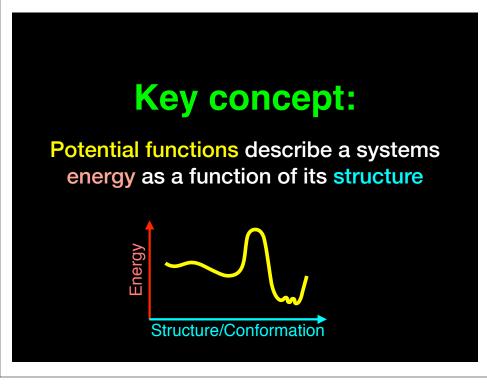


# **Next Up:**

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



Two main approaches:

(1). Physics-Based

(2). Knowledge-Based

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(1). Physics-Based

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For physics based potentials energy terms come from physical theory

$$V(R) = E_{\text{bonded}} + E_{\text{non.bonded}}$$

$$V(R) = E_{bonded} + E_{non.bonded}$$

Sum of bonded and non-bonded atom-type and position based terms

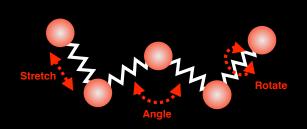
$$V(R) = E_{bonded} + E_{non.bonded}$$

 $E_{\it bonded}$  is itself a sum of three terms:

$$V(R) = E_{bonded} + E_{non.bonded}$$

 $E_{\it bonded}$  is itself a sum of three terms:

$$E_{bond.stretch} + E_{bond.angle} + E_{bond.rotate}$$



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 $E_{\it bonded}$  is itself a sum of three terms:

$$E_{bond.stretch} + E_{bond.angle} + E_{bond.rotate}$$



# **Bond Stretch**

 $E_{bond.stretch}$ 



# **Bond Angle**

 $E_{bond.angle}$ 



# **Bond Rotate**

 $E_{bond.rotate}$ 



# **Bond Stretch**

$$\sum_{bonds} K_i^{bs}(b_i - b_o)$$



# **Bond Angle**

$$\sum_{angles} K_i^{ba}(\theta_i - \theta_o)$$



# **Bond Rotate**

$$\sum_{lihedrals} K_i^{br} [1 - cos(n_i \phi_i - \phi_o)]$$



# **Bond Stretch**

$$\sum_{bonds} K_i^{bs}(b_i - b_o)$$





# **Bond Angle**

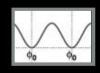
$$\sum_{\text{angles}} K_i^{ba}(\theta_i - \theta_o)$$





## **Bond Rotate**

$$\sum_{\substack{\text{dihedrals}}} K_i^{br} [1 - \cos(n_i \phi_i - \phi_o)]$$



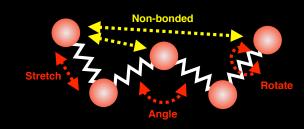
$$V(R) = E_{bonded} + E_{non.bonded}$$

 $E_{non.bonded}$  is a sum of two terms:

$$V(R) = E_{bonded} + E_{non.bonded}$$

 $E_{non.bonded}$  is a sum of two terms:

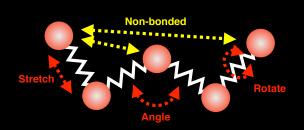
$$E_{van.der.Waals} + E_{electrostatic}$$



$$V(R) = E_{bonded} + E_{non.bonded}$$

 $E_{non.bonded}$  is a sum of two terms:

$$E_{van.der.Waals} + E_{electrostatic}$$



$$E_{electrostatic} = \sum_{pairs.i.j} \frac{q_i qj}{\epsilon r_{ij}}$$

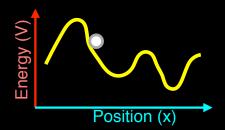


$$E_{van.der.Waals} = \sum_{pairs.i.i} \left[ \epsilon_{ij} (\frac{r_{o.ij}}{r_{ij}})^{12} - 2\epsilon_{ij} (\frac{r_{o.ij}}{r_{ij}})^{6} \right]$$



# Potential energy surface

Now we can calculate the potential energy surface that fully describes the energy of a molecular system as a function of its geometry



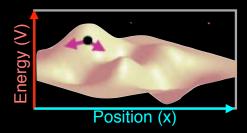
# **Total potential energy**

The potential energy can be given as a sum of terms for: Bond stretching, Bond angles, Bond rotations, van der Walls and Electrostatic interactions between atom pairs

$$V(R) = E_{bond.stretch} \\ + E_{bond.angle} \\ + E_{bond.rotate} \\ + E_{van.der.Waals} \\ + E_{electrostatic} \\ \end{bmatrix} E_{bonded}$$

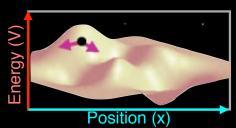
# **Potential energy surface**

Now we can calculate the potential energy surface that fully describes the energy of a molecular system as a function of its geometry



# **Key concept:**

Now we can calculate the potential energy surface that fully describes the energy of a molecular system as a function of its geometry



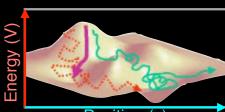
 The forces are the gradients of the energy

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

# **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:

 $exp(-\Delta V/dx)$ 



Position (x)

# 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

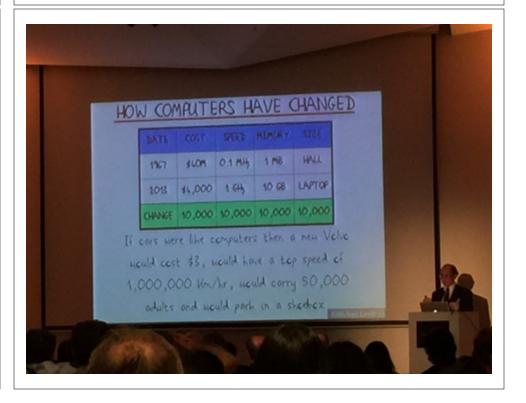
Interpretable, provides guides to design Broadly applicable, in principle at least Clear pathways to improving accuracy

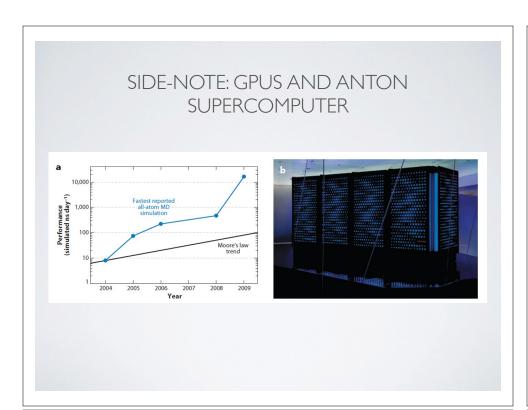
### Status

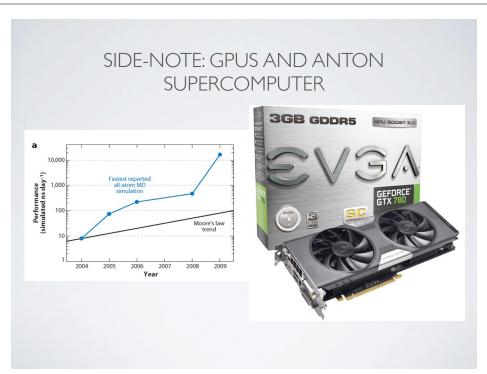
Useful, widely adopted but far from perfect Multiple groups working on fewer, better approxs Force fields, quantum

entropy, water effects

Moore's law: hardware improving

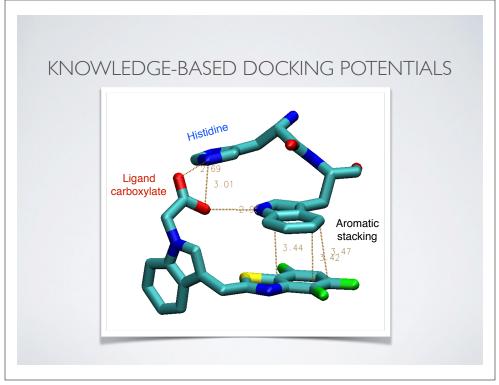






POTENTIAL FUNCTIONS DESCRIBE A SYSTEMS
ENERGY AS A FUNCTION OF ITS STRUCTURE

Two main approaches:
(1). Physics-Based
(2). Knowledge-Based



# 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 0 to every histidine N
- 2. Sum the histograms over all structures to obtain p(r<sub>O-N</sub>)
- 3. Compute  $E(r_{O-N})$  from  $p(r_{O-N})$

# 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)

# Computer Aided Drug Discovery

# **Next Up:**

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  - Analyzing protein structures
  - · Modeling energy as a function of structure
  - Drug discovery & Predicting functional dynamics

# THETRADITIONAL EMPIRICAL PATH TO DRUG DISCOVERY Compound library (commercial, in-house, synthetic, natural) High throughput screening (HTS) Hit confirmation Lead compounds (e.g., \( \mu \) M K<sub>d</sub>) Lead optimization (Medicinal chemistry) Animal and clinical Potent drug candidates evaluation (nM K<sub>d</sub>)

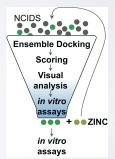
# COMPUTER-AIDED LIGAND DESIGN

Aims to reduce number of compounds synthesized and assayed

Lower costs

Reduce chemical waste

Facilitate faster progress



Two main approaches:

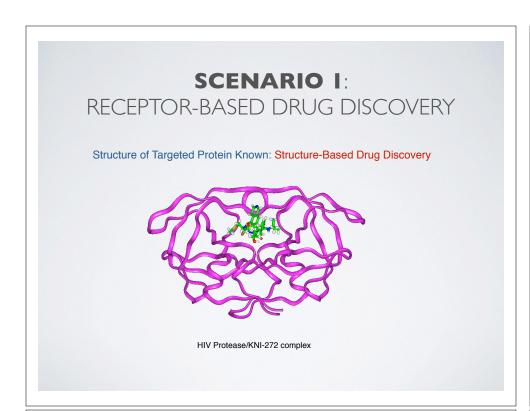
(1). Receptor/Target-Based

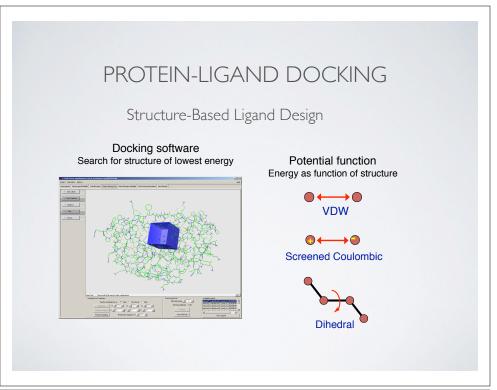
(2). Ligand/Drug-Based

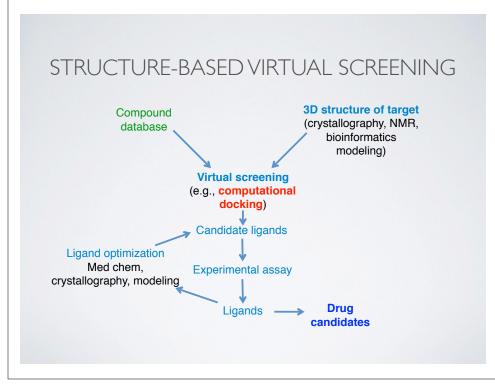
Two main approaches:

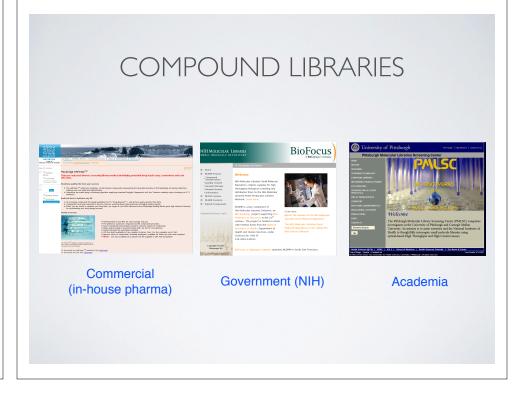
(1). Receptor/Target-Based

(2). Ligand/Drug-Based









# COMMON SIMPLIFICATIONS USED IN PHYSICS-BASED DOCKING

Quantum effects approximated classically

Protein often held rigid

Configurational entropy neglected

Influence of water treated crudely

# Hand-on time!

https://bioboot.github.io/bimm143 F18/lectures/#13

You can use the classroom computers or your own laptops. If you are using your laptops then you will need to install **MGLTools** 

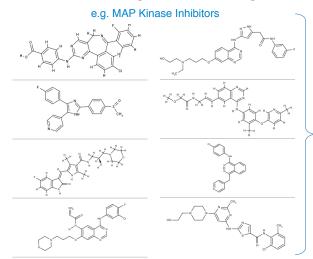
# Two main approaches:

(1). Receptor/Target-Based

(2). Ligand/Drug-Based

# Scenario 2

Structure of Targeted Protein Unknown: Ligand-Based Drug Discovery



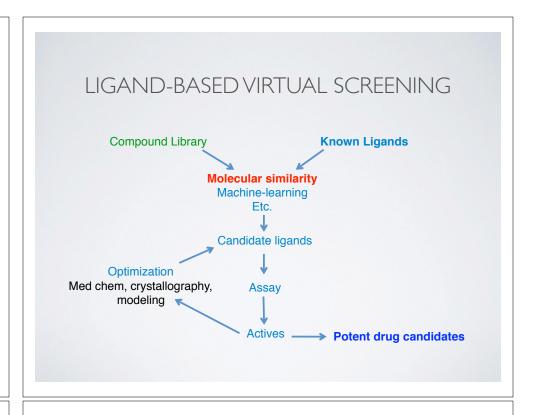
Using knowledge of existing inhibitors to discover more

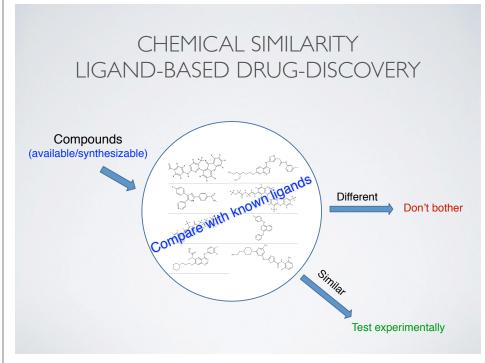
# Why Look for Another Ligand if You Already Have Some?

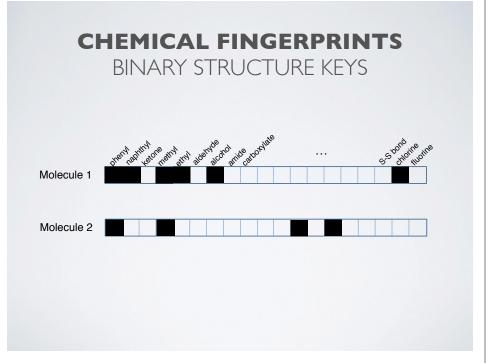
Experimental screening generated some ligands, but they don't bind tightly enough

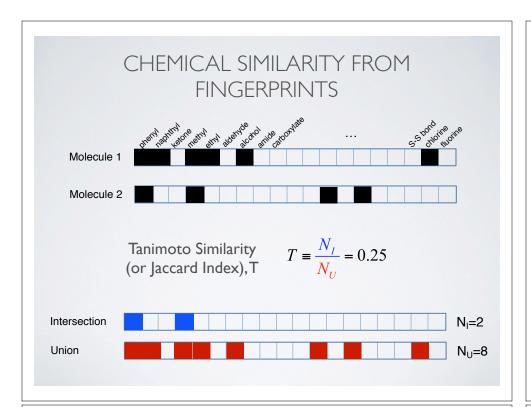
A company wants to work around another company's chemical patents

An high-affinity ligand is toxic, is not well-absorbed, difficult to synthesize etc.



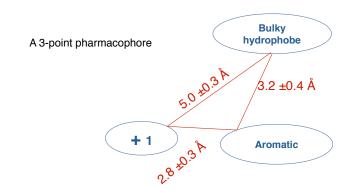






# Pharmacophore Models

Φάρμακο (drug) + Φορά (carry)

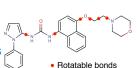


# **Molecular Descriptors**

More abstract than chemical fingerprints

# Physical descriptors

molecular weight
charge
dipole moment
number of H-bond donors/acceptors
number of rotatable bonds
hydrophobicity (log P and clogP)



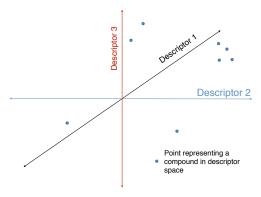
# Topological

branching index measures of linearity vs interconnectedness

Etc. etc.

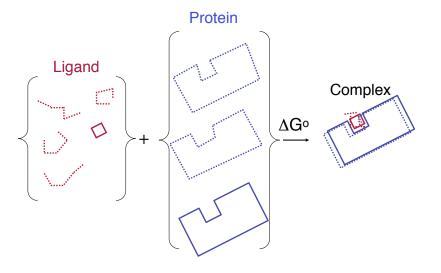
# A High-Dimensional "Chemical Space"

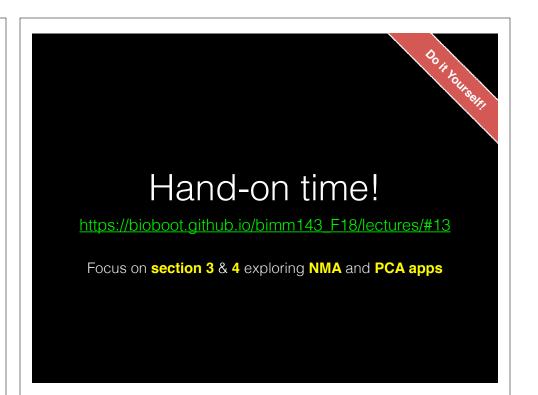
Each compound is a point in an **n**-dimensional space Compounds with similar properties are near each other



Apply **multivariate statistics** and **machine learning** for descriptorselection. (e.g. partial least squares, PCA, support vector machines, random forest, deep learning etc.)

# Proteins and Ligand are Flexible

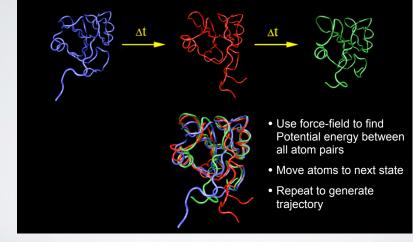




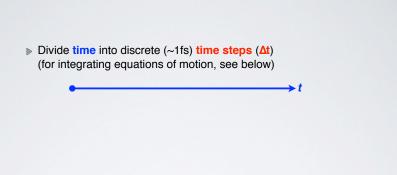
## PREDICTING FUNCTIONAL DYNAMICS

- Proteins are <u>intrinsically flexible</u> 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 <u>mapping of structure to</u> 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 (Δt) (for integrating equations of motion, see below)

Divide time into discrete (~1fs) time steps (∆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  $E(\vec{R}) = \sum_{\text{bonded}} E_i(\vec{R}) + \sum_{\text{non-handed}} E_i(\vec{R})$ 

Divide time into discrete (~1fs) time steps (Δt) (for integrating equations of motion, see below)



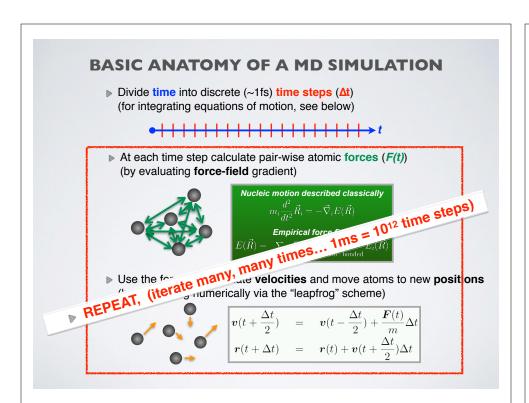
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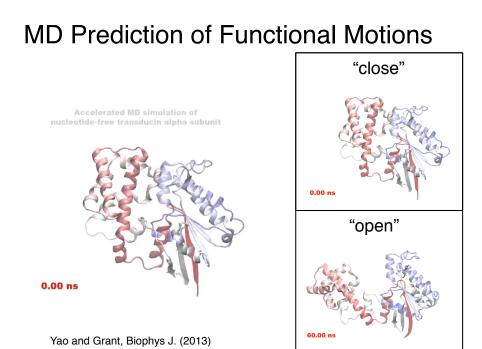


Nucleic motion described classically 
$$m_i rac{d^2}{dt^2} ec{R}_i = - ec{
abla}_i E(ec{R})$$
 Empirical force field  $E(ec{R}) = \sum\limits_{ ext{bonded}} E_i(ec{R}) + \sum\limits_{ ext{non-bonded}} E_i(ec{R})$ 

Use the forces to calculate velocities and move atoms to new positions (by integrating numerically via the "leapfrog" scheme)

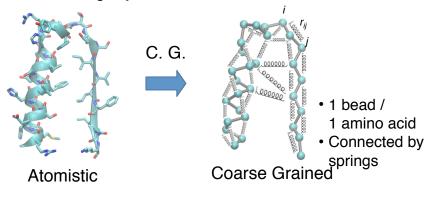


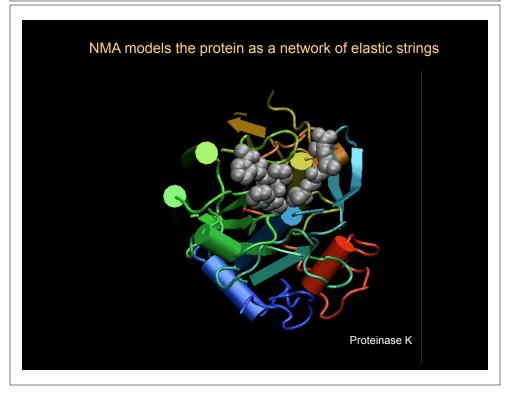


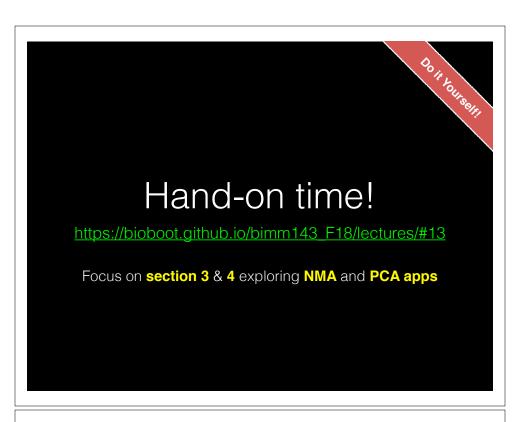


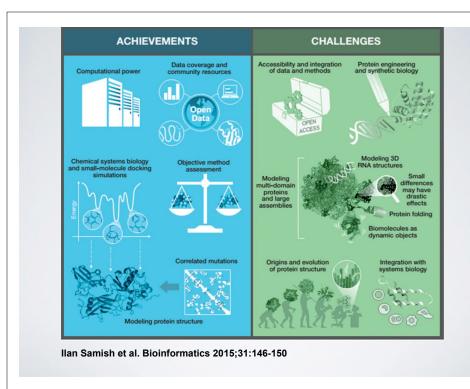
# COARSE GRAINING: **NORMAL MODE ANALYSIS** (NMA)

- 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.









# INFORMING SYSTEMS BIOLOGY? Literature and ontologies Gene expression Protein sequence Protein families, motifs and domains Protein interactions Pathways Systems

# **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 structural bioinformatics analysis!
- Introduced both physics and knowledge based modeling approaches for describing the structure, energetics and dynamics of proteins computationally
- Introduced both structure and ligand based bioinformatics approaches for drug discovery and design

### **CAUTIONARY NOTES**

### A model is never perfect

A model that is not quantitatively accurate in every respect does not preclude one from establishing results relevant to our understanding of biomolecules as long as the biophysics of the model are properly understood and explored.

## Calibration of parameters is an ongoing imperfect process

Questions and hypotheses should always be designed such that they do not depend crucially on the precise numbers used for the various parameters.

## A computational model is rarely universally right or wrong

A model may be accurate in some regards, inaccurate in others. These subtleties can only be uncovered by comparing to all available experimental data.