

Folding Mechanisms of Entangled Proteins

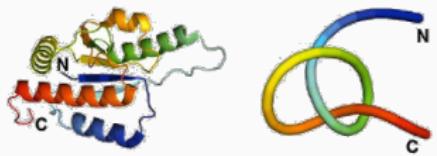
Numerical studies within coarse-grained
structure-based models

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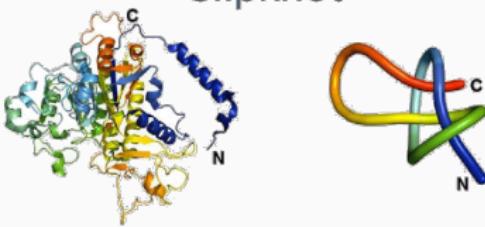
University of Padua, Department of Physics and Astronomy

Entanglement in proteins: the example of knotted proteins

3_1 Knot



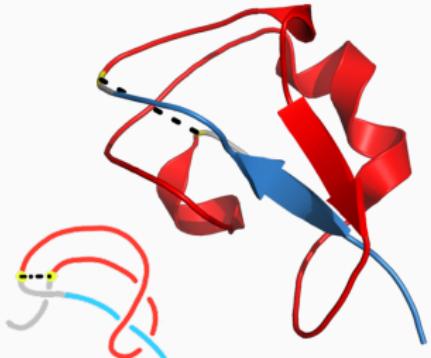
Slipknot



A simple topological observable: Gaussian Entanglement

Type III Antifreeze protein RD1

$$G'(\textcolor{blue}{i}, \textcolor{red}{j}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \sum_{i=i_1}^{i_2-1} \sum_{j=j_1}^{j_2-1} \frac{\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j}{|\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j|^3} \cdot (\Delta \mathbf{R}_i \times \Delta \mathbf{R}_j)$$

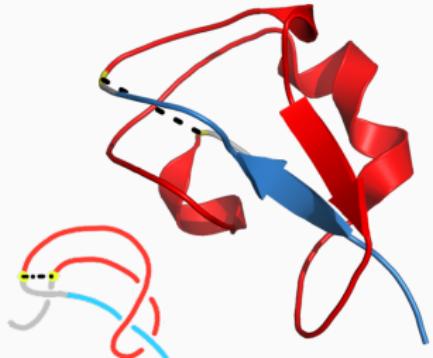


32% of proteins domains contains at least one *entangled loop* motif

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Statistics of entangled loops

- Entangled loops enriched in the C-terminal side of the entanglement they are in
- high $|G'|$ contacts tend to be weakly bounded

Hypothesis

Contacts with high $|G'|$ tend to form in the later stages of the folding

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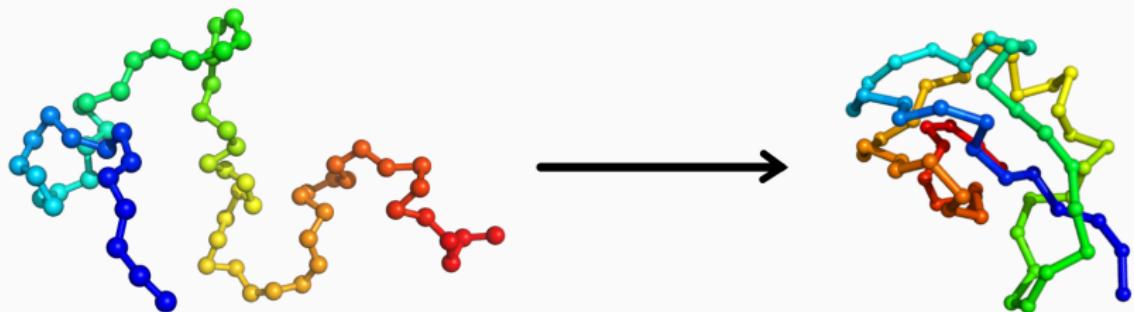
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Scientific question

Goal

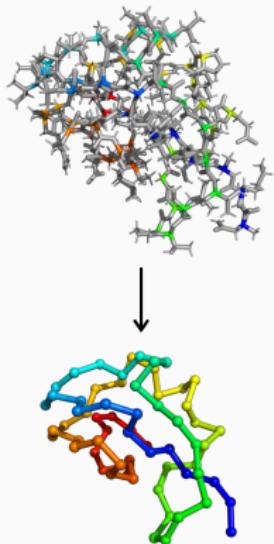
Use MD to sample folding events of a protein having an entangled loop in its native state.
Is the formation of contacts with high $|G'|$ postponed?

Type III Antifreeze Protein RD1 (PDB: 1UCS)



The model

Alpha Carbon Rep



Structure-based

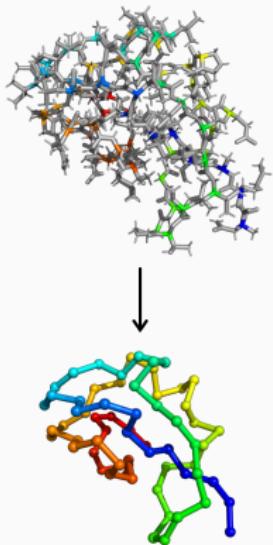
$$\begin{aligned}
 V = & \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \varepsilon_r^i (r^i - r_0^i)^2 \\
 & + \sum_{i=1}^{N-2} \varepsilon_\theta^i (\theta^i - \theta_0^i)^2 \\
 & + \sum_{i=1}^{N-3} \varepsilon_\phi^i \left\{ [1 - \cos(\phi^i - \phi_0^i)] \right. \\
 & \quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} [1 - \cos(3(\phi^i - \phi_0^i))] \right\} \\
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Langevin Dynamics

$$m_i \frac{d^2 \vec{r}^i}{dt^2} = -\gamma \frac{d\vec{r}^i}{dt} - \nabla V + \vec{R}^i$$

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Alpha Carbon Rep



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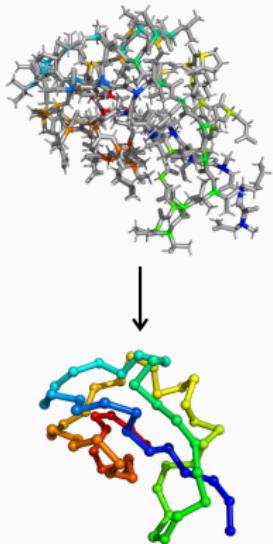
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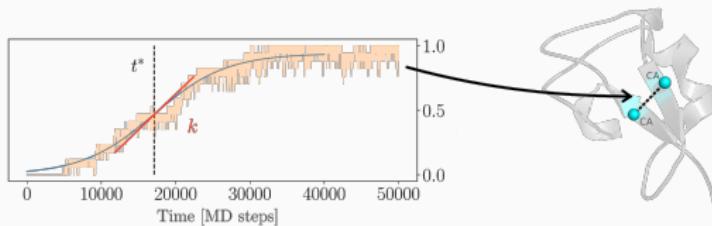
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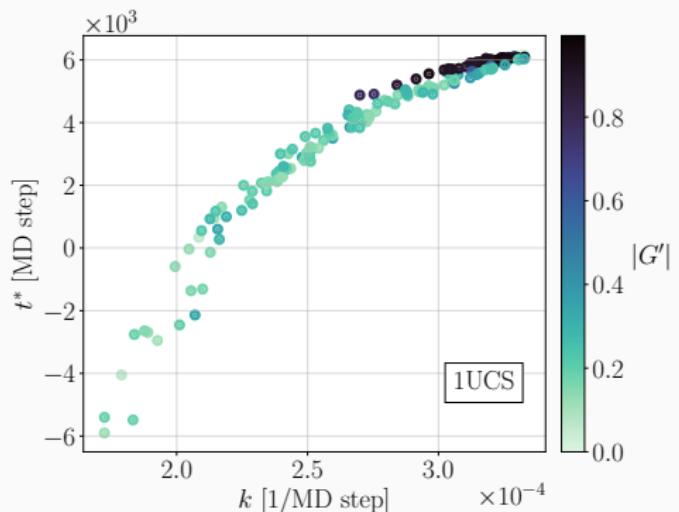
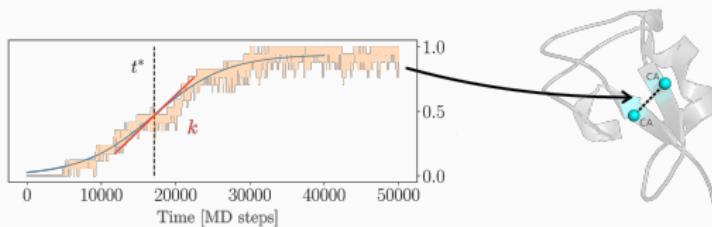
Results Contact formation time t^* and contact cooperativity k

Probability of contact formation

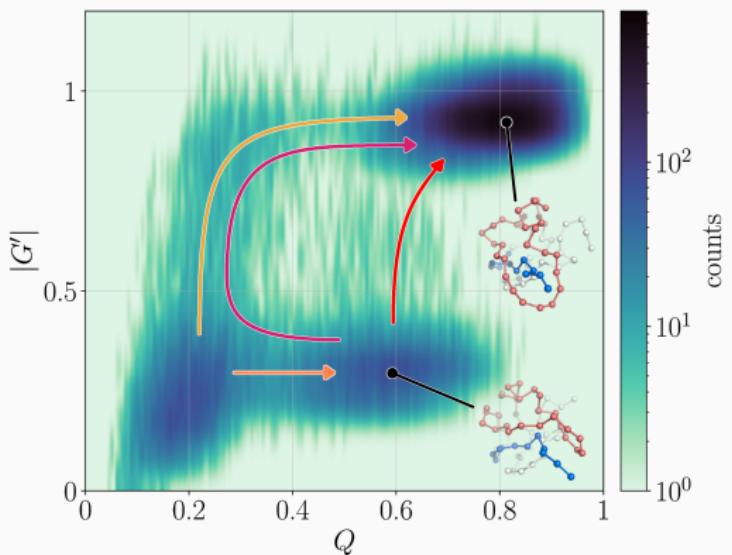


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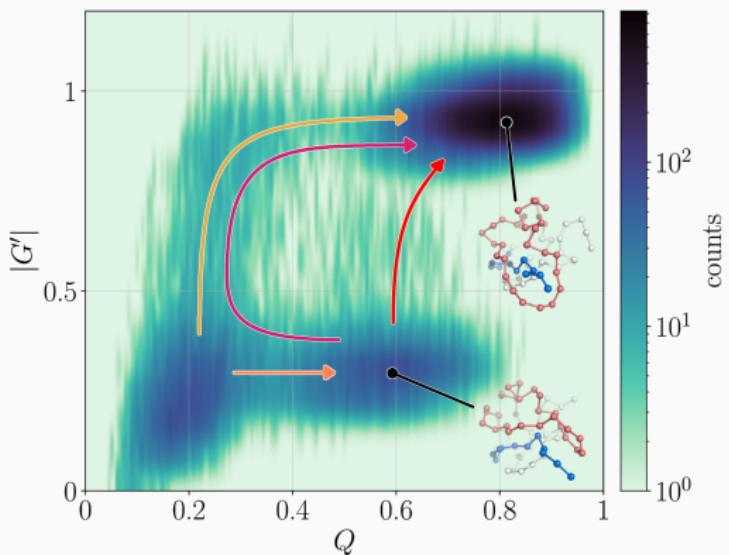
Results Trajectories along reaction coordinates



Folding Experiment

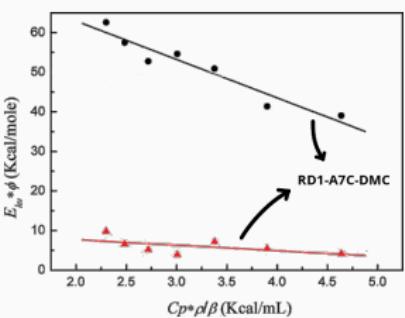
$$E_{hv}\phi = q + \Delta_R V \left(\frac{C_p \rho}{\beta} \right)_T$$

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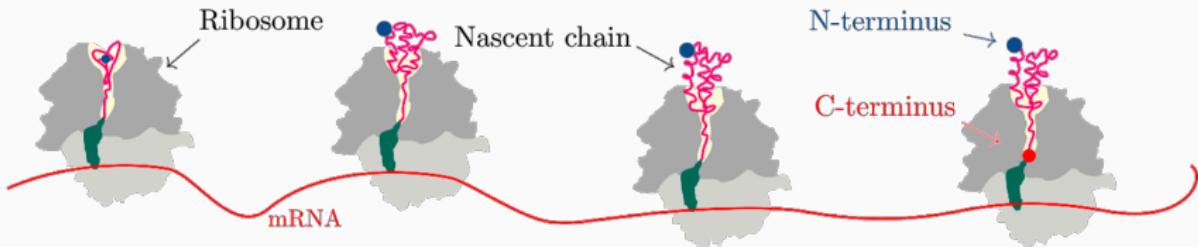
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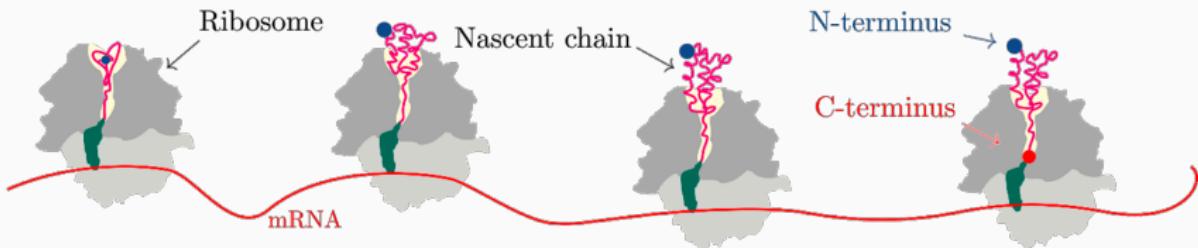
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- Statistical models: the Wako-Saitô-Muñoz-Eaton (WSME) model



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Appendix Example of Q and $|G'|$ timeseries