

Transition Path Theory

Winterschool on
Theoretical Chemistry and Spectroscopy
9-13 December 2013, Han-sur-Lesse, Belgium

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Computation Chemistry
University of Amsterdam



Friday, 13 December, 13

Content

- Lecture 1: Markov processes
- Lecture 2: State clustering
- Lecture 3: Transition Path Theory
- Lecture 4: Sampling Reactive Events

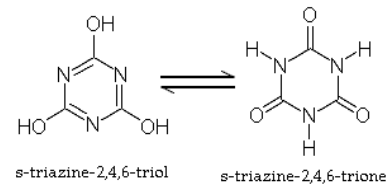
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Stochastic processes

Chemical reaction:



e.g. tautomerization reaction



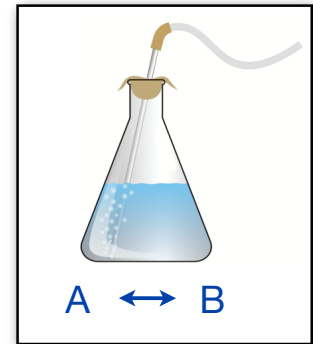
At t=0

probability to measure molecule P(A) = 1.0
 probability to measure molecule P(B) = 1.0 - P(A) = 0.0

initial state distribution

$$S_0 = [1.0, 0.0]$$

\uparrow \uparrow
 P(A) P(B)



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Stochastic processes

At t=0

initial state distribution $S_0 = [1.0, 0.0]$

e.g. a measurement every 30 minutes

Probability that A has converted to B after time τ

$$t(A \rightarrow B) = 0.8$$

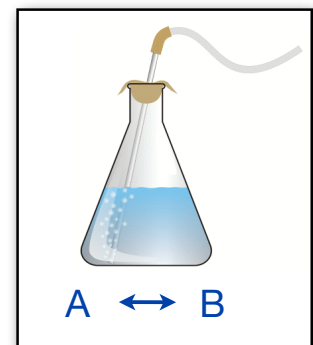
$$t(B \rightarrow A) = 0.4$$

Transition matrix:

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix}$$

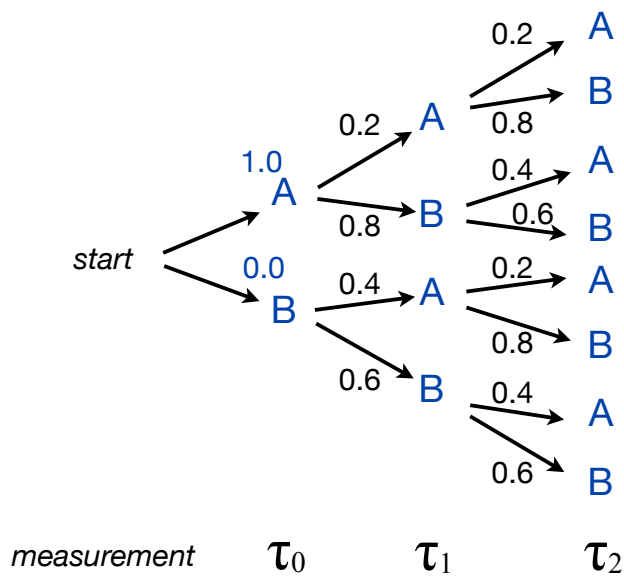
A B \leftarrow next state

\uparrow current state
 A
 B



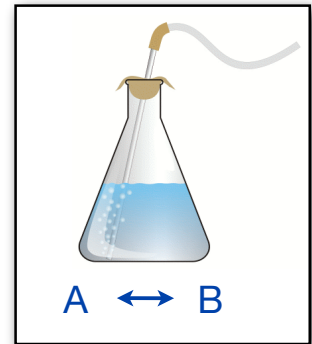
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Stochastic processes



$$S_0 = [1.0, 0.0]$$

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$S_1 = S_0 \mathbf{T} = [1.0, 0.0] \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} = [0.2, 0.8]$$

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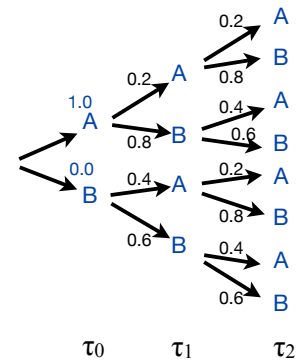
Stochastic processes

initial state distribution

transition matrix

$$S_0 = [1.0, 0.0]$$

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix}$$



How does the distribution change in time?

$$S_1 = S_0 \mathbf{T} = [1.0, 0.0] \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} = [0.2, 0.8]$$

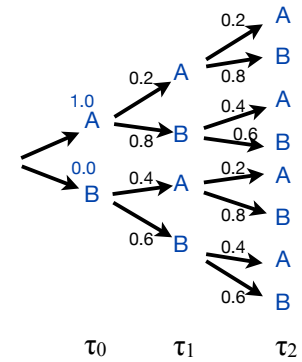
$$S_2 = S_1 \mathbf{T} = [0.2, 0.8] \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} = [0.36, 0.64]$$

$$S_3 = S_2 \mathbf{T} = [0.36, 0.64] \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} = [0.328, 0.672]$$

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Stochastic processes

How does the distribution change in time?



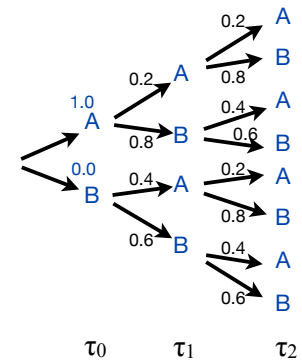
$$S_1 = S_0 \mathbf{T} = [1.0, 0.0] \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} = [0.2, 0.8]$$

$$S_2 = S_1 \mathbf{T} = [0.2, 0.8] \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} = [0.36, 0.64]$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_2 &= S_0 \mathbf{T}^2 = [1.0, 0.0] \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} = \\ &= [1.0, 0.0] \begin{bmatrix} 0.36 & 0.64 \\ 0.32 & 0.68 \end{bmatrix} = [0.36, 0.64] \end{aligned}$$

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Stochastic processes



$$S_0 = [1.0, 0.0]$$

$$S_1 = S_0 \mathbf{T} = [1.0, 0.0] \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} = [0.2, 0.8]$$

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$$S_3 = S_2 \mathbf{T} = [0.36, 0.64] \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} = [0.328, 0.672]$$

Does the distribution converge to a stable state?

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Stochastic processes

$$S_0 = [1.0, 0.0]$$

$$S_1 = [0.2, 0.8]$$

$$S_2 = [0.36, 0.64]$$

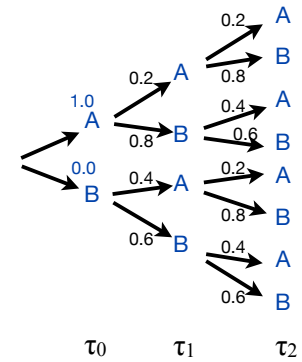
$$S_3 = [0.328, 0.672]$$

$$S_4 = [0.3344, 0.6656]$$

$$S_5 = [0.33312, 0.66688]$$

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{stationary matrix, steady state}$$

$$S\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = S$$



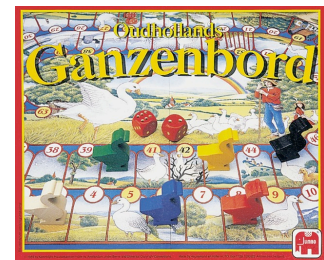
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Markov process

Stochastic processes

- **Poisson process:**

- number of events per time
- no dependence between events
- exponential decay
- radioactive decay, earthquakes, jobs in printer queue



- **Markov process:**

- stochastic process with simple relation between states $X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, \dots$
- probability to move to state X_{t+1} depends only on X_t (not on the past!)

formally: $P(X_{n+1}=x | X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n) = P(X_{n+1}=x | X_n = x_n)$

- probability that it rains in your garden (**X discrete, time continue**)
- brain activity (**X continue, time continue**)
- game of gose, DNA base at position t (**X discrete, "time" discrete**)
- daily solar activity (**X continue, time discrete**)

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Andrej Markov



Andrej Andrejevitsj Markov ([Russisch](#): Андрей Андреевич Марков, [Rjazan](#), [14 juni 1856](#) - [Petrograd](#), [20 juli 1922](#)) was een [Russisch wiskundige](#), naar wie de [Markovketens](#), de [Markovprocessen](#) en de [Markov-ongelijkheid](#) zijn vernoemd. Zijn zoon (1903-1979) draagt dezelfde naam en is op het gebied van de [algebra](#), [topologie](#), [mechanica](#) en [logica](#) eveneens een bekend Russisch wiskundige.

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Markov chain

A Markov chain is a discrete time Markov process

A regular Markov chain has a regular transition matrix

A transition matrix, \mathbf{T} , is regular if some power of it, \mathbf{T}^n , has only positive (non-zero) entries

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0 & 1.0 \\ 1.0 & 0.0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.3 & 0.7 \\ 1.0 & 0.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

regular *not regular* *regular*

A regular Markov chain has a unique stationary state

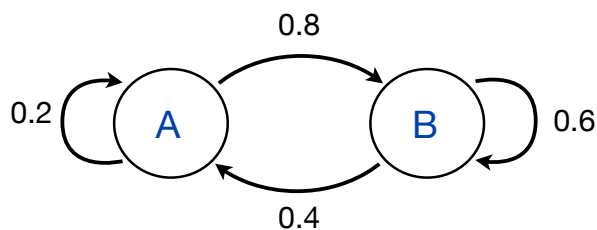
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Markov chain

Properties

1. A regular Markov chain has a unique stationary state
2. The stationary state is found by solving: $S \mathbf{T} = S$
3. From any starting distribution S_0 the Markov chain will reach the stationary state
4. The matrices \mathbf{T}^n approach a stationary matrix in which each row is the stationary state

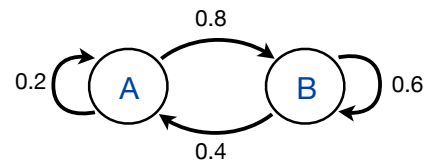
Representation



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Markov chain

Example, find the stationary state



$$S \mathbf{T} = S$$

$$S \mathbf{T} = [S_1, S_2] \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 \\ 0.4 & 0.6 \end{bmatrix} = [S_1, S_2] = S$$

$$0.2S_1 + 0.4S_2 = S_1$$

1) and 2) are linear dependent

$$0.8S_1 + 0.6S_2 = S_2$$

$$S_1 + S_2 = 1$$

3) extra rule: probabilities add up to 1

$$S_1 = 1/3$$

$$S_2 = 2/3$$

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Markov chain

Other properties:

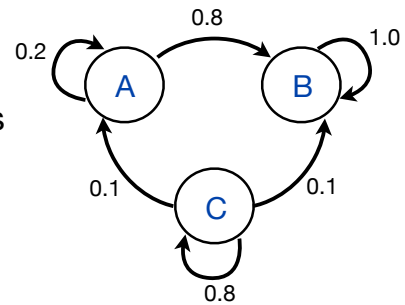
Time homogeneous Markov chain: transition matrix is time independent (otherwise time inhomogeneous).

Absorbing Markov chain: there is an absorbing state from which you cannot escape once you reach it.

nth order Markov chain does not only depend on knowledge of the current state (=1st order) but also previous n-1 states.

A Markov chain is **ergodic** if there is a number of steps N in which each state can be reached from every other state (no loops, periodicity, absorbing state).

A Markov chain is **reversible** if it obeys **detailed balance**.



$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.8 & 0.0 \\ 0.0 & 1.0 & 0.0 \\ 0.1 & 0.1 & 0.8 \end{bmatrix}$$

*absorbing state:
check diagonal for 1.0*

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Reversible Markov chains

Detailed balance

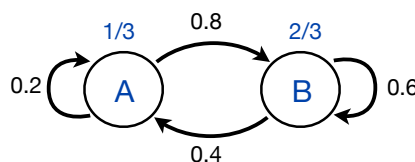
$$\rho_i P(X_{n+1} = j | X_n = i) = \rho_j P(X_{n+1} = i | X_n = j)$$

$$\rho_i t_{ij} = \rho_j t_{ji}$$

The probability to be in state i times the probability to go to state j from state i is equal to be in state j times the probability to move from j to i .

The probability to be in state i , ρ_i , is an element of the equilibrium (stationary) state distribution S .

**Example
Reversible MC**



$$\frac{1}{3} * 0.8 = \frac{2}{3} * 0.4$$

Detailed balance holds!

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Reversible Markov chains

Example

$$\mathbf{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

transition matrix

Detailed balance

$$\rho_i t_{ij} = \rho_j t_{ji}$$

$$S = [0.25, 0.25, 0.25, 0.25]$$

stationary state solution

Detailed balance does not hold!

See also a chain sample: ...ABCDABCDABCD...
Reverse B→C transitions do not occur.

Mind you, if the stationary state solution is **uniform** so that

$$\rho_i = \rho_j \forall i \neq j \longrightarrow t_{ij} = t_{ji}$$

then the transition matrix should be **symmetric** for a reversible MC

For a reversible Markov chain it is not possible to determine the direction of the process from the observed state sequence alone.

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Chapman-Kolmogorov

Transition matrix \mathbf{T}

An element of \mathbf{T} gives the transition probability:

$$t_{ij} = P(X_{n+1} = j | X_n = i)$$

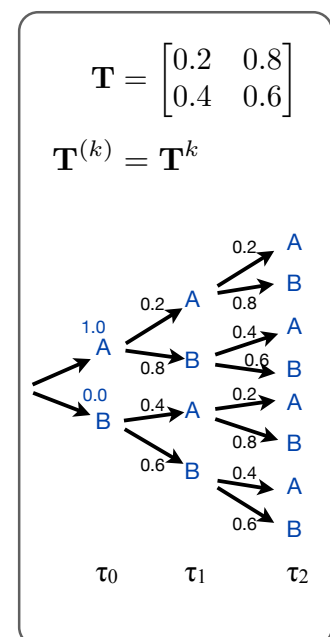
The probability of going from state i to state j in k time steps is:

$$t_{ij}^{(k)} = P(X_{n+k} = j | X_n = i)$$

The **Chapman-Kolmogorov equation** says that for any m such that $0 < m < k$,

$$p_{ij}^{(k)} = \sum_{r \in Z} p_{ir}^{(m)} p_{rj}^{(k-m)}$$

with the sum over all intermediate states r in the state space Z .



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Spectral decomposition

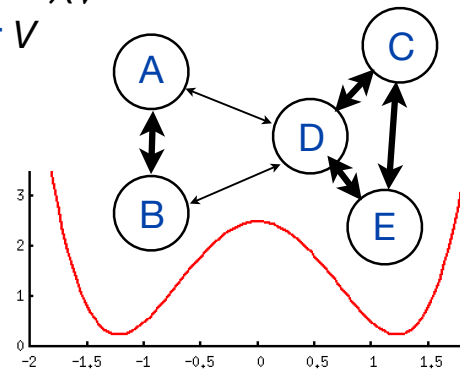
Transition matrix \mathbf{T} of dimension d
has d solutions of the linear equation: $\mathbf{T}V = \lambda V$
each with an **eigenvalues** λ with **eigenvector** V

Factorizing \mathbf{T} in: $\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{V}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{V}^{-1}$

in which $\mathbf{\Lambda}$ is the diagonal matrix of eigenvalues, which can be ordered:

$$1 = \lambda_1 > |\lambda_2| \geq |\lambda_3| \geq \dots \geq |\lambda_N| > 0$$

- Spectral decomposition allows to analyze how the system **relaxes to equilibrium**
- Eigenvalues close to 1 and significantly larger than the other eigenvalues indicate one or more slow relaxation times and **metastability** (rare events) between states.



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Summary

part 1

A stochastic hopping between states is Markovian if the probability to reach the next state does not depend on the past (no memory)

- reversible Markov chains (detailed balance)
- ergodicity
- spectral decomposition (convergence to equilibrium)

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Content

- Lecture 1: Markov processes
- Lecture 2: State clustering
- Lecture 3: Transition Path Theory
- Lecture 4: Sampling Reactive Events

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MSM of peptide dynamics

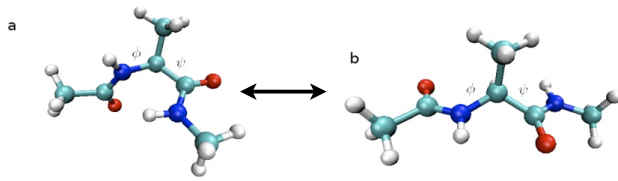
Markov State Modeling applied as analysis tool of the dynamics of a small peptide

- Analysis of molecular dynamics simulation
- Clustering based on structures
- Relation to free energy landscape
- Transition probability between clusters (states)

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Is peptide dynamics Markovian?

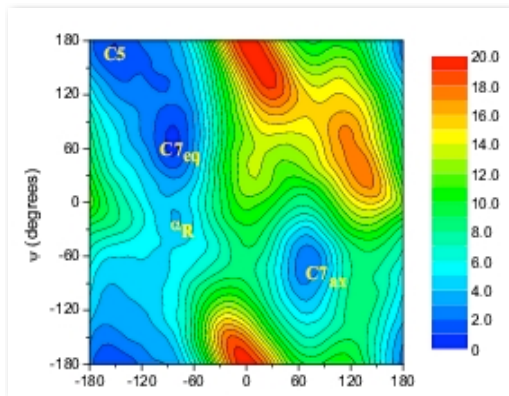
How does a peptide (or protein) dynamically behave?



dipeptide

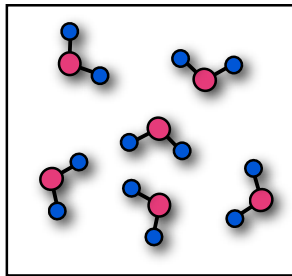
- can I distinguish characteristic structures/states?
- does it visit all states equally often?
- is there an order in visiting states?
- how do I know if it visited all possible states?
- can I compute the probability to visit a state?
- can I compute the probability to go from 1 state to any other state?

hexamer



FES of 12 torsions?

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atom positions and velocities

$$r(t + \Delta t) = r(t) + v(t + \Delta t/2)\Delta t$$

$$v(t + \Delta t/2) = v(t - \Delta t/2) + \Delta t \frac{f(t)}{m}$$

Newtonian dynamics

Molecular Dynamics

$$f = m \cdot a$$

$$f = -\nabla V(r)$$

$$\Delta t \approx 1 \text{ fs} = 0.000000000000001 \text{ sec}$$

forcefield

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\text{bonds}} k_r (r - r_{eq})^2 + \sum_{\text{angles}} k_\theta (\theta - \theta_{eq})^2 + \sum_{\text{dihedrals}} \frac{1}{2} \nu_n (1 + \cos(n\phi - \phi_0)) + \sum_{i < j} \left(\frac{a_{ij}}{r_{ij}^{12}} - \frac{b_{ij}}{r_{ij}^6} + \frac{q_i q_j}{\epsilon r_{ij}} \right)$$

bonds
bends
torsions
non-bonded

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Cluster analysis

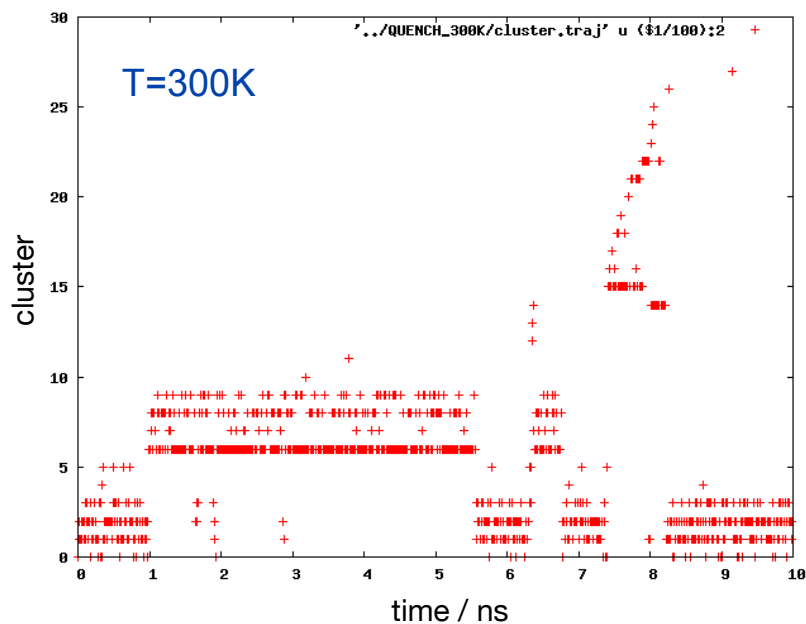
- 3x 10-20 ns simulations at T= 300, 400, and 500 K
- take a frame every 10 ps and quench in to zero Kelvin
- cluster quenched frames based on torsion angles

Clustering of structures based on resemblance between observed geometries in the trajectory,
e.g. $\text{RMSD}(R_i, R_j) < \text{TOLL}$

many flavors of clustering methods exist
typically involves an iterative procedure over the trajectory

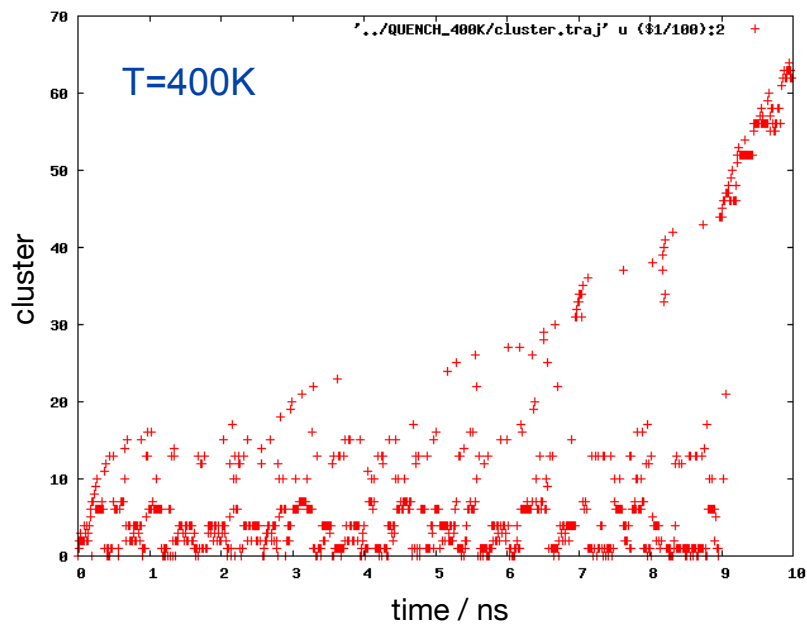
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Cluster analysis



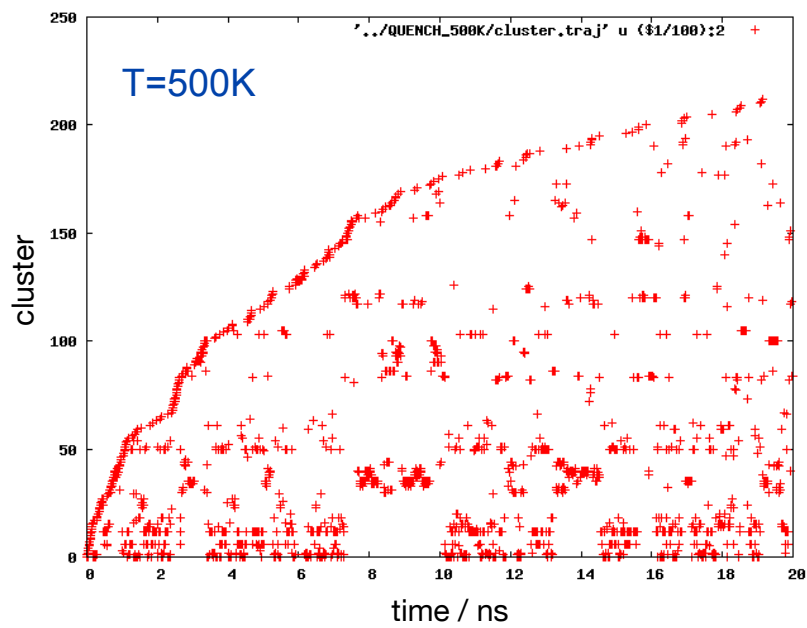
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Cluster analysis



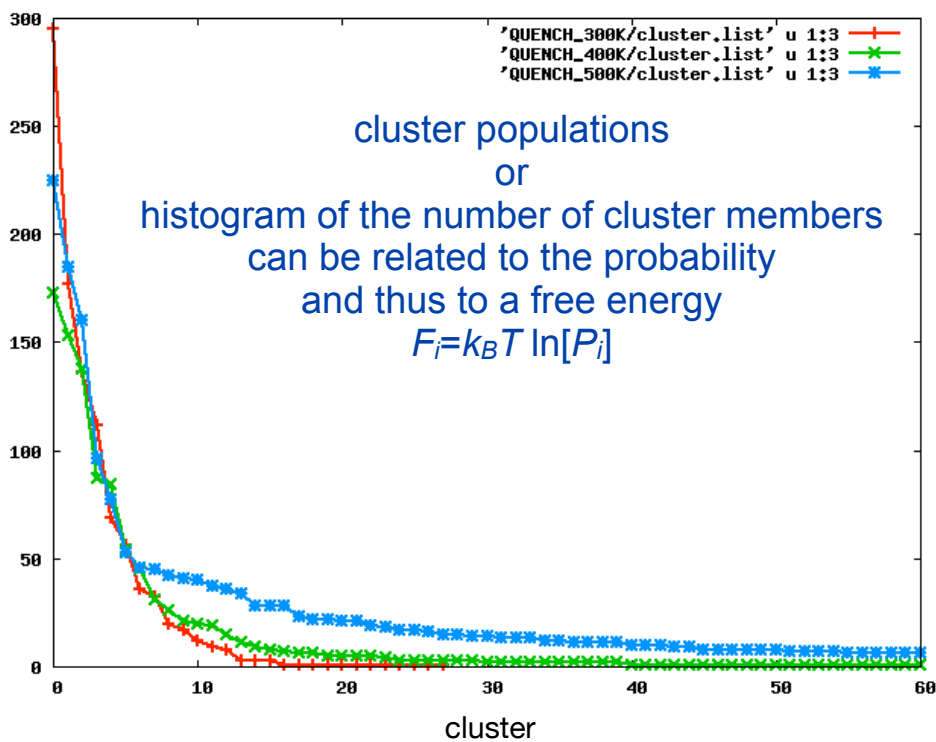
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Cluster analysis



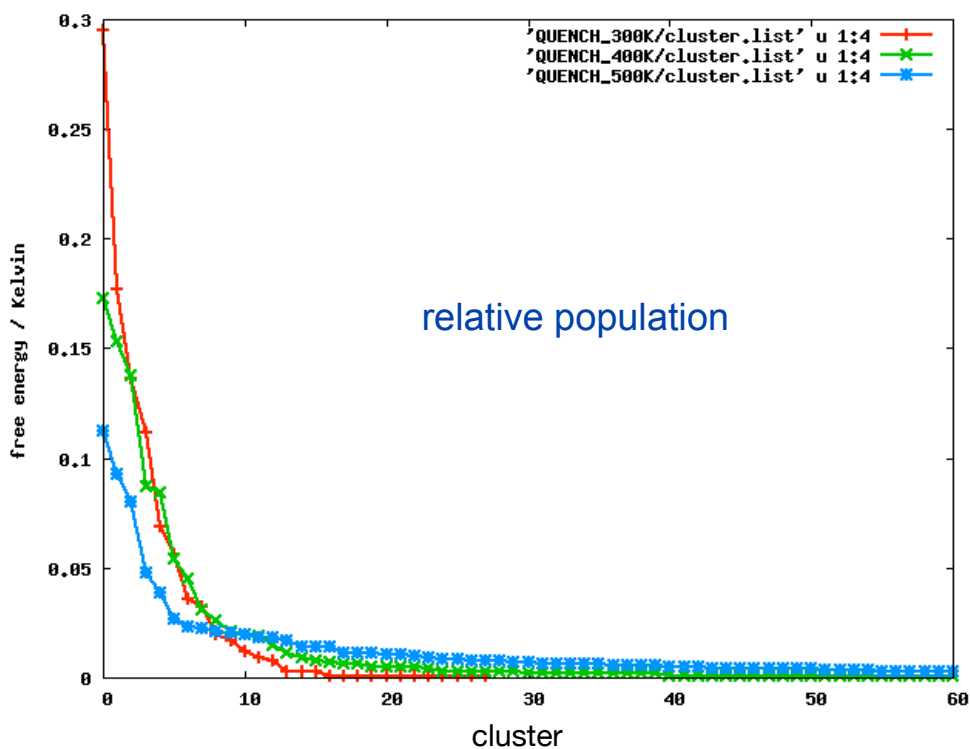
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Cluster analysis



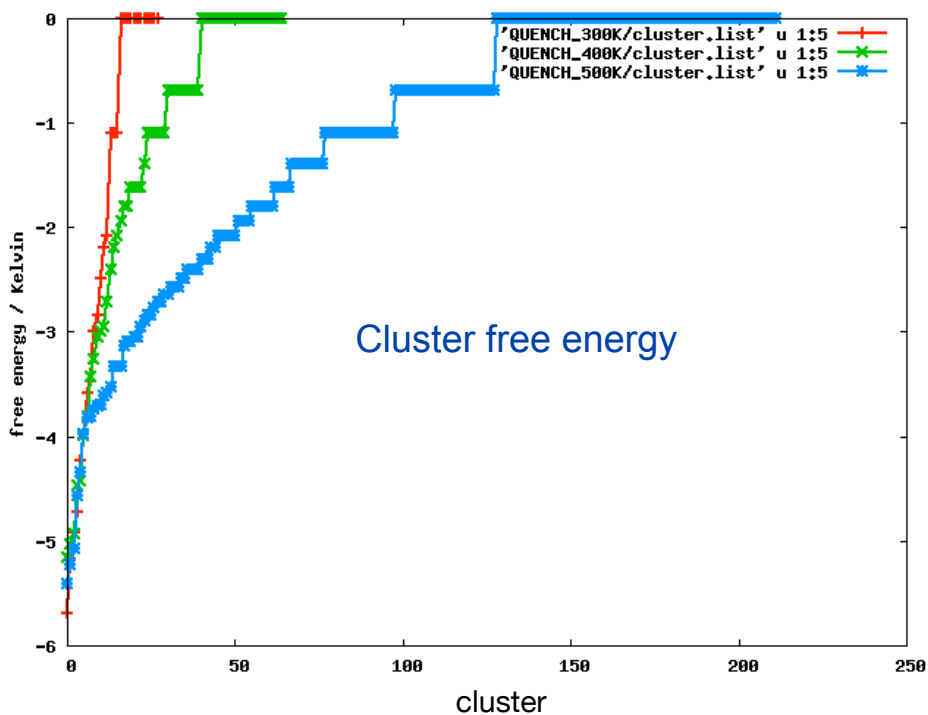
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Cluster analysis



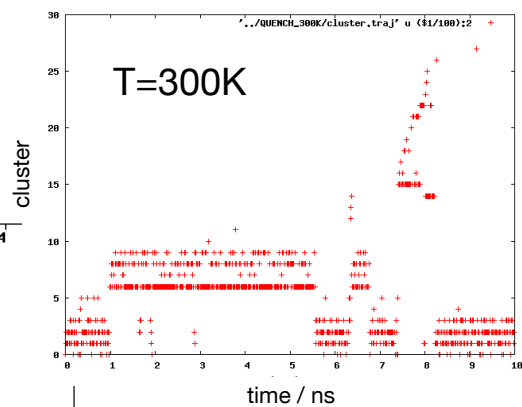
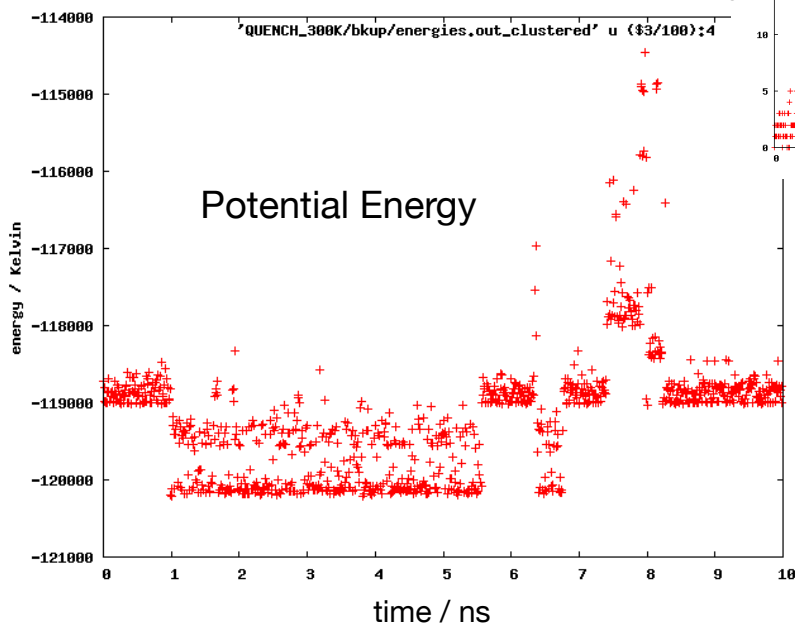
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Cluster analysis



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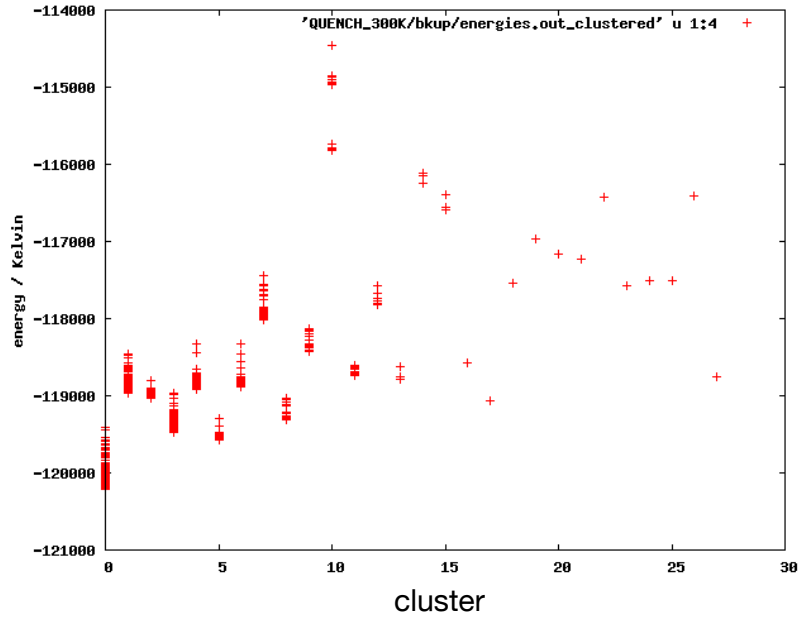
Do clusters with most members have the lowest potential energy?



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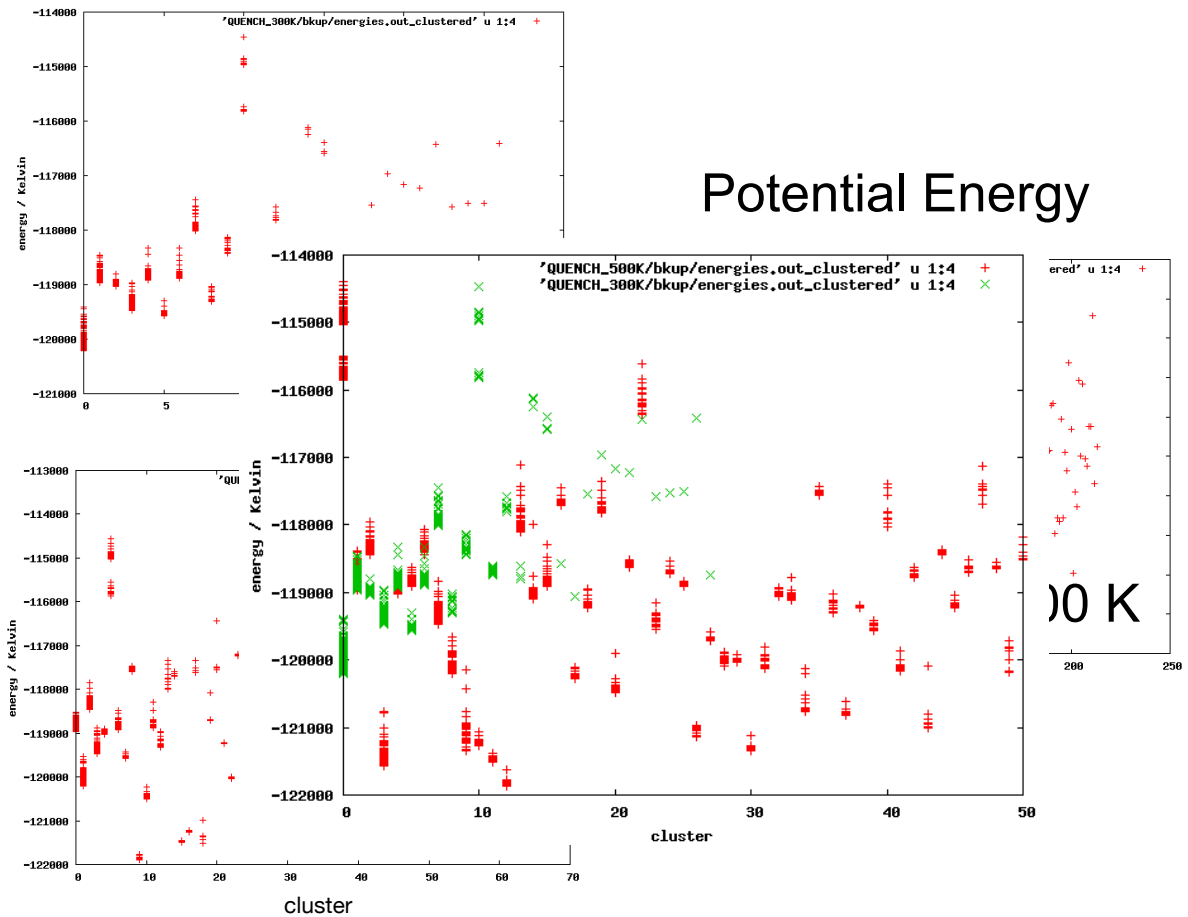
T=300K

Potential Energy



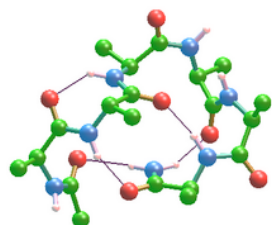
There is a correlation (cluster 1 has lowest E, but cluster 2 not second lowest).
Correlation not perfect, total energy not full story...

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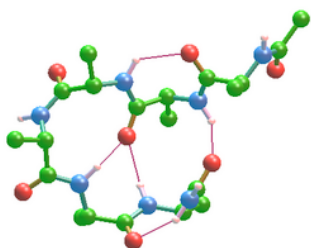


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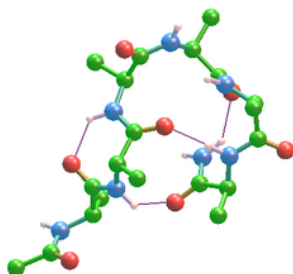
Cluster structures



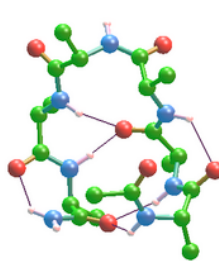
cluster 0



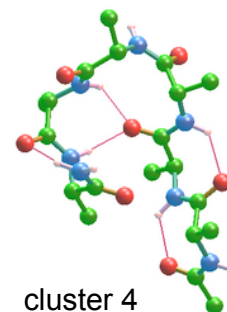
cluster 1



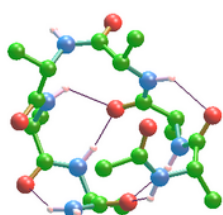
cluster 2



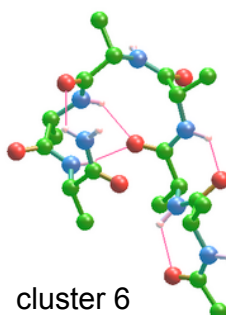
cluster 3



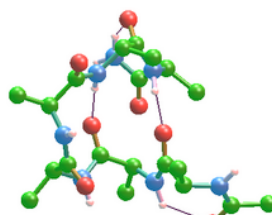
cluster 4



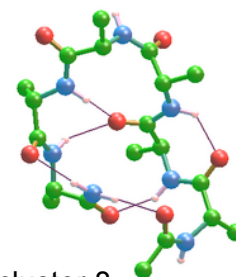
cluster 5



cluster 6



cluster 7



cluster 8

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Cluster Dynamics

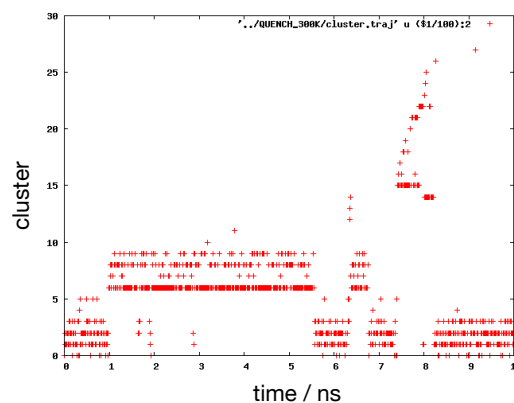
Transition matrix

Average Connection Frequency:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
0	1	1	1	127	2	78	1	0	22	0	0	0	0	0	0
1		0	127	2	78	0	25	0	0	0	0	6	0	2	0
2			0	0	37	1	18	0	0	2	1	5	0	2	0
3				0	0	17	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
4					0	0	12	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
5						0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
6							0	1	0	0	0	3	0	2	0
7								5	0	0	1	0	7	0	5
8									0	1	0	0	0	0	0
9										2	2	1	0	0	0
10											0	0	0	0	0
11												0	0	0	0
12													0	0	1
13														0	0
14															0

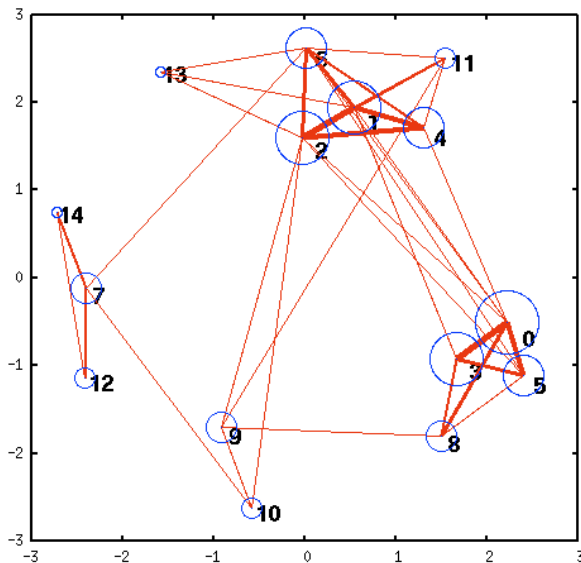
Free Energy Barriers:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
0	-0.00	-0.00	-0.00	-4.84	-0.69	-4.36	-0.00	*	-3.09	*	*	*	*	*	*
1		-0.00	-4.84	-0.69	-4.25	*	-3.22	*	*	*	*	-1.79	*	-0.69	*
2			*	-4.84	-0.69	-3.61	-0.00	-2.89	*	*	-0.69	-0.00	-1.61	*	-0.69
3				*	*	-3.61	-0.00	-2.89	*	*	-2.48	*	*	*	*
4					*	*	-2.48	*	*	*	*	*	-1.10	*	*
5						*	-2.48	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
6							*	-0.00	*	*	*	-1.10	*	*	-0.69
7								-0.00	*	*	-0.00	*	-1.95	*	-1.61
8									*	-0.00	*	*	*	*	*
9										-0.00	*	*	*	*	*
10											*	*	*	*	*
11												*	*	*	*
12													*	*	-0.00
13														*	*
14															*



Friday, 13 December, 13

Network diagram



circle size: free energy
of cluster

line thickness:
transition probability

We can think of the peptide
dynamics as a Markov
chain at different levels:

- 14 small states
- 4 combined states

Friday, 13 December, 13

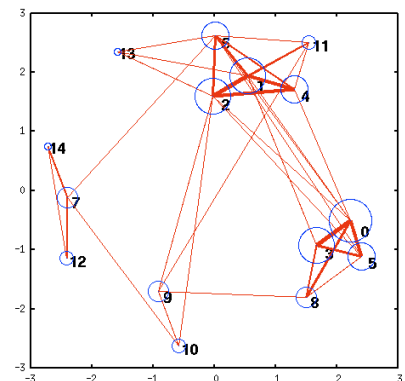
A Markov model

Are we allowed to apply a Markov model for
analysis?

(mind you, the molecular dynamics was
deterministic (not stochastic)).

We assume that the system jumps from
state to state in a stochastic manner

- i.e. there is a separation of timescales
such that the system stays long enough
in metastable state to loose memory of
the previous state ($\tau_{ij} \gg \tau_{relax}$)



If the cluster analysis is not converged, we may find that the
Markov chain is not reversible...

The Markov model can be stochastically sampled using Langevin
dynamics, kinetic Monte Carlo, Fokker-Planck,....

Friday, 13 December, 13

Summary

part 1

A stochastic hopping between states is Markovian if the probability to reach the next state does not depend on the past (no memory)

- reversible Markov chains (detailed balance)
- ergodicity
- spectral decomposition (convergence to equilibrium)

part 2

Markov State Modeling applied as analysis tool of the dynamics of a small peptide

- Analysis of molecular dynamics simulation
- Clustering based on structures
- Relation to free energy landscape based on cluster size
- Transition probability between clusters (states)
- Using the MSM the dynamics can be sampled in a coarse-grain manner, e.g. using kinetic Monte-Carlo