

**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

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**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

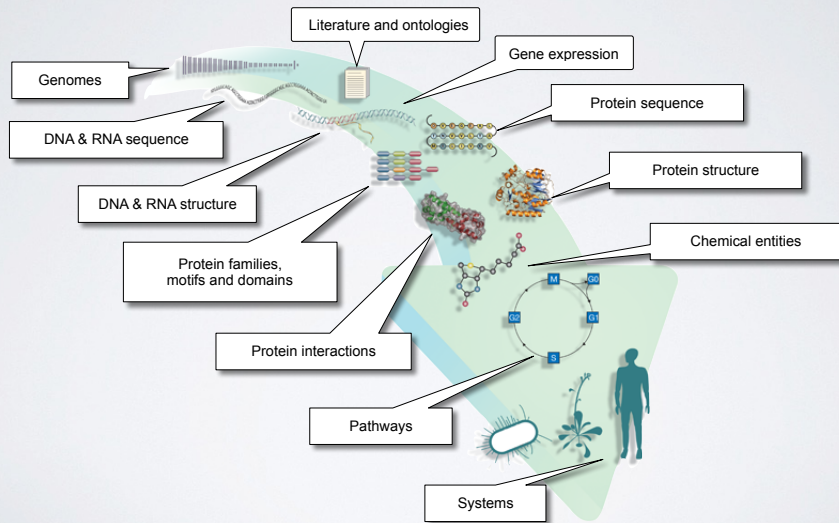
Why should we care?

Why should we care?

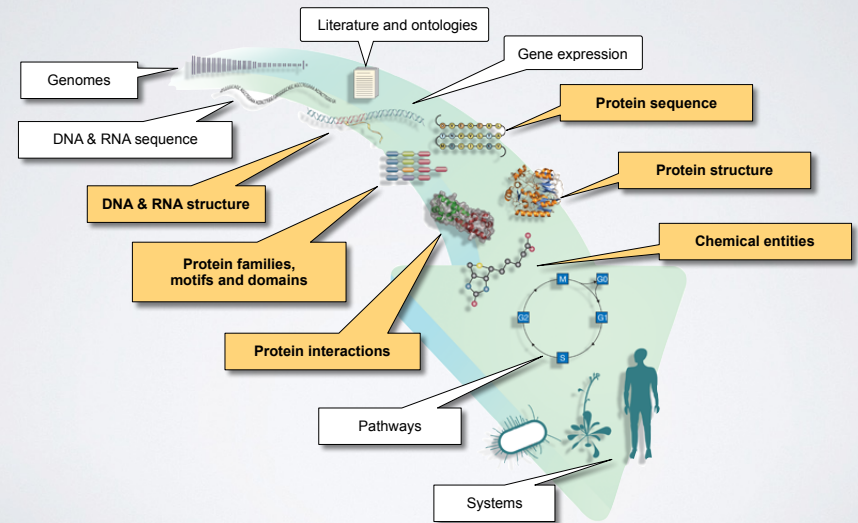
Because biomolecules are “nature’s robots”

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

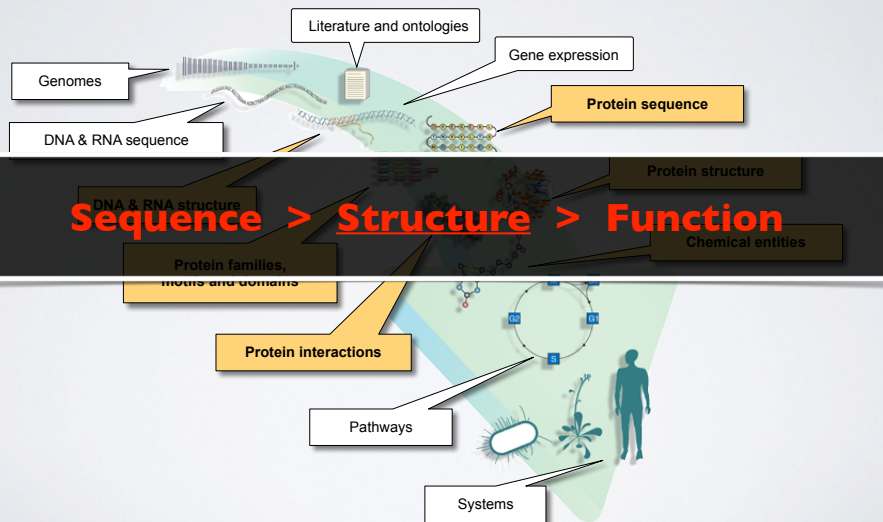
# BIOINFORMATICS DATA



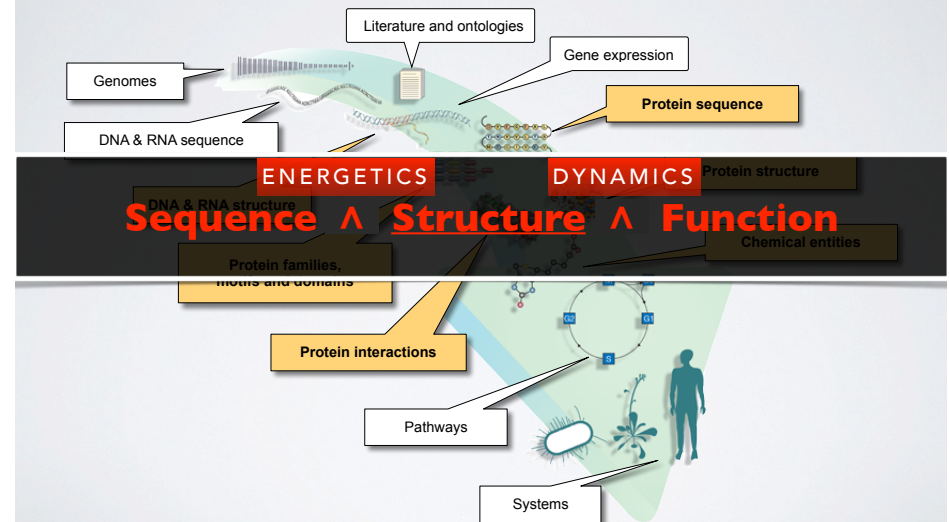
# STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL



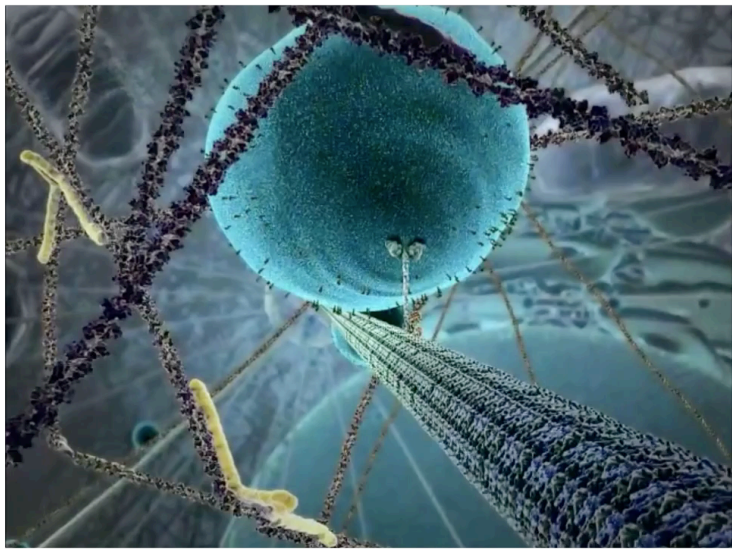
# STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL



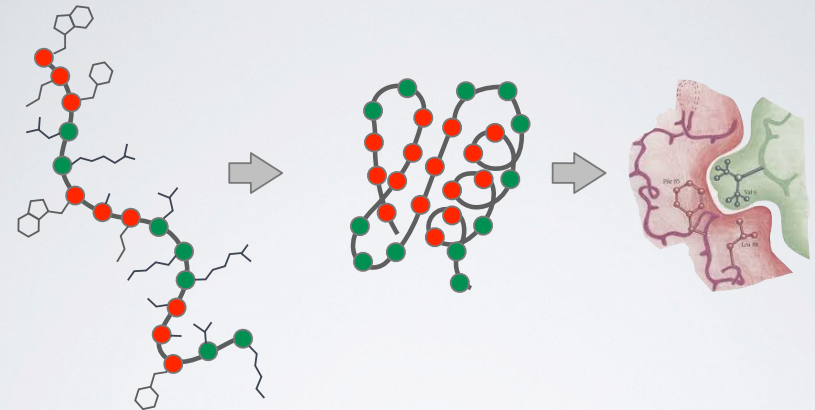
# STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL







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
- Inactive

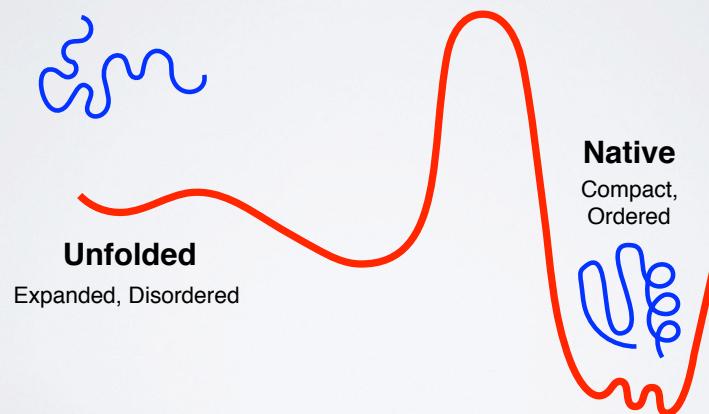
### Structure

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

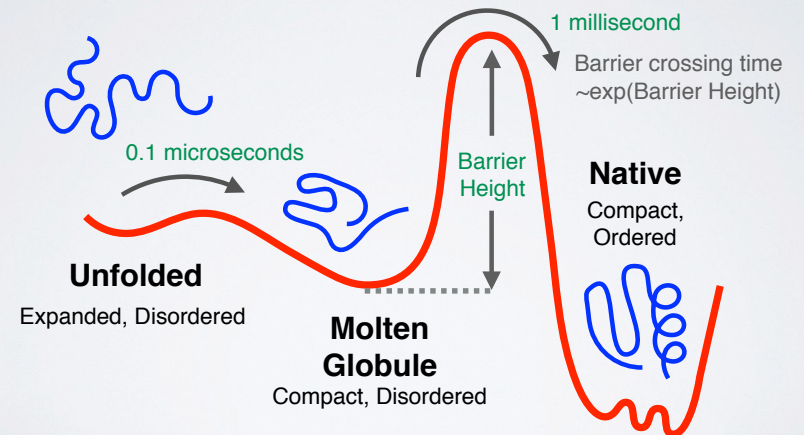
### Function

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

## KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE

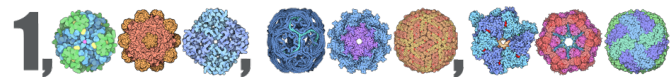


## KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE

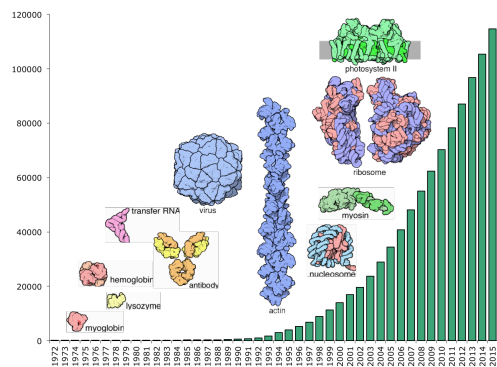




# PDB – A Billion Atom Archive



> 1 billion atoms in the asymmetric units



~146,000  
Structures as  
of Nov 2018

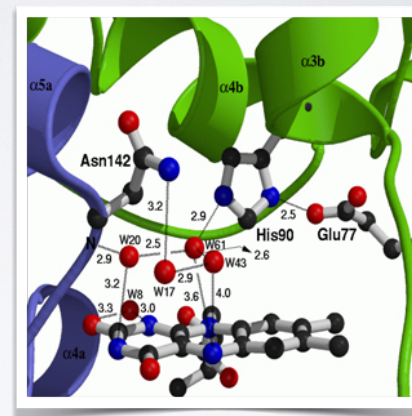
SDSC SAN DIEGO  
SUPERCOMPUTER CENTER

Slide Credit: Peter Rose

UC San Diego

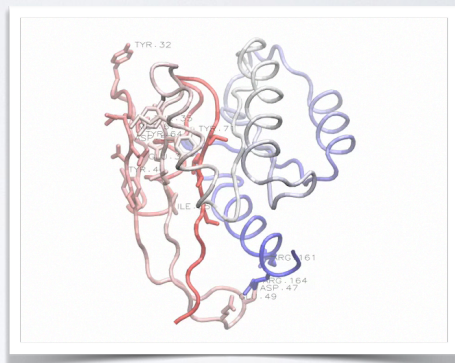
## Motivation 1: Detailed understanding of molecular interactions

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



## Motivation 1: Detailed understanding of molecular interactions

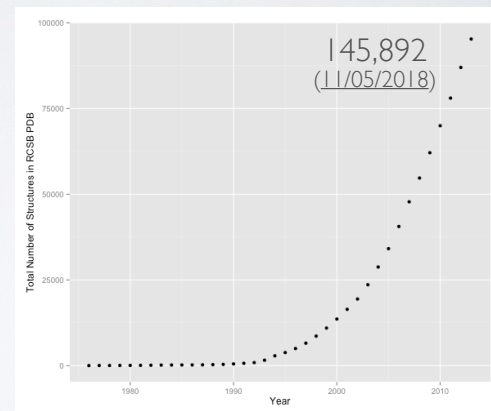
Computational modeling can  
provide detailed insight into  
functional interactions, their  
regulation and potential  
consequences of perturbation.



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

## Motivation 2:

Lots of structural data is becoming available

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

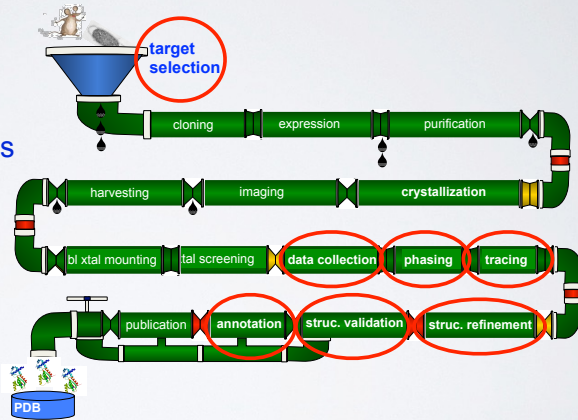
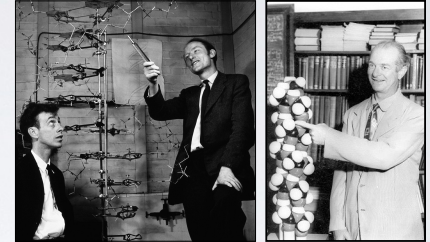


Image Credit: "Structure determination assembly line" Adam Godzik



## 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:

- Visualization
- Analysis
- Comparison
- Prediction
- Design

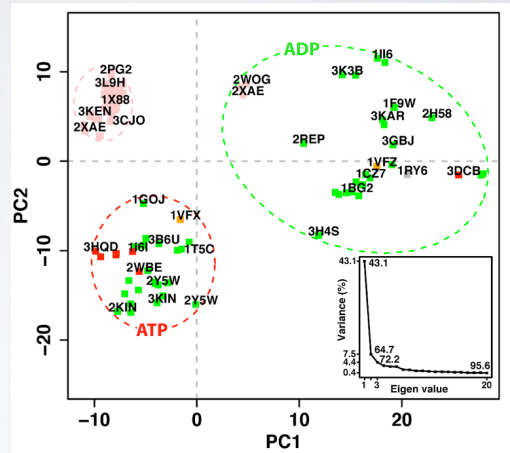


Scarabelli and Grant. PLoS. Comp. Biol. (2013)



Goals:

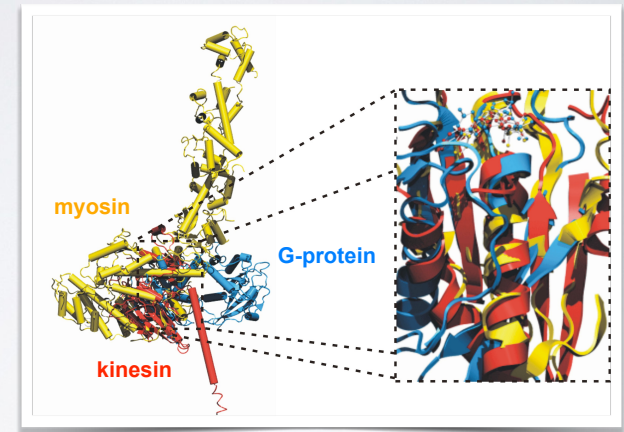
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Scarabelli and Grant. PLoS. Comp. Biol. (2013)

Goals:

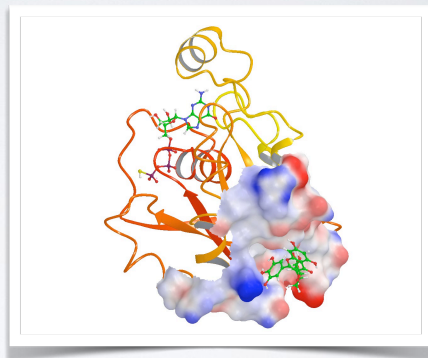
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Grant et al. unpublished

Goals:

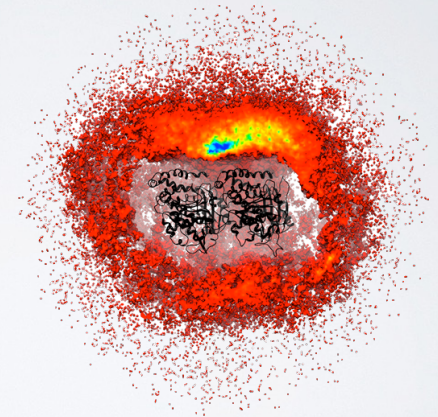
- Visualization
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Grant et al. PLoS One (2011, 2012)

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...

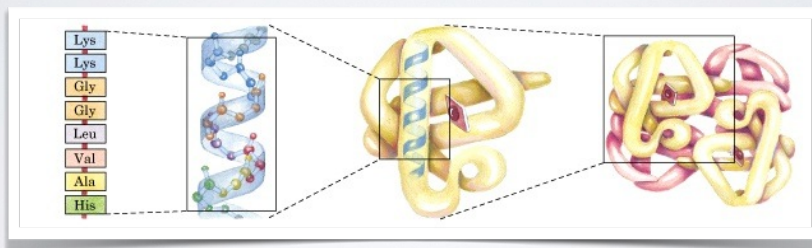
With applications to Biology, Medicine, Agriculture and Industry

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- Overview of structural bioinformatics
  - Motivations, goals and challenges
- **Fundamentals of protein structure**
  - Structure composition, form and forces
- Representing, interpreting & modeling protein structure
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## 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

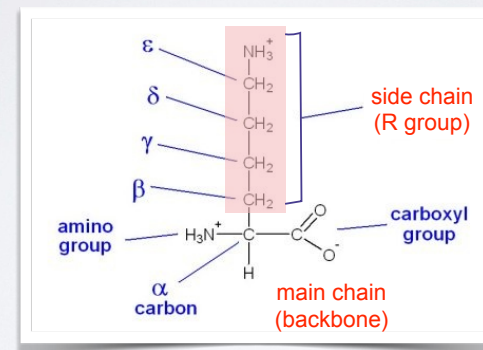


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

## AMINO ACIDS CAN BE GROUPED BY THE PHYSIOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES

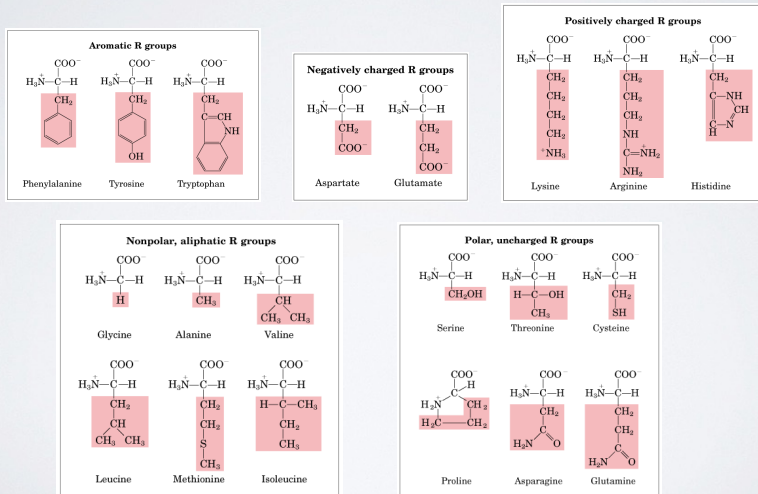


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

## AMINO ACIDS POLYMERIZE THROUGH PEPTIDE BOND FORMATION

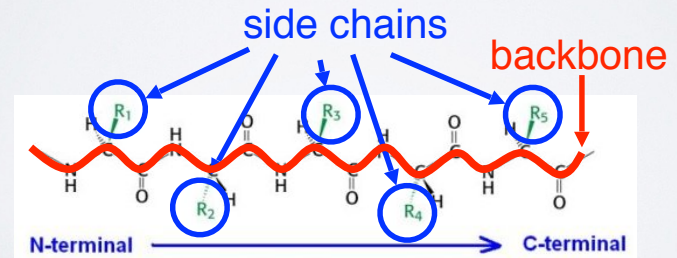
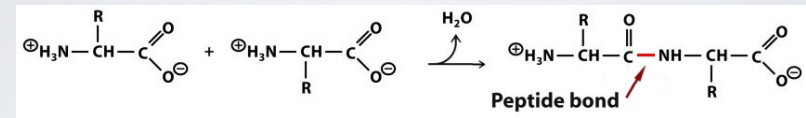


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

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

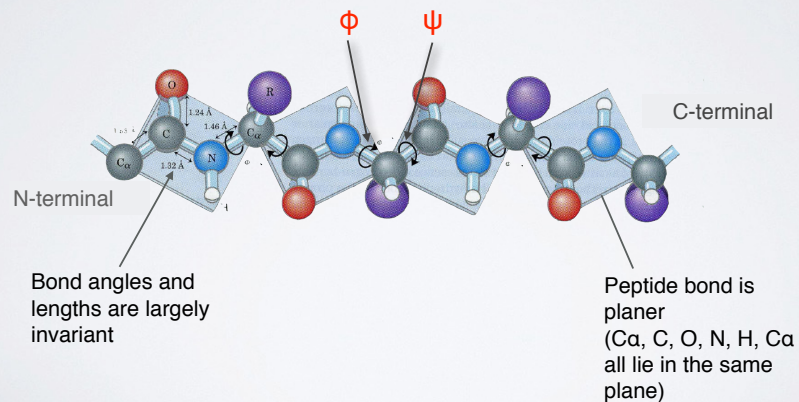
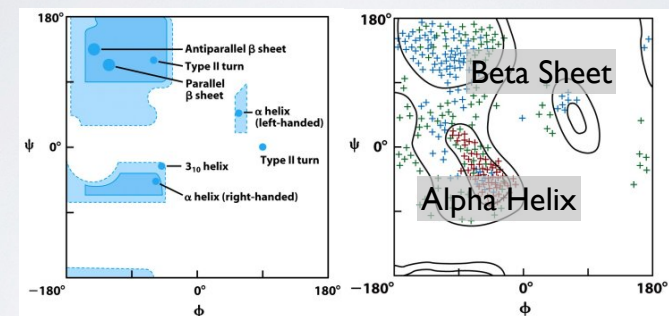


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

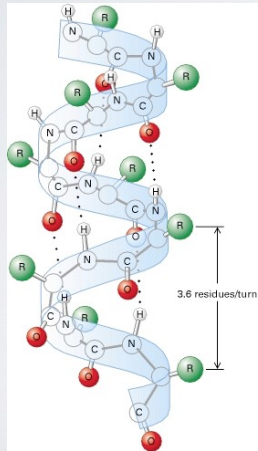
## PHI vs PSI PLOTS ARE KNOWN AS RAMACHANDRAN DIAGRAMS



- 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

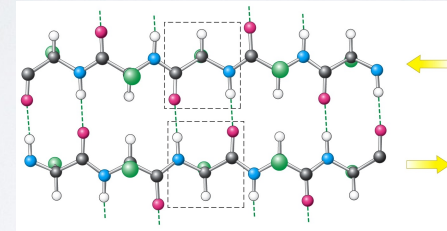


### $\alpha$ -helix

- 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**

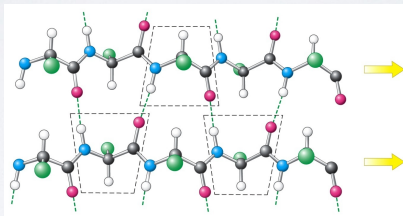


### In antiparallel $\beta$ -sheets

- 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**

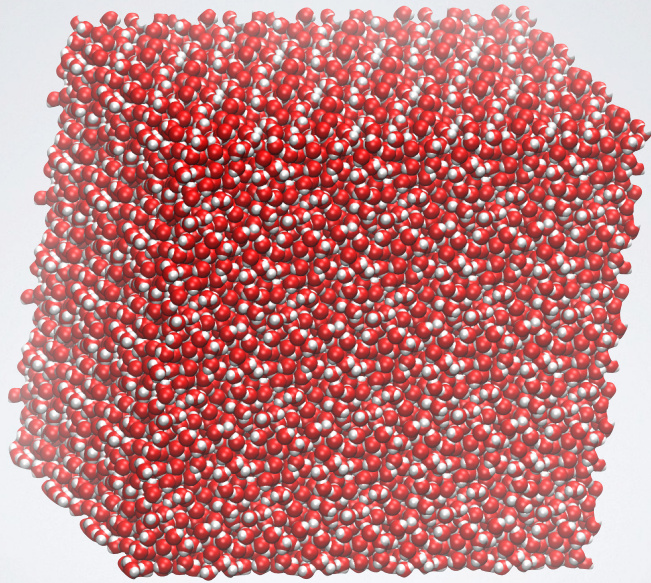


### In parallel $\beta$ -sheets

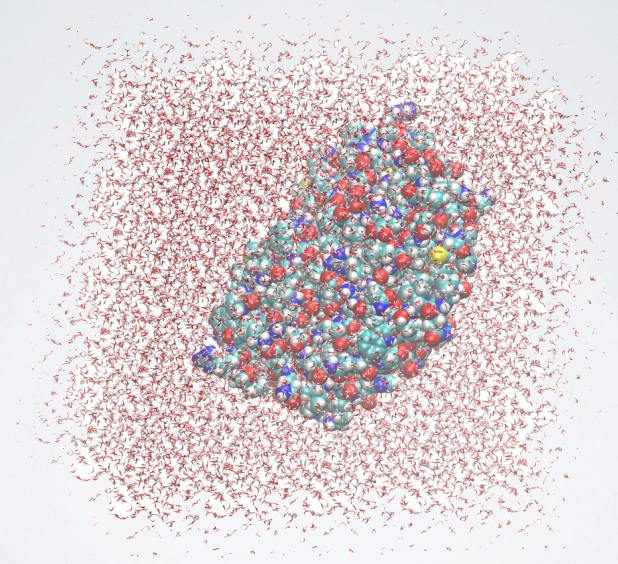
- Adjacent  $\beta$ -strands run in same direction
- Hydrogen bonds (dashed lines) between NH and CO stabilize the structure
- The side chains (in green) are above and below the sheet

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

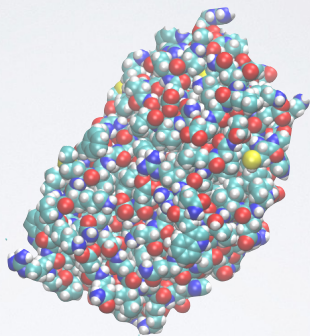
**What Does a Protein Look like?**



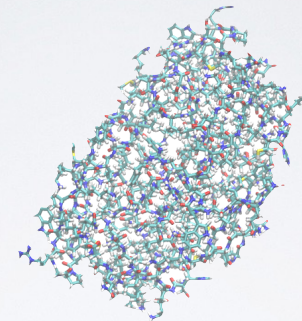
- Proteins are stable (and hidden) in water



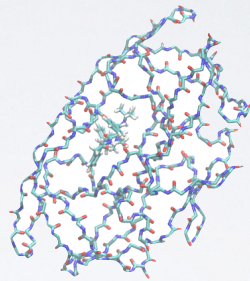
- Proteins closely interact with water



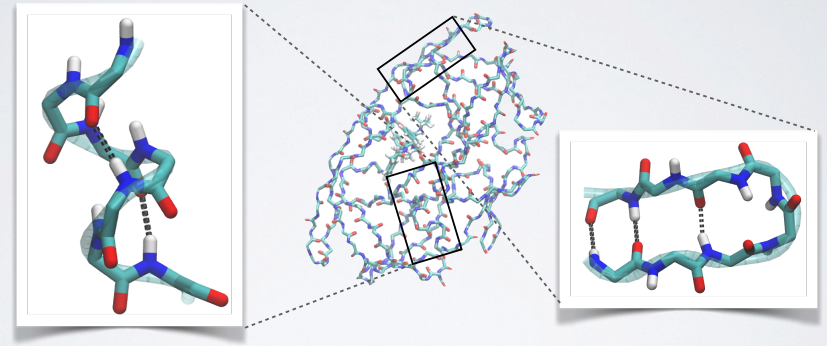
- Proteins are close packed solid but flexible objects (globular)



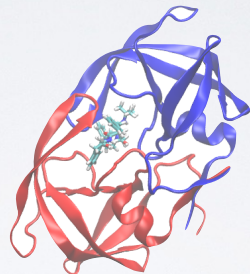
- Due to their large size and complexity it is often hard to see what's important in the structure



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

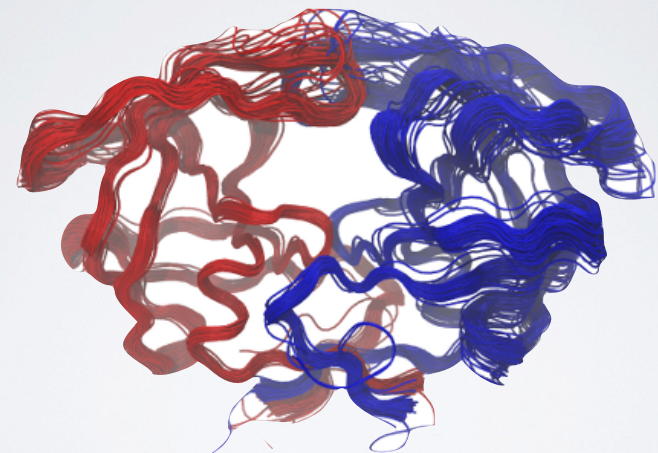


- Backbone or main-chain representation can help trace chain topology & reveal secondary structure



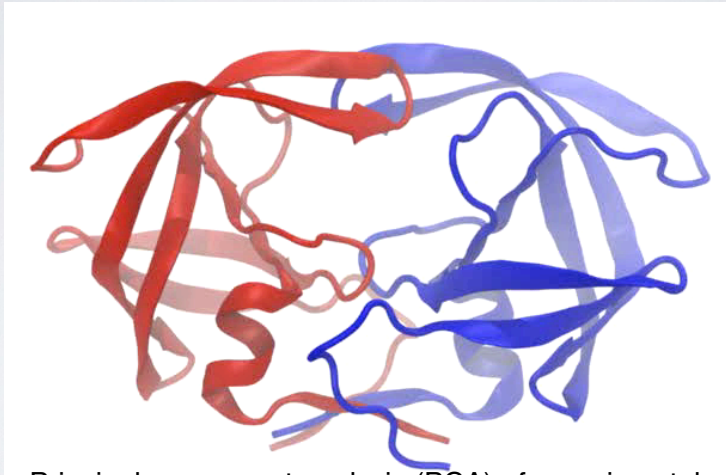
- Simplified secondary structure representations are commonly used to communicate structural details
- Now we can clearly see 2<sup>o</sup>, 3<sup>o</sup> and 4<sup>o</sup> structure
- Coiled chain of connected secondary structures

DISPLACEMENTS REFLECT INTRINSIC FLEXIBILITY



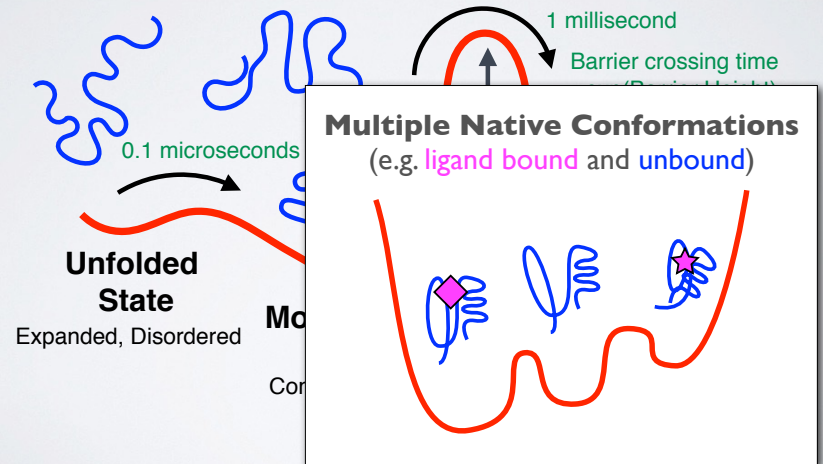
Superposition of all 482 structures in RCSB PDB (23/09/2015)

## DISPLACEMENTS REFLECT INTRINSIC FLEXIBILITY



Principal component analysis (PCA) of experimental structures

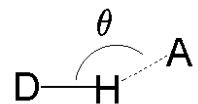
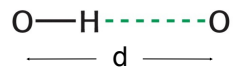
## KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



## Key forces affecting structure:

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

Hydrogen-bond donor      Hydrogen-bond acceptor

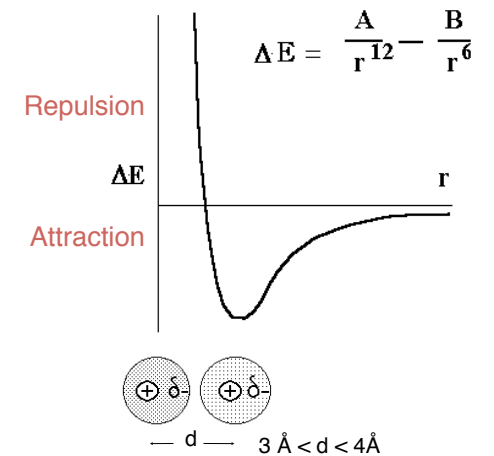


$$2.6 \text{ \AA} < d < 3.1 \text{ \AA}$$

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

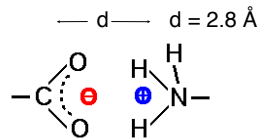
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## Key forces affecting structure:

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



carboxyl group and amino group

(some time called IONIC BONDS or SALT BRIDGES)

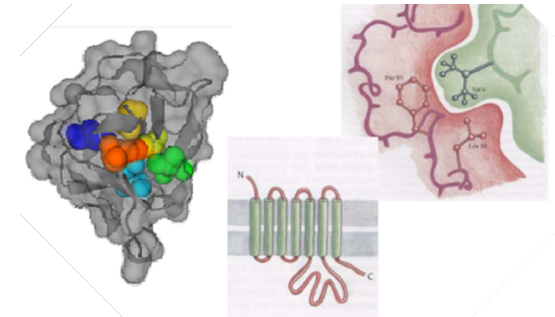
**Coulomb's law**

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

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.

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Do it Yourself!

# Hand-on time!

[https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143\\_S19/lectures/#11](https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143_S19/lectures/#11)

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

	Element	Amino Acid		Chain name		-----Coordinates-----			(etc.)
		Element	Sequence Number	Chain name	Sequence Number	X	Y	Z	
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

	Element	Amino Acid		Chain name	
		Element	Sequence Number	Chain name	Sequence Number
ATOM	1	N	ASP L	1	1
ATOM	2	CA	ASP L	1	1
ATOM	3	C	ASP L	1	1
ATOM	4	O	ASP L	1	1
ATOM	5	CB	ASP L	1	1
ATOM	6	CG	ASP L	1	1
ATOM	7	OD1	ASP L	1	1
ATOM	8	OD2	ASP L	1	1

Element position within amino acid

side chain (R group)

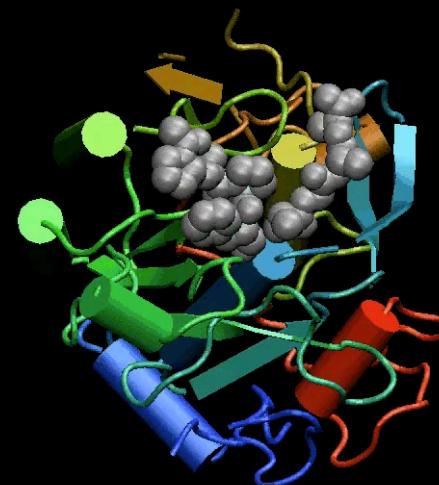
carboxyl group

amino group

α carbon

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

Download VMD



[https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143\\_W19/lectures/#11](https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143_W19/lectures/#11)

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

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Do it Yourself!

## Hand-on time!

[https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143\\_S19/lectures/#11](https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143_S19/lectures/#11)

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

## Side Note: Section 4.1

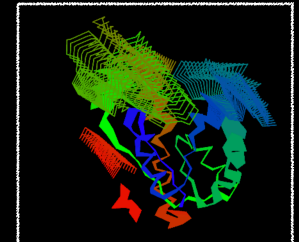
- Download MUSCLE for your OS from:  
<https://www.drive5.com/muscle/downloads.htm>
- On **MAC** use your TERMINAL to enter the commands:

```
> tar -xvf ~/Downloads/muscle3.8.31_i86darwin32.tar
> sudo mv muscle3.8.31_i86darwin32 /usr/local/bin/muscle
```
- On **Windows** use file explorer to:
  - Move the downloaded **muscle3.8.31\_i86win32.exe** from your *Downloads* folder to your *Project* folder.
  - Then right click to rename to **muscle.exe**

```
> ./muscle.exe -version
```

## 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:
- To use in your R session:



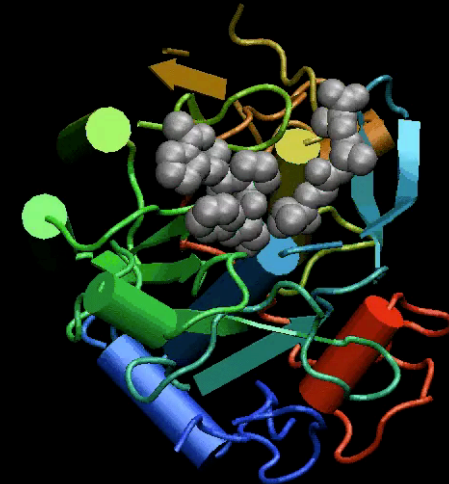
```
> install.packages("devtools")
> devtools::install_bitbucket("Grantlab/bio3d-view")

> library("bio3d.view")
> pdb <- read.pdb("5p21")
> view(pdb)
> view(pdb, "overview", col="sse")
```

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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**

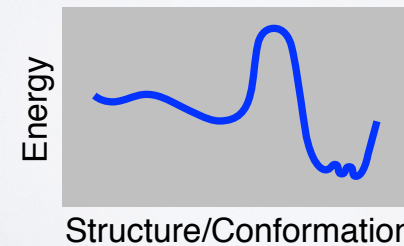
Two main approaches:

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

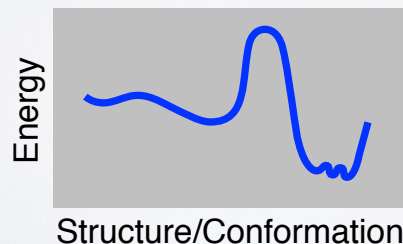
**KEY CONCEPT:** POTENTIAL FUNCTIONS  
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Two main approaches:

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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](#) ]