# Modeling Complex Materials: Do We Need All of the Atoms?



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> National Academy of Engineering Sept. 8-11, 2004

# Outline



#### Modeling Complex Systems

- Model what? Understanding stuff and engineering stuff.
- A terabyte too far: seeking alternatives to the all-atom world view.



#### Case Study 1: Crystalline Materials

- Modeling material
- deformation.
  - Molecular dynamics simulations without all of the atoms.



#### Case Study 2: L Materials

- DNA in a tight sque examples.
- What are the choic
- Using and abusing model.

#### Model What?



#### Airplane: structures and fluids

- Flow and fuselage ٠ alterations.
- Structural ۵. mechanics of altered fuselage.



**Quantum Dots** 

Electronic states and dot size and strain.



#### Virus Dynamic:

#### Model How? A Clash of World Views

- The discrete and continuous perspectives lead to completely different mathematical implementations.
- Each of these methods has its own difficulties and advantages.
- Atomistic calculations: material specificity (to the extent that the potentials make sense).
- Continuum calculations: mathematically tractable and provides intuition.

$$F = ma$$

**Atomistic Calculations** 



#### **Continuum Calculations**



# A Terabyte Too Far: Data Cannot Replace Understanding

- Meaning of a terabyte: the amount of information in the Caltech library.
- A simple estimate for simulating the action of the ribosome: 10^17 numbers!!
   Simulation not the same as understanding.
- Structural biology/structural materials present us with a peculiar paradox – now that we have all of these coordinates, we need to find ways to eliminate molecular details and construct coarse-grained models.
- "A science is built up of facts as a house is built up of bricks, but a mere accumulation of facts is no more a science than a pile of bricks is a house." - Henri Poincare
- Petabyte be not proud.



# High Quality Information: Genomes and Libraries

#### Bacteriophage Lambda



A Genetic Switch, 3rd edition, 2004 © Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press 1 gggcggcgac ctcgcgggtt ttcgctattt atgaaaattt tccggtttaa ggcgtttccg
 61 ttcttcttcg tcataactta atgtttttat ttaaaatacc ctctgaaaag aaaggaaacg
 121 acaggtgctg aaagcgaggc tttttggcct ctgtcgtttc ctttctctgt ttttgtccgt
 181 ggaatgaaca atggaagtca acaaaaagca gctggctgac attttcggtg cgagtatccg
 241 taccattcag aactggcagg aacagggaat gcccgttctg cgaggcggtg gcaagggtaa
 301 tgaggtgctt tatgactctg ccgccgtcat aaaatggtat gccgaaaggg atgctgaaat
 361 tgagaacgaa aagctgcgcc gggaggttga agaactgcgg caggccagg aggcagatct
 421 ccagccagga actattgagt acgaacgcca tcgacttacg cgtgcgcagg ccgacgaca
 481 ggaactgaag aatgccagag actccgctga agtggtggaa accgcatct gtacttcgt
 541 gctgtcgcgg atcgcaggtg aaaatgccaaca tgttgatttc ctgaaacggg atactacaa

48301 catgaggttg ccccgtattc agtgtcgctg atttgtattg tctgaagttg tttttacgtt 48361 aagttgatgc agatcaatta atacgatacc tgcgtcataa ttgattattt gacgtggttt 48421 gatggcctcc acgcacgttg tgatatgtag atgataatca ttatcacttt acgggtcctt 48481 tccggtgatc cgacaggtta cg

- Imagine: the entire instruction set for the parts list for this virus consists of nothing more than a sequence of 48,500 A, G, T and C.
- That is high-quality information!

# Degree of Freedom Reduction: Beyond the All-Atom Mindset

Case Study 1: Quasicontinuum Case Study 2: DNA in a Tight Squ Method





Multiscale Modeling: new name, old idea. Witness the stunning successes of elasticity, hydrodynamics, the relation between statistical mechanics and thermodynamics,....

# Material Deformation: The Multiscale Problem





Vector plot of displacement



Number of atoms in excess Of 10^9. Time scales – long relative to fs.



Nanoindentation of crystals

Representative Examples of Zero-Temperature Deformation





Brinell nanoindentation test on Au



Crack propagation in a nickel bicrystal

# Systematic Degree of Freedom Thinning Via Kinematic Slavery

 Kinematic idea is use of constraints to replace full problem with reduced problem.

 $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_i \mathbf{u}_i N_i(\mathbf{x})$ 

Key ingredient: which degrees of freedom are kept depends upon where in the computation we are. That is, such methods must be ADAPTIVE.

#### Representative Atoms





# Key Elements of Conventional QC

- Forces on nodes obtained from underlying atomistic calculation.
- Use of atomistically derived "constitutive model" endows the model with key nons: nonlinearity, nonlocality, nonconvexity.
- Mesh adaption as a key element of coarse graining schemes.

Nonuniform spatial discretization





Atomic level calculation of total energy

Adaptive mesh refinement



## **Conceptual Overview**



# Molecular Dynamics Without All of the Atoms



 $10^7 \text{ atoms} \rightarrow 5000 \text{ nodes}$ 

#### DNA in a Tight Squeeze: A Case Study



#### Gene Regulation

- DNA-binding proteins such as Lac repressor loop DNA.
- Ubiquitous in prokaryotes and oukaryotes



#### Eukaryotic DNA Packing

- DNA in nucleus wound around protein – histone octamer.
- Radius of curvature comparable to DNA thickness.



#### Viral DNA Packi

#### 15 microns of dna

- confined to 50nm caj
- Packing forces relate infection mechanism

I will tell this story, see through the prism of n

#### The Nature of the Viral Life Cycle

- Kinetic verbs of the viral life cycle infect, eject, assemble, bud each demands physical models and suggests experiments.
- Viruses are once again poised to serve as formidable model systems this time in the emergence of physical biology.

#### Bacteriophage life cycle

HIV life cycle



#### Optical Tweezers in Action: Molecular Machines Caught in the Act





Figure 6–9. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

- Think of DNA as having a diameter of one meter. RNA polymerase the si a FedEx truck.
- Travels at a speed of roughly 375 mph and completes transcription in rol
   40 minutes with one mistake per 100 miles. (Remarkable molecular mack)

#### Forces and Packing Rates: As a Function of Fraction Packed



# The Geometry of Viruses: Cryo Electron Microscopy

- Combination of x-ray crystallography and cryo-electron microscopy have provided detailed insights into the structure of a broad variety of different viruses.
- Capsid made up of protein units which come together during process of self-assembly.
- Typical dimensions are roughly 30nm diameter and 2nm thickness.
- These insights will be used to construct mechanical model of structural integrity of capsid which is under internal pressure greater than 60 atm.
- Fascinating "maturation" transitions.



#### Baker Lab-Purdue

# Experiments Reveal Crystalline Order for Viral DNA

- Cryo-electron microscopy reveals that the packaged DNA is highly ordered.
- Crystalline order characterized by concentric rings of DNA wrapped around a central axis.



#### (Cerritelli et al.)



# The Problem of DNA Packing: Crowding in Viruses

Adapted from Molecular Expressions

**Bacteriophage Structure** 



An infected bacterium: note that virus injects DNA and leaves body

Analogy: Put 500m of Golden Gate E suspension cable in the back of a Fe

# DNA: An Elastic Rod or a Collection of Atoms? Neither is Optimal!



Atomistic description of DNA packing process

# Viral Packing: Relevant Scales



There is a negative charge every .17nm of length along DNA – electrostatic energy crucial also.

#### Viral Packing: Free Energy of Confinement



$$G_{interact} = \sqrt{3}F_0(c^2 + dc)\epsilon$$

The idea: set up a free energy function that reflects the competition between these two effects (Riemer et al.,Odijk, Gelbart et al.). Entropy of DNA conformations not an important player. Key point: no atoms!

$$G_{tot}(d,L) = G_{bend}(d,L) + G_{interact}(d,L)$$

# Predictions for Packing Forces in Other Phage



- Consider several other bacteriophage under same conditions as that of the Bustamante experiment.
- Maximum force in the case of T7 nearly a factor of two larger than that in phi29. (Significance for motors in these other phage?)

# What's Wrong With This Picture?

# Sequence dependence of nucleosome formation



- In-vitro studies of nucleosome formation reveal huge variability in affinity of DNA for histones.
- Leading hypothesis sequence dependence of elasticity of DNA.
- Experiments on small loop formation reveal wholesale failure of usual theory.
   (Cloutier and Widom)

DNA loop formationstrong sequence dependence (Gelles et al.)



Theory off by a factor of 1011

# A Parting Shot



- A terabyte (even petabyte) too far!
- Alternatives to brute force all degree of freedom calculations constitute the ambition of "multiscale modeling".
- Problem: difficulty to reconcile degree of freedom elimination with specificity, the hallmark of biologica
   Piological challenges are operated.

## Structural Biology and the Viral Parts List



#### (Rossmann et al.)



Conclusion: Structural biology has provided detailed insights into structures of capsids, arrangement DNA within them and packing mac

#### **Theoretical Approaches**

$\frac{d[mRNA_{Rep}]}{d[mRNA_{Rep}]} = V_{mRNA_{Rep}} - (k_{dmRNA_{Rep}} + \mu) \cdot [mRNA_{Rep}]$	$K_{\rm np}$	equilibrium as
$\frac{d[\text{Re }p]}{dt} = V_{\text{Re }p} - (k_{d,\text{Re }p} + \mu) \cdot [\text{Re }p]$	$K_{\rm nd}$	equilibrium as and nonspec
$\frac{d[mRNA_{ZYA}]}{dt} = V_{mRNA-ZYA} - (k_{d,mRNA-ZYA} + \mu) \cdot [mRNA_{ZYA}]$	Kns	equilibrium as and $\sigma$ factor
$\frac{d[\beta gal]}{dt} = V_{\beta gal} - (k_{d} + \mu) \cdot [\beta gal]$	$K_{\rm nsp}$	equilibrium as and the pror
$\frac{d[\text{Perm}]}{dt} = V_{\text{Perm}} - (k_{d} + \mu) \cdot [\text{Perm}]$	$K_{ m nsd}$	equilibrium as and nonspec
$\frac{d[Lac_{int}]}{dt} = V_{t,Lac} - V_{cat,Lac} - V_{Lac-Allo} - \mu \cdot [Lac_{int}]$	$K_{\rm ce}$	equilibrium <sup>°</sup> as and its DNA
$\frac{d[Allo]}{dt} = V_{Lac-Allo} - V_{cat,Allo} - \mu \cdot [Allo]$	$K_{ m cd}$	equilibrium as and nonspec
$\frac{d[cAMP]}{dt} = V_{cAMP} - (k_{ex} + \mu) \cdot [cAMP]$	$K_{ca}$	equilibrium as and cAMP
$\frac{d[Glu_{ext}]}{dt} = (V_{out,Glu} - V_{t,Glu}) \cdot X$	$K_{\rm cae}$	equilibrium as CRP:cAMP a
$\frac{d[Lac_{ext}]}{dt} = -V_{t,Lac} \cdot X$	$K_{ m cad}$	equilibrium as CRP:cAMP a
$\frac{\mathrm{d}X}{\mathrm{d}t} = \mu X$	$K_{\rm rol}$	equilibrium as repressor an

$$\frac{d[Glu6P]}{dt} = V_{t,Glu} + 2 \cdot \left(V_{cat,Lac} + V_{cat,Alfo}\right) - \frac{\mu}{Y_{X/Glu6P}} - \mu \cdot [Glu6P]$$

equilibrium association constant between RNAP and the promoter	$1  imes 10^6$ M
equilibrium association constant between RNAP and nonspecific DNA	$1  imes 10^6  { m N}$
equilibrium association constant between RNAP and $\sigma$ factor	$2  imes 10^9$ M
equilibrium association constant between $\text{RNAP}:\sigma$ and the promoter	$1  imes 10^9$ M
equilibrium association constant between RNAP:σ and nonspecific DNA	$1  imes 10^5$ M
equilibrium association constant between CRP and its DNA binding site	$1.1 \times 10^5$
equilibrium association constant between CRP and nonspecific DNA	$3.7 \times 10^3$
equilibrium association constant between CRP and cAMP	$4  imes 10^4$ M
equilibrium association constant between CRP:cAMP and its DNA binding site	$5 \times 10^{10}$ ]
equilibrium association constant between CRP:cAMP and nonspecific DNA	$1  imes 10^5$ M
equilibrium association constant between the repressor and operator 1	$1  imes 10^{13}$ ]

#### Wong, Gladney, and Keaslin

(1) 🚄 🚽 (11)	$O_{\rm m}$	N	Repression level <sup>9</sup>	$\Delta G_{Om}$	$\langle \Delta G_{Om} \rangle$
$\rightarrow$	O <sub>1</sub>	50	200	- 1.38	- 1.52
	O2	900 50	4/00 21	- 1.65	0.98
$R_{\circ} = \frac{1}{2} - 1 \perp N_{\circ} - \Delta G_{Om}$	O <sub>2</sub>	50	1.3	5.12	4.61

Vilar and Leible

# Force-Displacement Properties at Finite Temperature

- Calculate the critical load to nucleate defects.
- Critical load is a strong function of temperature.



# **Coarse-Graining Prescription**

# Coarse-grained potential energy $\hat{V}(\{q^r\})$

◆ Coarse-grained kinetic energy
 *K̂*({q<sup>r</sup>})
 ◆ Thermostat



# **Coarse-Grained Kinetic Energy**

#### Lumped mass approach



- Atomistic region  $m_i^r = m$
- Coarse-grained region

$$m_i^r = n_i^r m$$

Kinetic energy

$$\hat{K}(\{q^r\}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_r} \frac{p_i^r}{2m_i^r}$$

# Thermostatting the System

Nosé-Poincaré thermostat (Bond et al. 1999)



- Hamiltonian dynamics (N<sub>r</sub>,V,T)
- Real time = virtual time



#### **Coarse-Grained Capsid Mechanics**

- Intrigued by claims that some viruses are pressurized to more than 50 atmospheres, we have undertaken an analysis of the mechanical strength of capsids (theory and experiment).
- Idea: Replace atomic-level description of capsid with finite-element mesh and compute properties by endowing finite element model with atomic-level cohesive model (with C. Brooks, B. Klug, B. Gelbart, C. Knobler, J. Johnson).



#### **Capsid of CCMV**



#### Mesh Generation for Pentame



#### Cool Experiments on DNA Packaging and Ejection: Bacteriophage



#### In-vitro ejection of phage DNA allow explicit examination of pressure and forces involved in DNA packaging.

 Optical tweezers permit measurement of forces during DNA packaging.

#### In vitro DNA ejection inhibition (Bohm et al.)





Forces during phage DNA packing

# Concluding Comments on Modeling Solid Materials

#### Enlightened Empiricism



#### Analysis and Design







But, in my view, "firstprinciples" design of materials is still hype.

# **Case Study in Nanoindentation**

- Brinell indentation tests: R=70 Å
- Speed: 0.05Å/ps
- Sample: 2000x1000Å
- Equilibration time: 200 ps
- Total time: 600 ps
- Nickel EAM Angelo (1995)



5000 representative atoms vs 10<sup>7</sup> atoms
 24 hours on a regular computer (1GHz)
 Speed up: ~ <u>10<sup>3</sup></u>

# In vitro Ejection Inhibition by Polyethylene Glycol



- Force balance between ejection forces (as measured by Bustamante) and osmotic resistance.
- More PEG, higher osmotic pressure and less ejection.

# Restoring the Missing Entropy via Coarse-Grained Potential





## Gold Standard Continued: Finite **Temperature Elastic Properties**



750 K (10<sup>11</sup>Pa)  $\mathbf{C}^{1_2}$ MD 0.5 NPQC <sup>250</sup> Temperature (K) 1000 1.5 (10<sup>11</sup> Pa)

Good agreement between molecular dynamics and finite temperature quasicontinuum



# **Elastic Force Calculation: The Details**

Compute the elastic energy by integrating over the profile of the packed DNA (this depends upon capsid shape).





$$E_{\text{bend}}(\bigcirc) = \sum_{i} E_{\text{bend}}(\bigcirc) = \pi \xi_{\text{p}} k_{\text{B}} T \sum_{i} \frac{N(R_{i})}{R_{i}}$$

cylinder height, z

# Beyond Elasticity: The Physics of DNA Interactions



Despite negative charge on DNA, in some solvent conditions (i.e. lots of polyvalent cations) it adopts the compact state shown above.

We need an energetic description of the charges to go alor with the elastic description already described

## DNA-DNA Interaction: Osmotic Stress Measurements



DNA in hexagonal array

#### Osmotic stress measureme



osmotic pressure =  $c_P EG k_B T$ 

The concept: osmotic pressure known as function of concentration of polyethylene glycol (PEG). DNA spacing measured via x-rays. Used to derive strand-

# Interaction Effects and the Viral Packing Problem

- All of the complex physics of hydration forces and screened Coulomb interactions can be folded into a simple effective interaction.
- Basic physics in virus: At low packing fraction, DNA tries to stay far apart. However, at larger filling, this leads to severe bending cost which is then paid in terms of repulsive energy.

$$E_{int} = F_0 L(c^2 + dc)e^{-d/c}$$



adapted from (Parsegian and Rau)

