## Something's Got to Give: Contact Networks in Multiconformer Protein Structures



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## How can we discover the "structures" of alternative states?



Computation, X-ray structure comparisons, and multiconformer X-ray models generate hypotheses about alternative structures

Rosetta CS guided fragment placement (Bouvignies, Vallurupalli...Baker, Kay, *Nature* 2011)

DHFR structures with different ligands (Boehr...Wright, Science 2006)

Electron density from a single X-ray dataset (Fraser...Alber, *Nature* 2009) Multiconformer Contact Networks



## X-ray crystallography is an ensemble experiment



#### 0.3 and $I\sigma$



# What are the alternative conformations of CypA?





**Dorothee Kern** 

# X-ray crystallography is normally done at low temperature





Humid air stream "off label" use of Proteros FMS BL12.3.1@ALS

۱ Ioop

MiTeGeN

288K



## A 3<sup>rd</sup>-shell mutant with parallel reductions in dynamics and turnover



12,000 10,000 10,000

NMR dynamics for Ser99Thr reduced ~60x Rate of catalysis for Ser99Thr reduced ~60x

#### From a single crystal at room temperature...



... the protein "moves" to connect X-ray crystallography, NMR, and catalysis

Fraser...Alber Nature, 2009

## ...so...how general is this cryogenic vs. room temperature effect?

# 30 X-ray datasets at both temperatures

>95% of the PDB is at cryogenic temperatures

- Sequence identical pairs at cryogenic and room temperature from the PDB+our lab
  - both at high resolution (at least 2.0Å)
  - isomorphous and in the same state (ligands, etc)
  - with reflection data available so that we can re-refine and sample electron density

# Folds are identical at cryo and room temperature



# For many residues, freezing simply reduces harmonic motions



## ...but for other residues, freezing changes the ensemble





# Lattice contacts increase and proteins shrink upon freezing





...which can be transiently filled by alternative conformations

## Proteins are "better" packed when frozen



## Freezing **slowly** shrinks proteins, remodels side chains, and improves packing



## How do we (automatically) fit all this heterogeneity?



Henry van den Bedem (SLAC/JCSG)



### Describing heterogeneity requires *both* backbone and side chain movement



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# qFit starts from a traditional (unique) model

- For each residue (individually):
  - fit anisotropic B-factors for the backbone
  - seed backbone conformations into anisotropic envelope
  - sample a neighbourhood of rotamers



van den Bedem...Deacon, Acta Cryst D, 2009

## compute the "optimal" fit to electron density in real space



from >500 potential conformations only I-3 conformations are assigned non-zero occupancy

#### and connect residues together... so they look like backrubs!



## How can this help Rosetta?







Noah Ollikainen Colin Smith Tanja Kortemme

## Use alternative conformations from RT X-ray and qFit to test sampling methods

A and B **Fixed Backrub 1KWN R29**  $\circ$ Modeled Alternate Sidechain RMSD (Å) 0.8 **3DJG M265** 0.6 0.4 0.2 2WT4 N123 Backrub Fixed

#### ...but these moves are in isolation... coupled moves are harder...



## Which excursions from the "structure" work together?



Henry van den Bedem (SLAC/JCSG)



Relief of steric clashes by alternative conformations identifies pathways



X-ray-based compliment to MD-based methods: RIP (Agard), MutInf (Jacobson), etc

### What does a pathway of clash/ relieve interactions between alternative conformations look like?































## Pathways can be linked together in contact networks



Predictive of: chemical shift perturbations, collective motions

For 40 proteins, pathways and networks are:

- more common...
  (increased number of pathways)
- more "global"...
  (increased network participation)
- and longer...
  (increased average pathway length, network size)

...at room temperature (compared to paired cryogenic data)

Can we use knowledge of networks for engineering and design?

### What is the structural basis for "allosteric" chemical shift perturbations upon mutation?





Gira Bhabha Peter Wright

# Contact networks predict chemical shift perturbations



## Contact network suggests NADP couples subdomains

#### DHFR GI2IV $\Delta\delta$ + NADP

DHFR GI2IV  $\Delta\delta$  - NADP



**Ensemble:Function Studies** 

Structure

- Ensemble properties extracted from X-ray crystallography can be used to study radiation damage, cryo-protection, pressure and to test new sampling/scoring methods in Rosetta
- Contact networks observed in RT X-ray data complement NMR chemical shift perturbations and relaxation experiments
- Discrete heterogeneity at RT, and often not cryo, implicated in ligand binding/resistance mutations (Shoichet), catalysis (Wright, Kern), and allostery (Fletterick)
- Having a structural mechanism for protein dynamics can be useful for engineering biological functions







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**Electron Density Sampling** 

http://ucxray.berkeley.edu/**ringer.htm** 



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qFit/Contact Network Analysis

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