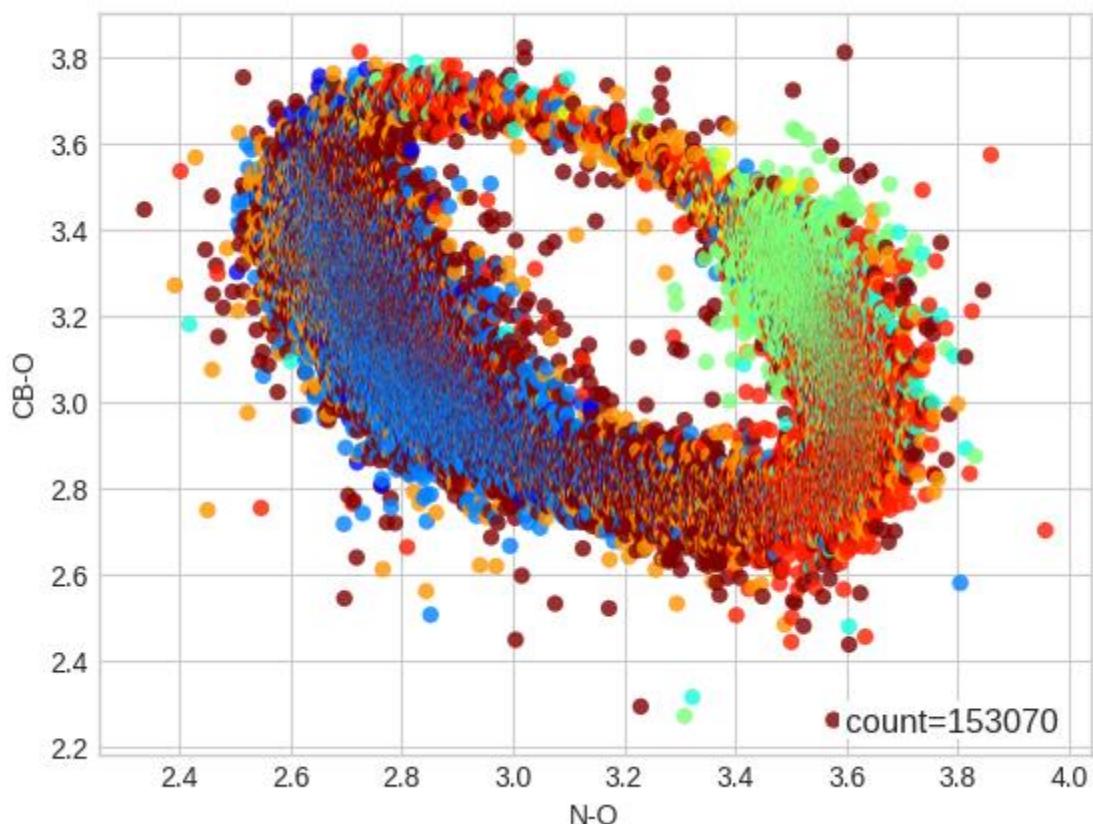


MSc Bioinformatics and Systems Biology

**What new things can we learn from  
ultrahigh-resolution protein crystal structures?**  
by  
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*Correlation of atom distances N-O and CB-O,  $\leq 1.1 \text{ \AA}$ , coloured on secondary structure (R.Alcraft 2020)*

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## Abstract

Ultrahigh resolution structures from the Protein Data Bank ([PDB](#), Berman et al, 2002) have been analysed using novel software to calculate 170 different geometric measures, including many not previously examined in large scale analysis. These results have been made accessible through a website on the Birkbeck College servers, with geometric analyses and correlations available on demand using python CGI scripts, NumPy and matplotlib.

The protein atomic positions have been analysed for recommended updates to stereochemical geometry that could be warranted on resolution, and any further insights that can be gained into protein structure based on the increased confidence in atom placement using the ultrahigh-resolution data set.

Interesting correlations have been found that define geometrically necessary regions, for example the intra residue one-four distances between nitrogen-oxygen and carbon $\beta$ -oxygen form a parametric relationship with the dihedral angle PSI underlying (see title picture). A correlation page of a selection of these geometric relationships can be found on the website ([Correlations Page](#)).

Exploration of the multimodal aspect of the distributions has yielded areas of correlation that suggest secondary structure features still to be explored, with the changing perspective from correlations viewed on secondary structure further hinting at categories for unidentified secondary structures.

Where geometry is irregular, there is the possibility of sites of genuine functional interest. The suggested novel correlations can pick out geometrically unusual sites which could enable those sites to be further analysed for validity and structural and functional interest.

A true confidence in the atom placement of a structure for analysis of functional sites requires knowledge of experimental evidence: exploration of electron density has yielded a novel method for comparison of normalised density matrices that could lead to an evaluation of structures against their electron density.

The combination of geometric feature analysis and electron density analysis has the future potential to enable fast detection of functional features of proteins; to use electron density directly to examine geometry; and to provide insight into the nature of atomic bonds.

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## Glossary and Abbreviations

| Term                       | Definition   |
|----------------------------|--|
| Angstrom ( $\text{\AA}$ )  | Metric unit equivalent to $10^{-10} \text{ m}$ , atomic scale measurement  |
| Bfactor                    | Or Debye-Waller factor/temperature factor/atomic displacement parameter – the degree to which electrons are spread out, measured in $\text{\AA}^2$ it gives a measure of local atom placement uncertainty. |
| Chi angles                 | Measurement of angle of rotation over sidechain bonds through the planar dihedral angles, successive atoms chosen along the chain for CHI1-5.  |
| Cis-peptide                | The $\text{C}\alpha$ s are on the same side of the peptide bond  |
| Dihedral angle             | The angle between two planes.  |
| DSSP                       | A program to calculate secondary structure, used to refer to secondary structures as calculated and classified by this program (Joosten et al, 2015; Kabsch & Sander, 1983).                               |
| E&H                        | Engh and Huber created the original geometric parameters for protein refinement.   |
| PDBe                       | The Protein Data Bank in Europe, structure data, structure factors and electron density ccp4 files are freely available ( <a href="#">PDBe</a> )   |
| Fo and Fc                  | The electron density measures obtained from the experiment (Fo) and implied by the model (Fc)  |
| Occupancy                  | The likelihood of an alternative atom placement, multiple occupant positions will add up to 1.   |
| Omega                      | Angle of right-handed rotation around C-N bond, measured by the angle between the planes CA-C-N <sup>+1</sup> and C-N <sup>+1</sup> -CA <sup>+1</sup>  |
| Peptide bond               | Chemical bond formed between the carboxyl group of one amino acid and the amino group of another. A water molecule is released in the reaction and the linked amino acids are known as residues.           |
| PDB                        | Protein Data Bank based in the US, structure data, structure factors and electron density maps (dsn6 format) are freely available ( <a href="#">PDB</a> )  |
| Phi                        | Angle of right-handed rotation around N-CA bond, measured by the angle between the planes C <sup>-1</sup> -N-CA and N-CA-C   |
| Psi                        | Angle of right-handed rotation around CA-C bond, measured by the angle between the planes N-CA-C and CA-C-N <sup>+1</sup>  |
| Resolution                 | Smallest distance between crystal lattice planes resolved in the diffraction pattern   |
| Rfree                      | Calculated like Rvalue below, but using a small subset of experimental data that has been withheld from refinement to act as an independent quality check.   |
| Rvalue                     | $R = 100 \cdot \sum    F_o  -  F_c    / \sum  F_o $ A measure of the difference between the structure factors calculated from the model and those from the experimental data.                              |
| Sp <sub>2</sub> hybridised | Electron shells form three planar bonds at 120°  |
| Sp <sub>3</sub> hybridised | Electron shells form four tetrahedral bonds at 109.5°  |
| Trans-peptide              | The $\text{C}\alpha$ s are on opposite sides of the peptide bond   |

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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background

This project aims to analyse the extent to which ultrahigh-resolution structures can provide us with updated and new information on the geometry, structure and function of proteins.

In 1915, William Henry Bragg and his son William Lawrence Bragg became the first pair to be awarded a Nobel prize for the analysis of crystal structures through X-rays, theorising diffraction through atomic planes from the spherical/elliptical shape of Von Laue spots (Perutz, 1990). Many discoveries and Nobel prizes have followed, including: Pauling (in 1954 for the nature of the chemical bond and the alpha-helix); Kendrew and Perutz (in 1962 for globular proteins); Crick, Watson and Wilkins (in 1962 for the structure of DNA, with insight based on Rosalind Franklin's X-ray images); Dorothy Hodgkin (in 1964 for the structure of Vitamin B12), Anfinsen (in 1972 for folding of protein chains) (International Union of Crystallography, [IUCR](#)). In a review of X-ray crystallography in 1957, Crick and Kendrew refer to protein structure as “the geometrical aspects – the arrangements of atoms in space” (Crick and Kendrew, 1957) in contrast to the common meaning of sequence and polypeptide connections. They claimed X-ray crystallography alone of the techniques at that time could elucidate this atomic geometry – still needing the sequence, about which they say “It is likely to be a very long time before X-ray analysis can obtain by itself the amino acid sequence of a protein.” (Crick and Kendrew, 1957). This has come to pass, the efforts to solve an X-ray structure without sequence are increasing with ultrahigh-resolution solutions, but an estimated 80% of structures are solved with molecular replacement involving knowledge of sequence and fragment structure (McCoy et al, 2017). Since Crick’s time, the explosion in sequencing technology means the need for the amino acid sequence for a structure does not add significant difficulty - a direct solution still appeals.

Solving a structure requires iteration between experimental data and proposed structures until a satisfactory agreement is achieved. The amplitude of the diffracted x-rays correspond to the darkness of the diffraction spots, but the experimental data does not include the phase of the x-ray waves, so there is no direct calculable solution - as Crick and Kendrew say (1957), it cannot be solved by a “mathematical sausage machine”. To ascertain the electron density the structure factors are transformed with a selection of phases derived from an initial model of the structure, followed by efforts to imply the structure, until a good agreement between calculated and observed diffraction spots is achieved and thus a satisfactory set of phases is implied.

The stereochemical restrictions on a structure are very tight, with bonds, angles, dihedrals, hydrogen bonds and van der Waal interactions all allowed within specific ranges, the rules for which are derived from small molecules in the Cambridge Structural Database (Groom et al, 2016) and the established Engh and Huber values (Engh & Huber, 1991, 2001). These values are used to balance the experimental evidence with the energetically possible and favoured geometry to refine the structure. Where

there is missing evidence, the knowledge of the sequence can help fill it in, relying on the stereochemical parameters. In low resolution structures where there is no experimental evidence for hydrogens (as the electron density of hydrogen at 1 electron is very small), all the hydrogens will be assumed to be located at fixed positions away from the atoms to which they are bonded (if they are included at all). Thus, in such a case all the hydrogens will appear to be geometrically uniform. It can be unclear: how a structure's atoms are placed; how valid they are; and how much experimental evidence there is.

Measures for the quality of the whole structure can be given in the form of root-mean-square deviation from expected stereochemical values (Wlodawer, 2007), with local variability being given by b-factors for each atom which measure the mobility of the atom. A high b-factor means less evidence for the correct placement of the atom. This mathematical puzzle is hugely complex, with refinement software making decisions on which stereochemical restraints to apply. This has the effect that experimental evidence of bonds and atoms is superposed by beliefs we already hold.

One such belief is that atoms are spherical - that there is a uniform electron distribution around a nucleus with charge density dependent only on distance from the nucleus. This simple model is necessary at low resolution – when there is low experimental evidence to support contrary decisions. A non-spherical multipole method can be used at high resolution when the electron density can support an anisotropic model. This is essential for hydrogen - the nature of the single hydrogen electron and the strong covalent bond means that hydrogen's electron density peak is far from the nucleus and a spherical method cannot correctly place the hydrogen atom. With ultrahigh-resolution structures at sub-atomic resolution of  $\leq 1\text{\AA}$ , hydrogen positions can be determined, adding to the understanding of protein function through elucidation of protonation states and hydrogen bonding. For structures deposited in the Protein Databank ([PDB](#), Berman et al, 2002) at  $\leq 0.7\text{\AA}$  the electron density can directly provide information on the bonding of catalytic sites (Blakeley, 2015).

Diisopropyl-fluorophosphatase was solved to  $0.85\text{\AA}$  with hydrogens (Elias et al, 2013, pdb code 3o4p) and without (Koepke et al, 2003, pdb code 1pjx). The structure with hydrogens has helped to determine the protonation state around the active site through the position of hydrogen atoms in water molecules in the vicinity, leading to the possible identification of a catalytic site. A cholesterol oxidase protein solved to  $0.74\text{\AA}$  (Zarychta et al, 2015, pdb code 4rek) has the structural feature of a tunnel to reach the active site, the single residue gate keeper visible only at high resolution. A human aldose reductase-inhibitor complex solved to  $0.66\text{\AA}$  (Howard et al, 2004, pdb code 1us0) shows evidence of a departure from the spherical atom model and deviation from stereochemical expectations in active sites. They suggest these geometric subtleties can only be treated with confidence at high resolution when refinement parameters are relaxed and are essential in drug design. The crambin structure, solved to  $0.54\text{\AA}$  (Jelsch et al, 2000, pdb code 1ejg), was refined with three methods: spherical; non-spherical models and charge-density refinement leading to a suggestion for the development of methods to understand redox potential of metalloproteins in combination with quantum mechanical

calculations. An iron-sulfur protein was solved to 0.48Å (Hirano et al, 2016, pdb code 5d8v) with evidence for non-planar peptide bonds around active site cysteine residues bound to iron, with non-spherical atomic density evidenced in the same region.

These examples point to the increasing identification of protein function through structure from the solving of ultrahigh-resolution structures, and the ability to analyse atomic models through the ultra-high-resolution data. Much data and many tools exist to facilitate exploration of protein structural data at all resolutions. The Protein Data Bank in Europe ([PDBe](#), Velankar et al, 2009) contains the structure's atomic coordinate files, along with their structure factors where available, and the electron density in CCP4 format as density and density difference. Janet Thornton's group looked at stereochemical quality of protein coordinates in 1992 (Morris et al, 1992) and noted that in higher resolutions, structures have a higher incidence of cis-peptides: thought due to greater confidence from electron density quality. A geometric tool is freely available at Duke University, MolProbity (Williams et al, 2018), to examine structures on a variety of features such as Ramachandran plot, cis-peptides, and C $\beta$  deviations, as well as the facility to change a model to remove outliers - useful as part of the refinement process. This builds on ProCheck (Laskowski et al, 1993) which includes the validation plots for CHI1/CHI2, the Ramachandran plot as well as deviations for omega and c-alpha chirality.

Many open-source libraries are available to explore this data include the python library BioPython (Cock et al, 2009; Hamelryck et al, 2003) and the database and web application, the Protein Geometry Database, created in 2009 (Berkholz et al, 2009) to evaluate protein structure on backbone geometry and conformations.

The explosion of solved x-ray crystal structures at atomic level lends itself to the possibility of some update of current tools and knowledge. With the added confidence in atom placement, can there be a revision of the stereochemical restraints? Can we use this confidence to find structural features or new refinement parameters? In 2007, Jaskolski (Jaskolski et al, 2007) reviewed the Engh and Huber restraints using the 10 ultrahigh-resolution structures deposited at the time, with some updates suggested. The increase in ultrahigh-resolution structures since then means that a further analysis of these recommendations is warranted.

Ultimately, we may need to go back to the electron density for any anomalies or uncertainty, or to seek improvements in understanding geometric features of proteins - the electron density is the final arbiter (Wlodawer, 2007). In that case we might ask: what we can learn directly from the comparison of electron density of ultrahigh-resolution structures? This issue is complicated by the absence of standardisation of units used in the electron density matrices - they cannot be easily compared to each other. There are numerous attempts to solve this, a recent effort converts the arbitrary electron density to numbers of electrons (Yao et al, 2019) with an accompanying python library.

With the ultrahigh-resolution confidence in atom placement; the explosion of atomic detail solved structures; the availability of electron density: what new structural, functional or geometric features can we discover?

## **1.2 Aim and objectives**

As stated, the aim of this project is to analyse the extent to which higher resolution structures can provide us with updated and new information on the geometry, structure and function of proteins, and to provide insights into and recommendations concerning those features. This can be broken into four objectives:

### **Objectives:**

#### **1.2.1 Bond lengths and angles**

The Engh and Huber (1991) restraints were re-analysed in 2007 (Jaskolski et al, 2007) using the 10 highest resolution structures at the time. With the explosion in high-resolution structures, can these be again reviewed, this time with hundreds of structures?

#### **1.2.2 New insights into geometric features and correlations**

Given data for hundreds of ultrahigh-resolution structures, can any new insights be found? Geometric measures will be analysed statistically: investigating correlation; linear regression; PCA analysis; normality and modality. Do these insights provide any new recommendations and insights for structure validation or analysis?

#### **1.2.3 Electron density analysis**

Many structures have electron density and structure factors deposited, which provides an opportunity for direct analysis of the experimental evidence for structural features and provide further insight. In particular, the superposition of electron density of structural features over multiple observations will be attempted to see if atomic detail is enhanced by this method (Jelsch et al, 2000).

#### **1.2.4 Resolution and geometry**

Reviewing the geometry, new insights and electron density above: what can we learn about the importance of resolution for protein structural analysis?

## 2. Materials and Methods

A web-viewer was developed ([PSU-Beta WebViewer](#)) to explore geometric data based on the protocol developed in the MSc Biocomputing 2 module. The web-viewer allows browsing of geometric parameters including histograms, scatter plots and probability density plots, using a database developed to store all the geometric data. For the database, a non-homologous data set of ultrahigh-resolution structures was obtained, along with a comparator set of lower resolution structures taken from 2019. 170 geometric features were defined, including bonded and non-bonded lengths, angles and dihedrals.

### 2.1 Geometric Data Generation

#### 2.1.1 Generation of geometric measures

A C++ program named PSU-Beta (Protein Structure Utility, version b) was created, consisting of shared libraries and executables. The executables perform 4 steps of the process, after a list of structures was generated from the Protein Data Bank ([PDB](#), Berman et al, 2002) using the advanced search facility to search for: structures  $\leq 1.3\text{\AA}$  (high set); structures deposited in 2019 (2019 set).

- Remove similarity - removes structures above 90% homologous, keeps highest resolution.
- Annotate structure - annotates the structure with e.g. resolution, rvalue, number of residues. Some structures are rejected at this stage: 30 or fewer residues; any structure with nucleotides.
- Create geometry - calculates the geometry given the measures specified in 2.1.2. Chosen data is extracted from the pdb files during this process pertaining to the atoms and residues, i.e. coordinates, bfactors, occupancy, chain name etc, the data extracted can be seen in the database tables, see 2.1.3. At this stage decisions are made about structural features that impact the geometry: negative amino acids are not included; where there identical chains but no NCS model only one chain is kept; where there are multiple occupants multiple models are built with the occupancy recorded.
- Contact map – for each structure, all n-residues are cross references against each other in the structure ( $n^2$  calculations). Adjacent residues are excluded from the considered residue pairs. The distance is calculated between the specified atom pairs of interest: SG-SG, CB-CB, CA-CA and N-O. If the distance is  $< 6.1\text{\AA}$  it is saved to the database.

The library and executables can be found on the project GitHub ([PSU-Beta C++](#)).

#### 2.1.2 Geometric Measures calculated

The following geometric measures have been calculated. Note the following conventions:

- Distance e.g. CA-C, there are 2 atoms, it may not be a physical bond.
- Angle e.g. CA-C-O, or an alias e.g. TAU - there are 3 atoms, it may not be between bonded atoms.
- Dihedral angle e.g. N-CA-C-O or an alias e.g. PSI - 4 atoms, dihedral, improper or non-bonded.

The naming conventions from the pdb structures have been used, but note also, the convention of 1N for 1 backwards in the N-prime direction, and 2C meaning 2 forwards in the c-prime direction. So, CA1N is the previous residue's C $\alpha$  and CA1C is the next residue's C $\alpha$ .

Below in Table 2.1.2.1 is a selection of geometric measures calculated, (total list can be found in Appendix 4). Those with the type 1-4 are atoms with 3 bonds between them (they measure the rotation around the middle bond).

| Alias  | Type        | Description                     |
|--|-------------|---------------------------------|
| C-O, CA-C, C-N1C, C1N-N, N-CA                              | Bond length | Main chain distance             |
| OMEGA: CA-C-N1C-CA1C<br>PHI: C1N-N-CA-C<br>PSI: N-CA-C-N1C | Dihedral    | Main chain dihedral             |
| TAU: N-CA-C<br>TAU1N: C1N-N-CA<br>TAU1C: CA-C-N1C          | Angle       | Main chain angle                |
| CA-CB-CG<br>CB-CA-C<br>N-CA-CB                             | Angle       | Side chain and main chain angle |
| C-C1C, CA-CA1C, CA1N-CA, C1N-C, N-N1C, N1N-N               | Distance    | Inter residue distance          |
| CA-CA1C-CA2C<br>CA1N-CA-CA1C<br>CA2N-CA1N-CA               | Angle       | Inter residue angle             |
| CA2N-CA1N-CA-CA1C  | Dihedral    | Inter residue dihedral          |
| CB-O, N-O  | One-Four    | Intra residue 1-4               |
| C-CB1C, CB1N-N, C1N-CB, O1N-CA, CB-N1C                     | One-Four    | Inter residue 1-4               |

Table 2.1.2.1 Selection of geometric measures calculated

### 2.1.3 Database

A MySQL Server version: 5.5.65-MariaDB database was implemented, using SQL and the python pandas library for creation and population. Scripts and table specifications can be found on this GitHub link: [PSU-Beta Database](#). The design was considered carefully, changing from a long table, using the Entity-Attribute-Value anti-pattern, to a wide approach which is easier and faster to query on. Tables are: ([GitHub link to definitions](#))

- protein\_structure\_v1 - each structure including resolution, number of residues, author, refinement software.
- protein\_set\_v1 - the validity of each structure and the assigned set.
- protein\_atom\_v1 - atom coordinates, occupancy and B-factor for every atom.
- geo\_contact\_v1 – atom pair contact distances calculated at < 6.1Å.
- geo\_high\_v1 - geometric values for the high-resolution data asset.
- geo\_2019\_v1 - geometric values for the 2019 dataset.
- geo\_calcs\_v1 – the geometric measures used in the system.

## 2.1.4 Secondary Structure

The Linux version of DSSP was sourced via “sudo apt-get install dssp”, installing mdkdssp 3.0.0 (<https://swift.cmbi.umcn.nl/gv/dssp>, Joosten et al, 2015; Kabsch & Sander, 1983). The library was accessed via BioPython (Cock et al, 2009; Hamelryck et al, 2003) to calculate the dssp secondary structure for each residue and update the database.

An alternative secondary structure implementation is in column `ss\_psu` which contains a very rough estimation of secondary structure based on Ramachandran region from the MSc Structural Bioinformatics course notes.

Both are accessible from the “Correlations” page of the website (PSU-View Correlations) as Hue Choice “SS DSSP” and “Ramachandran Area” respectively.

## 2.2 Geometric Data Reports

The data is viewed via a web browser, using python, CGI scripts, pandas and matplotlib, called PSU-View (Protein Structure Utility - View).

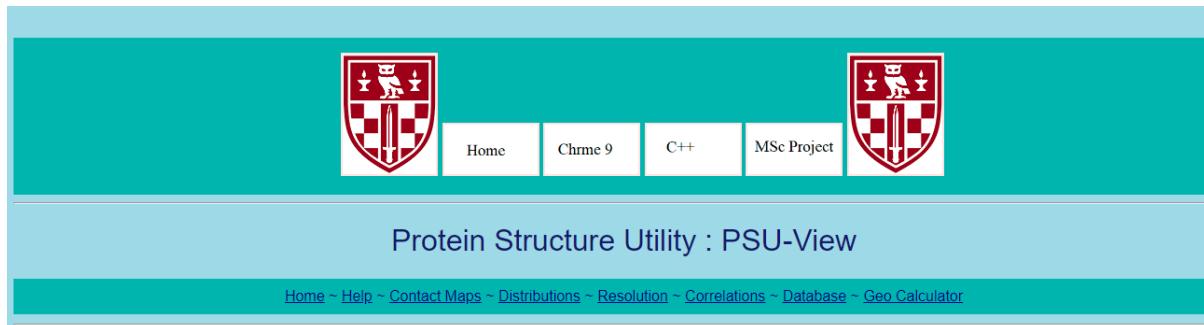


Figure 2.2.1 Website header with menu options

The website can be found here <http://student.cryst.bbk.ac.uk/~ab002/thesis.html> and has three main pages to explore: Distributions, Resolution and Correlations, with also Contact Maps, a database explorer and a geometry calculator.

### 2.2.1 PSU-View Distributions

| Overall Distribution                       |                                     | Distribution A |             | Secondary Structure For A or B                    |                                     | Distribution B |             | Choose Images          |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|---|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Geo Calc X                                 | PSI                                 | Set Name       | HIGH        | H= $\alpha$ -helix                                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Set Name       | HIGH        | 1d Histogram           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Geo Calc Y                                 | N-O                                 | Amino Code     | PRO,HI      | B=residue in isolated $\beta$ -bridge             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Amino Code     | PRO         | 2d Scatter             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Geo Calc Z                                 | TAU                                 | Occupant       | A           | E=extended strand, participates in $\beta$ ladder | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Occupant       | A           | 2d Density Trace       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Hue Choice                                 | RESOL                               | Contact        |             | G=3-helix (310 helix)                             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Contact        |             | 2d Probability Density | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Include IN pdbs                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Restriction    | 50          | I=5 helix ( $\pi$ -helix)                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Restriction    |             | 2dx2d Breadth Compare  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Include CHECKED pdbs                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Max BFactor    | 50          | T=hydrogen bonded turn                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Max BFactor    | 50          | 2dx2d Depth Compare    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|  |                                     | Bounds:        | Upper Lower | S=bend  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Bounds:        | Upper Lower | 3d Scatter             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|  |                                     | Resolution     | 1.2 ALL     | U=unknown   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Resolution     | ALL 1.25    |                        |                                     |
|  |                                     | R Value        | 0.16 ALL    | X=Unassigned                                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | R Value        | 0.16 ALL    |                        |                                     |
|  |                                     | R Free         | 0.3 ALL     |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | R Free         | 0.3 ALL     |                        |                                     |
| <a href="#">Create Distribution Images</a> |                                     |                |             |   |                                     |                |             |                        |                                     |

Figure 2.2.1.1 Choices for the distributions page

This shows the selection of options available when viewing geometric data, the results of this selection can be found in Appendix 12

All geometric parameters, or pairs and triples of geometric parameters, can be viewed in several ways, as chosen from the far-right column “Choose Images”.

1d Histogram – matplotlib hist with 50 bins. Outliers are shown and statistics are given for the distribution using scipy.stats shapiro, skew and kurtosis.

2d Scatter – matplotlib scatter with the measures chosen in Geo Calc X and Geo Calc Y. The scatter points are graduated on the value in Hue Choice, which defaults to RESOLUTION. If a non-numeric hue is chosen, it is encoded as numeric values with the key given, this leads to automatic assignment of the colours - except for the choice “dssp” which has a fixed assignment of colours.

2d Density Trace – As above for scatter, but with single hued points with transparency of 0.05. This gives an indication of the frequency of the points as well as the location.

2d Probability Density – The gaussian\_kde function is used from scipy.stats to form a smooth normalised surface over the scatter point data using Gaussian kernels. The bandwidth is chosen to be 0.10 (see Appendix 19 for some results to demonstrate this choice), with 12 contours. The probability density can be used with the other plots to show the most probable areas: information will be absent for less probable, but still possible, multi-modal distributions.

2d x 2d Breadth Compare – A second distribution can be defined in the column Distribution B. The 2 distributions are represented as a 2d histogram with 2 colour shades: highly populated and slightly populated. The 2 distributions are mathematically compared via numpy arrays of the images to produce a difference image: where they are both highly or slightly populated the image is empty, where they are both populated to a different extent the image is pale grey, where 1 is populated but not the other, the difference image retains that shade. The difference image shows the differing breadths of the images, and the differing locations. The difference image header shows a “masked image metric” in the form of percentages for the left- and right-hand images, calculated by comparing the numerical colour values in the numpy arrays. For example, 90:10 would mean that 90% of the left hand image was also occupied by the right hand, but only 10% of the right hand image was also occupied by the left – the left hand image is presumably much smaller. Identical images would be 100:100, no overlap at all would be 0:0.

2d x 2d Depth Compare – As above, a difference image is created based on distributions A and B. For each, the gaussian\_kde function (see 2d Probability Density above) is created, and those numpy arrays are directly subtracted to create a difference array. The hue for all distributions is kept consistent in colour and intensity, so that in the difference image the negative values reflect distribution A and the positive values reflect distribution B. Due to the normalisation of the gaussian\_kde the difference image is not substantially effected by the size of the distribution and reflects where distributions have genuinely different probability – comparing the Ramachandran plots for residues in different secondary structures, for example, will show this clearly.

3d Scatter – As for 2d Scatter, but 3d and including the Geo Calc Z measure. The distribution is shown with the axes arranged in three different perspectives.

## 2.2.2 PSU-View Resolution

| Choices                               |                     | Secondary Structure                         |                                     | Restrictions |      | Select views |                                     | Structure Status     |                                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------|------|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Set Name                              | DEFAULT             | H=α-helix                                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Max Bfactor  | 50   | Box Plots    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Include IN pdbs      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Amino Code                            | NON                 | B=residue in isolated β-bridge              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | R Value      | 0.16 | Violin Plots | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Include CHECKED pdbs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Calcs (comma list)                    | N-CA,CA-C           | E=extended strand, participates in β ladder | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | R Free       | 0.3  | Line Plots   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                      |                                     |
| Buckets (comma list)                  | 0,1,1.15,1.2,1.25,1 | G=3-helix (310 helix)                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Occupant     | A    | Histograms   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                      |                                     |
|                                       |                     | I=5 helix (π-helix)                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Contact      |      |              |                                     |                      |                                     |
|                                       |                     | T=hydrogen bonded turn                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Restriction  |      |              |                                     |                      |                                     |
|                                       |                     | S=bend                                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |              |      |              |                                     |                      |                                     |
|                                       |                     | U=unknown                                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |              |      |              |                                     |                      |                                     |
|                                       |                     | X=Unassigned                                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |              |      |              |                                     |                      |                                     |
| <a href="#">Compare Distributions</a> |                     |   |                                     |              |      |              |                                     |                      |                                     |

Figure 2.2.2.1 Choices for the resolutions page

The violin plots for calculations CB-O and N-O can be found in Appendix 7

This compares the distributions over different resolution buckets. Distributions can be displayed as boxplots, violin plots, line plots and histograms, using the seaborn library functions boxplot, violinplot, lineplot and distplot respectively. The violin plot uses a kernel density smoothing, the bandwidth is chosen as 0.10. The lineplot uses a kde with cos kernel and silverman rule of thumb.

Multiple resolution buckets can be entered with a comma delimited list, the bucket being between each entered resolution (upper value inclusive).

Calcs is a comma delimited list of all the measures required - they should be chosen to have the same unit and approximate range (Å and ° do not compare well on the same axis).

## 2.2.3 PSU-View Correlation

| Choices                                 |       | Restrictions |     | Secondary Structure                         |                                     | Hue Choice            |                                     |
|---|-------|--------------|-----|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| PDB Code (overrides all)                |       | Max Bfactor  | 40  | H=α-helix                                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | • Amino Code          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Set Name                                | HIGH  | Occupant     | A   | B=residue in isolated β-bridge              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | • Ramachandran Area   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Bounds:                                 | Upper | Lower        | ALL | E=extended strand, participates in β ladder | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | • SS DSSP             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Resolution                              | 1     |              | ALL | G=3-helix (310 helix)                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | • Refinement Software | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| R Value                                 | ALL   |              | ALL | I=5 helix (π-helix)                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | • Authors             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| R Free                                  | 0.3   |              | ALL | T=hydrogen bonded turn                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | • PDB Codes           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|   |       |              |     | S=bend                                      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | • Resolution          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|   |       |              |     | U=Unknown                                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | • Chain               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|   |       |              |     | X=Unassigned                                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | • Amino No            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <a href="#">Show Validation Reports</a> |       |              |     |   |                                     |                       |                                     |

Figure 2.2.3.1 Choices for the Correlation page, generates sixteen correlations considered interesting

Over the course of the project, some correlations have been found to be interesting either geometrically or for validation purposes. This page showcases a selection of 16 of these correlations. It includes standard correlations like the Ramachandran plot and CHI1/CHI2, and some novel such as PSI/N-O and CHI1/CA-CB-CG for proline. The hue can be chosen from the Hue Choice column on the far left, with other choices consistent with the previous pages. The page enables a rapid validation of a single pdb. See Appendix 14 for an example of the selected correlations.

## 2.2.4 Atom close contacts

The database for close contacts is utilised in 3 ways that facilitate exploration of distributions of inter residue close contacts or restrict on inter-residue close contact.

### Use 1: As a restriction on residues in all reports

In the Distributions, Resolutions and Correlations pages, there is a box Contact. In this box you can enter the possible contacts for a restriction on those contacts. This restricts the residues in the data set to those with close contacts on  $<3.6\text{\AA}$ . The options are:

- N-O for any residues where the N is in close contact with another residue's O ( $> 2$  apart)
- O-N for any residues where the O is in close contact with another residue's N ( $> 2$  apart)
- S-S for any cysteine residues where the S is in close contact with another S
- CB-CB for any residue in close contact with another C $\beta$
- CA-CA close contact between the C $\alpha$  and another C $\alpha$
- XN-O means NOT N-O, the complement set to N-O
  - The X can be used on all the above

### Use 2: As a geo measure in histograms

When looking at 1 dimensional data either on the Resolutions page, or for histograms on the Distributions page, the "Geo Calc X" or the Calcs can be entered as, for example C@N-O (or C@SG-SG etc). The C@ being a notation for contact. This will show a distribution of all close contacts directly from the contact database (which is restricted at  $6.1\text{\AA}$  not  $3.6\text{\AA}$ ). See example below.

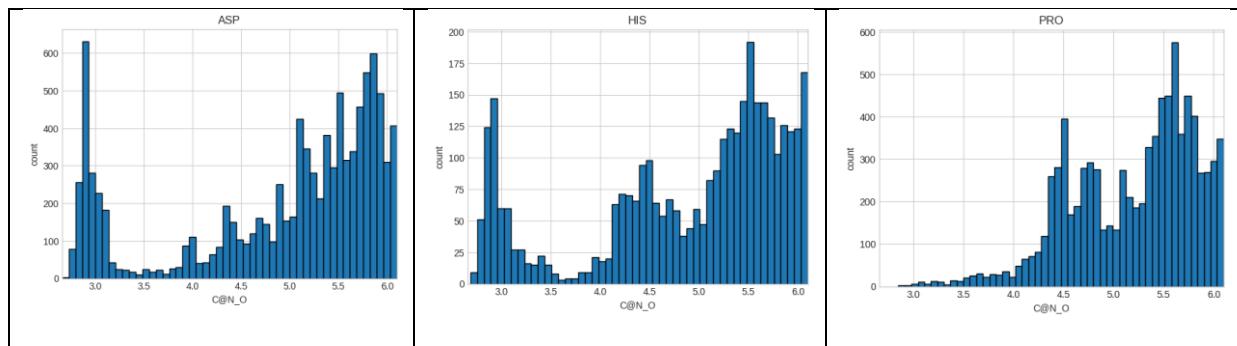


Figure 2.2.4.1 Results for the close contacts for histograms on Distributions page

### Use 3: Contact Maps

Contact maps can be viewed directly for a single pdb. This feature is not yet used for further analysis in this study. The Contact Map page shows the close contact map for all the atom pairs calculated, SG-SG, CA-CA, CB-CB and N-O. The data is shown on colour and size for diminishing distance,

with the effect of 3d along the backbone, consideration of which holds future promise. An example is shown below for 6mry, chosen as having the largest number of SG-SG contacts in the database.

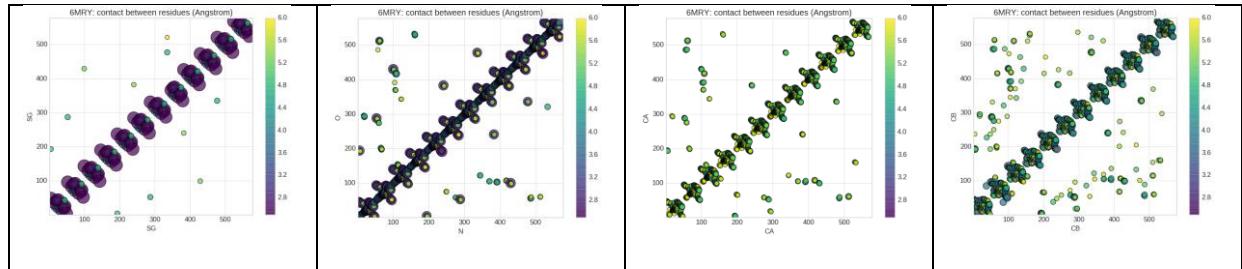


Figure 2.2.4.2 Contact Maps, 4 contact views for 6mry

## 2.2.5 PCA data analysis

PCA analysis of proline ring conformations was performed using R with a protocol derived from the MSC Bioinformatics statistics module practical. See link for script: [R PCA Analysis](#)

## 2.2.6 Validation

Validation of the data was performed using the reports produced by PSU-View and detailed above. The histogram report produced in the Distributions page shows the outliers. This was used to clean data of any evident errors in either structure or code. Two code errors were detected in this process:

- Not recognising breaks in protein chains, i.e. where residues are missing due to poor electron density. This was fixed.
- Incorrectly handling mutation insertions, column 27 of an atom row in the pdb file. Where mutations are found in the structure the different residues at that point are entered at the same residue number with the order in which they are found in column 27. The few structures not handled by this were removed from the dataset.

The Correlations page was also used to detect structures that fell into areas that would seem to be geometrically impossible. These structures were further investigated individually and either rejected due to evident mistakes in the deposited structure or annotated as “Checked”. An example is detailed in Results Section 3.1, with a full list in Appendix 3.

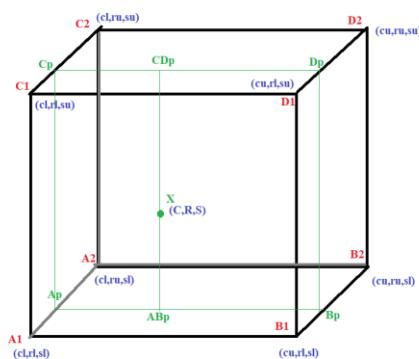
## 2.3 Electron Density

A publicly available python library, pdb\_eda, was evaluated for electron density functionality (Yao et al, 2019). This library was used, with some changes, along with BioPython (Cock et al, 2009; Hamelryck et al, 2003) in the novel python library PSU-ED, [PSU-ED on GitHub](#). Speed and memory considerations were foremost.

The library provides access to the density matrix 2Fo-Fc and the difference matrix Fo-Fc.

### 2.3.1 Interpolating density matrices

The pdb\_eda library was evaluated for the density retrieval from the matrix. Their point density was based on a nearest neighbour approach and was not smooth. Their smoothed density, using a spherical average of chosen radius, was too slow. The decision was made to implement a trilinear interpolation for smoother but faster point density. See Figure 2.3.1.1 for the overall method and 2.3.1.2 for the linear interpolation step.



Given a non-integer point in the density matrix (C,R,S) converted from atom space (X,Y,Z), a cube is formed around it from the integer coordinates of the floor and ceiling of each point.

The density is found for each vertex of the cube, labelled A1-D2.

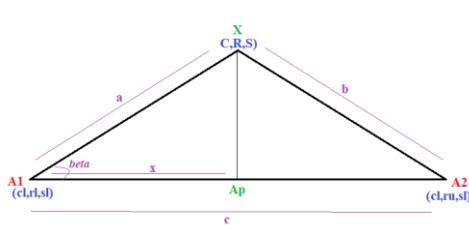
4 linear interpolations are performed along the cube sides A1-A2, B1-B2, C1-C2 and D1-D2 to find Ap, Bp, Cp and Dp.

2 linear interpolations - across cube sides Ap-Bp and Cp-Dp find central surface points ABp and CDp.

Final interpolation through the cube between ABp-CDp finds the interpolated density X at (C,R,S).

Figure 2.3.1.1 Trilinear interpolation, overall method, depicts the coordinates in the cube around the point to interpolate

Each interpolation step finds both the interpolated density and the coordinates of the new interpolated point. The interpolation is always performed with the central (C,R,S) coordinates and the 2 points being interpolated. Each interpolation step is performed as below, which is given as an example for points A1, A2 and X in the diagram above.



#### Interpolation Step

The ratio x/c is calculated using the cosine rule  

$$\frac{x}{c} = \frac{a^2 + c^2 - b^2}{2ac}$$

This ratio is applied to linearly interpolate densities:  

$$Ap = A1 + \frac{x}{c} \times (A2 - A1)$$

It is also applied to the coordinates such that  

$$(cp, rp, sp,) = (cl + \frac{x}{c} \times (cl - cl), rl + \frac{x}{c} \times (ru - rl), sl + \frac{x}{c} \times (sl - sl))$$

Figure 2.3.1.2 Trilinear interpolation, the linear fraction calculated from the cosine rule

### 2.3.2 Normalising density matrices

The library pdb\_eda has a novel approach to the problem of normalisation of density matrices – they convert the arbitrary density to number of electrons per unit volume using a method that finds the density and density difference in spherical areas around each atom in the structure and compares that to the expected number of electrons for the structure, finding a conversion factor that can be applied across the whole density matrix. The method was evaluated, and some reservations are found, specifically the use of the atomic coordinates of the solved structure to make this calculation: errors in the placement of the atomic coordinates could lead to an incorrect summation for the electron density; keeping the electron density independent of the solved structure leaves available the ability to solve the structure from the electron density. However, the final decision not to use this method was based on speed – for some structures, for example 5gsm, the calculation of a single conversion factor takes 45 minutes, raising the prospect of it taking 15 days to calculate the conversion factors for 500 structures.

The pdb\_eda method relies on the calculation of a single conversion factor. If this is a reasonable method, the density matrix values must all be distributed equivalently such that a single scale factor renders them similar. Thus a simpler method of normalising the density matrices was evaluated using the approach that the density distribution would be similar in all proteins, and that the median value in a specific density matrix would approximately correspond to the same thing in all density matrices. The density matrices are scaled by a linear factor such that the median is 50, an arbitrary choice that allows comparison of density between structures. This is a first attempt at normalisation and is under review: the results are promising. This normalisation method has been used in generating superpositions of electron density in this report. An analysis of a selection of density and density difference matrices at different resolutions are given in Appendix 5.

### 2.3.3 Superposition of density matrices

A method was developed to find similar atom configurations and superpose the electron density to draw out features of geometry, bond and shape that may not be visible or reliable on an individual basis.

A cube is created of a configurable size and gap. Three atoms are defined for each sample – a central atom, a linear atom and a planar atom. Transformations are applied to the original cube, so that, net-like, it can capture a cube of required space in the sample structure. The cube is manipulated via translations and rotations such that the central atom is at the origin, the linear atom is on the x-axis, and the planar atom lies flat against the x-y plane. Density is then retrieved for every point on the cube's grid, using the normalised interpolated methods described above.

PSU-ED results are produced in an html document, showing all x, y and z slices generated from matplotlib image libraries. Results are given for each individual sample and the superposition.

Results can also be viewed in 3d through a Mathematica notebook, adapted from code written by  
Mark Williams - [Mathematica Notebook](#).

## 3. Results

### 3.1 Summary of structures and residues

There are 2 sets of data, non-homologous at 90%

- HIGH with resolutions  $\leq 1.3\text{\AA}$
- 2019 is all structures deposited in 2019  $> 1.3\text{\AA}$

The 2 datasets facilitate comparison of resolutions, with the non-high set chosen as being from 2019 to minimise variability in the data (choosing recent structures suggests a consistency in versions of refinement software and methods that could reduce variability).

The 2019 data set has not undergone manual validation.

Following Jaskolski (2007), a high quality (HQ) subset of the HIGH structures is defined by applying these filters:

- rfree  $\leq 0.3$
- rvalue  $\leq 0.16$
- bfactor  $\leq 50$
- Checked excluded

The structure count is given in Table 3.1.1.

| HIGH       |        |      |           | 2019       |      |
|------------|--------|------|-----------|------------|------|
| Resolution | HQ set | All  | “CHECKED” | Resolution | All  |
| 0.5        | 2      | 2    | 0         | 1.3        | 71   |
| 0.6        | 3      | 3    | 0         | 1.4        | 133  |
| 0.7        | 9      | 10   | 0         | 1.5        | 155  |
| 0.8        | 47     | 47   | 1         | 1.6        | 208  |
| 0.9        | 139    | 142  | 2         | 1.8        | 278  |
| 1.0        | 455    | 510  | 3         | 1.9        | 313  |
| 1.1        | 822    | 980  | 5         | >2.0       | 1491 |
| 1.2        | 1015   | 1415 | 6         |            |      |
| 1.3        | 942    | 1508 | 4         |            |      |
| Total      | 3434   | 4617 | 21        |            | 2649 |

Table 3.1.1 The included structures broken down by resolution and dataset  
The resolutions are rounded to 1 d.p. for this analysis

## 3.2 Validation

A process of validation was undergone to check all structures for extreme outliers. The Ramachandran plot is the standard approach (Ramachandran et al, 1963) to identifying unusual backbone geometry. However, in developing the analysis reported here other well-defined correlations have been found between backbone geometric features that (arguably) better highlight outliers. The results of this inspection of the high-resolution data set can be found in Appendix 3 with an example described below.

### 3.2.1 Structure 1i1w, 0.89Å Thermostable Xylanase

Figure 3.2.1.1b below shows a clear geometric outlier that is not evident on the Ramachandran plot – see the point at  $(\text{PSI}, \text{N-O}) = (10, 3.05)$ . In this plot there is a relationship seen between the Ramachandran plot and the PSI/N-O plot - the secondary structure colours illuminate this, see in particular the brown areas that are undefined in the Ramachandran plot but appear ordered in PSI/N-O. This geometric order in PSI/N-O facilitates the identification of unlikely residues.

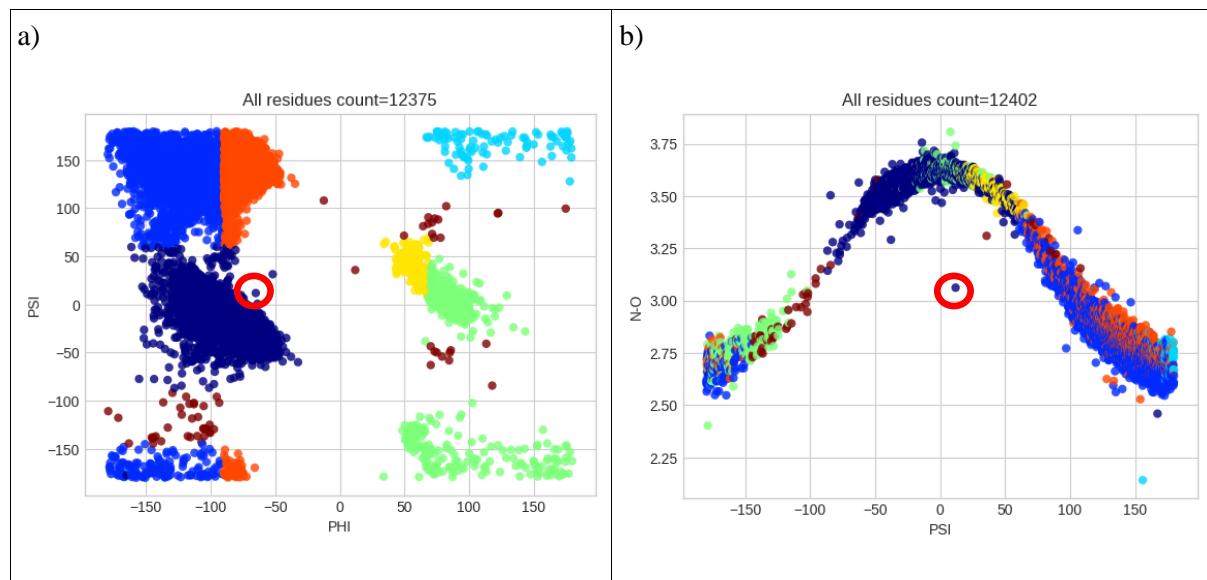


Figure 3.2.1.1 A residue in a geometrically unlikely area is picked out on both plots.  
Structures between 0.8–0.9 Å.

- a) Shows the Ramachandran plot with secondary structure regions denoted by different colours
- b) Shows the geometric correlation  $\text{PSI}$  vs  $\text{N-O}$ , with the same data set and colouring as (a)

Many clear outliers have been checked by hand; this point is in structure 1I1W. The residues at 180 (SER) and 181 (TYR) both have occupants A and B, and the occupant A for SER seems to deviate visually from standard geometry – see Figure 3.2.1.3. Visually it can be seen that the PSI angle is as reported, close to planar. However, the carbonyl C is expected to be  $\text{sp}^2$  hybridised, planar with angles of  $120^\circ$ . It clearly deviates from this. The same residue is an outlier in other correlation plots (Figure 3.2.1.2).

B=residue in isolated  $\beta$ -bridge E=extended strand, participates in  $\beta$  ladder G=3-helix (310 helix) H=9-helix I=5 helix (m-helix) S=bend T=hydrogen bonded turn U=unknown

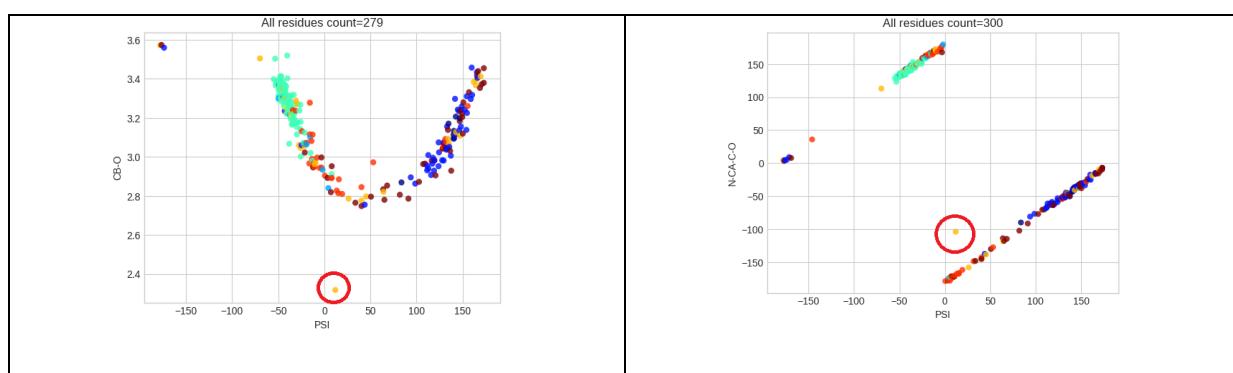


Figure 3.2.1.2 Correlation plots for 1i1w showing the suspicious residue 180 (circled)

I have examined the electron density in Chimera (Figure 3.2.1.3) (Pettersen et al, 2004), verified the N-O distance manually and cross-calculated PHI, PSI and N-O as if the A&B occupants had been mixed up, to check for simple labelling errors – see Table 3.2.1.4.

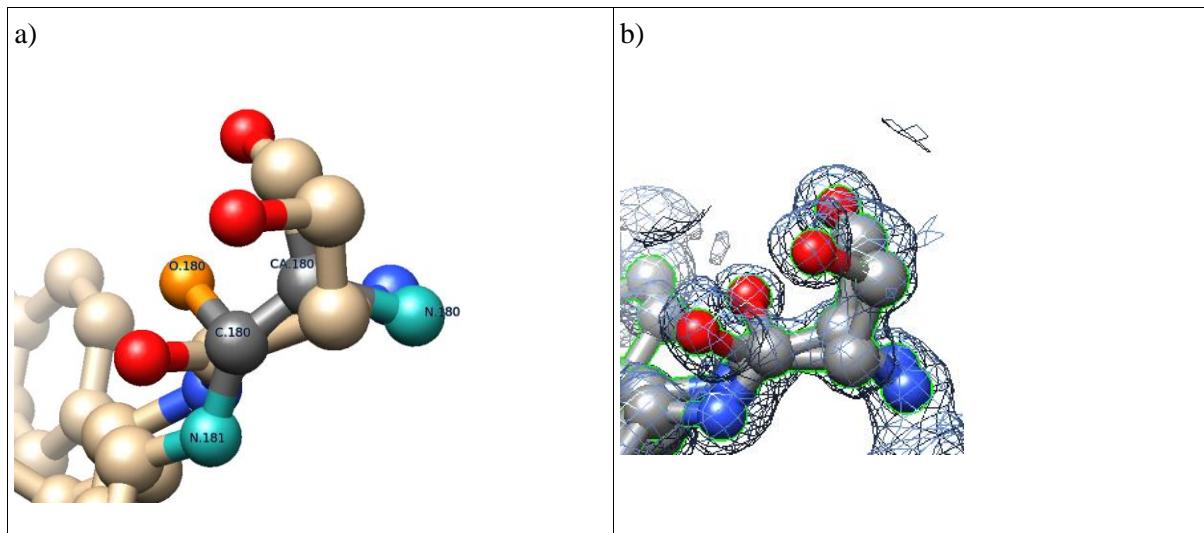
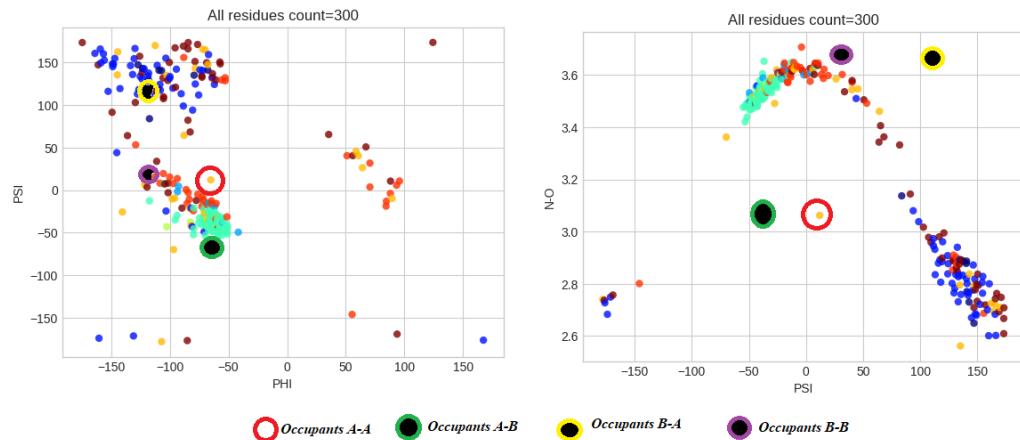


Figure 3.2.1.3 The geometric outlier Ser 180 in 1IIW, planar carbonyl not as expected, with electron density.  
a) Shows atoms of interest highlighted in orange/turquoise/grey.  
b) The electron density shows evidence for atom placement.  
Images produce in Chimera.

| Residue 0 ALA.179                        | Residue 1 SER.180   | Residue 2 TYR.181                      | PHI      | PSI     | N-O   |
|--|---|--|----------|---------|-------|
| One occupant<br>C (-5.452,12.011,19.188) | Occupant A<br>N (-5.289,13.095,19.649)<br>CA (-5.409,14.625,19.282)<br>C (-4.663,15.095,18.398)<br>O (-3.802,15.745,19.274) | Occupant A<br>N (-3.804,14.715,17.422) | -65.14°  | 11.92°  | 3.062 |
|  | Occupant A  | Occupant B<br>N (-3.031,14.664,18.432) | -65.14°  | -44.38° | 3.062 |
|  | Occupant B<br>N (-4.912,13.362,19.958)<br>CA (-5.680,14.311,18.905)<br>C (-4.097,15.066,18.404)<br>O (-4.480,16.189,17.660) | Occupant A                             | -119.73° | 106.70° | 3.669 |
|  | Occupant B  | Occupant B                             | -119.73° | 26.06°  | 3.669 |

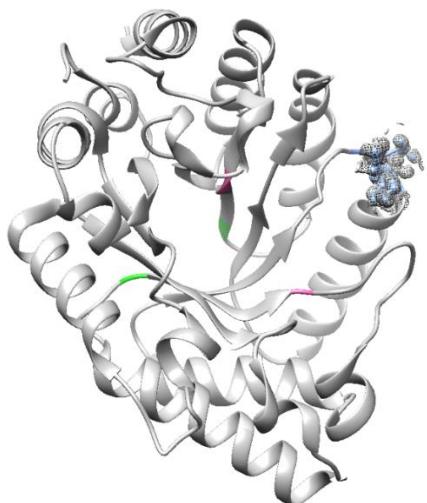
Table 3.2.1.4 Calculations to investigate possible labelling error of occupants A and B, 1IIW residues 179-181.

The combinations for N-O/PHI/PSI do not suggest the occupants have been mixed up as other combinations of the values do not fall on an ordered region, see Figure 3.2.1.5 below for the different combinations plotted.



**Figure 3.2.1.5** Correlations plotted for occupant combinations for 1i1w residues 180 and 181  
The points are clearly in error on PSI/N-O but seem ordered on the Ramachandran plot

The deposition paper for this structure (Figure 3.2.1.6) does not make any specific mention of these residues as sites of interest (Natesh et al, 2003). It seems that there is a mistake in the solved structure despite the high resolution of 0.89Å and level of attention that has gone into it.



**Figure 3.2.1.6** Chimera image shows geometrically unlikely region in 1i1w and the active site  
Residues Ala179, Ser180 and Tyr181 are shown in blue, with the active site residues Glu131 and  
Glu237 in pink and the salt bridge Arg124-Glu232 in green.

The process described takes time and was performed for the high-resolution data due to that data being the primary goal of the project. It was not possible to spend that level of detail on the 2019 data set. Where structures are found to be correctly representing the deposited structure with no evidence to reject (other than geometric unlikelihood), they are marked CHECKED in the database. This enables them to be filtered out or specifically analysed when required. This process shows that even at 0.89Å mistakes are made, and the identification can be time consuming.

### 3.3 Results for bond lengths and angles

#### 3.3.1 Jaskolski and E&H backbone comparison

In 1991 Engh and Huber published standards for bond length and angle restraints (Engh & Huber, 1991) used in refinement of protein structure, with further updates in 2001. This was reviewed in 2007 (Jaskolski et al, 2007) using 10 ultrahigh-resolution structures, with some recommendations for updates. Below the results from those previous publications (Jaskolski [Table 2], 2007) are compared to the results obtained from the HQ and HIGH datasets.

Table 3.3.1.1 shows a summary of the data from the HQ set (upper row) and HIGH set (lower row) against Jaskolski's screened (upper row) and all structures (lower row). Note the stability of the median and iqr even in the HIGH dataset due to the reduced influence of rare deviation from the most probable value.

| Data        | Measure                | E&H        | Jaskolski  | This study |              |             |
|-------------|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|-------------|
|             |                        | Mean (sd)  | Mean (sd)  | Mean (sd)  | Median (iqr) | Sample size |
| Screened/HQ | N-CA<br>(exc GLY,PRO)  | 1.458 (19) | 1.454 (12) | 1.455 (9)  | 1.455 (9)    | 1098        |
| All/HIGH    |                        |            | 1.456 (15) | 1.455 (12) | 1.455 (11)   | 2324        |
| Screened/HQ | CA-C<br>(exc GLY)      | 1.525 (21) | 1.527 (13) | 1.525 (10) | 1.525 (11)   | 1162        |
| All/HIGH    |                        |            | 1.526 (14) | 1.526 (13) | 1.526 (12)   | 2469        |
| Screened/HQ | C1N-N<br>(exc xxx-PRO) | 1.329 (14) | 1.334 (13) | 1.331 (11) | 1.331 (10)   | 1202        |
| All/HIGH    |                        |            | 1.334 (18) | 1.333 (13) | 1.332 (12)   | 2549        |
| Screened/HQ | C=O                    | 1.231 (20) | 1.234 (12) | 1.233 (10) | 1.234 (11)   | 1285        |
| All/HIGH    |                        |            | 1.234 (13) | 1.234 (11) | 1.234 (12)   | 2736        |

Table 3.3.1.1 Bond-length comparison for the highest resolution structures, compared with E&H and Jaskolski.

Table 3.3.1.2 compares the results from Jaskolski and this study by resolution, (Jaskolski [Table 4], 2007). I have included additionally to Jaskolski the bond length N-CA as the results clearly show a reduction in bond length per with higher resolution to 1.455Å. This change agrees with Jaskolski's overall value and suggests a need for change to the E&H accepted value of 1.458Å. Note that the standard deviation and interquartile range of my data is in almost all cases lower than the EH and Jaskolski data.

| Resolution | C1N-N mean (sd) |                       |                        | C=O mean (sd) |                       |                        | N-CA mean (sd)        |                        |
|------------|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
|            | Jaskolski       | HQ set                | HIGH Median            | Jaskolski     | HQ set                | ALL Median             | HQ set                | ALL Median             |
| <=0.8      | 1.334 (18)      | 1.332 (11)<br>[1291]  | 1.333 (12)<br>[3008]   | 1.234 (13)    | 1.233 (10)<br>[1381]  | 1.234 (12)<br>[3220]   | 1.455 (10)<br>[1179]  | 1.455 (11)<br>[2735]   |
| 0.8<=0.9   | 1.333 (16)      | 1.332 (11)<br>[2710]  | 1.331 (13)<br>[11849]  | 1.236 (13)    | 1.234 (11)<br>[2882]  | 1.234 (14)<br>[12572]  | 1.458 (11)<br>[2488]  | 1.457 (14)<br>[10859]  |
| 0.9<=1.0   | 1.332 (14)      | 1.330 (10)<br>[16479] | 1.330 (12)<br>[42719]  | 1.236 (13)    | 1.233 (11)<br>[17490] | 1.234 (14)<br>[50201]  | 1.457 (13)<br>[15185] | 1.458 (14)<br>[43516]  |
| 1.0<=1.1   | 1.329 (13)      | 1.329 (9)<br>[35273]  | 1.329 (10)<br>[100066] | 1.233 (13)    | 1.233 (11)<br>[37497] | 1.233 (12)<br>[106543] | 1.458 (12)<br>[32583] | 1.458 (12)<br>[92417]  |
| 1.1<=1.2   | 1.330 (12)      | 1.329 (9)<br>[35746]  | 1.329 (9)<br>[129831]  | 1.236 (12)    | 1.233 (11)<br>[38058] | 1.233 (11)<br>[138138] | 1.459 (12)<br>[33127] | 1.459 (12)<br>[120146] |
| 1.2<=1.3   | 1.329 (10)      | 1.329 (8)<br>[43004]  | 1.330 (8)<br>[214592]  | 1.233 (11)    | 1.232 (12)<br>[45837] | 1.233 (11)<br>[228271] | 1.460 (11)<br>[39854] | 1.459 (11)<br>[199177] |
| 1.3<=1.4   | 1.329 (9)       | 1.333 (5)<br>[271]    | 1.332 (8)<br>[24572]   | 1.232 (11)    | 1.235 (8)<br>[292]    | 1.236 (7)<br>[26075]   | 1.459 (6)<br>[251]    | 1.46 (10)<br>[22643]   |
| 1.4<=1.5   | 1.329 (16)      | 1.325 (9)<br>[927]    | 1.332 (8)<br>[32179]   | 1.232 (11)    | 1.238 (16)<br>[999]   | 1.236 (7)<br>[34220]   | 1.477 (10)<br>[857]   | 1.461 (16)<br>[29875]  |
| 1.5<=1.6   | 1.329 (7)       | 1.331 (4)<br>[151]    | 1.333 (8)<br>[39660]   | 1.234 (11)    | 1.237 (6)<br>[162]    | 1.236 (8)<br>[42155]   | 1.463 (7)<br>[144]    | 1.461 (14)<br>[37108]  |
| 1.6<=1.7   | 1.329 (7)       | None                  | 1.333 (8)<br>[34143]   | 1.233 (11)    | None                  | 1.235 (7)<br>[36319]   | None                  | 1.46 (11)<br>[31615]   |
| 1.7<=1.8   | 1.329 (7)       | None                  | 1.332 (7)<br>[58713]   | 1.233 (11)    | None                  | 1.236 (7)<br>[62111]   | None                  | 1.46 (11)<br>[54693]   |
| EH Value   | 1.329 (14)      |                       |                        | 1.231 (20)    |                       |                        | 1.458 (19)            |                        |

Table 3.3.1.2 Bond lengths on resolution, Jaskolski vs PSU-Beta HQ set and HIGH/2019 data

The count is given below each PSU-Beta data in square brackets. The HQ set is manually cleaned of outliers to the resolution of 1.3. The median column shows median (iqr) instead of mean(sd). The absence of data at the lower resolutions in the HQ set is due to the strict requirement of bfactors and rvalues.

Table 3.3.1.3 shows tau values (Jaskolski [Table 3], 2007), depicting these distributions as violin plots in Figure 3.3.1.4 using the HQ set at 3 different resolutions - the first aggregated for all but pro and gly: then pro; gly; his; met; and trp. It is interesting to note that there has not been a consensus on the nature of the tau distribution, with some dispute concerning bimodality (Jaskolski, 2007) where they suggest that although wide, the tau distribution is not bimodal, illustrating this with a histogram in their paper. The results in this study show evidence of bi/multi-modality and different characteristics for each amino acid (see Appendix 7 for the results for individual amino acids). The aggregation of the amino acids with different modalities distorts the view. These differences are demonstrated with violin plots in Figure 3.3.1.4 and using the depth compare in Figure 3.3.1.5.

| a)                    |   |       |        |        |        |        |               |       |        |        |        |        |               |        |        |        |        |        |            |        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |     |      |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|-----------------------|---|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|----|-----|------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Type                  | GLY   |       |        |        |        |        | PRO           |       |        |        |        |        | Other         |        |        |        |        |        |            |        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |     |      |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| E&H                   | 112.50 (2.90)   |       |        |        |        |        | 111.80 (2.50) |       |        |        |        |        | 111.20 (2.80) |        |        |        |        |        |            |        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |     |      |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| PDB+ (Jaskolski)      | 113.91 (2.23)   |       |        |        |        |        | 112.48 (2.19) |       |        |        |        |        | 110.72 (2.22) |        |        |        |        |        |            |        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |     |      |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| PDB- (Jaskolski)      | 113.80 (2.28)   |       |        |        |        |        | 112.44 (2.31) |       |        |        |        |        | 110.61 (2.41) |        |        |        |        |        |            |        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |     |      |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| HQ set                | 113.41 (2.34)   |       |        |        |        |        | 112.61 (2.03) |       |        |        |        |        | 110.41 (2.21) |        |        |        |        |        |            |        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |     |      |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| HQ set (median/iqr)   | 113.61 (3.40)   |       |        |        |        |        | 112.94 (3.20) |       |        |        |        |        | 110.39 (3.13) |        |        |        |        |        |            |        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |     |      |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| HIGH set              | 113.50 (2.33)   |       |        |        |        |        | 112.35 (2.27) |       |        |        |        |        | 110.51 (2.29) |        |        |        |        |        |            |        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |     |      |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| HIGH set (median/iqr) | 113.77 (3.60)   |       |        |        |        |        | 112.45 (3.38) |       |        |        |        |        | 110.56 (3.20) |        |        |        |        |        |            |        |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |     |      |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| b)                    | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Amino Acid</th> <th>ILE</th> <th>VAL</th> <th>HIS</th> <th>LYS</th> <th>TRP</th> <th>CYS</th> <th>GLN</th> <th>LEU</th> <th>ARG</th> <th>THR</th> <th>MET</th> <th>TYR</th> <th>GLU</th> <th>SER</th> <th>ALA</th> <th>PHE</th> <th>ASP</th> <th>ASN</th> <th>PRO</th> <th>GLY</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>count</td> <td>66</td> <td>111</td> <td>24</td> <td>80</td> <td>18</td> <td>22</td> <td>39</td> <td>86</td> <td>47</td> <td>99</td> <td>33</td> <td>45</td> <td>71</td> <td>63</td> <td>116</td> <td>38</td> <td>77</td> <td>63</td> <td>64</td> <td>123</td> </tr> <tr> <td>mean</td> <td>108.8</td> <td>109.2</td> <td>109.53</td> <td>110.15</td> <td>110.24</td> <td>110.28</td> <td>110.29</td> <td>110.3</td> <td>110.36</td> <td>110.49</td> <td>110.54</td> <td>110.74</td> <td>110.79</td> <td>110.86</td> <td>110.86</td> <td>111.25</td> <td>111.36</td> <td>111.47</td> <td>112.61</td> <td>113.41</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> |       |        |        |        |        |               |       |        |        |        |        |               |        |        |        |        |        | Amino Acid | ILE    | VAL | HIS | LYS | TRP | CYS | GLN | LEU | ARG | THR | MET | TYR | GLU | SER | ALA | PHE | ASP | ASN | PRO | GLY | count | 66 | 111 | 24 | 80 | 18 | 22 | 39 | 86 | 47 | 99 | 33 | 45 | 71 | 63 | 116 | 38 | 77 | 63 | 64 | 123 | mean | 108.8 | 109.2 | 109.53 | 110.15 | 110.24 | 110.28 | 110.29 | 110.3 | 110.36 | 110.49 | 110.54 | 110.74 | 110.79 | 110.86 | 110.86 | 111.25 | 111.36 | 111.47 | 112.61 | 113.41 |
| Amino Acid            | ILE   | VAL   | HIS    | LYS    | TRP    | CYS    | GLN           | LEU   | ARG    | THR    | MET    | TYR    | GLU           | SER    | ALA    | PHE    | ASP    | ASN    | PRO        | GLY    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |     |      |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| count                 | 66  | 111   | 24     | 80     | 18     | 22     | 39            | 86    | 47     | 99     | 33     | 45     | 71            | 63     | 116    | 38     | 77     | 63     | 64         | 123    |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |     |      |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| mean                  | 108.8   | 109.2 | 109.53 | 110.15 | 110.24 | 110.28 | 110.29        | 110.3 | 110.36 | 110.49 | 110.54 | 110.74 | 110.79        | 110.86 | 110.86 | 111.25 | 111.36 | 111.47 | 112.61     | 113.41 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |    |     |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |    |    |    |    |     |      |       |       |        |        |        |        |        |       |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |

Table 3.3.1.3 Tau value comparisons using Jaskolski Table 3 (Jaskolski et al, 2007)

HQ set, resolution < 0.8 Å

a) This study (in pink) agrees with the Jaskolski data, both for the HQ set and for all data. The median is seen to be a good alternative to the mean.

b) The mean for each amino acid shows a wide spread of tau values in the HQ set <0.8 Å

Table 3.3.1.3(a) shows agreement between the Jaskolski tau values and this study. However, further breakdown in (b) shows that each amino acid is quite different. The observations are few at this high resolution, so it can become difficult to glean information with certainty on an individual amino acid basis.

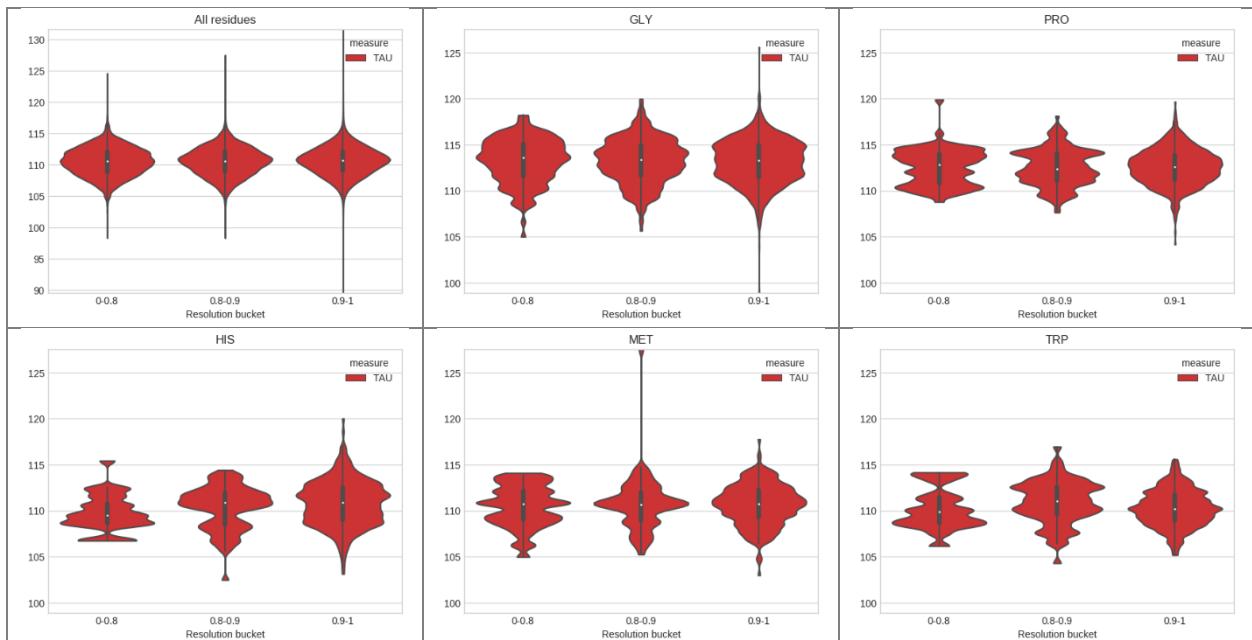


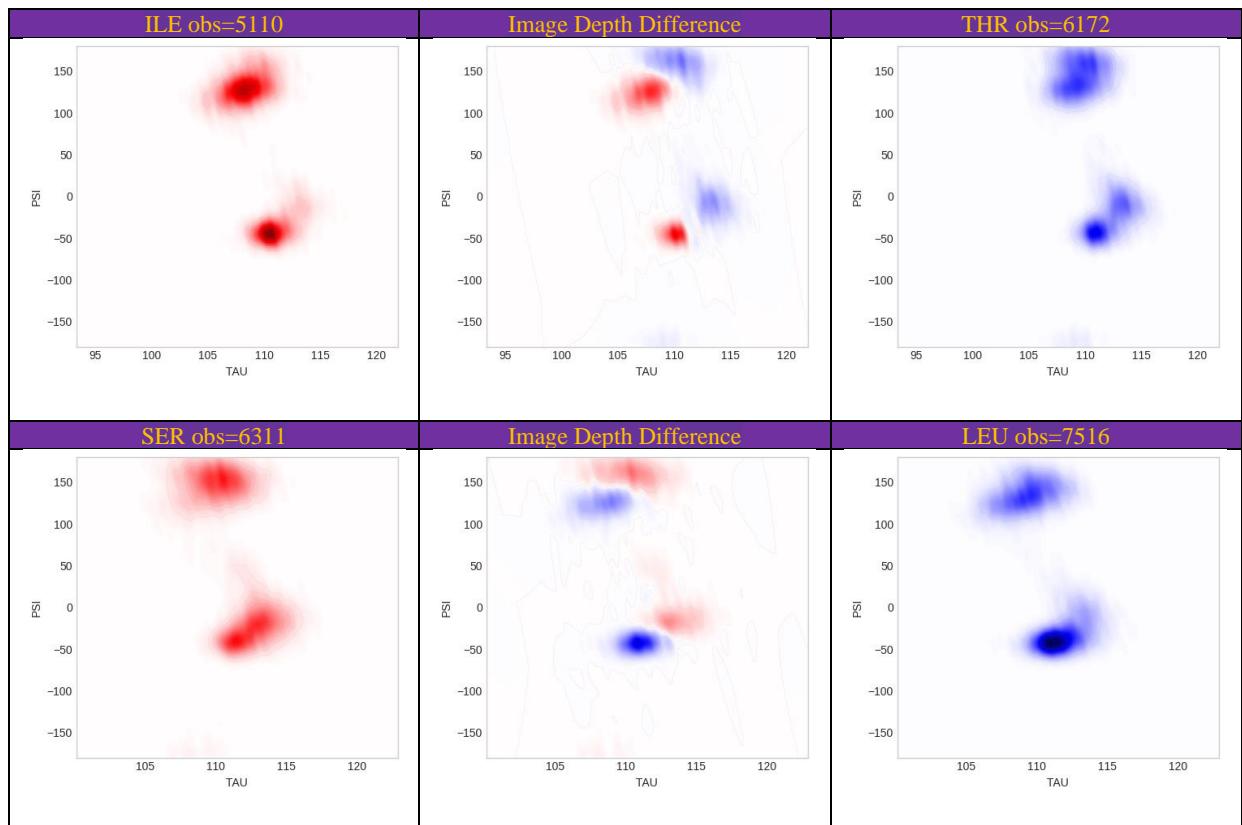
Figure 3.3.1.4 Violin plots show tau distributions for all but pro and gly against individual amino acids in the HQ set.

The median is the white dot, the interquartile range the central thick black bar, the thin black line defines outliers at quartile  $\pm 1.5$  IQR, with the thickness of the plot showing the distribution

This demonstrates that putting all the amino acids together obscures the different modalities of the amino acids. Seaborn kde smoothing is used: violinplot(kde=0.10)

The violin plots are highly dependent on the kde settings and do not tell a reliable story for these distributions. A better demonstration of tau differences between different amino acids and an apparent

bimodality is through using the depth compare image (see Methods 2.2.1). In Figure 3.3.1.5 a correlation is shown for TAU against PSI for the amino acids ILE, SER, THR and LEU. PSI leads to a clear bimodality, but additionally, the tau areas are slightly different for each PSI region. The depth compare shows a difference image between isoleucine and threonine, and serine and leucine. In both cases the different amino acids clearly favour different regions of tau. Tau seems to have a subtle bimodality, where the different PSI regions associate with a slightly different TAU , but when TAU is viewed alone in 1-dimension these modalities instead appear as a spread.



*Figure 3.3.1.5 Bimodality in tau correlated with psi and different favoured tau regions for ser, leu, ile and thr. This image demonstrates both the bimodality of tau and the different regions favoured by different amino acids. The correlation with PSI makes the bimodality clearer and links it to structure.*

### 3.3.2 Other geometric measures

A selection of distance, angle and dihedral distributions are below, picked out to demonstrate the multi modal nature of the distributions, as well as the differences between amino acid types.

Figure 3.3.2.1 shows the distributions for the main chain dihedral angles PHI, PSI and OMEGA. They are given for PRO, CYS and GLY as an indication of how the amino acids differ, e.g. the almost symmetry of glycine is clearly shown. The full results are given in Appendices 9 and 10 for PHI and PSI.

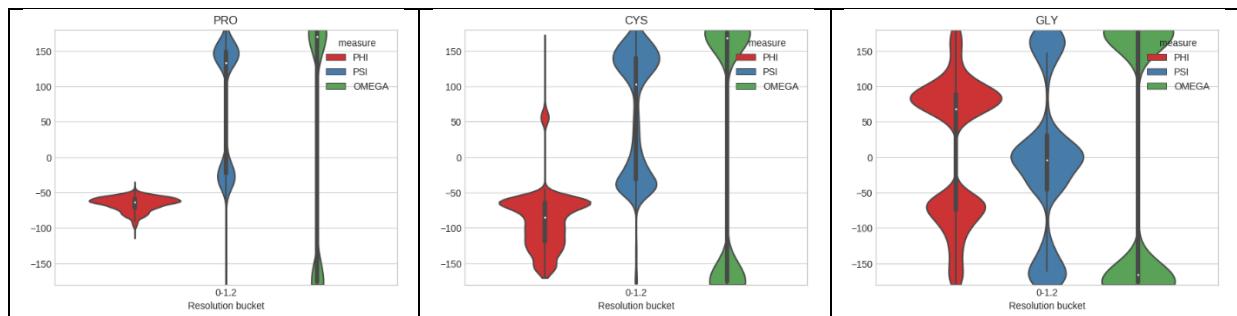


Figure 3.3.2.1 Violin plots for PHI, PSI and OMEGA – PRO, CYS and GLY

Resolution  $\leq 1.2\text{\AA}$  for the HQ set. This demonstrates the bi/multi modal nature of the mainchain dihedral angles and the distinct character of the different amino acids.

Figure 3.3.2.2 shows the distributions of distances between N-O and CB-O for PRO, ILE and ASN, 1-4 intra residue distances. These non-bonded distances reflect features of the backbone geometry, both representing a twist around the CA-C bond. The amino acids are clearly different with N-O distinctly bimodal: the results for all amino acids are in Appendix 8.

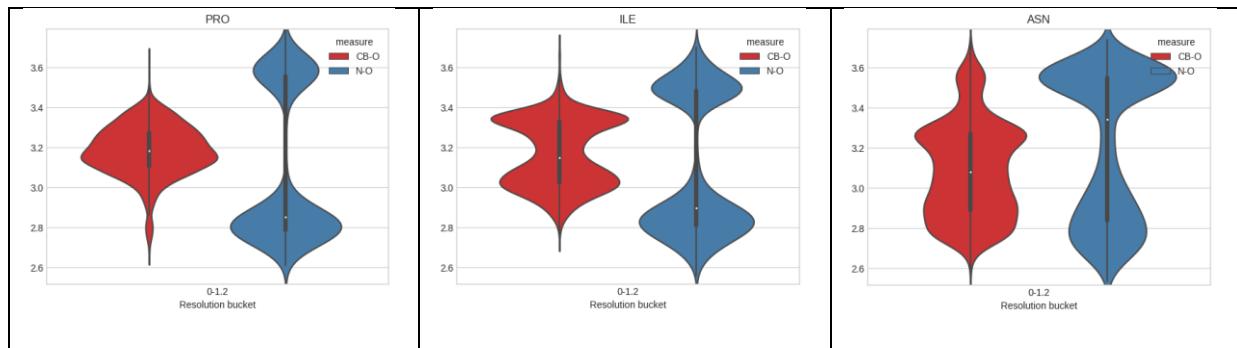


Figure 3.3.2.2 Violin plots for N-O and CB-O for PRO, ILE and ASN.

Resolution  $\leq 1.2\text{\AA}$  for the “hq set”. This demonstrates the bi/multi modal nature of the intra 1-4 measures and the distinct character of the different amino acids.

Figure 3.3.2.3 shows the distributions of distances between the previous C $\beta$  and N (also reflecting the CA-C bond) and the previous O and C $\beta$  for PRO, ILE and ASN, reflecting the sidechain conformation - again demonstrating the amino acid-distinct, multimodal non-normal nature of these distributions.

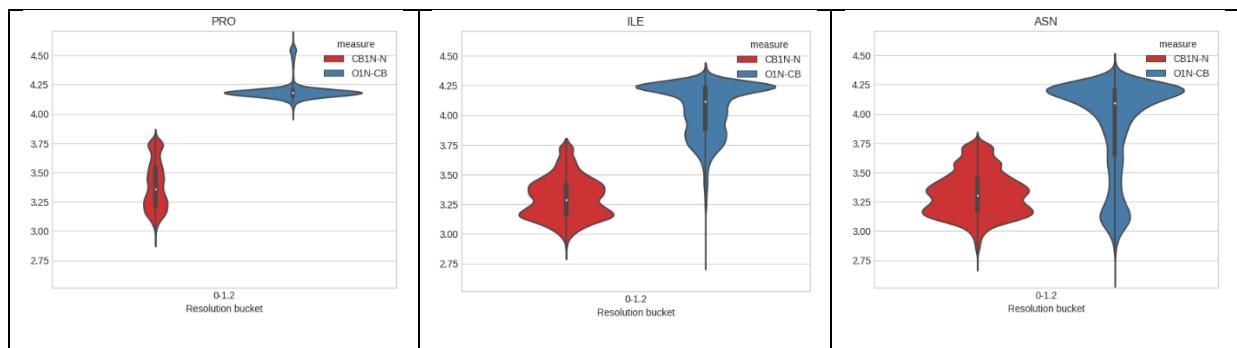


Figure 3.3.2.3 Violin plots for CB1-N and O1N-CB for PRO, ILE and ASN.

Resolution  $\leq 1.2\text{\AA}$  for the HQ set. This demonstrates the bi/multi modal nature of inter residue measures and the distinct character of the different amino acids.

## 3.4 Results for new insights

### 3.4.1 Geometric Correlations

To provide insight into the interrelatedness of the geometric measures, further analysis using scatter plots and probability density diagrams was undertaken.

The standard plot in structural bioinformatics is the Ramachandran plot (Ramachandran et al, 1963), shown below produced in PSU-View as a scatter diagram graduated on resolution, as a probability density plot, and as a scatter diagram graduated on secondary structure.

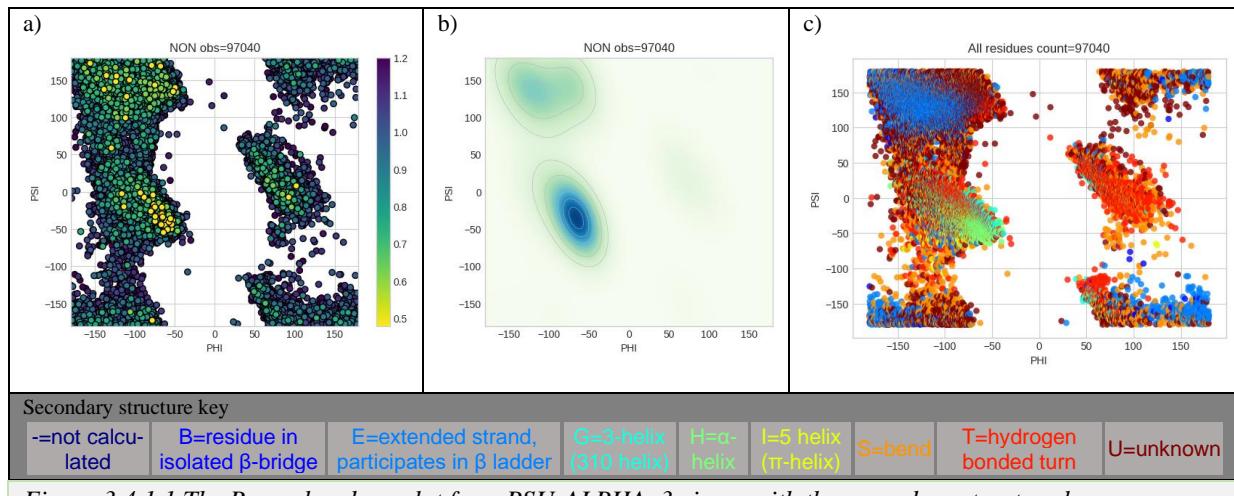


Figure 3.4.1.1 The Ramachandran plot from PSU-ALPHA, 3 views, with the secondary structure key.

All HQ set residues selected with resolution  $<=1.2$

- The Ramachandran plot with resolution as the hue
- The probability density of the Ramachandran plot
- The Ramachandran plot with secondary structure as the hue

The web viewer's correlation page contains several plots that are standard: PHI/PSI the Ramachandran plot; CHI1/CHI2 as suggested as another validation tool by Rose (2019); OMEGA/TAU which is suggested as correlating to secondary structure features in the 1i1w deposition paper (Natesh et al, 2003). Some are simply validation plots for extreme values, such as CA-C/N-CA to check the main chain lengths. Exploration of the data has yielded some novel plots that provide interesting correlations and suggest areas of geometric necessity, see Figure 3.4.1.2. For example PSI/N-O and PSI/CB-O which can be further viewed as a parametric sine curve for N-O/CB-O with PSI underlying; and the “square plot” of CA2N-CA1N-CA/CA-CA1C-CA2C which correlates angles made by shifting frames of Cαs.

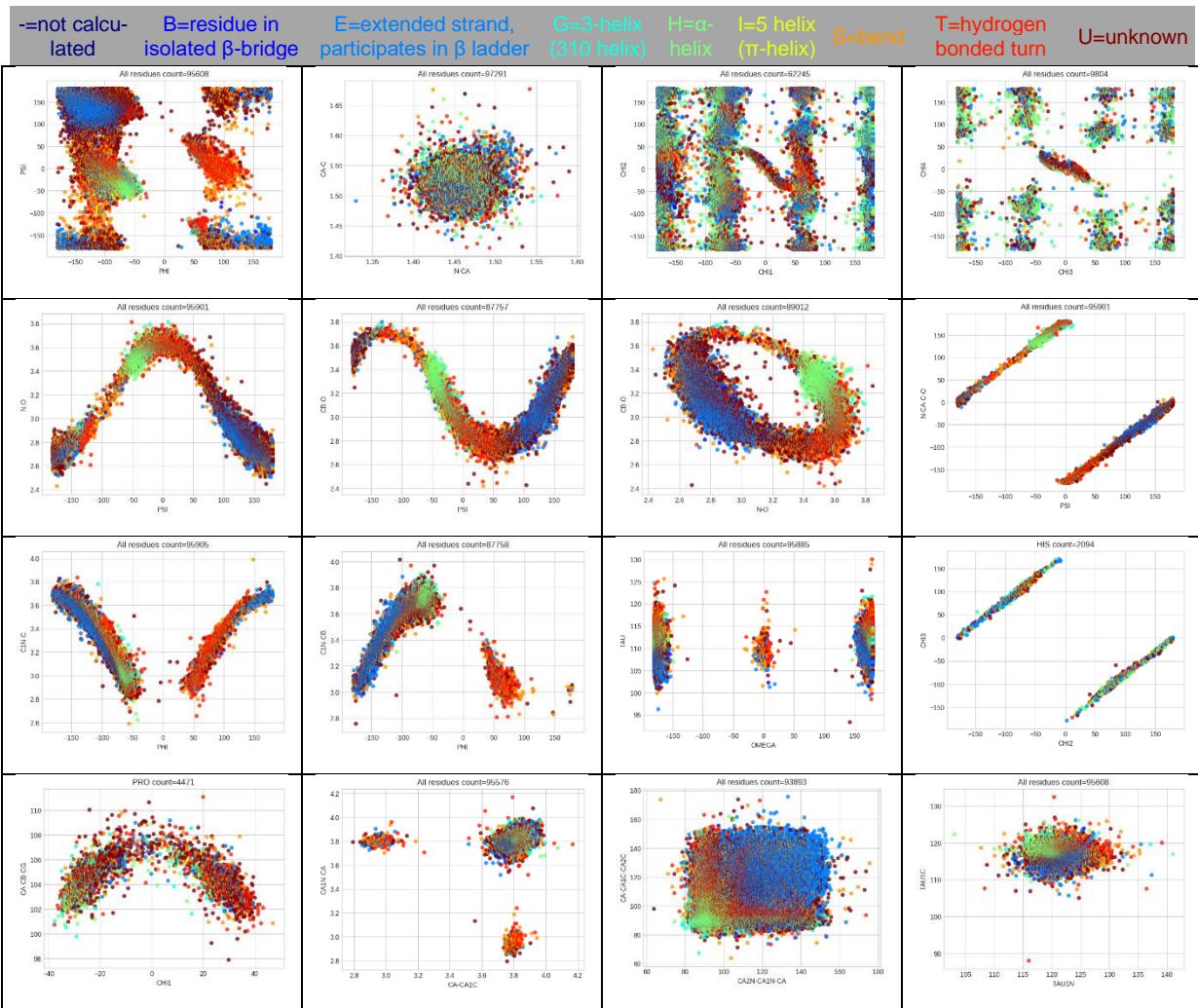


Figure 3.4.1.2 “Correlations” page in PSU-View for  $\leq 1.2 \text{ \AA}$ , HQ set

This shows the selected set of correlation plots chosen as interesting or useful for validation, and the dssp hue demonstrates the locations of secondary structure and how they relate across the correlations.

Although CHI1/CHI2 shows all amino acids together, proline forms a distinct area which can be distinguished in Figure 3.4.1.2 and is shown clearly in Figure 3.4.1.3. Additionally for proline, a novel geometric correlation is shown on the correlations page above in Figure 3.4.1.2, (bottom left) correlating CHI1 against the angle CA-CB-CG, demonstrating the twist over the CA-CB bond (CHI1) distorts the CA-CB-CG angle uniquely to proline.

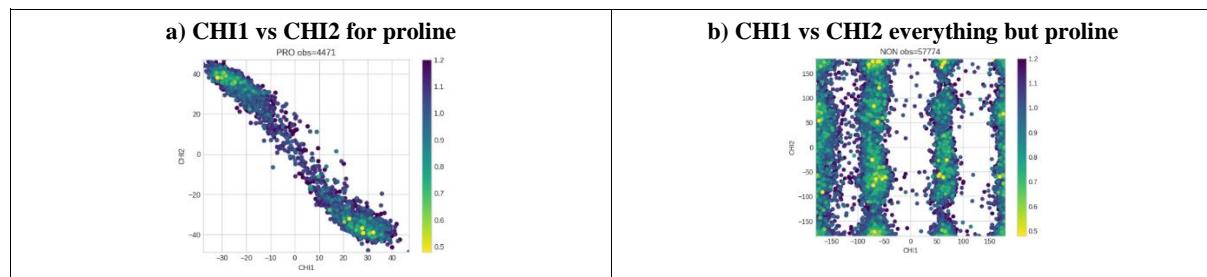
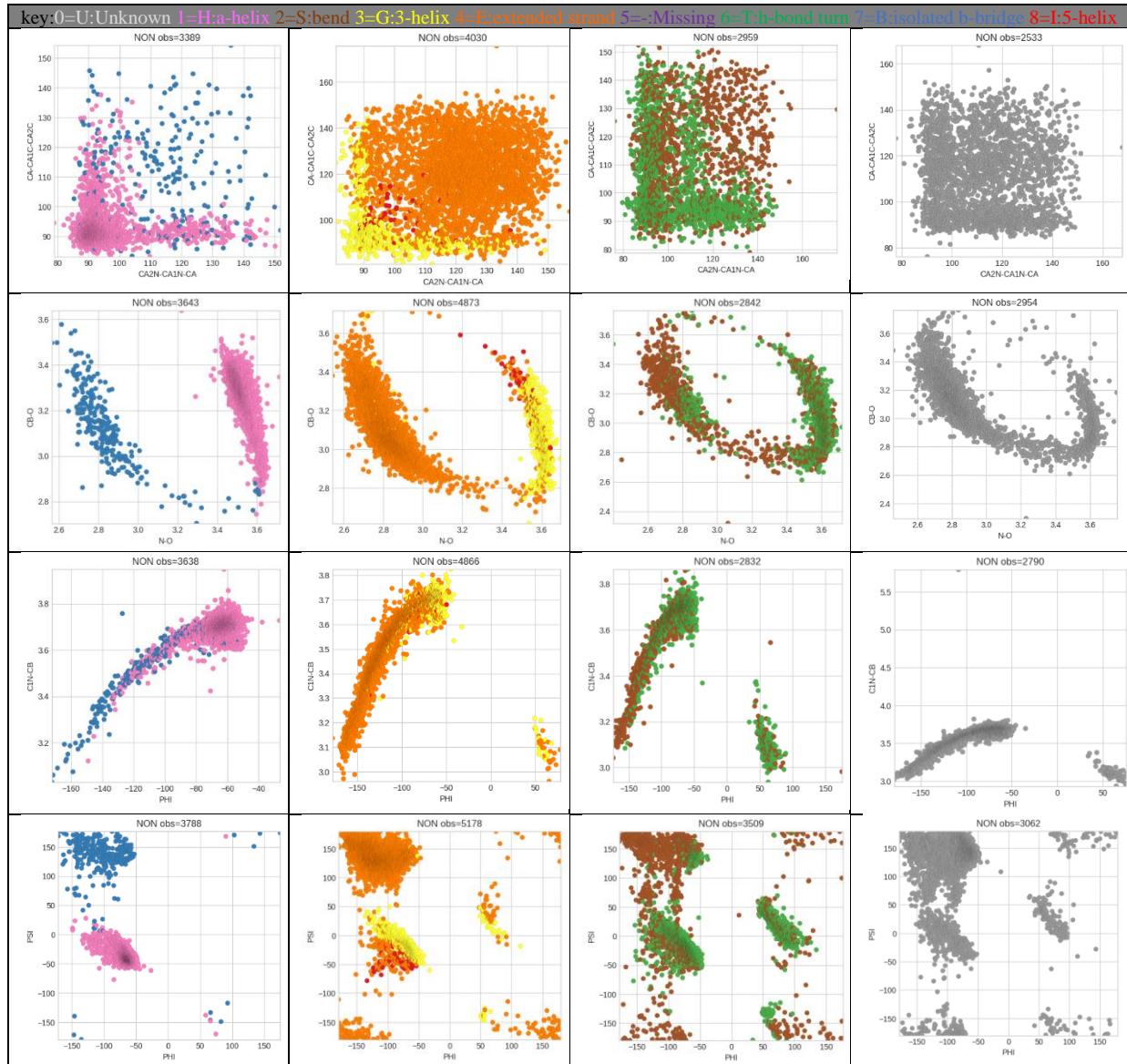


Figure 3.4.1.3 Geometric correlations, CHI1 vs CHI2, graduated on resolution, HQ set, resolution  $\leq 1.2 \text{ \AA}$

The “square plot” bounds the possible values of angles along 3 successive Cas at between 80Å and 150° approximately, associating strongly with secondary structure. Figure 3.4.1.4 below shows four “square plots” in different secondary structure groups.



*Figure 3.4.1.4 Comparing “the square plot”, the ellipse, PHI/C1n-CB and Ramachandran on secondary structures.*

*HIGH set <=0.9Å*

*This figure separates the secondary structures into 4 groups for ease of identifying the regions they occupy. The last group is unknown – dssp did not make an assignment. The changing views of the correlation plots make it seem possible these could be identified and assigned.*

The different secondary structures have clear similarities in subsets, e.g. 3-helix and a-helix form a group distinct from extended strand and s-bend. The hydrogen bonded turn is distinct, and 5-helix also has distinct regions.

### 3.4.2 Rarity effect

There is a strong association shown between rvalue, rfree, bfactor and resolution, as can be seen below in Figure 3.4.2.1 showing the same three N-O/CB-O plots coloured according to changes in these 4 variables (bfactor is calculated as the maximum for the structure, not the atom/residue bfactor).

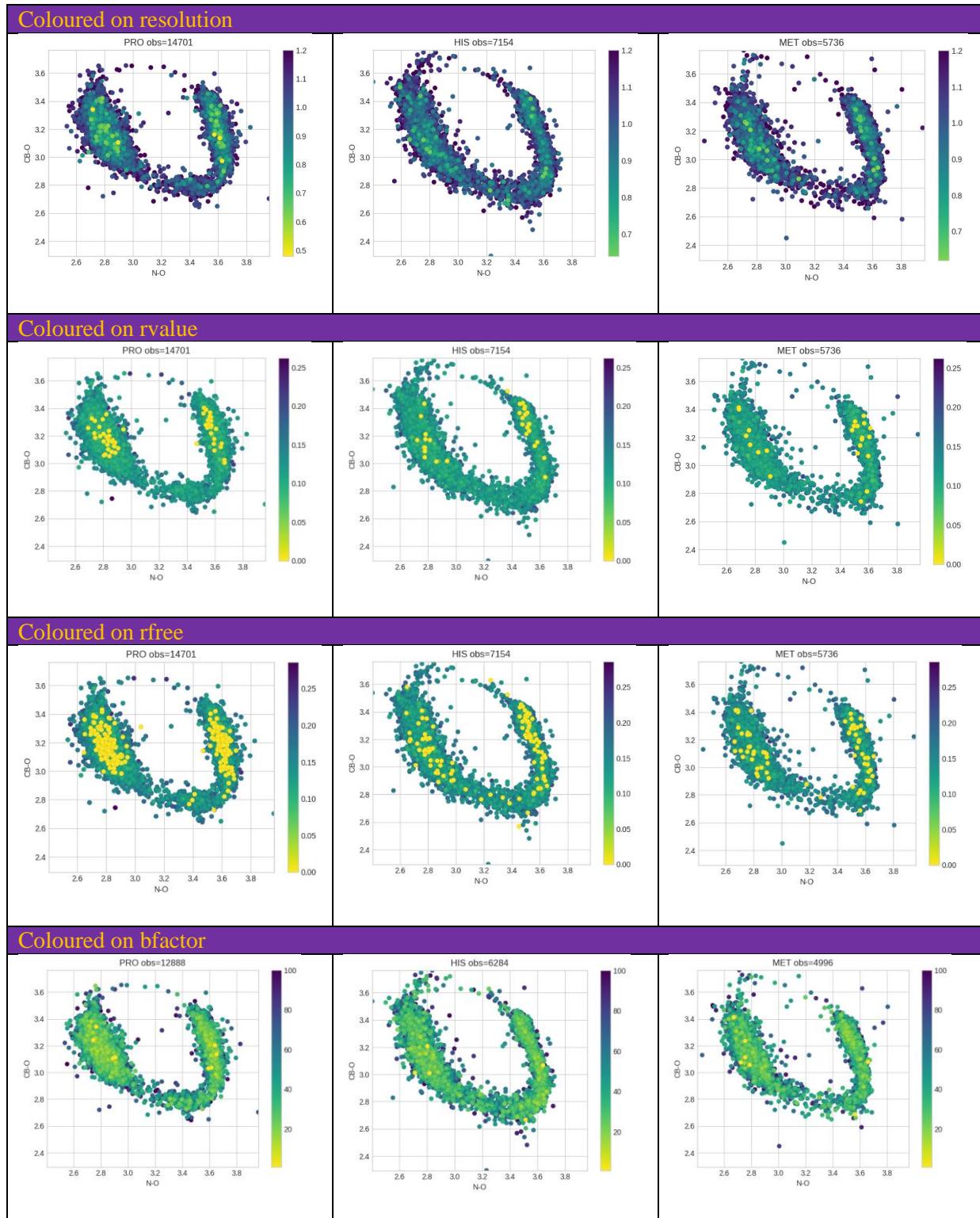
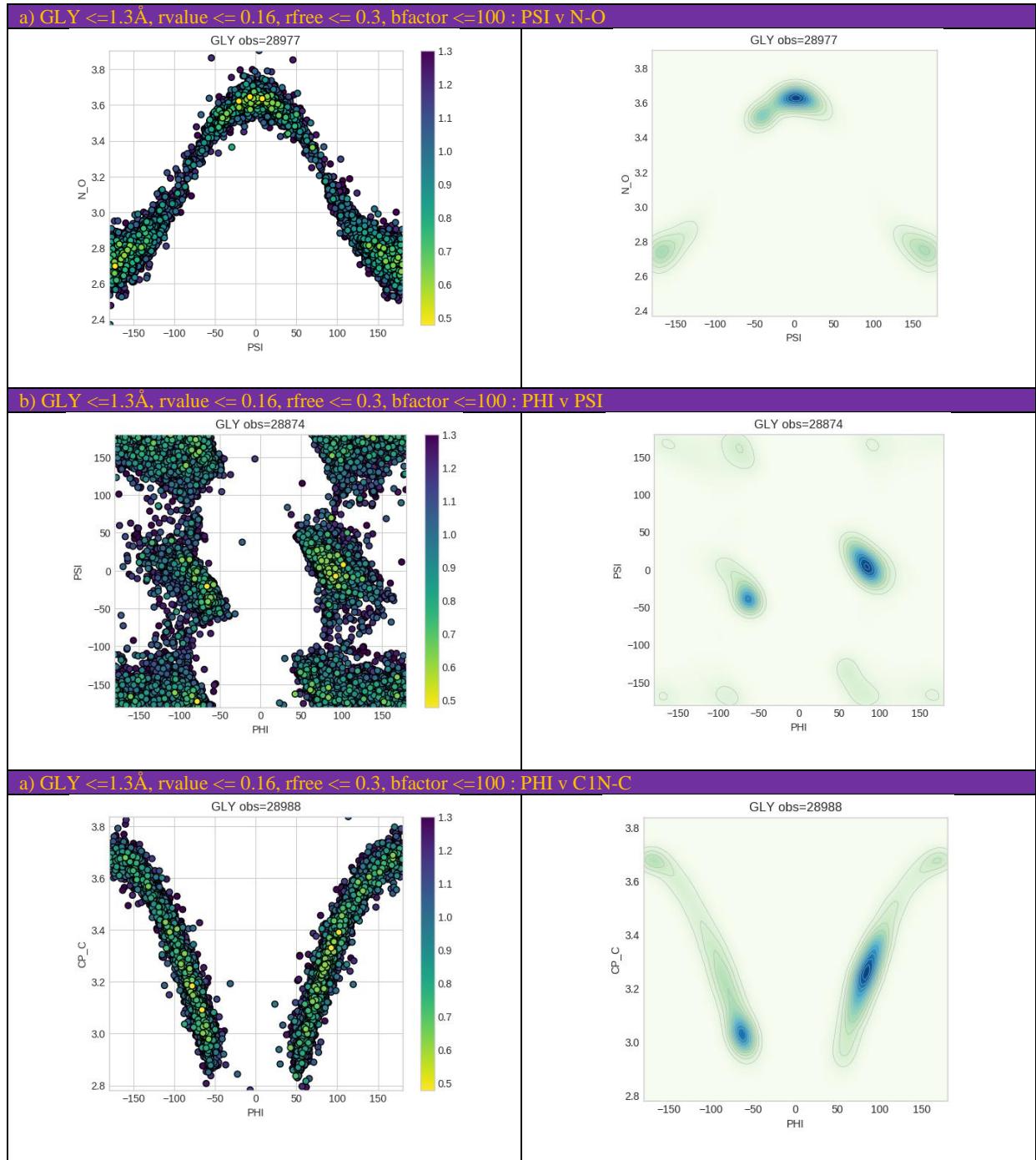


Figure 3.4.2.1 Distributions for PRO, HIS and MET graduated on resolution, rvalue, rfree and bfactor HIGH set resolution  $\leq 1.2\text{\AA}$ , bfactor distribution with additional restriction on bfactor  $\leq 100\text{\AA}^2$

There is also a correspondence between probability density and resolution, to such a strong degree that the resolutions almost seem to directly map to the probability density contours. See Figure 3.4.2.2 comparing a scatter plot against a probability density where the resolution is the scatter colour gradient.



*Figure 3.4.2.2 Resolution shows contours of probability density in scatter plots  
Probability density uses 12 contours and a gaussian kde from `scipy.stats` with bandwidth of 0.10*

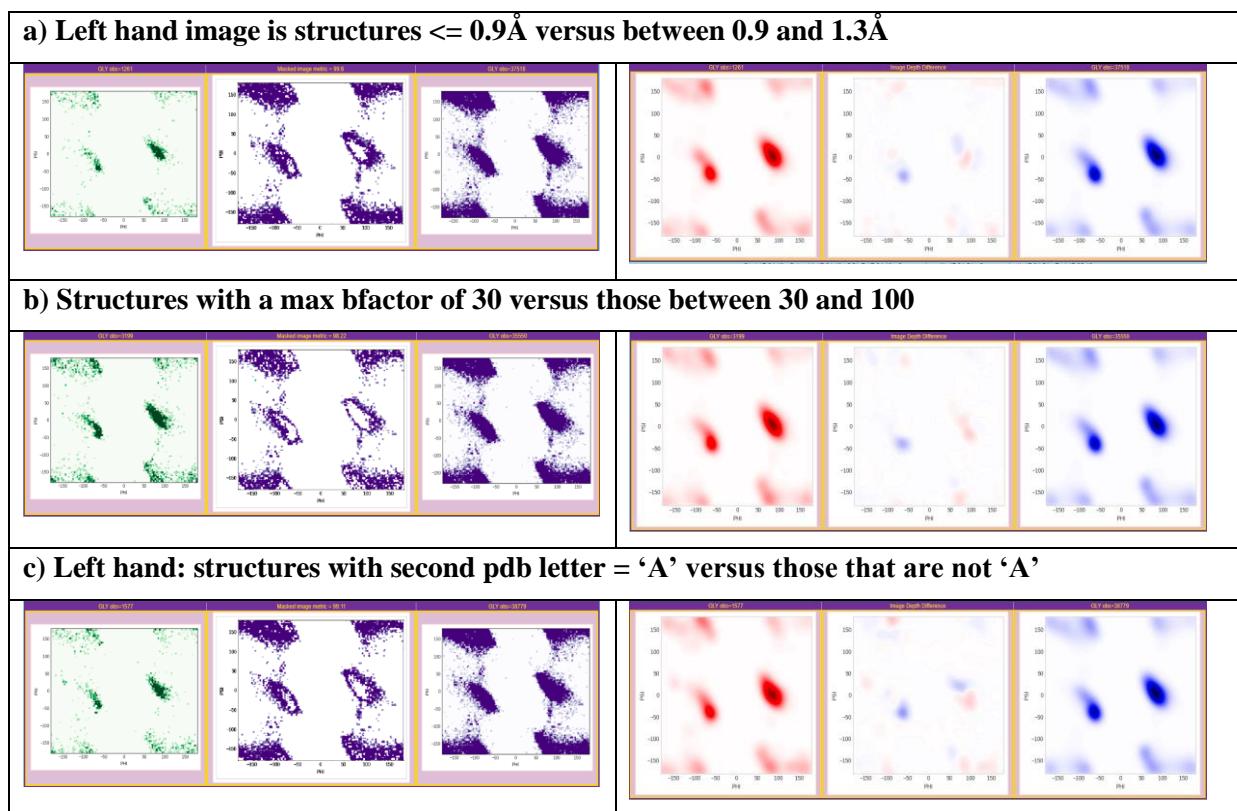
It would be enticing to believe this means that higher resolutions show the correct geometry, but there is no evidence for that. There are fewer structures at lower resolutions, so this demonstrates only that

samples are more likely to be found where they are most probable, and thus with a smaller sample they will appear closer to the more probable areas – the rarity effect.

To check this, I used the depth and breadth compare facility on PSU-View to examine the Ramachandran Plot for glycine at resolution  $\leq 1.3\text{\AA}$  in three circumstances:

- At resolution  $\leq 0.9\text{\AA}$  versus  $> 0.9\text{\AA}$  and  $\leq 1.3\text{\AA}$
- For max bfactor of 30, versus for bfactor between 30 and 100
- Any random sample, which I chose to be structures with second letter ‘A’ versus structures where second letter is not ‘A’ (recent structures are assigned in sequential order of remaining pdb codes, the first character is numeric and associated with deposition date).

The results can be seen in Figure 3.4.2.3.



*Figure 3.4.2.3 The rarity effect: compares distributions for resolution; bfactor; second letter of the name. The left hand trio show a simplified 2d histograms with the image difference in the middle where if both have significant density it is blank, pale grey for both having different amounts, and the colour of the distribution if one has significant density but not the other none.*

*The right hand trio contains normalised probability density plots for both with a `scipy.stats gaussian` implementation with bandwidth of 0.10 and 12 contours. The middle difference images are roughly the same for all 3. These images show that the smaller distribution, whether it is smaller due to being high resolution or a random selection, has a distribution closer to the most probable areas.*

The first trio of images shows the smaller distribution on the left, the larger distribution on the right, and the centre images shows the overlap as white and the areas in only one distribution in that colour. The masked image metric, see method section 2.2.1, shows the proportion of each image fully covered by the other, so for the left hand image it is nearly 100% in all

three, for the right hand between 8 and 22% which seems related to the number of residues in the smaller distribution. In all cases the smaller distributions track the more probable regions, even for structures with a second letter “A”. The second trio of images shows the difference in probability density, normalised to remove the discrepancy of distribution size. There is no evident difference between the probability densities of the distributions in any of the pairs, nor in the difference images between the three.

It is important to be aware of this rarity effect when considering the effects of resolution on geometric data. It would be a mistake to draw incorrect conclusions from the data based on any aspect that reflected rarity effect rather than a true difference.

### 3.4.3 Refinement process

Differing refinement methods may lead to a bias towards different geometric features from parameters and method (Wilson et al, 1998). All residues in HIGH were examined on the correlations page, with refinement software encoded by the hue. For all results see Appendix 12, with Figure 3.4.3.1 below showing 3 of the plots which appear to show that some of the refinement methods have broader distributions of values than others.

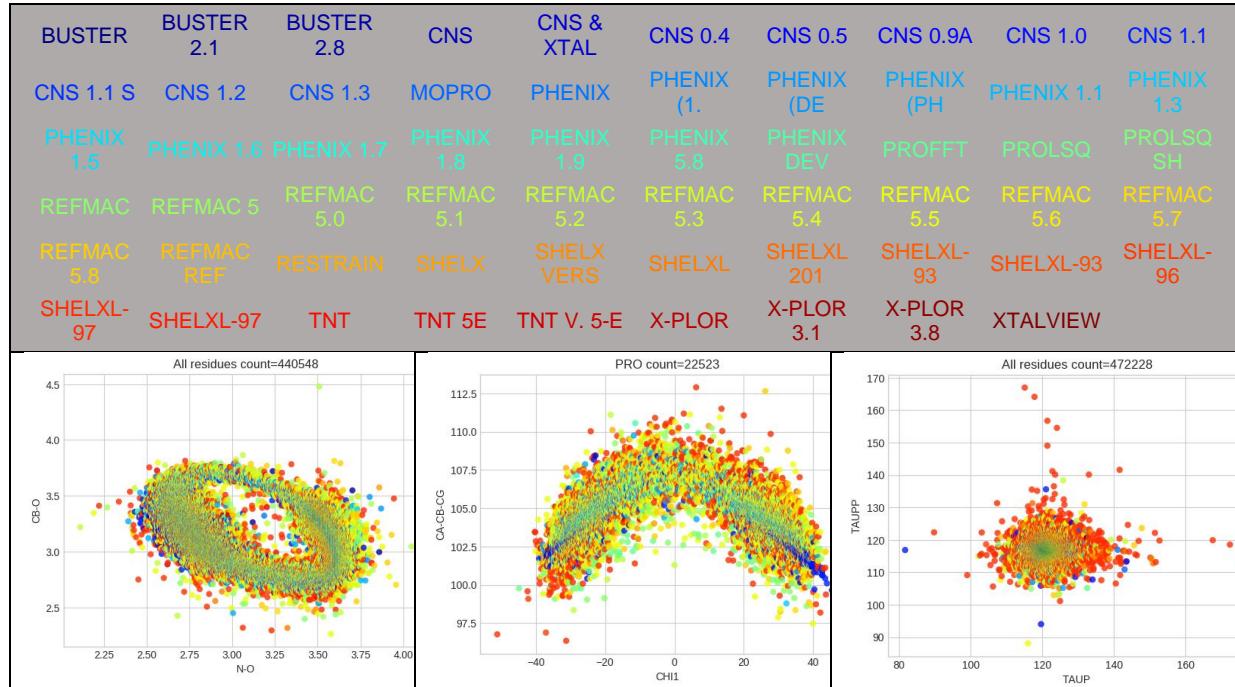
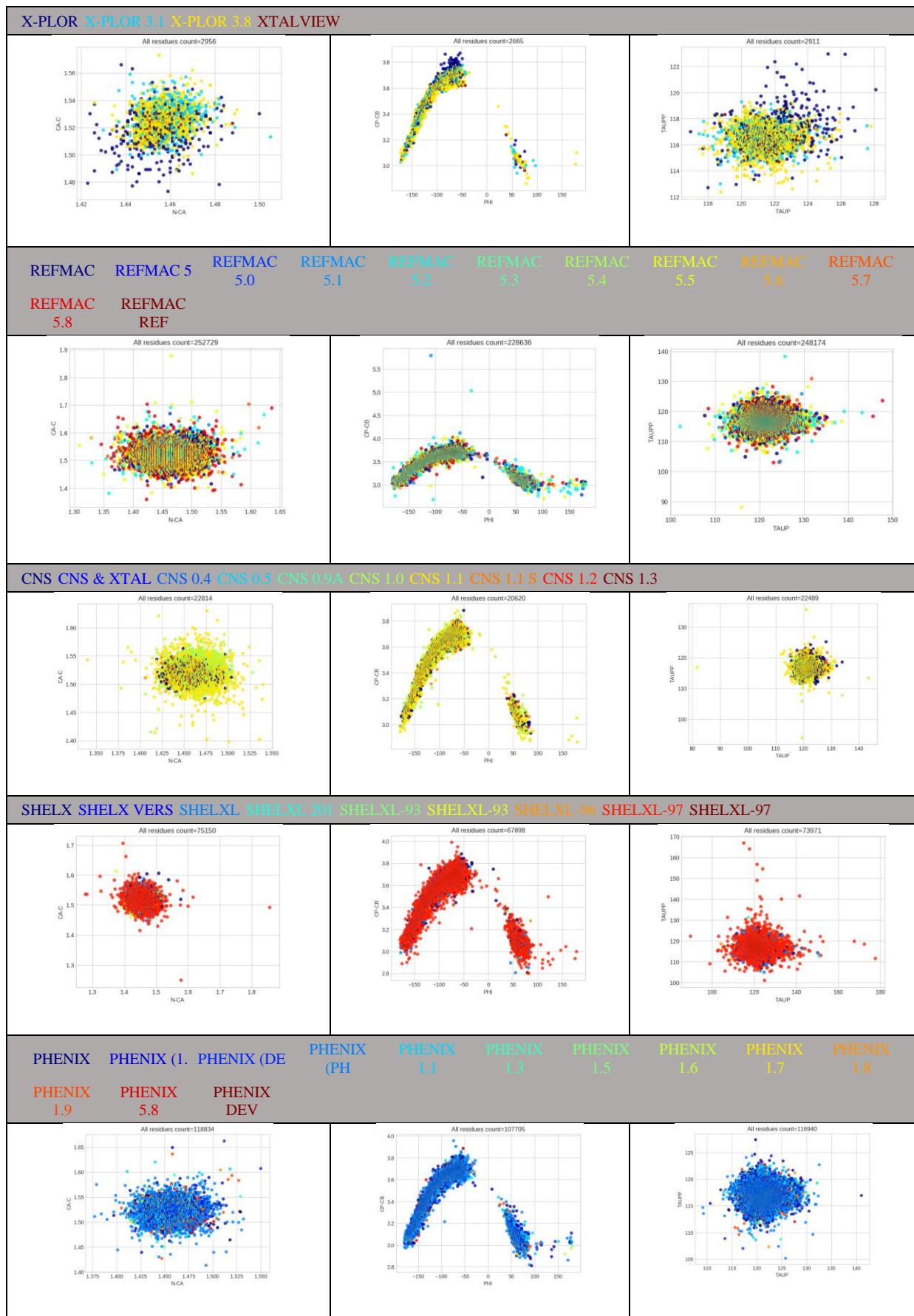


Figure 3.4.3.1 Geometry apparently influenced by refinement software

Five further examples are shown in Figure 3.4.3.2 below for a narrowed down selection of refinement software- versions of XPLOR, CNS, SHELX, PHENIX and REFMAC. There are clear differences in the spread of distributions: XPLOR (not versioned) shows clear areas in dark blue that are not shared by the other XLPOR versions; SHELX-97 has a more relaxed TAU restriction than other SHELX versions; REFMAC 5.1/5.2 has extreme CP-CB values compared to other REFMAC versions. There are substantially more observations for REFMAC than XPLOR but extending beyond 130° tau is common whereas 128° is REFMAC's limit. The extremes are also stretched by REFMAC for N-CA where 1.5Å is only just off centre but for REFMAC there are only 2 observations >1.49Å. Considering the N-CA mean value recommendation in this study of 1.455Å, only PHENIX and SHELX versions centre on this value, with the other refinement software biased to larger values. These different distributions based on refinement software will cause bias in the geometric values measured from refined structures, adding to the appeal of analysing geometric features directly from the experimental evidence.



**Figure 3.4.3.2 Refinement software and the influence on geometry**  
 These plots demonstrate a difference in the geometry of structures refined with different software, notably N-CA

### 3.4.4 Energy

The geometric correlations we have seen could just be considered as inevitable consequences of the geometry of the structures - the movement of the atoms are constrained by forces of attraction and repulsion. But - it also demonstrates this very fact: PSU-View contains thousands of observations of protein atomic position deposited over many decades in many locations by many people using different equipment. And yet, the absolute geometry of these structures is preserved – a demonstration of the veracity of the model of interatomic forces.

The geometric plots also show two additional energetic features: energetically favoured locations and potential energy barriers in transitions - Figure 3.4.4.1.

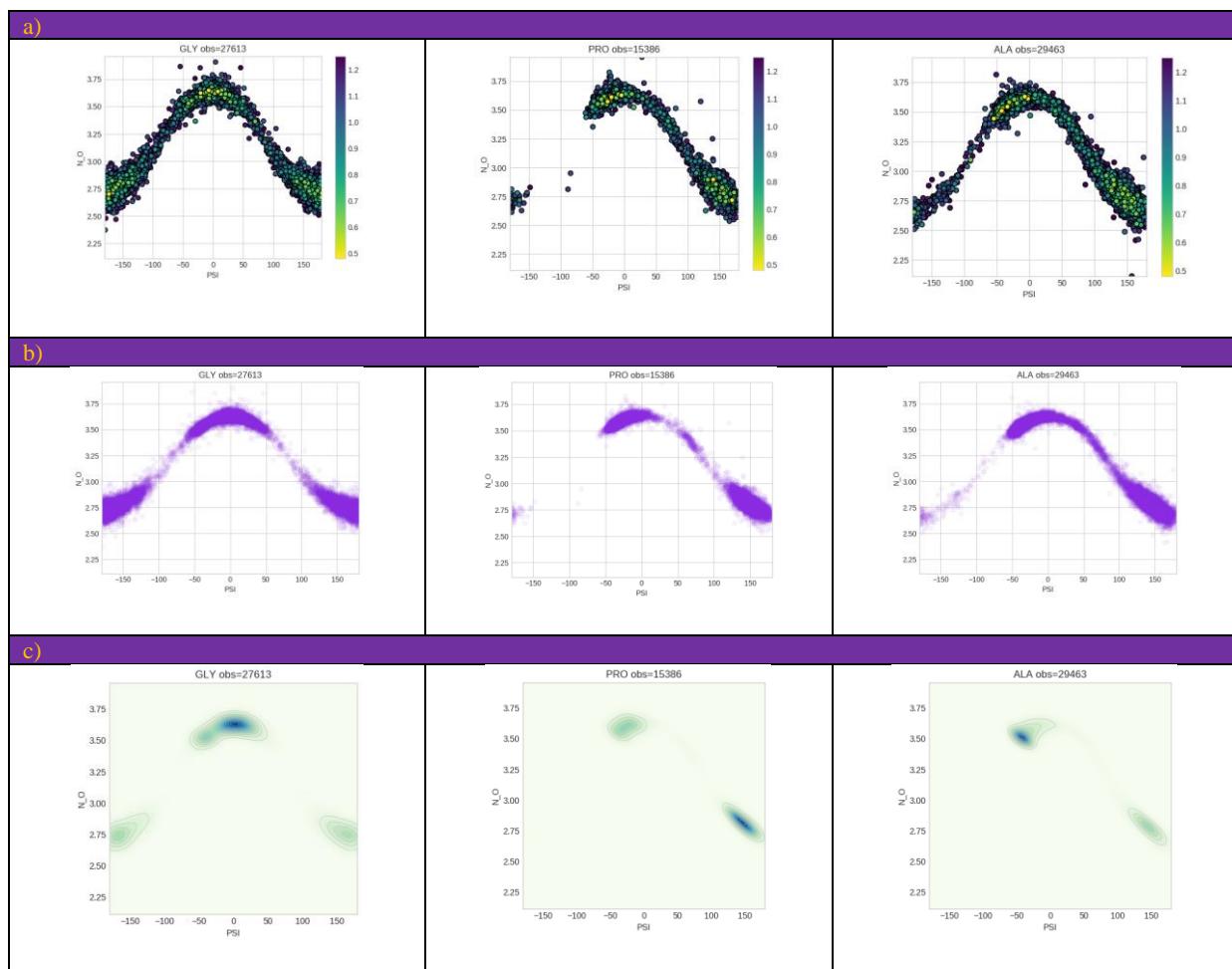


Figure 3.4.4.1 Scatter, density trace and probability density for PSI/N-O, resolution  $\leq 1.25\text{\AA}$

The scatter plot is graduated on resolution; the probability density uses `scipy.stats.gaussian_kde` with bandwidth 0.10; the density trace is a mono-colour scatter plot with an opacity of 0.05 to contrast the likely regions and the impossible regions.

- Scatter plot, coloured on resolution, the width of the areas indicates the energetically favoured regions, with the extend of the width giving an indication of bond strength at that location
- Density trace, the faintness of the lines indicates the energy barrier in transition
- Probability density, the energetically favoured regions

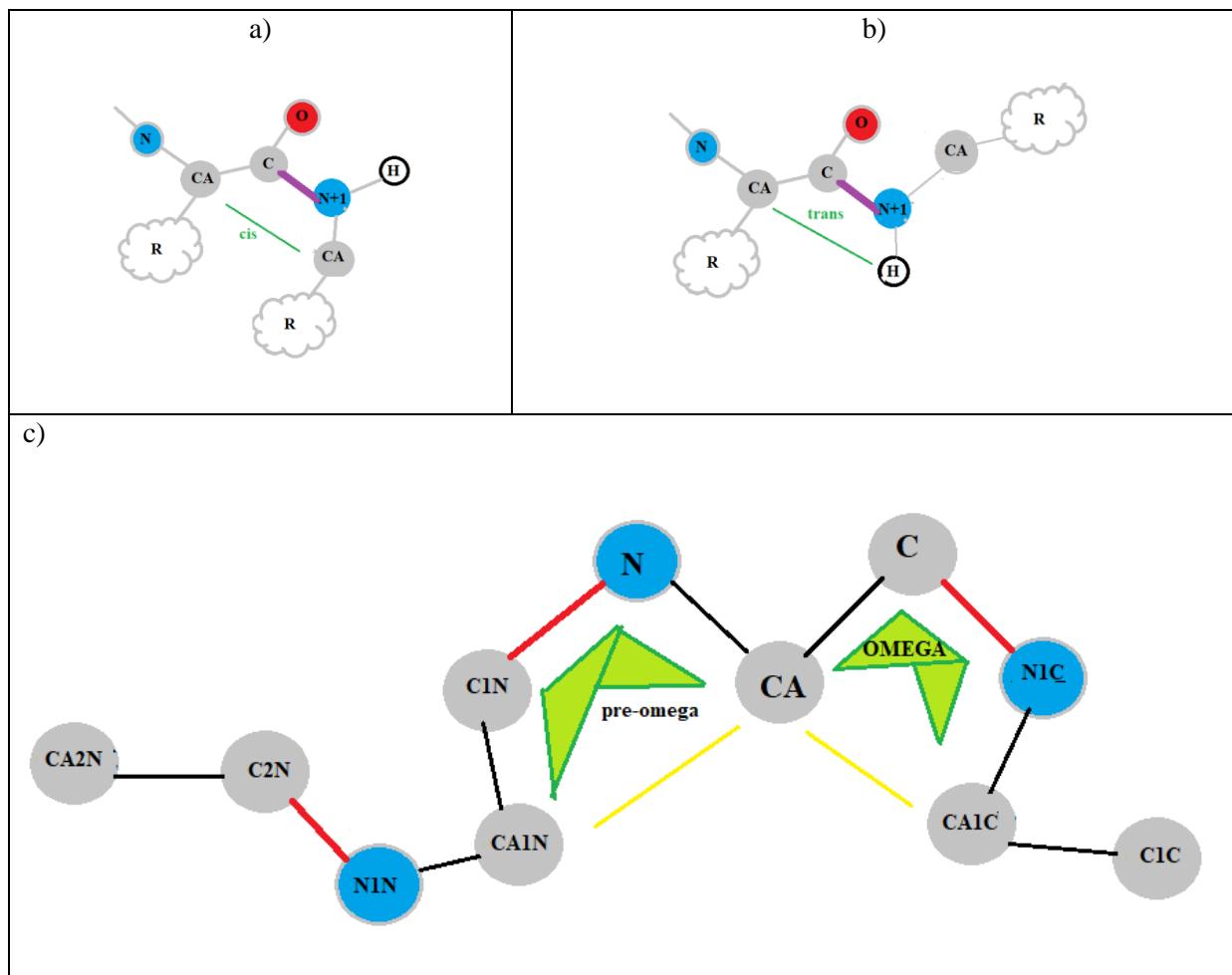
These are graphical illustrations of these ideas and are not measurable or quantifiable from these correlation plots.

### 3.4.5 Cis and trans peptide bonds

The peptide bond is planar and can be found mostly in two conformations at  $0^\circ$  and  $180^\circ$ . The trans formation is the more common due to steric hindrance of the side chains ([Birkbeck PPS Course](#)).

There has been discussion about higher resolution structures showing more cis residues (Morris et al, 1992), and most cis residues are cis-proline: XXX-PRO with the bond cis. The identification of cis/trans at different resolutions has been undertaken.

Figure 3.4.5.1 illustrates the two conformations, showing distances that can be used to characterise the two states.



*Figure 3.4.5.1 Cis and trans peptide bonds, with OMEGA shown in cis formation*

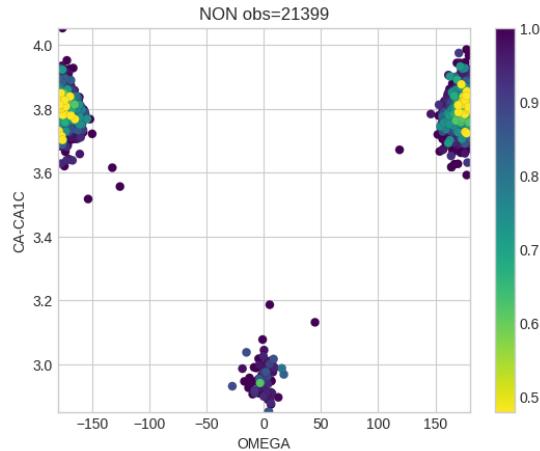
a) Shows the peptide bond C-N+1 in the cis state

b) Shows the peptide bond C-N+1 in the trans state

c) Shows the peptide bonds on either side of the residue and highlights the relationship between OMEGA and the  $\text{C}\alpha$  distances

PSU-Beta notates omega as CA-C-N1C-CA1C, and as Figure 3.4.5.1(c) shows, omega measures the peptide bond twist for the following peptide bond of a given residue. This convention is due to the relationship with proline – an omega cis suggests the following residue is proline. The diagram above suggests a relationship with the  $\text{C}\alpha$  distance which could provide useful information for both an alter-

native description of the cis/trans switch (potentially useful in low resolution models) and an indication of the nature of the preceding peptide bond nature in this study – although the pre-omega is easy to calculate it has not been calculated in this study. The potential identification of pre-cis will be useful for proline correlations.

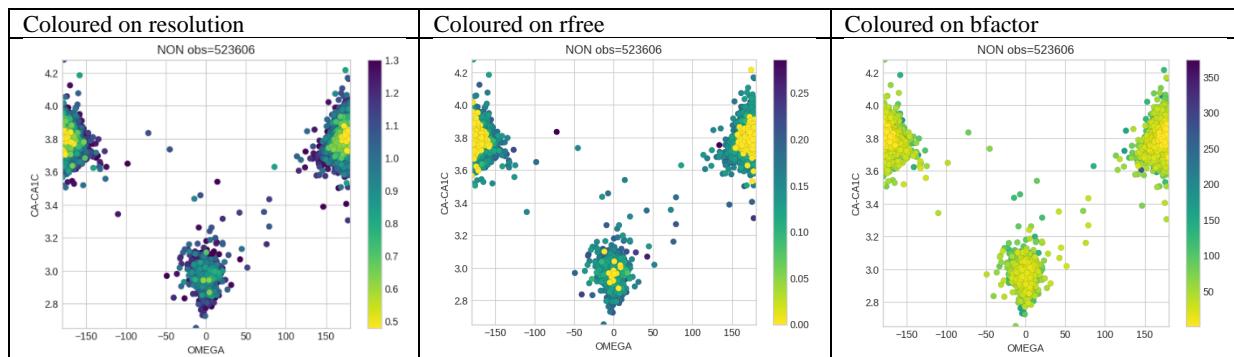


*Figure 3.4.5.2 Cis and trans peptide bonds directly correlate with C-alpha distance.  
HQ set, resolution <= 1.0Å  
CA-CA1C <= 3.2 appears to correlate with omega = 0°*

There is a correlation between distance CA-CA1C and omega; if CA-CA1C<3.2Å the bond is cis.

We can extend this analysis to the previous peptide bond and say that where CA1N-CA <= 3.2 we have a preceding cis peptide bond. This assumption will be used in considering geometric features in later sections. Subsequent to this analysis, it was found in prior literature (Kleywegt, 1997).

The identification of the C $\alpha$  distance as a direct identification of the cis-peptide bond does not guarantee that the bond has been identified as such, there is discussion in the literature about more cis-bonds at higher resolutions. The OMEGA/CA-CA1C plot has been analysed to 1.3Å to look for a correlation between resolution and cis bonds - Figure 3.4.5.3, coloured on resolution, rfree and bfactor.



*Figure 3.4.5.3 Comparing residues identified as omega-cis and C $\alpha$ -cis  
HIGH set <= 1.0-1.3Å, there are residues omega-cis but not C $\alpha$ -cis. It is not clear that higher resolution associates with cis, but lower resolution (and rfree) does associate with less ordered regions.*

These results suggest that at lower resolutions there are residues that are not cis when measured by the CA-CA1C distance but have been placed (omega=0°) in a cis formation.

### 3.4.6 Proline

Proline and glycine are special cases in protein structure and geometry due to their unique conformations.

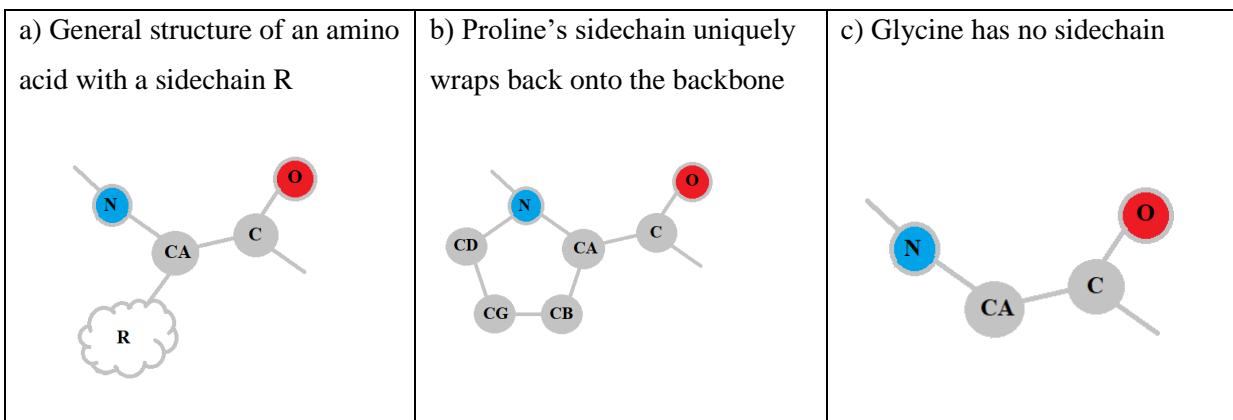


Figure 3.4.6.1 Unique conformations of proline and glycine, hydrogens not shown

In Figure 3.4.6.1, the sidechain of proline is shown to wrap onto the backbone, while glycine has no sidechain, removing the hydrogen bonding potential of sidechains from these residues. These properties effect the role proline and glycine play in structural features. Proline is examined further.

In Figure 3.4.6.2 the correlation between CA-CA<sub>1C</sub> and CA<sub>1N</sub>-CA is shown as a scatter plot with the residues coloured by amino acid, where orange is proline. As noted in the previous section, the C<sub>α</sub> distances can stand in as a proxy for omega, or the cis/trans nature of the peptide bond. In effect the figure below correlates the peptide bonds on either side of a residue for cis- and trans- formations.

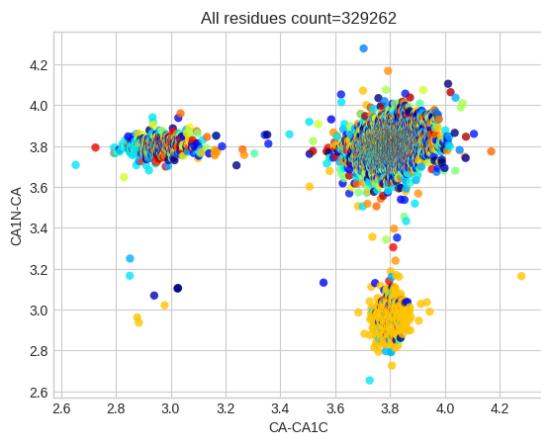
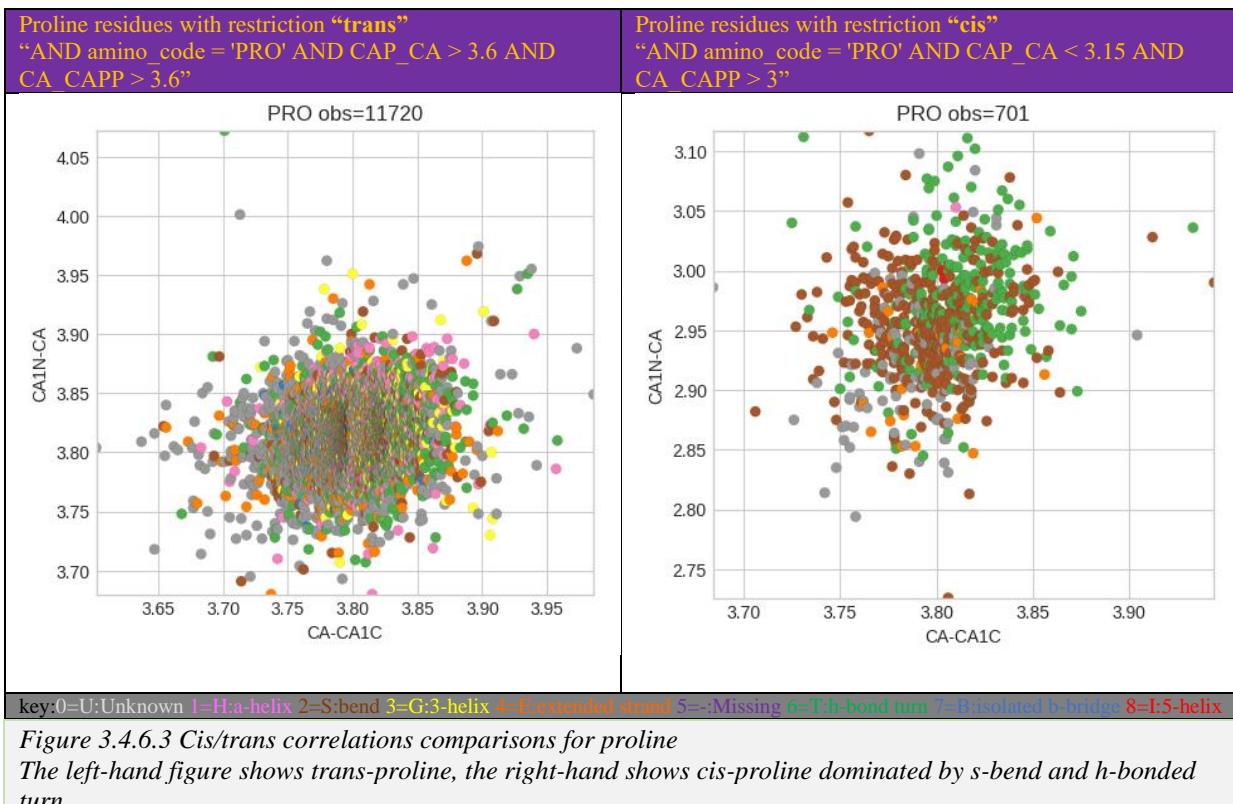


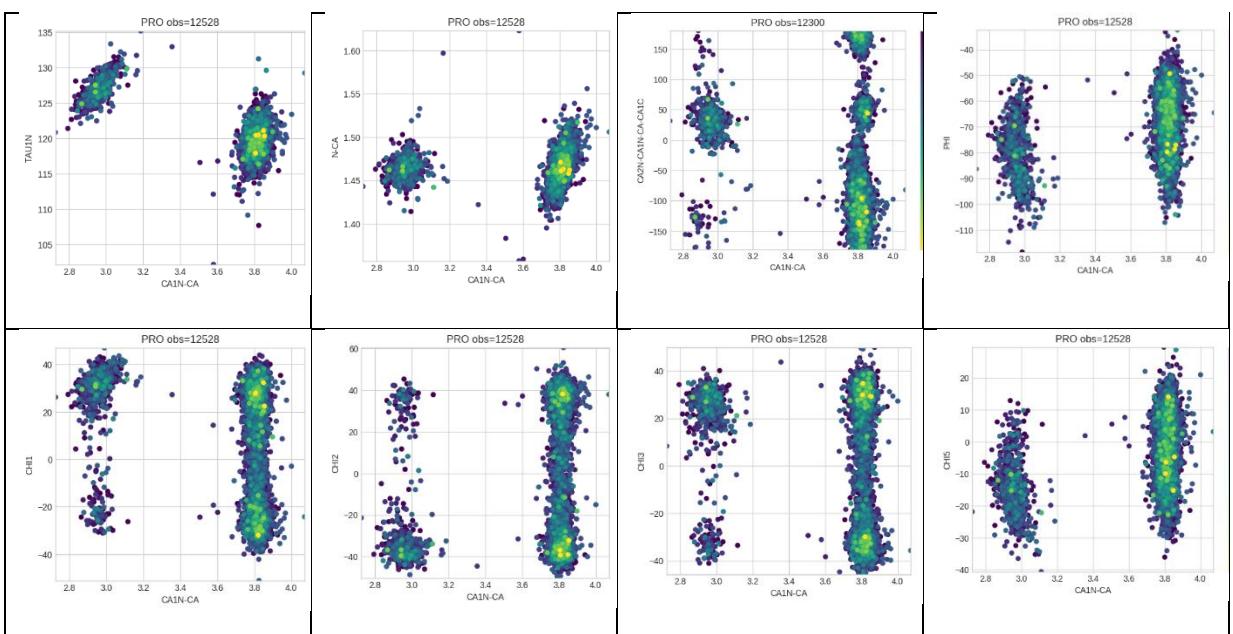
Figure 3.4.6.2 Cis/trans regions as CA-CA<sub>1C</sub>/CA<sub>1N</sub>-CA, orange is proline  
Resolution <= 1.25Å, max bfactor 100, rfree <= 0.3Å

The most probable values for the CA-CA distance between residues is  $\approx 3.8\text{Å}$  – trans/trans. But there is evidently another area of the scatter plot that is dominated by proline that would correlate to cis/trans on either side of the residue. Figure 3.4.6.3 narrows down the correlation plots on proline only, with regions  $> 3.6\text{Å}$  and  $< 3.15\text{Å}$  analysed separately on secondary structure, showing an association of secondary structure with the cis- trans- peptide bonds.



The cis-peptide bonds preceding proline are found largely in bends and hydrogen-bonded turns and rarely in any other type of secondary structure. The trans/trans area is dominated by unknown (dssp did not make an assignment), blurring the secondary assignment distinctions.

The cis-peptide bond associates with other geometric features. See Figure 3.4.6.4 for correlations that show effected geometry from this region.



**Figure 3.4.6.4 Shows proline cis/trans effect on other geometry, coloured on resolution.**  
 HIGH set, resolution  $\leq 1.2\text{\AA}$ , rvalue  $\leq -0.3\text{\AA}$   
 In each plot, the cis region is on the left and the trans region on the right.

The cis regions have fewer observations and seem to show some clear differences in the correlated geometric value. TAU1N, the backbone angle C1N-N-CA, shows the clearest bimodal region with the cis/trans formation. The cis- formation for CHI angles 1-3 shows a preference for CHI value: cis is CHI1 positive; CHI2 negative; CHI3 positive.

It has been suggested that the proline ring takes two puckering conformations (Wu, 2013). The five dihedral CHI angles for proline can describe the ring conformation as they successively rotate planar pairs of the ring. Figure 3.4.6.5 depicts the 5 CHI angles of proline.

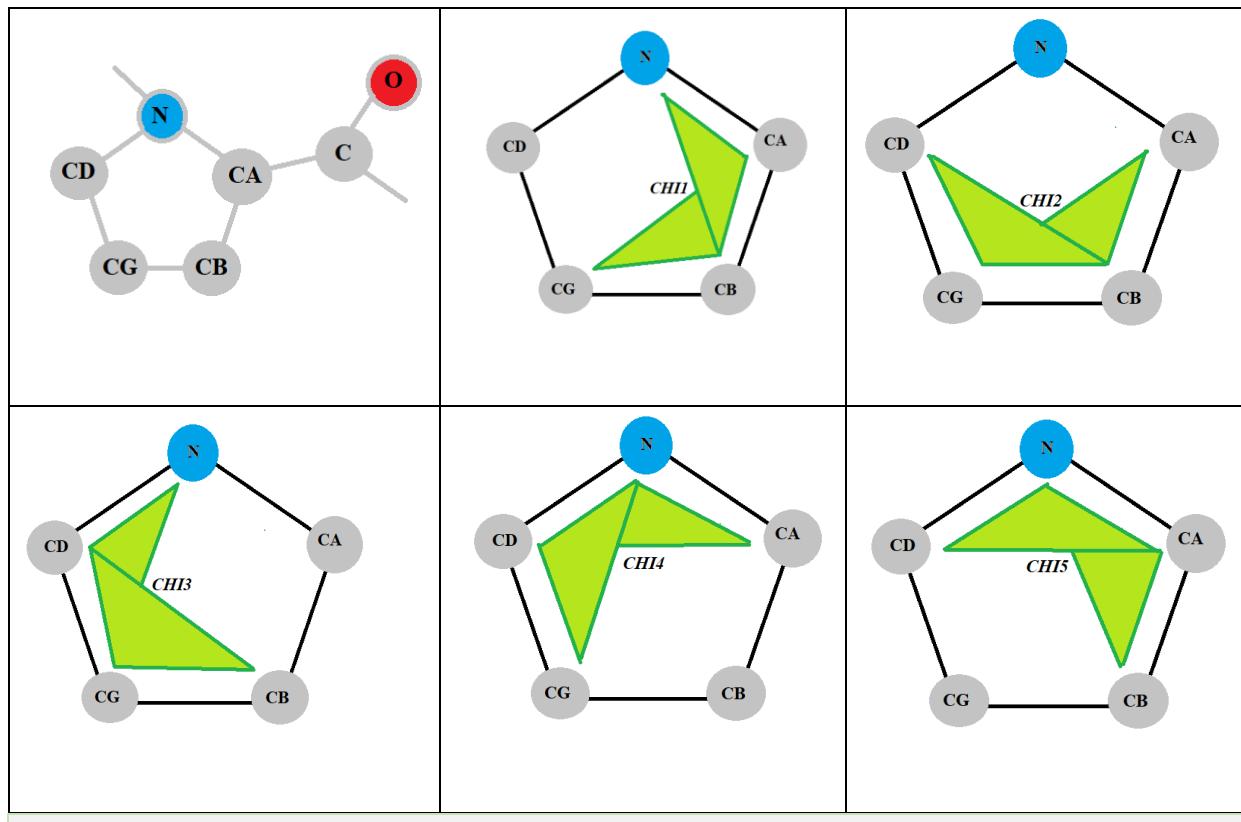


Figure 3.4.6.5 Five CHI dihedrals of the proline ring

To investigate the possible conformations the probability density plot of each of the CHI angles were correlated against each other to create Figure 3.4.6.6. The existence of two probable regions in every plot strongly suggests two conformations of the proline ring but does not guarantee it.

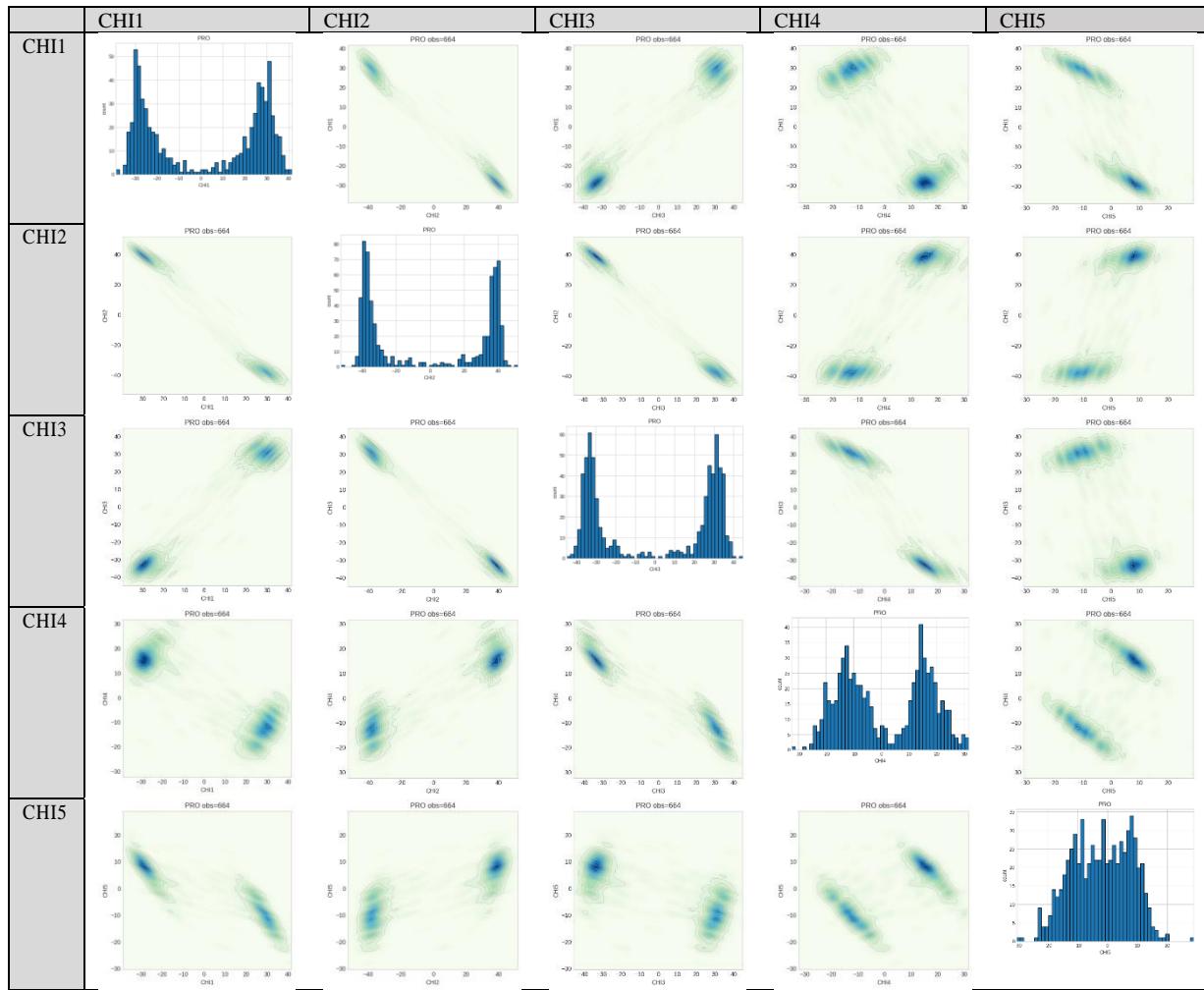


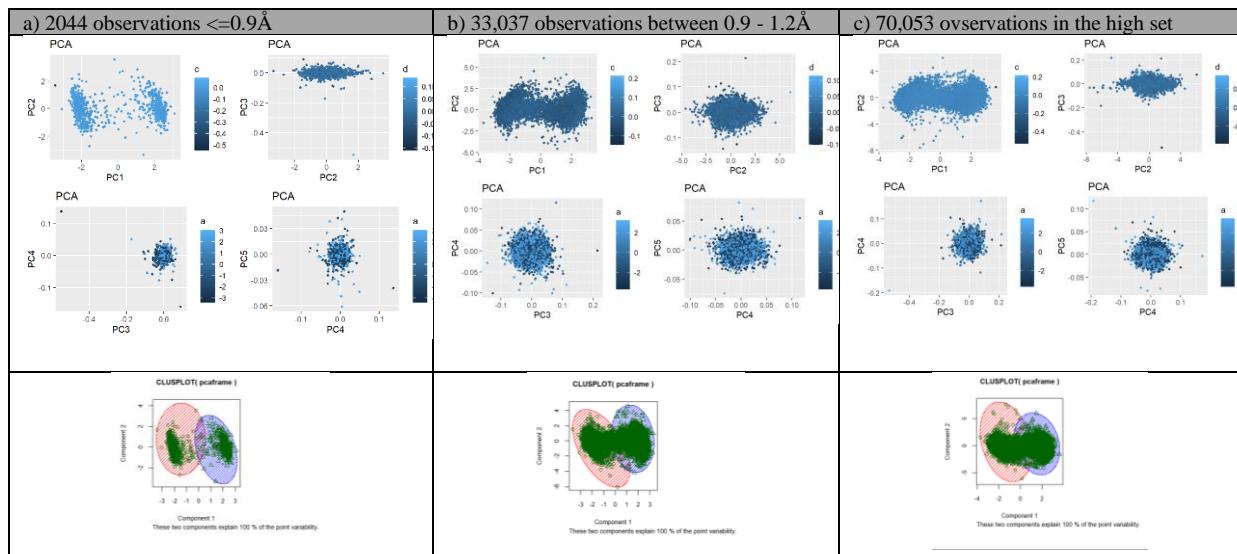
Figure 3.4.6.6 Proline CHI correlations in all combinations shown as probability density  
Histogram of each CHI shown for diagonal axis

Residues taken as resolution  $\leq 0.9\text{\AA}$ , max bfactor 100. Kde is 0.10 with 12 contours.

2 regions in each plot suggest 2 conformations, but do not guarantee it

There was further investigation using PCA analysis. This analysis was performed with three sets of data: all high-resolution proline residues; those with a resolution of  $\leq 0.9\text{\AA}$ ; those with a resolution between 0.9 and  $1.2\text{\AA}$ . See Figure 3.4.6.7 for the components and clusters for each resolution bucket.

The sql queries, data and R markdown can be found on GitHub here: [Proline PCA analysis](#).



*Figure 3.4.6.7: Proline ring conformations' PCA analysis on CHI1-5*

*The first row compares the 4 components, the last row shows that 2 clusters explain 100% of variability*

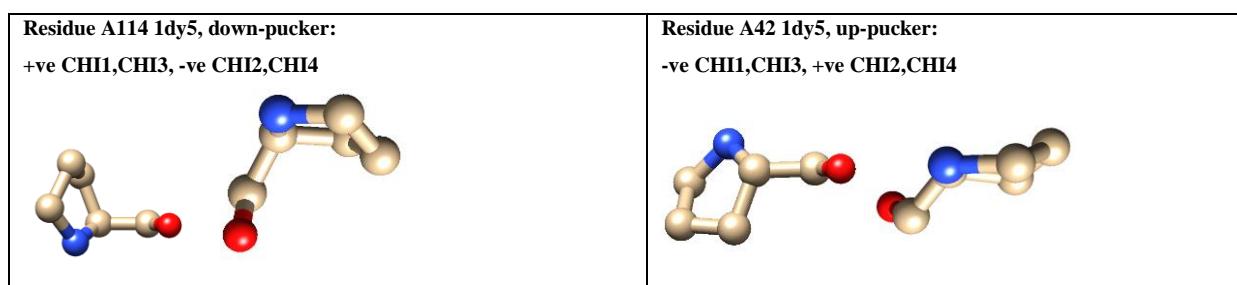
In Figure 3.4.6.7 there are clearly two clusters for the higher resolution samples - as the resolution lowers the data is still explained by two clusters, but the evidence is less clear. The two clusters indicate two conformations for the proline ring.

Eight representative samples have been investigated from the database, four from the PCA 1 cluster and from 4 groups from the PCA3 cluster (-ve, 0, +ve). See Table 3.4.6.8.

| Row  | PDB  | Amino | PC1   | PC2   | CHI1    | CHI2    | CHI3    | CHI4    | CHI5    |
|------|------|-------|-------|-------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1    | 1cbn | A5    | -2.29 | -0.29 | 29.997  | -40.012 | 33.783  | -16.415 | -8.420  |
| 16   | 1dy5 | A114  | -2.36 | -0.34 | 30.728  | -41.901 | 34.997  | -17.123 | -8.243  |
| 1369 | 3x2m | A66   | -2.16 | -0.06 | 28.942  | -37.711 | 31.238  | -13.202 | -9.617  |
| 1952 | 6eio | A91   | -2.22 | -0.00 | 29.878  | -38.826 | 31.883  | -13.040 | -10.311 |
| 14   | 1dy5 | A42   | 2.28  | 0.02  | -27.620 | 37.449  | -34.069 | 16.852  | 5.995   |
| 52   | 1gci | A5    | 2.26  | -0.08 | -27.039 | 37.073  | -32.503 | 16.151  | 6.945   |
| 1334 | 3ui4 | A93   | 2.20  | 0.22  | -25.110 | 37.046  | -33.799 | 18.300  | 4.318   |
| 1734 | 4u9h | L234  | 2.07  | 0.87  | -21.020 | 35.254  | -35.660 | 23.369  | -1.137  |

*Table 3.4.6.8 Four examples each of the two proline ring conformations, green is down- blue is up-pucker*

The table shows that the two conformations seem to be simple inversions of each other, with two examples illustrated in Figure 3.4.6.9 from Chimera.



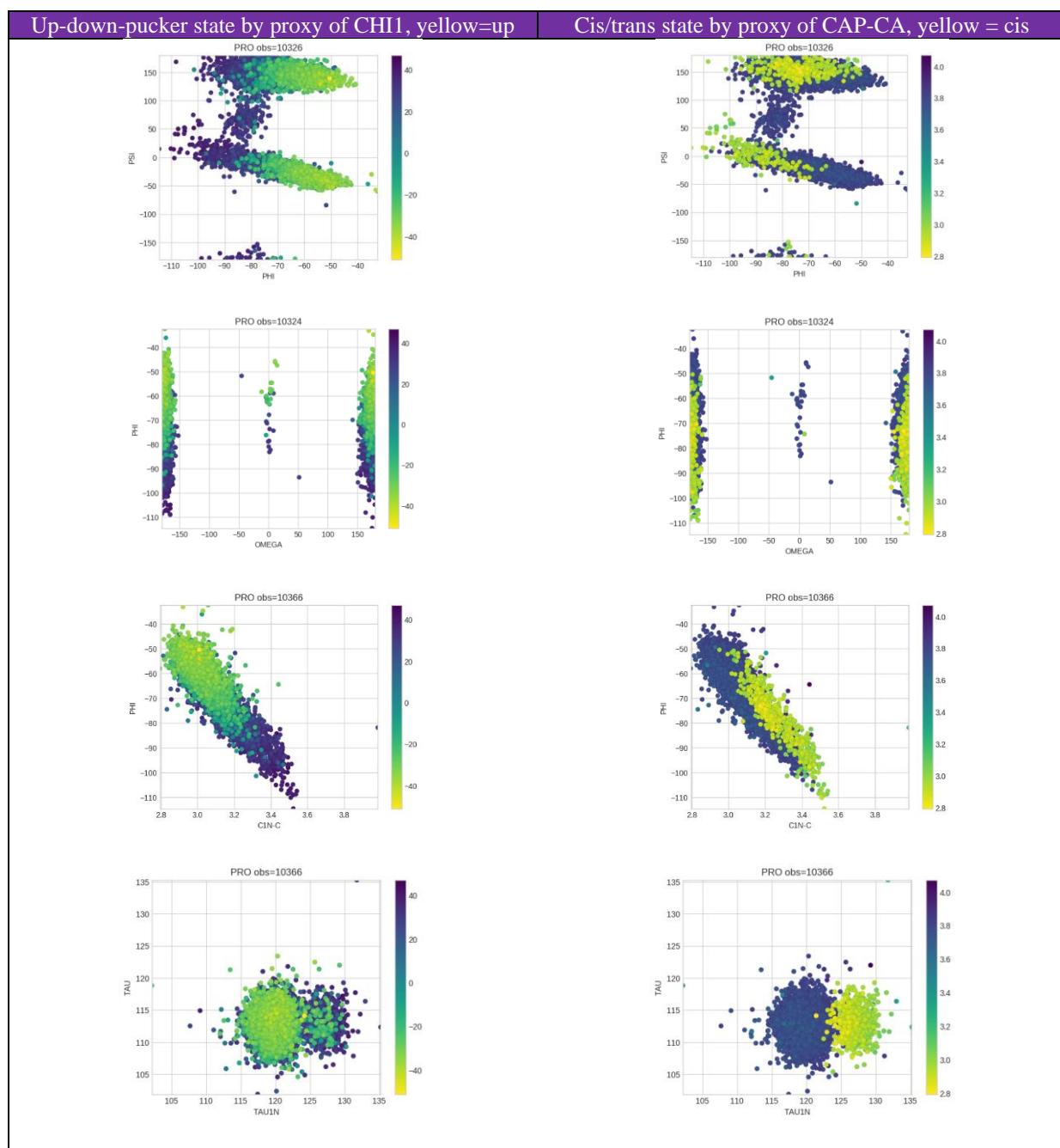
*Figure 3.4.6.9 Two proline ring conformations illustrated from 1dy5 (Chimera)*

There is a down-pucker and up-pucker of CG, which is achieved by all the angles inverting. There is discussion that the cis-trans- state influences the ring puckering (Vitaglano et al, 2001). Any of the CHI values can stand in for the puckering state, and we have seen already in Figure 3.4.6.4 that the

CHI1, CHI2 and CHI3 angles associate with the cis- trans- formation. Figure 3.4.6.4 suggests that the cis-formation associates with the CHI1 positive values, or down-pucker.

Using CHI1 to stand in for the down-up-puckering state of the proline ring, and the c-alpha distance to stand in for the cis-trans-peptide bond, Figure 3.4.6.10 shows a selection of correlation plots graduated on the left by CHI1 and on the right by CA1N-CA. Ideas for plots omega/phi and C1N-C/phi taken from the literature (Vitagliano et al, 2001).

These correlations show that the up-pucker has a higher PHI, shorter C1N-C bond and lower TAU1N. The cis-peptide has a distinctly higher TAU1N angle and a greater C1N-C bond.



*Figure 3.4.6.10 Some correlations showing the up/down pucker and cis/trans peptide bond of proline  
Resolution <= 1.2Å, rvalue <= 0.16Å, rfree <= 0.3Å, bfactor <= 100Å<sup>2</sup>, checked pdbs excluded*

This time using the stand-ins of CHI2 positive as an up-pucker, and low CA1N-CA as a cis-peptide bond, proportions can be analysed at different resolutions, Table 3.4.6.11 shows the observation counts for these states at different resolutions and analyses the conditional probabilities.

| a)            | Total Count | Cis/Down<br>AND CAP_CA < 3.2<br>AND CHI2 < 0 | Cis/Up<br>AND CAP_CA <<br>3.2 AND CHI2 > 0 | Trans/Down<br>AND CAP_CA >=<br>3.2 AND CHI2 < 0 | Trans/Up<br>AND CAP_CA >=<br>3.2 AND CHI2 > 0 |
|---------------|-------------|--|--|---|---|
| 1.2<=1.3      | 10556       | 521  | 75   | 4695  | 5265  |
| 1.1<=1.2      | 6301        | 292  | 56   | 2731  | 3222  |
| 1.0<=1.1      | 4878        | 233  | 33   | 2140  | 2472  |
| 0.9<=1.0      | 2309        | 132  | 16   | 1045  | 1116  |
| <=0.9         | 680         | 41   | 8  | 314   | 317   |
| b)            | 1.2<=1.3    | 1.1<=1.2                                     | 1.0<=1.1                                   | 0.9<=1.0  | <=0.9   |
| P(Down)       | 0.4941      | 0.4798                                       | 0.4865                                     | 0.5097  | 0.5265  |
| P(Up)         | 0.5059      | 0.5202                                       | 0.5135                                     | 0.4903  | 0.4735  |
| P(Cis)        | 0.0565      | 0.0552                                       | 0.0545                                     | 0.0641  | 0.0721  |
| P(Trans)      | 0.9435      | 0.9448                                       | 0.9455                                     | 0.9359  | 0.9279  |
| P(Down Cis)   | 0.8742      | 0.8391                                       | 0.8759                                     | 0.8919  | 0.8367  |
| P(Down Trans) | 0.4714      | 0.4588                                       | 0.4640                                     | 0.4836  | 0.5024  |
| P(Up Cis)     | 0.1258      | 0.1609                                       | 0.1241                                     | 0.1081  | 0.1633  |
| P(Up Trans)   | 0.5286      | 0.5412                                       | 0.5360                                     | 0.5164  | 0.4976  |
| P(Cis Down)   | 0.0999      | 0.0966                                       | 0.0982                                     | 0.1121  | 0.1293  |
| P(Cis Up)     | 0.0140      | 0.0171                                       | 0.0132                                     | 0.0141  | 0.0255  |
| P(Trans Down) | 0.9001      | 0.9034                                       | 0.9018                                     | 0.8879  | 0.8855  |
| P(Trans Up)   | 0.9860      | 0.9829                                       | 0.9868                                     | 0.9859  | 0.9752  |

Table 3.4.6.11 The ratios of proline's cis/trans peptide bond to up/down pucker states and conditional probabilities

a) Shows the observations in each state at different resolutions for the HIGH set

b) Shows the conditional probabilities coloured on blue = high, yellow=medium and green=low

Table 3.4.6.11 shows that if proline is cis it is much more likely to be down: P(Down|Cis) = 0.8742. However, if proline is down there is only around a 0.1 chance it will be cis. If it is up, there is a 0.01 chance it will be cis. The resolution comparisons show an apparent increase in cis as the resolution increases, though there are too few observations at <=0.9Å for confidence in the data when looking at cis proportions.

### 3.4.7 Calpha-Calpha Modelling

We have seen already in the cis-trans section 3.4.5 that there is a correlation between  $\text{C}\alpha$  distances and the cis or trans nature of the peptide bond. Additionally, this study's results include  $\text{C}\alpha$  angles and a pseudo-dihedral, detailed below in Figure 3.4.6.1.

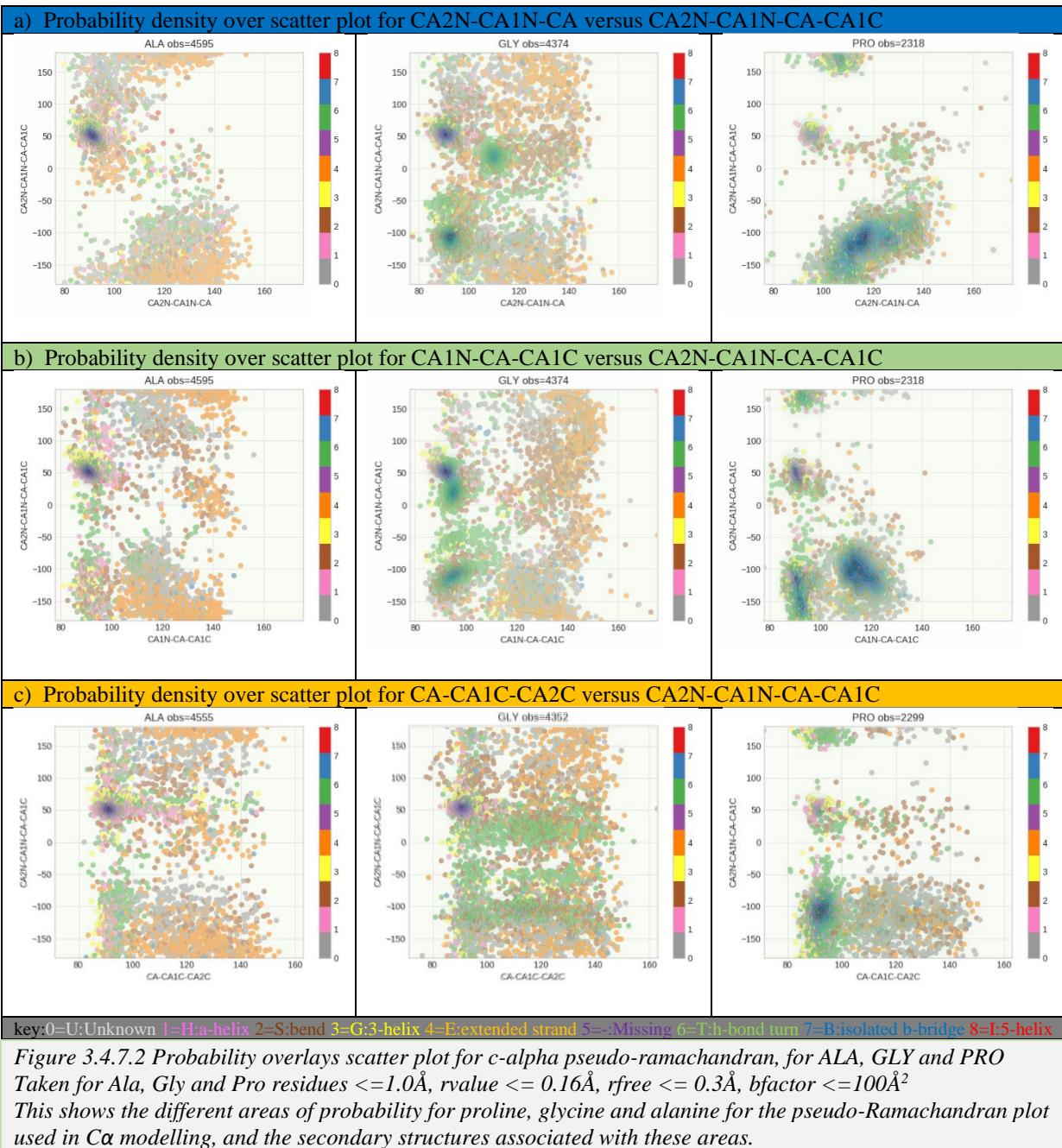
| Type            | Measure              | Diagram |
|-----------------|----------------------|---------|
| Distance        | a) CA1N-CA           |         |
| Distance        | b) CA-CA1C           |         |
| Angle           | c) CA2N-CA1N-CA      |         |
| Angle           | d) CA1N-CA-CA1C      |         |
| Angle           | e) CA-CA1C-CA2C      |         |
| Pseudo-dihedral | f) CA2N-CA1N-CA-CA1C |         |

Figure 3.4.7.1  $\text{C}\alpha$  measures calculated by PSU-Beta and a simple  $\text{C}\alpha$  skeleton

$\text{C}\text{-Alpha}$  values are useful in validation and  $\text{c}\text{-alpha}$  modelling (Asachi et al 2020; Kleywegt, 1997). The pseudo-dihedral leads to the angle being measured between the planes CA2N-CA1N-CA and CA1N-CA-CA1C. A pseudo  $\text{c}\text{-alpha}$  Ramachandran plot can be created with this dihedral and the angle CA2N-CA1N-CA (Asachi et al, 2020) or CA1N-CA-CA1C and CA-CA1C-CA2C (novel).

These plots are shown in Figure 3.4.7.2 for alanine (to stand in as representative of all amino), glycine and proline. In this plot, the probability density overlays the scatter plot (coloured on secondary structure). The probable areas of glycine and proline clearly differ. The most probable area for alpha helices is at around  $(\text{angle}, \text{dihedral}) = (90^\circ, 50^\circ)$  and b-sheets around  $(\text{angle}, \text{dihedral}) = (120^\circ, -150^\circ)$  the a-helix corresponds to the most probable regions in the density plot for alanine.

The preferred regions of glycine and proline are different to the amino acids in general, specifically they show areas of high probability density that are neither the a-helix nor b-sheet regions. For glycine there is a region around  $(\text{angle}, \text{dihedral}) = (110^\circ, 25^\circ)$  in the CA2N-CA1N-CA plot, an area around  $(\text{angle}, \text{dihedral}) = (90^\circ, 10^\circ)$  in the CA1N-CA-CA1C plot, and  $(\text{angle}, \text{dihedral}) = (90^\circ, -110^\circ)$  in both. Proline favours an area around  $(\text{angle}, \text{dihedral}) = (115^\circ, -100^\circ)$  in the CA2N-CA1N-CA plot, both this area and the same areas as glycine at around  $(\text{angle}, \text{dihedral}) = (90^\circ, -110^\circ)$  in CA1N-CA-CA1C and in the final plot CA-CA1C-CA2C proline favours primarily the area  $(\text{angle}, \text{dihedral}) = (90^\circ, -110^\circ)$ .



Further analysis of the trio of c-alpha angles yields differences for the relative distributions of glycine and proline. Unlike alanine, angles preceding and following glycine and proline have distinct distributions from the angle centred at the residue itself. See Figure 3.4.7.3 for the results for PRO, GLY and ALA, with Appendix 11 contain the full set of results for each residue type.

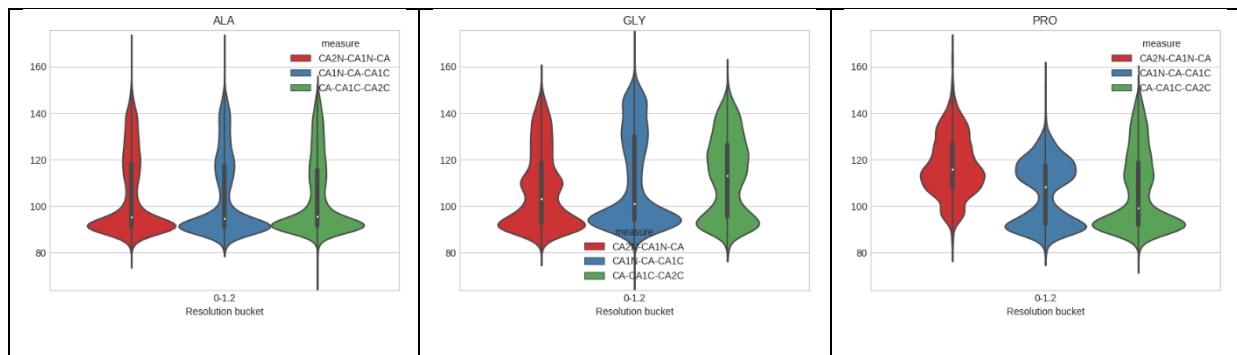


Figure 3.4.7.3 Violin plots for Ca angles along the chain

Taken for Ala, Gly and Pro residues  $\leq 1.2\text{\AA}$ , rvalue  $\leq 0.16\text{\AA}$ , rfree  $\leq 0.3\text{\AA}$ , bfactor  $\leq 50\text{\AA}^2$

The angle distributions are shown to clearly differ for glycine and proline depending on the position the residue in the 3 residue motif. Thus the N- or C- terminus direction of the chain impacts the angles for glycine and proline strongly.

In the case of proline, we know already it favours a cis pre-peptide bond over other amino acids, which could account for this. Looking at these angles for proline, graduated on the  $\text{Ca}$  distance which stands in as a proxy for whether it is pre-cis, we see the results Figure 3.4.7.4.

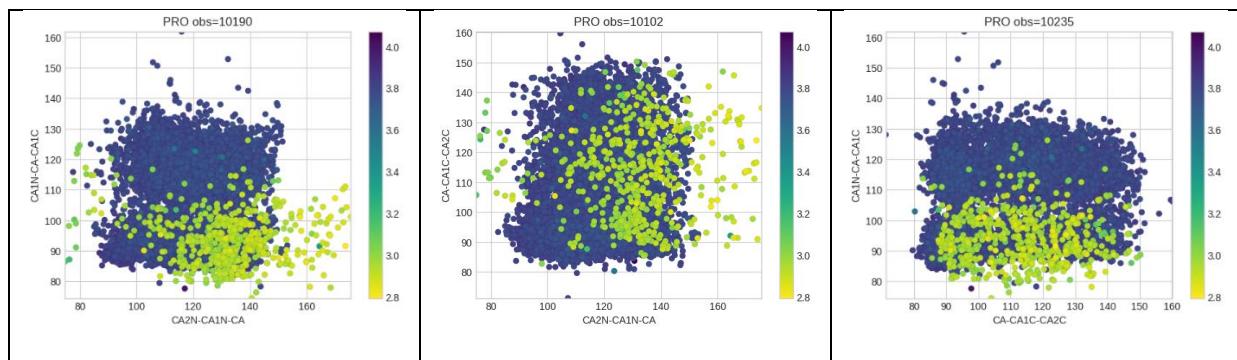


Figure 3.4.7.4 Angles along  $\text{Ca}$  and backbone for PRO graduated on CAP-CA as a proxy cis/trans.

Yellow = cis, taken for Pro residues  $\leq 1.2\text{\AA}$ , rvalue  $\leq 0.16\text{\AA}$ , rfree  $\leq 0.3\text{\AA}$ , bfactor  $\leq 100\text{\AA}^2$

This shows cis-pro can be found in certain regions of these correlation plots.

Notably the CA2N-CA1N-CA angle has cis values  $> 150^\circ$  and  $< 80^\circ$  that are not seen for trans. The angle is affected by twists on the main chain bond in the 3 residues. The cis-bond also directly associates with a long O1N-CA, an inevitable feature of the cis-peptide bond. See Figure 3.4.7.5 for the relationship between the O1N-CA distance, the peptide bond and the  $\text{Ca}$  angle, and for 2 possible models that show the angle extremes of  $< 90^\circ$  and  $> 160^\circ$ .

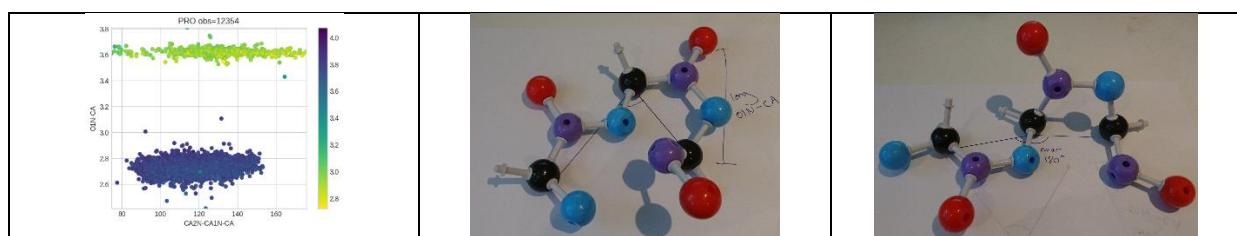
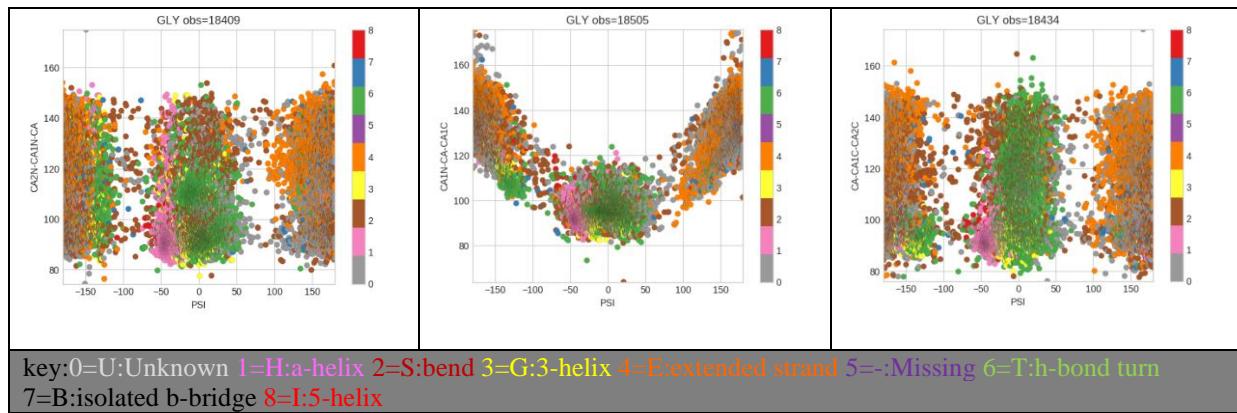


Figure 3.4.7.5 shows the relationship between O1N-CA distance and peptide bond, with possible models. The correlation shows the relationship between O1N-CA, the  $\text{Ca}$  angle, and cis (yellow)/trans (purple). The extremes of the  $\text{Ca}$  angle are demonstrated:  $< 90^\circ$  and near linear

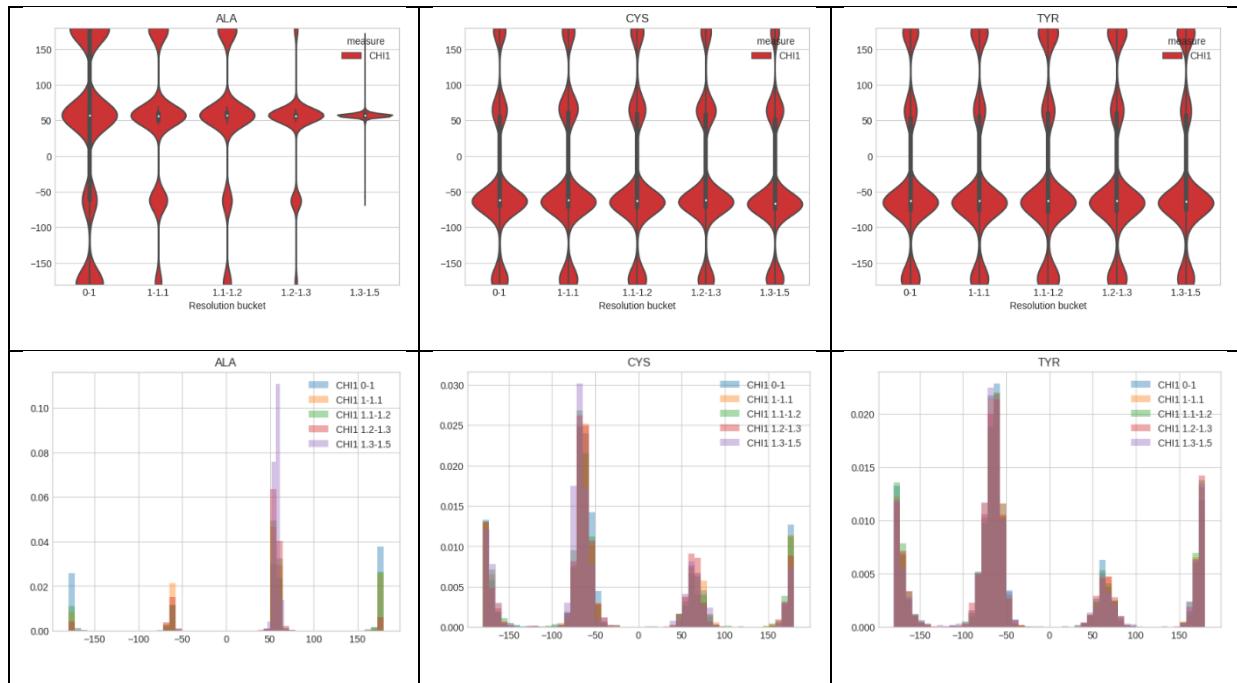
Glycine does not share the cis/trans feature with proline; glycine has the unique feature among the amino acids that it can rotate 360° around the N-CA bond without steric hindrance. The negative PSI values correspond to this unique feature and the correlation of PSI against each of the three C $\alpha$  angles elucidates it, see Figure 3.4.7.6. There is a clear geometric correlation between PSI and CA1N-CA-CA1C along with clear secondary structure regions: the results of this correlation for each amino acid individually can be found in Appendix 21.



*Figure 3.4.7.6 Angles along C $\alpha$  and correlated against PSI for GLY graduated on secondary structure. Taken for Gly residues <=1.2 $\text{\AA}$ , rvalue <= 0.16 $\text{\AA}$ , rfree <= 0.3 $\text{\AA}$ , bfactor <= 100 $\text{\AA}^2$ . The novel plot PSI/CA1N-CA-CA1C in the centre is clearly geometric with strong secondary structure regions.*

### 3.4.8 CHI1 and resolution

CHI1 distributions were analysed at different resolution buckets.



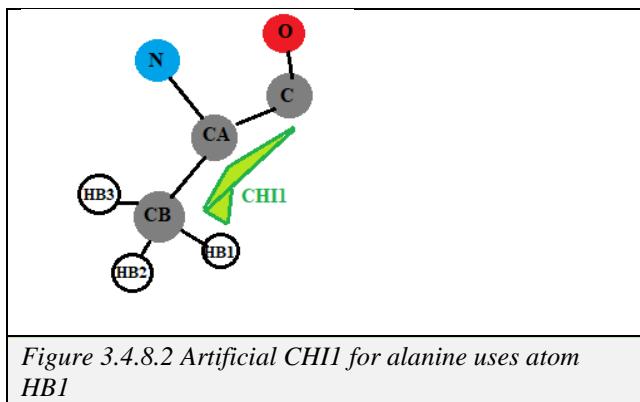
*Figure 3.4.8.1 Chi1 compared for 3 amino acids at different resolutions and with 2 different kde settings  
Top row, kde gaussian, bandwidth 0.1, Bottom row, histogram may have some evidence of wider values at higher resolution (blue bars). There is an unexpected result for alanine due to the definition of CHI1 including HB1. The lack of any hydrogen experimental evidence at the lower resolutions means this plot gives a pure view of the transition from forcefield to experimental evidence.*

In general, at the higher resolutions the distribution seems less precise, with some residues not changing much. Appendix 15 contains the results for all amino acids, with three chosen in Figure 3.4.8.1.

Appendix 16 contains the summary statistics including observation count. As resolution increases there is an anticipated effect of the interplay between the forcefield in refinement used to establish the most energetically stable atom positions and the experimental evidence. The results here are subtle or, depending significantly on experimentally changing kde settings – but what has happened to alanine?

The alanine CHI1 definition is not standard, it is the only CHI1 definition to include hydrogen. As the only hydrogen in this data, what we see for alanine is a single effect. At the lower resolution there is no experimental evidence at all for hydrogen, so the forcefield is used entirely to position HB1, always in the same place.

As resolution improves and there is experimental evidence something occurs to the naming of the hydrogens, since there is no way to choose which hydrogen is HB1, HB2 or HB3, see Figure 3.4.8.2, as all three hydrogens are sterically identical. Note, the definition seems to be incorrect, defined as C-CA-CB-HB1 (it should be N-CA-CB-HB1).



The CHI1 resolution violin plot for alanine (Figure 3.4.8.1) shows that at the highest resolution there are positions chosen for HB1 in all 3 of the hydrogen locations, which leads to the tri-modal violin plot with dihedral angles around 0/180°, 60° and -60°.

A possible explanation for this is that HB1 is chosen to be the atom with the greatest experimental evidence - the hydrogen with the greatest electron density. This would represent a human factor, manual or programmed, impacting the atom positions.

Looking at structure 3X2M, see Figure 3.4.8.3, this does not seem to be the case. For residue 59, with a CHI1 of 57.1°, the HB3 seems to have just slightly more electron density – there is no HB2. In residue 9, with a CHI1 of -64.8° there does seem to be slightly more electron density on the HB1 – this time there is no HB3.

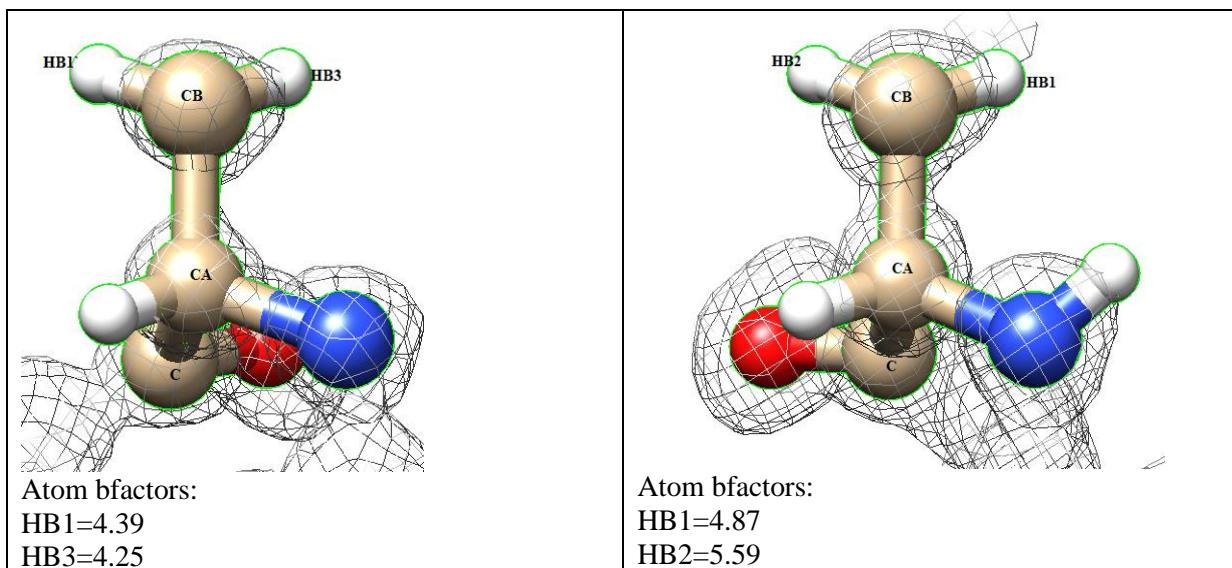


Figure 3.4.8.3 Alanine's HB1 naming in structure 3X2M

The empty electron density is the peptide bond – the atoms are hidden. Neither electron density nor bfactors indicates how the hydrogens are named. This shows the difficulty and inconsistency in naming HB1 even within the same structure.

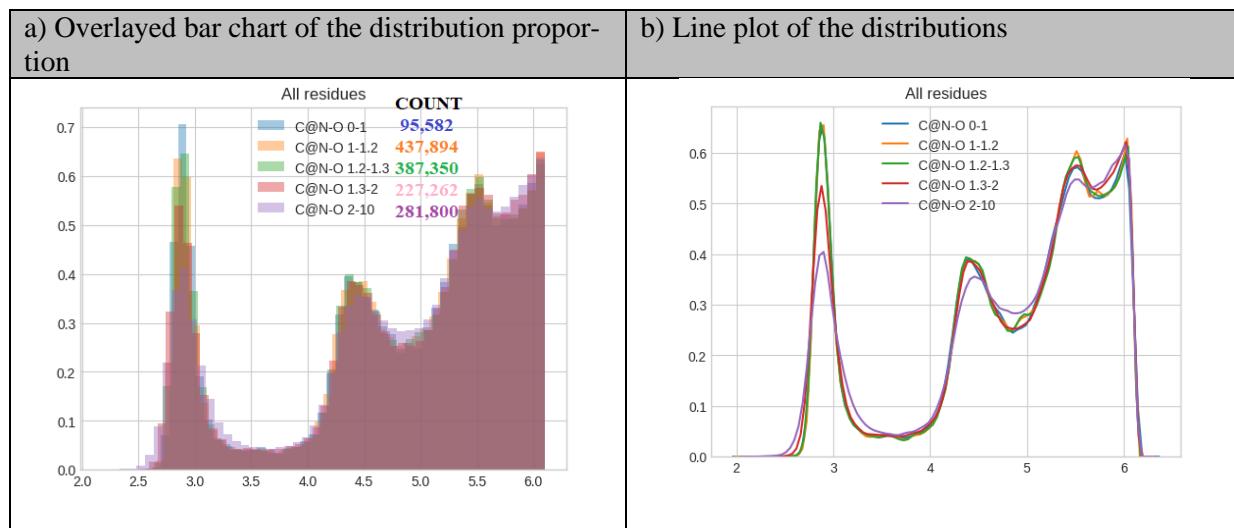
A manual calculation of the lowest 10 resolution and top 10 resolution results from the alanine CHI1 data was performed, results are recorded in Appendix 22. The spreadsheet with the calculations can be found on GitHub: [CHI1 calculation](#).

Due to the low number of hydrogens recorded generally in the structures, hydrogen has not been a feature of investigation in this project. Inadvertently, this CHI1 result provides an insight into hydrogen placement at high resolution that suggests an interesting opportunity for further investigation.

### 3.4.9 Hydrogen bonds

PSU-BETA does not identify hydrogen bonds but has the facility to analyse geometric features based on close contacts between CB-CB, CA-CA, S-S (for cysteine) and N-O as a (presumed) donor or acceptor. The close contact is taken from a database table containing all contacts  $<6.1\text{\AA}$ . The analysis in 3.4.9.1b below is further restrained to atom pair contacts  $<3.6\text{\AA}$ .

Close contact distributions for N-O were analysed at five resolution buckets, with the results in Figure 3.4.9.1. There is an apparent increase in the relative number found at close contact  $2.8\text{\AA}$  as the resolution improves.



*Figure 3.4.9.1 Close contacts between N and O of atom pairs up to  $6.1\text{\AA}$  apart, counts given for each resolution*

*a) As a histogram the high resolution clearly shows at around  $2.8\text{\AA}$*

*b) As a line plot with kde smoothing, using cos kernel and silverman rule of thumb.*

*Using the HIGH set for  $\leq 1.3\text{\AA}$  and the 2019 set at lower resolutions, with rfree at  $0.3\text{\AA}$  with other values unrestrained.*

At a higher resolution, the structures are solved with a greater accuracy to atom placement and seem to have a greater proportion of close contacts at around  $2.8\text{\AA}$ , suggesting that at higher resolutions there may be a clearer view of hydrogen bonding, and that it may be greater than suggested at lower resolutions.

Further analysis was performed of each amino acid and the fulfilment of hydrogen bonding potential as a donor, or acceptor, or not, see Table 3.5.2 below. The analysis was performed on a data set for resolution  $\leq 1.1\text{\AA}$  looking at close contact with another atom at  $<3.6\text{\AA}$ .

| Amino acid | Total  | Donor | Not donor | %donor | Acceptor | Not acceptor | %acceptor |
|------------|--------|-------|-----------|--------|----------|--------------|-----------|
| ALA        | 11,975 | 9,645 | 2,330     | 81     | 8,867    | 3,108        | 74        |
| CYS        | 1,995  | 1,569 | 426       | 79     | 1,457    | 538          | 73        |
| ASP        | 8,121  | 5,901 | 2,220     | 73     | 5,722    | 2,399        | 71        |
| GLU        | 7,210  | 5,531 | 1,679     | 77     | 5,069    | 2,141        | 70        |
| PHE        | 4,990  | 4,069 | 921       | 82     | 3,695    | 1,295        | 74        |
| GLY        | 11,177 | 8,685 | 2,492     | 78     | 6,644    | 4,533        | 59        |
| HIS        | 3,052  | 2,322 | 730       | 76     | 2,115    | 937          | 69        |
| ILE        | 6,986  | 5,856 | 1,130     | 84     | 5,428    | 1,558        | 78        |
| LYS        | 7,291  | 5,634 | 1,657     | 77     | 5,041    | 2,250        | 69        |
| LEU        | 10,568 | 9,017 | 1,551     | 85     | 7,857    | 2,711        | 74        |
| MET        | 2,293  | 1,980 | 313       | 86     | 1,735    | 558          | 76        |
| ASN        | 6,325  | 4,708 | 1,617     | 74     | 4,238    | 2,087        | 67        |
| PRO        | 6,270  | 2,088 | 4,182     | 33     | 3,698    | 2,572        | 59        |
| GLN        | 4,804  | 3,865 | 939       | 81     | 3,449    | 1,355        | 72        |
| ARG        | 5,681  | 4,483 | 1,198     | 79     | 3,985    | 1,696        | 70        |
| SER        | 8,088  | 5,689 | 2,399     | 70     | 5,462    | 2,626        | 68        |
| THR        | 8,399  | 5,955 | 2,444     | 71     | 5,811    | 2,588        | 69        |
| VAL        | 9,455  | 7,701 | 1,754     | 81     | 6,997    | 2,458        | 74        |
| TRP        | 2,095  | 1,684 | 411       | 80     | 1,534    | 561          | 73        |
| TYR        | 4,768  | 3,821 | 947       | 80     | 3,543    | 1,225        | 74        |

Table 3.4.9.2 Donors and Acceptors for amino acids at resolution  $\leq 1.1\text{\AA}$ , rvalue  $\leq 0.16$ , rfree  $\leq 0.3$

The total is all residues – all the candidates for hydrogen bonding

Donor - all residues' N  $\leq 3.6\text{\AA}$  to another O, Acceptor – a;; residues O found  $\leq 3.6\text{\AA}$  to another N

The simplified nature of this analysis of close contacts between atom pairs  $<3.6\text{\AA}$  with more than one residue between does not give a real view of hydrogen bonding, nor does it show any indication of hydrogen bonding fulfilled in solution or complex. It does give an indication of the propensity for close contact that could lead to hydrogen bonding, with the expected result that proline does not (cannot) hydrogen bond with nitrogen as a donor. Two scenarios of proline being in close contact are given in Figure 3.4.9.3.

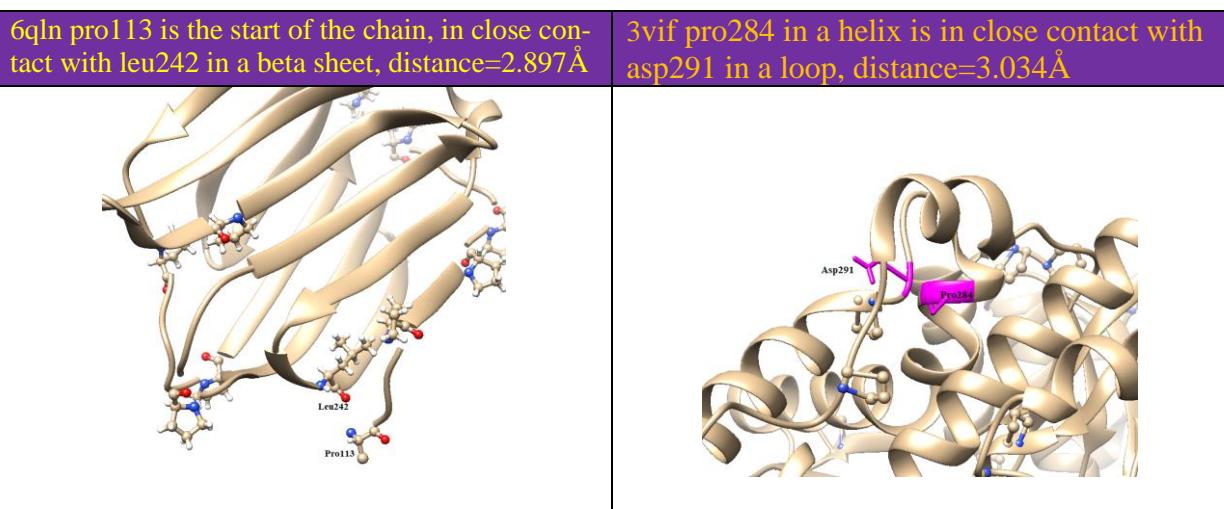


Figure 3.4.9.3 Proline – 2 examples when it is in close contact with other residues

### 3.5 Results for electron density

To examine the concept of electron density superposition, investigations were designed that might successfully show interesting information.: a planar set of atoms, thus the tyrosine ring was chosen; an exploration of the peptide bond, the idea taken from Jelsch (2000); a large number of samples across multiple structures under specific geometric constraints – GLN-GLN hydrogen bonds were chosen (Escobedo et al, 2019). Superposition residues were chosen with specified criteria using the PSU-Beta database.

The results for the tyr ring are in Figure 3.5.1, the structure 1us0 was chosen (Howard et al, 2004, an ultrahigh resolution structure of 0.66Å), the results consist of all 11 tyr tings superposed

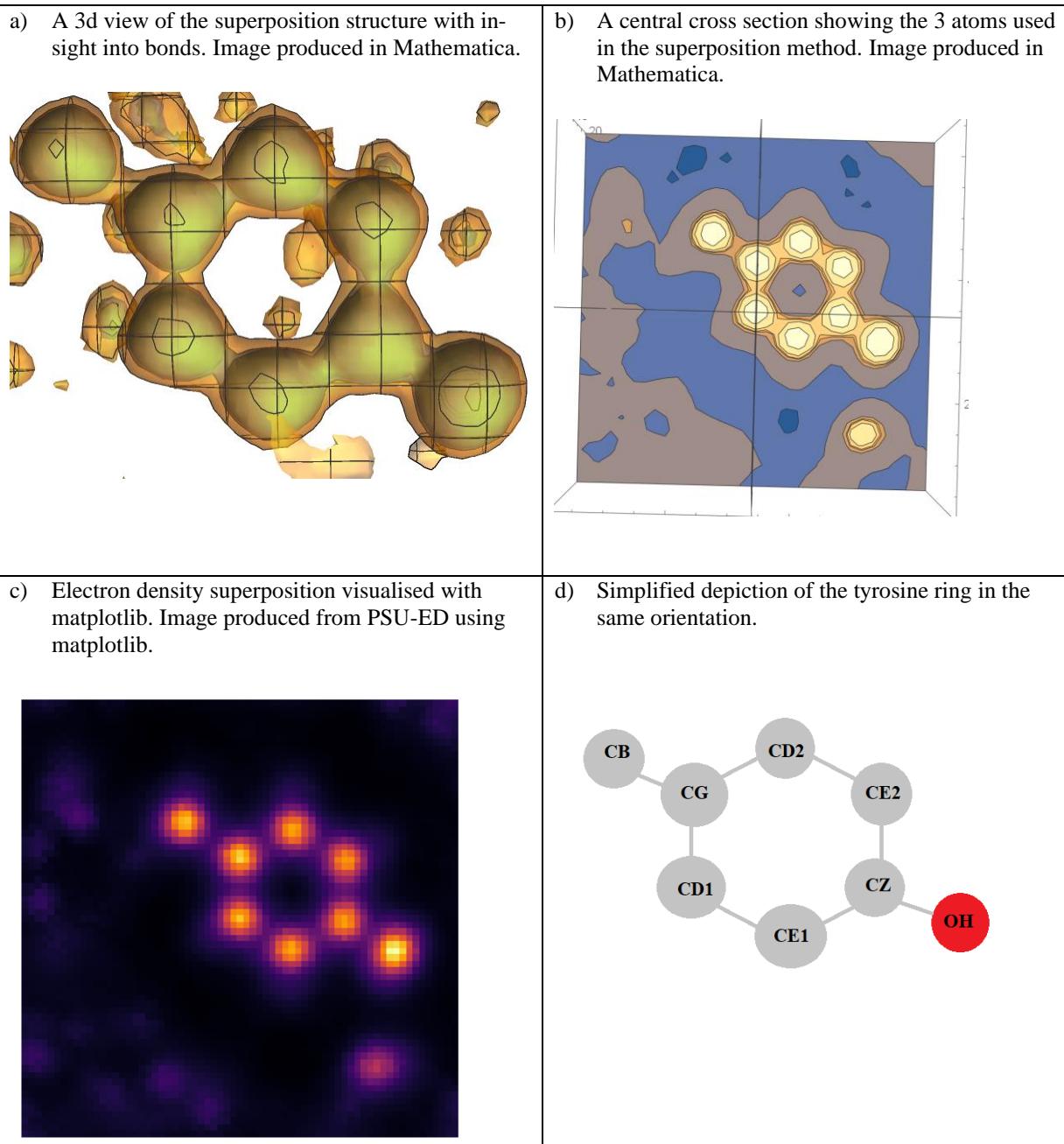


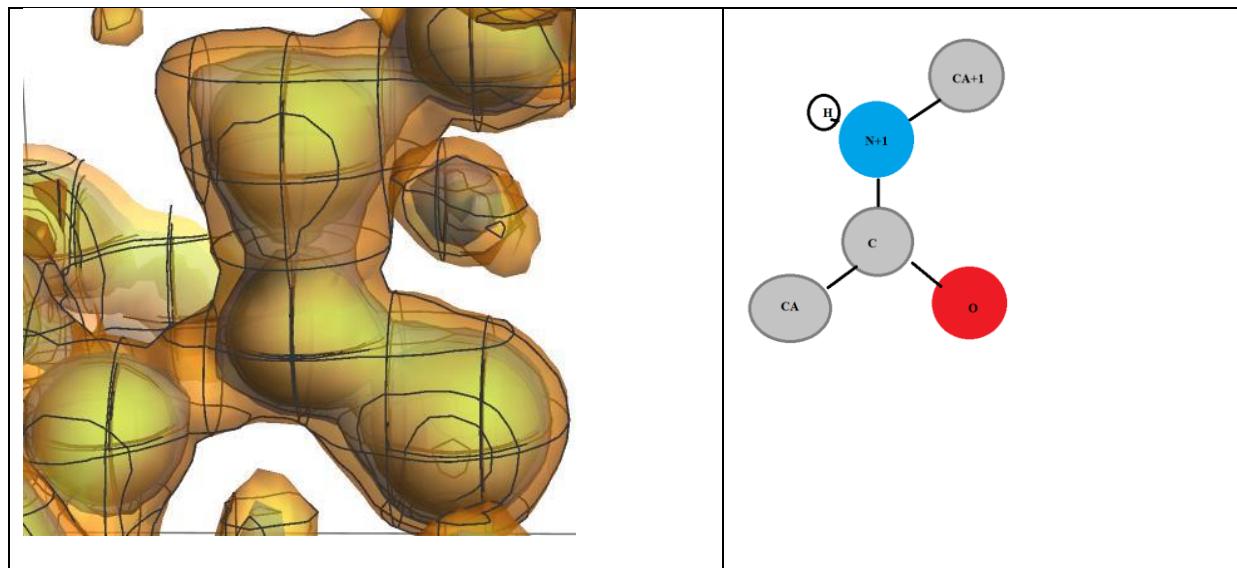
Figure 3.5.1 The electron density of 11 tyrosine rings from 1us0 superposed

The atoms used for this superposition were (central, linear, planar)=(CD1, CG, CD2). The success of the method is clear from the sliced image produced in Mathematica (Figure 3.8.1 b), with the central CD1 atom clearly central, the linear CG atom clearly on the x-axis (which is displayed vertically), and the planar atom CD2 bringing the structure flat to the xy plane so the cross section of the planar ring forms the xy plane.

The 3d superposition images (a, b) show a differing bond between the OH-CZ and the CG-CB, the oxygen bond being much thicker, the bonds between CD1-CG and CZ-CE2 appear to pull the electron density into a teardrop shape.

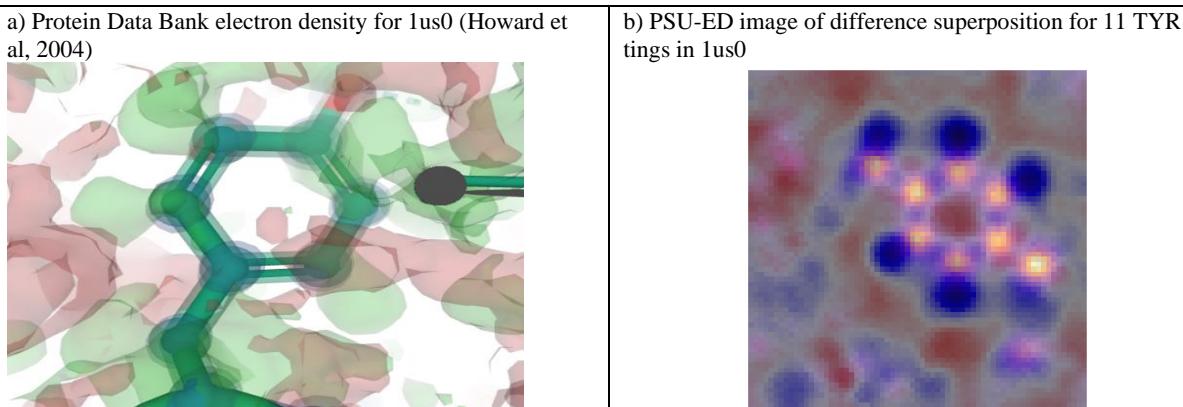
The results for glutamine were based on 145 glutamine residues across the PSU-Beta database, all the residues that fulfilled the criteria of having GLN in close contact with another GLN with 2 residues between. The results are given in Appendix 13 and are complicated, requiring further analysis.

The peptide bond result consists of all residues in 1ejg superposed, see Figure 3.5.2. The atoms for superposition were chosen as the planar atoms over the bond C-N+1-O. The peptide bond has clear information visible, including the bump of the protonated nitrogen.



*Figure 3.5.2 Peptide bond in structure 1ejg.  
Shows the electron density from the peptide bond for all residues in 1ejg superposed*

The superposition method was also applied to the difference matrices. In Figure 3.5.3 there is an example from the electron density application of the PDB showing a single TYR ring of the structure 1us0. Next to it is this study's superposition of the electron density for the 11 rings.



*Figure 3.5.3 Tyrosine difference density and difference superposition for 1us0*

a) shows an image from the pdb website of a single residue.

b) shows the superposed difference density for the 11 TYR rings, with the atoms at 40% transparency over the top. The protons in the difference image can be seen around the outside of the tyrosine ring.

The images are equivalent red-red and green-blue and can be seen to have a similar area around the outside of the ring - something missing from the model that exists in the electron density. This is indicative of the protonation state of the atoms in the tyrosine ring.

Additional analysis of the difference matrices shows a distribution of values at different resolutions, see Appendix 5. This shows that the differences are always similarly distributed no matter the resolution - that is the final model is always roughly equally different to the electron density. A comparison of the way the superposition of the density and differences change on resolution can be found in Appendix 6. The results files can be browsed in GitHub: [PSU-ED Results](#)

## 4. Discussion and Conclusions

### 4.1 Bond lengths and angles

In 2007, Jaskolski (Jaskolski et al, 2007) reviewed the most common restraints used in protein structure refinement for evidence of needed updates. They used the deposited 10 highest-resolution well-ordered structures and concluded that there was evidence for some change, notably C-N and N-C $\alpha$ -C (tau). These findings have been reviewed using PSU-Beta's HQ set containing 3,434 structures  $\leq 1.3\text{\AA}$  resolution. The results here are broadly in agreement with the Jaskolski (2007) values with refinements (see Table 3.3.1.1).

- As the resolution improves the bond lengths decrease, for N-CA this seems to still be shortening at the highest resolution bucket. The other C1N-N and C=O median lengths have settled, although the distributions at the highest resolution have perhaps widened, perhaps as a result of competition between forcefield and experimental evidence.
- For C=O the results agree with Jaskolski, suggesting a C=O bond length of  $1.234\text{\AA}$  over the E&H value of  $1.231\text{\AA}$
- The results also suggest the N-CA bond length could be  $1.455\text{\AA}$  rather than  $1.458\text{\AA}$
- The results do not agree with the Jaskolski value of  $1.334\text{\AA}$  for C1N-N, finding  $1.332\text{\AA}$  which is closer to the original E&H value of  $1.329\text{\AA}$
- The average results from this study's dataset have lower variation (sd and iqr) than previous estimates of Jaskolski and E&H.
- The median is a good alternative to the mean, showing consistent values over the resolutions without outlier bias (which can come from refinement error even in the highest structures).

Jaskolski (2007) suggest that there is discussion on bimodality of the tau angle but no evidence of it. Here, the results clearly showing bimodality in the tau angle in relation to the PSI dihedral causing an overlap in modalities that appears as a spread in 1 dimension. There is also a clear difference when broken down on individual amino acids (Figure 3.3.1.5).

Another backbone pre-tau angle TAU1N has a distinct bimodality for proline in relation to the cis-trans-peptide bond – see Figure 3.4.6.10, which reinforces a prior idea in the literature (Kleywegt, 1997).

## 4.2 New insights into geometrical features

### 4.2.1 Correlations

The outliers found in new correlation plots, outlined in results section 3.1, demonstrate that even the highest resolution structures are susceptible to errors in atomic placement, even when there is good electron density in that area.

There is evidence that deviations from ideal atom positions can be indications of interesting structural features. For example, while the planarity of omega is known to deviate 20° (Jaskolski, 2007), but it has been suggested that an omega >30° could be an active site (Berkholz, 2009), or a conserved site (Berkholz, 2012). The additional use of correlation plots shows that omega values' deviation from planar can depend on the tau value. A tau of 110° appears to just be in the geometrically common region for an omega of 150°, but is doubtful with a tau of 100°.

The geometric correlation plots make the unusual geometries easier to identify. Currently, these values are manually inspected for evidence in the electron density (Berkholz, 2012) which makes the process of elucidating interesting or invalid geometric features time consuming and labour intense. The addition of a numerical indication of experimental evidence in these correlation plots on a per residue or calculation basis would be a valuable addition to these analyses.

An interesting feature of the correlation plots is the changing view of the secondary structures such as in the Ramachandran plot versus the “square” and “elliptical” plots, see Figure 4.2.1.1.

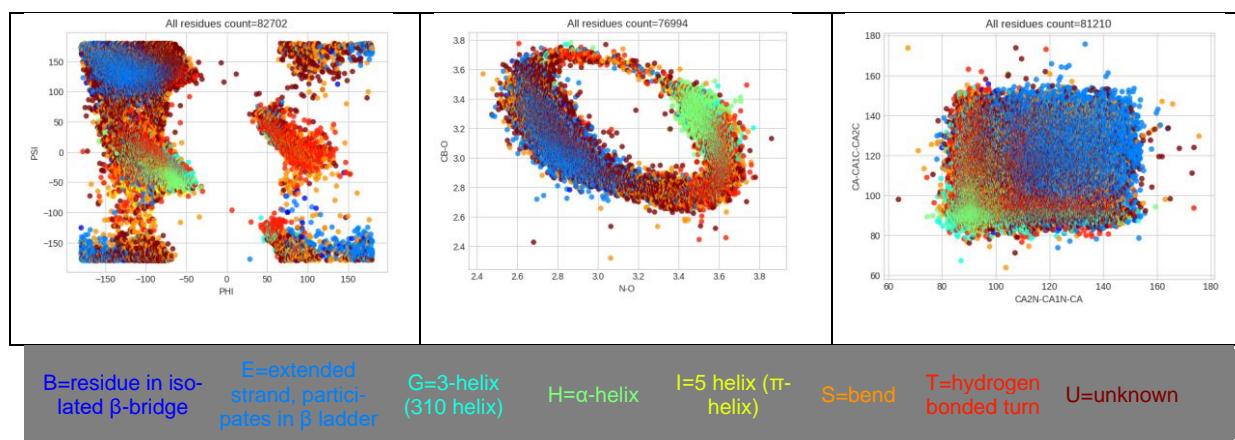


Figure 4.2.1.1 The secondary structure regions shown in different correlation plots

In Figure 4.2.1.1 there is the enticing feeling that the ‘unknown’ secondary structure, as defined by dssp, must be identifiable from the multiple plots. The brown unknown regions can be seen to inhabit specific regions in the other plots and further analysis must surely elucidate ways to identify existing secondary structures (or sub-groups or new ones).

The correlations show more than geometric accuracy. Where the plots are geometric in character, such as PSI/N-O (Figure 3.4.4.1) faint trace lines demonstrate the existence of forces between atoms

with an indication (not quantifiable) of the energy barrier; with no trace in a large dataset the geometric location would seem impossible due to the crystallographic state or steric hindrance; in the more probable regions the larger the spread of points the weaker the bond (not quantifiable).

### 4.2.3 Structural features

The correlation between C $\alpha$  distance and omega established a direct relationship between them, showing that C $\alpha$ -C $\alpha$  <3.2Å means a cis-peptide bond, as suggested by Kleywegt (1997). This is useful in identifying pre-cis bonds, where the pre-omega has not been calculated - omega is traditionally calculated as the post-peptide bond because the cis identification means almost certainly that a proline will follow.

Analysis for cis and proline suggests (Williams, 2015) that 5% of all prolines follow a cis-peptide bond. These numbers were calculated in Table 3.4.6.11 and approximately agree with Williams (2015), with the resolutions having some effect on the result, from 5.65% at 1.2-1.3Å to 6.41% at 0.9-1.0Å.

The identification of the C $\alpha$  distance as direct identification of the cis-peptide bond does not guarantee that the bond has been identified as such. A comparison of OMEGA against CA-CA1C (Figure 3.4.5.3) shows that a very few peptide bonds are identified at omega-cis that are not distance-cis. These certainly warrant investigation; my expectation is that these are errors. The ability to colour the scatter points on experimental evidence would help identify this.

Analysis for proline shows the relationship between some multimodal distributions and the cis-trans peptide bond, notably the TAU1N angle. The PCA analysis on proline distinctly shows 2 clusters, correlating to 2 conformations of the proline ring, an up- and down-pucker state with all the CHI angles inverting, allowing the CHI angles to stand in for the pucker state of the ring. This agrees with a 2013 study on proline (Wu, 2013) that shows the same change in CHI angle between the two states: they found that CHI2 is linearly correlated with the puckering amplitude. Vitagliano et al (2001) describe the states with the formula:

- Up = CHI1 + CHI3 - CHI2 - CHI4 > 40°
- Down = CHI1 + CHI3 - CHI2 - CHI4 < 40°

The use of CHI1/CHI2 to stand in for the pucker state has led to some analysis of the multimodal proline distributions in the correlation plots, with interesting results in the traditional Ramachandran plot and the PHL/C1N-C showing a relationship with PHI and the pucker state (Vitagliano et al 2001).

The correlation plots have been discussed as indicating energy barriers between states. The CHI plots for proline, Figure 3.4.6.6, suggest that in the trans state proline can move quite freely between up and down pro, with a slight preference for down; in the cis state the energy barrier is high, but not impossible, for a transition to the up state. There is no evident movement between cis and trans states.

The analysis of proline suggests that PSU-Beta can usefully perform further ring analysis. For example, histidine shows tri-modality of its CHI2 angle (Figure 4.2.3.3) and has three protonation states that can be analysed on the ring geometry, looking at bond lengths and angles (Malinska et al, 2015). The states ND1 protonated, NE2 protonated and ND1&NE2 protonated are already known to have bond lengths and angles for different protonation states. High resolution structures may be able to examine this relationship.

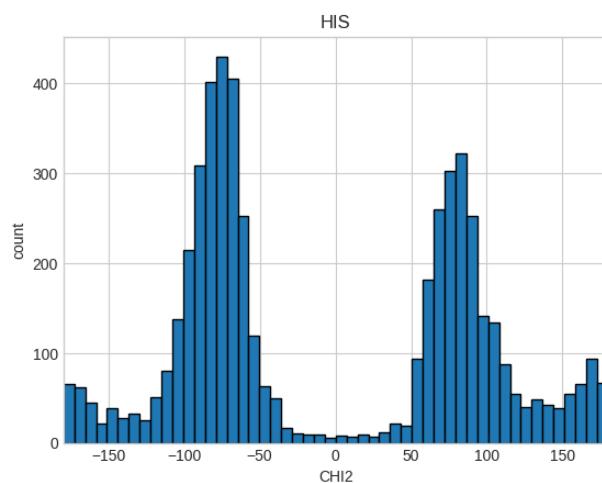


Figure 4.2.3.3 Histidine - trimodal CHI2

The successful analysis of proline suggests that a complete specification of the angles, dihedrals and bond lengths around histidine could provide useful in a full geometric specification of the protonation states.

#### 4.2.4 Hydrogen bonds

Hydrogen bonds were largely omitted from this study. Geometric analysis holds promise for finding different types of hydrogen bonds on some geometric features, e.g. linear, 3-centred and bifurcated hydrogen bonds (Kuster et al, 2015), but the absence of hydrogen placement from most structures meant that this study limited analysis to close contacts. However, the alanine CHI1 result (Figure 3.4.8.1) shows the experimental evidence of improved confidence in placement of HB1 as resolution improves, suggesting that an analysis of the hydrogens in the structures would be an interesting study. My experience of uncertain atom placements and manual exploration of the electron density suggests that electron density features will need to be first added to the database.

The close contact analysis is limited here to those within the proteins themselves, this study has not looked at proteins in complex or bonding with water. In a 1994 study, McDonald and Thornton (1994) examined fulfilment of hydrogen bonding potential in proteins, with the finding that as the resolution improves, the percentage of nitrogen and oxygen atoms that fail to hydrogen bond falls. That is surely a feature of refinement rather than reality: this study finds most effects of resolution are rarity effect or reduction in refinement constraints given experimental evidence. McDonald and Thornton (1994) suggest this is evidence of better-quality structures, correlating also to better areas of the Ramachandran plot. This study finds that close contact atoms correlate to different areas of the Ramachandran plot. See Figure 4.2.4.1 for a comparison of the Ramachandran plot on some close contact high resolution structures against non-close contact high resolution structures. Note, difference image has a clear area of the Ramachandran plot more populated by close contact atoms and an area not populated by close contacts.

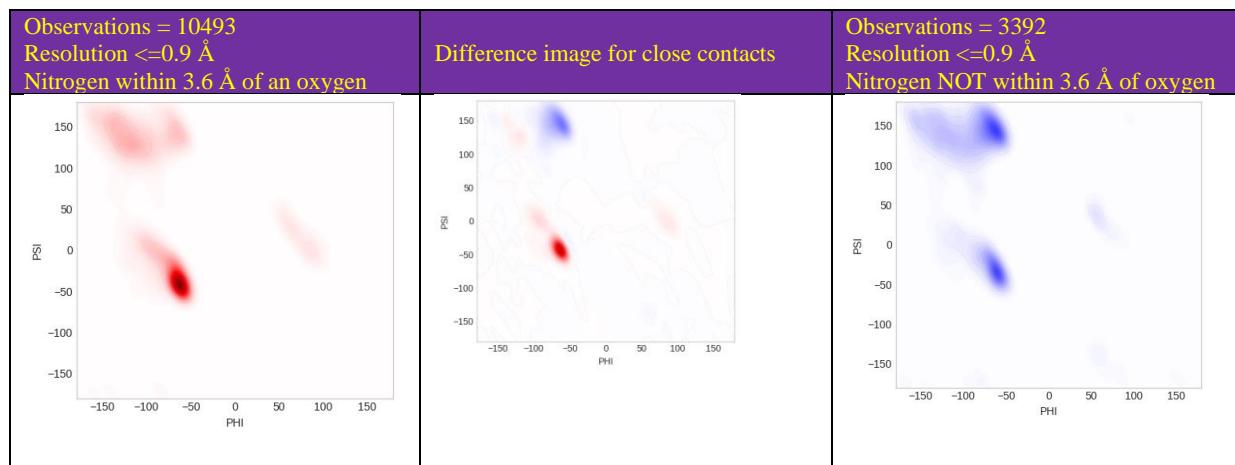


Figure 4.2.4.1 Comparing close contact and non-close contact residues in the Ramachandran plot at <=0.9 Å. This shows residues in close contact have a distinct region in the Ramachandran plot.

## 4.2.5 C-alpha modelling

Some c-alpha analysis results are reported in section 3.4.6, with the result from 3.4.5 reporting that the C $\alpha$  distance directly correlates with the cis- or trans- nature of the peptide bond, which agrees with the results from Kleywegt (1997) in which he classifies the C $\alpha$  distances into five classes: short, cis (2.8-3.0 Å), poor, trans (3.7-3.9 Å) and long. He notes that the small percentages of cis-peptide bonds (and the other non-trans categories) make them impossible to use as validation criteria as the tiniest deviation appears as an unacceptable outlier. Reflecting this point, Table 3.4.6.11 has so few observations at <=0.9 Å it is hard to draw statistically inference from the values. Though the results may not work to validate the numbers statistically, a cis-distance should guarantee a cis-omega in the structure. As already discussed, this is found not to be the case in the lower resolutions, see Figure 3.4.5.3 with a tiny number of non cis-C $\alpha$  lengths described as cis-peptide bonds.

The calculated C $\alpha$  geometric measures have included angles and a pseudo-dihedral, enabling the production of the pseudo-Ramachandran plots (Asachi et al, 2020; Kleywegt, 1997) based on CA2N-CA1N-CAC and CA2N-CA1N-CA-CA1C, see Figure 3.4.7.2. The probability density agrees with the results from Kleywegt (1997) when all residues are taken together, but here the results have been further broken down per amino acid and show a strong difference for glycine and proline. This is not surprising, but important for the C $\alpha$  model. Additionally, in Figure 3.4.6.3 the dihedral was analysed over 3 successive C $\alpha$  angles along the backbone, with a distinct change in the character of the plots and probabilities. These C $\alpha$  angles were analysed for each amino acid as violin plots (see Appendix 11). Distinct characteristics are seen for glycine and proline that could be important in the early stages of model building in crystallography (Kleywegt, 1997).

### 4.3 Electron density

Any question we have on a deposited structure comes back to the electron density. If there is experimental evidence, we have surety on atom placement. If not, then forcefields in refinement are used. The better the evidence, the less the reliance on forcefields, and the truer our understanding.

The electron density element of this project represents a proof of concept for future work. The challenges were mathematical and conceptual: can density from different structures in different configurations be captured in the same orientation and overlayed? Would that mean anything? Can density matrices be compared when they are based on different units with no known conversion?

The problem of comparing density matrices has a solution under review that is simple and statistical – assuming that the median density would always be the same and thus using a linear scale factor. Early analysis shows this is promising, see Appendix 5 for a comparison of this normalisation approach over 3 different resolution buckets.

The results have been surprising in their elegance at an early stage. The overlaying of all 11 tyrosine rings from the ultrahigh-resolution structure 1us0 (Howard et al, 2004) when viewed as 3d contours in Mathematica results in a view of the bonds so clear that the difference between the character of the bond between CG-CD1 and CG-CB can be seen, as can the size of the oxygen atom, Figure 3.5.1.

Jelsch, structure 1ejg, compared different refinement methods: spherical, multipolar, and a varying of average electron density parameters for the polypeptide main chain (Jelsch et al, 2000). In this paper the average difference density for polypeptide bonds was calculated. I repeated this difference analysis using the difference density from the PDBe database, and additionally performed the analysis with the density matrix, overlaying the density of 45 residues. This yields a distinctive view of the peptide bond, see Figure 3.5.2 in which the character of the peptide bond appears different to the N-C bond. The protonation of the nitrogen is apparent, with the distinct bump of electron density that is visible at

this high level of resolution. This technique has promise in elucidation of interesting information on the nature of the electrons in bonds and orbitals from ultrahigh-resolution structures. When used in conjunction with the database to extract atoms with similar geometric features the overlay could yield interesting information, particularly on planar parts of structures. The accuracy that this may give could also add further evidence to bond lengths and angles.

The information is not always easy to interpret. The effort to examine the nature of hydrogen bonding in GLN-GLN contacts in  $\alpha$ -helices (Appendix 13) yielded more information than I can understand. I need to review what information will be interpretable and how to suitably define it.

On an individual structure and residue basis, the possibility that the density matrices can be compared also gives promise to an automated procedure for checking anomalies against experimental evidence, i.e. with the addition to the database of a normalised electron density for each atom in the dataset.

## 4.4 Resolution

An important figure in this study is Figure 3.4.2.2 – the rarity effect. This figure shows the enticing correlation between resolution and probability density, such that the resolutions almost map onto the probability density contours. Figure 3.4.2.1 shows the same effect for bfactor and rfree, but then look at Figure 3.4.2.3 and see the same effect for all structures whose second letter is ‘A’. The rarity effect is a simple statement of the obvious: when there are few observations, they are more likely to be found where they are more likely to be found. The resolutions happen to track the gradients because at each successively higher resolution there are successively fewer observations; rvalue, rfree and bfactor also follow this effect.

It is important when analysing any high-resolution data to keep in mind this rarity effect, it has its uses and its dangers. When looking for a mean value, the higher resolution structures will track the likely areas with their accurate atom placement, so for the bond lengths and angles they can give increasingly accurate values that may be used in refinement. However, these distributions can be multimodal. For the geometric trace correlation plots such as PSI/N-O, all possible areas provide essential information on the energetics of the structures. There are suggestions that resolution effects hydrogen bonding (McDonald and Thornton, 1994); that restraints should be changed depending on bfactor (Jaskolski, 2007) and that as resolution improves the CHI1 distribution “becomes more tightly clustered into these three idealized energy wells.” (Morris et al, 1992). The more probable areas are not better: they do not represent a better structure or a better refinement; the forcefield needs such parameters, but the best geometric value is the one that most accurately reflects the experimental evidence and the secondary structure.

The relaxing of the forcefield with better experimental evidence, as found in the CHI1 alanine results for HB1, is of interest for the elucidation of truer geometry. There is not clear evidence that the resolution limit has been reached – that we have all the experimental evidence needed at say, 0.85Å and there is no need to go further. The bond length analysis seems to show a continued improvement in results to 0.8Å for N-CA (Table 3.3.1.2), the close contact analysis shows distinct improvement at 0-1Å over 1.0-1.2Å, and mistakes are found in the ultrahigh-resolution structure 1i1w at 0.89Å. It may be that there is a cost benefit at a certain resolution, but the relatively low number of structures found at the very high resolutions (14 in total at a resolution higher than 0.8Å) means there is no certainty that such a point has been reached.

The impact of refinement software on the final structures was shown in section 3.4.3, with the interesting result in Figure 3.4.3.2 of successive releases of X-PLOR software versions showing tighter geometric correlations. When looking at geometry from the solved structures, these effects have inevitable influence: the improvement in experimental evidence and the relaxation of restraints can only improve this situation.

## 4.5 Overall research aim

One of the original purposes of this study was to review some of the refinement parameters: there is evidence here (Table 3.3.1.2) to agree with the Jaskolski (2007) recommendations for change to the C=O bond length from 1.231Å to 1.234Å, and additional evidence that the N-CA bond length is too wide at 1.458Å when 1.455Å seems to be a stable value at high resolutions. Generally, the amino acids form such characteristically different distributions that considering them all together, or considering them without glycine and proline, obscures important information.

The large-scale analysis of data at high resolution has enabled statistical analysis of geometric measures to give a detailed view of some of the distributions. The multimodal nature of the geometry of protein structures is clear: the bi-modality of tau is evident; the parametric relationship between N-O and CB-O with PSI underlying is elegant; the “square plot” is almost amusing.

We have seen that mistakes are made in even high resolution structures, and the correlation plots that have been identified in this study are a recommended tool for analysing the sanity of a structure over and above the refinement parameters and Ramachandran plot that are traditional. The identification of the geometric plots that cannot be deviated from adds some remarkably simple checks on structural integrity. They also aid an understanding of the energetics of positions and transitions that provides further insight into the protein structures.

None of this can really matter without experimental evidence. The method developed to compare density matrices provides promise for automation of analysis of outliers, and the overlay method suggests promise for a tool for further analysis of geometry directly on electron density sidestepping the uncer-

tainty of the refinement process and directly using the experimental evidence for the geometry of ultrahigh-resolution structures.

## 4.6 Further work

There are technical aspects to the project that could be improved: a review of the database's wide versus entity-value-attribute model of the database; the possibility of a database in the cloud; moving all my visual studio C++ code to a Linux CMake environment.

There are features that would be useful to add: the addition of hydrogen bonds by a calculated method; a specification of geometric measures for some specific interesting features like the histidine ring; or tyrosine ring; or looking at the sp<sub>2</sub>- or sp<sub>3</sub>- hybridised nature of certain carbon atoms.

Features could be added to make the user interface more friendly: an easier way to drill down to residues from a plot; an easy way to find the coordinates of any atoms in a residue on a plot; a link to the pdb information. The pre-calculation of the geometric measures is fast but given all atom coordinates are stored in the database the facility to request geometric measures not pre-calculated would be highly flexible and interesting. It would be interesting to be able to upload a pdb text file to the website and request correlation calculations.

The literature contains many different definitions of bond types and atom types: a mapping of a section of these from the literature to the database, with an analysis of geometry based on these definitions would be a useful addition.

There are some features that only now are possible or apparent: the ability to add a normalised electron density to every atom in the database could mean the ability to look at correlations on experimental evidence. This feature would help distinguish outliers on the geometric plot that are experimentally valid, potentially facilitating the discovery of structural features. The bfactor could also be added (currently available only as a hue on a per structure basis), but the electron density is the final arbiter (Wlodawer, 2007).

There are investigations from this data that suggest themselves: the identification of the secondary structures of some features in the ‘unknown’ secondary structure from dssp that appear in well-ordered areas of the correlation plots; the establishment of what makes a non-geometric point truly wrong or potentially interesting.

The correlations so far have been picked out by eye: with 170 calculations, correlating all of them is 28,730 to check manually. The non-linear nature of the correlations means that linear regression and PCA analysis are rarely appropriate. A method could be developed and automated, with an algorithm picking out correlations either mathematically or visually (e.g. machine learning).

The electron density portion of the work holds promise: for the possibility of analysing geometric features of proteins without refinement which requires work on the analysis and manipulation of the density space directly; for the investigation of the impact of atomic models in refinement which requires the rebuilding of density from structure factors with different models; for the elucidation of the true nature of the atomic bonds through the method of density overlay; for the possibility of linking existing structures to their experimental evidence directly for better analysis on the importance of geometric features; for the enticing challenge of a direct solution to the solving of a crystallographic structure – the invention of a mathematical sausage machine (Crick & Kendrew, 1957).

## 4.7 Implications of the research

The work in this study has implications for the validation of structures in terms of the correlation plots described in Appendix 14 and available on the website - [Correlations Page](#).

The analysis of C $\alpha$  features for angles has potential application to C $\alpha$  modelling and the early model stage of crystallographic refinement.

There is potential as a teaching tool: the clarity of the geometric plots and the conceptual understanding of what they must mean provides evidential insight into the nature of atoms and bonds; the correlations provide insight into protein structure.

The identification of geometrically unusual features linked to the possibility of active sites is an idea that could be explored by the linking of the correlation plots to electron density for the integrated analysis of experimental evidence for geometrically suspicious residues.

The electron density work has the promise to elucidate more information on bonding, hydrogen bonding and atomic geometry: either through direct analysis of the electron density or when combined with the large geometric database to pick out similar features for overlay. This has the potential to add insights into bonds and the functional sites of proteins and to elucidate the nature of atoms and bonds.

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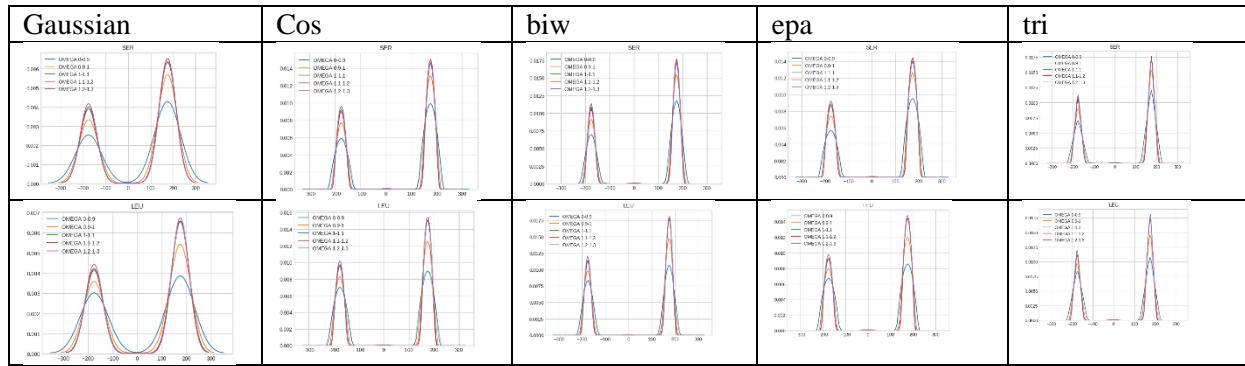
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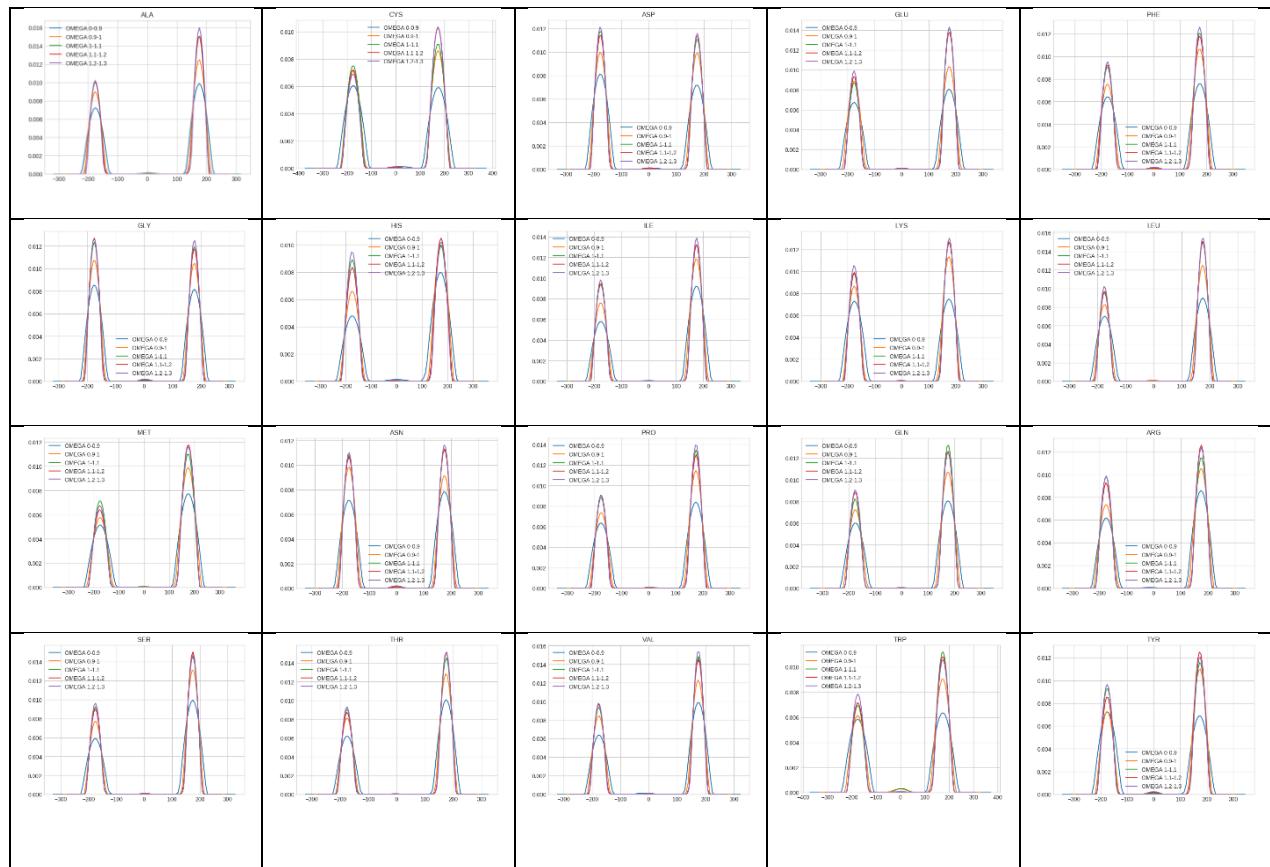
## Appendix 1: Omega at four resolution buckets

Omega compared at four resolution buckets for bfactor<=100Å<sup>2</sup>, rvalue <=0.16Å, rfree <=0.3Å.

A comparison is made between 5 kernel smoothing methods, using the silverman rule of thumb, with cos chosen for the method used.



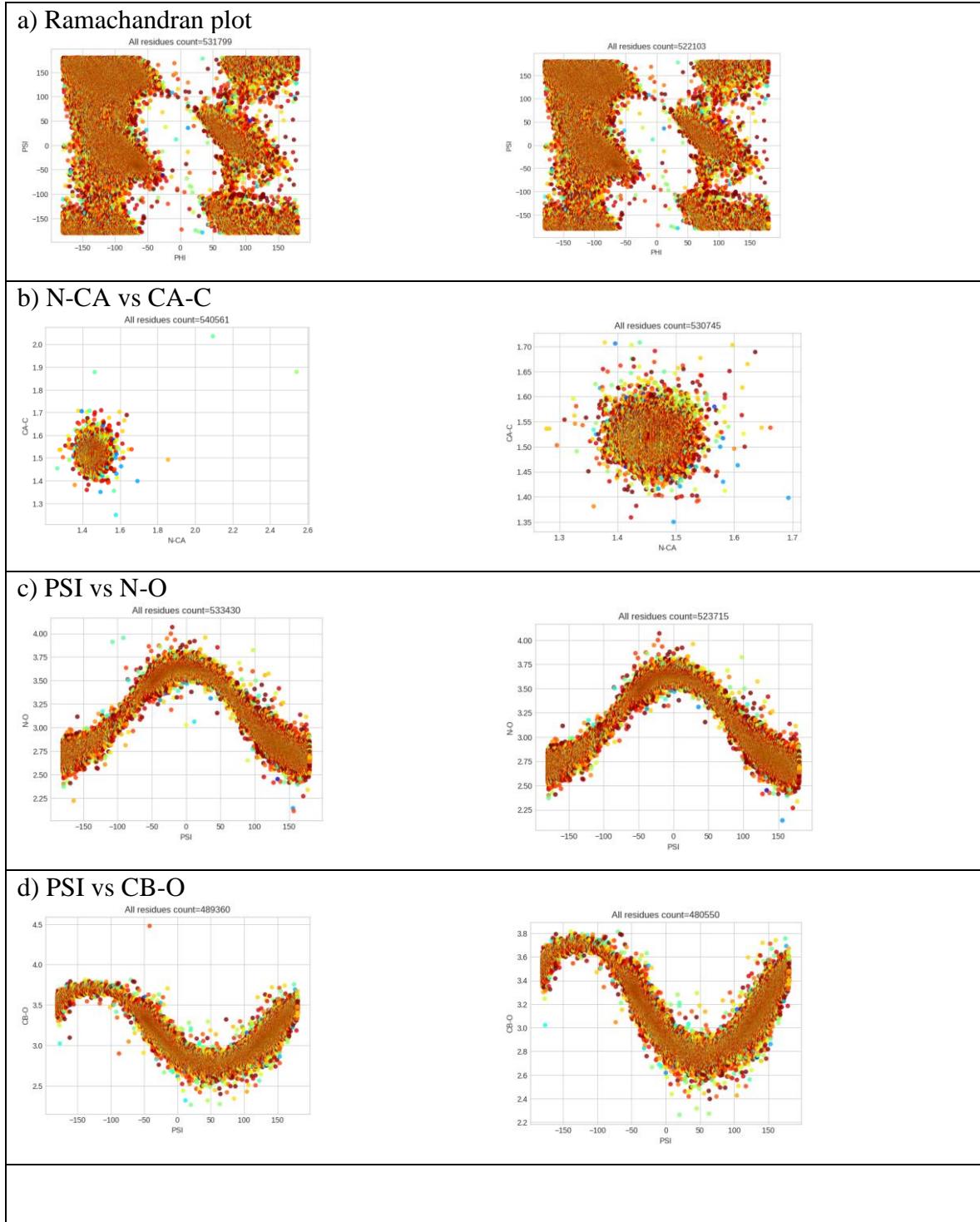
Omega per amino acid



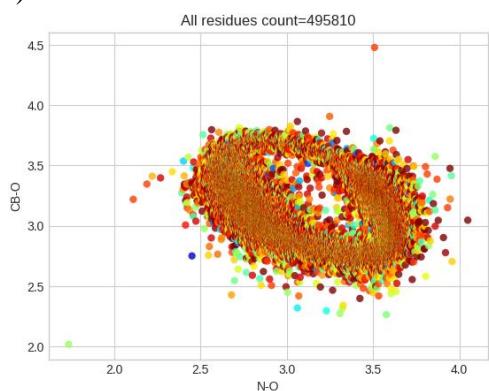
## Appendix 2: Validation plots of the high-resolution set before and after

The validation report for the high-resolution structures clearly shows geometrically impossible features. These have some correspondence to the Ramachandran plot but are clearer. The plots on the right is after some structure validation. Although some structures are excluded from the right-hand, they cannot be removed as there is no evidence to do this as the structures are interpreted correctly as given. They are suspicious structures, information in Appendix 3. All plots are coloured on resolution.

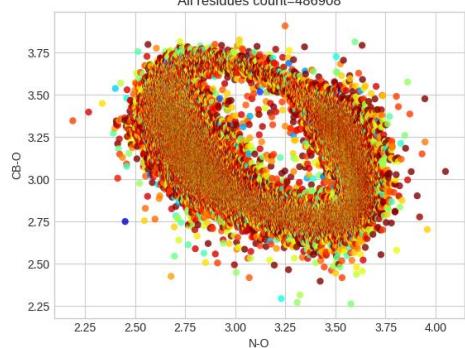
Key = Resolution ( $\text{\AA}$ ) 0.48 - 0.75 - 0.95 - 1.05 - 1.15 - 1.25 - 1.3



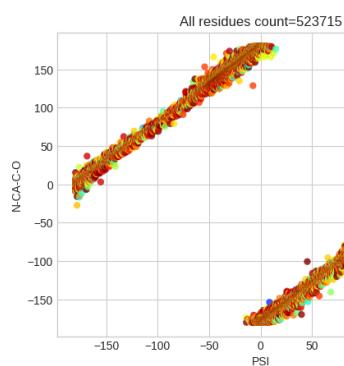
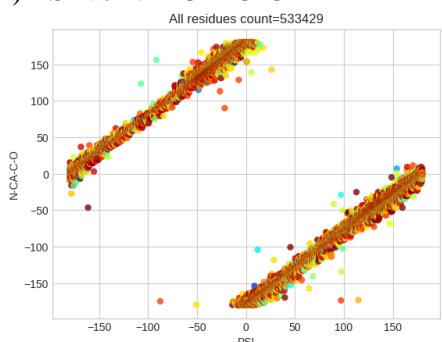
e) N-O vs CB-O



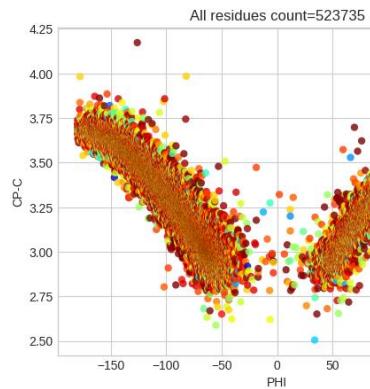
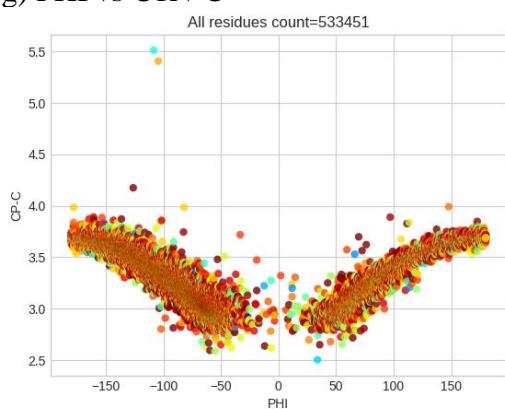
All residues count=486908



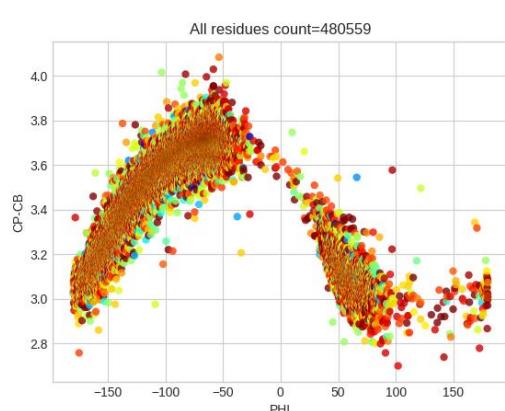
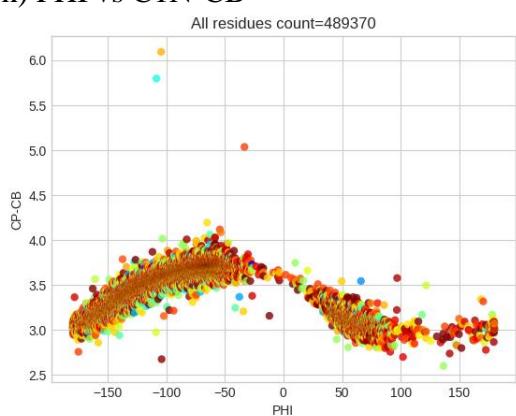
f) PSI vs NA-CA-C-O

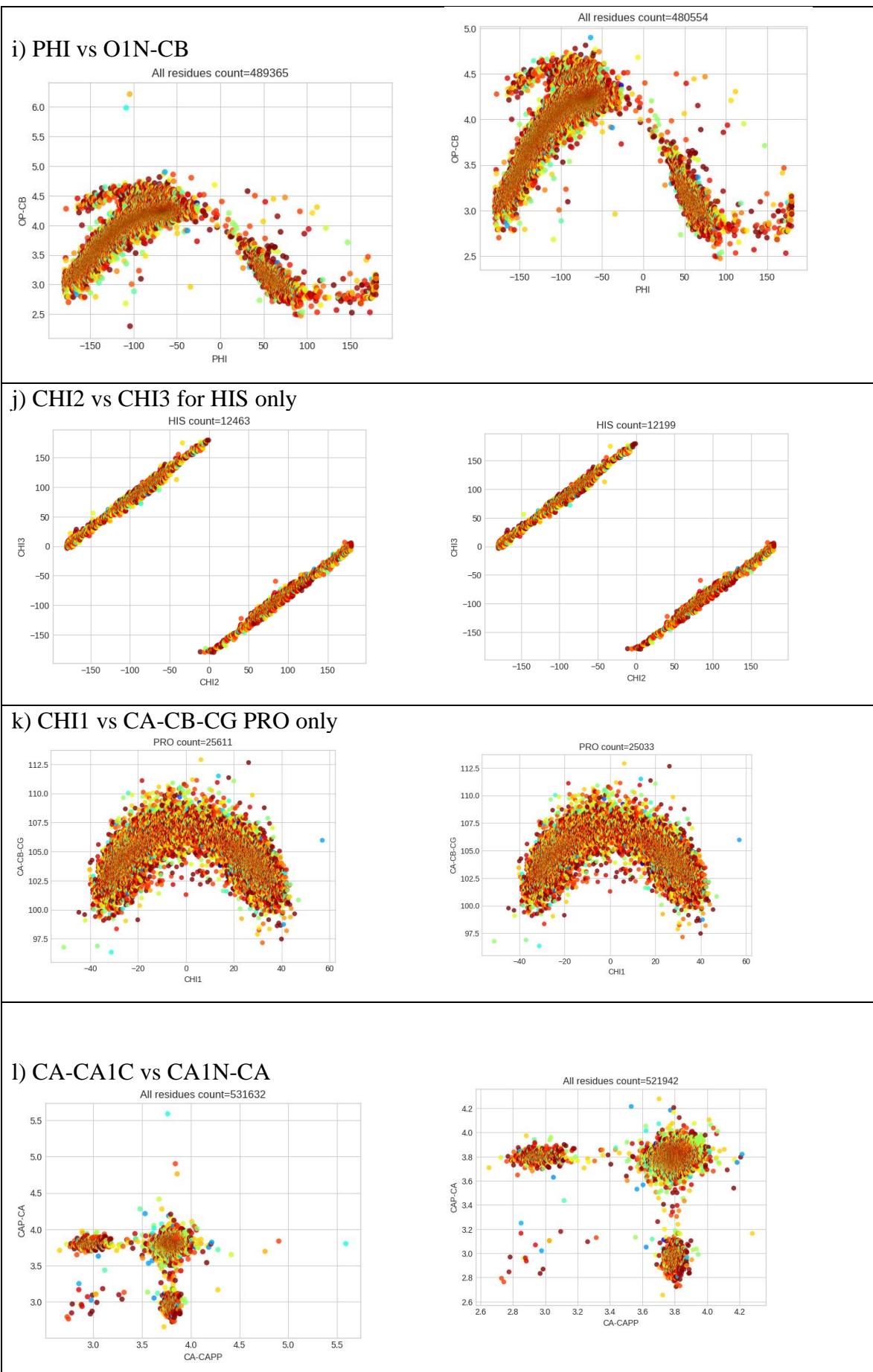


g) PHI vs C1N-C

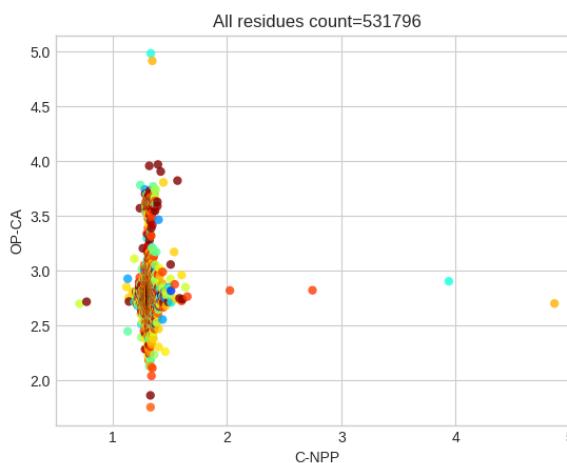


h) PHI vs C1N-CB

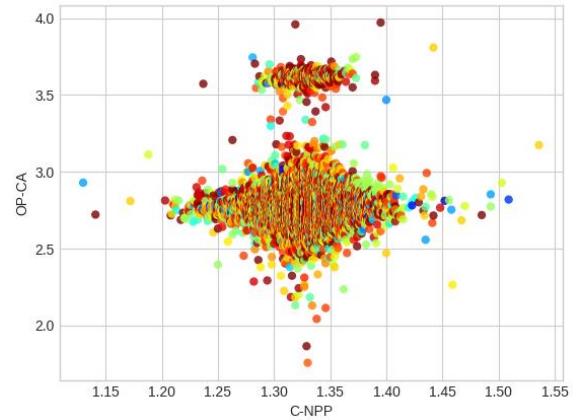




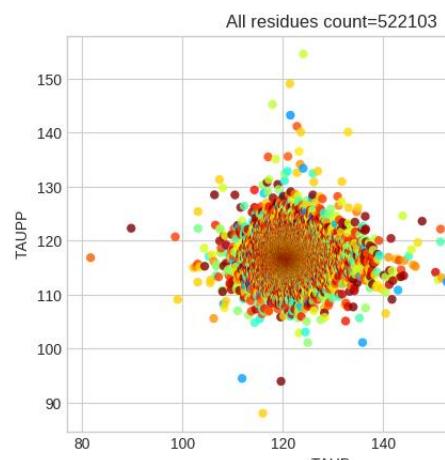
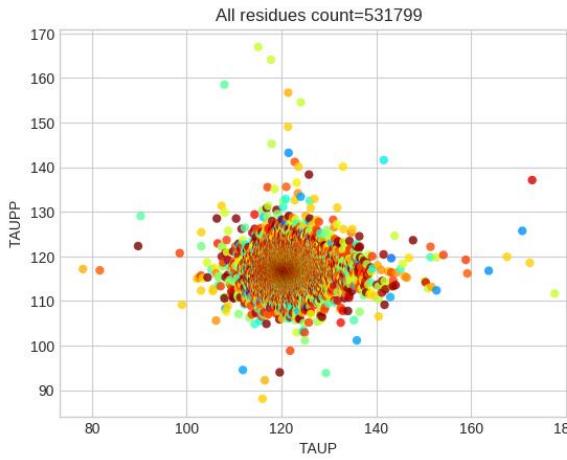
m) C-N1C vs O1N-CA



All residues count=522100



n) TAU1N vs TAU1C



Note a name change to the geometric measures, where P used to refer to the previous and PP used to refer to the next, so TAUP is now TAU1N and TAUPP as now TAI1C etc.

### Appendix 3: Structures that have been individually manually checked

The following structures were found to contain geometrically unusual features in the initial validation results.

*Table A.3.1 Structures with invalid geometric features*

| Structure | Geometric Concern  | Investigation   | Decision  |
|-----------|--|---|---|
| 2BW4      | CP-C distance is 5.5Å Errors seen in most validation plots.  | Looked at the structure in Chimera. Verified my calculations manually. It seems that the occupants A and B may have been mixed up around residue 195. | I have no evidence to remove, this is the structure as given and I interpret correctly. Marked as 'CHECKED'. It is surprising that this passed basic refinement checks.   |
| 1W0N      | There is a TAUP > 140° and a TAUPP around 127° which are extreme outliers.   | The residue 42, ASN, has an A and a B occupant.<br>Manually verified - the reported TAUP is 143.1° and TAUPP is 127.7°                                | I have no evidence to remove. I interpret correctly. Marked as 'CHECKED'.   |
| II1W      | A spot in the middle of PSI N-O, clearly geometrically unusual. It does not appear invalid on the Ramachandran plot. | SP <sup>2</sup> hybridized carbonyl on A:180 is non planar and irregular. It is supported by the electron density.                                    | No evidence to remove, mark as 'CHECKED'.   |
| 5GJI      | CA-CA distance between residues 394 (ASP) and 395 (PRO) < 3Å   | Only 1 occupant, bfactor < 10<br>Manually verified distance as 2.962Å   | Nothing evidently wrong. No change to status on 'IN', consider this to be an accepted area to be investigated. XXX-PRO is accepted in standard bond lengths as an excluded case for C-N. (ref Jaskolski Table 2). |
| 2vk2      | CP-CB distance > 5 Å between residues 292 to 293   | Only 1 occupant, bfactor of 292.LYS 70 and of 293.LYS 20. Manually verified as 5.034Å   | It is the CP-N bond that is extreme at 2.748 Å. I have no evidence to reject so marked 'CHECKED'  |
| 1G2B      | 47-48 CP-N extreme at 4.876 Å  | The chain begins at 48 so code incorrectly assumes a continuation from 47 to 48.  | Marked as 'OUT' as not handled, need to add rules to code to identify this cases (when rules are understood)  |
| 2j9j      | 50-51 for both chains A and B are extreme outliers. A high at 1.636 and B low at 0.708                               | The bfactor is < 20, there are A and B occupants.   | Visually strange, no evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED', possible mix-up of occupants.   |
| 1es9      | 57.ILE to 58.TRP extreme CP-N of 0.77  | No occupant, bfactor about 50, visually odd.  | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'  |
| 1w32      | A.86.SER to 87.SER 3 extreme CP-N of 1.652   | 3/2 occupants, low bfactor, big bundle of atoms at the bond.  | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'.   |
| 4p40      | A.324.LYS to 325.VAL extreme CP-N of 1.602   | Verified value, looks ok.   | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'.   |
| 2gec      | B.86.PRO to 87.VAL extreme CP-N of 1.609   | Looks ok apart from long bond.  | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'  |
| 1n62      | E.617.GLY to 618.LEU extreme CP-N of 1.603   | Enormous structure over 19,000 atoms. Looks ok apart from long bond.  | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'  |
| 6k05      | A.118.GLY to 119.ARG high CP-N of 1.55   | No occupants, reasonable bfactors.  | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'  |
| 5k26      | B.78.SER to 79.GLY CP-N is 1.542   | No occupants, reasonable bfactors.  | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'  |
| 1zl0      | B.88.GLY to 89.TYR   | A and B GLY occupants. Huge structure. Low bfactors.  | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'  |

|      |   |  |   |
|------|---|--|---|
| 1mn8 | A.3.GLN, N-O extreme low of 1.737   | This is the chain beginning at it is clearly disordered.                                 | Marking as 'OUT' as atoms are in the same space. In future my system could make a decision to start at a different residue.                     |
| 1mj4 | A.37.VAL CB-O extreme value of 4.479  | Occupants A and B look like the CB and CG2 have been mixed up.                           | I am confident this is wrong, but will mark 'CHECKED' as I need evidence for an error.  |
| 3jvl | A.346.ALA low N-O of 2.111  | Chain beginning but not obvious what is wrong  | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'  |
| 1bxo | A.279.ASP high N-CA of 2.095  | The C-O bond is also extreme. Odd looking residue with hydrogens, and bfactor around 80. | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'  |
| 1lu4 | A.1093.ALA long N0CA of 1.856   | Nothing evidently wrong apart from the long bond.  | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'  |
| 3ned | A.65.PHE high CA-C of 1.878   | CA has only 1 occupant bu C has A,B,C occupants, chain break after.                      | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'  |
| 6rqq | A.145.GLY, 146.ASP, 147.PRO CA-CA between both pairs in the low area < 3.4                | Near chain beginning, GLY-ASP-PRO-PRO, feels like nothing is wrong.                      | Leaving as 'IN', out of area but looks like it is fine. GLY and PRO are excluded in standard checks for N-CA and CA-C (Jaskolski, E&H ref).     |
| 1zq5 | A.134 ASN, 135.GLY to 136.LYS to 137.VAL CA-CA in the chains both in <3.4 area            | Near a break, but atoms look ordered, bfactor < 50 no occupant.                          | Leaving as IN, currently consider this rare but accepted area to investigate. GLY special case,   |
| 2wlv | A.144.TYR CA-C =1.71  | Chain end, nothing obvious.  | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'  |
| 4e9s | N-O vs PSI non-geometric region. 2 residues, A.44.ALA and A.330.LEU                       | Nothing evident, no occupants, bfactor < 20  | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'  |
| 1w6s | D.3072.SER to 3073.ALA is extreme C-N at 2.025  | This is a huge structure with incomplete atoms. The 3023.ALA has only N                  | Marking as 'OUT' as the structure is incomplete at this area and it could be I am not handling it correctly. Further code investigation needed. |
| 2z26 | B.318.GLU to 319.GLN Out of geometric region in PHI sv CP-CB, CP-CB < 2.8 PHI about -100. | No occupants, bfactor < 50, nothing obvious.   | No evidence to reject, marked as 'CHECKED'  |

#### Appendix 4: All calculated geometric measures

The complete list of geometric measures that are calculated. The design ensures it is easy to think of a new measure of interest and add it easily.

| Alias               | Amino Acid          | Code * = ALL | Description  |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|--|
| C-CB1C              | C-CB1C              | *            | Distance between C and the next CB                             |
| C-C1C               | C-C1C               | *            | Distance between C and the next C                              |
| C-N1C               | C-N1C               | *            | Distance between C and the next N                              |
| C-O                 | C-O                 | *            | Distance between C and O                                       |
| CA-C                | CA-C                | *            | Distance between CA and C                                      |
| CA-C-O              | CA-C-O              | *            | Angle between CA-C-O   |
| CA-CA1C             | CA-CA1C             | *            | Distance between Ca and the next CA                            |
| CA-CA1C -CA2C       | CA-CA1C -CA2C       | *            | Angle between this and the next 2 CAs                          |
| CA-CB-CG            | CA-CB-CG            | *            | Angle between CA, CB and CG                                    |
| CA1N-CA             | CA1N-CA             | *            | Distance between previous CA and CA                            |
| CA1N -CA-CA1C       | CA1N -CA-CA1C       | *            | Angle between previous, this and next CA                       |
| CA2N -CA1N -CA      | CA2N -CA1N -CA      | *            | Angle between previous 2 CAs and this                          |
| CA2N -CA1N -CA-CA1C | CA2N -CA1N -CA-CA1C | *            | Dihedral angle of CAs  |
| CB-CA-C             | CB-CA-C             | *            | Angle between CB, CA and C                                     |
| CB-N1C              | CB-N1C              | *            | Distance between CB and the next N                             |
| CB-O                | CB-O                | *            | Distance between CB and O                                      |
| CB1N -N             | CB1N -N             | *            | Distance between previous CB and N                             |
| C1N -C              | C1N -C              | *            | Distance between previous C and C                              |
| C1N -CB             | C1N -CB             | *            | Distance between previous C and CB                             |
| C1N -N              | C1N -N              | *            | Distance between previous C and N                              |
| HG-N1N              | HG-N1N              | *            | Distance between HG and next N – there are not many hydrogens. |
| HG-O                | HG-O                | *            | Distance HG-O  |
| N-CA                | N-CA                | *            | Main chain distance N-CA                                       |
| N-CA-C-O            | N-CA-C-O            | *            | Dihedral   |
| N-CA-CB             | N-CA-CB             | *            | Angle  |
| N-N1C               | N-N1C               | *            | N and next N distance  |
| N-O                 | N-O                 | *            | Distance between N and O                                       |
| N1N -N              | N1N -N              | *            | Distance between previous N and N                              |

|           |               |   |   |
|-----------|---------------|---|---|
| O-C-N1C   | O-C-N1C       | * | Angle spanning to next N                  |
| O-CA1C    | O-CA1C        | * | Distance from O to next CA                |
| OMEGA     | CA-C-N1C-CA1C | * | Classic dihedral main chain angle         |
| O1N -CA   | O1N -CA       | * | Distance from previous O to CA            |
| O1N -CB   | O1N -CB       | * | Distance from previous O to CB            |
| O1N -CP-N | O1N -CP-N     | * | Angle from previous O and C to N          |
| PHI       | C1N -N-CA-C   | * | Classic dihedral main chain angle         |
| PSI       | N-CA-C-N1C    | * | Classic dihedral main chain angle         |
| TAU       | N-CA-C        | * | Main chain angle                          |
| TAU1N     | C1N-N-CA      | * | Main chain angle starting with previous c |
| TAU1C     | CA-C-N1C      | * | Main chain angle going to next N          |

The following are residue specific definitions for the CHI and improper angles. CHI definitions follow standards, the IMP1-IMP5 angles are defined by me for the purpose of being able to do comparisons. They are a selection of improper angles for each residue that seem useful (where hydrogens are generally not available).

|      |               |     |  |
|------|---------------|-----|--|
| CHI1 | C-CA-CB-HB1   | ALA |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA     | ALA |  |
| IMP2 | HB3-CA-CB-HB1 | ALA |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG    | ARG |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG-CD   | ARG |  |
| CHI3 | CB-CG-CD-NE   | ARG |  |
| CHI4 | CG-CD-NE-CZ   | ARG |  |
| CHI5 | CD-NE-CZ-NH1  | ARG |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA     | ARG |  |
| IMP2 | HE-CZ-CD-NE   | ARG |  |
| IMP3 | NH2-NH1-NE-CZ | ARG |  |
| IMP4 | NE-HE-NH2-CZ  | ARG |  |
| IMP5 | CG-CA-HB2-HB1 | ARG |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG    | ASN |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG-OD1  | ASN |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA     | ASN |  |
| IMP2 | ND2-OD1-CB-CG | ASN |  |

|      |               |     |  |
|------|---------------|-----|--|
| IMP3 | CG-CA-CH2-HB1 | ASN |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG    | ASP |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG-OD1  | ASP |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA     | ASP |  |
| IMP2 | OD2-OD1-CB-CG | ASP |  |
| IMP3 | CG-CA-HB2-HB1 | ASP |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-SG    | CYS |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA     | CYS |  |
| IMP2 | SG-CA-HB2-HB1 | CYS |  |
| IMP3 | SG-CB-CA-C    | CYS |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG    | GLN |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG-CD   | GLN |  |
| CHI3 | CB-CG-CD-OE1  | GLN |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA     | GLN |  |
| IMP2 | NE2-OE1-CG-CD | GLN |  |
| IMP3 | CG-CA-HB2-HB1 | GLN |  |
| IMP4 | CD-CB-HG2-HG1 | GLN |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG    | GLU |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG-CD   | GLU |  |
| CHI3 | CB-CG-CD-OE1  | GLU |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA     | GLU |  |
| IMP2 | OE2-OE1-CG-CD | GLU |  |
| IMP3 | CG-CA-HB1-HB2 | GLU |  |
| IMP4 | CD-CG-HG2-HG1 | GLU |  |
| IMP1 | C-N-HA2-HA1   | GLY |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG    | HIS |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG-ND1  | HIS |  |
| CHI3 | CA-CB-CG-CD2  | HIS |  |

|      |                    |     |  |
|------|--------------------|-----|--|
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA          | HIS |  |
| IMP2 | CD2-ND1-CB-CG      | HIS |  |
| IMP3 | CD2-NE2-CE1-ND1    | HIS |  |
| IMP4 | NE2-CE1-ND1-CG     | HIS |  |
| IMP5 | CG-CA-HB2-HB1      | HIS |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG1        | ILE |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG1-CD1      | ILE |  |
| CHI3 | CB-CG1-CD1-CD11    | ILE |  |
| CHI4 | CA-CB-CG2-HG21     | ILE |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA          | ILE |  |
| IMP2 | CG1-CG2-CA-HB      | ILE |  |
| IMP3 | CD1-CB-HG12-HG11   | ILE |  |
| IMP4 | HG23-CB-HG22-HG21  | ILE |  |
| IMP5 | HD13-CG1-HD12-HD11 | ILE |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG         | LEU |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG-CD1       | LEU |  |
| CHI3 | CB-CG-CD1-HD11     | LEU |  |
| CHI4 | CB-CG-CD2-HD21     | LEU |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA          | LEU |  |
| IMP2 | CD2-CD1-CB-HG      | LEU |  |
| IMP3 | CG-CA-HB2-HB1      | LEU |  |
| IMP4 | HD13-CG-HD12-HD11  | LEU |  |
| IMP5 | HD23-CG-HD22-HD21  | LEU |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG         | LYS |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG-CD        | LYS |  |
| CHI3 | CD-CE-NZ-HZ1       | LYS |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA          | LYS |  |

|      |                |     |  |
|------|----------------|-----|--|
| IMP2 | CG-CA-HB2-HB1  | LYS |  |
| IMP3 | CD-CB-HG2-HG1  | LYS |  |
| IMP4 | NZ-CD-HE2-HE1  | LYS |  |
| IMP5 | HZ3-CE-HZ2-HZ1 | LYS |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG     | MET |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG-SD    | MET |  |
| CHI3 | CG-SD-CE-HE1   | MET |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA      | MET |  |
| IMP2 | CG-CA-HB2-HB1  | MET |  |
| IMP3 | SD-CB-HG2-HG1  | MET |  |
| IMP4 | HE3-SD-HE2-HE1 | MET |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG     | PHE |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG-CD1   | PHE |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA      | PHE |  |
| IMP2 | CG-CA-HB2-HB1  | PHE |  |
| IMP3 | CE2-CD2-CG-CB  | PHE |  |
| IMP4 | CZ-CE1-CD1-CG  | PHE |  |
| IMP5 | CG-CD2-CE2-CZ  | PHE |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG     | PRO |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG-CD    | PRO |  |
| CHI3 | CB-CG-CD-N     | PRO |  |
| CHI4 | CG-CD-N-CA     | PRO |  |
| CHI5 | CD-N-CA-CB     | PRO |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA      | PRO |  |
| IMP2 | CG-CA-HB2-HB1  | PRO |  |
| IMP3 | CD-CB-HG2-HG1  | PRO |  |
| IMP4 | N-CG-HD2-HD1   | PRO |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-OG     | SER |  |

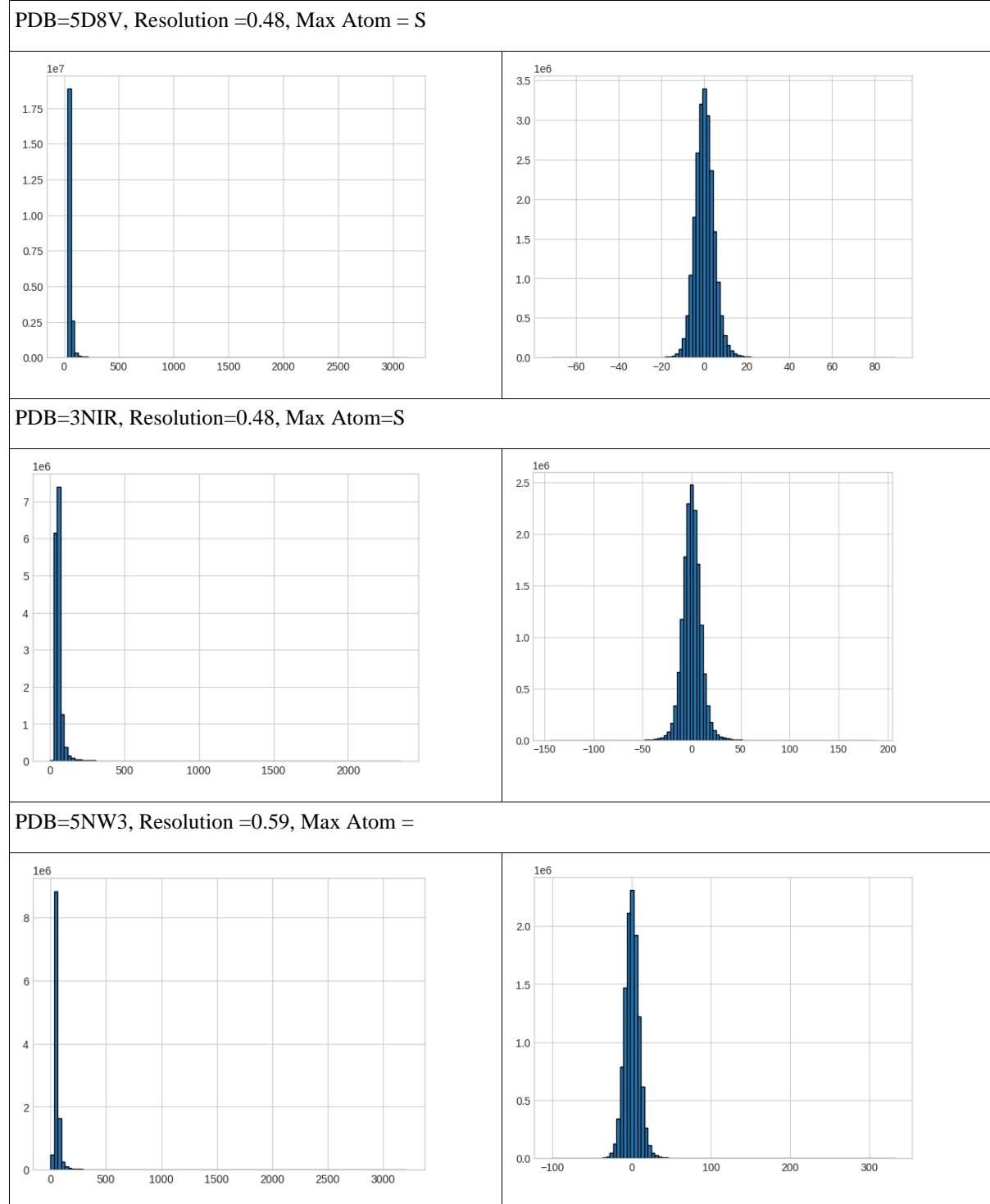
|      |                   |     |  |
|------|-------------------|-----|--|
| CHI2 | CA-CB-OG-H        | SER |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA         | SER |  |
| IMP2 | OG-CA-HB2-HB1     | SER |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-OG1       | THR |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG2-HG21    | THR |  |
| CHI3 | HG23-CB-OG1-H     | THR |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA         | THR |  |
| IMP2 | CG2-OG1-CA-HB     | THR |  |
| IMP3 | HG23-CB-HG22-HG21 | THR |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG        | TRP |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG-CD1      | TRP |  |
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA         | TRP |  |
| IMP2 | CG-CA-HB2-HB1     | TRP |  |
| IMP3 | CZ2-CE2-CD2-CE3   | TRP |  |
| IMP4 | CH2-CZ2-CE2-NE1   | TRP |  |
| IMP5 | CE2-CD2-CG-CB     | TRP |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG        | TYR |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG-CD1      | TYR |  |
| CHI3 | CE2-CZ-OH-HH      | TYR |  |
| IMP1 | CD1-CE1-CZ-OH     | TYR |  |
| IMP2 | CE2-CD2-CG-CB     | TYR |  |
| IMP3 | CZ-CE1-CD1-CG     | TYR |  |
| IMP4 | CE2-CZ-CE1-CD1    | TYR |  |
| IMP5 | CE1-CD1-CG-CD2    | TYR |  |
| CHI1 | N-CA-CB-CG1       | VAL |  |
| CHI2 | CA-CB-CG1-HG11    | VAL |  |
| CHI3 | CA-CB-CG2-HG21    | VAL |  |

|      |                   |     |  |
|------|-------------------|-----|--|
| IMP1 | CB-C-N-HA         | VAL |  |
| IMP2 | CG2-CG1-CA-HB     | VAL |  |
| IMP3 | HG13-CB-HG12-HG11 | VAL |  |
| IMP4 | HG23-CB-HG22-HG21 | VAL |  |

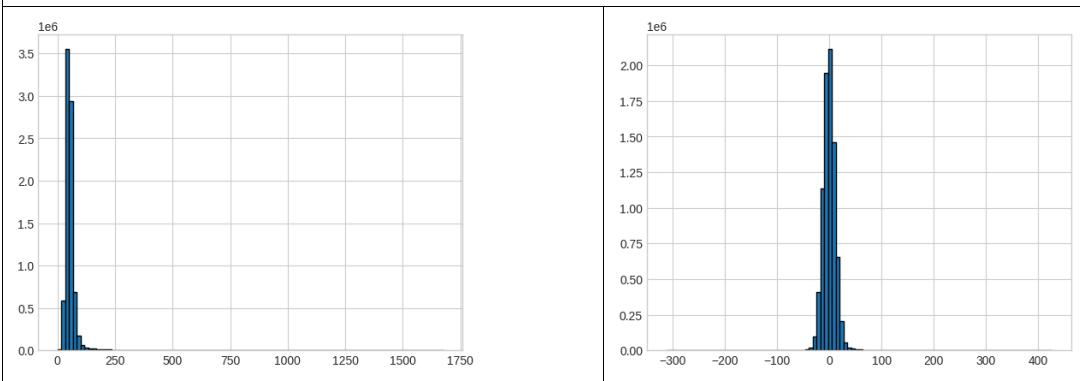
## Appendix 5: Density and difference matrix comparison over resolutions

Below the difference matrices are shown as histograms to show the distributions of their densities and the density differences, where the density matrices have been standardised by comparison by my own method of median adjustment. The matrices are organised by resolution, and the highest atom is noted by each matrix for comparison of the maximum density.

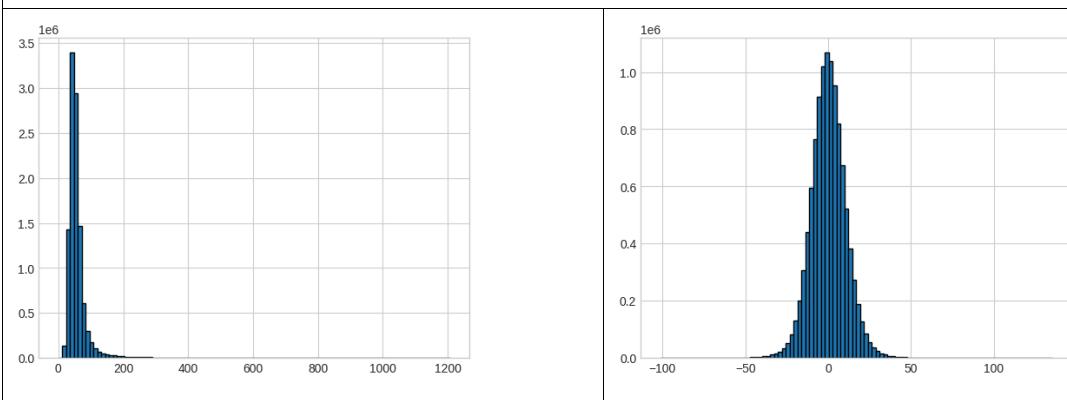
### High resolution structures



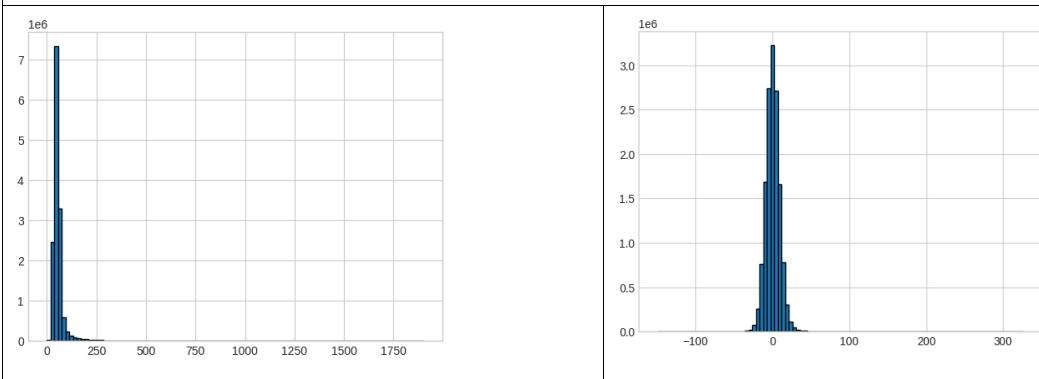
PDB=1EJG, Resolution =0.54, Max Atom =



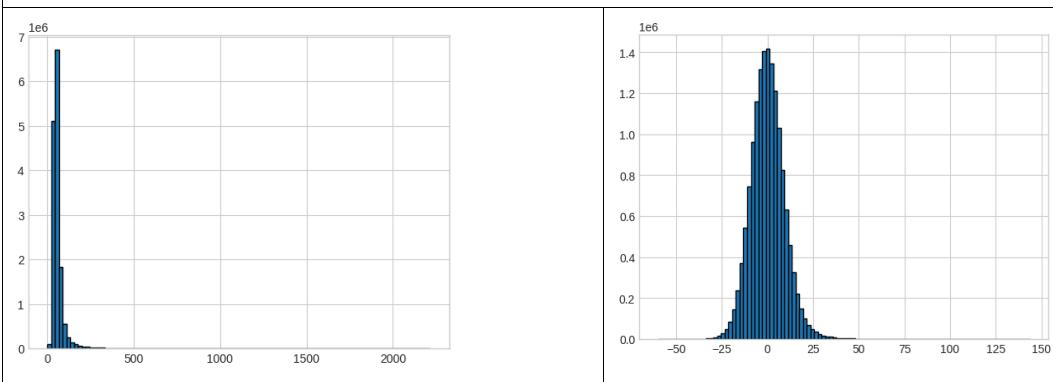
PDB=1ucs, Resolution =0.62, Max Atom =



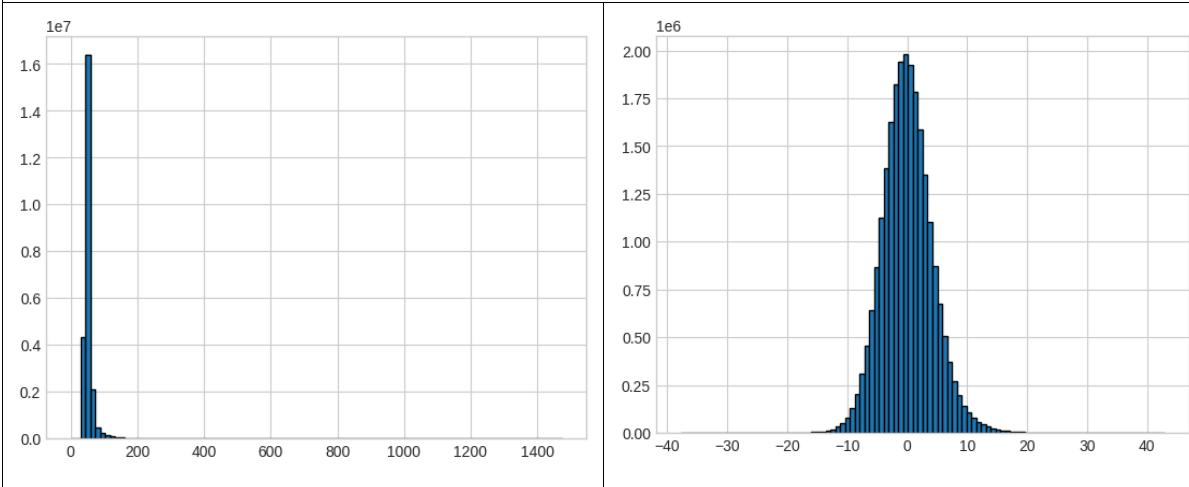
PDB=3X2M, Resolution =0.64, Max Atom =



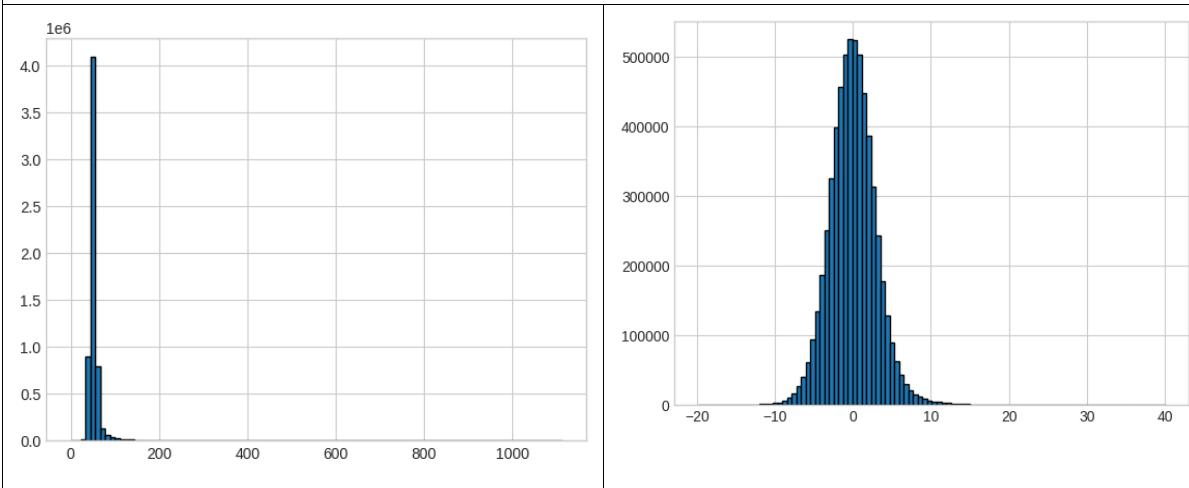
PDB=2VB1, Resolution =0.65, Max Atom =



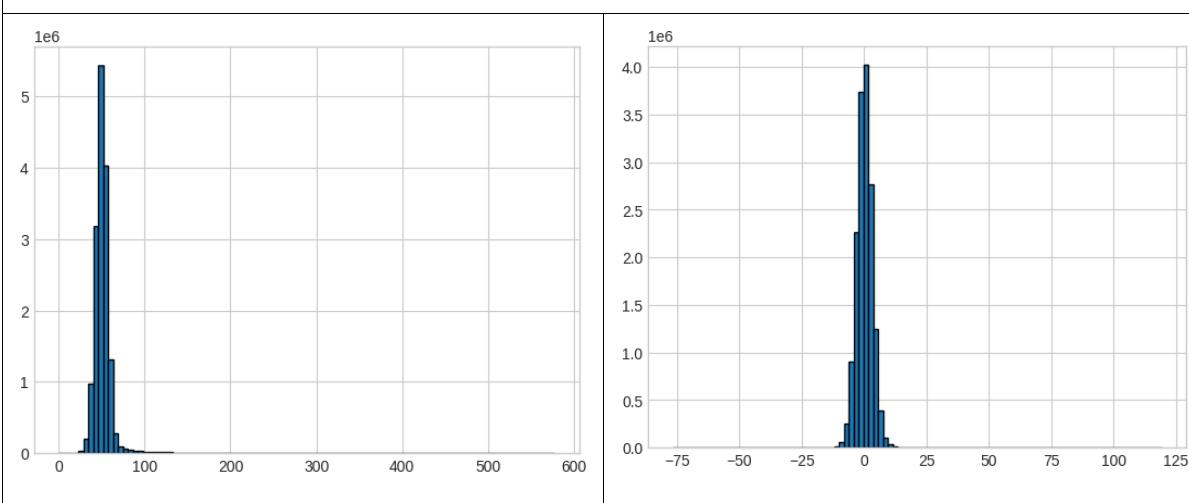
PDB=1us0, Resolution =0.66, Max Atom =



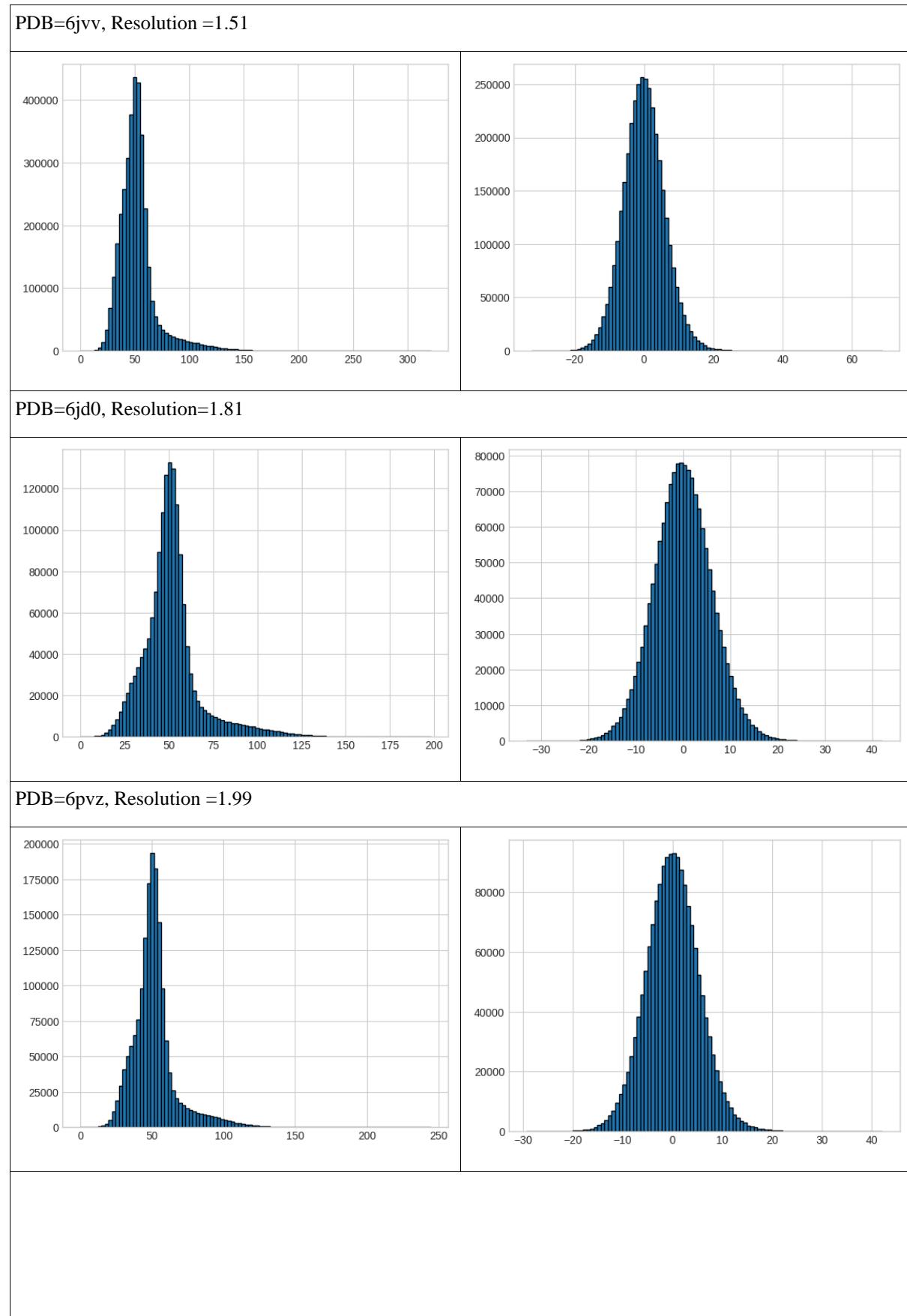
PDB=1yk4, Resolution =0.69, Max Atom =



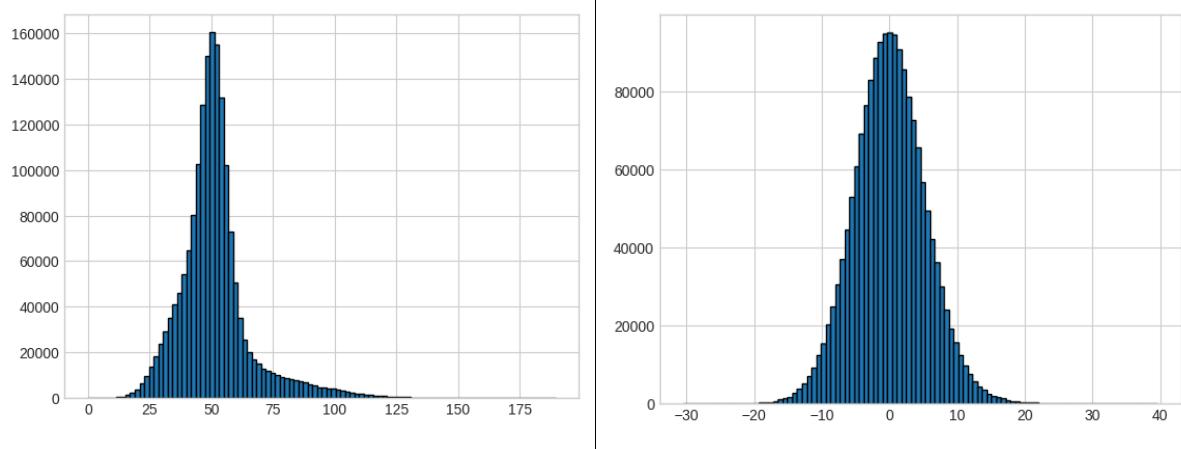
PDB=4ZM7, Resolution =0.70, Max Atom =



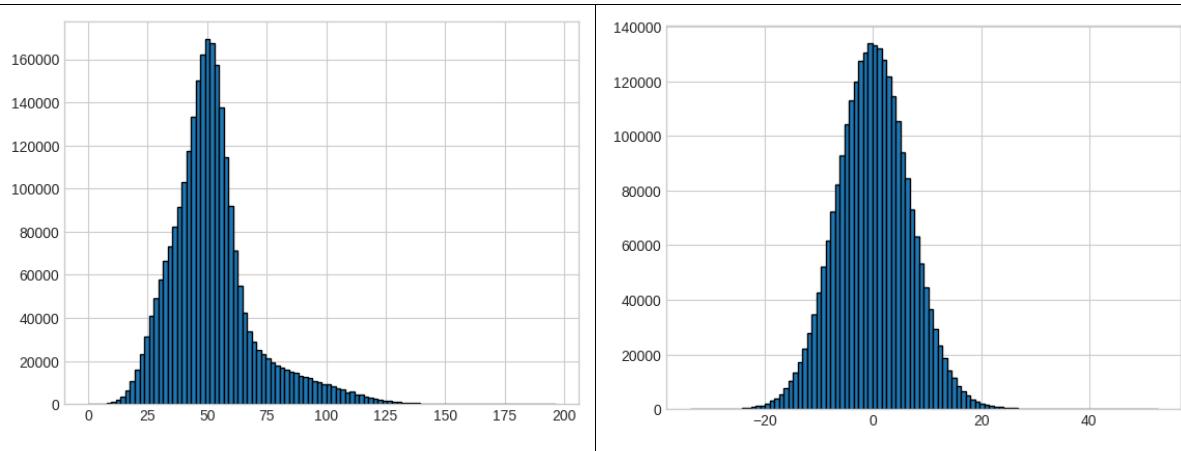
## Middle resolution structures



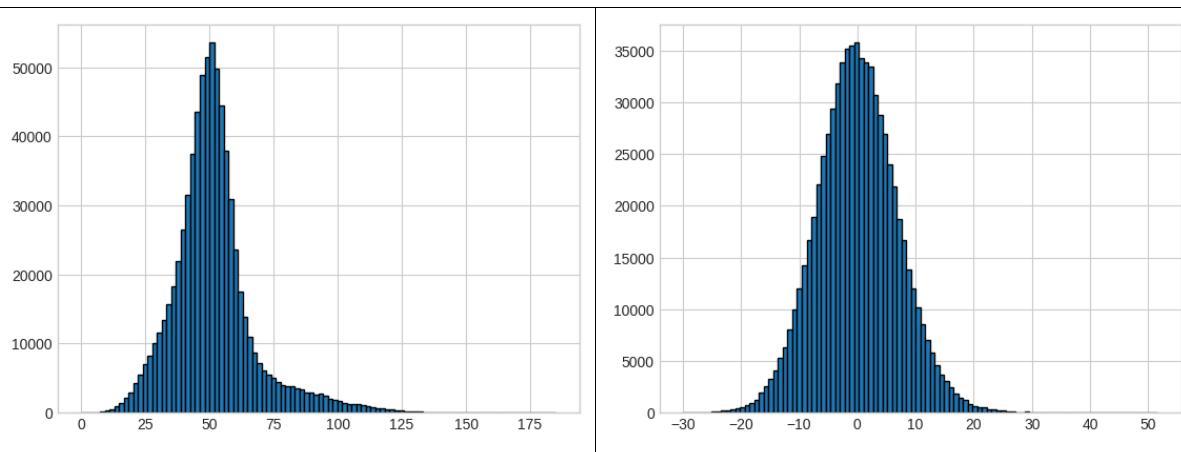
PDB=6o3x, Resolution =1.99



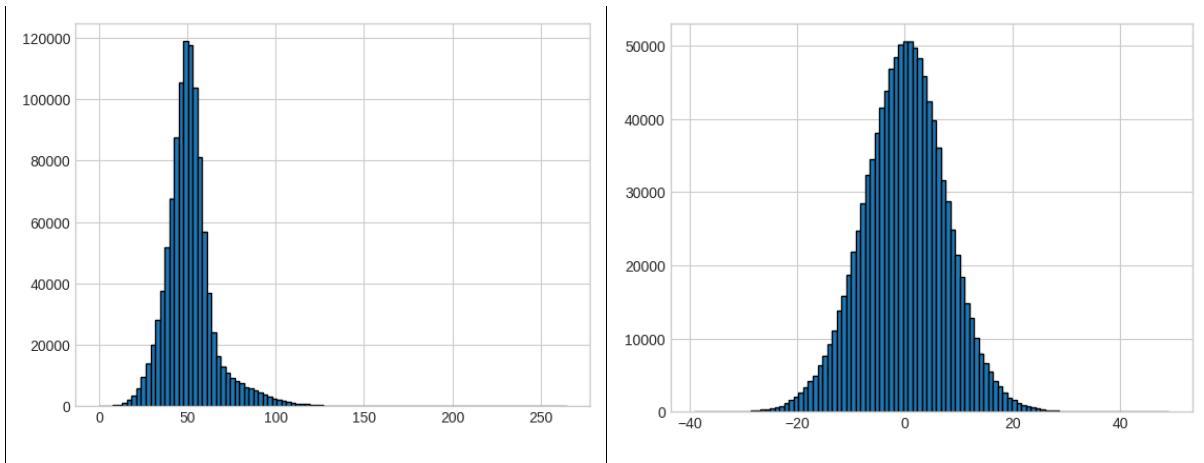
PDB=6nl4, Resolution =1.99



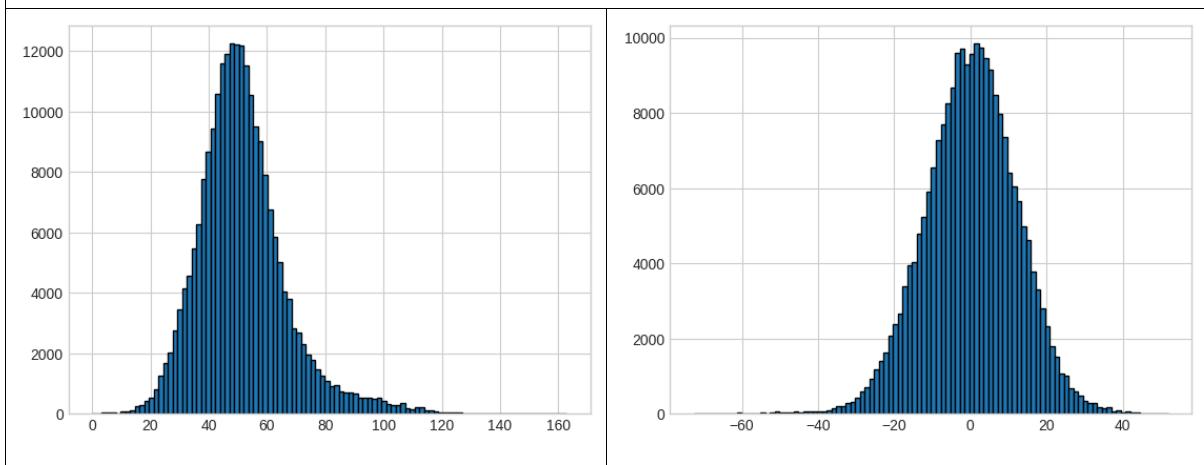
PDB=6rr2, Resolution =1.99



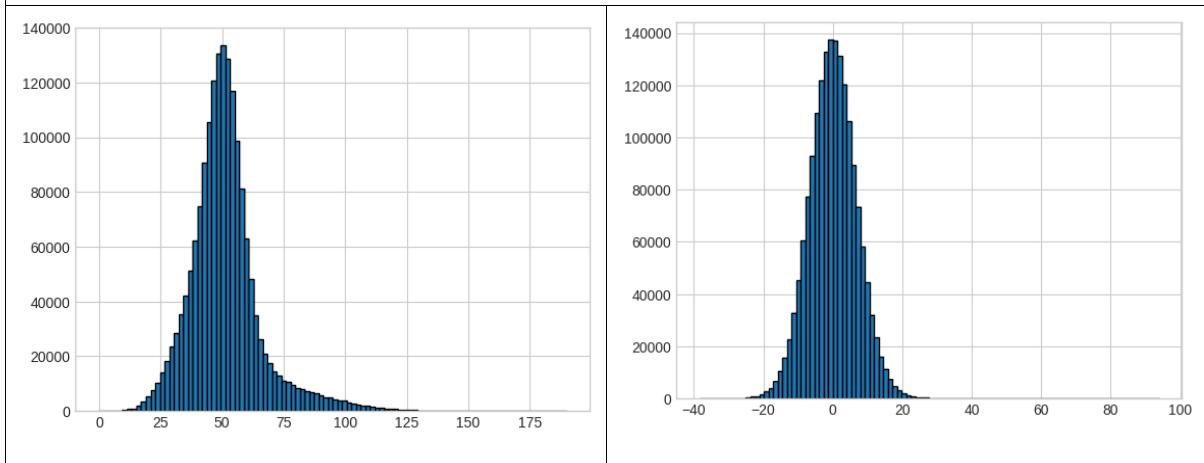
PDB=6rsl, Resolution =1.99



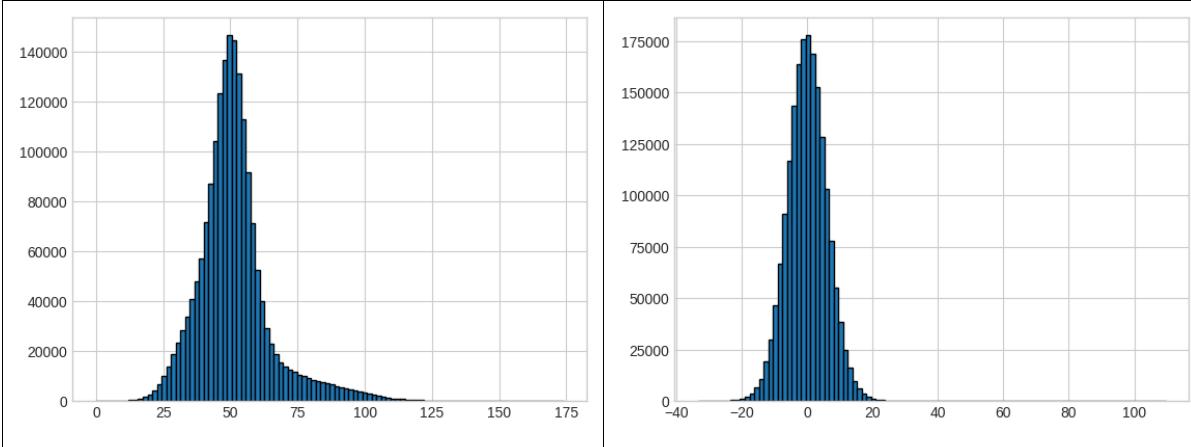
PDB=6shk, Resolution =1.99



PDB=5qkw, Resolution =1.97

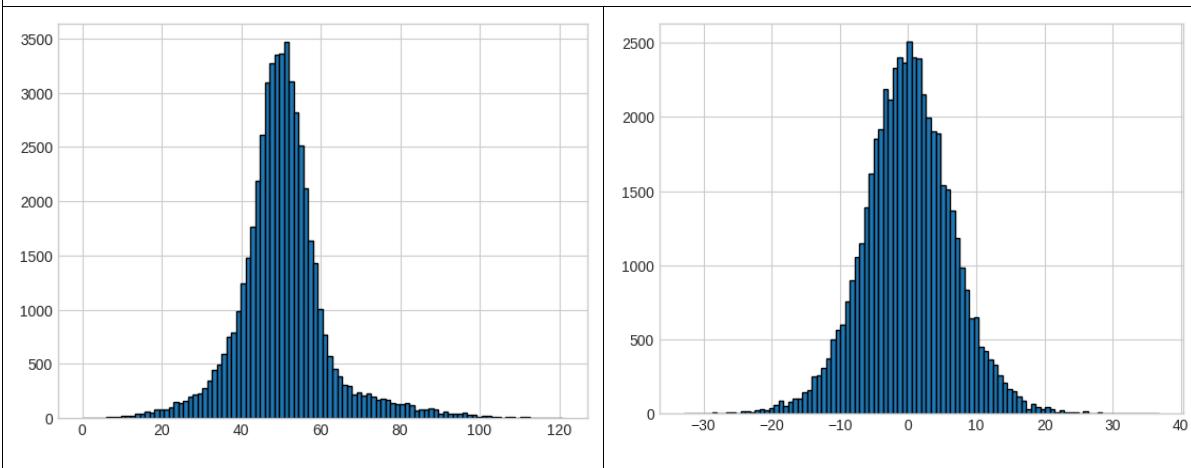


PDB=5ql3, Resolution =1.96

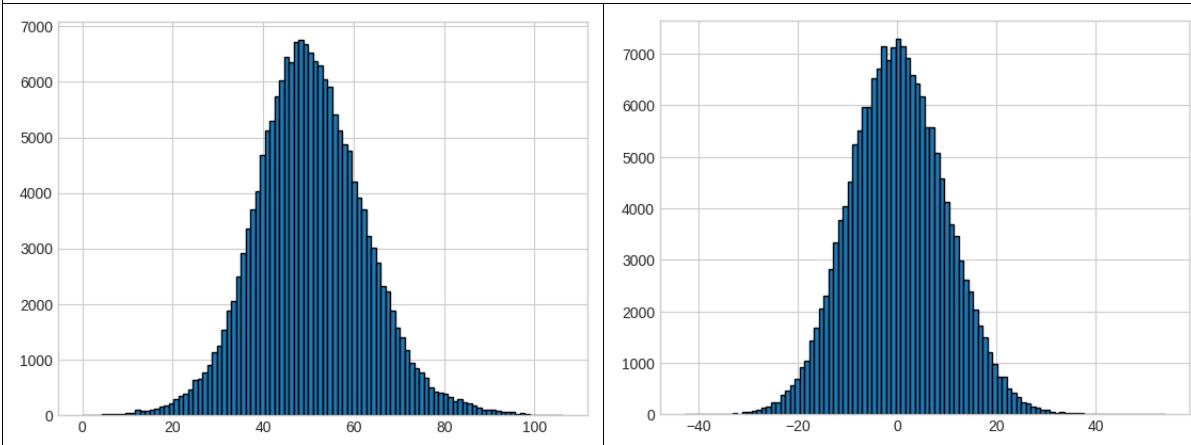


## Low resolution structures

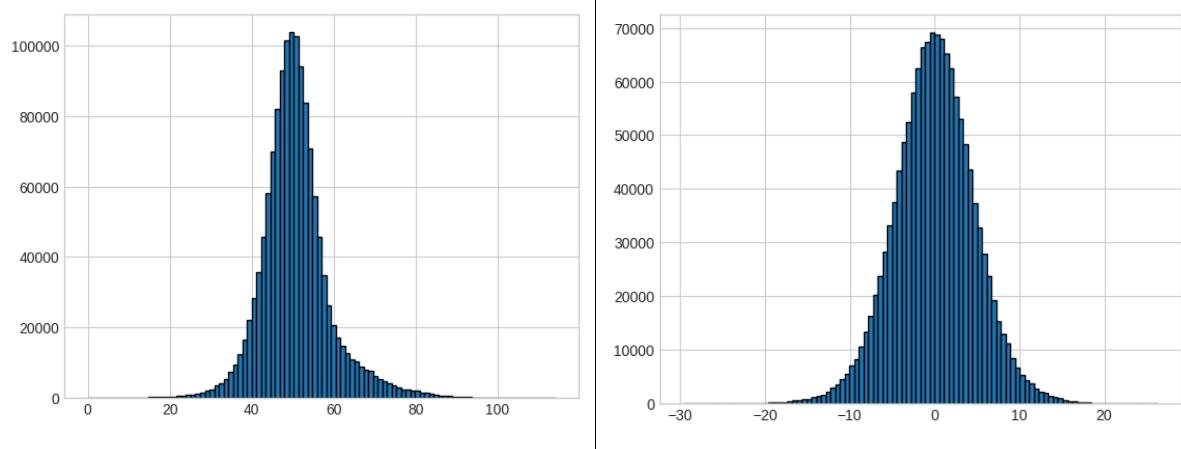
PDB=6fgz, Resolution =7.00



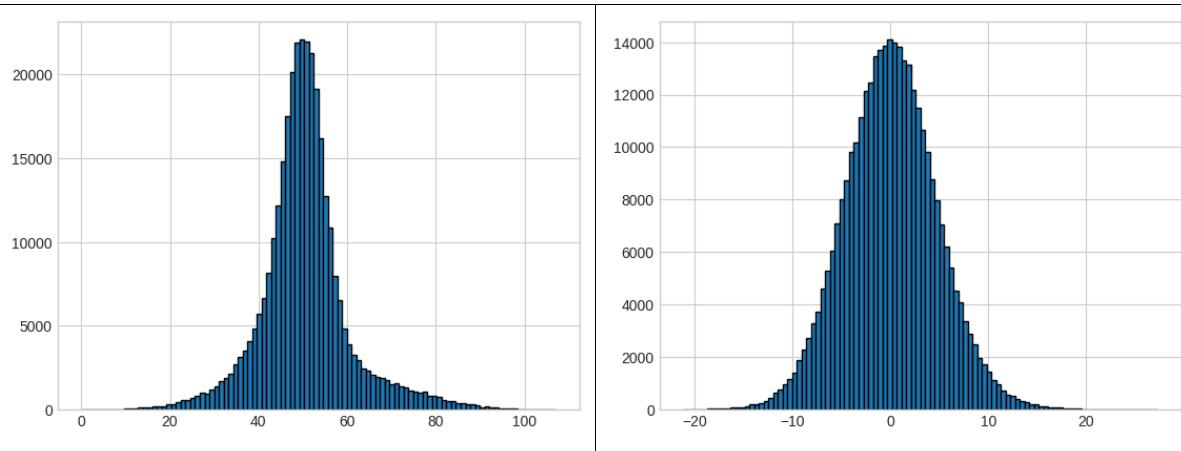
PDB=6ctd, Resolution=5.80



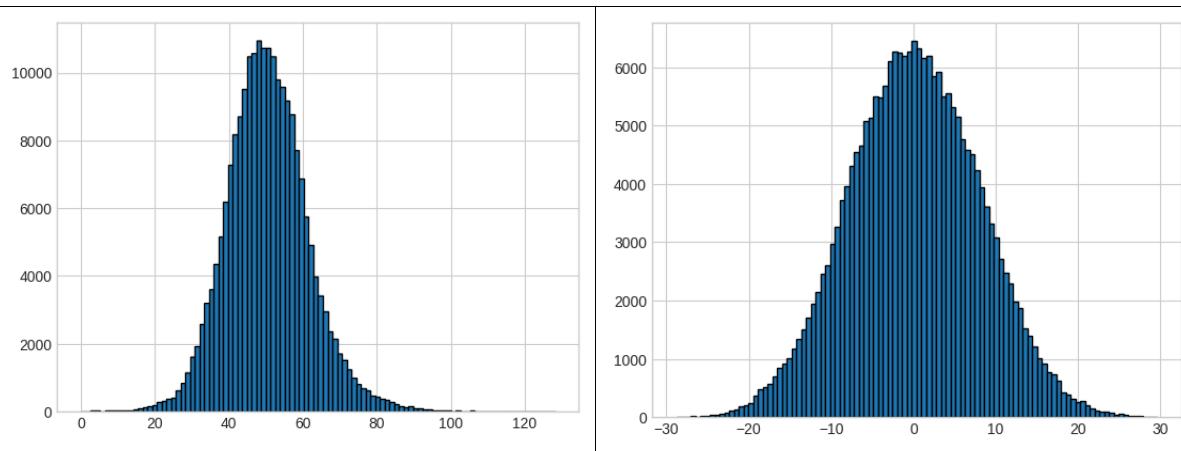
PDB=6e6b, Resolution =4.50



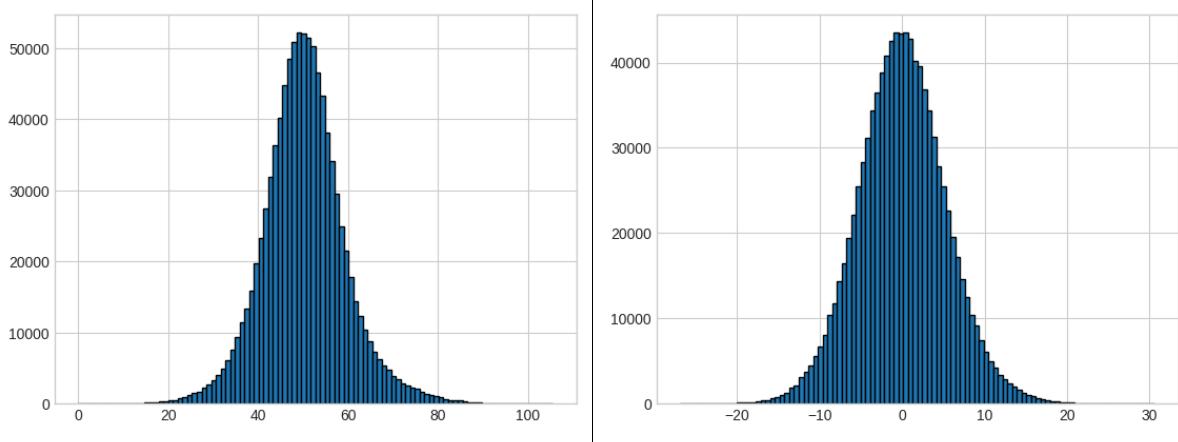
PDB=6nzi, Resolution =4.44



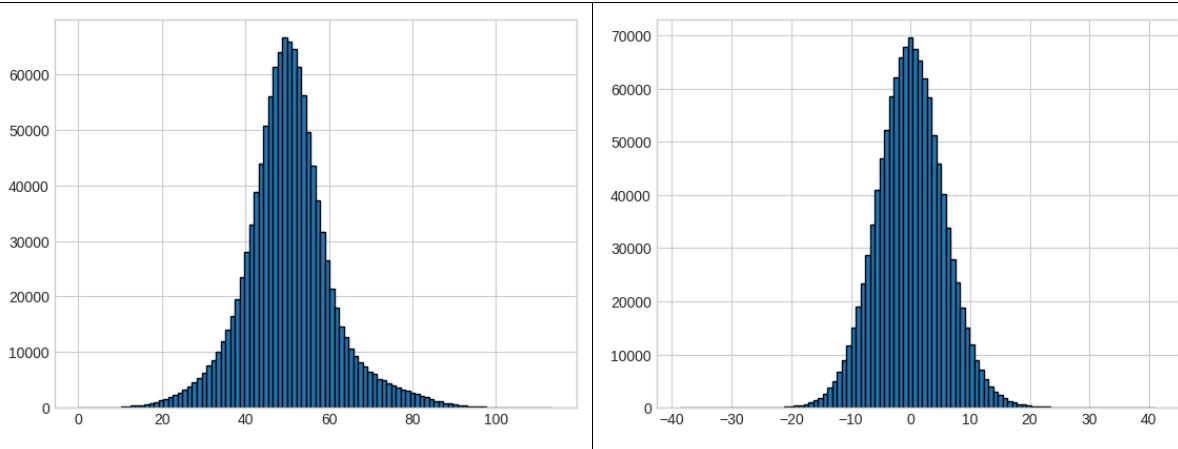
PDB=6fwf, Resolution =4.20



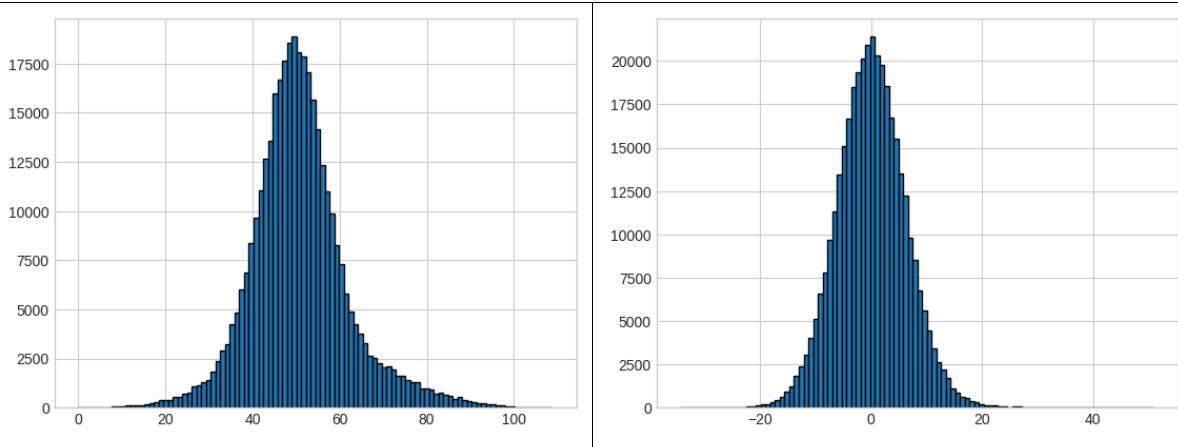
PDB=6j4a, Resolution =3.99



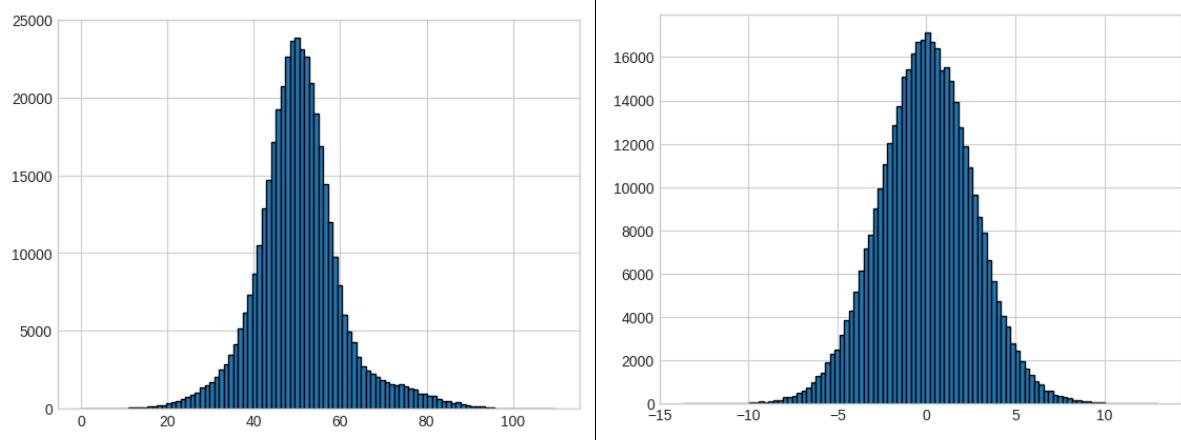
PDB=6j7g, Resolution =3.87



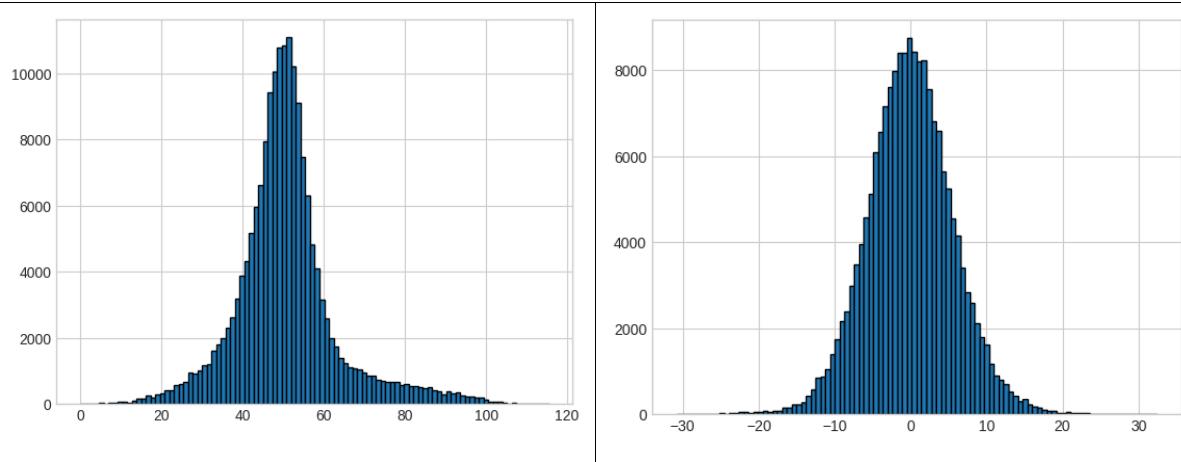
PDB=6je7, Resolution =3.90



PDB=6l58, Resolution =3.90

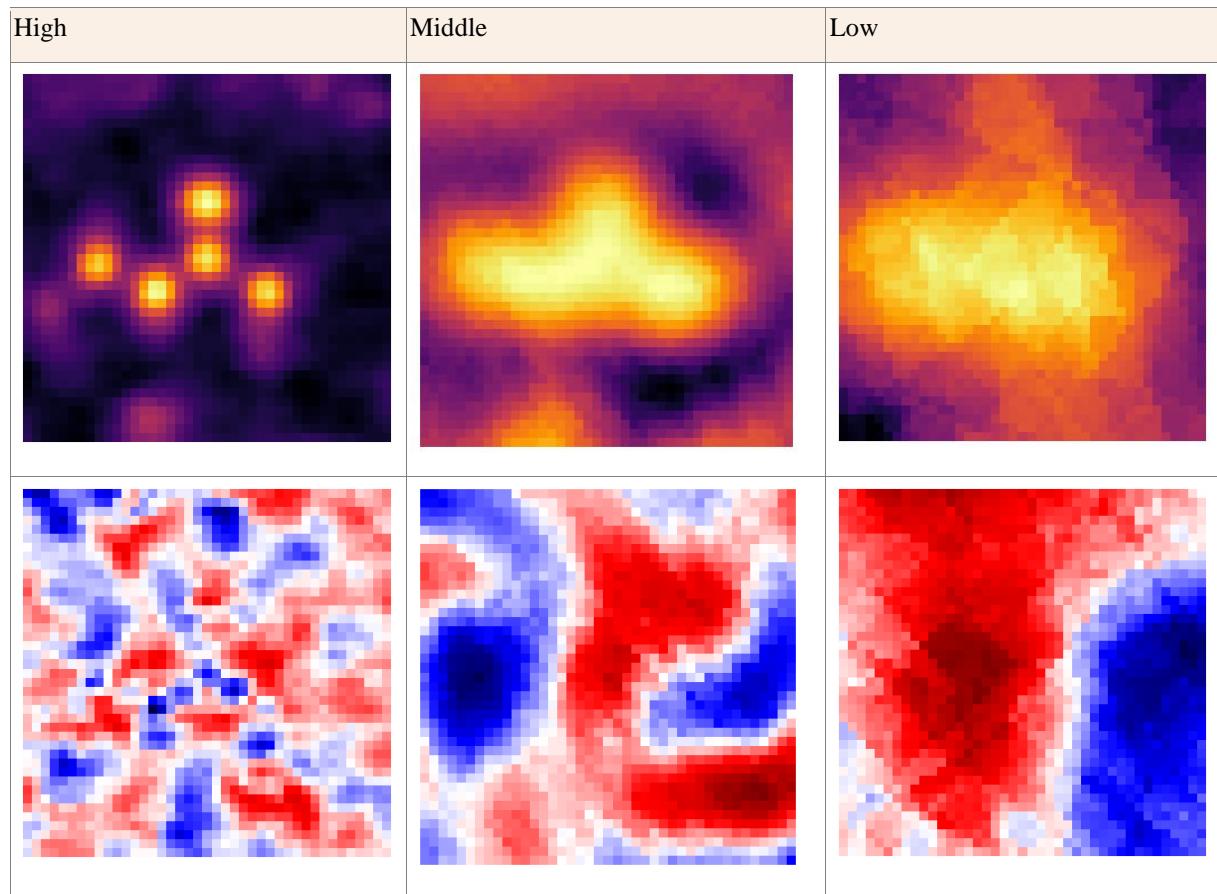


PDB=6q53, Resolution =3.70



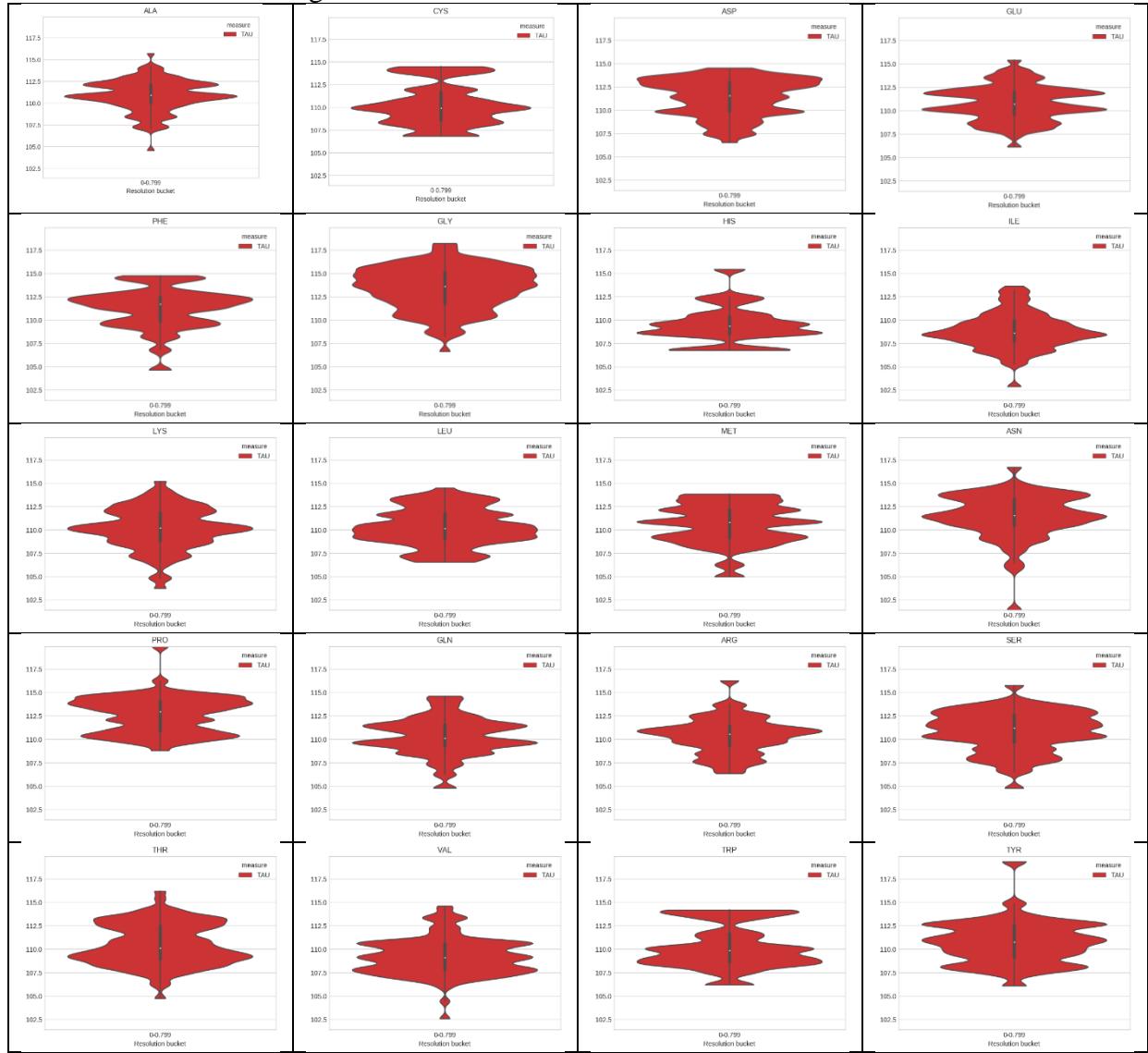
#### Appendix 6: Density and difference images at different resolutions

The images below are taken from electron density images overlayed. There is a clear difference in clarity at higher resolution.



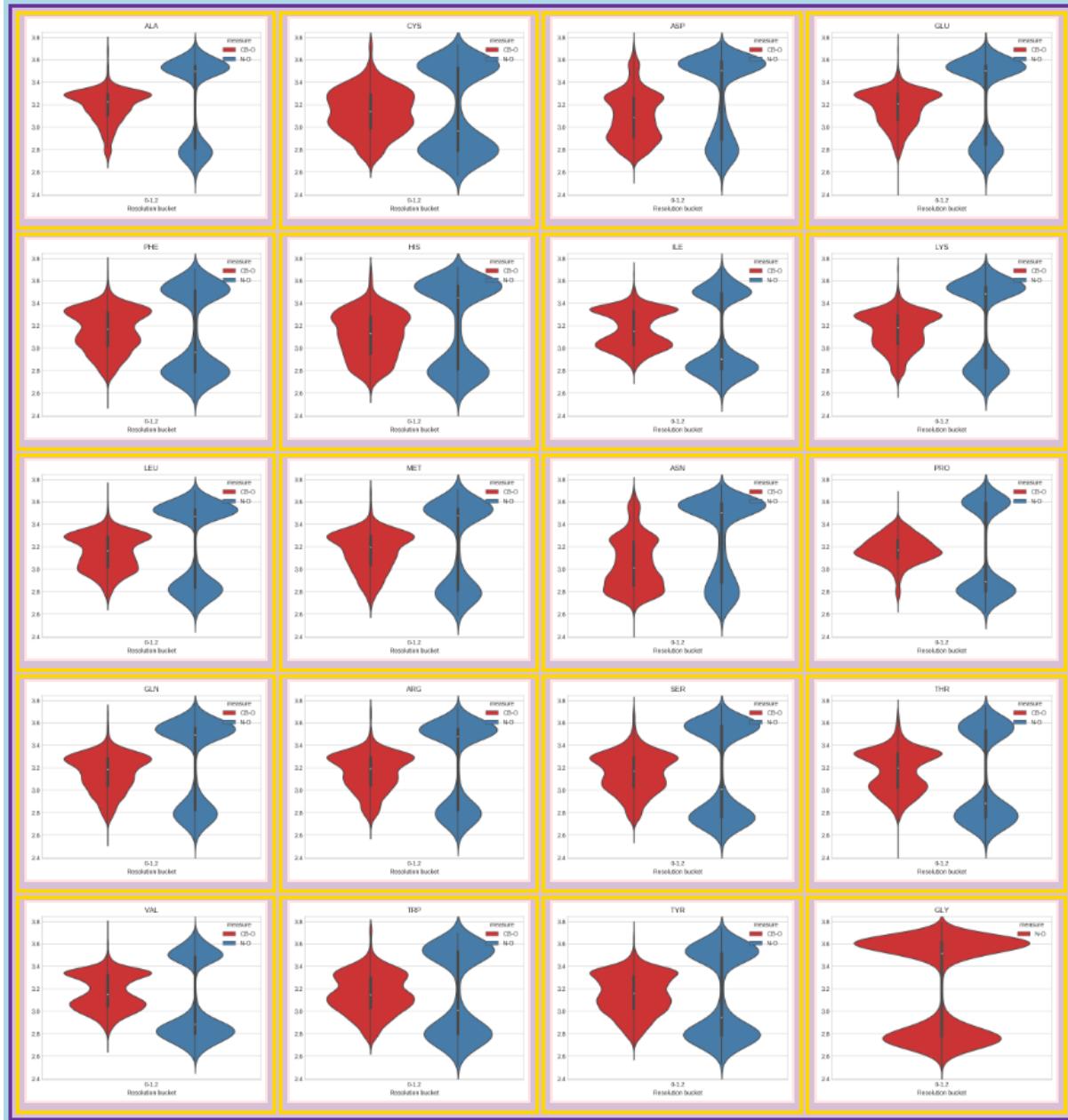
## Appendix 7: Violin Plots for Tau

The violin plots below are for each amino acid, on the HQ set at  $< 0.8\text{\AA}$  resolution. The violin plots provide a visualisation for the different distributions for each amino acid. KDE smoothing in seaborn violinplot(kde=0.15). They are evidently different, the kde smoothing is low to minimise over smoothing.



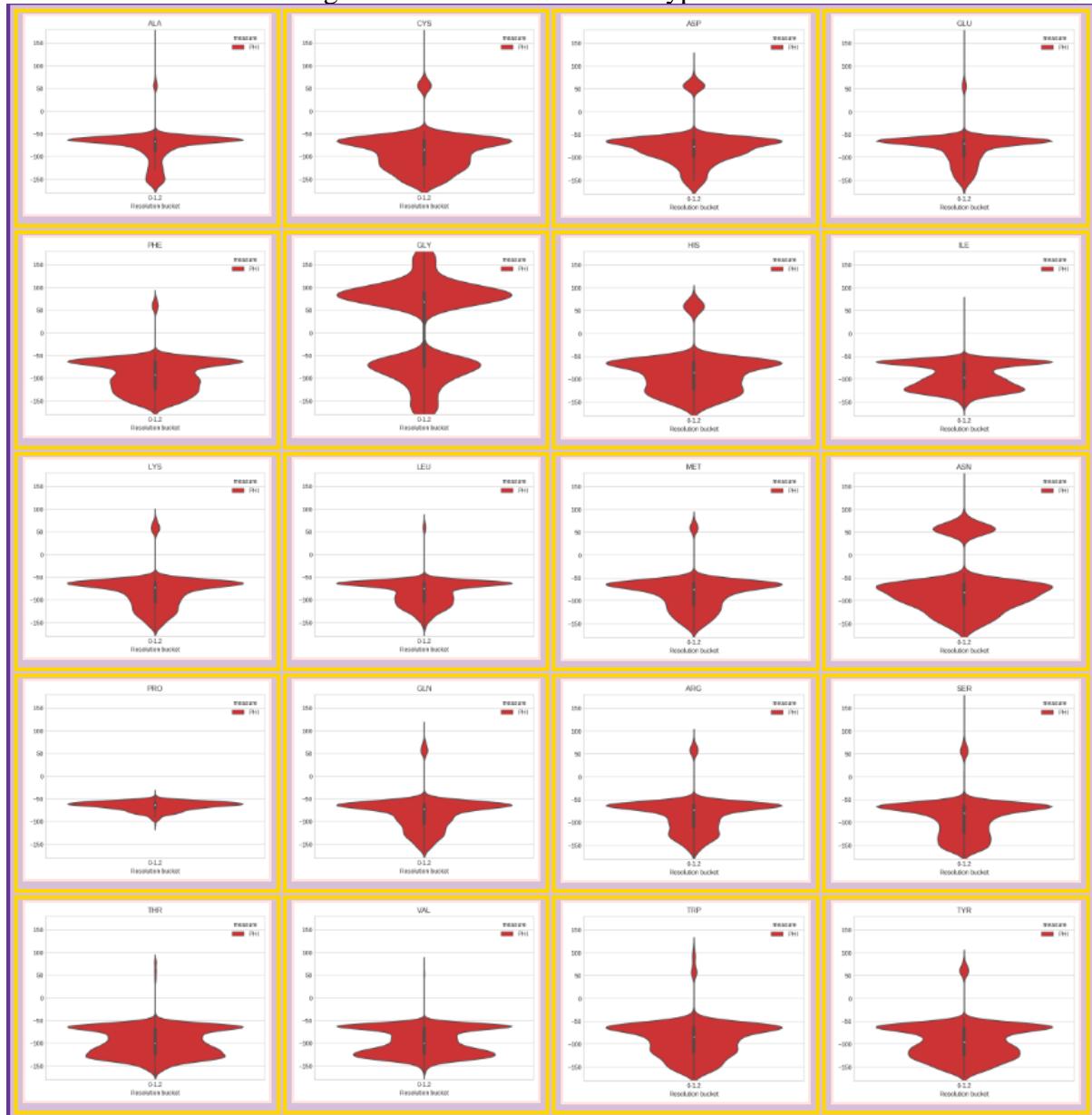
## Appendix 8: The bimodal nature of N-O, and CB-O

The one-four intra residue distances N-O and CB-O for each amino acid type.



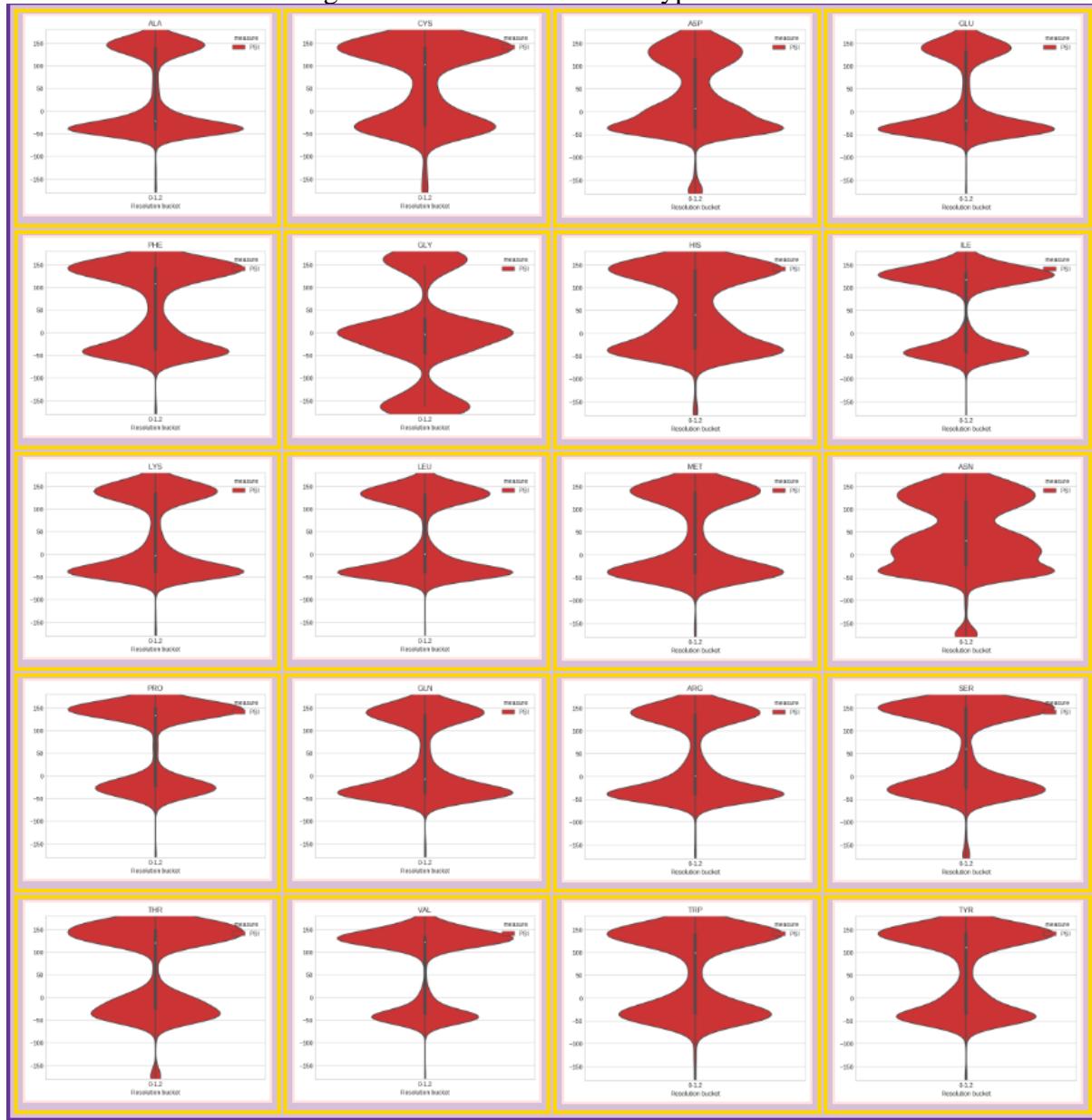
## Appendix 9: PHI distributions per amino acid

The main chain dihedral angle PHI for each amino acid type.



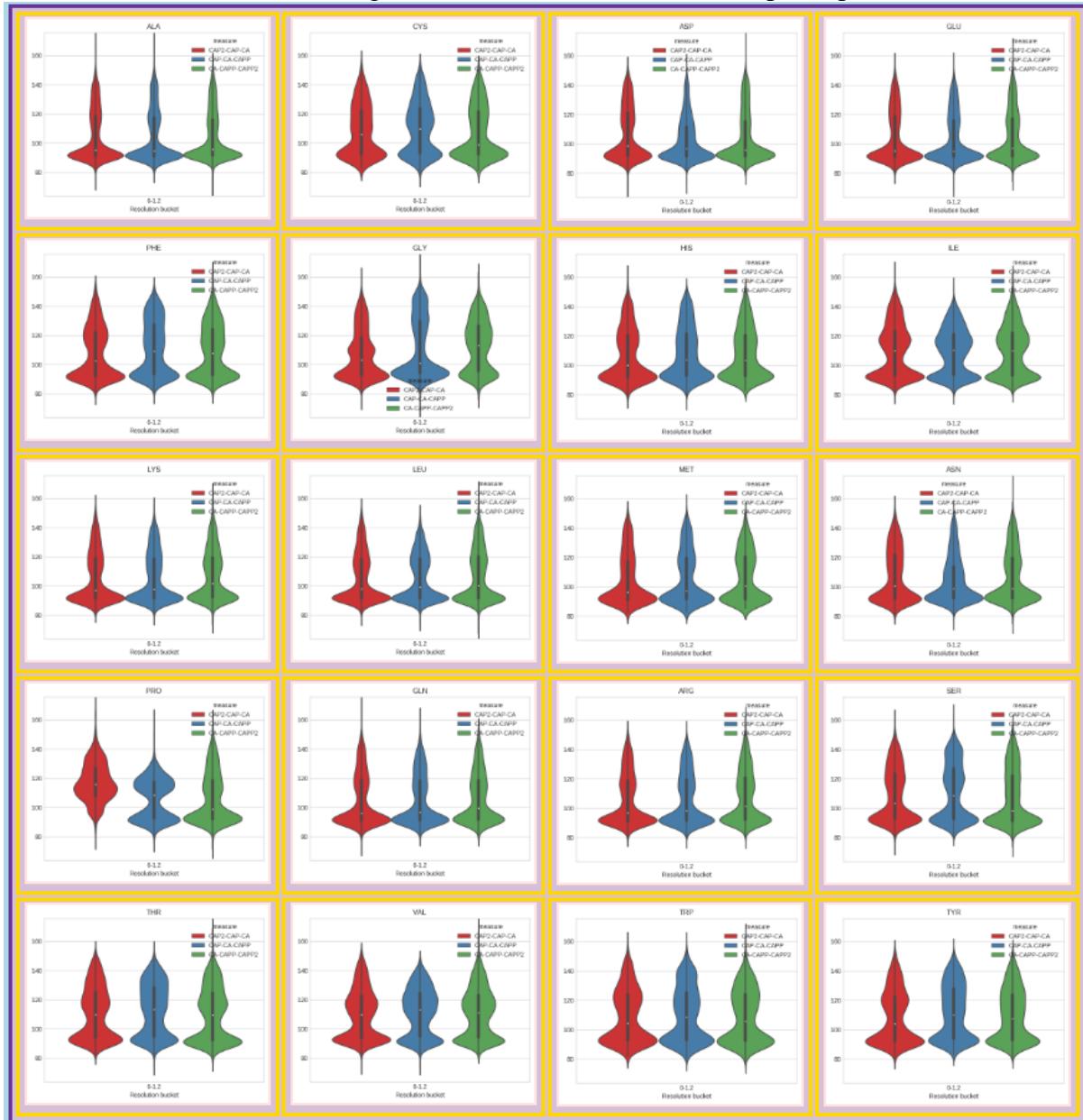
## Appendix 10: PSI distributions per amino acid

The main chain dihedral angle PSI for each amino acid type.



## Appendix 11: Comparing $\text{C}\alpha$ angles along the chain

The main chain  $\text{C}\alpha$  shifted along before, middle and after are compared per residue.

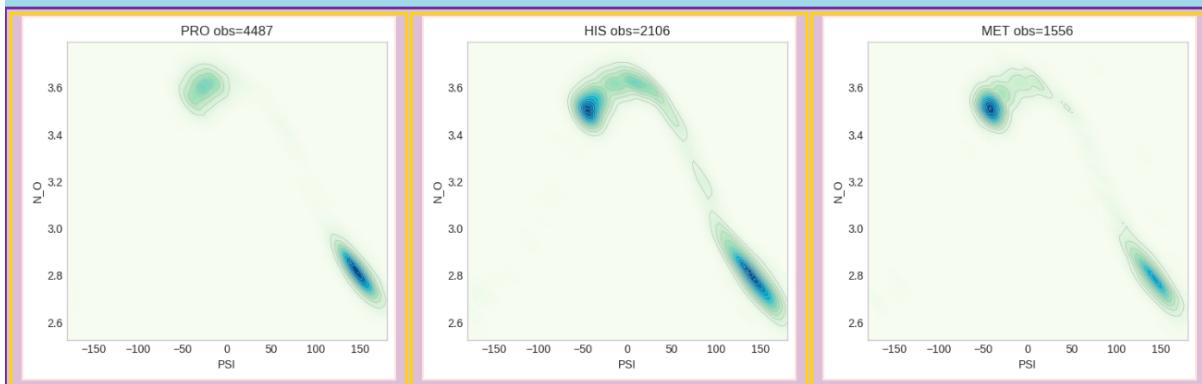


## Appendix 12: Distribution reports from website

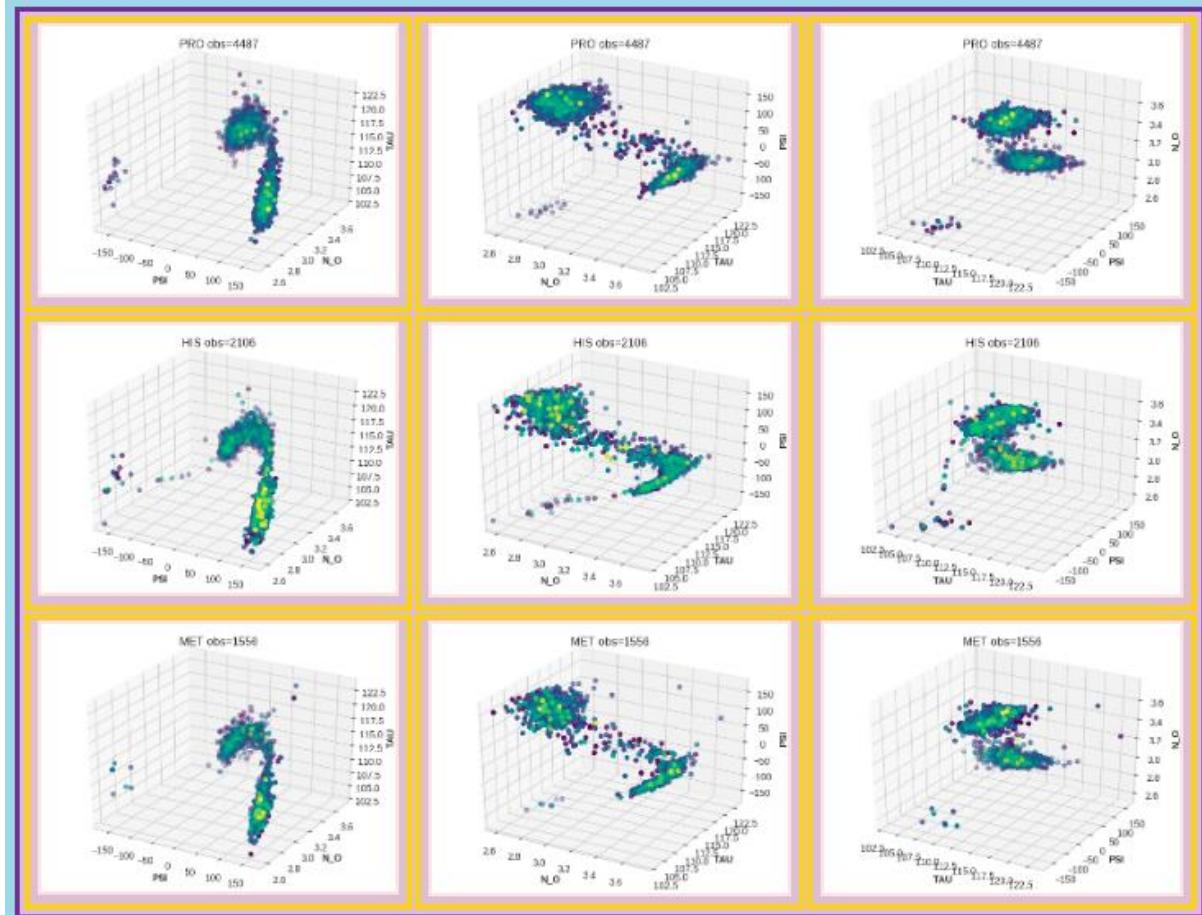
The images below are a single page from the Distributions page given all views were checked.

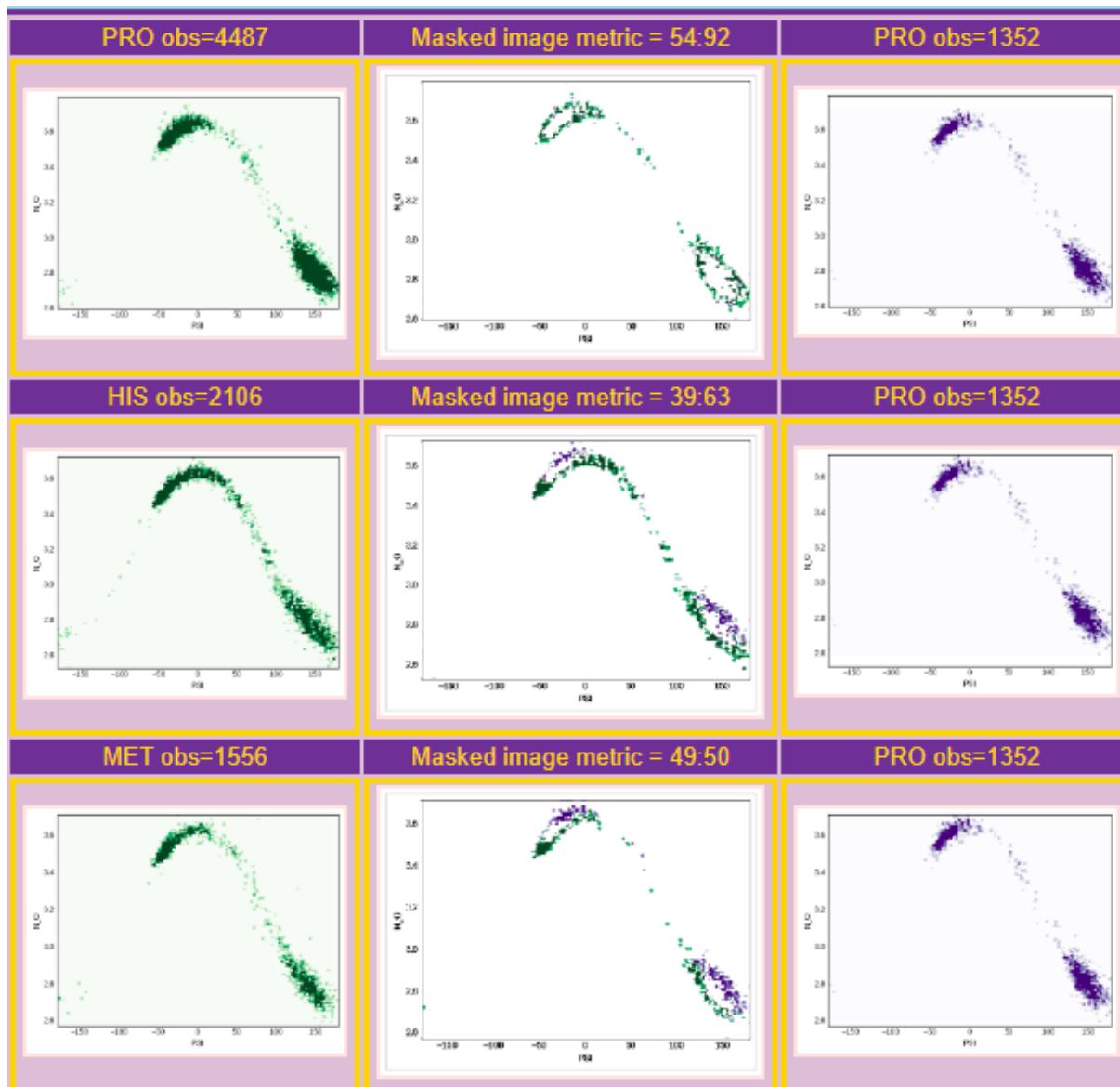


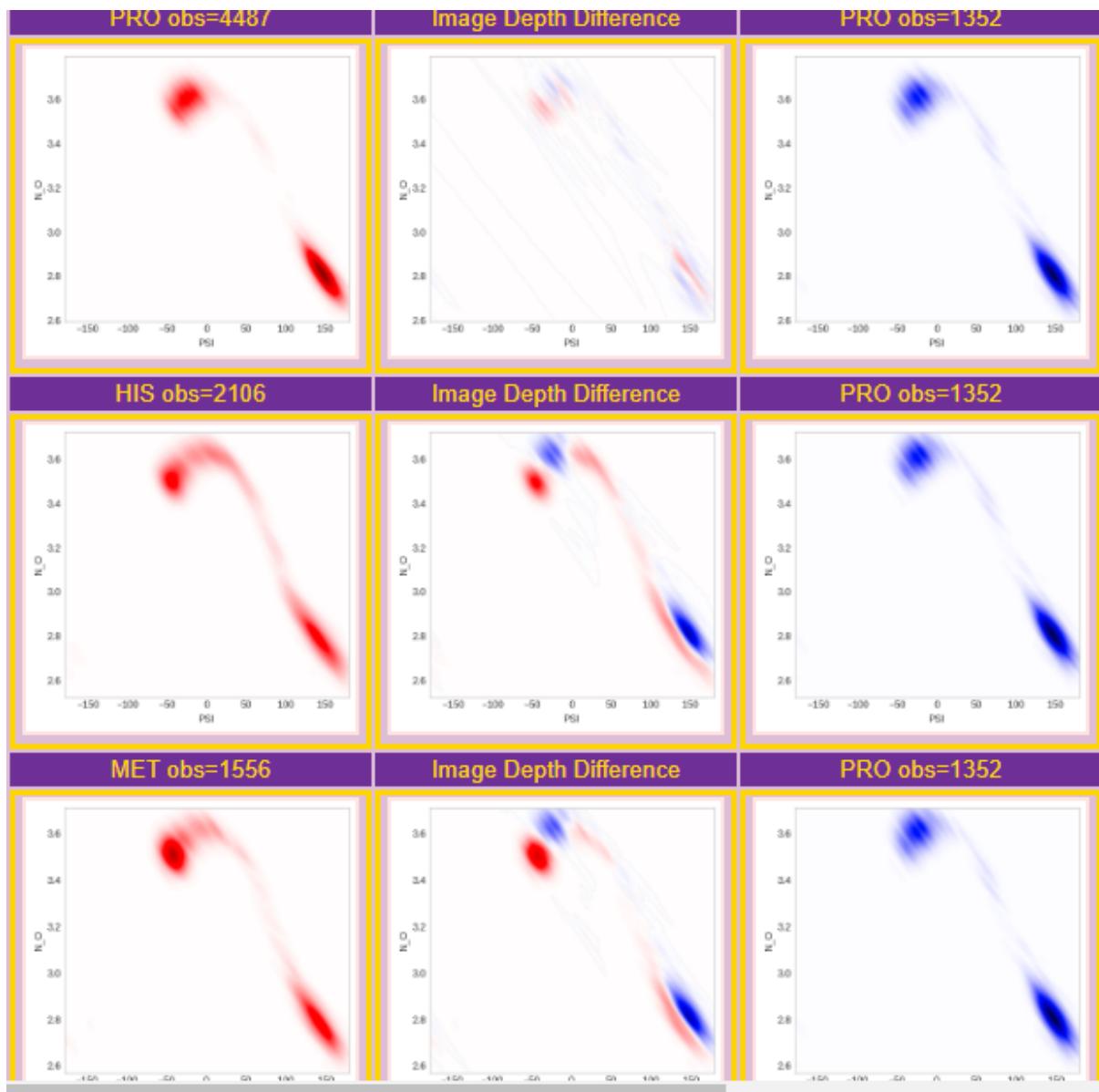
Correlations, as a probability density plot



Each row has 3 orientations for a single amino acid: X-Y-X, Y-Z-X, Z-X-Y  
Graduated on RESOLUTION



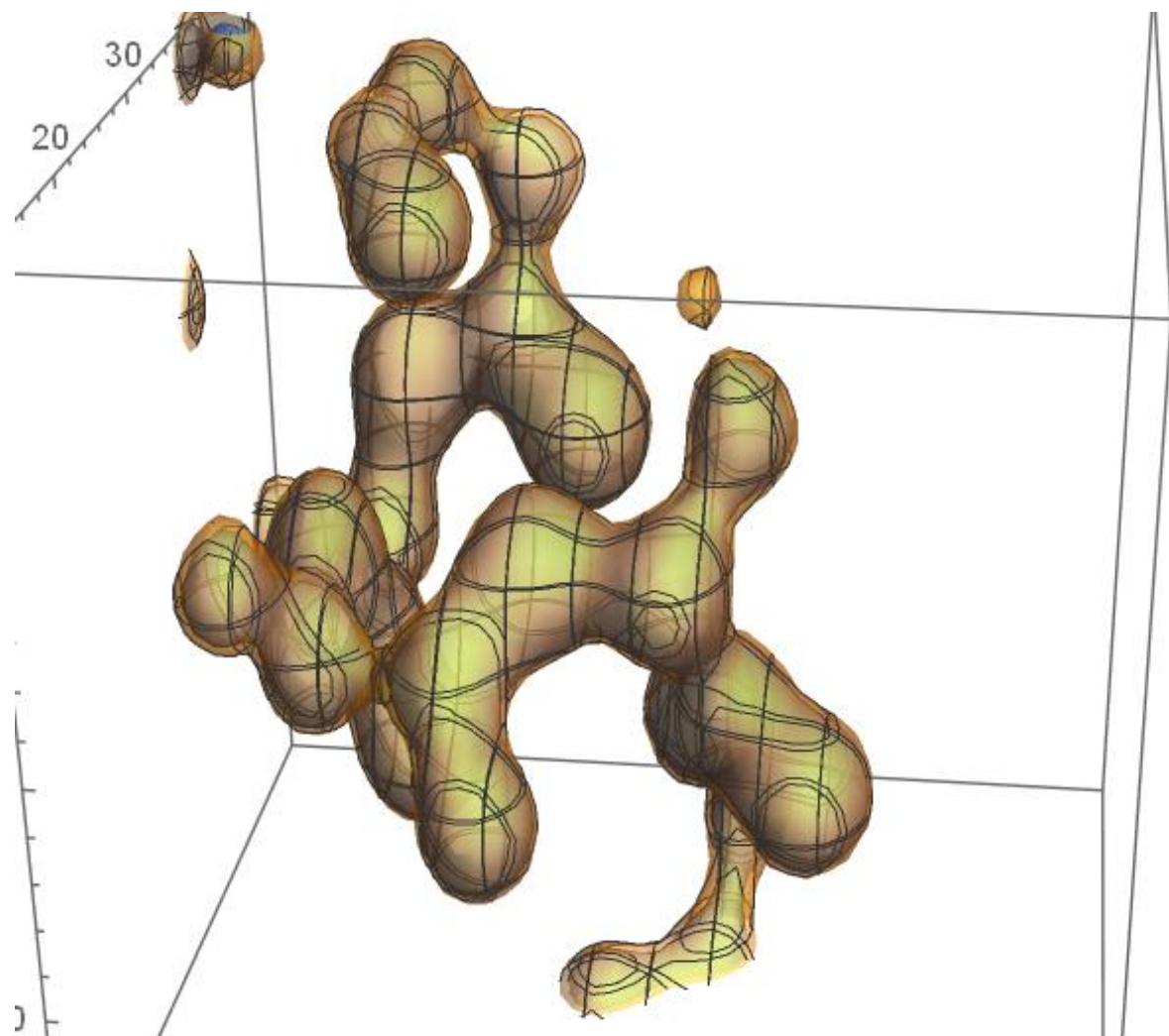




### Appendix 13: 146 GLN Superposition

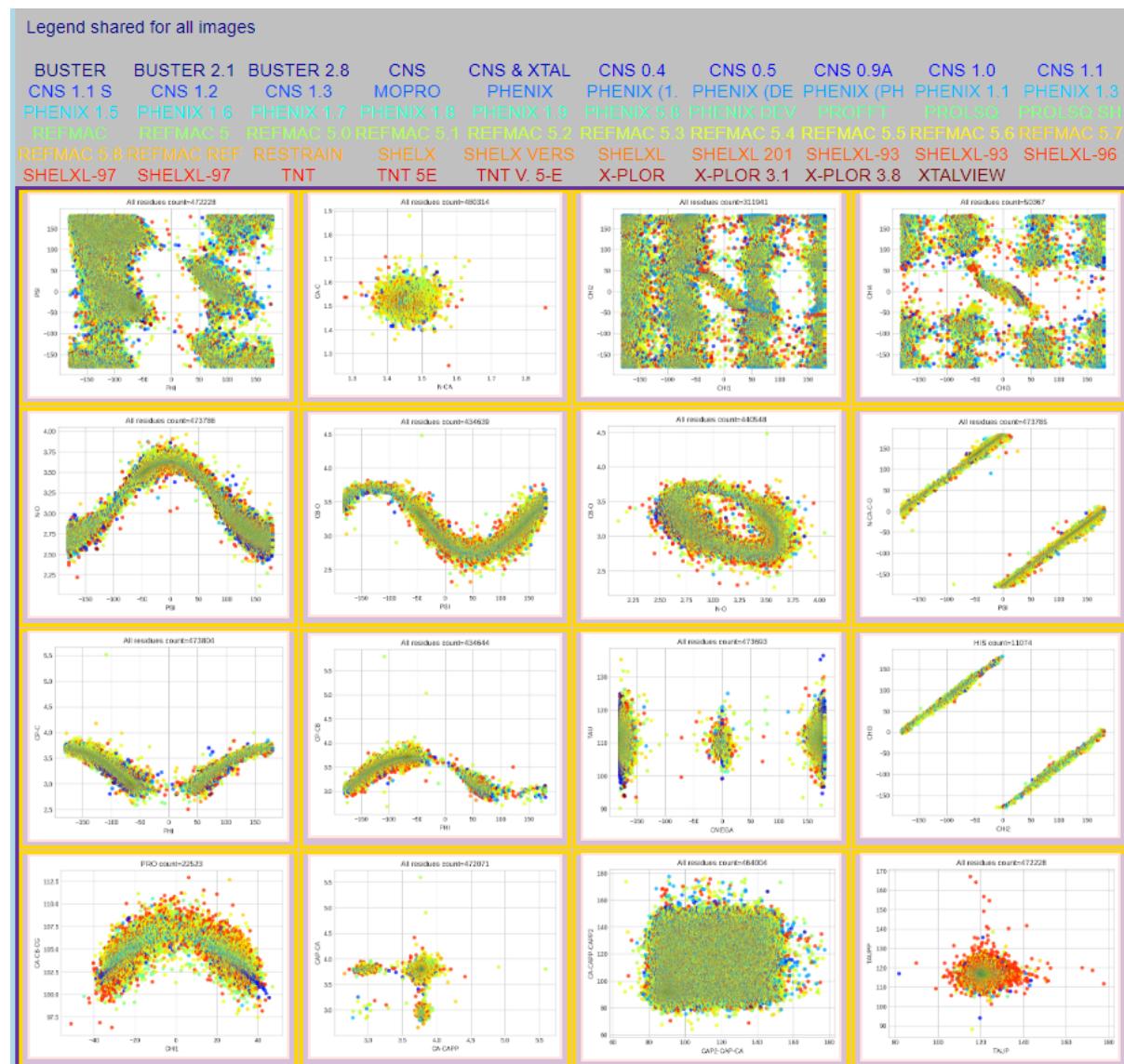
146 glutamine residues are overlayed, chosen on the close contact between N and O of residue i+3.

Only 3 residues are i+3, the remaining are at i-3. Those at plus have also close contact at minus.



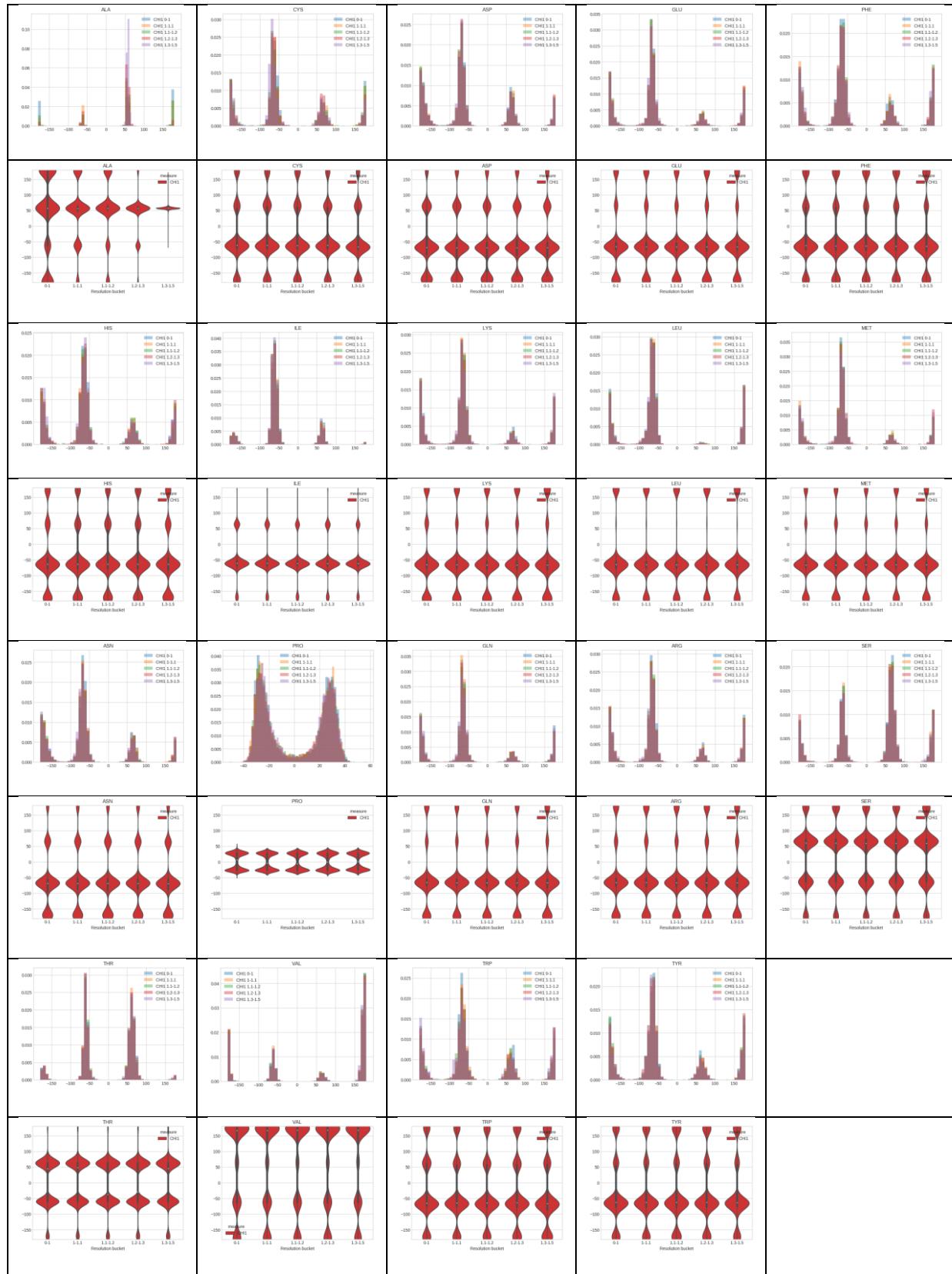
## Appendix 14: Correlation page for all HIGH residues, on refinement method

The image below gives some indication of the influence of refinement software on final structure geometry.



## Appendix 15: CHI1 for different resolutions buckets

The residues were chosen with all values unrestrained within each resolution band.



## Appendix 16: Summary statistics for CHI1 distributions

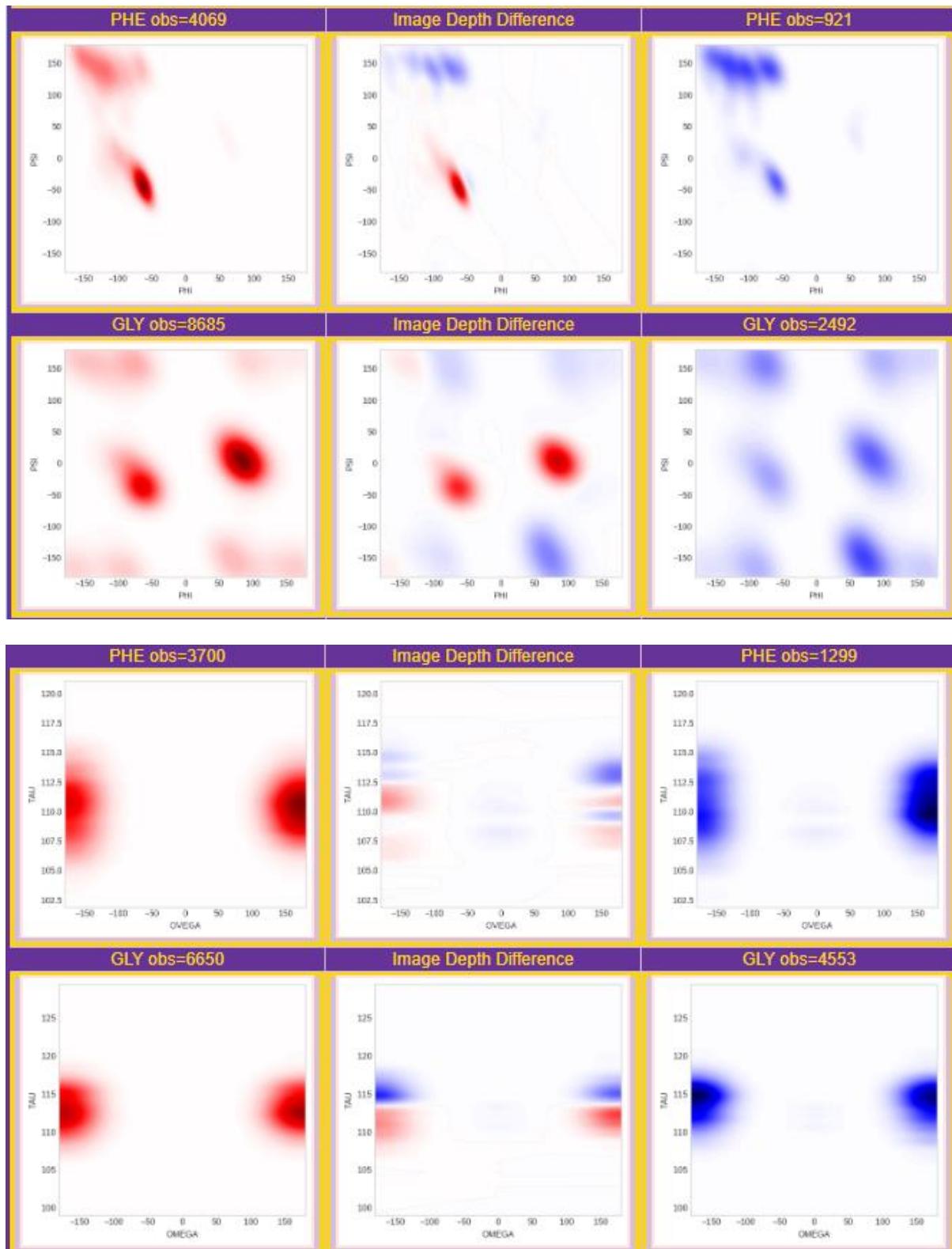
CHI1 summary statistics at different resolution buckets, including observation count, all values unrestrained.

| data             | count   | mean     | std      | min      | 25%       | 50%      | 75%      | max     | skew   | kurtosis | normality |
|------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|---------|--------|----------|-----------|
| CHI1 ALA 0-1     | 1905.0  | 32.419   | 127.1978 | -179.999 | -61.101   | 57.097   | 176.158  | 179.999 | -0.514 | -0.963   | N         |
| CHI1 CYS 0-1     | 1096.0  | -33.4026 | 100.6235 | -179.881 | -70.719   | -61.14   | 55.1418  | 179.963 | 0.721  | -0.149   | N         |
| CHI1 ASP 0-1     | 3988.0  | -52.4658 | 95.9403  | -179.999 | -91.115   | -68.472  | 48.9912  | 179.97  | 0.704  | -0.134   | N         |
| CHI1 GLU 0-1     | 3420.0  | -47.7886 | 101.5827 | -179.951 | -75.6545  | -65.923  | -54.9932 | 179.952 | 0.956  | 0.27     | N         |
| CHI1 PHE 0-1     | 2505.0  | -28.6367 | 105.2743 | -179.993 | -74.606   | -62.876  | 57.806   | 179.98  | 0.687  | -0.437   | N         |
| CHI1 HIS 0-1     | 1466.0  | -42.4166 | 102.082  | -179.909 | -76.9292  | -63.3855 | -45.4515 | 179.886 | 0.821  | -0.041   | N         |
| CHI1 ILE 0-1     | 3358.0  | -48.353  | 61.2114  | -179.821 | -66.9528  | -60.278  | -52.402  | 179.814 | 0.659  | 1.227    | N         |
| CHI1 LYS 0-1     | 3710.0  | -47.1289 | 103.0462 | -179.987 | -76.5412  | -65.2    | -52.571  | 179.991 | 0.928  | 0.184    | N         |
| CHI1 LEU 0-1     | 5026.0  | -45.5898 | 104.1677 | -179.981 | -76.1958  | -64.9145 | -55.5978 | 179.998 | 1.145  | 0.52     | N         |
| CHI1 MET 0-1     | 1171.0  | -54.4526 | 92.587   | -179.914 | -74.932   | -66.494  | -57.911  | 179.991 | 1.177  | 1.174    | N         |
| CHI1 ASN 0-1     | 3264.0  | -60.7756 | 89.4433  | -179.999 | -94.6922  | -68.604  | -56.5285 | 179.985 | 0.917  | 0.581    | N         |
| CHI1 PRO 0-1     | 3076.0  | 1.7093   | 26.3312  | -51.094  | -25.5625  | 6.632    | 27.5497  | 56.981  | -0.032 | -1.782   | N         |
| CHI1 GLN 0-1     | 2453.0  | -50.4068 | 99.3198  | -179.936 | -74.805   | -65.738  | -55.499  | 179.972 | 1.035  | 0.562    | N         |
| CHI1 ARG 0-1     | 2673.0  | -45.3694 | 102.6945 | -179.946 | -76.046   | -65.375  | -53.675  | 179.939 | 0.954  | 0.212    | N         |
| CHI1 SER 0-1     | 4272.0  | 17.1085  | 98.7951  | -179.972 | -63.4735  | 59.7555  | 70.5003  | 179.987 | -0.338 | -0.662   | N         |
| CHI1 THR 0-1     | 4445.0  | -3.526   | 75.4911  | -179.995 | -60.606   | 44.874   | 62.789   | 179.95  | -0.377 | -0.668   | N         |
| CHI1 VAL 0-1     | 4772.0  | 55.7858  | 140.6505 | -179.998 | -63.9962  | 166.5635 | 174.2382 | 179.985 | -0.595 | -1.323   | N         |
| CHI1 TRP 0-1     | 1001.0  | -29.2233 | 105.5755 | -179.985 | -75.479   | -65.001  | 59.886   | 179.983 | 0.605  | -0.527   | N         |
| CHI1 TYR 0-1     | 2419.0  | -33.7364 | 105.9757 | -179.982 | -75.0435  | -63.025  | 53.6915  | 179.983 | 0.75   | -0.317   | N         |
| CHI1 ALA 1-1.1   | 2416.0  | 43.8719  | 94.0149  | -180.0   | 49.796    | 56.7515  | 60.504   | 180.0   | -0.558 | 0.118    | N         |
| CHI1 CYS 1-1.1   | 1494.0  | -30.1012 | 102.7927 | -179.982 | -71.2345  | -61.9635 | 61.004   | 179.953 | 0.585  | -0.444   | N         |
| CHI1 ASP 1-1.1   | 6495.0  | -54.3049 | 97.2969  | -179.984 | -137.8865 | -69.134  | -49.5395 | 179.983 | 0.776  | -0.035   | N         |
| CHI1 GLU 1-1.1   | 6048.0  | -44.6237 | 103.0096 | -179.998 | -75.591   | -66.1455 | -52.9415 | 179.996 | 0.917  | 0.119    | N         |
| CHI1 PHE 1-1.1   | 4159.0  | -31.9524 | 108.6898 | -179.999 | -77.239   | -63.945  | 57.8765  | 179.995 | 0.692  | -0.494   | N         |
| CHI1 HIS 1-1.1   | 2553.0  | -41.5679 | 102.2276 | -179.99  | -77.583   | -63.514  | 45.477   | 179.989 | 0.77   | -0.137   | N         |
| CHI1 ILE 1-1.1   | 5820.0  | -51.2138 | 60.2562  | -179.966 | -67.307   | -60.9695 | -53.3325 | 179.964 | 0.76   | 1.809    | N         |
| CHI1 LYS 1-1.1   | 5716.0  | -48.2375 | 102.6591 | -180.0   | -76.6462  | -65.802  | -54.6758 | 179.984 | 1.005  | 0.341    | N         |
| CHI1 LEU 1-1.1   | 8770.0  | -45.9544 | 102.3056 | -179.998 | -74.974   | -65.029  | -56.2888 | 179.997 | 1.188  | 0.669    | N         |
| CHI1 MET 1-1.1   | 2077.0  | -54.1756 | 94.7473  | -179.996 | -76.906   | -66.532  | -56.336  | 179.989 | 1.086  | 0.877    | N         |
| CHI1 ASN 1-1.1   | 4866.0  | -57.5559 | 91.6178  | -179.968 | -85.889   | -68.583  | -55.049  | 179.977 | 0.894  | 0.443    | N         |
| CHI1 PRO 1-1.1   | 5164.0  | 0.3098   | 25.8216  | -42.124  | -25.5663  | -3.8275  | 26.7895  | 43.485  | 0.052  | -1.771   | N         |
| CHI1 GLN 1-1.1   | 3942.0  | -53.5592 | 95.4412  | -179.992 | -74.606   | -66.1865 | -57.1788 | 179.996 | 1.092  | 0.867    | N         |
| CHI1 ARG 1-1.1   | 4848.0  | -45.3657 | 103.7176 | -179.994 | -77.711   | -65.766  | -52.968  | 179.993 | 0.938  | 0.13     | N         |
| CHI1 SER 1-1.1   | 6355.0  | 19.3901  | 99.2459  | -179.99  | -63.377   | 59.903   | 71.493   | 179.985 | -0.33  | -0.672   | N         |
| CHI1 THR 1-1.1   | 6398.0  | -1.7119  | 75.6522  | -179.77  | -60.5918  | 48.226   | 62.8762  | 179.936 | -0.37  | -0.632   | N         |
| CHI1 VAL 1-1.1   | 7637.0  | 54.6134  | 141.0675 | -179.999 | -63.791   | 166.009  | 174.123  | 179.993 | -0.578 | -1.348   | N         |
| CHI1 TRP 1-1.1   | 1667.0  | -32.6818 | 104.1292 | -179.933 | -75.8005  | -64.212  | 54.8925  | 179.974 | 0.69   | -0.359   | N         |
| CHI1 TYR 1-1.1   | 3730.0  | -31.0476 | 107.6488 | -179.983 | -75.8035  | -62.877  | 56.6542  | 179.98  | 0.737  | -0.419   | N         |
| CHI1 ALA 1.1-1.2 | 1916.0  | 49.0782  | 95.5898  | -179.997 | 54.7658   | 57.227   | 60.7405  | 179.999 | -0.834 | 0.596    | N         |
| CHI1 CYS 1.1-1.2 | 1899.0  | -32.0105 | 103.1261 | -179.915 | -72.25    | -62.428  | 59.032   | 179.997 | 0.647  | -0.373   | N         |
| CHI1 ASP 1.1-1.2 | 8266.0  | -56.4871 | 96.4792  | -179.995 | -146.0302 | -69.729  | -53.4892 | 179.998 | 0.814  | 0.067    | N         |
| CHI1 GLU 1.1-1.2 | 8367.0  | -50.0136 | 101.3109 | -179.997 | -77.598   | -66.843  | -56.156  | 179.998 | 0.98   | 0.333    | N         |
| CHI1 PHE 1.1-1.2 | 5473.0  | -32.5434 | 107.8976 | -179.993 | -77.167   | -63.801  | 55.776   | 179.997 | 0.755  | -0.397   | N         |
| CHI1 HIS 1.1-1.2 | 3115.0  | -41.3044 | 100.812  | -179.977 | -77.127   | -63.68   | 44.763   | 179.958 | 0.763  | -0.115   | N         |
| CHI1 ILE 1.1-1.2 | 7536.0  | -53.1501 | 58.3971  | -179.938 | -67.81    | -61.759  | -54.3835 | 179.909 | 0.811  | 2.168    | N         |
| CHI1 LYS 1.1-1.2 | 7810.0  | -49.3468 | 102.9235 | -179.995 | -77.935   | -66.0165 | -54.6502 | 179.994 | 1.001  | 0.337    | N         |
| CHI1 LEU 1.1-1.2 | 11584.0 | -46.5778 | 103.0829 | -179.999 | -75.4868  | -65.402  | -56.2238 | 180.0   | 1.187  | 0.642    | N         |
| CHI1 MET 1.1-1.2 | 2461.0  | -51.0949 | 92.9715  | -179.986 | -74.259   | -65.951  | -56.996  | 179.968 | 1.12   | 0.982    | N         |
| CHI1 ASN 1.1-1.2 | 6201.0  | -58.0051 | 91.2802  | -179.927 | -89.739   | -68.511  | -54.337  | 179.995 | 0.863  | 0.37     | N         |

|                  |         |          |          |          |          |          |          |         |        |         |   |
|------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------|--------|---------|---|
| CHI1 PRO 1.1-1.2 | 6460.0  | 0.2178   | 25.8361  | -40.236  | -25.5    | -6.5045  | 26.71    | 43.975  | 0.073  | -1.758  | N |
| CHI1 GLN 1.1-1.2 | 5156.0  | -52.2702 | 97.497   | -179.999 | -76.0592 | -66.015  | -56.1295 | 179.978 | 1.031  | 0.63    | N |
| CHI1 ARG 1.1-1.2 | 6250.0  | -46.4722 | 101.4435 | -179.984 | -76.899  | -65.9765 | -54.3075 | 179.998 | 0.99   | 0.314   | N |
| CHI1 SER 1.1-1.2 | 8386.0  | 17.134   | 100.162  | -179.999 | -63.8692 | 59.2825  | 71.002   | 179.98  | -0.324 | -0.697  | N |
| CHI1 THR 1.1-1.2 | 8220.0  | -4.4711  | 75.1241  | -179.994 | -60.9155 | -36.991  | 62.1618  | 179.947 | -0.327 | -0.651  | N |
| CHI1 VAL 1.1-1.2 | 9912.0  | 59.8257  | 140.0804 | -179.996 | -63.107  | 167.3675 | 174.3103 | 179.991 | -0.65  | -1.264  | N |
| CHI1 TRP 1.1-1.2 | 2085.0  | -31.7823 | 104.2354 | -179.971 | -77.166  | -64.521  | 56.371   | 179.996 | 0.673  | -0.423  | N |
| CHI1 TYR 1.1-1.2 | 4905.0  | -29.5665 | 112.481  | -179.996 | -78.462  | -62.514  | 60.171   | 180.0   | 0.659  | -0.649  | N |
| CHI1 ALA 1.2-1.3 | 1994.0  | 38.1184  | 64.4607  | -179.993 | 54.4837  | 56.765   | 58.6252  | 179.987 | -1.234 | 2.831   | N |
| CHI1 CYS 1.2-1.3 | 2694.0  | -32.3946 | 97.3674  | -179.957 | -71.0522 | -61.724  | 57.9982  | 179.976 | 0.618  | -0.218  | N |
| CHI1 ASP 1.2-1.3 | 13879.0 | -53.0832 | 97.3349  | -179.998 | -92.419  | -69.219  | -46.3265 | 179.997 | 0.788  | -0.01   | N |
| CHI1 GLU 1.2-1.3 | 14398.0 | -46.7346 | 104.4178 | -179.996 | -77.7165 | -66.704  | -53.5692 | 179.999 | 0.927  | 0.094   | N |
| CHI1 PHE 1.2-1.3 | 9128.0  | -34.4333 | 106.8694 | -179.999 | -77.562  | -64.041  | 53.655   | 179.999 | 0.762  | -0.345  | N |
| CHI1 HIS 1.2-1.3 | 5294.0  | -40.321  | 103.8598 | -179.981 | -78.2415 | -63.5425 | 47.771   | 179.994 | 0.774  | -0.2    | N |
| CHI1 ILE 1.2-1.3 | 13115.0 | -51.1558 | 60.9075  | -179.924 | -68.0655 | -61.752  | -53.959  | 179.978 | 0.761  | 1.678   | N |
| CHI1 LYS 1.2-1.3 | 12748.0 | -49.4733 | 103.0262 | -179.998 | -78.7692 | -66.231  | -54.7358 | 179.996 | 0.998  | 0.321   | N |
| CHI1 LEU 1.2-1.3 | 19715.0 | -44.1368 | 103.9361 | -179.996 | -75.1895 | -65.183  | -55.97   | 179.995 | 1.16   | 0.514   | N |
| CHI1 MET 1.2-1.3 | 4124.0  | -46.7246 | 96.9652  | -179.981 | -73.6988 | -65.7805 | -55.446  | 179.994 | 1.091  | 0.685   | N |
| CHI1 ASN 1.2-1.3 | 10090.0 | -56.9497 | 91.7212  | -179.965 | -85.897  | -68.4105 | -55.039  | 179.981 | 0.924  | 0.504   | N |
| CHI1 PRO 1.2-1.3 | 10795.0 | 0.7641   | 25.8927  | -44.793  | -25.3845 | -0.317   | 26.783   | 45.423  | 0.024  | -1.756  | N |
| CHI1 GLN 1.2-1.3 | 8192.0  | -52.6299 | 95.4518  | -179.995 | -75.7375 | -66.2325 | -55.7025 | 179.987 | 1.062  | 0.785   | N |
| CHI1 ARG 1.2-1.3 | 10821.0 | -46.2993 | 103.1037 | -179.99  | -77.905  | -66.009  | -53.007  | 179.983 | 0.952  | 0.184   | N |
| CHI1 SER 1.2-1.3 | 13644.0 | 15.2049  | 101.5831 | -179.993 | -64.3282 | 59.383   | 71.167   | 179.998 | -0.333 | -0.735  | N |
| CHI1 THR 1.2-1.3 | 12906.0 | -4.8328  | 76.0717  | -179.954 | -61.1998 | -29.05   | 61.938   | 179.98  | -0.327 | -0.65   | N |
| CHI1 VAL 1.2-1.3 | 16545.0 | 57.9908  | 141.193  | -179.998 | -63.24   | 166.944  | 174.185  | 179.998 | -0.631 | -1.296  | N |
| CHI1 TRP 1.2-1.3 | 3453.0  | -28.1541 | 108.4562 | -179.994 | -77.02   | -63.87   | 57.185   | 179.989 | 0.602  | -0.611  | N |
| CHI1 TYR 1.2-1.3 | 8189.0  | -27.7505 | 110.3388 | -179.99  | -76.819  | -62.527  | 60.585   | 179.987 | 0.669  | -0.604  | N |
| CHI1 ALA 1.3-1.5 | 1024.0  | 57.1519  | 7.8955   | -68.456  | 55.7885  | 57.133   | 58.83    | 172.17  | -6.646 | 186.172 | N |
| CHI1 CYS 1.3-1.5 | 747.0   | -41.2766 | 95.413   | -179.801 | -74.1915 | -66.32   | 51.0895  | 179.984 | 0.719  | -0.029  | N |
| CHI1 ASP 1.3-1.5 | 3590.0  | -55.0809 | 96.4131  | -179.995 | -97.1825 | -69.4125 | -53.9482 | 179.982 | 0.841  | 0.129   | N |
| CHI1 GLU 1.3-1.5 | 3464.0  | -49.0669 | 99.6363  | -179.983 | -77.365  | -66.9045 | -55.1665 | 179.97  | 1.044  | 0.501   | N |
| CHI1 PHE 1.3-1.5 | 2231.0  | -35.6894 | 108.8956 | -179.983 | -79.1875 | -64.628  | 49.9455  | 179.981 | 0.799  | -0.347  | N |
| CHI1 HIS 1.3-1.5 | 1467.0  | -45.3825 | 102.0759 | -179.941 | -82.2435 | -63.545  | -44.459  | 179.972 | 0.825  | -0.043  | N |
| CHI1 ILE 1.3-1.5 | 3419.0  | -53.3145 | 55.224   | -179.996 | -67.648  | -61.617  | -54.5465 | 179.665 | 0.852  | 2.448   | N |
| CHI1 LYS 1.3-1.5 | 3033.0  | -45.9788 | 106.4564 | -179.952 | -80.937  | -66.611  | -52.707  | 179.991 | 0.954  | 0.067   | N |
| CHI1 LEU 1.3-1.5 | 5283.0  | -46.0016 | 102.2526 | -179.987 | -76.438  | -65.695  | -56.51   | 179.986 | 1.213  | 0.687   | N |
| CHI1 MET 1.3-1.5 | 1285.0  | -51.2512 | 97.1297  | -179.992 | -77.185  | -65.839  | -55.488  | 179.953 | 1.11   | 0.783   | N |
| CHI1 ASN 1.3-1.5 | 2732.0  | -59.2811 | 89.382   | -179.99  | -87.028  | -69.3735 | -55.5162 | 179.998 | 0.939  | 0.642   | N |
| CHI1 PRO 1.3-1.5 | 2919.0  | 1.4953   | 25.45    | -41.842  | -24.1235 | 1.029    | 26.9185  | 45.259  | 0.005  | -1.768  | N |
| CHI1 GLN 1.3-1.5 | 2288.0  | -53.156  | 100.4589 | -179.933 | -80.8205 | -66.5095 | -55.805  | 179.973 | 1.049  | 0.522   | N |
| CHI1 ARG 1.3-1.5 | 3048.0  | -47.3454 | 101.185  | -179.992 | -78.933  | -66.296  | -53.268  | 179.982 | 0.983  | 0.293   | N |
| CHI1 SER 1.3-1.5 | 3655.0  | 17.775   | 101.0572 | -179.99  | -63.8485 | 59.155   | 71.985   | 179.996 | -0.319 | -0.733  | N |
| CHI1 THR 1.3-1.5 | 3360.0  | -2.6335  | 77.2086  | -179.944 | -60.7402 | 45.8     | 62.638   | 179.723 | -0.383 | -0.599  | N |
| CHI1 VAL 1.3-1.5 | 4130.0  | 63.3369  | 138.5869 | -179.997 | -61.9355 | 166.968  | 173.955  | 179.988 | -0.698 | -1.2    | N |
| CHI1 TRP 1.3-1.5 | 931.0   | -33.9753 | 111.2305 | -179.908 | -85.555  | -66.114  | 57.9435  | 179.954 | 0.666  | -0.605  | N |
| CHI1 TYR 1.3-1.5 | 2156.0  | -29.6433 | 108.2525 | -179.995 | -75.612  | -63.5875 | 57.1332  | 179.907 | 0.75   | -0.45   | N |

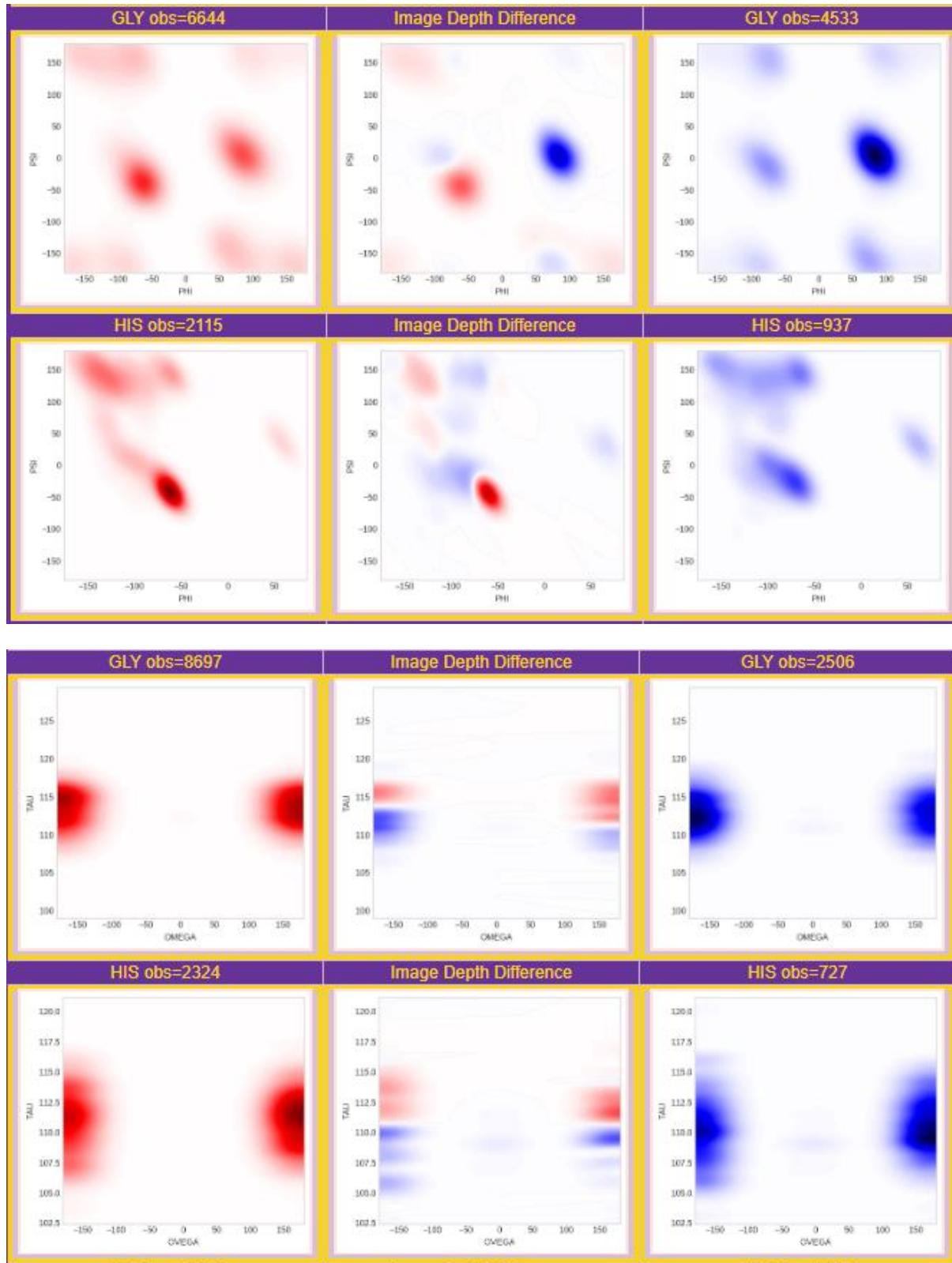
## Appendix 17: Distribution close contact differences for hydrogen bond donors

The difference images below show the distributions for N-O donors in red, and not N-O donors in blue. Where the difference image is red the distribution is skewed towards the donor, and where blue the non-donor. 2 examples, PHE and GLY, for the Ramachandran plot and Omega/Tau.



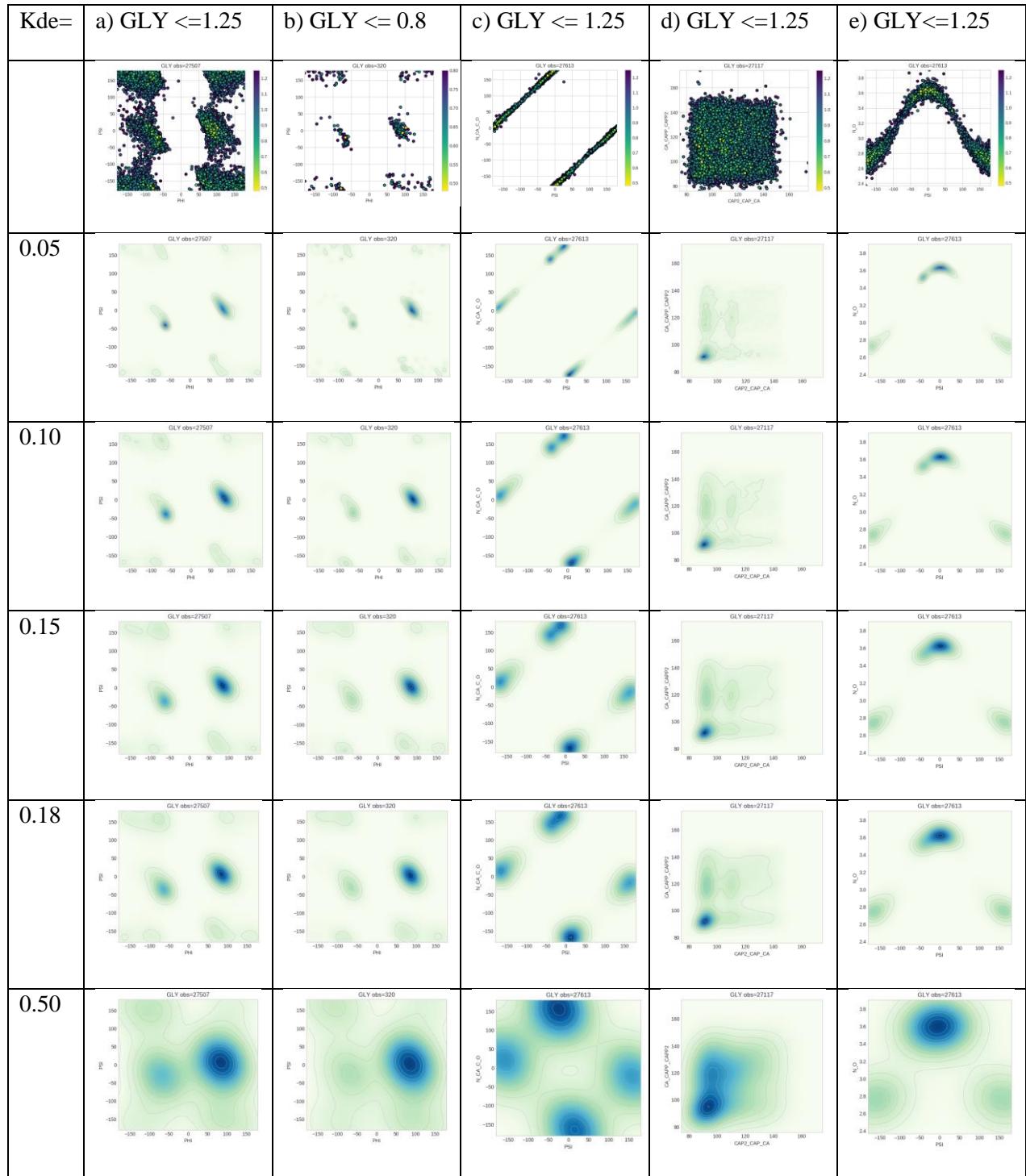
### Appendix 18: Distribution close contact differences for hydrogen bond acceptors

The difference images below show the distributions for N-O acceptors in red, and not N-O acceptors in blue. Where the difference image is red the distribution is skewed towards the acceptor, and where blue the non-acceptor. 2 examples, GLY and HIS, for the Ramachandran plot and Omega/Tau.



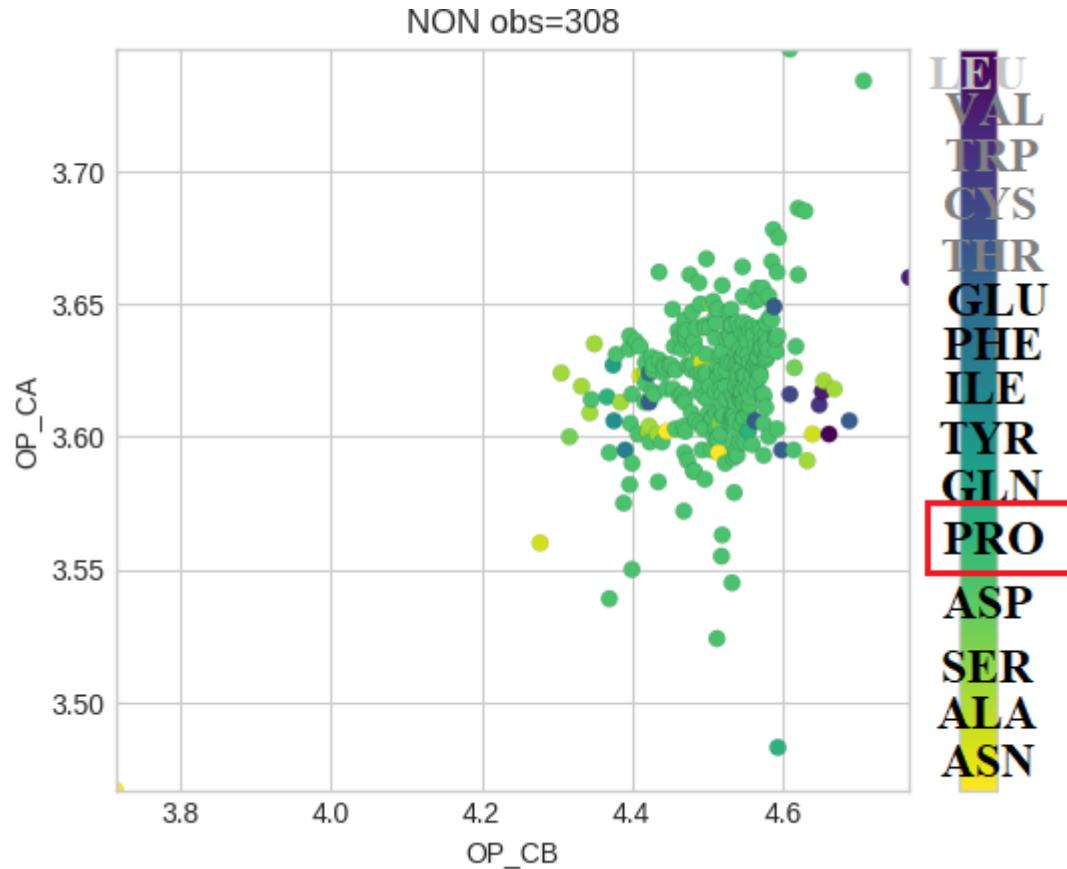
## Appendix 19: KDE Bandwidth settings comparison for probability density

The kde bandwidth setting was selected as 0.10 to balance over and underfitting for the spread of distributions. The effort was made to cover areas of probability when the distribution is sparse but avoid improbable areas.



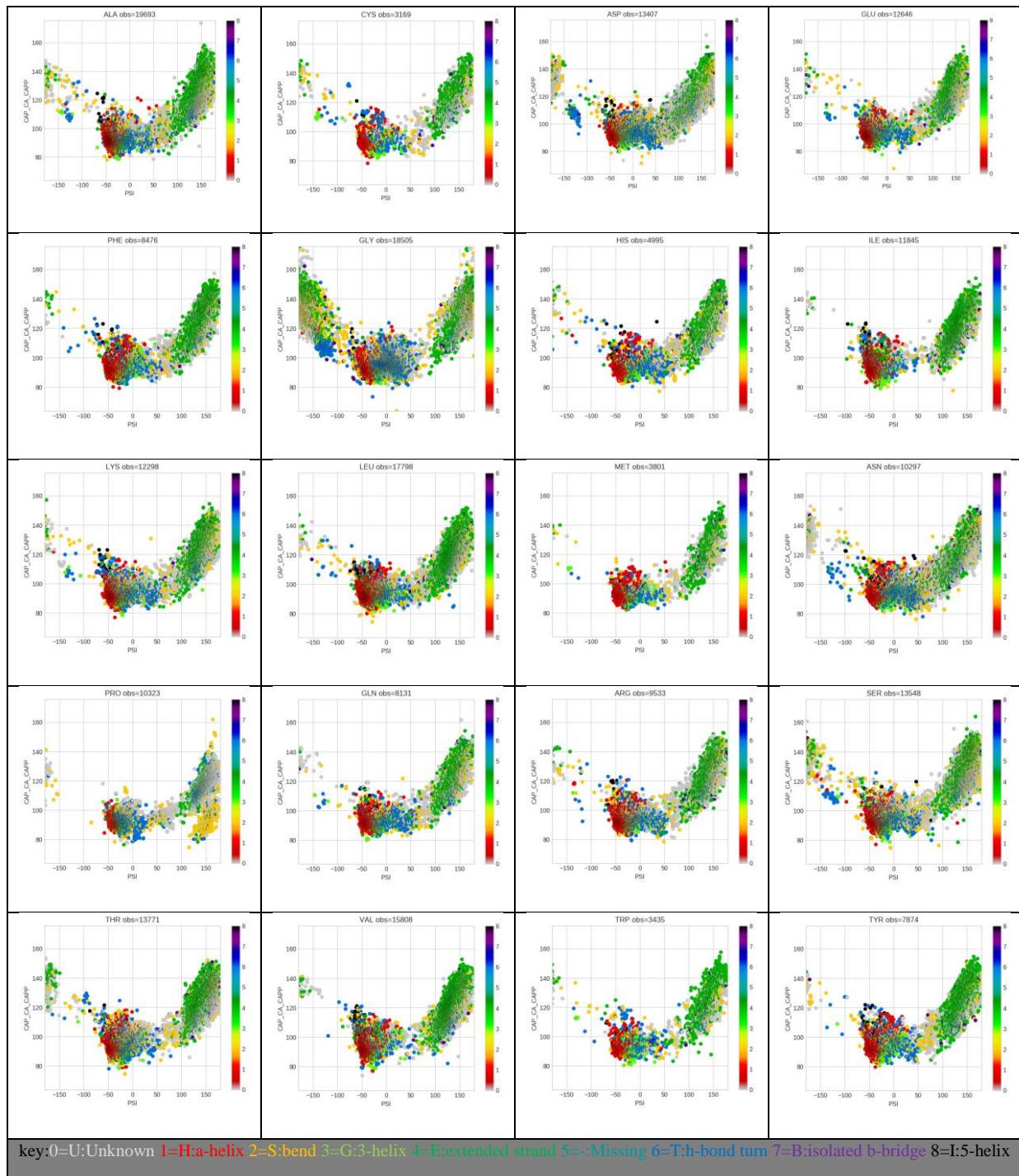
#### **Appendix 20: Proline dominated region in cis/trans correlation plot**

Residues at max bfactor 50, resolution  $\leq 1.2\text{\AA}$ , rvalue  $< 0.16\text{\AA}$ , rfree  $\leq 0.3\text{\AA}$ , for all residues, OP-CA  $> 3.4\text{\AA}$  graduated on amino acid, shows this area almost entirely dominated by proline.



## Appendix 21: Correlation of PSI versus CA1N-CA-CA1C for all amino acids

The geometric plot PSI/CA1N-CA-CA1C is shown below for each amino acid type, graduated on dssp secondary structure. The set was taken for resolution  $\leq 1.2\text{\AA}$ , rvalue  $\leq 0.16\text{\AA}$ , rfree  $\leq 0.3\text{\AA}$  and max bfactor 100.



## Appendix 22: Alanine CHI1 and hydrogen placement

The definition for CHI1 is non-standard, defined as C-CA-CB-HB1 - the only hydrogen in a CHI1 angle in the system. Alanine has noticeable differences in the CHI1 distribution at high resolutions, to which I attribute the increased accuracy of hydrogen determination at high resolution. The table below takes a selection of 10 from the highest resolution CHI1 alanine values and from the lowest 10, checking their atom coordinates and manually verifying the calculations.

The spreadsheet with the full calculations can be found on GitHub: [CHI1 calculation](#)

| CHI1    | atoms_CHI1          | pdb_code | resolution | C-x  | C-y    | C-z    | CA-x   | CA-y   | CA-z   | CB-x   | CB-y   | CB-z   | HB1-x  | HB1-y  | HB1-z  |        |
|---------|---------------------|----------|------------|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 175.49  | 464-463-466-469     | 3NIR     |            | 0.48 | 2.337  | -15.81 | 5.195  | 1.914  | -16.19 | 6.614  | 1.293  | -17.59 | 6.653  | 1.085  | -17.85 | 7.658  |
| -175.10 | 746-744-750-756     | 3NIR     |            | 0.48 | 8.087  | -12.69 | 21.849 | 6.712  | -13.34 | 21.992 | 6.011  | -12.82 | 23.236 | 5.095  | -13.33 | 23.378 |
| 179.07  | 45-44-47-50         | 1UCS     |            | 0.62 | 12.848 | -0.892 | 21.586 | 13.84  | -1.936 | 22.126 | 14.63  | -2.507 | 20.966 | 15.263 | -3.15  | 21.295 |
| -179.64 | 753-752-755-758     | 1UCS     |            | 0.62 | 14.506 | 16.957 | 16.206 | 14.282 | 18.051 | 15.157 | 15.421 | 19.05  | 15.223 | 15.28  | 19.74  | 14.57  |
| -64.84  | 108-107-110-113     | 3X2M     |            | 0.64 | -1.022 | -11.75 | -6.973 | -1.256 | -10.26 | -6.778 | -2.078 | -10    | -5.528 | -2.959 | -10.38 | -5.654 |
| 57.10   | 682-681-684-686     | 3X2M     |            | 0.64 | 5.801  | -17.33 | -4.674 | 5.847  | -16.82 | -3.237 | 4.863  | -17.59 | -2.372 | 5.069  | -18.53 | -2.421 |
| -179.95 | 2150-2149-2152-2154 | 3X2M     |            | 0.64 | 3.715  | 0.961  | -20.79 | 3.377  | 1.031  | -19.31 | 2.245  | 0.077  | -19.01 | 2.031  | 0.124  | -18.07 |
| 179.98  | 2198-2197-2200-2203 | 2VB1     |            | 0.65 | 5.514  | 21.258 | 26.135 | 6.363  | 20.077 | 26.584 | 6.418  | 18.995 | 25.512 | 6.959  | 18.265 | 25.822 |
| -60.00  | 2490-2489-2492-2495 | 2VB1     |            | 0.65 | 1.499  | 26.936 | 12.936 | 1.622  | 28.454 | 13.159 | 3.051  | 28.815 | 13.505 | 3.312  | 28.357 | 14.307 |
| -168.75 | 727-726-729-732     | 1YK4     |            | 0.69 | 8.323  | 11.413 | 4.937  | 8.714  | 11.231 | 3.449  | 8.174  | 12.394 | 2.634  | 8.263  | 12.192 | 1.679  |
| 55.53   | 786-785-788-791     | 3WWX     |            | 1.5  | 12.234 | 2.325  | 21.413 | 12.21  | 2.629  | 19.925 | 12.631 | 1.412  | 19.136 | 12.06  | 0.666  | 19.379 |
| 59.06   | 5031-5030-5033-5036 | 3WWX     |            | 1.5  | 39.371 | -12.37 | 7.304  | 39.988 | -13.1  | 8.489  | 41.121 | -13.99 | 8.017  | 41.789 | -13.44 | 7.58   |
| 57.08   | 3-2-5-7             | 4HQ5     |            | 1.5  | 6.827  | 12.248 | 16.535 | 6.442  | 10.804 | 16.24  | 5.071  | 10.461 | 16.858 | 4.413  | 11.073 | 16.52  |
| -60.87  | 476-475-478-481     | 4HQ5     |            | 1.5  | 5.804  | 21.545 | 37.901 | 5.401  | 20.55  | 36.824 | 4.212  | 19.733 | 37.331 | 4.475  | 19.257 | 38.122 |
| 176.05  | 590-589-592-595     | 4HQ5     |            | 1.5  | 16.317 | 21.137 | 42.127 | 15.26  | 21.591 | 43.124 | 15.212 | 20.626 | 44.281 | 14.588 | 20.952 | 44.934 |
| 57.22   | 716-715-718-721     | 4HQ5     |            | 1.5  | 22.896 | 23.335 | 28.287 | 21.766 | 22.392 | 28.691 | 20.474 | 23.18  | 28.856 | 20.281 | 23.638 | 28.035 |
| 54.89   | 1984-1983-1986-1989 | 4HQ5     |            | 1.5  | 23.32  | 10.237 | 34.122 | 24.106 | 9.898  | 35.392 | 23.187 | 9.297  | 36.436 | 22.734 | 8.541  | 36.055 |
| 58.12   | 879-878-881-884     | 4L58     |            | 1.5  | -5.643 | -7.901 | 4.336  | -6.861 | -7.072 | 4.736  | -7.088 | -7.132 | 6.234  | -6.301 | -6.812 | 6.682  |
| 53.99   | 481-480-483-486     | 4N5U     |            | 1.5  | -11.68 | 12.677 | -18.06 | -11.95 | 11.169 | -18.13 | -12.09 | 10.717 | -19.6  | -11.31 | 11     | -20.1  |
| 60.93   | 671-670-673-676     | 4N5U     |            | 1.5  | -5.739 | 2.3    | 2.223  | -4.737 | 3.055  | 1.384  | -4.763 | 4.538  | 1.721  | -4.528 | 4.653  | 2.655  |