

## Structure and dynamics of proteins



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## Importance of protein dynamics

The atomic level basis of a disease...  
The shape of a drug binding site...

There is no single structure  
but a conformational ensemble at 37°C

## Importance of computational modelling

Atomic level information on motions

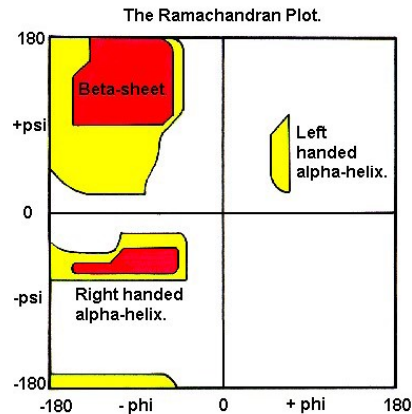
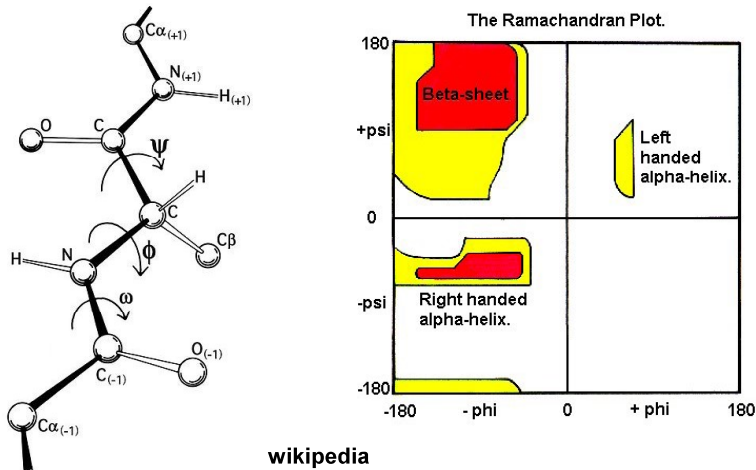
Experiments usually do not provide atomic  
level information on events.

Exceptions e.g. NMR

## Topics

- Introduction to protein structure and dynamics
- Characterization of protein structure
  - Prediction of secondary structure
  - Intrinsically disordered proteins
  - Tertiary structure

## Secondary structure



## Prediction of secondary structure

Using only available structures 60 %

Combining with sequence alignments 70-80 %

### Implementations:

- neural networks,
- support vector machines,
- hidden Markov models, etc.

### Scoring each positions

GOR4, HNN, Prof, [JPred/JNet](#)

## Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

25 % of proteins are predicted disordered

Increased disorder with increased complexity

50 % of human proteins contains a disordered region with 30 a.a. or longer

Not fully random.

Structure flexibility.

No compact globular folding and residual structure

The paradigm  
protein function needs a well-defined 3D structure  
has changed.

## Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

Benefits	Specificity and adaptation	
	Reversible transition between ordered/disordered states	
Roles	Large binding surface	
	Fast binding	
	Entropic chain:	inactivation of K <sup>+</sup> channels
	Effectors:	peptide inhibitors
	Scavengers:	casein
	Assembly:	calmodesmon, F-actin
	Presentation:	phosphorylation and cleavage sites

# Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

DisProt database: <http://www.disprot.org>

K. Dunker – Indiana University

Péter Tompa, Lajos Kalmár, Zsuzsa Dosztányi – Institute of Enzymology

## Disorder prediction

Learning algorithms  
Based on disordered sequences  
in the PDB database

Dispred2

Predicting interaction energies

IUPred.enzim.hu

# IUPred

For an existing 3D structure:

$$E_{\text{calculated}} = \sum_{i,j} M_{ij} C_{ij}$$

There is only protein sequence:

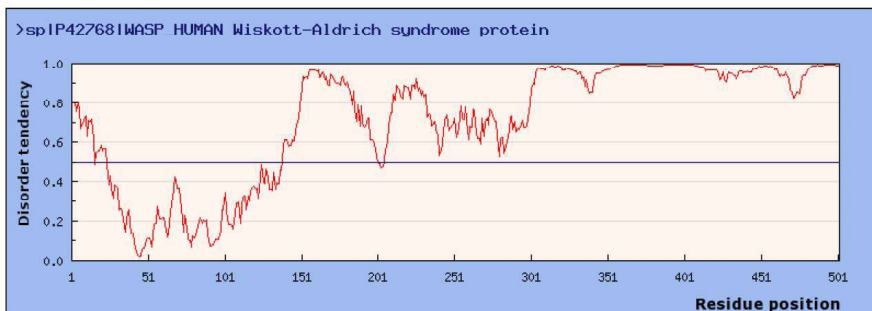
$$E_{\text{estimated}} = L \sum_{i,j} P_{ij} f_i f_j$$

Disorder level of an a.a.:

$$E_j^k = \sum_{i=1}^{20} P_{ij} f_i^k (w_0)$$

B. Mészáros, PhD dissertation

# An output from IUPred



# 3D structure prediction

## Ab initio folding

- CASP (Critical Assessment of Techniques for Protein Structure Prediction)
- constraints from experiments

## Homology modelling

- conserved sequence == conserved structure
- > 30% similarity
- most important: the sequence alignment

- Searching a template
- Sequence alignment
- Modelling
- Energy minimization

[illegible]

## Basic Local Alignment Search Tool (BLAST)

CLUSTAL W (1.83) multiple sequence alignment

### Alignement – pl. ClustalW

2HD -----MKRYLQVRF-----PYKRIAFATIIVGLKGPIMLPI  
 3B5K -----WQTFKRLWTYIR-----LYKAGIVSTTALVINAADTMI  
 CFTR\_HUMAN MQRSPLEKASVSVKLSFVWTPILRKQRLQLESDIIQIPVSDADNII  
                                   \*                  \*:         \*:         \*         \*         \*         \*  
                                   5                  10                  15                  20                  25                  30                  35

M I K R Y L Q V R F V K L P Y K R I A F A T I I V G L K G P I M L P I  
 M Q R S P L E K A S V S V K L S F V W T P I L R K Q R L E S D I I Q I P V S D A D N I I

Diagram illustrating the workflow of the iFold2 protein structure prediction pipeline:

- Template Structure** (Grey ribbon model) is the starting point.
- Amino acid Substitution** leads to the **Initial Model (\*.ini)** (Yellow ribbon model).
- Energy Minimisation** leads to the **Output Model(s) (\*.B9999)** (Green ribbon model).
- Key features and changes are highlighted:
  - Valine** is shown in the Template Structure.
  - Glutamine** is shown in the Initial Model.
  - Change in Rotamer** is indicated in the Output Model.

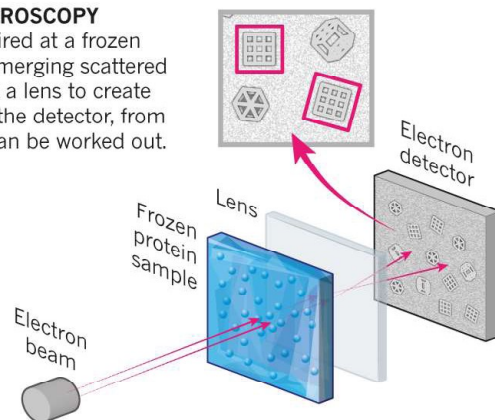
source: SBCB, Oxford, UK

## Structure determination – „single particle”

## Cryo-electron microscopy

## CRYO-ELECTRON MICROSCOPY

A beam of electron is fired at a frozen protein solution. The emerging scattered electrons pass through a lens to create a magnified image on the detector, from which their structure can be worked out.

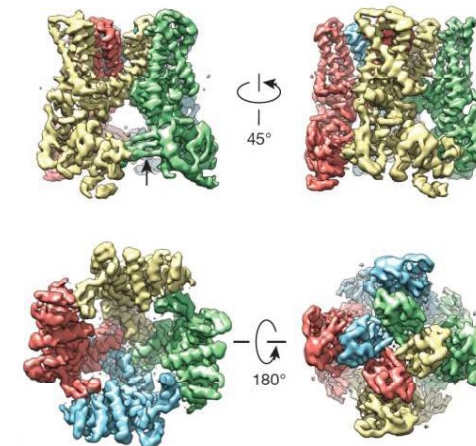


© nature

Ewen Callaway, Nature | News Feature  
The revolution will not be crystallized: a new method sweeps through structural biology, 09 September 2015

## Structure determination – „single particle”

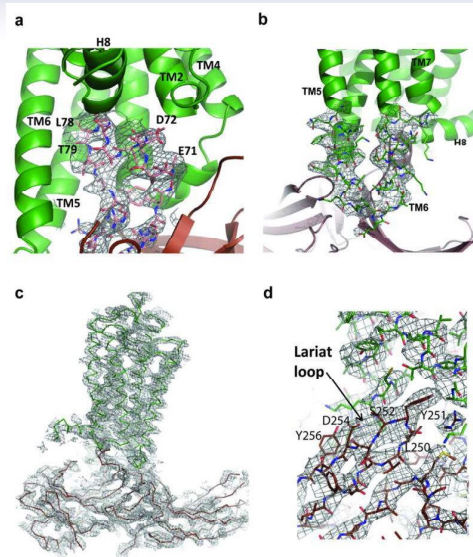
The TRPV1 channel detects the burn of chilli peppers, and this 3.4-Å structure is considered super-hot in the structural-biology world.





## Structure determination – „single particle”

Free Electron Laser (FEL)



Nature. 2015 Jul  
30;523(7562):561-7.

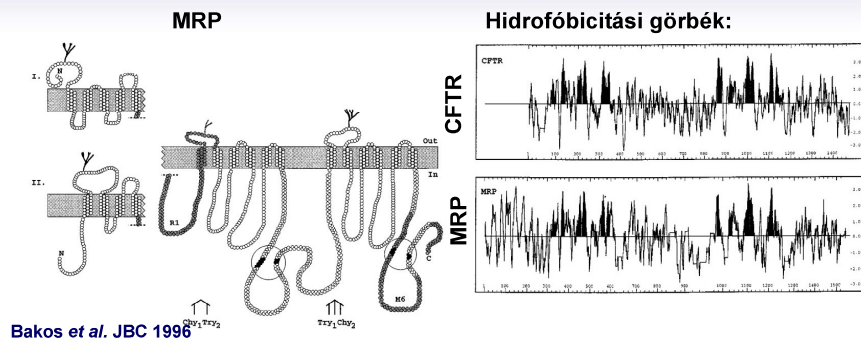
Crystal structure of  
rhodopsin bound to  
arrestin by  
femtosecond X-ray  
laser.

## Structure determination – complete cell

Free Electron Laser (FEL)



## Membránfehérjék topológiája



CFTR topológiája kísérletekből ismert  
Chang et al. J Biol Chem. 1994 Jul 15;269(28):18572-5

Kísérletes topológia meghatározási módszerek:

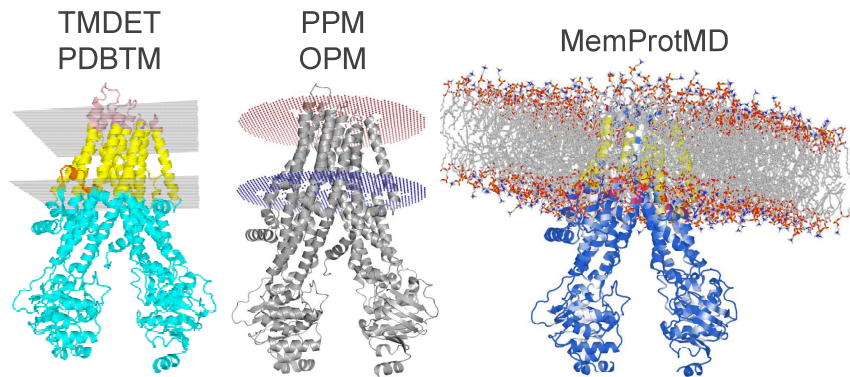
- tag – felismerés
- Cys hozzáférhetőség

## Prediction of membrane topology and TM helices

E.g. CCTOP.enzim.hu

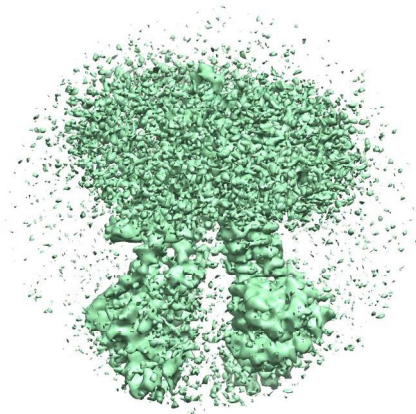
- Based on sequence
- a.a. distribution in TMH and soluble regions
- Incorporation of experimental knowledge
- Integration of several predictors

## Prediction of TM helices based on structure



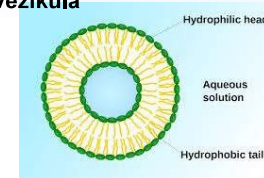
Membrane embedment data is in the electron density maps

CFTR (PDBID: 5UAK) EMD

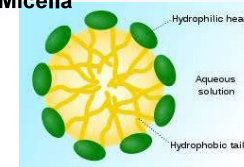


## Membrane mimetics

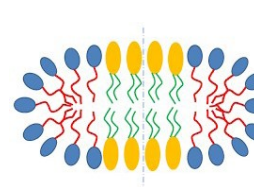
Vezikula



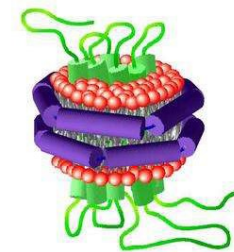
Micella



Bicella



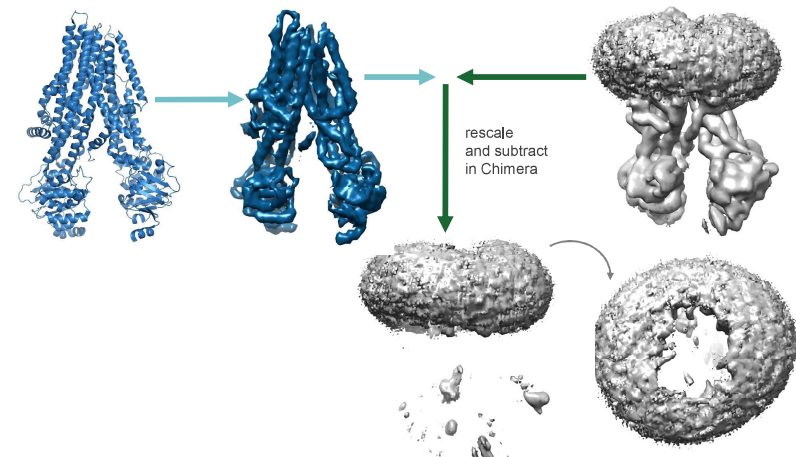
Nanodisc



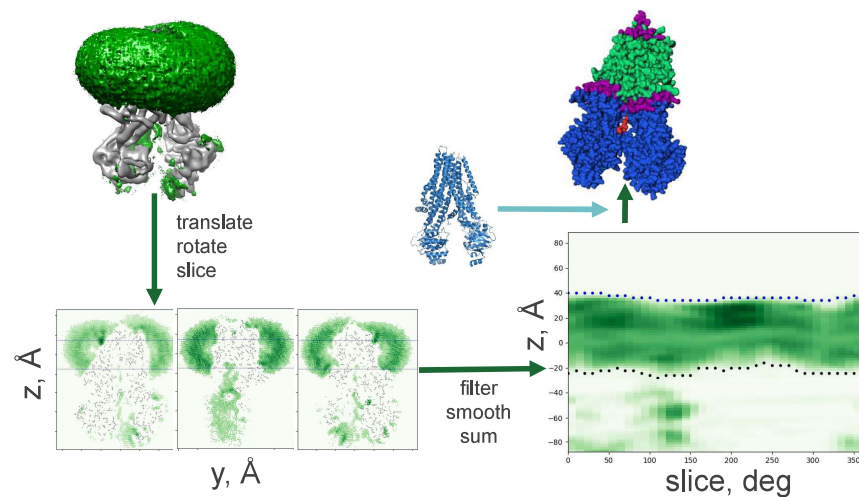
Amphipol



A membrane blob can be extracted from the electron density map



## The MemBlob can be converted to membrane boundaries



<http://memblob.hegelab.org>

## Protein-protein interactions

Docking of proteins – challenging (surface shape, dynamics)

PISA - Protein Interfaces, Surfaces and Assemblies  
Molecular Dynamics

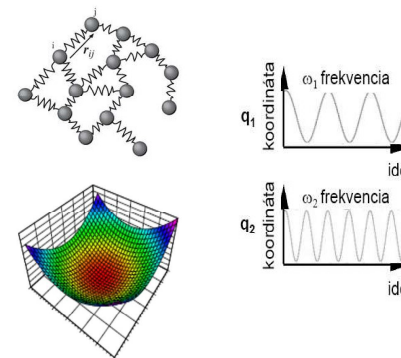
## TOPICS

- Protein structure
- Protein dynamics
- Protein folding

## Methods for studying protein dynamics

### Normal mode analysis

- harmonic potential
- analytic equation of motions
- normal modes



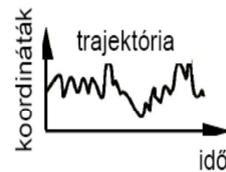
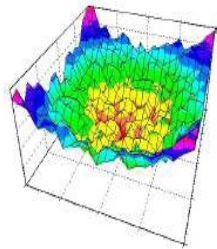
- Gaussian network model (GNM)
  - mean squared displacements
  - cross-correlations between fluctuations
- Anisotropic network model (ANM)
  - Directionality by projection of motions to a mode space of N dimensions

Tools: <http://prody.csb.pitt.edu>

# Methods for studying protein dynamics

## Molecular dynamics

- realistic potential surface
- numerical integration of Newton's equations
- a system of interacting particles
- forces between the particles and their potential energies are calculated by using interatomic potentials (molecular mechanics force fields)
- output: trajectory



## The force field

$$E_{\text{prot}} = W_{\text{rot}} E_{\text{rot}} + W_{\text{atr}} E_{\text{atr}} + W_{\text{rep}} E_{\text{rep}} + W_{\text{solv}} E_{\text{solv}} + W_{\text{pair}} E_{\text{pair}} + W_{\text{mbenv}} E_{\text{mbenv}} + W_{\text{hbond}} E_{\text{hbond}} - E_{\text{ref}}$$

$$E_{\text{solv}} = - \sum_i^{\text{atom}} \sum_{j>i}^{\text{atom}} \left\{ \frac{2\Delta G_i^{\text{free}}}{4\pi\sqrt{\pi}\lambda_j r_{ij}^2} \exp(-d_{ij}^2) V_j + \frac{2\Delta G_j^{\text{free}}}{4\pi\sqrt{\pi}\lambda_i r_{ij}^2} \exp(-d_{ji}^2) V_i \right\} \quad \text{Lazaridis (2003)}$$

TABLE I. Solvation Parameters<sup>†</sup>

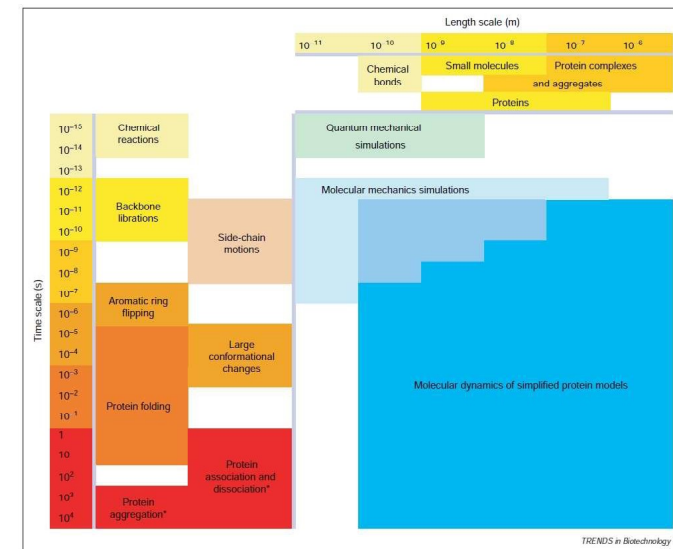
Atom types <sup>a</sup>	Volume	$\Delta G_i^{\text{ref b}}$	$\Delta G_j^{\text{free c}}$	$\Delta E_i^{\text{ref b}}$	$\Delta C_{\text{PI}}^{\text{ref d}}$
C	14.7	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00
CR	8.3	-0.890	-1.40	2.220	6.90
CH1E	23.7	-0.187	-0.25	0.876	0.00
CH2E	22.4	0.372	0.52	-0.610	18.60
CH3E	30.0	1.089	1.50	-1.779	35.60
CR1E	18.4	0.057	0.08	-0.973	6.90
NH1	4.4	-5.950	-8.90	-9.059	-8.80
NR	4.4	-3.820	-4.00	-4.654	-8.80
NH2	11.2	-5.450	-7.80	-9.028	-7.00
NH3	11.2	-20.000	-20.00	-25.000	-18.00
NC2	11.2	-10.000	-10.00	-12.000	-7.00
N	0.0	-1.000	-1.55	-1.250	8.80
OH1	10.8	-5.920	-6.70	-9.264	-11.20
O	10.8	-5.330	-5.85	-5.787	-8.80
OC	10.8	-10.000	-10.00	-12.000	-9.40
S	14.7	-3.240	-4.10	-4.475	-39.90
SH1E	21.4	-2.050	-2.70	-4.475	-39.90

Lazaridis (1999)

## The limitations of MD

- time (computation time versus real time)
- calculation of the potential is the bottle-neck
- fs long integration steps
- „periodic boundary condition“
- solvent (explicit/implicit)

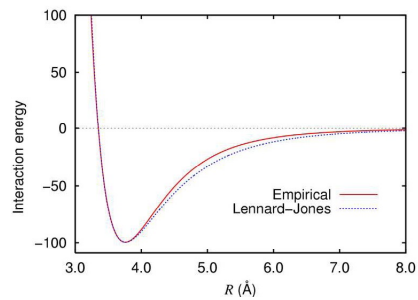
## The time scale of various molecular events



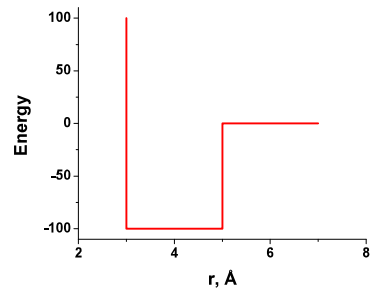
F. Ding and N.V. Dokholyan, TRENDS in Biotechnology, 23:450 (2005)



## Discrete Molecular Dynamics (DMD)



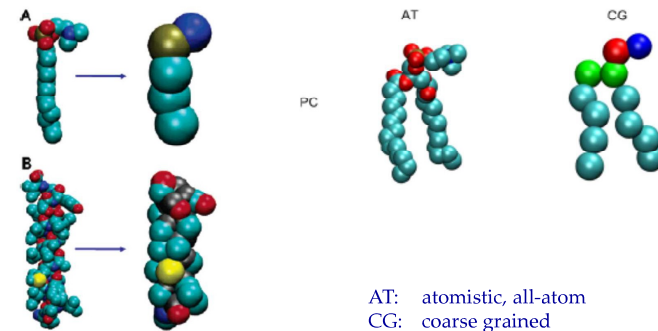
wikipedia



Ding, F., Dokholyan, N. V. PLoS Comput Biol 2:e85

$$V(r) = 4\epsilon \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^6 \right] = \epsilon \left[ \left( \frac{R_{min}}{r} \right)^{12} - 2 \left( \frac{R_{min}}{r} \right)^6 \right]$$

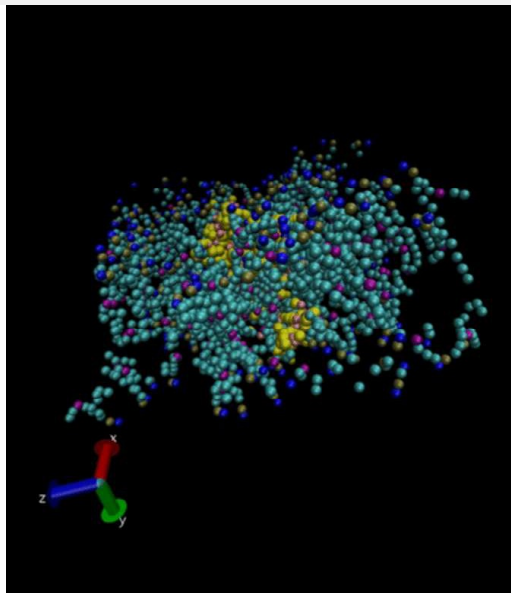
## Simplified coarse-grained models



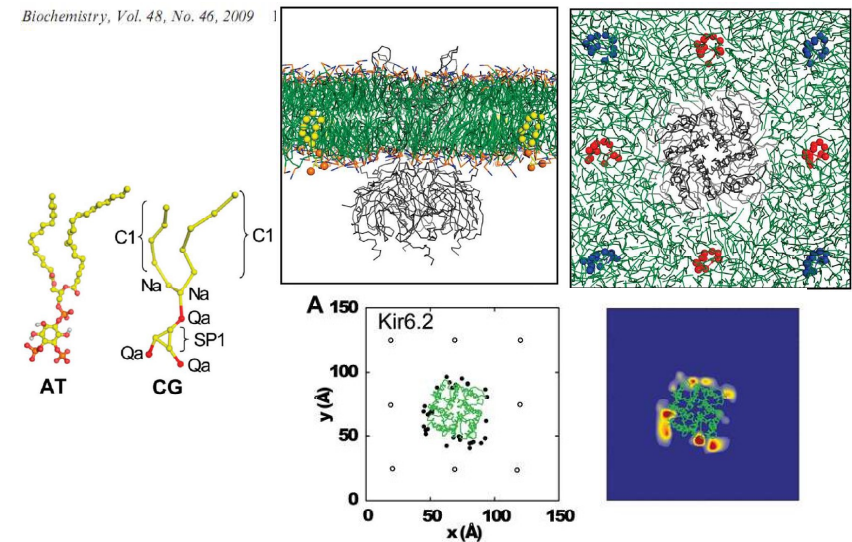
AT: atomistic, all-atom  
CG: coarse grained

e.g. 2 bead or 4+ bead models for proteins  
e.g. MARTINI CG force field

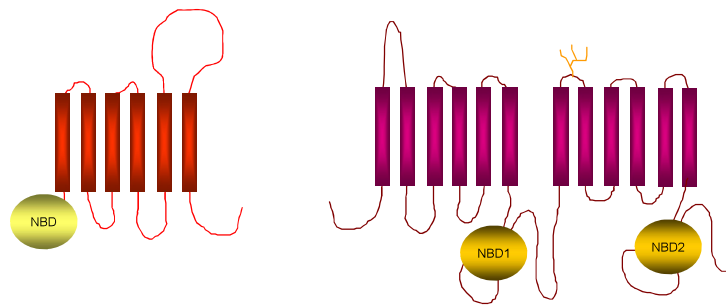
## Membrane bilayer formation



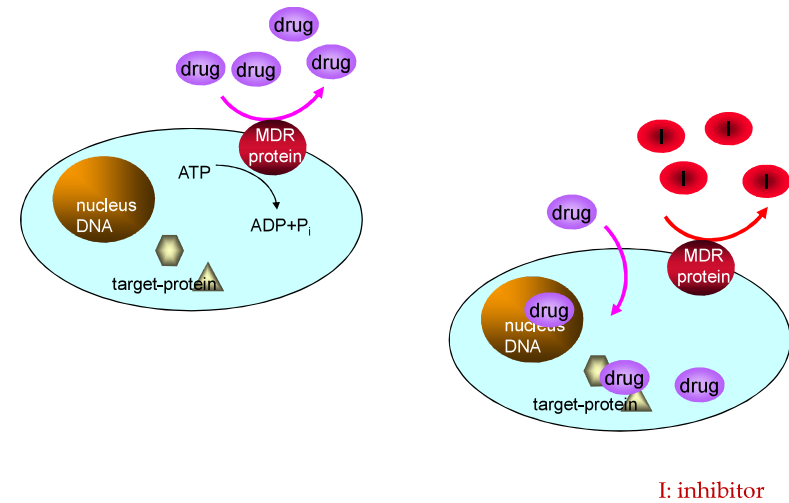
## Binding of PIP2 to a Kir channel



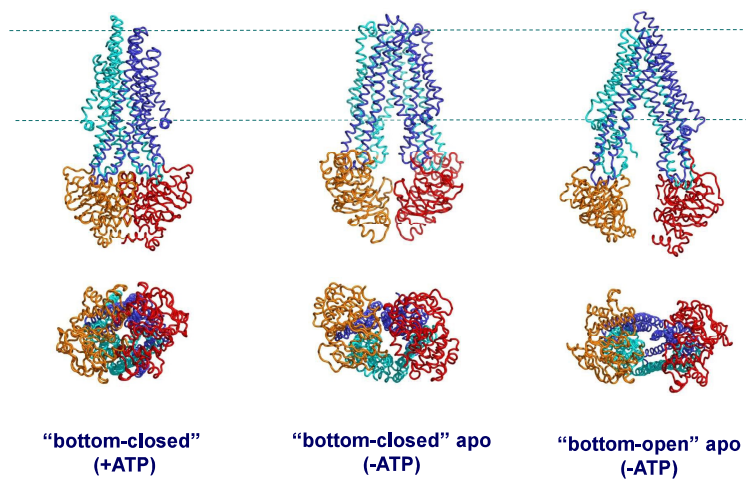
## ATP Binding Cassette (ABC) proteins



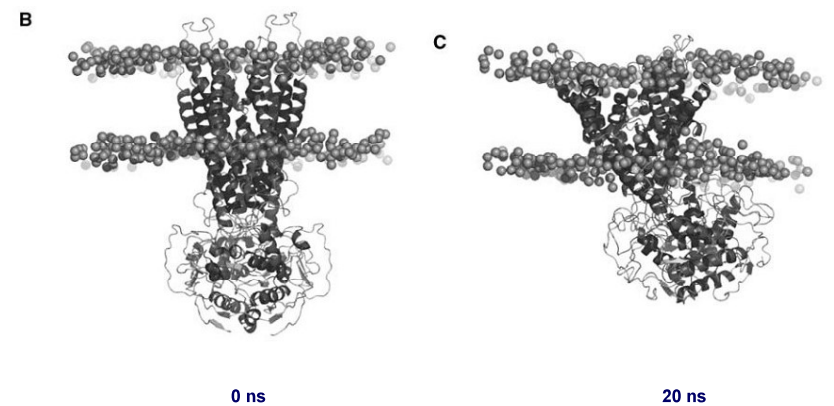
## Multidrug resistance



## Conformation of ABC proteins

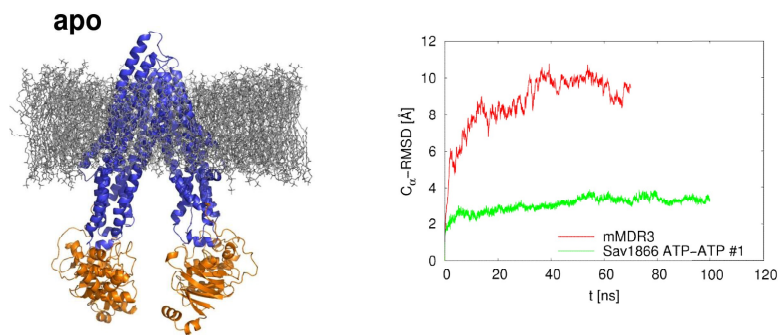


## Stability of simulations



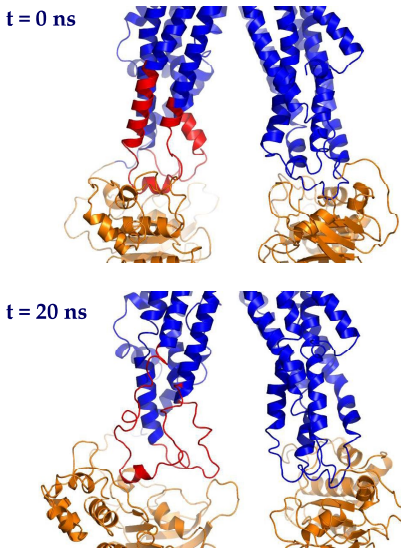


The bottom-open apo conformation is unstable



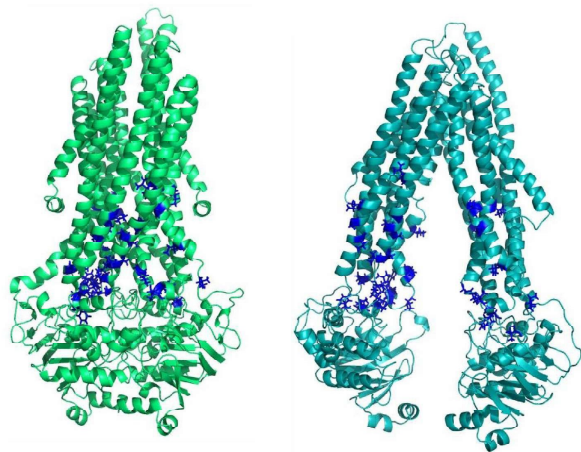
Gyimesi *et al.* BBA 2012

The bottom-open apo conformation is unstable



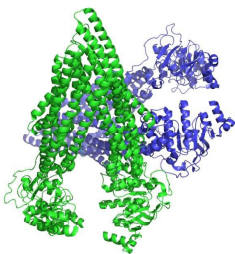
system	helical content
Sav1866 ATP/ATP #1	90.04%
hMDR1 holo	91.84%
hMDR1 apo	64.30%
mMDR3	63.13%

Hydrophobic amino acids are surface exposed

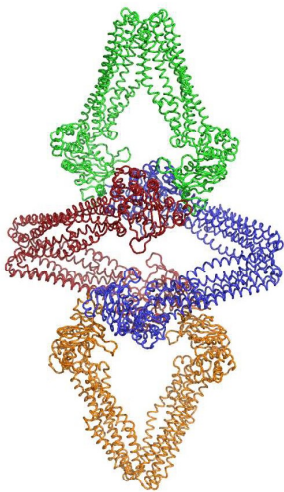


The content of the unit cell

mMDR3, PDBID:3G5U



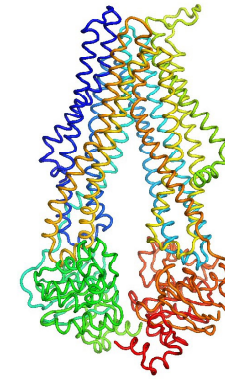
MsbA, PDBID:3B5W



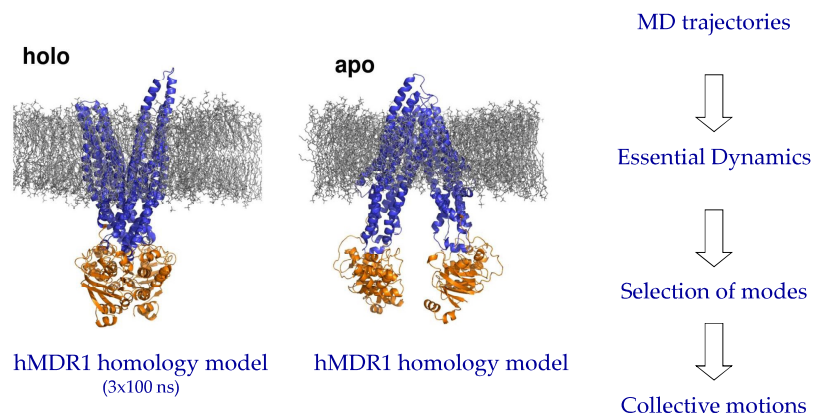
## Simulating special and slow events

- How does ATP hydrolysis affect the protein dynamics?  
*e.g. steered MD*
- What is the transition pathway between the bottom-open and bottom-closed conformation?  
*e.g. targeted MD, Metadynamics*

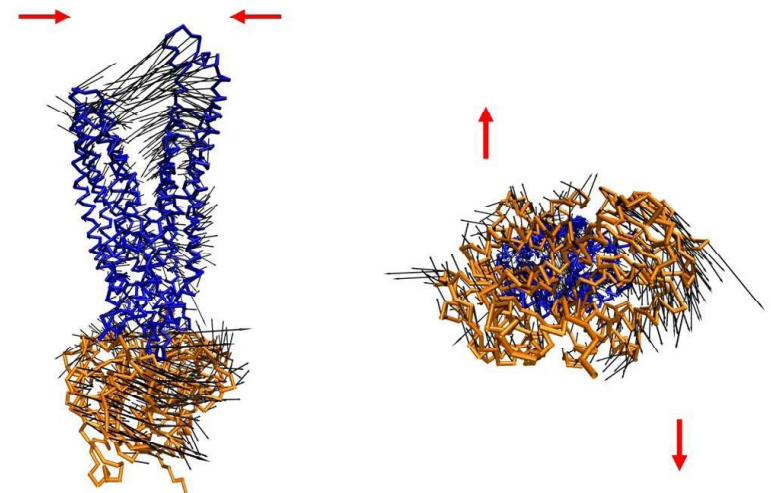
## Targeted MD



## Describing the transition using MD+ED



## Describing the transition using MD+ED

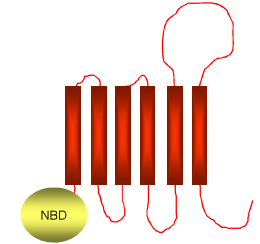


## Calculating the correlation of motions

- Pearson correlation
- MI (mutual information)
- DiCC (distance correlation coefficient)

## The complex example of ABCG2

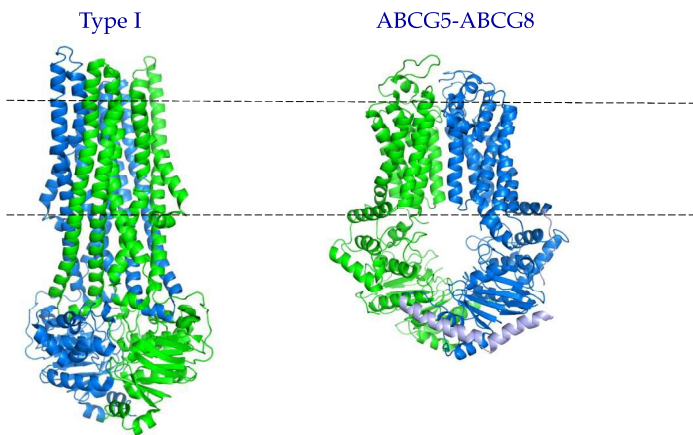
- Homology modelling of the structure (2016)
- Investigating the effect of mutations using MD
- Effect of cholesterol on function
- Identification of drug binding sites
- Describing the transport process by MD and METAD



### Importance of ABCG2

- Expressed in stem cells, tissue barriers, cancer cells
- Multidrug transporter of xenobiotics and endobiotics
  - antitumor agents
  - uric acid
- The Q141K variant exhibit decreased function and expression

## The type II ABC exporter fold



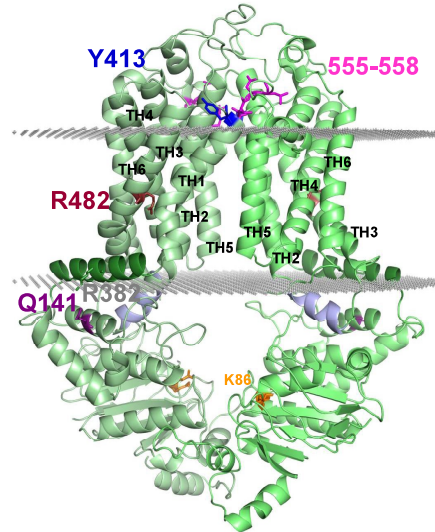
## Homology modelling of ABCG2 based on ABCG5/G8

- Approx. 25% identity and 45% similarity
- Generation of a sequence alignment was ~trivial
- 100 models were built using Modeller
- The model with the best DOPE score was selected and used

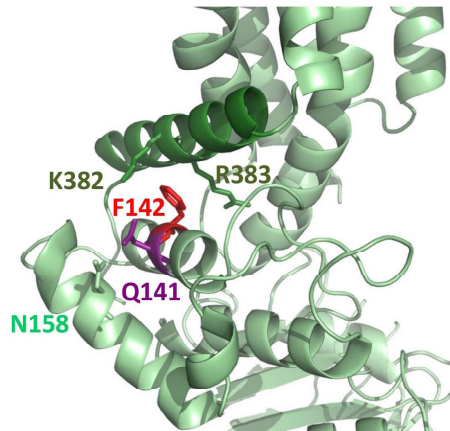


ABCG5-ABCG8  
PDBID:5DO7

## The ABCG2 model

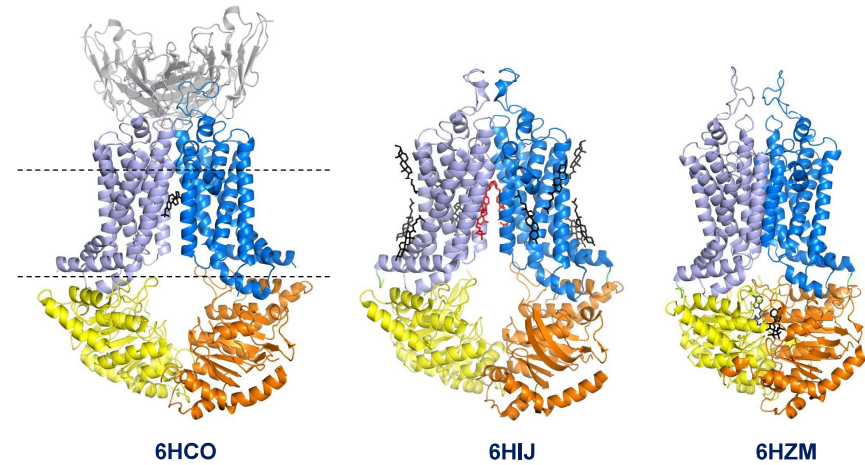


## The Q141 position



## ABCG2 structures

K. Locher, ETH, Zurich

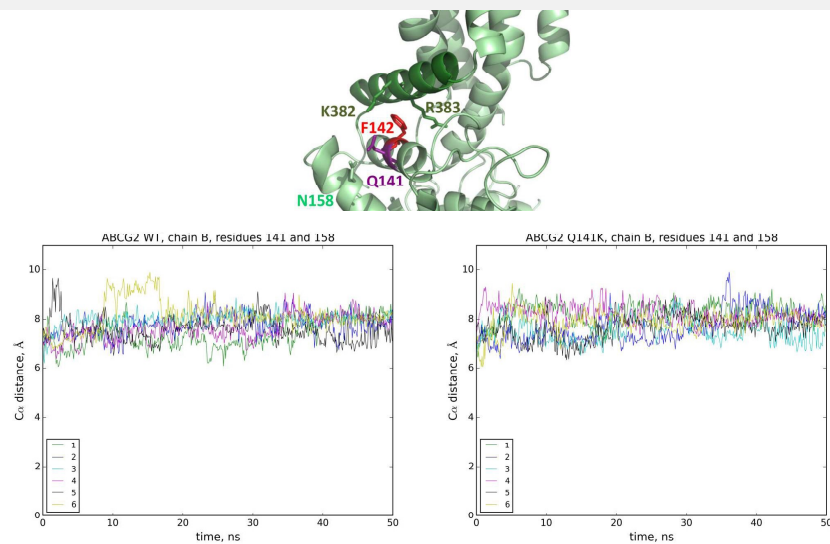


## MD simulations

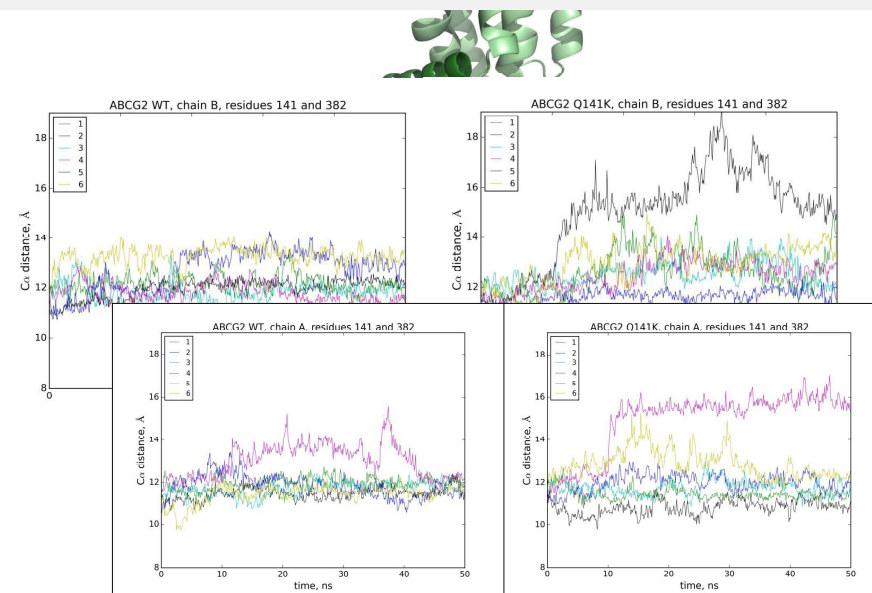
- The protein was embedded in POPC bilayer
- Optimizing the orientation of water, lipids, amino acid side chains:
  - energy minimization
  - equilibration
  - minimal backbone motions (position constrains)
- Production run
  - no constraints
  - 50 ns x 6 = 300 ns
- Comparing WT és mutants (e.g. Q141K, R482G)



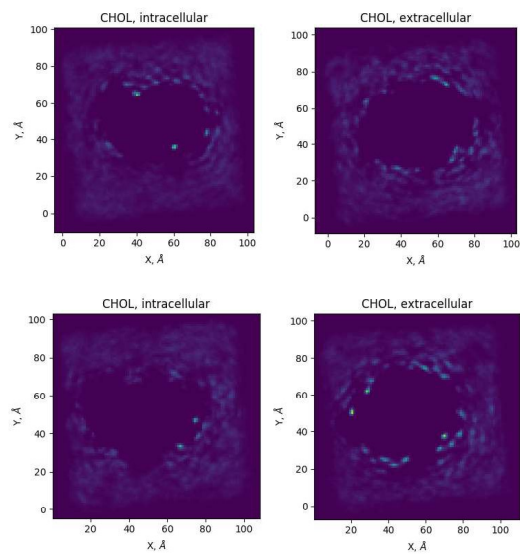
## The effect of Q141K on protein dynamics



## The effect of Q141K on protein dynamics



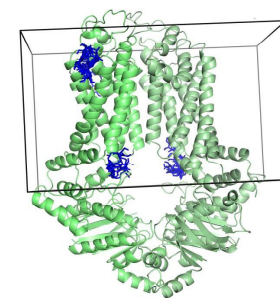
## The effect of cholesterol on ABCG2



## Identification of drug binding sites

*in silico* docking, AutoDock Vina

- Flexible ligand, non-flexible protein
- Several conformations from simulations
- Search space defined by a box

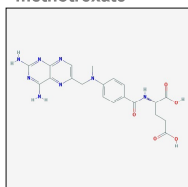


## Identification of drug binding sites

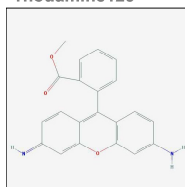
*in silico* docking, AutoDock Vina

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- Everything gets docked; docking substrates and non-substrates

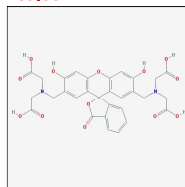
methotrexate



rhodamine123



calcein



## Identification of drug binding sites

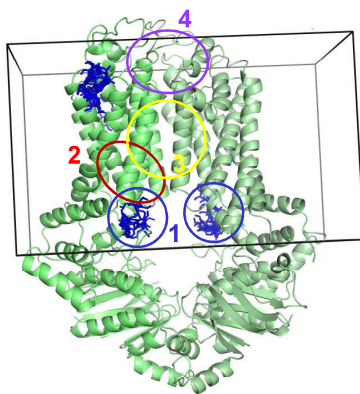
*in silico* docking, AutoDock Vina

- Flexible ligand, non-flexible protein
- Several conformations from simulations
- Search space defined by a box
- Everything gets docked; docking substrates and non-substrates
- (6 ABCG2 conformations) \* (3 parallel dockings) \* (20 poses) \*  
(25 substrates + 14 non-substrates)
- Clustering poses

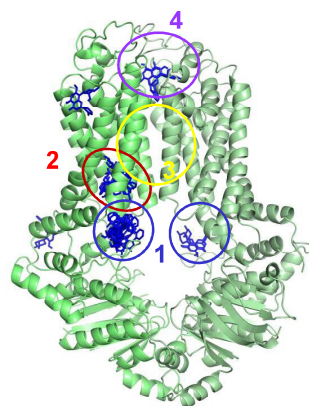
## Identification of drug binding sites

*in silico* docking, AutoDock Vina

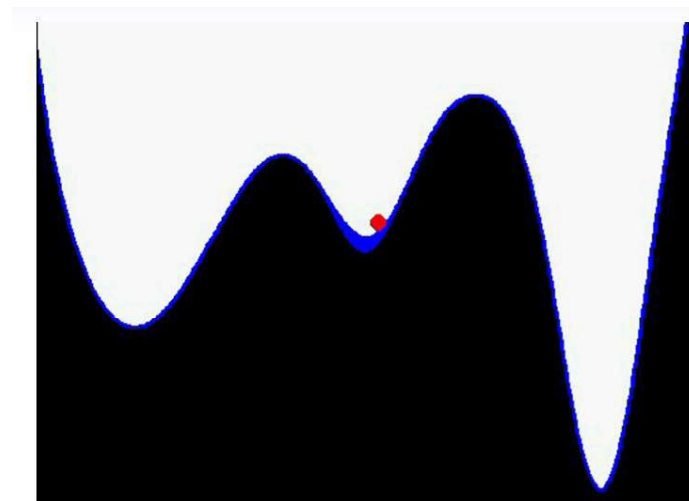
verapamil



flavopiridol



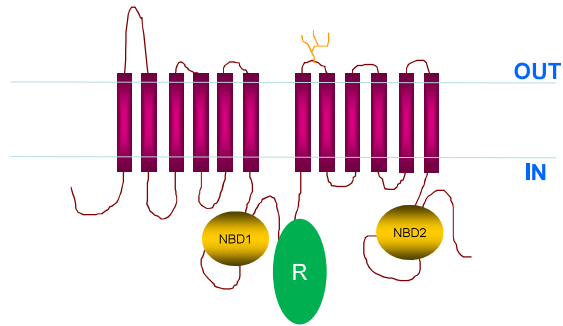
## Exploring substrate transport by biased MD simulations



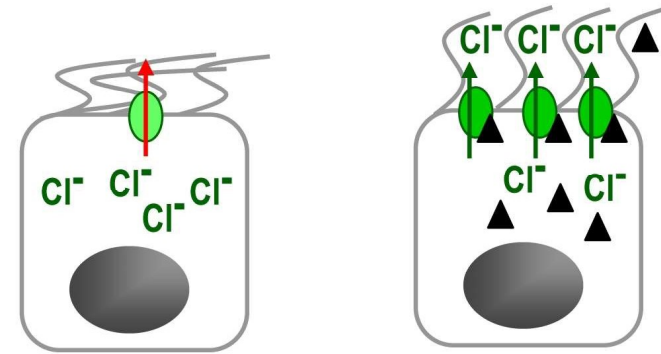


## ABCC7/CFTR

Cystic Fibrosis Transmembrane Conductance Regulator

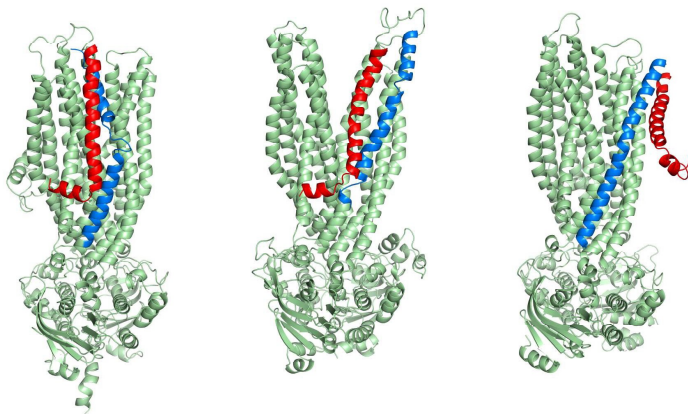


## Cisztás fibrózis (CF)



## Full-length CFTR structures

Cryo-EM revolution



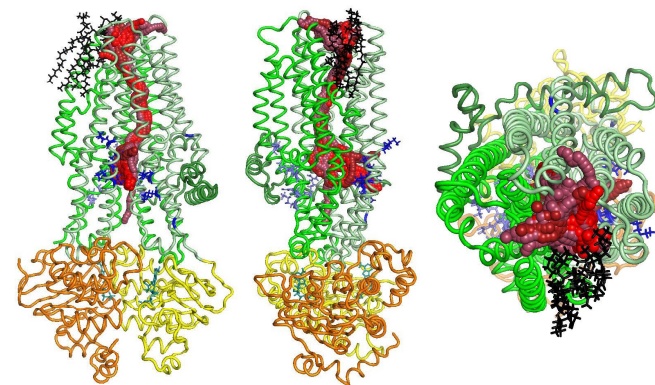
Zhang et al. (2017) Cell 170: 483-491.e8  
PDBID:5W81

Bob Ford  
University of Manchester, UK

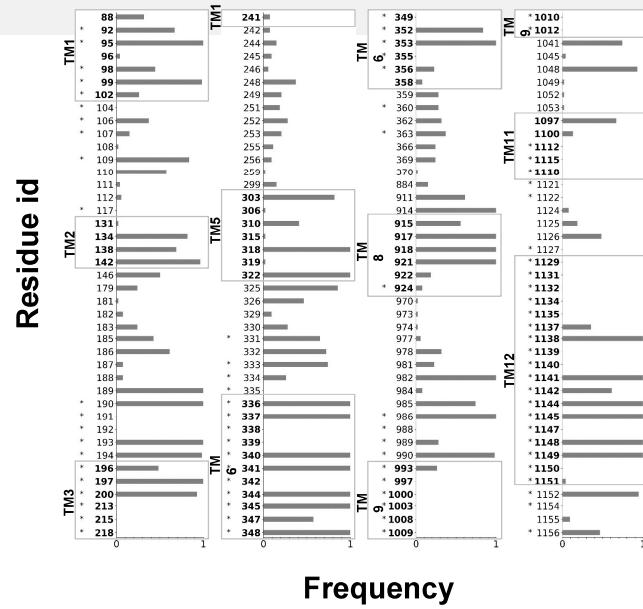
J. Fay, Jack Riordan  
UNC, Chapel Hill, USA

## Identification of the chloride permeation pathway

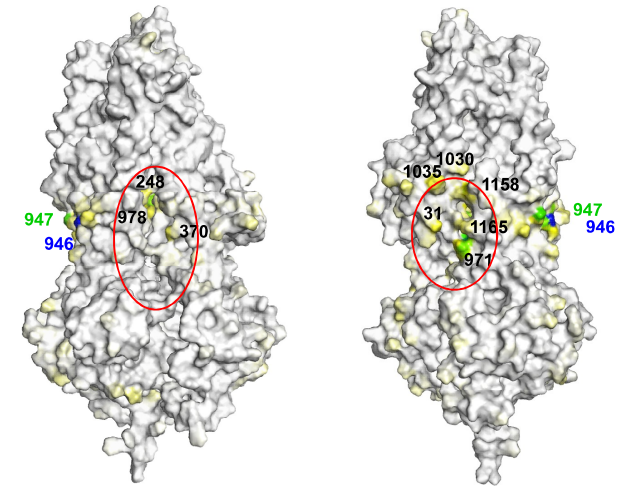
Farkas et al. Cell Mol Life Sci. 2019 Jul 20. doi: 10.1007/s00018-019-03211-4



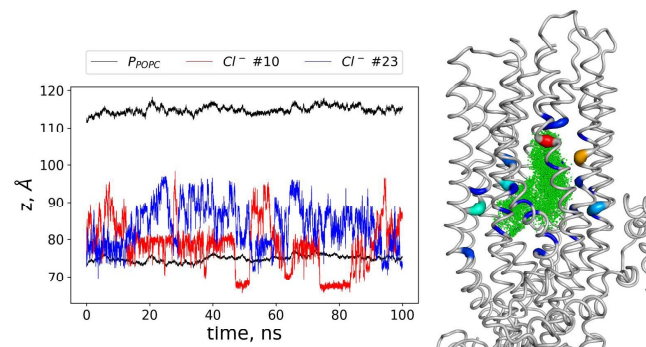
## Simulations versus experiments



## Chloride entry

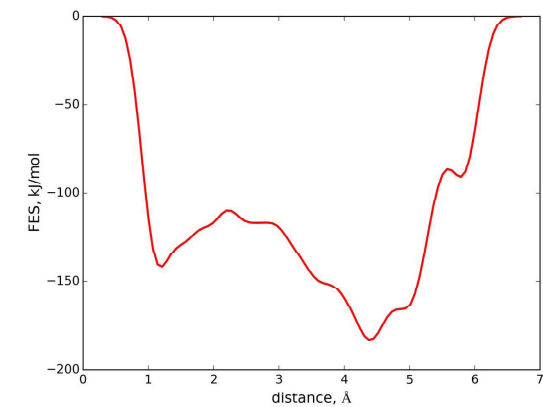


## Ion movements in the channel

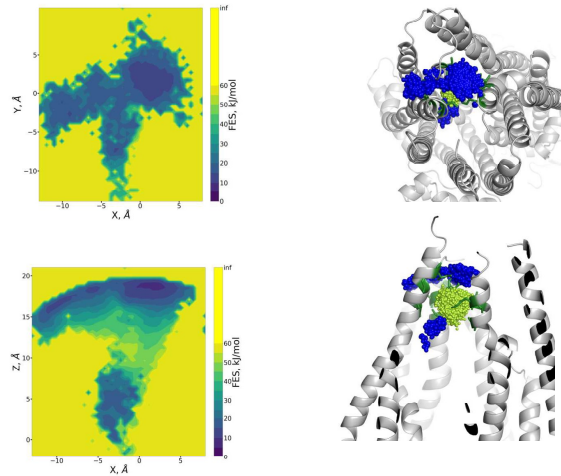


## Calculating the free energy of the permeation

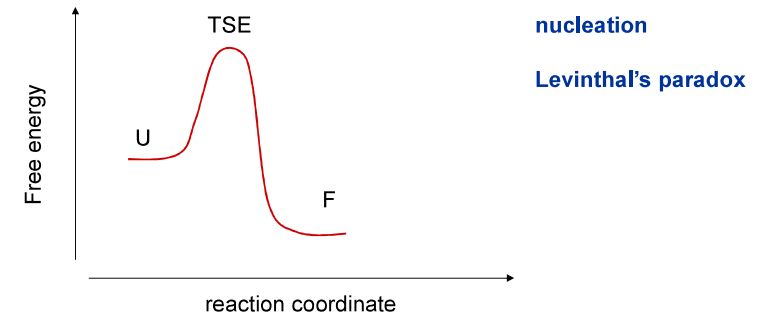
FES – Free Energy Surface



## Characterizing the permeation by metadynamics

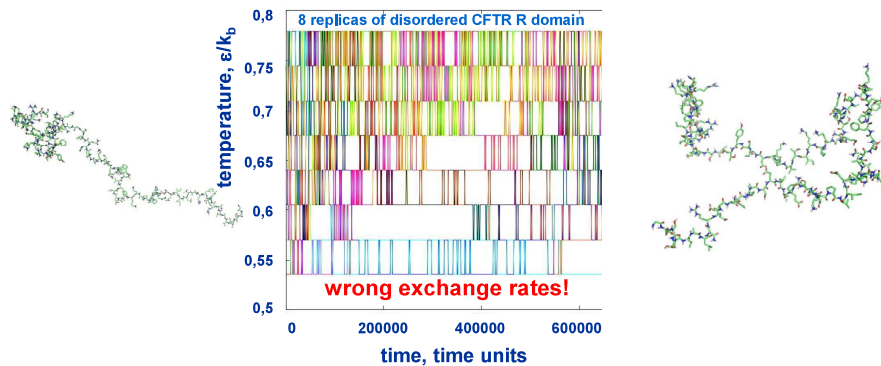


## Protein folding Two-state model



## Simulation techniques for protein folding

All atom force-field  
Umbrella sampling  
replica exchange

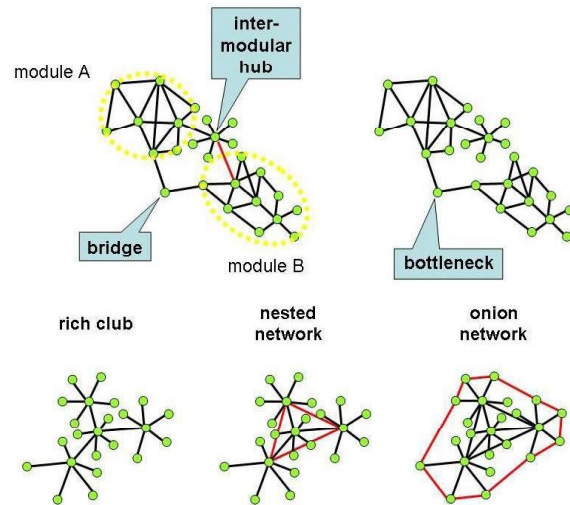


## Systems biology

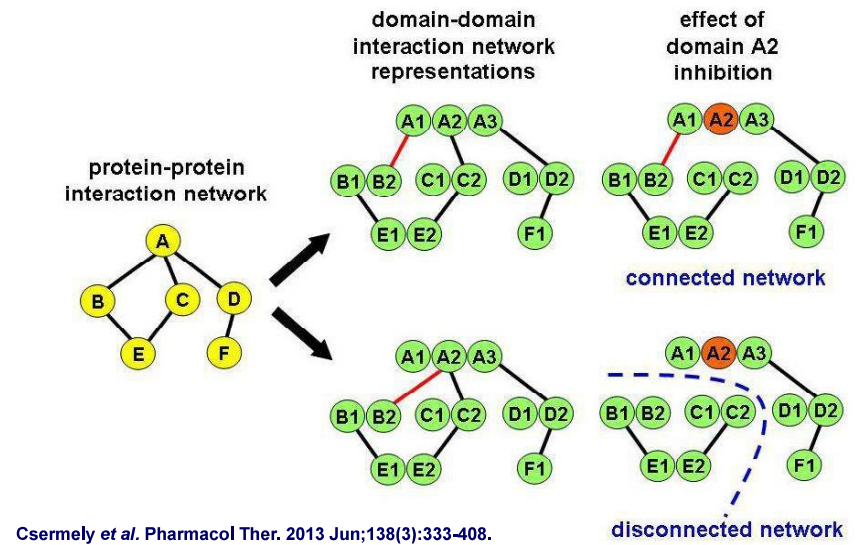
- Protein-protein interactions
- Interactions of genes, proteins, and drugs
- Graph theory methods – amino acid movements

Csermely P. *et al.* 2012, <http://arxiv.org/abs/1210.0330>

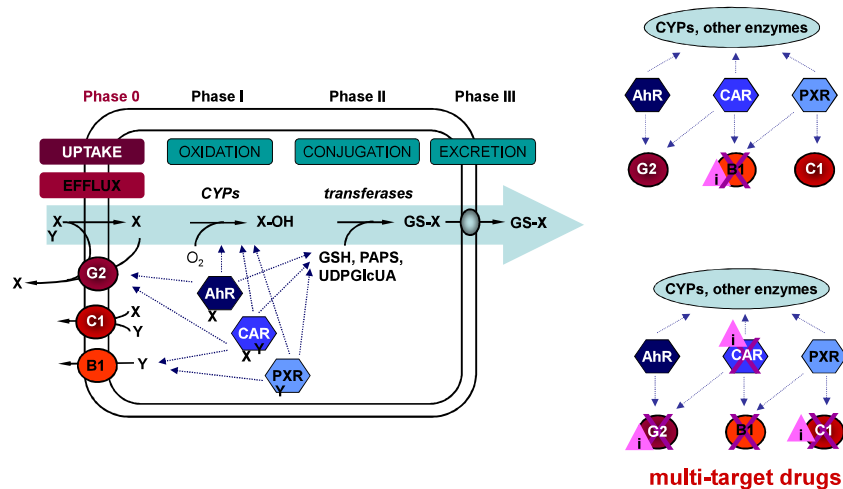
## Graph/network structure



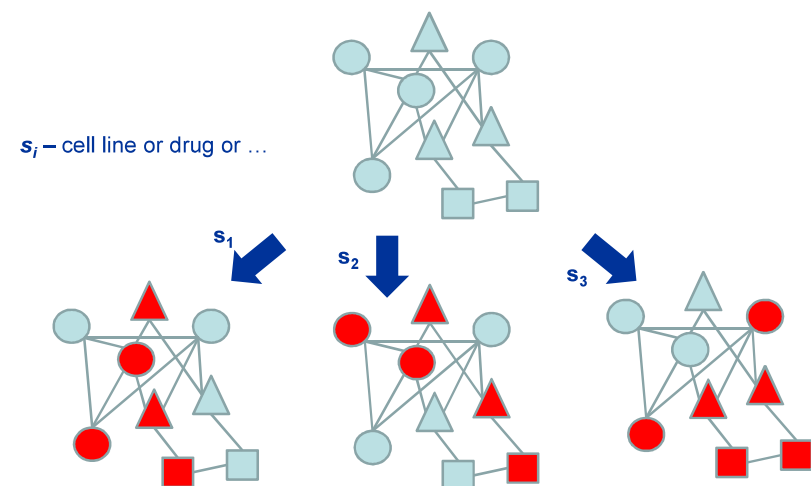
## Protein-protein interaction networks



## The chemoimmune (ChI) system



## The chomoimmune system



Data

Expression-  
changesExpression-  
patternsBiochemical  
pathways

# Pipeline of analysis

- Human samples treated with drugs
- NCBI Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) database
- Preprocessed (by GEO) data & quality check

	our interest	example(s)
DataSet (GDS) <sup>1</sup>	180 (1 335 human)	Anti-cancer agent saphyrin PCI-2050 effect on lung cancer cell line: dose response (GDS2499)
Experiment <sup>2</sup>	883 (2786 cont.+treat.)	treatment: 1) Actinomycin-D 5 ug/ml 2-3) Saphyrin PCI-2050 1.25 ug/ml, 2.5 ug/ml
Tissue/cell	132	lung cancer cell line, MCF-7, HUVEC, primary fetal astrocytes, tumor biopsies ...
Drug or xenobiotic	222	actinomycin D, saphyrin PCI-2050, thapsigargin, tunicamycin, doxorubicin ...
Microarray platform (GPL)	26	Affymetrix - Human Genome U133 Plus 2.0 Array (GPL570)

<sup>1</sup>Collection of coherent experiments (by GEO)

<sup>2</sup>One celltype, one agent, one timecourse, one dose

Data

Expression-  
changesExpression-  
patternsBiochemical  
pathways

# Pipeline of analysis

- Calculate the expression changes
  - Discretization

	Expression change (fold)	Discret value
upregulated	>2x	1
downregulated	<0,5x	-1
no change	-	0
no probe on chip	-	2

## – Vectors

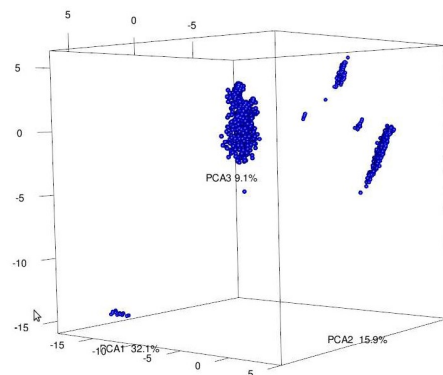
experiment	ABCA1	ABCA8	ABCB1	ABCB11	ABCB4	ABCB5	ABCC1	ABCC2	ABCC3	ABCC4	ABCC5	ABCC6	ABCD2	ABCG2	ABHD10	ABL1	ADH1A	ADH1B	ADH1C	ADH4	ADH6	AHR	AHRH	AKAP13	AKR1A1	AKR1C1	AKR1C2	ALDH16A1	(...)
GDS1249_1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	(...)
GDS1249_2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	-1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	(...)
GDS1249_3	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	(...)
(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)	(...)

Data

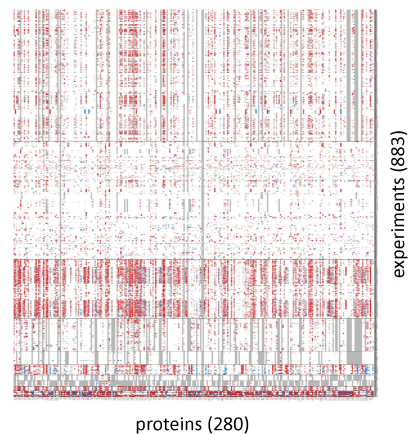
Expression-  
changesExpression-  
patternsBiochemical  
pathways

# Whole dataset

PCA analysis (the first 3 component)



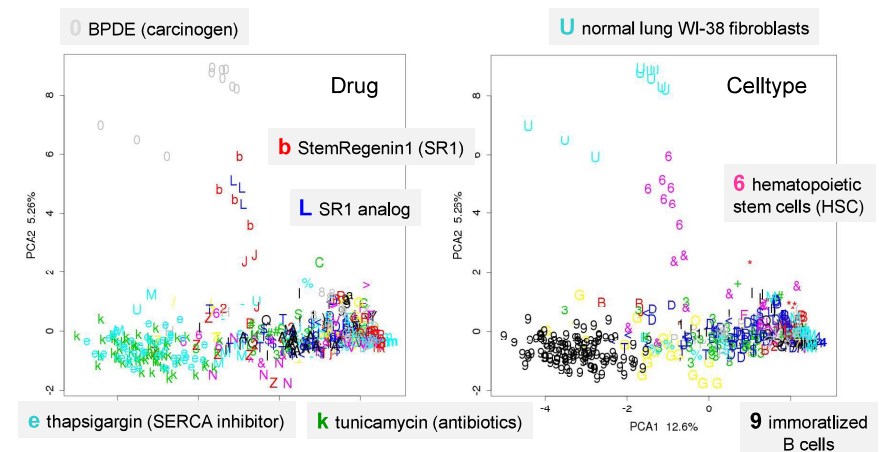
Heatmap (result of clustering)



Data

Expression-  
changesExpression-  
patternsBiochemical  
pathways

# PCA analysis





# Avoiding common pitfalls when clustering biological data

Tom Ronan, Zhijie Qi, Kristen M. Naegle\*

www.SCIENCESIGNALING.org 14 June 2016 Vol 9 Issue 432 re6

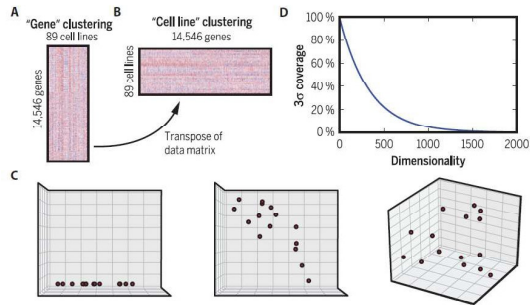
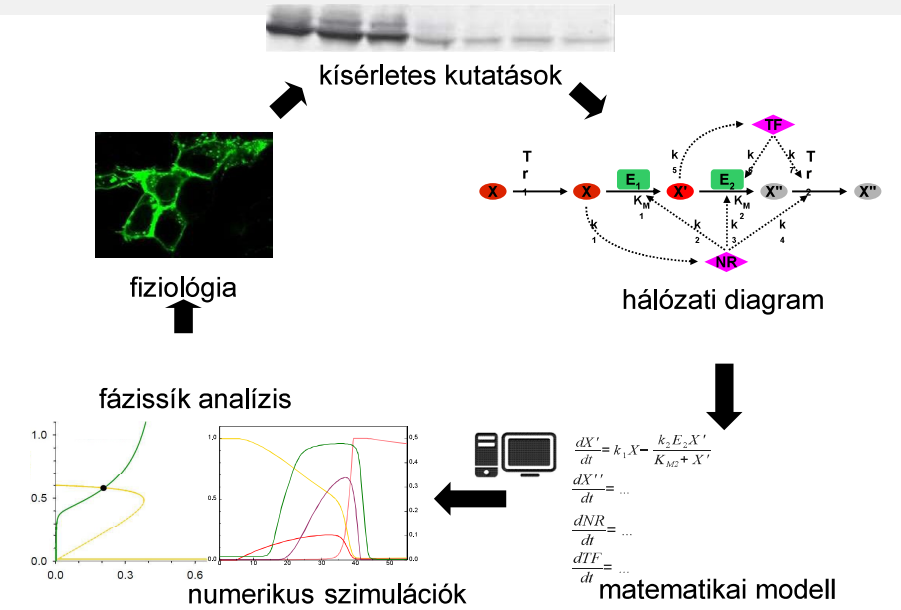
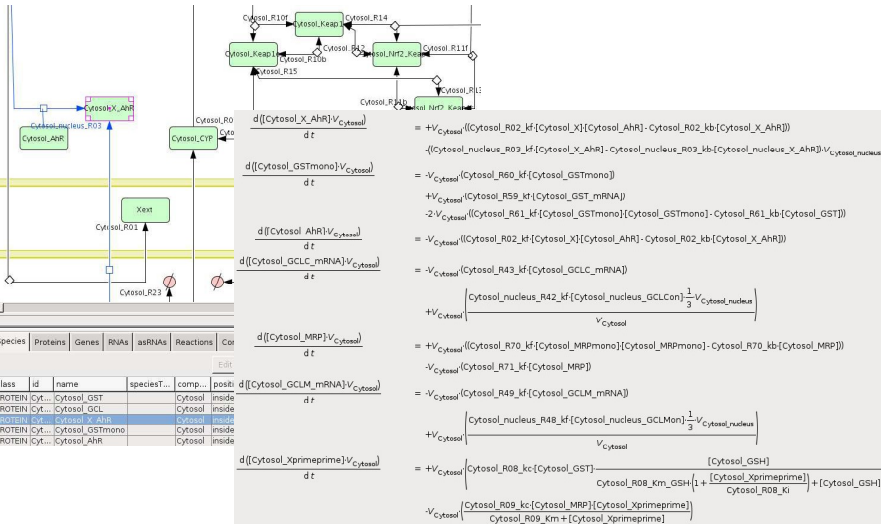


Fig. 1. Determining the dimensionality of a clustering problem. (A and B) Representation of the mRNA clustering problem consisting of >14,000 mRNAs measured across 89 cell lines. Data are from Lu *et al.* (6). When the mRNAs are clustered, the mRNAs are the objects and each cell line represents a feature, resulting in an 89-dimensional problem (A). When attempting to classify normal and tumor cell lines using gene expression, the cells lines are the objects and each mRNA is a feature, resulting in a clustering problem with thousands of dimensions (B). (C) Effect of dimensionality on sparsity. (D) Effect of dimensionality on coverage of the data based on SD from the mean.

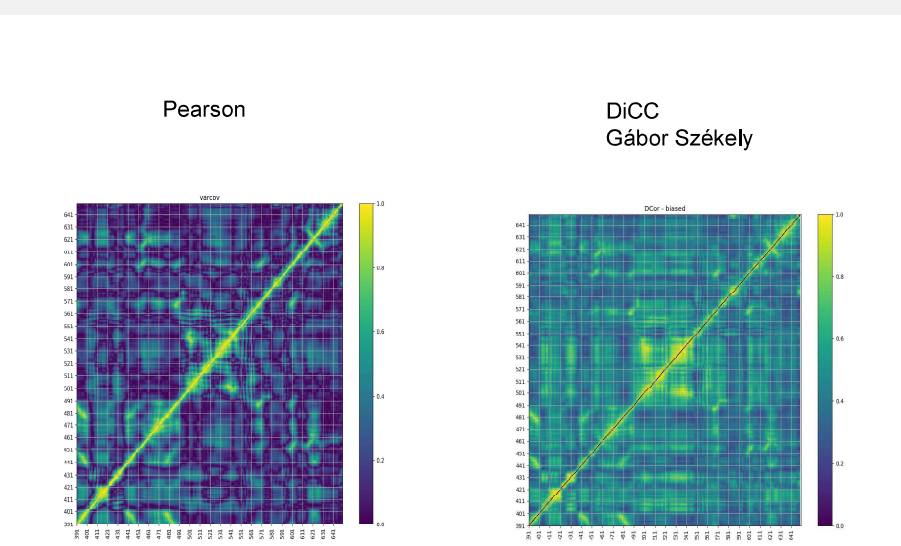
## A kinetic model of the ChI system



## A kinetic model of the ChI system



## Correlation in amino acid motions





## Notes on information technology

### **Data**

do not trust!  
RDBMS, ORM

### **Logic**

learn at least one tool (Python?) thoroughly!

### **Visualization**

browser, javascript, jQuery, templating

Thanks for your attention!

[hegedus.tamas@hegelab.org](mailto:hegedus.tamas@hegelab.org)