- 1. Prepare starting structure
  - a. isolate binding helix (residues 23-46) from ACE2; save PDB of binding helix in complex with the spike protein RBD
  - b. Relax native complex:

```
$relax.static.linuxgccrelease
-relax:constrain_relax_to_start_coords
-relax:coord_constrain_sidechains -relax:ramp_constraints
false -ex1 -ex2 -use_input_sc -flip_HNQ -no_optH false -s
native helix rbd complex.pdb
```

c. Extract and renumber relaxed structure:

```
$/farmshare/software/non-free/rosetta/3.12/tools/protein_t
ools/scripts/clean_pdb.py
native helix rbd complex relaxed.pdb ignorechain
```

## 2. Remodel

a. Create blueprint file of the binding helix (chain A):

```
$/farmshare/software/non-free/rosetta/3.12/tools/protein_t
ools/scripts/clean_pdb.py
native helix rbd complex relaxed.pdb A
```

- b. Created 22 blueprint files with python (see **helix\_LLE\_sub\_blueprints** folder for blueprint files)
- c. Run remodel protocol on all blueprints to generate 5 designs from the starting helix-RBD complex:

```
$for bp in helix_LLE_sub_blueprints/*; do
remodel.static.linuxgccrelease -s
native_helix_rbd_complex_relaxed_renumbered.pdb -blueprint
$bp -jd2:no_output -remodel:quick_and_dirty -out:prefix
complexed LLE sub pdbs/${bp:36:21} -run:chain A; done
```

- d. Select the 12 designs with the lowest total energy scores for the next step (see top12\_remodel\_designs folder)
- 3. FastDesign and Docking
  - Ran a FastDesign-Docking script (see xml file) on native structure and the 12
     Remodel designs (see sbatch file)
- 4. NCAA Substitution with Pyrosetta
  - a. Ran the ncaa\_monte\_carlo\_substitution.py script to generate low-energy structures from 10,000 iterations of substitutions within the 16\_5 remodeled helix (lowest-scoring design from step 3).
  - b. After, ran the FastDesign-Docking mutant (see xml file) script on the mutant designs to generate docking scores for analysis with the sbatch file in the mutating folder.