

**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!**

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

**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

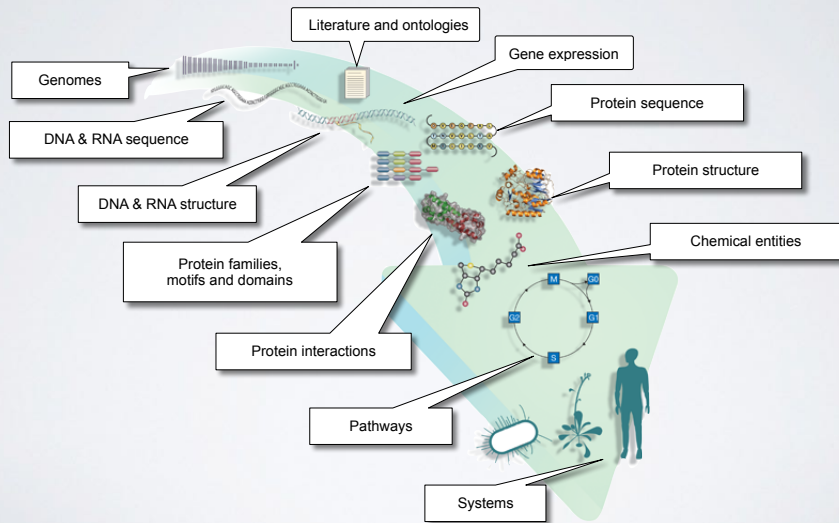
Why should we care?

Why should we care?

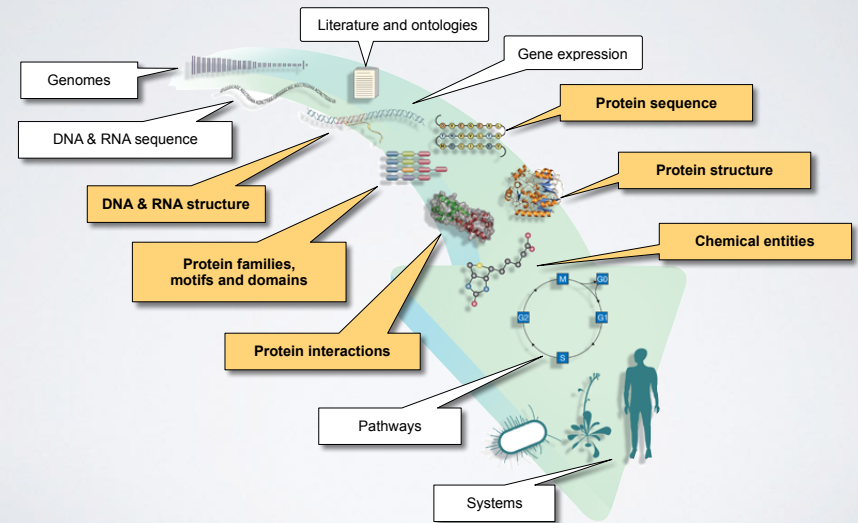
Because biomolecules are “nature’s robots”

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

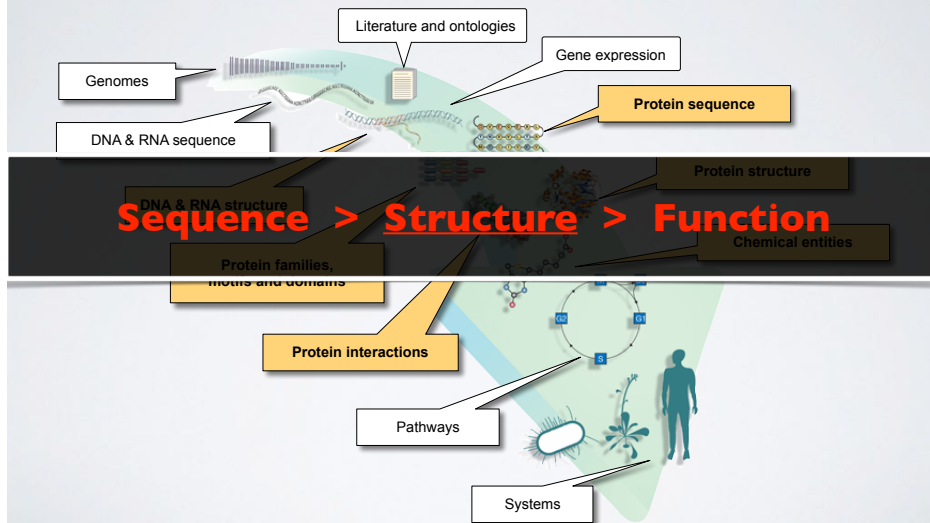
# BIOINFORMATICS DATA



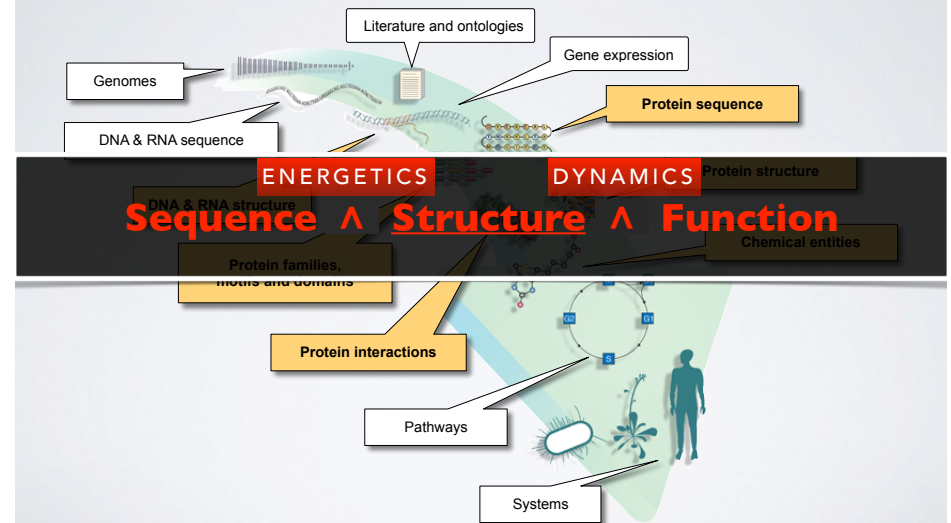
# STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL

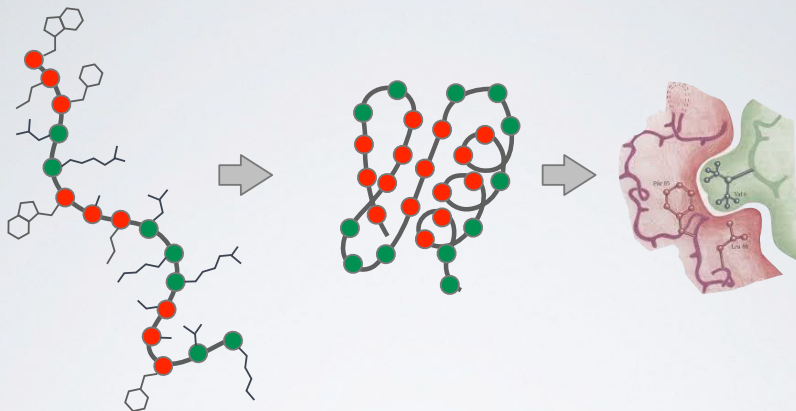


# STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL



# 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*



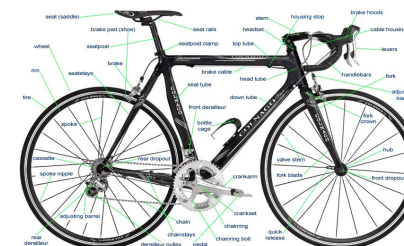
## Genomics is a great start ....

### Track Bike – DL 175

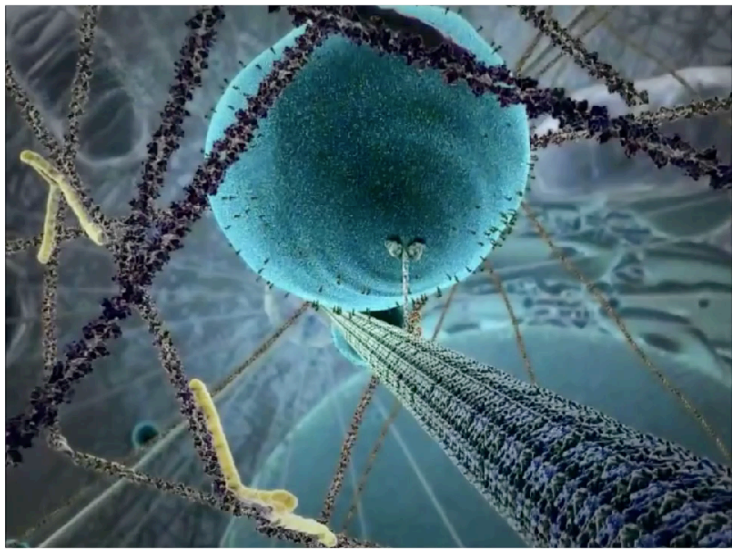
REF. NO.	IBM NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	156011	Track Frame 21", 22", 23", 24", Team Red
2	157040	Fork for 21" Frame
2	157039	Fork for 22" Frame
2	157038	Fork for 23" Frame
2	157037	Fork for 24" Frame
3	191202	Handlebar TTT Competition Track Alloy 15/16"
4		Handlebar Stem, TTT, Specify extension
5	191278	Expander Bolt
6	191272	Clamp Bolt
7	145841	Headset Complete 1 x 24 BSC
8	145842	Ball Bearings
9	190420	175 Raleigh Pistard Seta Tubular Prestaveive 27"
10	190233	Rim, 27" AVA Competition (36H) Alloy Prestaveive
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	145923	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

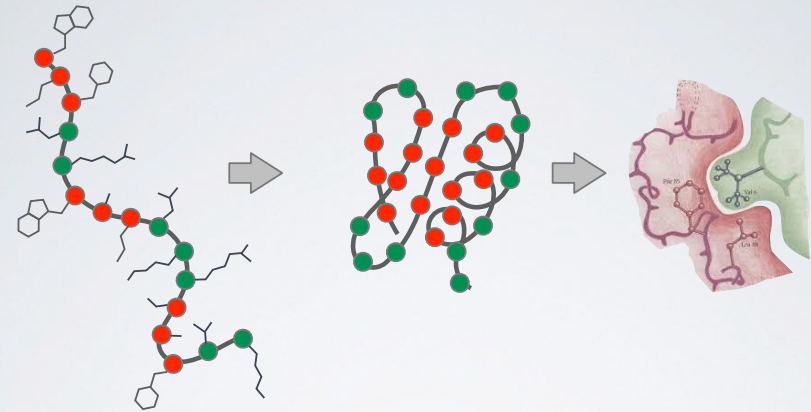
... but not the end



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

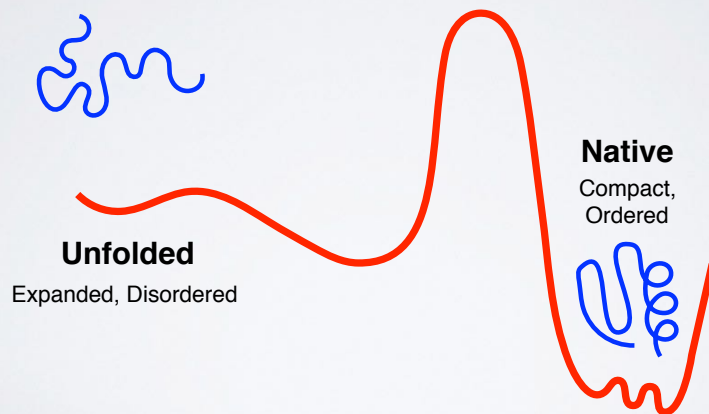


Extracted from The Inner Life of a Cell by Cellular Visions and Harvard  
 [YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-uuk4Pr2i8> ]

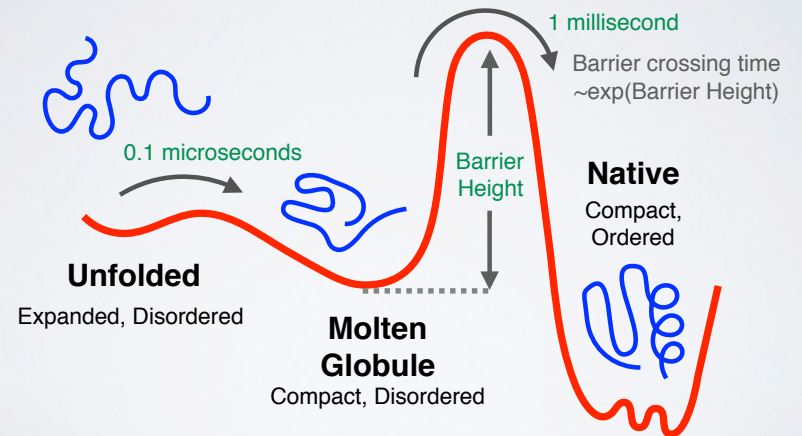


Sequence	Structure	Function
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unfolded chain of amino acid chain</li> <li>• Highly mobile</li> <li>• Inactive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ordered in a precise 3D arrangement</li> <li>• Stable but dynamic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active in specific "conformations"</li> <li>• Specific associations &amp; precise reactions</li> </ul>

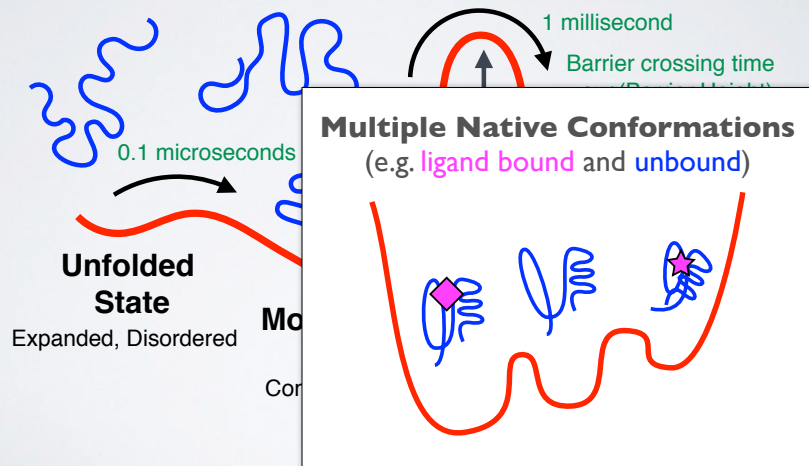
## KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



## KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



## KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



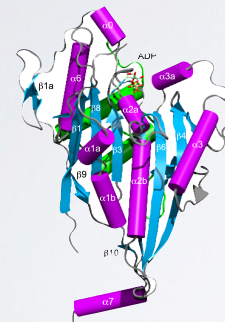
## OUTLINE:

- ▶ **Overview of structural bioinformatics**
  - Major motivations, goals and challenges
- ▶ **Fundamentals of protein structure**
  - Composition, form, forces and dynamics
- ▶ **Representing and interpreting protein structure**
  - Modeling energy as a function of structure
- ▶ **Example application areas**
  - Predicting functional dynamics & drug discovery

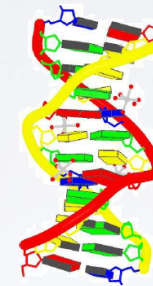
## OUTLINE:

- ▶ **Overview of structural bioinformatics**
  - Major motivations, goals and challenges
- ▶ **Fundamentals of protein structure**
  - Composition, form, forces and dynamics
- ▶ **Representing and interpreting protein structure**
  - Modeling energy as a function of structure
- ▶ **Example application areas**
  - Predicting functional dynamics & drug discovery

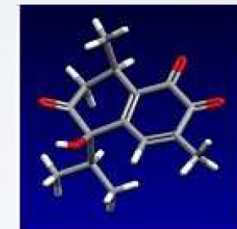
## TRADITIONAL FOCUS PROTEIN, DNA AND SMALL MOLECULE DATA SETS WITH MOLECULAR STRUCTURE



Protein  
(PDB)

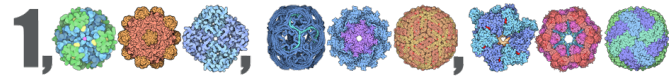


DNA  
(NDB)

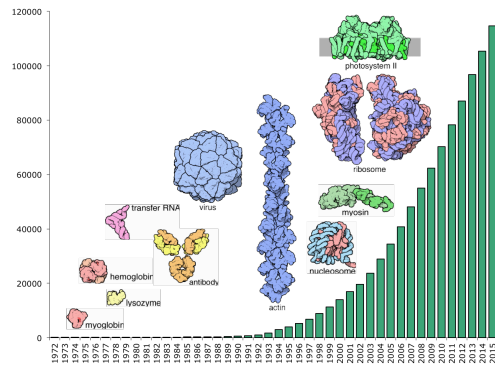


Small Molecules  
(CCDB)

# PDB – A Billion Atom Archive



> 1 billion atoms in the asymmetric units



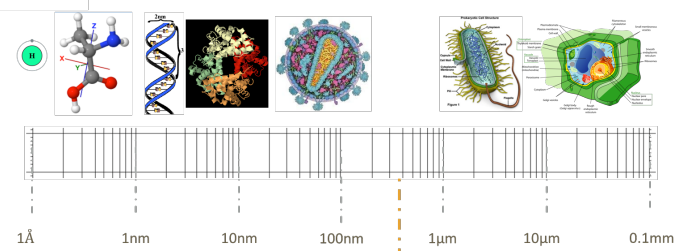
~140,000 Structures in May 2018

SDSC SAN DIEGO SUPERCOMPUTER CENTER

Slide Credit: Peter Rose

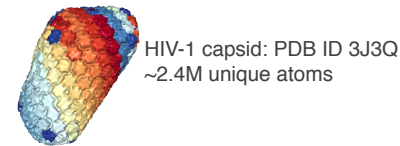
UC San Diego

# Growing Structure Size and Complexity

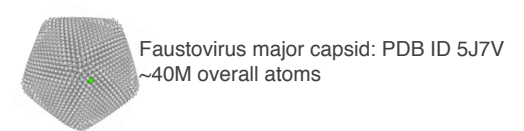


PDB

Largest asymmetric structure in PDB



Largest symmetric structure in PDB



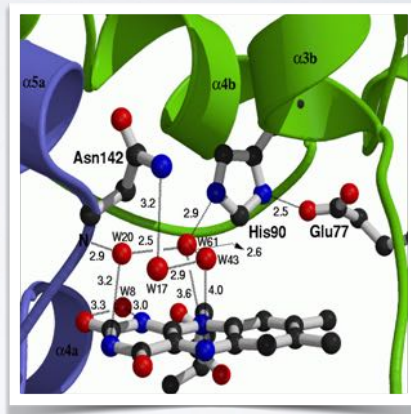
SDSC SAN DIEGO SUPERCOMPUTER CENTER

Slide Credit: Peter Rose

UC San Diego

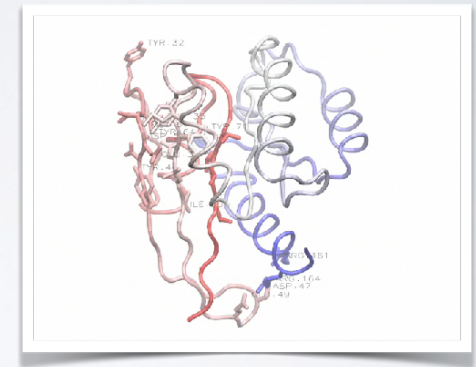
## Motivation 1: Detailed understanding of molecular interactions

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.

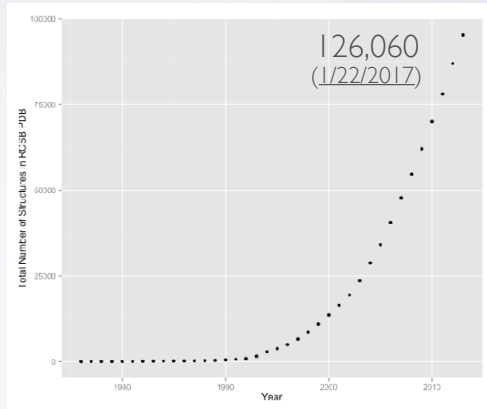


Grant et al. PLoS. Comp. Biol. (2010)

### 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: <http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/statistics/>

### Motivation 2:

Lots of structural data is becoming available

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

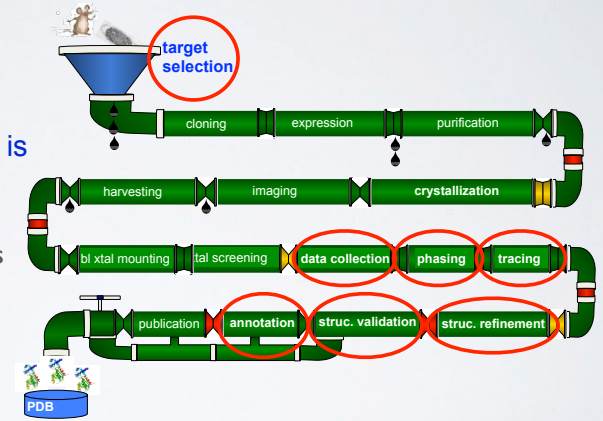
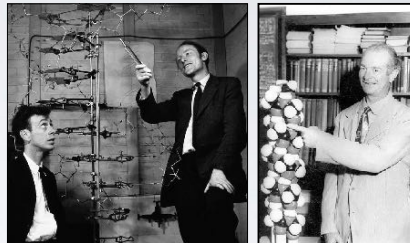


Image Credit: "Structure determination assembly line" Adam Godzik

### 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

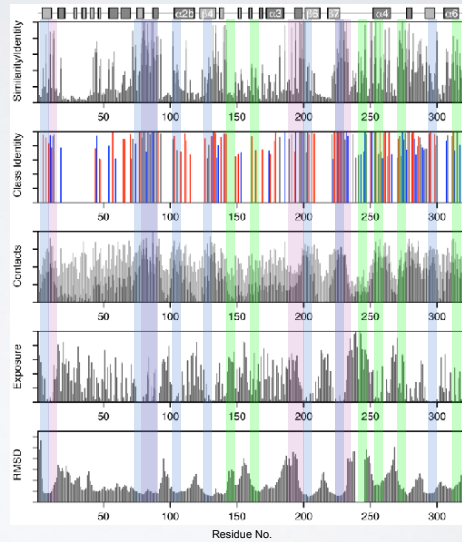
### Structure is encoded in sequence

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



Goals:

- Analysis
- Visualization
- Comparison
- Prediction
- Design



Grant et al. JMB. (2007)

Goals:

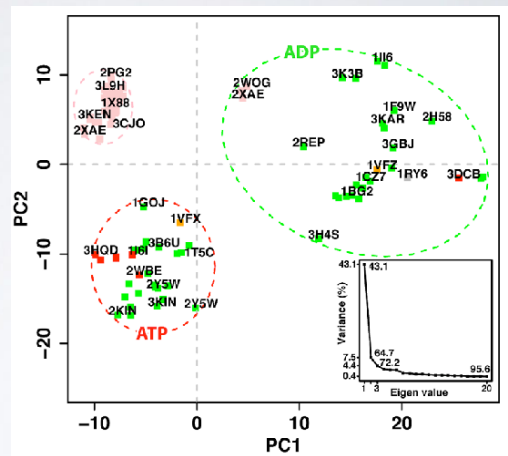
- Analysis
- Visualization
- Comparison
- Prediction
- Design



Scarabelli and Grant. PLoS. Comp. Biol. (2013)

Goals:

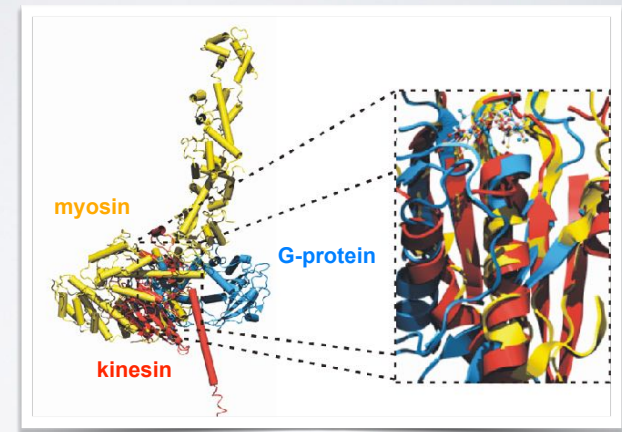
- Analysis
- Visualization
- Comparison
- Prediction
- Design



Scarabelli and Grant. PLoS. Comp. Biol. (2013)

Goals:

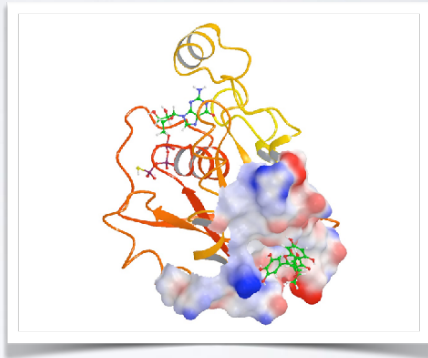
- Analysis
- Visualization
- Comparison
- Prediction
- Design



Grant et al. unpublished

Goals:

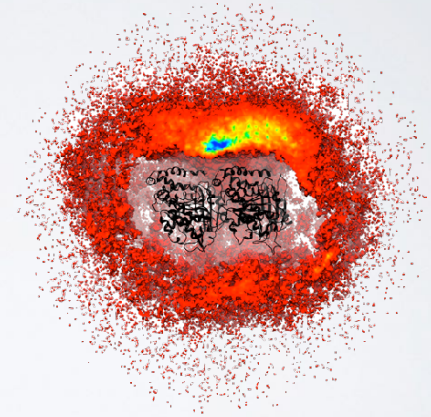
- Analysis
- Visualization
- Comparison
- Prediction
- Design



Grant et al. PLoS One (2011, 2012)

Goals:

- Analysis
- Visualization
- 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...

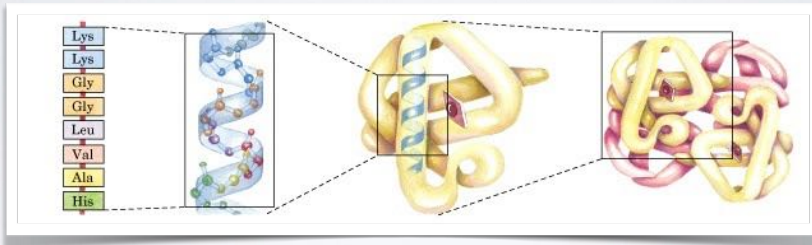
With applications to Biology, Medicine, Agriculture and Industry

## NEXT UP:

- ▶ **Overview of structural bioinformatics**
  - Major motivations, goals and challenges
- ▶ **Fundamentals of protein structure**
  - Composition, form, forces and dynamics
- ▶ **Representing and interpreting protein structure**
  - Modeling energy as a function of structure
- ▶ **Example application areas**
  - Predicting functional dynamics & drug discovery

# HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE OF PROTEINS

Primary > Secondary > Tertiary > Quaternary



amino acid residues      Alpha helix      Polypeptide chain      Assembled subunits

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

# RECAP: AMINO ACID NOMENCLATURE

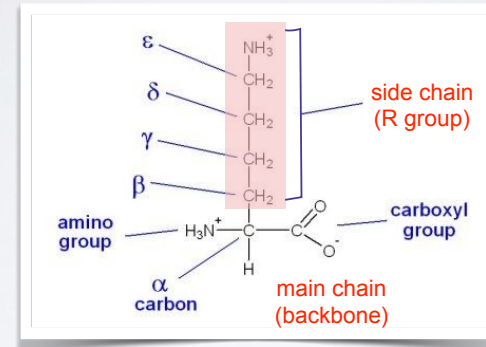


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

# AMINO ACIDS CAN BE GROUPED BY THE PHYSIOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES

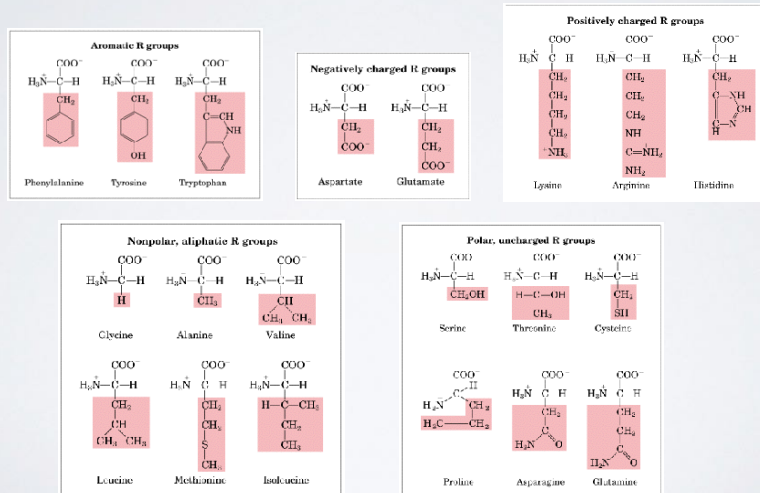


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

# AMINO ACIDS POLYMERIZE THROUGH PEPTIDE BOND FORMATION

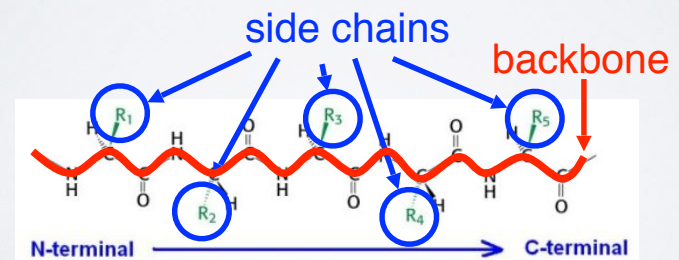
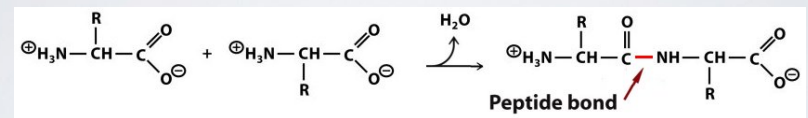


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

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

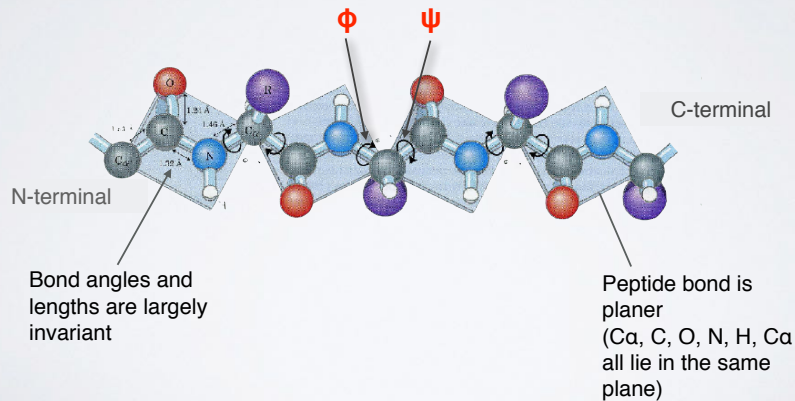
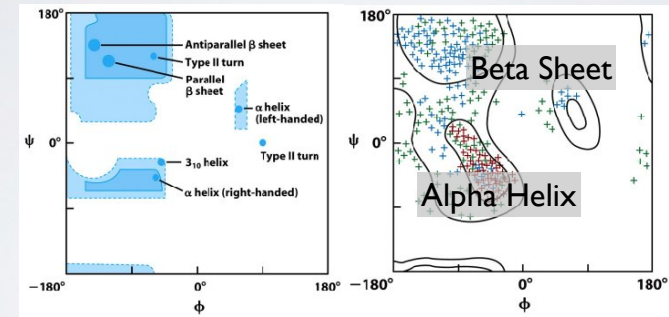


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

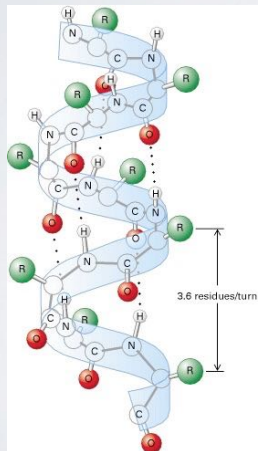
## PHI vs PSI PLOTS ARE KNOWN AS **RAMACHANDRAN DIAGRAMS**



- 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**

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

## MAJOR SECONDARY STRUCTURE TYPES **ALPHA HELIX & BETA SHEET**

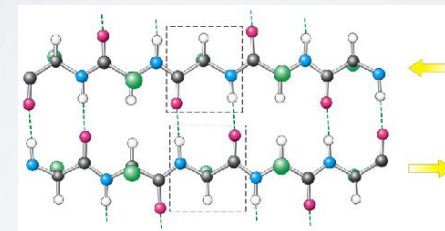


### **$\alpha$ -helix**

- 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

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

## MAJOR SECONDARY STRUCTURE TYPES **ALPHA HELIX & BETA SHEET**

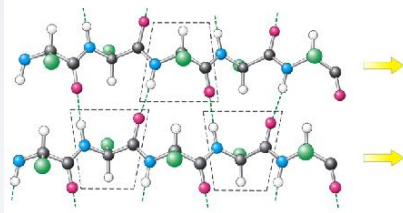


### In **antiparallel** $\beta$ -sheets

- 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**

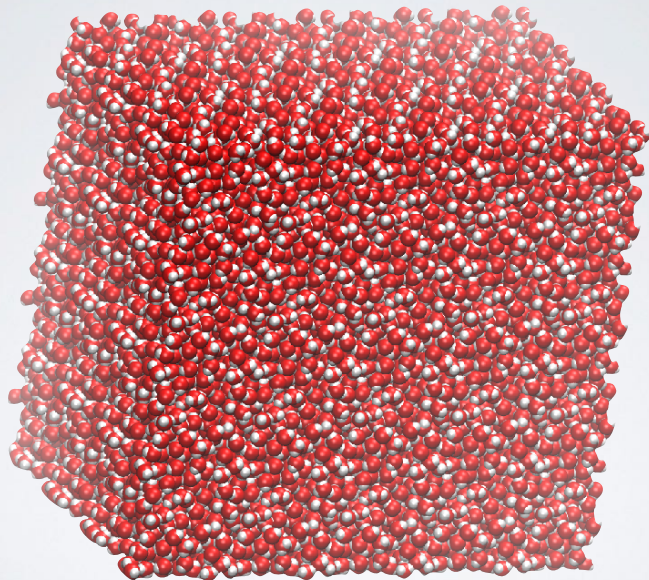


### In **parallel** $\beta$ -sheets

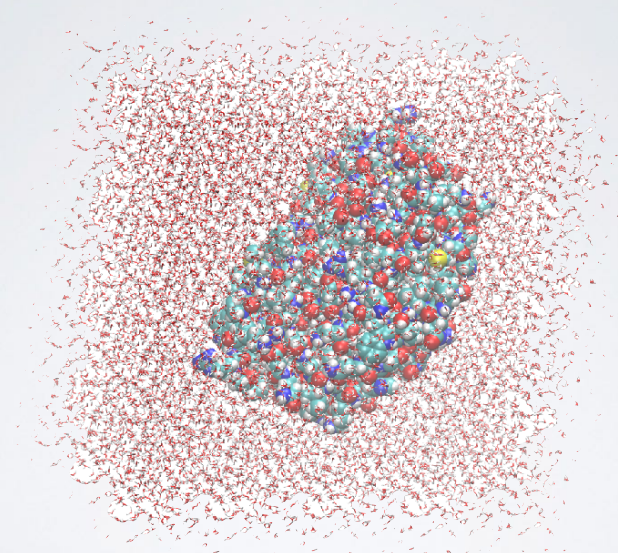
- Adjacent  $\beta$ -strands run in same direction
- Hydrogen bonds (dashed lines) between NH and CO stabilize the structure
- The side chains (in green) are above and below the sheet

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

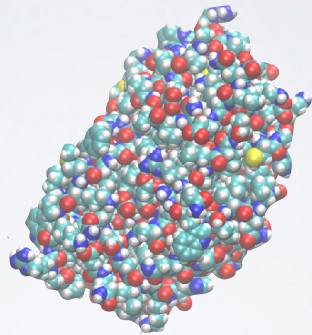
## What Does a Protein Look like?



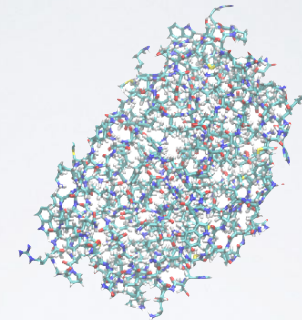
- Proteins are stable (and hidden) in water



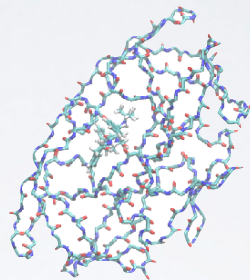
- Proteins closely interact with water



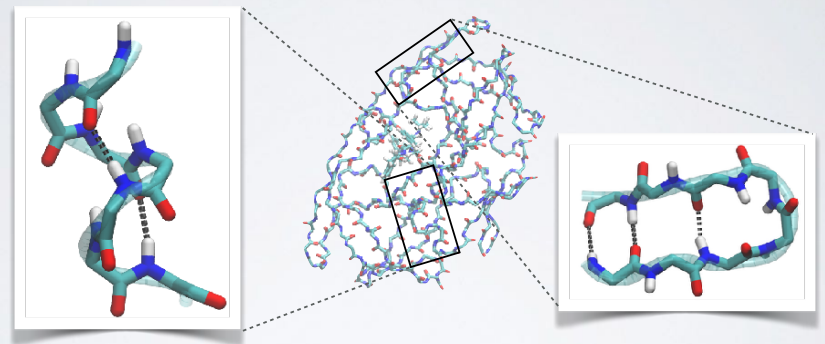
- Proteins are close packed solid but flexible objects (globular)



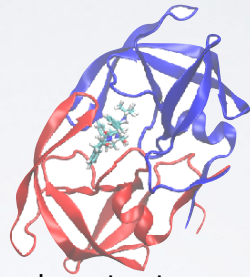
- Due to their large size and complexity it is often hard to see what's important in the structure



- Backbone or main-chain representation can help trace chain topology

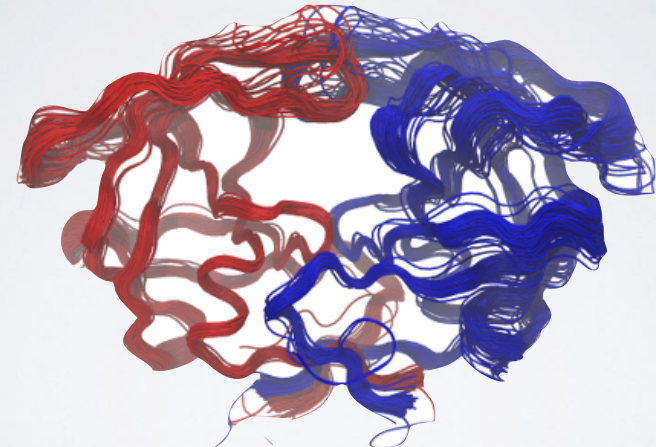


- Backbone or main-chain representation can help trace chain topology & reveal secondary structure



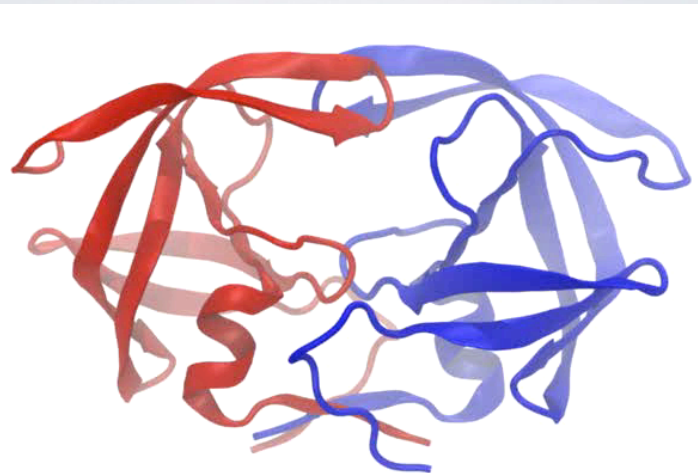
- Simplified secondary structure representations are commonly used to communicate structural details
- Now we can clearly see 2°, 3° and 4° structure
- Coiled chain of connected secondary structures

## DISPLACEMENTS REFLECT INTRINSIC FLEXIBILITY



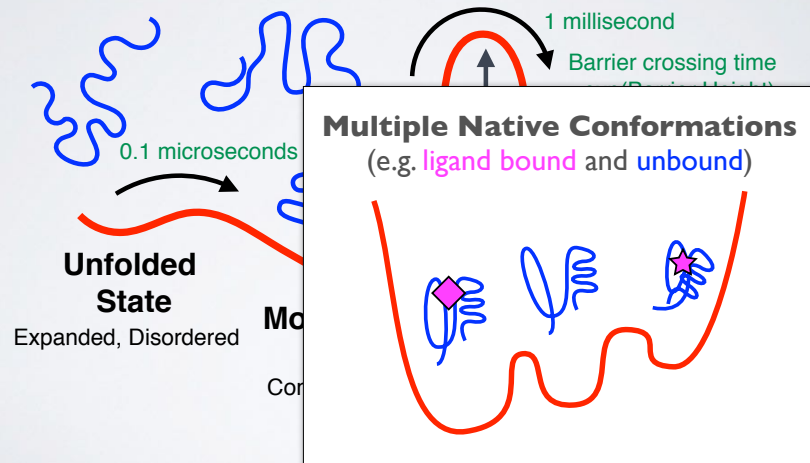
Superposition of all 482 structures in RCSB PDB (23/09/2015)

## DISPLACEMENTS REFLECT INTRINSIC FLEXIBILITY



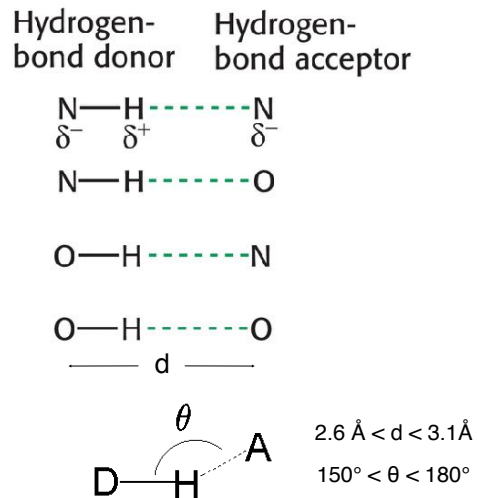
Principal component analysis (PCA) of experimental structures

## KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



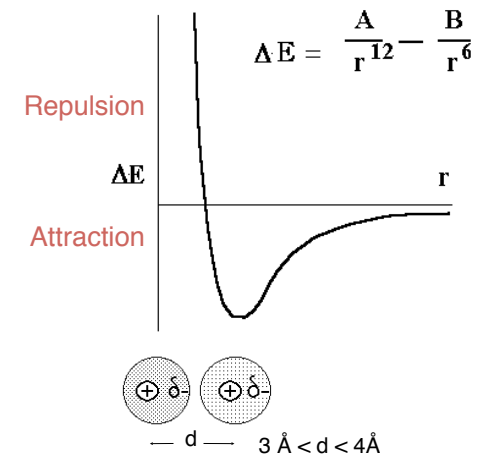
## Key forces affecting structure:

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



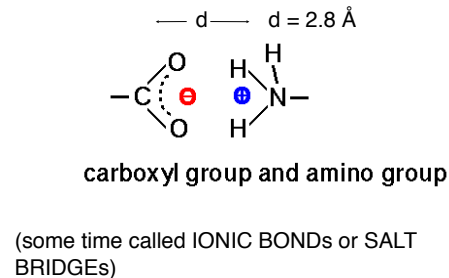
## Key forces affecting structure:

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



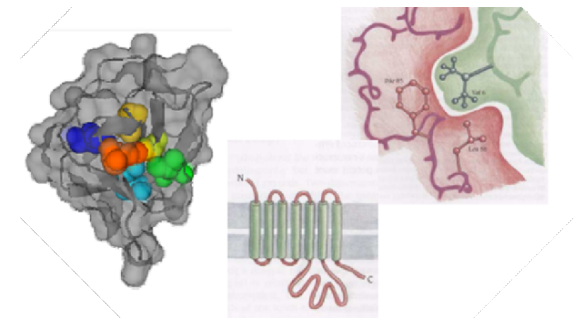
## Key forces affecting structure:

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

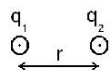


## Key forces affecting structure:

- 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.



### 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)



Do it Yourself!

# Hand-on time!

[https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143\\_S18/lectures/#11](https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143_S18/lectures/#11)

Focus on **section 1** to **3** only please!

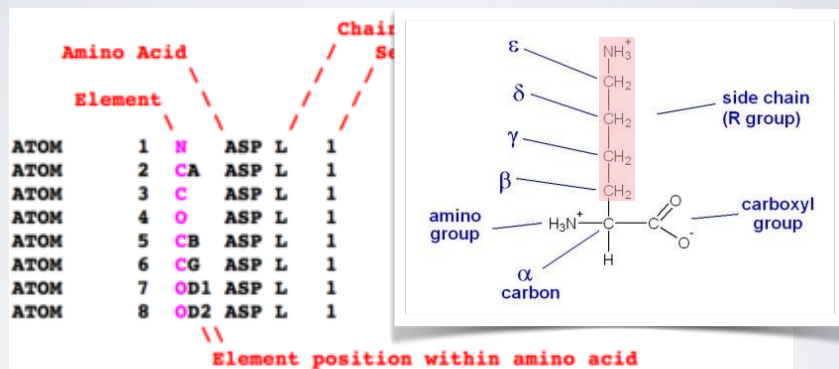
## SIDE-NOTE: PDB FILE FORMAT

		Amino Acid		Chain name		-----Coordinates-----			
		Element		Sequence	Number	X	Y	Z	(etc.)
ATOM	1	N	ASP L	1	1	4.060	7.307	5.186	...
ATOM	2	CA	ASP L	1	1	4.042	7.776	6.553	...
ATOM	3	C	ASP L	1	1	2.668	8.426	6.644	...
ATOM	4	O	ASP L	1	1	1.987	8.438	5.606	...
ATOM	5	CB	ASP L	1	1	5.090	8.827	6.797	...
ATOM	6	CG	ASP L	1	1	6.338	8.761	5.929	...
ATOM	7	OD1	ASP L	1	1	6.576	9.758	5.241	...
ATOM	8	OD2	ASP L	1	1	7.065	7.759	5.948	...

Element position within amino acid

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

## SIDE-NOTE: PDB FILE FORMAT



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

## NEXT UP:

- ▶ **Overview of structural bioinformatics**
  - Major motivations, goals and challenges
- ▶ **Fundamentals of protein structure**
  - Composition and dynamics
- ▶ **Representing and simulating protein structure**
  - Modeling energy as a function of structure
- ▶ **Example application areas**
  - Predicting functional dynamics & drug discovery

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

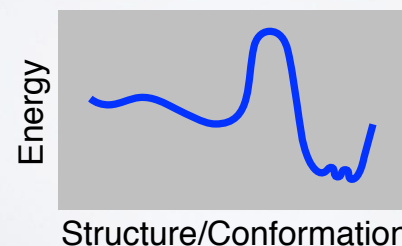
Two main approaches:

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

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

Two main approaches:

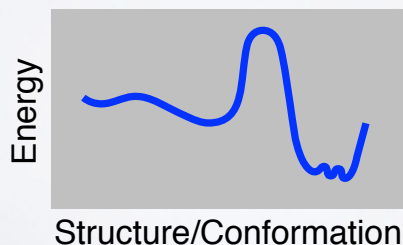
- (1). **Physics-Based**
- (2). **Knowledge-Based**



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

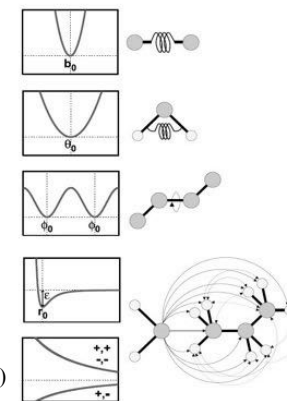
Two main approaches:

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



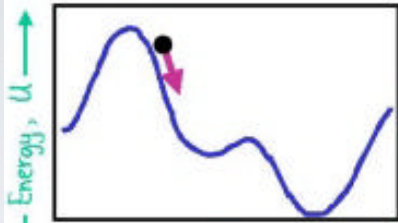
**PHYSICS-BASED** POTENTIALS  
**ENERGY TERMS FROM PHYSICAL THEORY**

$$U(\vec{R}) = \underbrace{\sum_{\text{bonds}} k_i^{\text{bond}} (r_i - r_0)^2}_{U_{\text{bond}}} + \underbrace{\sum_{\text{angles}} k_i^{\text{angle}} (\theta_i - \theta_0)^2}_{U_{\text{angle}}} + \underbrace{\sum_{\text{dihedrals}} k_i^{\text{dihedral}} [1 + \cos(n_i \phi_i + \delta_i)]}_{U_{\text{dihedral}}} + \underbrace{\sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} A \epsilon_{ij} \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]}_{U_{\text{nonbond}}} + \sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{q_i q_j}{\epsilon r_{ij}}$$



$U_{\text{bond}}$  = oscillations about the equilibrium bond length  
 $U_{\text{angle}}$  = oscillations of 3 atoms about an equilibrium bond angle  
 $U_{\text{dihedral}}$  = torsional rotation of 4 atoms about a central bond  
 $U_{\text{nonbond}}$  = non-bonded energy terms (electrostatics and Lenard-Jones)

## TOTAL POTENTIAL ENERGY

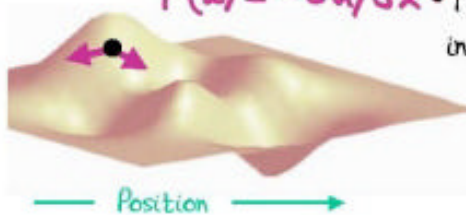


- The total potential energy or enthalpy fully defines the system,  $U$ .

- The forces are the gradients of the energy.

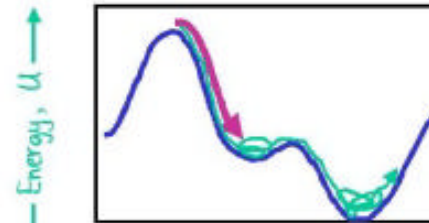
$$F(x) = -dU/dx$$

- The energy is a sum of independent terms for: Bond, Bond angles, Torsion angles and non-bonded atom pairs.



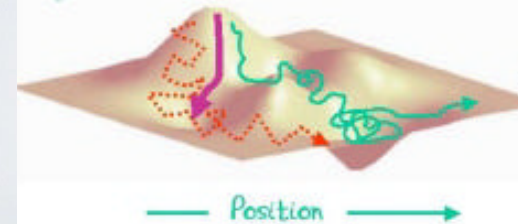
Slide Credit: Michael Levitt

## MOVING OVER THE ENERGY SURFACE



- Energy Minimization drops into local minimum.

- Molecular Dynamics uses thermal energy to move smoothly over surface.



- Monte Carlo Moves are random. Accept with probability  $\exp(-\Delta U/kT)$ .

Slide Credit: Michael Levitt

## PHYSICS-ORIENTED APPROACHES

### Weaknesses

Fully physical detail becomes computationally intractable  
 Approximations are unavoidable  
 (Quantum effects approximated classically, water may be treated crudely)  
 Parameterization still required

### Strengths

Interpretable, provides guides to design  
 Broadly applicable, in principle at least  
 Clear pathways to improving accuracy

### Status

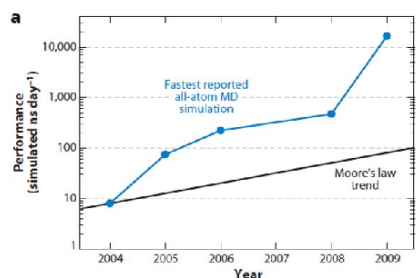
Useful, widely adopted but far from perfect  
 Multiple groups working on fewer, better approx  
 Force fields, quantum entropy, water effects  
 Moore's law: hardware improving

## HOW COMPUTERS HAVE CHANGED

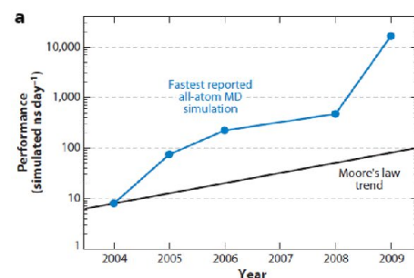
DATE	COST	SPEED	MEMORY	SIZE
1967	\$10M	0.1 MHz	1 MB	HALL
2013	\$1,000	1 GHz	10 GB	LAPTOP
CHANGE	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000

If cars were like computers then a new Volvo would cost \$3, would have a top speed of 1,000,000 km/hr, would carry 50,000 adults and would park in a shoebox

## SIDE-NOTE: GPUS AND ANTON SUPERCOMPUTER



## SIDE-NOTE: GPUS AND ANTON SUPERCOMPUTER

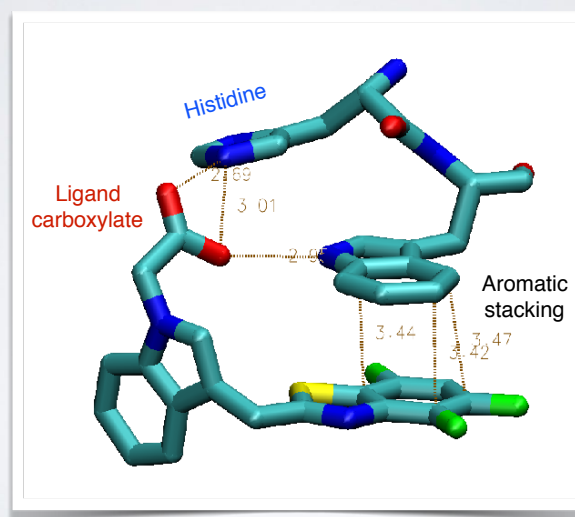


**KEY CONCEPT:** POTENTIAL FUNCTIONS DESCRIBE A SYSTEMS **ENERGY** AS A FUNCTION OF ITS **STRUCTURE**

Two main approaches:

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

## KNOWLEDGE-BASED DOCKING POTENTIALS



## ENERGY DETERMINES **PROBABILITY** (STABILITY)

Basic idea: Use probability as a proxy for energy



Boltzmann:  
 $p(r) \propto e^{-E(r)/RT}$



Inverse Boltzmann:  
 $E(r) = -RT \ln[p(r)]$

Example: ligand carboxylate O to protein histidine N

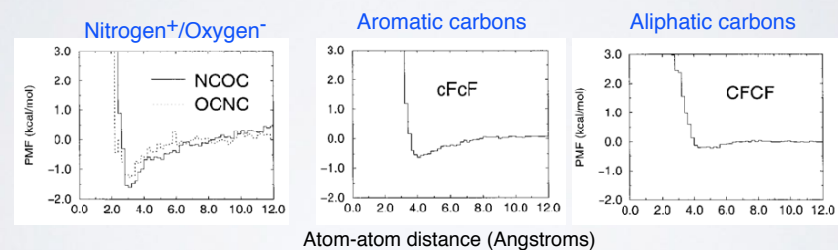
Find all protein-ligand structures in the PDB with a ligand carboxylate O

1. For each structure, histogram the distances from O to every histidine N
2. Sum the histograms over all structures to obtain  $p(r_{O-N})$
3. Compute  $E(r_{O-N})$  from  $p(r_{O-N})$

## KNOWLEDGE-BASED DOCKING POTENTIALS

“PMF”, Muegge & Martin, J. Med. Chem. (1999) 42:791

A few types of atom pairs, out of several hundred total



$$E_{prot-lig} = E_{vdw} + \sum_{pairs (ij)} E_{type(ij)}(r_{ij})$$

## KNOWLEDGE-BASED POTENTIALS

### Weaknesses

Accuracy limited by availability of data

### Strengths

Relatively easy to implement  
Computationally fast

### Status

Useful, far from perfect  
May be at point of diminishing returns  
(not always clear how to make improvements)

Do it Yourself!

# Hand-on time!

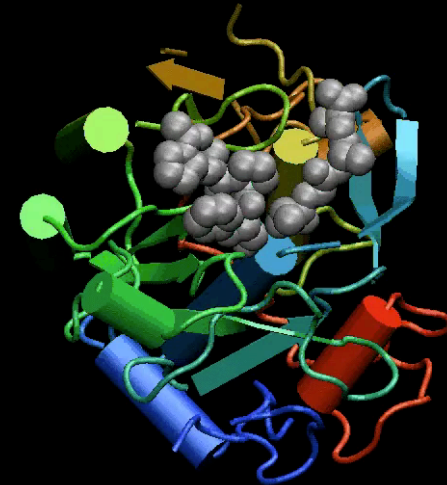
[https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143\\_S18/lectures/#11](https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143_S18/lectures/#11)

Focus on **section 4 & 5**

## NEXT UP:

- ▶ **Overview of structural bioinformatics**
  - Major motivations, goals and challenges
- ▶ **Fundamentals of protein structure**
  - Composition, form, forces and dynamics
- ▶ **Representing and interpreting protein structure**
  - Modeling energy as a function of structure
- ▶ **Example application areas**
  - Predicting functional dynamics & drug discovery

NMA models the protein as a network of elastic strings



Proteinase K

Hand-on time!

[https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143\\_S18/lectures/#11](https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143_S18/lectures/#11)

Focus on **section 6** to **7**

Do it Yourself!

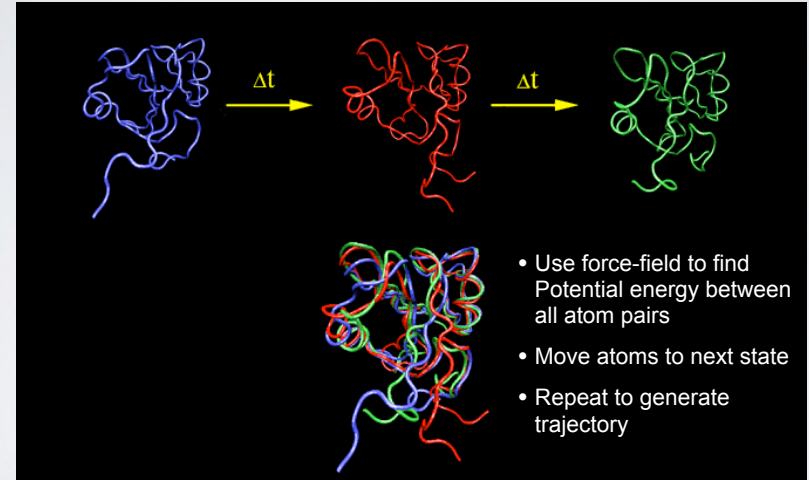
**Optional:**  
Stop here for Today!

[ [Muddy Point Assessment](#) ]

## PREDICTING FUNCTIONAL DYNAMICS

- Proteins are intrinsically flexible molecules with internal motions that are often intimately coupled to their biochemical function
  - E.g. ligand and substrate binding, conformational activation, allosteric regulation, etc.
- Thus knowledge of dynamics can provide a deeper understanding of the mapping of structure to function
  - Molecular dynamics (MD) and normal mode analysis (NMA) are two major methods for predicting and characterizing molecular motions and their properties

## MOLECULAR DYNAMICS SIMULATION



McCammon, Gelin & Karplus, *Nature* (1977)

[ See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ui1ZysMFcKk> ]

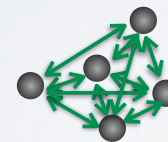
- ▶ Divide **time** into discrete (~1fs) **time steps** ( $\Delta t$ ) (for integrating equations of motion, see below)



- ▶ Divide **time** into discrete (~1fs) **time steps** ( $\Delta t$ ) (for integrating equations of motion, see below)



- ▶ At each time step calculate pair-wise atomic **forces** ( $F(t)$ ) (by evaluating **force-field** gradient)



*Nucleic motion described classically*

$$m_i \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \vec{R}_i = -\vec{\nabla}_i E(\vec{R})$$

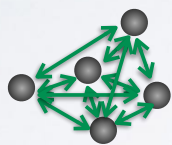
*Empirical force field*

$$E(\vec{R}) = \sum_{\text{bonded}} E_i(\vec{R}) + \sum_{\text{non-bonded}} E_i(\vec{R})$$

- ▶ Divide **time** into discrete (~1fs) **time steps** ( $\Delta t$ ) (for integrating equations of motion, see below)



- ▶ At each time step calculate pair-wise atomic **forces** ( $F(t)$ ) (by evaluating **force-field** gradient)



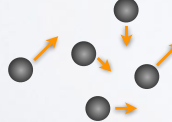
**Nucleic motion described classically**

$$m_i \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \vec{R}_i = -\vec{\nabla}_i E(\vec{R})$$

**Empirical force field**

$$E(\vec{R}) = \sum_{\text{bonded}} E_i(\vec{R}) + \sum_{\text{non-bonded}} E_i(\vec{R})$$

- ▶ Use the forces to calculate **velocities** and move atoms to new **positions** (by integrating numerically via the “leapfrog” scheme)



$$v(t + \frac{\Delta t}{2}) = v(t - \frac{\Delta t}{2}) + \frac{F(t)}{m} \Delta t$$

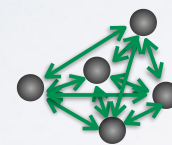
$$r(t + \Delta t) = r(t) + v(t + \frac{\Delta t}{2}) \Delta t$$

## BASIC ANATOMY OF A MD SIMULATION

- ▶ Divide **time** into discrete (~1fs) **time steps** ( $\Delta t$ ) (for integrating equations of motion, see below)



- ▶ At each time step calculate pair-wise atomic **forces** ( $F(t)$ ) (by evaluating **force-field** gradient)



**Nucleic motion described classically**

$$m_i \frac{d^2}{dt^2} \vec{R}_i = -\vec{\nabla}_i E(\vec{R})$$

**Empirical force field**

$$E(\vec{R}) = \sum_{\text{bonded}} E_i(\vec{R}) + \sum_{\text{non-bonded}} E_i(\vec{R})$$

- ▶ Use the forces to calculate **velocities** and move atoms to new **positions** (by integrating numerically via the “leapfrog” scheme)



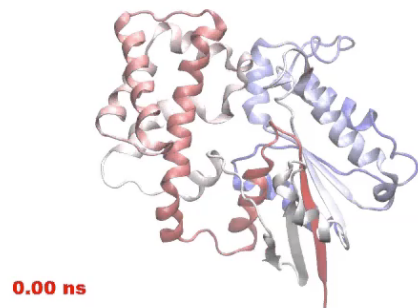
$$v(t + \frac{\Delta t}{2}) = v(t - \frac{\Delta t}{2}) + \frac{F(t)}{m} \Delta t$$

$$r(t + \Delta t) = r(t) + v(t + \frac{\Delta t}{2}) \Delta t$$

**REPEAT, (iterate many, many times... 1ms = 10<sup>12</sup> time steps)**

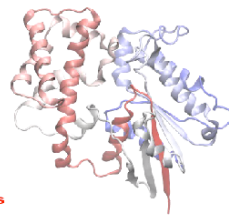
## MD Prediction of Functional Motions

Accelerated MD simulation of nucleotide-free transducin alpha subunit

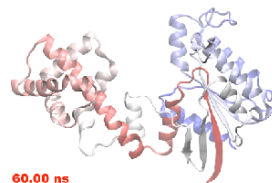


Yao and Grant, Biophys J. (2013)

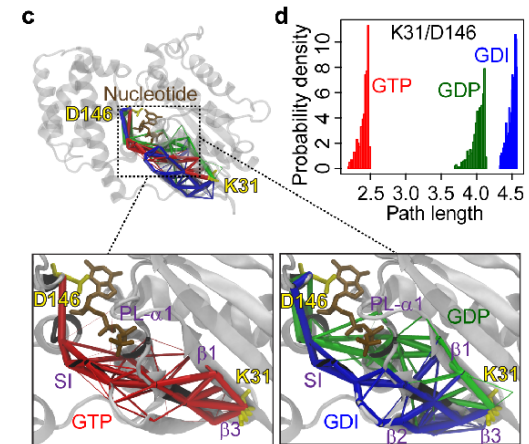
“close”



“open”



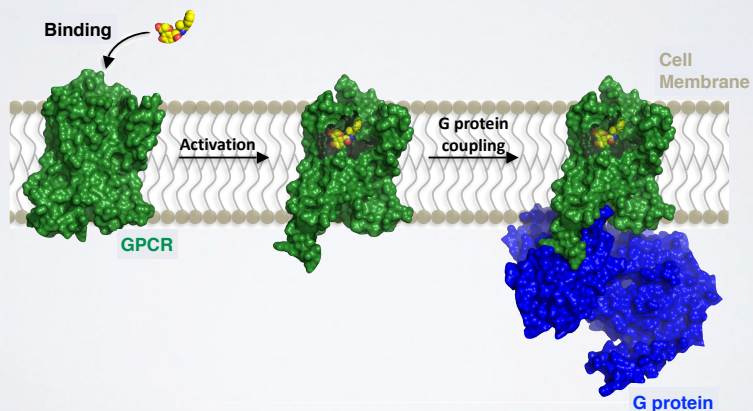
## Simulations Identify Key Residues Mediating Dynamic Activation



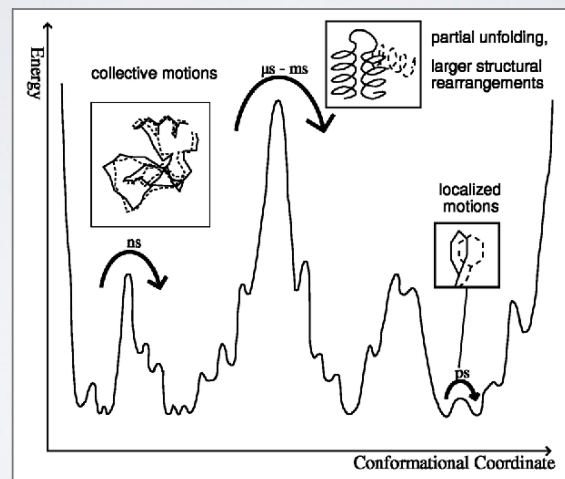
Yao ... Grant, Journal of Biological Chemistry (2016)



# EXAMPLE APPLICATION OF MOLECULAR SIMULATIONS TO GPCRS



## PROTEINS JUMP BETWEEN MANY, HIERARCHICALLY ORDERED "CONFORMATIONAL SUBSTATES"



H. Frauenfelder et al., *Science* **229** (1985) 337

## MOLECULAR DYNAMICS IS VERY

Improve this slide

**Example:** F<sub>1</sub>-ATPase in water (183,674 atoms) for 1 nanosecond:

=> 10<sup>6</sup> integration steps

=> 8.4 \* 10<sup>11</sup> floating point operations/step

[n(n-1)/2 interactions]

Total: 8.4 \* 10<sup>17</sup> flop

(on a 100 Gflop/s cpu: **ca 25 years!**)

... but performance has been improved by use of:

multiple time stepping ca. 2.5 years

fast multipole methods ca. 1 year

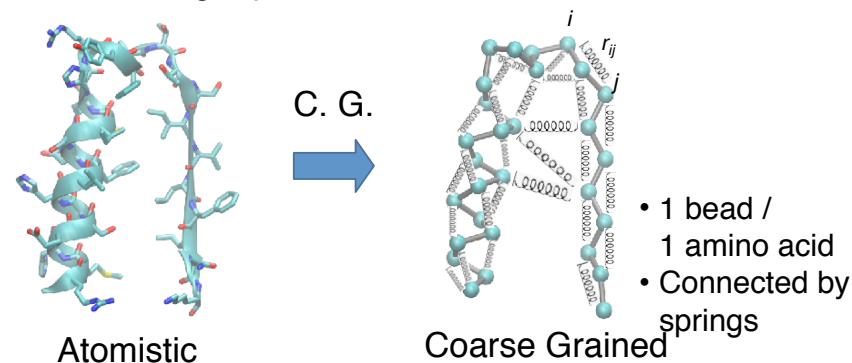
parallel computers ca. 5 days

modern GPUs **ca. 1 day**

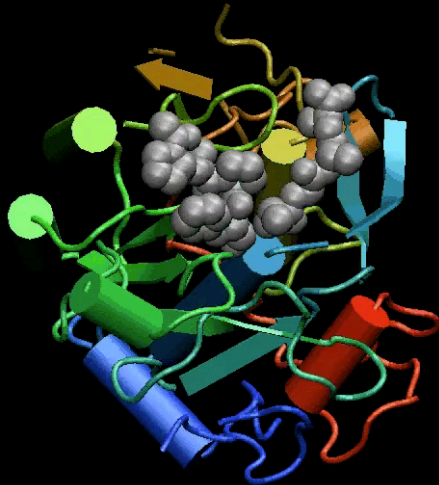
**(Anton supercomputer ca. minutes)**

## COARSE GRAINING: **NORMAL MODE ANALYSIS** (NMA)

- MD is still time-consuming for large systems
- Elastic network model NMA (ENM-NMA) is an example of a lower resolution approach that finishes in seconds even for large systems.



NMA models the protein as a network of elastic strings



Proteinase K

Do it Yourself!

# Hand-on time!

[https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143\\_S18/lectures/#11](https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143_S18/lectures/#11)

Focus on **section 6** to **7**

## SUMMARY

- Structural bioinformatics is computer aided structural biology
- Described major motivations, goals and challenges of structural bioinformatics
- Reviewed the fundamentals of protein structure
- Introduced both physics and knowledge based modeling approaches for describing the structure, energetics and dynamics of proteins computationally