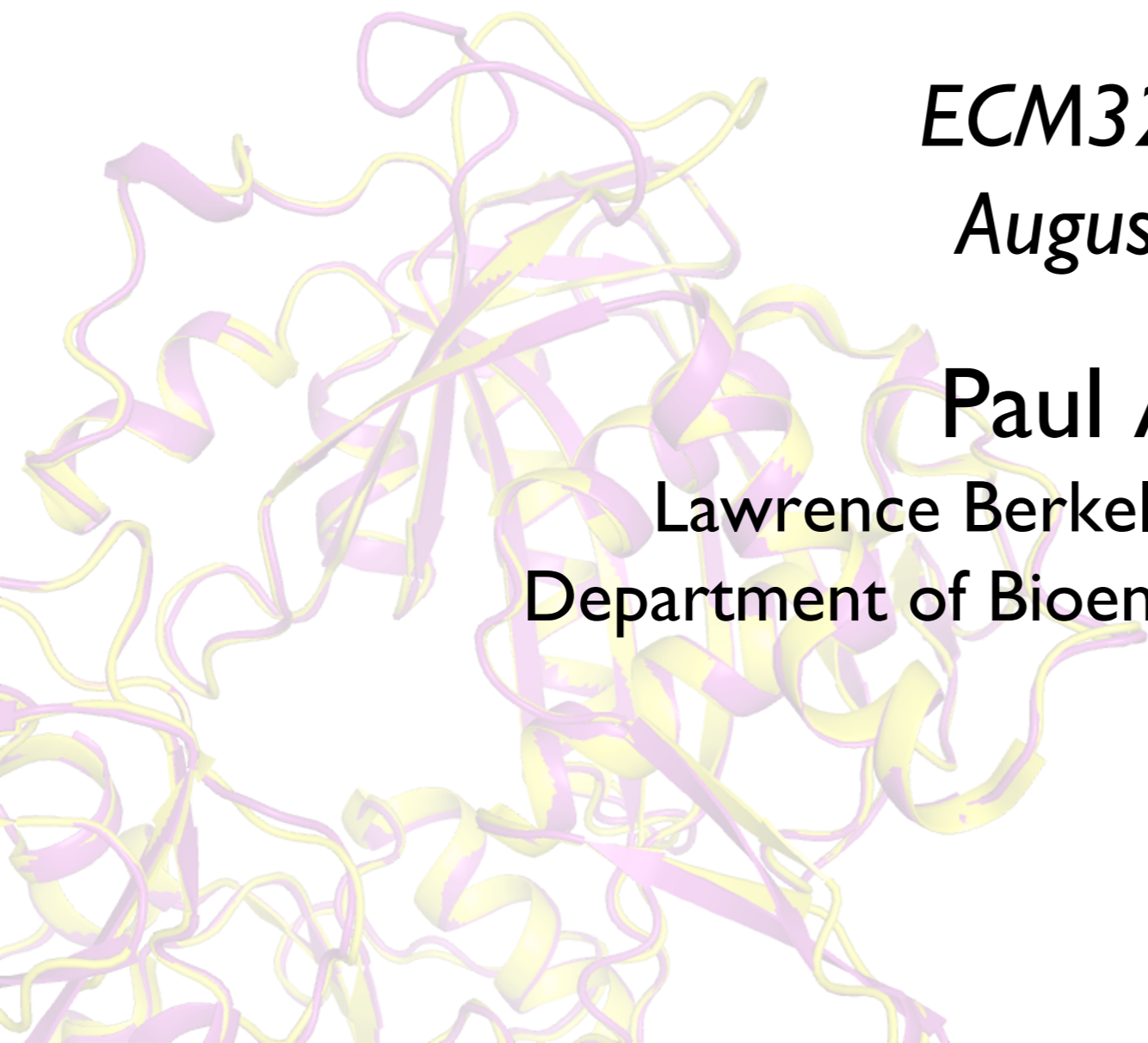


Low Resolution Refinement

ECM32 Vienna
August 2019

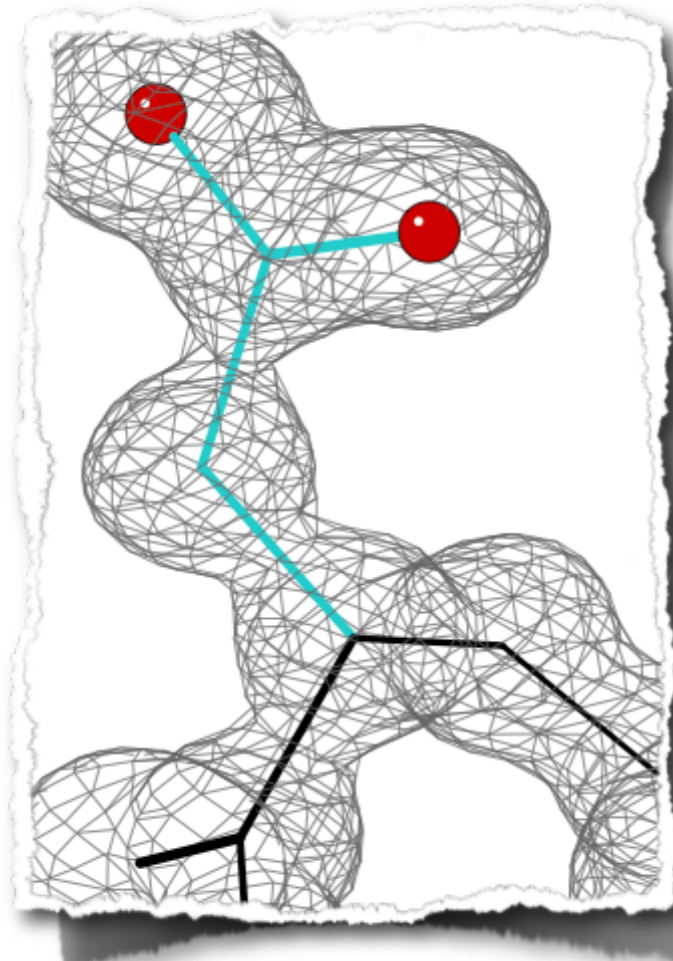
Paul Adams

Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory and
Department of Bioengineering UC Berkeley

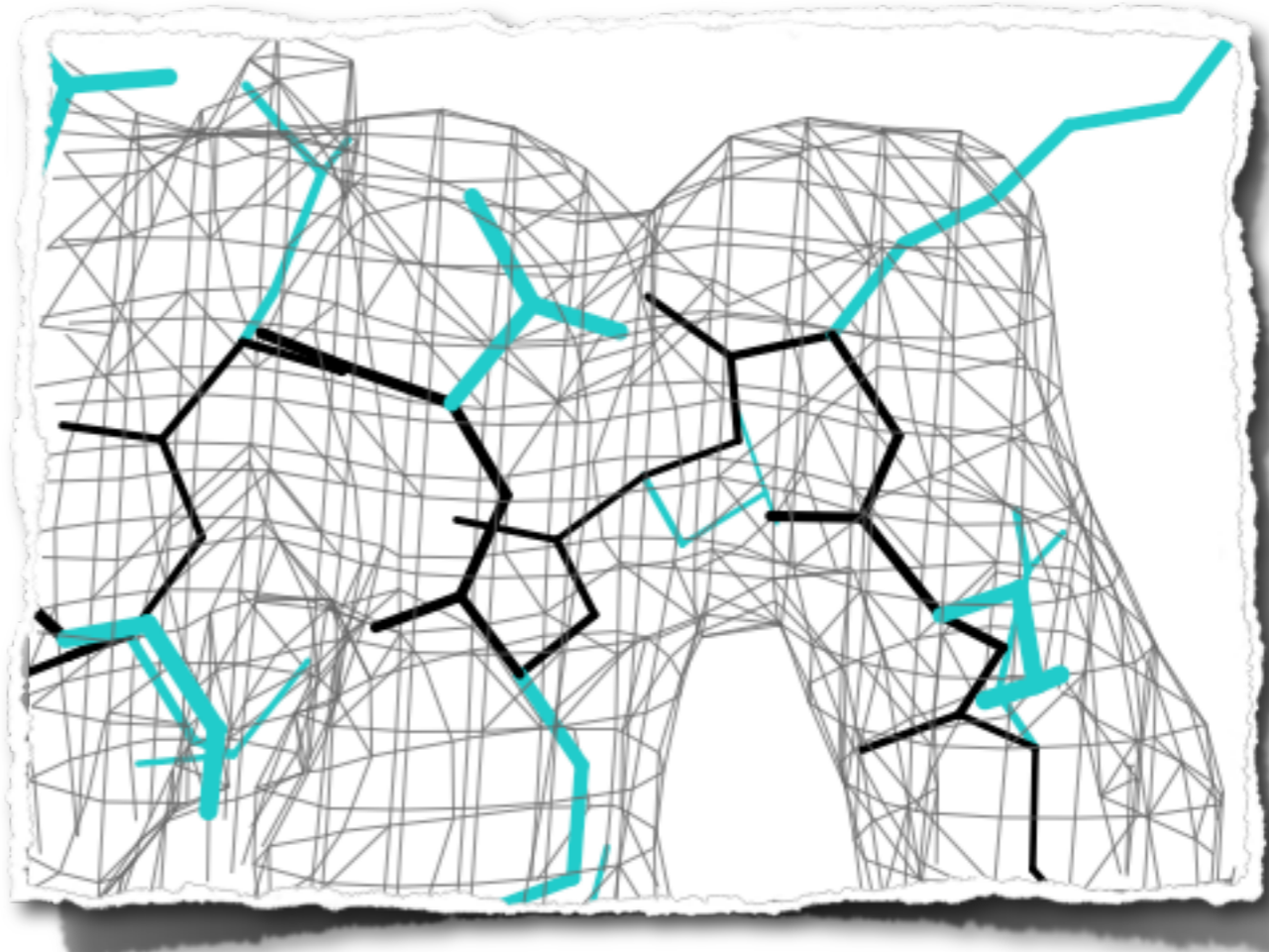


Macromolecular Crystallography

PDBID: 2gkg
Resolution: 1.00Å



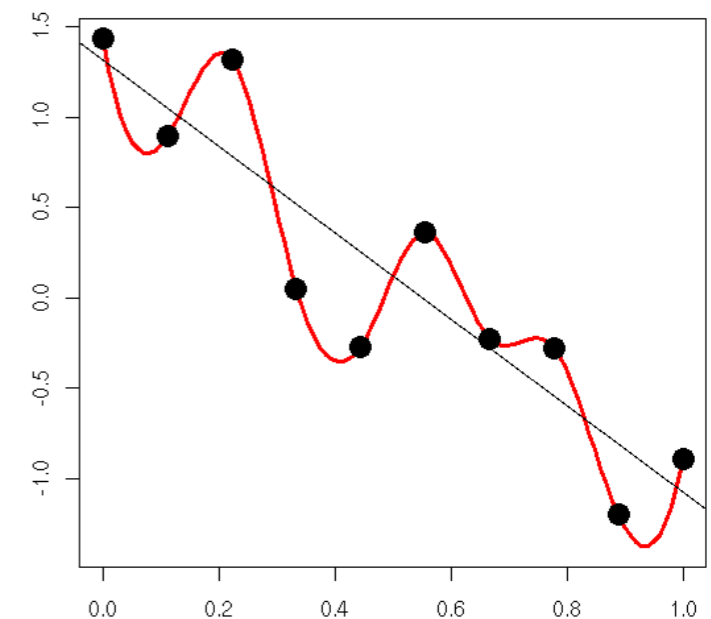
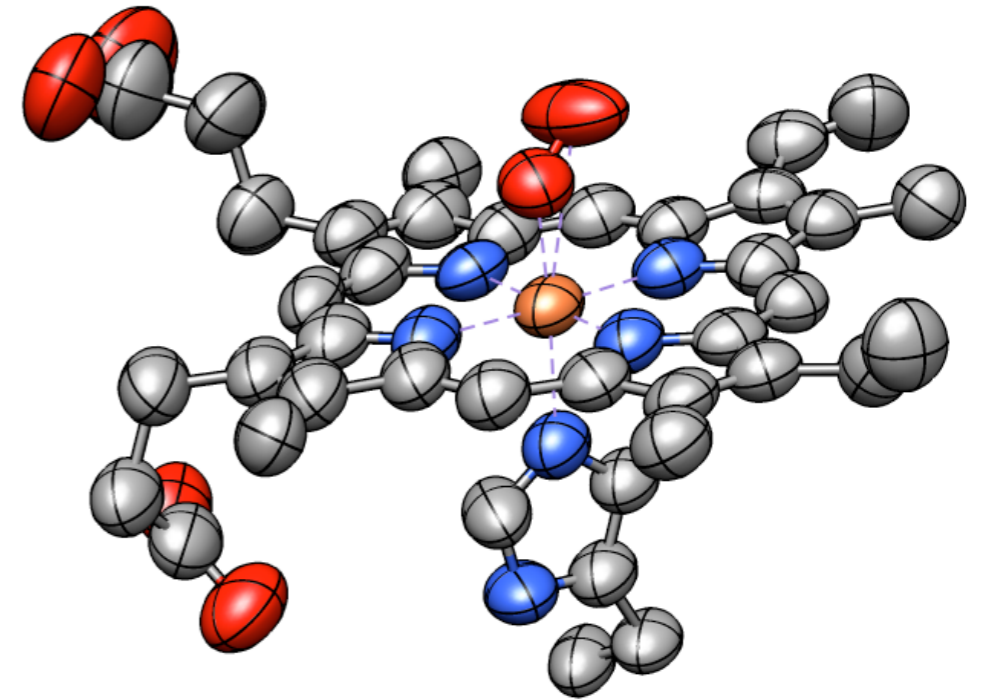
PDB ID: 3k7a
Resolution: 3.80Å



- Many challenges, but low resolution data is increasingly an issue:
- How to interpret “featureless” maps (pattern matching, chemical constraints)
- How to optimize models with sparse data (prior information)

The Challenge of Too Few Data

- With only low resolution data we typically have too many parameters to optimize
- Atomic coordinates, displacement parameters
- Underdetermined optimization problems lead to overfitting of the data
- To help address overfitting we can:
 - Add prior information to reduce the number of effective parameters
 - Remove parameters
- Current refinement methods do not define a reasonable chemical result in the absence of data



Improving the Observation to Parameter Ratio

- To make refinement practical the observation to parameter ratio is increased using restraints and constraints:
- Restraint
 - Model property \sim ideal value
 - Adds prior observed information (reduces the number of parameters refined)
 - Inclusion of chemical information in the objective function
- Constraint
 - Model property = ideal value
 - Removes one or more parameters from the model

Methods in Phenix for Improving Models

- Using prior structural knowledge as additional restraints:
 - Secondary structure
 - Protein mainchain conformations (Ramachandran)
 - Related high resolution structures as restraints
 - Multiple copies of the same molecule as restraints (*c.f. local NCS restraints in SHELX*)
- Automated correction of models during refinement using prior knowledge of stereochemistry:
 - Fixing of rotamers
 - Flipping of side chains

Reference model restraints

(Jeff Headd)



IGTX and IOHV

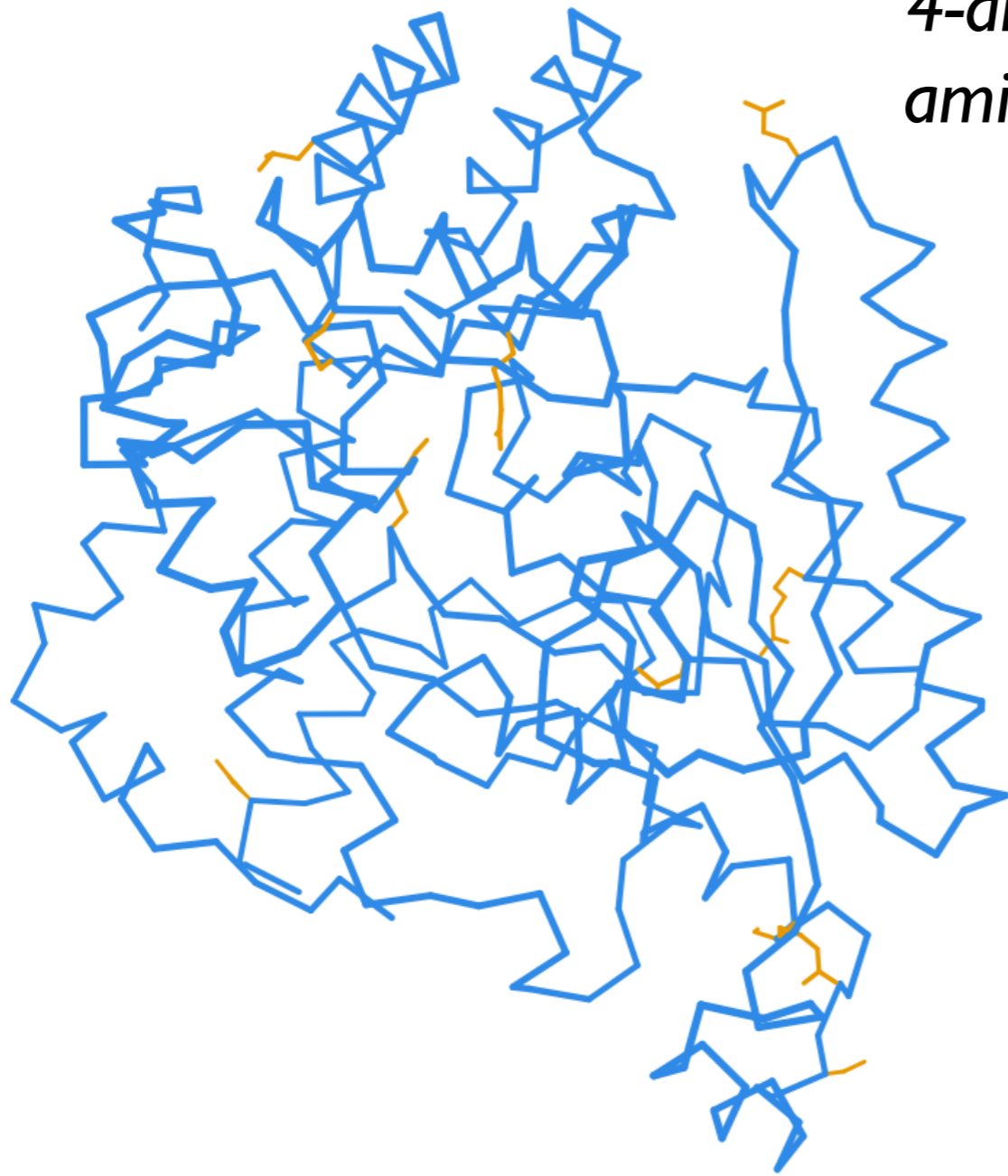
IGTX: 3.0 Å
IOHV: 2.3
Å



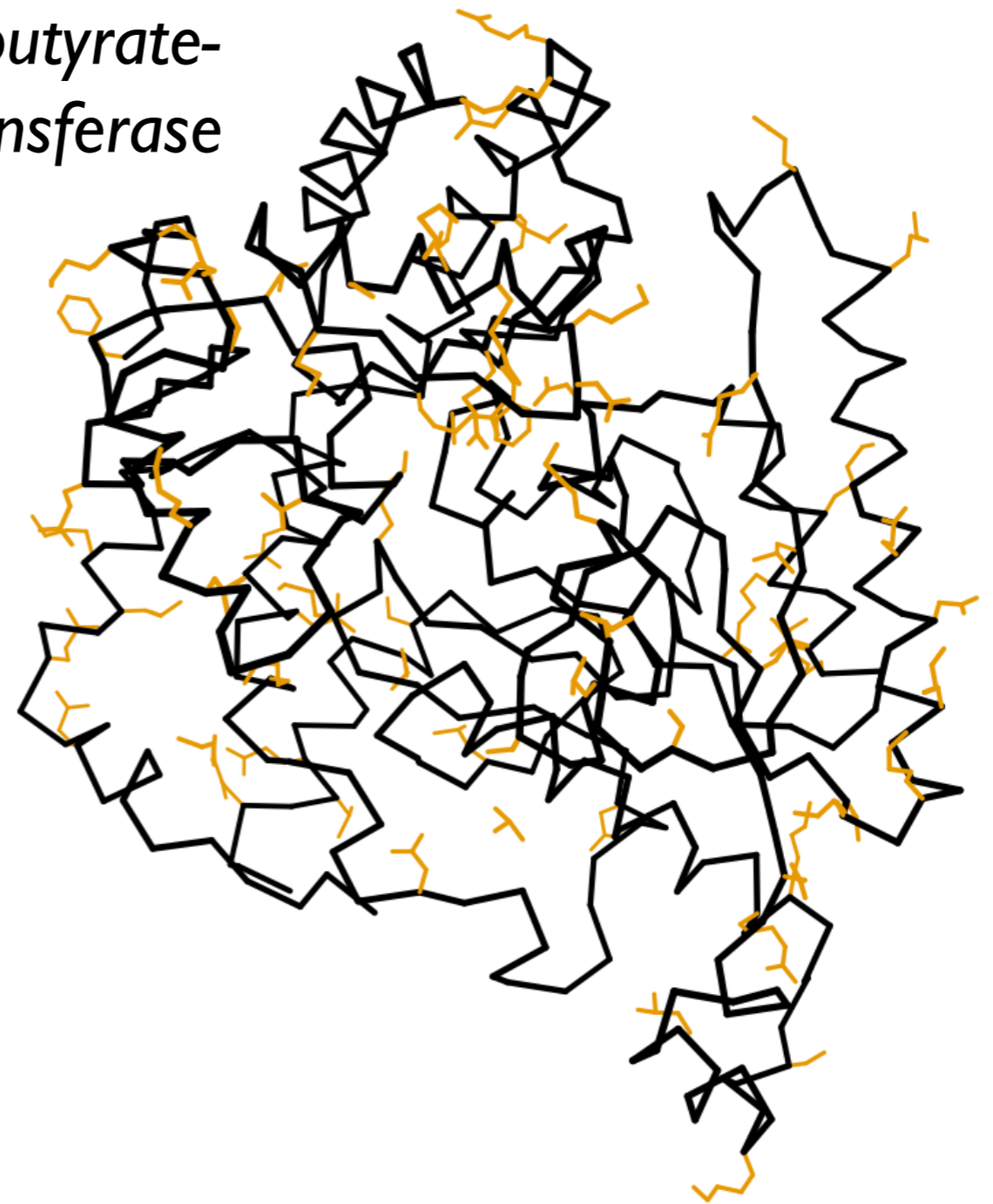
4-aminobutyrate-aminotransferase

IGTX and IOHV

4-aminobutyrate-aminotransferase



IOHV: 2.3 Å



IGTX: 3.0 Å

Reference Model Restraints

Combines two concepts:

- Pre-correct rotamer outliers
 - Set rotamer outliers in the model to match the torsion angles of the reference model if the reference model has an acceptable rotamer at that position and there is no significant clash or density mismatch
- Generate reference torsion restraints
 - Restrain each torsion angle in the working model to the corresponding torsion angle in the reference model
 - Chains are aligned using SSM alignment to allow for sequence differences
 - Restraints take the form of a modified harmonic ‘top-out’ potential that allows for structural differences

Reference model restraints

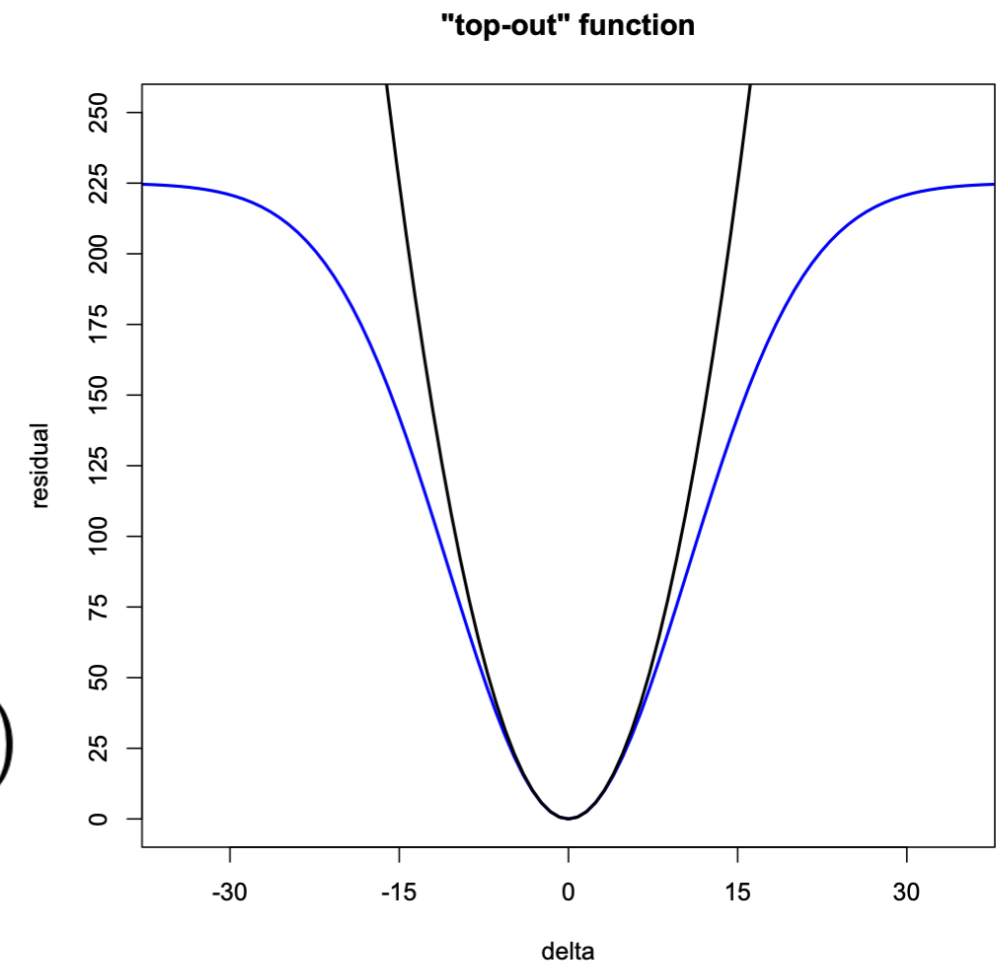
$$E_{total} = \sum_{i=1}^n E_i$$

Simple harmonic potential: $E_i = w \Delta_i^2$

'Top-out' potential: $E_i = \tau \left(1.0 - e^{-\frac{\Delta_i^2}{l^2}} \right)$

$$\tau = w l^2$$

$$w = \frac{1}{\sigma^2}$$



Similar potentials are used in
REFMAC5 and BUSTER -
Geman-McClure robust
estimator function

where σ is the ESD, Δ is the difference between the model dihedral and reference dihedral, and l is a 'limit' parameter that limits how far the model dihedral may vary from the reference dihedral before being shut off.

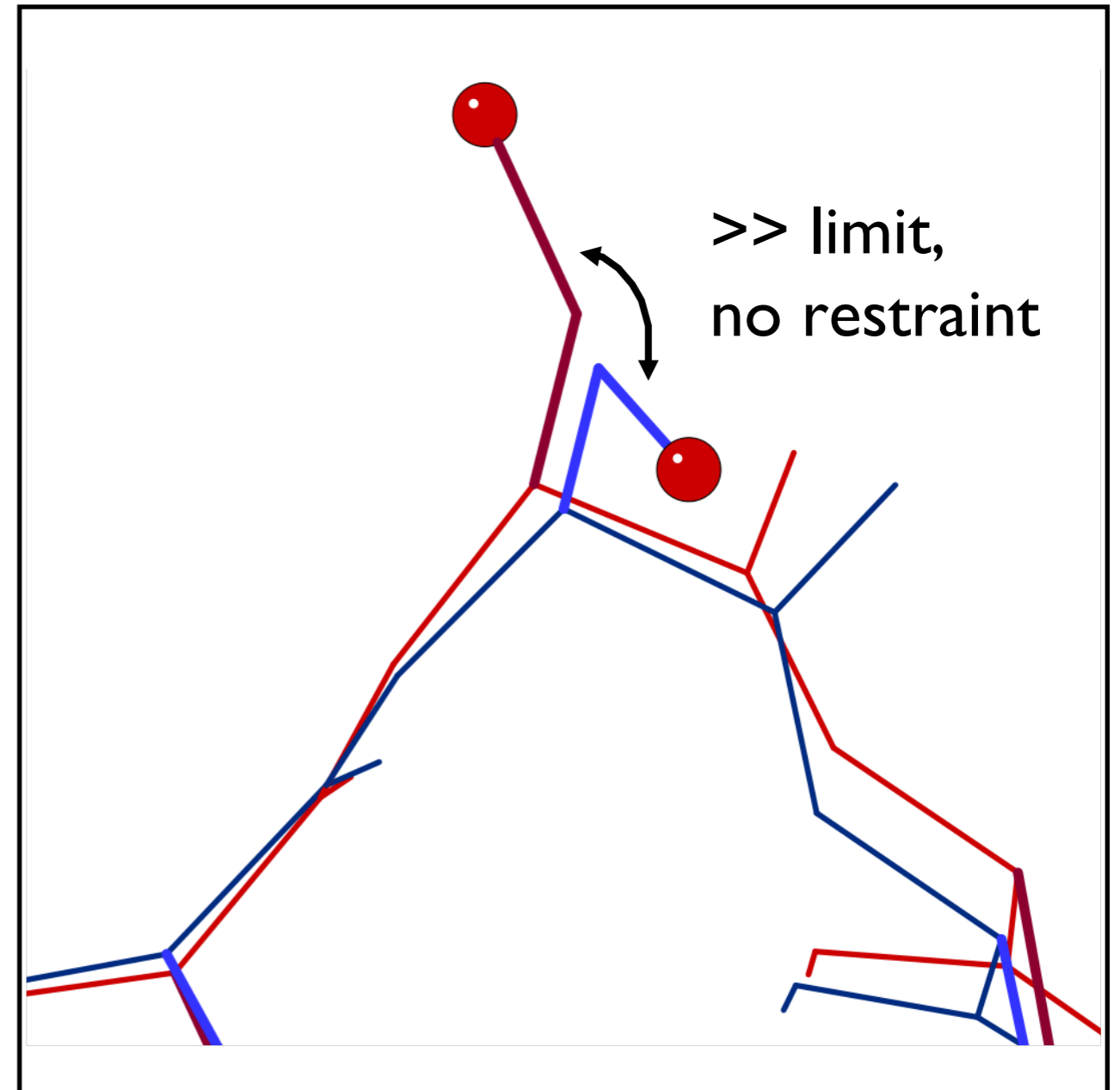
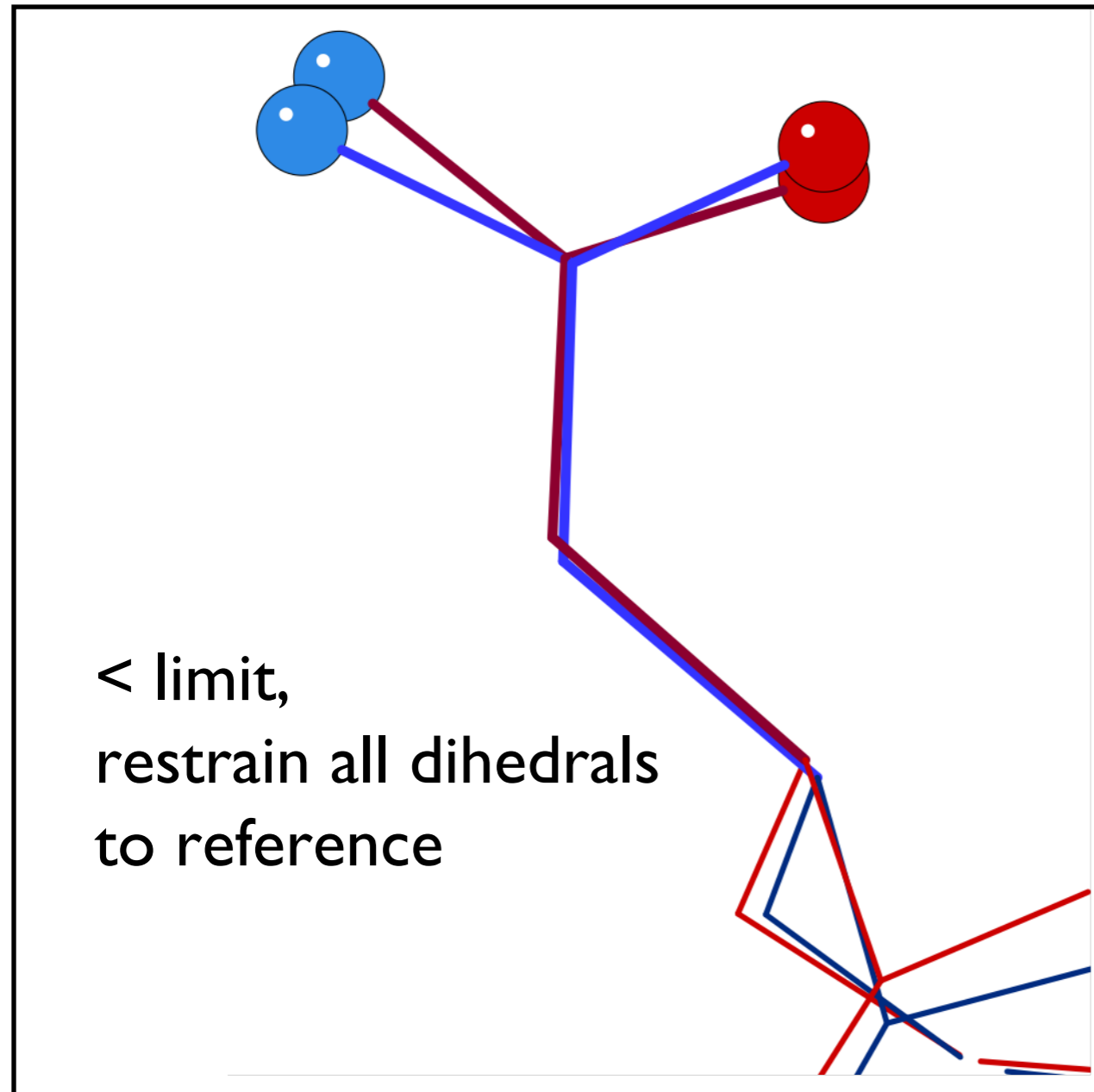
developed by Ralf Grosse-Kunstleve

default: limit = 15.0°

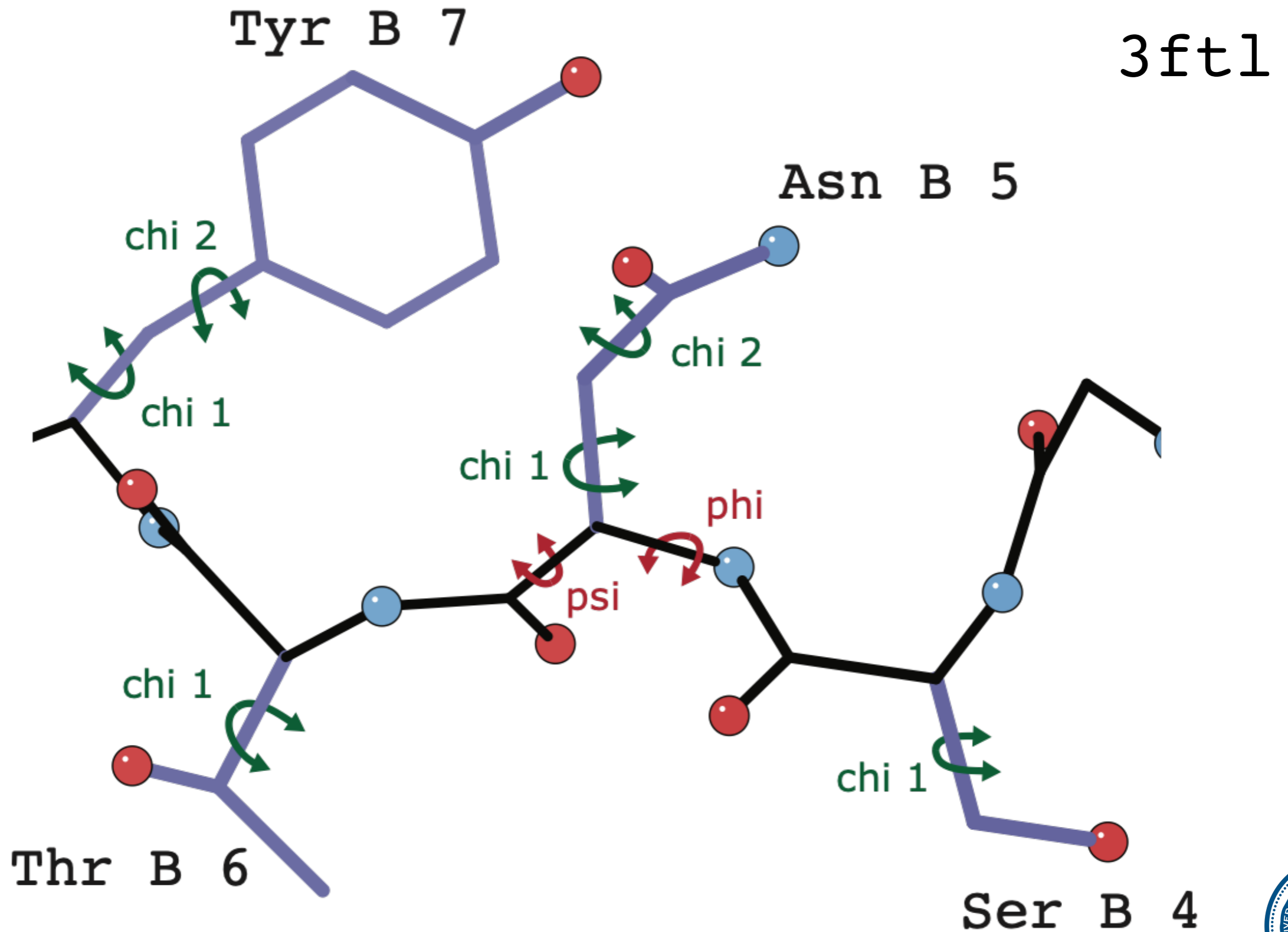


The 'limit' parameter

default: limit = 15.0°



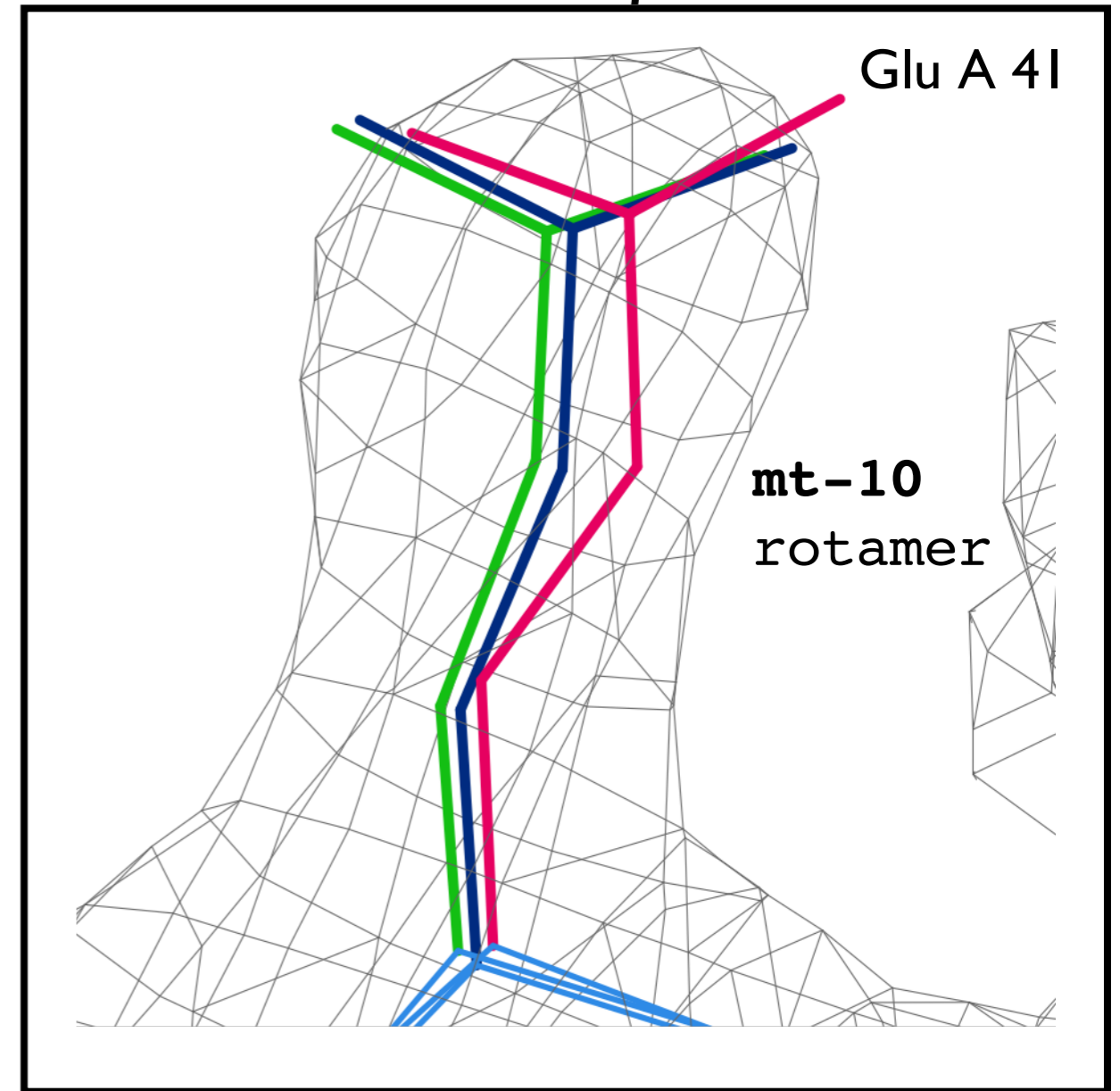
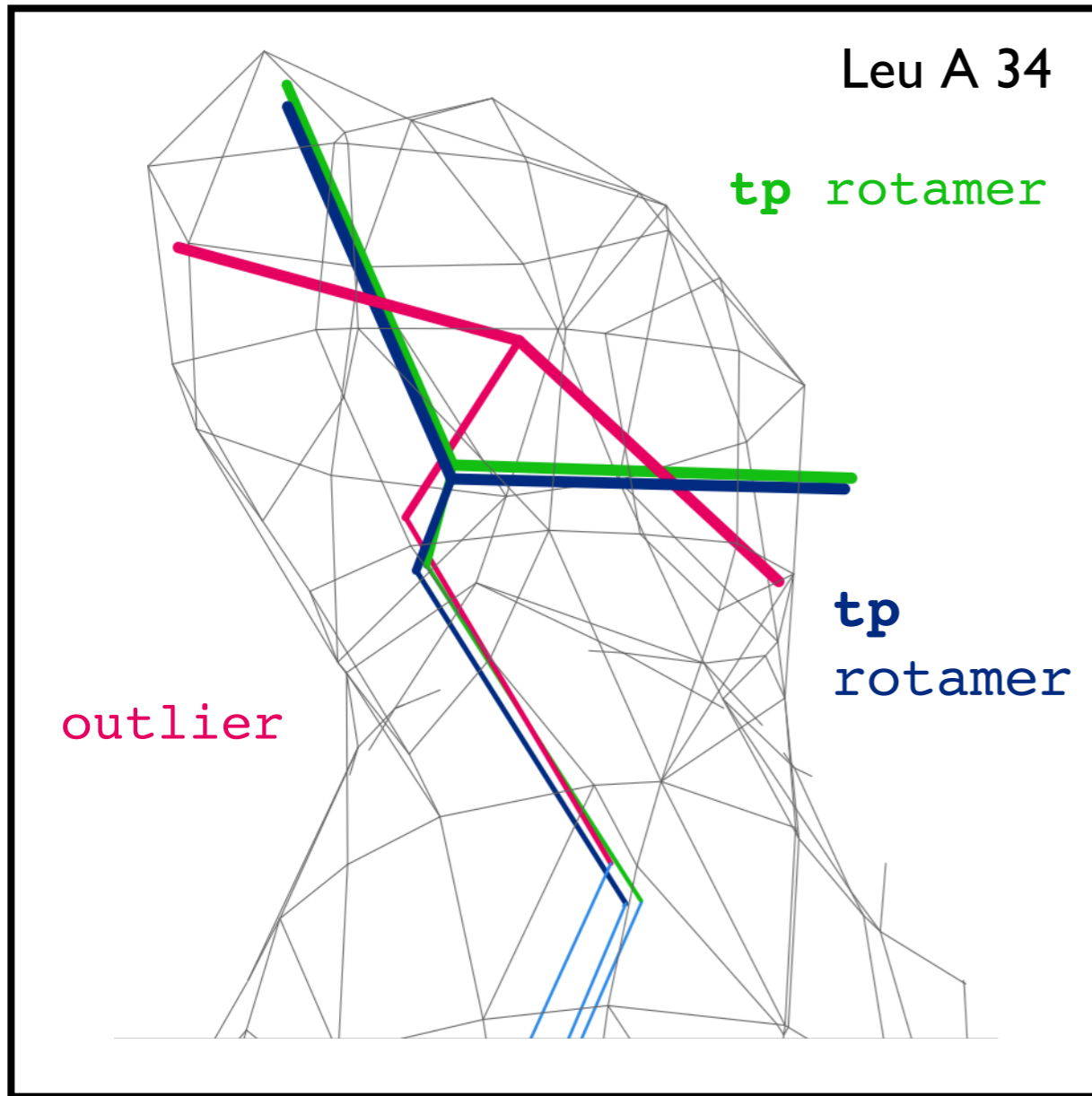
Why torsion angles?



IGTX/IOHV reference example

outlier correction

restrained refinement



IGTX (3.0Å) IOHV (2.3Å) IGTX w/ IOHV reference

5 macrocycles of *phenix.refine*

w/ reference restraints



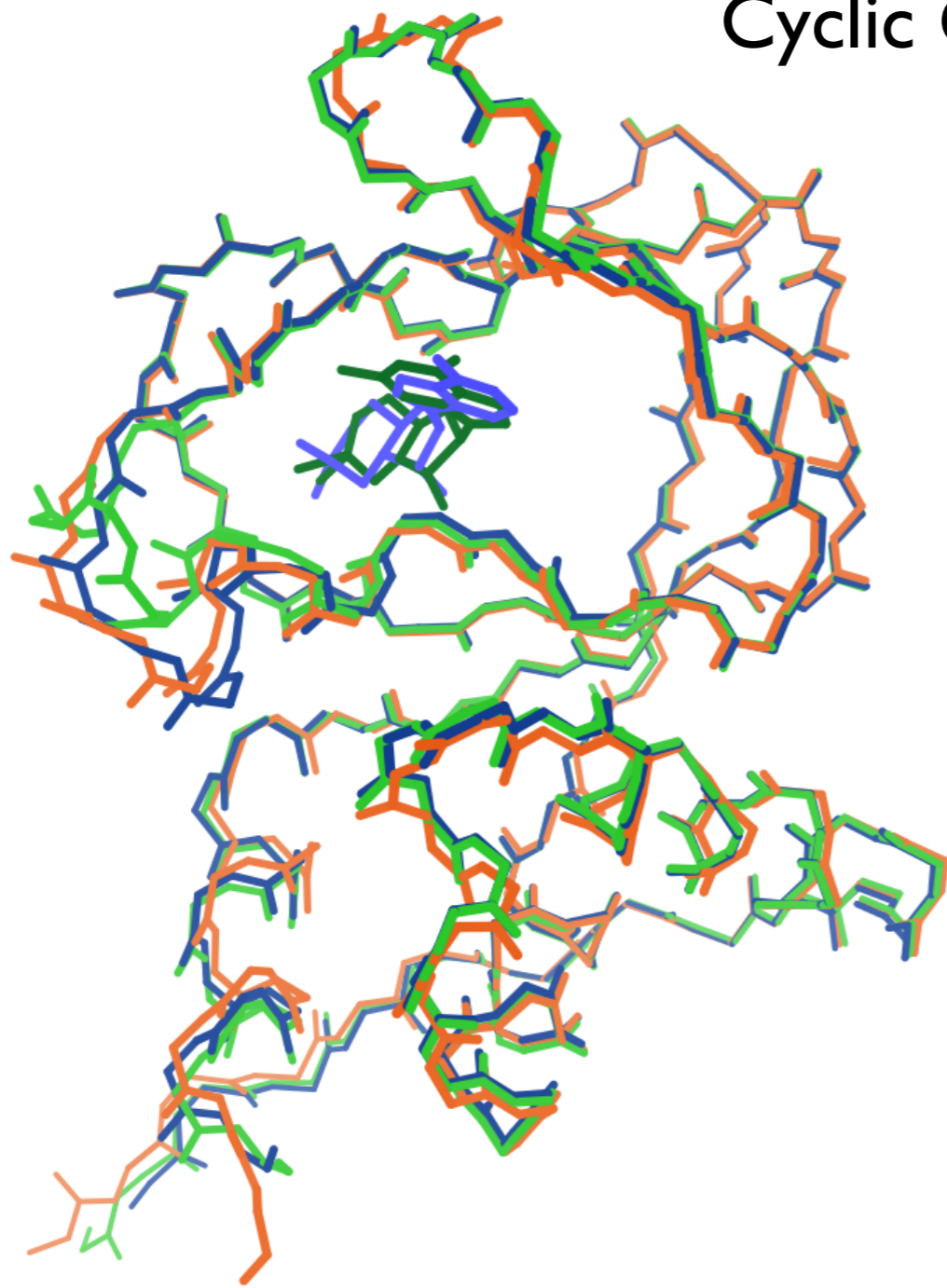
R_{free} : 0.2379 \rightarrow 0.2186

ΔR : 0.833 \rightarrow 0.60

MolProbity: 64th \rightarrow 96th

Practical Example

Cyclic GMP-dependent protein kinases (PKG's)



cAMP bound: 2.49Å

cGMP bound: 3.20Å

APO form: 2.69Å

JJ Kim et al. (2011) Crystal structures of PKG I β (92-227) with cGMP and cAMP reveal the molecular details of cyclic nucleotide binding. *PLoS ONE*.

Cyclic GMP-dependent protein kinase

cAMP bound: 2.49Å

cGMP bound: 3.20Å

APO form: 2.69Å

	Validation Criteria	cAMP bound
All-Atom Contacts	Clashscore, all atoms:	16.53
	Clashscore percentile	81st
Protein Geometry	Poor rotamers:	2.61%
	Rama outliers:	0.00%
	Rama favored:	98.80%
	C β dev. > 0.25Å:	0
	MolProbity score:	2.04
	MP score percentile	95th
	Res w/ bad bonds:	0.00%
	Res w/ bad angles:	0.00%
Residual	R-work	0.1960
	R-free	0.2264

cGMP bound
56.57
15th
18.58%
2.02%
85.48%
23
3.84
12th
2.38%
5.95%
0.2102
0.2582

APO
28.52
46th
10.53%
3.19%
89.02%
3
3.29
12th
0.79%
0.98%
0.2205
0.2612



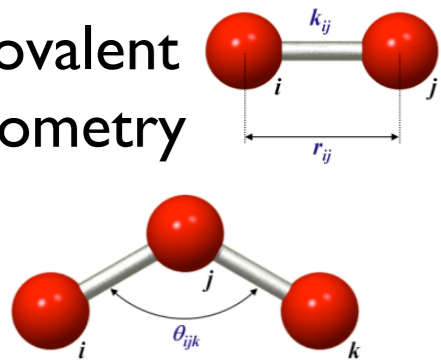
cAMP bound
24.56
87th
4.00%
0.40%
96.00%
0
2.61
96th
0.00%
1.18%
0.1980
0.2397



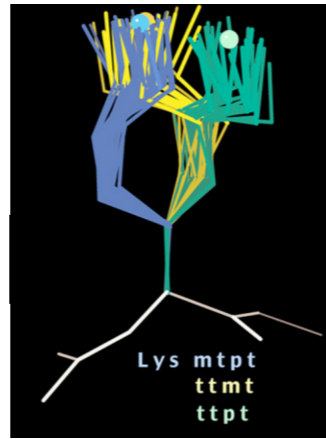
APO
19.5
15th
3.66%
0.60%
96.61%
0
2.43
89th
0.00%
0.20%
0.2166
0.2525

Sources of Prior Information

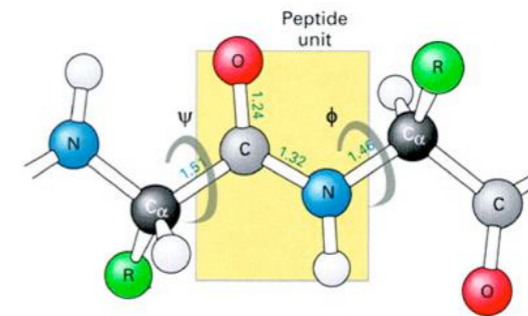
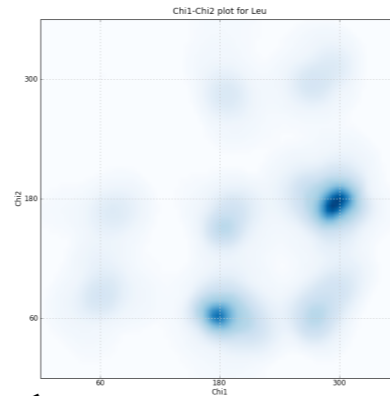
Covalent geometry



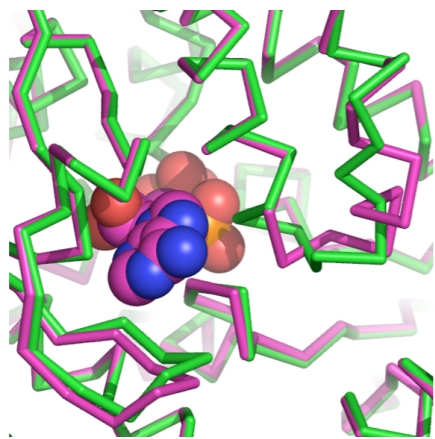
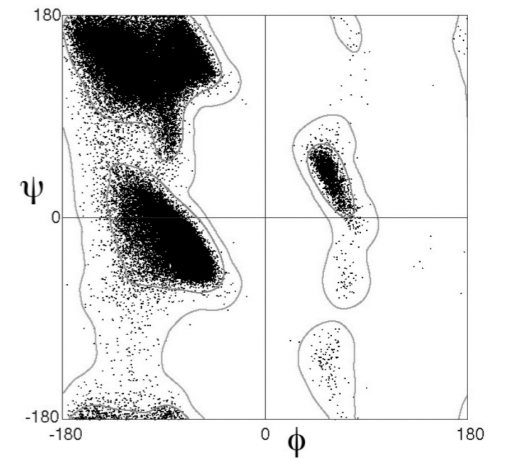
Images from PumMa web site (<http://www.pumma.nl>)



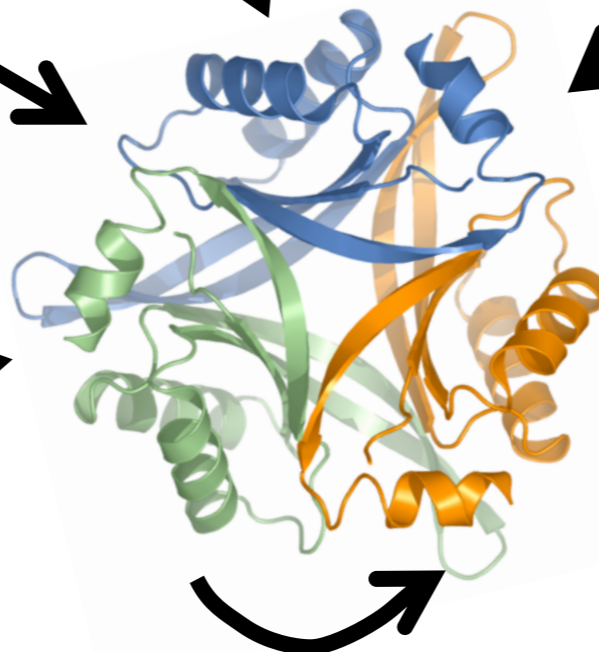
Sidechain distributions



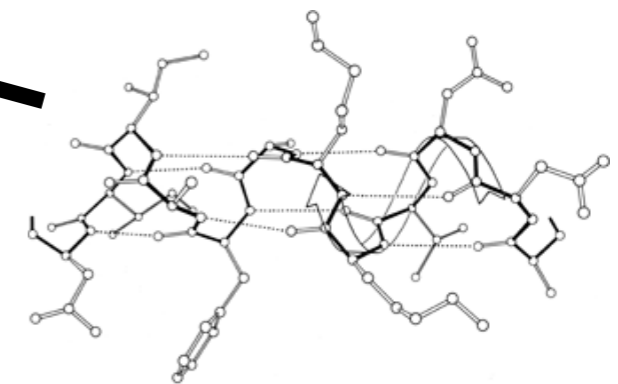
Mainchain distributions



Related structures



Internal symmetry



Secondary structure



Torsion space NCS restraints

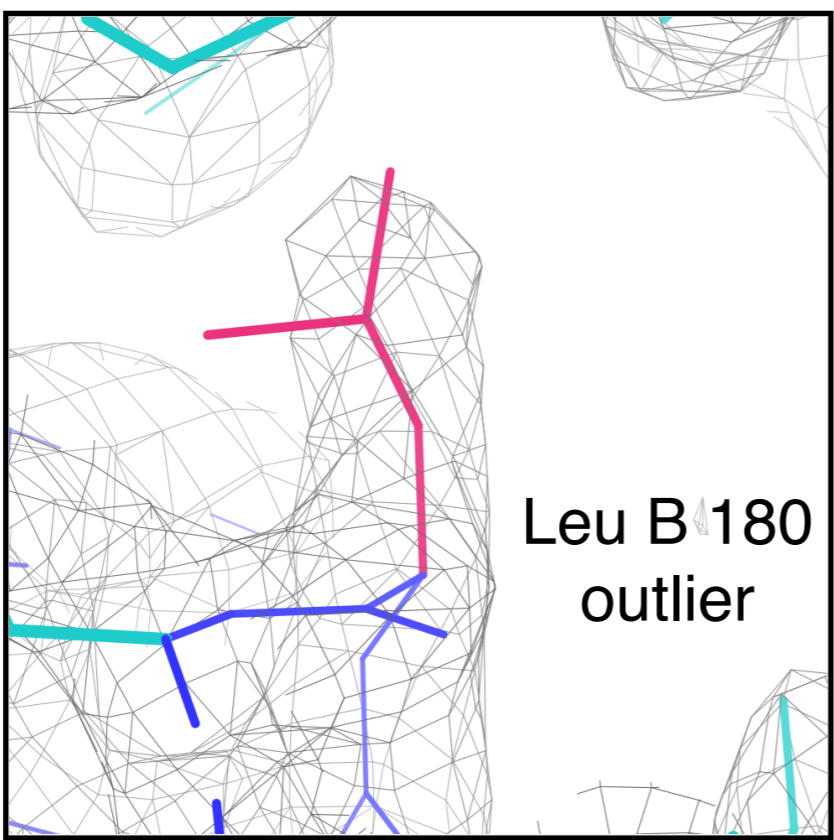
(Jeff Headd)



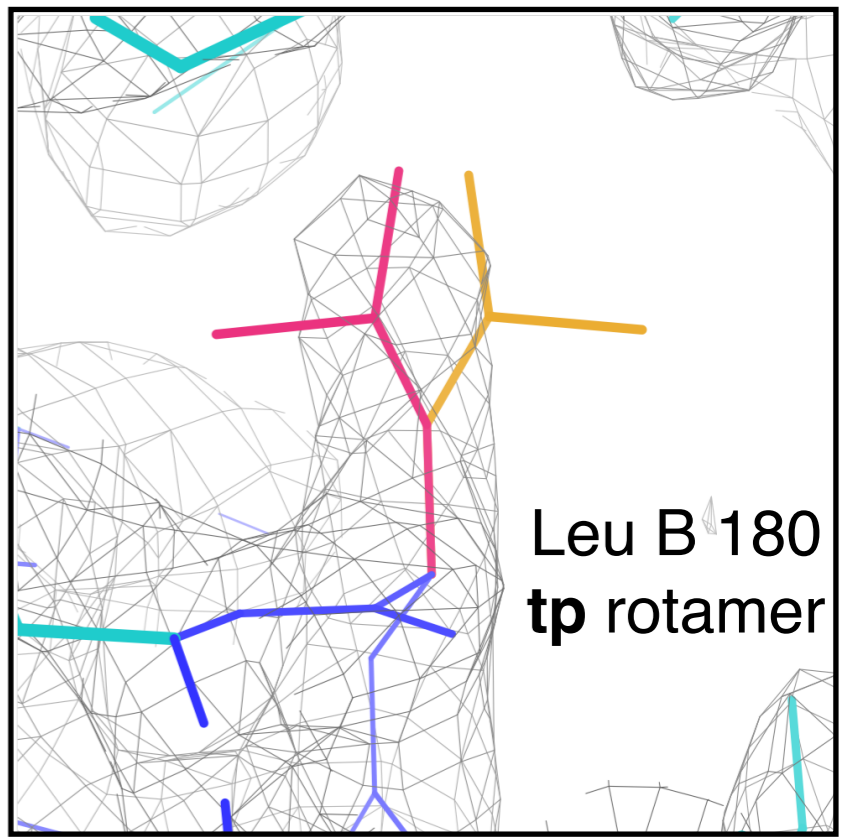
Ib04: 2.8 Å
DNA ligase

rotamer outlier correction

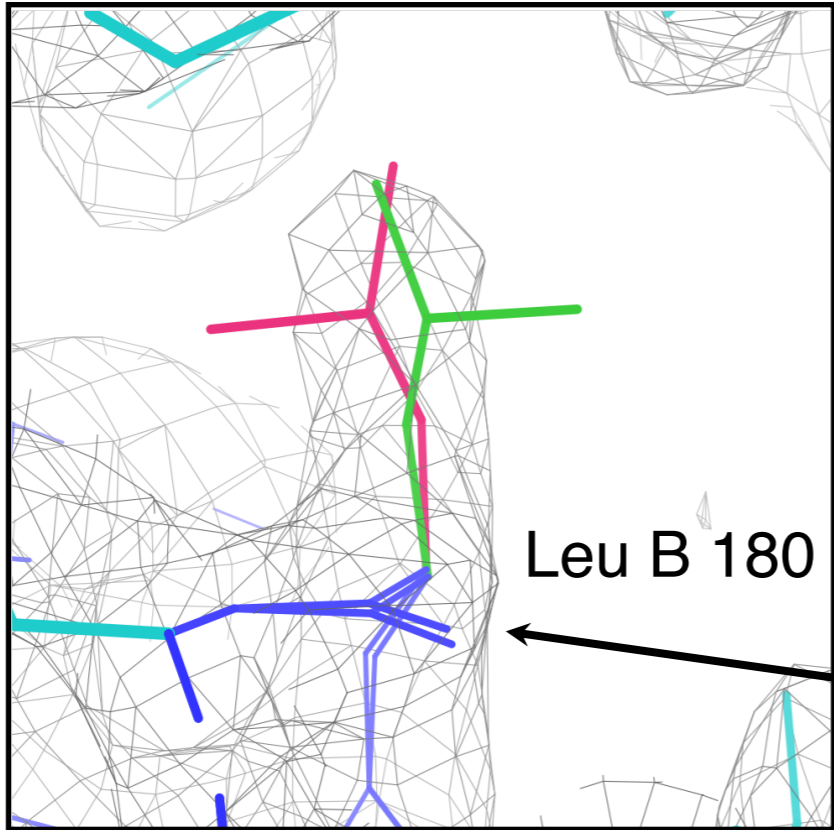
1. Identify rotamer outlier



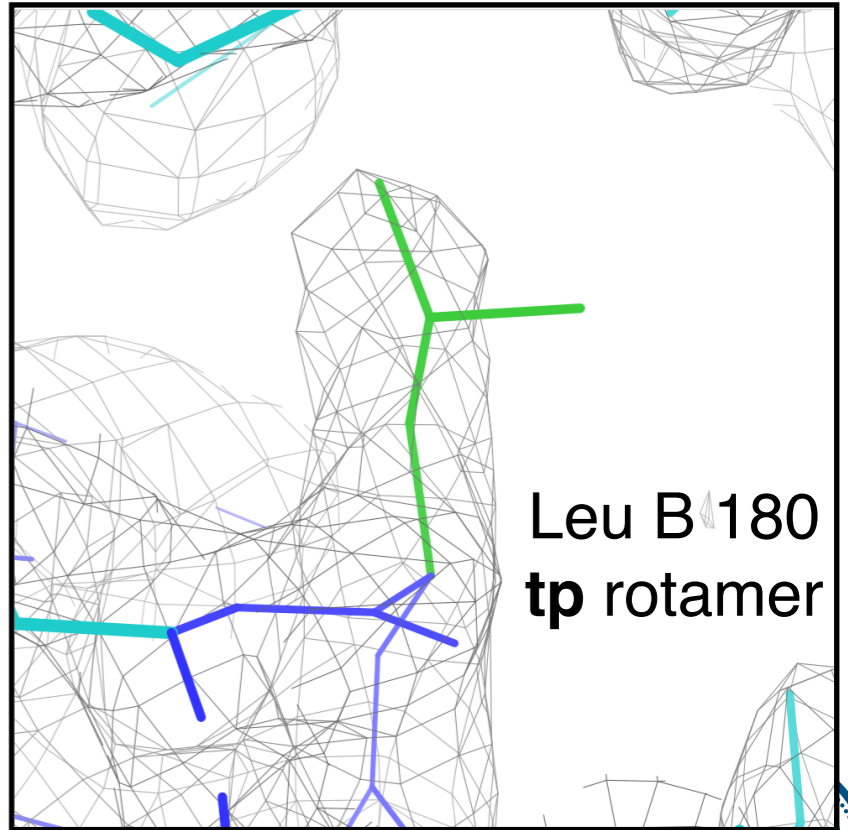
2. correct to corresponding rotamer in NCS-related chain by matching χ angles



3. 'backrub' search, then limited χ angle torsion search

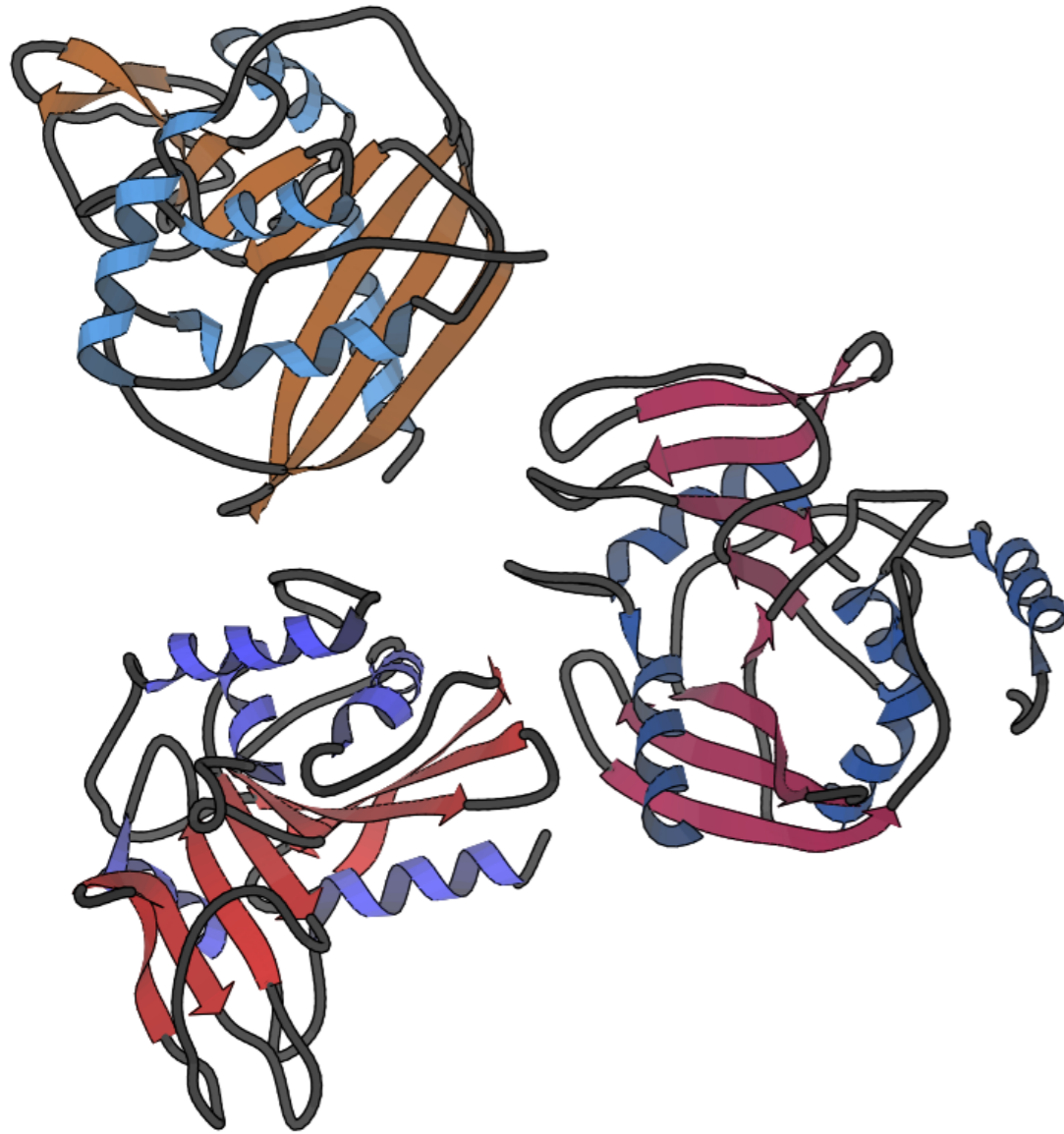


4. verify rotamer is still correct match

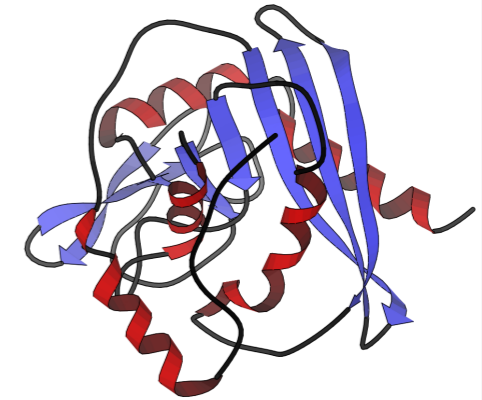


molecular replacement → refinement

3hd0: 2.70 Å
endonuclease



MR w/ Phaser



2w35
2.15 Å

$R_{work} = 0.3844$

AutoBuild

- Rebuild in place
- NCS on for rebuilding
- NCS off for refinement
- No water picking

$R_{work} = 0.1895$

$R_{free} = 0.2745$

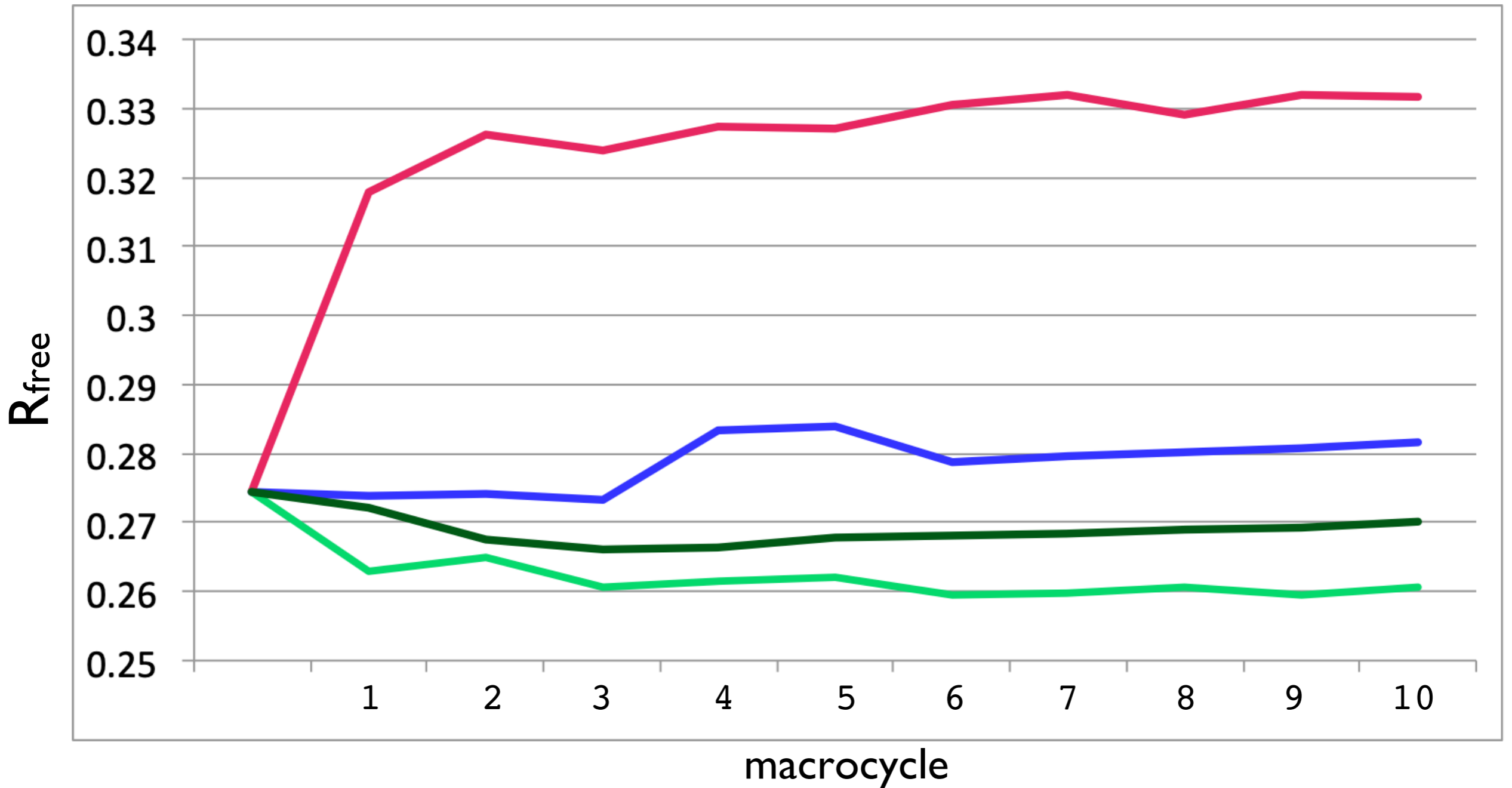
$R_{gap} = 0.085$

phenix.refine

- 10 macrocycles
- optimize weights
- No NCS, Cartesian NCS, torsion NCS w/ and w/o rotamer correction

3hd0 refinement

no NCS Cartesian NCS torsion NCS torsion NCS w/ rotamer correction

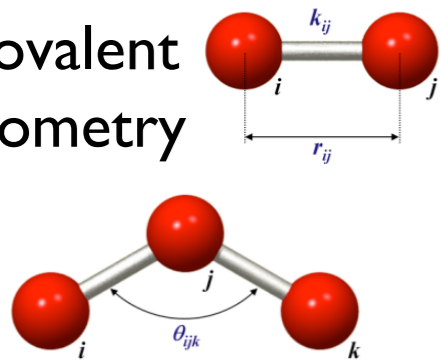


torsion NCS w/ rotamer correction → $R_{\text{work}} = 0.2040$ $R_{\text{gap}} = 0.056$
 $R_{\text{free}} = 0.2606$

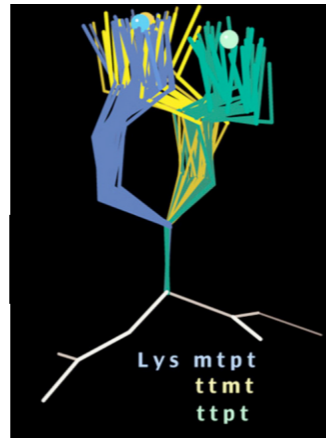


Sources of Prior Information

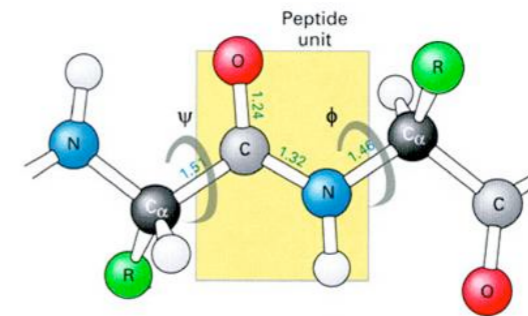
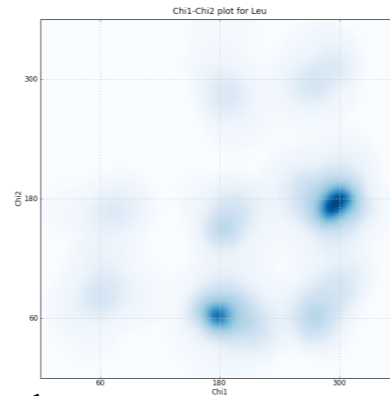
Covalent geometry



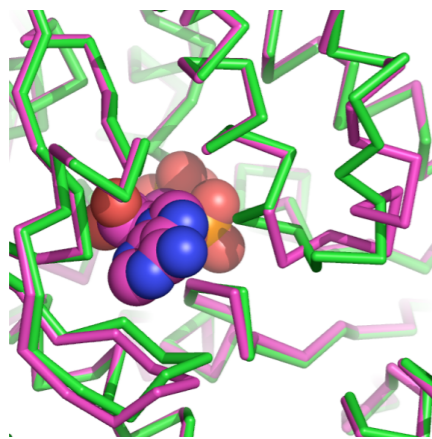
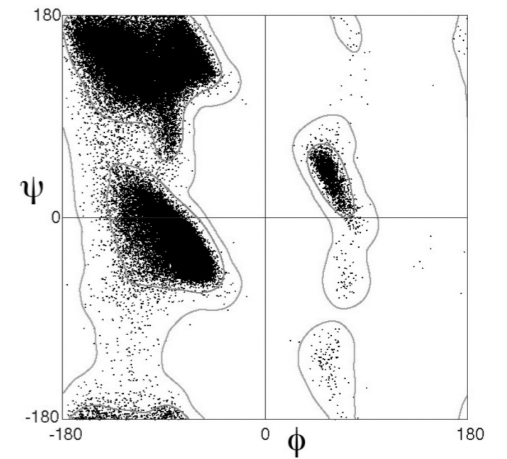
Images from PumMa web site (<http://www.pumma.nl>)



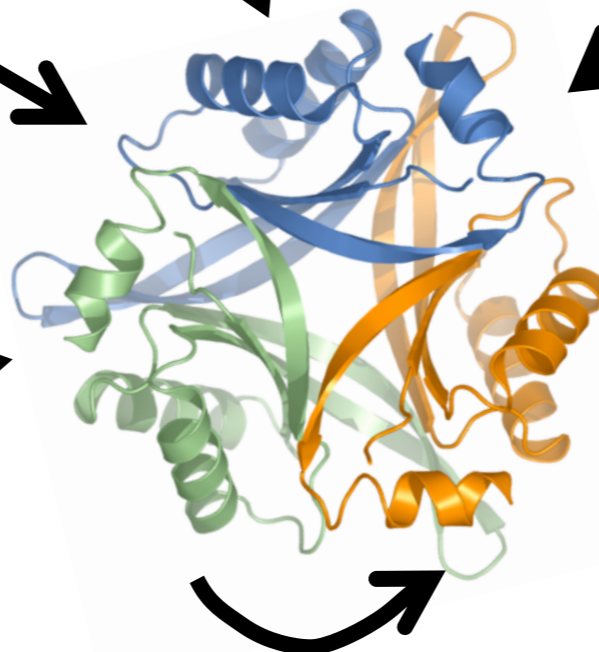
Sidechain distributions



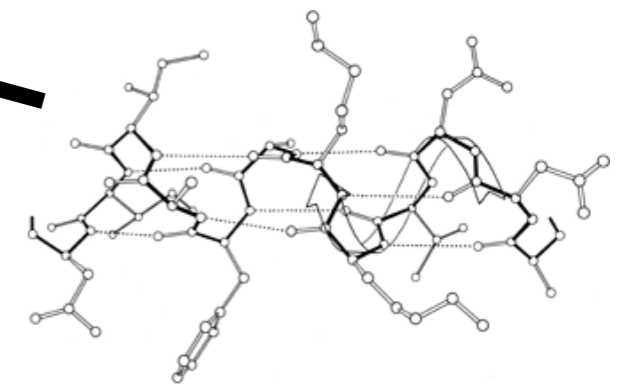
Mainchain distributions



Related structures



Internal symmetry



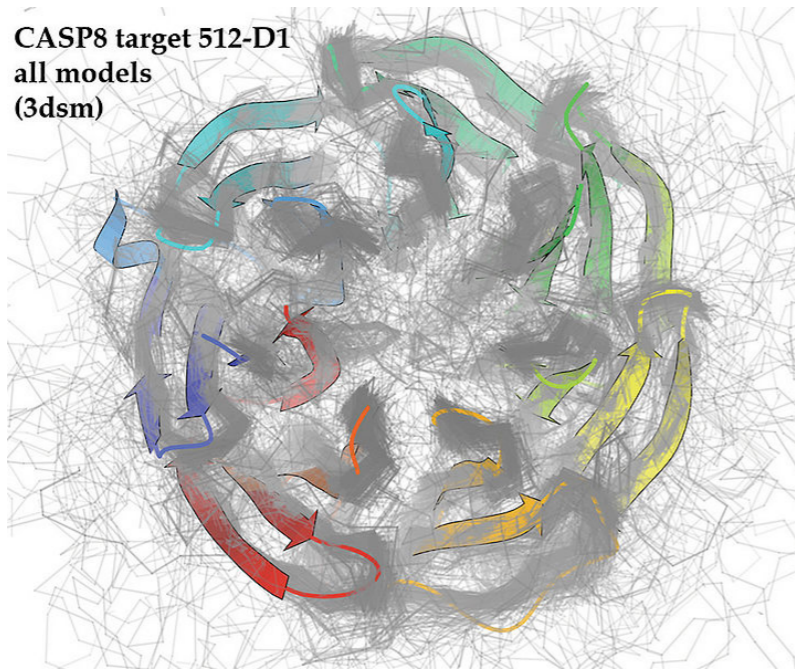
Secondary structure



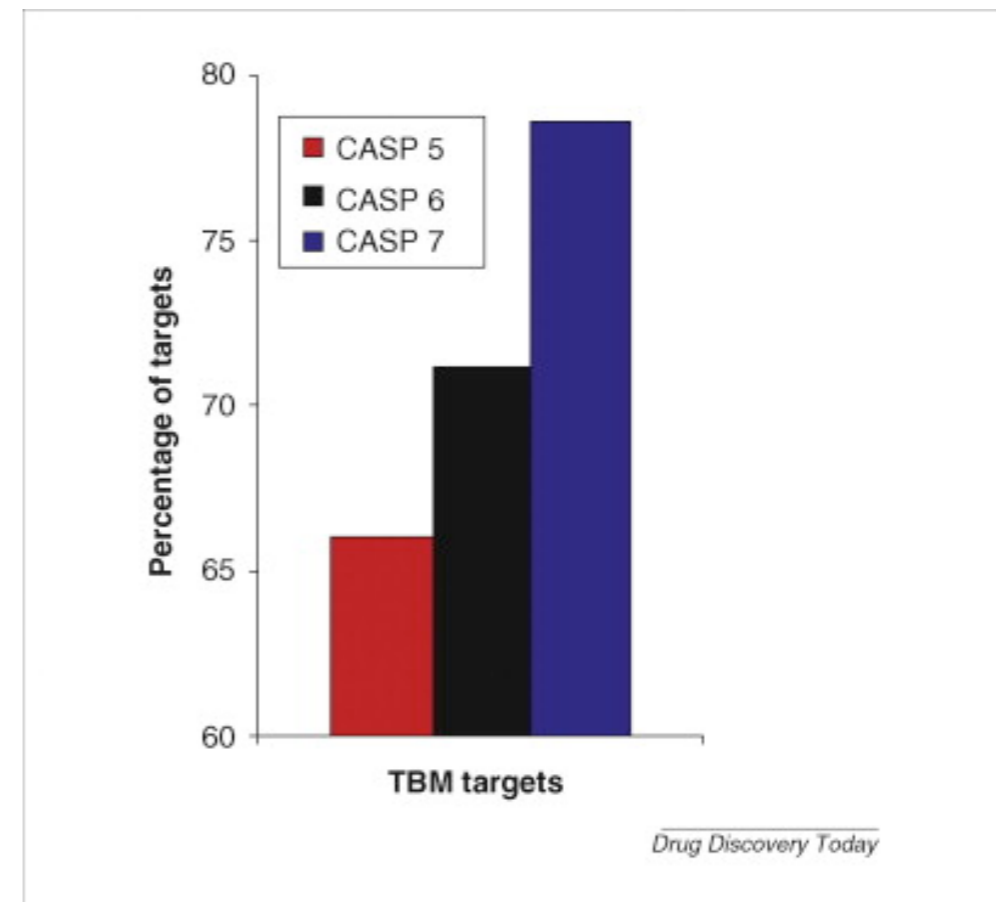
More Prior Information

- As the number of observations decreases we need to increase the amount of prior information we include (or the number of constraints we apply)
- At the extreme - what if we had no data?
- Other fields have been trying to address this problem:
 - Structure prediction
 - Homology modelling
 - Protein folding

CASP8 target 512-D1
all models
(3dsm)



<http://www.predictioncenter.org>



From: Kryshafovich & Fidelis, *Drug Discovery Today*, 2009, 14:386–393

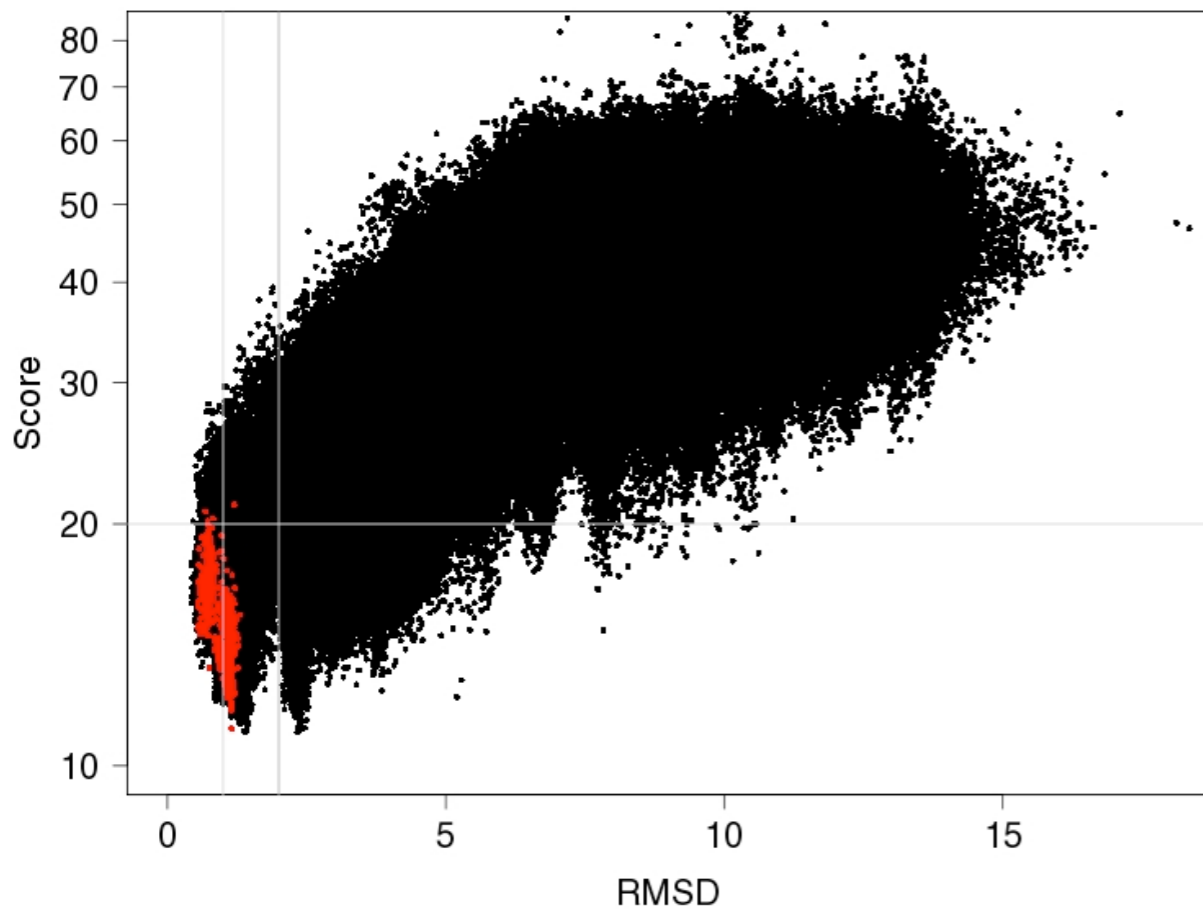
Physically Realistic Potentials (Rosetta)

(Nat Echols & Frank DiMaio)

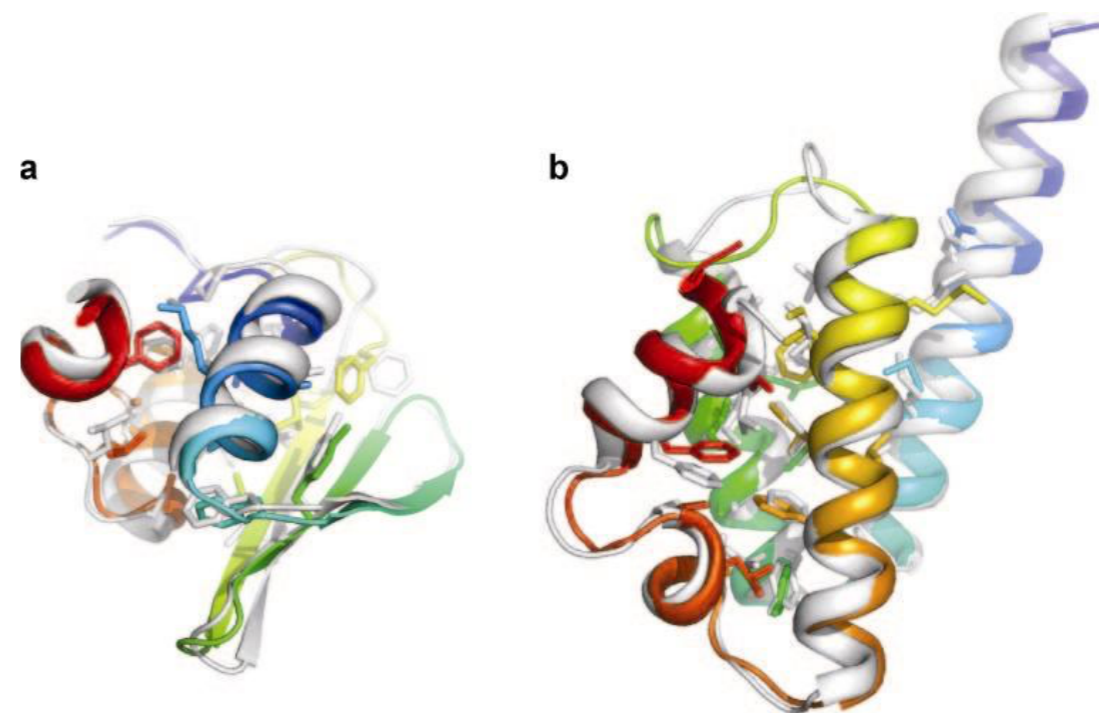
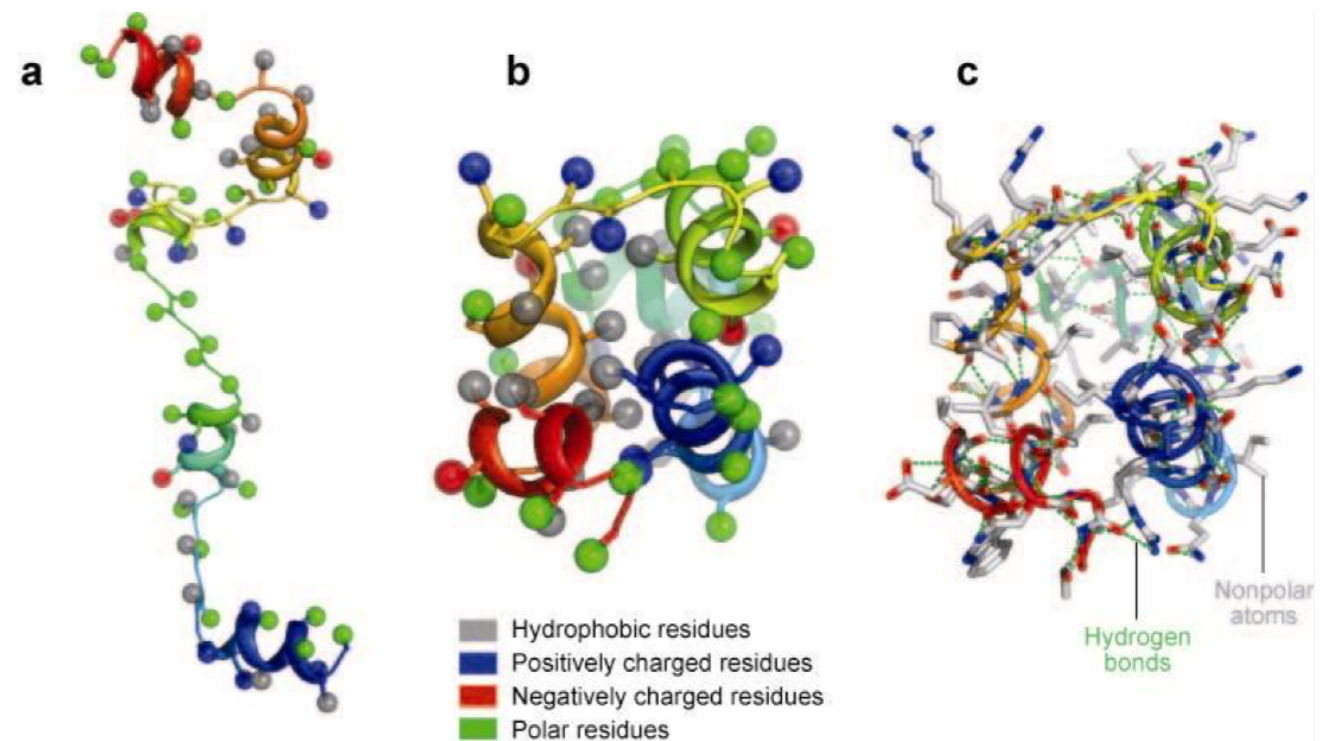


Rosetta

- *ab initio* model generation and model optimization
- Requires extensive computational sampling



Black - Rosetta *ab initio* models, Red - Crystal structure after Relax protocol



Das R, Baker D. 2008. Annu. Rev. Biochem. 77:363–82.



Why Rosetta

- Designed to recognize near-native structures among many possible models; combines empirical and physical potentials
 - All-atom force field, incorporates solvation effects, attractive forces, hydrogen bonds, knowledge-based dihedral restraints
- Can yield chemically realistic *ab initio* models without experimental data to guide assembly
 - Occasionally good enough for molecular replacement
- Shown to be useful for NMR structure determination with sparse data (CS-Rosetta), MR solution improvement (MR-Rosetta), RNA structure refinement (ERRASER)

Kuhlman et al. (2003) *Science* **302**:1364-8

Rohl et al. (2004) *Methods Enzymol.* **383**:66-93

Keedy et al. (2009) *Proteins* **77**:29-49

<https://www.rosettacommons.org>



Complementary Algorithms

Phenix

- Reciprocal space X-ray target functions (ML, MLHL, LS-twin)
- Bulk solvent correction
- B-factor refinement (including TLS)
- Map calculation
- Density modification (using RESOLVE)

Rosetta

- Physically realistic potentials
- Repacking to remove steric clashes and building rotameric sidechains
- Torsion-angle minimization
- Real-space target (refinement against electron density)
- Fragment-based rebuilding (optional, not currently used)

Python/C++ architecture facilitates combination



Low Resolution Protocol

- Sidechain repacking (using density)
- Coordinate refinement (reciprocal space torsion angle minimization and reduced nonbonded penalty)
- B-factor refinement

3 Cycles

- Sidechain repacking (using density)
- Coordinate refinement (real space and reciprocal space torsion angle minimization)
- B-factor refinement

5 Cycles

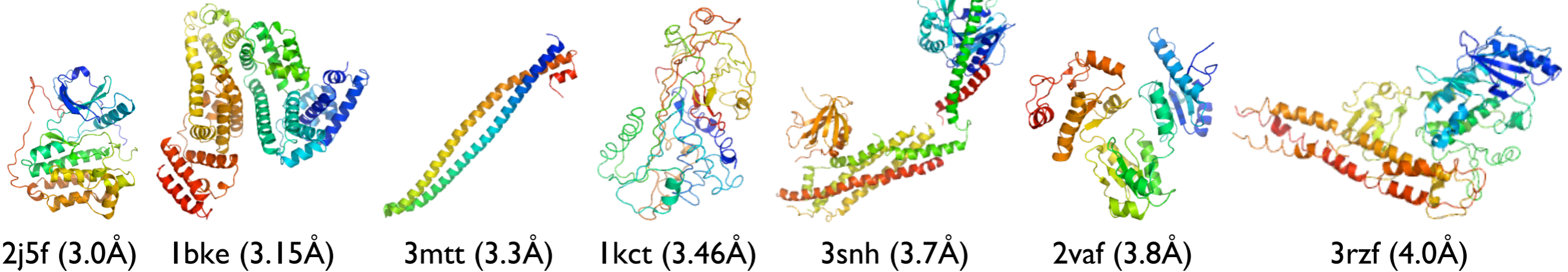
- Sidechain repacking (using density)
- Coordinate refinement (reciprocal space minimization with restrained bonds and angles)
- B-factor refinement

2 Cycles

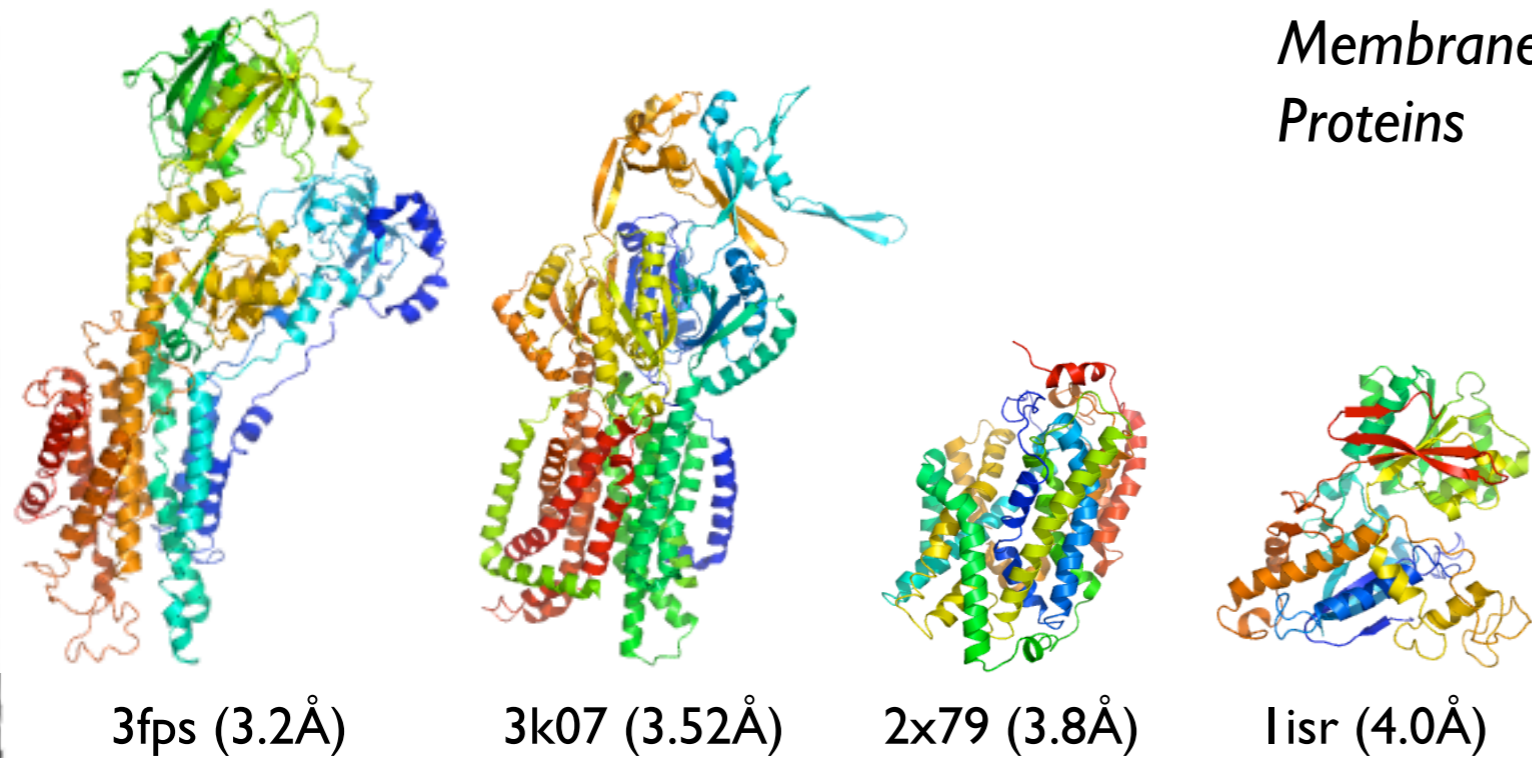
Protocol run 5 times in parallel and the best model selected based on R-free

Test Cases

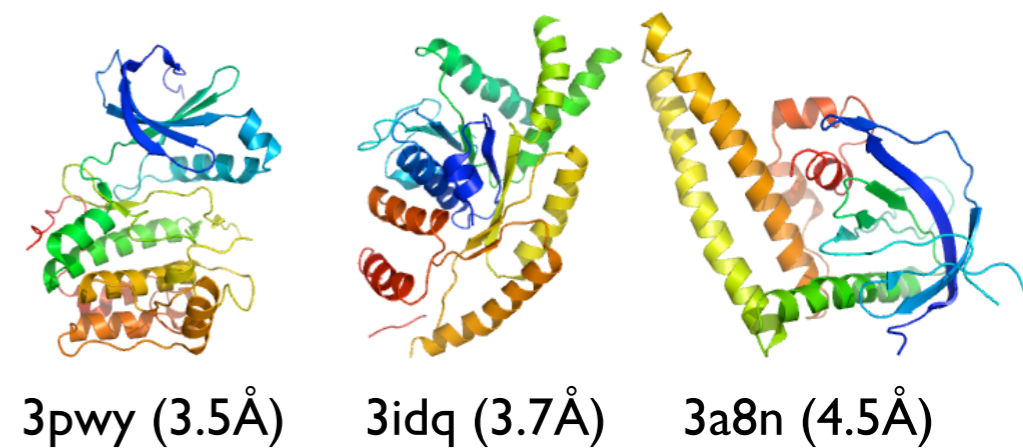
Solved by molecular replacement with same protein from another deposition at higher resolution



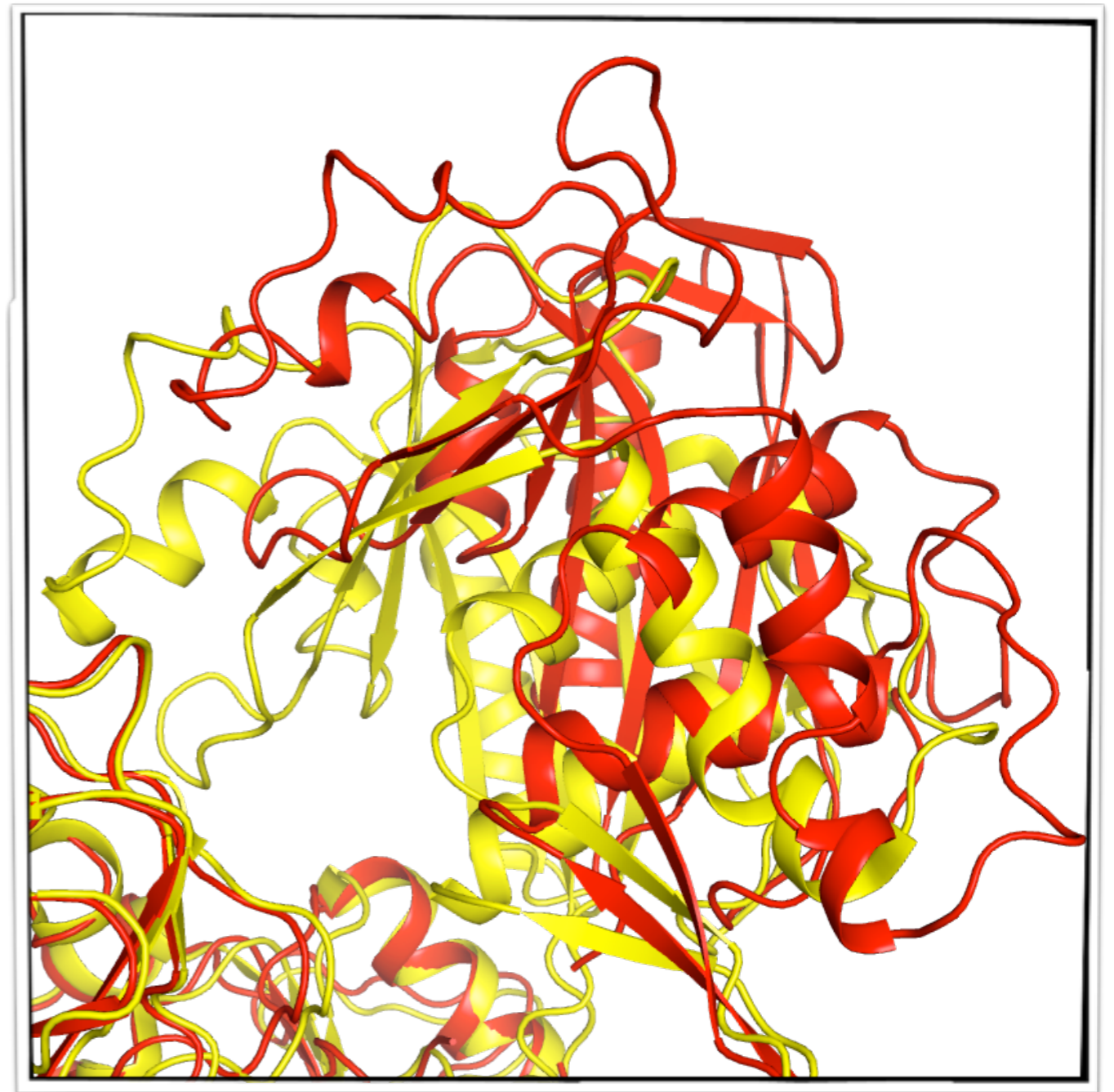
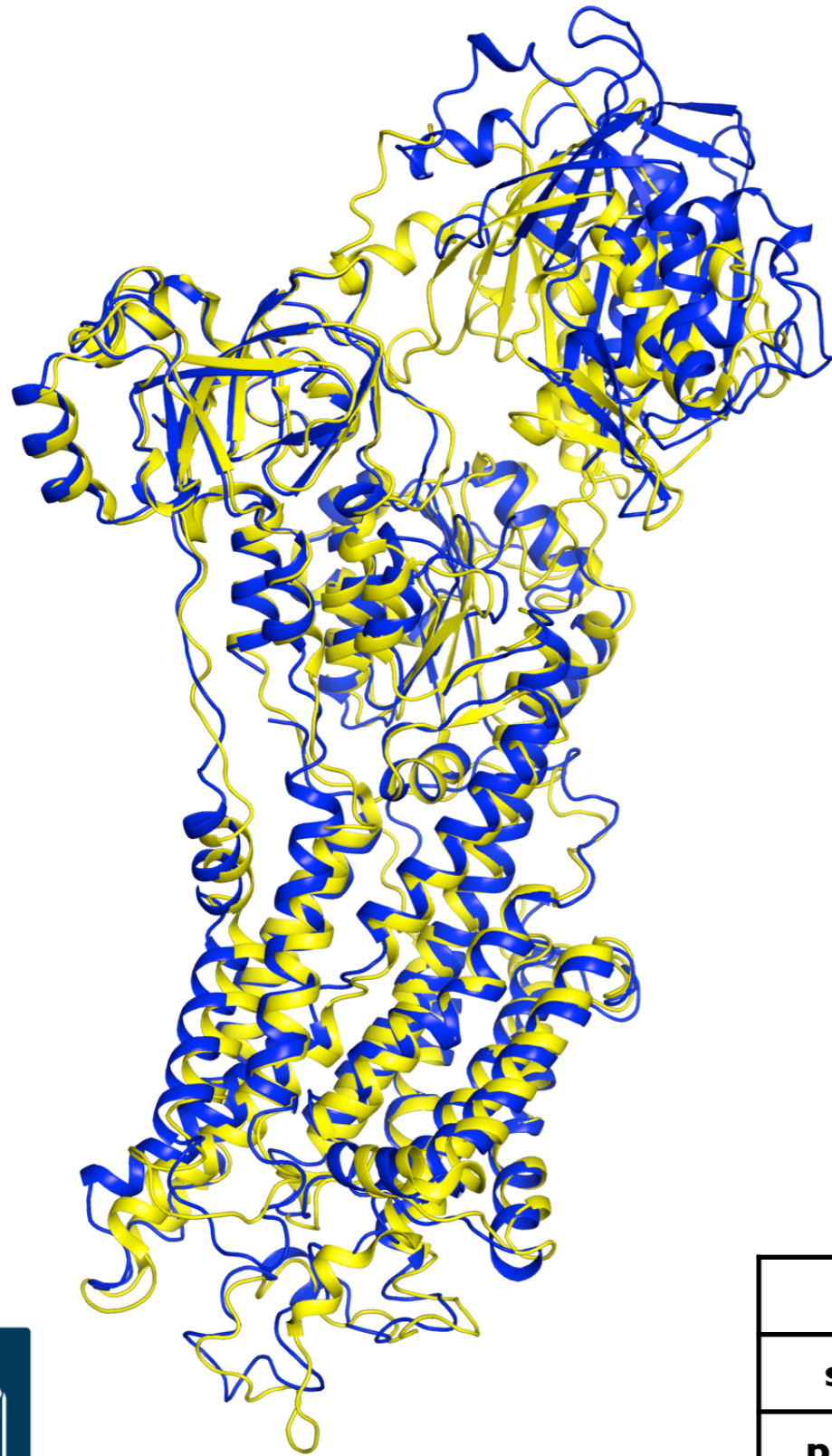
Membrane Proteins



Solved using homologous proteins

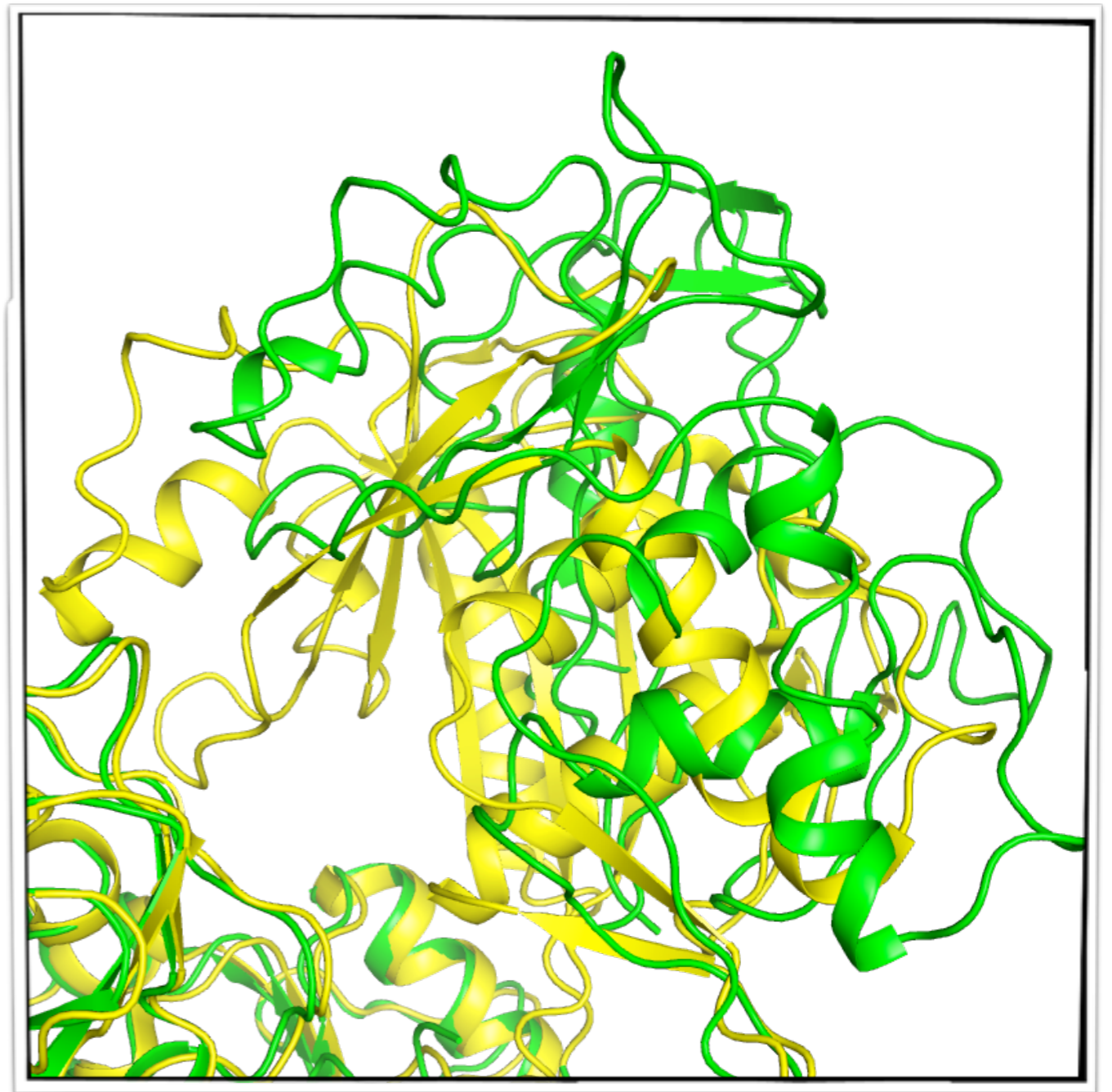
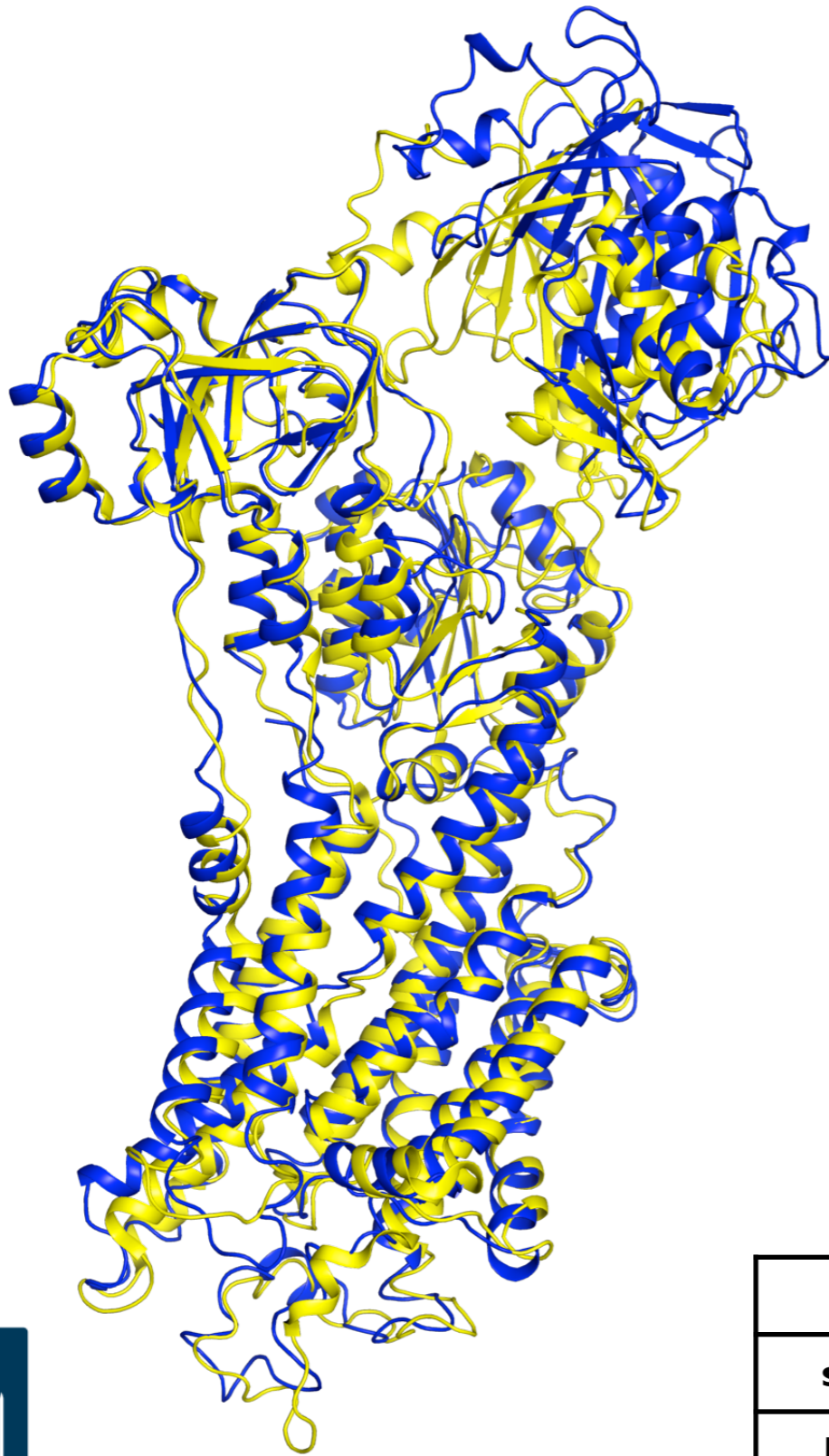


Calcium ATPase - phenix.refine



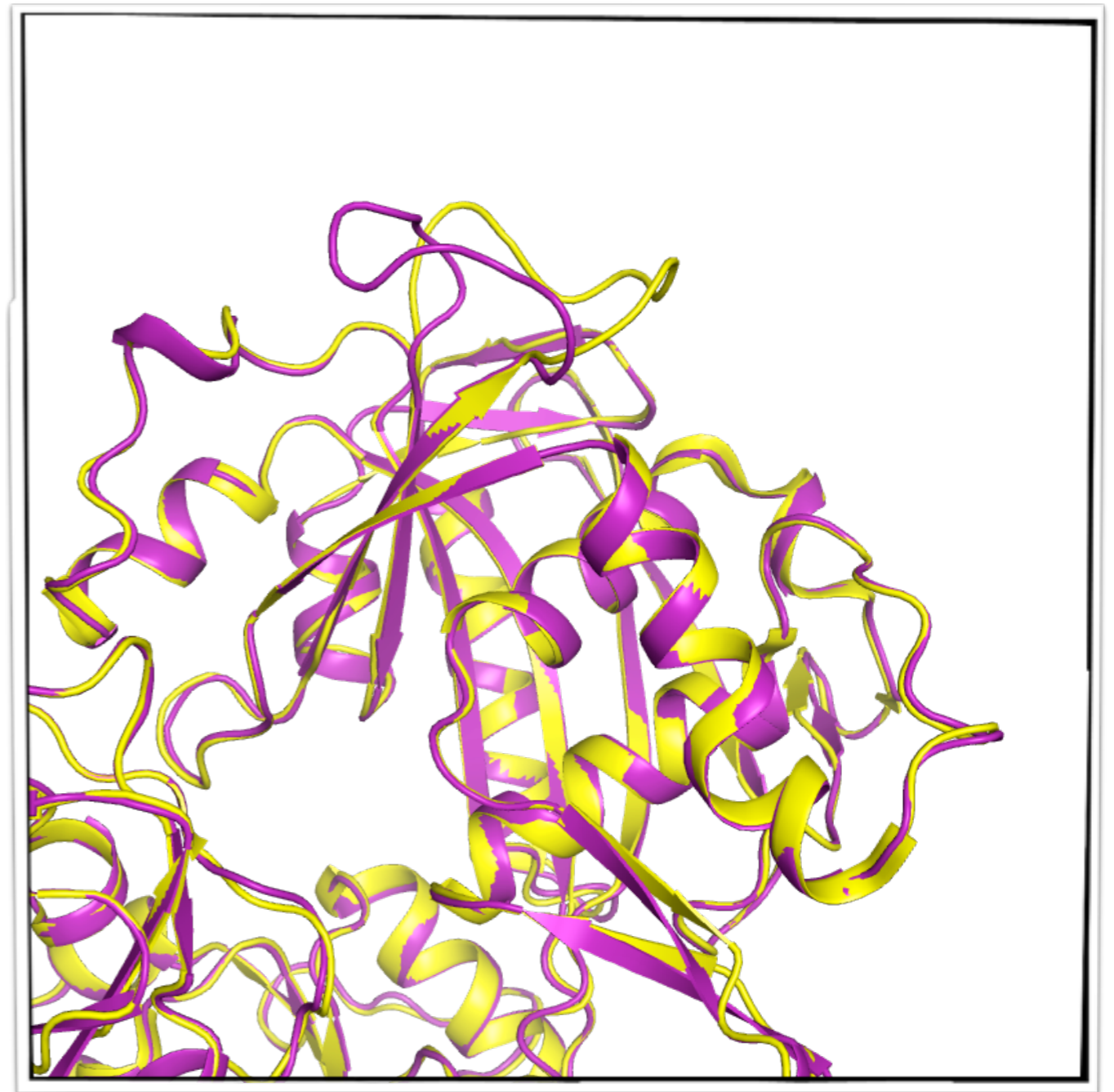
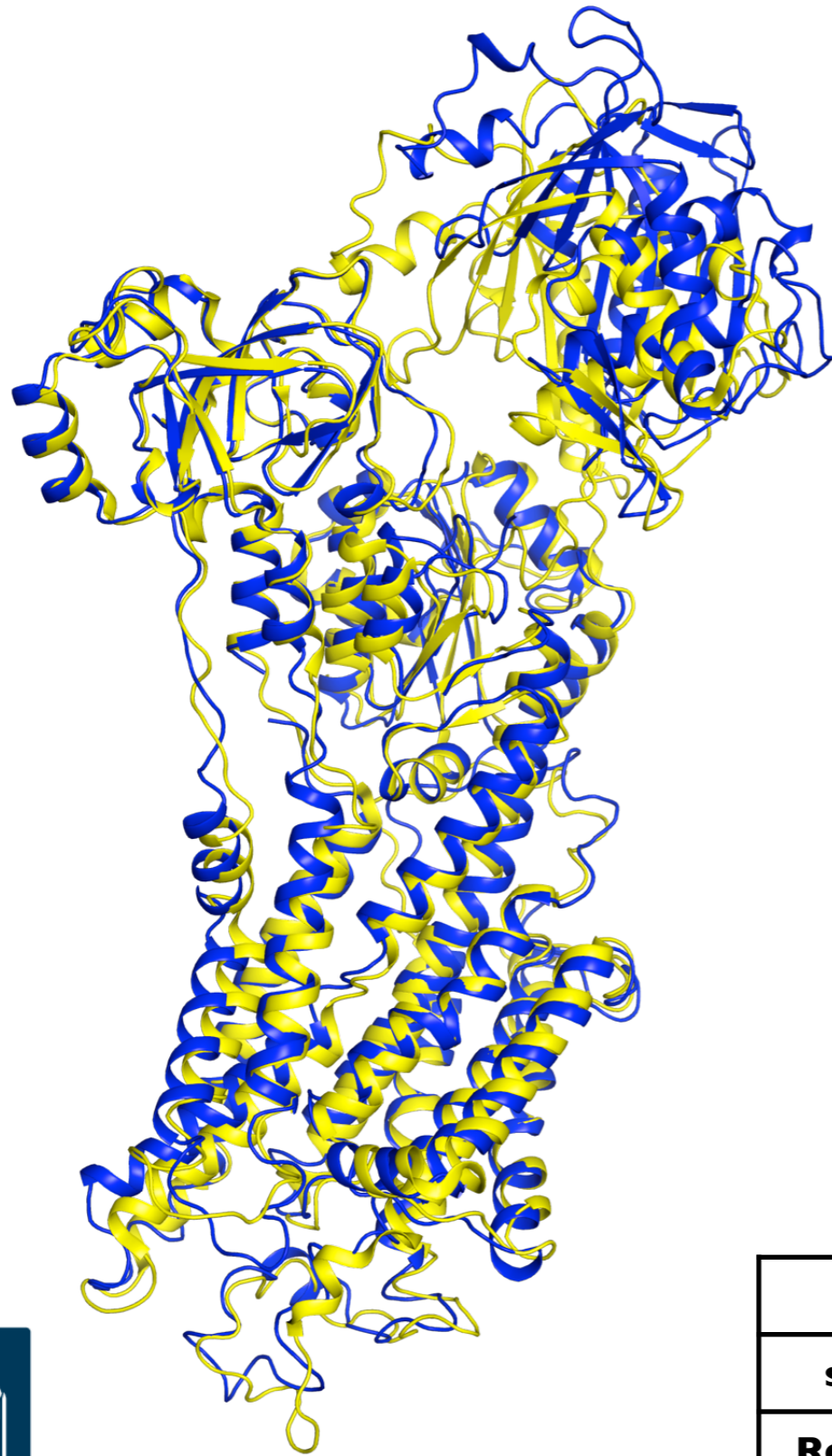
	R	R-free	mp score	RMSD
start	0.47	0.51	3.21	6.1
phenix	0.43	0.48	2.66	6.2

Calcium ATPase - DEN



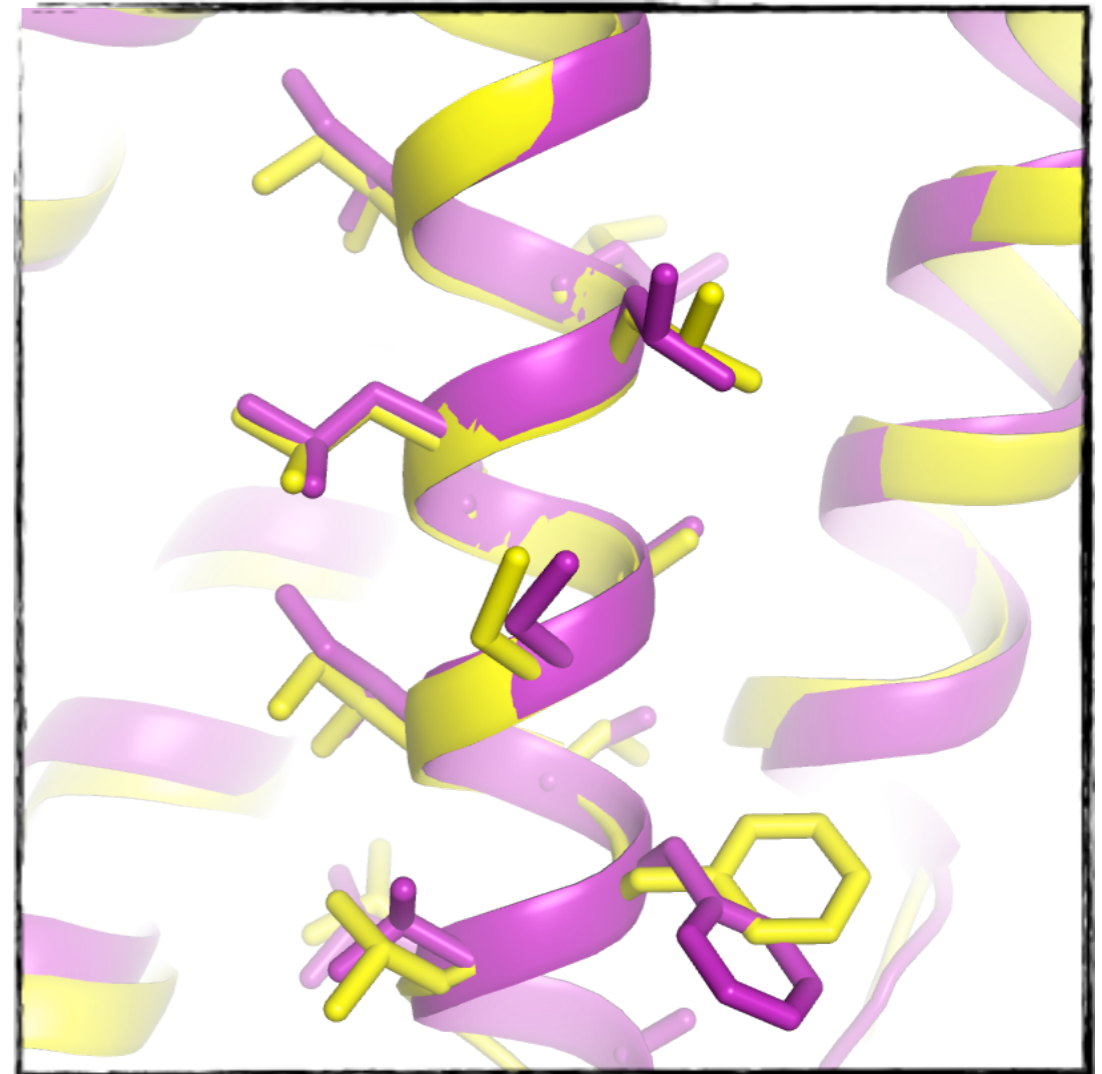
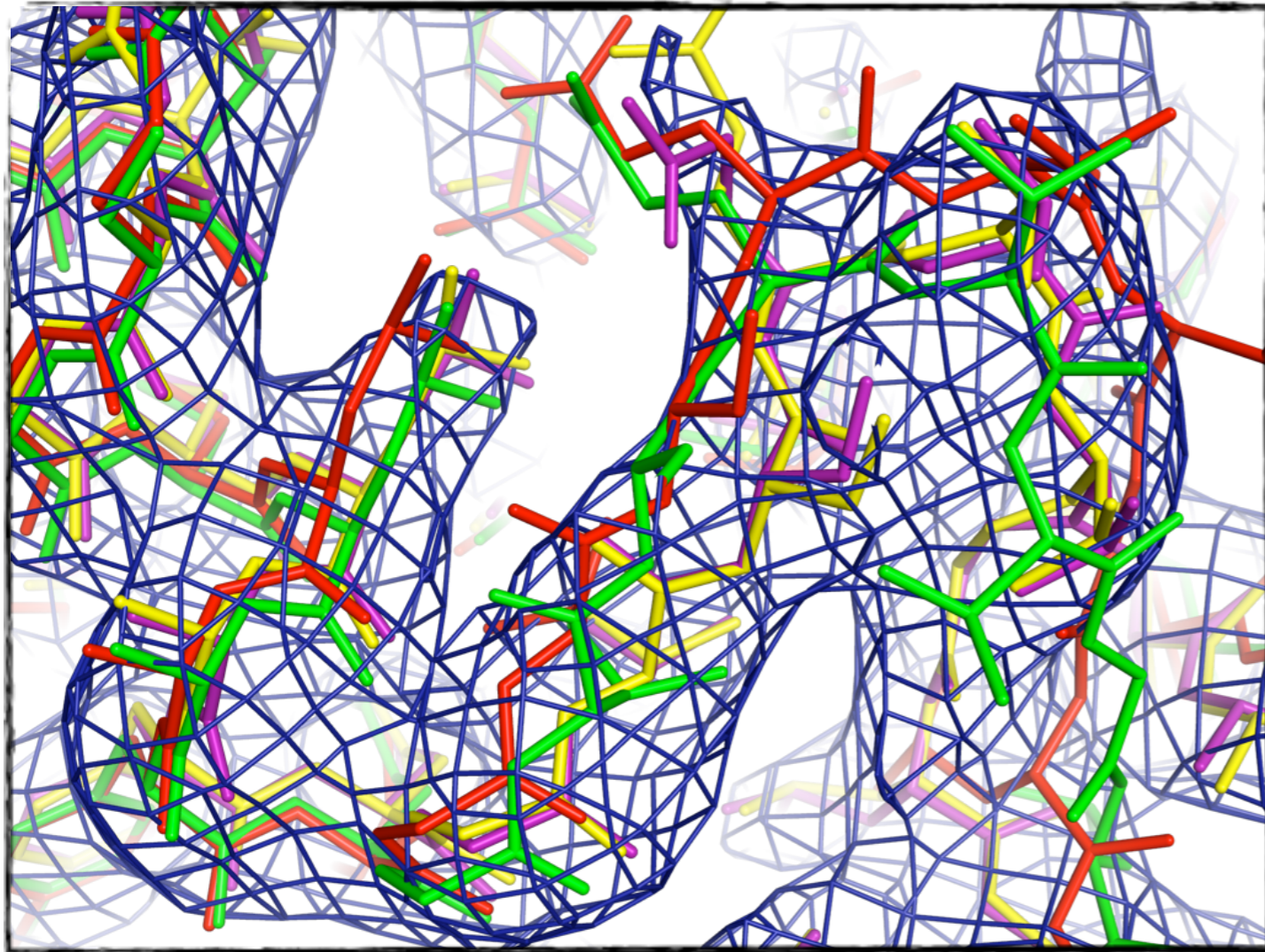
	R	R-free	mp score	RMSD
start	0.47	0.51	3.21	6.1
DEN	0.38	0.44	3.79	6.1

Calcium ATPase - Phenix-Rosetta



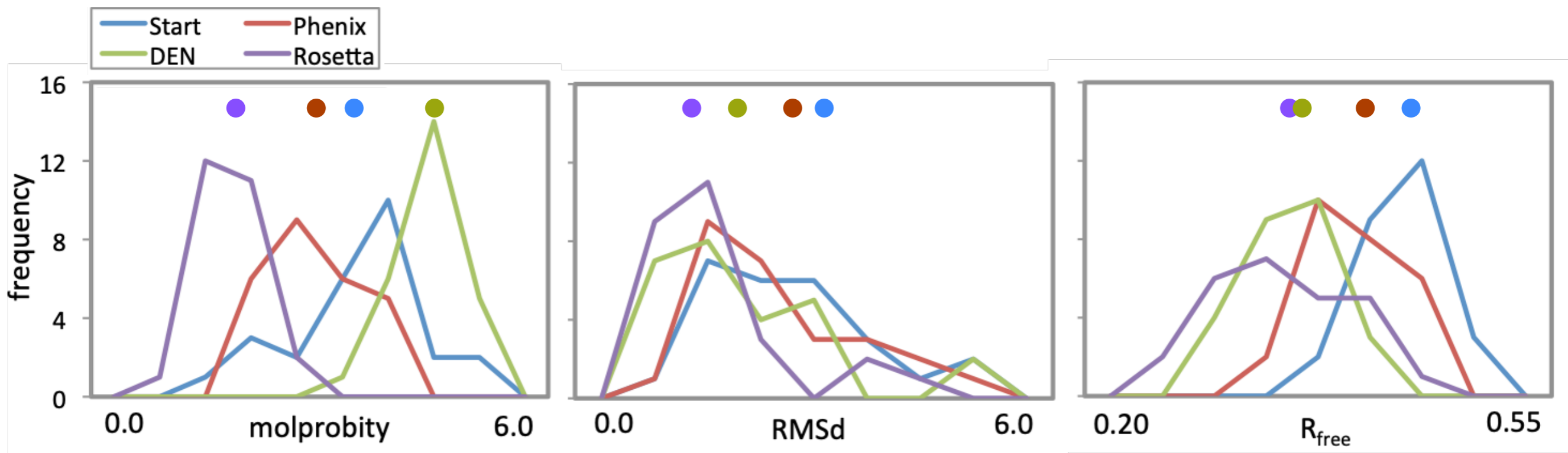
	R	R-free	mp score	RMSD
start	0.47	0.51	3.21	6.1
Rosetta	0.24	0.28	1.55	1.7

Calcium ATPase - Detail



- Phenix-Rosetta model is very close to the deposited structure (even at the level of side chains) with better fit to density

Improved Models



- Phenix-Rosetta typically has improved fit to the crystallographic data and models are closer to the known structure
- Phenix-Rosetta always has improved model quality, as judged by Molprobity
- Generally similar to DEN results but with much improved geometry, and generally faster

DiMiao et al., 2013, *Nature Methods* **10**:1102-1104

Cryo-EM Atomic Model Optimization

**Pavel Afonine, Oleg Sobolev, Nat Echols, Jeff
Headd, Nigel Moriarty**

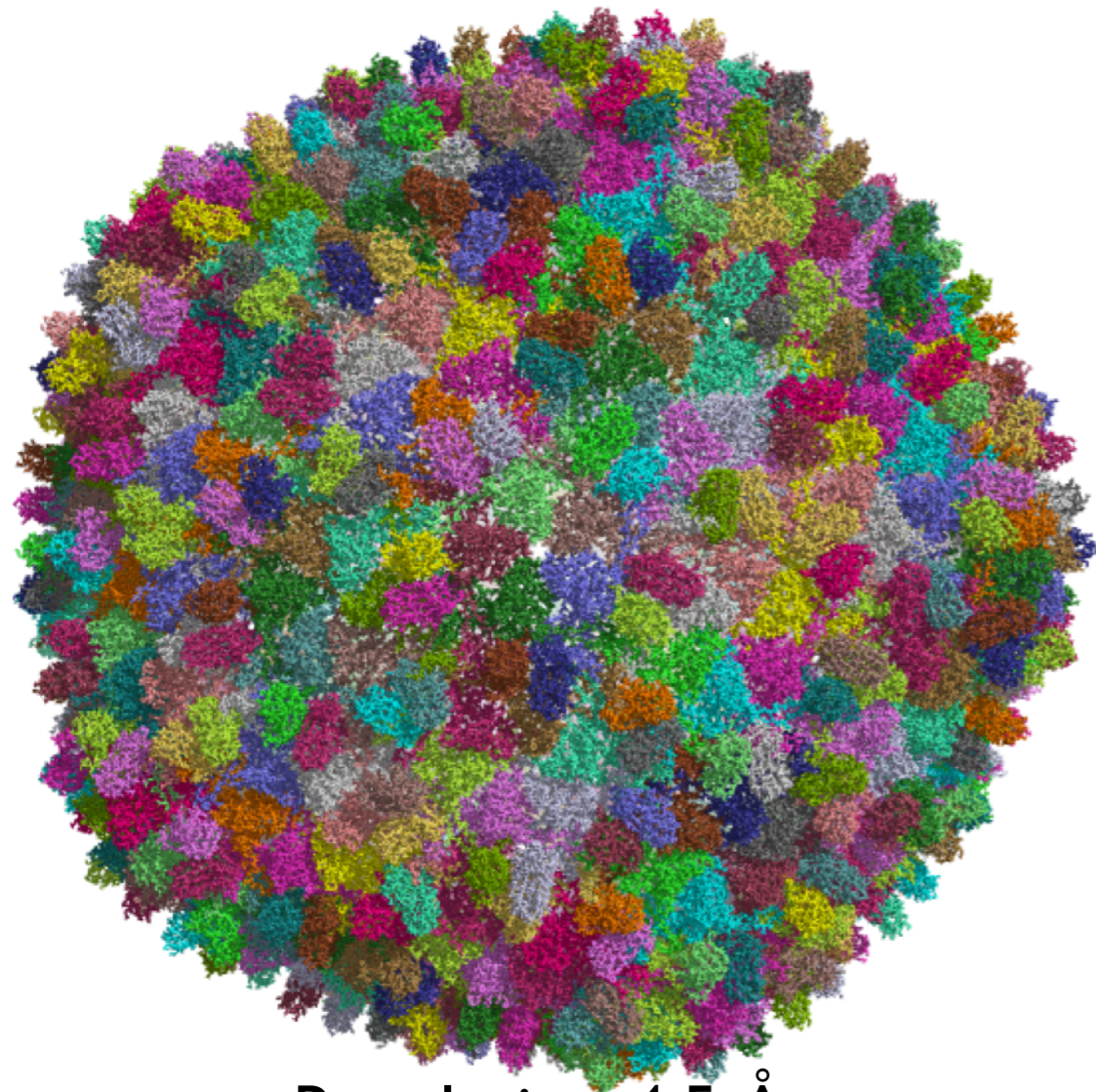
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Tom Terwilliger

Los Alamos National Laboratory



Challenges

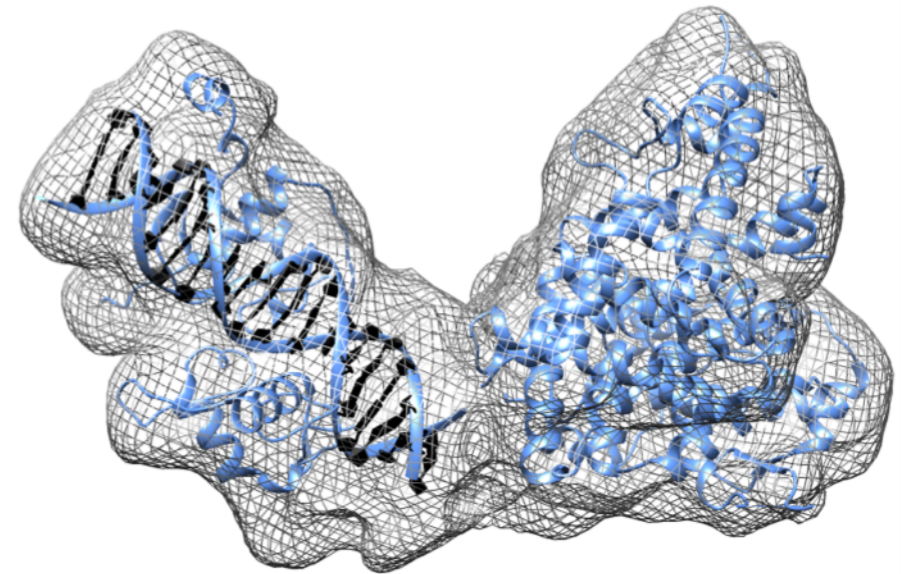


Resolution 4.5 Å

840 chains, 187,320 residues 1,443,960

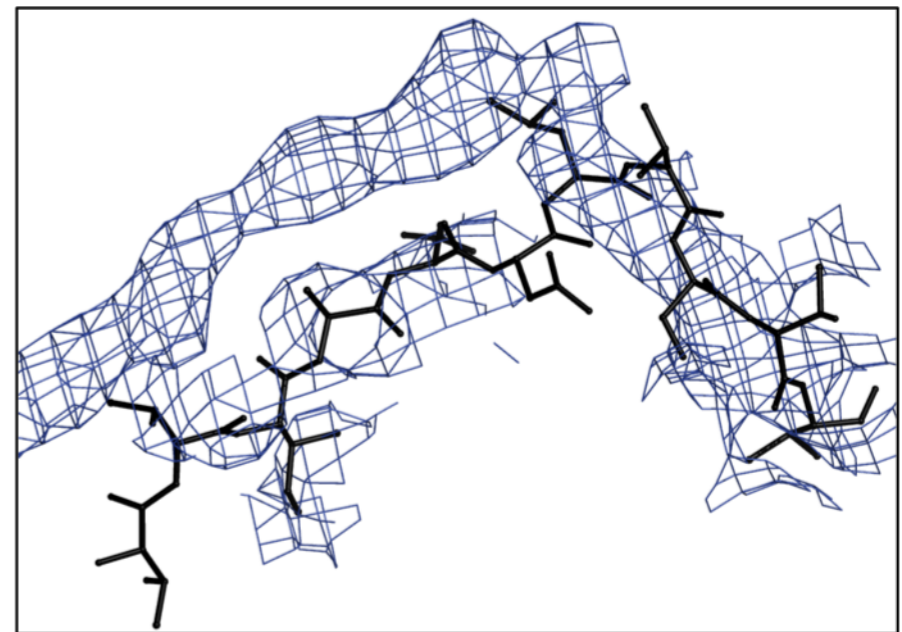
atoms

Size



Resolution: 11.6 Å

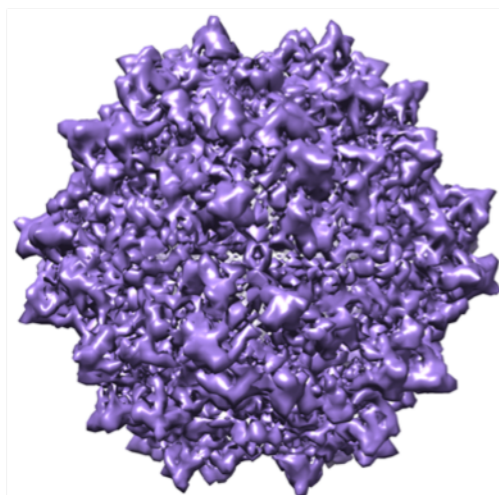
Wide Resolution Range



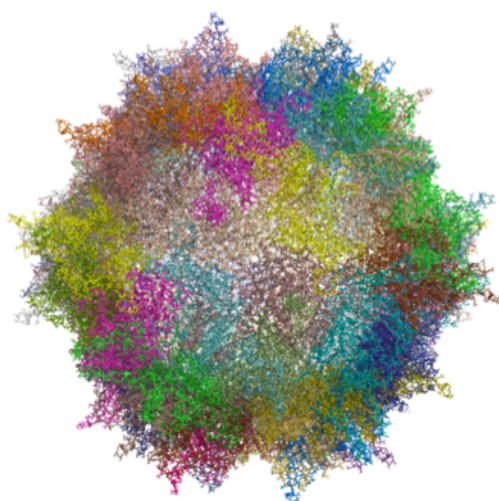
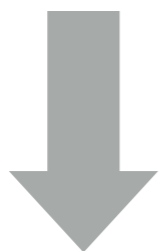
User data, resolution: 3.8 Å

Poor Initial Fit

Direct Refinement Against the Map



Real space
refinement



VOLUME FOUR


COMPUTATIONAL CRYSTALLOGRAPHY NEWSLETTER

JULY MMXIII

ENSEMBLE REFINEMENT, CABLAM

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Editor
Nigel W. Moriarty, NWMoriarty@LBL.Gov

PHENIX News

New programs
FEM: Feature Enhanced Maps (Pavel V. Afonine)

Interpretation of a crystallographic map is a means of obtaining an atomic representation of a crystal structure or the map itself may serve as the crystal model. There are number of factors that affect quality of crystallographic maps that in turn affect difficulty (or even feasibility) of their interpretation and quality of resulting model of crystal structure, and include:

- finite resolution of measured reflections;
- incompleteness of data (missing reflections within the resolution range of the measured data);
- experimental errors in measured reflections;
- errors in atomic model parameters.

These factors a) result in artificial peaks in the map that may be confused with the signal and therefore erroneously interpreted in terms of atomic model, b) introduce noise that may obscure the signal and c) may distort the signal in various ways.

Another fundamentally different contributor to the difficulty of map interpretation is that not all the signal has the same strength. For example, a strong signal arising from a heavy atom derivative may easily obscure a very weak signal (that may be at or below the noise level) arising from a partially occupied very mobile ligand or residue side chain alternative conformation or even hydrogen atoms.

The Computational Crystallography Newsletter (CCN) is a regularly distributed electronically via email and the PHENIX website, www.phenix-online.org/newsletter. Feature articles, meeting announcements and reports, information on research or other items of interest to computational crystallographers or crystallographic software users can be submitted to the editor at any time for consideration. Submission of text by email or word-processing files using the CCN templates is requested. The CCN is not a formal publication and the authors retain full copyright on their contributions. The articles reproduced here may be freely downloaded for personal use, but to reference, copy or quote from it, such permission must be sought directly from the authors and agreed with them personally.

Computational Crystallography Newsletter (2013). Volume 4, Part 2.
28

Real Space Refinement

- Has a long history in both X-ray crystallography and cryo-EM
 - Early crystallographic refinement programs (Diamond)
 - Alternative to reciprocal space refinement, then applied to EM maps (TNT, RSRef)
 - Regularly used in model building (O, Coot)
- New structure fitting approaches make use of real space refinement
 - Molecular dynamics flexible fitting (MDFF)
 - Deformable elastic network fitting (DireX)
 - Rosetta model building and model refinement

Refinement

- An *optimization* algorithm is used to minimize a *target function* by changing the *parameters* of the model
- Parameters:
 - coordinates, atomic displacements, occupancies
- Optimization algorithm:
 - minimization, simulated annealing
- Target function (Objective function):
 - Function based on electron density (real-space refinement)
 - Function based on structure factors (reciprocal-space refinement)

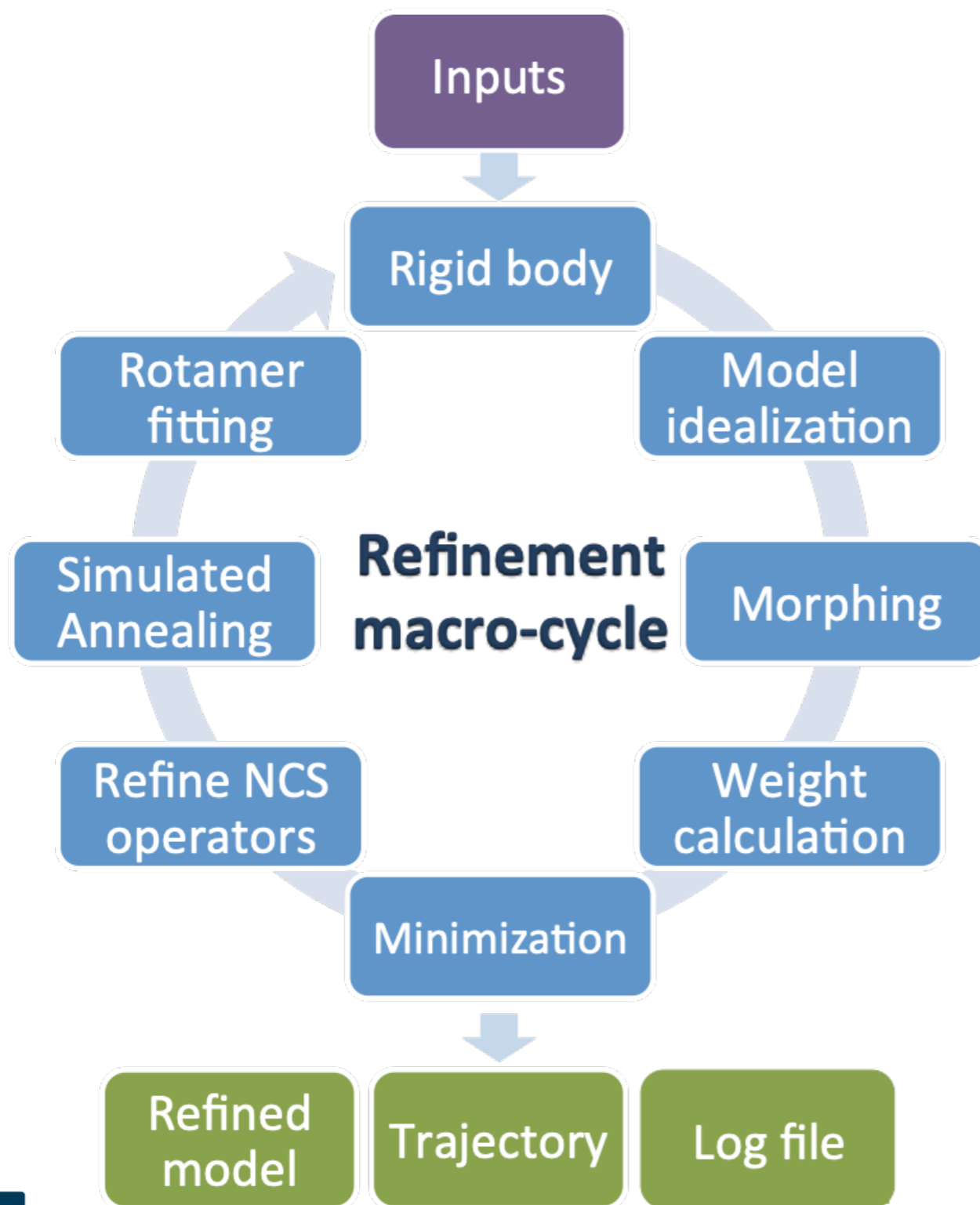
$$E = E_{chem} + w_a \sum_{hkl} \frac{1}{\sigma^2} (|F_o| - |F_c|)^2$$


Phenix

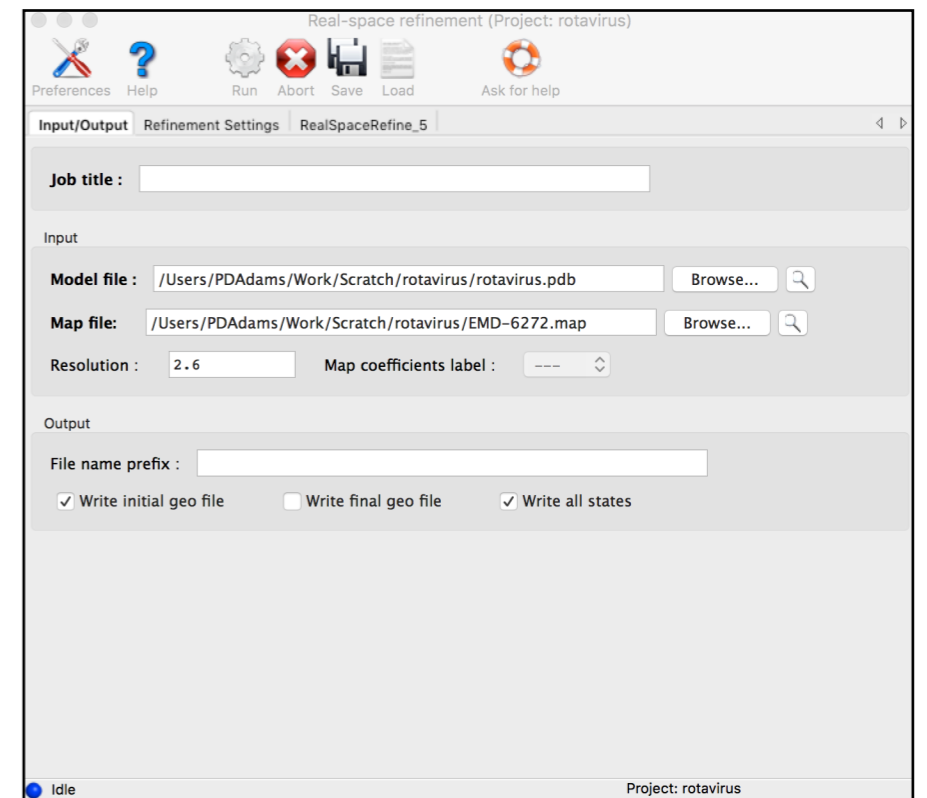
Goal for Cryo-EM Model Refinement

- Stable refinement against any density map (Cryo-EM or X-ray)
- End result should be an improvement in the model
- Large radius of convergence
- Final models with good fit to density and physically reasonable geometry (Ramachandran distribution, rotamers, packing)
- Fast: no more than one second per residue

Real Space Refinement Procedure



● `phenix.real_space_refine`



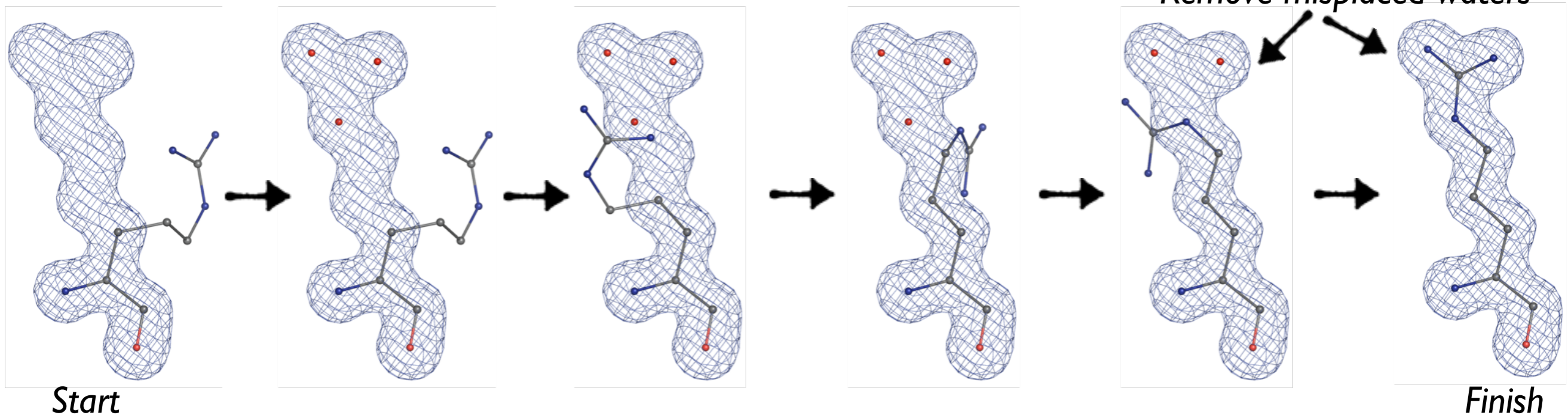
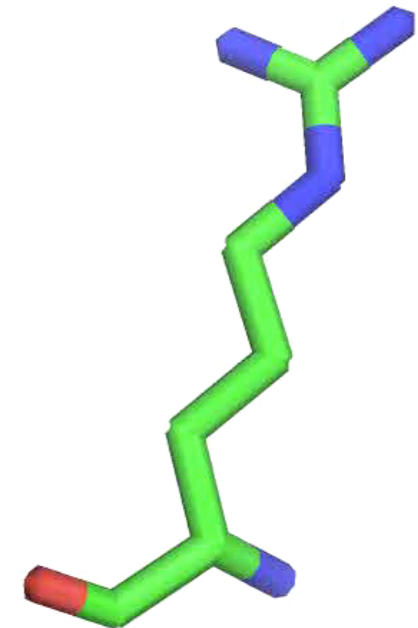
Pavel Afonine, Oleg Sobolev, Billy Poon (LBNL), Tom Terwilliger (LANL)

Hryc et al. Accurate model annotation of a near-atomic resolution cryo-EM map. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 2017, **114**:3103-3108.

Afonine et al. Real-space refinement in PHENIX for cryo-EM and crystallography. *Acta Cryst* 2018, **D74**:531-544.

Systematic Searching of Rotamers

- In a protein structure 99% of the side chains obey known rotameric conformations
- Often errors are fixed manually but can now be fixed automatically following structure validation
- A systematic search through rotamer space is combined with a fit-to-density score



Fast: 0.01 – 1 second per residue

Pavel Afonine, Jeff Headd, Nat Echols

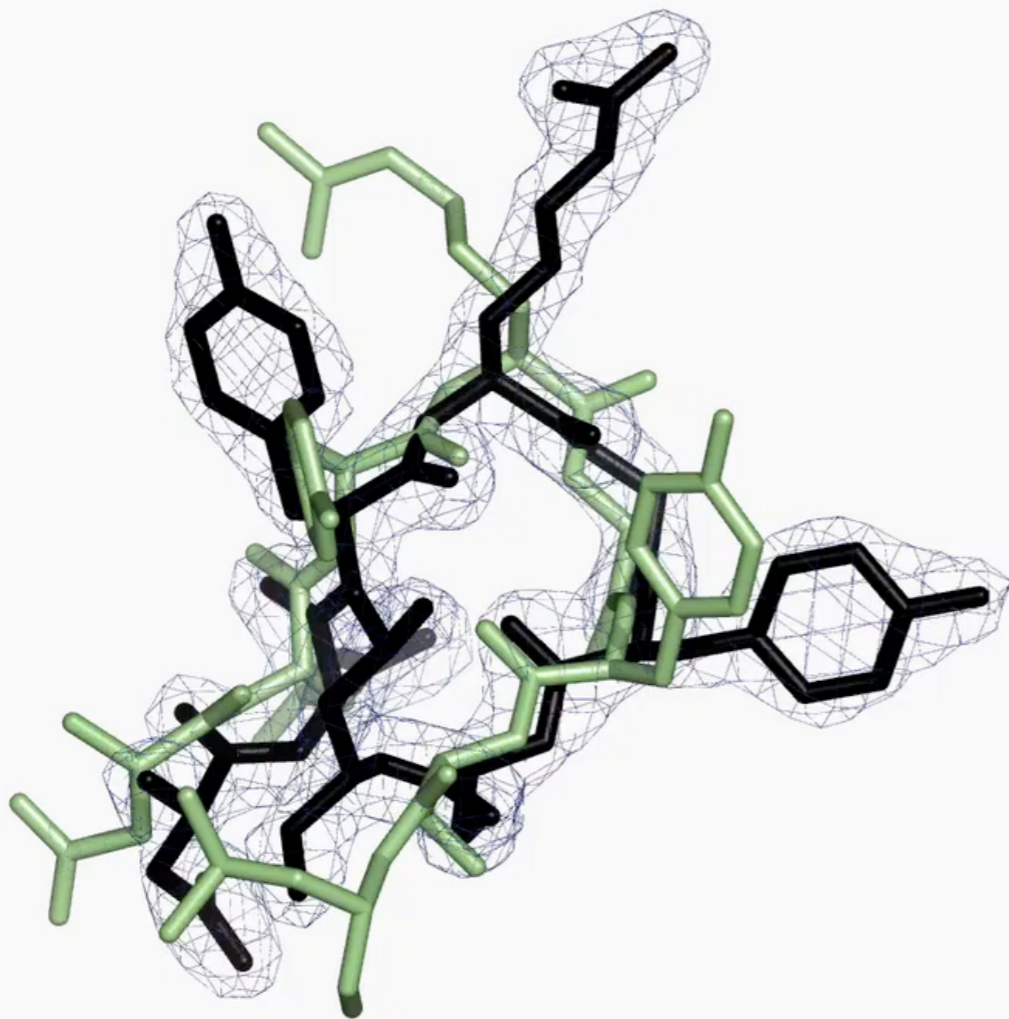
Afonine et al., *Acta Cryst.*
2012, **D68**:352-367

Phenix

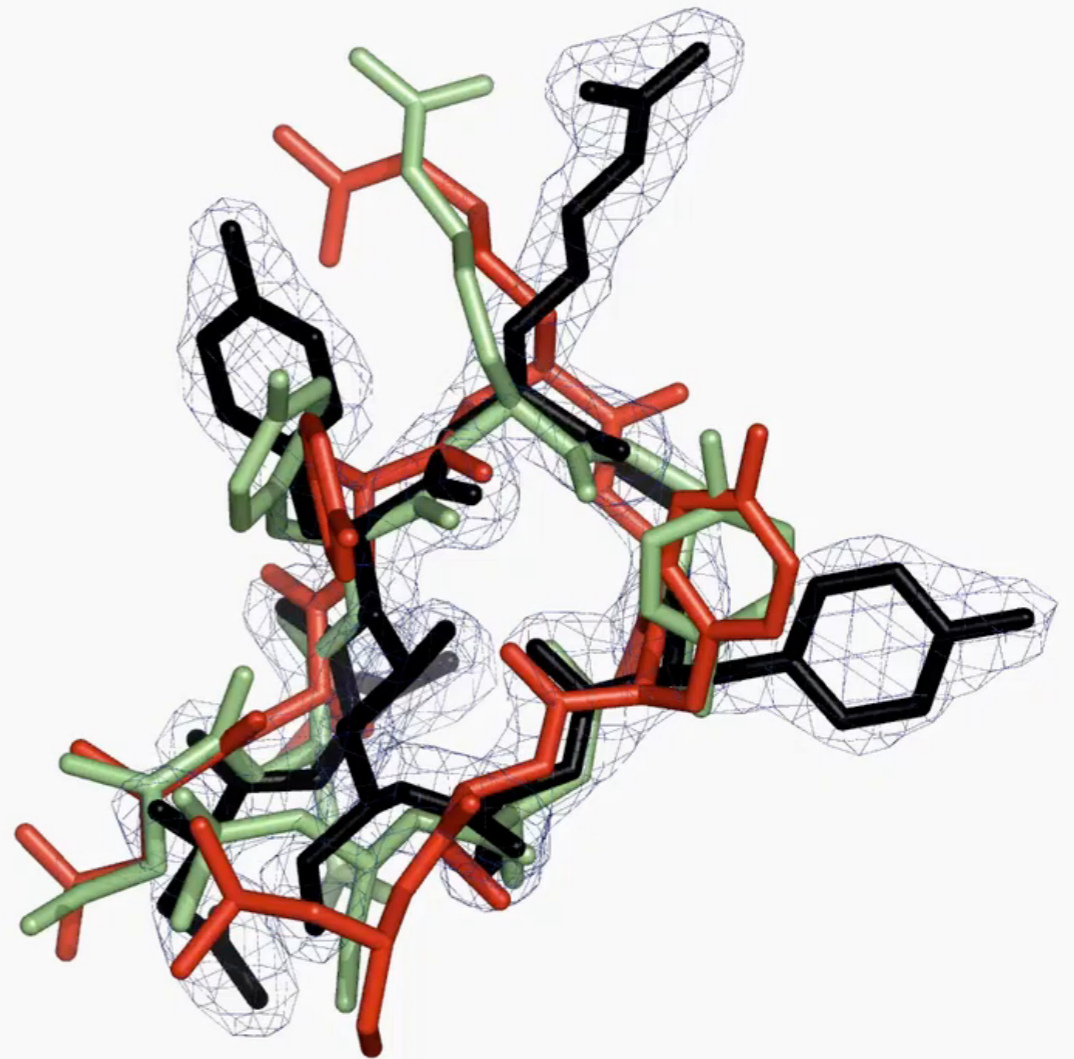


Optimization In Real Space

- Refinement against a map using minimization or other optimization method
- Minimization can get caught in local minima
- Simulated annealing is a method used to escape minima



Minimization

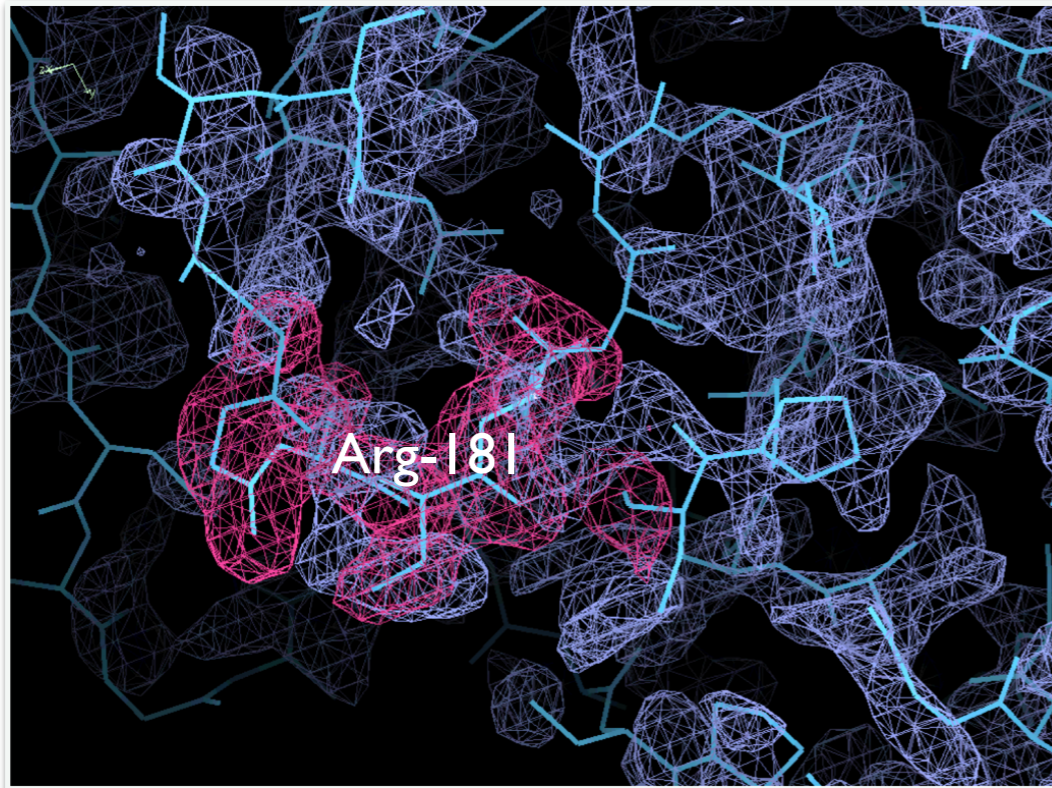


Simulated Annealing

Phenix

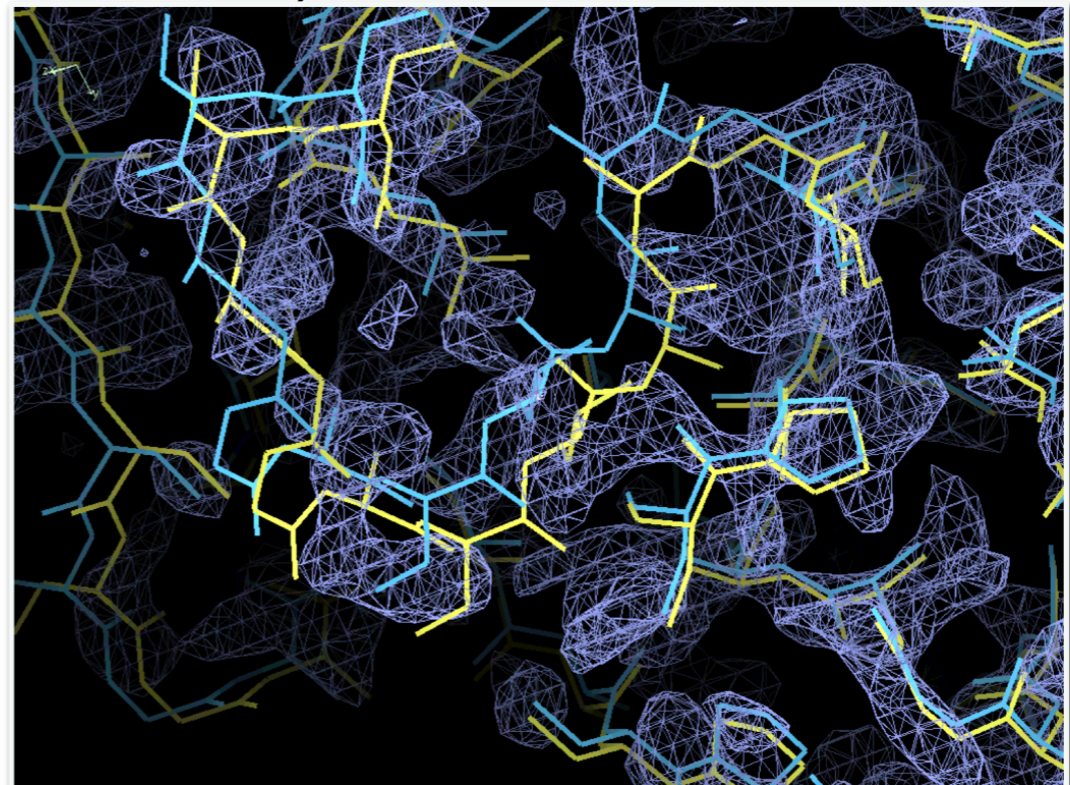
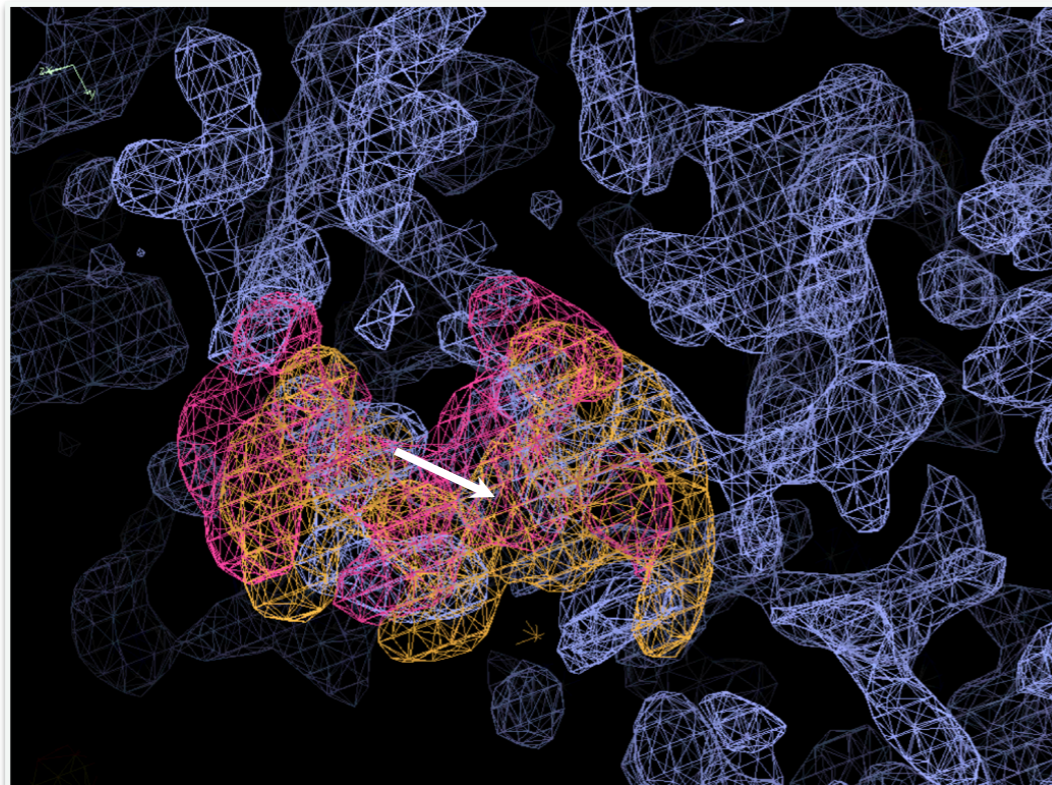
Pavel Afonine (LBNL)

Morphing



- Identify local translation to apply to one C_{α} atom and nearby atoms
- Smooth the local translations in window of 10 residues
- Apply the smoothed translation to all atoms in the residue

Tom Terwilliger, Los Alamos National Laboratory



Terwilliger et al., Acta Cryst. 2012,
D68:861-870

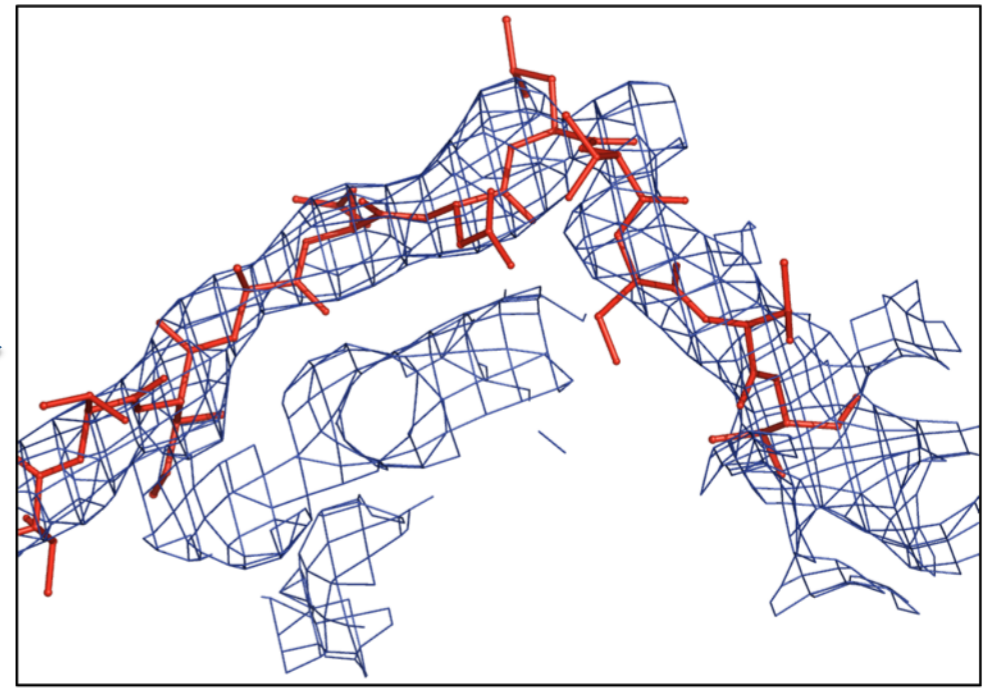
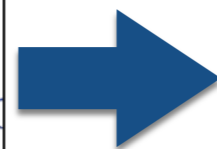
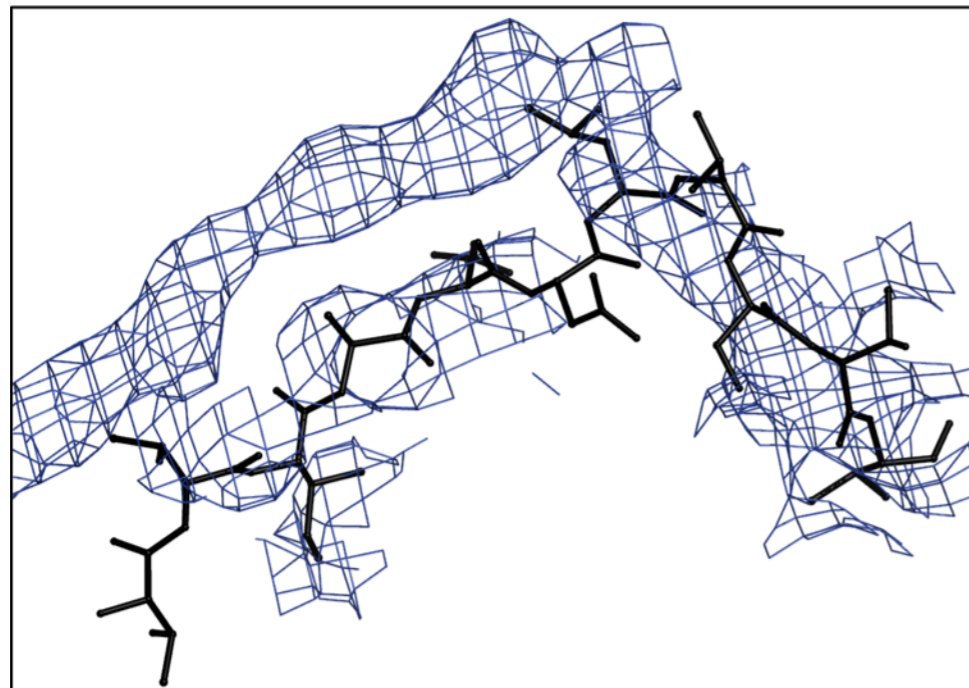
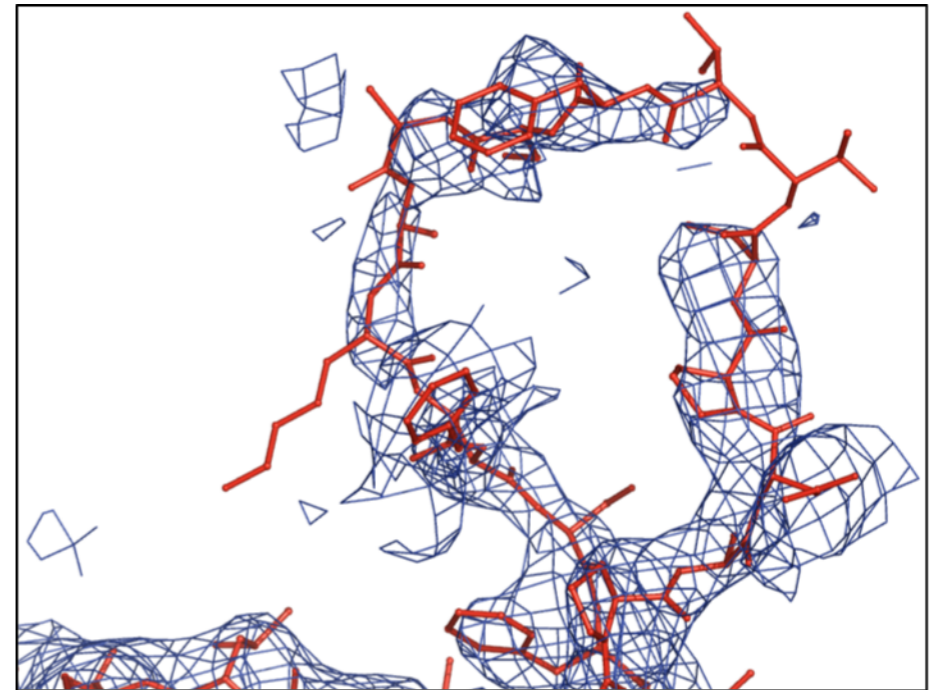
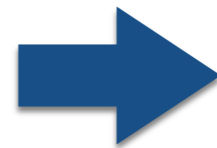
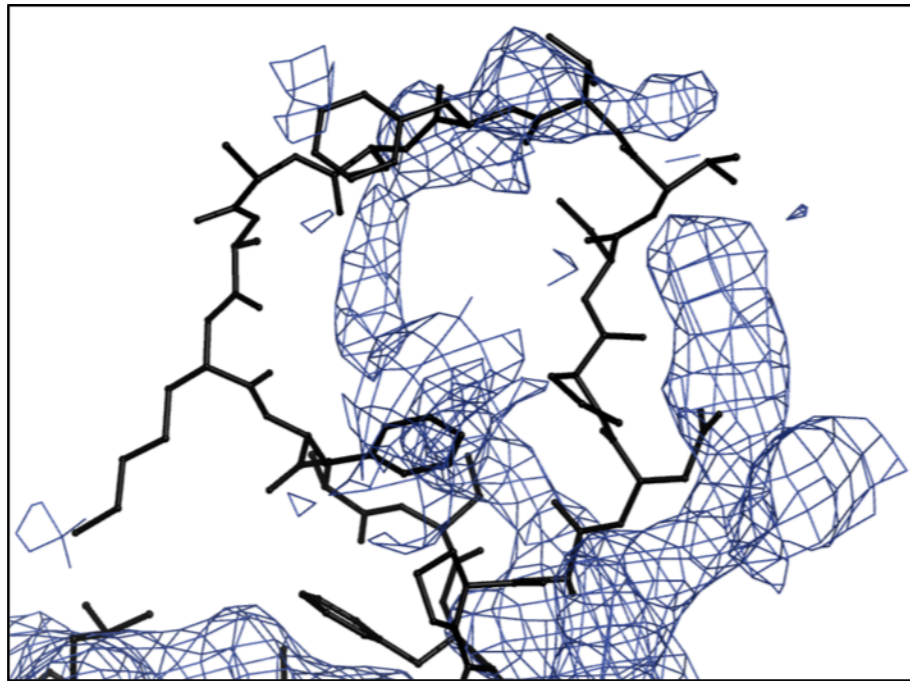

Phenix

Terwilliger et al., Acta Cryst. 2013,
D69:2244-2250



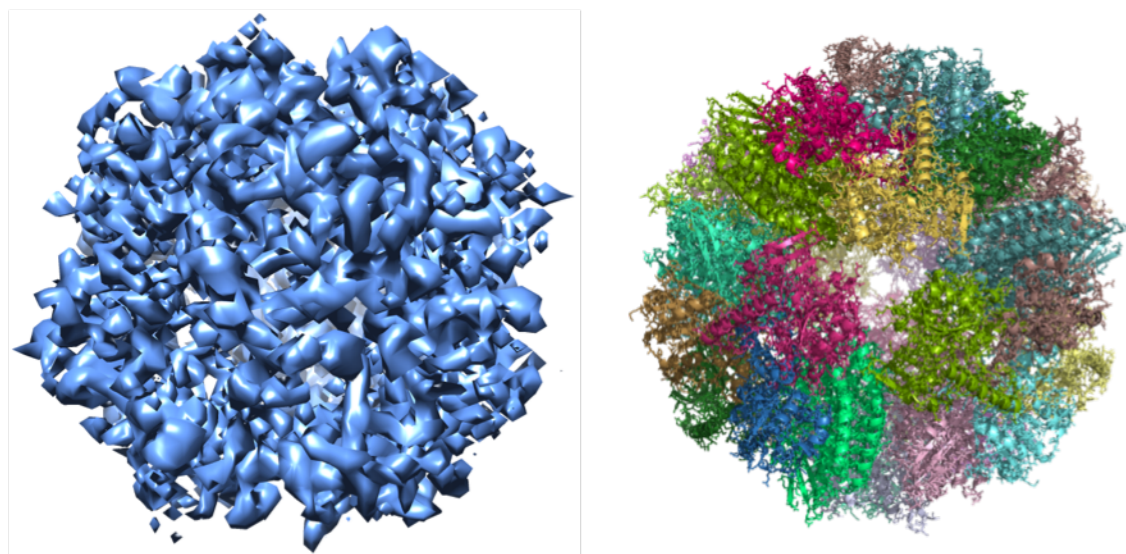
Real Space Refinement Improves Fit to Data

- Models are moved to better fit the Cryo-EM map



Typical Results at Higher Resolution

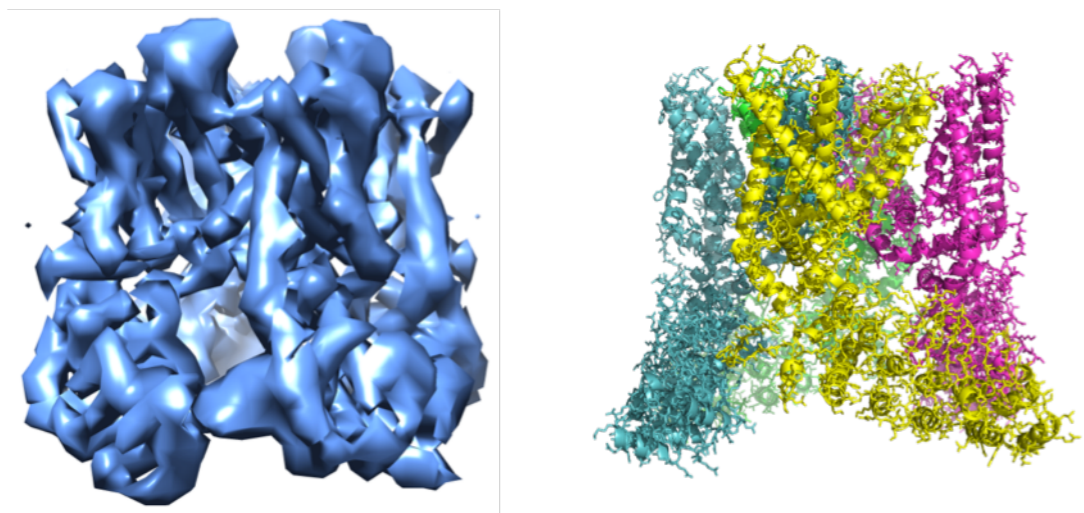
Resolution: 3.36 Å



Residues/atoms: 10,716/82,404
Refinement: 173 min

METRIC	Original	<i>Phenix</i>
Map CC	0.645	0.783
RMSD (bonds/angles)	0.02/2.05	0.01/1.21
Clashscore	117.1	18.79
Rama. outl., %	0.11	0.11
Rotamer outl., %	35.51	0
C-beta deviations	24	0

Resolution: 3.8 Å



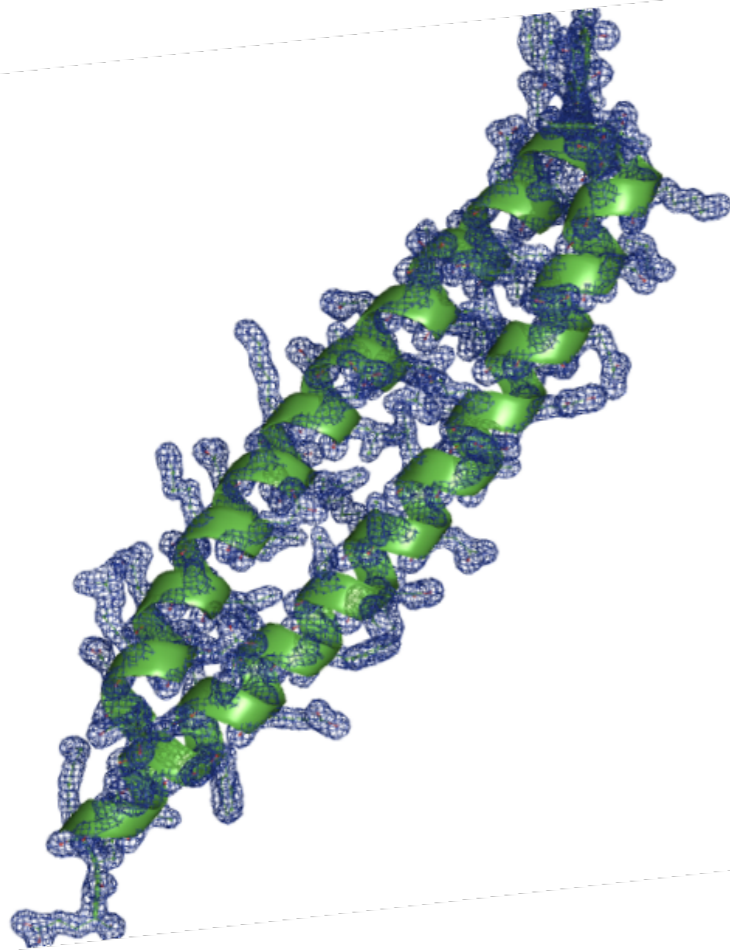
Residues/atoms: 2,324/17,424
Refinement: 20 min

METRIC	Original	<i>Phenix</i>
Map CC	0.650	0.714
RMSD (bonds/angles)	0.01/1.34	0.01/1.31
Clashscore	100.9	32.84
Rama. outl., %	0.52	0
Rotamer outl., %	27.99	0
C-beta deviations	0	0

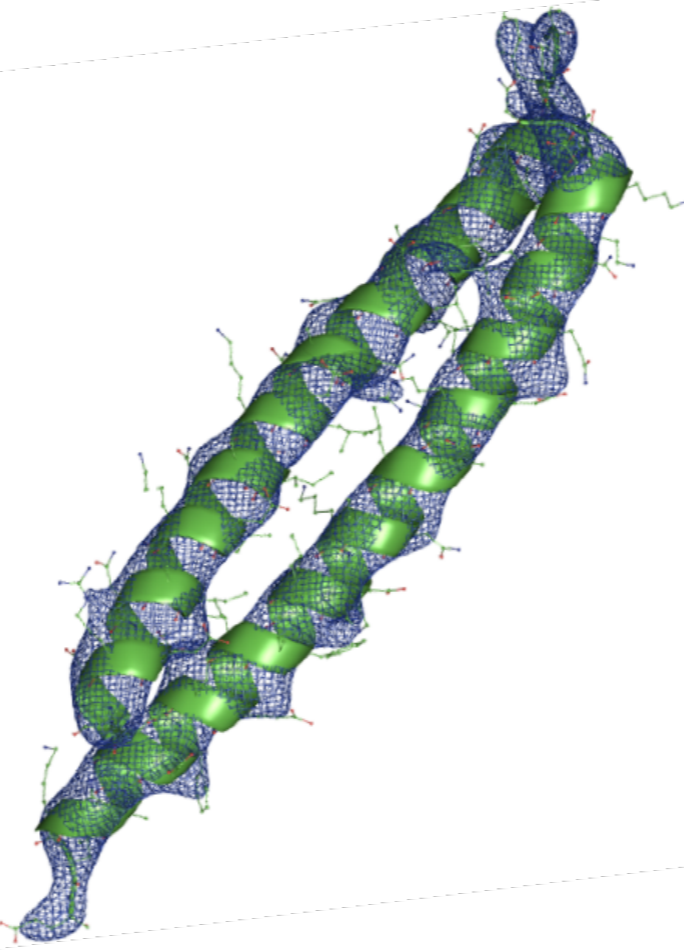
Lower Resolution Requires Additional Information

High Resolution

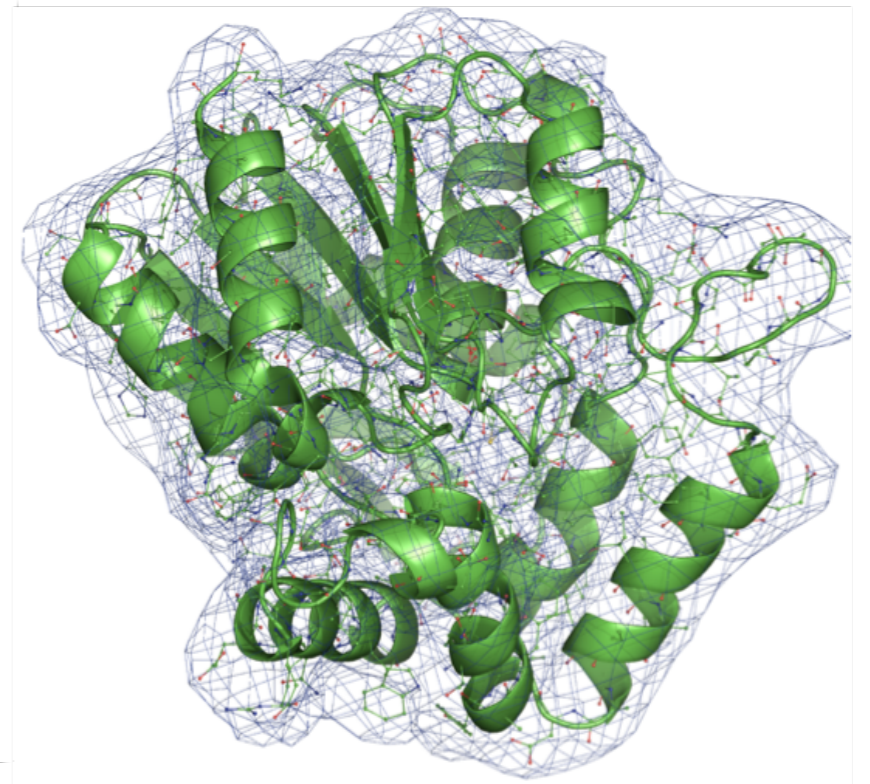
Low Resolution



Side chains

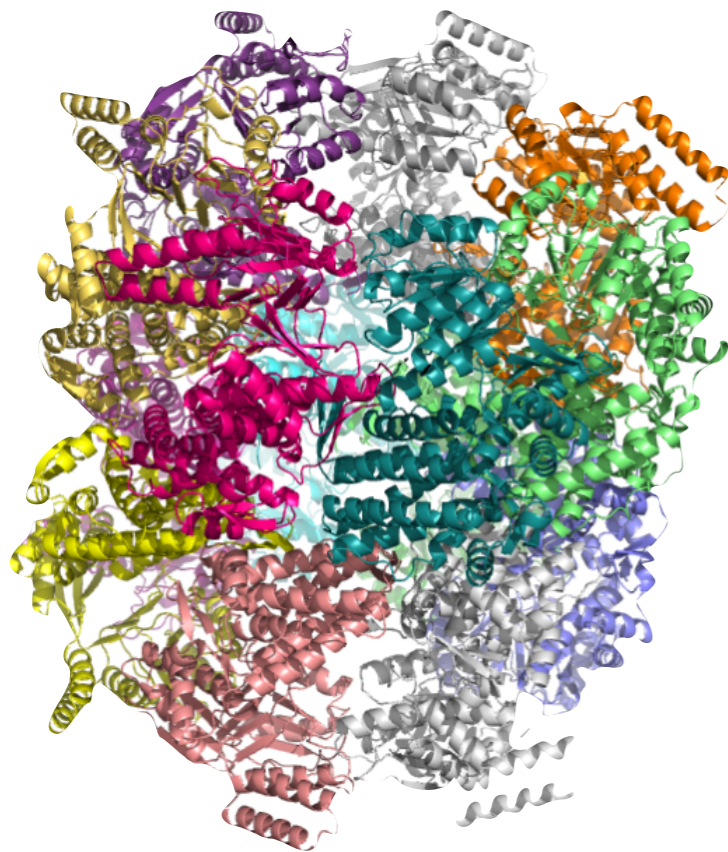


Secondary Structure

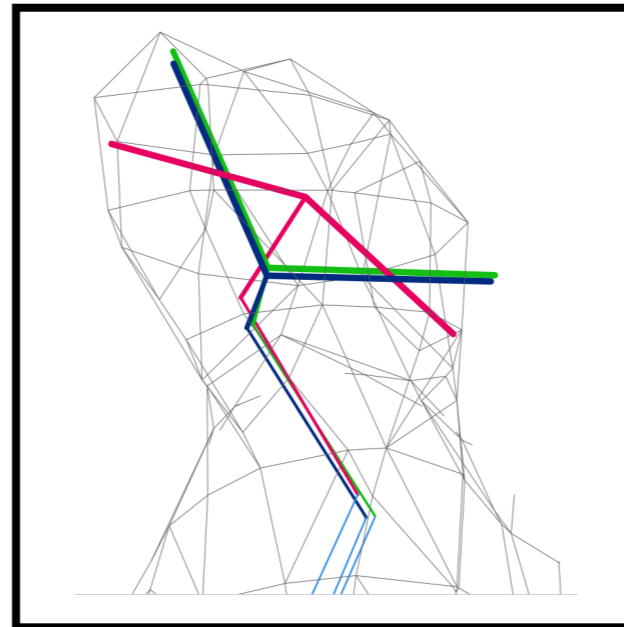


Molecule

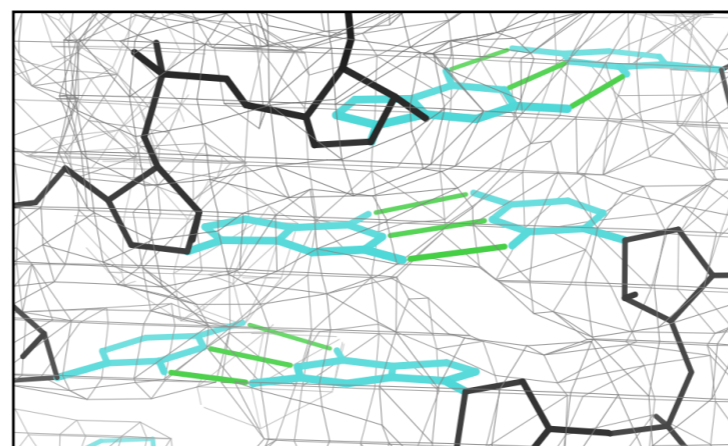
Model Restraints



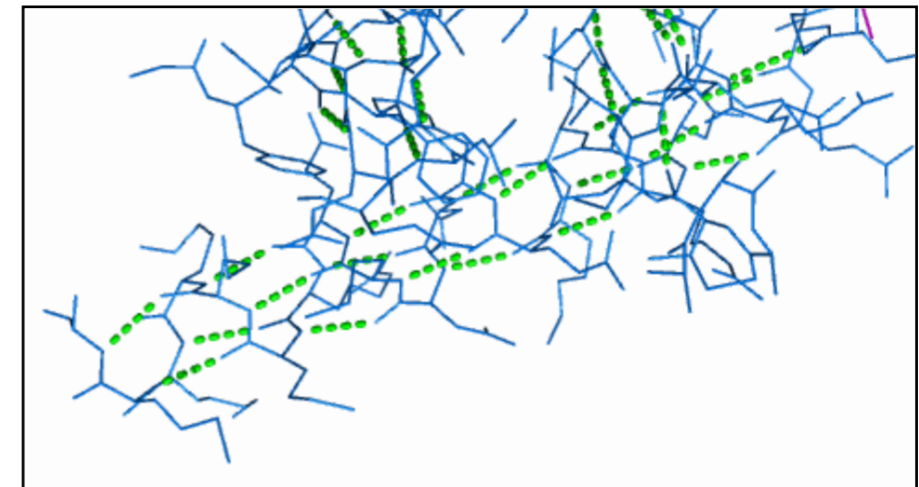
- Symmetry constraints
- Multiple symmetry groups
- Optimization of NCS operators (w.r.t density)
- Automatic expansion of monomer from MTRX records



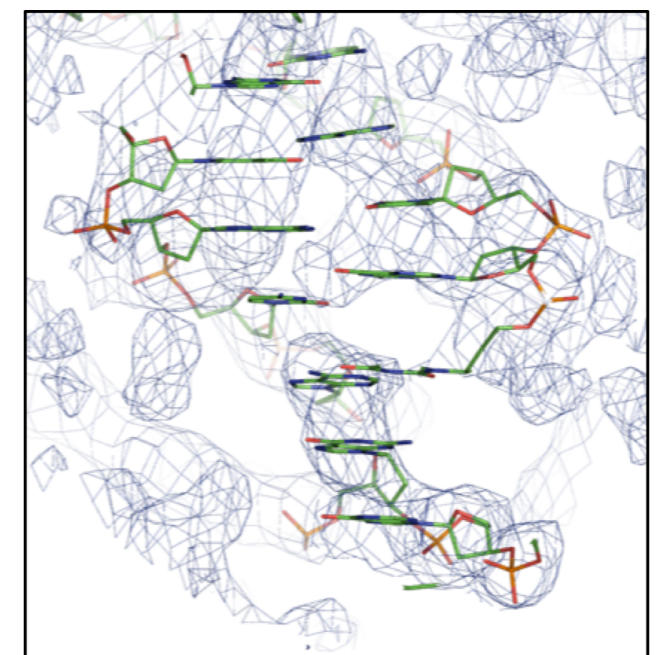
Reference model torsion angle restraints



Base pairing restraints

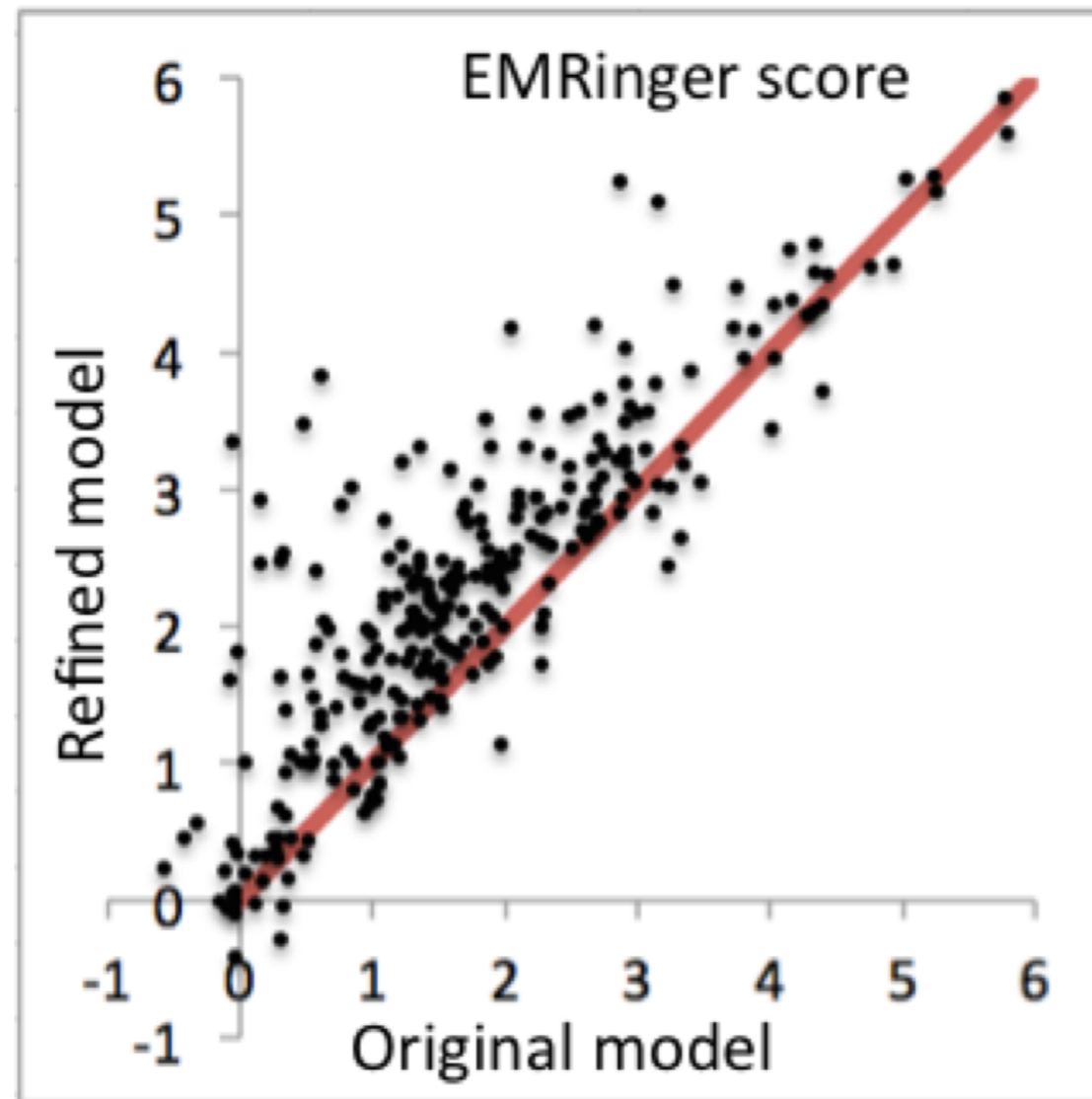


Secondary structure restraints



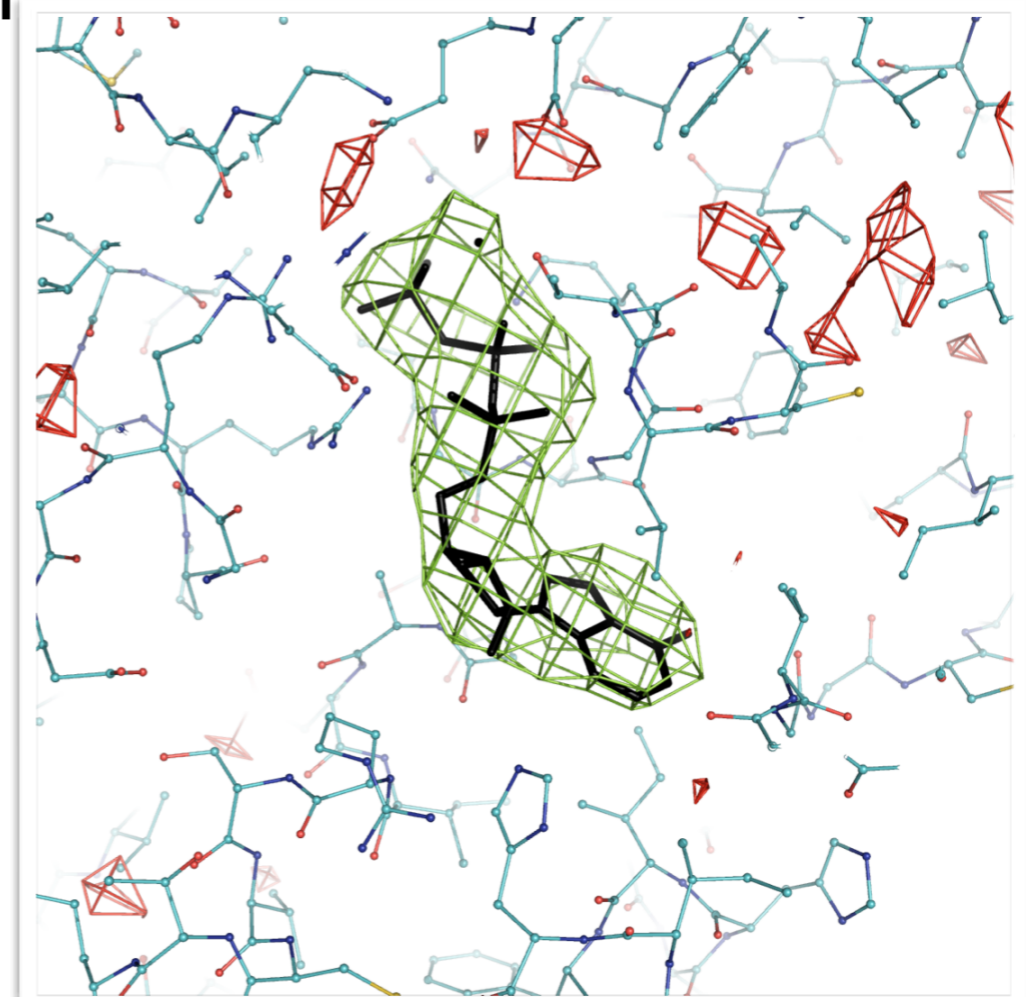
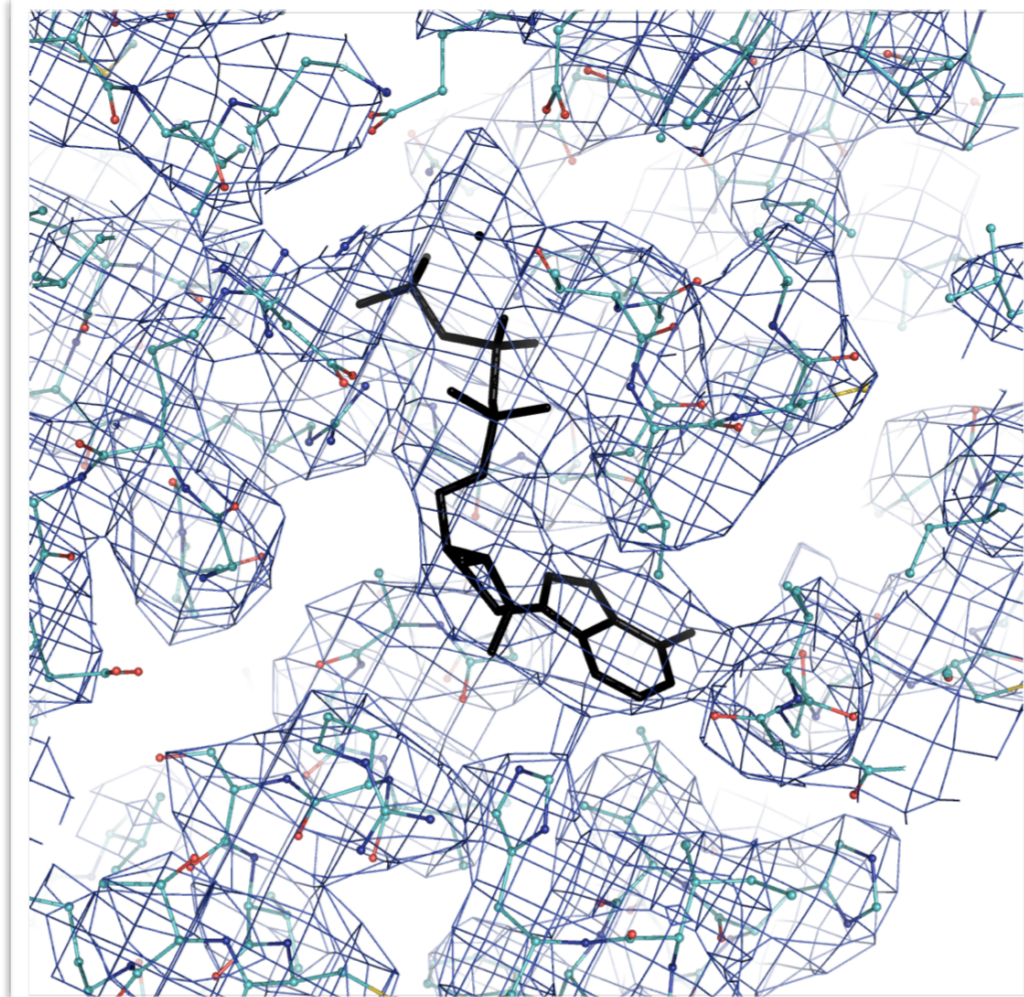
Parallelism restraints

Improved Models from Real Space Refinement



Difference Maps

- Local scaling of map and model density, real space subtraction
- ~~Reveal features missing from the model~~



phenix.real_space_diff_map model.pdb map.ccp4 resolution=3.5

Conclusions

- The application of prior or complementary information can improve refinement at low resolution for X-ray and Cryo-EM structures
 - Real space refinement is particularly powerful
- Methods from structure prediction provide additional information to improve models
 - Powerful combination of Rosetta and phenix.refine
- It is now feasible to generate good quality models even with low resolution data
 - Challenges still remain in arriving at initial models in the absence of related structures
- Many challenges remain:
 - Reliably accounting for uncertainty in magnification
 - Local variation in resolution leads to uncertainties in interpretation
 - Efficiently accounting for atomic displacements in models

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