

Force Fields for MD simulations

- Topology/parameter files
- Where do the numbers an MD code uses come from?
- How to make topology files for ligands, cofactors, special amino acids, ...
- How to obtain/develop missing parameters.
- QM and QM/MM force fields/potential energy descriptions used for molecular simulations.

Classical Molecular Dynamics

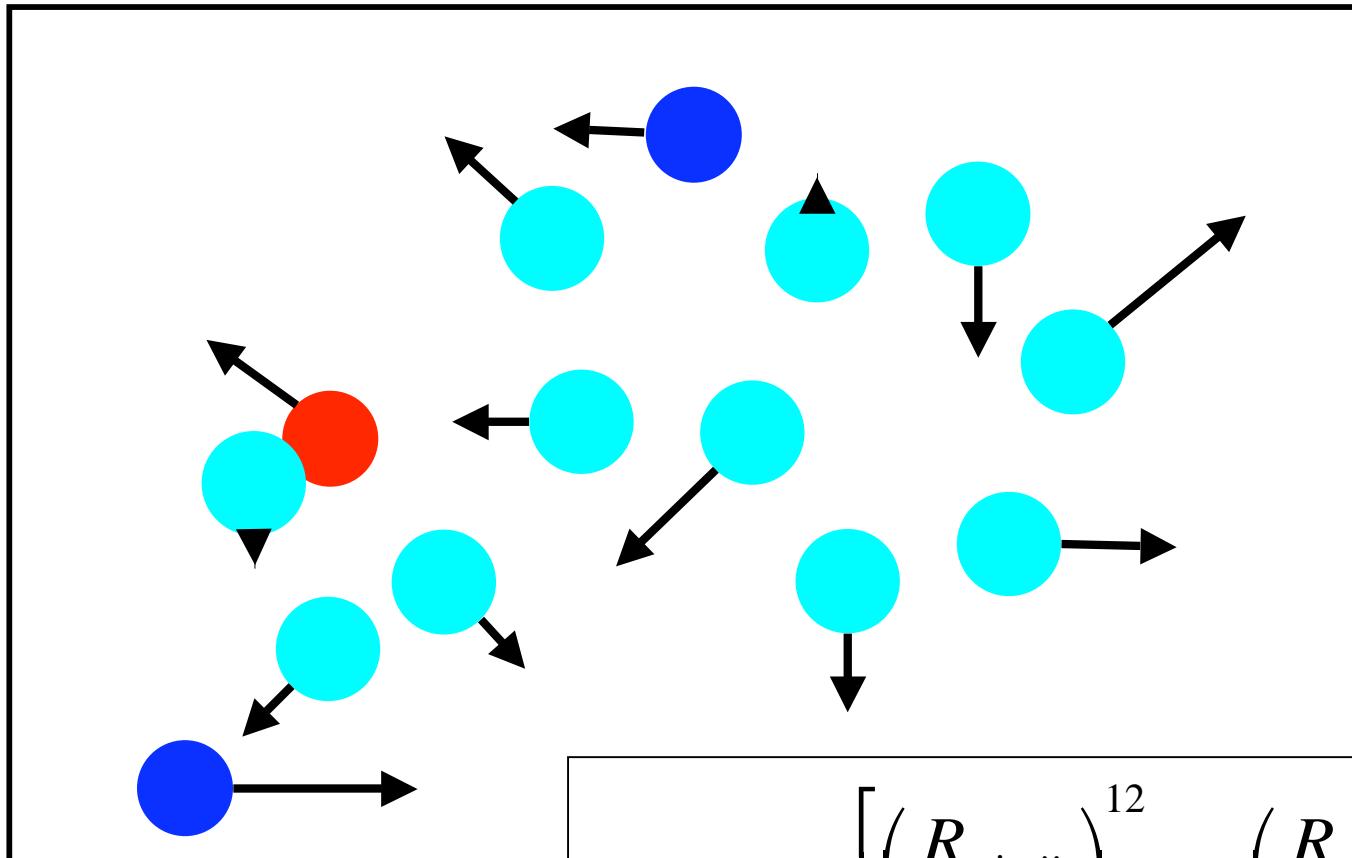
$$\mathbf{r}(t + \delta t) = \mathbf{r}(t) + \mathbf{v}(t)\delta t$$

$$\mathbf{v}(t + \delta t) = \mathbf{v}(t) + \mathbf{a}(t)\delta t$$

$$\mathbf{a}(t) = \mathbf{F}(t)/m$$

$$\mathbf{F} = -\frac{d}{dr}U(\mathbf{r})$$

Classical Molecular Dynamics



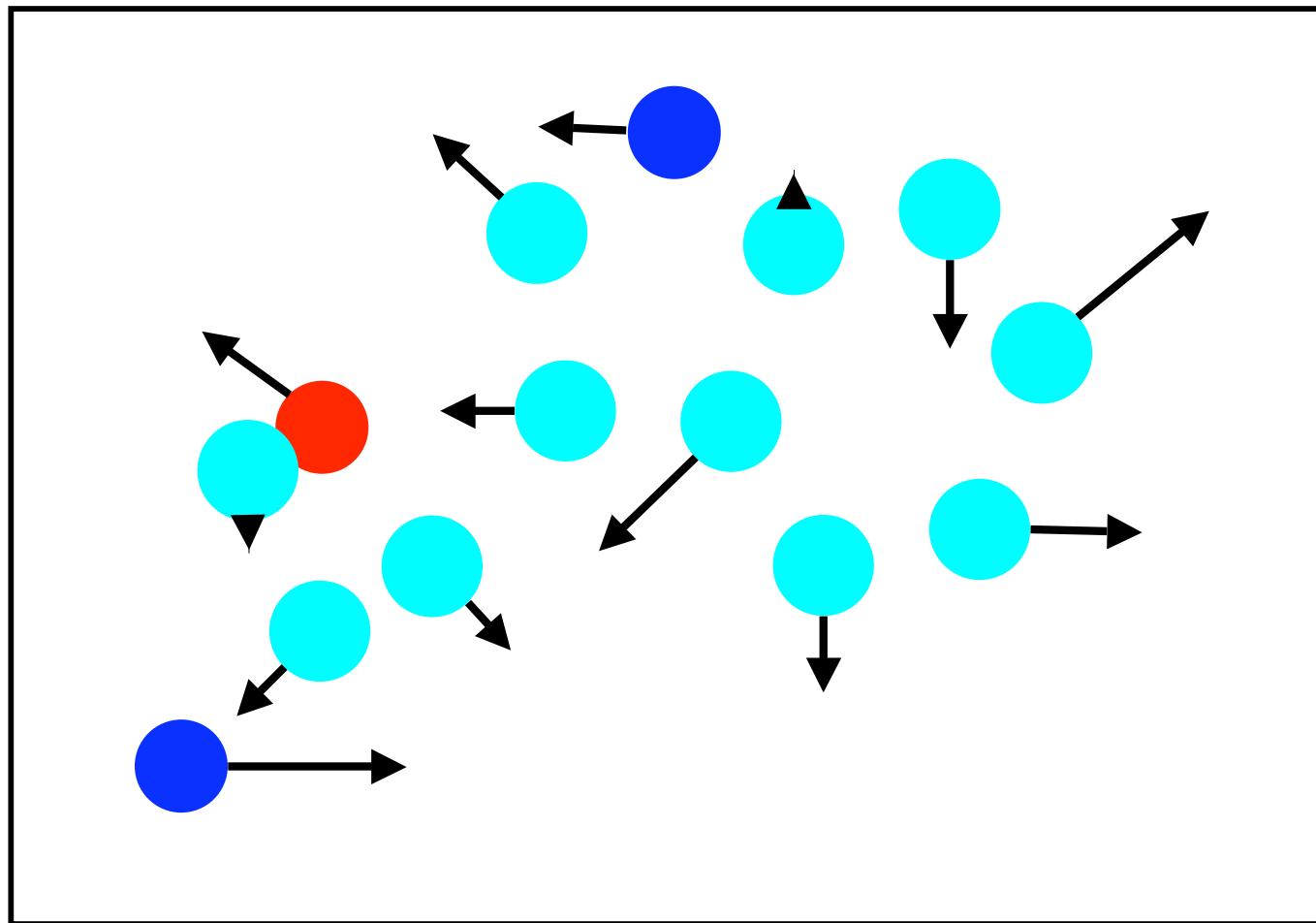
$$U(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}}$$

Coulomb interaction

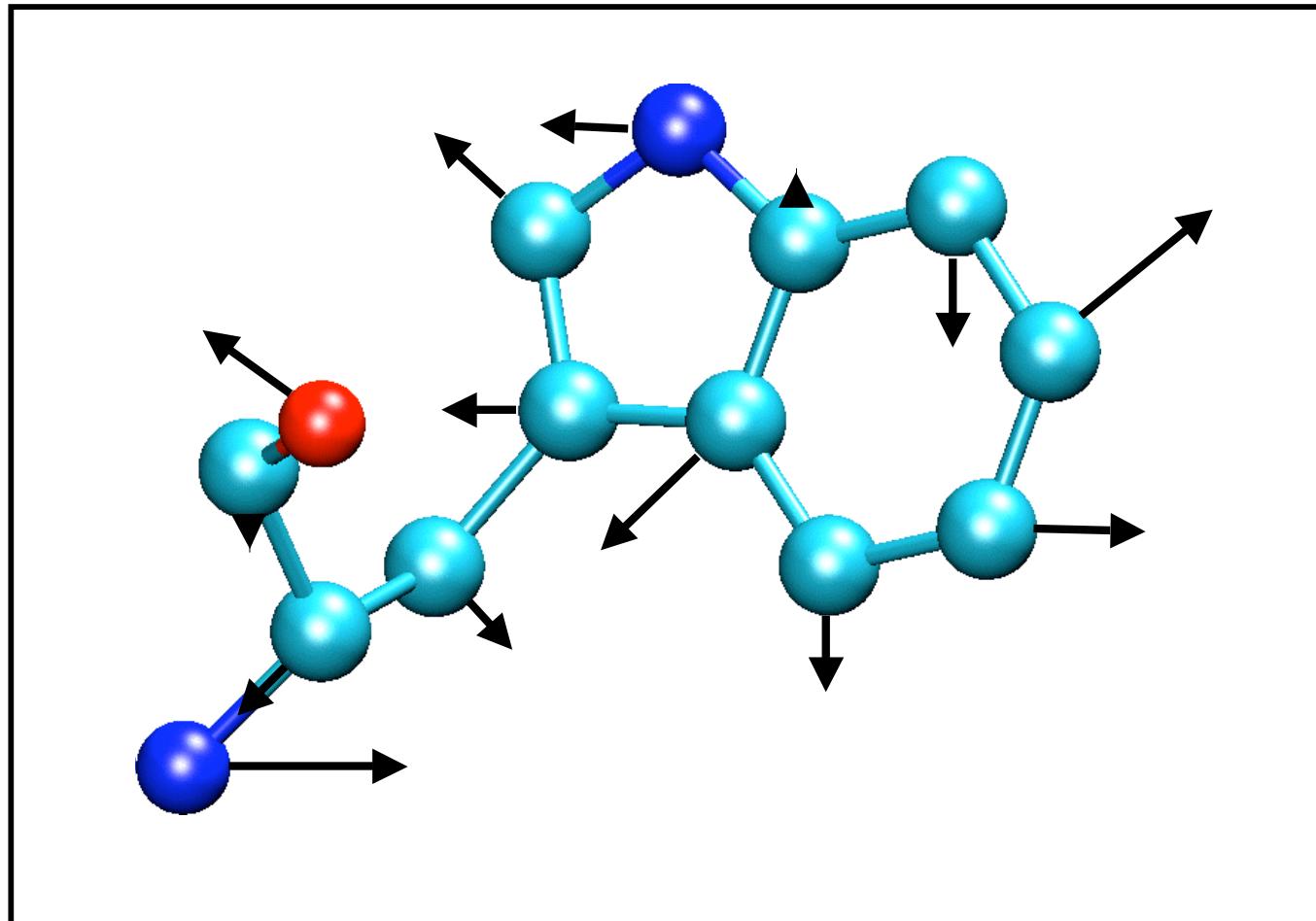
$$U(r) = \epsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{R_{\min,ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - 2 \left(\frac{R_{\min,ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]$$

van der Waals interaction

Classical Molecular Dynamics



Classical Molecular Dynamics

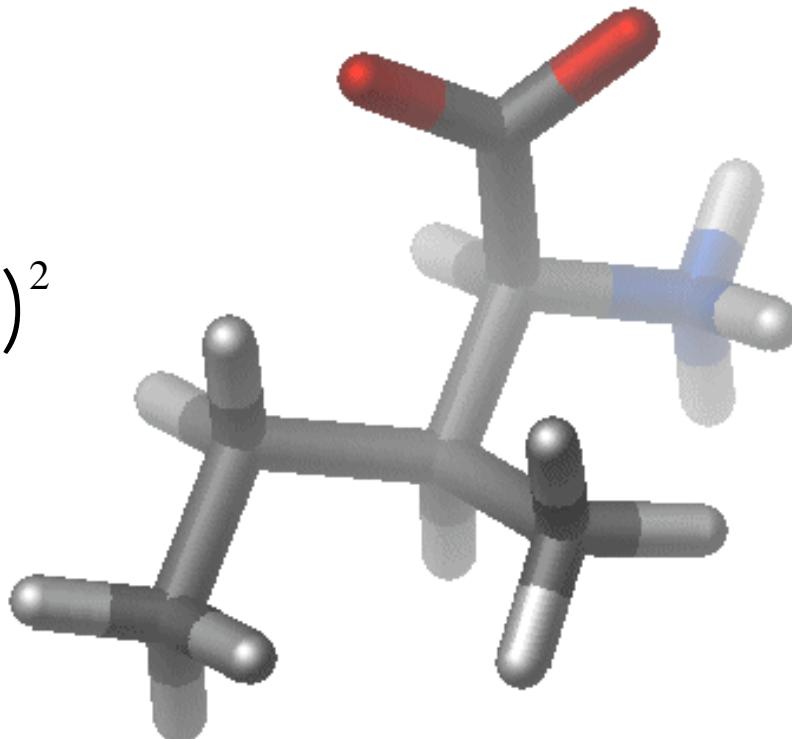


Bond definitions, atom types, atom names, parameters,

Interactions between bonded atoms

$$V_{angle} = K_\theta (\theta - \theta_o)^2$$

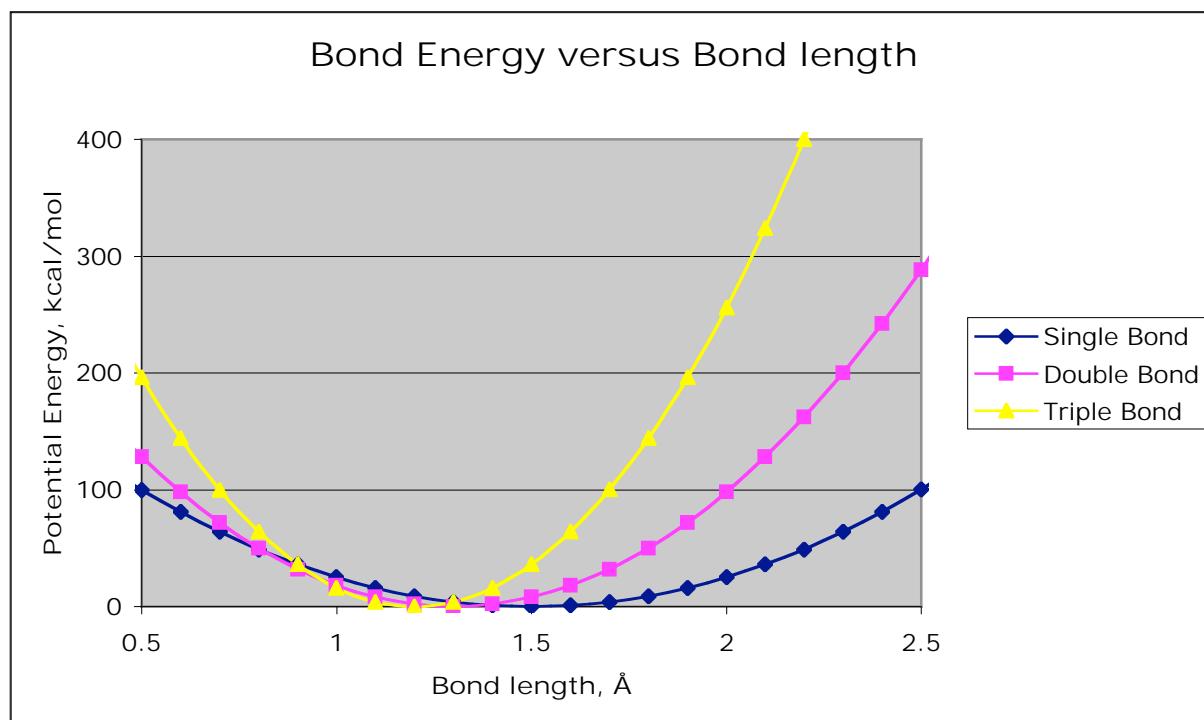
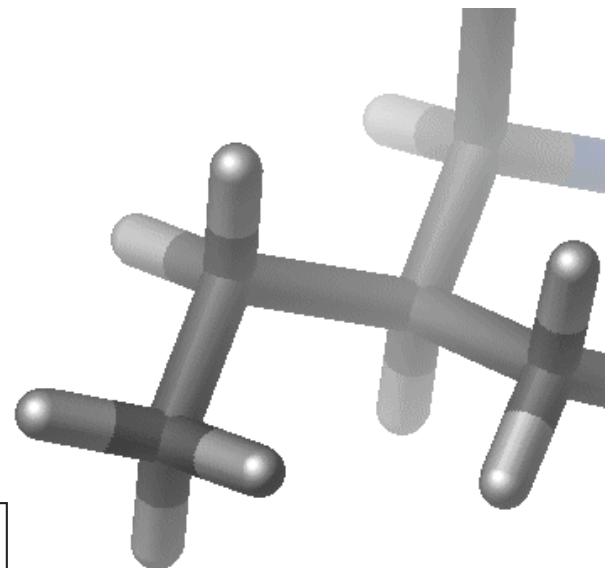
$$V_{bond} = K_b (b - b_o)^2$$



$$V_{dihedral} = K_\phi (1 + \cos(n\phi - \delta))$$

$$V_{bond} = K_b (b - b_o)^2$$

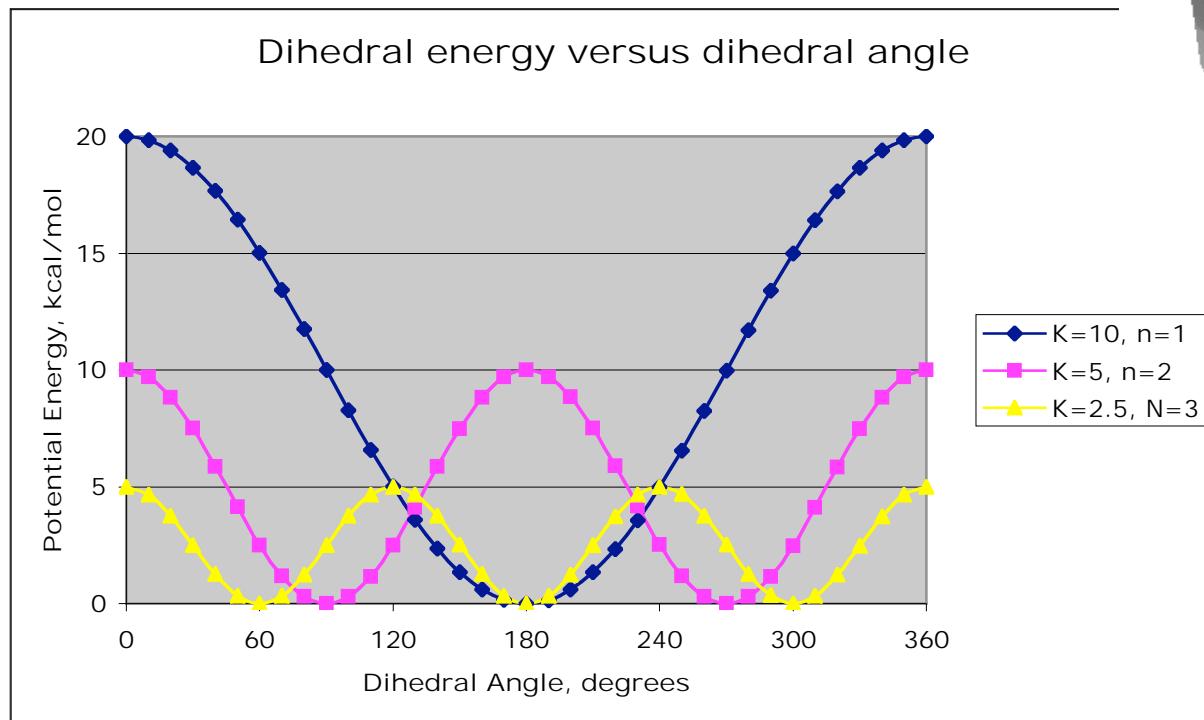
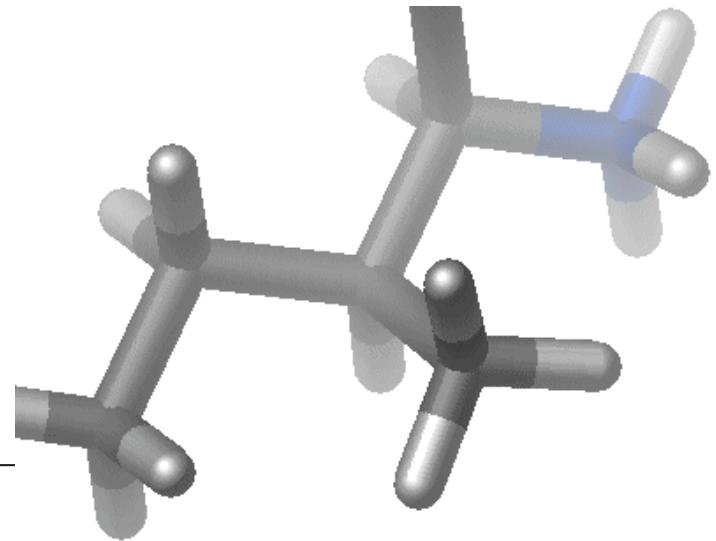
Chemical type	K_{bond}	b_o
C-C	100 kcal/mole/Å ⁻²	1.5 Å
C=C	200 kcal/mole/Å ⁻²	1.3 Å
C≡C	400 kcal/mole/Å ⁻²	1.2 Å



Bond angles and *improper terms* have similar quadratic forms, but with softer spring constants. The force constants can be obtained from vibrational analysis of the molecule (experimentally or theoretically).

Dihedral Potential

$$V_{dihedral} = K_\phi (1 + \cos(n\phi - \delta))$$



$$\delta = 0^\circ$$

CHARMM Potential Function

$$U(\vec{R}) = \underbrace{\sum_{bonds} k_i^{bond} (r_i - r_0)^2}_{U_{bond}} + \underbrace{\sum_{angles} k_i^{angle} (\theta_i - \theta_0)^2}_{U_{angle}} + \underbrace{\sum_{dihedrals} k_i^{dih} [1 + \cos(n_i \phi_i + \delta_i)]}_{U_{dihedral}} + \underbrace{\sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} 4\epsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]}_{U_{nonbond}} + \underbrace{\sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{q_i q_j}{\epsilon r_{ij}}}_{U_{electrostatic}}$$

Diagram illustrating the components of the CHARMM Potential Function:

- PDB file** provides **geometry** (bonds, angles, dihedrals).
- Topology PSF file** provides **parameters** (bond, angle, dihedral, nonbond, electrostatic parameters).
- Parameter file** provides **parameters** (bond, angle, dihedral, nonbond, electrostatic parameters).

Blue arrows point from the parameter files to the corresponding terms in the potential function. Red arrows point from the topology file to the bond, angle, dihedral, and nonbond terms.

File Format/Structure

- The structure of a pdb file
- The structure of a psf file
- The topology file
- The parameter file
- Connection to potential energy terms

Structure of a PDB file

>>> It is an ascii, fixed-format file <<<

“No connectivity information”

VMD Atom Selection Commands

index	resname	chain	resid	x	y	z	segname
ATOM	name	ALA	3	-4.073	-7.587	-2.708	1.00
ATOM	22 N	B	3	-3.813	-6.675	-3.125	0.00
	23 HN	ALA					BH
		B					BH

(name CA CB) and (resid 1 to 4) and (segname BH)

protein and resname LYS ARG GLU ASP

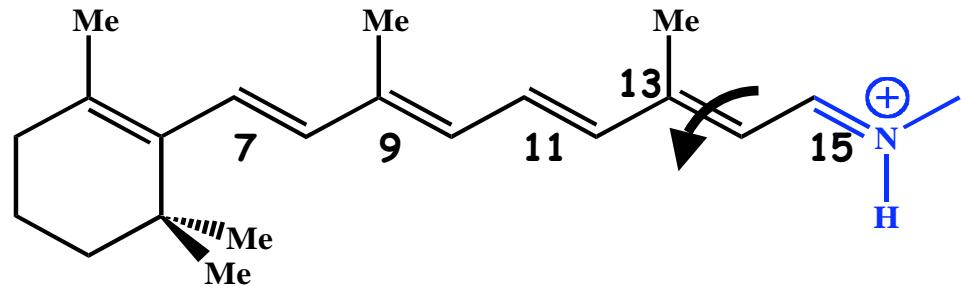
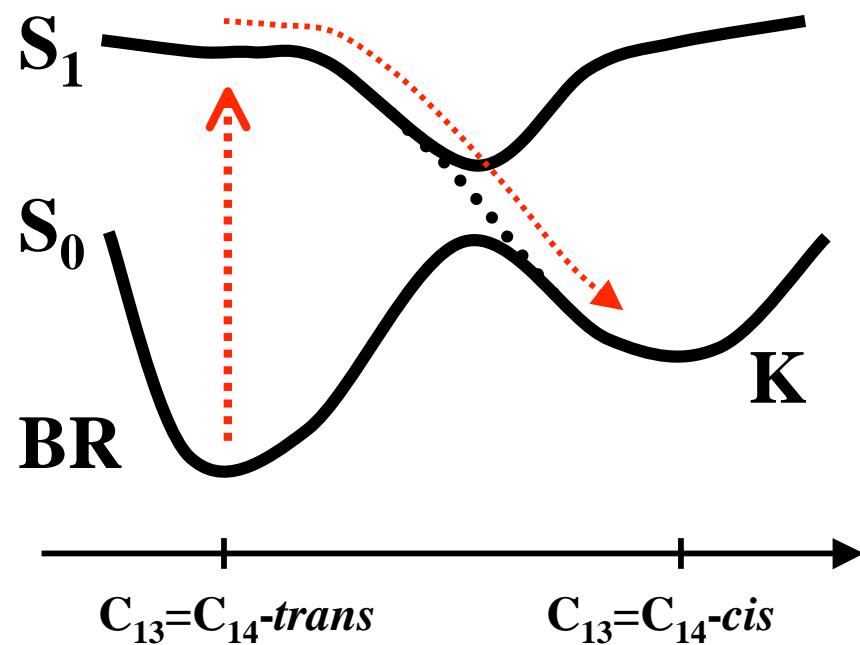
water and within 5 of (protein and resid 62 and name CA)

water and within 3 of (protein and name O and z < 10)

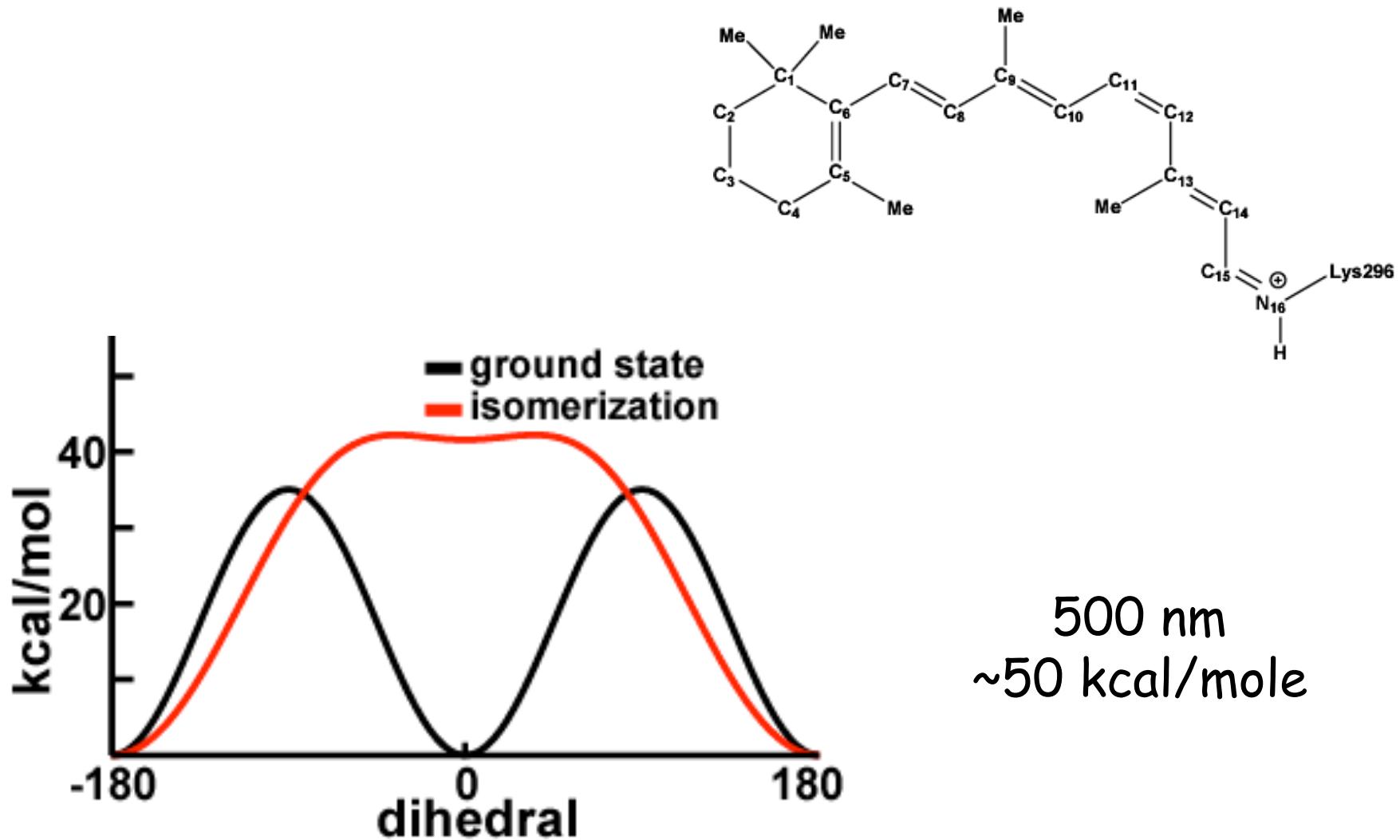
Checking file structures

- PDB file
- Topology file
- PSF file
- Parameter file

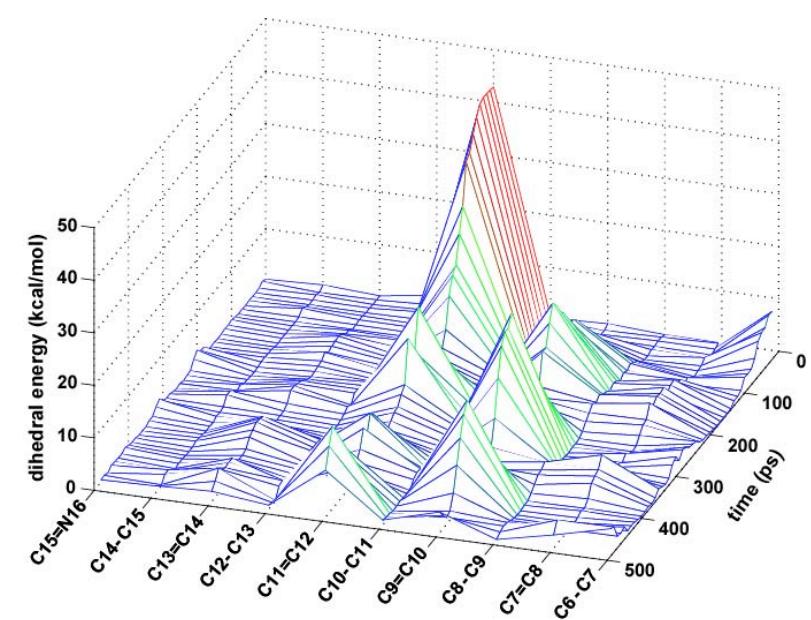
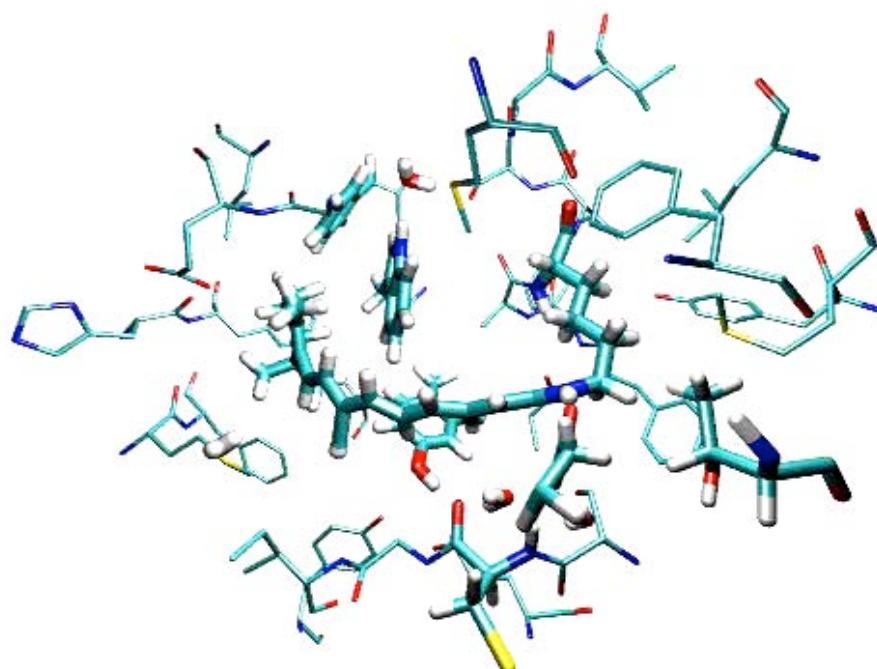
Coupling of electronic excitation and conformational change in bR



Inducing isomerization

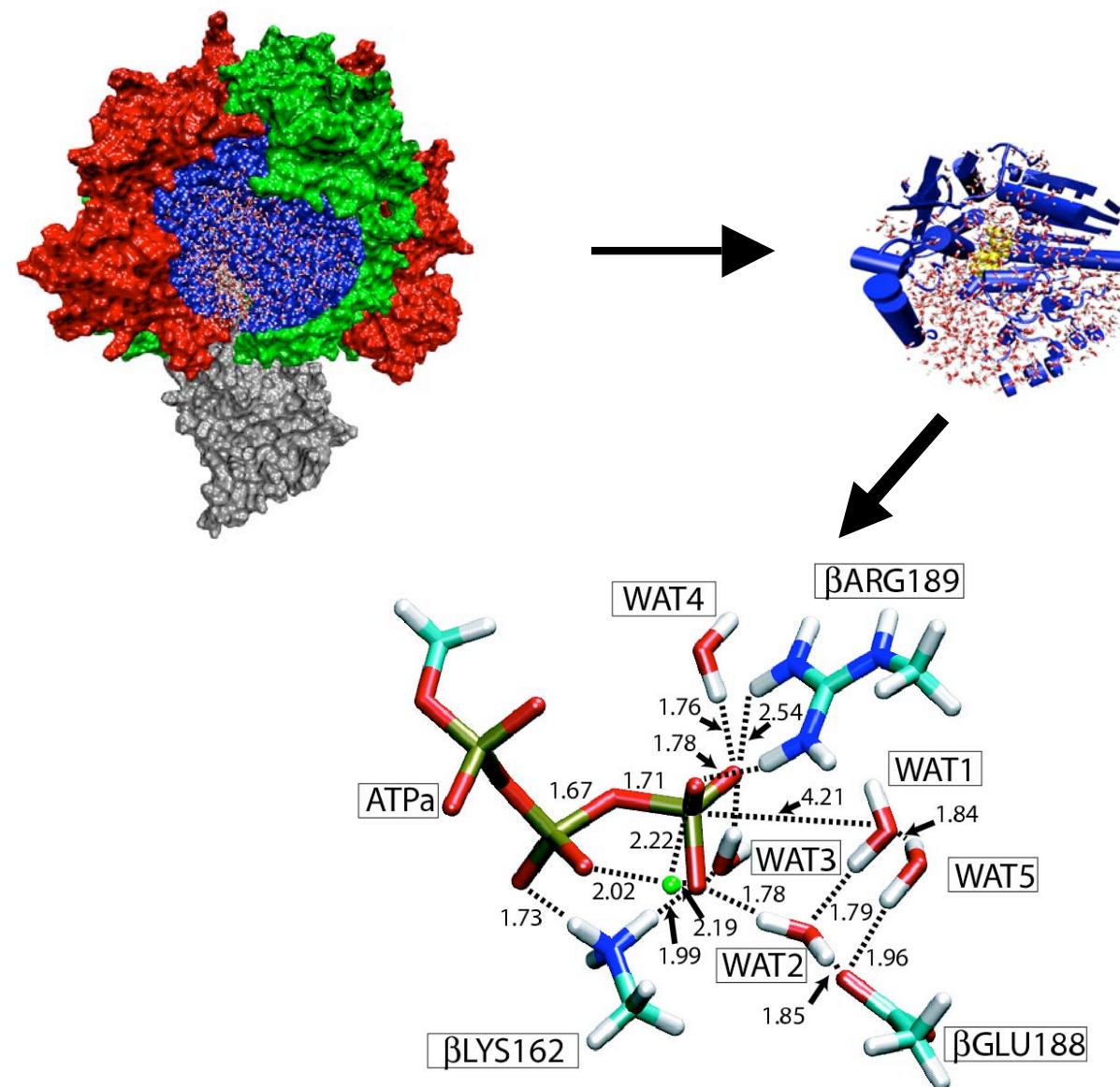


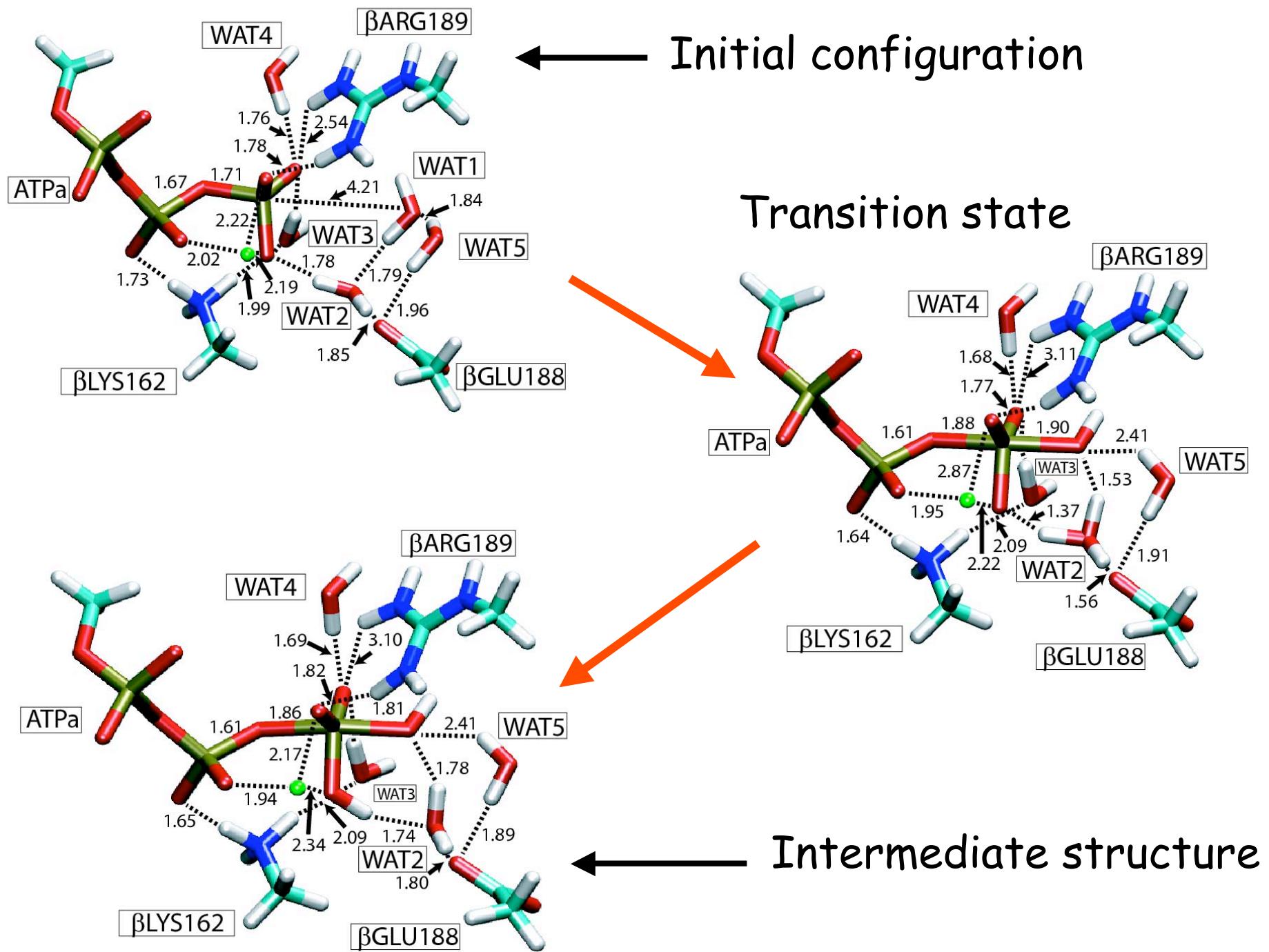
Classical Retinal Isomerization in Rhodopsin

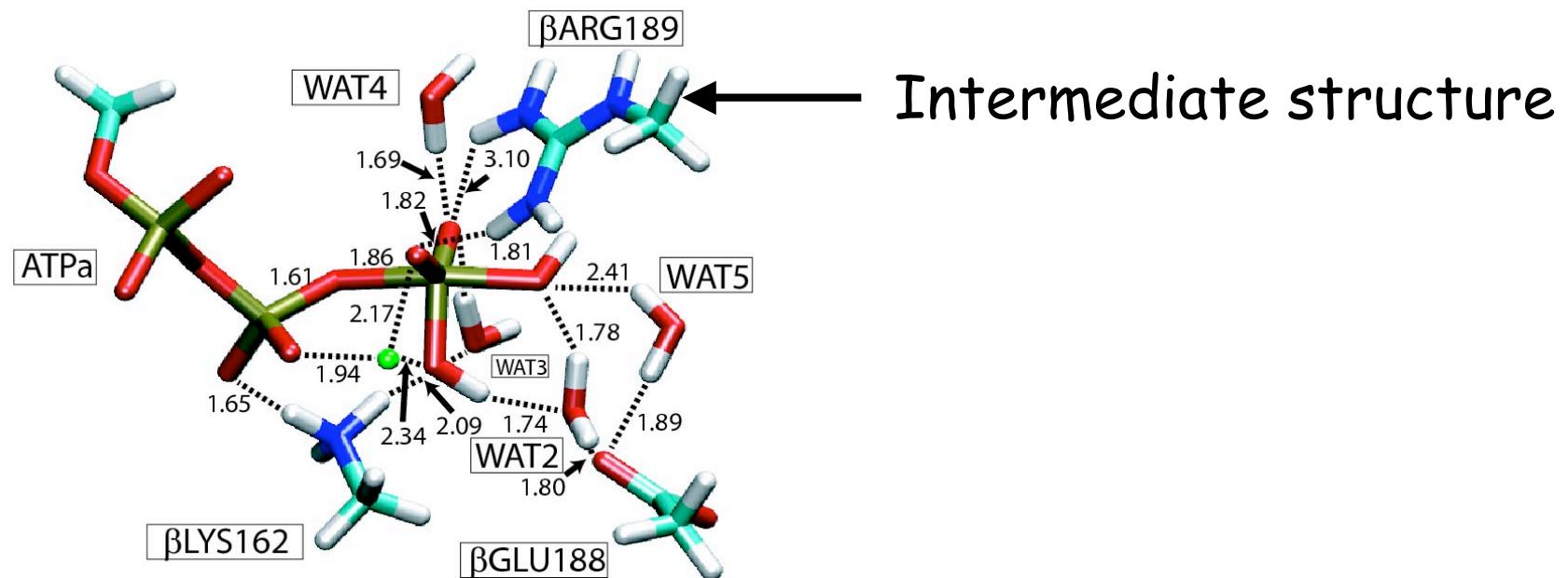


Twist Propagation

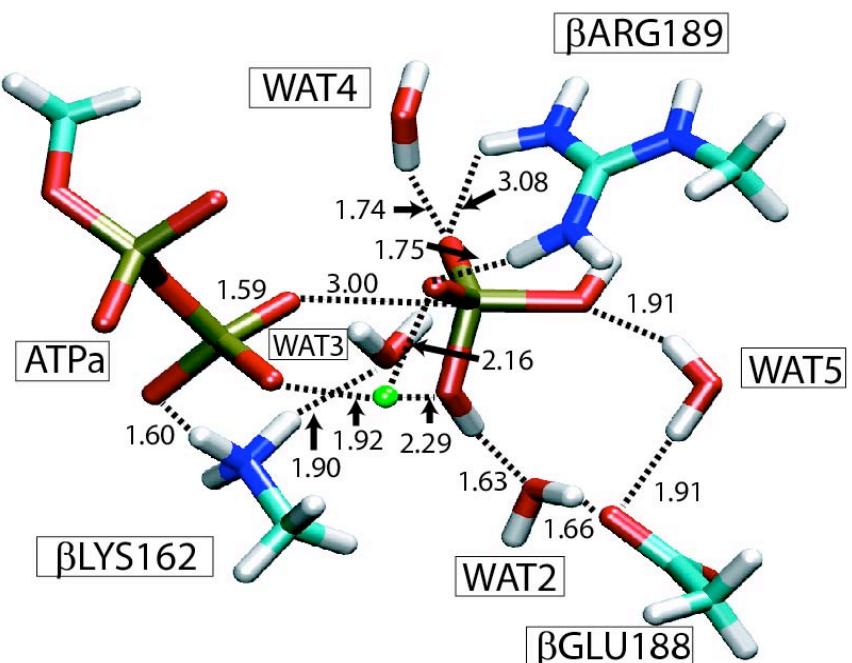
QM/MM calculation of ATP hydrolysis



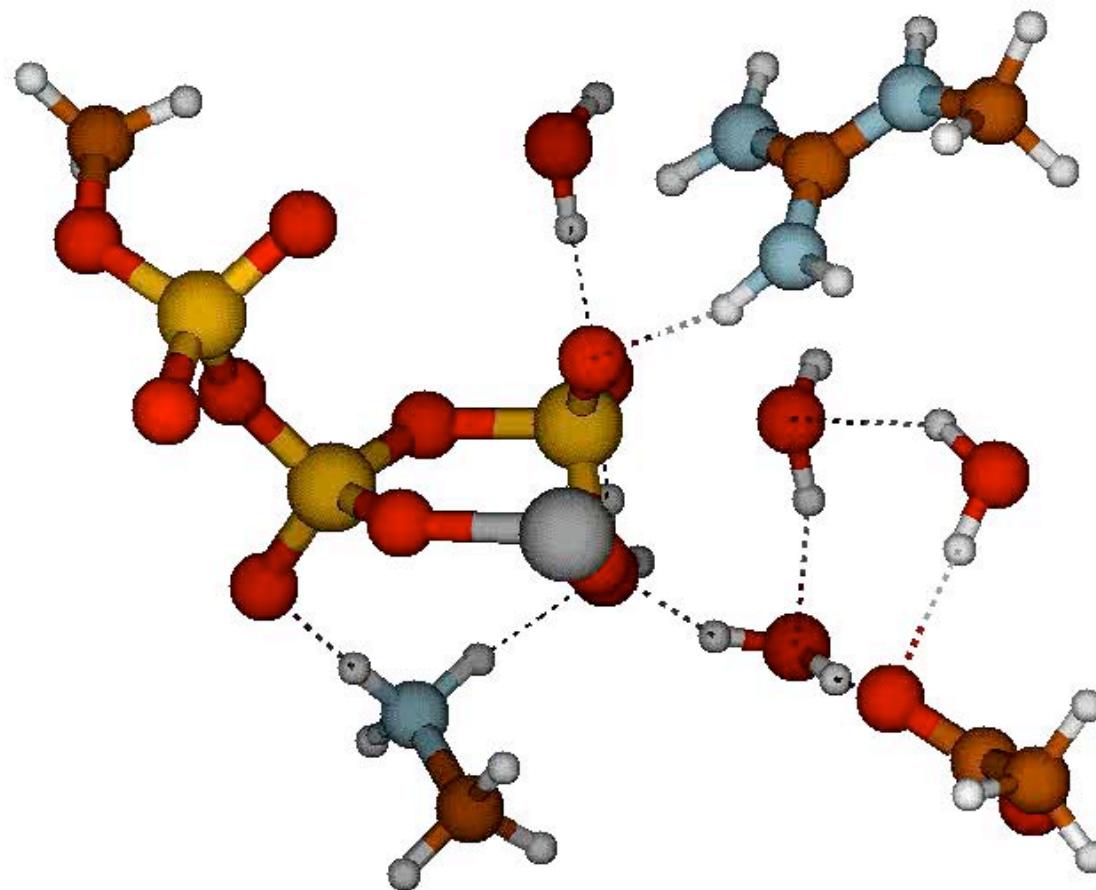




Product →



ATP hydrolysis in β_{TP}



Coarse grain modeling of lipids

150 particles



9 particles!

(A)

