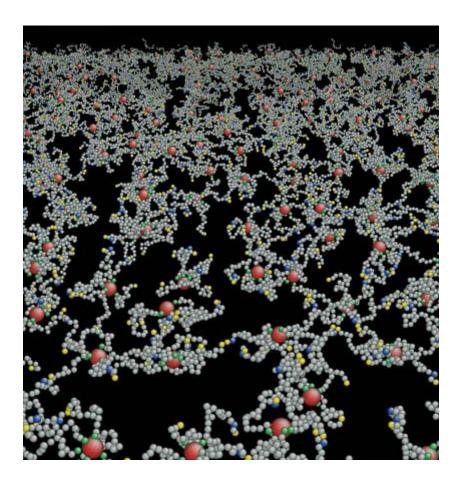
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Simulation of membrane-bound cytoskeleton in a human red blood cell, which governs its structural integrity in shear. The large red beads represent actin protofilaments (35 nm), and the small beads (gray, green, yellow, and blue) represent triple-helical units (5 nm) of spectrin hetero-dimers, which can associate reversibly with the actin as well as with each other. Under shear stress and biochemical activation, the network undergoes intermittent plasticity, or even fluidization. See the article by Li et al. Image courtesy of Ju Li and Subra Suresh.

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