

# Εισαγωγή στις ΜΔ Προσομοιώσεις και το Σχεδιασμό Φαρμάκων μέσω υπολογιστή

**Ζωή Κούρνια**

*Ίδρυμα Ιατροβιολογικών Ερευνών, Ακαδημία Αθηνών*

**4 Μαΐου 2020**

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***twitter: @zoecournia***

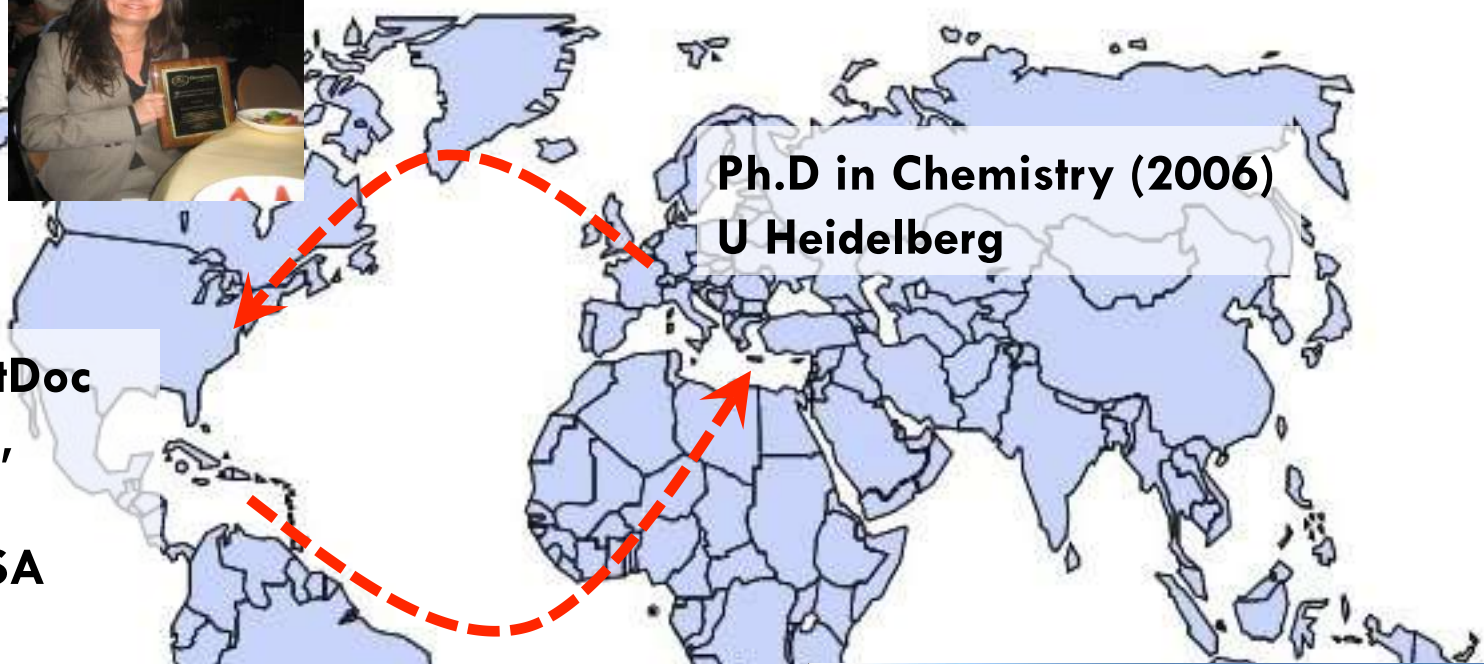


**2001-2006**  
**Doctoral Student in Chemistry**  
**Heidelberg University, Germany**



**1996-2001**  
**Chemistry, University of Athens**





**Ph.D in Chemistry (2006)  
U Heidelberg**

**2006-2009 PostDoc  
Chemistry Dept,  
Yale University  
New Haven, USA**

**Instructor, MSc Program  
Data Science &  
Information Technologies**

**BRFAA  
2009-2015  
Investigator D'  
2015-2019  
Investigator C'  
2019-date  
Investigator B'**



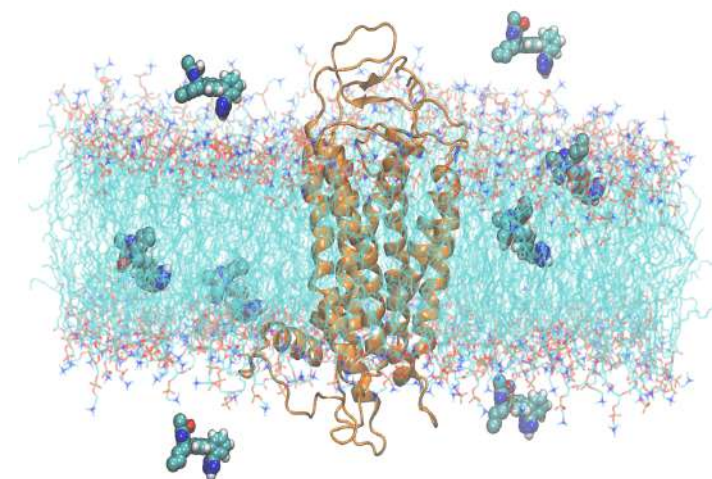
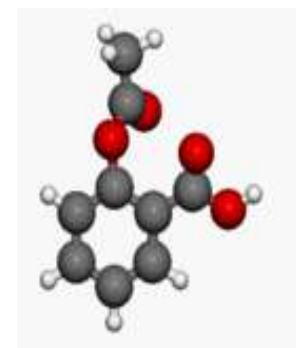
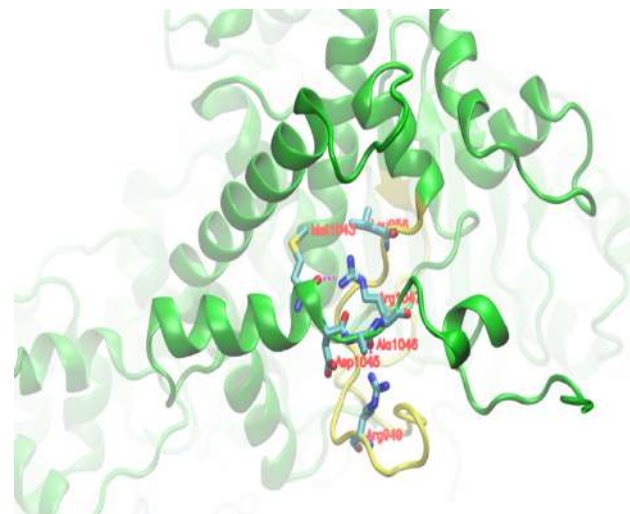
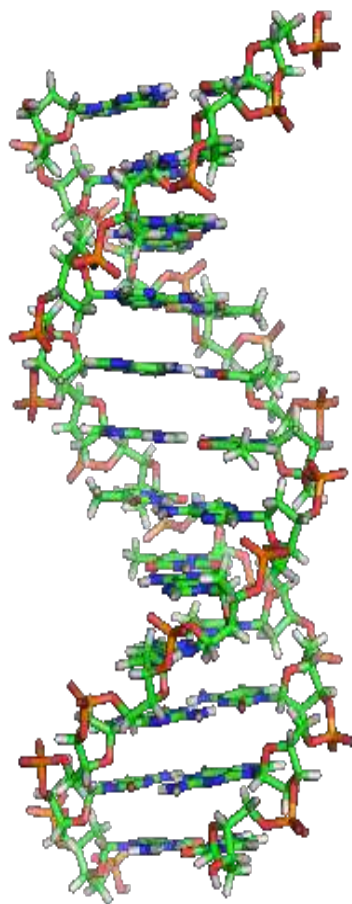
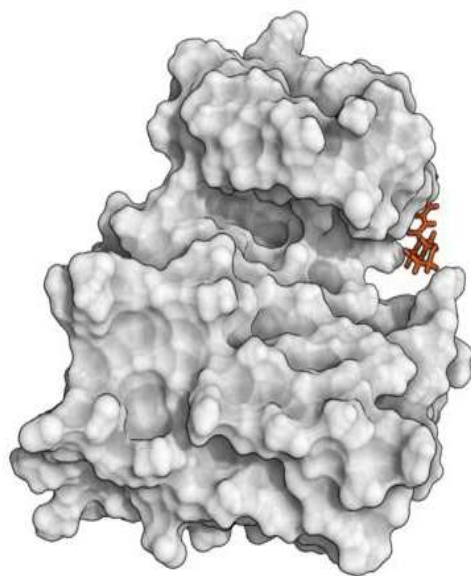
Computational Drug Design

Cournia Lab



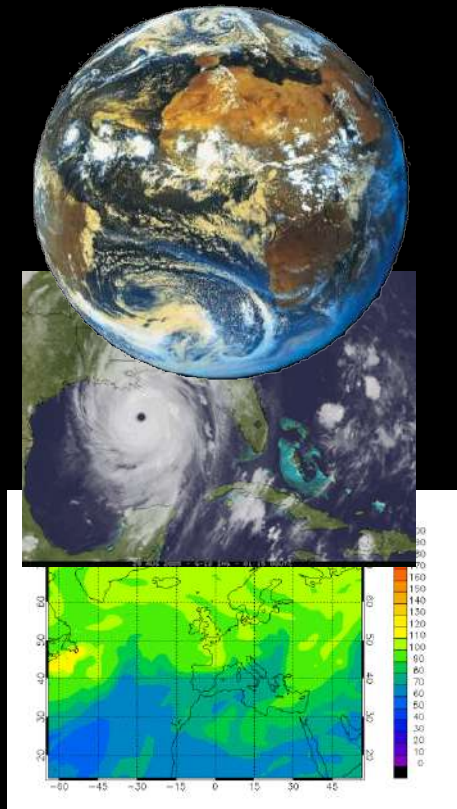
IIBEEA

ΙΔΡΥΜΑ ΙΑΤΡΟΒΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΩΝ ΕΡΕΥΝΩΝ  
ΑΚΑΔΗΜΙΑΣ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ





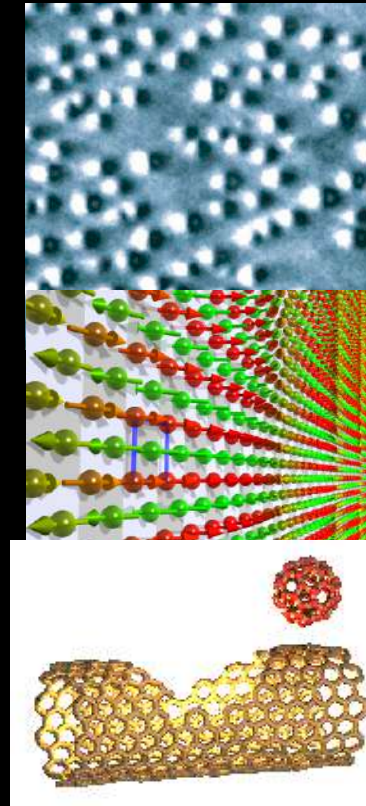
# Supercomputing Drives Science through Simulation



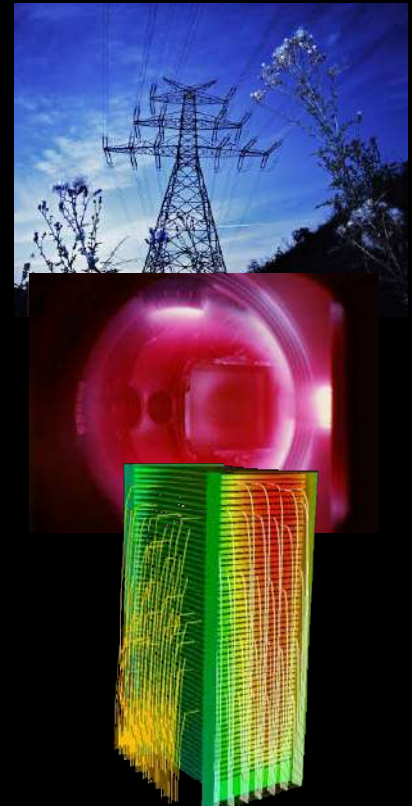
**Environment**  
Weather/ Climatology  
Pollution / Ozone Hole



**Finding Cures**  
Medicine  
Biology



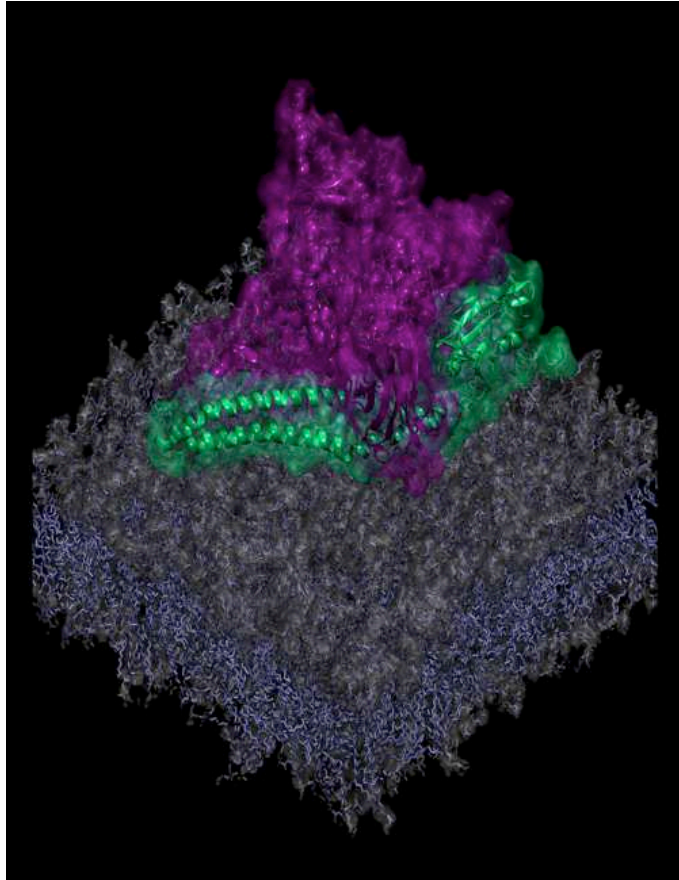
**Materials/ Inf. Tech**  
Spintronics  
Nano-science



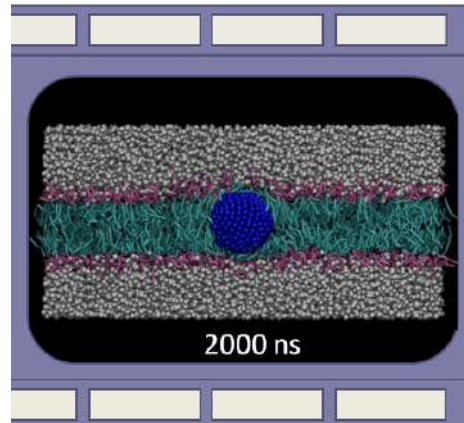
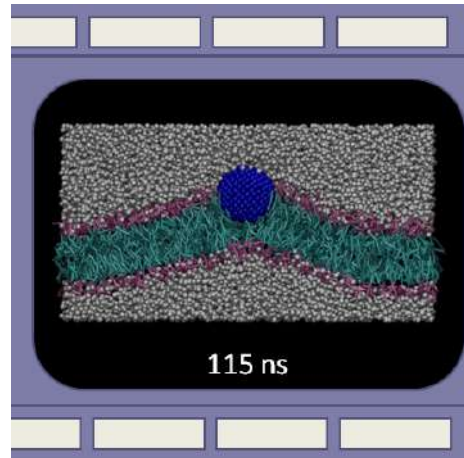
**Energy**  
Plasma Physics  
Fuel Cells

# Computer-aided drug and drug delivery design

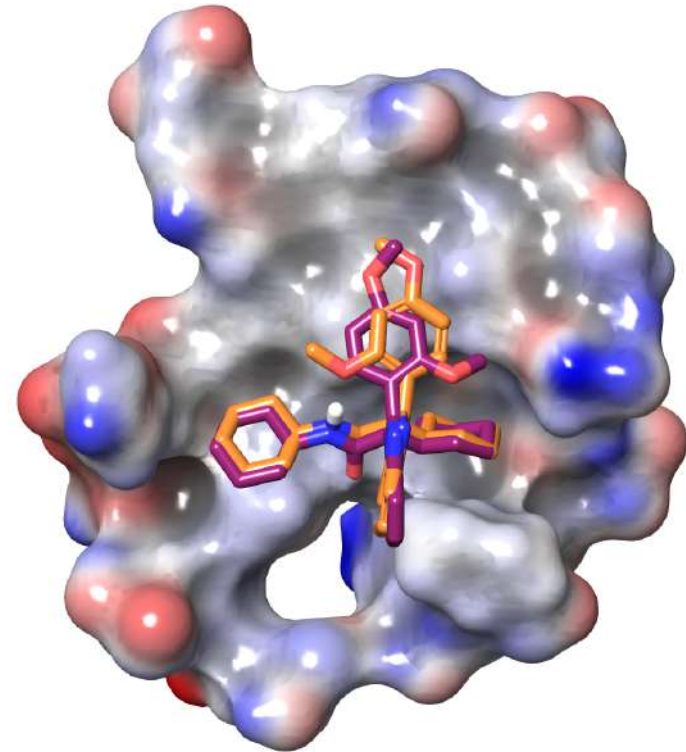
## Protein biophysics



## Drug delivery systems



## Computer-aided drug design





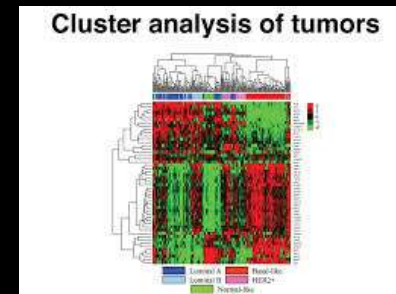
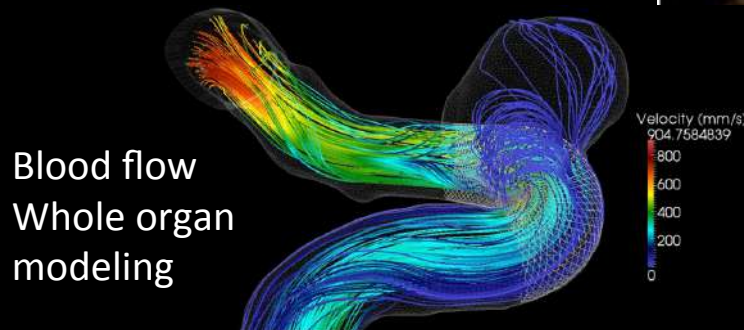
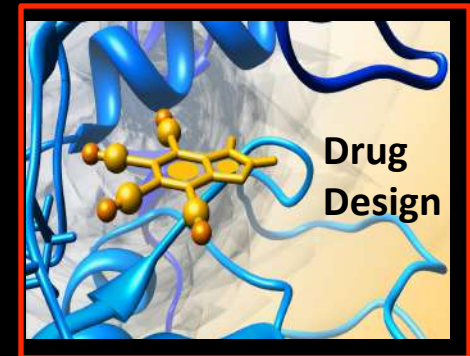
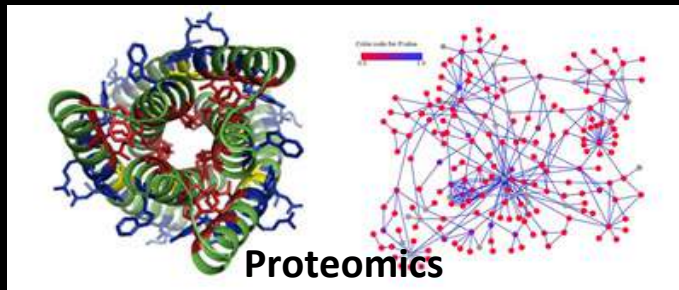
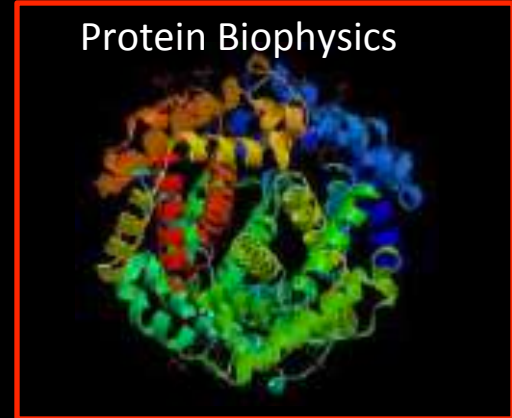
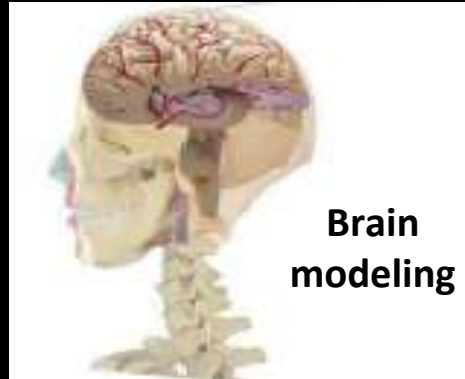
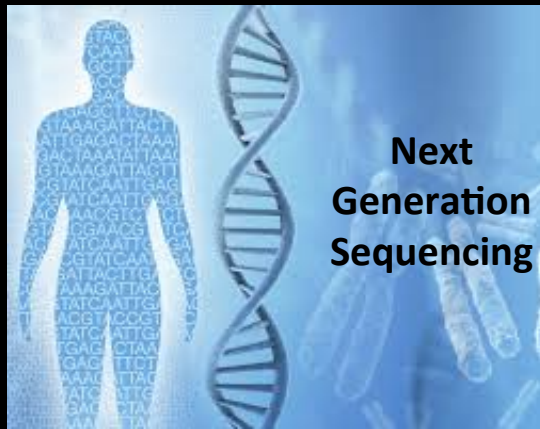


Blue Gene/P

# HPC Systems

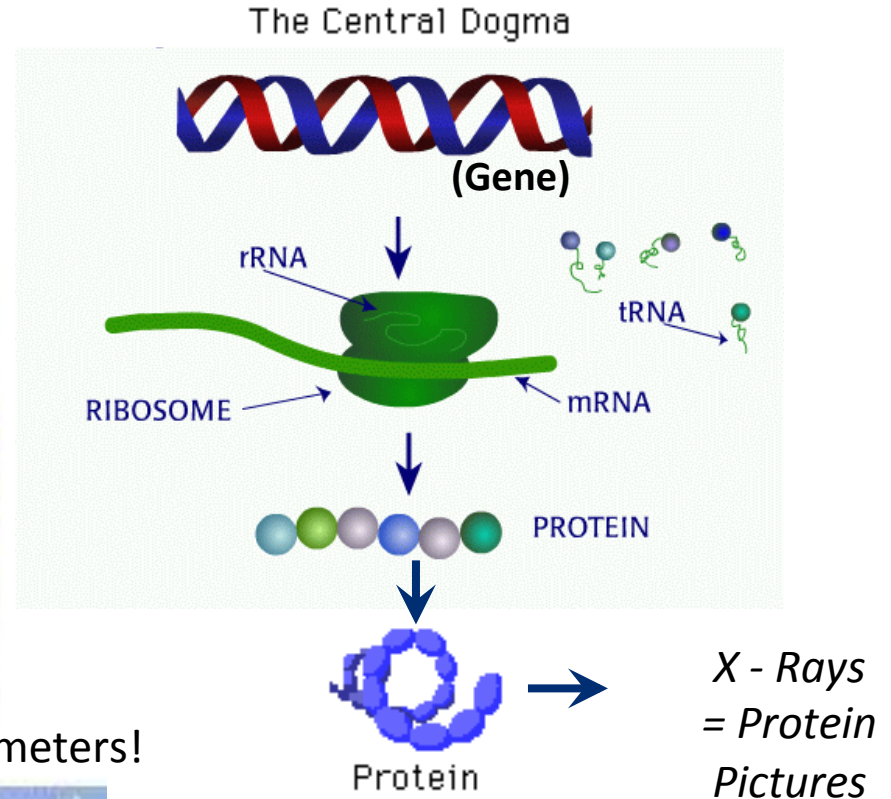
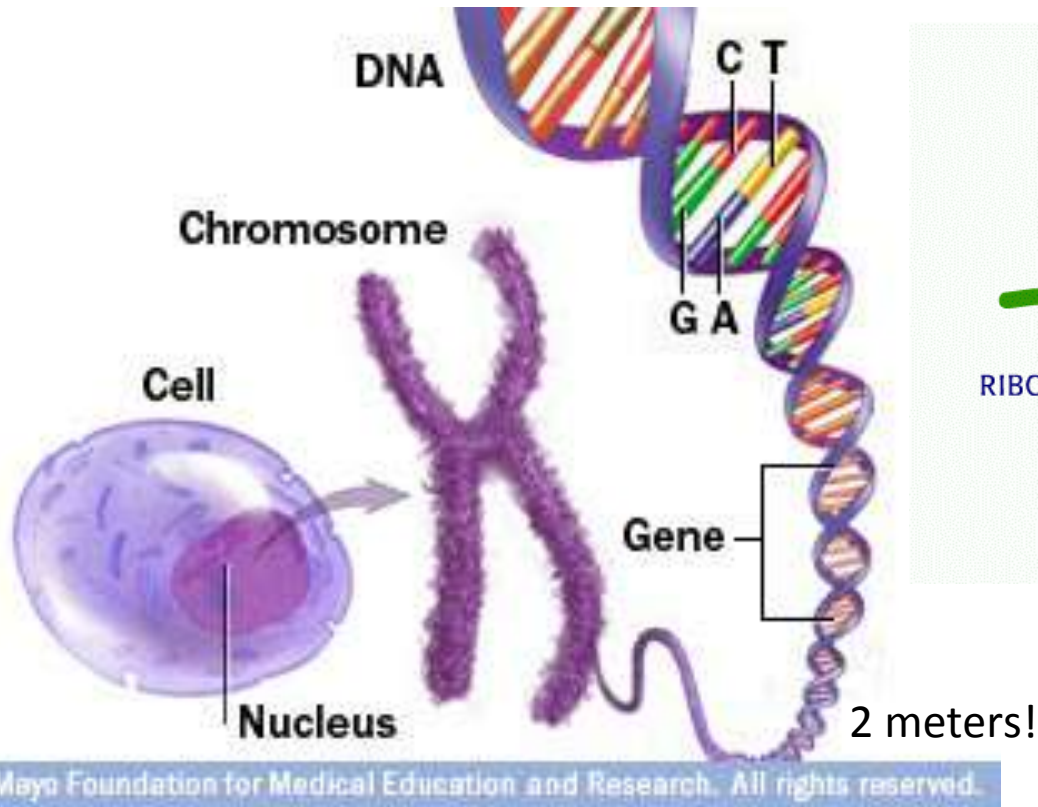


# Key areas of biomedical research where HPC is key





# From DNA, to genes and proteins

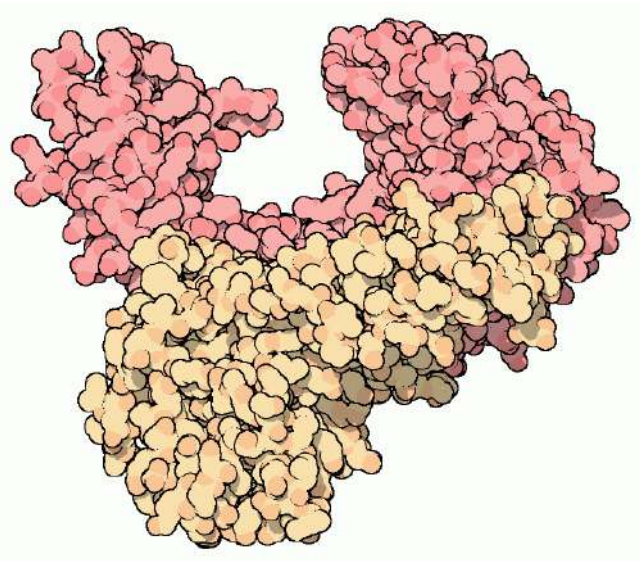


20.000 genes in the nuclei of our cells  
→ PROTEINS

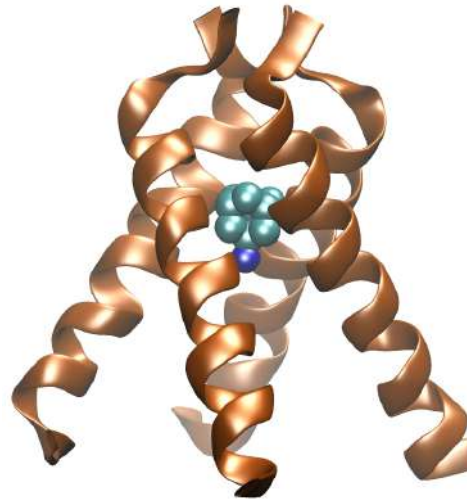
- Proteins are the expression of genes in functional molecules
- Proteins perform essential functions in the cell

# Some proteins need to be stopped!

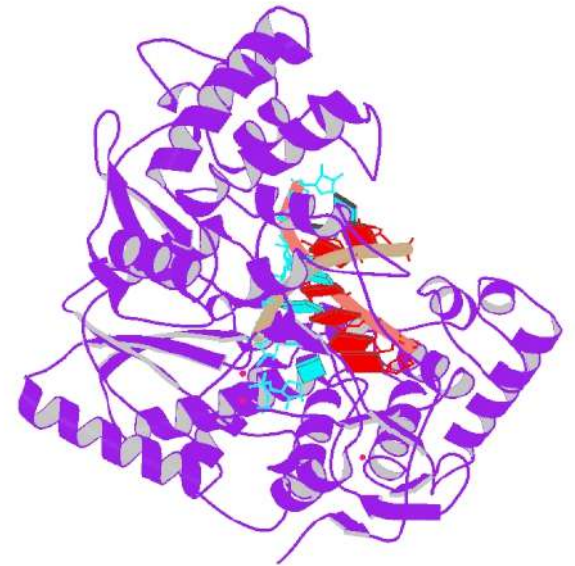
**HIV-RT**



**M2TM**  
(Influenza virus)



**NS5B**  
(Hepatitis C)



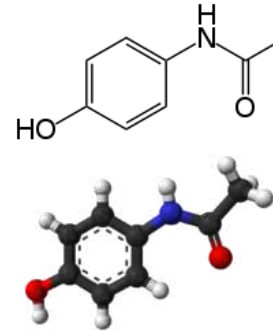


# Drugs block or activate diseased proteins

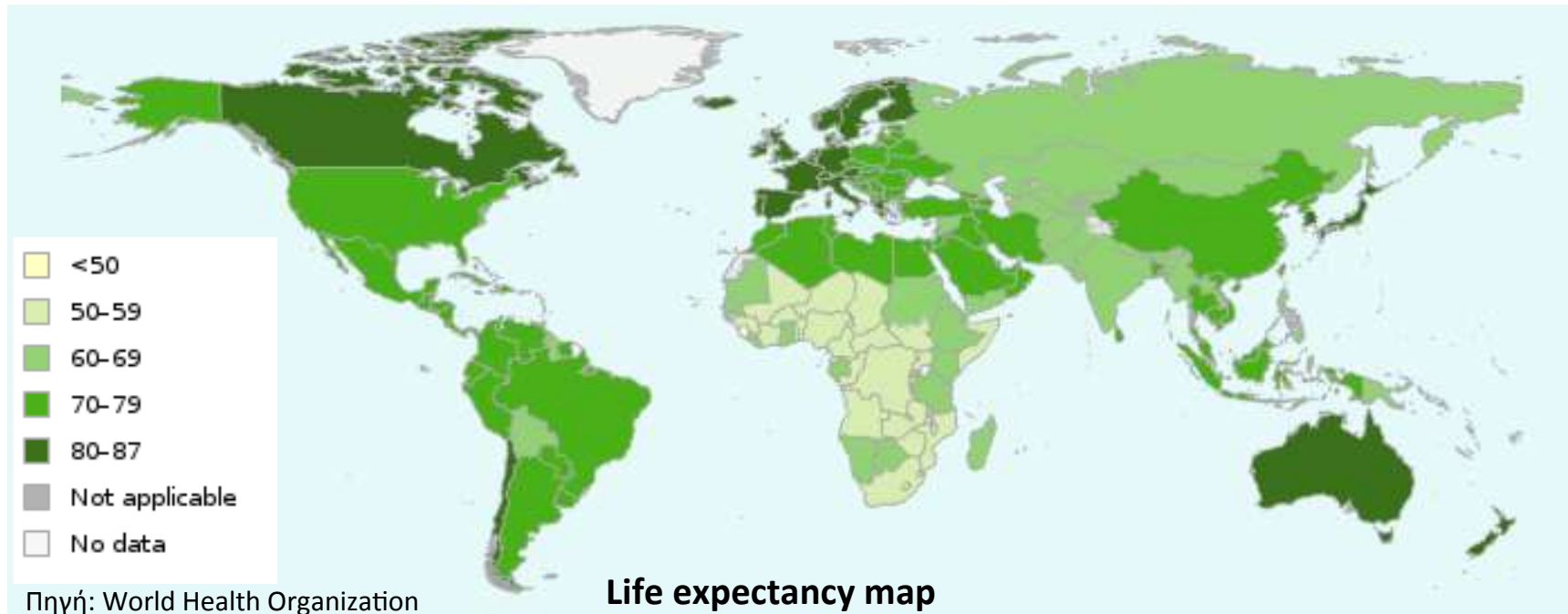
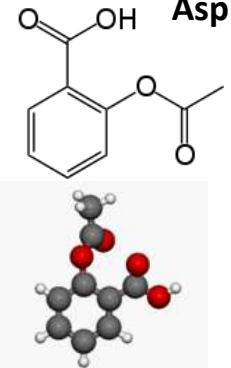
Normally they are small organic molecules

- Therapy
- Relief
- Prevention
- Quality of life improvement
- Life expectancy prolongation

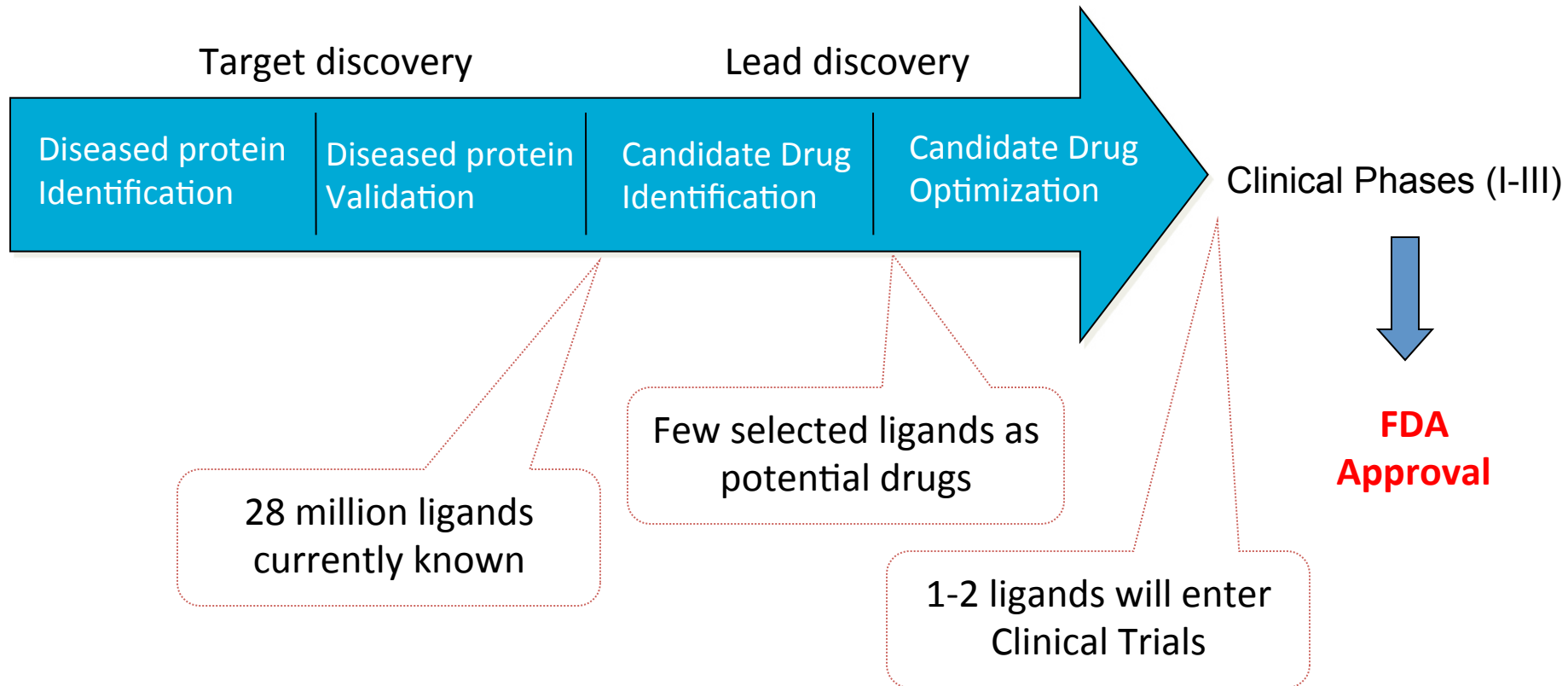
Paracetamol (Depon)



Aspirin



# Phases of Pharmaceutical Development

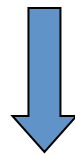


Duration: 12 – 15 years, Cost: ~ 1 billion US \$



# Traditional Drug Discovery

- Random screening of hundreds of thousands of molecules with High Throughput Screening (HTS) for combating the pathogen
- Random discoveries (i.e. penicillin, viagra)
- Trying out existing drugs and modifications
- Estimated number of small molecules that can act as drugs  $10^{66}$
- Estimated number of atoms in the world  $10^{50}$

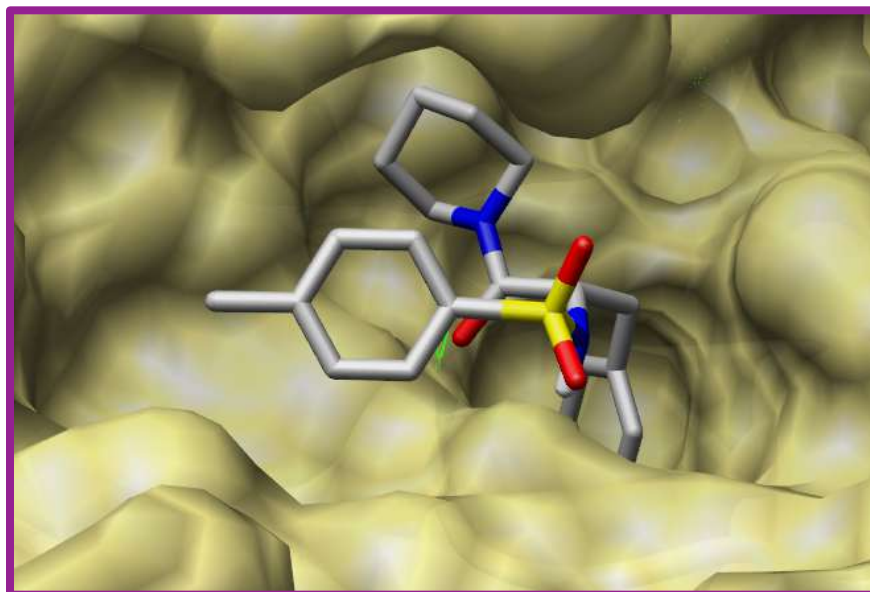
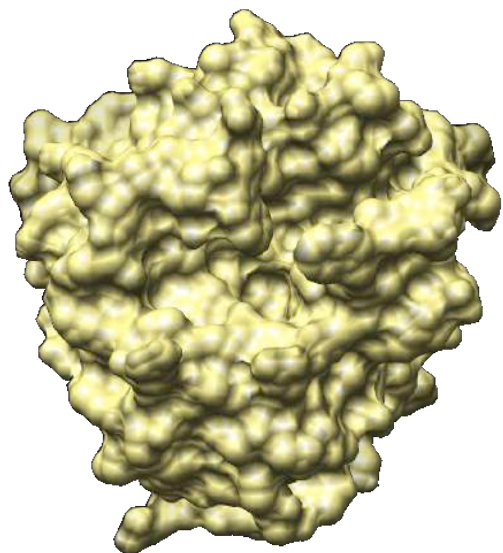
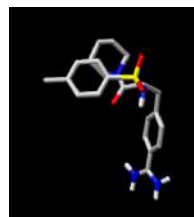
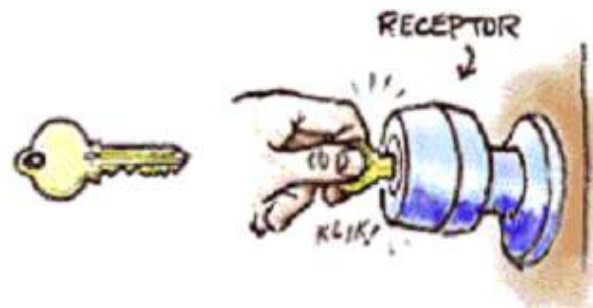


**Structure-based approaches + Targeted Therapy**

# Rational Drug Discovery

- Identify important genes for a disease
- Targeting/inactivating genes (proteins) of the pathogen with small molecules = drugs

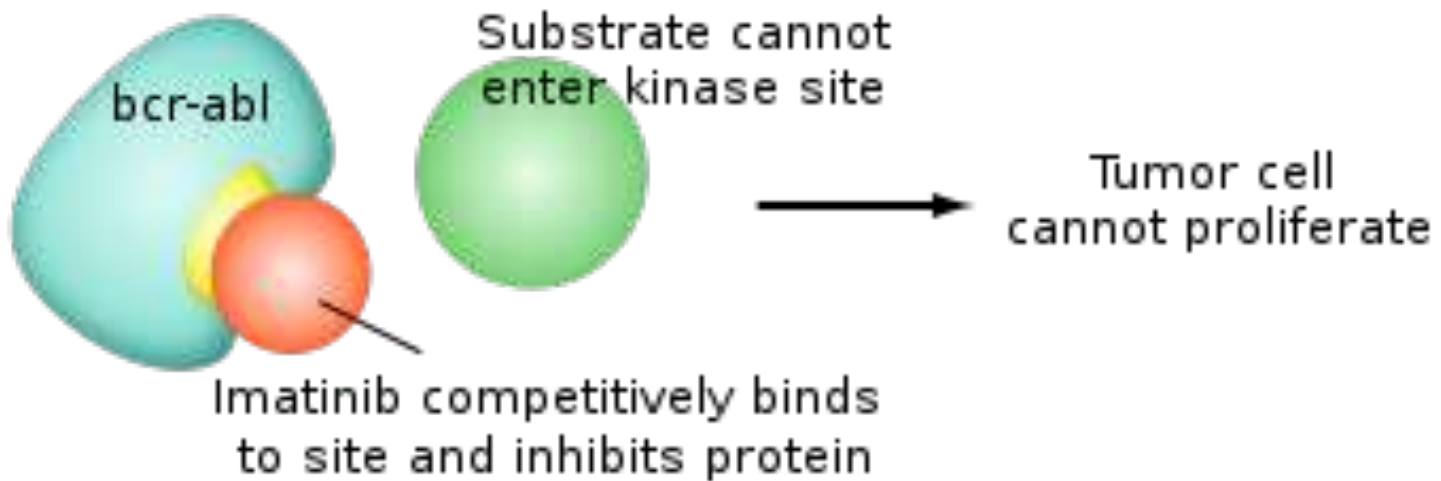
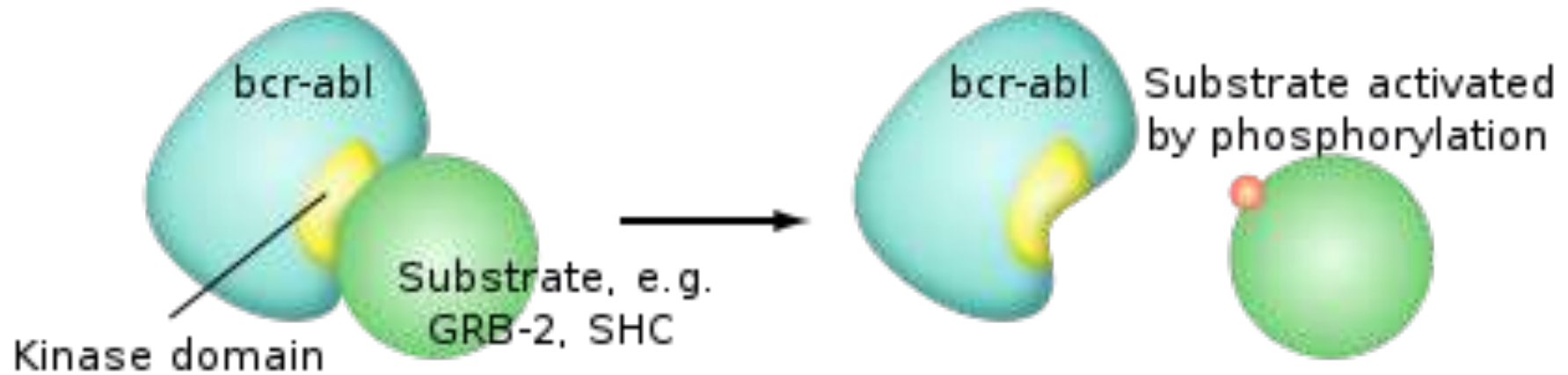
**TARGETED THERAPY!**

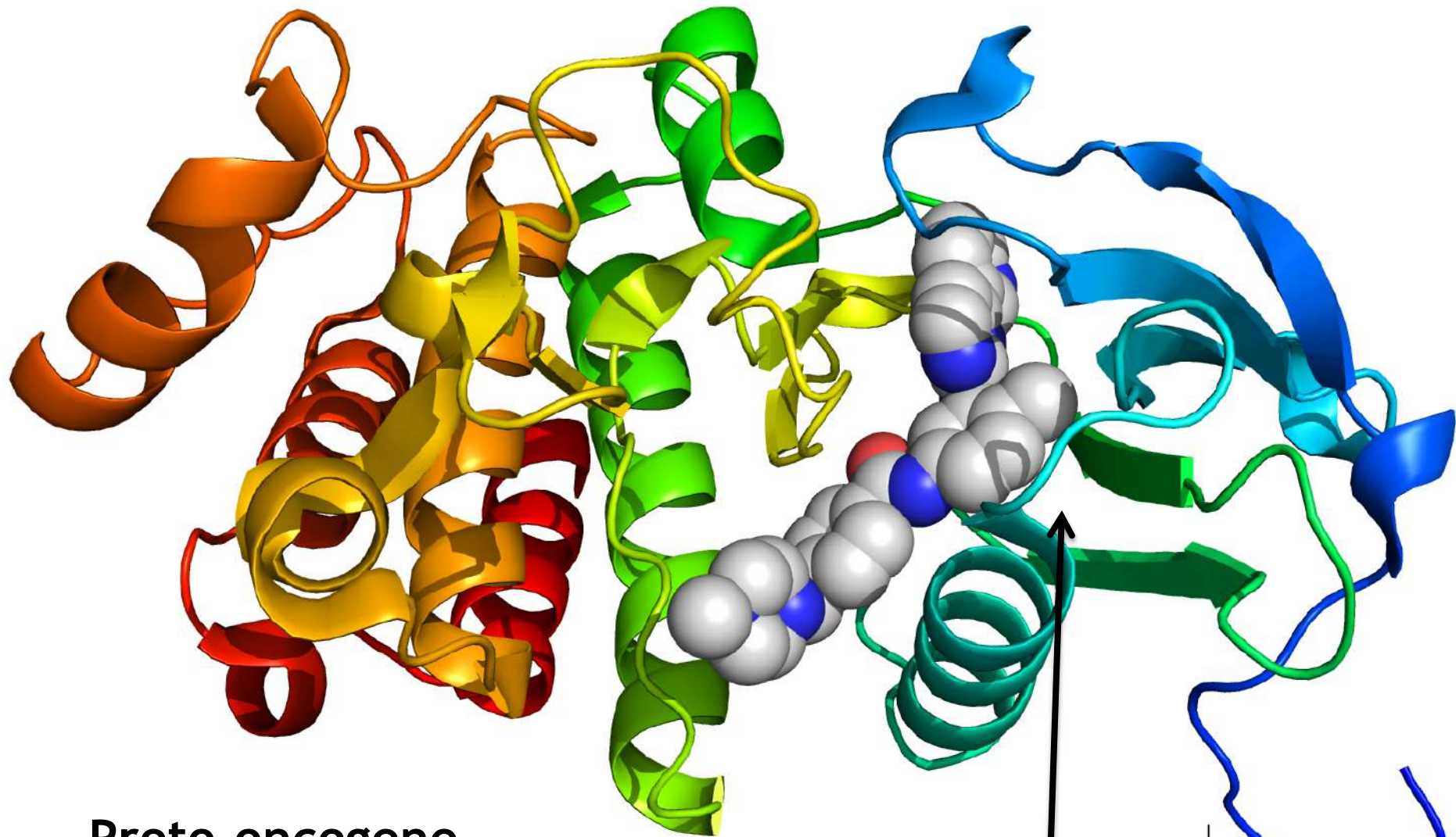


Curr Opin Drug Discov Devel. 2002 May; 5(3): 355-360



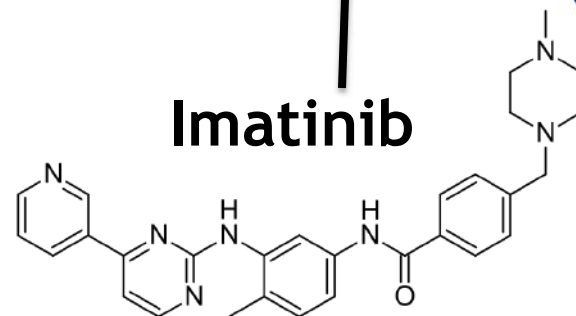
# Constitutively active chimeric oncogene Bcr-Abl Tyrosine Kinase in CML





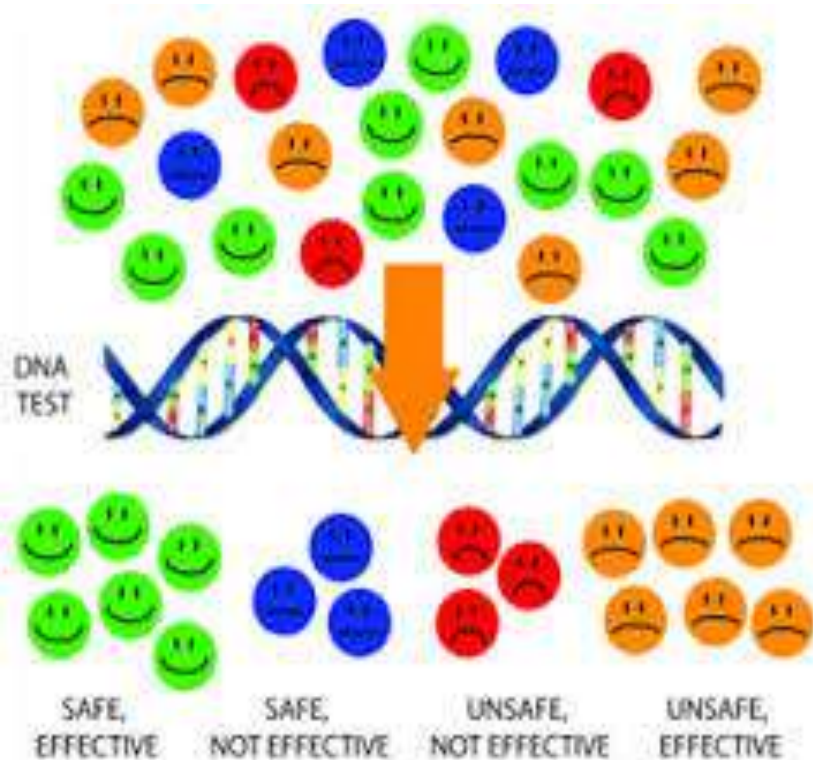
**Proto-oncogene  
tyrosine kinase Abl  
(PDB ID: 1IEP)**

**Imatinib**





# What is personalized therapy?



**Lung Cancer**



genotyping



4% of patients with  
non-small cell lung carcinoma  
Rearrangement in **ALK protein**



carcinogenesis



Drug design for this specific  
subset of patients



**Crizotinib for ALK+  
lung cancer patients**

# Drug Design: Outline of the process

1. Protein Structure
2. Computer Simulations
3. Finding binding sites where drug binds
4. Design of chemical compound suitable to bind on the specific protein (interactions)
5. Choose compounds / Organic Synthesis

D  
E  
S  
I  
G  
N

6. Assaying compounds in vitro (without cells)
7. Cell-based in vitro assays
8. Calculate efficacy of molecule – candidate drug

IN VITRO

9. Pharmacokinetics/ Pharmacodynamics in healthy animals
10. Check toxicology in healthy animals
11. Efficacy studies in mouse xenografts
12. Efficacy studies in animal models of the disease

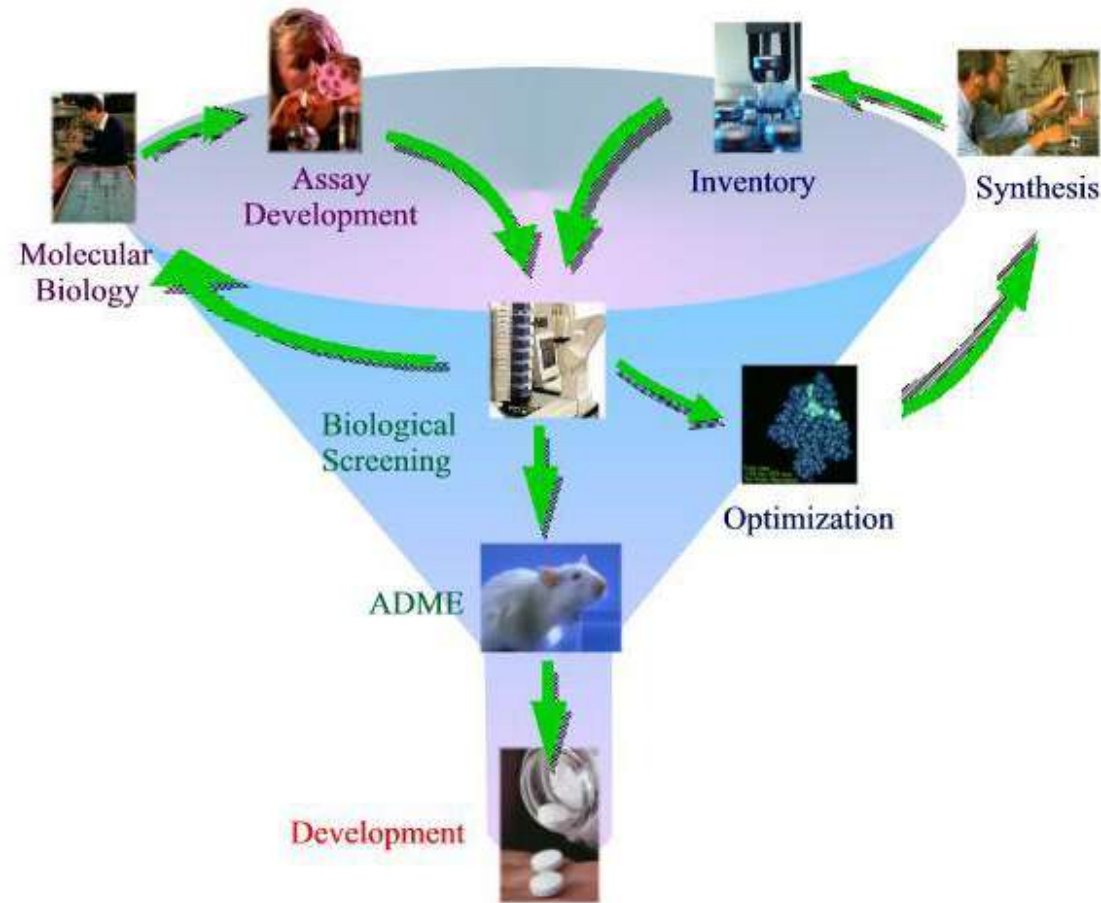
IN VIVO



# Pre-clinical and clinical stages

## Pre-clinical studies

## Clinical Trials



### Phase I

- 5-40 healthy volunteers, months
- Dosing and safety studies
- ~70% Success Rate

### Phase II

- 100 - 300 patients, 2 years
- Efficacy studies
- ~30% Success Rate

### Phase III

- 1000 - 3000 patients, 1-4 years
- Large-scale Efficacy, Dosing, and Safety Studies
- ~25% Success Rate

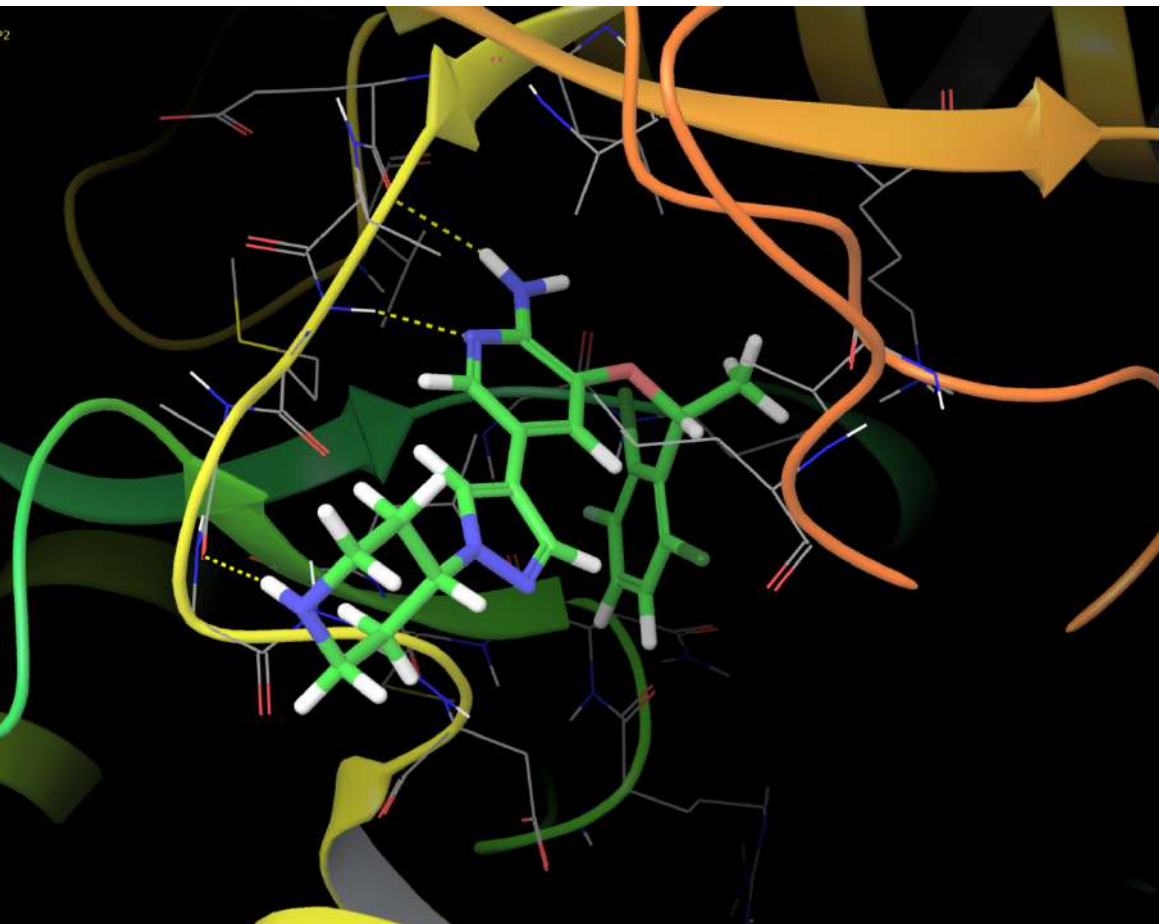
### Phase IV

- Marketing
- Long term drug effects

Image source: Akos

# Drugs bind on protein pockets through intermolecular interactions

Structure of the anaplastic lymphoma kinase (ALK)  
Complexed with the drug crizotinib – (PDB ID: 2XP2)



**Protein-Ligand interactions:**

**Intermolecular Interactions  
(Enthalpy)**

*Hydrogen Bonds  
Electrostatic Interactions  
van der Waals Forces  
 $\pi - \pi$  Interactions*

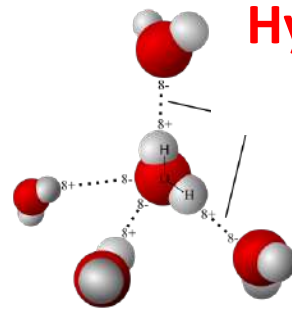
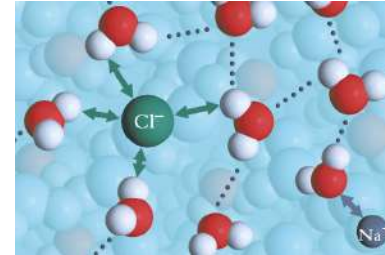
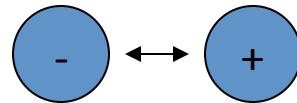
**Entropy**



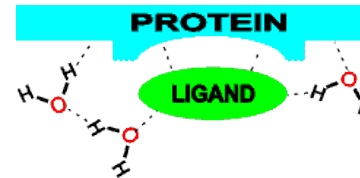
# Intermolecular Interactions



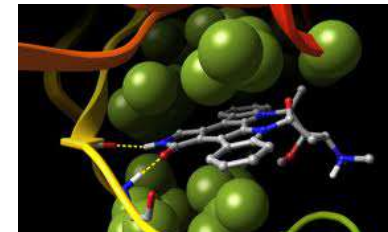
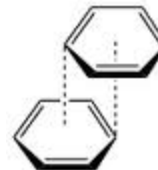
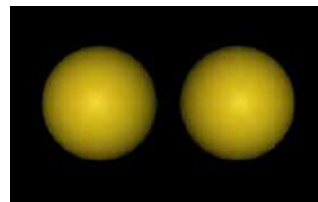
## Electrostatic Interactions

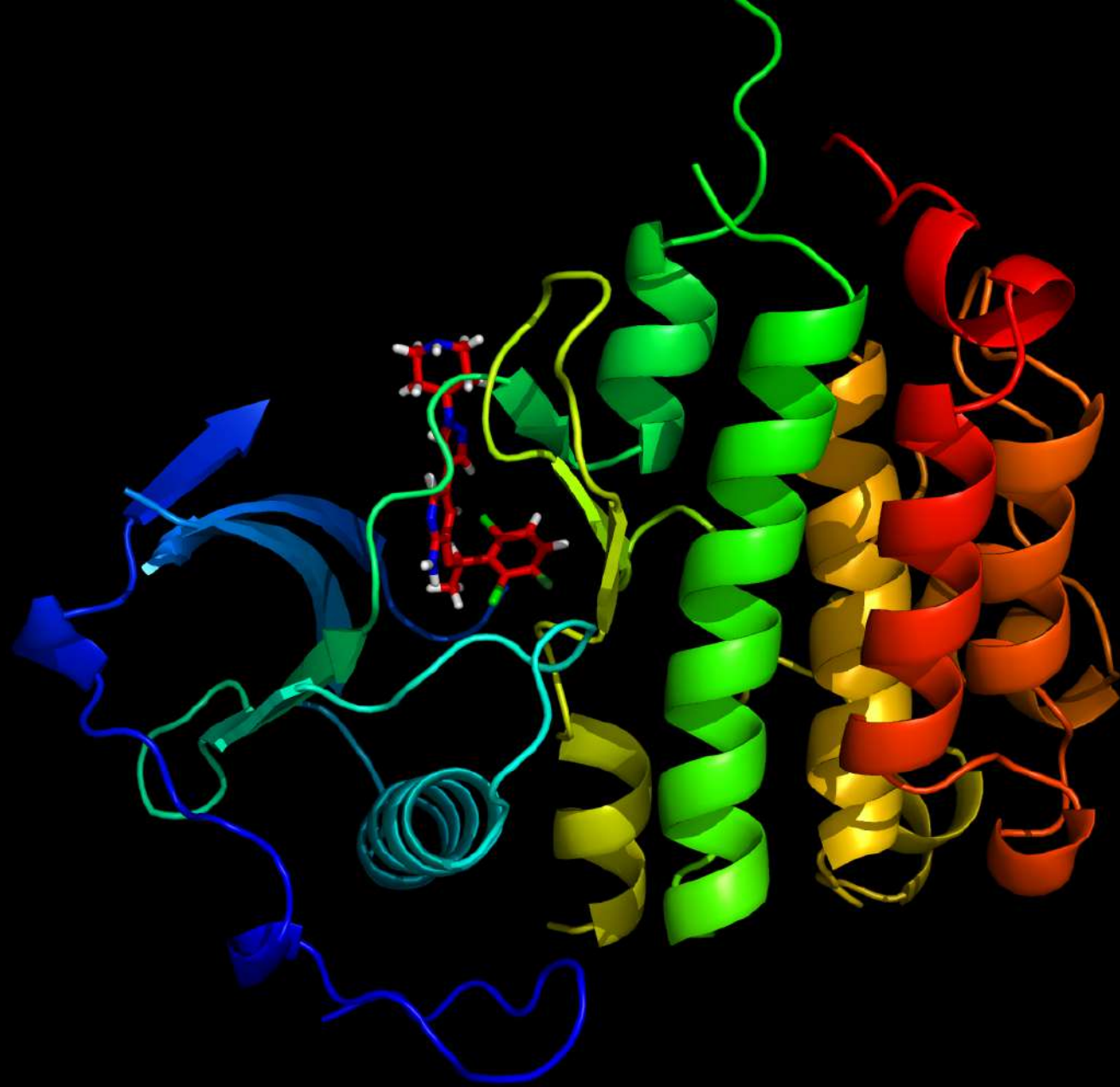


## Hydrogen Bonds



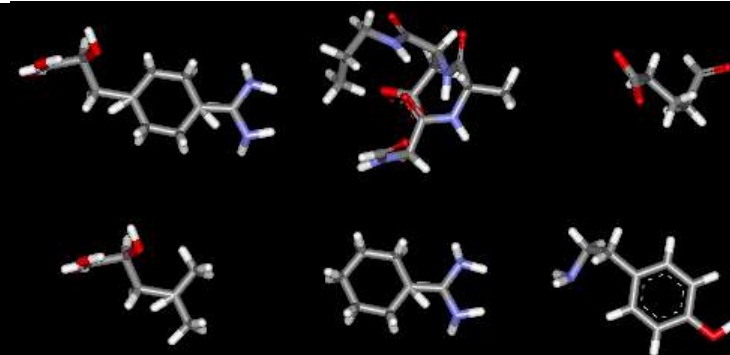
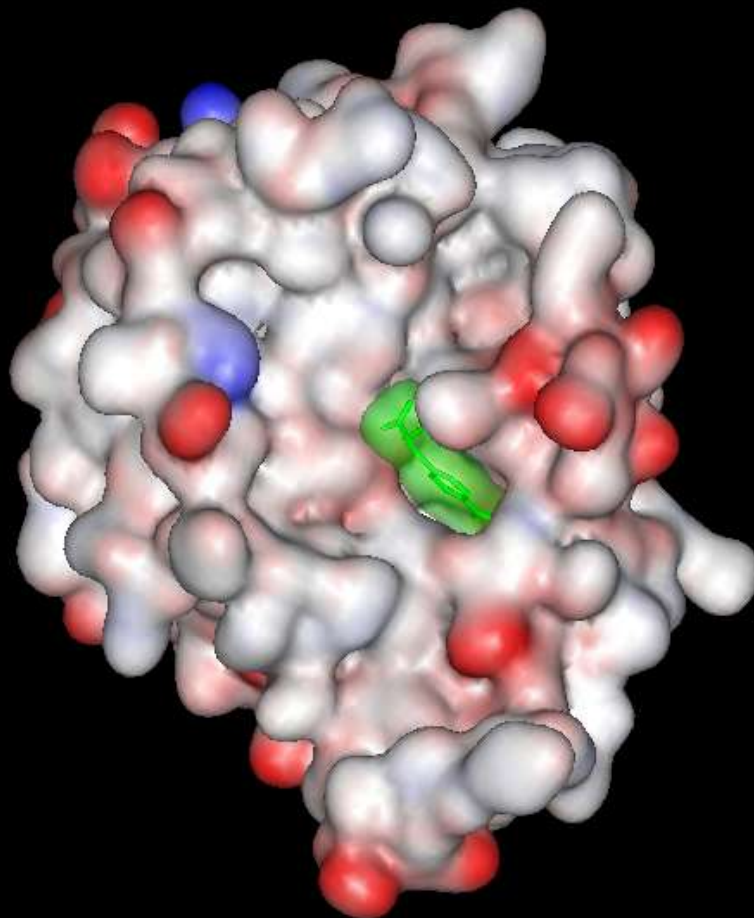
## van der Waals Forces $\pi - \pi$ , cation - $\pi$ interactions





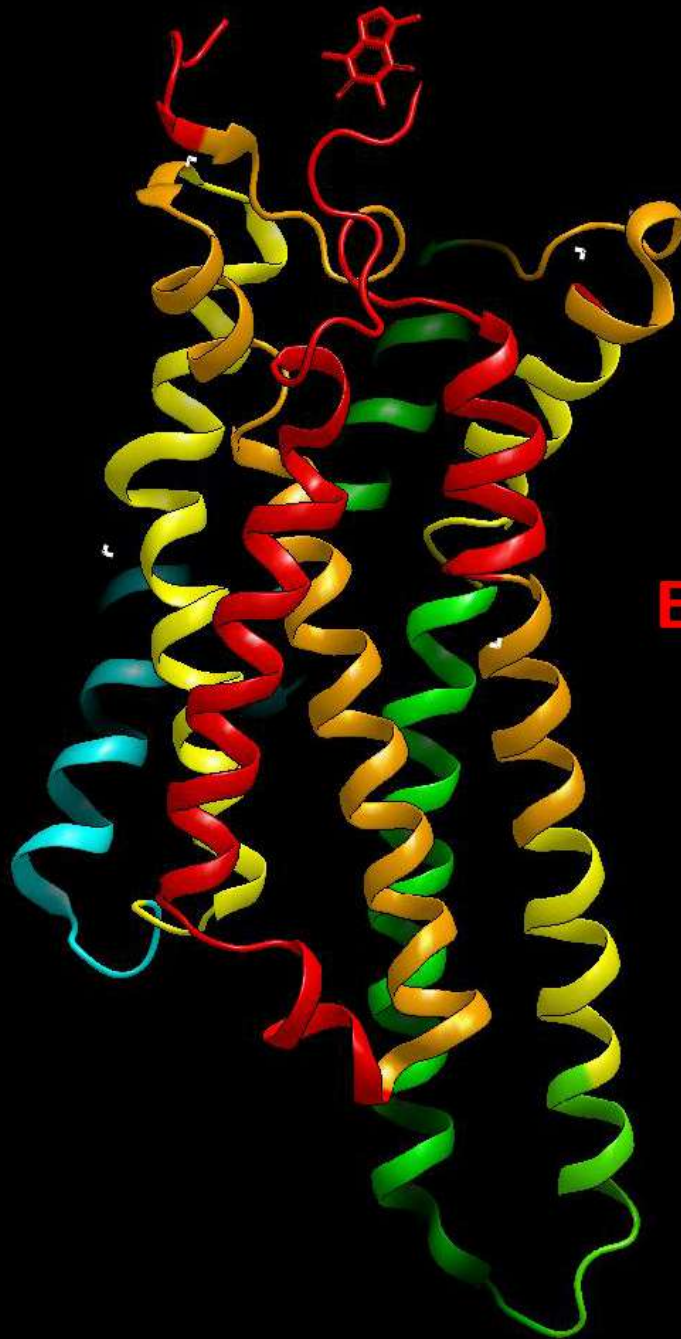


# Predicting the protein-ligand complex

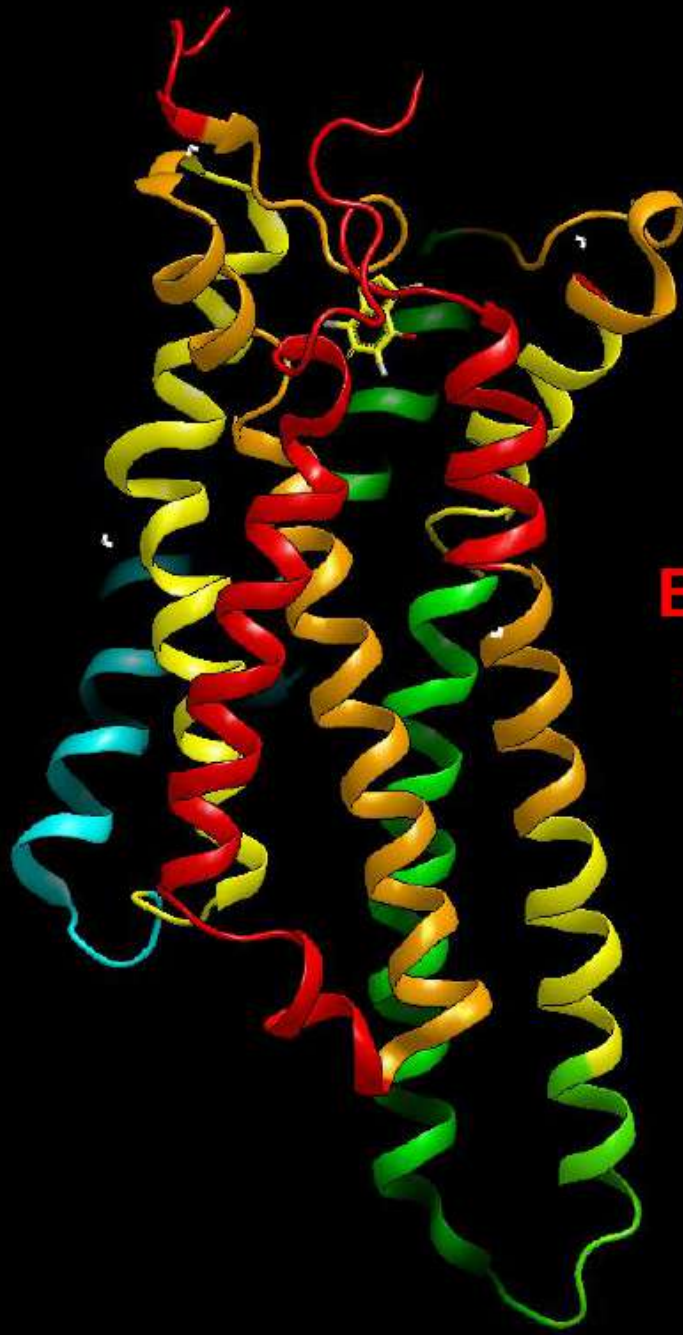


↓  
*Docking /  
Virtual  
Screening*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u49k72rUdyc>

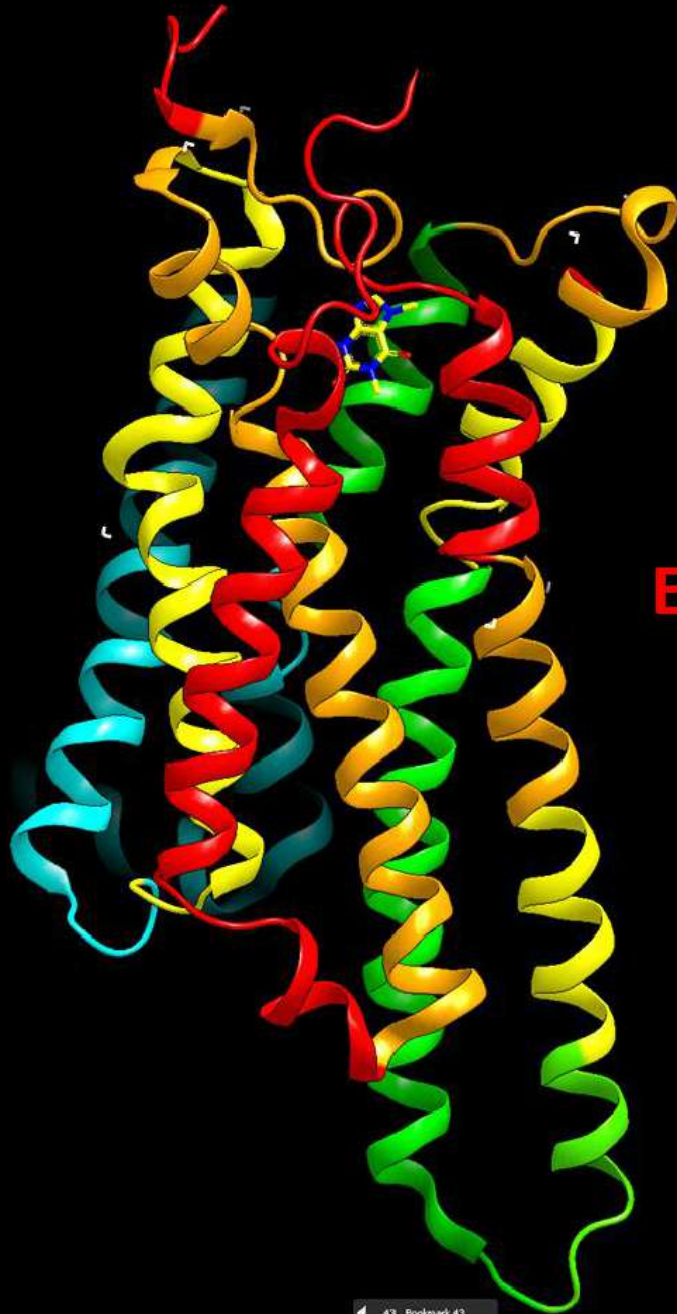


**Entry of caffeine into the  
adenosine A<sub>2A</sub> receptor**

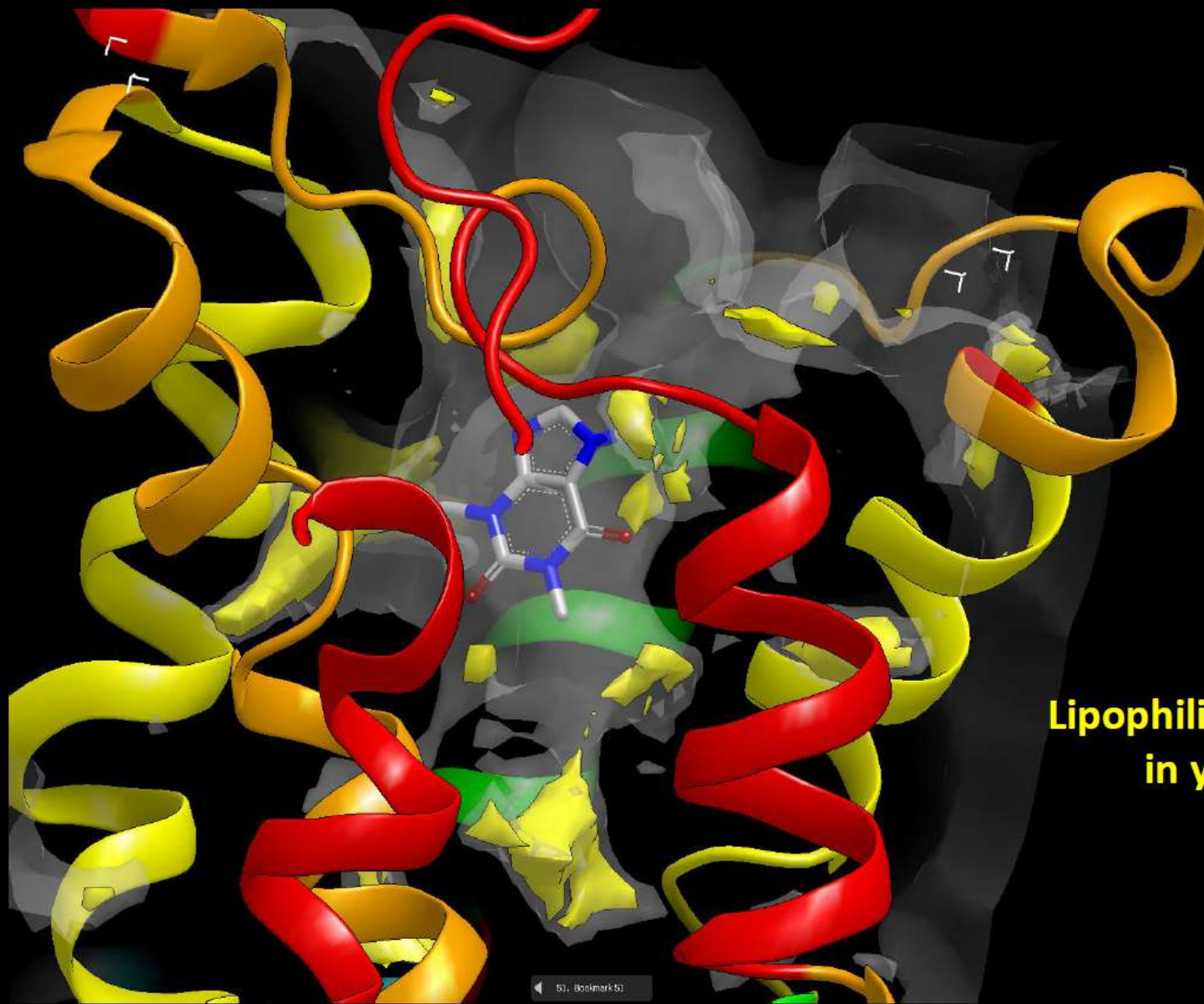


**Entry of caffeine into the  
adenosine A<sub>2A</sub> receptor**



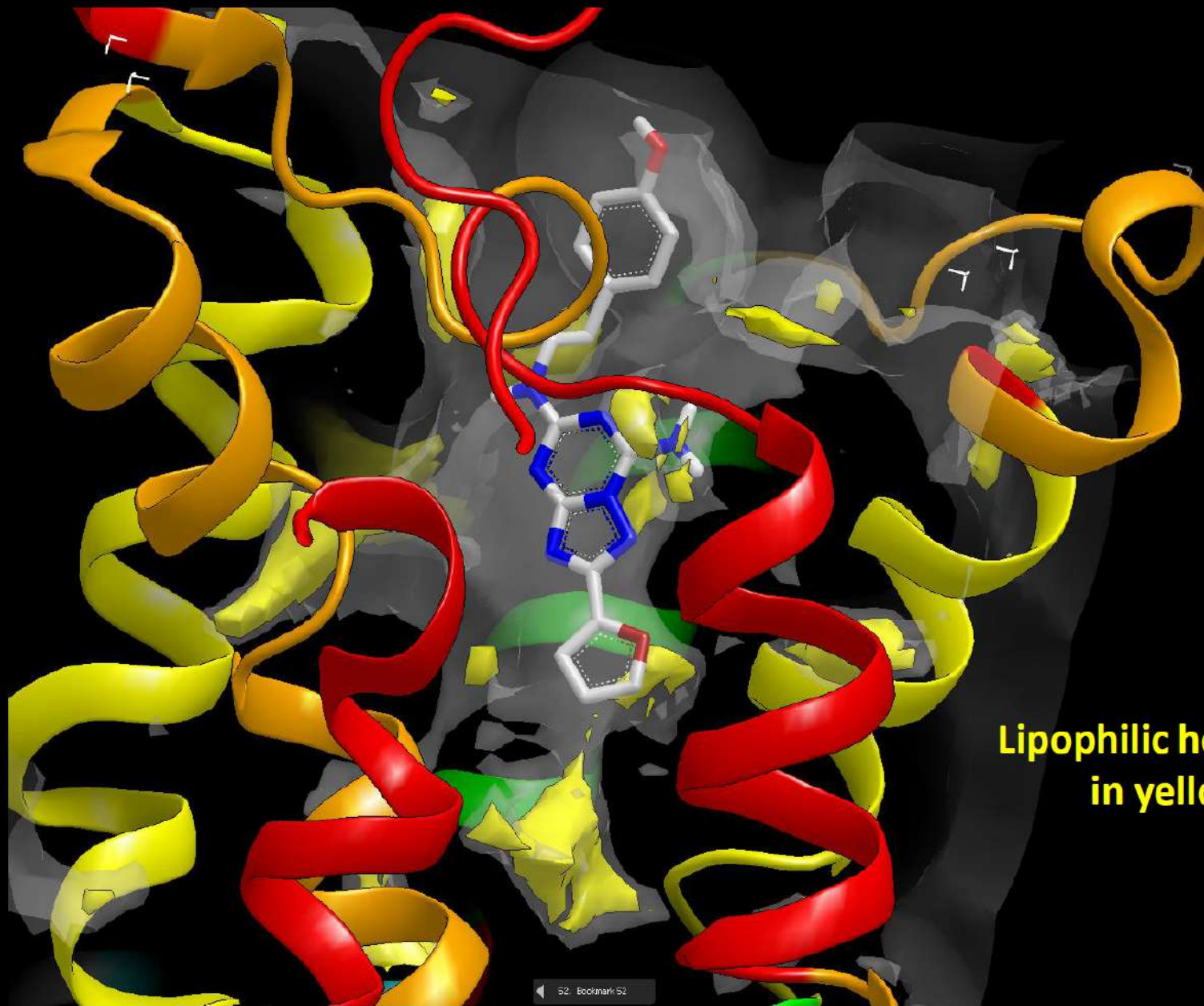


**Entry of caffeine into the  
adenosine A<sub>2A</sub> receptor**



Lipophilic hotspots  
in yellow

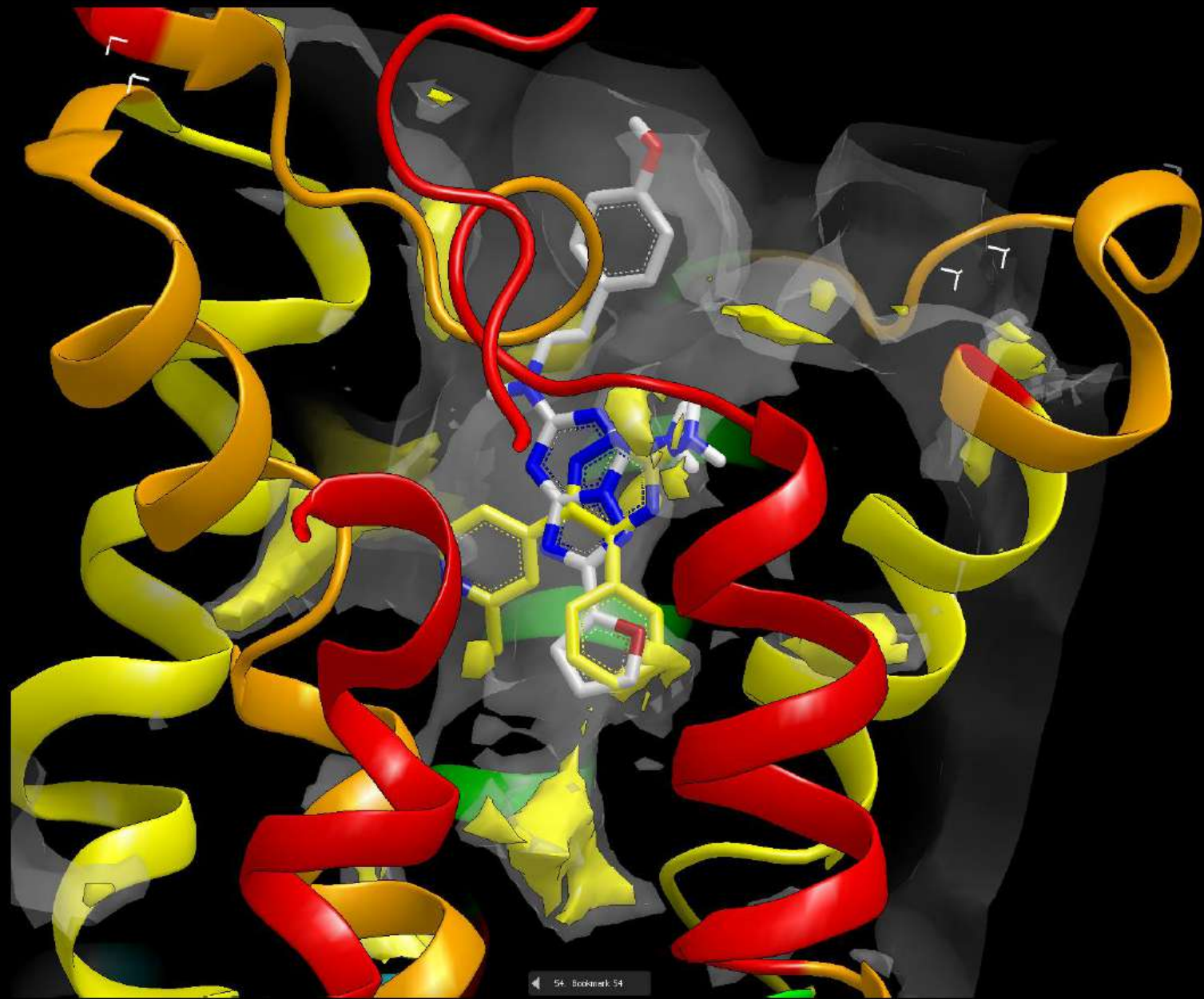
The caffeine binding pocket in the  $A_{2A}$  receptor  
A Neutral antagonist



Lipophilic hotspots  
in yellow

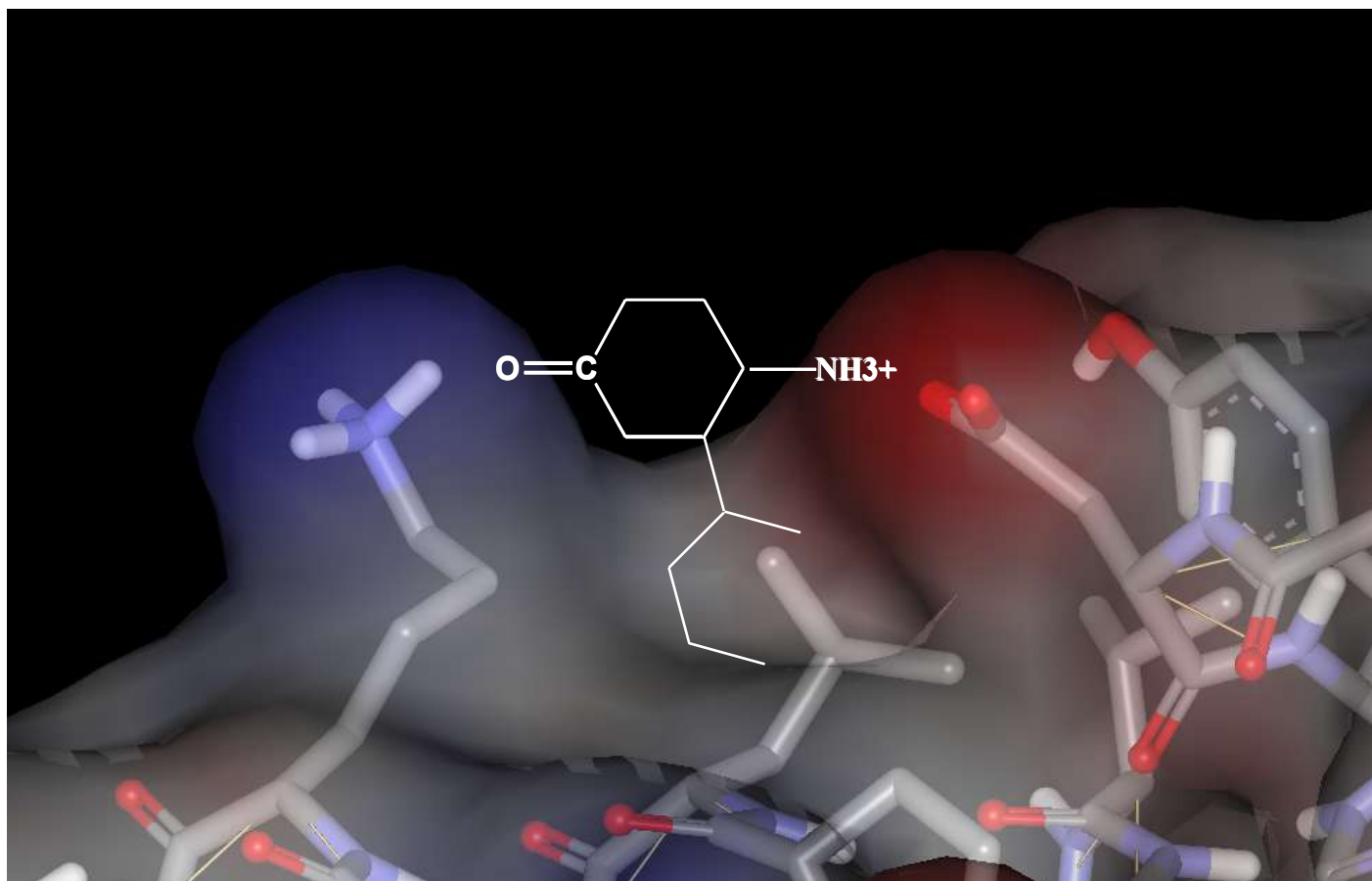
**A<sub>2A</sub> receptor bound to the inverse agonist - ZM241385**





**Overlay of ligands bound to the A<sub>2A</sub> receptor**

# De novo computer-aided drug design

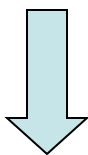


- Design of inhibitors from scratch based on 3D structure of protein
- With a ligand-growing program analogs are built inside protein binding site

# Scoring functions for molecular docking

**Scoring Functions** → approximate the free energy of binding of a small molecule binding to a target

- The algorithm performs a conformational search in the binding pocket of the target
- Some of the ligand conformations are rejected because of high-energy clashes with the protein
- The remainder conformations have to be assessed or ranked
- Different Ligands have to be ranked relative to each other



***Scoring Functions***  
(approximate free energy of binding)

$$\Delta G_{\text{bind}} = \Delta G_{\text{solv.}} + \Delta G_{\text{conf.}} + \Delta G_{\text{int.}} + \Delta G_{\text{rot.}} + \Delta G_{\text{t/r}} + \Delta G_{\text{vib.}}$$



# Scoring functions for molecular docking

## *SP*

$$\Delta G_{\text{bind}} = \Delta G_0 + \Delta G_{\text{hbond}} \sum f(\Delta R, \Delta \alpha) \\ + \Delta G_{\text{ionic}} \sum f(\Delta R, \Delta \alpha) + \Delta G_{\text{lipo}} A_{\text{lipo}} + \Delta G_{\text{rot}} N_{\text{rot}}$$

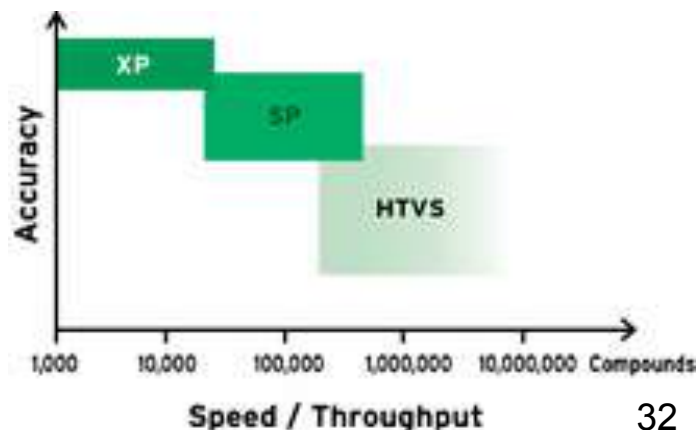
## *XP*

$$\text{XP GScore} = E_{\text{coul}} + E_{\text{vdW}} + E_{\text{bind}} + E_{\text{penalty}}$$

$$E_{\text{bind}} = E_{\text{phobic\_pair}} + E_{\text{hyd\_enclosure}} + E_{\text{hb\_nn\_motif}} + E_{\text{hb\_cc\_motif}} + E_{\text{hb\_pair}} + E_{\text{PI}}$$

$$E_{\text{penalty}} = E_{\text{desolv}} + E_{\text{ligand strain}}$$

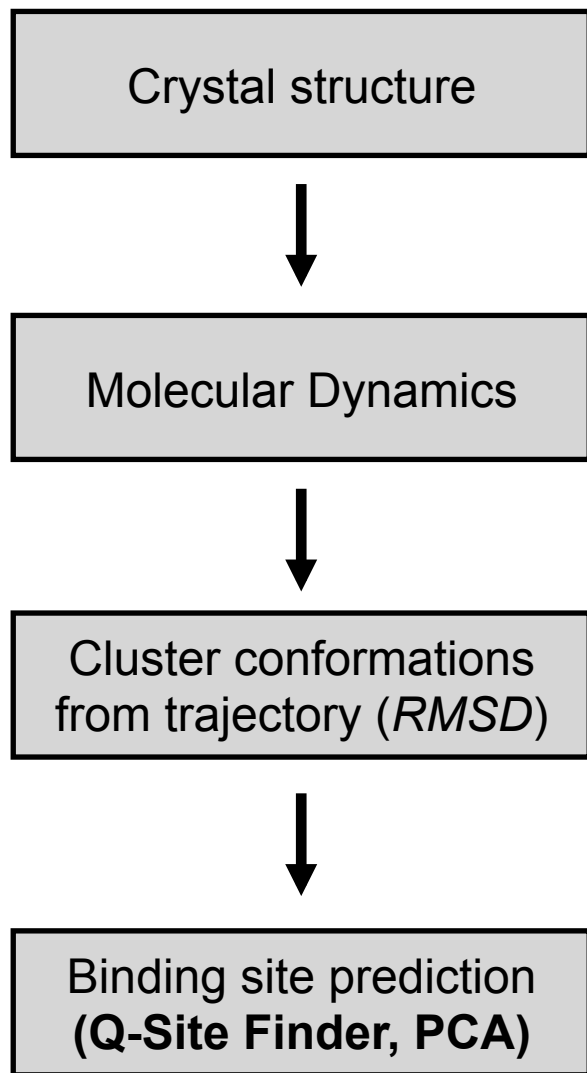
- Parameters in scoring functions are being estimated based on training sets



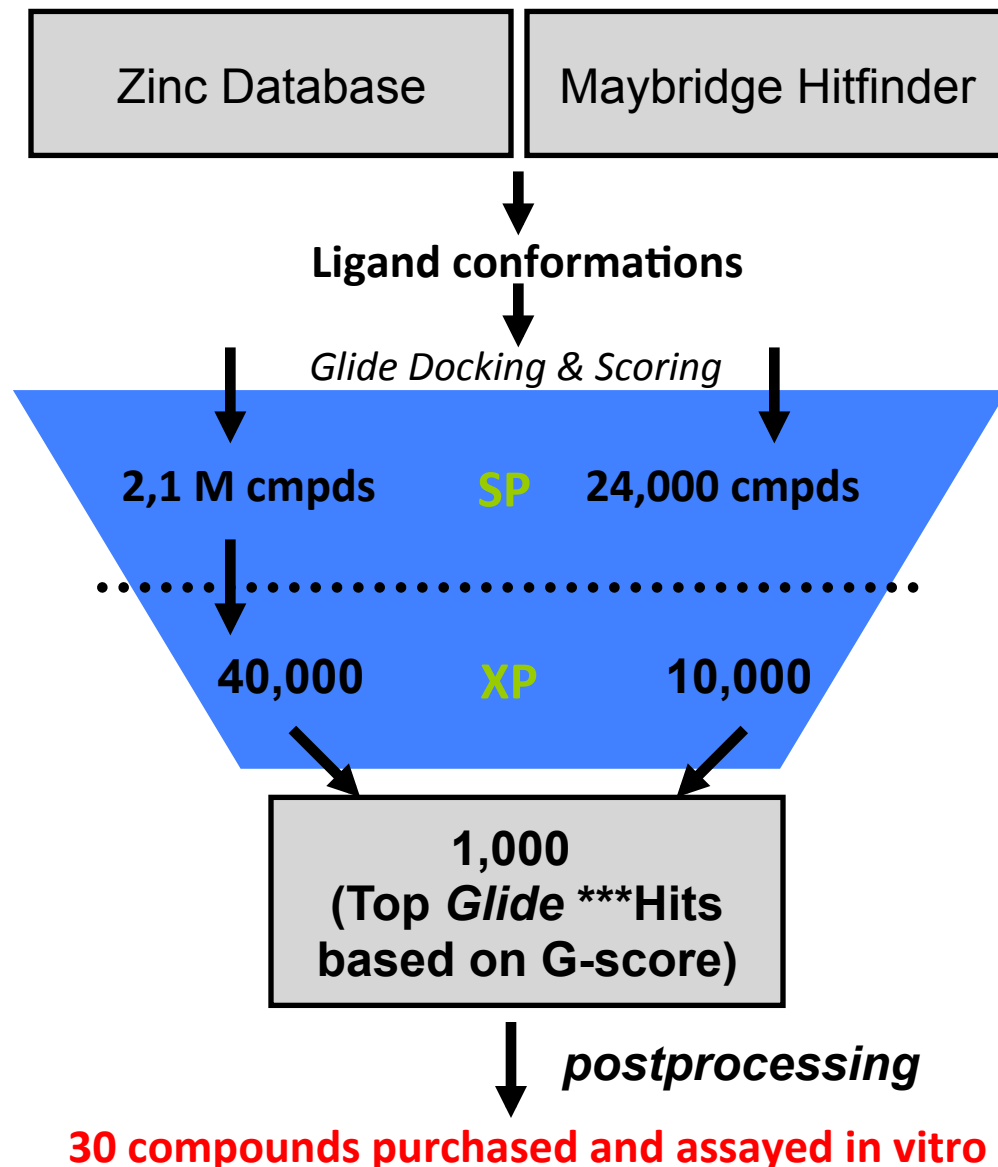
Friesner, R.A., *et al* (2004) *J Med Chem*, 47, pp. 1739-1749

Friesner, R.A., *et al.*, (2006) *J Med Chem*, 49, pp. 6177-6196

# Binding site Prediction



# Virtual Screening



# How are compounds selected for assaying?

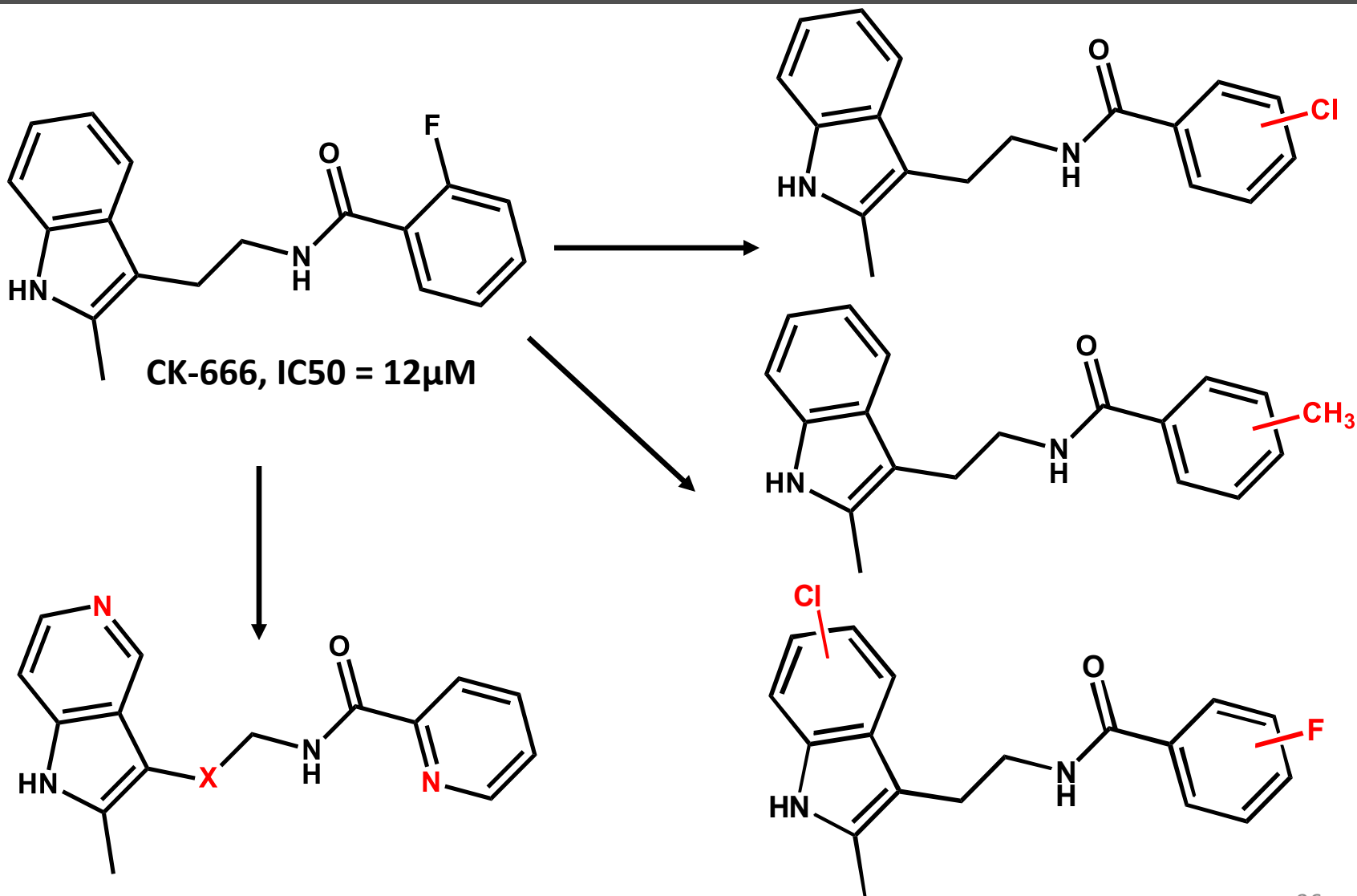
- ◆ Estimation of binding affinity through docking score
- ◆ Conformation of ligand inside the protein (binding pose):
  - Look out for bad van der Waals contacts
  - Cis-trans amides
  - E-Z esters
- ◆ Identification of unwanted or toxic moieties on a compound
- ◆ Identification of metabolic liabilities (benzylic hydrogens, p-position on benzene, sites of glucuronidation, etc...)
- ◆ Calculation of physicochemical properties (lipophilicity, cell permeability, solubility, etc). Choose molecules with drug-like Pchem profile.
- ◆ Clustering
- ◆ Chemical intuition



# Early pre-clinical phases where computation is key

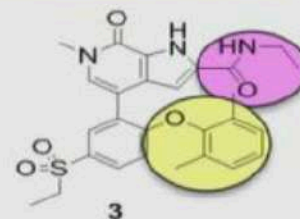
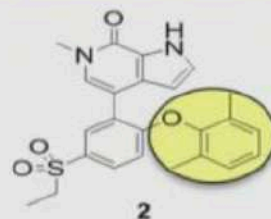
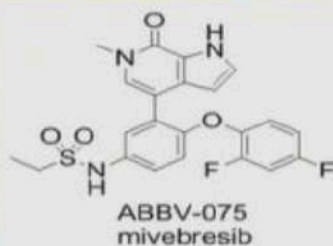
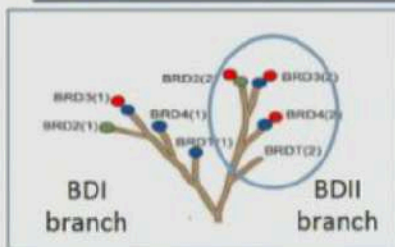


# Compound optimization for potency, selectivity, metabolism & physicochemical properties

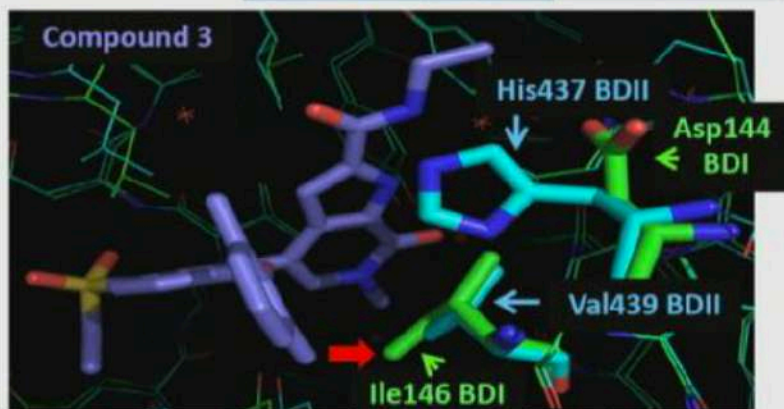


# Discovery of ABBV-744: A first-in-class highly BDII-selective BET bromodomain inhibitor

## Hypothesis: BDII-selective BET Inhibitors May Exhibit a Wider TI Discovery of the BDII-selective Tool Compound 3



	ABBV-075	1	2	3
BDII selectivity	2x	17x	7x	110x
BRD4 BDI (nM)	2.4	20	46	120
BRD4 BDII (nM)	1.2	1.2	6.9	1.1

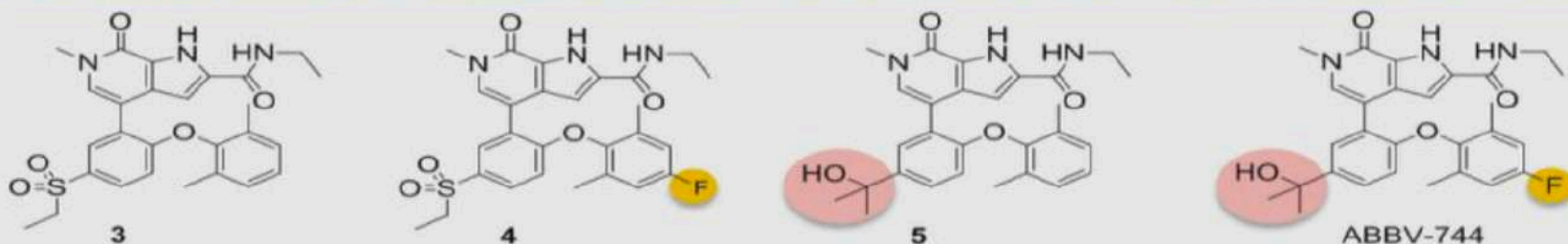


- Ethyl amide buries His437 (BDII) but not Asp144 (BDI)
- 2,6-Disubstituted phenyl clashes with Ile146 (BDI) (red arrow) but not with Val439 (BDII)
- Combination of ethyl amide and 2,6-dimethylphenyl enhances BDII-selectivity

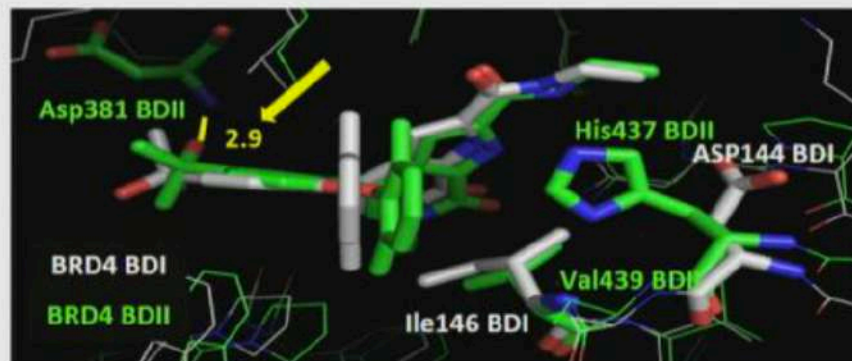


# Discovery of ABBV-744: A first-in-class highly BDII-selective BET bromodomain inhibitor

## Elaboration of the Series to Discover the Clinical Asset ABBV-744



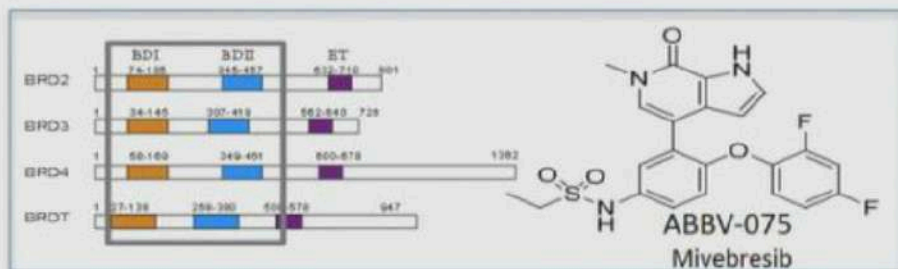
	3	4	5	ABBV-744
BRD4 BDII selectivity	110x	140x	400x	325x
Microsomal $Cl_{int,u}$ (L/hr/kg) (Mouse/Rat/Human)	42/64/12	55/28/10	170/65/37	135/30/31



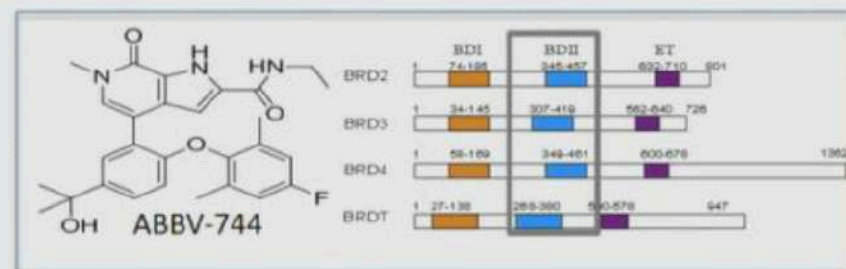
- 4-F on aryl ether provides metabolic stability (rat)
- Tertiary alcohol provided better selectivity and physical properties than sulfone
- Tertiary alcohol accepts H-bond to NH of Asp381 in BDII; no interaction in BDI

# Discovery of ABBV-744: A first-in-class highly BDII-selective BET bromodomain inhibitor

## Affinity and Selectivity of AbbVie BET Bromodomain Inhibitors



Pan-BET inhibitor: equal affinity for all 8 bromodomains



~300-fold selective for BDII vs. BDI bromodomains

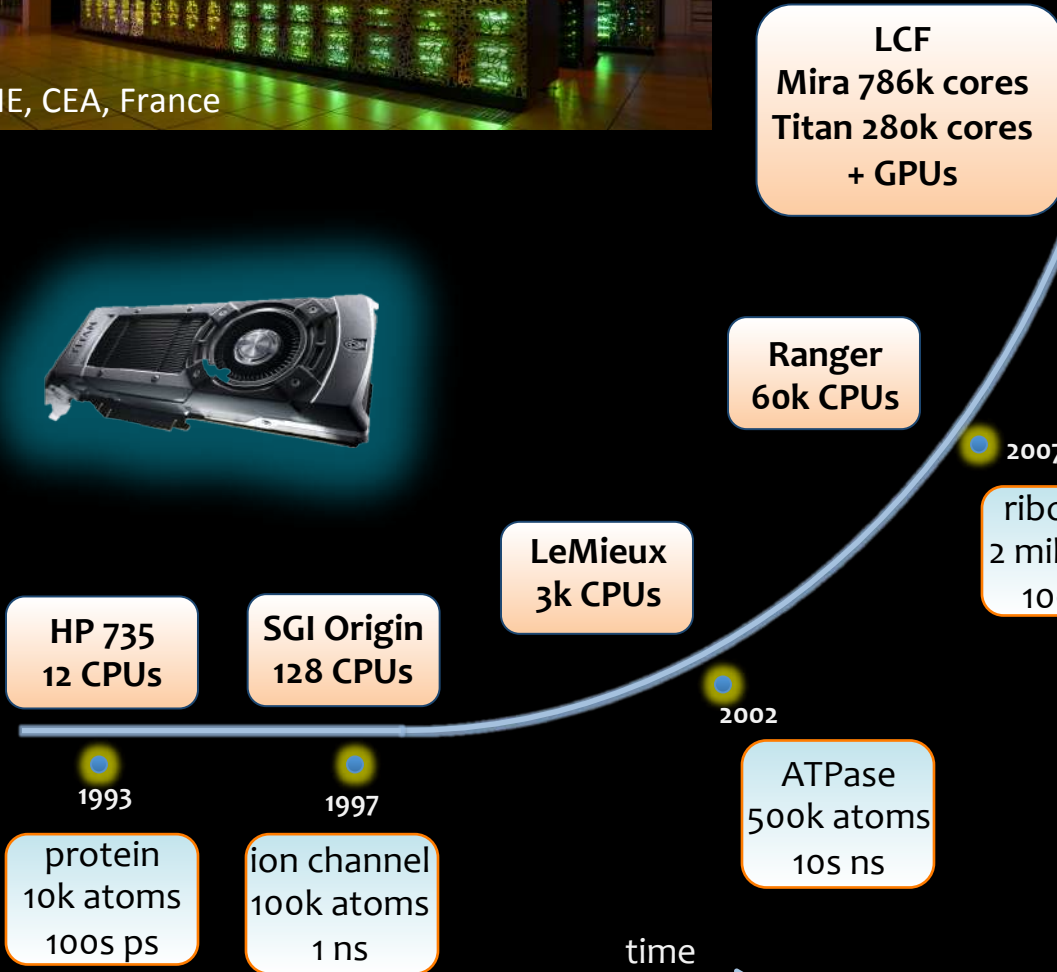
	Biochemical									NanoBRET cellular		
	BRD2 K <sub>i</sub> (nM)		Select. (fold)	BRD3 K <sub>i</sub> (nM)		Select. (fold)	BRD4 K <sub>i</sub> (nM)		Select. (fold)	BRD4 EC <sub>50</sub> (nM)		Select. (fold)
	BDI	BDII		BDI	BDII		BDI	BDII		BDI	BDII	
ABBV-075	13	3.7	3	6.3	1.8	4	2.8	1.3	2	34	13	3
ABBV-744	1160	4.6	250	3140	4.9	640	520	1.6	325	21,000	28	750

# Computing is transforming biomedical research



Exascale

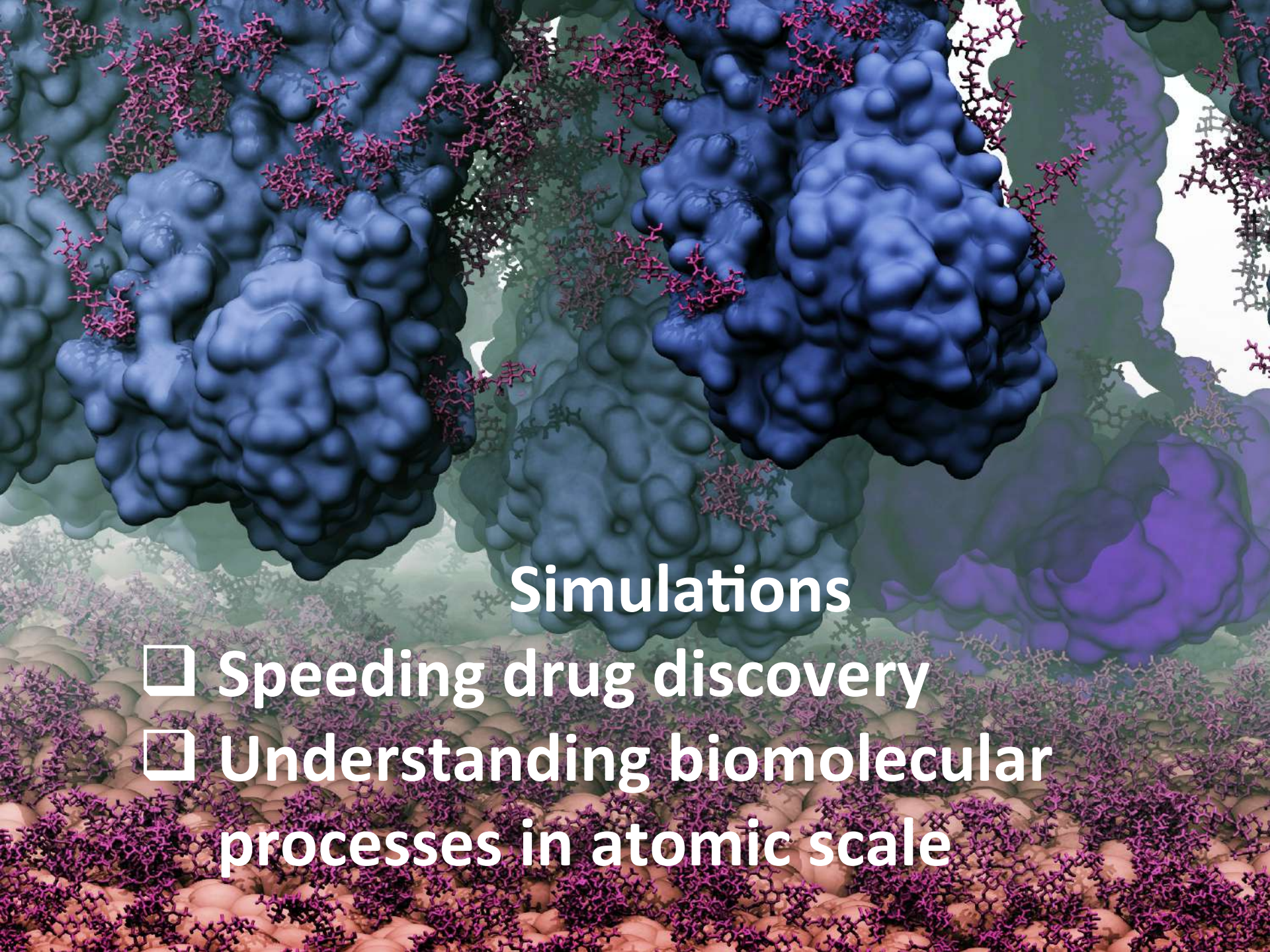
Compute Power ↑



**Performance (in FLOPS):**

Megaflop	$10^6$
Gigaflop	$10^9$
Teraflop	$10^{12}$
Petaflop	$10^{15}$

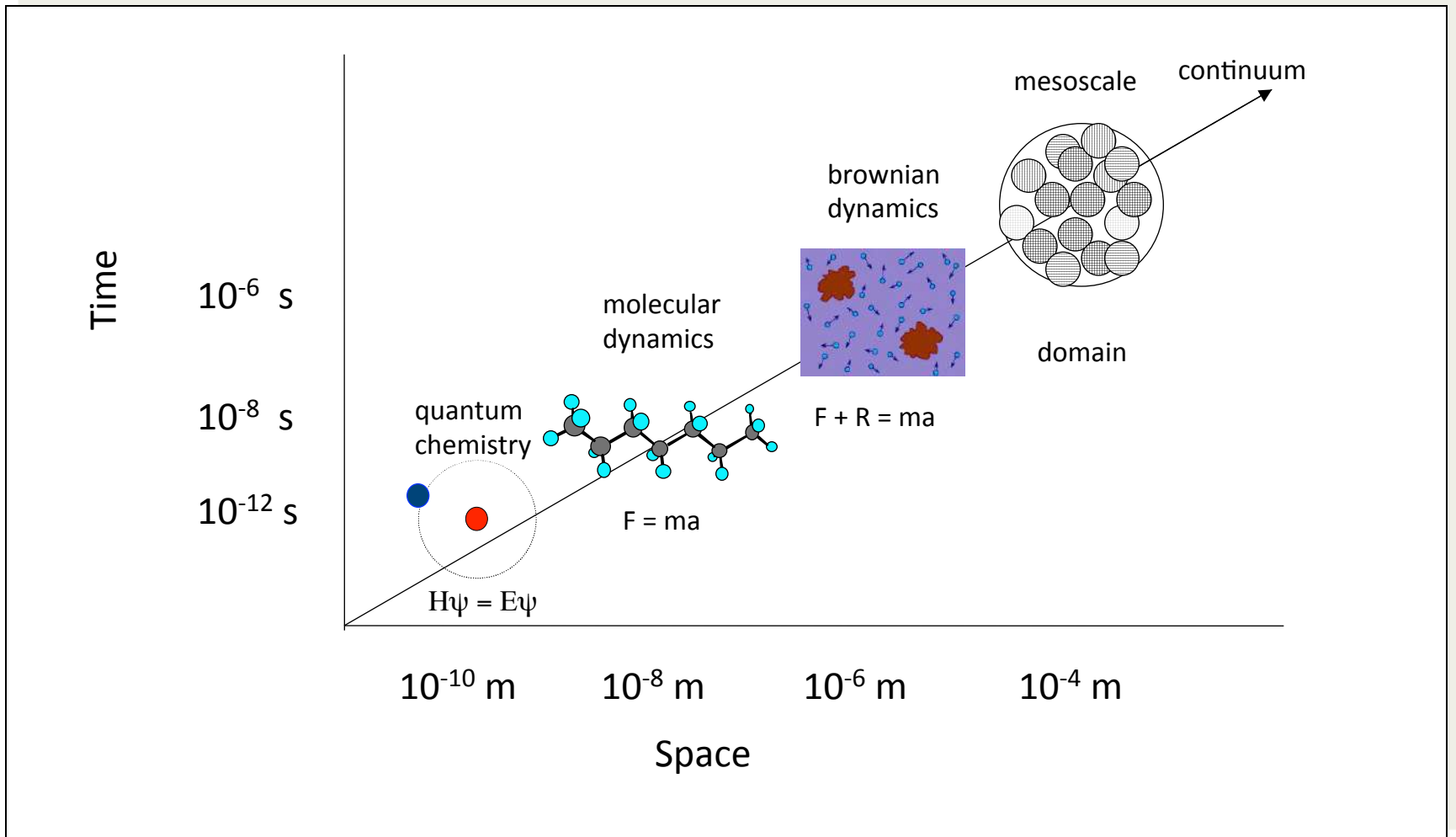




## Simulations

- Speeding drug discovery
- Understanding biomolecular processes in atomic scale

# Molecular Simulations across scales





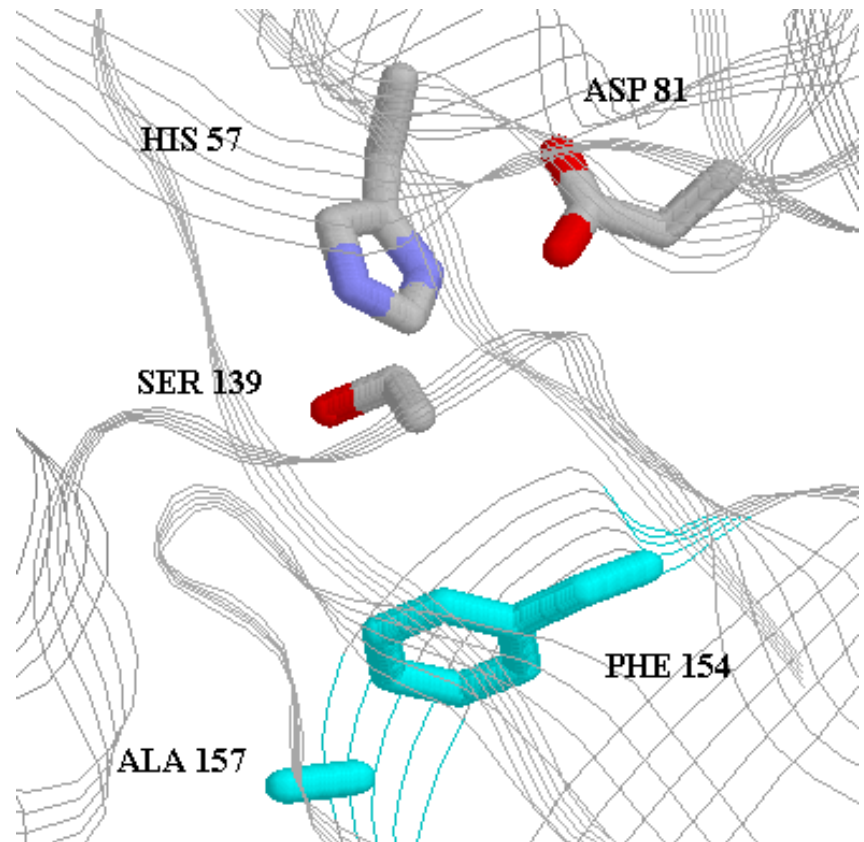
# Molecular Modeling

Structure *dynamics* -----> function

```
Human p53 ILTIITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRYVCACPGDRRTEEK 285
Canine p53 ILTIITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRYVCACPGDRRTEEK 275
Feline p53 ILTIITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRYVCACPGDRRTEEK 280
Hamster p53 ILTIITLEDPSGNLLGRNSFEVRYVCACPGDRRTEEK 287
Rac p53 ILTIITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRYVCACPGDRRTEEK 285
Xenopus p53 ILTIITLETTPGQLLGRNSFEVRYVCACPGDRRTEED 262
Zebrafish p53 ILTIITLETYGGQLLGRNSFEVRYVCACPGDRRTEES 255
Human p53 ILTIITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRYVCACPGDRRTEEK 287
Human p53 ILTIITLEDSSGNLLGRNSFEVRYVCACPGDRRTEEK 287
```

## Molecular Dynamics

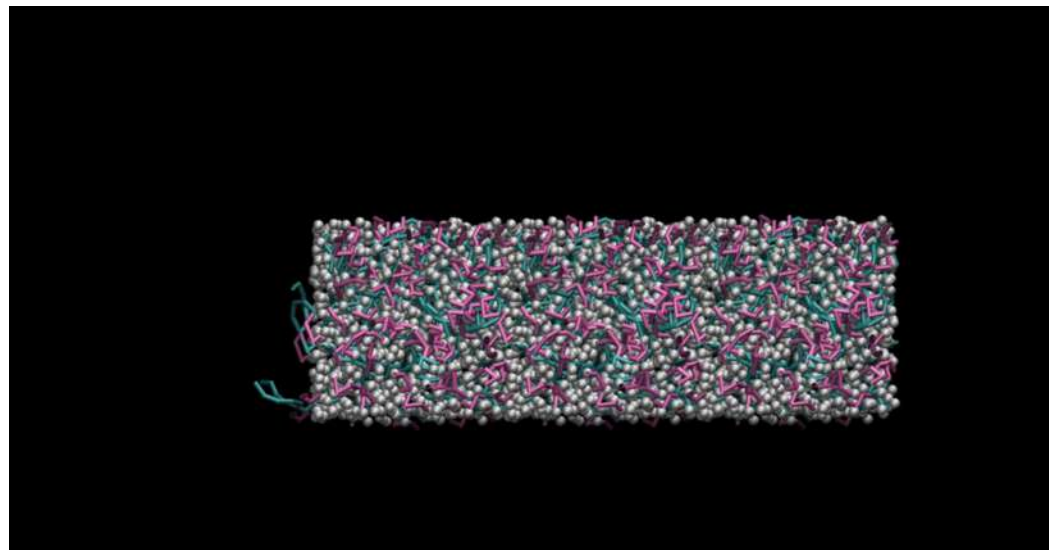
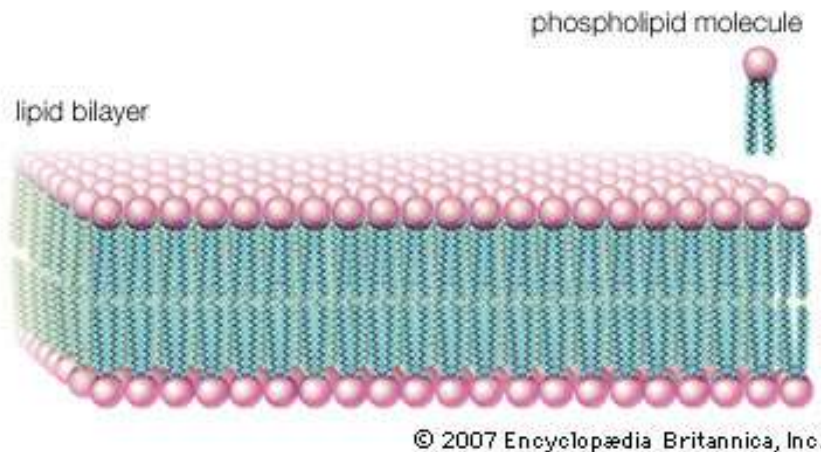
- molecular/atomic level picture of structure and dynamics
- property prediction
- ion transport
- solvent effects
- protein stability / conform. changes, ...





# Molecular Dynamics

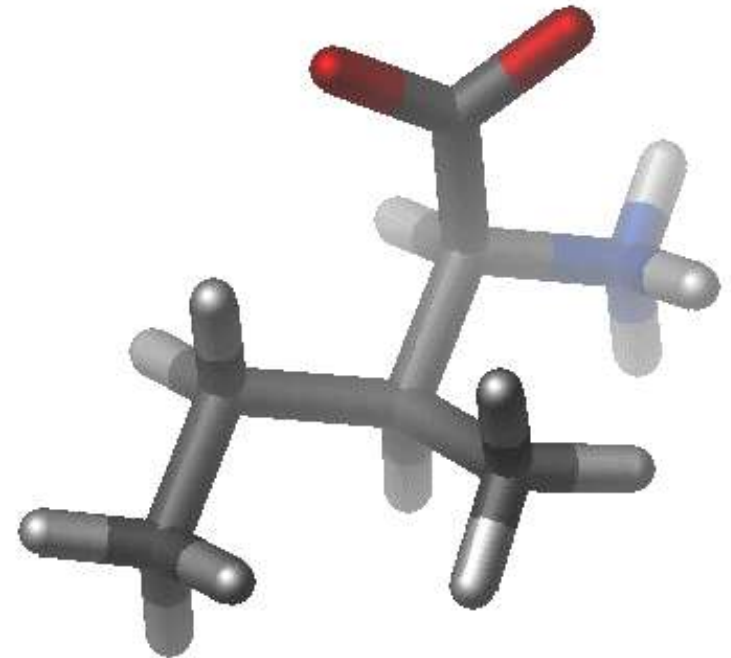
- A computational method which describes equilibrium and dynamics properties of a biological system
- Generates configurations of the system by integration of Newton's law of motion –calculate the time dependence of the molecular system
- Generates information at the microscopic level –atomic positions and velocities and connects to macroscopic properties through Statistical Mechanics
- Connects structure and function by providing additional information to experimental techniques through the system dynamics



# Statistical Mechanics

- In Molecular Dynamics simulations we explore the **macroscopic** properties of a system through **microscopic** simulations
- The connection between microscopic simulations and macroscopic properties is made via **statistical mechanics**, which studies a macroscopic system from a molecular point of view
- The distribution of the system within the ensemble follows the **Boltzmann** distribution
- **Ensemble**: collection of all possible systems which have different microscopic states but identical macroscopic or thermodynamic state

# Biomolecular Simulations







The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2013

Martin Karplus, Michael Levitt, Arieh Warshel

# The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2013



© Nobel Media AB

**Martin Karplus**



Photo: Kellana via  
Wikimedia Commons

**Michael Levitt**



Photo: Wikimedia  
Commons

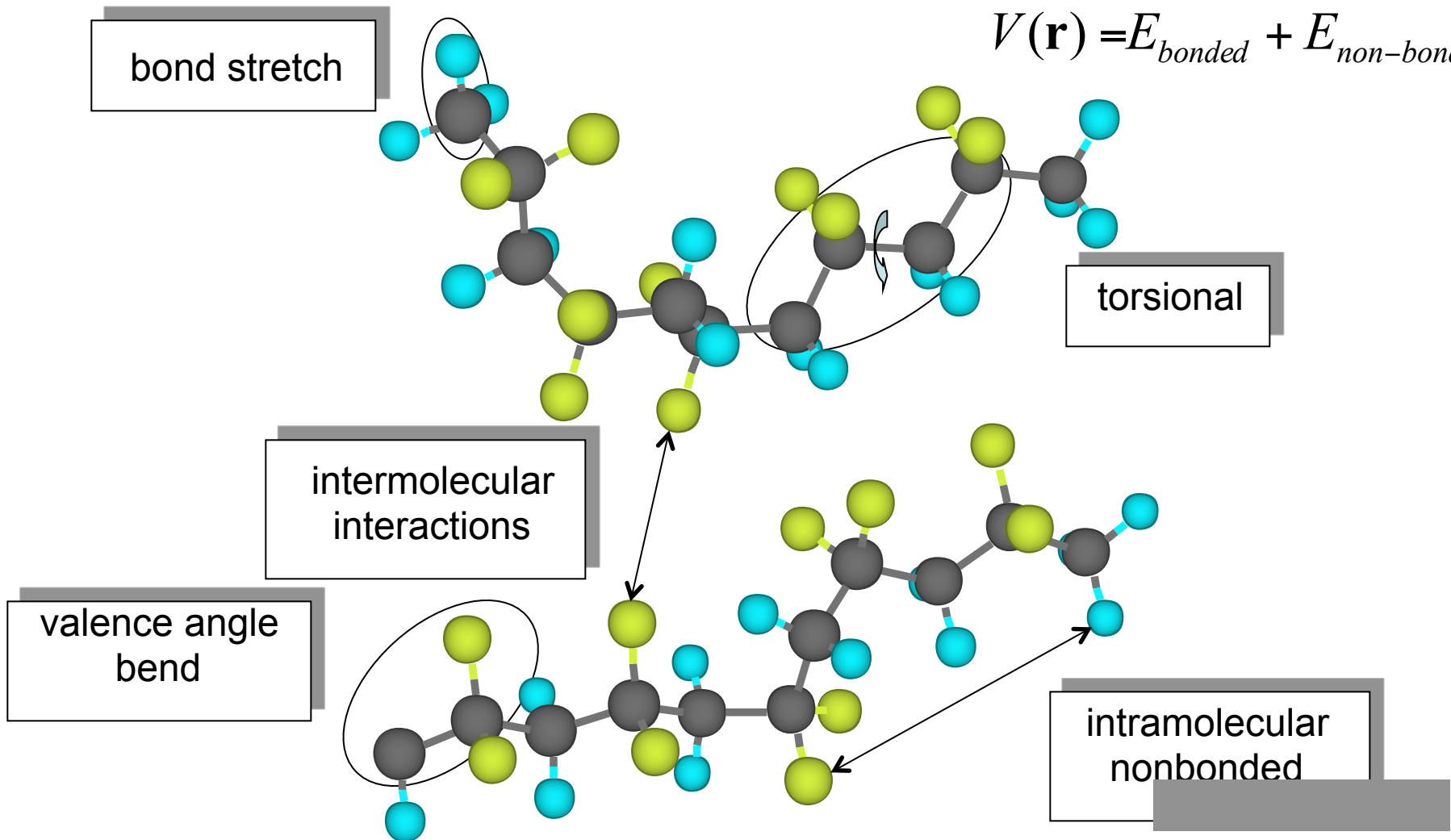
**Arieh Warshel**

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2013 was awarded jointly to Martin Karplus, Michael Levitt and Arieh Warshel *"for the development of multiscale models for complex chemical systems"*.

# The Potential Energy Function (Force Field)

The energy of the system is represented by the Hamiltonian:  $H = K + V = \frac{1}{2} m \mathbf{v}^2 + V(\mathbf{r})$

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = E_{\text{bonded}} + E_{\text{non-bonded}}$$

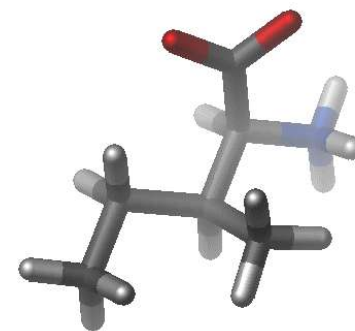


# Modeling the Potential E: Bond stretch potential

- Molecules undergo vibrational motion, which is modeled as a harmonic potential according to HOOKE's law

$$F = -kx = -\nabla V(x)$$

$$V(x) = E_{bond-stretch} = \sum_{1,2\ pairs} k_b (b - b_0)^2$$



- $K_b$  represents the force constant and  $b_0$  represents the equilibrium value around which the bond oscillates
- This harmonic potential is valid only for deviations of 0.1 Å or less

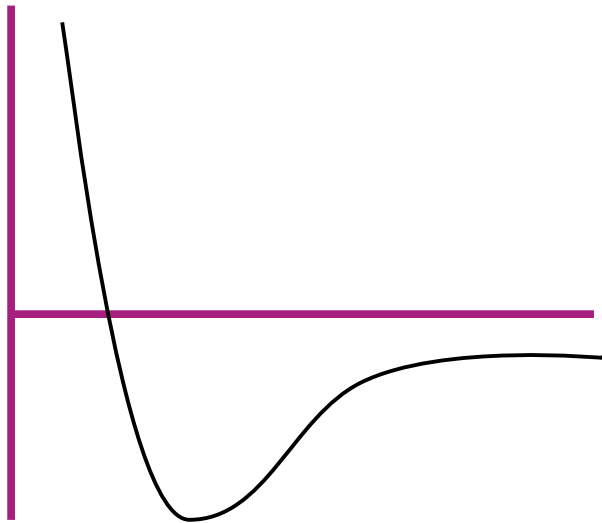


# Harmonic vs Morse potential

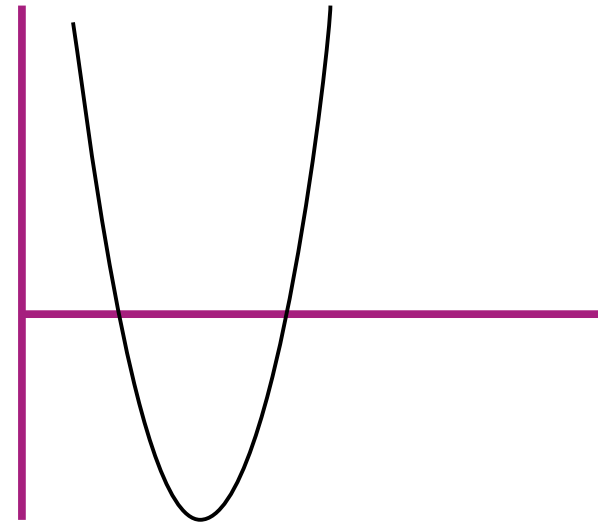
- The Morse term is more accurate, however it is generally not used in MD simulations since it requires 3 parameters to be specified for each bond

$$v(l) = D_e \left\{ 1 - \exp[-a(l - l_0)] \right\}^2$$

- The Morse potential would allow a bond to stretch to an unrealistic length and break



Morse potential for a C-H bond



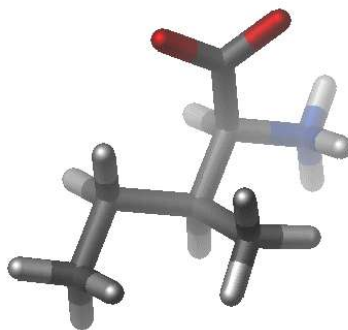
Harmonic potential for a C-H bond

# Bond angle potentials

- Describe the deviation from an ideal bond angle geometry

$$E_{bond-bend} = \sum_{angles} K_{\theta} (\theta - \theta_0)^2$$

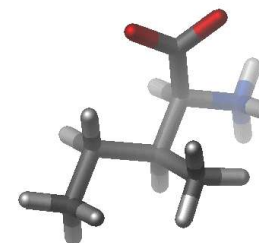
- $K_{\theta}$  represents the angle bending constant,  $\theta_0$  represents the deviation from the ideal bond angle



# Torsion angle potentials

- This term models the steric barrier between atoms separated by 3 covalent bonds

$$E_{\text{rotate-along-bond}} = \sum_{1,4 \text{ pairs}} K_{\phi} (1 - \cos(n\phi))$$



- The motion associated is rotation, described by a dihedral angle around the middle bond
- The potential is assumed to be periodic and expressed as a cosine function
- $K_{\phi}$  represents rotation constant,  $n$  represent the periodicity of the rotational barrier and  $\phi$  the dihedral angle

# Electrostatic interactions: The Coulomb potential

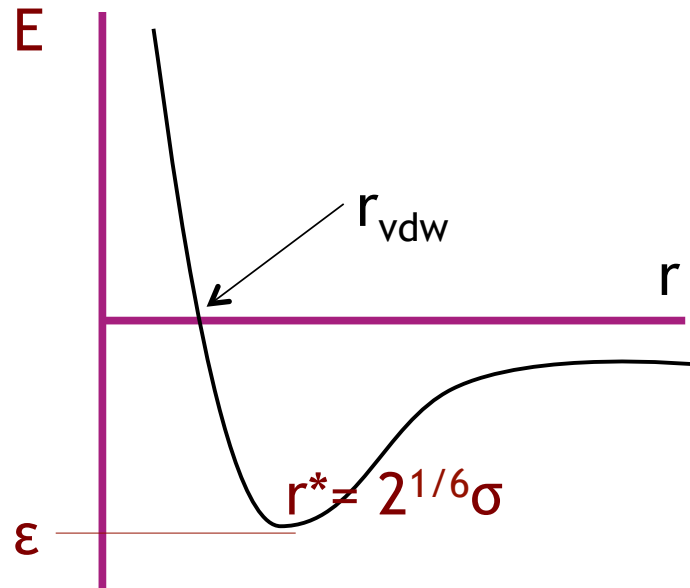
- Electrostatic interaction decays slowly with distance, considered long range interactions. Can be modeled by Coulomb's law.

$$E_{electrostatic} = \sum_{i,j} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}}$$

- $r_{ij}$  represents the distance between two atoms having charges  $q_i$  and  $q_j$
- $\epsilon_0$  represents the vacuum permittivity, a number relating the ability of a material to carry current



# The van der Waals potential: Lennard-Jones

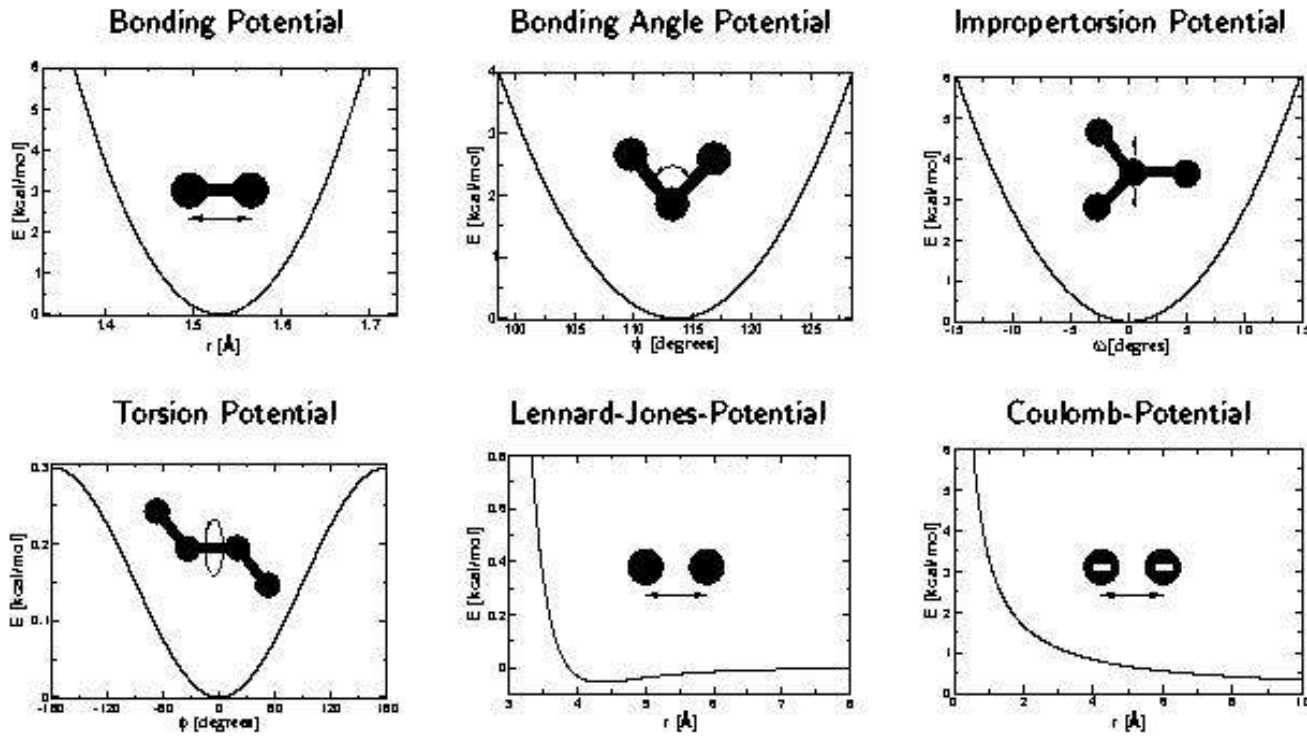


VdW energy best described by a Lennard-Jones potential

$$E_{vdw} = \sum_{i,j} 4\epsilon_{ij} \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]$$

- Expresses the interaction energy between two atoms
- Contains an attractive part and a repulsive part
- Attractive forces due to London forces (dipole –dipole interaction)
- Repulsive part due to Pauli-exclusion principle and inter-nuclear repulsion
- $\epsilon$  is the depth of the potential well,  $\sigma$  is the finite distance at which the inter-particle potential is zero

# The Potential Energy Function (Force Field)



$$E = \frac{1}{2} m \mathbf{v}^2 + V(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\mathbf{F}_i = -\nabla V(\mathbf{r})$$

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = E_{\text{bonded}} + E_{\text{non-bonded}}$$

$$E_{\text{bonded}} = \sum_{\text{bonds}} k_b (b - b_0)^2 + \sum_{\text{angles}} k_\theta (\theta - \theta_0)^2 + \sum_{\text{dihedrals}} k_\phi (1 + \cos[n\phi - \delta]) + \sum_{\text{impropers}} k_\omega (\omega - \omega_0)^2$$

$$E_{\text{non-bonded}} = \sum_{i,j} 4\epsilon_{ij} \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right] + \sum_{i,j} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}}$$

# MD Simulations study structure + dynamics

Is there a fast and efficient way to study the structure and dynamics of biomolecules in atomic-level detail?

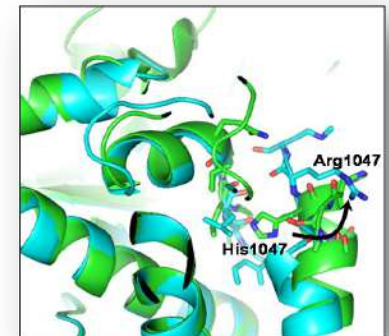
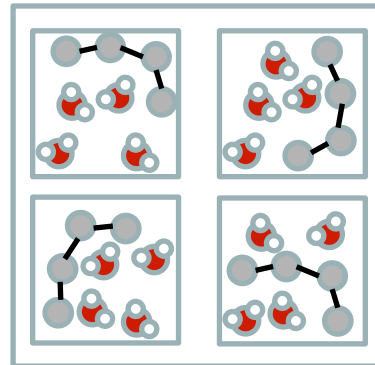


## Molecular Dynamics simulations

**Step 1.** Model the potential energy and use coordinates from experimental structures and assign initial velocities ( $E_{\text{total}} = E_{\text{potential}} + E_{\text{kinetic}}$ )

**Step 2.** Integrate Newton's second law and get the new velocities ( $\mathbf{v}$ ) of the system and the new coordinates ( $\mathbf{r}$ ) of the atoms

**Step 3.** Macroscopic properties can be expressed through  $\mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{r}$  via *statistical mechanics*

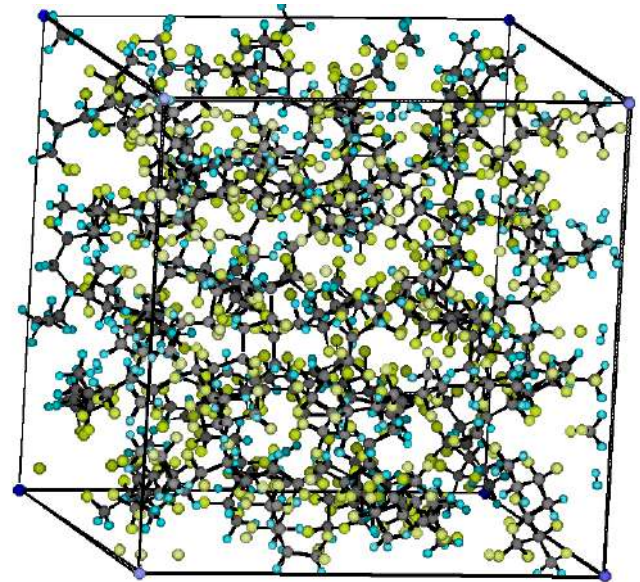


System of interest

# Μοριακή Δυναμική Προσομοίωση

## Δυνατότητες

- Περιγραφή συστήματος σε ατομικό επίπεδο
- Συσχέτιση δομής και λειτουργίας συστήματος
- Υπολογισμός δυναμικής πρωτεΐνης-φαρμάκου
- Επίδραση του διαλύτη, υπολογισμός διάχυσης κ.ά.





# Παραδοχές Μοριακής Δυναμικής

- ❑ Προσέγγιση Born-Oppenheimer
- ❑ Βαρείς πυρήνες → Μοντελοποιούνται σαν σημειακές μάζες και η κίνησή τους περιγράφεται κλασικά
- ❑ Δημιουργία & σπάσιμο δεσμών δεν μπορούν να μοντελοποιηθούν
- ❑ Εργοδική υπόθεση → Σύνδεση προσομοίωσης με εργαστήριο
- ❑ Τα άτομα αλληλεπιδρούν με κλασικά δυναμικά για τα οποία χρησιμοποιούμε εμπειρικές παραμέτρους
- ❑ Περιοδικές οριακές συνθήκες

# MD Formalism

- Initial coordinates are taken from experimental structures and velocities from a distribution, e.g. Maxwell-Boltzmann

- Newton's equation of motion

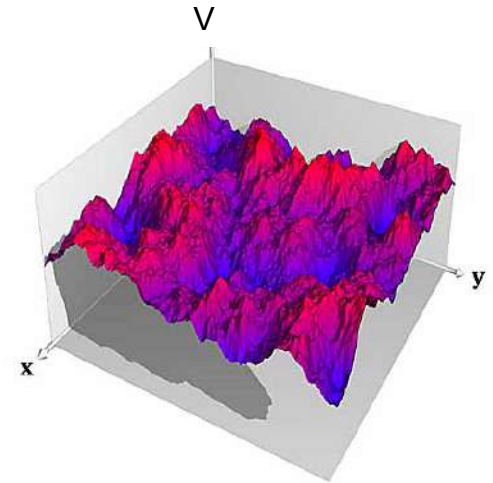
$$\mathbf{F}_i = m_i \mathbf{a}_i = m_i \frac{d^2 \mathbf{r}_i}{dt^2}$$

- The force can be written as the gradient of the potential energy

$$\mathbf{F}_i = -\nabla_i V(\mathbf{r})$$

- Combine the two equations to get

$$\frac{dV(\mathbf{r})}{d\mathbf{r}} = -m_i \frac{d^2 \mathbf{r}_i}{dt^2}$$



- A trajectory is obtained by solving this differential equation

# How to integrate Newton's equation of motion?

- The potential energy is a function of the atomic positions of all the atoms in the system.
- Due to this complexity there is no analytical solution
- Use algorithms to obtain the positions, velocities, accelerations at a later time  $t + \delta t$  to a sufficient degree of accuracy
- $\delta t$  is limited by the fastest vibration of the system, ie. the C-H bond ( $\delta t = 1 \text{ fs} = 10^{-15} \text{ s}$ )

- An estimate of the positions, velocities, etc may be obtained with **Taylor's expansion**

$$\underset{\text{new position}}{\mathbf{r}(t + \delta t)} = \underset{\text{old position}}{\mathbf{r}(t)} + \underset{\text{old velocity}}{\delta t \mathbf{v}(t)} + \frac{1}{2} \underset{\text{acceleration}}{\delta t^2 \mathbf{a}(t)} + \dots$$

$$\underset{\text{new velocity}}{\mathbf{v}(t + \delta t)} = \underset{\text{old velocity}}{\mathbf{v}(t)} + \underset{\text{acceleration}}{\delta t \mathbf{a}(t)} + \dots$$

# Examples of numerical algorithms: Verlet

- Common use is the **VERLET** algorithm.

■ For a differential equation of second order of the type  $\frac{d^2\mathbf{r}(t)}{dt^2} = V(\mathbf{r}(t))$  with initial conditions  $\mathbf{r}(t_0) = \mathbf{r}_0$  and  $\frac{d\mathbf{r}(t_0)}{dt} = \mathbf{v}_0$ , an approximate numerical solution  $\mathbf{r}_n \approx \mathbf{r}(t_n)$  at the times  $t_n = t_0 + n\delta t$  may be obtained by the method:

- set  $\mathbf{r}_1 = \mathbf{r}_0 + \mathbf{v}_0\delta t + \frac{1}{2} V(\mathbf{r}_0)\delta t^2$
- for  $n = 1, 2$  iterate:

$$\mathbf{r}_{n+1} = 2\mathbf{r}_n - \mathbf{r}_{n-1} + \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{r}_n)\delta t^2$$

- In MD, each position is determined from the current position and position at time  $t - \delta t$

$$\mathbf{r}(t + \delta t) = 2\mathbf{r}(t) - \mathbf{r}(t - \delta t) + \mathbf{a}(t)\delta t^2 + \dots$$

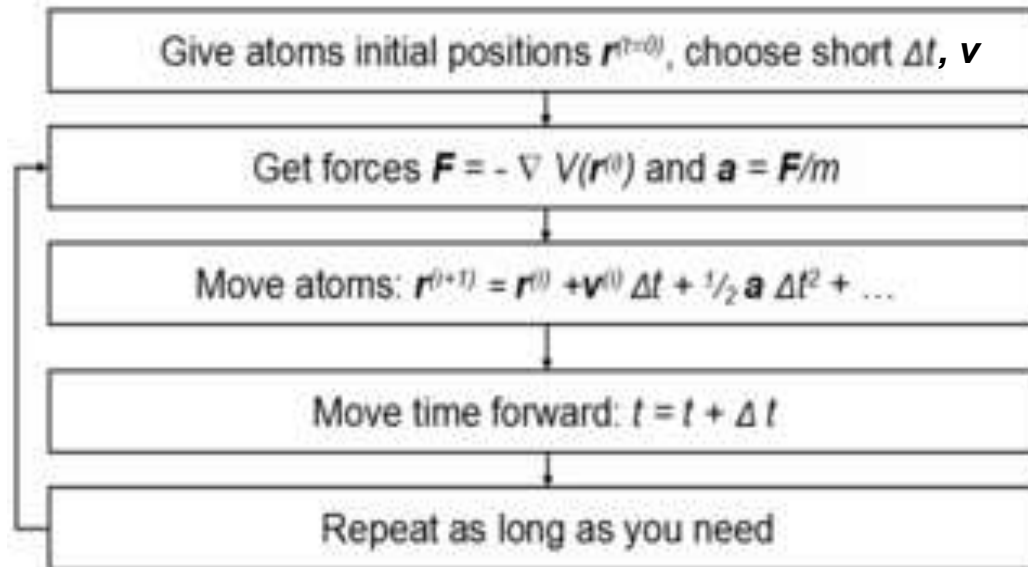
- Vecocities calculated from

$$\mathbf{v}(t) = \frac{\mathbf{r}(t + \delta t) - \mathbf{r}(t - \delta t)}{2\delta t}$$



# Molecular Dynamics Simulations

- Integration broken down to many small stages:  $\delta t$
- The total force on each particle in the configuration at a time  $t$  is the vector sum of its interactions with other particles.
- From the force determine the acceleration of the particles and combine it with positions and velocities at time  $t$  to calculate at time  $t + \delta t$
- The force is constant during the time step



# Στατιστική Μηχανική

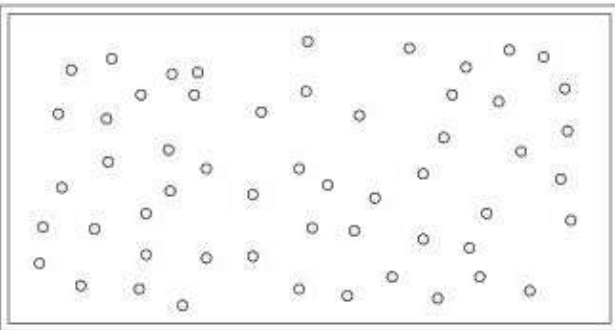
- ❑ Σε μία Μοριακή Δυναμική Προσομοίωση διερευνάται η σχέση μεταξύ μικροσκοπικών και μακροσκοπικών ιδιοτήτων
- ❑ Η σχέση γίνεται μέσω της **στατιστικής μηχανικής**, η οποία μελετά τα συστήματα σε μοριακό επίπεδο
- ❑ Η κατανομή του συστήματος στο στατιστικό σύνολο ακολουθεί την κατανομή **Boltzmann**
- ❑ **Θεμελιώδης έννοια - στατιστικό σύνολο:** το σύνολο όλων των πιθανών συστημάτων που έχουν διαφορετικές μικροσκοπικές καταστάσεις αλλά ίδια μακροσκοπική ή θερμοδυναμική κατάσταση

# Στατιστική Μηχανική & Χώρος Φάσεων

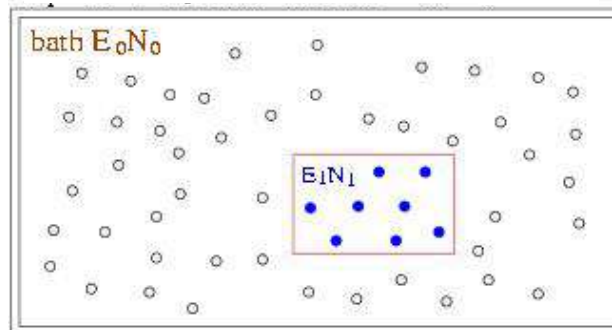
Ένα στατιστικό σύνολο είναι το σύνολο των μικροσκοπικών καταστάσεων για δεδομένη μακροσκοπική κατάσταση

Χρησιμοποιείται για να υπολογιστούν οι ιδιότητες του θερμοδυναμικού συστήματος από τους νόμους της Κλασικής ή της Κβαντικής Μηχανικής

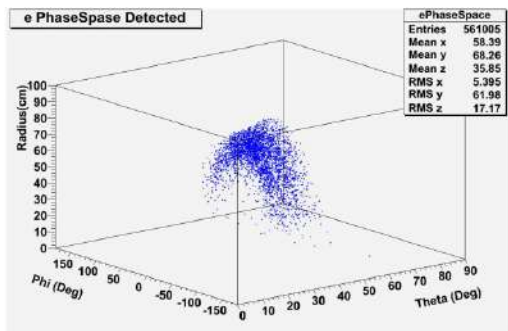
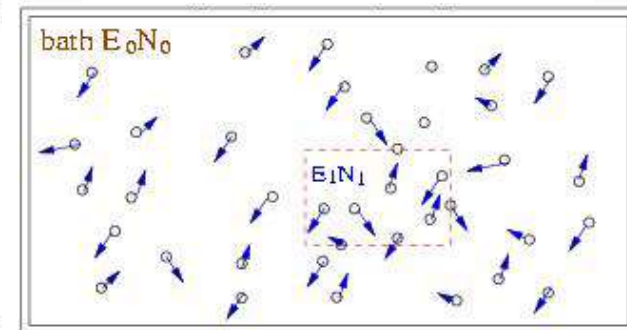
Μικροκανονικό, NVE



Κανονικό, NVT



Μεγαλοκανονικό,  $\mu VT$



Είναι ένα σύνολο από αντιπροσωπευτικά σημεία στο χώρο των φάσεων διάστασης  $6N$

Όπου οι μικροκαταστάσεις κινούνται δημιουργώντας μία **δυναμική τροχιά** καθώς οι θέσεις και οι ορμές των ατόμων που εξελίσσονται στο χρόνο

# Η συνάρτηση καταμερισμού σε θερμική ισορροπία

Νόμος του Boltzmann  $\frac{n_i}{n_j} = e^{-(\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j)/kT}$   $n_i, n_j$  πληθυσμοί ενεργειακών καταστάσεων

Για το χαμηλότερο ενεργειακό επίπεδο:  $n_i = n_0 e^{-\beta \varepsilon_i}$ ,  $\beta = 1/kT$   $n_0 = \frac{N}{\sum e^{-\beta \varepsilon_i}}$

$q \rightarrow$  Μέτρο για το πλήθος των ενεργειακών σταθμών που είναι διαθέσιμες σε συνθήκες θερμικής ισορροπίας

$$q = \sum e^{-\beta \varepsilon_i} \quad n_i = \frac{N e^{-\beta \varepsilon_i}}{\sum e^{-\beta \varepsilon_i}}$$

Συνάρτηση καταμερισμού ανά σωματίδιο

Τα παραπάνω ισχύουν όταν οι ενεργειακές καταστάσεις είναι διακριτές (Κβαντική Στατιστική Μηχανική). Στην Κλασική Στατιστική Μηχανική η θέση και η ορμή μεταβάλλονται με συνεχή τρόπο οπότε οι μικροκαταστάσεις δεν μπορούν να μετρηθούν

$$Q = C \iint d\mathbf{r}^N d\mathbf{p}^N \exp\left(-\frac{H(\mathbf{r}^N, \mathbf{p}^N)}{kT}\right)$$



# Θερμοδυναμικές συναρτήσεις

Μικροκανονική Συνάρτηση Καταμερισμού,  $N, V, E$  σταθερά

$$Q(N, V, E) = \frac{1}{h^{3N} N!} \sum (N, V, E) = \frac{1}{h^{3N} N!} \int d^{3N} \mathbf{q} d^{3N} \mathbf{p}$$

$$E = \frac{N}{q} \sum_i \varepsilon^i e^{-\beta \varepsilon^i} \quad U - U_0 = - \left( \frac{\partial \ln Q}{\partial \beta} \right)_V \quad S = \frac{U - U_0}{T} + k \ln Q$$

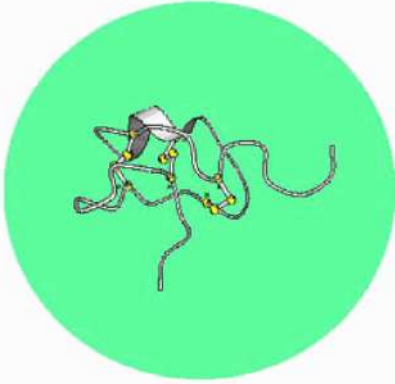
Σύνδεση με μακροσκοπική θερμοδυναμική:  $S(N, V, E) = k_B \ln Q(N, V, E)$

Από την παραπάνω σχέση εξάγονται οι θερμοδυναμικές ιδιότητες του συστήματος

$$\frac{1}{T} = \left( \frac{\partial S}{\partial U} \right)_{N, V} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{T} = k_B \left( \frac{\partial \ln Q}{\partial E} \right)_{N, V}$$

# Στατιστική Μηχανική

Προσομοίωση



Μικροσκοπική περιγραφή

**Κβαντική Μηχανική:**

Ιδιοτιμές  $E$  και ιδιοσυναρτήσεις  $\Psi(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_N)$  από εξίσωση Schrodinger

**Μοριακή Μηχανική:**

Κινητική και Δυναμική ενέργεια  $E(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{v})$

Πείραμα



Μακροσκοπική περιγραφή

**Θερμοδυναμική:**

Σχέσεις του συστήματος σε θερμοδυναμική ισορροπία ή εκτός ισορροπίας

Χρήση στατιστικής Μηχανικής για να περιγράψουμε τις θερμοδυναμικές ιδιότητες

# Μοριακή Δυναμική

## Περιγραφή της κίνησης:

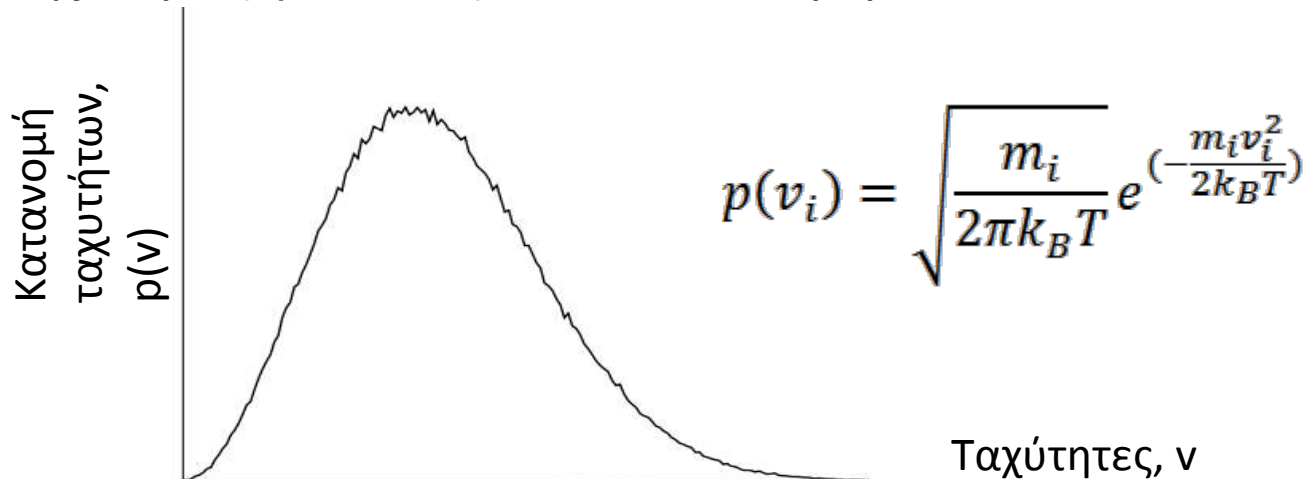
- Η Κλασική Μηχανική περιγράφει την κίνηση των ατόμων → 2<sup>ος</sup> νόμος του Νεύτωνα:

$$\mathbf{F}_i = m_i \mathbf{a}_i$$

- Ολική ενέργεια του συστήματος - Χαμιλτωνειανή

$$H = T(|\mathbf{v}|) + V(|\mathbf{r}|) = \frac{1}{2} m |\mathbf{v}|^2 + V(|\mathbf{r}|)$$

- Αρχικές ταχύτητες γνωστές από κατανομή Maxwell



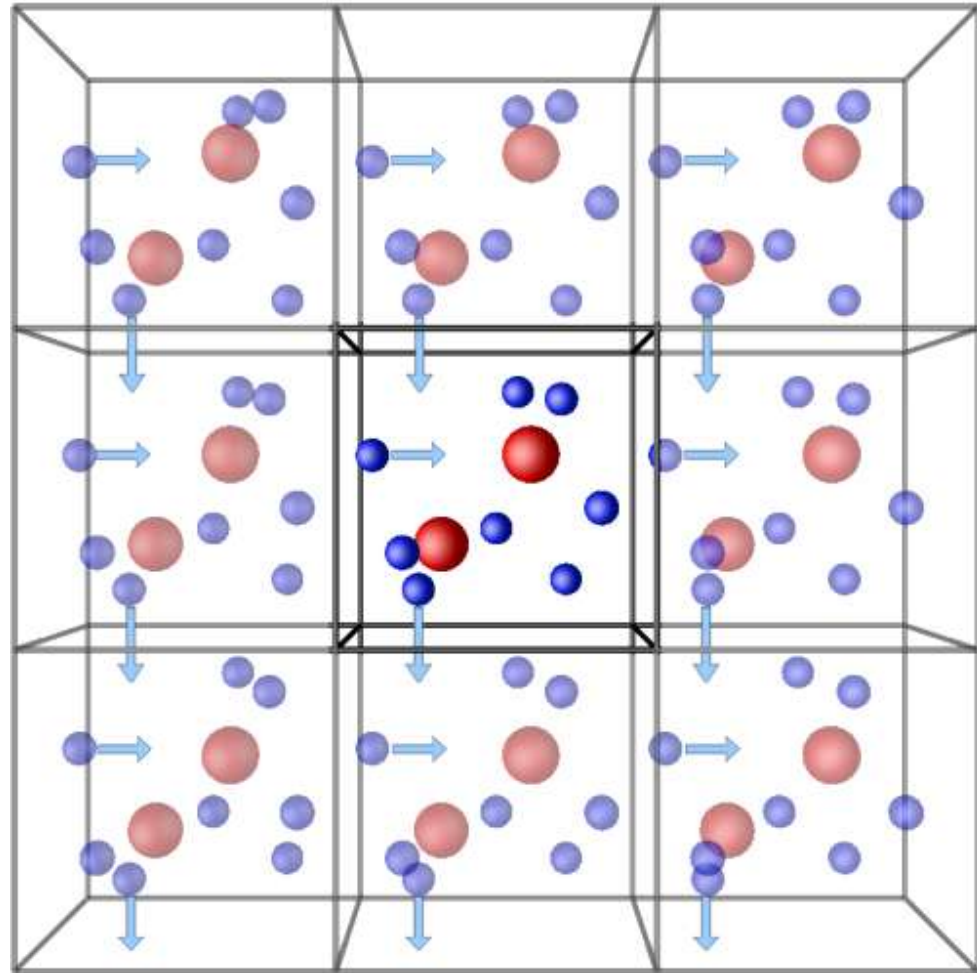
# Περιοδικές οριακές συνθήκες

Κουτί προσομοίωσης →  
Προσομοιώνεται ένα τμήμα  
του πραγματικού συστήματος  
→ Απλούστερος υπολογισμός

□ Όταν άτομο φτάσει στο  
όριο → Επανεμφανίζεται από  
την αντίθετη πλευρά

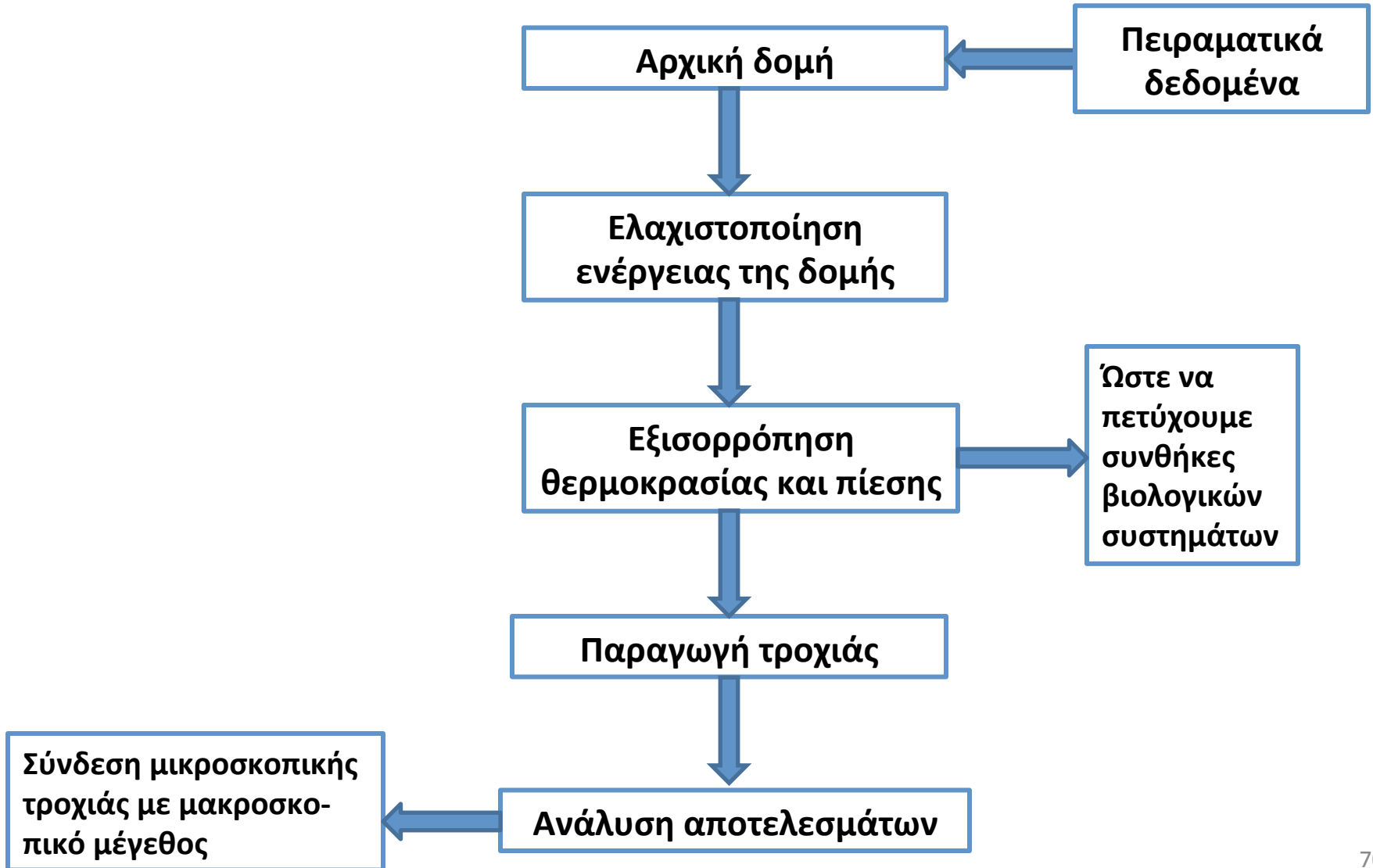
□ Αναπαράσταση της  
συνεχούς συμπεριφοράς του  
υγρού – διαλύτη

□ Αποφυγή επιφανειακών  
φαινομένων

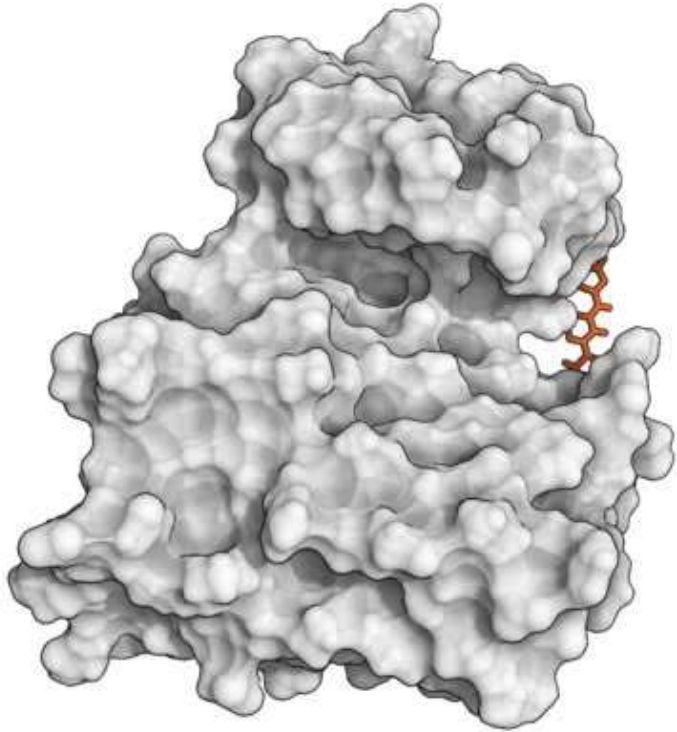




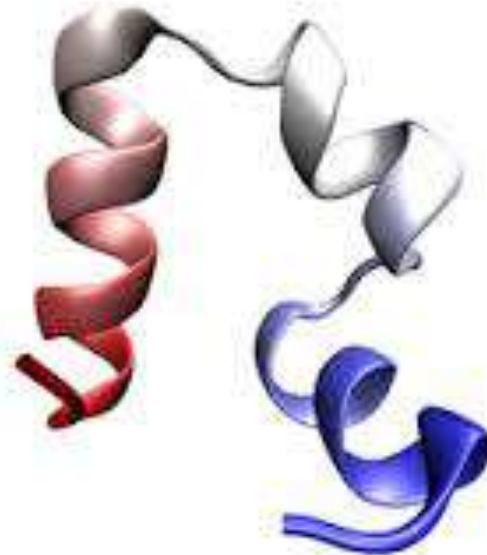
# Πώς λειτουργεί ένα πρόγραμμα Μοριακής Δυναμικής;



# Examples of MD simulations of proteins



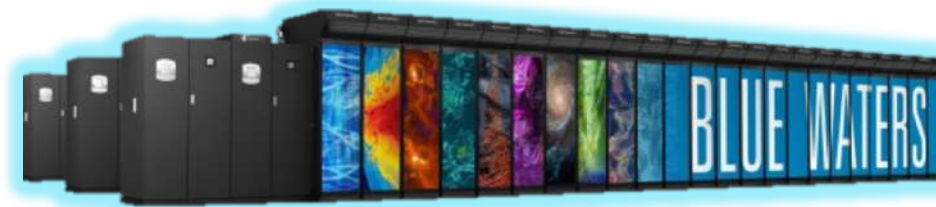
Shan et al (2011)  
**Cancer drug dasatinib binding on Src kinase**



Schulten et al (2012)  
**Folding of the Villin Headpiece protein**



Anton (ASIC)



(Cray)

Academy of Athens

Biomedical Research Foundation

# Computer-aided Drug Design: *Targeting the mutant PI3K $\alpha$*

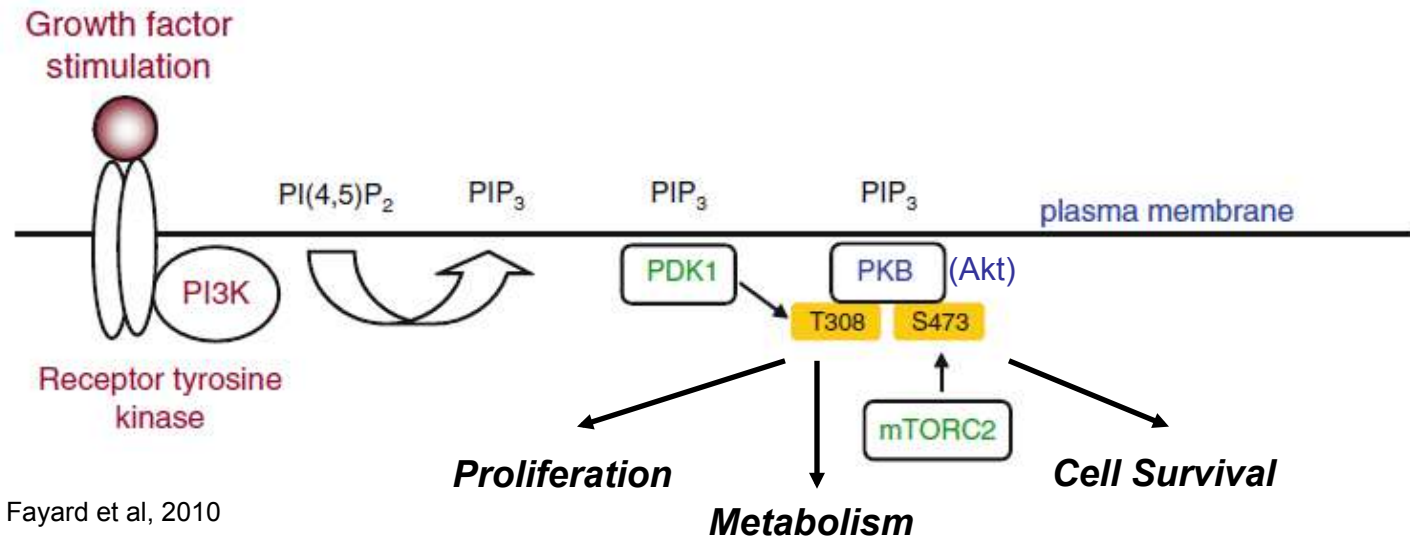
Zoe Cournia

[zcournia@bioacademy.gr](mailto:zcournia@bioacademy.gr)

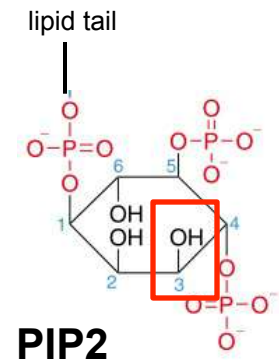


12 December 2014

# PI3K $\alpha$ is a lipid kinase that promotes cell survival



- Active PI3K $\alpha$  phosphorylates PIP<sub>2</sub> to PIP<sub>3</sub> at the plasma membrane.
- PIP<sub>3</sub> recruits Akt close to PDK1.
- Co-localization of these proteins leads to phosphorylation of residues, which in turn leads to proliferation, growth, survival.





# PI3K $\alpha$ : most commonly mutated kinase in cancer

- PI3K $\alpha$  is a membrane-associated lipid kinase
- Involved in cell growth, proliferation, differentiation
- Most commonly mutated kinase in the human genome  $\Rightarrow$  cancer

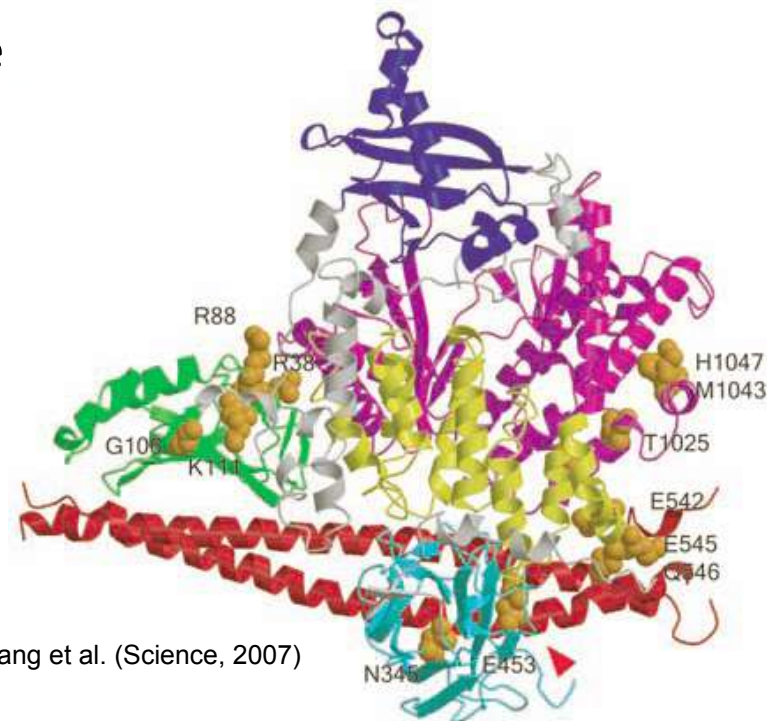
80% of all mutations:

Glu545Lys

His1047Arg

30% of breast cancer patients

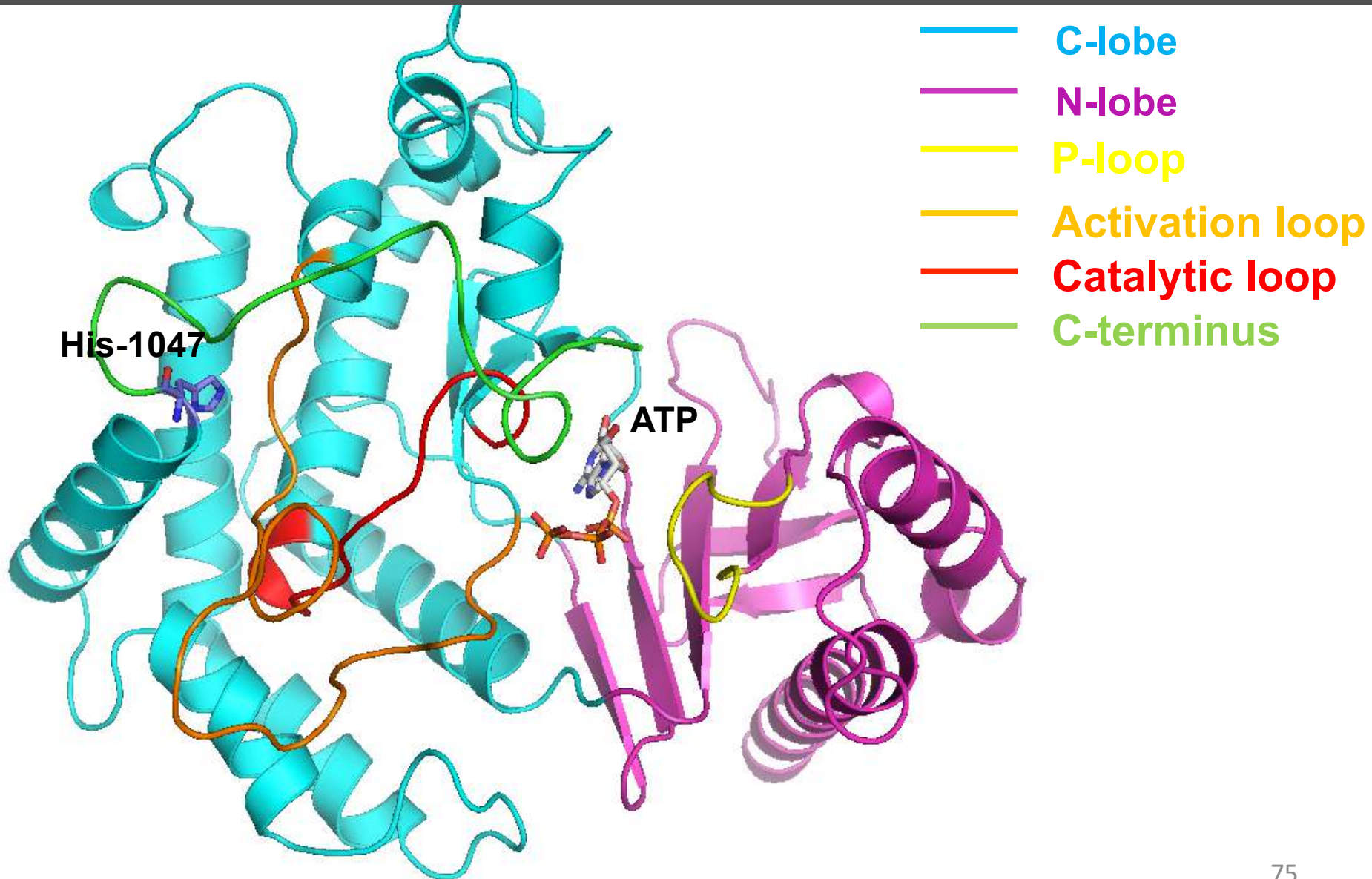
**Mechanism of overactivation?  
Mutant and isoform specific  
therapies?**



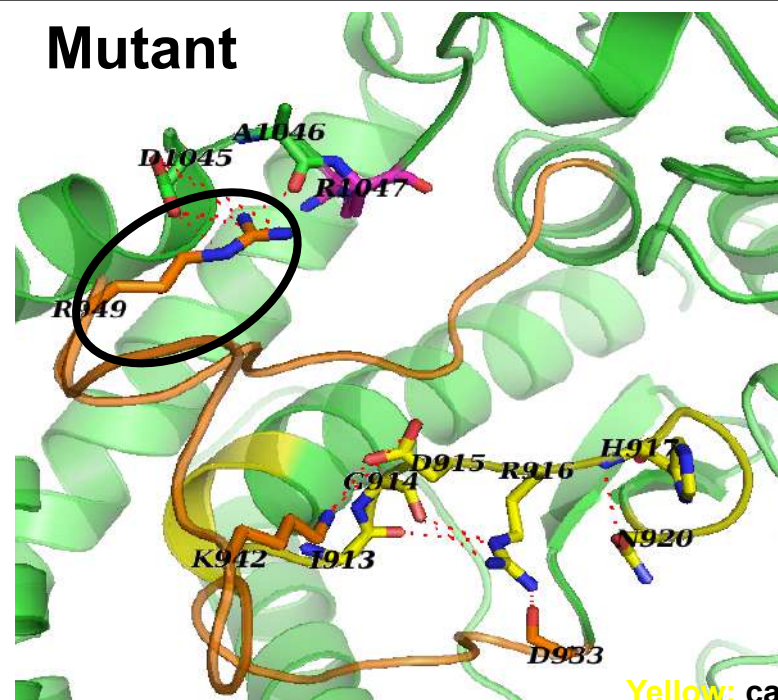
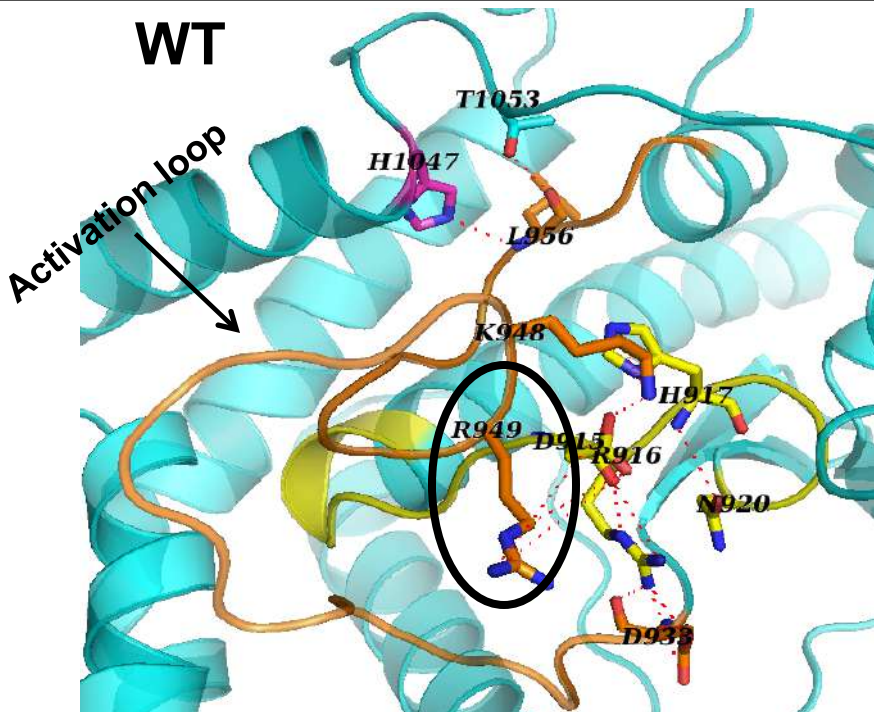
Huang et al. (Science, 2007)

**MD Simulations  
Virtual screening  
Property prediction  
*In vitro* & *In vivo* assays  
Lead Optimization**

# Kinase Domain Organization



# Hydrogen Bond Analysis



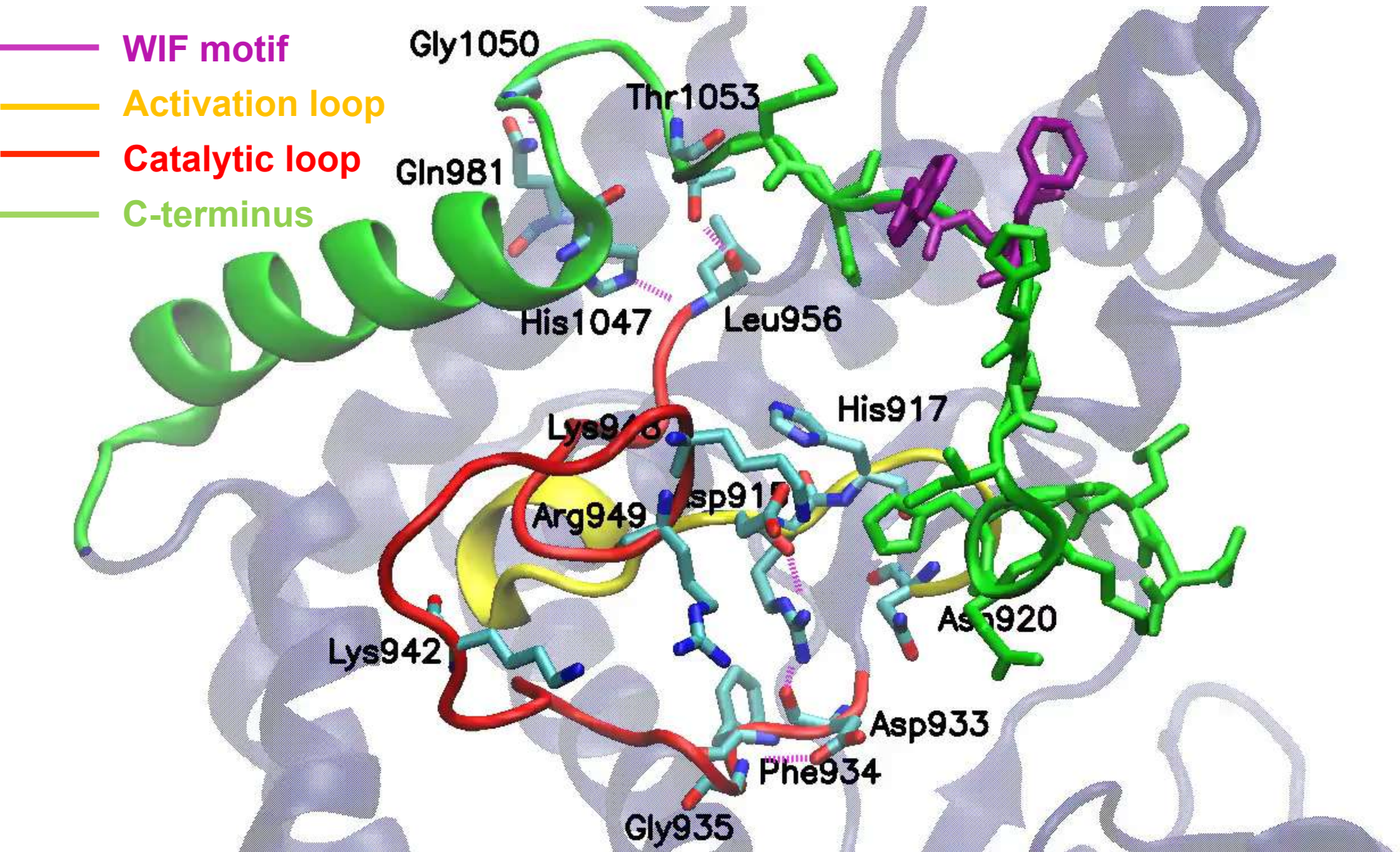
Yellow: catalytic loop  
Orange: activation loop  
Magenta: residue 1047

- The Hbond between activation loop Leu956 and His1047 breaks
- The  $\alpha$ -helix of H1047 partially unfolds in the presence of 1047R
- Displacement of Arg949 creates a different Hbond network in the mutant, which changes the activation and catalytic loop positions

**H917, RESPONSIBLE FOR ATP HYDROLYSIS, IS ORIENTED TOWARD THE CATALYTIC POCKET IN THE MUTANT AND AWAY FROM THE POCKET IN THE WT**



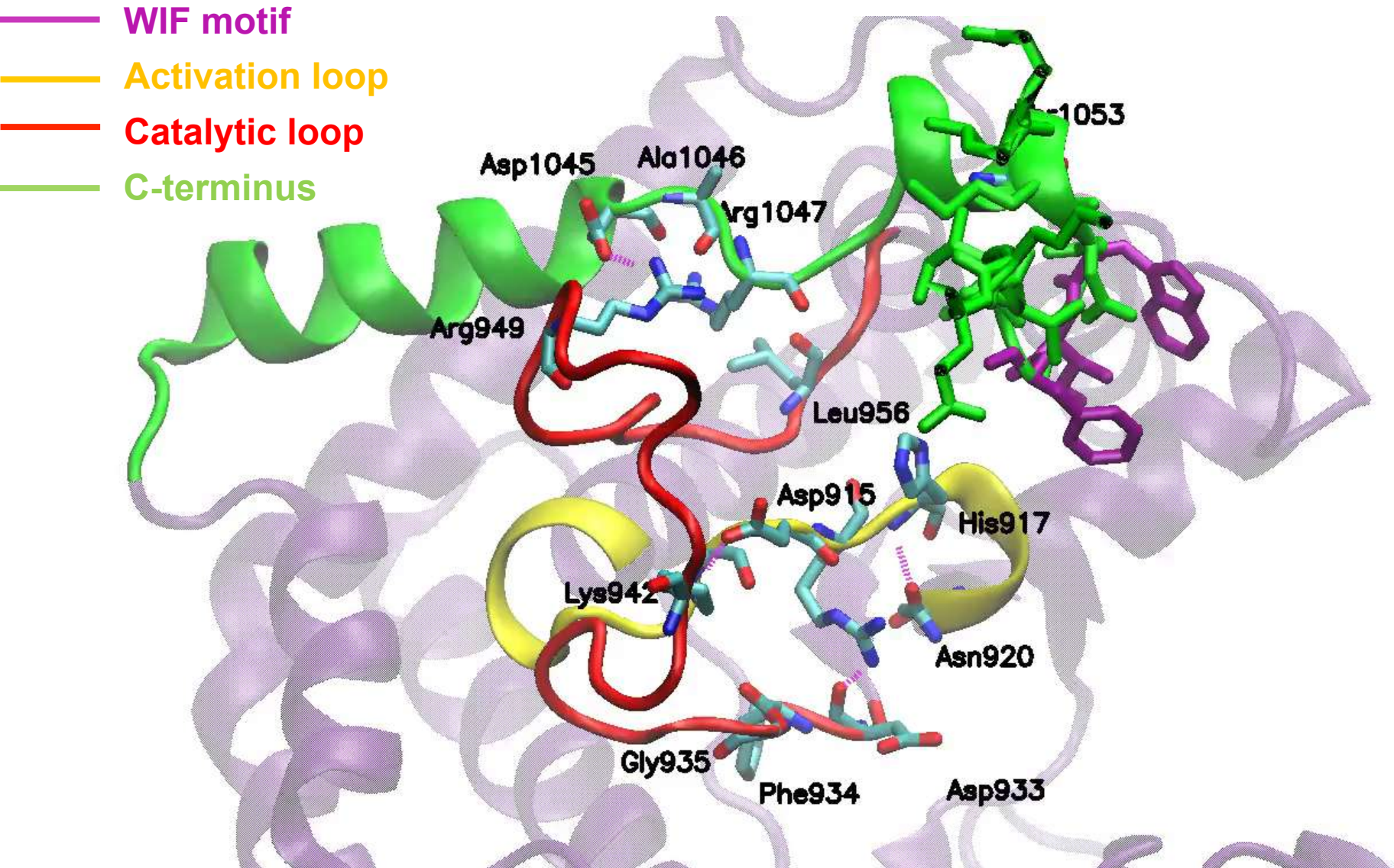
# WT H-bond network



His-917 points away from the active site, while the **C-terminus** prevents the catalytic loop from reaching the ATP-binding site.

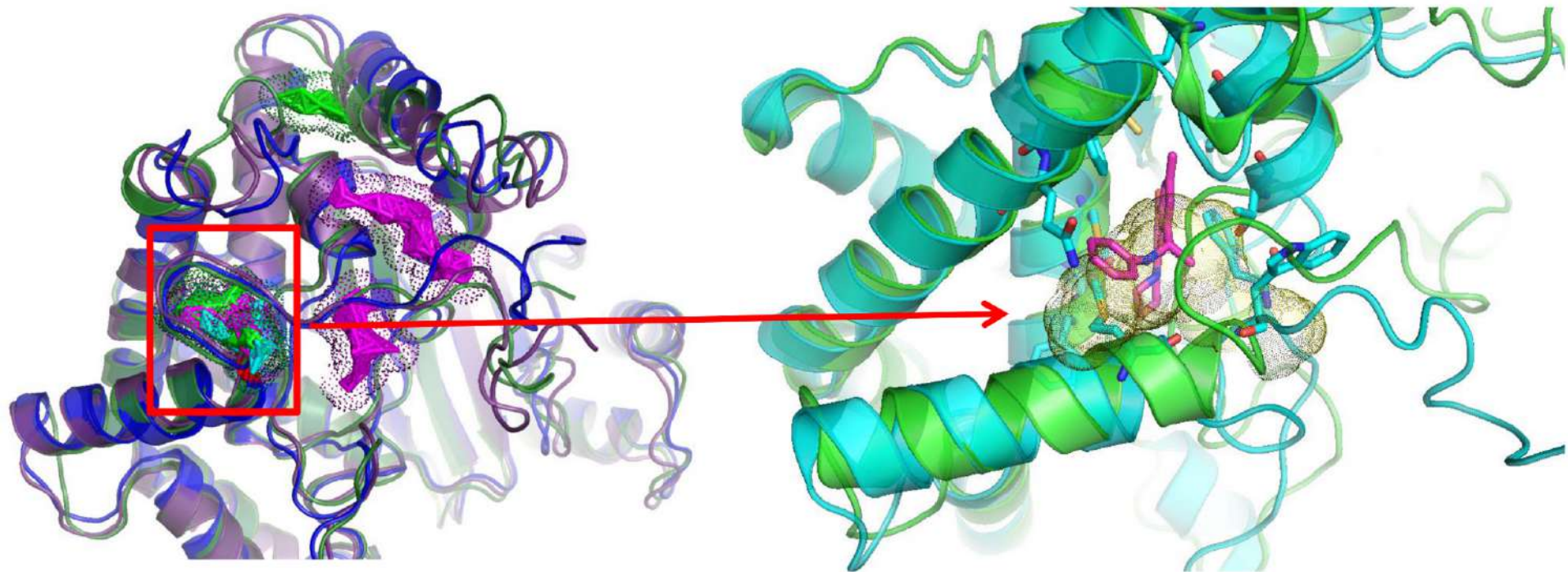


# Mutant H-bond Network is altered



His-917 points towards the active site, while the **C-terminus** does not interfere with the access of the catalytic loop to the ATP-binding site.

# Binding site identification on PI3K $\alpha$ conformers



Binding site prediction on  
PI3K $\alpha$  representative  
structures

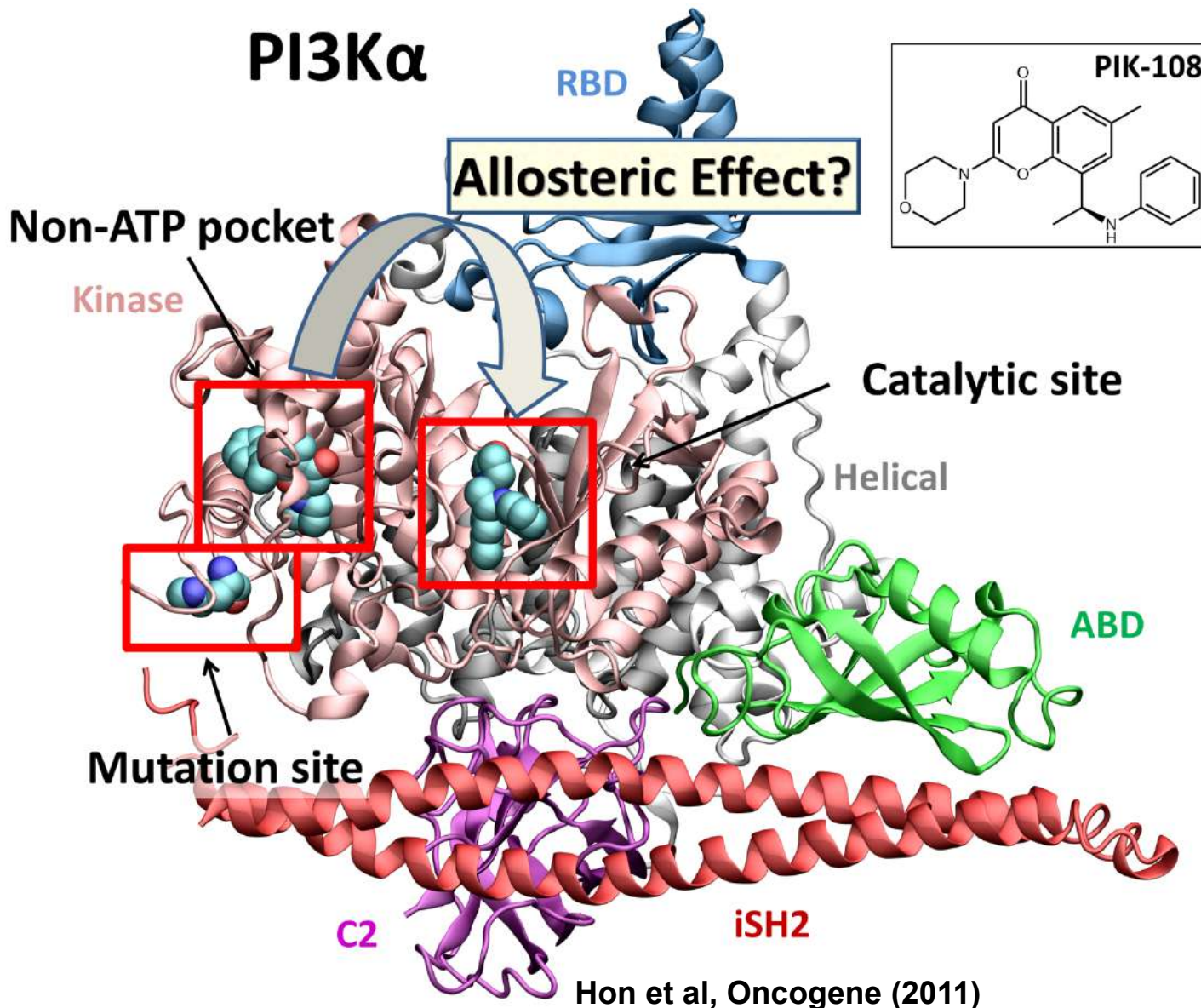
Blue: WT Crystal  
Structure by Hon et al  
(2011)

Green: Cluster  
conformation from MD  
Dots: Predicted binding site

Does this binding site also exist in the mutant form and can it be exploited for selective drug design?



# Non-ATP PI3K $\alpha$ binding pocket discovered



•Active site and non-ATP pocket occupied by **PIK-108**

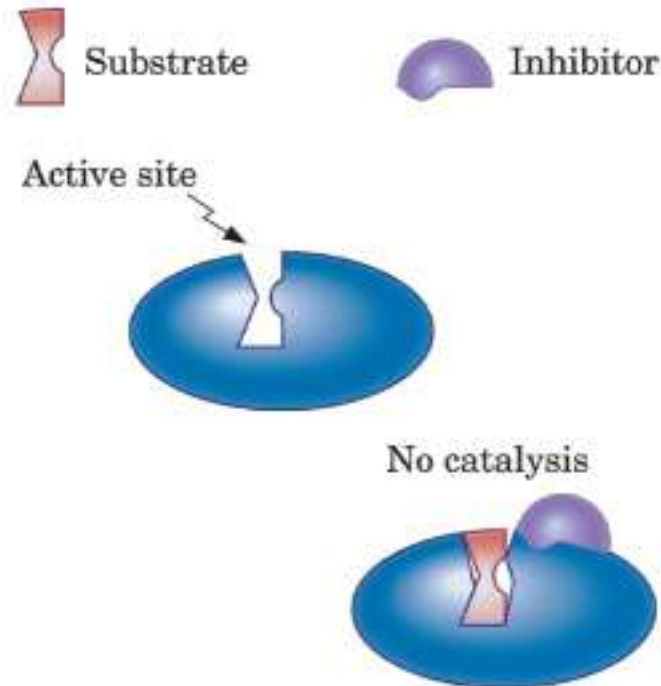
•MD simulations of WT, H1047R apo and holo forms (100ns production run)

•Is the non-ATP pocket allosteric?

Hon et al, Oncogene (2011)

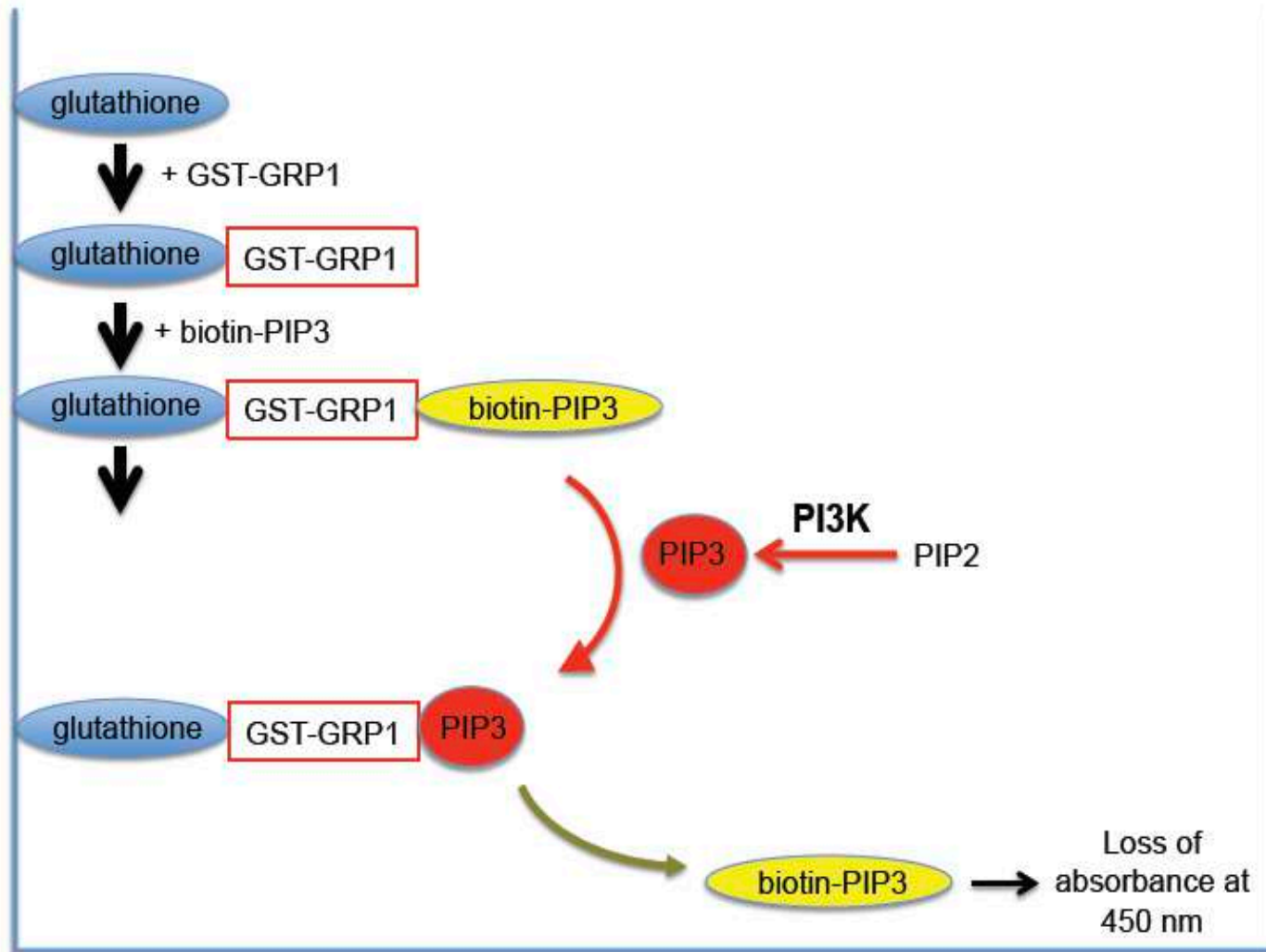
# Allosteric or Noncompetitive Inhibition

The inhibitor binds itself to a site other than the active site (allosterism), thereby changing the conformation of the active site. The substrate still binds but there is no catalysis.



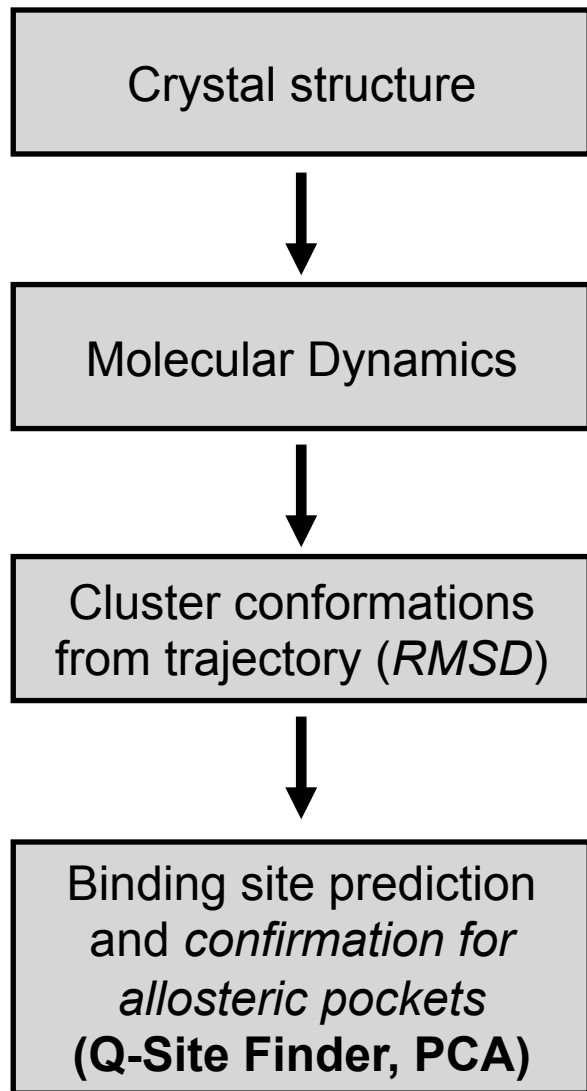


# In vitro cell-free assay with cancer liposomes

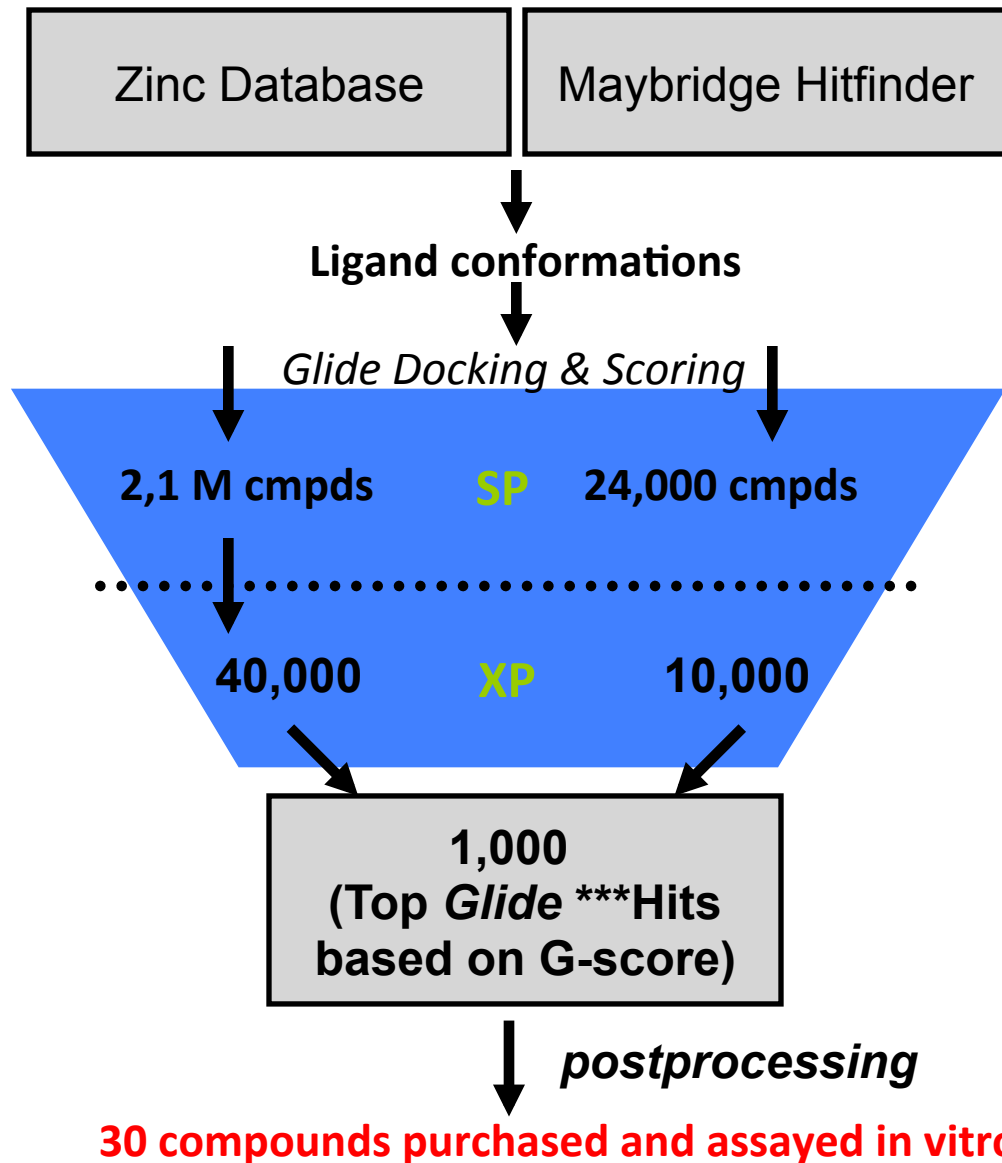


Christoforidis lab, University of Ioannina, in vitro assays  
Couladouros lab, University of Athens, synthesis of PIK-108

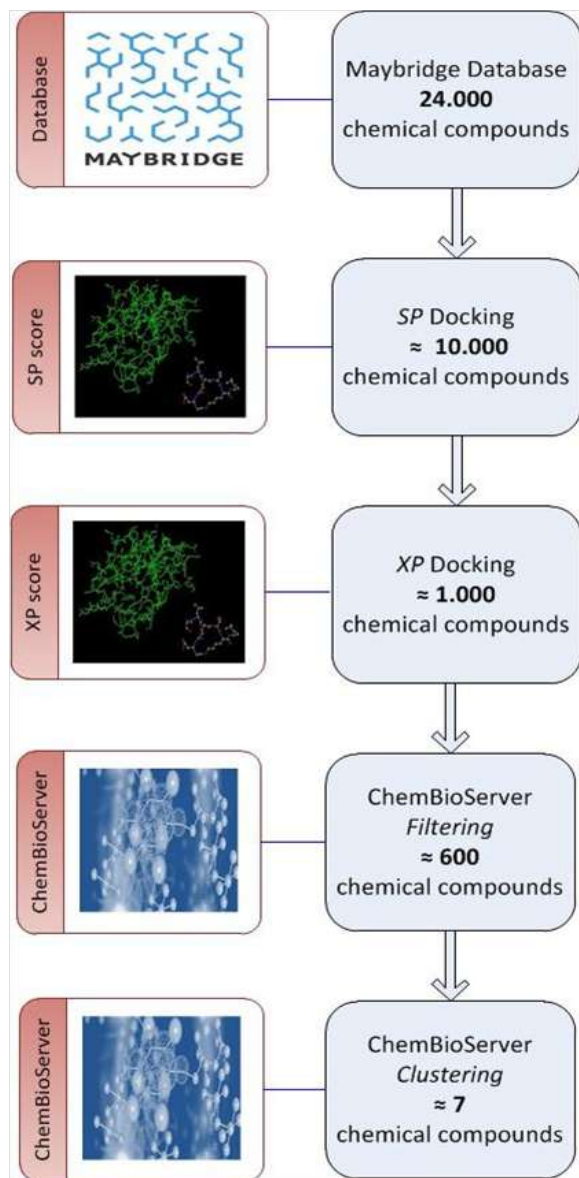
# Binding site Prediction



# Virtual Screening



# How are compounds selected for assaying?



- **Library docking using Glide SP, XP**
- **1000 Top-scored XP compounds**
- **Postprocessing with ChemBioServer**
- **Calculate ADME/tox properties**
- **Check for bad vdW contacts**
- **Hierarchical Clustering**
- **Affinity Propagation (exemplars)**
- **Visualization: check for compound conformations**

<http://chembioserver.vi-seem.eu>

Athanasiadis, Cournia, Spyrou, *Bioinformatics* (2012)

# Pre/Postprocessing with ChemBioServer

ChemBioServer post-processes virtual screening results

**Bio Server** ChemBioServer  
Home Help Contact us

**Basic Search**  **van der Waals Filtering**

Browse Compounds

**Filtering**

Predefined Queries

Combined Search

**Advanced Filtering**

Substructure

Van der Waals

Toxicity

**Clustering**

Hierarchical

Affinity Propagation

**Step 1.**  Browse... Please, Upload an sdf\* file.  
In this step user is able to upload an sdf File that used for further processing.  
*Note: Maximum allowed upload size is 3MB (~1000 compounds)*

**Step 2.** Please, Select vdW Parametres.

**van der Waals Energy Threshold:** 50 Kcal/mol

**van der Waals Radii Tolerance:** 75 %

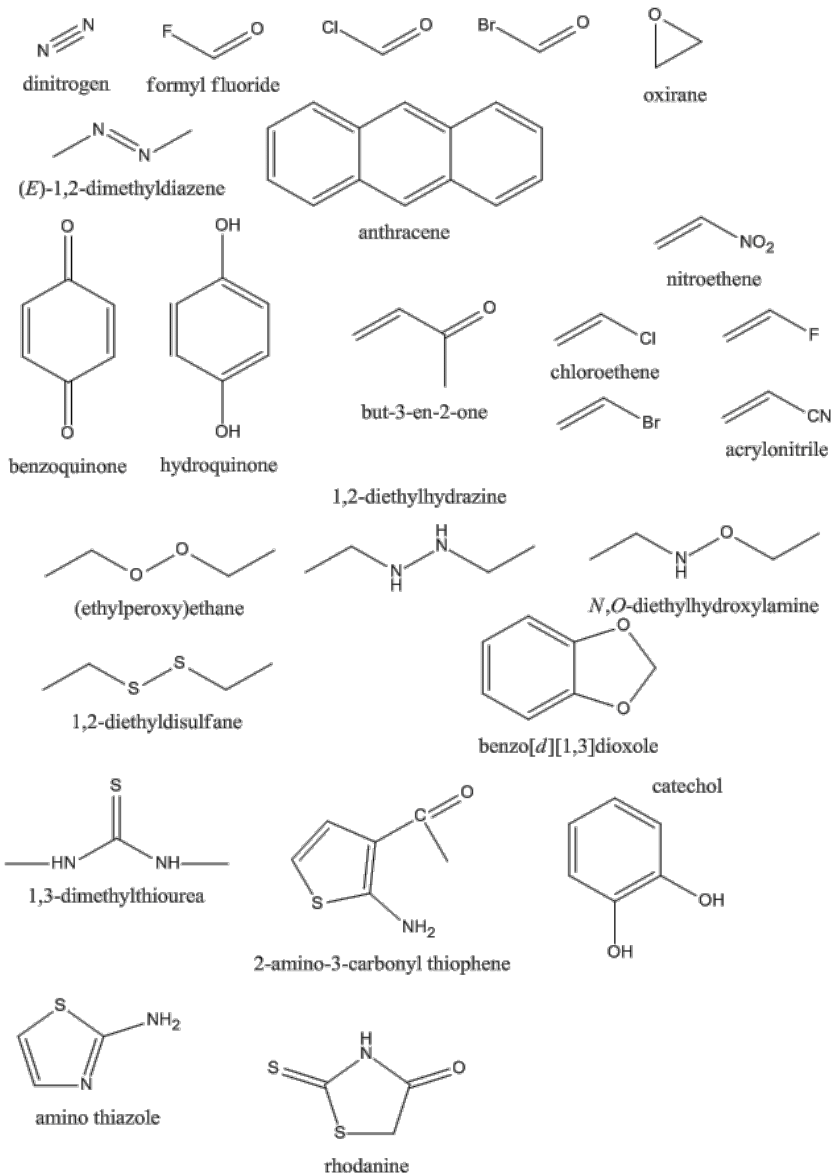
**Final Step.**  Process Data  
(\*Warning: \*.sdf files are temporary saved on the server and deleted after processing)

Compound ID	VDW Energy Test	VDW Distance Test
Compound: 1 AW 00785	- PASS AW 00785 - Browse List For Details...	- FAIL AW 00785 - Browse List For Details...
Compound: 2 AW 00788	- PASS AW 00788 - Browse List For Details...	- FAIL AW 00788 - Browse List For Details...
Compound: 3 AW 00785	- PASS AW 00785 - Browse List For Details...	- FAIL AW 00785 - Browse List For Details...
Compound: 4 AW 00939	- PASS AW 00939 - Browse List For Details...	- FAIL AW 00939 - Browse List For Details...
Compound: 5 AW 00694	- PASS AW 00694 - Browse List For Details...	- FAIL AW 00694 - Browse List For Details...
Compound: 6 CD 10205	- PASS CD 10205 - Browse List For Details...	- PASS CD 10205 - Browse List For Details...
Compound: 7 GK 02096	- PASS GK 02096 - Browse List For Details...	- FAIL GK 02096 - Browse List For Details...
Compound: 8 HTS 01561	- PASS HTS 01561 - Browse List For Details...	- FAIL HTS 01561 - Browse List For Details...
Compound: 9 MWP 00404	- PASS MWP 00404 - Browse List For Details...	- FAIL MWP 00404 - Browse List For Details...
Compound: 10 NRB 02577	- PASS NRB 02577 - Browse List For Details...	- FAIL NRB 02577 - Browse List For Details...

Athanasiadis, Cournia, Spyrou, Bioinformatics (2012)



# Pre/Postprocessing with ChemBioServer



<http://chembioserver.vi-seem.eu>

Bio Server

ChemBioServer

Home Help Contact us

Basic Search

Browse Compounds

Advanced Search

Predefined Queries

Combined Search

Filtering

Substructure

Van der Waals

Toxicity

Clustering

K means

Affinity Propagation

STEP 1. Press Browse Button to select an sdf\* file.

Browse...

(\*Warning: \*.sdf files are temporary saved on the server and deleted after processing)

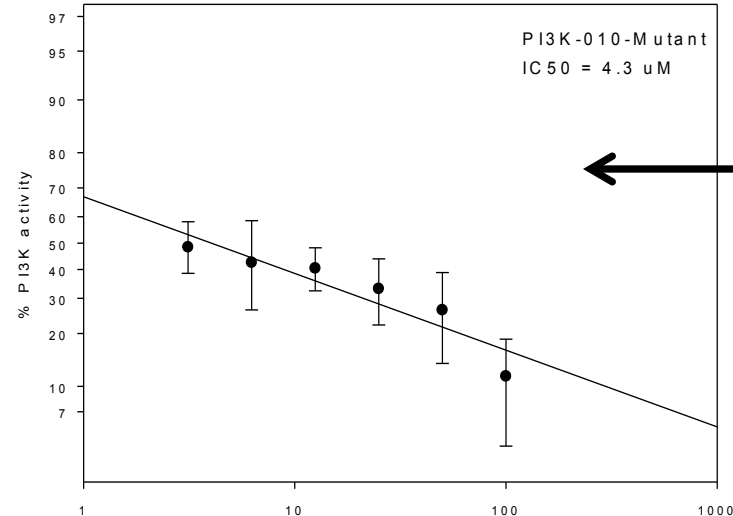
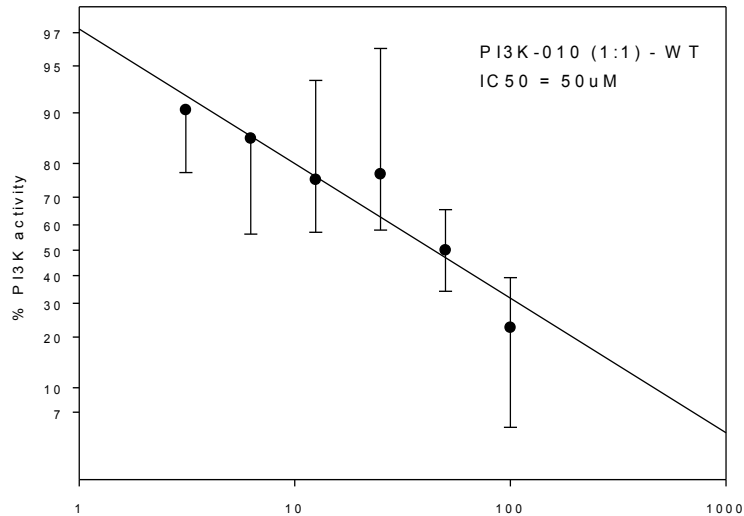
STEP 2. Press Process Data to upload, process data and Display the Results\*.

Process Data

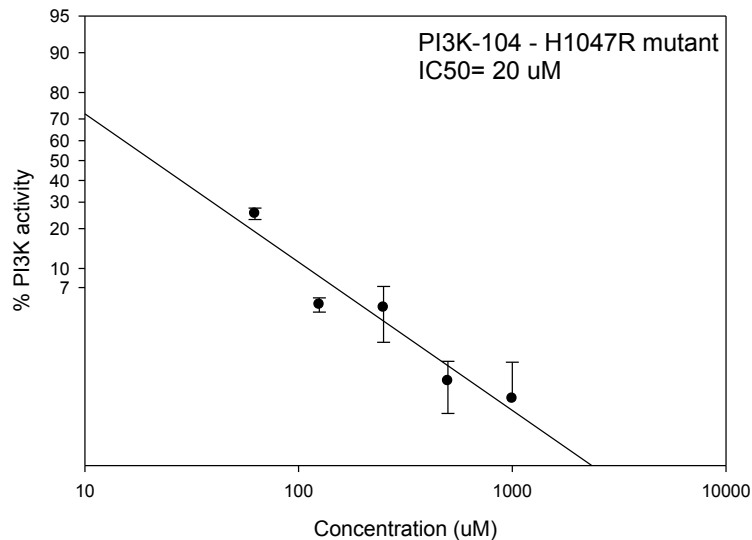
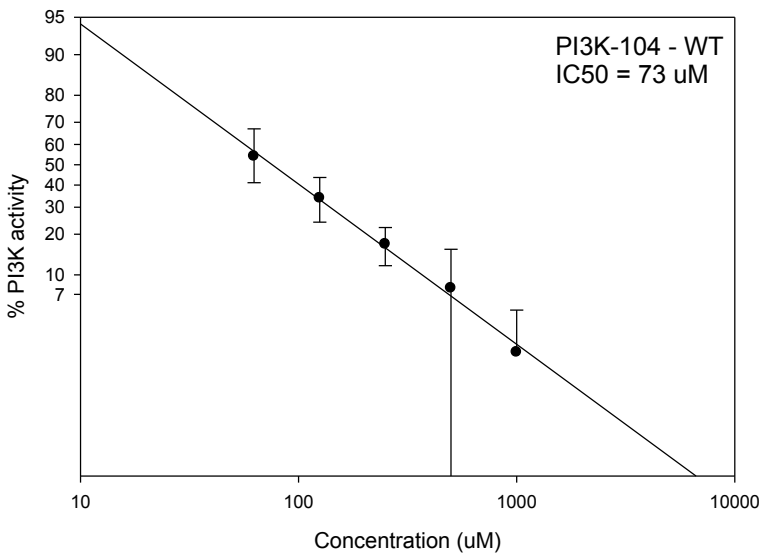
© 2011 BioAcademy | Home | BioAcademy Biomedical Research Foundation Academy of Athens |

Launched on Dec 30th, 2011 Updated on Dec 30th, 2011

# In vitro cell-free assay with cancer liposomes

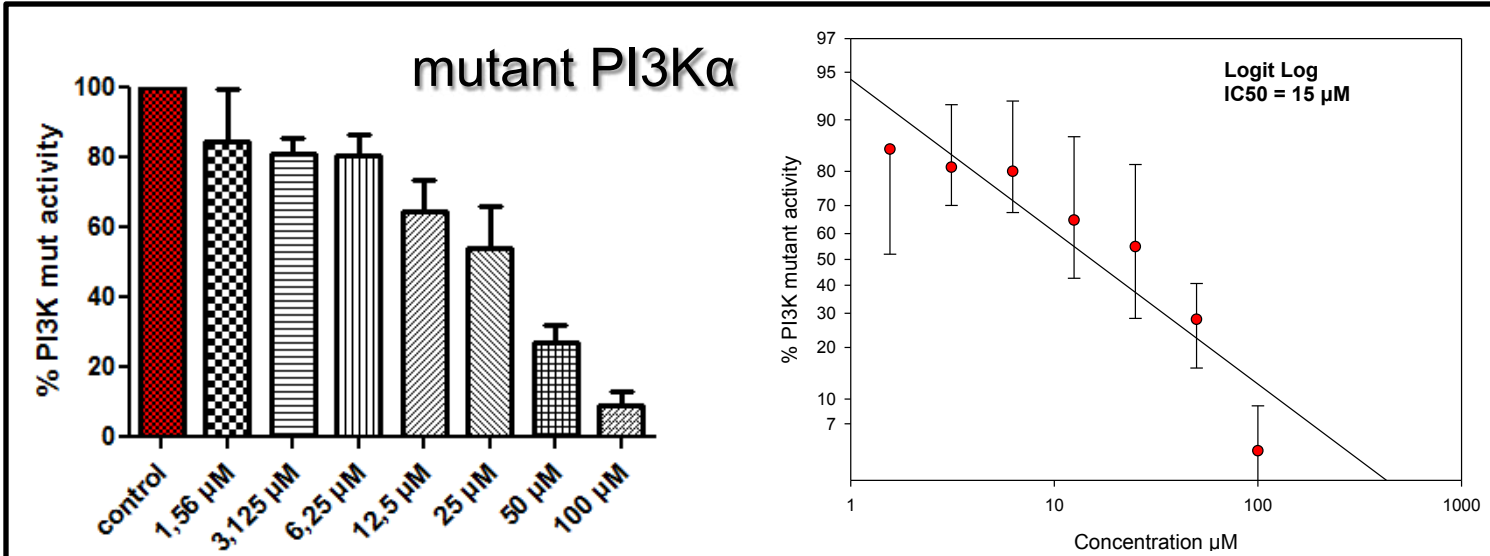


**11-fold  
selectivity of  
the mutant vs  
the WT**



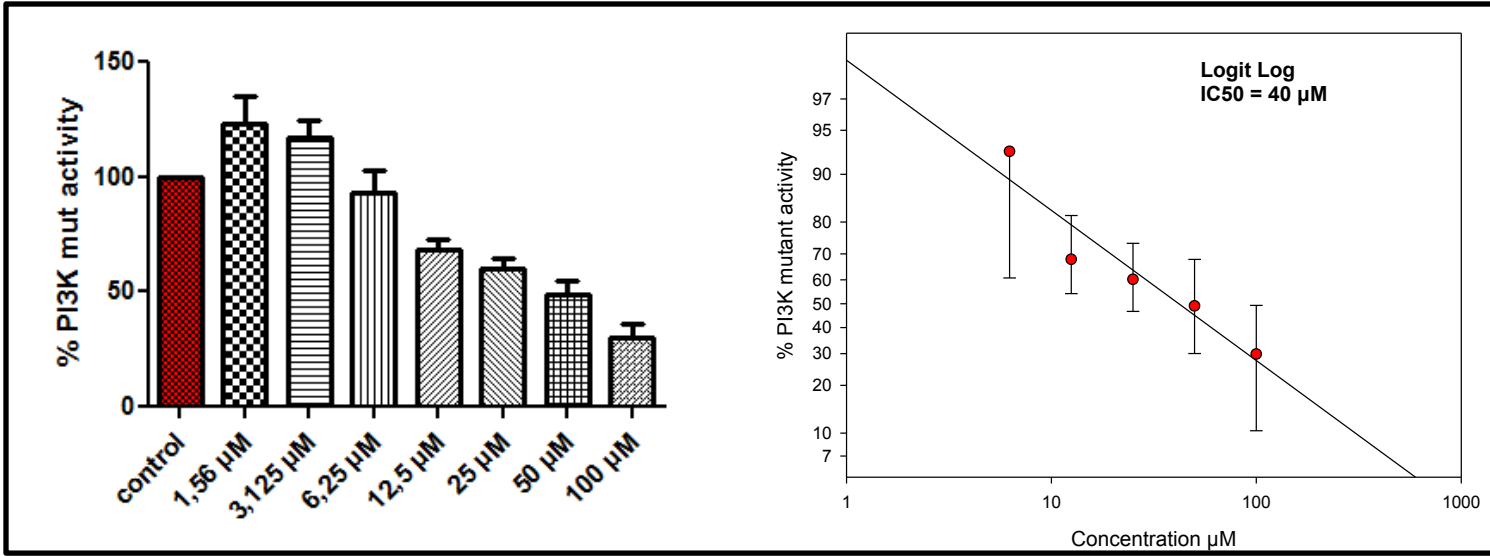
**IC<sub>50</sub> = the  
concentration  
of the  
compound  
required to  
inhibit the  
protein by 50%**

# Is PI3K-010 an allosteric (non-competitive) inhibitor?



Low ATP  
 (100 $\mu$ M):  
**IC<sub>50</sub> = 15  $\mu$ M**

High ATP  
 (2mM):  
**IC<sub>50</sub> = 40  $\mu$ M**

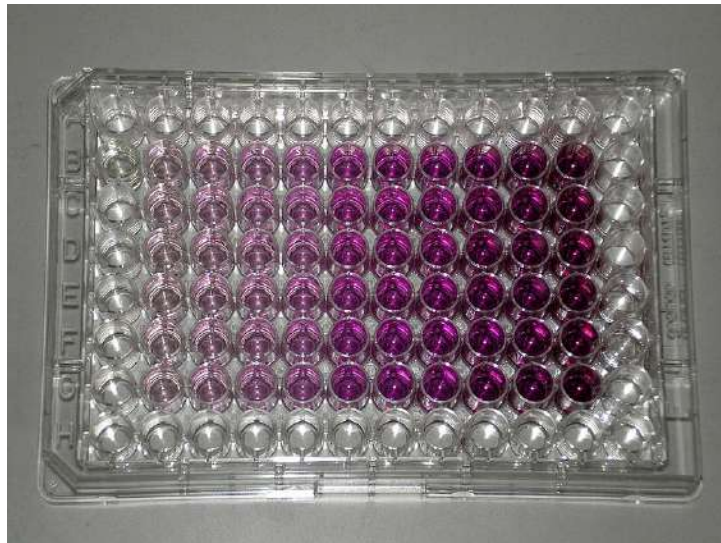


**PI3K-010 IC<sub>50</sub> is not influenced by ATP concentration**

**Could be considered allosteric**

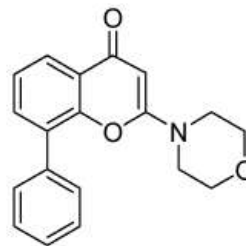
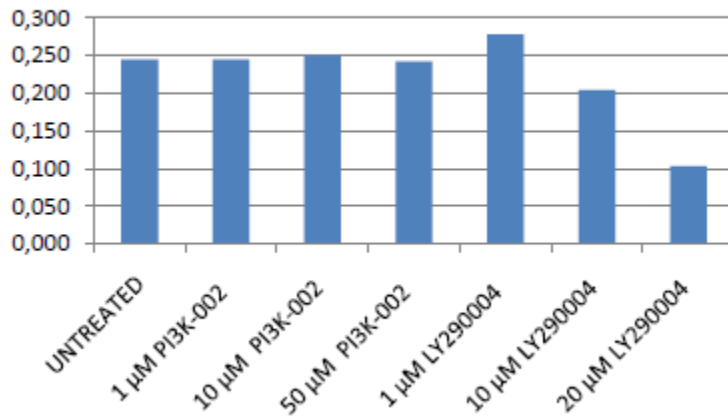
2 experiments low ATP, 4 experiments high ATP

# Cell-based MTT assay



- Cell viability assay
- MTT (a yellow tetrazole) is reduced to purple formazan in living cells
- Initially 96-well plates, now 48-well plates/ seeding with 10000 cells
- Four cell lines were used: Three mutant and one control WT

## T47D (exon 20)

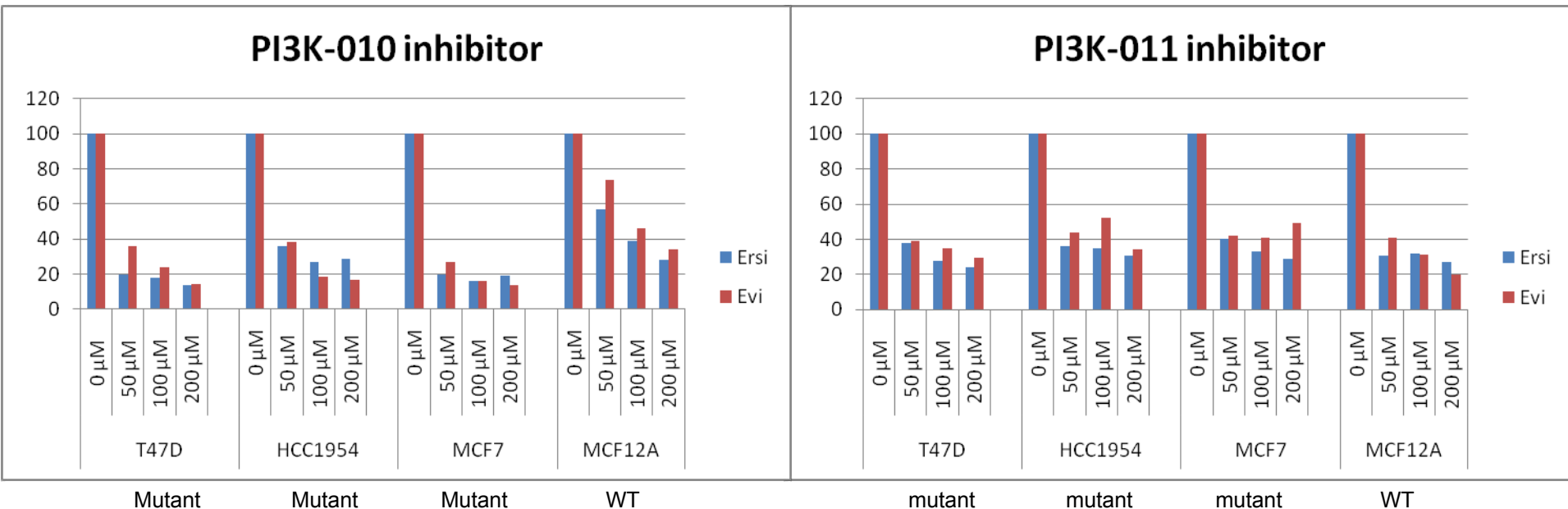


LY294002 |

- **LY290004 is a known PI3Ka inhibitor (control experiment)**
- **Compounds PI3K-001 – 011 were assayed**



# MTT assay on mutant and WT PI3K $\alpha$

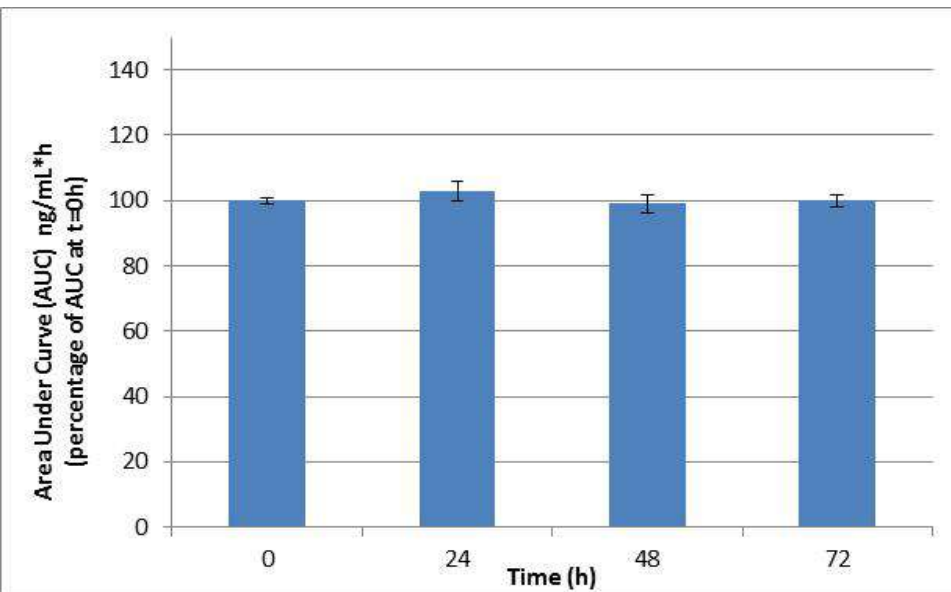


- 7-fold Mutant-specific inhibition in cells bearing the H1047R mutation
- IC50 WT = 7 $\mu$ M
- IC50 H1047R = 1 $\mu$ M

(Cournia and Efstratiadis labs, BRFAA)

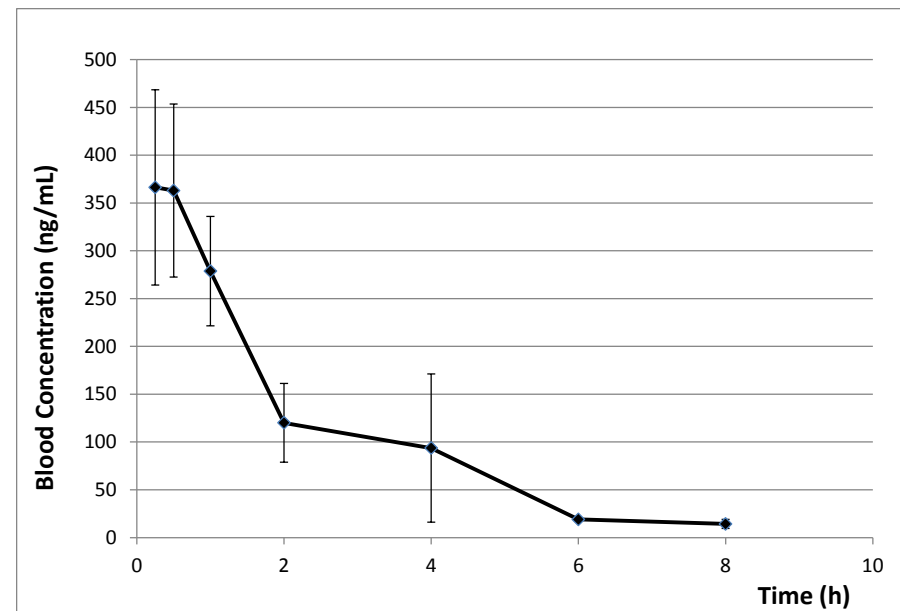
# Pharmacokinetic experiments on PI3K-010

*Stability of compound PI3K010 in cell conditioned- medium*



(Tamvakopoulos lab, BRFAA)

*Mean blood concentrations of PI3K010 in corn oil following oral dosing in mice (10 mg/Kg).*



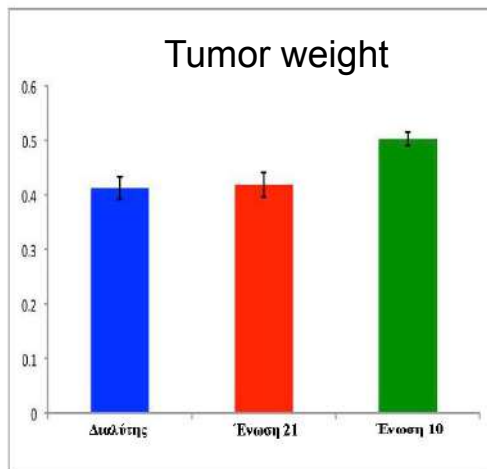
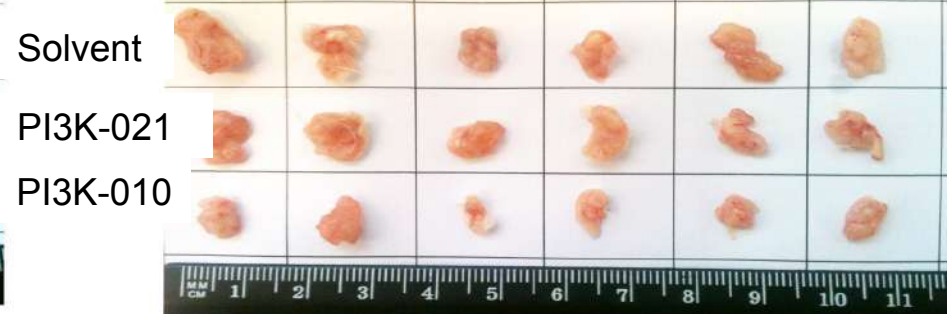
C<sub>max</sub> of 396 ng/mL (~ 1  $\mu$ M)  
4 h post-dose - average concentrations  
of 100 ng/mL (~ 0.3  $\mu$ M).

# Preclinical study of PI3K-010 (xenografts)

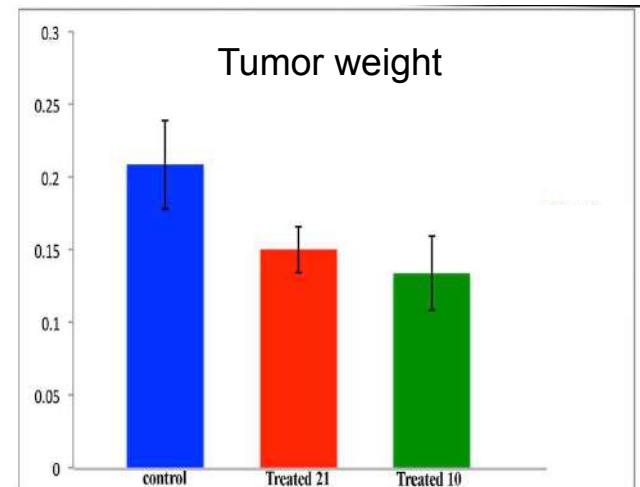
## MDA-231-MB (PI3K $\alpha$ WT)



## HCC1954 (H1047R PI3K $\alpha$ mutant)



Solvent  
PI3K-021  
PI3K-010



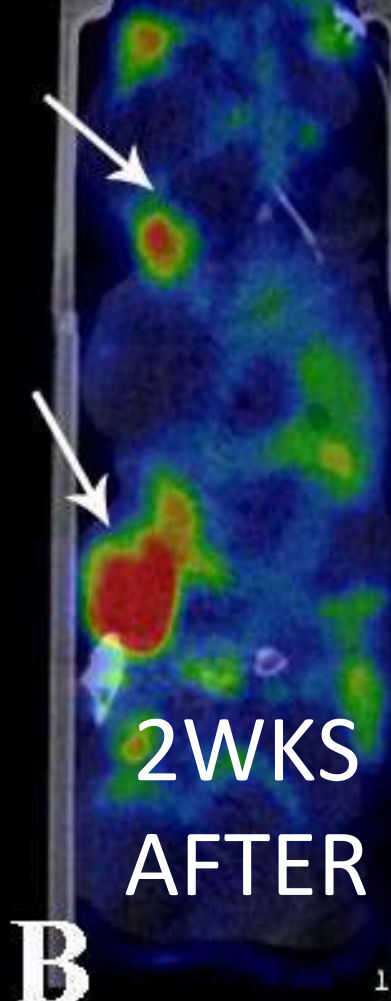
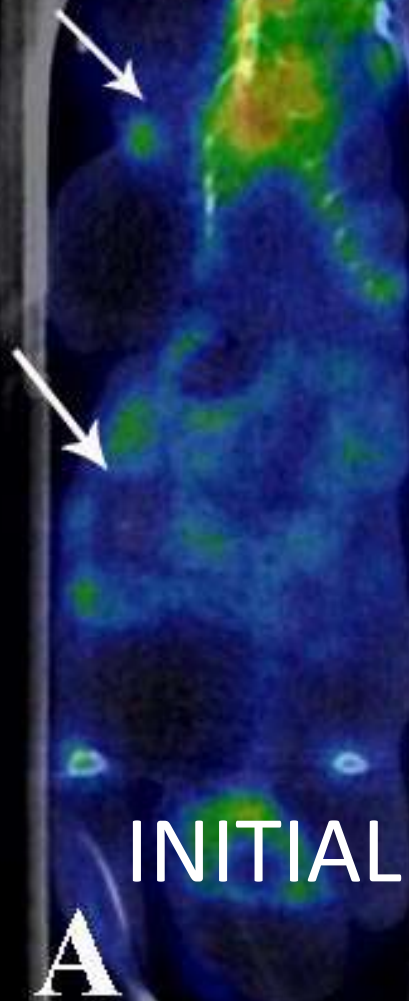
(D. Stellas, Klinakis & Efstratiadis labs)

***PI3K010 in corn oil following oral dosing in mice (100 mg/Kg).***

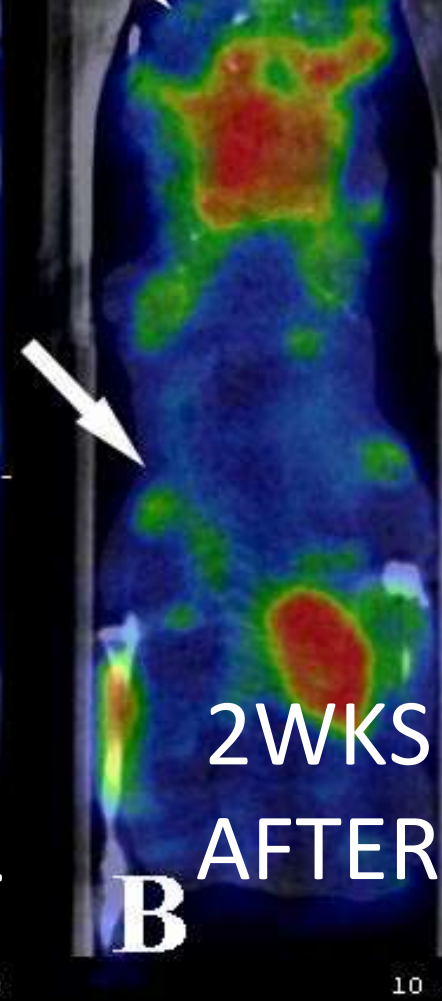
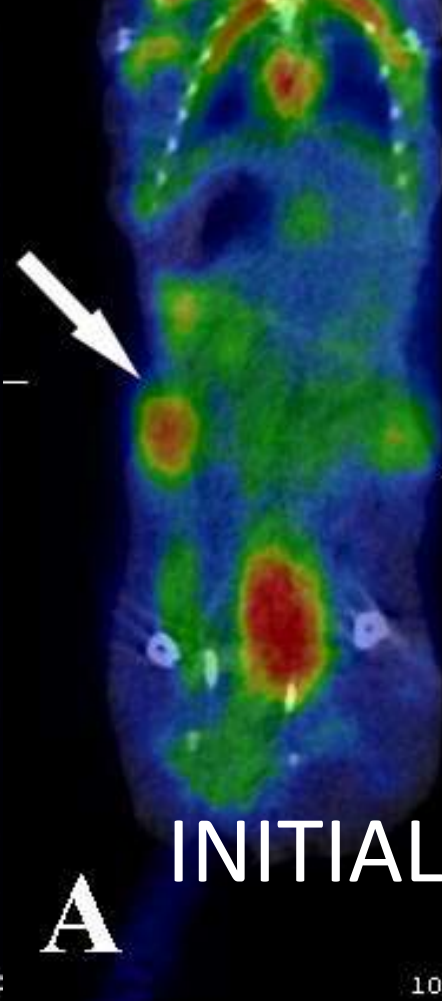
Patent deposited for PI3K-010 and 021

UNTREATED

PI3K(H1047R); MMTV-MYC breast cancer model



TREATED





# Lead optimization of PI3K-010

Synthesis of analogs

**Compound PI3K-021**

**In vitro cell-free assay**

**IC<sub>50</sub> WT: > 1000 μM**

**IC<sub>50</sub> Mutant: 13.5 μM**

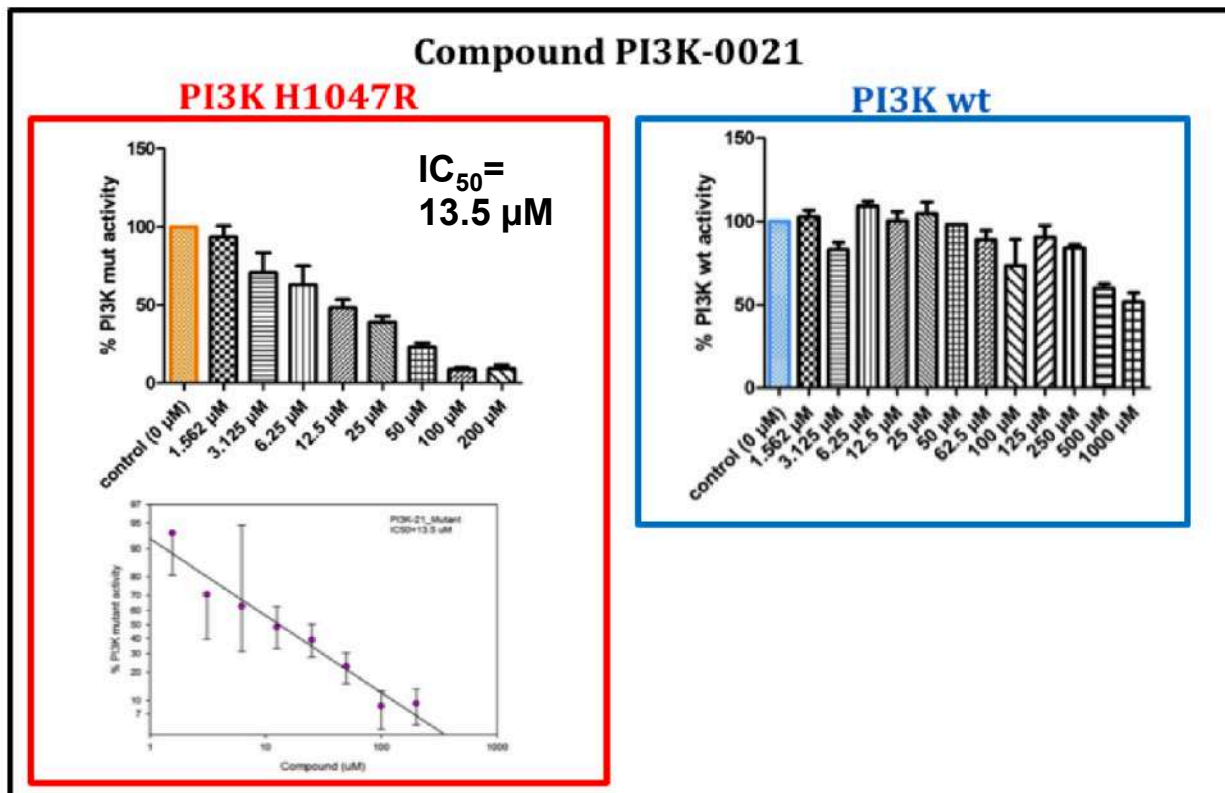
**Selectivity > 100 fold**



Solubility issues with PI3K-021



Optimization of pchem properties



Sent to S. Gabelli Johns Hopkins U  
for X-ray last week

# Διαθέσιμες Πτυχιακές

- ❑ Βελτιστοποίηση δραστηκότητας υποψηφίων φαρμάκων
- ❑ Μοριακές Δυναμικές Προσομοιώσεις για αντι-καρκινικούς στόχους με στόχο τη μελέτη της δομής και δυναμικής μεταλλάξεων
- ❑ Σχεδιασμός αναστολέων για αντι-καρκινικούς στόχους
- ❑ Εφαρμογές τεχνητής νοημοσύνης στο σχεδιασμό φαρμάκων

# Project Team

## BRFAA

Cournia lab (MD, drug design, cells)

Dr. Evi Gkeka

Dr. Hari Leontiadou

Thomas Evangelidis



Efstratiadis & Klinakis labs (cells+mice)

Dr. Ersi Tsellou

Dr. Dimitris Stellas



NCSR Demokritos

Couladouros lab

Anna Kapela

Maria Ouzouni



University of Thrace

Agianian lab

Dr. Maria Pavlaki

University of Ioannina

Christoforidis lab (cell-free assays)

Alexandra Papafotika

Dr. Vasiliki Lazani



*American Association for Cancer Research*