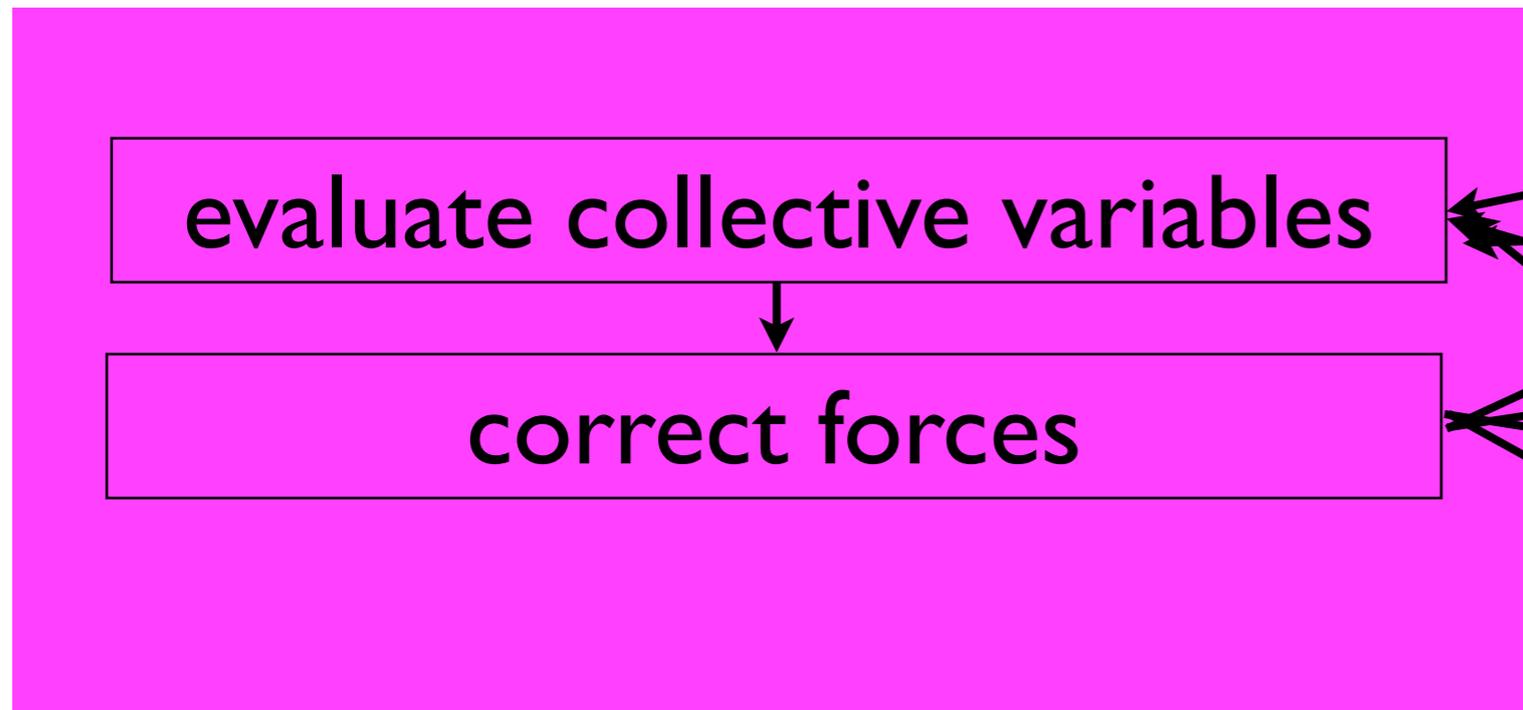
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Why **PLUMED**?

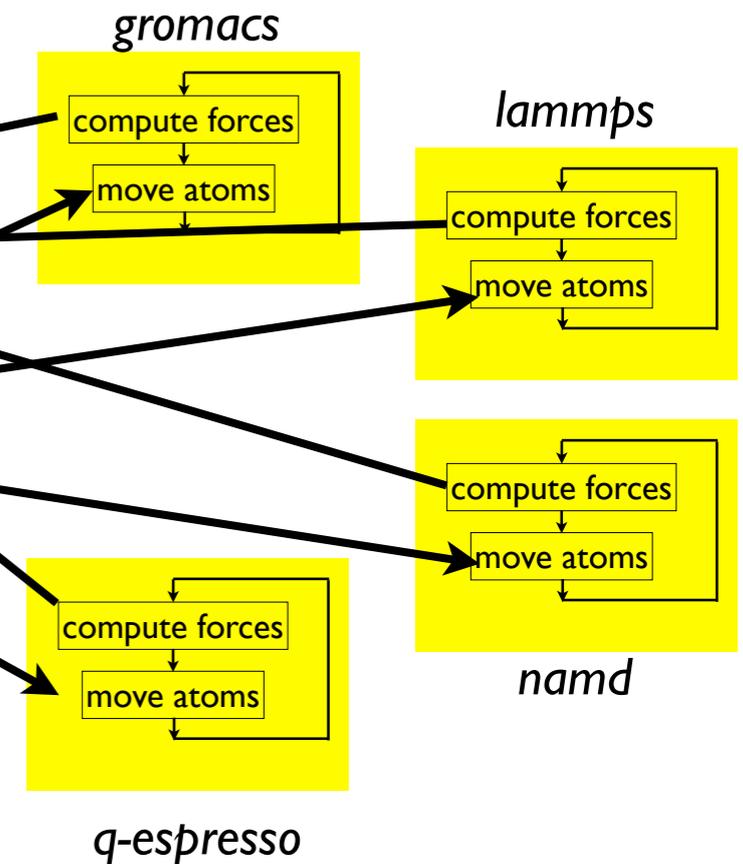
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# PLUMED (born 2008)

## PLUGIN



## MD codes



One open source plugging  
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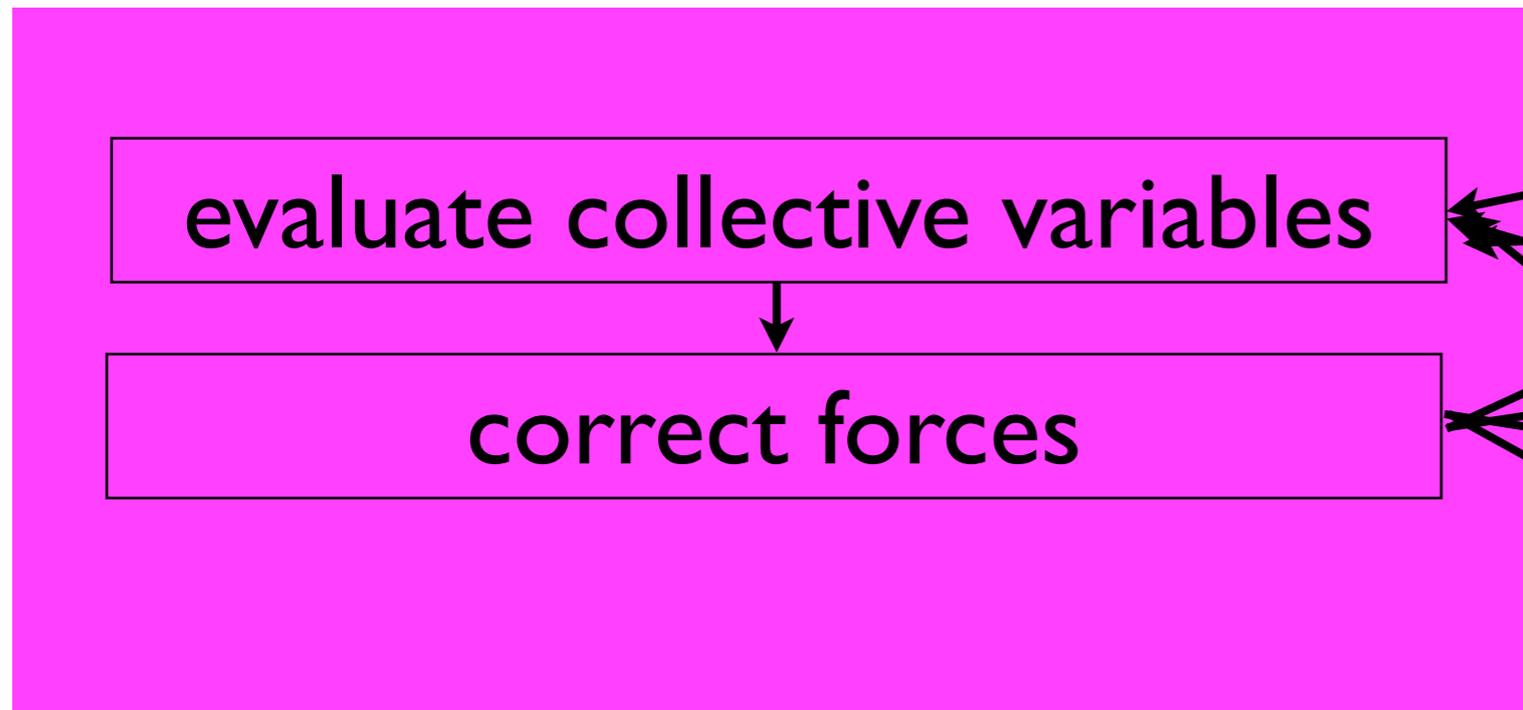
**PLU**gin for **ME**ta**D**ynamics

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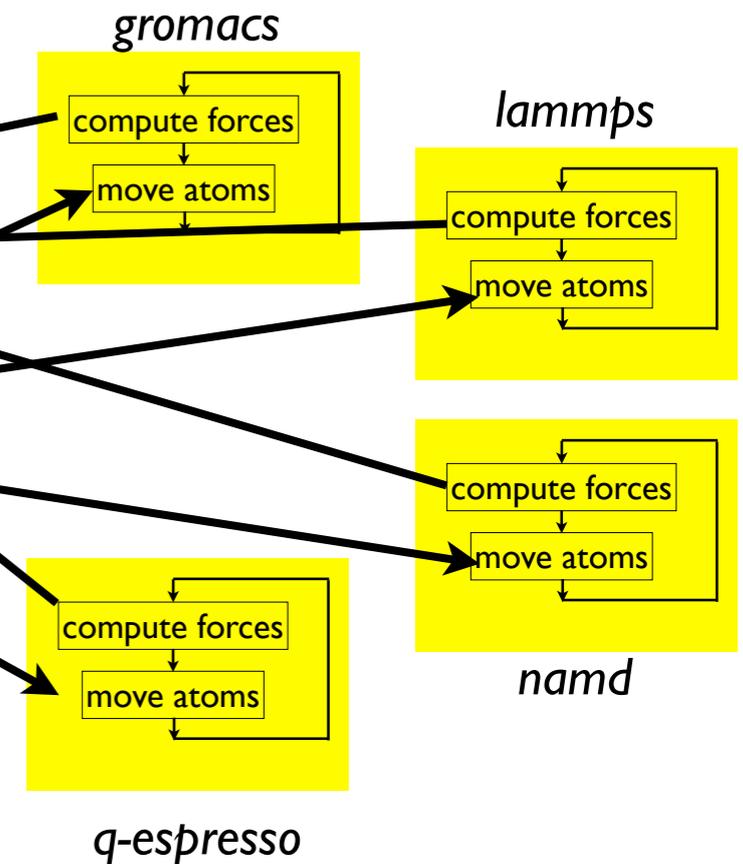
Bonomi, Branduardi, Bussi, Camilloni, Provasi, Raiteri,  
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# PLUMED (born 2008)

## PLUGIN



## MD codes



One open source plugging  
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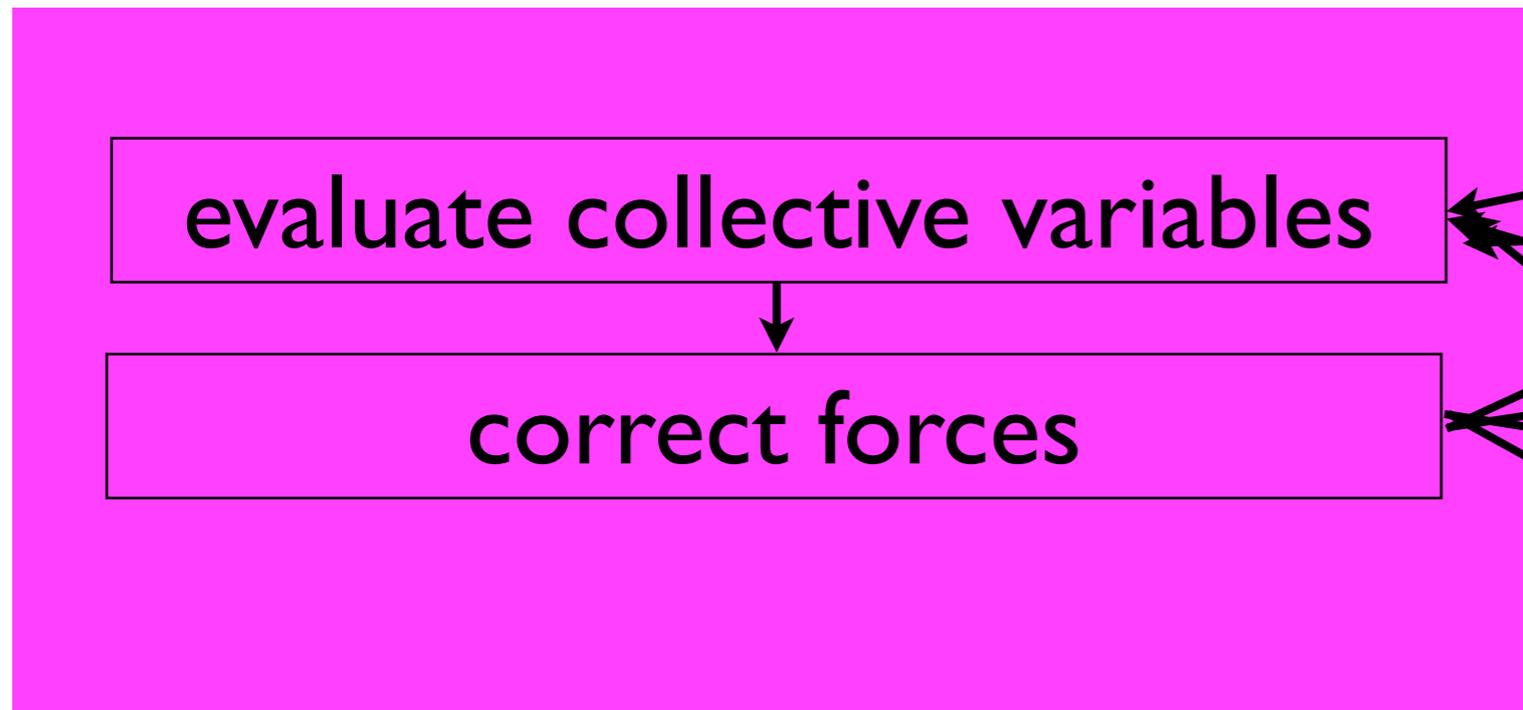
**PLU**gin for **ME**ta**D**ynamics

**PLU**gin for free-energy **ME**tho**D**s

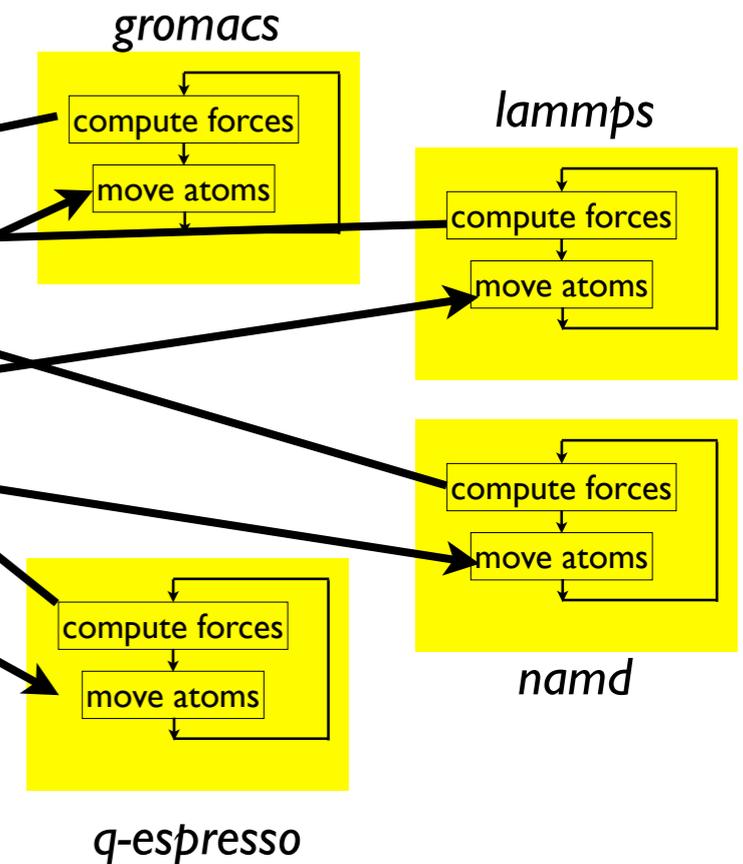
Bonomi, Branduardi, Bussi, Camilloni, Provasi, Raiteri,  
Donadio, Marinelli, Pietrucci, Broglia, and Parrinello, CPC (2009)

# PLUMED (born 2008)

## PLUGIN



## MD codes



One open source plugging  
for several MD codes!

Why **PLUMED**?

**PLU**gin for **ME**ta**D**ynamics

**PLU**gin for free-energy **ME**tho**D**s

**PLU**gin for **MO**le**C**ular **D**ynamics

Bonomi, Branduardi, Bussi, Camilloni, Provasi, Raiteri,  
Donadio, Marinelli, Pietrucci, Broglia, and Parrinello, CPC (2009)

# History

PLUMED 1.x

1.0

1.1

1.2

*CECAM tutorial*

1.3

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014



# History

PLUMED 1.x

1.0

1.1

1.2

*CECAM tutorial*

1.3

2008

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

PLUMED 2.x

development  
started

*user meeting*

beta

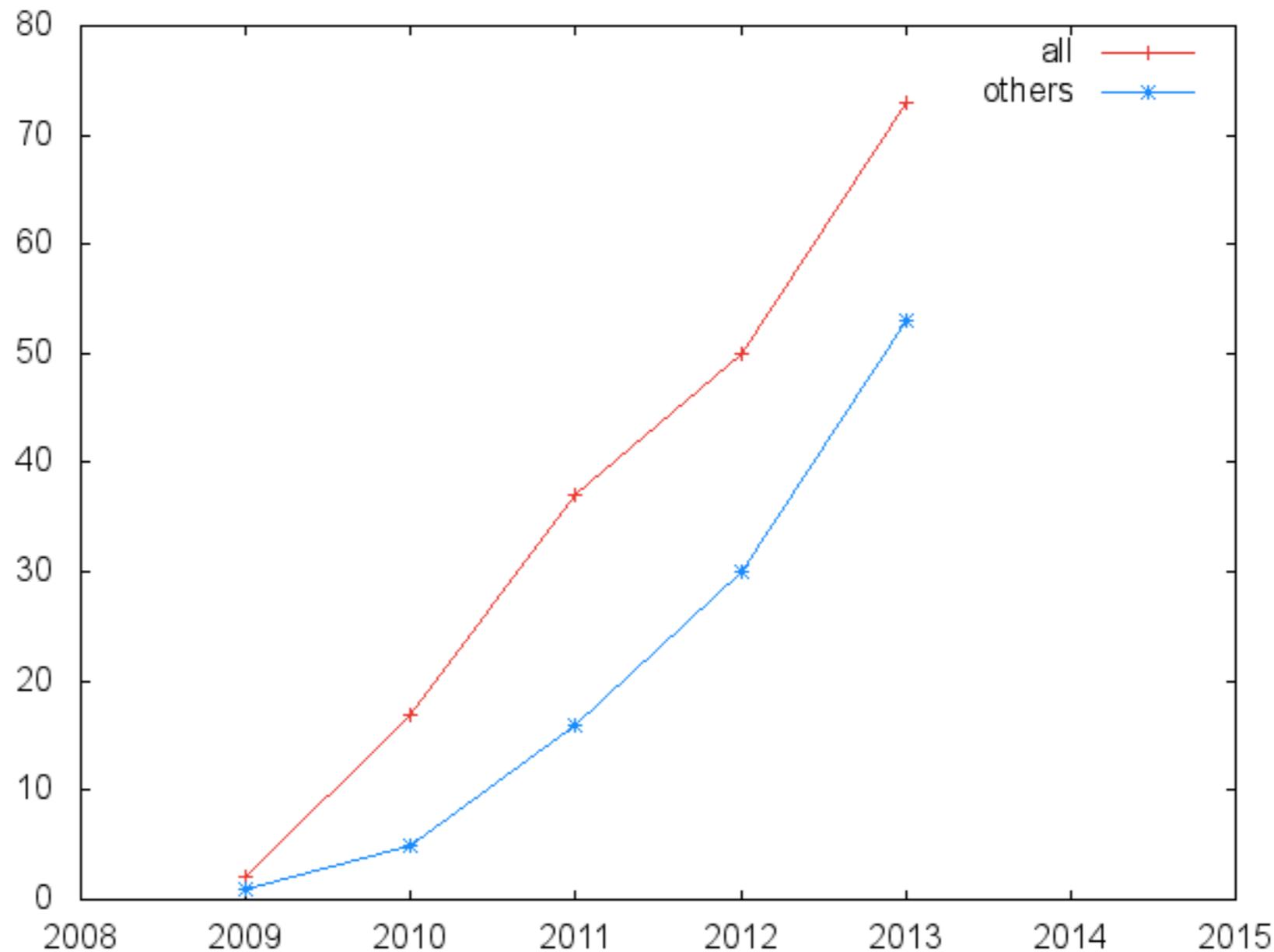
2.0

*CECAM tutorial+*  
*user meeting*

2.1



# A quickly growing community



Number of “external” users grows rapidly

all: ISI citations to Bonomi et al CPC (2009)  
others: without authors of first paper + Laio and Gervasio

# What can you do with PLUMED?

## Analyze trajectories<sup>\$</sup>

```
# using plumed as a standalone tool  
plumed driver --igro traj.gro --plumed plumed.dat
```

## Analyze simulations on the fly\*

```
# e.g. using gromacs:  
mdrun -plumed plumed.dat
```

## Bias simulations on the fly\*

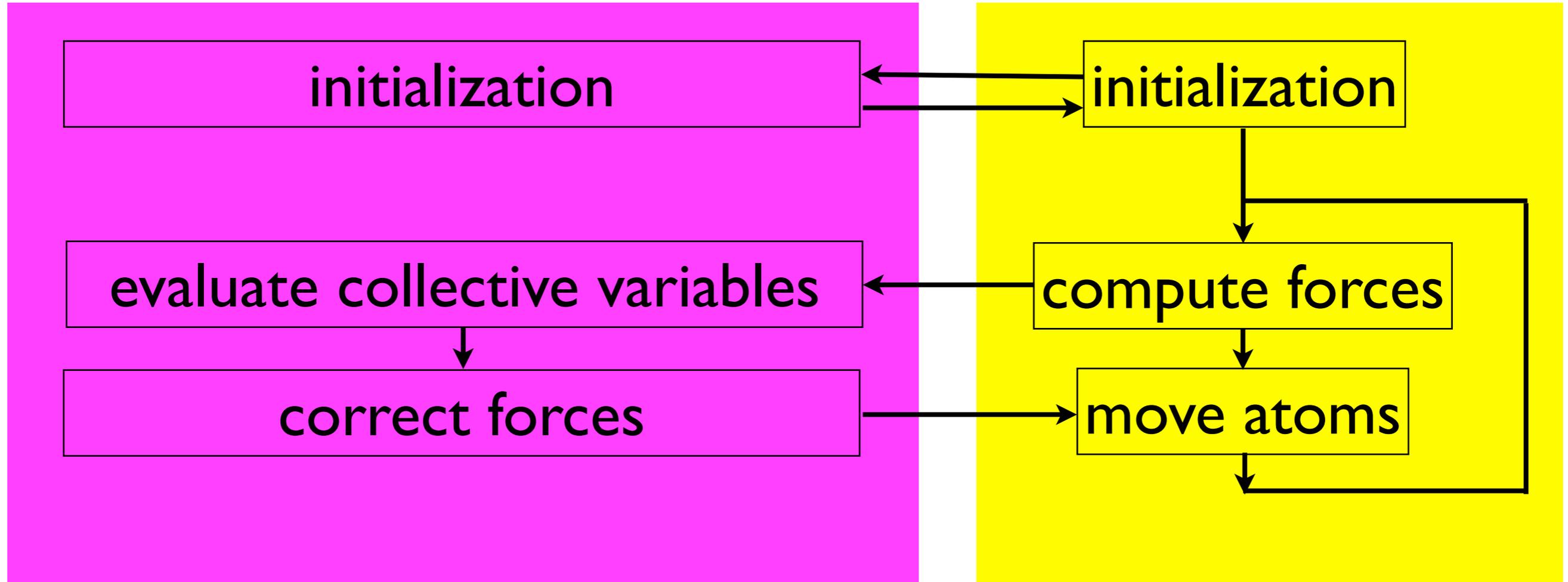
```
# e.g. using gromacs:  
mdrun -plumed plumed.dat
```

<sup>\$</sup>from command line or from VMD - Giorgino, CPC (2014), [http://github.com/tonigi/vmd\\_plumed](http://github.com/tonigi/vmd_plumed)  
\*used in combination with a supported MD engine, e.g. GROMACS, NAMD, LAMMPS, Q-ESPRESSO, AMBER + others

# PLUMED+MD

PLUMED

MD code

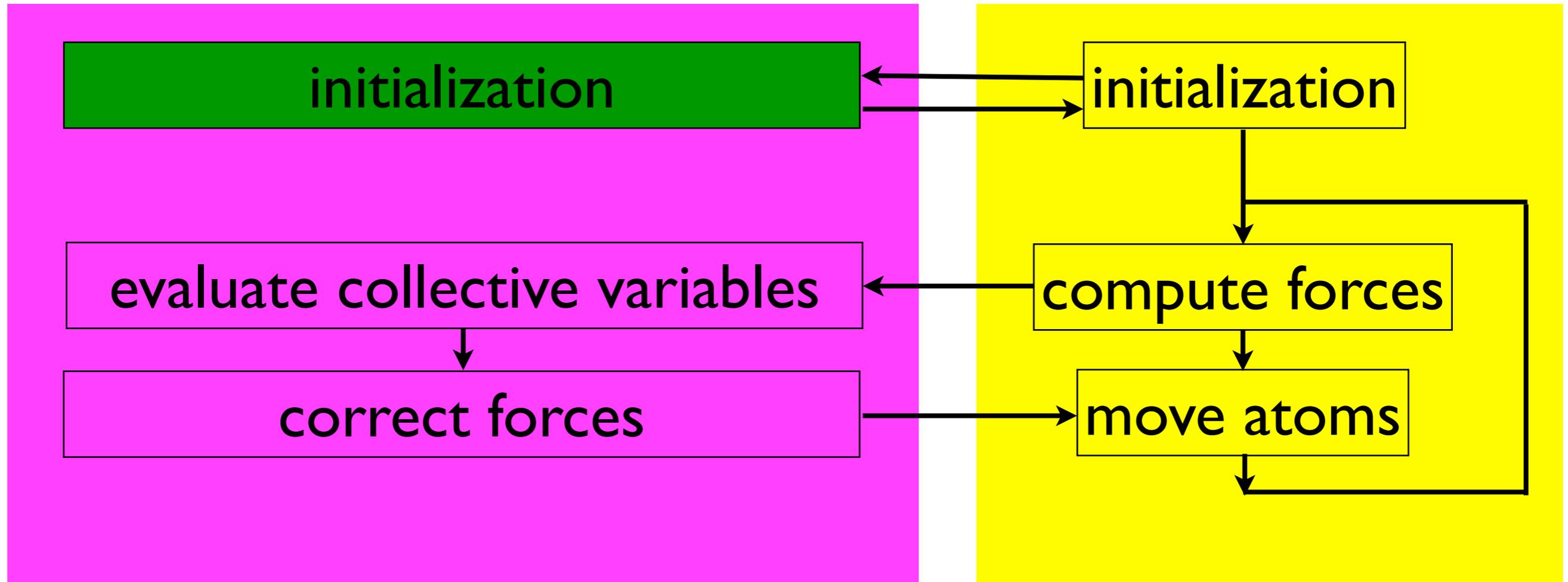


# PLUMED+MD

PLUMED

read from a separate file

MD code

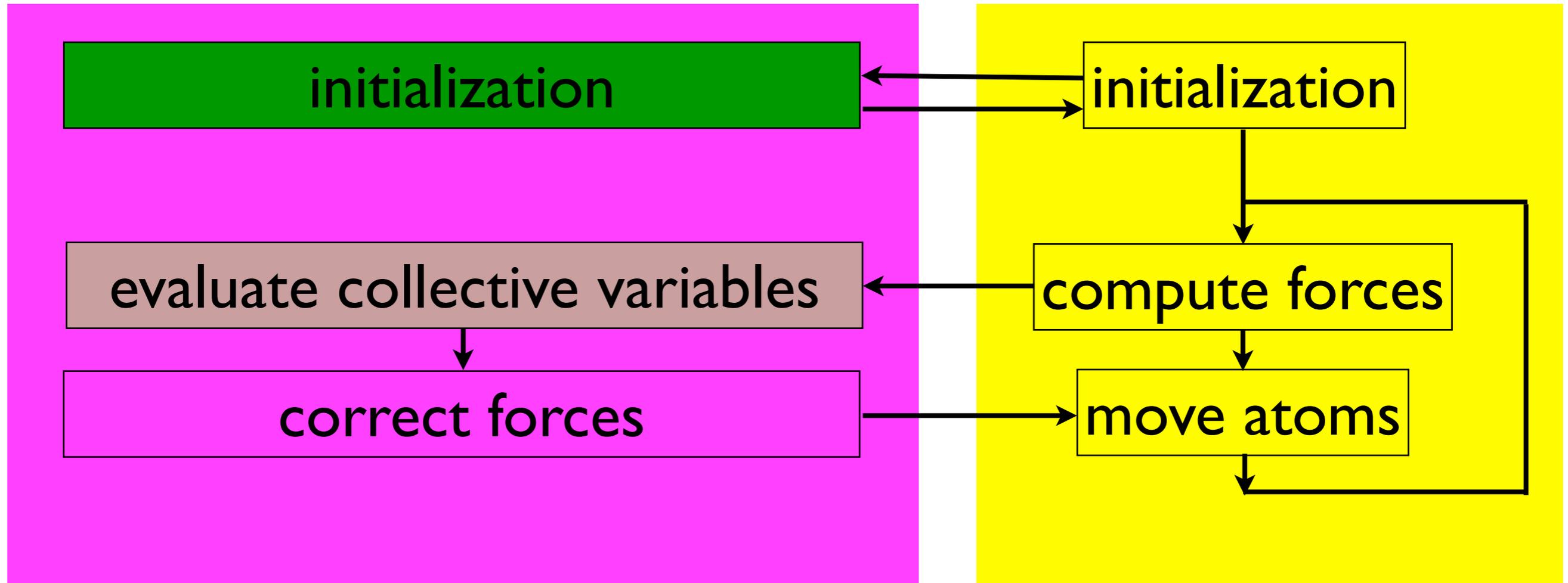


# PLUMED+MD

PLUMED

read from a separate file

MD code



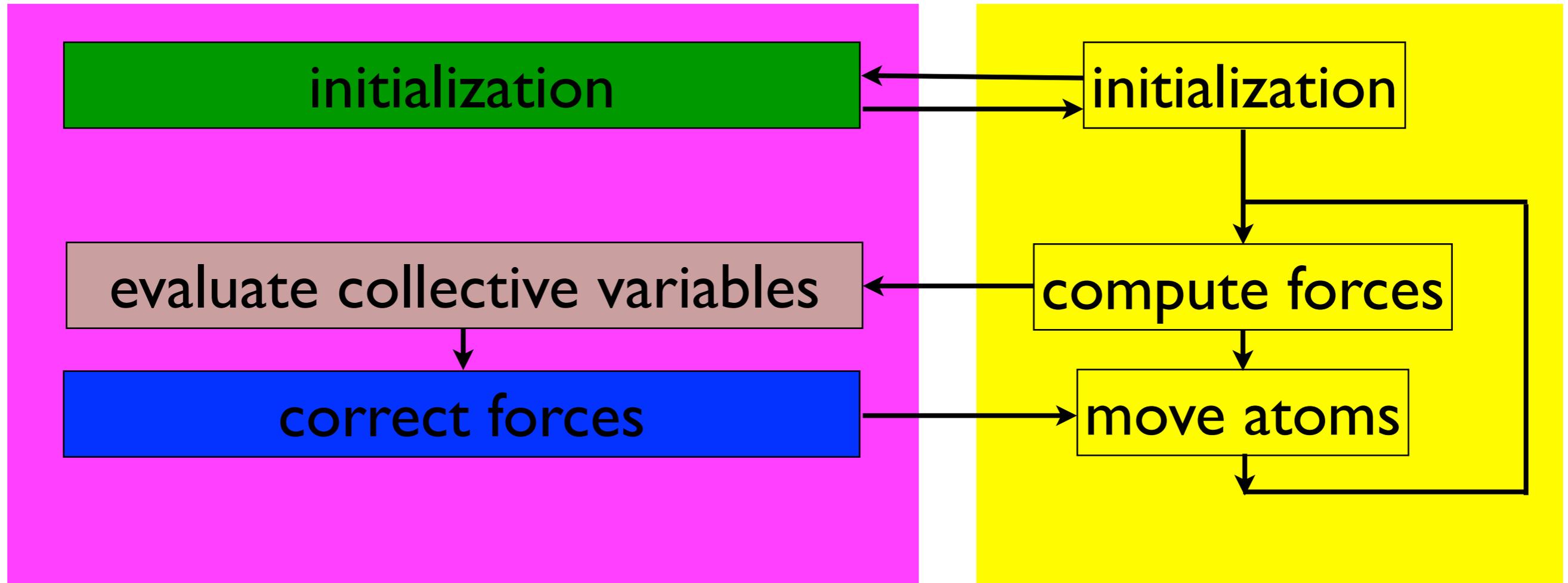
also derivatives w.r.t. atom positions

# PLUMED+MD

PLUMED

read from a separate file

MD code



also derivatives w.r.t. atom positions

sometime using history-dependent schemes

# plumed.dat file

```
# Compute distances, angles, torsions, ...
c1: COM ATOMS=1-10
c2: COM ATOMS=30-40
d1: DISTANCE ATOMS=c1,c2 COMPONENTS
f1: COMBINE ARG=d1.x,d1.y,d1.z POWERS=2,2,2
a1: ANGLE ATOMS=14,15,16
t1: TORSION ATOMS=20,c1,c2,23

# Perform a metadynamics simulation
b1: METAD ARG=f1,a1 PACE=20 HEIGHT=0.5 SIGMA=0.05,0.1

# Limit the exploration to a relevant region
b2: UPPER_WALL ARG=d1.z AT=1.0 KAPPA=0.1

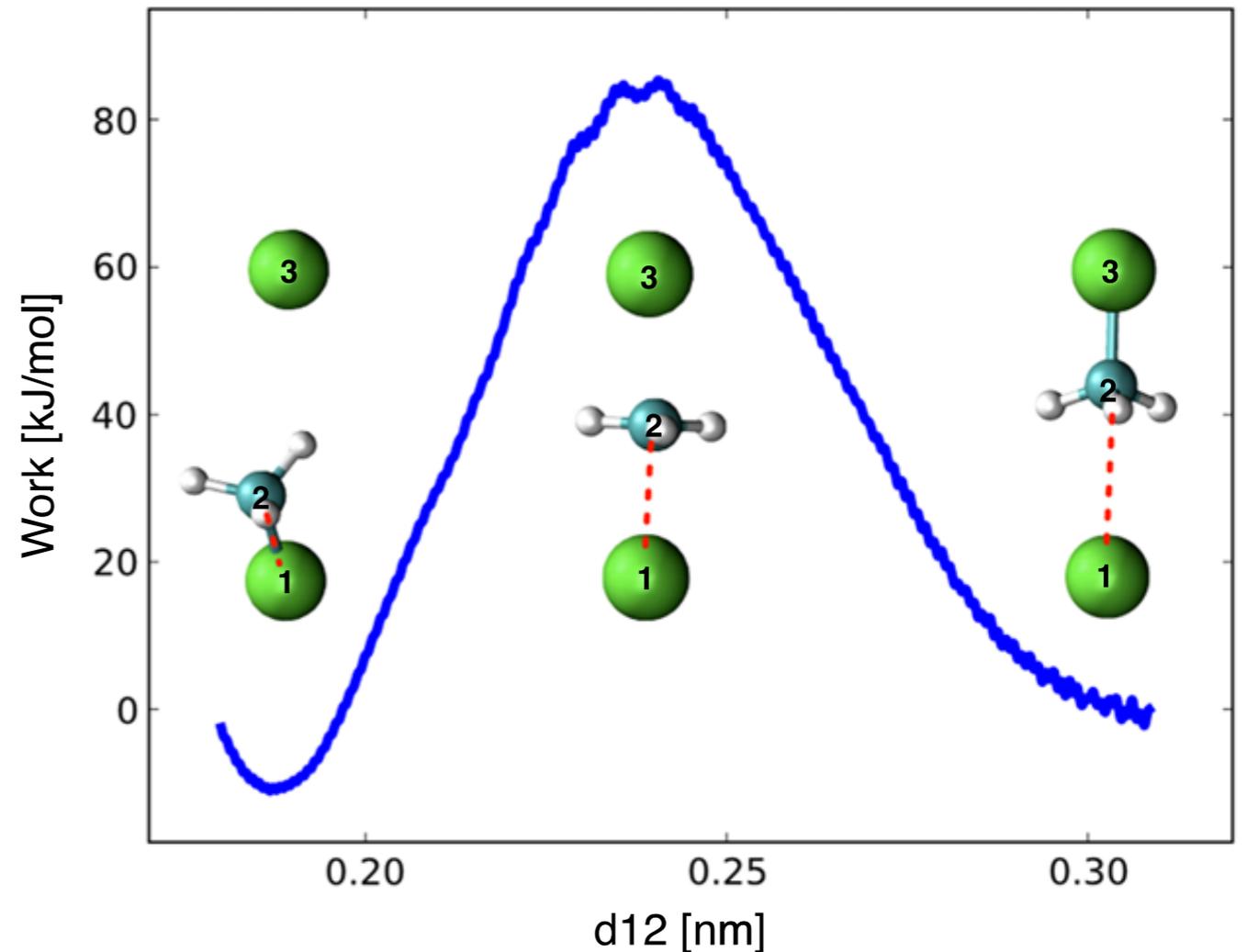
# Print the result
PRINT ARG=a1,t1,b1.bias,b2.bias FILE=colvar STRIDE=100
```

Syntax has changed from 1.3 to 2.0 release - much more flexible now

# Example: SN2 reaction

SN2 reaction with density functional theory (QESPRESSO). Compute Cl-C distance and bias it with a moving restraint.

```
d12: DISTANCE ATOMS=1,2
d23: DISTANCE ATOMS=2,3
# moving restraint
MOVINGRESTRAINT ...
  ARG=d12
  STEP0=0    AT0=0.31  KAPPA0=200000.0
  STEP1=5000 AT1=0.18
  LABEL=steer
... MOVINGRESTRAINT
PRINT ...
FILE=COLVAR ARG=d12,d23,steer.d12_cntr,steer.d12_work STRIDE=1
... PRINT
```



Tribello, Bonomi, Branduardi, Camilloni, and Bussi, CPC (2014)

# Example: path CV

Alanine dipeptide

Path CVs<sup>#</sup> + WT-MetaD<sup>\$</sup> with adaptive Gaussians<sup>%</sup>  
(path can be made with a single command  
this is just to show input flexibility)

```
# just declare the RMSD^2 for five structures
t1: RMSD REFERENCE=c_1.pdb TYPE=OPTIMAL SQUARED
### ...etc for t2, t3, t4, t5 ... ###
# calculate the sum of the exp of the five RMSDs
MATHEVAL ...
```

```
  LABEL=dwn
```

```
  ARG=t1,t2,t3,t4,t5 VAR=d1,d2,d3,d4,d5
```

```
  FUNC=(exp(-770*d1)+exp(-770*d2)+exp(-770*d3)+exp(-770*d4)+exp(-770*d5))
```

```
  PERIODIC=NO
```

```
... MATHEVAL
```

```
### etc ###
```

```
# do metadynamics
```

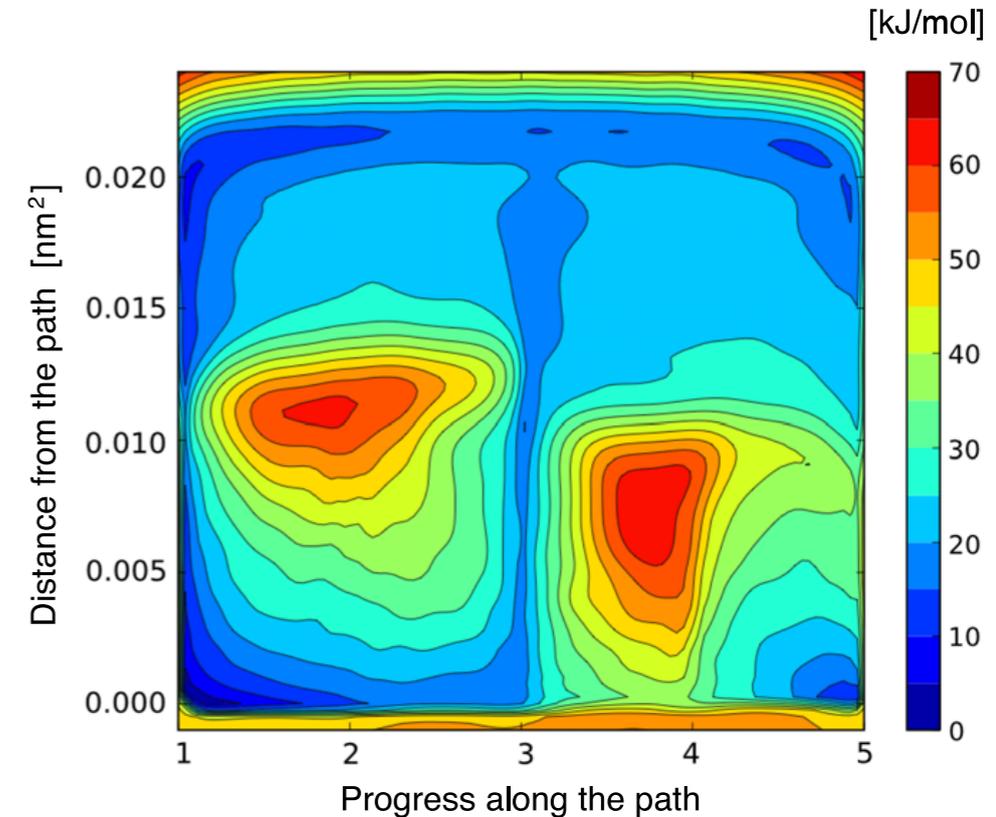
```
METAD HEIGHT=1.2 SIGMA=0.02 PACE=60 ARG=s,z ADAPTIVE=GEOM BIASFACTOR=5 TEMP=300
```

Tribello, Bonomi, Branduardi, Camilloni, and Bussi, CPC (2014)

<sup>#</sup>Branduardi, Gervasio, and Parrinello, JCP (2007)

<sup>\$</sup>Barducci, Bussi, and Parrinello, PRL (2008)

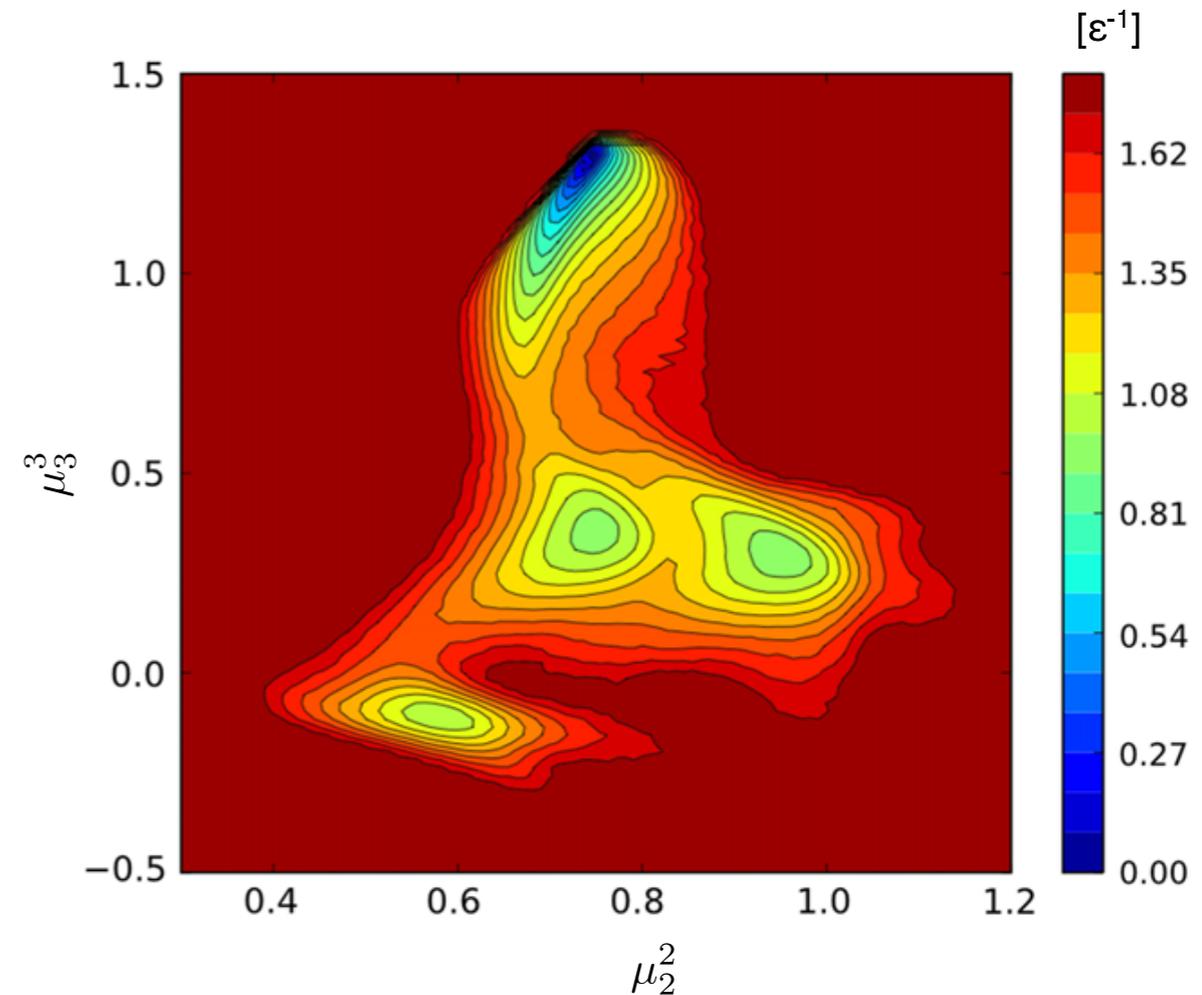
<sup>%</sup>Branduardi, Bussi, and Parrinello, JCTC (2012)



# Example: CV distribution

Lennard-Jones cluster at high T reweighted at low T. Free energy as a function of moments of coordination number distribution\*

```
COORDINATIONNUMBER ...  
SPECIES=1-7  
MOMENTS=2-3  
SWITCH={RATIONAL R_0=1.5 NN=8 MM=16}  
LABEL=c1  
... COORDINATIONNUMBER  
#  
# calculate histograms from the moments  
#  
HISTOGRAM ...  
ARG=c1.moment_2,c1.moment_3 STRIDE=10  
REWEIGHT_TEMP=0.1 TEMP=0.2  
GRID_MIN=0.2,-0.5 GRID_MAX=1.2,1.7 GRID_BIN=200,440  
BANDWIDTH=0.01,0.01 KERNEL=triangular  
GRID_WSTRIDE=10000000 GRID_WFILE=histo  
... HISTOGRAM
```



Tribello, Ceriotti, and Parrinello, PNAS (2010)

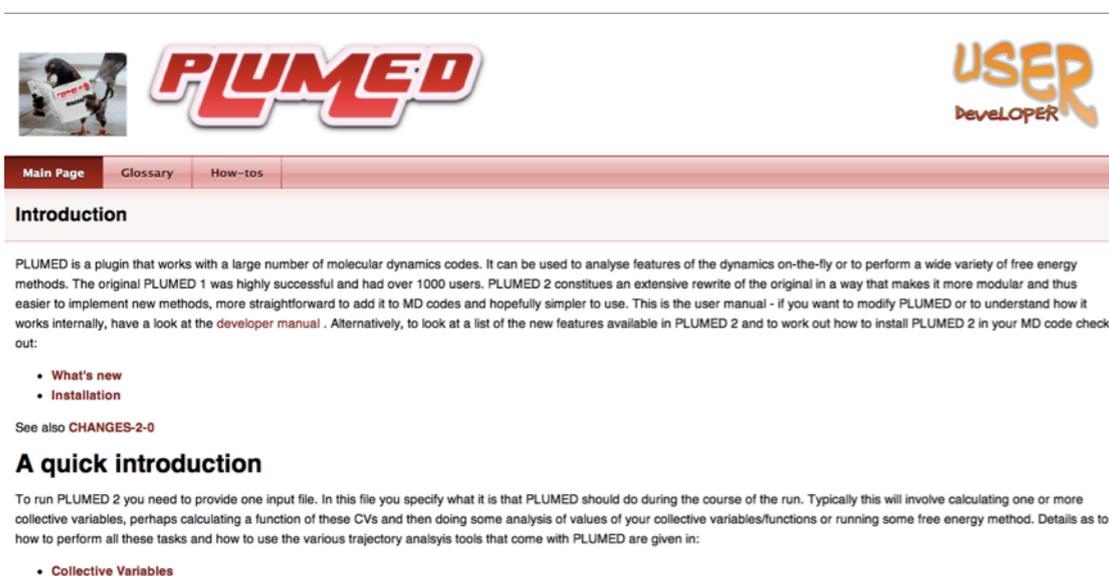
# On the web

Website: <http://www.plumed-code.org/>

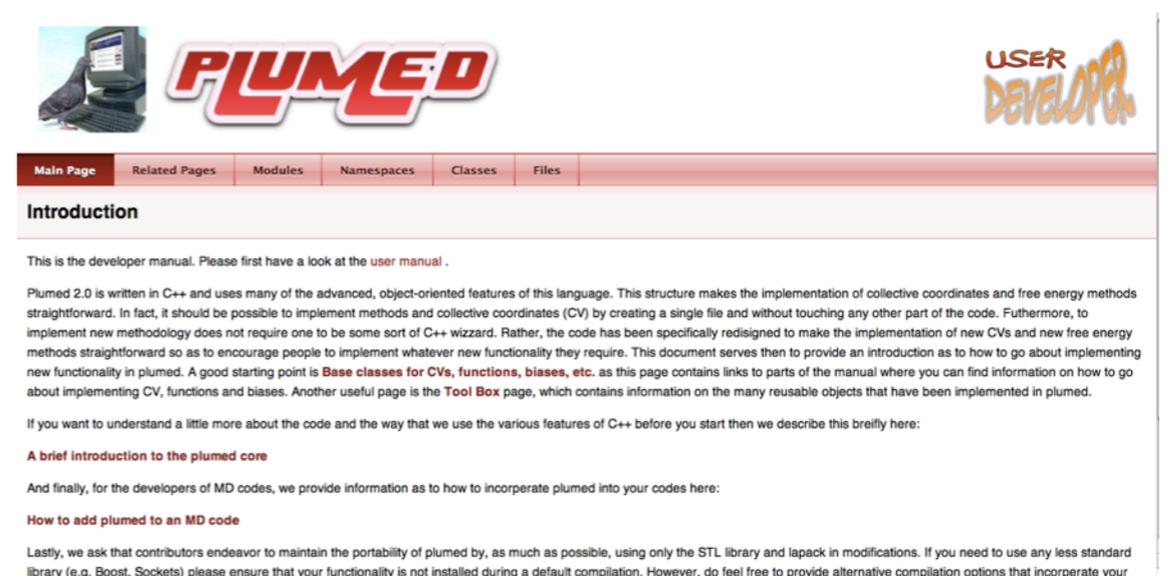
Github: <http://github.com/plumed/plumed2>

User & developer mailing lists

User & developer manuals + tutorials



The screenshot shows the user manual website for PLUMED. It features a navigation bar with links for Main Page, Glossary, and How-tos. The main content area is titled "Introduction" and contains a paragraph describing PLUMED as a plugin for molecular dynamics codes. Below the text is a bulleted list with "What's new" and "Installation". At the bottom, there is a section titled "A quick introduction" with a paragraph and a bulleted list containing "Collective Variables". The PLUMED logo and "USER DEVELOPER" logo are visible in the header.

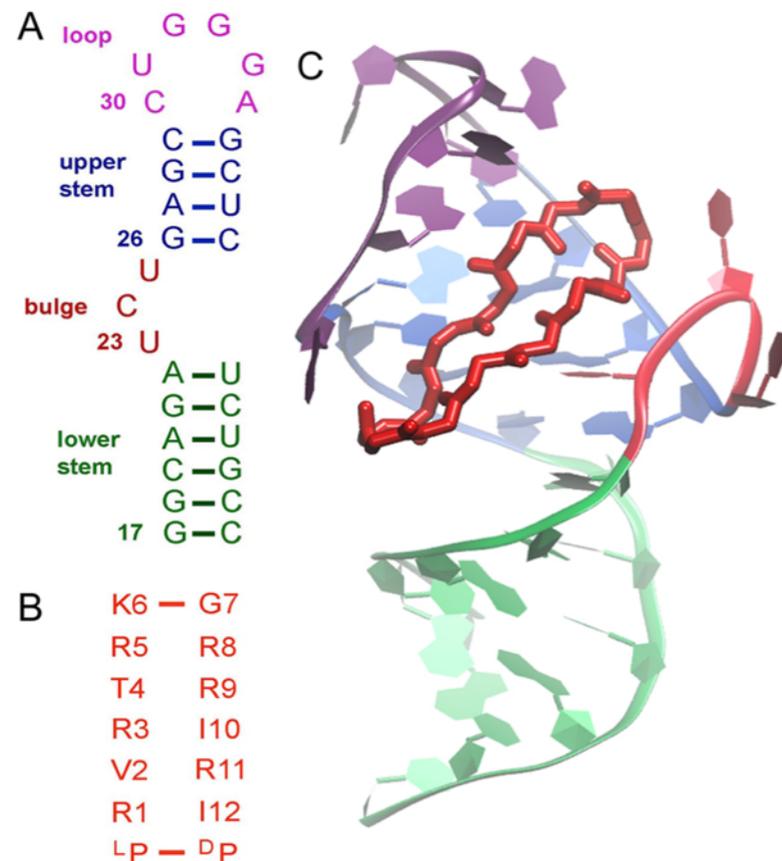
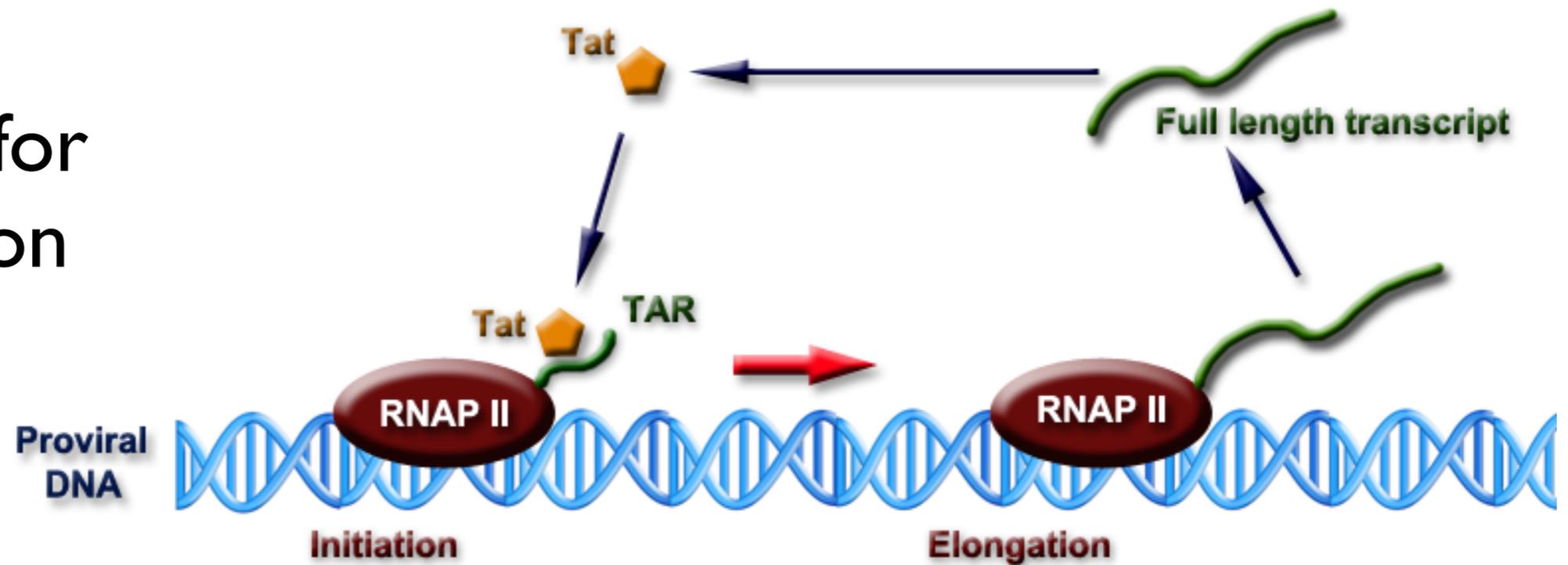


The screenshot shows the developer manual website for PLUMED. It features a navigation bar with links for Main Page, Related Pages, Modules, Namespaces, Classes, and Files. The main content area is titled "Introduction" and contains a paragraph stating "This is the developer manual. Please first have a look at the user manual." Below this is a paragraph describing PLUMED 2.0's implementation in C++ and its features. Further down, there are sections for "A brief introduction to the plumed core" and "How to add plumed to an MD code". The PLUMED logo and "USER DEVELOPER" logo are visible in the header.



# TAR-Tat binding

Crucial step for HIV replication



Oligopeptides mimicking TAT developed in G.Varani's lab\* (UoW)

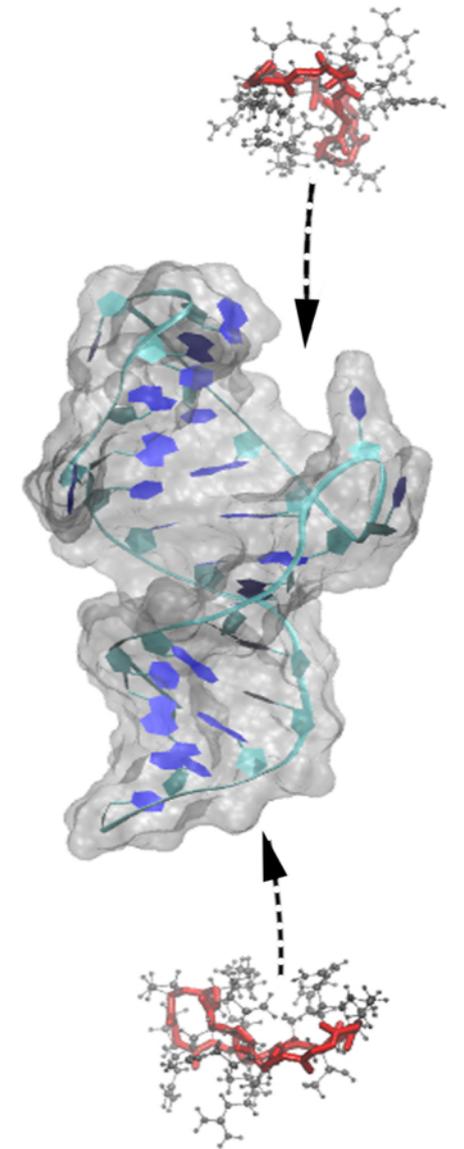
Mechanism of binding?

\*Davidson et al, PNAS (2009)

# Pretend binding mode is unknown

- GROMACS 4 MD code\* (+PLUMED#)
- parmbsc0 force field%
- Explicit water (TIP3P\$, ~12k molecules)
- Explicit counter-ions (NaCl 150mM)

Pulling on TAR-peptide distance:  
problem is too complex, difficult  
to reach the proper binding site...



\*Hess, Kutzner, Van Der Spoel and Lindahl JCTC (2008)

#[www.plumed-code.org](http://www.plumed-code.org)

%Perez et al, BJ (2007)

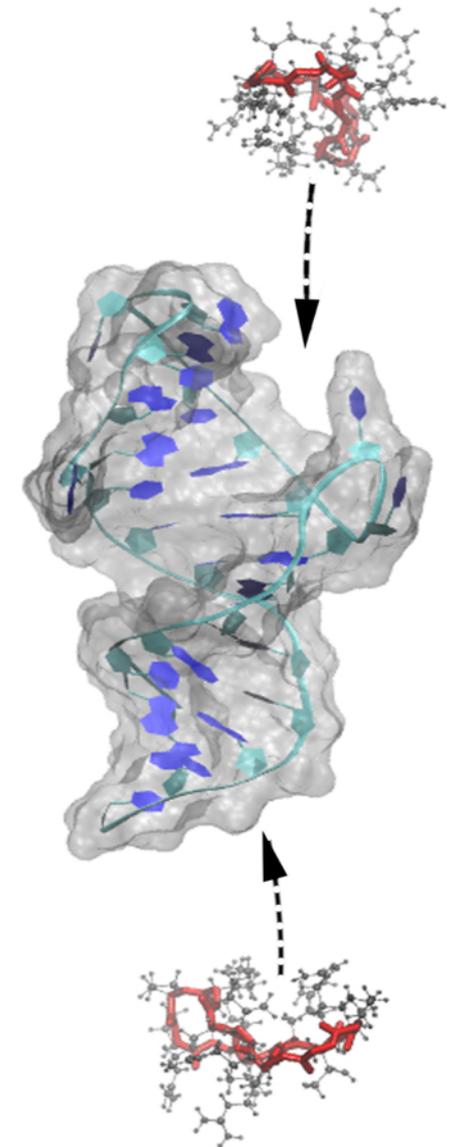
\$Jorgensen et al, JCP (1983)

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Pulling on TAR-peptide distance:  
problem is too complex, difficult  
to reach the proper binding site...

Binding is driven by electrostatics:  
why not pulling the “electrostatic  
energy”?



Der Spoel and Lindahl JCTC (2008)

#[www.plumed-code.org](http://www.plumed-code.org)

%Perez et al, BJ (2007)

\$Jorgensen et al, JCP (1983)

# Pulling the estimated interaction energy

pulling out  
(from NMR structure)

pulling in  
(from unbound structure)

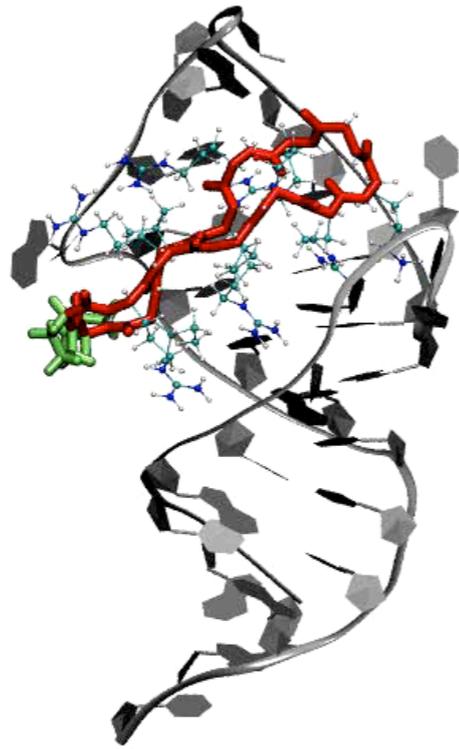
$$s = G^{DH} = \frac{1}{k_B T \epsilon_w} \sum_{j \in B} \sum_{i \in A} q_i q_j \frac{e^{-\kappa |\mathbf{r}_{ij}|}}{|\mathbf{r}_{ij}|}$$

$$V(t, s) = \frac{1}{2} k \left( s_0 + (s_1 - s_0) \frac{t}{T} - G^{DH} \right)^2$$

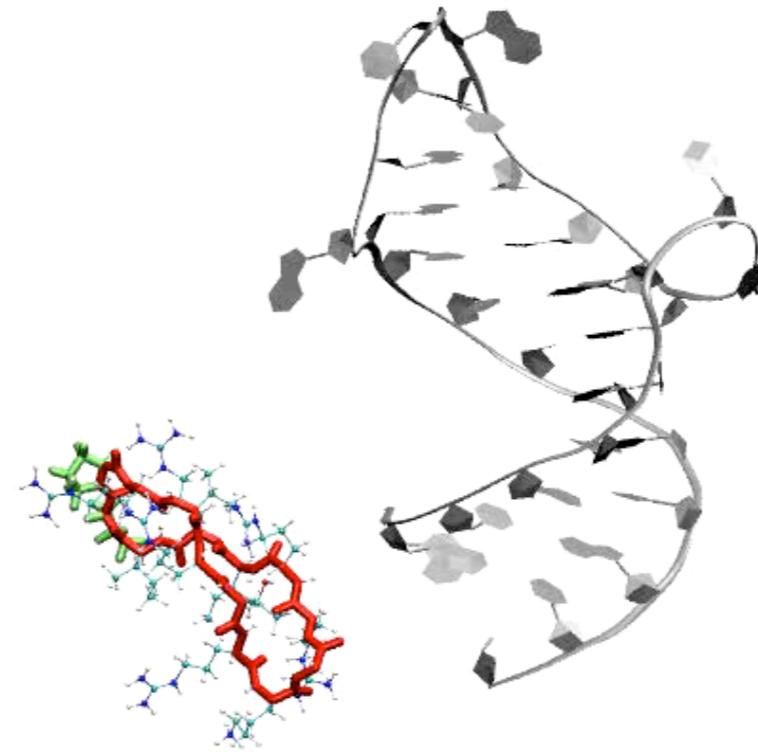
Made on  
FERMI@CINECA

# Pulling the estimated interaction energy

pulling out  
(from NMR structure)



pulling in  
(from unbound structure)



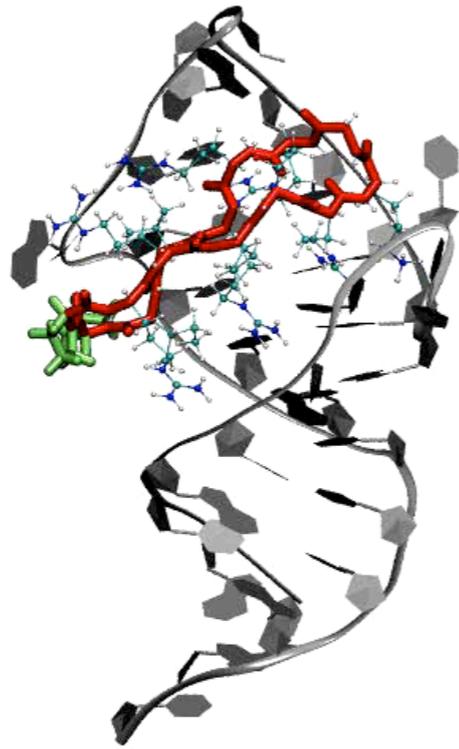
$$s = G^{DH} = \frac{1}{k_B T \epsilon_w} \sum_{j \in B} \sum_{i \in A} q_i q_j \frac{e^{-\kappa |\mathbf{r}_{ij}|}}{|\mathbf{r}_{ij}|}$$

$$V(t, s) = \frac{1}{2} k \left( s_0 + (s_1 - s_0) \frac{t}{T} - G^{DH} \right)^2$$

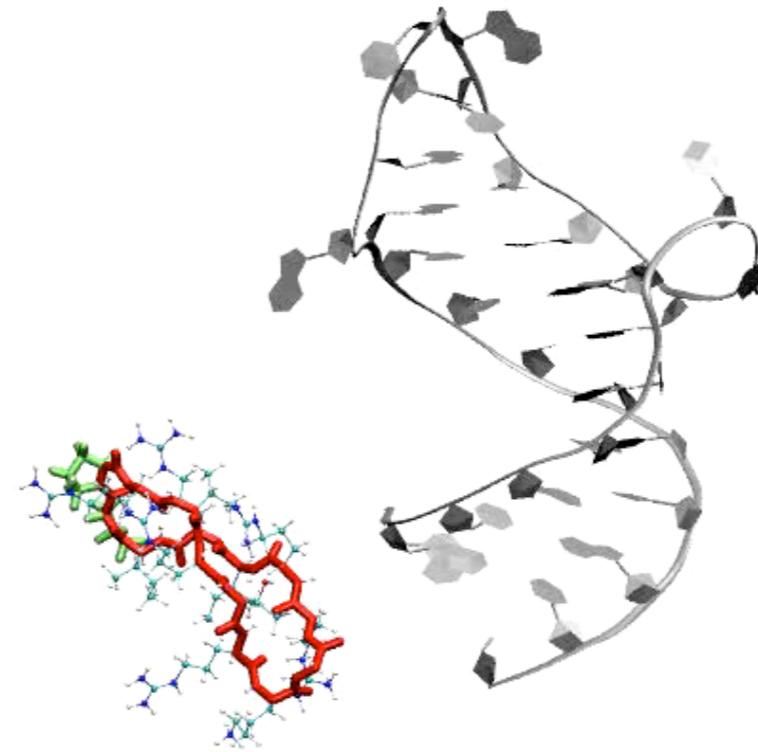
Made on  
FERMI@CINECA

# Pulling the estimated interaction energy

pulling out  
(from NMR structure)



pulling in  
(from unbound structure)



$$s = G^{DH} = \frac{1}{k_B T \epsilon_w} \sum_{j \in B} \sum_{i \in A} q_i q_j \frac{e^{-\kappa |\mathbf{r}_{ij}|}}{|\mathbf{r}_{ij}|}$$

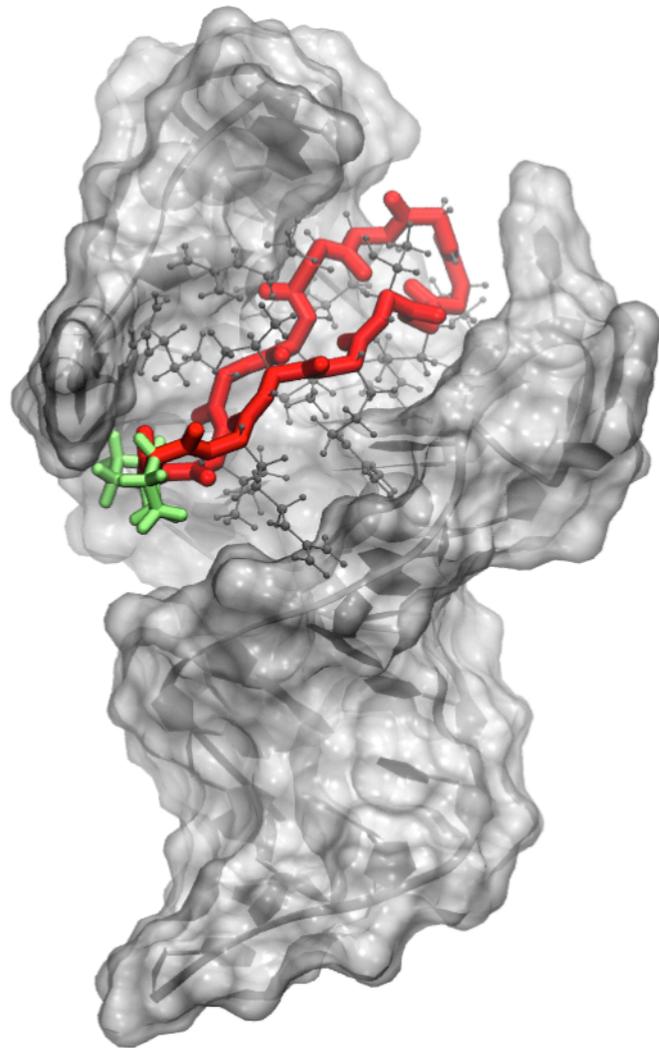
$$V(t, s) = \frac{1}{2} k \left( s_0 + (s_1 - s_0) \frac{t}{T} - G^{DH} \right)^2$$

Made on  
FERMI@CINECA

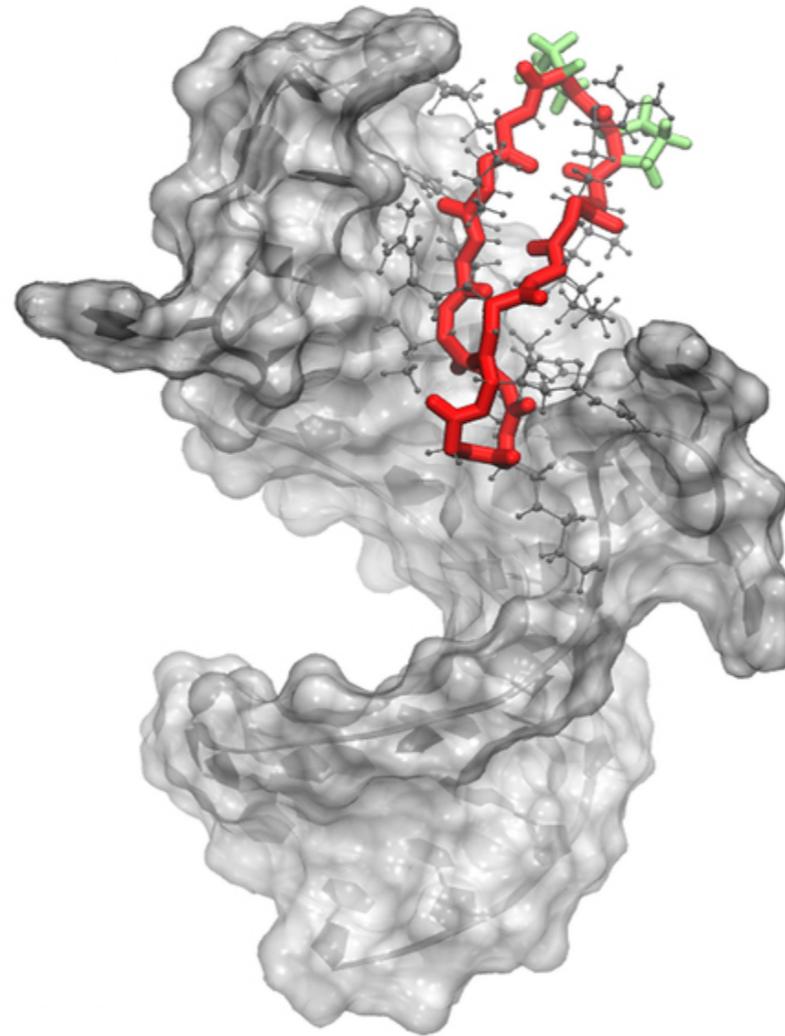
# Comparison with NMR structure

(1)

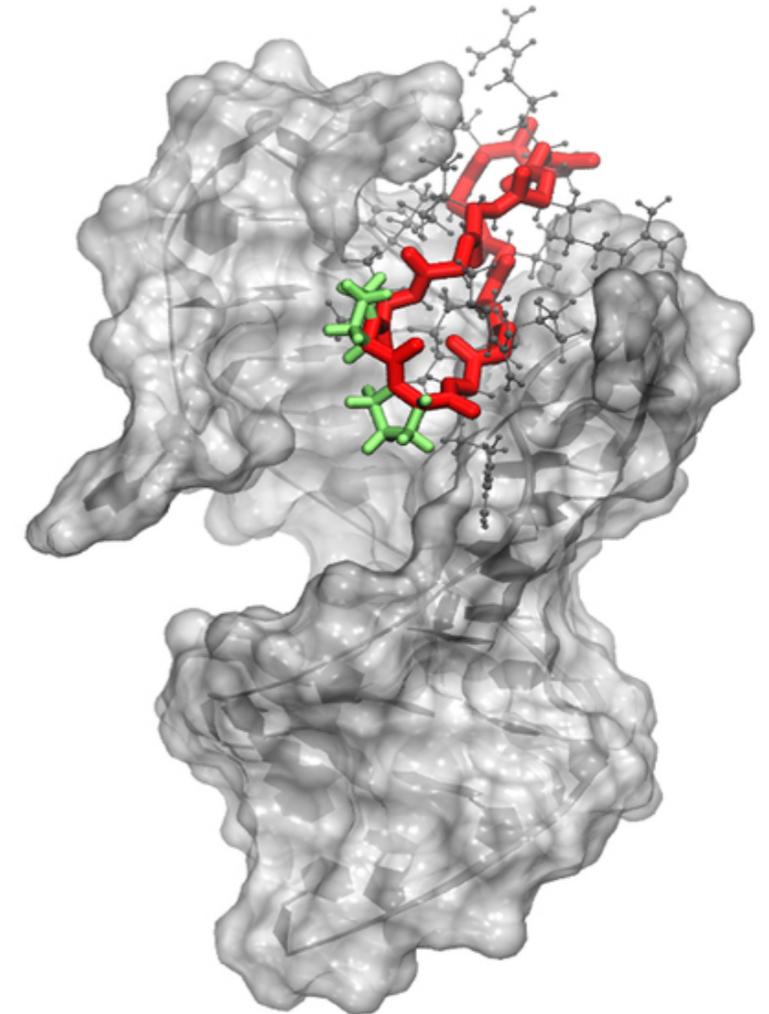
(2)



NMR\*



correct pocket  
inverse orientation



correct pocket  
correct orientation

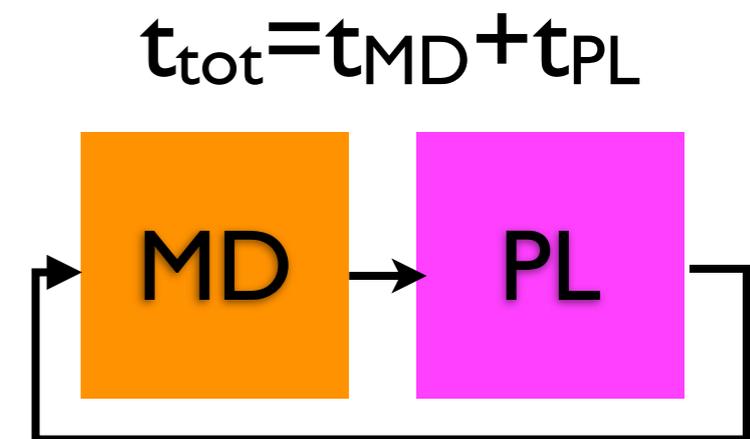
\*Davidson et al, PNAS (2009)  
Do, Carloni, Varani and Bussi, JCTC (2013)

# When performance is an issue

Biased sampling is expected to provide a huge speedup provided good CVs are used.

However good CVs are sometime expensive:

- Steinhardt order parameters<sup>1</sup>
- Path/Property maps<sup>2</sup>
- Secondary structure CVs<sup>3</sup>
- SPRINT<sup>4</sup>
- Sketch maps<sup>5</sup>
- DH-Energy<sup>6</sup>



<sup>1</sup>Steinhardt, Nelson, and Ronchetti, PRB (1983); Trudu, Donadio, and Parrinello, PRL (2006);

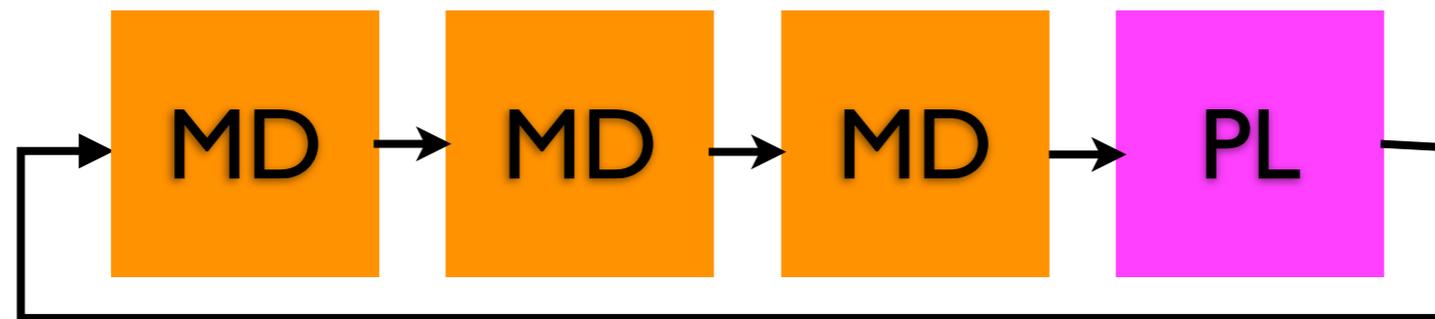
<sup>2</sup>Branduardi, Gervasio, and Parrinello, JCP (2007); Spiwok and Králová, JCP(2011);

<sup>3</sup>Pietrucci and Laio, JCTC (2009); <sup>4</sup>Pietrucci and Andreoni, PRL (2011);

<sup>5</sup>Tribello, Ceriotti, and Parrinello, PNAS (2012); <sup>6</sup>Do, Carloni, Varani, and Bussi, JCTC (2013)

# Multiple time stepping

Compute PLUMED forces every  $n$  steps



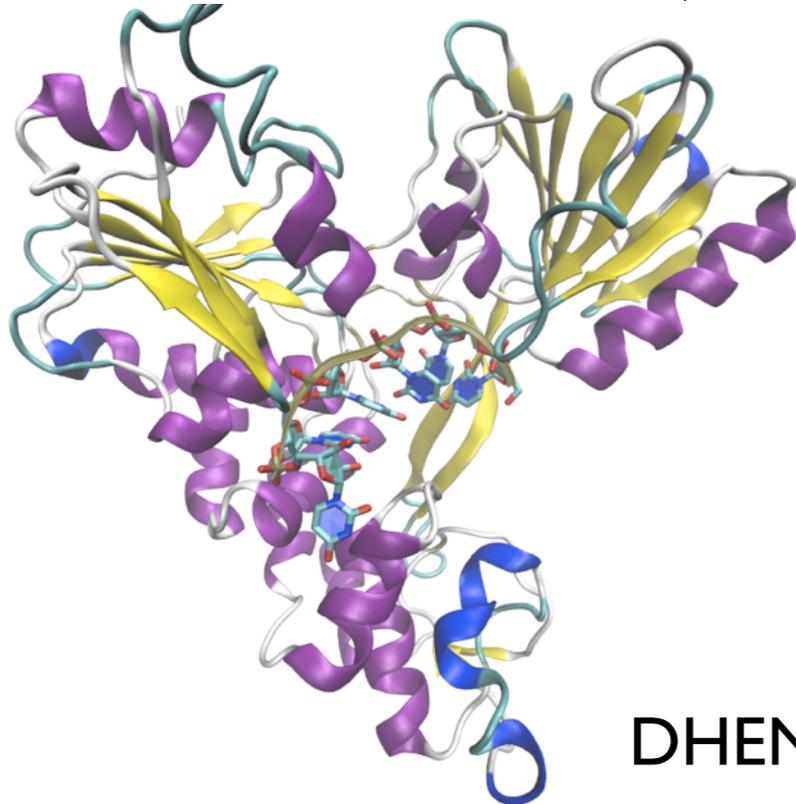
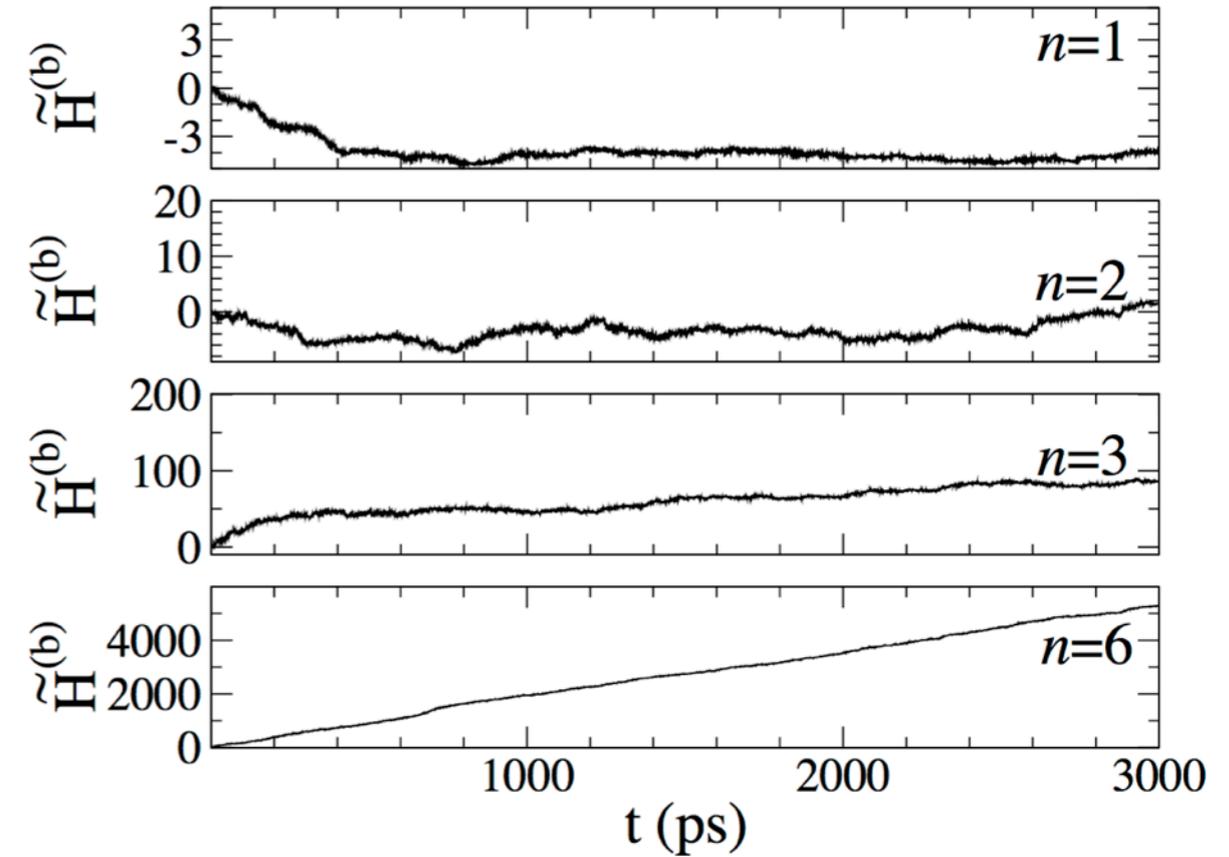
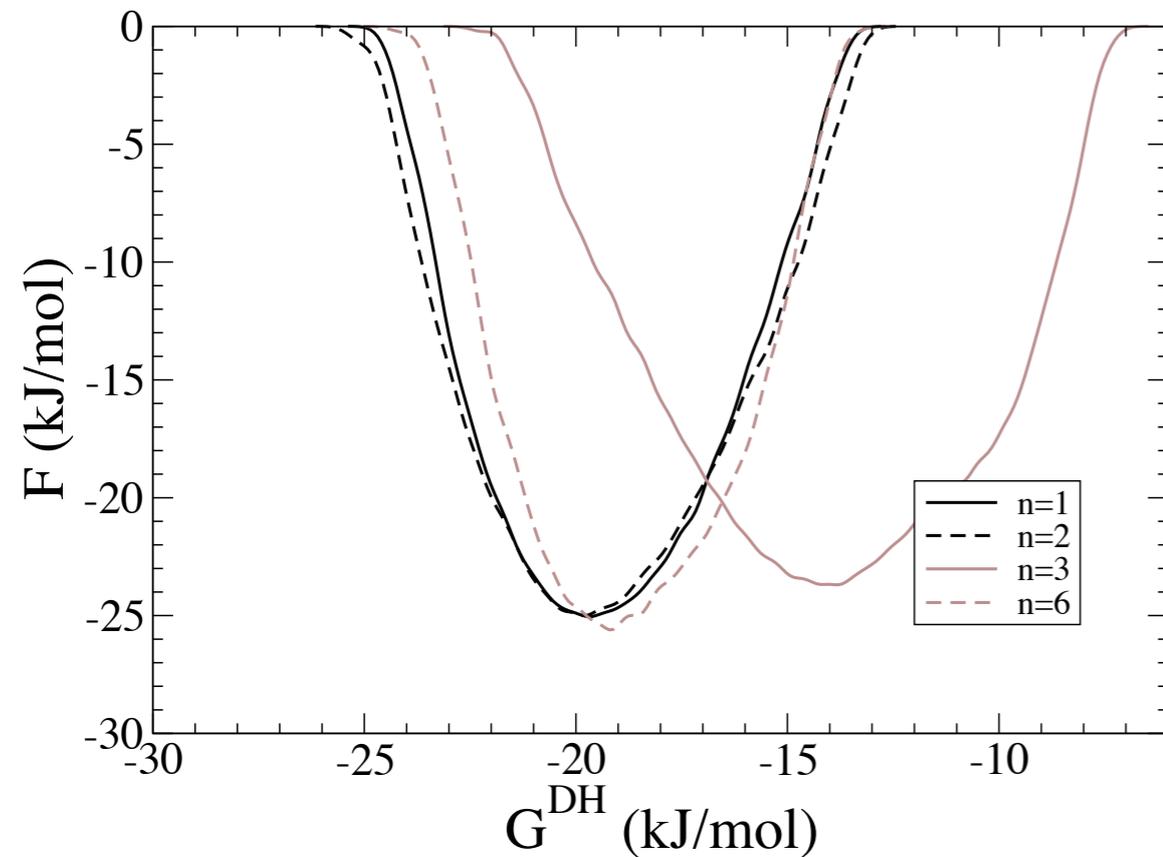
$$e^{A+B} \approx e^{\frac{A}{2}} e^B e^{\frac{A}{2}} \quad t_{\text{tot}} = t_{\text{MD}} + t_{\text{PL}}/n$$

Forces from PLUMED scaled up by a factor  $n^\#$

Reversible trajectories

<sup>#</sup>Tuckerman, Berne, and Martyna, JCP (1992); Sexton and Weingarten, Nucl. Phys. B (1992)

# RNA/protein complex

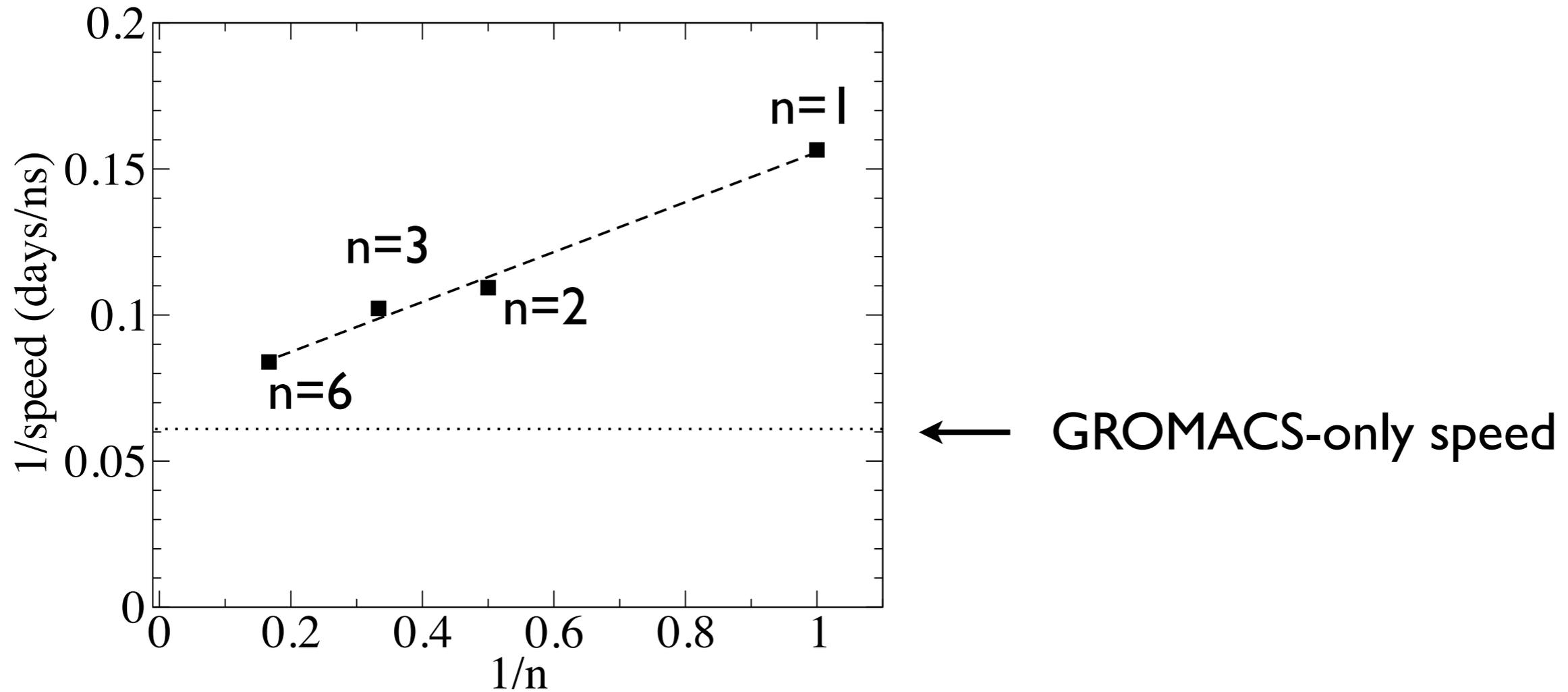


## MetaD on RNA/protein interaction

$$G^{DH} = \frac{1}{k_B T \epsilon_w} \sum_{i \in \text{prot}} \sum_{j \in \text{RNA}} q_i q_j \frac{e^{-\kappa |\mathbf{r}_{ij}|}}{|\mathbf{r}_{ij}|}$$

DHENERGY as introduced in Do, Carloni, Varani, and Bussi JCTC (2013)  
 Ferrarotti, Bottaro, Perez-Villa, and Bussi, submitted

# Overall speedup



PLUMED overhead can be decreased by a factor  $n$   
Even  $n=2$  can be interesting!

# Tackling rare events

## Brute force:

very long simulations  
distributed computing

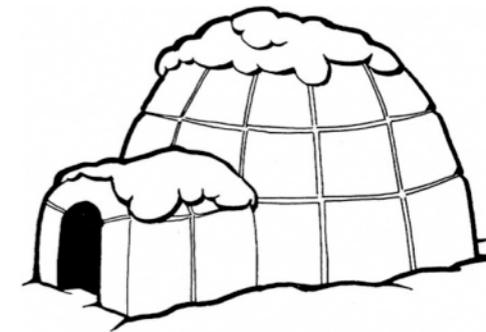
...



## Based on annealing:

simulated annealing  
parallel tempering  
simulated tempering

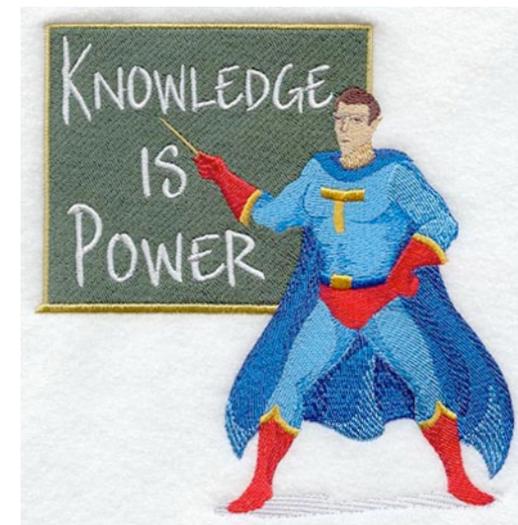
...



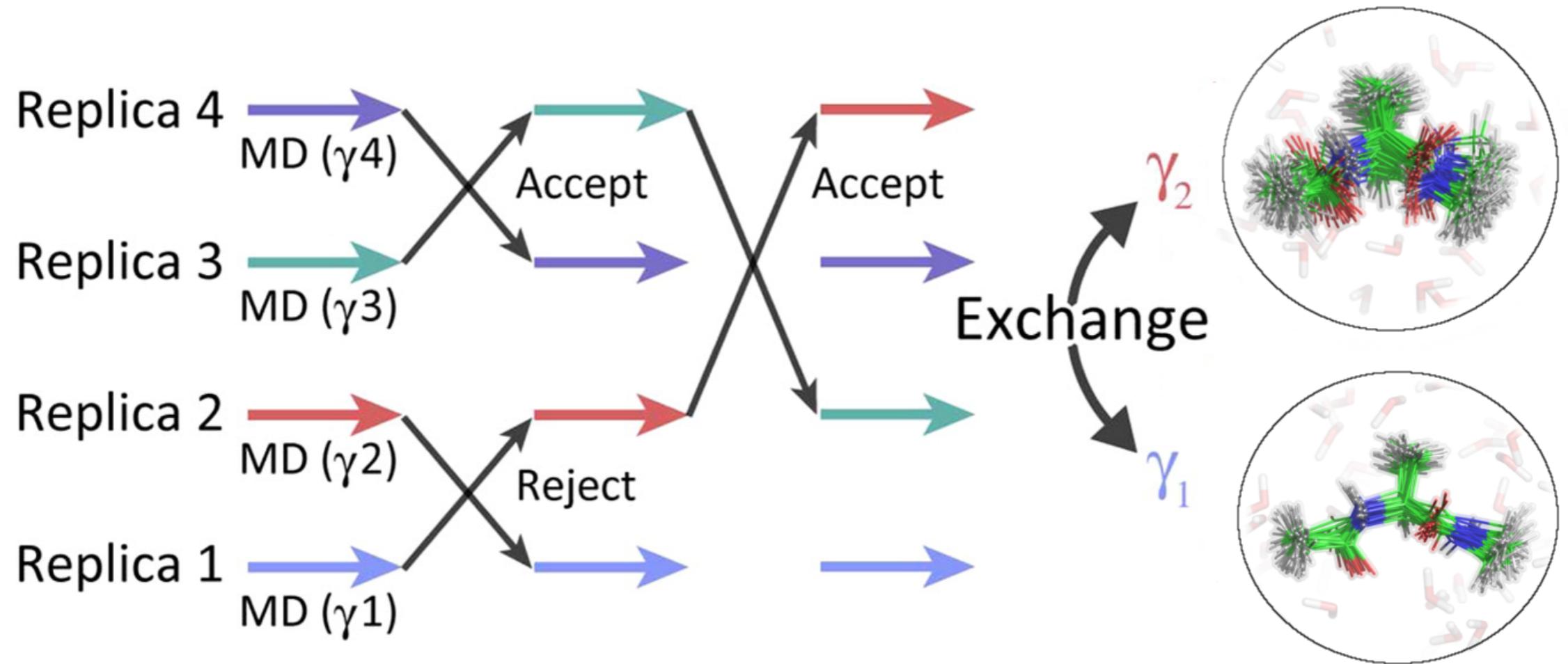
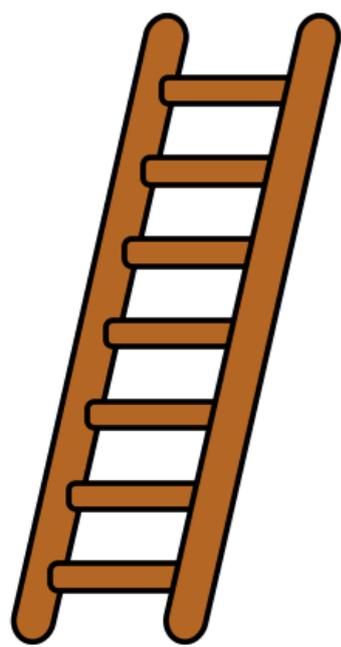
## Based on *a priori* physical insight:

umbrella sampling  
steered MD  
metadynamics  
adiabatic free-energy, temperature accelerated MD

...



# Replica exchange

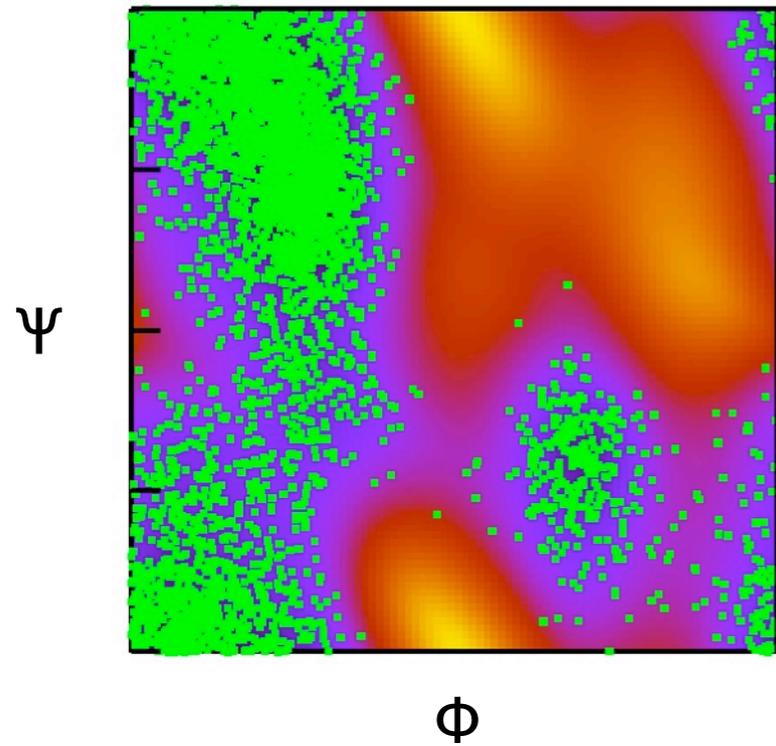


Ladder of replicas:

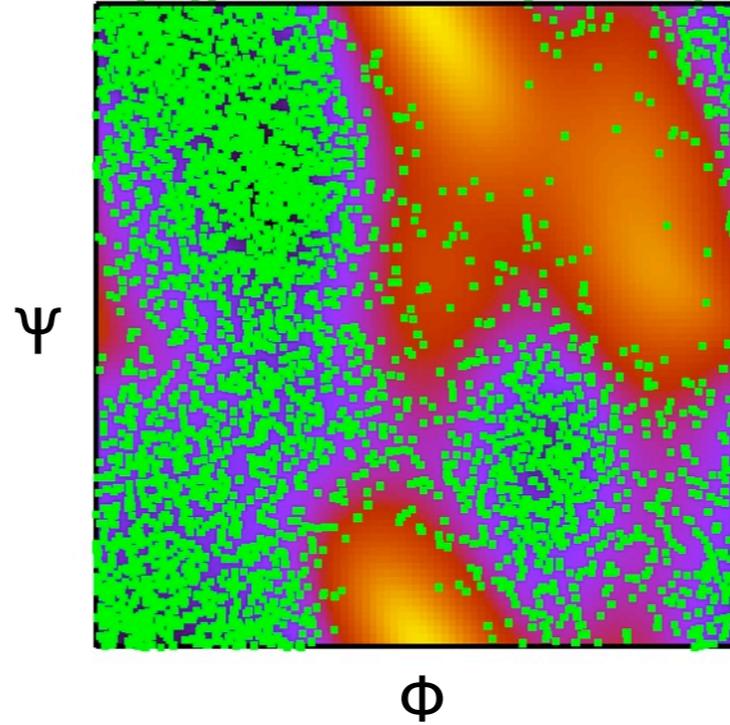
- “reference” replica
- “ergodic” replica
- as many as needed in the middle (depends on “how different”)

In parallel tempering, “ergodic” means “high T”

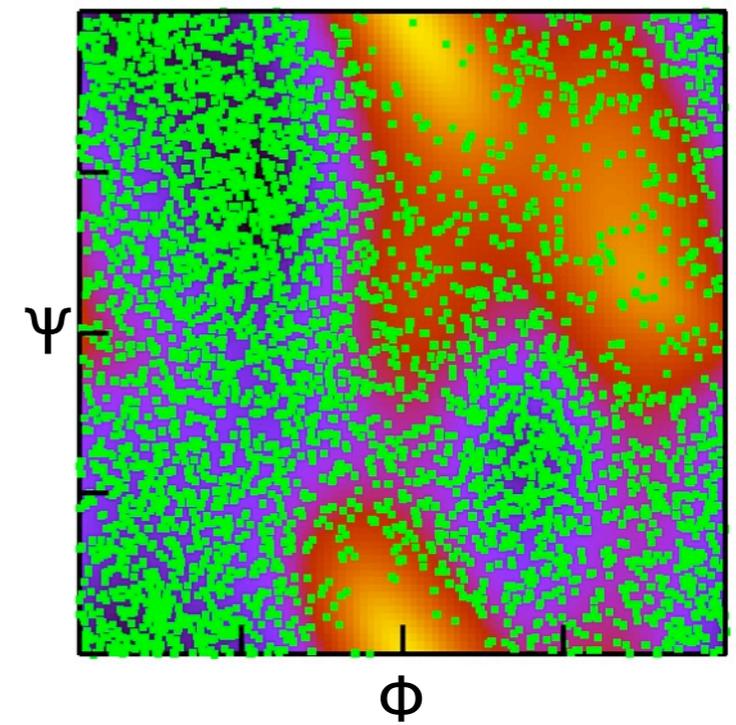
# MetaD used to "increase T"



$\Delta T = 600\text{K}$



$\Delta T = 1800\text{K}$

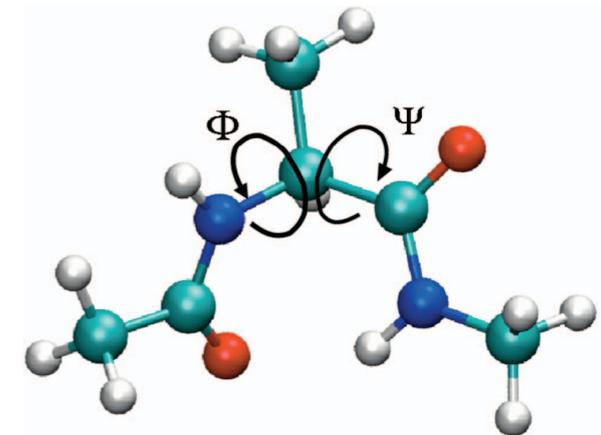


$\Delta T = 4200\text{K}$

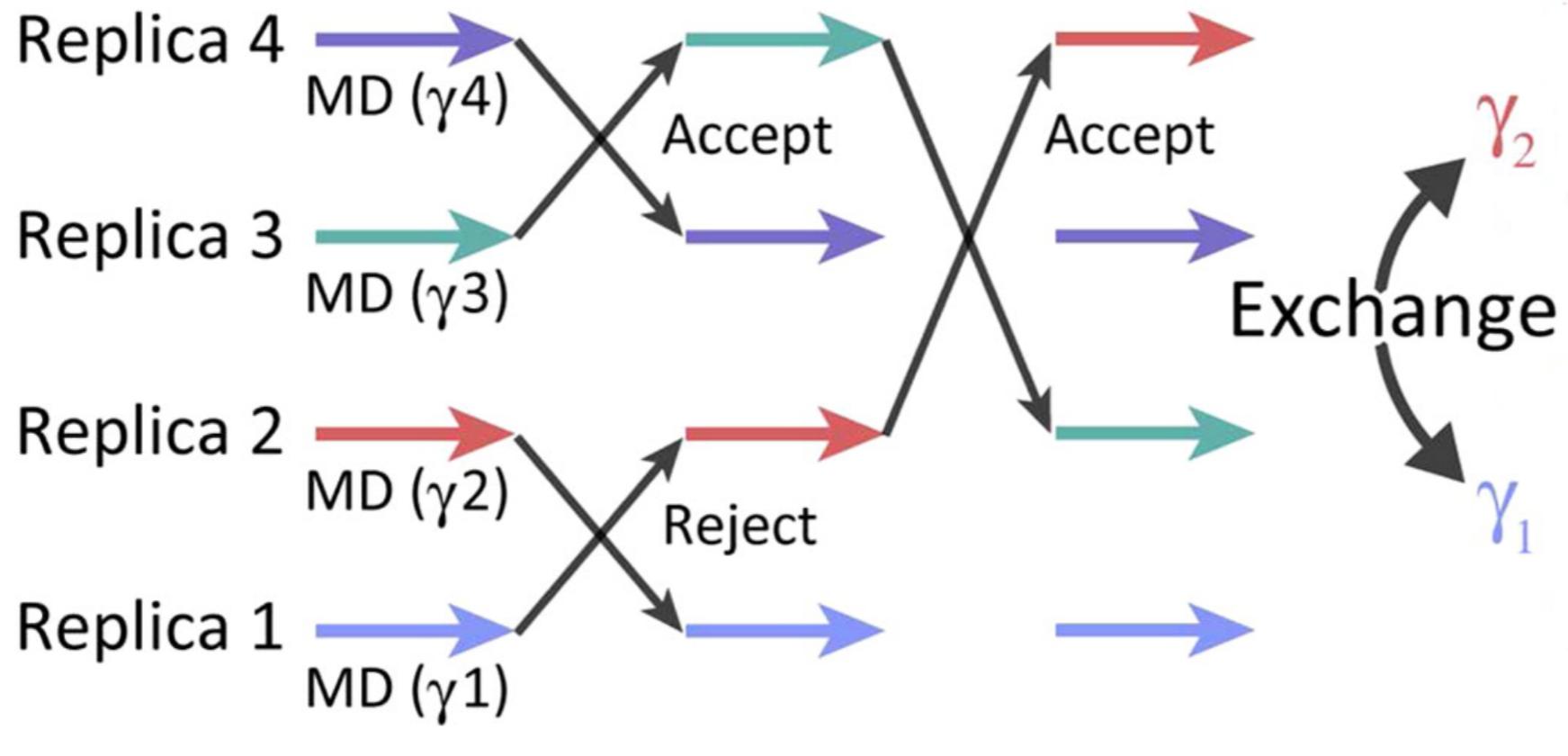
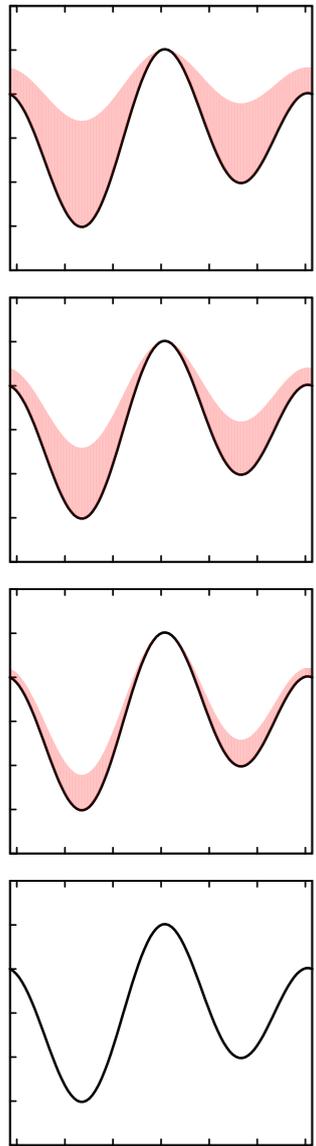
time is spent on the desired region  $\exp(-F/(T+\Delta T))$

$\Delta T$  tunes the explored region

(initial rate  $\omega = \Delta T/\tau = 2.4 \text{ kcal/mol/ps}$ )

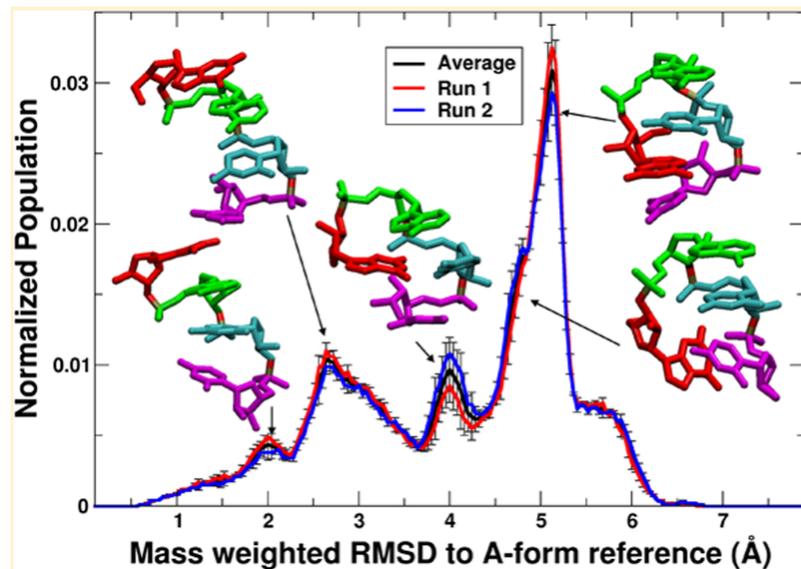


# (Hamiltonian) replica exchange



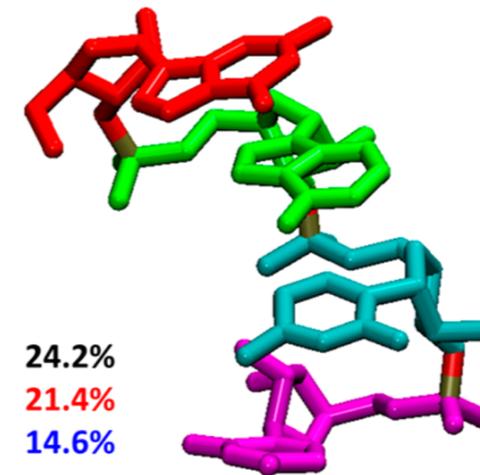
- Replicas with different value of  $(T+\Delta T)=\gamma T$

# GACC tetranucleotide

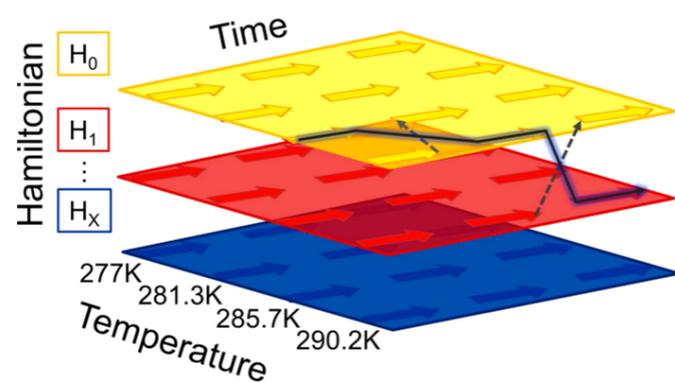
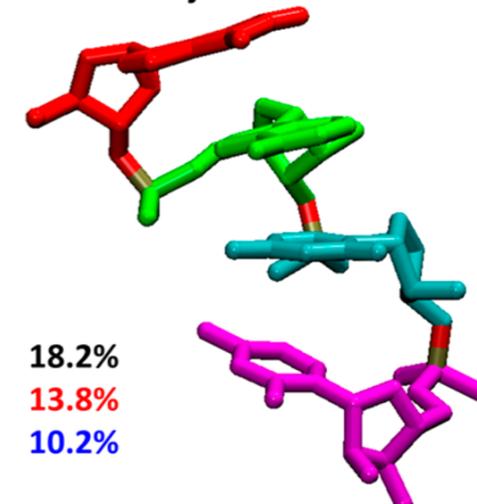


r(GACC)  
tetranucleotide

A-form minor



A-form major



24 (T-REMD) x 8 (H-REMD) replicas  
 $\approx 60\mu\text{s}$  total

In comparison with poly-peptides,  
roughly 3x complexity per residue

# GACC tetranucleotide

Amber99-chiOL<sup>#</sup>

TIP-3P water<sup>%</sup>

GROMACS 4.6<sup>\$</sup>

PLUMED 2.0<sup>@</sup>

Each nucleotide:

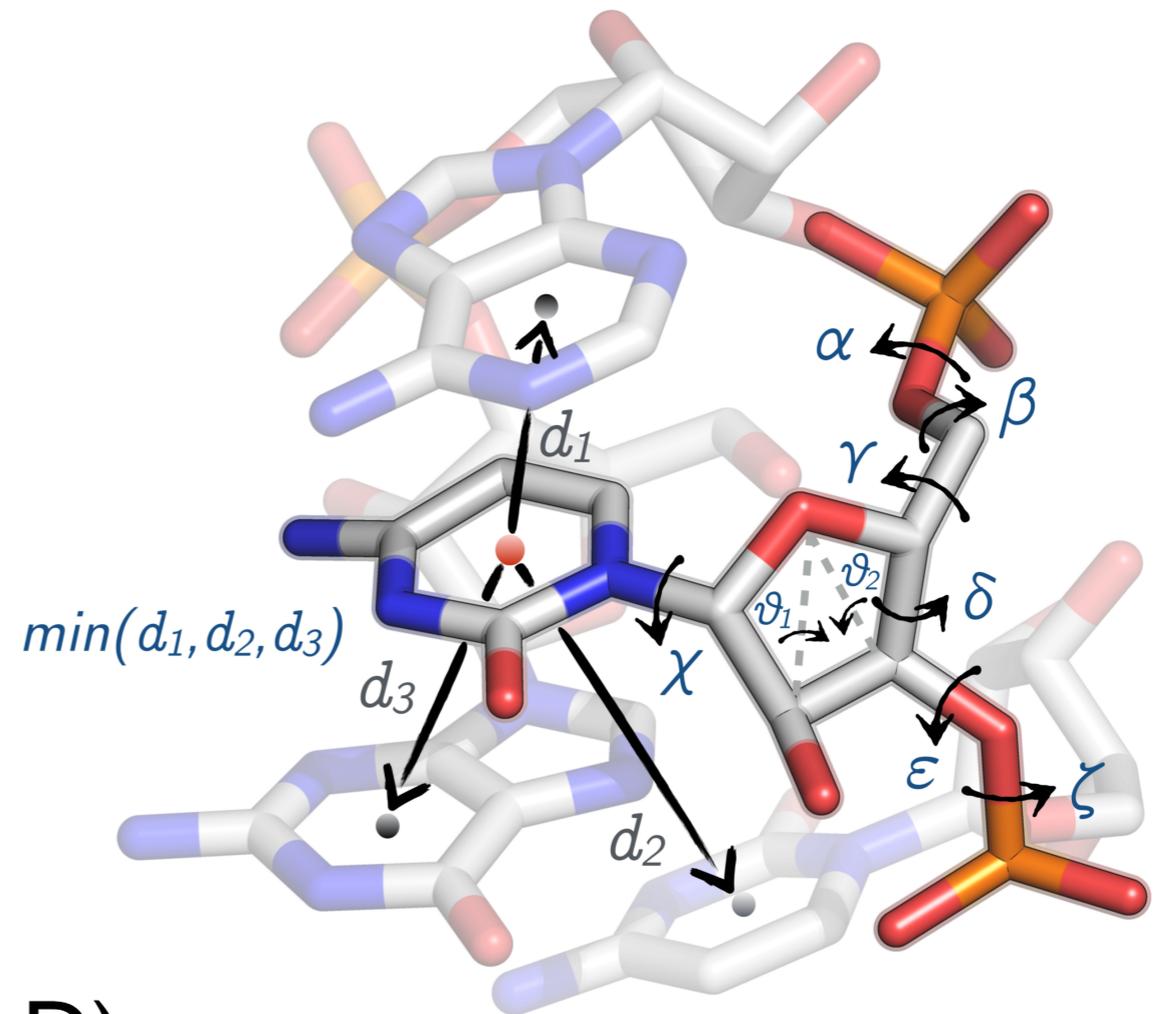
7 backbone dihedrals  
puckering

minimum distance from other bases  
(total 28x1D+4x2D concurrent MetaD)

16 replicas

$\gamma=1-4$

$\alpha \approx 40\%-70\%$



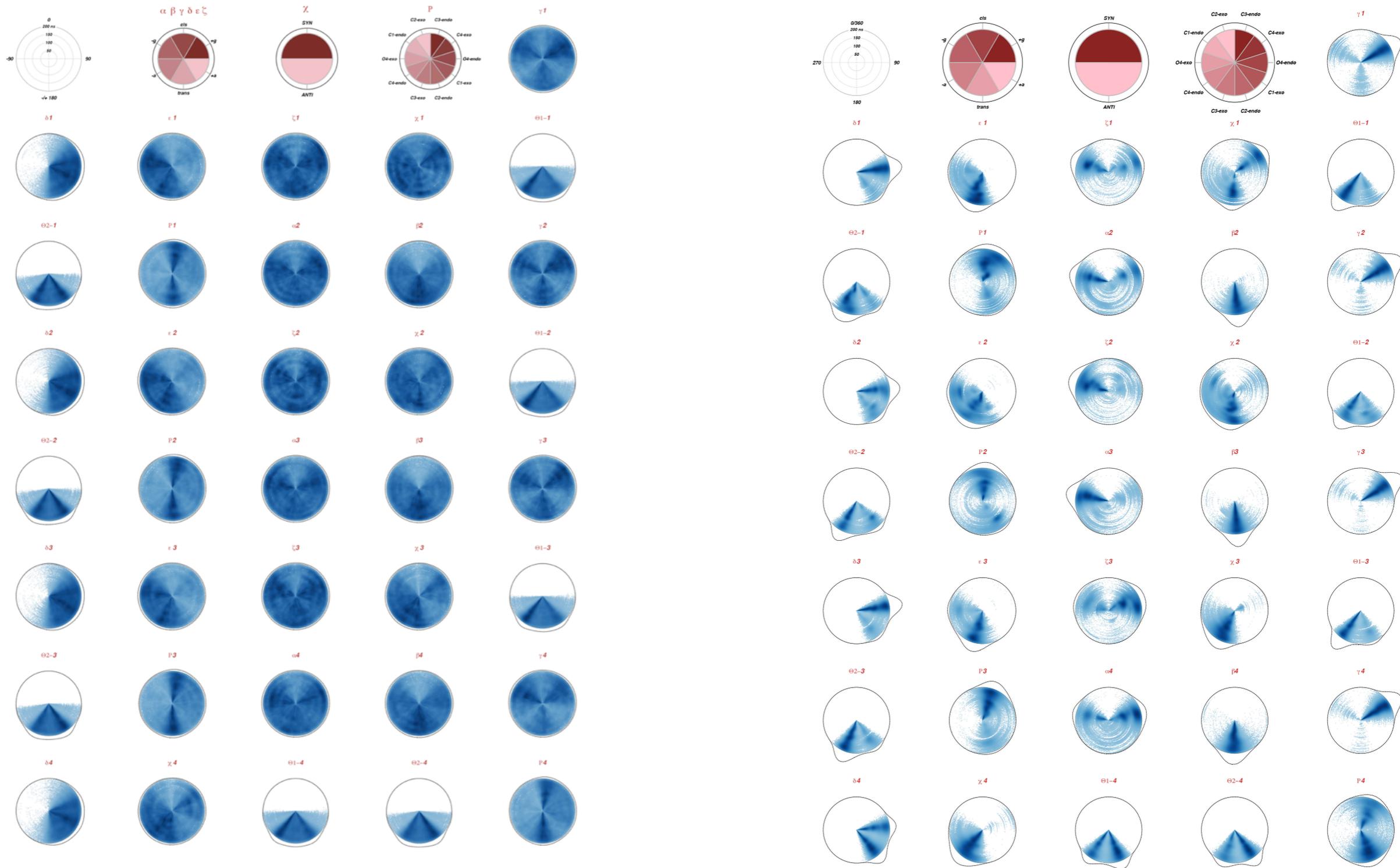
<sup>#</sup>Zgarbova et al, JCTC (2010)

<sup>%</sup>Jorgensen et al, JCP (1983)

<sup>\$</sup>Hess et al, JCTC (2008)

<sup>@</sup>Tribello et al, CPC (2014)

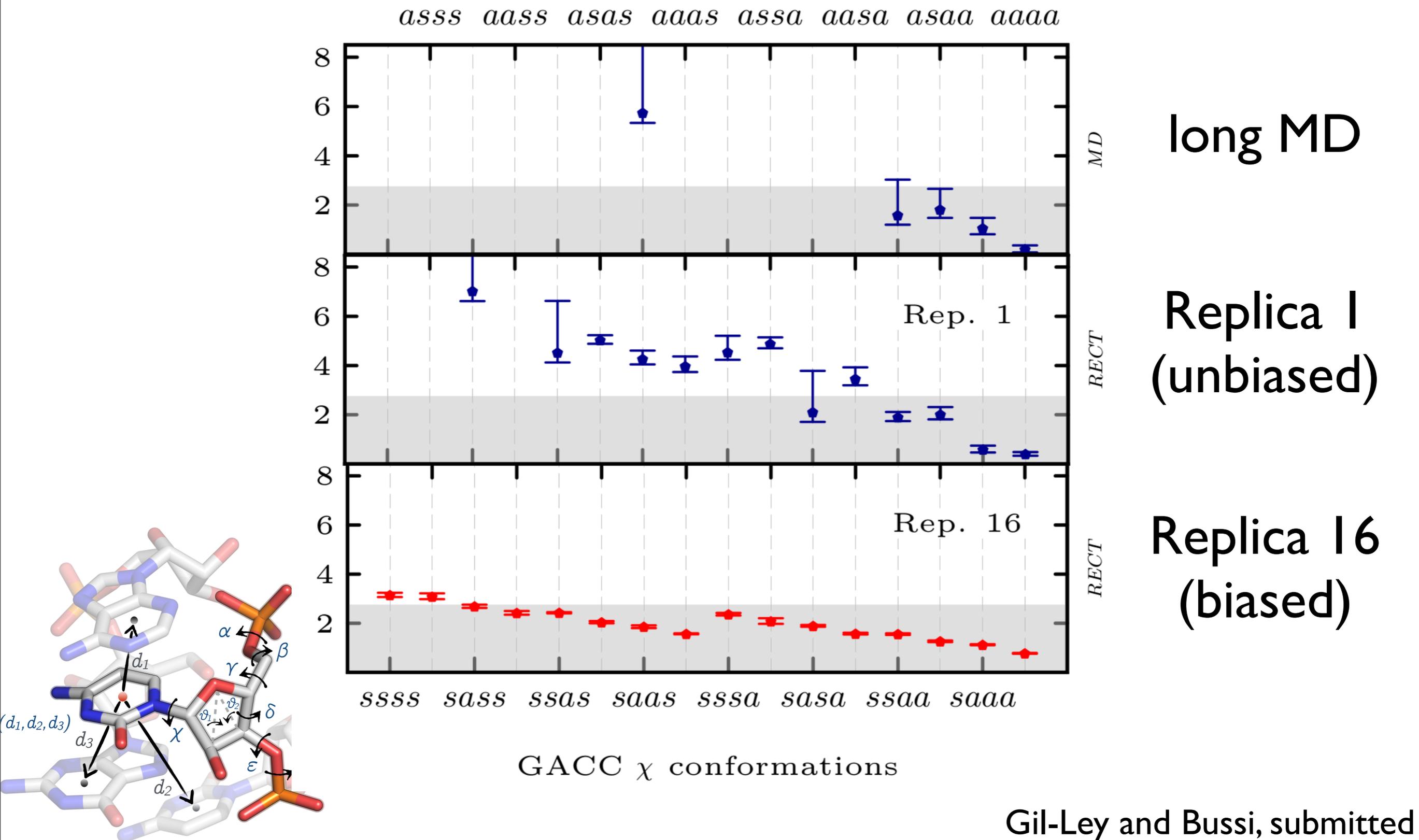
# Dihedral distribution



highest replica  
(biased)

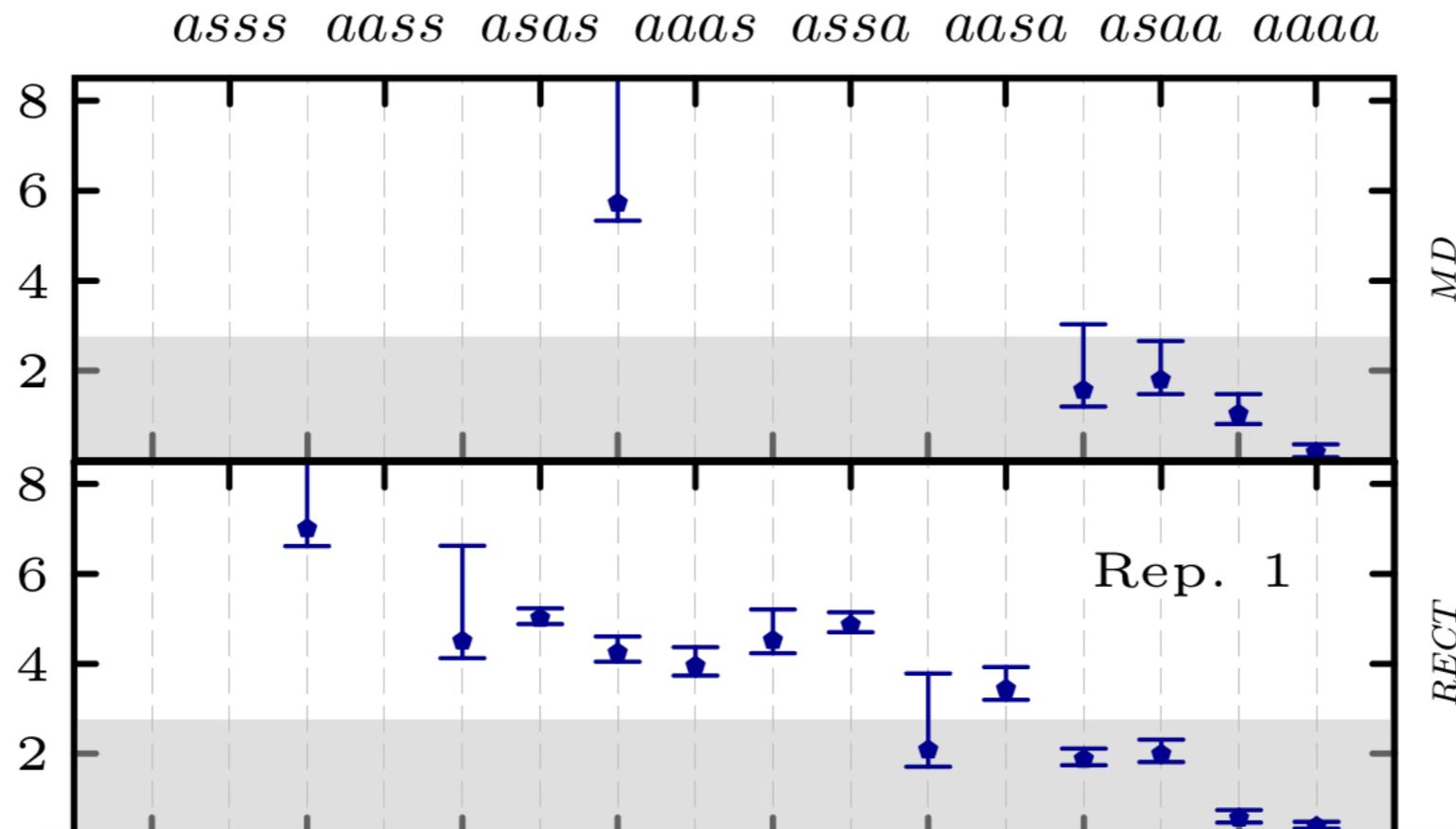
lowest replica  
(un biased)

# Relative stability of rotamers



Gil-Ley and Bussi, submitted

# Relative stability of rotamers

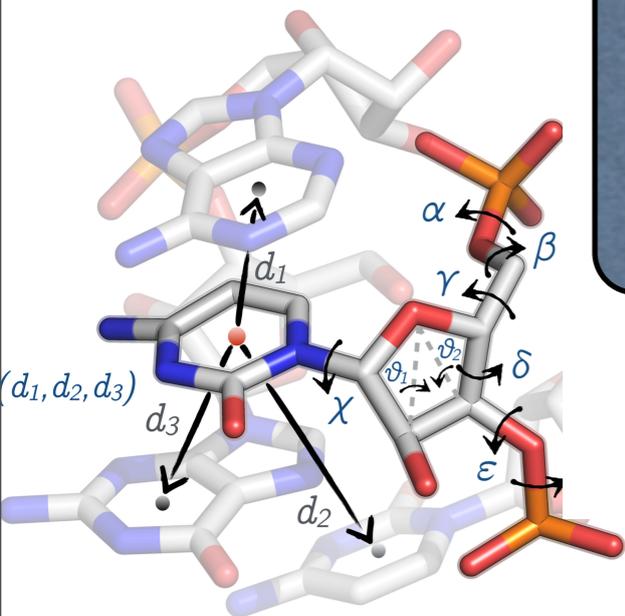


long MD

Replica 1  
(unbiased)

Replica 16  
(biased)

16x300ns (in parallel)  
better than 4800ns (long MD)



s s s s s a s s s s a s s a s a s s a a s a a a

GACC  $\chi$  conformations

Gil-Ley and Bussi, submitted

# Take home message

PLUMED: an open source plugin for molecular dynamics

*A posteriori/on-the-fly* analysis of MD

Many CVs and biasing methods (metadynamics *et al*)

Compatible with several MD engines

<http://www.plumed-code.org>

# Acknowledgements

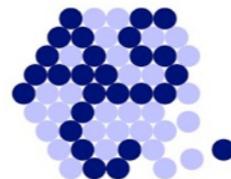
Andrea Perez-Villa  
Sandro Bottaro  
Alejandro Gil-Ley

Marco Jacopo Ferrarotti  
Do Trang

PLUMED developers:  
Gareth Tribello  
Max Bonomi  
Davide Branduardi  
Carlo Camilloni

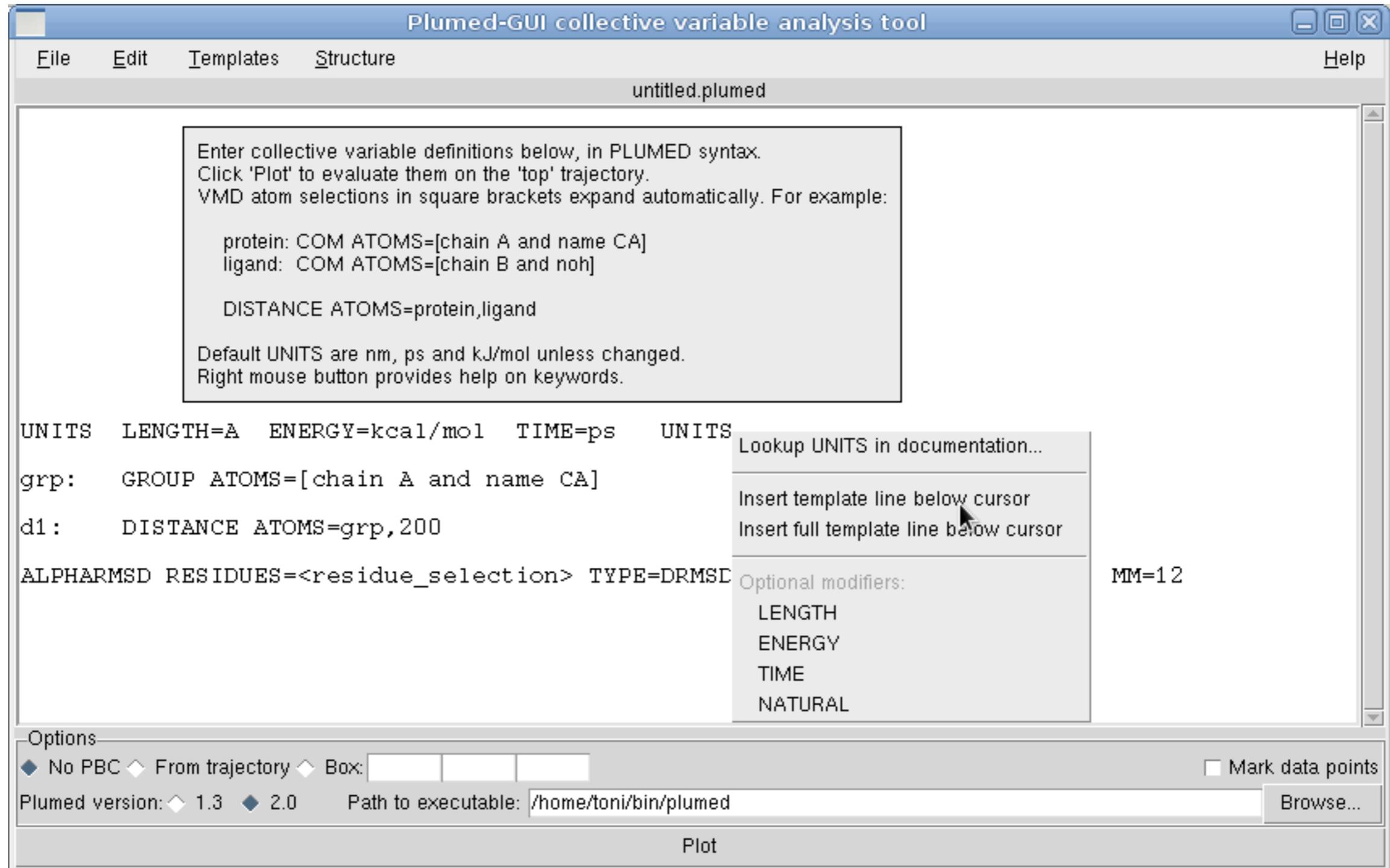


ERC for funding  
CINECA for computing time





# PLUMED+VMD (GUI)



<http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Research/vmd>

Giorgino, CPC (2014) - see [http://github.com/tonigi/vmd\\_plumed](http://github.com/tonigi/vmd_plumed)

# Supported MD codes

GROMACS - fast, tuned for biomolecules, open source

NAMD - fast, tuned for biomolecules, scalable

LAMMPS - very general and scalable, open source

QuantumESPRESSO - DFT, open source

AMBER/sander, many force methods (QMMM, semi-empirical,...)

+ some code has PLUMED support out-of-the-box

PLUMED is a library with a documented API  
thus, you can easily add your own code!

<http://www.gromacs.org>

<http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Research/namd>

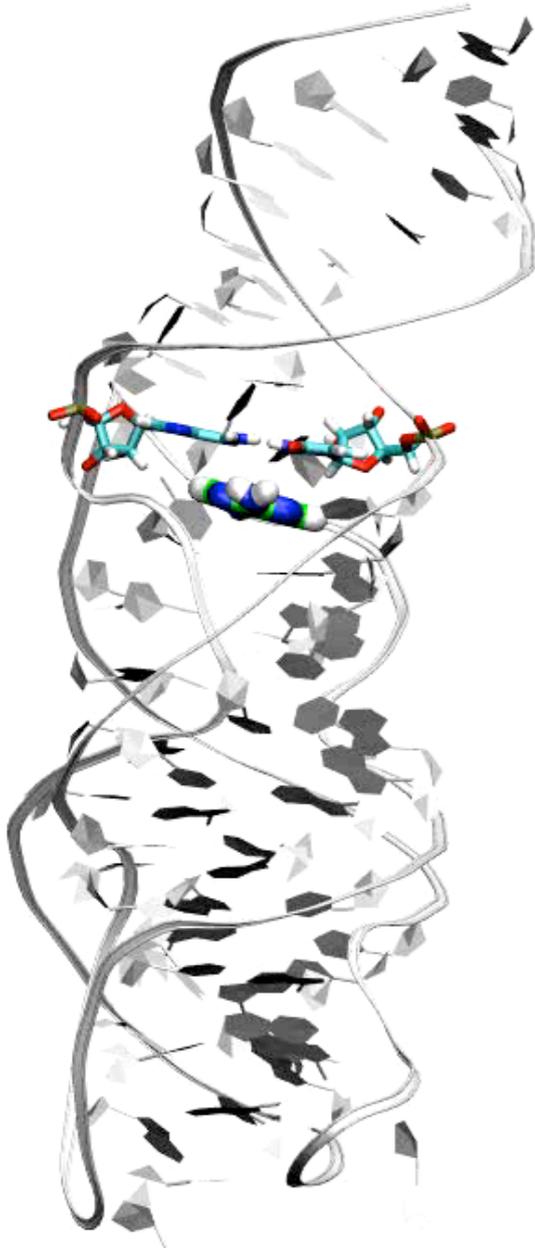
<http://lammps.sandia.gov>

<http://www.quantum-espresso.org>

<http://ambermd.org>

# Molecular Dynamics

$$E_{\text{total}} = \sum_{\text{bonds}} k_b (\ell - \ell_0)^2 + \sum_{\text{angles}} k_a (\theta - \theta_0)^2 \\ + \sum_{\text{torsions}} \frac{1}{2} V_n [1 + \cos(n\omega - \gamma)]^2 \\ + \sum_{j=1}^{N-1} \sum_{i=j+1}^N \left\{ \epsilon_{i,j} \left[ \left( \frac{r_{0ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - 2 \left( \frac{r_{0ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right] + \frac{q_i q_j}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r_{ij}} \right\}$$



Classical empirical force field:

- Chemically motivated interactions
- Atomistic detail
- Water and ions explicitly modeled
- No polarization, no chemical reactions

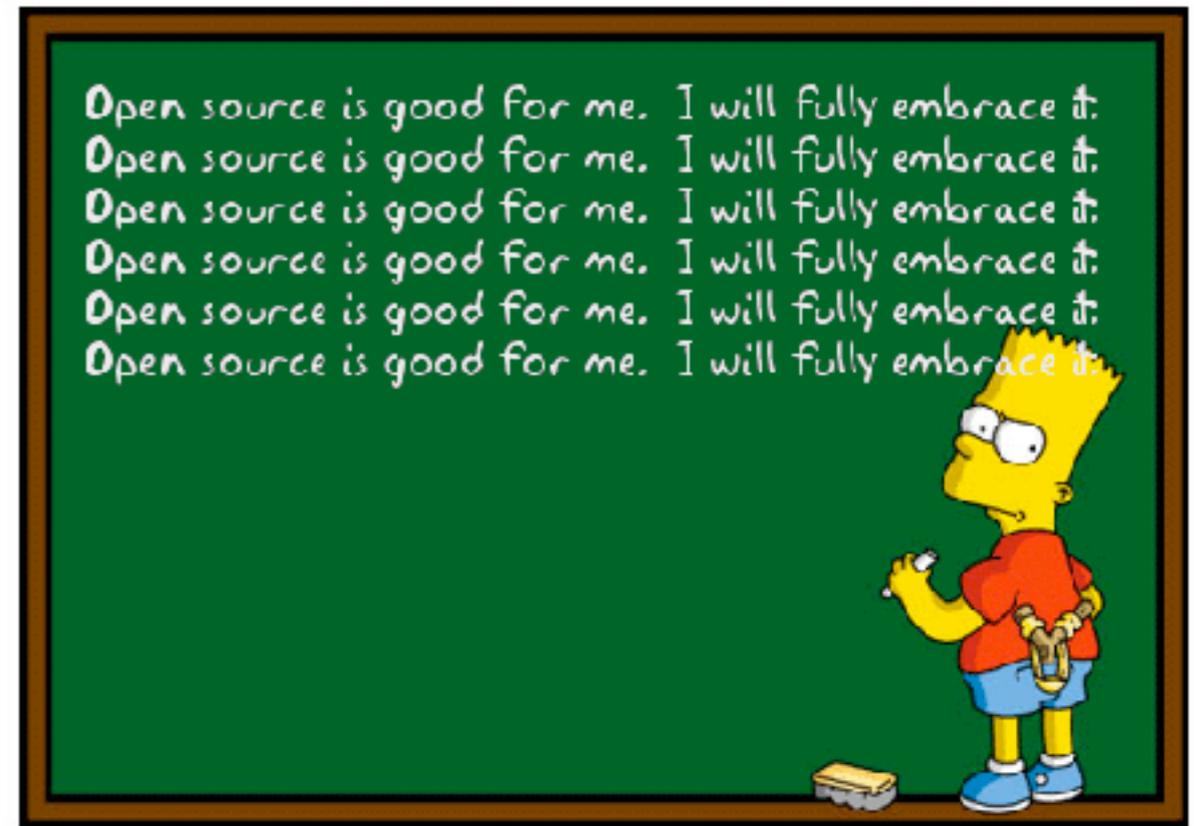
Large computers required  
5-100 ns/day



# Open source philosophy

Do you want to contribute:

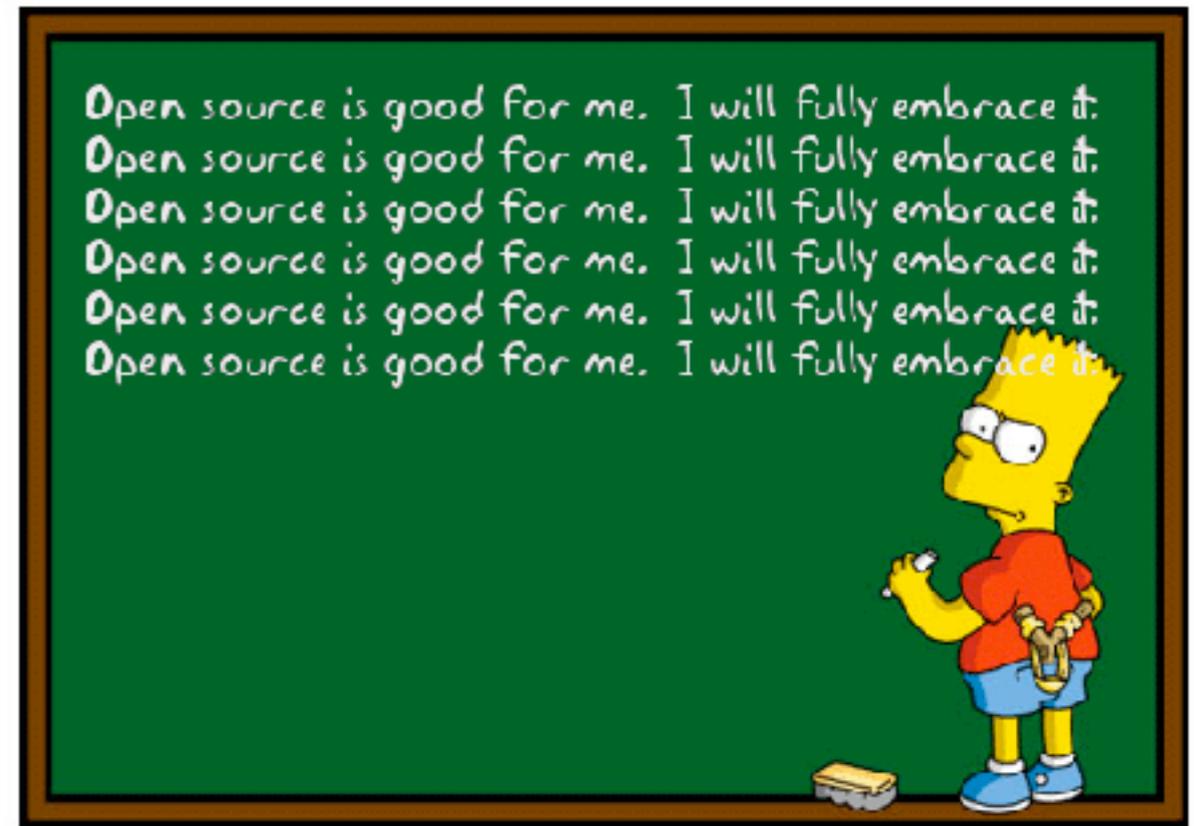
- reaction coordinates?
- free energy methods?
- source code cleaning?
- write documentation?
- port to other MD code?



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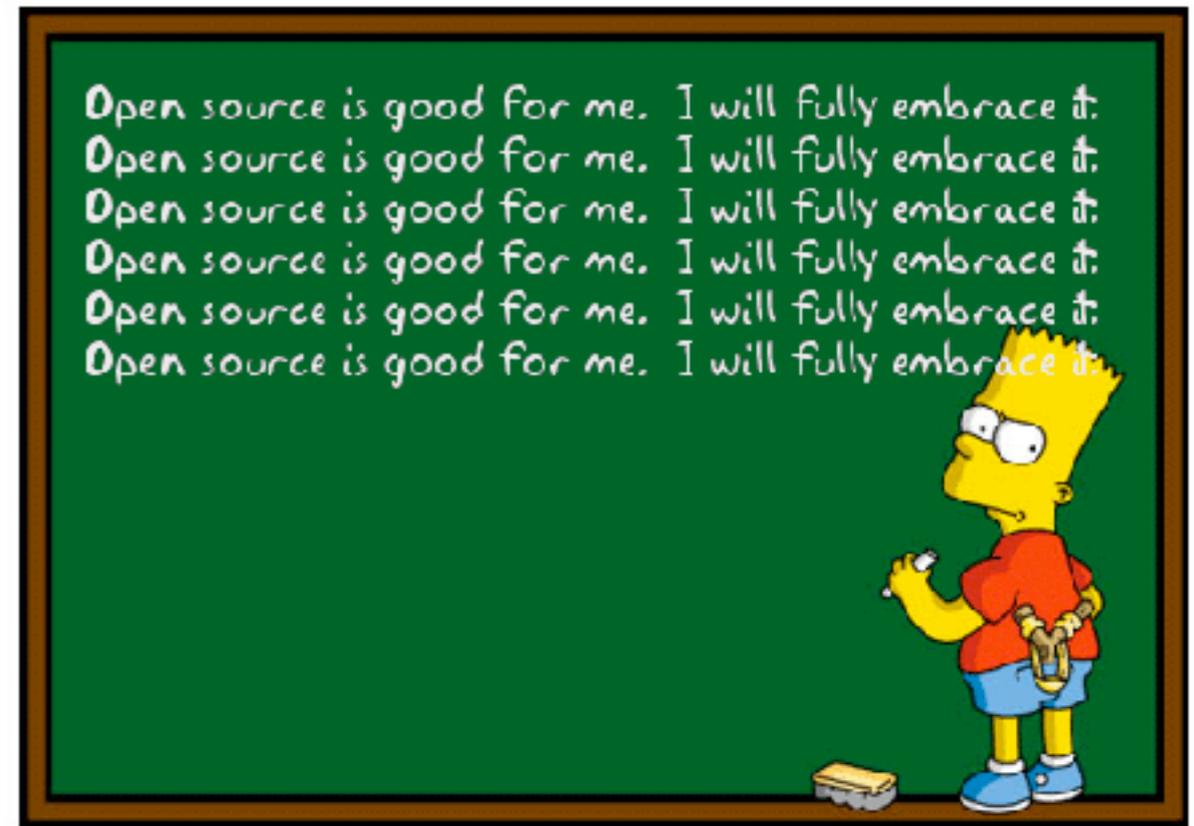
Your code will be available for free, forever (also to you!)

Your method/coordinate will be usable by many people immediately

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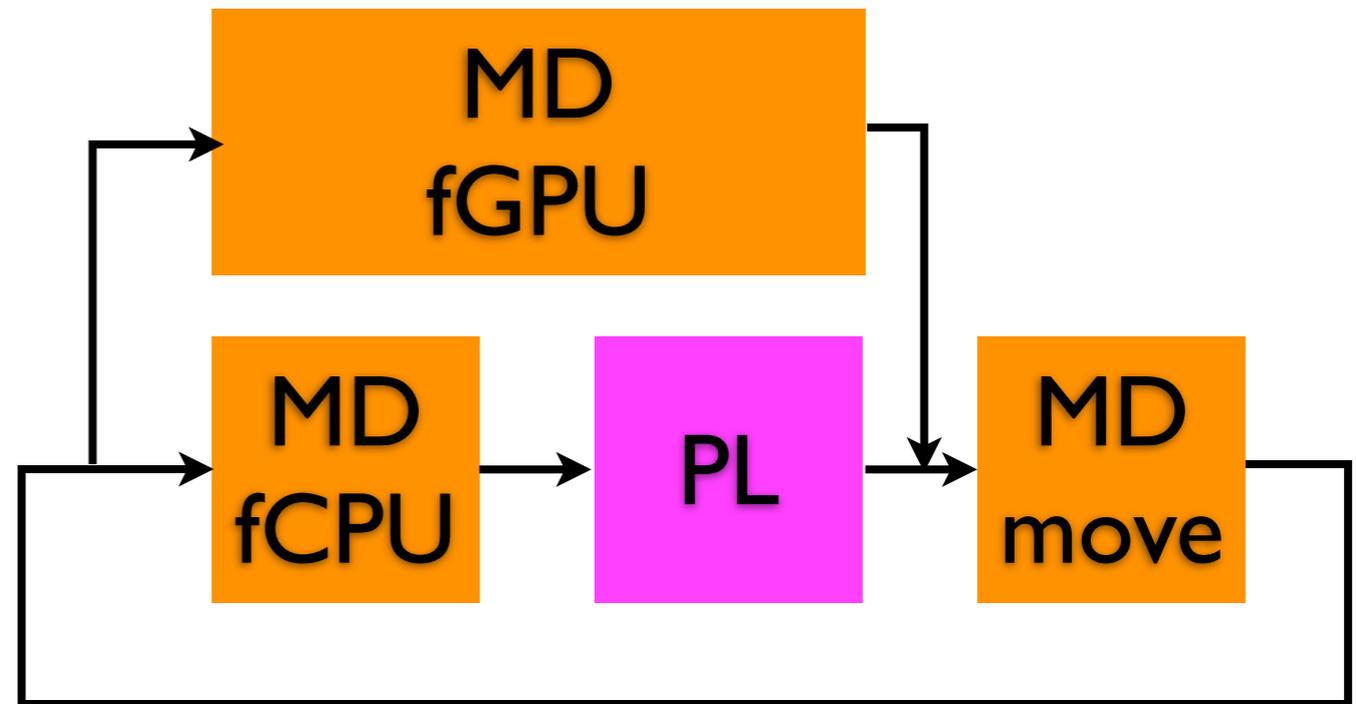
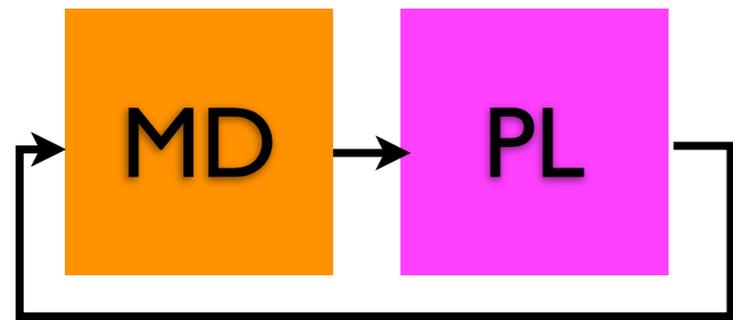


Your code will be available for free, forever (also to you!)

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\*this is good for citations, too!

# GPUs (gromacs)



Load balancing shifts load to GPU  
when PLUMED is too expensive