

Molecular Simulation Modules Redeployed

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Some years ago, CACHE organized the community in an NSF-funded project to produce computer based, graphically-oriented molecular simulation modules for undergraduate and graduate instruction. Each module consists an interactive molecular simulation, with written supporting material related to it. The project has had long-lasting impact, with many instructors continuing to rely on the modules to support some part of their undergraduate teaching.

The recent evolution of operating-system distributions and internet browsers has introduced obstacles to running Java-based applets and applications. Not all computers have Java installed, or do not support applets running the browser, or require adjustments to security settings to allow the modules to run.

In response to this, we have updated the packaging of the modules, and we now distribute them as self-contained applications that run independent of the Java configuration on your computer – they do not run in the browser, and you do not need Java installed at all in order to use them.

To get the latest distribution, visit the modules web site: modules.etomica.org.

Snapshot of the piston-cylinder module

