Water, water everywhere... How can we understand it?

An exploration of water using physical models and computer simulation

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16 Mar. 2011



Arctichistorian01, wikimedia commons

Outline

- Goals/Introduction
- Water molecules
- Many water molecules + other stuff
- Too many water molecules
- Resources



Bob Burkhardt, wikimedia commons

Goals

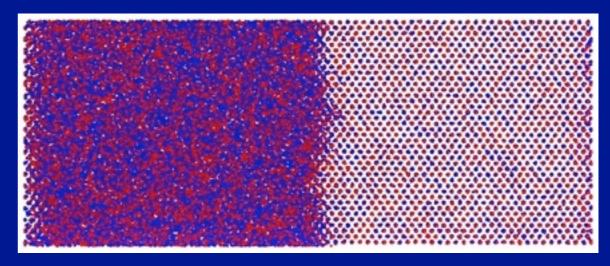
- Discuss water as something that hopefully fits into the middle-school curriculum
- Introduce materials science, and how computers can be used to complement experiments
- Examples of tools that can be used in the classroom or by advanced students





A bit of background about me...

- Materials Scientist @ NIST
- B.S. in physics, Ph.D. in materials science and engineering, worked as a programmer
- Adventure in Science organizer and mentor
- Interested in how materials behave and why, how they can be improved, and how we use(d) them
- For fun: Scottish fiddle, read mysteries and archaeology/history

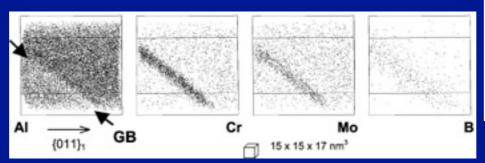


What is "Materials Science?"

- The study of stuff
- Stuff is everything around us -- biological, metallurgical, ceramic, polymer, molecular, ...
 - and all the combinations of these things
- Overlaps with physics, chemistry, biology, metallurgy, ceramics, engineering fields
- Different from traditional chemistry in the emphasis on solids, but the lines are very blurry
- Nice introduction: NOVA series "Making Stuff" on PBS (video.pbs.org)

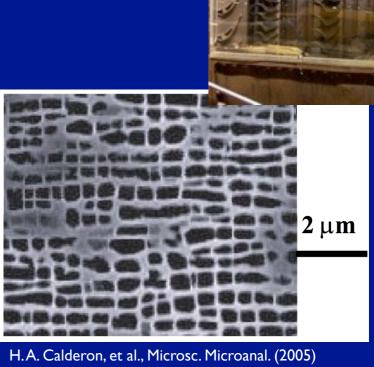
Application areas

- consumer products
 - electronics, plastics
- construction/infrastructure
 - concrete, steel
- transportation (e.g., jet engines)
- nanotechnology
- biomedical applications (e.g., hip replacements)



E. Cadel, et al., Acta Mat. (2002)





Approaches used to study materials

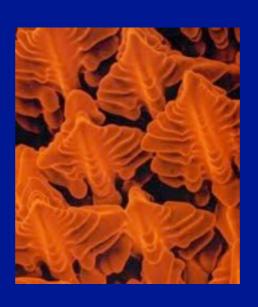
- Microscopy
- X-rays
- Chemical analysis
- Thermal behavior (melting, changes in density, latent heat)
- Stretching/bending/compressing/breaking them
- Mathematical models
- Any others?

Why computer simulations and models?

- Computer simulations and models can be used to complement and understand experiments
- They can be used to explore a wide range of variables without needing to do a separate experiment for each case
- We use them to test our understanding of physical processes. If the simulation does not agree with the experiment, we need to figure out why
- Practical applications: movies, video games, etc.
- More generally: companies rely increasingly on computers, and computer literacy is crucial for most careers

Metals and Water?

- "You study metals. What does that have to do with water?"
- Water and many metals share certain basic properties,
 so understanding one can provide insight into the other
- Example:
 - Dendrites





 However, many things are very different (crystal structure, chemical bonding, melting temperatures, strength, etc.), so they can't be treated exactly the same.

Why is water important?

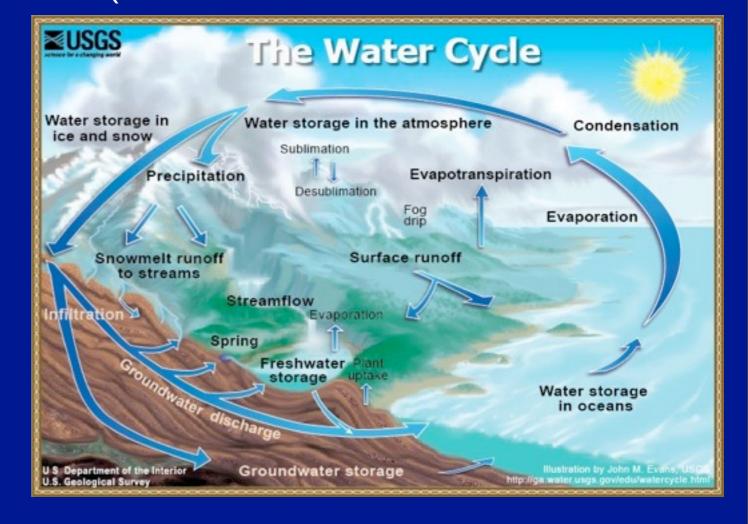
- Crucial for most life
 - Drinking supplies
- Cooling for manufacturing, combustion, etc.

Medium for many reactions (industrial, medical,

etc., applications)



Eyone, Wikimedia Commons



What are properties of water?

- Solid water (ice) floats. Usually.
 - What consequences does that have for ecosystems?



Wikimedia Commons

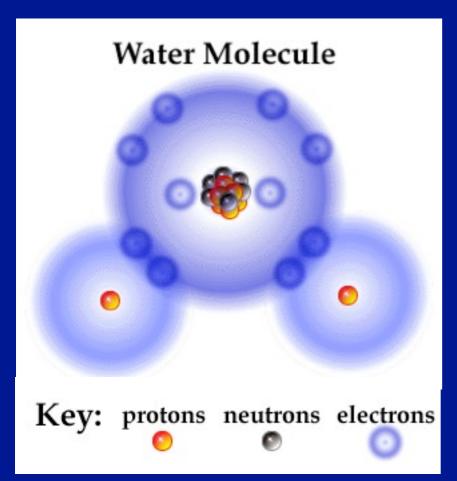
- liquid from 32 F (0 C) to 212 (100 C) if pure and at sea level
- Polar molecule
- "Universal solvent"



EnDumEn, Wikimedia Commons

Water is weird.

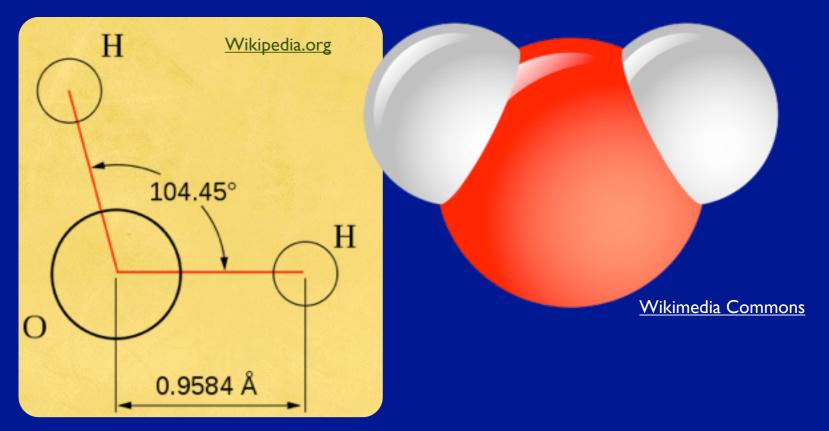
Molecules of H₂O

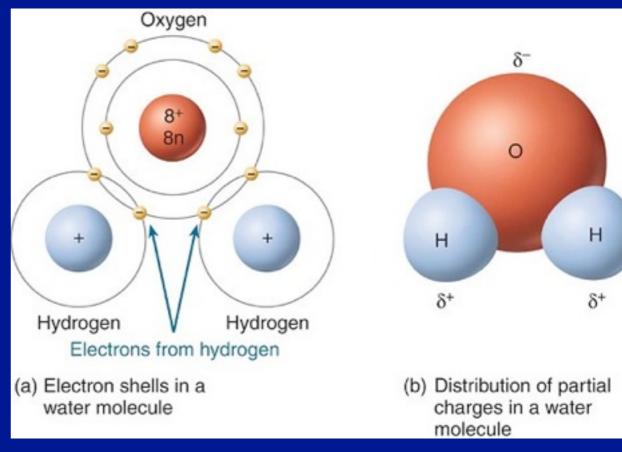


http://www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/ahp/SDgraphics/ PSgraphics/SD.PS.LG.Water.html



craziestgadgets.com





NASA

Water Kit

- Build your own water molecules with the kit from 3-D Molecular Designs
- I2 water molecules (24 white H + I2 red O),
 I Na (blue), I Cl (green)
- http://www.3dmoleculardesigns.com
- Basic lesson plans:
 - http://www.3dmoleculardesigns.com/
 Water Kit Basic Lesson Plans.pdf
- Additional Resources:
 - http://www.3dmoleculardesigns.com/ resources.php#water





+ Mttp://www.webmo.net/demo/index



Q▼ Google

WebMO Home Page

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January 25, 2011

WebMO Demo Server

The WebMO Demo Server is now up and running! Log in as follows:

Username: guest Password: guest

Job Time Limit: Because the WebMO Demo Server is a shared resource, jobs are limited to one minute (60 seconds) of CPU time!

Java Requirements for WebMO

WebMO requires a web browser to support Java 2, LiveConnect, and Cascading Style Sheet technology.

- Windows 9X/ME/NT/2000/XP/Vista: WebMO works with Internet Explorer, Firefox, and other browsers.
 Sun's Java engine version 1.4 or higher is required.
- Mac OS X: WebMO works with Safari, Firefox, and other browsers on OS X 10.3 and higher. Java 1.4.2 or higher is required (available from Apple as a System Update). Some browser versions require a plug-in to enable LiveConnect (available from SourceForge.net). Instructions for pre-10.3 are linked below.
- Unix/Linux: WebMO works with Firefox and other browsers. Sun's java engine and a plug-in are required.

See WebMO supported web browsers for details and Java installation instructions.

Tutorial

Useful tutorial

Recent news

WebMO 10.1 is now available for free download!

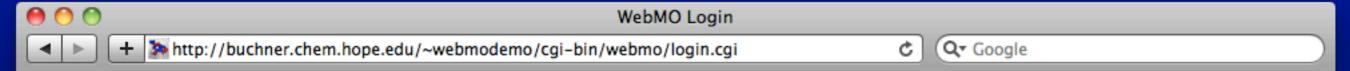
WebMO 10.1 <u>Pro</u> and <u>Enterprise</u> have a variety of additional features and is available for purchase.

WebMO can now be installed on <u>Windows</u>, <u>Mac</u>, and <u>Unix</u> servers!







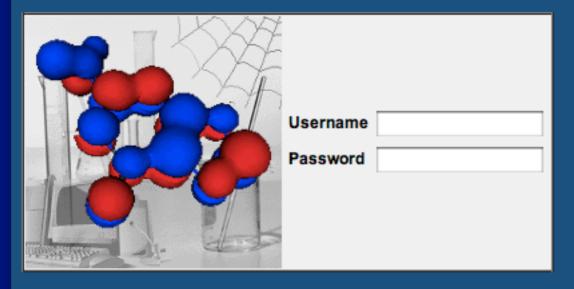


WebMO Login

Version: 10.1.002e

Computational Chemistry on the WWW

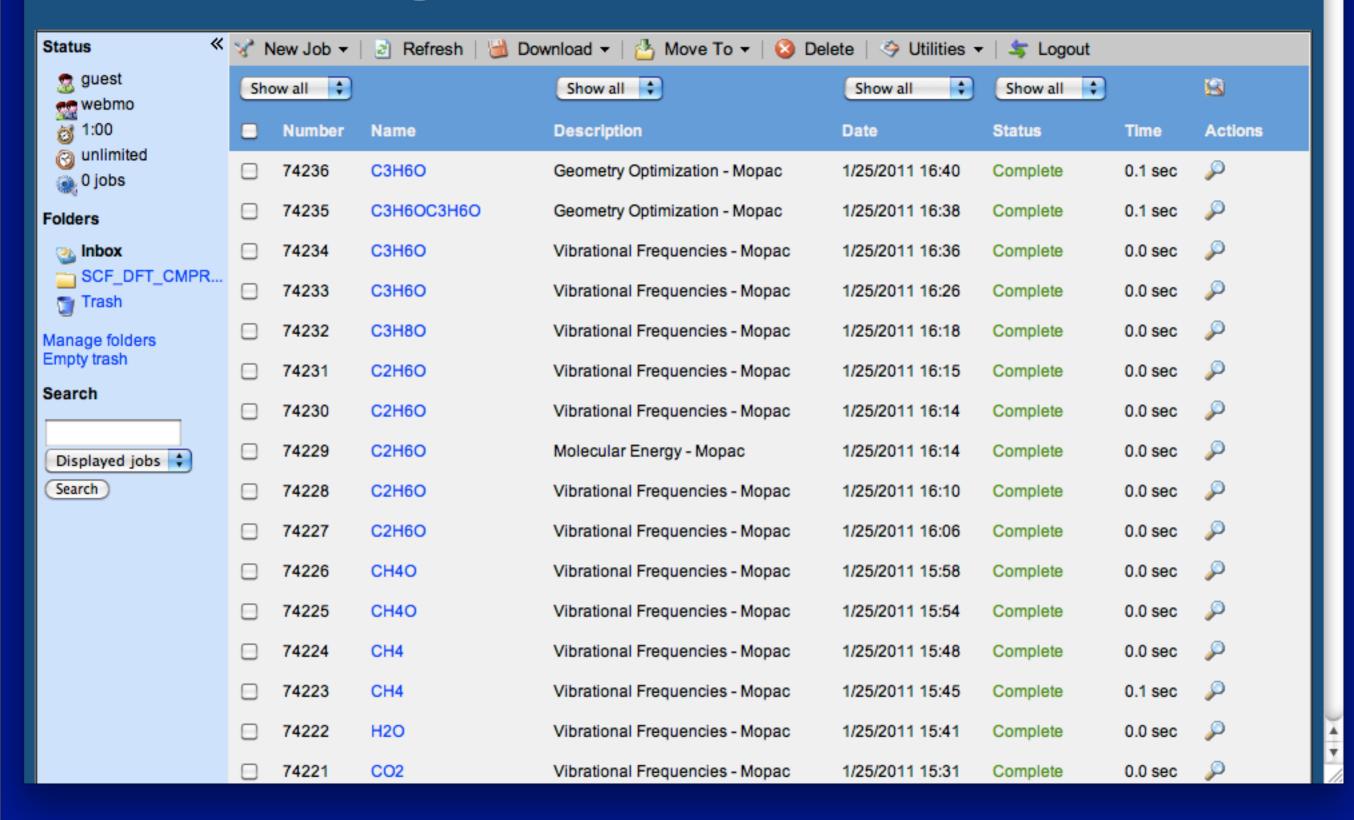
Username: guest Password: guest



Login



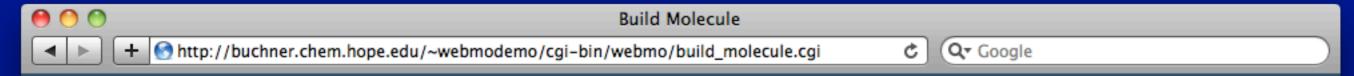
WebMO Job Manager



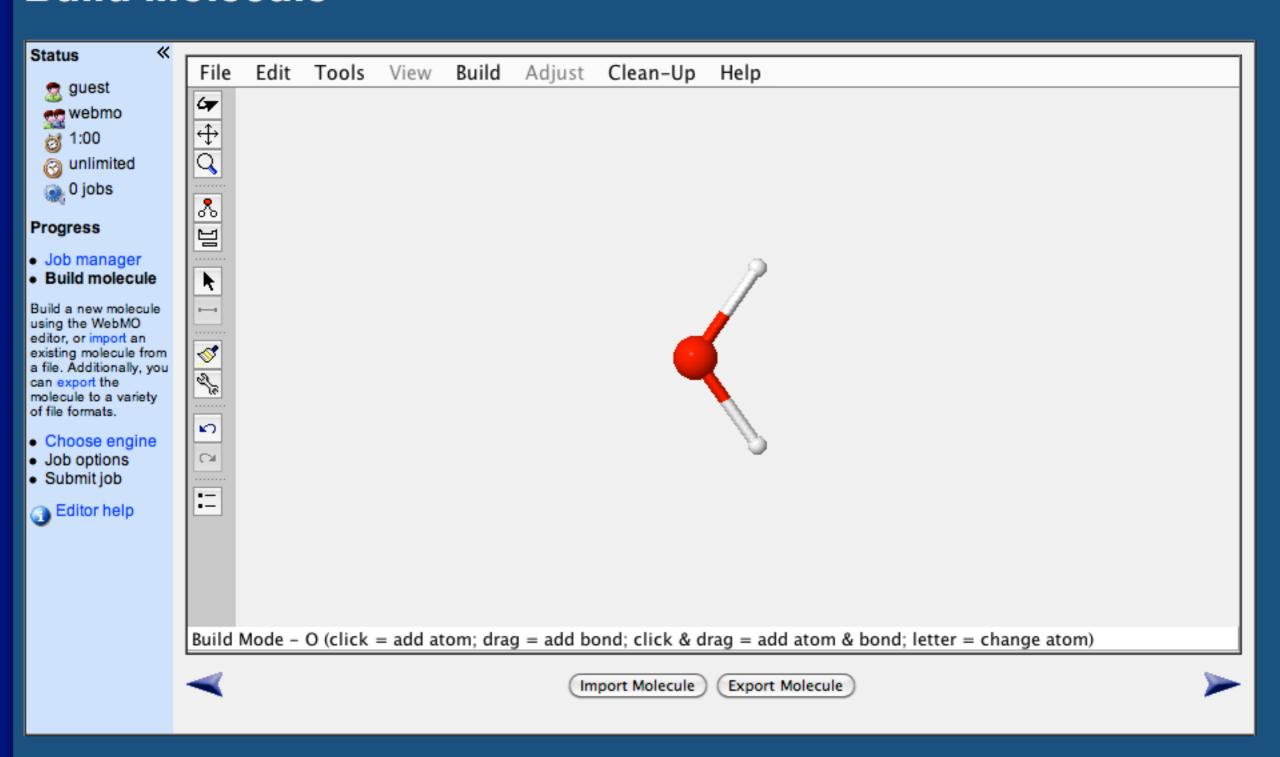
To make a water molecule in WebMO

- Choose "New Job"
- Under "Build", select "O"
- Click somewhere in the middle. A red oxygen atom will appear.
- Under "Clean-Up", select "Comprehensive -idealized". Hydrogens (white) will be added at the
 correct angle.
- Click on the right arrow in the bottom right corner to continue.

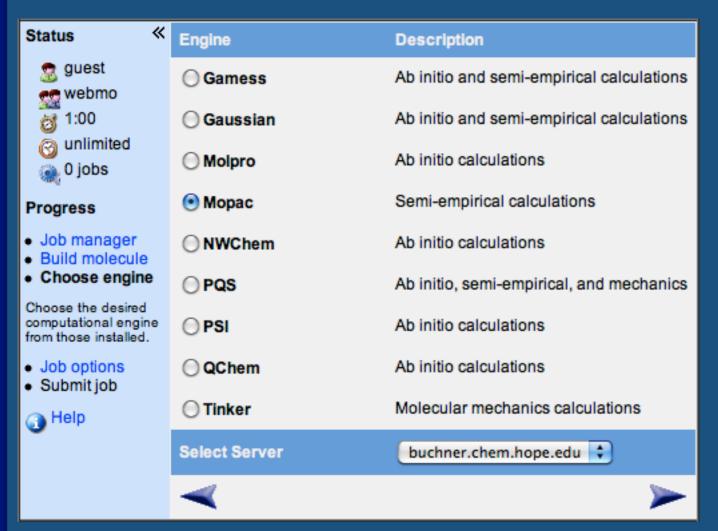
(Lost? There is a tutorial on www.webmo.net/demo/index)



Build Molecule



Choose Computational Engine

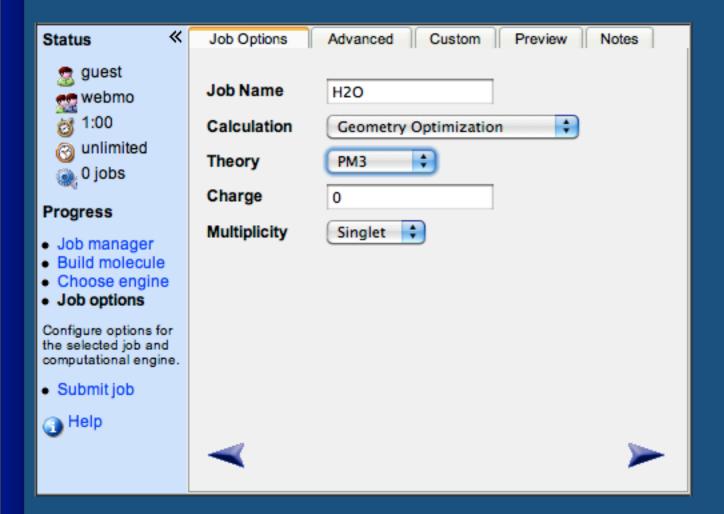


Tradeoffs: the most accurate calculations are generally the most expensive (time, resources). The question is often, "what is the minimum accuracy I need to answer my question?"

Ab initio = you tell it which atom types to use, and it will treat the electrons (charge) realistically. It is the most accurate, but it is also expensive, limiting the number of atoms in a calculation.

Semi-empirical = an approximation that still treats individual atoms/molecules but is less accurate than "ab initio." It is faster. This allows calculations with larger numbers of molecules.

Configure Mopac Job Options



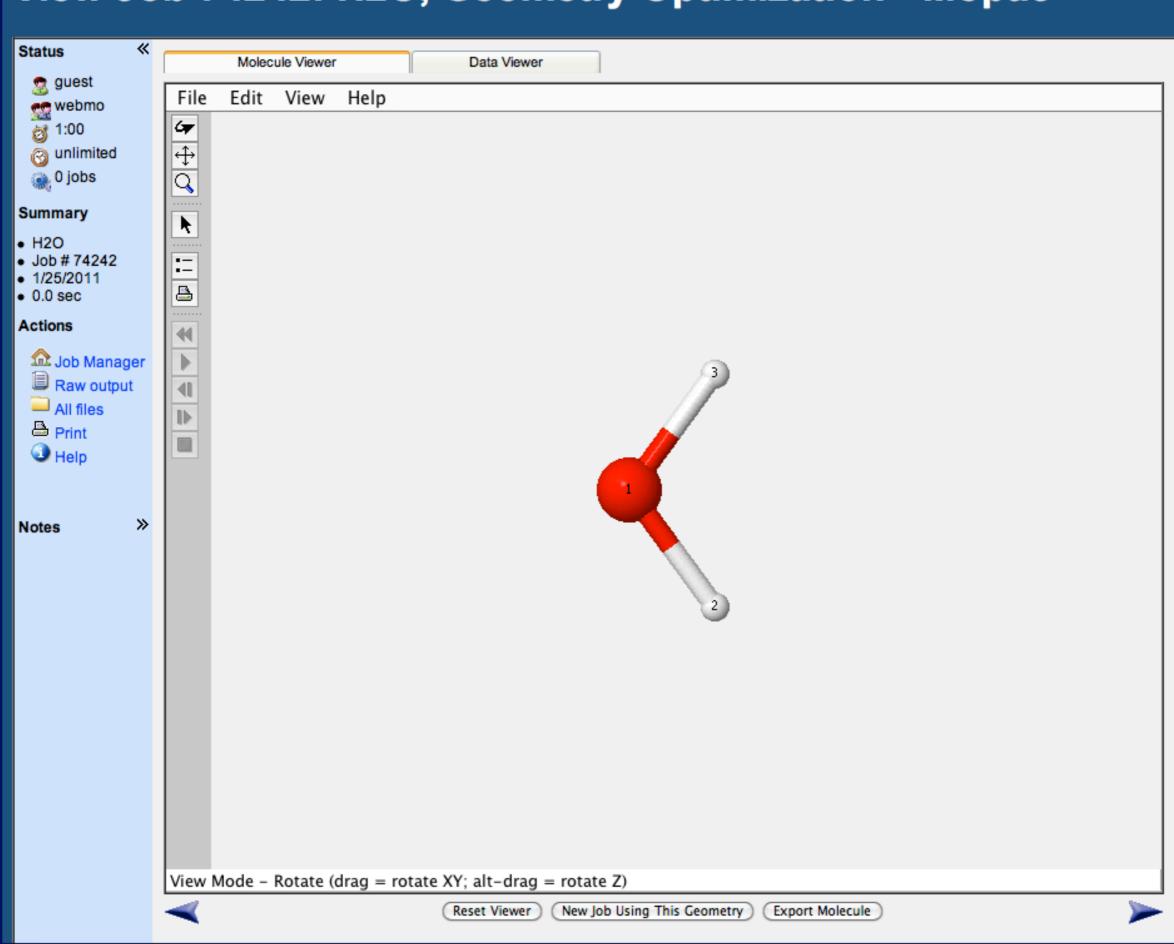
Other calculation options include:

Molecular Energy
Vibrational Frequencies
Thermochemistry
Molecular Orbitals

There are also lots of options under the tabs.



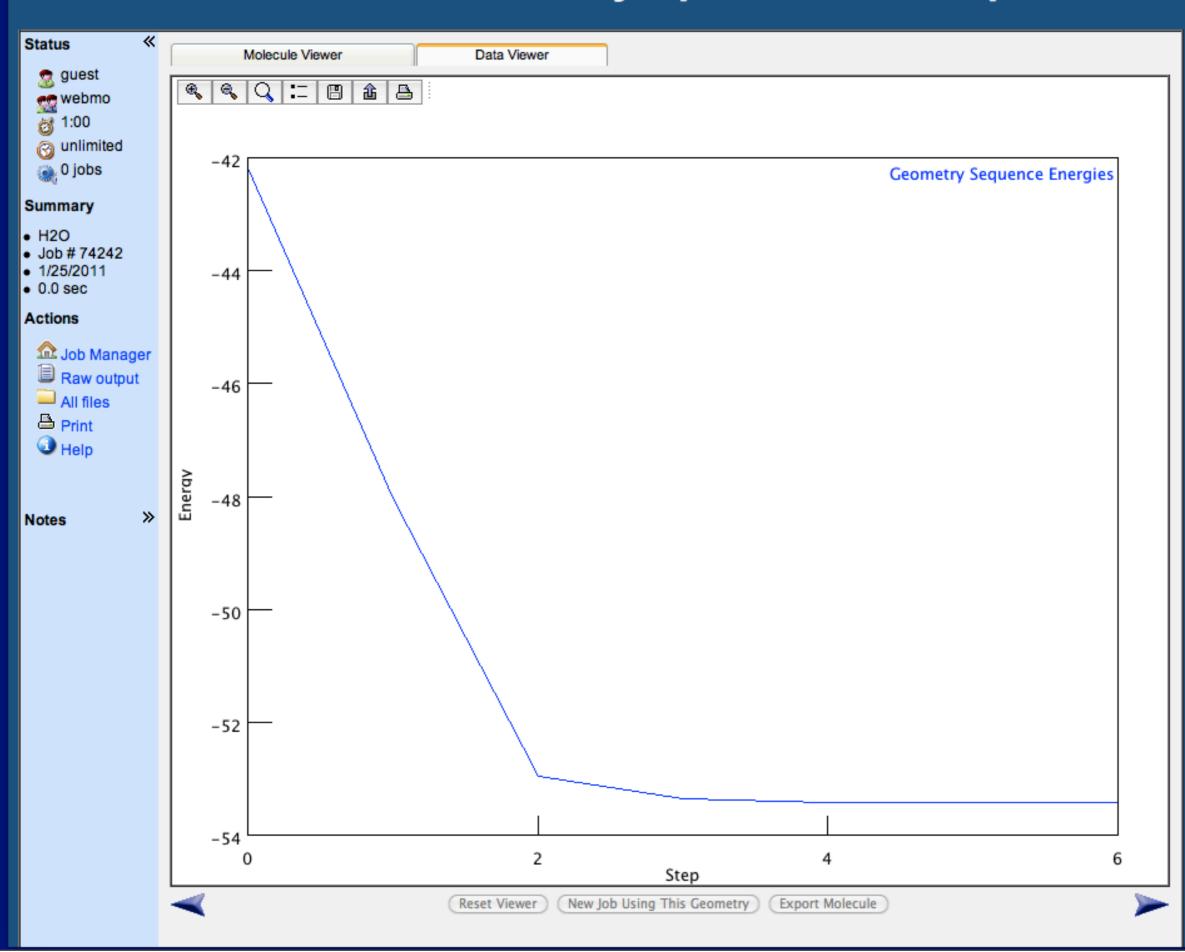
View Job 74242: H2O, Geometry Optimization - Mopac



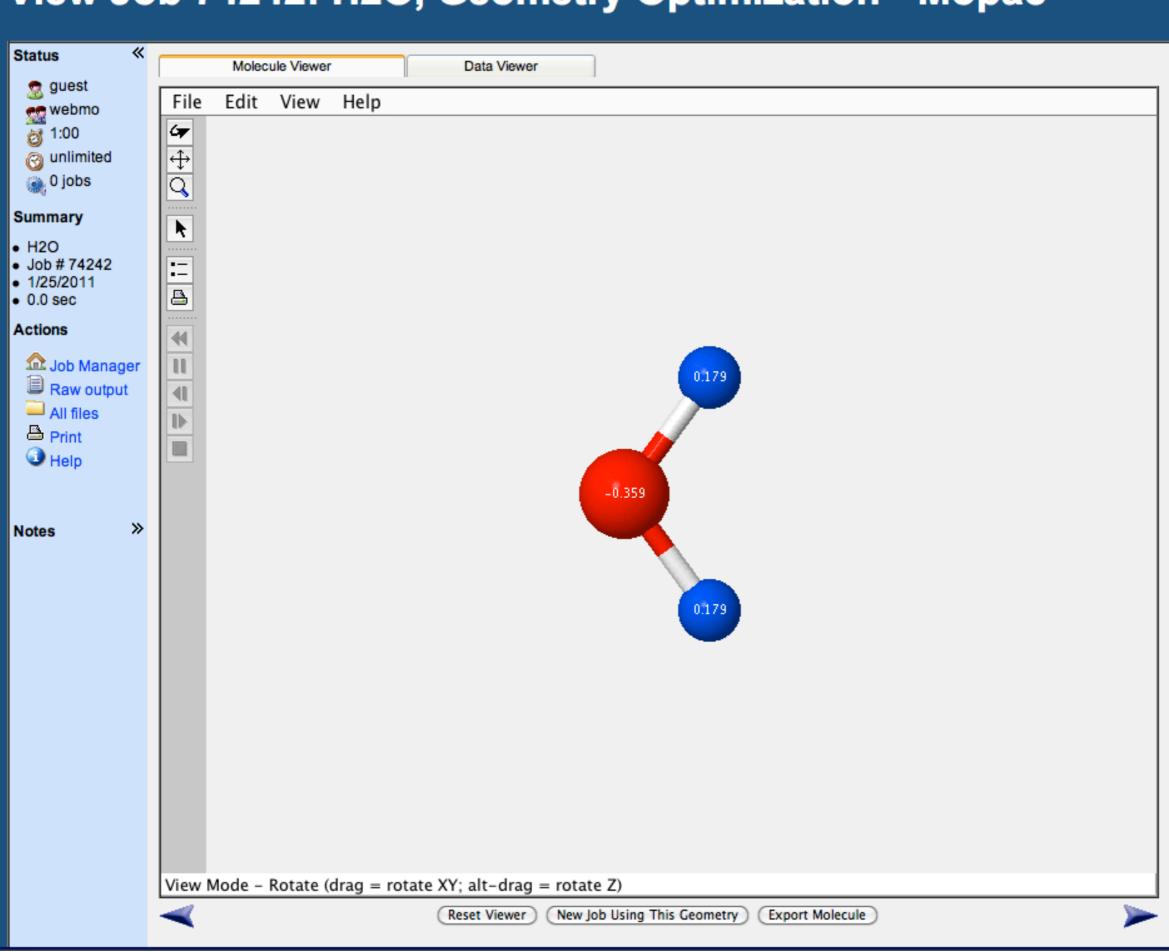
Calculated Quantities

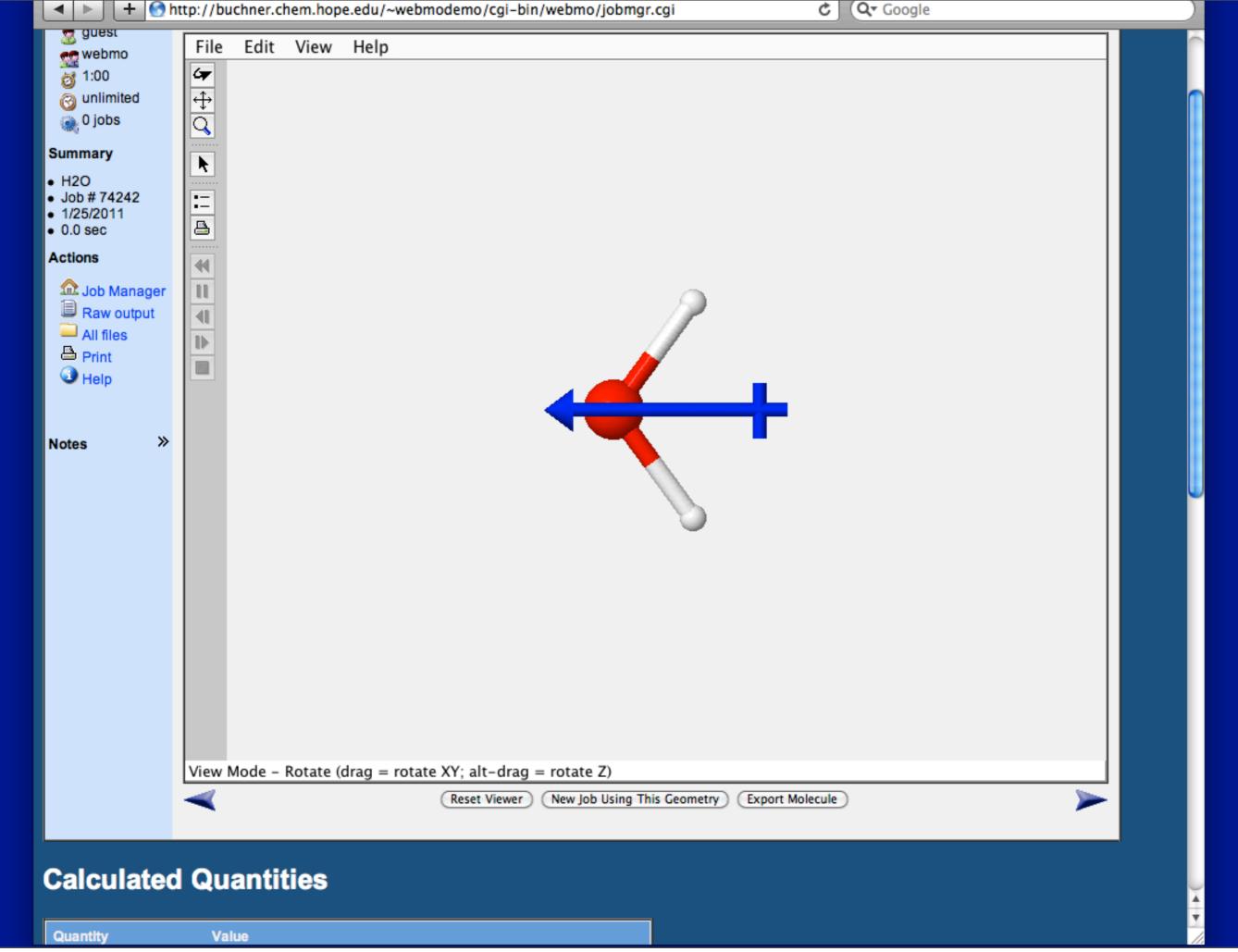
| 0 | 17.1 | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------|-----------|-----|-------|----------|----------|
| Quantity | Value | | | | | | |
| Geometry Sequence | Step | | Energy | J |) 💆 E | | |
| | 0 | | -42.17675 | | | | |
| | 1 | | -48.02339 | | | | |
| | 2 | | -52.96029 | | | | |
| | 3 | | -53.36703 | | | | |
| | 4 | | -53.42500 | | | | |
| | 5 | | -53.43282 | | | | |
| | 6 | | -53.43283 | | | | |
| | Anima | tion speed | 5 | | | | |
| | Loop | | None 💠 | | | | |
| Route | | | | | | | |
| Symmetry | C2v | | | | | | |
| PM3 Heat of Formation | -53.43283 kcal/mol | | | | | | |
| Dipole Moment | 1.739 Debye 🔑 | | | | | | |
| Partial Charges | Atom | Symbol | Charge | p | | | |
| | 1 | 0 | -0.358562 | | | | |
| | 2 | Н | 0.179281 | | | | |
| | 3 | Н | 0.179281 | | | | |
| Bond Order | | | | | | | |
| | Atom | | Symbol | 10 | | 2 H | 3 H |
| | 1 0 | | | | 35716 | | |
| | 2 | | н | | 67858 | 0.967858 | |
| | 3 Н | | | 0.9 | 67858 | 0.000000 | 0.967858 |
| Server | buchner.chem.hope.edu (0) | | | | | | |
| CPU time | 0.01 sec | | | | | | |

View Job 74242: H2O, Geometry Optimization - Mopac



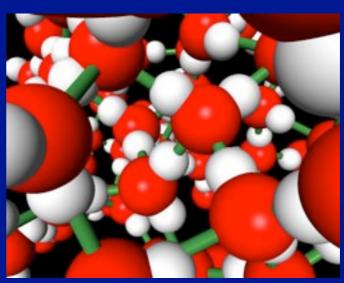
View Job 74242: H2O, Geometry Optimization - Mopac



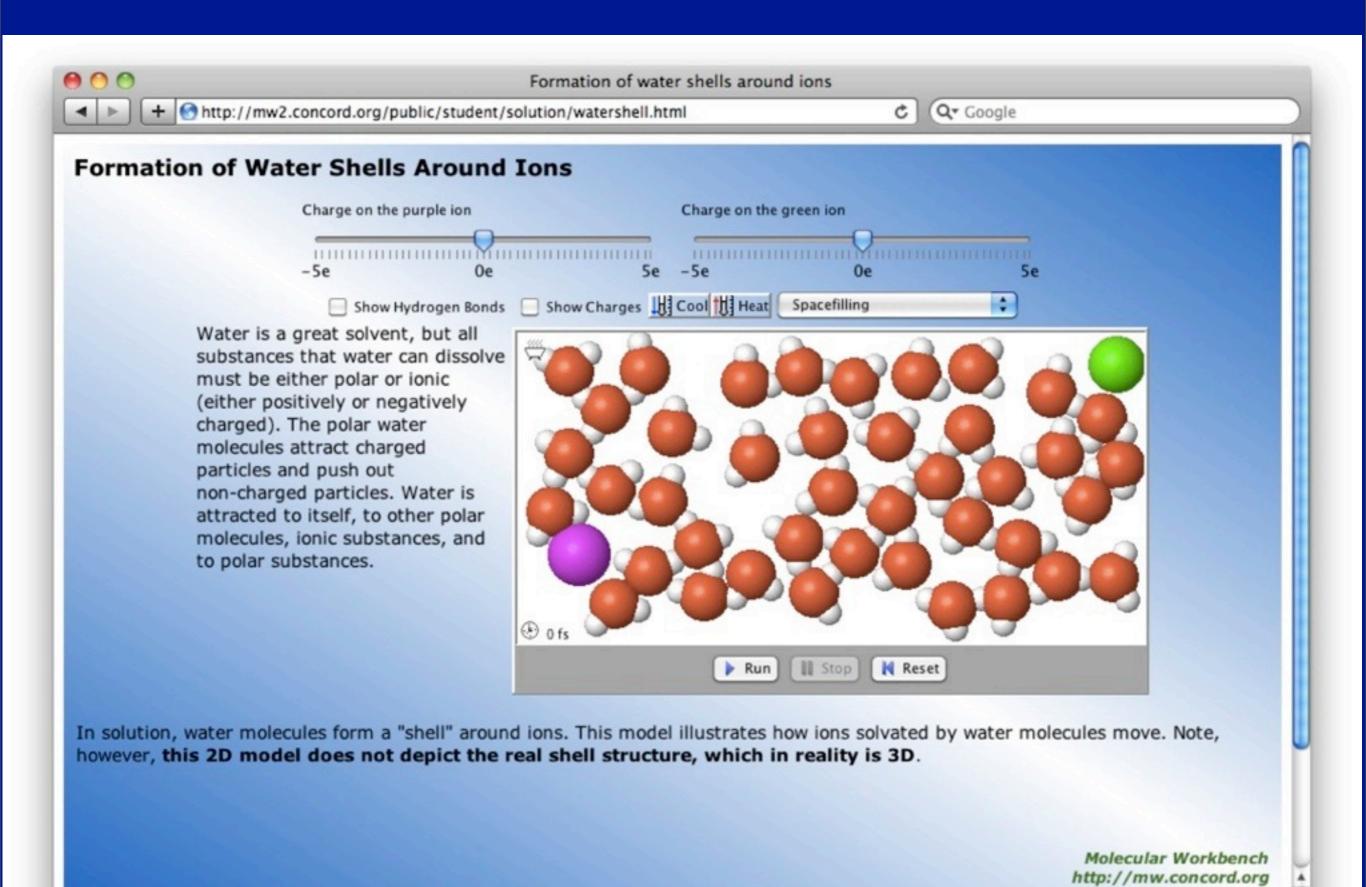


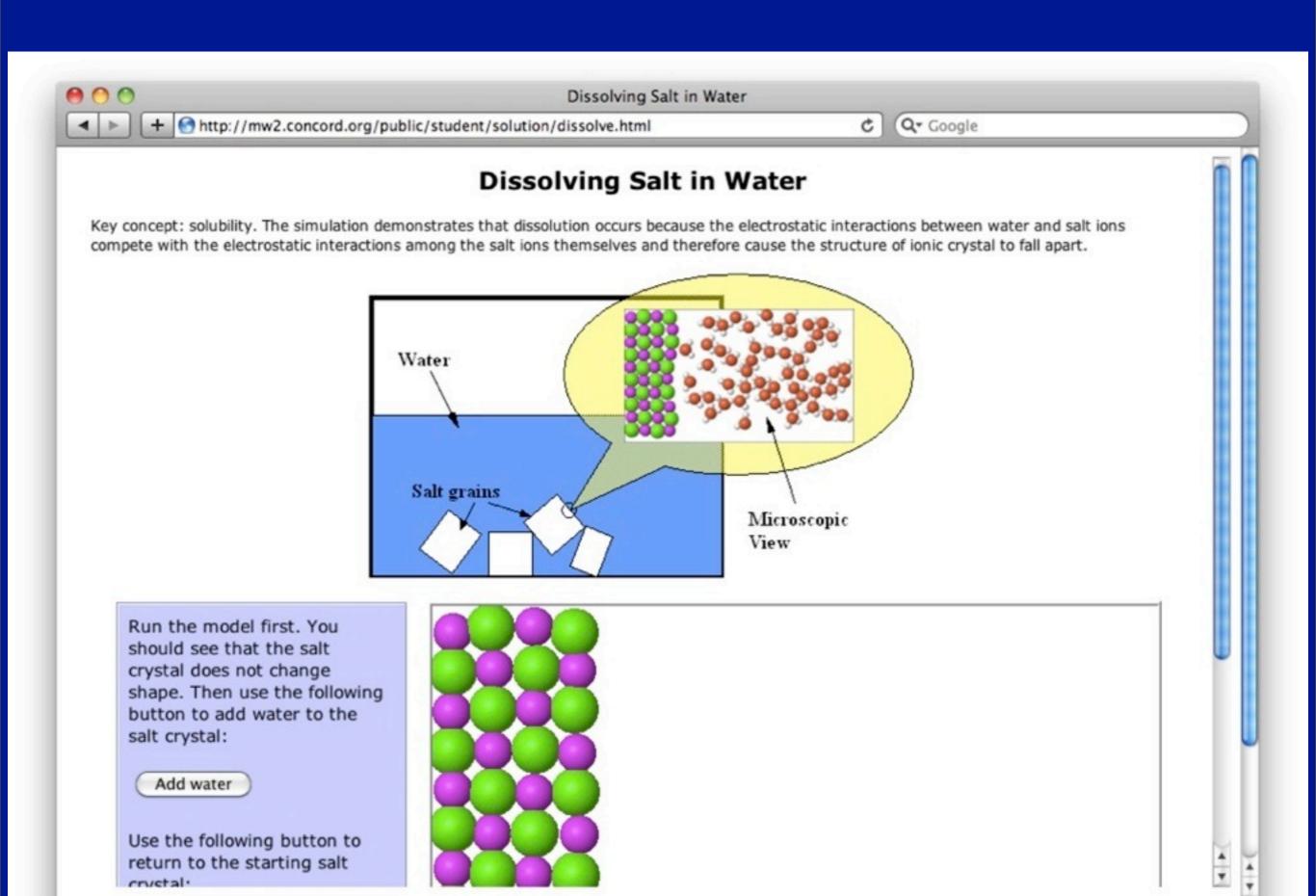
Many H₂0 molecules + other stuff

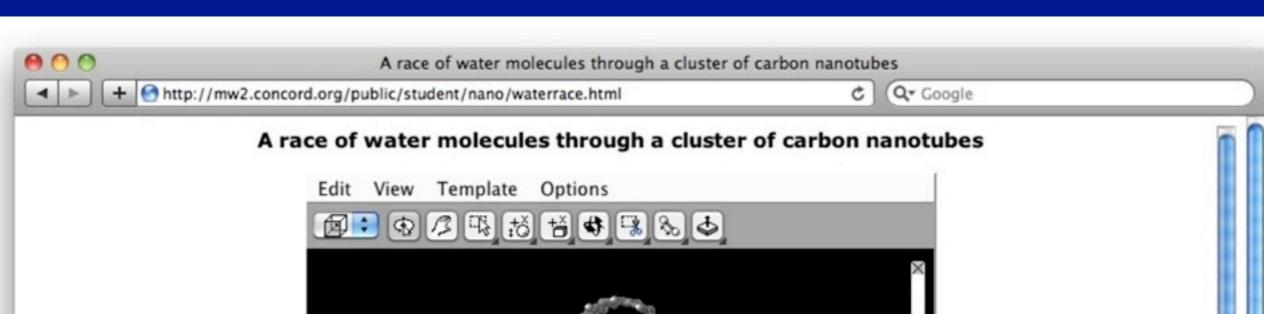
 Molecular simulation can be used to look at groups of water molecules and their interactions with other ions/ molecules.

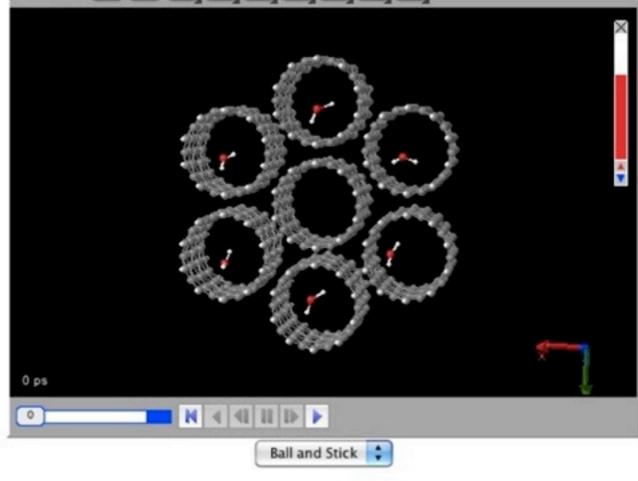


F.W. Starr/Wesleyan Univ.



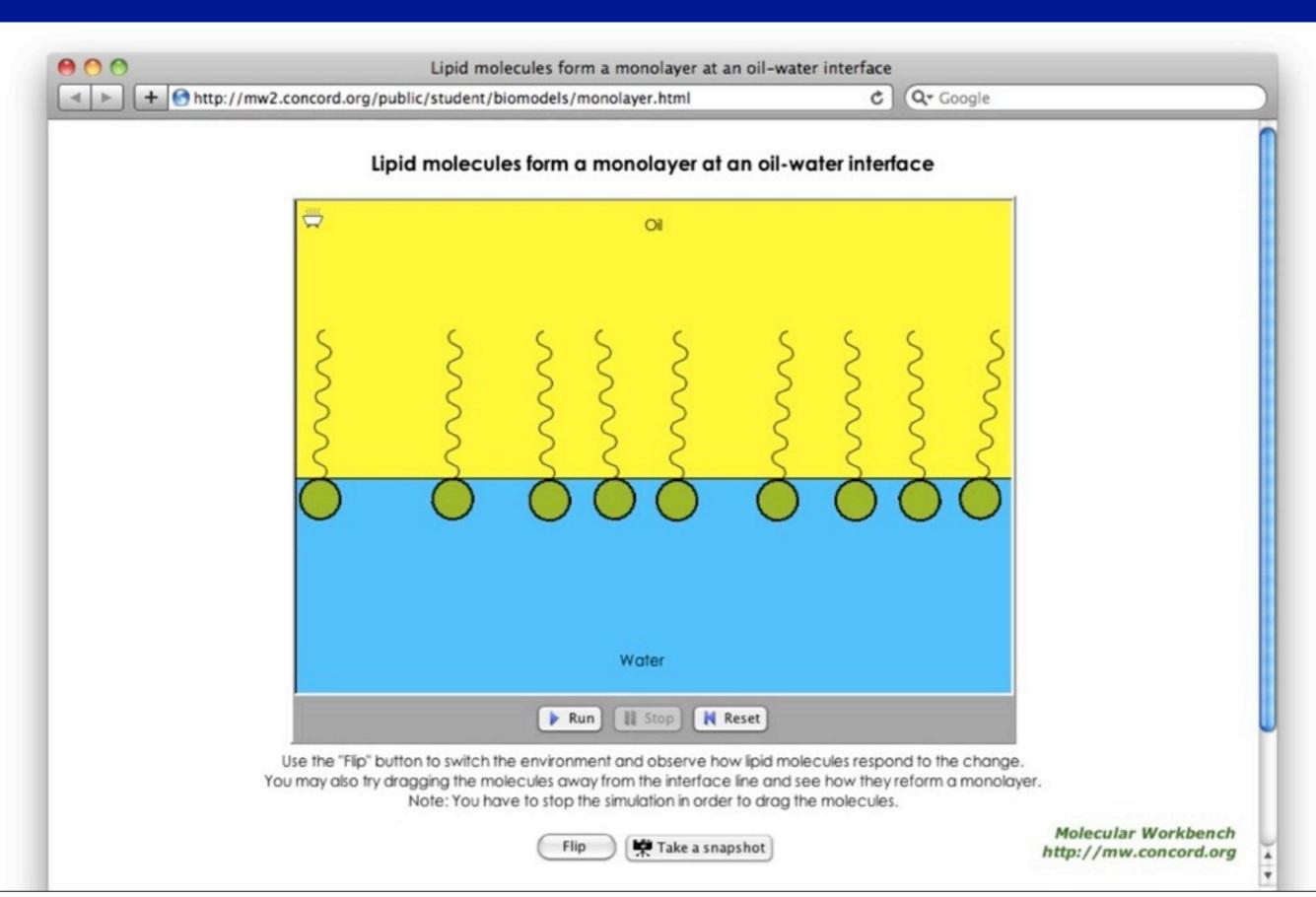






Note about this model: This model has 998 atoms, just 2 atoms under the current limit we set (1000). It has 1342 radial bonds, 2386 angular bonds and 910 torsional bonds. If we had taken into account of the calculations for all the atoms and bonds, it would have been so slow that it will probably take a few hours to simulation 100 picoseconds. To simplify the simulation, we fix the seven nanotubes all together and let only the water molecules move. We think this is a good approximation, because nanotubes must be rigid in real world applications so that they can remain stable.

Although the nanotubes are fixed, their interactions with the water molecules are still calculated. Therefore, such a simplification can be thought of as water molecules moving in the static force fields formed by the carbon atoms of the nanotubes.



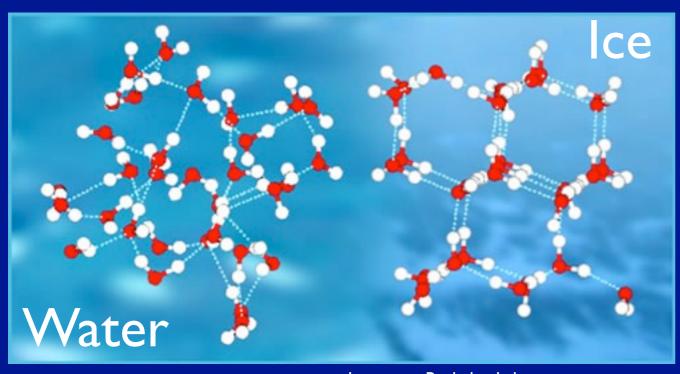
Snowflakes

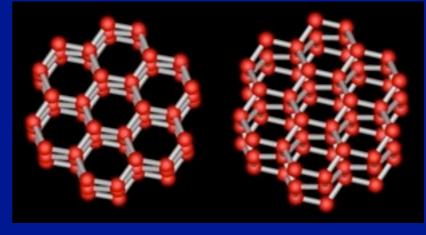


- We are fascinated by snowflakes
 - are no two really alike?
- But, it is not well understood exactly how they form or what controls their shapes
- Applications: understanding effects of pollution, antifreeze (ice cream, cellular damage)
- Great website: snowcrystals.com

What happens to make a snowflake?

- phase transition when liquid freezes into solid
- seed with crystal growth as water droplets attach
- different faces have different energy (generally, systems want to minimize the energy)
- What are the effects of temperature? solute? freezing rate? other variables?

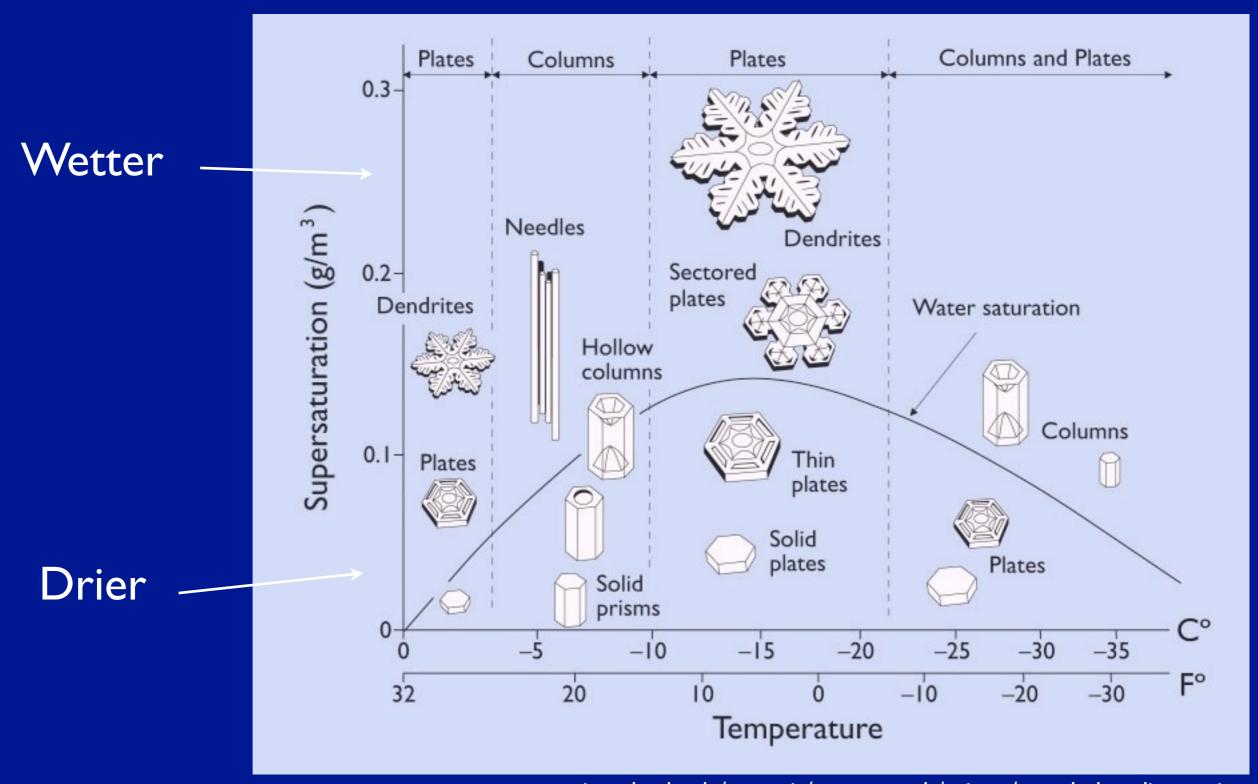




www.its.caltech.edu

Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

Snowflake morphologies



www.its.caltech.edu/~atomic/snowcrystals/primer/morphologydiagram.jpg

Snowflakes

Experiment (photo)



Kenneth G. Libbrecht, Caltech

Computer simulation



David Griffeaths, U.Wisc.; Antoine Clappier



David Griffeaths, U.Wisc, http://psoup.math.wisc.edu/Snowfakes

We can model many of the processes:

Virtual Kinetics of Materials Laboratory: Dendritic Growth https://nanohub.org/tools/vkmlggs

Mouse over each parameter name to see a description

See what happens when you change:

Enthalpy of Melting

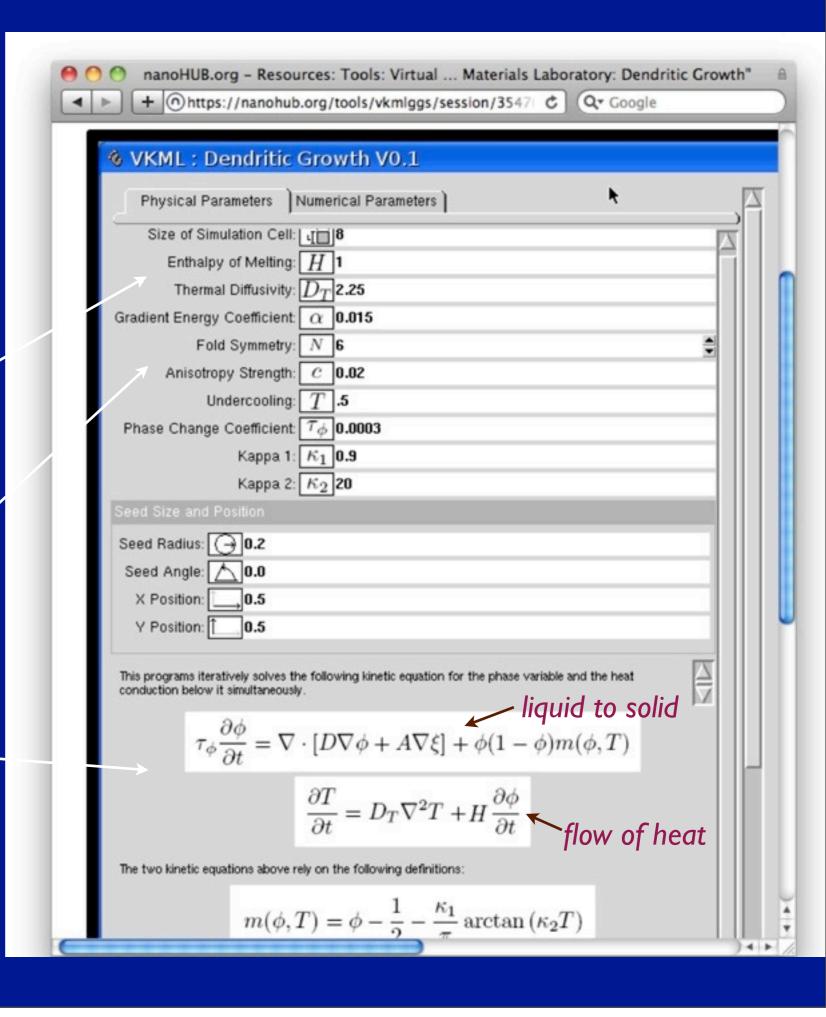
Fold symmetry

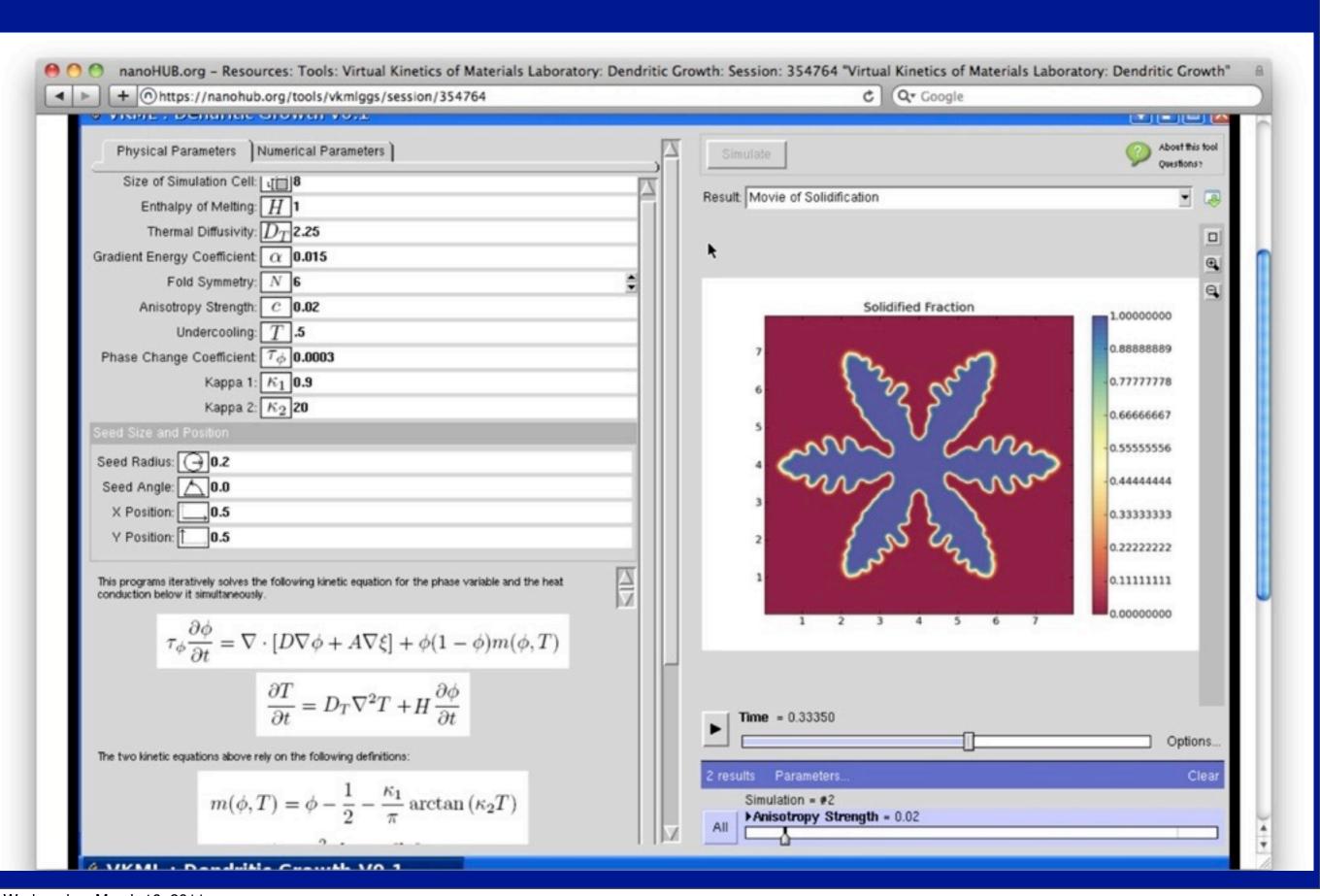
Anisotropy Strength

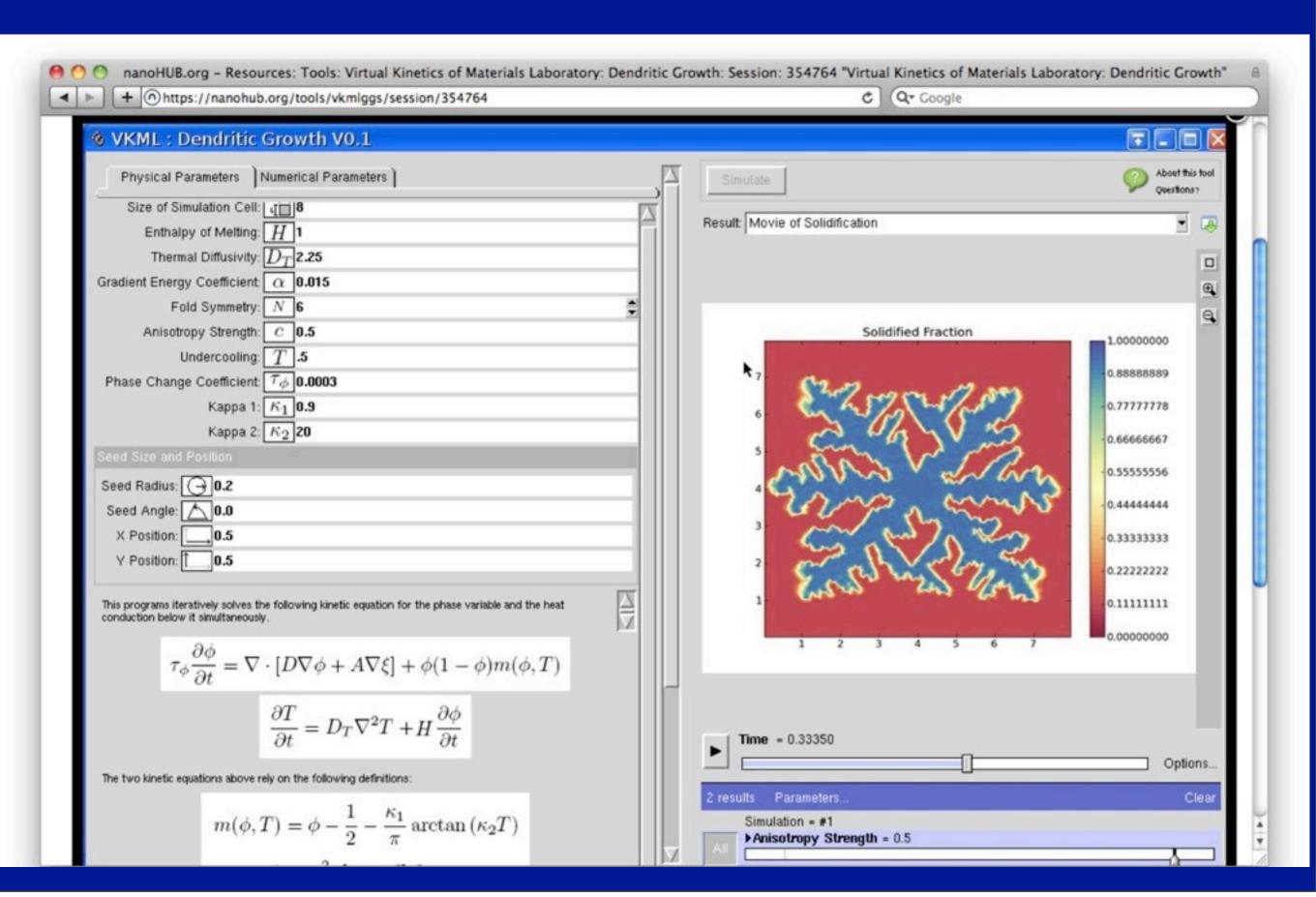
These equations describe how the dendrite grows.

Don't worry about the details.

They are an example of the kinds of problem that is hard for humans to solve, but for which computers are great.







Additional resources

- Model kits:
 - http://3dmoleculardesigns.com
- Snowflakes:
 - snowcrystals.com
 - http://psoup.math.wisc.edu/3dMovies/3dMovies.htm
- Lots of great simulation tools:
 - http://mw.concord.org/modeler/showcase/index.html

Contact Information

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Feel free to contact me with questions