

“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

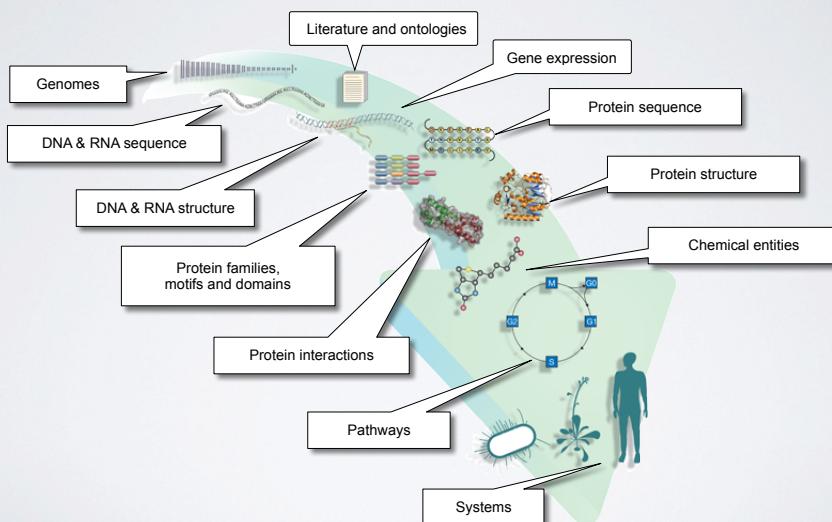
Why should we care?

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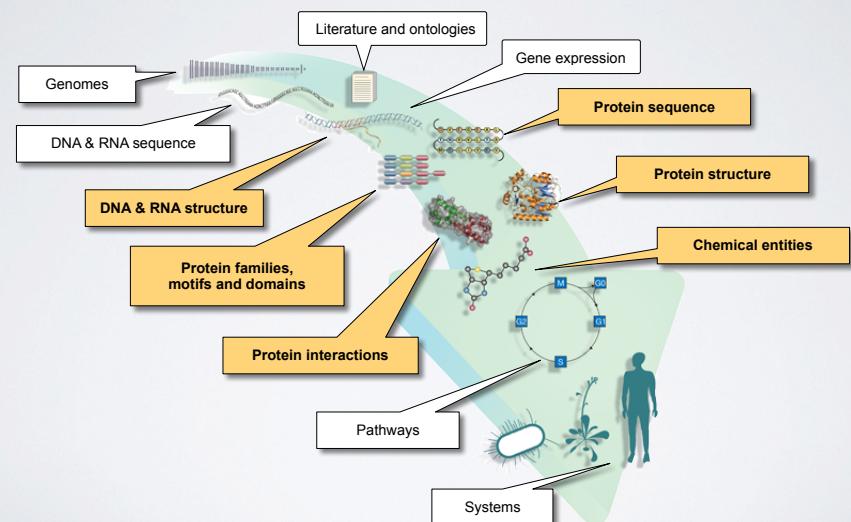
Because biomolecules are “nature’s robots”

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

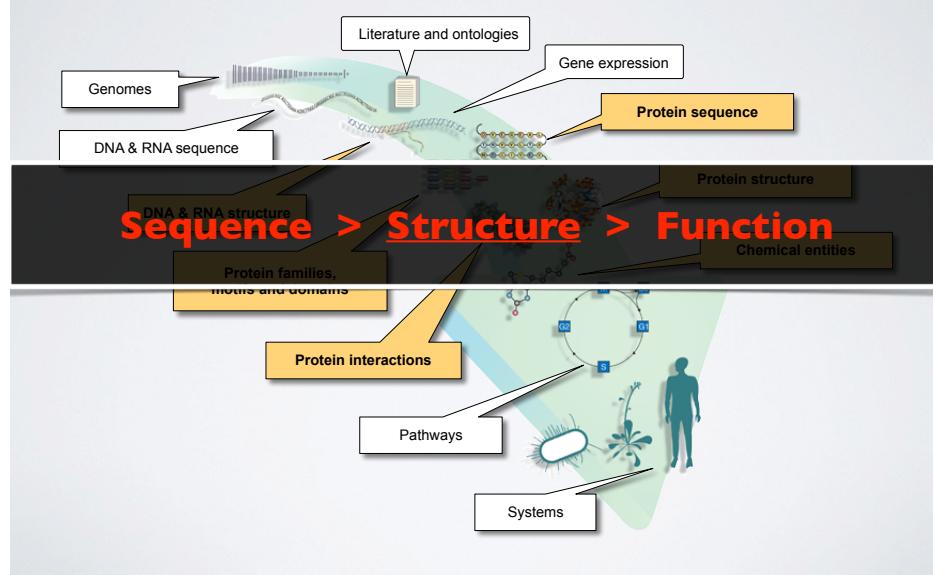
BIOINFORMATICS DATA



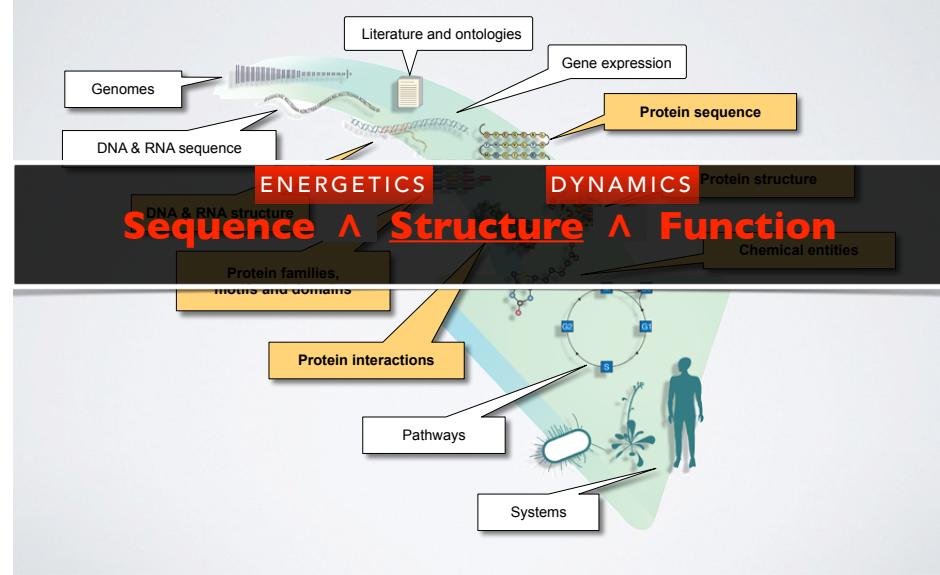
STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL

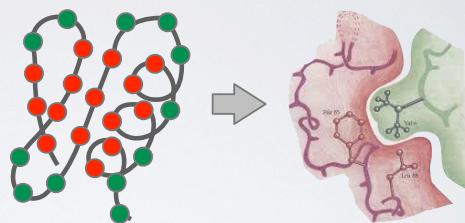
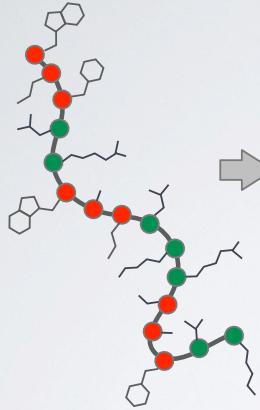


STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL



STRUCTURAL DATA IS CENTRAL





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



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

Genomics is a great start

Track Bike – DL 175

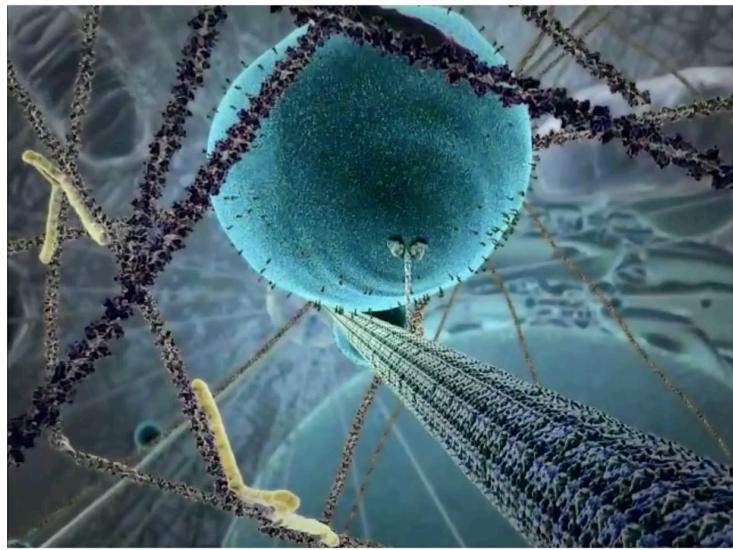
REF. NO.	IBM NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	156011	Track Frame 21", 22", 23", 24", Team Red
2	157040	Fork for 21" Frame
2	157039	Fork for 22" Frame
2	157038	Fork for 23" Frame
2	157037	Fork for 24" Frame
3	191202	Handlebar TTT Competition Track Alloy 15/16" Headset Stem, TTT, Specify extension
4	145937	Examiner Bolt
5	191278	Clamp Bolt
6	191272	Headset Complete 1 x 24 BSC
7	145841	Ball Bearings
8	145842	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	145974	Sleeve
13	145937	Ball Bearings
14	145636	Bottom Bracket Axle
15	145170	Cone for Sleeve
16	145836	L.H. Adjustable Cup
17	146473	Lockring
18	145833	Straps or Toe Clips
19	145834	Fixed Belt
20	145834	Fixing Washer
21	145835	Dustcap
22	145822	R.H. and L.H. Crankset with Chainwheel
23	145823	Fixed Cup
24	146472	Toe Clips, Christophe, Chrome (Medium)
25	145235	Pedals, Extra Light, Pairs
26	145684	Chain
27	123021	Chainring
28	145980	Seat Post
29	167002	Seat Post Bolt and Nut
30	145933	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

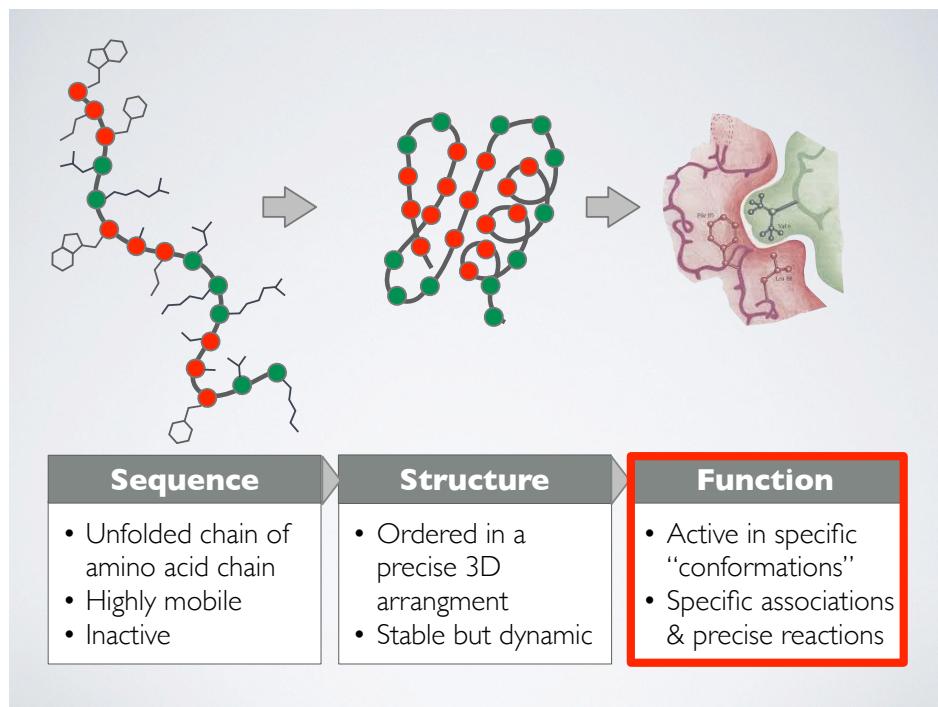
... but not the end



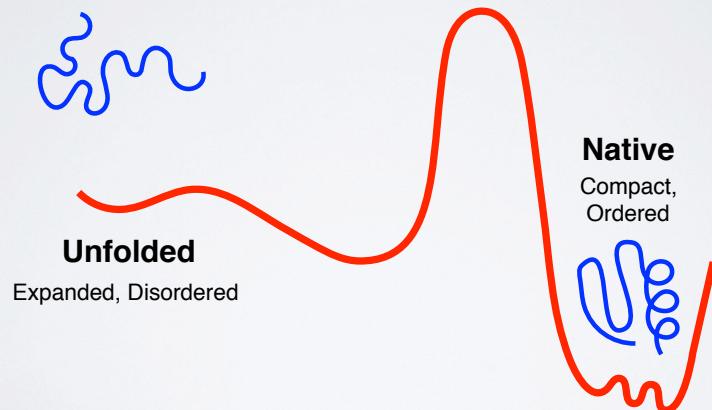
- We want the full spatiotemporal picture, and an ability to control it
- Broad applications, including drug design, medical diagnostics, chemical manufacturing, and energy



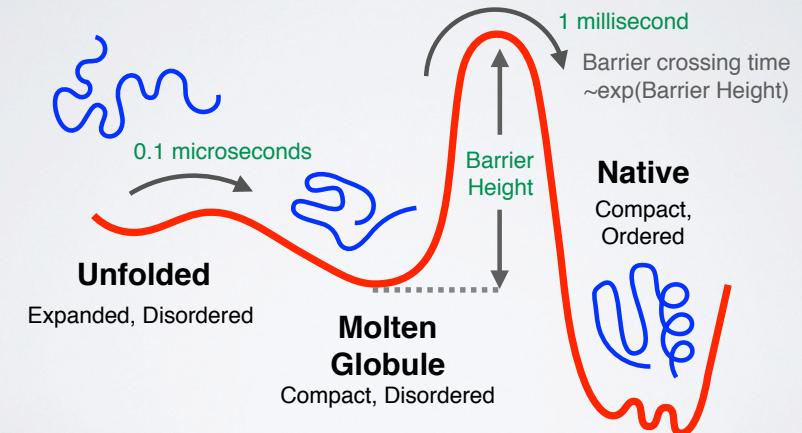
Extracted from The Inner Life of a Cell by Cellular Visions and Harvard
[YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-uuk4Pr2i8>]



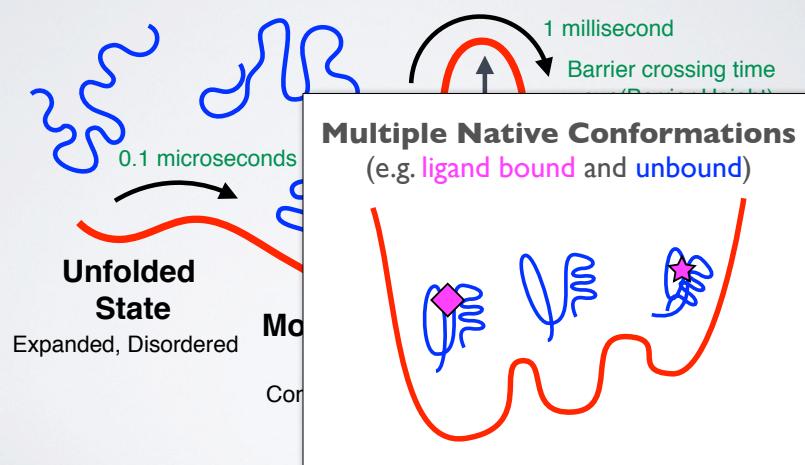
KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



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Today's Menu

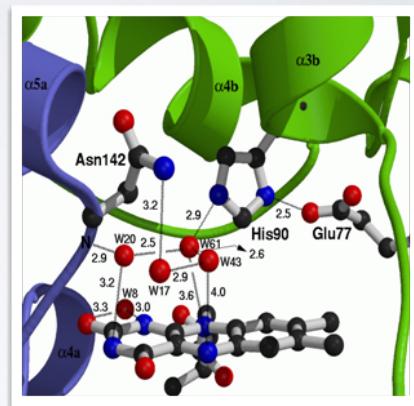
- Overview of structural bioinformatics
 - Motivations, goals and challenges
- Fundamentals of protein structure
 - Structure composition, form and forces
- Representing, interpreting & modeling protein structure
 - Visualizing & interpreting protein structures
 - Analyzing protein structures
 - Modeling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

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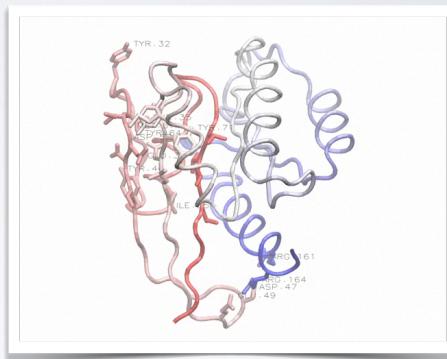
Motivation 1: Detailed understanding of molecular interactions

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



Motivation 1: Detailed understanding of molecular interactions

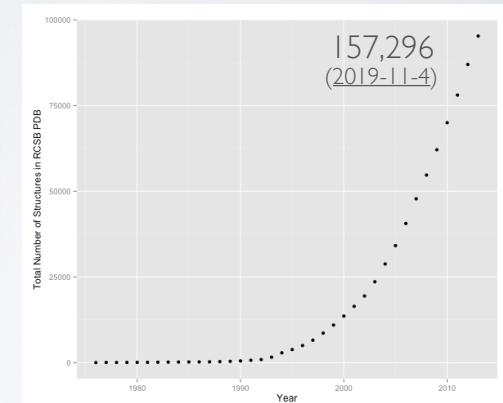
Computational modeling can provide detailed insight into functional interactions, their regulation and potential consequences of perturbation.



Grant et al. PLoS. Comp. Biol. (2010)

Motivation 2: Lots of structural data is becoming available

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



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

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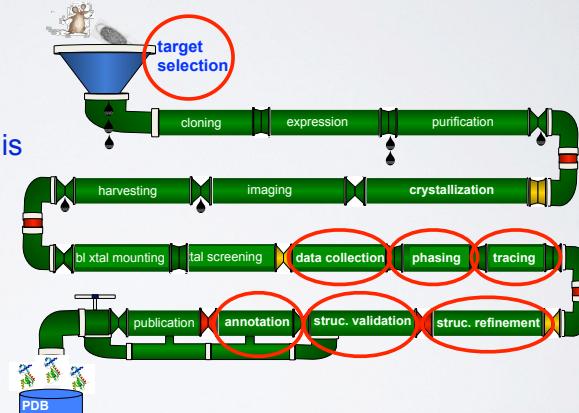
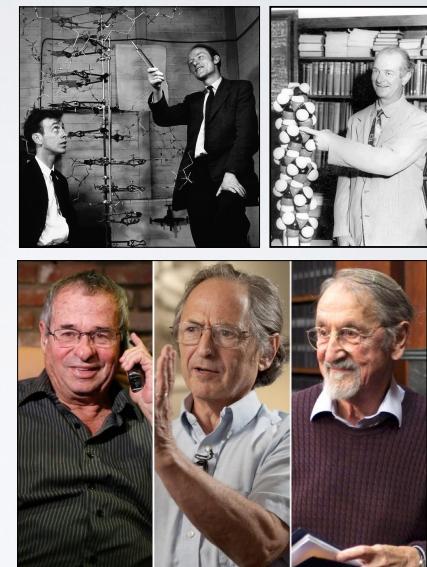


Image Credit: "Structure determination assembly line" Adam Godzik

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



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Theoretical and computational predictions have been, and continue to be, enormously valuable and influential!



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



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

SUMMARY OF KEY **MOTIVATIONS**

Sequence > Structure > Function

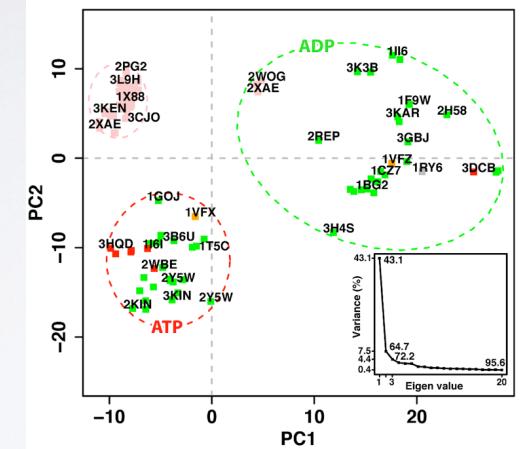
- Structure determines function, so understanding structure helps our understanding of function

Structure is more conserved than sequence

- Structure allows identification of more distant evolutionary relationships

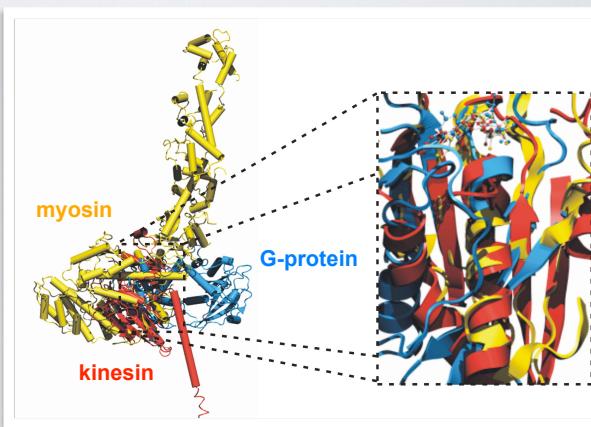
Structure is encoded in sequence

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



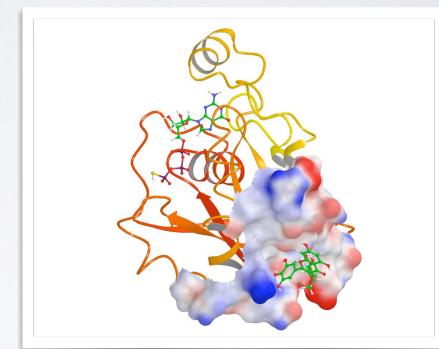
Scarabelli and Grant. PLoS. Comp. Biol. (2013)

- Goals:
- Visualization
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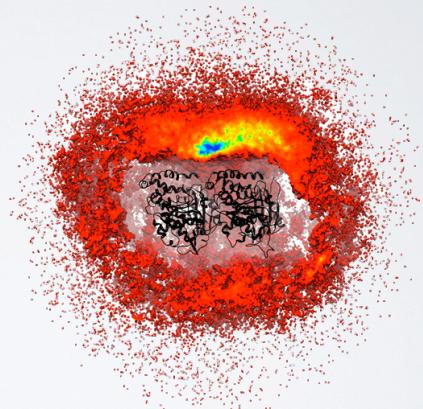
Grant et al. unpublished

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

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



Grant et al. PLoS Biology (2011)

MAJOR RESEARCH AREAS AND CHALLENGES

Include but are not limited to:

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

With applications to Biology, Medicine, Agriculture and Industry

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HIERARCHICAL STRUCTURE OF PROTEINS

Primary > Secondary > Tertiary > Quaternary

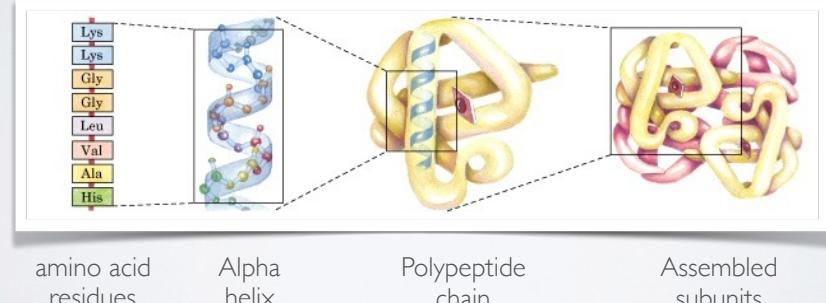


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

RECAP: AMINO ACID NOMENCLATURE

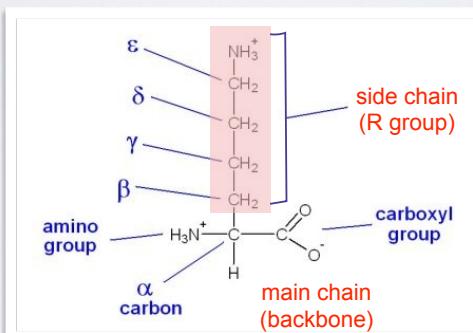


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

AMINO ACIDS CAN BE GROUPED BY THE PHYSIOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES

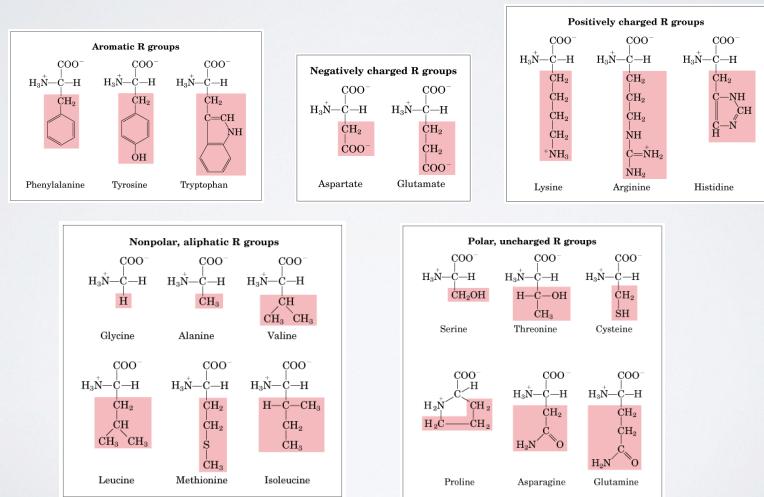


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

AMINO ACIDS POLYMERIZE THROUGH PEPTIDE BOND FORMATION

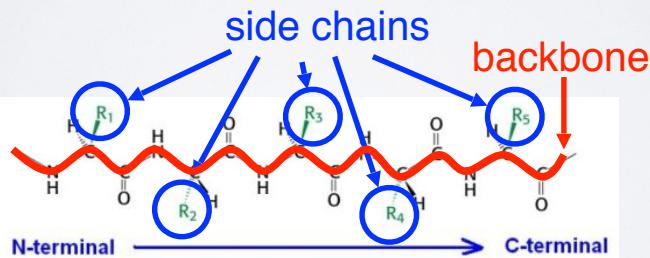
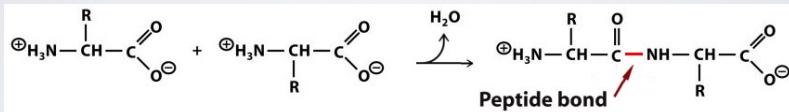


Image from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21581/>

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

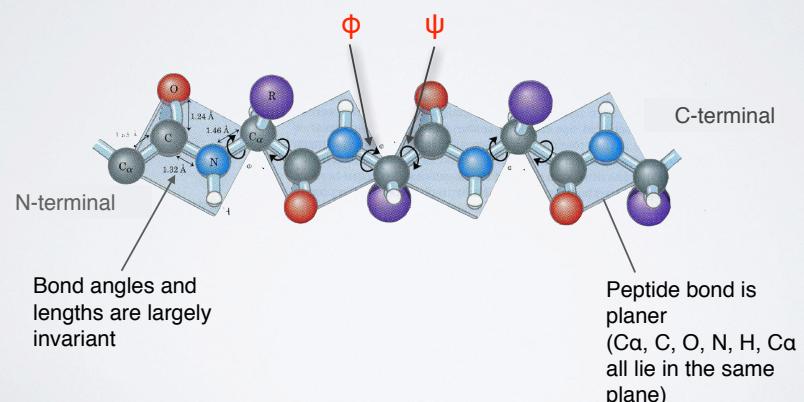
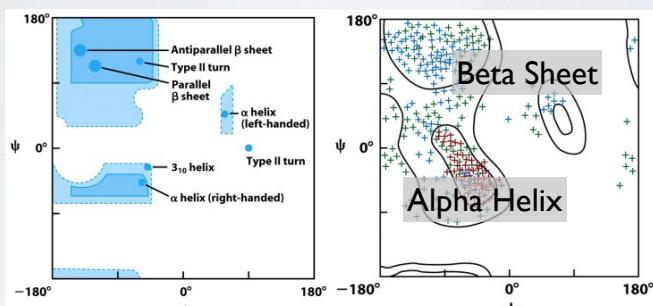


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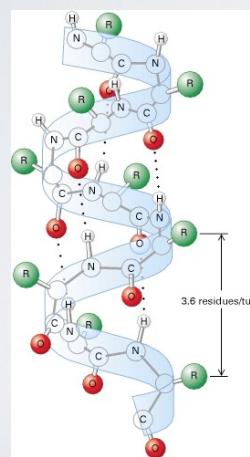
PHI vs PSI PLOTS ARE KNOWN AS RAMACHANDRAN DIAGRAMS



- Steric hindrance dictates torsion angle preference
- Ramachandran plot show preferred regions of ϕ and ψ 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

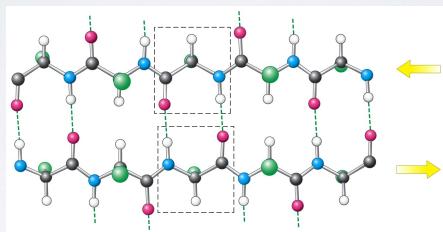


α-helix

- 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 π-helix forms are less common

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

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

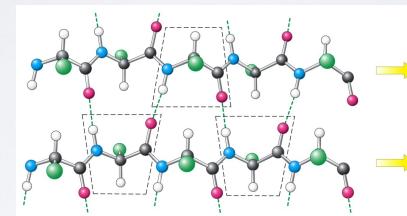


In antiparallel β -sheets

- 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**



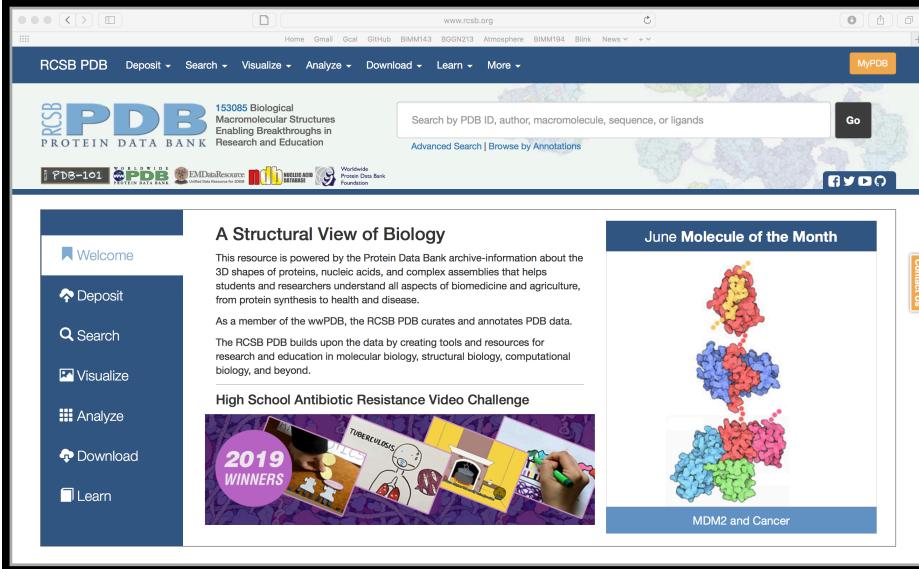
In parallel β -sheets

- Adjacent β -strands run in same direction
- Hydrogen bonds (dashed lines) between NH and CO stabilize the structure
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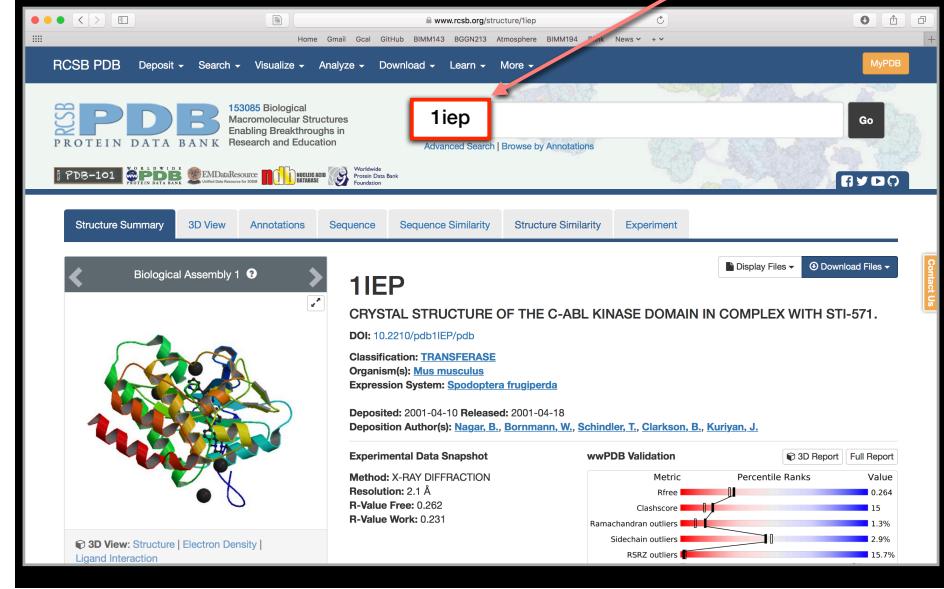
Protein Data Bank (PDB) is the main repository for Biomolecular structure data

<http://www.rcsb.org>



The screenshot shows the RCSB PDB homepage. At the top, there's a search bar with the placeholder "Search by PDB ID, author, macromolecule, sequence, or ligands" and a "Go" button. Below the search bar, there are links for "Deposit", "Search", "Visualize", "Analyze", "Download", "Learn", and "More". The main content area features the RCSB PDB logo and a banner for "A Structural View of Biology". It includes a "June Molecule of the Month" section showing a 3D ribbon model of a protein complex, labeled "MDM2 and Cancer". To the left, there's a sidebar with links for "Welcome", "Deposit", "Search", "Visualize", "Analyze", "Download", and "Learn". A "2019 WINNERS" badge is also visible.

You can search by text (e.g. "**ABL kinase**"), PDB code (e.g. "**1iep**") or sequence
<http://www.rcsb.org>



The screenshot shows a detailed view of a protein structure on the RCSB PDB website. The URL in the address bar is "1iep". The page displays the "Structure Summary" for the entry "1IEP". The summary includes the title "CRYSTAL STRUCTURE OF THE C-ABL KINASE DOMAIN IN COMPLEX WITH STI-571.", DOI: 10.2210/pdb1IEP/pdb, Classification: TRANSFERASE, Organism(s): *Mus musculus*, Expression System: *Spodoptera frugiperda*, and deposition details. On the right, there's a "wwPDB Validation" section with a table of metrics and percentile ranks. A red arrow points from the text "You can search by text (e.g. 'ABL kinase'), PDB code (e.g. '1iep') or sequence" to the "1iep" search term in the address bar.

You can get a **3D View** of and read details about the experiment and molecule

<http://www.rcsb.org>

The screenshot shows the RCSB PDB interface for structure 1IEP. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Gmail, Gcal, GitHub, BIMM143, BGN213, Atmosphere, BIMM194, Blink, and News. The main menu has options like Deposit, Search, Visualize, Analyze, Download, Learn, and More. A red box highlights the "3D View" button. Below the header is a sub-menu with tabs for Structure Summary, 3D View, Annotations, Sequence, Sequence Similarity, Structure Similarity, and Experiment. The "3D View" tab is selected. To the right of the tabs are "Display Files" and "Download Files" buttons. The main content area displays the crystal structure of the C-ABL kinase domain in complex with STI-571, shown as a ribbon model with various colors representing different residues. On the right side, there is a detailed "Structure View" panel with dropdown menus for Assembly (Bioassembly 1), Model (Model 1), Symmetry (None), Style (Cartoon), Color (Rainbow), Ligand (Ball & Stick), Quality (Automatic), Water (unchecked), Ions (checked), Hydrogens (checked), and Clashes (unchecked). A "Default Structure View" button is also present.

You can **display or download PDB format files** for a particular entry

<http://www.rcsb.org>

This screenshot is identical to the one above, showing the RCSB PDB interface for structure 1IEP. The "3D View" tab is selected. A red box highlights the "Display Files" and "Download Files" buttons at the bottom right of the main content area. The rest of the interface, including the structure view and assembly settings, is the same as the first screenshot.

Side-Note: PDB File Format

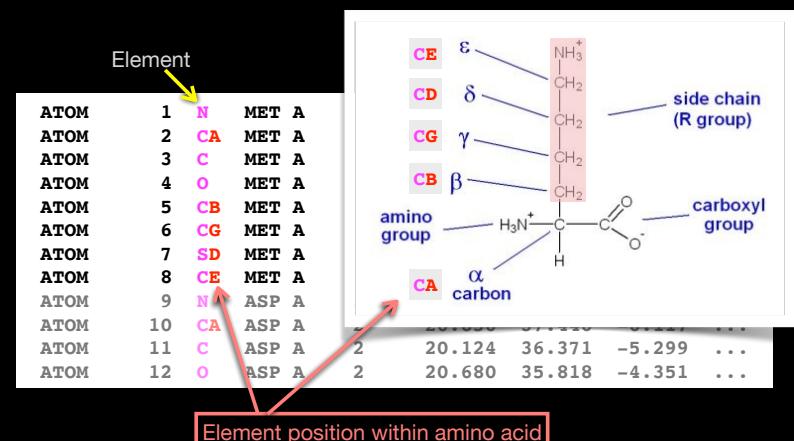
- PDB files contain atomic **coordinates** and associated information.

Element	Amino Acid	Sequence/Residue Number	Coordinates			(etc.)
			X	Y	Z	
ATOM	1 N	MET A	1	19.353	41.547	-3.887
ATOM	2 CA	MET A	1	20.513	40.939	-4.592
ATOM	3 C	MET A	1	20.150	39.658	-5.355
ATOM	4 O	MET A	1	19.053	39.551	-5.903
ATOM	5 CB	MET A	1	21.642	40.678	-3.592
ATOM	6 CG	MET A	1	21.233	39.903	-2.360
ATOM	7 SD	MET A	1	22.533	39.928	-1.113
ATOM	8 CE	MET A	1	23.771	38.881	-1.885
ATOM	9 N	ASP A	2	21.068	38.694	-5.390
ATOM	10 CA	ASP A	2	20.856	37.440	-6.117
ATOM	11 C	ASP A	2	20.124	36.371	-5.299
ATOM	12 O	ASP A	2	20.680	35.818	-4.351

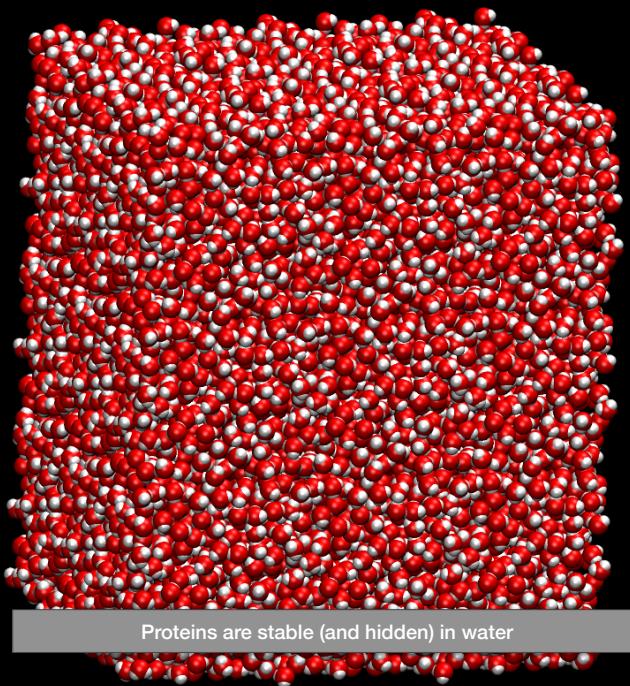
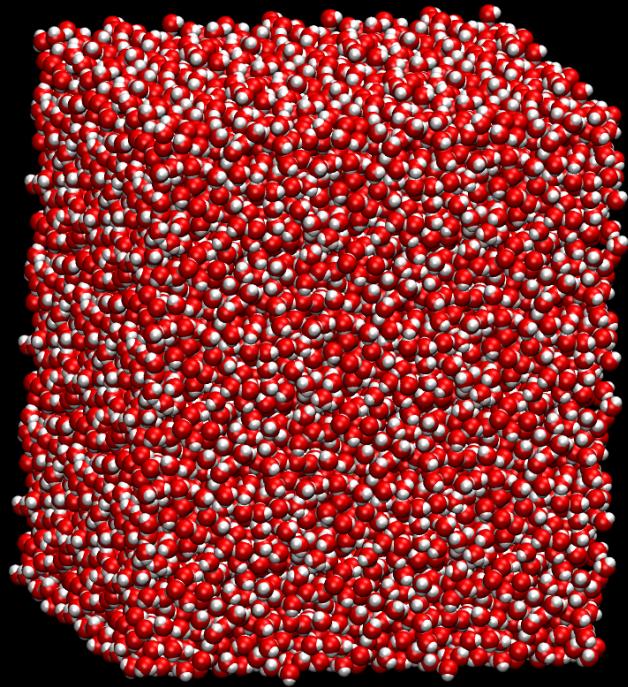
Element position within amino acid

Side-Note: PDB File Format

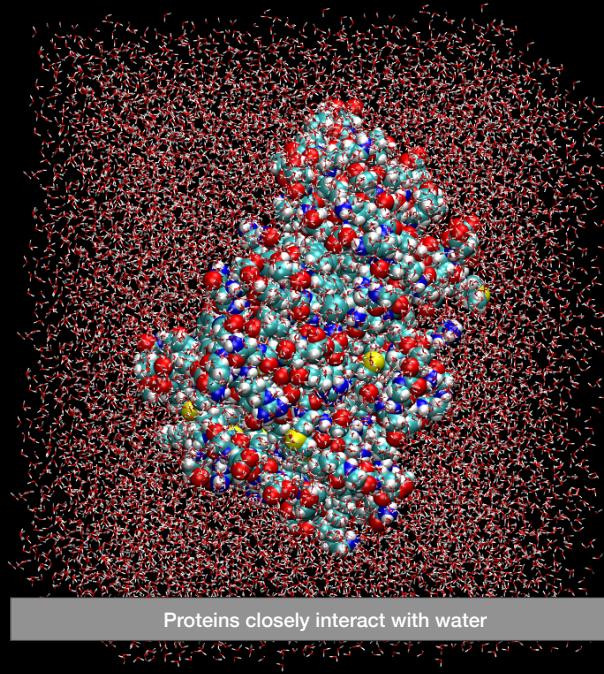
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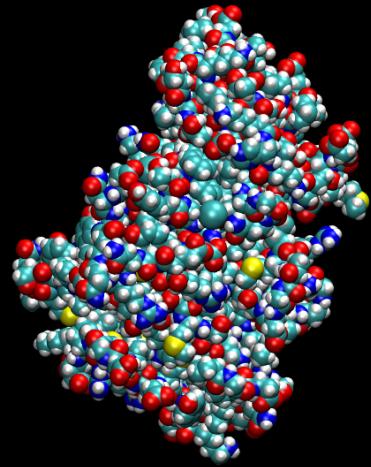
What Does a Protein Look like?



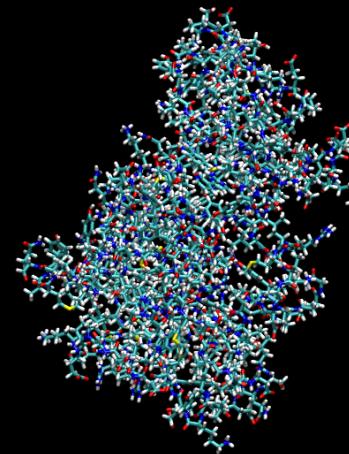
Proteins are stable (and hidden) in water



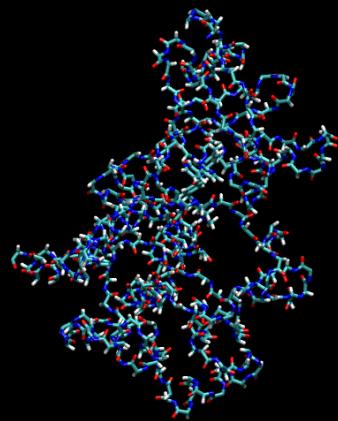
Proteins closely interact with water



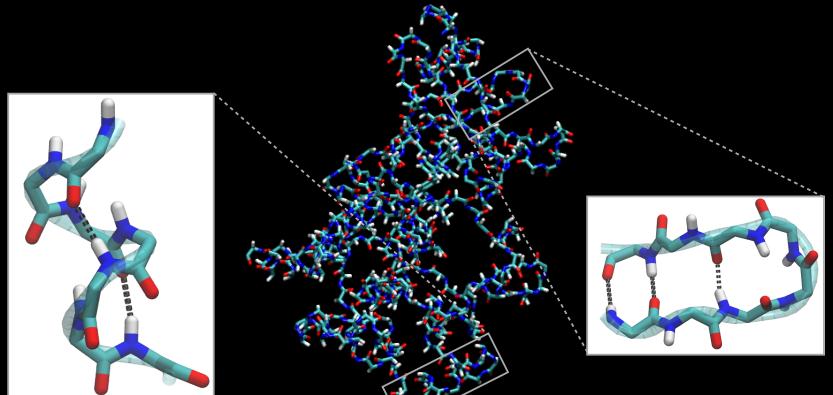
Proteins are close packed solid but flexible objects (globular)



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



Backbone or main-chain representation can help trace chain topology



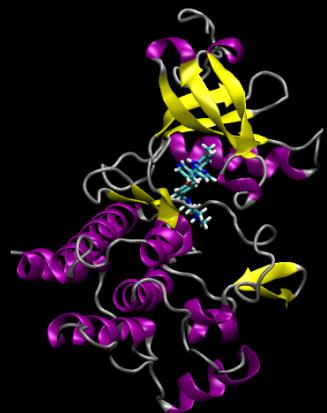
Backbone or main-chain representation can help trace chain topology & reveal secondary structure



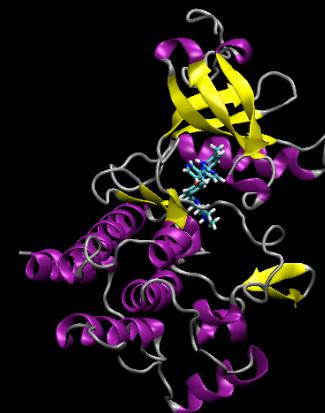
Tube or trace representation is one of the simplest views



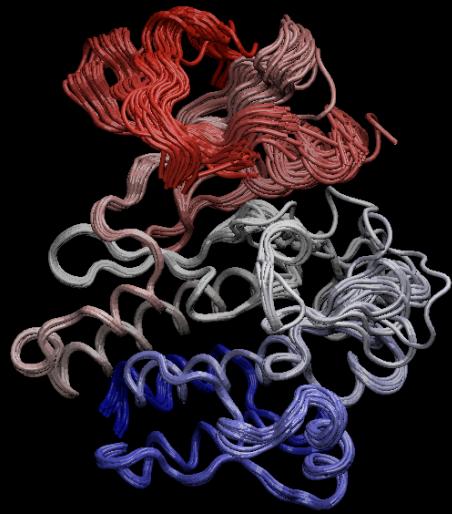
Tube with added colors to highlight **secondary structure**



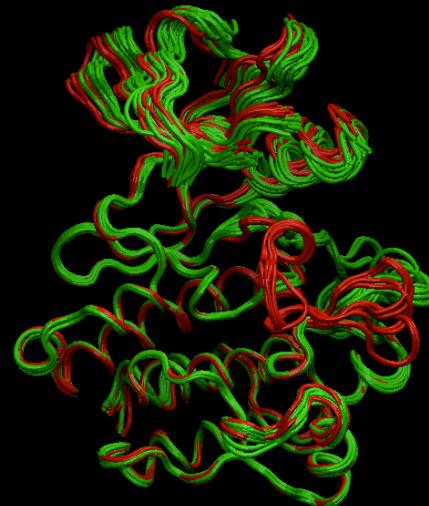
Simplified "cartoon" secondary structure representations are commonly used to communicate structural details



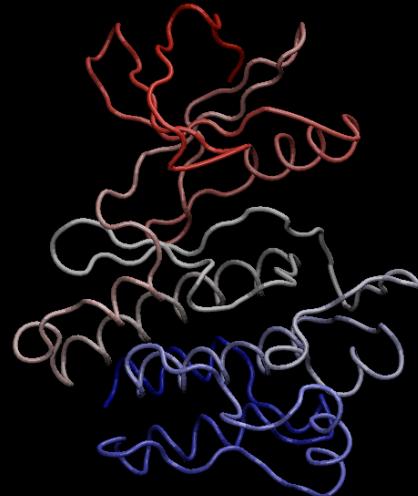
Viewing in 3D is often essential for interpretation.
Now we can clearly see 2° and 3° structure - the coiled chain of connected secondary structures



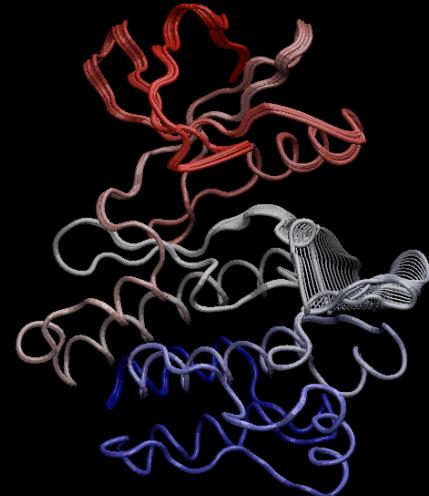
Viewing multiple superposed structures solved under different conditions can highlight **flexible regions**



Viewing multiple superposed structures solved under different conditions can highlight **distinct conformations**



Analyzing these multiple structures can reveal **functional motions**
- i.e. displacements that are essential for regulating function

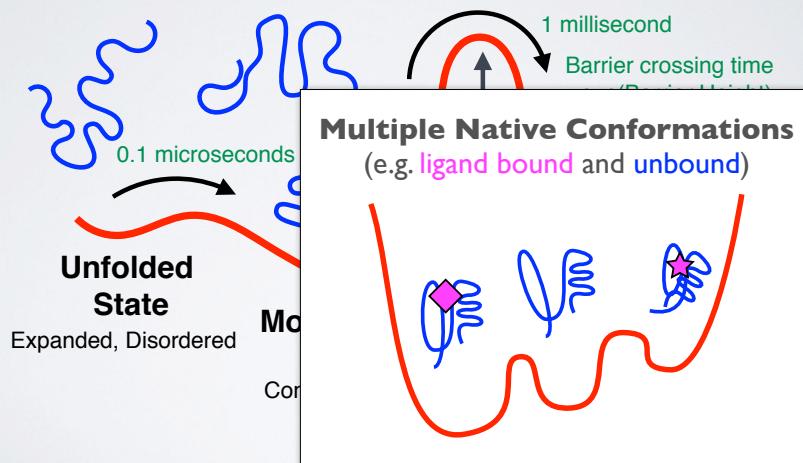


Analyzing these multiple structures can reveal **functional motions**
- i.e. displacements that are essential for regulating function

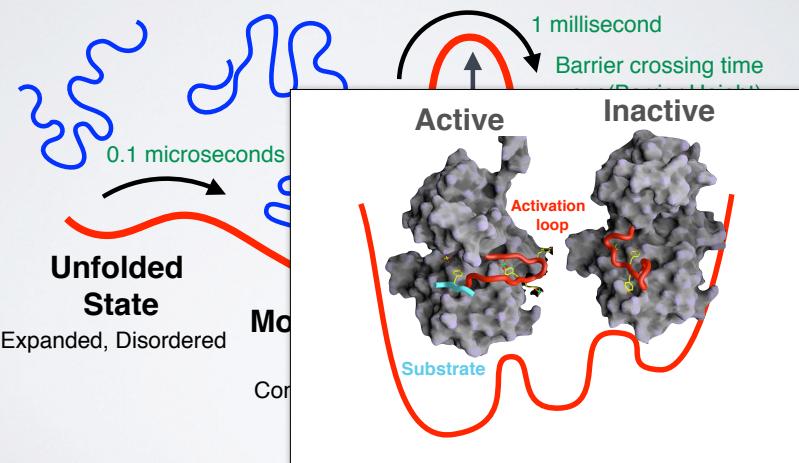
Active
Inactive

"Activation loop"

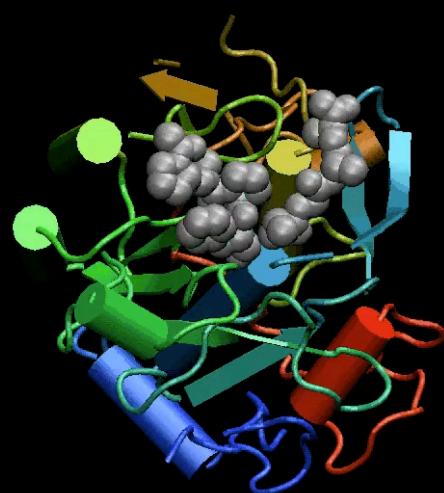
KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



KEY CONCEPT: ENERGY LANDSCAPE



Normal Mode Analysis (NMA) models the protein as a network of elastic strings

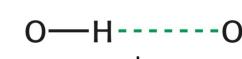
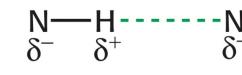


NMA is a bioinformatics method to predict the intrinsic dynamics of biomolecules

Key forces affecting structure:

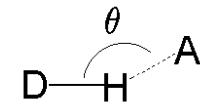
- H-bonding
- Van der Waals
- Electrostatics
- Hydrophobicity

Hydrogen-bond donor Hydrogen-bond acceptor



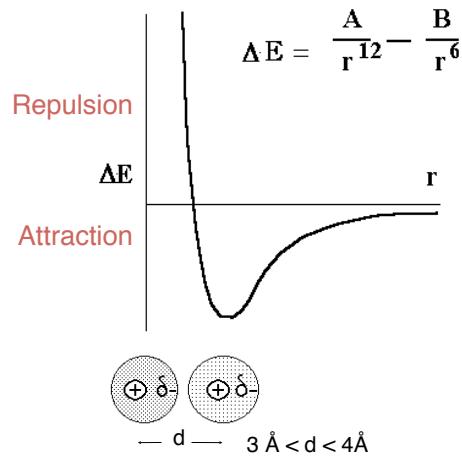
$$2.6 \text{ \AA} < d < 3.1 \text{ \AA}$$

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



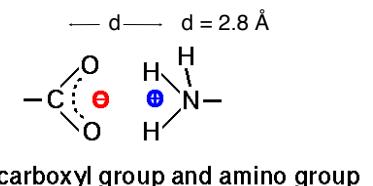
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Key forces affecting structure:

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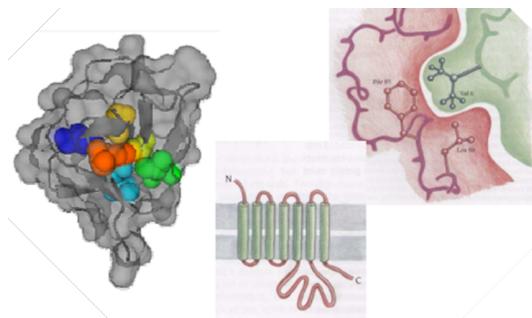
carboxyl group and amino group

(some time called IONIC BONDS or SALT BRIDGES)

 q_1 q_2 \longleftrightarrow r	<p><u>Coulomb's law</u></p> $E = \frac{K q_1 q_2}{D r}$	<p>E = Energy k = constant D = Dielectric constant (vacuum = 1; H₂O = 80) q₁ & q₂ = electronic charges (Coulombs) r = distance (Å)</p>
---	---	---

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.

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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Do it Yourself!

Hand-on time!

Focus on **section 1** only please!

N.B. Remember to make your new **class11** RStudio project inside your GitHub tracked directory from last day and **UNCHECK** the "Create a Git repository" option...

Side-Note: PDB File Format

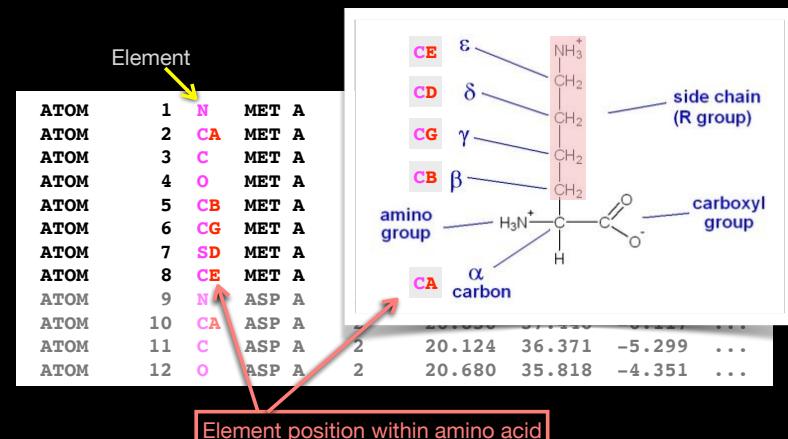
- PDB files contains atomic **coordinates** and associated information.

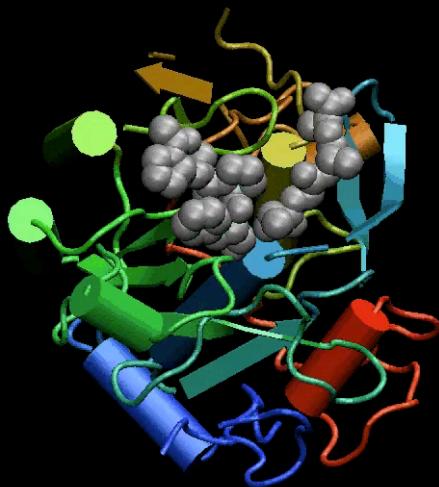
	Amino Acid	Element	Sequence/Residue Number	Coordinates			(etc.)	
				X	Y	Z		
ATOM		1 N	MET A	1	19.353	41.547	-3.887	...
ATOM		2 CA	MET A	1	20.513	40.939	-4.592	...
ATOM		3 C	MET A	1	20.150	39.658	-5.355	...
ATOM		4 O	MET A	1	19.053	39.551	-5.903	...
ATOM		5 CB	MET A	1	21.642	40.678	-3.592	...
ATOM		6 CG	MET A	1	21.233	39.903	-2.360	...
ATOM		7 SD	MET A	1	22.533	39.928	-1.113	...
ATOM		8 CE	MET A	1	23.771	38.881	-1.885	...
ATOM		9 N	ASP A	2	21.068	38.694	-5.390	...
ATOM		10 CA	ASP A	2	20.856	37.440	-6.117	...
ATOM		11 C	ASP A	2	20.124	36.371	-5.299	...
ATOM		12 O	ASP A	2	20.680	35.818	-4.351	...

Element position within amino acid

Side-Note: PDB File Format

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





Download VMD

Hands-on Time!

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

Hand-on time!

Focus on **section 3** and then **PART 2**.

Do it Yourself!

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

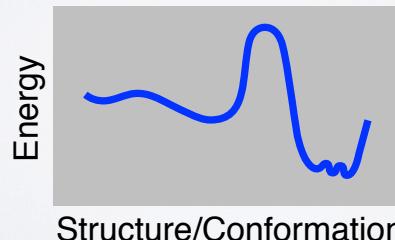
Two main approaches:

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

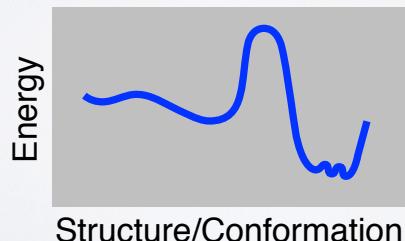
KEY CONCEPT: POTENTIAL FUNCTIONS
DESCRIBE A SYSTEMS **ENERGY** AS A FUNCTION
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Two main approaches:

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



This will be the focus of the next class!



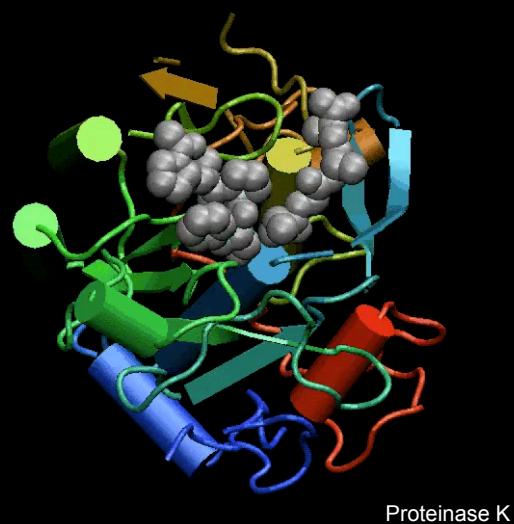
SUMMARY

- Structural bioinformatics is computer aided structural biology
- Described major motivations, goals and challenges of structural bioinformatics
- Reviewed the fundamentals of protein structure
- Explored how to use R to perform advanced custom structural bioinformatics analysis!
- Introduced both physics and knowledge based modeling approaches for describing the structure, energetics and dynamics of proteins computationally

[[Muddy Point Assessment](#)]

Reference Slides

NMA models the protein as a network of elastic strings



Bio3D view()

- If you want the 3D viewer in your R markdown you can install the development version of `bio3d.view`

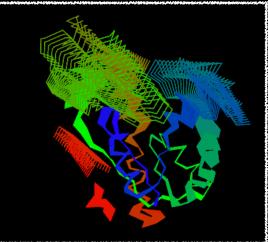
- In your R console:

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

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

- To use in your R session:

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



NMA in Bio3D

- Normal Mode Analysis (NMA) is a bioinformatics method that can predict the major motions of biomolecules.

```
```{r}
library(bio3d)
library(bio3d.view)
...```

```

```
```{r}
pdb <- read.pdb("1hel")
modes <- nma( pdb )
m7 <- mktrj(modes, mode=7, file="mode_7.pdb")

view(m7, col=vec2color(rmsf(m7)))
...```

```

Bio3D view()

- If you want the interactive 3D viewer in **Rmd** rendered to **output: html_output** document:

```
```{r}
library(bio3d.view)
library(rgl)
...```

```

```
```{r}
modes <- nma( read.pdb("1hel") )
m7 <- mktrj(modes, mode=7, file="mode_7.pdb")
view(m7, col=vec2color(rmsf(m7)))
rglwidget(width=500, height=500)
```

```