

M. MUTTER

STRUCTURAL ASPECTS OF PEPTIDES AND PROTEINS  
FROM PEPTIDES TO PROTEIN DESIGN

IASOC IV, 1990

CONTENTS

1. Peptide and Protein Chemistry : Past and Present
2. Secondary Structure : Predictions, Model Peptides, Synthetic Aspects
3. Drug Design, Peptide Mimetics
4. Protein Folding
5. Protein Topology
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*" Die Peptidbindung im Sinne Fischers dürfte nicht ausreichen, um alle physikalischen und chemischen Eigenschaften der Proteine zu erklären. Deshalb hat man einiger theoretischer Begriffe und Anschauungen über das allgemeine Bauprinzip der Proteine zu gedenken."*

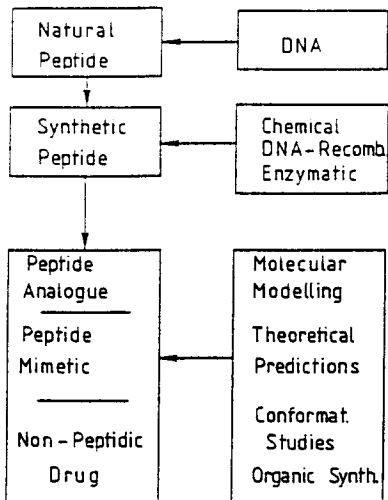
Max Bergmann, 1924.

1. PEPTIDE AND PROTEIN CHEMISTRY: PAST AND PRESENT

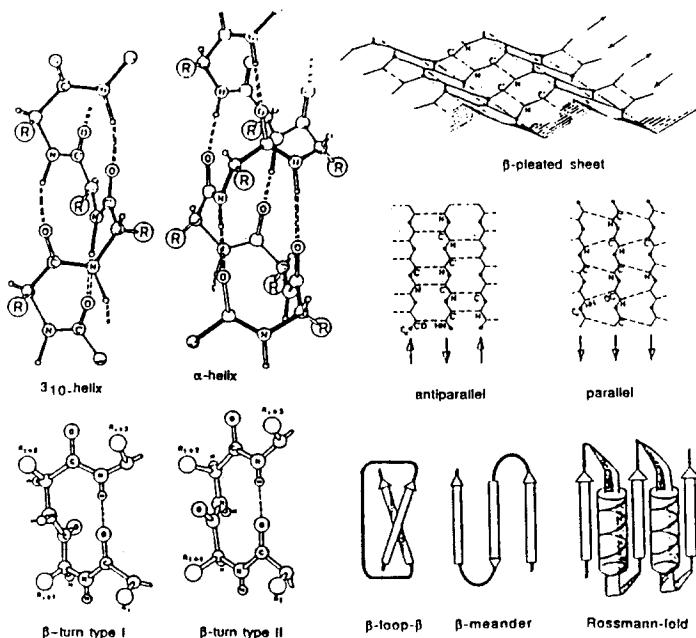
HISTORICAL SURVEY OF SYNTHESIS AND CONFORMATIONAL ANALYSIS OF PEPTIDES AND PROTEINS

- |              |   |
|--------------|---|
| 1750 - 1800  | : Chemistry becomes a "Science" (Cavendish, Priestley, Lavoisier, Berzelius)  |
| 1828         | : Woehler's Synthesis of urea   |
| 1838         | : Berzelius introduces the term "protein"   |
| 1848 - 1860  | : Pasteur discovers the optical activity and the first $\alpha$ -amino acid as component of proteins  |
| 1859 - 1920  | : Fundamental contributions of Emil Fischer   |
| 1902         | : Peptide bond in Proteins is postulated  |
| 1906         | : Term "Polypeptide" established  |
| 1907         | : Synthesis of a 18-peptide (E. Fischer)  |
| 1920 - 1925  | : Staudinger's hypothesis of "macromolecule"  |
| 1930         | : Bergmann's hypothesis of the relationship between conformation and properties of peptides   |
| 1931 - 1936  | : Denaturation of proteins as consequence of conformational transitions (Paulling); X-ray of peptides (Corey and Paulling)  |
| 1945 - 1955  | : Sanger's contributions to the primary sequence of insulin   |
| 1953         | : Du Vigneaud's synthesis of Oxytocin   |
| 1960         | : Three-dimensional structure of myoglobin by Perutz and Kendrew  |
| 1962         | : Anfinsen's denaturation / renaturation experiments of ribonuclease  |
| 1963         | : Merrifield's solid-phase peptide synthesis; Hypothesis, that the native conformation of proteins corresponds to the minimum of the free energy (Scheraga, Anfinsen) |
| since 1963   | : Conformational energy calculations, folding studies, investigation of model peptides  |
| 1958 - 1970  | : Primary sequence of several hundreds of proteins determined   |
| 1970 - today | : DNA recombinant techniques<br>Three-dimensional structure of more than 200 proteins   |

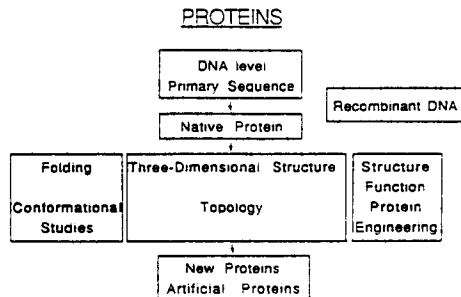
# PEPTIDES



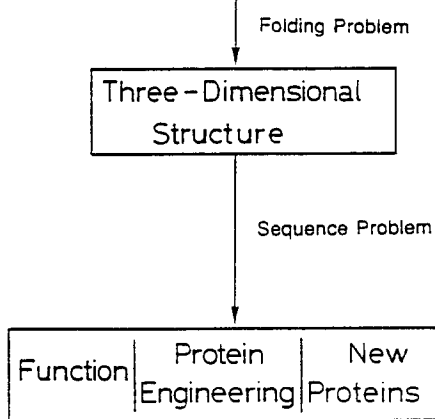
## 2. SECONDARY STRUCTURE: PREDICTIONS, MODEL PEPTIDES, SYNTHETIC ASPECTS



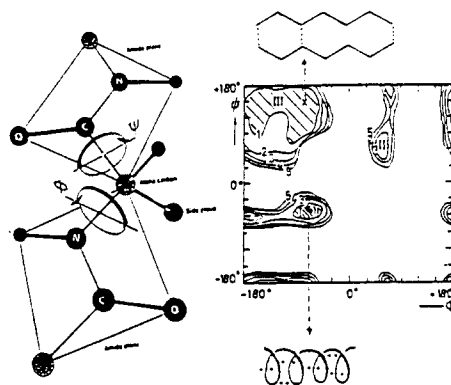
## PROTEINS



## PROTEIN SEQUENCE

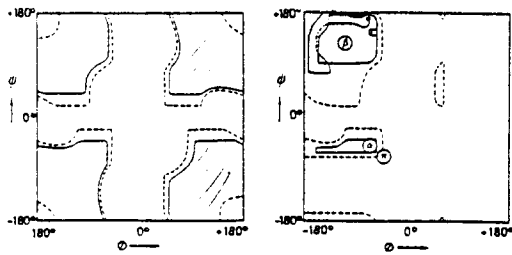


## Conformational Energy Map



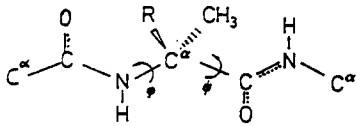
## CONFORMATIONAL RESTRICTIONS IN PEPTIDES

$$E_{total} = \sum_{bonds} K_r (r - r_{eq})^2 + \sum_{angular} K_\theta (\theta - \theta_{eq})^2 + \sum_{dihedrals} \frac{V_n}{2} [1 + \cos(n\phi - \gamma)] + \sum_{i < j} \left[ \frac{A_{ij}}{R_{ij}^{12}} - \frac{B_{ij}}{R_{ij}^6} + \frac{q_i q_j}{\epsilon R_{ij}} \right] + \sum_{H-bonds} \left[ \frac{C_{ij}}{R_{ij}^{12}} - \frac{D_{ij}}{R_{ij}^{10}} \right]$$

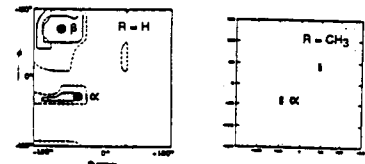


Comparison of the conformational space of glycine and alanine (Ramachandran map)

Conformational energy diagram of the dialkyl amino acid  $\alpha$ -amino isobutyric acid (Alb)



$$E(\phi, \psi) = E_{VW}(\phi, \psi) + E_{ROT}(\phi, \psi) + E_C(\phi, \psi)$$



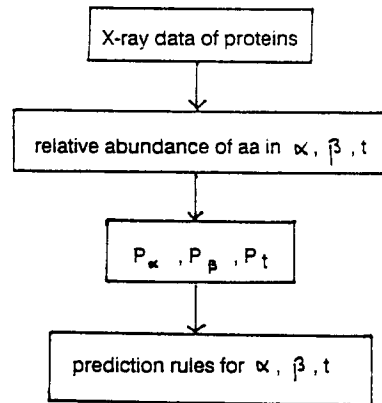
Comparison of the conformational space of Alb (R = methyl) and Ala (R = H)

"Structural characteristics of  $\alpha$ -helical peptide molecules containing Alb residues"

I.L. Karle, P. Balaram, *Biochemistry* 23, 6747 (1980)

From this rule man should realize that he is far off the reality. Demokrit

### CONFORMATIONAL PREDICTIONS



G. Fasman, *TIBS* 14, 295 (1989)

### Types of $\beta$ -turns

Turn	$i+1$		$i+2$	
	*	+	*	+
$\beta$ turn*				
Type I	-60	-30	-90	0
Type I'	60	30	90	0
Type II	-60	120	90	0
Type II'	60	-120	-90	0
Type III	-60	-30	-60	-30
Type III'	60	30	60	30
Type VIa (rare)*	-60	120	-90	0
Type VIb (rare)*	-120	120	-60	0
$\gamma$ turn*				
Turn	70 to 85	-60 to -70		
Inverse turn	-70 to -85	60 to 70		

\* As originally defined by Venkatasubramanian (1968), except as noted.  
 \* Angles are taken from data presented in Richardson (1981).  
 \* As originally defined by Nemethy and Prinz (1972).

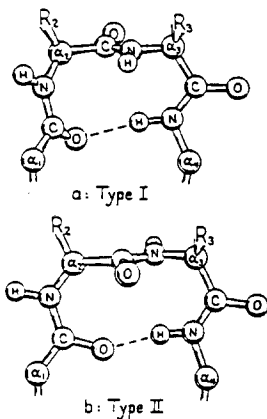
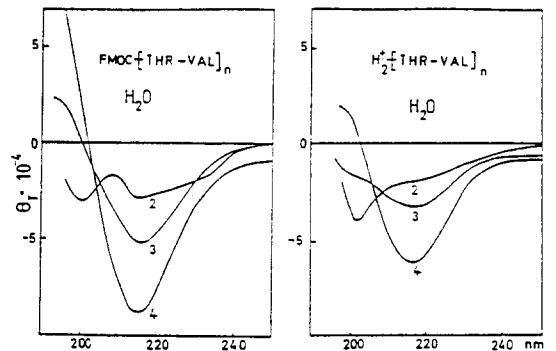


FIG. The two major types of tight turn (I and II). In type II (bottom),  $R_2$  is generally glycine.

G.D. Rose, L.M. Gierasch, J.A. Smith "Turns in Peptides and Proteins" *Adv. in Protein Chemistry* 32, 1 (1985)



critical chain-length for  $\beta$ -structure formation showing the influence of the Fmoc-protecting group

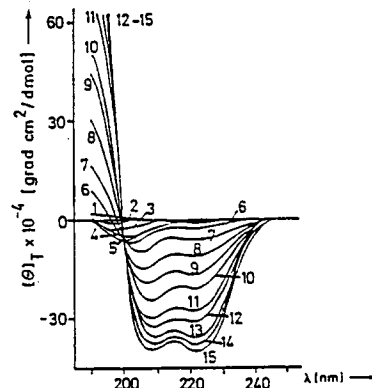
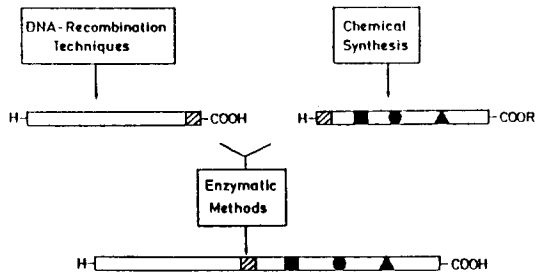


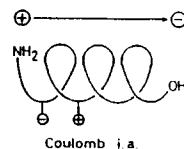
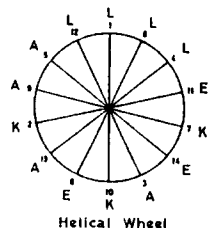
Abb. Kritische Kettenlänge  $n_c$  für die  $\alpha$ -Helixbildung: Bei Kettenverlängerung geht das Homopolypeptid Boc-(Met)-PEG in Trifluoroessigsäure in die  $\alpha$ -Helixstruktur über, die bei ca. 15 Aminosäureresten vollständig ausgebildet ist (charakteristische Cotton-Effekte im CD-Spektrum bei  $\lambda = 207$  nm und 222 nm)

Perspectives of Peptide Synthesis

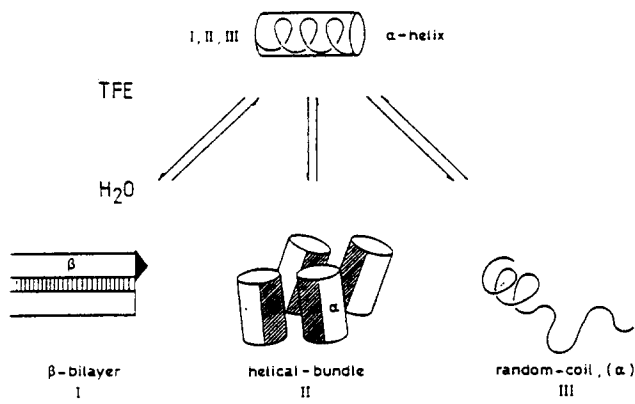


DESIGN OF AMPHIPHILIC HELICES

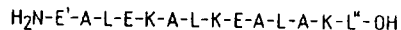
"Amphiphilic Helix: Model: Classes and Properties"  
J.P. Regnier et al. PROTEINS 8, 100 (1989)



"Peptides as Conformational Switch: Medium-induced Conformational Transitions of Designed Peptides"  
M. Mutter, R. Hersperger, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 29, 185 (1990)

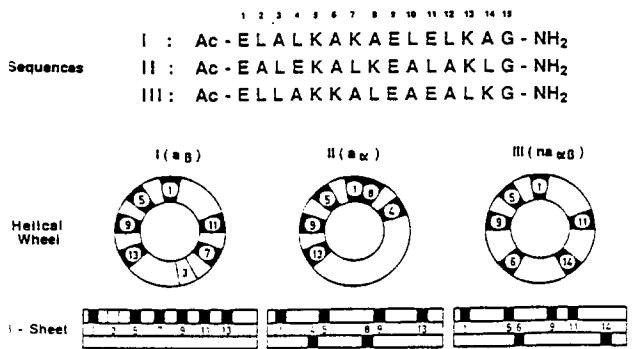


Conformational predictions:  $P_{\alpha} > 1.0$

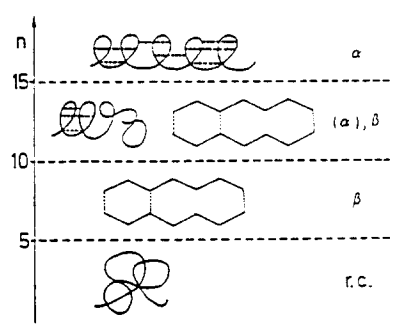


Structural stabilization:  $C^{\alpha}-Me-AA$

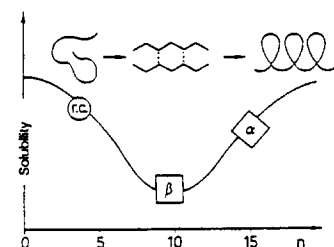
14-mer: 4A, 4L, 3E, 3K



CRITICAL CHAIN LENGTH FOR SECONDARY STRUCTURE FORMATION



CONFORMATION-DEPENDANT PROPERTIES OF PEPTIDES



## CHARACTERISATION OF PEPTIDES

Amino Acid Analysis  
 Sequencing  
 Peptide Maps  
 Rev. Phas-HPLC  
 Thin Layer Chromatography  
 Ion Exchange Chromatography  
 Mass Spectrometry  
 Capillary Zone Electrophoresis

*Synthetic peptides can be more versatile than natural peptides, and represent a way by which chemists will be capable of reaping the fruits of biotechnology"*  
 in: Trends in Biotechnology (1986)

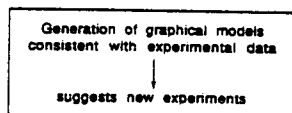
## NEW ASPECTS IN PEPTIDE SYNTHESIS

(21st EPS, 1990)

- I. BOP Family
- II. New Solvent Systems
- III. New Resins
- IV. Enzymes, Catalytic Antibodies
- V. Templates, Handles
- VI. Protecting Groups, Coupling Reagents
- VII. Recombinant Methods
- VIII. Design of:
  - Immunogens, hormones etc.
  - Specific conformations
- IX. Cheaper Synthesis

### 3. DRUG DESIGN, PEPTIDE MIMETICS

#### State of Art



#### Present limitations

-experimental data are scarce  
 -software

#### Trends

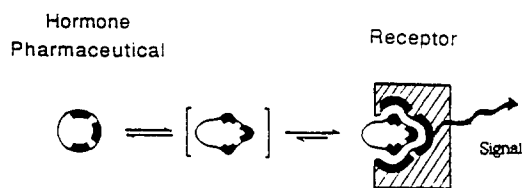
Better understanding of drug-receptor interactions :

- rapid growth of X-ray (NMR) data of pharmacologically important compounds
- advances in molecular biology and protein engineering techniques

Increasing availability of modelling tools to experimentalists :

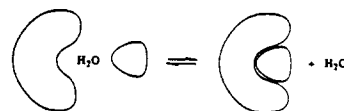
- faster experimental feedback for computer-assisted design

## Substrate-Receptor Interaction



Inactive Conformation    Active Conformation    Substrate-Receptor Complex

## On the importance of peptide conformation



van der Waals  
 H-Bond  
 Electrostatic  
 Water  
 Conformational Change  
 $\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$

## CHEMICAL SYNTHESIS IN PEPTIDE RESEARCH

Peptides in research  
 synthetic analogues (n < 20 residues)  
 screening of structure-activity relationships  
 Synthesis of peptide mimetics  
 main chain modifications  
 unusual side chains

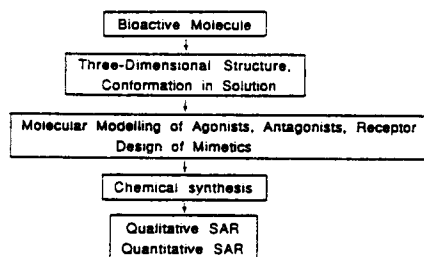
### DRUG DESIGN

#### Classical Approach:

Synthesis of a set of peptide analogs — Structure-Activity Relationships (SAR)

- Shortening of the natural peptide sequence: finding the minimal chain-length for full biological activity
- Side and main chain modifications
- Correlation of structure with activity

#### Rational Drug Design



"Emerging approaches in the molecular design of receptor-selective peptide ligands: conformational, topographical and dynamic considerations" V. Hruby et al., *Biochem. J.* 288, 249-262 (1990)

"The molecule knows how to fold, so we may learn how it does it"  
 J. T. Edsall, 1968

## 4. PROTEIN FOLDING

"The capability of adopting a dense globular conformation which is at once

space filling, nonoverlapping, free of residue conformations of high energy, and so arranged as to place polar side chains on the exterior

are characteristics peculiar to the chain molecules of globular proteins alone."

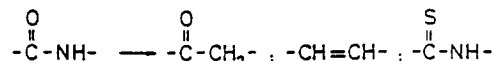
P.J. Flory, in "Statistical Mechanics of Chain Molecules" 1969.

## PEPTIDE ANALOGS AND MIMETICS

### Unusual $\alpha$ -amino acids

- (D)  $\alpha$ -amino acids
- dehydro  $\alpha$ -amino acids
- non proteinogenic  $\alpha$ -amino acids

### Amide bond mimetics



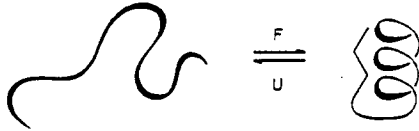
### Introduction of conformational constraints

- cyclization
- dialkyl amino acids ( $\Phi$ ,  $\Psi$  - restrictions)
- $\beta$ -turn mimetics

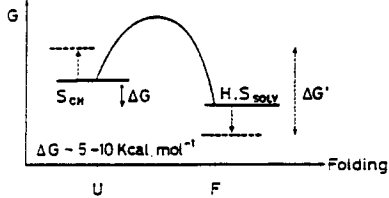
#### Backbone modifications

Modification	Structure	Effects of the modification
N-methylation	$\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_3 \\   \\ \text{N}-\text{CH}-\text{CO}- \\   \\ \text{R} \end{array}$	Loss of one hydrogen bond, reduction of conformational freedom, tendency to racemization, increase of resistance to proteases, almost unchanged proteolysis
Ester (decapeptide)	$\begin{array}{c} \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \\   \quad   \\ -\text{CH}-\text{COO}-\text{CH}- \\   \quad   \\ \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \end{array}$	Loss of hydrogen bonds, almost unchanged proteolysis
Ketomethylene	$\begin{array}{c} \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \\   \quad   \\ -\text{CH}-\text{COCH}-\text{CH}- \\   \quad   \\ \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \end{array}$	Loss of peptide bond rigidity, retention of hydrogen bond capacity, increase of resistance to proteases, local change of peptide backbone conformation, or of side chain orientation
D-configuration at $\text{C}_\alpha$	$\begin{array}{c} \text{H} \\   \\ \text{R} \\   \\ \text{NH}- \\   \\ \text{R} \end{array}$	
Ammonobutyric acid	$\begin{array}{c} (\text{CH}_2)_2 \\   \\ \text{NH}-\text{C}-\text{CO}- \\   \\ \text{R} \end{array}$	Loss of chirality, strong restriction of conformational freedom, tendency to helix formation
$\alpha$ -AZA	$\begin{array}{c} \text{R} \\   \\ \text{NH}-\text{N}-\text{CO}- \\   \\ \text{R}-\text{CH} \end{array}$	Loss of chirality, intermediate configuration between D and L
$\alpha,\beta$ -Dehydroamino acids	$\begin{array}{c} \text{R} \\   \\ \text{NH}-\text{C}-\text{CO}- \\   \\ \text{R} \end{array}$	Z (stable) and E isomers possible, loss of chiral center, rigidity of side chain orientation, increased resistance to proteolysis
Carba replacement of carbonyl	$\begin{array}{c} \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \\   \quad   \\ -\text{CH}-\text{CH}_2-\text{NH}-\text{CH}- \\   \quad   \\ \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \end{array}$	Loss of planarity, introduction of new ionizable group, increased water solubility, increased enzyme resistance
Hydroxyethylene	$\begin{array}{c} \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \\   \quad   \\ -\text{CH}-\text{CH}-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}- \\   \quad   \\ \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \end{array}$	Loss of planarity and basicity, partial retention of hydrophobicity
Thioamide	$\begin{array}{c} \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \\   \quad   \\ -\text{CH}-\text{CS}-\text{NH}-\text{CH}- \\   \quad   \\ \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \end{array}$	Nearly isomeric amide substitution
Olefinic double bond	$\begin{array}{c} \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \\   \quad   \\ -\text{CH}-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-\text{CH}- \\   \quad   \\ \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \end{array}$	High analogy with planar, rigid and <i>trans</i> -substituted peptide bonds, protection against proteolysis
Retro-amide	$\begin{array}{c} \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \\   \quad   \\ -\text{CH}-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-\text{CH}- \\   \quad   \\ \text{R} \quad \text{R}' \end{array}$	No topological equivalence with peptide bond, can be combined with inversion of configuration of adjacent residues, increased enzyme resistance

THE FOLDING PROBLEM



$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S_{SOLV} - T\Delta S_{CH}$$



MODELS FOR THE INITIATION OF PROTEIN FOLDING

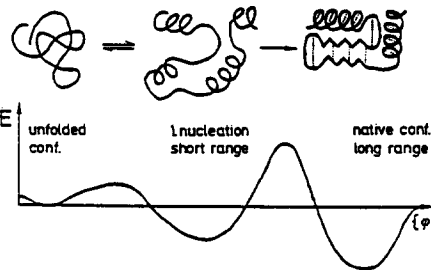
- 1) Hydrophobic Collapse ("molten globule")
- 2) Formation of Secondary Structure
- 3) Specific Interactions

R.L. Baldwin, TIBS 14, 291, (1989)

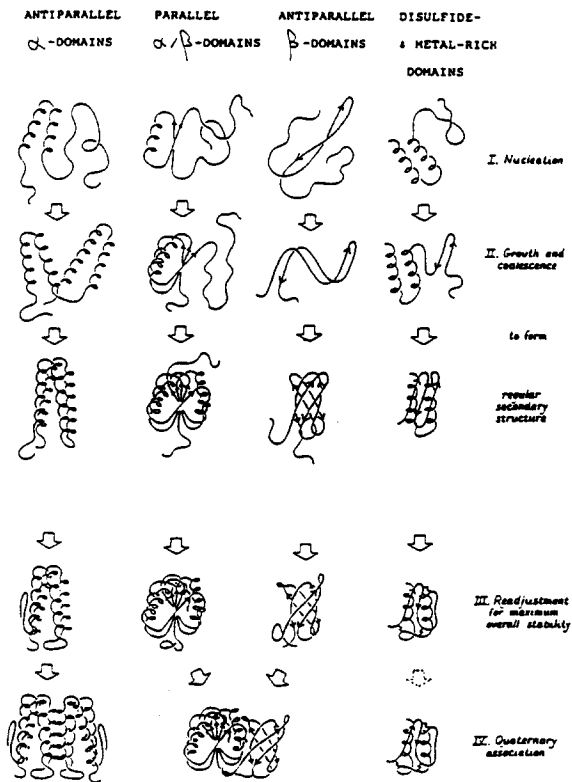
"Dominant Forces in Protein Folding" K.A. Dil, Biochemistry 29, 7133 (1990)

"Pieces of the Folding Puzzle" R.L. Baldwin, Nature 348, 405 (1990)

Model of the Folding Mechanism of Proteins



REFINED CONCEPT OF PROTEIN FOLDING



STABILITY OF PROTEINS

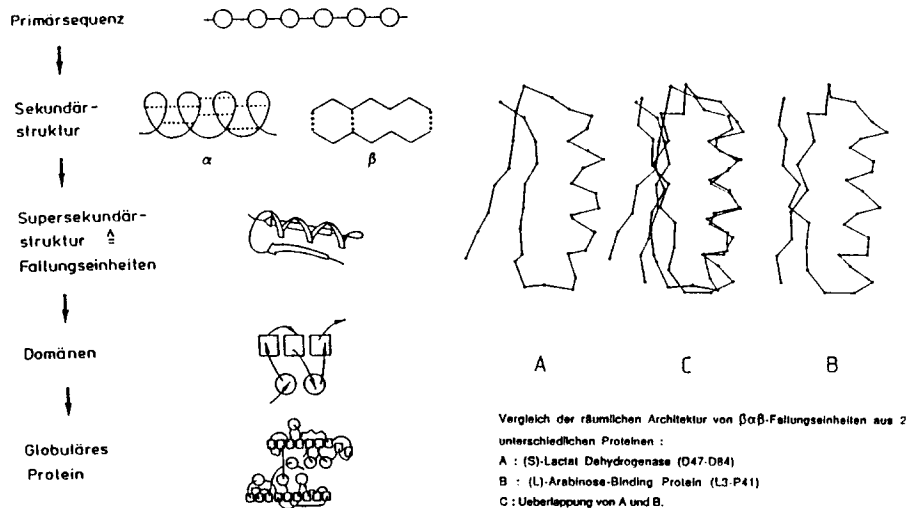
$$\Delta G_{F,U} = \Delta H - T\Delta S_{SOL} - T\Delta S_{CH}$$

Factor (n = 100)	$\Delta G_{F,U}$ (Kcal mol <sup>-1</sup> )
Conformational Entropy	+ 330 / + 1000
Unfavorable i.a. in F	+ 200
Hydrophobic i.a.	- 264
Van der Waals i.a.	- 227
H-Bonds, other	- 49 / - 719
Observed $\Delta G_{F,U}$	- 5 / - 10

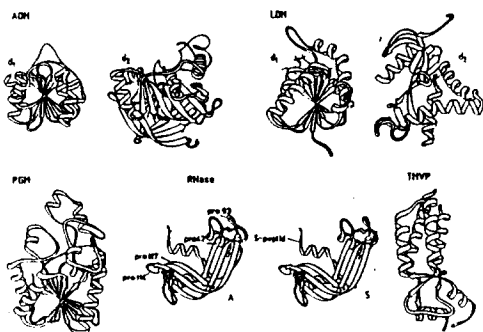
"To be astonished is the first step for a discovery".  
L. Pasteur

## 5. PROTEIN TOPOLOGY

### Hierarchie der Proteintopologie

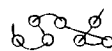


### TOPOLOGY OF PROTEINS



#### Structural Patterns in Globular PROTEINS (Levitt, 1976)

Class I: All  $\alpha$



MBN (MHN, MGN)

Class II: All  $\beta$



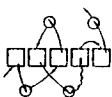
RUB (IGC, IGV, PBN, SDM, CON, CHT)

Class III:  $\alpha + \beta$



RNS (INS, CB5, PTI, LZM, SNS, LZ4, PAP, TLS)

Class IV:  $\alpha / \beta$



TRX (FLN, ADH, AKN, PGM, TIM, SUB, CPA, LDH, PGK, GPD, HKN)

"Wer immer nur nach dem Zweck der Dinge fragt, wird ihre Schönheit nie entdecken"

Halldor Laxness

## 6. PROTEIN ENGINEERING, DE NOVO DESIGN OF PROTEINS

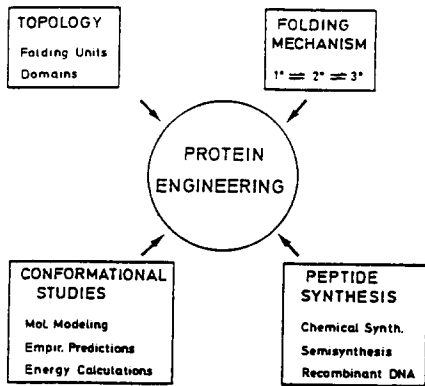
### THE PHILOSOPHY OF ARTIFICIAL PROTEIN DESIGN

- Synthesis of new and interesting macromolecules
- Introduction of function in tertiary structures
- Test of our knowledge of proteins
- Learn about folding, structure, function

"The de novo design of protein structures"

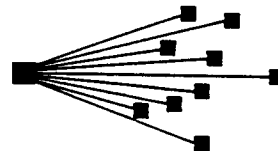
J.S. Richardson, D.C. Richardson TIBS 14, 304 (1989)





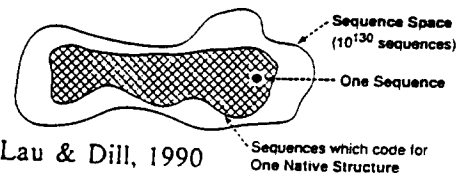
## FOLDING CODE AND PROTEIN DESIGN

Structure                      Sequence

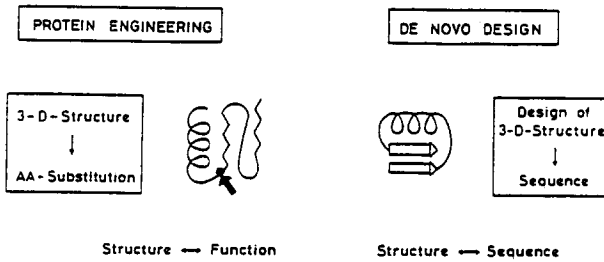


3D      ← Folding Code?      1D

3D      → De Novo Design      1D

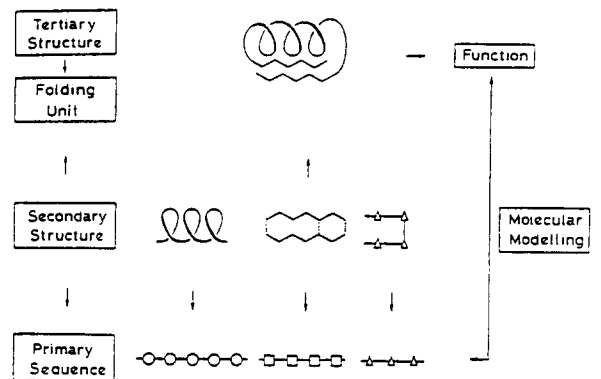


### NEW PROTEINS

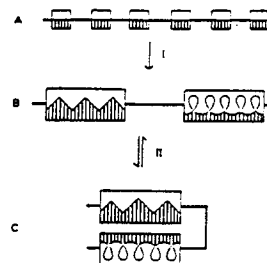


### RULES OF PROTEIN STRUCTURE

- Hydrophobic interior
- Hydrophilic residues on surface
- $\phi / \psi$  -angles in favourable area of map
- Conformational preferences, e.g. E, L, A, in  $\alpha$
- Interior closely packed



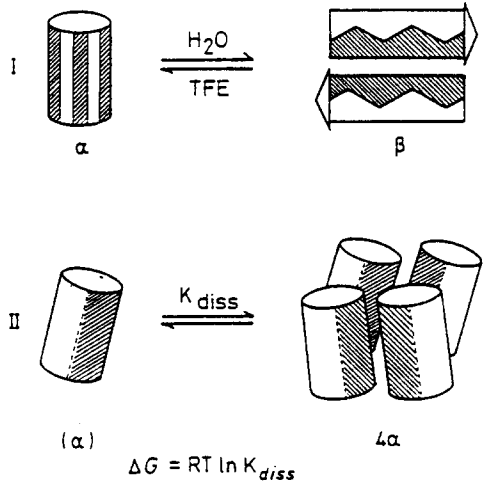
### THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW PROTEINS



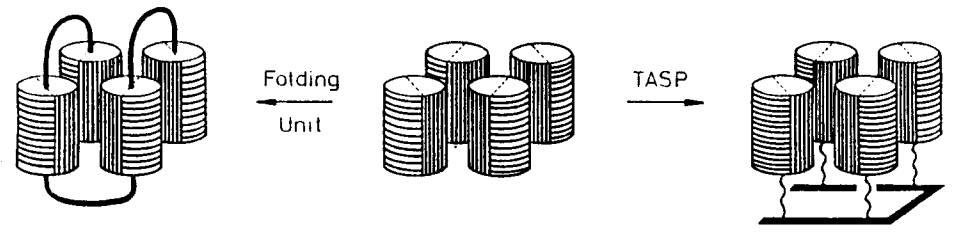
Faltungsschema künstlicher Faltungseinheiten (A = Polypeptidkette in der r.c.-Konformation): Im ersten (Nukleations-) Schritt (I) kommt es zur Ausbildung stabiler amphiphiler Sekundärstrukturen als Nukleationszentren (B). Die Haupttriebkraft zur intramolekularen Faltung (II) erwächst aus der Amphiphilie der Sekundärstrukturblöcke, die unter Erhöhung der Wasserentropie zur Ausbildung eines hydrophoben Kerns der künstlichen Supersekundärstruktur (C) führt.

How does a PEPTIDE become a PROTEIN ?

Amphiphilic Structure as Driving Force for Self-Assembly



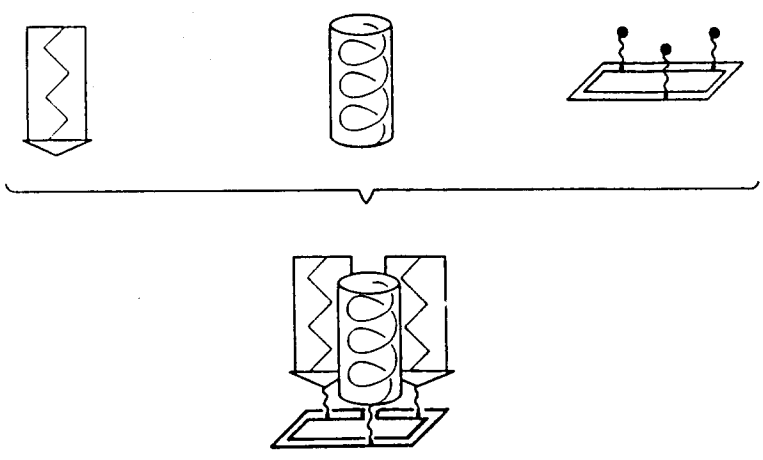
Strategies for the 'De Novo Design' of Proteins



What can PEPTIDES tell us about PROTEINS and vice-versa ?

Protein's Gordon Conference, 1988

TEMPLATE-ASSEMBLED SYNTHETIC PROTEINS (TASP)

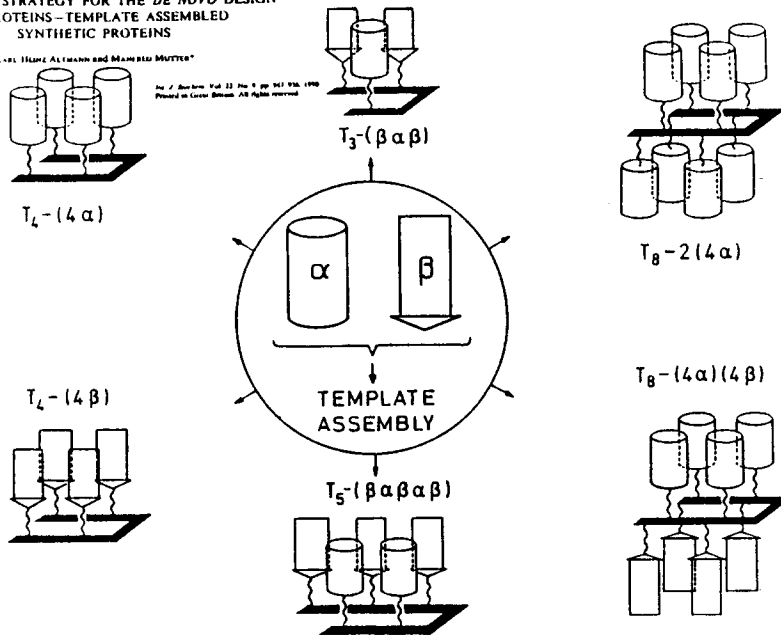


A Chemical Approach to Protein Design—  
Template-Assembled Synthetic Proteins (TASP)  
By Manfred Mutter\* and Stéphane Vollmeider

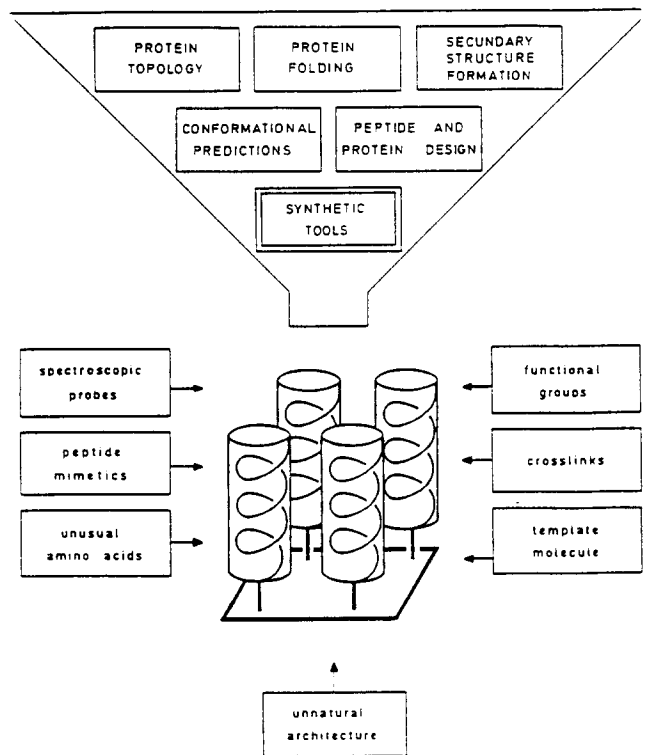
A GENERAL STRATEGY FOR THE *DE NOVO* DESIGN OF PROTEINS-TEMPLATE ASSEMBLED SYNTHETIC PROTEINS

K. von Hippel, Acta Chemica et Metrica Mutter\*

Int. J. Biochem. Vol. 22, No. 1, pp. 941-956, 1990  
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NATURE'S RULES AND CHEMIST'S TOOLS



EVIDENCE FOR FOLDED STRUCTURES

spectroscopical evidence

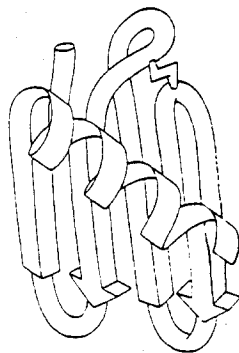
- Circular dichroism : overall conformation, conformational transitions
- Infrared : secondary structure
- NMR : NOE : distances  
2H-NMR : side chain mobilities
- Fluorescence : charge transfer (D-A) : -> distances
- X-ray : "solid-state" conformation

physicochemical evidence

- Gel permeation chromatography : Stokes radius, molecular weight, aggregation
- Light scattering : <r>, <s>
- Kerr effect: dipole orientation

biological evidence

- Binding (ligand, substrate)
- Catalytic activity



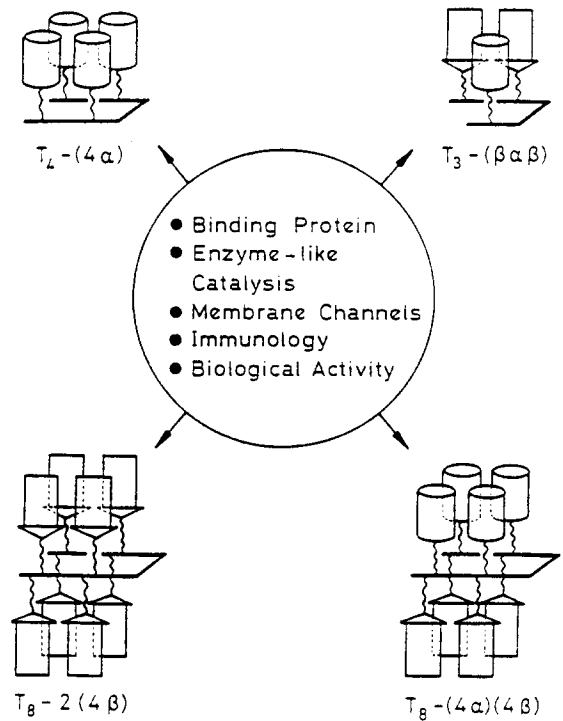
*Incredulase*

Just a cautionary reminder that not all apparently plausible protein structures will turn out to work.

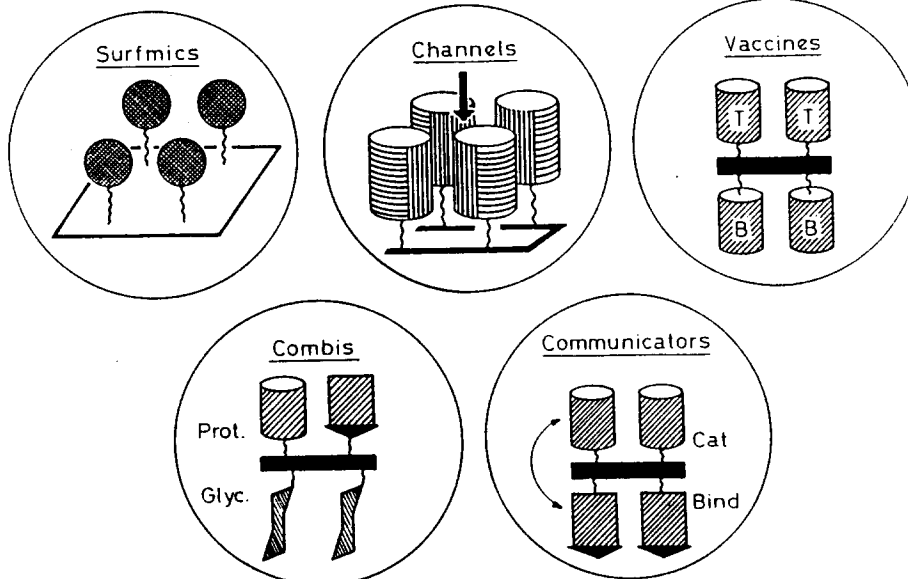
"As we learn an increasing amount about the redesign of secondary structural regions in molecules where tertiary structure is important, we are moving closer to the time ... that we can consider the construction of whole enzymatic systems with new structural features and catalytic functions".

E.T. Kaiser, Angew. Chem. 1988

From Structure to Function

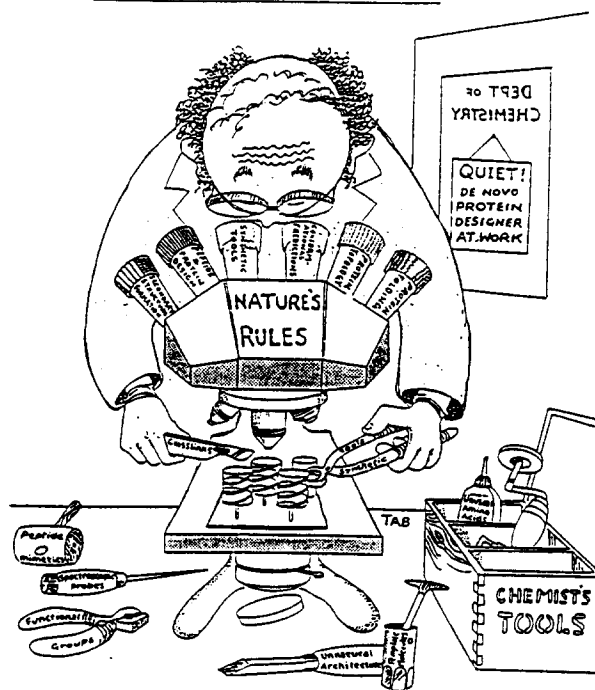


IASP-Variations



## Nature's rules and chemist's tools: a way for creating novel proteins

Manfred Mutter



### DESIGNED PEPTIDES AND PROTEINS

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D. Eisenberg et al. *Proteins* **1**, 16 (1986)

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