



## Grand-Canonical Monte-Carlo NSCCS ADF/ReaxFF Workshop

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# Grand-Canonical Monte-Carlo

## Intro

### Task:

Model a system that is in  
**thermodynamic equilibrium**  
(e.g. sorption in multi-component systems)

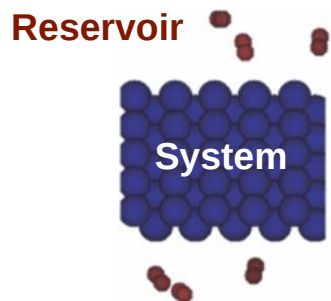
### MD (ambient P,T)

Limited by timescales,  
Reactions are rare events

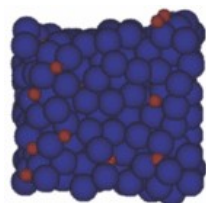
### MD (high P,T)

High energy processes:  
thermodynamically not feasible

**Grand canonical MC:** stochastic exchange of atoms (reservoir  $\leftrightarrow$  system) @ const.  $\mu$   
-> create an  $N_{\text{System}} VT \mu_{\text{Reservoir}}$  - Ensemble

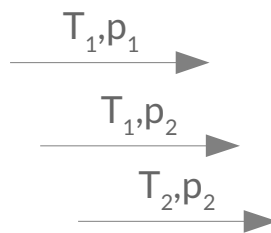


GC-MC

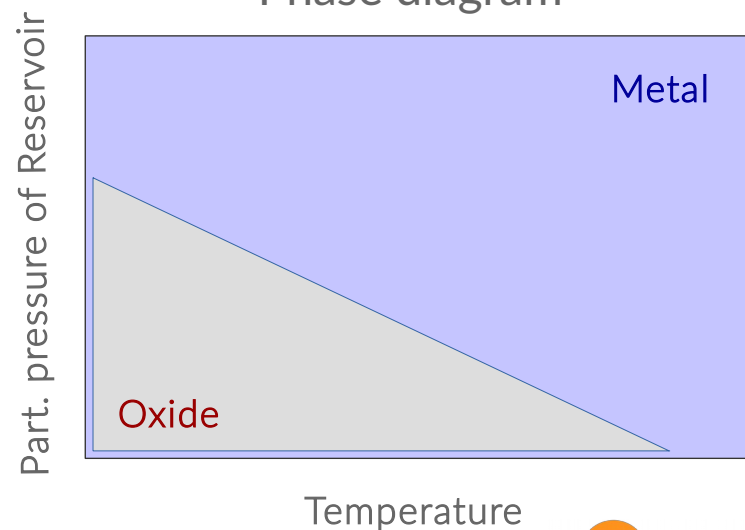


Thermodynamic equilibrium:

$$\mu_{\text{Reservoir}} = \mu_{\text{System}}$$



### Phase diagram



# Grand-Canonical Monte-Carlo

Under the hood

## Monte Carlo moves & acceptance criteria:

1. Insert an atom into the system (random position)

$$P_{insert}^{accept} = \min \left[ 1, \frac{V}{\Lambda^3 (N + 1)} \exp[-\beta (E_2 - E_1 - \mu_{res})] \right]$$

2. Remove an atom from the system (random atom)

$$P_{remove}^{accept} = \min \left[ 1, \frac{N \Lambda^3}{V} \exp[-\beta (E_2 - E_1 + \mu_{res})] \right]$$

3. Move an atom inside the system  
(random atom, random position)

$$P_{move}^{accept} = \min [1, \exp[-\beta (E_2 - E_1)]]$$

Note:

Every MC-move is followed by a geometry optimization (loose convergence criterium).

The three moves are generated with equal frequency.

$V$ : Volume of System

$N$ : Num. exchangeable Particles

$\Lambda$ : Thermal de Broglie wavelength

$\beta$ : Boltzmann factor

$E_2$ : Energy after MC-move

$E_1$ : Energy before MC-move

$\mu_{res}$ : Chemical potential of reservoir

$\mu_{res}(p,T)$ ,  $T$  are the central parameters for this GCMC algorithm

Senftle et al., J. Chem. Phys. **139**, 044109 (2013); <http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.4815820>

# Grand-Canonical Monte-Carlo

## Calculation of the chemical potential

The chemical potential of the reservoir,  $\mu_{\text{res}}(p,T)$ , sets the partial pressure of the simulation and depends on the Temperature. It needs to be re-calculated from thermodynamics data for the conditions that are about to simulated.

For diatomic molecules like  $\text{O}_2$  the calculation is done as follows

$$\mu_{\text{Res}} = \mu_{\text{O}}(T,p) = \frac{1}{2} \mu_{\text{O}_2}(T,p) = \frac{1}{2} [\mu_{\text{O}_2}(T,p^0) + k_b T \cdot \ln(p^0/p) - E_d]$$

with  $\mu_{\text{O}_2}(T,p^0)$  calculated from published thermochemical data:

$$\mu_{\text{O}_2}(T,p^0) = \Delta H_T - T \cdot S_T$$

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$\mu_{\text{O}_2}(T,p)$  : chemical potential of  $\text{O}_2$  at given Temperature (T) and partial Pressure (p)

$\mu_{\text{O}_2}(T,p^0)$  : chemical potential of  $\text{O}_2$  at given Temperature (T) and standard Pressure ( $p^0$ )

$E_d$  : ReaxFF dissociation energy of  $\text{O}_2$

$\Delta H_T$  : Enthalpy at given Temperature, i.e.  $H - H_{T_{\text{ref}} = 0\text{K}}$

$S_T$  : Entropy at given Temperature

Senftle et al., J. Chem. Phys. **139**, 044109 (2013); <http://dx.doi.org/10.1063/1.4815820>

# Hands on: Grand-Canonical Monte-Carlo

## Inputfiles

GCMC does not have GUI-support (yet). The calculations will thus be run from the command line.

A listing of all input and output files can be found [online](#), here only the central input options for this tutorial will be discussed.

The main input file is called **control\_MC** it holds the GCMC settings. For now, the relevant ones being:

- **niter** – Number of GCMC Iterations
- **mctemp** – Temperature in K
- **nmols** – number of MC-molecule types
- **cmpot** –  $\mu_{\text{res}}$  chemical potential of the reservoir in kcal/mol
- **nmatom** – Number of atoms in the molecule

*Example:*

Oxygen reservoir at  $p = 0.1 \text{ atm}$  and  $T = 800\text{K}$ , 5000 GCMC steps @  $N_{\text{sys}} VT\mu_{\text{O}}$

```
niter   = 5000
mctemp  = 800
nmols   = 1
cmpot   = -85.95
nmatom  = 1
```

*Note:*

The partial pressure is set via **cmpot**, not via **mcpress**.

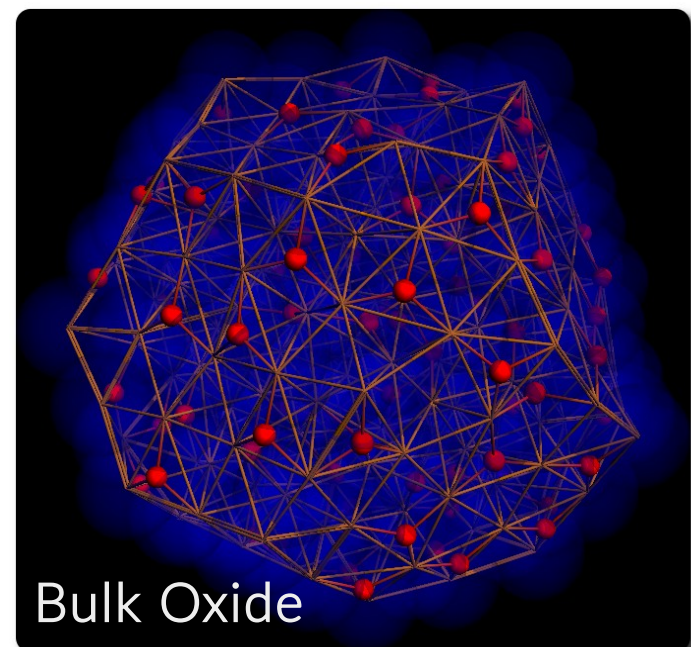
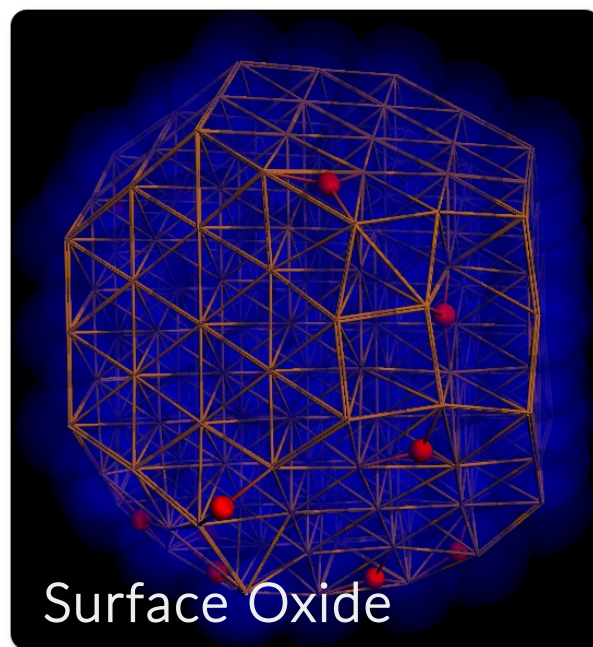
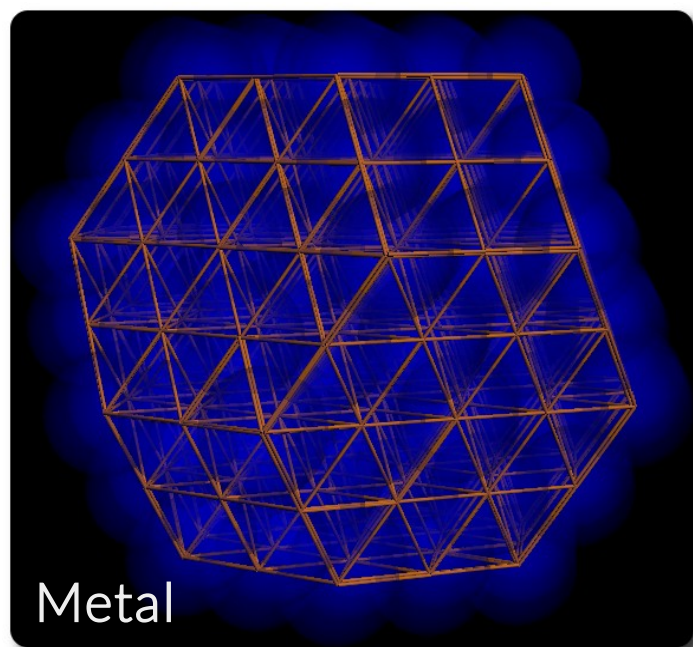
**cmpot** can be calculated as shown on slides 4-5 or in taken from these [tables](#).

# Hands on: Grand-Canonical Monte-Carlo

Simulate PdO formation

Learn how to:

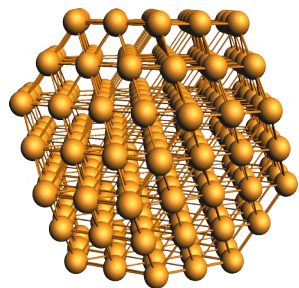
- Setup and run GCMC calculations from the command line
- use Python for custom analysis of trajectories



*Which one is stable at given  $p, T$ ???*

# Hands on: Grand-Canonical Monte-Carlo

## Simulate PdO formation - Inputfiles



### Task:

Simulate the oxidation of a small (201 atoms) Pd-Cluster\* under different conditions  $p_O$ ,  $T$ . The phase boundary between Bulk- and Surface-Oxide for this (test) system lies in between  $p_O > 10^{-10}$  and  $p_O < 10^{-14}$  atm @ 800K.

- Can you verify this?
- Can you narrow down the range?



### Files:

Templates for the required ReaxFF input can be found in ./GCMC/PdO.

### Preparation:

Prepare by creating a folder for each GCMC run and copy the input templates into this folder. Edit the input templates for the according GCMC-runs by using the chemical potentials from these [tables](#).

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\* The structure of the cluster is given. However, how to cut clusters from Bulk is described in this [GUI tutorial](#).



# Hands on: Grand-Canonical Monte-Carlo

Simulate PdO formation – Running the calculations



## Run

The calculations are started by executing the run script **GCMC.run**

Make the script executable (only once):

```
chmod +x GCMC.run
```

run the script from inside it's folder:

```
./GCMC.run &
```

You can monitor the GCMC output using

```
tail -f MCstats
```

pressing **CTRL + c** will exit the tail command

## Outputfiles

The central outputfiles are MCstats and reaxout.kf:

- MCstats contains information about the trials and acceptance of MC moves per each step
- reaxout.kf is an .rxkf results file that can be parsed with KF reading tools, as well as ADFmovie



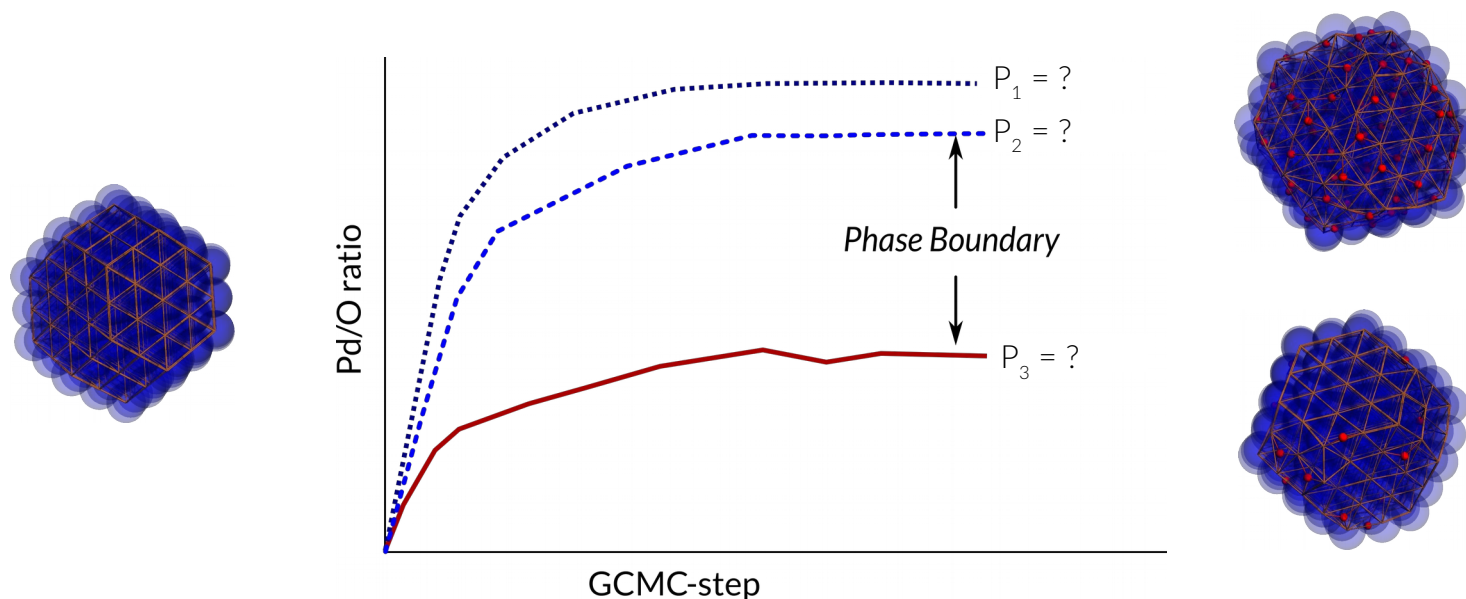
# Hands on: Grand-Canonical Monte-Carlo

Simulate PdO formation – Convergence of the calculations



## Check the convergence

The convergence of the GCMC procedure and the phase boundary can be estimated by looking at the Pd/O ratios per frame :



use the PYTHON script **gcmc\_converge.py** to extract the Pd/O of every frame from the KF file:

```
startpython [path to script]/gcmc_convergence.py reaxout.kf
```

The resulting file, **gcmc\_convergence.out**, contains the current GCMC-step as x- and the Pd/O-ratio as y-values.



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# Visualize your GCMC-structure

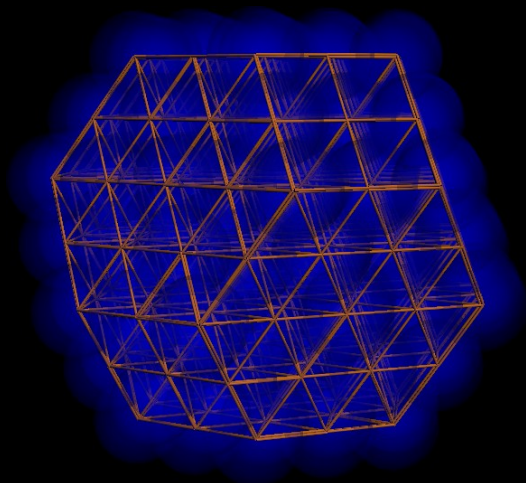
Even without direct GUI support...

Open **reaxout.kf** with ADFmovie

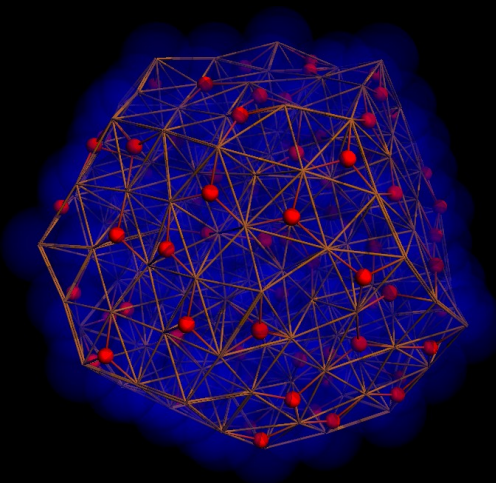
- Jump to the last frame
- File → Save Geometry

Open saved geometry with ADFinput

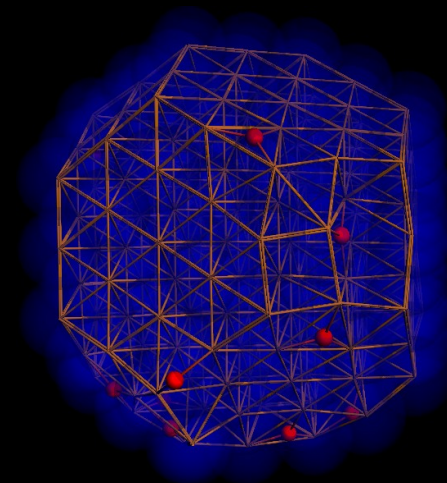
- Edit → Crystal → Map Atoms To Unit Cell



Metal



Bulk Oxide



Surface Oxide

*Hint:*

The glowing spheres can be set via assigning all O- atoms to one region and all Pd-atoms to another...

# Grand-Canonical Monte-Carlo

Examples: Calculation of the chemical potential

Using the data from [NIST](#) and  $E_d = 129 \text{ kcal/mol}^*$ , we calculate the chemical potentials of an oxygen reservoir for the following conditions:

1.  $T = 500 \text{ K}$ ,  $p_{\text{O}_2} = 1 \text{ atm}$ :

$$\mu_{\text{O}_2}(500\text{K}, p^0) = \Delta H_T - T \cdot S_T = (6.084 + 8.683) - 500 \cdot 0.220693 = -95.5795 \text{ kJ/mol}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{\text{O}_2}(500\text{K}, 1\text{atm}) &= [ (-95.58) + 0.008314 \cdot 500.0 \cdot \ln(1.0/0.9869) + (-129.0 \cdot 4.1839) ] / 8.3677 \\ &= \underline{\underline{-75.92 \text{ kcal/mol}}} \end{aligned}$$

2.  $T = 500 \text{ K}$ ,  $p_{\text{O}_2} = 10^{-6} \text{ atm}$ :

$$\mu_{\text{O}_2}(500\text{K}, p^0) = \Delta H_T - T \cdot S_T = (6.084 + 8.683) - 500 \cdot 0.220693 = -95.5795 \text{ kJ/mol} \quad // \text{ same!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{\text{O}_2}(500\text{K}, 10^{-6} \text{ atm}) &= [ (-95.58) + 0.008314 \cdot 500.0 \cdot \ln(10^{-6}/0.9869) + (-129.0 \cdot 4.1839) ] / 8.3677 \\ &= \underline{\underline{-82.78 \text{ kcal/mol}}} \end{aligned}$$

3.  $T = 1000 \text{ K}$ ,  $p_{\text{O}_2} = 10^{-6} \text{ atm}$ :

$$\mu_{\text{O}_2}(1000\text{K}, p^0) = \Delta H_T - T \cdot S_T = (22.703 + 8.683) - 1000 \cdot 0.220693 = -212.192 \text{ kJ/mol}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{\text{O}_2}(1000\text{K}, 10^{-6} \text{ atm}) &= [ (-212.192) + 0.008314 \cdot 1000 \cdot \ln(10^{-6}/0.9869) + (-129.0 \cdot 4.1839) ] / 8.3677 \\ &= \underline{\underline{-103.57 \text{ kcal/mol}}} \end{aligned}$$

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\* for consistency reasons the ReaxFF- rather than the DFT-energy is used

# Grand-Canonical Monte-Carlo

$\mu_{\text{O}}(p,T)$  : oxygen chemical potentials (kcal/mol)

T(K)	1(atm)	10 <sup>-1</sup>	10 <sup>-2</sup>	10 <sup>-3</sup>	10 <sup>-4</sup>	10 <sup>-5</sup>
298.15	-70.77	-71.45	-72.13	-72.81	-73.50	-74.18
300	-70.81	-71.50	-72.19	-72.87	-73.56	-74.25
350	-72.05	-72.85	-73.66	-74.46	-75.26	-76.06
400	-73.32	-74.23	-75.15	-76.06	-76.98	-77.90
450	-74.61	-75.64	-76.67	-77.70	-78.73	-79.76
500	-75.92	-77.06	-78.20	-79.35	-80.49	-81.64
600	-78.59	-79.96	-81.33	-82.71	-84.08	-85.45
700	-81.32	-82.92	-84.53	-86.13	-87.73	-89.33
800	-84.11	-85.95	-87.78	-89.61	-91.44	-93.27
900	-86.96	-89.02	-91.08	-93.13	-95.19	-97.25
1000	-89.85	-92.13	-94.42	-96.71	-99.00	-101.28
1100	-92.78	-95.29	-97.81	-100.33	-102.84	-105.36
1200	-95.74	-98.49	-101.23	-103.98	-106.73	-109.47
1300	-98.75	-101.72	-104.70	-107.67	-110.64	-113.62
1400	-101.78	-104.99	-108.19	-111.39	-114.60	-117.80
1500	-104.85	-108.28	-111.72	-115.15	-118.58	-122.01
1600	-107.95	-111.61	-115.27	-118.93	-122.59	-126.25
1700	-111.07	-114.96	-118.85	-122.74	-126.63	-130.52
1800	-114.22	-118.34	-122.46	-126.58	-130.70	-134.82
1900	-117.40	-121.75	-126.09	-130.44	-134.79	-139.13
2000	-120.60	-125.17	-129.75	-134.33	-138.90	-143.48



# Grand-Canonical Monte-Carlo

$\mu_{\text{O}}(p,T)$  : oxygen chemical potentials (kcal/mol) - continued

T(K)	10 <sup>-6</sup> (atm)	10 <sup>-7</sup>	10 <sup>-8</sup>	10 <sup>-9</sup>	10 <sup>-10</sup>	10 <sup>-11</sup>	10 <sup>-12</sup>	10 <sup>-13</sup>	10 <sup>-14</sup>
298.15	-74.86	-75.54	-76.23	-76.91	-77.59	-78.27	-78.95	-79.64	-80.32
300	-74.93	-75.62	-76.30	-76.99	-77.68	-78.36	-79.05	-79.74	-80.42
350	-76.86	-77.66	-78.46	-79.26	-80.06	-80.86	-81.66	-82.46	-83.26
400	-78.81	-79.73	-80.64	-81.56	-82.47	-83.39	-84.30	-85.22	-86.13
450	-80.78	-81.81	-82.84	-83.87	-84.90	-85.93	-86.96	-87.99	-89.02
500	-82.78	-83.92	-85.07	-86.21	-87.36	-88.50	-89.64	-90.79	-91.93
600	-86.82	-88.20	-89.57	-90.94	-92.31	-93.69	-95.06	-96.43	-97.81
700	-90.93	-92.53	-94.14	-95.74	-97.34	-98.94	-100.54	-102.14	-103.74
800	-95.10	-96.93	-98.76	-100.59	-102.42	-104.25	-106.08	-107.91	-109.74
900	-99.31	-101.37	-103.43	-105.49	-107.55	-109.61	-111.67	-113.73	-115.78
1000	-103.57	-105.86	-108.15	-110.44	-112.72	-115.01	-117.30	-119.59	-121.88
1100	-107.88	-110.39	-112.91	-115.43	-117.94	-120.46	-122.98	-125.49	-128.01
1200	-112.22	-114.96	-117.71	-120.45	-123.20	-125.94	-128.69	-131.44	-134.18
1300	-116.59	-119.57	-122.54	-125.52	-128.49	-131.46	-134.44	-137.41	-140.39
1400	-121.00	-124.21	-127.41	-130.61	-133.82	-137.02	-140.22	-143.42	-146.63
1500	-125.44	-128.88	-132.31	-135.74	-139.17	-142.60	-146.03	-149.47	-152.90
1600	-129.91	-133.57	-137.23	-140.90	-144.56	-148.22	-151.88	-155.54	-159.20
1700	-134.41	-138.30	-142.19	-146.08	-149.97	-153.86	-157.75	-161.64	-165.53
1800	-138.93	-143.05	-147.17	-151.29	-155.41	-159.53	-163.64	-167.76	-171.88
1900	-143.48	-147.83	-152.18	-156.52	-160.87	-165.22	-169.56	-173.91	-178.26
2000	-148.05	-152.63	-157.21	-161.78	-166.36	-170.93	-175.51	-180.08	-184.66