## **BioCoRE**

## A Biological Collaborative Research Environment

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Graduate Assistants: Jay Desouza (CS), Sameer Kumar (CS), David Brandon (SPCOMM)

October 27-29, 2000 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

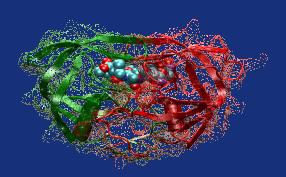






# BioCoRE Community

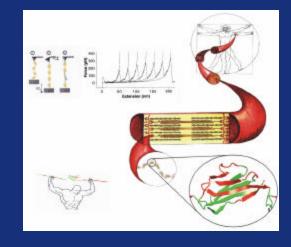
- **Ω** Structural Biology
- ด Cellular Biology
- **Ω Structural Genomics**



HIV Protease image produced by VMD



Ladinsky et. al. (1999). Golgi structure in three dimensions: Functional insights from the NRK cell. *J. Cell Biol.*, **144**: 1135-1149

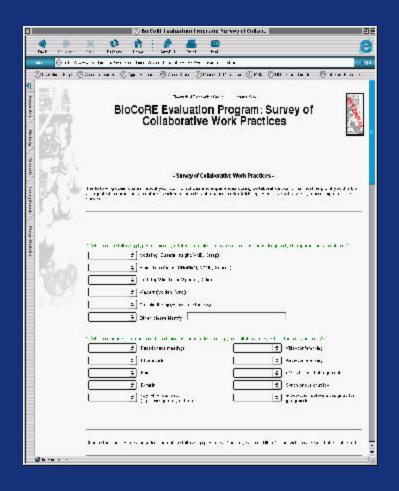




W. M. Keck Center for Comparative and Functional Genomics, University of Illinois Biotechnology Center

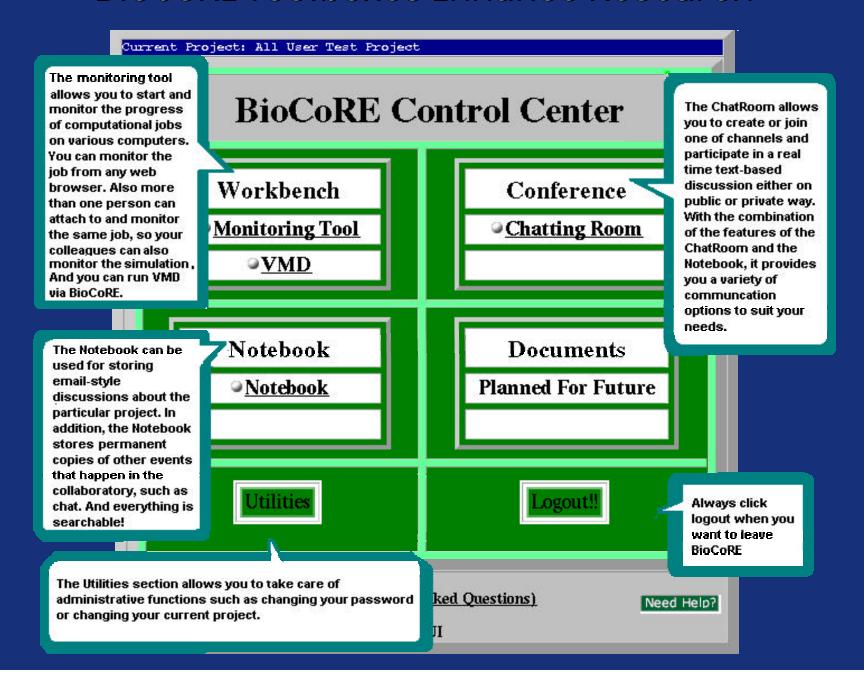
## BioCoRE Community Needs

- Access to analysis tools
- Shared visualization sessions
- Data sharing and storage
- ∂ Joint document preparation
- Distant mentoring and training
- Multi-channel communication (conferences, chat rooms, white boards, audio/video)



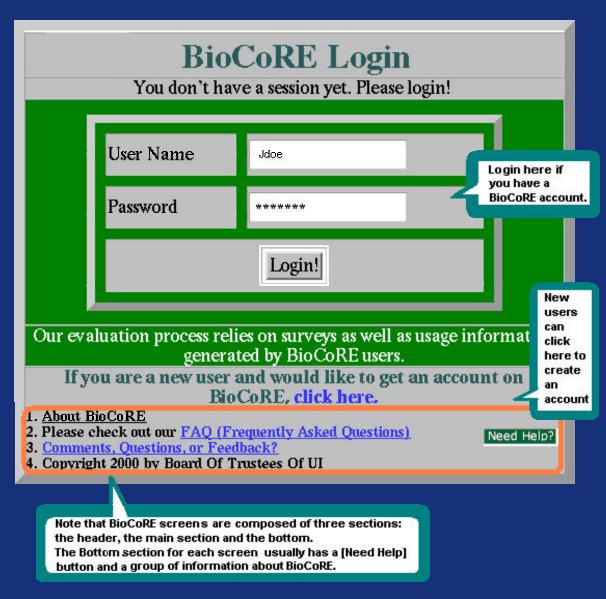
Built-in evaluation component yields continuous data on user expectations. Current needs, as identified by interviews, registration and feedback forms, user's comments, and bug reports.

#### BioCoRE Toolboxes Enhance Research



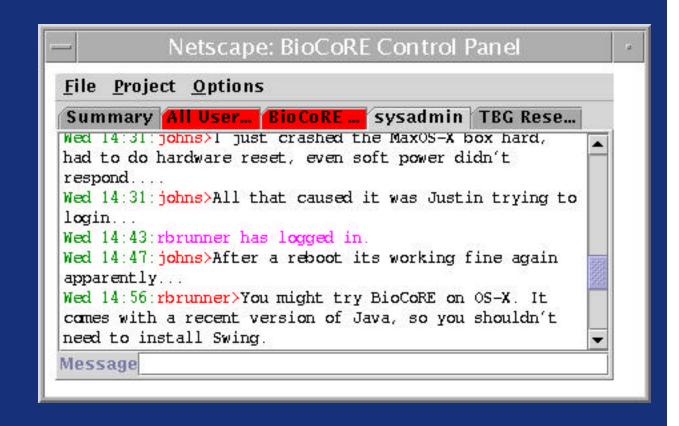
# Logging into BioCoRE

- ญ Web-based collaborative environment
- A Platform-independent technology
- Secure infrastructure
- ล Private and confidential interactions

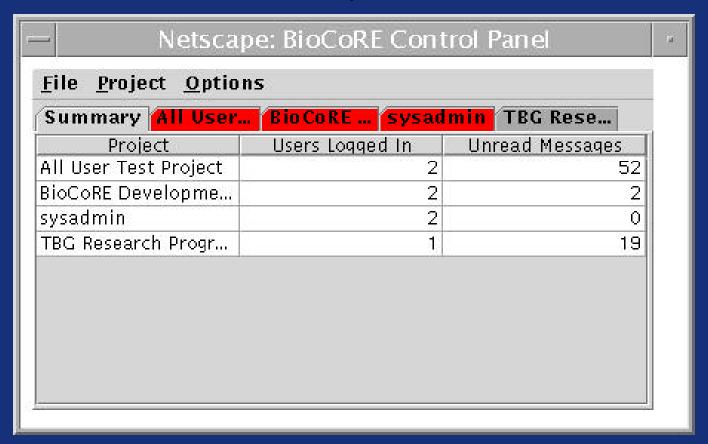


## BioCoRE Project Selection

- Activities are project-based
- Privacy: Users' and projects' identities are confidential
- A Flexibility:
  Projects are
  created and
  managed by users

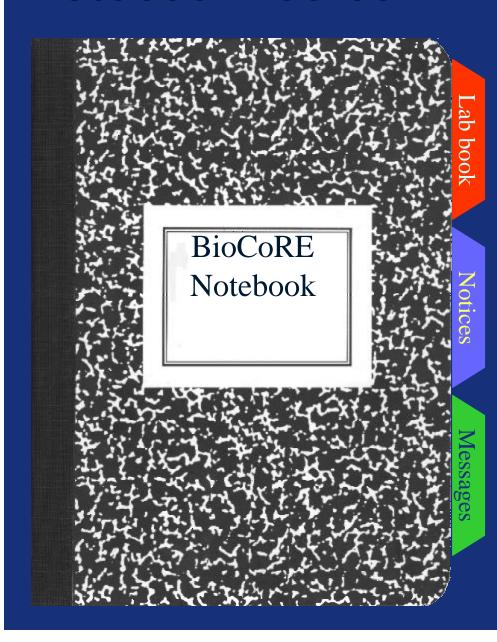


#### BioCoRE Control Panel



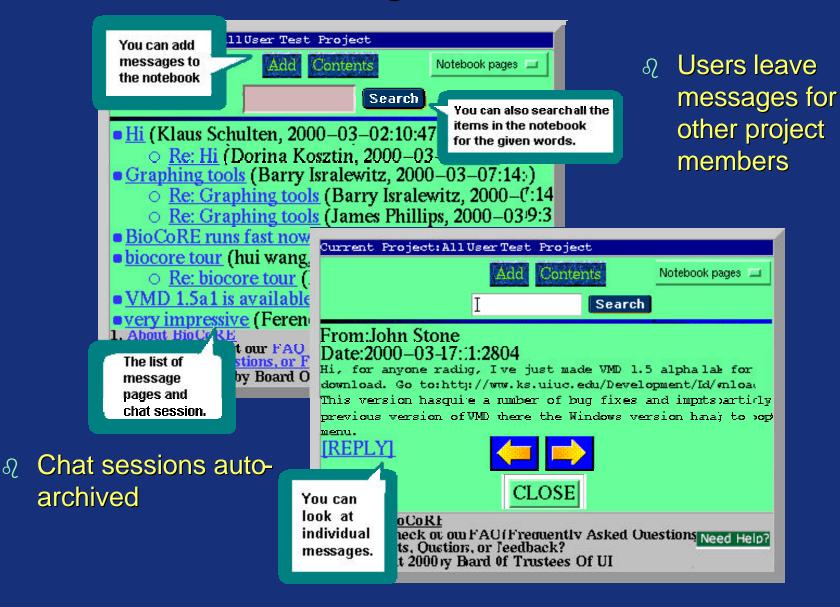
∂ Java applet: dynamic and portable

### Notebook Toolbox



- - Text
  - Images
  - Simulation results
  - Graphs
- Data integrity and completeness
- Searchable
- શ Lab book
  - Formatted, organized records
- Notice board
  - Important messages
- ର Message board
  - Archive of project activity
  - Sortable

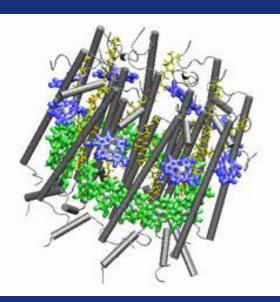
# Notebook -> Message Board (available)

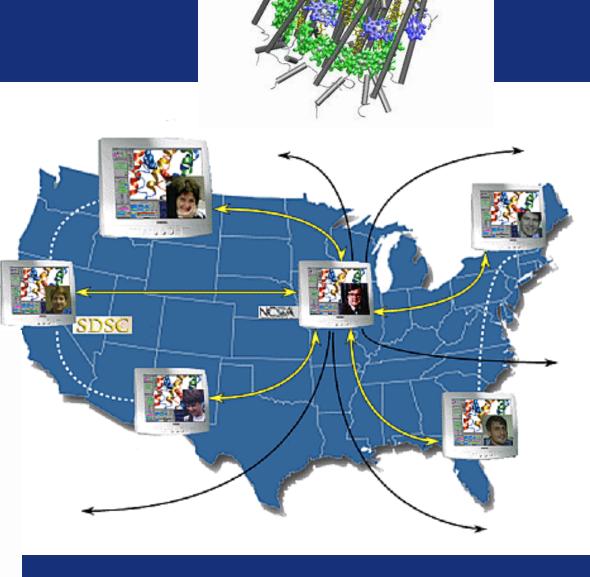


# BioCoRE Conference Toolbox

Real-time teleconferences: text, audio, video

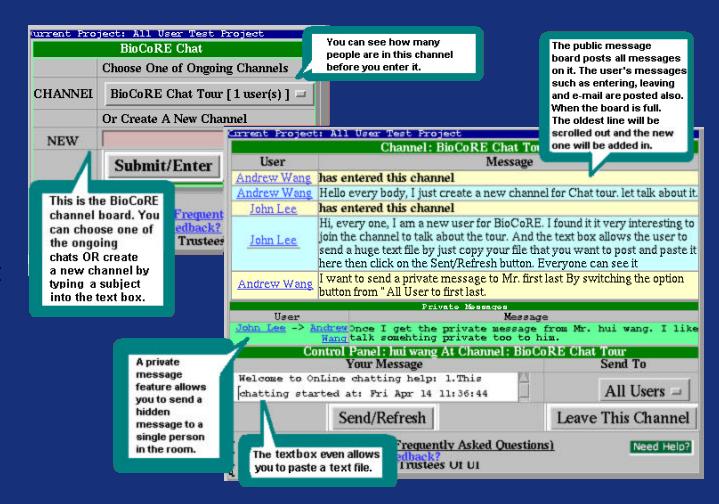
Sessions fully archived in Notebook





## Conference -> Chat Rooms (available)

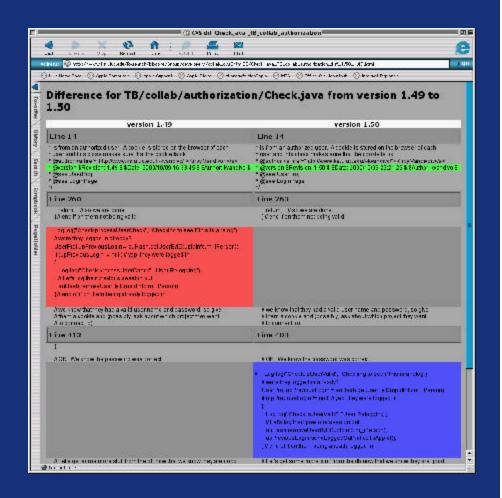
- A project member starts a subject-specific chat session
- Ω Project members join and leave chat session
- A Transcript auto-saved in notebook



## BioCoRE Document Toolbox

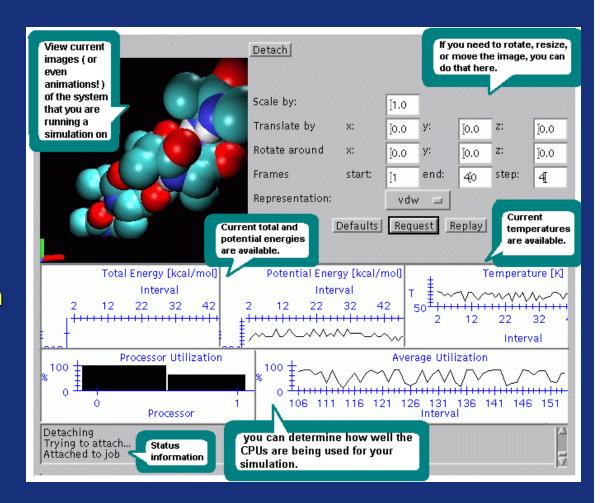
Offers tools to aid collaborative document preparation:

- Neb-based access to revision control
- A Interface to CVSLog, or similar package
- A file repository, shared by project members



## BioCoRE Workbench Toolbox

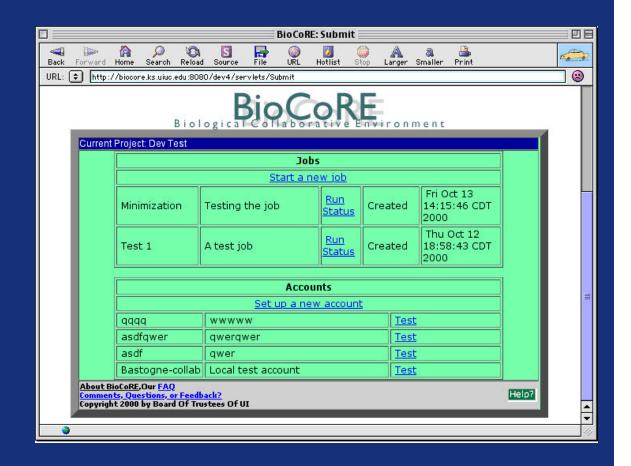
- Common interface to visualization, simulation, and analysis tools
- ญ Collaborative visualization sessions
- Simplified job submission and monitoring
- Novel input devices



## Workbench → Job submission (soon)

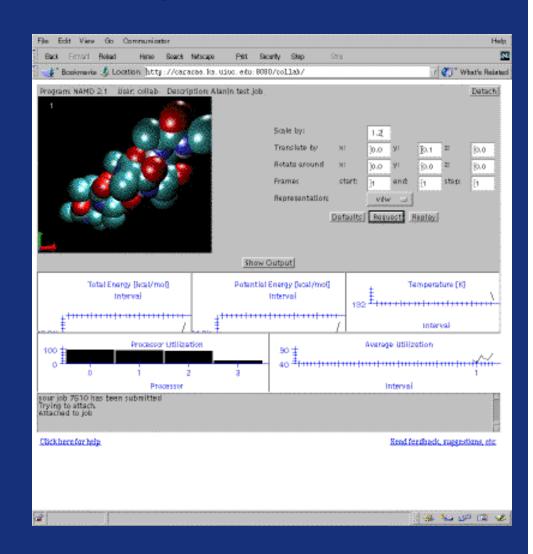
- User specifies preferred computer account(s)

- Results of runs accessible to project members



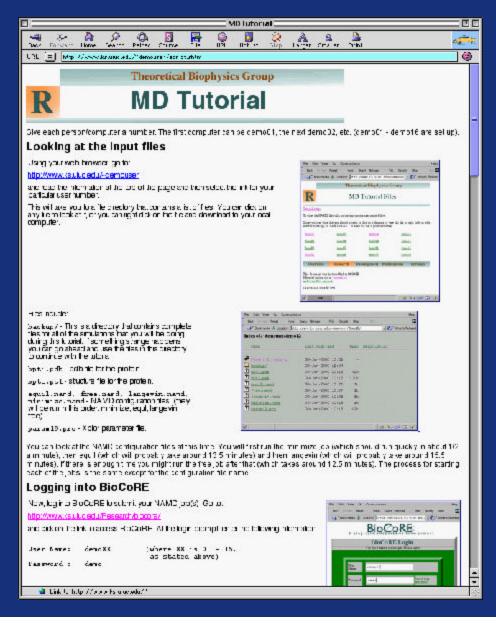
## Workbench → Job Monitoring (available)

- Users can gauge the health of running simulations
- Resources are freed by stopping jobs which are not running properly
- ∂ Job status is viewable from any web browser



# Training and Mentoring in Molecular Modeling

- ญ EMBL course, July 2000
  - Participants in Heidelberg ran MD simulations in Urbana using workbench



#### **BioCoRE Evaluation**

Upon joining the project BioCoRE users consent to be evaluated. Sources of user information include:

#### **Process Data:**

- ญ User-user interactions

- A Periodic surveys and a permanent feedback form

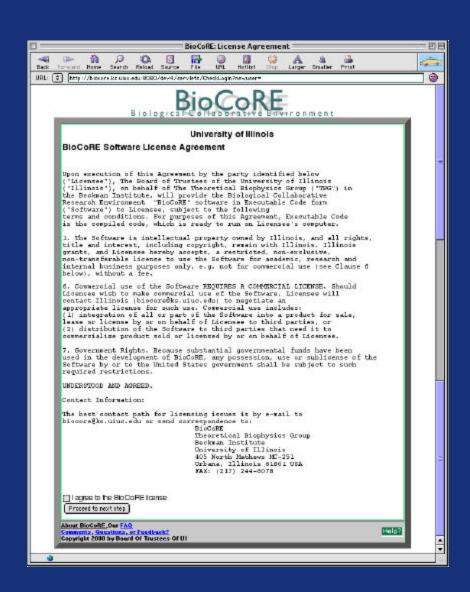


#### **Outcome Data:**

- Attrition
- ম Resulting publications
- ญ Participants' professional progress

#### BioCoRE Distribution

- Ω Development history
  - February, 1999: BioCoRE development started
  - March, 2000: Initial release
  - October, 2000: First major update
- 171 registered users in 13
   projects as of October 23; 46%
   projects NIH funded
- Current distribution policy: users register and use our server
- Soon: BioCoRE code will be available so others may set up their own servers



## BioCoRE Case Study

- A Human Frontier Science Program on Retinal Proteins
- ρarticipating sites are in Japan,Italy, Israel, Germany, and USA

