





Applicability of Free Energy Calculations using High-Throughput Grid Approach

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- Analysis purpose
- Free energy calculations
 - Adaptive Biasing Force (ABF) methods
 - Multiple Walkers Approach (MWA)
- Studied molecular system
- Utilized infrastructure
- Results and future prospects

Purpose of the analysis

Feasibility of study

- to evaluate the applicability of novel free energy calculations technique
- to investigate possibility of deployment and run of high-throughput chemical applications
- to provide a test case before a massive utilization of large-scale application runs
- Simultaneous testing of available infrastructure under EUAsia virtual organization

Free energy calculations

• Free energy (FE)

 important quantity to describe properties and dynamic behavior of (bio)molecular systems at atomic level

chemical kinetics

- how fast chemical reactions proceed
- detailed reaction mechanism
- thermodynamics
 - self-organization of molecular structures

Free energy calculations

• FE use and determination

- used to study where and how molecules interact, key for pharmacology, nanotechnology, medicine, ...
- FE is calculated using statistical thermodynamics
- many computational approaches developed
- most promising Adaptive Biasing Force (ABF)
- other methods
 - Metadynamics
 - Umbrella sampling



Free energy calculations

- Calculations have to result in energy profiles with absolute error of about cca 1kcal/mol
- To provide reliable and converged data extremely long simulations are required
- Critical factors for FE run evaluation
 - simulation length
 - satisfactory sampling allowing appropriate exploration of conformational space (formed by atomic coordinates)



Free energy calculations

- How to shorten, precise, and accelerate free energy computations?
- Multiple Walkers Approach (MWA)
 - parallel runs (so-called walkers) starting from the same or different structural conformations
 - simulations will diverge and this increase the efficiacy of the search in conformational space



- To describe the pH dependent switch emerging in pseudorotaxane complex
- Energetic evaluation of different binding modes



System composition

- Pseudorotaxane is a stable complex where the wheel like molecule is threaded on an axle like molecule
- The wheel is prevented from dissociation due to energetic reasons



Wheel cucurbit[n]uril
Axle 4,4'-bipyridinium based

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Pseudorotaxane-based switch mechanism



Technical solutions

- MWA implementation
 - server and clients system
 - independent clients run for short time exploring individual parts of total free energy hypersurface
 - intercommunication with server for data accumulation
 - server has to communicate with all clients during the whole time period of calculation, server must be fully functional all the time
 - useful to have server running outside the dynamic "not-always-reliable" grid environment



Utilized environments

- All computation performed within EUAsia VO
- EUAsia virtual organization (VO)
 - regional, catch-all virtual VO
 - generic, application neutral
 - supporting testing of developed applications before large-scale deployment
- Inter grid communication
 - MWA clients running in EUAsia VO
 - MWA server running outside the EUAsia VO to ensure stable and reliable accumulation of clients data



- Successful implementation and testing of the MWA scheme in combination with ABF method to the Grid environment
- Client computations processed in EUAsia VO
- MWA server running at MetaCentrum (Czech National Grid Environment)
- Current methodology enables nearly linear speed up
- Usability within generic grid environment was proven



Simulation Details

- 25 ns of molecular dynamics simulations
- 2 different starting conformation of the complex
- 50 independent walkers for ABF MWA
- ABF calculation was nearly 50 times faster compared to conventional ABF run
- cca 50 ns of simulations process in 3 days
- standard run usually 1 ns ~ 3 days

Results







charge 2+





Two equal minima

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Global minimum

15

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Future prospects

Issues to be considered

- security of communication between individual clients
 - utilization of plain password authentication to be substituted by an SSL encrypted communication
- bottleneck in the utilization of the **one and only server**
 - during server failure all accumulated data would be lost
 - plan to utilize more mutually interconnected servers
 - smaller communication bandwidth
 - minimization of data loss as the accumulated data due to duplication among the servers