

# **Dynamic Coupling among Protein Binding, Sliding, and DNA Bending Revealed by Molecular Dynamics**

Cheng Tan, Tsuyoshi Terakawa, Shoji Takada

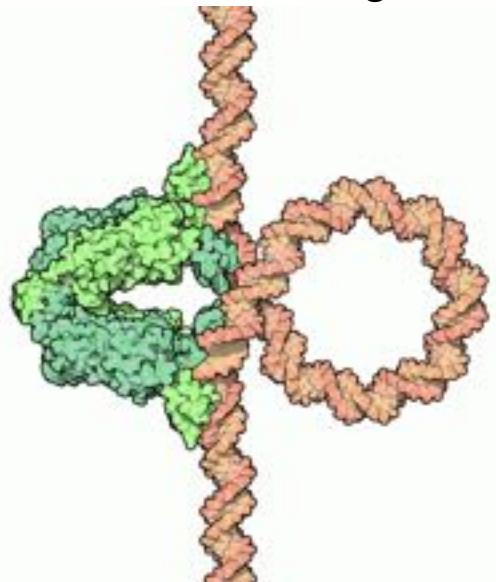
Department of Biophysics

Kyoto University

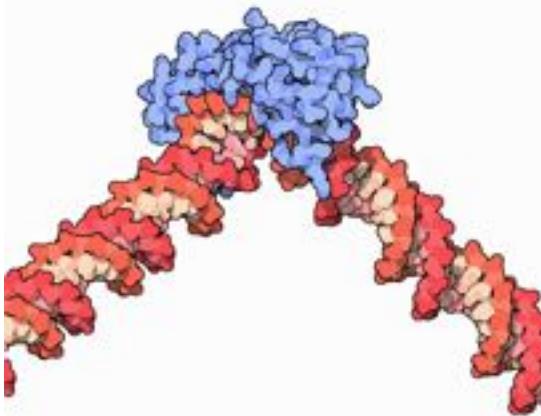
2017-03-15

# Introduction

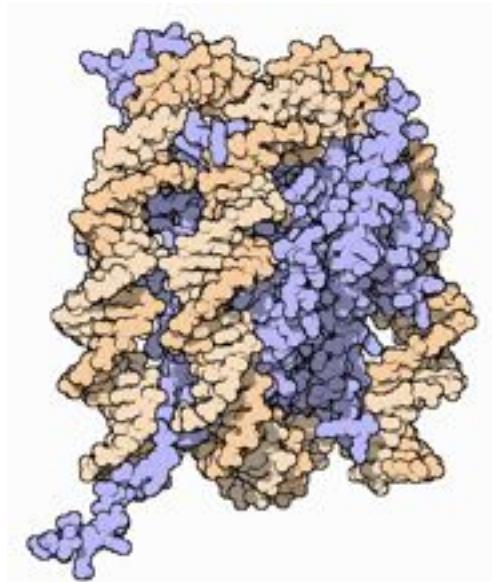
- Protein binding changes DNA shape.



Lac Repressor



TATA-binding protein



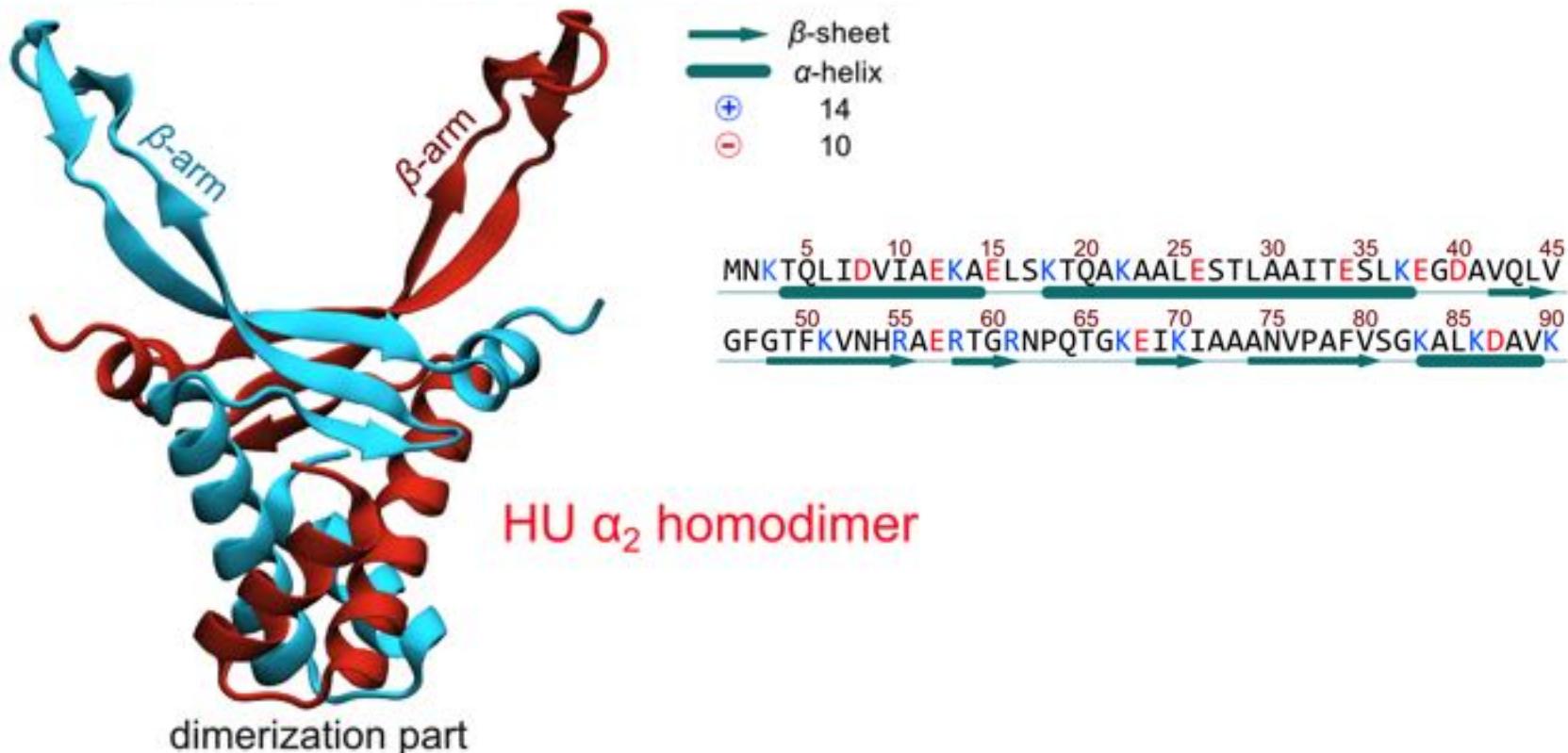
Histone

- (Local) DNA bending modulates protein diffusion?

Focus: sequence-non-specific interactions between protein and DNA

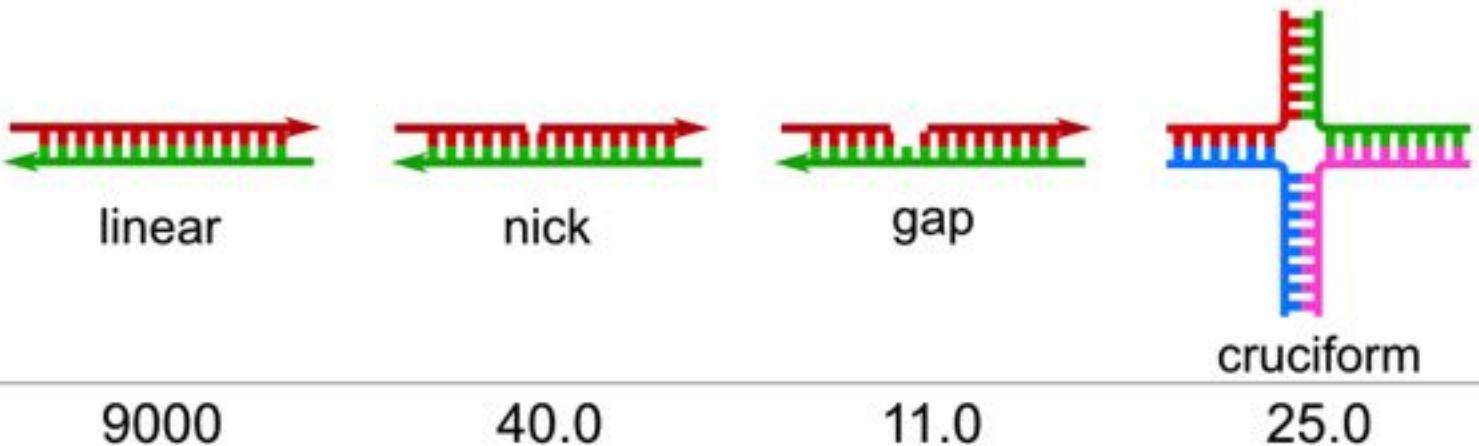
# Introduction

- HU: one of the most abundant "architectural" proteins



# Introduction

- HU-DNA binding specificity:  
**Sequence:** Slight preference for A/T-rich DNA.  
**Structure:** Strong preference for **cruciform** or **gap/nick**.

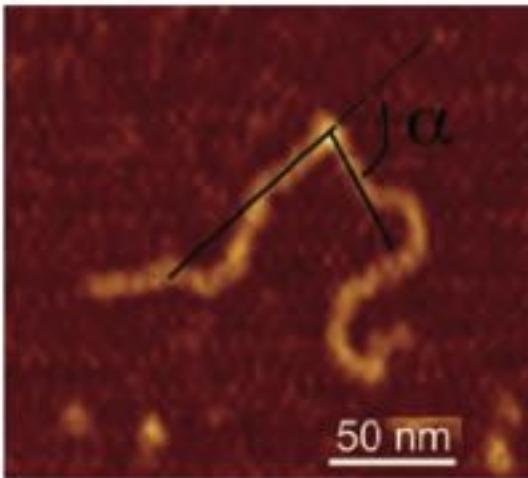


Prieto, A. I. et al. (2012) *Nucleic Acids Res.* **40**, 3524.

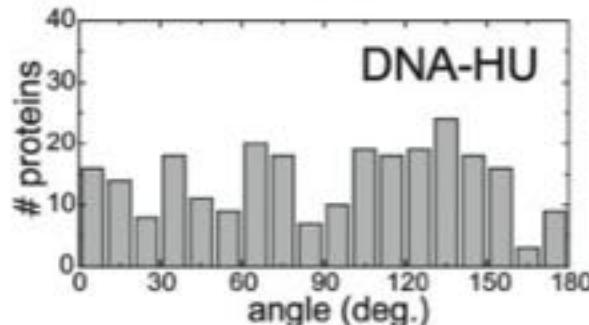
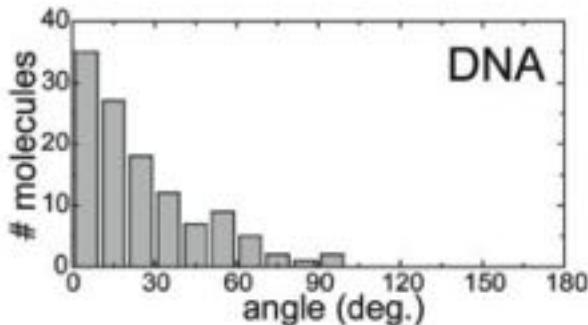
Pinson, V. et al. (1999) *J. Mol. Biol.* **287**, 485.

# Introduction

- HU enhances DNA bending (AFM experiment)

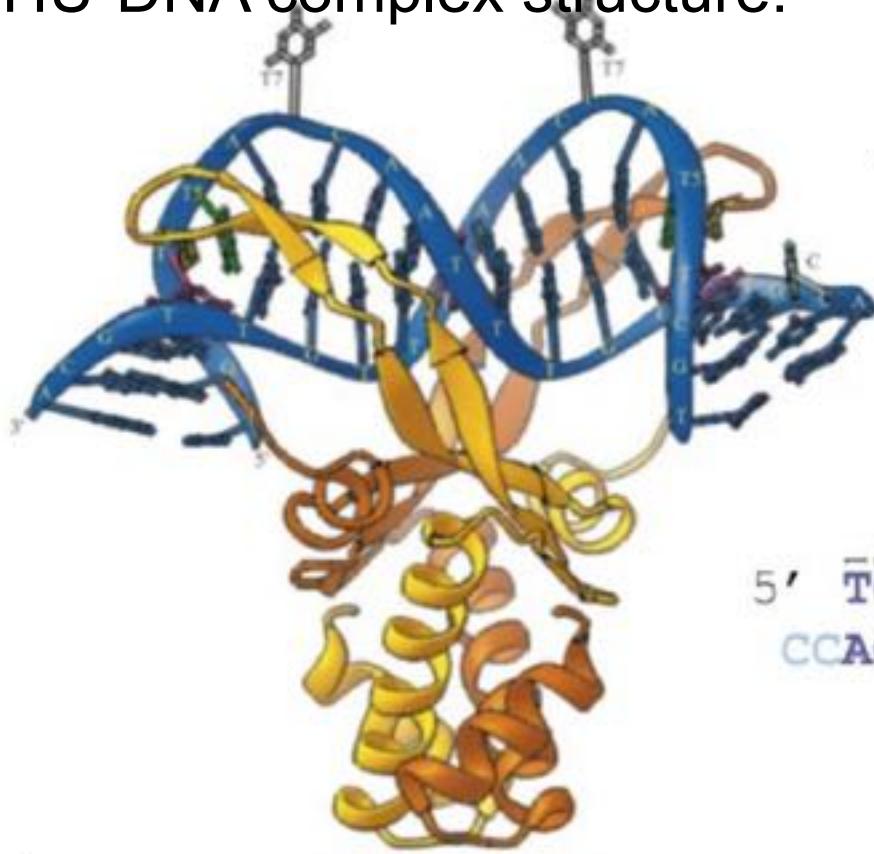


van Noort, J. et al. (2004)  
*Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* **101**, 6969.



# Introduction

- HU-DNA complex structure:



crystal structure of  
*Anabaena* HU bound to DNA

PDB: 1P71

5' -  
TGCTTATCAATTTG-T-TGCAAC  
CCACGT-T-GTTAACTATTTCGT  
          1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21

# Motivation

- **Q1:** How does HU bind to and slide on DNA?
- **Q2:** How does DNA conformation change in response to HU binding?
- **Q3:** What's the relationship between HU binding and DNA conformational change?

# Coarse-Grained Models and Methods

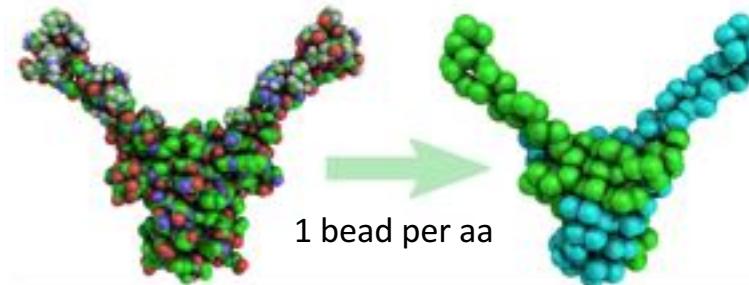
- CG Protein: AICG2+

W. Li *et al.* (2014) PNAS.

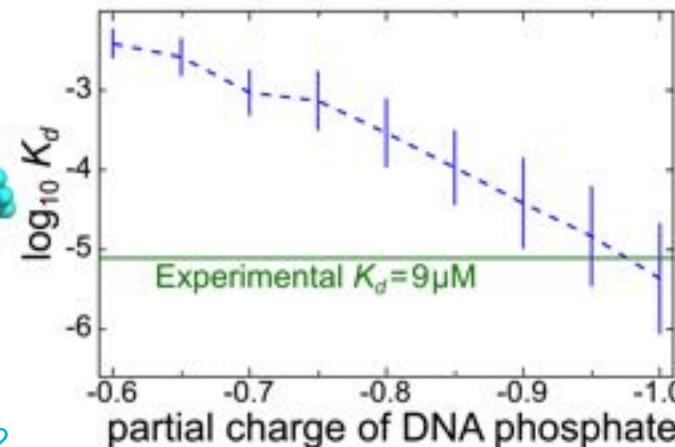
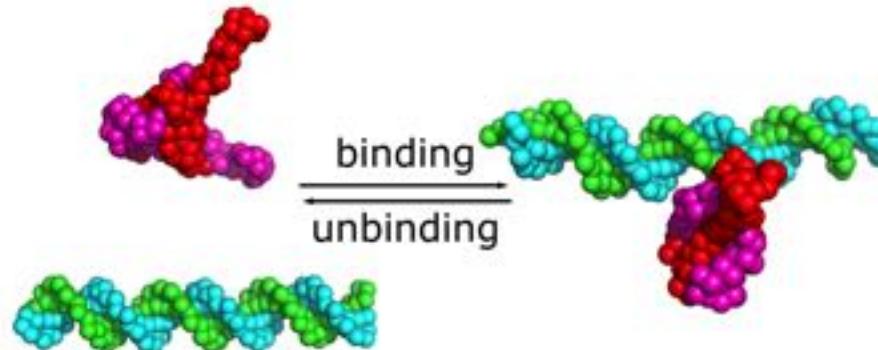
- DNA: 3SPN.2C

Sequence dependent properties

G. Freeman *et al.* (2014) JCP.

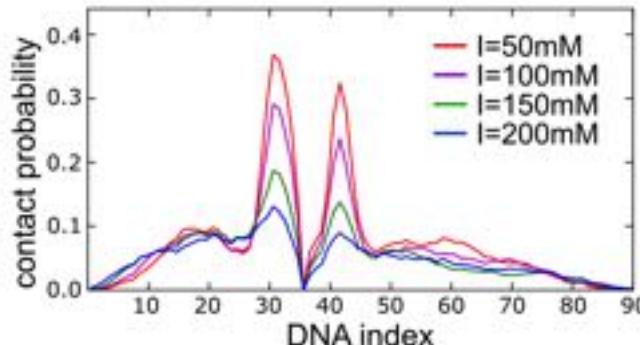
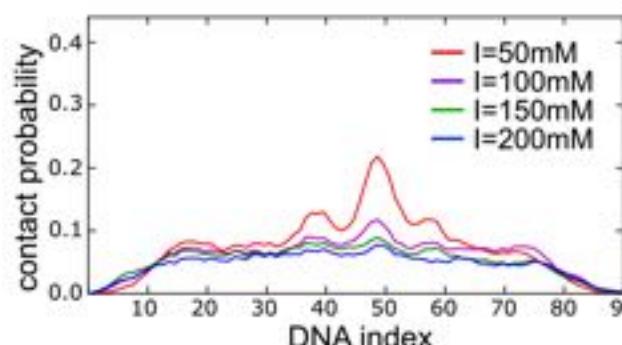
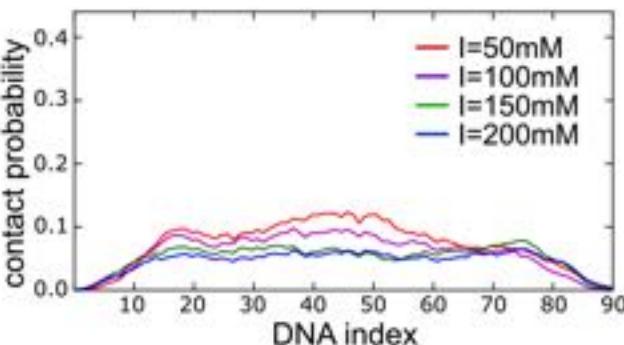
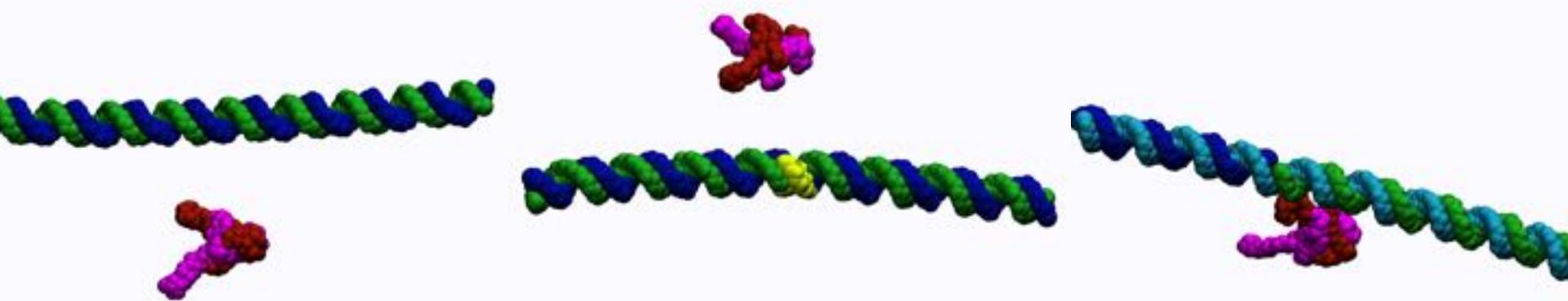


- Intermolecular interactions:  
electrostatic + excluded volume

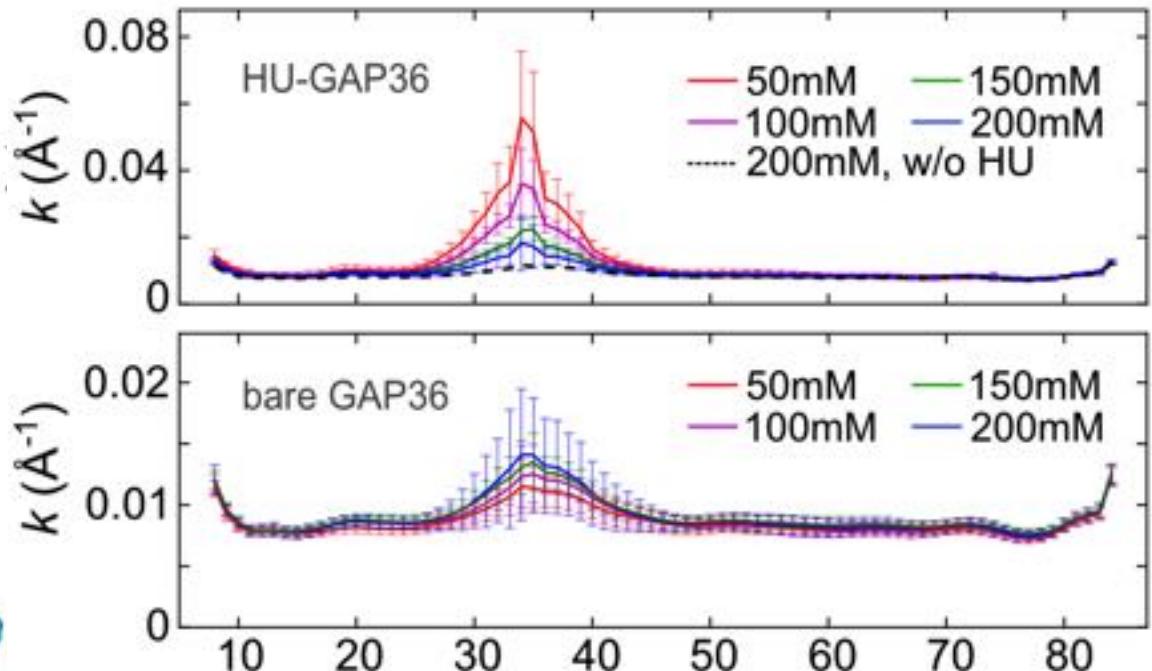
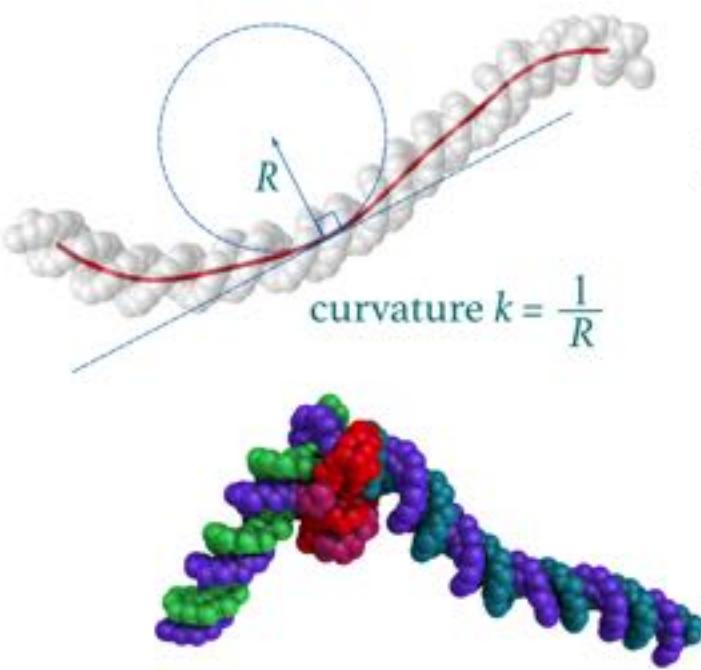


# HU Prefers A/T Rich and Gapped Region

- Purely C/G
- A/T region at center
- Gap at index 36



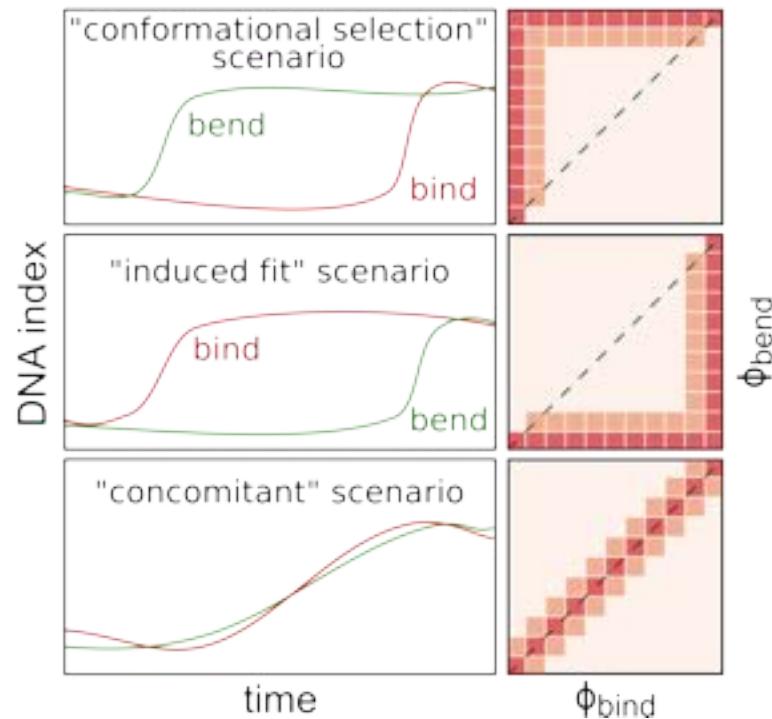
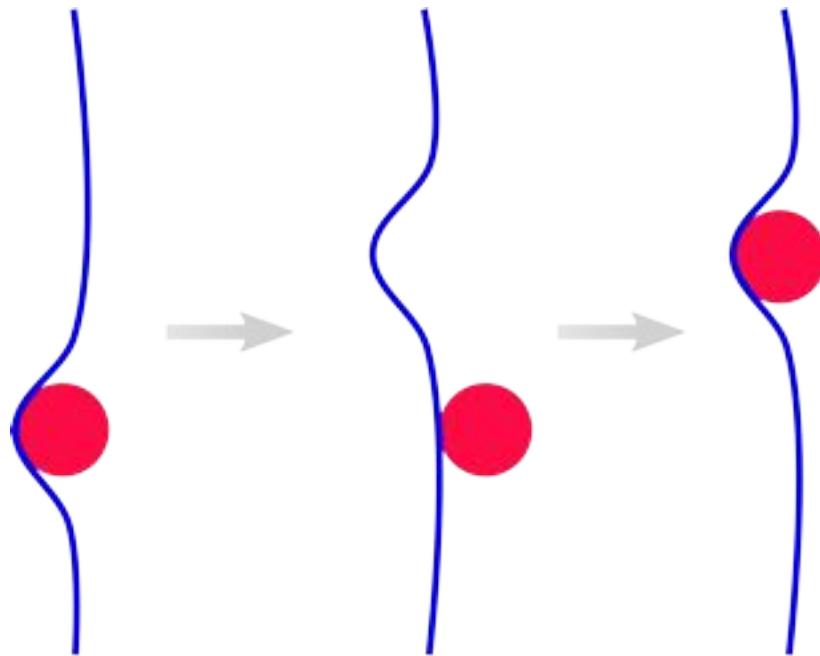
# HU Enhances Bending of Gapped DNA



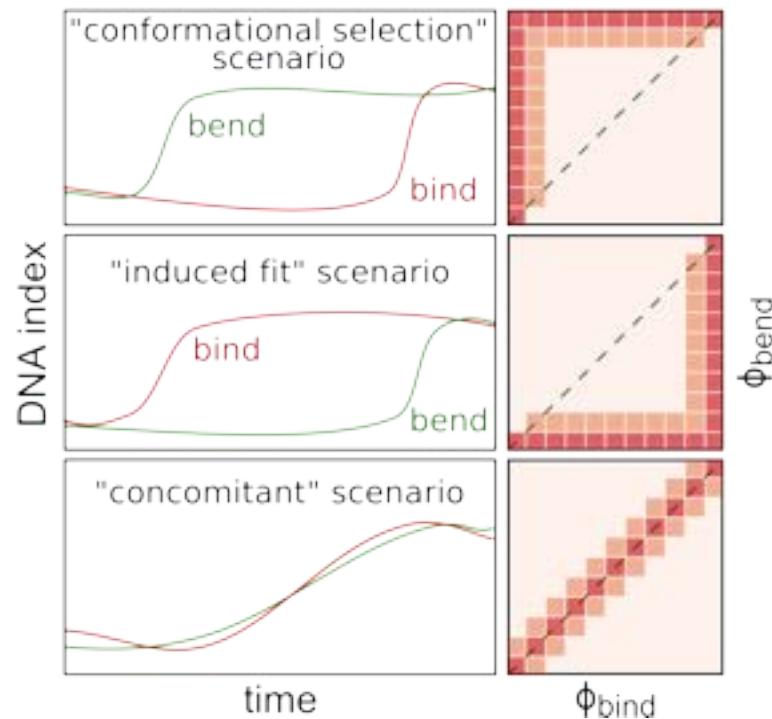
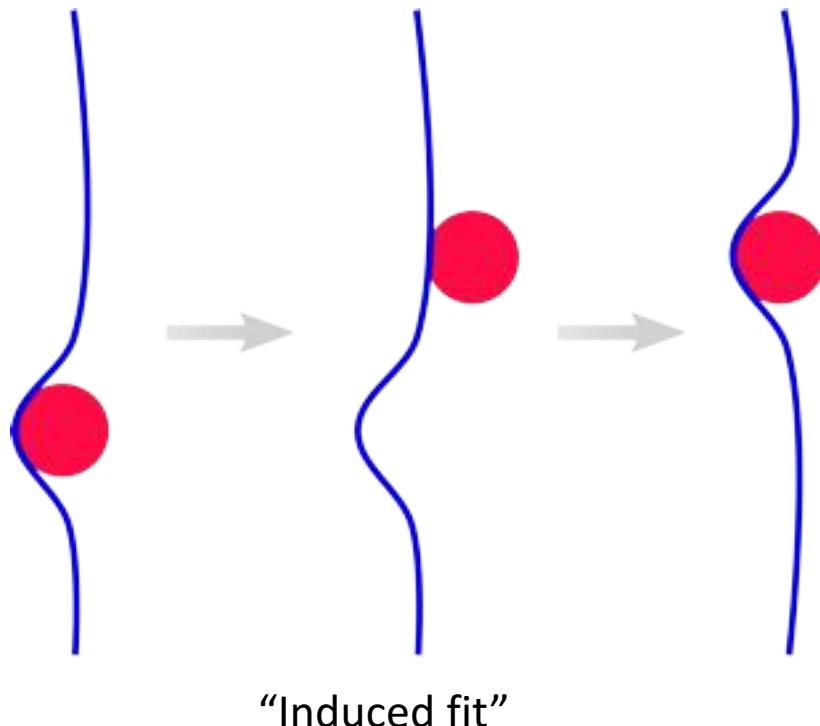
# HU Binding & DNA Bending

- Q1: How does HU bind to and slide on DNA?
  - A1: HU prefers more bendable DNA structure
- Q2: How does DNA conformation change in response to HU binding?
  - A2: HU binding statistically facilitates DNA bending
- Q3: What's the relationship between HU binding and DNA conformational change?

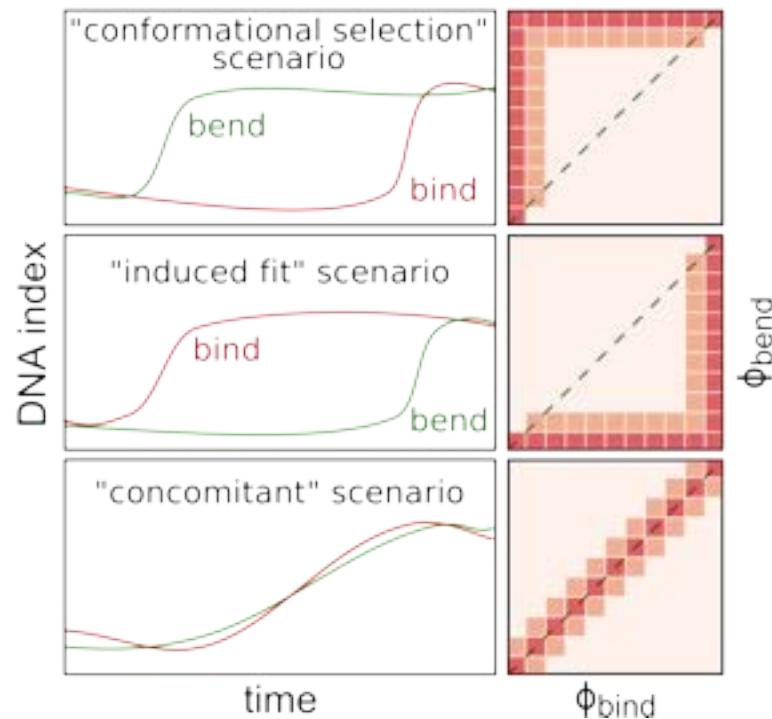
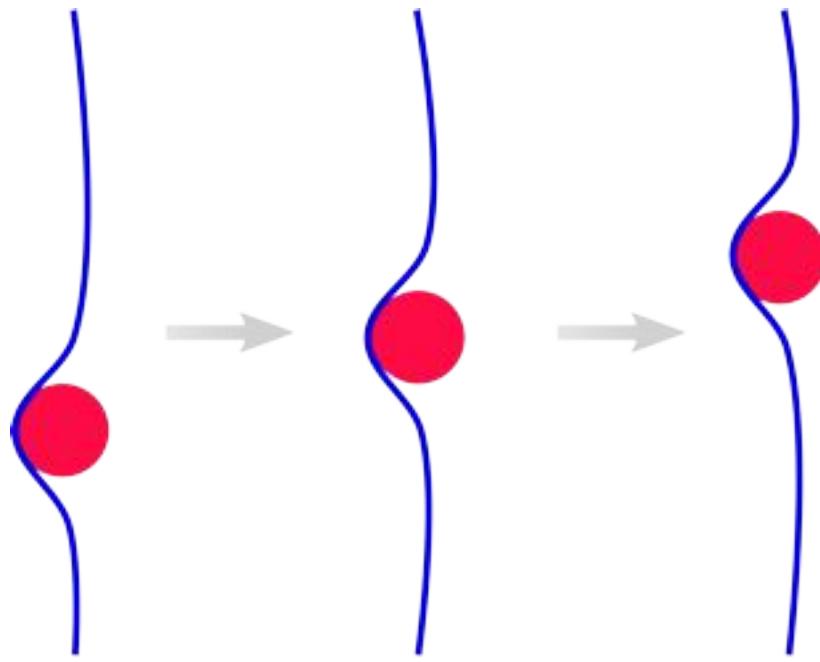
# Scenarios of Different Mechanism



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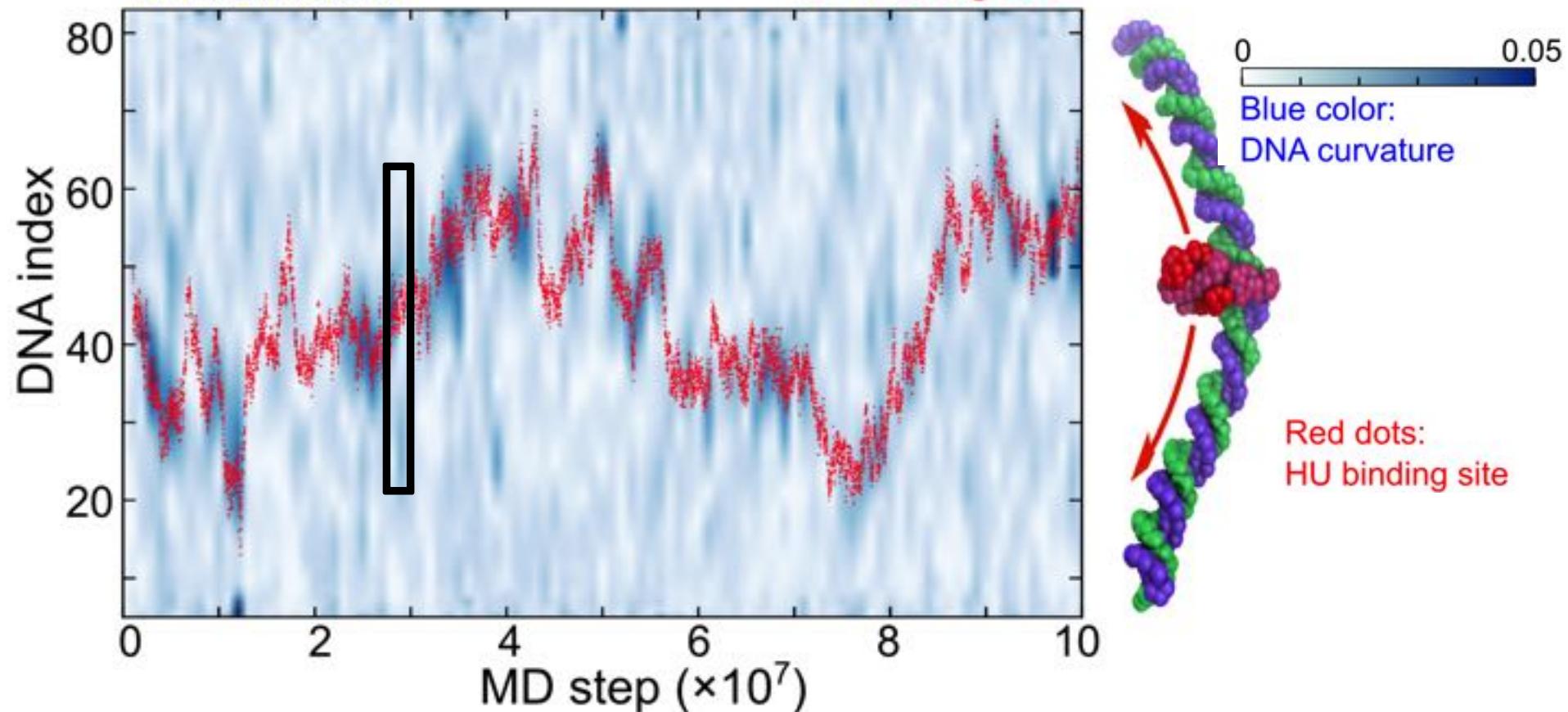


# Scenarios of Different Mechanism

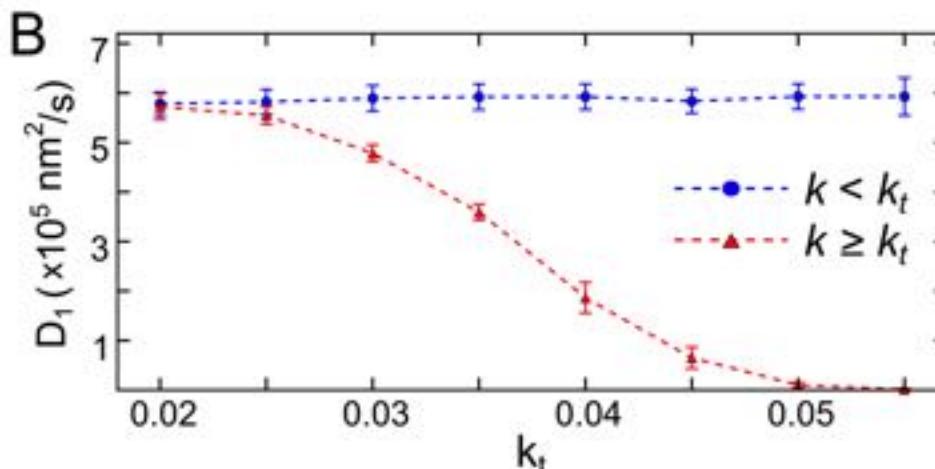
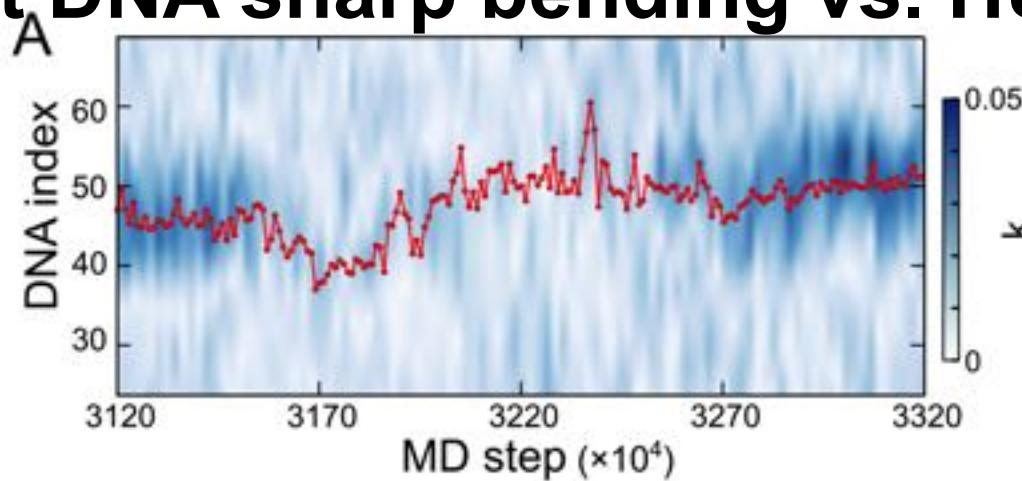


"Concomitant"

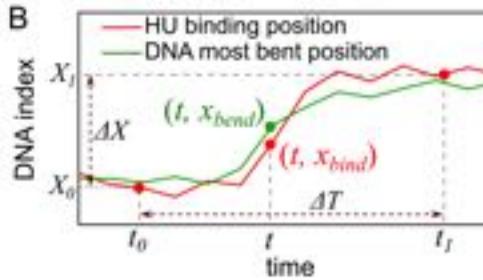
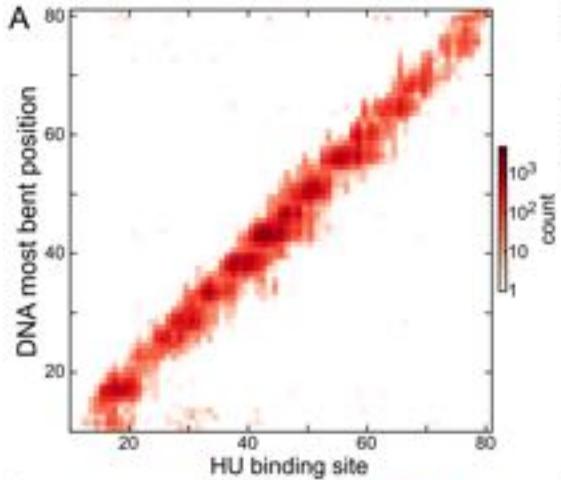
# Coupling of HU Binding and DNA Bending



# Transient DNA sharp bending vs. HU sliding

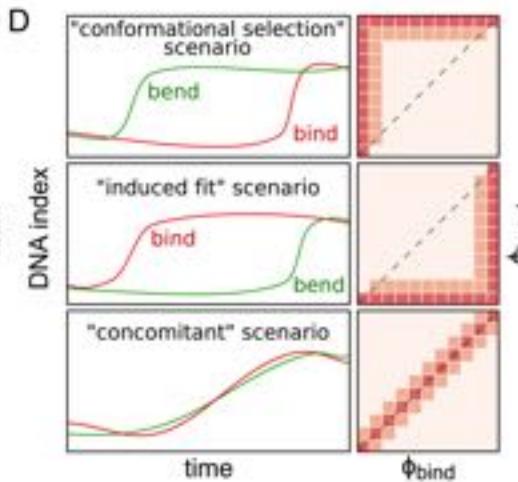
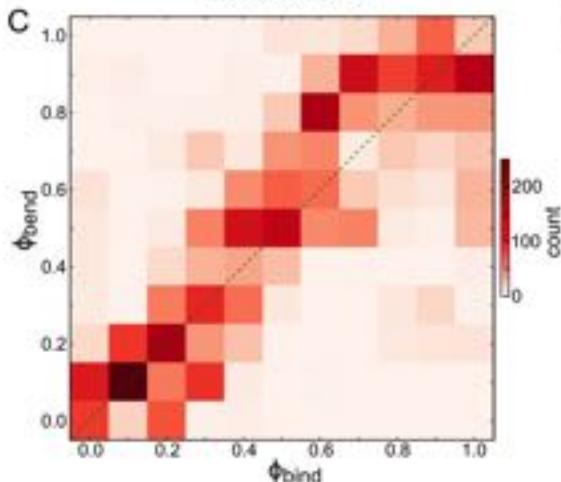


# Dynamic Coupling between Binding and Bending



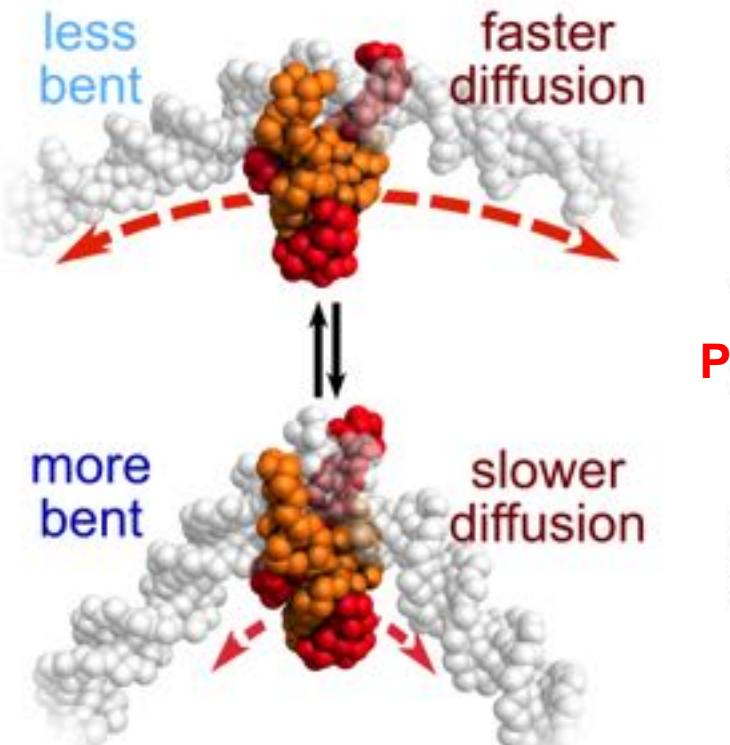
$$\phi_{bind}(t) = \frac{x_{bind}(t) - x_{bind}(t_0)}{\Delta X} = \frac{x_{bind}(t) - X_0}{\Delta X}$$

$$\phi_{bend}(t) = \frac{x_{bend}(t) - x_{bind}(t_0)}{\Delta X} = \frac{x_{bend}(t) - X_0}{\Delta X}$$

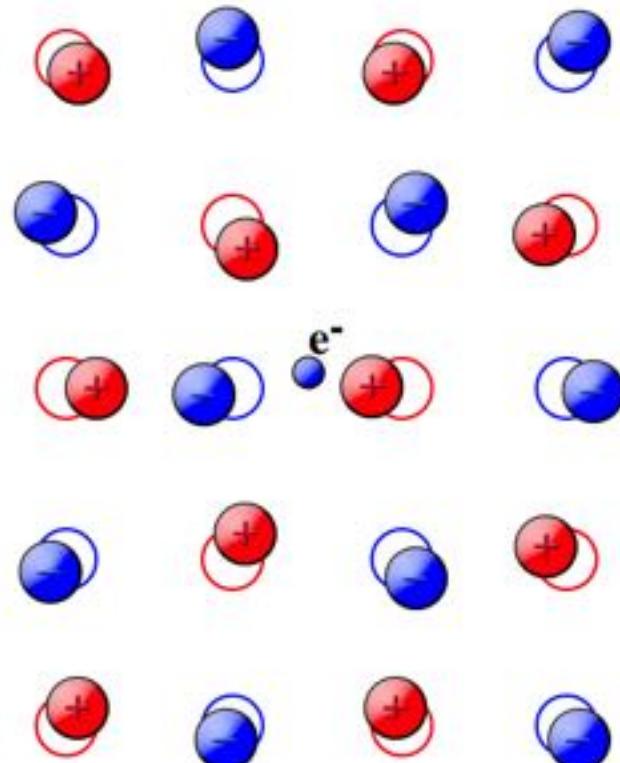


# Relation between protein binding and DNA bending

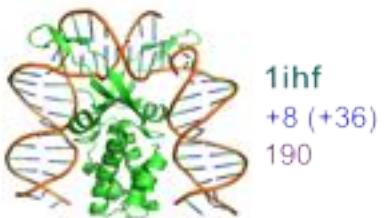
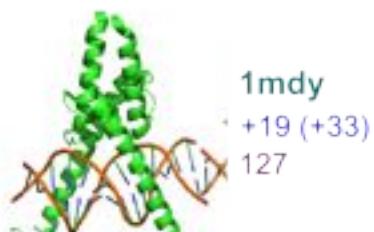
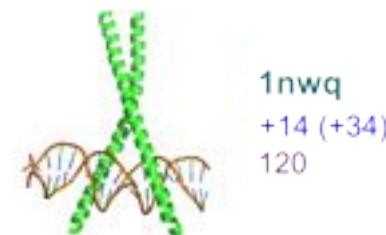
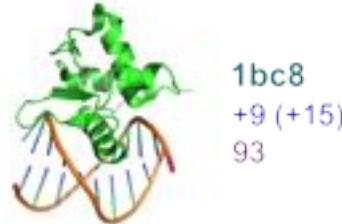
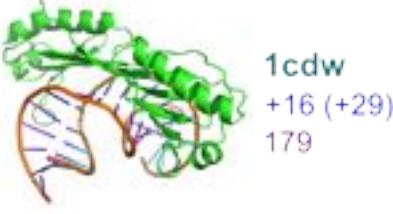
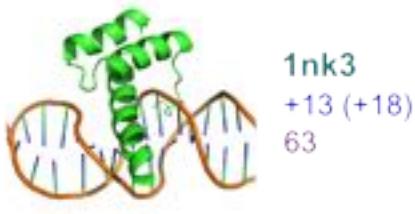
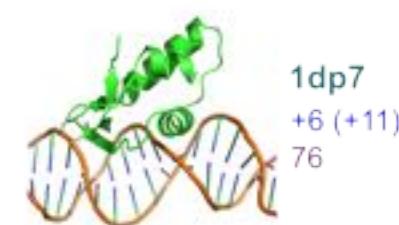
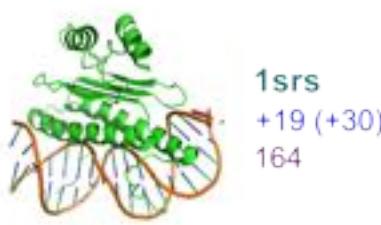
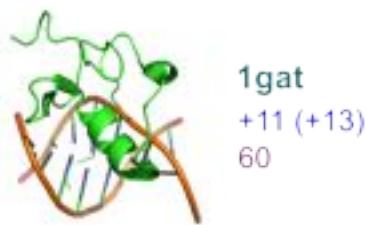
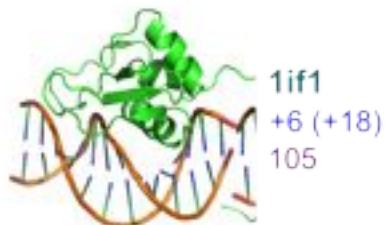
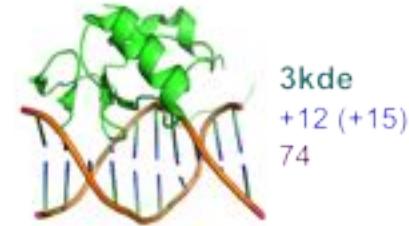
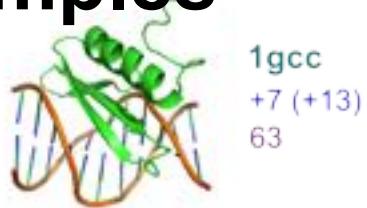
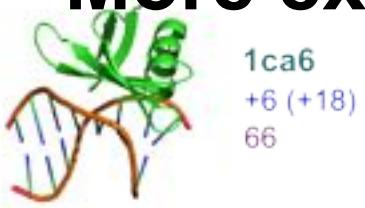
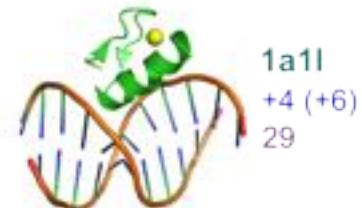
- Binding-induced-bending-regulated-sliding?



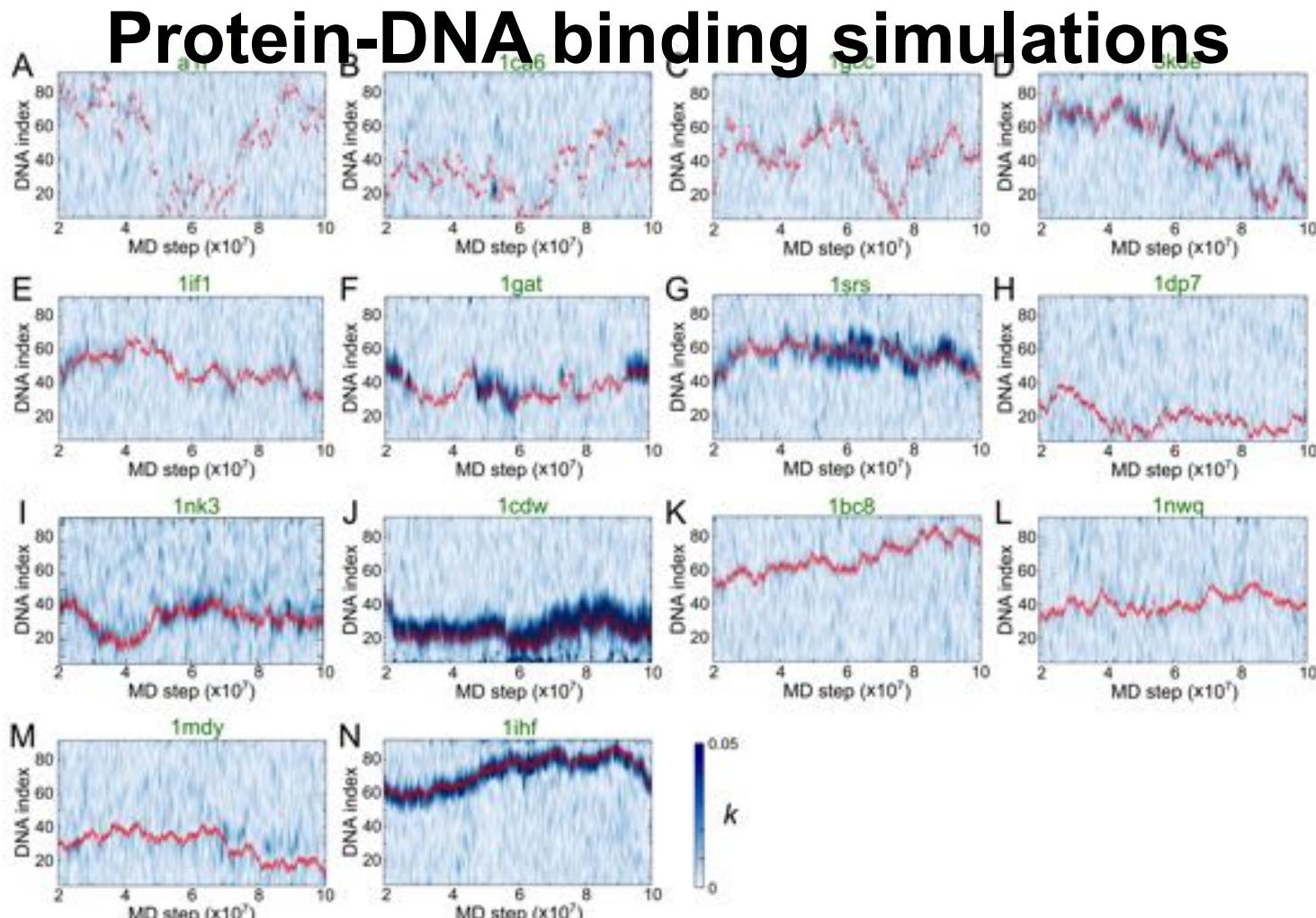
Polaron-like diffusion?



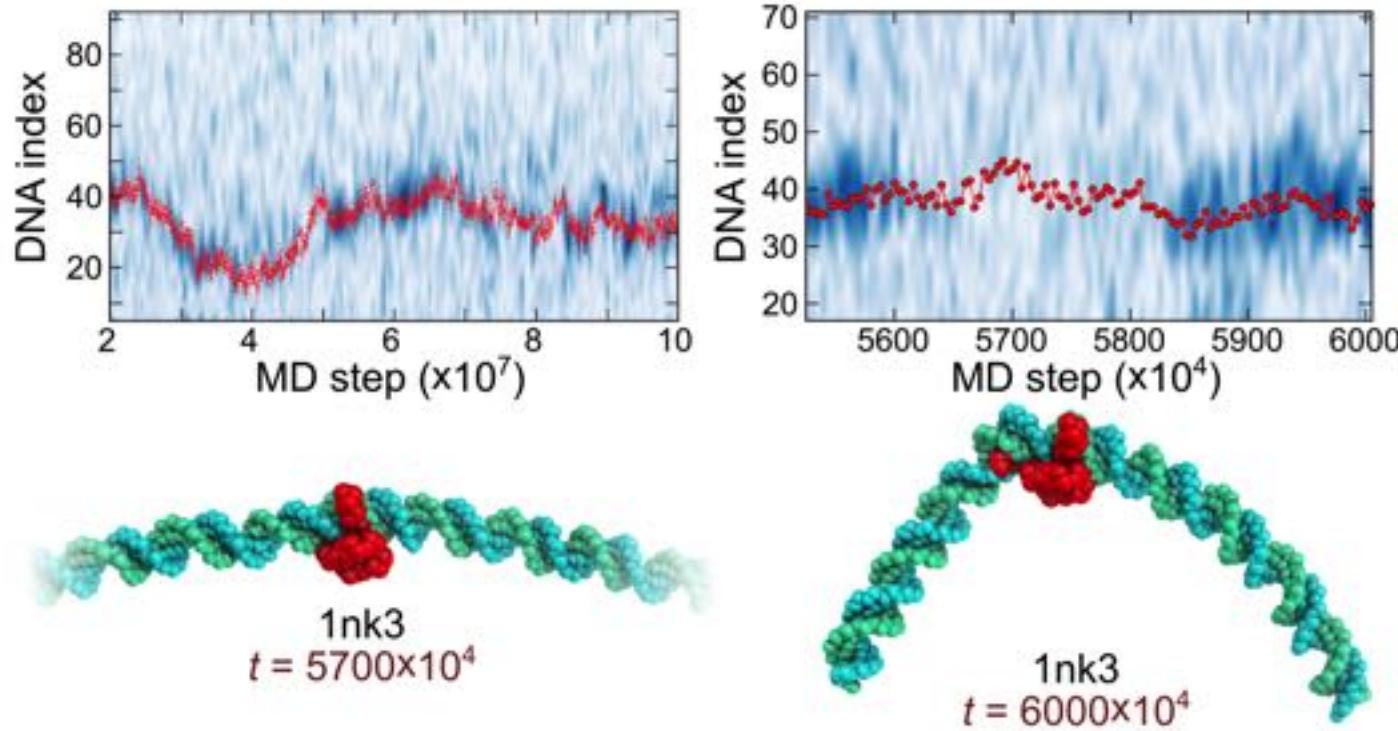
# More examples



# Protein-DNA binding simulations

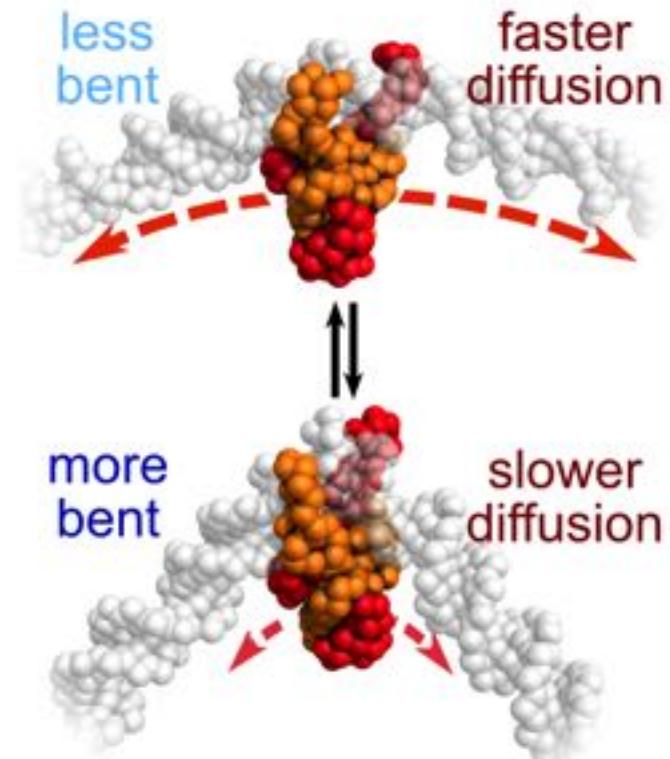


# DNA bending and protein binding of 1nk3 (homeodomain)



# Conclusions

- Bendability of DNA affects the preference of HU binding.
- HU binding facilitates DNA bending; DNA bending modulates HU sliding.
- Curvature of DNA affects protein diffusion speed.
- The “Polaron-like” sliding: protein moves together with the induced local bending of DNA.



# Acknowledgements

Thank you for your attention!

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- Dr. Daniel Duzdevich
- Dr. Tsuyoshi Terakawa
- Prof. Shoji Takada



Molecule in a **Café** cup.