



**BIMM 143**  
**Structural Bioinformatics**

Lecture 11

**Barry Grant**  
**UC San Diego**

<http://thegrantlab.org/bimm143>

<http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Development/Download/download.cgi>

*“Bioinformatics is the application of computers to the collection, archiving, organization, and analysis of biological data.”*

... A hybrid of biology and computer science

*“Bioinformatics is the application of computers to the collection, archiving, organization, and analysis of biological data.”*

**Bioinformatics is computer aided biology!**

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**Bioinformatics is computer aided biology!**

**Goal: Data to Knowledge**

So what is **structural bioinformatics**?

So what is **structural bioinformatics**?

**... computer aided structural biology!**

Aims to characterize and interpret biomolecules and their assemblies at the molecular & atomic level

**Why should we care?**

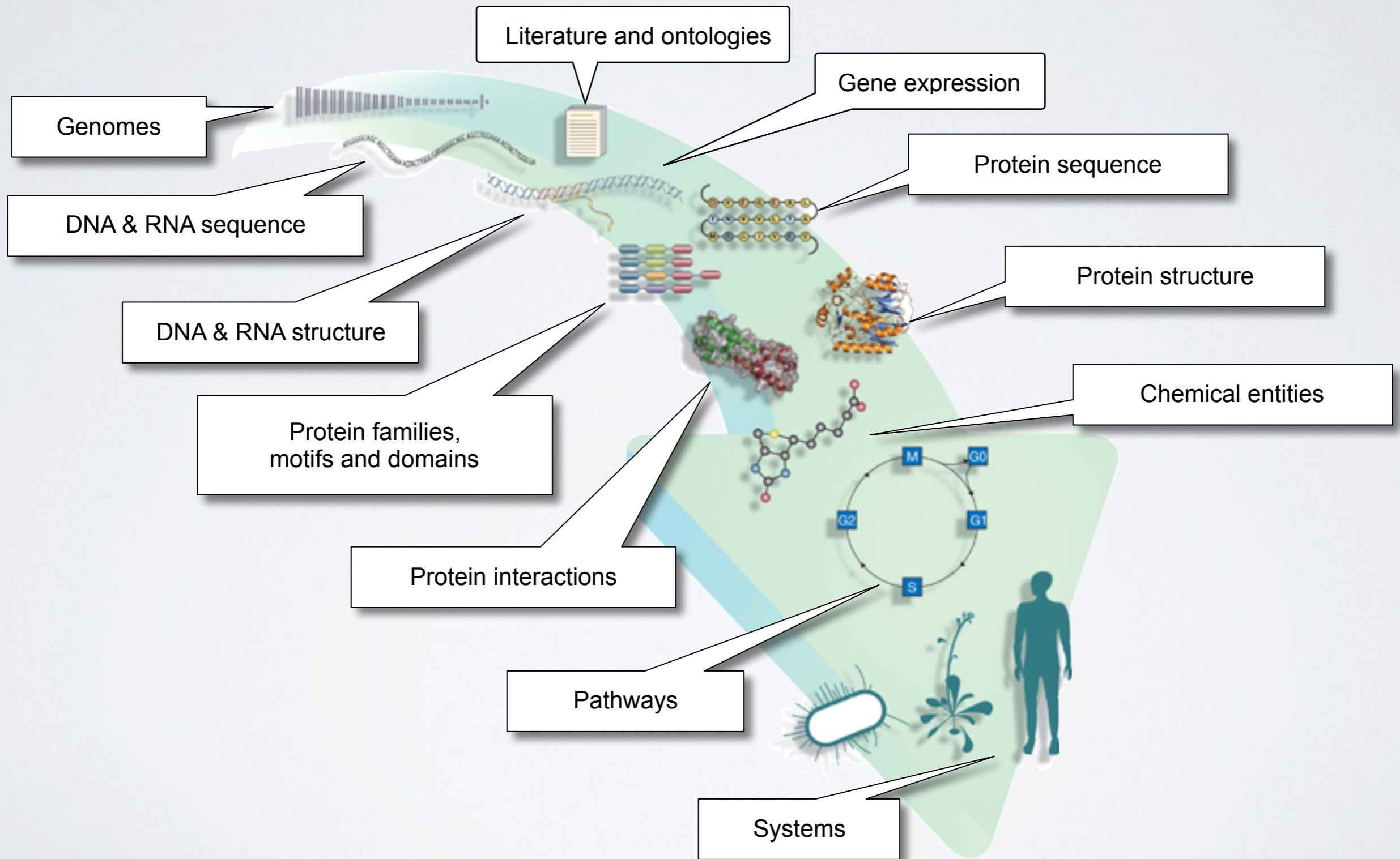
# Why should we care?

Because biomolecules are “nature’s robots”

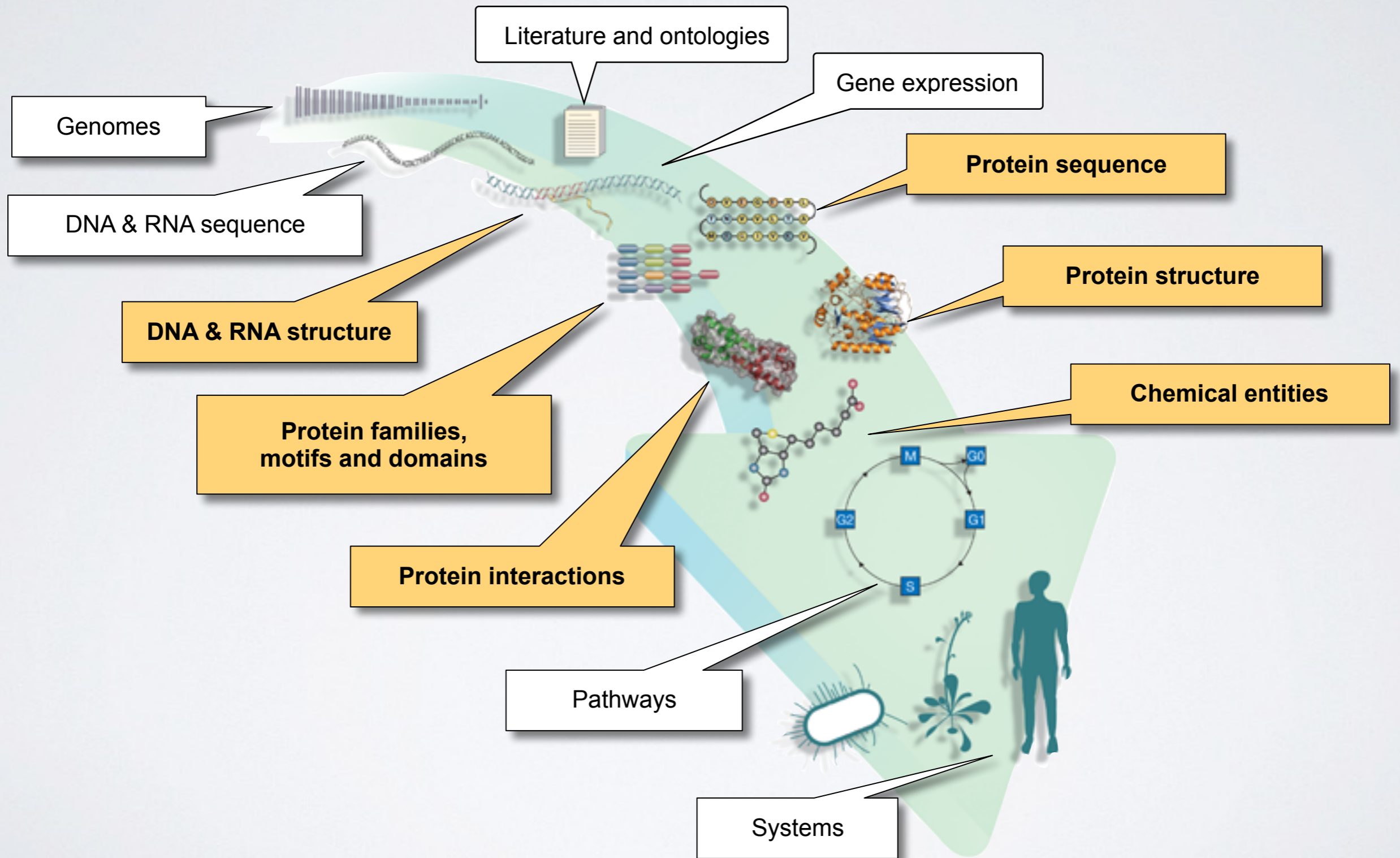
... and because it is only by coiling into **specific 3D structures** that they are able to perform their functions



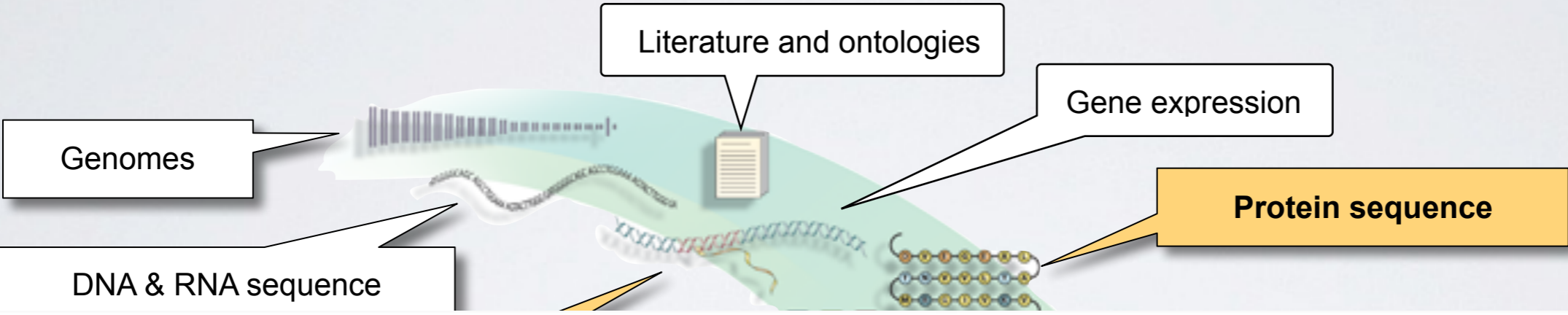
# BIOINFORMATICS DATA



# STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL



# STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL



**Sequence > Structure > Function**

DNA & RNA structure

Protein structure

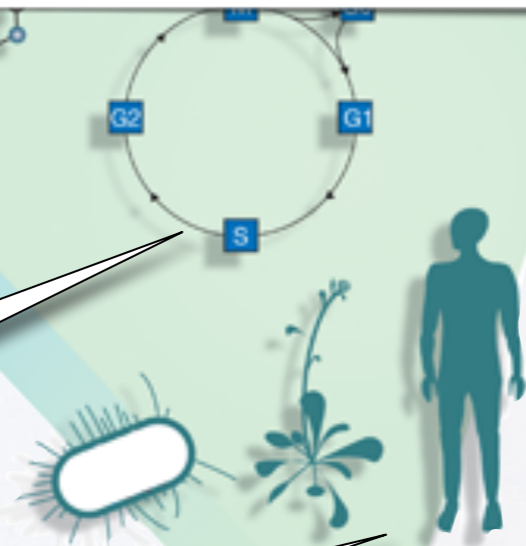
Protein families,  
motifs and domains

Chemical entities

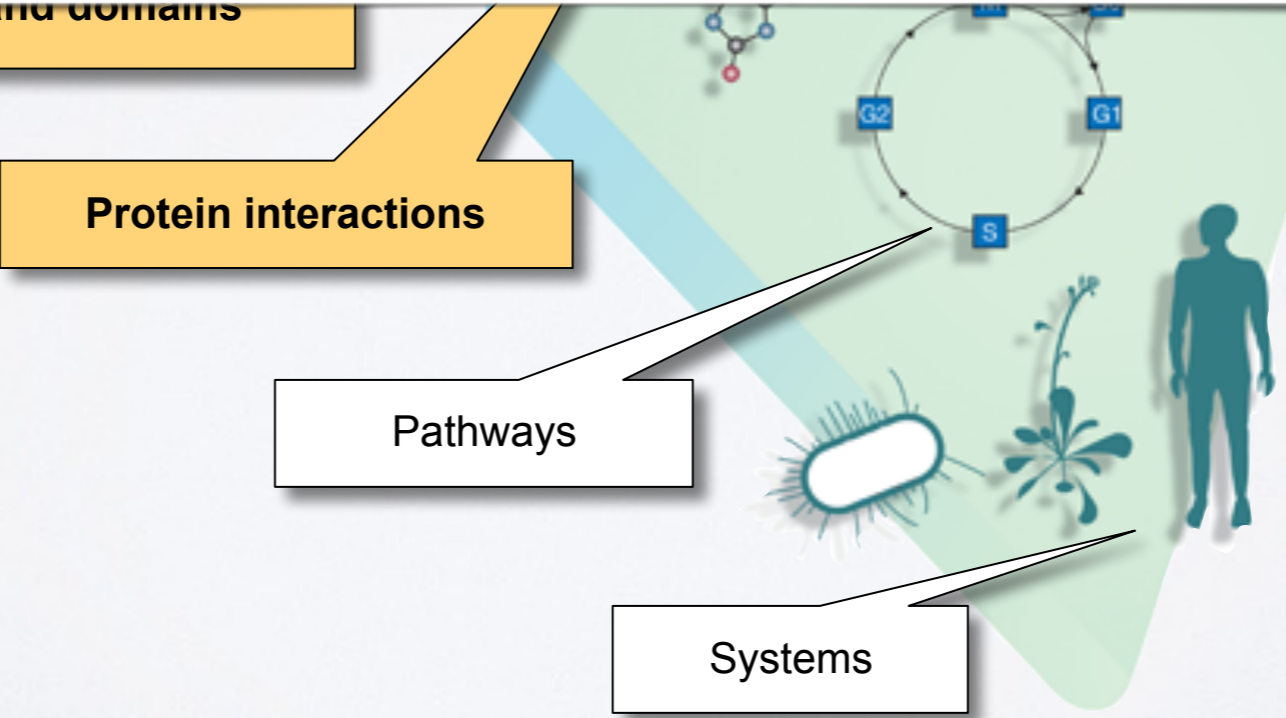
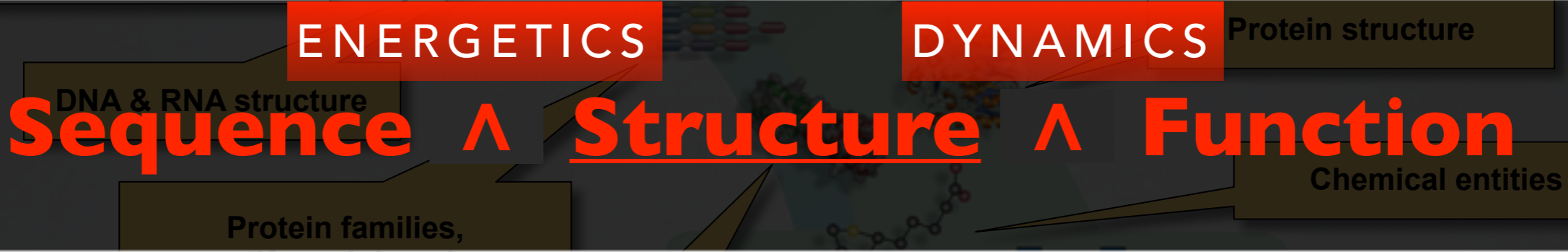
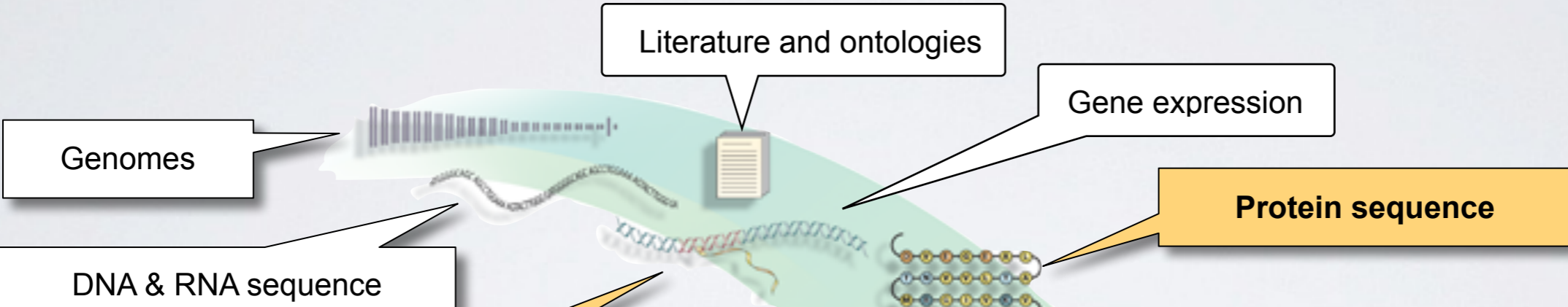
Protein interactions

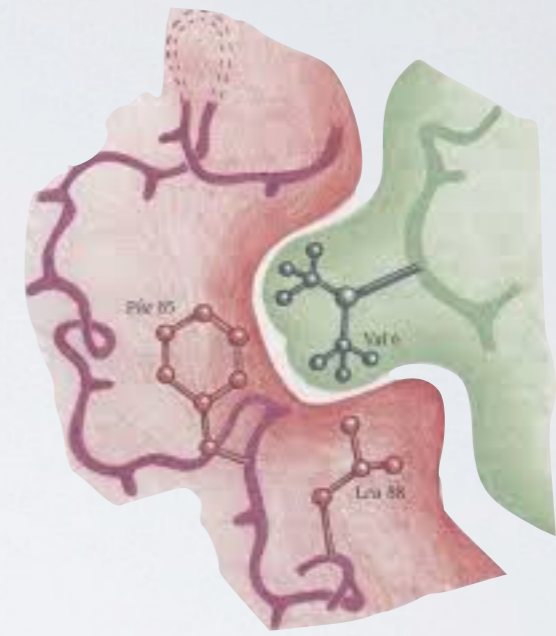
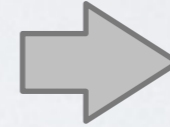
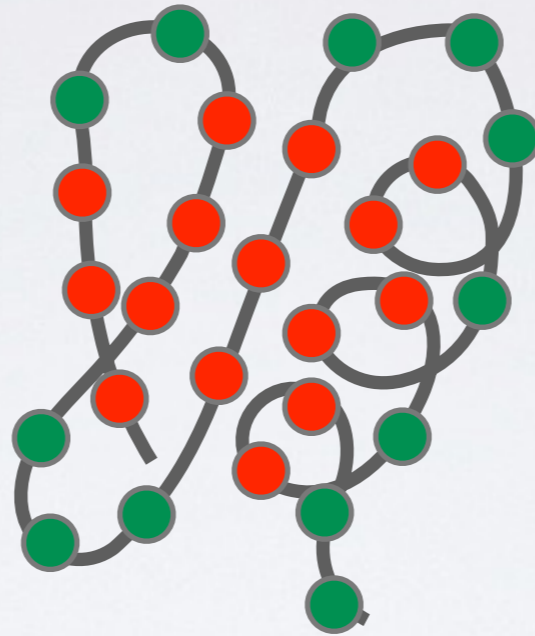
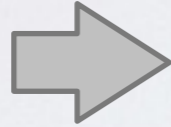
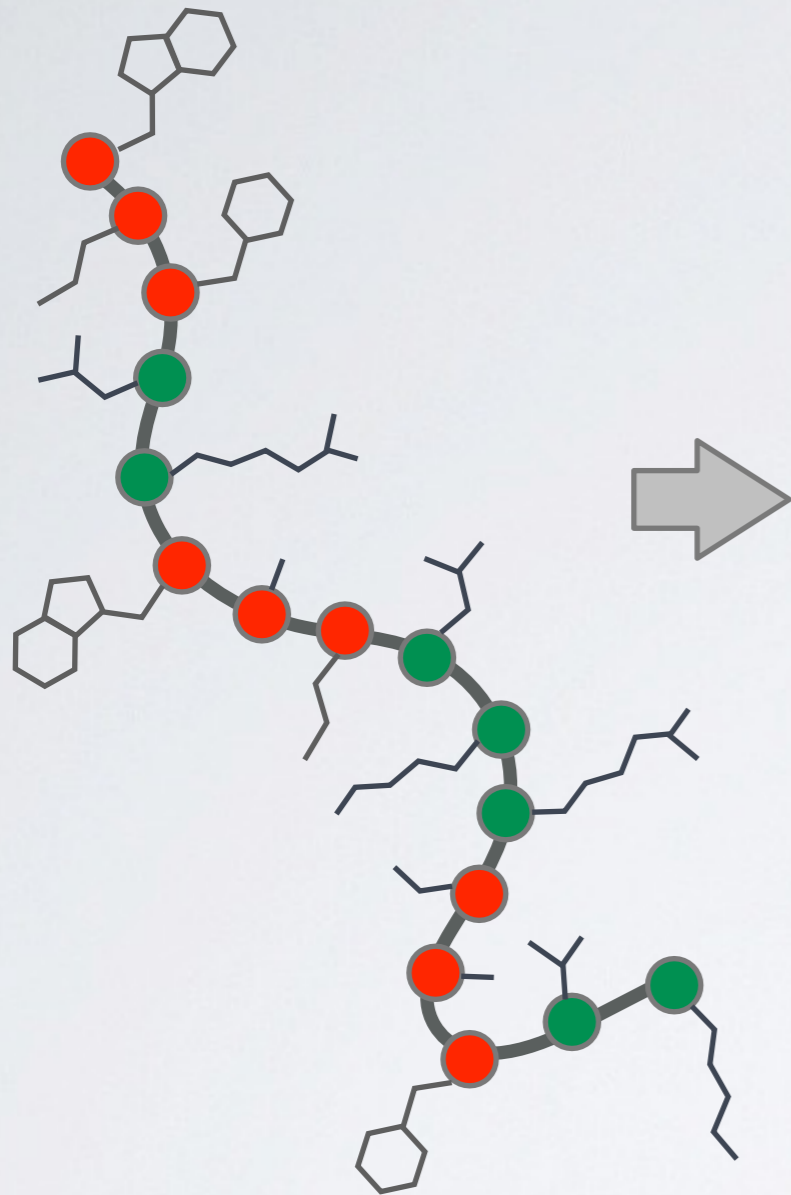
Pathways

Systems



# STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL





## Sequence

- Unfolded chain of amino acid chain
- Highly mobile
- Inactive

## Structure

- Ordered in a precise 3D arrangement
- Stable but dynamic

## Function

- Active in specific "conformations"
- Specific associations & precise reactions

In daily life, we use machines with functional *structure* and *moving parts*



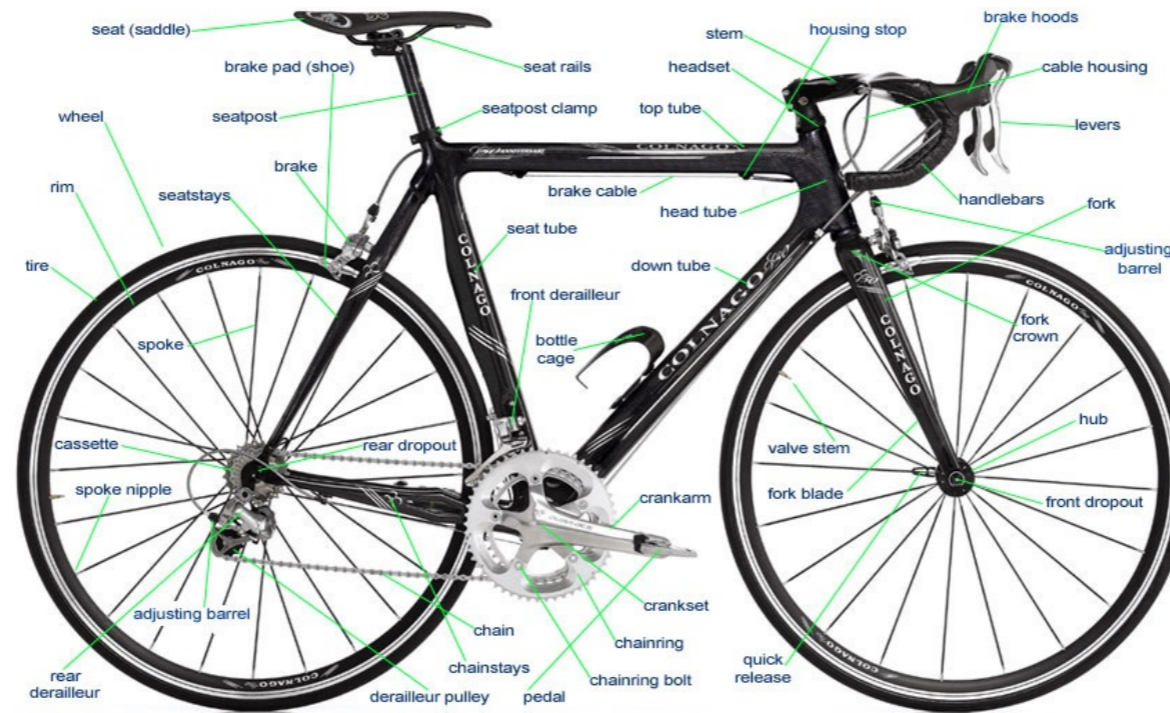
# Genomics is a great start ....

## Track Bike – DL 175

REF. NO.	IBM NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	156011	Track Frame 21", 22", 23", 24", Team Red
2	157040	Fork for 21" Frame
2	157039	Fork for 22" Frame
2	157038	Fork for 23" Frame
2	157037	Fork for 24" Frame
3	191202	Handlebar TTT Competition Track Alloy 15/16"
4		Handlebar Stem, TTT, Specify extension
5	191278	Expander Bolt
6	191272	Clamp Bolt
7	145841	Headset Complete 1 x 24 BSC
8	145842	Ball Bearings
9	190420	175 Raleigh Pistard Seta Tubular Prestavalve 27"
10	190233	Rim, 27" AVA Competition (36H) Alloy Prestavalve
11	145973	Hub, Large Flange Campagnolo Pista Track Alloy (pairs)
12	190014	Spokes, 11 5/8"
13	145837	Sleeve
14	145636	Ball Bearings
15	145170	Bottom Bracket Axle
16	145838	Cone for Sleeve
17	146473	L.H. Adjustable Cup
18	145833	Lockring
19	145239	Straps for Toe Clips
20	145834	Fixing Bolt
21	145835	Fixing Washer
22	145822	Dustcap
23	145823	R.H. and L.H. Crankset with Chainwheel
24	146472	Fixed Cup
25	145235	Toe Clips, Christophe, Chrome (Medium)
26	145684	Pedals, Extra Light, Pairs
27	123021	Chain
28	145980	Seat Post
29		Seat Post Bolt and Nut
30	167002	Saddle, Brooks
31	145933	Track Sprocket, Specify 12, 13, 14, 15, or 16 T.

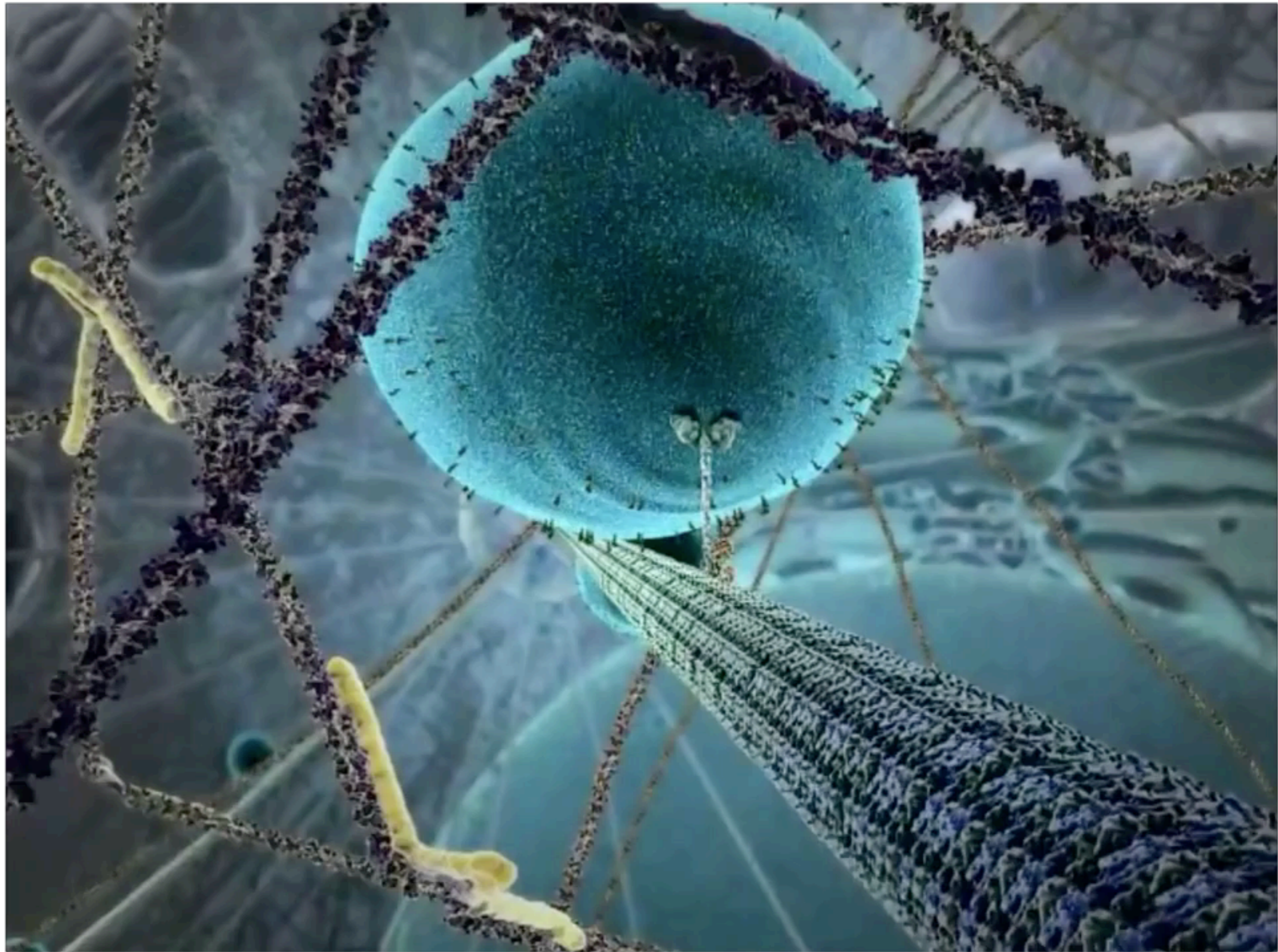
- But a parts list is not enough to understand how a bicycle works

# ... but not the end

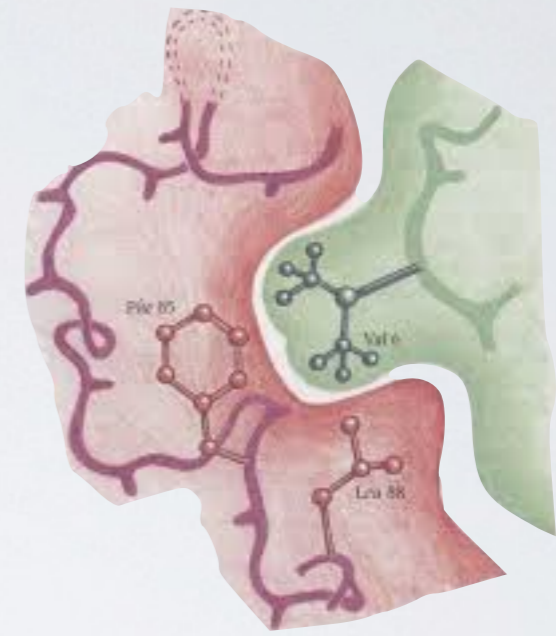
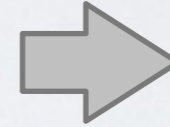
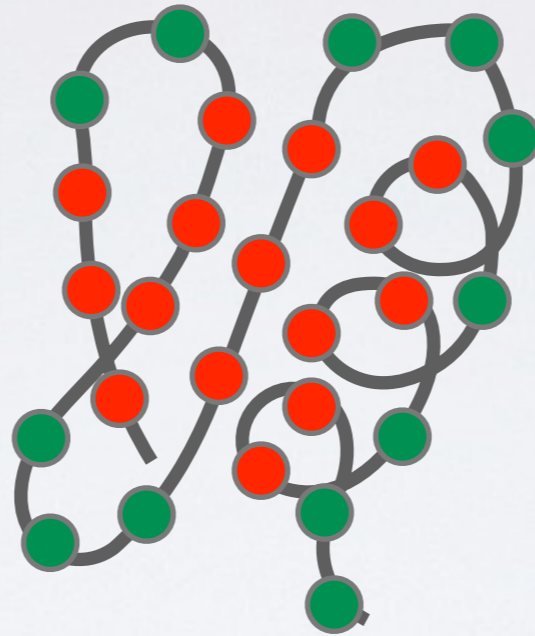
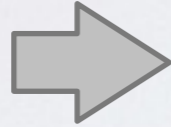
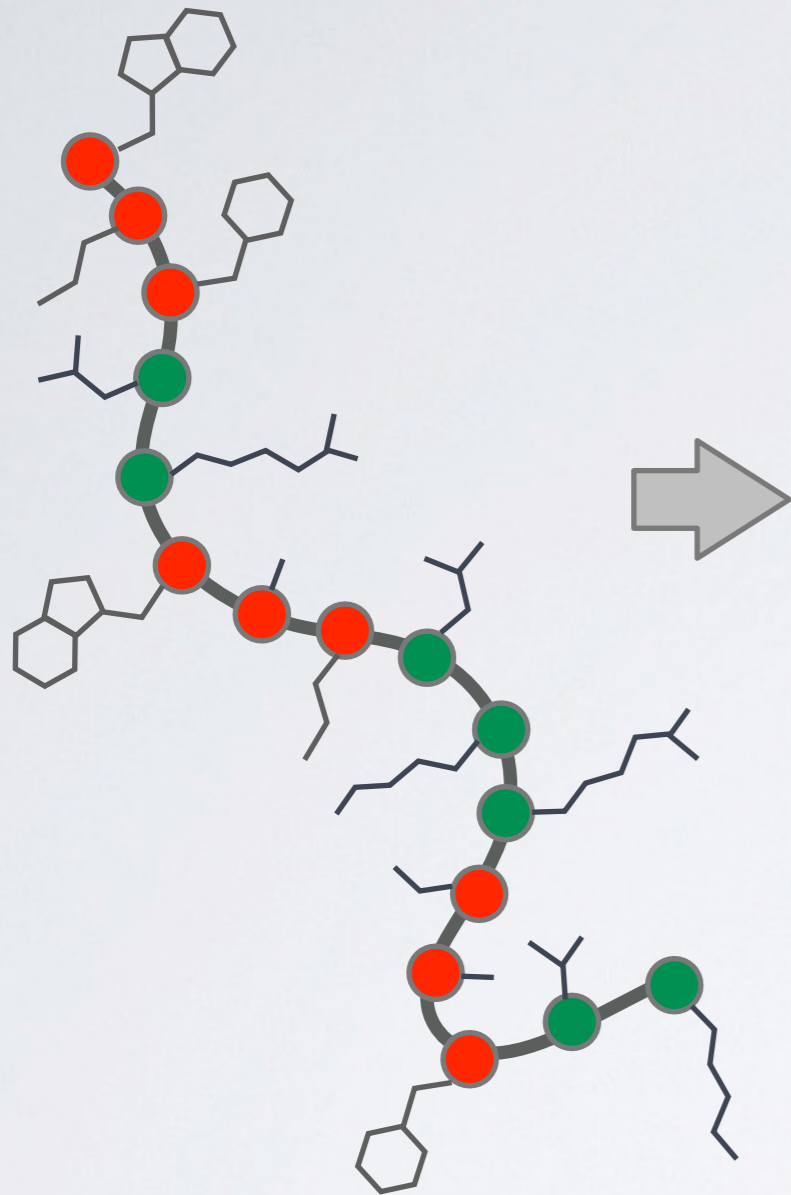


- We want the full spatiotemporal picture, and an ability to control it
- Broad applications, including drug design, medical diagnostics, chemical manufacturing, and energy





Extracted from The Inner Life of a Cell by Cellular Visions and Harvard  
[YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-uuk4Pr2i8> ]



## Sequence

- Unfolded chain of amino acid chain
- Highly mobile
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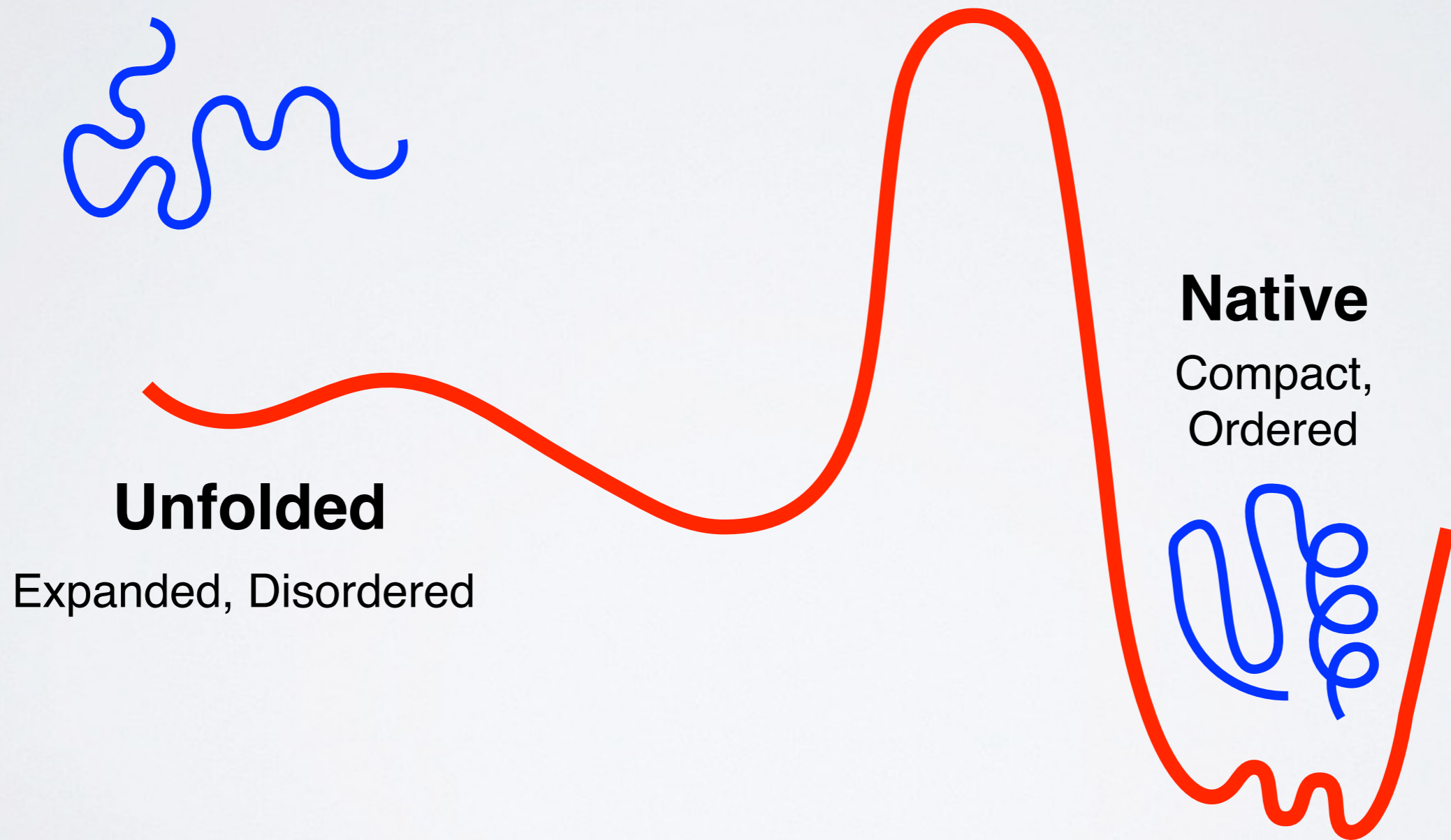
## Structure

- Ordered in a precise 3D arrangement
- Stable but dynamic

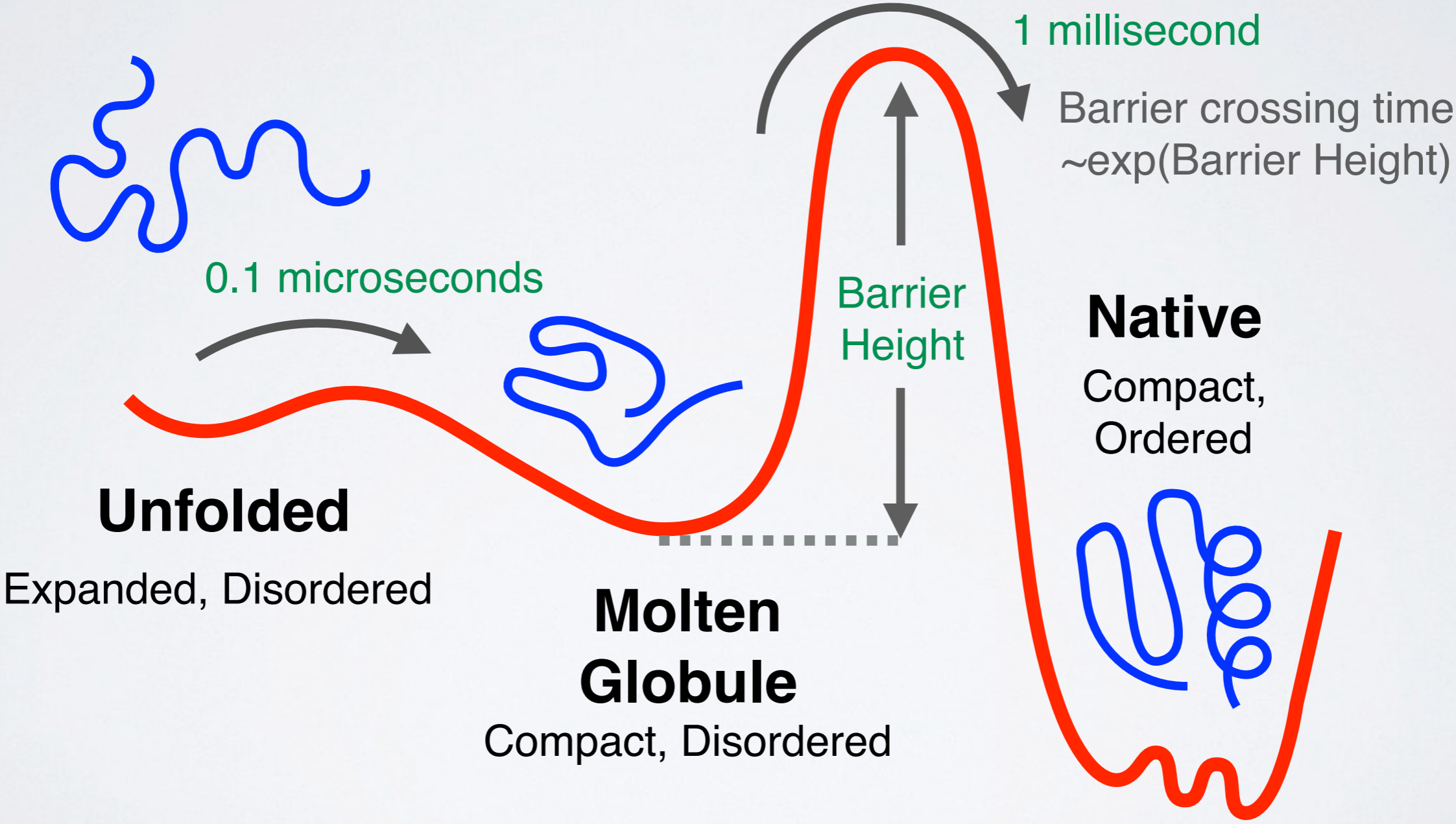
## Function

- Active in specific "conformations"
- Specific associations & precise reactions

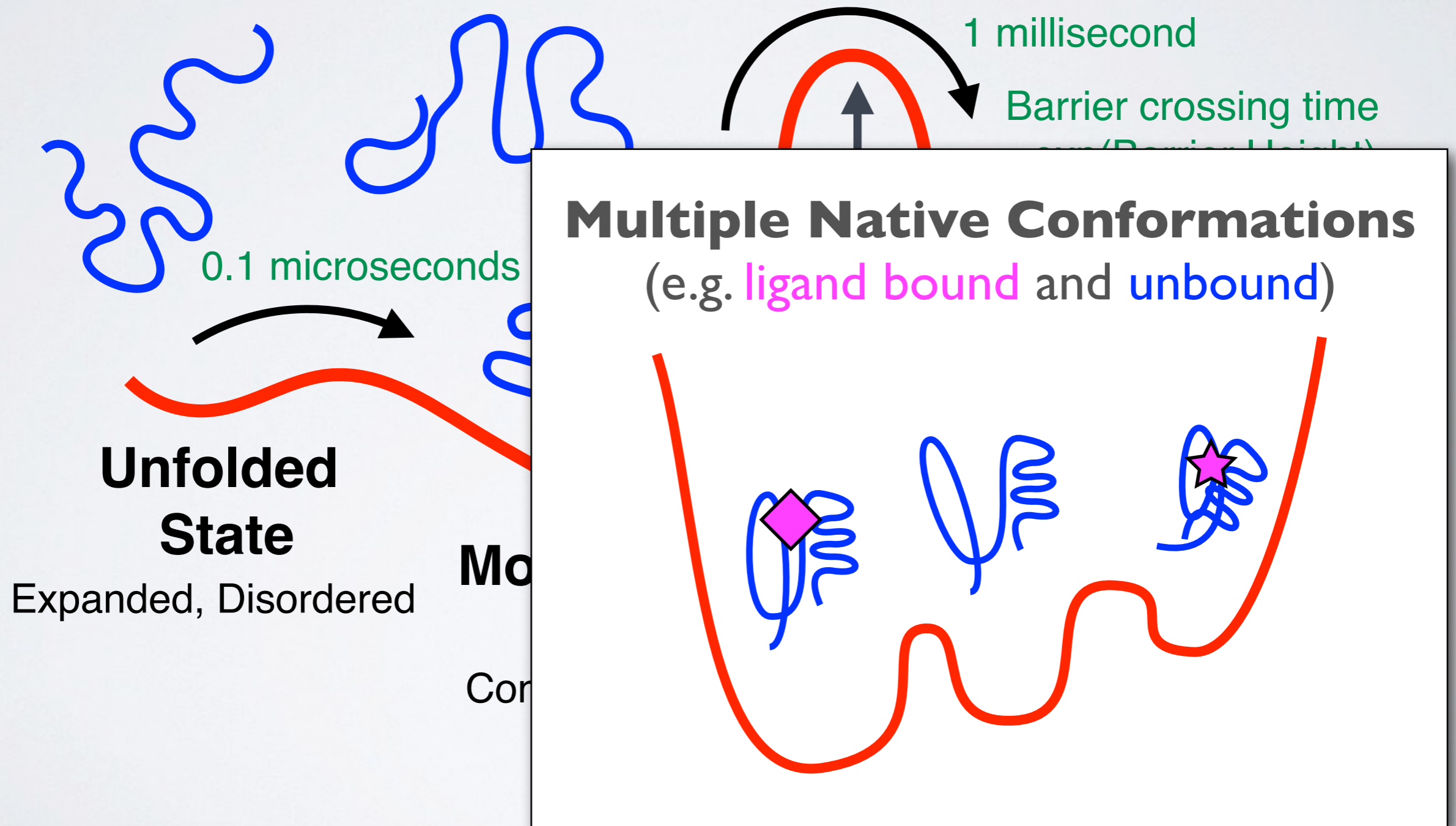
# KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



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# Today's Menu

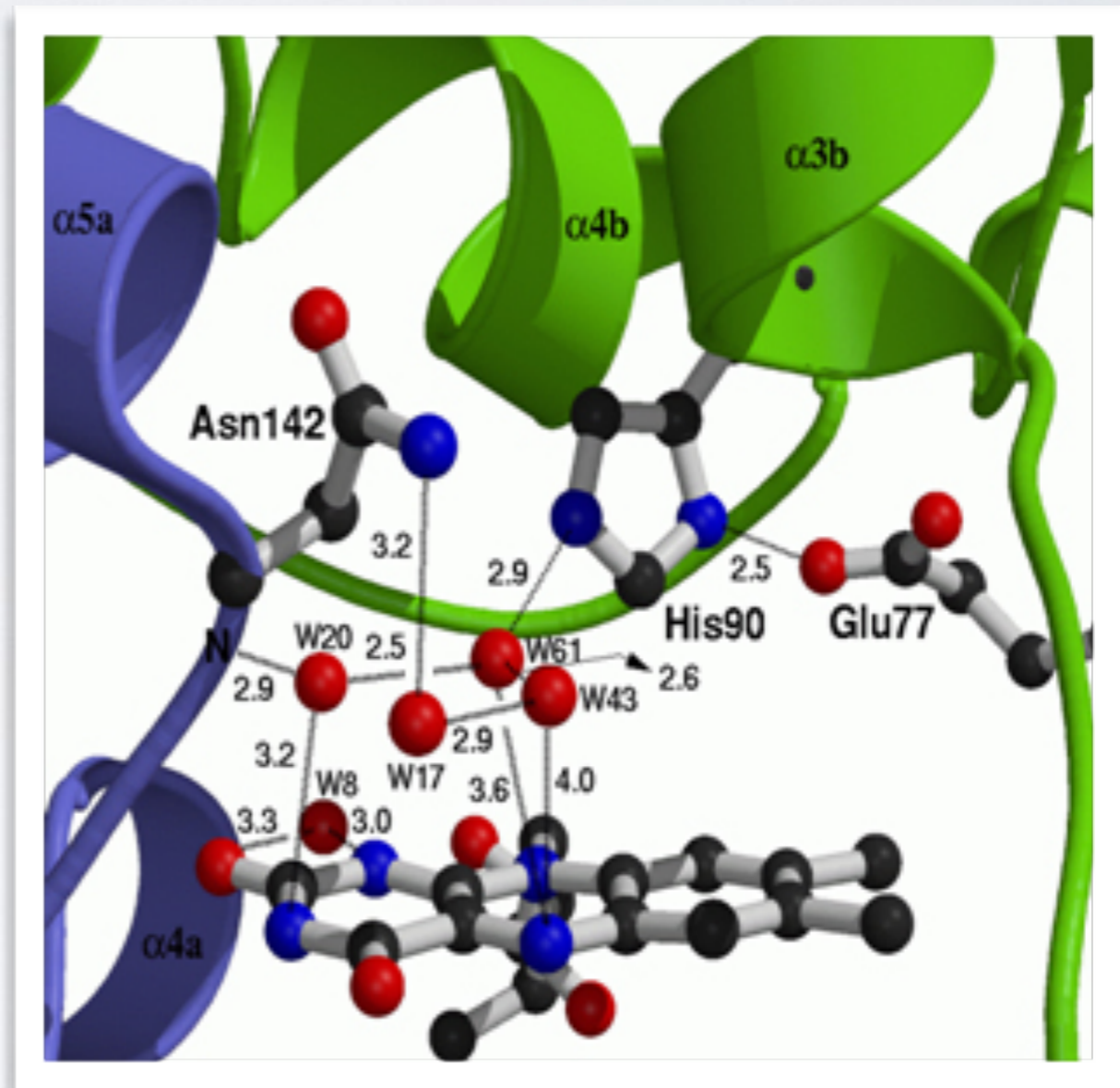
- **Overview of structural bioinformatics**
  - Motivations, goals and challenges
- **Fundamentals of protein structure**
  - Structure composition, form and forces
- **Representing, interpreting & modeling protein structure**
  - Visualizing & interpreting protein structures
  - Analyzing protein structures
  - Modeling energy as a function of structure

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**Motivation 1:**  
Detailed understanding of  
molecular interactions

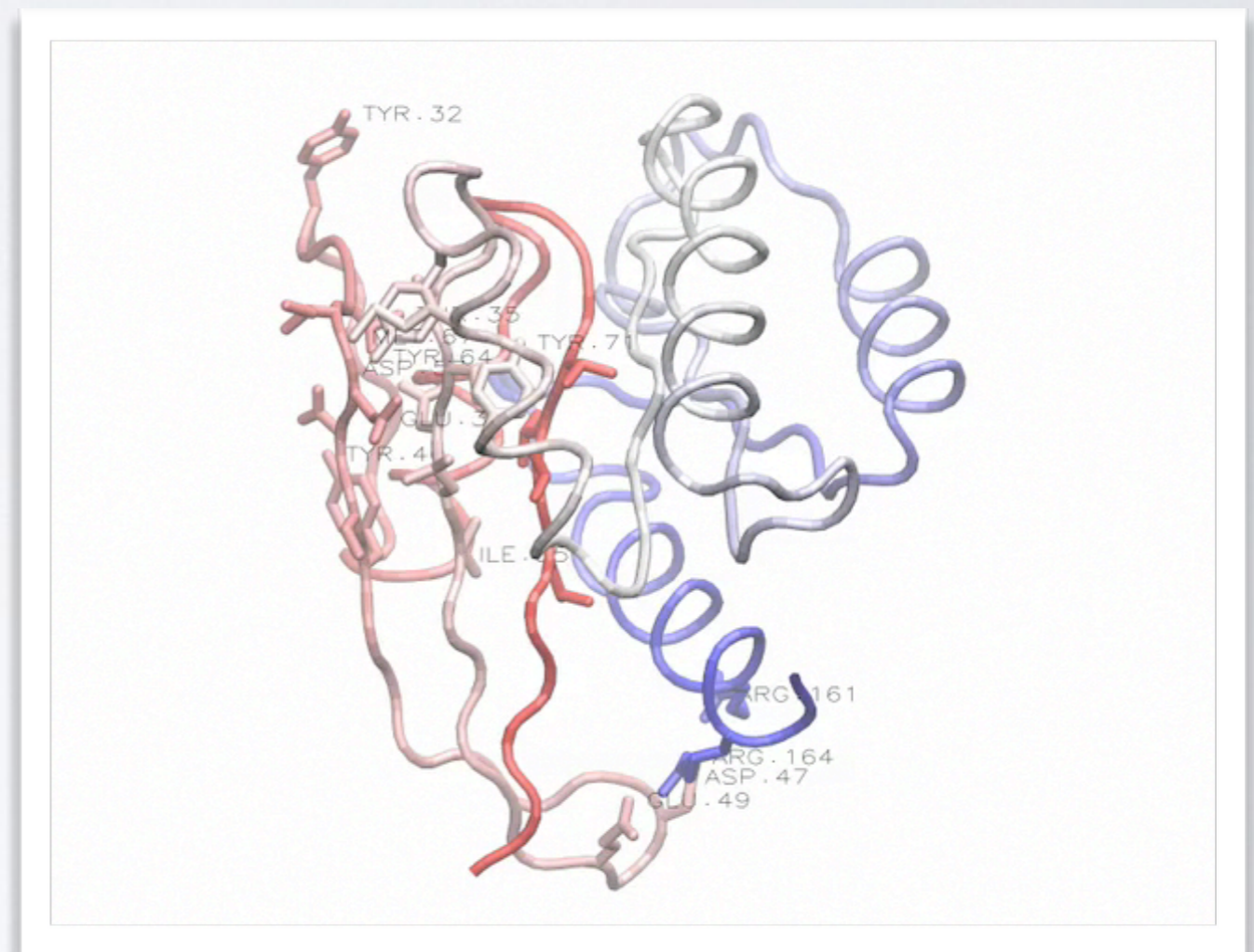
Provides an invaluable structural  
context for conservation and  
mechanistic analysis leading to  
functional insight.





**Motivation 1:**  
Detailed understanding of  
molecular interactions

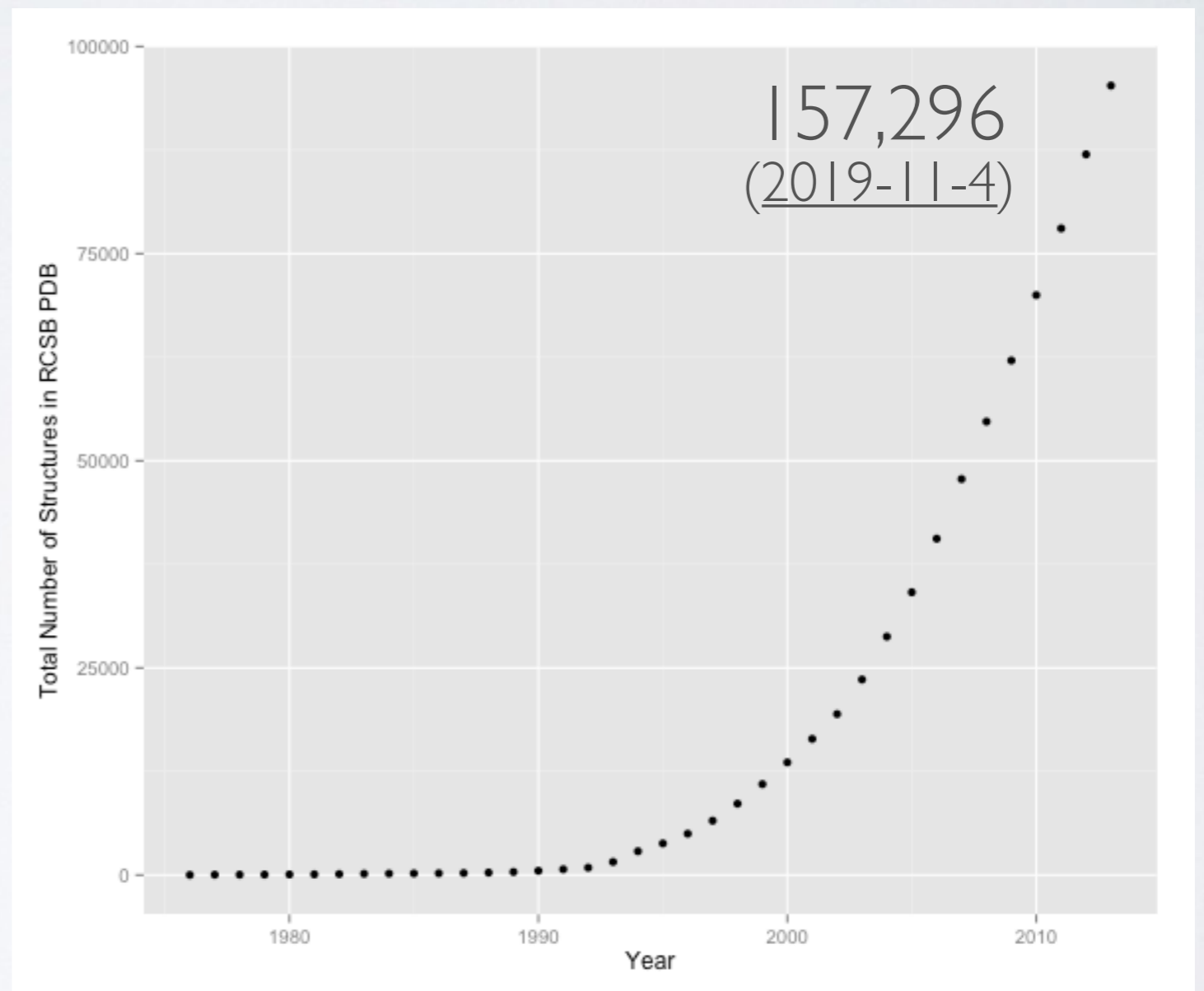
Computational modeling can  
provide detailed insight into  
functional interactions, their  
regulation and potential  
consequences of perturbation.



## Motivation 2:

Lots of structural data is becoming available

Structural Genomics has contributed to driving down the cost and time required for structural determination



Data from: <https://www.rcsb.org/stats/>

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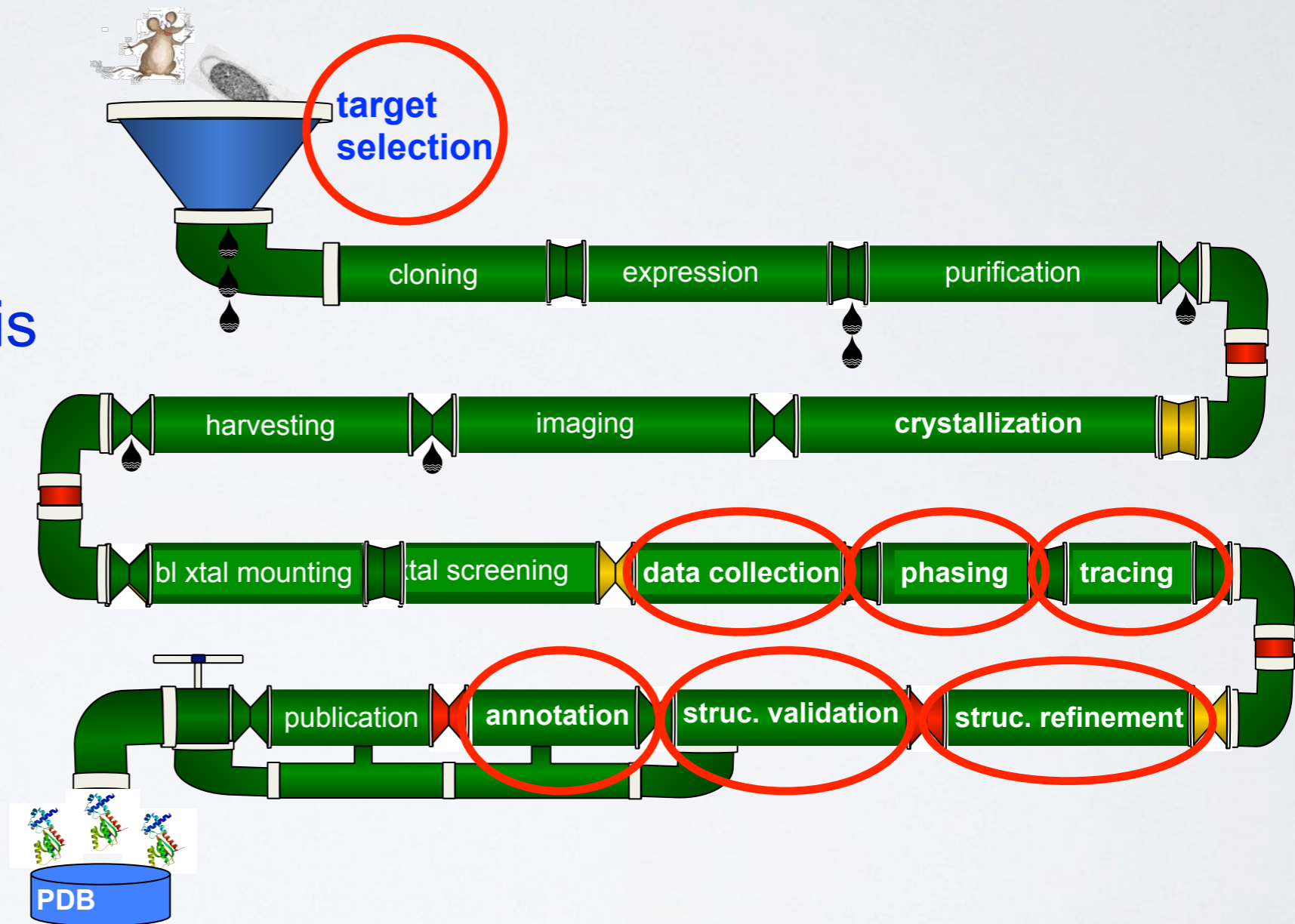
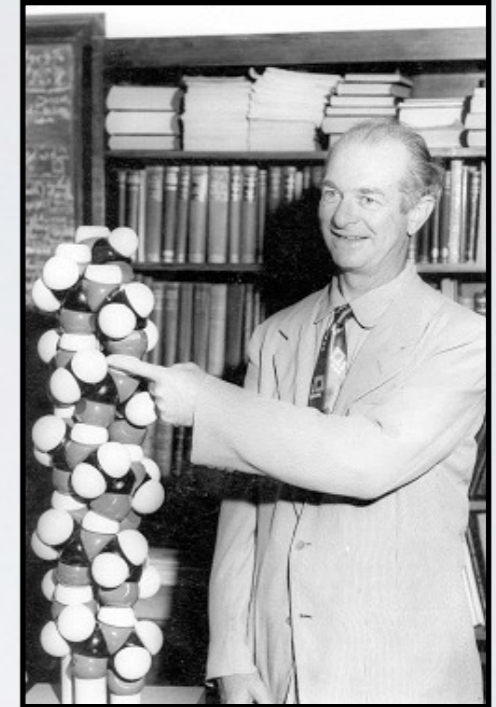
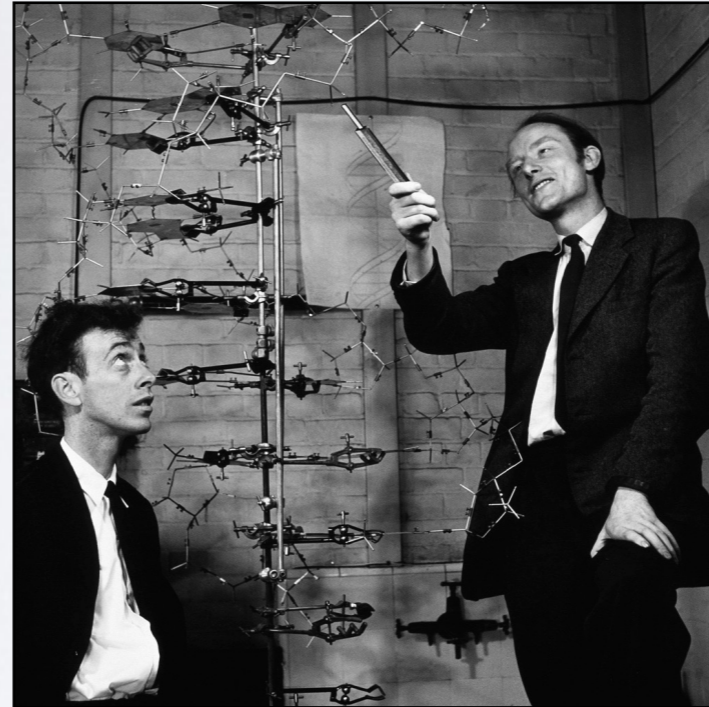


Image Credit: "Structure determination assembly line" Adam Godzik



**Motivation 3:**  
Theoretical and  
computational predictions  
have been, and continue  
to be, enormously  
valuable and influential!



# SUMMARY OF KEY **MOTIVATIONS**

## **Sequence > Structure > Function**

- Structure determines function, so understanding structure helps our understanding of function

## **Structure is more conserved than sequence**

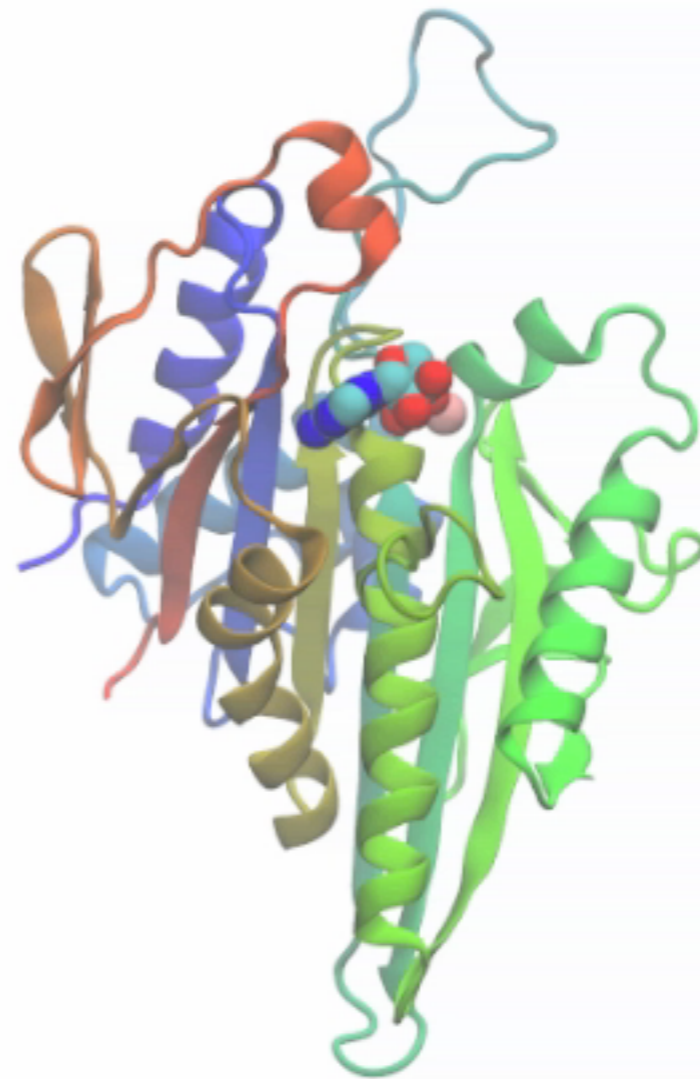
- Structure allows identification of more distant evolutionary relationships

## **Structure is encoded in sequence**

- Understanding the determinants of structure allows design and manipulation of proteins for industrial and medical advantage

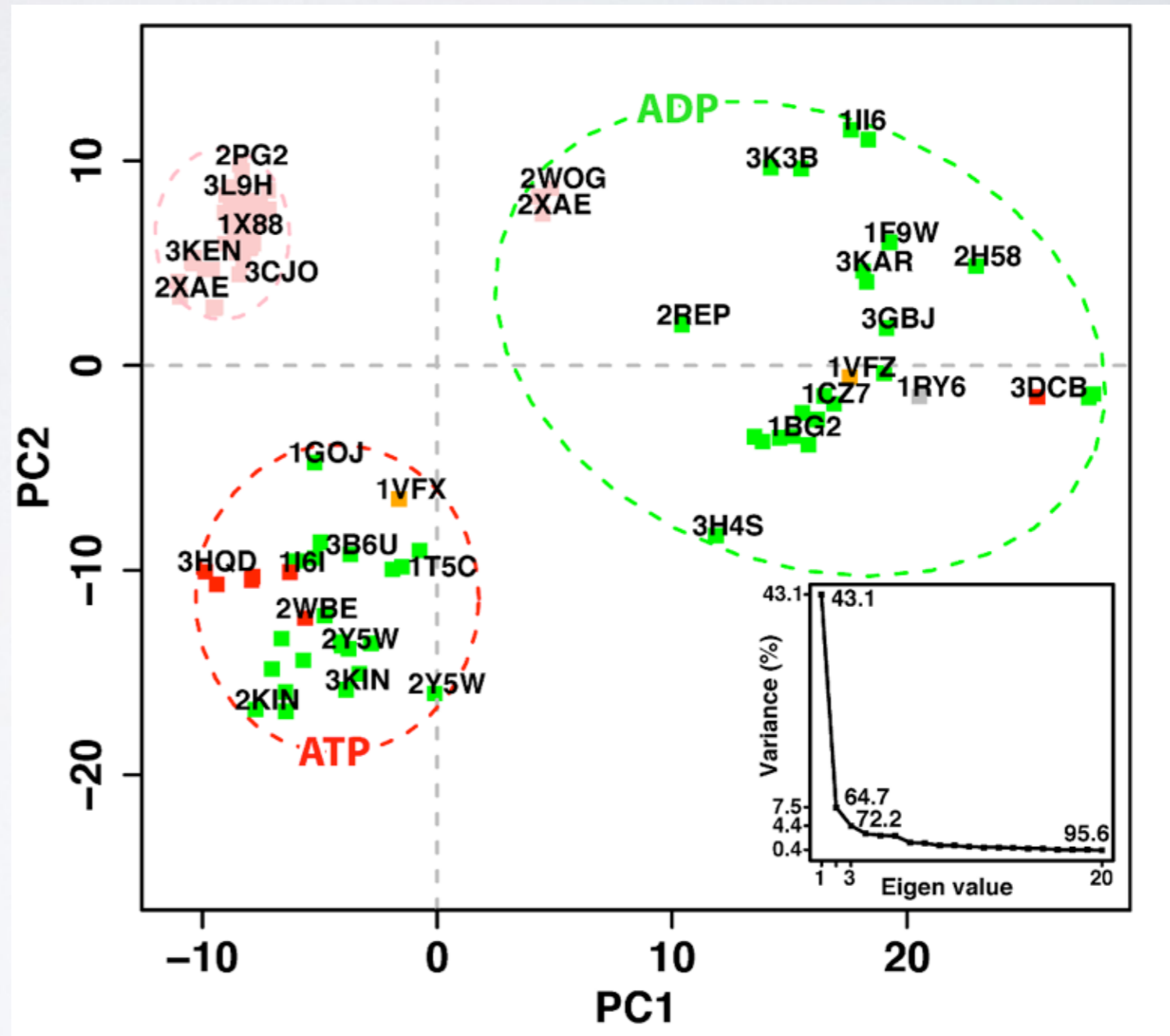
## Goals:

- Visualization
- Analysis
- Comparison
- Prediction
- Design



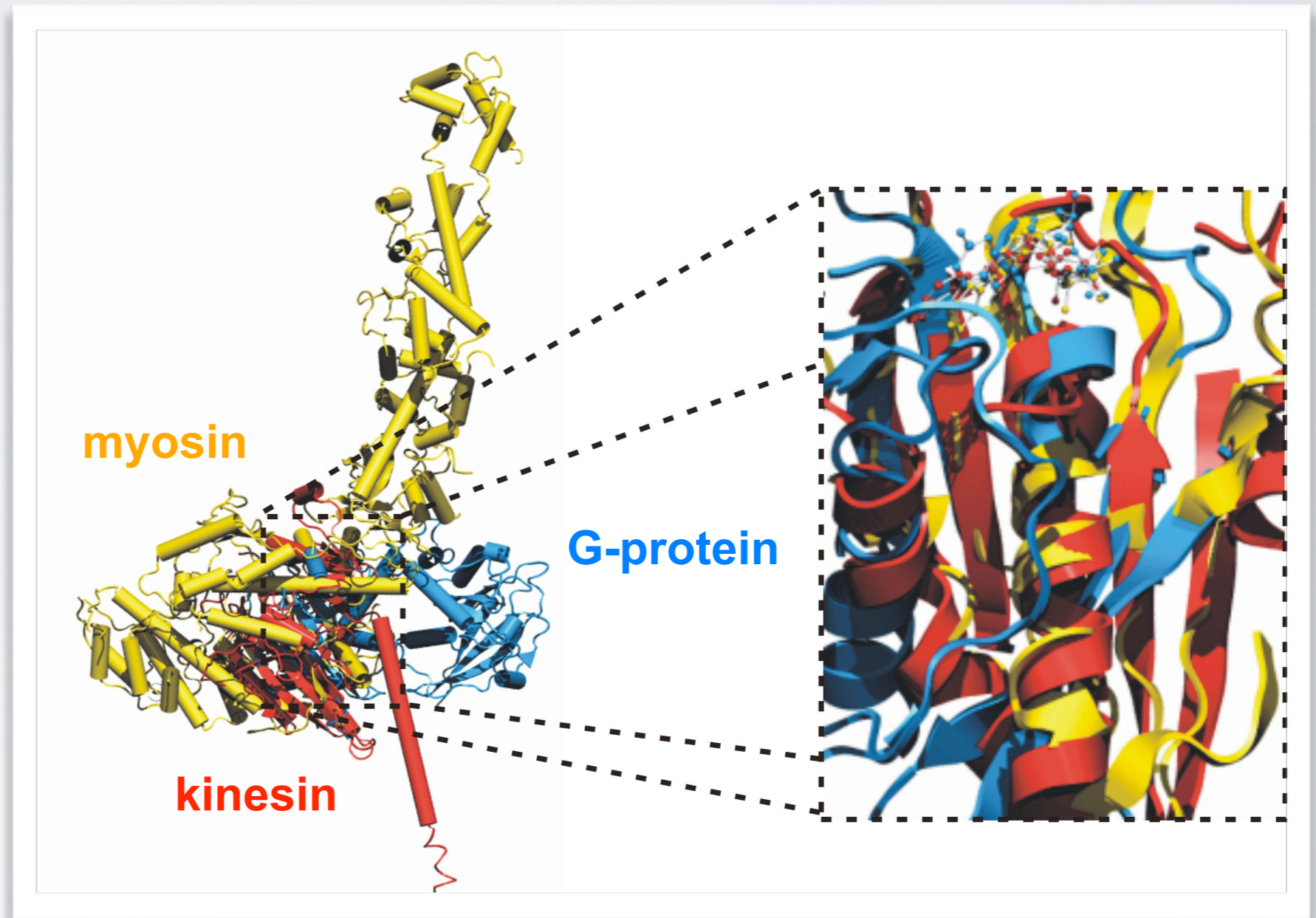
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Goals:

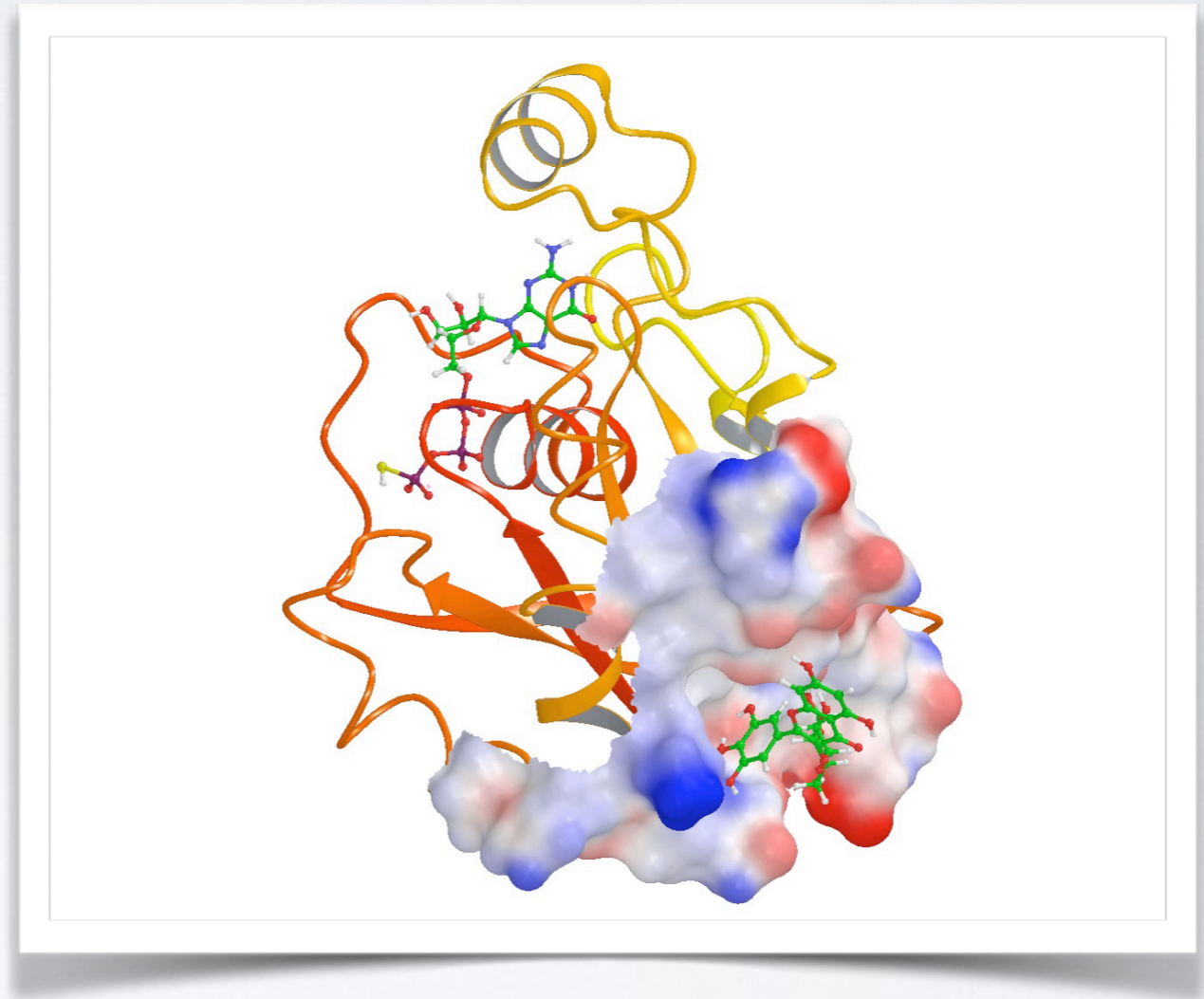
- Visualization
- Analysis
- **Comparison**
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## Goals:

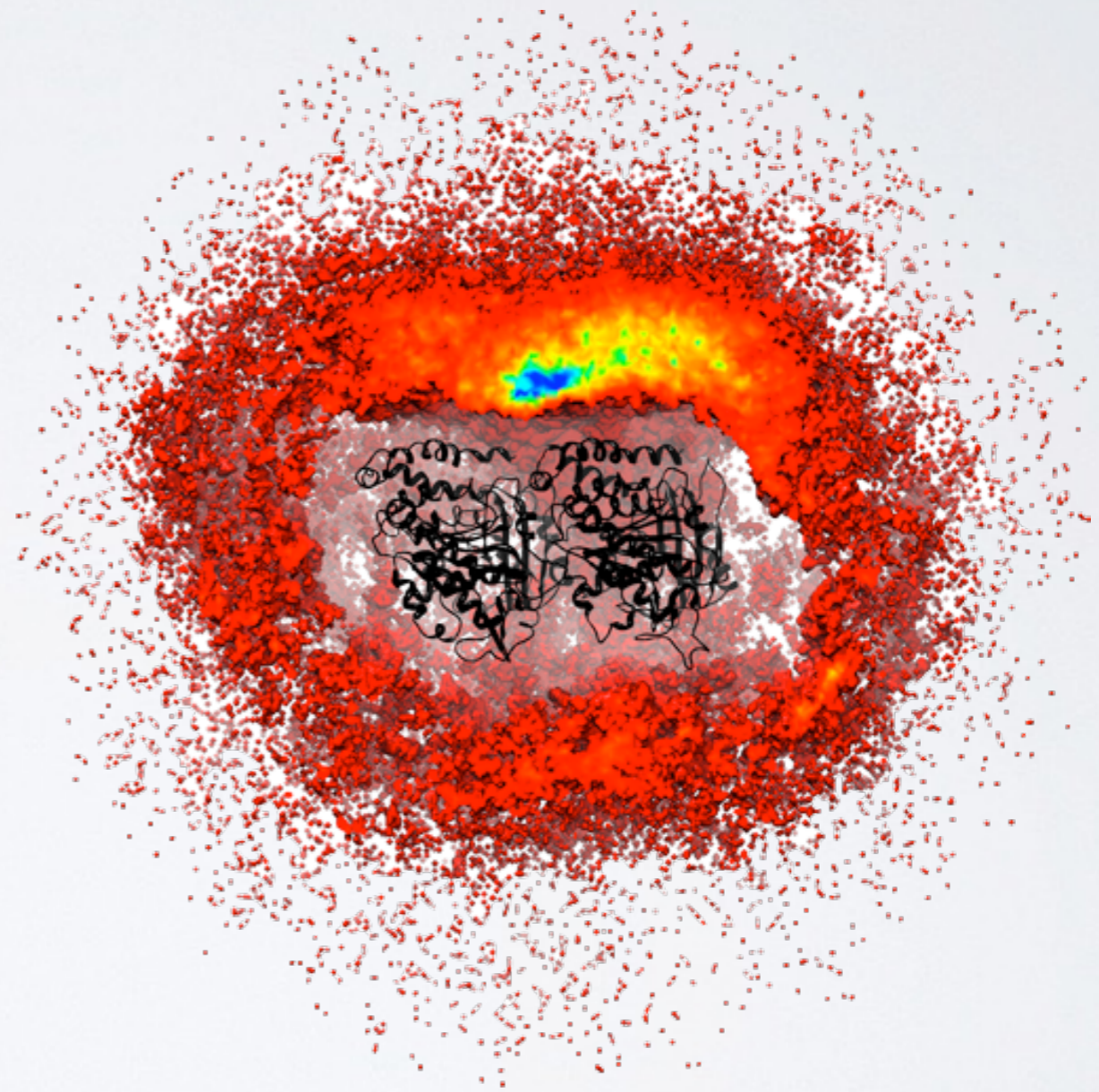
- Visualization
- Analysis
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Grant *et al.* PLoS One (2011, 2012)

## Goals:

- Visualization
- Analysis
- Comparison
- Prediction
- Design



Grant et al. PLoS Biology (2011)

# MAJOR RESEARCH AREAS AND CHALLENGES

Include but are not limited to:

- Protein classification
- Structure prediction from sequence
- Binding site detection
- Binding prediction and drug design
- Modeling molecular motions
- Predicting physical properties (stability, binding affinities)
- Design of structure and function
- etc...

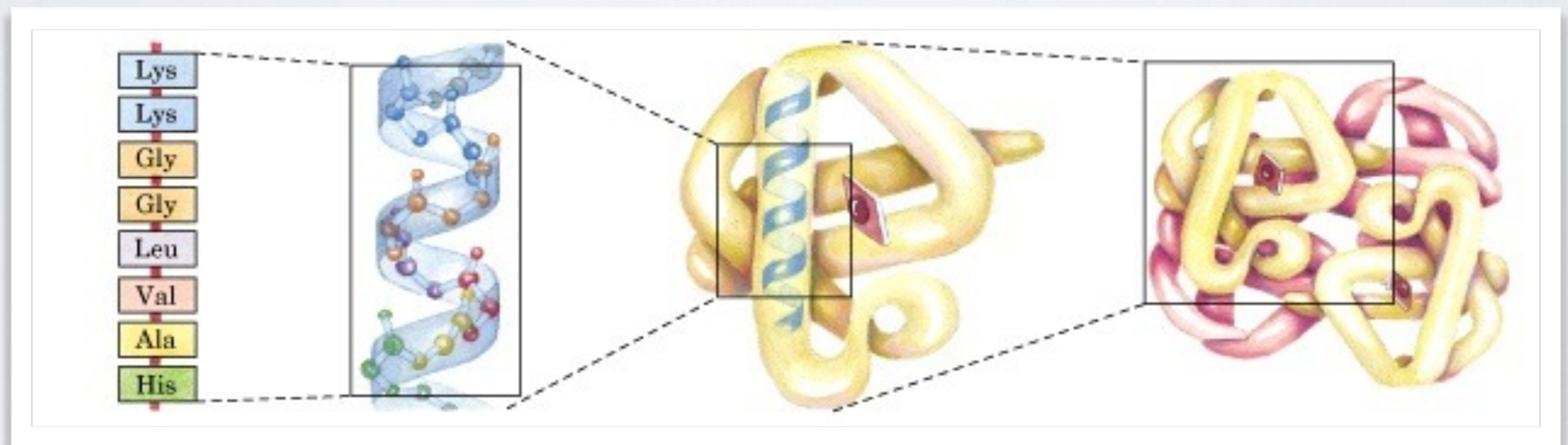
With applications to Biology, Medicine, Agriculture and Industry

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# HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE OF PROTEINS

Primary > Secondary > Tertiary > Quaternary



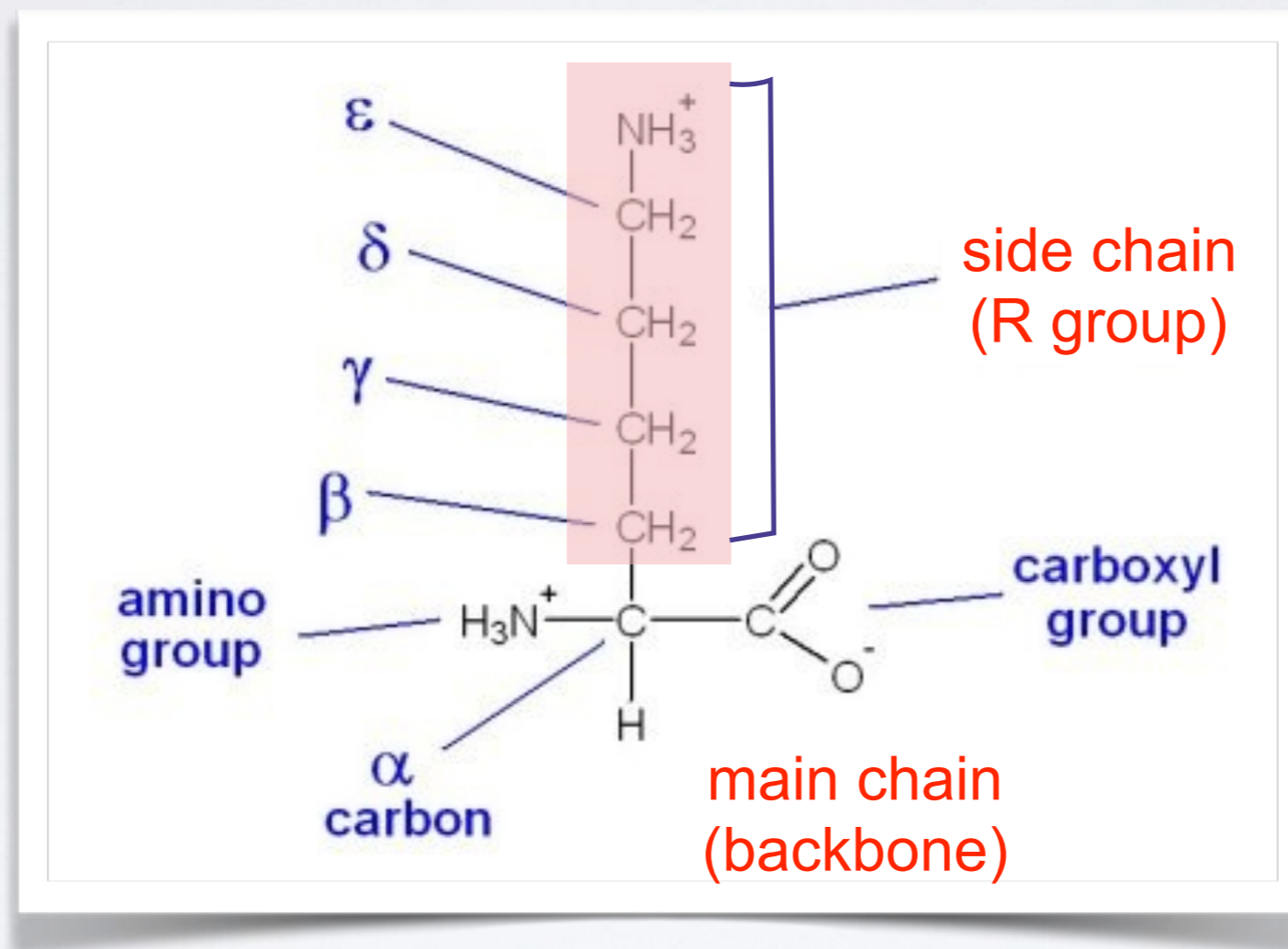
amino acid  
residues

Alpha  
helix

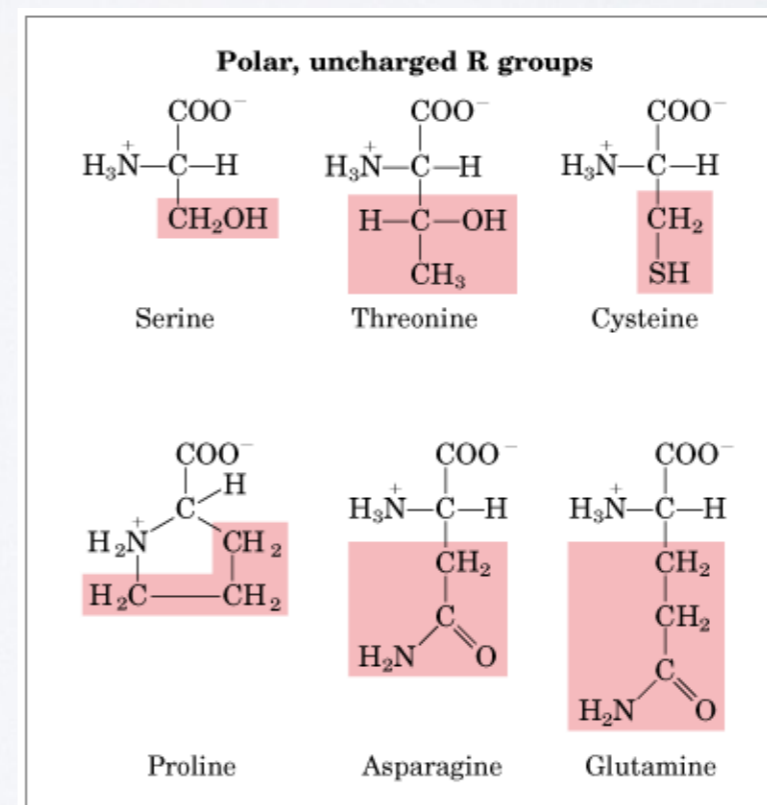
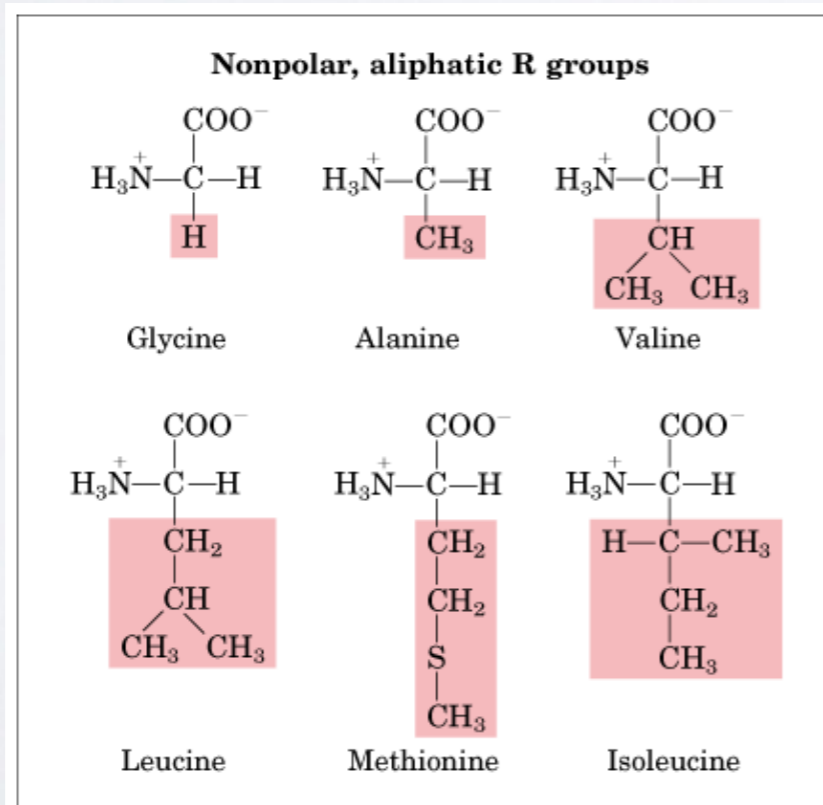
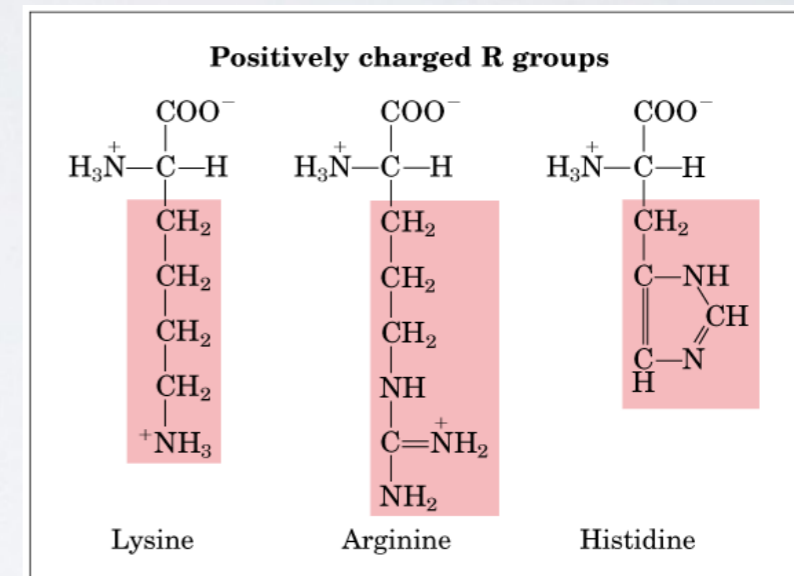
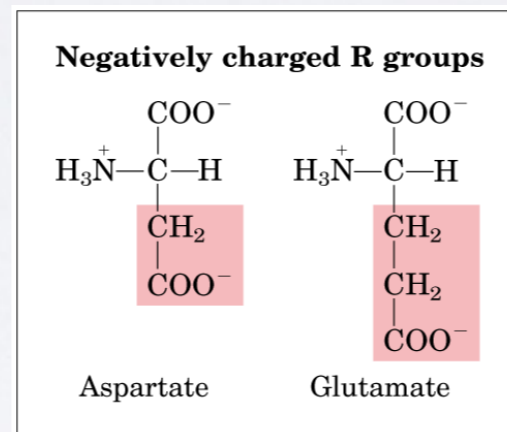
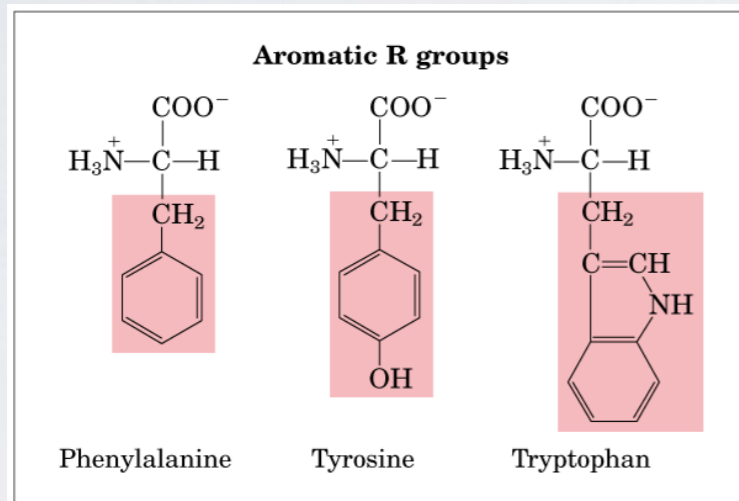
Polypeptide  
chain

Assembled  
subunits

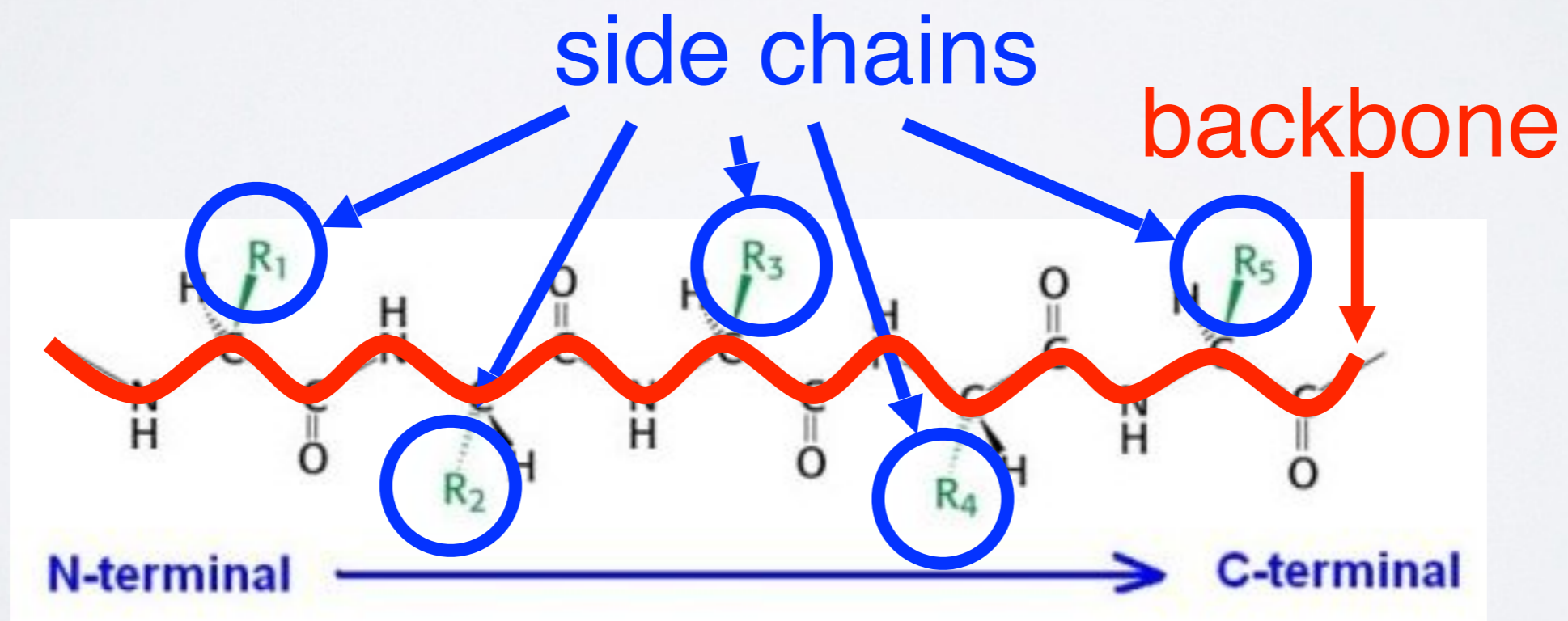
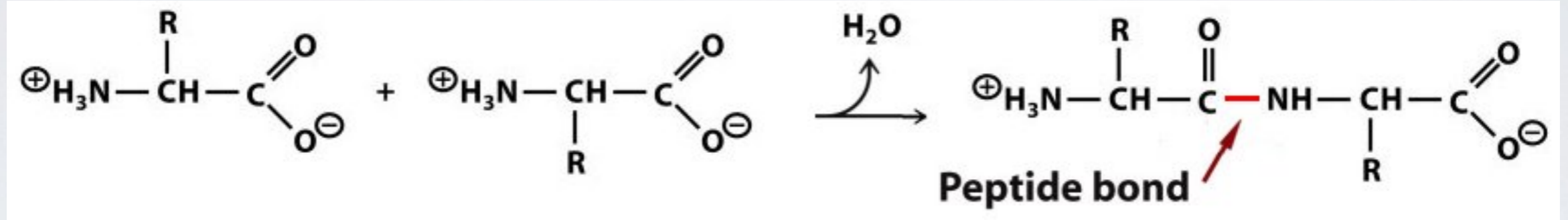
# RECAP: AMINO ACID NOMENCLATURE



# AMINO ACIDS CAN BE GROUPED BY THE PHYSIOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES



# AMINO ACIDS POLYMERIZE THROUGH **PEPTIDE BOND** FORMATION





# PEPTIDES CAN ADOPT DIFFERENT CONFORMATIONS BY VARYING THEIR **PHI & PSI BACKBONE TORSIONS**

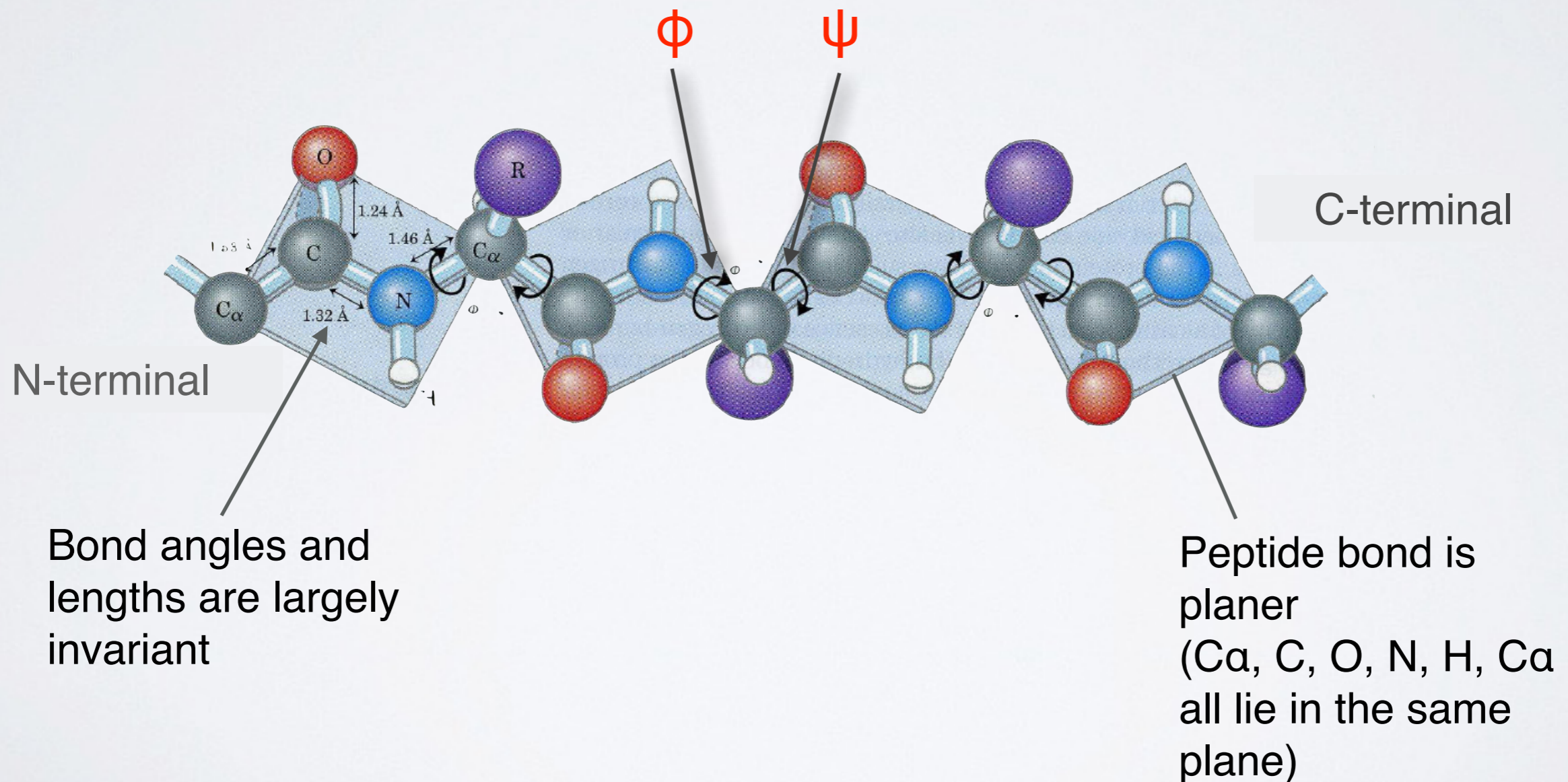
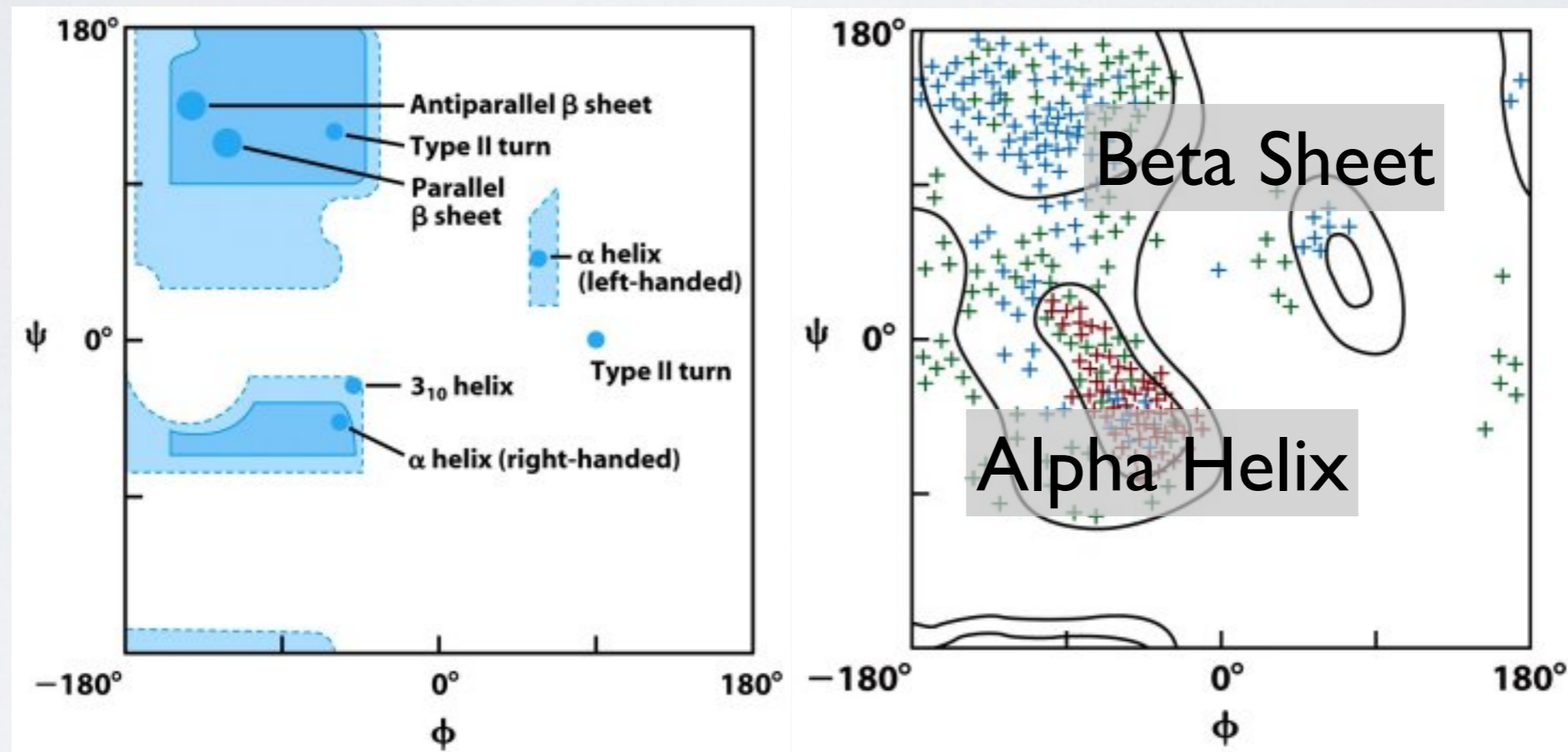


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

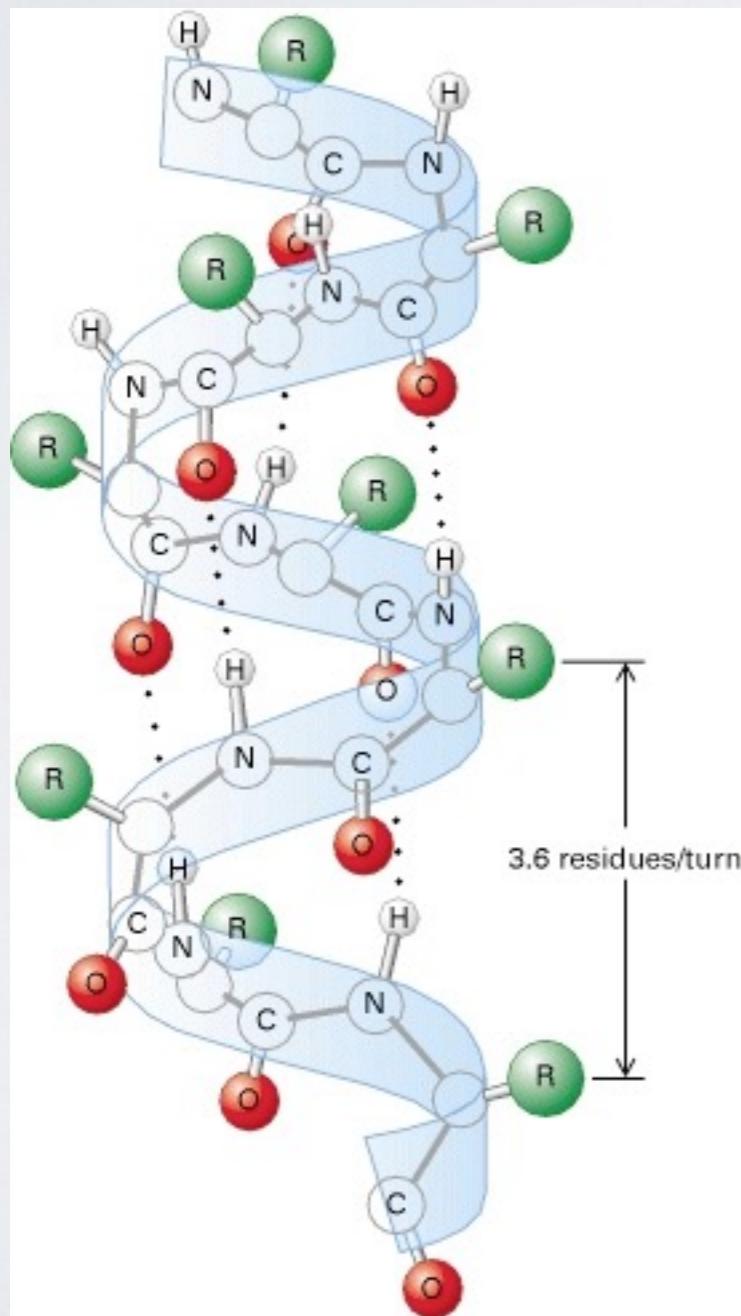
# PHI vs PSI PLOTS ARE KNOWN AS **RAMACHANDRAN DIAGRAMS**



- Steric hindrance dictates torsion angle preference
- Ramachandran plot show preferred regions of  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  dihedral angles which correspond to major forms of secondary structure

# MAJOR SECONDARY STRUCTURE TYPES

## **ALPHA HELIX** & BETA SHEET

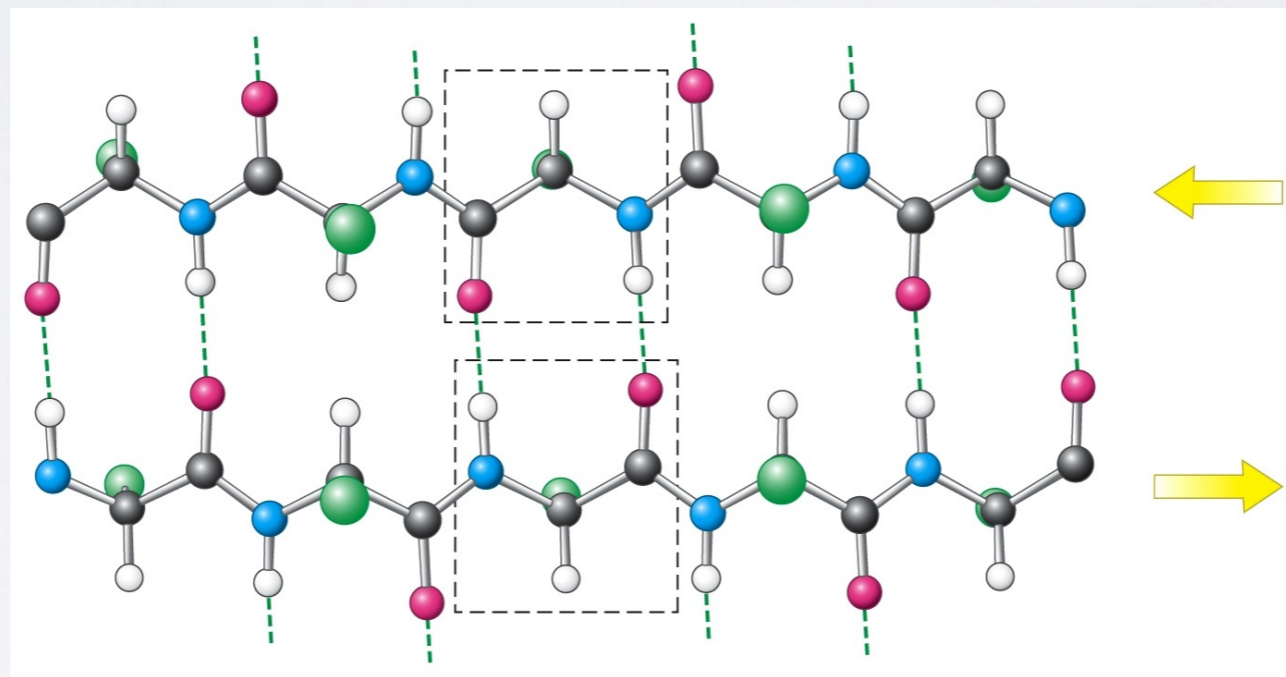


### $\alpha$ -helix

- Most common form has 3.6 residues per turn (number of residues in one full rotation)
- Hydrogen bonds (dashed lines) between residue  $i$  and  $i+4$  stabilize the structure
- The side chains (in green) protrude outward
- **$3_{10}$ -helix** and  **$\pi$ -helix** forms are less common

# MAJOR SECONDARY STRUCTURE TYPES

## ALPHA HELIX & **BETA SHEET**



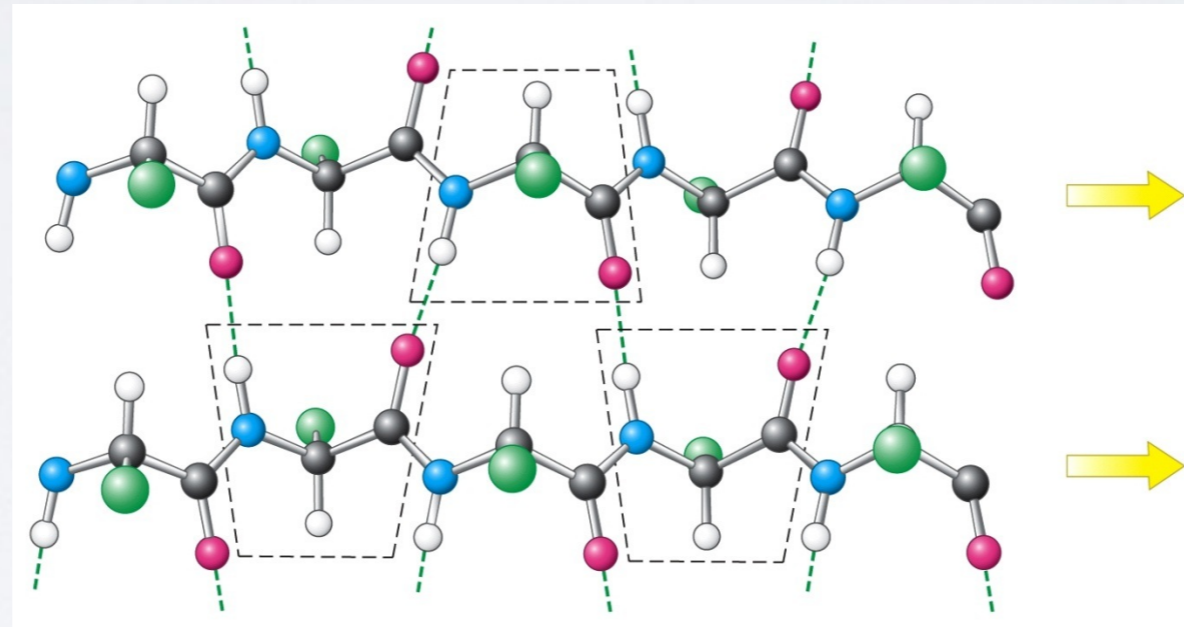
In antiparallel  $\beta$ -sheets

- Adjacent  $\beta$ -strands run in opposite directions
- Hydrogen bonds (dashed lines) between NH and CO stabilize the structure
- The side chains (in green) are above and below the sheet

Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

# MAJOR SECONDARY STRUCTURE TYPES

## ALPHA HELIX & **BETA SHEET**



In parallel  $\beta$ -sheets

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Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

**Protein Data Bank (PDB)** is the main repository for Biomolecular structure data

<http://www.rcsb.org>

www.rcsb.org

Home Gmail Gcal GitHub BIMM143 BGGN213 Atmosphere BIMM194 Blink News +

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RCSB PDB PROTEIN DATA BANK 153085 Biological Macromolecular Structures Enabling Breakthroughs in Research and Education

Search by PDB ID, author, macromolecule, sequence, or ligands Go

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PDB-101 WORLDWIDE PDB PROTEIN DATA BANK EMDatabank Unified Data Resource for 3DEM ndb NUCLEIC ACID DATABASE Worldwide Protein Data Bank Foundation

f t y l

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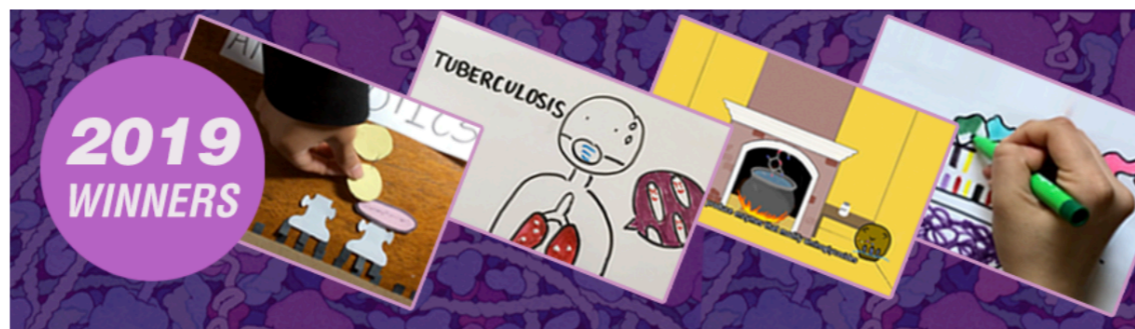
## A Structural View of Biology

This resource is powered by the Protein Data Bank archive—information about the 3D shapes of proteins, nucleic acids, and complex assemblies that helps students and researchers understand all aspects of biomedicine and agriculture, from protein synthesis to health and disease.

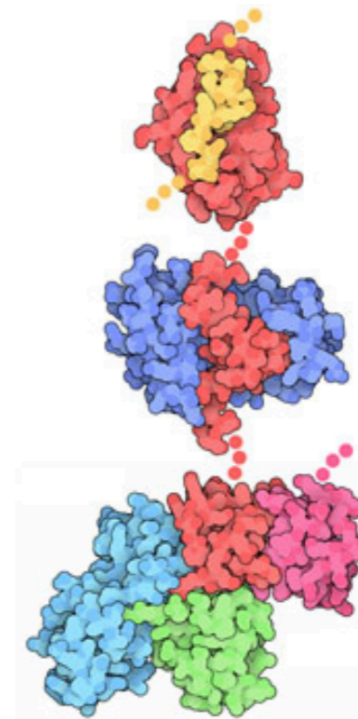
As a member of the wwPDB, the RCSB PDB curates and annotates PDB data.

The RCSB PDB builds upon the data by creating tools and resources for research and education in molecular biology, structural biology, computational biology, and beyond.

### High School Antibiotic Resistance Video Challenge



## June Molecule of the Month



MDM2 and Cancer

Contact Us

You can search by text (e.g. "**ABL kinase**"), PDB code (e.g. "**1iep**") or sequence

<http://www.rcsb.org>

RCSB PDB Deposit Search Visualize Analyze Download Learn More MyPDB

153085 Biological Macromolecular Structures Enabling Breakthroughs in Research and Education

1iep Go

Advanced Search | Browse by Annotations

Structure Summary 3D View Annotations Sequence Sequence Similarity Structure Similarity Experiment

Biological Assembly 1 ?

# 1IEP

CRYSTAL STRUCTURE OF THE C-ABL KINASE DOMAIN IN COMPLEX WITH STI-571.

DOI: [10.2210/pdb1IEP/pdb](https://doi.org/10.2210/pdb1IEP/pdb)

Classification: [TRANSFERASE](#)

Organism(s): [Mus musculus](#)

Expression System: [Spodoptera frugiperda](#)

Deposited: 2001-04-10 Released: 2001-04-18

Deposition Author(s): [Nagar, B.](#), [Bornmann, W.](#), [Schindler, T.](#), [Clarkson, B.](#), [Kuriyan, J.](#)

Experimental Data Snapshot

Method: X-RAY DIFFRACTION

Resolution: 2.1 Å

R-Value Free: 0.262

R-Value Work: 0.231

wwPDB Validation

Metric	Percentile Ranks	Value
Rfree		0.264
Clashscore		15
Ramachandran outliers		1.3%
Sidechain outliers		2.9%
RSRZ outliers		15.7%

3D View: Structure | Electron Density | Ligand Interaction

Display Files Download Files

Contact Us

You can get a **3D View** of and read details about the experiment and molecule

<http://www.rcsb.org>

The screenshot shows the RCSB PDB website interface for PDB entry 1IEP. The browser address bar shows [www.rcsb.org/3d-view/1IEP](http://www.rcsb.org/3d-view/1IEP). The navigation menu includes 'RCSB PDB', 'Deposit', 'Search', 'Visualize', 'Analyze', 'Download', 'Learn', and 'More'. The '3D View' button is highlighted with a red box and an arrow. The main content area displays the title '1IEP CRYSTAL STRUCTURE OF THE C-ABL KINASE DOMAIN IN COMPLEX WITH STI-571.' and a 3D ribbon diagram of the protein-ligand complex. The protein is shown in a rainbow color scheme, and the ligand is shown in ball-and-stick representation. The right sidebar contains a 'Structure View' panel with various settings: Assembly (Bioassembly 1), Model (Model 1), Symmetry (None), Style (Cartoon), Color (Rainbow), Ligand (Ball & Stick), Quality (Automatic), Water (unchecked), Ions (checked), Hydrogens (checked), and Clashes (unchecked). A 'Default Structure View' button is also present.



You can display or download PDB format files for a particular entry

<http://www.rcsb.org>

The screenshot shows the RCSB PDB website interface for entry 1IEP. The browser address bar displays `www.rcsb.org/3d-view/1IEP`. The navigation bar includes links for Home, Gmail, Gcal, GitHub, BIMM143, BGGN213, Atmosphere, BIMM194, Blink, News, and a search icon. The main navigation menu contains: RCSB PDB, Deposit, Search, Visualize, Analyze, Download, Learn, More, and MyPDB. Below this, a secondary menu highlights '3D View' among other options like Structure Summary, Annotations, Sequence, Sequence Similarity, Structure Similarity, and Experiment. The main content area features the entry ID '1IEP' and the title 'CRYSTAL STRUCTURE OF THE C-ABL KINASE DOMAIN IN COMPLEX WITH STI-571.' A note instructs users on mouse controls for the 3D structure. The structure itself is a ribbon diagram with different domains colored in blue, yellow, orange, and red. To the right, a 'Structure View' panel allows for various display options: Assembly (Bioassembly 1), Model (Model 1), Symmetry (None), Style (Cartoon), Color (Rainbow), Ligand (Ball & Stick), Quality (Automatic), Water (unchecked), Ions (checked), Hydrogens (checked), and Clashes (unchecked). A 'Default Structure View' button is at the bottom of this panel. A 'Contact Us' button is visible on the far right edge.

# Side-Note: PDB File Format

- PDB files contains atomic **coordinates** and associated information.

	Element	Amino Acid	Chain	Sequence/Residue Number	Coordinates			(etc.)	
					X	Y	Z		
ATOM	1	N	MET	A	1	19.353	41.547	-3.887	...
ATOM	2	CA	MET	A	1	20.513	40.939	-4.592	...
ATOM	3	C	MET	A	1	20.150	39.658	-5.355	...
ATOM	4	O	MET	A	1	19.053	39.551	-5.903	...
ATOM	5	CB	MET	A	1	21.642	40.678	-3.592	...
ATOM	6	CG	MET	A	1	21.233	39.903	-2.360	...
ATOM	7	SD	MET	A	1	22.533	39.928	-1.113	...
ATOM	8	CE	MET	A	1	23.771	38.881	-1.885	...
ATOM	9	N	ASP	A	2	21.068	38.694	-5.390	...
ATOM	10	CA	ASP	A	2	20.856	37.440	-6.117	...
ATOM	11	C	ASP	A	2	20.124	36.371	-5.299	...
ATOM	12	O	ASP	A	2	20.680	35.818	-4.351	...

Element position within amino acid

# Side-Note: PDB File Format

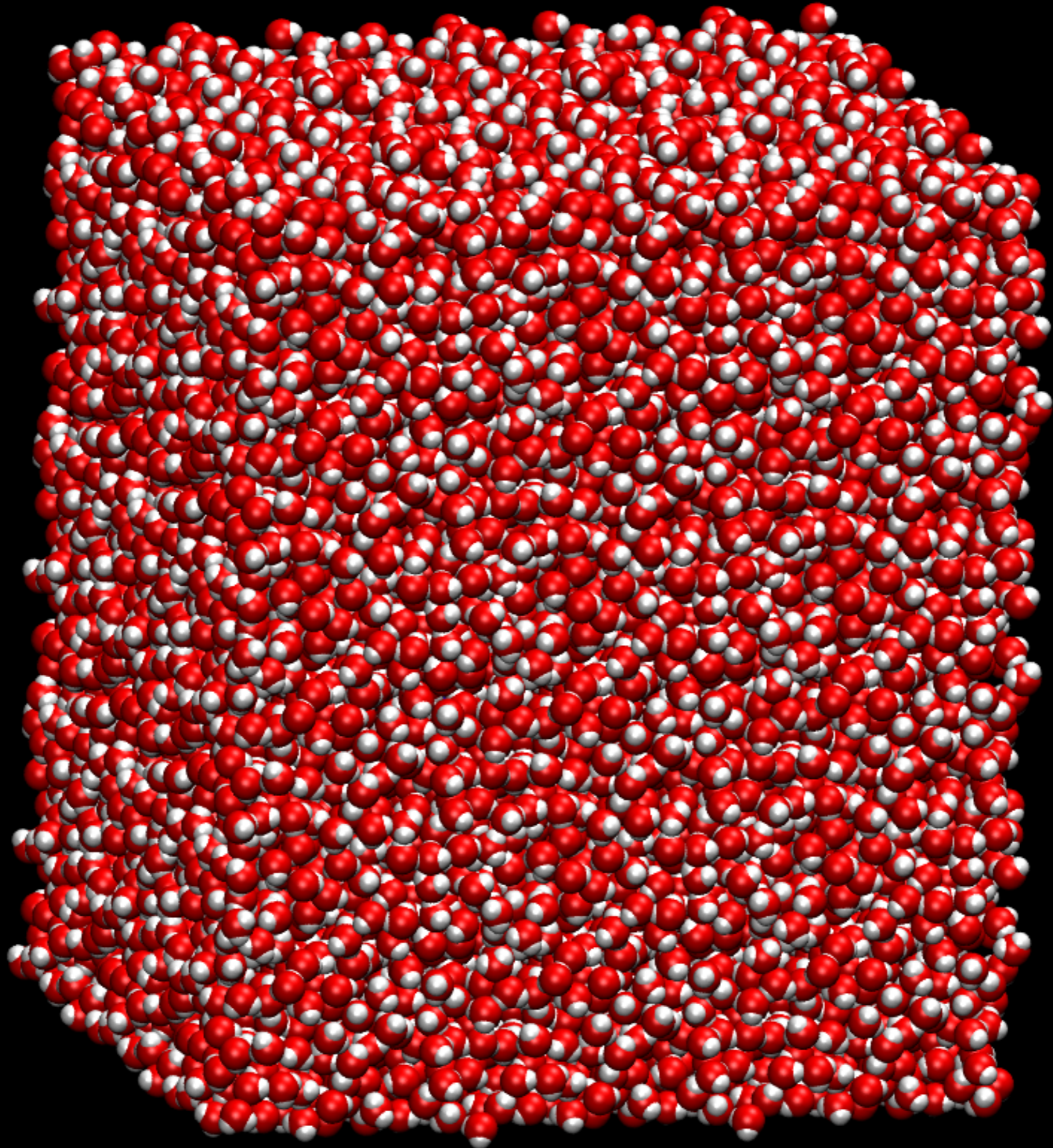
- PDB files contains atomic **coordinates** and associated information.

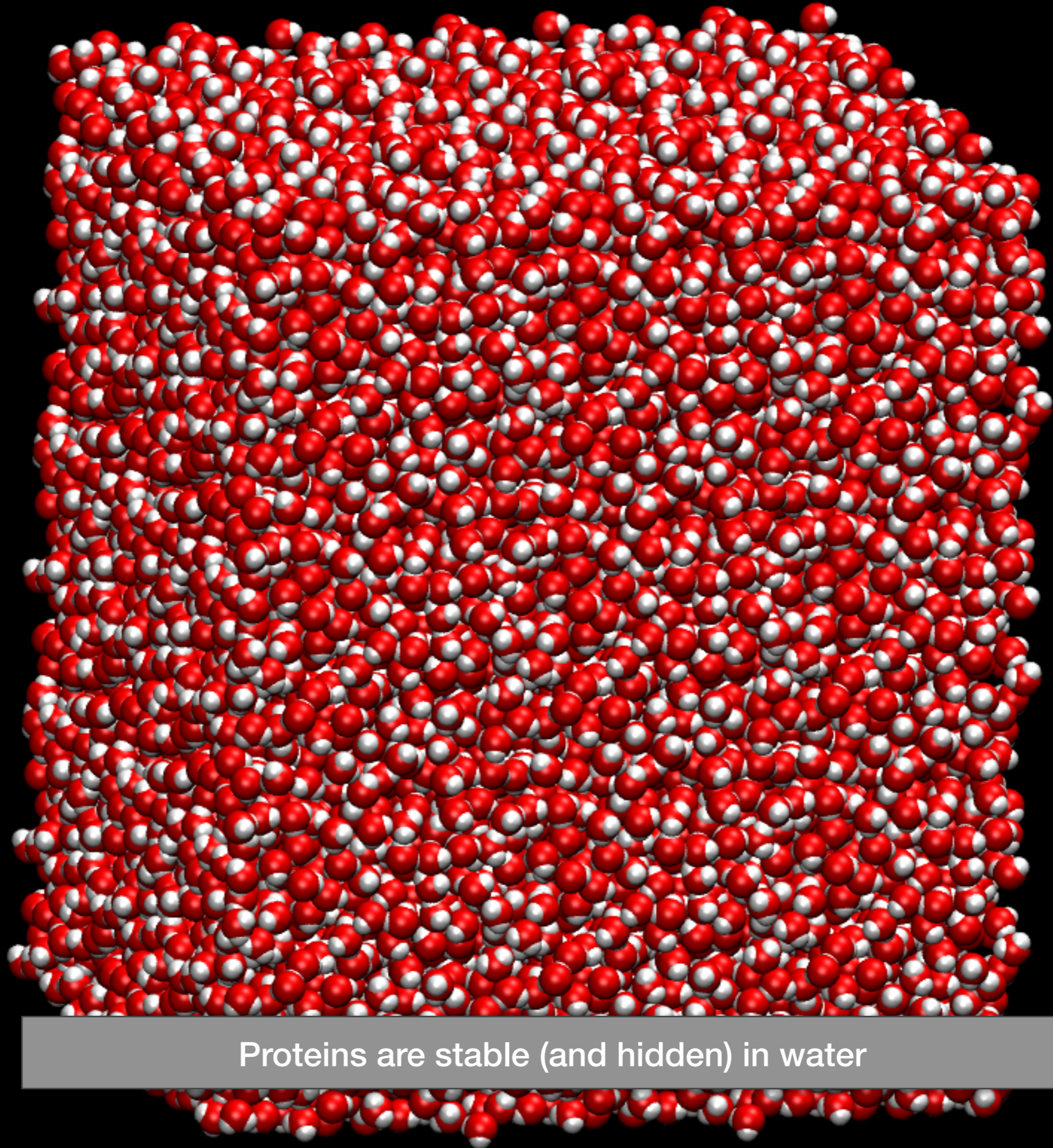
Element				
ATOM	1	N	MET	A
ATOM	2	CA	MET	A
ATOM	3	C	MET	A
ATOM	4	O	MET	A
ATOM	5	CB	MET	A
ATOM	6	CG	MET	A
ATOM	7	SD	MET	A
ATOM	8	CE	MET	A
ATOM	9	N	ASP	A
ATOM	10	CA	ASP	A
ATOM	11	C	ASP	A
ATOM	12	O	ASP	A

2	20.050	37.110	0.117	...
2	20.124	36.371	-5.299	...
2	20.680	35.818	-4.351	...

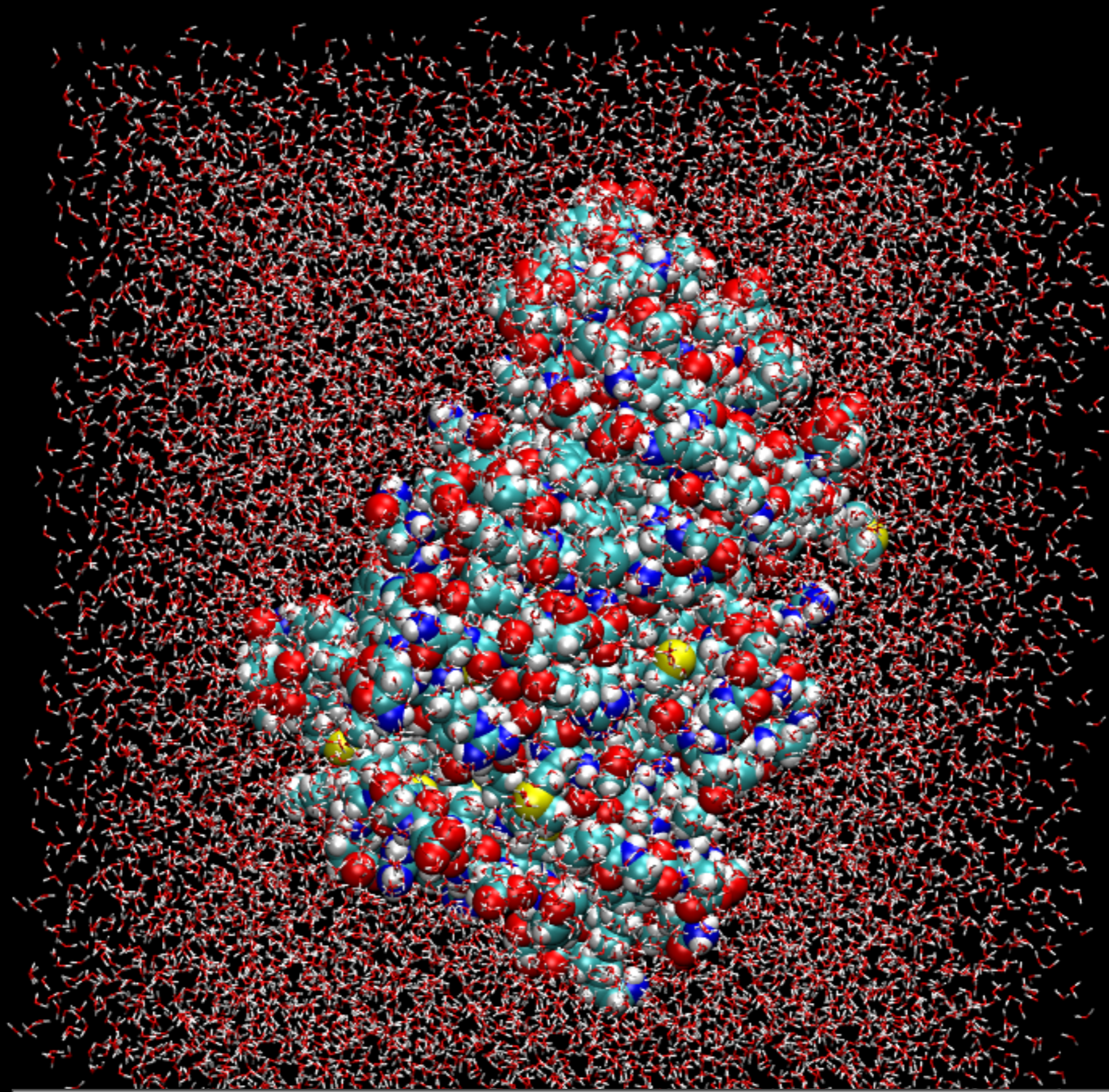
Element position within amino acid

**What Does a Protein Look like?**

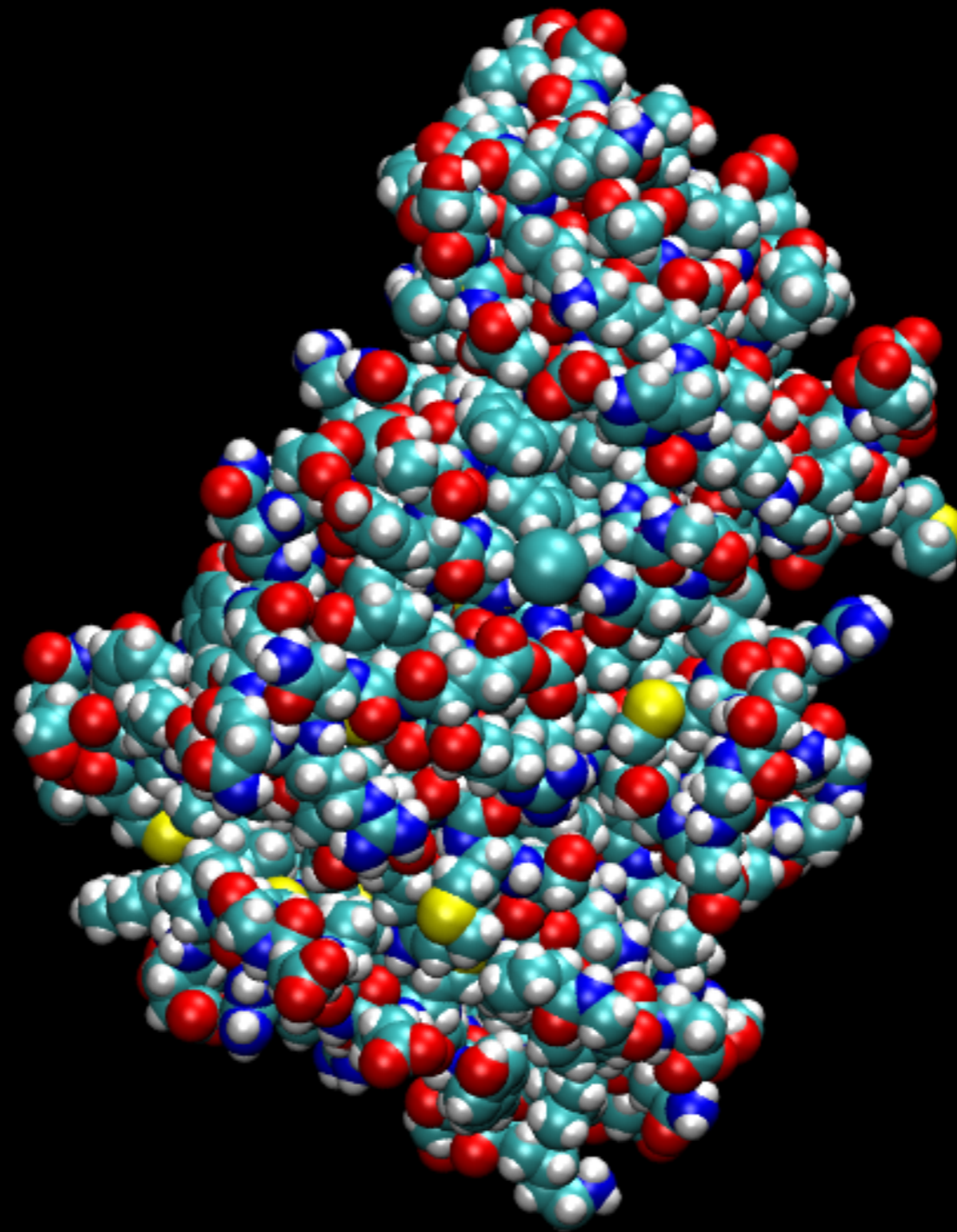




Proteins are stable (and hidden) in water

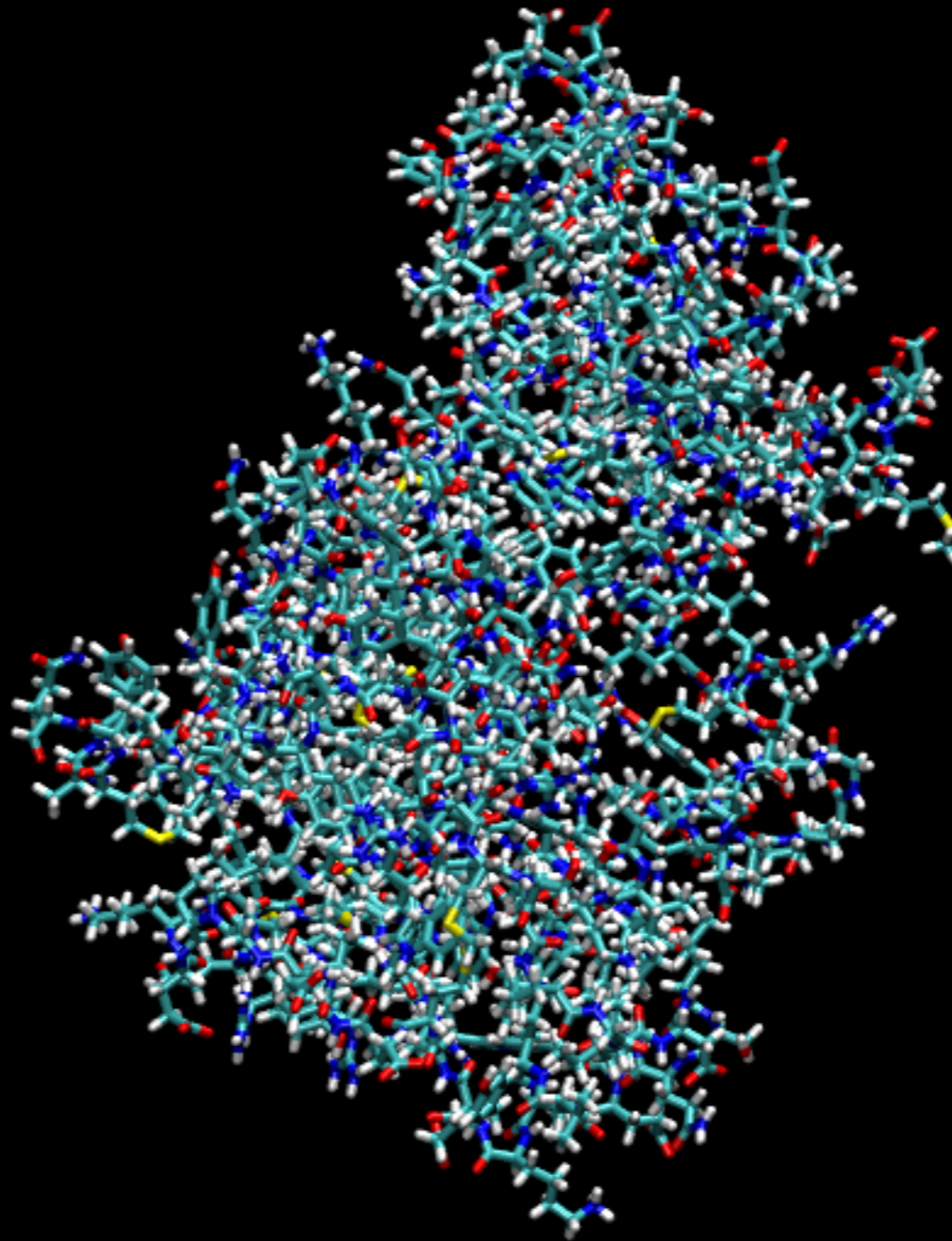


Proteins closely interact with water

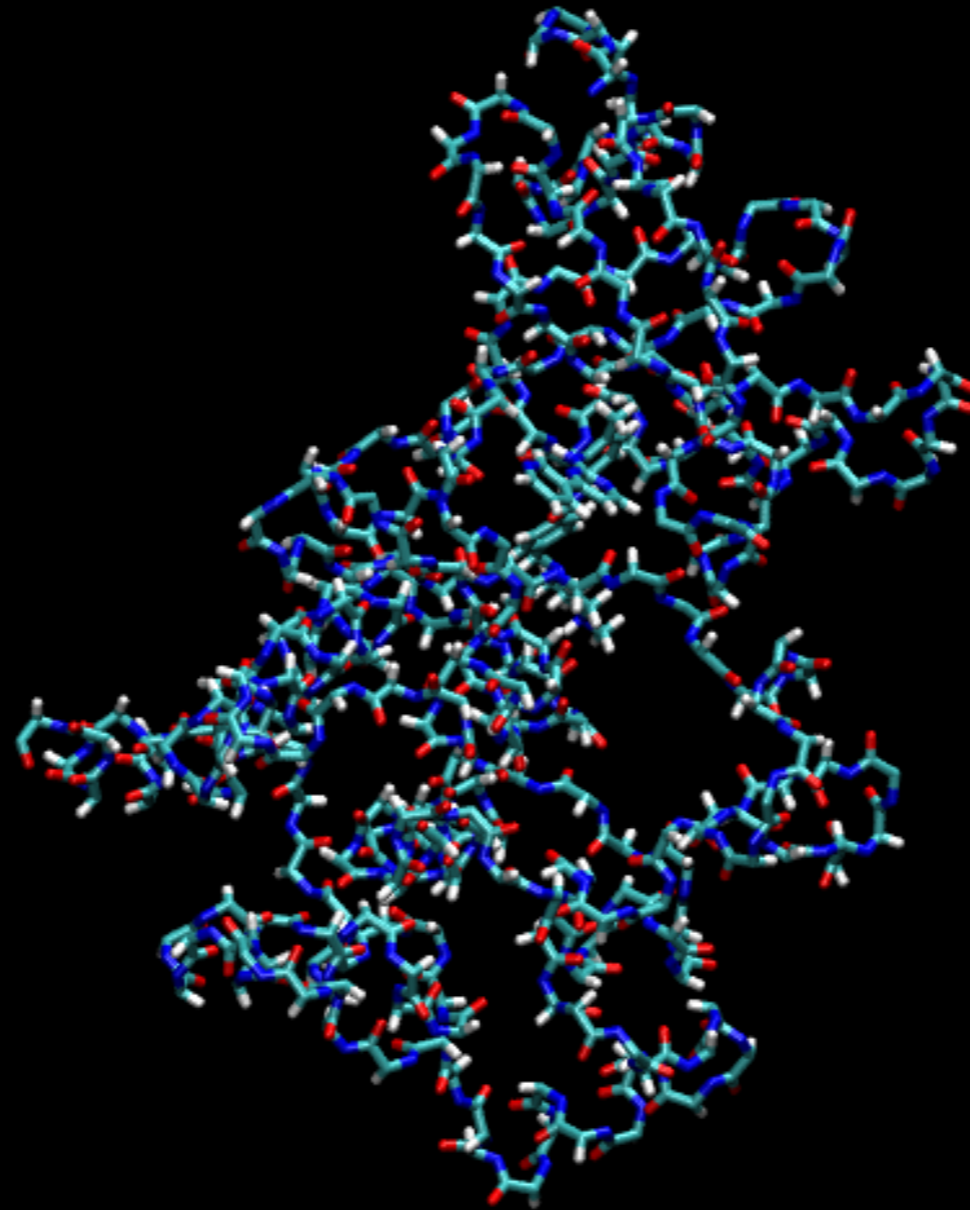


Proteins are close packed solid but flexible objects (globular)

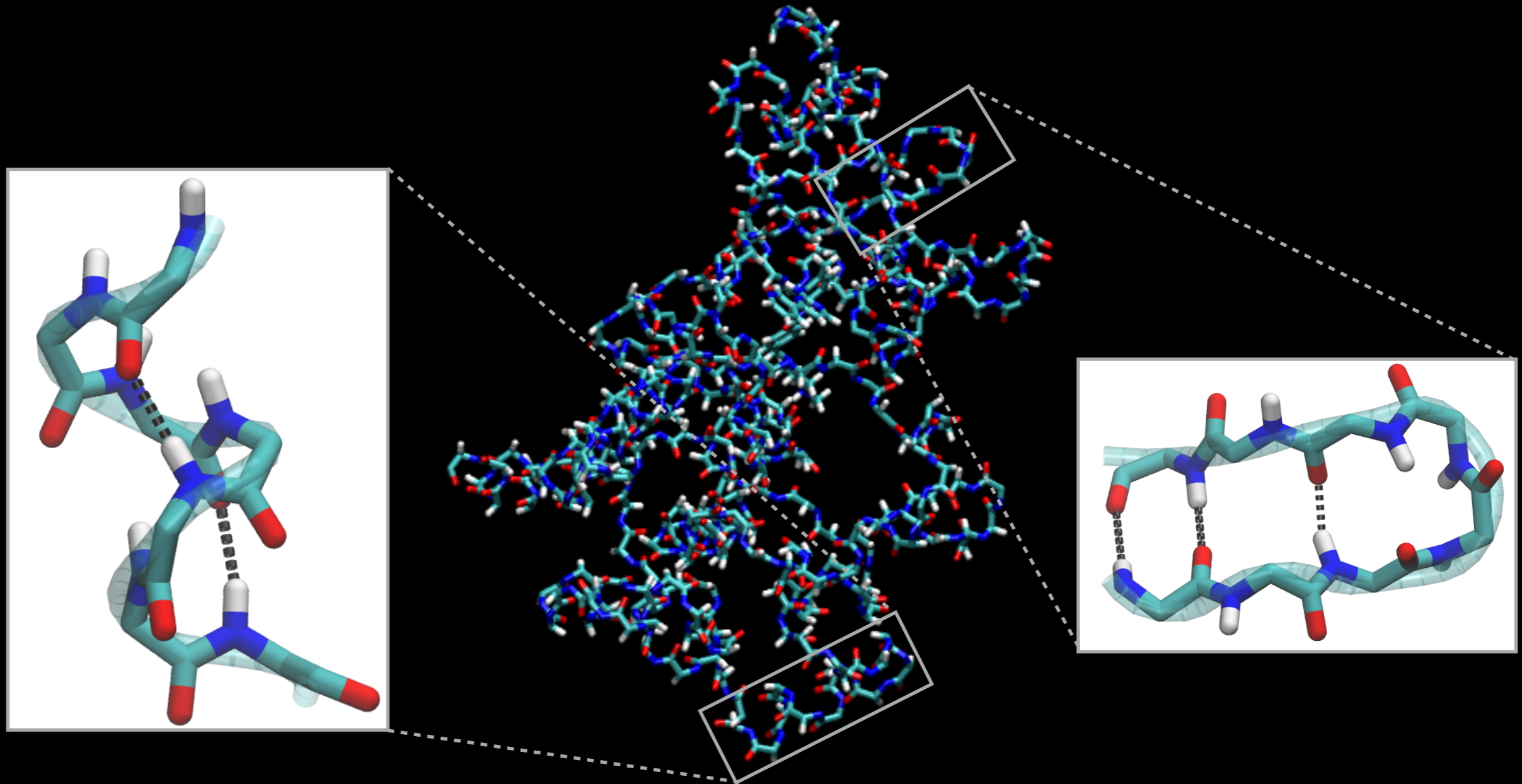




Due to their large size and complexity it is often hard to see what's important in the structure



Backbone or main-chain representation can help trace chain topology



Backbone or main-chain representation can help trace chain topology & reveal secondary structure



Tube or trace representation is one of the simplest views



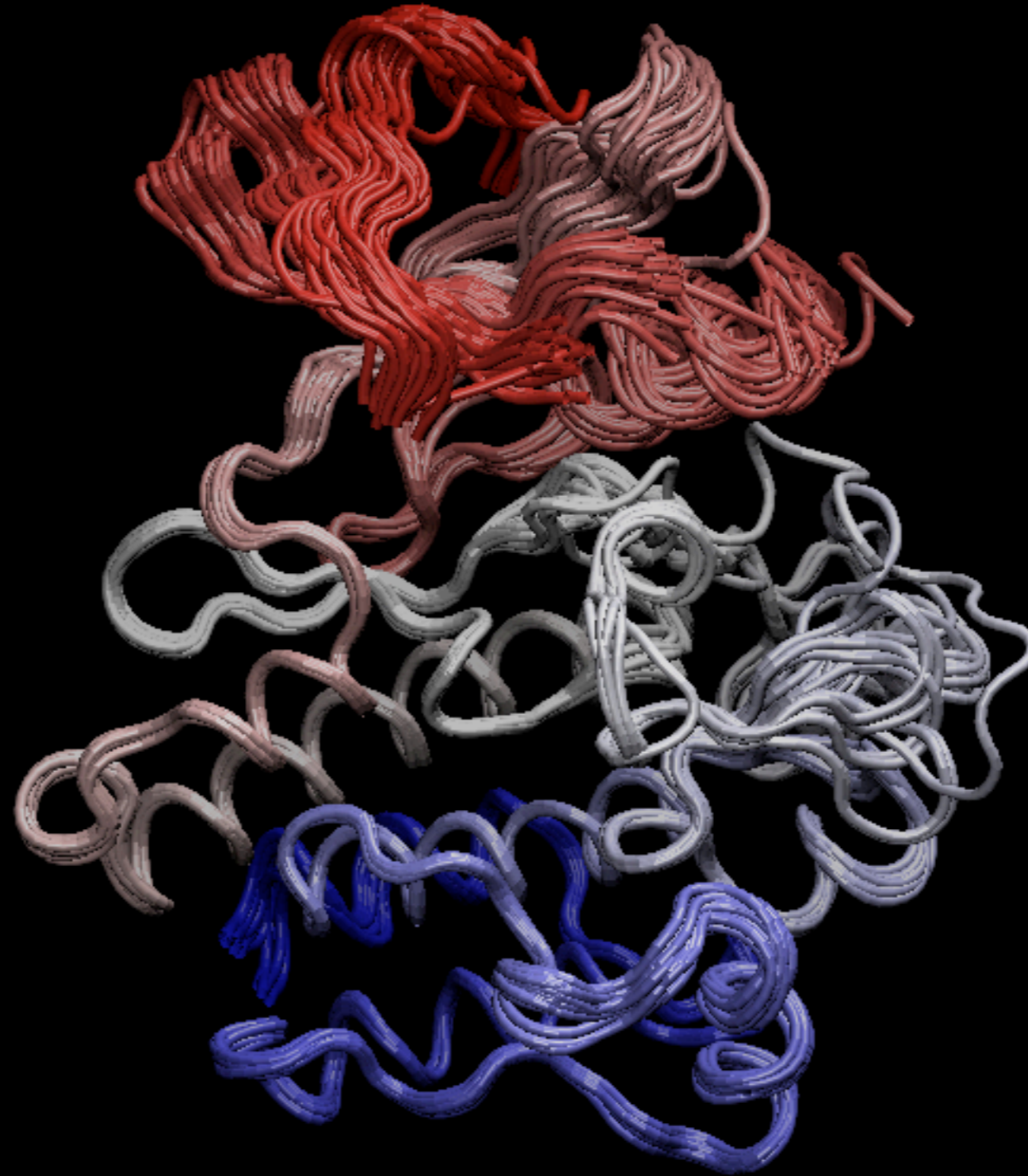
Tube with added colors to highlight secondary structure



Simplified "cartoon" secondary structure representations are commonly used to communicate structural details

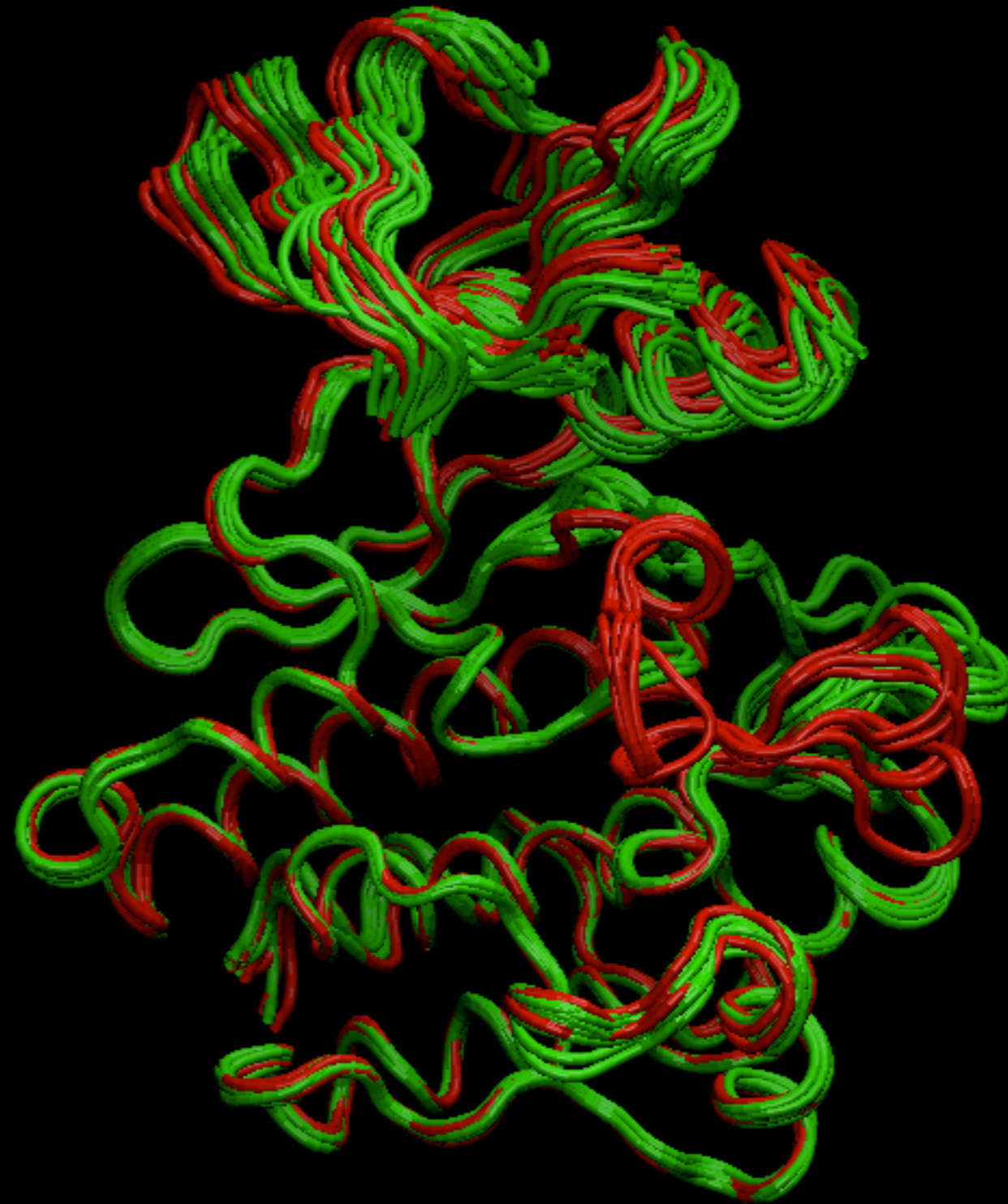


Viewing in 3D is often essential for interpretation. Now we can clearly see 2° and 3° structure - the coiled chain of connected secondary structures



Viewing multiple superposed structures solved under different conditions can highlight flexible regions

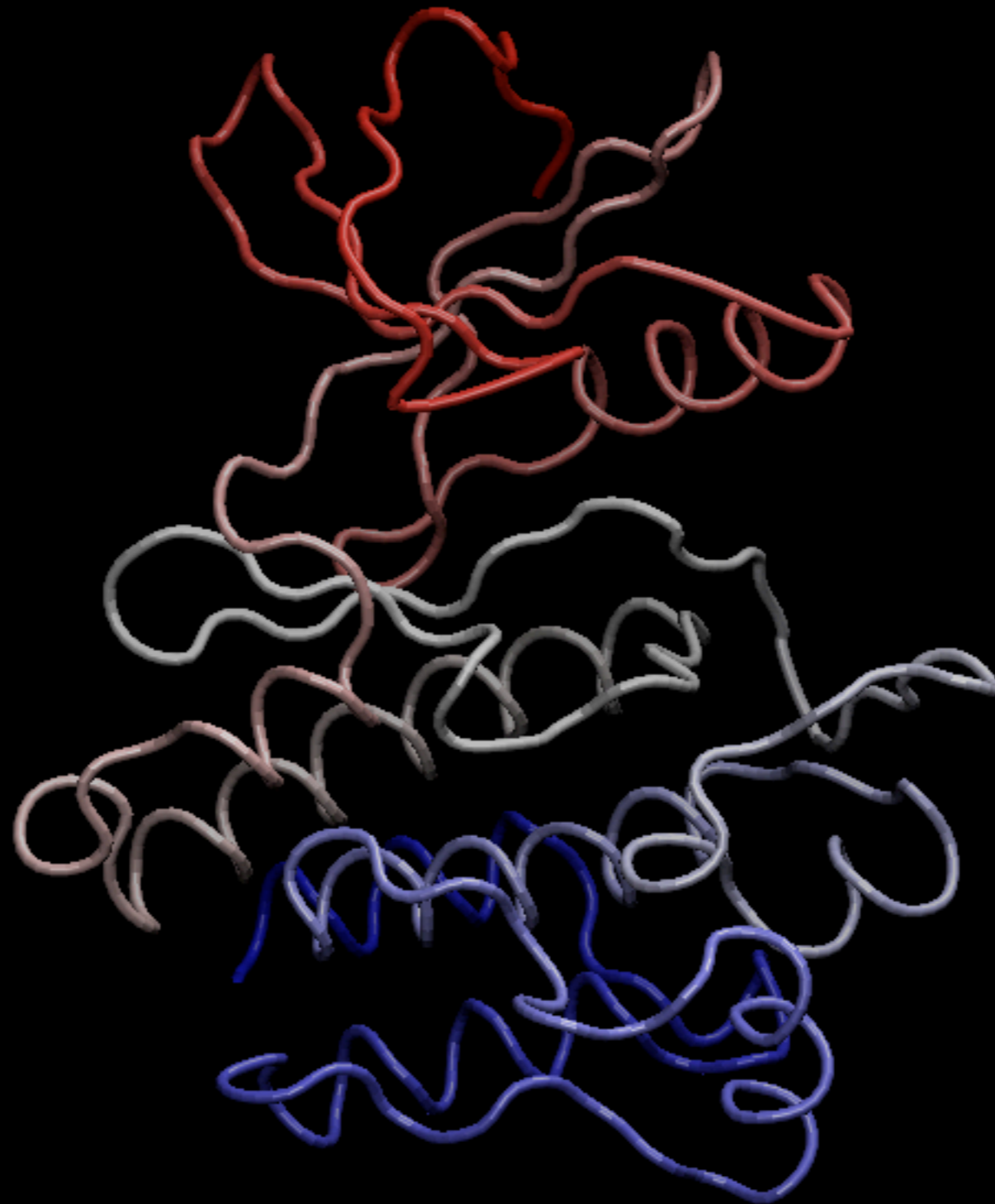




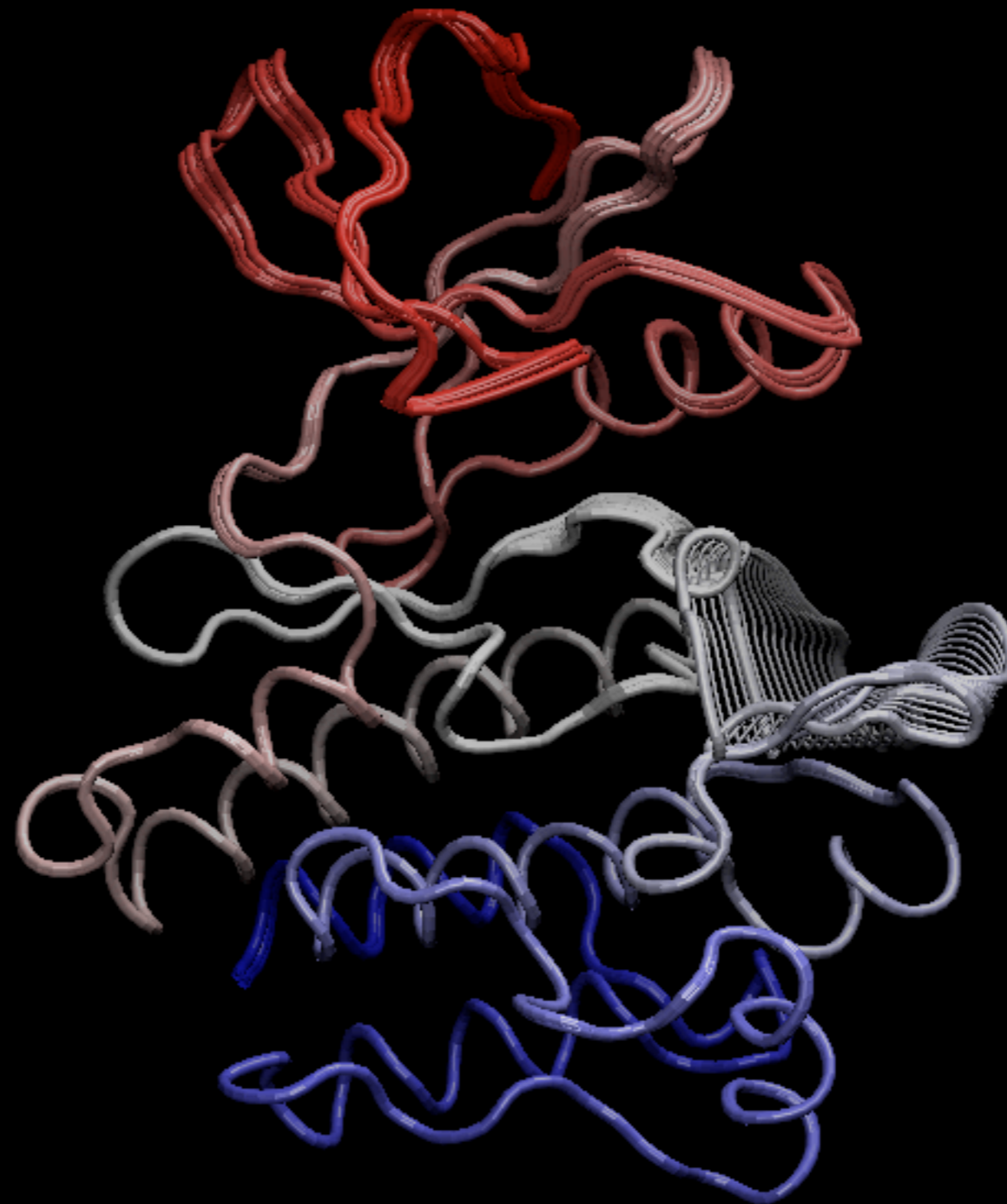
**Active**

**Inactive**

Viewing multiple superposed structures solved under different conditions can highlight distinct conformations



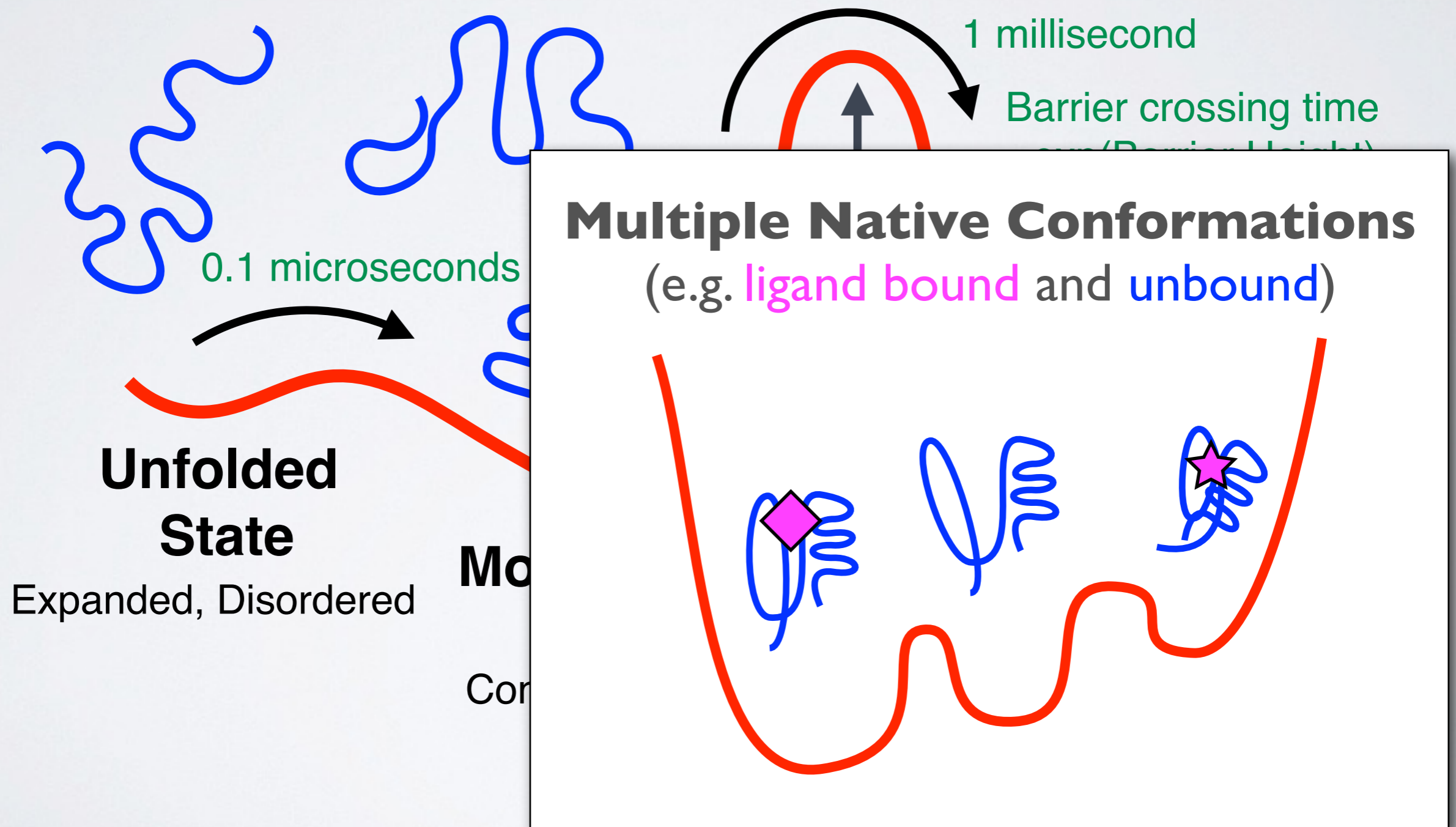
Analyzing these multiple structures can reveal functional motions  
- i.e. displacements that are essential for regulating function



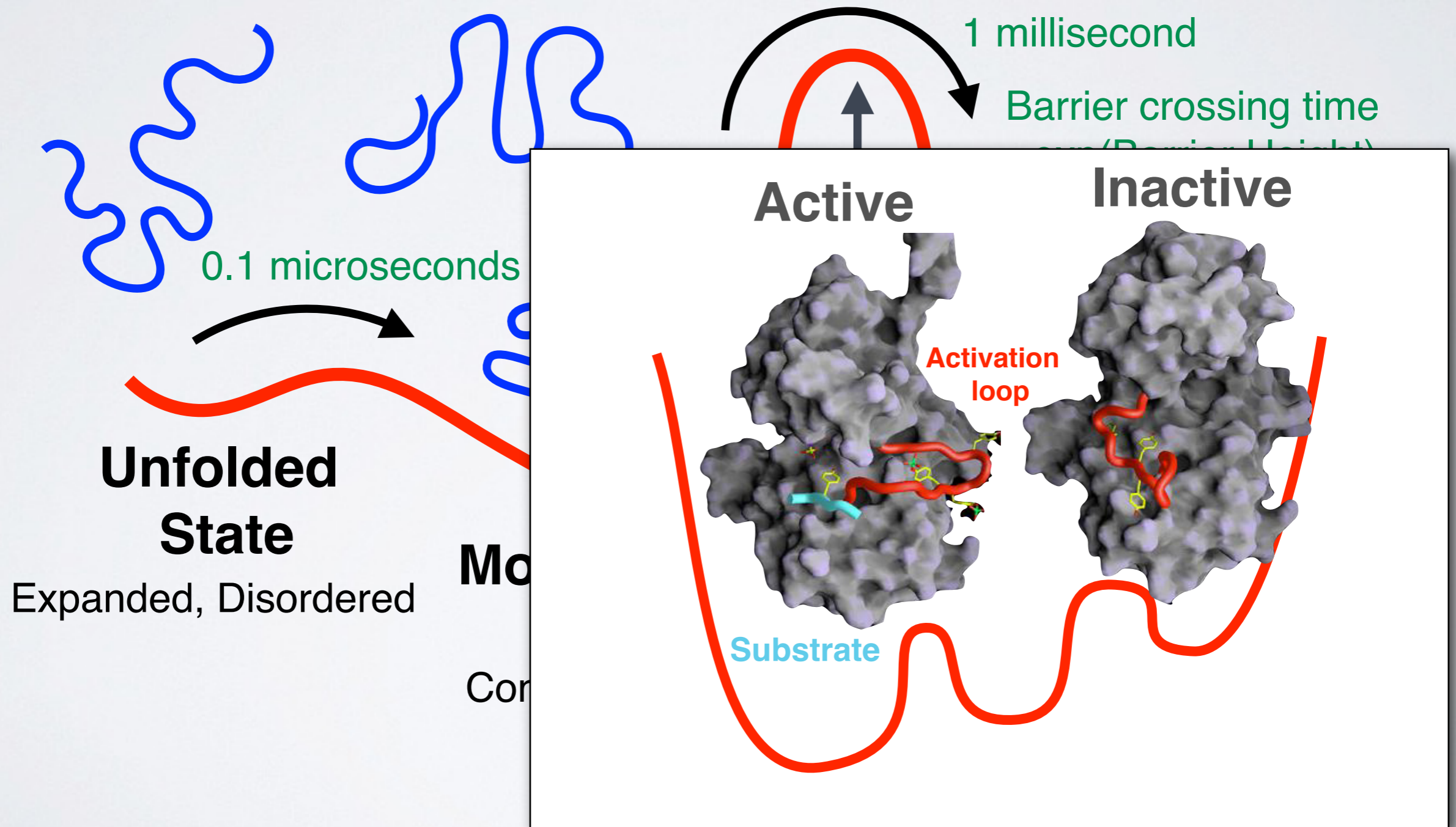
**"Activation loop"**

Analyzing these multiple structures can reveal functional motions  
- i.e. displacements that are essential for regulating function

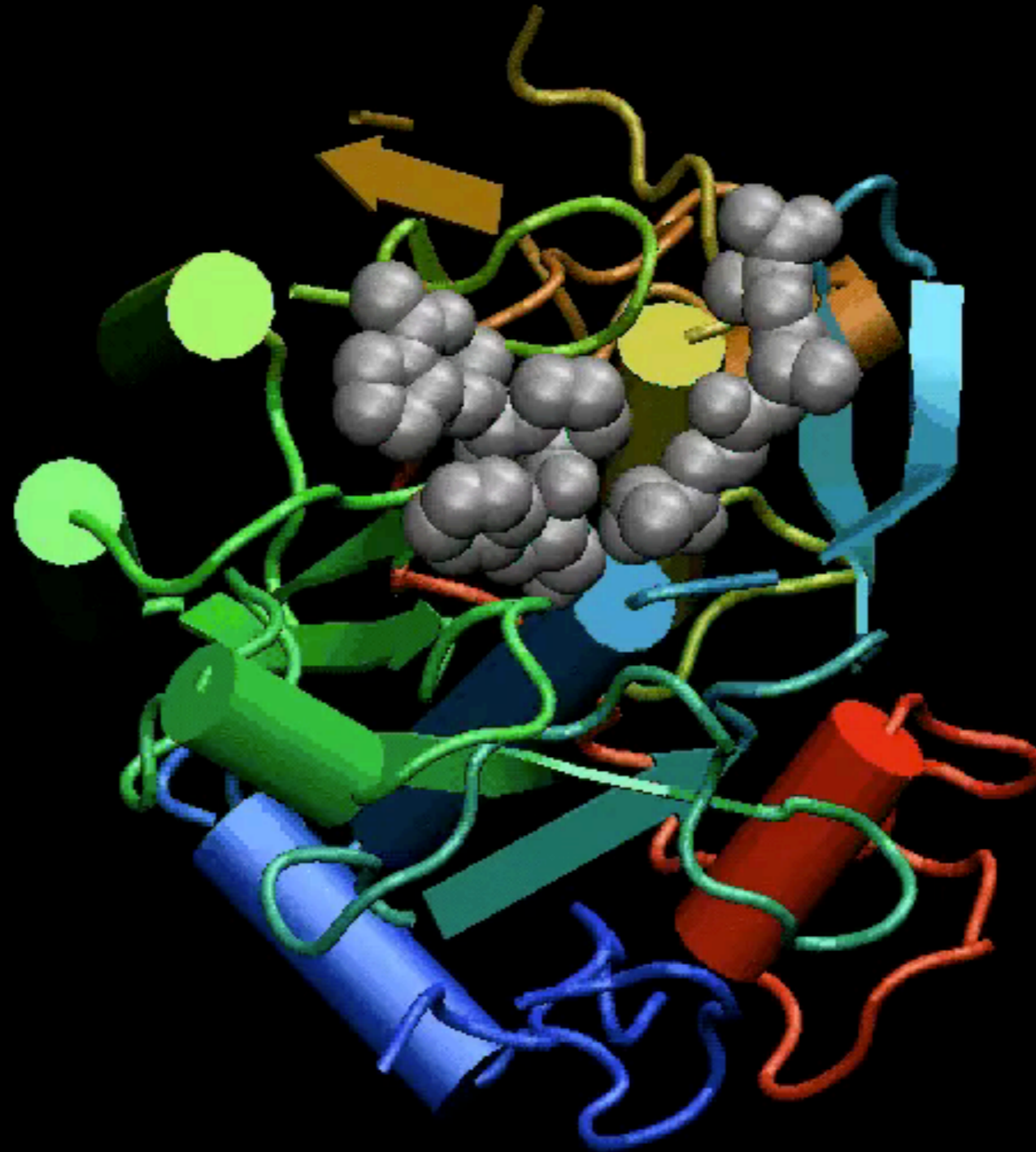
# KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



# KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



# Normal Mode Analysis (NMA) models the protein as a network of elastic strings



NMA is a bioinformatics method to predict the intrinsic dynamics of biomolecules

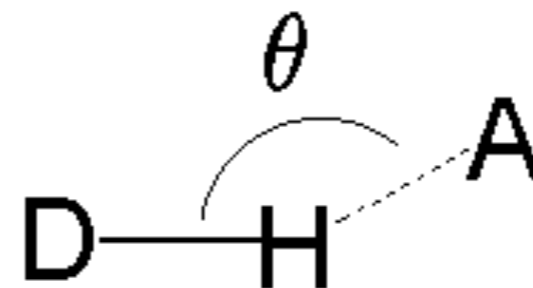
# Key forces affecting structure:

- H-bonding
- Van der Waals
- Electrostatics
- Hydrophobicity

Hydrogen-bond donor      Hydrogen-bond acceptor



← d →

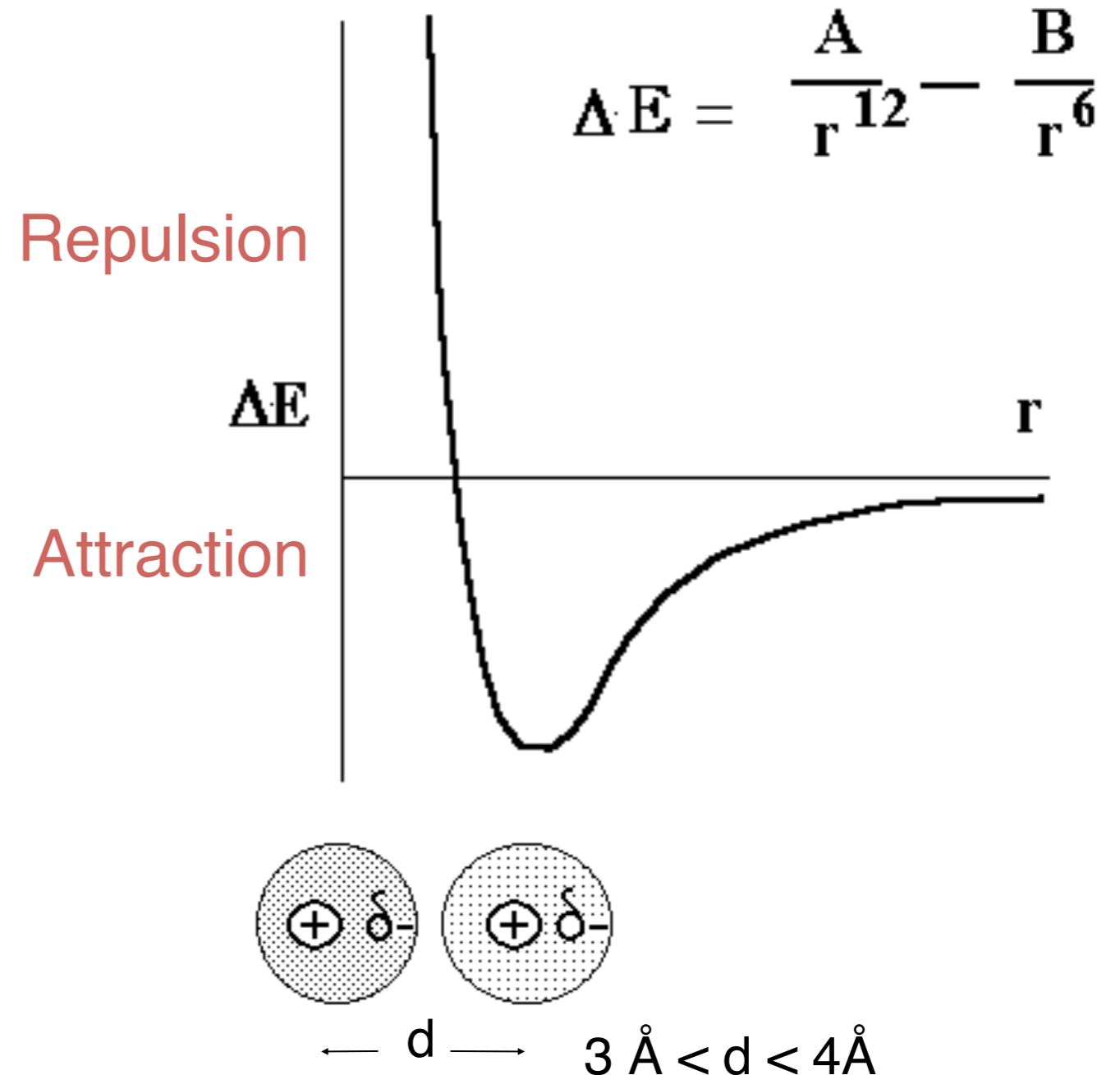


$$2.6 \text{ \AA} < d < 3.1 \text{ \AA}$$

$$150^\circ < \theta < 180^\circ$$

# Key forces affecting structure:

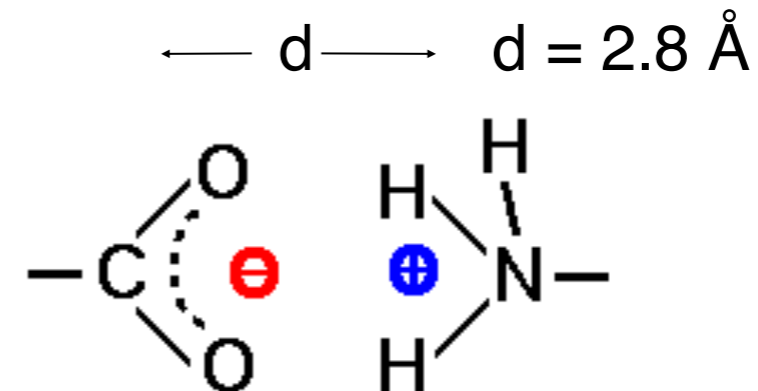
- H-bonding
- **Van der Waals**
- Electrostatics
- Hydrophobicity





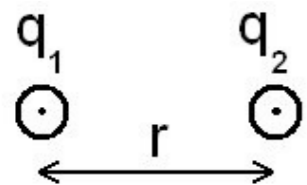
# Key forces affecting structure:

- H-bonding
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- **Electrostatics**
- Hydrophobicity



carboxyl group and amino group

(some time called IONIC BONDS or SALT BRIDGES)



Coulomb's law

$$E = \frac{K q_1 q_2}{D r}$$

E = Energy

k = constant

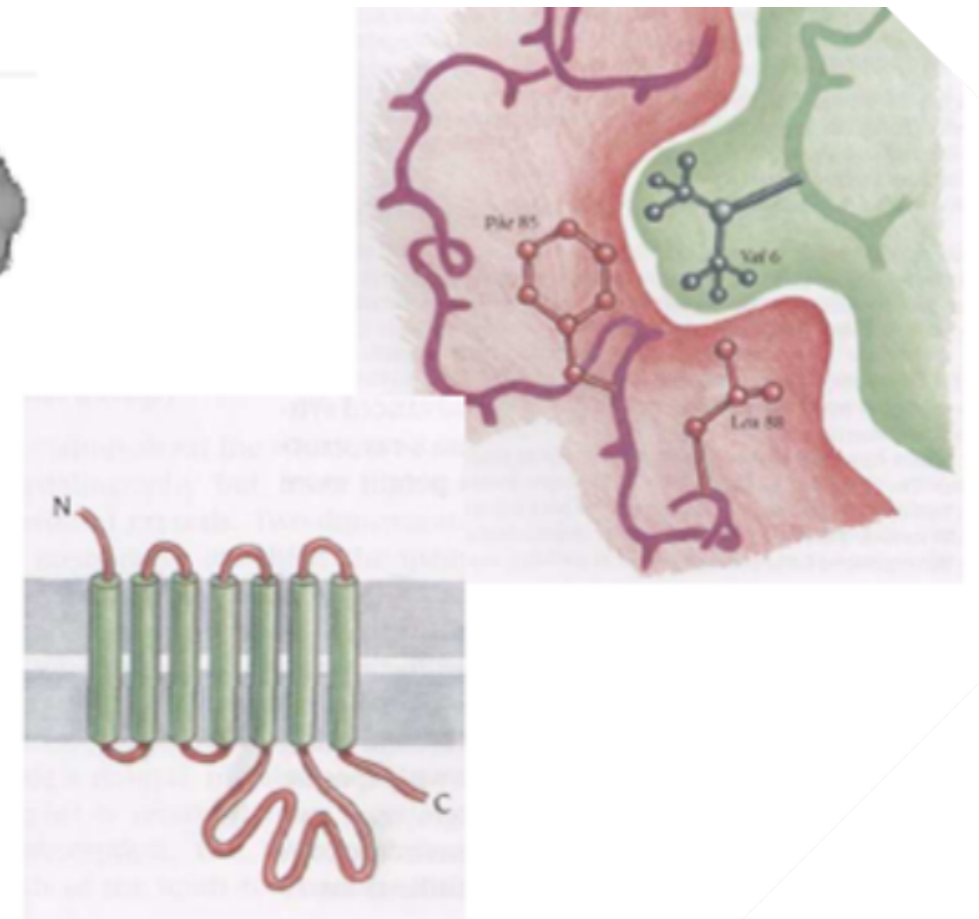
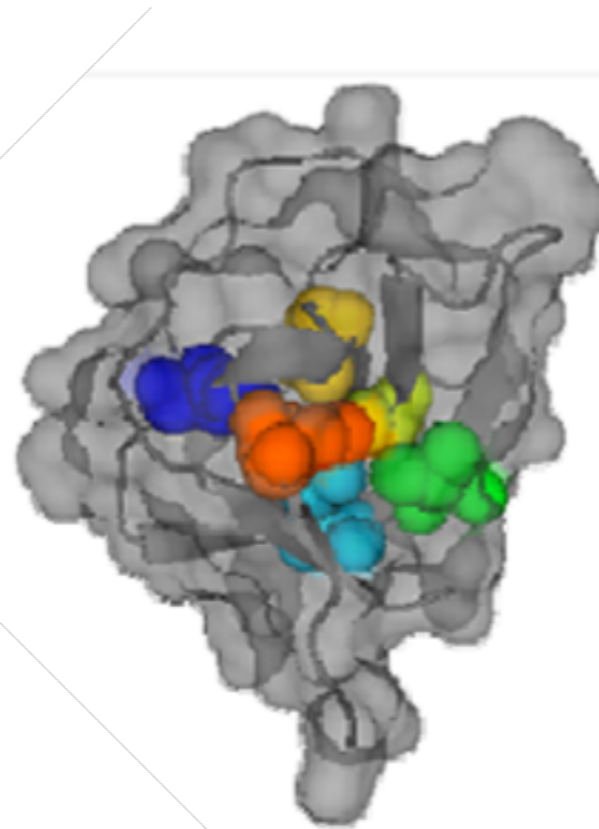
D = Dielectric constant (vacuum = 1; H<sub>2</sub>O = 80)

q<sub>1</sub> & q<sub>2</sub> = electronic charges (Coulombs)

r = distance (Å)

# Key forces affecting structure:

- H-bonding
- Van der Waals
- Electrostatics
- **Hydrophobicity**



The force that causes hydrophobic molecules or nonpolar portions of molecules to aggregate together rather than to dissolve in water is called Hydrophobicity (Greek, “water fearing”). This is not a separate bonding force; rather, it is the result of the energy required to insert a nonpolar molecule into water.

# Today's Menu

- **Overview of structural bioinformatics**
  - Motivations, goals and challenges
- **Fundamentals of protein structure**
  - Structure composition, form and forces
- **Representing, interpreting & modeling protein structure**
  - Visualizing & interpreting protein structures
  - Analyzing protein structures
  - Modeling energy as a function of structure

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Do it Yourself!

# Hand-on time!

Focus on **section 1** only please!

**N.B.** Remember to make your new **class11** RStudio project inside your GitHub tracked directory from last day and **UNCHECK** the "Create a Git repository" option...

# Side-Note: PDB File Format

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	Element	Amino Acid	Chain	Sequence/Residue Number	Coordinates			(etc.)	
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Element position within amino acid

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ATOM	8	CE	MET	A
ATOM	9	N	ASP	A
ATOM	10	CA	ASP	A
ATOM	11	C	ASP	A
ATOM	12	O	ASP	A

amino group

carboxyl group

side chain (R group)

$\alpha$  carbon

CE  $\epsilon$

CD  $\delta$

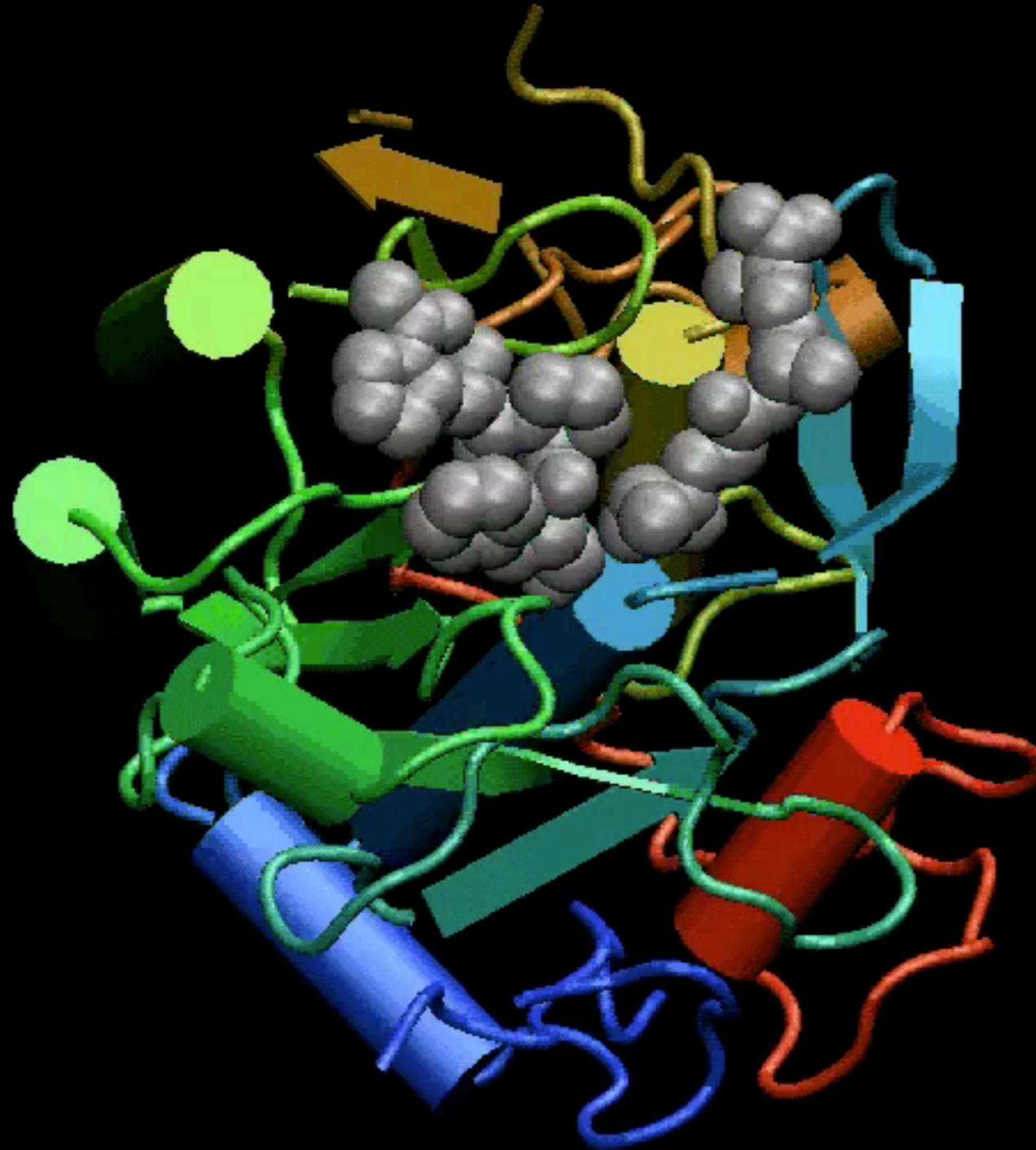
CG  $\gamma$

CB  $\beta$

2	20.050	37.110	0.117	...
2	20.124	36.371	-5.299	...
2	20.680	35.818	-4.351	...

Element position within amino acid

Download VMD



Hands-on Time!

Focus on **section 2** of "*Lab Sheet*" (using VMD)



# Today's Menu

- **Overview of structural bioinformatics**
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Do it Yourself!

# Hand-on time!

Focus on **section 3** to **5**

# Bio3D view()

- If you want the 3D viewer in your R markdown you can install the development version of **bio3d.view**
- In your R console:

```
> install.packages("devtools")
```

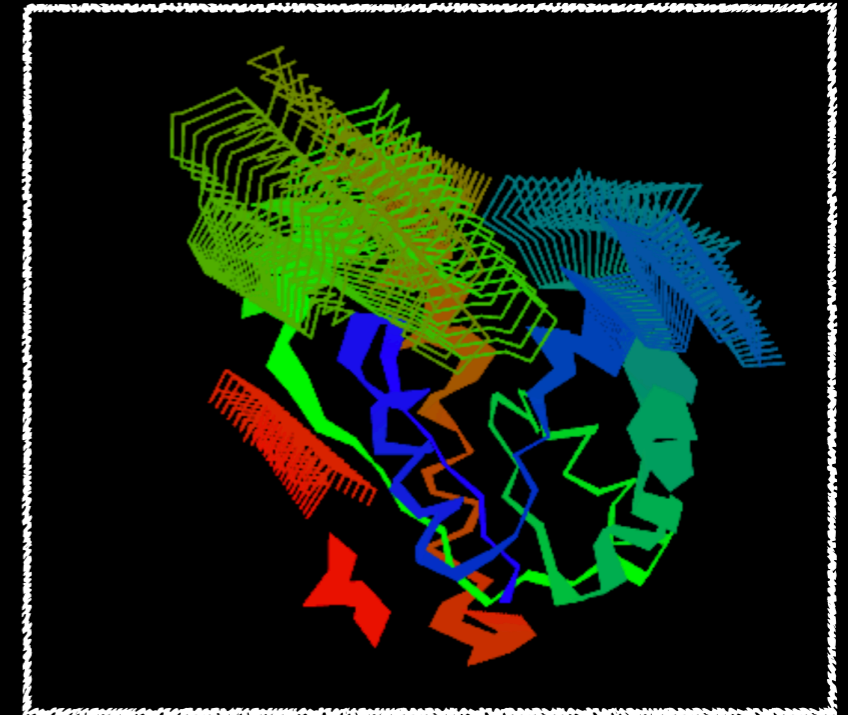
```
> devtools::install_bitbucket("Grantlab/bio3d-view")
```

```
> library("bio3d.view")
```

```
> pdb <- read.pdb("5p21")
```

```
> view(pdb)
```

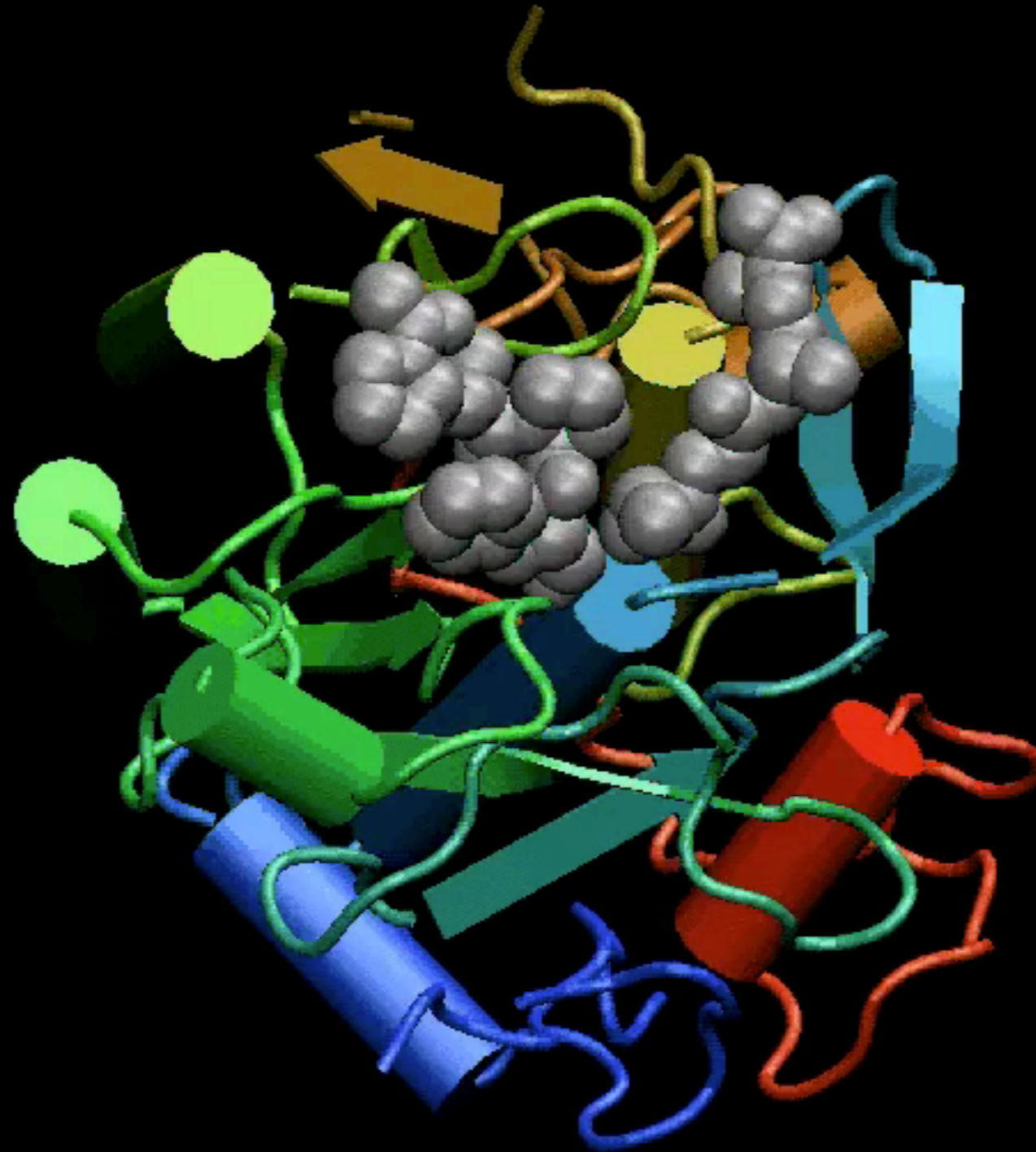
```
> view(pdb, "overview", col="sse")
```



# Today's Menu

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NMA models the protein as a network of elastic strings



Proteinase K

# NMA in Bio3D

- Normal Mode Analysis (NMA) is a bioinformatics method that can predict the major motions of biomolecules.

```
`` {r}
library(bio3d)
library(bio3d.view)
``
```

```
`` {r}
pdb <- read.pdb("1hel")
modes <- nma( pdb )
m7 <- mktrj(modes, mode=7, file="mode_7.pdb")

view(m7, col=vec2color(rmsf(m7)))
``
```

# Bio3D view()

- If you want the interactive 3D viewer in Rmd rendered to **output: html\_output** document:

```
```{r}
library(bio3d.view)
library(rgl)
```
```

```
```{r}
modes <- nma( read.pdb("1hel") )
m7 <- mktrj(modes, mode=7, file="mode_7.pdb")

view(m7, col=vec2color(rmsf(m7)))
rglwidget(width=500, height=500)
```
```

**KEY CONCEPT:** POTENTIAL FUNCTIONS  
DESCRIBE A SYSTEMS **ENERGY** AS A FUNCTION  
OF ITS **STRUCTURE**

Two main approaches:

(1). Physics-Based

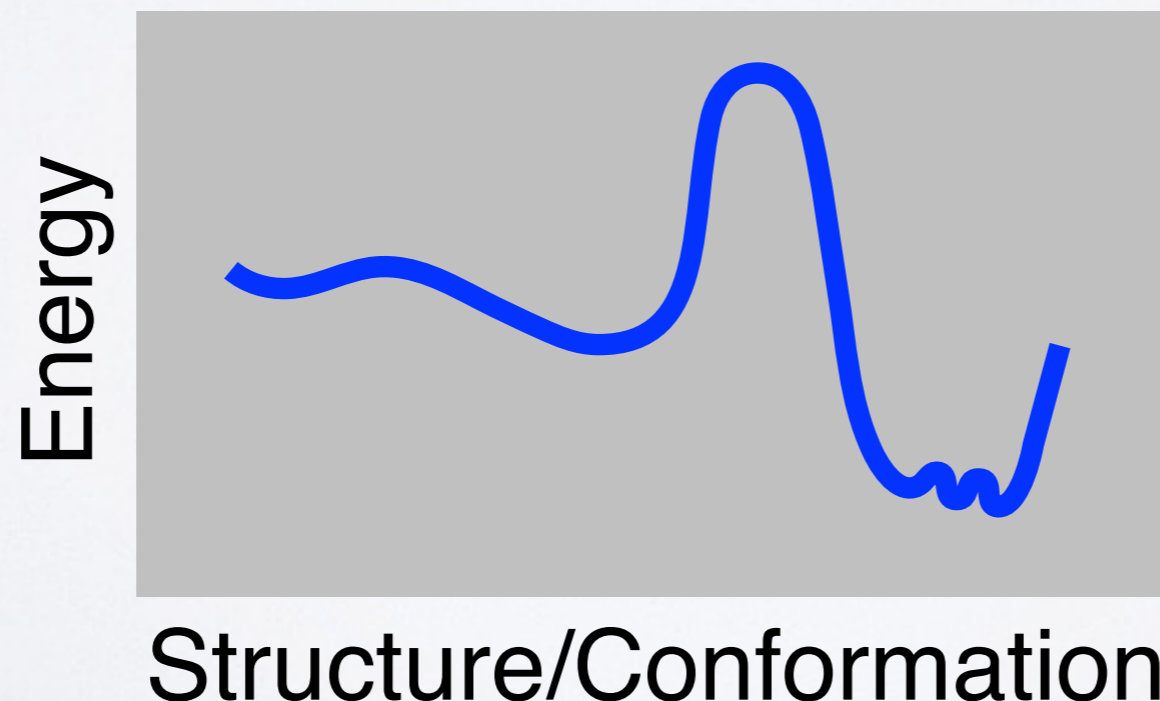
(2). Knowledge-Based



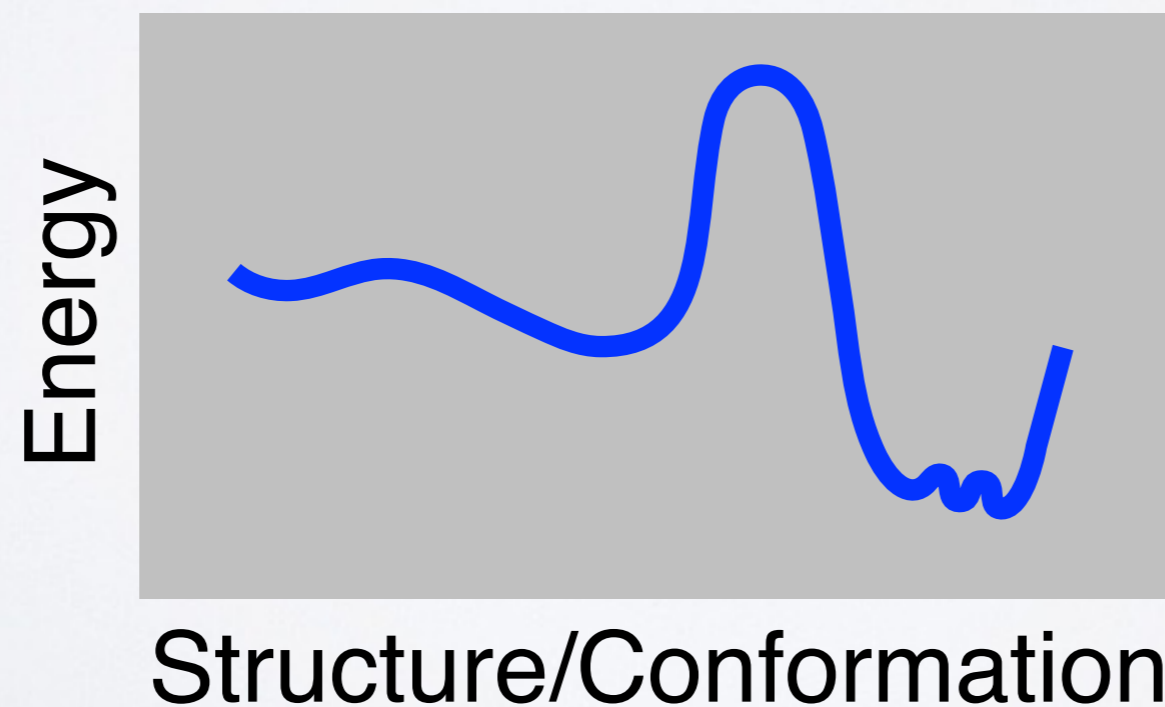
**KEY CONCEPT:** POTENTIAL FUNCTIONS  
DESCRIBE A SYSTEMS **ENERGY** AS A FUNCTION  
OF ITS **STRUCTURE**

Two main approaches:

- (1). Physics-Based
- (2). Knowledge-Based



This will be the focus of the next class!



# SUMMARY

- Structural bioinformatics is computer aided structural biology
  - Described major motivations, goals and challenges of structural bioinformatics
  - Reviewed the fundamentals of protein structure
  - Explored how to use R to perform advanced custom structural bioinformatics analysis!
- Introduced both physics and knowledge based modeling approaches for describing the structure, energetics and dynamics of proteins computationally

[ [Muddy Point Assessment](#) ]