

Exploring dynamics of solvent free myoglobin-polymer hybrid

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Collaborative work



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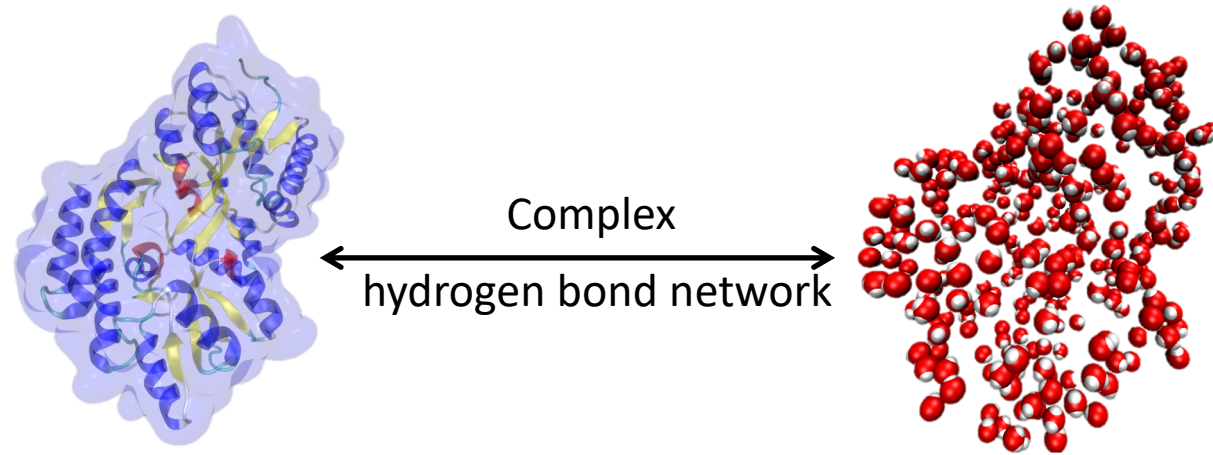


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Water and proteins, a love story



→ Functional protein

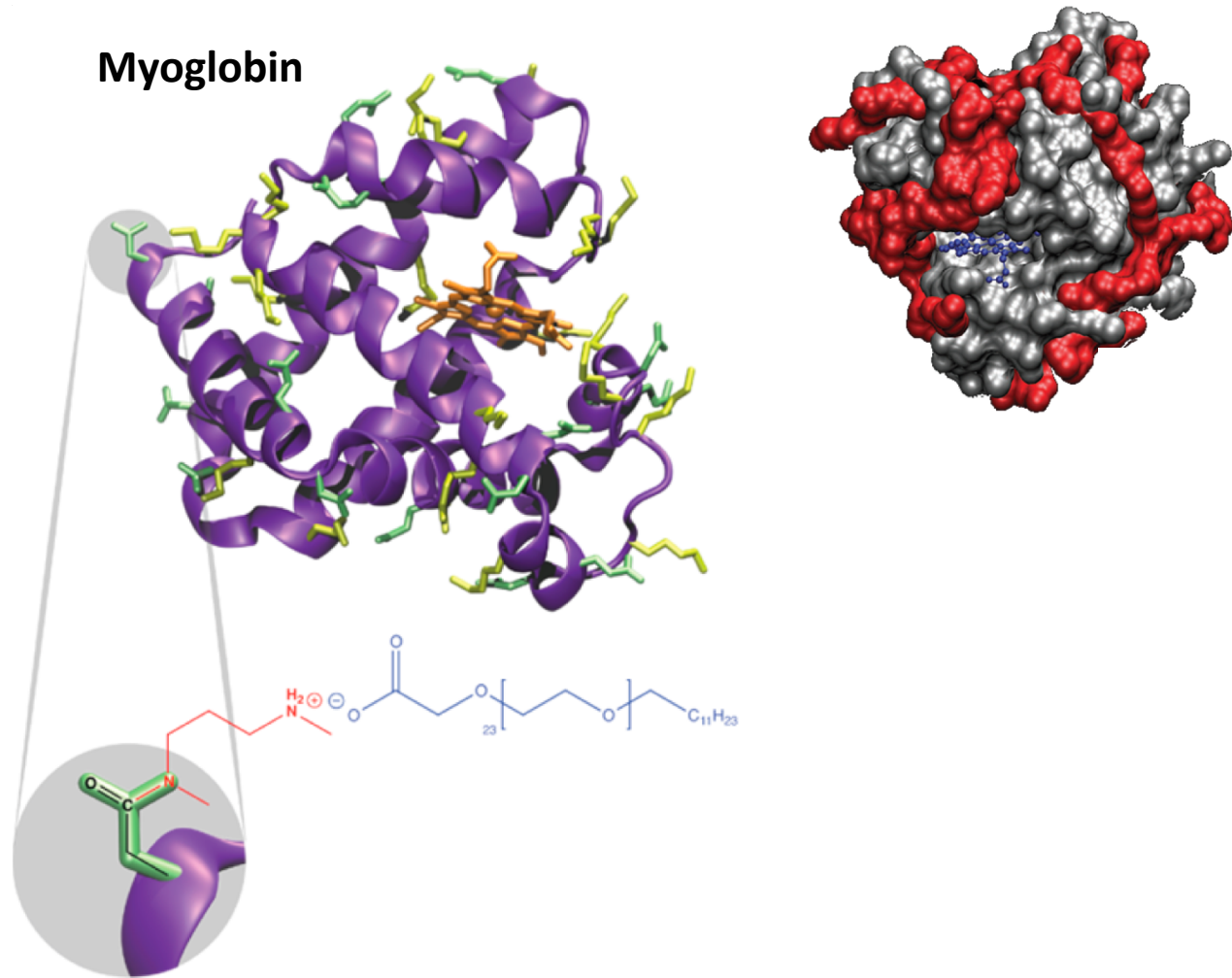
Questions

- What are the water properties that enable protein function?
- Can a protein remain functional without water? 
- If yes, through what mechanisms?

 **Combining neutron scattering and MD simulations**

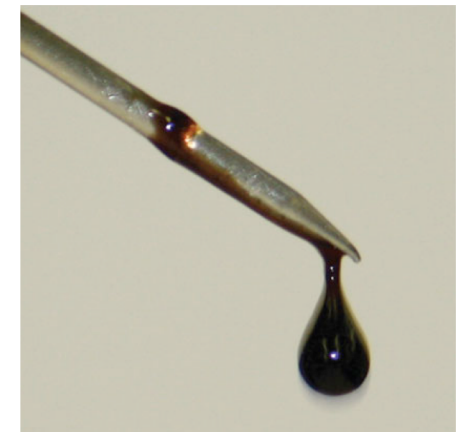
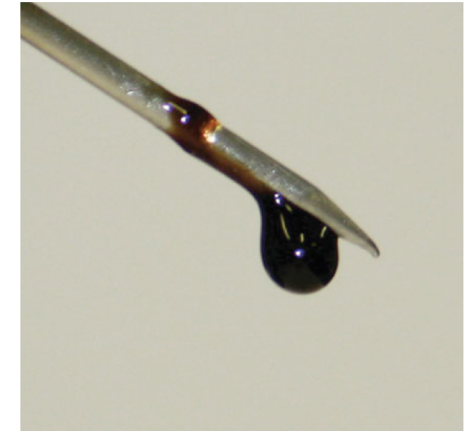
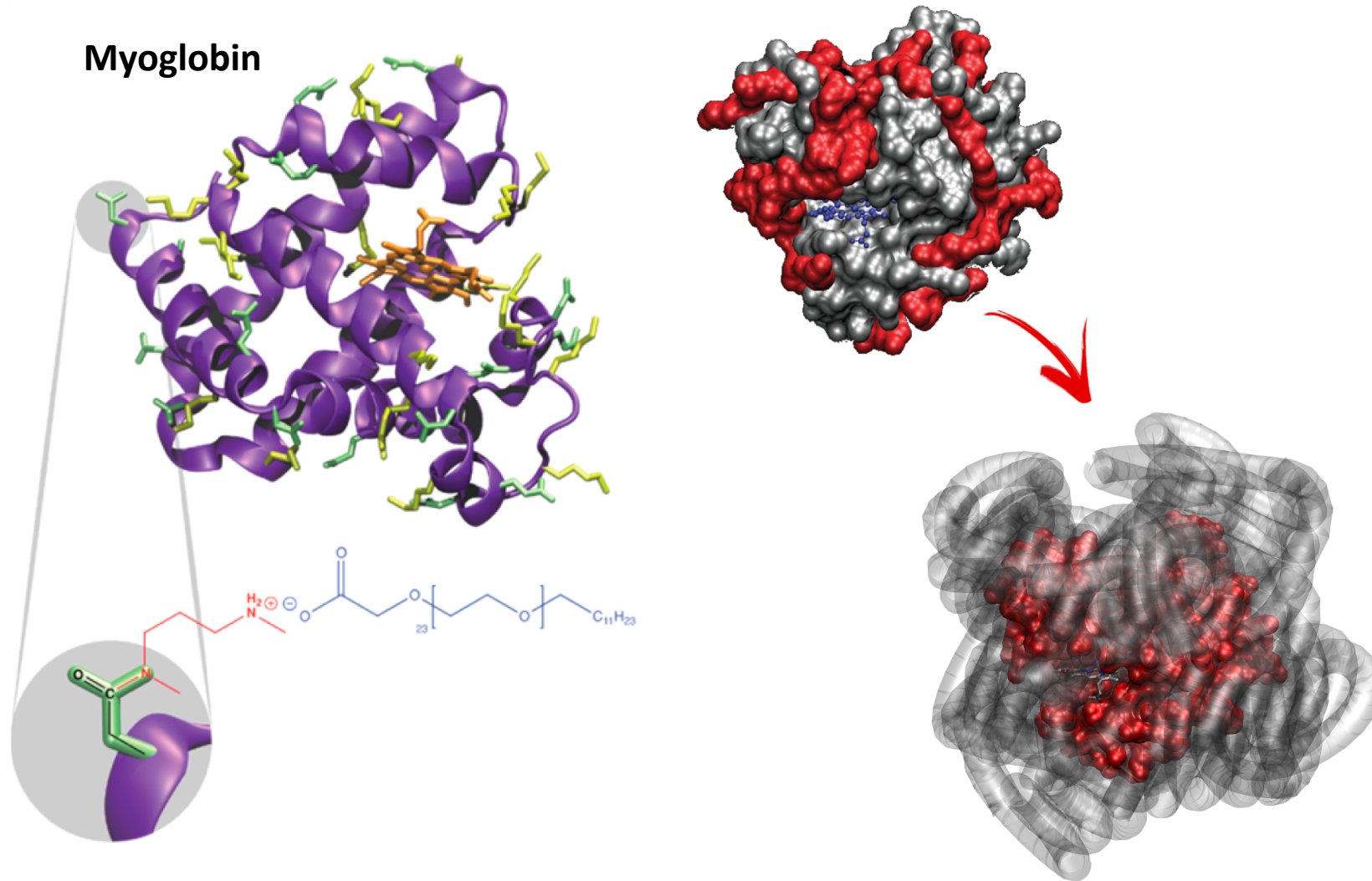
Protein function without water: protein-polymer hybrids

Myoglobin



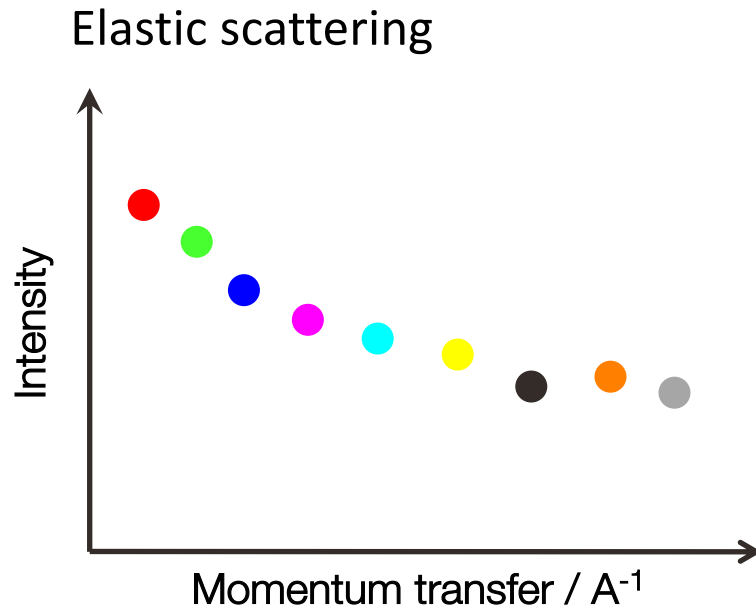
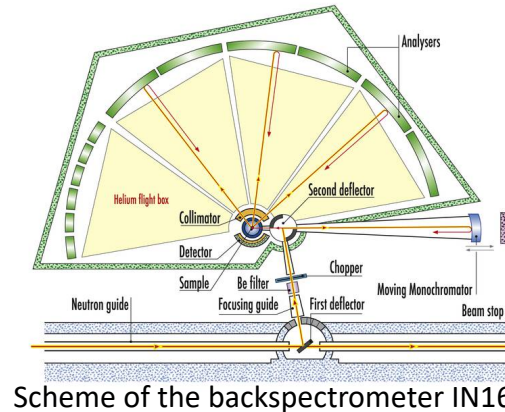
Protein function without water: protein-polymer hybrids

Myoglobin

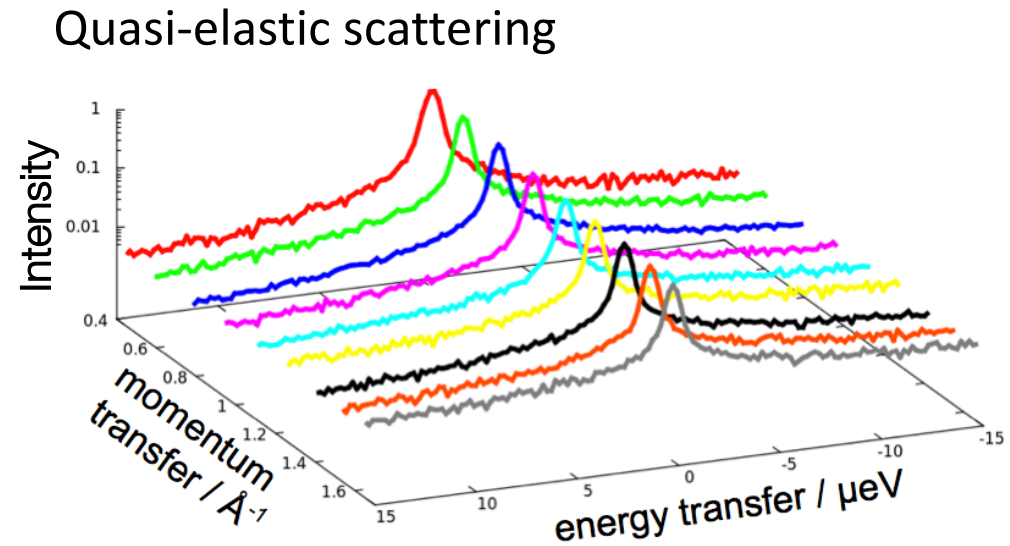


Neutron scattering to measure dynamics

- Backscattering spectrometers:
 - IN16, ILL, Grenoble
 - SPHERES, MLZ, Munich
- About 1 μeV resolution
- ➔ motions on the ps-ns timescale



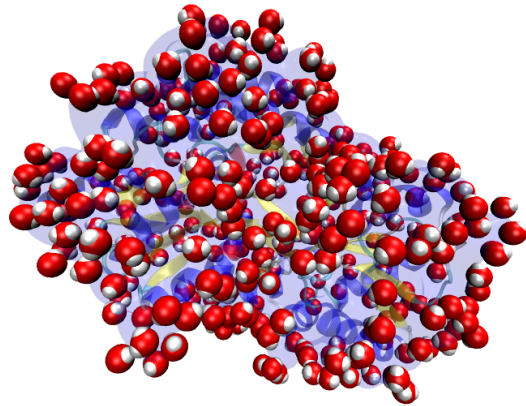
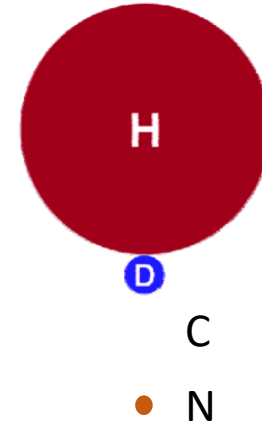
➔ mean-squared displacements



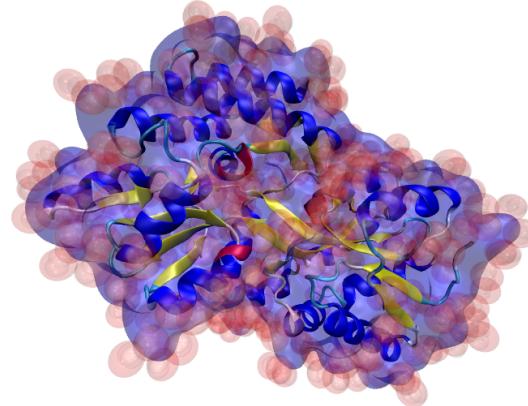
➔ Type of motion (translation, rotation...)

Neutron scattering and isotope labeling

- In biological sample : Mostly hydrogen dynamics
- Deuteration = masking

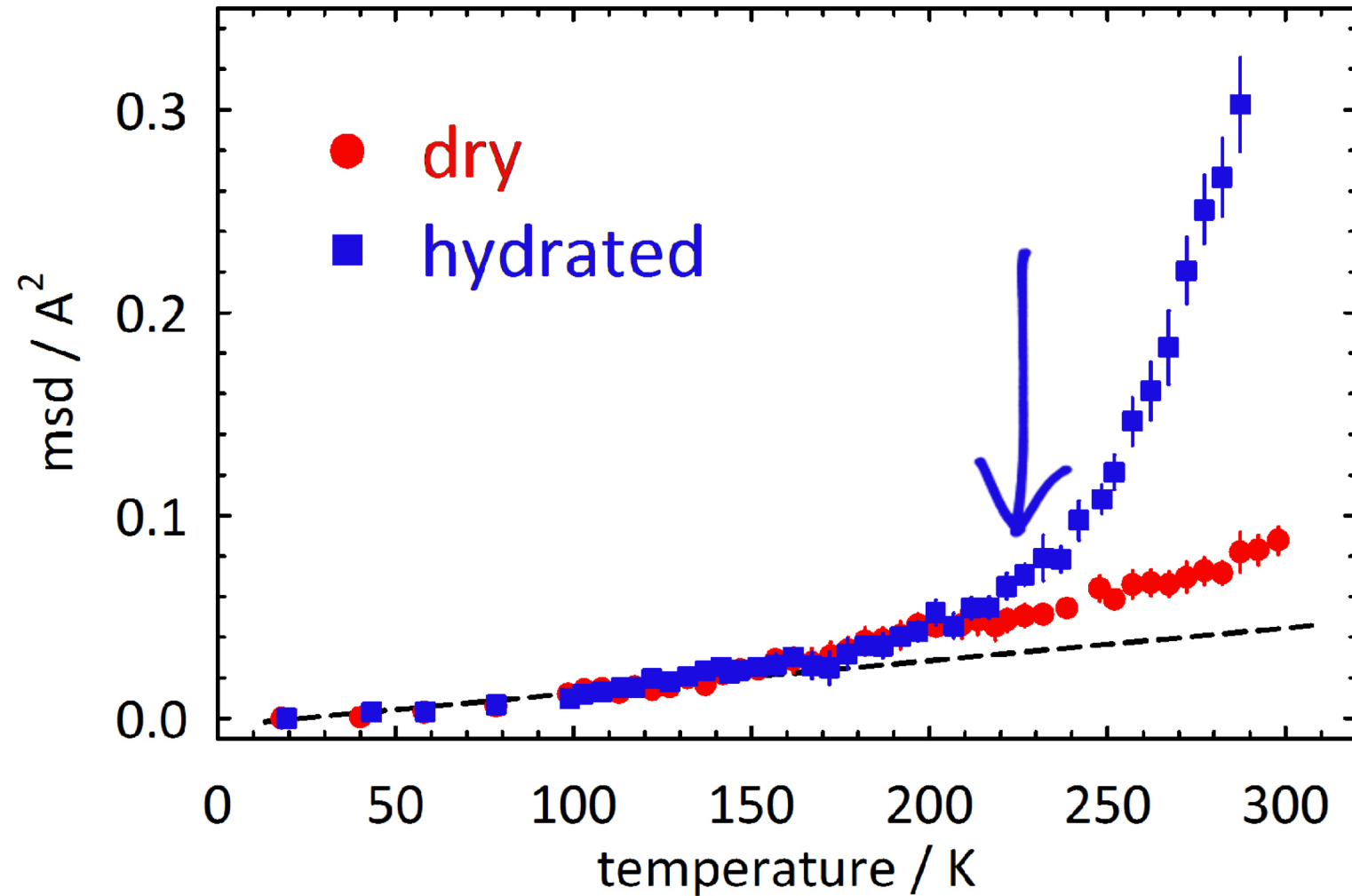


D-protein + H-solvent
Solvent dynamics

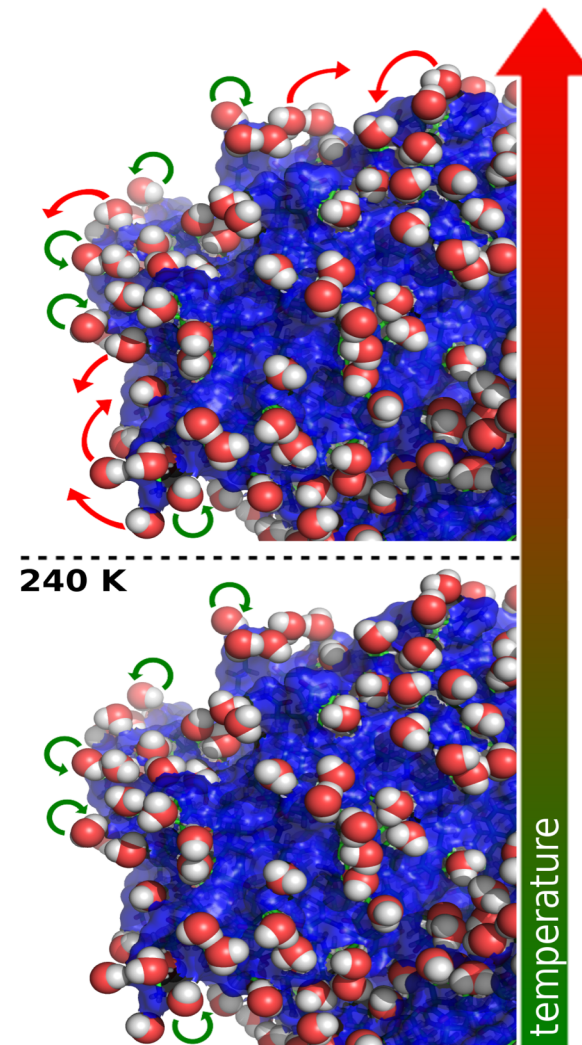
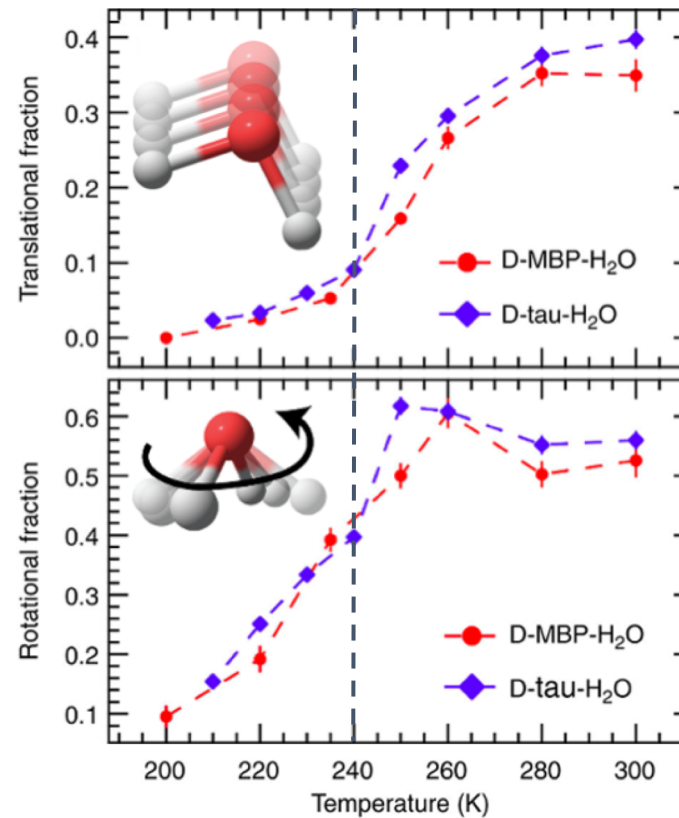
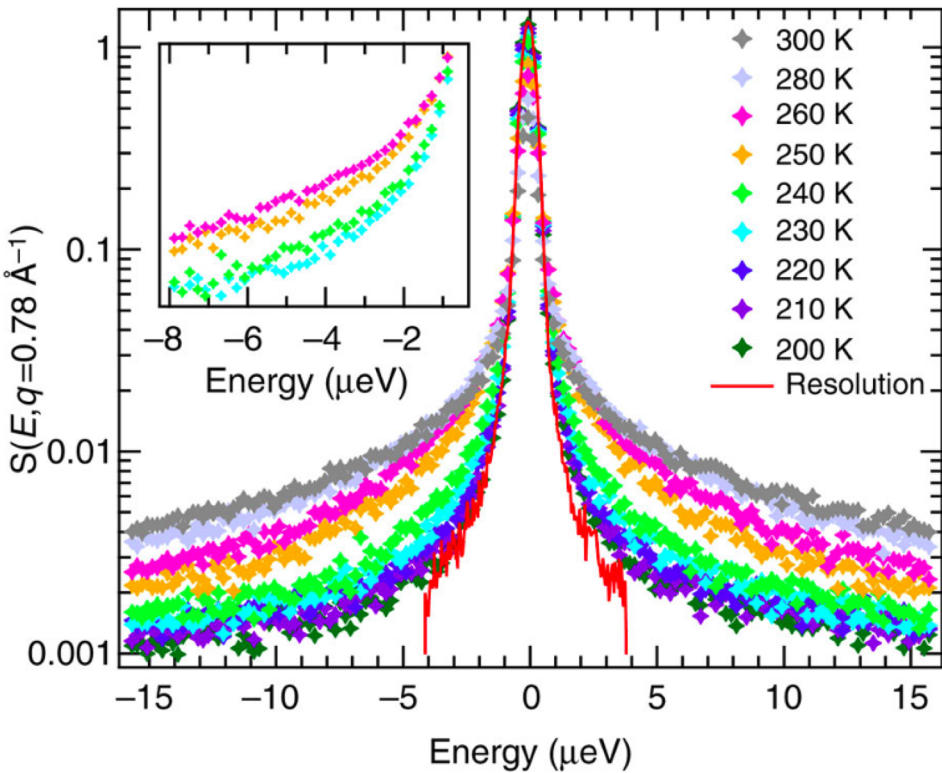


H-protein + D-solvent
Protein dynamics

Neutrons reveal anharmonic onsets in proteins

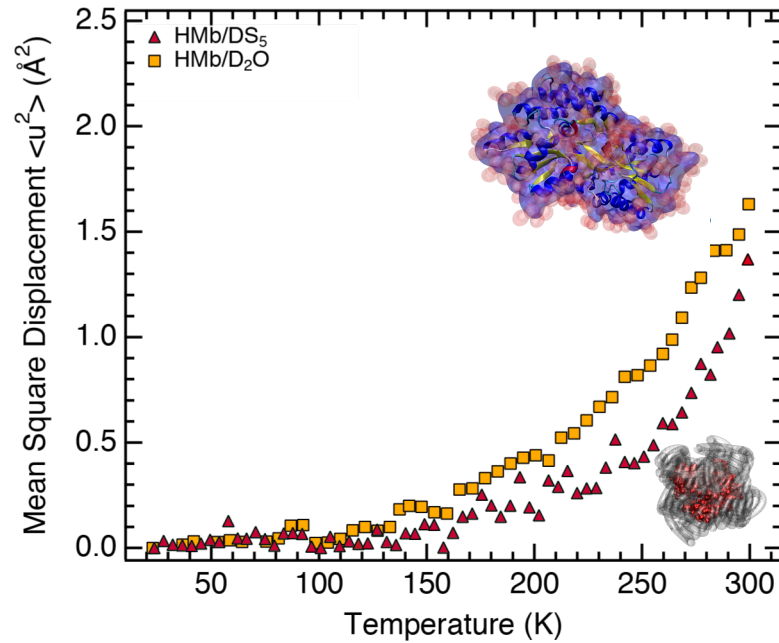


Probing hydration water diffusion by QENS



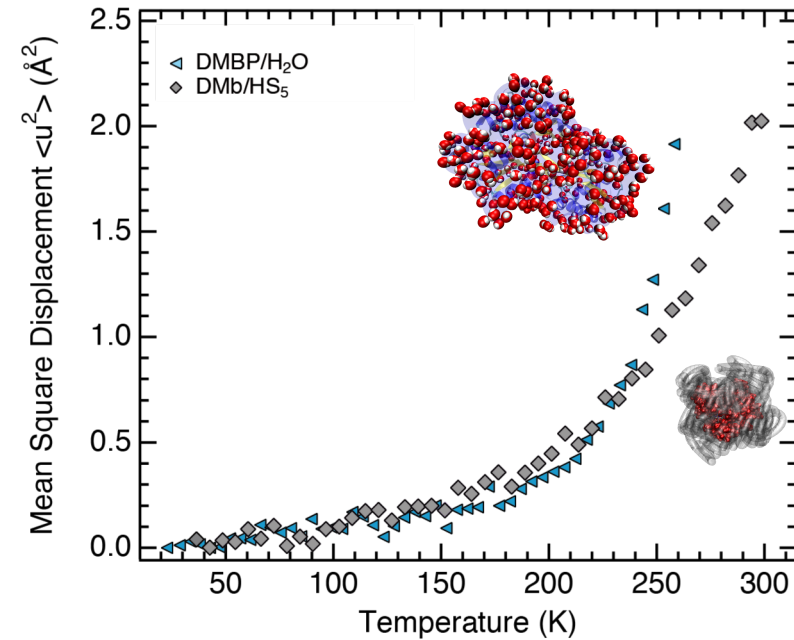
Anharmonic motions observed in myoglobin hybrid

myoglobin motions



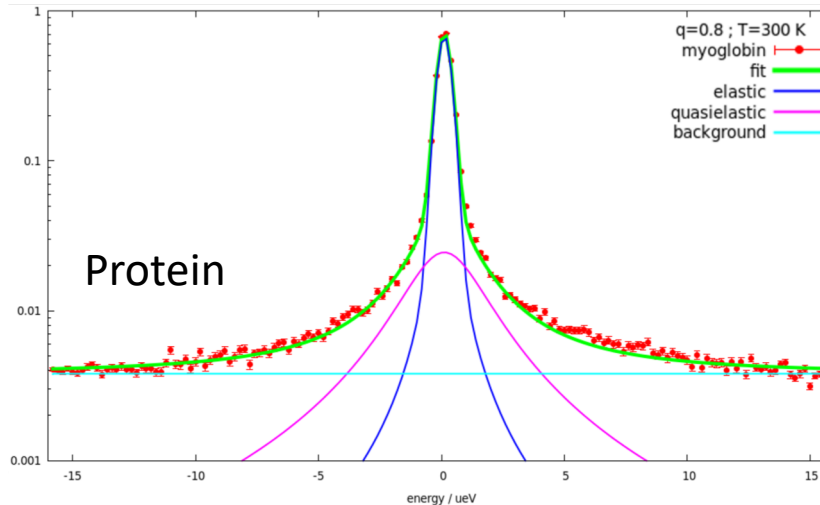
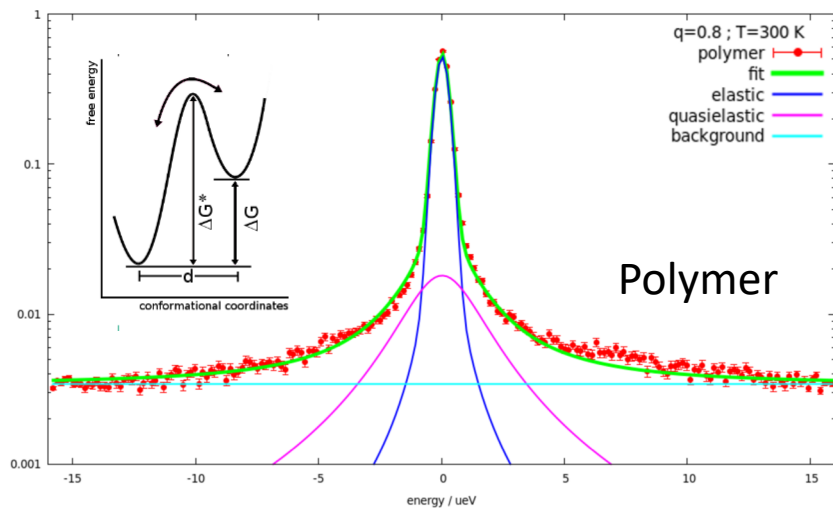
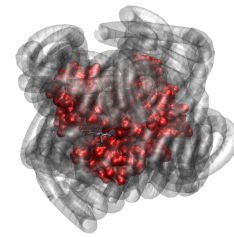
... similar to motions of **hydrated myoglobin**

polymer motions

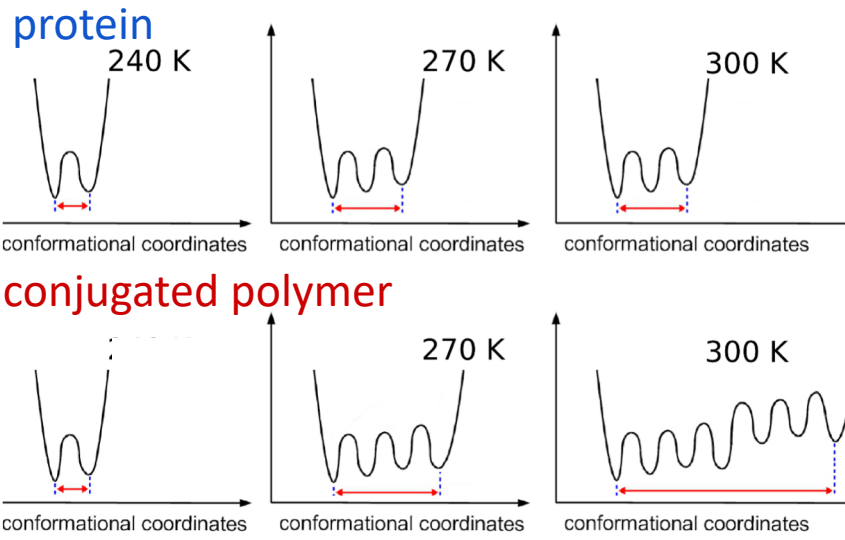
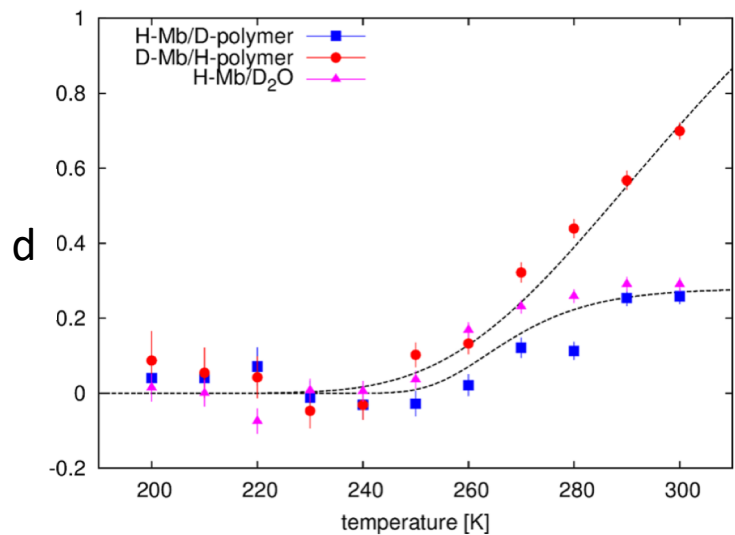


... similar to **hydration water** motions

QENS of myoglobin-polymer hybrid



Protein and polymer
 behave similarly

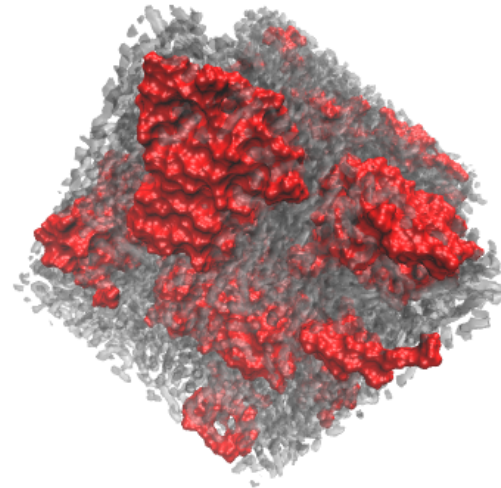
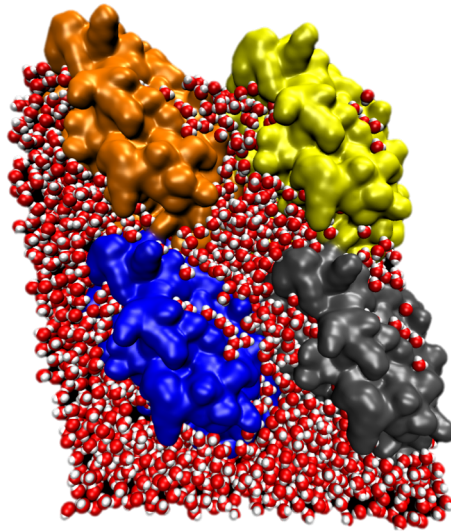


But

Jump distances of polymer
 increase with temperature

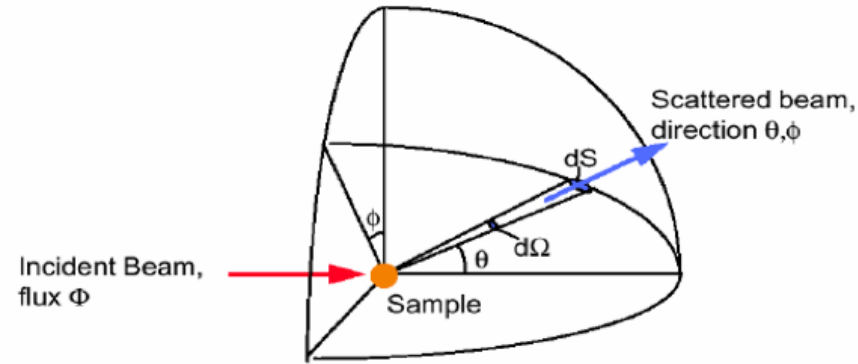
MD simulations to decipher atomic motions

- Models of hydrated protein powders and protein-polymer hybrids



- Simulations run between 20K and 300K
- Atomic motions on the fs to μ s timescale for systems of 10^5 atoms

Principle of the “virtual” neutron experiment



$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial \omega} \leftrightarrow \frac{\text{Number of neutrons scattered into } d\Omega \text{ with the energy } d\omega}{\text{incident flux}}$$

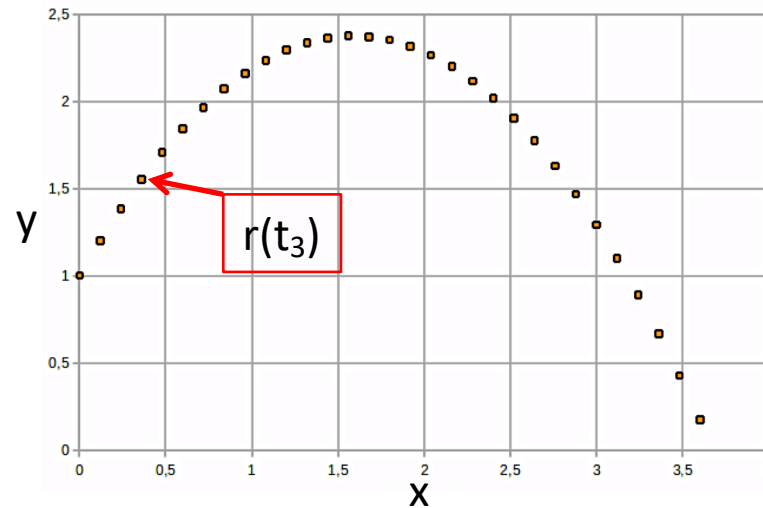
$$\frac{\partial^2 \sigma}{\partial \Omega \partial E} = N \frac{k_{out}}{k_{inc}} b^2 \times S(Q, \omega) \quad S(Q, \omega) \text{ Scattering function}$$

$$S(Q, \omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int I(Q, t) e^{-i\omega t} dt = FT[I(Q, t)] \quad I(Q, t) \text{ Intermediate Scattering function}$$

$$I(Q, t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{jk} \langle e^{iQr_k(t)} \times e^{iQr_j(t)} \rangle \quad I(q, t) \text{ is correlation function in time and space!}$$

Principle of the “virtual” neutron experiment

$$I(Q,t) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{jk} \langle e^{iQr_k(t)} \times e^{iQr_j(t)} \rangle = \frac{1}{N} \left[\underbrace{\sum_{j \neq k} \langle e^{iQr_k(t)} \times e^{iQr_j(t)} \rangle}_{\text{Cross-correlation = coherent Scat.}} + \underbrace{\sum_k \langle e^{iQr_k(t)} \times e^{iQr_k(t)} \rangle}_{\text{Auto-correlation = incoherent Scat.}} \right]$$

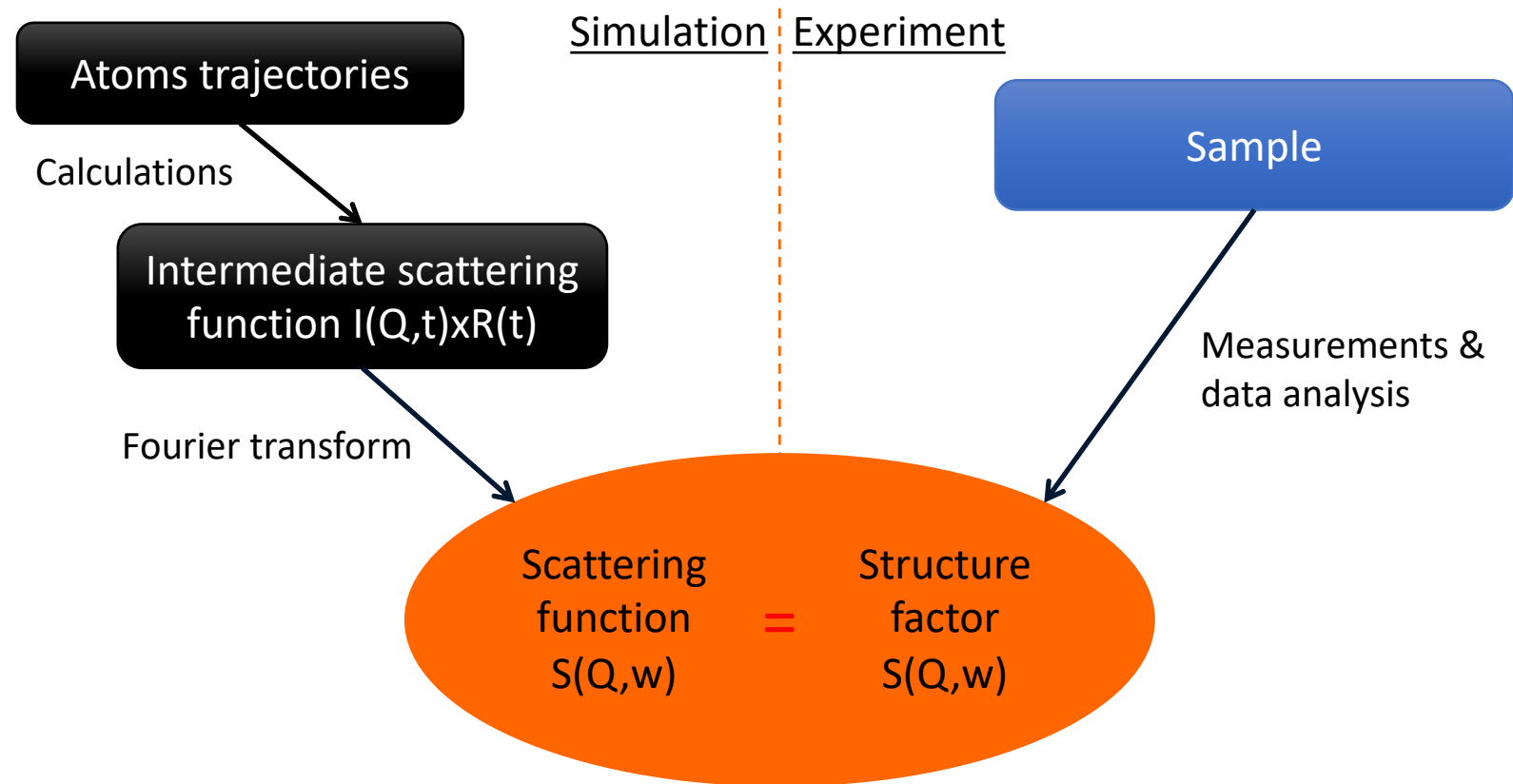


→ Can be calculated from the atom positions

Principle of the “virtual” neutron experiment

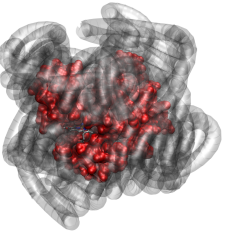
In practice, the instrument has a finite resolution $R(\omega)$

$$S(Q, \omega)_{meas} = S(Q, \omega) \otimes R(\omega) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad I(Q, t)_{meas} = I(Q, t) \times R(t)$$



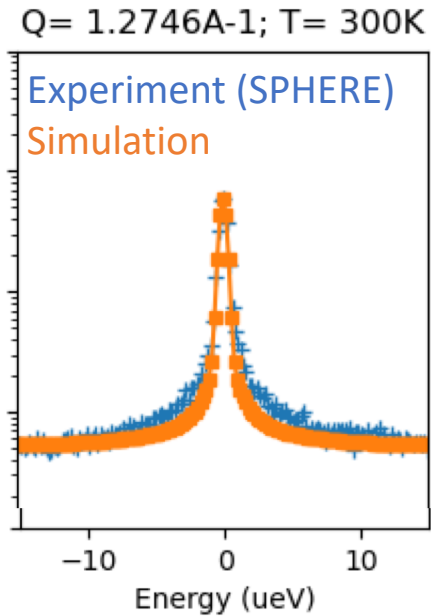
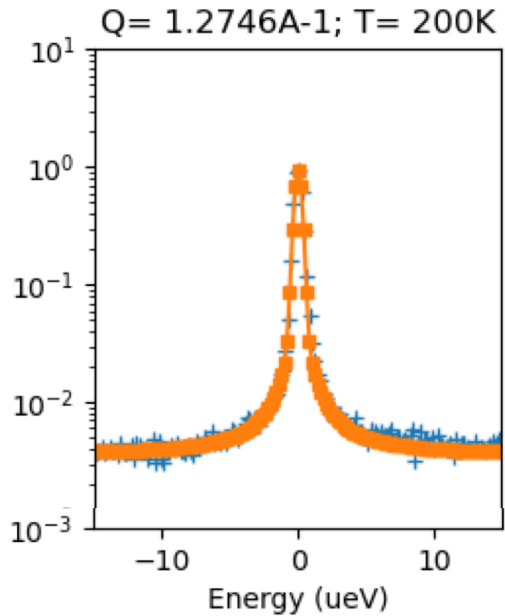
Same Quantity !

Validation of the sample modelling



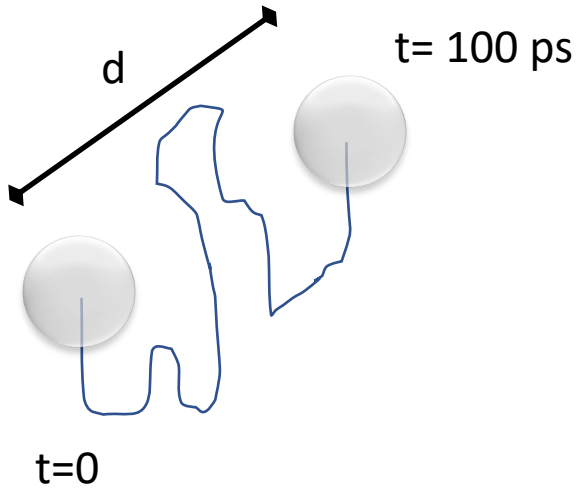
Protein

Protein

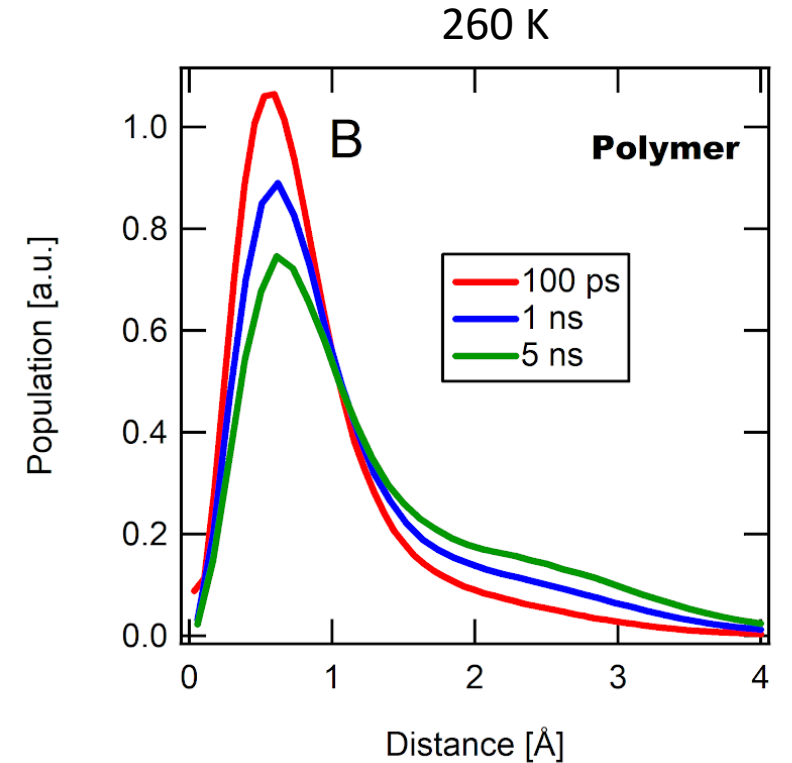
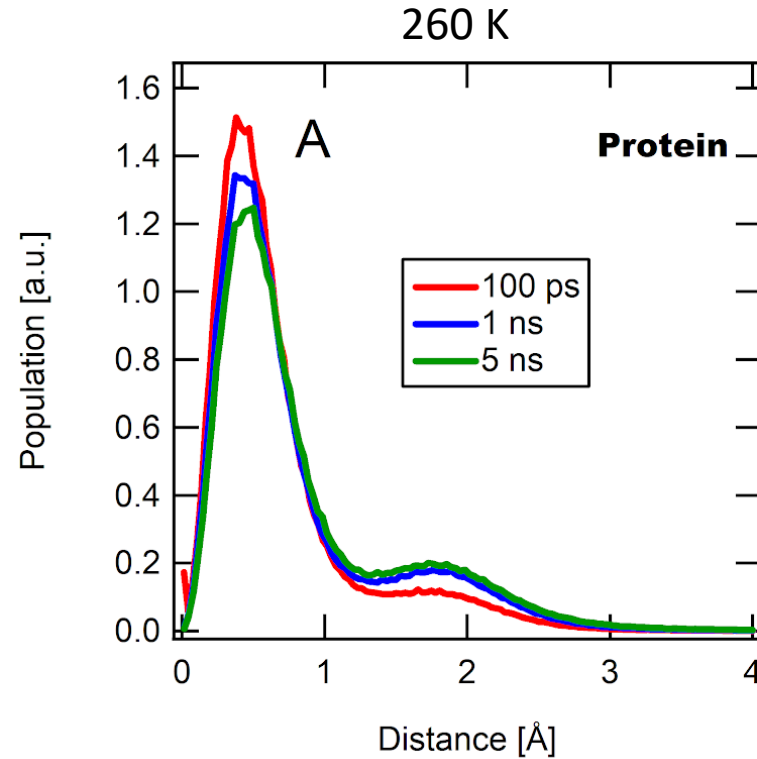


	Protein hydrogens	Polymer hydrogens
200K	All Q ok	All Q ok
220K	All Q ok	All Q ok
240K	All Q ok	All Q ok
260K	All Q acceptable	All Q ok
280K	Acceptable Q above 1.27 A ⁻¹ (6 detectors)	All Q acceptable
300K	Acceptable Q above 1.33 A ⁻¹ (3 detectors)	All Q acceptable

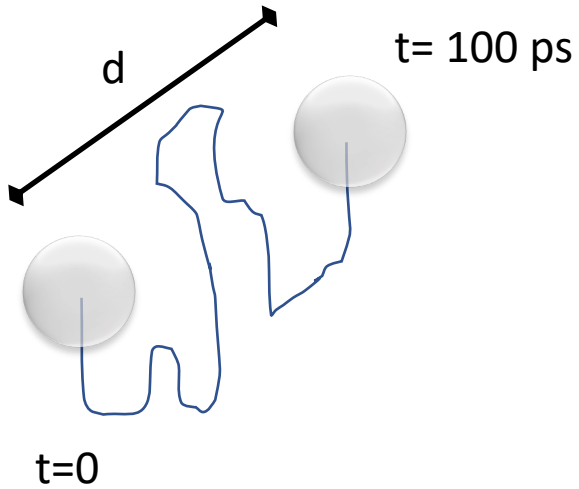
MD simulations reveal polymer diffusive motions



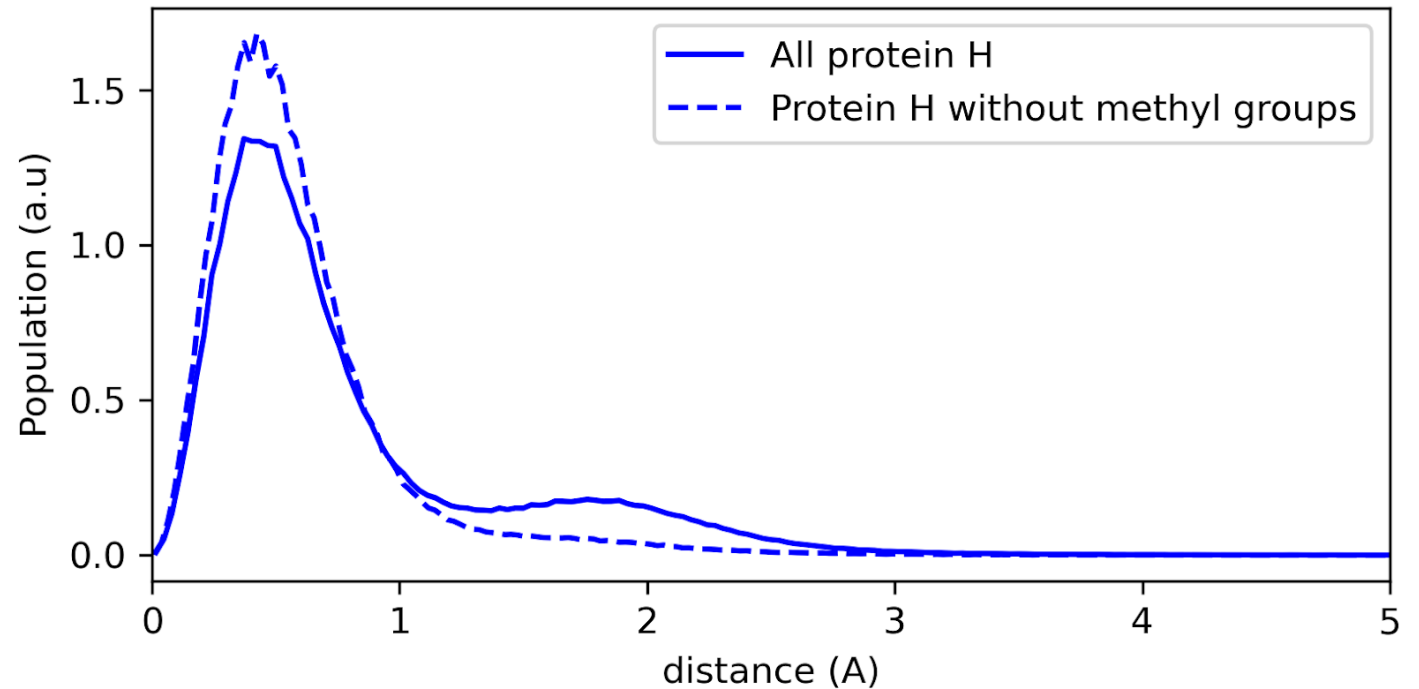
Displacement distribution function
 $4\pi r^2 G(r,t)$



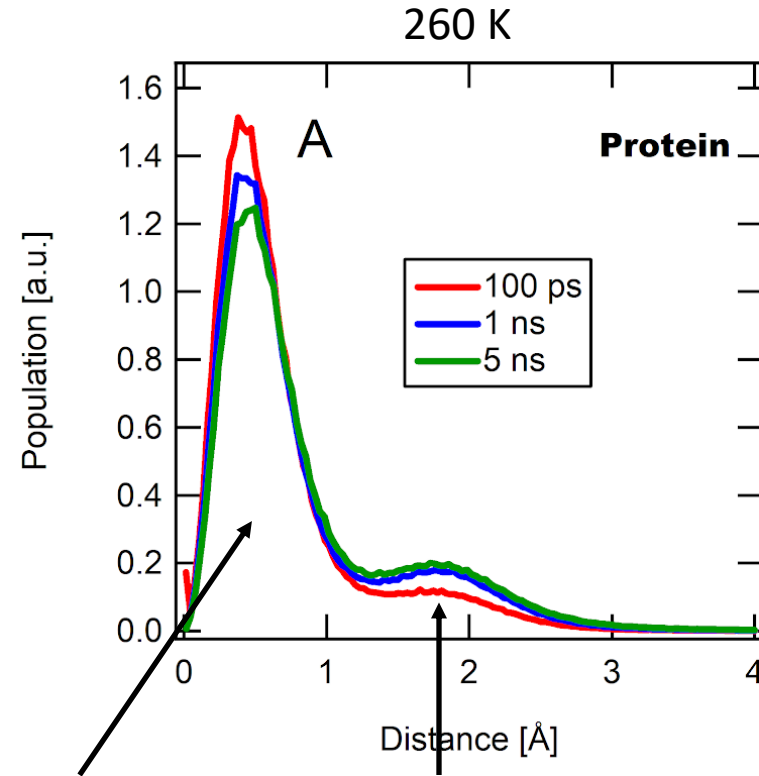
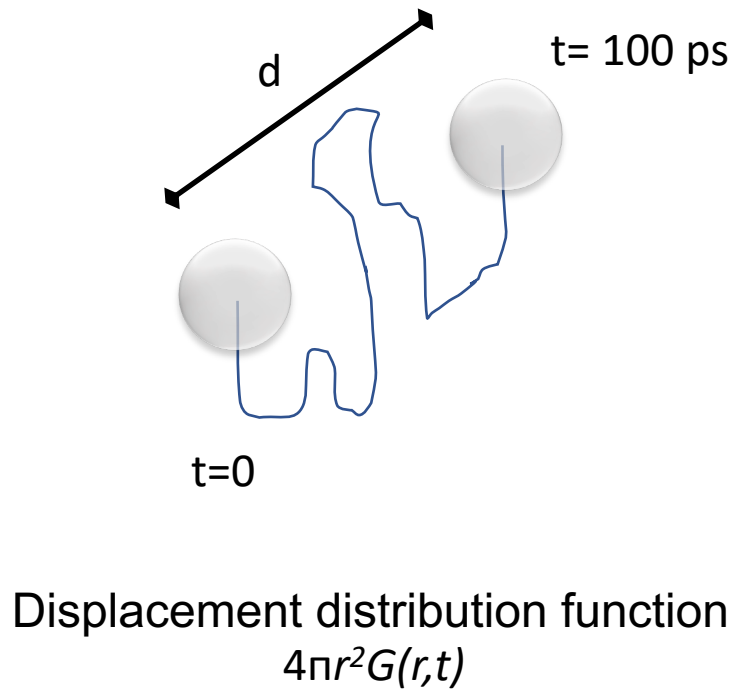
MD simulations reveal polymer diffusive motions



Displacement distribution function
 $4\pi r^2 G(r,t)$

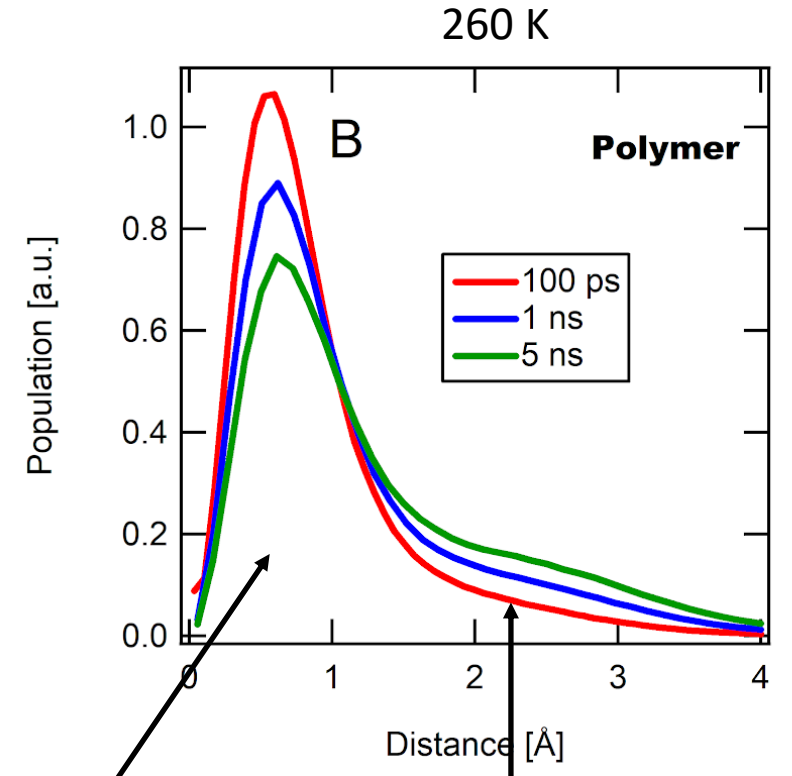


MD simulations reveal polymer diffusive motions



Confined motions

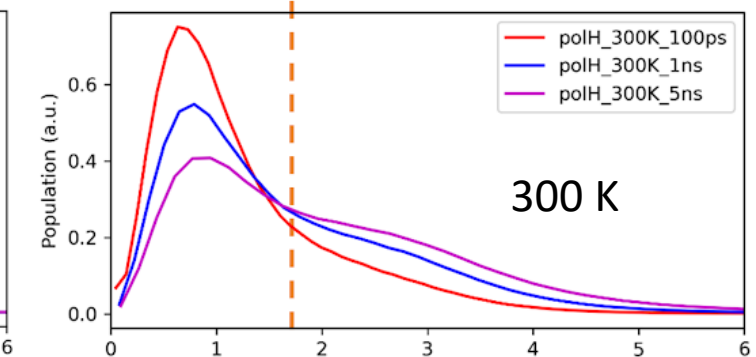
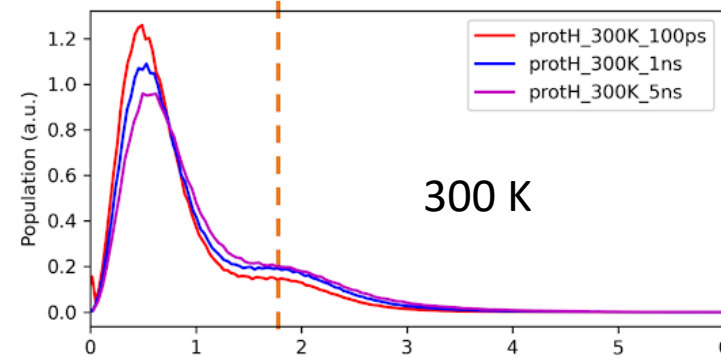
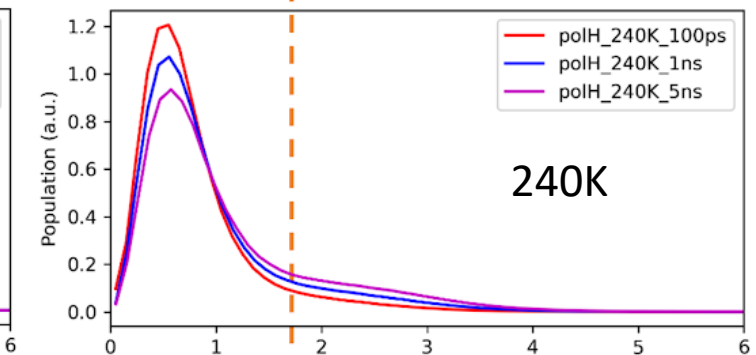
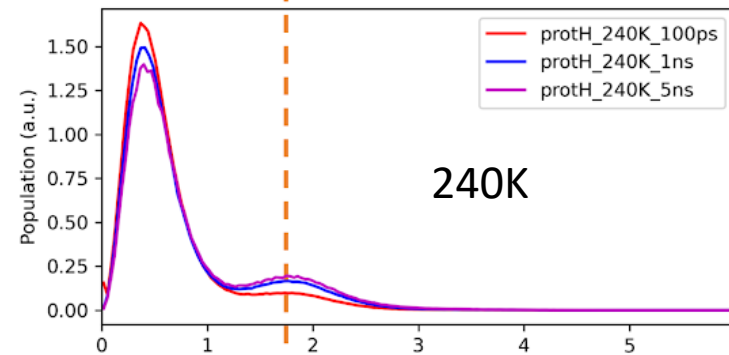
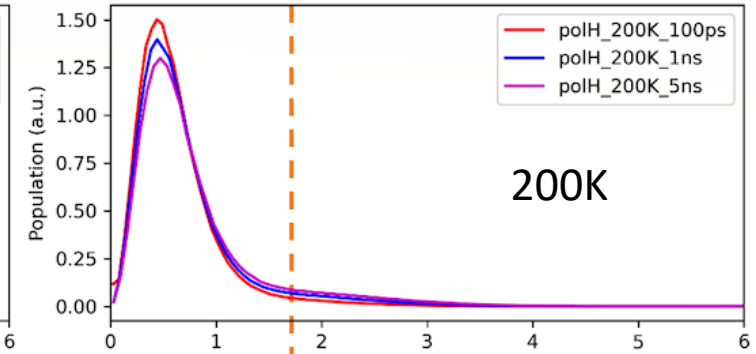
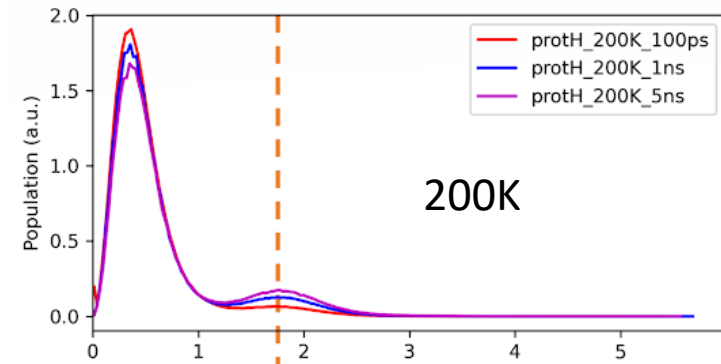
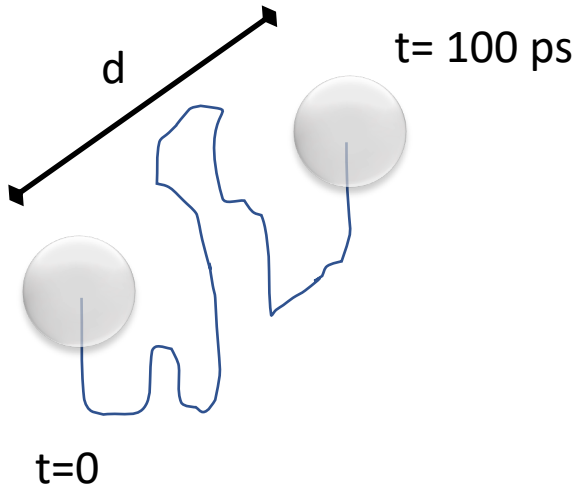
Methyl group rotations



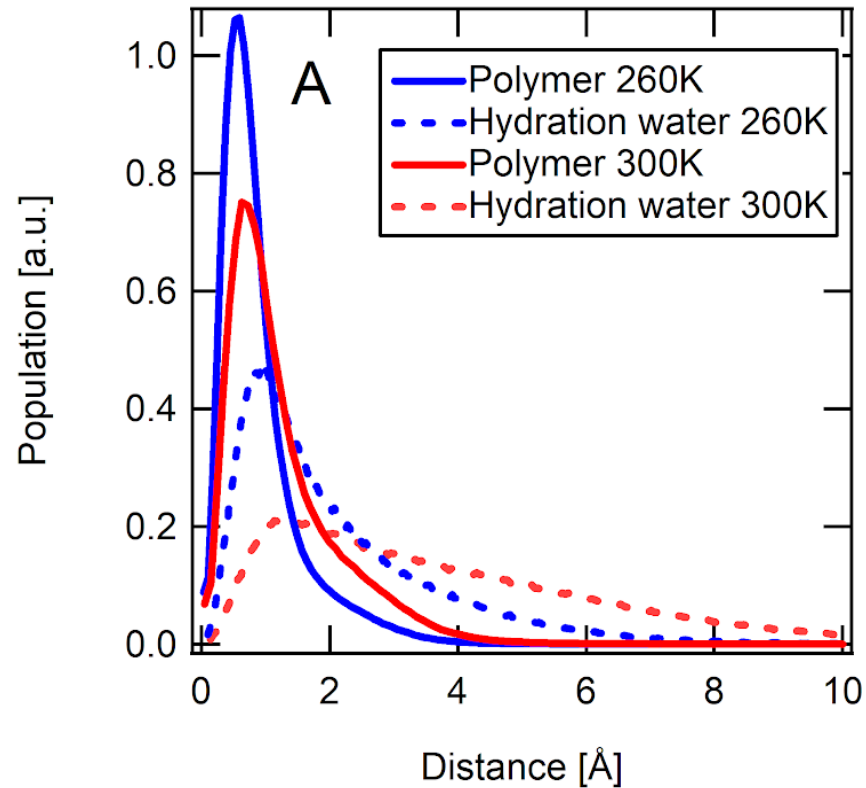
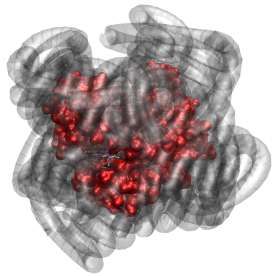
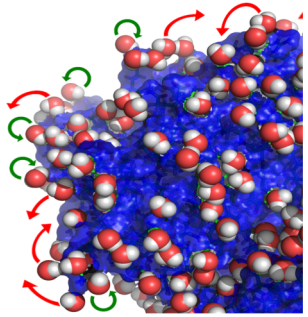
Confined population

Diffusive population

MD simulations reveal polymer diffusive motions



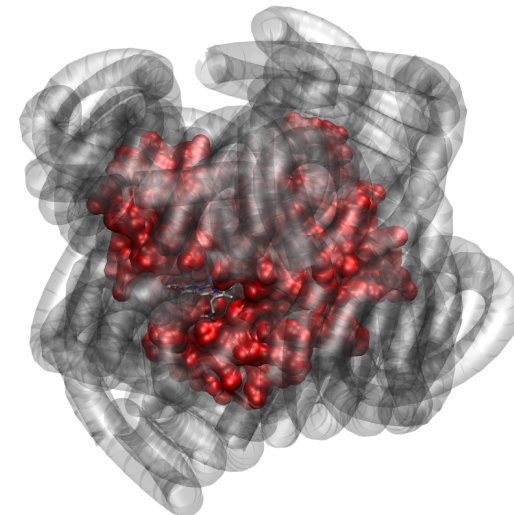
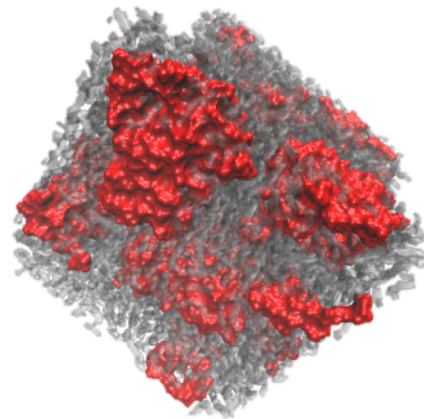
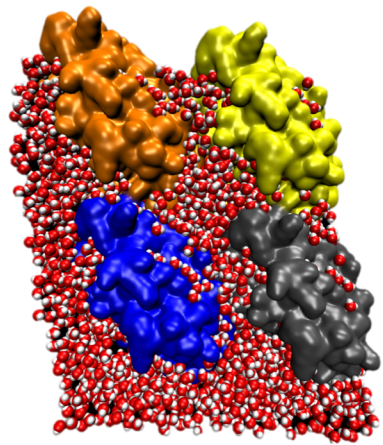
Quantitative differences with hydration water

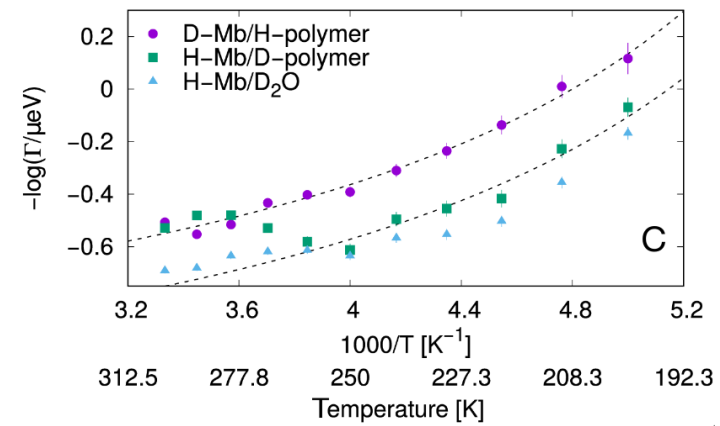
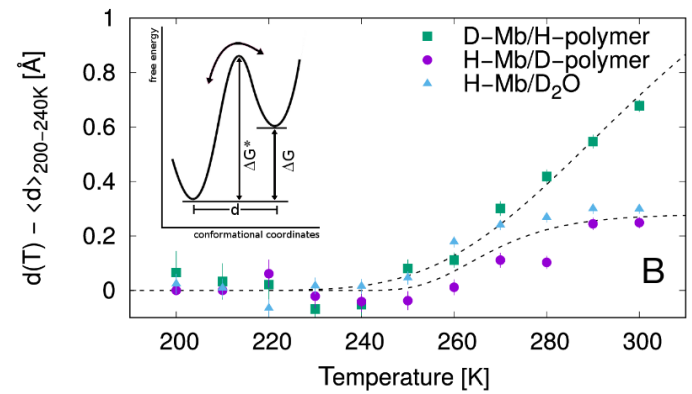
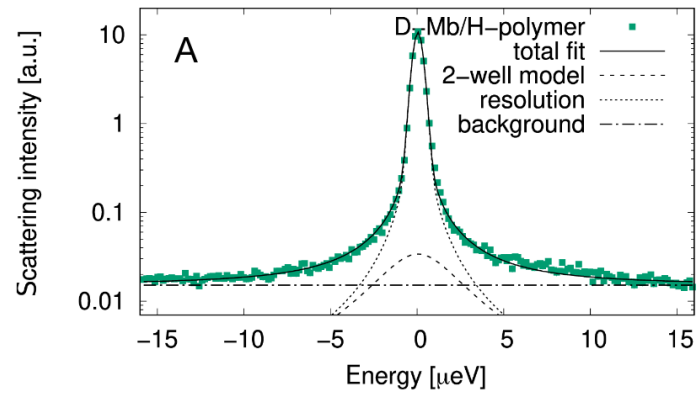


➤ Hydration water is more mobile than polymers

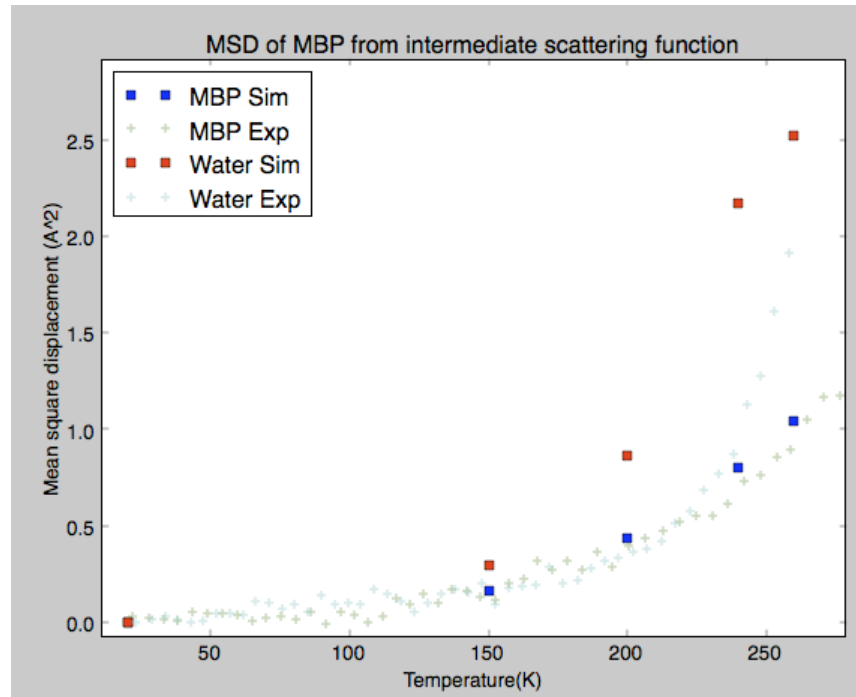
Conclusions

- Neutron scattering observables can be directly computed
- MD simulations allow to decipher the nature of molecular motions
- Water-free polymer-protein hybrid can be dynamic and active
- Polymer diffusive-like motions « plasticize » myoglobin and provide functional dynamics





- Mean square displacement of water hydrogen atoms



➔ No quantitative agreement.