



**Sustainable
Nanotechnology
Organization**

Research | Education | Responsibility

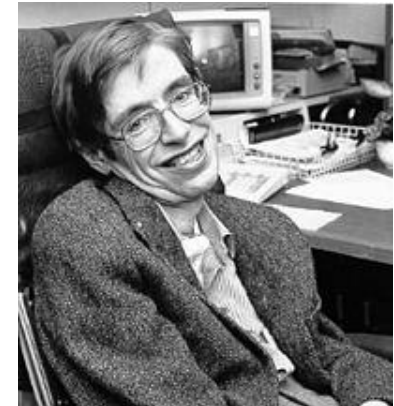
Inhibiting Protein Amyloid Aggregation with Nanoparticles

Feng Ding

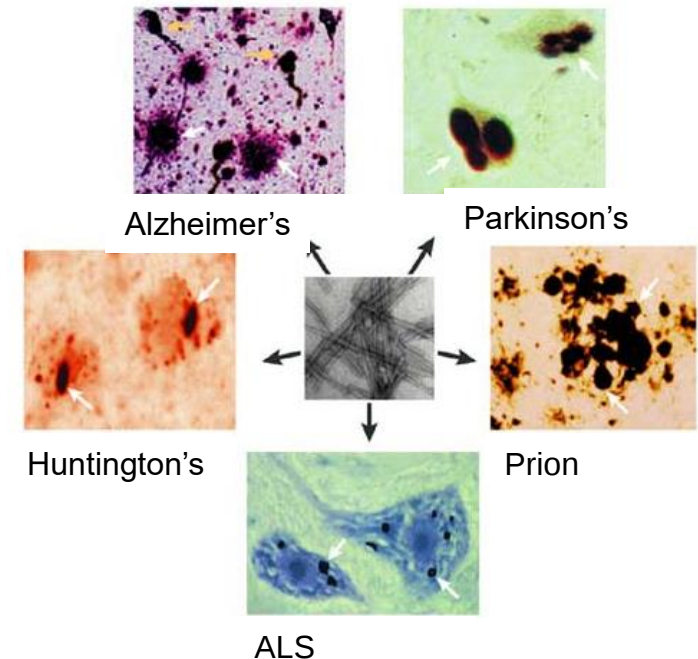
Department of Physics and Astronomy, Clemson University,
Clemson, SC 29634

Protein misfolding diseases

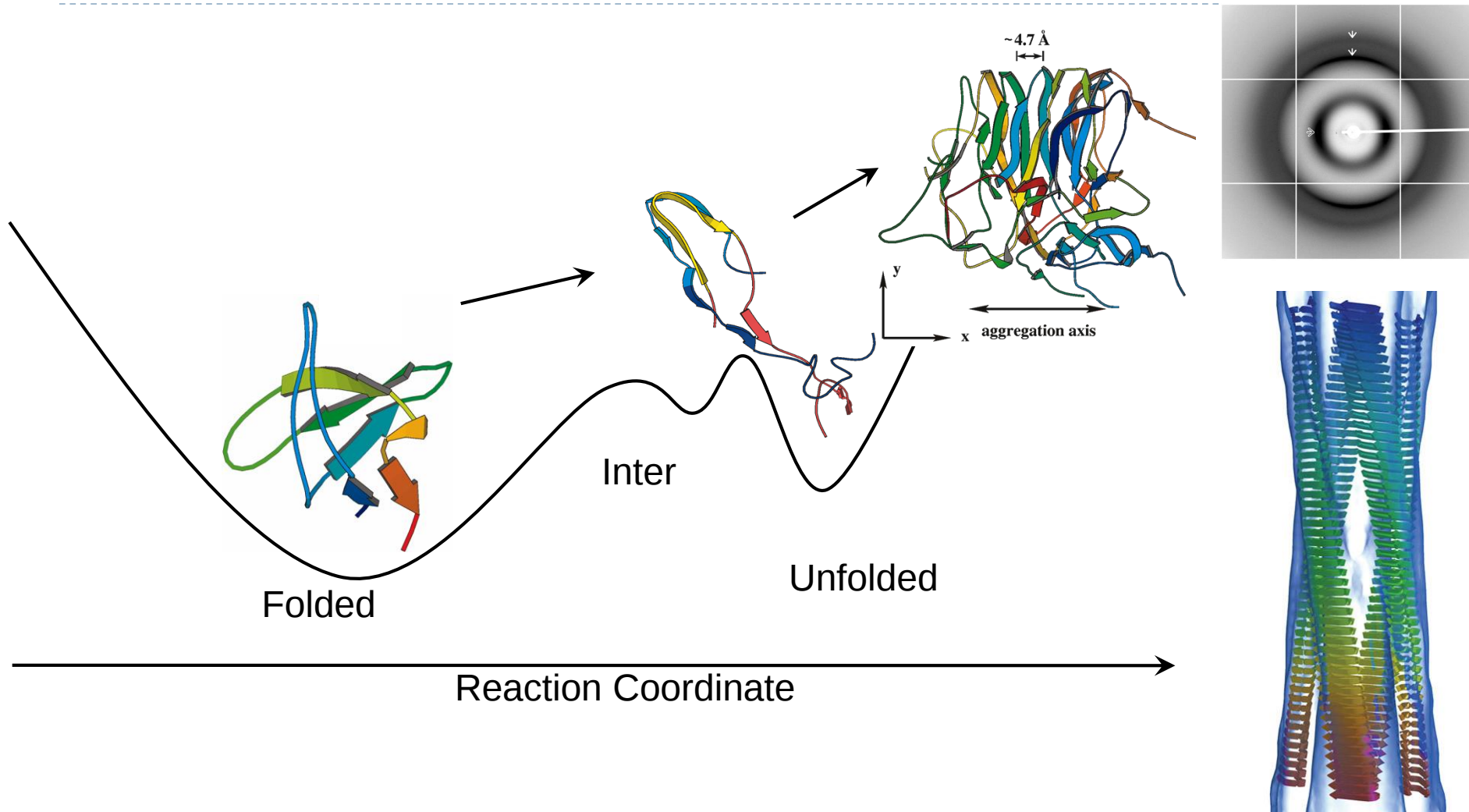
- ▶ An increasing list of protein misfolding diseases
 - ▶ Alzheimer's disease – A β
 - ▶ Parkinson's disease – α -synuclein
 - ▶ Huntington's disease – huntingtin
 - ▶ Type-2 Diabetes – Islet Amyloid Polypeptide
 - ▶ Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis – SOD1



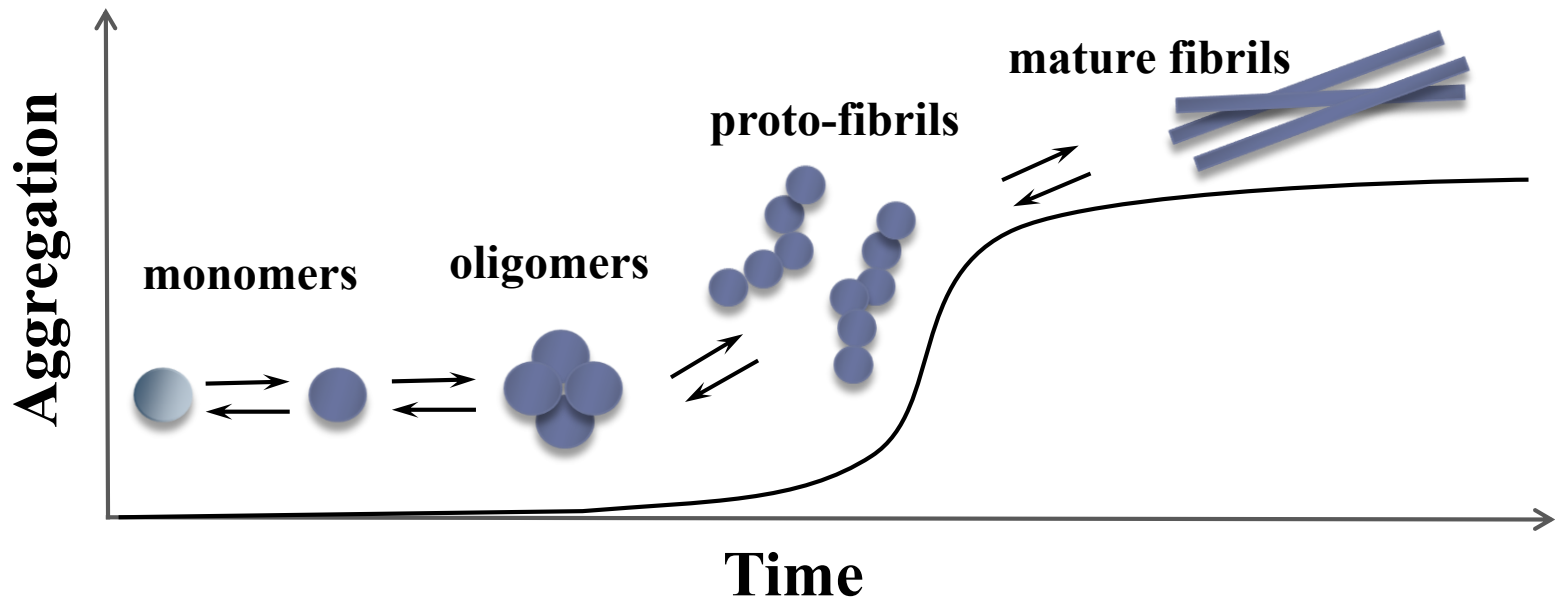
- ▶ Common hallmarks
 - ▶ Fibrillar aggregates – regular structures from different precursors
 - ▶ Long process; rare nucleating events
 - ▶ Symptoms typically appear in mid to later life (50-70 years)



Amyloid fibril – the common cross-beta structure

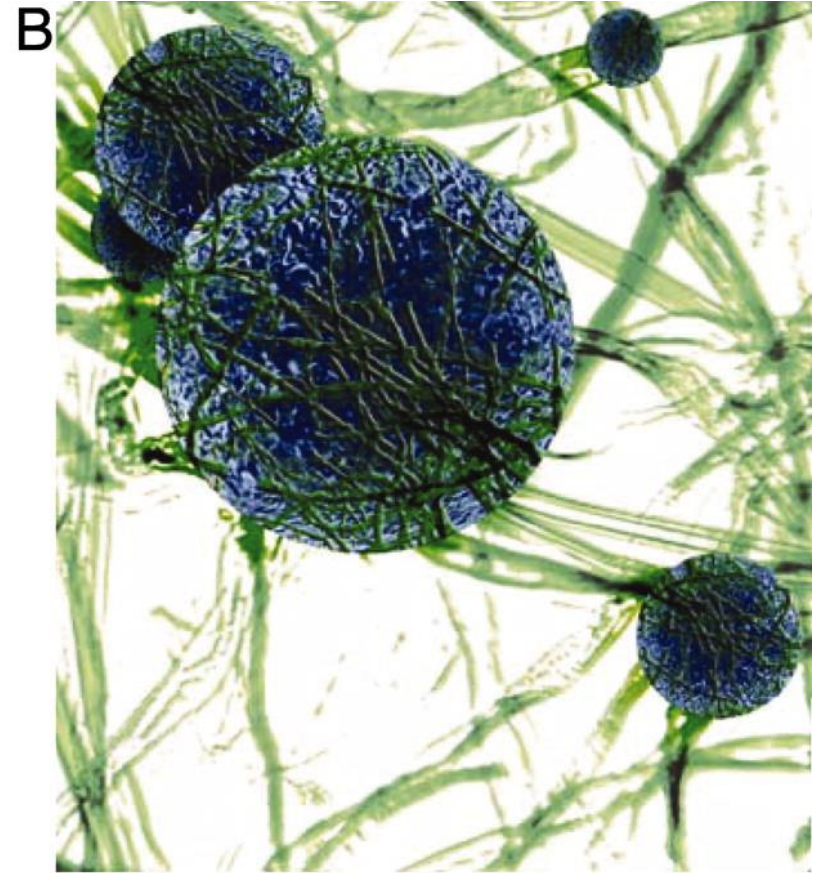
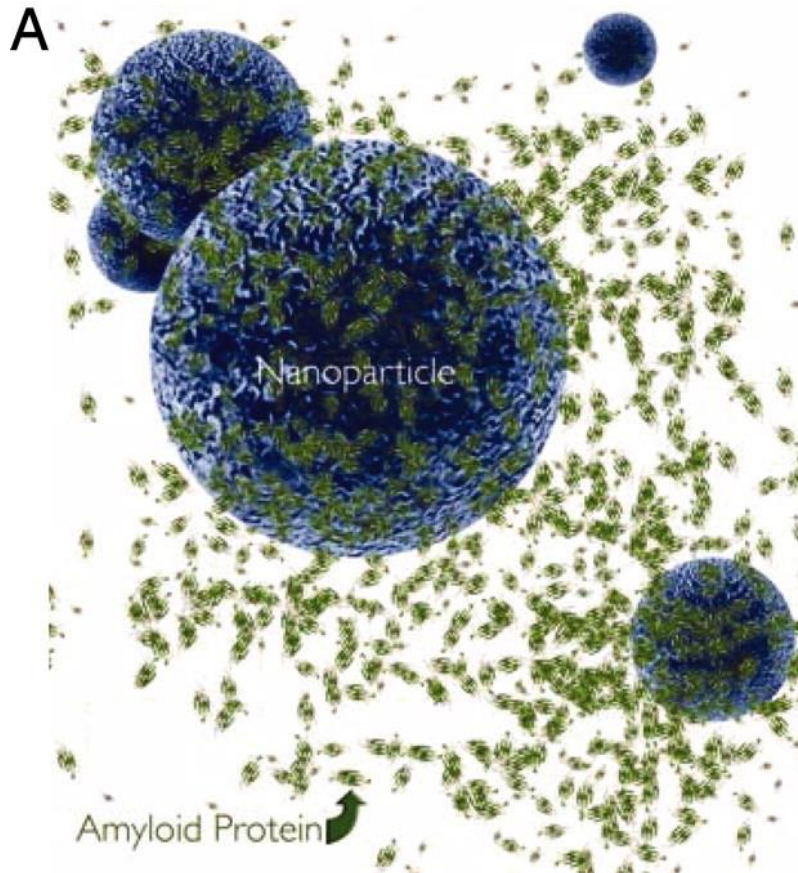


Nucleation Process – Sigmoidal Kinetics



Inhibitor design – targeting each of the step

Nanoparticles as catalysts for protein fibrillation



Aggregation promoting or inhibiting – the contrasting effects of NPs?

Nanoparticles	Proteins	Effects on Amyloid Aggregation
Multi-walled CNT, QDs, Copolymer NP, CeO ₂ NP ²³	β-2 microglobulin	Promotion
TiO ₂ NP ⁴³	Aβ	
AuNP ⁷⁵	lysozyme	
Graphene oxide ⁶⁷	Aβ	Inhibition
AuNP ⁴⁵	Aβ	
CNT ⁴²	Aβ ₁₆₋₂₂	
Carbon Dots ⁷⁶	Insulin	
Polymeric NP ⁶⁸	Aβ	
Polystyrene NP ³⁷	Aβ	Either promotion or inhibition

Q: What are the determinants of NPs and/or proteins for the complex and seemingly contrasting behaviors?

Objective – Amyloid-inhibiting nanomedicine

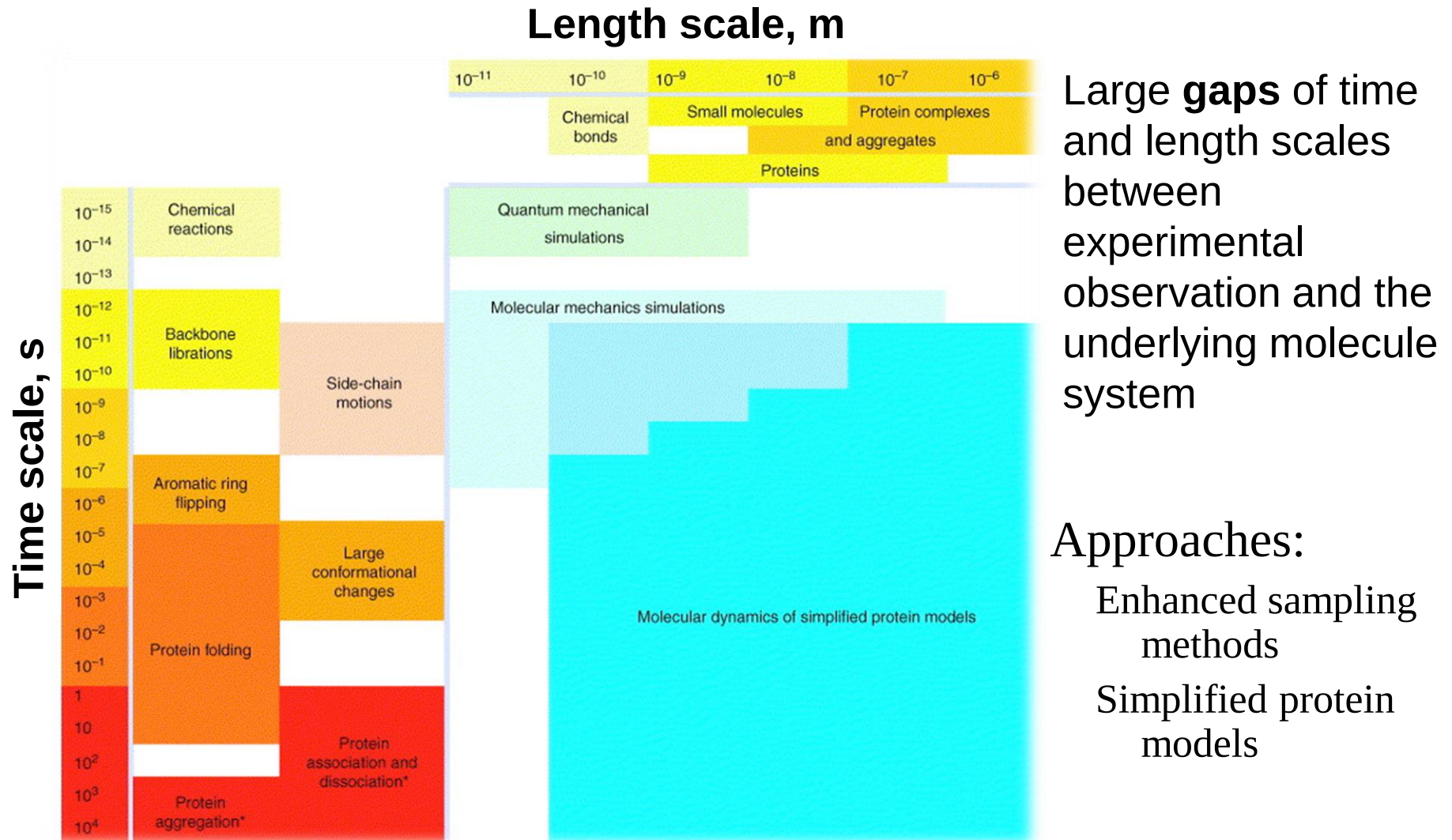


Outline

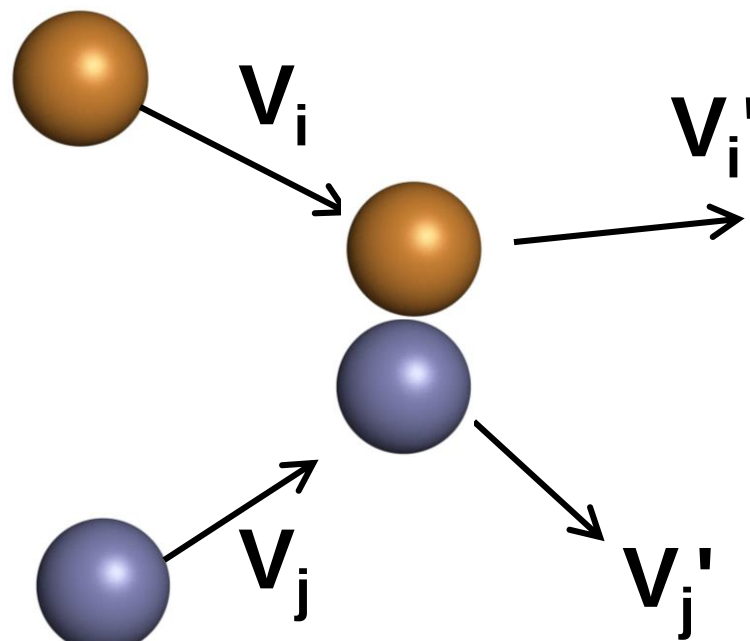
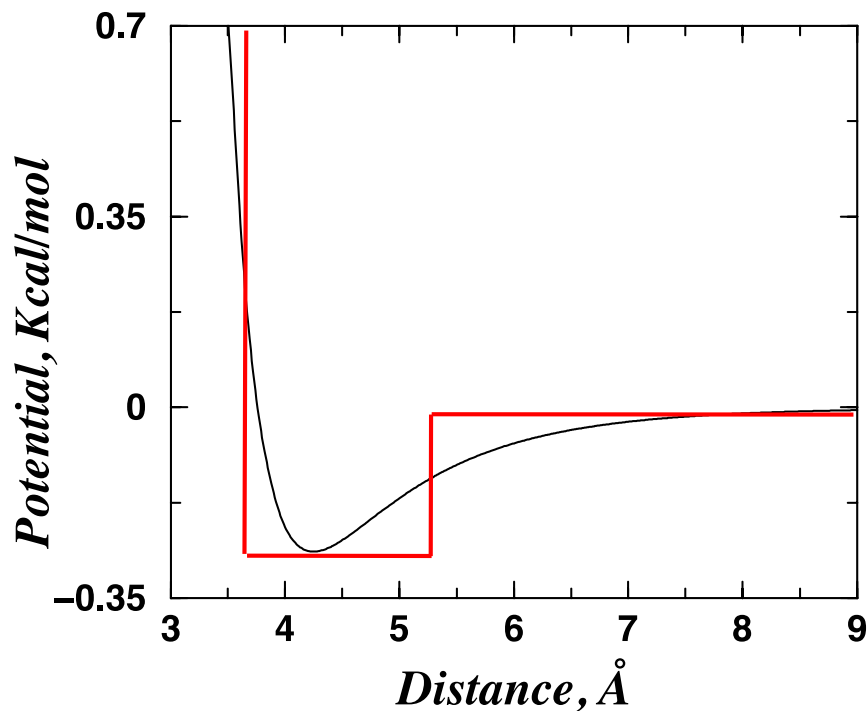
- ▶ Multiscale modeling approach
 - ▶ DMD simulations
 - ▶ Multiscale models
- ▶ Uncovering the effects of NPs on protein aggregation
 - ▶ Varying NP-Protein attractions
 - ▶ Competing aggregation in solution and on NP surface
 - ▶ A complete picture of protein aggregation influenced by NPs
- ▶ Applications of anti-amyloid Nanomedicine
 - ▶ Graphene oxide
 - ▶ Dendrimer



Challenges in computational modeling: multiscale modeling



Enhanced MD method: DMD

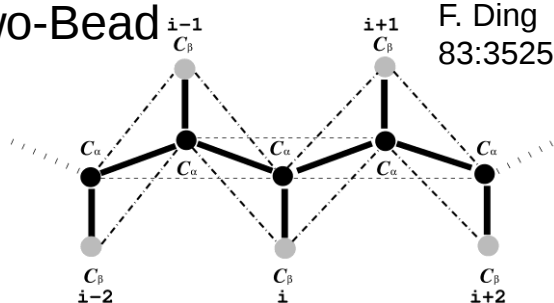


$$m\vec{a}_i = \sum_j \vec{F}_{ij}$$

- ▶ **Dynamics become event-driven:**
 - ▶ collision prediction,
 - ▶ sorting for next collisions,
 - ▶ updating the colliding atoms

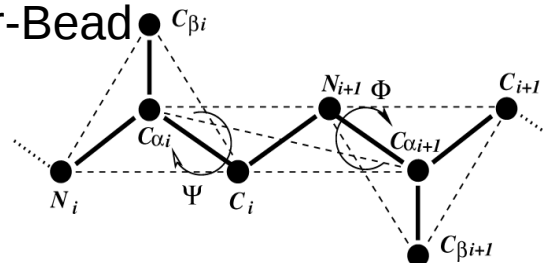
Multi-scale protein models

Two-Bead



F. Ding et al, *Biophys. J.*,
83:3525 (2002)

Four-Bead



F. Ding et al, *Proteins*,
53:220 (2003)

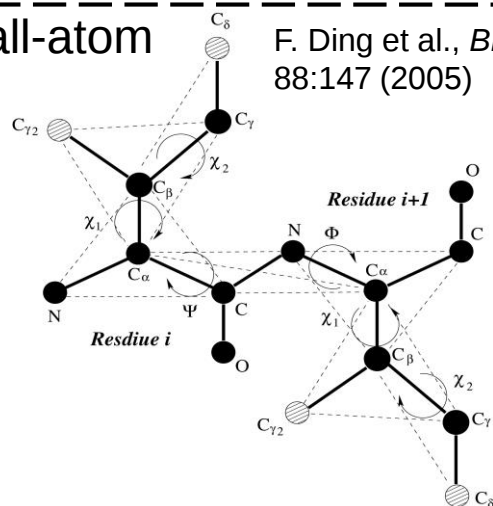
Time scale: $\sim$ seconds-hours

Applications: Protein folding/misfolding,
Protein aggregation,

Time scale: $\sim$ seconds

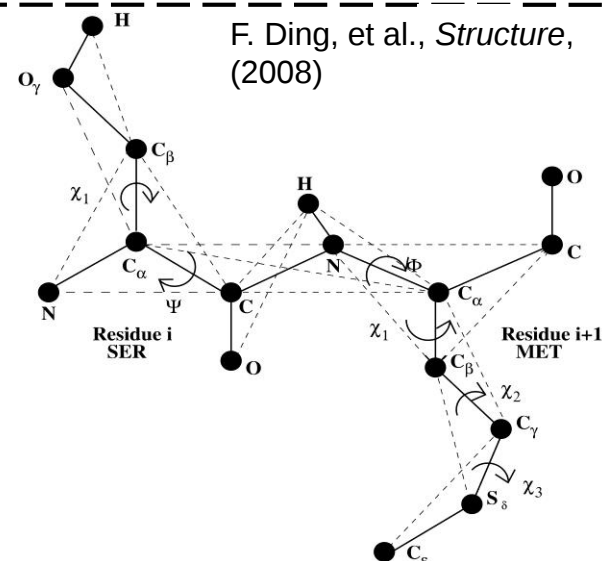
Applications: 2nd structure transition, Protein
folding/misfolding, Protein aggregation

Pseudo all-atom



F. Ding et al., *Biophys. J.*,
88:147 (2005)

All-atom



F. Ding, et al., *Structure*,
(2008)

Time scale: $\sim\mu$ s-ms

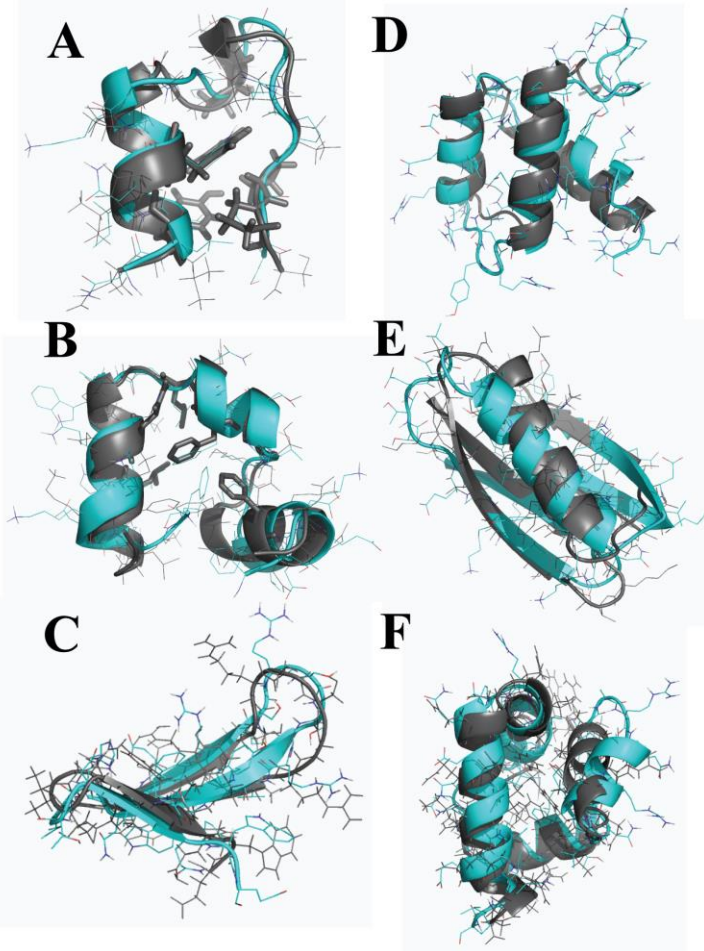
Applications: Protein folding/misfolding,
aggregation of short peptides

Time scale: $\sim\mu$ s

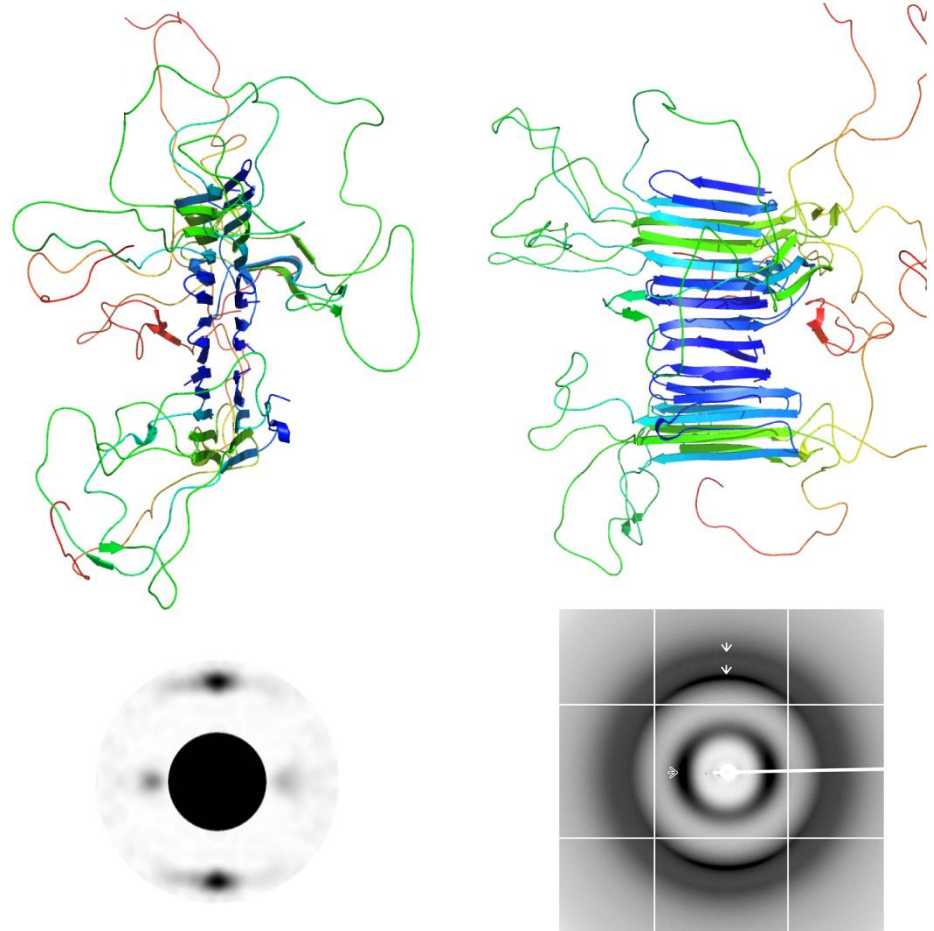
Applications: Folding of small proteins; near-native
dynamics; and protein unfolding

Multiscale DMD simulations

Ab initio protein folding



Coarse-grained simulation of protein aggregation

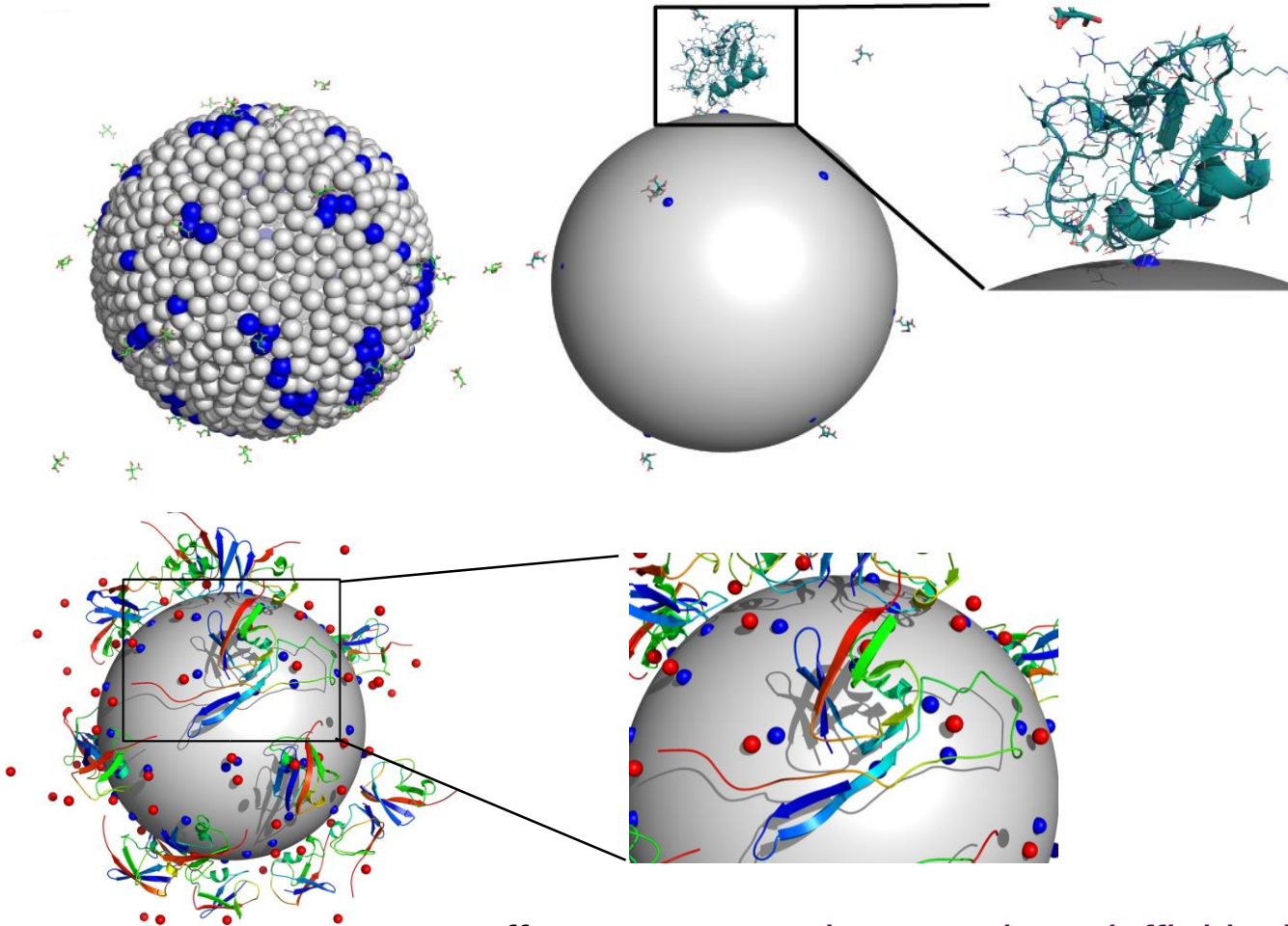


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 - ▶ A unified picture of protein aggregation influenced by NPs
- ▶ Applications of anti-amyloid Nanomedicine
 - ▶ Graphene oxide
 - ▶ Dendrimer

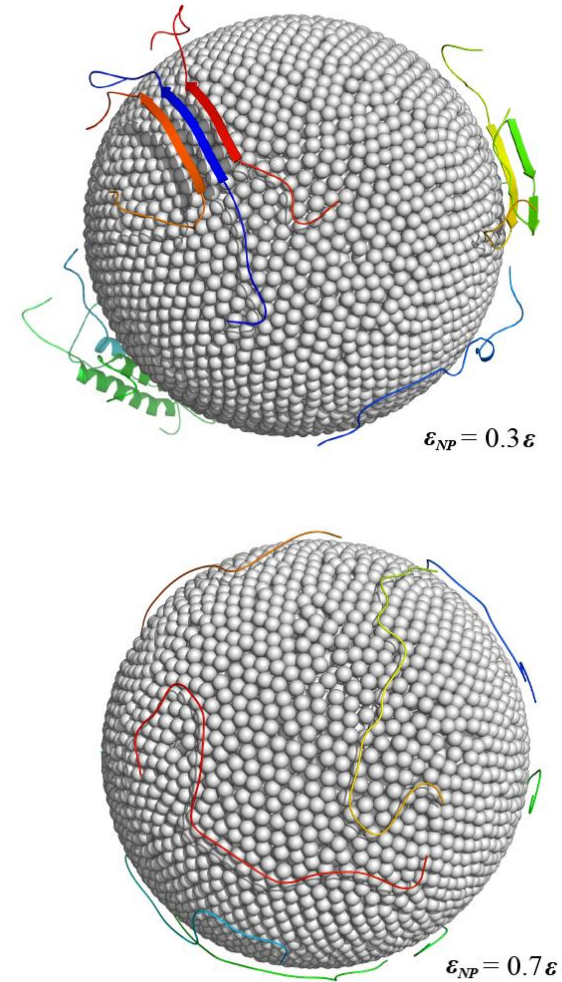
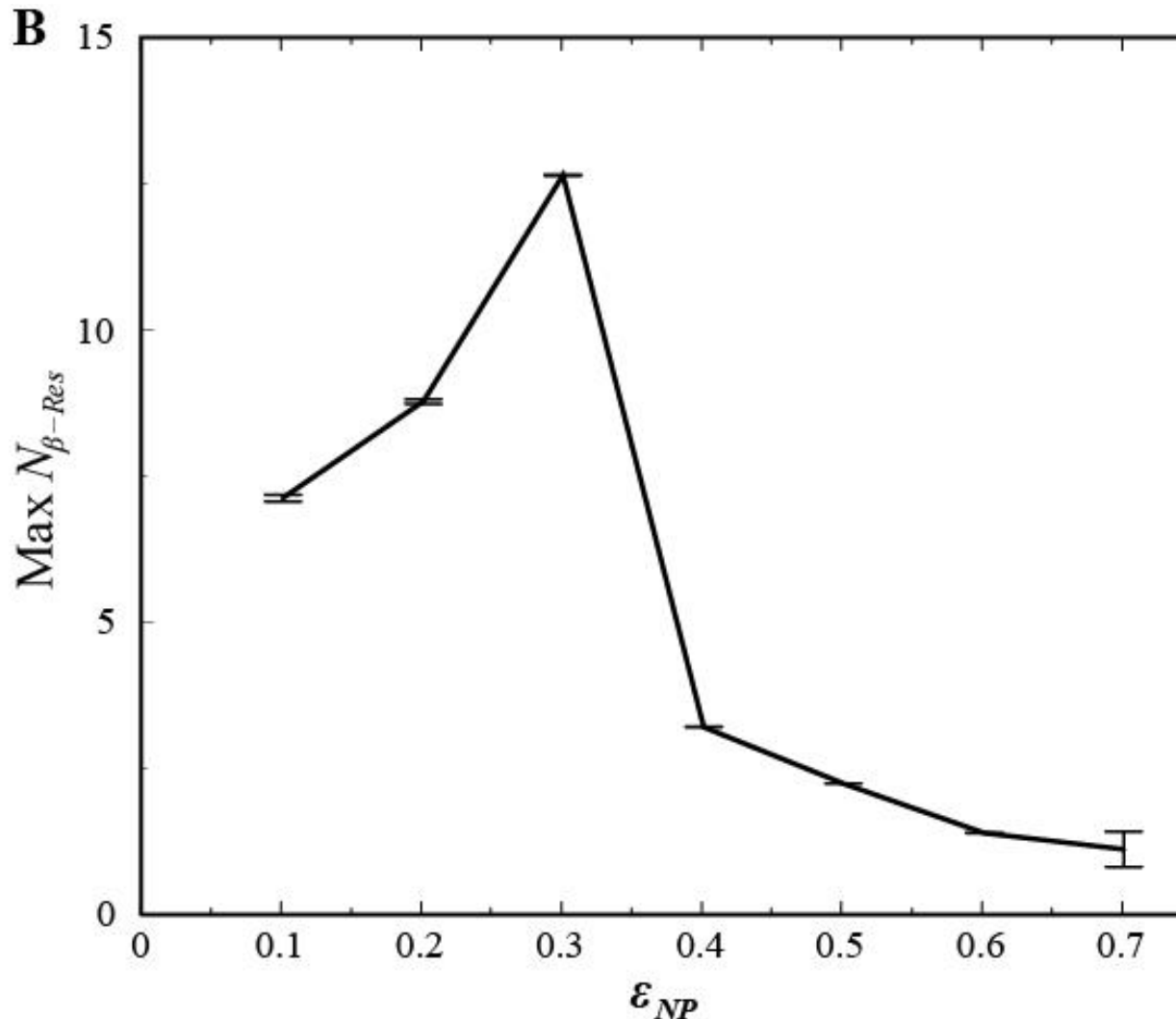


Coarse-grained modeling of NPs

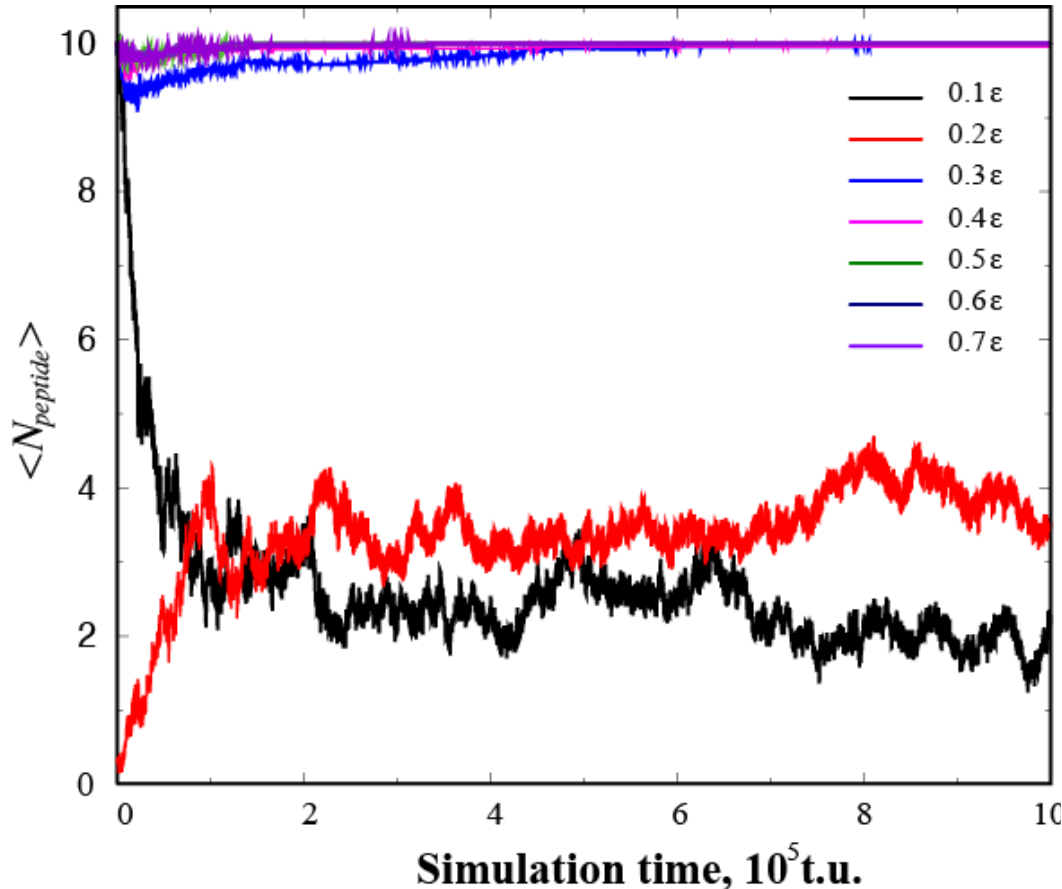


Effects: NP-protein attractions (affinities), relative concentrations, competition between bulk and surface, etc.

Complex effects of NP-Protein attractions on protein aggregation

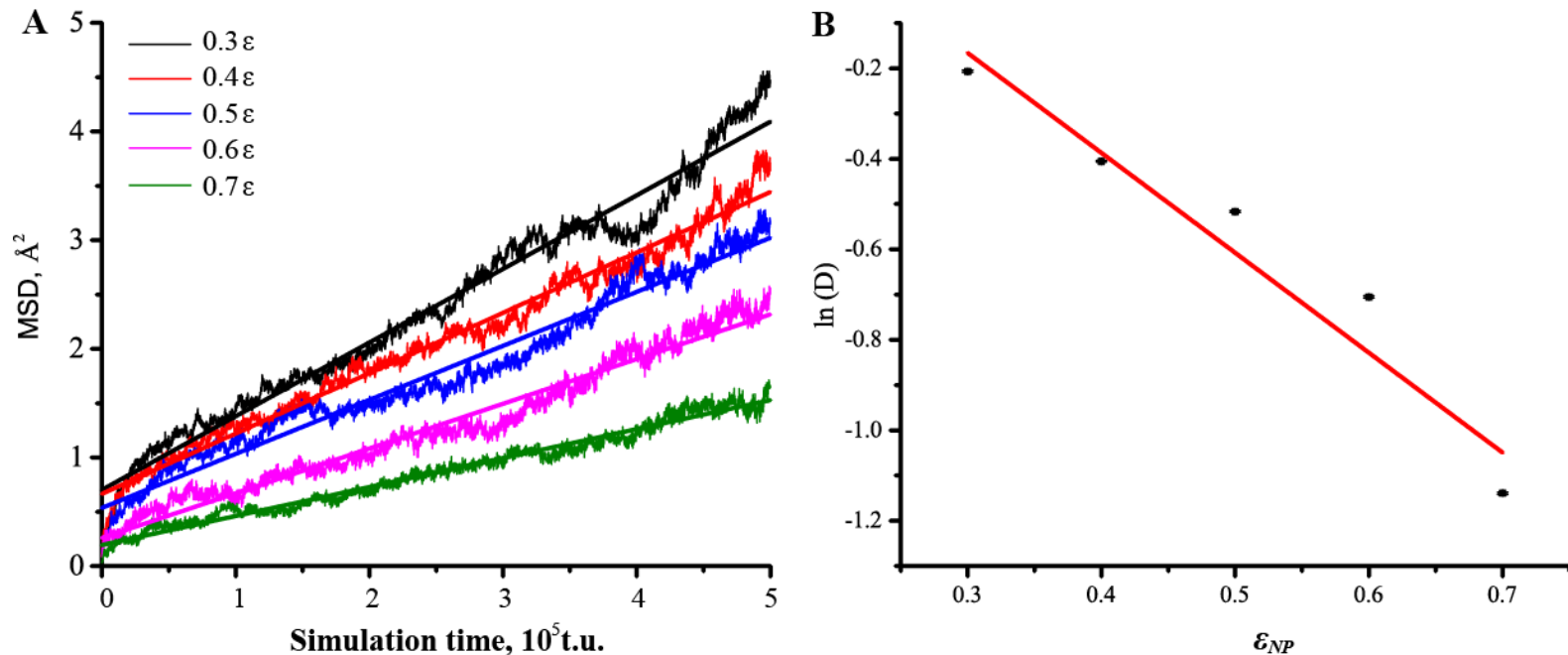


The dependence of protein surface concentration on NP-Protein attractions



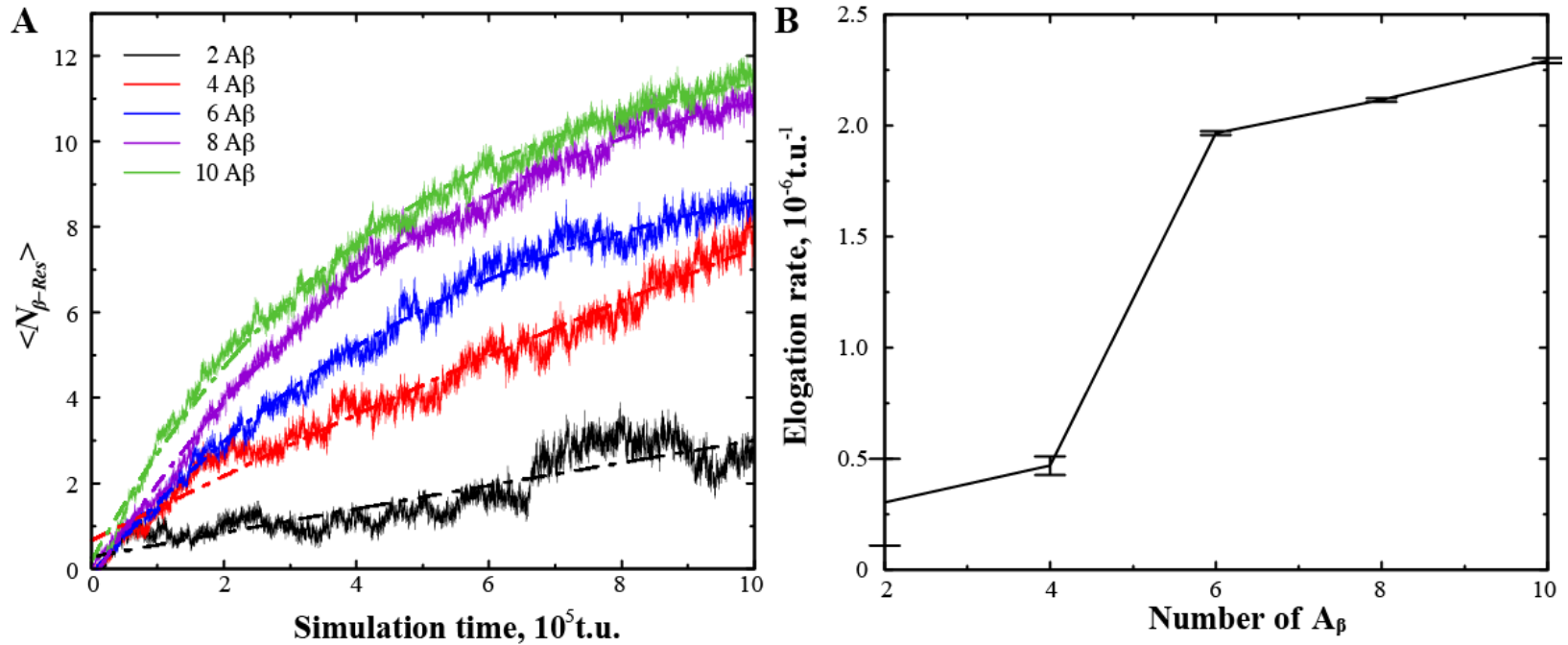
Increasing NP-protein attractions leads to **more proteins** on NP surface

The dependence of diffusion on NP-protein attractions



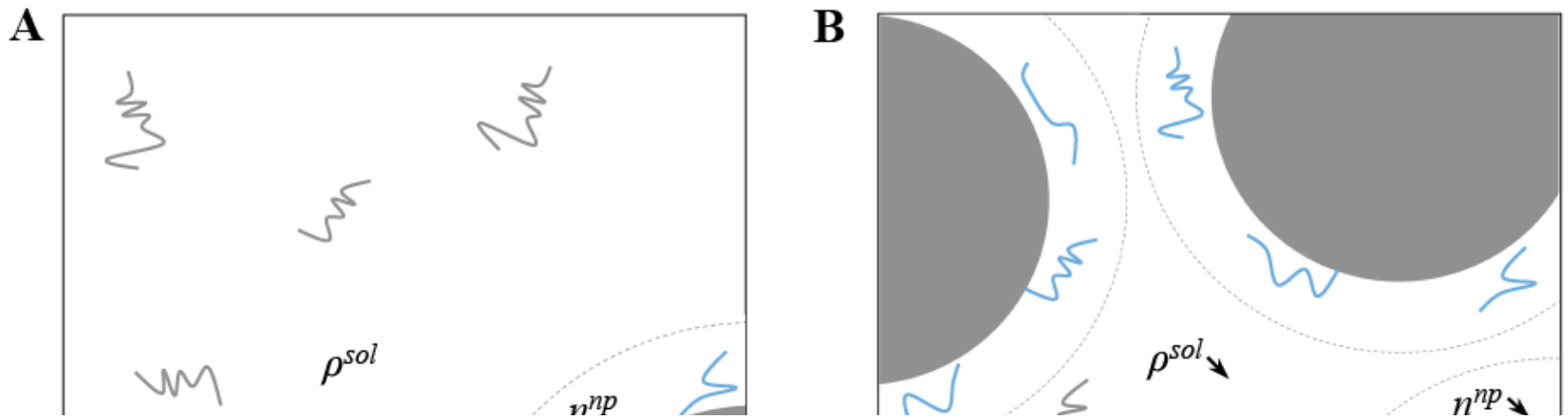
Increasing NP-protein attractions leads to **decreased protein diffusion** on NP surface.

Dependence of protein concentrations (fixed attraction)

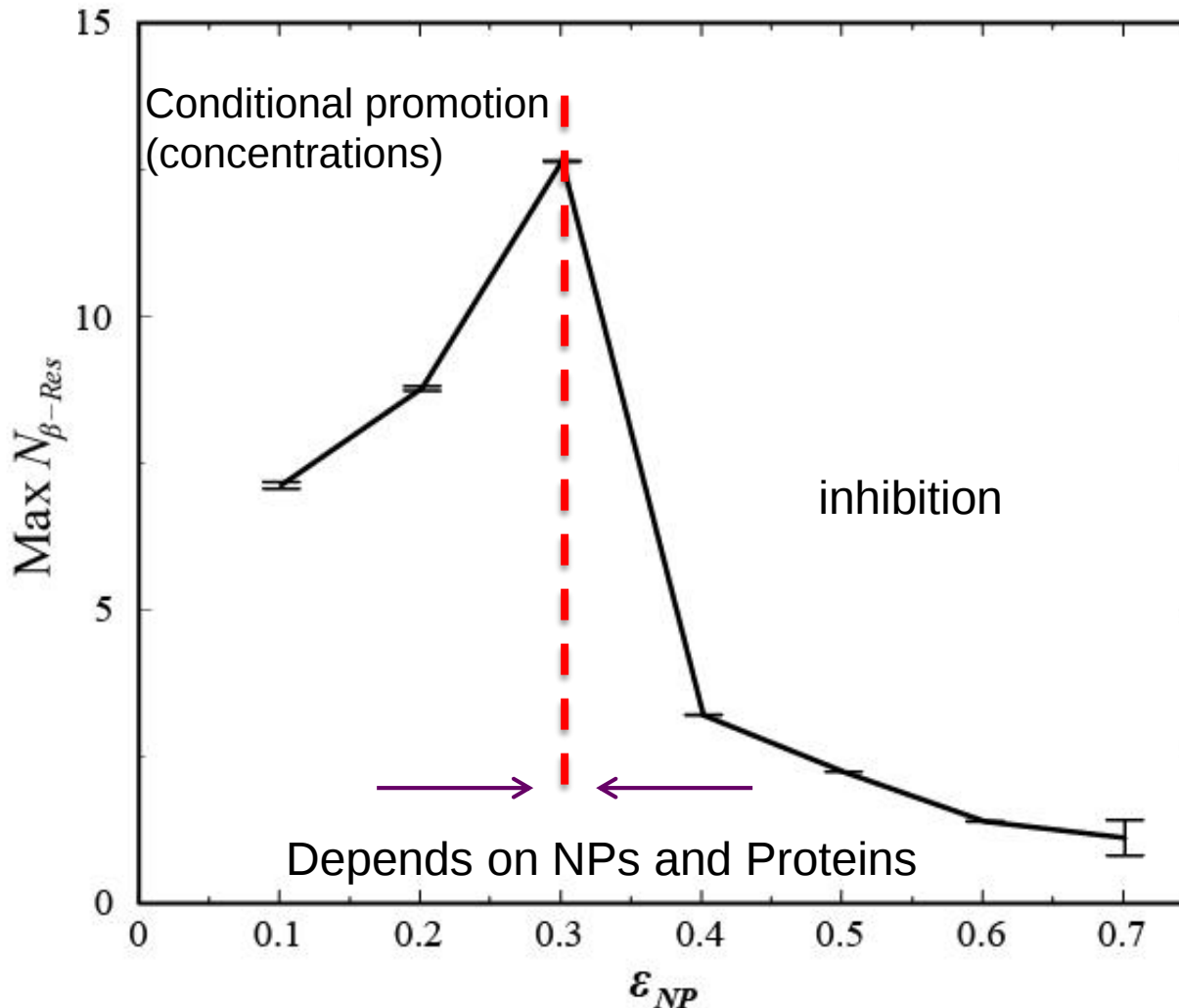


Aggregation on NP surface is concentration dependent

Effect of relative protein/NP concentration



A multi-factorial effects of NPs on aggregation



Outline

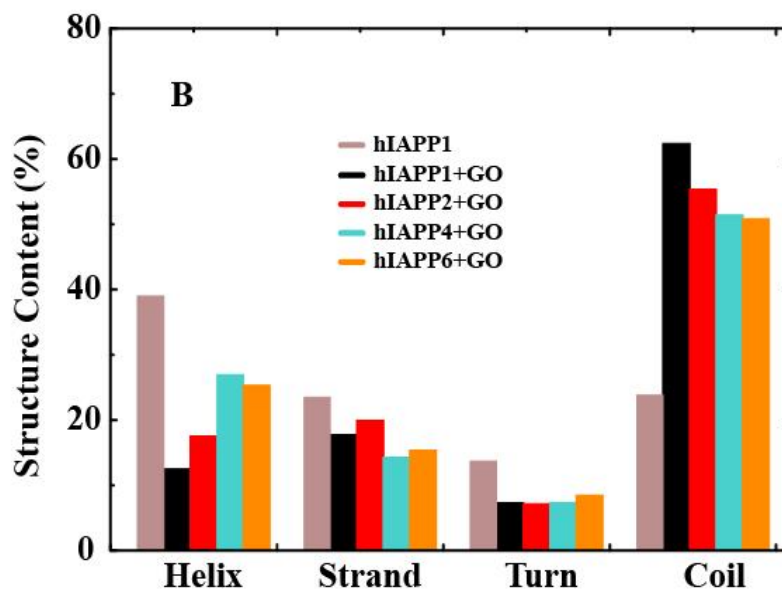
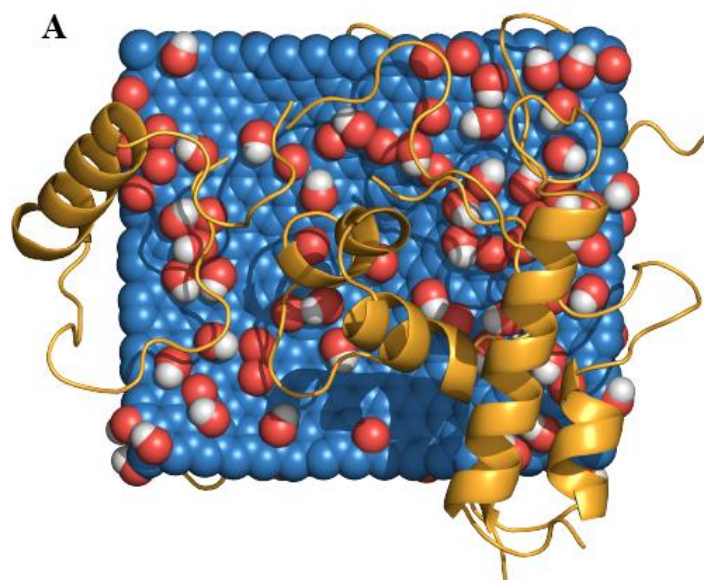
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- ▶ **Applications of anti-amyloid Nanomedicine**
 - ▶ Graphene oxide
 - ▶ Dendrimer



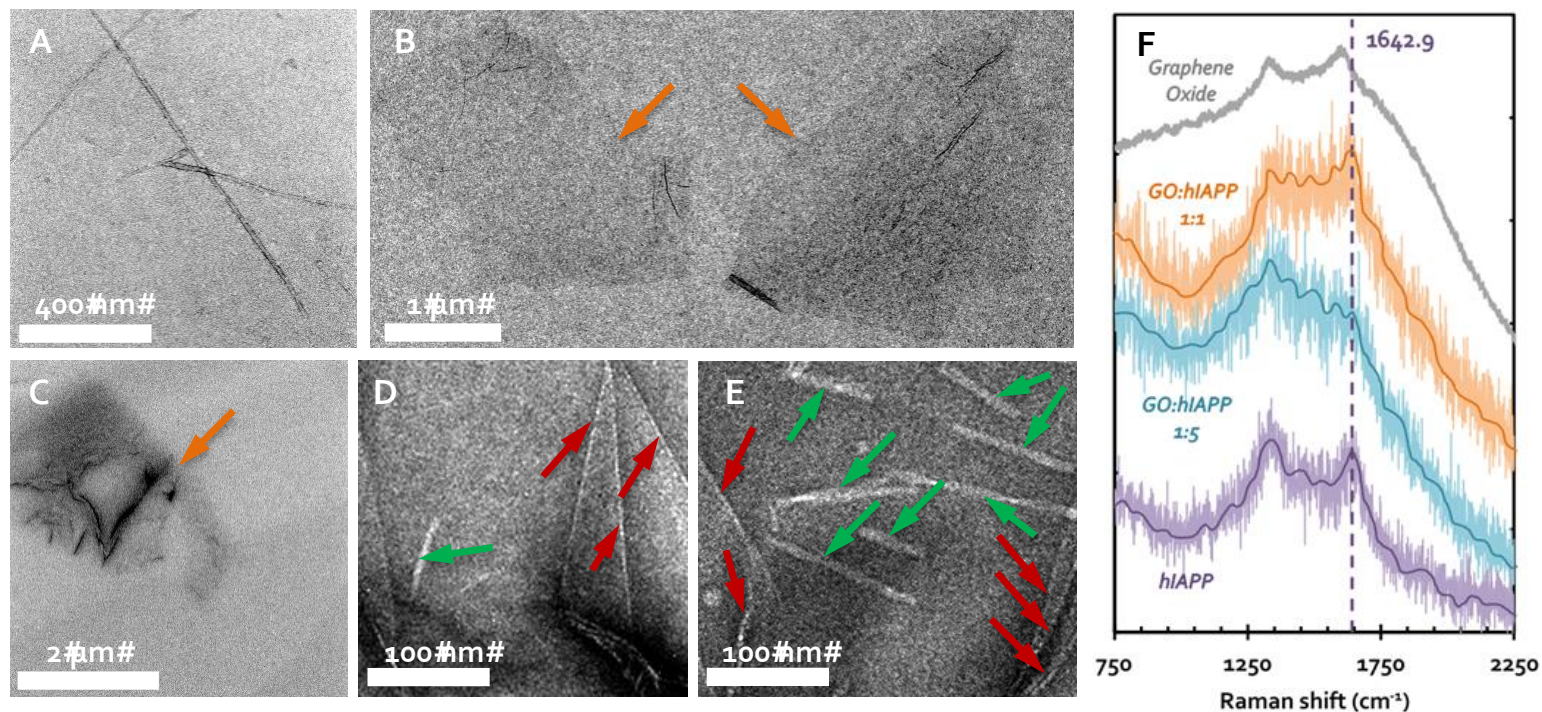


Graphene oxide inhibits IAPP
aggregation and cytotoxicity

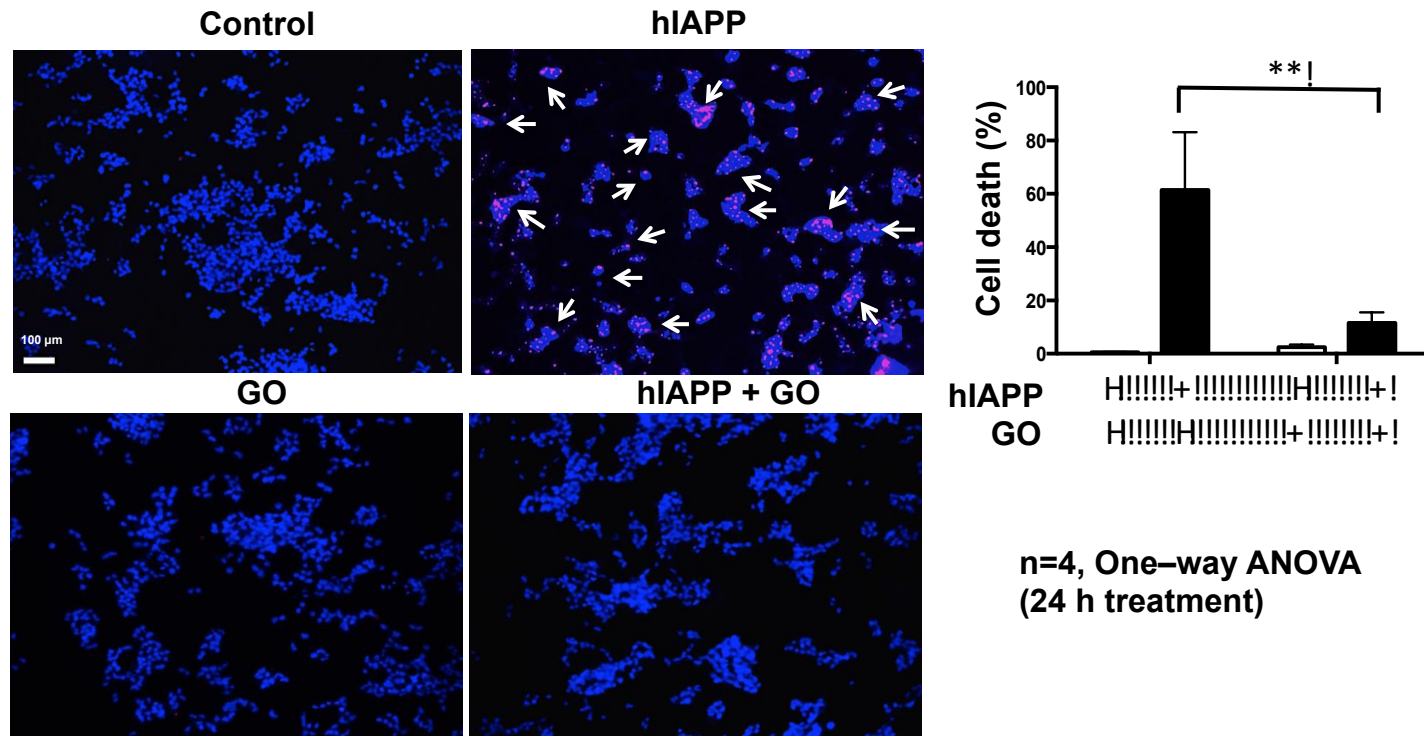
Graphene oxide sequesters IAPP



Biophysical characterization of GO-IAPP interaction

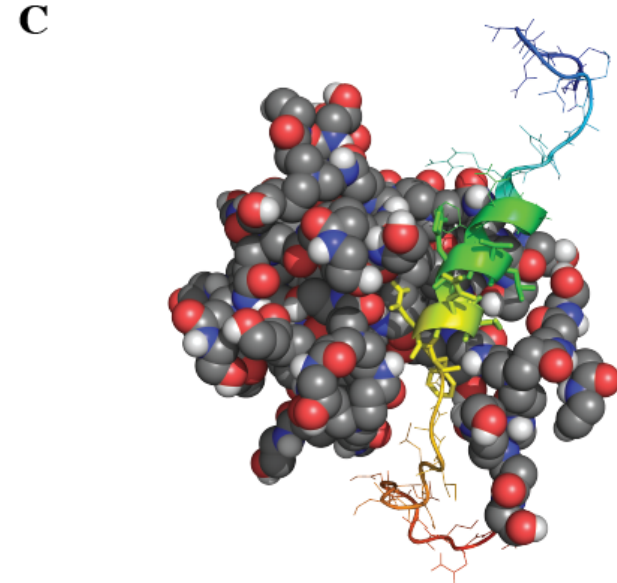
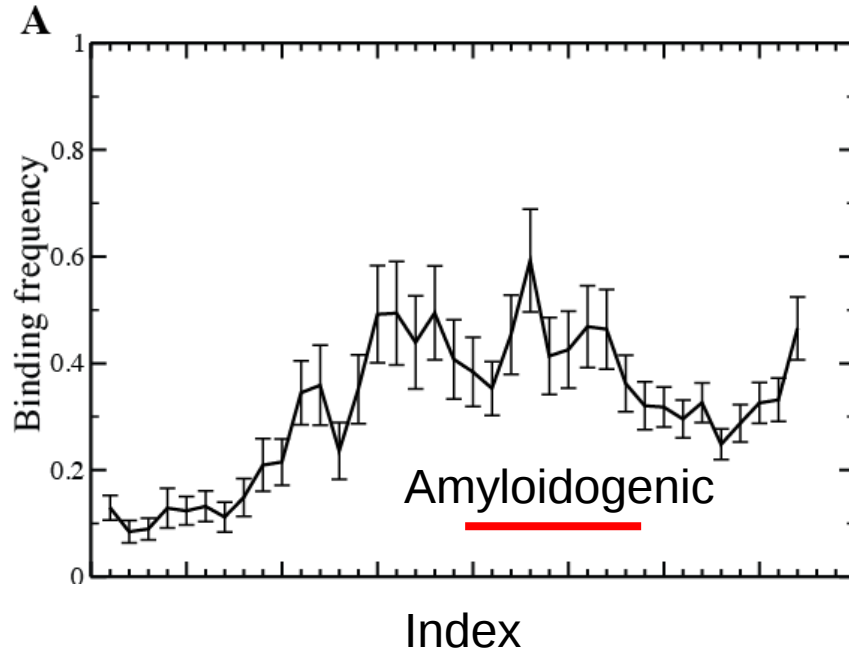


GO reduces cytotoxicity of IAPP



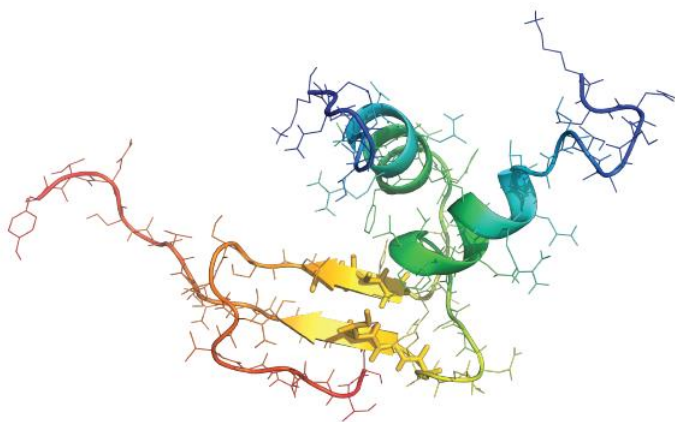
PAMAM dendrimer inhibits IAPP
aggregation and cytotoxicity

PAMAM dendrimer binds the amyloidogenic region of Amylin monomer

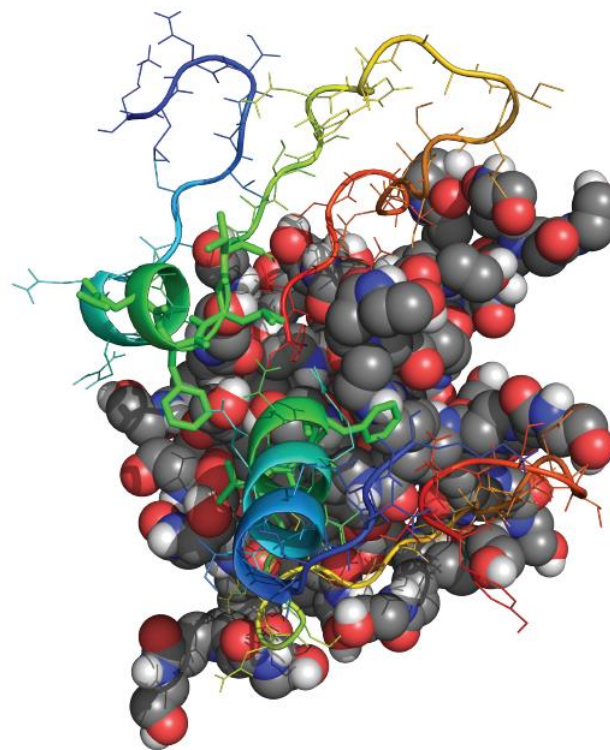


PAMAM dendrimer inhibits dimerization

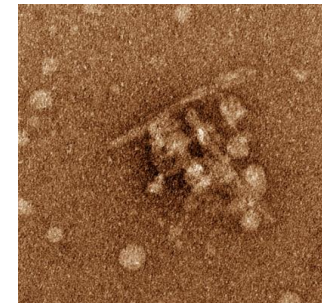
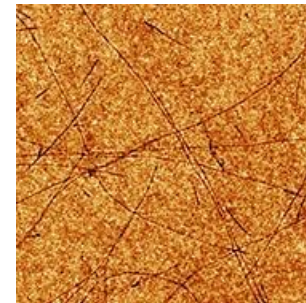
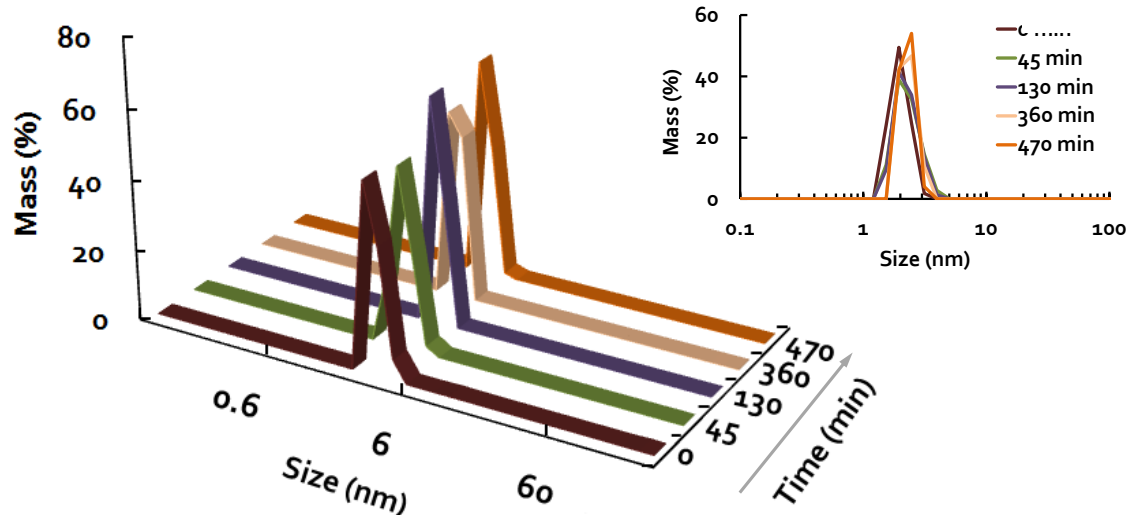
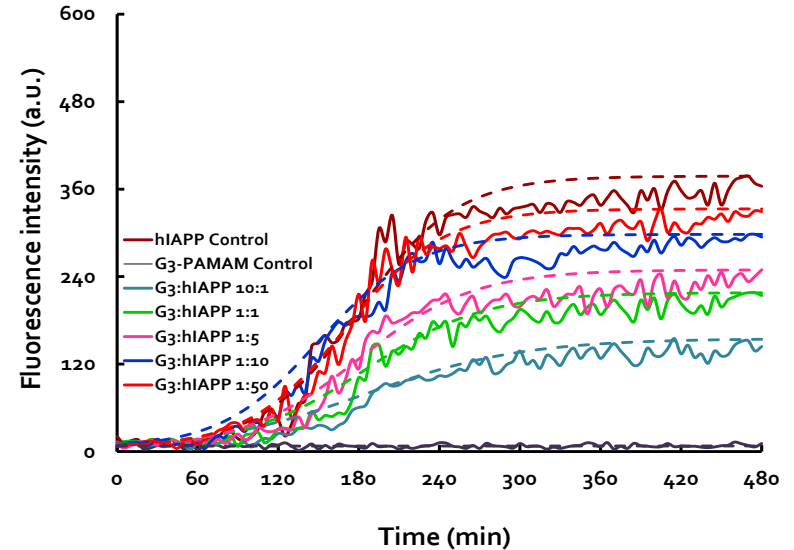
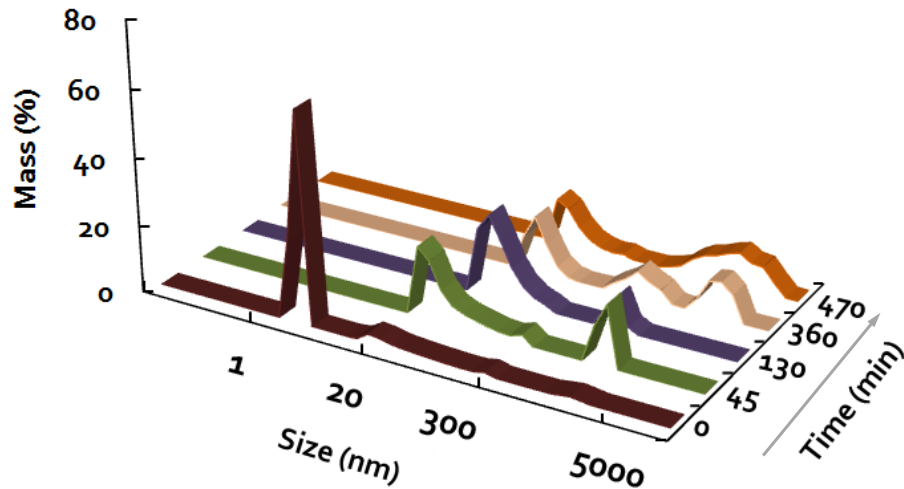
B



D

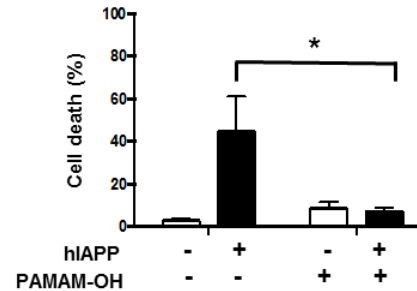
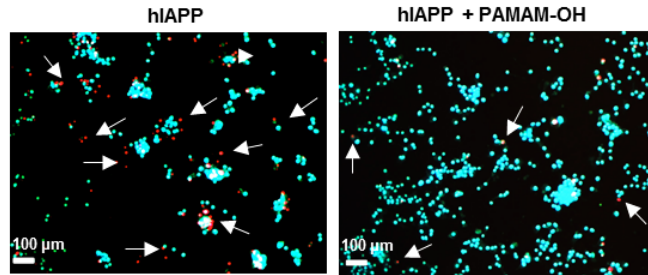


Biophysical characterization of the anti-aggregation effects – DLS, ThT, TEM

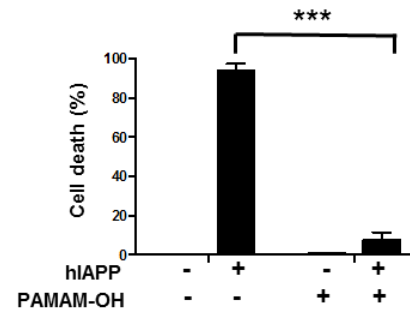
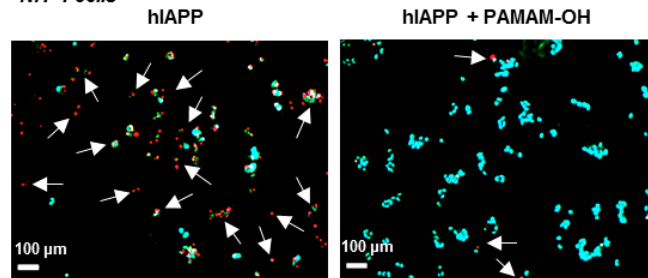


Inhibition of IAPP cytotoxicity *in vitro* and *ex vivo*

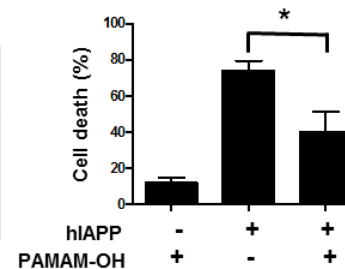
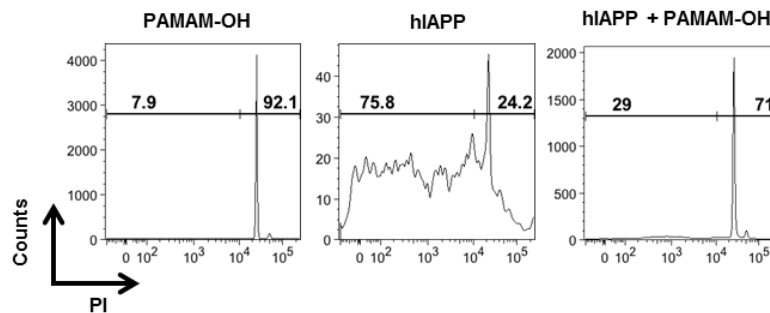
A MIN6 cells



B NIT-1 cells



C Mouse islets



Summary

- ▶ A multiscale approach for modeling protein aggregation at the Nano-Bio interface with long time scales and large system sizes
- ▶ A mechanistic insight about the complex and seemingly contrasting effects of NPs on amyloid aggregation
- ▶ Utilizing the anti-aggregation effects of NPs for anti-amyloid nanomedicine design.



Acknowledgement

Bo Wang

Xinwei Ge

Praveen Nedumpully-Govindan, PhD

Slaven Radic, PhD

Thomas P. Davis, PhD

Pu-Chun Ke, PhD

Esteban Gurzov, PhD

Emily Pilkington

Aleksandr Kakinen, PhD

Funding:

NSF

NIH

EPA

CU

