# STRUCTURAL BIOINFORMATICS

Barry Grant
University of Michigan

www.thegrantlab.org

## MODULE OVERVIEW

**Objective**: Provide an introduction to the practice of bioinformatics as well as a practical guide to using common bioinformatics databases and algorithms

- 1.1. Introduction to Bioinformatics
- 1.2. Sequence Alignment and Database Searching
- 1.3 > Structural Bioinformatics
- 1.4 Genome Informatics: High Throughput Sequencing Applications and Analytical Methods

## WEEKTWO REVIEW

Mark Answers to last weeks homework (19/19):

Answers week 2

Muddy Point Assessment (11/19):

Responses

- "More time to finish the assignment"
- "I felt there was too much material to cover in one lab"
- "The [NCBI] sites were so slow"
- "More time with HMMER would be helpful"
- "Very nice lab"

## Q18: NW DYNAMIC PROGRAMMING

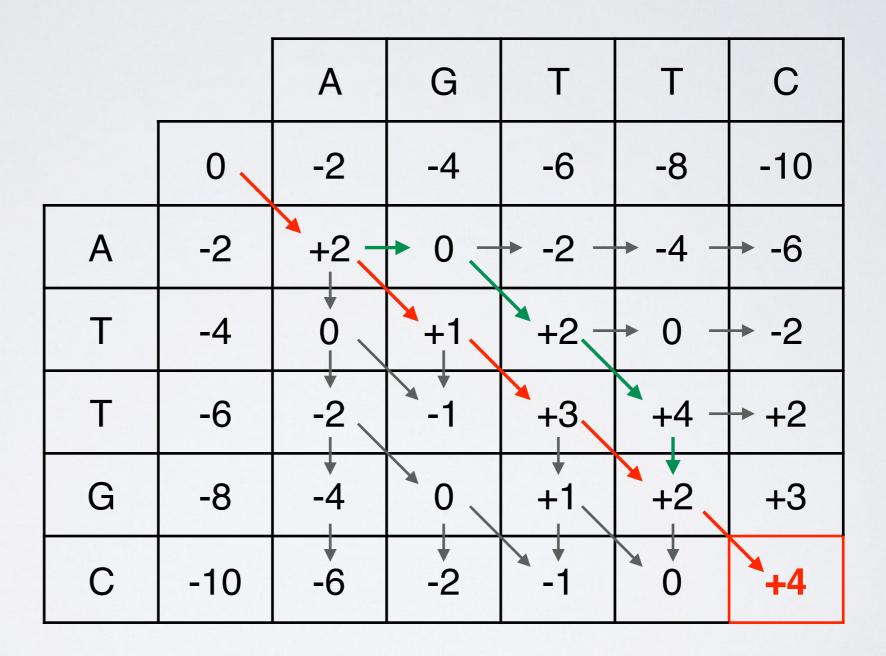
Match: +2

Mismatch: - I

Gap: -2

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## THIS WEEK'S HOMEWORK

- Material online:
  - Achievements & Challenges in Structural Bioinformatics
  - Protein Structure Prediction
  - Biomolecular Simulation
  - Computational Drug Discovery
- Complete the lecture 1.3 homework questions: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/bioinf525-quiz3">http://tinyurl.com/bioinf525-quiz3</a>

"Bioinformatics is the application of <u>computers</u> to the collection, archiving, organization, and analysis of <u>biological data</u>."

... A hybrid of biology and computer science

"Bioinformatics is the application of <u>computers</u> to the collection, archiving, organization, and analysis of <u>biological data</u>."

Bioinformatics is computer aided biology!

"Bioinformatics is the application of <u>computers</u> to the collection, archiving, organization, and analysis of <u>biological data</u>."

Bioinformatics is computer aided biology!

Goal: Data to Knowledge

		 L <mark> </mark>			<u> </u>
SO Wha					
So wha	l IO		NIVI		

## So what is structural bioinformatics?

... computer aided structural biology!

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

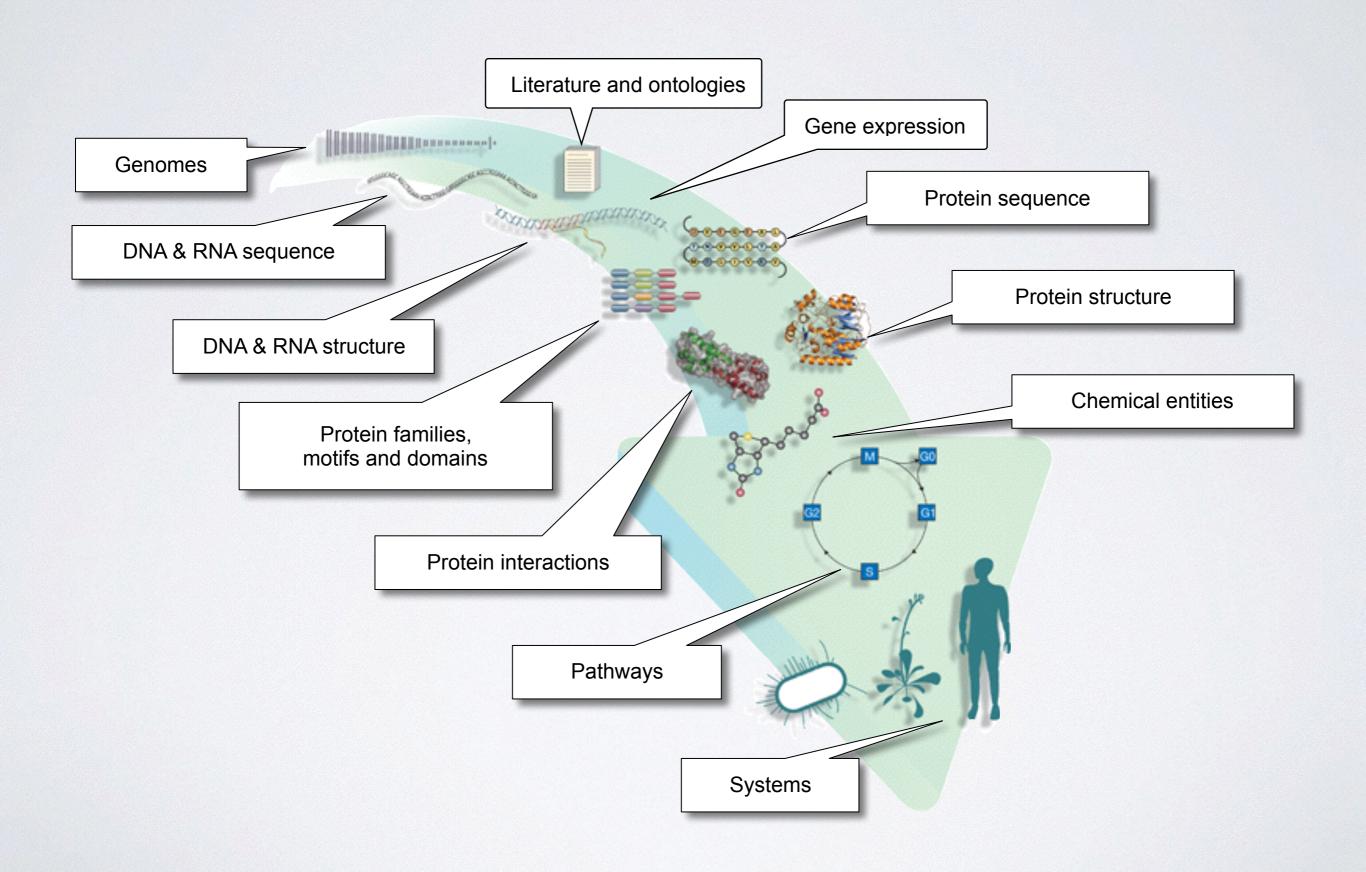
## Why should we care?

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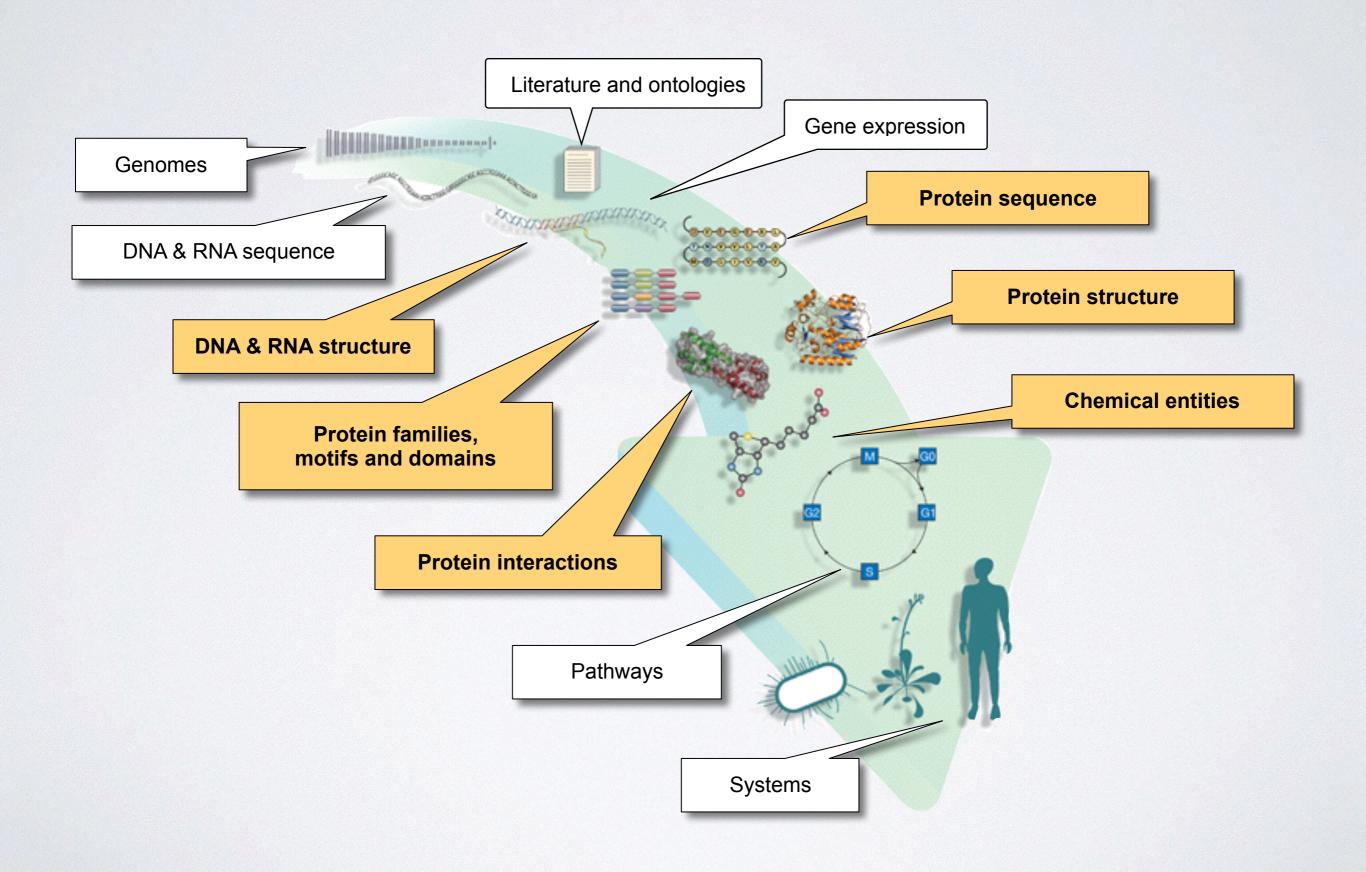
Because biomolecules are "nature's robots"

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

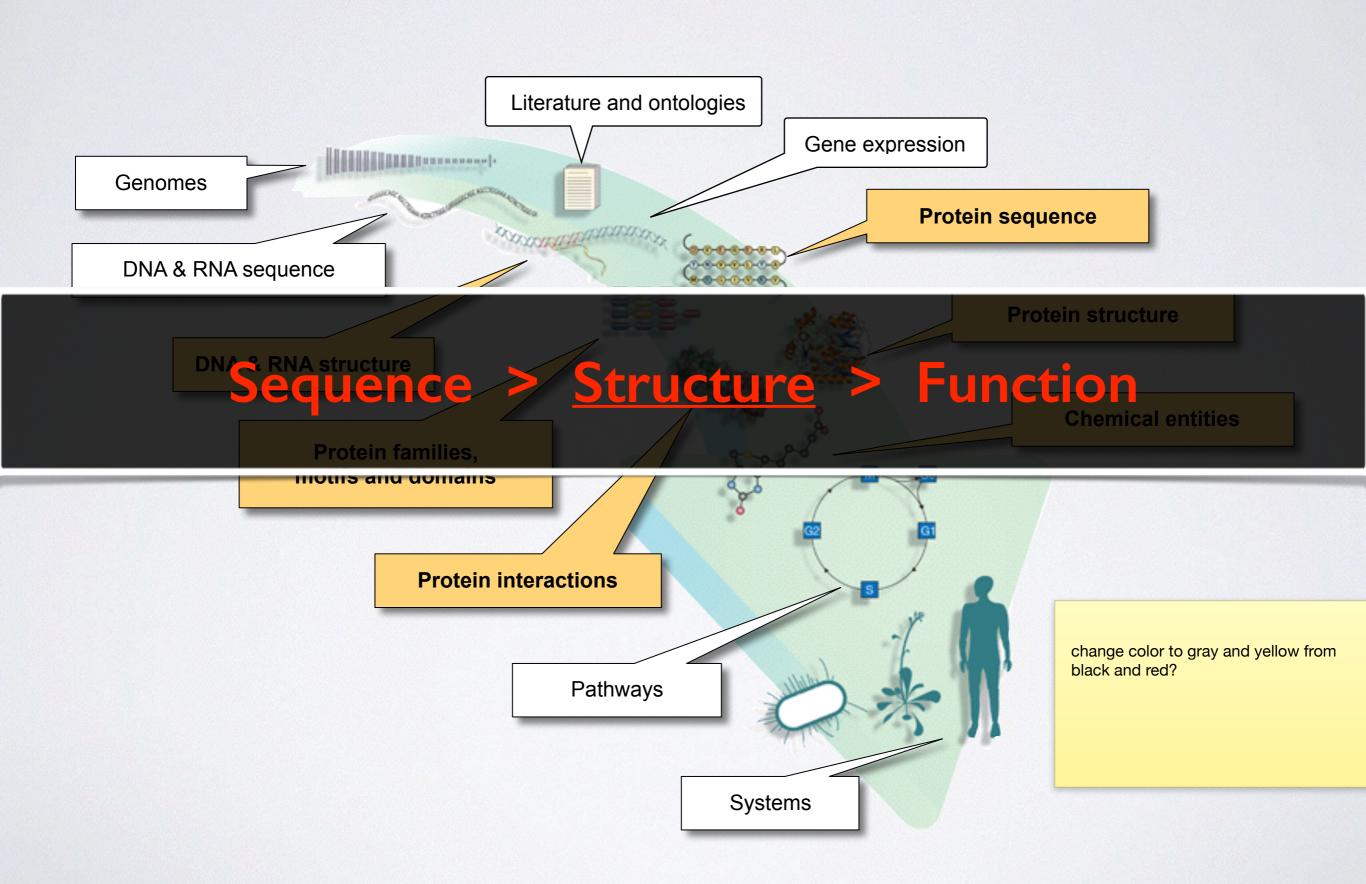
## BIOINFORMATICS DATA



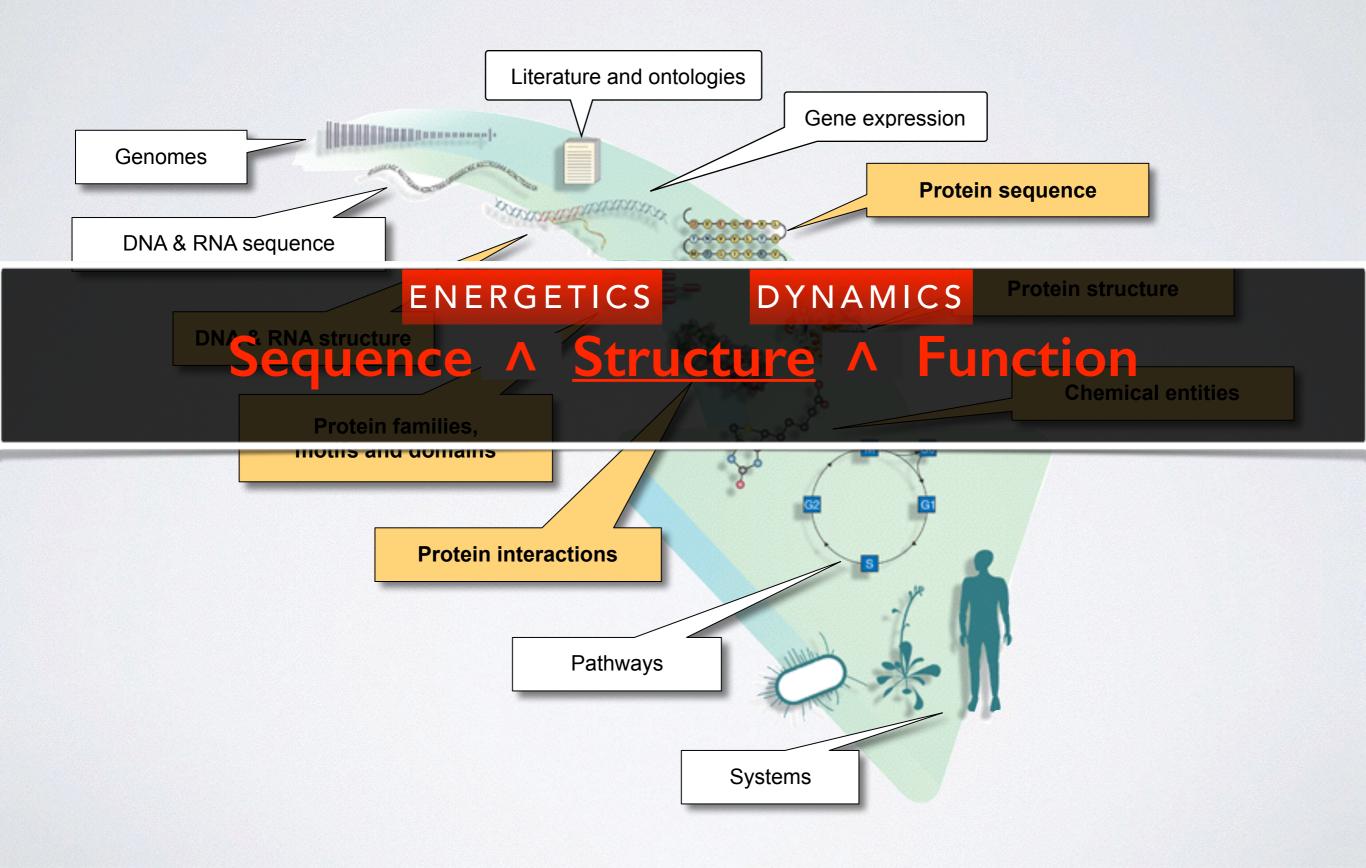
## STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL

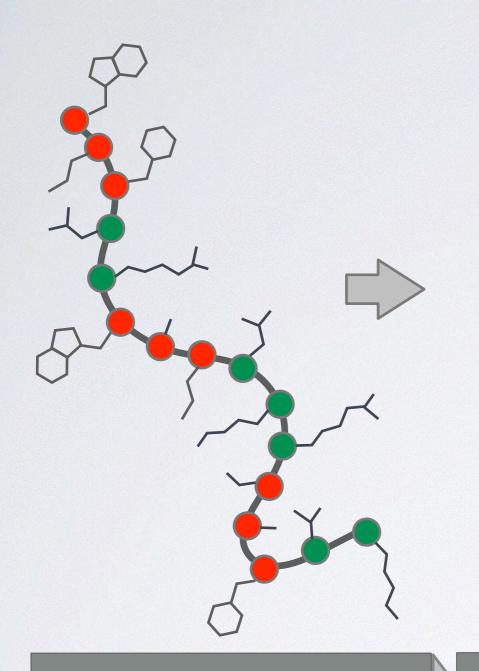


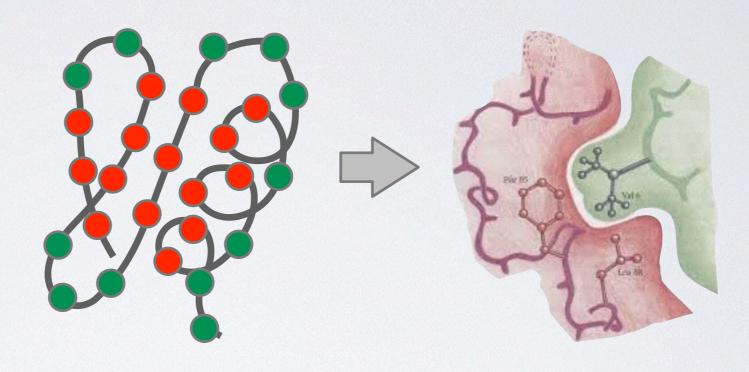
## STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL



## STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL







#### Sequence

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

#### Structure

- Ordered in a precise 3D arrangment
- 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

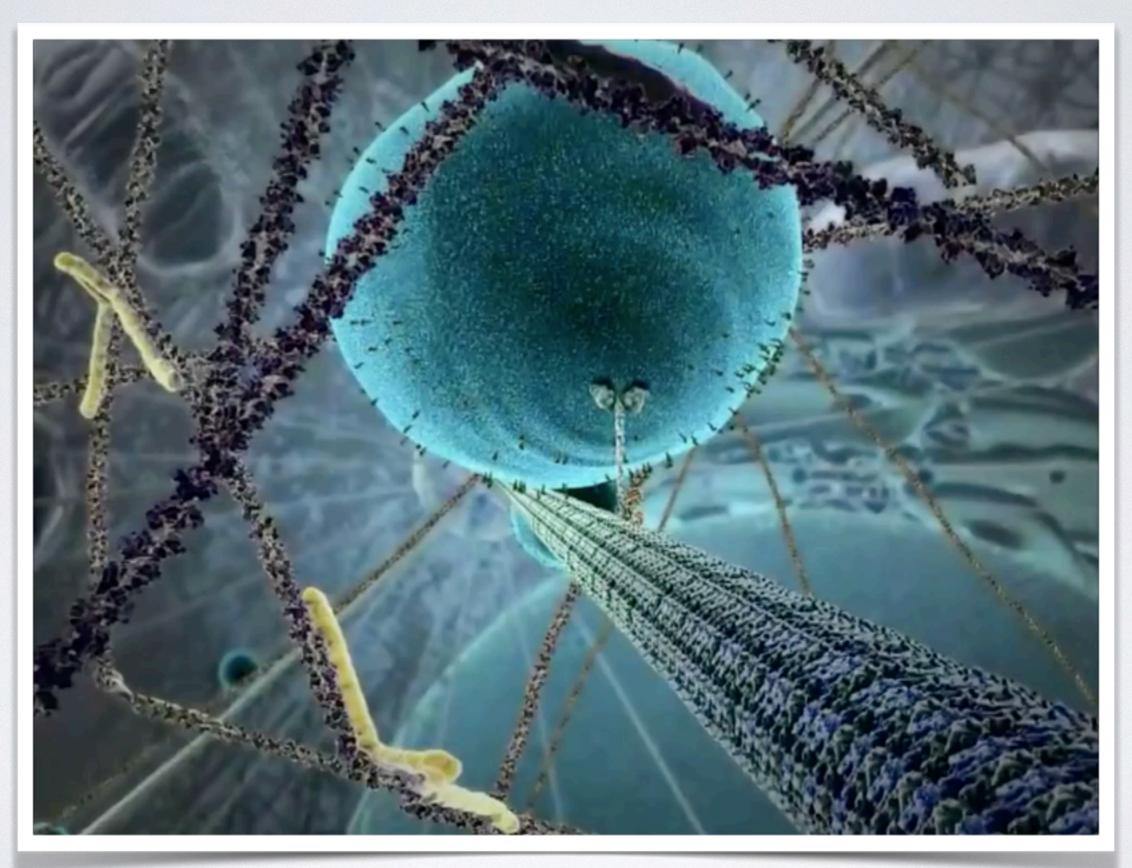
REF. NO.	IBM NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	156011	Track Frame 21", 22", 23", 24", Team Red
2	157040	Fork for 21" Frame
2	157039	Fork for 22" Frame
2	157038	Fork for 23" Frame
2	157037	Fork for 24" Frame
3	191202	Handlebar TTT Competition Track Alloy 15/16"
4		Handlebar Stem, TTT, Specify extension
5	191278	Expander 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

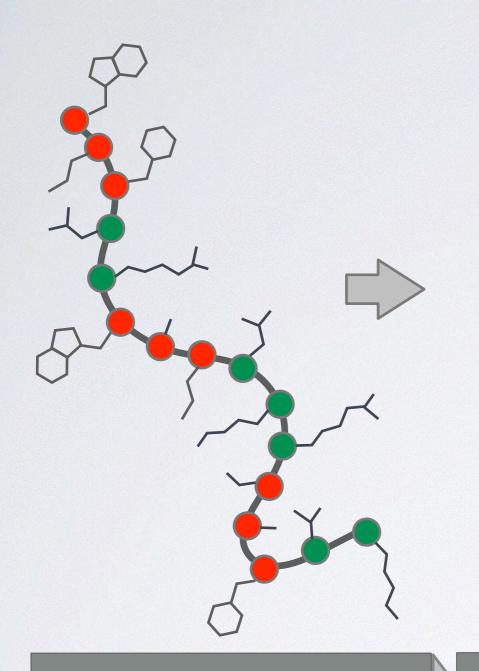
#### ... but not the end

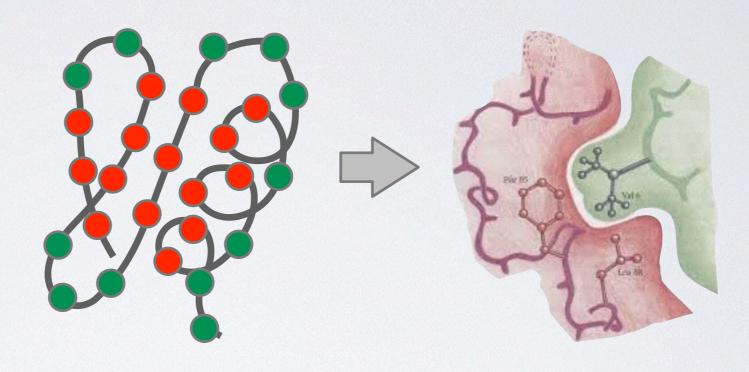


- We want the full spatiotemporal picture, and an ability to control it
- Broad applications, including drug design, medical diagnostics, chemical manufacturing, and energy



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





#### Sequence

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- Highly mobile
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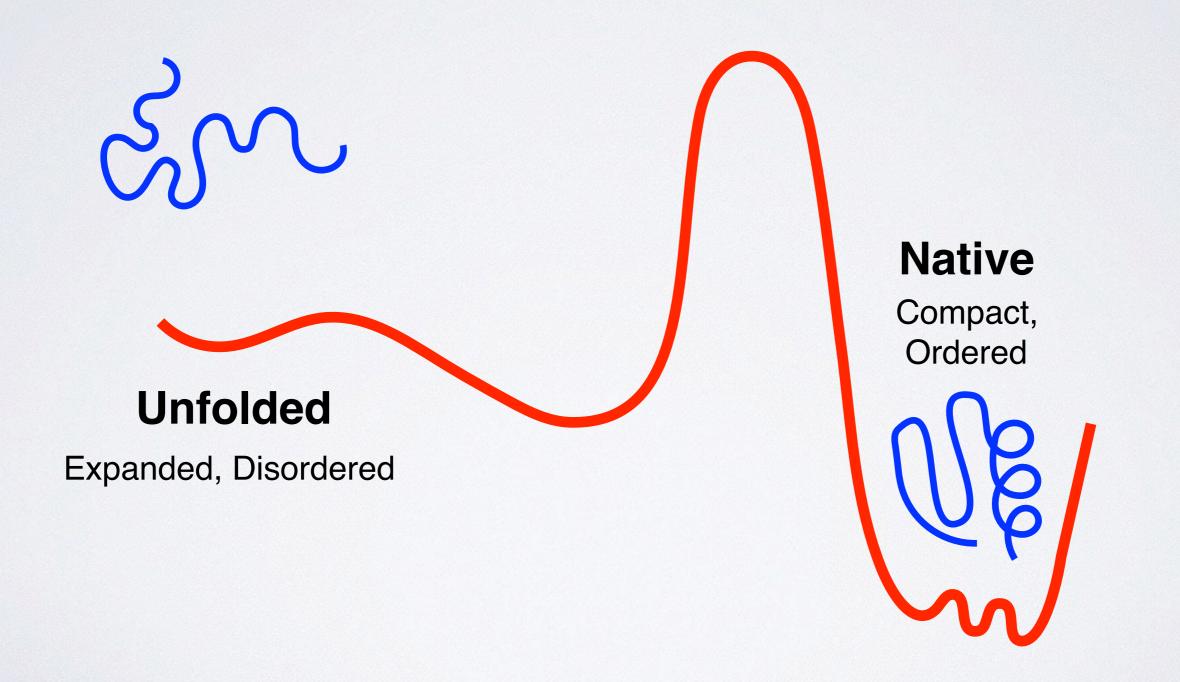
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- Stable but dynamic

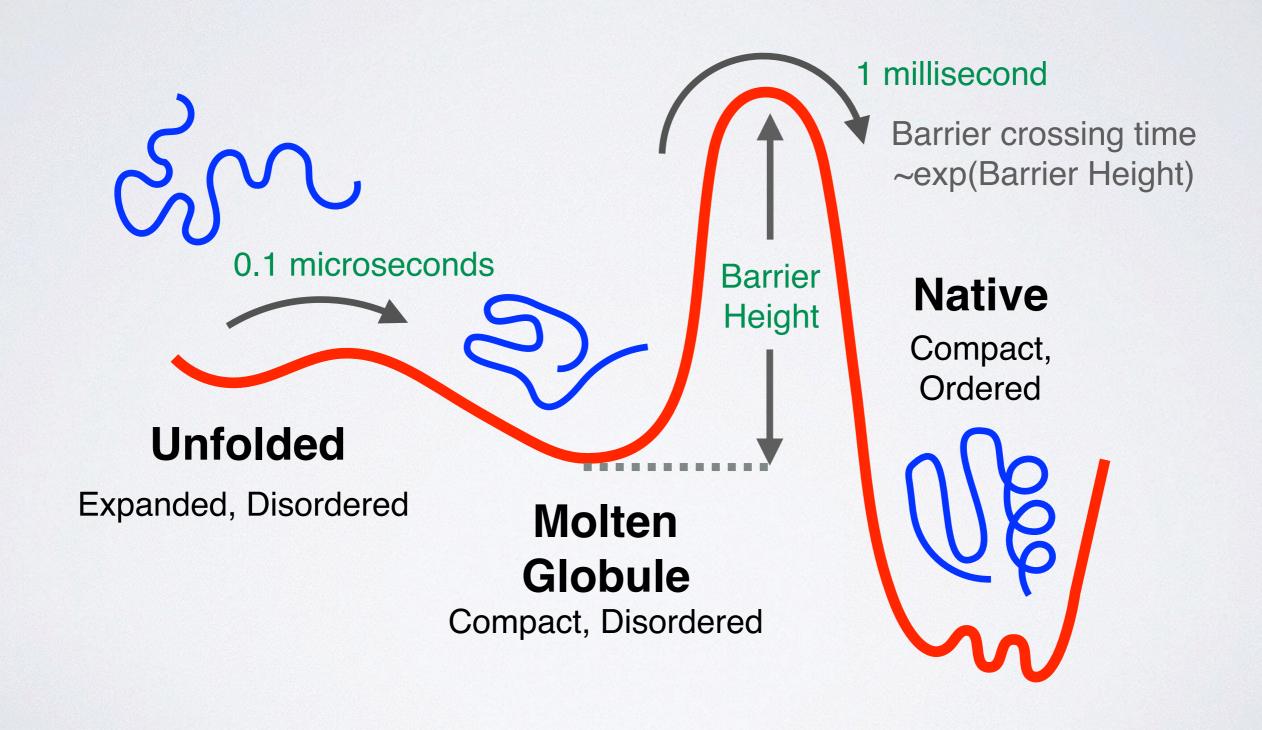
#### **Function**

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- Specific associations
   & precise reactions

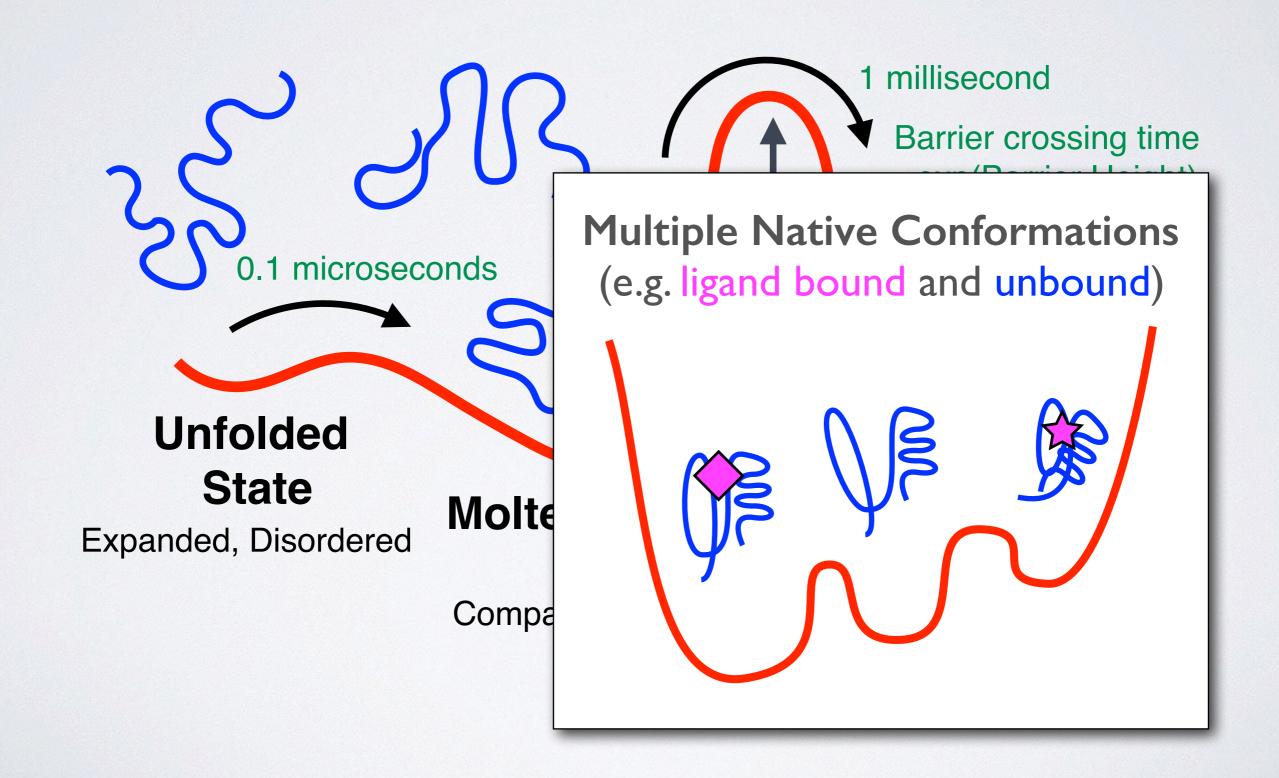
#### KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



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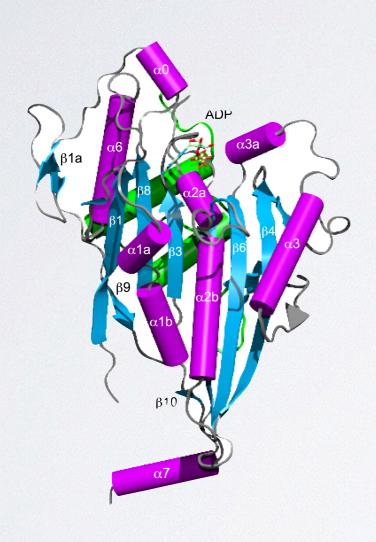
### **OUTLINE:**

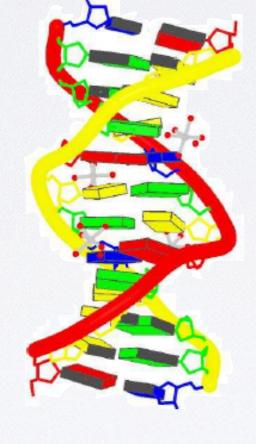
- Overview of structural bioinformatics
  - Major motivations, goals and challenges
- Fundamentals of protein structure
  - Composition, form, forces and dynamics
- Representing and interpreting protein structure
  - Modeling energy as a function of structure
- Example application areas
  - Predicting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

## **OUTLINE:**

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







Protein (PDB)

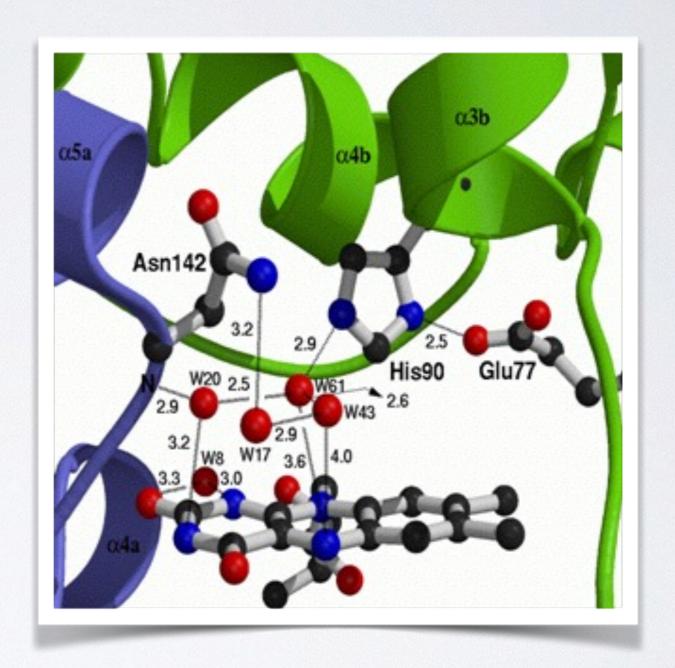
DNA (NDB)

Small Molecules (CCDB)

#### **Motivation 1:**

Detailed understanding of molecular interactions

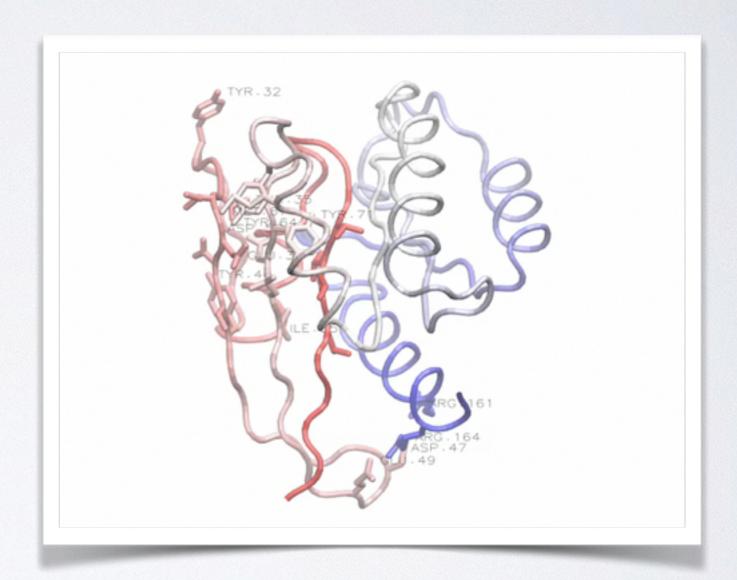
Provides an invaluable structural context for conservation and mechanistic analysis leading to functional insight.



#### **Motivation 1:**

Detailed understanding of molecular interactions

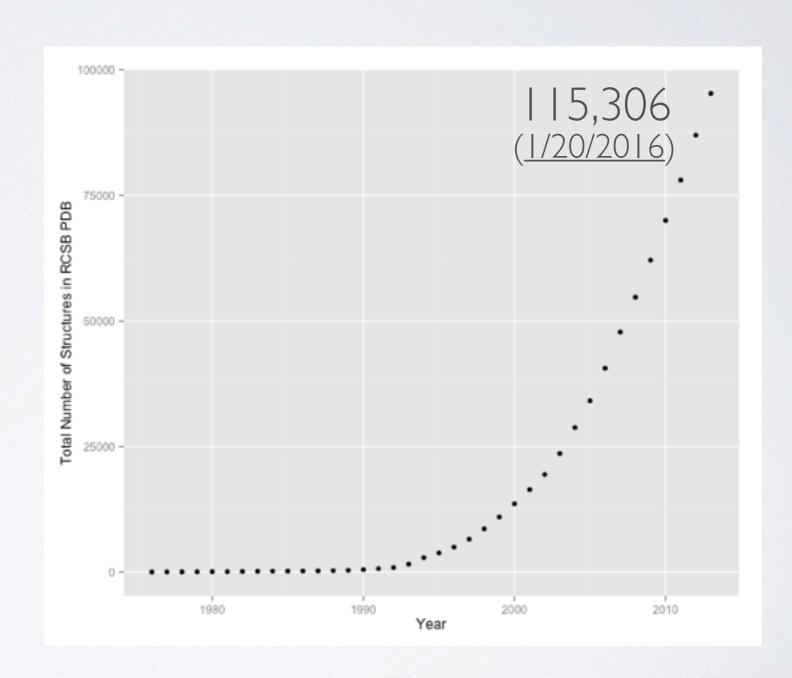
Computational modeling can provide detailed insight into functional interactions, their regulation and potential consequences of perturbation.



#### **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: <a href="http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/statistics/">http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/statistics/</a>

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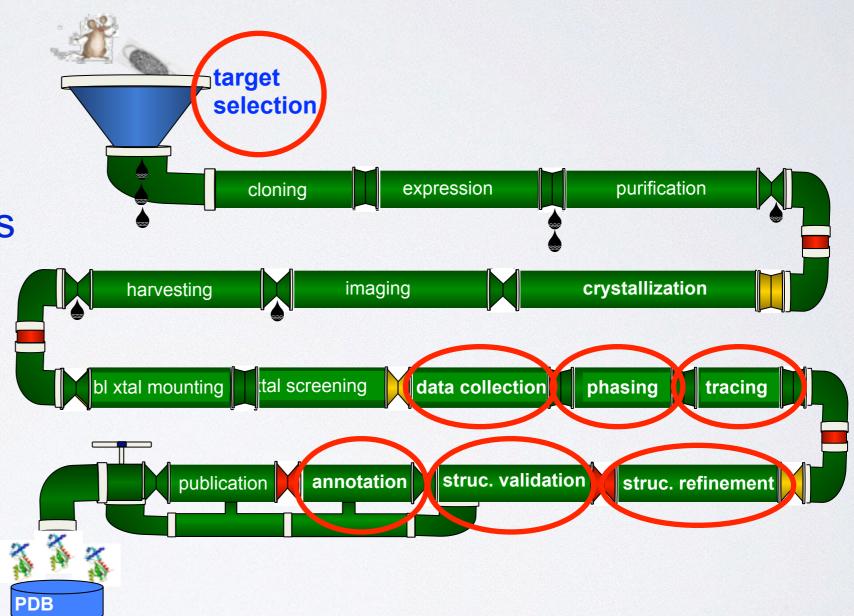
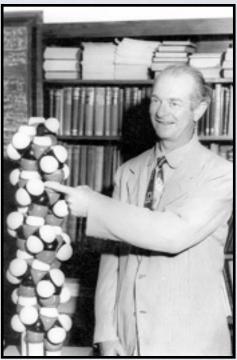


Image Credit: "Structure determination assembly line" Adam Godzik

#### **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

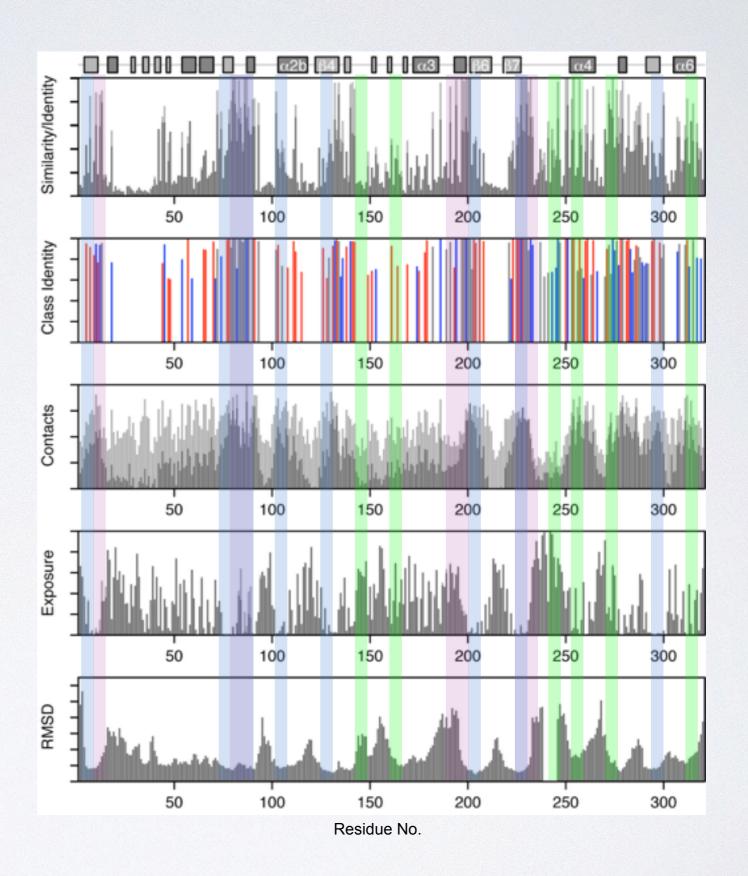
Structure allows identification of more distant evolutionary relationships

#### Structure is encoded in sequence

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

#### Goals:

- Analysis
- Visualization
- Comparison
- Prediction
- Design

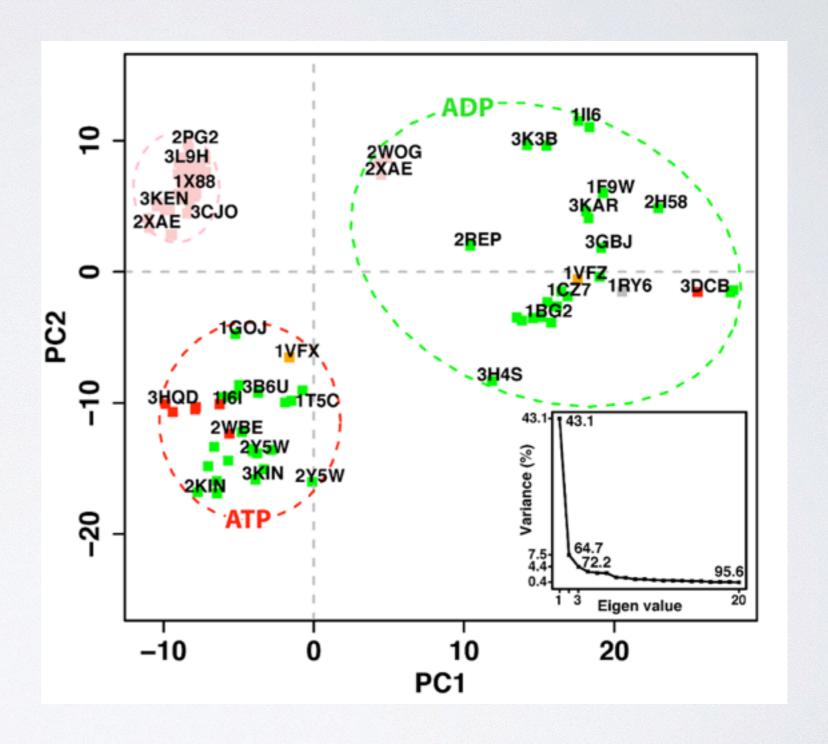


#### Goals:

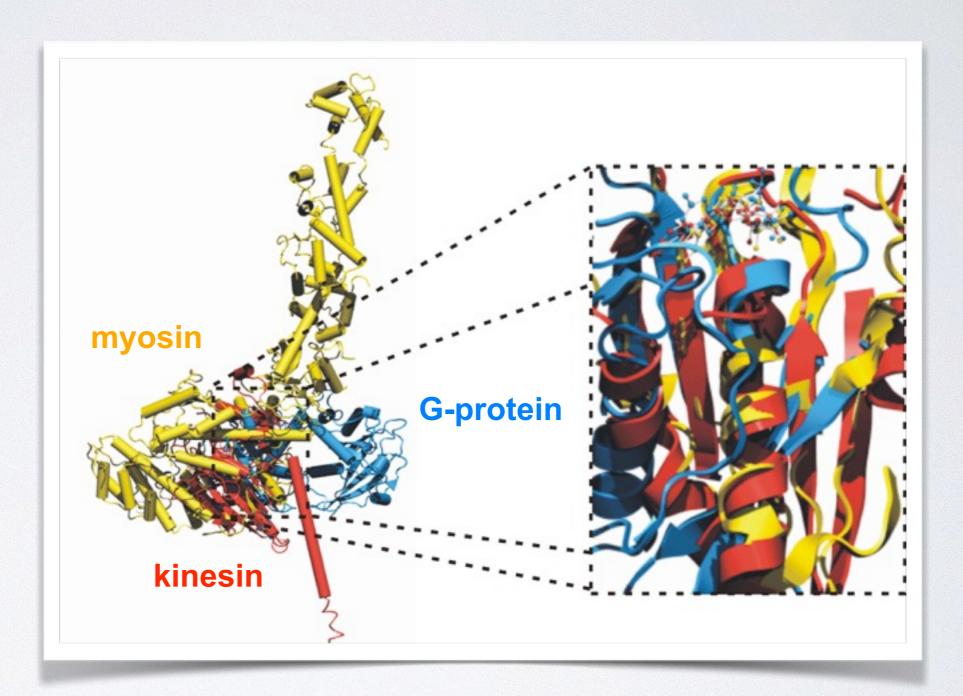
- Analysis
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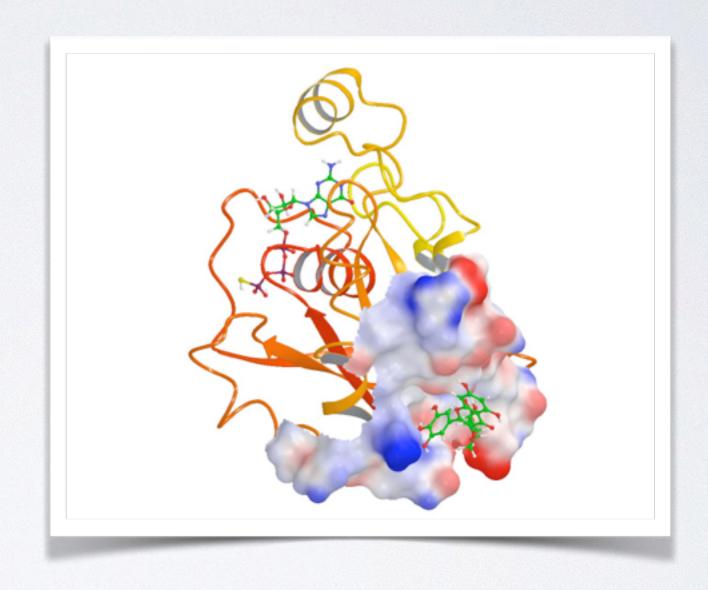
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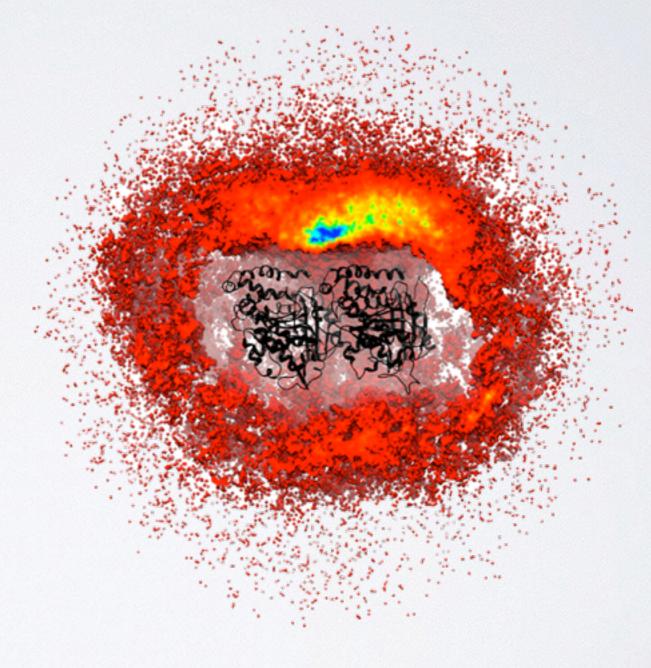


- Analysis
- Visualization
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- Design



Grant et al. PLoS One (2011, 2012)

- 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...

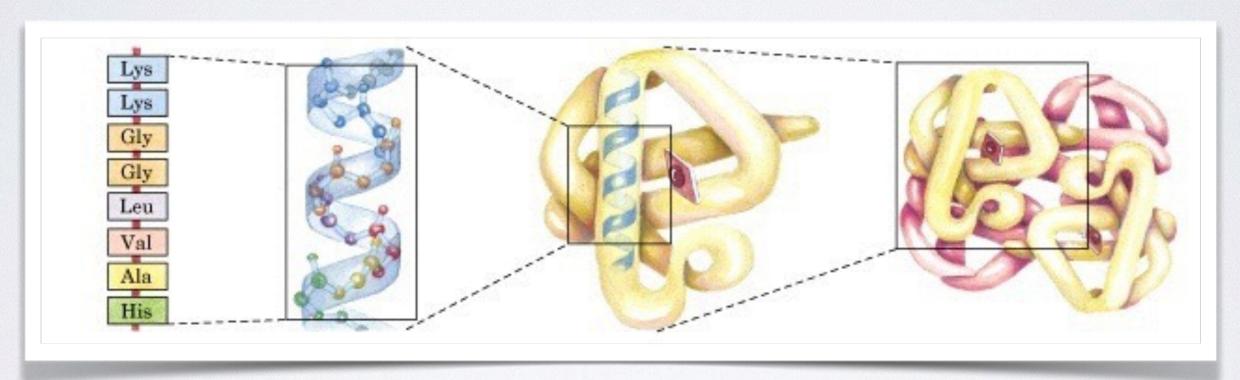
With applications to Biology, Medicine, Agriculture and Industry

### **NEXT UP:**

- Overview of structural bioinformatics
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- Fundamentals of protein structure
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### HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE OF PROTEINS

Primary > Secondary > Tertiary > Quaternary

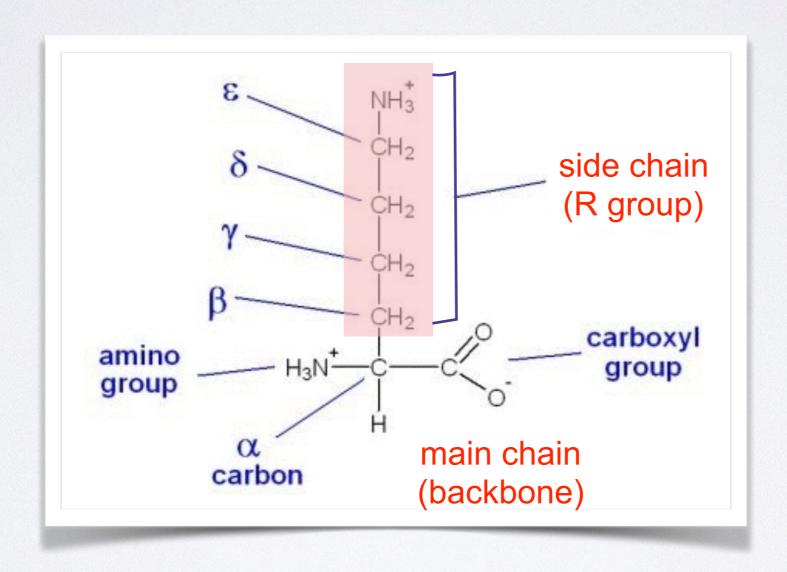


amino acid residues

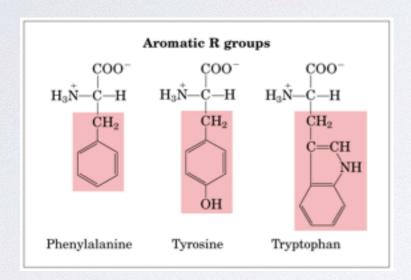
Alpha helix Polypeptide chain

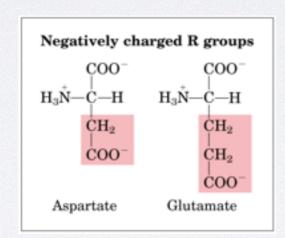
Assembled subunits

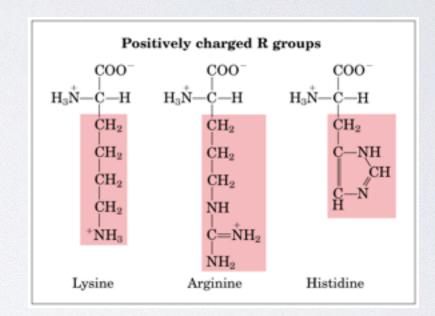
### RECAP: AMINO ACID NOMENCLATURE

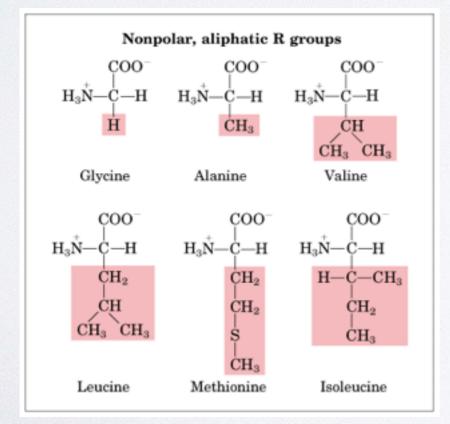


## AMINO ACIDS CAN BE GROUPED BY THE PHYSIOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES









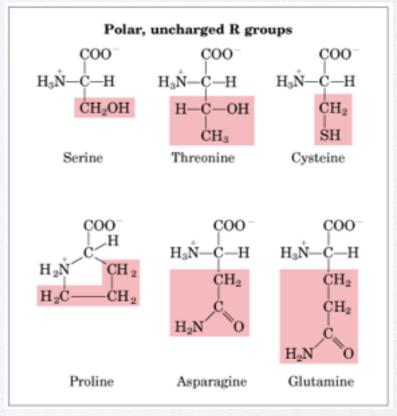
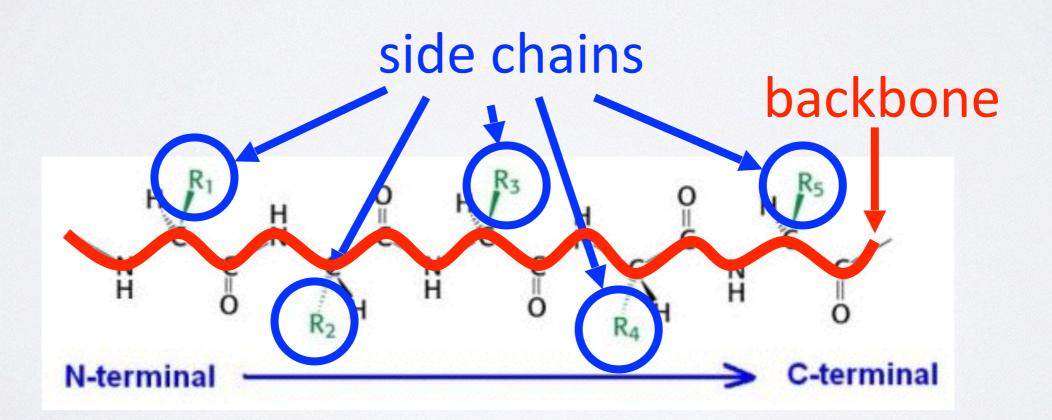
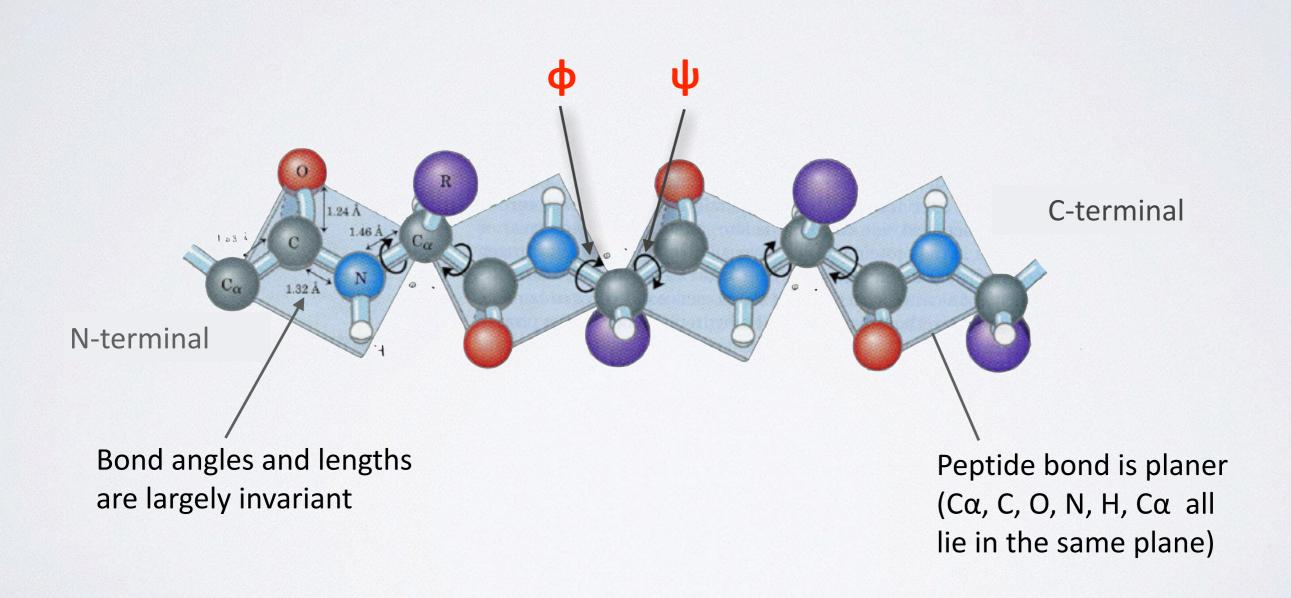


Image from: <a href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/">http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/</a>

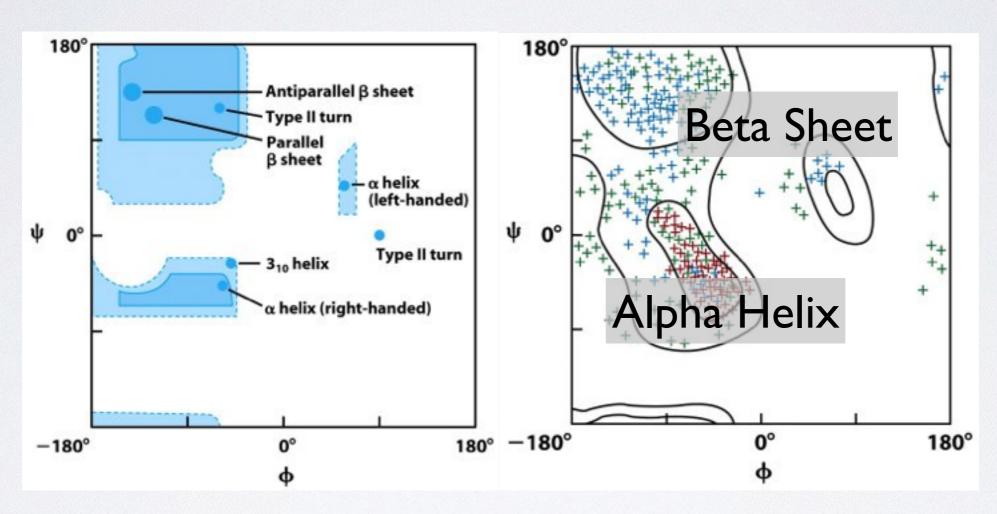
## AMINO ACIDS POLYMERIZE THROUGH PEPTIDE BOND FORMATION



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

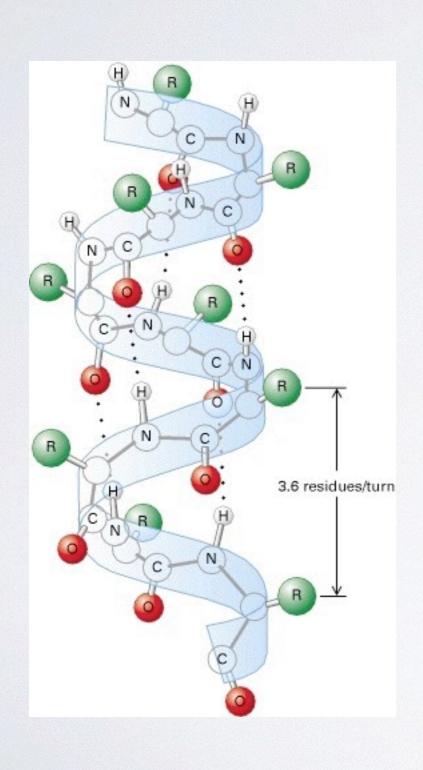


## PHI vs PSI PLOTS ARE KNOWN AS RAMACHANDRAN DIAGRAMS



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

## MAJOR SECONDARY STRUCTURE TYPES ALPHA HELIX & BETA SHEET



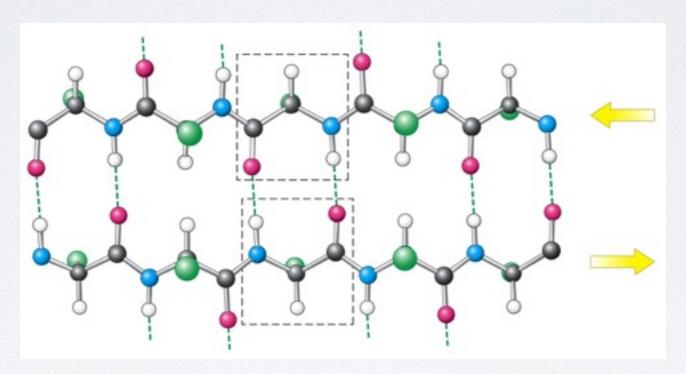
#### α-helix

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

Hydrogen bond: i→i+4

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

## MAJOR SECONDARY STRUCTURE TYPES ALPHA HELIX & BETA SHEET

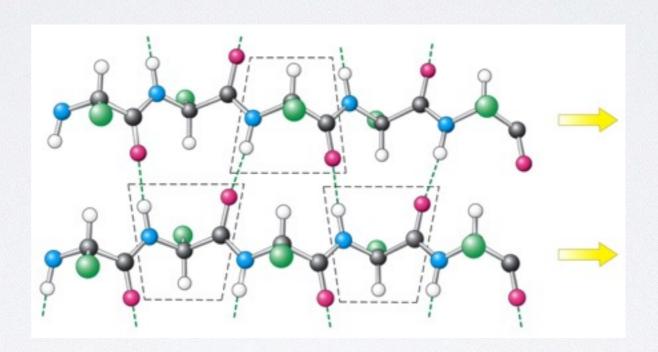


#### In antiparallel $\beta$ -sheets

- Adjacent β-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: <a href="http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/">http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/</a>

## MAJOR SECONDARY STRUCTURE TYPES ALPHA HELIX & BETA SHEET

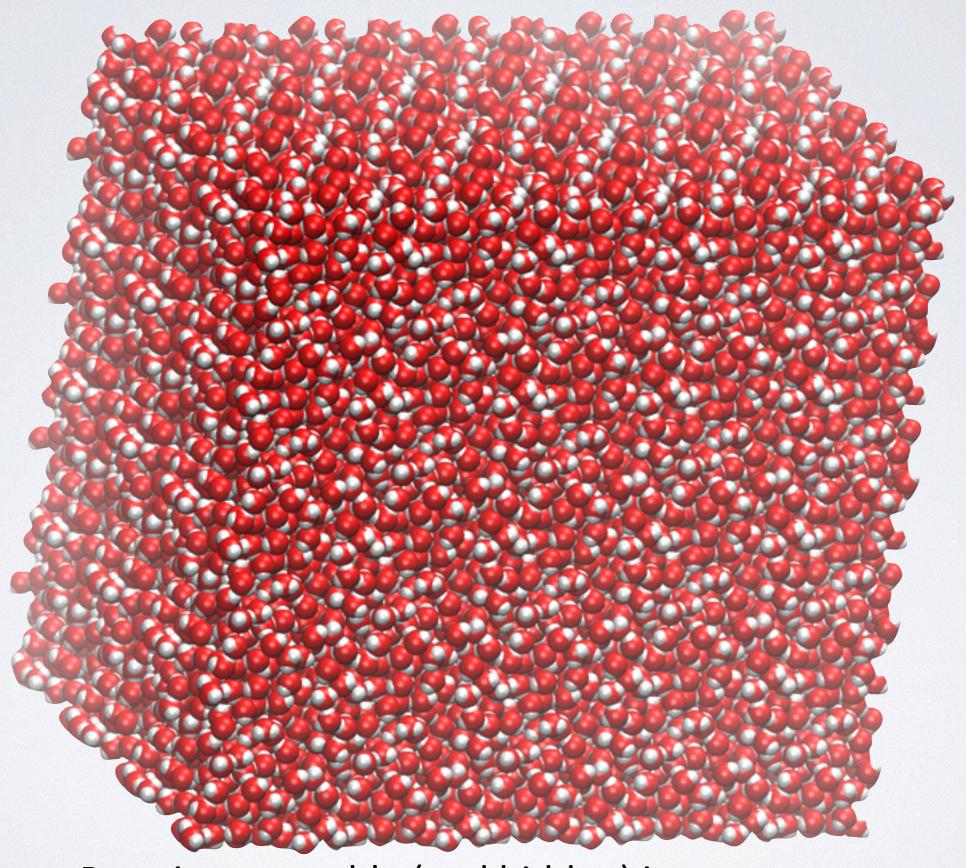


#### In parallel $\beta$ -sheets

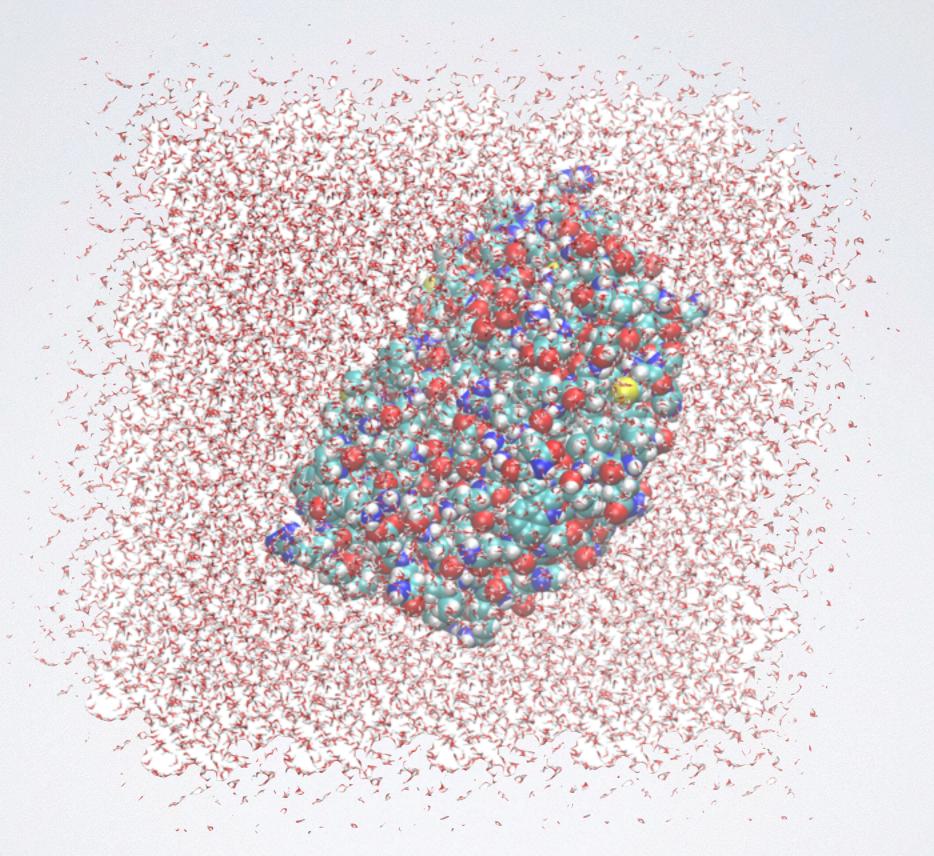
- Adjacent β-strands run in same direction
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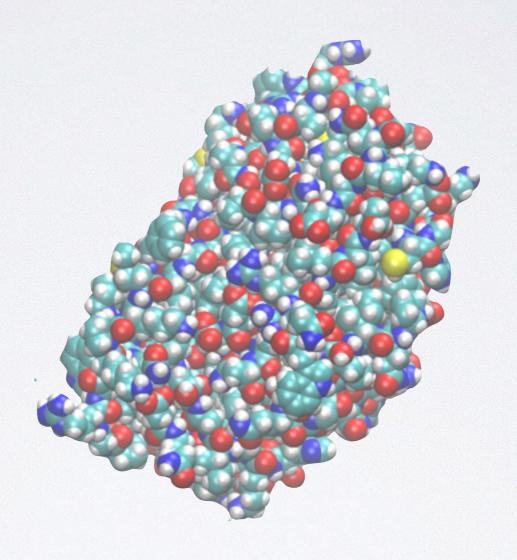
### What Does a Protein Look like?



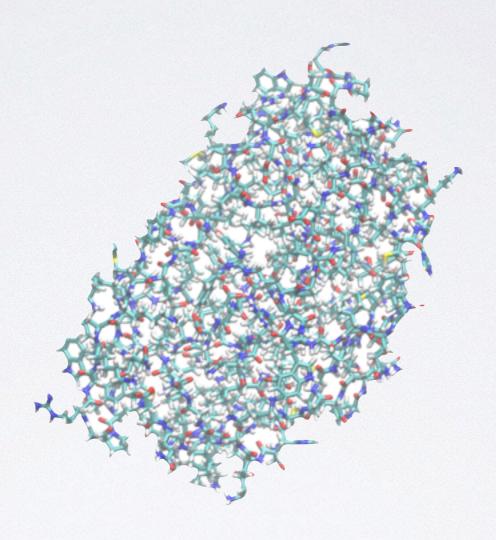
• Proteins are stable (and hidden) in water



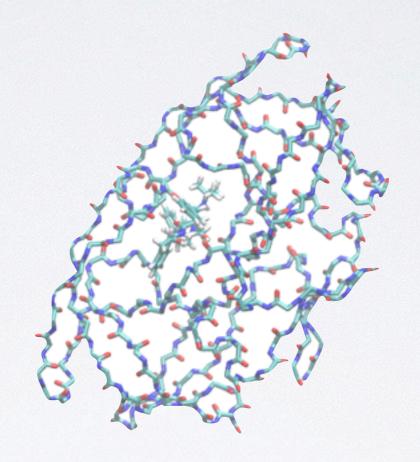
Proteins closely interact with water



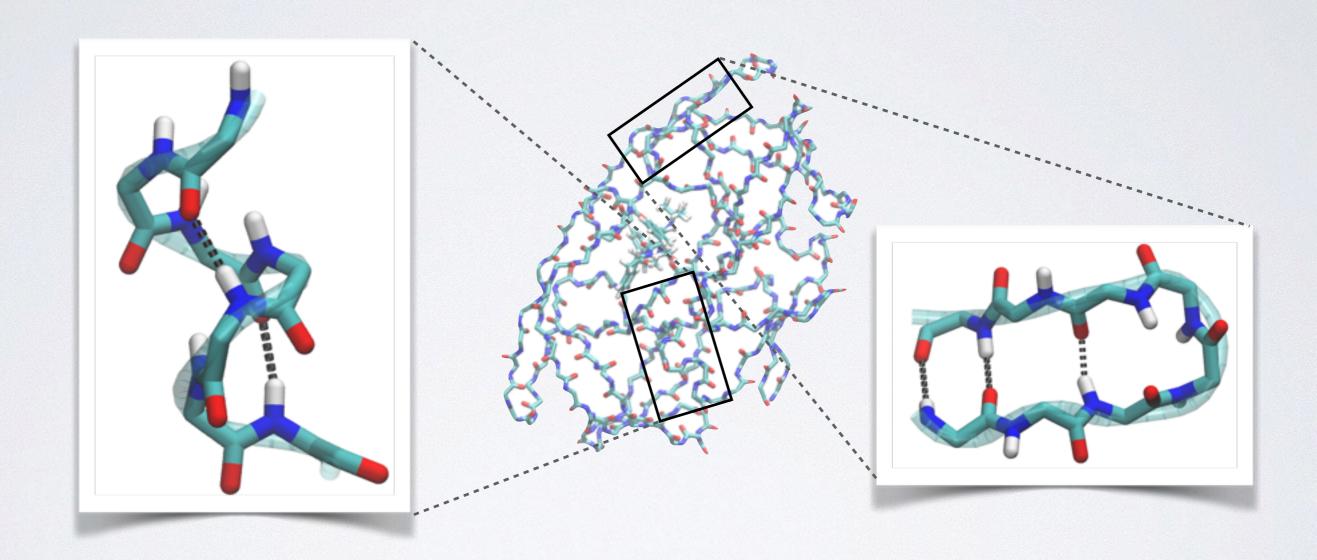
Proteins are close packed solid but flexible objects (globular)



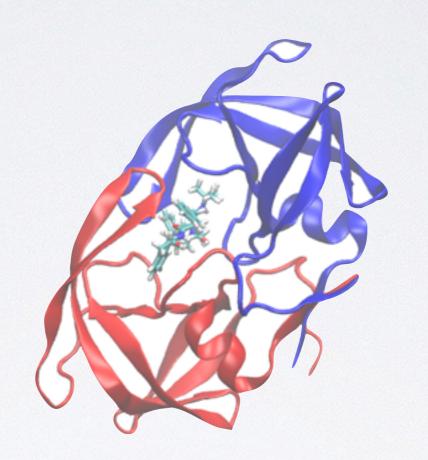
• Due to their large size and complexity it is often hard to see whats important in the structure



 Backbone or main-chain representation can help trace chain topology

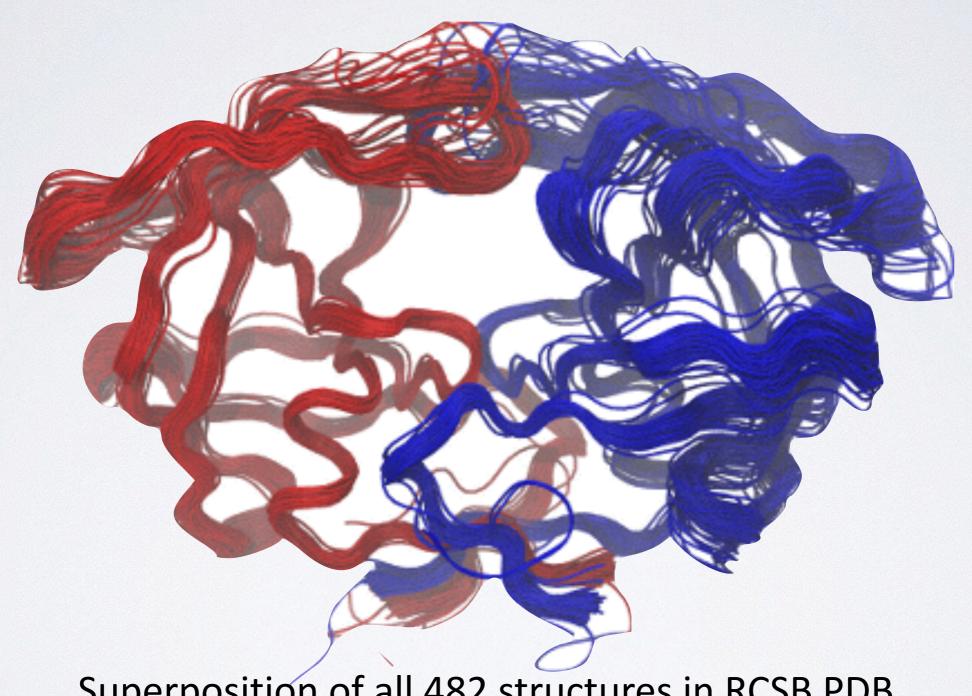


 Backbone or main-chain representation can help trace chain topology & reveal secondary structure



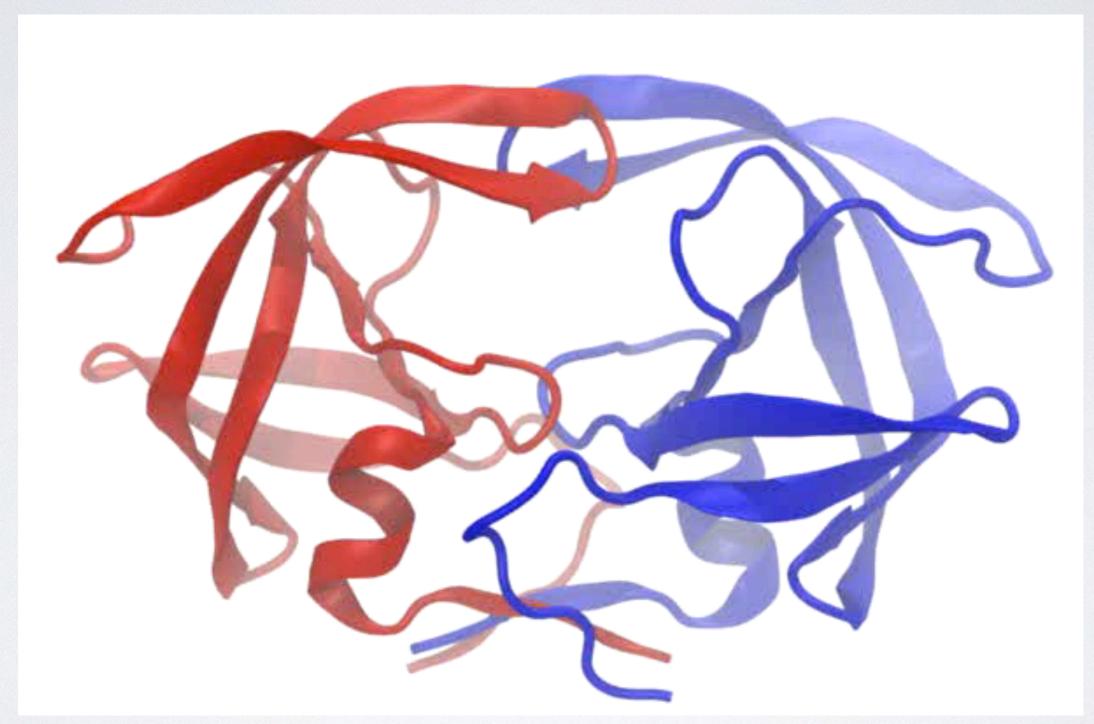
- Simplified secondary structure representations are commonly used to communicate structural details
- Now we can clearly see 2°, 3° and 4° structure
- Coiled chain of connected secondary structures

#### DISPLACEMENTS REFLECT INTRINSIC FLEXIBILITY



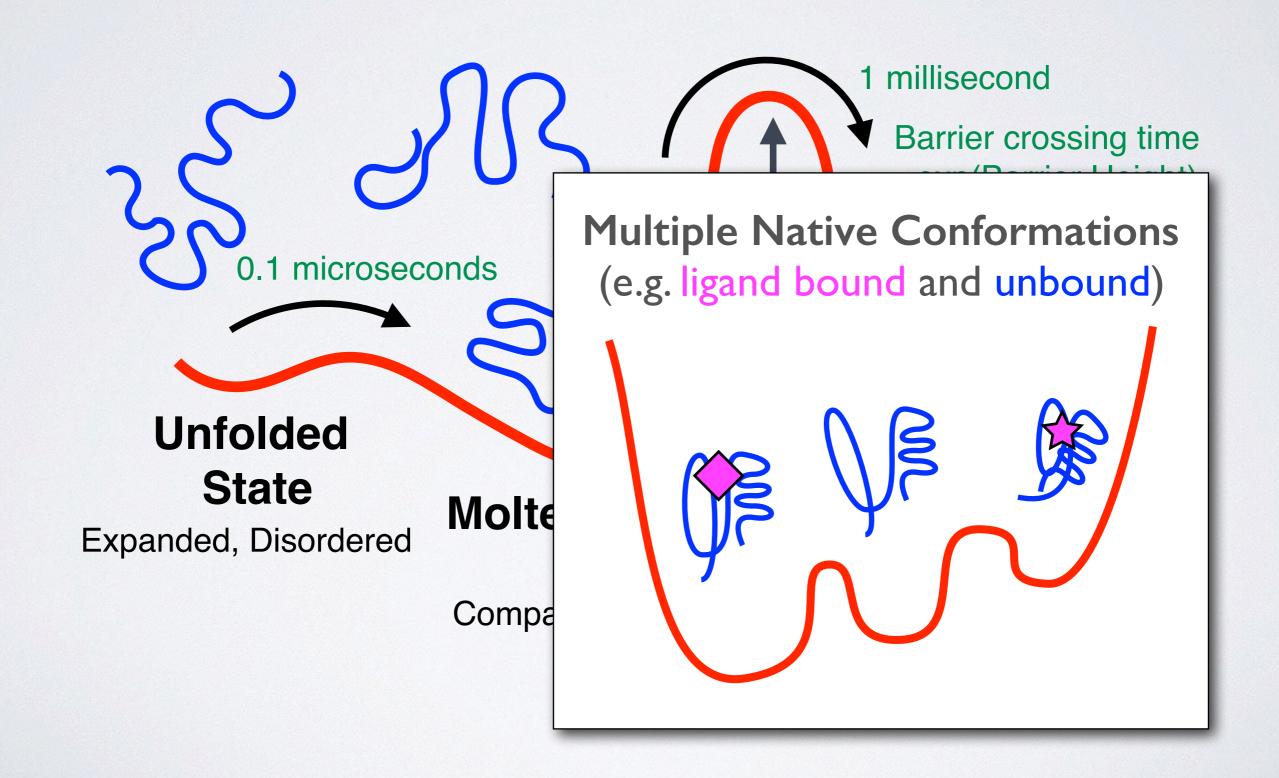
Superposition of all 482 structures in RCSB PDB (23/09/2015)

#### DISPLACEMENTS REFLECT INTRINSIC FLEXIBILITY



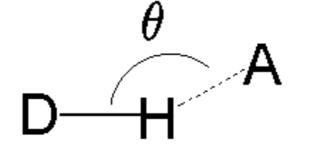
Principal component analysis (PCA) of experimental structures

#### KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



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

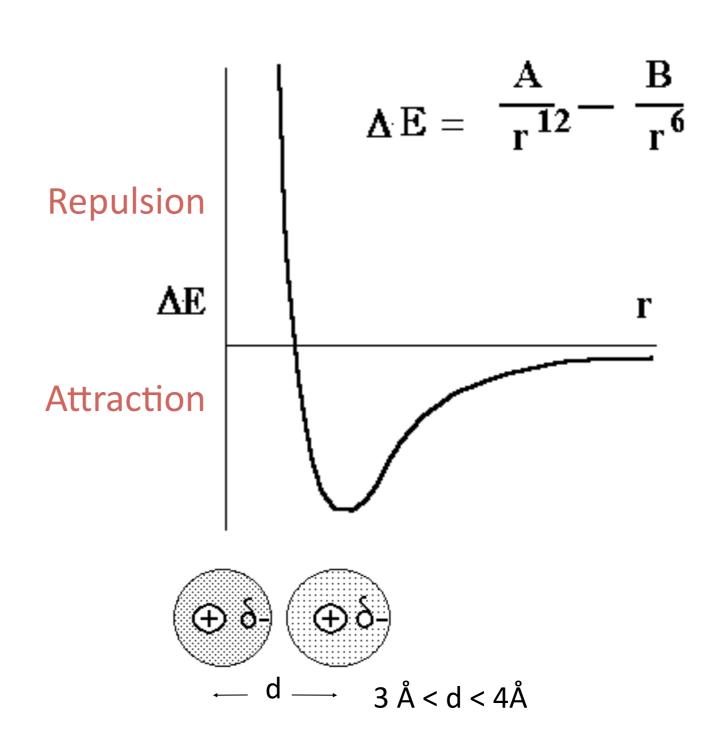
Hydrogenbond donor bond acceptor



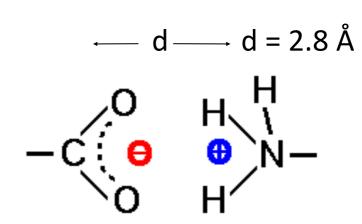
2.6 Å < d < 3.1Å

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

- H-bonding
- Van der Waals
- Electrostatics
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- Disulfide Bridges



- H-bonding
- Van der Waals
- Electrostatics
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- Disulfide Bridges



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

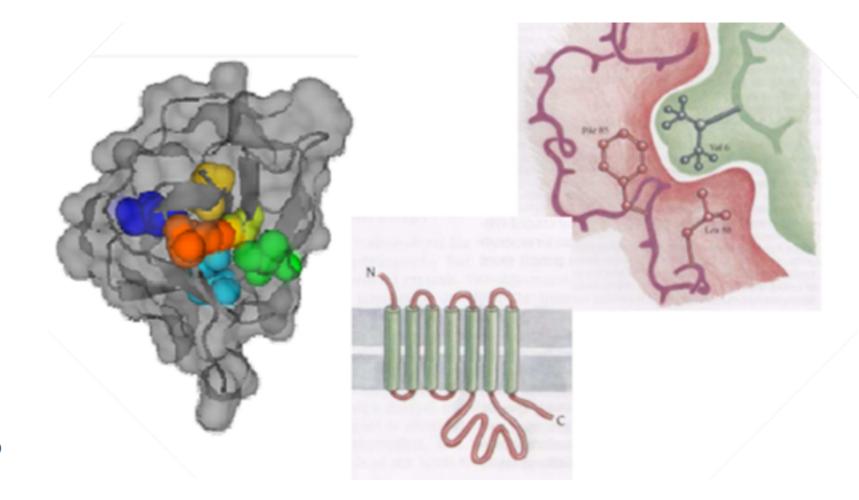
k = constant

D = Dielectric constant (vacuum = 1;  $H_2O = 80$ )

 $q_1 \& q_2 = electronic charges (Coulombs)$ 

r = distance (Å)

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



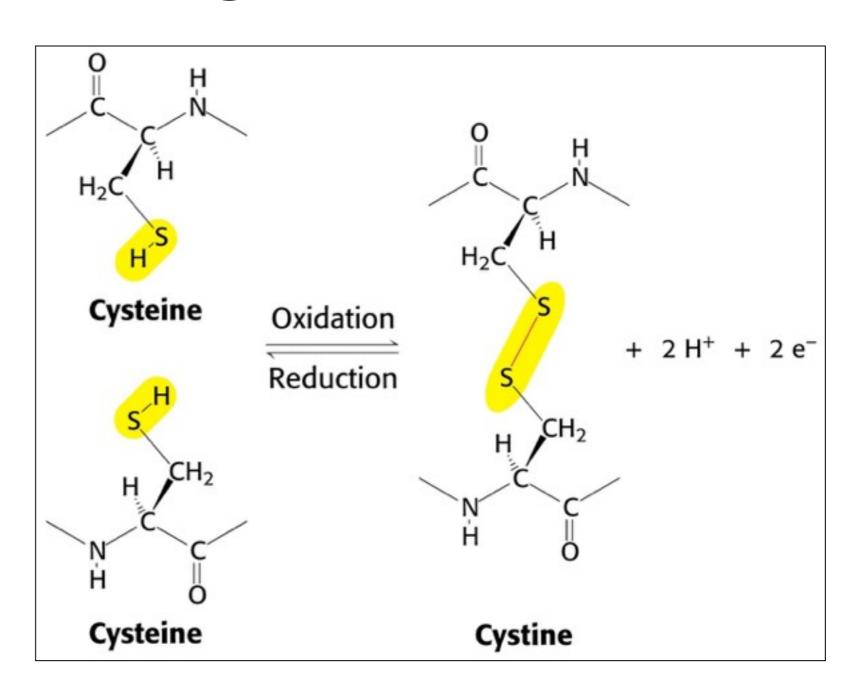
The force that causes hydrophobic molecules or nonpolar portions of molecules to aggregate together rather than to dissolve in water is called <u>Hydrophobicity</u> (*Greek, "water fearing"*). This is not a separate bonding force; rather, it is the result of the energy required to insert a nonpolar molecule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

## Forces affecting structure:

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

#### Other names:

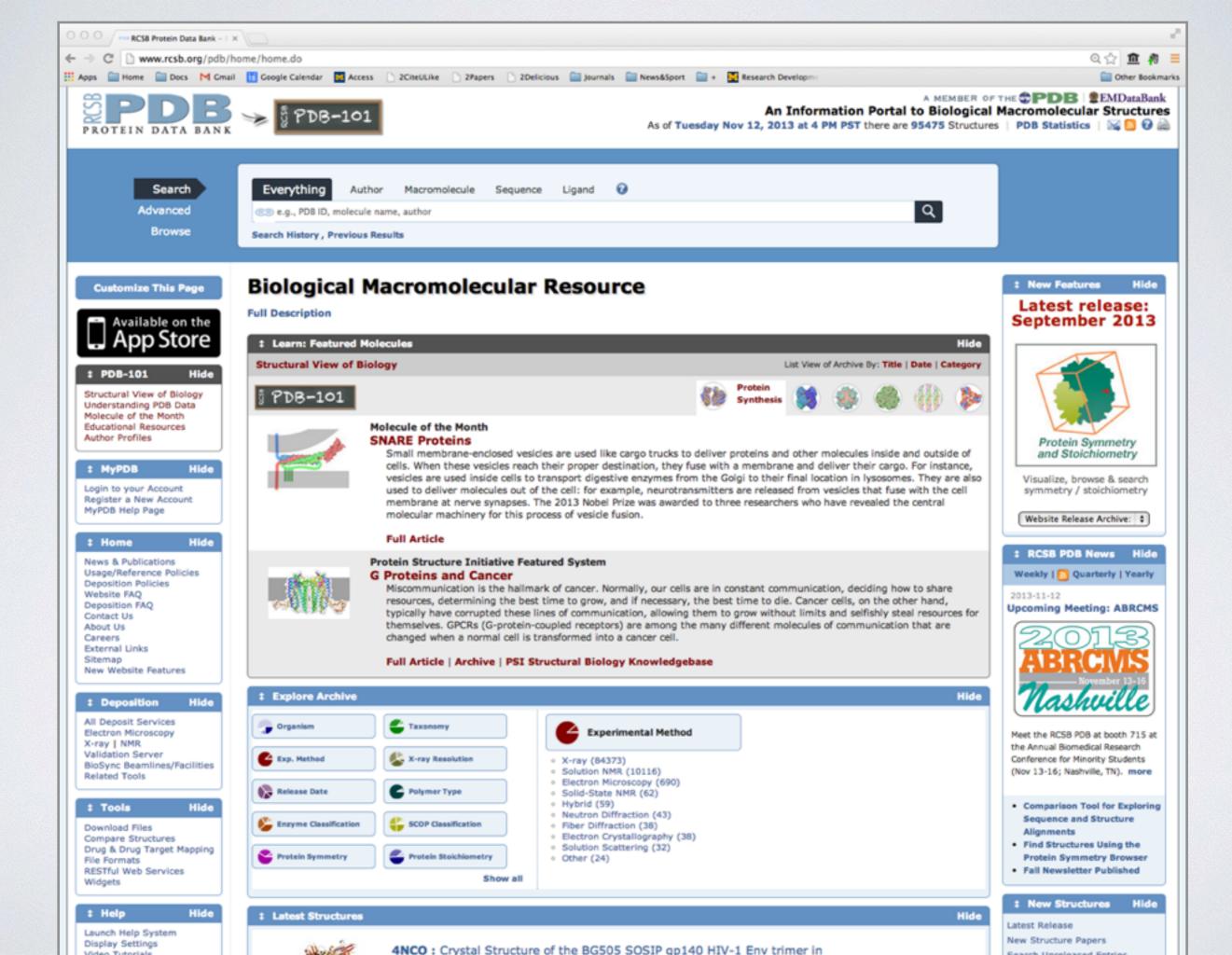
cystine bridge disulfide bridge

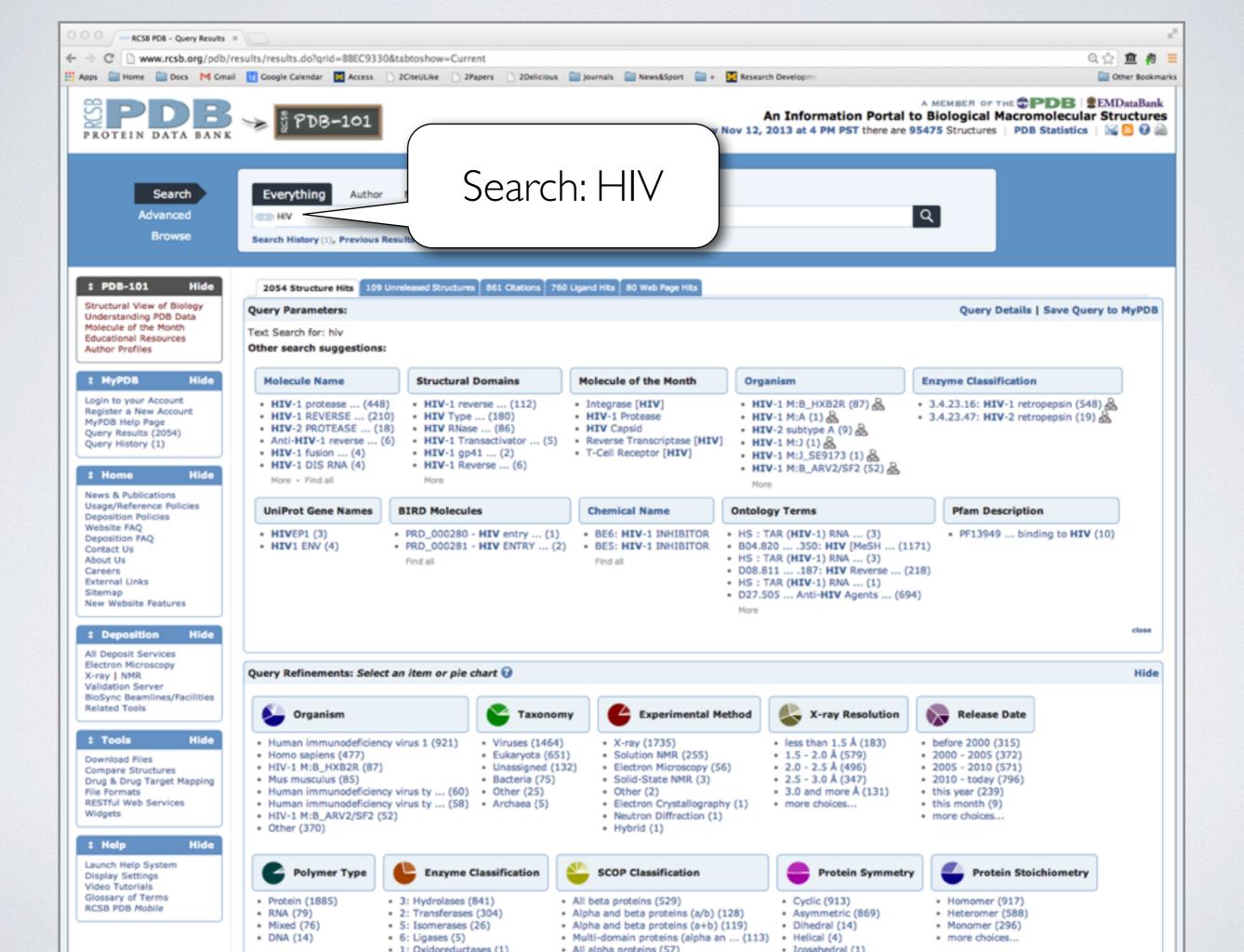


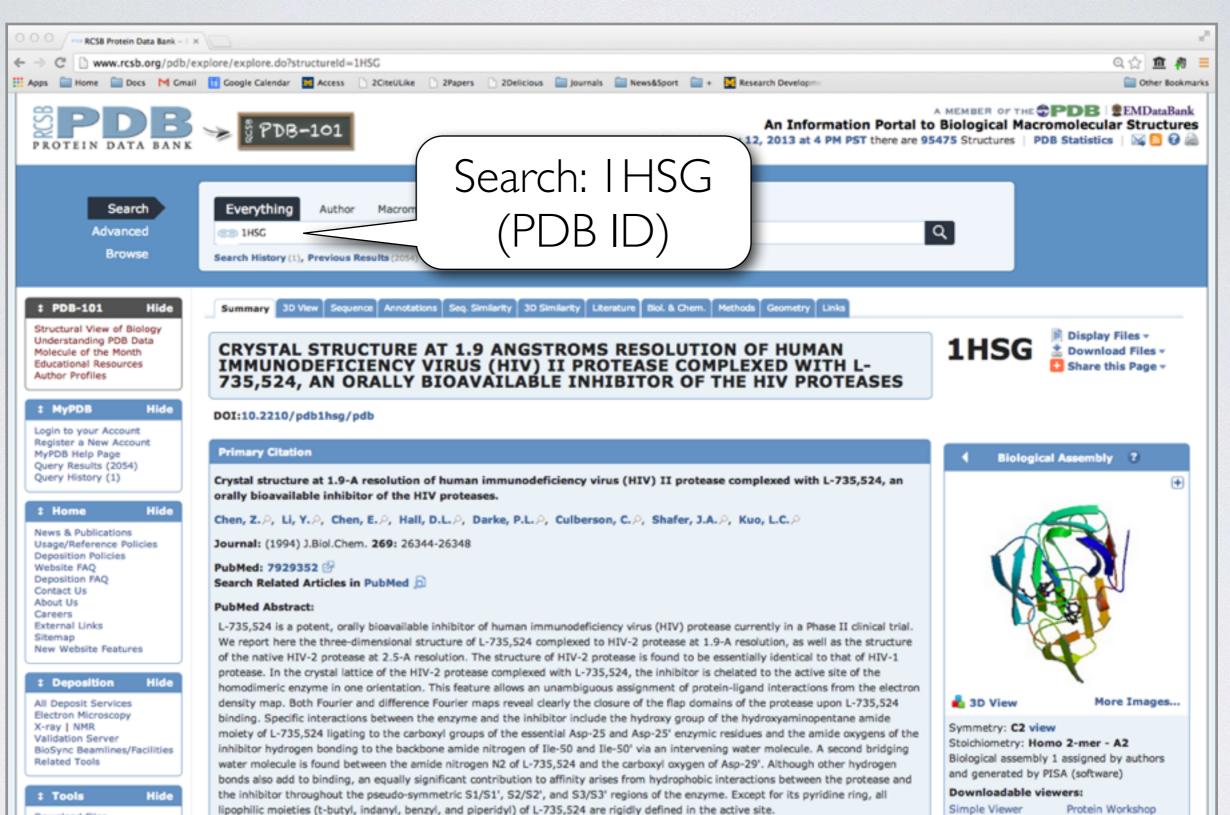
Hair contains lots of disulfide bonds which are broken and reformed by heat

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Launch Help System Display Settings Video Tutorials Glossary of Terms RCSB PDB Mobile Aspartic Acid Endopeptidases, Binding Sites, Crystallography, X-Ray, Drug Resistance, HIV Protease, HIV Protease Inhibitors, Indinavir, Pyridines

#### Related Structures:

Primary Citation of: 1HSG 1HSH 1HSI

#### Organizational Affiliation:

Department of Biological Chemistry, Merck Research Laboratories, West Point, Pennsylvania 19486.

Click on abstract words and keywords to add them to the search box.

\* Deposition Summary Hide

Authors: Chen, Z.,

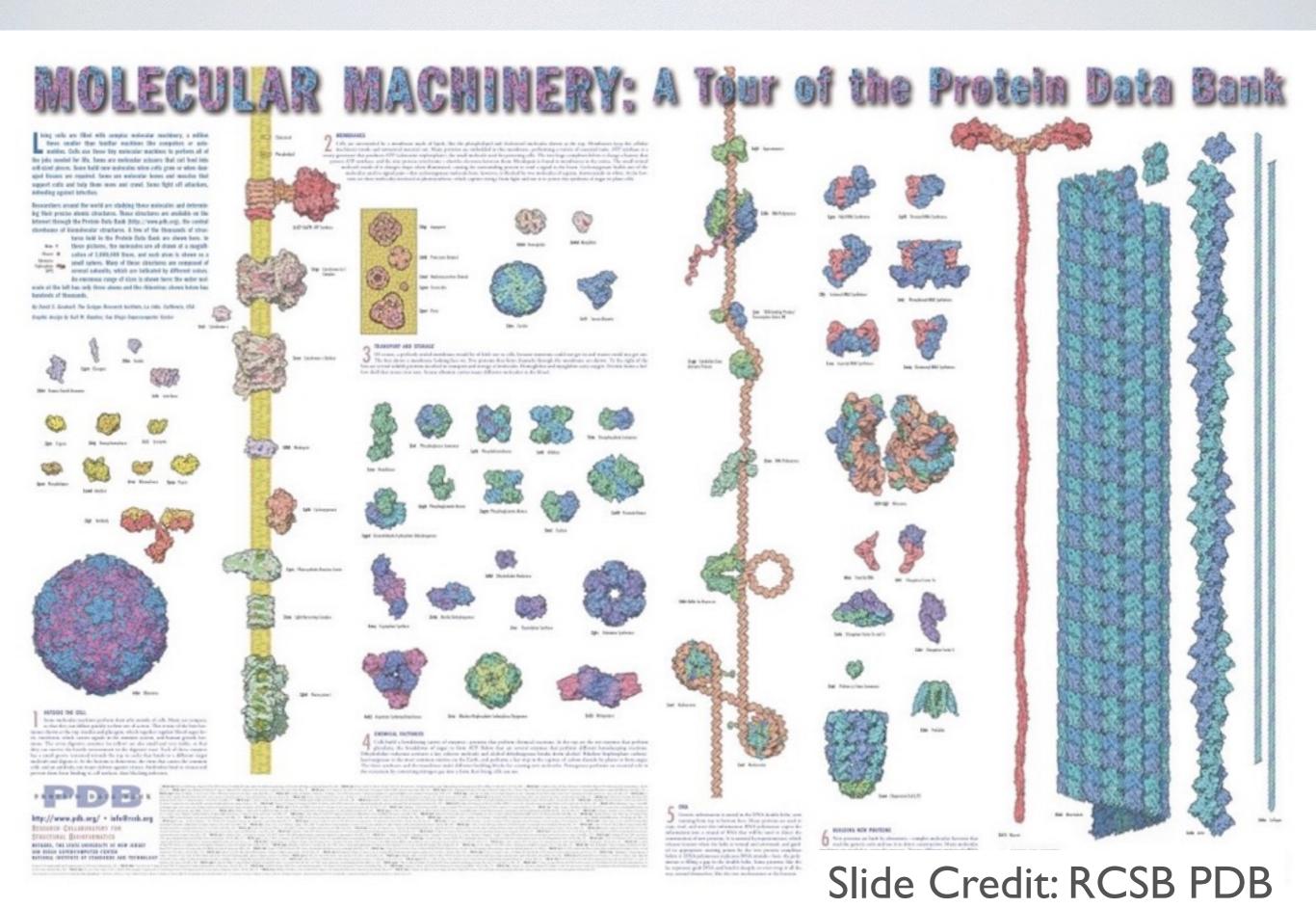
Deposition: 1995-03-31

Release: 1996-04-03

**# HyPDB Personal Annotations** Hide

To save personal annotations, please login to

Klosk Viewer



## PDB FILE FORMAT

```
Chain name
    Amino Acid
                             Sequence Number
     Element
                                 ----Coordinates----
                                                        (etc.)
                                 4.060
                                         7.307
                                                 5.186
ATOM
                 ASP L
                 ASP L
                                 4.042
                                         7.776
                                                 6.553
ATOM
ATOM
                ASP L
                                 2.668
                                         8.426
                                                 6.644
ATOM
                 ASP L
                                 1.987
                                         8.438
                                                 5.606
                 ASP L
                                 5.090
                                         8.827
                                                 6.797
ATOM
                                         8.761
                                 6.338
                                                 5.929
ATOM
                 ASP L
                                 6.576
                                         9.758
                                                 5.241
ATOM
             OD1 ASP L
                                         7.759
             OD2 ASP L
                                 7.065
                                                 5.948
ATOM
                Element position within amino acid
```

 PDB files contains atomic coordinates and associated information.

# 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:

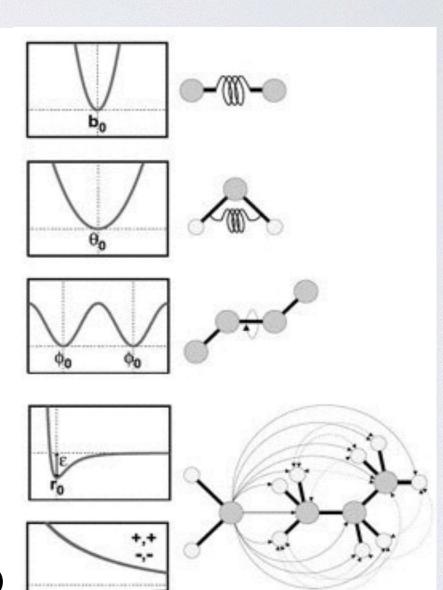
(1). Physics-Based

(2). Knowledge-Based

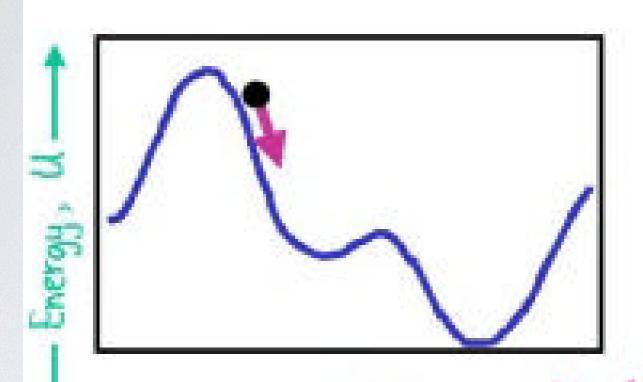
# PHYSICS-BASED POTENTIALS ENERGY TERMS FROM PHYSICAL THEORY

$$U(\vec{R}) = \underbrace{\sum_{bonds} k_i^{bond} (r_i - r_0)^2 + \sum_{angles} k_i^{angle} (\theta_i - \theta_0)^2 + \sum_{U_{bond}} k_i^{dihe} [1 + \cos(n_i \phi_i + \delta_i)] + \sum_{dihedrals} \underbrace{\sum_{j \neq i} 4\epsilon_{ij} \left[ \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}}\right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}}\right)^6 \right] + \sum_{i} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{q_i q_j}{\epsilon r_{ij}}}_{U_{nonbond}}$$

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



# TOTAL POTENTIAL ENERGY



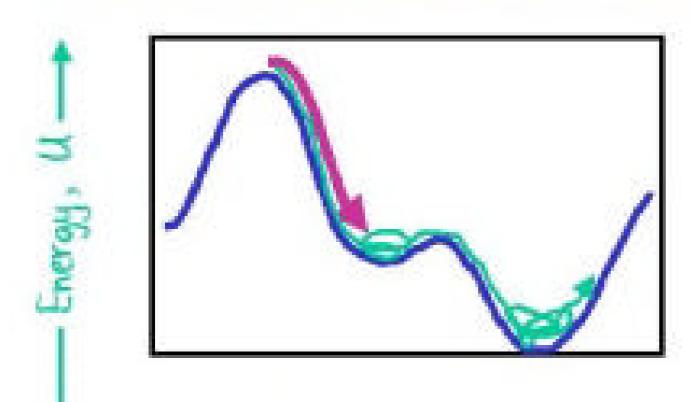
- The total potential energy or enthalpy fully defines the system, U.
- The forces are the gradients of the energy.

 $F(=) = -dU/d \times \bullet$  The energy is a sum of independent terms for:

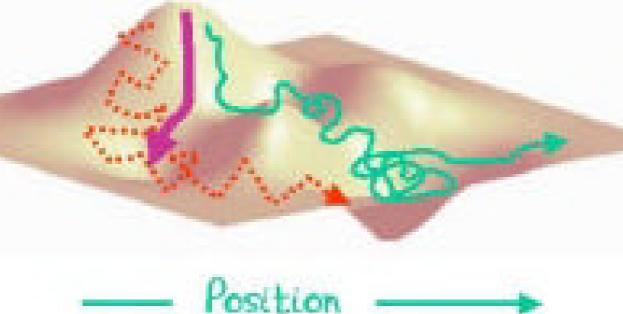
Bond, Bond angles, Torsion angles and nonbonded atom pairs.

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 (-∆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 approxs

Force fields, quantum entropy, water effects

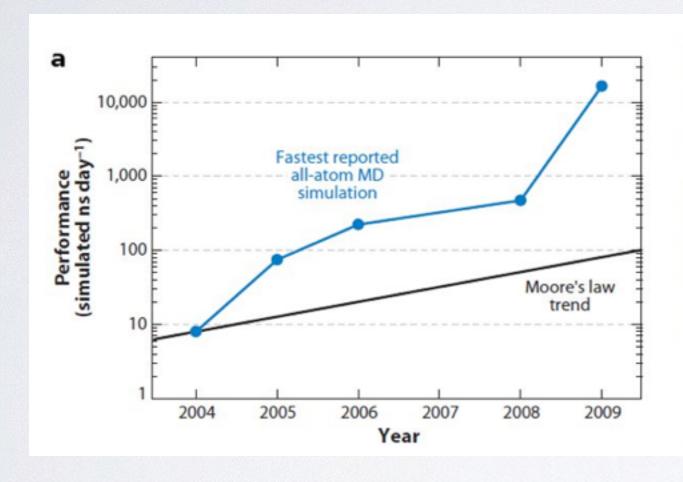
Moore's law: hardware improving

# HOW COMPUTERS HAVE CHANGED

DATE	COST	SEED	MEMORY	SIRE
1967	44011	0.1 MH	1 M8	HALL
2013	14,000	1 643	10 GB	LAPTOP
CHANGE	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000

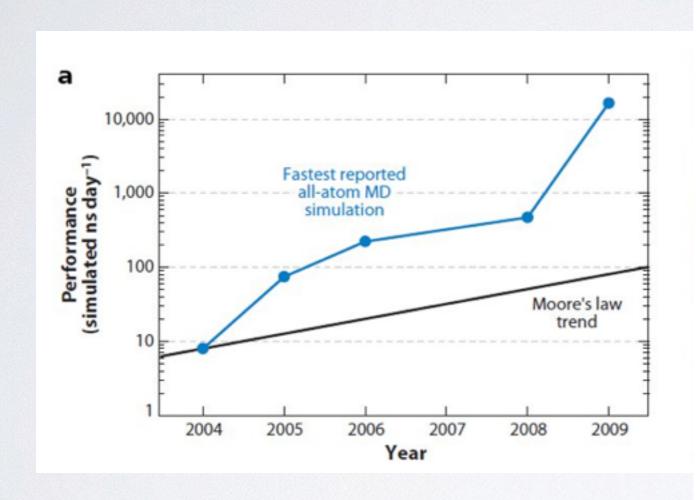
If cars were like computers then a new Volvo would cost \$3, would have a top speed of 1,000,000 Km/hr, would carry 50,000 adults and would park in a shodox.

# SIDE-NOTE: GPUS AND ANTON SUPERCOMPUTER





# SIDE-NOTE: GPUS AND ANTON SUPERCOMPUTER





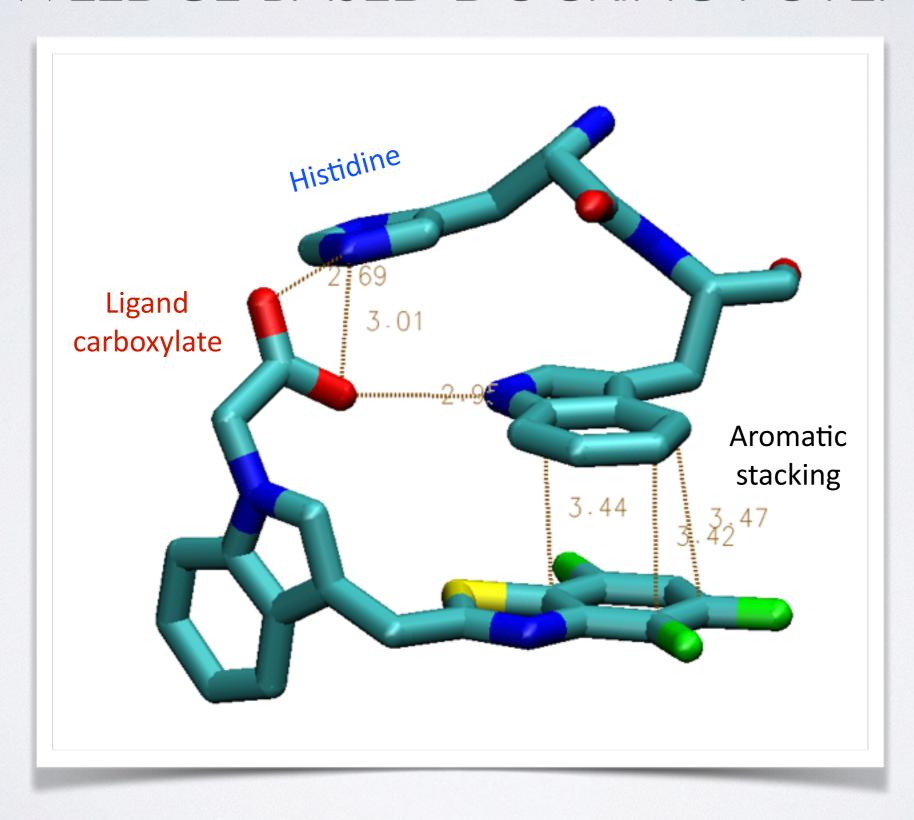
# KEY CONCEPT: POTENTIAL FUNCTIONS DESCRIBE A SYSTEMS ENERGY AS A FUNCTION OF ITS STRUCTURE

Two main approaches:

(1). Physics-Based

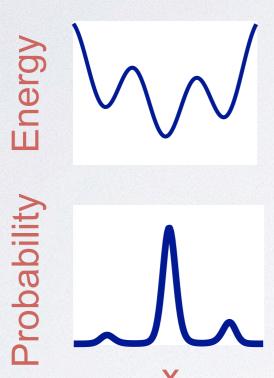
(2). Knowledge-Based

### 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:

$$E(r) = -RT \ln \left[ p(r) \right]$$

#### Example: ligand carboxylate O to protein histidine N

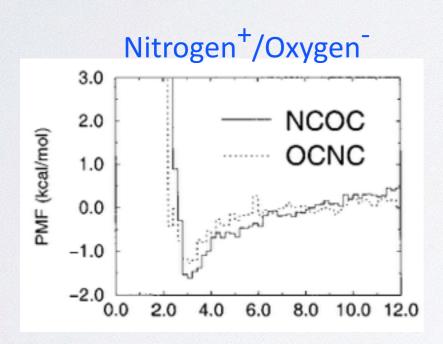
Find all protein-ligand structures in the PDB with a ligand carboxylate O

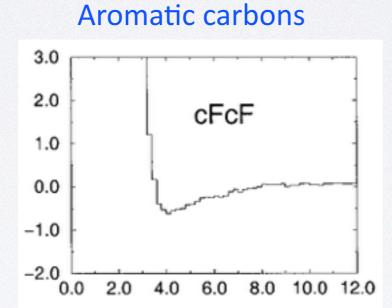
- 1. For each structure, histogram the distances from O to every histidine N
- 2. Sum the histograms over all structures to obtain  $p(r_{O-N})$
- 3. Compute  $E(r_{O-N})$  from  $p(r_{O-N})$

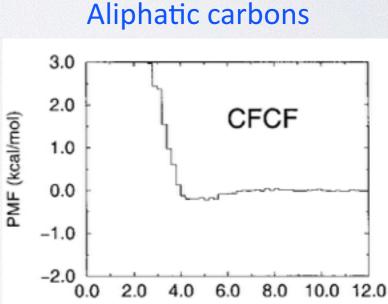
# KNOWLEDGE-BASED DOCKING POTENTIALS

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

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







Atom-atom distance (Angstroms)

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

### 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)

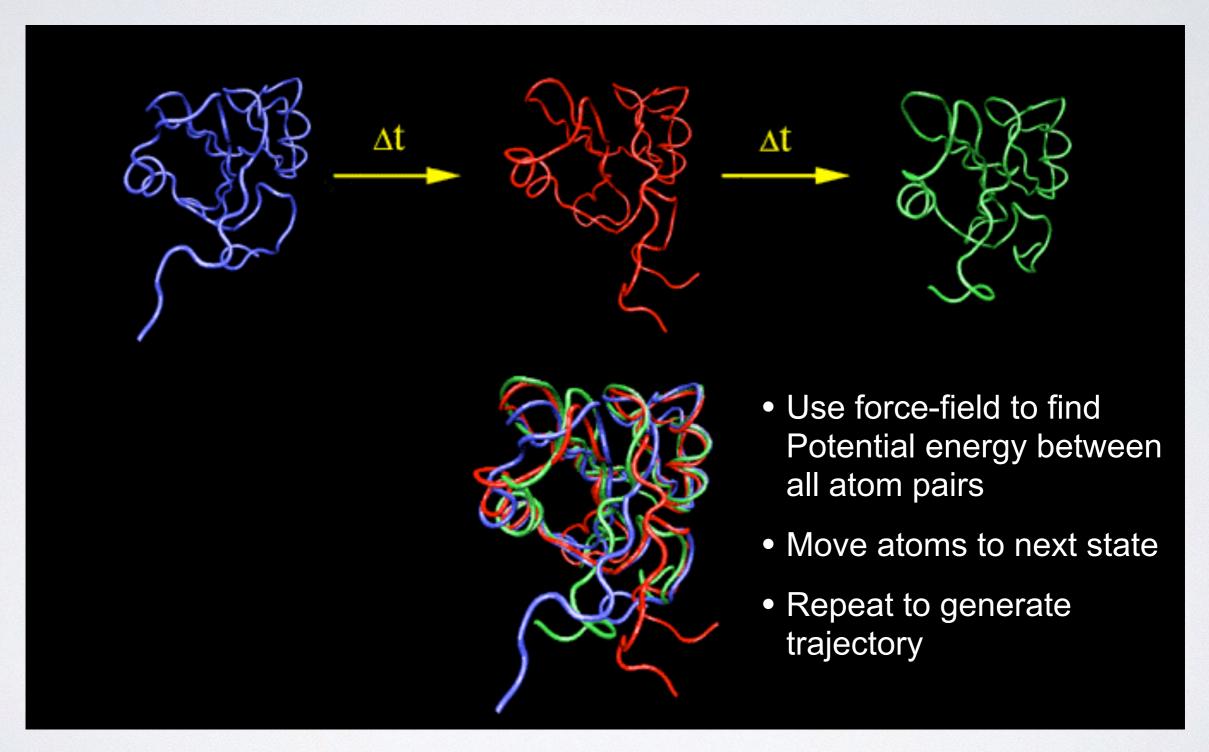
### **NEXT UP:**

- 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

#### 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 function</u>
  - 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: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ui1ZysMFcKk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ui1ZysMFcKk</a>]

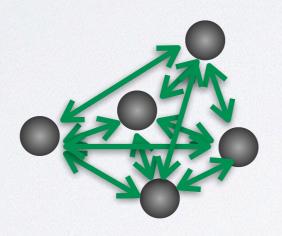
Divide time into discrete (~1fs) time steps (Δt) (for integrating equations of motion, see below)



Divide time into discrete (~1fs) time steps (Δt) (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

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

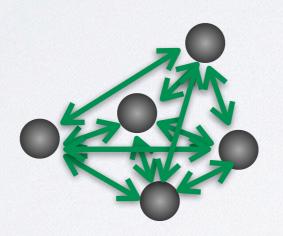
#### Empirical force field

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

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



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



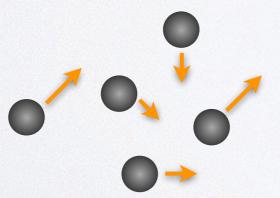
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#### Empirical force field

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

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

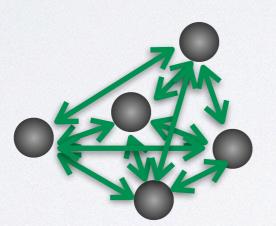


#### BASIC ANATOMY OF A MD SIMULATION

Divide time into discrete ( $^{\sim}1fs$ ) time steps ( $\Delta t$ ) (for integrating equations of motion, see below)



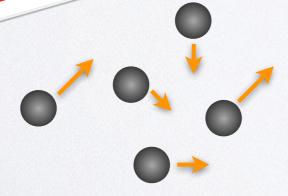
At each time step calculate pair-wise atomic forces (F(t)) (by evaluating **force-field** gradient)



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

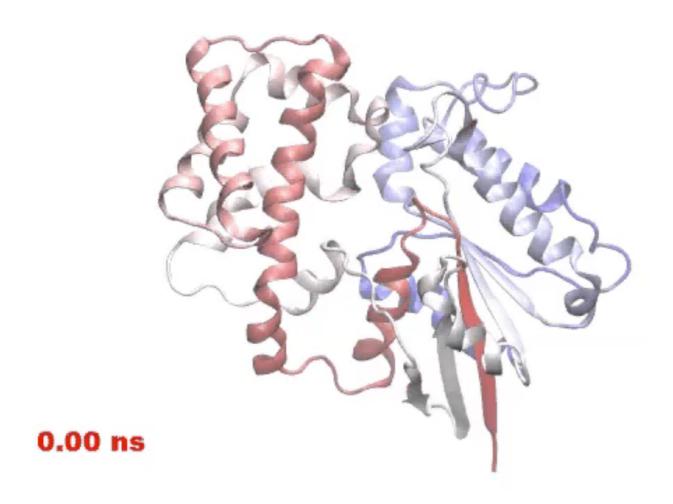
Use the REPEAT, (iterate many, many times... 1ms = 1012 time steps)

REPEAT, (iterate many, many times... 1ms = 1012 time steps)

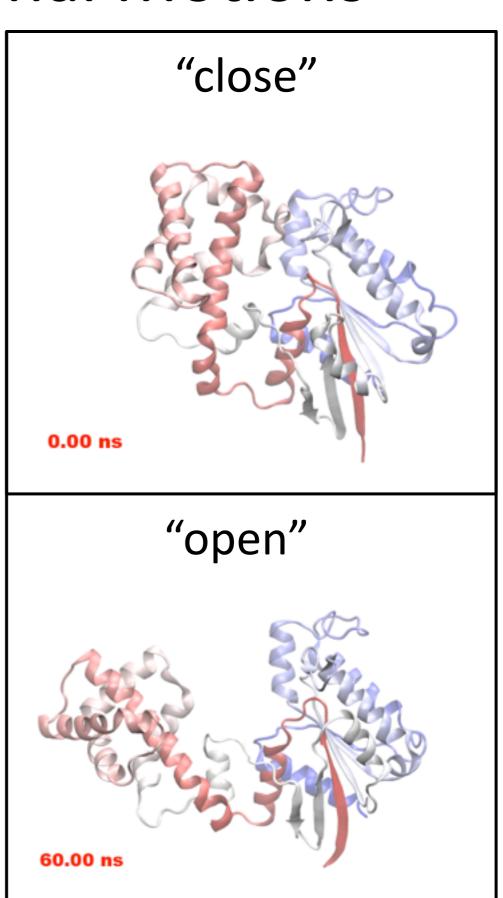


## MD Prediction of Functional Motions

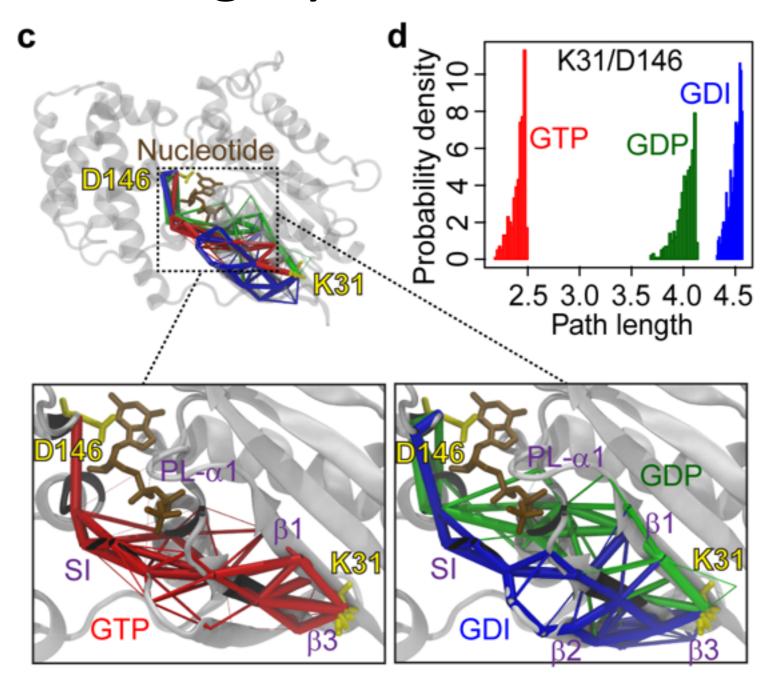
Accelerated MD simulation of nucleotide-free transducin alpha subunit



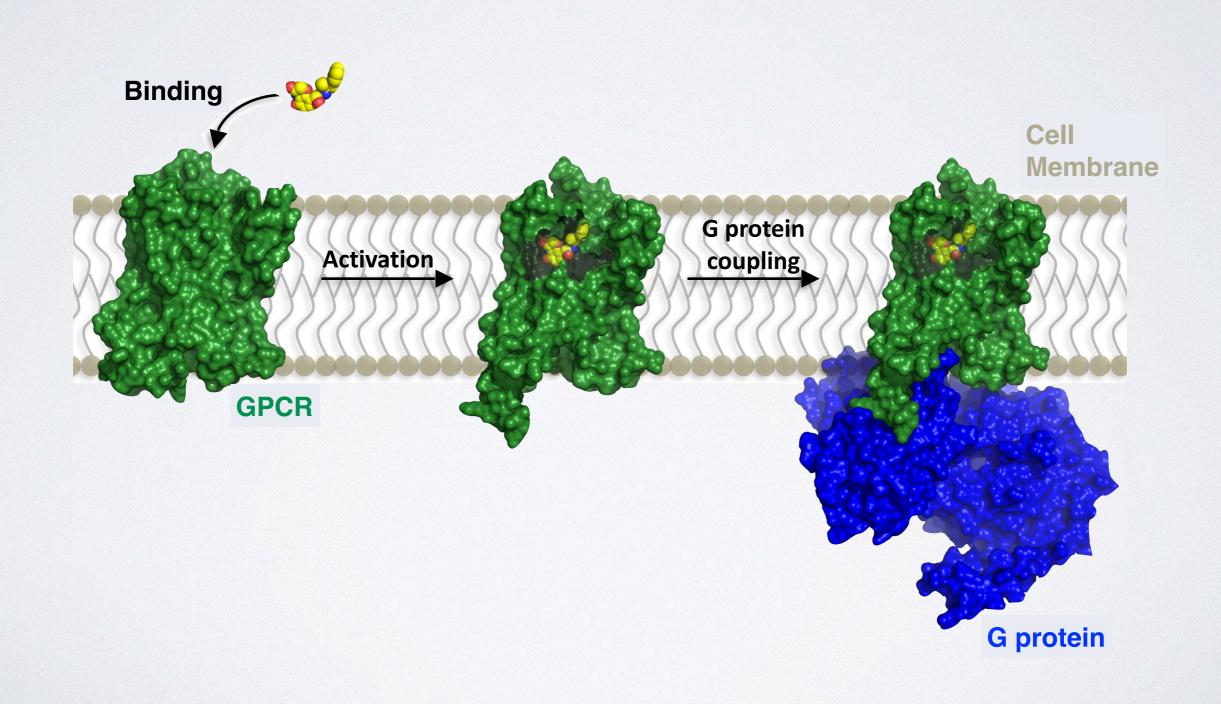
Yao and Grant, Biophys J. (2013)



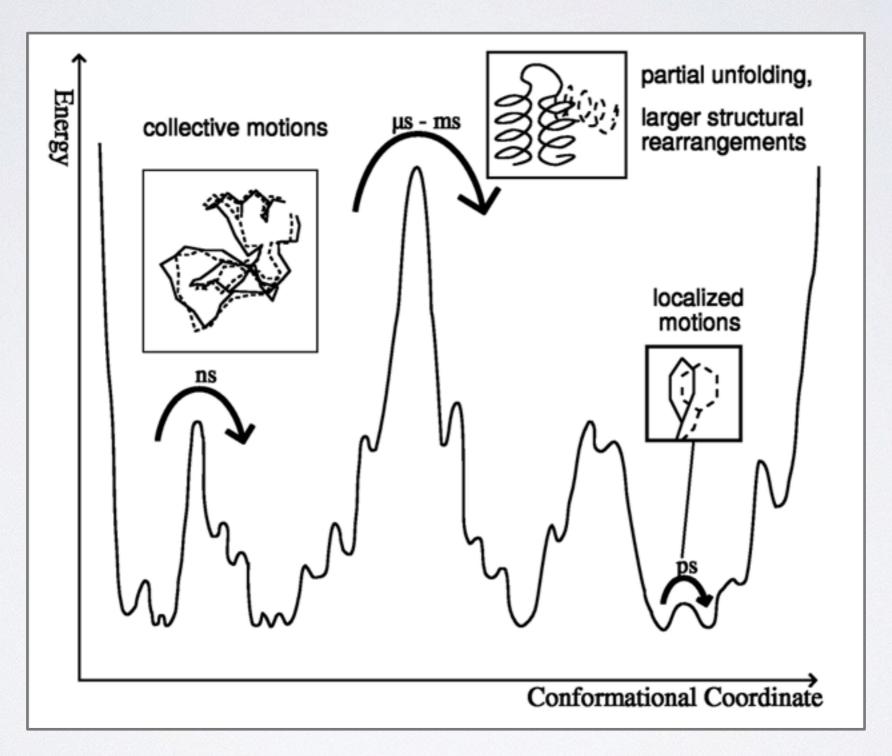
# Simulations Identify Key Residues Mediating Dynamic Activation



# 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 EX

**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

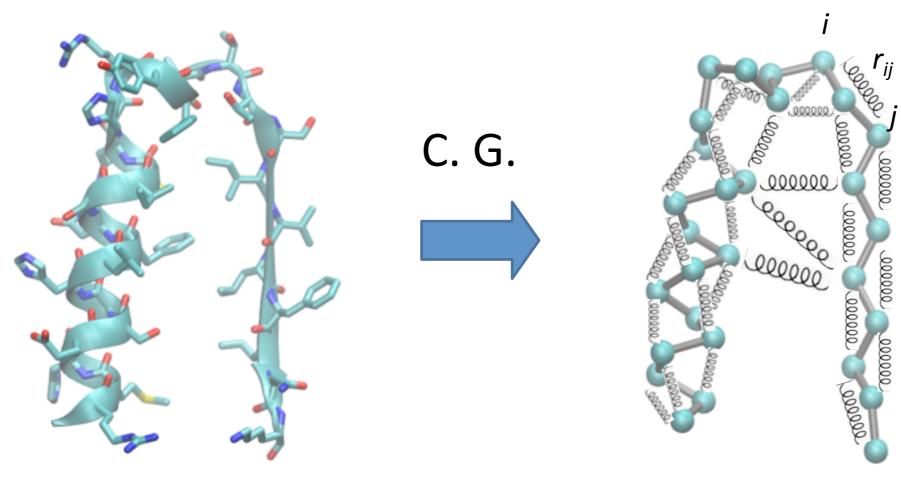
parallel computers ca. 5 days

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.

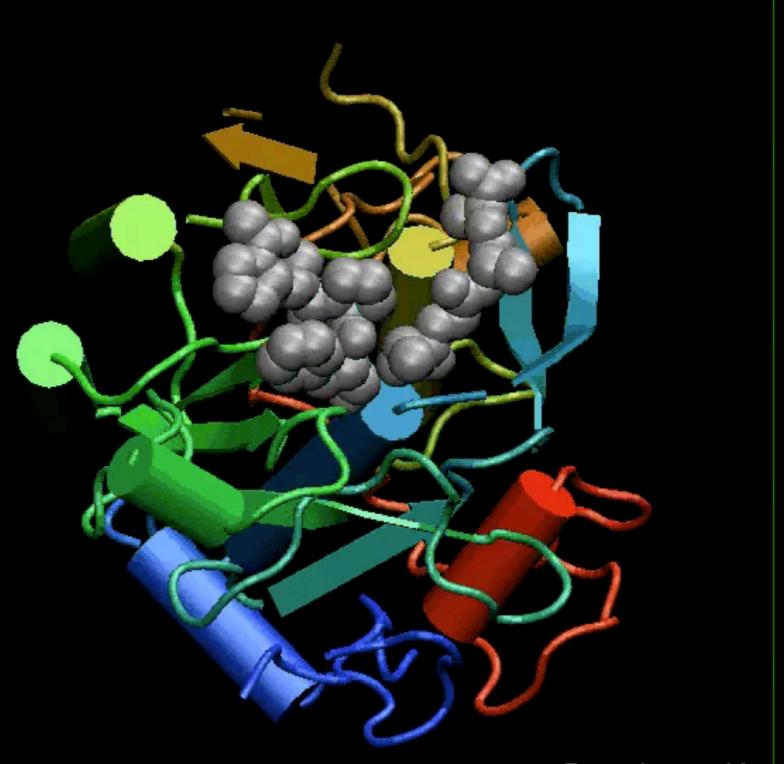


- 1 bead /1 amino acid
- Connected by springs

**Atomistic** 

**Coarse Grained** 

### NMA models the protein as a network of elastic strings



Proteinase K

### **NEXT UP:**

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# THE TRADITIONAL EMPIRICAL PATH TO DRUG DISCOVERY

#### **Compound library**

(commercial, in-house, synthetic, natural)

High throughput screening

(HTS)

**Hit confirmation** 

**Lead compounds** 

(e.g., μM K<sub>d</sub>)

**Lead optimization** 

(Medicinal chemistry)

Animal and clinical evaluation



**Potent drug candidates** 

 $(nM K_d)$ 

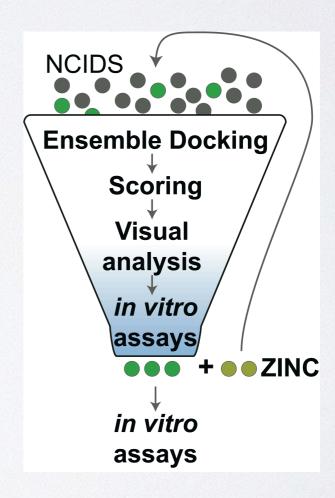
### COMPUTER-AIDED LIGAND DESIGN

Aims to reduce number of compounds synthesized and assayed

Lower costs

Reduce chemical waste

Facilitate faster progress



Two main approaches:

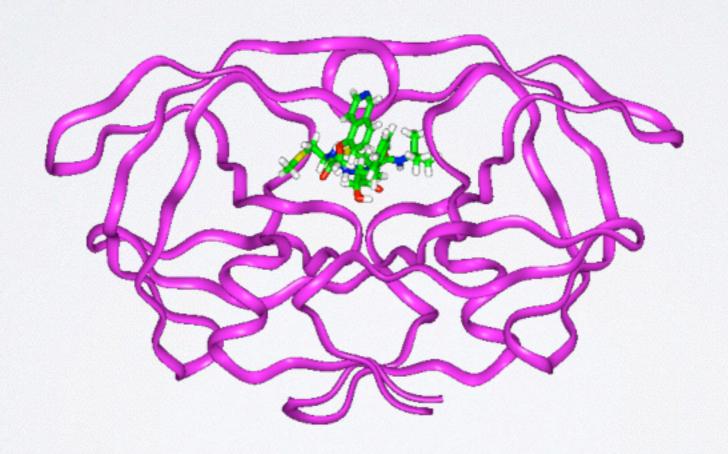
- (1). Receptor/Target-Based
- (2). Ligand/Drug-Based

Two main approaches:

- (1). Receptor/Target-Based
- (2). Ligand/Drug-Based

# SCENARIO I: RECEPTOR-BASED DRUG DISCOVERY

Structure of Targeted Protein Known: Structure-Based Drug Discovery

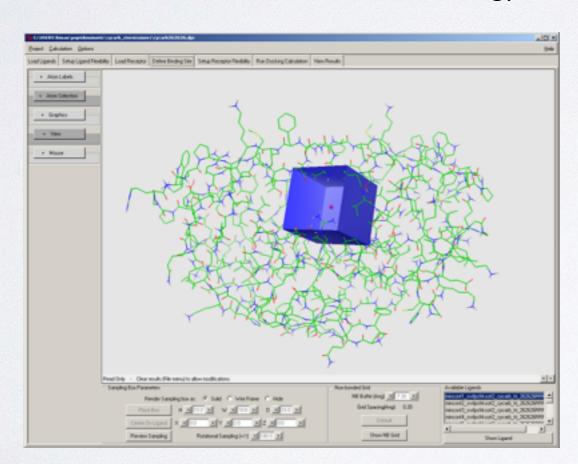


HIV Protease/KNI-272 complex

## PROTEIN-LIGAND DOCKING

#### Structure-Based Ligand Design

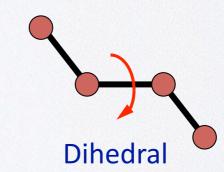
Docking software
Search for structure of lowest energy



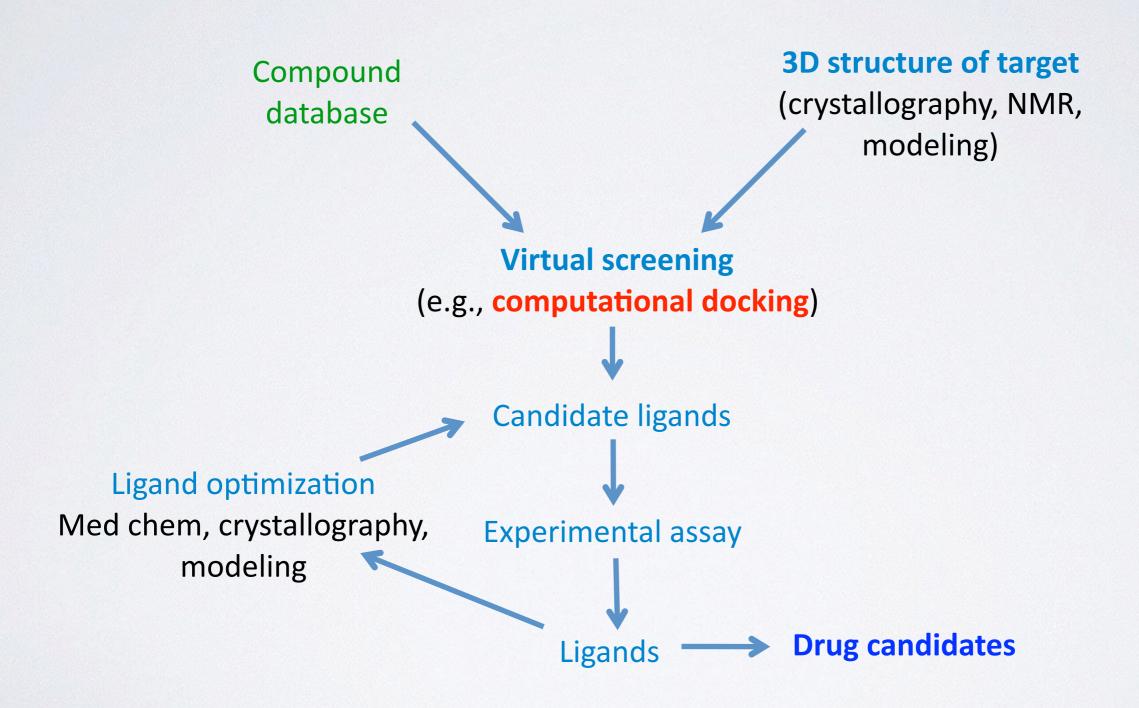
Potential function Energy as function of structure







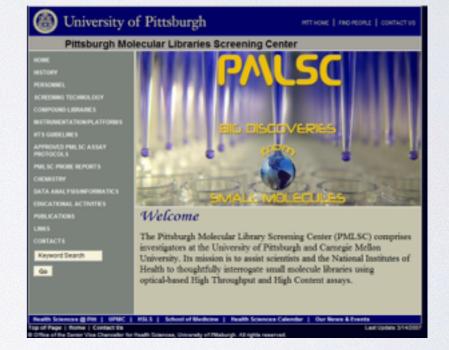
## STRUCTURE-BASED VIRTUAL SCREENING



## COMPOUND LIBRARIES





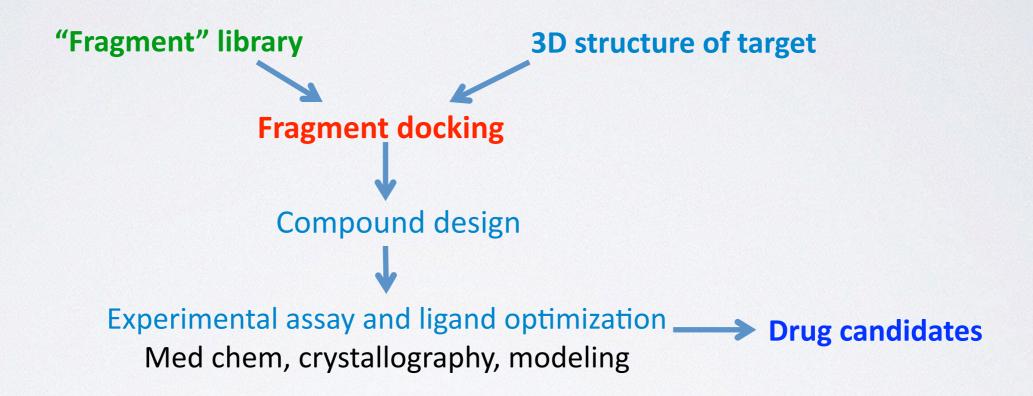


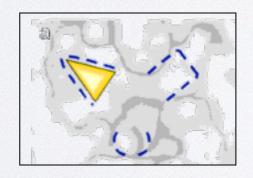
Commercial (in-house pharma)

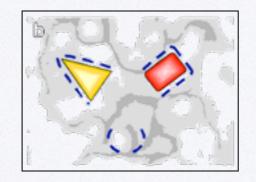
Government (NIH)

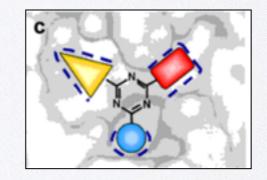
Academia

# FRAGMENTAL STRUCTURE-BASED SCREENING



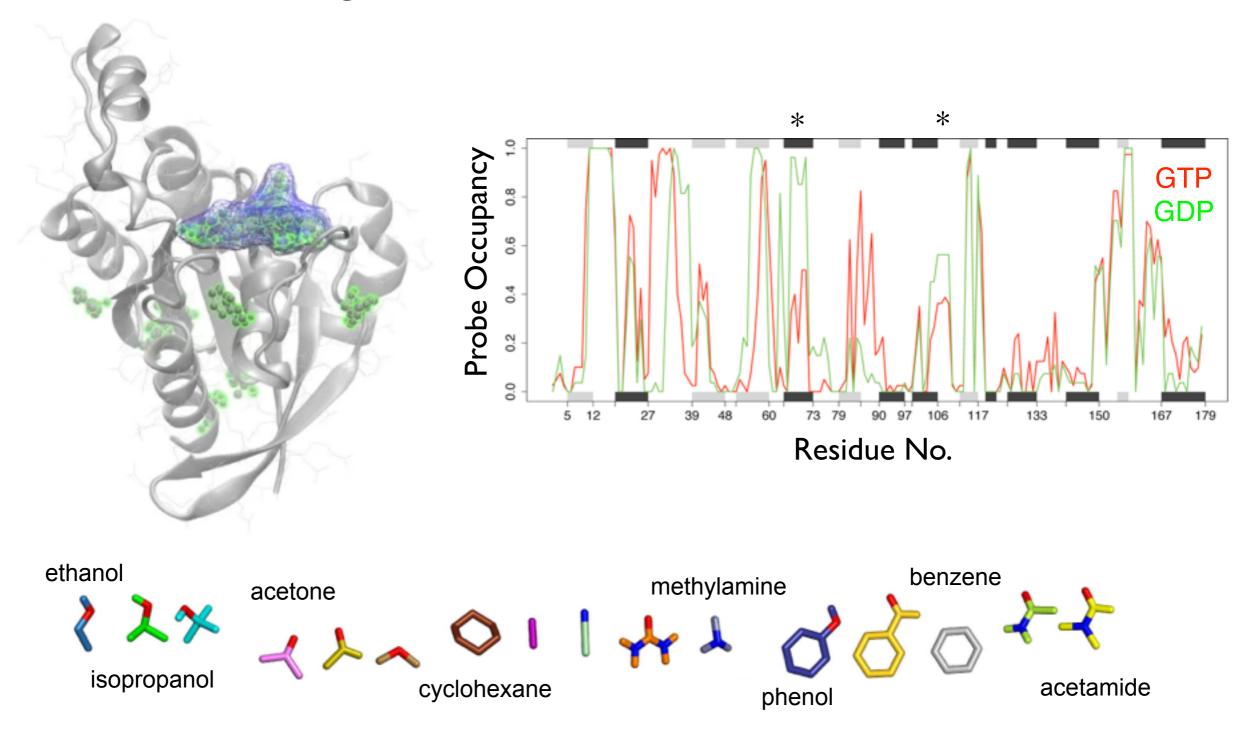






### Multiple non active-site pockets identified

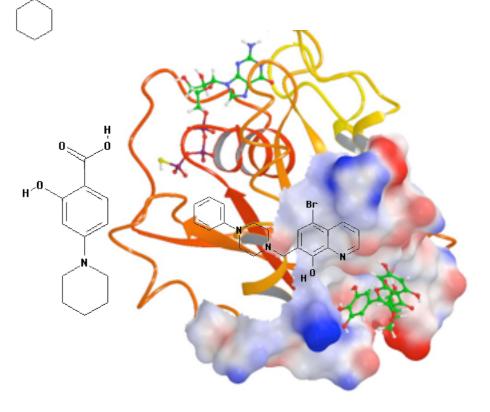
Small organic probe fragment affinities map multiple potential binding sites across the structural ensemble.



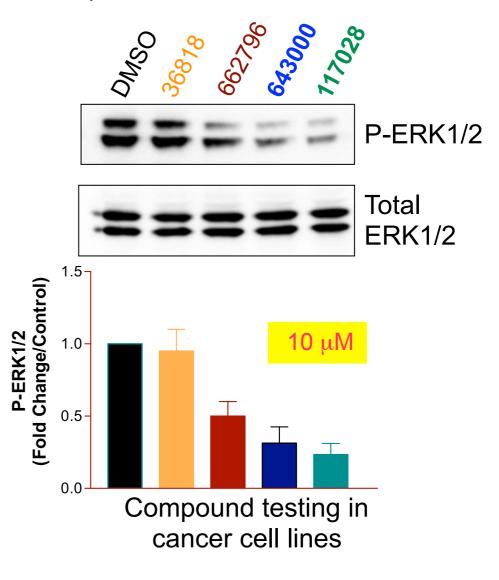
### Ensemble docking & candidate inhibitor testing

Top hits from ensemble docking against distal pockets were tested for inhibitory effects on basal ERK activity in glioblastoma cell lines.

Ensemble computational docking

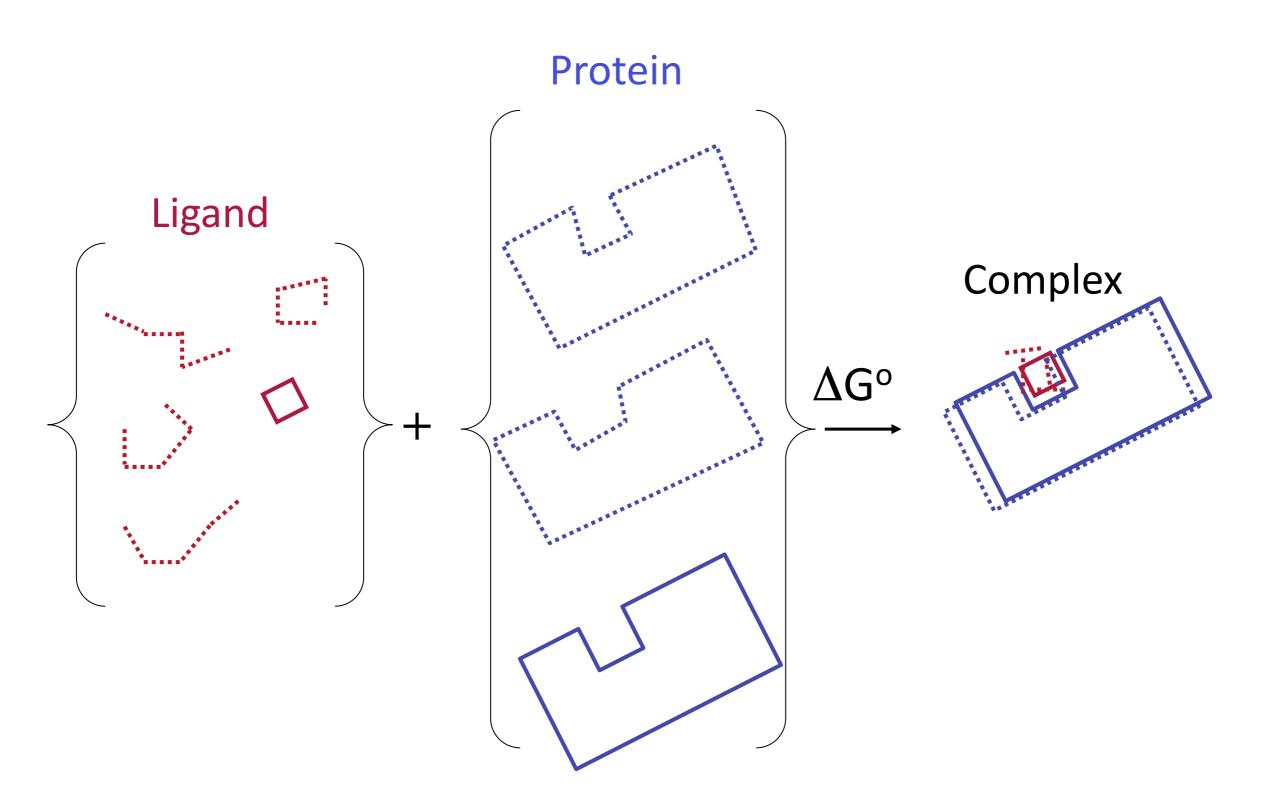


Compound effect on U251 cell line



PLoS One (2011, 2012)

## Proteins and Ligand are Flexible



# COMMON SIMPLIFICATIONS USED IN PHYSICS-BASED DOCKING

Quantum effects approximated classically

Protein often held rigid

Configurational entropy neglected

Influence of water treated crudely

Two main approaches:

- (1). Receptor/Target-Based
- (2). Ligand/Drug-Based

### Scenario 2

### Structure of Targeted Protein Unknown: Ligand-Based Drug Discovery

#### e.g. MAP Kinase Inhibitors

Using knowledge of existing inhibitors to discover more

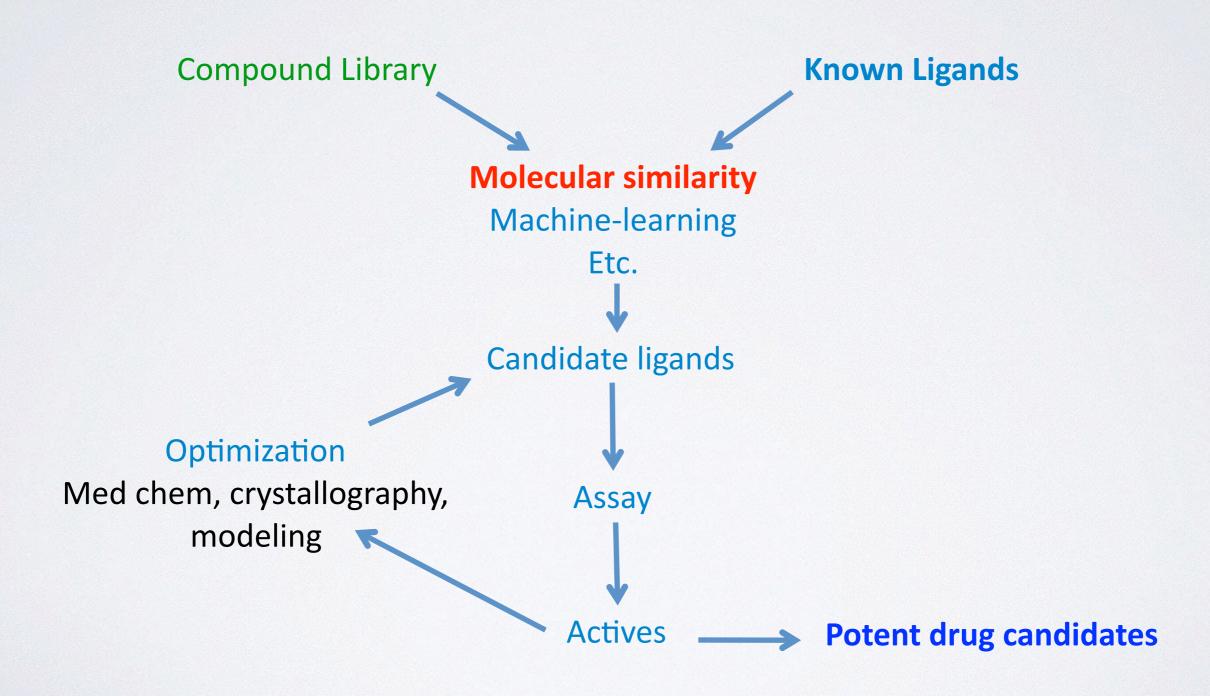
### Why Look for Another Ligand if You Already Have Some?

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

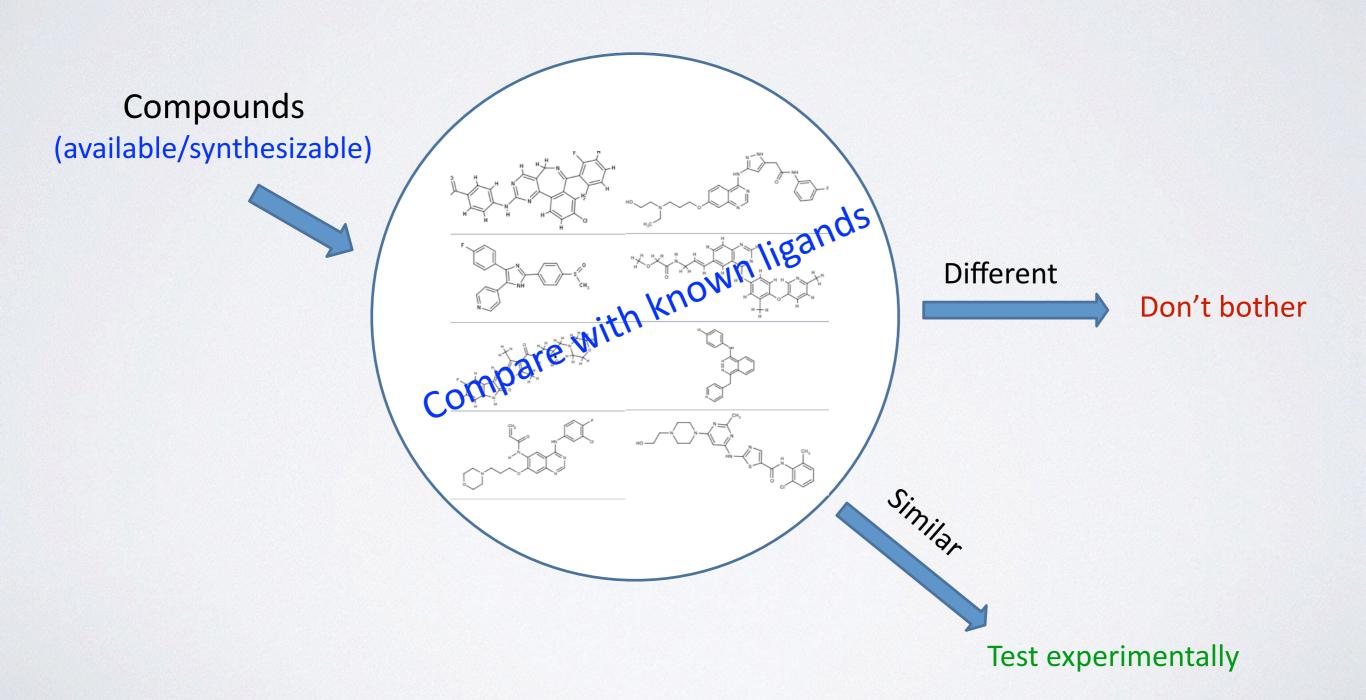
A company wants to work around another company's chemical patents

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

## LIGAND-BASED VIRTUAL SCREENING



# CHEMICAL SIMILARITY LIGAND-BASED DRUG-DISCOVERY



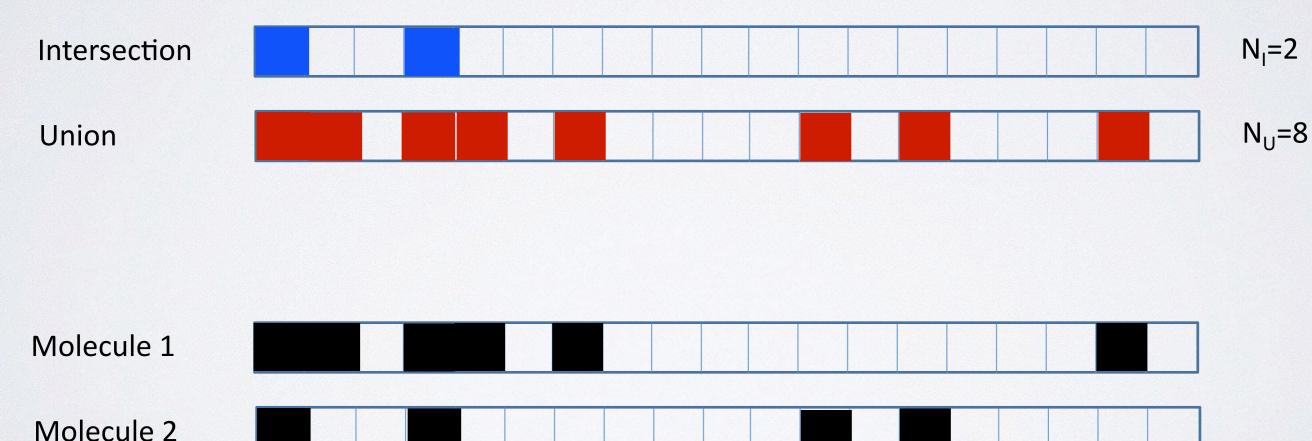
# CHEMICAL FINGERPRINTS BINARY STRUCTURE KEYS



# CHEMICAL SIMILARITY FROM FINGERPRINTS

Tanimoto Similarity or Jaccard Index, T

$$T \equiv \frac{N_I}{N_U} = 0.25$$



## POTENTIAL DRAWBACKS OF PLAIN CHEMICAL SIMILARITY

#### May miss good ligands by being overly conservative

#### May put too much weight on irrelevant details

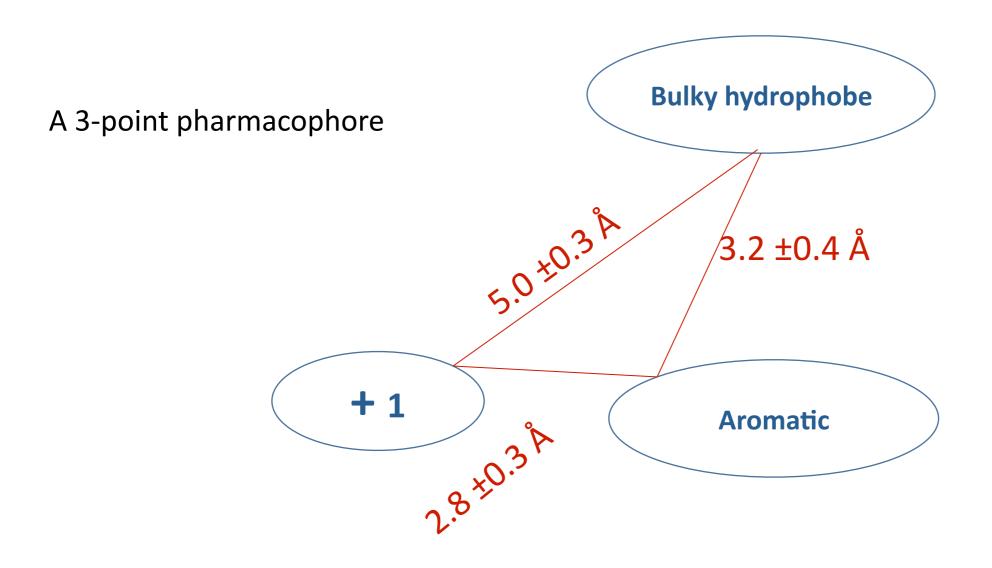
- Examine ligand shape and common substructures
- Build pharmacophore models
- Statistics and machine learning on chemical descriptors

## Maximum Common Substructure

$$N_{common} = 34$$

### Pharmacophore Models

Φάρμακο (drug) + Φορά (carry)

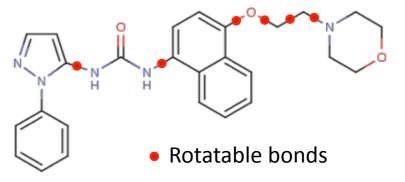


## **Molecular Descriptors**

### 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)



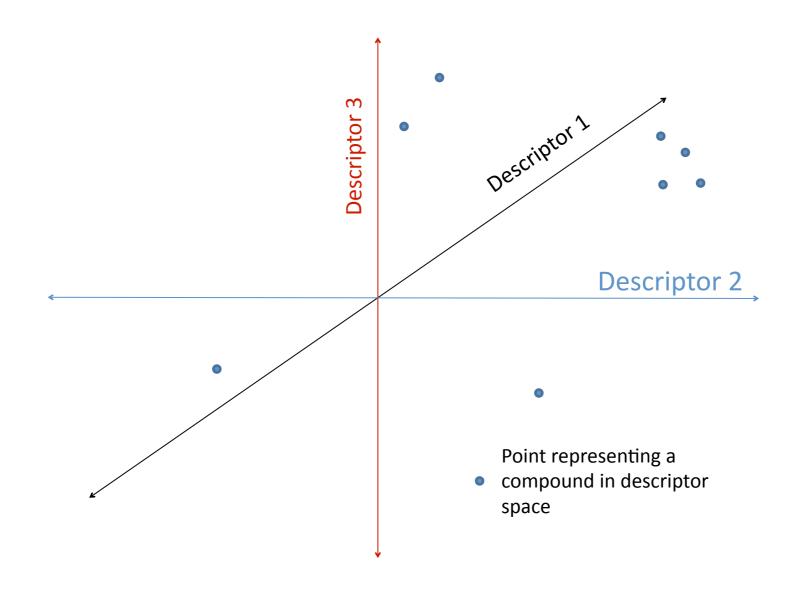
### **Topological**

branching index measures of linearity vs interconnectedness

Etc. etc.

### A High-Dimensional "Chemical Space"

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



Apply multivariate statistics and machine learning for descriptor-selection. (e.g. partial least squares, support vector machines, random forest, etc.)

#### **CAUTIONARY NOTES**

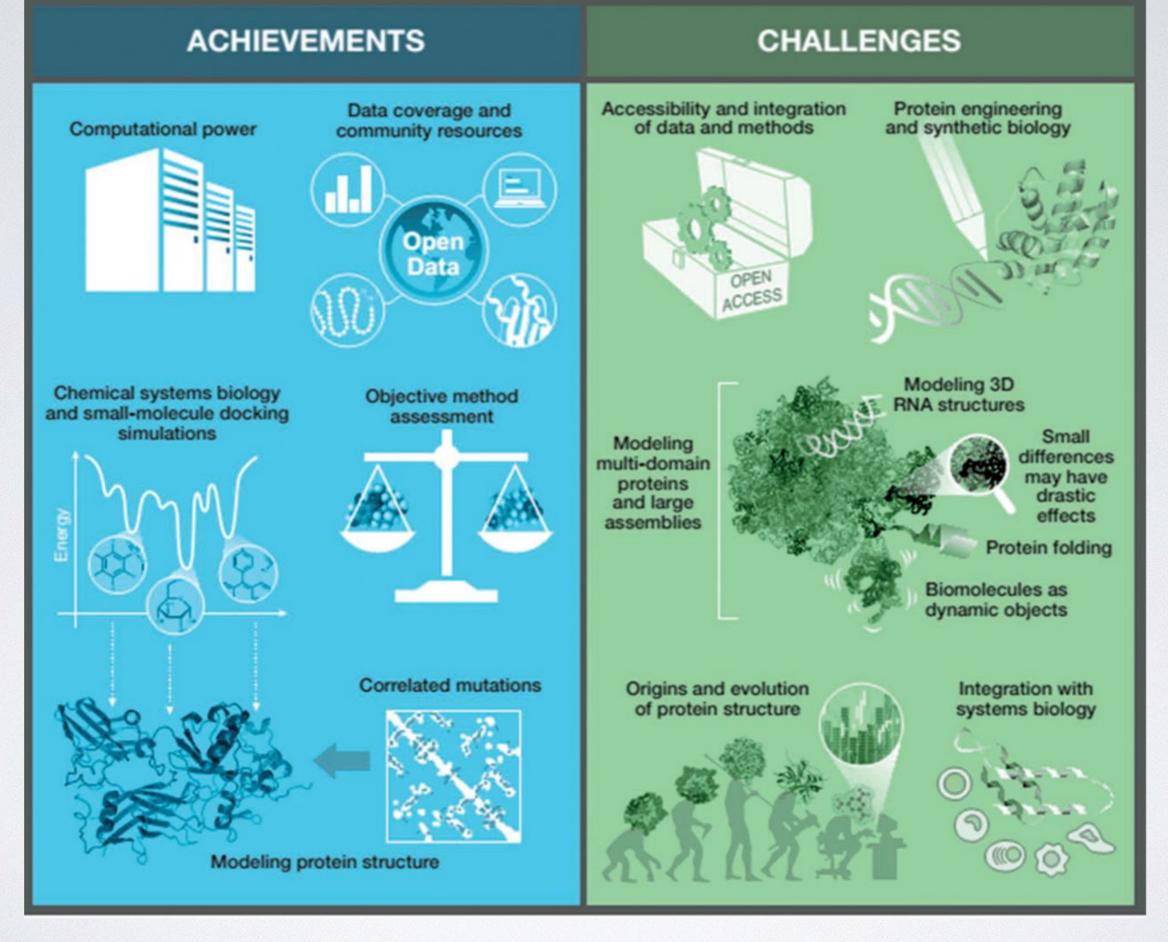
- "Everything should be made as simple as it can be but not simpler"
  - A model is **never perfect**. A model that is not quantitatively accurate in every respect does not preclude one from establishing results relevant to our understanding of biomolecules as long as the biophysics of the model are properly understood and explored.
- Calibration of the parameters is an ongoing and imperfect process
   Questions and hypotheses should always be designed such that they do not depend crucially on the precise numbers used for the various
- A computational model is rarely universally right or wrong

parameters.

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

## **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



Ilan Samish et al. Bioinformatics 2015;31:146-150

## INFORMING SYSTEMS BIOLOGY?

