



JOHANNES GUTENBERG  
UNIVERSITÄT MAINZ

# Protein structure prediction

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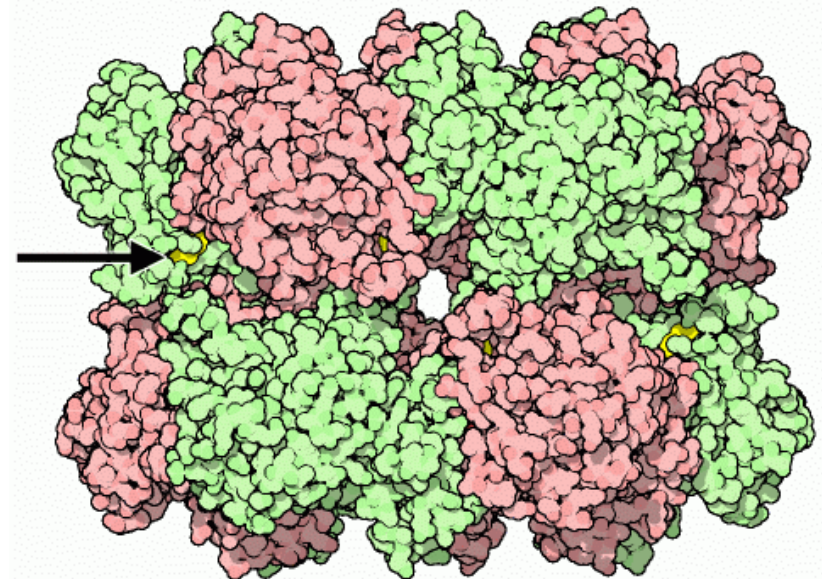
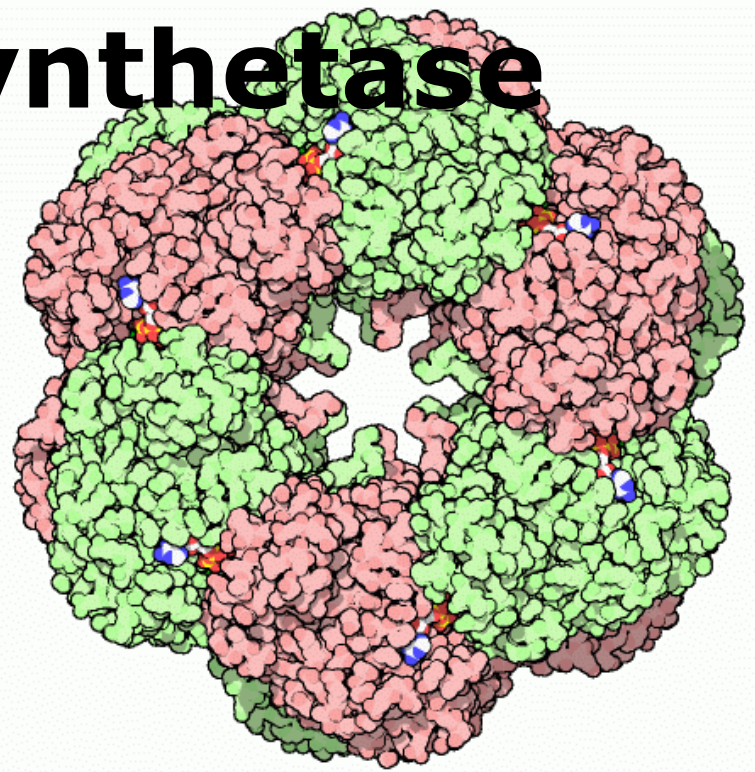
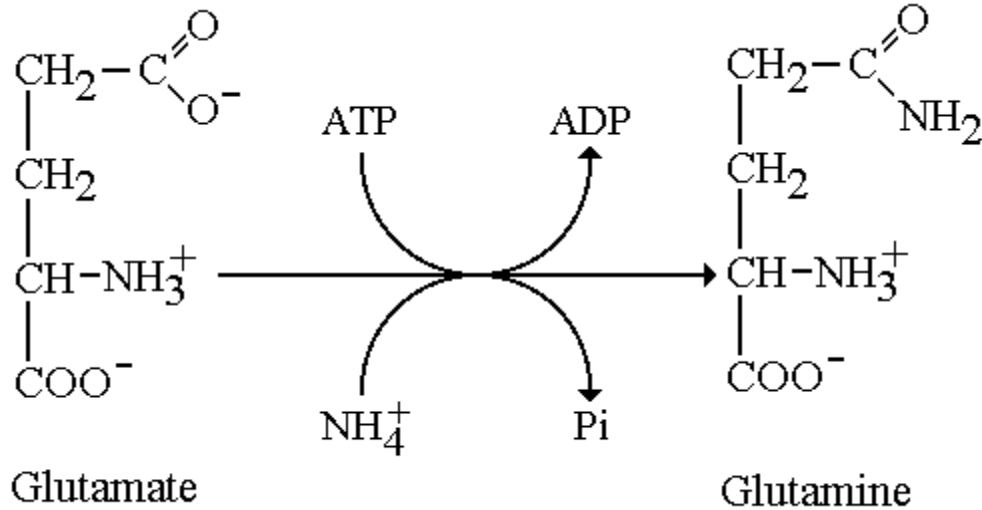
# Mount Everest



**Age: 60M years**



# Glutamine synthetase

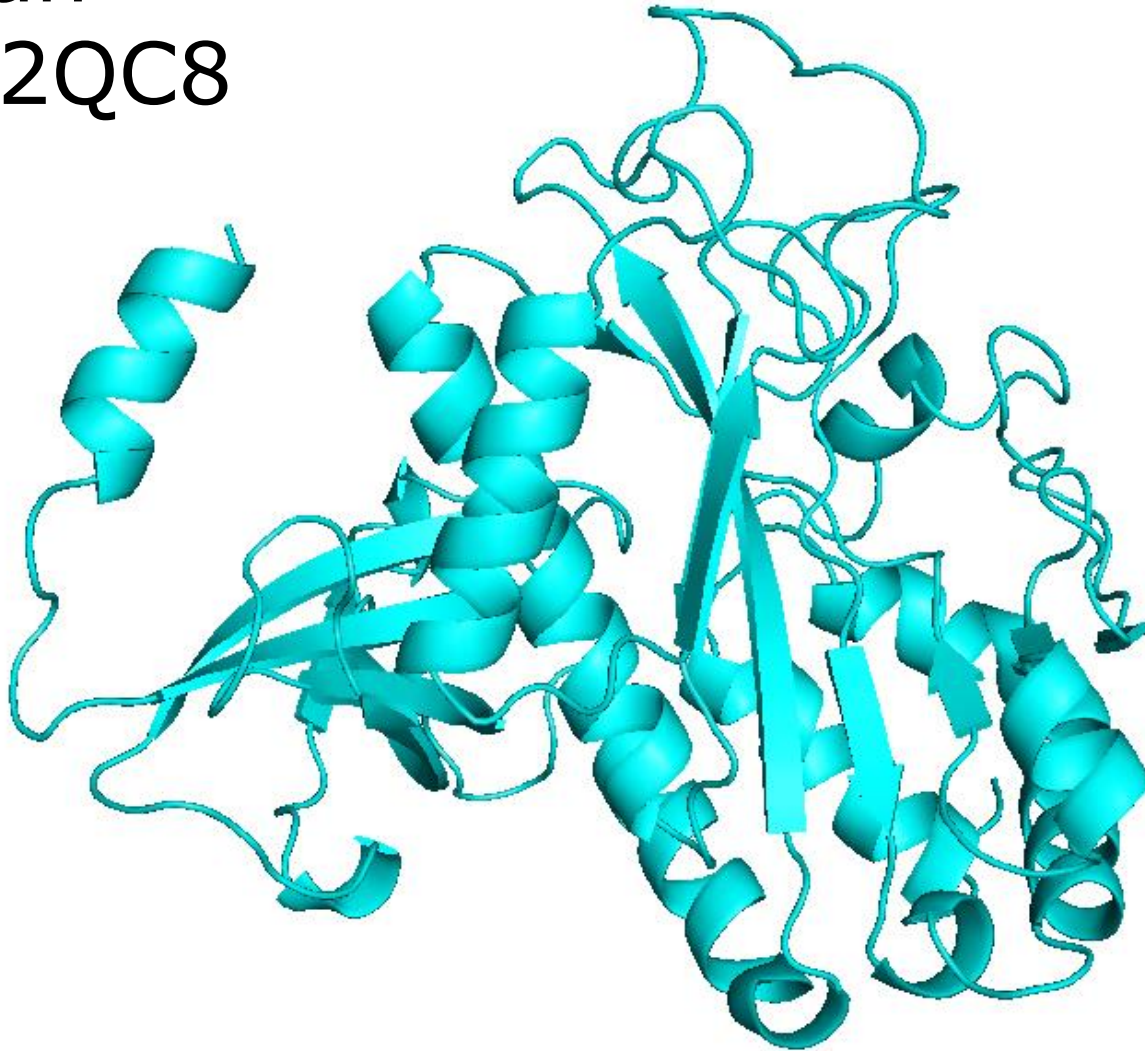


**Age: +3500M years**

# Glutamine synthetase

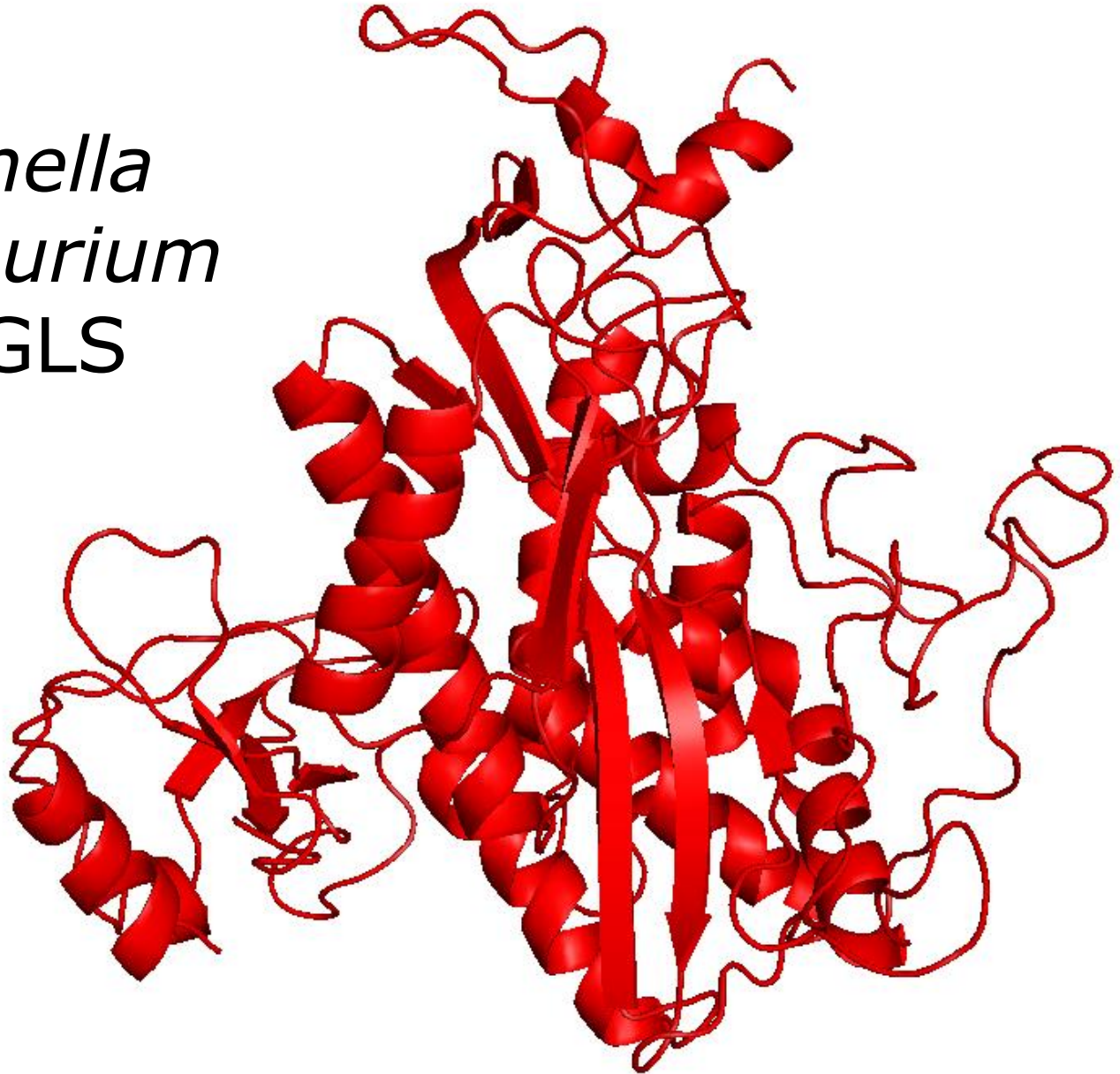
Human

PDB:2QC8



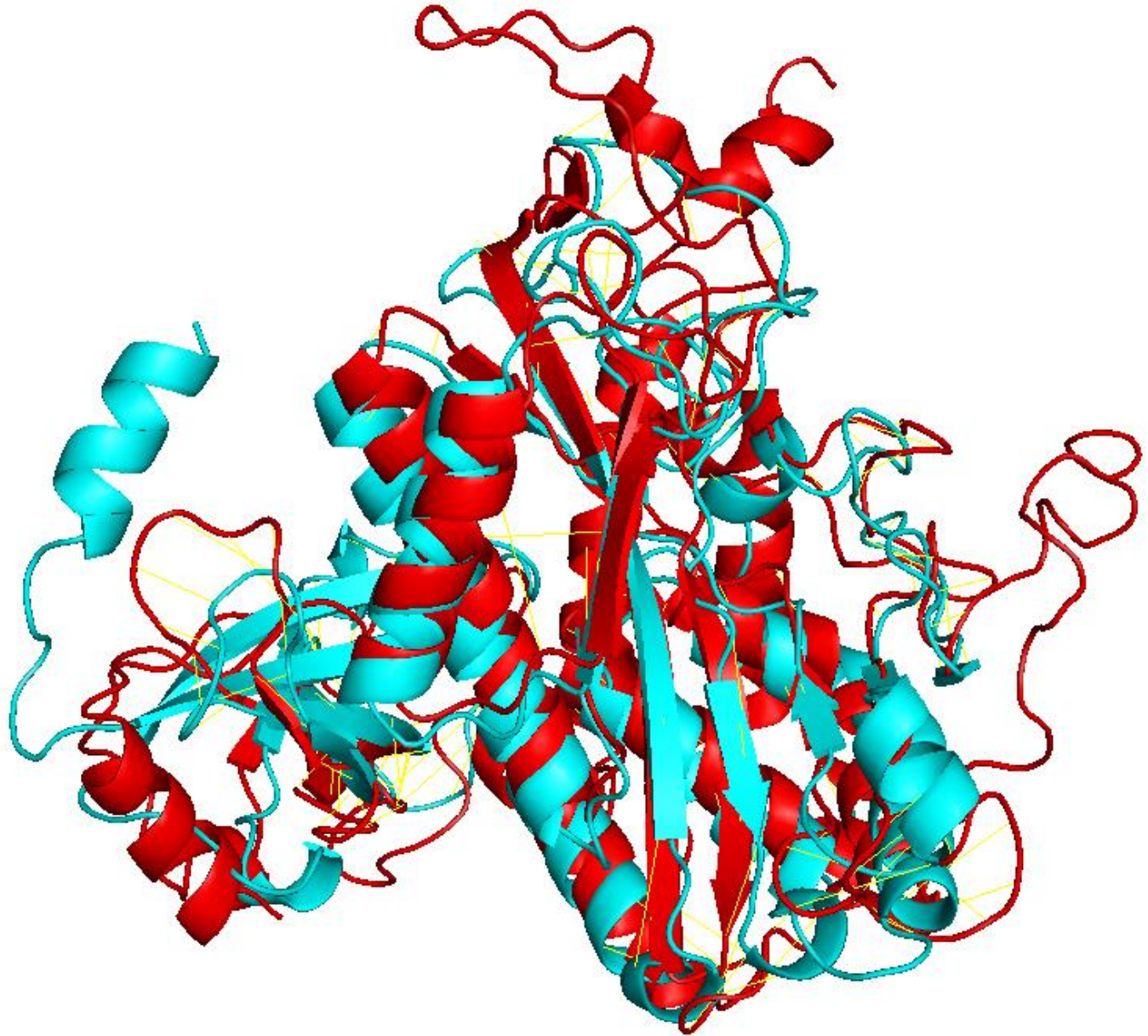
# Glutamine synthetase

*Salmonella*  
*typhimurium*  
PDB:2GLS





# Glutamine synthetase



# Time line

Earth: 4.6 By

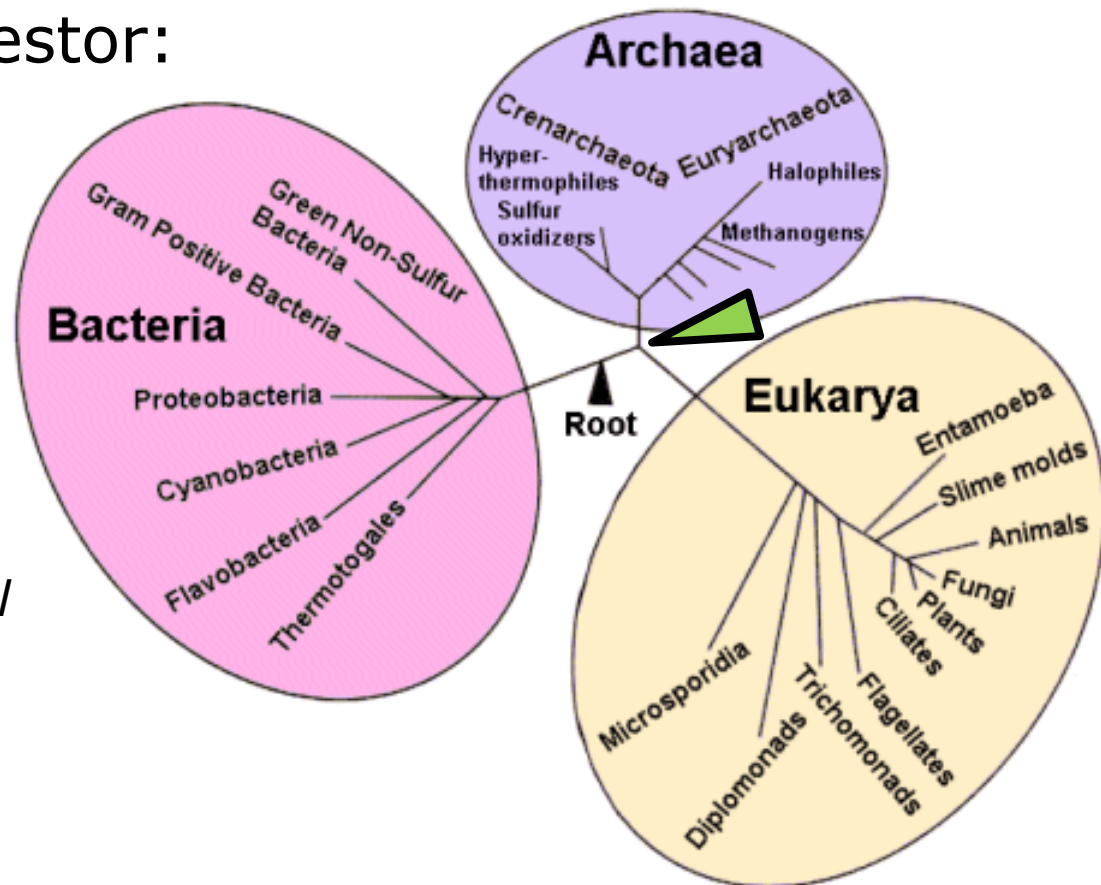
Origin of life: 3.9 By – 3.5 By

Last Common Ancestor:  
3.5 – 3.8 By

Glansdorff & Labedan  
(2008) *Biology Direct*

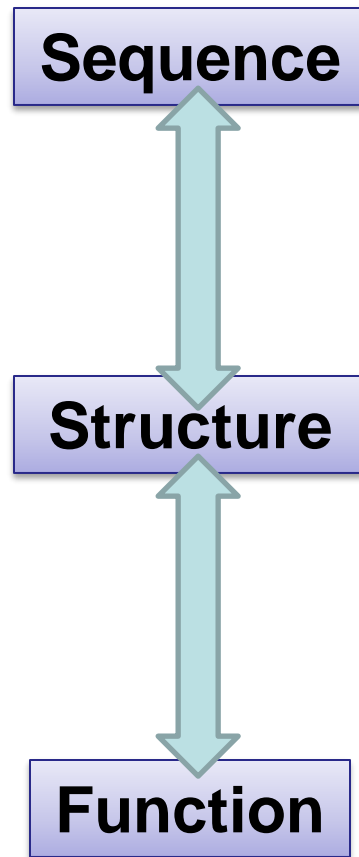
4.29 By

Sheridan *et al.* (2003)  
*Geomicrobiology Journal*



# Sequence and function

Evolutionary constraints



**MTQDELKKAVGWAALQYVQ**

**PG**

**LG**

**EK**

**DA**

**ST**

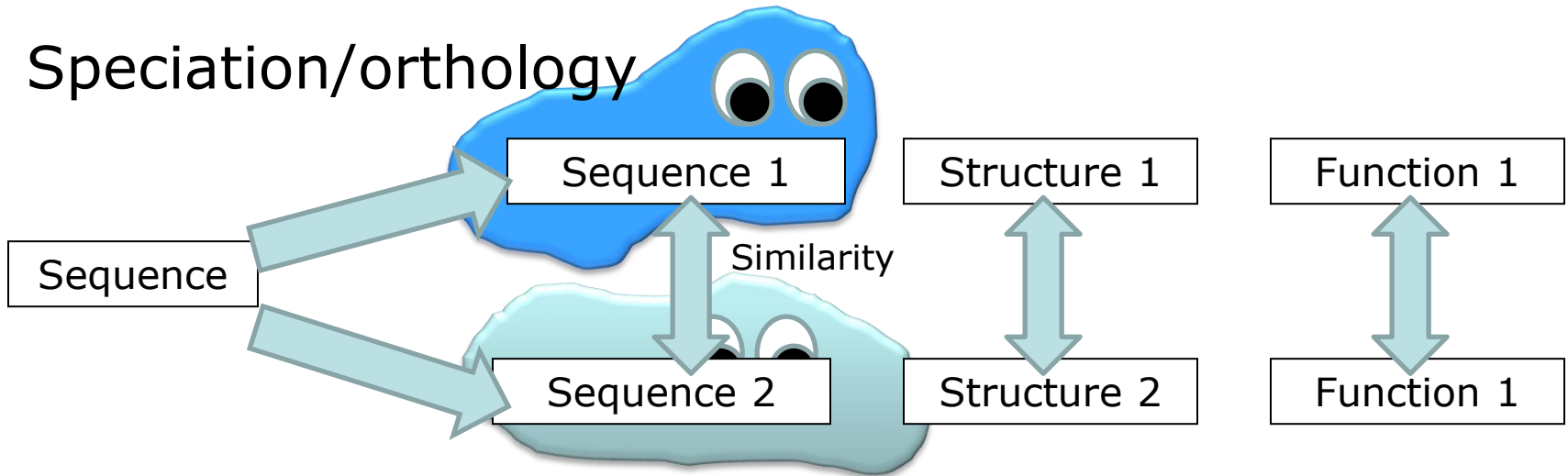




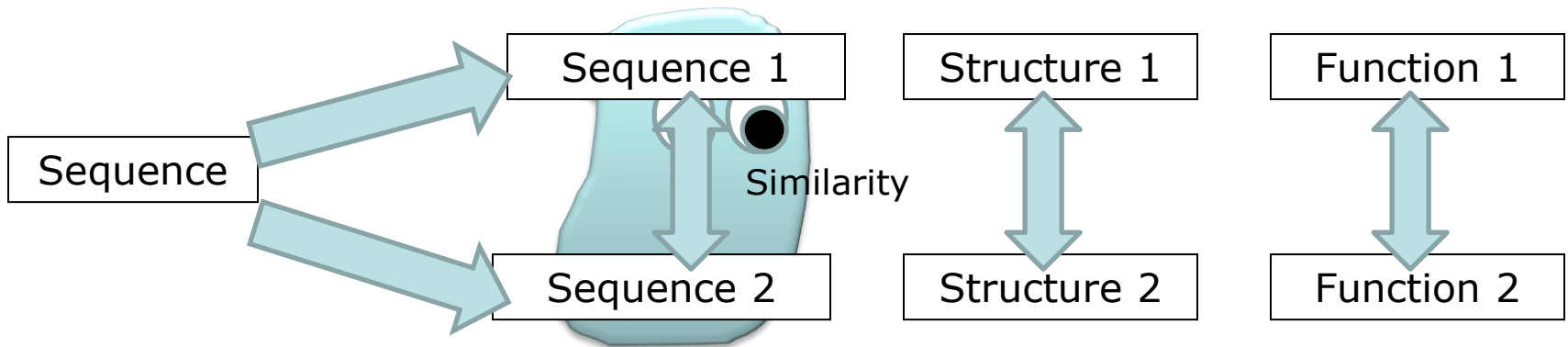
# Sequence and function

Evolutionary constraints

Speciation/orthology



Gene duplication/paralogy



# Sequence pairwise alignment

```
>gs_human gi|74271837|ref|NP_001028216.1| glutamine synthetase [Homo sapiens]  
MTTSASSHLNKGIKQVYMSLPQGEKVQAMYIWIDGTGEGLRCKTRTLTLDSEPKCVEELPEWNFDGSSTLQS  
EGSNSDMYLVPAAMFRDPFRKDPNKLVLCEVFKYNRRPAETNLRHTCKRIMDMVSNQHPWFGMEQEYTLM  
GTDGHPFGWPSNGFPGPQGPYYCGVGADRAYGRDIVEAHYRACLYAGVKIAGTNAEVMPAQWFEFQIGPCE  
GISMGDHLWVARFILHRVCEDFGVIAITFDPKPIPGNWNGAGCHTNFSTKAMREENGLKYIEEAIEKLSKR  
HQYHIRAYDPKGGLDNARRLTGFHETSNINDFSAGVANRSASIRIPRTVGOEKKGYFEDRRPSANCDPFS  
VTEALIRTCLLNETGDEPFQYKN
```

```
>gs_salmonella gi|16767272|ref|NP_462887.1| glutamine synthetase [Salmonella  
enterica subsp. enterica serovar Typhimurium str. LT2]  
MSAEHVLTMLNEHEVKFVDLRFTDTKGKEQHVTIPAHQVNAEFFEKGKMGFDGSSIGGWKGINESDMVLMP  
DASTAVIDPFFADSTLIIRCDILEPGTLQGYDRDPRSIAKRAEDYLRATGIADTVLFGPEPEFFLFDDIR  
FGASISGSHVAIDDIEGAWNSSTKYEGGNKGHRPGVKGGYFPVPPVDSAQDIRSEMCLVMEQMGLVVEAH  
HHEVATAGQNEVATRENTMTKKADEIQIYKYVVHNVAHFRFGKTATFMPKPMFGDNGSGMHCHMSLAKNGT  
NLFSGDKYAGLSEQALYYIGGVIKHAKAINALANPTTNSYKRLVPGYEAPVMLAYSARNRSASIRIPVVA  
SPKARRIEVRFDPANPYLCFAALLMAGLDGIKNKIHPGEAMDKNLYDLPPEEAKEIPQVAGSLEEALN  
ALDLDFEFLKAGGVFTDEAIDAYIALRREEDDRVRMTPHPVEFELYYSV
```

# Sequence pairwise alignment

## BLAST (Altschul et al, 1990)

>lcl|39919 unnamed protein product  
Length=469

Score = 70.5 bits (171), Expect = 1e-17, Method: Compositional matrix adjust.  
Identities = 102/363 (28%), Positives = 138/363 (38%), Gaps = 96/363 (26%)

```
Query 62 FDGSSTLQSEGSN-SDMYLVPAA--MFRDPFRKDPNKLVLCEVFK-----YNRRP---- 108
          FDGSS  +G N SDM L+P A      DPF D  ++ C++ +      Y+R P
Sbjct 50 FDGSSIGGWKGINESDMVLMPDASTAVIDPFFADSTLIIRCDILEPGTLOGYDRDPRSIA 109

Query 109 --AETNLRHTCKRIMDMVSNQHPWFGMEQEYTLMGTDGHPFGWPSNGF----- 154
          AE LR T  I D V      FG E E+ L  D  FG  +G
Sbjct 110 KRAEDYLRTG--IADTV-----LFGPEPEFFLF--DDIRFGASISGSHVAIDIEGAWN 160

Query 155 -----PGPQGPYCYGVGADRAYGRDI-----VEAHYRACLAYG 187
          PG +G Y+      D A  +DI      VEAH+      AG
Sbjct 161 SSTKYEGGNKGHRRPGVKGGYFPVPPVDSA--QDIRSEMCLVMEQMGLVVEAHHHEVATAG 218

Query 188 VKIAGTNAEVMPAQWEFQIGPCEGISMGDHLVVARFILHRVCEDFGVIATFDPKPIPG-N 246
          T  M  +      D + + ++++H V  FG ATF PKP+ G N
Sbjct 219 QNEVATRFNTMTKK-----ADEIQIYKYVVHNVAHRFGKTATFMPKPMFGDN 265

Query 247 WNGAGCHTNFSTKAMREENGLKYIEEAIEKLSKRHQYHIRAYDPKGGLDNA----- 297
          +G CH + +      +G KY      LS++  Y+I      NA
Sbjct 266 GSGMHCHMSLAKNGTNLFSGDKY-----AGLSEQALYYIGGVIKHAKAINALANPTTNSY 320

Query 298 RRLTGFHETSNINDFSAGVANRSASIRIPRTVQGEKKGYFEDRRPSANCDPFSVTEALIR 357
          +RL  +E  +  +SA  NRSASIRIP V  K  E R P  +P+  AL+
Sbjct 321 KRLVPGYEAPVMLAYSAA--RNRSASIRIP-VVASPKARRIEVRFDPDPAANPYLCFAALLM 377

Query 358 TCL 360
          L
Sbjct 378 AGL 380
```



# Multiple sequence alignment

```
>gs_human gi|74271837|ref|NP_001028216.1| glutamine synthetase [Homo sapiens]
MTTSASSHLNKGIKQVYMSLPQGEKVQAMYIWIWIDGTGEGLRCKTRTLTLDSEPKCVEELPEWNFDSSTLQS
EGSNSDMYLVPAAMFRDPFRKDPNKLVLCEVFKNRRPAETNLRHTCKRIMDMVSNQHPWFGMEQEYTLM
GTDGHPFGWPSNGFPGPQGPYYCGVGADRAYGRDIVEAHYRACLYAGVKIAGTNAEVMPAQWEFQIGPCE
GISMGDHLWVARFILHRVCEDFGVIATFDPKPIPGNWNWAGCHTNFSTKAMREENGLKYIEEAIEKLSKR
HQYHIRAYDPKGGLDNARRLTGFHETSNINDFSAGVANRSASIRIPRTVVGQEKKGYPFEDRRPSANCDPFS
VTEALIRTCLLNETGDEPFQYKN
```

```
>gs_vulca gi|307594850|ref|YP_003901167.1| glutamine synthetase [Vulcanisaeta
distributa DSM 14429]
```

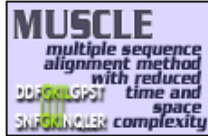
```
MPTRNLEIEPADLWRILKASGIKYVKFIIVDINGAPRSEIVPIDMAKDLFIDGMPFDASSIPSYSTVNKS
DFVAYVDPRAVYVEYWQDGKQVADVFTMVSDIADKPSPLDPRRVLNDALEQARSKGYEFLMGVEVEFFVIK
EDGGKPVFADPGIYFDGWNVTVQSQFMKELITAIADAGINYTKTHHEVAPSQYEVNIGATDPLRLADQIV
YFKIMAKDIARKYGLVATFMPKPFVWVNGSGAHTHISVWVDGKNLQFSSTGKITEECGYAISAILSNARA
LSSFVAPLVNSYKRLVPHYEAPTRIVWGYANRSAMIRIPQYKMRINRIEYRHPDPSMNPYLAFTAIKTM
IRGLEEKKEPPPTTEEVAYELANALET PATLEDTLKELSKSFLATELPSSELVNAYIKIKQNEWEDYLTNV
GPWEKTWNIITQWEYNKYLVTA
```

```
>gs_salmonella gi|16767272|ref|NP_462887.1| glutamine synthetase [Salmonella
enterica subsp. enterica serovar Typhimurium str. LT2]
```

```
MSAEHVLTMLNEHEVKFVDLRFDTTKGKEQHVTIPAHQVNAEFFEKGKMGFDGSSIGWKGINESDMVLMP
DASTAVIDPFFADSTLIIRCDILEPGTLQGYDRDPRSIakraedylratgiadtvlfgpepeffflfddir
FGASISGSHVAIDDIAGAWNSSTKYEGGNKGRPGVKGGYFPVPPVDSAQDIRSEMCLVMEQMGLVVEAH
HHEVATAGQNEVATRFNTMTKKADEIQIYKYVVHNVHRFGKTATFMPKPMFGDNGSGMHCHMSLAKNGT
NLFSGDKYAGLSEQALYYIGGVIKHAKAINALANPTTNSYKRLVPGYEAPVMLAYSARNRSASIRIPVVA
SPKARRIEVRFDPAAANPYLCFAALLMAGLDGKIKNIHPGEAMDKNLYDLPPEEAKEIPQVAGSLEEALN
ALDLDREFLKAGGVFTDEAIDAYIALRREEDDRVRMTPHPVEFELYYSV
```


```
>gs_yeast gi|330443748|ref|NP_015360.2| Gln1p [Saccharomyces cerevisiae S288c]
```

```
MAEASIEKTQILQKYLELDQRGRIIAEYVWIDGTGNLRSKGRTLKKRITSIDQLPEWNFDSSTNQAPGH
DSDIYLPVAYYPDPFRRGDNIIVLAACYNNDGTPNKFNRHEAAKLFAAHKDEEIIWFGLEQEYTLFDMY
DDVYGWPKGGYPAPQGPYYCGVGAGKVYARDMIEAHYRACLYAGLEISGINAEVMPQSQWEFQVGPCTGID
MGDQLWMARYFLHRVAEEFGIKISFHPKPLKGDWNGAGCHTNVSTKEMRQPGGMKYIEQAIEKLSKRHAE
HIKLYGSDNDMRLTGRHETASMTAFSSGVANRGSSIRIPRSVAKEGYGYFEDRRPASNIDPYLVTGIMCE
TVCGAIDNADMTKEFERESS
```



- Help
- MUSCLE website
- Jalview
- Programmatic Access
- Download

- Related Applications
  - Pairwise Sequence Alignment
  - Multiple Sequence Alignment
  - Phylogeny

**MUSCLE related literature** 

Search for MUSCLE related literature in Medline... [more](#)

EBI > Tools > Multiple Sequence Alignment > MUSCLE

## MUSCLE - Multiple Sequence Alignment

MUSCLE stands for **M**ultiple **S**equence **C**omparison by **L**og-**E**xpectation. MUSCLE is claimed to achieve both better average accuracy and better speed than ClustalW2 or T-Coffee, depending on the chosen options.

**Internet Explorer users: If button presses (including copy/paste operations) don't appear to work please try enabling Compatibility View.**


### Use this tool

#### STEP 1 - Enter your input sequences

Enter or paste a set of sequences in any supported format:

Or upload a file:  No file chosen

#### STEP 2 - Set your Parameters

OUTPUT FORMAT:  

*The default settings will fulfill the needs of most users and, for that reason, are not visible.*

*(Click here, if you want to view or change the default settings.)*

#### STEP 3 - Submit your job

Be notified by email *(Tick this box if you want to be notified by email when the results are available)*

<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/muscle/>

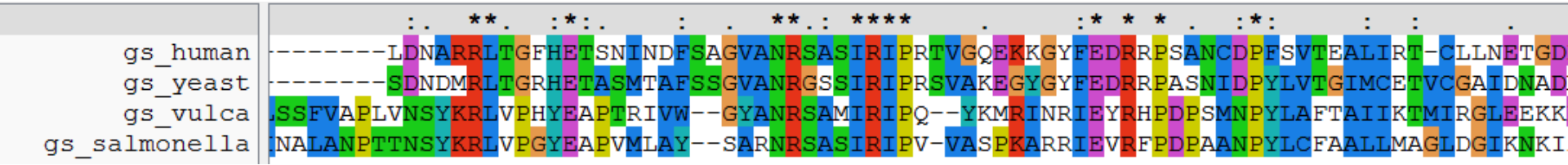
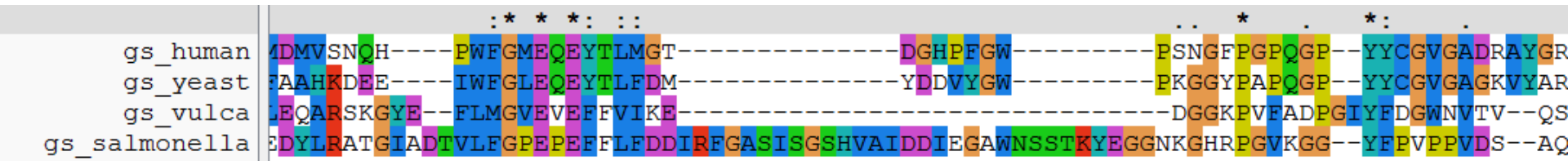
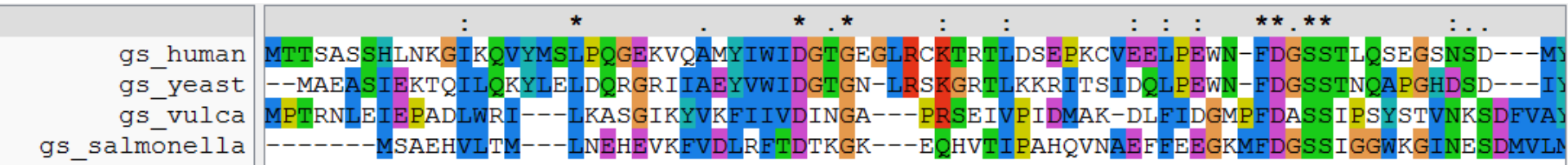
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N-FDGSSTLQSEGSNSD---MYLVPAAMFRDPFRKDPNKLVLCEVFKYNRRPA-ETNLRH  
TCKRIMDMVSNQH----PWFGEQEYTLTGMT-----DGHPIFGW-----  
-PSNGFPGPQGP--YYCGVGADRAYGRDIVEAHYRACLYAGVKIAGTNAEVMPA-QWEFQ  
IGPCEGISMGDHLWVARFILHRVCEDFGVIATFDPKPIPGNWNAGGCHTNFSTKAMREEN  
GLKYIEEAIEKLSKRHQYHIRAYDPKGG-----LDNARRLTGFHETSININDFSAGV  
ANRSASIRIPRTVQGEKKGYFEDRRPSANCDPFSVTEALIRT-CLLNETGDEP-----  
-----  
-----FQYKN-----

>gs\_yeast gi|330443748|ref|NP\_015360.2| Gln1p [Saccharomyces cerevisiae S288c]  
--MAEASIEKTQILQKYLELDQRGRIIAEYVWIDGTGN-LRSKGRTLKKRITSIDQLPEW  
N-FDGSSTNQAPGHSD---IYLKPVAYYDPFRRGDNIVVLAACYNNDGTPN-KFNHRH  
EAAKLFAAHKDEE----IWFGLEQEYTLFDM-----YDDVYGW-----  
-PKGYPAPQGP--YYCGVGAGKVYARDMIEAHYRACLYAGLEISGINAEVMPA-QWEFQ  
VGPCTGIDMGDQLWMARYFLHRVAEEFGIKISFHPKPLKGDWNGAGCHTNVSTKEMRQPG  
GMKYIEQAIEKLSKRHAHEHIKLYG-----SDNDMRLTGRHETASMTAFSSGV  
ANRGSSIRIPRSVAKEGYGYFEDRRPASNIDPYLVTGIMCETVCGAIDNADMT-----  
-----  
-----KEFERESS-----

>gs\_vulca gi|307594850|ref|YP\_003901167.1| glutamine synthetase [Vulcanisaeta distributa DSM 14429]  
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MPFDASSIPSYSTVNKSDVFVAYVDPRAVYVEYWQDGKQVADVFTMVSDIADKPS-PLDPRR  
VLNDALEQARSKGYE--FLMGVEVEFFVIKE-----  
--DGGKPVFADPGIYFDGWNVTV--QSQFMKELITAIADAGINYTKTHHEVAPS-QYEVN  
IGATDPLRLADQIVYFKIMAKDIARKYGLVATFMPKPFWGV-NGSGAHTHIS---VWKDG  
KNLF-QSSTGKITEECGYAISAILSARNALSSFVAPLVNSYKRLVPHYEAPTRIVW--GY  
ANRSAMIRIPQ--YKMRINRIEYRHPDPSMNPYLAFTAI IKTMIRGLEEKKEPPPTEEV  
AYELA--NALETP---ATLEDTLK--ELSKSFLATE--LPSELVNAYIKIKQNEWEDYLT  
NVGPWEKTWNIITQWEYNKYLVTATA

>gs\_salmonella gi|16767272|ref|NP\_462887.1| glutamine synthetase [Salmonella enterica]  
-----MSAEHVLTM---LNEHEVKFVDLRFTDTK GK---EQHVTIPAHQVNAEFFEEG  
KMFDSIGGWKGINESDMVLMPPDASTAVIDPFFADSTLIIRCDILEPGTLQGYDRDPRS  
IAKRAEDYL RATGIADTVLFGPEPEFFLFDDIRFGASISGSHVAIDDI EGAWNSSTKYEG  
GNKGHRPGVKGG--YFPVPPVDS--AQDIRSEMCLVMEQMGLVVEAHHHEVATAGQNEVA  
TRFNTMTKKADEIQIYKYVVHNVVAHRFGKTATFMPKPMFGD-NGSGMHCHMS---LAKNG  
TNLFSGDKYAGLSEQALYYIGGVIKHAKAINALANPTTNSYKRLVPGYEAPVMLAY--SA  
RNRASIRIPV-VASPKARRIEVRFDPANPYLCFAALLMAGLDGKIKNIHPGEAMDKN  
LYDLPPEEAKEIPQVAGSLEEALNALDLDFEFLKAGGVFTDEAIDAYIALRREEDDRVRM  
TPHP-----VEFELYYSV-





ClustalW, JalView

# Determination of protein structure

X-ray crystallography (144K in PDB)

- need crystals

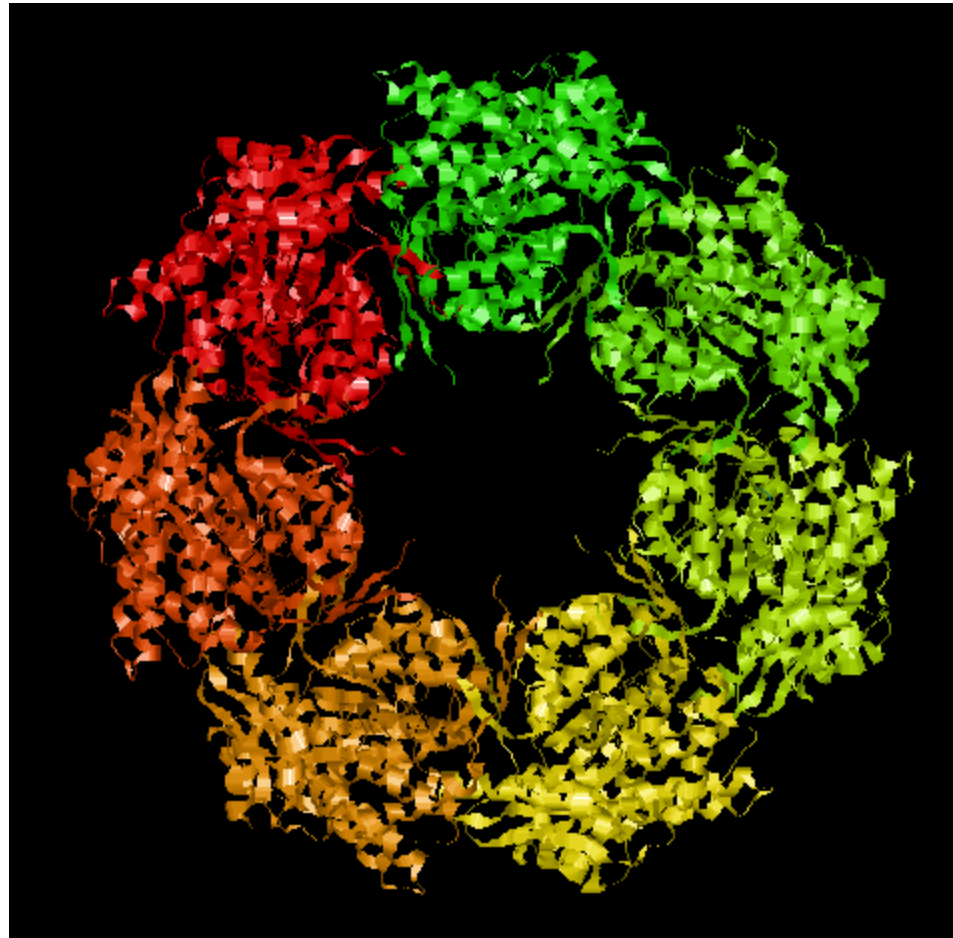
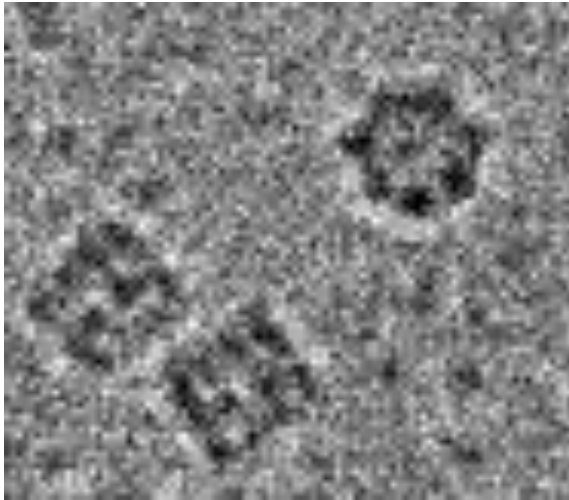
Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR)  
(12K)

- proteins in solution
- lower size limit (600 aa)

Electron microscopy (7K)

- Low resolution ( $>5\text{\AA}$ )

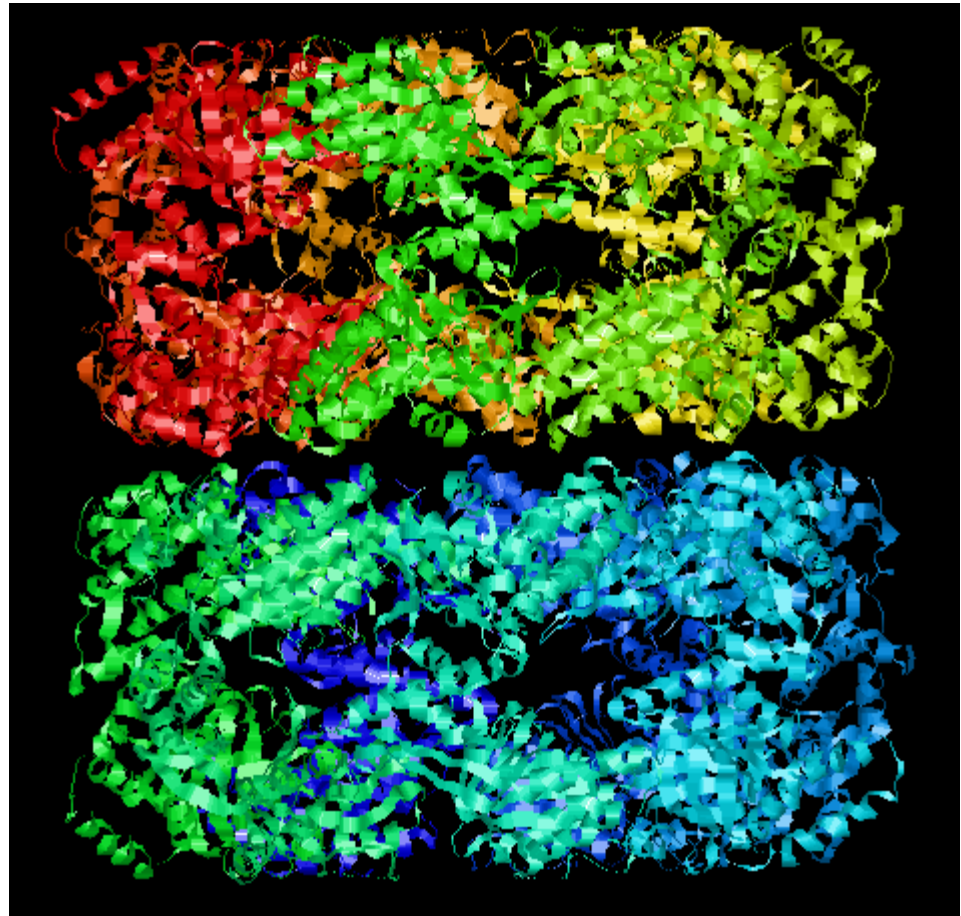
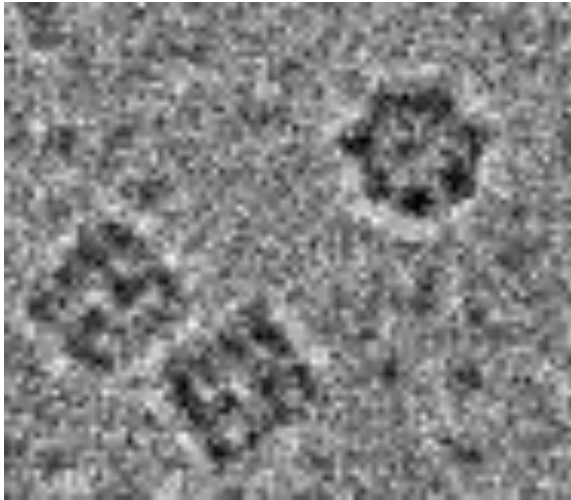
# Determination of protein structure



resolution 2.4 Å



# Determination of protein structure



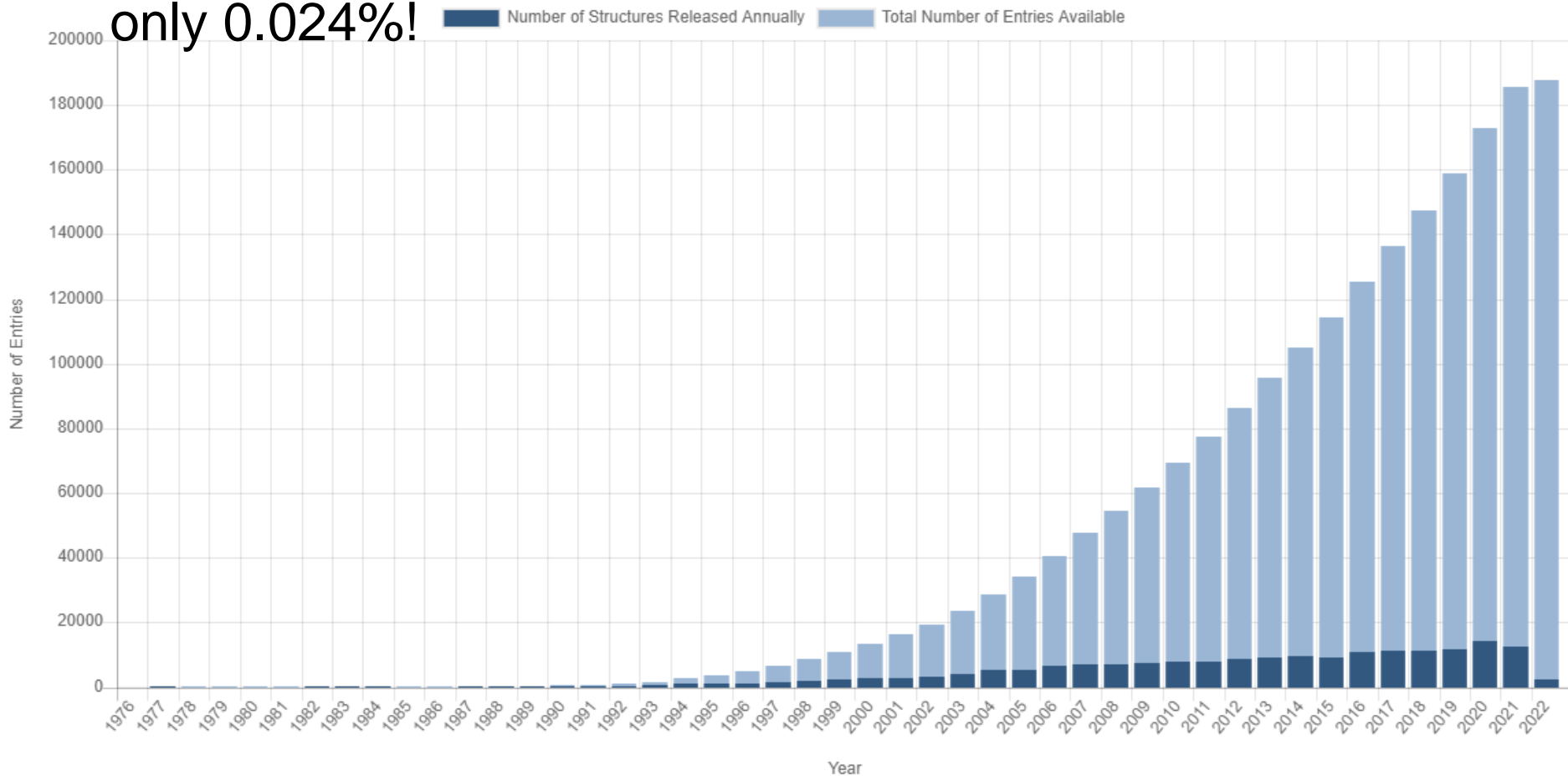
resolution 2.4 Å

# Structural genomics

Currently: 187K protein 3D structures  
from around 55K sequences in UniProt (how do I know?)

226M sequences in UniProt

only 0.024%!

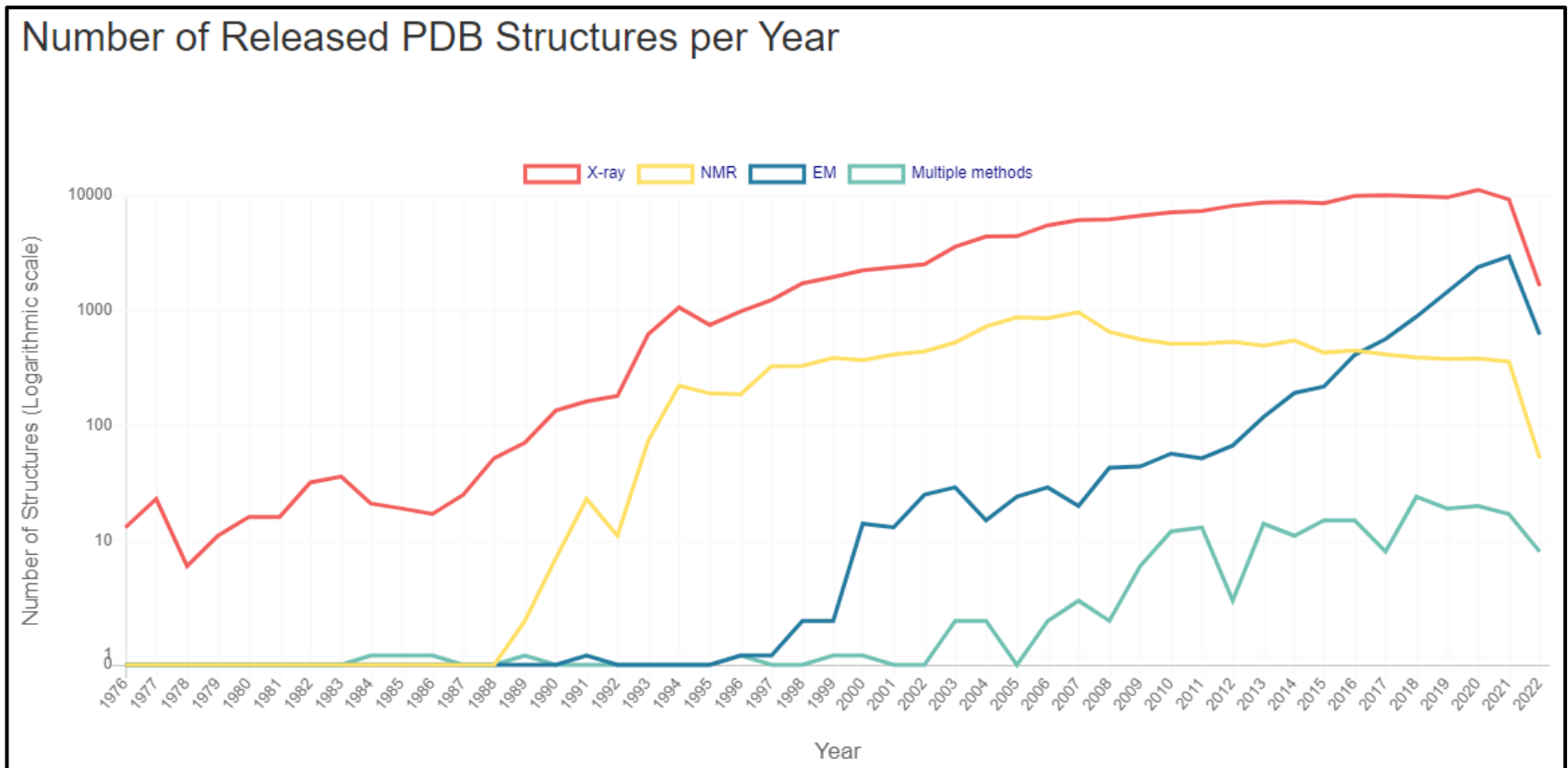


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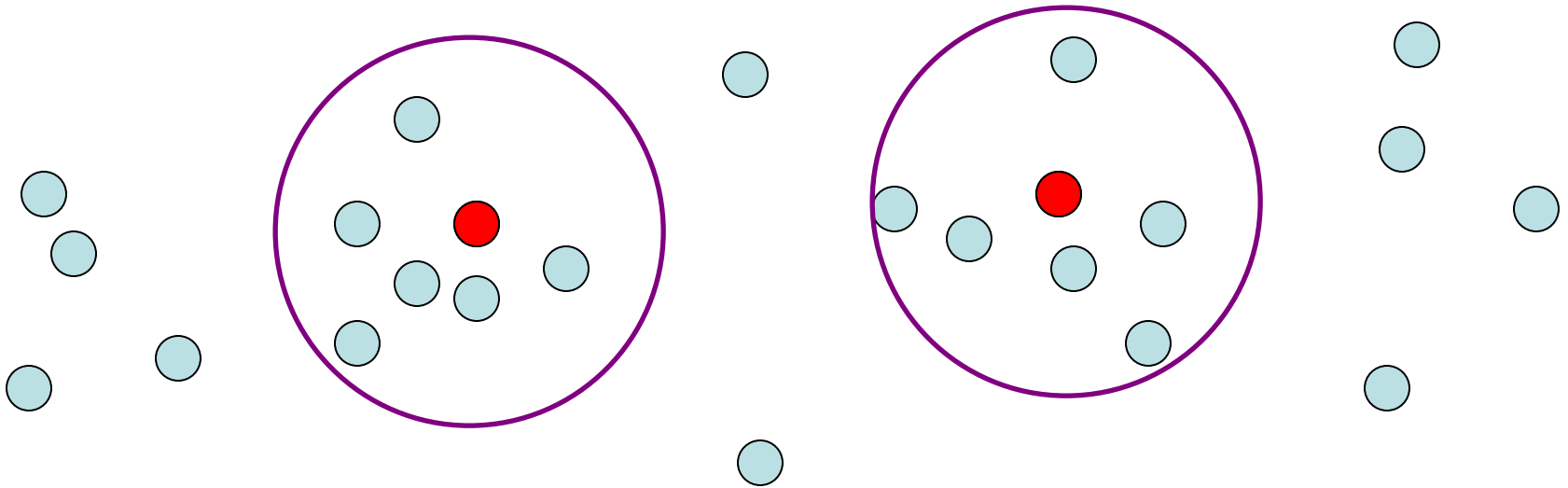


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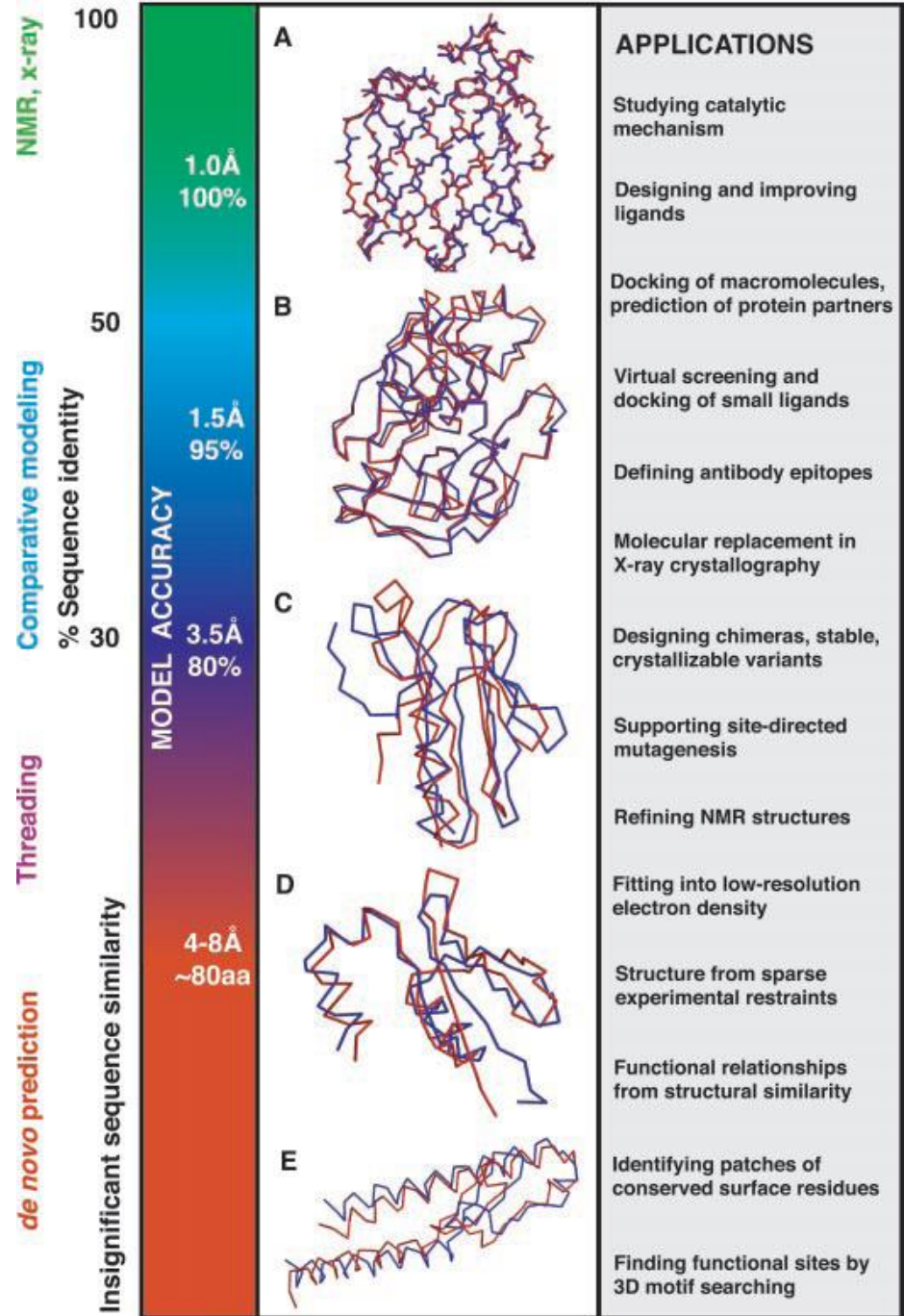


50% sequences covered (25% in 1995)

# Relation between sequence identity and accuracy/applications

Predicted structure (red)  
and real (blue)

From:  
Baker and Sali (2001)  
*Science*



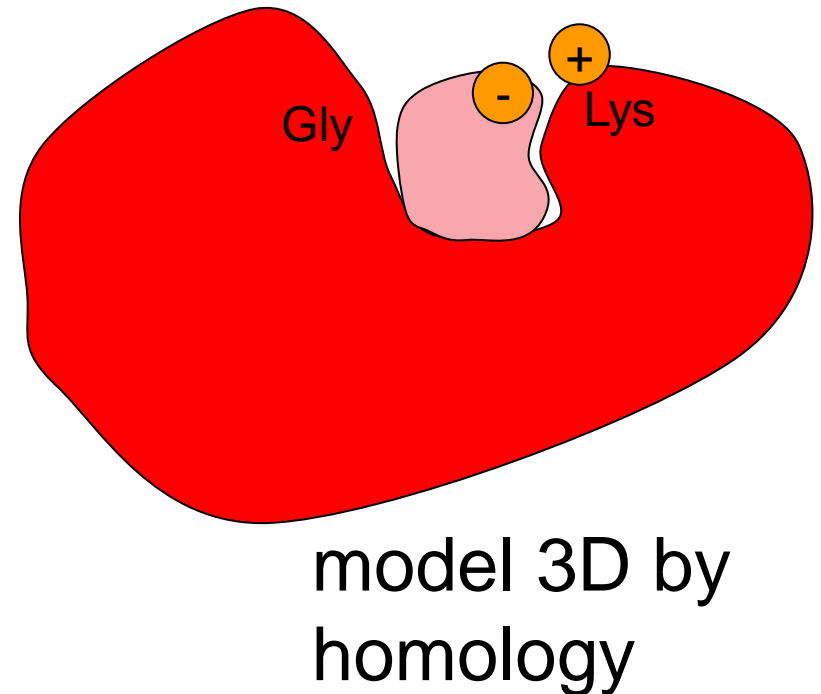
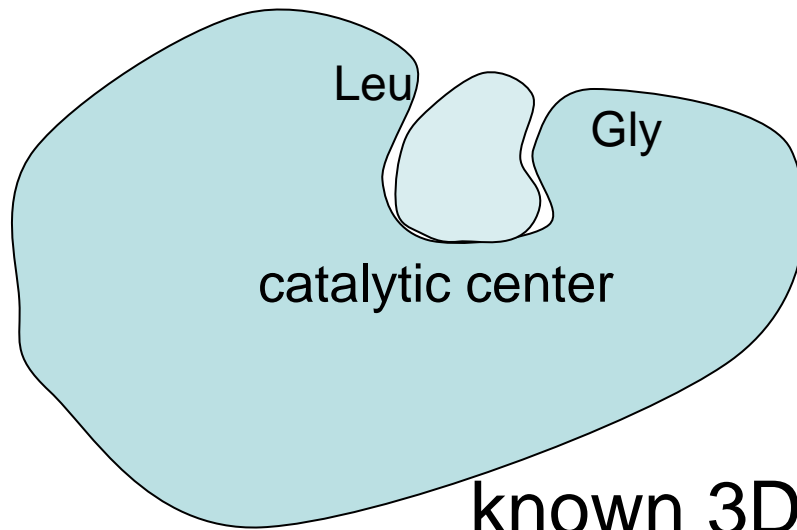
# Homology modelling

## Applications: target design

Query sequence



similar to



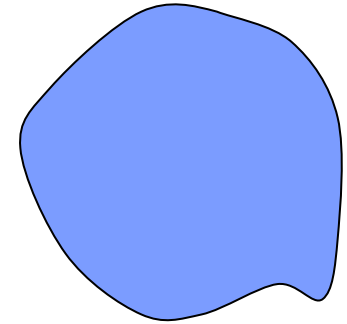
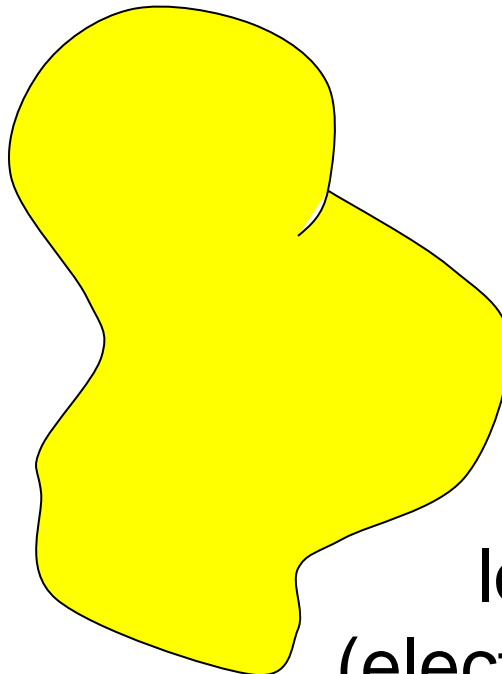
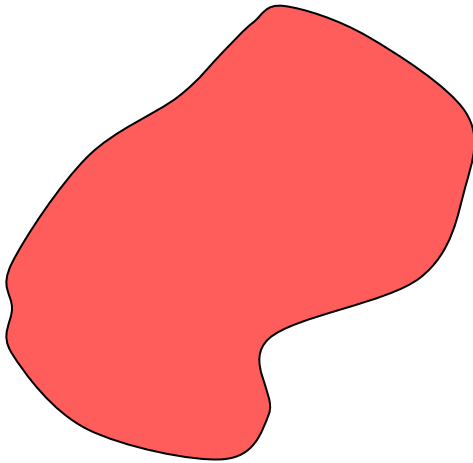
# Homology modelling

## Applications: fit to low res 3D

Query sequence 1



Query sequence 2



low resolution 3D  
(electron microscopy)



# Homology modelling Phyre



Mike Sternberg <http://www.sbg.bio.ic.ac.uk/phyre2/>

Kelley et al (2000) *J Mol Biol*  
Kelley et al (2015)  
*Nature Protocols*

Phyre<sup>2</sup>

Protein Homology/analogY Recognition Engine V 2.0

Subscribe to Phyre at Google Groups  
Email:   
Subscribe  
Visit Phyre at Google Groups  
Follow @Phyre2server

Current Phyre2 server load = 91% (you may experience some delays)

E-mail Address

Optional Job description

Amino Acid Sequence

Or try the sequence finder

Modelling Mode  Normal  Intensive  Test

Please tick as appropriate.  NOT for Profit  FOR Profit (Commercial)  Other

Phyre Search Reset

Processing time can be hours

# Domains

Protein domains are structural units (average 160 aa) that share:

Function

Folding

Evolution

Proteins normally are multidomain (average 300 aa)

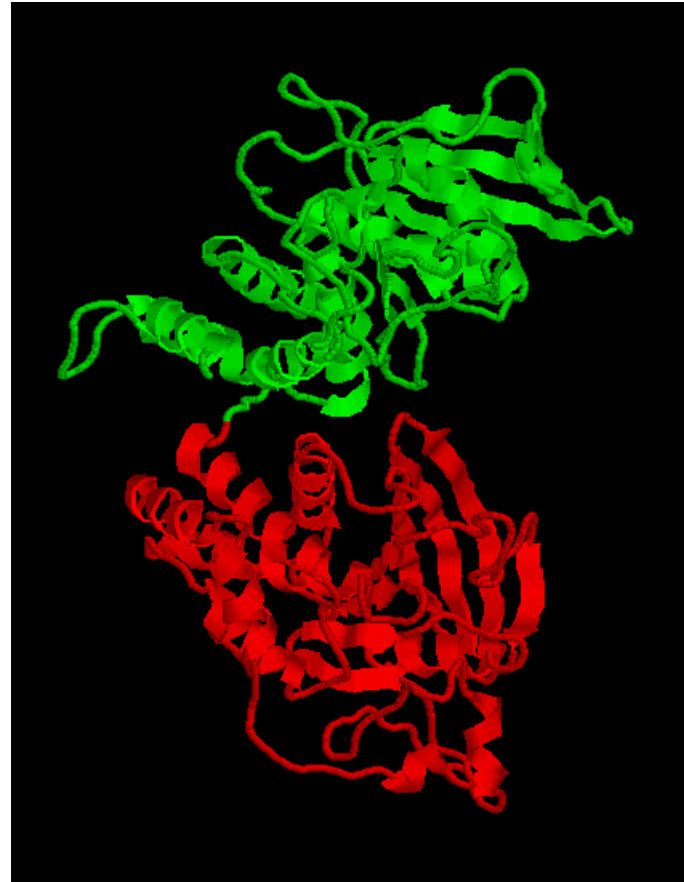


# Domains

Protein domains are structural units (average 160 aa) that share:

Function  
Folding  
Evolution

Proteins normally are multidomain (average 300 aa)

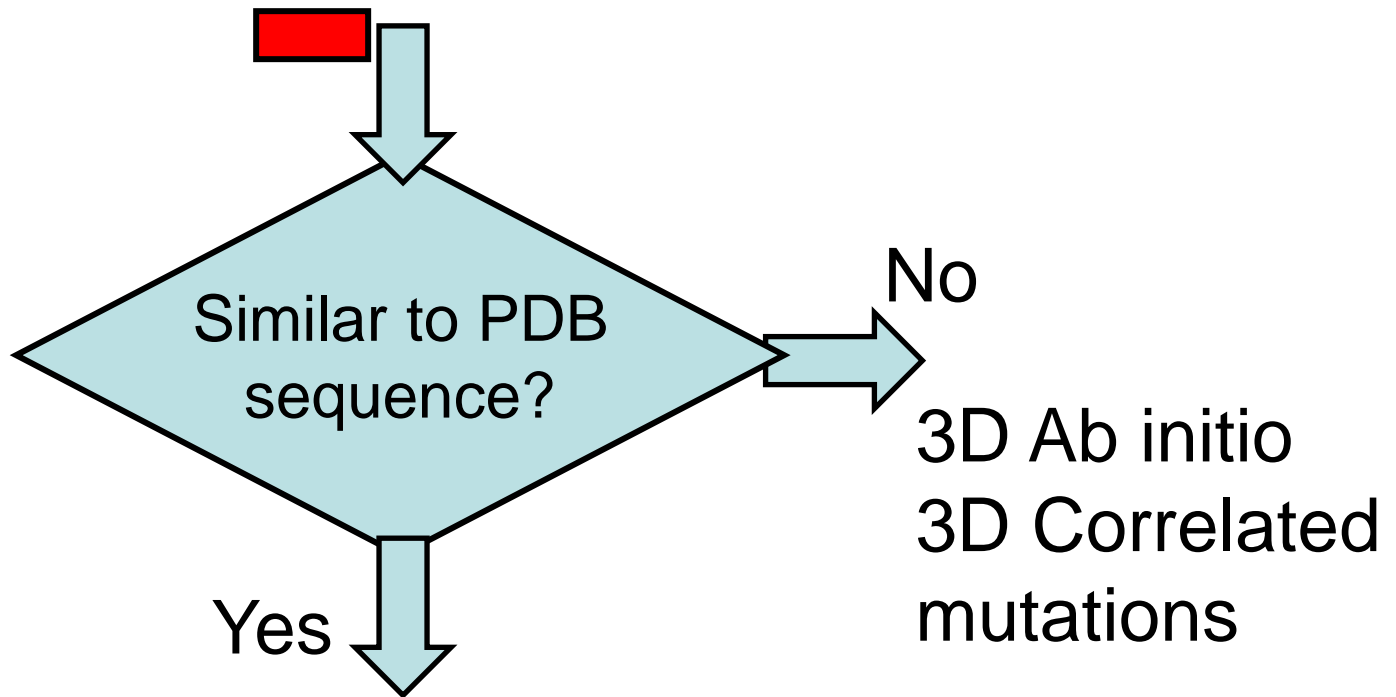


# Domains

Query Sequence 

Predict domains 

Cut



Protein structure modeling  
by homology

# Protein structure prediction

## Ab initio

Explore conformational space

Limit the number of atoms

Break the problem into fragments of sequence

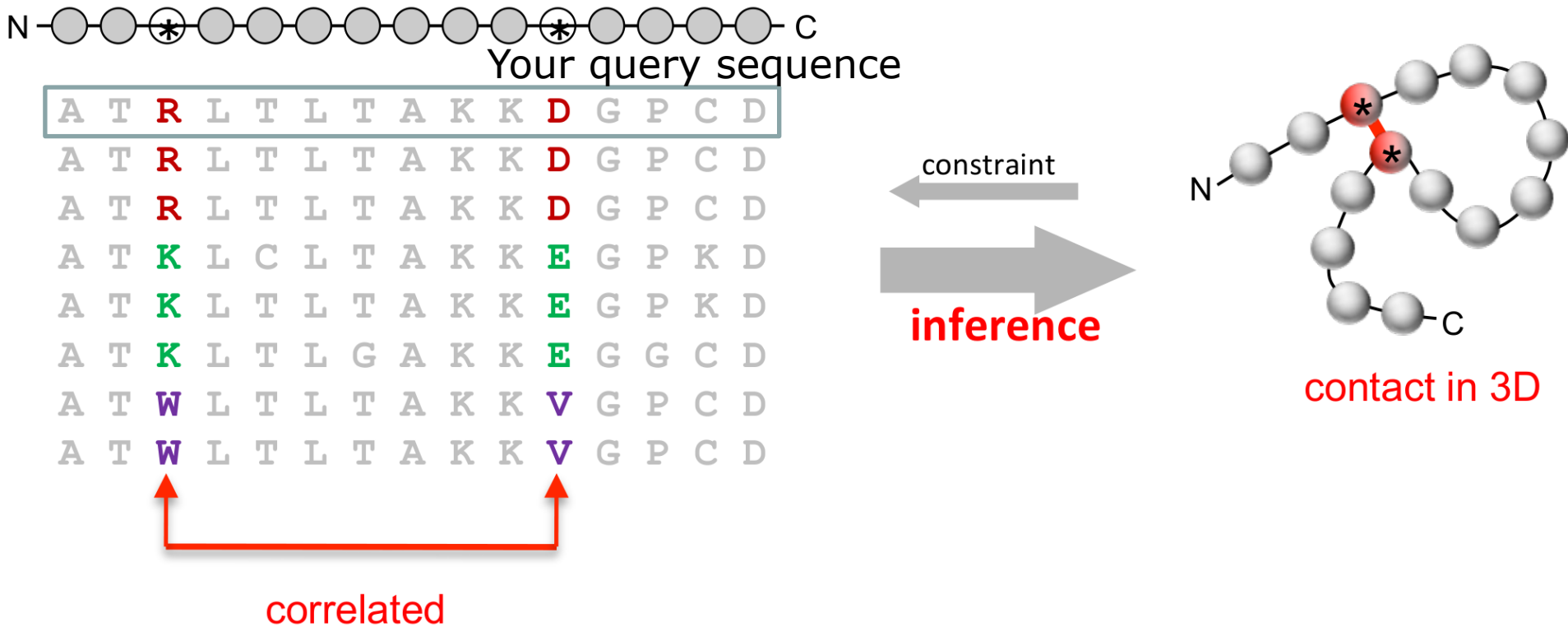
Optimize hydrophobic residue burial and pairing of beta-strands

Limited success...



# Protein structure prediction

## Correlated mutations



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Correlated\\_mutation.png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Correlated_mutation.png)

# Protein structure prediction Combined

Homology to solved structures

Correlated sequence variation in homologs

Generation of a structure following physical constraints

# Protein structure prediction

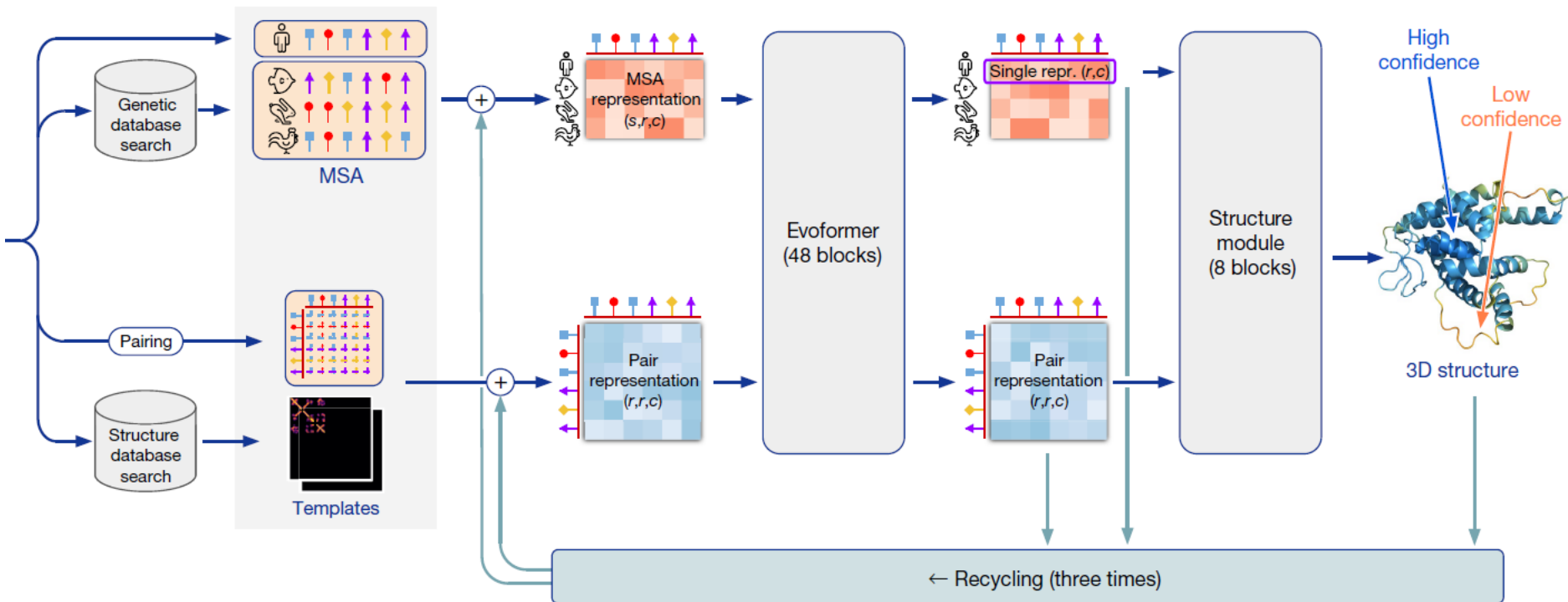
AlphaFold: DeepMind, Google



Demis Hassabis



Input sequence



Jumper et al (2021) Nature

# Protein structure prediction

## AlphaFold: DeepMind, Google

UniProtKB - P08235 (MCR\_HUMAN)

Display [Help video](#) [BLAST](#) [Align](#) [Format](#) [Add to basket](#) [History](#)

Entry

Publications

Feature viewer

Feature table

Protein | **Mineralocorticoid receptor**

Gene | **NR3C2**

Organism | *Homo sapiens* (H **Structure<sup>i</sup>**

Status | Reviewed - A

### Model Confidence:

Very high (pLDDT > 90)

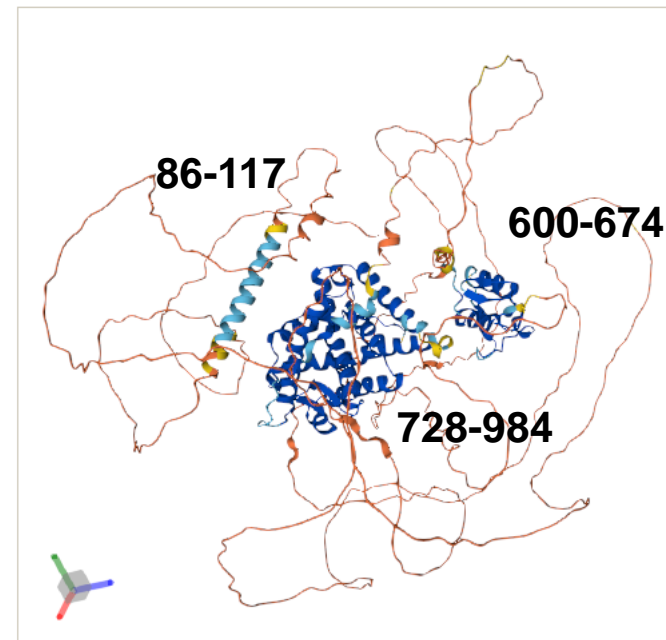
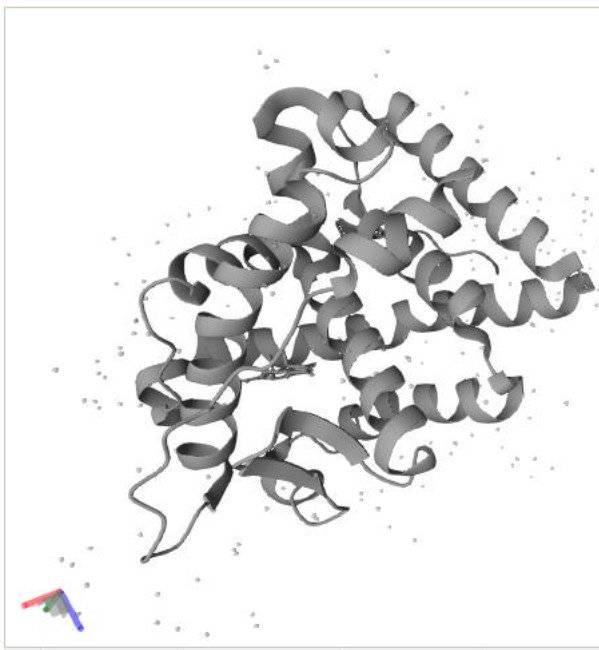
Confident (90 > pLDDT > 70)

Low (70 > pLDDT > 50)

Very low (pLDDT < 50)

AlphaFold produces a per-residue confidence score (pLDDT) between 0 and 100. Some regions with low pLDDT may be unstructured in isolation.

### Structure<sup>i</sup>



AlphaFold	AF-P08235-F1	Predicted			1-984
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PDB	1Y9R	X-ray	1.96 Å	A/B	731-984
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# Protein structure prediction

**AlphaFold:** DeepMind, Google

## **Precomputed models:**

UniProt

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

(limited to model organisms)

**Colab notebook** (simplified version / limited server / takes hours)

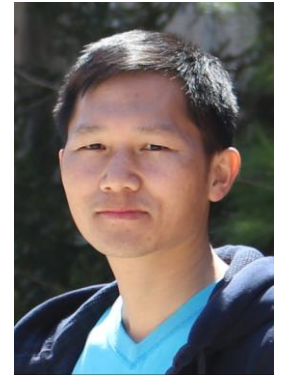
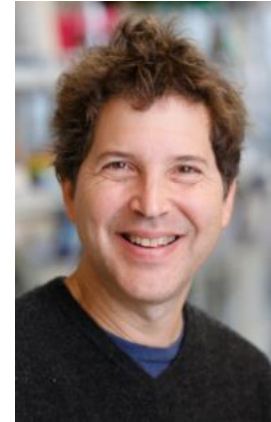
**Source code** (Needs 3 Tb disk space)



# Protein structure prediction

**trRosetta:** David Baker & Jianyi Yang

Needs large multiple sequence alignments to predict contacts



Predictions available for all PFAM domains

Example:

<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/interpro/entry/pfam/PF07887/rosettafold/>

Run online at

<https://yanglab.nankai.edu.cn/trRosetta/>

Du et al (2021) *Nature Protocols*

# Protein structure prediction

**C-I-Tasser:** Yang Zhang



Run online at

<https://zhanggroup.org/C-I-TASSER/>

Zheng et al (2021) *Cell Reports Methods*