

Ion binding at curved bilayers



ÚOCHB AV
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IOCB PRAGUE

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We care about membranes

Membranes are like walls, but better!



Sources: http://medcell.med.yale.edu/lectures/images/membrane_proteins.jpg

We care about membranes

Membranes are like walls, but better!



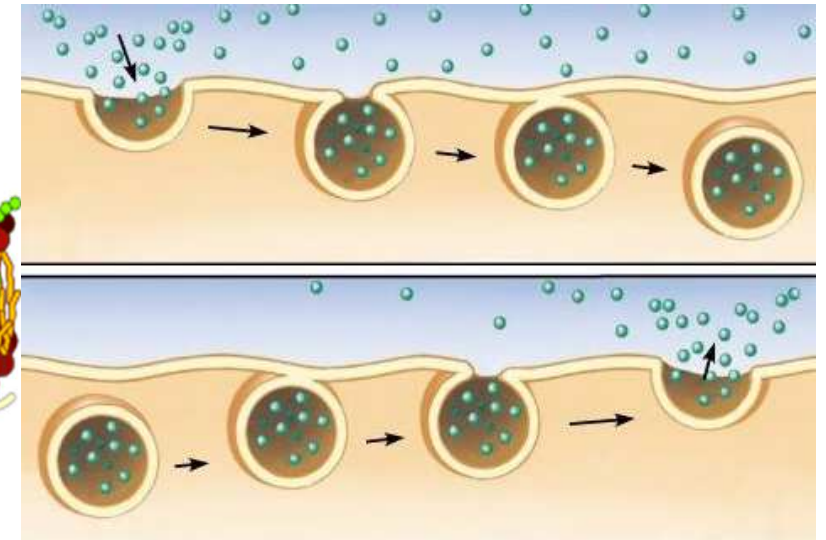
Sources: http://medcell.med.yale.edu/lectures/images/membrane_proteins.jpg

We care about membranes

Membranes are like walls, but better!



Membranes can fuse



Sources: http://medcell.med.yale.edu/lectures/images/membrane_proteins.jpg



We care about ions

IONS

- change lipid bilayer properties (some of them)
- are involved in signaling (some of them)
- bind to the membranes (some of them)

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CALCIUM!

We care about ions

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We care about ions

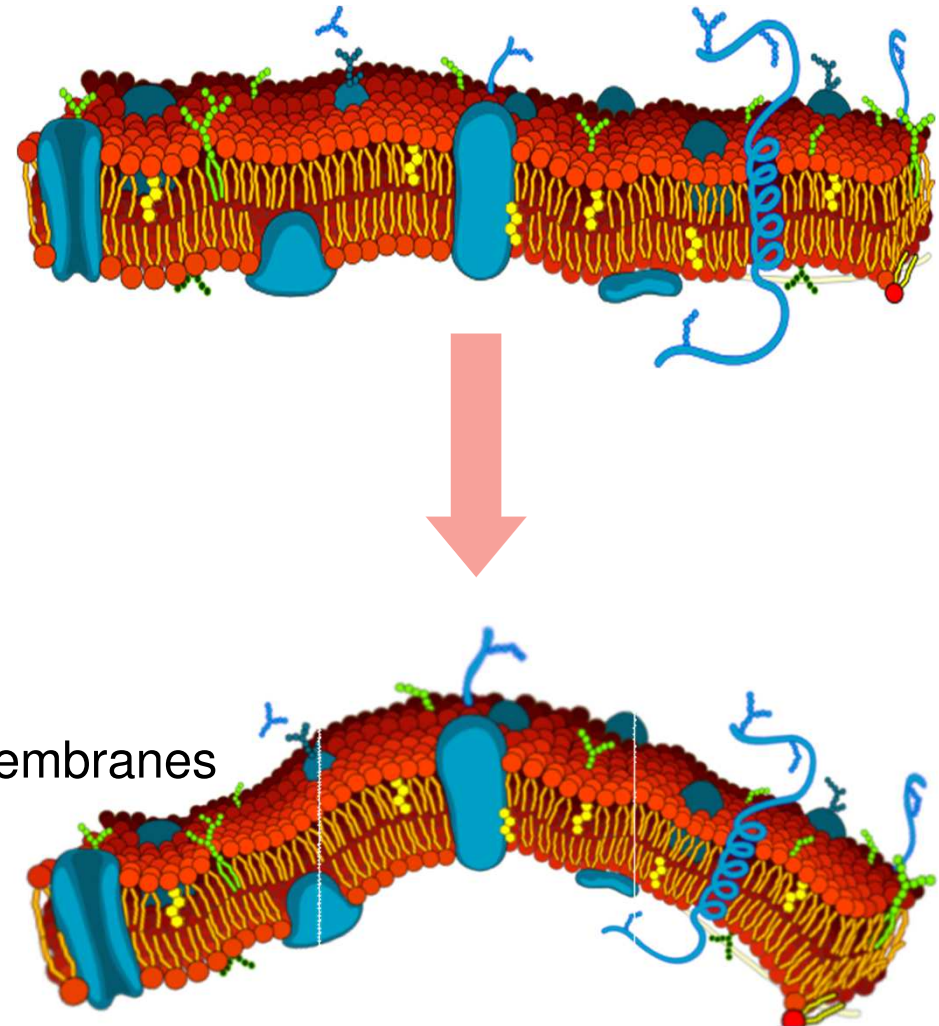
IONS

- change lipid bilayer properties (some of them) **CALCIUM!**
- are involved in signaling (some of them) **CALCIUM!**
- bind to the membranes (some of them) **CALCIUM!**

We care about curvature

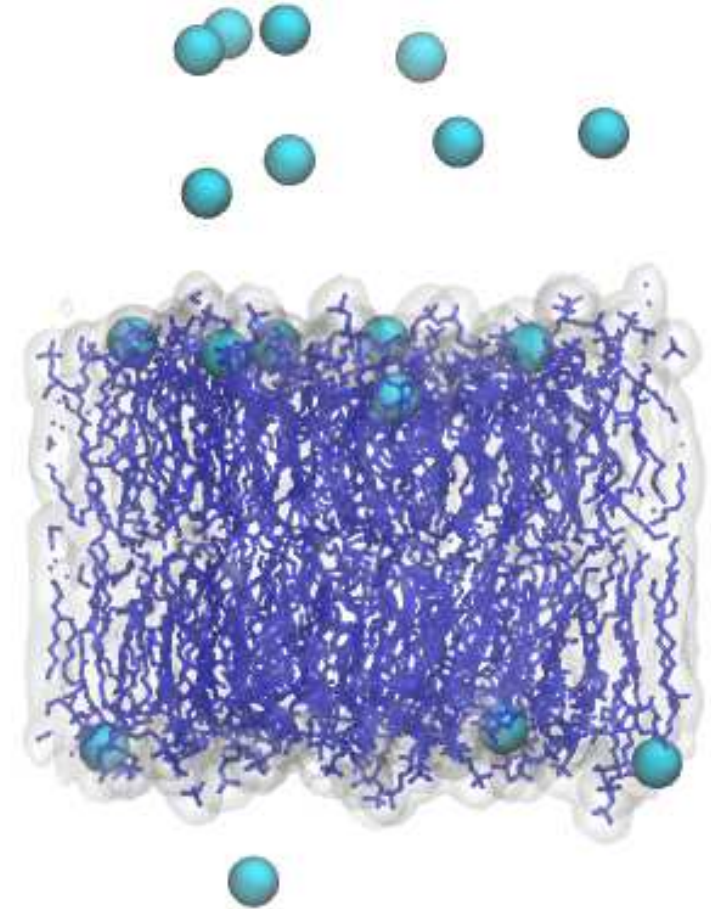
CURVATURE

- helps recruit proteins
- facilitates membrane fusion
- changes binding of calcium to membranes



Simulation details I

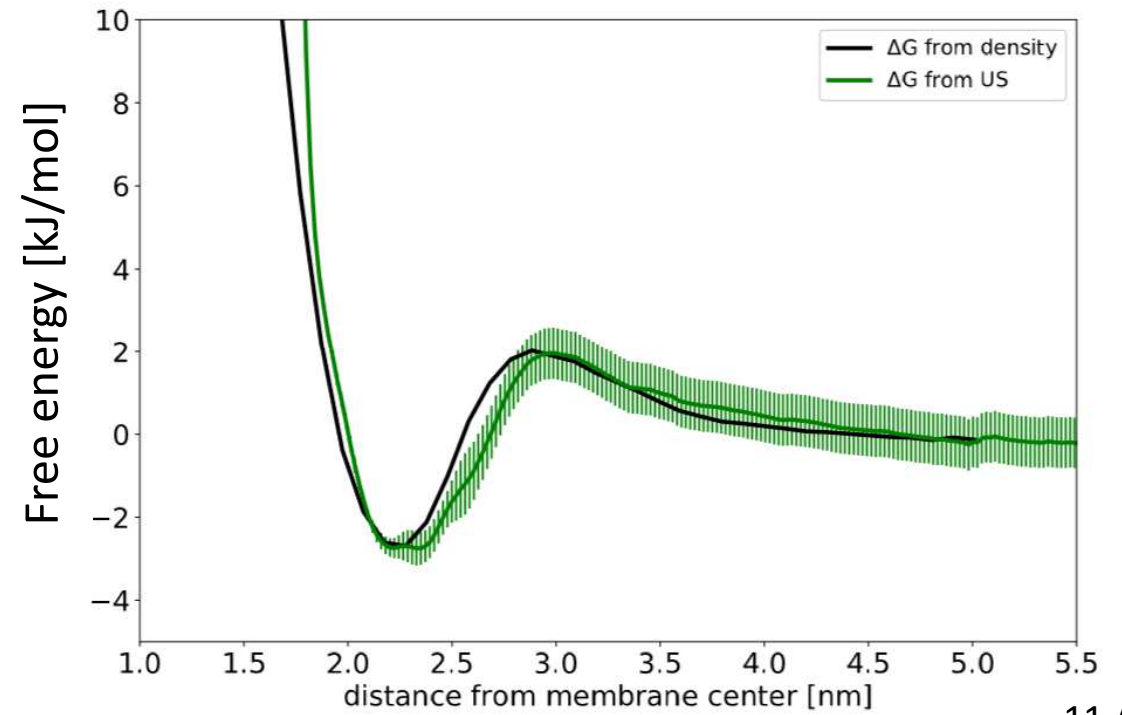
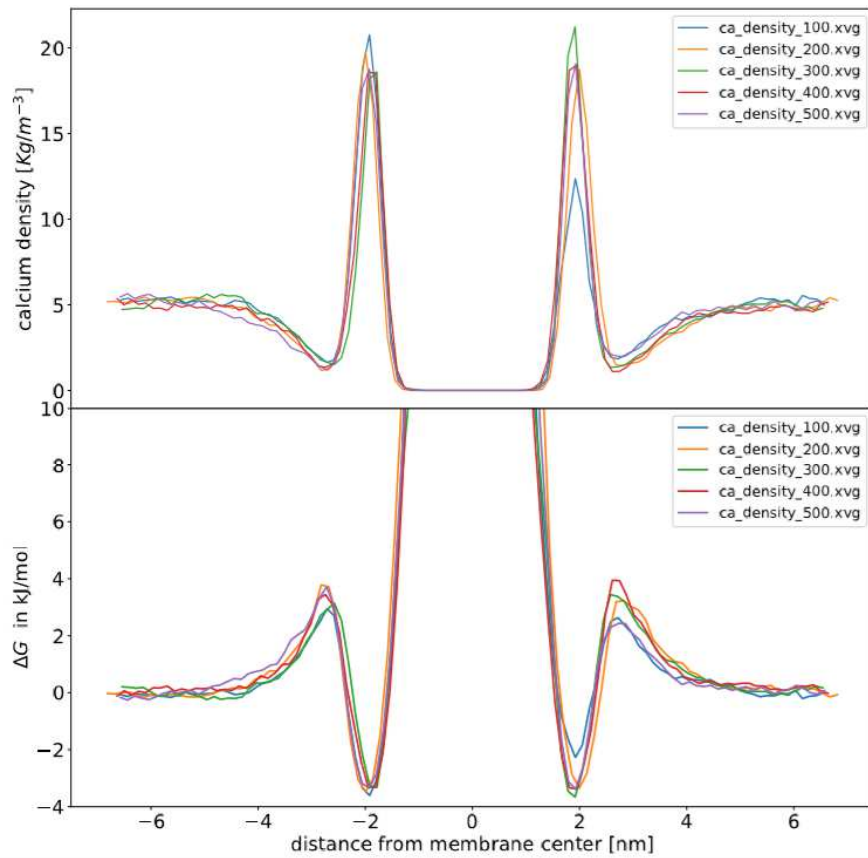
- 128 POPC molecules
- 6 x 6 x 10 nm box
- NPT ensemble
- 150 mM CaCl_2 ($\sim 18 \text{ Ca}^{2+}$ ions)
- GROMACS simulation package
- Scaled calcium ions (charge 1.5+)
- ECC-POPC forcefield



Note: ions not to scale

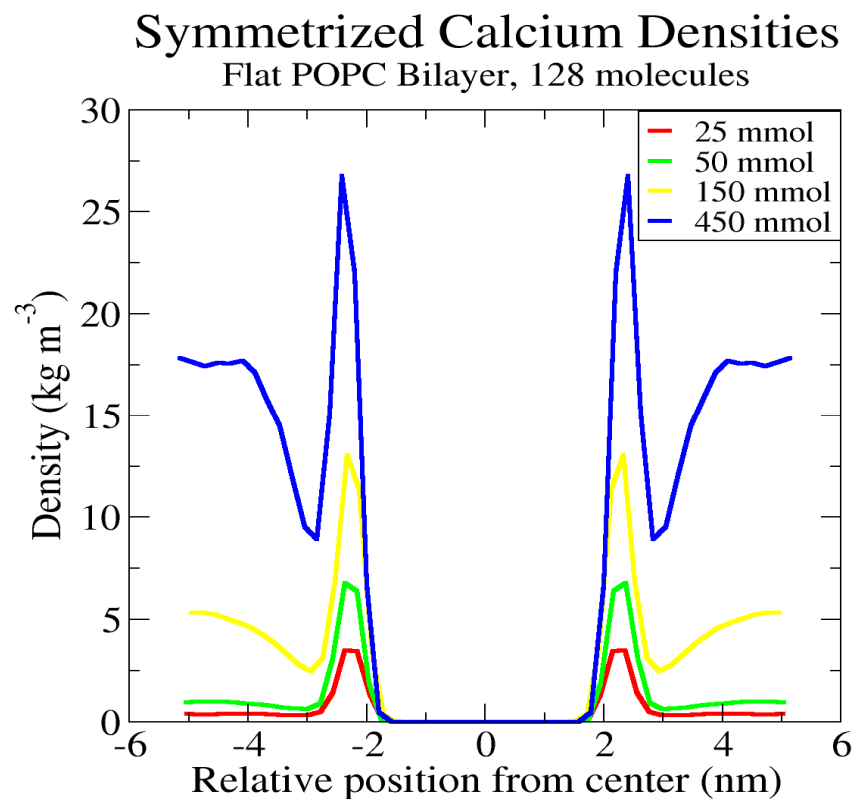
A flat POPC membrane...

Convergence



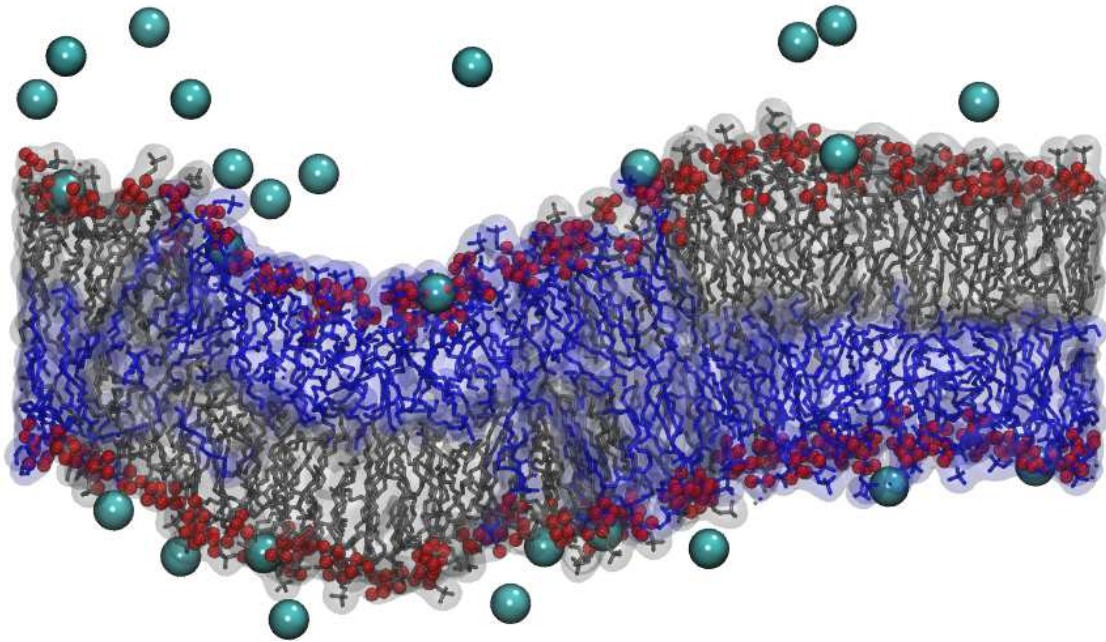
A flat POPC membrane

Concentration dependence



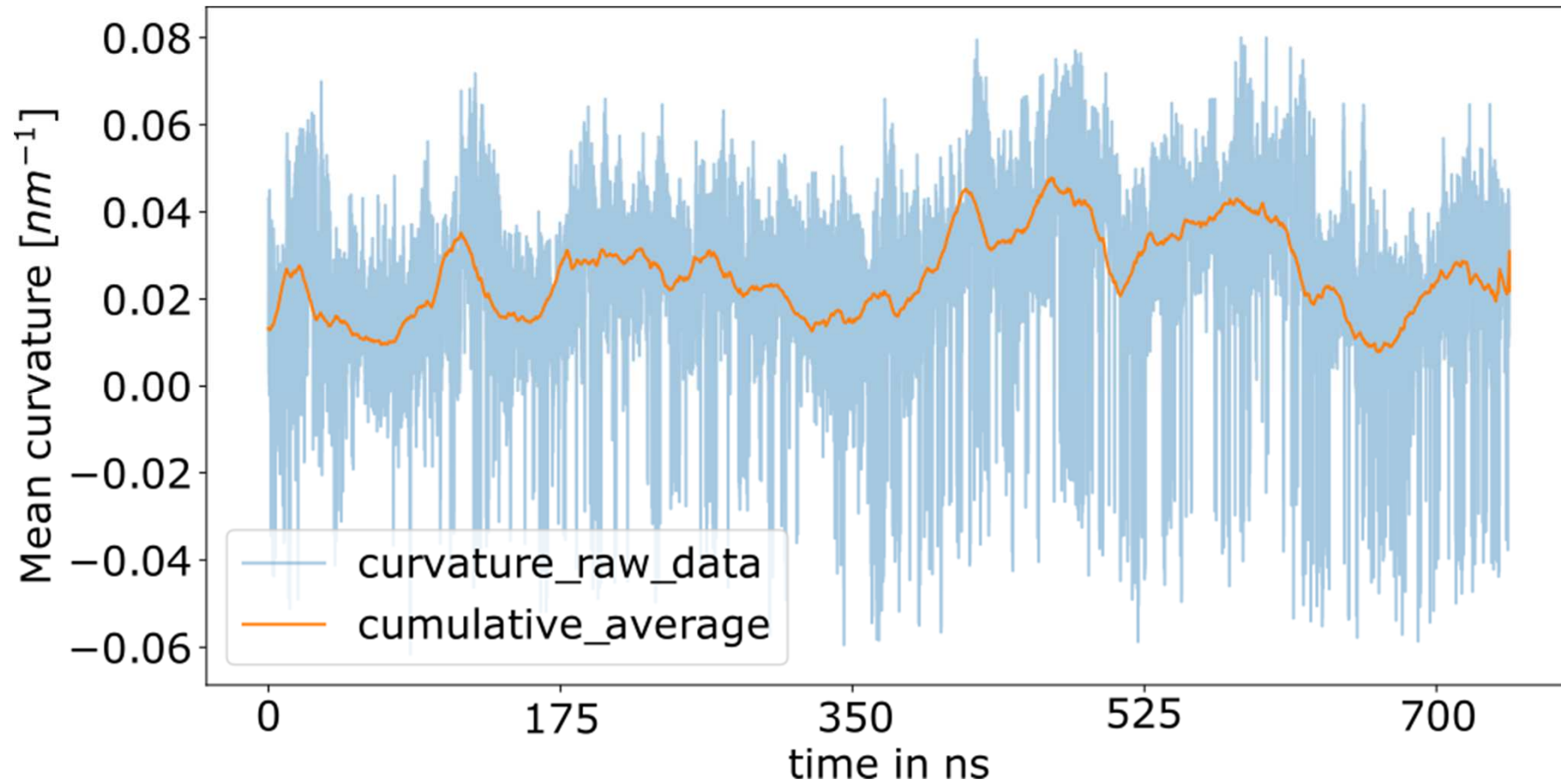
[Ca ²⁺] mmol/l	25	50	150	450
ΔG [kJ/mol]	-8.1	-4.9	-2.2	-2.0

Simulation details II

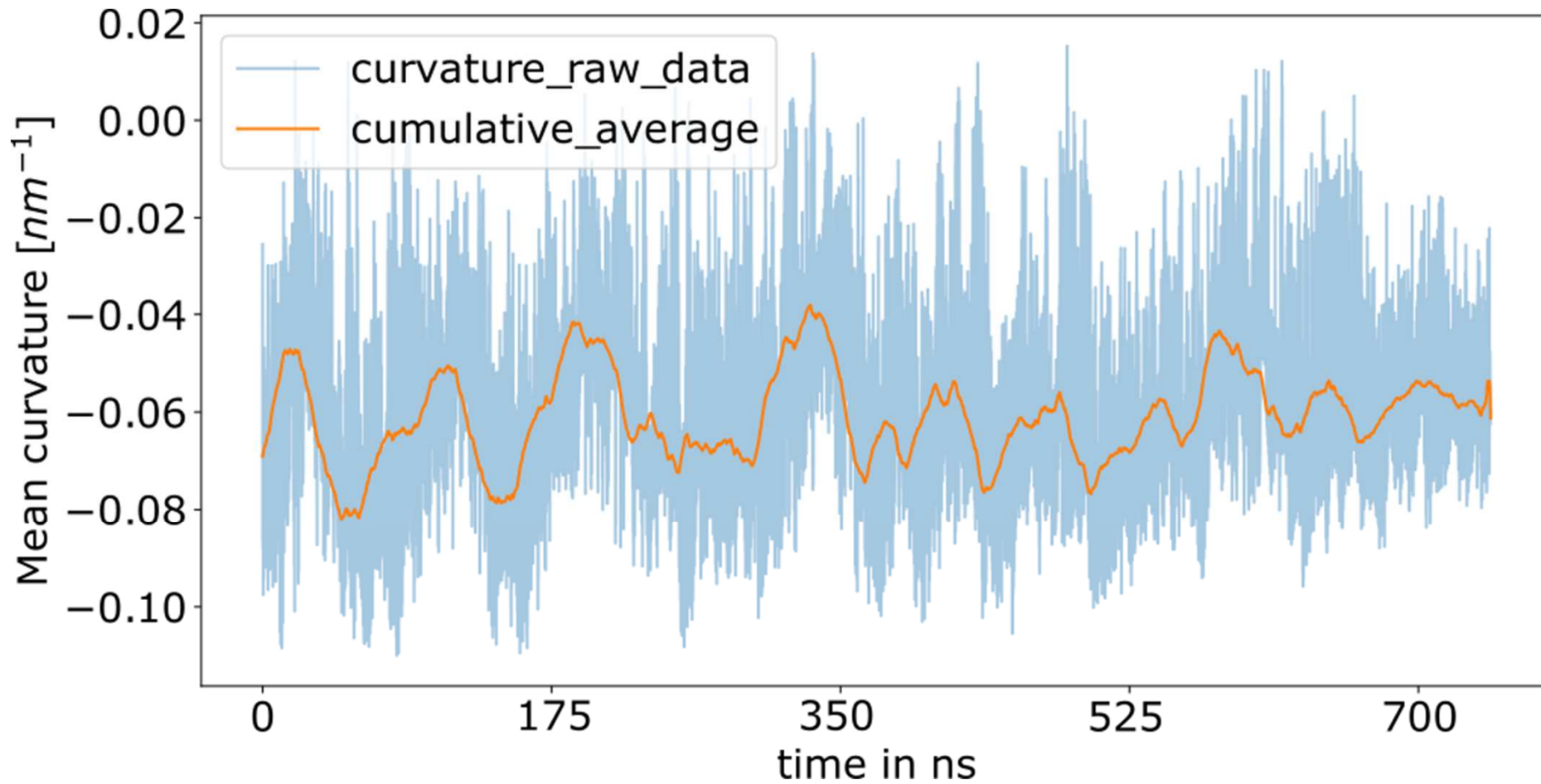


- 880 POPC molecules
- 15 x 15 x 15 nm box
- NPT ensemble
- 150 mM CaCl₂ (~ 246 Ca²⁺ ions)
- GROMACS simulation package
- Scaled calcium ions (charge 1.5+)
- ECC-POPC forcefield
- Harmonic restraints in z-direction

Curvature stability - positive

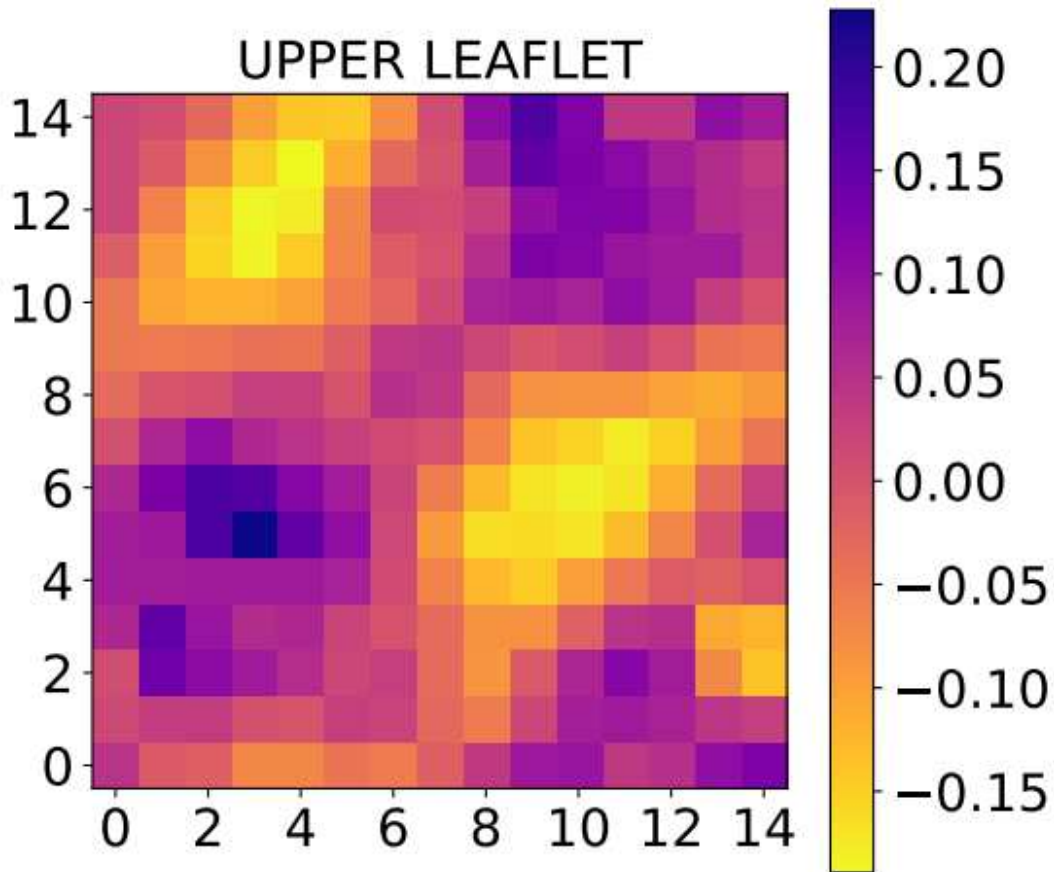


Curvature stability - negative

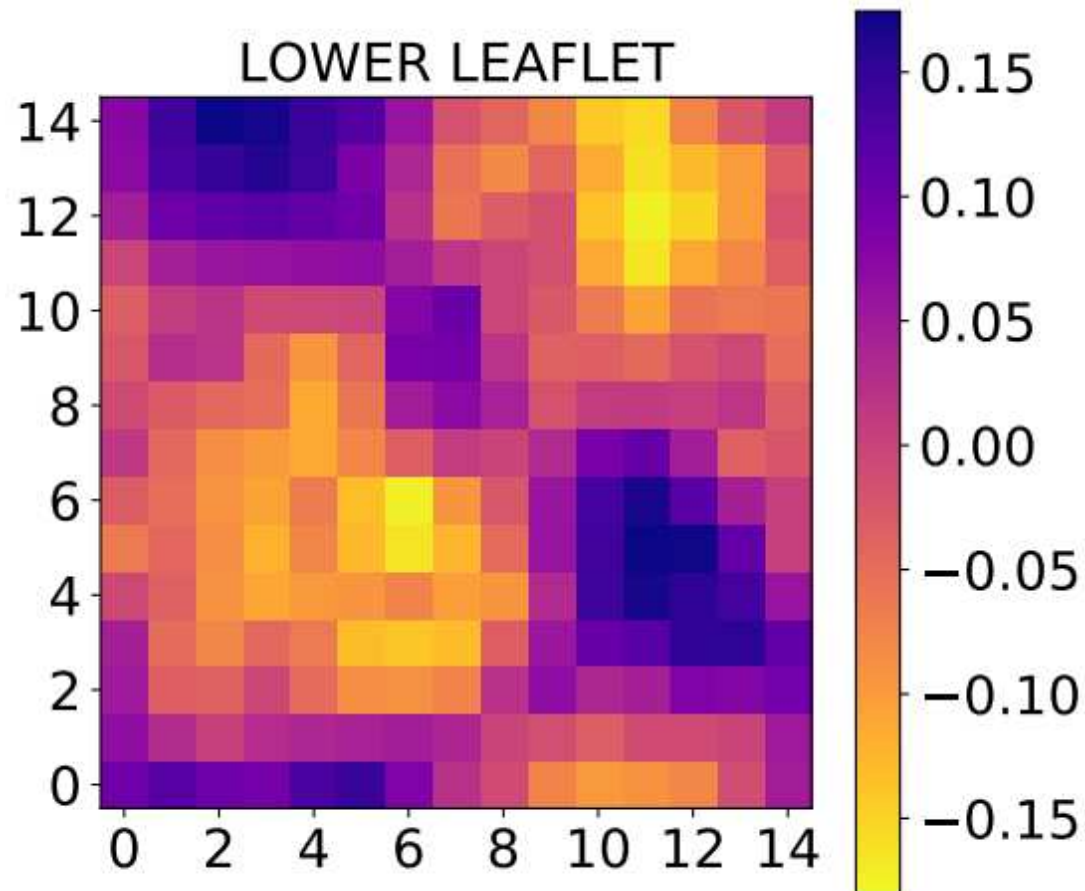


Time-averaged curvature values

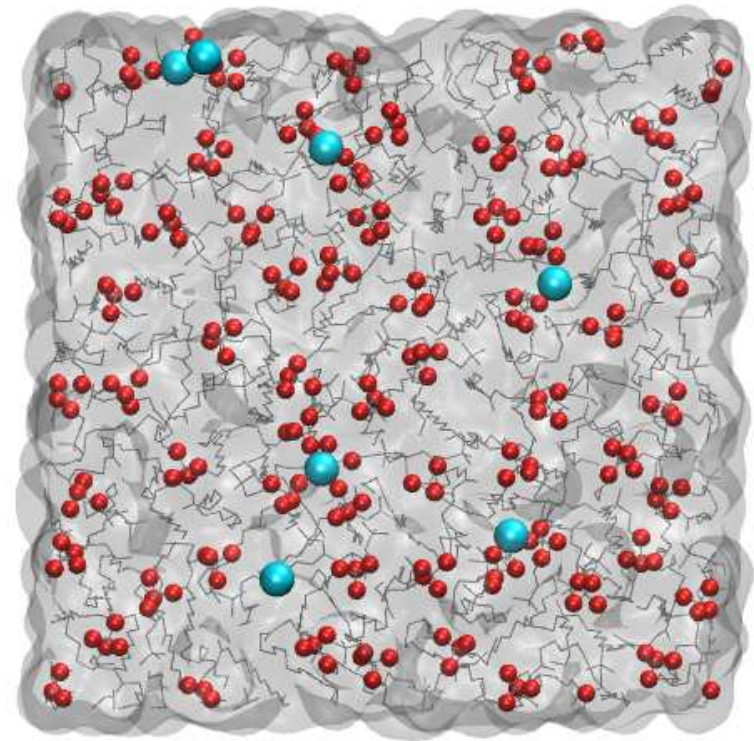
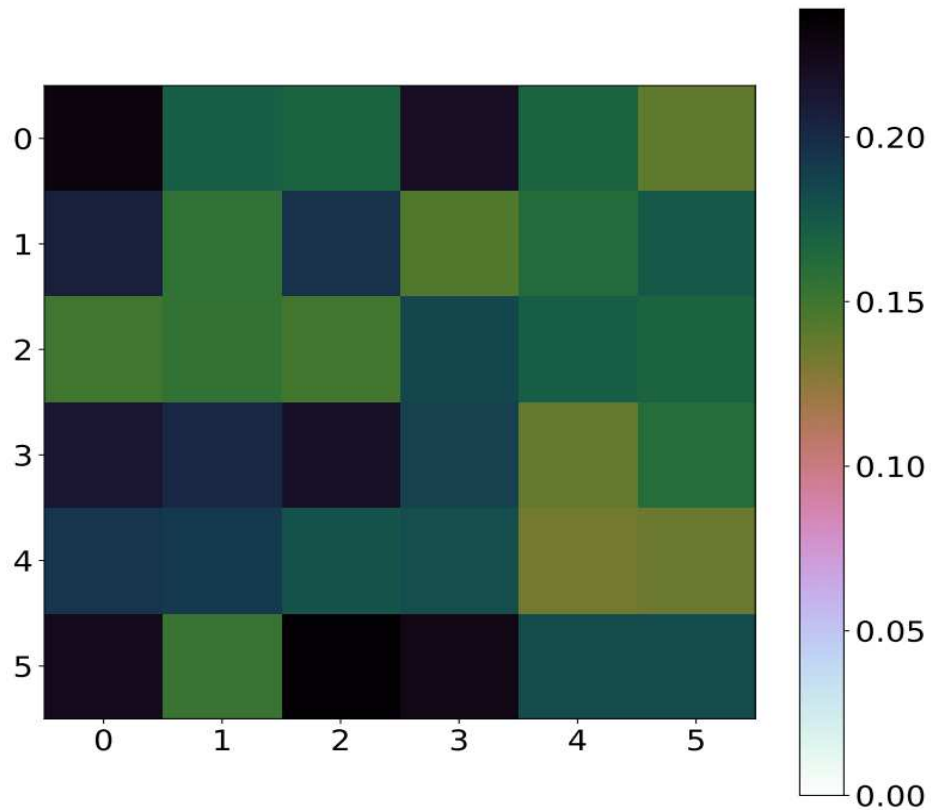
UPPER LEAFLET



LOWER LEAFLET



Calcium concentration across the membrane





Summary

- Quantitative correlation of curvature and $[Ca^{2+}]$ *in progress*
- Resolution dependent on convergence
- Stability of the harmonically restrained bilayer
- Testing multiple approaches

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

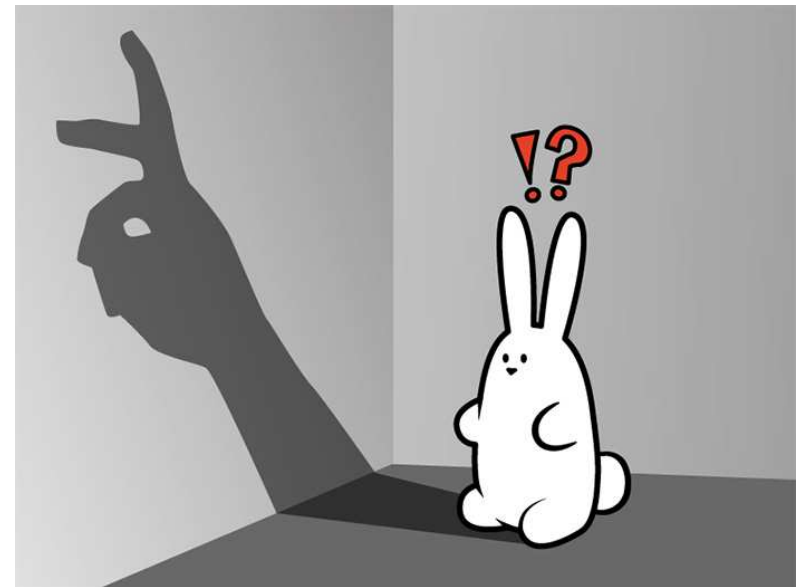
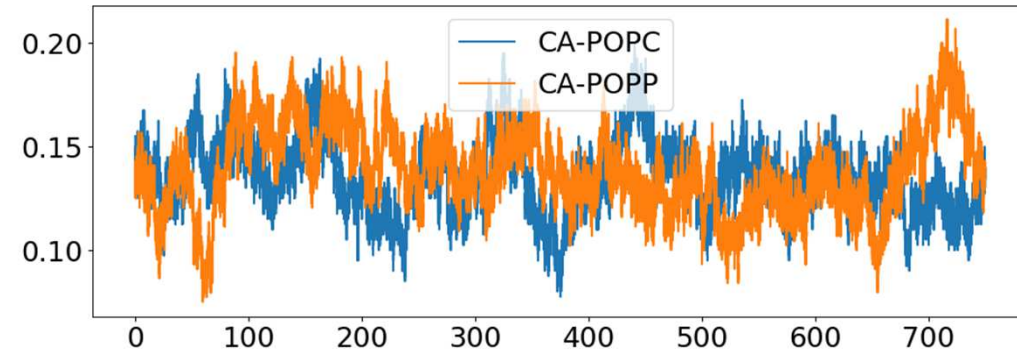
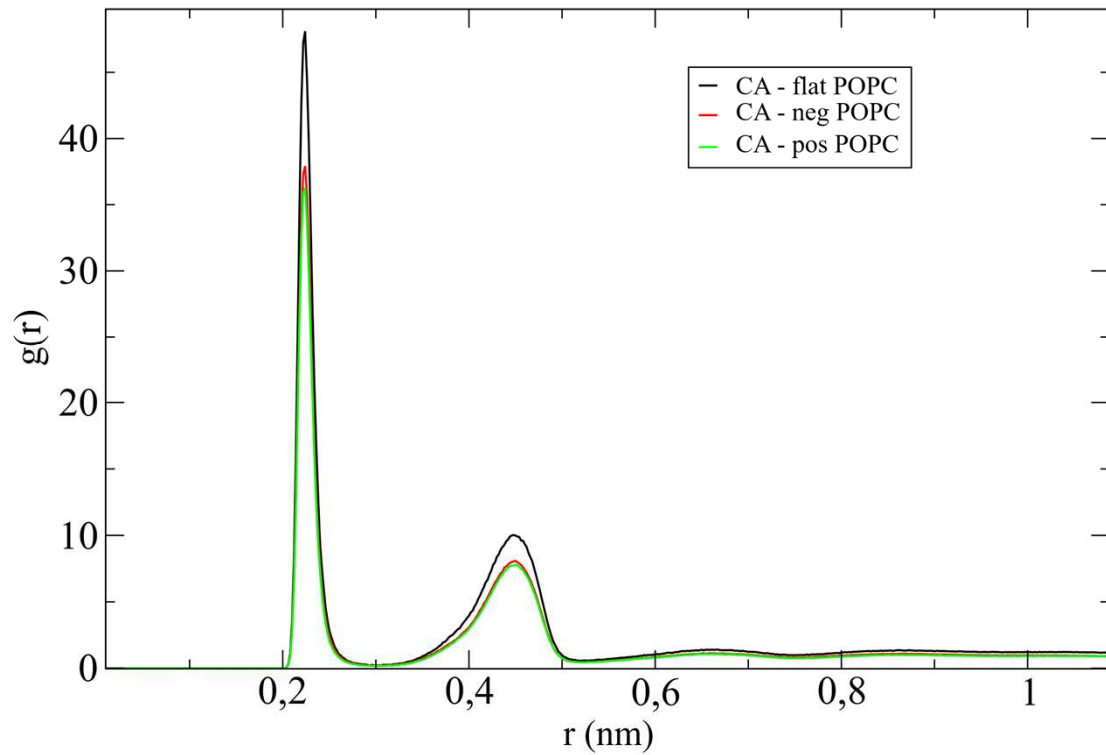
Aniket Magarkar
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Pavel Jungwirth



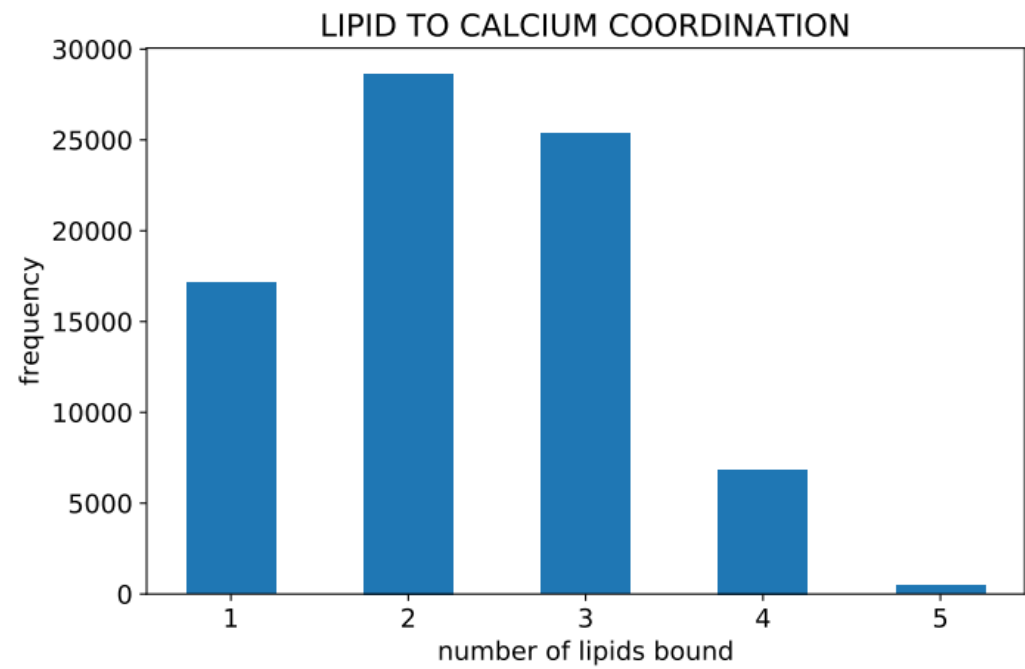
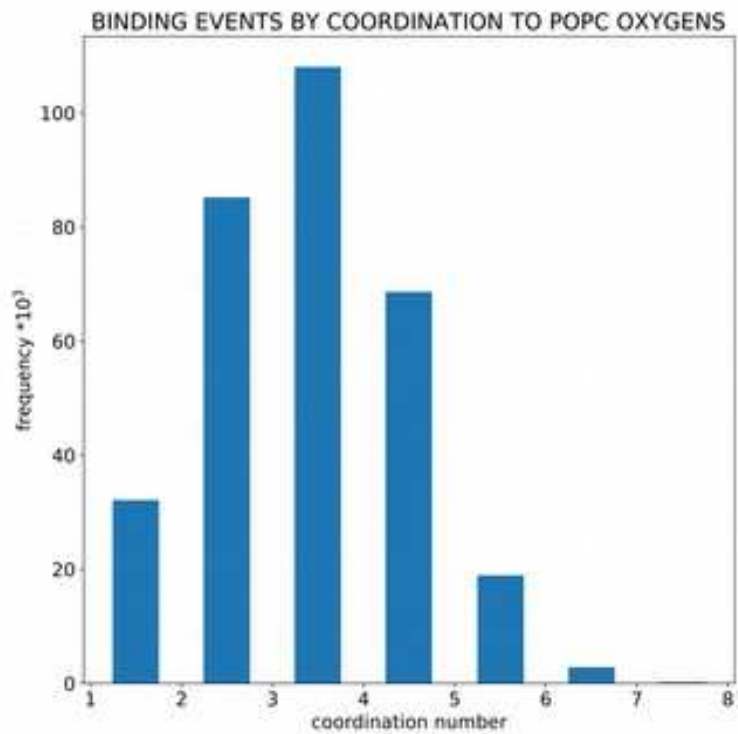
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This work was supported by The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports from the Large Infrastructures for Research, Experimental Development and Innovations project „IT4Innovations National Supercomputing Center – LM2015070“.

Some results are inconclusive



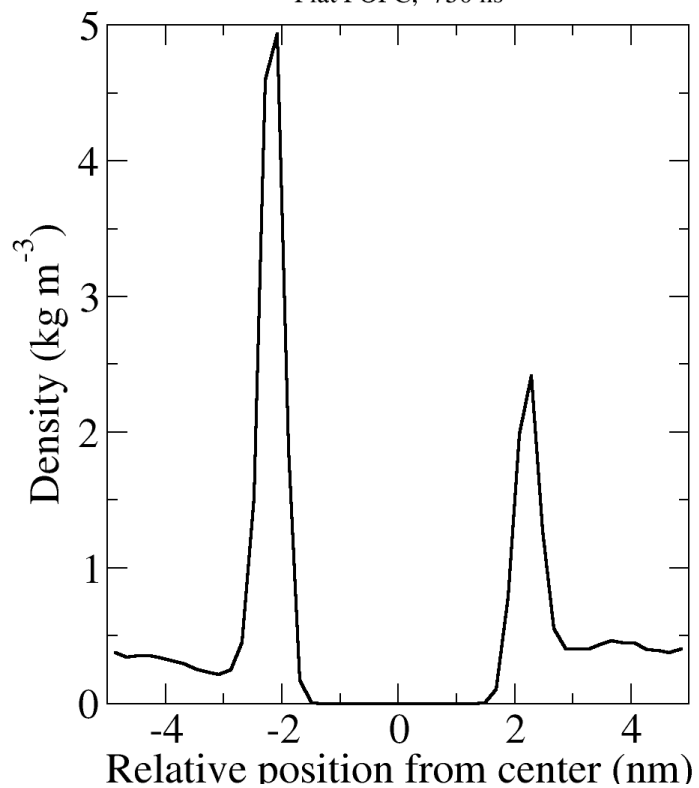
lipids to calcium coordination



Unsymmetrized calcium density profiles

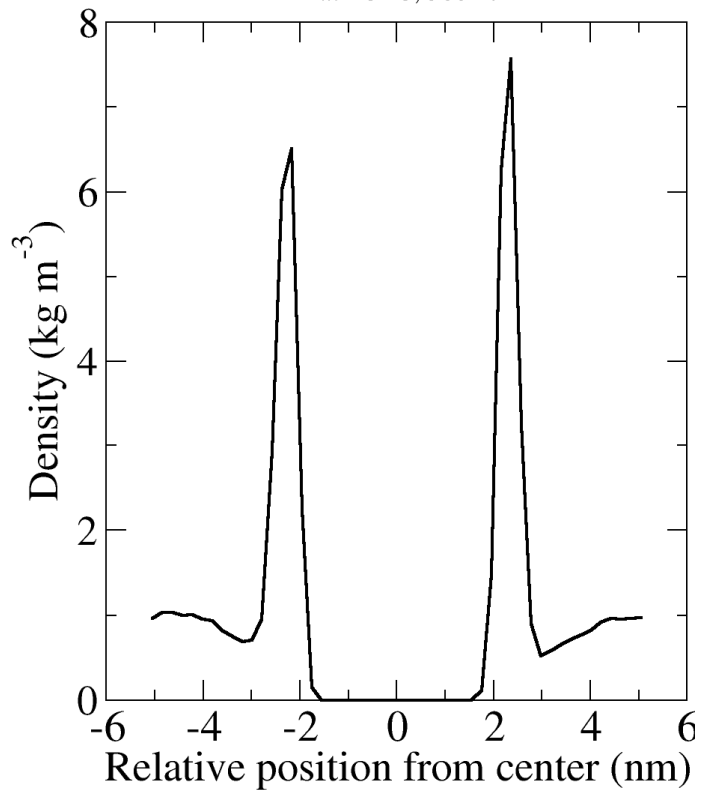
Calcium 25 mmol

Flat POPC, 750 ns



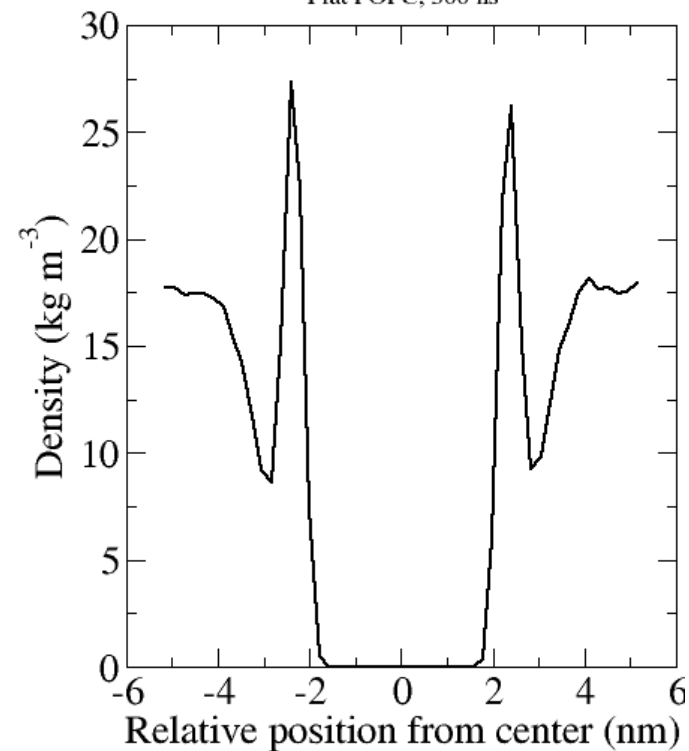
Calcium 50 mmol

Flat POPC, 500 ns



Calcium 450 mmol

Flat POPC, 300 ns



Calcium density across layers

