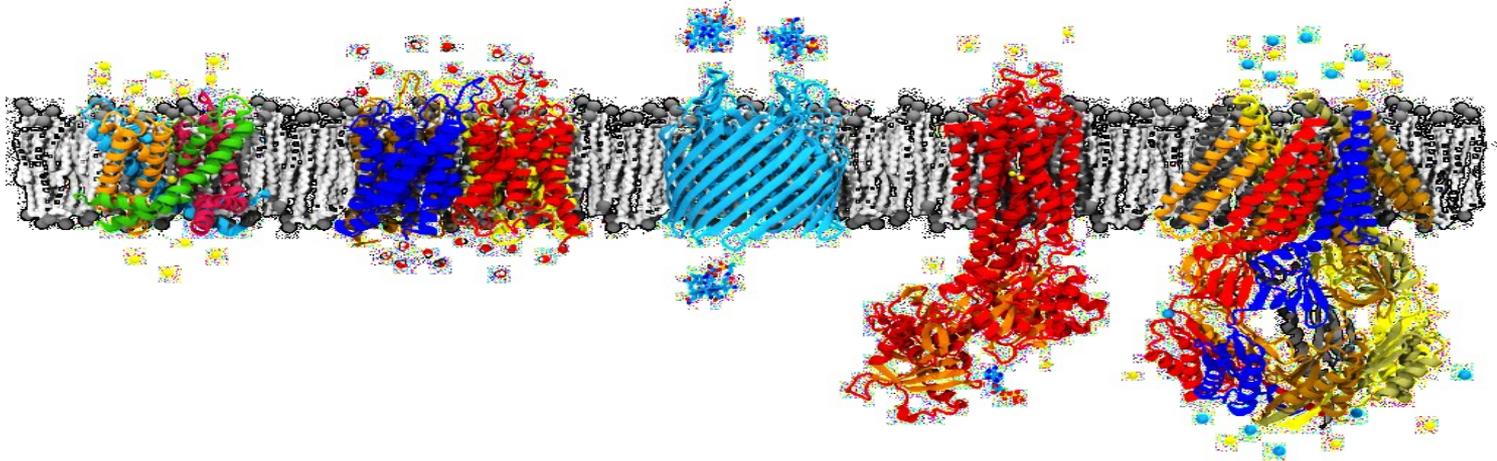


# Visualizing Biomolecules in VMD

John Stone, Senior Research Programmer  
NIH Center for Macromolecular Modeling and Bioinformatics,  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

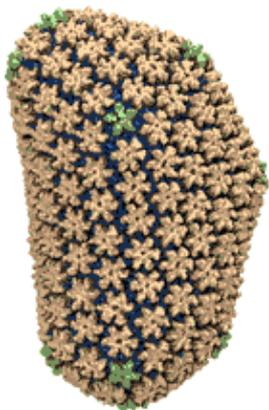


# VMD Tutorial Home Page

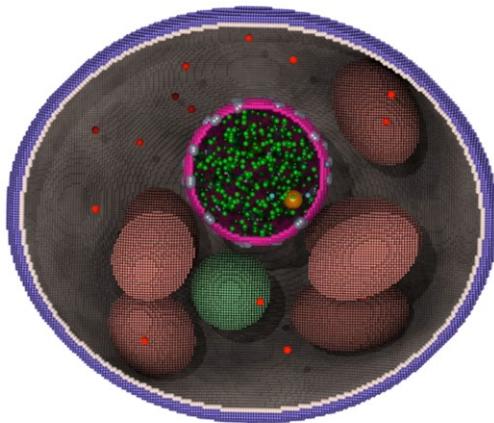
- <http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Training/Tutorials/>
  - Main VMD tutorial
  - QwikMD simulation preparation and analysis plugin
  - VMD images and movies tutorial
  - Structure check
  - VMD quantum chemistry visualization tutorial
  - Visualization and analysis of CPMD data with VMD
  - Parameterizing small molecules using ffTK

# VMD – “Visual Molecular Dynamics”

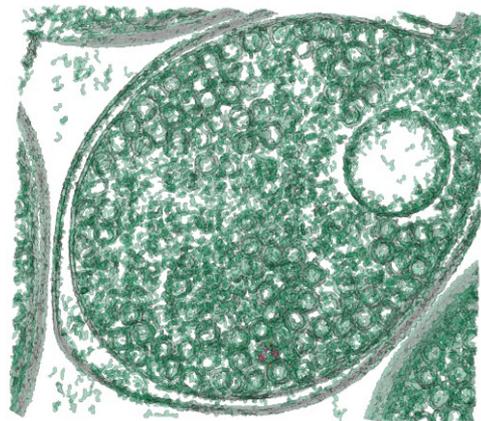
- Unique capabilities:
  - Trajectories are fundamental to VMD
  - Support for very large systems, now reaching billions of particles
  - Extensive GPU acceleration
  - Parallel analysis/visualization with MPI
- Visualization and analysis of:
  - Molecular dynamics simulations
  - “Particle” systems and whole cells
  - Cryo-EM densities, volumetric data
  - Quantum chemistry calculations
  - Sequence information



MD Simulations



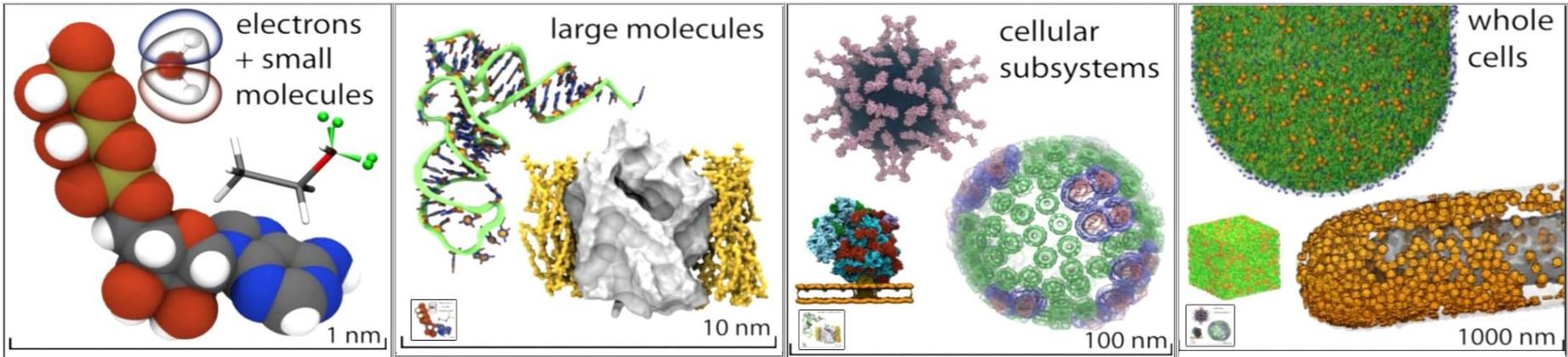
Cell-Scale Simulation



Integrate w/ Cryo-EM/ET

# VMD Serves Many Communities

- VMD user statistics:
  - 103,000 unique registered users; 17,000 (16%) are NIH funded researchers
  - 20,000 citations, over 2,800 citations per year
- Supports key data types, file formats, and databases
- User extensible to support new tools, data types, custom analyses

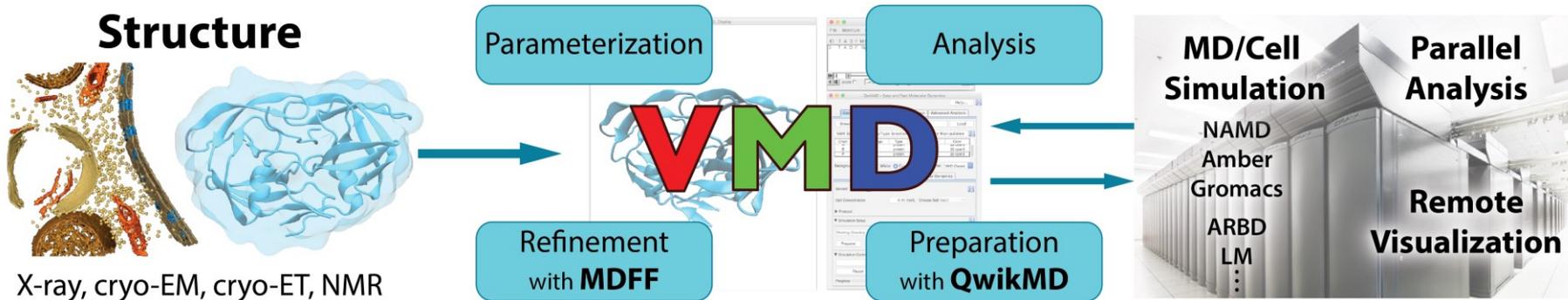


System Size



# VMD Interoperates with Mainstream Research Tools

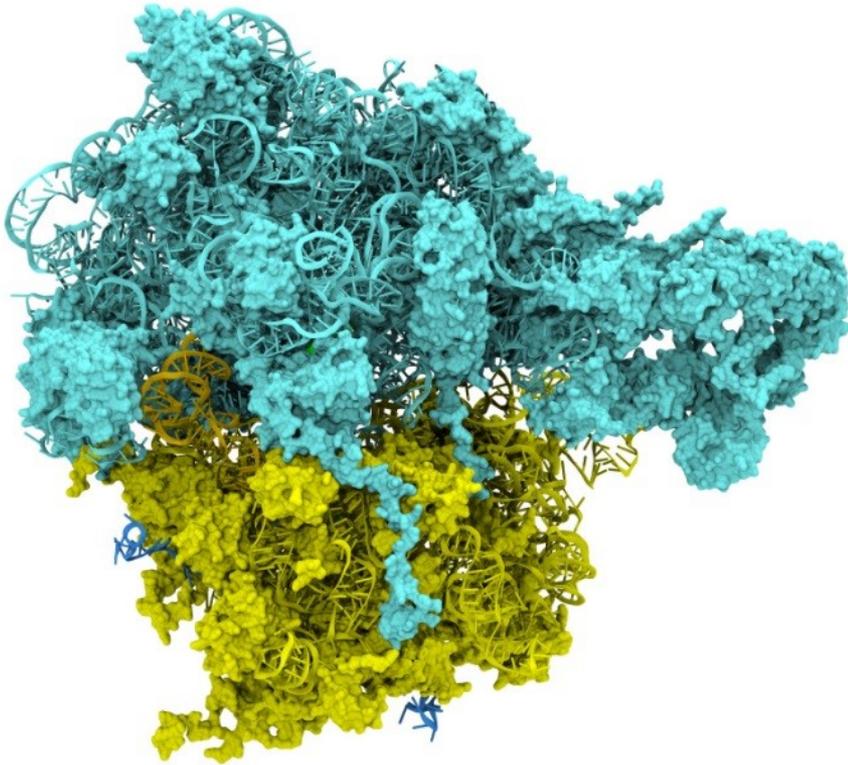
- Provides tools for simulation preparation, visualization, and analysis
- Interpret and process multi-modal structural information
- Connects with key software tools to enable state-of-the-art simulations
- Openness, extensibility, and interoperability are VMD hallmarks
- Uses advanced algorithms and hardware technologies to address data size challenges posed by cutting-edge experimental imaging and simulation



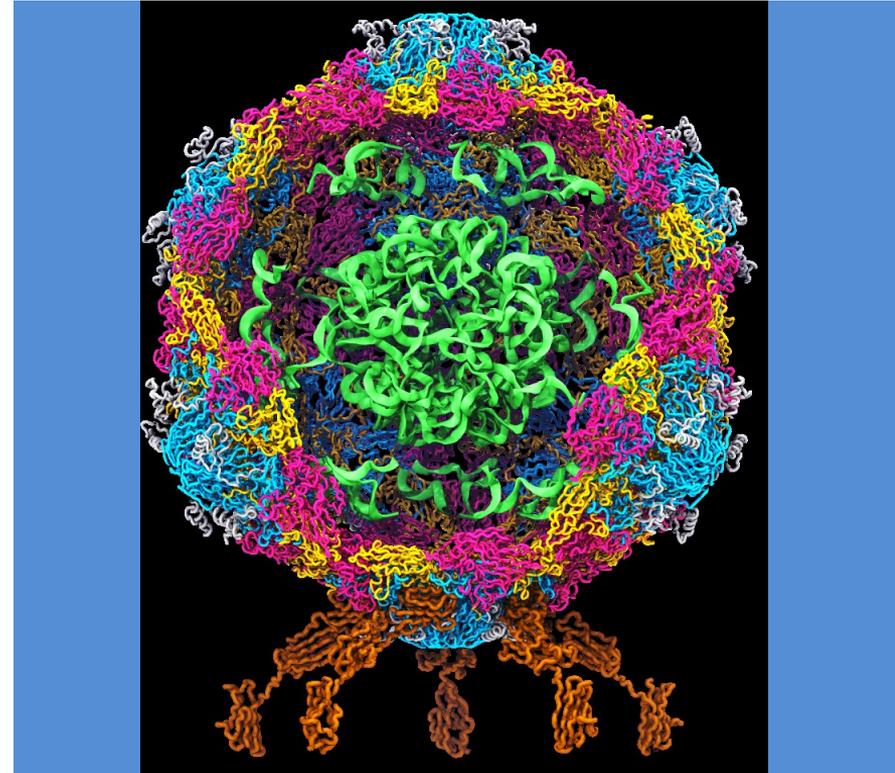
# Goal: A Computational Microscope

Study the molecular machines in living cells

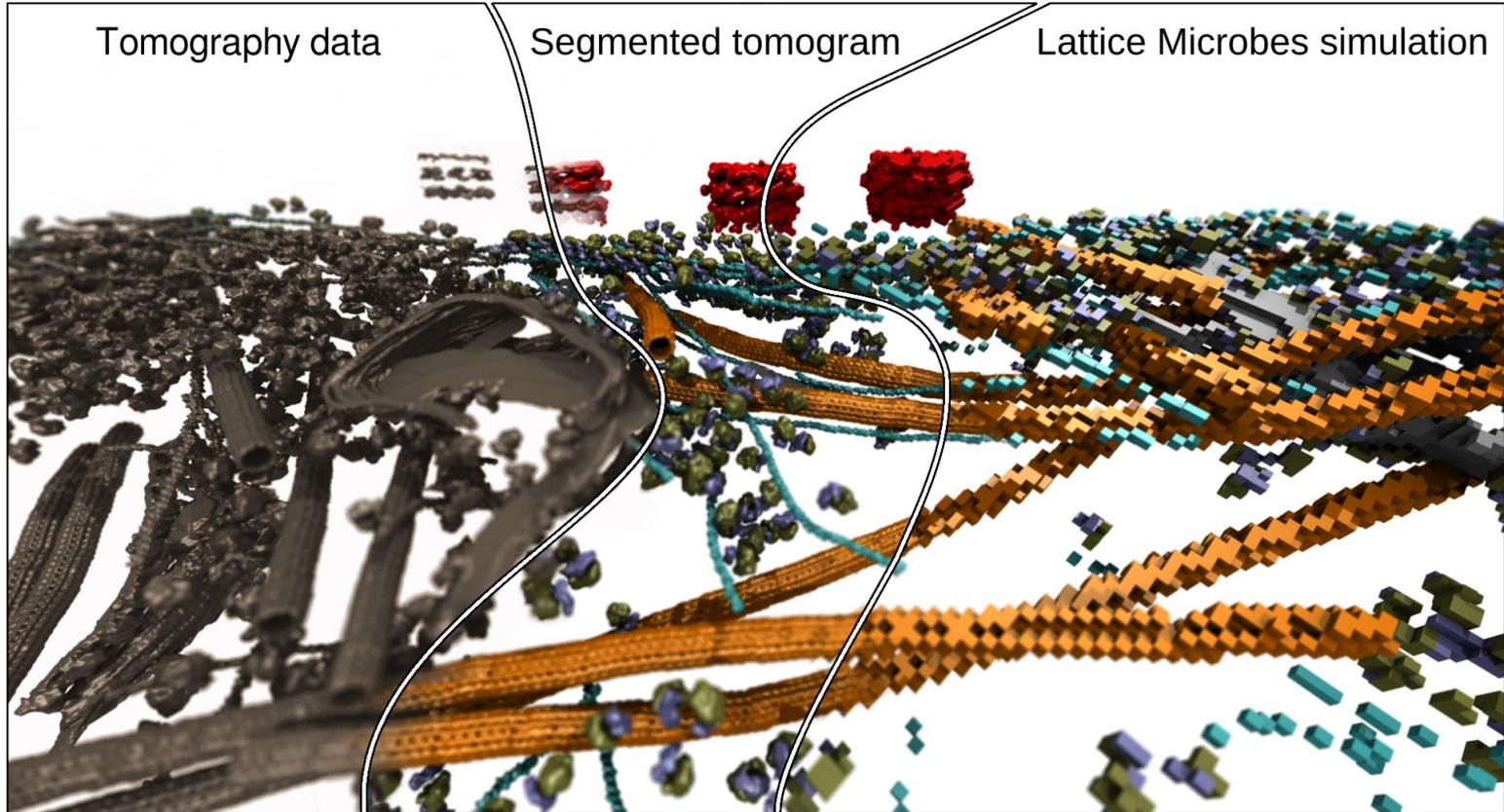
Ribosome: target for antibiotics



Poliovirus



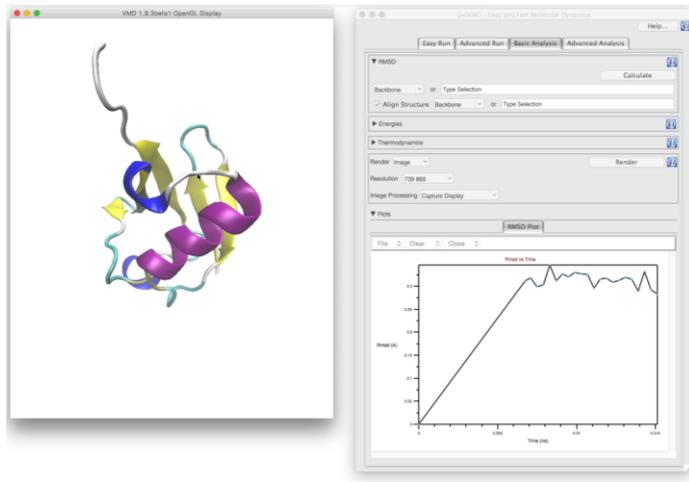
# VMD is a Tool for Accessing Information about the Cell



# VMD Achievements, Foundation for the Future

## VMD 1.9.3 Released Nov 30, 2016

- Over 20,000 users so far
- Many visualization/analysis advances:
  - **Major GPU+CPU ray tracing advances**
  - Cryo-ET, vector-field volumetric maps ...
  - NanoShaper: molecular surfaces, cavity calc.
  - Parallel analysis, visualization on HPC systems
- New, updated, and user-contributed plugins:
  - **QwikMD simulation prep/analysis**
  - **ffTK force field parameterization**
  - Plumed – free energy + collective variable analysis
  - Multiseq – improved MAFFT alignment support
- New platform support:
  - Amazon AWS EC2 Cloud
  - Cray XC50 w/ NVIDIA Tesla P100
  - IBM Power8, OpenPOWER w/ GPUs
  - Intel MIC Xeon Phi, AVX-512
  - NVIDIA Pascal GPUs: CUDA 8, OptiX 4, EGL



**New QwikMD simulation preparation plugin**

## Recent Publications:

- eLife, 2016
- Scientific Reports, 2016
- J. Parallel Comp. 2016.
- IEEE HPDAV, 2016.
- IEEE HCW, 2016.

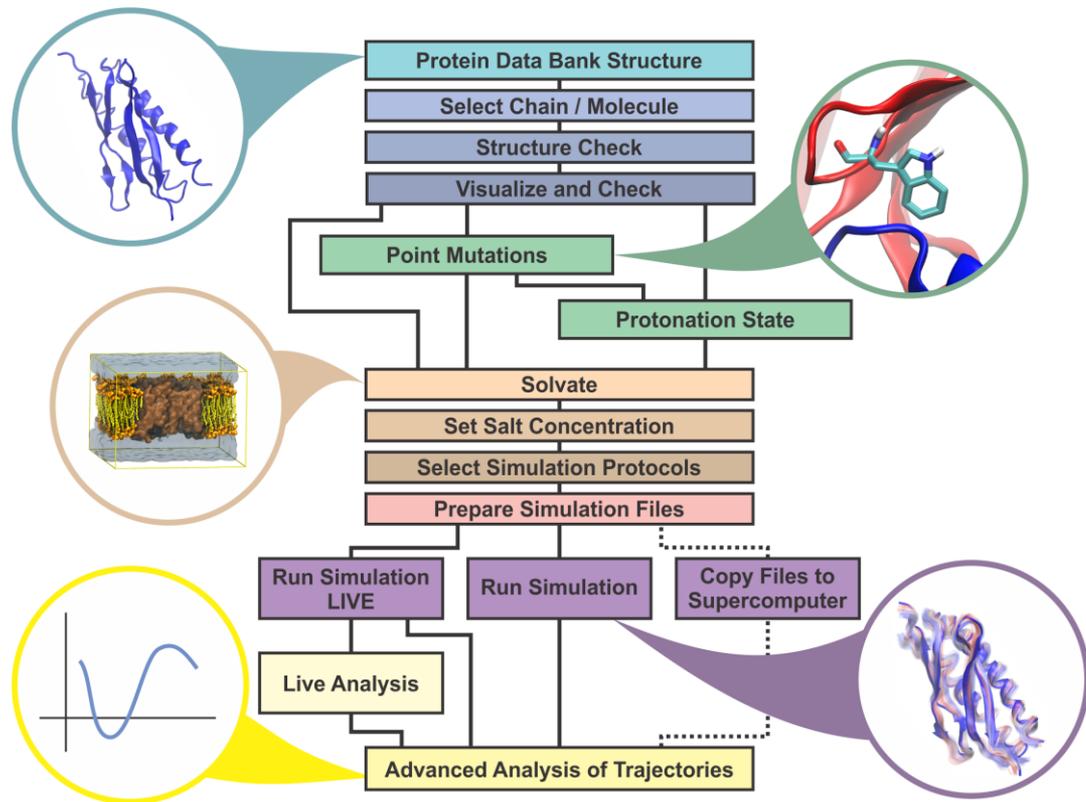
# QwikMD: Guided MD Simulation and Training

Smooths initial learning curve (non-expert users)

Speed up tedious simulation preparation tasks (expert users)

**Reproducibility:**  
**detailed log of all steps**

Interactive preparation, simulation, and analysis

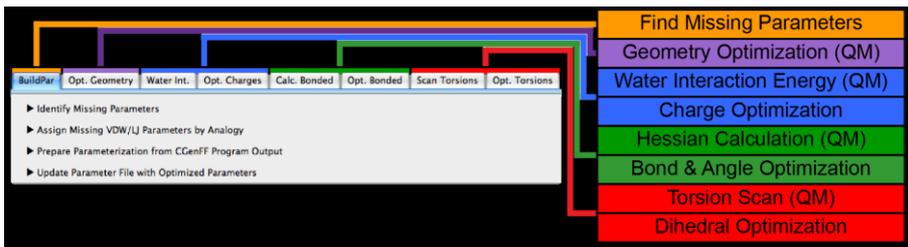


# Parametrization with the Force Field Toolkit (FFTK)

*A plugin enabling the simulation of drug-like small molecules by lowering force field development barriers*

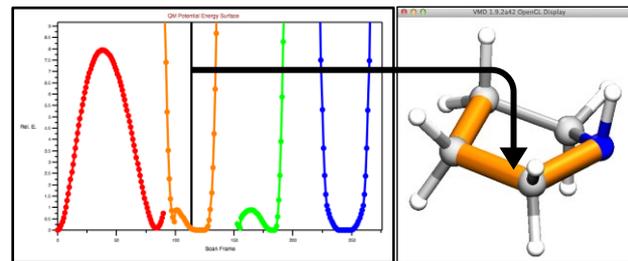
A graphical interface organized to follow the standardized CGenFF workflow

Leverages VMD's powerful graphics capabilities to visualize parameter-related data within the context of molecular structure



**\* NEW in VMD 1.9.3 \***

Import data from the CGenFF Program webserver to assign initial parameters by analogy

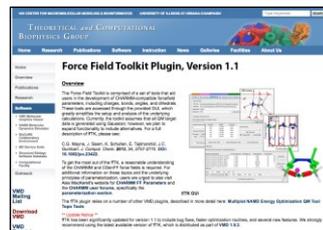


Interactively explore energy profiles

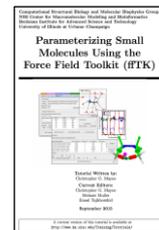
## Future Plans:

- Support free-for-academics QM software, ORCA (Neese, Max Planck)
- Parametrization tools for additional MM force fields
  - AMBER force field (Gumbart, Georgia Tech.)
  - Drude polarizable force fields (Roux, U. Chicago; MacKerell, U. Maryland)

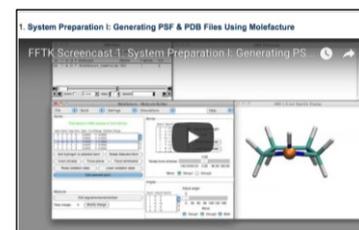
Extensive training material available from the Center's website



Documentation Website



Workshop Tutorial

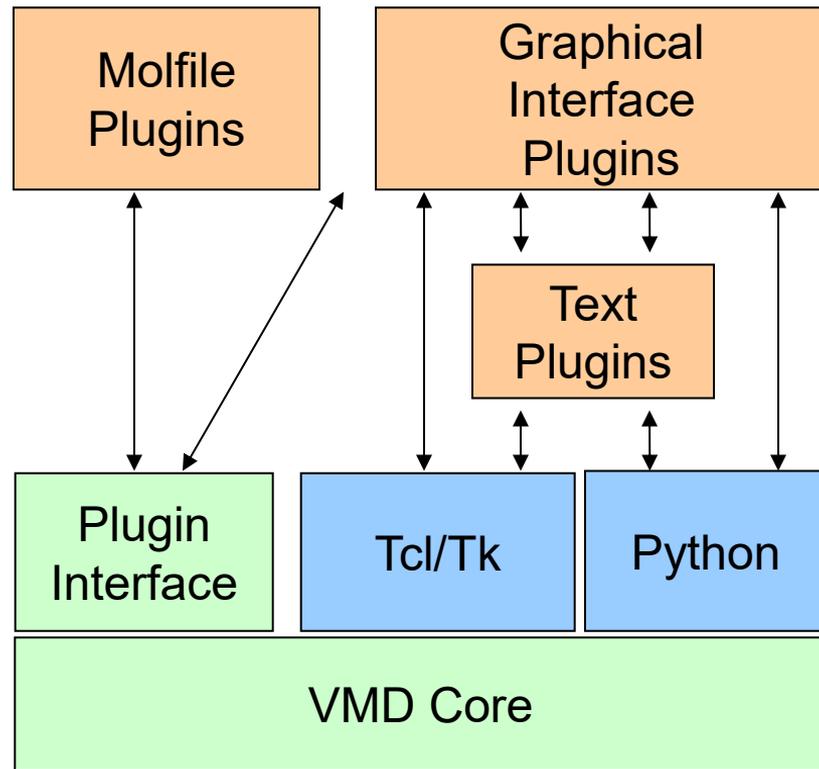


Screencast Demos

# VMD is a Platform for Developing Research Tools

## Over 110 VMD Plugins, Half Developed by Users

- VMD user-extensible scripting w/ Tcl/Tk, Python
- User-developed plugins:
  - Alanine Scanning
  - Collective Variable Analyzer
  - Clustering Tool
  - Carbon Nanostructure Builder
  - TorsionPlot
  - RMSD Trajectory Tool
  - Many others...



# Selected VMD Plugins: Center Developed, and User Developed

## Analysis

APBSRun  
CatDCD  
Contact Map  
[GofRGUI](#)  
[HeatMapper](#)  
ILSTools  
[IRSpecGUI](#)  
MultiSeq  
NAMD Energy  
NAMD Plot  
NetworkView  
[NMWiz](#)  
[ParseFEP](#)  
PBCTools  
PMEpot  
[PropKa GUI](#)  
RamaPlot  
RMSD Tool  
[RMSD Trajectory Tool](#)  
[RMSD Visualizer Tool](#)  
Salt Bridges  
Sequence Viewer  
Symmetry Tool  
Timeline  
[TorsionPlot](#)  
VolMap

## Modeling

AutoIonize  
AutoPSF  
Chirality  
Cionize  
Cispeptide  
CGTools  
Dowser  
ffTK  
Inorganic Builder  
MDFF  
Membrane  
Merge Structs  
Molefacture  
Mutator  
[Nanotube](#)  
Psfgen  
[RESPTool](#)  
RNAView  
Solvate  
SSRestrains  
Topotools

## Visualization

Clipping Plane Tool  
[Clone Rep](#)  
DemoMaster  
[Dipole Watcher](#)  
[Intersurf](#)  
[Navigate](#)  
NavFly  
[MultiMolAnim](#)  
Color Scale Bar  
Remote  
Palette Tool  
ViewChangeRender  
ViewMaster  
[Virtual DNA Viewer](#)  
VMD Movie Maker

## Simulation

AlaScan  
AutoIMD  
IMDMenu  
NAMD GUI  
NAMD Server  
QMTTool

## Collaboration

Remote Control

## Data Import and Plotting

Data Import  
Multiplot  
PDBTool  
MultiText

## Externally Hosted Plugins and Extensions

[Check sidechains](#)  
[MultiMSMS](#)  
[Interactive Essential Dynamics](#)  
[Mead Ionize](#)  
[Clustering Tool](#)  
[iTrajComp](#)  
[Swap RMSD](#)  
[Intervor](#)  
[SurfVol](#)  
[vmdICE](#)

**75 MolFile I/O Plugins:**  
structure, trajectory, sequence,  
and density map

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

# Selected VMD Plugins: Center Developed, and User Developed

## Analysis

APBSRun  
CatDCD  
Contact Map  
[GofRGUI](#)  
[HeatMapper](#)  
ILSTools

## Modeling

AutoIonize

AutoRSE

## Visualization

Clipping Plane Tool

Close Pass

## Collaboration

Remote Control

## Data Import and Plotting

Data Import

Multiplot

PDBTool

MultiText

## Externally Hosted Plugins and Extensions

[Check sidechains](#)

[MultiMSMS](#)

[Interactive Essential Dynamics](#)

[Mead Ionize](#)

[Clustering Tool](#)

[iTrajComp](#)

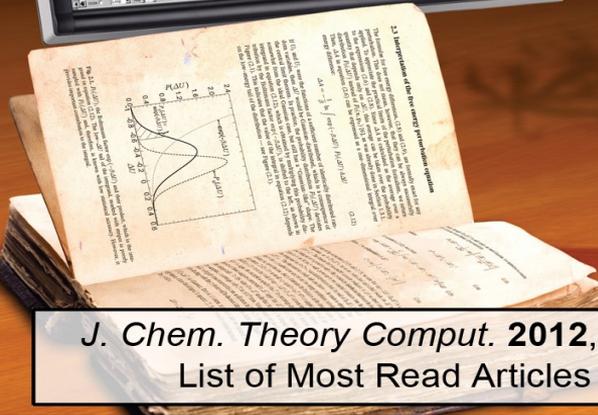
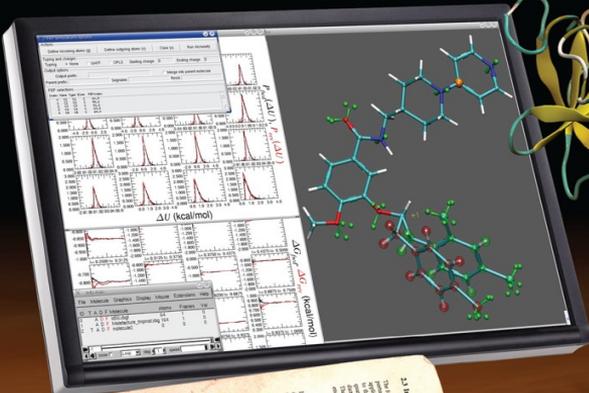
[Swap RMSD](#)

[Intervor](#)

[SurfVol](#)

[vmdICE](#)

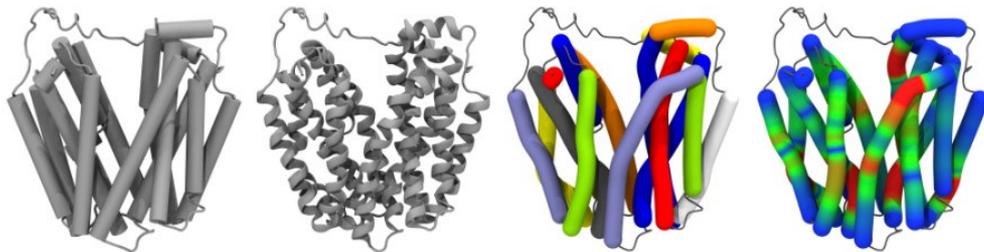
Tool for free-energy changes in  
alchemical transformations



*J. Chem. Theory Comput.* **2012**, 8, 2606-2616.  
List of Most Read Articles for 2012

**olFile I/O Plugins:**  
ure, trajectory, sequence,  
ensity map

# Example VMD Visualization and Analysis Plugins



## **Bendix**

Dahl ACE, Chavent M and Sansom MSP Bendix: intuitive helix geometry analysis and abstraction. *Bioinformatics* 2012 28(16): 2193-2194.



## **Normal Mode Wizard**

Bakan A, Meireles LM, Bahar I ProDy: Protein Dynamics Inferred from Theory and Experiments. *Bioinformatics* 2011 27(11):1575-1577.

# Selected VMD Plugins: Center Developed, and User Developed

## Analysis

APBSRun  
CatDCD  
Contact Map

## Modeling

AutoIonize

## Visualization

Clipping Plane Tool

## Collaboration

Remote Control

## Data Import and Plotting

Data Import  
Multiplot  
PDBTool  
MultiText

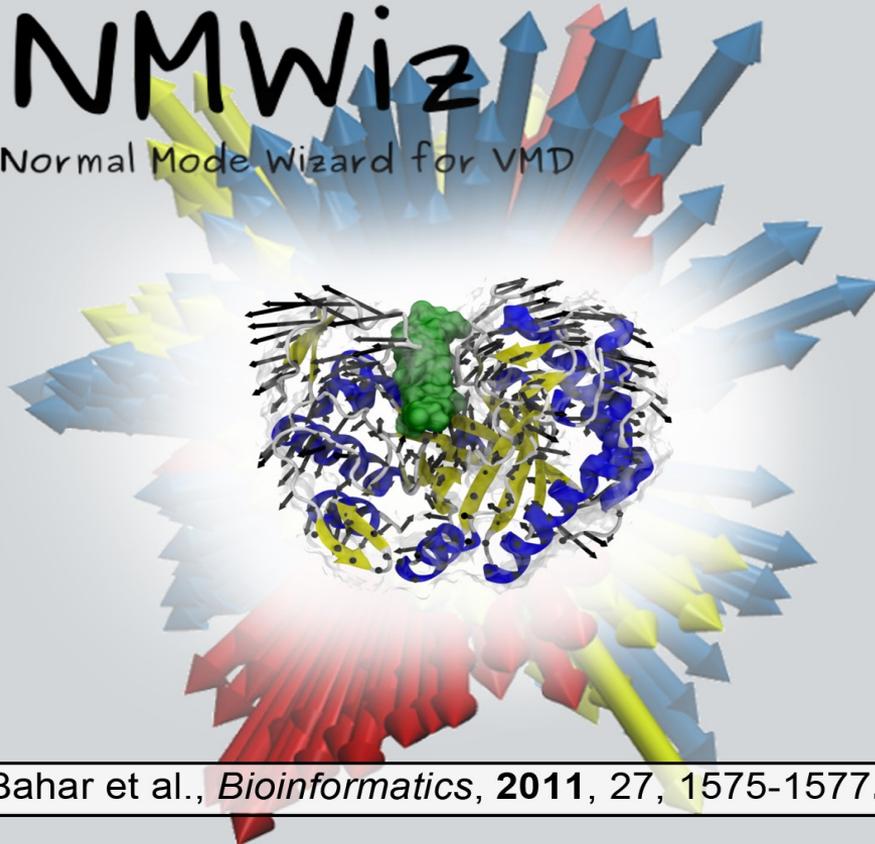
## Externally Hosted Plugins and Extensions

[Check sidechains](#)  
[MultiMSMS](#)  
[Interactive Essential Dynamics](#)  
[Mead Ionize](#)  
[Clustering Tool](#)  
[iTrajComp](#)  
[Swap RMSD](#)  
[Intervor](#)  
[SurfVol](#)  
[vmdICE](#)

## molFile I/O Plugins:

Structure, trajectory, sequence, density map

NMWiz  
Normal Mode Wizard for VMD



Bahar et al., *Bioinformatics*, 2011, 27, 1575-1577.

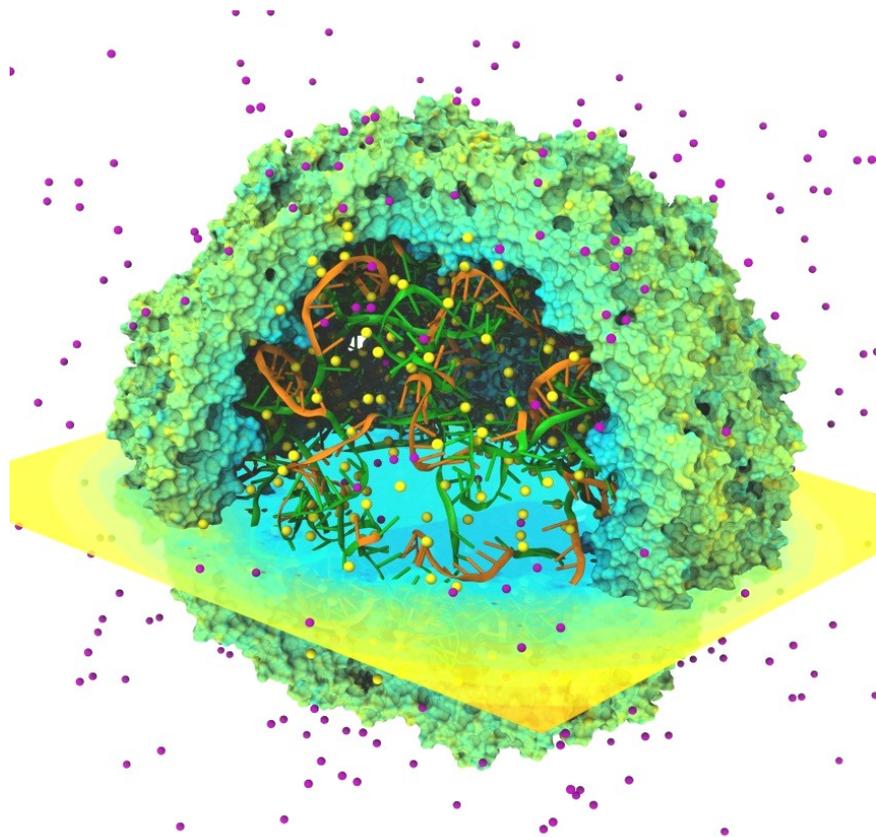
[RMSD Tool](#)  
[RMSD Trajectory Tool](#)  
[RMSD Visualizer Tool](#)  
Salt Bridges  
Sequence Viewer  
Symmetry Tool  
Timeline  
[TorsionPlot](#)  
VolMap

<http://www.ks.uiuc.edu>

# VMD Visualization Concepts

# Biomolecular Visualization Challenges

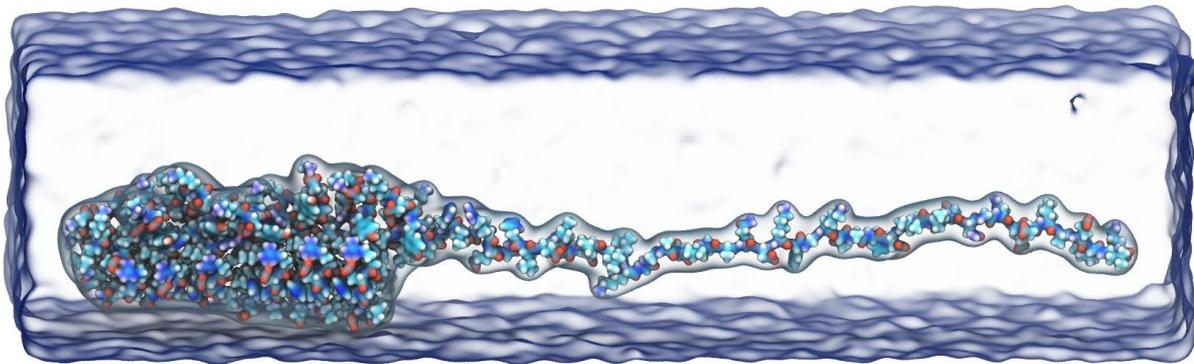
- Geometrically complex scenes
- Spatial relationships important to see clearly: fog, shadows, AO helpful
- Often show a mix of structural and spatial properties
- Time varying!



# Structure Visualization

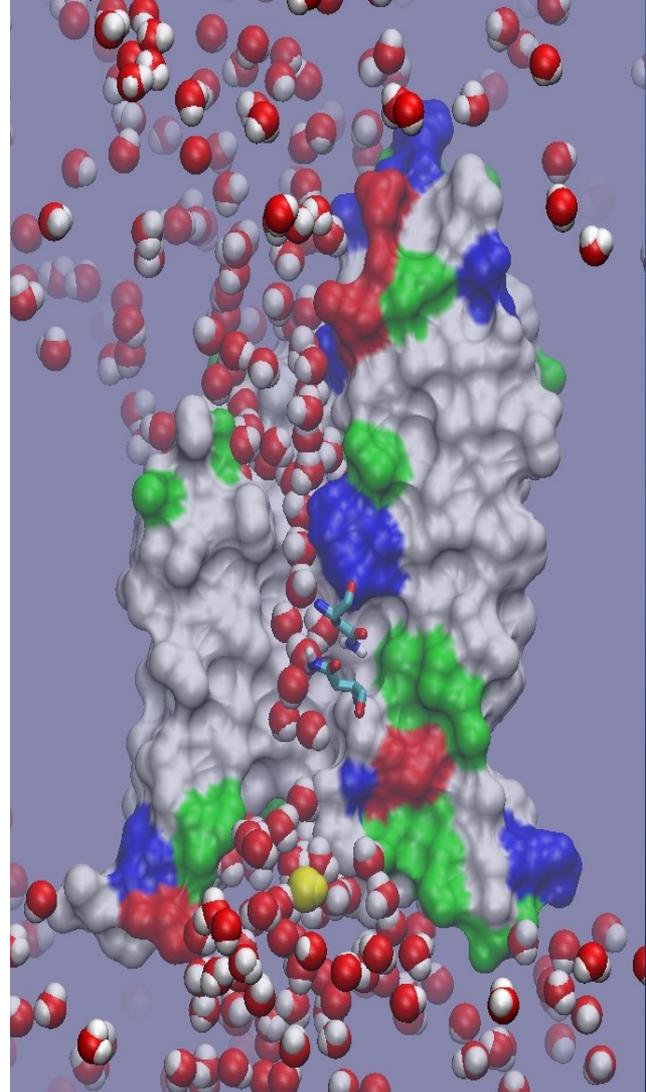
Molecular representations provide different levels of abstraction, atomic detail vs. higher level organizational information

- Atoms, VdW spheres, bonds, ball-stick, ...
- Molecular orbitals (quantum chemistry)
- Molecular surfaces
- Coarse-grained “beads”
- Ribbons, secondary structure, “cartoon” reps, RNA/DNA



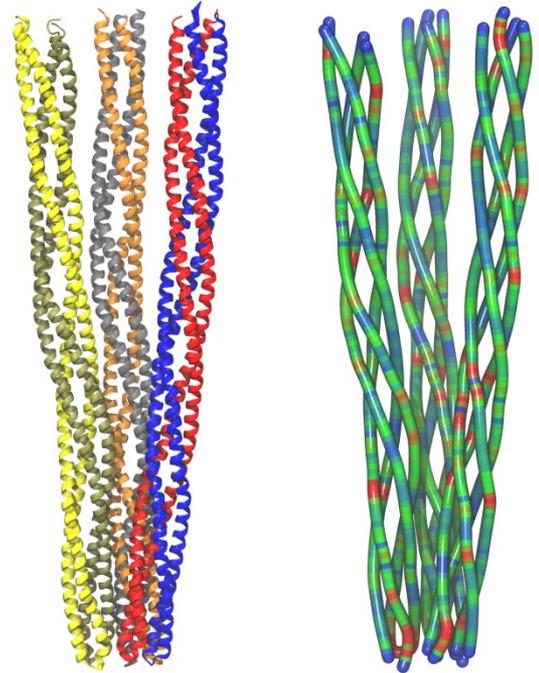
# Selection, Filtering

- Most viz tools allow interactive visual picking, menu-driven selections of structure components to display or operate on
- VMD also extensively uses a text-based selection language (think google):
  - “water within 10 of protein and  $z > 0$ ”
  - Allows selection on user-defined fields
  - ***Promotes synergy between interactive and scripting interfaces***
  - Works very well when dealing with huge time-varying structures



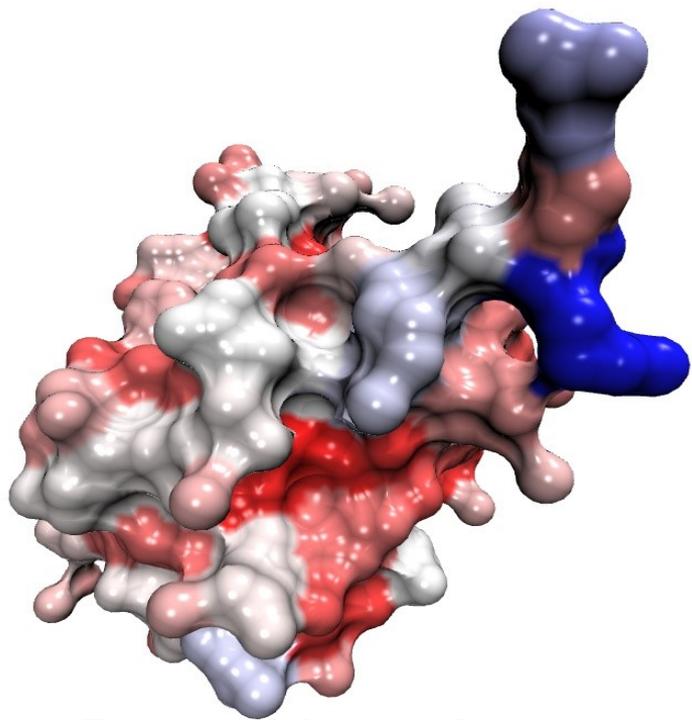
# Computed Properties

- Smoothing of thermal noise
- Secondary structure
- Hydrogen bonds, salt bridges
- Forces, energies, stress, strain
- Time averaging of electrostatic fields, occupancy maps
- Quality-of-fit cross correlation with cryo-EM density maps
- Normal modes, principal component analysis, essential dynamics
- Cluster simulation trajectory timesteps by structural similarity

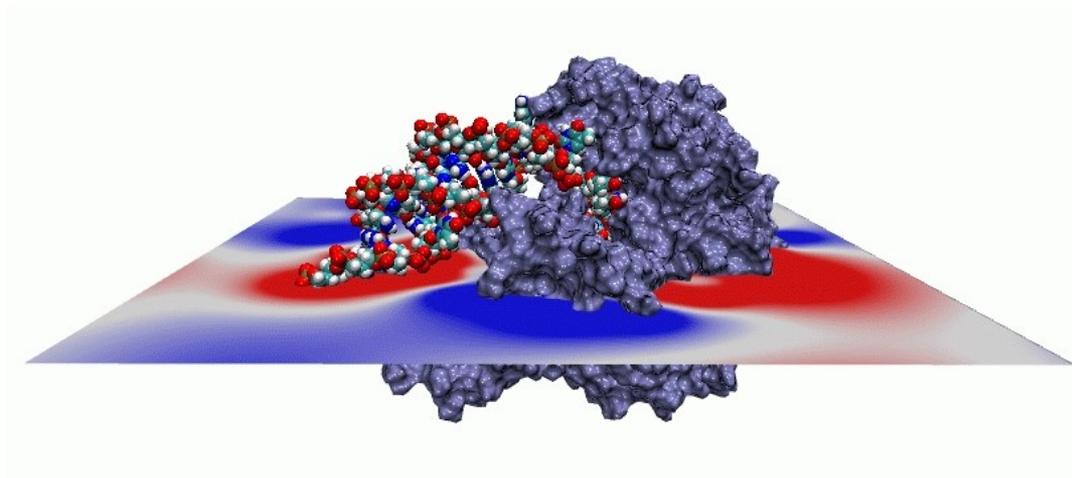


**Chemoreceptor trimer-of-dimers analysis with Bendix plugin in VMD**

# Display of Computed Properties on Structures

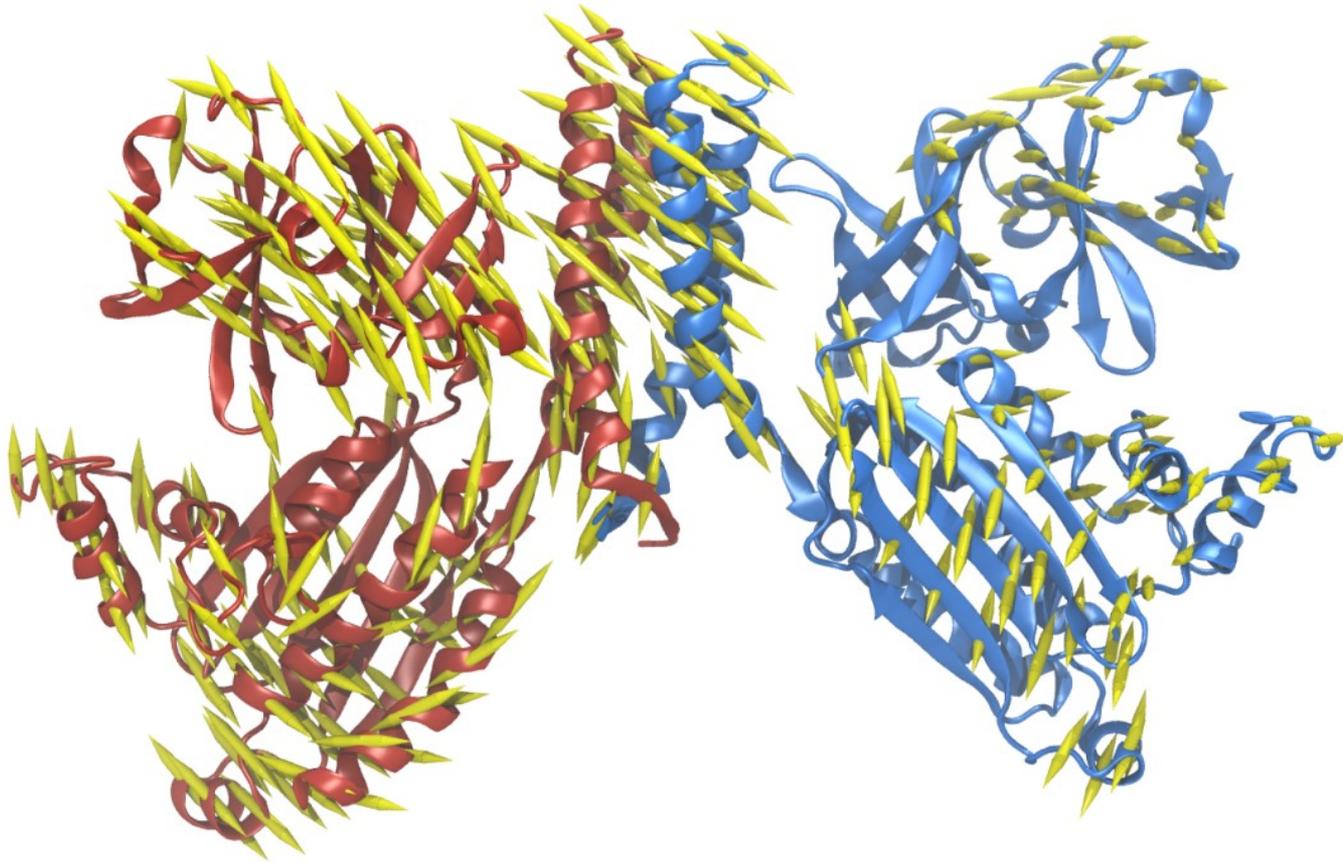


**Per-residue solvent-accessible surface area of Ubiquitin**



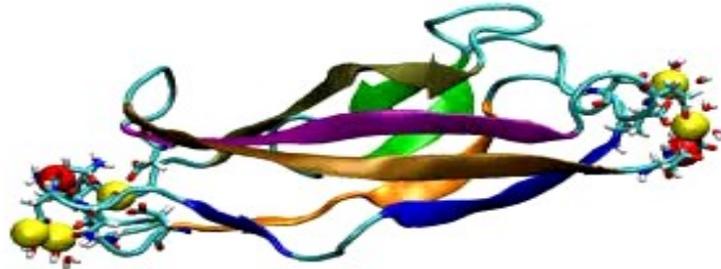
**PME electrostatic potential contour for a helicase on a volumetric slice plane**

# CheA kinase PCA: first principal component porcupine plot



# Visualization of Molecular Dynamics

- Molecular dynamics simulations save trajectories of atomic coordinates as simulated time progresses
- Researchers study trajectories by analyzing force profiles, energies, structural changes, etc.
- **Visualization selections, graphics, structure properties recomputed for each trajectory timestep!**



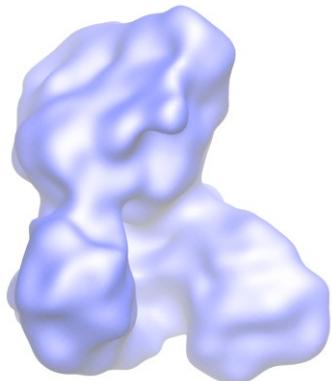
# Petascale Computing - A Key Instrument for Life Science

## MDFFF Solves Structures from X-ray Crystallography and Cryo-EM

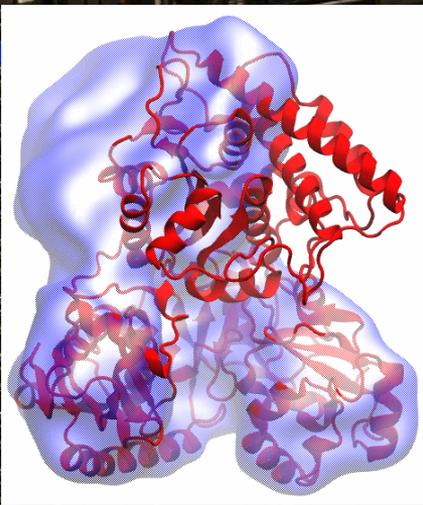
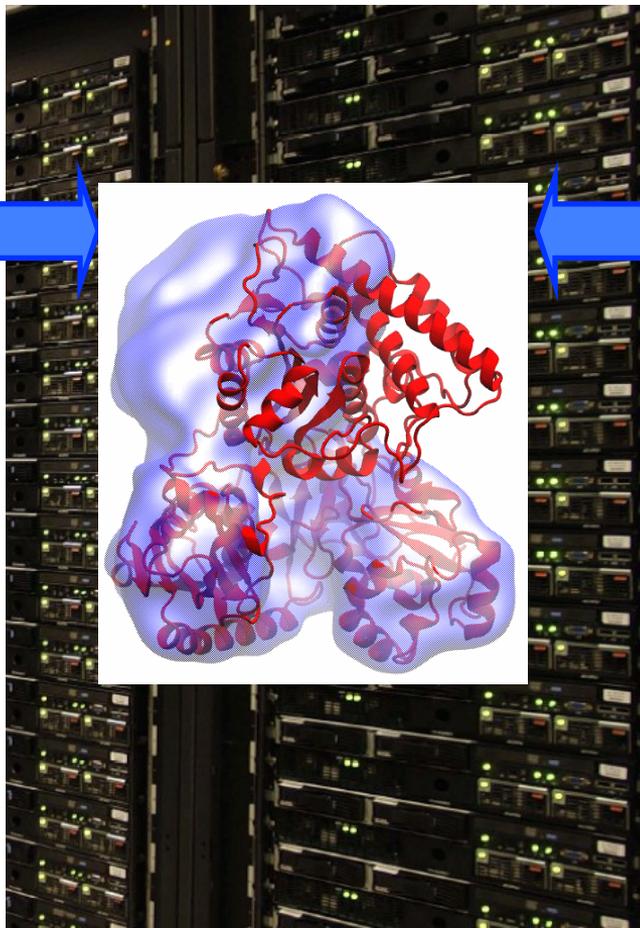
Electron microscopy



FEI microscope



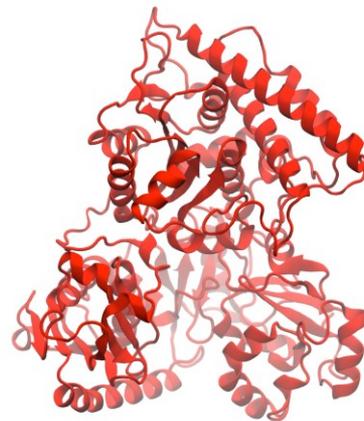
Electron density of protein in action at low resolution



X-ray crystallography

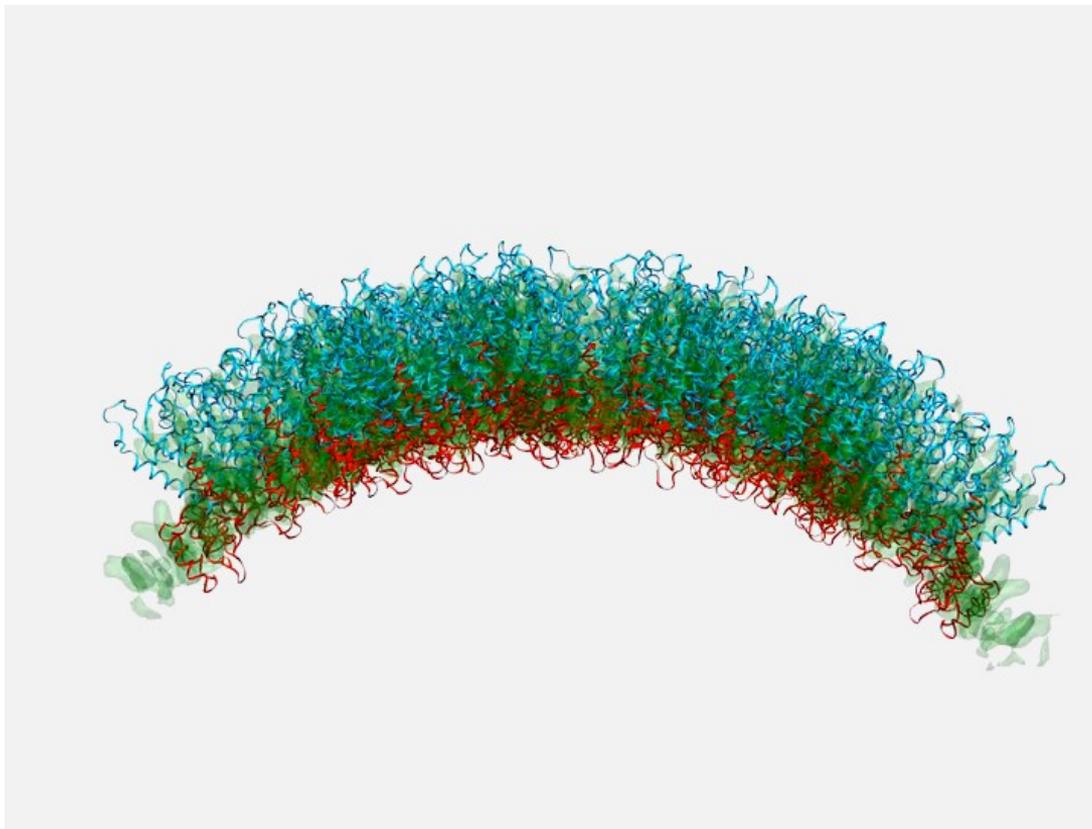


APS at Argonne



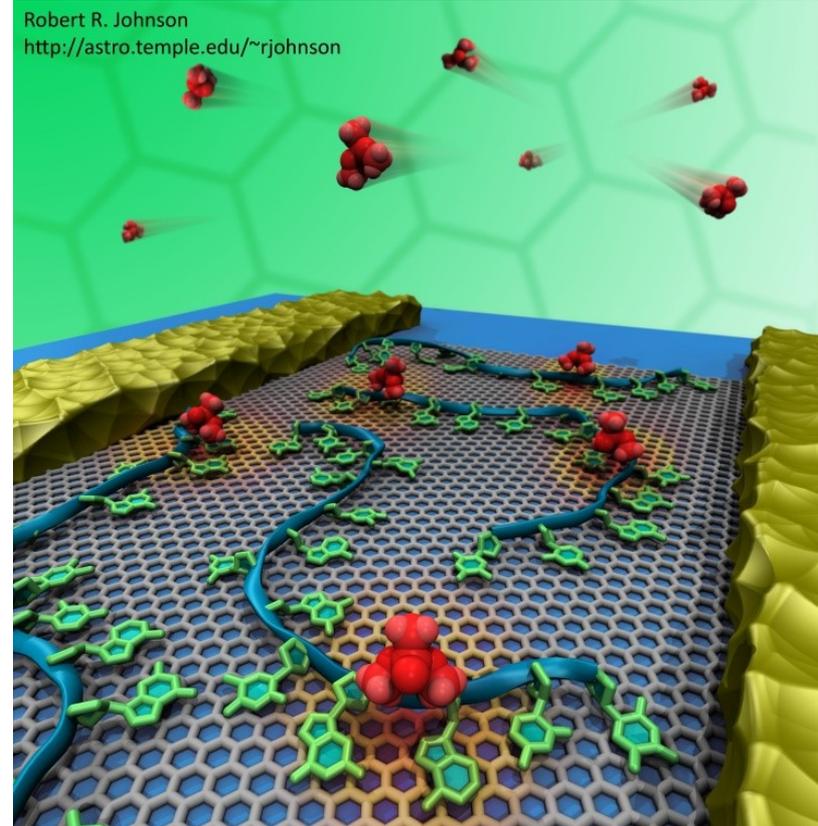
Ideal protein structure at high resolution  
Acetyl - CoA Synthase

**Hexamer of hexamers HIV capsid substructure**  
**Molecular Dynamics Flexible Fitting (MDFF) simulation.**  
**All-atom structure fitting into cryo-EM density map.**



# Ray Tracing in VMD

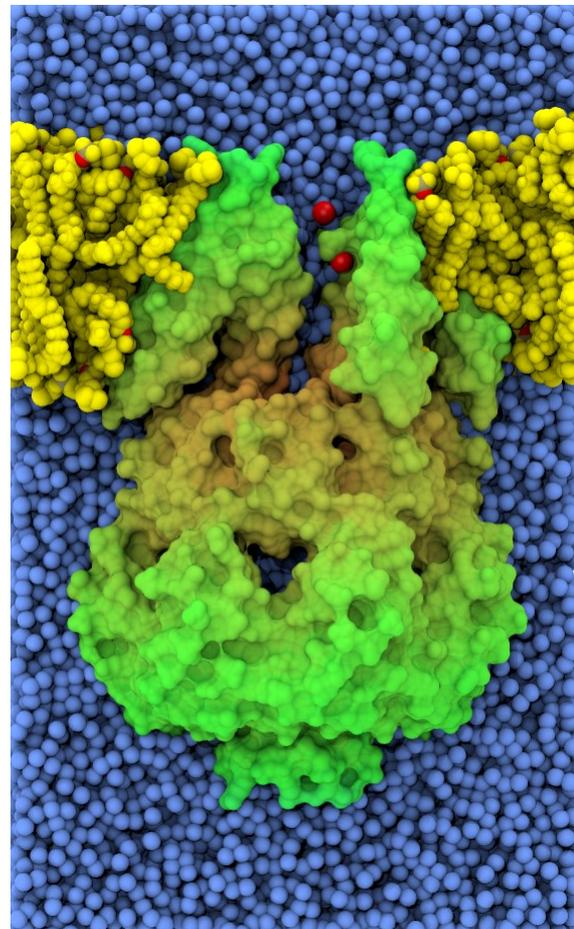
- Support for ray tracing of VMD molecular scenes began in 1995
- Tachyon parallel RT engine interfaced with VMD (1999)
- Tachyon embedded as an internal VMD rendering engine (2002)
- Built-in support for large scale parallel rendering (2012)
- Refactoring of VMD to allow fully interactive ray tracing as an alternative to OpenGL (2014)



# Geometrically Complex Scenes

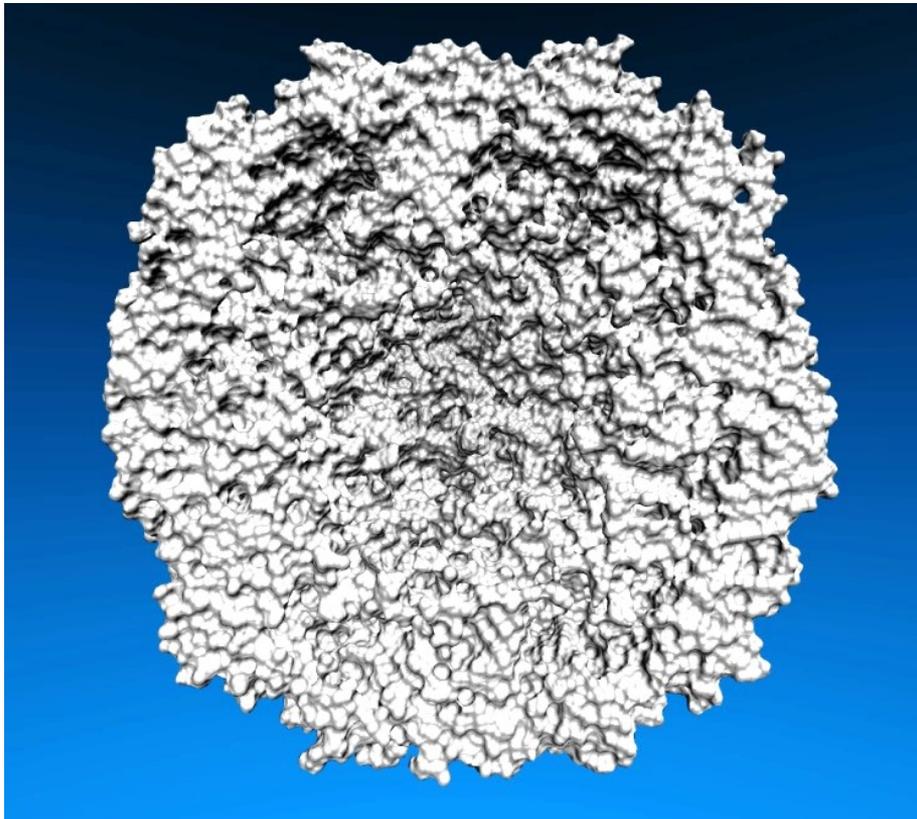
Ray tracing techniques well matched to molecular viz. needs:

- Curved geometry, e.g. spheres, cylinders, toroidal patches, easily supported
- Greatly reduced memory footprint vs. polygonalization
- Runtime scales only moderately with increasing geometric complexity
- Occlusion culling is “free”, RT acceleration algorithms do this and much more

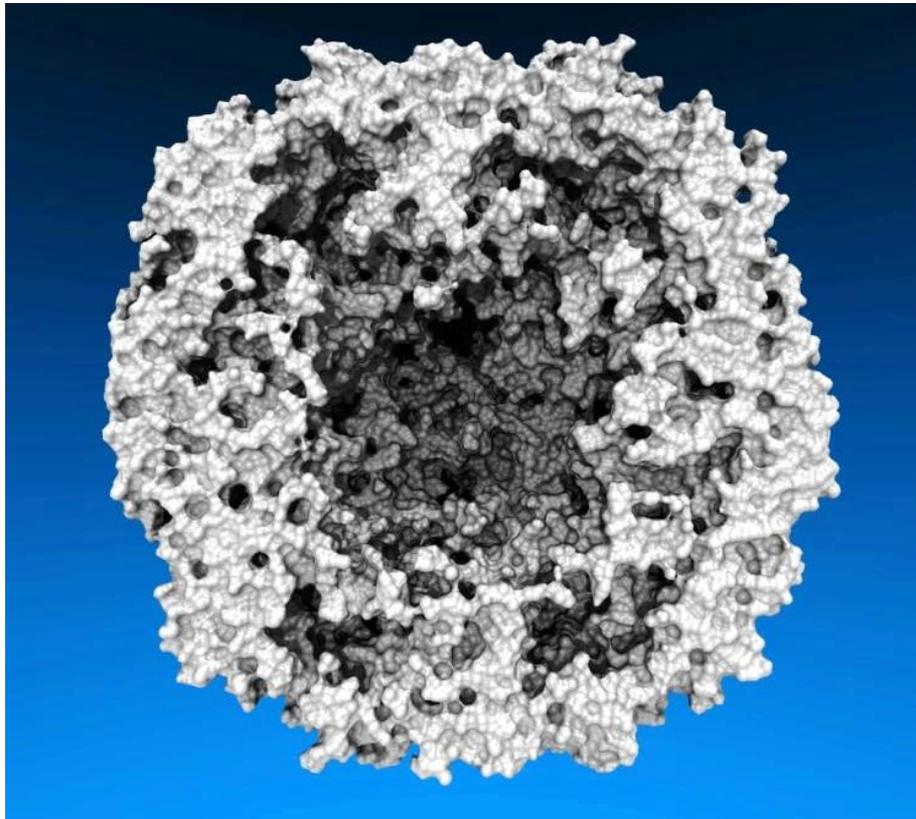


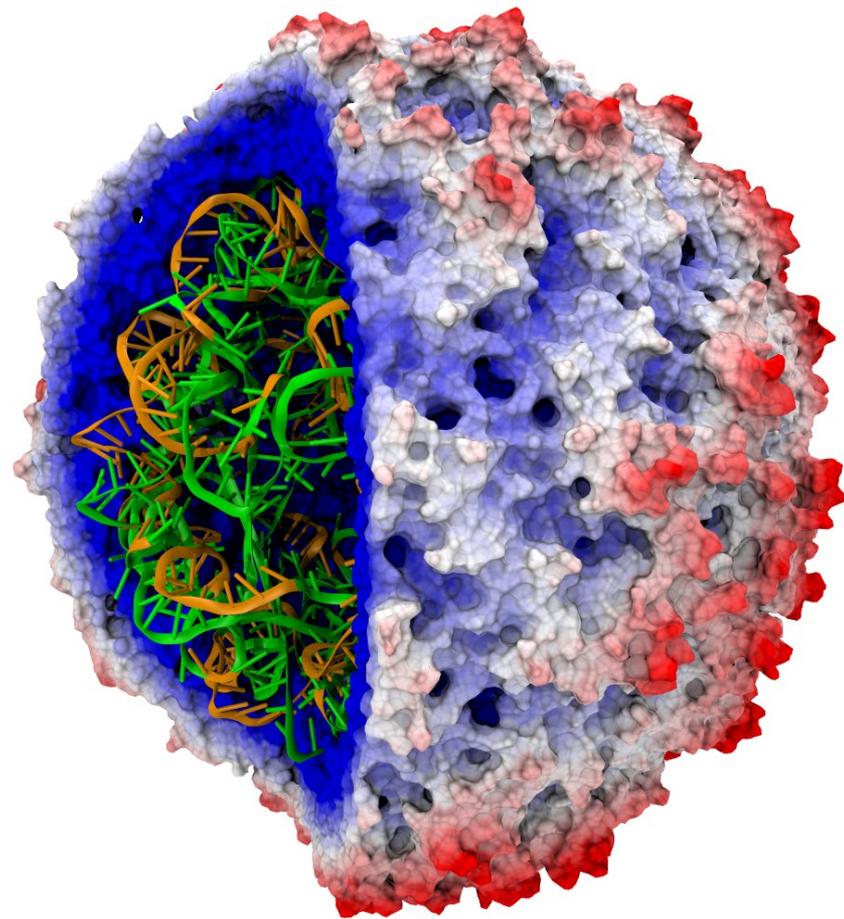
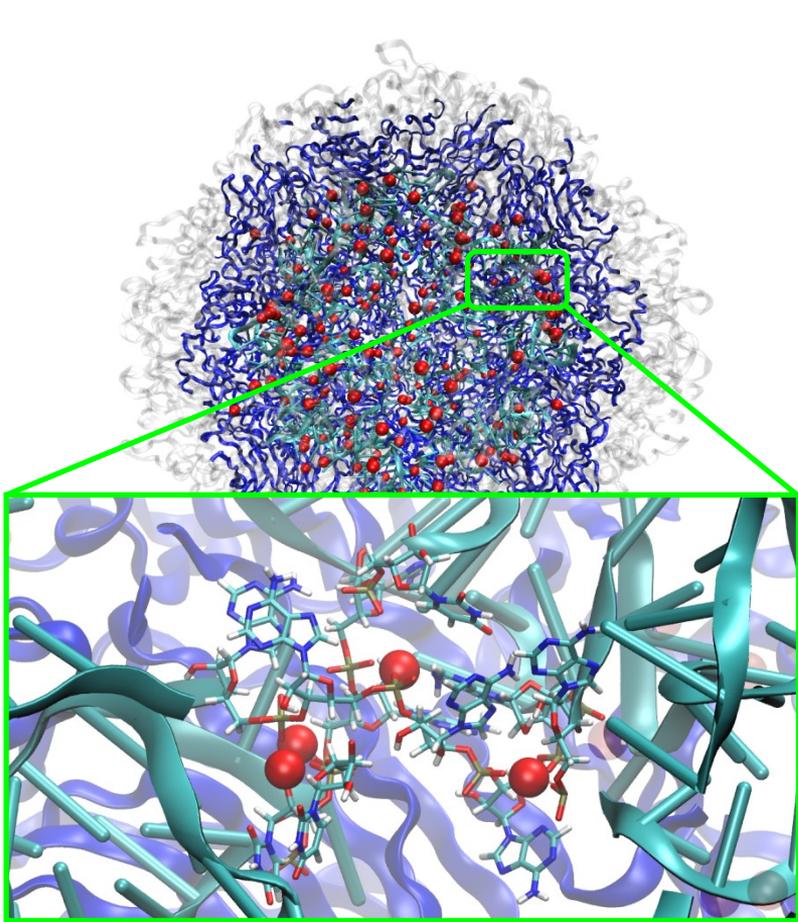
***Interactive*** Ray Tracing, Lighting Comparison: STMV Capsid

**Two lights, no shadows  
(e.g. as used by OpenGL)**



**Ambient occlusion lighting  
and shadows w/ RT**

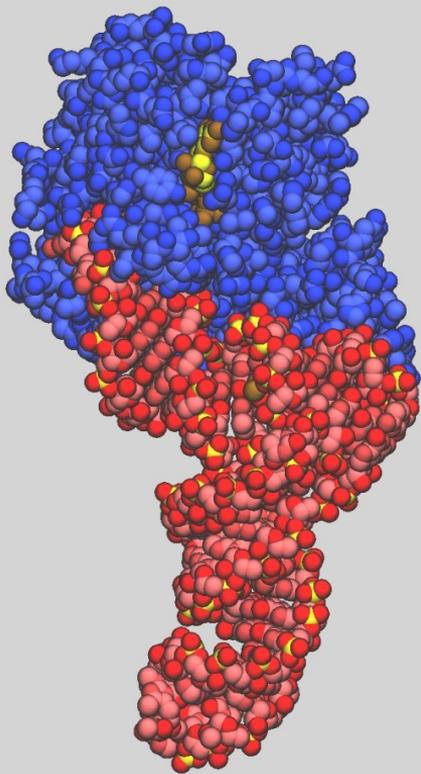




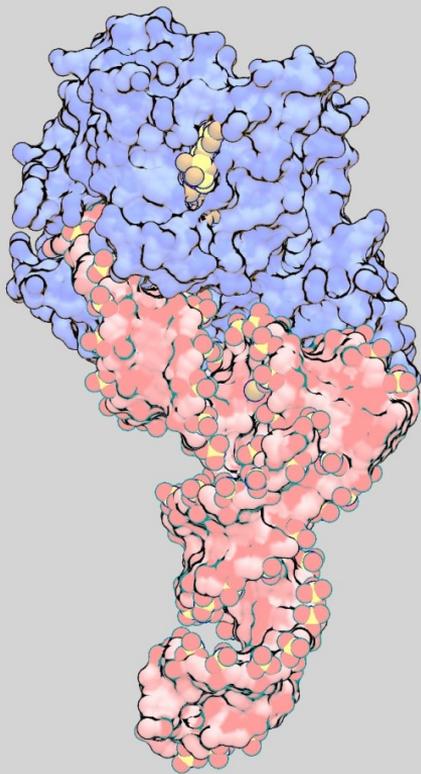
**Satellite Tobacco Mosaic Virus**

# VMD Shading Comparison: EF-Tu

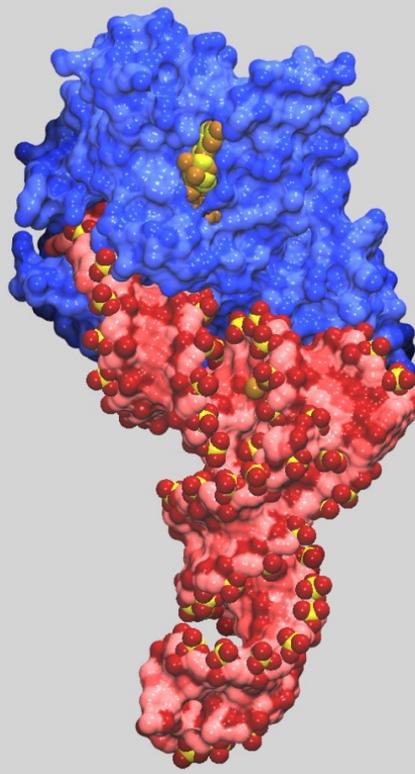
Outline  
Shader



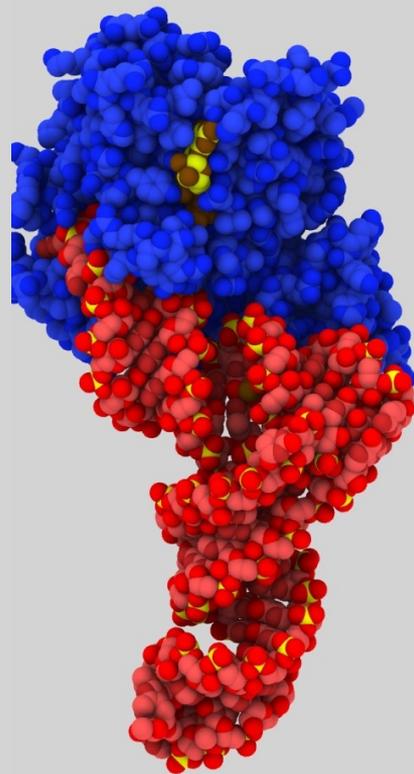
“Goodsell”  
Shader

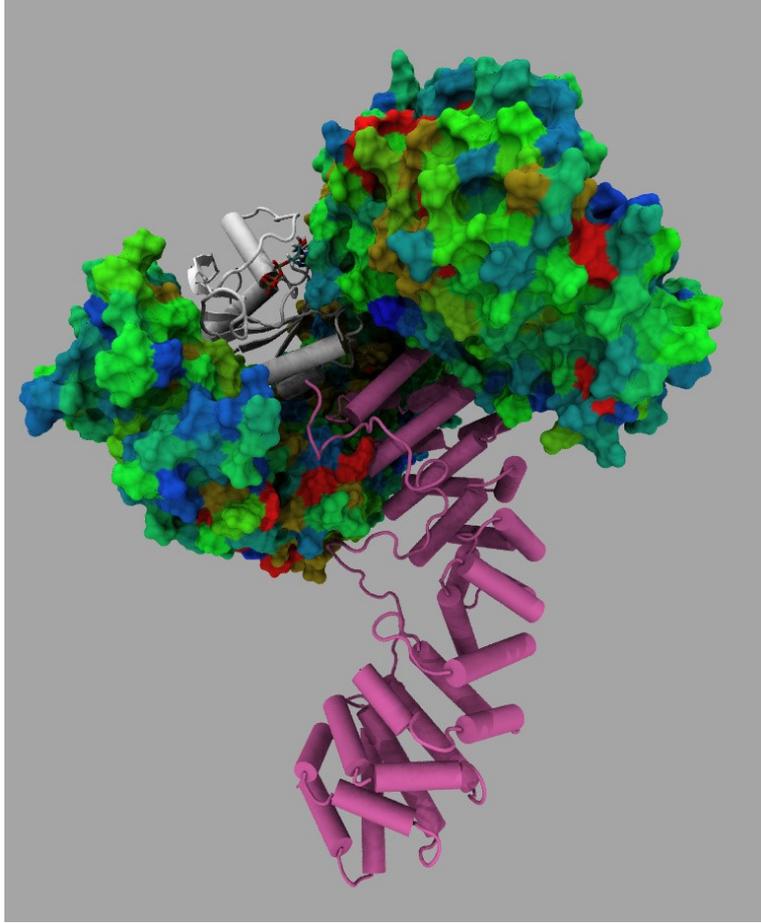


Glossy  
Shader

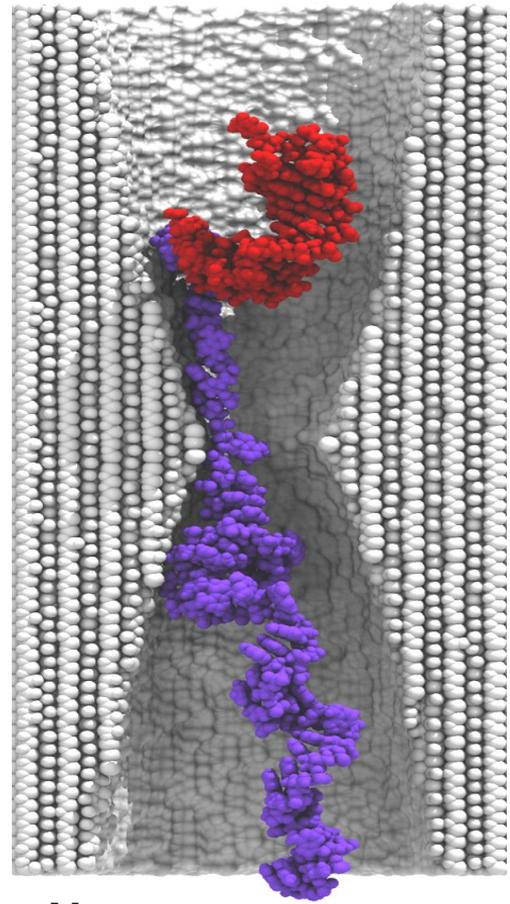


Ambient Occlusion,  
Shadowing





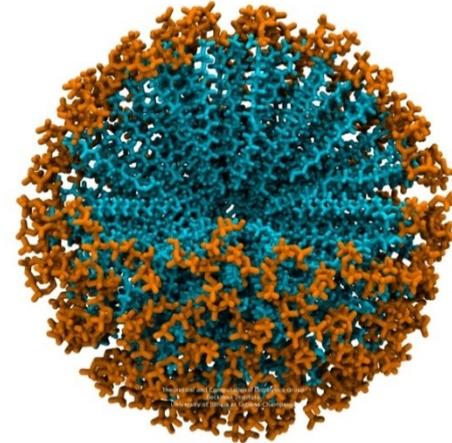
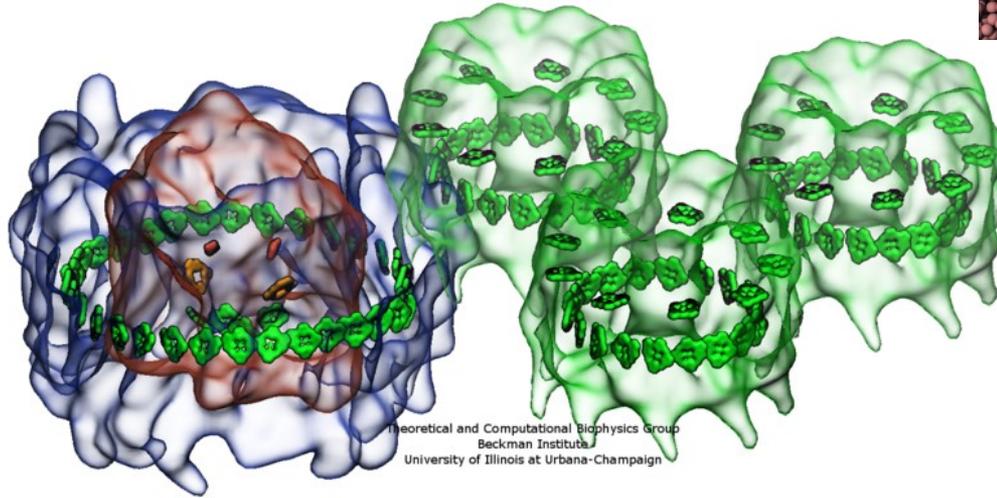
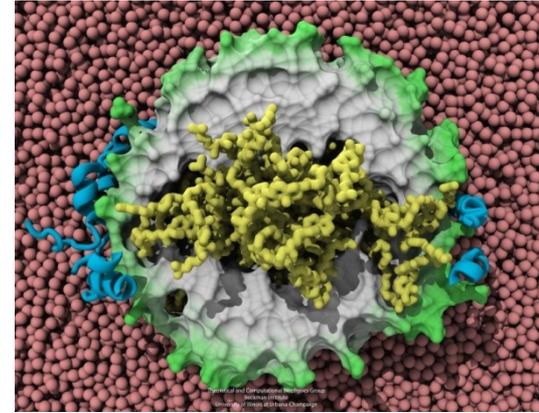
**Exportin Cse1p**



**Nanopore**

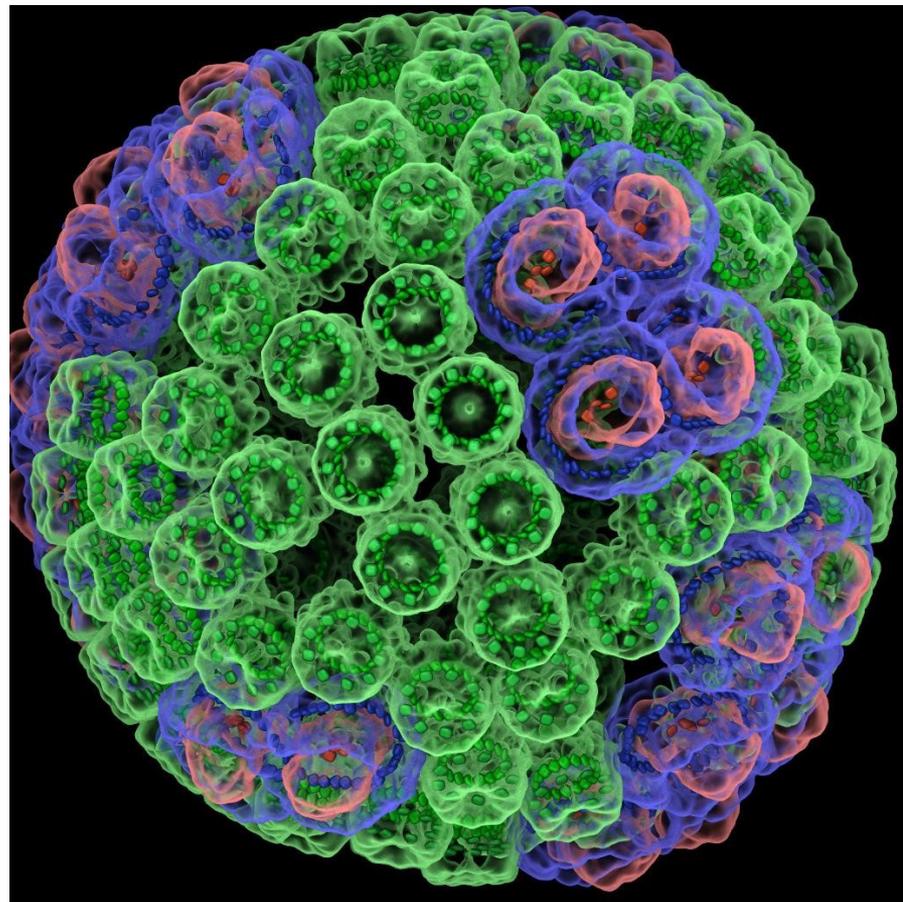
# Benefits of Advanced Lighting and Shading Techniques

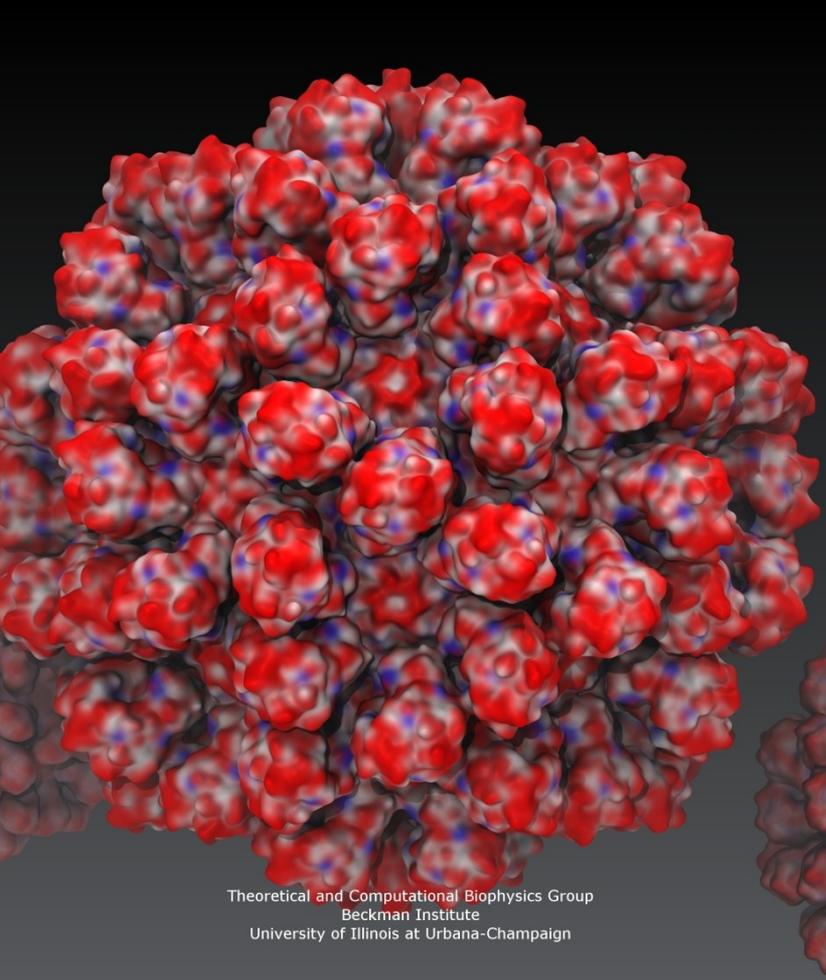
- Exploit visual intuition
- Spend computer time in exchange for scientists' time, make images that are more easily interpreted



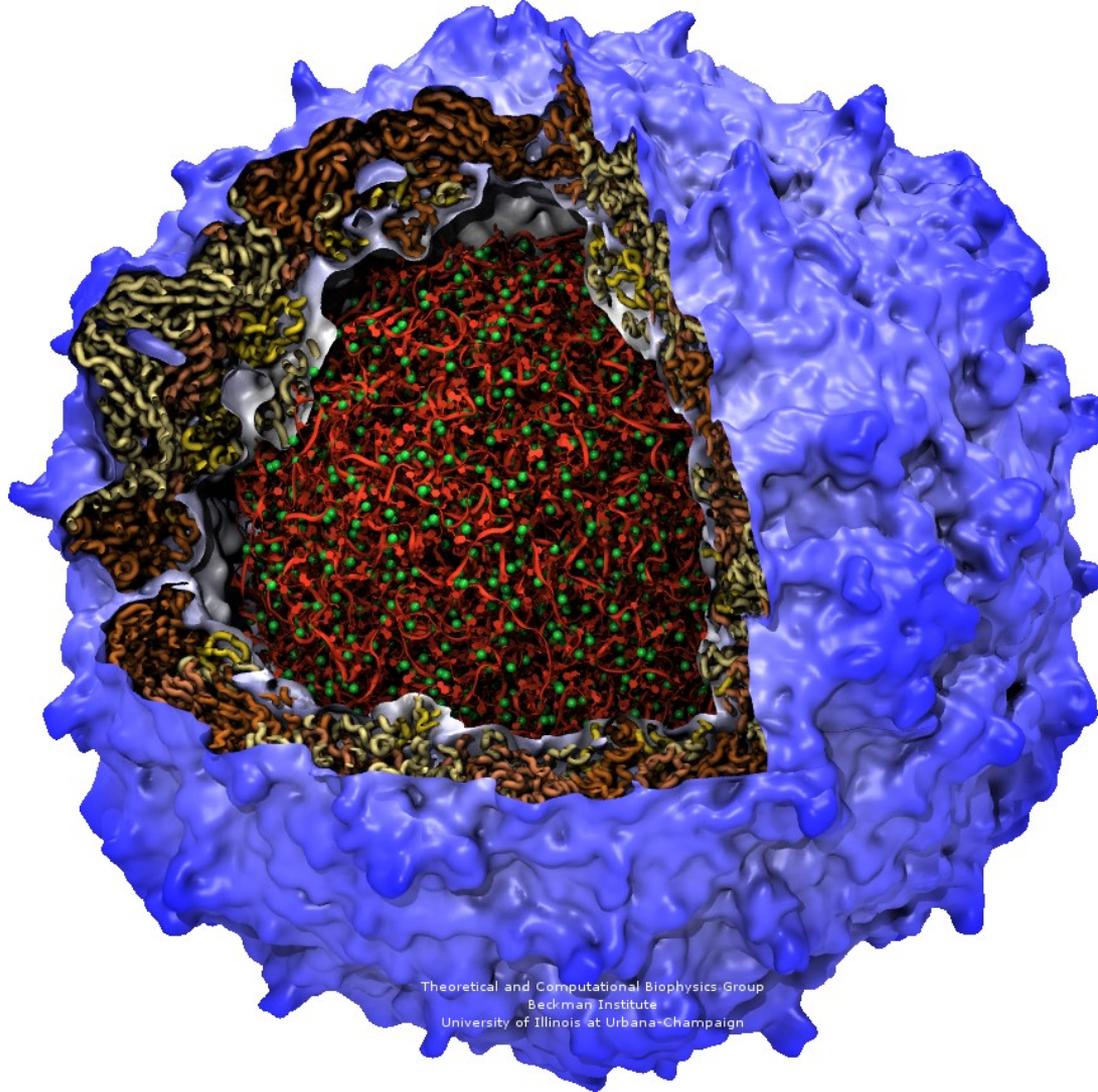
# High Fidelity Interactive Visualization

- VMD interactive ray tracing
  - Interactive ray tracing on GPUs with progressive refinement of image and lighting quality
  - Fully interactive rendering of large structures with advanced lighting features, and WYSIWYG “What you see is what you get” final image output



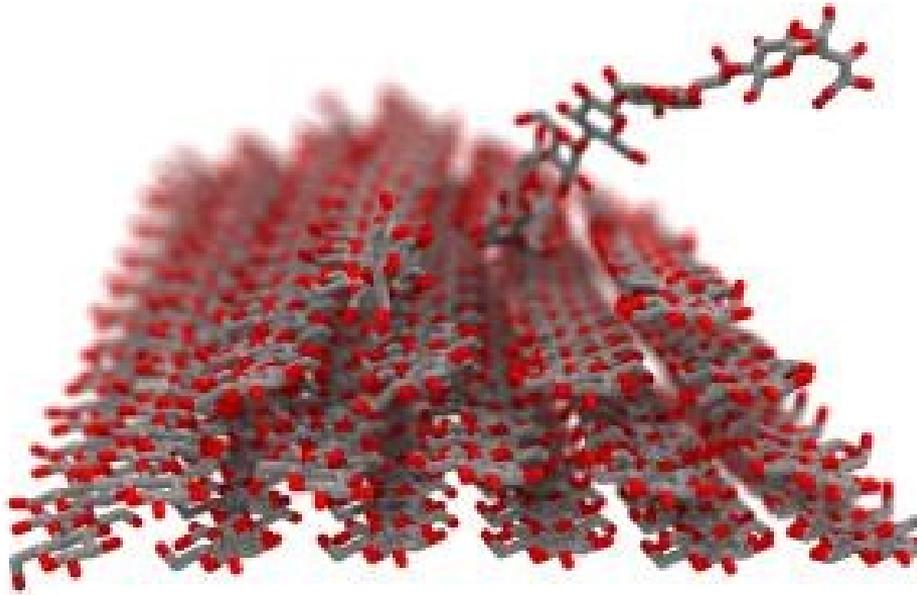


Theoretical and Computational Biophysics Group  
Beckman Institute  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

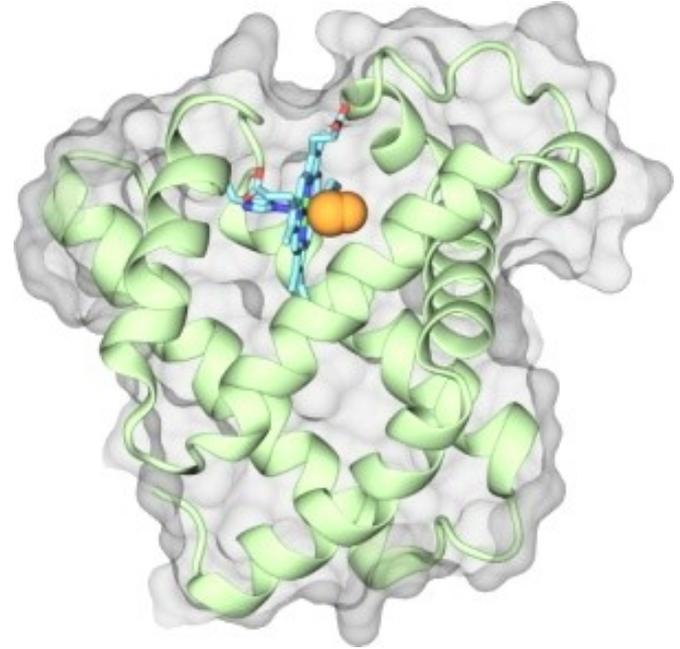


Theoretical and Computational Biophysics Group  
Beckman Institute  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

# Diverse Shading and Lighting Approaches



**Decrystallization: Interactive Ray Tracing w/  
Ambient Occlusion Lighting, Depth of Field  
Focal Blur**

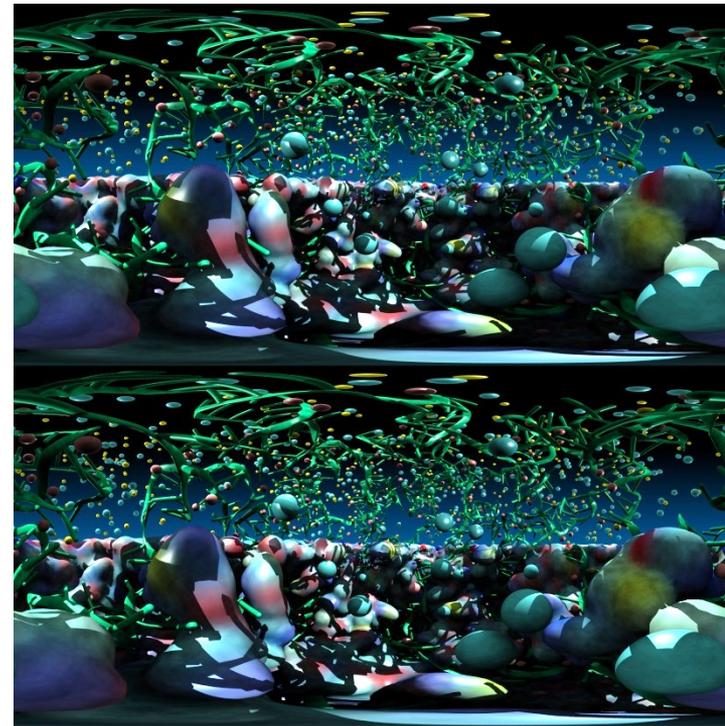


**Myoglobin**

# Stereoscopic Panorama Ray Tracing

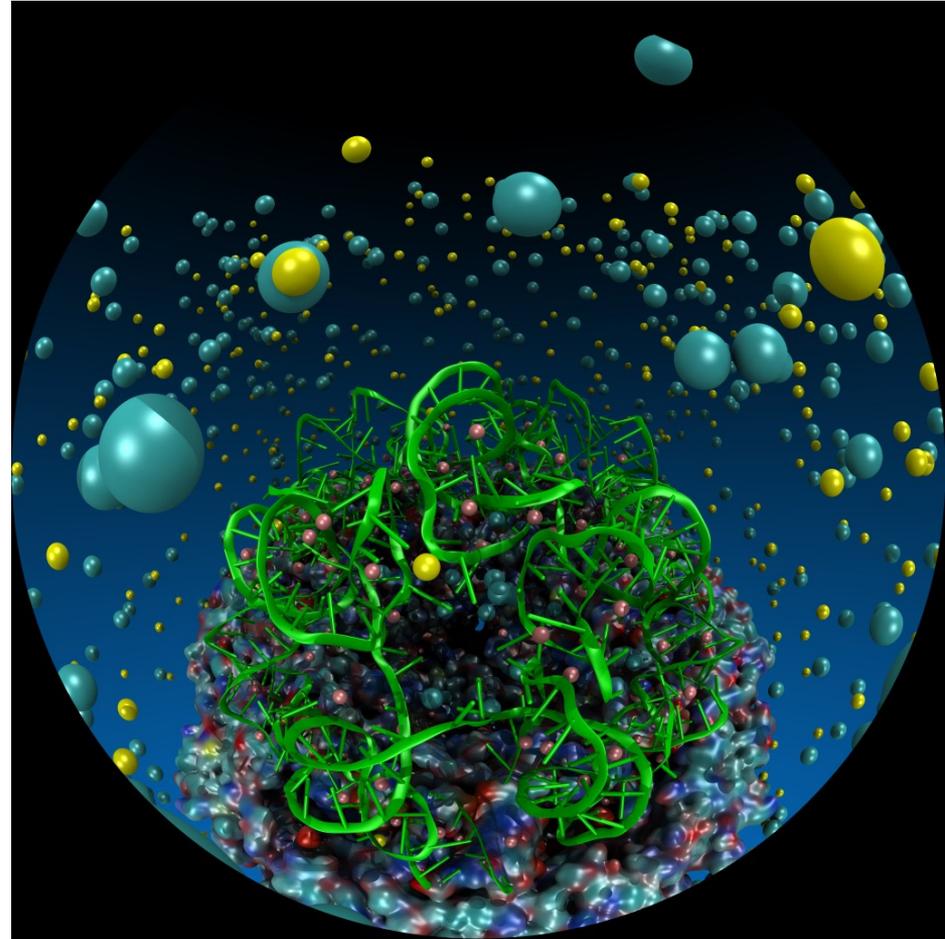


- **Render 360° images and movies for VR headsets such as Oculus Rift, Google Cardboard, YouTube VR**
- Ray trace omnidirectional stereo spheremaps or cubemaps for very high-frame-rate reprojection and display via OpenGL texturing
- Stereo requires spherical camera projections **poorly suited to rasterization**
- Benefits from OptiX multi-GPU rendering and load balancing, **remote visualization**



# VMD Planetarium Dome Master Camera

- RT-based dome projection -- rasterization poorly suited to non-planar projections
- Fully interactive RT with ambient occlusion, shadows, depth of field, reflections, and so on
- Both mono and stereoscopic
- No further post-processing required

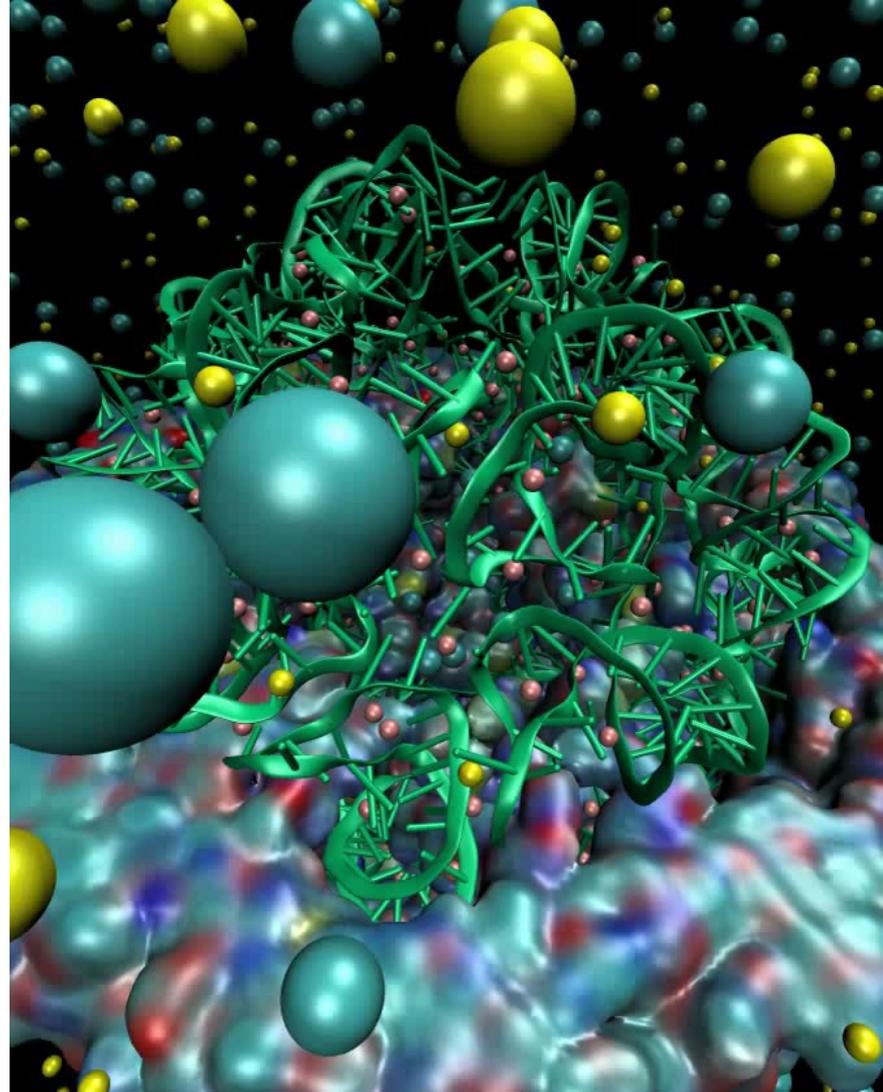


# Ray Tracing Performance

- Well suited to massively parallel hardware
- Peak performance requires full exploitation of SIMD/vectorization, multithreading, efficient use of memory bandwidth
- Traditional languages+compilers not yet up to the taskParallel SPMD-oriented languages and compilers address the shortcomings of traditional tools
- RT frameworks provide performance-critical algorithms:
  - NVIDIA OptiX/CUDA: general RT framework for writing high performance GPU ray tracing engines
  - Intel OSPRay/ISPC: general RT framework and library, includes not only basic kernels but also complete renderer implementations

# VMD Interactive GPU Ray Tracing

- High quality lighting, shadows, transparency, depth-of-field focal blur, etc.
- VMD now provides – ***interactive***– ray tracing on laptops, desktops, and ***remote*** visual supercomputers
- **Movie was recorded live while using remote visualization**

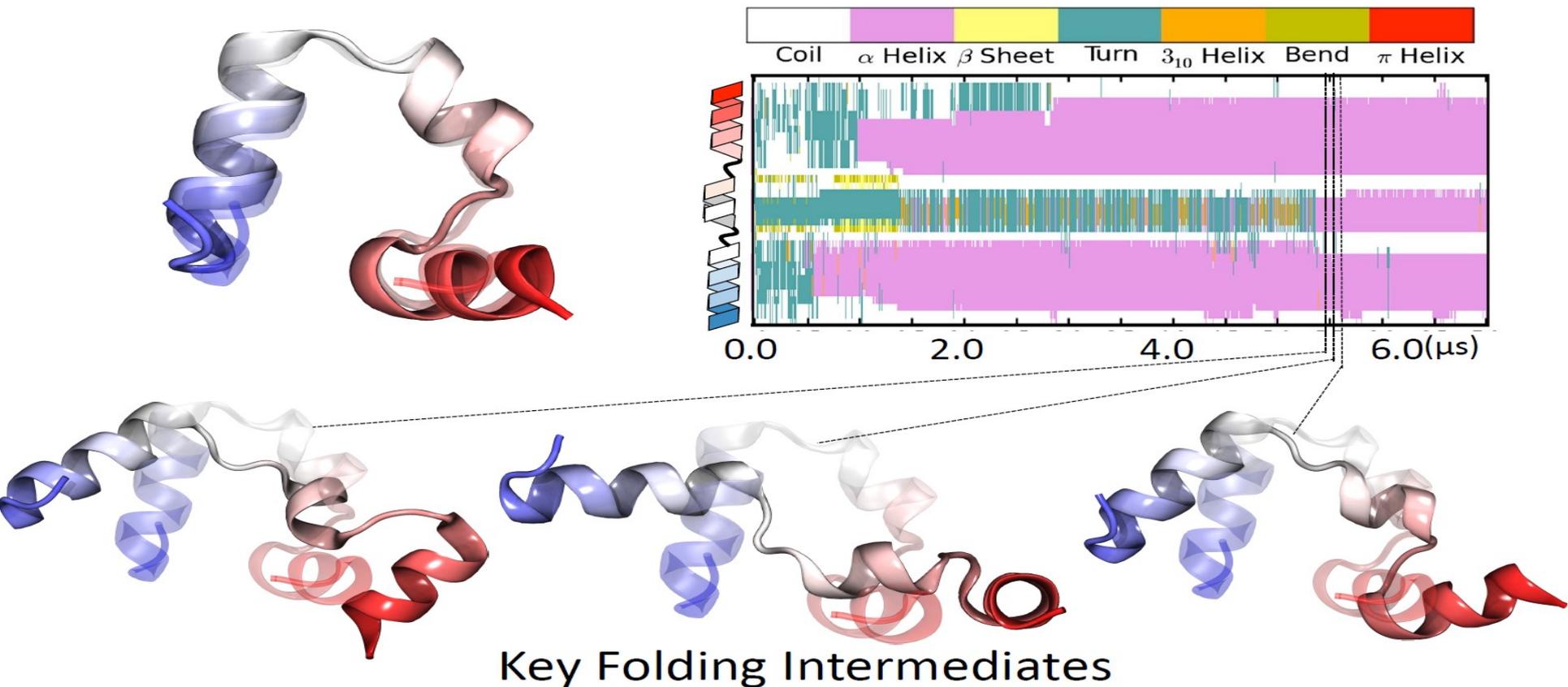


# Trajectory and Large System Analysis and Visualization on GPUs, Clusters, and Supercomputers

# Folding Dynamics of Villin Headpiece Unveiled

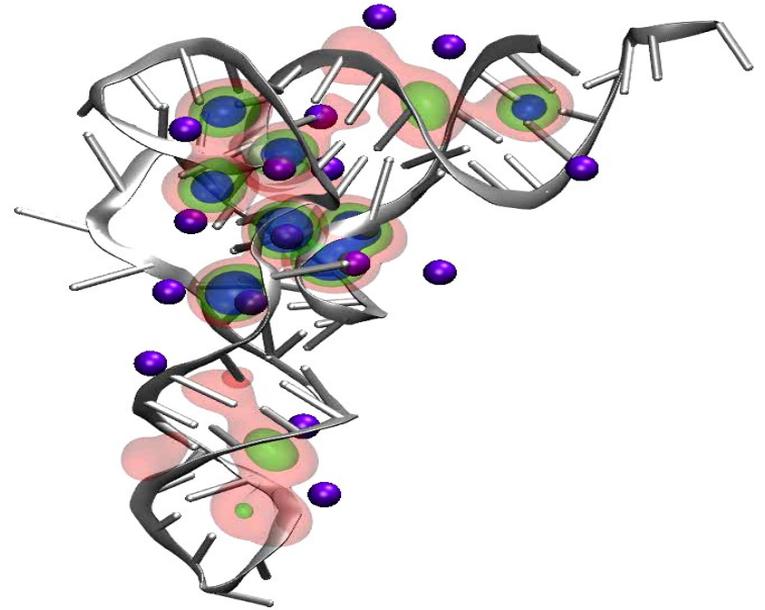
## 6.9 $\mu$ s folding simulation of 30K atoms: 380GB trajectory

Schulten et al. *Biophys J* 94:L75, 2008, 97: 2009



# Time-Averaged Volumetric Properties

- Compute density, distance, occupancy, potential maps for a frame or averaged over a trajectory
- Example: display binding sites for diffusively bound ions as probability density isosurfaces

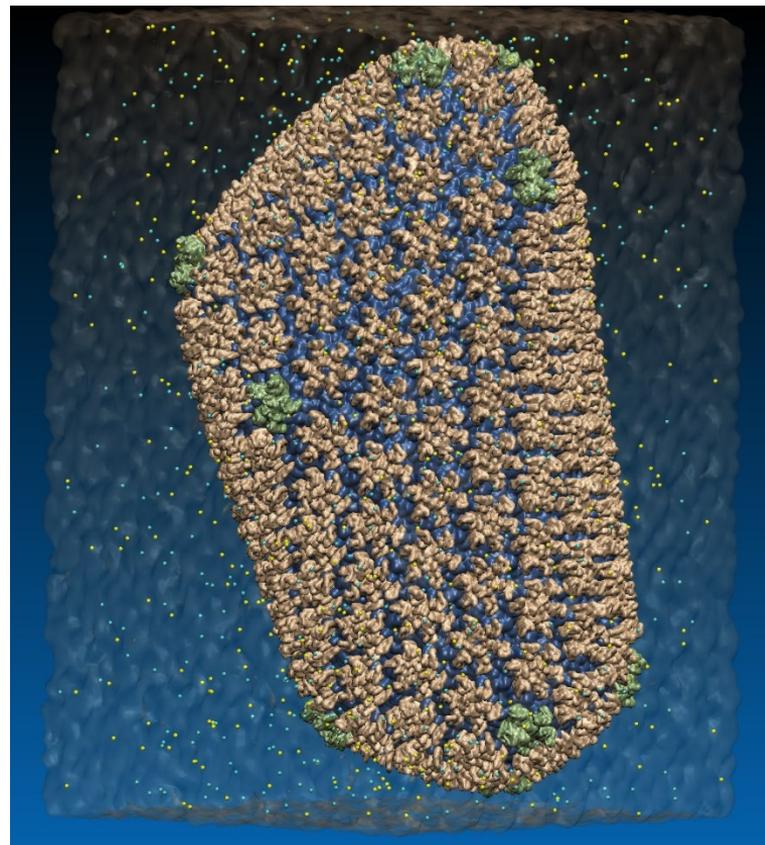


**tRNA magnesium ion occupancy:  
VMD volmap plugin**

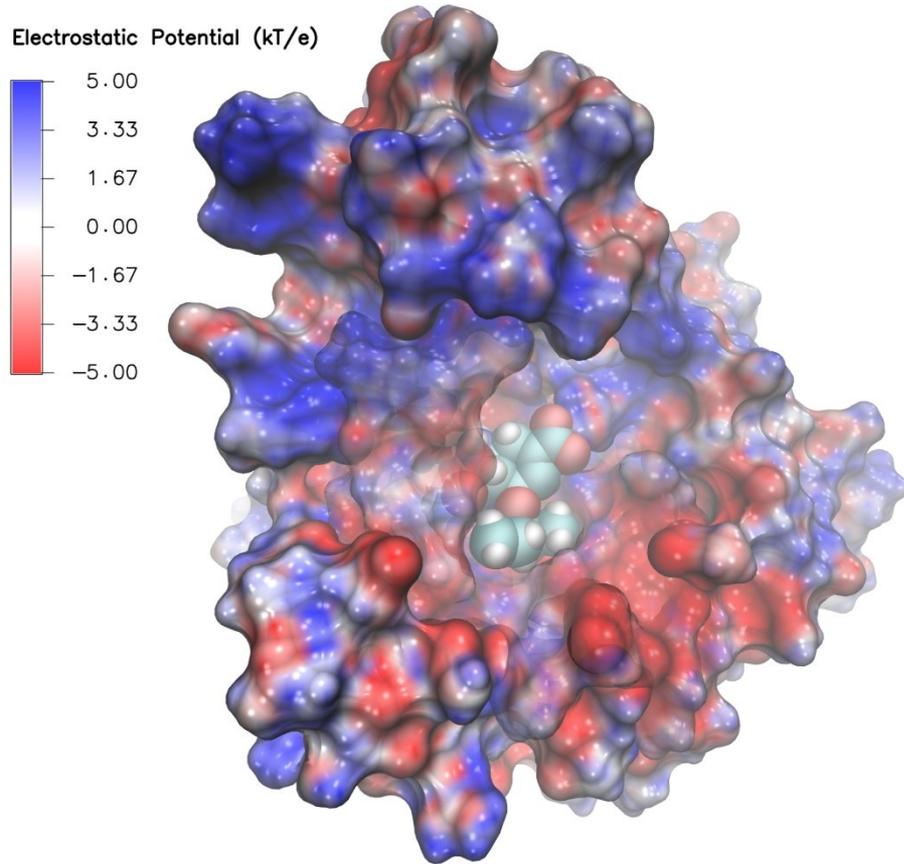
# VMD EGL Performance on Amazon EC2 Cloud

MPI Ranks	EC2 “G2.8xlarge” GPU Instances	HIV-1 movie rendering time (sec), (I/O %) 3840x2160 resolution
1	1	626s (10% I/O)
2	1	347s (19% I/O)
4	1	221s (31% I/O)
8	2	141s (46% I/O)
16	4	107s (64% I/O)
32	8	90s (76% I/O)

**Performance at 32 nodes reaches ~48 FPS**



**64M atom HIV-1 capsid simulation rendered via EGL**



**Swine Flu A/H1N1 neuraminidase bound to Tamiflu: VMD EGL rendering demonstrating full support for all VMD shaders and OpenGL features, multisample antialiasing, ray cast spheres, 3-D texture mapping, ...**

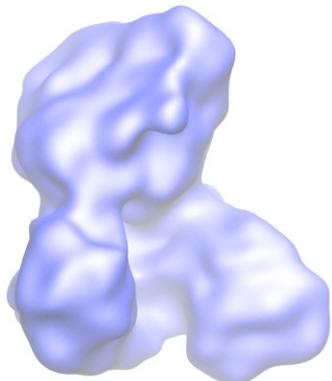
# Petascale Computing - A Key Instrument for Life Science

## MDFFF Solves Structures from X-ray Crystallography and Cryo-EM

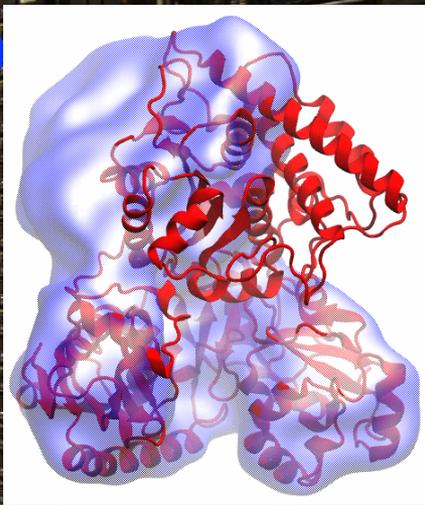
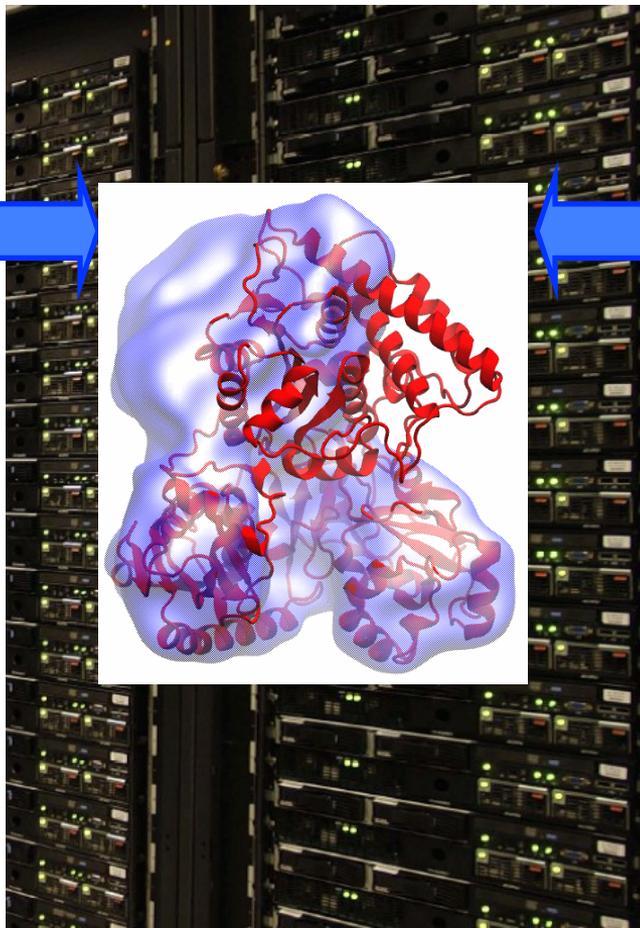
Electron microscopy



FEI microscope



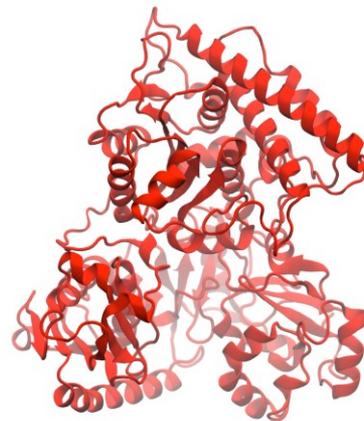
Electron density of protein in action at low resolution



X-ray crystallography



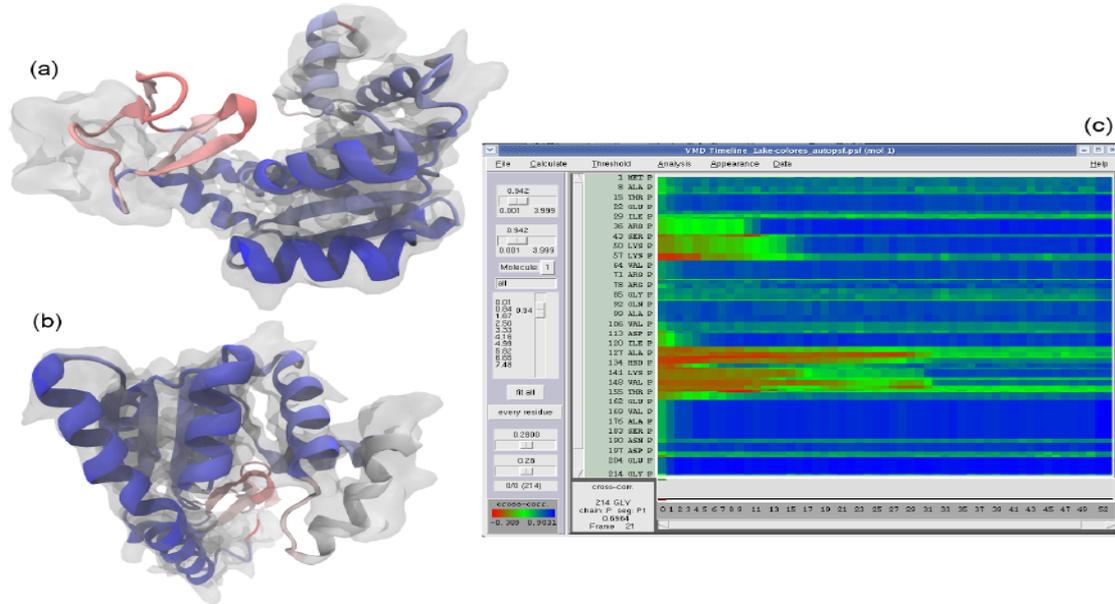
APS at Argonne



Ideal protein structure at high resolution  
Acetyl - CoA Synthase

# VMD Timeline Plugin: Analyze MD Trajectories for Events

**GPU-accelerated MDFF**  
**Cross Correlation Timeline**  
**Regions with poor fit**  
**Regions with good fit**



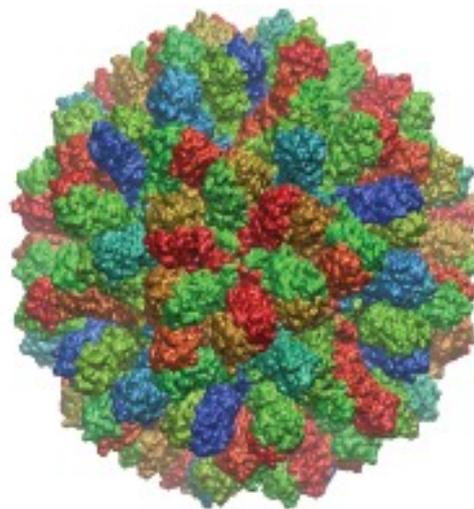
- **Interactive** 2-D heatmap plot linked to 3-D structure
- Single picture shows changing properties across structure+trajectory
- Explore time vs. per-selection attribute, linked to molecular structure
- Many analysis methods available; user-extendable

# Parallel MDFF Cross Correlation Analysis on Cray XK7

## Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus (RHDV)

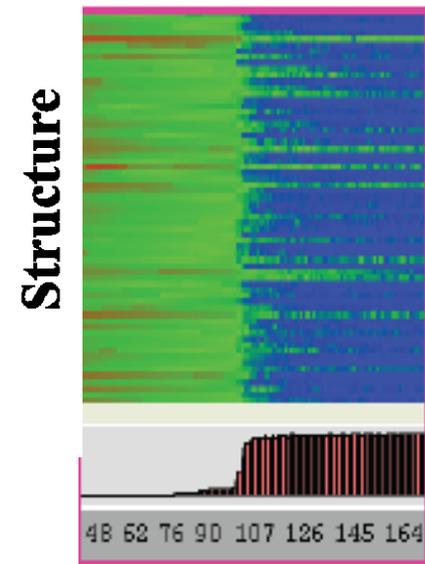
Traj. frames	10,000
Structure component selections	720
Single-node XK7 (projected)	336 hours (14 days)
128-node XK7	3.2 hours 105x speedup
2048-node XK7	19.5 minutes 1035x speedup

Calculation of 7M CCs would take **5 years** using serial CPU algorithm!



**RHDV colored  
by relative CC**

**Relative CC**  
-0.0032 0.02



**Time**

# VMD MDFF Cross Correlation

Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus: 702K atoms, 6.5Å resolution

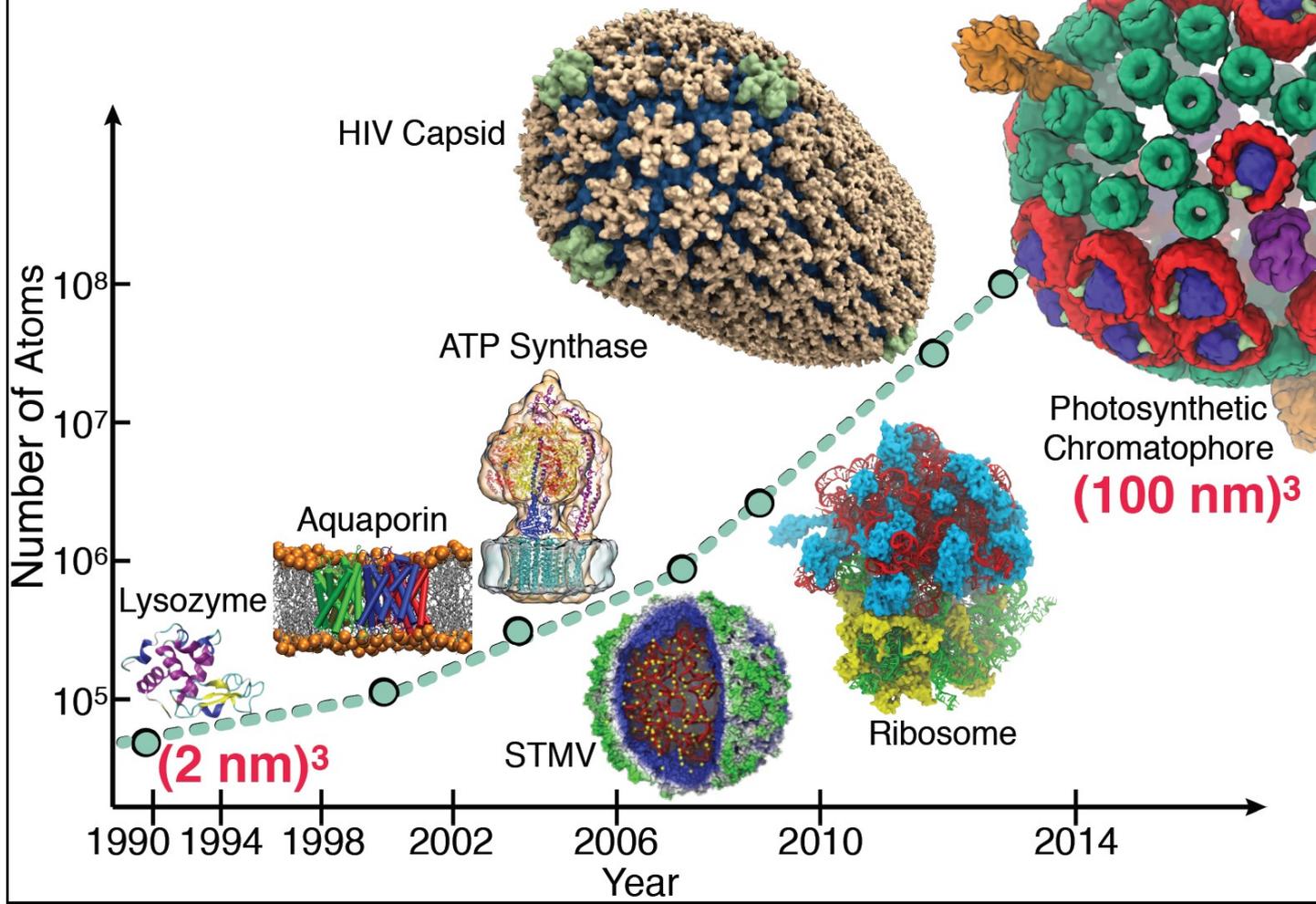
Software, Hardware platform	Runtime, Speedup vs. Chimera, VMD+GPU
Chimera, Intel Xeon E5-2687W (2 socket) [1]	15.860s, 1x
VMD, Intel Xeon E5-2687W (2 socket) [1]	0.779s, 20x
VMD-CUDA, Intel Xeon E5-2687W + Quadro K6000 [1,2]	0.458s, 35x 1.0x
<b>VMD-CUDA, Intel Xeon E5-2698v3 + Tesla P100 [3]</b>	<b>0.090s, 176x 5.1x</b>
<b>VMD-CUDA, IBM Power8 “Minsky” + Tesla P100 [3]</b>	<b>0.080s, 198x 5.7x</b>

[1] GPU-Accelerated Analysis and Visualization of Large Structures Solved by Molecular Dynamics Flexible Fitting. J.E. Stone, R. McGreevy, B. Isralewitz, and K. Schulten. Faraday Discussions 169:265-283, 2014.

[2] Early Experiences Porting the NAMD and VMD Molecular Simulation and Analysis Software to GPU-Accelerated OpenPOWER Platforms. J. E. Stone, A.-P. Hynninen, J.C. Phillips, K. Schulten. IIWOPH'16, LNCS 9945, pp. 188-206, 2016.

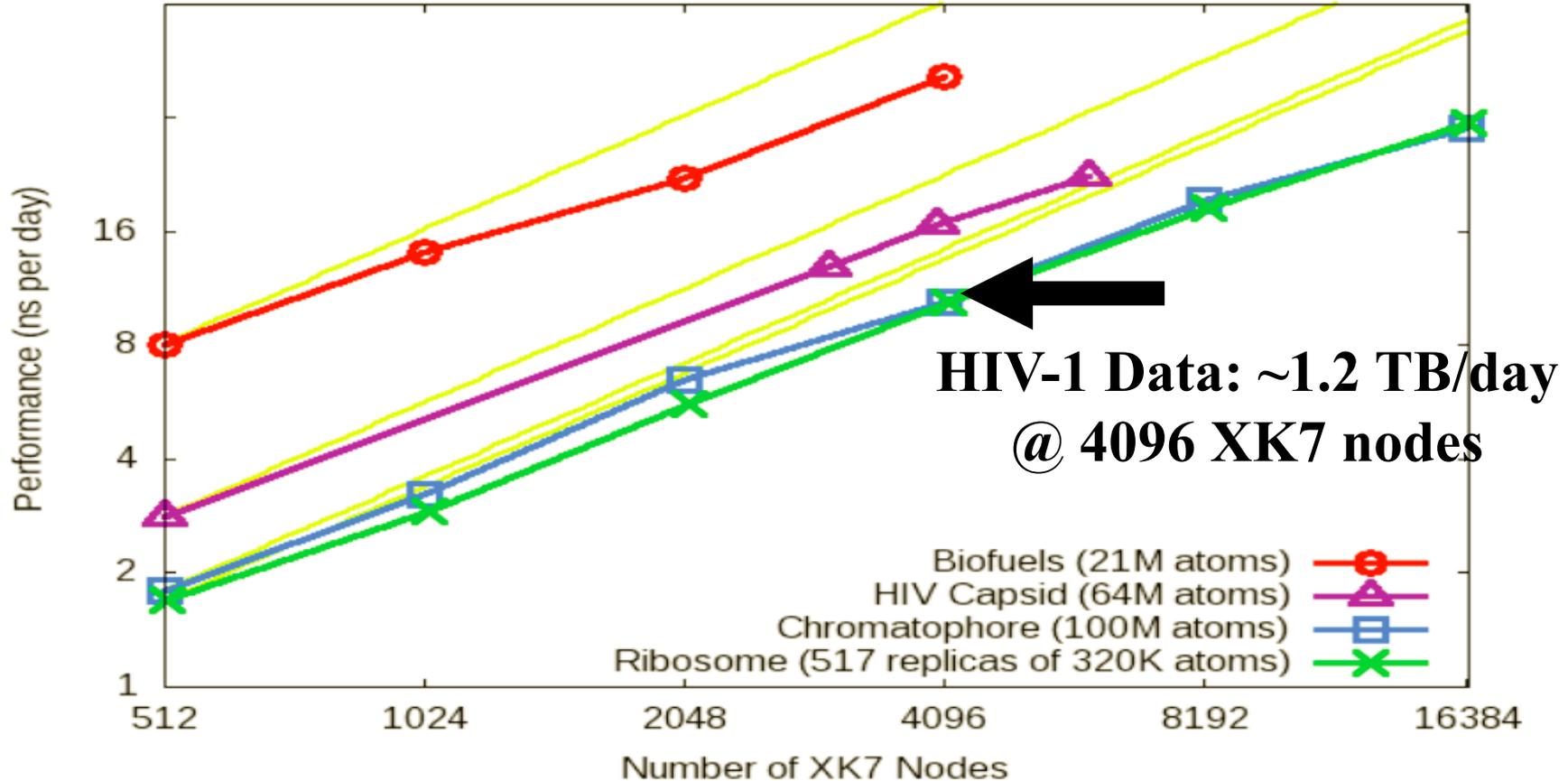
[3] Latest results, VMD 1.9.3 November 2016

# All-Atom Molecular Dynamics Today



# NAMD Titan XK7 Performance August 2013

NAMD on Titan Cray XK7 (2fs timestep with PME)



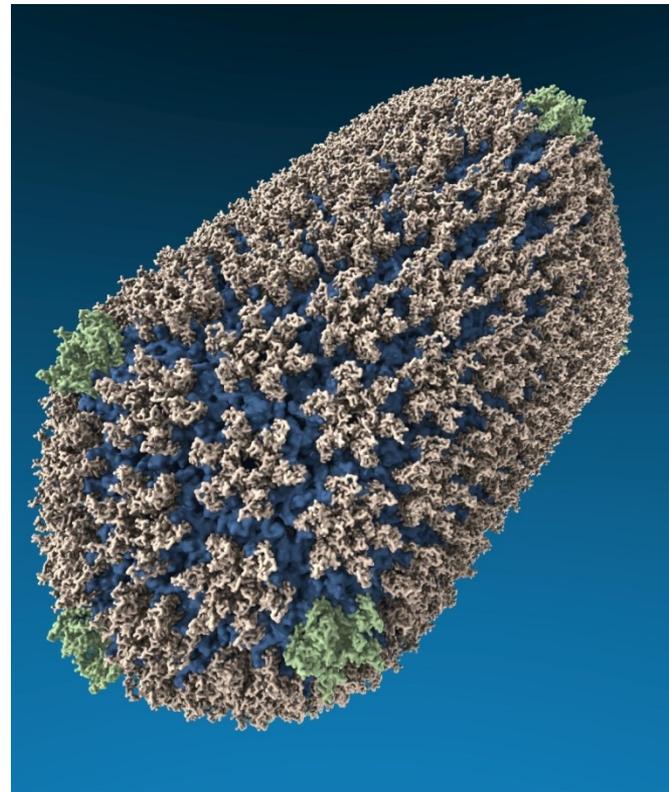
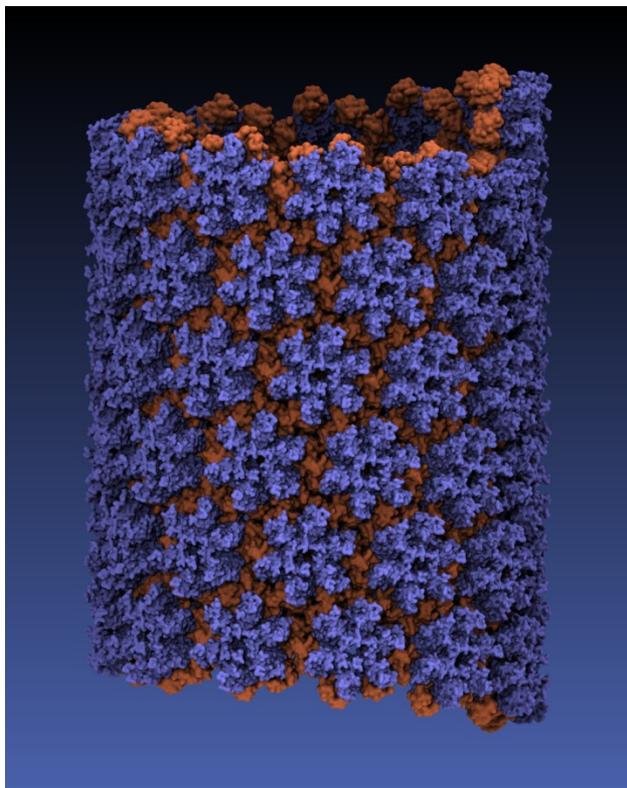
# VMD Petascale Visualization and Analysis

- Analyze/visualize large trajectories too large to transfer:
  - Time-averaged electrostatic fields, MDFF quality-of-fit, etc.
  - User-defined parallel analysis operations, data types
  - Parallel rendering, movie making
- Parallel I/O up to **275 GB/sec** on 8192 nodes – read **231 TB in 15 minutes!**
- VMD uses GPU-accelerated Cray XK7 nodes for both visualization and analysis
  - **OpenGL, Ray Tracing**
  - **Future: Remote Interactive Viz!**



NCSA Blue Waters Hybrid  
Cray XE6 / XK7 Supercomputer  
22,640 XE6 CPU nodes  
**4,224 XK7 nodes w/ GPUs**

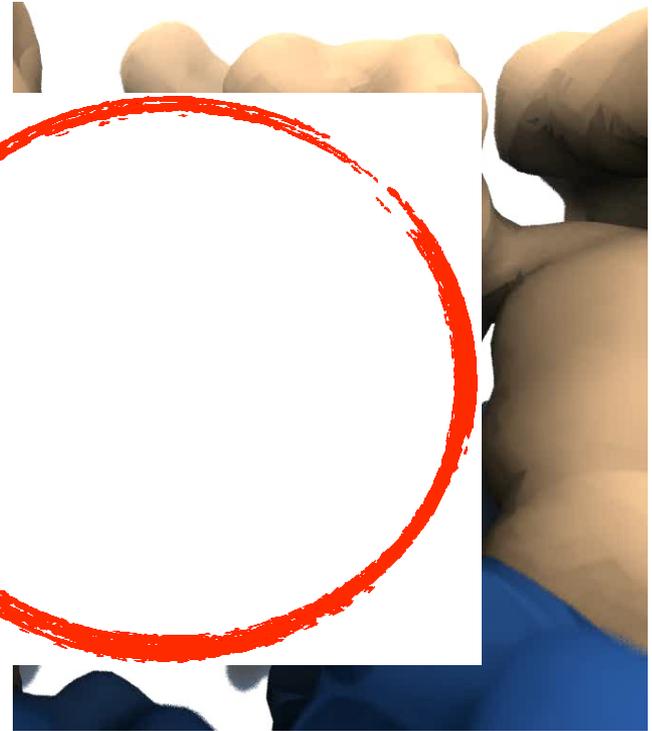
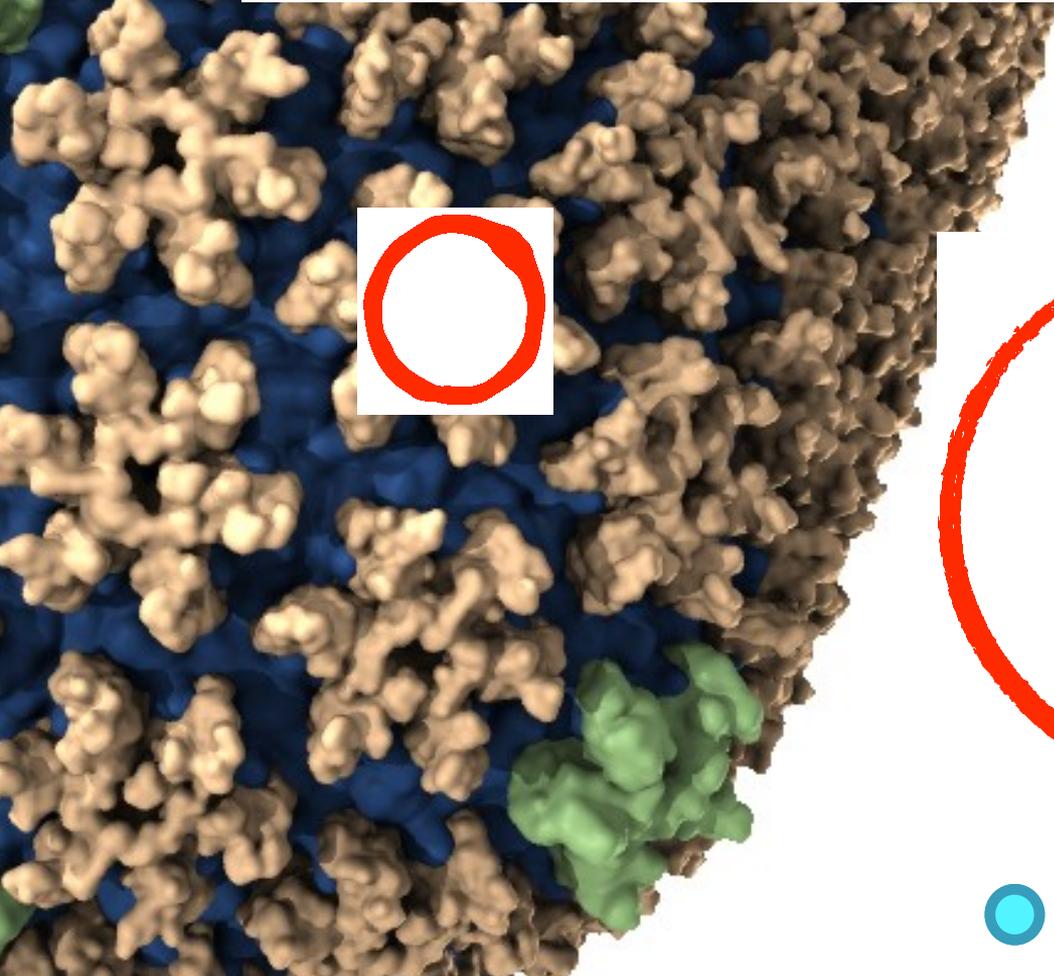
# VMD “QuickSurf” Representation, Ray Tracing



**All-atom HIV capsid simulations w/ up to 64M atoms on Blue Waters**

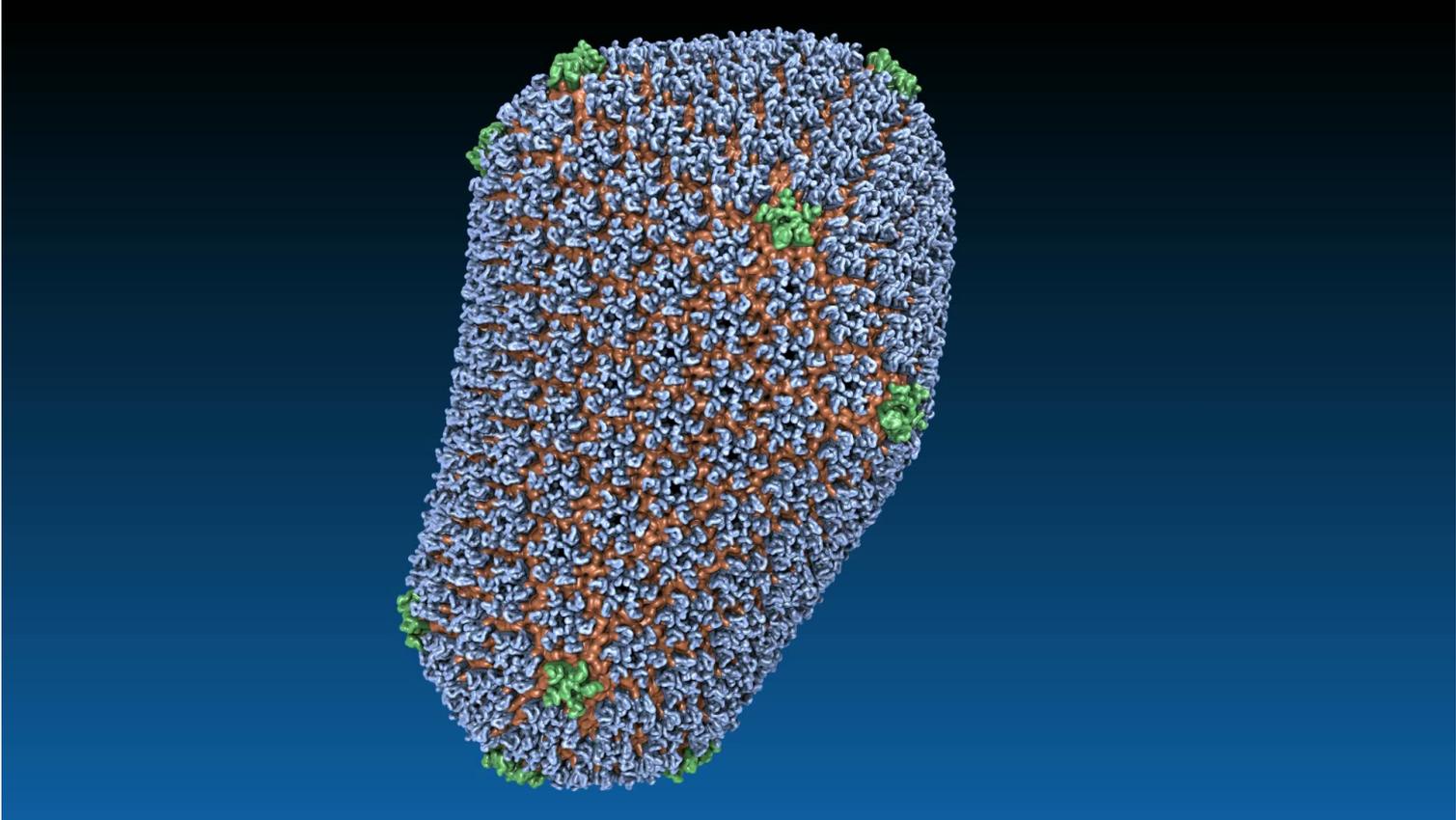
# Capsid acts as an osmotic regulator

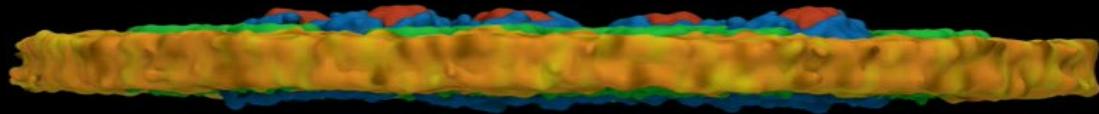
Results from 64 M atom, 1  $\mu$ s sim



Chloride ions permeate through the hexameric center

# HIV-1 Capsid

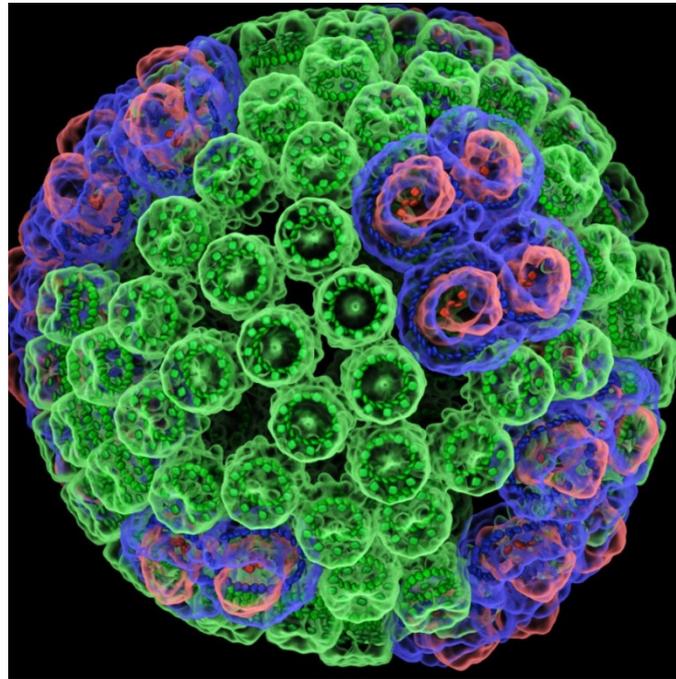




20 M atom chromatophore patch

# VMD Chromatophore Rendering on Blue Waters

- New representations, GPU-accelerated molecular surface calculations, memory-efficient algorithms for huge complexes
- VMD GPU-accelerated ray tracing engine w/ OptiX+CUDA+MPI+Pthreads
- ***Each revision:*** 7,500 frames render on ~96 Cray XK7 nodes in 290 node-hours, 45GB of images prior to editing



**GPU-Accelerated Molecular Visualization on Petascale Supercomputing Platforms.**

**J. E. Stone, K. L. Vandivort, and K. Schulten. UltraVis'13, 2013.**

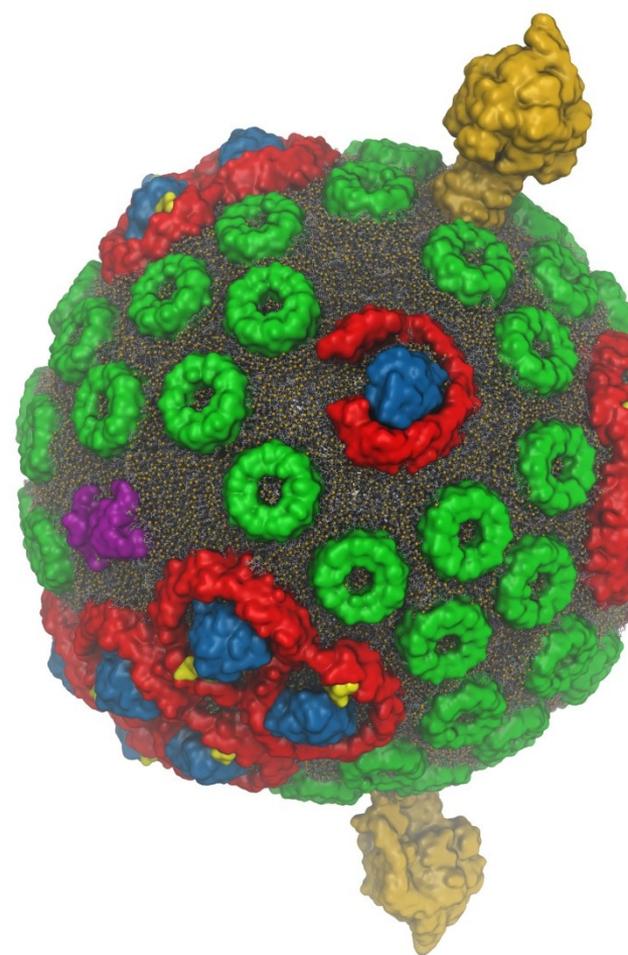
**Visualization of Energy Conversion Processes in a Light Harvesting Organelle at Atomic Detail.**

**M. Sener, et al. SC'14 Visualization and Data Analytics Showcase, 2014.**

**Winner of the SC'14 Visualization and Data Analytics Showcase**

# VMD 1.9.3+OptiX 4 – ~1.5x Performance Increase on Blue Waters Supercomputer

- OptiX GPU-native “**Trbvh**” **acceleration structure builder** yields substantial perf increase vs. CPU builders running on Opteron 6276 CPUs
- New optimizations in VMD TachyonL-OptiX RT engine:
  - **CUDA C++ Template specialization of RT kernels**
    - **Combinatorial expansion of ray-gen and shading kernels at compile-time: stereo on/off, AO on/off, depth-of-field on/off, reflections on/off, etc...**
    - **Optimal kernels selected from expansions at runtime**
  - **Streamlined OptiX context and state management**
  - **Optimization of GPU-specific RT intersection routines, memory layout**



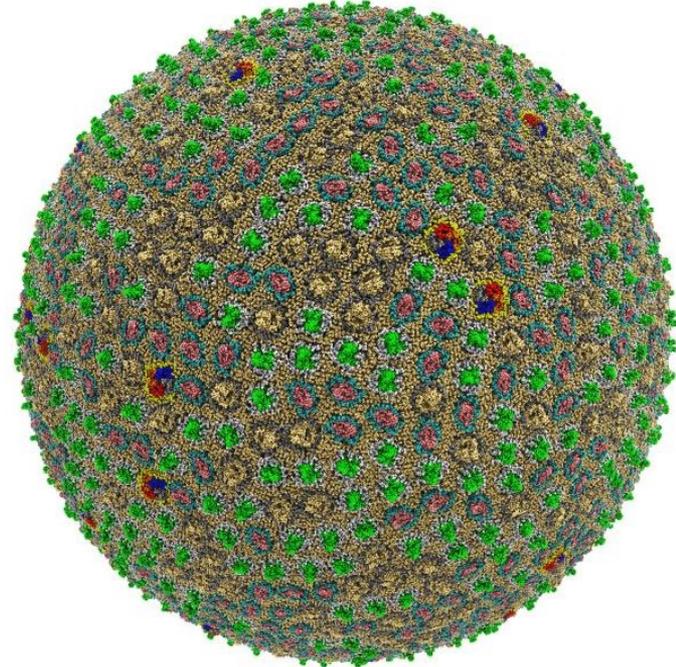
VMD/OptiX GPU Ray Tracing  
of chromatophore w/ lipids.

# Preparation, Visualization, Analysis of All-Atom Cell-Scale Simulations

- Support for large memory (TB), up to **2 billion atoms per “molecule” now**
- Interactive rasterization w/ Vulkan, EGL
- **Interactive ray tracing on CPUs and GPUs**
- Parallel analysis, visualization w/ MPI
- 200 nm spherical envelope
- Membrane with ~50% occupancy by proteins
- 63M atoms in envelope model

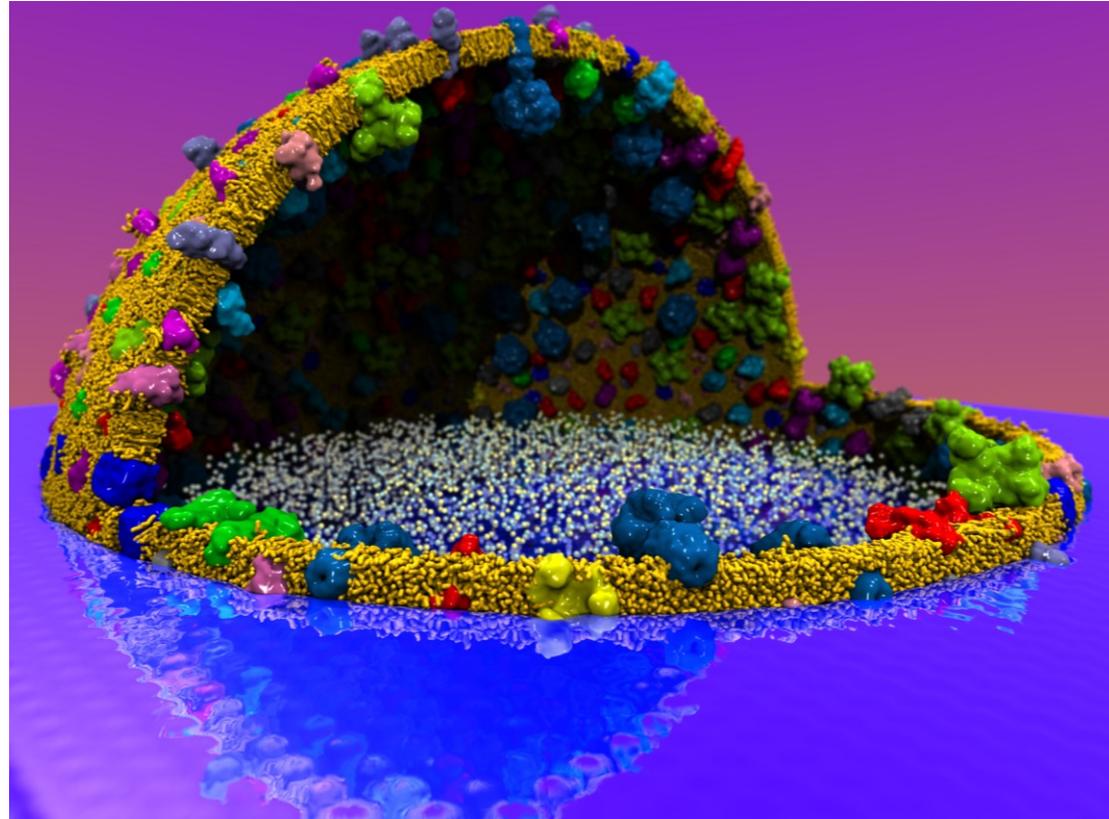
**Atomic Detail Visualization of Photosynthetic Membranes with GPU-Accelerated Ray Tracing.** J.E. Stone, ..., K. Schulten, J. Parallel Computing, 55:17-27, 2016.

**High Performance Molecular Visualization: In-Situ and Parallel Rendering with EGL.** J.E. Stone, ..., K. Schulten. IEEE High Performance Data Analysis and Visualization, IPDPSW, pp. 1014-1023, 2016.



# Modeling, Visualization, Analysis of Cell-Scale Systems

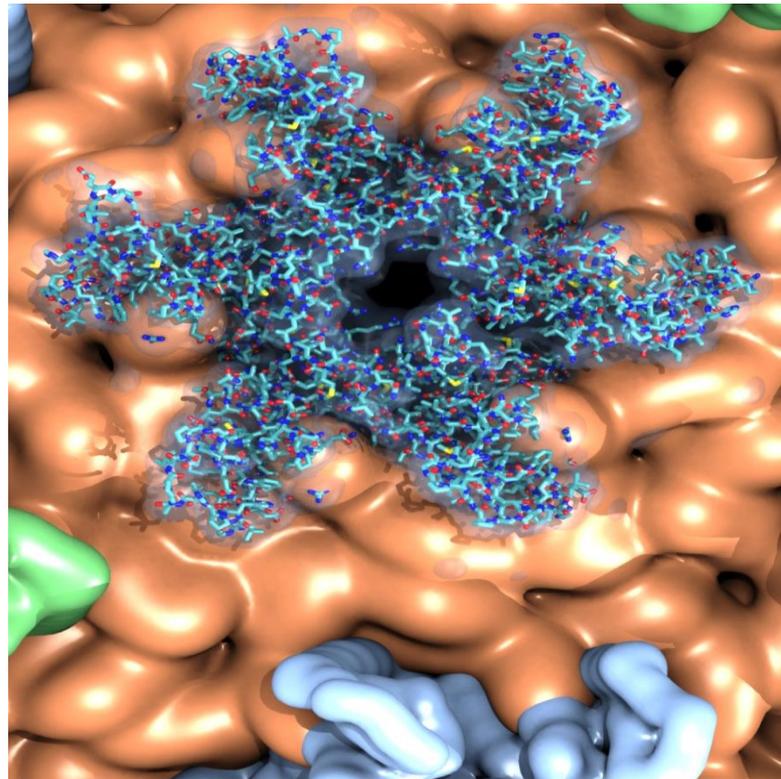
- Build interactive tools for density map manipulation, segmentation, data-guided modeling
- Cell-scale placement of macromolecules
- Fast graphics “instancing”, LoD
- New and improved structure file formats, data compression, ...
- Use non-volatile memory technologies to facilitate cell-scale modeling with high performance



VMD “Coming Soon”:  
Built-in Remote Visualization  
Virtual Reality HMDs

# VMD Coming Soon

- Improved structure building and analysis tools
- Many new and updated user-contributed plugins:
- Further integration of interactive ray tracing
  - Seamless interactive RT in main VMD display window
  - Support trajectory playback in interactive RT
  - Enable multi-node interactive RT on HPC systems
- Built-in (basic) interactive remote visualization on HPC clusters and supercomputers



GPU Ray Tracing of  
HIV-1 Capsid Detail

# Remote Visualization and Analysis

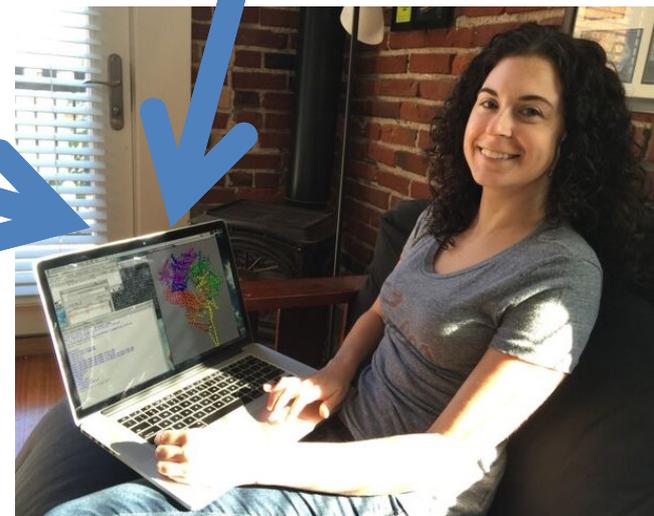
VMD w/ built-in remote visualization:

- Access **large data** located anywhere in the world
- Enable capabilities not possible with conventional laptops or workstations
- VMD session available to any device, browser



Clusters, Supercomputers

Workstations,  
Servers,  
Cloud



**Chemical Visualization of Human Pathogens: the Retroviral Capsids.**

J.R. Perilla, B.-C. Goh, J.E. Stone, K. Schulten. SC'15 Visualization and Data Analytics Showcase, 2015.

**Atomic Detail Visualization of Photosynthetic Membranes with GPU-Accelerated Ray Tracing.**

J.E. Stone, ..., K. Schulten, J. Parallel Computing, 55:17-27, 2016.

**Immersive Molecular Visualization with Omnidirectional Stereoscopic Ray Tracing and Remote**

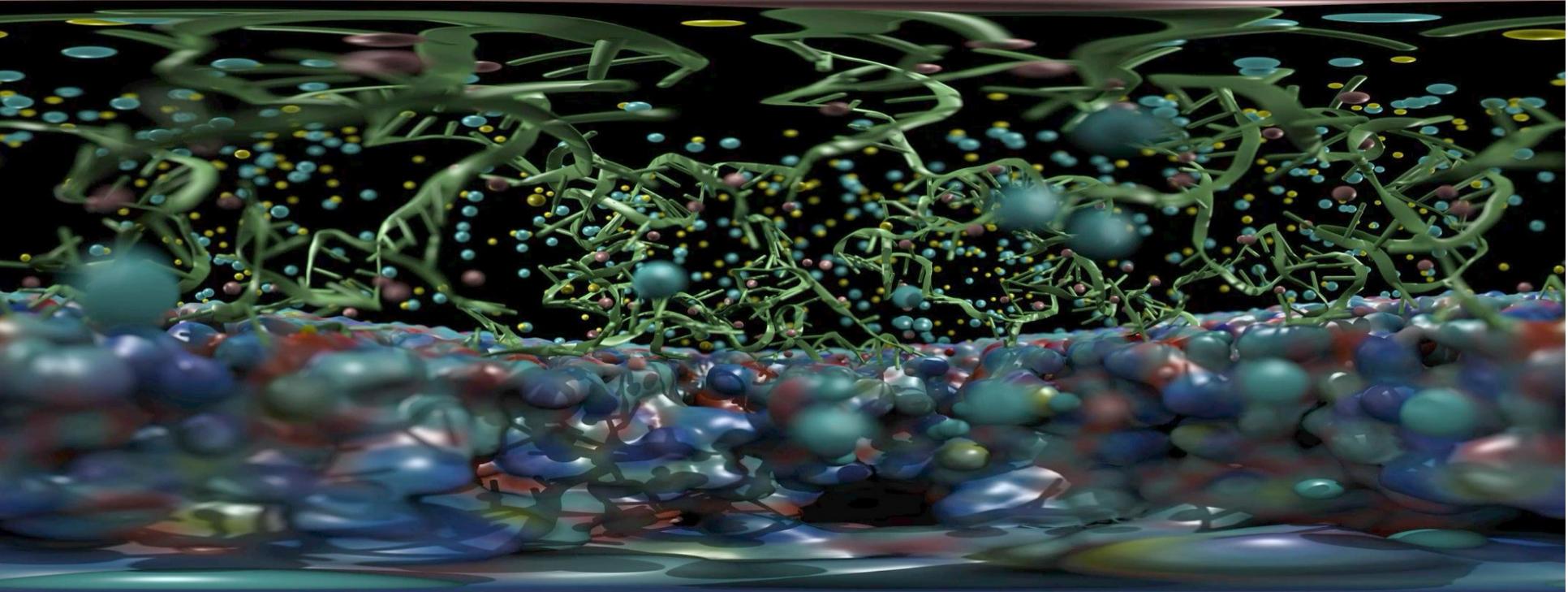
**Rendering.** J.E. Stone, W.R. Sherman, K. Schulten. IEEE HPDAV (IPDPSW), pp. 1048-1057, 2016.

# Immersive Viz. w/ VMD

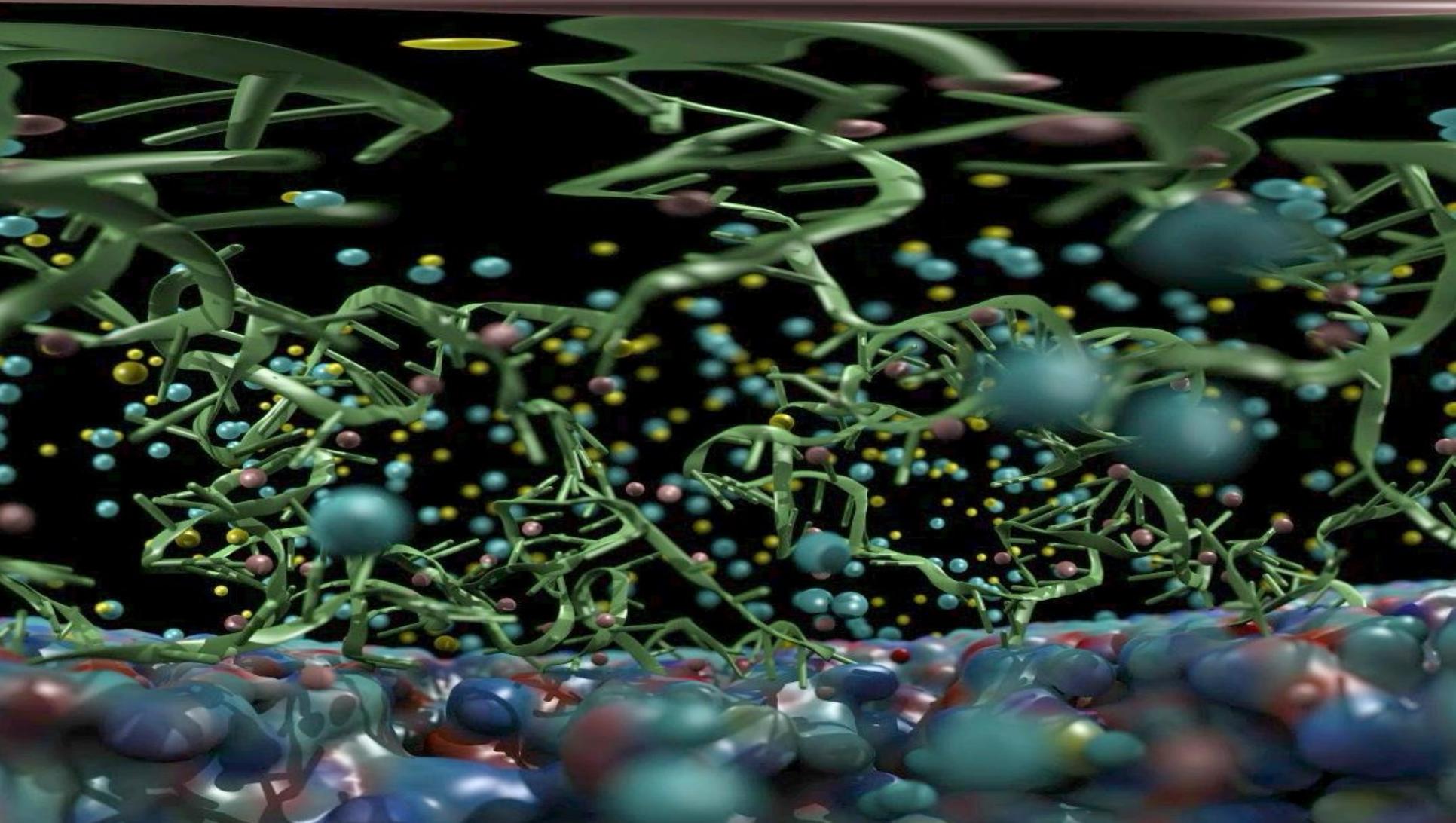
- VMD began as a CAVE app (1993)
- Use of immersive viz by molecular scientists limited due to cost, complexity, lack of local availability
- Commoditization of HMDs excellent opportunity to overcome cost/availability
- This leaves many challenges still to solve:
  - Incorporate support for remote visualization
  - UIs, multi-user collaboration/interaction
  - Rendering perf for large molecular systems
  - Accommodating limitations idiosyncracies of commercial HMDs



VMD running in a CAVE



**Satellite Tobacco Mosaic Virus: Capsid, Interior RNA, and Ions  
Ambient Occlusion Lighting, Depth-of-Field Focal Blur, ...**





# Technology Opportunities and Collaborations

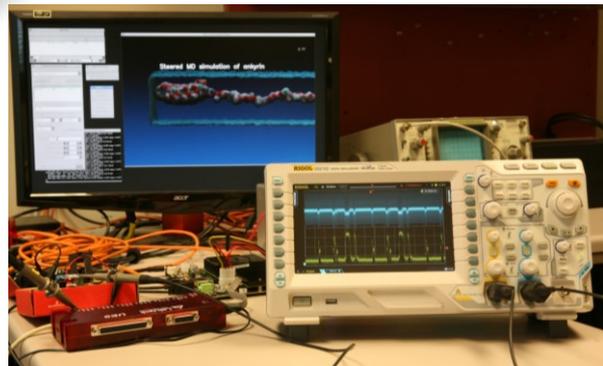
- Supercomputer Centers, Cray, IBM
  - Remote visualization
  - Performance, power profiling and optimization
- NVIDIA
  - **GPU computing**
  - **Ray tracing**
  - **Remote visualization**
  - ARM, Tablets, power profiling and optimization
- Intel
  - **x86, Xeon Phi optimization, ray tracing**
- Amazon
  - Cloud deployment of VMD/NAMD, related tools
  - Remote visualization
- Universities:
  - **T. Ertl, U. Stuttgart: visualization algorithms**
  - M. Kuttel, U. Cape Town: visualization and analysis
  - G. Fiorin, J. Henin, Toni Giorgino, collective variables
  - W. Sherman, Indiana U.: VR HMDs, visualization
- Touchpress
  - Tablet interfaces, interactive simulation, E-books



GPU computing,  
Ray tracing,  
Remote viz.



VR HMDs, 6DoF input devices



Energy efficiency: ARM+GPU

# Acknowledgements

- NIH Center for Macromolecular Modeling and Bioinformatics, and Theoretical and Computational Biophysics Group, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
  - Science images created by many current and former group members
- NVIDIA CUDA Center of Excellence, University of Illinois
- NVIDIA CUDA and OptiX teams
- Intel software defined visualization team
- IBM Power team
- NCSA Blue Waters, ORNL Titan, CSCS Piz Daint, KTH PDC
- Funding:
  - DOE INCITE, ORNL Titan: DE-AC05-00OR22725
  - NSF Blue Waters:  
NSF OCI 07-25070, PRAC “The Computational Microscope”,  
ACI-1238993, ACI-1440026
  - NIH support: 9P41GM104601, 5R01GM098243-02