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

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Université Paris Cité,
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Conflicts of Interest

➢ None

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

DSIMB: a bioinformatics team

My team

Associated to Université de la Réunion

PARADIGM

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.
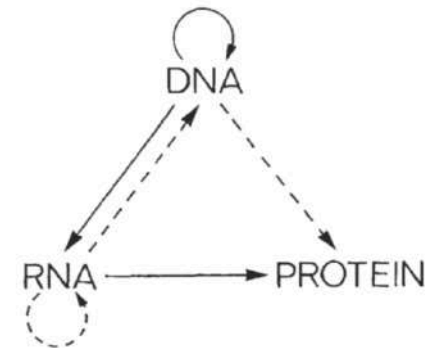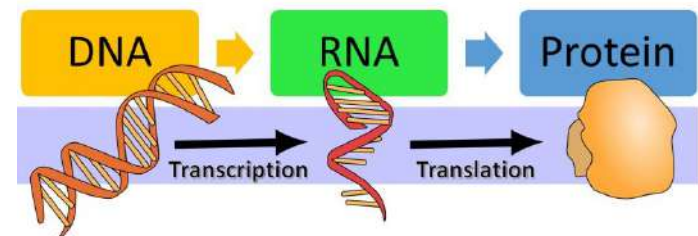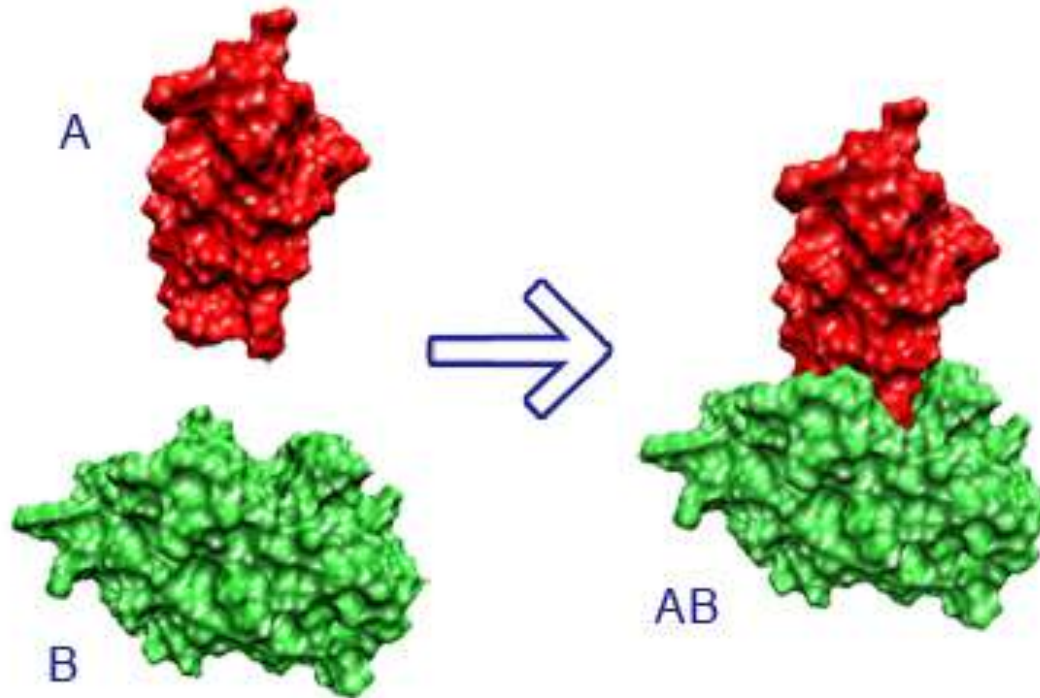
NATURE VOL. 227 AUGUST 8 1970

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.
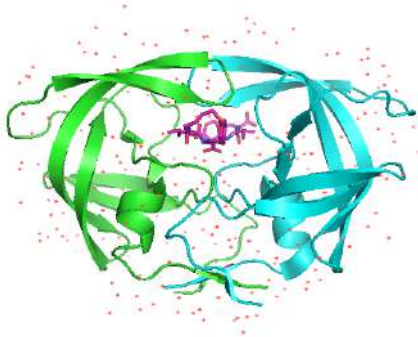
INTEREST OF PROTEIN 3D STRUCTURES

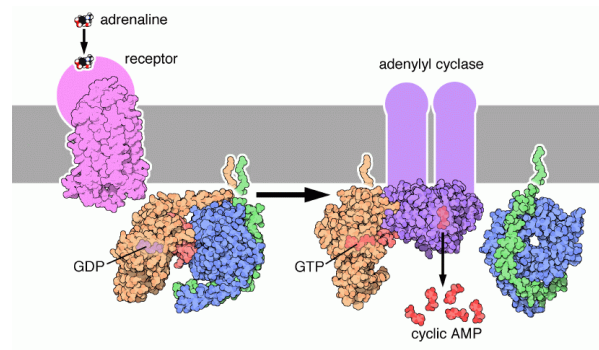➢ Because protein function(s) is at atomic scale

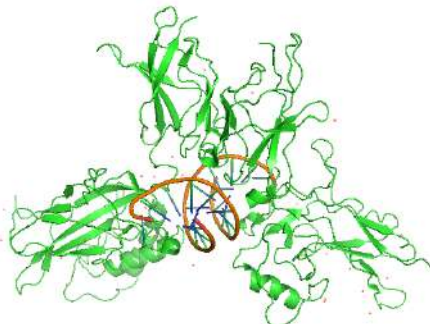> Understanding the function(s) and more ...

Enzymes

Receptors

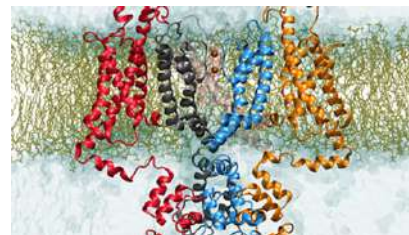*Drug design*

adrenaline

receptor

adenylyl cyclase

GDP

GTP

cyclic AMP

Transcription Factors

Transport

Protein-Protein Interaction

Cdk2

Cyclin A

Cdk2

Cyclin A

➢ Understand enzymatic mecanisms

Catalytic triad

Protease serine

Interest of protein 3D structures

➢ Understand protein-ligand interactions

CD4

GP120

CD4

GP120

LT4

VIH

HSP90

Radicicol

i.e., chaperon proteins, inhibitors …

> Understand diseases

prion (Creutzfeld-Jacob)

Agregation

i.e. Alzheimer disease, Parkinson…

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

3D MODELLING

3D modelling

➤ However, then number of protein 3D structures is largely lower than the number of avalaible protein sequences…

➤ So we use, since 40 years, different approaches to build from the sequences pertinent structural models.

Comparative modelling

Alignement de leurs séquences protéiques

ARGNIVDLAVAVVISTAFIALVIKFILSIITPLINRIG--VNAQSDVGILEIGIGG-------------GQTIDLNVLLSAAINFPLIAFAVYFLVVLPYNTLEKKGEQPGDTQVVLLIEIR
-RGNVVDLAVGVIISAAFGKIVSSLVAIIINPPLGLLIGGIDFKOFAVILFDAOGDPWPGWPPPPWIPAVVMHYGVFICNVFDFLIVAFAIFMAIKLINKLNFKKEEPAPTKEEVLLIEIR

Appariement   **Désappariement**   **Appariement**

Utilisation de la structure   ②   ③   ④   *Utilisation de la structure*

Nt

Recherche dans une banque de fragments

Ct

Ct

⑤

Nt

Modèle final

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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

Comparative modelling

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
MSSKYPRSVRRCLPLWALTLEAALILLFYFFTHYDASLEDQKGLVASYQVGQDLTVMAAI
GLGFLTSSFRRHSWSSVAFNLFMLALGVQWAILLDGFLSQFPSGKVVITLFSIRLATMSA
LSVLISVDAVLGKVNLAQLVVMVLVEVTALGNLRMVISNIFNTDYHMNMMHIYVFAAYFG
LSVAWCLPKPLPEGTEDKDQTATIPSLSAMLGALFLWMFWPSFNSALLRSPIERKNAVFN
TYYAVAVSVVTAISGSSLAHPQGKISKTYVHSAVLAGGVAVGTSCHLIPSPWLAMVLGLV
AGLISVGGAKYLPGCCNRVLGIPHSSIMGYNFSLLGLLGEIIYIVLLVLDTVGAGNGMIG
FQVLLSIGELSLAIVIALMSGLLTGLLLNLKIWKAPHEAKYFDDQVFWKFPHLAVGF
```

Comparative modelling

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

Comparative modelling

3. Analysis of the results

3. Analysis of the results

Comparative modelling

4. Selection of the structural template

4. Selection of the structural template: now the sequence

```
>3HD6:A|PDBID|CHAIN|SEQUENCE
GPSSPSAWNTNLRWRLPLTCLLLQVIMVILFGVFVRYDFEADAHWWSERTHKNLSDMENEFYYRYPSFQDVHVMVFVGFG
FLMTFLQRYGFSAVGFNFLLAAFGIQWALLMQGWFHFLQDRYIVVGVENLINADFCVASVCVAFGAVLGKVSPIQLLIMT
FFQVTLFAVNEFILLNLLKVKDAGGSMTIHTFGAYFGLTVTRILYRRNLEQSKERQNSVYQSDLFAMIGTLFLWMYWPSF
NSAISYHGDSQHRAAINTYCSLAACVLTSVAISSALHKKGKLDMVHIQNATLAGGVAVGTAAEMMLMPYGALIIGFVCGI
ISTLGFVYLTPFLESRLHIQDTCGINNLHGIPGIIGGIVGAVTAASASLEVYGKEGLVHSFDFQGFNGDWTARTQGKFQI
YGLLVTLAMALMGGIIVGLILRLPFWGQPSDENCFEDAVYWEMPEGNSTVYIPEDPTFKPSGPSVPSVPMVSPLPMASSV
PLVPGGLVPR
```

5. A new alignment:

```
>3HD6:A|PDBID|CHAIN|SEQUENCE
GPSSPSAWNTNLRWRLPLTCLLLQVIMVILFGVFVRYDFEADAHWWSERTHKNLSDMENEFYYRYPSFQDVHVMVFVGFG
FLMTFLQRYGFSAVGFNFLLAAFGIQWALLMQGWFHFLQDRYIVVGVENLINADFCVASVCVAFGAVLGKVSPIQLLIMT
FFQVTLFAVNEFILLNLLKVKDAGGSMTIHTFGAYFGLTVTRILYRRNLEQSKERQNSVYQSDLFAMIGTLFLWMYWPSF
NSAISYHGDSQHRAAINTYCSLAACVLTSVAISSALHKKGKLDMVHIQNATLAGGVAVGTAAEMMLMPYGALIIGFVCGI
ISTLGFVYLTPFLESRLHIQDTCGINNLHGIPGIIGGIVGAVTAASASLEVYGKEGLVHSFDFQGFNGDWTARTQGKFQI
YGLLVTLAMALMGGIIVGLILRLPFWGQPSDENCFEDAVYWEMPEGNSTVYIPEDPTFKPSGPSVPSVPMVSPLPMASSV
PLVPGGLVPR
```

+

```
>sp|Q02161|RHD_HUMAN Blood group Rh(D) polypeptide OS=Homo sapiens GN=RHD PE=1 SV=3
MSSKYPRSVRRCLPLWALTLEAALILLFYFFTHYDASLEDQKGLVASYQVGQDLTVMAAI
GLGFLTSSFRRHSWSSVAFNLFMLALGVQWAILLDGFLSQFPSGKVVITLFSIRLATMSA
LSVLISVDAVLGKVNLAQLVVMVLVEVTALGNLRMVISNIFNTDYHMNMMHIYVFAAYFG
LSVAWCLPKPLPEGTEDKDQTATIPSLSAMLGALFLWMFWPSFNSALLRSPIERKNAVFN
TYYAVAVSVVTAISGSSLAHPQGKISKTYVHSAVLAGGVAVGTSCHLIPSPWLAMVLGLV
AGLISVGGAKYLPGCCNRVLGIPHSSIMGYNFSLLGLLGEIIYIVLLVLDTVGAGNGMIG
FQVLLSIGELSLAIVIALMSGLLTGLLLNLKIWKAPHEAKYFDDQVFWKFPHLAVGF
```

Comparative modelling

5. A new alignment:

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

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:

```
NSAISYHGDSQHRAAINTYCSLAACVLTSVAISSALHKKGKLDMVHIQNATLAGGVAVGTAAEMMLMPYGALIIGFVCGI
ISTLGFVYLTPFLESRLHIQDTCGINNLHGIPGIIGGIVGAVTAASASLEVYGKEGLVHSFDFQGFNGDWTARTQGKFQI
YGLLVTLAMALMGGIIVGLILRLPFWGQPSDENCFEDAVYWEMPEGNSTVYIPEDPTFKPSGPSVPSVPMVSPLPMASSV
PLVPGGLVPR
>sp|Q02161|RHD_HUMAN Blood group Rh(D) polypeptide OS=Homo sapiens GN=RHD PE=1 SV=3
MSSKYPRSVRRCLPLWALTLEAALILLFYFFTHYDASLEDQKGLVASYQVGQDLTVMAAI
GLGFLTSSFRRHSWSSVAFNLFMLALGVQWAILLDGFLSQFPSGKVVITLFSIRLATMSA
LSVLISVDAVLGKVNLAQLVVMVLVEVTALGNLRMVISNIFNTDYHMNMMHIYVFAAYFG
```

Or, upload a file: [Choisissez un fichier] 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.)*

Comparative modelling

5. A new alignment: the results

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

5. A new alignment: the results

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

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6. Modeller

a. the script

```python
#!/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 alignement for Modeler

```
>P1;3HD6
structureX:3HD6:1    :A:443  :A:: : :
-----SAWNTNLRWRLPLTCLLLQVIMVILFGVFVRYDFE----------
--------NEFYYRYPSFQDVHVMVFVGFGFLMTFLQRYGFSAVGFNFLL
AAFGIQWALLMQGWFHFLQDRYIVVGVENLINADFCVASVCVAFGAVLGK
VSPIQLLIMTFFQVTLFAVNEFILLNLLKVKDAGGSMTIHTFGAYFGLTV
TRILYRRNLEQSKERQNSVYQSDLFAMIGTLFLWMYWPSFNSAISYHGDS
QHRAAINTYCSLAACVLTSVAISSALHKKGKLDMVHIQNATLAGGVAVGT
AAEMMLMPYGALIIGFVCGIISTLGFVYLTPFLESRLHIQDTCGINNLHG
IPGIIGGIVGAVTAAS--------------------DWTARTQGKFQI
YGLLVTLAMALMGGIIVGLILRLPFWGQPSDENCFEDAVYWEMPEGNS--
----------------------------------------
*
>P1;PROTEINE-RHD
sequence:PROTEINE-RHD:   1 : :   417 : : :: :
---MSSKYPRSVRRCLPLWALTLEAALILLFYFFTHYDASLED-------
-------QKGLVASYQVGQDLTVMAAIGLGFLTSSFRRHSWSSVAFNLFM
LALGVQWAILLDGFLSQFPSGKVVITLFSIRLATMSALSVLISVDAVLGK
VNLAQLVVMVLVEVTALGNLRMVISNIFNTDYHMNMMHIYVFAAYFGLSV
AWCLPKPLPEGTEDKDQTATIPSLSAMLGALFLWMFWPSFNSALLRSPIE
RKNAVFNTYYAVAVSVVTAISGSSLAHPQGKISKTYVHSAVLAGGVAVGT
SCHLIPSPWLAMVLGLVAGLISVGGAKYLPGCCNRVLGIPHSSIMGYNFS
LLGLLGEIIYIVLLVLDTVG----------------AGNGMIGFQVLLSI
GELSLAIVIALMSGLLTGLLLNLKIWKAPHEAKYFDDQVFWKFPHLAVGF
----------------------------------------
*
```

syntaxe

Alignment in PIR format

syntaxe

Alignment in PIR format

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6. Modeller

    c. the template

```
The PDB …
```

6. Modeller

   d. now the work

> `mod9.25 test_modeller.py`

7. Now the analysis

7. Now the analysis

Comparative modelling

➢ Need a specific assessment

7. Now the analysis

7. Now the analysis

Homology modelling

ATPLG**LPTHVVV**AGLNPHTRESD
ATPLG**IPTHVPP**AGLNPHTRESD
!!!!! !!!! !!!!!!!!!!!

Threading

ETPLGLPTHVVVEGLNPHTRESD
IRVLGIPTHVPPIGLNPHTRIID
!! !!!! !!!!!!! !

Sequence identity (%)

100

30

12

➢ The main idea

➢ Searching for structural similarity => notion of protein core

3D modelling

Sequence identity (%)

100

Homology modelling

```
ATPLGLPTHVVVAGLNPHTRESD
ATPLGIPTHVPPAGLNPHTRESD
!!!!! !!!!  !!!!!!!!!!!
```

Threading

30

```
ETPLGLPTHVVVEGLNPHTRESD
IRVLGIPTHVPPIGLNPHTRIID
!! !!!!    !!!!!!!  !
```

ab initio

12

```
ETPLGLPPHVVVEGLNPPPRESD
IRVLGIPVHVPPIGPNVVVRIID
!! ! !!    ! !   ! !
```

ab initio

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

Non folded structure

| Protein representation |

Residue movement

| Sampling technics |

evaluation of the structure

| Scoring function: potentiel, forcefield |

Acceptation   rejection

Final structures (the most compact)

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➢ Robetta

www.bakerlab.org

ROBETTA **BETA**
Full-chain Protein Structure Prediction Server

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

Model 1   Target – T0513

2.66 Å over 62 residues

0.84 Å over 39 residues

de novo prediction by Robetta in CASP-8

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de novo

➢ I-Tasser

Are you sure you have not forgotten something ?

ALPHAFOLD2

The (r)evolution ...

➢ What is CASP?

AlphaFold2

➢ What is CASP?

Critical Assessment of Structural Prediction

AlphaFold2

> What is CASP?

Critical Assessment of Structural Prediction

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

AlphaFold2

> How CASP had evolved?

Very crude:

(i) Threading with comparative modelling

(ii) Threading

(iii) *de novo*

(iv) Improvements of *de novo*

Menu
Home
PC Login
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CASP Experiments

CASP14 (2020)

CASP_Commons (COVID-19, 2020)

CASP13 (2018)
CASP12 (2016)
CASP11 (2014)
CASP10 (2012)
CASP9 (2010)
CASP8 (2008)
CASP7 (2006)
CASP6 (2004)
CASP5 (2002)
CASP4 (2000)
CASP3 (1998)
CASP2 (1996)
CASP1 (1994)

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AlphaFold2

➢ 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)

Menu

Home
PC Login
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▾ CASP Experiments

CASP14 (2020)

*CASP_Commons
(COVID-19, 2020)*

CASP13 (2018)
CASP12 (2016)
CASP11 (2014)
CASP10 (2012)
CASP9 (2010)
CASP8 (2008)
CASP7 (2006)
CASP6 (2004)
CASP5 (2002)
CASP4 (2000)
CASP3 (1998)
CASP2 (1996)
CASP1 (1994)

Inserm
Institut national
de la santé et de la recherche médicale

SIMB
Bioinformatique & Interactions

➢ How CASP had evolved?

Very crude:

(i) Three...

Systematic bias:
Limited number of avalaible 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)

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AlphaFold2

➢ How CASP had evolved?

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

087 - PPase (Domain 2: 202-307)

Native   Model 3

RMSD = 6.2 Å (85 Cα)

AlphaFold2

> 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*)

* Methods from the same group are marked as the same color.

Median Free-Modelling Accuracy

Median Free-Modelling Accuracy

But everybody improves a little

AlphaFold2

Median Free-Modelling Accuracy

THE JUMP

AlphaFold2

CASP competition: THE GAP !

#	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	1

AlphaFold2

➢ In all papers !!

➢ Specialized and not

   Figaro, le Monde, ⋯.

AlphaFold2

➤ In all papers !!

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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

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➤ In a

Biological Modeling: A

ANALYZING THE CORONAVIRUS SPIKE PROTEIN

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Searching for local differences in the SARS-

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

BLOG POST RESEARCH

30 NOV 2020

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

SHARE

AUTHORS

TAt   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.

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AlphaFold2

➢ In all papers !! ➡ *Nature* 2021 (now > 30.000 citations)

Breakthrough of the year *Science* 2021

AlphaFold2

➢ In all papers !! ➜ *Nature* 2021 (now > 30.000 citations)

Breakthrough of the year *Science* 2021

Method of the year *Nature Methods* 2021

FOCUS | EDITORIAL

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.

A...

➢ In all papers !! ➡ *N...*

Breakthrough o...

Method of the y...

Best invention of 2022 (*Life*)

TIME — The Best Inventions of 2022 — SIGN IN — SUBSCRIBE

Mapping Life
DeepMind AlphaFold

➢ In all papers !! ➔ *Nature* 2021 (now > 30.000 citations)

Brea

Meth

Best

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

a

48 blocks (no shared weights)

MSA representation (s, r, c) → Row-wise gated self-attention with pair bias → + → Column-wise gated self-attention → + → Transition → + → MSA representation (s, r, c)

Outer product mean

Pair representation (r, r, c) → + → Triangle update using outgoing edges → + → Triangle update using incoming edges → + → Triangle self-attention around starting node → + → Triangle self-attention around ending node → + → Transition → + → Pair representation (r, r, c)

b

Pair representation (r, r, c)

Corresponding edges in a graph

c

Triangle multiplicative update using 'outgoing' edges

Triangle multiplicative update using 'incoming' edges

Triangle self-attention around starting node

Triangle self-attention around ending node

d

Pair representation (r, r, c)

8 blocks (shared weights)

Single repr. (r, c) → IPA module → + → Single repr. (r, c)

Predict relative rotations and translations

Predict χ angles and compute all atom positions

Backbone frames $(r, 3×3)$ and $(r, 3)$ (initially all at the origin)

Backbone frames $(r, 3×3)$ and $(r, 3)$

e

f

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.

AlphaFold2

b

N terminus

C terminus

AlphaFold   Experiment
r.m.s.d._95 = 0.8 Å; TM-score = 0.93

c

AlphaFold   Experiment
r.m.s.d. = 0.59 Å within 8 Å of Zn

d

AlphaFold   Experiment
r.m.s.d._95 = 2.2 Å; TM-score = 0.96

#	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	2

4. The questions

➢ Is it so good?

AlphaFold Experiment
r.m.s.d.$_{95}$ = 0.8 Å; TM-score = 0.93

AlphaFold Experiment
r.m.s.d. = 0.59 Å within 8 Å of Zn

AlphaFold Experiment
r.m.s.d.$_{95}$ = 2.2 Å; TM-score = 0.96

Yes.

They used Multiple Sequence Alignments

(they tested more than anyone before)

They are expending 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⋯

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

AlphaFold2

➤ Is there some limitations?

    (i) you can use it at home

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

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

John Jumper[1,4], 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 Žídek[1,4], Anna Potapenko[1,4], Alex Bridgland[1,4], Clemens Meyer[1,4], Simon A. A. Kohl[1,4], Andrew J. Ballard[1,4], Andrew Cowie[1,4], Bernardino Romera-Paredes[1,4], Stanislav Nikolov[1,4], Rishub Jain[1,4], Jonas Adler[1], Trevor Back[1], Stig Petersen[1], David Reiman[1], Ellen Clancy[1], Michal Zielinski[1], Martin Steinegger[2,3], Michalina Pacholska[1], Tamas Berghammer[1], Sebastian Bodenstein[1], David Silver[1], Oriol Vinyals[1], Andrew W. Senior[1], Koray Kavukcuoglu[1], Pushmeet Kohli[1] & Demis Hassabis[1,4]

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 determined[5], 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'[8]—has been an important open research problem for more than 50 years[9]. Despite recent progress[10-14], 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.

AlphaFold2

> Is there some limitations?

  (i) you can use it at home

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

*https://github.com/
deepmind/alphafold*

AlphaFold2

> Is there some limitations?

      (i) you can use it at home

Algorithm is published
entirely avalai...
the c...

Obligatory:
2To on HD
A lot of GPUs (10 mn GPUs = = 5 hours on CPUs)
A lot of memories
Translation: not everybody computers

Needed:
A specialist to install it

Search

Notificat...

Code ▾

25 commits

	replacement.	last month
		2 months ago
	se of AlphaFold.	3 months ago
	Fix TensorFlow versions in AlphaFold Colab notebook.	2 months ago
	Remove a redundant space.	2 months ago
.dockerignore	Collapse hh-suite install steps into single layer.	3 months ago
CONTRIBUTING.md	Initial release of AlphaFold.	3 months ago
LICENSE	Initial release of AlphaFold.	3 months ago
README.md	Update the bibtex citation with the issue number and pages	last month
requirements.txt	Switch to Tensorflow CPU-only. GPU not needed for data pipeline.	2 months ago
run_alphafold.py	Use pLDDT in the B-factor column of the output PDBs.	2 months ago

AlphaFold2

> ➢ 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*

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 Pozzati[8], Aditi Shenoy[8], Wensi Zhu[8], Petras Kundrotas[8], Victoria Ruiz Serra[4], Carlos H M Rodrigues[2], Alistair S Dunham[5], David Burke[5], Neera Borkakoti[5], Sameer Velankar[5], Adam Frost[10], Kresten Lindorff-Larsen[9], 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

AlphaFold2

Inserm
Institut national
de la santé et de la recherche médicale

SIMB
Bioinformatique & Interactions

➢ 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
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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

AlphaFold2

> ➢ 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.

Kathryn Tunyasuvunakool, Jonas Adler, Zachary Wu, Tim Green, Michal Zielinski, Augustin Žídek, Alex Bridgland, Andrew Cowie, Clemens Meyer, Agata Laydon, Sameer Velankar, Gerard J. Kleywegt, Alex Bateman, Richard Evans, Alexander Pritzel, Michael Figurnov, Olaf Ronneberger, Russ Bates, Simon A. A. Kohl, Anna Potapenko, Andrew J. Ballard, Bernardino Romera-Paredes, Stanislav Nikolov, Rishub Jain, Ellen Clancy, David Reiman, Stig Petersen, Andrew W. Senior, Koray Kavukcuoglu, Ewan Birney, Pushmeet Kohli, John Jumper & Demis Hassabis

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 structure. Here we markedly expand the structural coverage of the proteome by applying the state-of-the-art machine learning method, AlphaFold, 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

AlphaFold2

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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.

Kathryn Tunyasuvunakool[1✉], Jonas Adler[1], Zachary Wu[1], Tim Green[1], Michal Zielinski[1], Augustin Žídek[1], Alex Bridgland[1], Andrew Cowie[1], Clemens Meyer[1], Agata Laydon[1], Sameer Velankar[2], Gerard J. Kleywegt[2], Alex Bateman[2], Richard Evans[1], Alexander Pritzel[1], Michael Figurnov[1], Olaf Ronneberger[1], Russ Bates[1], Simon A. A. Kohl[1], Anna Potapenko[1], Andrew J. Ballard[1], Bernardino Romera-Paredes[1], Stanislav Nikolov[1], Rishub Jain[1], Ellen Clancy[1], David Reiman[1], Stig Petersen[1], Andrew W. Senior[1], Koray Kavukcuoglu[1], Ewan Birney[2], Pushmeet Kohli[1,3✉], John Jumper[1,3✉] & Demis Hassabis[1,3✉]

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 structure[1]. Here we markedly expand the structural coverage of the proteome by applying the state-of-the-art machine learning method, AlphaFold[2], 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

AlphaFold2

> 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 [PDB file] [mmCIF file] [Predicted aligned error]

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 ↗

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

AlphaFold2

➢ Is there some limitations?

EBI: https://v

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-Q16570-F1	Predicted			1-336	AlphaFold

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

93

➢ Is there some limitations?

SNPs == pathologies

AlphaFold2

> 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

jmb

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

AlphaFold2

> 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

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

Marina A. Pak[1], Karina A. Markhieva[2,*], Mariia S. Novikova[3,*], Dmitry S. Petrov[4,*], Ilya S. Vorobyev[1], Ekaterina S. Maksimova[5], Fyodor A. Kondrashov[5], and Dmitry N. Ivankov[1,†]

[1]Center of Life Sciences, Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology, Moscow, Russia
[2]Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (RUDN University), Moscow, Russia
[3]Armand Hammer United World College of the American West, New Mexico, USA
[4]Specialized Educational and Scientific Center of UrFU (SUNC UrFU), Ekaterinburg, Russia
[5]Institute 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

AlphaFold2

- ➤ 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.

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 biochemistry. 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 structured 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*)

An analysis

Not all local conformations are properly predicted !

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

Perspectives

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.

AlphaFold2

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.

AlphaFold2

What I was doing before AlphaFold2

What I am doing now

(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

(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.

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Last paper

➢ *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

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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.

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CONCLUSIONS

AlphaFold2

- ➢ 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

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 evalua[...] quality of AlphaFold2?

Design:

<u>Dataset:</u> AlphaFold2 hum[...] provided by EBI.

<u>Methods:</u> 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}, IV_1, IV_2, IV_3, IV_4), 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:

<u>Dataset:</u> AlphaFold2 human proteome structural model provided by EBI.

<u>Methods:</u> 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)

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➢ 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	18.92	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	IV_1	0.81	3.93	2.91	1.50	2.97	8.25	26.13	**58.22**
(ext.)	IV_2	1.03	4.99	22.36	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**
	IV_4	0.96	4.65	**38.55**	12.41	6.82	7.09	18.13	16.97
	IV_{misc}	2.33	11.26	19.25	7.08	6.70	10.51	23.21	**33.24**

➢ A small issue with β-turn type IV_4 (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	*classic*	0.09	1.43	17.66	8.31	8.34	11.39	23.73	**29.18**
	Inverse	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	20.73	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	linear	1.54	8.96	2.72	3.21	4.41	8.29	24.86	**56.49**
	curved	11.01	64.00	2.81	3.72	4.97	8.88	24.75	**54.85**
	kinked	4.65	27.04	2.52	3.72	5.82	11.66	30.28	**45.99**

➢ No systematic problem for helix geometry.

Results

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.

trans Cys-Pro
Pro 24
Cys 23

cis Cys-Pro
Pro 81
Cys 80

Craveur P., Joseph A.P., Poulain P., Rebehmed J., de Brevern A.G. Cis-trans isomerization of omega dihedrals in Proteins. *Amino Acids* (2013) **45**(2):279-89.

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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 IV$_4$ β-turns have pLDDT <50

94% of cis ω angles have pLDDT <50

Additional results

➤ 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	
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	(+++)	3.99	(--)	2.91	(--)	5.60	(--)	11.79	(---)	12.29	(---)
i	3.94	75.77	(+++)	3.01	(--)	2.35	(--)	4.19	(---)	7.95	(---)	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	(++)	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	(+++)	2.99	(−−)					79	(−−−)	12.29	(−−−)
i	3.94	75.77	(+++)							95	(−−−)	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	(++)

It is expected (see coil state)

Additional results

> 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	(+++)	545	(++)					91	(---)	29.75	(---)
e	7.71	81.88	(++++)							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	(+++)	99	(--)					79	(---)	12.29	(---)
i	3.94	75.77	(+++)							95	(---)	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	(++)

It is NOT expected ··· ???

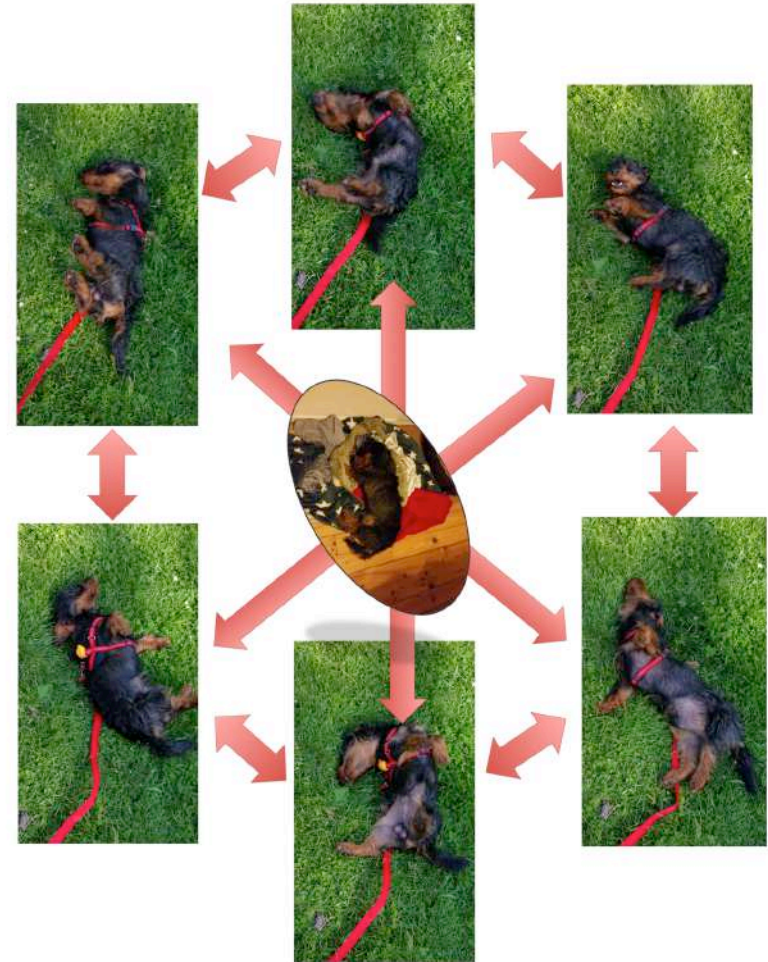It is expected (see coil state)

Additional results

- ➢ 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.