

*“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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**Goal: Data to Knowledge**

So what is **structural bioinformatics**?

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... **computer aided structural biology!**

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

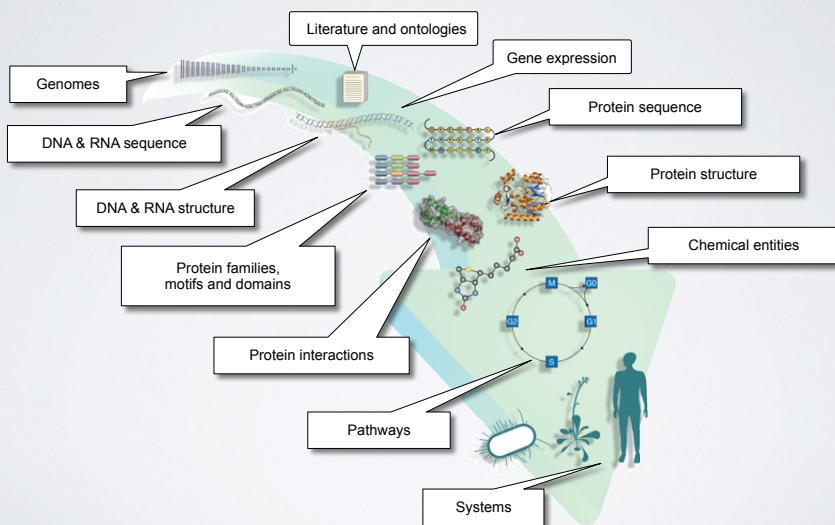
**Why should we care?**

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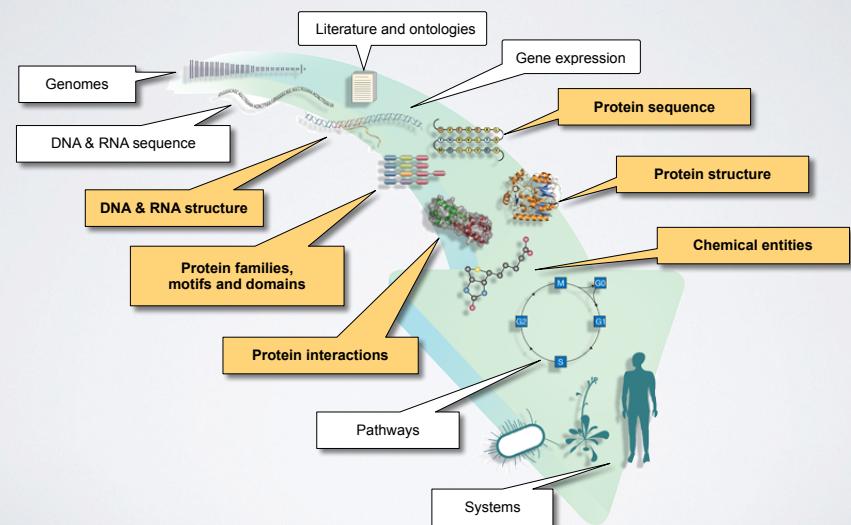
Because biomolecules are “nature’s robots”

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

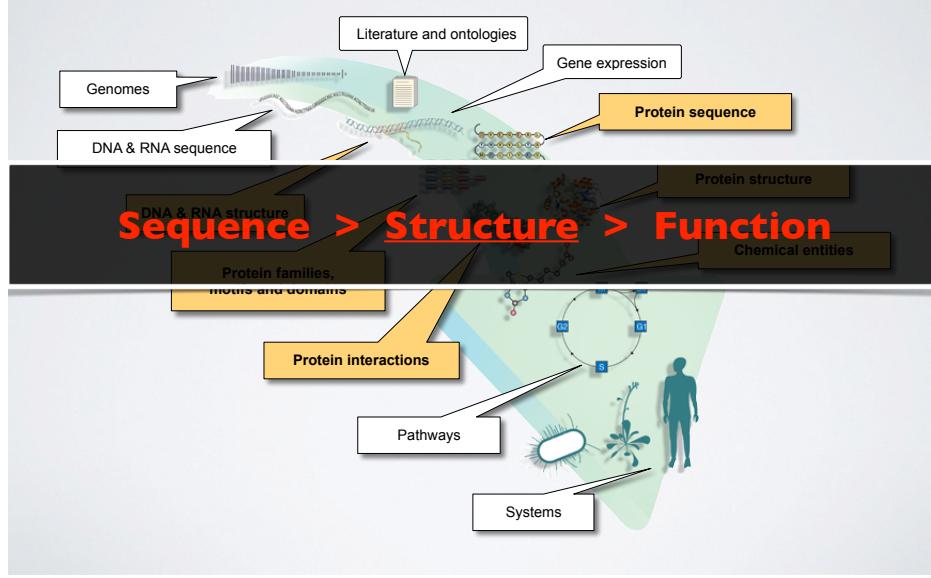
## BIOINFORMATICS DATA



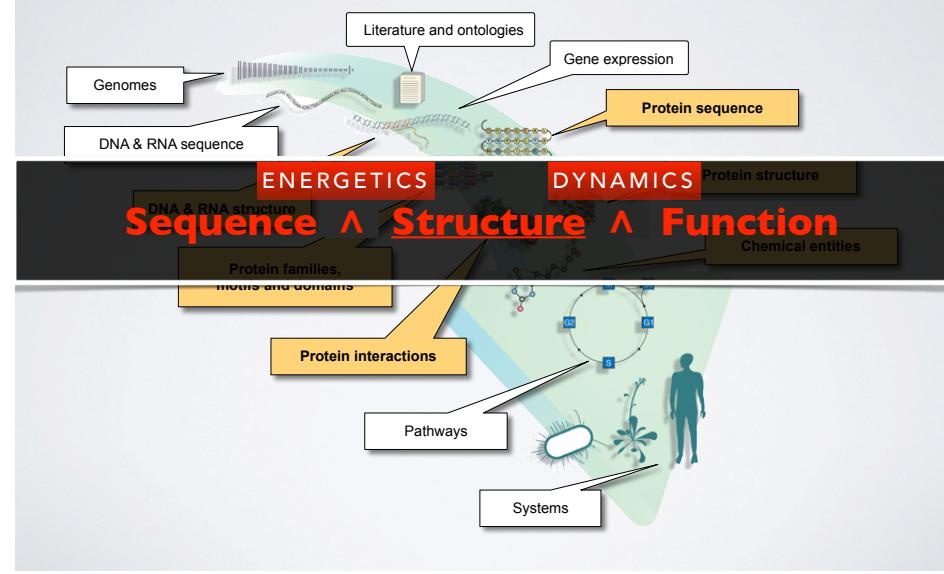
## STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL

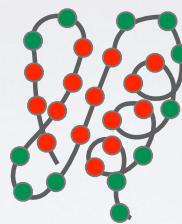
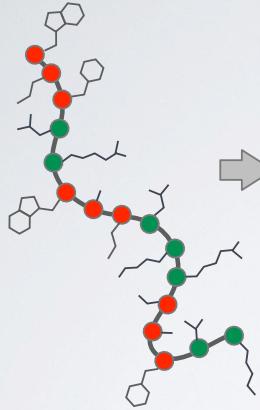


## STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL



## STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL





### Sequence

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

### Structure

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

### Function

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

In daily life, we use machines with functional *structure* and *moving parts*



## Genomics is a great start ....

**Track Bike – DL 175**

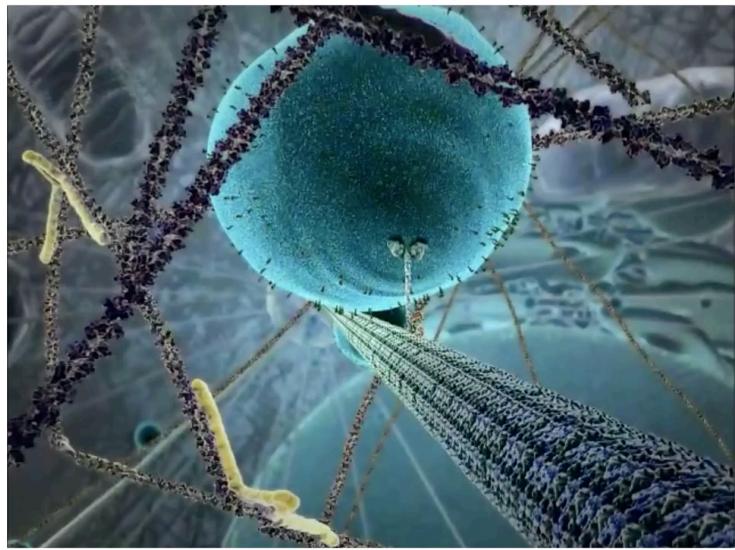
REF. NO.	IBM NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	156011	Track Frame 21", 22", 23", 24", Team Red
2	157040	Fork for 21" Frame
2	157039	Fork for 22" Frame
2	157038	Fork for 23" Frame
2	157037	Fork for 24" Frame
3	191202	Handlebar TTT Competition Track Alloy 15/16" Headset Stem, TTT, Specify extension
4	145278	Examiner Bolt
5	191272	Clamp Bolt
6	145841	Headset Complete 1 x 24 BSC
7	145842	Ball Bearings
8	175	Raleigh Pistard Seta Tubular Prestavalue 27"
9	190420	Rim, 27" AVA Competition (36H) Alloy Prestavalue
10	190233	Hub, Large Flange Campagnolo Pista Track Alloy (pairs)
11	145973	Sprocket, 11 5/8"
12	145937	Sleeve
13	145636	Ball Bearings
14	145170	Bottom Bracket Axle
15	145836	Cone for Sleeve
16	146473	L.H. Adjustable Cup
17	145833	Lockring
18	145834	Straps or Toe Clips
19	145834	Fixed Belt
20	145835	Fixing Washer
21	145822	Dustcap
22	145823	R.H. and L.H. Crankset with Chainwheel
23	146472	Fixed Cup
24	145235	Toe Clips, Christophe, Chrome (Medium)
25	145684	Pedals, Extra Light, Pairs
26	123021	Chain
27	145980	Seat Post
28	167002	Seat Post Bolt and Nut
29	145933	Saddle, Brooks
30		Track Sprocket, Specify 12, 13, 14, 15, or 16 T.

- But a parts list is not enough to understand how a bicycle works

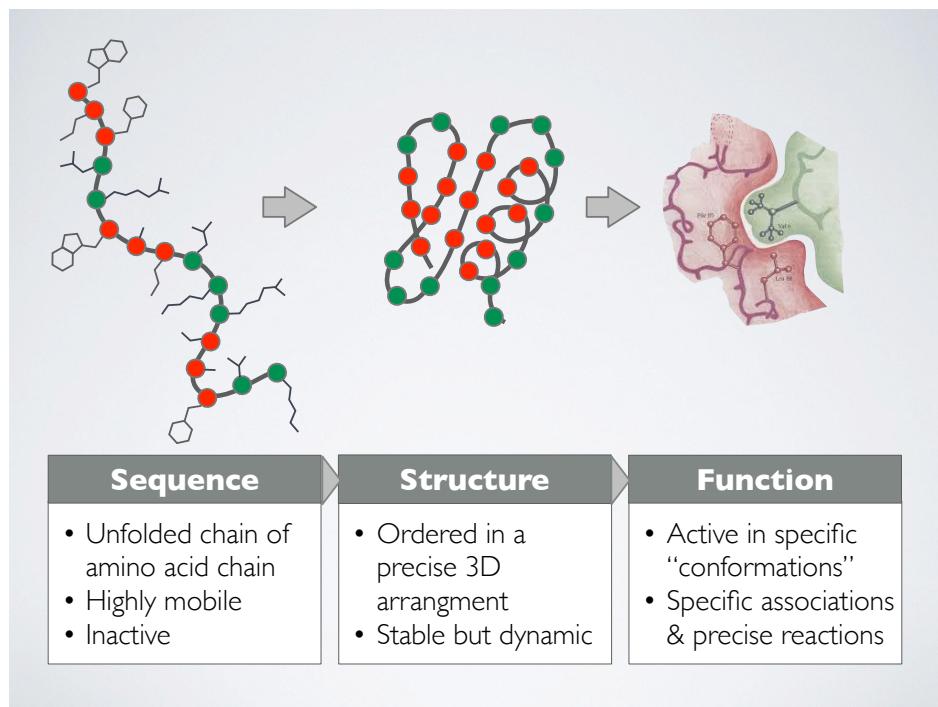
## ... but not the end



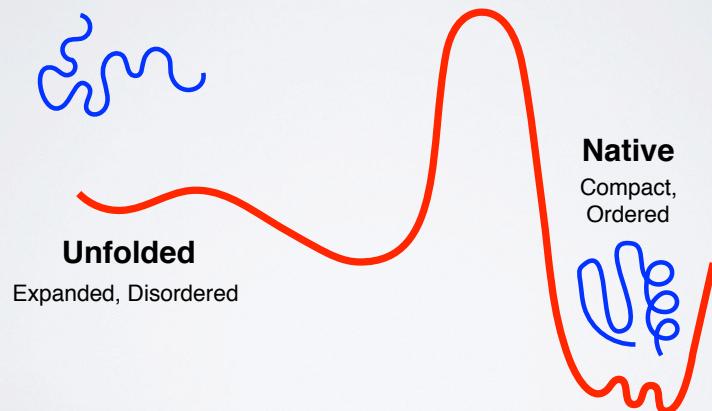
- We want the full spatiotemporal picture, and an ability to control it
- Broad applications, including drug design, medical diagnostics, chemical manufacturing, and energy



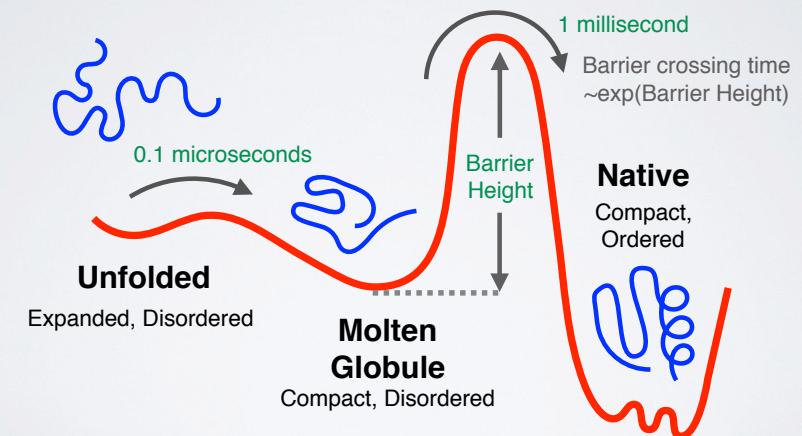
Extracted from The Inner Life of a Cell by Cellular Visions and Harvard  
[YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-uuk4Pr2i8> ]



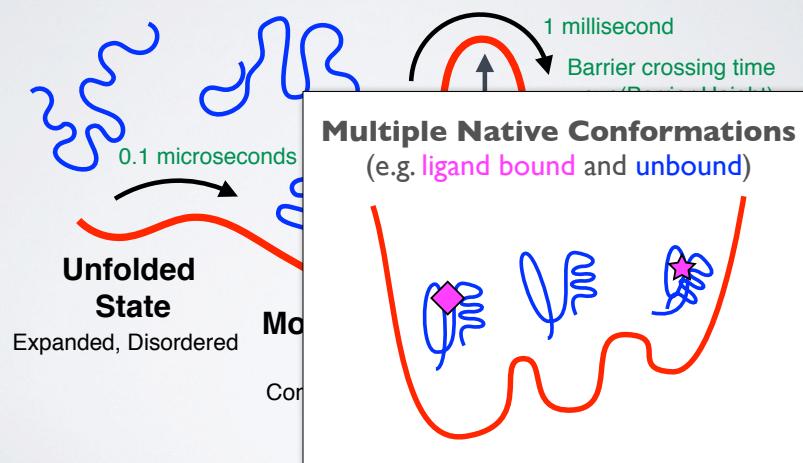
## KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



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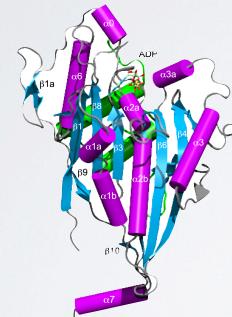
## Today's Menu

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

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



Protein  
(PDB)

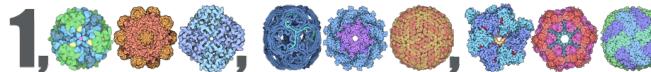


DNA  
(NDB)

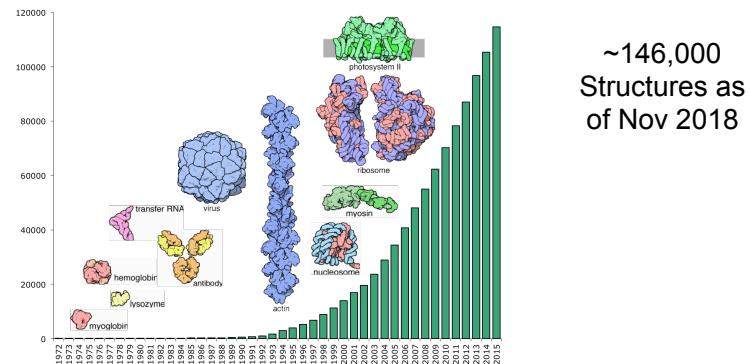


Small Molecules  
(CCDB)

# PDB – A Billion Atom Archive



> 1 billion atoms in the asymmetric units



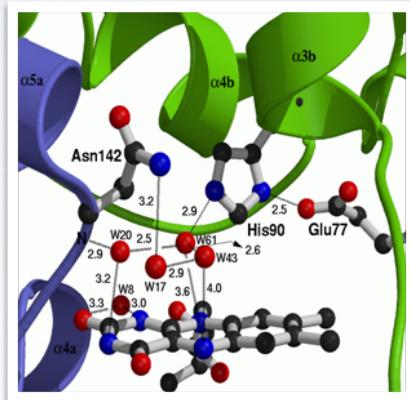
SDSC SAN DIEGO SUPERCOMPUTER CENTER

Slide Credit: Peter Rose

UC San Diego

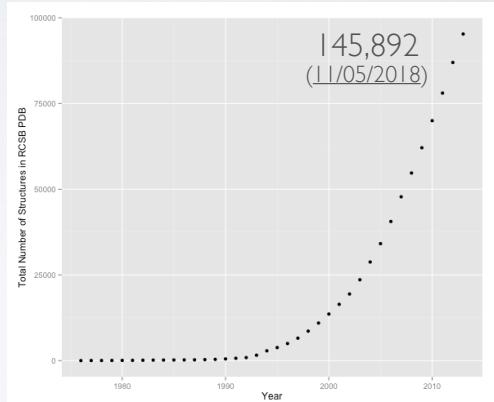
## Motivation 1: Detailed understanding of molecular interactions

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



## Motivation 2: Lots of structural data is becoming available

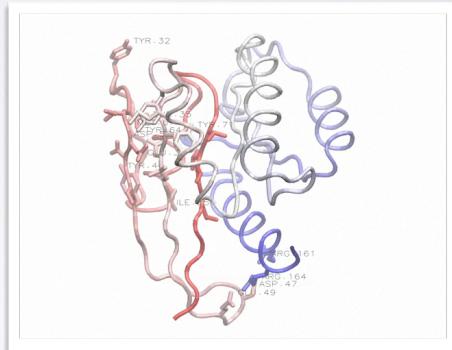
Structural Genomics has contributed to driving down the cost and time required for structural determination



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

## Motivation 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

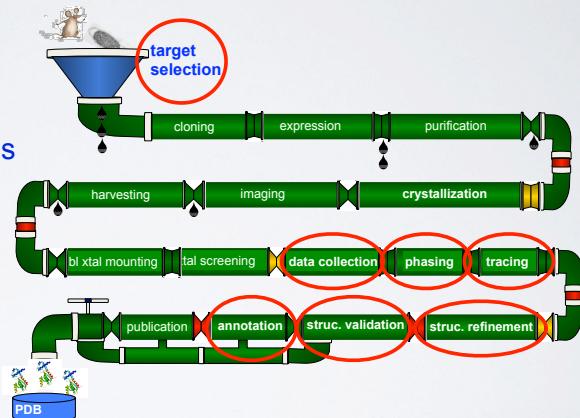
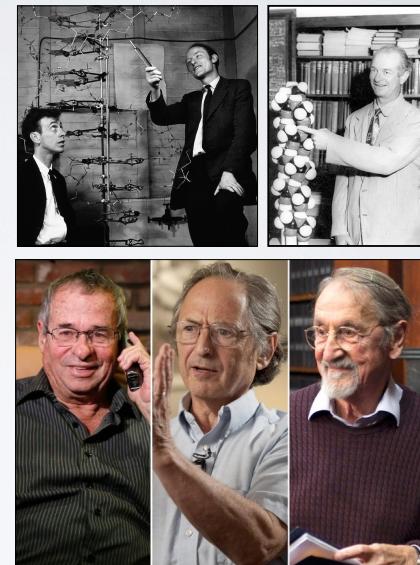


Image Credit: "Structure determination assembly line" Adam Godzik

## Motivation 3: Theoretical and computational predictions have been, and continue to be, enormously valuable and influential!



## SUMMARY OF KEY **MOTIVATIONS**

### Sequence > Structure > Function

- Structure determines function, so understanding structure helps our understanding of function

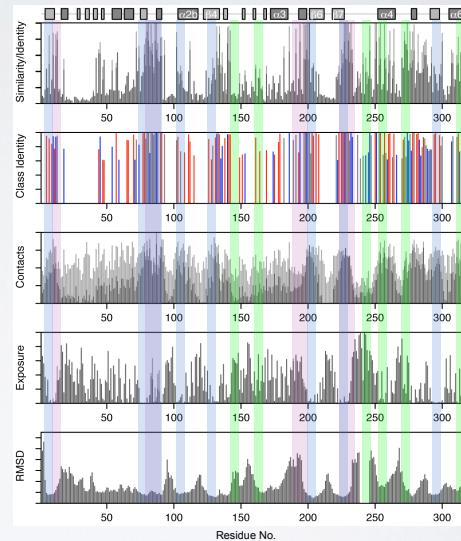
### Structure is more conserved than sequence

- Structure allows identification of more distant evolutionary relationships

### Structure is encoded in sequence

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

- Goals:
- Analysis
  - Visualization
  - Comparison
  - Prediction
  - Design



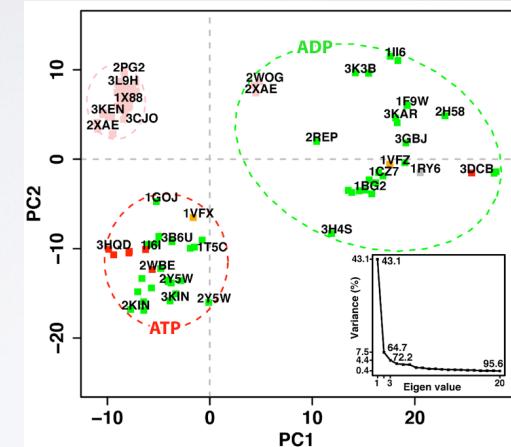
Grant et al. JMB. (2007)

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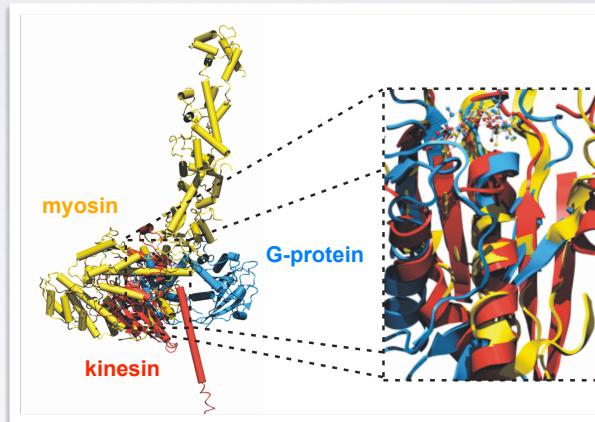
Scarabelli and Grant. PLoS. Comp. Biol. (2013)

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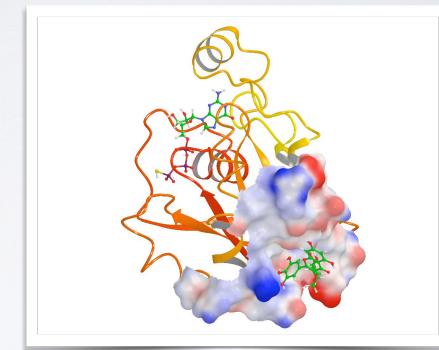
Scarabelli and Grant. PLoS. Comp. Biol. (2013)

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Grant et al. unpublished

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

Goals:

- Analysis
- Visualization
- Comparison
- Prediction
- Design



Grant et al. PLoS Biology (2011)

## MAJOR RESEARCH AREAS AND CHALLENGES

Include but are not limited to:

- Protein classification
- Structure prediction from sequence
- Binding site detection
- Binding prediction and drug design
- Modeling molecular motions
- Predicting physical properties (stability, binding affinities)
- Design of structure and function
- etc...

With applications to Biology, Medicine, Agriculture and Industry

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## HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE OF PROTEINS

Primary > Secondary > Tertiary > Quaternary

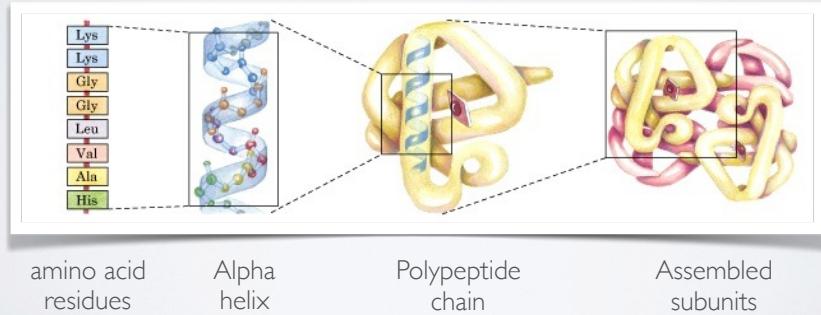


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

## RECAP: AMINO ACID NOMENCLATURE

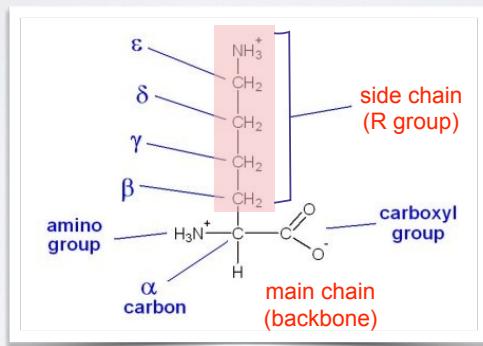


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

## AMINO ACIDS CAN BE GROUPED BY THE PHYSIOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES

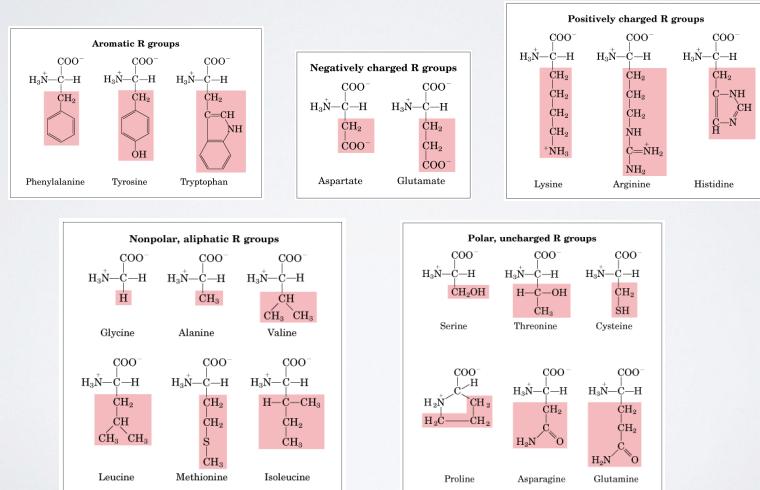


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

## AMINO ACIDS POLYMERIZE THROUGH PEPTIDE BOND FORMATION

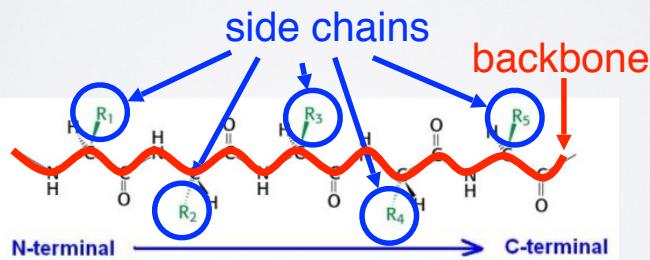
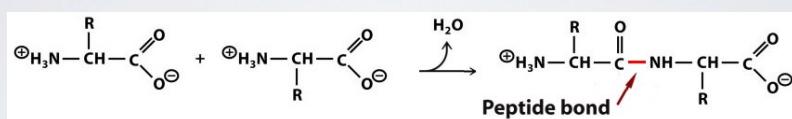


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

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

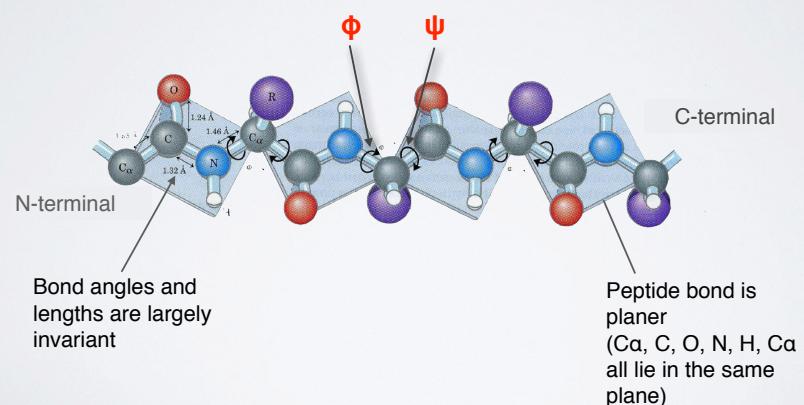
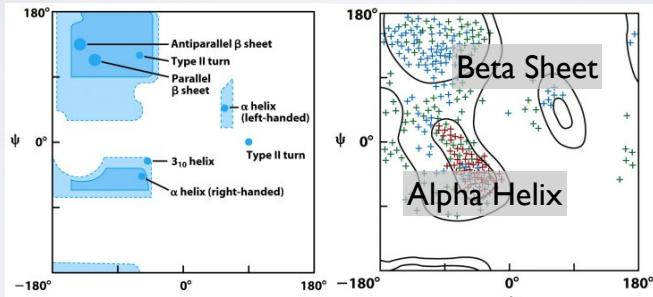


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

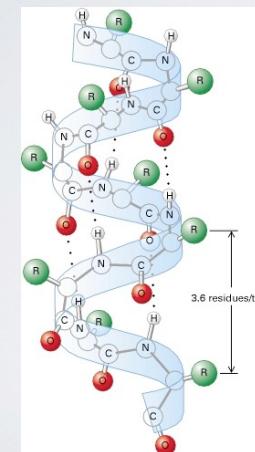
## PHI vs PSI PLOTS ARE KNOWN AS RAMACHANDRAN DIAGRAMS



- 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

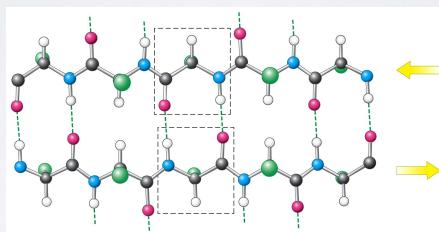


### $\alpha$ -helix

- 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**

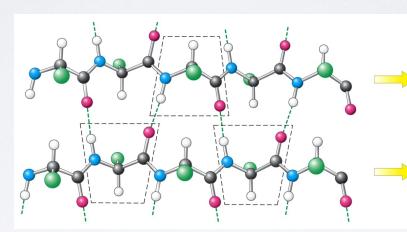


### In antiparallel $\beta$ -sheets

- Adjacent 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: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

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

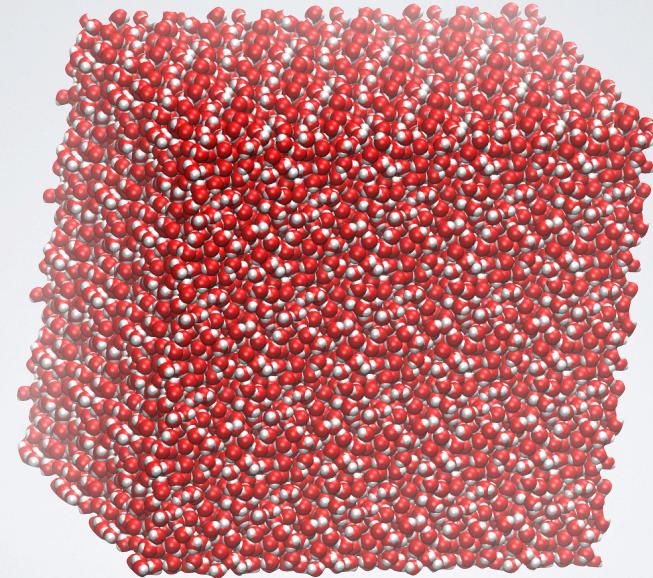


### In parallel $\beta$ -sheets

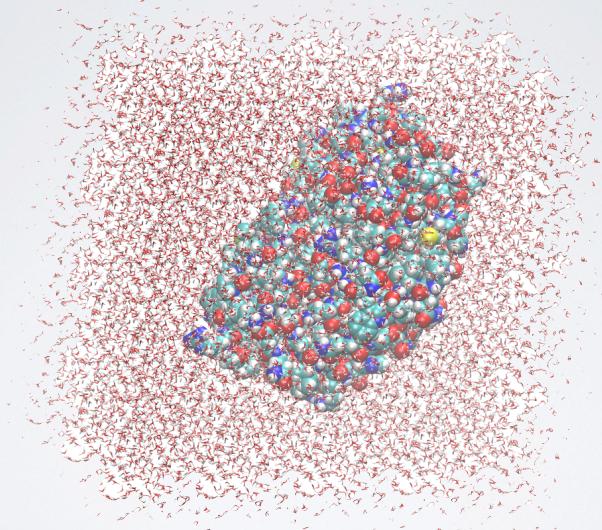
- Adjacent β-strands run in same direction
- Hydrogen bonds (dashed lines) between NH and CO stabilize the structure
- The side chains (in green) are above and below the sheet

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

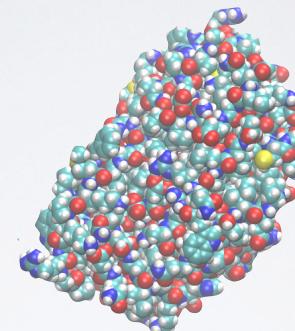
## What Does a Protein Look like?



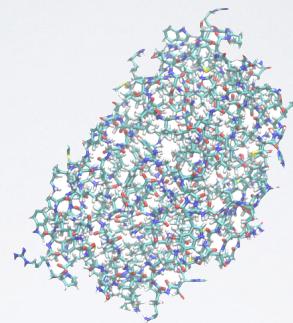
- Proteins are stable (and hidden) in water



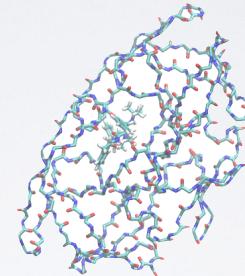
- Proteins closely interact with water



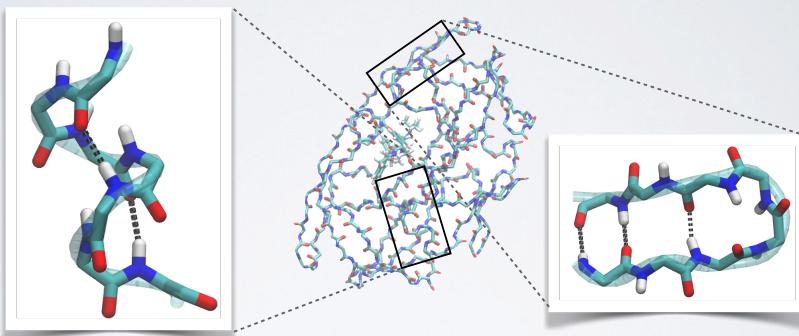
- Proteins are close packed solid but flexible objects (globular)



- 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

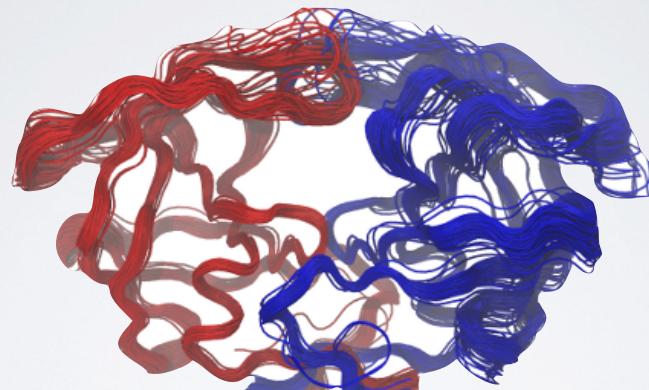


- Backbone or main-chain representation can help trace chain topology & reveal secondary structure



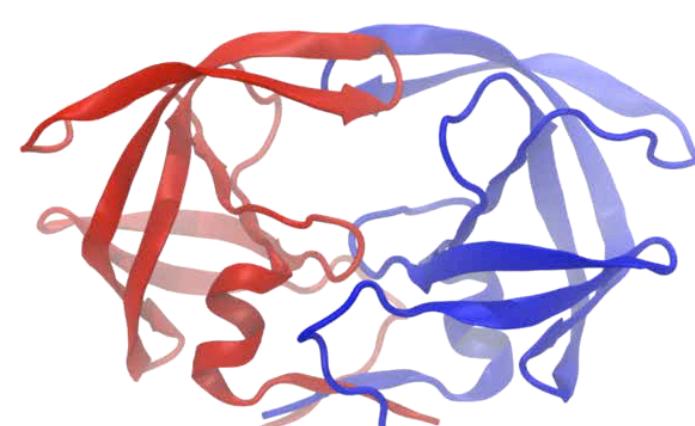
- Simplified secondary structure representations are commonly used to communicate structural details
- Now we can clearly see 2<sup>o</sup>, 3<sup>o</sup> and 4<sup>o</sup> structure
- Coiled chain of connected secondary structures

## DISPLACEMENTS REFLECT INTRINSIC FLEXIBILITY



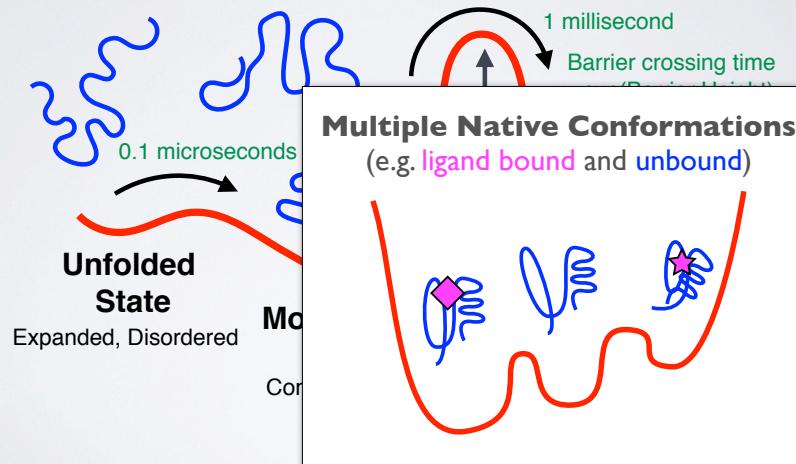
Superposition of all 482 structures in RCSB PDB (23/09/2015)

## DISPLACEMENTS REFLECT INTRINSIC FLEXIBILITY



Principal component analysis (PCA) of experimental structures

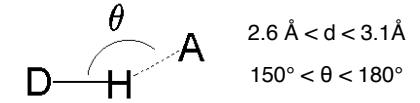
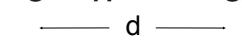
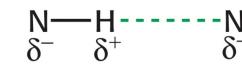
## KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



## Key forces affecting structure:

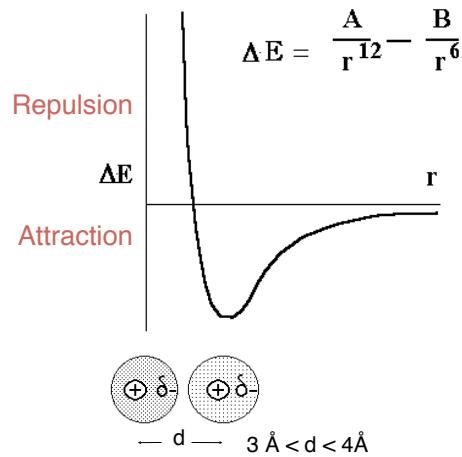
- H-bonding
- Van der Waals
- Electrostatics
- Hydrophobicity

Hydrogen-bond donor      Hydrogen-bond acceptor



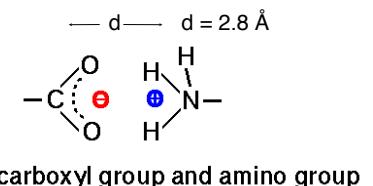
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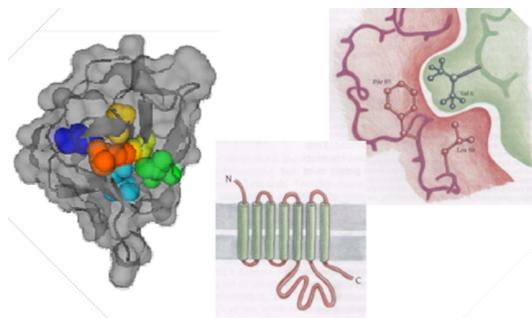


(some time called IONIC BONDS or SALT BRIDGES)

$q_1$  $q_2$	<b>Coulomb's law</b> $E = \frac{K q_1 q_2}{D r}$	$E =$ Energy $K =$ constant $D =$ Dielectric constant (vacuum = 1; $H_2O = 80$ ) $q_1 \& q_2 =$ electronic charges (Coulombs) $r =$ distance ( $\text{\AA}$ )
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## 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/bggn213\\_W19/lectures/#11](https://bioboot.github.io/bggn213_W19/lectures/#11)

Focus on **section 1** only please!

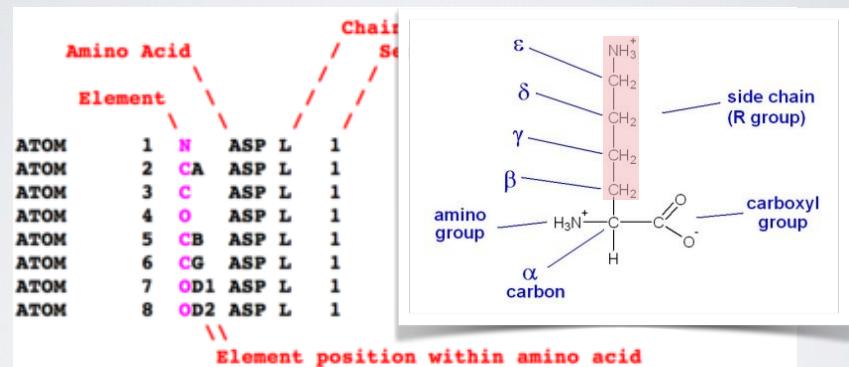
## SIDE-NOTE: PDB FILE FORMAT

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

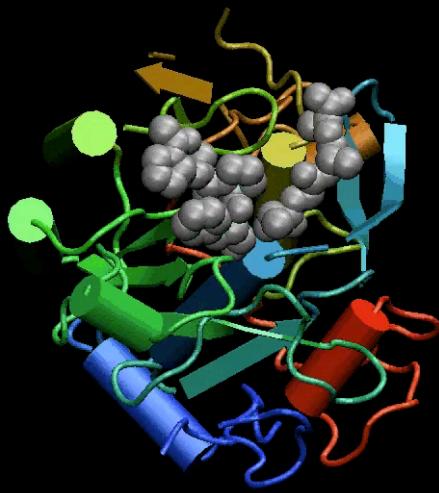
\\ Element position within amino acid

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

## SIDE-NOTE: PDB FILE FORMAT



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



Download VMD

[https://bioboot.github.io/bggn213\\_W19/lectures/#11](https://bioboot.github.io/bggn213_W19/lectures/#11)

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

## Hand-on time!

[https://bioboot.github.io/bggn213\\_W19/lectures/#11](https://bioboot.github.io/bggn213_W19/lectures/#11)

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

Do it Yourself!

## Today's Menu

- 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

## Side Note: Section 4.1

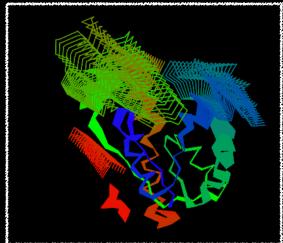
- Download MUSCLE for your OS from:  
<https://www.drive5.com/muscle/downloads.htm>
- On **MAC** use your TERMINAL to enter the commands:  

```
> 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:

```
> install.packages("devtools")
```

```
> install_bilbucket("Grantlab/bio3d-view")
```

- To use in your R session:

```
> library("bio3d.view")
```

```
> pdb <- read.pdb("5p21")
```

```
> view(pdb)
```

```
> view(pdb, "overview", col="sse")
```

# Bio3D view()

- If you want the interactive 3D viewer in **Rmd** rendered `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)
```

```
...
```

## Today's Menu

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**Optional:**  
Stop here for Today!

[ [Muddy Point Assessment](#) ]

## 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](#) ]