Table 1: Overview of DNA structural properties and representative variables in protein-DNA interaction.

DNA structural properties	Facilitated protein-DNA interactions	Representative structural variables	References
DNA stability and propensity for desta-	Enzymatic processing of substrates, e.g.	Duplex stability, Thermally induced du-	[11, 17, 19,
bilizations and melting bubble forma-	relaxase nicking of transfer regions	plex destabilization (TIDD)	22]
tion	leads to secondary structure formation		
Major and minor groove properties	Readout of chemical information, e.g.	DNAShape, ORChID2	[2, 4, 16, 20]
	transcription factors in promoters		
Intrinsically curved or flexible regions	Binding and topological changes, e.g.	DNAzeI cleavage frequency, Persistence	[3, 5, 13]
	IHF binding in promoters	length	
DNA twist and supercoiling	Topological changes recognized by pro-	Twist and other conformational vari-	[8, 14, 15,
	teins, e.g. histones, and affect multiple	ables	20]
	other properties		
Differences in DNA spacing and orien-	Affect binding with multiple contact	Helical repeats	[5, 20, 21]
tation in binding and enzymatic sites	points and protein complex formation	_	
Propensity for transitions between	Affect overall features recognized by	B-A and B-Z transition propensities	[1, 6, 7, 9]
DNA forms B-DNA, A-DNA, Z-DNA	proteins and their accessibility		

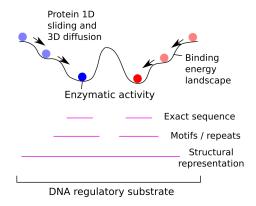


Figure 1: Possibilities for combined sequence structure algorithms based on how proteins recognize and bind their active sites in the regulatory DNA [10, 12, 16, 18]. Interactions of lower specificity with the surrounding DNA (corresponding to DNA with less conserved nucleotide sequence but defined structural properties) guide the proteins towards their specific binding sites (highly conserved or exact sequence).

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