DNA Nanotechnology with Molecular Simulations

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Structural DNA Nanotechnology

DNA origami: a method to **program self-assembly** of custom-shape 3D nanostructures

- Nanometer-scale precision
- High yield
- No expensive fabrication facilities

Custom shapes, channels, and sensors Viral DNA (scaffold)







Nadrian Seeman Paul Rothemund William Shih Hendrik Dietz

For illustration, an unfolding trajectory at a high temperature is played backward.

LL<mark>N</mark>ÒIS

Computer models shaped the field



2D DNA origami



Paul Rothemund (Caltech)

NATURE Vol 440:297 (2006)







Computer-aided design of DNA origami with **caDNAno** (Shih group, Harvard U.)





10 11 12

36

35



S.M. Douglas, at el. Nature (2009)

Other DNA structure design tools

🕱 NanoEngineer-1



Nanorex, Inc

vHelix (Bjorn Hogberg, Karolinska)



Tiamat (Hao Yan, ASU)



DAEDALUS: <u>D</u>NA Origami Sequence <u>D</u>esign <u>Algorithm for User-defined Structures</u>

(Mark Bathe, MIT)

...



Physics-based computational model of DNA nanostructure





Nature Methods 8:221

ACS Nano 11:12426

ENRG MD



Nucleic Acids

Research 44:3013

All-atom MD



PNAS 110:20099 (2013)



Faster dynamics, less computation



Typical problems









Design of new systems Nature Comm. 9:2426 (2018)

Structure prediction doi: 10.1101/865733

Interpretation of experiment Nano Letters 18:1962 (2018)

The DNA origami design process



< 24 hours through simulation feedback (Nucleic Acids Research 48: 5135)

Experimental characterization of DNA nanostructures



Top gel: PMT=380V; no saturation



All-atom molecular dynamics simulations: the computational microscope

Massive parallel computer Blue Waters (UIUC): ~200,000 CPUs Atoms move according to classical mechanics (F= ma)



Time scale: $\sim 0.1-100 \ \mu s$ Length scale: 10K - 1000M atoms or (< 70 nm)³Time resolution: 2 fsSpacial resolution: 0.1 A

Interaction between atoms is defined by molecular force field







Structural fluctuations reveal local mechanical properties





Frenet analysis of MD trajectories characterizes local elasticity

Yoo and Aksimentiev, PNAS 110:20099 (2013)

Tutorial: A Practical Guide to DNA Origami Simulations Using NAMD

Methods in Molecular Biology (Springer Nature) 1811: 209-229 (2018)

http://bionano.physics.illinois.edu/tutorials/practical-guide-dna-origami-simulations-using-namd



- Walk through the protocol for all-atom simulations of DNA origami using the NAMD package

Tiled DNA nanostructures











All-atom MD 165 ns each



Slone et al., New J. Phys. 18:055012 (2016)

nanohub.org/resources/legogen



High-resolution cryoelectron microscop



Petascale computer system



Bai et al, PNAS 109:20012 (2012)



Bai et al, PNAS 109:20012 (2012)



Pseudo-atomic model

Bai et al, PNAS 109:20012 (2012)

MD simulation of the cryo-EM object starting from a caDNAno design



Bai *et al*, PNAS 109:20012 (2012)

7M atom solvated model ~200 ns MD trajectory

MD simulation of the cryo-EM object starting from a caDNAno design



Bai et al, PNAS 109:20012 (2012)



7M atom solvated model ~200 ns MD trajectory

MD simulation of the cryo-EM object starting from a caDNAno design



Bai et al, PNAS 109:20012 (2012)



7M atom solvated model ~200 ns MD trajectory

Electron density maps



Cryo-EM reconstruction



All-atom MD simulation

Comparison with experiment

Maffeo, Yoo & Aksimentiev, NAR 44: 3013 (2016)



EM density psuedo-atomic model

simulation

Elastic network of restraints guided MD (ENRG MD) ~10,000 times more efficient



Solvent replaced with elastic network

Maffeo, Yoo & Aksimentiev, NAR 44: 3013

(2016)









DNA origami structures





Shih and coworkers, Science (2009)

Dietz and coworkers, Science (2015)

²⁵ nm





Chris Maffeo





Chris Maffeo





Chris Maffeo





Chris Maffeo





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500 bp dsDNA fragment modeled at different resolutions



Interactions in a simple coarse-grained DNA model



Interactions in a simple coarse-grained DNA model



Typical structural relaxation procedure



Multi-resolution simulations provide highly detailed structures quickly





Coarse-grained model captures programmed curvature



Experiment from : Science 325:725

Adaptive resolution simulation of DNA origami systems

Victoria Birkedal

Group

Andersen et al., Nature 2009

Used to interpret FRET characterization of DNA box variants: *Nanoscale* 11:18475 (2019)

Multi-resolution modeling of self-assembled DNA nanostructures



Dongran Han, Suchetan Pal, Jeanette Nangreave, Zhengtao Deng, Yan Liu, Hao Yan Science 332:342

Multi-resolution workflow extended to DNA polyhedral meshes





E Benson, A Mohammed, J Gardell, S Masich, E Czeizler, P Orponen & B Högberg Nature 523**:**441

Coarse-grained simulations for sampling structural fluctuations



Alexander E. Marras, Lifeng Zhou, Hai-Jun Su and Carlos E. Castro PNAS 112:713





mrDNA simulations are powered by ARBD simulation package

http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Development/Download/download.cgi?PackageName=ARBD



Where to find software, how to use it?

Gitlab

gitlab.engr.illinois.edu/tbgl/tools/mrdna



Web service

bionano.physics.illinois.edu/origami-structure-prediction

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Tutorial: Multi-resolution simulations of selfassembled DNA nanostructures

https://gitlab.engr.illinois.edu/tbgl/tutorials/multi-resolution-dna-nanostructures



DNA voltage sensor





Coarse-grained simulations of a FRET plate capture



Nano Letters 18:1962 (2018)

CG simulation of FRET efficiency



Ulrich Keyser Cambridge, UK

Experimental demonstration

DNA membrane channels

Dr. Ulrich F. Keyser

DNA Ion Channels

Langecker, M. *et al.*, *Science*: 338, 932-936.

DNA origami syringe

Small conductance DNA channel

DNA nanostructure catalyzes lipid scrambling

Lipid molecules are asymmetrical distributed in the cell membrane.

apoptosis or thrombin formation:

Lipid translocation through toroidal pores is very fast: 10^7 lipids per second, 10,000 times faster then for a protein enzyme

Dithionite reduction assay can visualize lipid scrambling

Membrane-inserting DNA structures can scramble but non-inserting structures do not

DNA scramblase

DNA nanostructures induce apoptosis in human cells

Tutorial: All-atom simulation membrane-spanning DNA nanopores

http://bionano.physics.illinois.edu/tutorials/all-atom-simulation-membrane-spanning-dna-nanopores

- Walk through the protocol for all-atom simulations of DNA origami nanopores

Tutorials overview

Multi-resolution simulations of self-assembled DNA nanostructures

Chris Maffeo

A Practical Guide to DNA Origami Simulations Using NAMD

All-atom simulation membrane-spanning DNA nanopores

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