

Reactive Force Fields in Particular ReaxFF and Application Possibilities

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Part I: General Concepts and Comparison to other Simulation Methods

Part II: ReaxFF as Reactive Force Field

Part III : Connection to Energy Landscapes – not included

Notice

The material presented in Part I and II is mainly based on the following presentations:

van Duin, A. C. T. Lecture Notes CH121 CalTech (2008) - *Applications of the ReaxFF reactive force Field and Reactive force fields: concepts of ReaxFF*

van Duin, A. C. T., Chenoweth, K., and Goddard, B. Interatomic Potentials Workshop July 2008, Oxford - *ReaxFF force fields*

van Duin, A. C. T. ARL workshop August 2008. - *Using the ReaxFF program.*

Quenneville, J., *Summer School on Computational Materials Science July 31 - August 11, 2006 · University of Illinois - Reactive Empirical Force Fields*

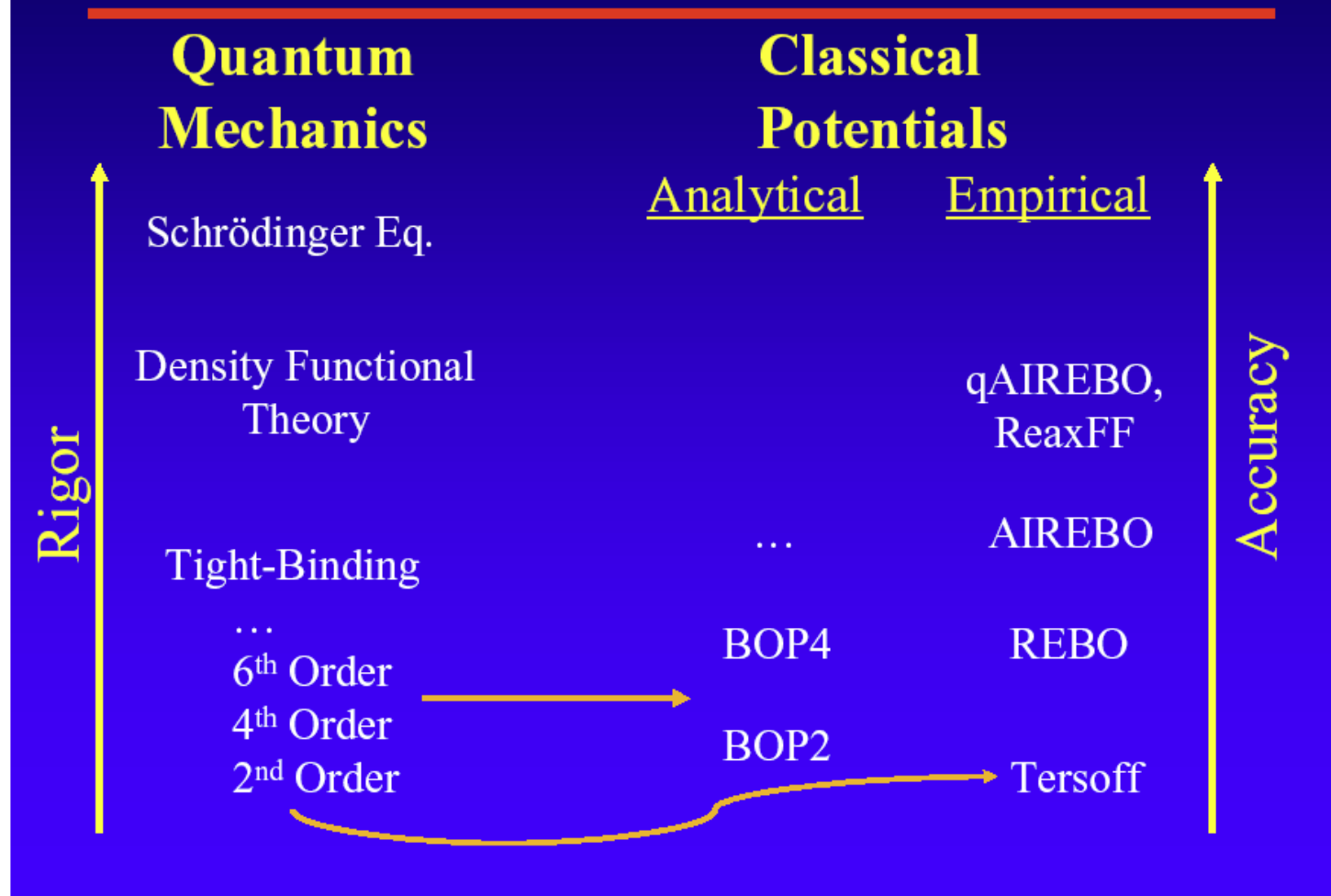
Part I: General Concepts and Comparison to other Simulation Methods

Approaches to reactive MD

- I. Computational Expensive QM/MD (e.g. Raty et al., PRL 2005)
- II. Semiempirical Methods – speed up QM with empirical assumptions
 - CINDO/MINDO/AM1/MOPAC
(e.g. Pople and Segal, JCP 1966; Stewart, J. Comp. Chem. 1989)
 - Tight-binding (e.g. McMahan and Klepeis, PRB 1997)
 - Analytical Bond Order Potentials (e.g. Pettifor and Oleinik, PRB 1999)
- III. Empirical bond-order based force fields – Force Field Methods with ability to simulate reactions
 - Tersoff /Brenner /AIREBO (Tersoff, PRL 1988; Brenner, PRB 1990, Stuart et al., JCP 2000)
 - LCBOP (de Los et al., PRB 2005)
 - EDIP (e.g. Bazant and Kaxiras, PRL 1996)
 - ReaxFF (e.g. van Duin et al. JPC-A 2001)

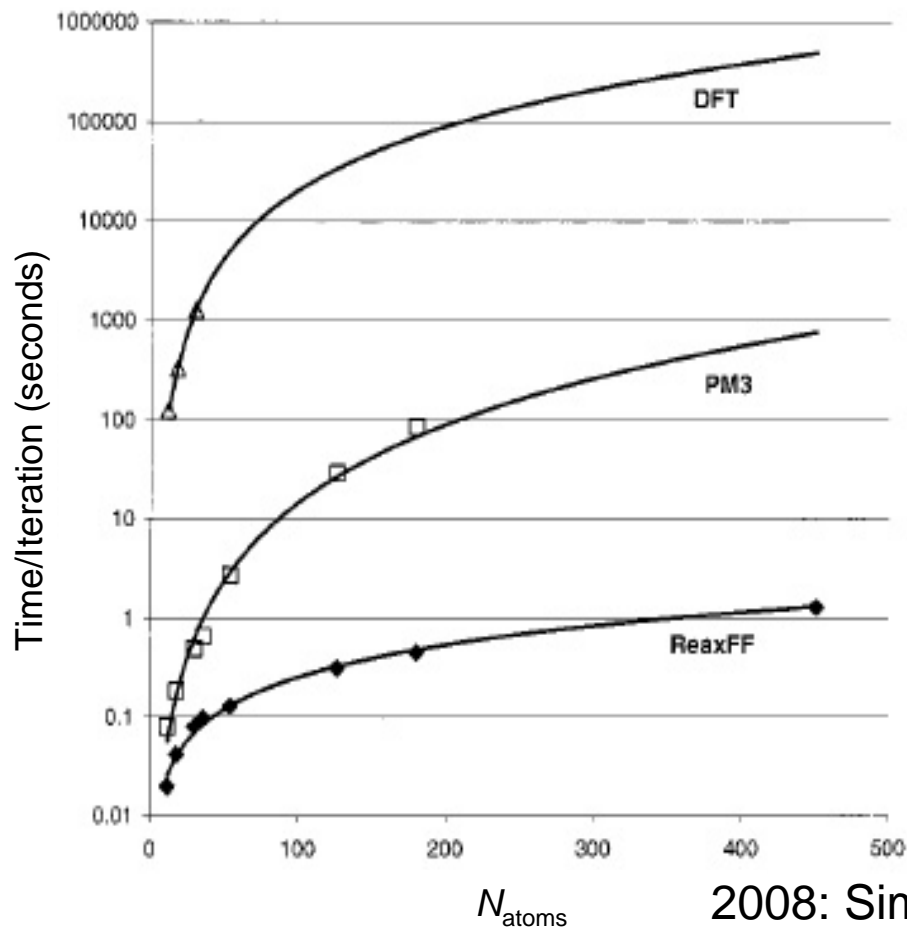
Model Comparison

Classes of Models



from Steve Stuart, Clemson University

Benchmark Results



Quenneville, J., (2006).

- ReaxFF is 10-50 times slower than non-reactive force fields (serial, 1 CPU & 4000 Atoms):

[van Duin, A. C. T. , CMDf workshop, August 23 2005, Materials Simulation Center, California Institute of Technology - *ReaxFF reactive force field: A new link from QM to MM*]

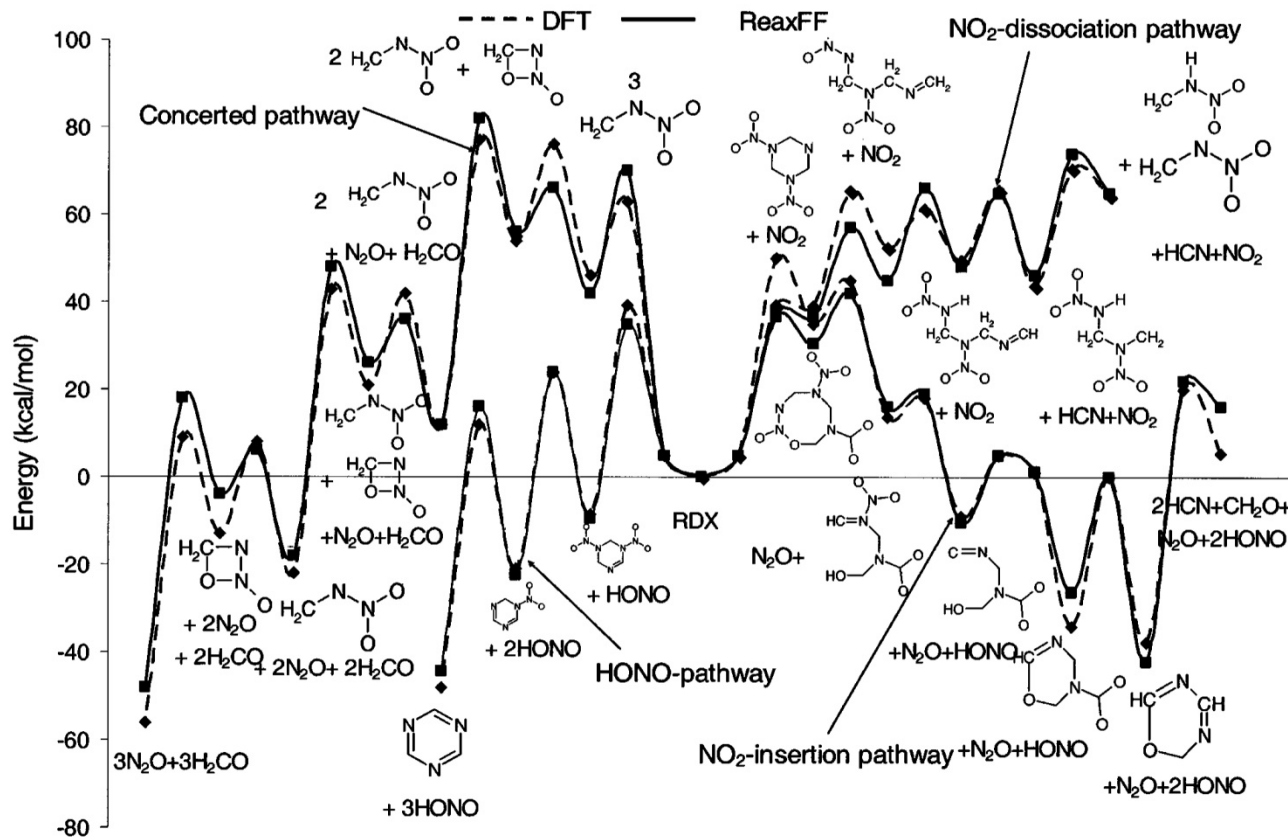
- Parallel ReaxFF: Part of LAMMPS (<http://lammps.sandia.gov/>)

- Simulation sizes up to a half million atoms on 510 CPU (2 GHz, 8GB per node) (Quenneville, 2006)

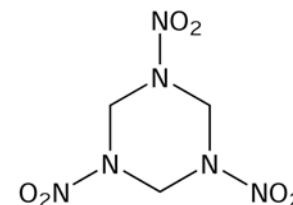
2008: Simulations > 1 million atoms possible with sweetspot of about 5000 atoms per CPU
Additional improvement with new ReaxFF version in LAMMPS expected

ReaxFF/*Ab Initio* Comparison

ReaxFF can describe a wide variety of chemical reactions.



e.g.,
unimolecular
decomposition
of RDX



Strachan, et al, *JCP*, 122, 054502 ('05).

(Original slide from Quenneville presentation)

Part II: ReaxFF as Reactive Force Field

Application Possibilities

<http://www.mne.psu.edu/vanduin/distributions.html>

For example: proteins, metal systems, fuel cells
and combustion

group 1 2 13 14 15 16 17 18
1a 2a 3a 4a 5a 6a 7a 8a 9a 10a 11a 12a 13b 14b 15b 16b 17b 18b
1 H 2 He
3 Li 4 Be 5 B 6 C 7 N 8 O 9 F 10 Ne
11 Na 12 Mg 13 Al 14 Si 15 P 16 S 17 Cl 18 Ar
19 K 20 Ca 21 Sc 22 Ti 23 V 24 Cr 25 Mn 26 Fe 27 Co 28 Ni 29 Cu 30 Zn 31 Ga 32 Ge 33 As 34 Se 35 Br 36 Kr
37 Rb 38 Sr 39 Y 40 Zr 41 Nb 42 Mo 43 Tc 44 Ru 45 Rh 46 Pd 47 Ag 48 Cd 49 In 50 Sn 51 Sb 52 Te 53 I 54 Xe
55 Cs 56 Ba 57 La 58 Ce 59 Pr 60 Nd 61 Pm 62 Sm 63 Eu 64 Gd 65 Tb 66 Dy 67 Ho 68 Er 69 Tm 70 Yb 71 Lu 72 Hf 73 Ta 74 W 75 Re 76 Os 77 Ir 78 Pt 79 Au 80 Hg 81 Tl 82 Pb 83 Bi 84 Po 85 At 86 Rn
7 Fr Ra Ac ****

alkali metals other metals noble gases
alkaline earth metals other nonmetals lanthanides
transition metals halogens actinides

not currently described by ReaxFF

Status 2008 based on
description at Interatomic
Potentials Workshop
2008

Selection of published ReaxFF parameters and applications (Interatomic Potential Workshop 08, Oxford)

- **H/C/O**: - van Duin, Dasgupta, Lorant and Goddard, JPC-A 2001, 105, 9396 (original ReaxFF)
- Chenoweth, van Duin and Goddard, JPC-A 2008 (combustion)
- **Si/SiO₂/SiC** - Buehler, Tang, van Duin and Goddard, PRL 2007, 90, 165502. (crack propagation)
- **High energy** - Nomura, Kalia, Nakano, Vashista, van Duin and Goddard PRL 2007. 99, 148303.
(parallel ReaxFF)
- **Al/Al₂O₃** - Zhang, Cagin, van Duin, Goddard, Qi and Hector, PRB 2004, 69, 045423
- **Ni/Cu/Co/C** - Su, Nielsen, van Duin and Goddard, PRB 75, 2007
- **Pt/PtH/PtC** (fuel cell anode) - Ludwig, Vlachos, van Duin and Goddard, JPC-B 2006
- Sanz-Navarro, Astrand, Chen, Ronning, van Duin, Jacob and Goddard, JPC-A 2008
- **Na/Al/Mg/H** - Cheung, Deng, van Duin and Goddard, JPC-A 2005, 109, 851
- Ojwang, van Santen, Kramer, van Duin and Goddard, JCP 2008.
- **B/N** - Han, Kang, Lee, van Duin and Goddard, JCP 2005, 123, 114703
- Han, Kang, Lee, van Duin and Goddard, JCP 2005, 123, 114704
- **Li/LiC** - Han, van Duin and Goddard, JPC-A 2005, 109, 4575
- **Mo/V/Bi/O/C/H** - Goddard et al Topics in Catalysis 2006, 38 (1-3) 93-103.
- Chenoweth, van Duin, Oxgaard, Cheng and Goddard, accepted in JPC-A.
- **Cu/Zn/O/H** - Raymond, van Duin, Baudin and Hermannsson, Surface Science 2008
- van Duin et al., in preparation.
- **Y/Zr/Ba/O/H** - van Duin, Merinov, Jang. and Goddard, W.A. JPC-A 2008. (fuel cell membrane)
- van Duin, Merinov, Han, Dorso, Goddard, W.A. accepted in JPC-A

Difference reactive/non reactive

Non reactive:

- Can be parameterized to describe structures and energies close to equilibrium
- Expansion with anharmonic terms improves reliability and application range
- Does not dissociate bonds properly
- Often potential is build up as sum of bonded and non bonded interactions with following contributions (bonds+bends+torsions)+(Coulomb+VdW)



Bonded

Non bonded

ReaxFF Potential Energy Function

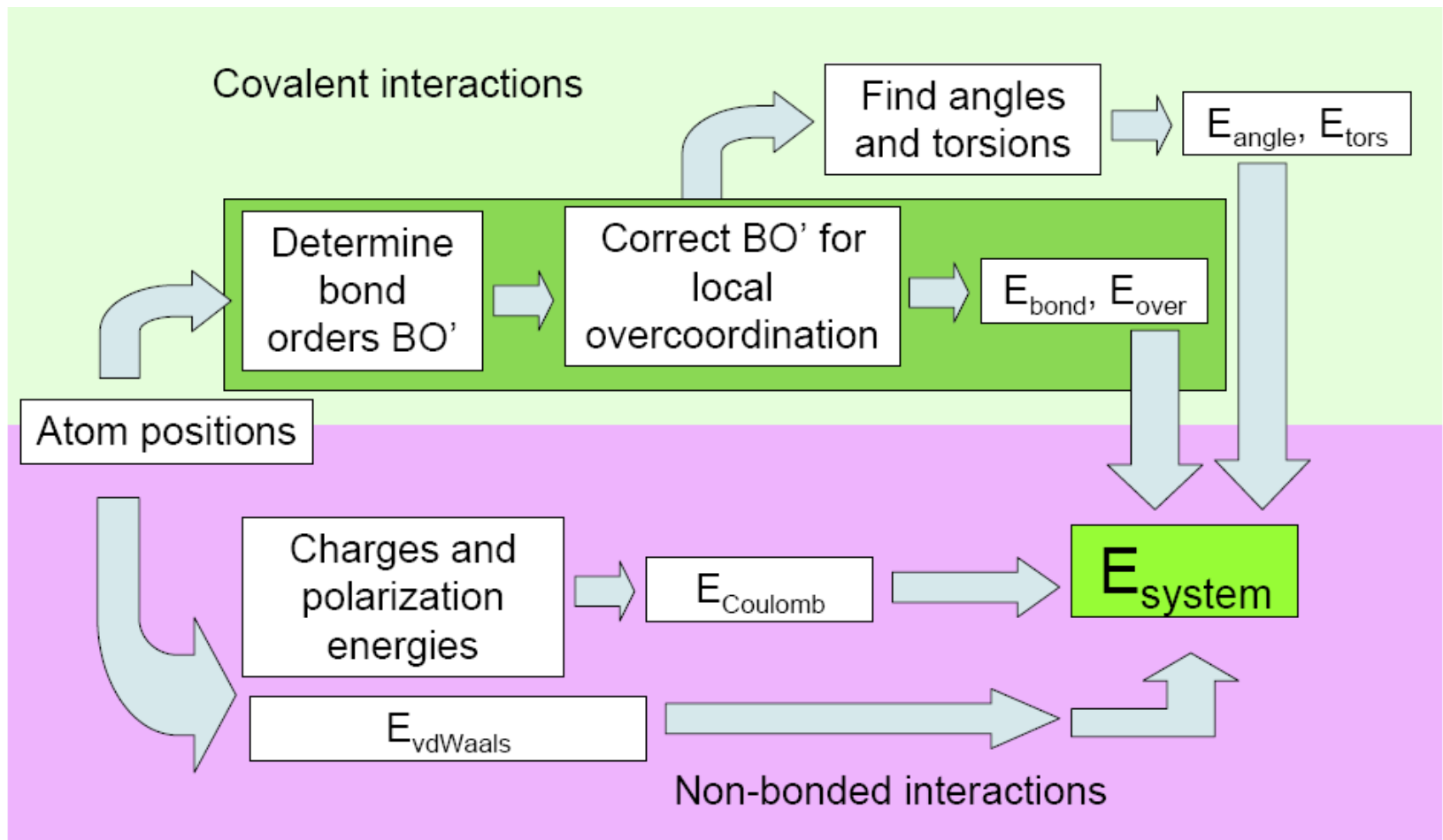
$$E_{\text{system}} = E_{\text{bond}} + E_{\text{lp}} + E_{\text{over}} + E_{\text{under}} + E_{\text{val}} + E_{\text{pen}} + E_{\text{coa}} + E_{\text{C2}} + E_{\text{triple}} + E_{\text{tors}} + E_{\text{conj}} + E_{\text{H-bond}} + E_{\text{vdWaals}} + E_{\text{Coulomb}}$$

- E_{bond} : bond energy; attractive term, directly derived from bond orders
- E_{lp} : Lone pair energy; penalty for breaking up lone pairs in O, N
- E_{over} : Overcoordination energy: penalty for overcoordinating atoms
- E_{under} : Undercoordination energy: stabilizes undercoordinated atoms
- E_{val} : Angle strain; equilibrium angle depends on bond order central atom
- E_{pen} : Penalty for 'allene'-type molecules (H2C=C=CH2)
- E_{coa} : Angle conjugation; stabilizes -NO2 groups
- E_{C2} : C2 correction: destabilizes C=C
- E_{triple} : triple bond related, first mentioned in publications from 2008
- E_{tors} : Torsion energy: bond-order dependent V2-term
- E_{conj} : Torsion conjugation: general conjugation stability
- $E_{\text{H-bond}}$: Hydrogen bond
- E_{vdWaals} : van der Waals: calculated between every atom
- E_{Coulomb} : Coulomb interaction: calculated between every atom; polarizable charges get updated every iteration

ReaxFF general energy terms

- Covalent material: $E_{\text{system}} = E_{\text{bond}} + E_{\text{over}} + E_{\text{val}} + E_{\text{tors}} + E_{\text{vdWaals}} + E_{\text{Coulomb}}$
- Metal alloys: $E_{\text{system}} = E_{\text{bond}} + E_{\text{over}} + E_{\text{vdWaals}} + E_{\text{Coulomb}}$
- Metals: $E_{\text{system}} = E_{\text{bond}} + E_{\text{over}} + E_{\text{vdWaals}}$
- Ionic Material: $E_{\text{system}} = E_{\text{Coulomb}} + E_{\text{vdWaals}}$
- Noble Gases: $E_{\text{system}} = E_{\text{vdWaals}}$

ReaxFF flow diagram



ReaxFF – Key features

- To get a smooth transition from nonbonded to single, double and triple bonded systems ReaxFF employs a bond length/bond order relationship [1,2]. Bond orders are updated every iteration.
- All connectivity-dependent interactions (i.e. valence and torsion angles) are made bond-order dependent, ensuring that their energy contributions disappear upon bond dissociation.
- Nonbonded interactions (van der Waals, Coulomb) are calculated between every atom pair, irrespective of connectivity. Excessive close-range nonbonded interactions are avoided by shielding.
- ReaxFF uses a geometry-dependent charge calculation scheme that accounts for polarization effects.

1: Tersoff, PRB 1988

2: Brenner, PRB 1990

Bond Order Scheme

Uncorrected bond orders derived from interatomic distances, distinguished between sigma, pi and double pi bonds

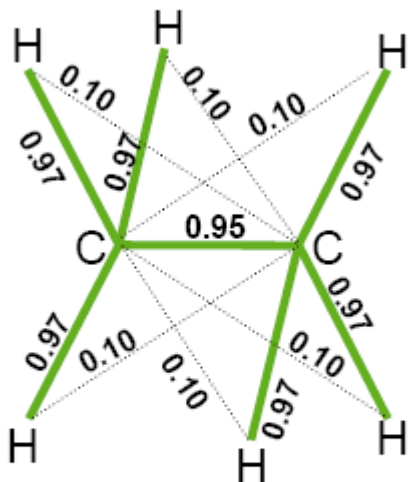
$$BO'_{ij} = BO^{\sigma}_{ij} + BO^{\pi}_{ij} + BO^{\pi\pi}_{ij} = \exp\left[p_{bo1} \cdot \left(\frac{r_{ij}}{r_o^{\sigma}}\right)^{P_{bo2}}\right] + \exp\left[p_{bo3} \cdot \left(\frac{r_{ij}}{r_o^{\pi}}\right)^{P_{bo4}}\right] + \exp\left[p_{bo5} \cdot \left(\frac{r_{ij}}{r_o^{\pi\pi}}\right)^{P_{bo6}}\right]$$

Bond order correction: - in order to avoid over coordination

Mathematical description: supplemental information of
Chenoweth, K., et al., *The Journal of Physical Chemistry A*, 112(5):1040
– 1053

Bond Order Correction

Uncorrected bond orders

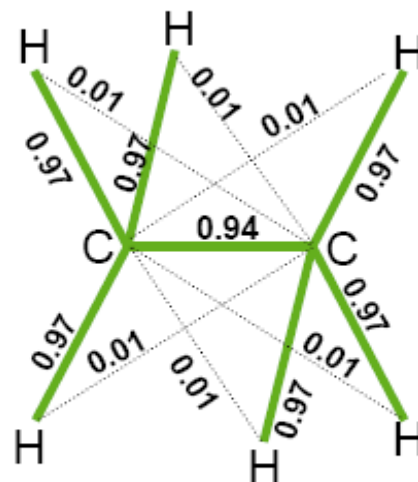


$$\sum \text{BO}_C = 4.16$$

$$\sum \text{BO}_H = 1.17$$



Corrected bond orders



$$\sum \text{BO}_C = 3.88$$

$$\sum \text{BO}_H = 0.98$$

Idea: remove unrealistic weak bonds, leave strong bonds intact
-> overcoordination disappears

How to create awareness for a new chemical environment

ffield-file

General parameters	<pre>Reactive force field for hydrocarbons 39 !Number of general parameters 2.1365 !Valency angle conjugation parameter 0.6991 !Overcoordination parameter 1.2593 !Overcoordination parameter 1.8512 !Valency/lone pair parameter 0.0000 !Molecular energy (not used) 2.6962 !Valency angle conjugation parameter</pre>	Atom parameters
	<pre>2 ! Nr of atoms; cov.r; valency;a.m;Rvdw;Evdw;gammaEEM;cov.r2;# alfa;gammaavdW;valency;Eunder;Eover;chiEEM;etaEEM;n.u cov_r3;Elp;Heat inc.;n.u.;n.u.;n.u.;n.u. ov/un;vall;n.u.;val3,vval4 C 1.3644 4.0000 12.0000 1.9803 0.1720 0.8712 1.2395 4.0000 9.4734 2.1241 4.0000 31.8793 79.5548 5.7254 0.9235 0.0000 1.2636 0.0000 -0.0537 5.7133 33.5629 11.9957 0.8563 0.0000 -2.8983 4.7820 1.0564 4.0000 2.9663 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000 H 0.6853 1.0000 1.0080 1.3588 0.0622 0.7625 -0.1000 1.0000 9.3992 5.0518 1.0000 0.0000 121.1250 3.8196 9.8832 1.0000 -0.1000 0.0000 -0.1609 3.8654 3.2462 1.0000 1.0698 0.0000 -15.7683 3.3504 1.0338 1.0000 2.8793 0.0000 0.0000 0.0000</pre>	
Bond parameters	<pre>3 ! Nr of bonds; Edisl;LPpen;n.u.;pbel;pbo5;13corr;pbo6 pbe2;pbo3;pbo4;n.u.;pbol;pbo2;ovcorr 1 1 139.8093 110.6913 77.2102 0.2737 -0.7584 1.0000 38.4226 0.3288 0.1235 -0.2010 8.6973 1.0000 -0.1042 6.1688 1.0000 0.0000 1 2 159.8520 0.0000 0.0000 -0.4646 0.0000 1.0000 6.0000 0.6170 12.3878 1.0000 0.0000 1.0000 -0.0098 8.5954 0.0000 0.0000 2 2 170.0433 0.0000 0.0000 -0.3573 0.0000 1.0000 6.0000 0.7489 9.6471 1.0000 0.0000 1.0000 -0.0169 5.8818 0.0000 0.0000</pre>	Off-diagonal parameters
	<pre>1 ! Nr of off-diagonal terms; Ediss;Ro;gamma;rsigma;rpj;rpj2 1 2 0.0431 1.7204 10.3632 1.0386 -1.0000 -1.0000</pre>	
Angle parameters	<pre>3 ! Nr of angles;at1;at2;at3;Thetao,o;ka;kb;pv1;pv2 1 1 1 75.8304 33.9168 0.8043 0.0000 0.1780 10.5736 1.0400 1 1 2 69.6421 9.2578 3.6521 0.0000 0.0058 0.0000 1.0400 2 1 2 75.4958 14.5436 2.7438 0.0000 0.0127 0.0000 1.0400</pre>	Torsion parameters
	<pre>3 ! Nr of torsions;at1;at2;at3;at4;V1;V2;V3;V2(BO);vconj;n.u;n 1 1 1 1 0.0000 38.9174 0.3649 -8.2931 -2.0127 0.0000 0.0000 1 1 1 2 0.0000 49.1001 0.2713 -8.5284 -1.5309 0.0000 0.0000 2 1 1 2 0.0000 34.0265 0.3804 -6.3917 -0.9965 0.0000 0.0000</pre>	

How to create awareness for a new chemical environment

Steps:

1. Atom type description (only for types which have not yet been parameterized)
2. Description of Structures:
means: declare all possible bond types and related data which can occur during simulation, otherwise the simulation fails
3. Fit the force field sections:
bond dissociation for wanted types
introduce the potential for angles
describe reaction coordinates
4. Optional: include charges for key atoms, vibration frequencies for crystal structures, ...

Concept

- build a QM-based database (training set) that described reactive and non-reactive aspects of the material and optimize ReaxFF to reproduce these QM-data.
- Bigger (more extensive) training sets yield more transferable force fields (but longer development time!)
- Things to include in training sets
 - Bond dissociation
 - Angle bending
 - Under/overcoordination
 - Key reactions, including transition states
 - Charges
 - Condensed phase data: Equations of state, heats of formation (experiment)

Example 1: Bond dissociation

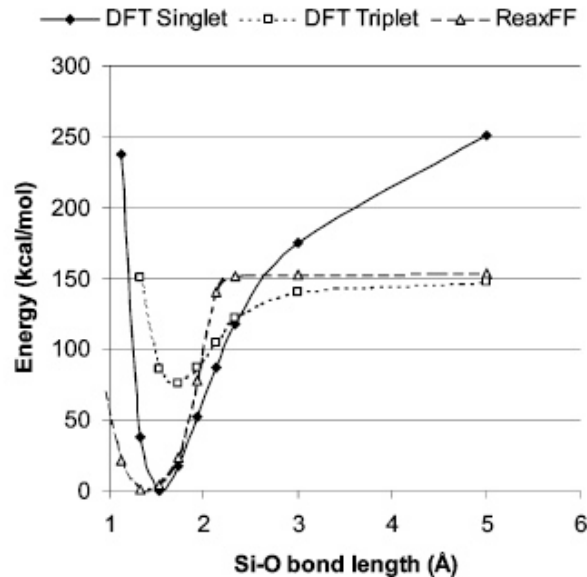


Figure 6. Dissociation of the Si-O double bond in $H_2Si=O$.

Description in trainset.in

- $50.0 + H_2SiO \text{ opt}/1 - H_2SiO \text{ b1 } 13/1 -237.90$
- $50.0 + H_2SiO \text{ opt}/1 - H_2SiO \text{ b1 } 33/1 -0.01$
- $50.0 + H_2SiO \text{ opt}/1 - H_2SiO \text{ b1 } 53/1 -38.10$
- $50.0 + H_2SiO \text{ opt}/1 - H_2SiO \text{ b1 } 73/1 -17.90$
- $50.0 + H_2SiO \text{ opt}/1 - H_2SiO \text{ b1 } 93/1 -51.90$
- $50.0 + H_2SiO \text{ opt}/1 - H_2SiO \text{ b2 } 13/1 -86.90$
- $50.0 + H_2SiO \text{ opt}/1 - H_2SiO \text{ b2 } 33/1 -117.50$
- $5.0 + H_2SiO \text{ opt}/1 - H_2SiO \text{ b4 } 93/1 -147.20$

—●— DFT —▲— ReaxFF

(van Duin, A. C. T., et al. 2003, *JPC A*, 107:3803 – 3811

ReaxFFSiO Reactive Force Field for Silicon and Silicon Oxide Systems.)

Interplay with params file: this file defines the section of the force field which should be updated using the data provided in trainset.in

Example 2: Valence Angle

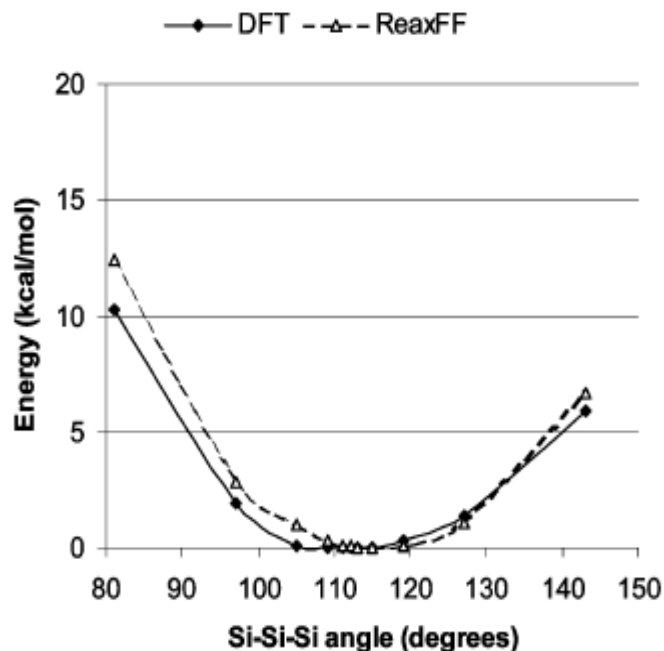


Figure 8. Adiabatic energy of $\text{H}_3\text{Si}-\text{SiH}_2-\text{SiH}_3$ as a function of the Si-Si-Si valence angle.

(van Duin, A. C. T., et al. 2003, *JPC A*, 107:3803 – 3811
ReaxFFSiO Reactive Force Field for Silicon and Silicon Oxide Systems.)

Description in trainset.in

Estimated from figure

Si-Si-Si_angle

0.5	+	a5_7 /1	-	a5_1 /1	-10.40
0.25	+	a5_7 /1	-	a5_2 /1	-3.00
0.25	+	a5_7 /1	-	a5_3 /1	-0.30
0.25	+	a5_7 /1	-	a5_4 /1	-0.40
0.25	+	a5_7 /1	-	a5_5 /1	-0.01
0.25	+	a5_7 /1	-	a5_6 /1	-0.01
0.25	+	a5_7 /1	-	a5_8 /1	-0.20
0.25	+	a5_7 /1	-	a5_9 /1	-0.90
0.25	+	a5_7 /1	-	a5_10/1	-3.90
0.5	+	a5_7 /1	-	a5_11/1	-6.40

Interplay with params file: this file defines the section of the force field which should be updated using the data provided in trainset.in

params

general concept

section element entry in/decrease ratio and finally search domain defined by min and max

Example from CHO force field development:

1 4 1 0.2500	! general
...	
2 1 1 0.0050 1.2 1.7	!C atom parameters
2 1 4 0.0050 1.6 2.1	
...	
3 1 1 1.0000 80.0 250.0	!C-C bond
3 1 2 1.0000 80.0 250.0	
...	
5 1 1 0.2500 5.0000 100.0000	!C-C-C equilibrium angle
5 1 2 0.2500 5.0000 45.0000	
5 1 3 0.2500 0.1000 7.0000	
5 1 5 0.2500 0.0050 3.0000	
5 1 6 2.5000 0.1000 70.0000	
5 1 7 0.2500 1.0010 3.0000	
...	
6 1 1 0.2500 -0.25 2.5	!C-C-C-C torsion
6 1 2 5.0000 5.0 80.0	
6 1 3 0.1000 -1.0 1.0	
6 1 4 0.1000 -2.5 -9.0	
6 1 5 0.1000 -3.00 -1.000	

trainset.in

CHARGE

#Iden Weight Atom Lit

chexane 0.1 1 -0.15

ENDCHARGE

HEATFO

#Iden Weight Lit

methane 2.00 -17.80 !Heat of formation

ENDHEATFO

GEOMETRY

#Iden Weight At1 At2 At3 At4 Lit

chexane 0.01 1 2 1.54 !bond

chexane 1.00 1 2 3 111.0 !valence angle

chexane 1.00 1 2 3 4 56.0 !torsion angle

chexane 1.00 0.01 !RMSG

ENDGEOMETRY

CELL PARAMETERS

#Iden Weight Type Lit

chex_cryst 0.01 a 11.20

END CELL PARAMETERS

ENERGY

#Weigh op1 Ide1 n1 op2 Ide2 n2 Lit

#alfa vs. beta vs. gamma cleavage in butylbenzene

1.5 + butbenz/1 - butbenz_a/1 -90.00

ENDENERGY

KEYWORDS – I am unaware of the complete set since it has been extended since 2002

Example from user manual dating back to 2002

Training results

- For the presented training set:

		FField value	QM/Lit value	Weight	Error	Total error
methane	Heat of formation:	-17.8000	-17.8000	2.0000	0.0000	0.0000
chexane	Charge atom: 1	-0.1604	-0.1500	0.1000	0.0109	0.0109
	Heat of formation:	-29.4900	-29.4900	2.0000	0.0000	0.0109
	Bond distance: 1 2	1.5586	1.5400	0.0100	3.4571	3.4679
	Bond distance: 1 7	1.1696	1.1000	0.0200	12.1227	15.5906
	Bond distance: 1 8	1.1713	1.1000	0.0200	12.7203	28.3109
	Valence angle: 1 2 3	110.8117	111.0000	1.0000	0.0354	28.3463
	Valence angle: 7 1 8	104.3207	107.0000	1.0000	7.1788	35.5251
chex_cryst	a:	11.8448	11.2000	0.4000	2.5987	38.1238
Energy +butbenz/	1 -butbenz_a/ 1	-96.6941	-90.0000	1.5000	19.9158	58.0396
Energy +butbenz/	1 -butbenz_b/ 1	-63.4751	-71.0000	1.5000	25.1663	83.2060
Energy +butbenz/	1 -butbenz_c/ 1	-77.1805	-78.0000	1.5000	0.2985	83.5045

$$\text{Error}^{\text{ReaxFF}} = \{[v^{\text{ReaxFF}} - v^{\text{QC/Lit}}]/\text{weight}\}^2$$

Simulations and output of Standalone ReaxFF

(Lammps is limited to its own output files)

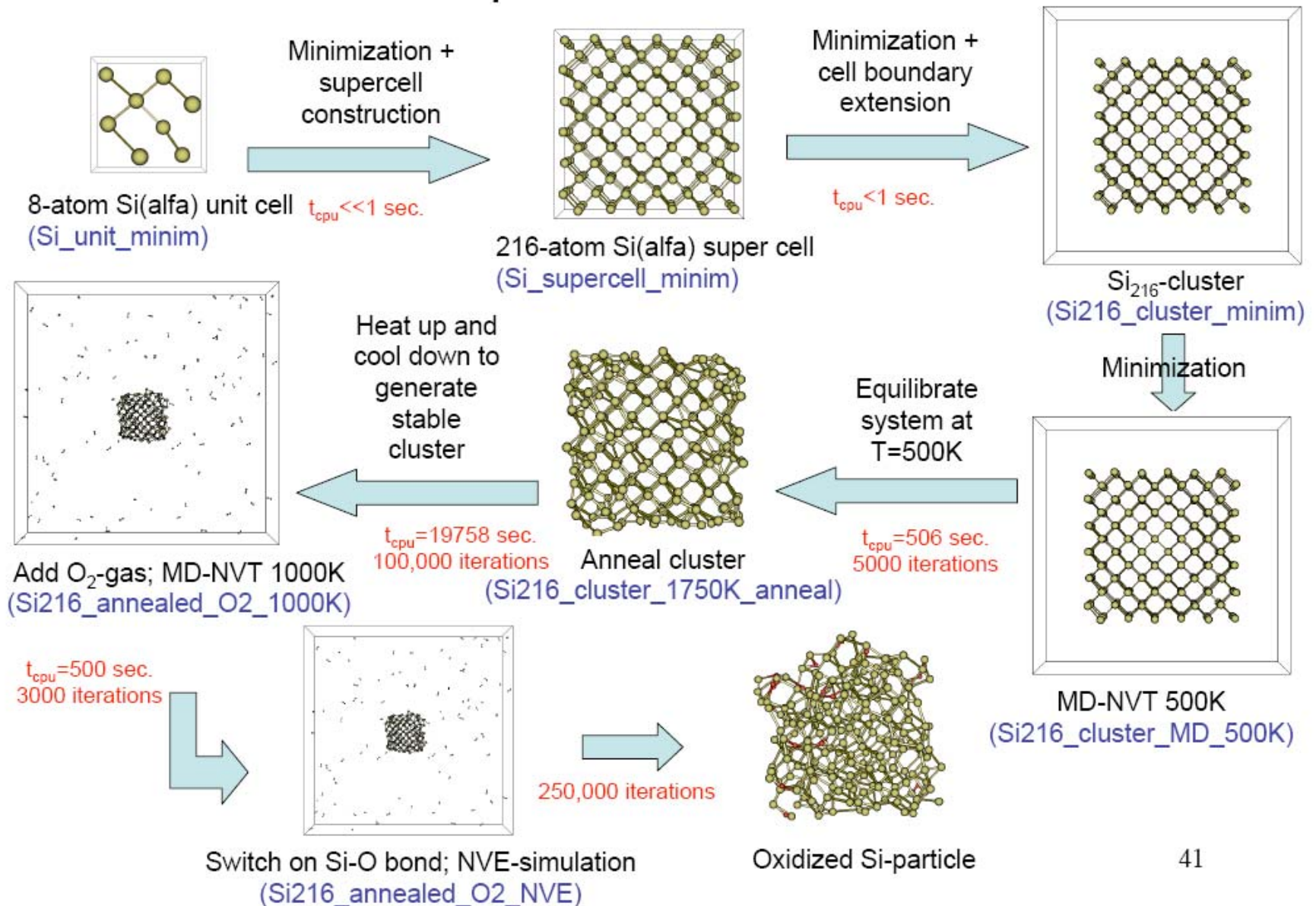
- General output files:
 - Connection table (fort.7, fort.8)
 - Trajectory (xmolout)
 - Molecular composition (molfra.out)
 - run.log (generated by exe-script)
 - output geometry in .bgf (fort.90, \$DESCRP.bgf), .geo (fort.98, \$DESCRP.geo), MOPAC (output.MOP) and .pdb (output.pdb) formats

Examples from NASA Ames workshop 2006

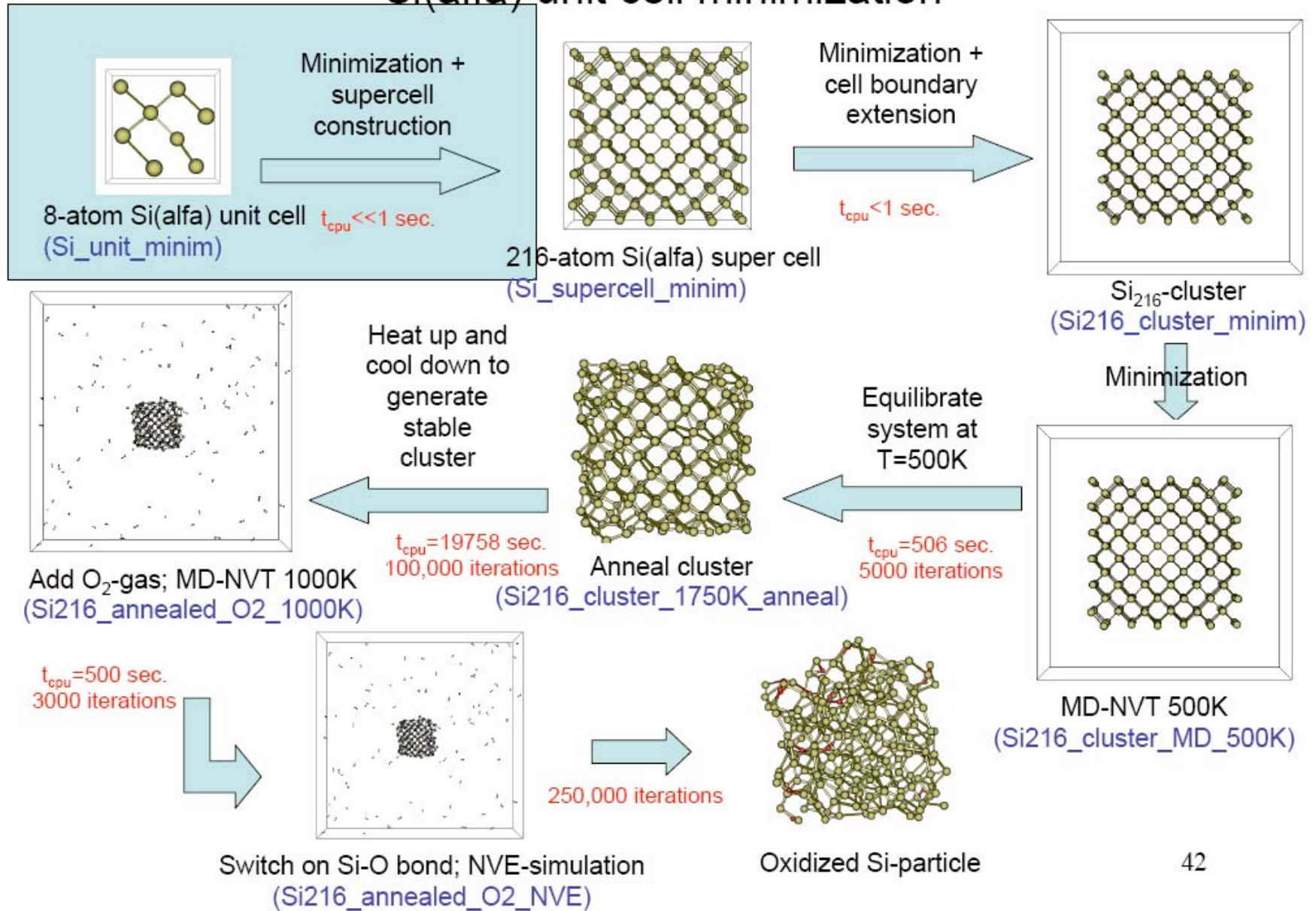
- Si particle oxidation
- Si-unit cell minimization
- Creation of a 216-atom supercell
- Creation of a Si₂₁₆-cluster
- Si₂₁₆-equilibration at T=500K
- MD-anneal simulation of Si₂₁₆-cluster
- Addition of O₂: equilibration at T=1000K
- NVE-simulation of Si₂₁₆-particle oxidation
- Si-surface impact on SiO₂/Si
- Force field development

The following slides are taken from the original presentation,

Si-particle oxidation



Si(alfa) unit cell minimization



Input files

```

XTLGRF 200
DESCRP a_Si_opt
REMARK BGF file created by Cerius2
CRYSTX 5.37054 5.37054 5.37054 90.00000 90.00000 90.00000
FORMAT ATOM (a6,lx,i5,lx,a5,lx,a3,lx,a1,lx,a5,3f10.5,lx,a5,i3,i2,lx,f8.5)
HETATM 1 Si 2.21392 4.69918 4.69918 Si 1 1 0.00000
HETATM 2 Si 3.35661 3.35665 0.67137 Si 1 1 0.00000
HETATM 3 Si 4.69919 4.69918 2.01387 Si 1 1 0.00000
HETATM 4 Si 3.35661 0.87138 3.35666 Si 1 1 0.00000
HETATM 5 Si 2.01392 2.01387 2.01387 Si 1 1 0.00000
HETATM 6 Si 0.67135 3.35665 3.35665 Si 1 1 0.00000
HETATM 7 Si 4.69919 2.21387 4.69918 Si 1 1 0.00000
HETATM 8 Si 0.47135 0.67137 0.67137 Si 1 1 0.00000
FORMAT CONECT (a6,l2i6)
CONECT 1 2 4 6 8
CONECT 2 1 3 5 7
CONECT 3 2 4 6 8
CONECT 4 1 3 5 7
CONECT 5 2 4 6 8
CONECT 6 1 3 5 7
CONECT 7 2 4 6 8
CONECT 8 1 3 5 7
UNIT ENERGY kcal
ENERGY -840.102370
END
    
```

geo

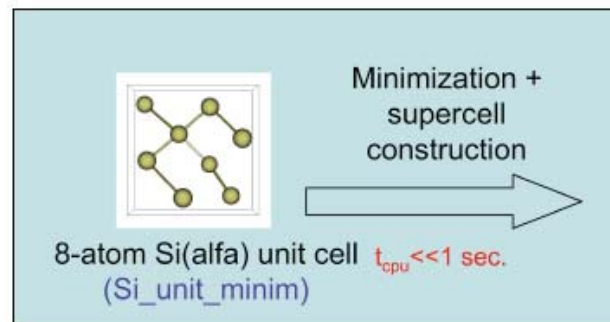
```

# General parameters
2 iexx  Nr. of unit cells in x-direction to fort.85
2 iexy  Nr. of unit cells in y-direction to fort.85
2 iexz  Nr. of unit cells in z-direction to fort.85
1 icentr 0: use user definitions 1: place system in centre periodic box 2: place...
1 itrans 0: do not back-translate atoms 1: Translate atoms after crossing....
02.50 range Range for back-translation of atoms
1 imetho 0: Normal MD-run 1: Energy minimisation
1 igeofo 0:xyz-input geometry 1: Biograf input geometry 2: xmol-input geometry
...
# MD-parameters
...
# MM-parameters
0.25000 endmm End point criterium for MM energy minimisation
00000 imaxmo <0: MD-minimization >0 Steepest descent 0: Conjugate gradient
00100 imaxit Maximum number of iterations
100 iout4 Frequency of structure output during minimisation
0 iout5 1:Remove fort.57 and fort.58 files
1.0010 celopt Cell parameter change
    
```

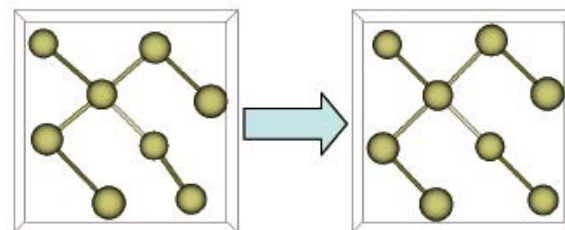
Relevant keyword
Default keyword

control

- Other input files : exe, ffield (standard)



Output files



a_si_opt Iter.	Epot	Max.move	Factor	RMSG	nfc
0	-736.9644800470	0.000000	0.500000	35.921660	0
1	-822.5463965951	140.063487	249.509895	14.456718	0
2	-836.1836232543	51.604572	0.439696	5.823455	0
3	-838.4628016697	0.037037	1.183627	2.997409	0
4	-839.8757995658	0.024440	2.485671	2.064547	0
5	-840.0985306099	0.016776	0.979394	0.240787	0

Minimization report

fort.57

```

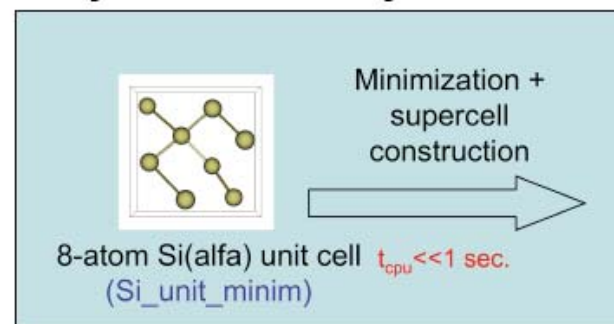
Fa_Si_opt
16.1116 16.1116 16.1116
90.0000 90.0000 90.0000
1 Si  0.201308156929372E+01 0.469899935734249E+01 0.469807931385440E+01
2 Si  0.335759198919583E+01 0.335587406316292E+01 0.670911888011277E+00
3 Si  0.470033249708392E+01 0.469958237639442E+01 0.201445663138070E+01
4 Si  0.335777021158629E+01 0.672111934782872E+00 0.335650185775585E+01
5 Si  0.201204640419919E+01 0.201385656448758E+01 0.201417913836992E+01
6 Si  0.671235173288612E+00 0.335568198874663E+01 0.335689140989500E+01
7 Si  0.469992123632136E+01 0.201377860766508E+01 0.469916007001880E+01
...
208 Si 0.114112609190311E+02 0.114133546379105E+02 0.604251875169898E+01
209 Si 0.127541615692937E+02 0.154400788878349E+02 0.154391583748393E+02
210 Si 0.140986719891958E+02 0.140969535936554E+02 0.114119909489962E+02
211 Si 0.154414124970839E+02 0.154406619068869E+02 0.127555356923656E+02
212 Si 0.140988502115863E+02 0.114131914652753E+02 0.140975809187408E+02
213 Si 0.127531264041992E+02 0.127549360949800E+02 0.127552581993549E+02
214 Si 0.114123151732886E+02 0.140967615192391E+02 0.140979704708799E+02
215 Si 0.154410012363213E+02 0.127548581381575E+02 0.154402391310037E+02
216 Si 0.114112609190311E+02 0.114133546379105E+02 0.11413058751699E+01
    
```

Extended unit cell (xyz-format)

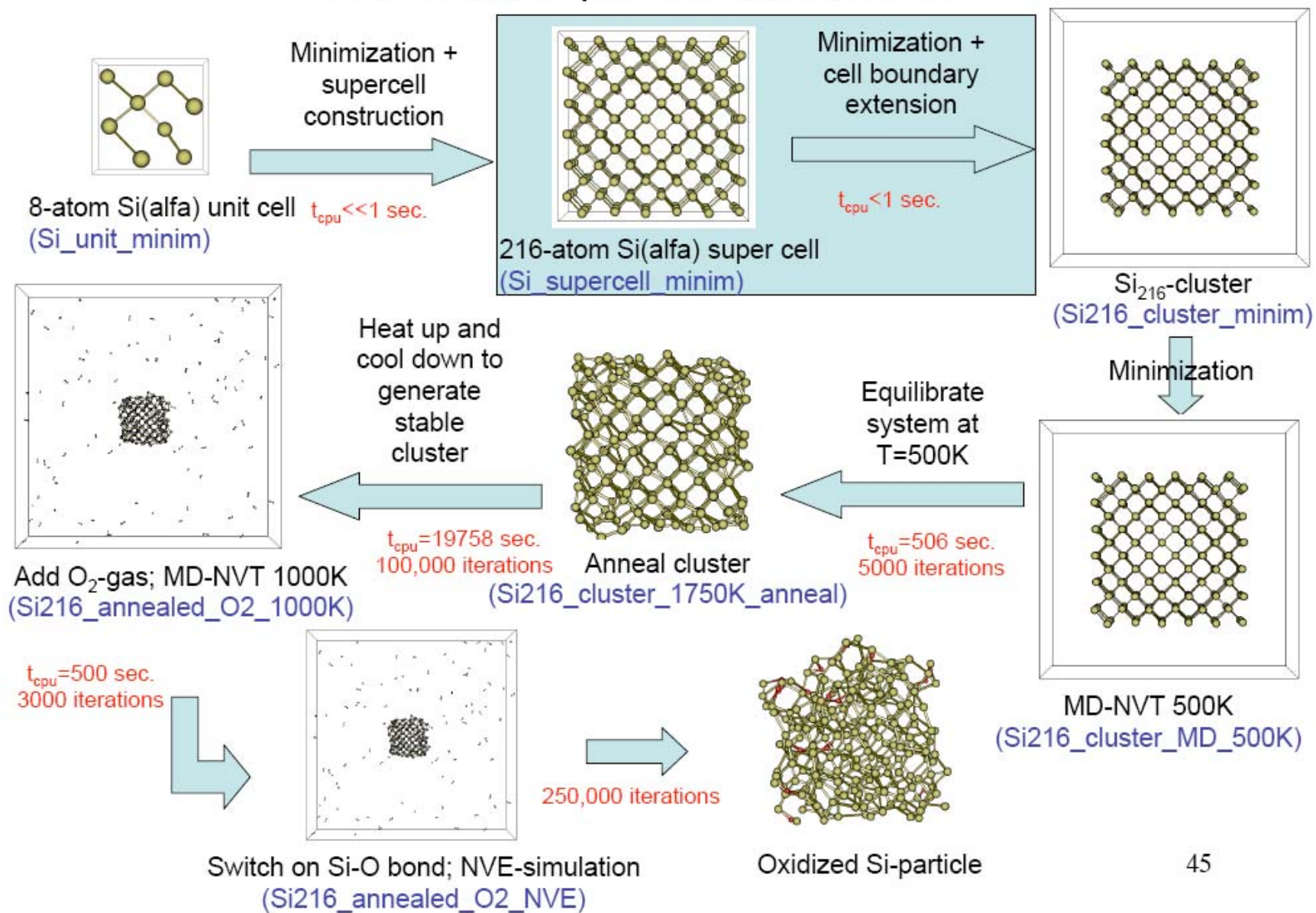
fort.85

Other output files:

- fort.7, fort.8: connection table
- fort.58: partial energies
- fort.73: final partial energies
- fort.90: final geometry (.bgf)
- xmolout: .xyz coordinates
- molfra.out : system composition
- summary.txt: summary simulation



216-atom super cell minimization



Input files

```

F a_Si_opt
16.1116 16.1116 16.1116
90.0000 90.0000 90.0000
1 Si 0.201308156929372E+01 0.469899935734249E+01 0.469807931385440E+01
2 Si 0.335759198919583E+01 0.335587406316292E+01 0.670911888011277E+00
3 Si 0.470033249708392E+01 0.469958237639442E+01 0.201445663138070E+01
4 Si 0.335777021158629E+01 0.672111934782872E+00 0.335650185775585E+01
5 Si 0.201204640419919E+01 0.201385656448758E+01 0.201417913836992E+01
6 Si 0.671235173288612E+00 0.335568198874663E+01 0.335689140989500E+01
7 Si 0.469992123632136E+01 0.201377860766508E+01 0.469916007001880E+01
...
208 Si 0.114112609190311E+02 0.114133546379105E+02 0.604251875169898E+01
209 Si 0.127541615692937E+02 0.154400788878349E+02 0.154391583748393E+02
210 Si 0.140986719891958E+02 0.140969535936554E+02 0.114119909489962E+02
211 Si 0.154414124970839E+02 0.154406619068869E+02 0.127555356923656E+02
212 Si 0.140988502115863E+02 0.114131914652753E+02 0.140975809187408E+02
213 Si 0.127531264041992E+02 0.127549360949800E+02 0.127552581993549E+02
214 Si 0.114123151732886E+02 0.140967615192391E+02 0.140979704708799E+02
215 Si 0.154410012363213E+02 0.127548581381575E+02 0.154402391310037E+02
216 Si 0.114112609190311E+02 0.114133546379105E+02 0.11430587516990E+02

```

geo (fort.85)

```

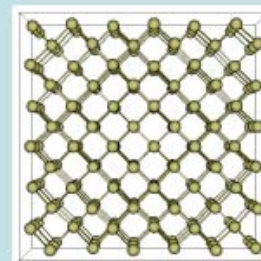
# General parameters
1 icentr 0: use user definitions 1: place system in centre periodic box 2: place...
1 itrans 0: do not back-translate atoms 1: Translate atoms after crossing....
02.50 range Range for back-translation of atoms
1 imetho 0: Normal MD-run 1: Energy minimisation
0 igeofo 0:xyz-input geometry 1: Biograf input geometry 2: xmol-input geometry
...
# MD-parameters
...
# MM-parameters
0.25000 endmm End point criterium for MM energy minimisation
00000 imaxmo <0: MD-minimization > 0 Steepest descent 0: Conjugate gradient
00100 imaxit Maximum number of iterations
100 iout4 Frequency of structure output during minimisation
0 iout5 1: Remove fort.57 and fort.58 files
1.0010 celopt Cell parameter change

```

Relevant keyword
Default keyword

control

- Other input files : exe, ffield (standard)



Minimization +
cell boundary
extension



$t_{cpu} < 1 \text{ sec.}$

216-atom Si(alfa) super cell
(Si supercell minim)

Output files

a_Si_opt					
Iter.	Epot	Max.move	Factor	RMSG	nfc
0	-22682.6666450342	0.000000	0.500000	0.240736	0
1	-22682.7652811318	1.040171	1.821356	0.061526	0

fort.57

- Final energy exactly 27xunit cell energy
- No forces on supercell structure

Minimization report

```

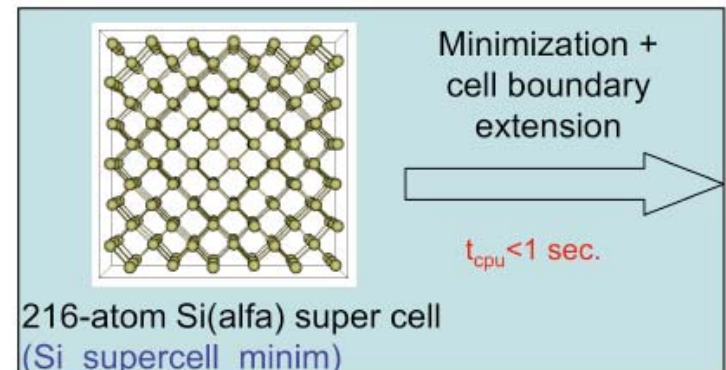
XTLGRF 200
DESCRP a_Si_opt
RUTYPE NORMAL RUN
CRYSTX 16.11160 16.11160 16.11160 90.00000 90.00000 90.00000
FORMAT ATOM (a6,lx,i5,lx,a5,lx,a3,lx,a1,lx,a5,3f10.5,lx,a5,i3,i2,lx,f8.5)
HETATM 1 Si 2.01390 4.69950 4.69915 Si 0 0 0.00000
HETATM 2 Si 3.35655 3.35653 0.67134 Si 0 0 0.00000
HETATM 3 Si 4.69957 4.69900 2.01424 Si 0 0 0.00000
HETATM 4 Si 3.35663 0.67166 3.35634 Si 0 0 0.00000
HETATM 5 Si 2.01386 2.01398 2.01394 Si 0 0 0.00000
...
...
END
    
```

fort.90

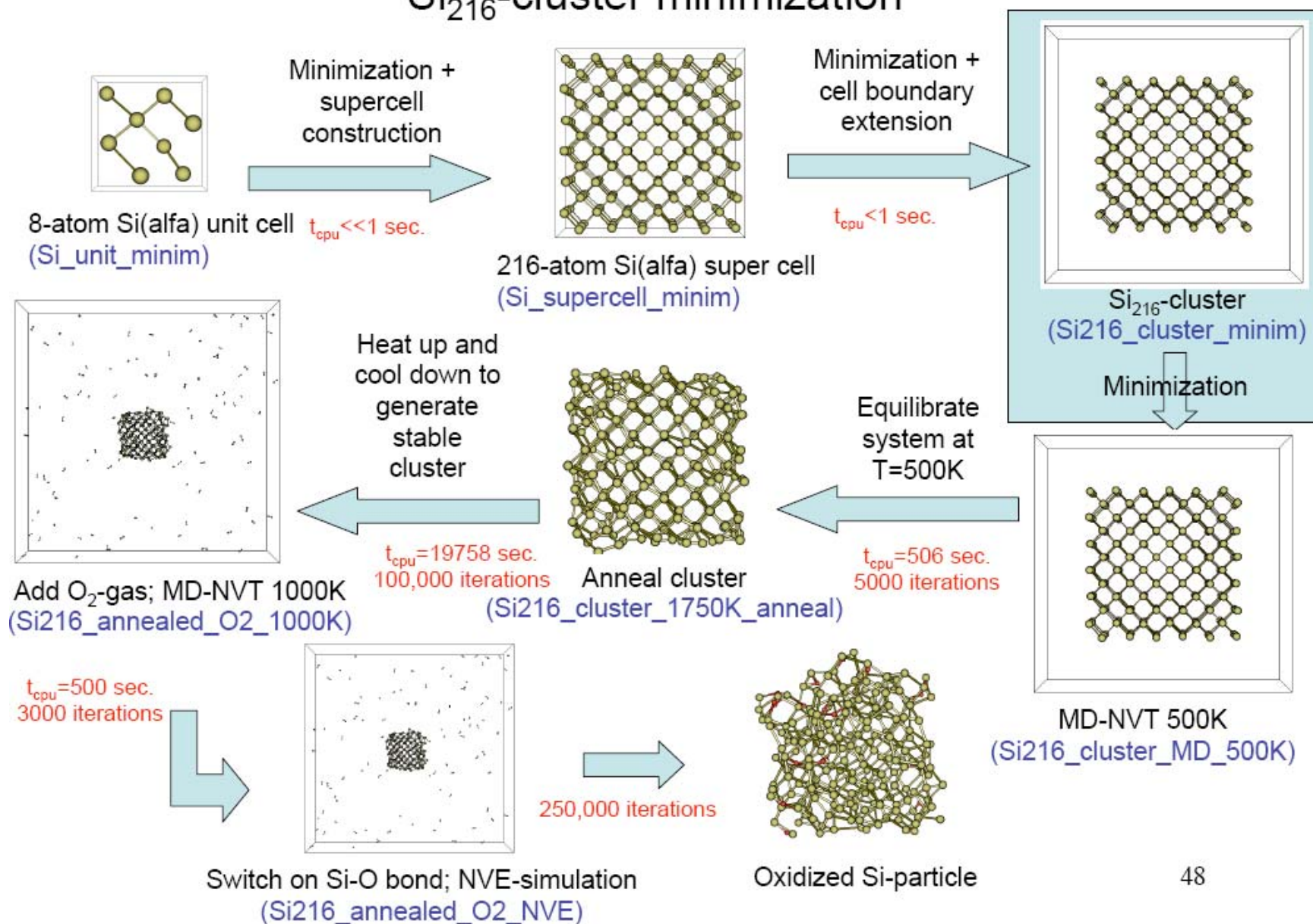
Biograf output-file

Other output files:

- fort.7, fort.8: connection table
- fort.58: partial energies
- fort.73: final partial energies
- xmolout: .xyz coordinates
- molfra.out : system composition
- summary.txt: summary simulation



Si₂₁₆-cluster minimization



Input files

```

XTLGRF 200
DESCRP a_Si_opt
RUTYPE NORMAL RUN
CRYSTX 100.0000 100.0000 100.0000 90.00000 90.00000 90.00000
FORMAT ATOM (a6,lx,i5,lx,a5,lx,a3,lx,a1,lx,a5,3f10.5,lx,a5,i3,i2,lx,f8.5)
HETATM 1 Si      2.01390 4.69950 4.69915 Si 0 0 0.00000
HETATM 2 Si      3.35655 3.35653 0.67134 Si 0 0 0.00000
HETATM 3 Si      4.69957 4.69900 2.01424 Si 0 0 0.00000
HETATM 4 Si      3.35663 0.67166 3.35634 Si 0 0 0.00000
HETATM 5 Si      2.01386 2.01398 2.01394 Si 0 0 0.00000
...
...
END
    
```

fort.90

Biograf output-file; enlarged a,b,c-cell parameters

```

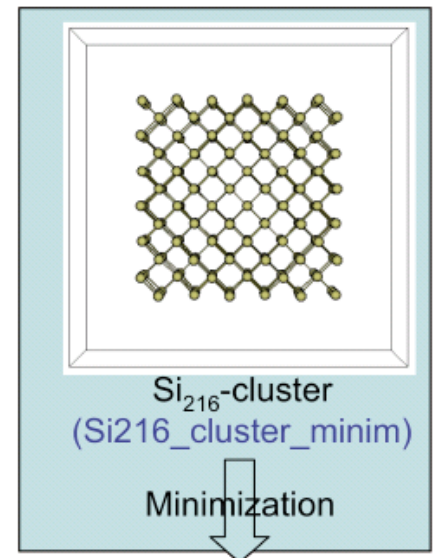
# General parameters
1 icentr 0: use user definitions 1: place system in centre periodic box 2: place...
1 itrans 0: do not back-translate atoms 1: Translate atoms after crossing....
02.50 range Range for back-translation of atoms
1 imetho 0: Normal MD-run 1: Energy minimisation
0 igeofo 0:xyz-input geometry 1: Biograf input geometry 2: xmol-input geometry
...
...
# MD-parameters
...
...
# MM-parameters
0.25000 endmm End point criterium for MM energy minimisation
00000 imaxmo <0: MD-minimization >0 Steepest descent 0: Conjugate gradient
00100 imaxit Maximum number of iterations
100 iout4 Frequency of structure output during minimisation
0 iout5 1:Remove fort.57 and fort.58 files
1.0010 celopt Cell parameter change
    
```

Relevant keyword

Default keyword

control

- Other input files : exe, ffield (standard)



Output files

a_Si_opt

Iter.	Epot	Max.move	Factor	RMSG	nfe
0	-17559.9674767871	0.000000	0.500000	1.630894	0
1	-17568.4636532682	8.006336	26.287993	1.236421	0
2	-17574.4035079074	6.237768	0.124479	1.059034	0
3	-17578.3600076452	0.011439	1.732245	0.835918	0
4	-17581.0792461733	0.010239	1.735968	0.709652	0
5	-17582.7576167442	0.009124	1.528955	0.552894	0
6	-17583.6481598536	0.006785	1.278410	0.278725	0
7	-17583.9871860266	0.003339	2.167157	0.336433	0
8	-17584.6500727875	0.005791	2.483300	0.313884	0
9	-17584.9022993227	0.005450	1.396609	0.175932	0

fort.57

Other output files:

- fort.58: partial energies
- fort.73: final partial energies
- xmolout: .xyz coordinates
- molfra.out : system composition
- summary.txt: summary simulation

Atom#

Connected atoms

Bond orders

#lone pairs

..																
208	6	107	127	169	205	0	1	0.806	0.808	0.808	0.807	0.000	3.228	0.000	0.000	
209	6	214	0	0	0	0	1	0.807	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.807	1.021	0.000	
210	6	201	207	211	213	0	1	0.807	0.807	0.808	0.807	0.000	3.229	0.000	0.000	
211	6	210	0	0	0	0	1	0.808	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.808	1.021	0.000	
212	6	185	187	213	215	0	1	0.807	0.807	0.807	0.808	0.000	3.229	0.000	0.000	
213	6	210	212	214	216	0	1	0.807	0.807	0.807	0.807	0.000	3.227	0.000	0.000	
214	6	139	143	209	213	0	1	0.807	0.807	0.807	0.807	0.000	3.229	0.000	0.000	
215	6	212	0	0	0	0	1	0.808	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.808	1.021	0.000	
216	6	115	135	177	213	0	1	0.806	0.807	0.806	0.807	0.000	3.227	0.000	0.000	

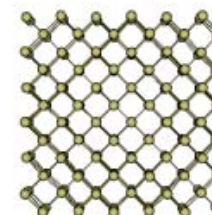
Atom
type

Mol#

fort.7

Sum
BO's

Charge

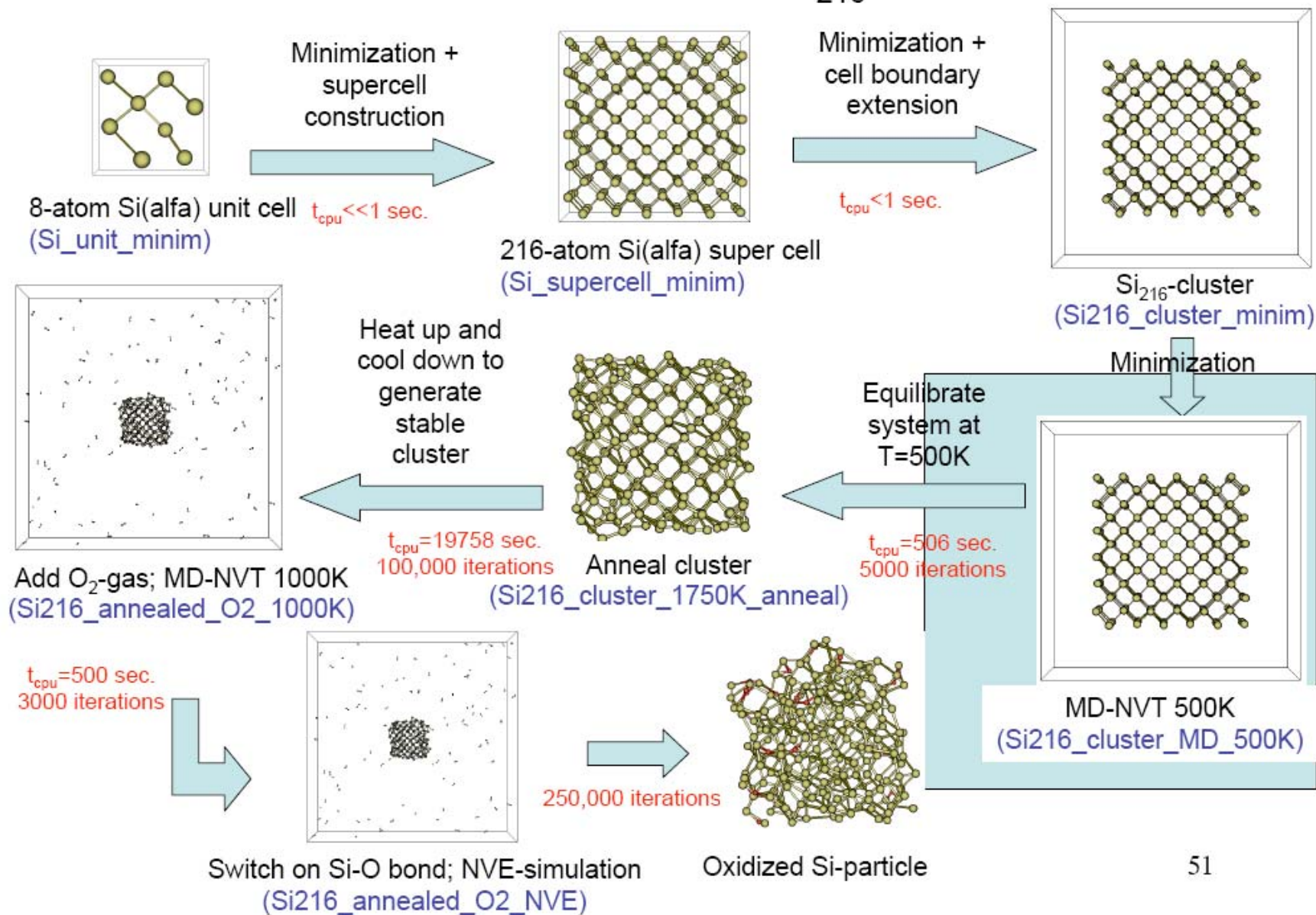


Si₂₁₆-cluster
(Si216_cluster_minim)

Minimization

- Connection table (fort.7) shows that final structure still contains highly undercoordinated atoms (e.g. 209, 211 and 215)
- Energy minimization only yields a local minimum structure

MD-NVT at T=500K on Si₂₁₆-cluster



Input files

```

...
0 imetho 0: Normal MD-run 1: Energy minimisation
1 igeofo 0:xyz-input geometry 1: Biograf input geometry 2: xmol-input...
80.000 axis1 a (for non-periodical systems)
80.000 axis2 b (for non-periodical systems)
80.000 axis3 c (for non-periodical systems)
0.0050 cutof2 BO-cutoff for valency angles and torsion angles (do not change)
0.300 cutof3 BO-cutoff for bond order for graphs
4 icharg Charges. 1:EEM 2:- 3: Shielded EEM (default for crystals) 4:...
1 ichaen Charges. 1:include charge energy 0: Do not include charge energy
...

```

MD-parameters

```

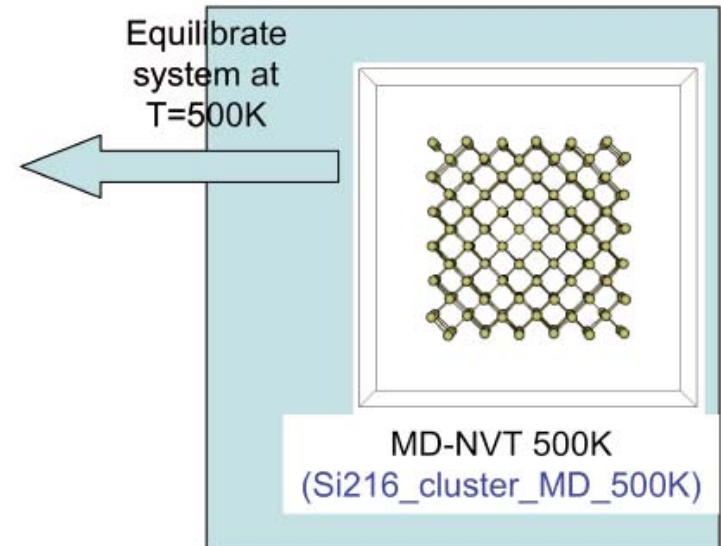
1 imdmet MD-method. 1:NVT 2:Do no use;3 NVE
0.250 tstep MD-time step (fs)
5000.00 mdtemp 1st MD-temperature
2 itdmet 0: T-damp atoms 1: Energy cons 2:System 3: Mols 4: Anders...
100.0 tdamp1 1st Berendsen/Anderson temperature damping constant (fs)
0000.00 mdpres MD-pressure (MPa)
00100.0 pdamp1 Berendsen pressure damping constant (fs)
0 inpt 0: Change all cell parameters in NPT-run 1: fixed x 2: fixed y 3:
0005000 nmdit Number of MD-iterations
00001 ichupd Charge update frequency
005 iout1 Output to unit 71 and unit 73
0050 iout2 Save coordinates
0 ivels 1:Set vels and accels from moldyn.vel to zero
00025 itrafr Frequency of tarot-calls
1 iout3 0: create moldyn.xxxx-files 1: do not create moldyn.xxxx-files
1 iravel 1: Random initial velocities
001000 iout6 Save velocity file
000025 irten Frequency of removal of rotational and translational energy
0 npreit Nr. of iterations in previous runs
# MM-parameters

```

Relevant keyword
Default keyword

control

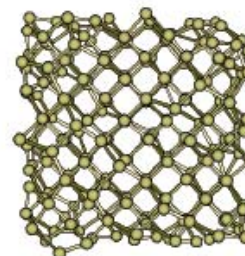
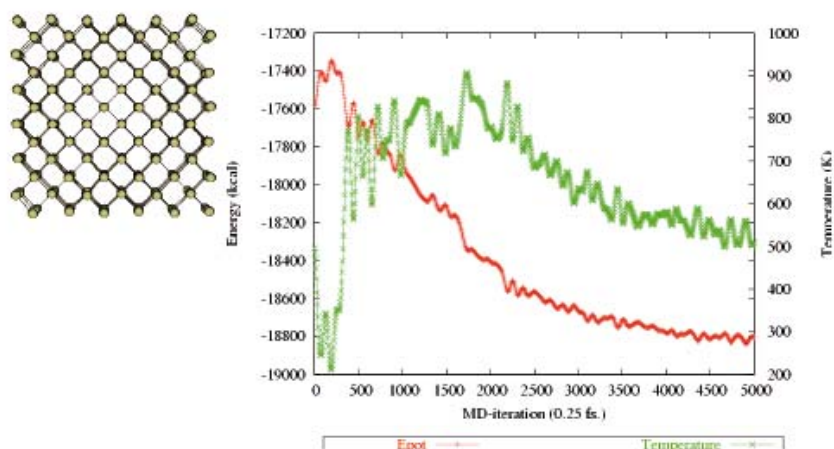
- Other input files :
geo,exe, ffield
(standard)



Output files

Iter.	Nmol	Epot	Ekin	Etot	T(K)	Eaver(block)	Eaver(total)	Taver	Tmax	Pres(GPa)	sdev(Ep)	sdev(Ear)	Ts	Timestep	RMSG	Totaltime	
5	1	1	-17582.72	319.75	-17262.97	496.62	-17583.95	-17583.95	498.52	499.87	0.00	0.85	0.35	500.00	0.25	1.18	1.25
10	1	1	-17576.16	313.27	-17262.88	486.55	-17579.12	-17581.54	491.10	495.13	0.00	2.22	1.13	500.00	0.25	2.33	2.50
15	1	1	-17565.60	302.89	-17262.71	470.43	-17570.13	-17577.74	477.33	483.79	0.00	3.47	2.33	500.00	0.25	3.44	3.75
20	1	1	-17551.58	289.22	-17262.36	449.20	-17557.44	-17572.66	458.05	466.55	0.00	4.54	3.90	500.00	0.25	4.51	5.00
25	1	1	-17534.90	273.06	-17261.84	424.09	-17541.75	-17566.48	434.39	444.44	0.00	5.36	5.82	500.00	0.25	5.51	6.25
30	1	1	-17516.39	252.04	-17264.35	391.46	-17523.90	-17559.38	402.60	413.61	0.00	5.90	8.03	500.00	0.25	6.41	7.50
35	1	1	-17497.05	233.71	-17263.33	362.99	-17504.81	-17551.59	374.39	385.79	0.00	6.14	10.47	500.00	0.25	7.23	8.75
40	1	1	-17477.84	215.74	-17262.10	335.07	-17485.47	-17543.32	346.14	357.31	0.00	6.06	13.08	500.00	0.25	7.93	10.00
...																	
...																	
4995	1	1	-18806.56	327.09	-18479.47	508.01	-18805.95	-18383.50	507.11	508.01	0.00	0.48	298.85	500.00	0.25	12.31	1248.75
5000	1	1	-18808.19	328.64	-18479.55	510.43	-18807.53	-18383.93	509.45	510.43	0.00	0.52	298.98	500.00	0.25	12.24	1250.00

fort.71

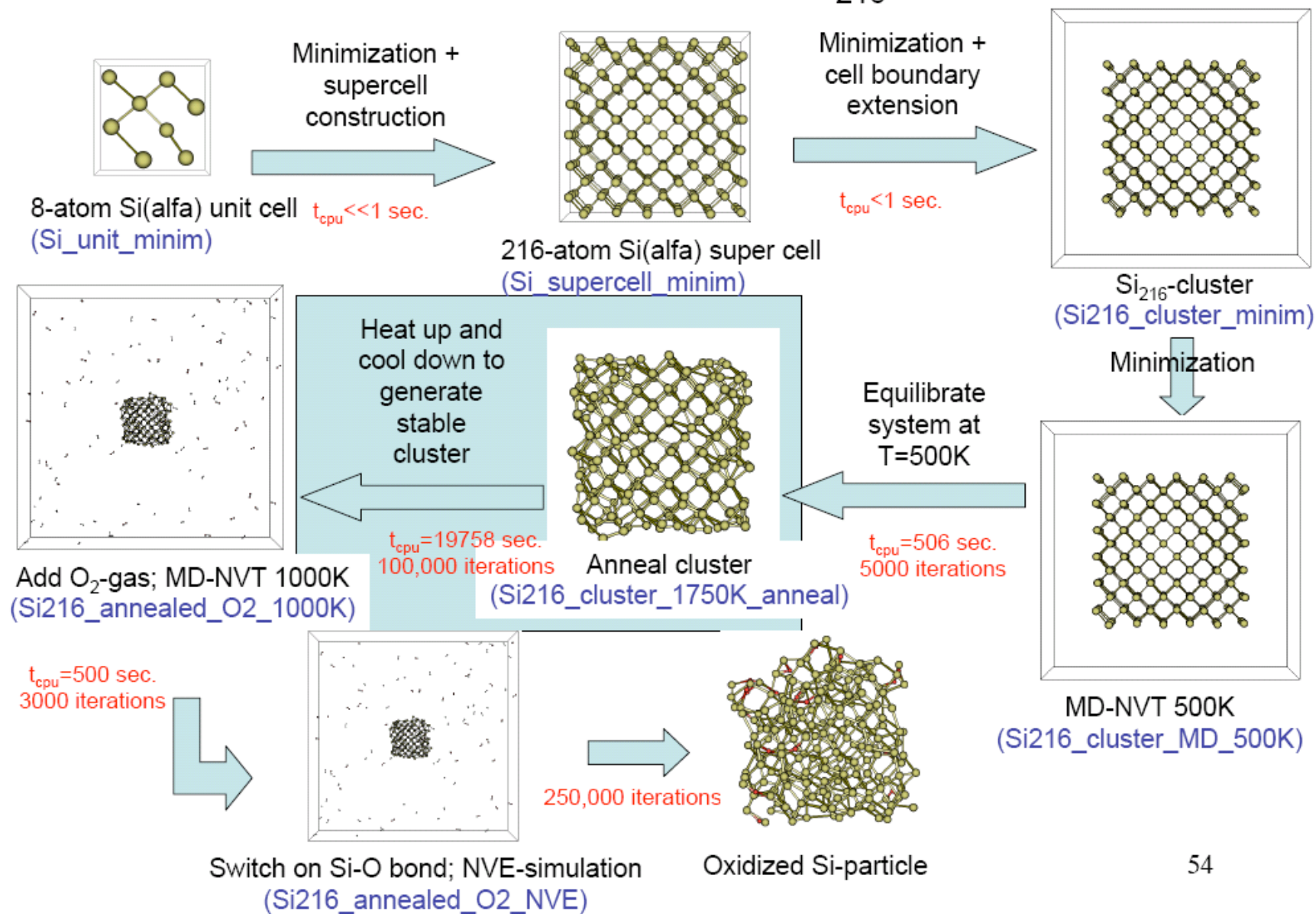


- Potential energy drops as undercoordinated atoms pair up
- Temperature increases due to energy release; thermostat drives temperature back to 500K after locally stable structure is found
- Need to melt the surface to find a more stable structure

Other output files:

- fort.73: partial energies during MD
- xmolout: .xyz-coordinates
- summary.txt: summary simulation
- molsav.####: restart files
- moldyn.vel: latest restart file

MD-anneal simulation on Si₂₁₆-cluster

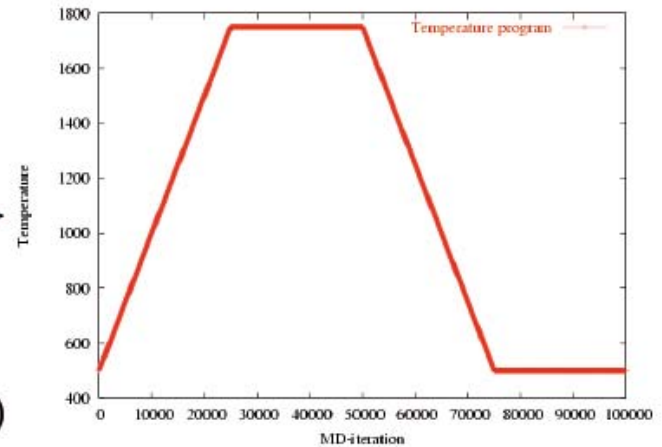


Input files

- Heat up system until surface melts (1750K)
- Allow surface to rearrange; cool back down to 500K

```
#Temperature regimes
#start #T at1 at2 T1 Tdamp1 dT1
0      1  1 216 500.0 100.0 0.05
25000  1  1 216 1750.0 100.0 0.00
50000  1  1 216 1750.0 100.0 -0.05
75000  1  1 216 500.0 100.0 0.00
```

tregime.in



- Temperature program
- Can also define multiple temperature zones (see manual)

Lattice parameters:

```
80.00000000 80.00000000 80.00000000
90.00000000 90.00000000 90.00000000
```

216 Atom coordinates (Angstrom):

```
0.339673667443381E+02 0.365637059552700E+02 0.368293033633050E+02 Si
0.348759012060627E+02 0.359443895605102E+02 0.328454728971770E+02 Si
0.366888761379082E+02 0.368854824846820E+02 0.340052086818958E+02 Si
0.357873541349899E+02 0.329489764194424E+02 0.348457757706991E+02 Si
0.339784717276348E+02 0.341471609565867E+02 0.340464490715064E+02 Si
```

```
...
...
...
```

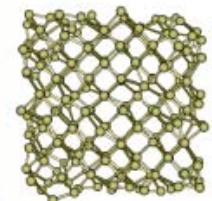
vels (moldyn.vel from
500K-equilibration)

- Other input files :
geo, exe, ffield,
control (standard)

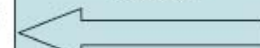
- Contains cell parameters, positions, velocities, accelerations
- Overrides the geo-file (beware!)
- Hierarchy: vels overrides geo, geo overrides control

Heat up and
cool down to
generate
stable
cluster

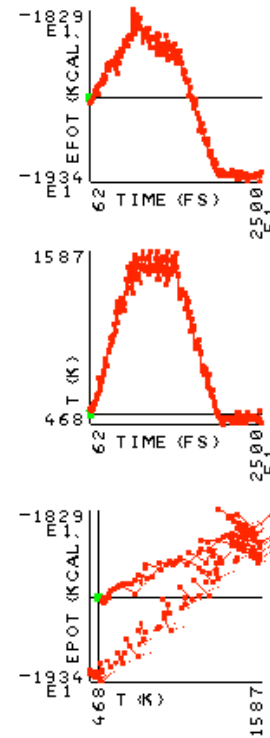
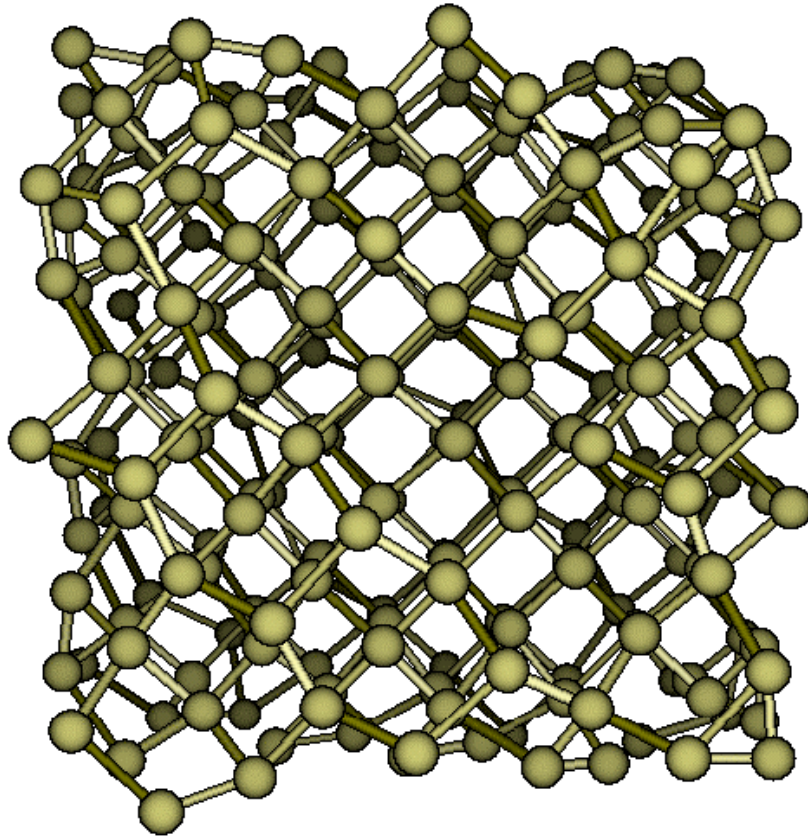
$t_{\text{cpu}} = 19758 \text{ sec.}$
100,000 iterations



Anneal cluster
(Si216_cluster_1750K_anneal)



Output files

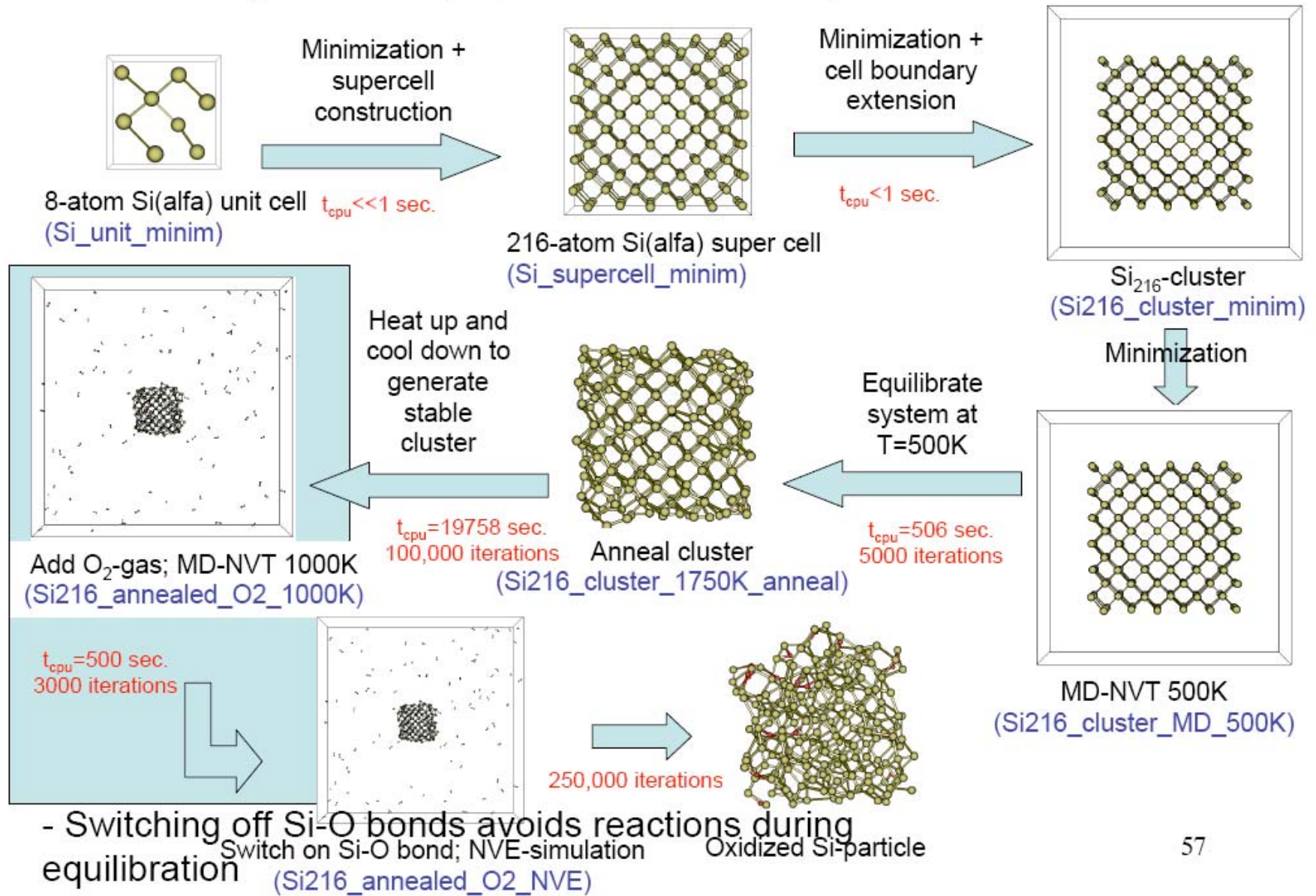


Relevant
output files :
- fort.75
(expanded
temperature
information)
- summary.txt
- xmolout
- fort.71
- fort.73
- fort.7

SI 216 MD ANNEAL

- Surface melts, leading to major rearrangement of surface atoms
- Final structure is substantially more stable than initial 500K-structure
- Multiple anneal-simulations may be required to find final cluster structure

Add 100 O₂-molecules; equilibrate at T=1000K; switch off Si-O bonds



Input files

```

XTLGRF 200
DESCRP 100_O2_Si216
REMARK .bgf-file generated by xtob-script
CRYSTX 80.00000 80.00000 80.00000 90.00000 90.00000 90.00000
HETATM 1 O      28.28830 76.86782 32.07423  O  0  2.07483
HETATM 2 O      29.24999 76.94106 31.36024  O  0  2.07483
HETATM 3 O      15.28491 27.65341 49.23293  O  0  2.07483
HETATM 4 O      15.91362 28.07402 48.30137  O  0  2.07483
HETATM 5 O      68.30412 41.99475 55.05177  O  0  2.07483
HETATM 6 O      67.85973 42.73083 54.21468  O  0  2.07483
...
...
HETATM 413 Si   44.16213 44.57315 44.99264  Si  0  2.07483
HETATM 414 Si   43.11118 46.05790 46.31335  Si  0  2.07483
HETATM 415 Si   46.76759 45.42089 47.16145  Si  0  2.07483
HETATM 416 Si   43.10233 43.22858 43.57832  Si  0  2.07483
END
    
```

geo

- Other input files : exe, control
(standard)

```

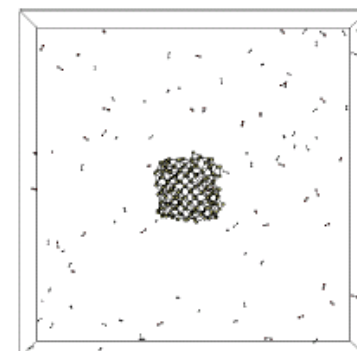
Reactive MD-force field: Si/SiO/SiN interactions March 9 2006 switched off Si-O
...
...
 3  6  000.0000 000.0000  0.0000 -0.7316 -0.3000  1.0000 36.0000  0.6482
      8.7560 -0.4622 30.0000  1.0000 -0.0987  7.7664  1.0000  0.0000
 4  6 119.7136 41.2405 43.3991 -0.2060 -0.3000  1.0000 36.0000  0.7957
      0.8189 -0.2614  9.4060  1.0000 -0.1245  6.1856  1.0000  0.0000
 6  6  78.0276 54.0531 30.0000  0.5398 -0.3000  1.0000 16.0000  0.0476
      0.2865 -0.8055  7.1248  1.0000 -0.0681  8.6957  0.0000  0.0000
    
```

Modified force field parameter

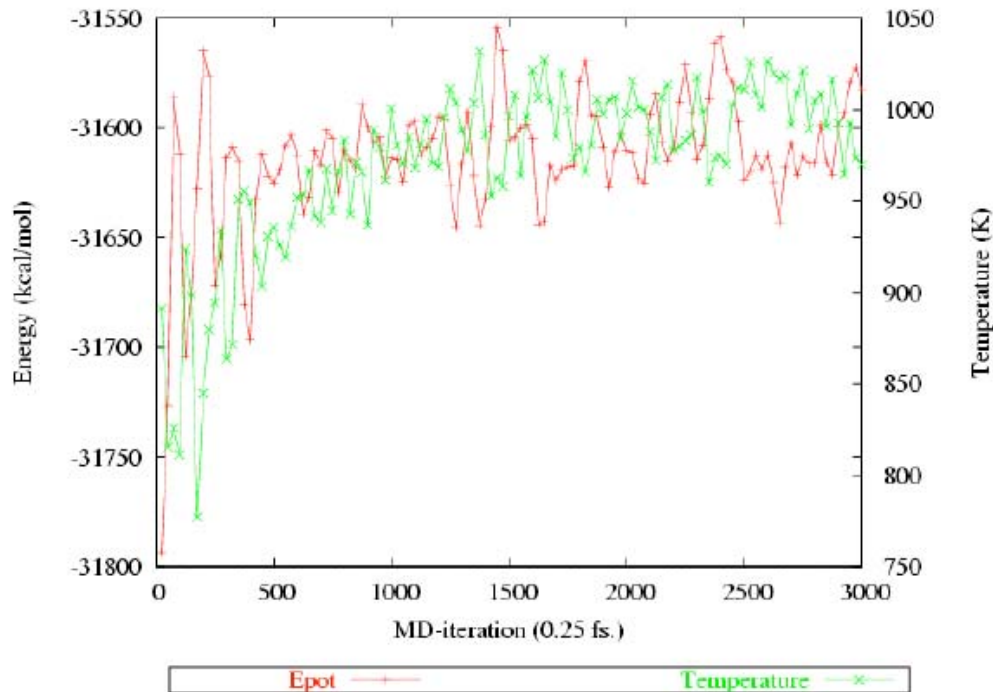
Default parameter

ffield

- Switching off Si-O bonds avoids reactions during equilibration



Output files



Relevant
output files :

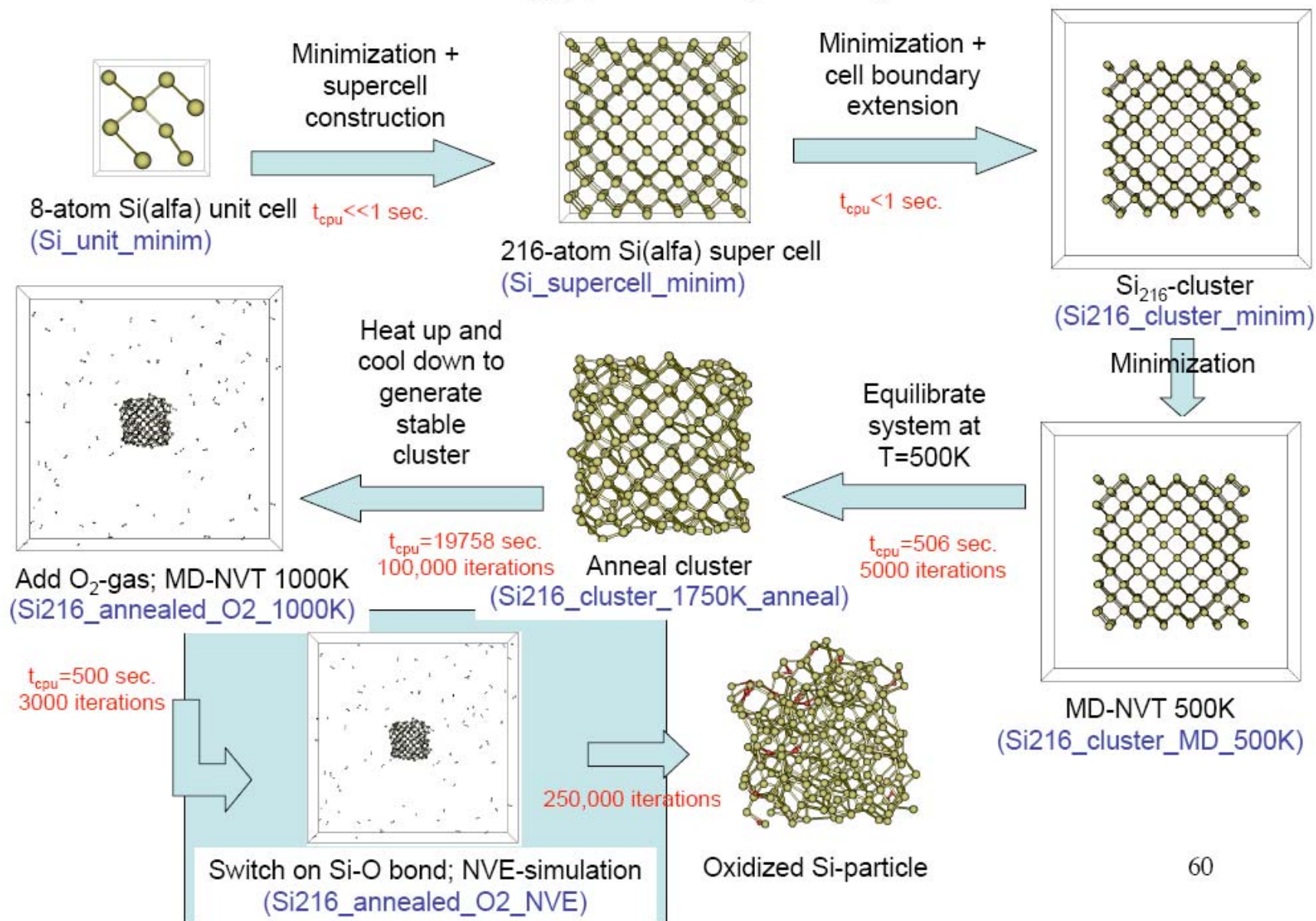
- fort.71
- summary.txt
- xmolout
- fort.71
- fort.73
- fort.7
- moldyn.vel

Bond order cutoff: 0.3000			
Iteration	Freq.	Molecular formula	Molecular mass
0	100	x O2	31.9980
0	1	x Si216	6060.9600
...			
3000	100	x O2	31.9980
3000	1	x Si216	6060.9600
Total number of molecules: 101			
Total number of atoms: 416			
Total system mass: 9260.76			

molfra.out

- molfra.out-file indicates no reactions have occurred
- System is equilibrated at 1000K; now switch Si-O bonds back on and use moldyn.vel to start NVE-simulation

NVE-simulation on Si₂₁₆-particle/O₂ starting at T=1000K



Input files

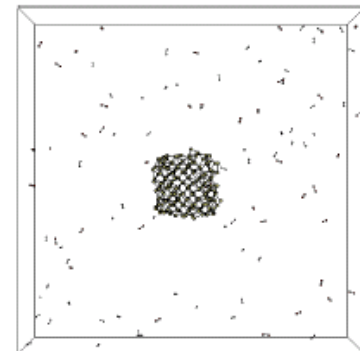
```

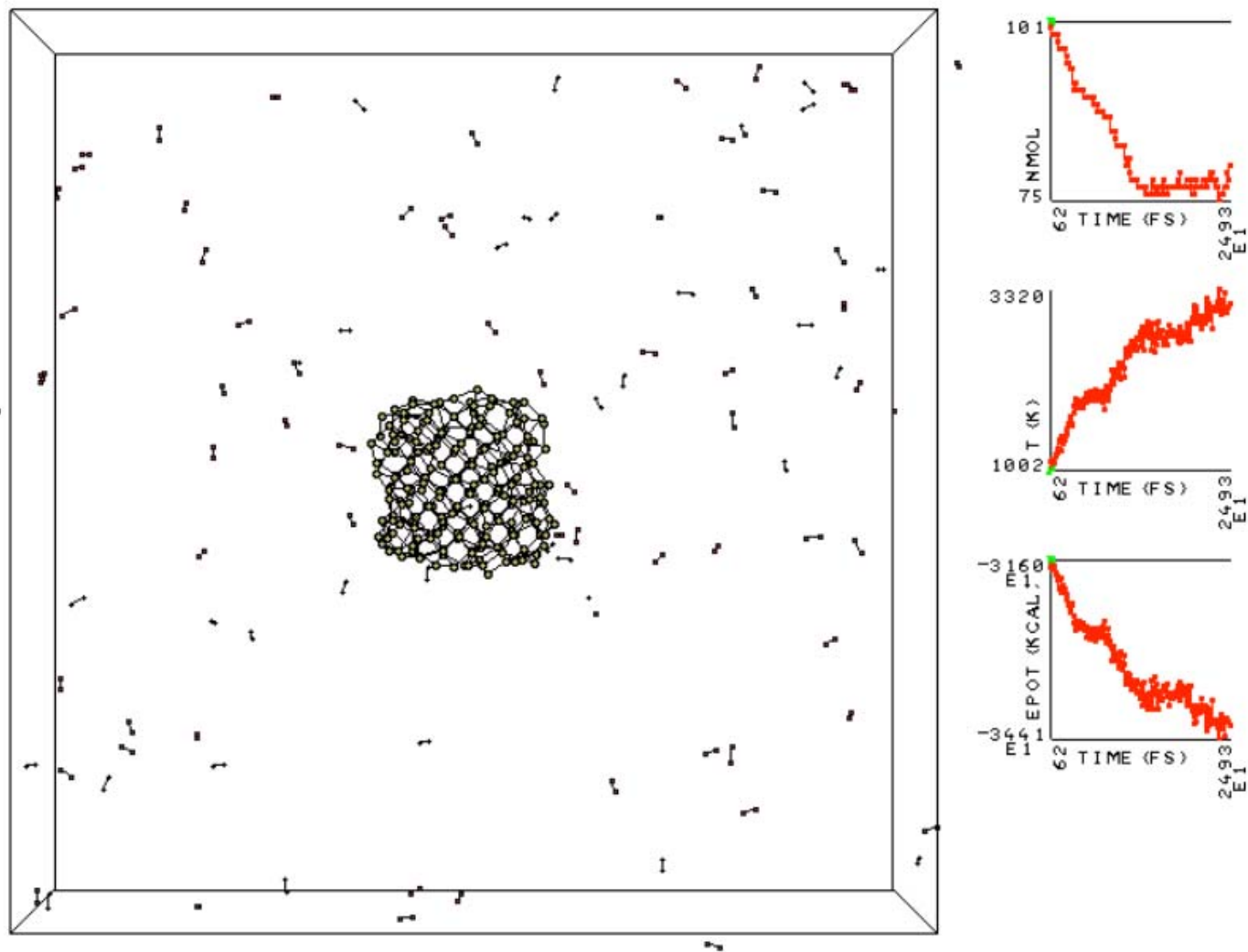
...
0 imetho 0: Normal MD-run 1: Energy minimisation
1 igeofo 0:xyz-input geometry 1: Biograf input geometry 2: xmol-input...
80.000 axis1 a (for non-periodical systems)
80.000 axis2 b (for non-periodical systems)
80.000 axis3 c (for non-periodical systems)
0.0050 cutof2 BO-cutoff for valency angles and torsion angles (do not change)
0.300 cutof3 BO-cutoff for bond order for graphs
4 icharg Charges. 1:EEM 2:- 3: Shielded EEM (default for crystals) 4:...
1 ichaen Charges. 1:include charge energy 0: Do not include charge energy
...
# MD-parameters
3 imdmet MD-method. 1:NVT 2:Do no use;3 NVE
0.250 tstep MD-time step (fs)
0500.00 mdtemp 1st MD-temperature
2 itdmet 0: T-damp atoms 1: Energy cons 2:System 3: Mols 4: Anders...
100.0 tdamp1 1st Berendsen/Anderson temperature damping constant (fs)
0000.00 mdpres MD-pressure (MPa)
00100.0 pdamp1 Berendsen pressure damping constant (fs)
0 inpt 0: Change all cell parameters in NPT-run 1: fixed x 2: fixed y 3:
0250000 nmdit Number of MD-iterations
00001 ichupd Charge update frequency
025 iout1 Output to unit 71 and unit 73
0250 iout2 Save coordinates
0 ivels 1:Set vels and accels from moldyn.vel to zero
00025 itrafr Frequency of trarot-calls
1 iout3 0: create moldyn.xxxx-files 1: do not create moldyn.xxxx-files
1 iravel 1: Random initial velocities
010000 iout6 Save velocity file
000025 irten Frequency of removal of rotational and translational energy
0 npreit Nr. of iterations in previous runs
# MM-parameters

```

control

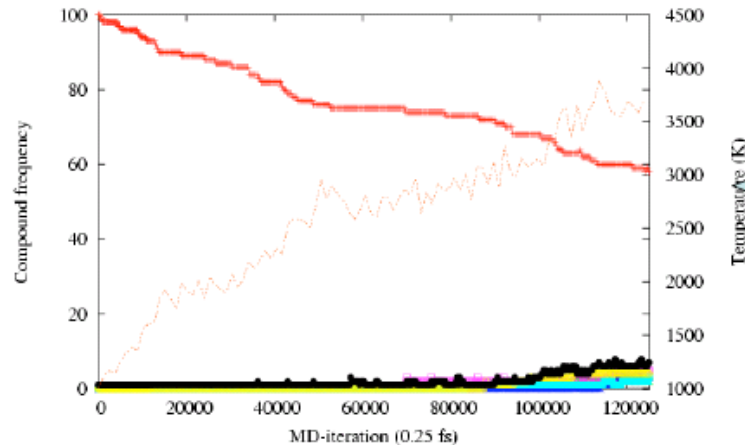
- Copied moldyn.vel from 1000K-equilibration to vels
- Other input files : exe, geo, ffield (standard)



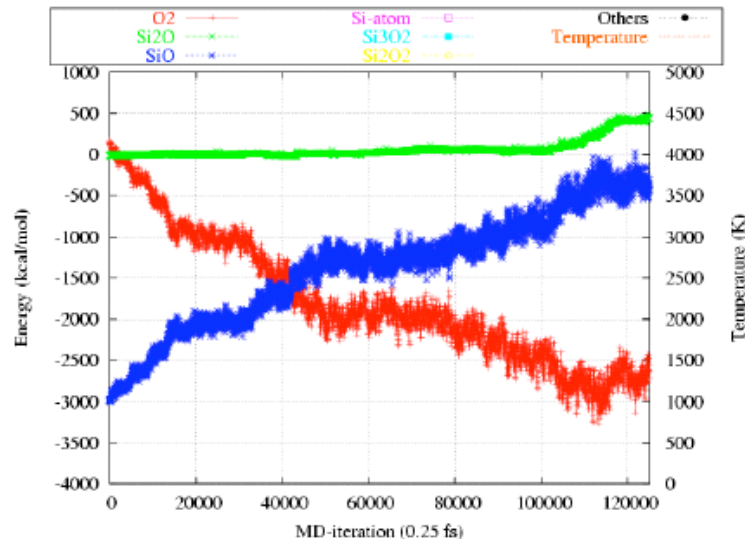


- Highly exothermic reaction
- Temperature rises to >3000K; particle becomes unstable

Output files



Temperature (K)



Temperature (K)

Bond order cutoff:0.3000			
Iteration	Freq.	Molecular formula	Molecular mass
0	100 x	O2	31.9980
0	1 x	Si216	6060.9600
...			
Iteration	Freq.	Molecular formula	Molecular mass
125000	1 x	O52Si181	5910.8080
125000	1 x	O3Si3	132.1770
125000	58 x	O2	31.9980
125000	3 x	O2Si3	116.1780
125000	3 x	OSi	44.0590
125000	4 x	O2Si2	88.1180
125000	1 x	O2Si	60.0580
125000	2 x	OSi2	72.1190
125000	2 x	O	15.9990
125000	1 x	O3Si2	104.1170
125000	1 x	O3	47.9970
125000	5 x	Si	28.0600
Total number of molecules: 82			
Total number of atoms: 416			
Total system mass: 9260.76			

molfra.out

- Energy is reasonably well-conserved until iteration 100,000
- Better energy conservation can be obtained by reducing the time-step at high temperatures

Other relevant output files :

- fort.71
- summary.txt
- xmolout
- fort.71
- fort.73
- fort.7
- moldyn.vel