Fig. 5. Top-down illustration of the diffusion reaction simulations implemented to determine  $T_{ov}$  and  $V_{ov}$ . The inset shows the two vesicles' surfaces are separated by distance d and present docking DNA contained in cylinders of length  $l_{DNA}$  and radius  $r_{DNA}$  at positions  $(\theta_1, \varphi_1) \approx (\pi/2, 0)$  and  $(\theta_2, \varphi_2) \approx (\pi/2, \pi)$ . The yellow shading indicates  $V_{ov}$ , the overlap between two cylinders.

**Fig. 6.** Average overlap time  $(\overline{T}_{ov})$  between vesicles as a function of the maximum surface-to-surface distance which allows docking  $(d_0)$ . Data (O) are taken from simulations (see *Materials and Methods*) of 50 nm radius vesicles confined to a 2500 nm<sup>2</sup> box.  $\overline{T}_{ov}$  was obtained by averaging the motion of 10 vesicles over  $10^7$  Monte Carlo steps, which corresponds to 30 s. The data show a clear linear trend (solid line).

**Fig. 7.** Average overlap volume  $(\overline{V}_{ov})$  per Monte Carlo step as a function of the number  $(N_{DNA})$  of docking DNA on two vesicles of 50 nm radius. Docking DNA are modeled as cylinders of length,  $l_{DNA} = 10$  nm. The vesicles are kept at a fixed surface-to-surface distance equal to  $l_{DNA}$ . Data (O) were obtained by averaging over  $10^7$  Monte Carlo steps, and are fit well by a quadratic trend (solid line).

**Movie 1.** Streaming video showing a DNA-mediated docking event between tethered vesicles.