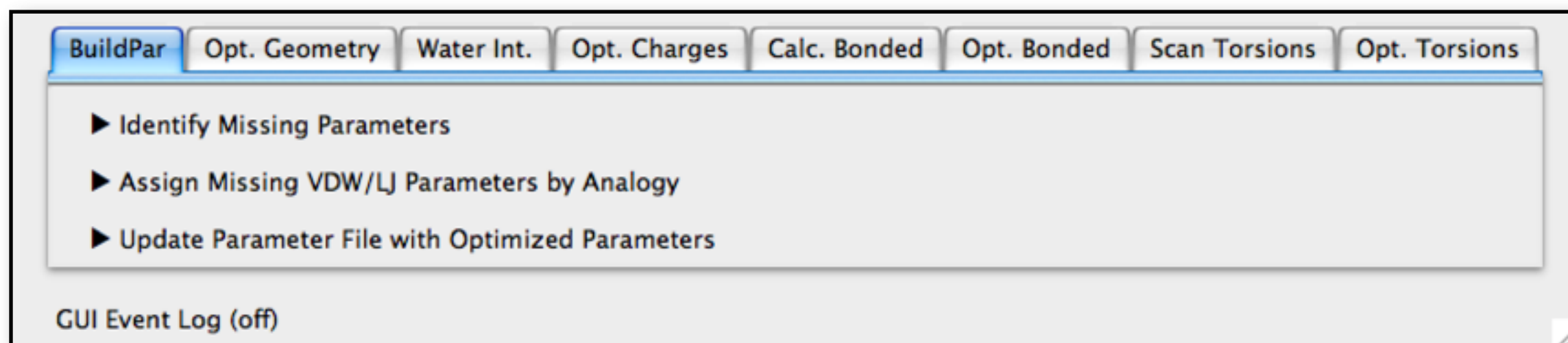


# Parameterizing Small Molecules Using: The Force Field Toolkit (*ffTK*)



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Department of Physics  
Georgia Institute of Technology

# MD Simulations of Biological Systems

## Molecular Mechanics Force Fields

$$U = \underbrace{U_{\text{bonds}} + U_{\text{angles}} + U_{\text{dihedrals}}}_{\text{bonded}} + \underbrace{U_{\text{vdW}} + U_{\text{coulombic}}}_{\text{non-bonded}}$$

## The CHARMM Force Field

$$U = \sum_{\text{bonds}} k_i^{\text{bond}} (r_i - r_0)^2 + \sum_{\text{angles}} k_i^{\text{angle}} (\theta_i - \theta_0)^2 +$$

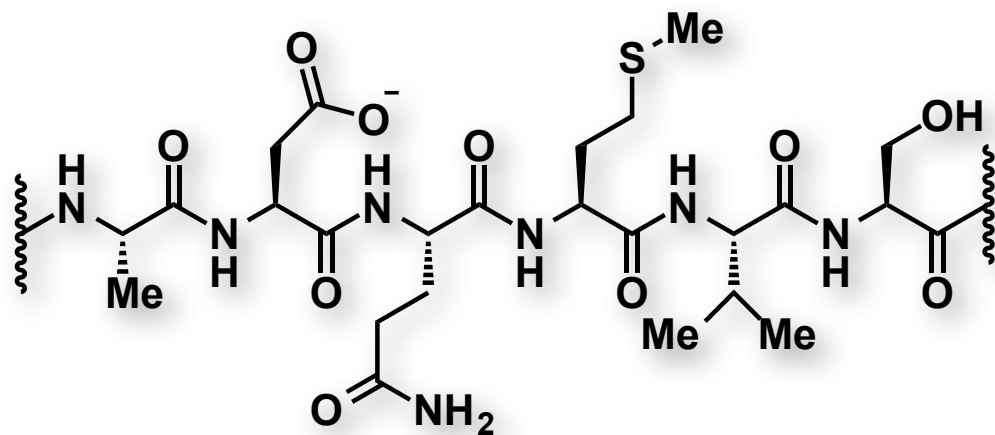
$$\sum_{\text{dihedrals}} k_i^{\text{dihedral}} [1 + \cos(n_i \phi_i + \delta_i)] +$$

$$\sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} 4 \epsilon_{ij} \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right] + \sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}}$$

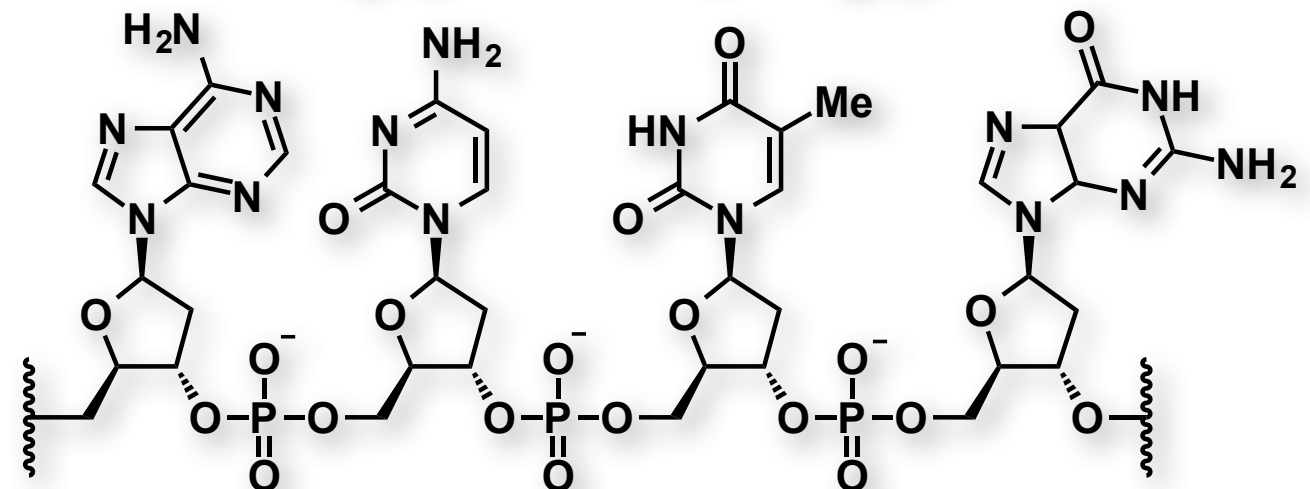
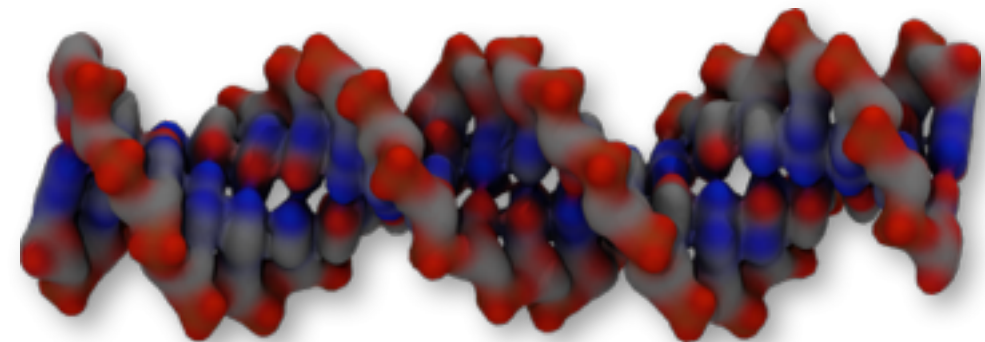
# Parameter Transferability In Biopolymers

Parameter set describes molecular behavior in varied chemical (connectivity) and spatial (conformation) contexts

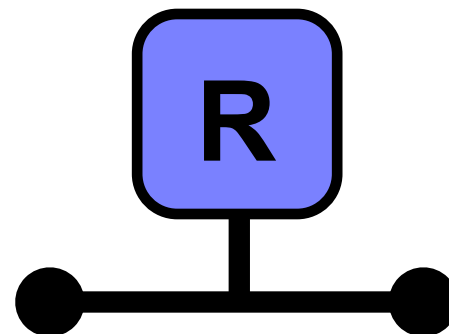
## Peptides and Proteins



## Nucleic Acids



Key Features:

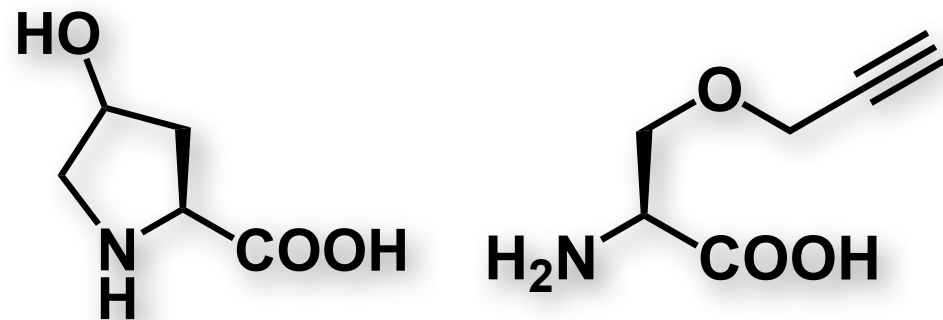


limited set of isolated  
building blocks

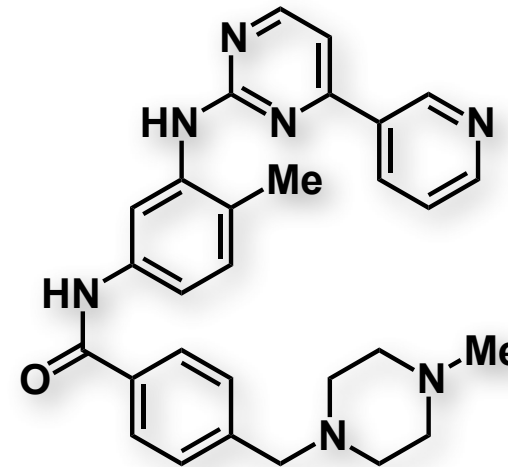
repetitive backbone unit

# Parameterization as an Impasse

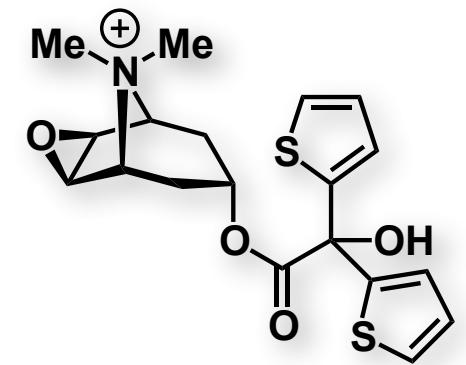
non-standard or  
engineered amino acids



small molecule ligands

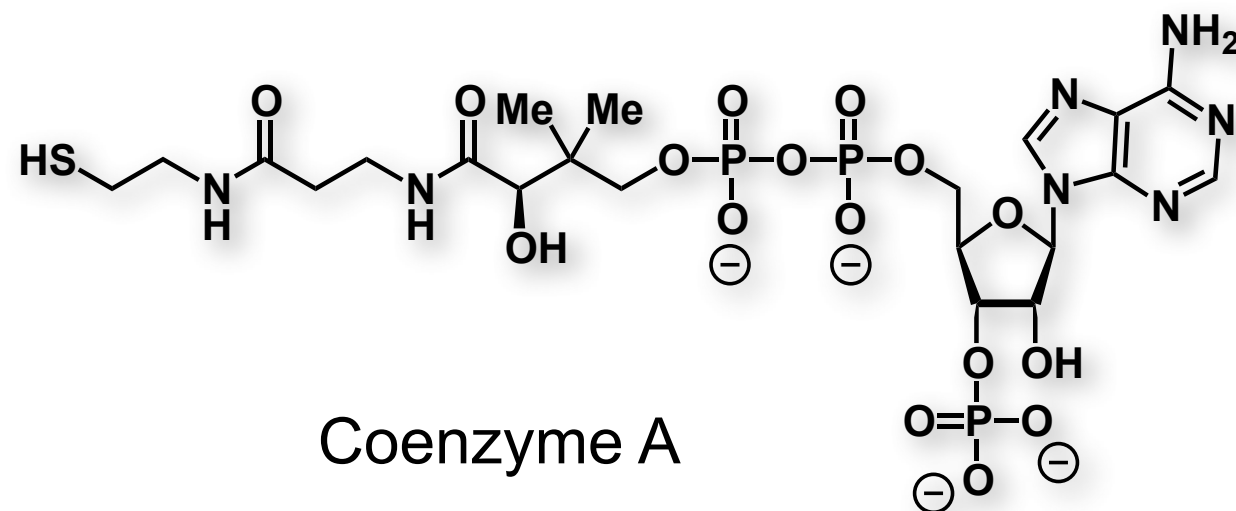


Imatinib (Gleevec)



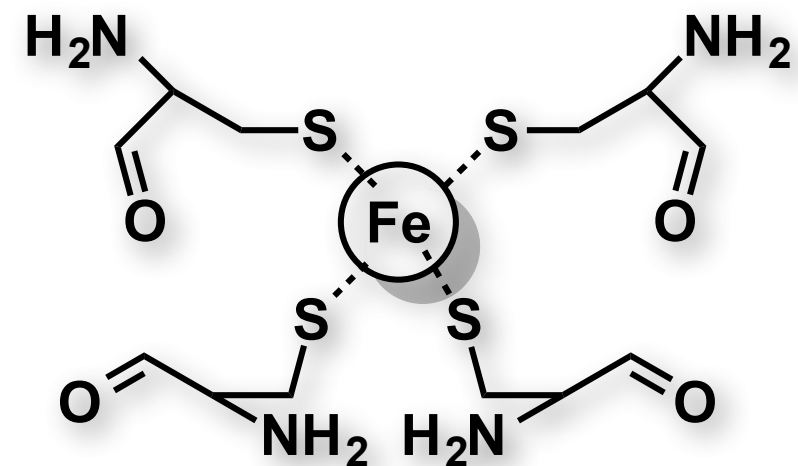
Tiotropium (Spiriva)

cofactors

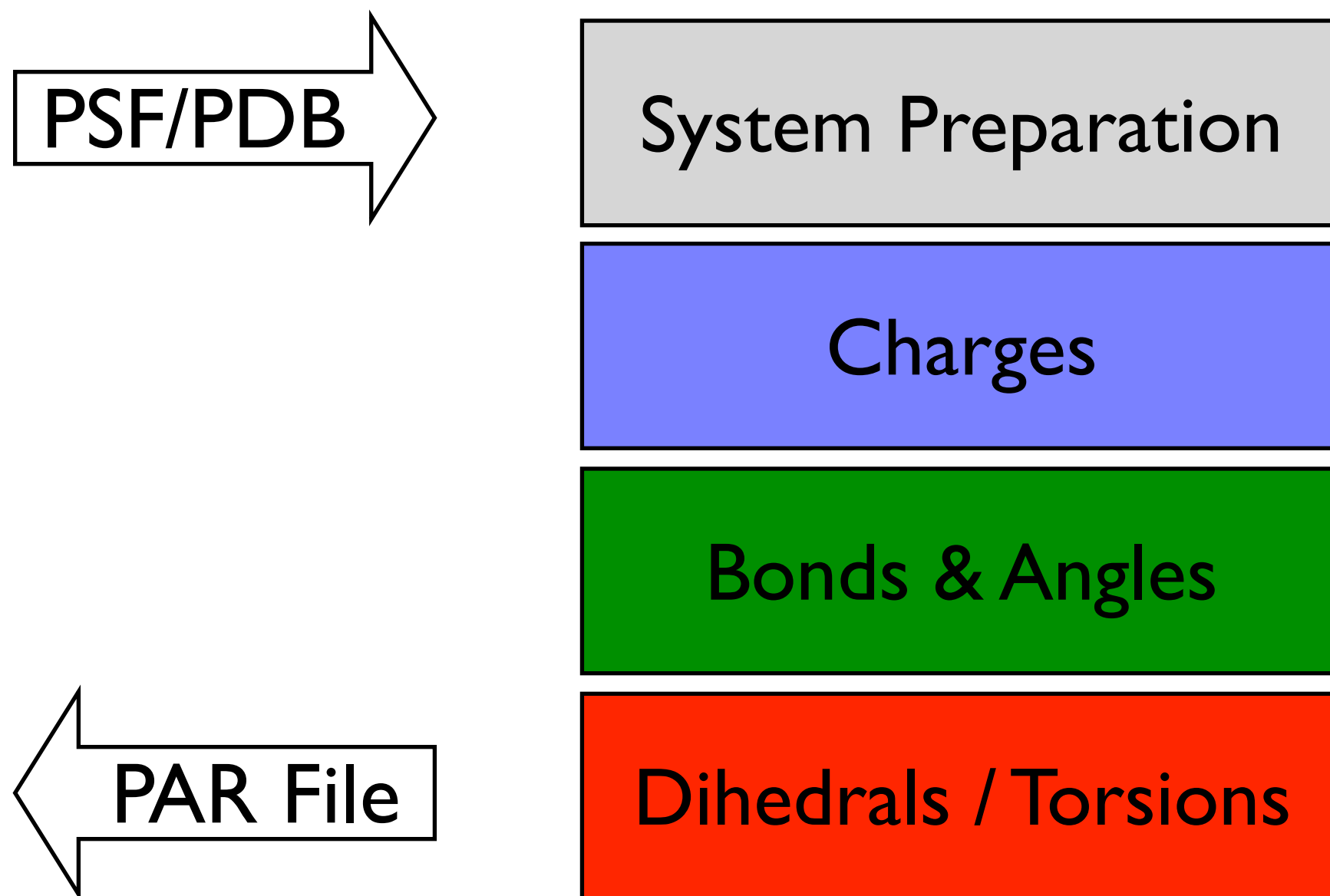


Coenzyme A

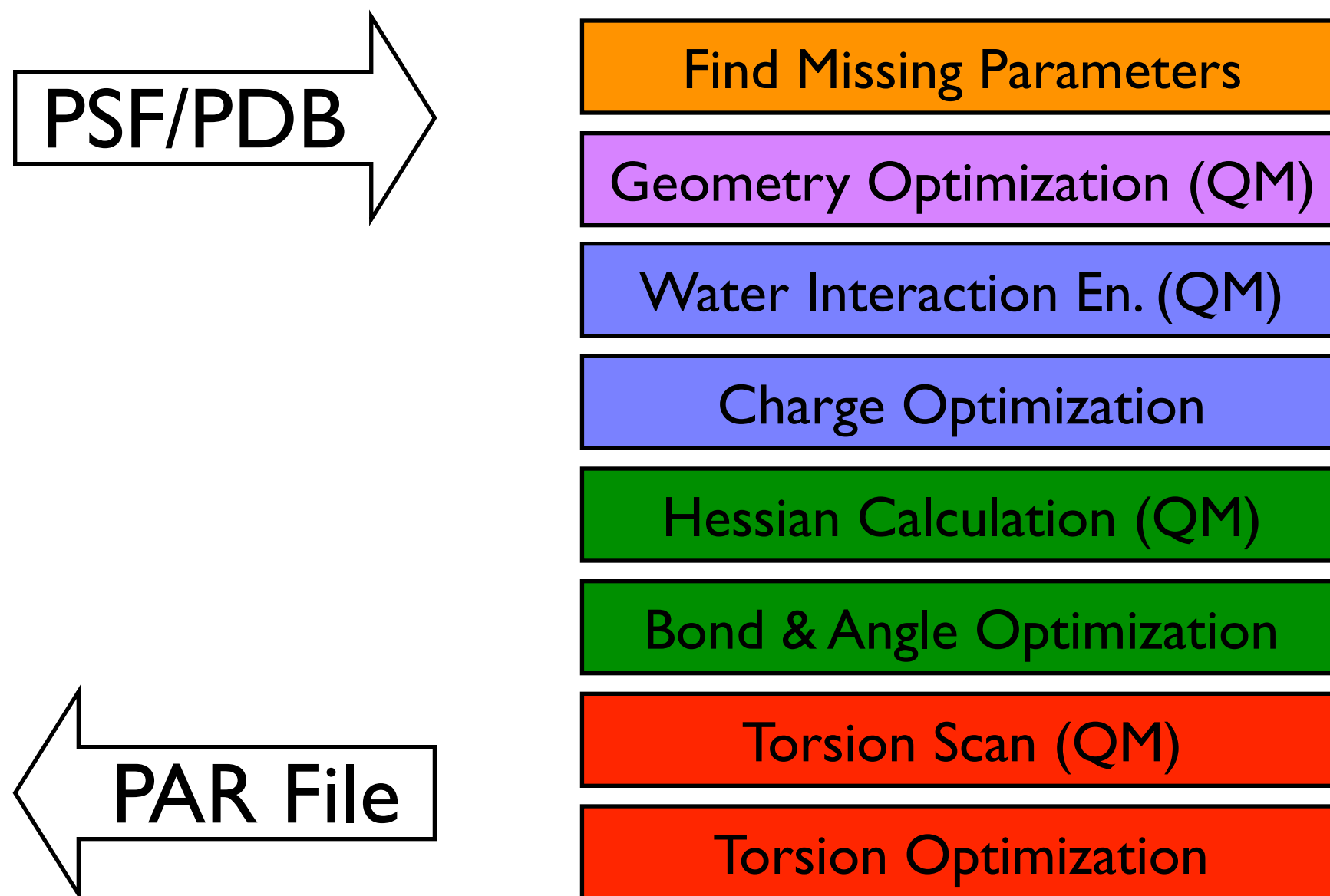
metal centers



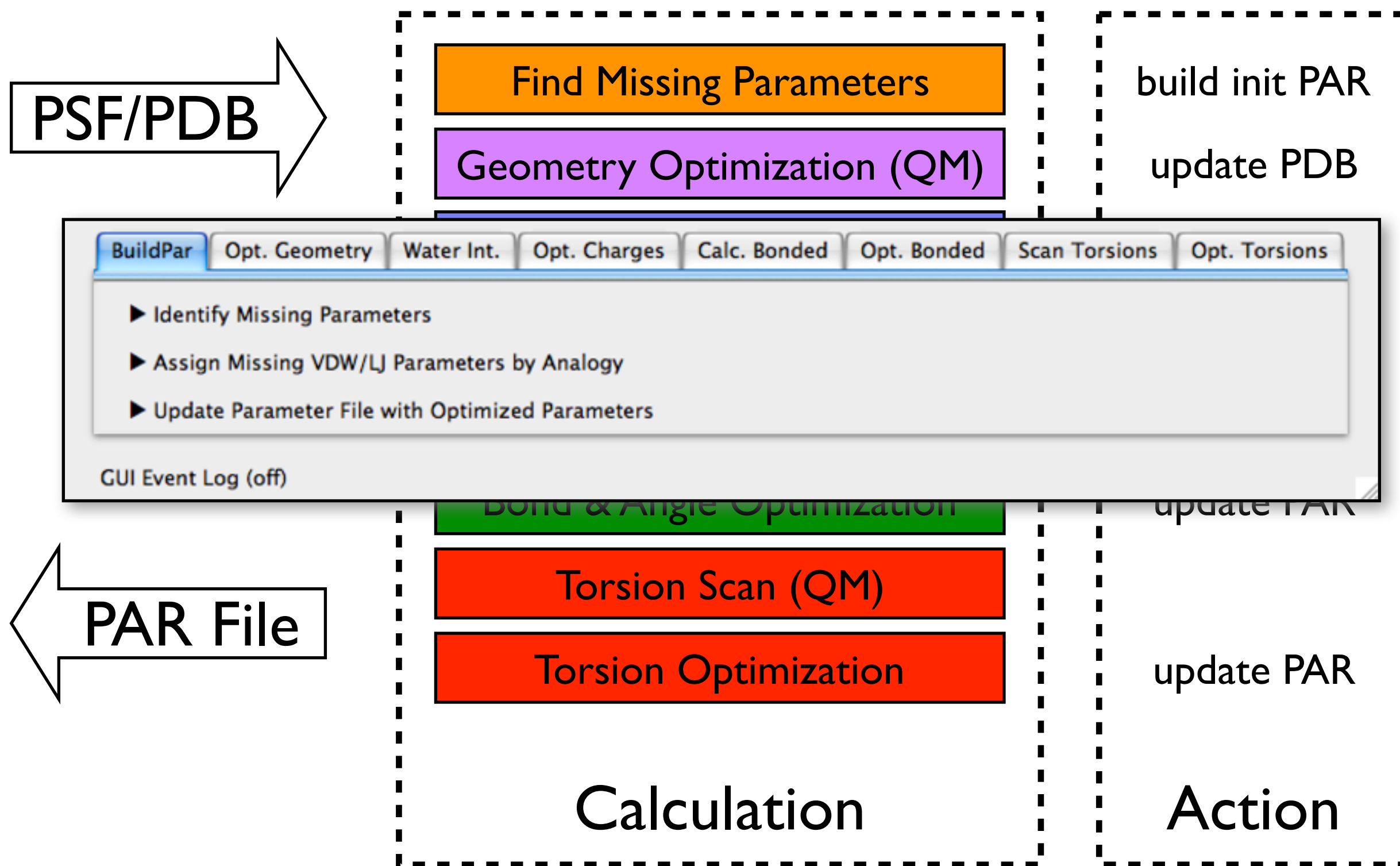
# General Parameterization Workflow



# CGenFF Parameterization Workflow



# CGenFF Parameterization Workflow





# ffTK Interface

action buttons

tasks organized under tabs

The screenshot displays the ffTK interface with the following components:

- Tabs:** A row of tabs at the top, including "BuildPar", "Opt. Geometry", "Water Int.", "Opt. Charges" (selected), "Calc. Bonded", "Opt. Bonded", "Scan Torsions", and "Opt. Torsions".
- Input Section:**
  - PSF File:** A text field containing "/users/mayne/fftk/PRLD/1-sysprep/prld.psf" with a "Browse" button to its right.
  - PDB File:** A text field containing "/users/mayne/fftk/PRLD/2-geomopt/prld-opt.pdb" with a "Browse" button to its right.
  - Residue Name:** A text field containing "PRLD" with a "Resname From TOP" button to its right.
- Parameter Files:** A section titled "Parameter Files (both pre-defined and in-progress)" containing a text field with "/users/mayne/fftk/PRLD/parfiles/prld-init.par". To the right of this field are three buttons: "Add", "Delete", and "Clear".
- Output LOG:** A text field containing "/users/mayne/fftk/PRLD/3-charges/ChargeOpt.log" with a "SaveAs" button to its right.
- Action Menus:** A list of expandable sections at the bottom:
  - Charge Constraints
  - QM Target Data
  - Advanced Settings
  - Results

Annotations with arrows point to specific elements: "tasks organized under tabs" points to the "Opt. Charges" tab; "action buttons" points to the "Browse" button for the PDB File; "standard file dialogs" points to the "Browse" button for the PSF File; and "action menus" points to the "Add", "Delete", and "Clear" buttons.



# Functionality Provided by *ff*TK

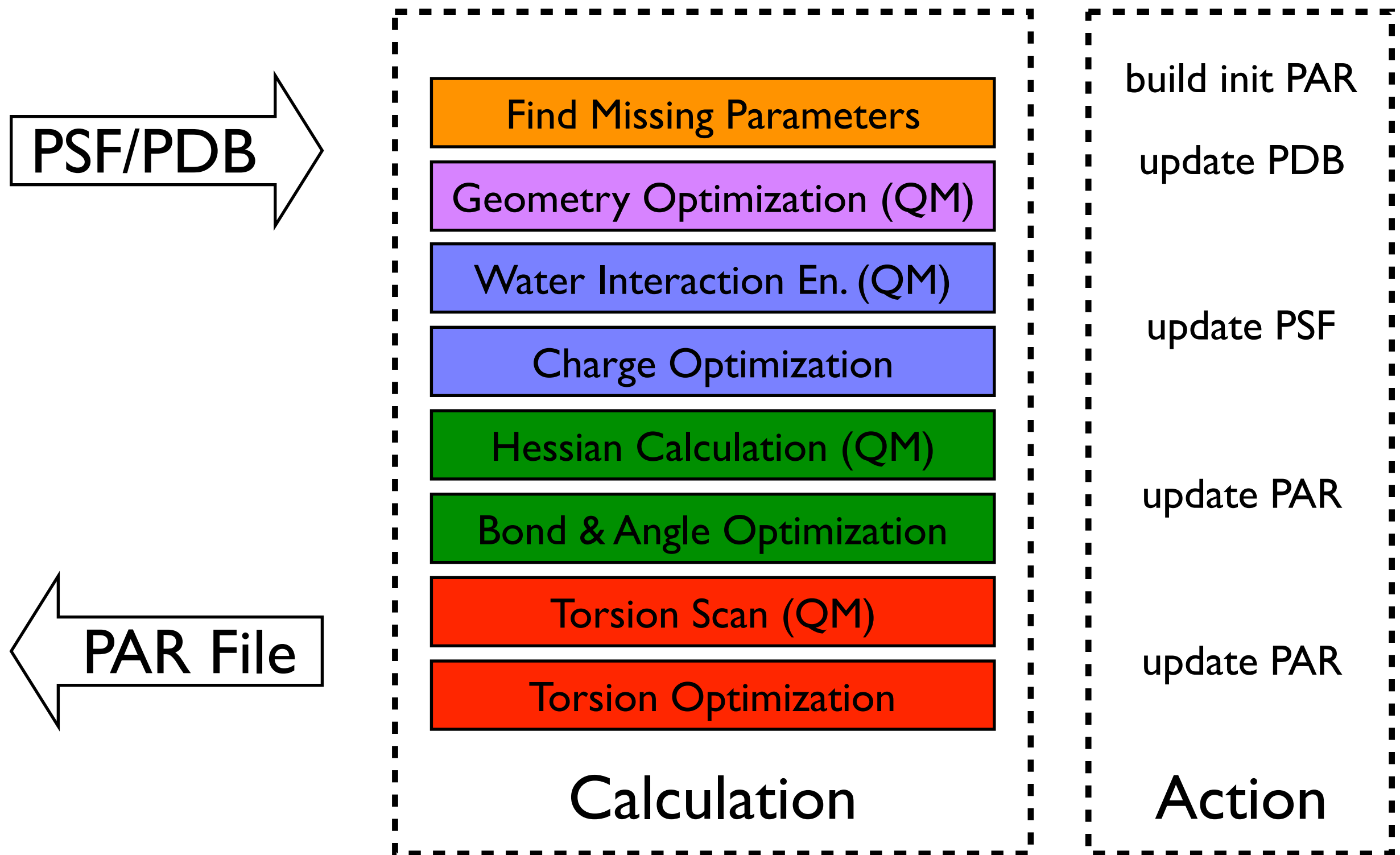
## Core Functions

Setup & Perform  
Multi-dimensional Optimizations  
Abstraction of Gaussian I/O (QM)  
Assess Performance of Parameters  
by Visualizing Optimization Data

## Support Functions

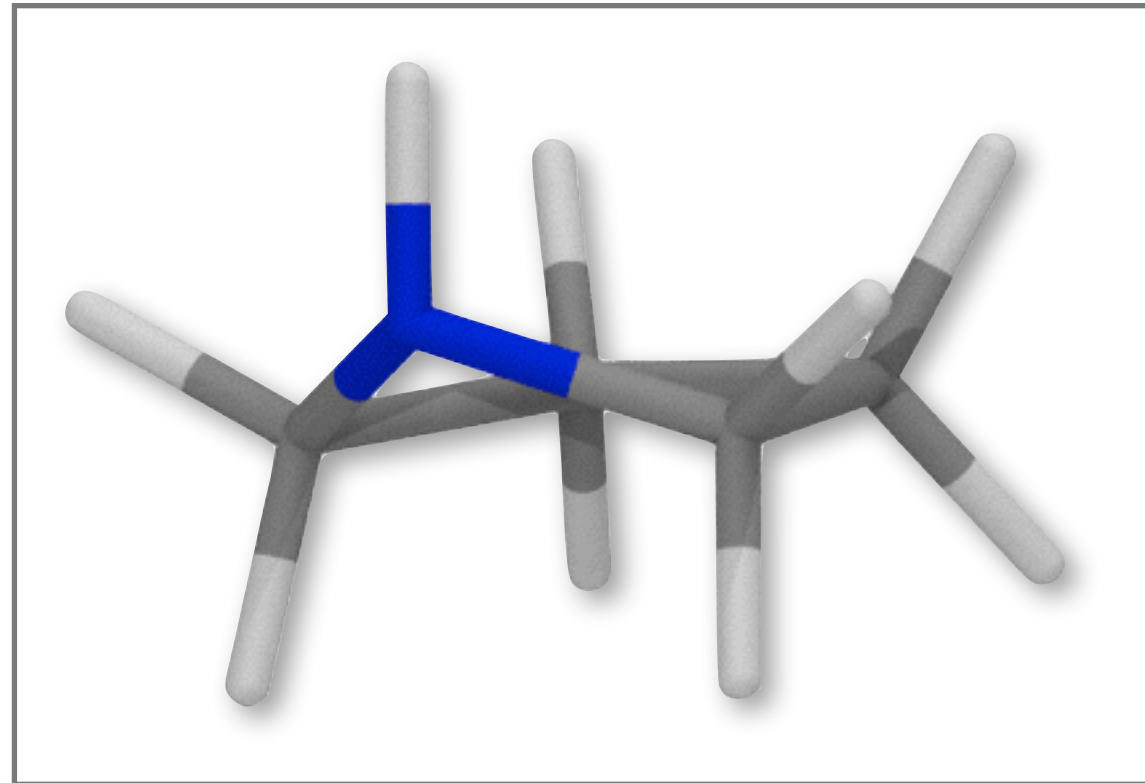
- Auto-detect Water Interaction Sites
- Auto-detect Charge Groups
- Auto-detect Non-redundant Torsions
- Build & Update Parameter Files
- Browse Existing Parameter Sets
- Write Updated Charges to PSF
- Reset Opt. Input from Output
- Visualize Target Data in VMD
- Create Graphic Objects in VMD
- Label Atoms in VMD
- Read Input Parameters from File
- Read/Write Data From Opt. Logs
- Export Plot Data to File
- Monitor Optimization Progress

# ffTK Exemplified by Charge Optimization



# Generating Charge Optimization Target Data

△  
Load QM optimized geometry | Auto-detect interaction sites | Generate



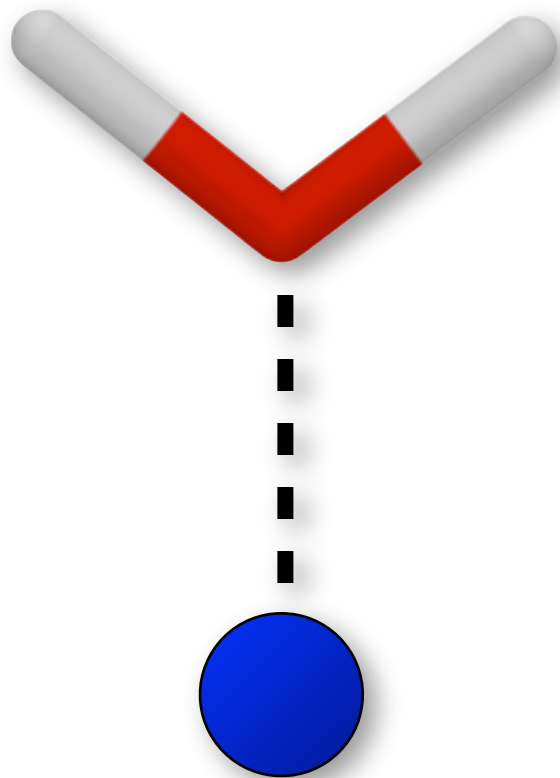
VMD main window

ffTK GUI

| Input/Output |                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| PSF File:    | <input type="text" value="/Users/mayne/Desktop/pub_test/PRLD/rnd1/3-charges/prld-charged.psf"/> <input type="button" value="Browse"/> |
| PDB File:    | <input type="text" value="/Users/mayne/Desktop/pub_test/PRLD/rnd1/2-geomopt/prld-opt.pdb"/> <input type="button" value="Browse"/>     |
| Output Path: | <input type="text" value="./output"/> <input type="button" value="Browse"/>                                                           |
| Basename:    | <input type="text" value="PRLD"/> <input type="button" value="Basename From TOP"/> <input type="button" value="Load PSF/PDB"/>        |

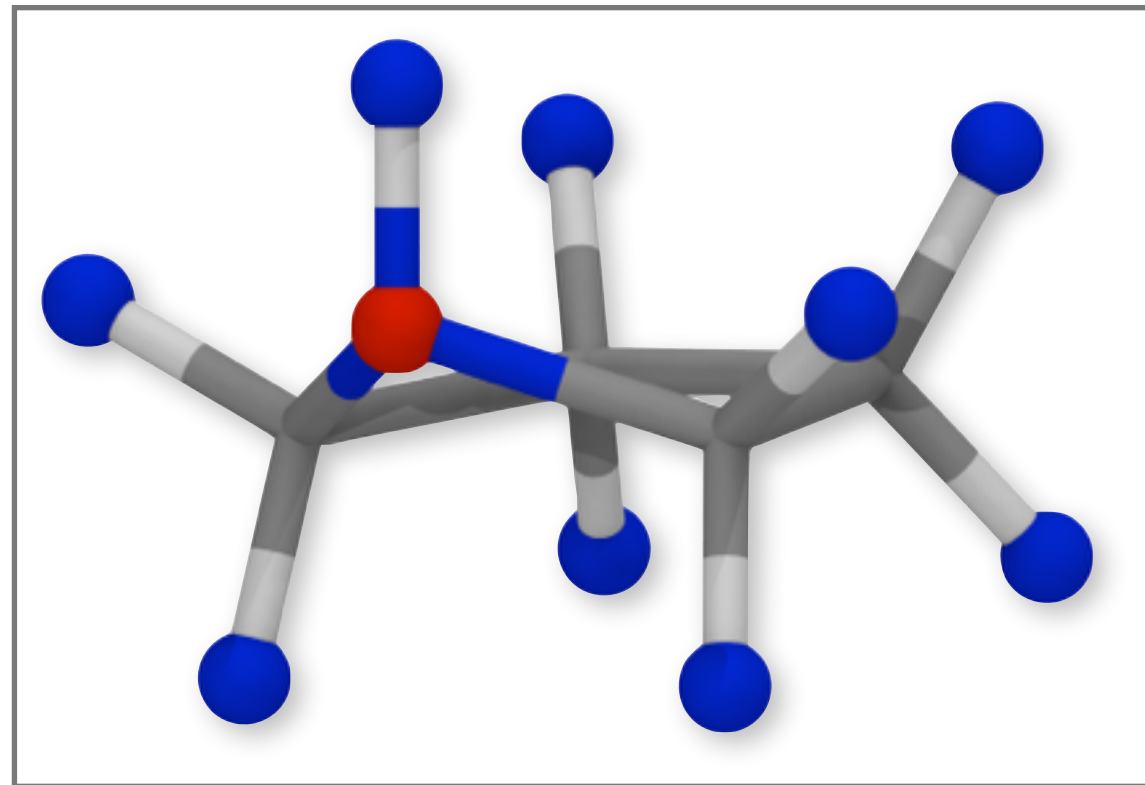
# Generating Charge Optimization Target Data

geometry |  Auto-detect interaction sites | Generate Gaussian Input Files | Run

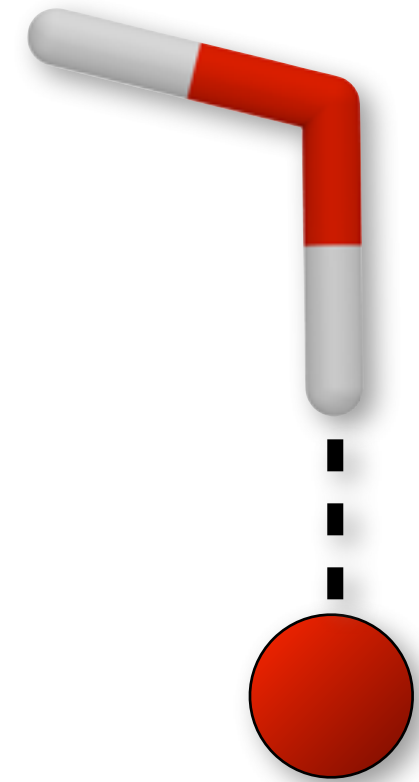


**Donor**

ffTK GUI



VMD main window



**Acceptor**

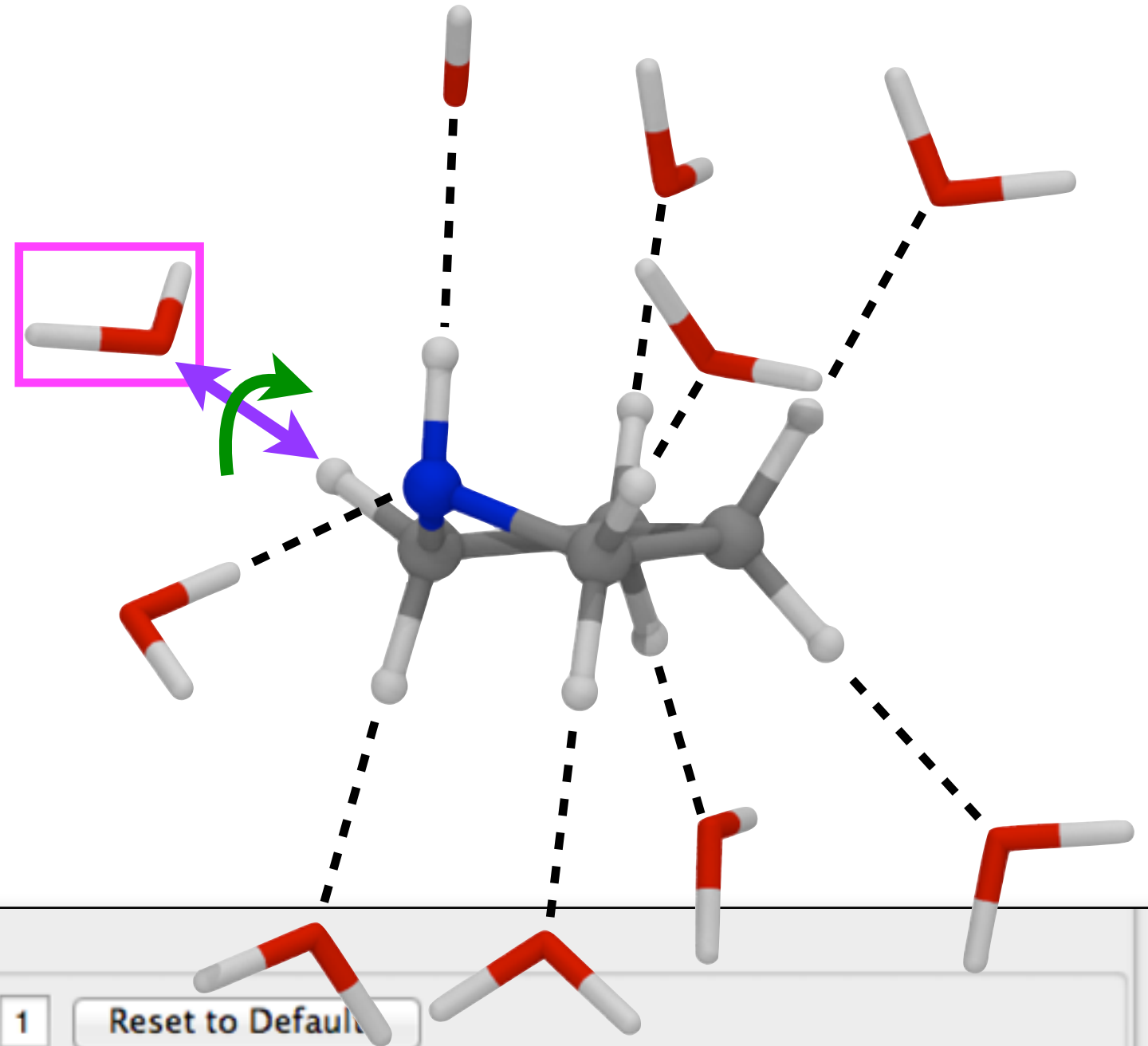
| Hydrogen Bonding Atoms                             |                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Donor Indices (Interact with oxygen of water)      | <input type="button" value="Toggle Atom Labels"/> |
| <input type="text" value="5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13"/> | <input type="button" value="Toggle Sphere Viz."/> |
| Acceptor Indices (Interact with hydrogen of water) | <input type="button" value="AutoDetect Indices"/> |
| <input type="text" value="2"/>                     | <input type="button" value="Clear Lists"/>        |

# Generating Charge Optimization Target Data

on sites | Generate Gaussian Input Files | Run QM | Inspect water optimization

Compute water position

Optimize  
distance & rotation



ffTK GUI

Gaussian Settings

Processors:  Memory (GB):  Charge:  Multiplicity:

Route:

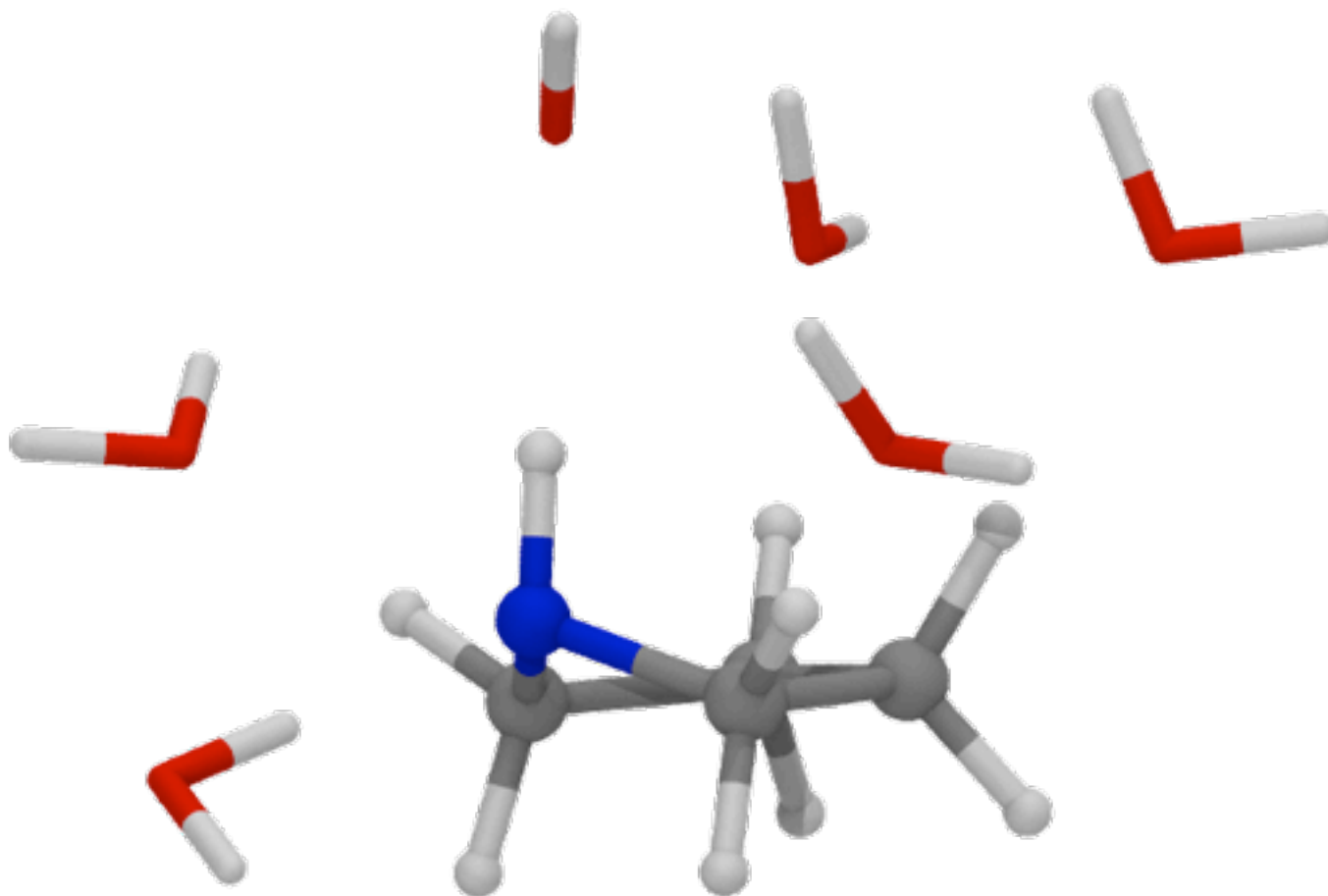
# Generating Charge Optimization Target Data



| Run QM |

Inspect water optimization

Visually assess  
QM-optimized  
water position(s)



ffTK GUI

Gaussian Settings

Processors:  Memory (GB):  Charge:  Multiplicity:

Route:

# Charge Optimization



Setup Optimization

Load QM Target Data  
Prepare Optimization

**Optimizer:**

Assign Charges  
Compute  $U_{MM}$ ,  $d_{MM}$ ,  $\mu_{MM}$   
Compute Objective Function

Return Optimized Charges

Analyze Performance

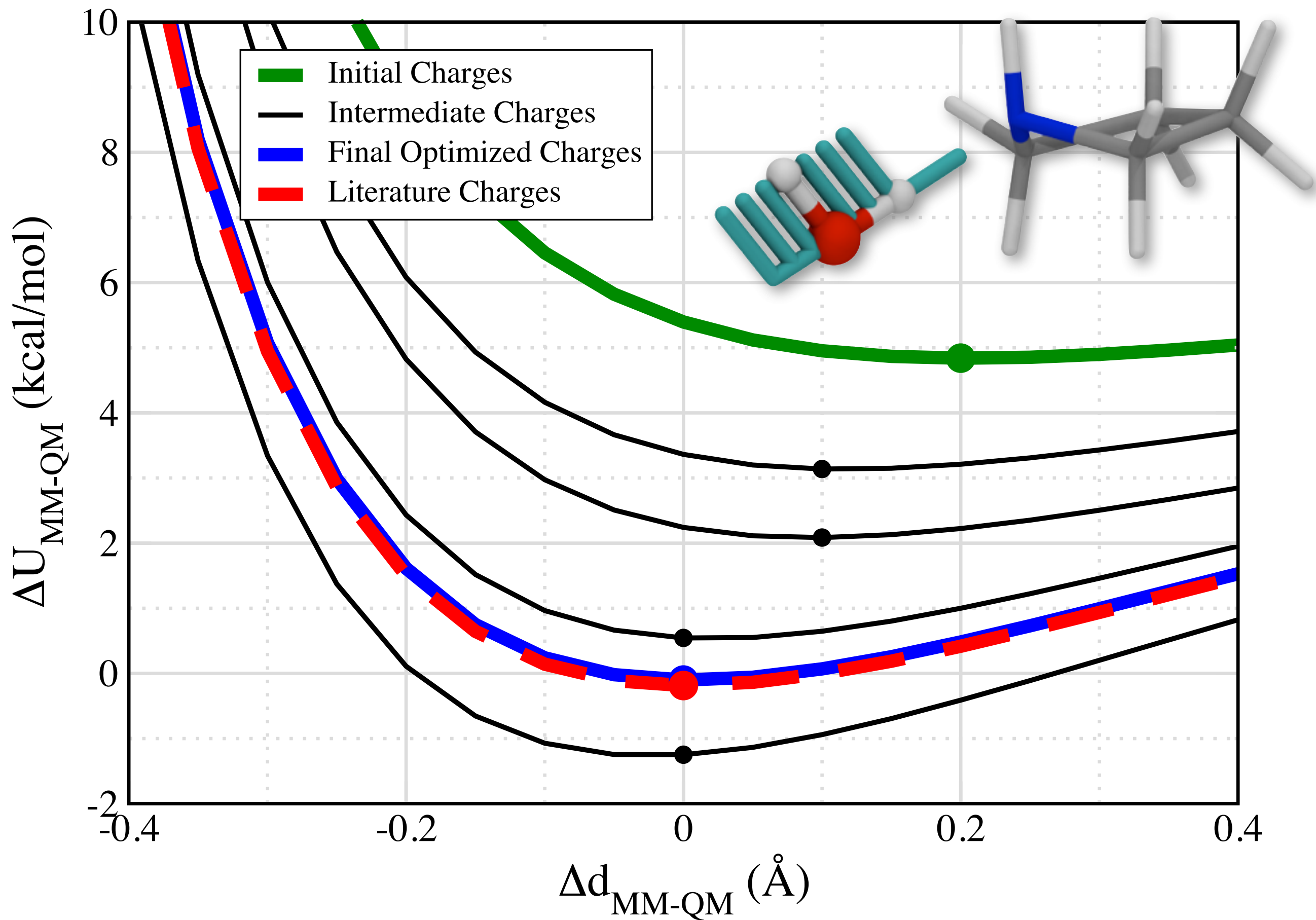
Write Charges to PSF

## Objective Function

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{\text{wat. int.}} f(U_{MM} - U_{QM}) \\ & + \\ & \sum_{\text{wat. int.}} f(d_{MM} - d_{QM}) \\ & + \\ & f(\mu_{MM} - \mu_{QM}) \end{aligned}$$



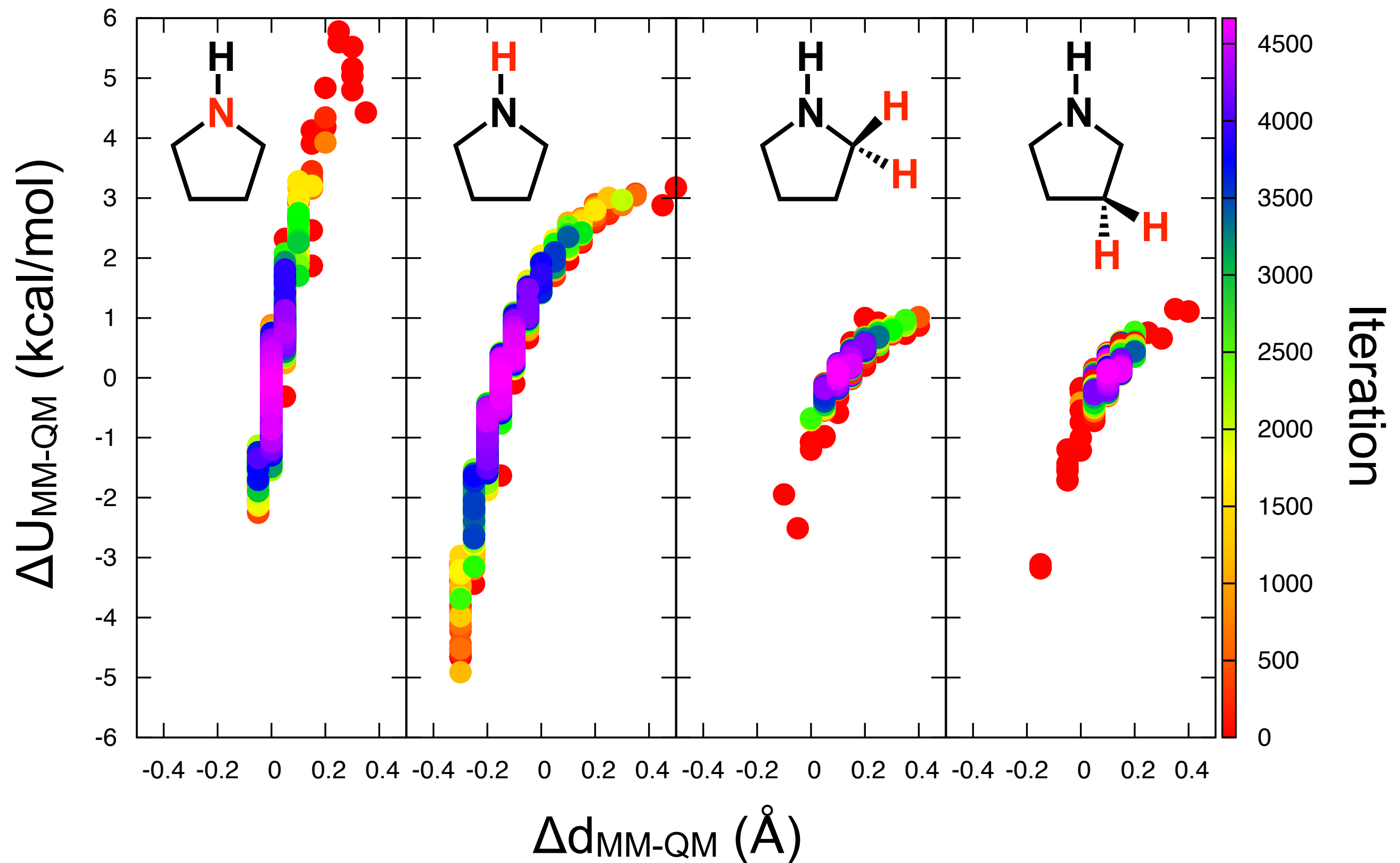
# Assessing MM Water-Interaction Profiles



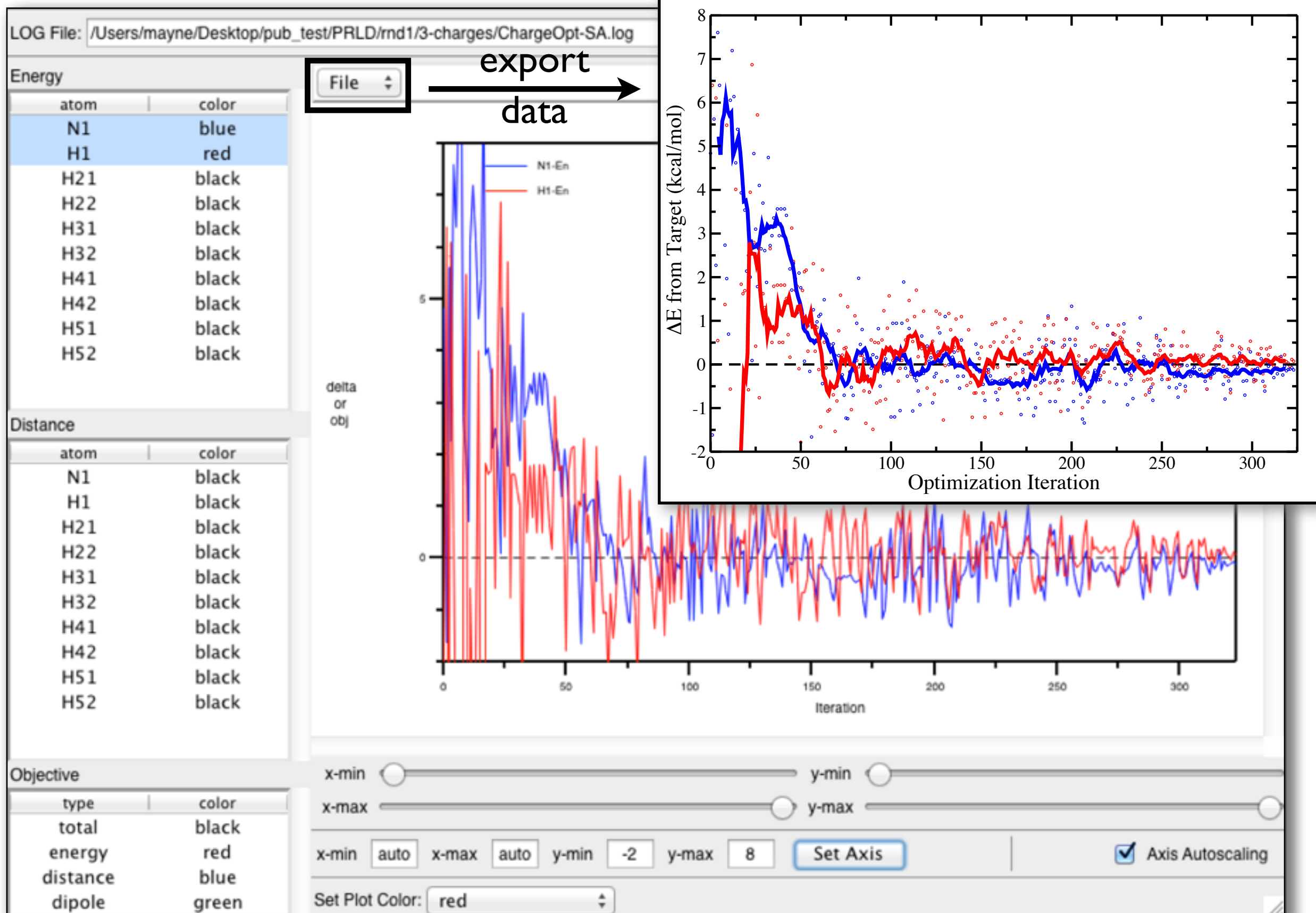


# Sampling MM Water-Interaction Profiles

Mode: Simulated Annealing

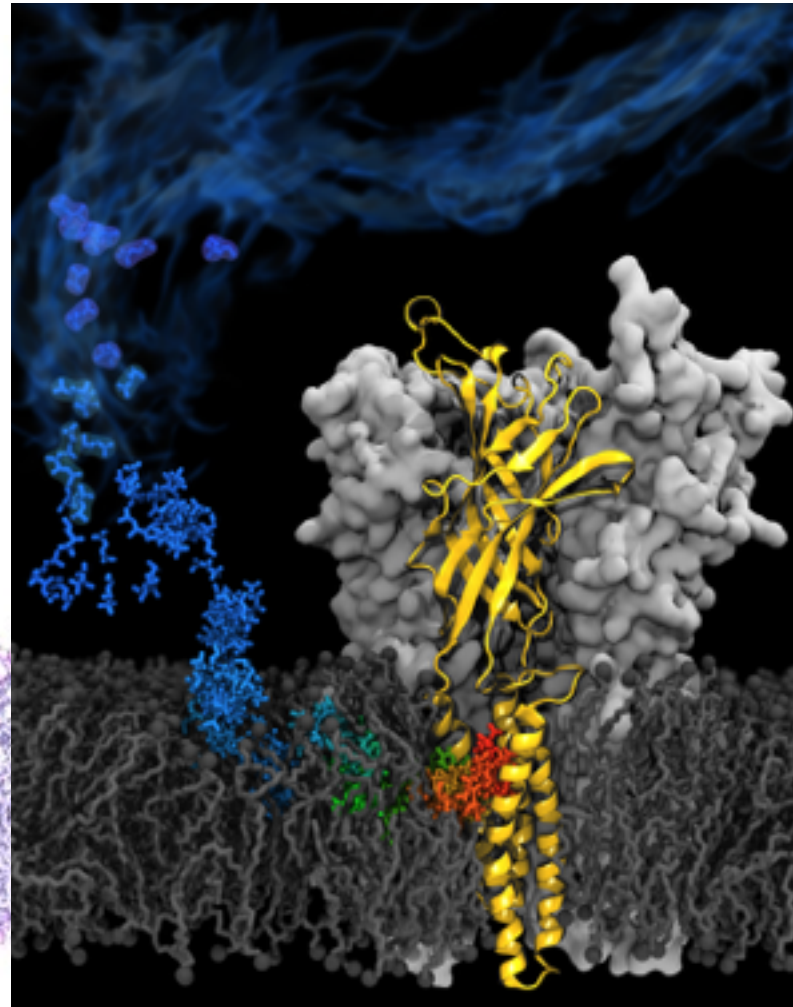
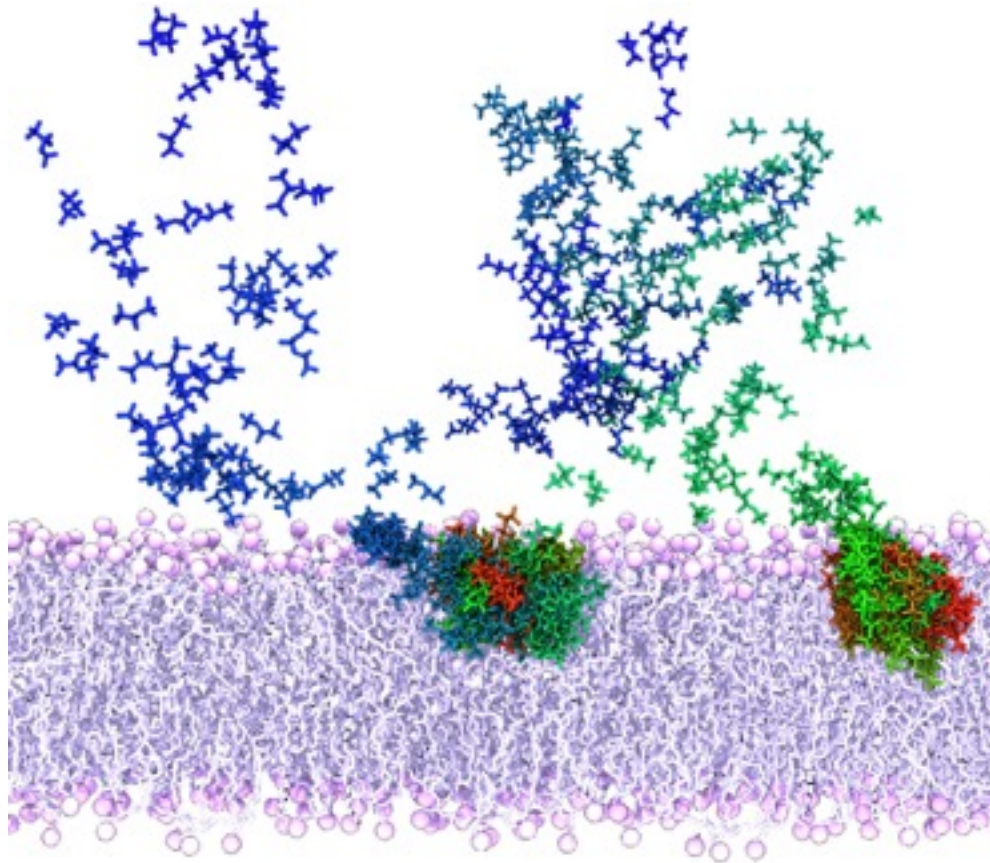


# Plotting Charge Optimization Data



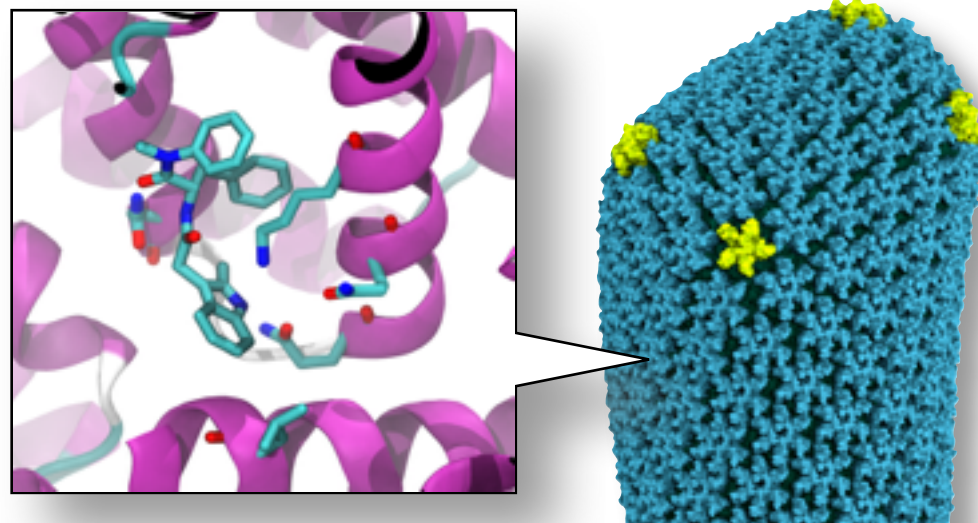


# ffTK Enables Exciting Science



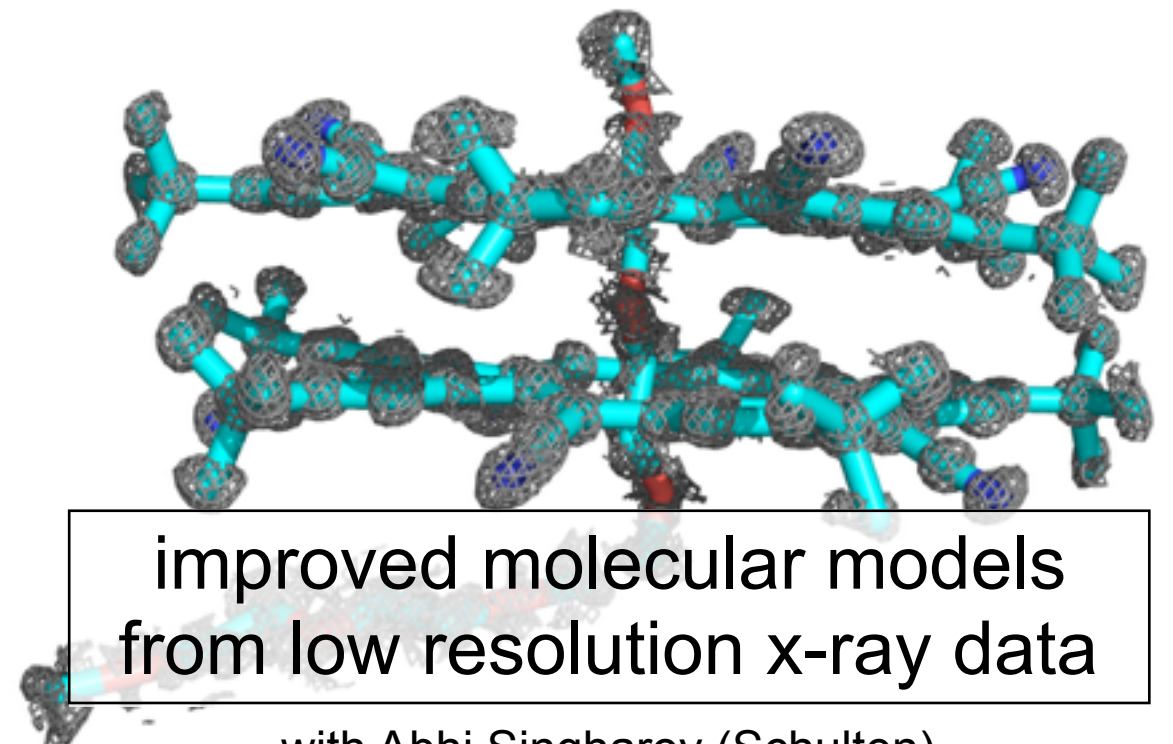
binding  
mechanisms  
of  
inhaled  
anesthetics

with  
Mark Arcario  
(Tajkhorshid)



mechanism of action for anti-retroviral  
drugs targeting the HIV capsid

with Juan Perilla (Schulten)



improved molecular models  
from low resolution x-ray data

with Abhi Singharoy (Schulten)



**NEW**

# Starting from Somewhere: CGenFF Output

I) preparation of PSF, PDB, and initial PAR files

II) use the CGenFF Program for atom typing and “first guess” at missing parameters

Force Field Toolkit (ffTK) GUI

BuildPar | Opt. Geometry | Water Int. | Opt. Charges | Calc. Bonded | Opt. Bonded | Scan Torsions | Opt. Torsions

► Identify Missing Parameters  
► Assign Missing VDW/LJ Parameters by Analogy  
▼ Prepare Parameterization from CGenFF Program Output

For information on the CGenFF Program see: <http://cgenff.paramchem.org>

Input/Output

Input PDB/MOL2:  Browse

CGenFF STR File:  Browse

Output Folder:  Browse

Resname:  Chain:  Segment:

CGenFF Parameter Data (existing parameters found, only showing missing parameters)

BONDS

| Type Def.    | k      | b <sub>0</sub> | Penalty |
|--------------|--------|----------------|---------|
| CG1N1 CG2DC1 | 345.00 | 1.4350         | 140     |
| CG2R61 CG301 | 230.00 | 1.4900         | 8       |

ANGLES

| Type Def.            | k     | θ      | kub | s | Penalty |
|----------------------|-------|--------|-----|---|---------|
| CG2DC1 CG1N1 NG1T1   | 40.00 | 180.00 |     |   | 21      |
| CG1N1 CG2DC1 CG2DC1  | 48.00 | 123.00 |     |   | 37.5    |
| CG1N1 CG2DC1 CG2R61  | 48.00 | 113.00 |     |   | 70.4    |
| CG2DC1 CG2DC1 CG2R61 | 29.00 | 122.00 |     |   | 3.5     |

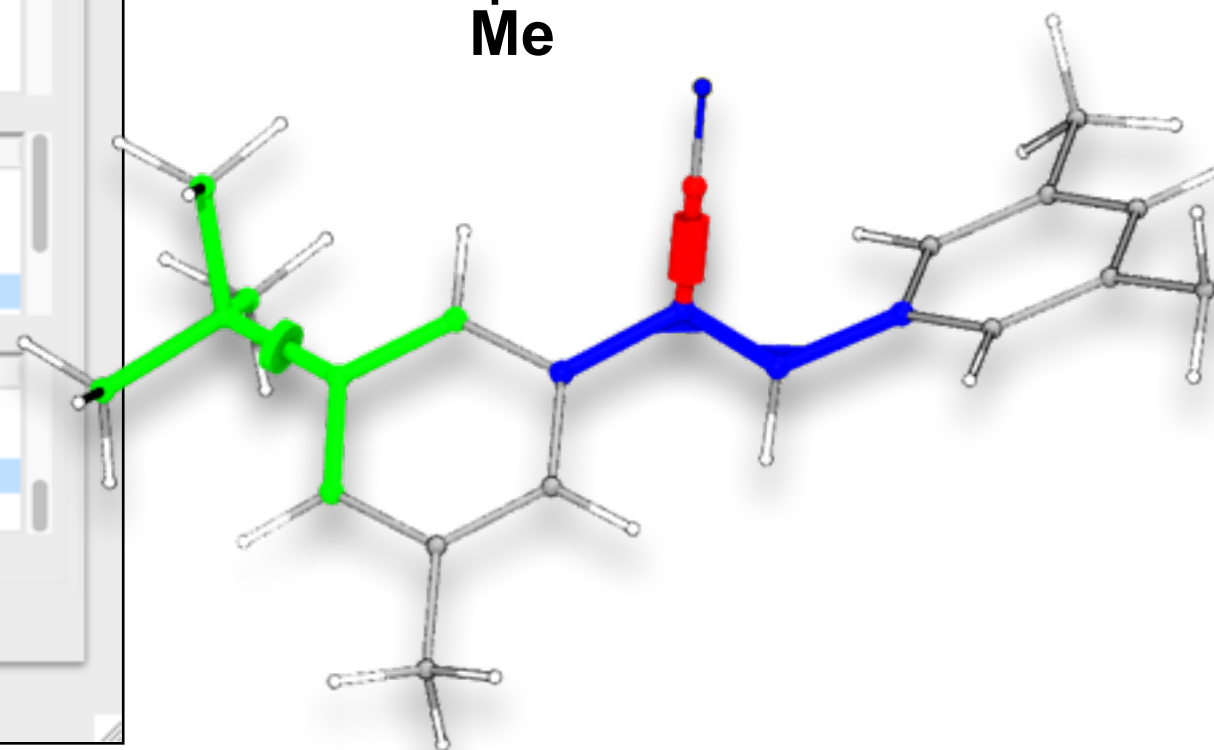
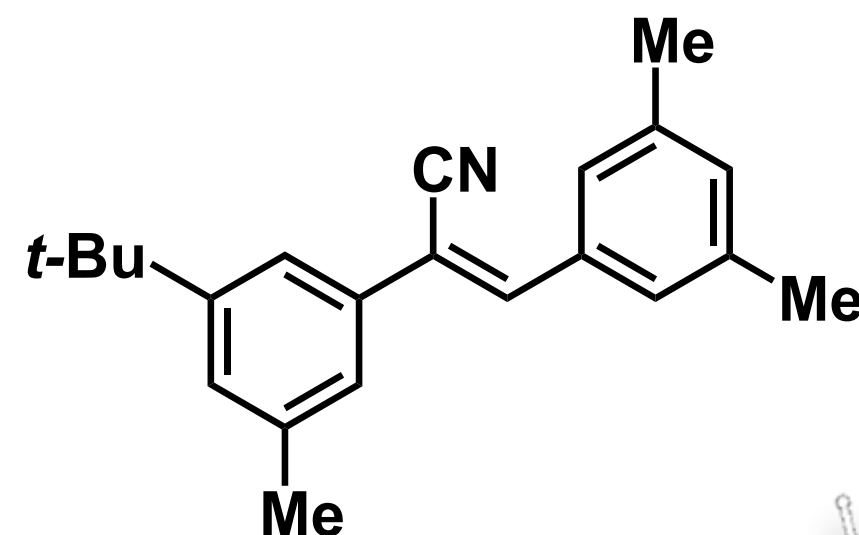
DIHEDRALS

| Type Def.                  | k      | n | d      | Penalty |
|----------------------------|--------|---|--------|---------|
| CG2R61 CG2R61 CG2R61 CG301 | 3.1000 | 2 | 180.00 | 1.2     |
| CG301 CG2R61 CG2R61 HGR61  | 2.4000 | 2 | 180.00 | 1.2     |
| CG2R61 CG2R61 CG301 CG331  | 0.2300 | 2 | 180.00 | 8       |
| CG2R61 CG301 CG331 HGA3    | 0.0400 | 3 | 0.00   | 8       |

IMPROPER

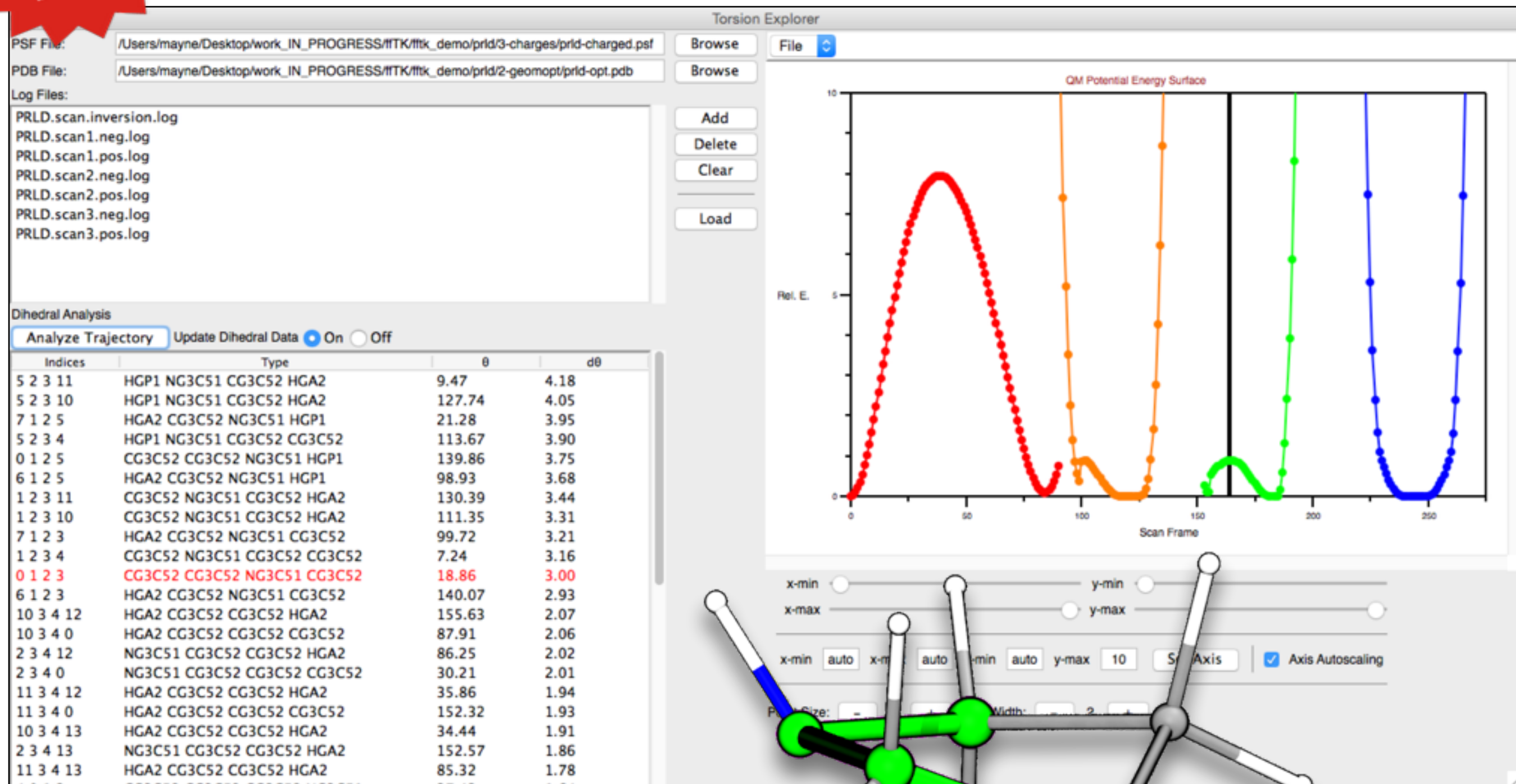
► Update Parameter File with Optimized Parameters

GUI Event Log (off)



NEW

# Analyzing QM Dihedral Target Data



Torsion Explorer GUI

VMD Window

# Conclusions

Find Missing Parameters

Geometry Optimization (QM)

Water Interaction En. (QM)

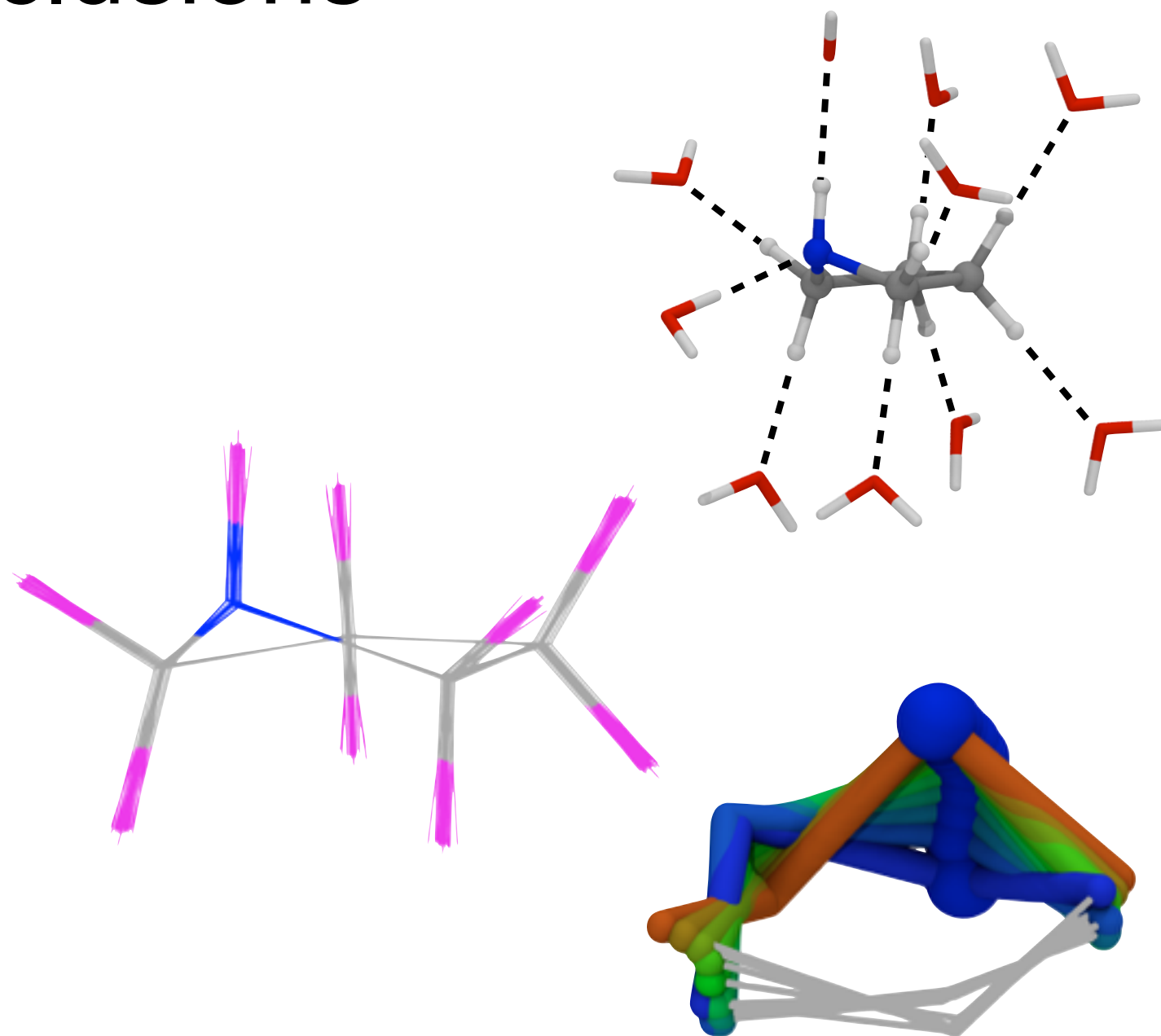
Charge Optimization

Hessian Calculation (QM)

Bond & Angle Optimization

Torsion Scan (QM)

Torsion Optimization



*ff*TK:

- Simplifies the parameterization workflow
- Offers opportunity for extensive customization
- Provides analytical tools to assess parameter performance

[www.ks.uiuc.edu/Research/vmd/plugins/fftk](http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Research/vmd/plugins/fftk)



Mayne *et al.*; *J. Comp. Chem.* **2013**, 34, pp. 2757-2770 (Cover Article)

ffTK is available as a VMD Plugin (1.9.2 and greater)

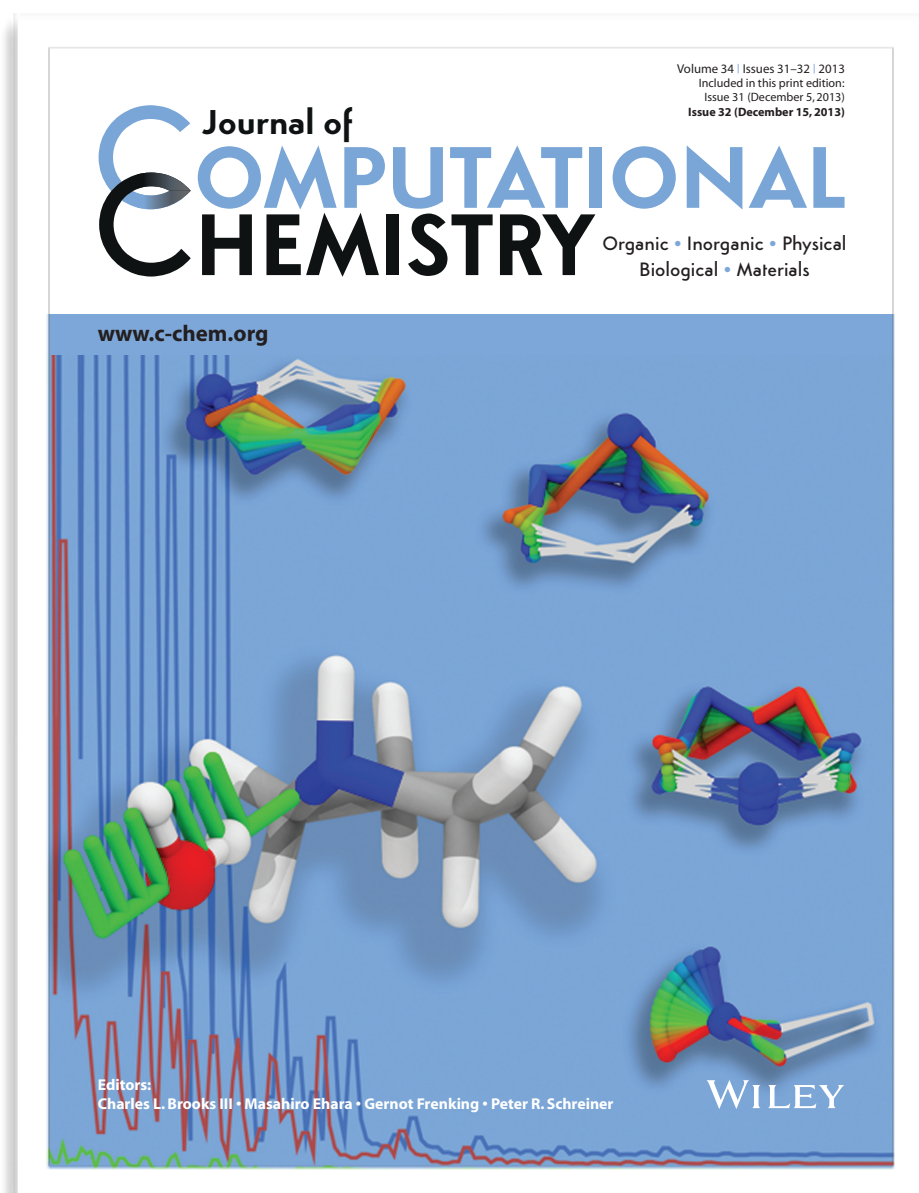
Full Documentation and Screencast & Paper Tutorials

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

<http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Training/Tutorials/#FFTK>

May the Force Field Be With You!

<http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Highlights/?section=2013&highlight=2013-09>



Questions?