



JOHANNES GUTENBERG  
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# Repeats and composition bias

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# **Repeats**

# Frequency

14% proteins contains repeats (Marcotte et al, 1999)

1: Single amino acid repeats.

2: Longer imperfect tandem repeats.  
Assemble in structure.

# **Definition repeats**

Sequence, long, imperfect, tandem

MRAVVKSPIMCHEKSPSVCSPLNMTSSVCSPAGINSVSSTTASF  
GSFPVHSPITQGTPLTCSPNVENRGSRSHSPAHASNVGSPLSSP  
LSSMKSSISSLPPSHCSVKSPVSSPNNVTLRSSVSSPANINN

# Definition repeats

Sequence, long, imperfect, tandem

MRAVVK**SP**IMCHEKSPSVC**SP**LNMTSSVC**SP**AGINSVSSTTASF  
GSFPVH**SP**ITQGTPLTC**SP**NVENRGSRSH**SP**AHASNVGSPLS**SP**  
LSSMKSSIS**SP**PSHCSVKSPV**SP**NNVTLRSSVS**SP**ANINN

# Definition repeats

Sequence, long, imperfect, tandem

MRAVVK**SP**IM CHE

KSPSVC**SP**LN

MTSSVC**SP**AG INSVSSTTASF

GSFPVH**SP**IT Q

GTPLTC**SP**NV EN

RGSRSH**SP**AH ASN

VGSPLS**SP**LS S

MKSSIS**SP**PS HCS

VKSPVS**SP**NN VT

LRSSVS**SP**AN INN

# Definition repeats

Sequence, long, imperfect, tandem

MRAV**VKSP**IM CHE

KSPSVC**SP**LN

MT**SSVCSP**AG INSVSSTTASF

GSFP**VHSP**IT Q

GTPLTC**SP**NV EN

RG**SRSRSHSP**AH ASN

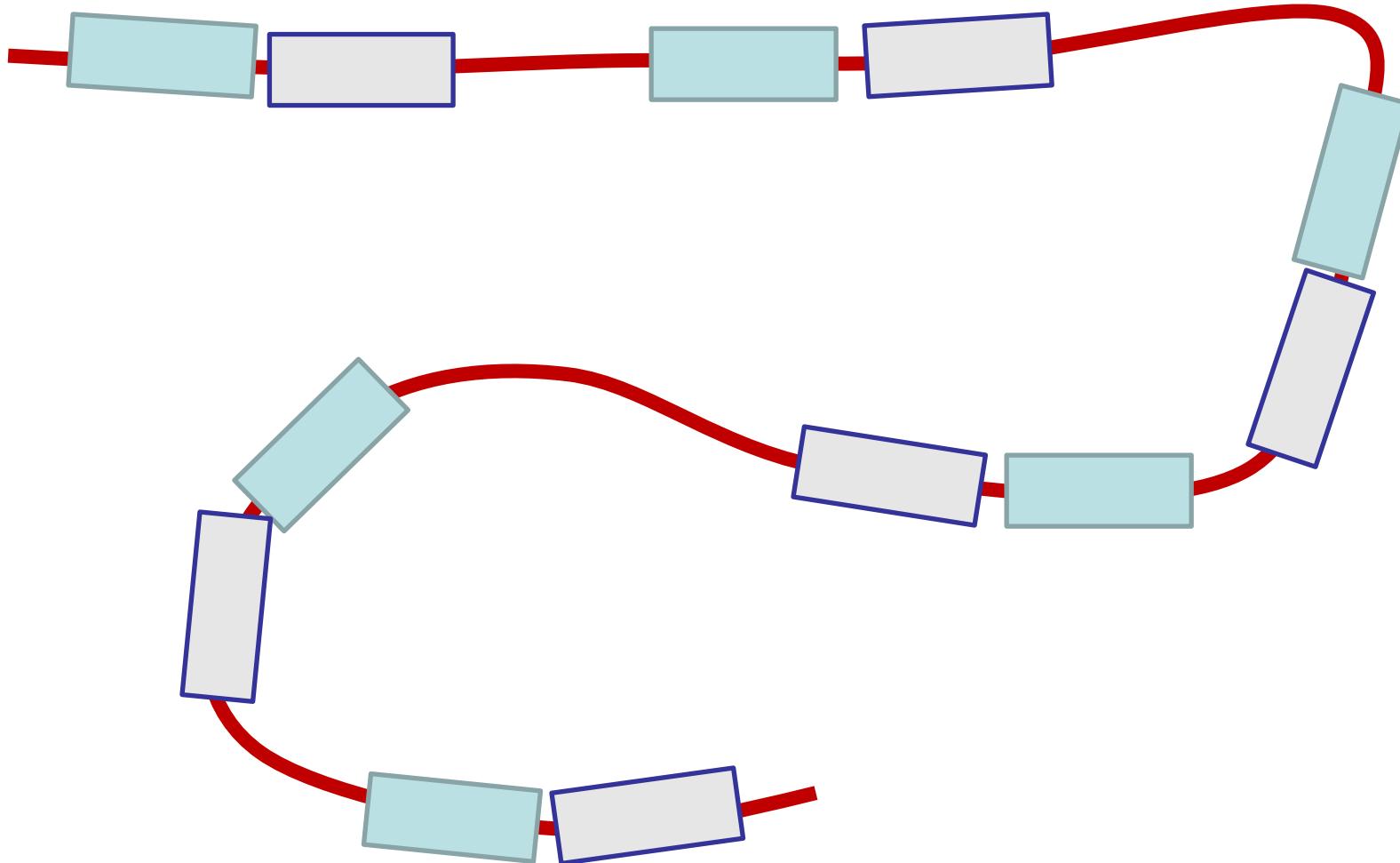
VG**SPLSSP**LS S

MK**SSISSP**PS HCS

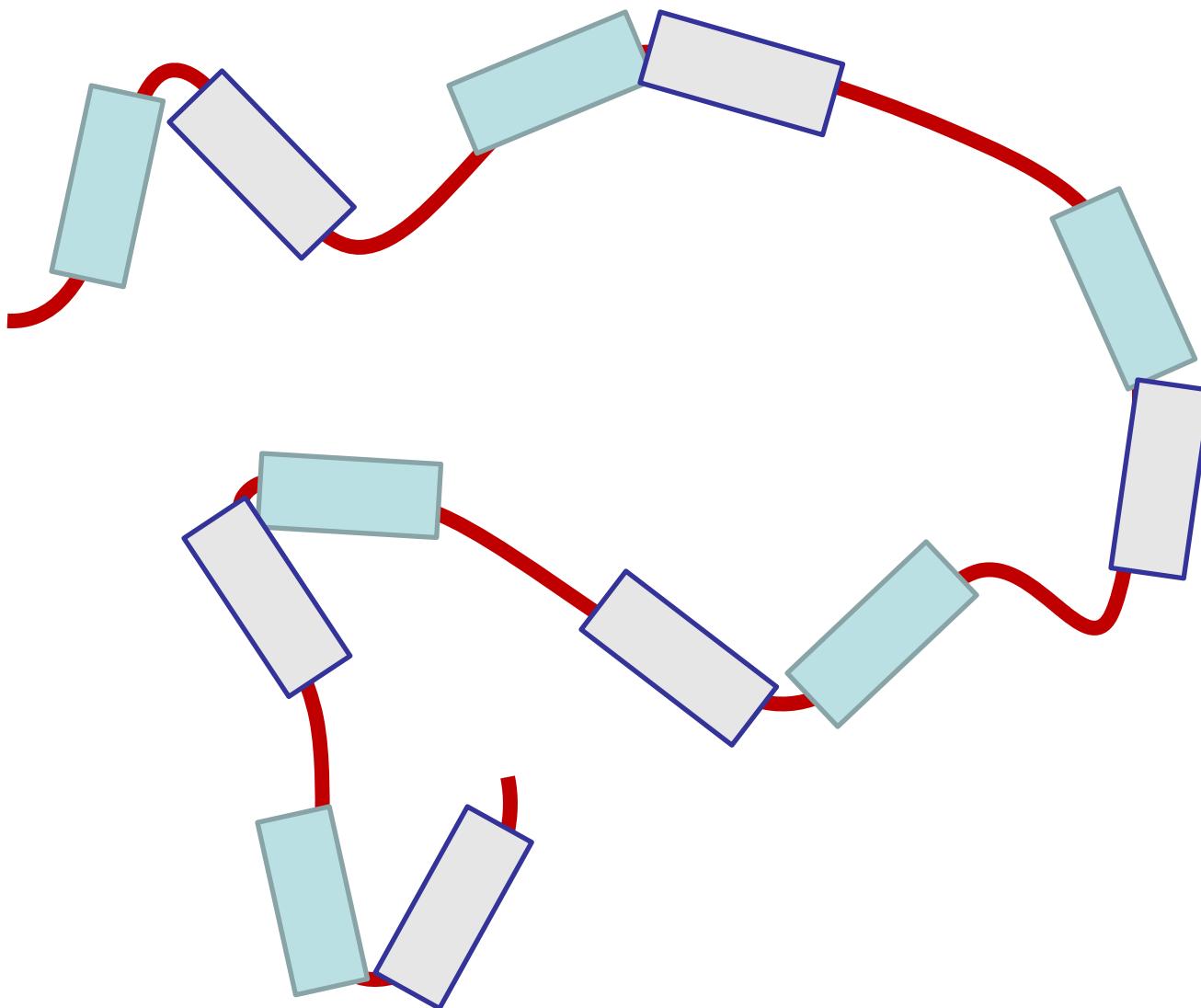
VK**SPVSSP**NN VT

LR**SSVSSP**AN INN

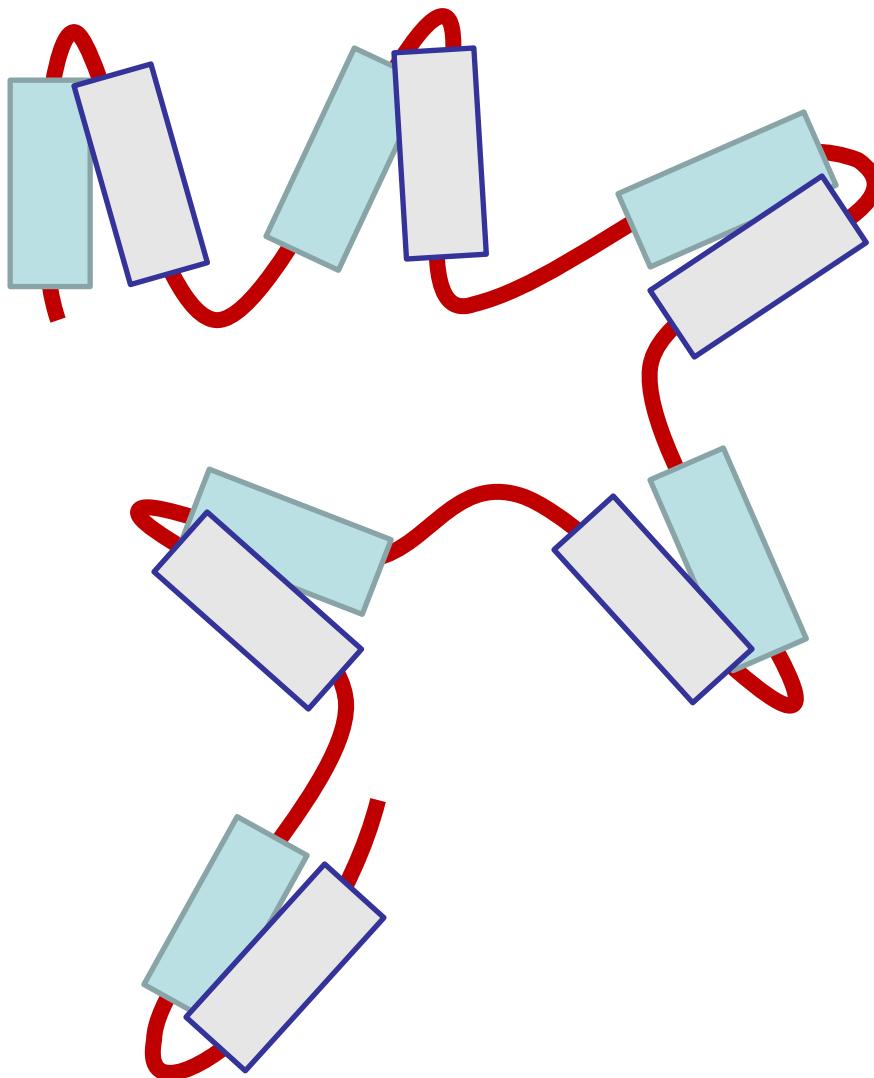
# Tandem repeats fold together



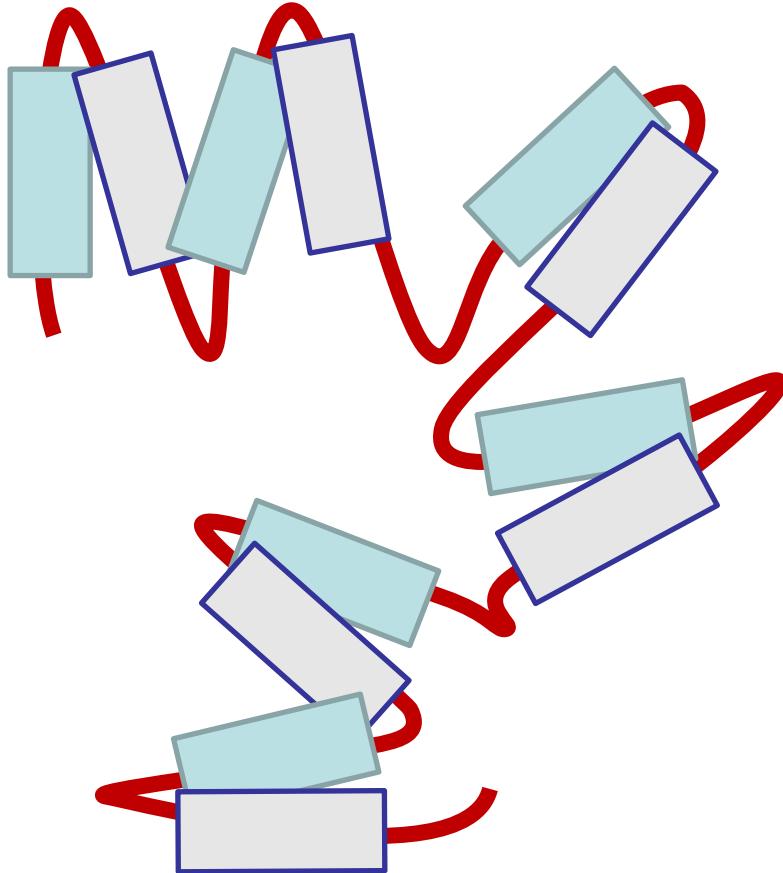
# Tandem repeats fold together



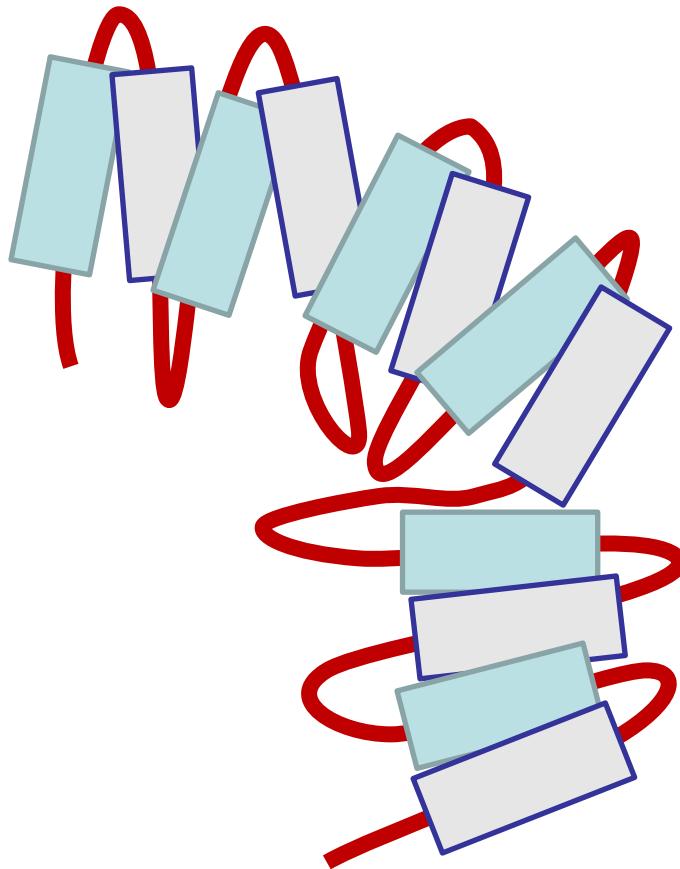
# Tandem repeats fold together



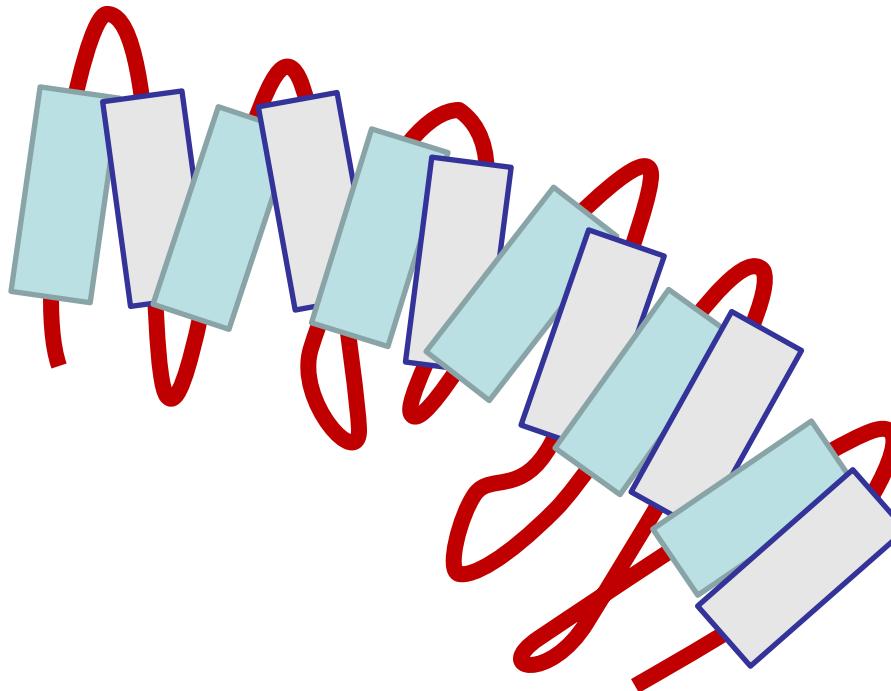
# Tandem repeats fold together



# Tandem repeats fold together



# Tandem repeats fold together



# Definition repeats

Sequence, long, imperfect, tandem

MRAV**VKSP**IM CHE

KSPSVC**SP**LN

MT**SSVCSP**AG INSVSSTTASF

GSFP**VHSP**IT Q

GTPLTC**SP**NV EN

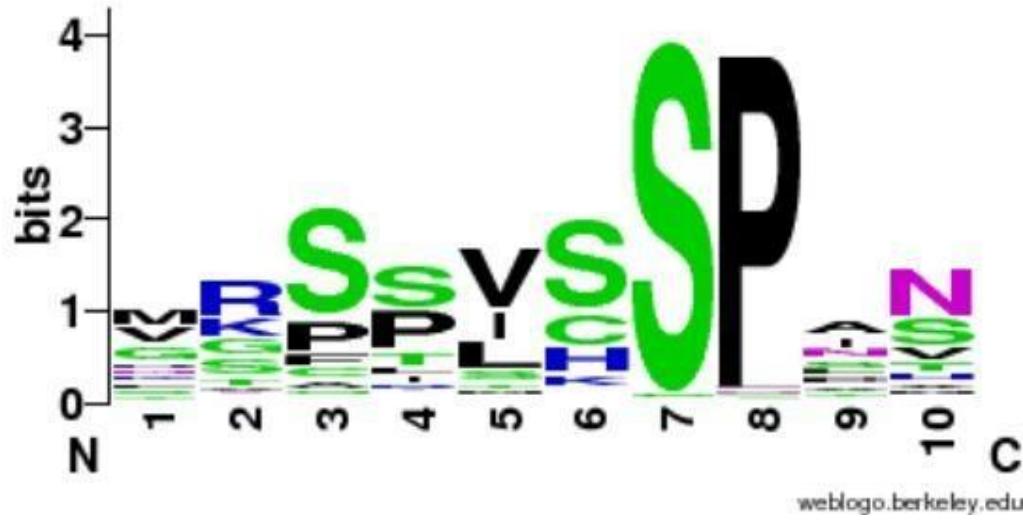
RG**SRSRSHSP**AH ASN

VG**SPLSSP**LS S

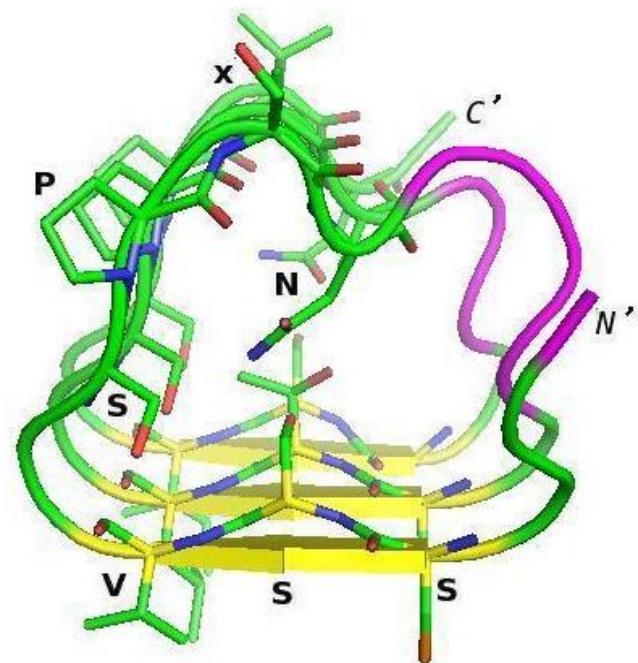
MK**SSISSP**PS HCS

VK**SPVSSP**NN VT

LR**SSVSSP**AN INN



<http://weblogo.berkeley.edu>



(Vlassi et al, 2013)

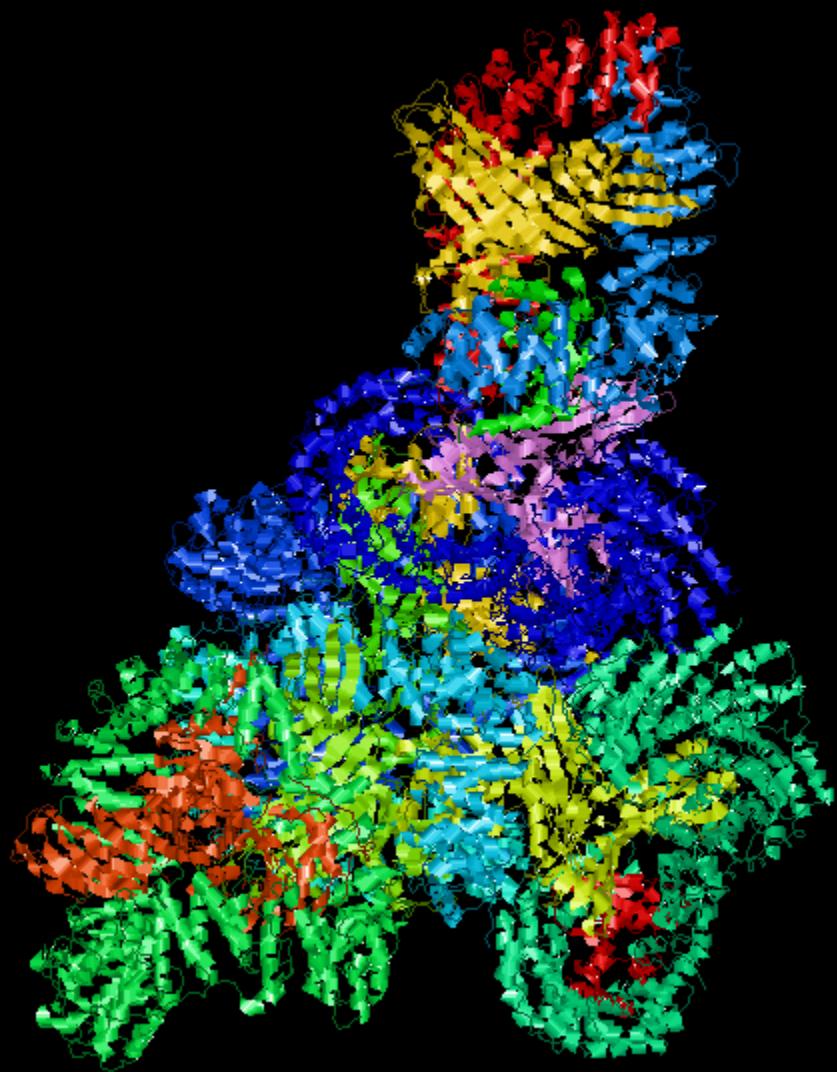
# A subunit PP2A structure



PDB:1b3u

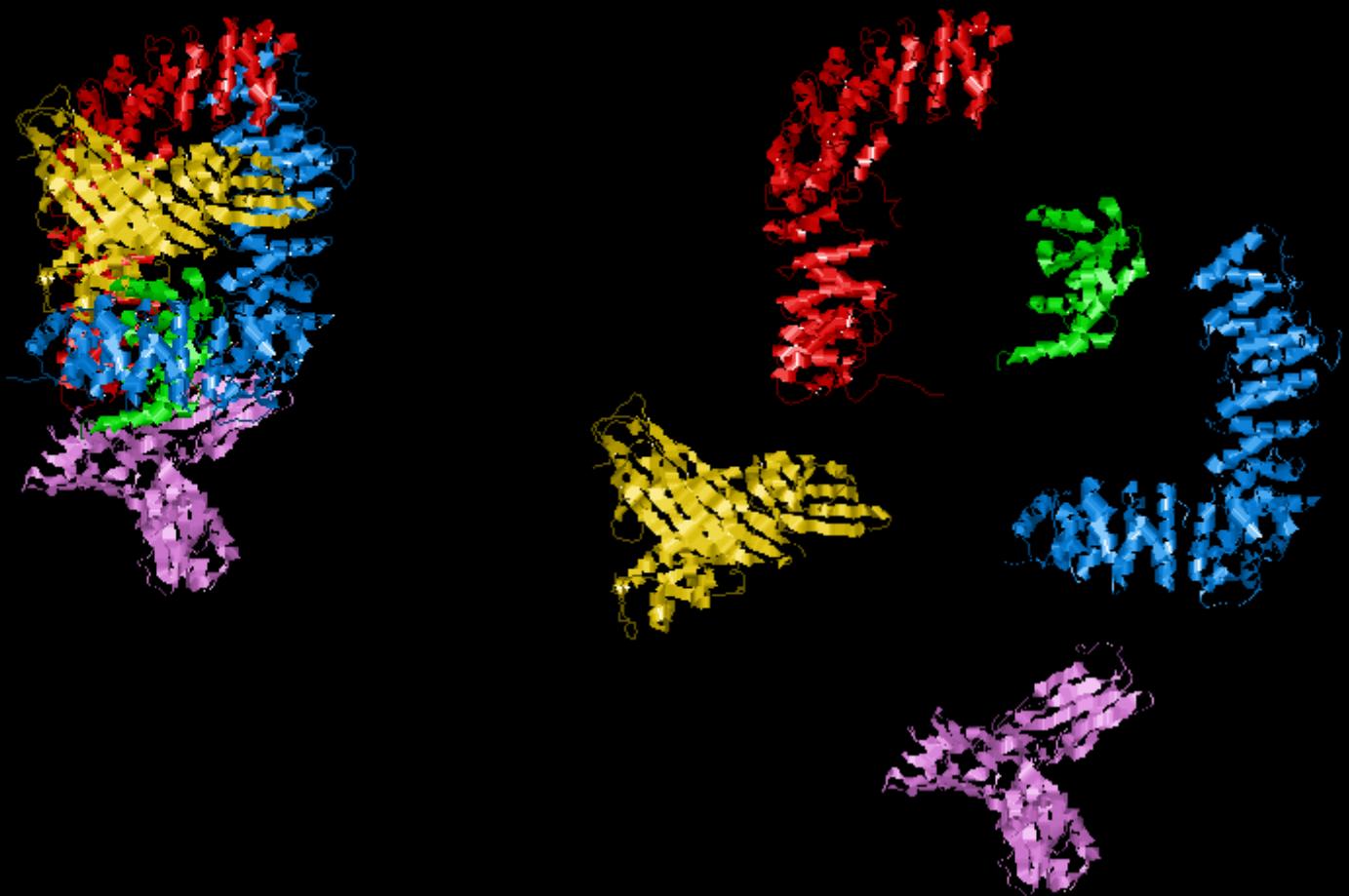
Groves et al. (1999) *Cell*

# Ap1 Clathrin Adaptor Core

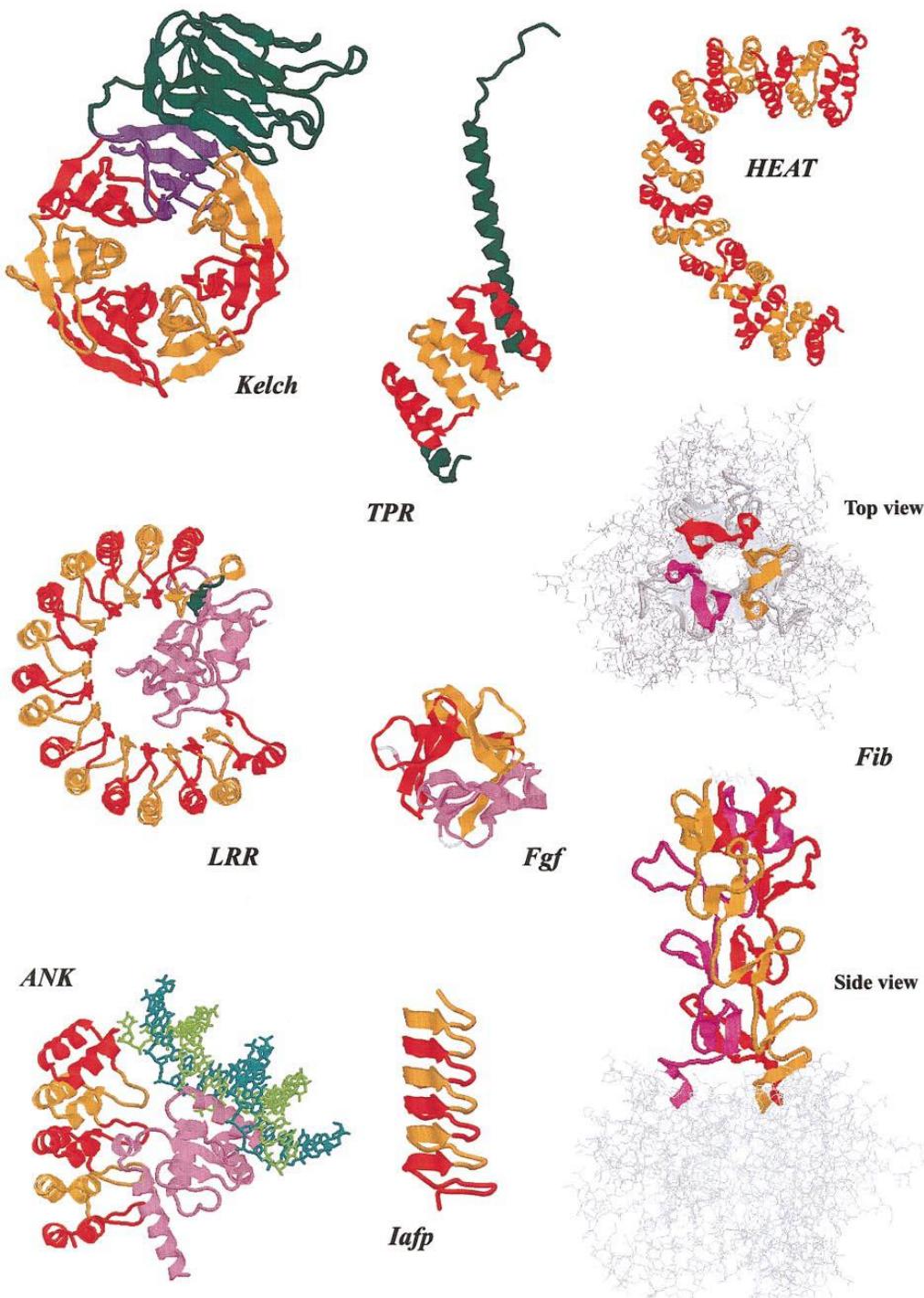


PDB:1w63  
Heldwein et al. (2004) PNAS

# Ap1 Clathrin Adaptor Core



PDB:1w63  
Heldwein et al. (2004) PNAS



Andrade et al. (2001)  
*J Struct Biol*

# **Definition CBRs**

Perfect repeat: QQQQQQQQQQQQQQ

Imperfect: QQQQPQQQQQQQ

Amino acid type: DDDDDDEEEDEED

Compositionally biased regions (CBRs)

High frequency of one or two amino acids in a region.

# Detection CBRs

Sometimes straightforward.  
N-terminal human Huntingtin.  
How many **CBRs** can you find?

```
>sp|P42858|HD_HUMAN Huntington OS=Homo sapiens  
MATLEKLMKAFESLKSFQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQPPPPPPPPQLPQPPPQAQP  
LLPQPQPPPPPPPPPGPAVAEEPLHRPKKELSATKKDRVNHCLTICENIVAQSVRNSPE  
FQKLLGIAMELFLLCSDDAESDVRMVADECLNKVIKALMDSNLPRLQLELYKEIKKNGAP  
RSLRAALWRFAELAHLVRPQKCRPYLVNLLPCLRTSKRPEESVQETLAAAVPKIMASFG  
NFANDNEIKVLLKAFIANLKSSSPTIRRTAAGSAVSICQHSRRTQYFYSWLLNVLLGLLV  
PVEDEHSTLLILGVLLTRYLVPLLQQQVKDTSLKGSGVTRKEMEVSPSAEQLVQVYEL  
TLHHTQHQDHNVVTGALELLQQQLFRTPPPELLQTLTAVGGIGQLTAKEESGGRSRSGSI  
VELIAGGGSSCSPVLSRKQKGKVLLGEEEALEDDSESRSVDSSALTASVKDEISGELAA  
SSGVSTPGSAGHDIITEQPRSQHTLQADSVDLASCDLTSSATDGDEEDILSHSSSQVSAV  
PSDPAMDLNDGTQASSPISDSSQTTEGPDSAVTPSDSSEIVLDGTDNQYLGQLQIGQPQD  
EDEEATGILPDEASEAFRNSSMALQQAHLKNMSHCRQPSDSSVDFVLRDEATEPGDQE  
NKPCRIKGDIGQSTDSSAPLVHCVRLLSASFLLTGGKNVLVPDRDVRVSVKALALSCVG  
AAVALHPESFFSKLYKVPLDTTEYPEEQYVSDILNYIDHGDPQVRGATAILCGTLICSIL
```

# Detection CBRs

Sometimes straightforward.  
N-terminal human Huntingtin.  
How many **CBRs** can you find?

>sp|P42858|HD\_HUMAN Huntingtin OS=Homo sapiens  
MATLEKLMKAFESLKSFQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQPPPPPPPPPPPQLPQPPPQAQP  
LLPQPQPPPPPPPPPPPGPAVAEEPLHRPKKELSATKKDRVNHCLTICENIVAQSVRNSPE  
FQKLLGIAMELFLLCSDDAESDVRMVADECLNKVIKALMDSNLPRLQLELYKEIKNGAP  
RSLRAALWRFAELAHLVRPQKCRPYLVNLLPCLTRTSKRPEESVQETLAAAVPKIMASFG  
NFANDNEIKVLLKAFIANLKSSSPTIRRTAACGSAVSICQHSRRTQYFYSWLLNVLLGLLV  
PVEDEHSTLLILGVLLTRYLVPLLQQQVKDTSLKGSGFGVTRKEMEVSPSAEQLVQVYEL  
TLHHTQHQDHNVVTGALELLQQLFRTPPPELLQTLTAVGGIGQLTAKEESGGRSRSGSI  
VELIAGGGSSCSPVLSRKQKGKVLLGEEEALEDDSESRSVDVSSSALTASVKDEISGELAA  
SSGVSTPGSAGHDIITEQPRSQHTLQADSVDLASCDLTSSATDGDEEDILSHSSSQVSAV  
PSDPAMDNLNDGTQASSPISDSSQTTTEGPDSAVTPSDSSEIVLDGTDNQYLGLQIGQPQD  
EDEEATGILPDEASEAFRNSSMALQQAHLLKNMSHCRQPSDSSVDFVLRDEATEPGDQE  
NKPCRIKGDIGQSTDSSAPLVHCVRLLSASFLLTGGKNVLVPDRDVRVSVKALALSCVG  
AAVALHPESFFSKLYKVPLDTTEYPEEQYVSDILNYIDHGDPQVRGATAILCGTLICSIL

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MATLEKLMKAFESLKSFQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQPPPPPPPPPPPQLPQPPPQAQP  
LLPQPQPPPPPPPPPPPGPAVAEEPLHRPKKELSATKKDRVNHCLTICENIVAQSVRNSPE  
FQKLLGIAMELFLLCSDDAESDVRMVADECLNKVIKALMDSNLPRLQLELYKEIKNGAP  
RSLRAALWRFAELAHLVRPQKCRPYLVNLLPCLTRTSKRPEESVQETLAAAVPKIMASFG  
NFANDNEIKVLLKAFIANLKSSSPTIRRTAACGSAVSICQHSRRTQYFYSWLLNVLLGLLV  
PVEDEHSTLLILGVLLTLRYLVPLLQQQVKDTSLKGSGFGVTRKEMEVSPSAEQLVQVYEL  
TLHHTQHQDHNVVTGALELLQQLFRTPPPELLQTLTAVGGIGQLTAKEESGGRSRSGSI  
VELIAGGGSCSPVLSRKQKGKVLLGEEEALEDDSESRSDVSSALTASVKDEISGELAA  
SSGVSTPGSAGHDIITEQPRSQHTLQADSVDLASCDLTSSATDGDEEDILSHSSSQVSAV  
PSDPAMDNLNDGTQASSPISDSSQTTTEGPDSAVTPSDSSEIVLDGTDNQYLGLQIGQPQD  
EDEEATGILPDEASEAFRNSSMALQQAHLLKNMSHCRQPSDSSVDKFVLRDEATEPGDQE  
NKPCRIKGDIGQSTDDDSAPLVHCVRLLSASFLLTGGKNVLVPDRDVRVSVKALALSCVG  
AAVALHPESFFSKLYKVPLDTTEYPEEQYVSDILNYIDHGDPQVRGATAILCGTLICSIL

# Detection CBRs

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>sp|P42858|HD\_HUMAN Huntingtin OS=Homo sapiens  
MATLEKLMKAFESLKSFQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQPPPPPPPPPPPQLPQPPPQAQP  
LLPQPQPPPPPPPPPGPAVAEEPLHRPKKELSATKKDRVNHCLTICENIVAQS  
VRNSPEFQKLLGIAMELFLLCSDDAESDVRMVADECLNKVIKALMDSNLPRLQLELYKEIKNGAP  
RSLRAALWRFAELAHLVRPQKCRPYLVNLLPCLTRTSKRPEESVQETLAAAVPKIMASFG  
NFANDNEIKVLLKAFIANLKSSSPTIRRTAAGSAVSICQHSRRTQYFYSWLLNVLLGLLV  
PVEDEHSTLLILGVLLTLRYLVPLLQQQVKDTSLKGSGFGVTRKEMEVSPSAEQLVQVYEL  
TLHHTQHQDHNVVTGALELLQQLFRTPPPELLQTLTAVGGIGQLTAKEESGGRSRSGSI  
VELIAGGGSCSPVLSRKQKGKVLLGEEEALEDDSESRSDVSSALTASVKDEISGELAA  
SSGVSTPGSAGHDIITEQPRSQHTLQADSVDLASCDLTSSATDGDEEDILSHSSSQVSAV  
PSDPAMDNLNDGTQASSPISDSSQTTTEGPDSAVTPSDSSEIVLDGTDNQYLGLQIGQPD  
EDEEATGILPDEASEAFRNSSMALQQAHLLKNMSHCRQPSDSSVDKFVLRDEATEPGDQE  
NKPCRIKGDIGQSTDDDSAPLVHCVRLLSASFLLTGGKNVLVPDRDVRVSVKALALSCVG  
AAVALHPESFFSKLYKVPLDTTEYPEEQQVSDILNYIDHGDPQVRGATAILCGTLICSIL

# Detection repeats

Sometimes straightforward.  
N-terminal human Huntingtin.  
How many **repeats** can you find?

```
>sp|P42858|HD_HUMAN Huntington OS=Homo sapiens  
MATLEKLMKAFESLKSFQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQPPPPPPPPQLPQPPPQAQP  
LLPQPQPPPPPPPPPGPAVAEEPLHRPKKELSATKKDRVNHCLTICENIVAQSVRNSPE  
FQKLLGIAMELFLLCSDDAESDVRMVADECLNKVIKALMDSNLPRLQLELYKEIKKNGAP  
RSLRAALWRFAELAHLVRPQKCRPYLVNLLPCLRTSKRPEESVQETLAAAVPKIMASFG  
NFANDNEIKVLLKAFIANLKSSSPTIRRTAACGSAVSICQHSRRTQYFYSWLLNVLLGLLV  
PVEDEHSTLLILGVLLTRYLVPLLQQQVKDTSLKGSGFGVTRKEMEVSPSAEQLVQVYEL  
TLHHTQHQDHNVVTGALELLQQQLFRTPPPELLQTLTAVGGIGQLTAKEESGGRSRSGSI  
VELIAGGGSSCSPVLSRKQKGKVLLGEEEALEDDSESRSVDSSALTASVKDEISGELAA  
SSGVSTPGSAGHDIITEQPRSQHTLQADSVDLASCDLTSSATDGDEEDILSHSSSQVSAV  
PSDPAMDLNDGTQASSPISDSSQTTEGPDSAVTPSDSSEIVLDGTDNQYLGQLQIGQPQD  
EDEEATGILPDEASEAFRNSSMALQQAHLKNMSHCRQPSDSSVDFVLRDEATEPGDQE  
NKPCRIKGDIGQSTDSSAPLVHCVRLLSASFLLTGGKNVLVPDRDVRVSVKALALSCVG  
AAVALHPESFFSKLYKVPLDTTEYPEEQYVSDILNYIDHGDPQVRGATAILCGTLICSIL
```

# Detection repeats

Often NOT straightforward.

N-terminal human Huntingtin.

How many **repeats** can you find?

```
>sp|P42858|HD_HUMAN Huntington OS=Homo sapiens
MATLEKLMKAFESLKSFQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQQPPPPPPPPQLPQPPPQAQP
LLPQPQPPPPPPPPPGPAVAEEPLHRPKKELSATKKDRVNHCLTICENIVAQSVRNSPE
FQKLLGIAMELFLLCSDDAESDVRMVADECLNKVIKALMDSNLPRLQLELYKEIKNGAP
RSLRAALWRFAELAHLVRPQKCRPYLVNLLPCLRTSKRPEESVQETLAAAVPKIMASFG
NFANDNEIKVLLKAFIANLKSSPTIRRTAAGSAVSICQHSRRTQYFYSWLLNVLLGLLV
PVEDEHSTLLILGVLLTRYLVPLLQQQVKDTSLKGSGFGVTRKEMEVSPPSAEQLVQVYEL
TLHHTQHQDHNVVTGALELLQQLFRTPPPELLQTLTAVGGIGQLTAKEESGGRSRSGSI
VELIAGGGSSCSPVLSRKQKGKVLLGEEEALEDDSESRSVDSSALTASVKDEISGELAA
SSGVSTPGSAGHDIITEQPRSQHTLQADSVDLASCDLTSSATDGDEEDILSHSSSQVSAV
PSDPAMDLNDGTQASSPISDSSQTTEGPDSAVTPSDSSEIVLDGTDNQYLGLQIGQPQD
EDEEATGILPDEASEAFRNSSMALQQAHLKNMSHCRQPSDSSVDFVLRDEATEPGDQE
NKPCRIKGDIGQSTDSSAPLVHCVRLLSASFLLTGGKNVLVPDRDVRVSVKALALSCVG
AAVALHPESFFSKLYKVPLDTTEYPEEQYVSDILNYIDHGDPQVRGATAILCGTLICSIL
```

# Detection repeats

Often NOT straightforward.

N-terminal human Huntingtin.

How many **repeats** can you find?

EFQKLLGIAMELFLLCSDDAESDVRMVADECLNKVIKA  
CRPYLVNLLPCLRTSKRP-EESVQETLAAAVPKIMAS  
NDNEIKVLLKAFIANLKSSSPTIRRTAAGSAVSICQHS  
TQYFYSWLLNVLLGLLVPVEDEHSTLLILGVLLTLRYL  
PSAEQLVQVYELTLHHTQHQDHNVVTGALELLQQLFRT

# Detection repeats

Often NOT straightforward.

N-terminal human Huntingtin.

How many **repeats** can you find?

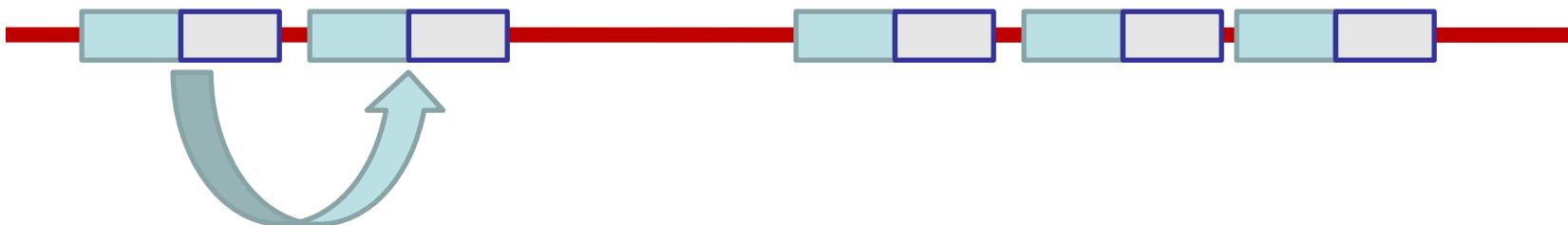
EFQKLLGIAMELFLLCSDDAESDVRMVADECLNKVIKA  
CRPYLVNLLPCLTRTSKRP-EESVQETLAAAVPKIMAS  
NDNEIKVLLKAFIANLKSSSPTIRRTAAGSAVSICQHS  
TQYFYSWLLNVLLGLLVPVEDEHSTLLILGVLLTLRYL  
PSAEQLVQVYELTLHHTQHQDHNVVVTGALELLQQLFRT

: :  
EFQKLLGIAMELFLLCSDDAESDVRMVADECLNKVIKA  
CRPYLVNLLPCLTRTSKRP-EESVQETLAAAVPKIMAS  
NDNEIKVLLKAFIANLKSSSPTIRRTAAGSAVSICQHS  
TQYFYSWLLNVLLGLLVPVEDEHSTLLILGVLLTLRYL  
PSAEQLVQVYELTLHHTQHQDHNVVVTGALELLQQLFRT

# Detection of repeats

## Dotplots

**Comparing a sequence against itself**



# Detection of repeats

## Dotplots

TLRSSVSSSPANINNS  
NMTSSVCSPANISV

# Detection of repeats

## Dotplots

TLRSSVSSSPANINNS  
|  
NMTSSVCSPANISV

1 match

# Detection of repeats

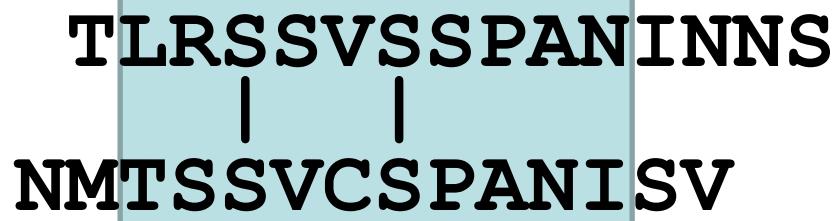
## Dotplots

TLRSSVSSPANINNS  
| | | | | | | |  
NMTSSVCSISV

8 matches

# Detection of repeats

## Dotplots



TLRSSVSSSPANINNS  
| |  
NMTSSVCSPANISV

2 matches

# Detection of repeats

## Dotplots

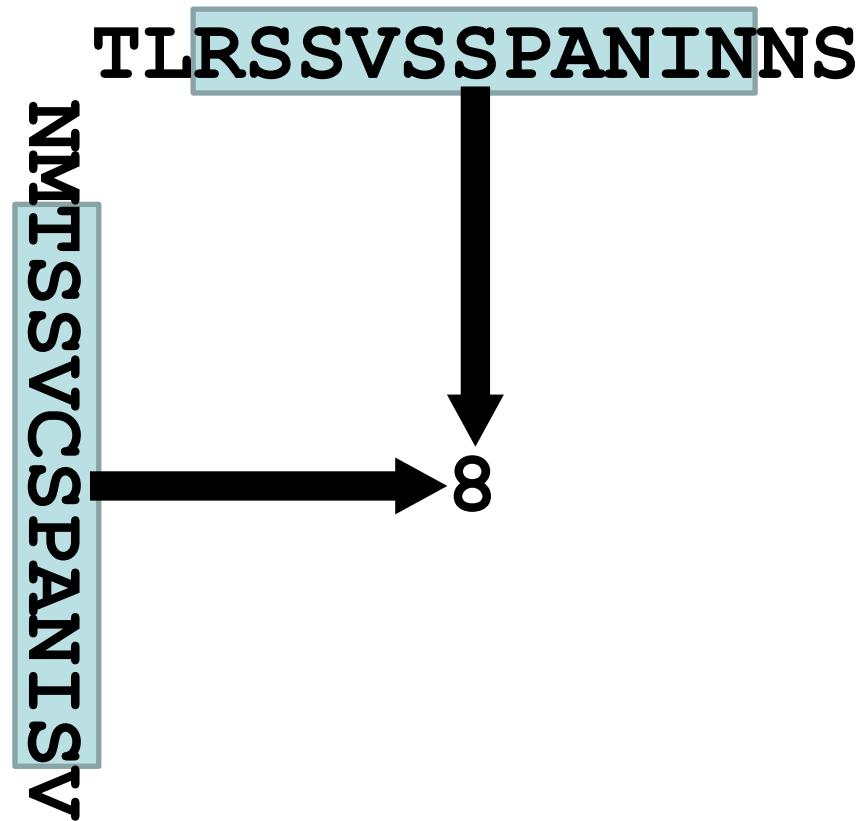


TLRSSVSSSPANINNS  
|  
NMTSSVCSPANISV

1 match

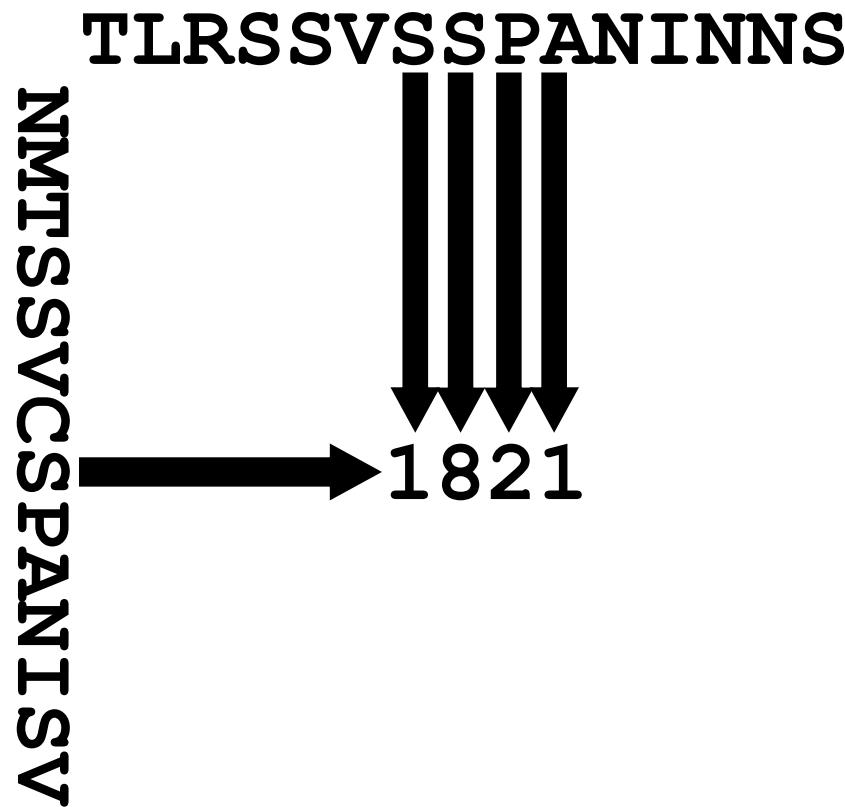
# Detection of repeats

## Dotplots



# Detection of repeats

## Dotplots



SEQUENCE 1

SEQUENCE 2

Window size

15

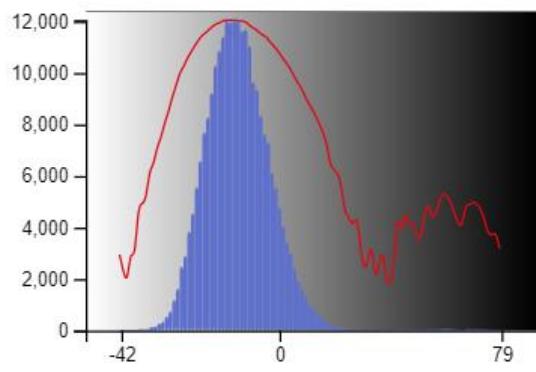
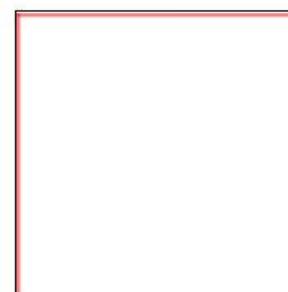
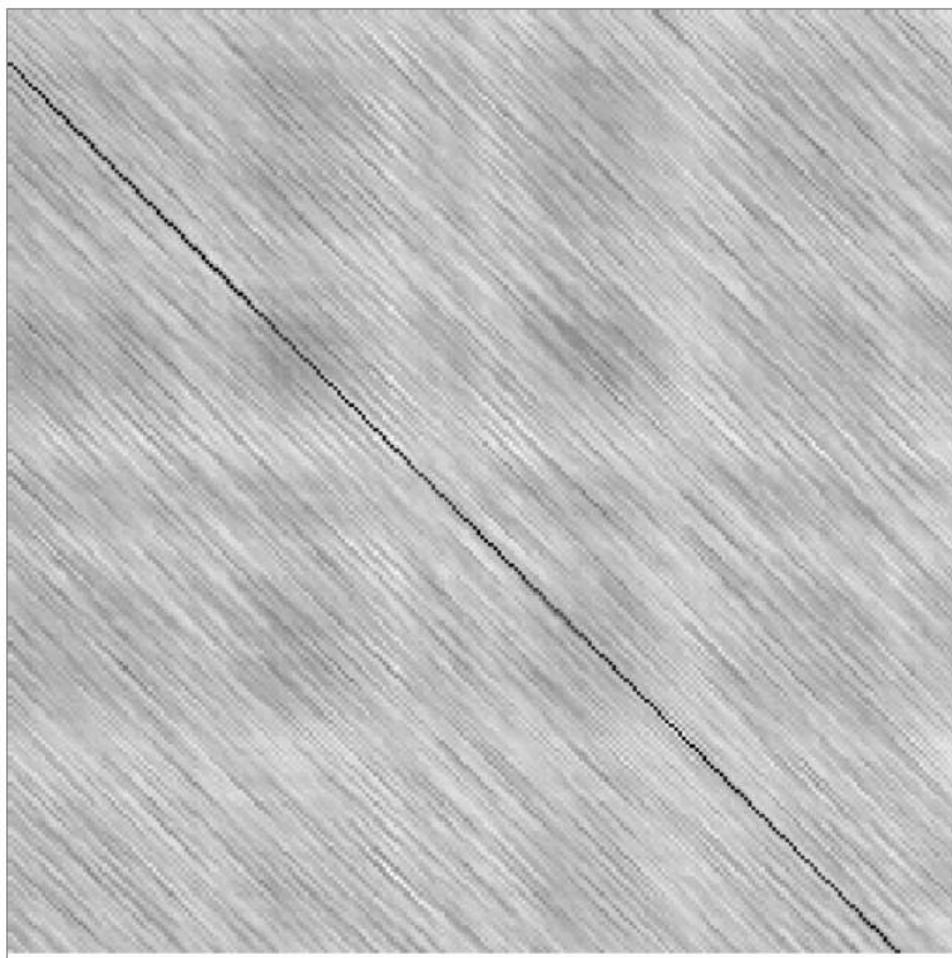
Scoring matrix

BLOSUM 62



Sequence 1

Sequence 2



[246 x 244] # Score at (1:M, 1:R) : -8

Seq1:1



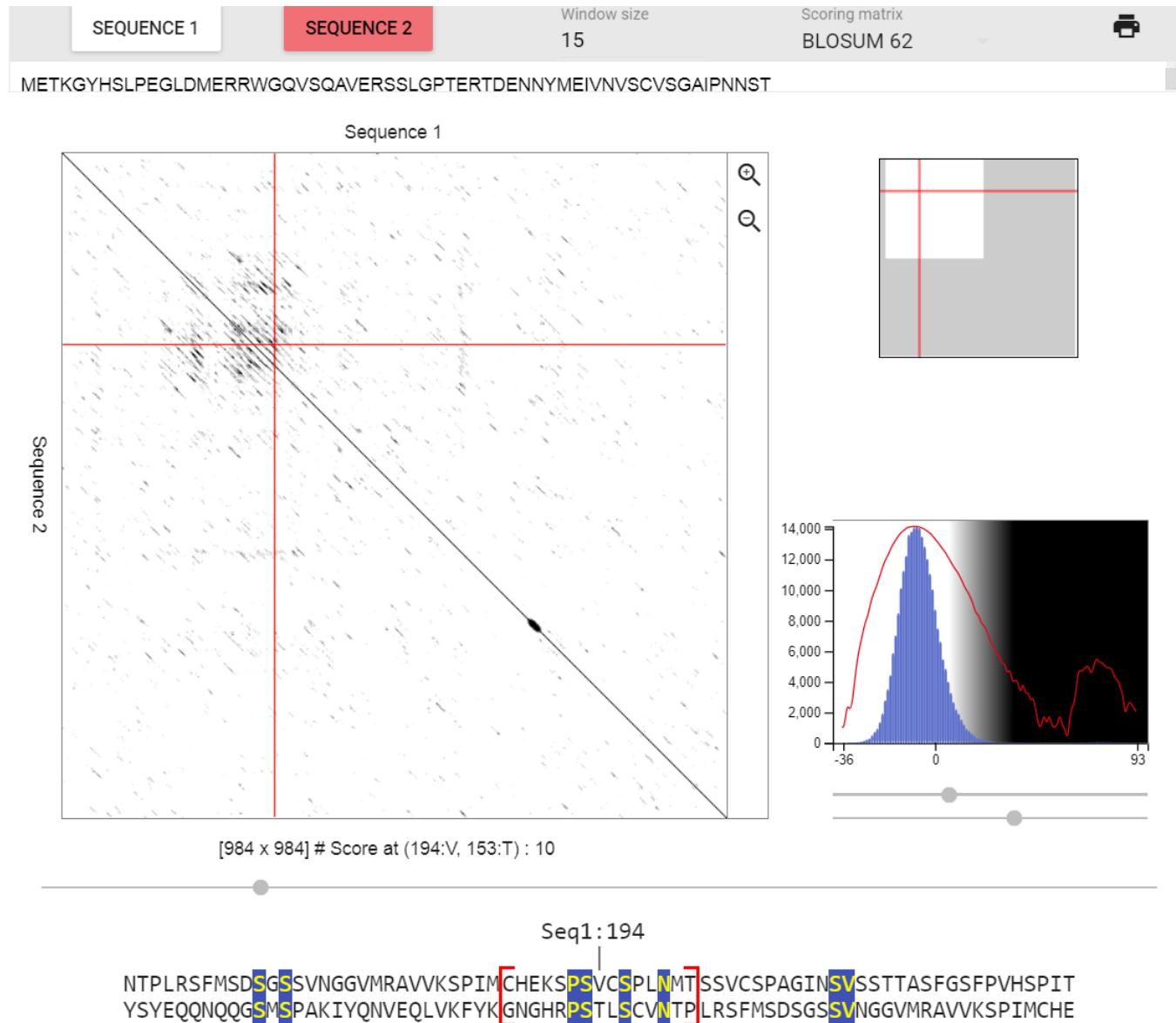
MTMDKSELVQKAKLAEQAERYDDM**A**AAMKAVTEQGHE  
RKPLQTPTPIRRLWTMDTSELVQ**K**AKLAEQAERYDDM



# **Exercise 1. Using Dotlet with the human mineralocorticoid receptor (MR)**

- Go to the Dotlet web page:  
<http://dotlet.vital-it.ch>
- Click on the input button and paste the sequence of the human mineralocorticoid receptor (UniProt id P08235)
- Try to find combinations of parameters that show patterns in the dot plot (Hint: You can adjust this finely using the arrows)
- Find repetitions clicking in the diagonal patterns

# Exercise 1. Using Dotlet with the human mineralocorticoid receptor (MR)



# Detection of repeats

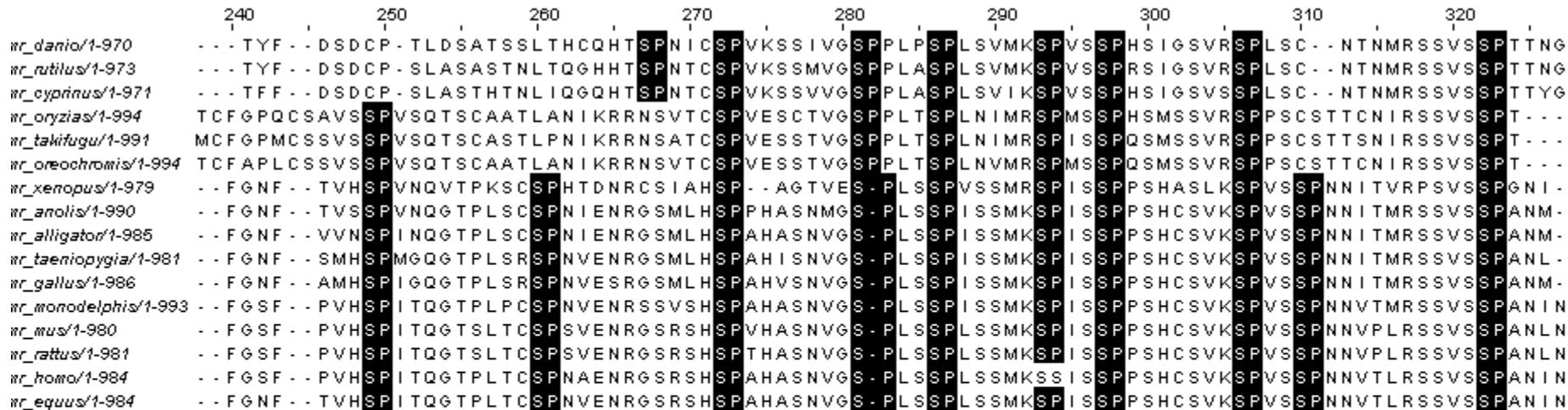
Using a multiple sequence alignment helps.  
Conserved repeated patterns

	240	250	260	270	280	290	300	310	320		
<i>mr_danio/1-970</i>	---	TYF	--DSDCP	-TLD SATSSLTHCQHTSPN	ICSPVKSSIVGSPPLPSPLSVMKSPVSSPHSI	GSVRSPLSC	--NTNM	RSSVSSPTTNG			
<i>mr_rutilus/1-973</i>	---	TYF	--DSDCP	-SLASASTNL	TQGHHTSPNTCS PVKSSMVGSPPLASPLSVMKSPVSSPR	IIGSVRSPLSC	--NTNM	RSSVSSPTTNG			
<i>mr_cyprinus/1-971</i>	---	TFF	--DSDCP	-SLA STHTNL	IQGQHTSPNTCS PVKSSVVGSPPLASPLS	VIKSPVSSPHSI	IGSVSSPLSC	--NTNM	RSSVSSPTTYG		
<i>mr_orzias/1-994</i>	TCFGPQCSAVSSPV	SQTSCAATLANI	KRRNSVTCSPV	ESETVGSPPLTSPLN	IMRSPMSSPHSMSSVRSP	SCSTTCNI	RSSVSSPT	--			
<i>mr_takifugu/1-991</i>	MCFGP	MCSSVSSPV	SQTSCA	TLPNIKRRNSATCSPV	ESSTVGSPPLTSPLN	IMRSP	PISSPQSMSSVRSP	SCSTTSNI	RSSVSSPT	--	
<i>mr_oreochromis/1-994</i>	TCFA	PCLSSVSSPV	SQTSCA	ATLANI	KRRNSVTCSPV	ESSTVGSPPLTSPLN	VMRSPMSSPQSMSSVRSP	SCSTTCNI	RSSVSSPT	--	
<i>mr_xenopus/1-979</i>	--FGNF	--TVHSPVNQVTPK	CSPHTDNRC	IAHSP	--AGTVES	-PLSSPVSSMRSP	PISSPPSHASL	KSPVSSPNNIT	TVRPSVSSPGN	I-	
<i>mr_anolis/1-990</i>	--FGNF	--TVSSPVNQGTPL	SCSPNIE	NRGSM	LHSPPHASNMGS	-PLSSPISSMKSP	PISSPPSHCSVK	SPVSSPNNIT	TMRSSVSSPANM	-	
<i>mr_alligator/1-985</i>	--FGNF	--VVNSPINQGTPL	SCSPNIE	NRGSM	LSPA HASNVGS	-PLSSPISSMKSP	PISSPPSHCSVK	SPVSSPNNIT	TMRSSVSSPANM	-	
<i>mr_taeniopygia/1-981</i>	--FGNF	--SMHSPMGQGTPL	SRSPNVENRG	SM	LHSPAHI	ISNVGS	-PLSSPISSMKSP	PISSPPSHCSVK	SPVSSPNNIT	TMRSSVSSPANL	-
<i>mr_gallus/1-986</i>	--FGNF	--AMHSP	IQGTPL	SRSPNVE	RGSM	LHSPA HVSNVGS	-PLSSPISSMKSP	PISSPPSHCSVK	SPVSSPNNIT	TMRSSVSSPANM	-
<i>mr_monodelphis/1-993</i>	--FGSF	--PVHSP	ITQGTPL	PCSPNVENR	SSVH	SPA HASNVGS	-PLSSPISSMKSP	PISSPPSHCSVK	SPVSSPNNVT	MRRSSVSSPANIN	-
<i>mr_mus/1-980</i>	--FGSF	--PVHSP	ITQGTSL	TCSPS	VENRG	SRSHSPV	HASNVGS	-PLSSPLSSMKSP	PISSPPSHCSVK	SPVSSPNNVPLRSSVSSPANLN	-
<i>mr_rattus/1-981</i>	--FGSF	--PVHSP	ITQGTSL	TCSPS	VENRG	SRSHSP	THASNVGS	-PLSSPLSSMKSP	PISSPPSHCSVK	SPVSSPNNVPLRSSVSSPANLN	-
<i>mr_homo/1-984</i>	--FGSF	--PVHSP	ITQGTPL	TCSPNAE	NRGSR	SHSPA HASNVGS	-PLSSPLSSMKSS	PISSPPSHCSVK	SPVSSPNNVTLRSSVSSPANIN	-	
<i>mr_equus/1-984</i>	--FGNF	--TVHSP	ITQGTPL	TCSPN	VENRG	SRSHSPA	HASNVGS	-PLSSPLSSMKSP	PISSPPSHCSVK	SPVSSPNNVTLRSSVSSPANIN	-

**JalView** with Regular Expression searches

# Detection of repeats

Using a multiple sequence alignment helps  
Conserved repeated patterns



**JalView** with Regular Expression searches

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**JalView** with Regular Expression searches

- Regular Expressions:

[L|S]P.A

matches L or S, followed by P, followed by anything, followed by A

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**[LS]P.A**

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Which one is not matched?

• **LPTA, SPAA, LPAA, LPAP, SPLA**

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**JalView** with Regular Expression searches

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## Exercise 2. Using JalView with a MSA of the MR with orthologs

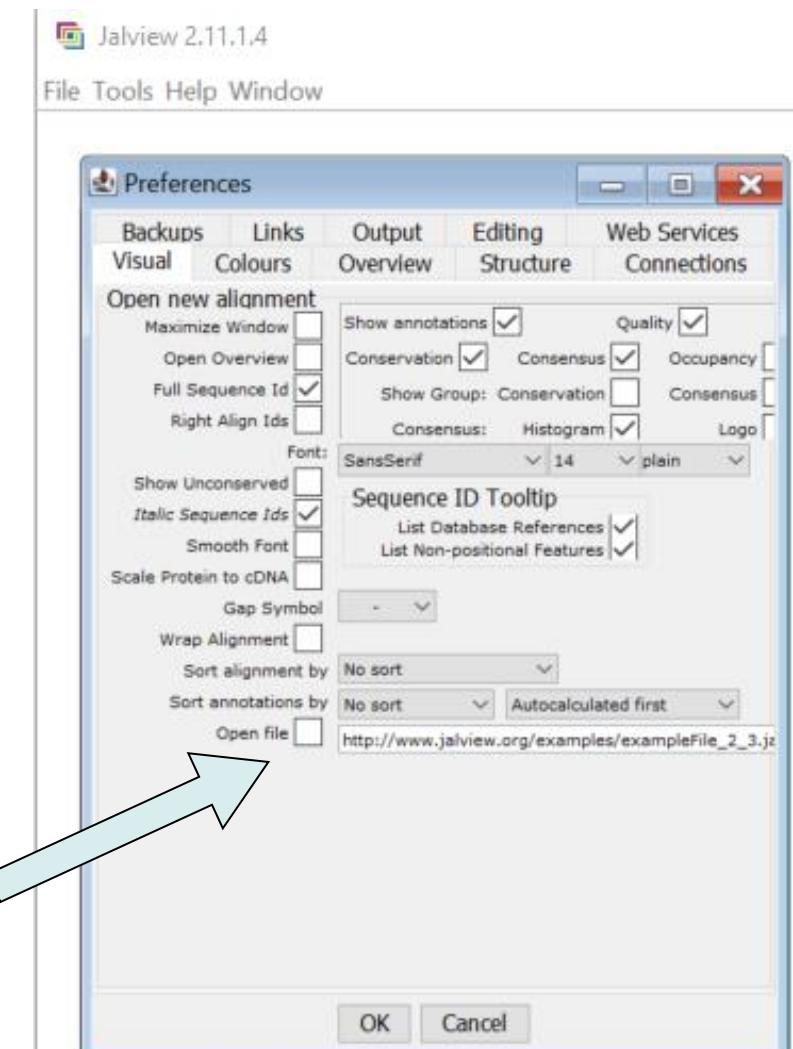
- Load the multiple sequence alignment of the MR in JalView: MR1\_fasta.txt (from URL: [https://cbdm.uni-mainz.de/files/2015/02/MR1\\_fasta.txt](https://cbdm.uni-mainz.de/files/2015/02/MR1_fasta.txt))
- Use the "Select > find" (of Ctrl+F) option with a regular expression and mark all matches (**click the “Find all” option!**)
- Try to find the expression that matches more repeats. How many repeats do you see? How long are they? Would you correct the alignment based on these findings?

# First time running JalView?

Remove annoying start:

Go to  
Tools > Preferences > Visual

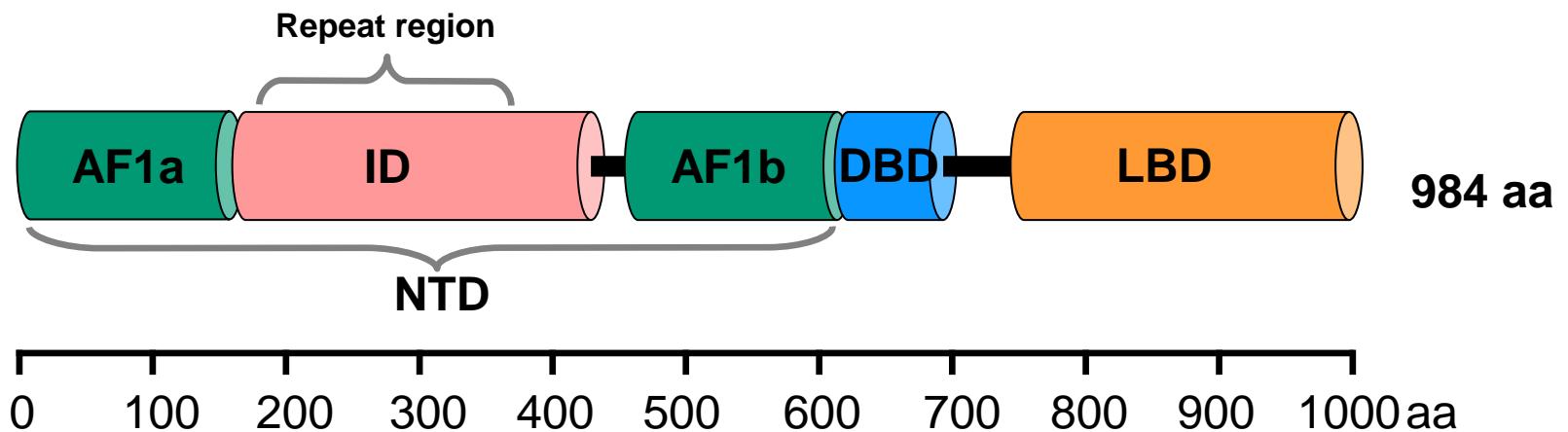
Un-tick option “Open file”



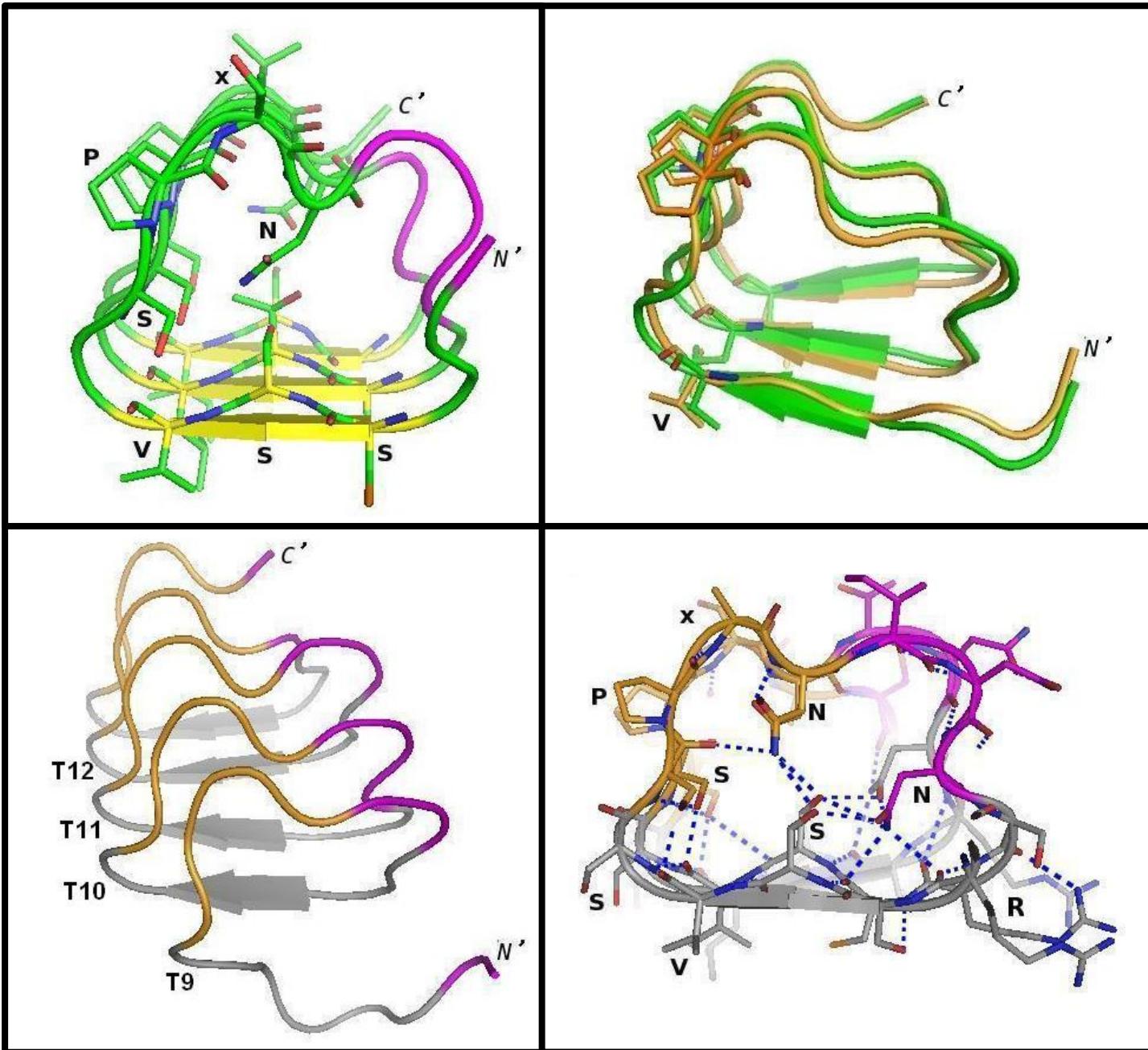
| 158508572 | *Hsapiens*  
| 31324675 | *Cjacchus*  
| 126331313 | *Mdomestica*  
| 7397829 | *Clupus*  
| 301763180 | *Amelanoleuca*  
| 6981208 | *Rnorvegicus*  
| 144227212 | *Mmusculus*  
| 148224443 | *Xlaevis*  
| 327274009 | *Acarolinensis*  
| 115529242 | *Tguttata*  
| 225936142 | *Ggallus*  
| 239923135 | *Rrutilus*  
| 154240734 | *Drerio*

|158508572|Hsapiens  
|31324675|Cjacchus  
|126331313|Mdomestica  
|73978292|Clupus  
|301763180|Amelanoleuca  
|6981208|Rnorvegicus  
|144227212|Mmusculus  
|148224443|Xlaevis  
|327274009|Acarolinensis  
|115529242|Tguttata  
|225936142|Ggallus  
|239923135|Rrutilus  
|154240734|Drerio

# Mineralocorticoid receptor



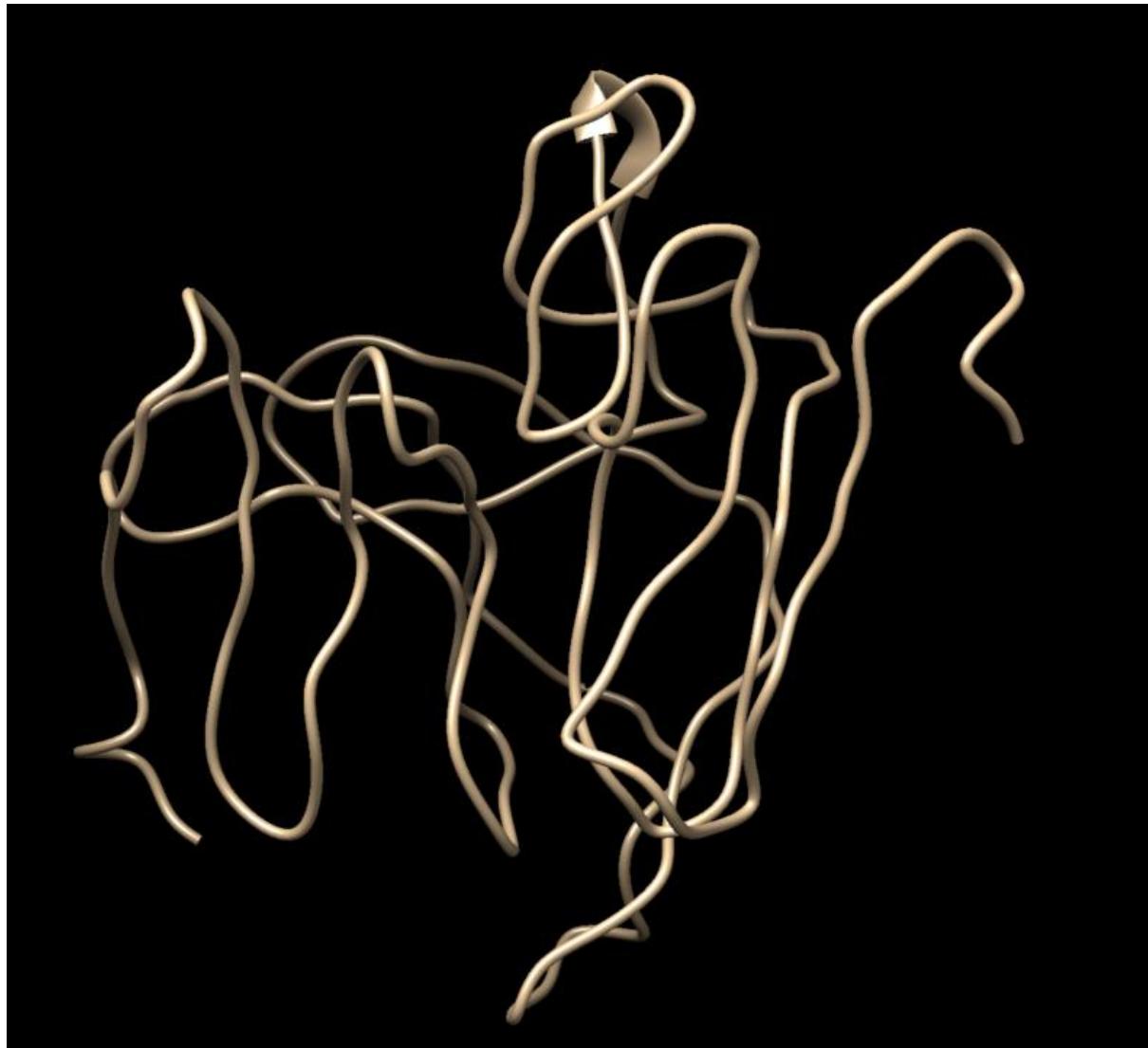
Vlassi *et al.* (2013) BMC Struct. Biol.



# Modelling with AlphaFold...



# Modelling with CI-Tasser...



# Modelling with trRosetta...



# **Composition bias**

# Definition

14% proteins contains repeats (Marcotte et al, 1999)

1: Single amino acid repeats.

2: Longer imperfect tandem repeats.  
Assemble in structure.

# **Definition CBRs**

Perfect repeat: QQQQQQQQQQQQ

Imperfect: QQQQPQQQQQQ

Amino acid type: DDDDDDEEEDEED

Compositionally biased regions (CBRs)

High frequency of one or two amino acids in a region.

Particular case of low complexity region

# Function CBRs

Conservation => Function

Length, amino acid type not necessarily conserved

Frequency: 1 in 3 proteins contains a compositionally biased region (Wootton, 1994), ~11% conserved (Sim and Creamer, 2004)

# Function CBRs

Conservation => Function

Length, amino acid type not necessarily conserved

Functions:

Passive: linkers

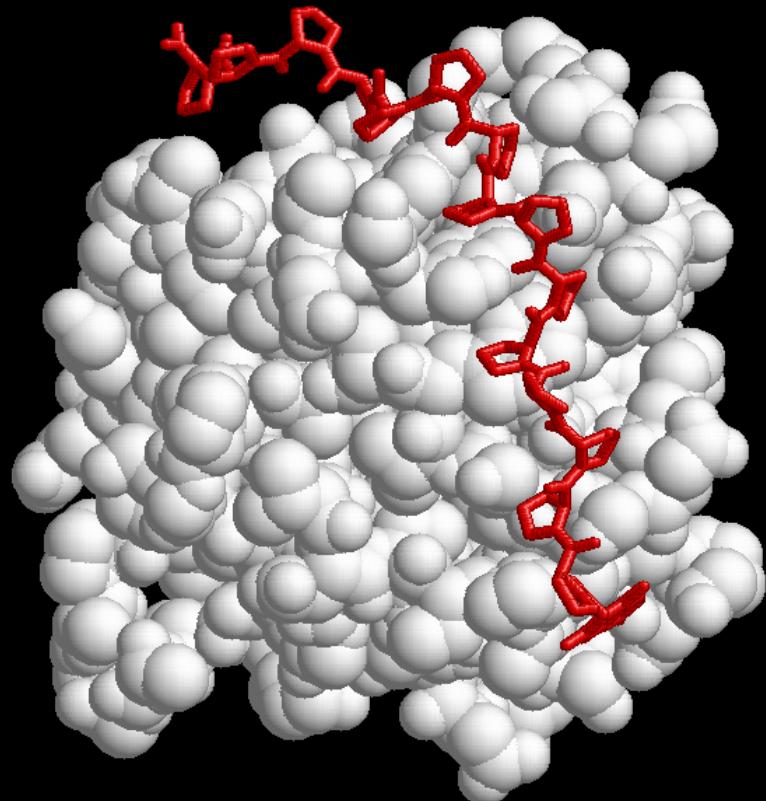
Active: binding, mediate protein interaction, structural integrity

(Sim and Creamer, 2004)

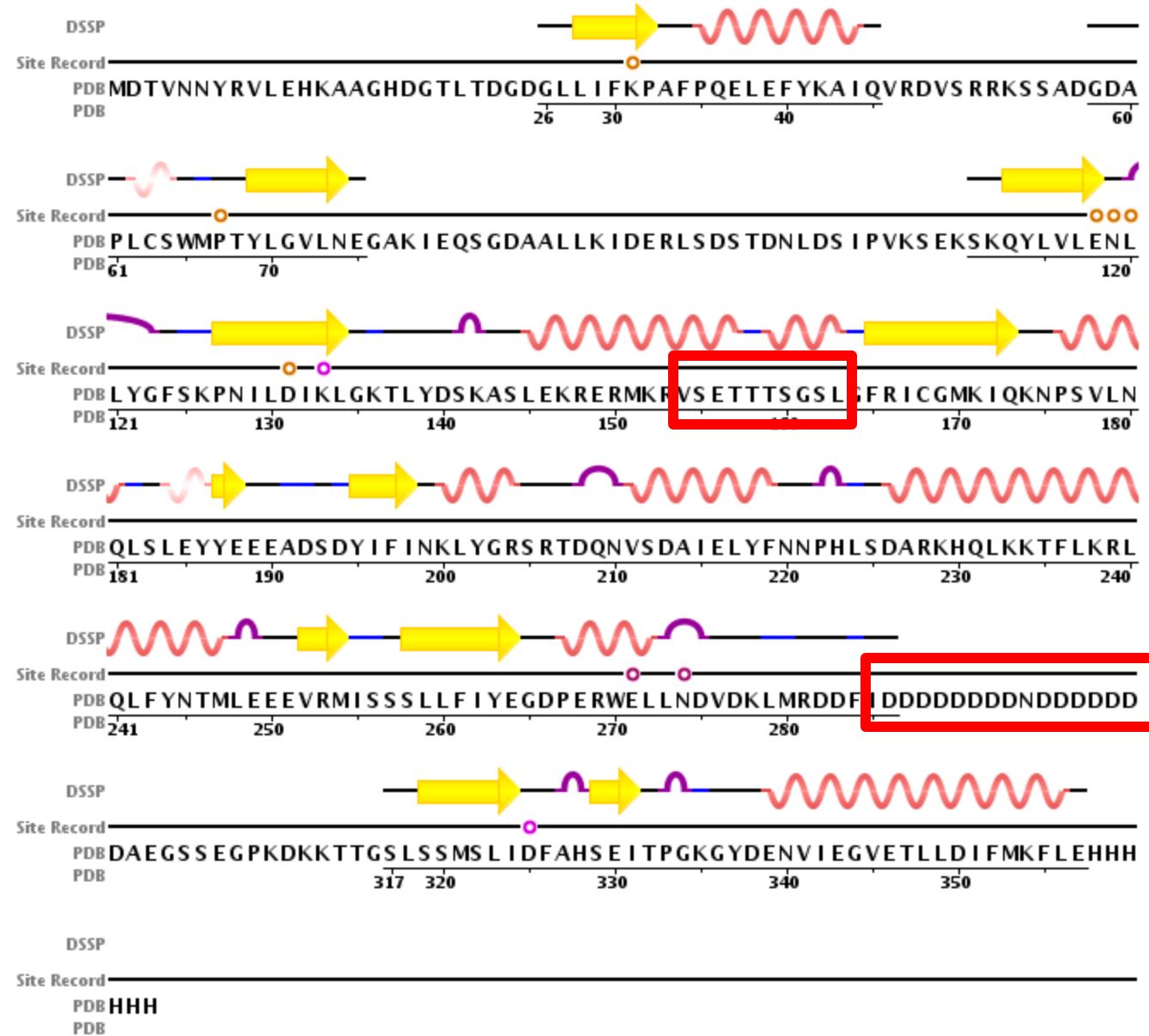
# **Structure of CBRs**

Often variable or flexible: do not easily  
crystallize

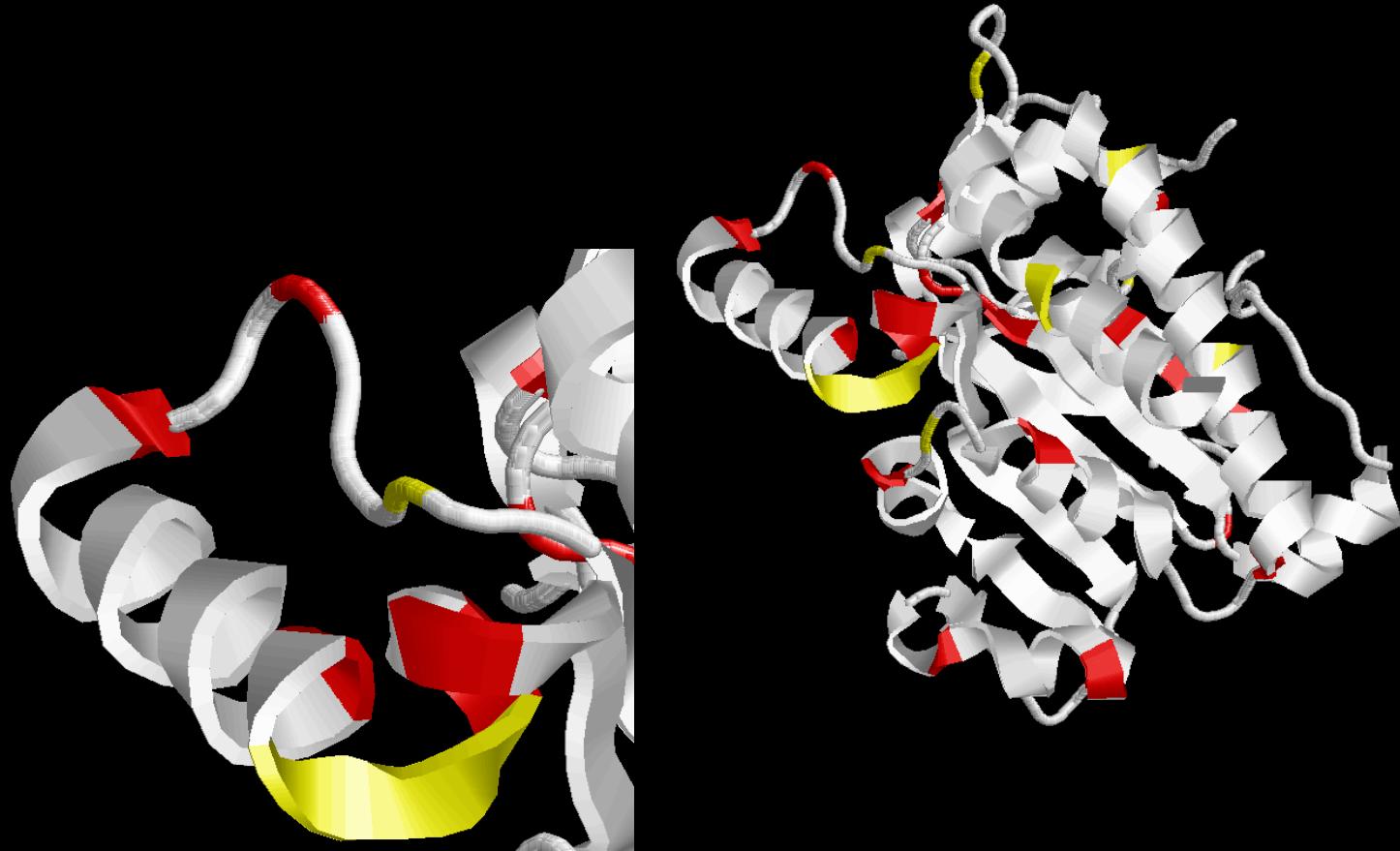
# 1CJF: profilin bound to polyP



# 2IF8: Inositol Phosphate Multikinase Ipk2

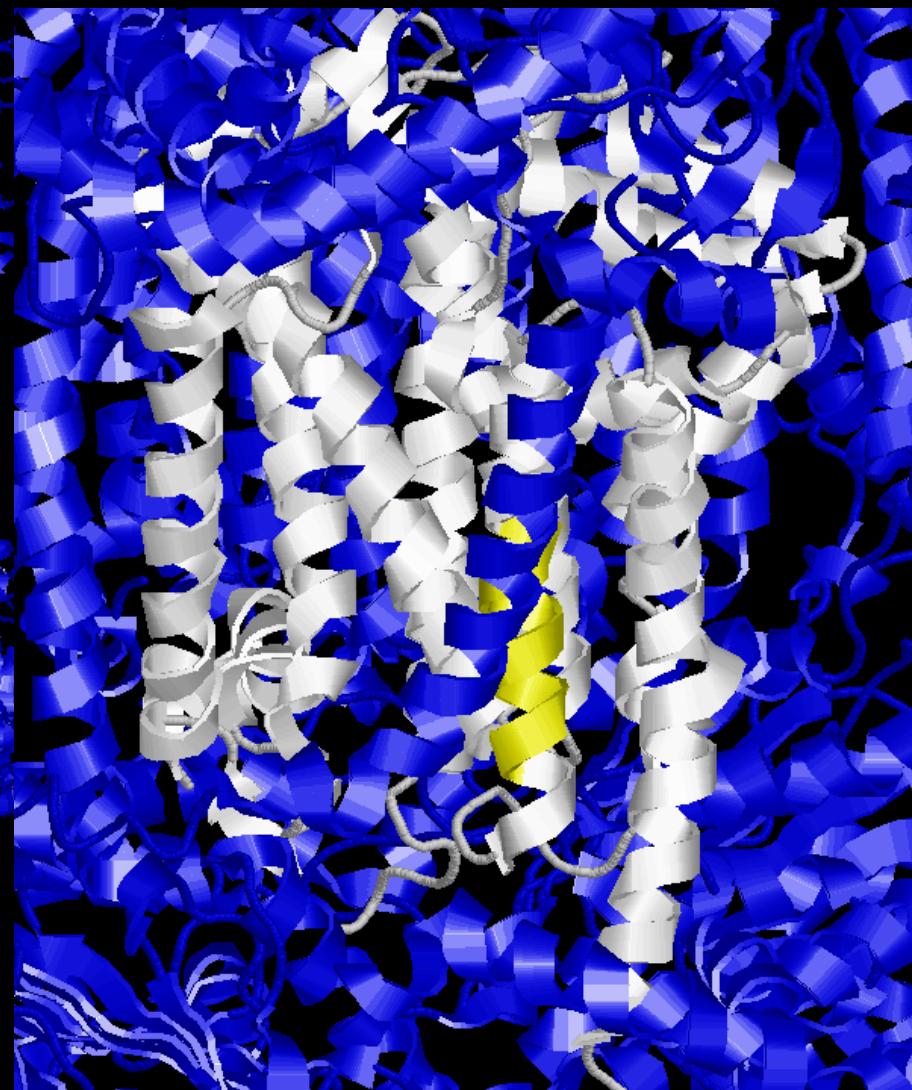
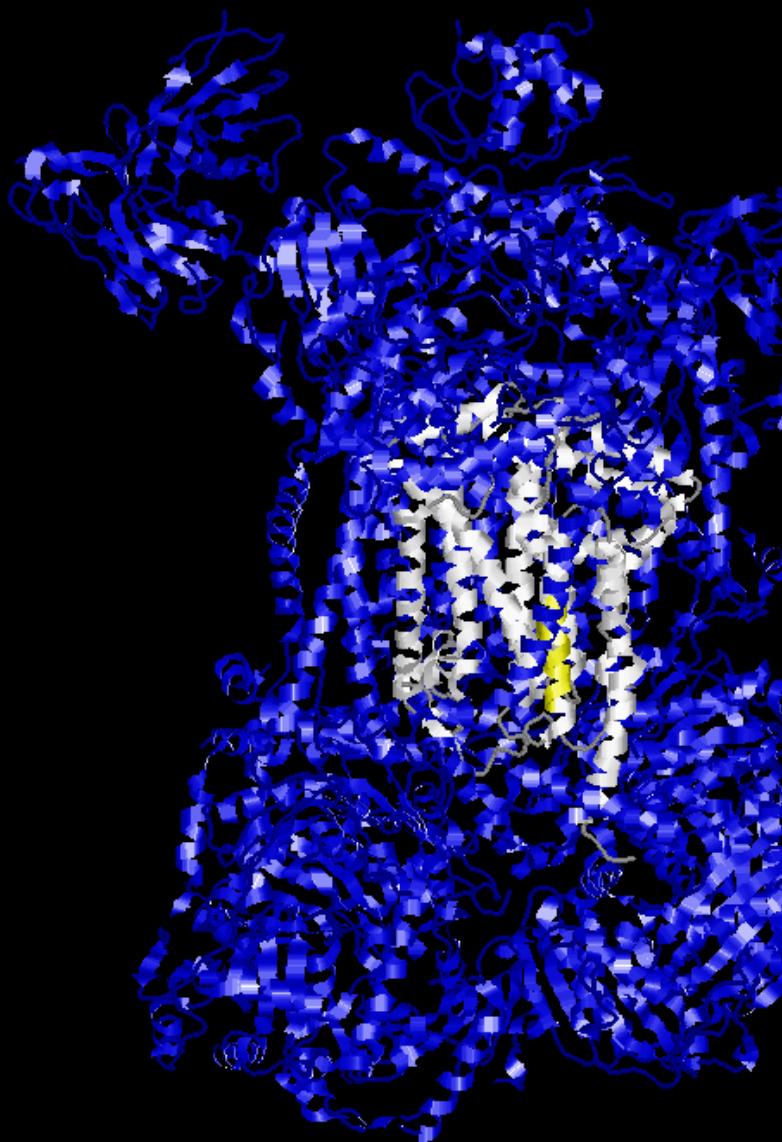


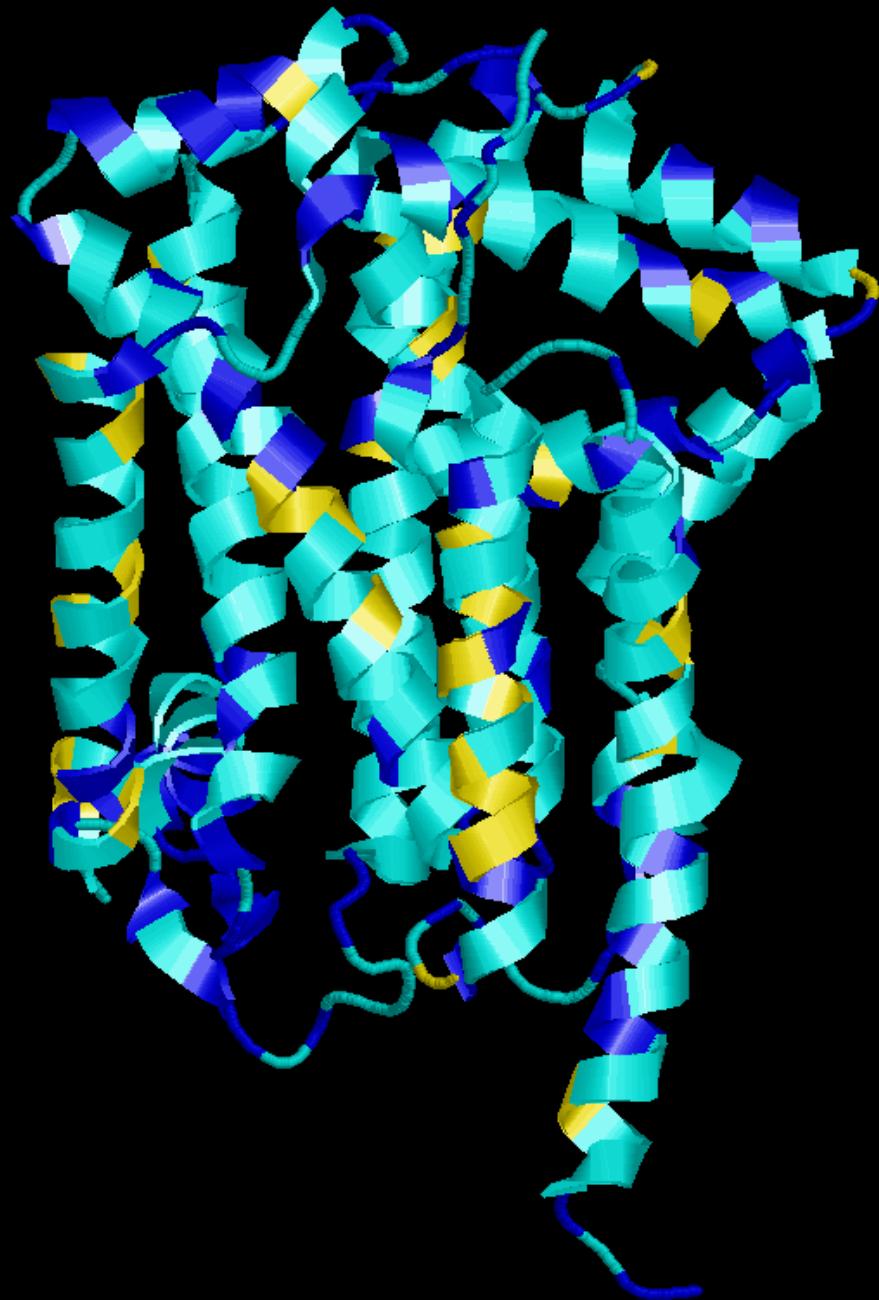
# 2IF8: Inositol Phosphate Multikinase Ipk2



RV**SETTTSGSL**

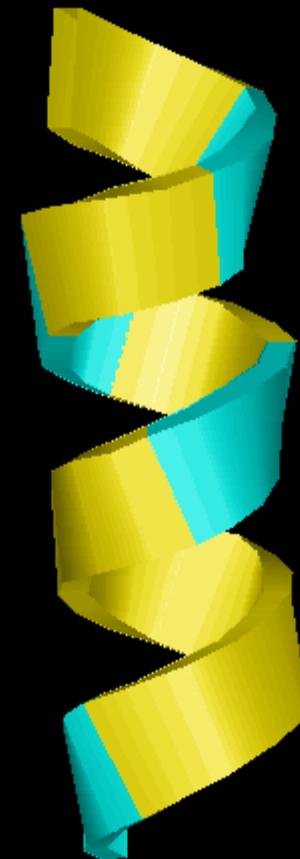
2CX5: mitochondrial  
cytochrome c  
B subunit N-terminal





2CX5: mitochondrial  
cytochrome c  
B subunit N-terminal

EEEEEVNE



# Amino acid repeats

Distribution is not random:

Eukaryota:

Most common: poly-Q, poly-N, poly-A, poly-S, poly-G

Prokaryota:

Most common: poly-S, poly-G, poly-A, poly-P

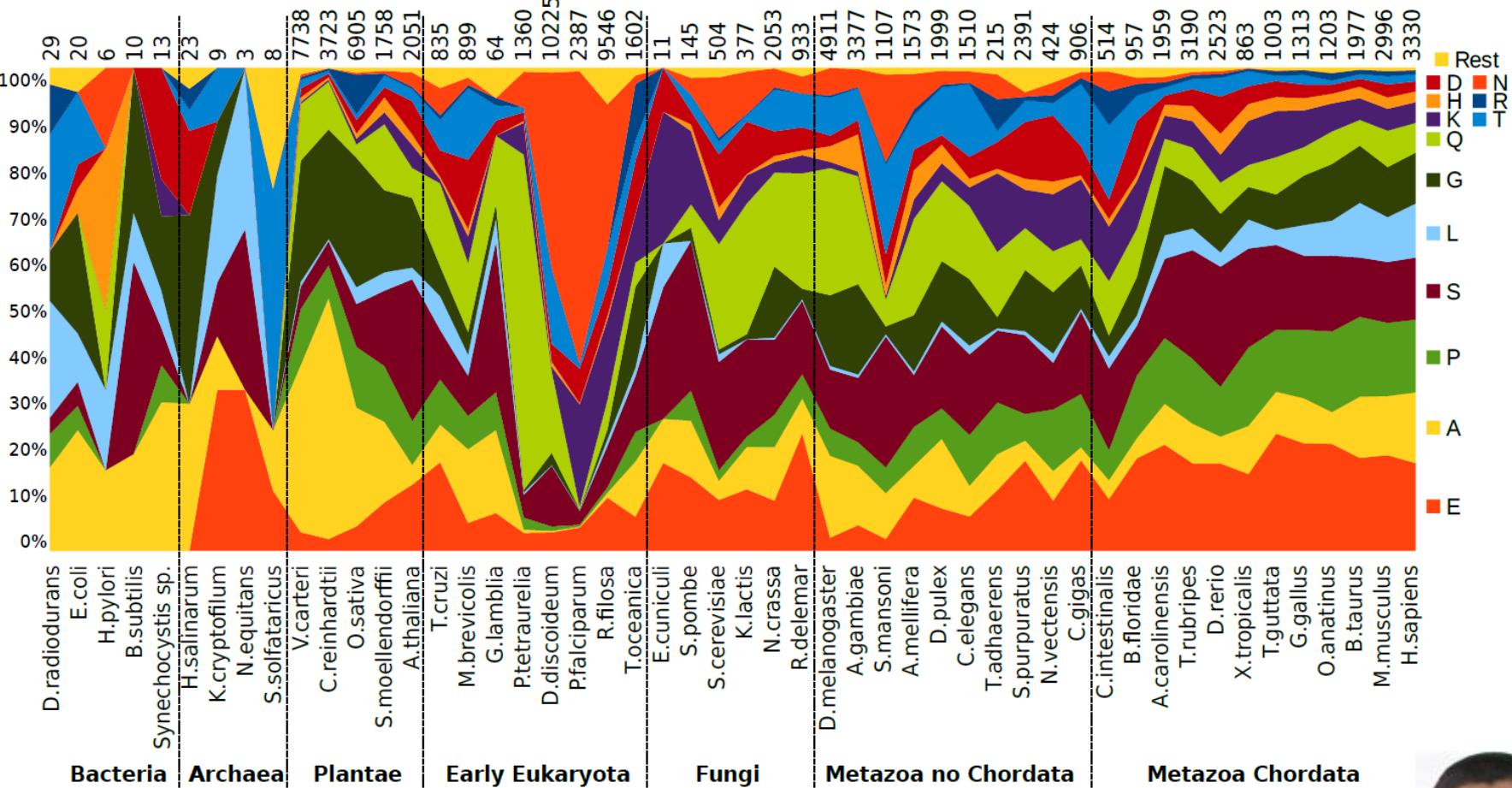
Relatively rare: poly-Q, poly-N

Very rare or absent in both eukaryota and prokaryota:  
Poly-I, Poly-M, Poly-W, Poly-C, Poly-Y

Toxicity of long stretches of hydrophobic residues.

(Faux et al 2005)

# Amino acid repeats



Mier et al. (2017) Proteins

Pablo  
Mier



Homorepeats are frequent but difficult to characterize

# Pablo Mier



e.g. polyQ:

- 10% of human proteins have homorepeats
  - lack sequence conservation
  - not possible to predict function by homology

Homorepeats need to be studied in context

# Function of polyQ

Martin  
Schaefer



# **polyQ in Huntington**

Schaefer et al (2012) *Nucleic Acids Res.*

## **Exercise 3. Search for a polyQ insertion in the MR family**

- Open in Jalview the alignment of the mineralocorticoid receptor: MR1\_fasta.txt
- Find a polyQ insertion.

Do you see any other biased region nearby?