Parallel Computing and Protein Design

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The four protein structural classes in CATH



A funnel-shaped Free Energy Landscape?

Protein Folding

Conformational Change







$$\begin{aligned} &V(\{\vec{R}_n\}) = \sum_{ligações} K_r \left(r - r_{eq}\right) + \sum_{\hat{a}ngulos} K_{\theta} \left(\theta - \theta_{eq}\right) + \\ &+ \sum_{lorsões} \frac{E_n}{2} \left[1 + \cos(n\varphi - \gamma)\right] + \\ &+ \sum_{i < j} \left(\frac{A_{ij}}{R_{ij}^{12}} - \frac{B_{ij}}{R_{ij}^6} + \frac{q_i q_j}{\varepsilon R_{ij}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

The structures of proteins ?



Os últimos 25 ns de uma simulação de 50 ns











Implications for Protein Design

Limitation: "only" 0.1 microsecond simulations.

Protein Design is the inverse of Protein Folding: you want a protein to perform a specific function, that is, a protein with a specific structure, and you want to determine the amino acid sequence that will lead to that structure.

• If free energy landscape is multi-funnel shaped, then the implication is that a given amino acid sequence may well acquire different structures. Why does this not happen in cells?

 If cellular constraints on protein folding are important to define the native structure of proteins, then we must find what these constraints are if we are to make progress in Protein Design.

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The testbed



From OS bundled to the newest GCC version

Table 1. Single node performance (elapsed time in seconds).

	s-core (AMD 246)		d-core (AMD 275)		
Cores	1	2	2	4	
GCC 4.1.2	19996.6	10118.3	9044.8	4637.1	
+ optimization	18855.4	9565.8	8475.8	4364.7	
GCC 4.4.3	18721.3	9509.5	8536.9	4381.0	
+ optimization	17369.0	8882.2	7951.4	4089.9	
Optimization gains	15.1%	13.9%	13.8%	13.4%	
Speedup		1.96		1.94	

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Speedup as a number of cores in GbE and IB

Table 2. Cluster performance (elapsed time in seconds).

	Gigabit Ethernet (GbE)				Infiniband (IB)			
Nodes	2	2	2	4	2	2	2	4
Cores	2	4	8	12	2	4	8	12
GCC 4.1.2 + Opt	9550.9	5011.4	2515.5	1864.7	9517.1	4907.6	2302.7	1763.1
<i>GCC</i> 4.4.3 + <i>Opt</i>	8833.5	4675.5	2376.5	1817.0	8814.5	4581.7	2155.9	1667.6
GCC version gains	8.1%	7.2%	5.9%	2.6%	8.0%	7.1%	6.8%	5.7%
<i>Speedup (w/ GCC 4.4.3)</i>		1.89	3.72	4.86		1.92	4.09	5.29
Speedup (w/ clock adjust)		1.89	3.38	4.63		1.92	3.72	5.03

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