



**Argonne**  
NATIONAL  
LABORATORY

*... for a brighter future*



U.S. Department  
of Energy

UChicago ►  
Argonne<sub>LLC</sub>

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# ***An Overview of High Performance - “Leadership” - Computing at Argonne National Laboratory***

***Robert Rosner***  
***Laboratory Director***

***HPC Users Forum***  
***Norfolk, VA***

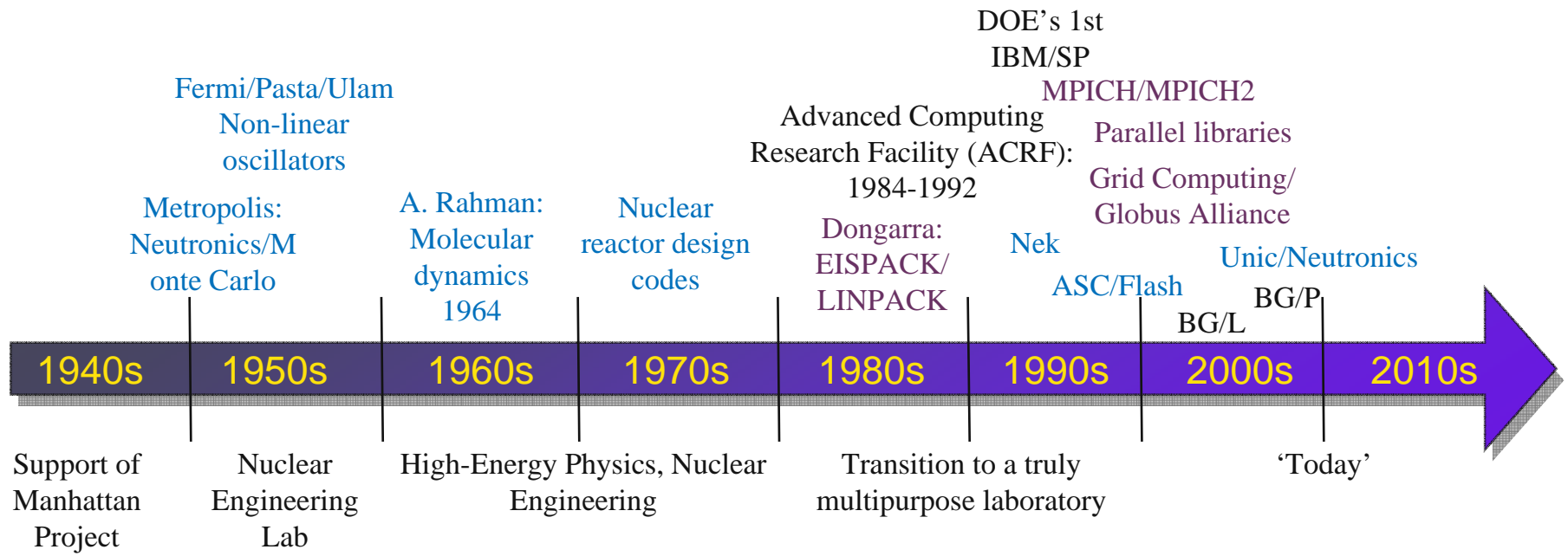
***15 April 2008***

QuickTime™ and a  
decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

## Outline

- Time line for computing at Argonne
- Status report: Argonne Leadership Computing Facility & IBM BG/P
- 'Early science' results from BG/L and BG/P ...
- Where are we going - comments from a 'user/provider' perspective ...

# Argonne has been in HPC since its beginnings ...



‘The trouble with computers is you play with them . . . and it interferes completely with the work’ - R. Feynman (1988)

# ANL status report: Argonne Leadership Computing Facility: Part 1

- *Established 2006*
- *Dedicated to breakthrough science & engineering*

In 2004 DOE selected the ORNL, ANL and PNNL team based on a competitive peer review

- ORNL to deploy a series of Cray X-series systems
- ANL to deploy a series of IBM Blue Gene systems
- PNNL to contribute software technology



Blue Gene/P

## 2007-8 Blue Gene/P Installation

- 556 Teraflops computer
- 80 Terabytes of memory
- 8 Petabytes of disk storage
- 10,000 volume tape archive

# ANL status report: Argonne Leadership Computing Facility & BG/P: Part 2

292,914 CPUs  
Petaflops  
System  
72 Racks

4,096 CPUs  
Rack

Cabled 8x8x16

32 Node Cards  
1024 chips, 4096 procs

1 petaflops =  
1,000,000,000,000,000 ( $10^{15}$ )  
arithmetic operations per second

Node Card  
(32 chips 4x4x2)  
32 compute, 0-2 IO cards

Compute Card  
1 chip, 20  
DRAMs

435 GF/s  
64 GB

Chip  
4 processors

13.6 GF/s  
8 MB EDRAM

13.6 GF/s  
2.0 GB DDR  
Supports 4-way SMP

14 TF/s  
2 TB

1 PF/s  
144 TB

Maximum  
System  
256 racks  
3.5 PF/s  
512 TB



Front End Node / Service Node  
System p Servers  
Linux SLES10

HPC SW:  
Compilers  
GPFS  
ESSL  
Loadleveler

# Now: the Interim Supercomputer Support Facility (ISSF) Coming soon: the Theory and Computational Sciences Building (TCB)

## ■ ISSF:

- Constructed to meet the interim needs of ALCF and future needs of ANL
- 6000 SF within an existing high bay building
- 2.5 MW Installed Power
- 600 Tons Total Cooling Capacity
- 300,000 CFM air volume

## ■ TCB:

- 3rd-party financed, construction starting next month (May), completion 2009
- 200,000 ft<sup>2</sup> (30,000 ft<sup>2</sup> labs, 25,000 ft<sup>2</sup> computing)



# *'Early science' results ... a sampler*

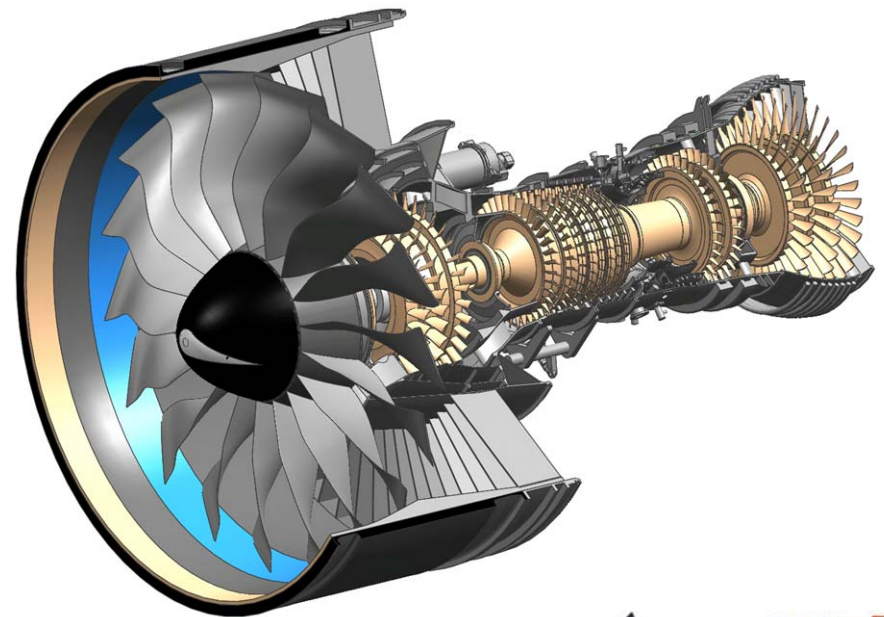


## *Early science results sampler: Reactive Hydrodynamics*

### *High Fidelity Simulation of a Jet Engine Combustor*

Peter Bradley, PI (Pratt & Whitney)

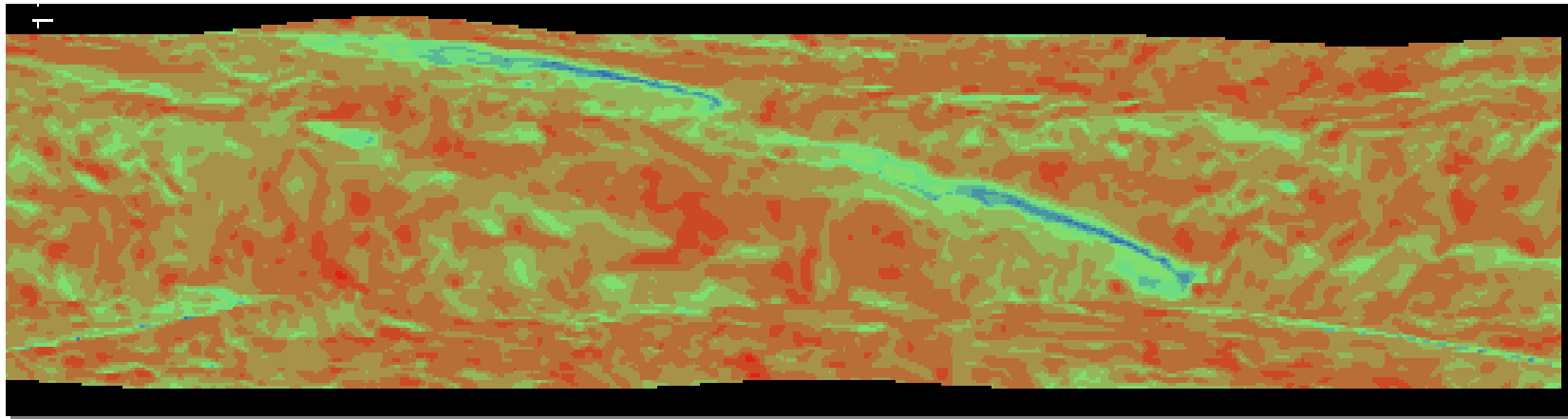
- **High-fidelity analysis of highly unsteady reacting flows**
  - Critical to next-generation fuel efficiency, emissions
  - Develop scalable algorithms to enable rapid turnaround of traditionally long-running problems
- **Leverage BlueGene to break (constructively) traditional design tools**
  - Model
  - Grid partitioning
  - Solution
  - Visualization/interrogation



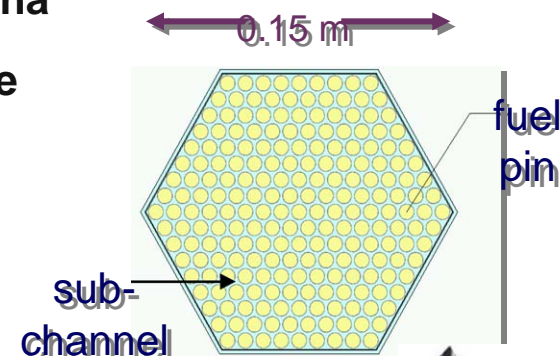
## Early science results sampler: (Nuclear) Thermal Hydraulics

### High-Resolution Fluid Dynamics and Heat Transfer

Paul Fischer (PI), Argonne National Laboratory



- By recycling spent nuclear fuel, advanced burner reactors reduce nuclear waste in geological repositories by up to 100x.
- Large-scale numerical simulations of turbulent thermal transport in sodium-cooled reactor cores reveal thermal mixing phenomena
- Single-pin and 7-pin subassembly computations have identified key-flow features in interior and peripheral flows within wire-wrapped fuel bundles
- Bypass-flow peaks migrate around the perimeter of the subassembly and may influence uniform cooling

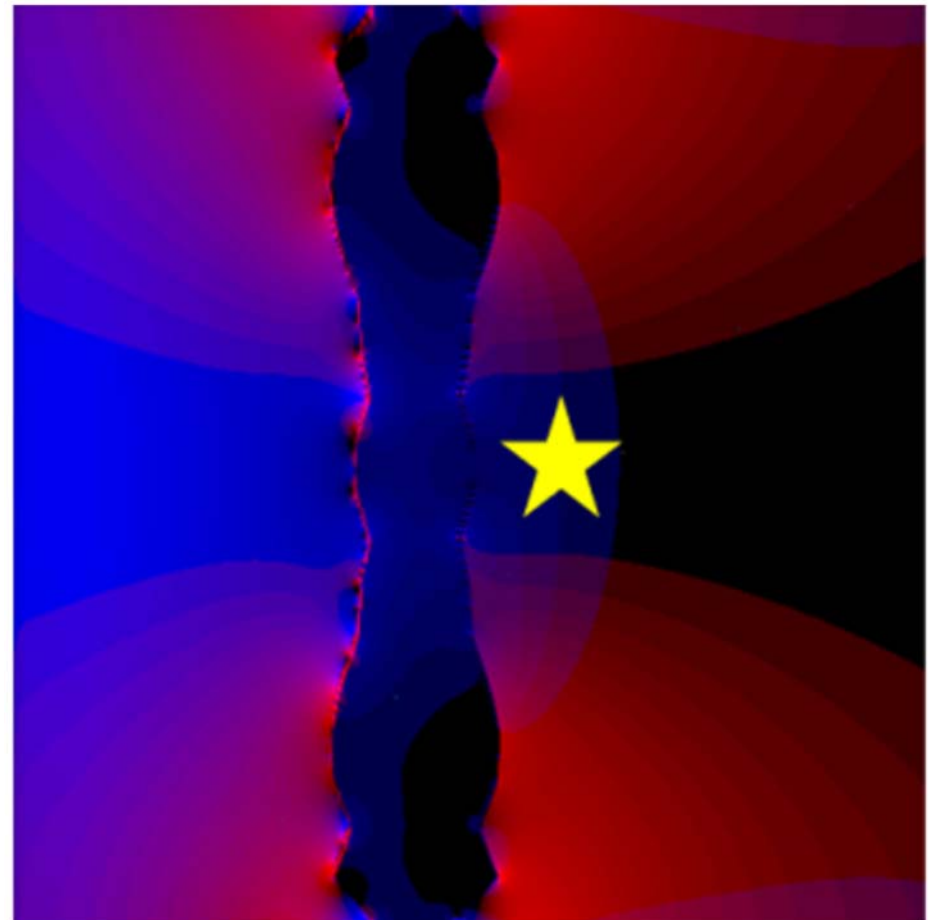


## Early science results sampler: Simulations at the nanoscale

### Numerical Approach Guides Light in the Nanoscale

Tamar Seideman (PI), Northwestern University

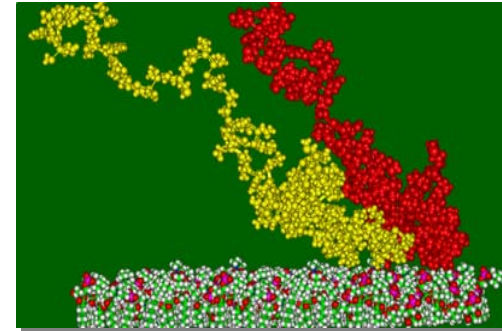
- Optimal control theory is applied as a numerical design tool to produce nanophotonics with desired functionalities.
- Applications range from novel sensors and medical diagnostics through sub-diffraction waveguides to tip-enhanced molecular spectroscopy and dynamics.
- Figure illustrates the design of a metallic ‘nano-lens’ by optimization of a metal slab to focus electromagnetic radiation to a pre-specified point (shown as a star on the output side).



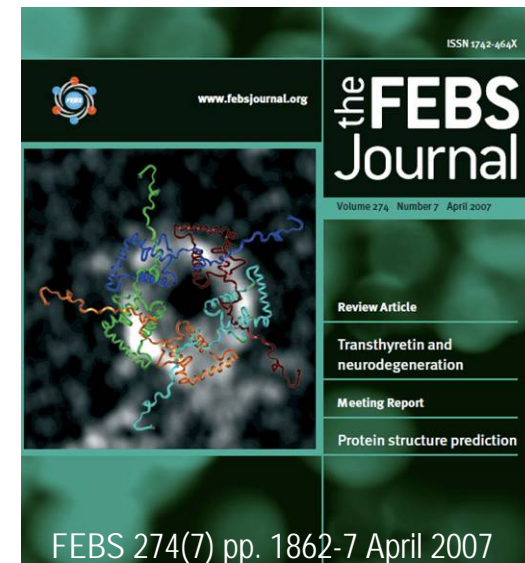
## Early science results sampler: (Biological) molecular modeling

### Modeling of Protofibril Structures Provides Insight into Molecular Basis of Parkinson's Disease Igor Tsigelny (PI), UC San Diego

- Parkinson's Disease is the 2nd most common adult neurological disease
- Increased aggregation of *alpha-synuclein* protein is thought to lead to harmful pore-like structures in human membranes
- UCSD - SDSC team used molecular modeling and molecular dynamics simulations in combination with biochemical and ultrastructural analysis to show that *alpha-synuclein* can lead to the formation of pore-like structures on membranes
- Used NAMD and MAPAS on Blue Gene/L at ALCF and SDSC



*alpha-synuclein forming a dimer (above)  
and a completed pentamer (below)  
attached to a membrane*

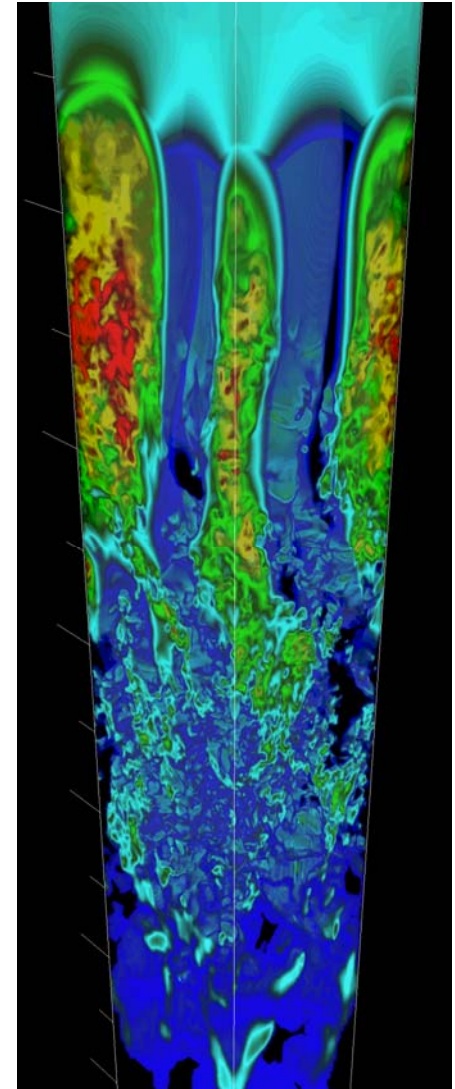
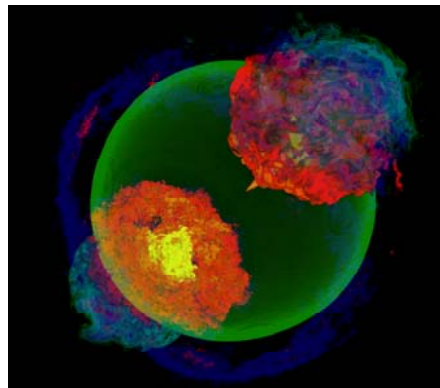


## Early science results sampler: Nuclear astrophysics & CFD

### Buoyancy-Driven Turbulent Nuclear Burning and Validation of Type Ia Supernovae

Don Lamb (PI), University of Chicago

- Type Ia Supernovae are the *standard candles* of the universe
- Observations of Type Ia SNe revealed the universe is accelerating and led to the discovery of dark energy
- FLASH is working on two of the major challenges in the Type Ia SNe field
  - Understanding of the key physical process
  - Furthering the limited simulations of the four primary models of Type Ia



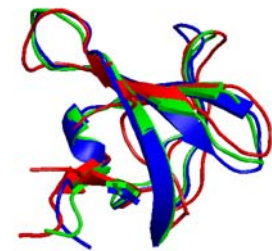
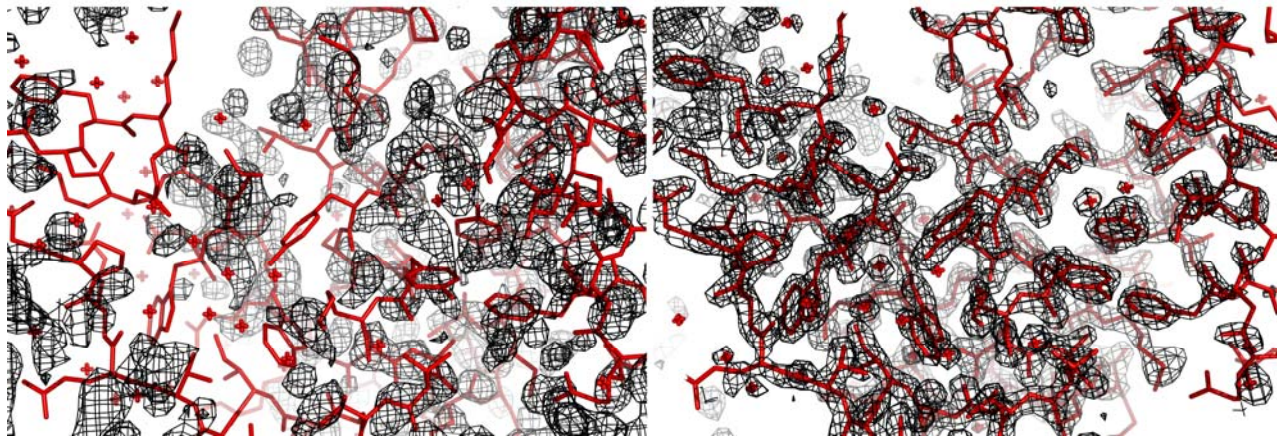
## Early science results sampler: Biomolecules by design

### High Resolution Protein Structure Prediction

David Baker (PI), University of Washington

#### ■ Goals:

- Understand the structure and functionality of amino acids in a protein
- Create new proteins by removing undesired functionality and replacing it with desired features
- Design better drugs and new biological organisms by computationally engineering proteins with new functions



**Blue** : Native structure

**Red** : Starting low-resolution NMR model

**Green** : Rosetta prediction

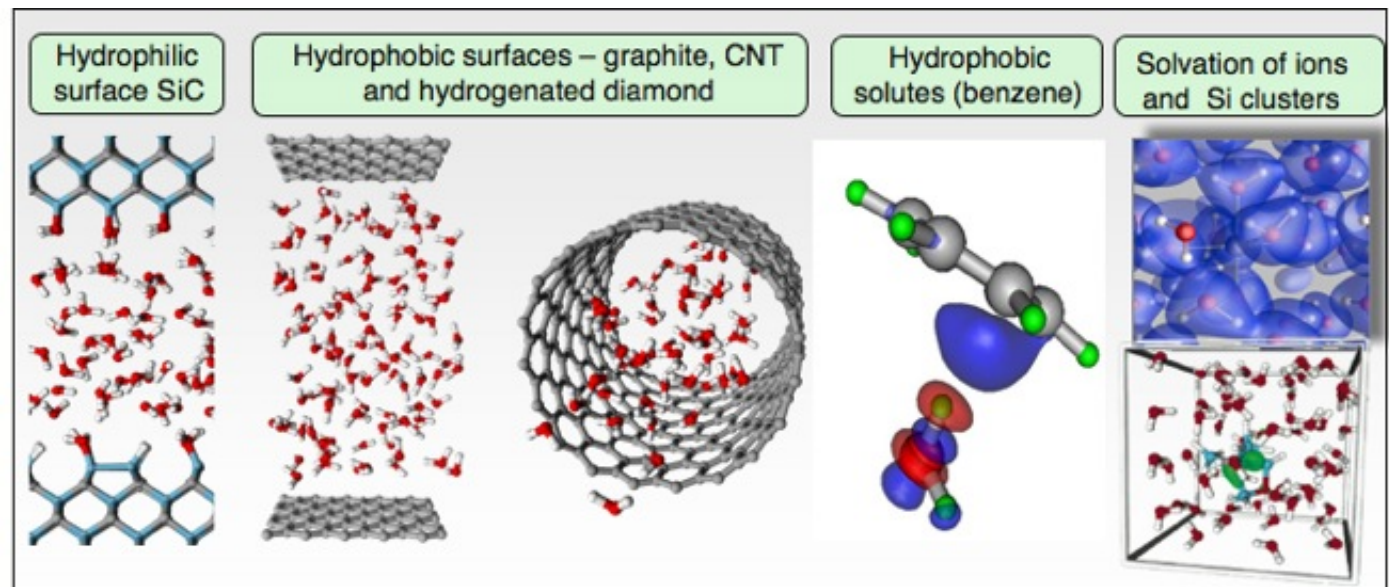
Electron density map generated from phases determined from the starting low-resolution model (left panel) and the map generated from phases determined from Rosetta refined model (right panel). The red model is the deposited native structure fitting the calculated density.

## Early science results sampler: Materials by design

### Computational Material Design with Nano-Building Blocks

Giula Galli and Francois Gygi

- Advance the field of custom designed materials through the understanding how to control nanostructure assemblies
- Impact includes
  - protein folding
  - cell-membrane flow
  - materials in confined media
  - nanofluidic devices

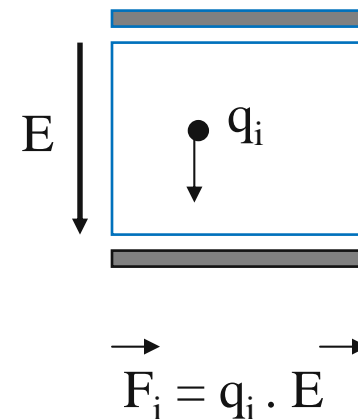
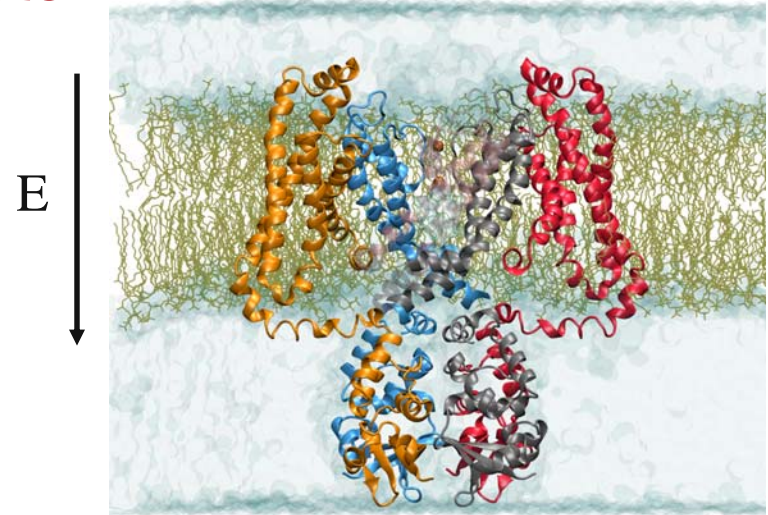


## Early science results sampler: Modeling cells

### Gating Mechanism of Membrane Proteins

Benoit Roux (PI), UofC/ANL

- The cell membrane represents the physical and functional boundary between living organisms and their environment.
- Membrane associated proteins play an essential role; truly "molecular machines"
- How is an external energy source, the membrane voltage, is converted into molecular motion
- Encode information-carrying physiological signals by a membrane protein



# Early science results sampler: QCD by computer ...

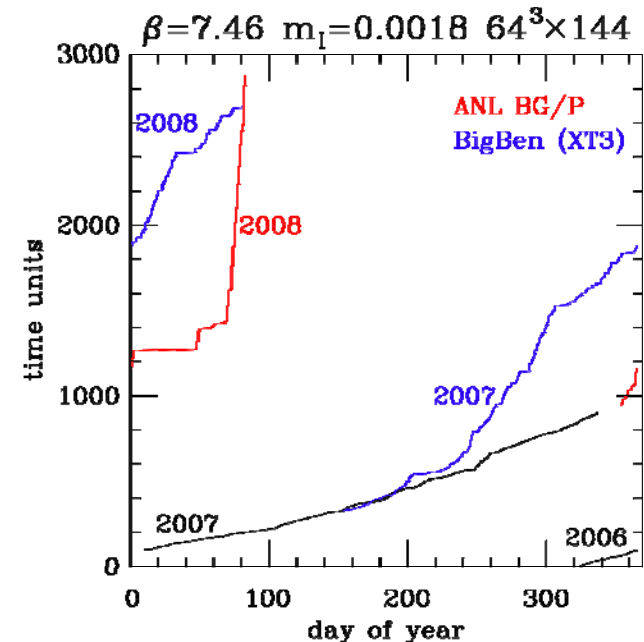
## Lattice-QCD

Bob Sugar (PI), et al., USQCD

- Precisions tests of the fundamental theory of matter
- Calculate weak interaction matrix elements of strongly interacting particles to the accuracy needed to make precise test of the standard model
- Determine the properties of strongly interacting matter at high temperatures and densities, such as those that existed immediately after the Big Bang

Configuration Generation Plans

QCD Action	Lattice Spacing (Fermi)	$m_l/m_s$	Lattice Dimensions	Lattice Size (GB)	TF-Years
ASQTAD	0.060	0.10	$60^3 \times 144$	9.0	2.0
ASQTAD	0.045	0.20	$56^3 \times 192$	9.7	1.9
ASQTAD	0.045	0.10	$80^3 \times 192$	28.3	13.7
ASQTAD	0.060	0.05	$84^3 \times 144$	24.6	23.2
DWF	0.094	0.27	$32^3 \times 64$	0.6	1.2
DWF	0.094	0.19	$48^3 \times 64$	2.0	7.8
DWF	0.094	0.11	$48^3 \times 64$	2.0	25.2
CLOVER	0.100	0.22	$32^3 \times 128$	1.2	0.8
CLOVER	0.100	0.15	$40^3 \times 128$	2.4	4.1
CLOVER	0.080	0.18	$40^3 \times 128$	2.4	4.5
CLOVER	0.080	0.15	$48^3 \times 128$	4.1	22



## *The basic message ...*

- **BG/P works great!**
- **Come join us computing!**

## Some final comments from a user/provider ...

- Potential computing power is currently outpacing our algorithmic capabilities of exploiting this power
  - Relatively few application codes are currently able to take full advantage of the largest computing systems
  - But: building ‘capable’ codes is both demonstrably possible AND is not cheap
  - **Conclusion: SciDAC-type/ASC-type investments are sorely needed**
- The vastly increase in computer power over the past 5 years has led some disciplines to surmount a crucial barrier - transforming the discipline
  - In CFD, astrophysics and nuclear physics, it is now possible to carry out physically meaningful (= no longer ‘toy’) direct numerical simulations
    - *New generations of state-of-the-art thermal hydraulics/neutronics codes for reactor design; new coupled N-body/hydro/MHD cosmological evolution codes; new capabilities for nuclear structure codes; ...*
  - In biology, metagenomics is no longer just a concept ...
  - **Conclusion: Computing/simulation is proving to be transformative!**
- In other disciplines, this transition has not yet occurred - but is finally in sight (!!)
  - Example: Intelligent agent modeling of complex non-equilibrium economic systems that can be V&V’d (!!)

Which brings us to ... questions and discussion