

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Getting Started</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Visualization . . . . .	1
1.2	Structure Building . . . . .	3
1.3	Molecular Motion and Sampling . . . . .	5
1.4	The Canonical Ensemble . . . . .	12
1.5	Equilibration . . . . .	14
1.6	Time Correlation Functions . . . . .	16
1.7	Potentials of Mean Force . . . . .	17
<b>2</b>	<b>Computational Tasks</b>	<b>21</b>
2.1	Steady-State and Transient Simulations . . . . .	21
2.1.1	Biomolecular simulators . . . . .	23
2.2	Structure . . . . .	23
2.2.1	Protein structure . . . . .	24
2.2.2	Protein folding . . . . .	25
2.3	Energetics . . . . .	26
2.3.1	Free energy differences . . . . .	26
2.3.2	Potentials of mean force (free energy profiles) . . . . .	27
2.4	Transition paths . . . . .	28
2.4.1	Transition path sampling . . . . .	29
2.4.2	Transition path theory . . . . .	29
2.4.3	Transition paths in conformational space . . . . .	36
2.5	Kinetics . . . . .	36
2.5.1	Transport coefficients and time correlation functions . . . . .	36
2.5.2	Transition rates . . . . .	36
<b>3</b>	<b>Atomistic and Coarse-Grained Models</b>	<b>38</b>
3.1	Classical Atomistic Models . . . . .	38
3.1.1	Underlying principles . . . . .	38
3.1.2	Bonded interactions . . . . .	39
3.1.3	Nonbonded interactions . . . . .	40
3.1.4	Polarizable forces . . . . .	41
3.1.5	Extending a force field . . . . .	43
3.1.6	Equations of motion . . . . .	43
3.2	Boundary Conditions . . . . .	47

3.2.1	Nonperiodic boundary conditions . . . . .	47
3.2.2	Periodic boundary conditions . . . . .	49
3.3	Coarse-Grained Models . . . . .	53
3.3.1	Constraint dynamics . . . . .	53
3.3.2	Implicit solvent . . . . .	54
3.3.3	Reduced models . . . . .	58
3.3.4	Continuum-based approaches . . . . .	59
3.3.5	Very coarse-grained approaches . . . . .	59
<b>4</b>	<b>Sampling Techniques</b>	<b>63</b>
4.1	Initialization and Equilibration . . . . .	64
4.2	Monte Carlo Methods . . . . .	64
4.3	Hybrid Monte Carlo Methods . . . . .	66
4.4	Deterministic Molecular Dynamics . . . . .	69
4.4.1	NVT dynamics . . . . .	69
4.4.2	NPT dynamics . . . . .	70
4.5	Stochastic Molecular Dynamics . . . . .	71
4.5.1	NVT dynamics . . . . .	71
4.5.2	NPT dynamics . . . . .	71
4.6	Accelerated Sampling . . . . .	72
4.6.1	Replica exchange . . . . .	72
<b>5</b>	<b>Specialized Methods</b>	<b>73</b>
5.1	Structure . . . . .	73
5.1.1	Protein folding . . . . .	73
5.2	Potentials of Mean Force . . . . .	75
5.2.1	Umbrella sampling and WHAM . . . . .	75
5.2.2	Multiconfiguration thermodynamic integration using stiff restraints . . . . .	76
5.2.3	Multiconfiguration thermodynamic integration using constraints . . . . .	77
5.2.4	Nonequilibrium sampling . . . . .	78
5.3	Free Energy Differences . . . . .	81
5.3.1	Free energy perturbation technique . . . . .	82
5.3.2	Thermodynamic integration . . . . .	82
5.3.3	Nonequilibrium simulations . . . . .	82
5.4	Computing Transition Paths . . . . .	83
5.4.1	Transition path sampling . . . . .	83
5.4.2	Transition path theory . . . . .	83
5.4.3	Transition paths in conformational space . . . . .	85
5.5	Kinetics . . . . .	85
5.5.1	Transport coefficients and time correlation functions . . . . .	85
5.5.2	Transition rates . . . . .	86
<b>6</b>	<b>Integrators</b>	<b>87</b>
6.1	Newtonian Dynamics . . . . .	87
6.1.1	Verlet method . . . . .	87
6.1.2	Symplectic integrators . . . . .	88

6.1.3	Multiple time stepping . . . . .	91
6.1.4	Model problem analysis . . . . .	92
6.1.5	Long time accuracy . . . . .	94
6.2	Extended System Dynamics . . . . .	95
6.3	Constrained Dynamics . . . . .	95
6.4	Stochastic Dynamics . . . . .	97
6.4.1	Langevin dynamics . . . . .	97
6.4.2	Brownian dynamics . . . . .	97
<b>7</b>	<b>Minimization</b>	<b>100</b>
7.1	Fundamentals . . . . .	100
7.2	Basic Algorithmic Components . . . . .	100
7.2.1	Line search methods . . . . .	100
7.2.2	Newton's method . . . . .	101
7.2.3	Trust region methods . . . . .	102
7.3	Effective Algorithms . . . . .	102
7.3.1	Nonlinear conjugate gradient . . . . .	102
7.3.2	Truncated Newton . . . . .	103
7.4	Global Minimization . . . . .	103
<b>8</b>	<b>Fast Force Evaluation and Implementation Issues</b>	<b>104</b>
8.1	Nonperiodic Nonbonded Forces . . . . .	104
8.1.1	Multilevel summation method . . . . .	107
8.1.2	Hierarchical clustering methods . . . . .	109
8.1.3	Multiple time stepping . . . . .	109
8.2	Periodic Electrostatic Forces . . . . .	110
8.2.1	Standard Ewald method . . . . .	110
8.2.2	Particle-mesh Ewald method . . . . .	110
8.2.3	Multilevel summation method . . . . .	110
8.2.4	Methods based on fast Poisson solvers . . . . .	111
8.2.5	Multiple time stepping . . . . .	112
8.3	Polarizable Forces . . . . .	112
8.4	Implicit Solvent Electrostatics . . . . .	115
<b>B</b>	<b>VMD</b>	<b>117</b>
B.1	Visualization . . . . .	117
B.2	Structure Building for NAMD . . . . .	119
B.3	Analysis [of Equilibration?] . . . . .	120
B.4	Miscellaneous . . . . .	120
<b>C</b>	<b>Tcl</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>NAMD</b>	<b>122</b>
D.1	Getting Started . . . . .	122
D.1.1	Equilibration . . . . .	122
D.1.2	Time Correlation Functions . . . . .	123

D.1.3	Potentials of Mean Force . . . . .	124
D.2	Computational Tasks . . . . .	126
D.3	Atomistic and Coarse-Grained Models . . . . .	126
D.3.1	Classical atomistic models . . . . .	126
D.3.2	Boundary Conditions . . . . .	126
D.3.3	Coarse-grained models . . . . .	127
D.4	Sampling Techniques . . . . .	127
D.4.1	Stochastic molecular dynamics . . . . .	127
D.5	Specialized Methods . . . . .	127
D.5.1	Potentials of Mean Force . . . . .	127
D.6	Integrators . . . . .	128
D.6.1	Newtonian dynamics . . . . .	128
D.6.2	Constrained dynamics . . . . .	128
D.7	Minimization . . . . .	128
D.8	Fast Force Evaluation and Implementation Issues . . . . .	128
D.8.1	Nonperiodic nonbonded forces . . . . .	128
D.8.2	Periodic electrostatic forces . . . . .	128