

*AlphaFold, the Artificial
Intelligence approach (Nobel
Prize 2024): a real (r)evolution
or not?*

Alexandre G. de Brevern

*INSERM UMR_S 1134, DSIMB Bioinformatics
team,
Université Paris Cité,
Université de la Réunion, Paris, FRANCE.*

Conflicts of Interest

- None

- My comments are my own (and not those of INSERM, universities, etc.)

My team



Associated to Université de la Réunion



PARADIGM

➤ FRANCIS CRICK (1970,
Nature)

The central dogma of molecular biology deals with the detailed residue-by-residue transfer of sequential information. It states that such information cannot be transferred from protein to either protein or nucleic acid.

NATURE VOL. 227 AUGUST 8 1970

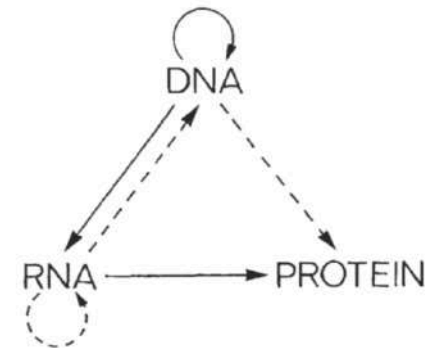
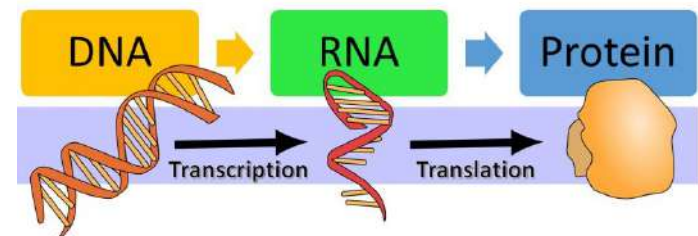
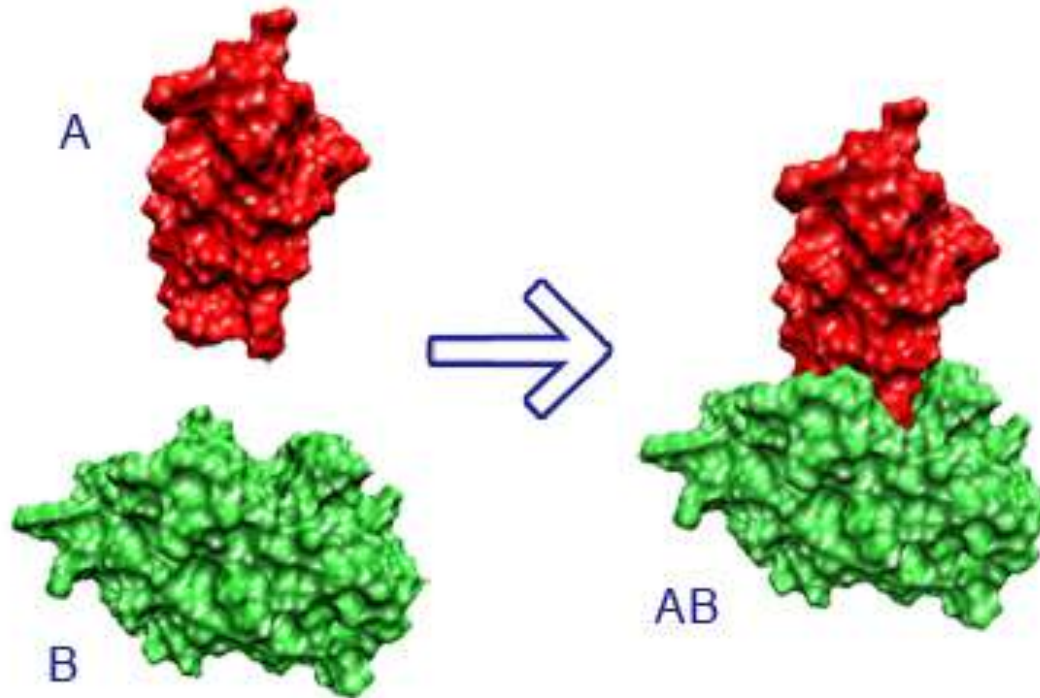


Fig. 3. A tentative classification for the present day. Solid arrows show general transfers; dotted arrows show special transfers. Again, the absent arrows are the undetected transfers specified by the central dogma.



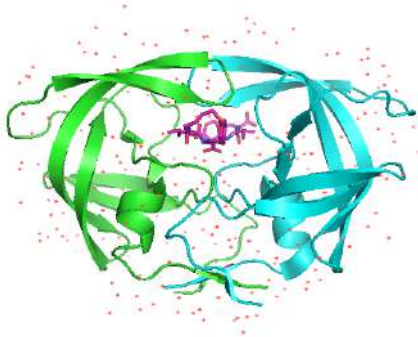
INTEREST OF PROTEIN 3D STRUCTURES

- Because protein function(s) is at atomic scale

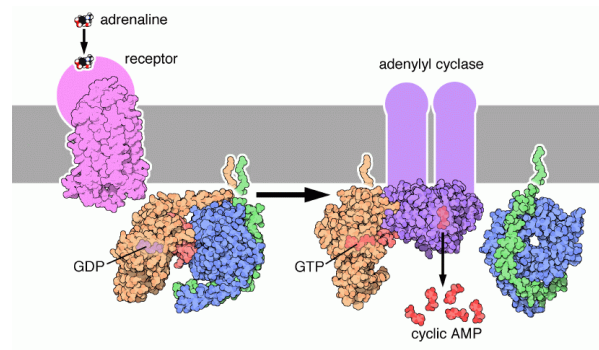


- Understanding the function(s) and more ...

Enzymes



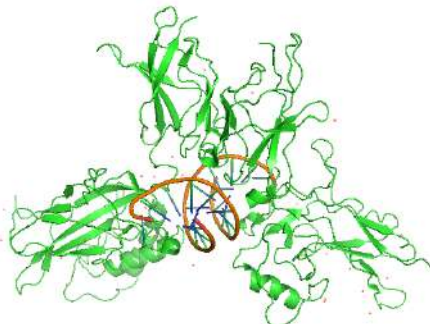
Receptors



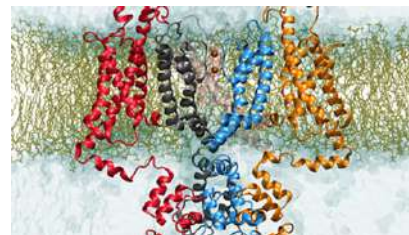
Drug design



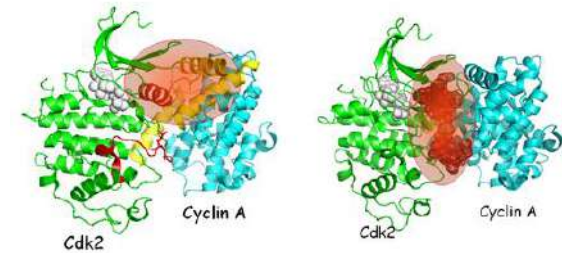
Transcription Factors



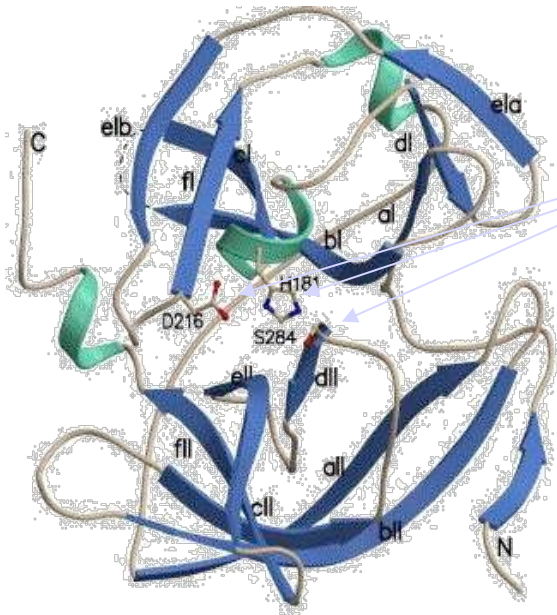
Transport



Protein-Protein Interaction



- Understand enzymatic mechanisms

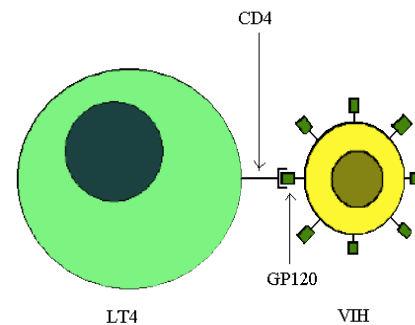
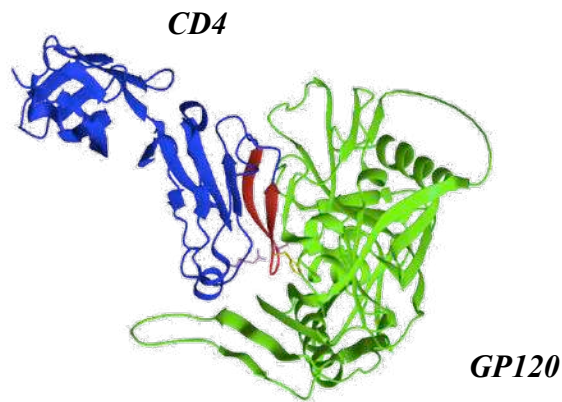


Catalytic triad

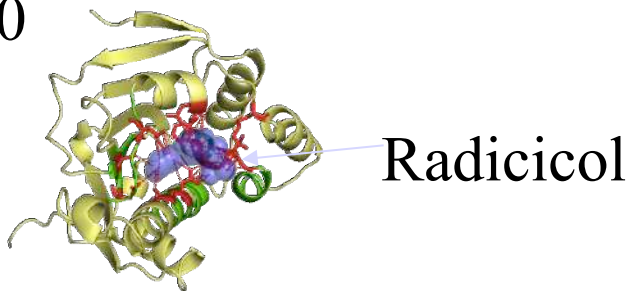


Protease serine

➤ Understand protein-ligand interactions

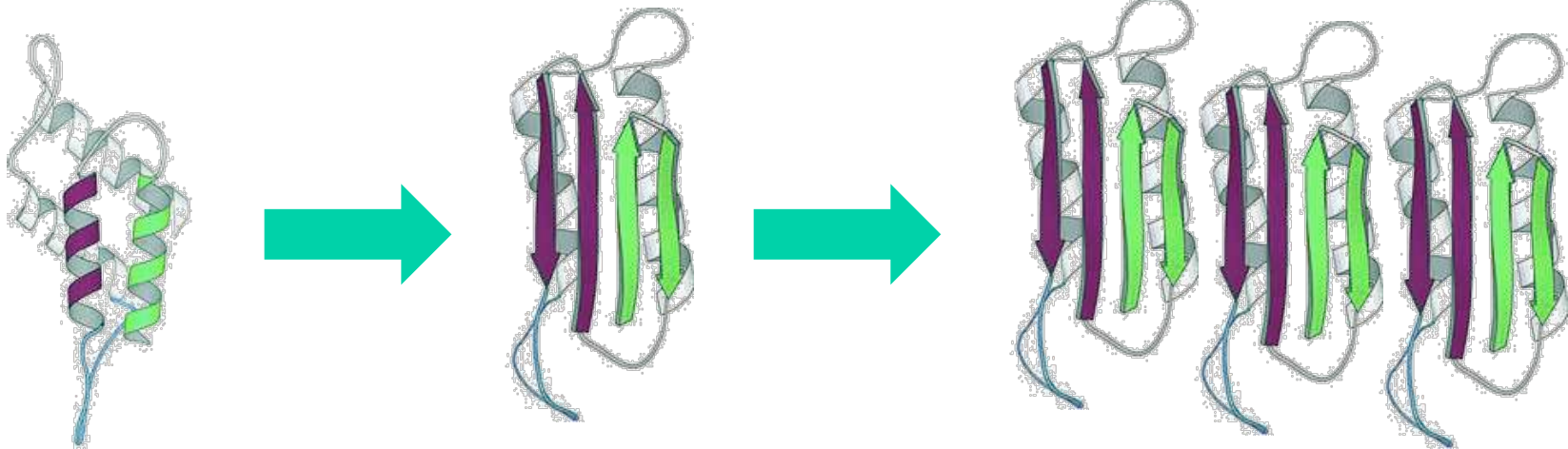


HSP90



i.e., chaperon proteins,
inhibitors ...

➤ Understand diseases



prion (Creutzfeldt-Jacob)

Agregation

i.e. Alzheimer disease, Parkinson...

Snoopy's question



You are right Alex, but a lot of proteins have not available 3D structures

3D MODELLING

-
- However, the number of protein 3D structures is largely lower than the number of available protein sequences...
 - So we use, since 40 years, different approaches to build from the sequences pertinent structural models.

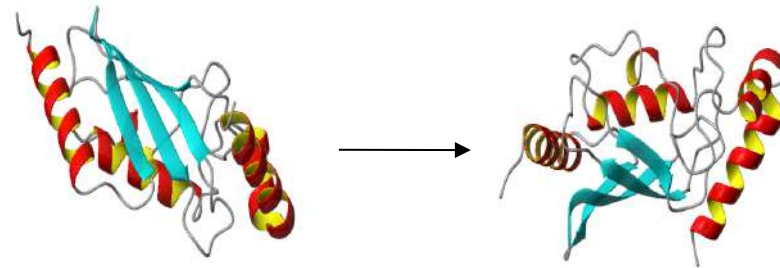
Sequence identity (%)

100

Homology modelling

```

ATPLGLPTHVVVAGLNPHTRSD
ATPLGLPTHVPPAGLNPHTRSD
!!!! !!!!! !!!!!!!!!!!!!
    
```



30

Modeller

Program for Comparative Protein
Structure Modelling by Satisfaction
of Spatial Restraints

```

A I L V G S M P R R D G M E R K D E L K A N V K I F A G G O A
R E V Q P V D C F V E G P N F L V I H P Q C E D C A L C E S
P A C M P E C P V N I T O S S - - - Y A I D A D P P C G S
G - - T A C G A C K P E C P V N I T O G S - - - Y A I D A D S
    
```



12

>unknown

```

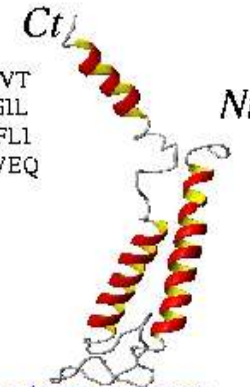
RGNVVDLAVGVIIIGAAFGKIVSSL
VADIIMPPLGLLIGGLDFKQFAVTL
RDAQGDPWPGWPPPPWIPAVVM
HYGVFIQNVFDLIVAFALFMAIK
LINKLNRKKKEEPAAAPAPTKEEV
LLEIR
    
```



>tuber

```

ARGNIVDLAVAVVIGTAFTALVT
KFTDSLITPLINRIGVNAQSDVGIL
RIGIGGGQTIDLNVLLSAAINFFLI
AFAVYFLVVLPLYNTLRKKGEVEQ
PGDTQVVLLTEIR
    
```



Protéine à structure inconnue

Protéine à structure connue

1

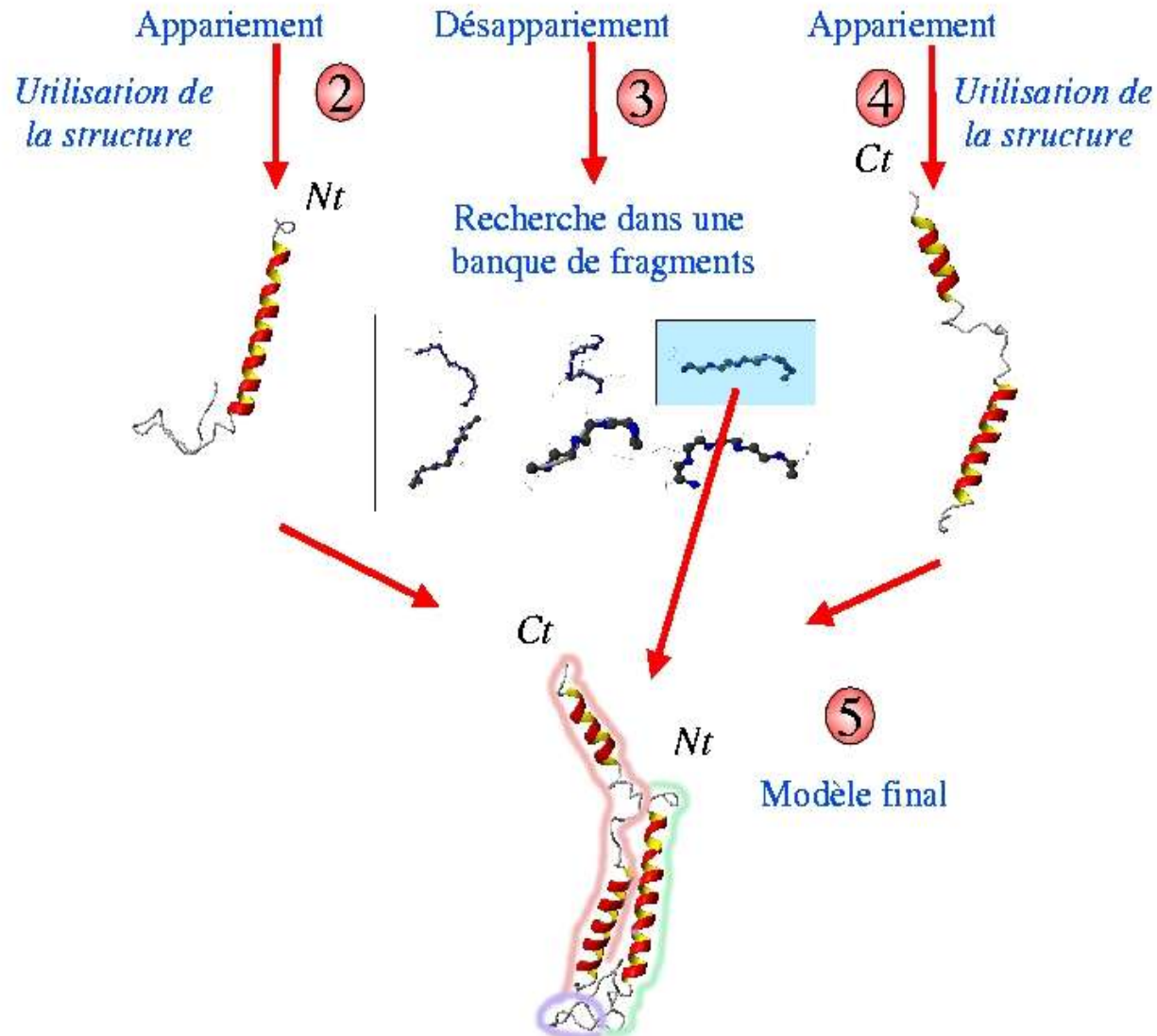
Alignement de leurs séquences protéiques

```

ARGNIVDLAVAVVIGTAFTALVIGTAFTALVT-----GTAQSDVGILFICIGG-----GQTIDLNVLLSAAINFFLI
RGNVVDLAVGVIIIGAAFGKIVSSLVADIIMPPLGLLIGGLDFKQFAVTLRDAQGDPWPGWPPPPWIPAVVMHYGVFIQNVFDLIVAFALFMAIKLINKLNRKKKEEPAAAPAPTKEEVLLTEIR
    
```

```

ARCNTVDLAVAVVIPTAFIALVDFEFLIESIIITELINRIQ--WNAQSDVQGLEIGIIG-----
-RCNVVDLAVGVIIIAAFGKIVSSSLVETIIMPLGLLIISIDFKQFVILFDAQ6IDPWP6W222PWIP
          30TIDLNVLISAINRFLAFAVYFLVPLPYNTLFRKKEQPGDQTQVYLLIEIR
          30VVVHYGVFICNVEDFLEVAFAIFMAIKLINLNFKKEEPAPCKEEVLLIEIR
    
```



<https://salilab.org/modeller/>

Key: MODELIRANJE as noted on http://www.cbs.dtu.dk/~blicher/Courses/Homology_modelling_tutorial.pdf

HOW TO PLAY WITH MODELLER

Modeller

Program for Comparative Protein
Structure Modelling by Satisfaction
of Spatial Restraints

```
A I L V G S M P R R D G M E R K D L L K A N V K I F K C Q G A  
V E V C P V D C F Y E G P N F L V I H P D E C I D C A L C E P  
G A C K P E C P V N I I Q G S - - Y A I D A D S C I D Q S  
C - - I A C G A C K P E C P V N I I Q G S - - I Y A I D A D S
```



1. You need a sequence.

RhD protein → UniProtKB - Q02161 (RHD_HUMAN)

<http://www.uniprot.org/uniprot/Q02161>

```
>sp|Q02161|RHD_HUMAN Blood group Rh(D) polypeptide OS=Homo sapiens GN=RHD PE=1 SV=3
MSSKYPRSVRRCLPLWALTLEAALILLFYFFTHYDASLEDQKGLVASVYQVGQDLTVMAAI
GLGFLTSSFRRHSWSSVAFNLFMLALGVQWAILLDGFLSQFPSGKVVITLFSIRLATMSA
LSVLISVDAVLGKVNLAQLVVMVLVEVTALGNLRMVISNIFNTDYHMNMHIYVFAAYFG
LSVAWCLPKPLPEGTEDKDQTATIPSLSAMLGALFLWMFWPSFNSALLRSP IERKNAVFN
TYYAVAVSVVTAISGSSLAHPQGKISKTYVHSAVLAGGVAVGTSCHLIPSPWLAMVLGLV
AGLISVGGAKYLPGCCNRVLGIPHSSIMGYNFSLGLLGEI IYIVLLVLDTVGAGNGMIG
FQVLLSIGELSLAIVIALMSGLLTGLLLNLKIWKAPHEAKYFDDQVFWKFPHLAVGF
```

2. You need a sequence not too far away (with a structure).

NIH U.S. National Library of Medicine NCBI National Center for Biotechnology Information alexdb My NCBI Sign Out

BLAST » blastp suite Home Recent Results Saved Strategies Help

Standard Protein BLAST

blastn blastp blastx tblastn tblastx

Enter Query Sequence BLASTP programs search protein databases using a protein query. more... Reset page Bookmark

Enter accession number(s), title, or FASTA sequence(s) Clear

Query subrange

From To

Or, upload file Choisir le fichier aucun fichier sélé. Choisir le fichier

Job Title Enter a descriptive title for your BLAST search

Align two or more sequences

Choose Search Set

Database Protein Data Bank proteins(pdb)

Organism Optional Enter organism name or id—completions will be suggested Exclude Enter organism common name, binomial, or tax id. Only 20 top taxa will be shown.

Exclude Optional Models (XM/XP) Uncultured/environmental sample sequences

Entrez Query Optional FXSY00000000.1 Create custom database Enter an Entrez query to limit search

Program Selection

Algorithm

blastp (protein-protein BLAST)

PSI-BLAST (Position-Specific Iterated BLAST)

PHI-BLAST (Pattern Hit Initiated BLAST)

DELTA-BLAST (Domain Enhanced Lookup Time Accelerated BLAST)

Choose a BLAST algorithm

BLAST Search database Protein Data Bank proteins(pdb) using PSI-BLAST (Position-Specific Iterated BLAST)

Show results in a new window

[Algorithm parameters](#) Note: Parameter values that differ from the default are highlighted in yellow and marked with + sign

3. Analysis of the results

BLAST » blastp suite » RID-0SUT1CJUS015

U.S. National Library of Medicine | National Center for Biotechnology Information | Sign in to NCBI

Home Recent Results Saved Strategies Help

BLAST Results

Edit and Resubmit Save Search Strategies Formatting options Download

Job title: sp|Q02161|RHD_HUMAN Blood group Rh(D) polypeptide...

RID 0SUT1CJUS015 (Expires on 11-16 23:28 pm)

Query ID Icd|Query_28781
 Description sp|Q02161|RHD_HUMAN Blood group Rh(D) polypeptide OS=Homo sapiens GN=RHD PE=1
 SV=3
 Molecule type amino acid
 Query Length 417

Database Name pdb
 Description PDB protein database
 Program BLASTP 2.7.1+ > Citation

Other reports: Search Summary Taxonomy reports Distance tree of results Multiple alignment MSA viewer

Graphic Summary

Show Conserved Domains

Putative conserved domains have been detected, click on the image below for detailed results.

Query seq. Superfamily

Distribution of the top 4 Blast Hits on 4 subject sequences

Color key for alignment scores

■ <40 ■ 40-50 ■ 50-80 ■ 80-200 ■ >=200

Query

1 80 160 240 320 400

4. Selection of the structural template

RCSB PDB Deposit Search Visualize Analyze Download Learn More MyPDB Login

RCSB PDB 135201 Biological Macromolecular Structures Enabling Breakthroughs in Research and Education
PROTEIN DATA BANK

Search by PDB ID, author, macromolecule, sequence, or ligands **Go**

Advanced Search | Browse by Annotations

Structure Summary 3D View Annotations Sequence Sequence Similarity Structure Similarity Experiment Literature

Transmembrane View
transmembrane regions **CPM**

3HD6
Crystal Structure of the Human Rhesus Glycoprotein RhCG
DOI: 10.2210/pdb3hd6/pdb

Classification: **MEMBRANE PROTEIN TRANSPORT PROTEIN**
Deposited: 2009-05-06 Released: 2009-09-01
Deposition author(s): [Gruswitz, F.](#), [Chaudhary, S.](#), [Ho, J.D.](#), [Pezeshki, B.](#), [Ho, C.-M.](#), [Stroud, R.M.](#), [Center for Structures of Membrane Proteins](#)
Organism: *Homo sapiens*
Expression System: *Homo sapiens*

Experimental Data Snapshot
Method: X-RAY DIFFRACTION
Resolution: 2.1 Å
R-Value Free: 0.195
R-Value Work: 0.168

wwPDB Validation **3D Report** **Full Report**

Metric	Percentile Ranks	Value
Rfree		0.196
Clashscore		2
Ramachandran outliers		0.3%
Sidechain outliers		1.8%
RSRZ outliers		4.5%

Literature **Download Primary Citation**

Function of human Rh based on structure of RhCG at 2.1 Å.
[Gruswitz, F.](#), [Chaudhary, S.](#), [Ho, J.D.](#), [Schlessinger, A.](#), [Pezeshki, B.](#), [Ho, C.M.](#), [Sali, A.](#), [Westhoff, C.M.](#), [Stroud, R.M.](#)

4. Selection of the structural template: now the sequence

```
>3HD6:A | PDBID | CHAIN | SEQUENCE
```

```
GPSSPSAWNTNLRWRLPLTCLLLQVIMVILFGVFVRYDFEADAHWWSERTHKNLSDMENEFYRYPSFQDVHVMVFVGFG  
FLMTFLQRYGFSAVGFNFLLAAFGIQWALLMQGWFHFLQDRYIVVGVENLINADFCVASVCVAFGAVLGKVSPIQLLIMT  
FFQVTLFAVNEFILLNLLKVKDAGGSMTIHTFGAYFGLTVTRILYRRNLEQSKERQNSVYQSDLFAMIGTLFLWMYWPSF  
NSAISYHGDSQHRAAINTYCSLAACVLTSVAISSALHKKGKLDMVHIQNATLAGGVAVGTAAEMMLMPYGALIIGFVCGI  
ISTLGFVYLTPPFLESRLHIQDTCGINNLHGIPGIIGGIVGAVTAASASLEVYGKEGLVHSFDFQGFNGDWTARTQGKFQI  
YGLLVTLAMALMGGIIIVGLILRLPFWGQPSDENCFEDAVYWEMPEGNSTVYIPEDPTFKPSGSPSVPSVPMVSPLPMASSV  
PLVPGGLVPR
```

5. A new alignment:

```
>3HD6:A | PDBID | CHAIN | SEQUENCE
```

```
GPSSPSAWNTNLRWRLPLTCLLLQVIMVILFGVVFVRYDFEADAHWWSERTHKNLSDMENEFYRYPSFQDVHVMVFGF  
FLMTFLQRYGFSAVGFNFLAAFGIQWALLMQGWFHFLQDRYIVVGVENLINADFCVASVCVAFGAVLGKVSPIQLLIMT  
FFQVTLFAVNEFILLNLLKVKDAGGSMTIHTFGAYFGLTVTRILYRRNLEQSKERQNSVYQSDLFAMIGTLFLWYWP  
NSAISYHGDSQHRAAINTYCSLAACVLTSVAISSALHKKGKLDMVHIQNATLAGGVAVGTAEMMLMPYGALIIGFVCGI  
ISTLGFVYLTPFLESRLHIQDTCGINNLHGIPGIIIGGIVGAVTAASASLEVYGKEGLVHSFDFQGFNGDWTARTQGFQI  
YGLLVTLAMALMGIIIVGLILRLPFWGQPSDENCFEDAVYWEMPEGNSTVYIPEDPTFKPSGSPVSPMVSPLPMASV  
PLVPGGLVPR
```

+

```
>sp|Q02161|RHD_HUMAN Blood group Rh(D) polypeptide OS=Homo sapiens GN=RHD PE=1 SV=3  
MSSKYPRSVRRCLPLWALTLEAALILLFYFFTHYDASLEDQKGLVASVYQVGQDLTVMAAI  
GLGFLTSSFRRHSWSSVAFNLFMLALGVQWAILLDGFLSQFPPSGKVVITLFSIRLATMSA  
LSVLISVDAVLGKVNLAQLVVMVLVEVTALGNLRMVISNIFNTDYHMNMHIYVFAAYFG  
LSVAWCLPKPLPEGTEKDQTATIPSLSAMLGALFLWMFWPSFNSALLRSPIERKNAVFN  
TYAVAVSVVTAISGSSLAHPQGKISKTYVHSAVLAGGVAVGTSCHLIPSPWLAMVLGLV  
AGLISVGGAKYLPGCCNRVLGIPHSSIMGYNFSLGLLGEIIVVLLVLDTVGAGNGMIG  
FQVLLSIGELSLAIVIALMSGLLTGLLLNLKIWKAPHEAKYFDDQVFWKPHLAVGF
```

5. A new alignment:

<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/>

The screenshot shows the Clustal Omega web interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for EMBL-EBI, Services, Research, Training, Industry, and About us. The main header is teal and contains the text 'Clustal Omega'. Below the header, there are tabs for 'Input form', 'Web services', and 'Help & Documentation'. A breadcrumb trail reads 'Tools > Multiple Sequence Alignment > Clustal Omega'. A grey box contains a notice about EMBL-EBI moving to HTTPS by default from 1st December. Below this, there is a section for 'Service Retirement' mentioning Wise2DBA and Promoterwise. The main content area is titled 'Multiple Sequence Alignment' and describes Clustal Omega as a new multiple sequence alignment program. An 'Important note' states that the tool can align up to 4000 sequences or a maximum file size of 4 MB. At the bottom, there is a 'STEP 1 - Enter your input sequences' section with a dropdown menu currently set to 'PROTEIN'.

5. A new alignment:

<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/>

Multiple Sequence Alignment

Clustal Omega is a new multiple sequence alignment program that uses seeded guide trees and HMM profile-profile techniques to generate alignments between **three or more** sequences. For the alignment of two sequences please instead use our [pairwise sequence alignment tools](#).

Important note: This tool can align up to 4000 sequences or a maximum file size of 4 MB.

STEP 1 - Enter your input sequences

Enter or paste a set of

PROTEIN

sequences in any supported format:

```
NSAISYHGDSQHRAAINTYCSLAACVLTSAISSALHKKGKLDMMVHIQNATLAGGVAVGTAAEMMLMPYGALIGFVCGI
ISTLGFVYLTFFLESRLHIQDTCGINNLHGIPGIIGGIVGAVTAASASLEVYGKEGLVHSFDFQQFNGDWTARTQGKFQI
YGLLVTLAMALMGGIIVGLILRPFWGGQPSDENCDFEDAVYWEMPEGNSTVYIPEDPTFKPSGSPVSPVPMVSPLPMASSV
PLVPGGLVPR
>sp|Q02161|RHD_HUMAN Blood group Rh(D) polypeptide OS=Homo sapiens GN=RHD PE=1 SV=3
MSSKYPRSVRRCLPLWALTLEAALLFFYFFTHYDASLEDQKGLVASVYVGGDLTVMAAI
GLGFLTSSFRHSWSSVAFNLFMLALGVQWAILLDGFLSQFPSPGKVVITLFSIRLATMSA
LSVLISVDAYLGKVNLAQLVVMVLVEVTALGNLRMVISNIFNTDYHMNMMHIYVFAAYEG
```

Or, [upload a file:](#) | Aucun fichier choisi

STEP 2 - Set your parameters

OUTPUT FORMAT

Clustal w/o numbers

The default settings will fulfill the needs of most users.

[More options...](#) (Click here, if you want to view or change the default settings.)

6. Modeller

a. the script

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
# Homology modeling by the automodel class
from modeller import *                                # Load standard Modeller classes
from modeller.automodel import *                     # Load the automodel class
    # Redefine the special_patches routine to include the additional disulfides
    # (this routine is empty by default):
log.verbose()                                       # request verbose output
env = environ()                                    # create a new MODELLER environment to build this
model in

a = automodel(env,
               alnfile = 'one.ali',                 # alignment filename
               knowns   = '3HD6',                   # codes of the templates
               sequence = 'PROTEINE-RHD')           # code of the target
a.starting_model= 1                                # index of the first model
a.ending_model  = 5                                # index of the last model
                                                    # (determines how many models to calculate)
a.make()                                           # do the actual homology modeling
```

6. Modeller

b. the real alignment for Modeler

```
>P1;3HD6
structureX:3HD6:1      :A:443  :A:: : :
-----SAWNTNLRWRLPLTCLLLQVIMVILFGVFVRYDFE-----
-----NEFYRYRPSFQDVHVMVVFVGFGLMTFLQRYGFSAVGFNPLL
AAFQIQWALLMQGFHFLQDRYIVVGVENLINADFCVASVCVAFGAVLKG
VSPIQLLIMTFFQVTLFAVNEFILLNLLKVKDAGGSMTIHTFGAYFGLTV
TRILYRRNLEQSKERQNSVYQSDLFAMIGTLFLWMYWPSFNSAISYHGDS
QHRAAINTYCSLAACVLTSVAISSALHKKGKLDMVHIQ NATLAGGVAVGT
AAEMMLMPYGALIIGFVCGIISTLGFVYLT PFLESRLHIQDTCGINNLHG
IPGIIGGIVGAVTAAS-----DWTARTQGKFQI
YGLLVTLAMALMGGIIVGLILRPFWQP SDENCFEDAVYWEMPEGNS--
-----
```

syntaxe

Alignment in PIR format

```
*
>P1;PROTEINE-RHD
sequence:PROTEINE-RHD: 1 : : 417 : : : :
---MSSKYPRSVRCLPLWALTLEAALILLFYFFTHYDASLED-----
-----QKGLVASVYQVQDLTVMAAIGLGLTSSFRHSWSSVAFNLFM
LALGVQWAILLDGFLSQFPSPGKVVITLFSIRLATMSALSVLISVDAVLGK
VNLAQLVVMVLVEVTALGNLRMVISNIFNTDYHMNMHIYVFAAYFGLSV
AWCLPKPLPEGTEKDQDTATIPSLSAMLGALFLWMFWSFNALLRSPIE
RKNVAVNTYYAVAVSVVTAISGSSLAHPQGKISKTYVHSAVLGGVAVGT
SCHLIPSPWLAMVLGLVAGLISVGGAKYLPGCCNRVLGIPHSSIMGYNFS
LLGLLGEI IYIVLLVLDTVG-----AGNGMIGFQVLLSI
GELSLAIVIALMSGLLTGLLLNLKIWKAPHEAKYFDDQVFWKFPHLAVGF
-----
```

syntaxe

Alignment in PIR format

6. Modeller

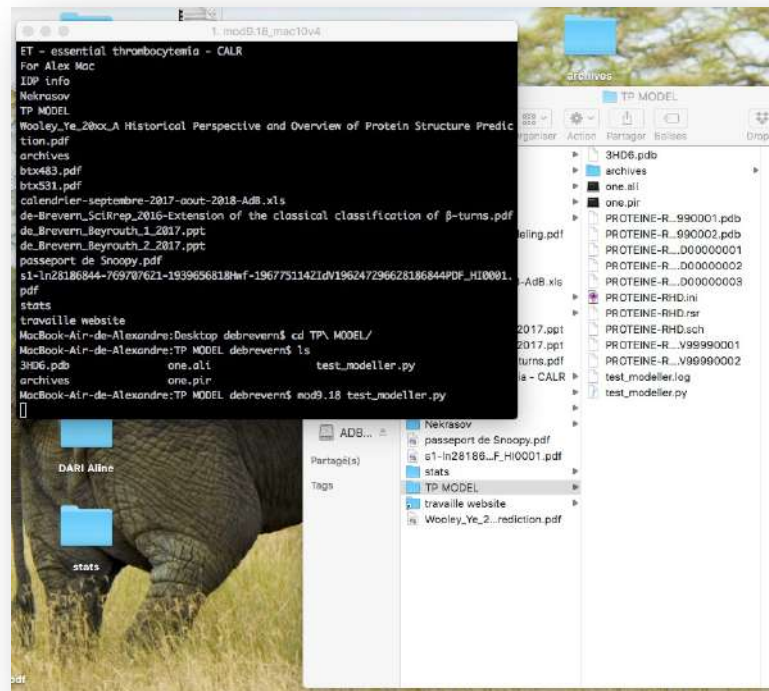
c. the template

The PDB ...

6. Modeller

d. now the work

> mod9.25 test_modeller.py



7. Now the analysis

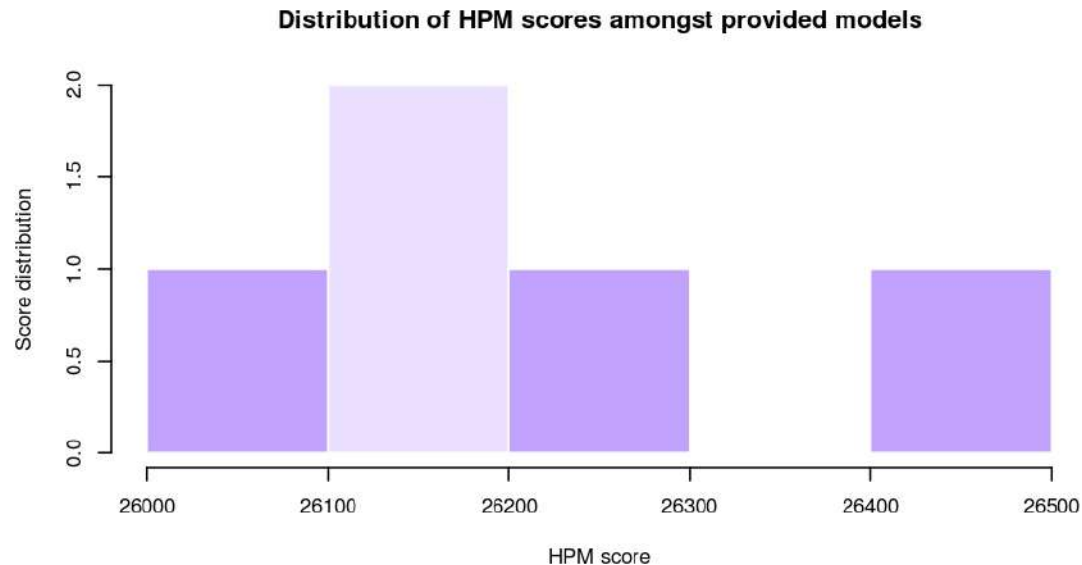


-
- Need a specific assessment

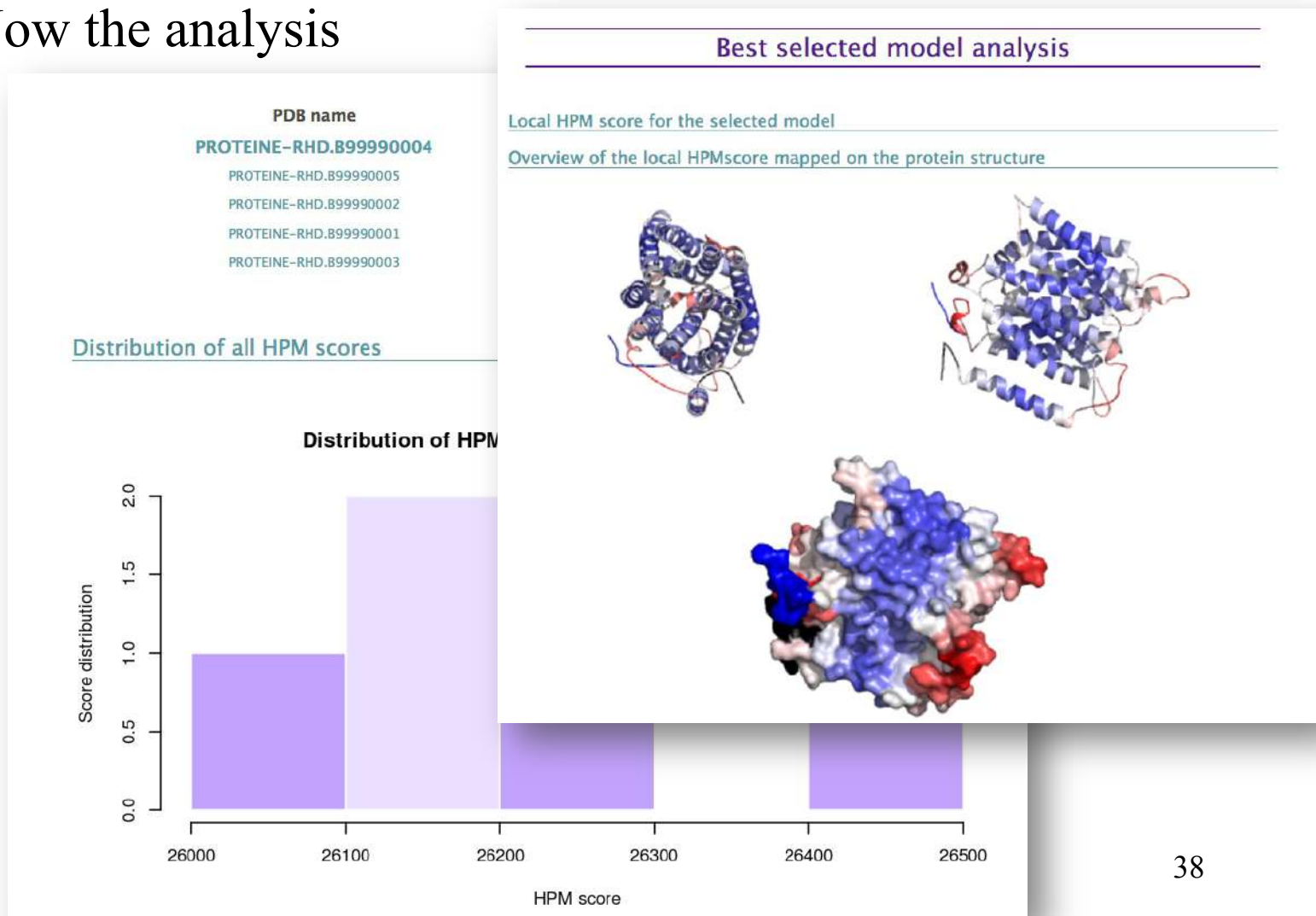
7. Now the analysis

PDB name	HPM score(s)
PROTEINE-RHD.B99990004	26062.00
PROTEINE-RHD.B99990005	26155.80
PROTEINE-RHD.B99990002	26160.80
PROTEINE-RHD.B99990001	26257.20
PROTEINE-RHD.B99990003	26405.40

Distribution of all HPM scores



7. Now the analysis



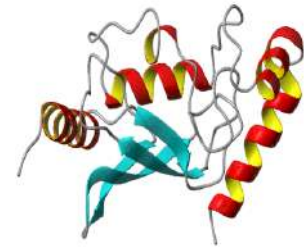
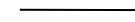
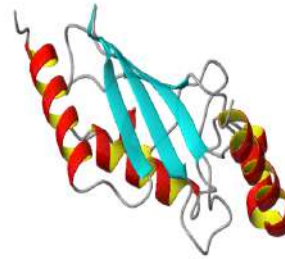
Sequence identity (%)

100

Homology modelling

```

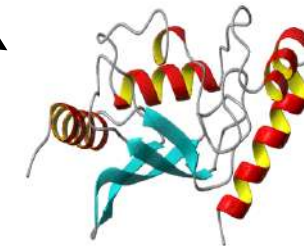
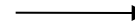
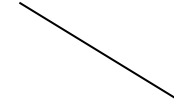
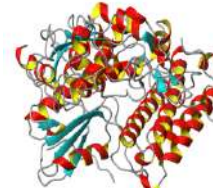
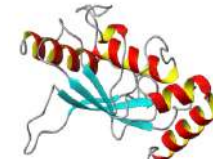
ATPLGLPTHVVVAGLNPHTRES
ATPLGLPTHVPPAGLNPHTRES
!!!! !!!!! !!!!!!!!!!!!!
    
```



Threading

```

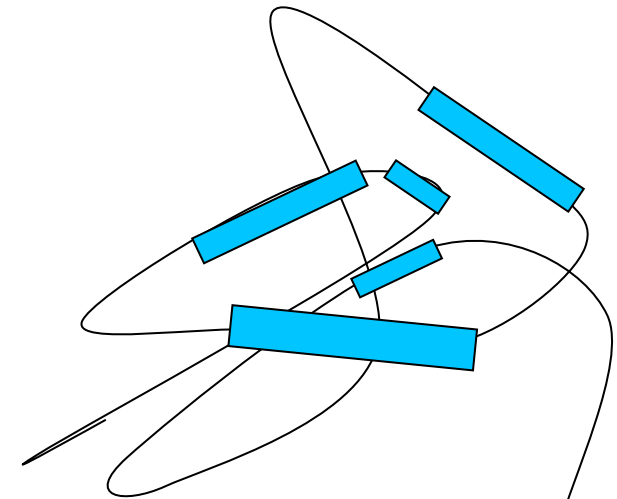
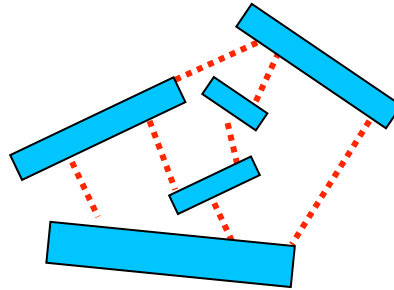
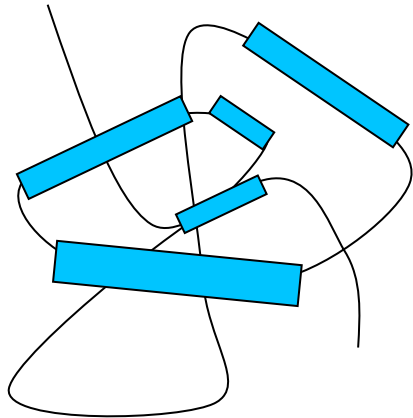
ETPLGLPTHVVVEGLNPHTRES
IRVLGLPTHVPPAGLNPHTRIID
!! !!!!! !!!!!!!!!!!!! !
    
```



30

12

- The main idea



- Searching for structural similarity => notion of protein core

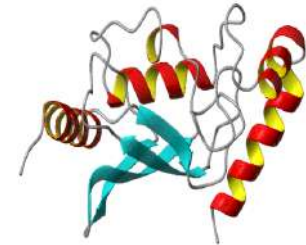
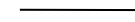
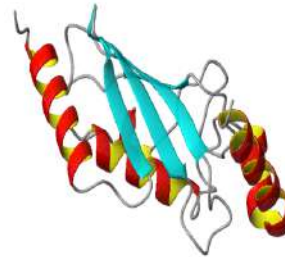
Sequence identity (%)

100

Homology modelling

```

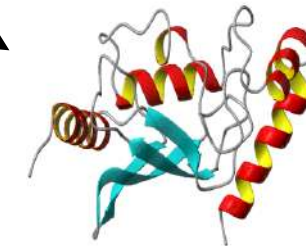
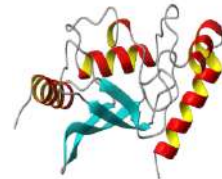
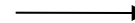
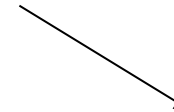
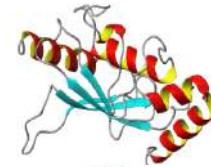
ATPLGLPTHVVVAGLNPHTRES
ATPLGLPTHVPPAGLNPHTRES
!!!! !!!!! !!!!!!!!!!!!!
    
```



Threading

```

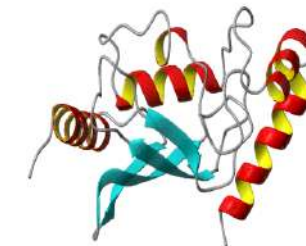
ETPLGLPTHVVVEGLNPHTRES
IRVLGLPTHVPPIGLNPHTRIID
!! !!!!! !!!!!!!!!!!!! !
    
```



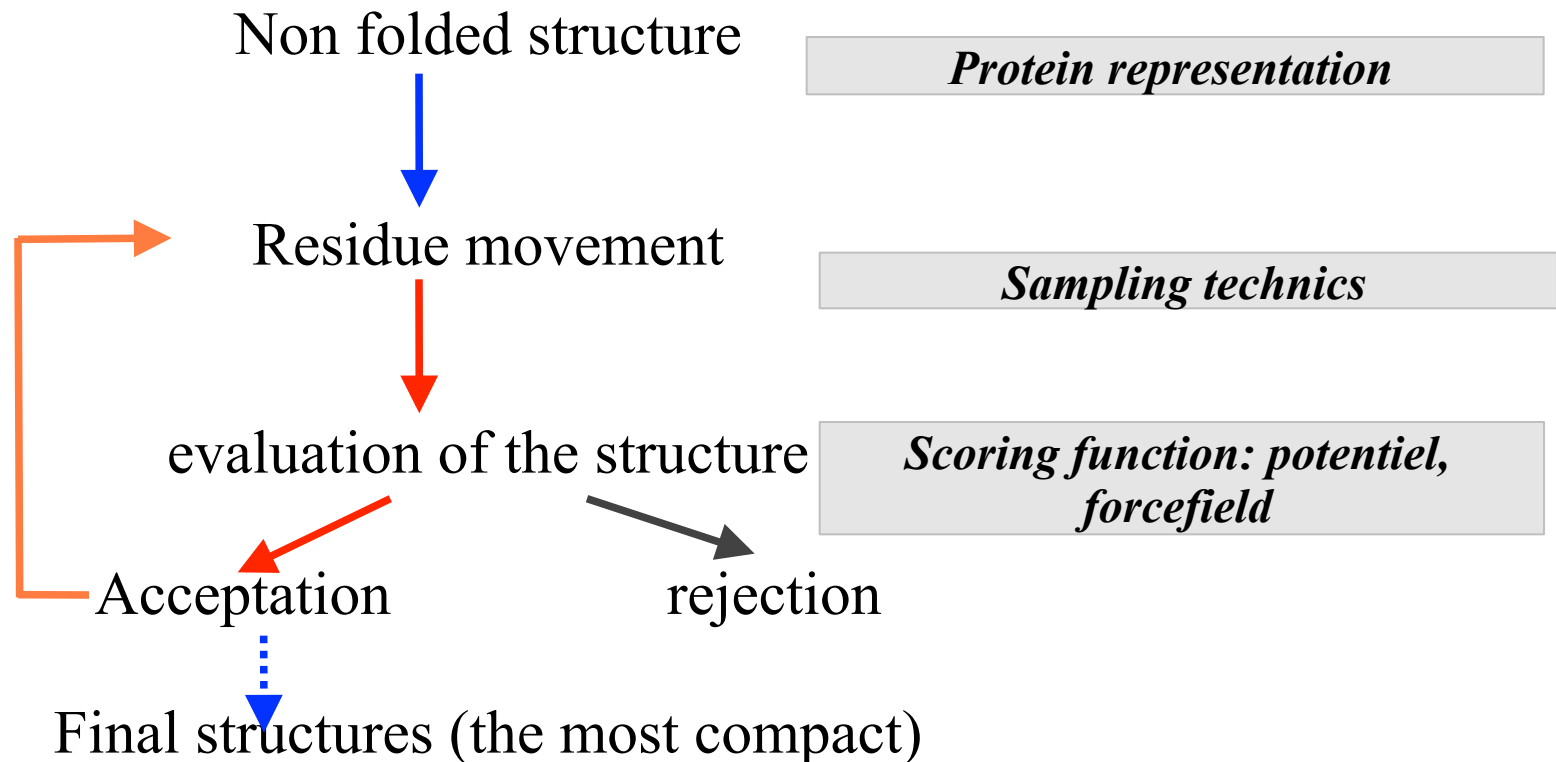
ab initio

```

ETPLGLPPHVVEGLNPPPRES
IRVLGIPVHVPPIGPNVVVRIID
!! !!!!! !!!!!!!!!!!!! !
    
```



- **Principle:** the native structure corresponds to a global minima (in terms of energy)



Sequence identity (%)

100

Homology
modelling

ATPLGLPTHVVVAGLNPHTRSD
ATPLGLPTHVPPAGLNPHTRSD
!!!! !!!!! !!!!!

BETA

ROBETTA
Full-chain Protein Structure Prediction Server

30

ab initio

LTASSER
Protein Structure & Function Predictions

12

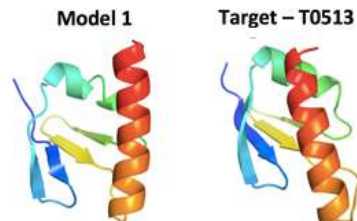
ETPLGLPPHVVEGLNPPPRESD
IRVLGIPVHVPPIGPNVVVRIID
!!! !! ! ! !

➤ Robetta

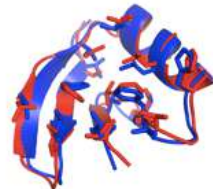
<http://robetta.bakerlab.org>



www.bakerlab.org



2.66 Å over 62 residues



0.84 Å over 39 residues

de novo prediction by Robetta in CASP-8

REGISTRATION

[[Register / Update](#)] [[Login](#)]

DOCUMENTATION

[[Docs / FAQs](#)]

SERVICES

Domain Parsing & 3-D Modeling
[[Queue](#)] [[Submit](#)]

Interface Alanine Scanning
[[Queue](#)] [[Submit](#)]

Fragment Libraries
[[Queue](#)] [[Submit](#)]

DNA Interface Residue Scanning
[[Queue](#)] [[Submit](#)]

RELATED SITES

[Rosetta Commons](#)
[Rosetta Commons ROSIE server *NEW*](#)
[RosettaBackrub Server](#)
[RosettaDesign Server](#)
[FoldIt](#)
[Rosetta@home](#)
[Human Proteome Folding Project](#)
[Rosetta@Cloud](#)

➤ I-Tasser

<http://zhanglab.ccmb.med.umich.edu/I-TASSER/>

Zhang Lab UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Home Research Services Publications People Teaching Job Opening News Lab Only

I-TASSER
 Protein Structure & Function Predictions

(The server completed predictions for 301248 proteins submitted by 74439 users from 129 countries)
 (The template library was updated on 2016/11/17)

I-TASSER (Iterative Threading ASSEMBly Refinement) is a hierarchical approach to protein structure and function prediction. Structural templates are first identified from the PDB by multiple threading approach LOMETS; full-length atomic models are then constructed by iterative template fragment assembly simulations. Finally, function insights of the target are derived by threading the 3D models through protein function database BioLiP. I-TASSER (as 'Zhang-Server') was ranked as the No 1 server for protein structure prediction in recent community-wide CASP7, CASP8, CASP9, CASP10, and CASP11 experiments. It was also ranked as the best for function prediction in CASP9. The server is in active development with the goal to provide the most accurate structural and function predictions using state-of-the-art algorithms. The server is only for non-commercial use. Please report problems and questions at I-TASSER message board and our members will study and answer the questions asap. (>> [More about the server ...](#))

[\[Queue\]](#) [\[Forum\]](#) [\[Download\]](#) [\[Search\]](#) [\[Registration\]](#) [\[Statistics\]](#) [\[Remove\]](#) [\[Potential\]](#) [\[Decoys\]](#) [\[News\]](#) [\[Annotation\]](#) [\[About\]](#) [\[FAQ\]](#)

I-TASSER On-line Server ([View an example of I-TASSER output:](#))

Copy and paste your sequence below ([10, 1500] residues in FASTA format). [Click here for a sample input:](#)

Or upload the sequence from your local computer:
 aucun fichier sél.

Email: (mandatory, where results will be sent to)

Snoopy's question

*Are you sure you have not
forgotten something ?*



The logo for AlphaFold, featuring the text "AlphaFold" in a white serif font on a dark blue rectangular background. The letter "I" in "Fold" is stylized as a vertical bar with horizontal caps at the top and bottom.

AlphaFold

ALPHAFOLD2

The (r)evolution ...

➤ What is CASP?

➤ What is CASP?

Critical Assessment of Structural Prediction

The screenshot shows the Protein Structure Prediction Center website. The main content area is titled "Success Stories From Recent CASPs" and features a navigation bar with categories: template-based modelling, ab initio modeling, contact prediction, help structural biologists, refinement, and data-assisted modeling (highlighted). The "data-assisted modeling" section contains text describing the combination of low-resolution experimental data with computational methods, and provides examples of non-assisted and cross-linking assisted models for target T0894 and target Tx894. The website also includes a "Message Board" with news about positions in Sweden, upcoming conferences, and an RNA modeling target.

Protein Structure Prediction Center

Success Stories From Recent CASPs

template-based modelling | ab initio modeling | contact prediction | help structural biologists | refinement | **data-assisted modeling** | ||

data-assisted modeling

Data-assisted or hybrid modeling, in which low-resolution experimental data are combined with computational methods, is becoming increasingly important for a range of experimental data, including NMR, chemical cross-linking and surface labeling, X-ray and neutron scattering, electron microscopy and FRET. CASP11-CASP13 experiments included a special sub-category of modeling proteins using such data (CASP14 did not include data-assisted category due to the COVID-19-associated difficulties in obtaining experimental data). Description of the CASP12 data-assisted experiment and the data is provided in [Ogorzalek et al., 2018]. Examples of a non-assisted model and a cross-linking assisted model from the same predictor (CASP12 group 220) are shown below demonstrating increased accuracy of the assisted prediction.

target T0894
original model 220_1
GDT_TS=24

target Tx894
X-linking -assisted model 220_1
GDT_TS=52

Welcome to the Protein Structure Prediction Center!

Our goal is to help advance the methods of identifying protein structure from sequence. The Center has been organized to provide the means of objective testing of these methods via the process of blind prediction. The Critical Assessment of protein Structure Prediction (CASP) experiments aim at establishing the current state of the art in protein structure prediction, identifying what progress has been made, and highlighting where future effort may be most productively focused.

Message Board

Positions in Sweden
A message from Arne Elofsson. We have a number of extremely good positions in Sweden with deadlines in the fall. They are tenure track and funded by a new initiative by the Wallenberg foundation wi...

Upcoming conferences: Machine learning in structural biology
Dear CASPers, We would like to direct your attention to two upcoming meetings aimed to shed additional light on the recent machine learning driven developments in the field. (1) August 2-6, 20...

An RNA modeling target
Dear CASP Participants, For those interested in modeling of RNA structure, we would like to draw your attention to a newly released RNA puzzle (see the message from Chichau Miao and Eric Westhof be ...

➤ What is CASP?

Critical Assessment of Structural Prediction

The screenshot shows the Protein Structure Prediction Center website. The main content area is titled "Success Stories From Recent CASPs" and features a section for "data-assisted modeling". It includes two protein structure models: "target T0894 original model 220_1 GDT_TS=24" and "target T0894 X-linking-assisted model 220_1 GDT_TS=52". The website also has a navigation menu on the left and a message board on the right.

⇒ Goal: blind proposition of structural models, i.e. evaluation of the different methodologies.

➤ How CASP had evolved?

Very crude:

(i) Threading with comparative modelling

(ii) Threading

(iii) *de novo*

(iv) Improvements of *de novo*



➤ How CASP had evolved?

Very crude:

(i) Threading with comparative modelling

(ii) Threading

(iii) *de novo*

(iv) Improvements of *de novo*

(v) AlphaFold (2018), v2 (2020)



➤ How CASP had evolved?

Very crude:

(i) Three

Systematic bias:

Limited number of available structures

Not all types of structures (type of fold, type of protein, i.e. no transmembrane protein)

How to evaluate (RMSD, GDT_TS, ...)

Human supervised help ...

A lot of money for some labs..

Evolution:

Question of disorder

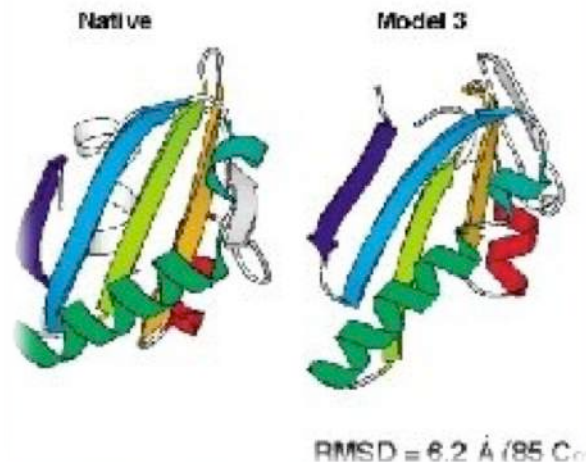
Question of complexes (protein – protein, protein – RNA)

- CASP8 (2008)
- CASP7 (2006)
- CASP6 (2004)
- CASP5 (2002)
- CASP4 (2000)
- CASP3 (1998)
- CASP2 (1996)
- CASP1 (1994)

➤ How CASP had evolved?

1994-2002 : David Baker, add improvements ...
but still difficult when it is difficult

1087 - PPase (Domain 2: 202-307)



➤ How CASP had evolved?

1994-2002 : David Baker, add improvements ...
but still difficult when it is difficult

2002-2010: add more and more constraints,
to test (a lot of computational filters)

Rosetta (Baker) & I-Tasser (Zhang)

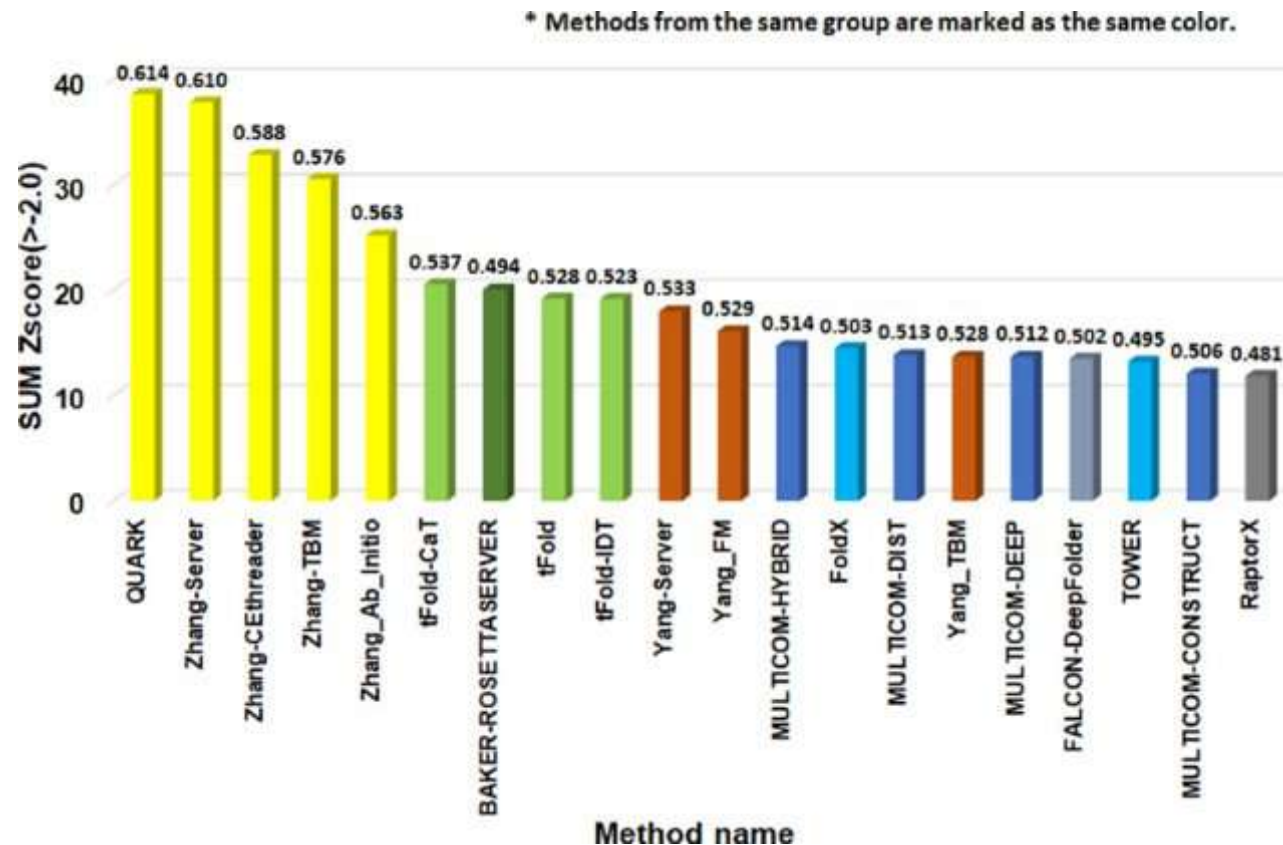
➤ How CASP had evolved?

1994-2002 : David Baker, add improvements ...
but still difficult when it is difficult

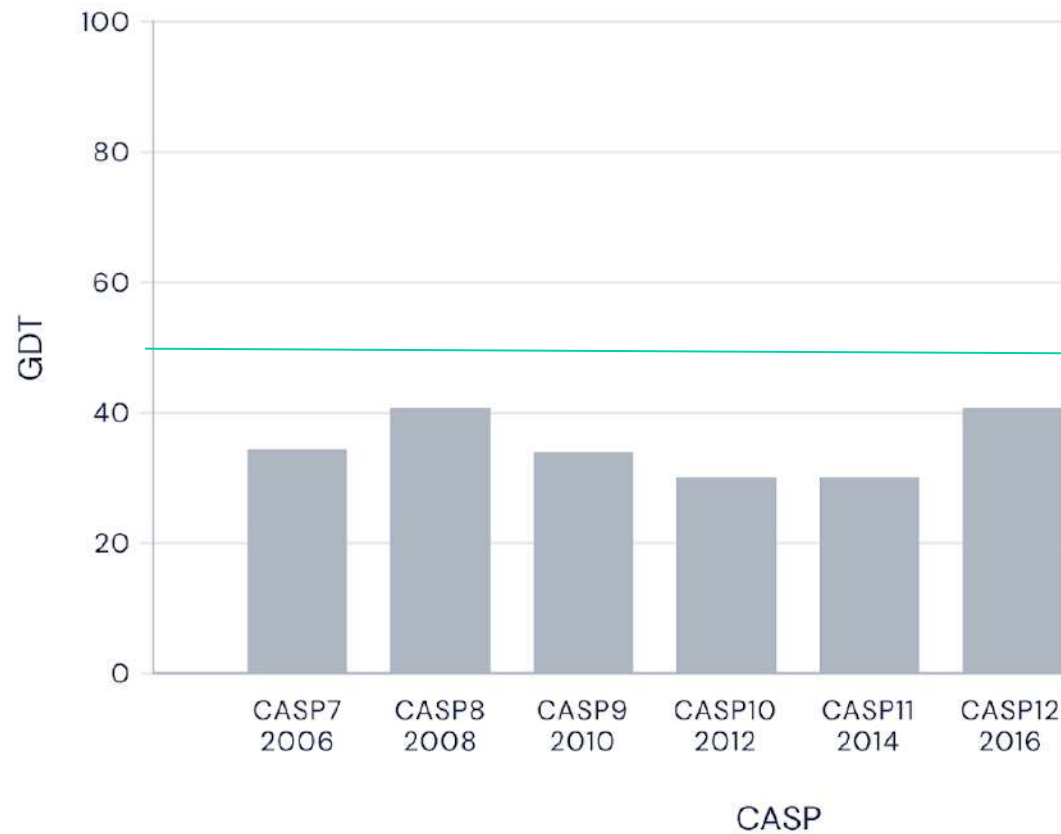
2002-2010: add more and more constraints,
to test (a lot of computational filters)

2012-2016: slight improvements

➤ 2016 (*on specific folds, with specific criteria*)



Median Free-Modelling Accuracy

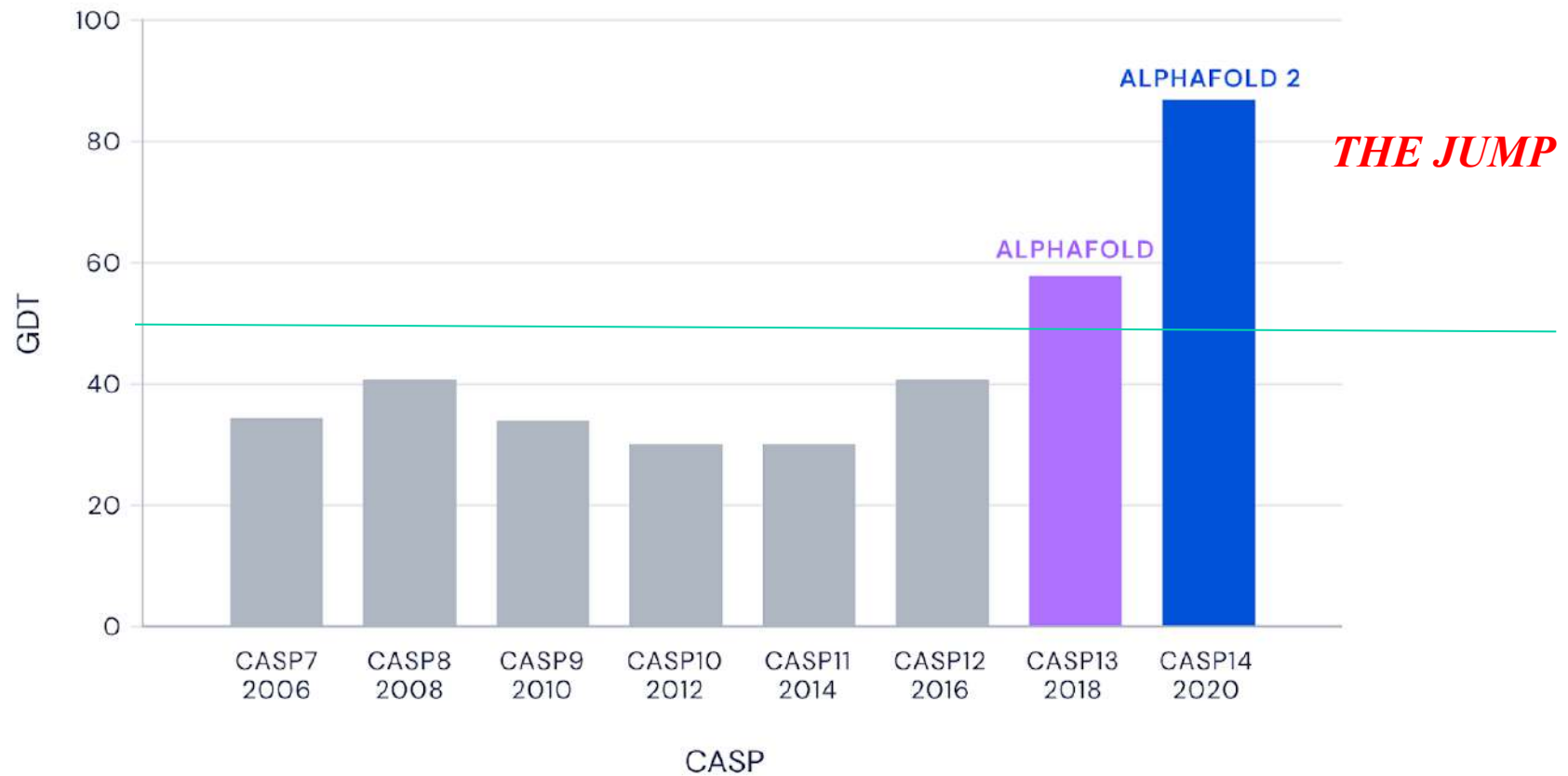


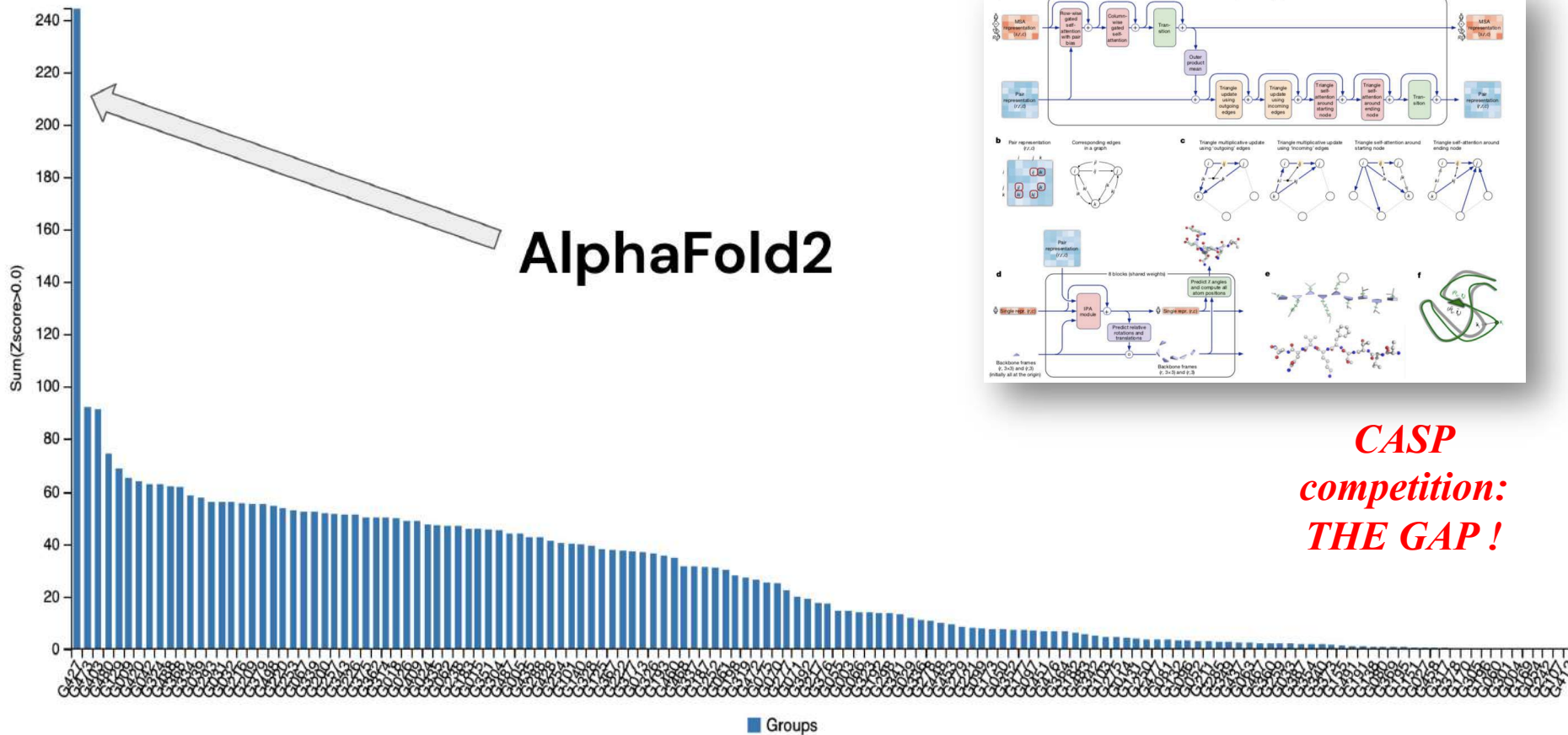
Median Free-Modelling Accuracy



*But
everybody
improves a
little*

Median Free-Modelling Accuracy





#	GR code	GR name	Domains Count	SUM Zscore (>-2.0)	Rank SUM Zscore (>-2.0)	AVG Zscore (>-2.0)	Rank AVG Zscore (>-2.0)	SUM Zscore (>0.0)	Rank SUM Zscore (>0.0)	AVG Zscore (>0.0)	Rank AVG Zscore (>0.0)
1	427	AlphaFold2	92	244.0217	1	2.6524	1	244.0217	1	2.6524	1
2	473	BAKER	92	90.8241	2	0.9872	2	92.1241	2	1.0013	61

-
- In all papers !!
 - Specialized and not

Figaro, le Monde, ...

➤ In all papers !!

Biological Modeling: A Free Online Course

Course Team

Contact Us

Contents

Take the Course ▾



ANALYZING THE
CORONAVIRUS SPIKE
PROTEIN

Introduction: A tale of two
doctors

PART 1: PROTEIN
STRUCTURE PREDICTION

An introduction to protein
structure prediction

Ab initio protein structure
prediction

Homology modeling for
protein structure prediction

Comparing protein
structures to assess model
accuracy

Part 1 conclusion: protein
structure prediction is
solved! (Kinda...)

PART 2: COMPARING
SARS-COV-2 AND SARS

Searching for local
differences in the SARS-

Part 1 Conclusion: Protein Structure Prediction is Solved! (Kinda...)

SARS-CoV-2 protein structure prediction and open science

Researchers have worked for several decades to decipher nature's magic algorithm for protein folding. The Soviets even founded an entire [research insitute](#) dedicated to protein research in 1967. Most of the scientists who were there for its founding are dead now, and yet the institute carries on. Although structure prediction is an old problem, biologists have never given up hope that continued improvements to their algorithms and ever-increasing computational resources would allow them one day to proclaim, "Maybe this is good enough!".

That day has come.

Every two years since 1994, a global effort called **Critical Assessment of protein Structure Prediction (CASP)** has allowed researchers from around the world to test their protein structure prediction algorithms against each other. The contest organizers compile a (secret) collection of experimentally verified protein structures and then run all submitted algorithms against these proteins.

The 14th iteration of this contest, held in 2020, was won in a landslide. The second version of [AlphaFold](#), one of the projects of DeepMind (an Alphabet subsidiary), vastly outperformed the

On this page

SARS-CoV-2 protein
structure prediction
and open science



Biological Modeling: A

ANALYZING THE CORONAVIRUS SPIKE PROTEIN

Introduction: A tale of two
doctors

PART 1: PROTEIN STRUCTURE PREDICTION

An introduction to protein
structure prediction

Ab initio protein structure
prediction

Homology modeling for
protein structure prediction

Comparing protein
structures to assess model
accuracy

**Part 1 conclusion: protein
structure prediction is
solved! (Kinda...)**

PART 2: COMPARING SARS-COV-2 AND SARS

Searching for local
differences in the SARS-



BLOG POST
RESEARCH

30 NOV 2020

AlphaFold: a solution to a 50-year-old grand challenge in biology

SHARE



AUTHORS



The AlphaFold team

- Read an update on our AlphaFold work [here](#).

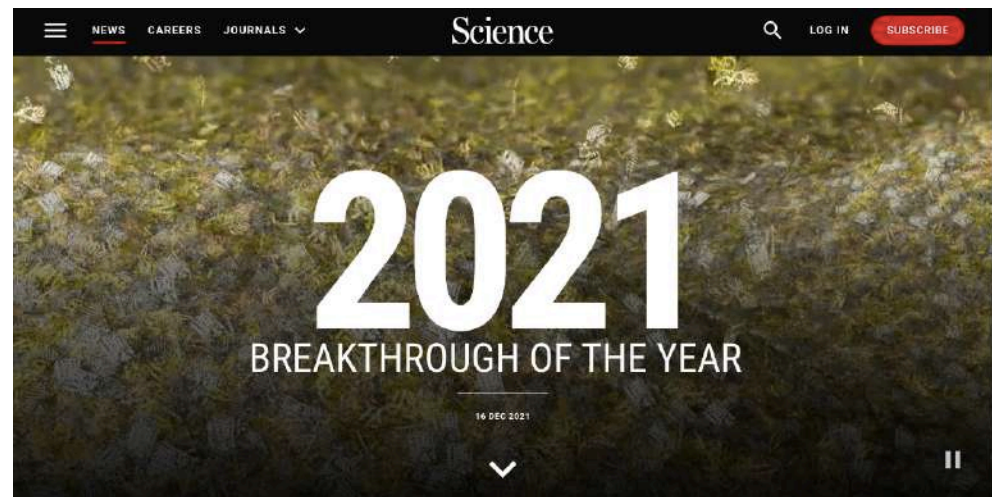
Proteins are essential to life, supporting practically all its functions. They are large complex

Every two years since 1994, a global effort called **Critical Assessment of protein Structure Prediction (CASP)** has allowed researchers from around the world to test their protein structure prediction algorithms against each other. The contest organizers compile a (secret) collection of experimentally verified protein structures and then run all submitted algorithms against these proteins.

The 14th iteration of this contest, held in 2020, was won in a landslide. The second version of [AlphaFold](#), one of the projects of DeepMind (an Alphabet subsidiary), vastly outperformed the

- In all papers !! → *Nature* 2021 (now > 30.000 citations)

Breakthrough of the year *Science* 2021



➤ In all papers !! → *Nature* 2021 (now > 30.000 citations)

Breakthrough of the year *Science* 2021

Method of the year *Nature Methods* 2021

FOCUS | EDITORIAL

Check for updates

Method of the Year 2021: Protein structure prediction

Deep Learning based approaches for protein structure prediction have sent shock waves through the structural biology community. We anticipate far-reaching and long-lasting impact.

The potential to predict protein three-dimensional (3D) structures given a linear sequence of amino acids has captivated computational biologists for decades. While considerable progress had been made in the field, no approach had been able to reliably produce models that approached, let alone matched, the quality of experimentally determined structures. In the past year, the deep-learning-based methods AlphaFold2 and RoseTTAFold have managed to achieve this feat over a range of targets, forever altering the course of the structural biology field. More impressively, a collaboration between the European Molecular Biology Laboratory and DeepMind has predicted structures for over 350,000 proteins for 21 model organisms and made them freely available at the AlphaFold Protein Structure Database — with plans for expanding predictions to millions of structures in 2022. For these

A year ago, at the CASP14 meeting, AlphaFold2 from DeepMind outperformed all other approaches, and by a wide margin. On average, the fraction of a protein structure that AlphaFold2 correctly predicted crossed the 90% mark. A leap in performance of this magnitude was frankly not anticipated for another decade or so. It was therefore not a surprise that many deemed the protein folding problem essentially solved.

AlphaFold's success can be attributed to its neural network architecture and the training procedure that takes into account the available 3D structures of experimentally resolved proteins. In a Comment, AlphaFold developers John Jumper and Demis Hassabis describe the inner workings of the algorithm and its anticipated impact on the broader structural biology field.

Inspired by AlphaFold's approach, while the paper and related code were not yet

on structural biology, and the caveats of predicted structures.

The burning question, however, is, now that it is possible to predict accurate structures for the large majority of proteins, what lies in the future for experimental structural biology?

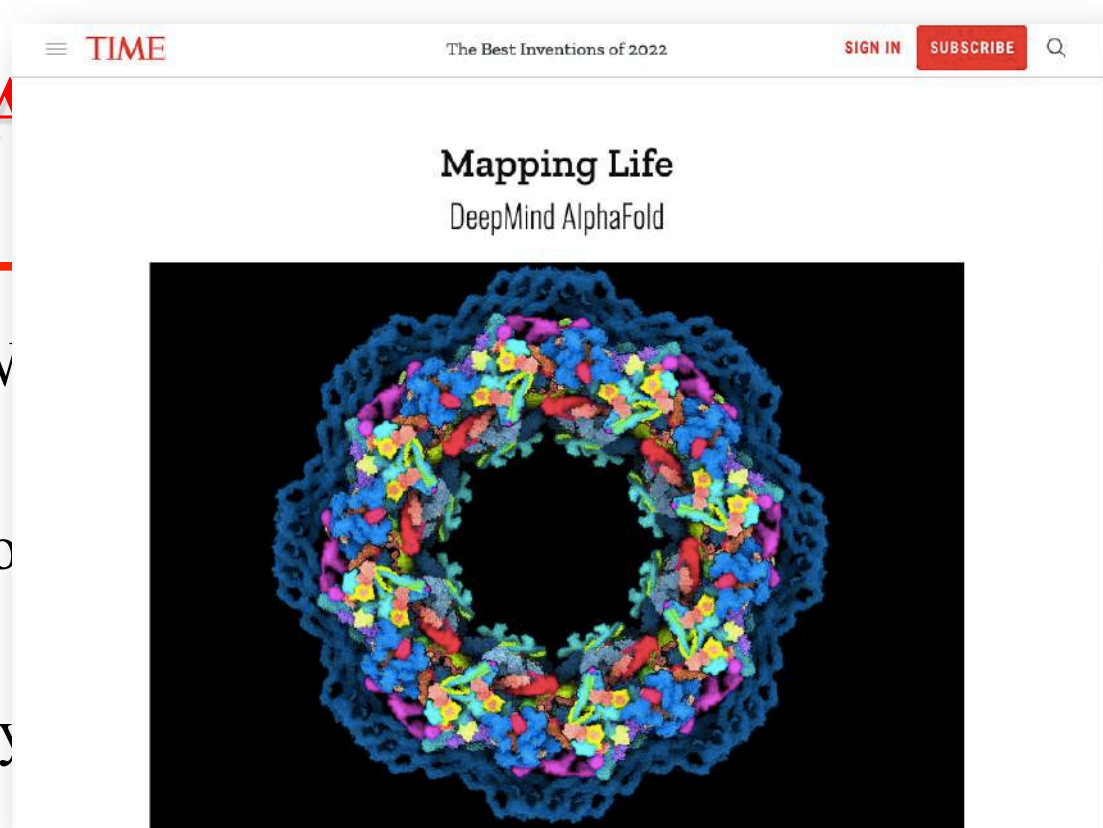
In our opinion, having a potential structure already in hand gives structural biologists a massive head start in tackling more complex and interesting biological questions, but experiments will continue to remain important for testing hypotheses based on these predicted structures. In a Comment, Sriram Subramaniam and Gerard J. Kleywegt discuss how the future of structural biology will involve a stronger partnership between structure prediction and the experimental techniques of cryo-EM and cryo-electron tomography — in particular, to capture protein conformational dynamics and in situ structural complexity.

➤ In all papers !! → N

Breakthrough o

Method of the y

Best invention of 2022 (*Life*)



➤ In all papers !! → *Nature* 2021 (now > 30.000 citations)



Prices ...

- And now Nobel prize 2024 (Demis Hassabis & John Jumper)



David Baker

Demis Hassabis

John Jumper

-
- So is it real?
 - Why?
 - How?

1. What is behind

1. What is behind

Google

>50 engineers (at least) x >5 years

Deep Learning approaches (as Facebook, DeepMind..)

\$\$\$ for excellent bioinformatics specialists

Google's GPU power (impressive)

translation: heavy, heavy, very heavy

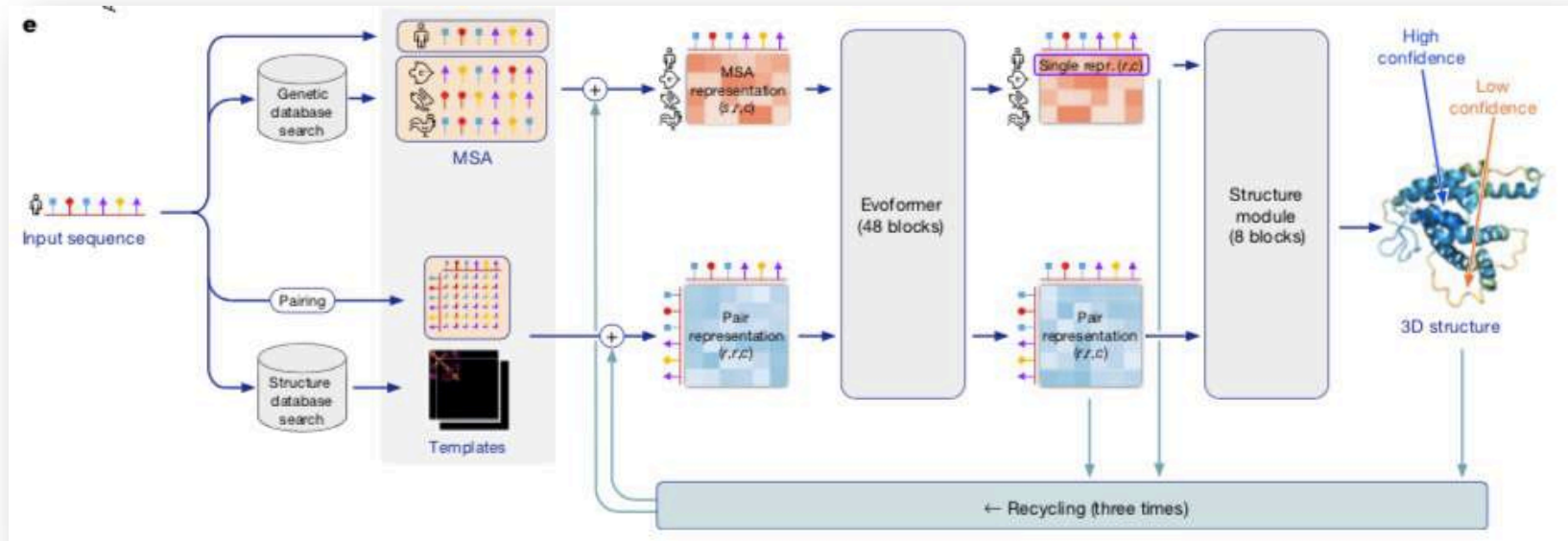
2. mechanisms

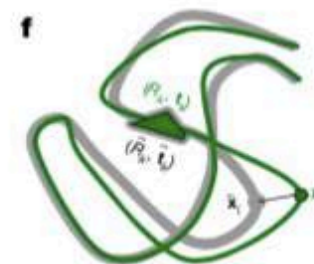
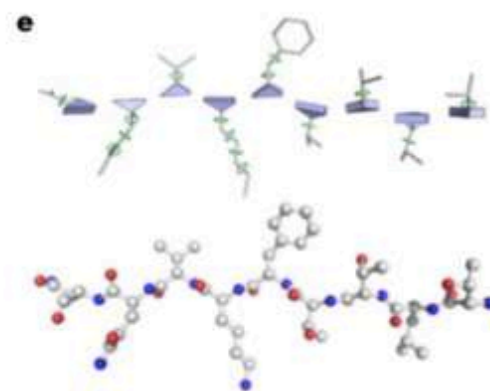
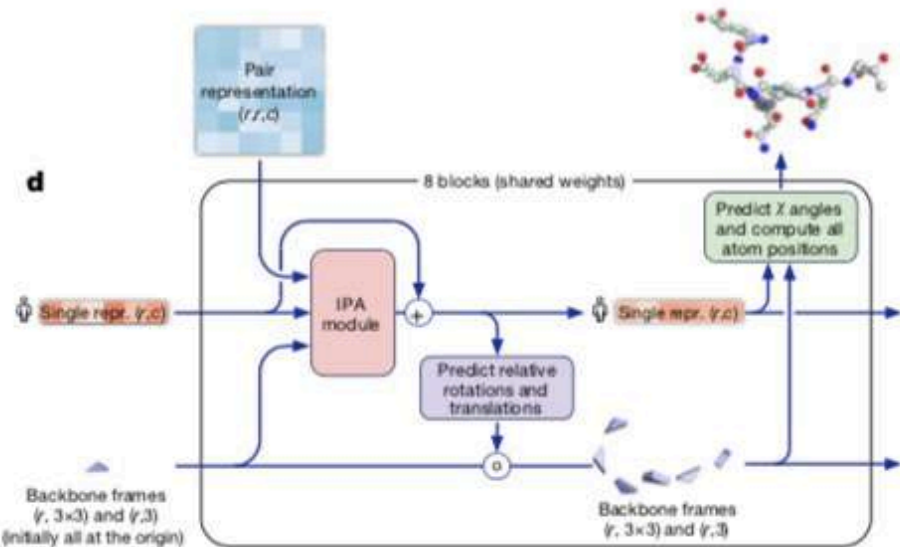
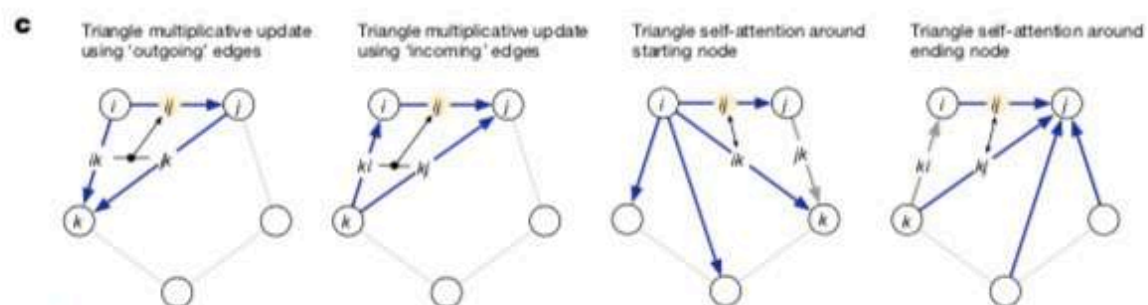
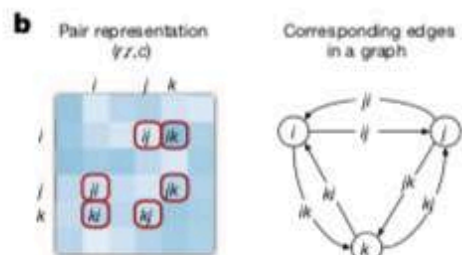
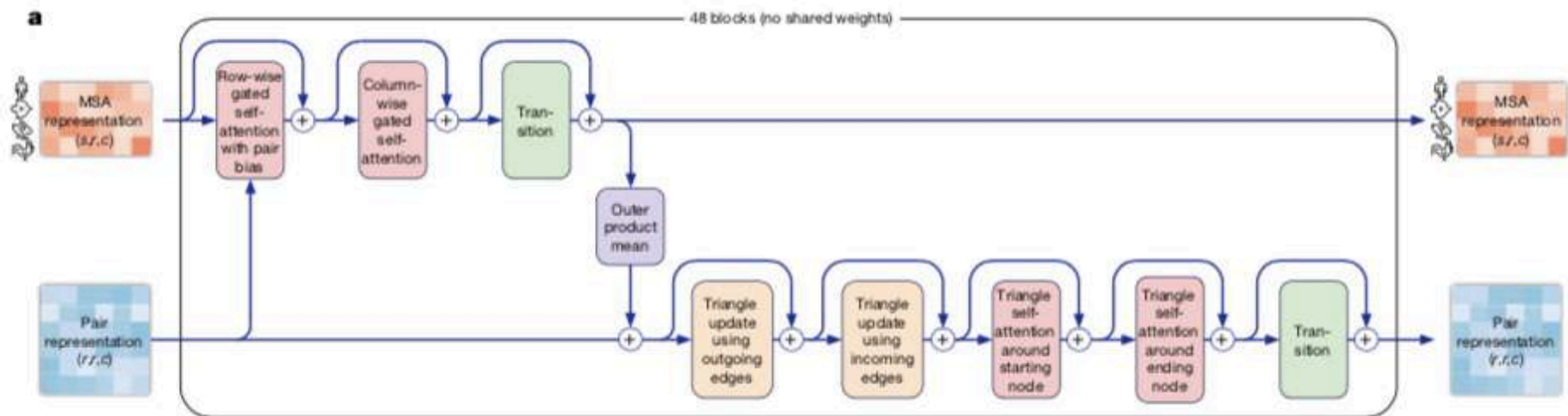
2. mechanisms

AF1 → CNN

AF2 → LLM

3. AlphaFold2





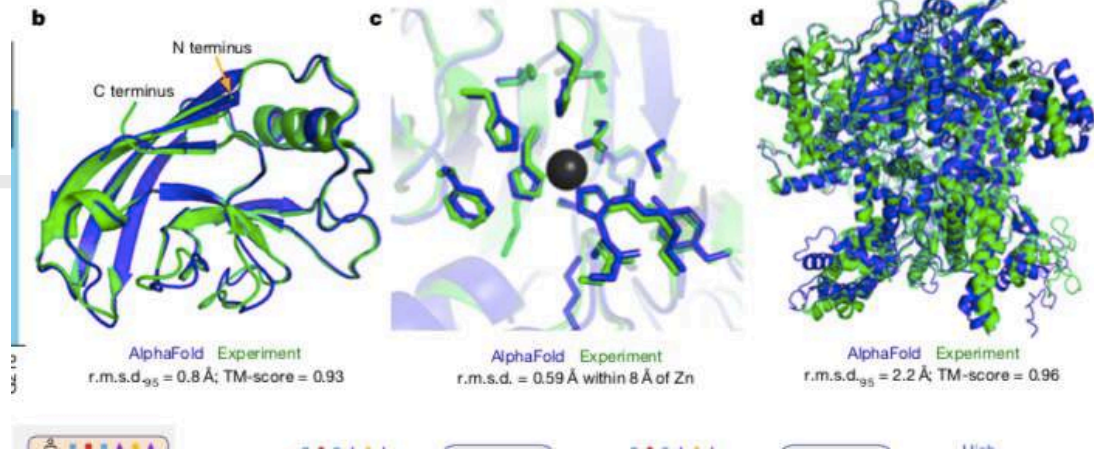
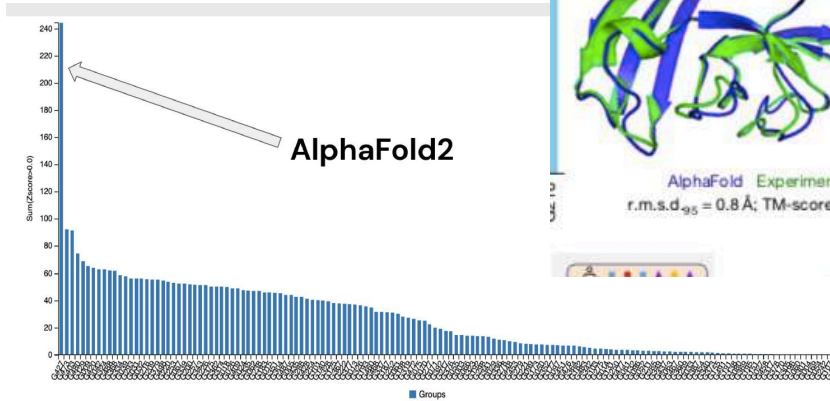
4. The questions

- Is it so good?
- Is the protein folding problem resolved?
- Is there some limitations?

4. The questions

➤ Is it so good?

Yes.

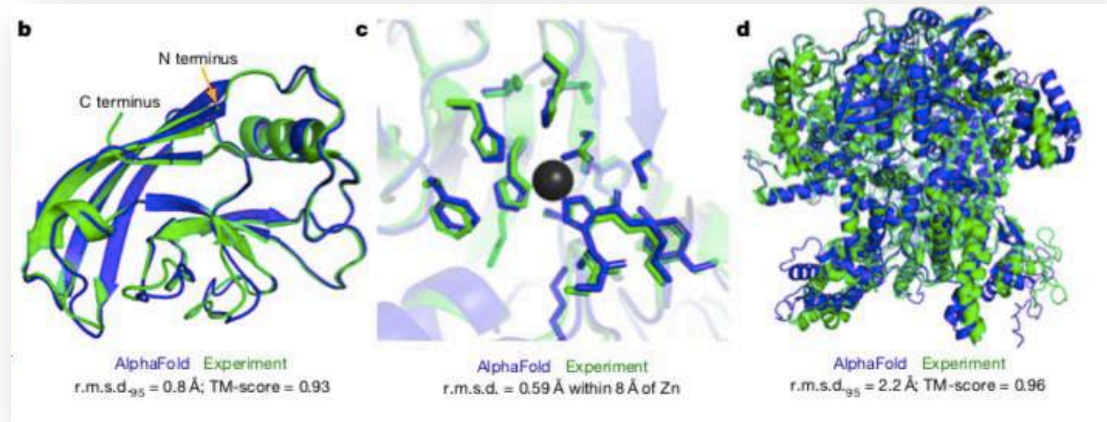


#	GR code	GR name	Domains Count	SUM Zscore (p<2.6)	Rank SUM Zscore (p<2.6)	AVG Zscore (p<2.6)	Rank AVG Zscore (p<2.6)	SUM Zscore (p<6.6)	Rank SUM Zscore (p<6.6)	AVG Zscore (p<6.6)	Rank AVG Zscore (p<6.6)
1	427	AlphaFold2	92	244.0217	1	2.6524	1	244.0217	1	2.6524	1
2	473	BAKER	92	90.8241	2	0.9872	2	92.1241	2	1.0013	2

4. The questions

➤ Is it so good?

Yes.



They used Multiple Sequence Alignments

(they tested more than anyone before)

They are expanding the local protein fold space

They have incorporated all types of SOA approaches

They have computational power never seen before

4. The questions

- Is the protein folding problem resolved?

4. The questions

➤ Is the protein folding problem resolved?

No. Protein folding is not protein fold...

Reciprocal Space Brought to you by [Occam's Typewriter](#)

[Home](#) [About Stephen](#) [Guardian pieces](#) [I'm a Scientist – the film](#)

[← Nature's new open access option – a few first thoughts](#) [Photographs of 2020 →](#)

No, DeepMind has not solved protein folding
Posted on [December 2, 2020](#) by [Stephen](#)

(Please note that this post was updated on 12th Dec 2020 – see below)

This week DeepMind has announced that, using artificial intelligence (AI), it has solved the 50-year old problem of 'protein folding'. The announcement was made as the results were released from the 14th and latest competition on the Critical Assessment of Techniques for Protein Structure Prediction (CASP14). The competition pits teams of computational scientists against one another to see whose method is the best at predicting the structures of protein molecules – and DeepMind's solution, 'AlphaFold 2', emerged as the clear winner.

[DeepMind](#) [Blog](#) [AlphaFold: a solution to a 50-year-old grand challenge in biology](#)

Recent Posts

- [To be or not to be exceptional?](#)
- [Books of 2020](#)
- [Photographs of 2020](#)
- [No, DeepMind has not solved protein folding](#)
- [Nature's new open access option – a few first thoughts](#)
- [Teaching online: how to use an iPad as a whiteboard](#)

Recent Comments

- [Richard Writtle on Books of 2020](#)
- [Richard Writtle on Books of 2020](#)
- [Stephen on Books of 2020](#)
- [Henry Gee on Books of 2020](#)
- [DeepMind's latest protein-solving AI AlphaFold a step closer to cracking biology's 50-year conundrum](#) [on No, DeepMind has not

4. The questions

➤ Is there some limitations?

It is a strange questions as now

(i) you can use it at home

(ii) there is a database of already done model

- Is there some limitations?
 - (i) you can use it at home

Algorithm is published and entirely available (was not the case for v1)

Jumper, J et al. (2021)
Nature, 596(7873):583-589.

Article

Highly accurate protein structure prediction with AlphaFold

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03819-2>

Received: 11 May 2021

Accepted: 12 July 2021

Published online: 15 July 2021

Open access

 Check for updates

John Jumper^{1,2,3,4,5}, Richard Evans^{1,4}, Alexander Pritzel^{1,4}, Tim Green^{1,4}, Michael Figurnov^{1,4}, Olaf Ronneberger^{1,4}, Kathryn Tunyasuvunakool^{1,4}, Russ Bates^{1,4}, Augustin Židek^{1,4}, Anna Potapenko^{1,4}, Alex Bridgland^{1,4}, Clemens Meyer^{1,4}, Simon A. A. Koh^{1,4}, Andrew J. Ballard⁴, Andrew Cowie^{1,4}, Bernardino Romera-Paredes^{1,4}, Stanislav Nikolov^{1,4}, Rishub Jain^{1,4}, Jonas Adler¹, Trevor Back¹, Stig Petersen¹, David Reiman¹, Ellen Clancy¹, Michal Zielinski¹, Martin Steinegger^{2,3}, Michalina Pacholska¹, Tamas Berghammer¹, Sebastian Bodenstein¹, David Silver¹, Oriol Vinyals¹, Andrew W. Senior¹, Koray Kavukcuoglu¹, Pushmeet Kohli¹ & Demis Hassabis^{1,2,3,4,5}

Proteins are essential to life, and understanding their structure can facilitate a mechanistic understanding of their function. Through an enormous experimental effort^{1–4}, the structures of around 100,000 unique proteins have been determined⁵, but this represents a small fraction of the billions of known protein sequences^{6,7}. Structural coverage is bottlenecked by the months to years of painstaking effort required to determine a single protein structure. Accurate computational approaches are needed to address this gap and to enable large-scale structural bioinformatics. Predicting the three-dimensional structure that a protein will adopt based solely on its amino acid sequence—the structure prediction component of the ‘protein folding problem’—has been an important open research problem for more than 50 years⁸. Despite recent progress^{9–14}, existing methods fall far short of atomic accuracy, especially when no homologous structure is available. Here we provide the first computational method that can regularly predict protein structures with atomic accuracy even in cases in which no similar structure is known. We validated an entirely redesigned version of our neural network-based model, AlphaFold, in the challenging 14th Critical Assessment of protein Structure Prediction (CASP14)¹⁵, demonstrating accuracy competitive with experimental structures in a majority of cases and greatly outperforming other methods. Underpinning the latest version of AlphaFold is a novel machine learning approach that incorporates physical and biological knowledge about protein structure, leveraging multi-sequence alignments, into the design of the deep learning algorithm.

- Is there some limitations?
 - (i) you can use it at home

Algorithm is published and entirely available (was not the case for v1)

<https://github.com/deepmind/alphafold>

Commit Message	Time Ago
Skip obsolete PDB templates that don't have a replacement.	last month
Fix a few typos.	2 months ago
Initial release of AlphaFold.	3 months ago
Fix TensorFlow versions in AlphaFold Colab notebook.	2 months ago
Remove a redundant space.	2 months ago
Collapse hh-suite install steps into single layer.	3 months ago
Initial release of AlphaFold.	3 months ago
Initial release of AlphaFold.	3 months ago
Update the bibtext citation with the issue number and pages	last month
Switch to Tensorflow CPU-only. GPU not needed for data pipeline.	2 months ago
Use pLDDT in the B-factor column of the output PDBs.	2 months ago

- Is there some limitations?
 - (i) you can use it at home

So people have used it.

Recent results from a big consortium

“For 11 proteomes, an average of 25% additional residues can be confidently modelled when compared to homology modelling”

➔ Automatic homology modelling ...

Akdel et al (2021) *bioRxiv*
=> (2022) *Nat Struct Biol*

bioRxiv preprint doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.09.26.461876>; this version posted September 26, 2021. The copyright holder for this preprint (which was not certified by peer review) is the author/funder, who has granted bioRxiv a license to display the preprint in perpetuity. It is made available under aCC-BY 4.0 International license.

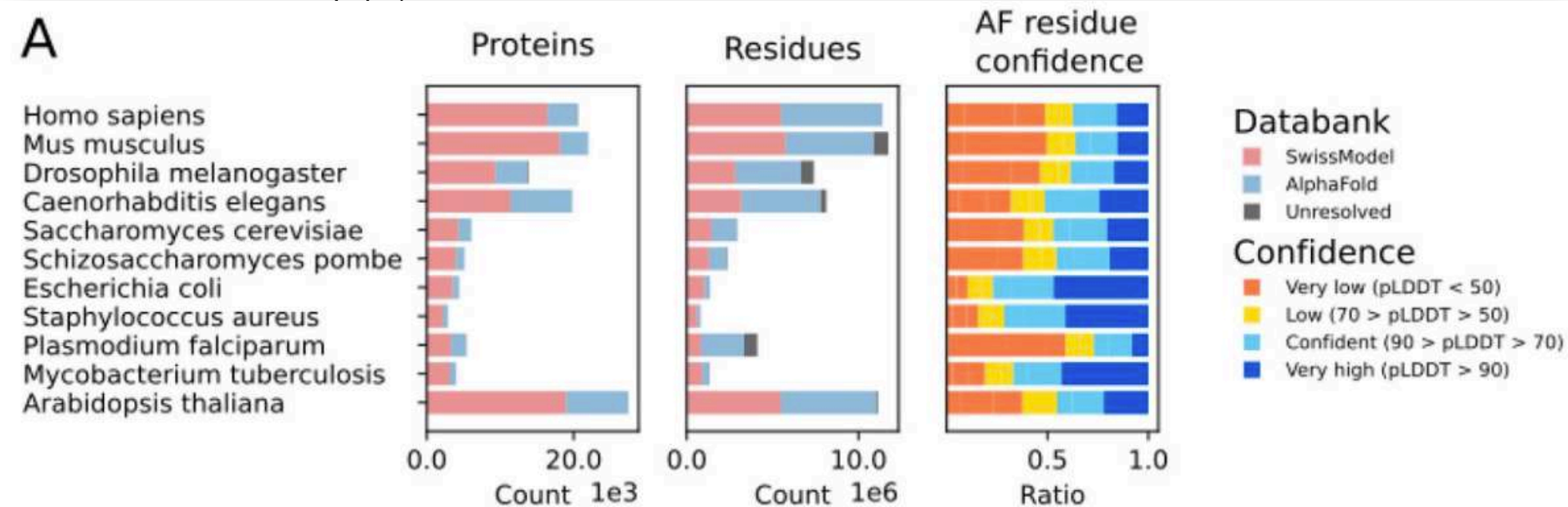
A structural biology community assessment of AlphaFold 2 applications

Mehmet Akdel^{1,*}, Douglas E V Pires^{2,*}, Eduard Porta Pardo^{3,4,*}, Jürgen Jänes^{5,*}, Arthur O Zalevsky^{6,*}, Bálint Mészáros^{7,*}, Patrick Bryant^{8,*}, Lydia L. Good^{9,*}, Roman A Laskowski^{5,*}, Gabriele Pozzati⁸, Aditi Shenoy⁸, Wensi Zhu⁸, Petras Kundrotas⁸, Victoria Ruiz Serra⁴, Carlos H M Rodrigues², Alistair S Dunham⁵, David Burke⁵, Neera Borkakoti⁵, Sameer Velankar⁵, Adam Frost¹⁰, Kresten Lindorff-Larsen⁹, Alfonso Valencia^{4,#}, Sergey Ovchinnikov^{11,#}, Janani Durairaj^{12,#}, David B Ascher^{2,#}, Janet M Thornton^{5,#}, Norman E Davey^{13,#}, Amelie Stein^{9,#}, Arne Elofsson^{8,#}, Tristan I Croll^{14,#}, Pedro Beltrao^{5,#}

- 1 - Bioinformatics Group, Department of Plant Sciences, Wageningen University and Research, Netherlands
- 2 - Systems and Computational Biology, Bio21 Institute, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
- 3 - Josep Carreras Leukaemia Research Institute (IJC), Badalona, Spain
- 4 - Barcelona Supercomputing Center (BSC)
- 5 - European Molecular Biology Laboratory, European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-EBI), Cambridge, UK.
- 6 - Shemyakin–Ovchinnikov Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, Russian Academy of Sciences, 117997 Moscow, Russian Federation
- 7 - European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Heidelberg, Germany
- 8 - Dep of Biochemistry and Biophysics and Science for Life Laboratory, 17121 Solna, Sweden
- 9 - Linderstrøm-Lang Centre for Protein Science, Department of Biology, University of Copenhagen, DK-2200 Copenhagen N, Denmark
- 10 - Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics University of California, San Francisco
- 11 - Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Division of Science, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138

➤ Is there some limitations?

(i) you can use it at home



modelling

➔ Automatic homology
modelling ...

Akdel et al (2021) *bioRxiv*

⇒ (2022) *Nat Struct Biol*

4 - Barcelona Supercomputing Center (BSC)

5 - European Molecular Biology Laboratory, European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-EBI), Cambridge, UK.

6 - Shemyakin-Ovchinnikov Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry, Russian Academy of Sciences, 117997 Moscow, Russian Federation

7 - European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Heidelberg, Germany

8 - Dep of Biochemistry and Biophysics and Science for Life Laboratory, 17121 Solna, Sweden

9 - Linderström-Lang Centre for Protein Science, Department of Biology, University of Copenhagen, DK-2200 Copenhagen N, Denmark

10 - Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics University of California, San Francisco

11- Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Division of Science, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138

- Is there some limitations?
 - (ii) there is a database of already done model

EBI: <https://www.alphafold.ebi.ac.uk>

AlphaFold2, at a scale that covers .. 98.5% of human proteins. The resulting dataset covers 58% of residues with a confident prediction, of which a subset (36% of all residues) have very high confidence.

➔ 36% for drug design


Tunyasuvunakool K, et al (2021), *Nature*. 596(7873):590-596.

Article

Highly accurate protein structure prediction for the human proteome

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03828-1>

Received: 11 May 2021
Accepted: 16 July 2021
Published online: 22 July 2021
Open access

 Check for updates

Kathryn Tunyasuvunakool^{1,2,3}, Jonas Adler¹, Zachary Wu¹, Tim Green¹, Michal Zielinski¹, Augustin Židek¹, Alex Bridgland¹, Andrew Cowie¹, Clemens Meyer¹, Agata Laydon¹, Sameer Velankar¹, Gerard J. Kleywegt², Alex Bateman², Richard Evans¹, Alexander Pritzel¹, Michael Figurnov¹, Olaf Ronneberger¹, Russ Bates¹, Simon A. A. Kohl¹, Arna Potapenko¹, Andrew J. Ballard¹, Bernardino Romera-Paredes¹, Stanislav Nikolov¹, Rishub Jain¹, Ellen Clancy², David Reiman¹, Stig Petersen¹, Andrew W. Senior¹, Koray Kavukcuoglu¹, Ewan Birney², Pushmeet Kohli¹, John Jumper^{1,3,4} & Demis Hassabis^{1,2,3,4}

Protein structures can provide invaluable information, both for reasoning about biological processes and for enabling interventions such as structure-based drug development or targeted mutagenesis. After decades of effort, 17% of the total residues in human protein sequences are covered by an experimentally determined structure¹. Here we markedly expand the structural coverage of the proteome by applying the state-of-the-art machine learning method, AlphaFold², at a scale that covers almost the entire human proteome (98.5% of human proteins). The resulting dataset covers 58% of residues with a confident prediction, of which a subset (36% of all residues) have very high confidence. We introduce several metrics developed by building on the AlphaFold model and use them to interpret the dataset, identifying strong multi-domain predictions as well as regions that are likely to be disordered. Finally, we provide some case studies to illustrate how high-quality predictions could be used to generate biological hypotheses. We are making our predictions freely available to the community and anticipate that routine large-scale and high-accuracy

- Is there some limitations?
 - (ii) there is a database of already done model

EBI: <https://www.alphafold.ebi.ac.uk>

AlphaFold2, at a scale that covers .. 98.5% of human proteins. The resulting dataset covers 58% of residues with a confident prediction, of which a subset (36% of all residues) have very high confidence.

➔ 36% for drug design

➔ 42% question about fold


Tunyasuvunakool K, et al (2021), *Nature*. 596(7873):590-596.

Article

Highly accurate protein structure prediction for the human proteome

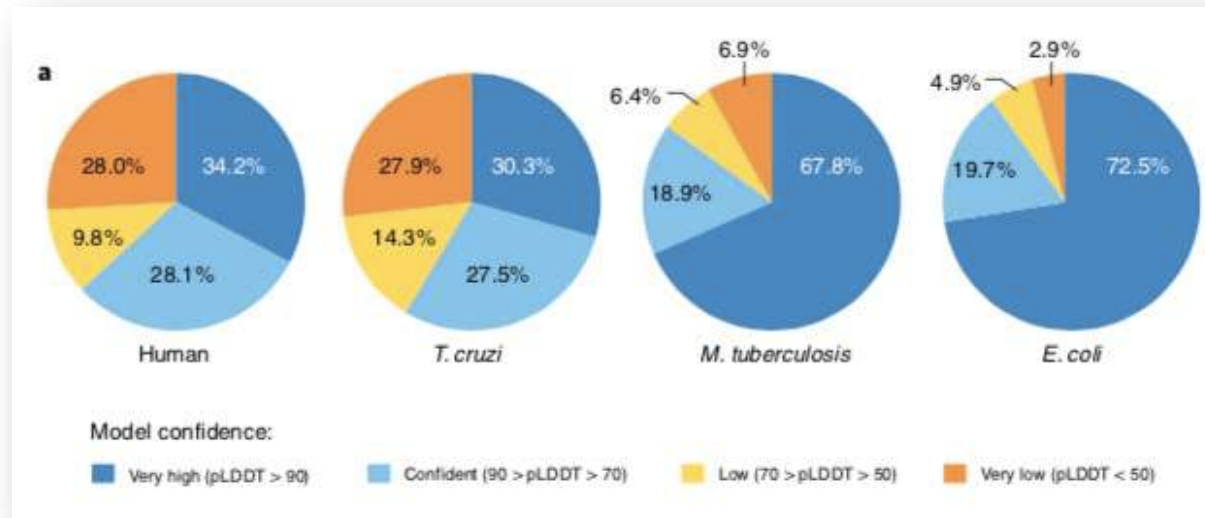
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03828-1>

Received: 11 May 2021
Accepted: 16 July 2021
Published online: 22 July 2021
Open access

 Check for updates

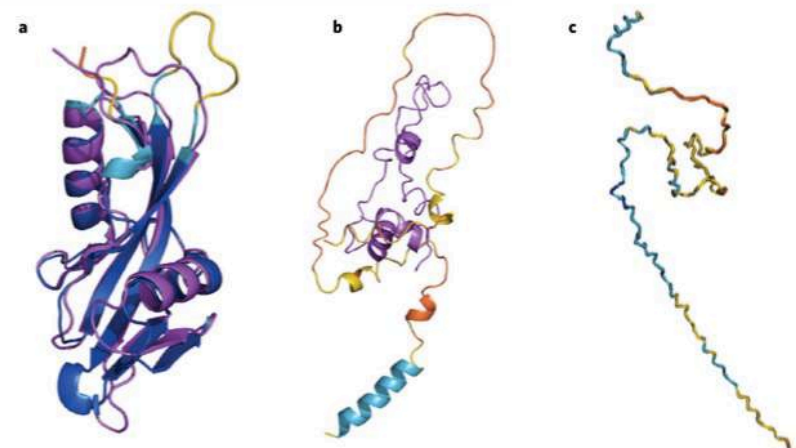
Kathryn Tunyasuvunakool^{1,2*}, Jonas Adler¹, Zachary Wu¹, Tim Green¹, Michal Zielinski¹, Augustin Židek¹, Alex Bridgland¹, Andrew Cowie¹, Clemens Meyer¹, Agata Laydon¹, Sameer Velankar¹, Gerard J. Kleywegt², Alex Bateman², Richard Evans², Alexander Pritzel¹, Michael Figurnov¹, Olaf Ronneberger¹, Russ Bates¹, Simon A. A. Kohl¹, Arna Potapenko¹, Andrew J. Ballard¹, Bernardino Romera-Paredes¹, Stanislav Nikolov¹, Rishub Jain¹, Ellen Clancy², David Reiman¹, Stig Petersen¹, Andrew W. Senior¹, Koray Kavukcuoglu¹, Ewan Birney², Pushmeet Kohli¹, John Jumper^{1,3,4*} & Demis Hassabis^{1,2,5*}

Protein structures can provide invaluable information, both for reasoning about biological processes and for enabling interventions such as structure-based drug development or targeted mutagenesis. After decades of effort, 17% of the total residues in human protein sequences are covered by an experimentally determined structure¹. Here we markedly expand the structural coverage of the proteome by applying the state-of-the-art machine learning method, AlphaFold², at a scale that covers almost the entire human proteome (98.5% of human proteins). The resulting dataset covers 58% of residues with a confident prediction, of which a subset (36% of all residues) have very high confidence. We introduce several metrics developed by building on the AlphaFold model and use them to interpret the dataset, identifying strong multi-domain predictions as well as regions that are likely to be disordered. Finally, we provide some case studies to illustrate how high-quality predictions could be used to generate biological hypotheses. We are making our predictions freely available to the community and anticipate that routine large-scale and high-accuracy



- *Protein structures predicted using artificial intelligence will aid medical research, but the greatest benefit will come if clinical data can be similarly used to better understand human disease.*

Janet M. Thornton, Roman A. Laskowski and Neera Borkakoti. (2021) *Nat Med.* 27:1666-1671.



The good, the bad and the ugly

- Is there some limitations?
 - (ii) there is a database of already done model

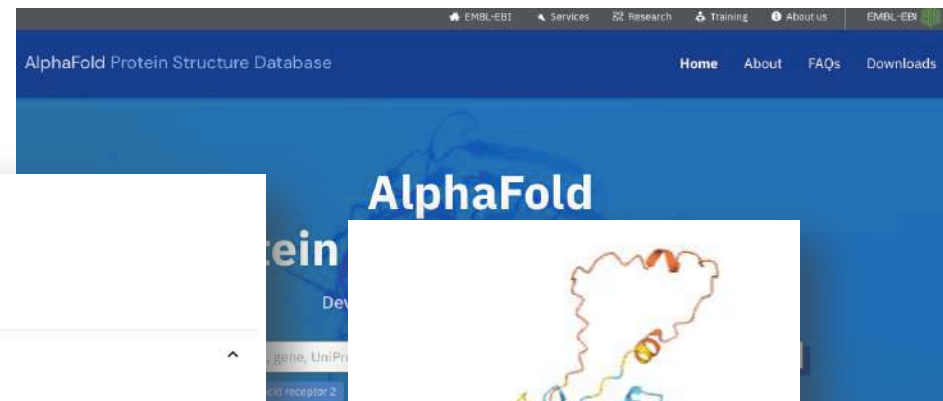
EBI: <https://www.alphafold.ebi.ac.uk>



So you ask your favourite protein

- Is there some limitations?
 - (ii) there is a database of already done model

EBI: <https://www.alphafold.ebi.ac.uk>



Atypical chemokine receptor 1

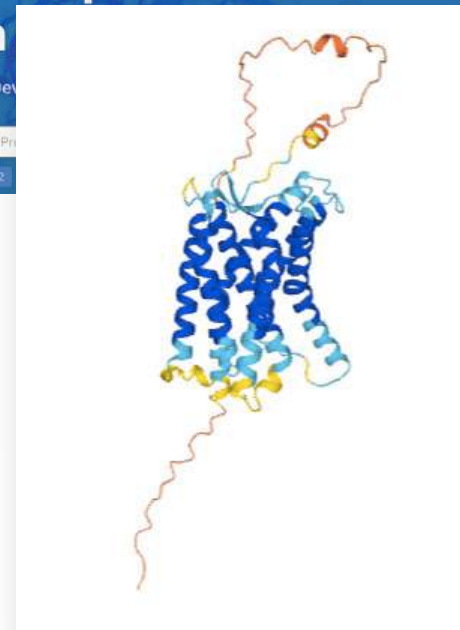
AlphaFold structure prediction

Download

Information

Protein	Atypical chemokine receptor 1
Gene	ACKR1
Source organism	Homo sapiens go to search
UniProt	Q16570 go to UniProt
Experimental structures	2 structures in PDB for Q16570 go to PDBe-KB
Biological function	Atypical chemokine receptor that controls chemokine levels and localization via high-affinity chemokine binding that is uncoupled from classic ligand-driven signal transduction cascades, resulting instead in chemokine sequestration, degradation, or transcytosis. Also known as interceptor (internalizing receptor) or chemokine-scavenging receptor or chemokine decoy receptor. Has a promiscuous chemokine-binding profile, interacting with inflammatory chemokines of both the CXC and the CC subfamilies but not with homeostatic chemokines. Acts as a receptor for ... [show more] go to UniProt

AlphaFold



Yes, it is a transmembrane one...
[And i do not like the final model...](#)

➤ Is there some limitations?

EBI: <https://v>

Atypical c

AlphaFold structu

Download

Information

Protein

Gene

Source organism

UniProt

Experimental structures

Biological function

Display
Help video
Structure¹

Entry

Publications

Feature viewer

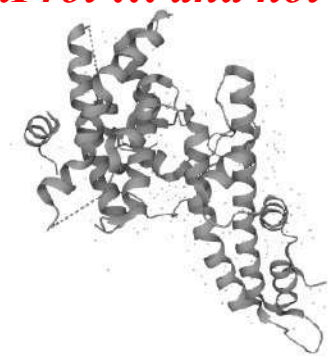
Feature table

None

- Function
- Names & Taxonomy
- Subcellular location
- Pathology & Biotech
- PTM / Processing
- Expression
- Interaction
- Structure
- Family & Domains
- Sequences (2)
- Similar proteins
- Cross-references
- Entry information
- Miscellaneous

▲ Top

Included in UniProt ... and not always pertinent



Confusing for non-specialist

Source	Identifier	Method	Resolution	Chain	Positions	Links
PDB	4NUU	X-ray	1.95 Å	C	16-43	PDB · RCSB-PDB · PDBj · PDBsum
PDB	4NUV	X-ray	2.60 Å	C/D	14-43	PDB · RCSB-PDB · PDBj · PDBsum
AlphaFold	AF-Q1.6570-F1	Predicted			1-336	AlphaFold

Yes, it is a transmembrane one...
And i do not like the final model...



➤ Is there some limitations?


SNPs == pathologies

➤ Is there some limitations?

An accurate prediction of topology can certainly help these efforts, **but what is really needed is a means to study precise side-chain orientations, interactions with non-protein molecules and the dynamics of the system.** Not to mention, one typically makes use of a host of other non-structural information, such as evolutionary conservation, sequence annotation data and, of course, the vast and growing scientific literature.

Diwan GD, Gonzalez-Sanchez JC, Apic G, Russell RB. (2021), *J Mol Biol.* 4:167180.

ARTICLE IN PRESS Review Article



Next Generation Protein Structure Predictions and Genetic Variant Interpretation

Gaurav D. Diwan[†] Juan Carlos Gonzalez-Sanchez[†] Gordana Apic and Robert B. Russell^{*}

BioQuant, Heidelberg University, Im Neuenheimer Feld 267, Heidelberg, Germany
Biochemistry Center (BZH), Heidelberg University, Im Neuenheimer Feld 328, Heidelberg, Germany

Correspondence to Robert B. Russell: BioQuant, Heidelberg University, Im Neuenheimer Feld 267, Heidelberg, Germany. robert.russell@bioquant.uni-heidelberg.de (R.B. Russell)
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmb.2021.167180>
Edited by Louise C. Serpell

Abstract

The need to make sense of the thousands of genetic variants uncovered every day in terms of pathology or biological mechanism is acute. Many insights into how genetic changes impact protein function can be gleaned if three-dimensional structures of the associated proteins are available. The availability of a highly accurate method of predicting structures from amino acid sequences (e.g. AlphaFold2) is thus potentially a great boost to those wanting to understand genetic changes. In this paper we discuss the current state of

➤ Is there some limitations?

Evaluation of variants ?

We found a very weak or no correlation between AlphaFold output metrics and change of protein stability or fluorescence. Our results imply that AlphaFold cannot be immediately applied to other problems or applications in protein folding.

Pak et al (2021), BioRxiv

<https://www.biorxiv.org/lookup/doi/10.1101/2021.09.19.460937>

bioRxiv preprint doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.09.19.460937>; this version posted September 20, 2021. The copyright holder for this preprint (which was not certified by peer review) is the author/funder, who has granted bioRxiv a license to display the preprint in perpetuity. It is made available under aCC-BY-NC-ND 4.0 International license.

Using AlphaFold to predict the impact of single mutations on protein stability and function

Marina A. Pak¹, Karina A. Markhieva^{2*}, Mariia S. Novikova^{3,*}, Dmitry S. Petrov^{4,*}, Ilya S. Vorobyev¹, Ekaterina S. Maksimova⁵, Fyodor A. Kondrashov⁵, and Dmitry N. Ivankov^{1,†}

¹Center of Life Sciences, Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology, Moscow, Russia
²Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (RUDN University), Moscow, Russia
³Armand Hammer United World College of the American West, New Mexico, USA
⁴Specialized Educational and Scientific Center of UrFU (SUNC UrFU), Ekaterinburg, Russia
⁵Institute of Science and Technology Austria, Maria Gugging, Austria
*Equal contribution
†Corresponding author

Abstract

AlphaFold changed the field of structural biology by achieving three-dimensional (3D) structure prediction from protein sequence at experimental quality. The astounding success even led to claims that the protein folding problem is “solved”. However, protein folding problem is more

- The new prediction algorithms do not solve the protein folding problem in the sense that they do not reveal how a sequence encodes three-dimensional structure.
- However, they do solve the problem in practical terms, as they can reliably predict structure from sequence, *at least in many cases.*
- *Although only time will tell*, this advance is expected to represent a breakthrough in structural biology that is comparable to previous major advances,

Cramer P. (2021) *Nat Struct Mol Biol.* 28(9):704-705.

The image shows a screenshot of a correspondence article from a journal. The header includes the word "correspondence" and a "Check for updates" button. The title of the article is "AlphaFold2 and the future of structural biology". The text is organized into several columns. The first column contains the start of the article, mentioning "To the Editor" and discussing the implications of AlphaFold2. The second column is titled "AlphaFold2 and the community" and discusses the Protein Data Bank (PDB) and the training of the machine-learning algorithm. The third column discusses the future of structural biology and the impact of NMR. The fourth column discusses the new prediction algorithms and their impact on model building. The fifth column is titled "New challenges for computational biology" and discusses the future of structural biology and the impact of NMR.

correspondence

AlphaFold2 and the future of structural biology

To the Editor — AlphaFold2 is a machine-learning algorithm for protein structure prediction that has now been used to obtain hundreds of thousands of protein models. The resulting resource is marvelous and will serve the community in many ways. Here I discuss the implications of this breakthrough achievement, which changes the way we do structural biology.

Imagine a website where you could download a reliable three-dimensional model of your protein of interest. Until recently, this was just a dream. Now such structure prediction has become reality, at least for many monomeric proteins. As a result of a collaboration between the company DeepMind and the European Molecular Biology Laboratory, hundreds of thousands of protein models were published online 22 July 2021.

It has been a long-term goal of the scientific community to provide structural information on the human proteome. However, despite decades of effort, only ~18% of the total residues in human protein sequences are covered by experimentally determined structures at this time. This

already been applied to predict structures of several protein complexes. Like AlphaFold2, RoseTTAFold is available to the community and can now be used as an alternative route to predict protein structure from sequence.

AlphaFold2 and the community

Half a century ago, the structural biology community had decided that all experimentally resolved macromolecular structures should be collected in an open-access database, the Protein Data Bank (PDB). The PDB has been a great investment in the future and was essential for training the machine-learning algorithm of AlphaFold2. From the features learned during this training on experimentally determined structures, the algorithm could predict unknown structures with considerably higher accuracy than what has been achieved before.

The vast structural knowledge available in the PDB was thus a *conditio sine qua non* for developing the new prediction tools. Obtaining the many experimental structures that are collected in the PDB has required decades of hard work by the structural

solution of domain structures by NMR may be replaced by fast predictions so that the unique advantages of NMR in investigating protein folding and dynamics and the binding of ligands and nucleic acids can be utilized more readily.

The new prediction algorithms should also improve automated model building. This will not change the general approach in structural biology, which has always combined model building with experimental observations. The best-known example may be the DNA double helix, which was originally modeled to fit experimental observations that came from X-ray fiber diffraction and biochemistry¹. Until today, structural models were built to explain experimental data, but soon machine-learning methods may be combined with classical refinement tools to largely automate model building, to the benefit of the community.

New challenges for computational biology

The new algorithms will be used to predict the structure of the proteome of any organism

Conclusions on AF2

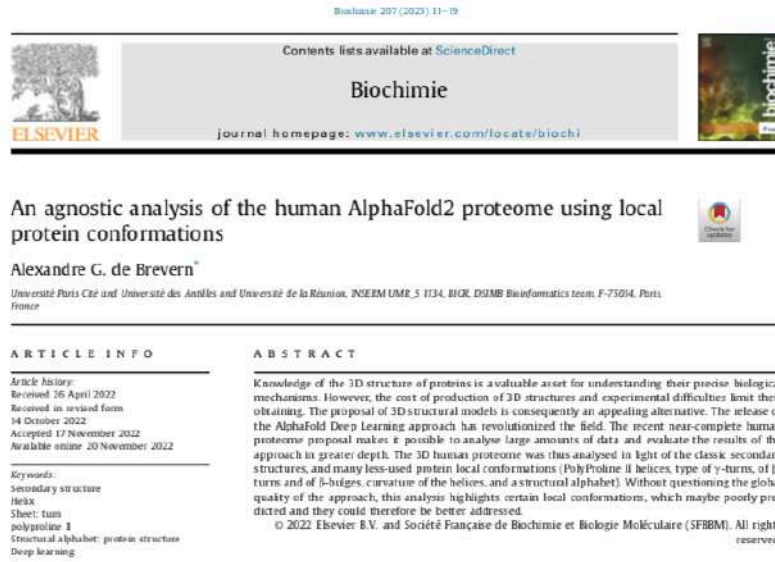
- Yes, it is excellent

Conclusions on AF2

- Yes, it is excellent
- No, it is not perfect and a lot of works are still needed.

Conclusions on AF2

- Yes, it is excellent
- No, it is not perfect and a lot of works are still needed.
- So, an excellent new tool, with results that must be evaluated (*as always*)



Not all local conformations are properly predicted !

1. Introduction

Proteins are essential constituents of cells, one of the major macromolecules of life. Composed of 20 amino acids, proteins ensure a variety of essential biological functions. The domain of molecular biology emphasizes the link between the nucleic sequence and the protein sequence to arrive at protein structures and their functions. Nowadays, access to these sequences has become particularly cheap [1]. Databases contain millions of protein sequences, while the three-dimensional structures of proteins are much more difficult to obtain experimentally [2].

Hence for more than 30 years, different computational approaches have been implemented to propose three-dimensional (3D) structural models of proteins from their amino acid sequence [3]. The classic categories of these approaches include homology or comparative modelling, threading, *ab initio*, *de novo* approaches, and meta-servers; these last combined several approaches. It is possible to notice the best-known tools such as Modeller [4], the golden standard of homology/comparative modelling and *de novo* most recent approaches Rosetta and I-

TASSER [5–7]. These two last have won numerous Critical Assessment for Protein Structure Prediction (CASP) meetings [8,9].

Arrived at the CASP13 (2018), the company DeepMind presented its new Deep Learning approach named AlphaFold [10]. It won the Free Modelling category, i.e. the prediction of novel protein folds [11], whereas Template-Based Modelling category, i.e. protein folds already found in the Protein Data Bank, was won by Zhang's group [12]. Two years later, AlphaFold version 2 obtained particularly remarkable at CASP14 (2020) [13,14]; some models were within the uncertainties of the experimental resolution, an impressive result. This improvement combined the delicate use of evolution, contacts within proteins, and large GPU computing power that allowed the implementation of a particularly complex and elegant architecture [15,16].

AlphaFold 2 was a hot topic for 2020 and 2021 [17–20], leading to a revolution in protein structural model building [21,22] and opening potential new opportunities, e.g. new drug design researches [23,24]. Three points can be noticed (i) the code can be downloaded freely on GitHub (<https://github.com/deepmind/alphafold>) and is really useable [25], (ii) different online notebooks for non-specialists are easy to use (e.g. https://colab.research.google.com/github/sokrypton/ColabFold/blob/main/batch/AlphaFold2_batch.ipynb) [26], and (iii) EBI provides structural model databases [27]. Indeed, model building is expensive in

de Brevern A.G. An agnostic analysis of the human AlphaFold2 proteome using local protein conformations. *Biochimie* (2023) 207:11-19.

^{*} INSERM UMR_S 1134, D2IMB Bioinformatics team, Paris Cité, 8 rue Marie Helene Véra de Silva, 75014, Paris, France.
E-mail address: alexandre.debrevern@inserm.fr.



Perspective AlphaFold2 Update and Perspectives

Sébastien Tourlet¹, Ragousandirane Radjasandirane², Julien Diharce² and Alexandre G. de Brevern^{2,4}

- ¹ Cappelletti Invent, 92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux, France.
² Department of Biological Research on the Red Blood Cells, Université Paris Cité and Université des Antilles and Université de la Réunion, INSERM, BGR, DSIMB Bioinformatics Team, F-97314 Paris, France
⁴ Correspondence: alexandre.debrevern@univ-paris-diderot.fr; Tel.: +33-1-44493000

Abstract: Access to the three-dimensional (3D) structural information of macromolecules is of major interest in both fundamental and applied research. Obtaining this experimental data can be complex, time consuming, and costly. Therefore, in silico computational approaches are an alternative of interest, and sometimes present a unique option. In this context, the Protein Structure Prediction method AlphaFold2 represented a revolutionary advance in structural bioinformatics. Named method of the year in 2021, and widely distributed by DeepMind and EBI, it was thought at this time that protein-folding issues had been resolved. However, the reality is slightly more complex. Due to a lack of input experimental data, related to crystallographic challenges, some targets have remained highly challenging or not feasible. This perspective exercise, dedicated to a non-expert audience, discusses and correctly places AlphaFold2 methodology in its context and, above all, highlights its use, limitations, and opportunities. After a review of the interest in the 3D structure and of the previous methods used in the field, AF2 is brought into its historical context. Its spatial interests are detailed before presenting precise quantifications showing some limitations of this approach and finishing with the perspectives in the field.

Keywords: molecular modelling; protein sequences; protein structures; comparative modelling; threading; de novo; meta-servers; deep learning; CASP



Citation: Tourlet, S., Radjasandirane, R., Diharce, J., de Brevern, A.G. AlphaFold2 Update and Perspectives. *BioMedInformatics* 2023, 3, 378-390. <https://doi.org/10.3390/biomedinformatics302025>

Academic Editors: Fan Zhang and Bin Wang

Received: 15 March 2023
 Revised: 18 April 2023
 Accepted: 28 April 2023
 Published: 9 May 2023



Copyright: © 2023 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

1. Foreword

The idea for this short perspective comes from multiple discussions about the real impact of AlphaFold2 (AF2) with fellow specialists, biologists, and students. We provide a simple but comprehensive overview including the expertise of researchers who deal with AF2 on a regular basis, for non-specialists such as medical doctors. AF2 is has various users. It is a method that has been discussed in an unparalleled way in recognized scientific journals (method of the year for Nature Methods [1], with a \$3 million award for its designers [2]) and has impacted non-specialists (e.g., the Times best inventions 2022 [3]). Statements asserting that 'It will change everything' [4] or 'DeepMind AI cracks 50-year-old problem of protein folding' [5] bring questions, especially when the reality and impact of the results differ from one research lab to another.

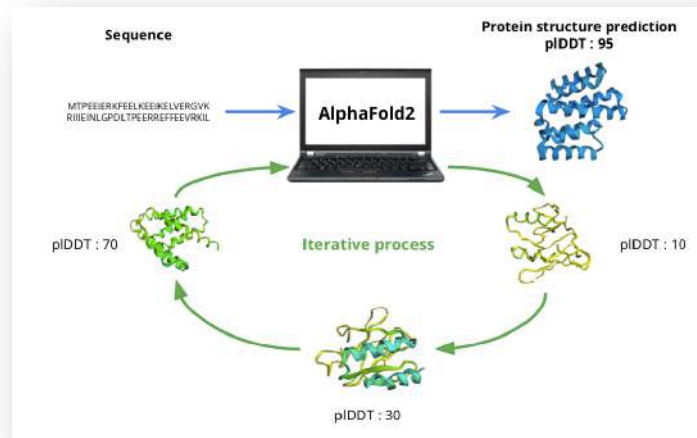
This strategic perspective exercise is articulated in four parts. First, we outline for the record the issues of interest in protein structure and the history of the field of three-dimensional (3D) structural model prediction. Second, we discuss more specifically the deep learning approaches in Structural Bioinformatics. Third, we present our ideas on the contributions and limitations of AF2. Finally, we conclude with perspectives for the evolution of the field.

2. Introduction

2.1. Proteins and 3D Structures

Proteins are composed of a succession of amino acids, essential biological molecules that are the building blocks of macromolecules. With 20 different types, these amino acids

Analyses of the impact of AlphaFold2 on the daily life of a Structural Bioinformatics lab.



Tourlet S., Radjasandirane R., Diharce J., de Brevern A.G. AlphaFold2 Update and Perspectives. *BioMedInformatics* (2023) 3(2), 378-390.

What I was doing before AlphaFold2

(a)

➤ **Protocol:**

protein properties (S2, disorder, PTMs,...)

PSI-BLAST, HMM, ... searching in databases

Looking for evolution

Comparative modelling if possible (Modeller)

Tools and webservers:

comparative, e.g. SwissModel,

threading, e.g. Phyre

de novo, e.g. I-Tasser, Rosetta

➤ **Analyses**

Tourlet S., Radjasandirane R., Diharce J., de Brevern A.G. AlphaFold2 Update and Perspectives. *BioMedInformatics* (2023) **3**(2), 378-390.

What I was doing before AlphaFold2

(a)

➤ **Protocol:**

protein properties (S2, disorder, PTMs,...)
PSI-BLAST, HMM, ... searching in databases
Looking for evolution
Comparative modelling if possible (Modeller)
Tools and webservers:
comparative, e.g. SwissModel,
threading, e.g. Phyre
de novo, e.g. I-Tasser, Rosetta

➤ **Analyses**



What I am doing now

(b)

➤ **Protocol:**

protein properties (S2, disorder, PTMs,...)
PSI-BLAST, HMM, ... searching in databases
Looking for evolution
Comparative modelling if possible (Modeller)
Tools and webservers:
comparative, e.g. SwissModel,
threading, e.g. Phyre
de novo, e.g. I-Tasser, Rosetta

Deep learning, e.g. AlphaFold2

➤ **Analyses**

Tourlet S., Radjasandirane R., Diharce J., de Brevern A.G. AlphaFold2 Update and Perspectives. *BioMedInformatics* (2023) **3**(2), 378-390.

➤ *Editorial* : Should We Expect a Second Wave of AlphaFold Misuse After the Nobel Prize?

Editorial

Should We Expect a Second Wave of AlphaFold Misuse After the Nobel Prize?

Alexandre G. de Brevern 

Université Paris Cité and Université de la Réunion, INSERM, BIGR, DSIMB Bioinformatics Team,
F-75015 Paris, France; alexandre.debrevern@univ-paris-diderot.fr; Tel.: +33-1-4449-3000

AlphaFold (AF) was the first deep learning tool to achieve exceptional fame in the field of biology [1]. To sum up, we first recall the existence of the CASP (Critical Assessment of Structural Prediction) competition, which allows the evaluation of individual prediction methods by proposing protein structural models. In 2018, the first version of the AF obtained excellent results, close to those of the best approaches available at the time [2,3]. Two years later, in 2020, a particularly significant average improvement was observed [4,5], and then with the communicative power of a company spun off from Alphabet, a great increase in media coverage of structural bioinformatics occurred.



CONCLUSIONS

-
- It seems, but it is not so easy to do a good structural model.
 - Link with experiments can be very complicated
 - Analysis of initial structural data is essential
 - Good knowledge of appropriate tools is important
 - It takes a lot of time, needs to be properly *think*.

THANK YOU

Snoopy's question

*Is really everything
perfect ?*

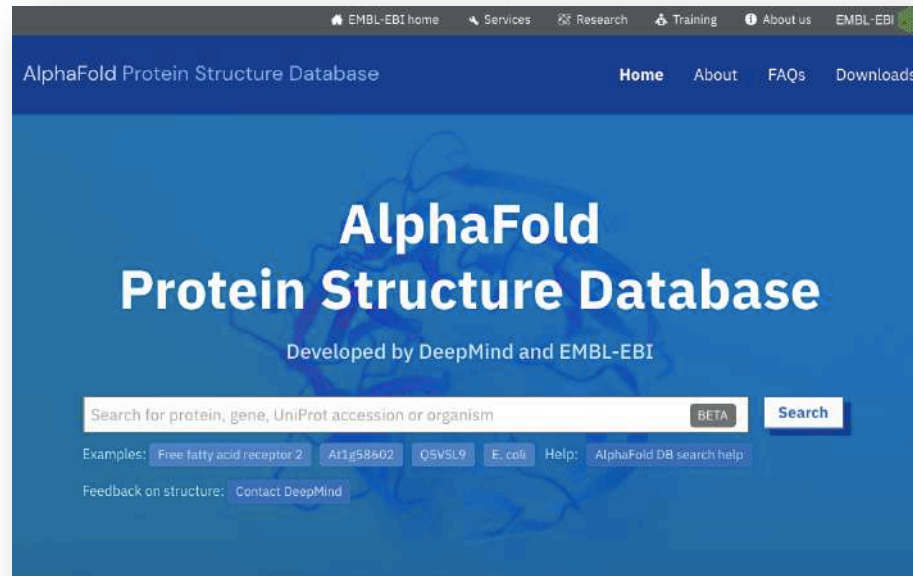


Question: Can we evaluate at a local protein level the general quality of AlphaFold2?

Question: Can we evaluate at a local protein level the general quality of AlphaFold2?

Design:

Dataset: AlphaFold2 human proteome structural model provided by EBI.



Question: Can we evaluate the quality of AlphaFold2?

Design:

Dataset: AlphaFold2 human provided by EBI.

Methods: Assignment of local protein conformations

(DSSP, ProMotif, SEGNO, HELANAL, Protein Blocks)

α -helix (w/linear, curved and kinked)

3_{10} -helix

π -helix

β -turn with turn and bend

types with I, I', II, II', IV (w/IV_{misc}, IV₁, IV₂, IV₃, IV₄), VI_{a1}, VI_{a2}, VI_b and VIII.

γ -turn (classic and inverse)

PolyProline II helix

β -bridge

β -sheet (β -strands)

β -bulge: AC, PC, AG, AS, PS, AB, PB.

Coil (loop)

Question: Can we evaluate at a local protein level the general quality of AlphaFold2?

Design:

Dataset: AlphaFold2 human proteome structural model provided by EBI.

Methods: Assignment of local protein conformations
(DSSP, ProMotif, SEGNO, HELANAL, Protein Blocks)
pLDDT (confidence index)

Question: Can we evaluate at a local protein level the general quality of AlphaFold2?

Design:

Dataset: AlphaFold2 human proteome structural model provided by EBI.

Methods: Assignment of local protein conformations

(DSSP, ProMotif, SEGNO, HELANAL, Protein Blocks)

pLDDT (confidence index)

Z-score to analyse over- and under-representation

(two PDB non-redundant structural datasets were also used for comparison)

-
- AF2 human proteome: 23.511 structural models
(representing 98.5% of human proteome)

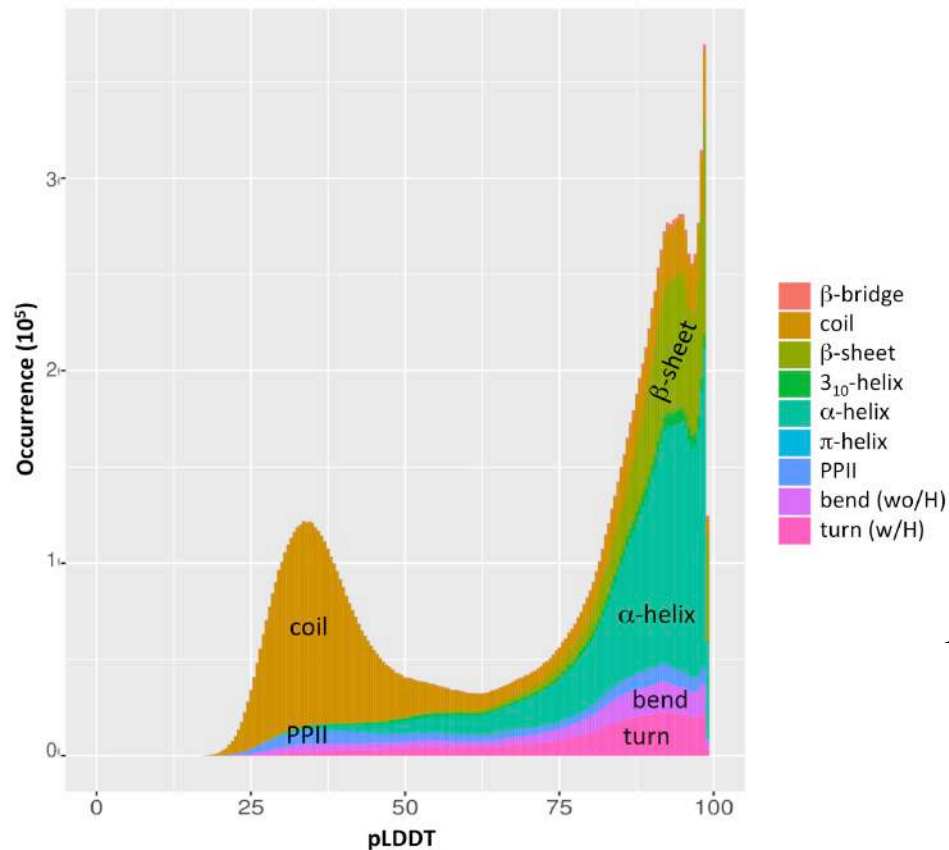
- AF2 human proteome: 23.511 structural models
(representing 98.5% of human proteome)

Table 1

Secondary structure distribution. Is provided the frequencies (%) of secondary structure assigned by DSSP, by extended DSSP with PPII assignment (DSSP + PPII), STRIDE, PROMOTIF, SEGNO and recent DSSP.

	DSSP	DSSP + PPII	STRIDE	PROMOTIF	SEGNO	DSSP new
α -helix	30.13	30.13	31.21	30.11	30.09	29.86
3_{10} -helix	2.42	2.42	2.00	2.44	2.18	2.42
π -helix	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.39	0.36
Turn	8.16	8.16	16.01	8.15	–	8.08
Bend	6.11	6.11	–	6.13	–	6.11
PPII	–	5.61	–	–	6.38	–
β -bridge	0.59	0.59	0.64	0.58	–	0.59
β -sheet	13.29	13.29	13.79	13.27	13.81	13.29
coil	39.29	33.68	36.36	39.32	47.16	39.29

- AF2 human proteome: 23.511 structural models
(representing 98.5% of human proteome)



***DSSP (8-states)
+PPII***

- AF2 human proteome: 23.511 structural models
(representing 98.5% of human proteome)

	DSSP + PPII	<50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	>90
α-helix	30.13	3.01 (-----)	3.80 (-----)	5.39 (++)	10.19 (++++)	27.70 (++++)	49.91 (++++)
3 ₁₀ -helix	2.42	10.35 (-----)	8.12 (++)	7.59 (++)	11.63 (++)	27.30 (++)	35.00 (++)
π-helix	0.01	0.76 (--)	1.90 (-)	3.05 (-)	4.95 (-)	20.94 (0)	79.06 (++)
Turn	8.16	9.81 (-----)	7.35 (++++)	8.26 (++++)	14.02 (++++)	29.11 (++++)	31.45 (--)
Bend	6.11	17.51 (-----)	6.95 (++)	7.51 (++++)	12.75 (++++)	26.81 (++++)	28.48 (--)
PPII	5.61	35.83 (++++)	9.70 (++++)	8.80 (++++)	10.02 (++)	17.55 (--)	18.09 (----)
β-bridge	0.59	4.42 (---)	2.96 (---)	4.31 (-)	9.39 (++)	28.13 (++)	50.82 (++)
β-sheet	13.29	1.12 (---)	1.16 (---)	2.17 (---)	5.89 (---)	26.11 (++++)	63.57 (++++)
Coil	33.68	69.04 (++++)	5.56 (++)	3.19 (---)	3.76 (---)	8.32 (---)	10.15 (---)
Sum	100.0	28.74	4.85	4.76	7.90	20.41	33.34

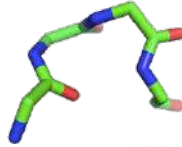
It is expected (IDRs, ..)

- AF2 human proteome: 23.511 structural models
(representing 98.5% of human proteome)

	DSSP + PPII	<50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	>90
α-helix	30.13	3.01 (-----)	3.80 (-----)	5.39 (++)	10.19 (+++)	27.70 (+++)	49.91 (+++)
3 ₁₀ -helix	2.42	10.35 (-----)	8.12 (++)	7.59 (++)	11.63 (++)	27.30 (++)	35.00 (++)
π-helix	0.01	0.76 (--)	1.90 (-)	3.05 (-)	4.95 (-)	20.94 (0)	79.06 (++)
Turn	8.16	9.81 (-----)	7.35 (+++)	8.26 (+++)	14.02 (+++)	29.11 (+++)	31.45 (--)
Bend	6.11	17.51 (-----)	6.95 (++)	7.51 (+++)	12.75 (+++)	26.81 (+++)	28.48 (--)
PPII	5.61	35.83 (+++)	9.70 (+++)	8.80 (+++)	10.02 (++)	17.55 (--)	18.09 (----)
β-bridge	0.59	4.42 (---)	2.96 (---)	4.31 (-)	9.39 (++)	28.13 (++)	50.82 (++)
β-sheet	13.29	1.12 (---)	1.16 (---)	2.17 (---)	5.89 (---)	26.11 (+++)	63.57 (+++)
Coil	33.68	69.04 (++++)	5.56 (++)	3.19 (---)	3.76 (---)	8.32 (---)	10.15 (---)
Sum	100.0	28.74	4.85	4.76	7.90	20.41	33.34

- PolyProline II helices are found often associated with low confidence index.

β -turns:



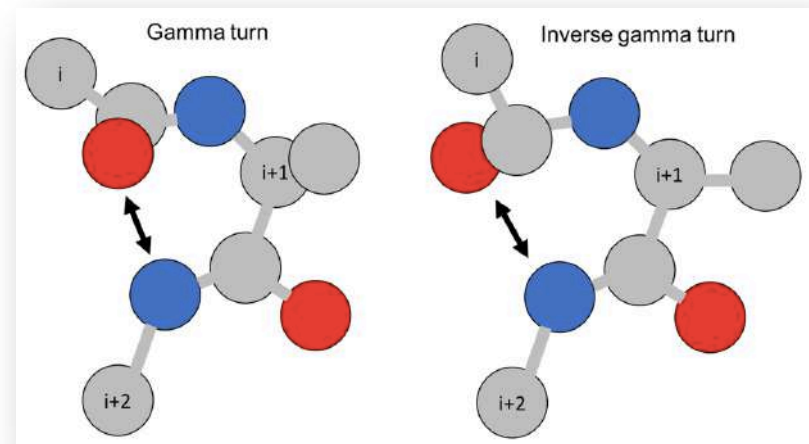
	Freq.	rel. Freq.	<50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	>90
β -turn I	8.87	42.93	10.56	7.10	7.28	11.91	27.79	35.35
(classic) I'	0.71	3.43	1.24	2.12	5.28	12.51	35.91	42.93
II	2.32	11.25	3.04	3.37	6.43	15.59	32.52	39.03
II'	0.40	1.93	0.66	1.79	4.44	13.37	37.89	41.73
IV	6.01	29.07	<u>18.92</u>	7.54	6.31	9.69	23.37	34.16
VI _{a1}	0.10	0.50	0.65	2.13	4.35	14.84	36.79	41.24
VI _{a2}	0.03	0.15	0.51	1.70	3.74	8.84	32.65	52.55
VI _b	0.23	1.10	0.89	1.62	4.92	15.67	39.19	37.71
VIII	1.99	9.64	3.75	5.48	8.38	13.40	31.72	37.27
β -turn (ext.) IV ₁	0.81	3.93	2.91	1.50	2.97	8.25	26.13	58.22
IV ₂	1.03	4.99	<u>22.36</u>	11.71	9.24	11.27	21.41	24.01
IV ₃	0.88	4.25	7.34	4.14	4.36	9.85	29.25	45.04
IV₄	0.96	4.65	38.55	12.41	6.82	7.09	18.13	16.97
IV _{misc}	2.33	11.26	<u>19.25</u>	7.08	6.70	10.51	23.21	33.24

- A small issue with β -turn type IV₄ (frequency 0.96% of β -turns), near all maximum frequency are with pLDDT > 90.

γ -turns:

		Freq.	rel. Freq.	<50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	>90
γ -turn	<i>classic</i>	0.09	1.43	17.66	8.31	8.34	11.39	23.73	29.18
	<i>Inverse</i>	6.20	98.57	54.98	14.28	8.07	5.45	7.91	9.28

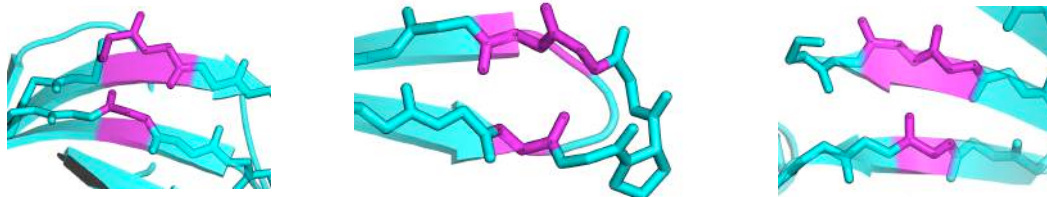
- A big issue with inverse γ -turn (frequency 98.6% of γ -turns), with 55% with pLDDT < 50.



β -bulges:

		Freq.	rel. Freq.	<50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	>90
β -bulge	AG1	0.97	41.66	2.54	1.26	3.77	11.33	34.20	46.91
	AC	1.08	46.22	2.33	0.74	1.81	5.08	26.31	63.73
	PC	0.04	1.56	1.79	0.53	1.05	2.86	13.44	80.33
	AW	0.13	5.45	2.46	0.89	2.23	8.90	36.45	49.06
	PW	0.01	0.30	3.70	3.51	2.53	4.19	16.96	69.10
	AB	0.01	0.37	4.01	1.49	2.36	12.74	32.47	46.93
	PB	0.02	0.67	<u>20.73</u>	8.59	6.54	9.53	19.27	35.30
	AS	0.08	3.46	1.73	1.08	2.69	7.79	28.46	58.24
	PS	0.01	0.31	0.73	0.18	0.55	2.29	9.72	85.88

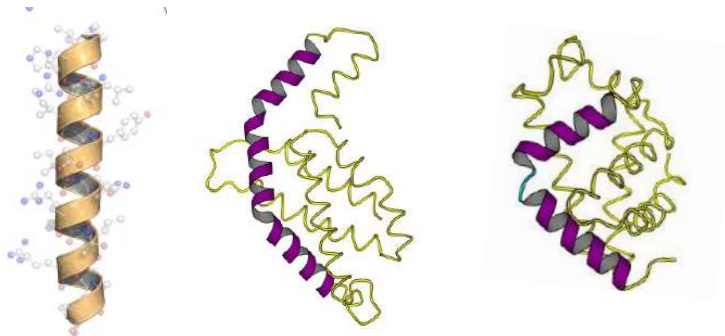
➤ No systematic problem for β -bulge.



helix geometry:

		Freq.	rel. Freq.	<50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	>90
Helix	<i>linear</i>	1.54	8.96	2.72	3.21	4.41	8.29	24.86	56.49
	<i>curved</i>	11.01	64.00	2.81	3.72	4.97	8.88	24.75	54.85
	<i>kinked</i>	4.65	27.04	2.52	3.72	5.82	11.66	30.28	45.99

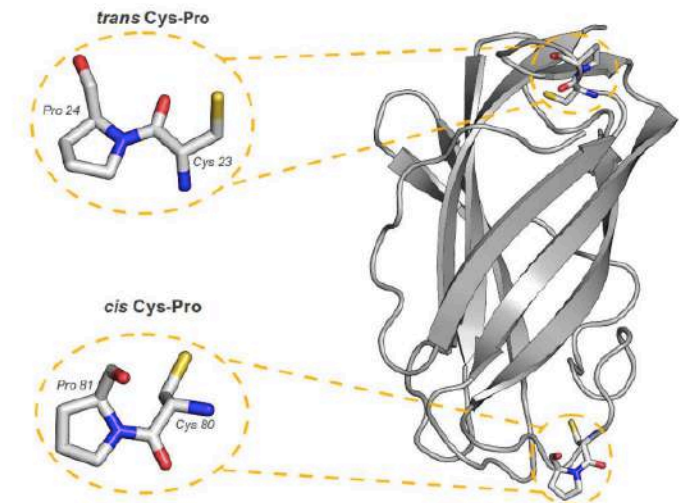
➤ No systematic problem for helix geometry.



Omega angles:

		Freq.	rel. Freq.	<50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	>90
cis ω	All residue	4.75	--	94.81	2.22	0.40	0.58	1.00	0.98
cis ω	Proline	0.24	3.80	86.62	8.91	1.20	0.86	1.28	1.10

- A systematic problem for cis ω angle (0°) for Proline and every type of residues.



Human proteome analysed by DSSP (+PPII) and the other approaches.

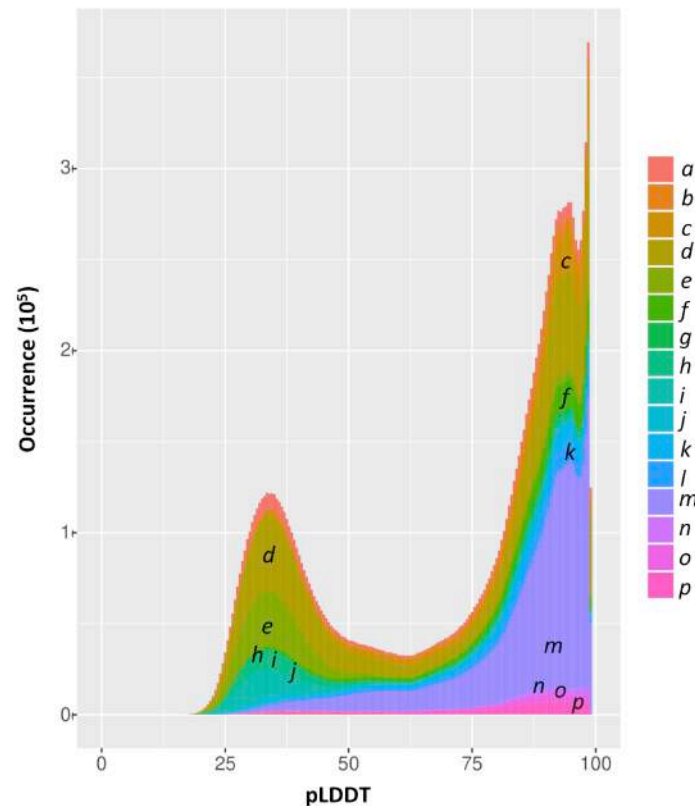
- PolyProline II helices are found often associated with low confidence index.
- Some less classical local protein conformations are found with low confidence index, i.e. γ -turns and cis ω angles.

55% of inverse γ -turns have pLDDT <50

39% of type IV₄ β -turns have pLDDT <50

94% of cis ω angles have pLDDT <50

- Analysis was also done with Protein Blocks (a series of 16 small local protein conformations of 5 residues, de Brevern et al, *Proteins*, 2000).



- Analysis was also done with Protein Blocks (a series of 16 small local protein conformations of 5 residues, de Brevern et al, *Proteins*, 2000).

PBs	freq (%)	<50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	>90
<i>a</i>	4.14	46.04 (++++)	4.03 (--)	3.57 (--)	6.67 (--)	17.07 (--)	22.63 (---)
<i>b</i>	3.02	12.14 (---)	6.15 (++)	7.09 (++)	12.11 (++)	28.89 (+++)	33.62 (0)
<i>c</i>	6.63	16.34 (---)	6.22 (++++)	6.03 (++)	9.06 (++)	24.05 (++)	38.33 (++)
<i>d</i>	22.41	42.20 (++++)	5.45 (++)	3.86 (--)	4.82 (---)	13.91 (---)	29.75 (---)
<i>e</i>	7.71	81.88 (++++)	2.82 (--)	1.05 (---)	1.82 (---)	4.77 (---)	7.66 (---)
<i>f</i>	4.74	10.59 (---)	5.42 (++)	6.32 (++)	10.45 (++)	27.44 (++++)	39.77 (++)
<i>g</i>	0.92	33.18 (++)	7.71 (++)	5.72 (++)	8.53 (+)	19.26 (--)	25.62 (--)
<i>h</i>	3.56	63.42 (++++)	3.99 (--)	2.91 (--)	5.60 (--)	11.79 (---)	12.29 (---)
<i>i</i>	3.94	75.77 (++++)	3.01 (--)	2.35 (--)	4.19 (---)	7.95 (---)	6.71 (---)
<i>j</i>	1.22	66.80 (++++)	3.24 (--)	2.97 (--)	5.59 (--)	11.05 (--)	10.36 (---)
<i>k</i>	3.73	7.81 (---)	6.65 (++)	7.71 (++)	13.35 (++++)	29.61 (++++)	34.89 (++)
<i>l</i>	3.60	8.16 (---)	6.42 (++)	7.09 (++)	12.45 (++++)	29.98 (++++)	35.93 (++)
<i>m</i>	30.07	4.98 (---)	4.64 (--)	5.60 (++)	9.92 (++++)	26.49 (++++)	48.37 (++++)
<i>n</i>	0.85	3.44 (---)	3.32 (--)	5.19 (+)	11.69 (++)	30.98 (++)	45.38 (++)
<i>o</i>	1.38	6.31 (---)	3.75 (--)	5.96 (++)	12.60 (++)	31.69 (++++)	39.69 (++)
<i>p</i>	2.10	4.80 (---)	4.47 (--)	7.04 (++)	13.33 (++++)	32.62 (++++)	37.98 (++)

- Analysis was also done with Protein Blocks (a series of 16 small local protein conformations of 5 residues, de Brevern et al, *Proteins*, 2000).

PBs	freq (%)	<50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	>90
a	4.14	46.04 (+++)	4.03 (--)	3.57 (--)	6.67 (--)	17.07 (--)	22.63 (---)
b	3.02	12.14 (---)	6.15 (++)	7.09 (++)	12.11 (++)	28.89 (+++)	33.62 (0)
c	6.63	16.34 (---)	6.22 (+++)	6.03 (++)	9.06 (++)	24.05 (++)	38.33 (++)
d	22.41	42.20 (+++)	5.45 (++)	3.86 (--)	4.82 (---)	13.91 (---)	29.75 (---)
e	7.71	81.88 (++++)	2.82 (--)	1.05 (---)	1.82 (---)	4.77 (---)	7.66 (---)
f	4.74	10.59 (---)	5.42 (++)	6.32 (++)	10.45 (++)	27.44 (+++)	39.77 (++)
g	0.92	33.18 (++)	7.71 (++)	5.72 (++)	8.53 (+)	19.26 (--)	25.62 (--)
h	3.56	63.42 (+++)	7.09 (--)	It is expected (see coil state)			12.29 (---)
i	3.94	75.77 (+++)	7.01 (---)	9.5 (---)	6.71 (---)	6.71 (---)	
j	1.22	66.80 (+++)	3.24 (--)	2.97 (--)	5.59 (--)	11.05 (--)	10.36 (---)
k	3.73	7.81 (---)	6.65 (++)	7.71 (++)	13.35 (+++)	29.61 (+++)	34.89 (++)
l	3.60	8.16 (---)	6.42 (++)	7.09 (++)	12.45 (+++)	29.98 (+++)	35.93 (++)
m	30.07	4.98 (---)	4.64 (--)	5.60 (++)	9.92 (+++)	26.49 (+++)	48.37 (+++)
n	0.85	3.44 (---)	3.32 (--)	5.19 (+)	11.69 (++)	30.98 (++)	45.38 (++)
o	1.38	6.31 (---)	3.75 (--)	5.96 (++)	12.60 (++)	31.69 (+++)	39.69 (++)
p	2.10	4.80 (---)	4.47 (--)	7.04 (++)	13.33 (+++)	32.62 (+++)	37.98 (++)

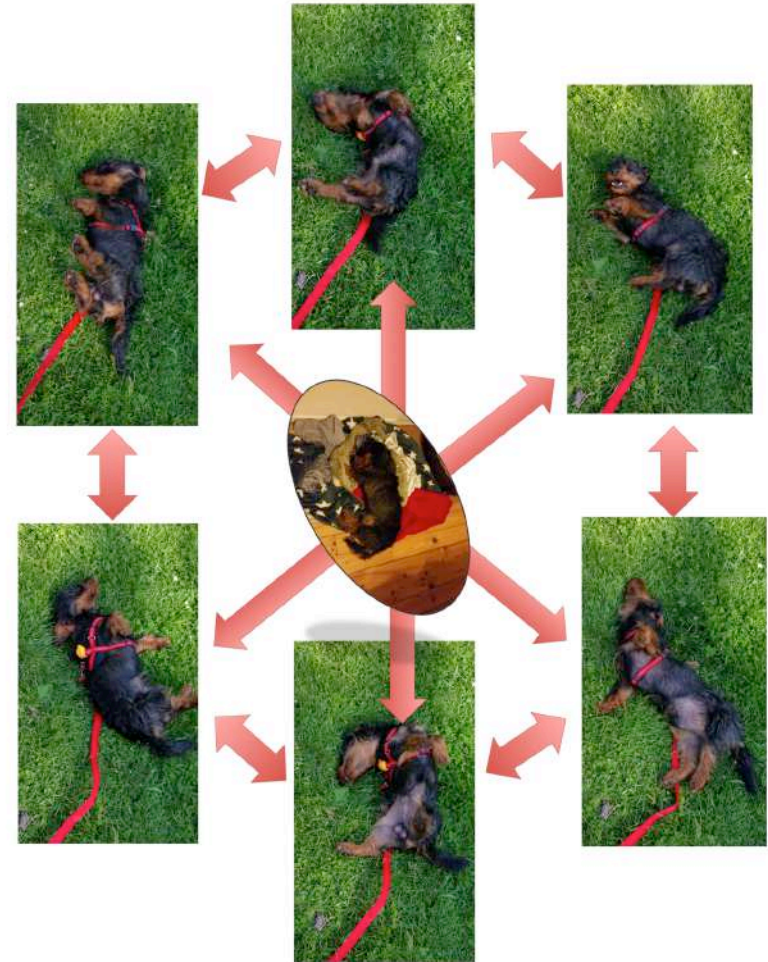
- Analysis was also done with Protein Blocks (a series of 16 small local protein conformations of 5 residues, de Brevern et al, *Proteins*, 2000).

PBs	freq (%)	<50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	>90
a	4.14	46.04 (+++)	4.03 (--)	3.57 (--)	6.67 (--)	17.07 (--)	22.63 (---)
b	3.02	12.14 (---)	6.15 (++)	7.09 (++)	12.11 (++)	28.89 (+++)	33.62 (0)
c	6.63	16.34 (---)	6.22 (+++)	6.03 (++)	9.06 (++)	24.05 (++)	38.33 (++)
d	22.41	42.20 (+++)	5.45 (++)	2.86 (---)	4.88 (---)	12.91 (---)	29.75 (---)
e	7.71	81.88 (++++)	7.71 (++)	6.32 (++)	10.45 (++)	27.44 (+++)	39.77 (++)
f	4.74	10.59 (---)	5.42 (++)	5.72 (++)	8.53 (+)	19.26 (---)	25.62 (---)
g	0.92	33.18 (++)	7.09 (---)	5.01 (---)	7.99 (---)	12.29 (---)	12.29 (---)
h	3.56	63.42 (+++)	7.09 (---)	5.01 (---)	7.99 (---)	12.29 (---)	12.29 (---)
i	3.94	75.77 (+++)	3.24 (---)	2.97 (---)	5.59 (---)	11.05 (---)	10.36 (---)
j	1.22	66.80 (+++)	3.24 (---)	2.97 (---)	5.59 (---)	11.05 (---)	10.36 (---)
k	3.73	7.81 (---)	6.65 (++)	7.71 (++)	13.35 (+++)	29.61 (+++)	34.89 (++)
l	3.60	8.16 (---)	6.42 (++)	7.09 (++)	12.45 (+++)	29.98 (+++)	35.93 (++)
m	30.07	4.98 (---)	4.64 (---)	5.60 (++)	9.92 (+++)	26.49 (+++)	48.37 (+++)
n	0.85	3.44 (---)	3.32 (---)	5.19 (+)	11.69 (++)	30.98 (++)	45.38 (++)
o	1.38	6.31 (---)	3.75 (---)	5.96 (++)	12.60 (++)	31.69 (+++)	39.69 (++)
p	2.10	4.80 (---)	4.47 (---)	7.04 (++)	13.33 (+++)	32.62 (+++)	37.98 (++)

It is NOT expected ... ???

It is expected (see coil state)

- Analysis was also done with Protein Blocks (a series of 16 small local protein conformations of 5 residues, de Brevern et al, *Proteins*, 2000).
- Over-representation in low confidence region of Protein Blocks *a*, *d* and *e* (geometrically N-cap, central and C-cap part of a β -strand).
- However, the frequency of β -sheets is lower than expected in this dataset.
- Wouldn't we have unfinished β -sheets but with well-prepared β -strands (the prediction of β -sheets is always the most difficult).



THANK YOU

A dachshund-analogy to illustrate the analysis of protein dynamics at the light of protein local backbone conformation taken from Narwani et al, JBSD, 2020.