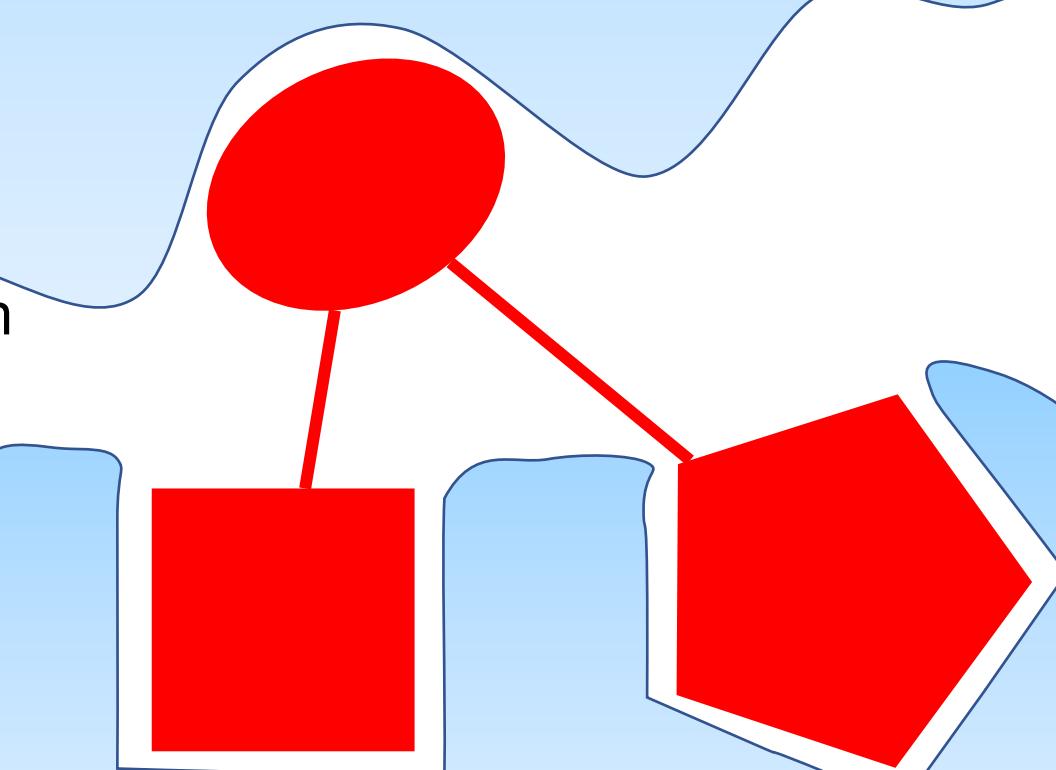


Fragments and crystallography

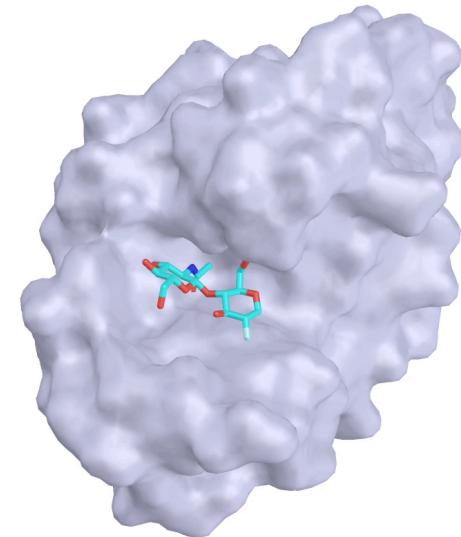
Inquiry Immersion
2019-20

James Fraser
(he/him)



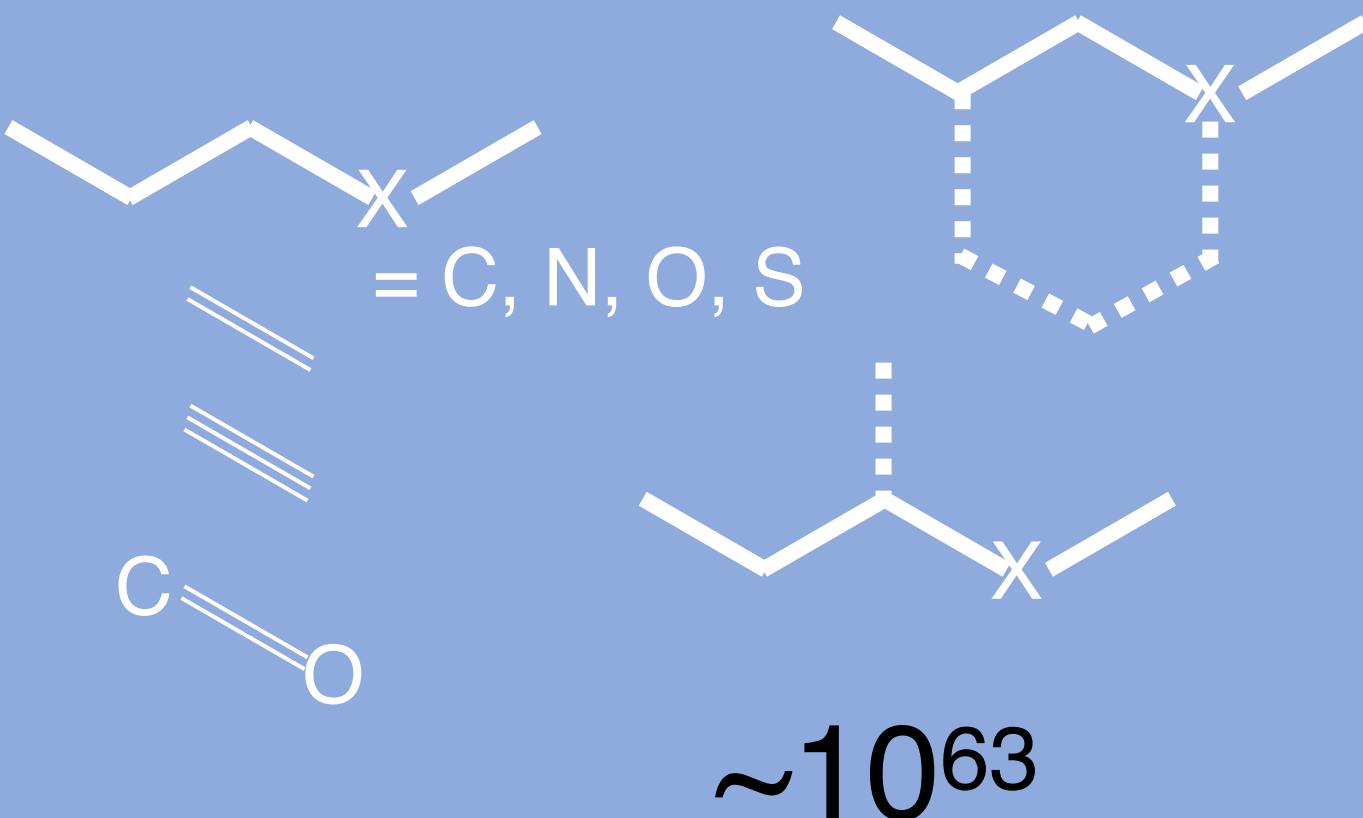
Rees DC et al *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery* 3, 660-672 (2004).

Lysozyme, the first enzyme with a structure determined by X-ray crystallography



Chemical space

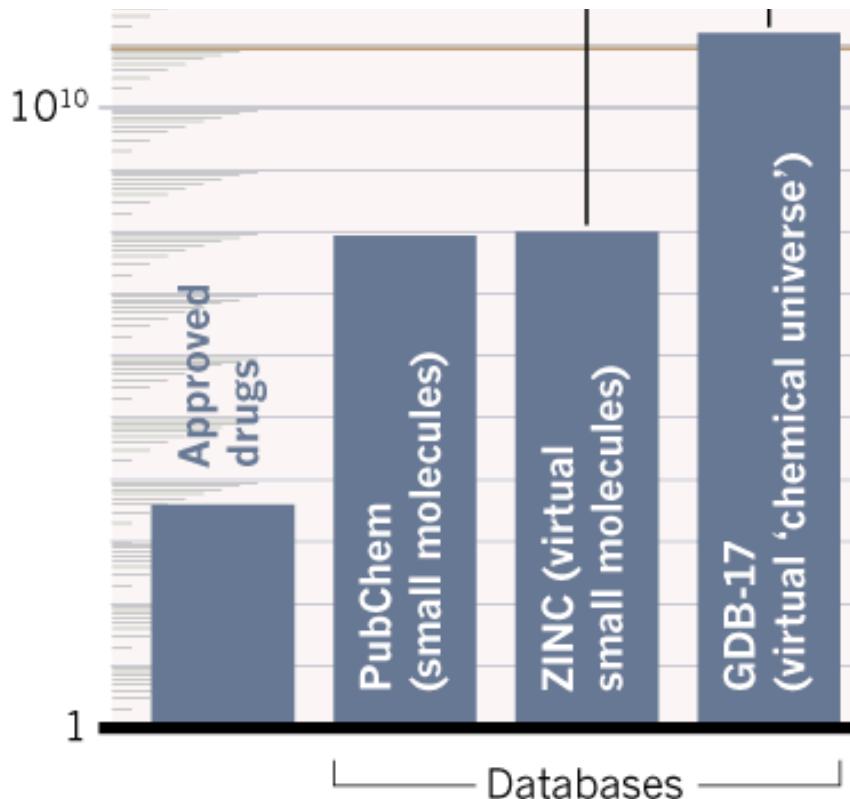
Possible compounds with <600 Da



Chemical space is huge!

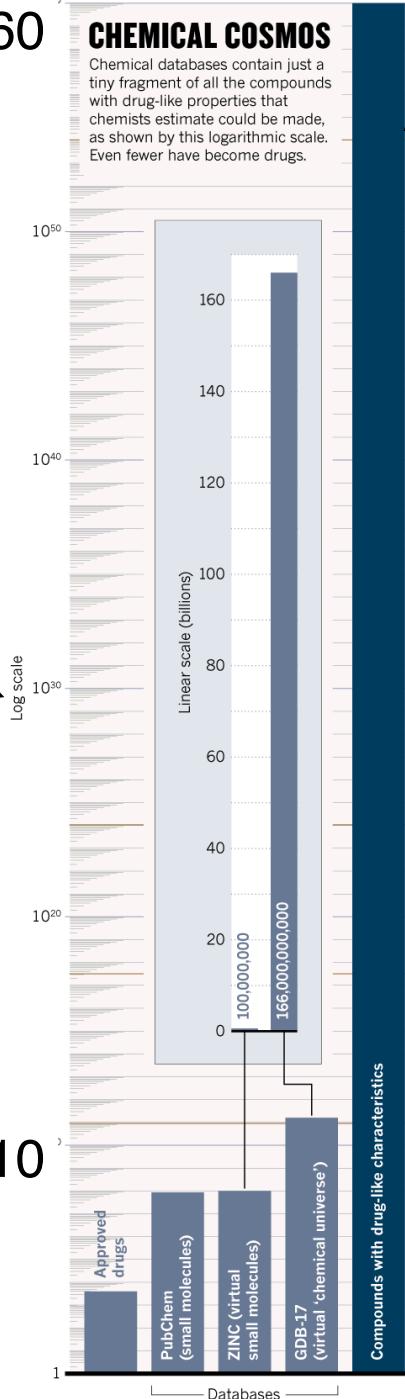


Chemical space is huge!



10^{60}

Log scale!

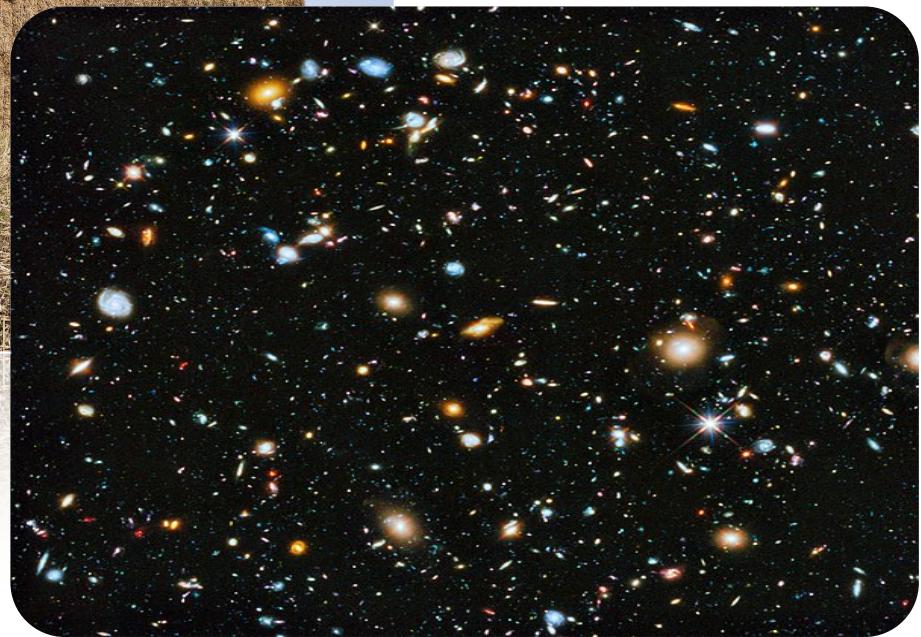
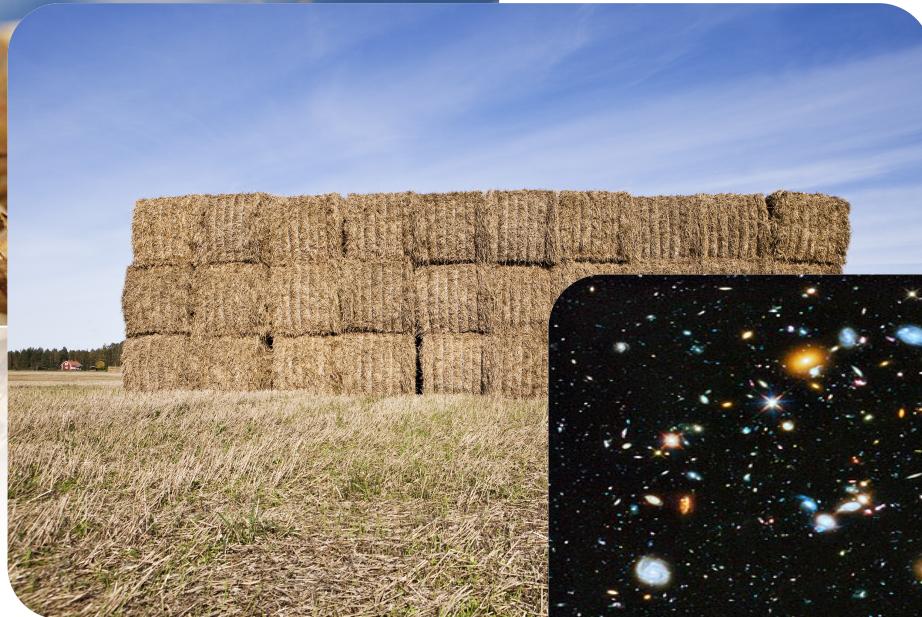


Atoms in the solar system

Stars in the universe

Neurons in the human brain

Needles in enormous haystacks

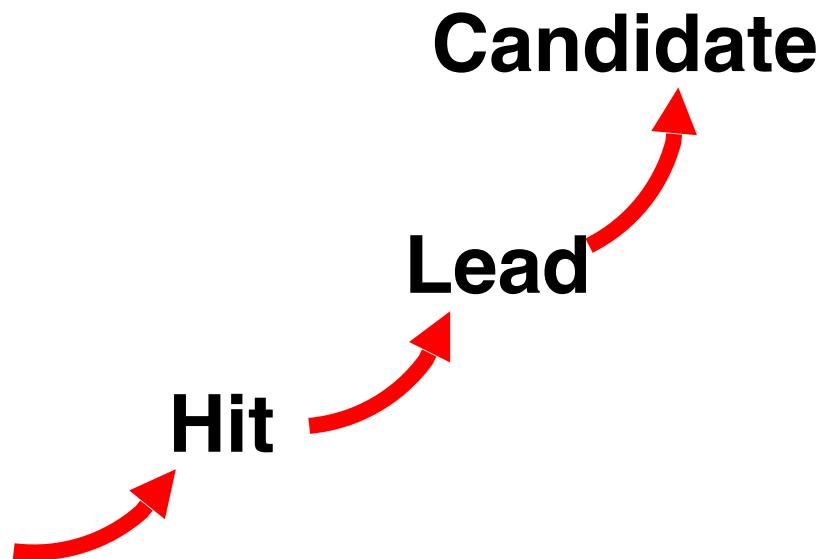
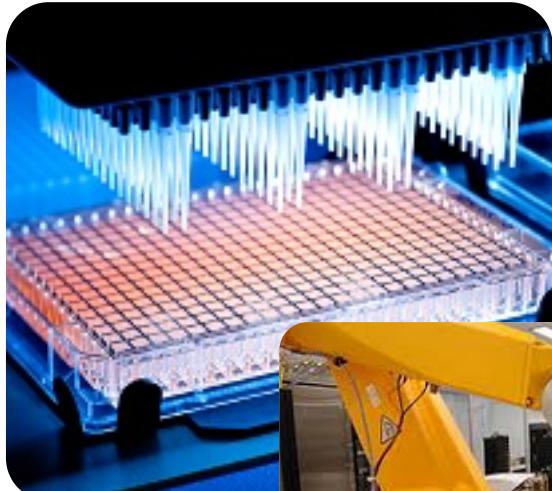


Finding that rare needle...

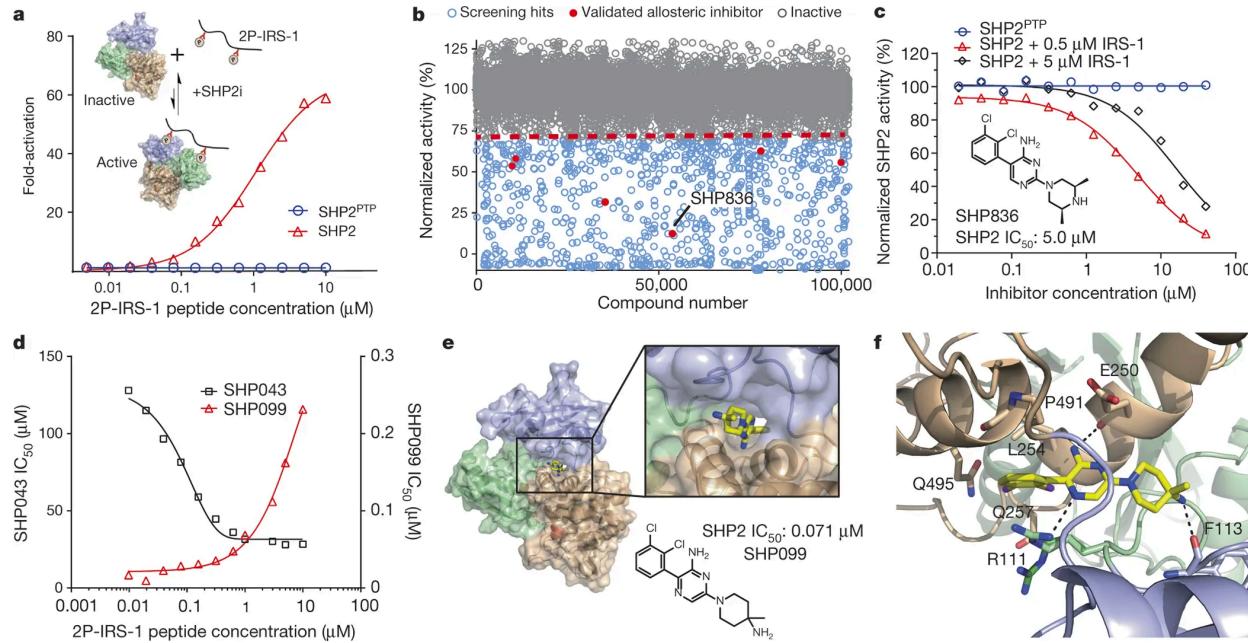
High throughput screening

Library

30 heavy atoms
 $\sim 10^6$



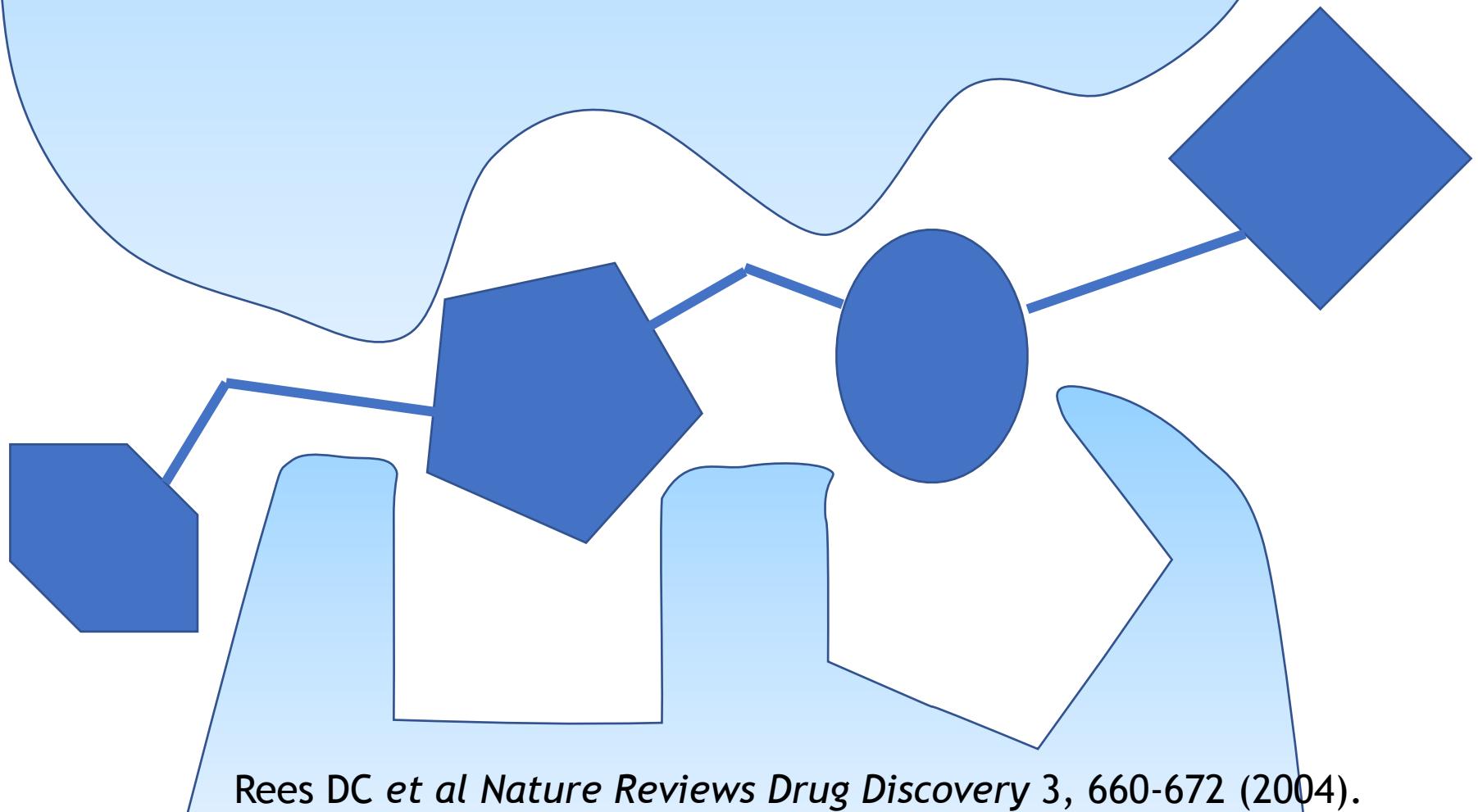
100,000 molecules screened 3 followup assays



Contrast with active site inhibitor

SHP836 - is a published ion channel inhibitor!

Drug discovery – HTS hit



Rees DC et al *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery* 3, 660-672 (2004).

High throughput screening

Library

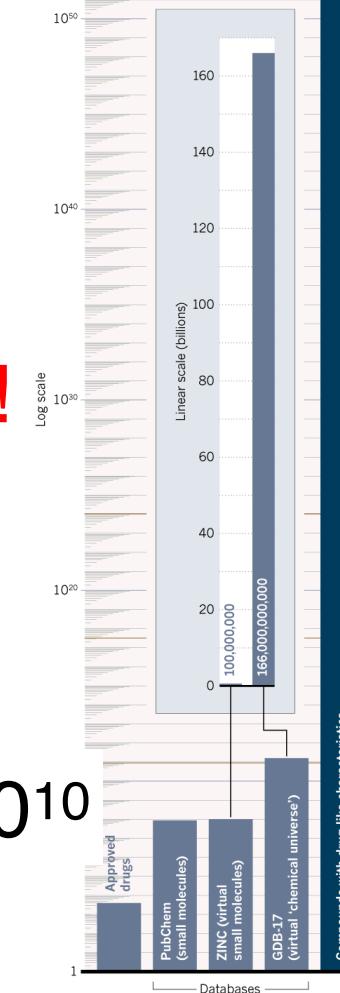
30 heavy atoms
 $\sim 10^6$

Vast undersampling!

10^{60}

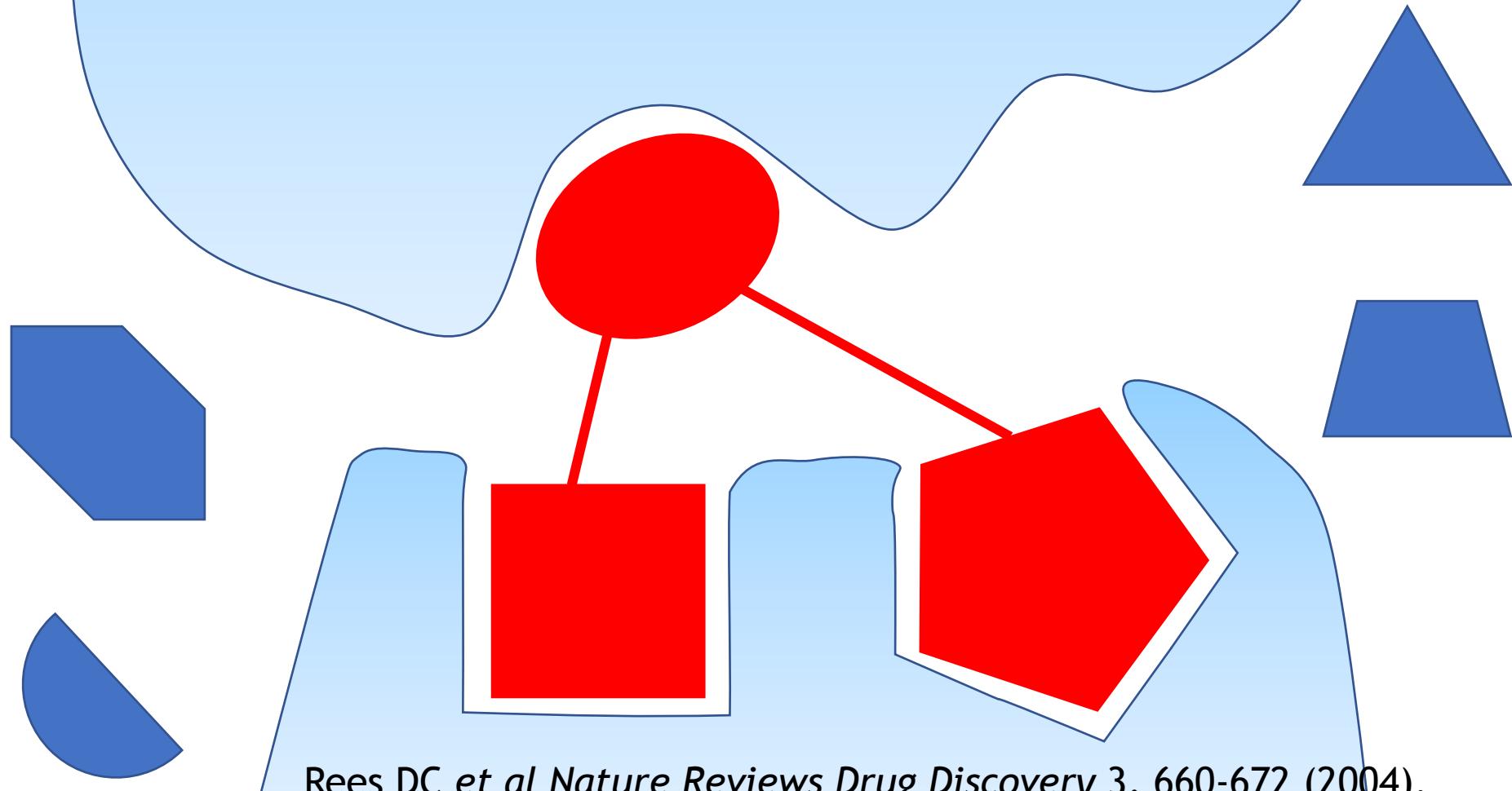
CHEMICAL COSMOS

Chemical databases contain just a tiny fragment of all the compounds with drug-like properties that chemists estimate could be made, as shown by this logarithmic scale. Even fewer have become drugs.



Candidate
lead

Fragment based drug discovery



Rees DC et al *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery* 3, 660-672 (2004).

Fragment based drug discovery

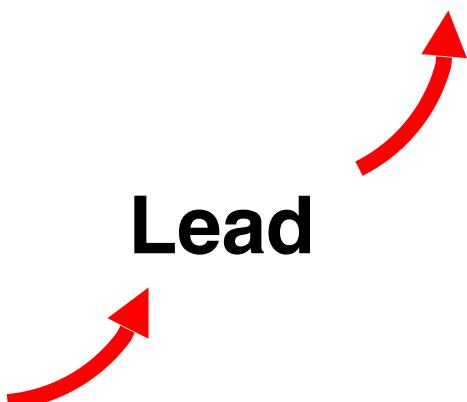
Library
15 heavy atoms
 $\sim 10^5$

**Evaluate WEAK
binding**

**Rationally
optimize**

Candidate

Lead



Fragment based drug discovery

Library
15 heavy atoms
 $\sim 10^5$

10^{60}

CHEMICAL COSMOS

Chemical databases contain just a tiny fragment of all the compounds with drug-like properties that chemists estimate could be made, as shown by this logarithmic scale. Even fewer have become drugs.

Linear scale (billions)

10⁵⁰

160

140

120

100

80

60

40

20

0

Log scale

10³⁰

10²⁰

10¹⁰

1

10^{10}

Databases

Compounds with drug-like characteristics

GDB-17 (virtual chemical universe)

ZINC (virtual small molecules)

PubChem (small molecules)

Approved drugs

Less undersampling

Evaluate WEAK

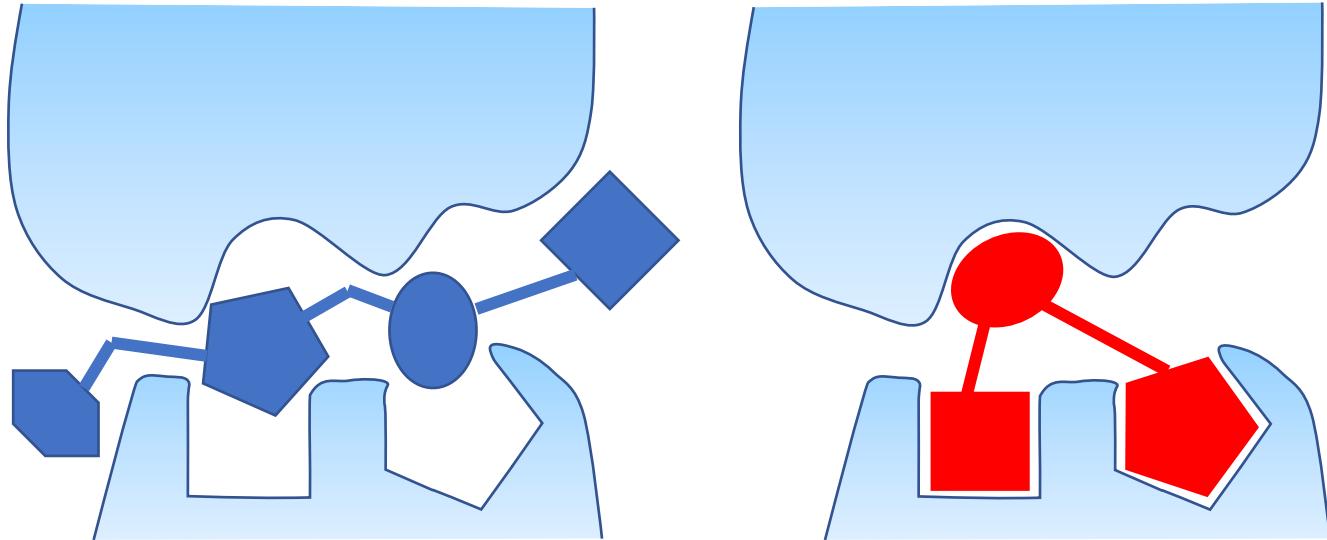
binding

Rational
optimize

Candidate



HTS vs Fragment based



	High-throughput screening	Fragment-based
Library size	1,000,000 - 10,000,000	<10,000
Molecular weight	>300 kDa	<300 kDa
Screening	More flexible	Well characterized targets
Affinities	μM	mM
Optimization	Fixing problems, improving affinity	Iterative improvement
Main downside	Attrition, can't solve "challenging" targets	Biophysical methods are hard!

Fragment based drug discovery

Library

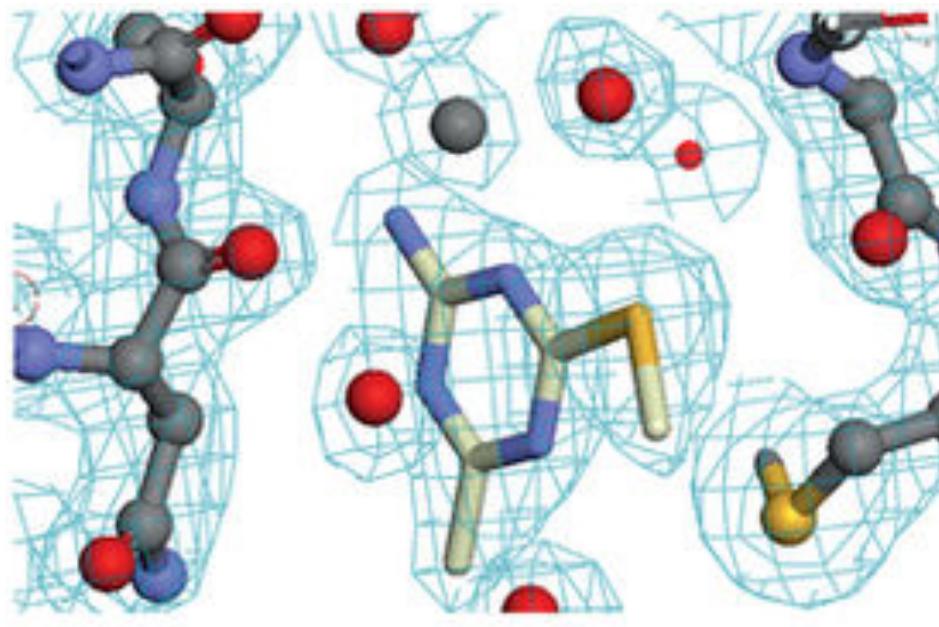
15 heavy atoms
 $\sim 10^5$

Evaluate WEAK
binding

Rationally
optimize

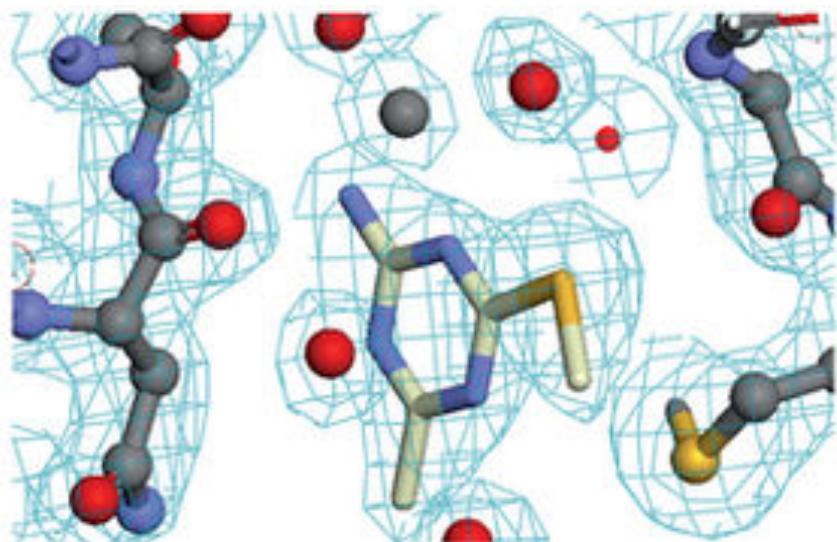
Lead

Assessing drug-target interaction

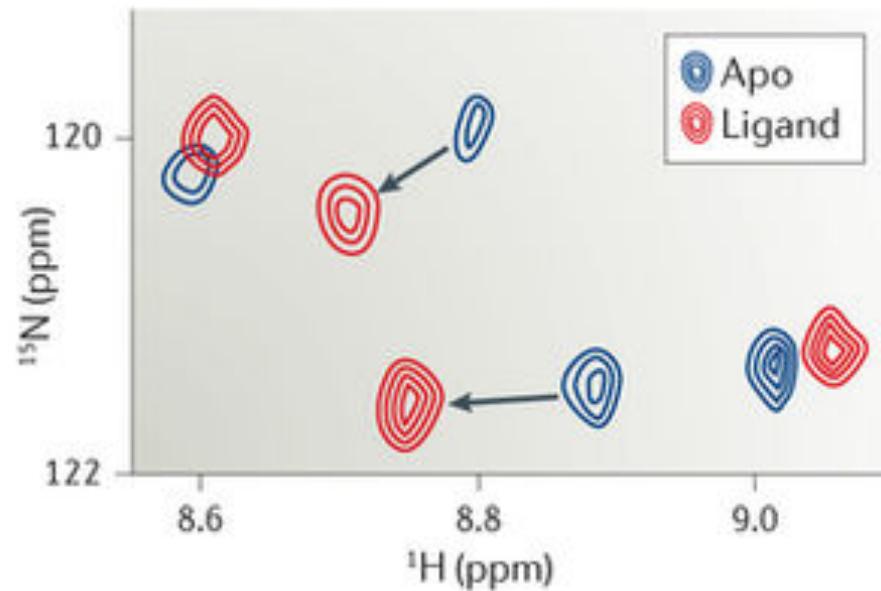


High resolution X-ray (or Cryo-EM) structure

Assessing drug-target interaction

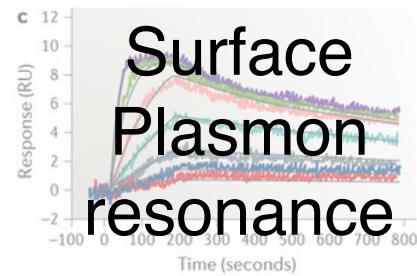
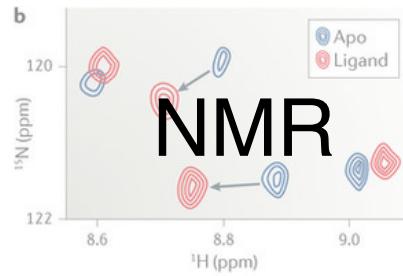
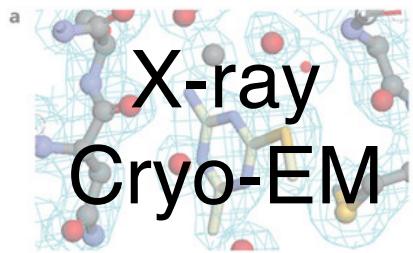


X-ray
Cryo-EM



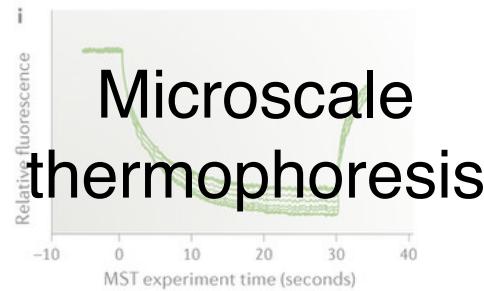
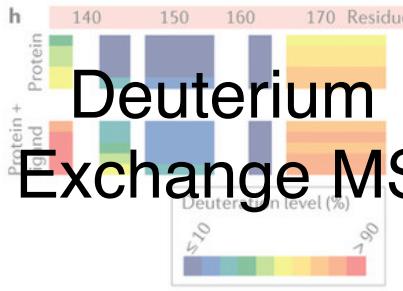
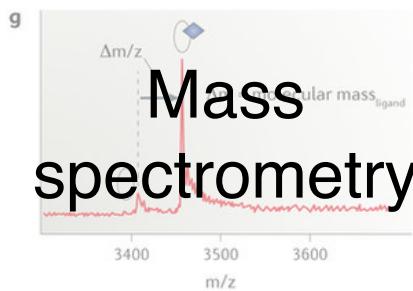
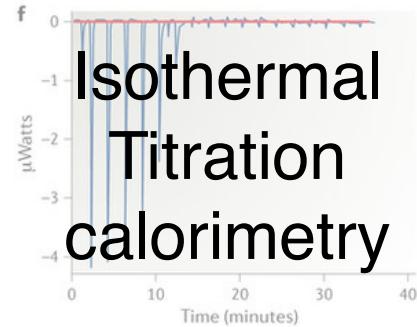
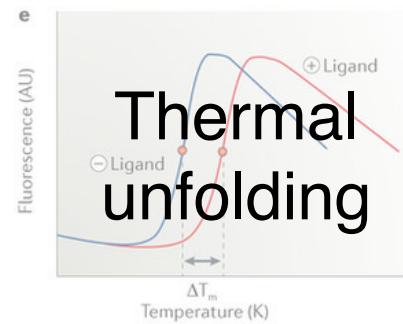
NMR

Assessing drug-target interaction



d

Fluorescent or
Radioligand
binding



Fragment based drug discovery

Library

15 heavy atoms
 $\sim 10^5$

Evaluate WEAK
binding

Rationally
optimize

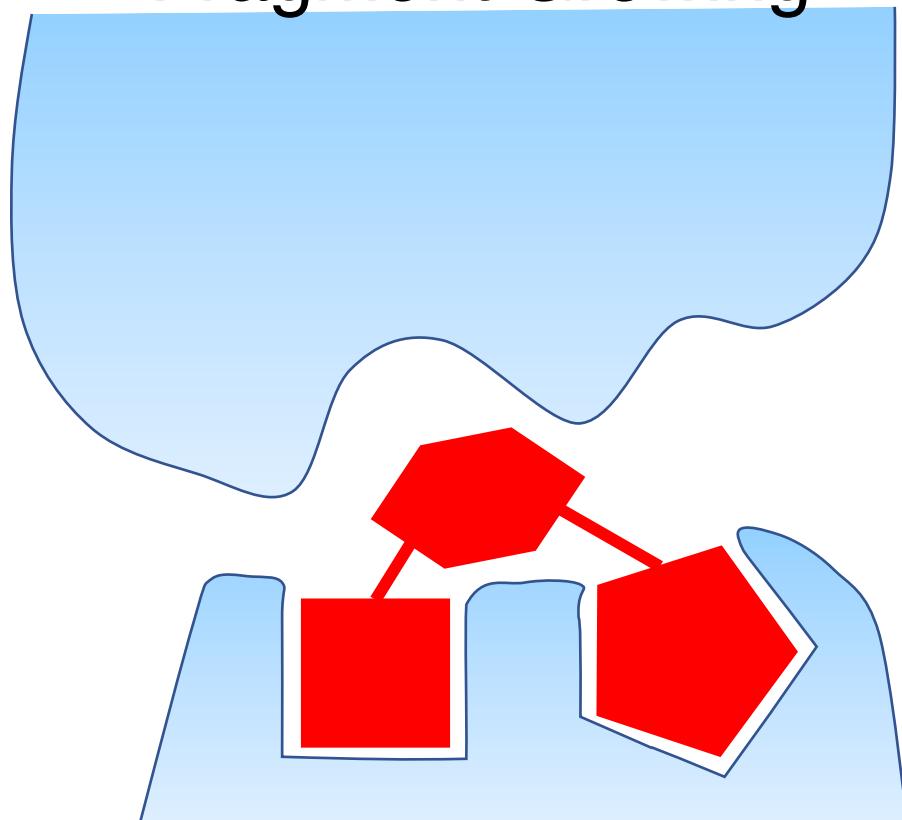
Candidate

Lead

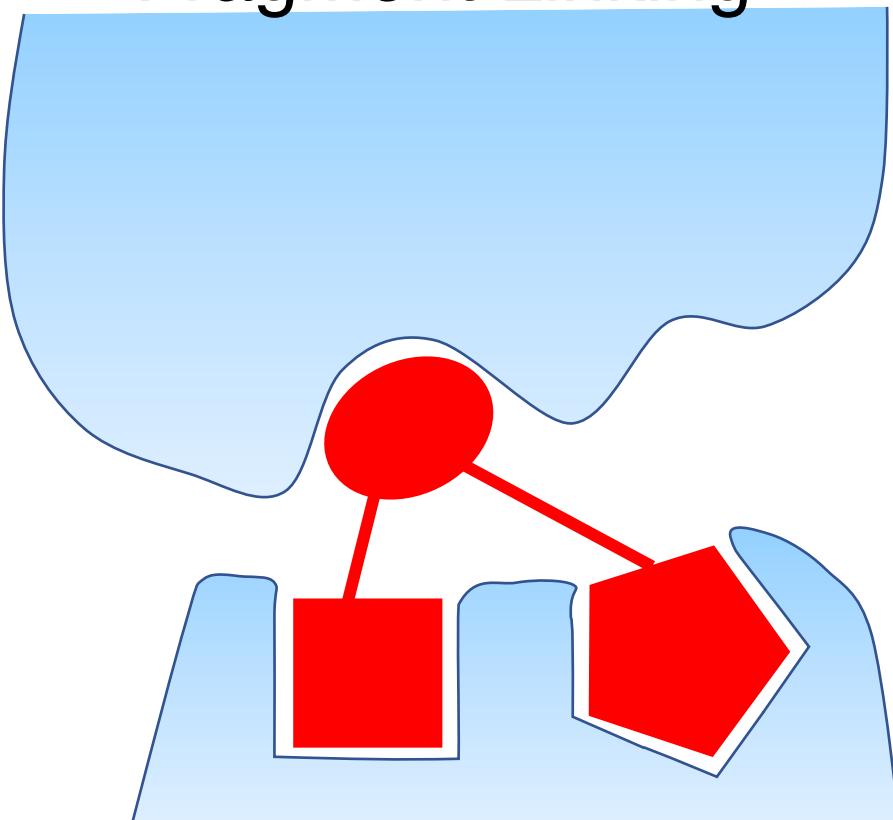


Increasing fragment potency

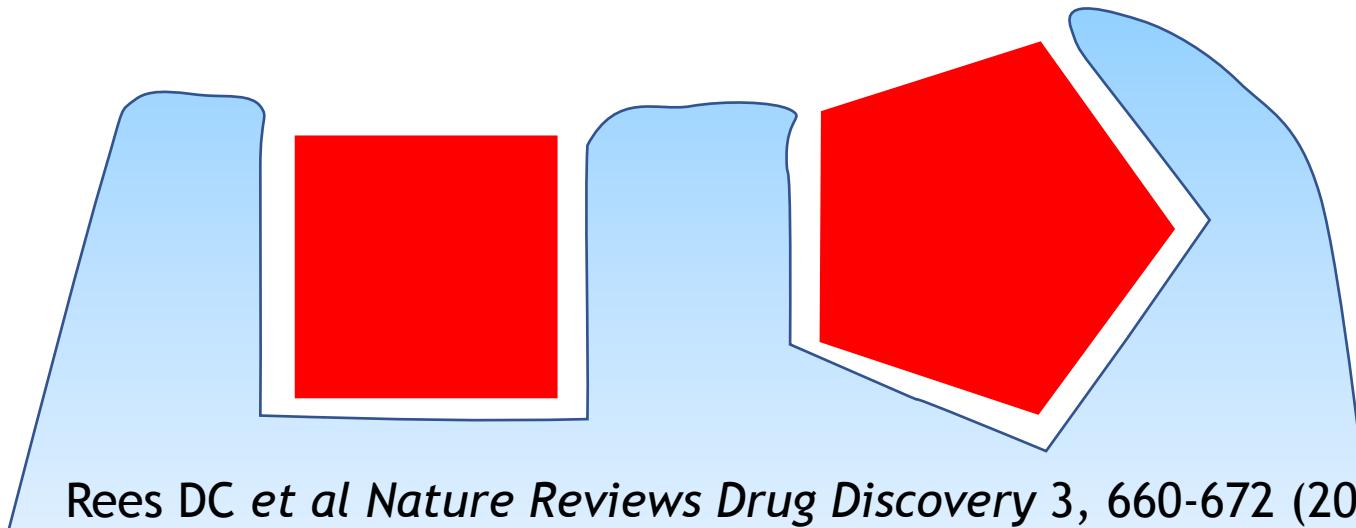
Fragment Growing



Fragment Linking



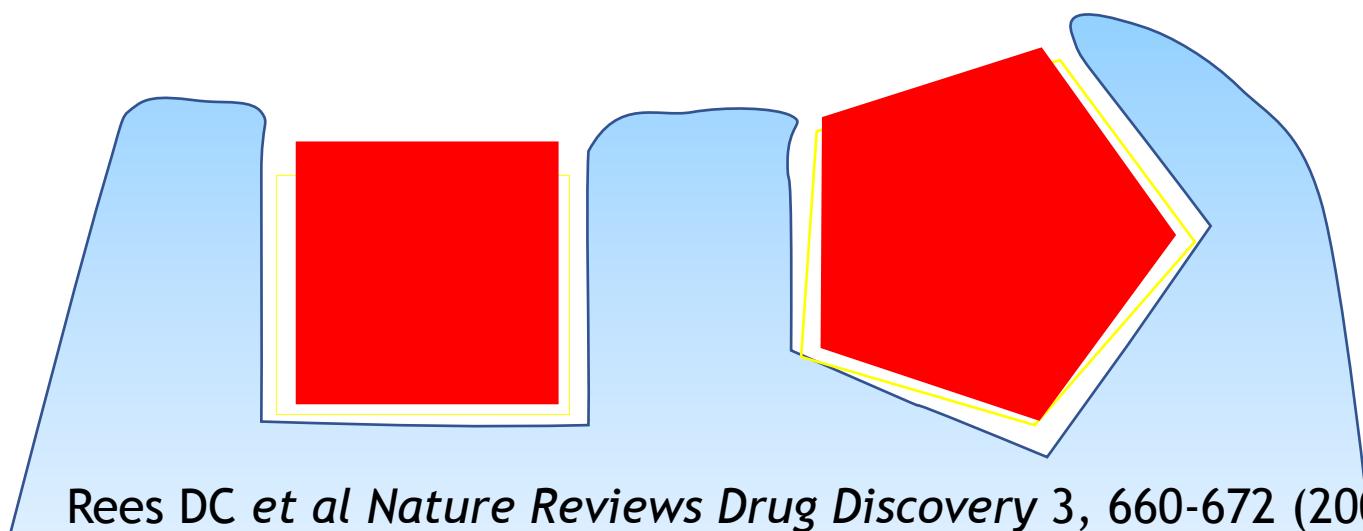
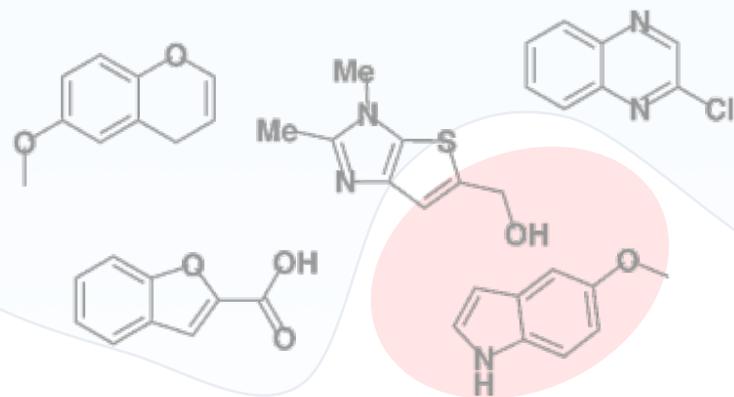
Thermodynamics of binding



Rees DC et al *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery* 3, 660-672 (2004).

Thermodynamics of binding

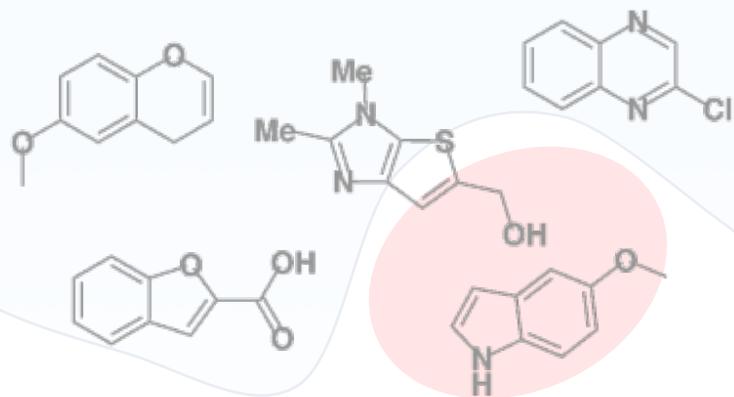
$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$$



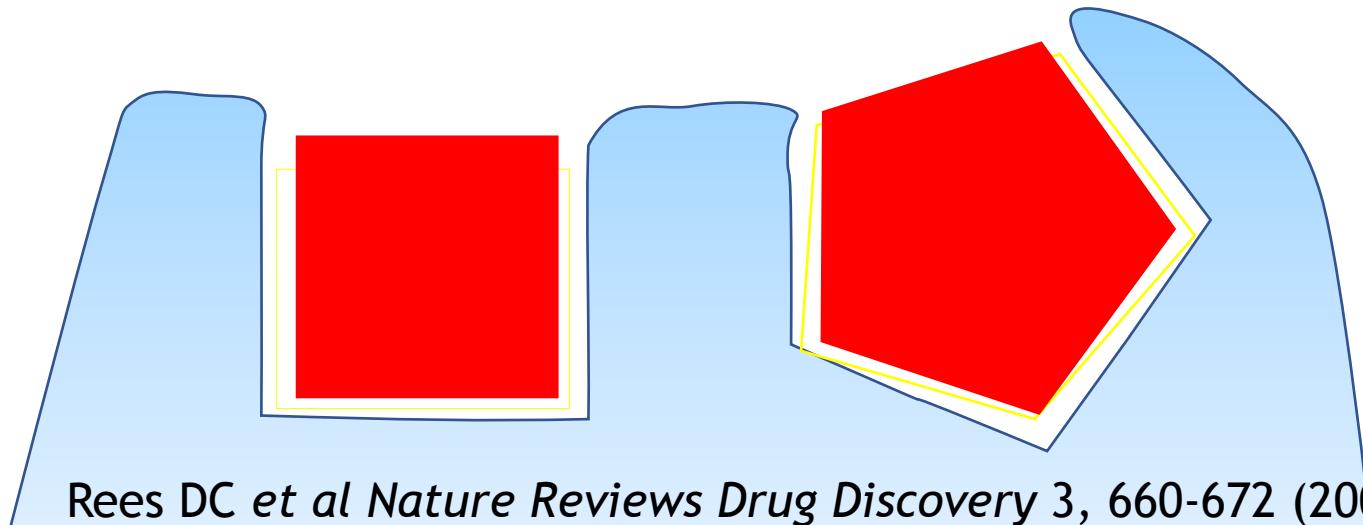
Rees DC et al *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery* 3, 660-672 (2004).

Thermodynamics of binding

$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$$



Fragments primarily
exploit enthalpy

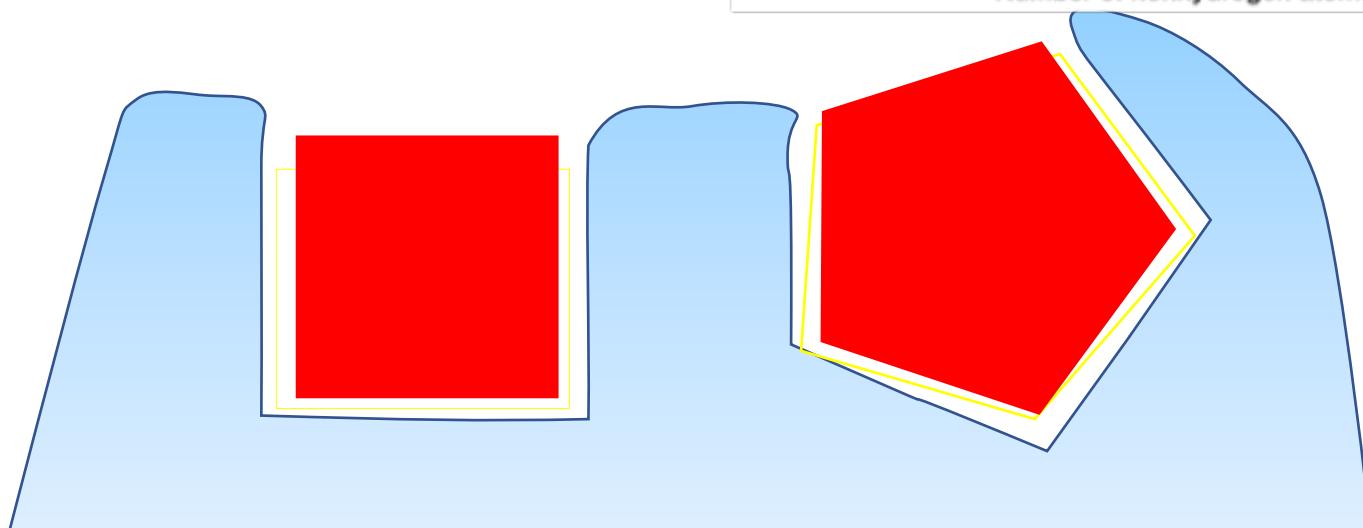
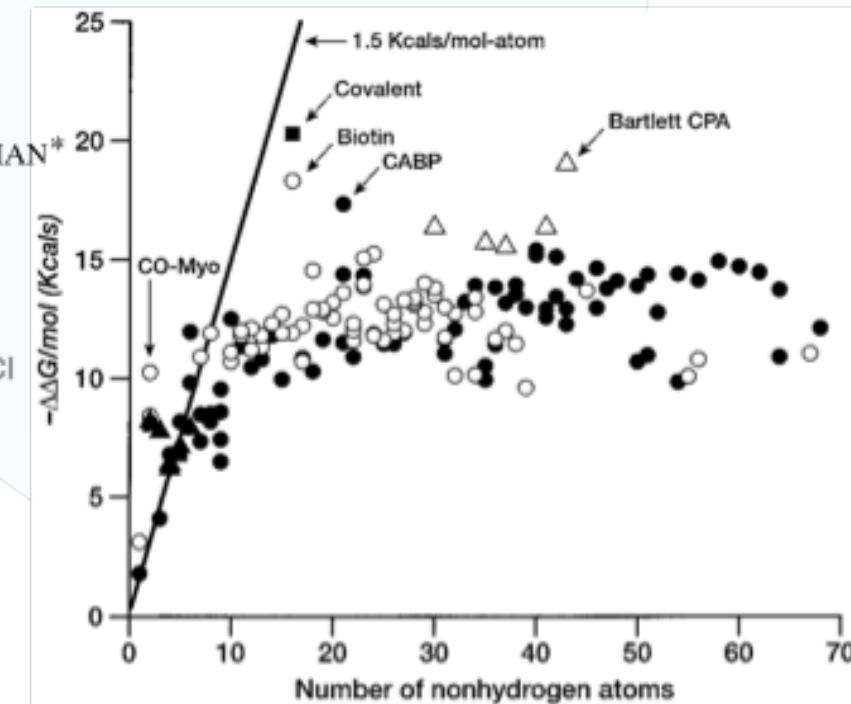
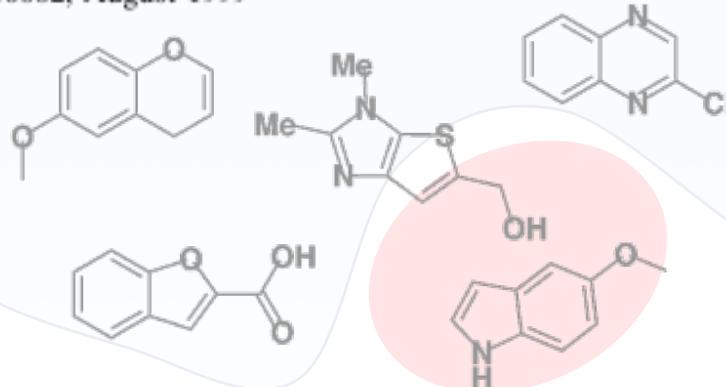


Fragments optimize binding interactions

The maximal affinity of ligands

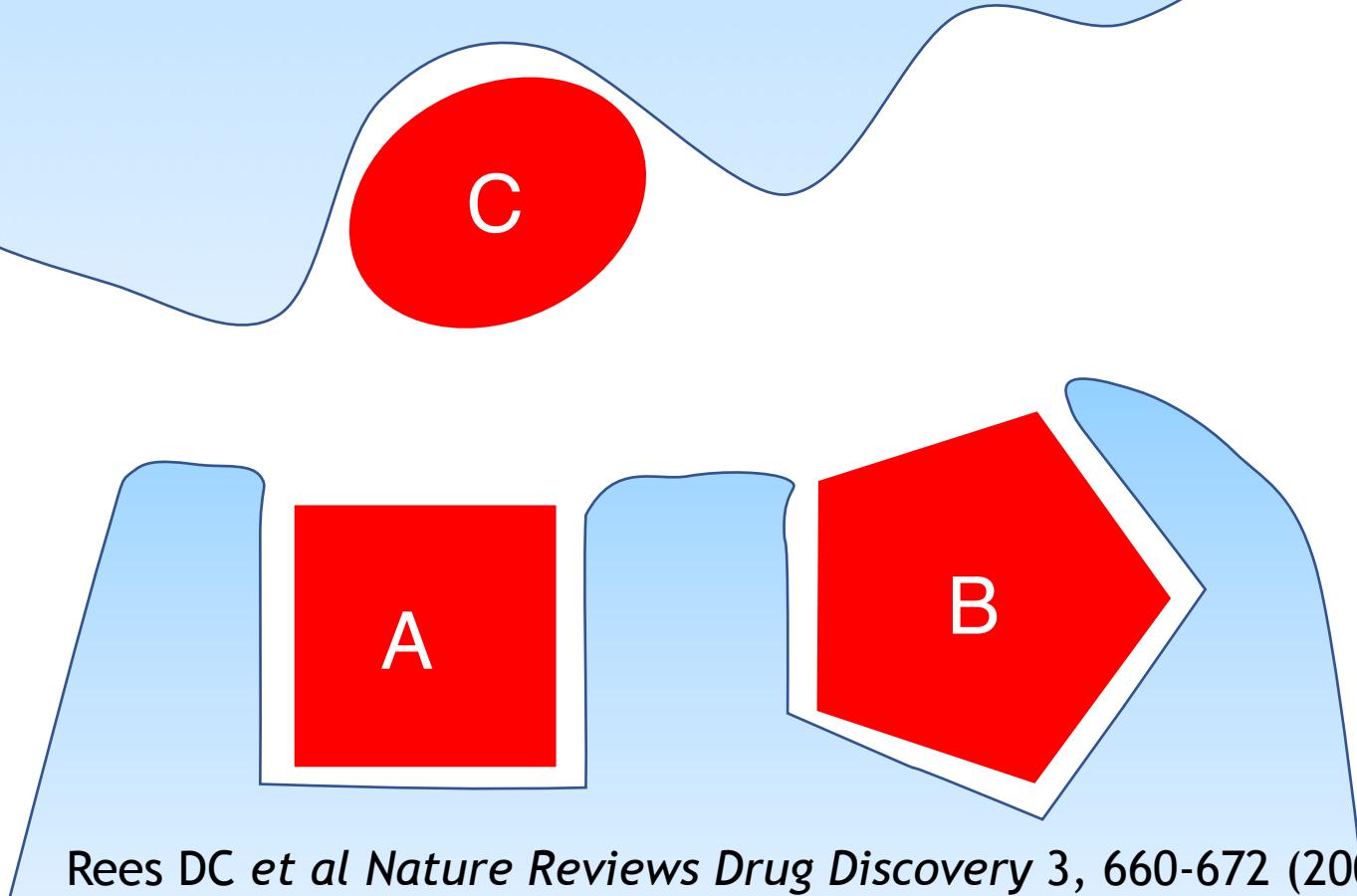
I. D. KUNTZ^{*†}, K. CHEN^{*}, K. A. SHARP^{‡§}, AND P. A. KOLLMAN^{*}

Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA
Vol. 96, pp. 9997–10002, August 1999
Chemistry



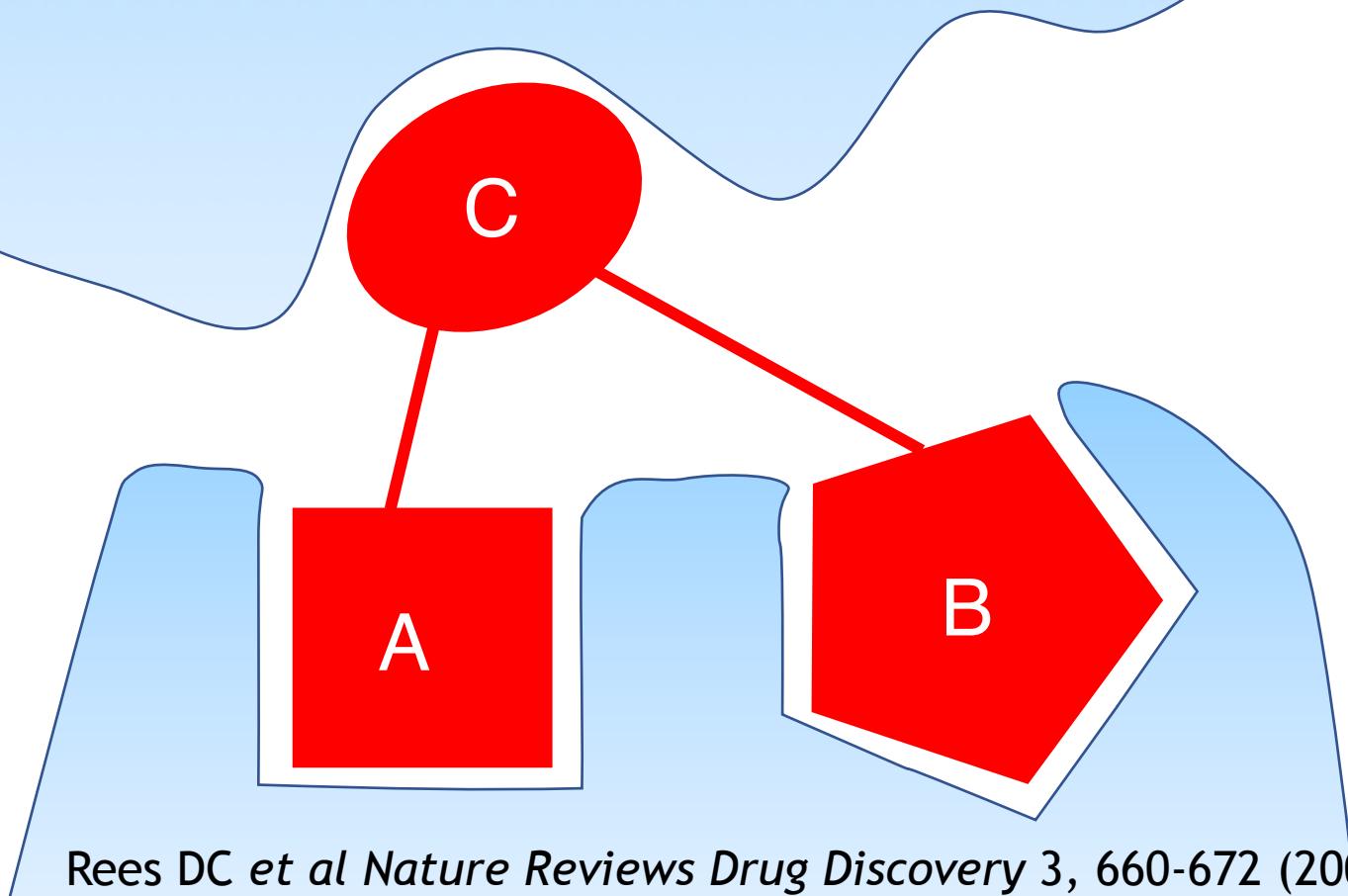
Thermodynamics of linking

$$\Delta G_A \quad \Delta G_B \quad \Delta G_C$$



Thermodynamics of linking

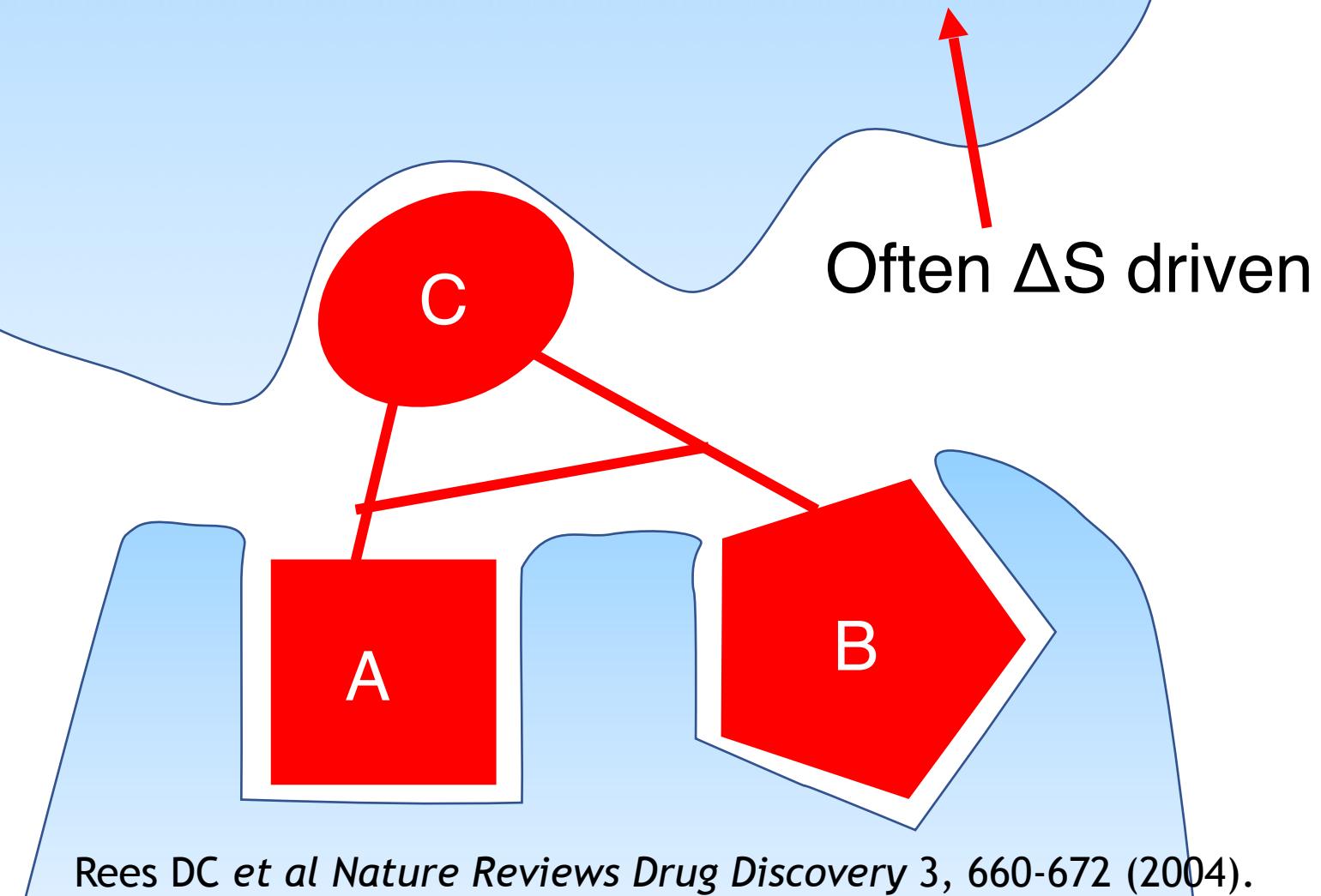
$$\Delta G_{\text{sum}} = \Delta G_A + \Delta G_B + \Delta G_C$$



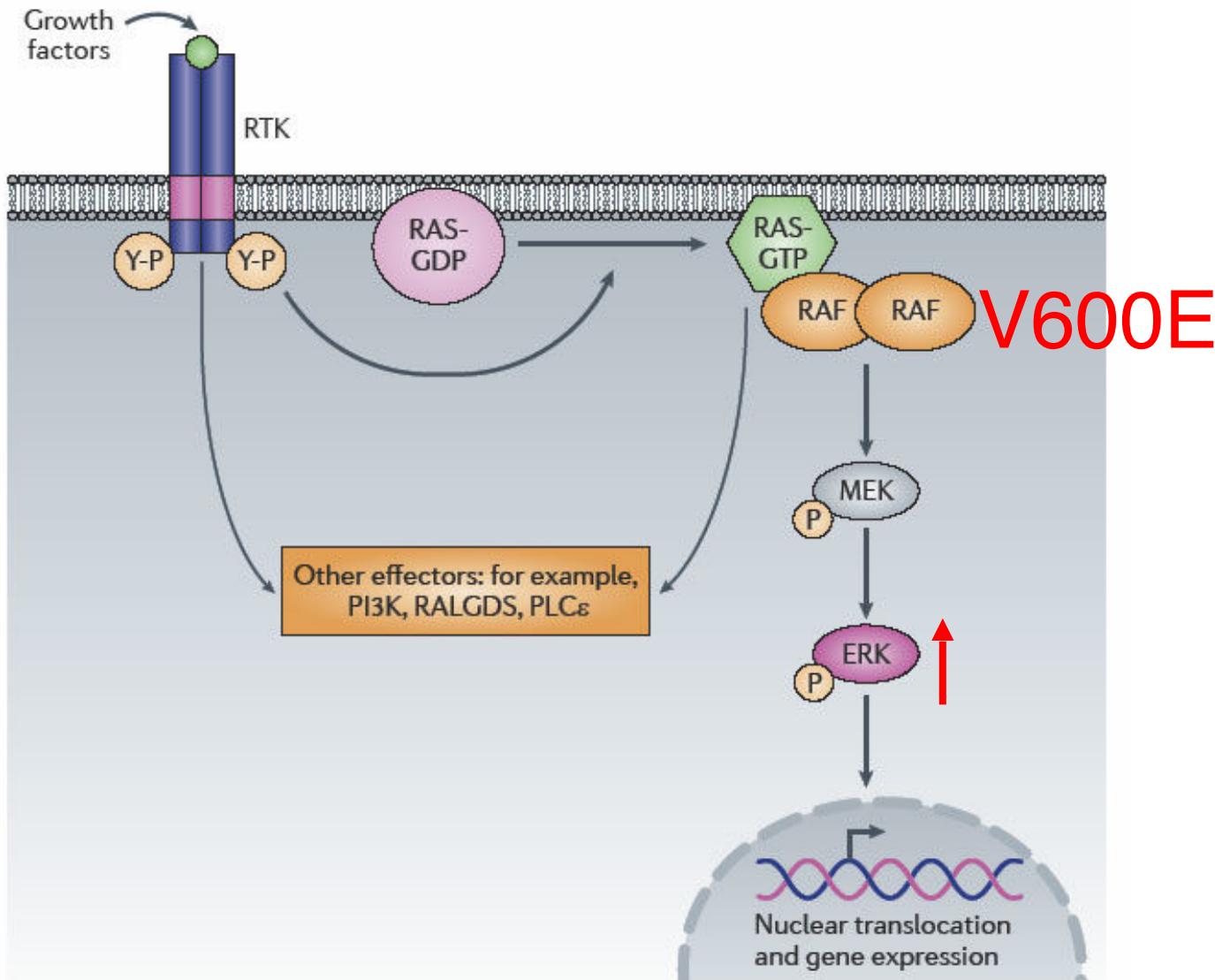
Thermodynamics of linking

$$\Delta G_{\text{sum}} = \Delta G_A + \Delta G_B + \Delta G_C + \Delta G_{\text{other}}$$

Often ΔS driven



Discovery of vemurafenib



Vemurafenib (V600E mutated B-raf inhibitor)

20,000 fragments

150-350 kDa

<8 H-bonds

Soluble

Few rotatable bonds

200 μM @ 5 kinases

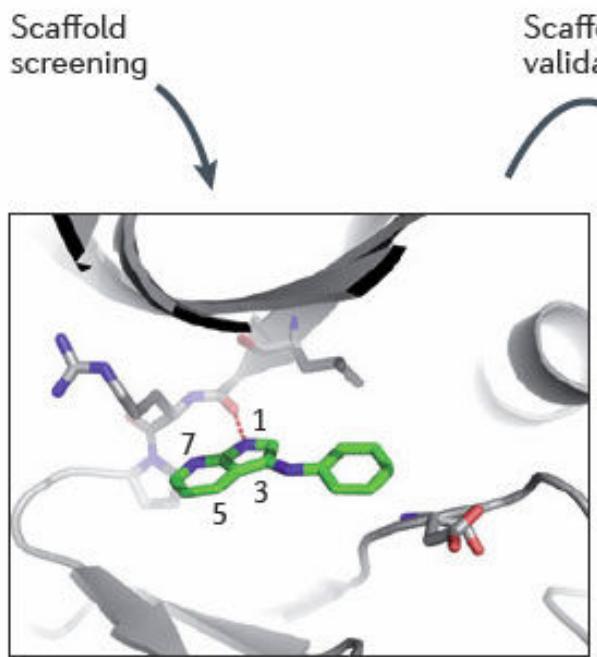
238 hits

Fragment growth

1 scaffold

100 cocrystal structures

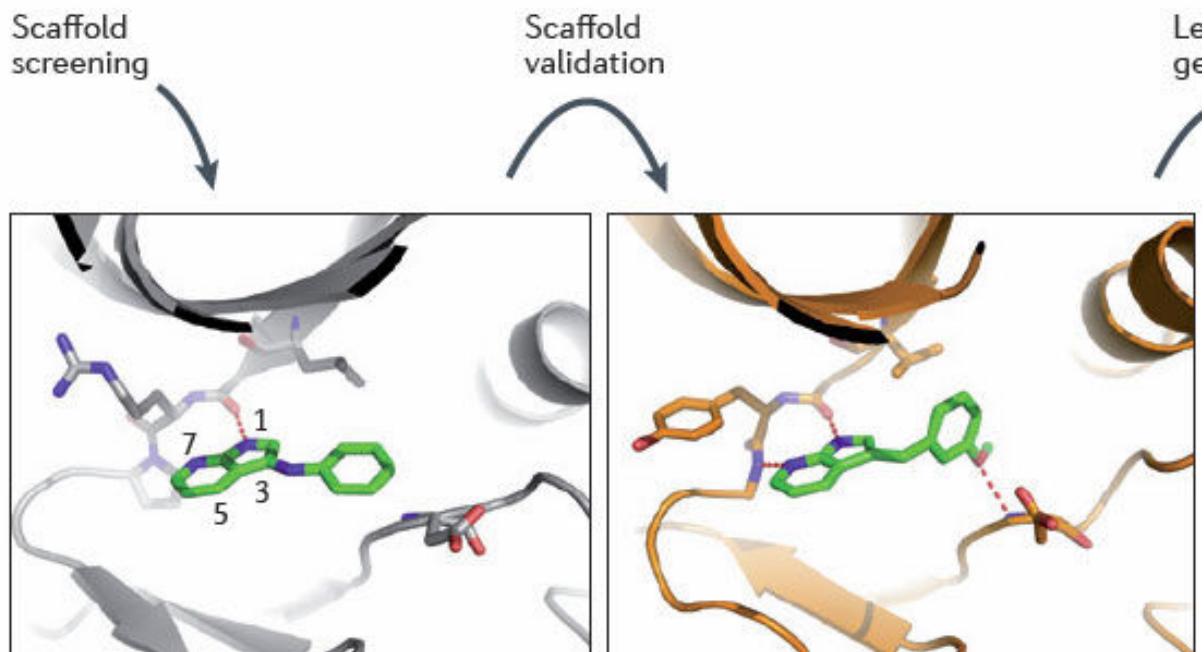
Vemurafenib (V600E mutated B-raf inhibitor)



Compound 1

- IC₅₀ in mM range
- Low affinity: ~200 μM
- Low specificity
- Crystallized with PIM1

Vemurafenib (V600E mutated B-raf inhibitor)



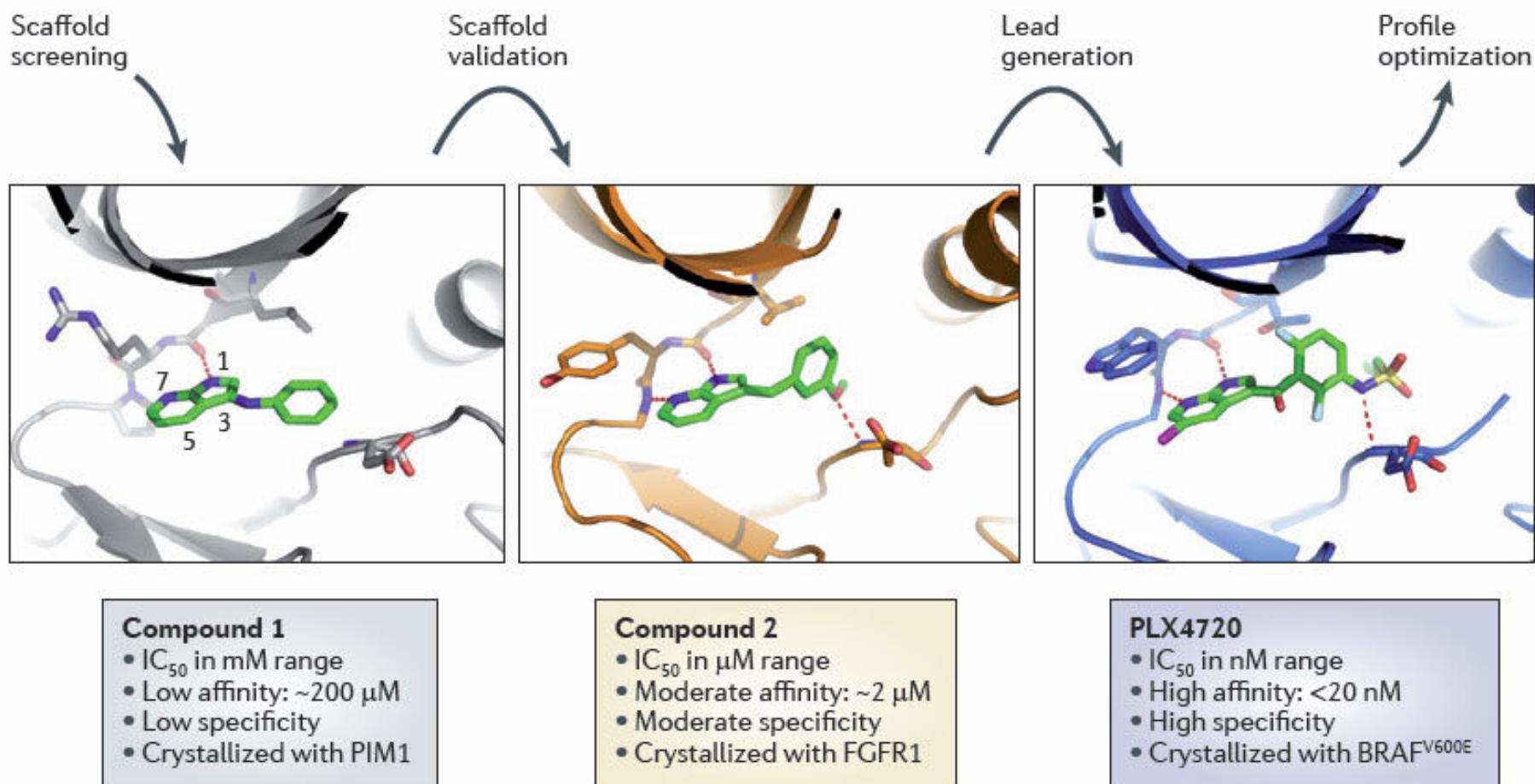
Compound 1

- IC_{50} in mM range
- Low affinity: ~200 μ M
- Low specificity
- Crystallized with PIM1

Compound 2

- IC_{50} in μ M range
- Moderate affinity: ~2 μ M
- Moderate specificity
- Crystallized with FGFR1

Vemurafenib (V600E mutated B-raf inhibitor)



And it works!

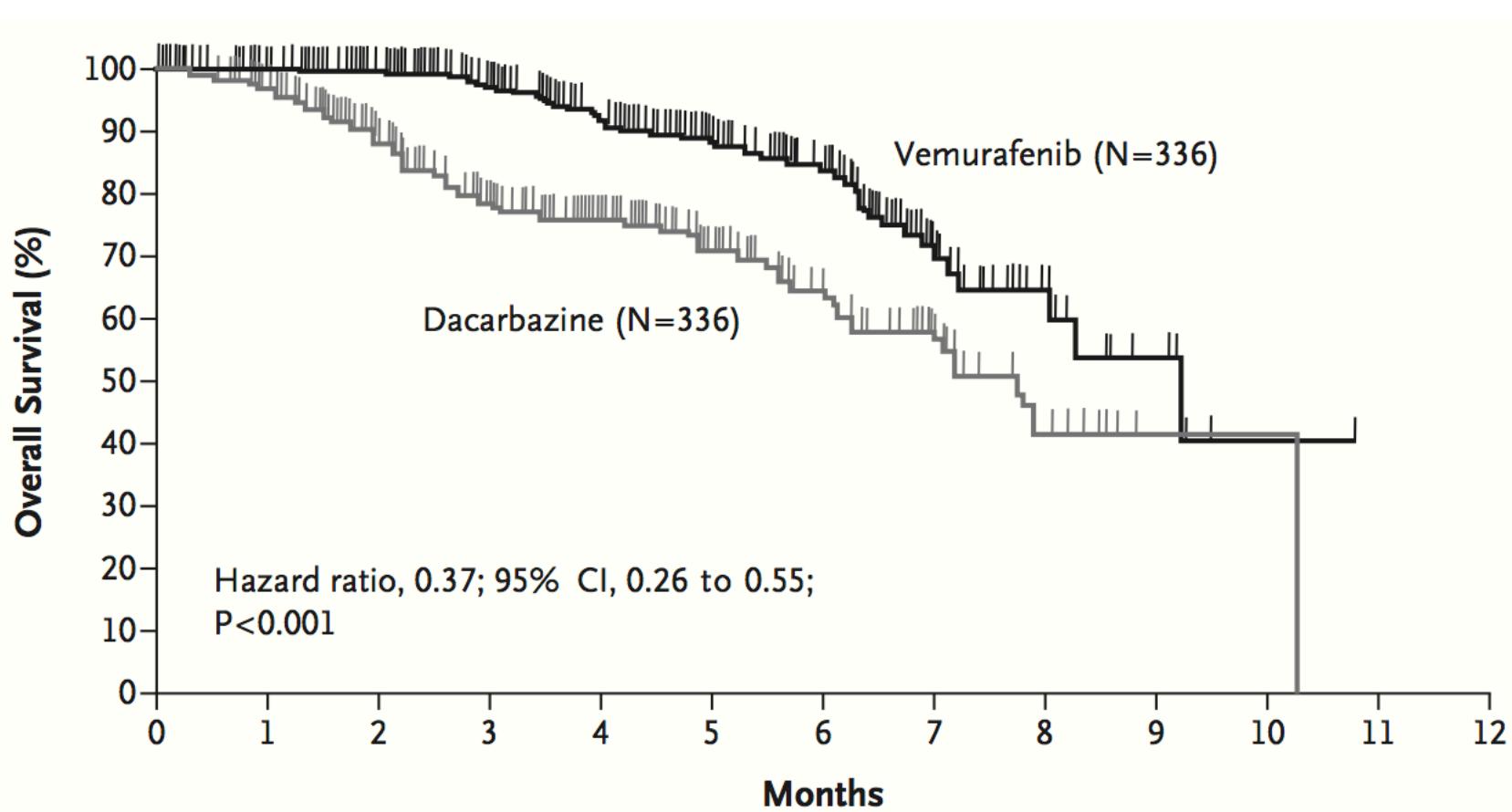
The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

N ENGL J MED 364;26 NEJM.ORG JUNE 30, 2011

Improved Survival with Vemurafenib in Melanoma with BRAF V600E Mutation

Vemurafenib improves overall survival

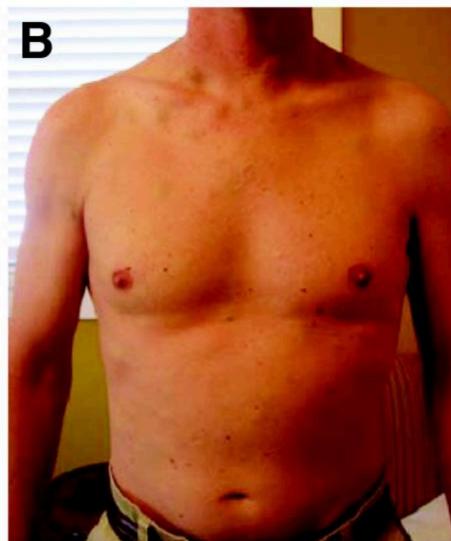


But nothing is ever easy...

After ipilimumab,
dacarbazine,
carboplatin/
paclitaxel/
interferon/IL2



+ 15 weeks of
vemurafenib



+ 23 weeks of
vemurafenib



But nothing is ever easy...

Vol 464 | 18 March 2010 | doi:10.1038/nature08902

nature

LETTERS

RAF inhibitors transactivate RAF dimers and ERK signalling in cells with wild-type BRAF

Poulikos I. Poulikakos¹, Chao Zhang², Gideon Bollag³, Kevan M. Shokat² & Neal Rosen¹

=> ~30% squamous cell-carcinomas

But nothing is ever easy...

Vol 464 | 18 March 2010 | doi:10.1038/nature08

nature

RAF inhibitors tip the balance in signalling in cell

Poulikos I, Poulikakos¹, Chao Zhan

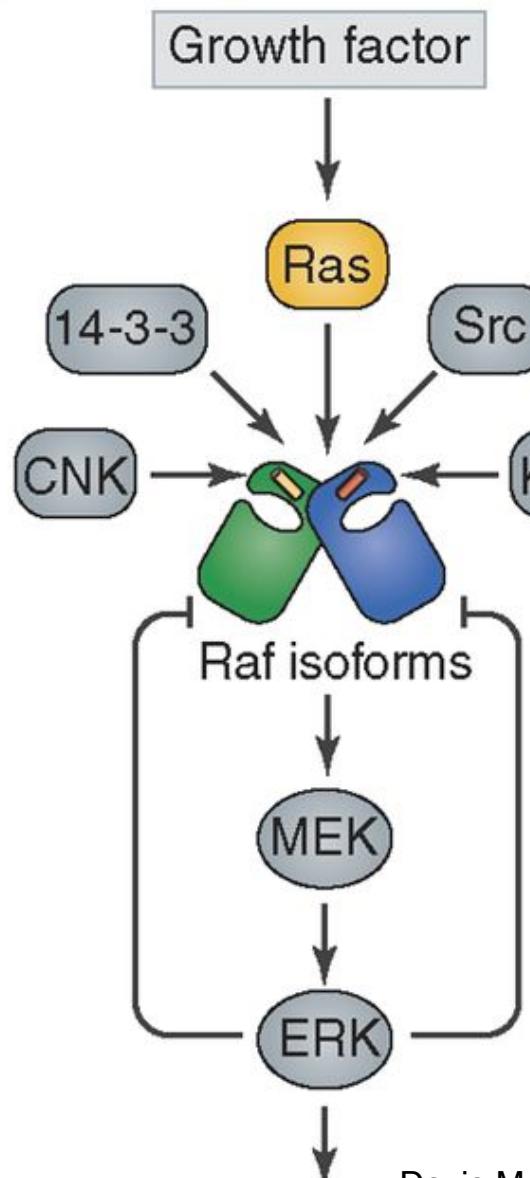
LETTERS

mers and ERK
AF

real Rosen¹

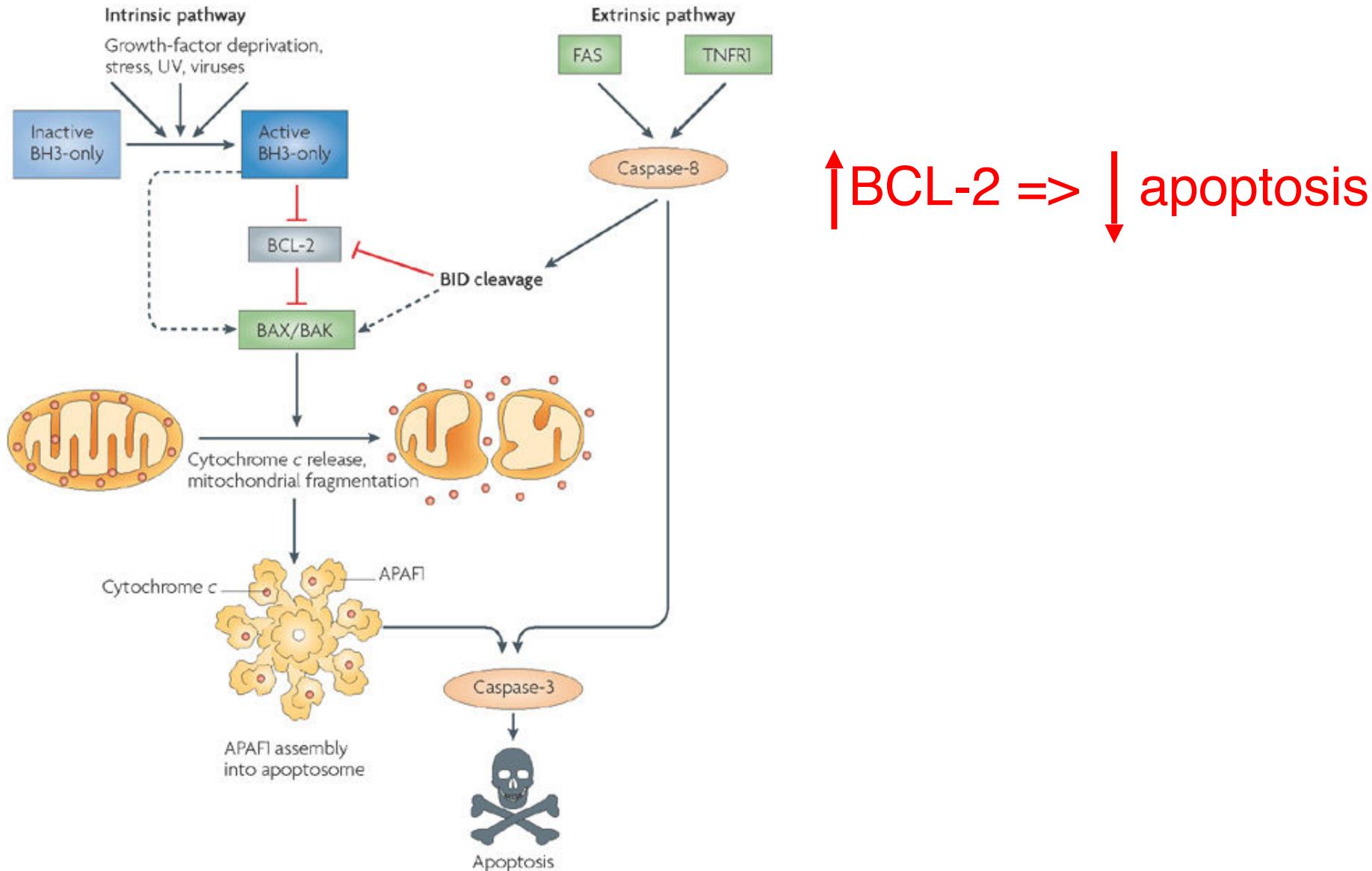
: carcinomas

=> ~30%

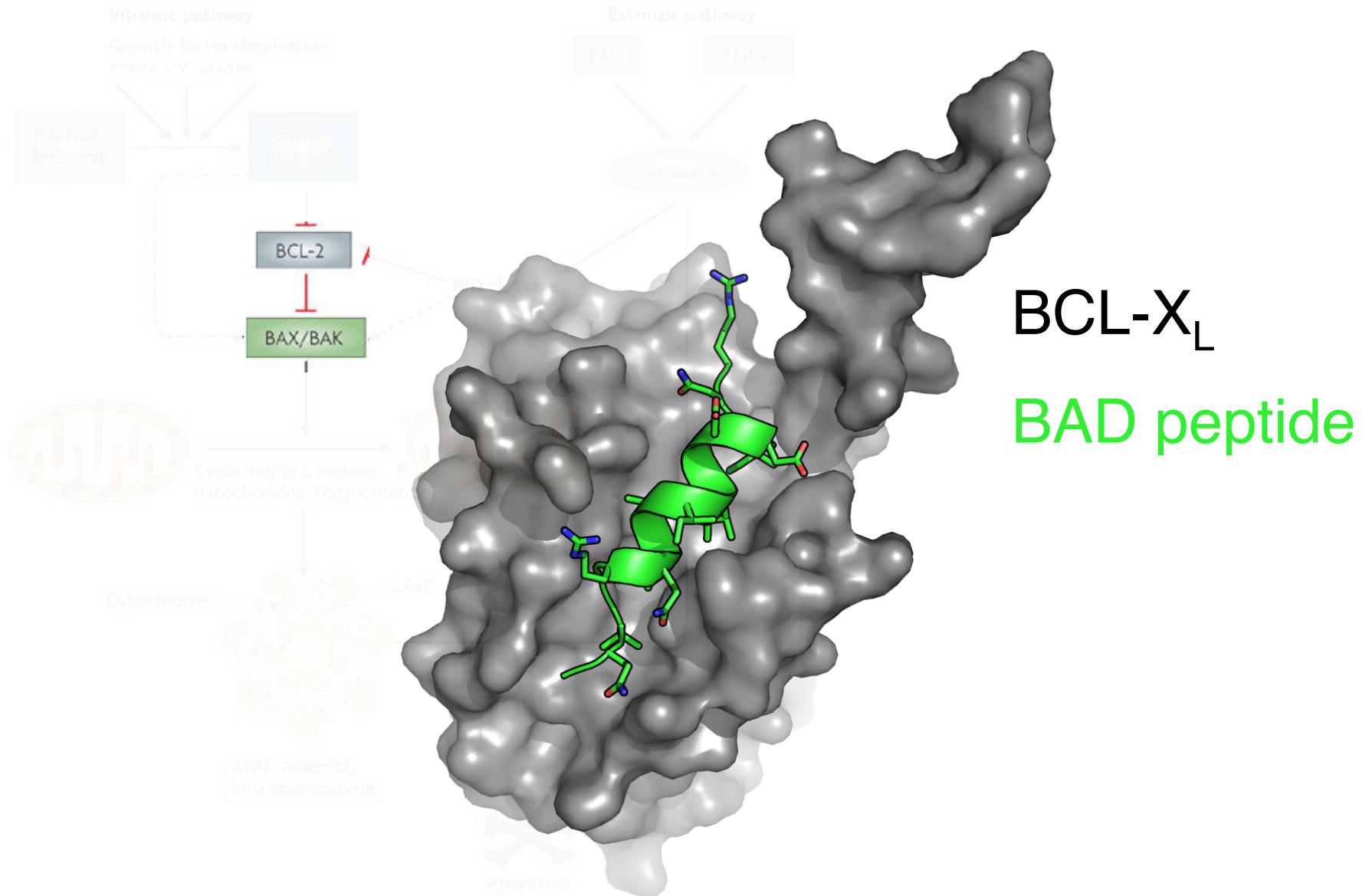


But what about "challenging" targets?

Discovery of venetoclax



BCL-xL is a classic “challenging” target



“SAR by NMR”

9373 fragments

+3472 fragments

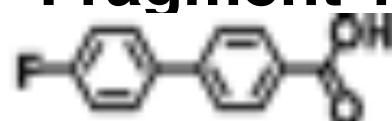
NMR to test sets of 10

660 cmpds

NMR to retest

**49 w/
Kd < 5 mM**

Fragment 1



+3472 fragments

NMR to test sets of 5

300 cmpds

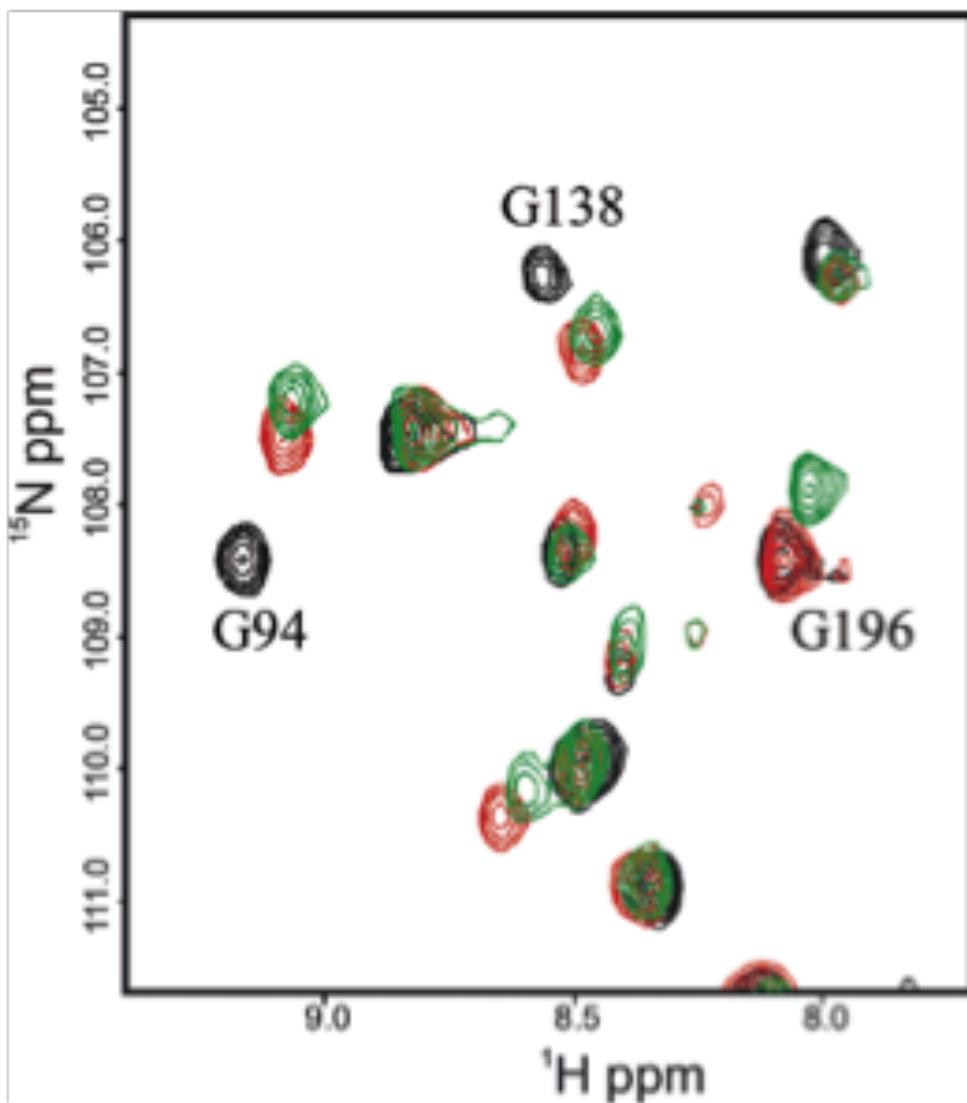
NMR to retest

**24 w/
Kd < 5 mM**

Fragment 2



Fragment Based Discovery by NMR



BCL-X_L protein alone

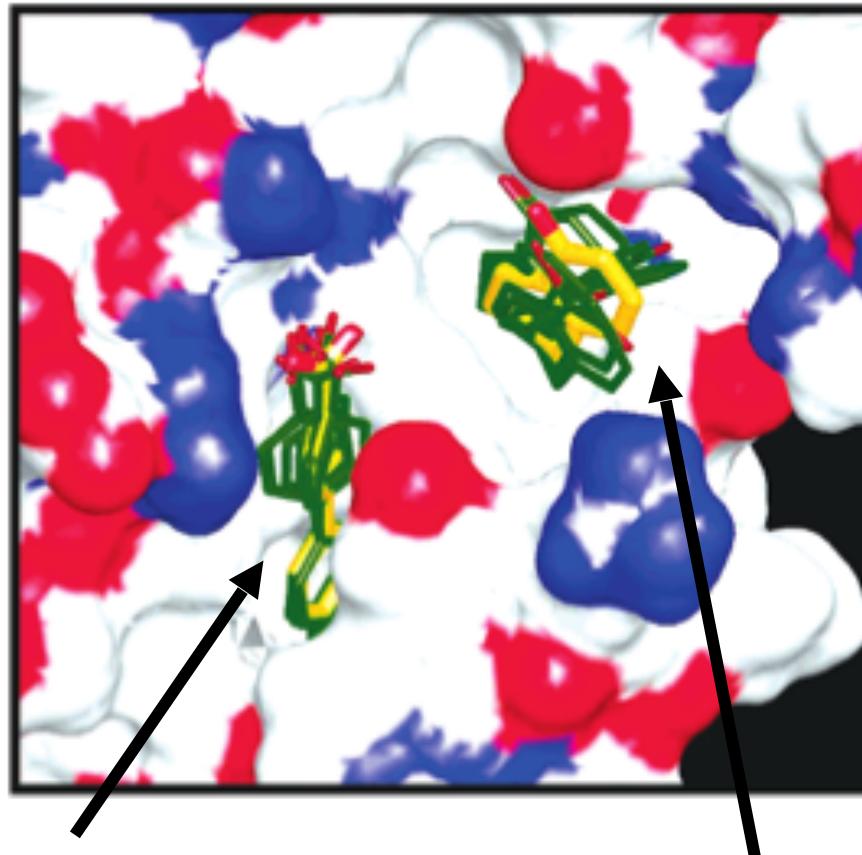
+ Fragment 1



+ Fragment 2



Fragment Based Discovery by NMR

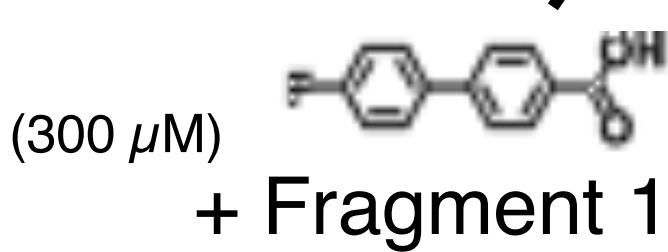
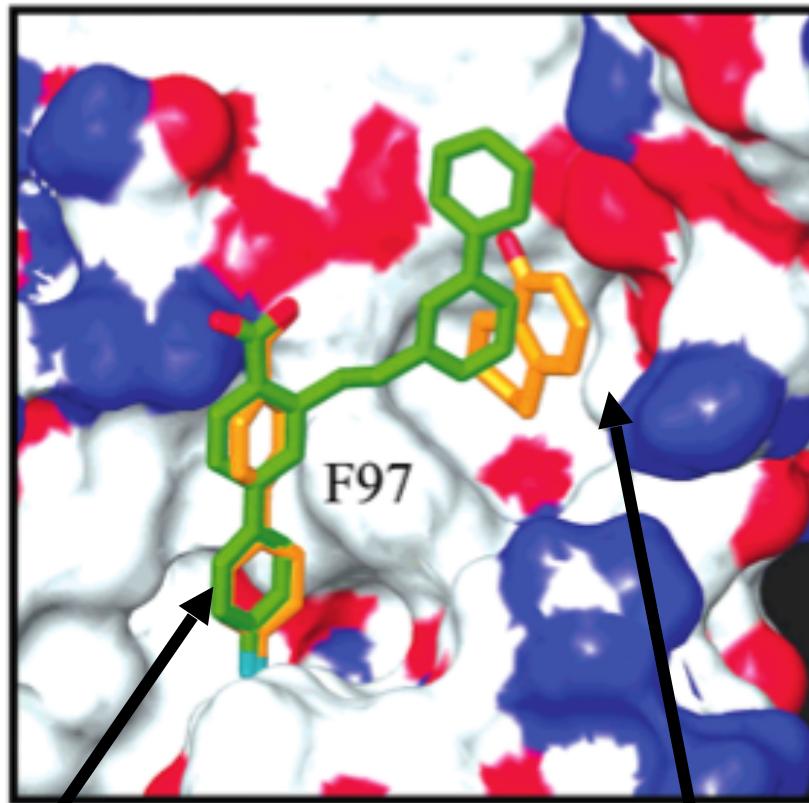


Fragment 1

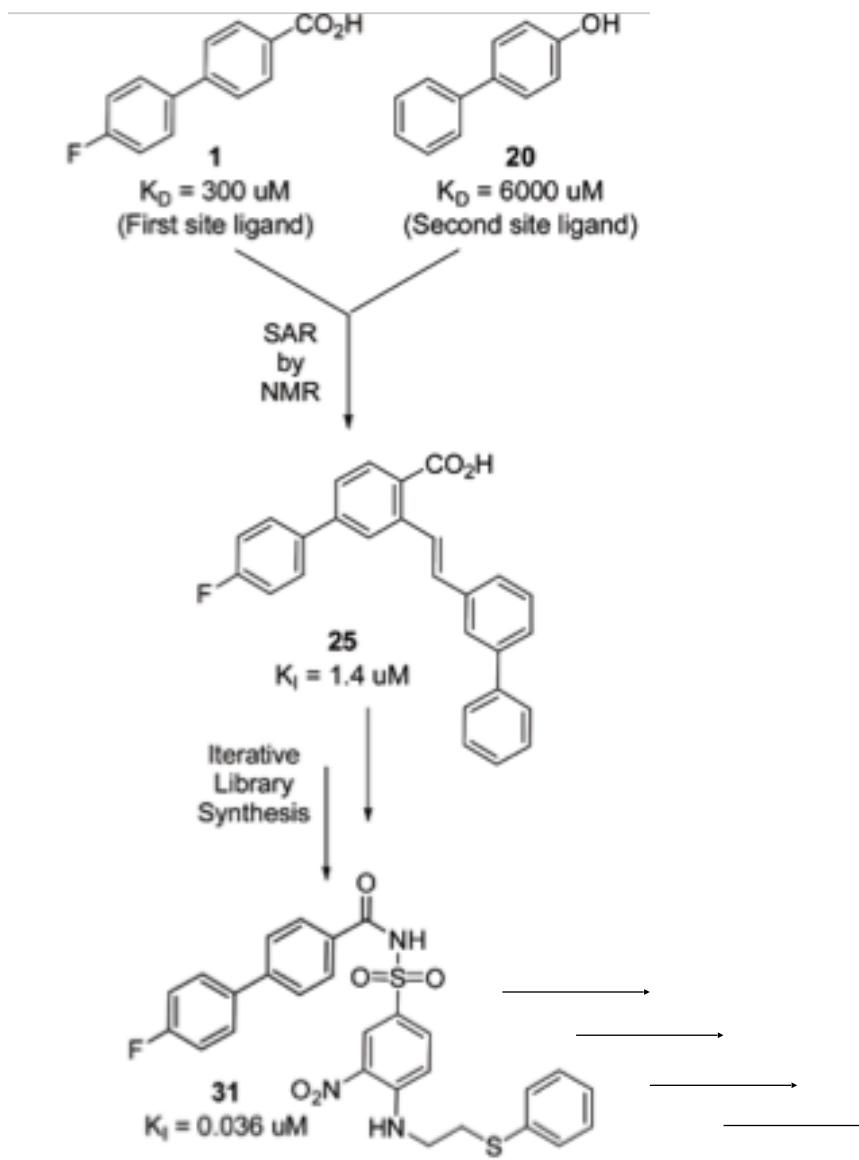


Fragment 2

Fragment Based Discovery by NMR



Fragment Based Discovery by NMR



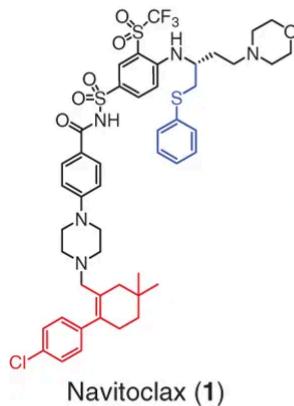
Crystallography lead to combining ideas

ABT-199, a potent and selective BCL-2 inhibitor, achieves antitumor activity while sparing platelets

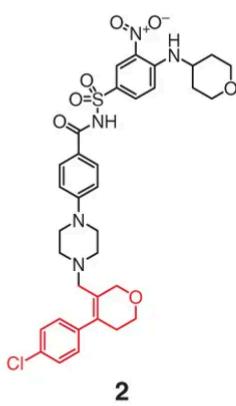
Andrew J Souers Joel D Leverson, [...] Steven W Elmore

Nature Medicine 19, 202–208(2013) | Cite this article

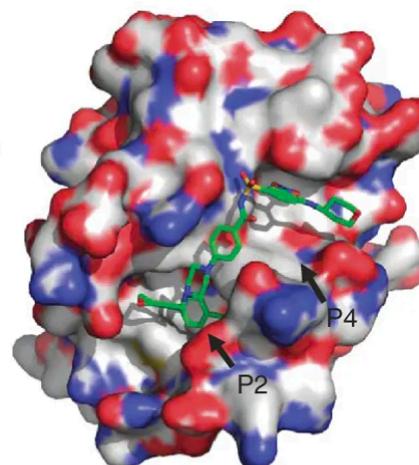
a



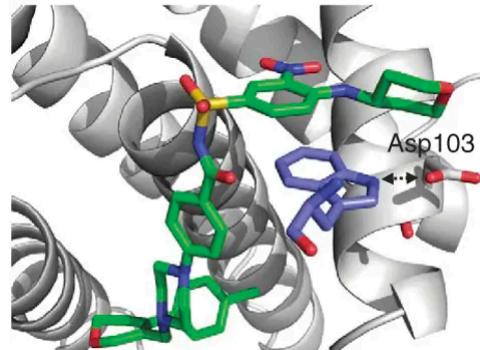
b



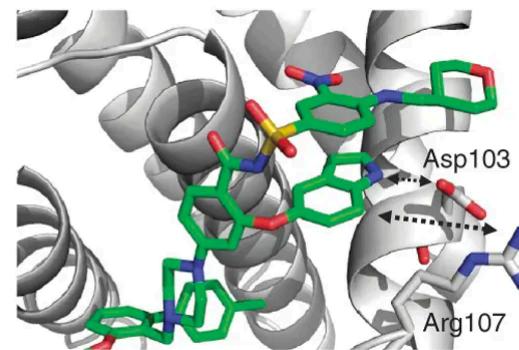
b



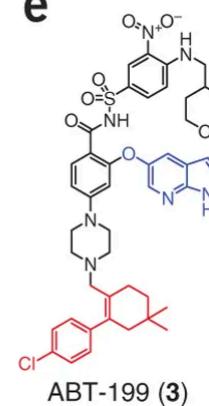
c

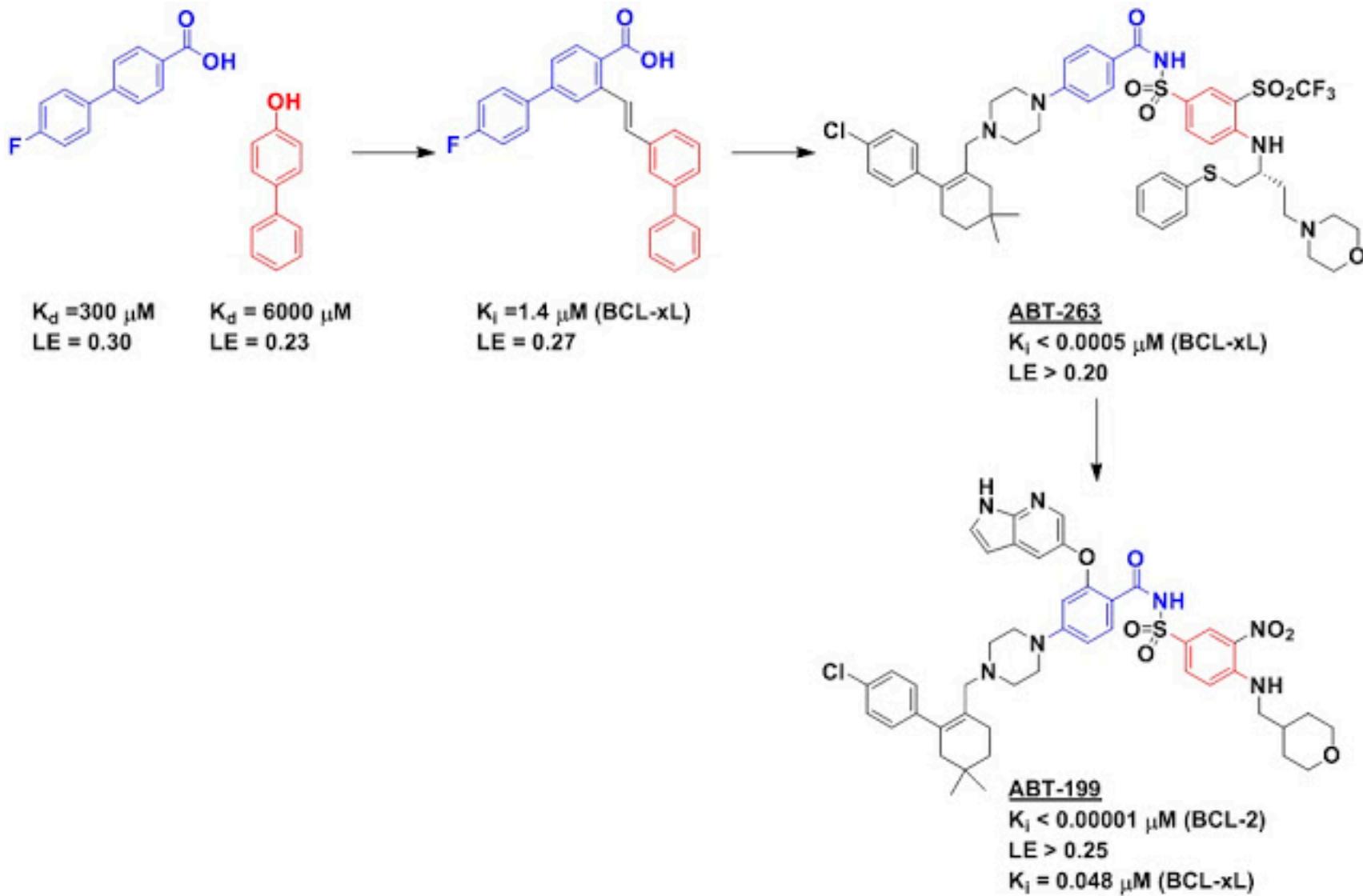


d

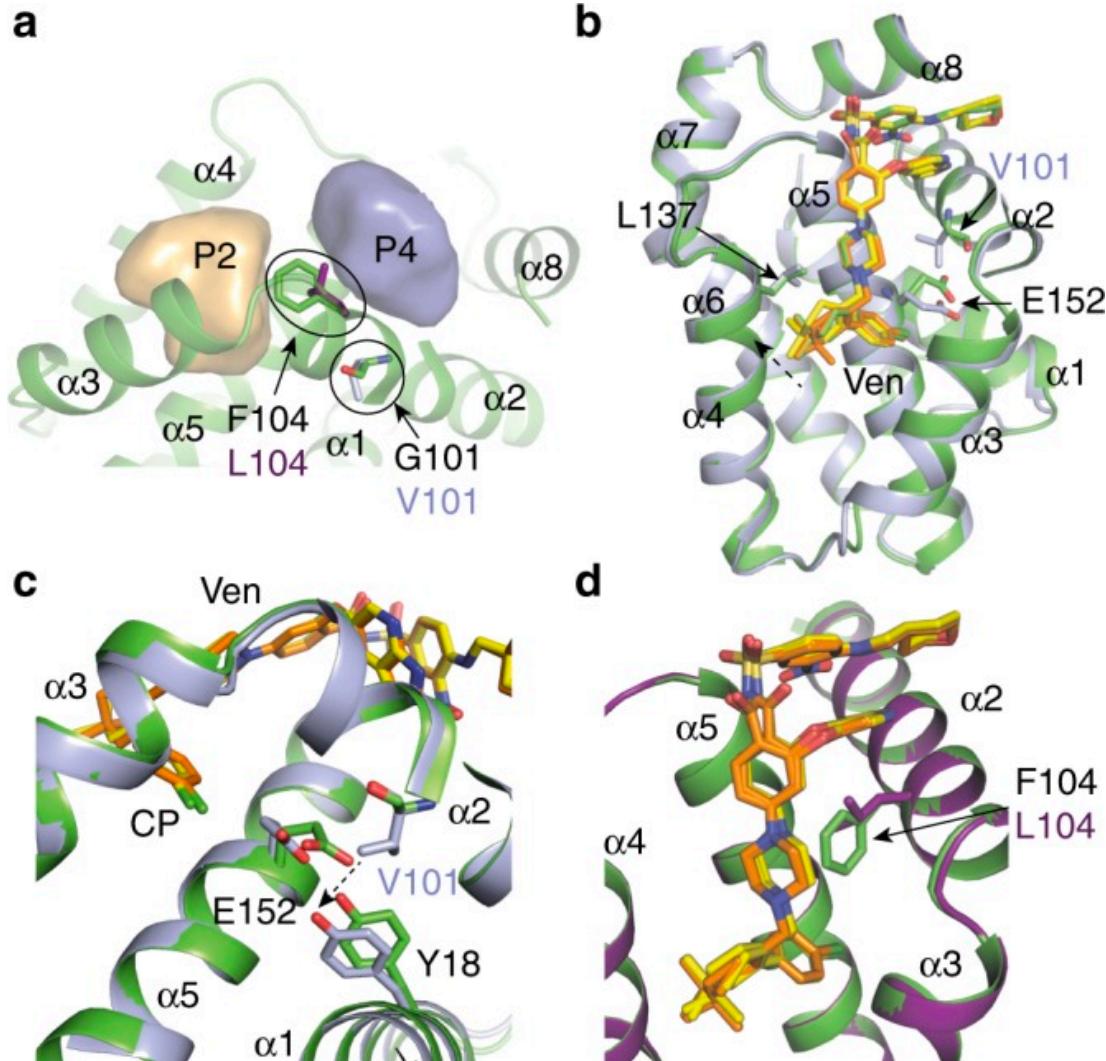


e





Resistance to venetoclax is already emerging



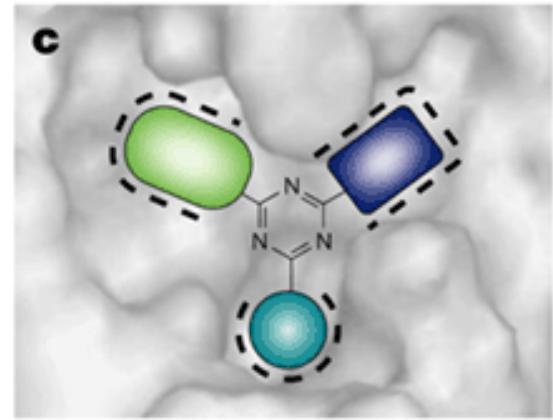
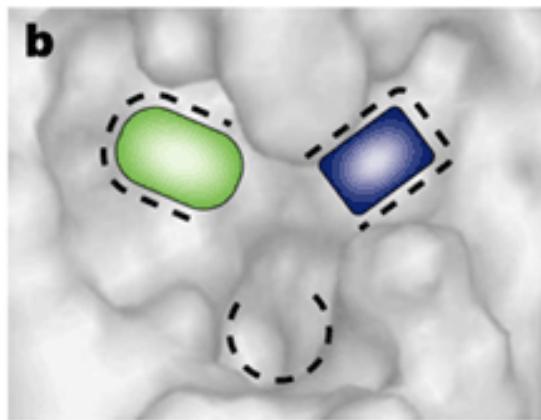
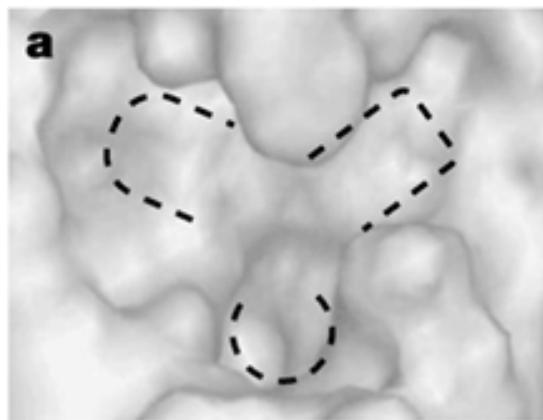
Nat Commun. 2019; 10: 2385.
Published online 2019 Jun 3. doi: [10.1038/s41467-019-10363-1](https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-019-10363-1)

PMCID: PMC6547681
PMID: [31160589](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31160589/)

Structures of BCL-2 in complex with venetoclax reveal the molecular basis of resistance mutations

Richard W. Birkinshaw,^{1,2} Jia-nan Gong,^{1,2} Cindy S. Luo,^{1,2} Daisy Lio,^{1,2} Christine A. White,^{1,2} Mary Ann Anderson,^{1,2,3} Piers Blomberg,^{3,4,5} Guillaume Lessene,^{1,2,6} Ian J. Majewski,^{1,2} Rachel Thijssen,^{1,2} Andrew W. Roberts,^{1,2,3,7,8} David C. S. Huang,^{1,2} Peter M. Colman,^{1,2} and Peter E. Czabotar^{1,2}

Crystallographic **fragment screening** allows us to cover the PTP1B surface and chemical space to find ligands for these (and undiscovered!) cryptic sites



Blundell, Jhoti, Abell
Nat Rev Drug Disc, 2012

Subsequent fragment assembly can increase affinity

We beta-tested a new **fragment-soaking** pipeline at Diamond synchrotron



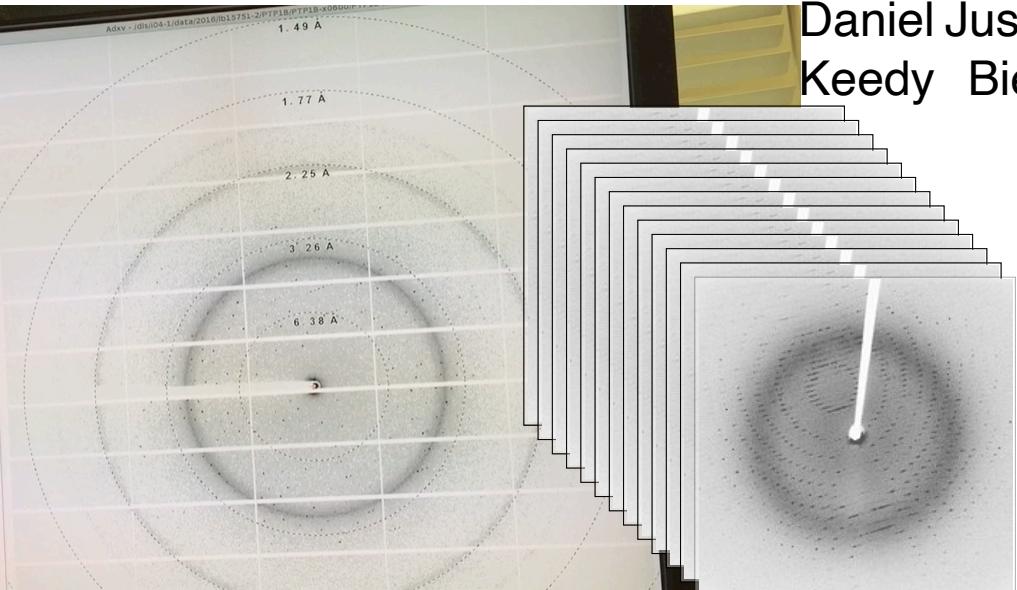
Daniel Justin
Keedy Biel



collaborat

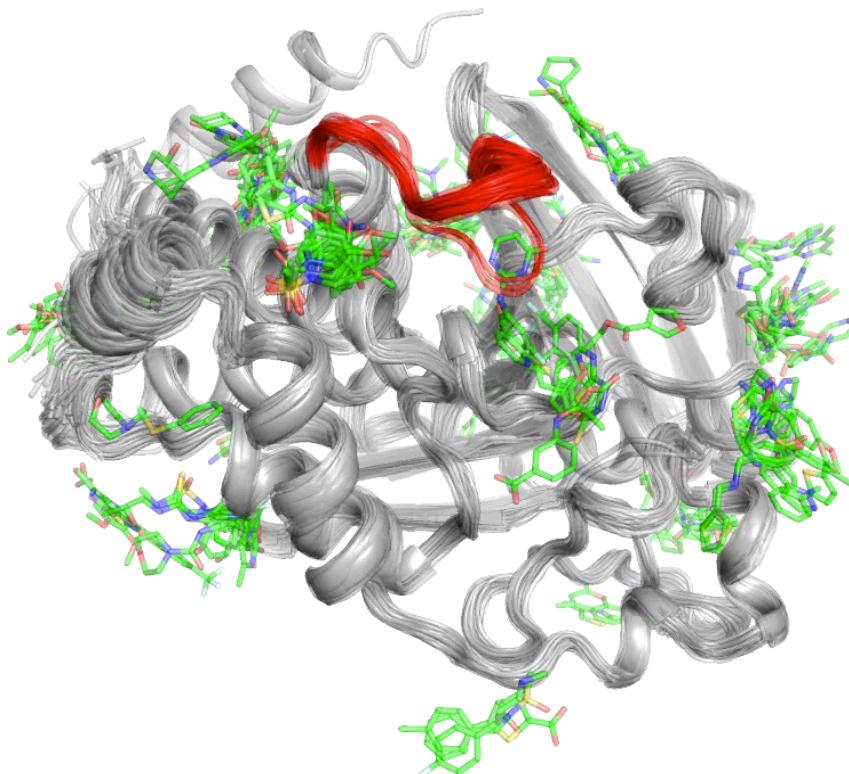


Frank von Delft Collins...von Delft, Acta Cryst D, 2016

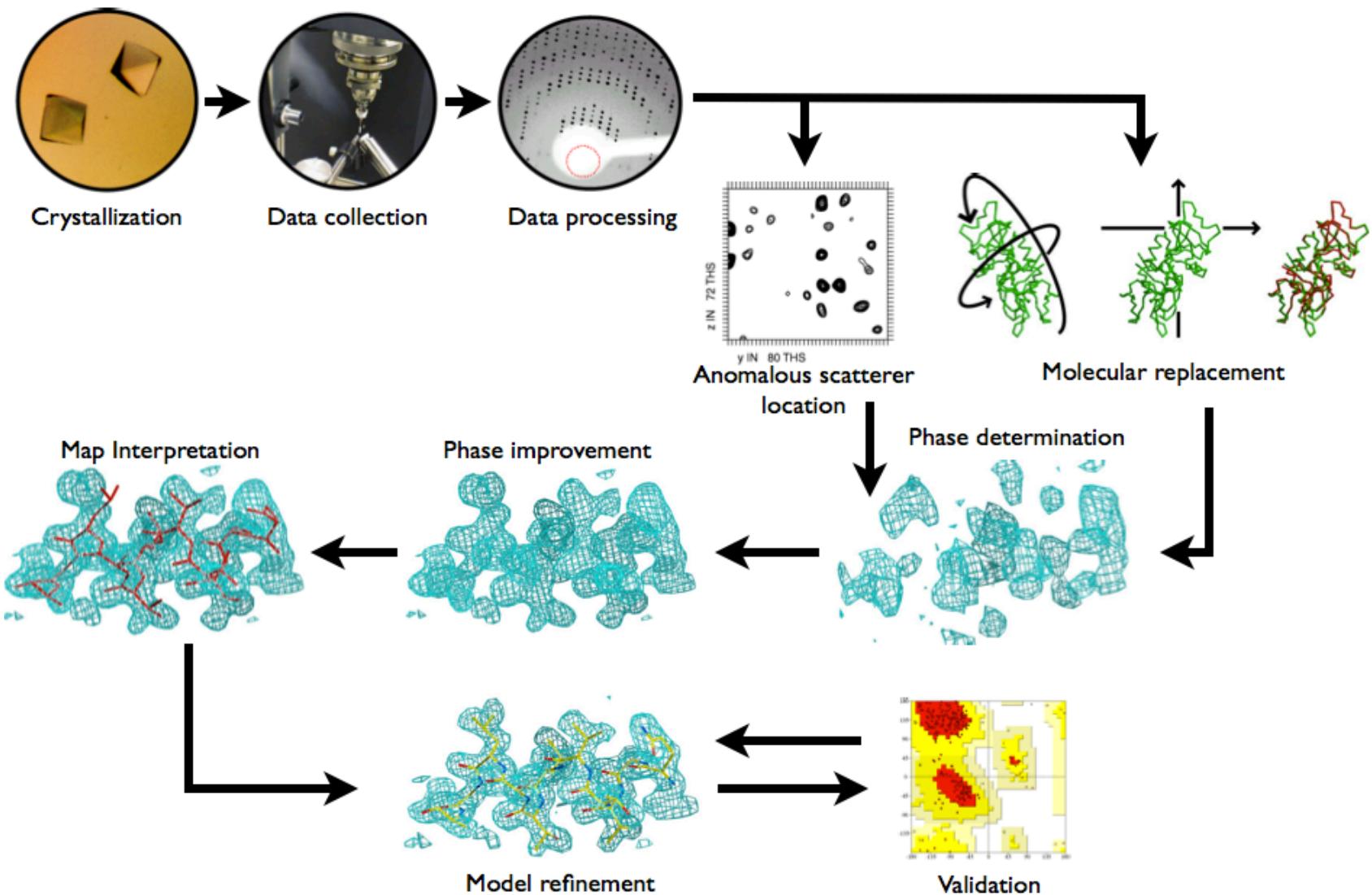


>1500 individual
compound soaks
and datasets!

... ~150 datasets reveal well-justified all-atom
ligand binding poses — and protein responses



Daniel Justin
Keedy Biel



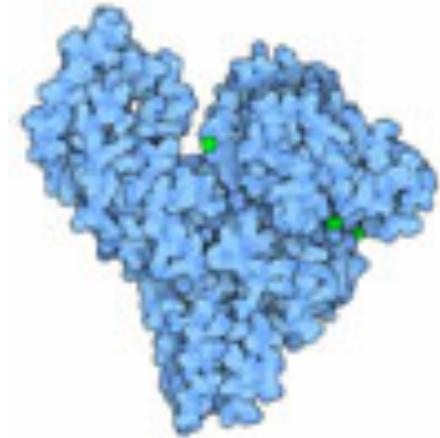
Fourier transforms 101

<http://www.jezzamon.com/fourier/>

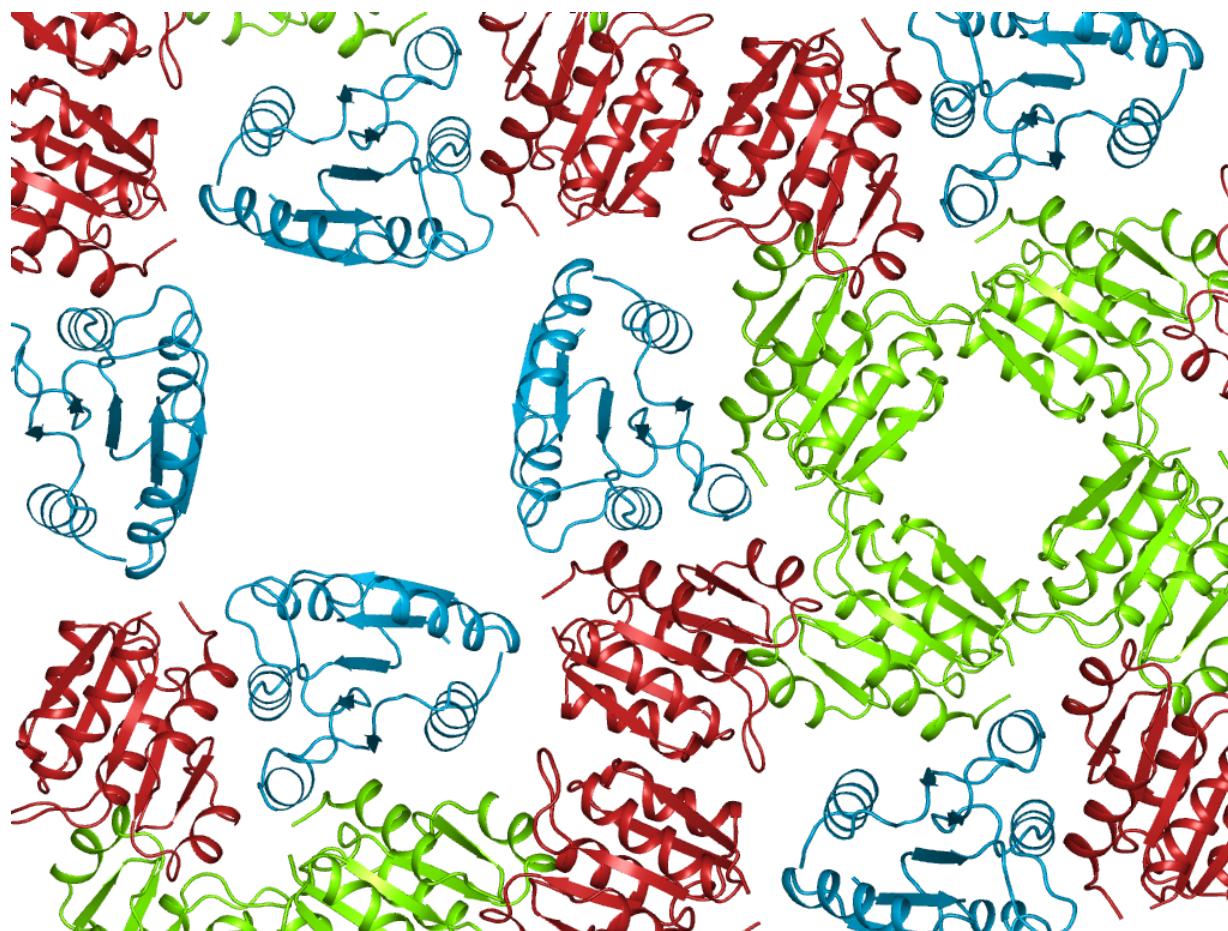
What is a protein
structure?

What is a protein “structure”

- Is it a:
 - pretty cartoon...
 - space-filling set of spheres...
 - picture of the protein in the crystal...
 - computational picture of the protein...
 - representation of atoms that satisfies experimental constraints...
 - PDB formatted text file...
 - **model!!!**



Moreover... a model of the crystal lattice...



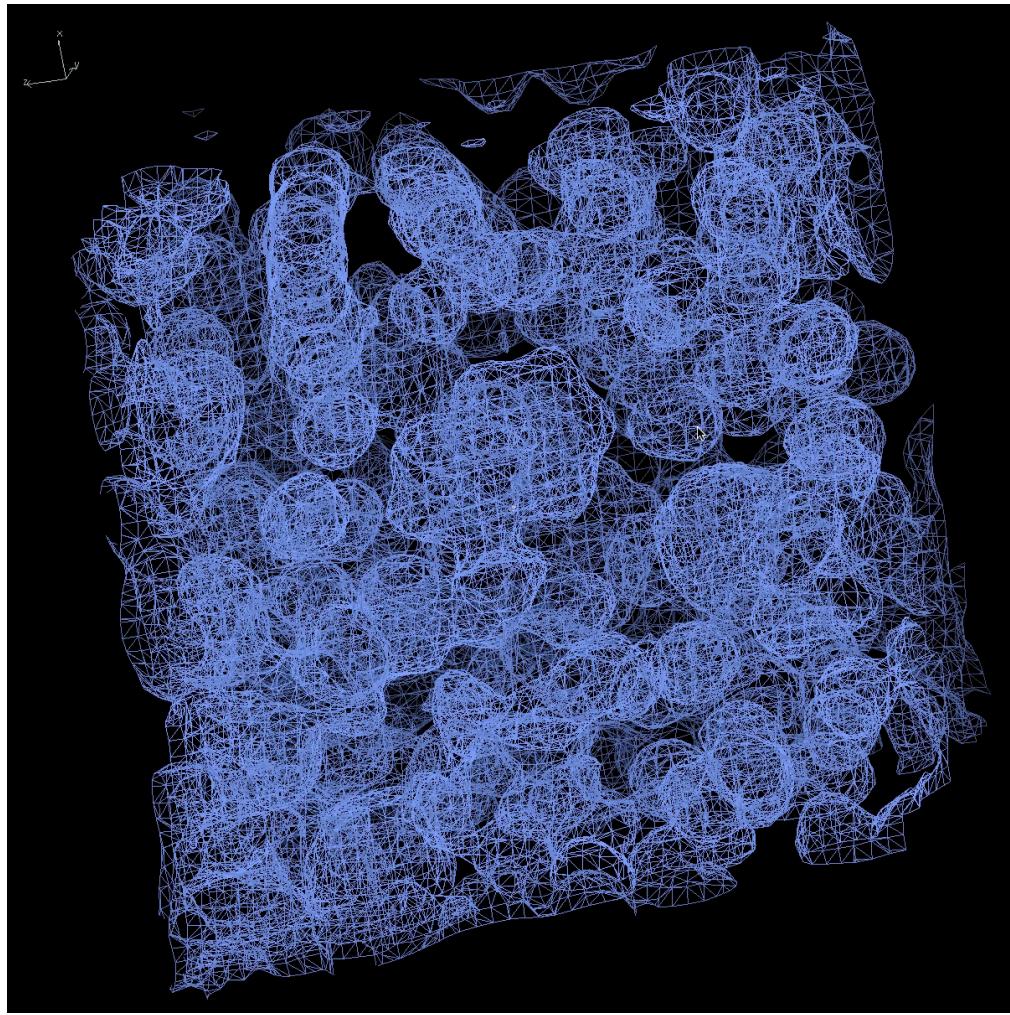
P rotein D ata B ank Files are text: chemistry, sequence, position, certainty

```
HEADER      HYDROLASE          10-DEC-06    207A
TITLE       T4 LYSOZYME C-TERMINAL FRAGMENT
COMPND     MOL_ID: 1;
COMPND     2 MOLECULE: LYSOZYME;

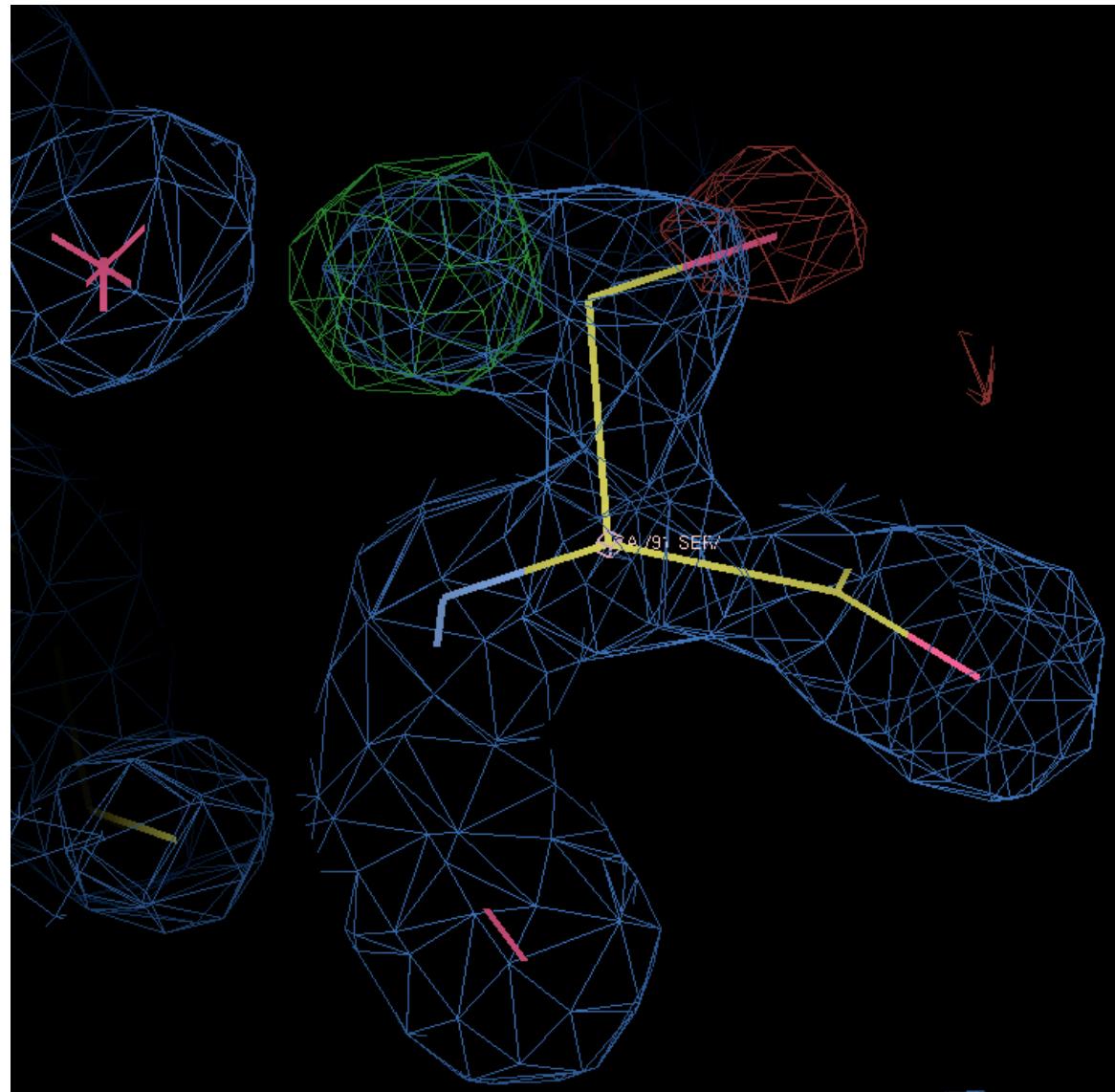
...
REMARK   3 FIT TO DATA USED IN REFINEMENT (NO CUTOFF) .
REMARK   3 R VALUE   (WORKING + TEST SET, NO CUTOFF) : NULL
REMARK   3 R VALUE           (WORKING SET, NO CUTOFF) : 0.090
REMARK   3 FREE R VALUE        (NO CUTOFF) : 0.108

...
ATOM      1 N   VAL A  2      -19.742  -2.254 -19.976  1.00 54.44      N
ATOM      2 CA  VAL A  2      -19.867  -2.152 -18.529  1.00 54.48      C
ATOM      3 C   VAL A  2      -19.073  -0.927 -18.101  1.00 41.86      C
ATOM      4 O   VAL A  2      -19.367   0.178 -18.554  1.00 47.57      O
ATOM      5 CB  VAL A  2      -19.341  -3.411 -17.836  1.00 68.76      C

...
MASTER    287    0    3   10    0    0    0    6 1566    1    22   10
END
```



- Ser residue needs a different rotamer



Refinement is the process of minimizing $F_o - F_c$

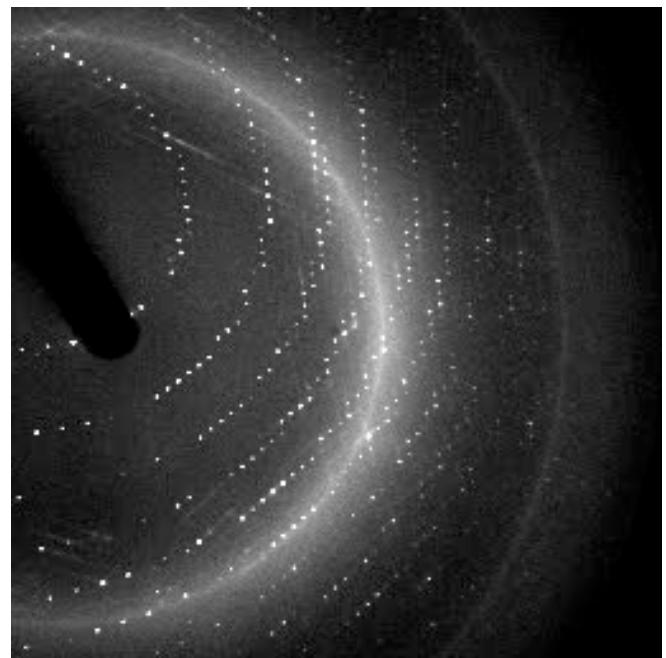
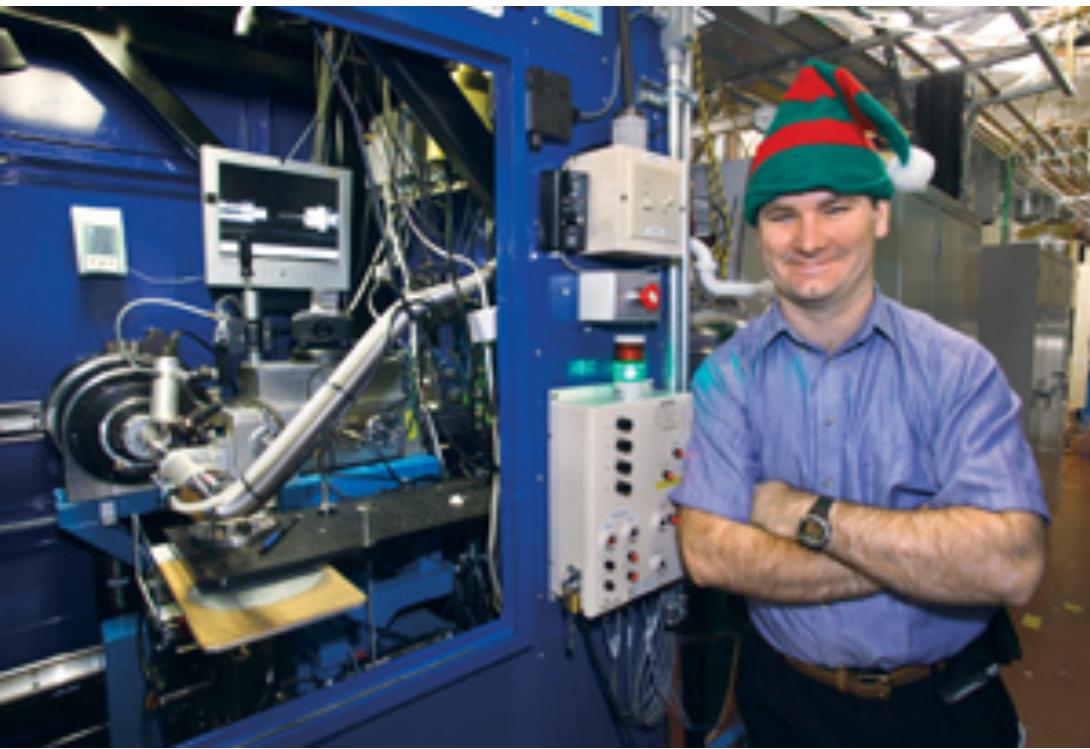
...need to balance prior knowledge and data

...an iterative process, difference maps
minimized, and $2F_o - F_c$ maps improve
(phases... we are coming to this)

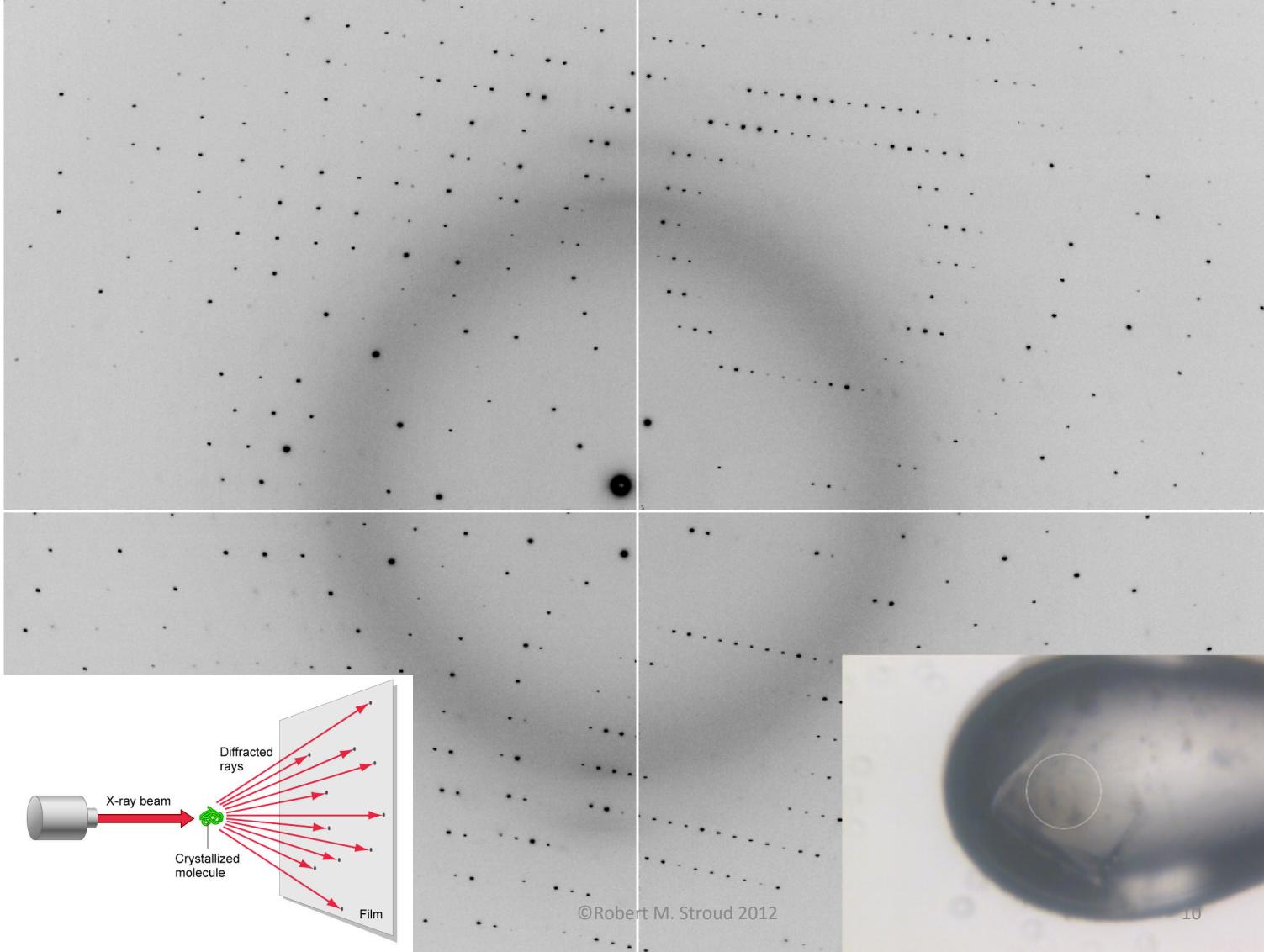
- **Structure refinement** is a process of changing a model parameters in order to optimize a goal (target) function:

$$T = F(\text{Experimental data}, \text{Model parameters}, \text{A priori knowledge})$$

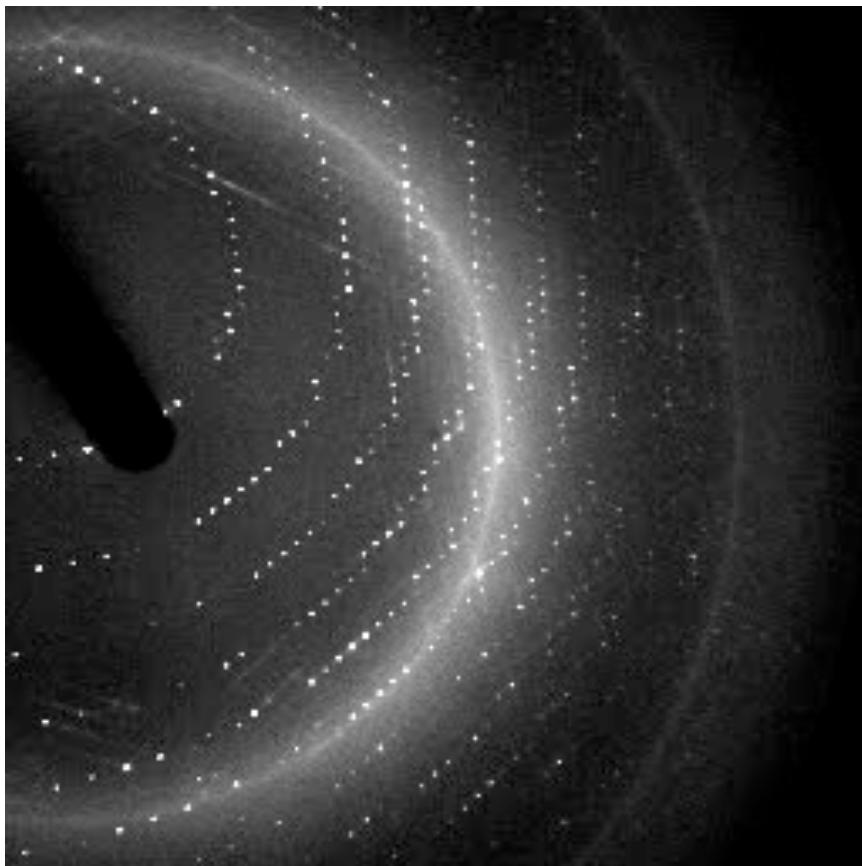
- **Experimental data** – a set of diffraction amplitudes F_{obs} (and phases, if available).
 - **Model parameters**: coordinates, ADP, occupancies, bulk-solvent, ...
 - **A priori knowledge (restraints or constraints)** – additional information that may be introduced to compensate for the insufficiency of experimental data (finite resolution, poor data-to-parameters ratio)
- Typically: $T = T_{\text{DATA}} + w^* T_{\text{RESTRAINTS}}$
 - E_{DATA} relates model to experimental data
 - $E_{\text{RESTRAINTS}}$ represents *a priori* knowledge
 - w is a weight to balance the relative contribution of E_{DATA} and $E_{\text{RESTRAINTS}}$



We rotate the crystal to place a different set of reflections on the detector



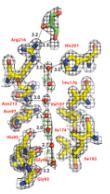
Ewald sphere construction



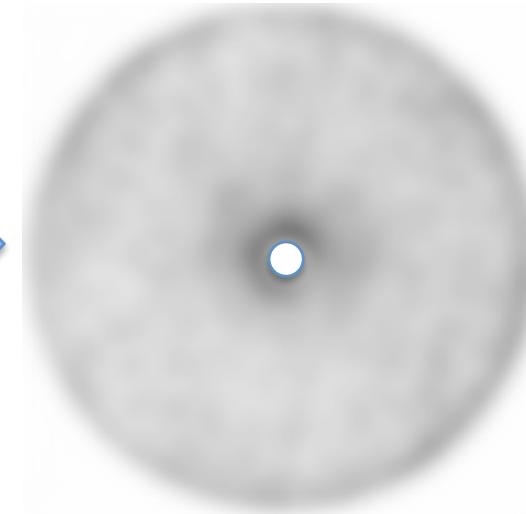
given:
wavelength
angle
lattice
distance from detector
orientation of lattice
relative to detector

predicts:
which diffracted waves
satisfy Bragg's law

Scattering pattern is the Fourier transform of the structure



$$\begin{array}{c} \text{FT} \\ \longleftrightarrow \\ \text{FT}^{-1} \end{array}$$

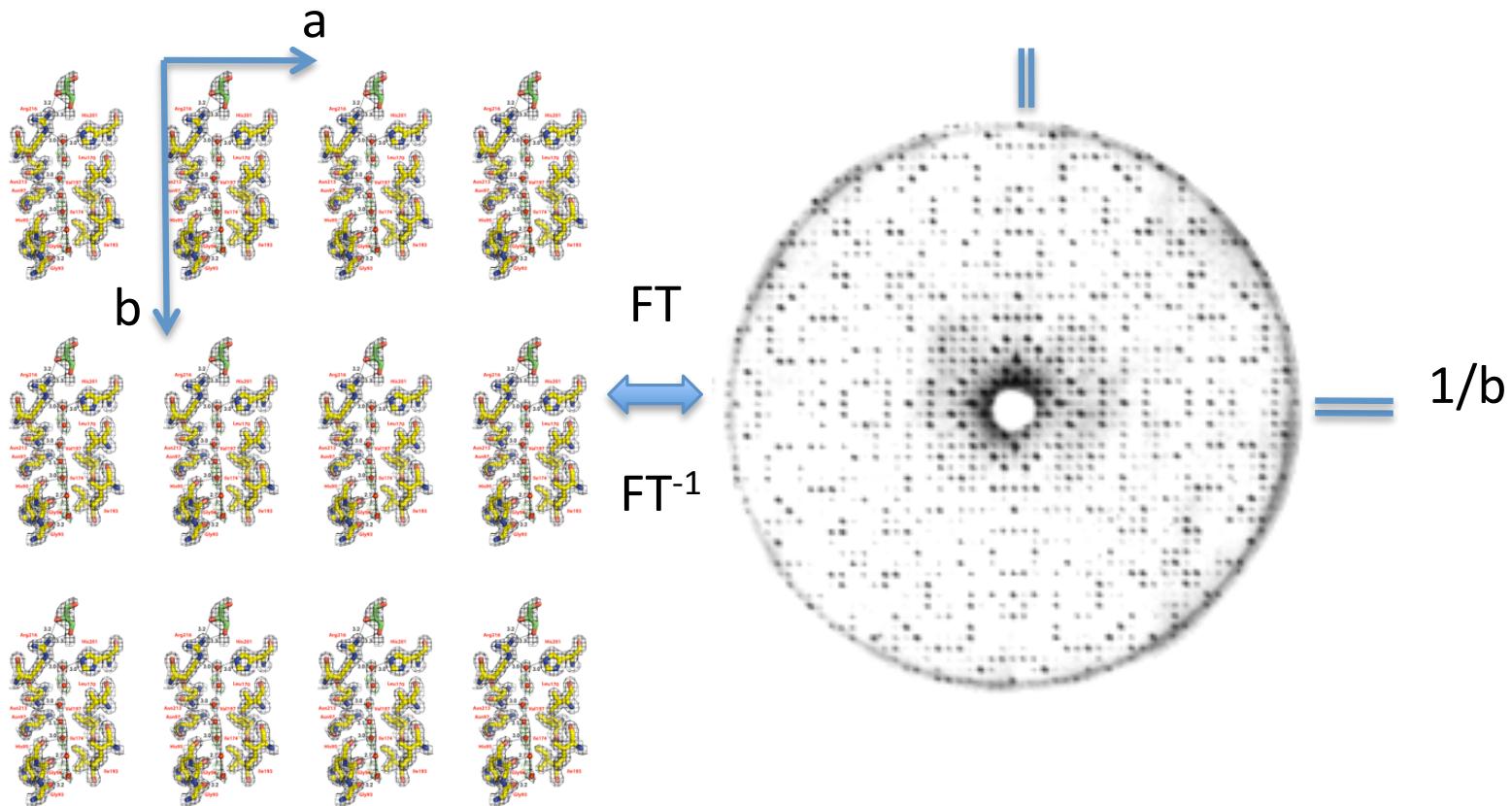


$$F(\underline{S}) = \sum_j f_j e^{(2\pi i \mathbf{r}_j \cdot \underline{S})}$$

Structure is the ‘inverse’ Fourier transform of the Scattering pattern

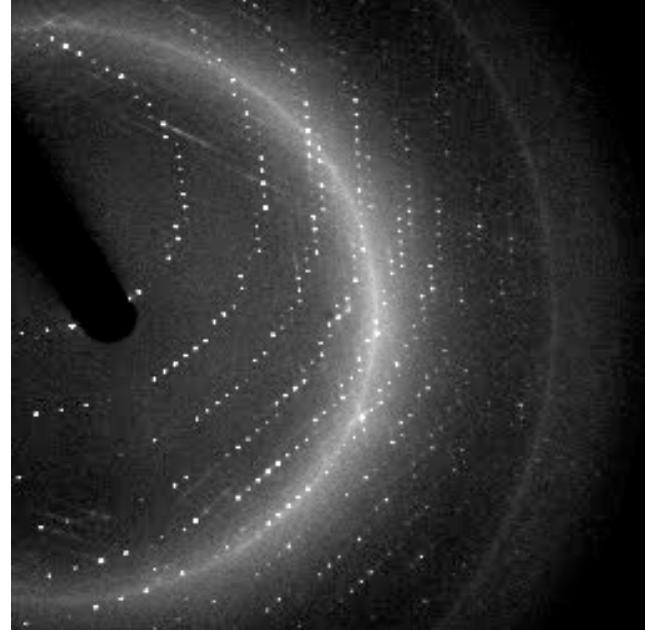
$$\rho(\underline{r}) = \sum F(\underline{S}) e^{(-2\pi i \mathbf{r} \cdot \underline{S})}$$

A crystal only samples the parts of the transform that satisfy Bragg's Law



$$\underline{F}_{(h,k,l)} = \sum_j f_j e^{(2\pi i (hx+ky+lz))}$$

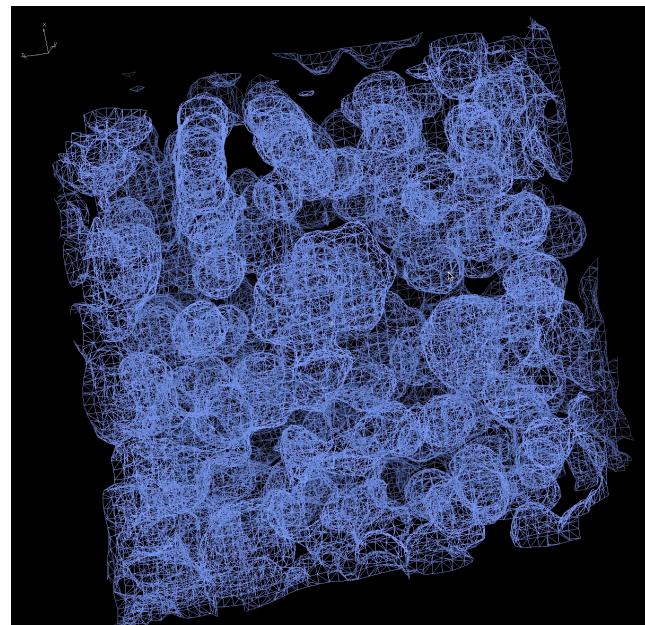
Every X-ray reflection (h,k,l) has a contributing wave from all atoms .



$$\rho(x,y,z) = \sum \underline{F}_{(h,k,l)} e^{(-2\pi i (hx+ky+lz))}$$

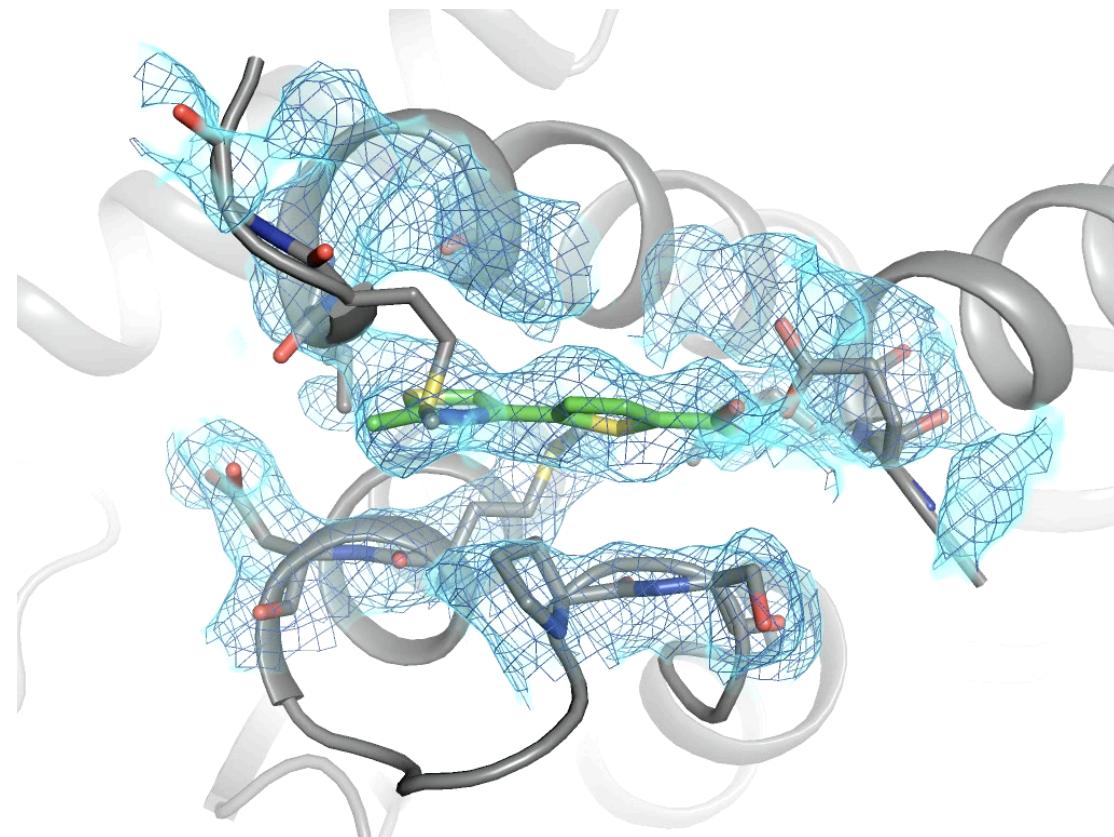
or $\rho(x,y,z) = \sum |\underline{F}_{(h,k,l)}| e^{(-2\pi i (hx+ky+lz) + \phi_{hkl})}$

Every point in the density map has contributions from every reflection



Fourier Transform

Crystallography reveals binding mode and conformational changes

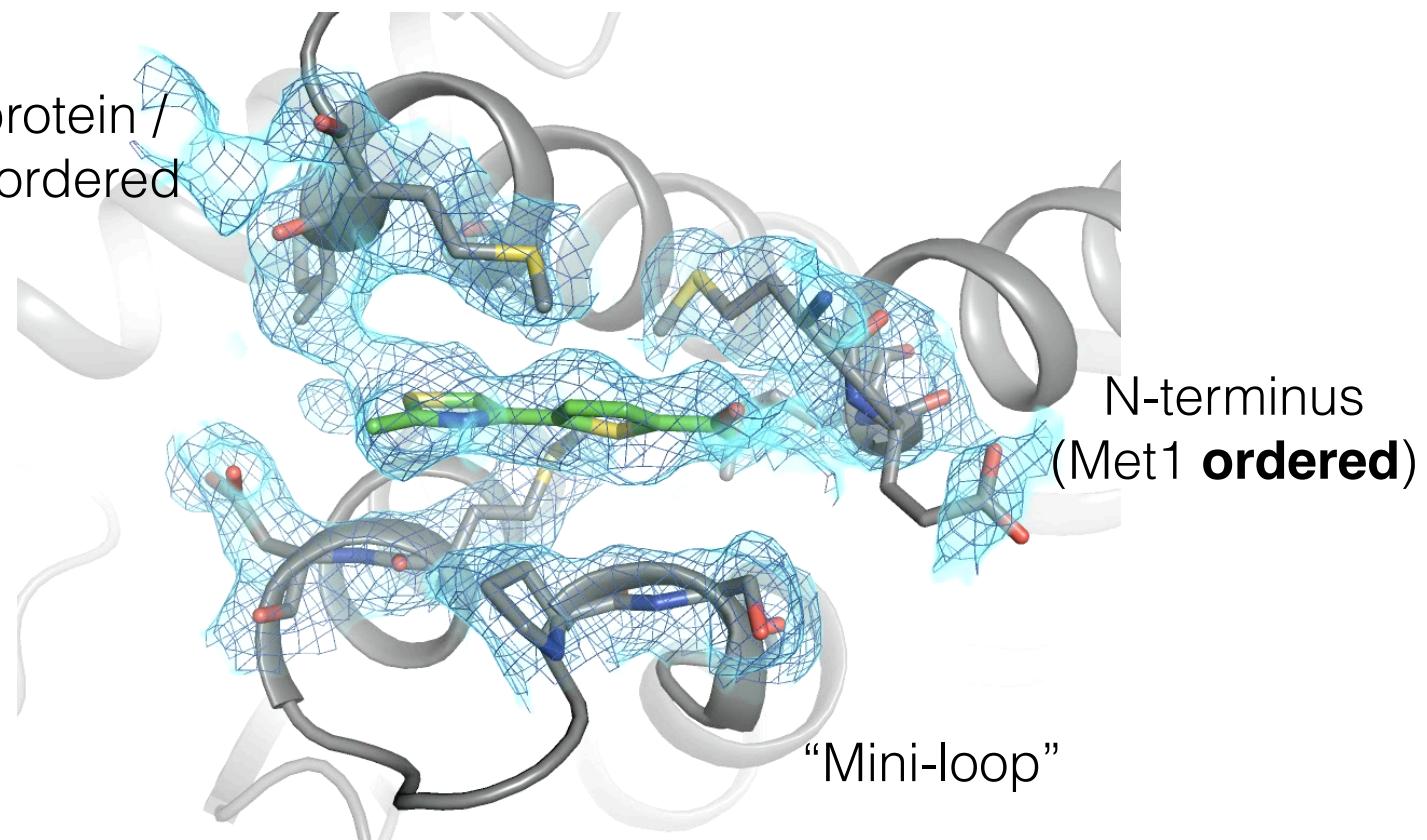


Event
72% bg sub
1.25 σ

Fragments at the “mini-loop” cryptic site induce movement of the a6-a7 transition and N-terminus

Shifted

end of ordered protein /
Start of quasi-disordered
a7 helix



High throughput screening

Library

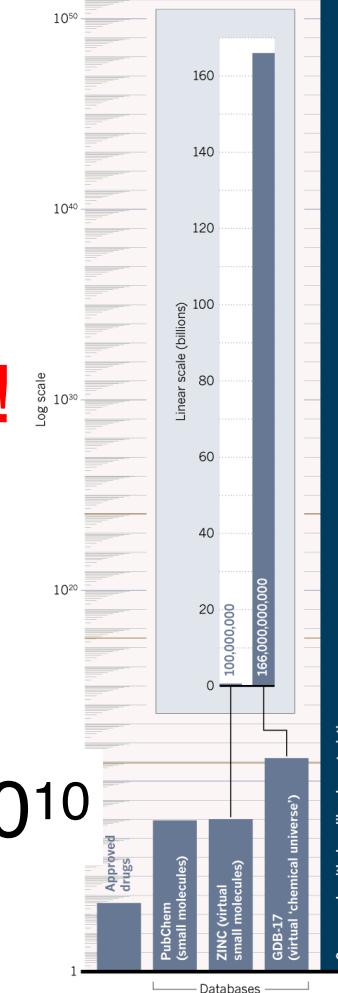
30 heavy atoms
 $\sim 10^6$

Vast undersampling!

10^{60}

CHEMICAL COSMOS

Chemical databases contain just a tiny fragment of all the compounds with drug-like properties that chemists estimate could be made, as shown by this logarithmic scale. Even fewer have become drugs.



Candidate
lead

Fragment based drug discovery

Library
15 heavy atoms
 $\sim 10^5$

10^{60}

CHEMICAL COSMOS

Chemical databases contain just a tiny fragment of all the compounds with drug-like properties that chemists estimate could be made, as shown by this logarithmic scale. Even fewer have become drugs.

10⁵⁰

10⁴⁰

10³⁰

10²⁰

10¹⁰

10⁰

Linear scale (billions)

10⁻¹⁰

10⁻²⁰

10⁻³⁰

10⁻⁴⁰

10⁻⁵⁰

10⁻⁶⁰

10⁻⁷⁰

10⁻⁸⁰

10⁻⁹⁰

10⁻¹⁰⁰

10⁻¹¹⁰

10⁻¹²⁰

10⁻¹³⁰

Databases

Approved drugs

PubChem (small molecules)

ZINC (virtual small molecules)

GDB-17 (virtual chemical universe)

Compounds with drug-like characteristics

Less undersampling

Evaluate WEAK

binding

Rational
optimize

Candidate

