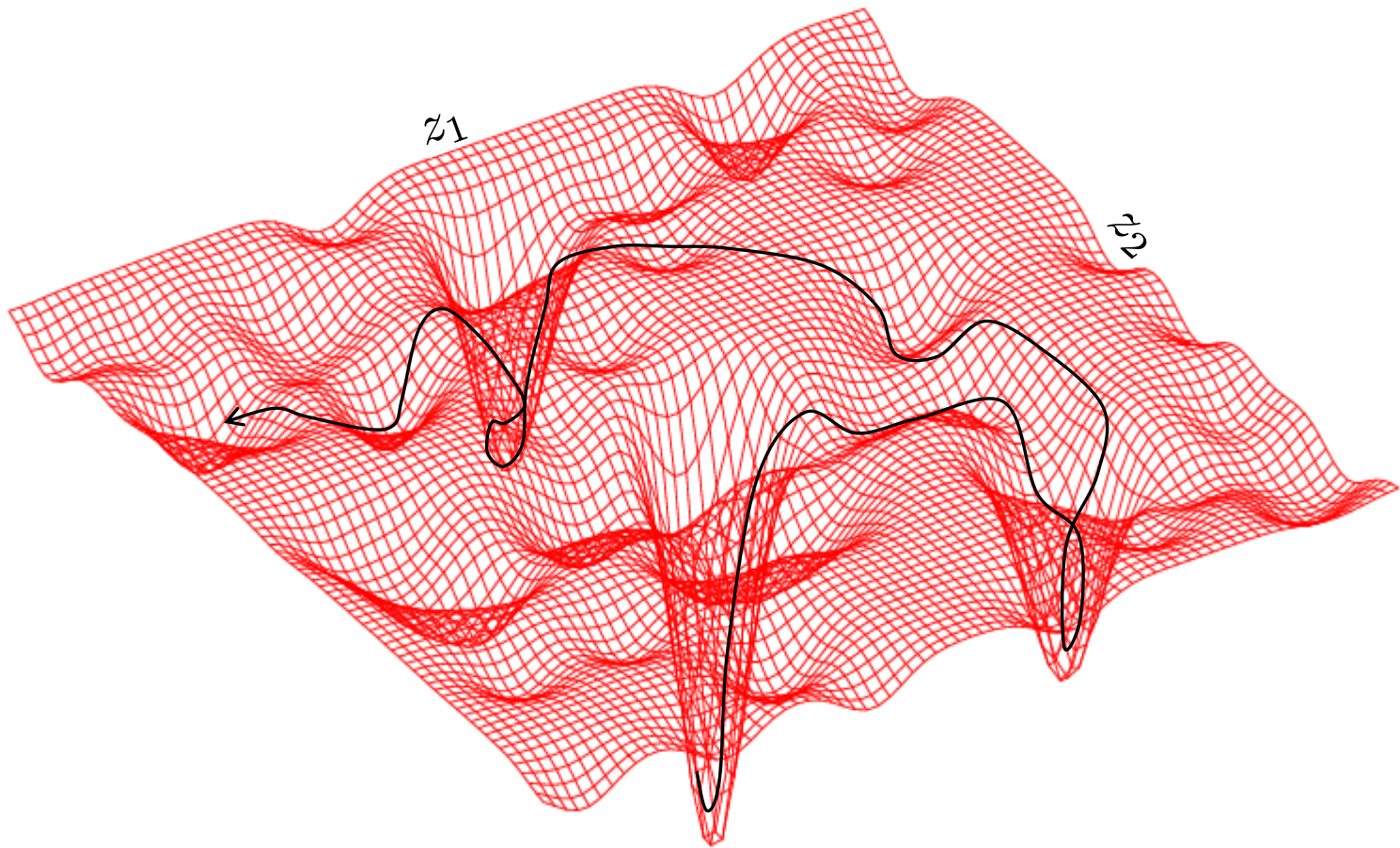


Collective-Variable-Enhanced Biomolecular Simulations

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Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

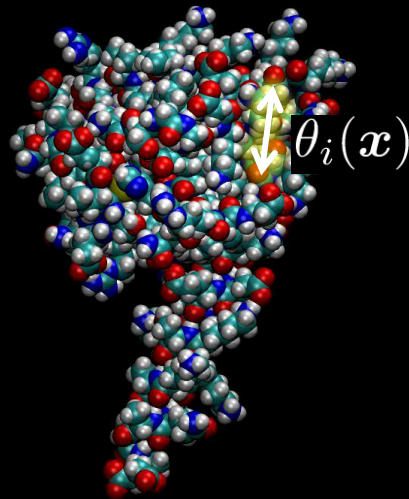


Molecular Dynamics (MD) Simulation

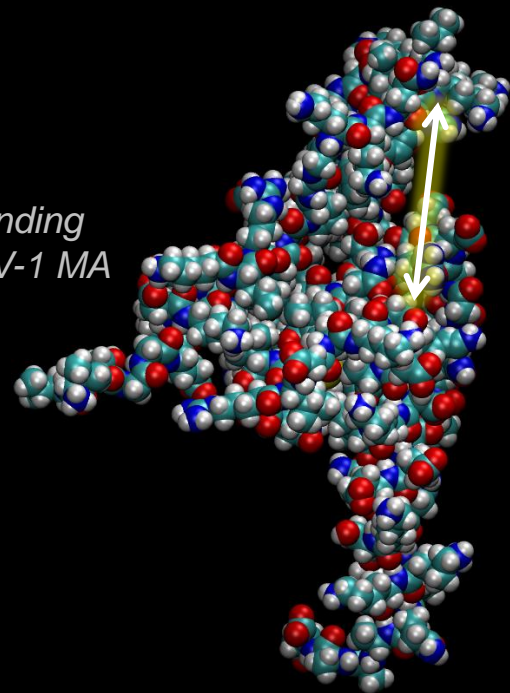
$$m_i \ddot{x}_i = \underbrace{-\frac{\partial V(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_i}}_{\text{“}m a = F\text{”}} - \underbrace{\gamma m_i \dot{x}_i + \sqrt{2k_B T \gamma} \eta_i(t)}_{\text{thermostat}} \quad x_i \in \{r_{i\alpha} | i = 1 \dots N; \alpha = x, y, z\}$$

Interatomic force field
friction
white noise
DOF's: Cartesian atom positions

HIV-1 MA protein
(PDB 1HIW)
1 nanosec. MD
NAMD/CHARMM



Putative binding state of HIV-1 MA protein



MD alone is not good at broadly sampling interesting collective variables

Temperature-Accelerated MD Simulation

Maragliano and Vanden-Eijnden, *Chem Phys Lett* 426:168 (2006)

Extended potential energy

Collective variables

$$U(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = V(\mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^M [\theta_j(\mathbf{x}) - z_j]^2$$

Atomic dynamics

Auxiliary (slow) variables

$$m_i \ddot{x}_i = - \frac{\partial V(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_i} - \sum_{j=1}^M [\theta_j(\mathbf{x}) - z_j] \frac{\partial \theta_j(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_i} - \underbrace{\gamma m_i \dot{x}_i}_{\text{friction}} + \underbrace{\sqrt{2k_B T \gamma} \eta_i(t)}_{\text{white noise}}$$

“harmonic restraints”

Aux. variable dynamics (overdamped)

$$\bar{\gamma} \bar{m}_j \dot{z}_j = - [\theta_j(\mathbf{x}) - z_j] + \sqrt{2k_B \bar{T} \bar{\gamma}} \eta_j(t)$$

$$\downarrow \bar{\gamma} \gg \gamma$$

Physical free energy gradients!

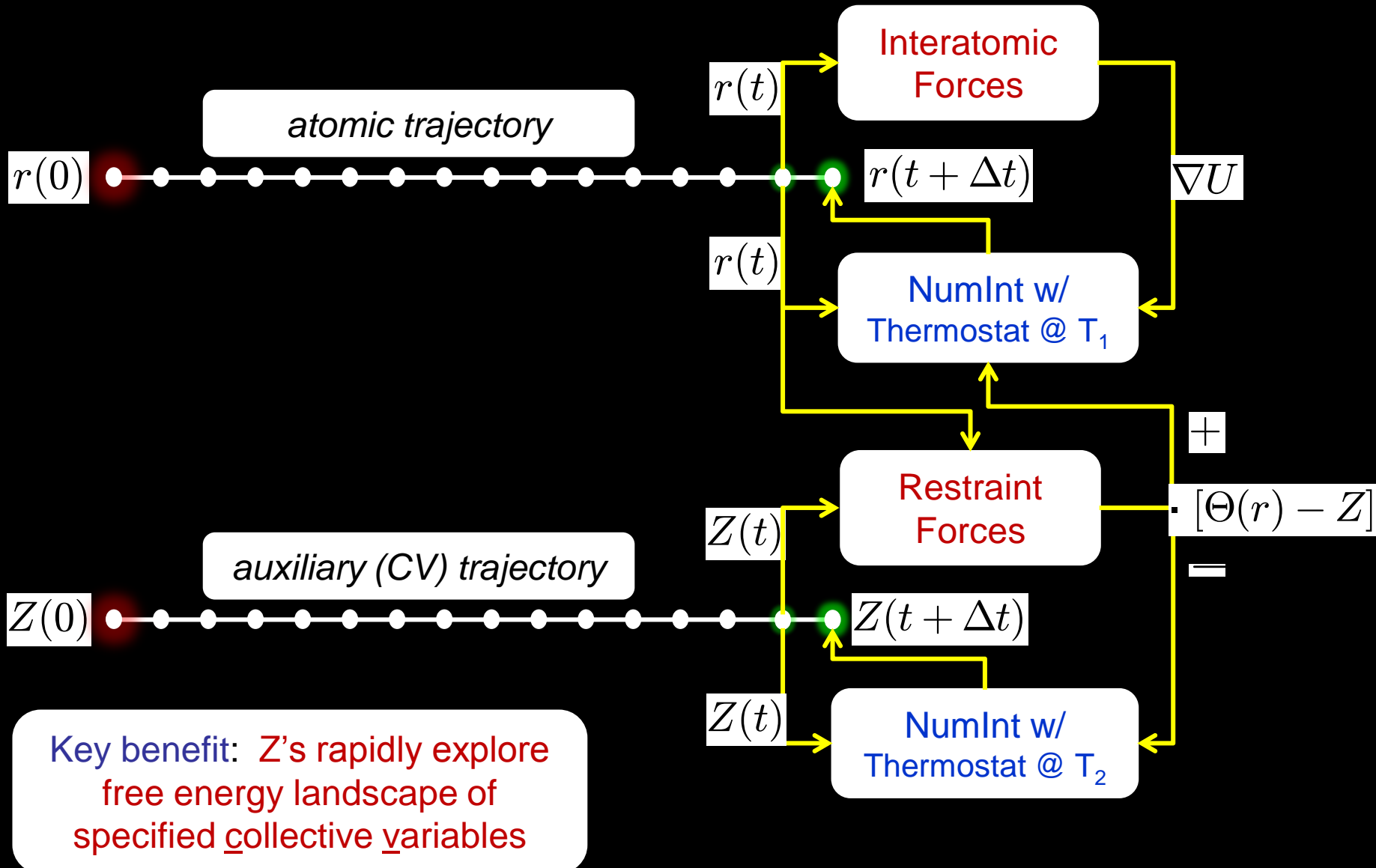
$$\bar{\gamma} \bar{m}_j \dot{z}_j = - \frac{\partial G_\kappa(\mathbf{z}; T)}{\partial z_j} + \sqrt{2k_B \bar{T} \bar{\gamma}} \eta_j(t)$$

Taking

$$\bar{T} > T$$

accelerates exploration of z!

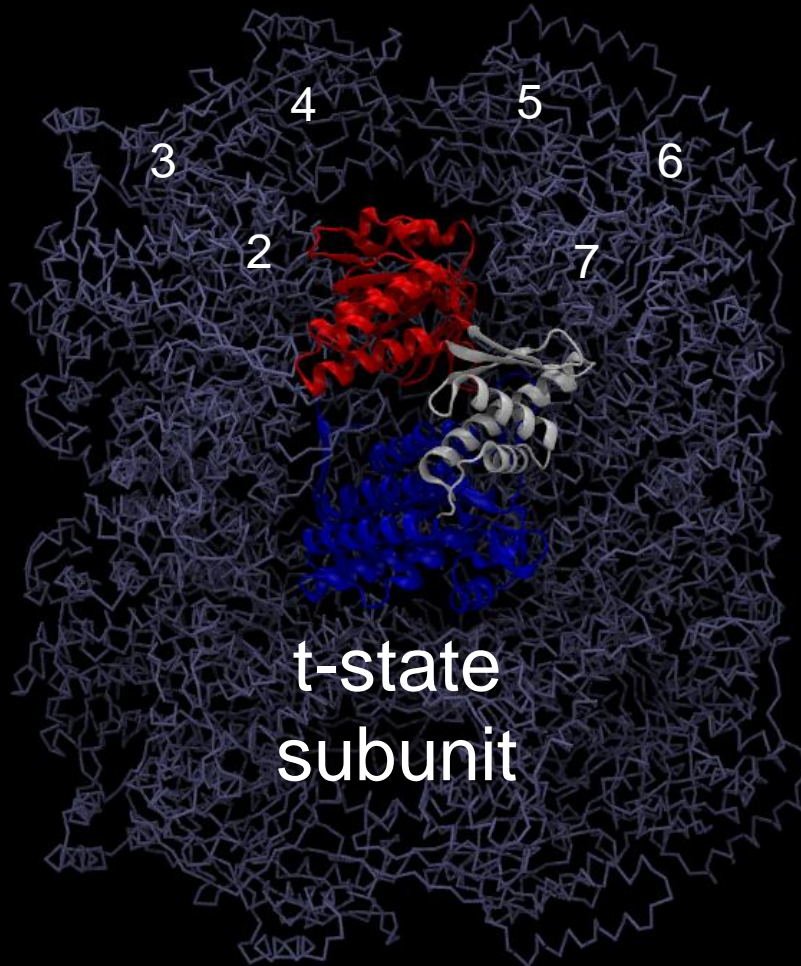
TAMD generates “accelerated” trajectories



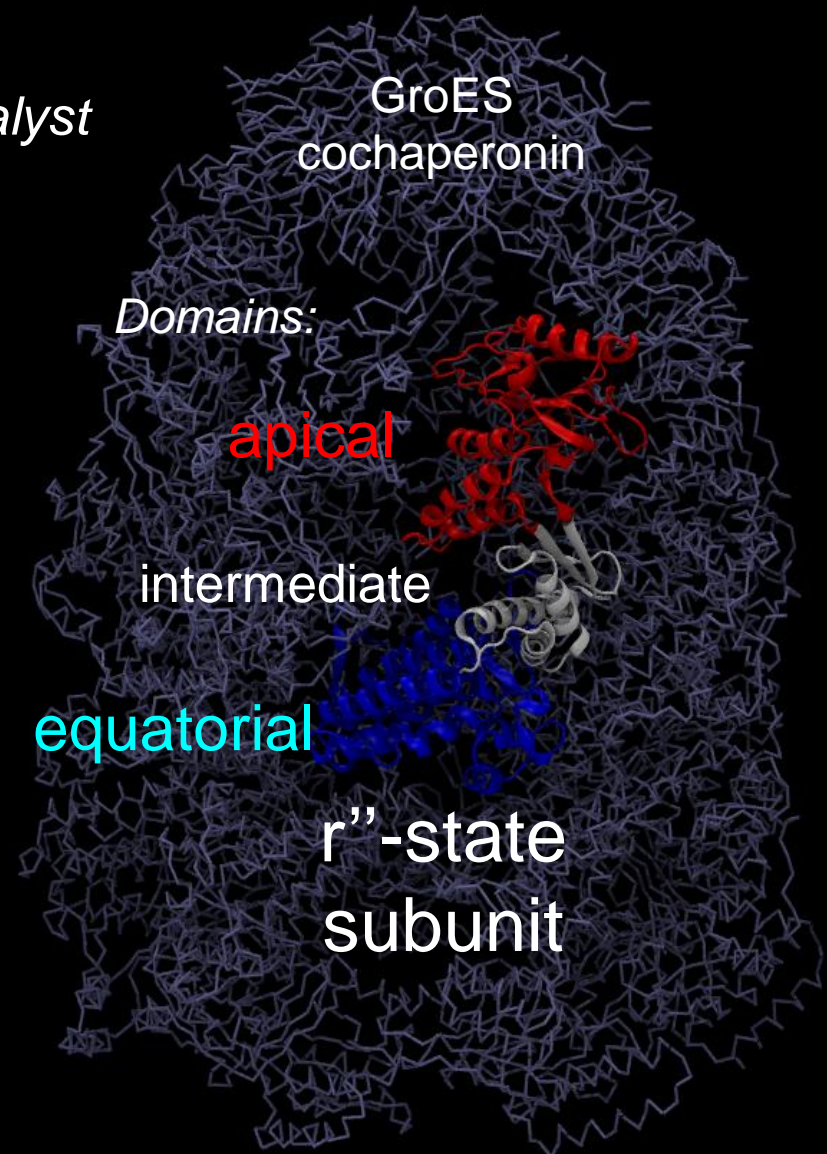
TAMD: Large-Scale Conformational Search

E. coli GroEL chaperonin

A homotetradecameric protein-folding catalyst



Braig, *Nat Struct Biol* 2:1083 (1995) (1OEL)



Xu, *Nature* 388:741 (1997) (1AON)

Conformational Prediction in the GroEL Subunit using TAMD

Abrams and Vanden-Eijnden, *PNAS* 107:4961 (2010)

121,685 atoms

310 K, 1 bar

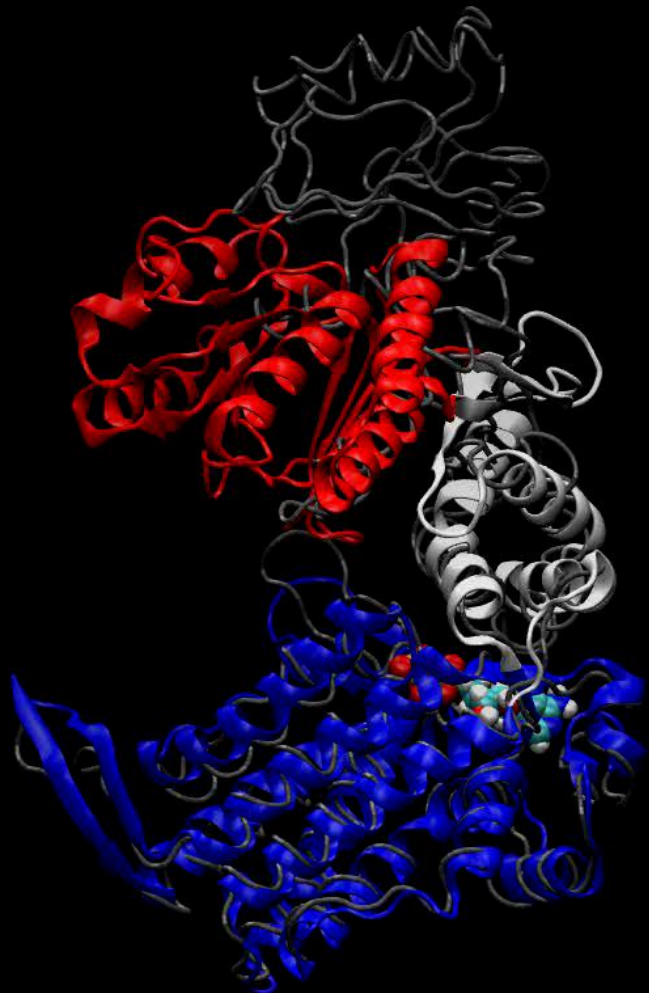
40 ns duration

$k_B T_2 = 6$ kcal/mol

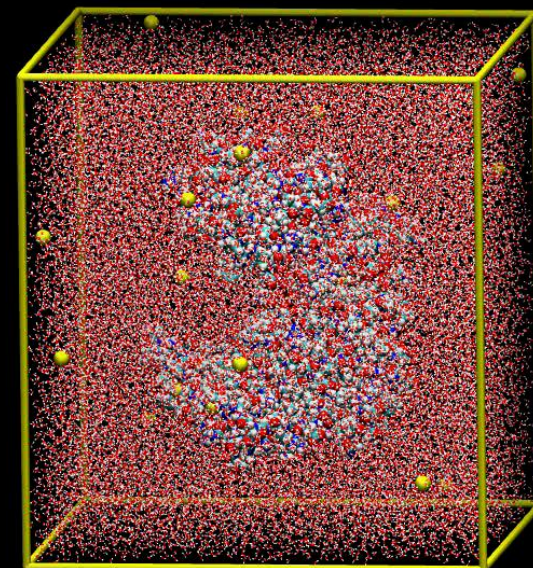
Z: subdomain COM's

CHARMM/NAMD v2.7b1

Equip: TACC Lonestar



Movie:
668 frames
@ 60 ps/frame



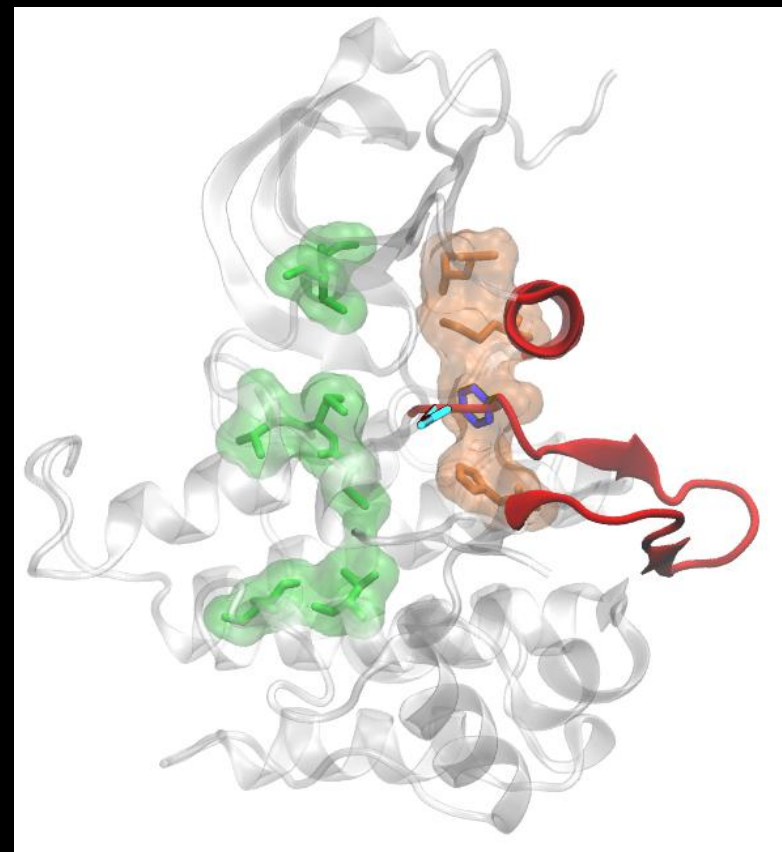
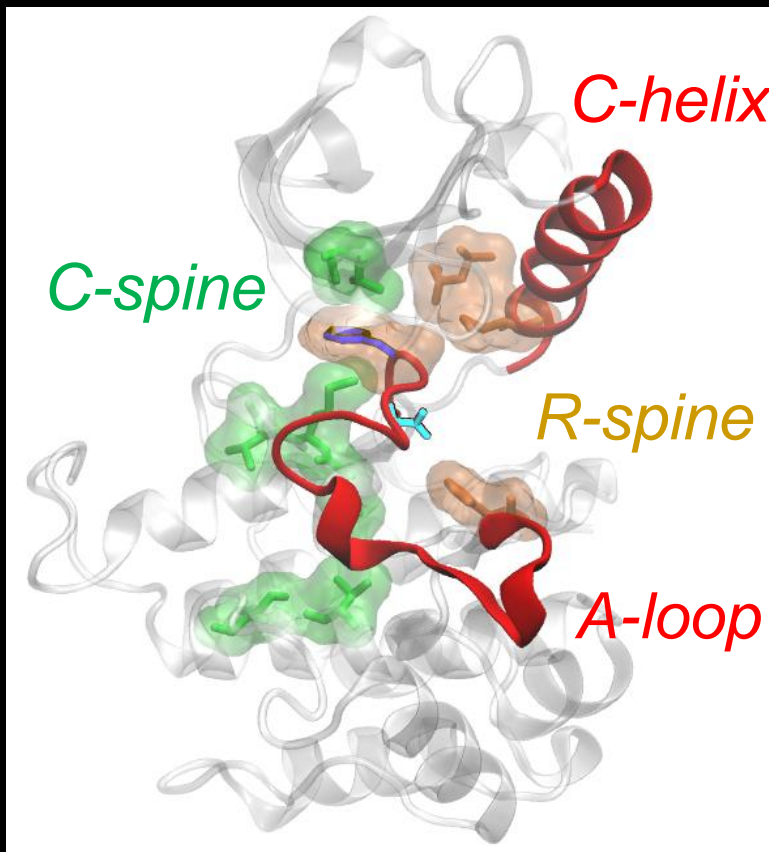
Conformational Sampling in the Insulin-Receptor Kinase using TAMM

Vashisth, Maragliano, and Abrams, *Biophys J* 102:1979 (2012)

Crystal structures

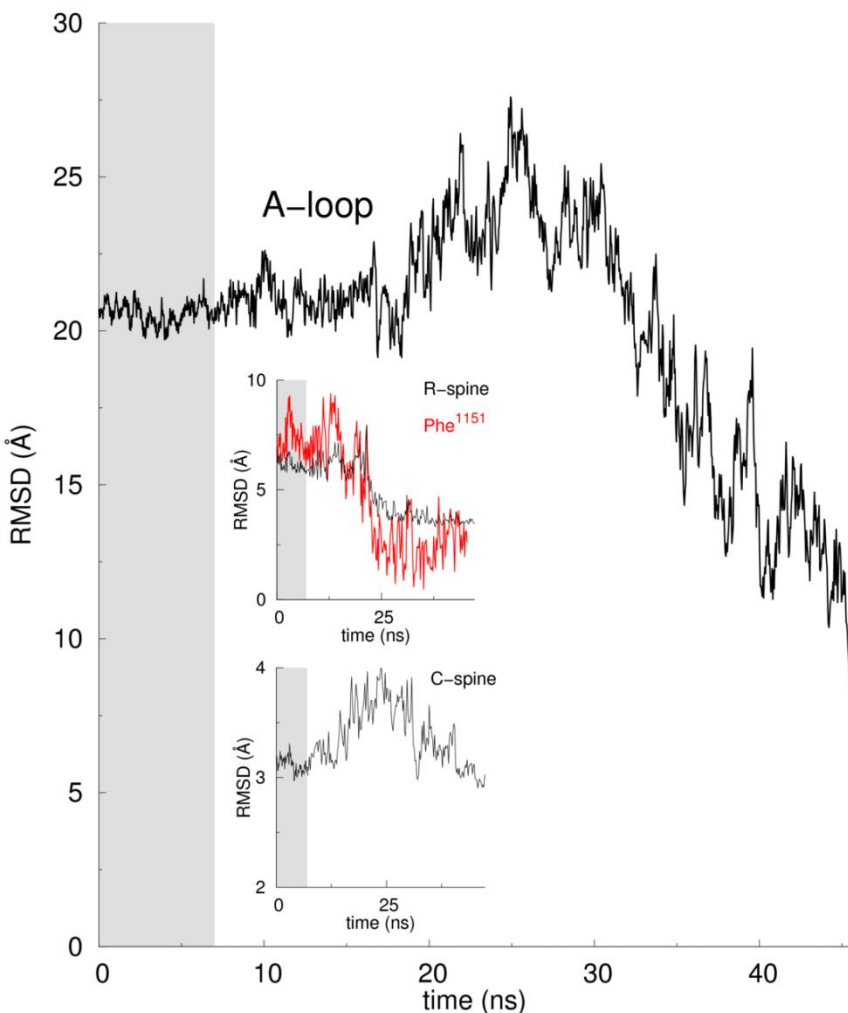
inactive

active

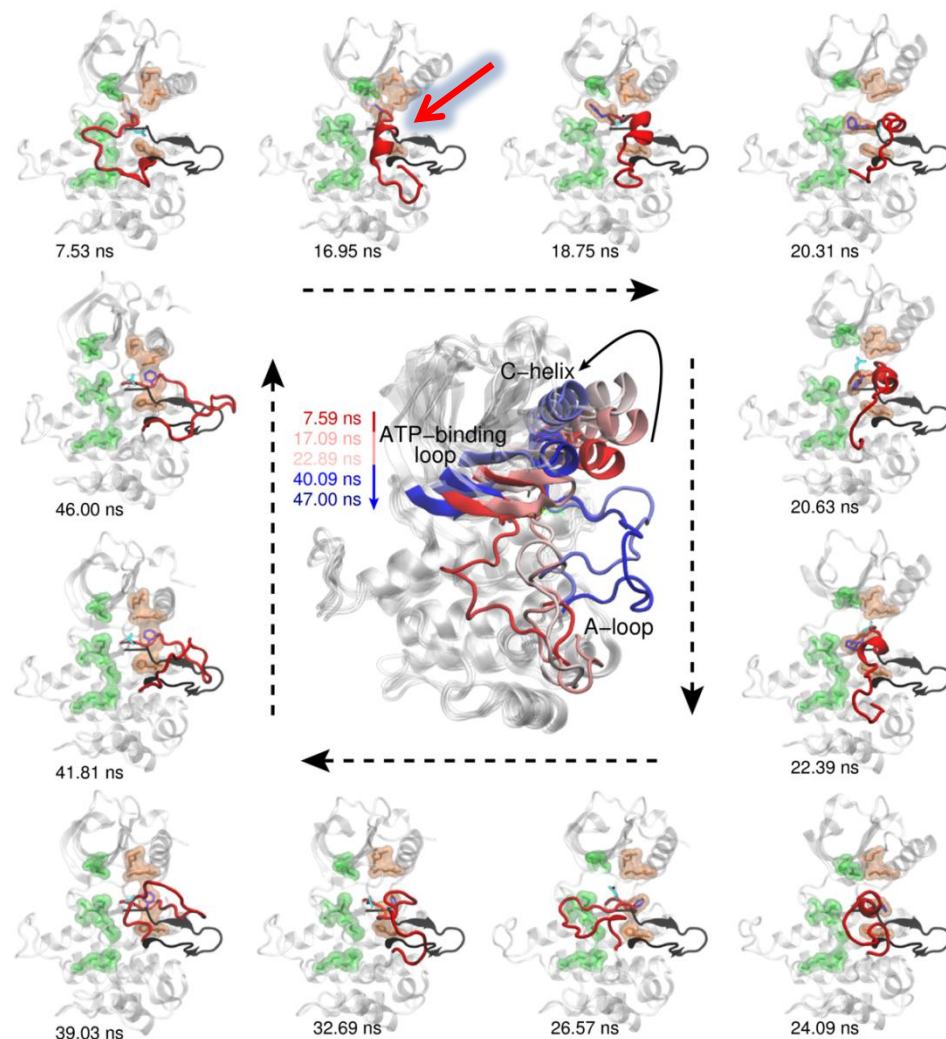


IRK: TAMD-induced “activation” predicts an α -helical A-loop intermediate

a

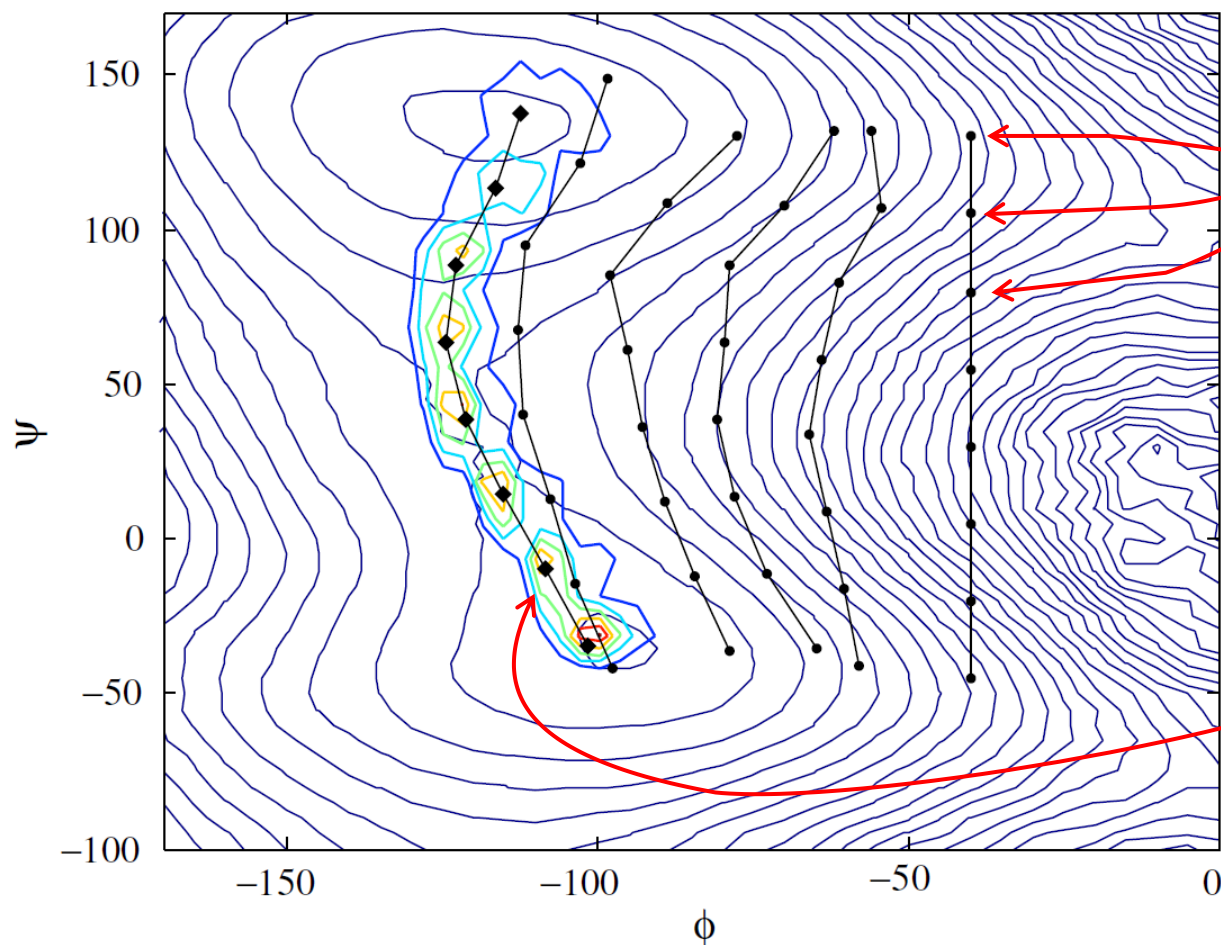


b



Is this representative of the pathway of minimal free energy?

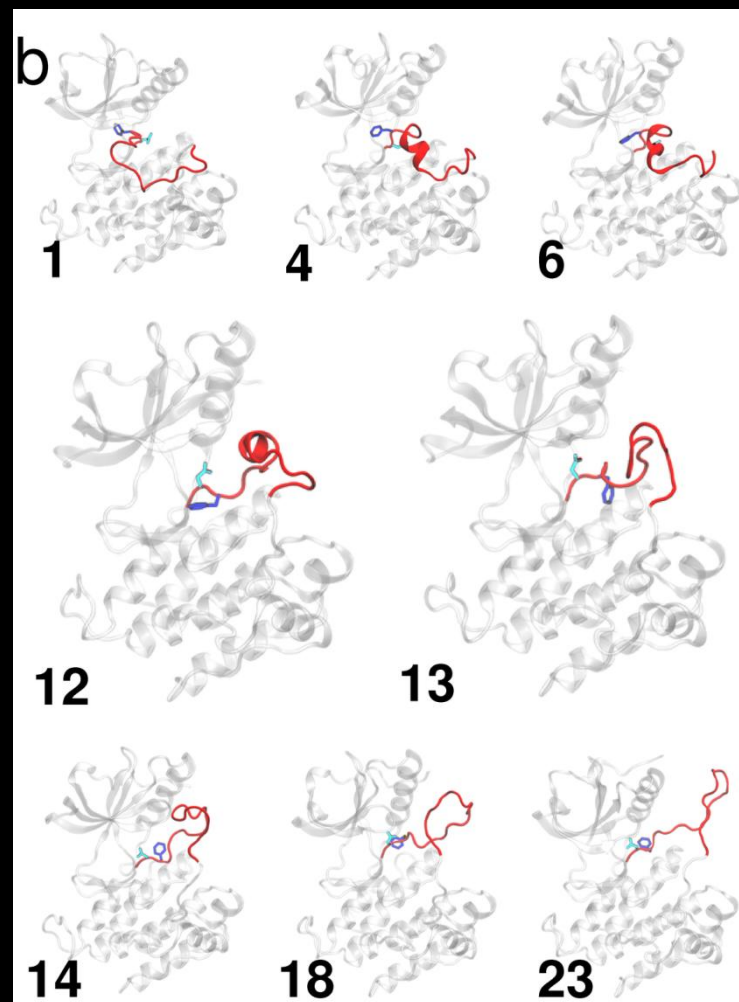
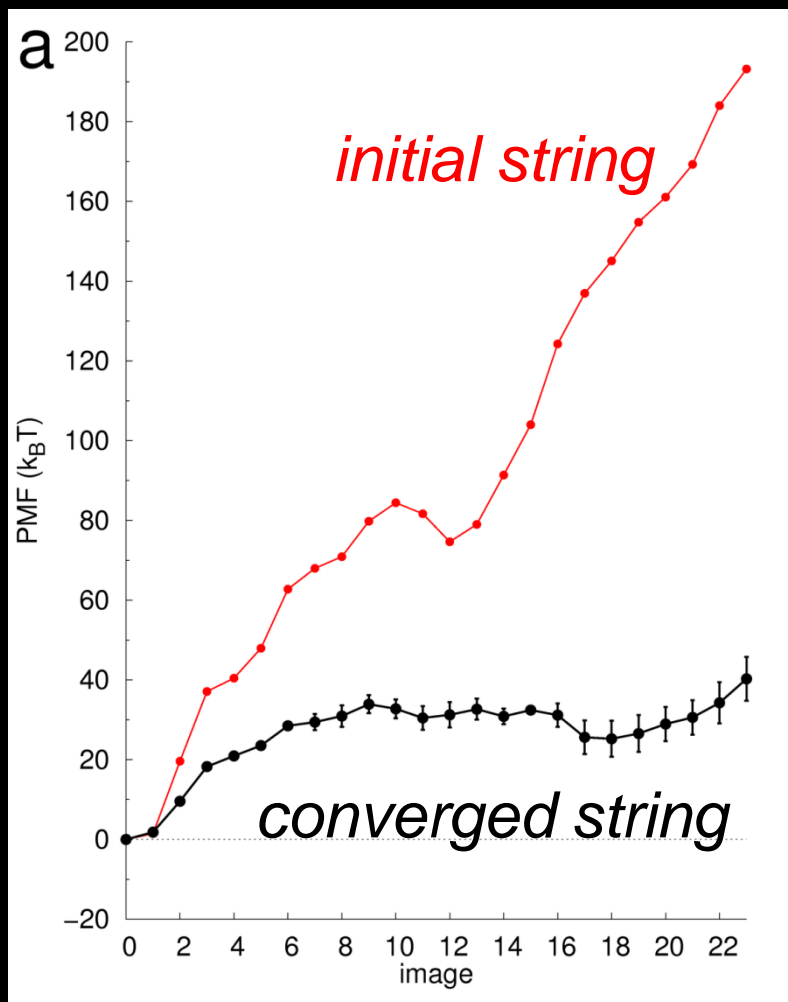
String Method: Finding Pathways of Minimal Free Energy through Conformational (CV) Space



MD systems restrained at points in CV space parameterized to form a discretized string through CV space

Evolution of string converges to Minimum Free Energy Pathway (MFEP)

String Method: IRK A-loop α -helical intermediate is robust



β_2 microglobulin and its amyloidogenicity



Black: Native (“H β_2 m”)
Red: Amyloidogenic (Δ N6)
- cis-trans peptide isomerization at Pro32
- low pH; protonation of His31 + His84

- WT amyloidogenic state “I $_T$ ”: too transient to observe
- Model H β_2 m-to-I $_T$ using Δ N6 as a template
- *What are roles of protonatable histidines?*

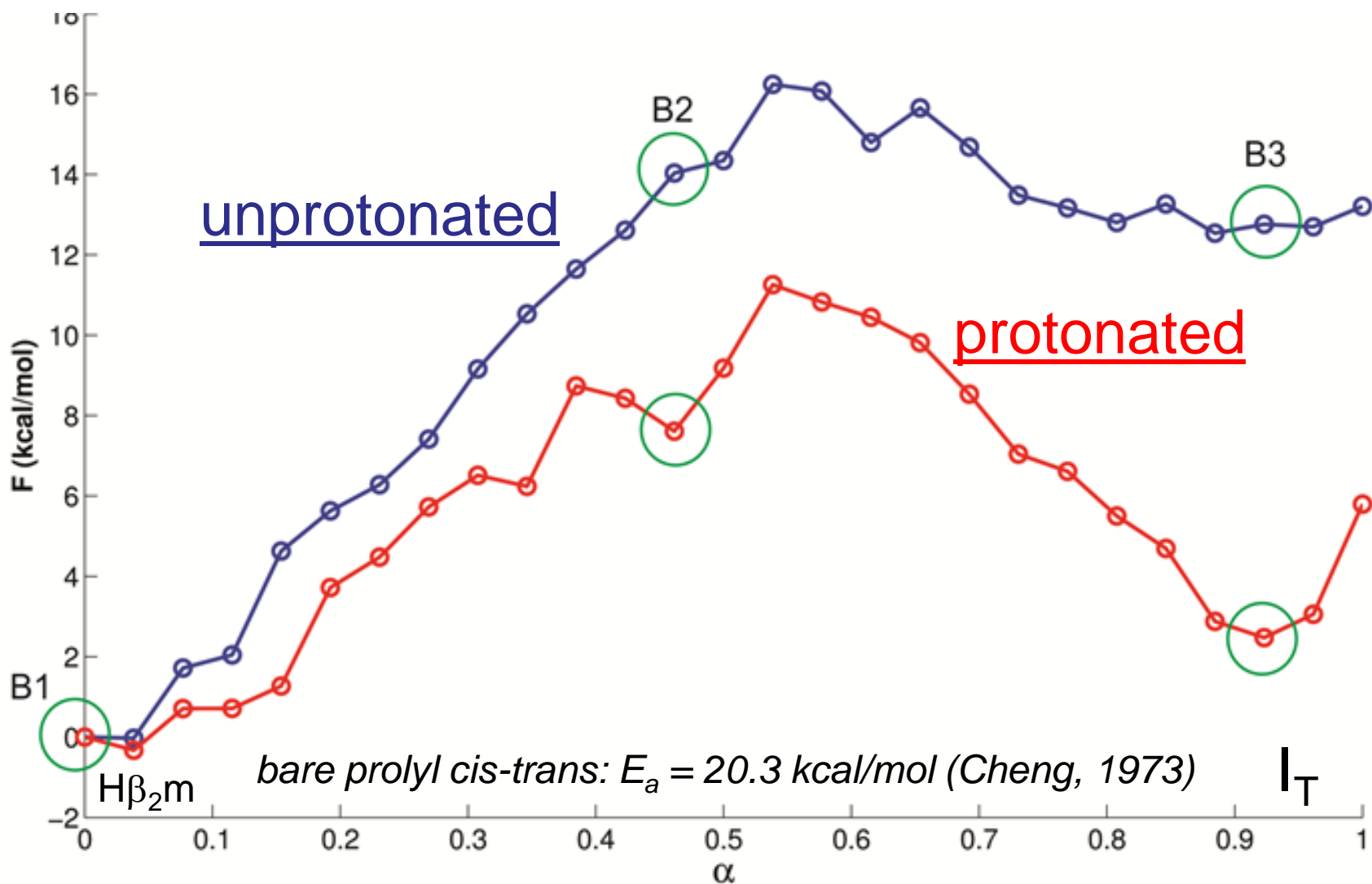
Method: On-the-fly string with 27 concurrent replicas in one composite solvent system



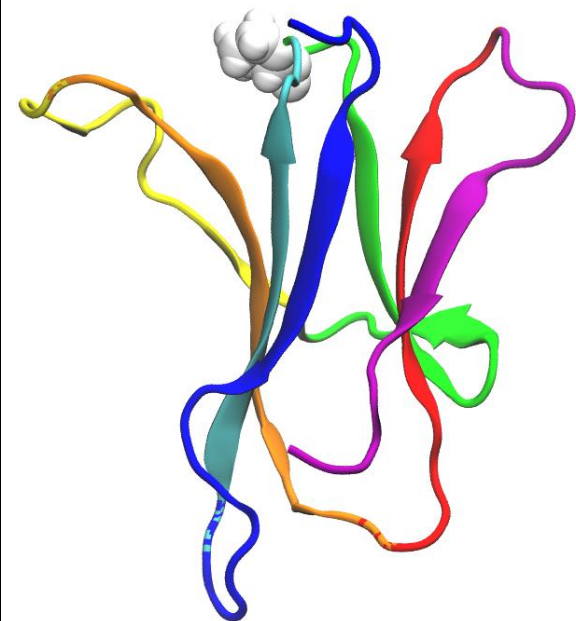
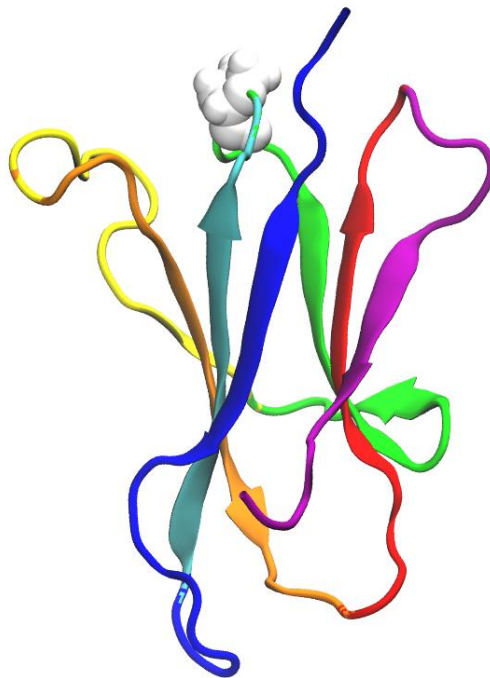
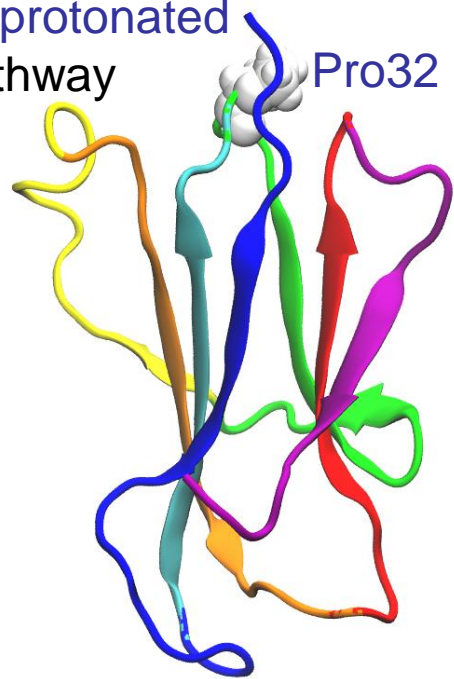
CV's: Pro32 dihedral plus 20 relevant inter-C α distances

Free energy along the MFEPs: Unprotonated vs Protonated Histidines

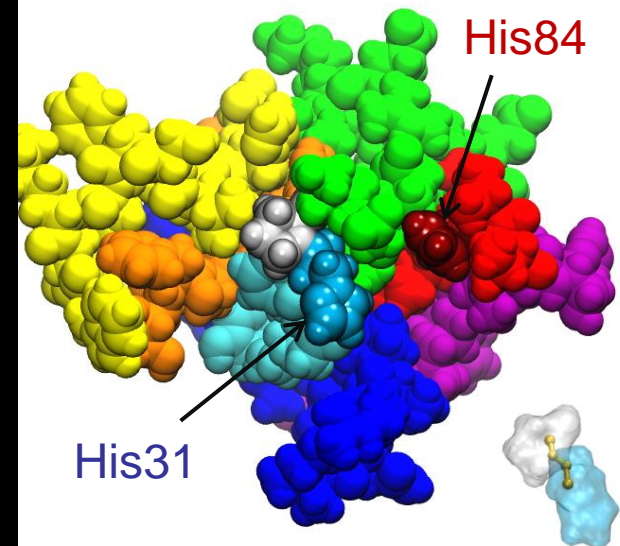
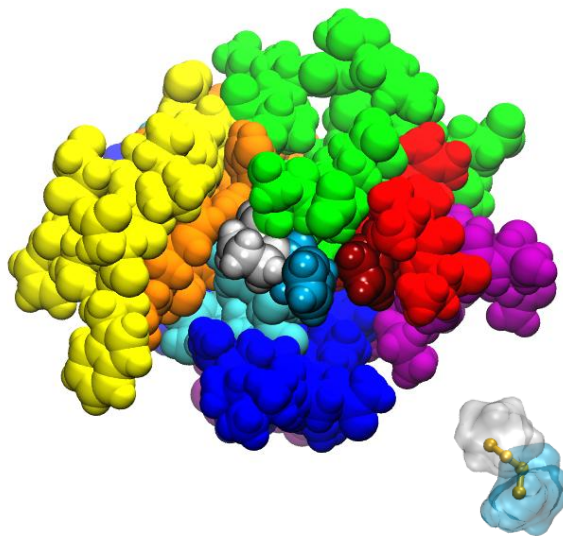
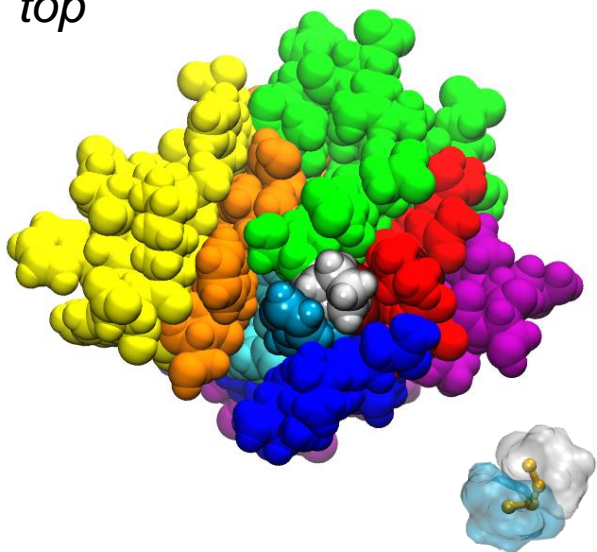
Stober and Abrams (JPCB submitted)



Unprotonated pathway
Pro32

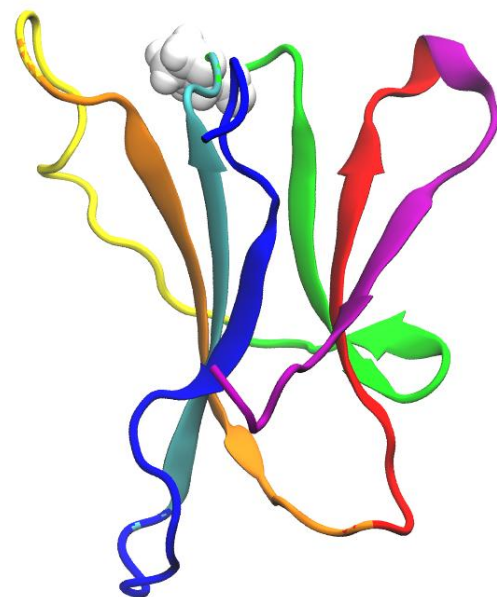
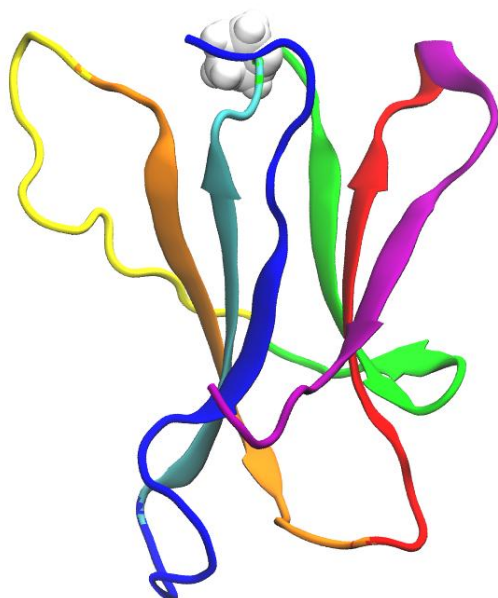
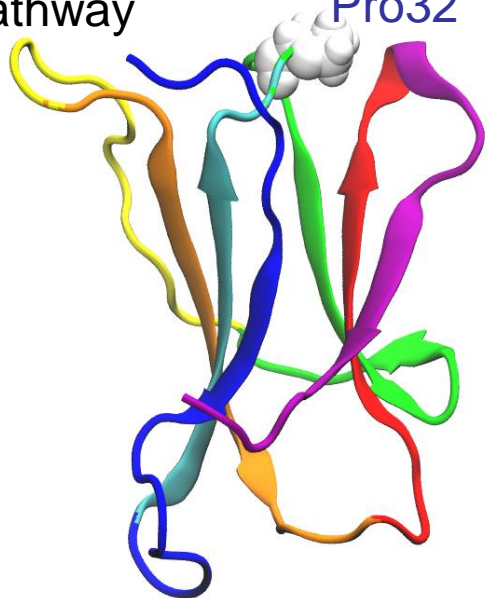


top



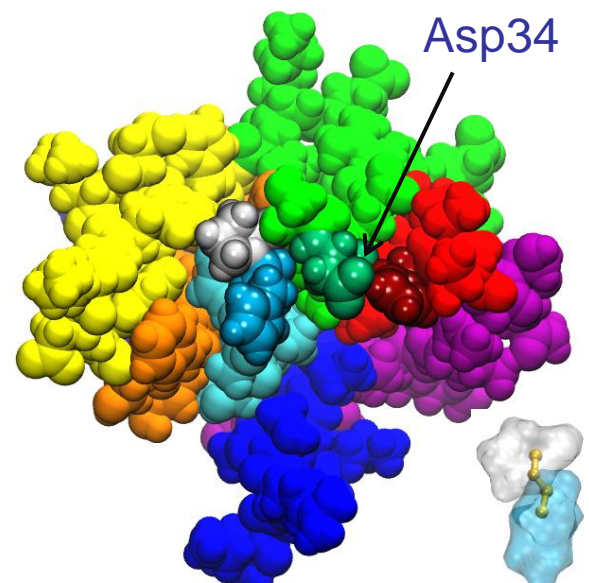
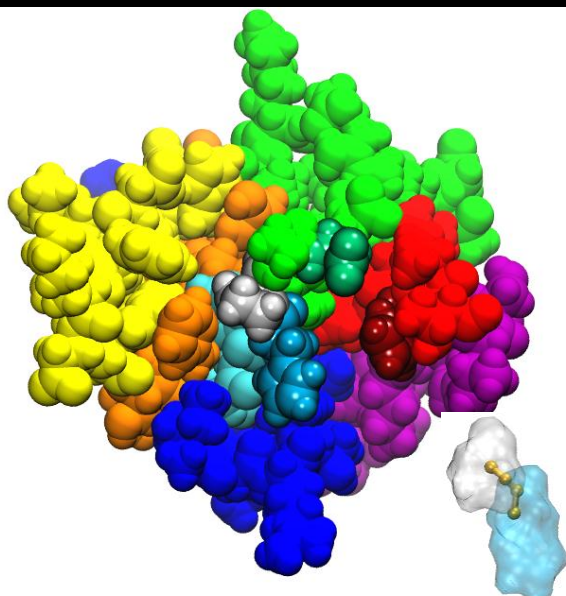
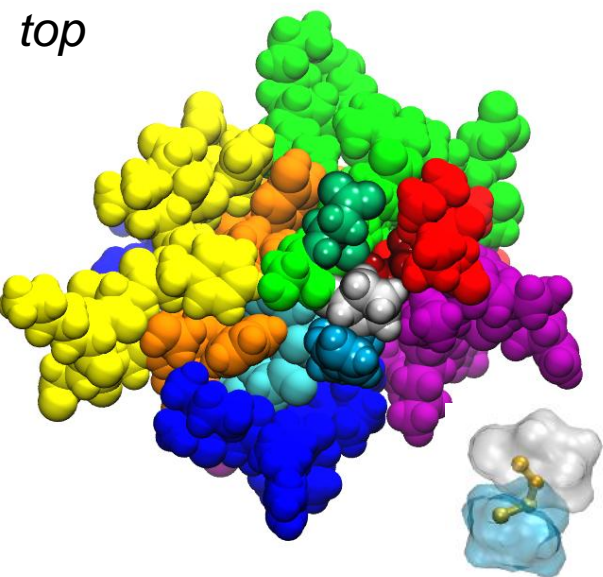
Protonated
pathway

Pro32



side

top



Collective-variable-enhanced biomolecular simulations

- **Temperature-Accelerated MD (TAMD)**
 - Enhanced conformational exploration
 - Generation of initial paths
- **String Method**
 - Convergence of minimal free-energy paths
 - Energetics and mechanisms of conformational transitions

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