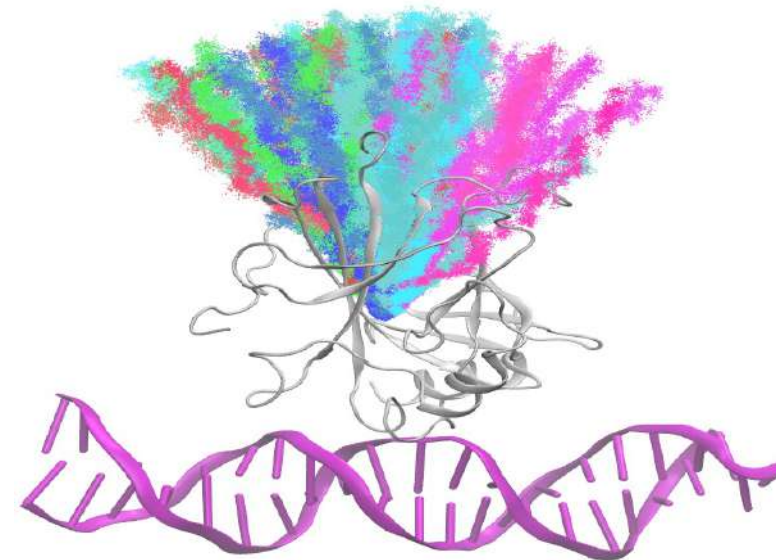
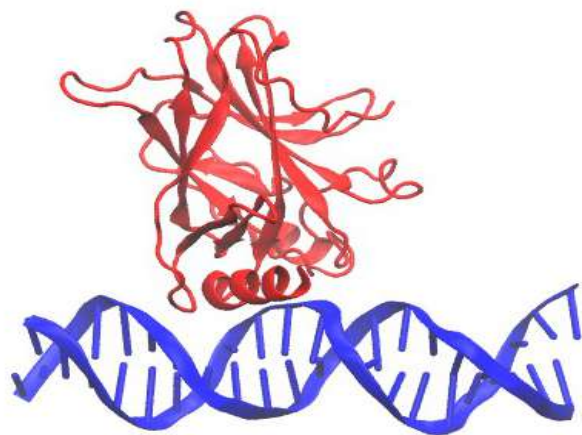




Tokyo Tech

# Investigating the dissociation process and binding free energy of the p53-DBD/DNA complex by PaCS-MD and MSM



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[marzouk.aa@m.titech.ac.jp](mailto:marzouk.aa@m.titech.ac.jp)

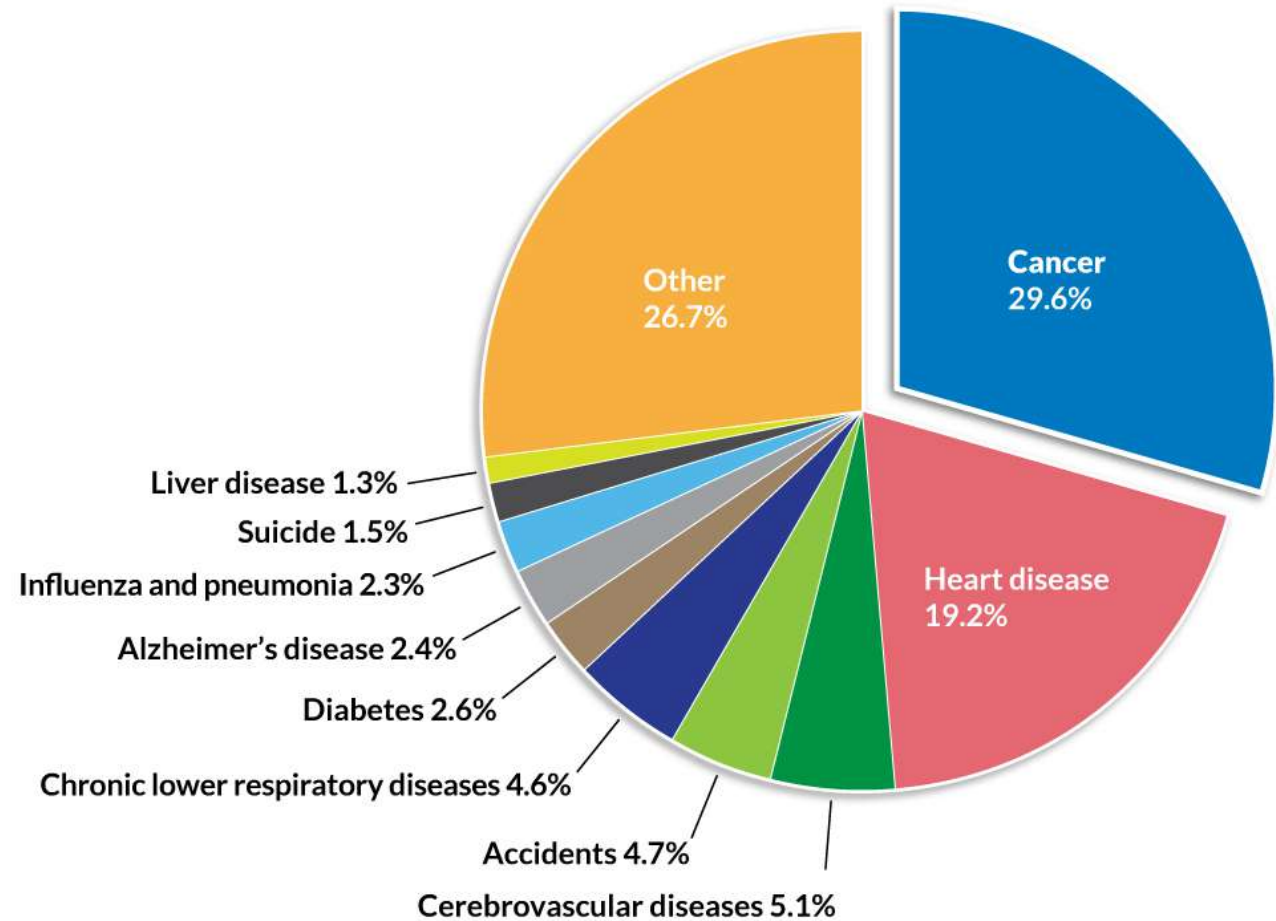
Third International Online Conference on Molecular Modeling and Spectroscopy.

15-16 September 2021



# Motivation

Proportion of Deaths Due to Cancer and Other Causes,  
Canada, 2016



© Canadian Cancer Society



<https://www.cancer.ca/en/>

# Outlines

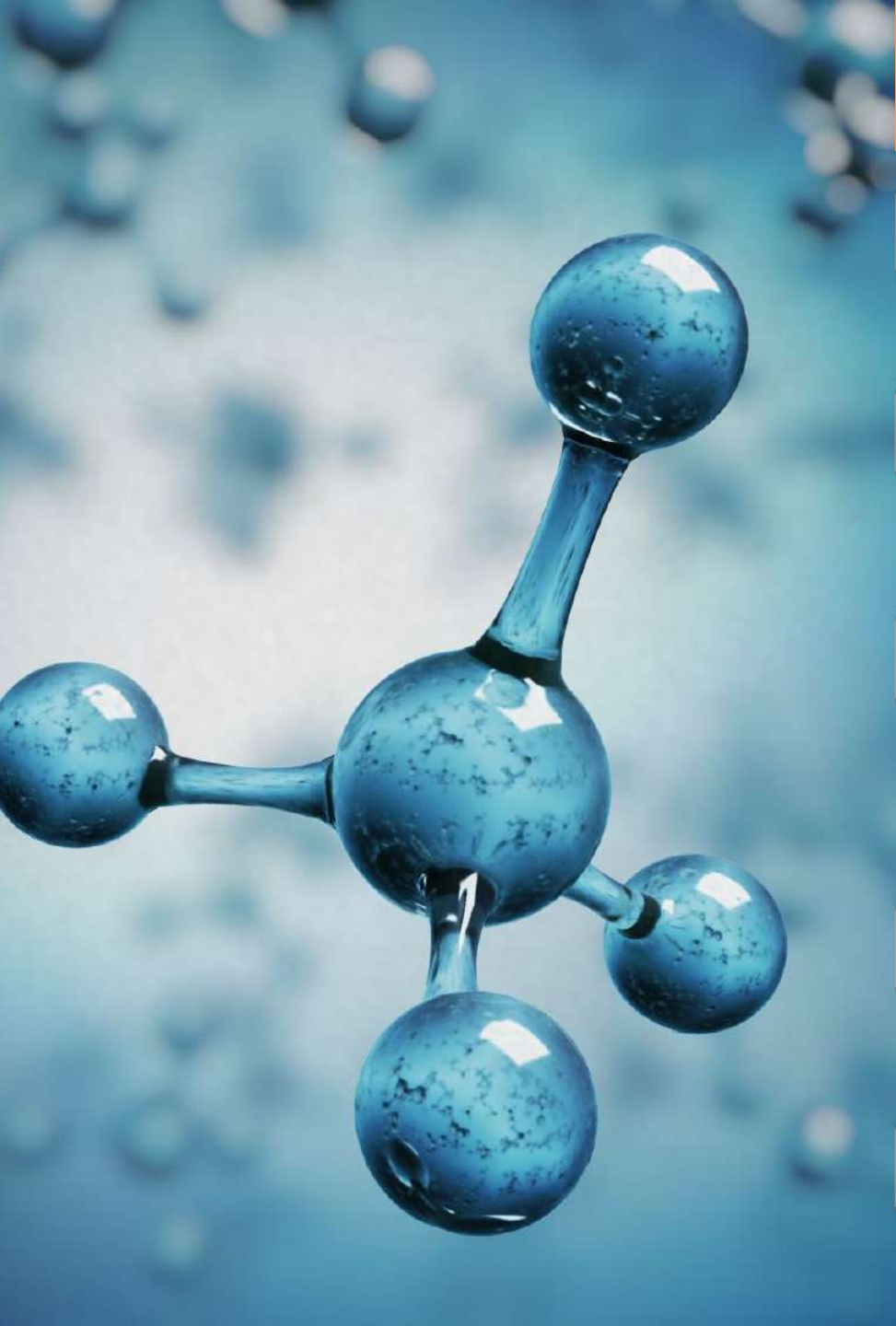
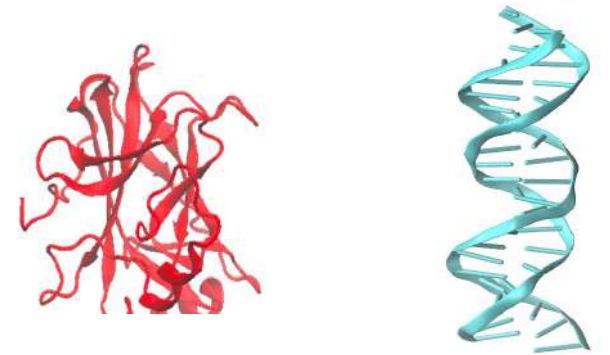
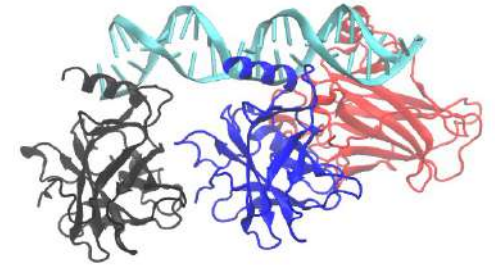
Introduction

Stability of p53/DNA complex

Dissociation simulation

Free energy analysis

Conclusion





# Outlines

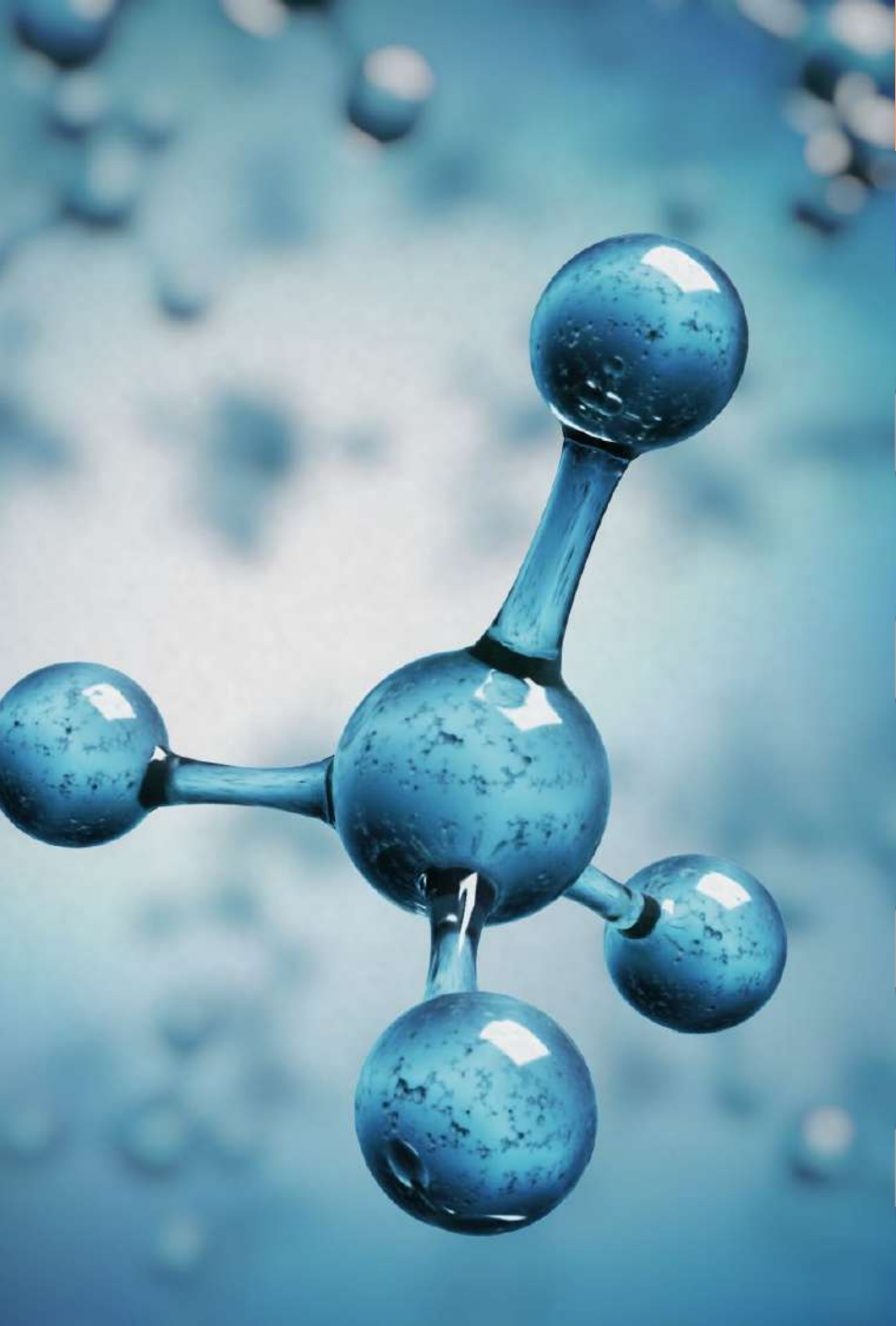
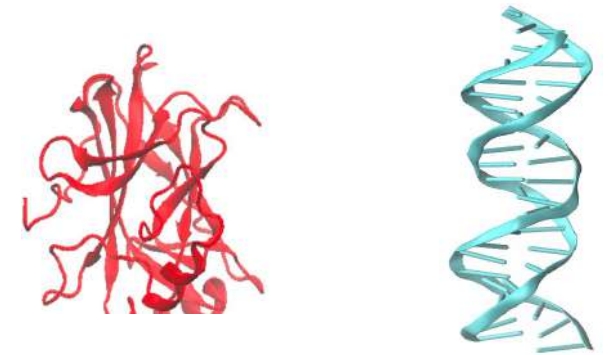
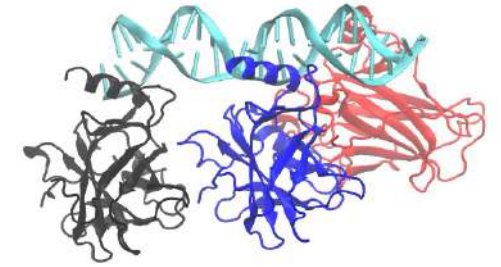
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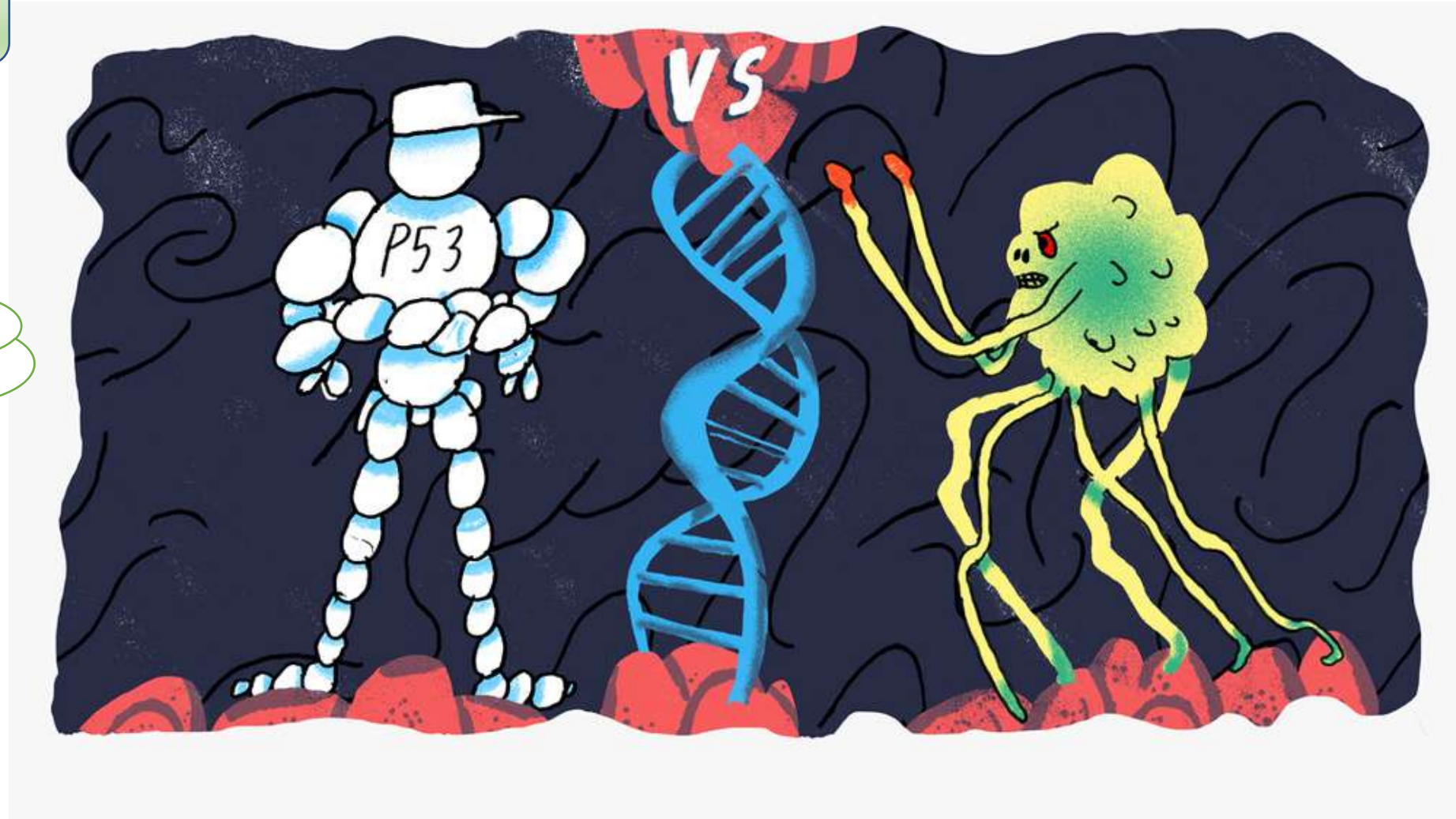
Free energy analysis

Conclusion



## P53 main roles

The guardian of the genome



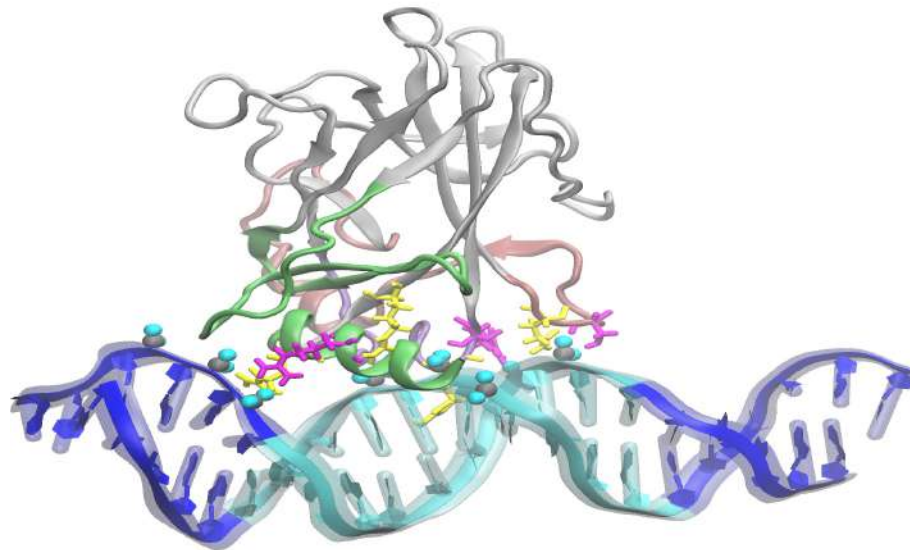
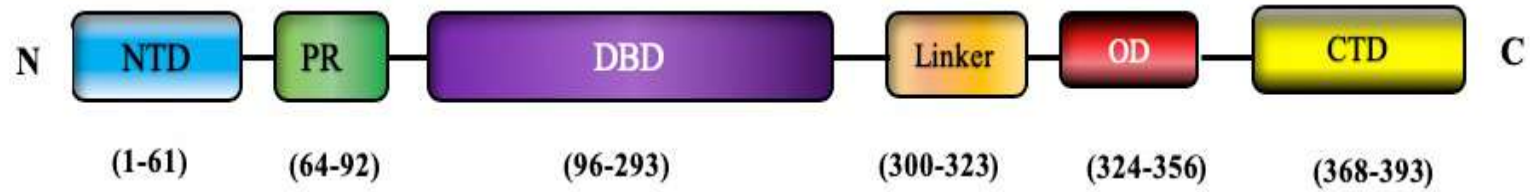
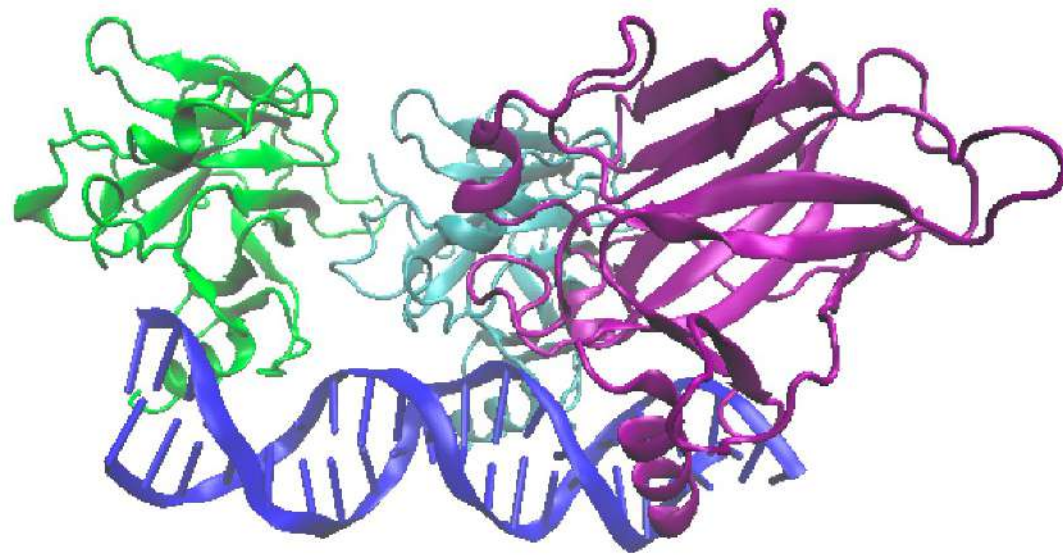
**“If you define the problem correctly, you almost have the solution.”**

Steve Jobs

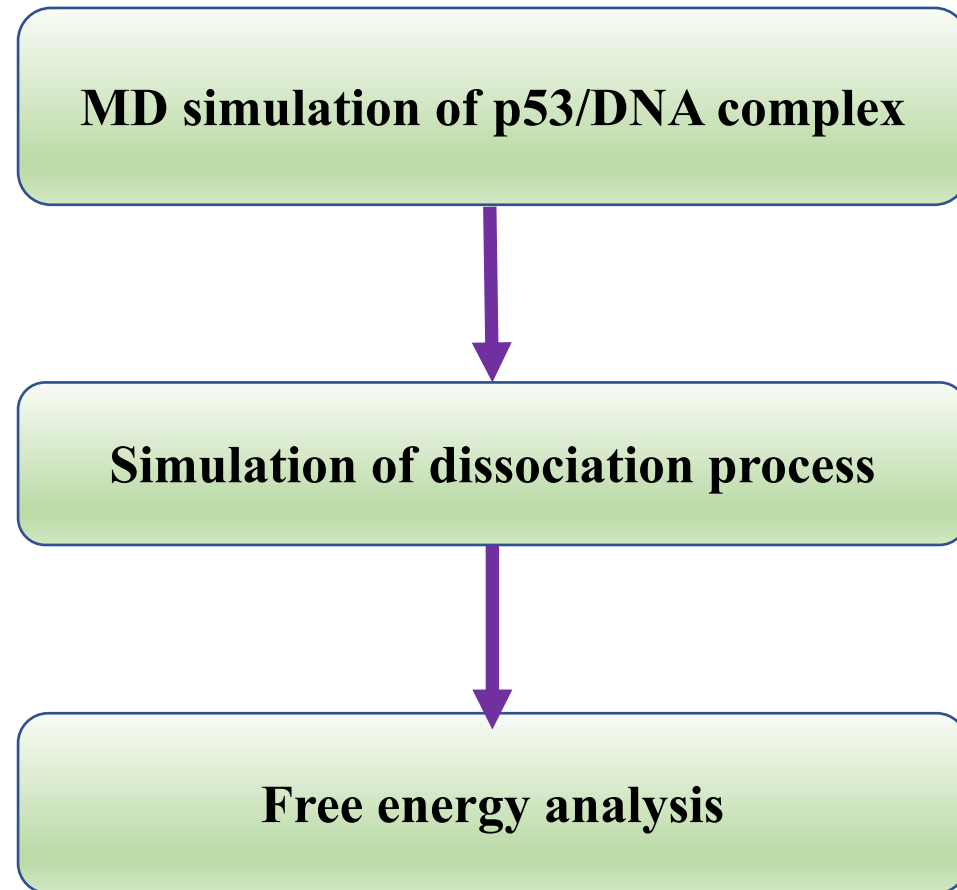




# P53 structure



# Overview of research steps



**Examining the stability of the complex structure**

**Observing dissociation process at atomic resolution**

**Understanding the dissociation mechanism**



# Outlines

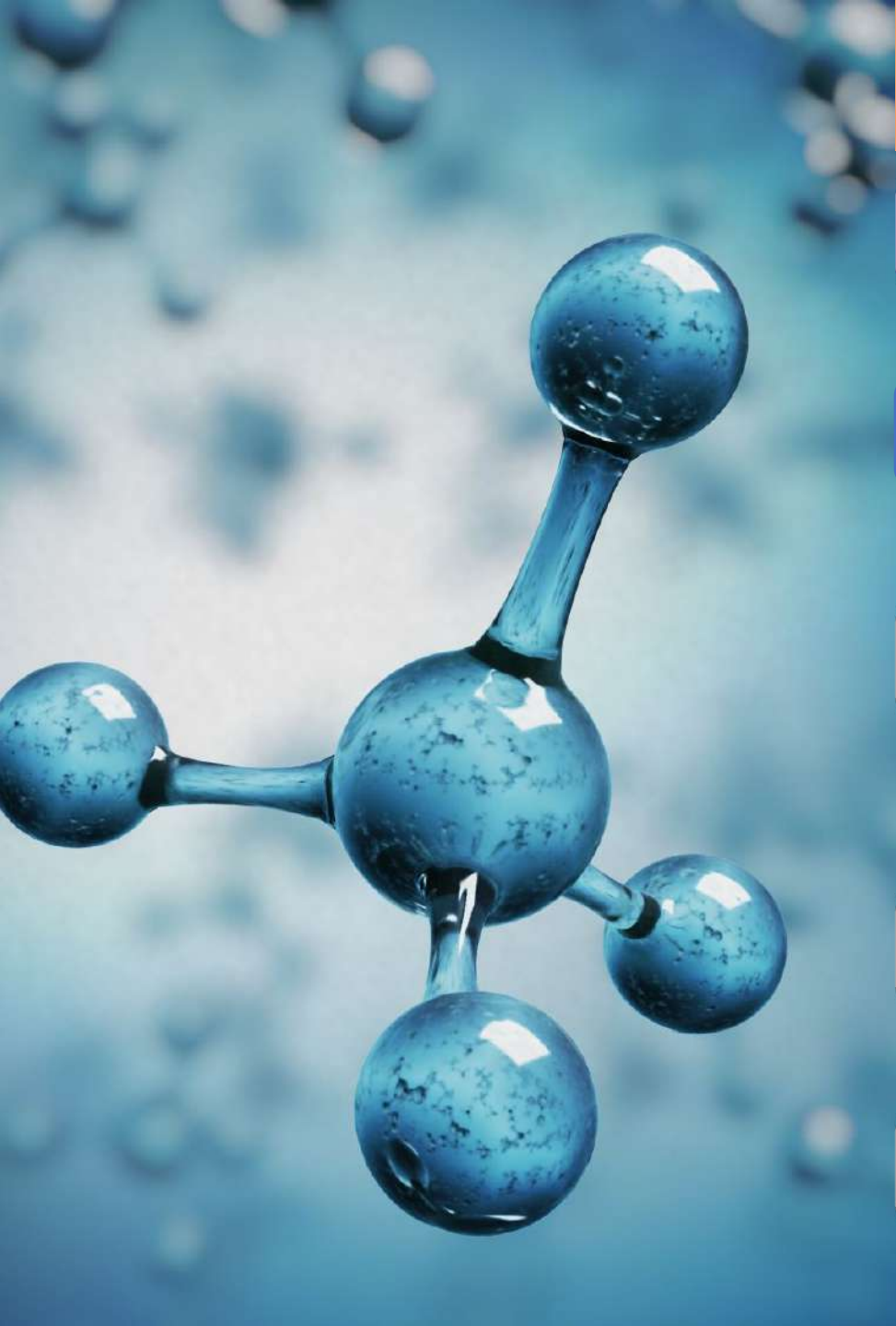
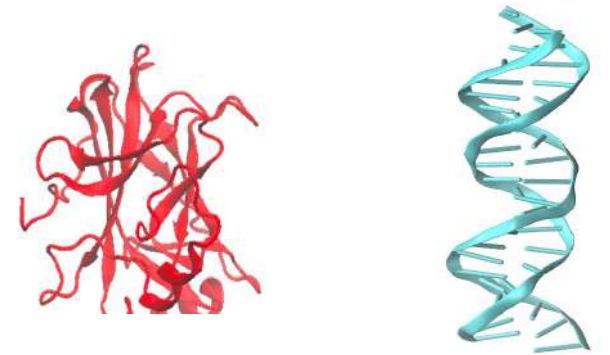
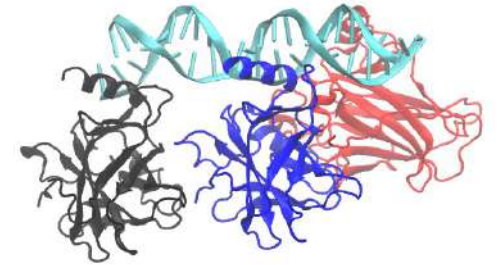
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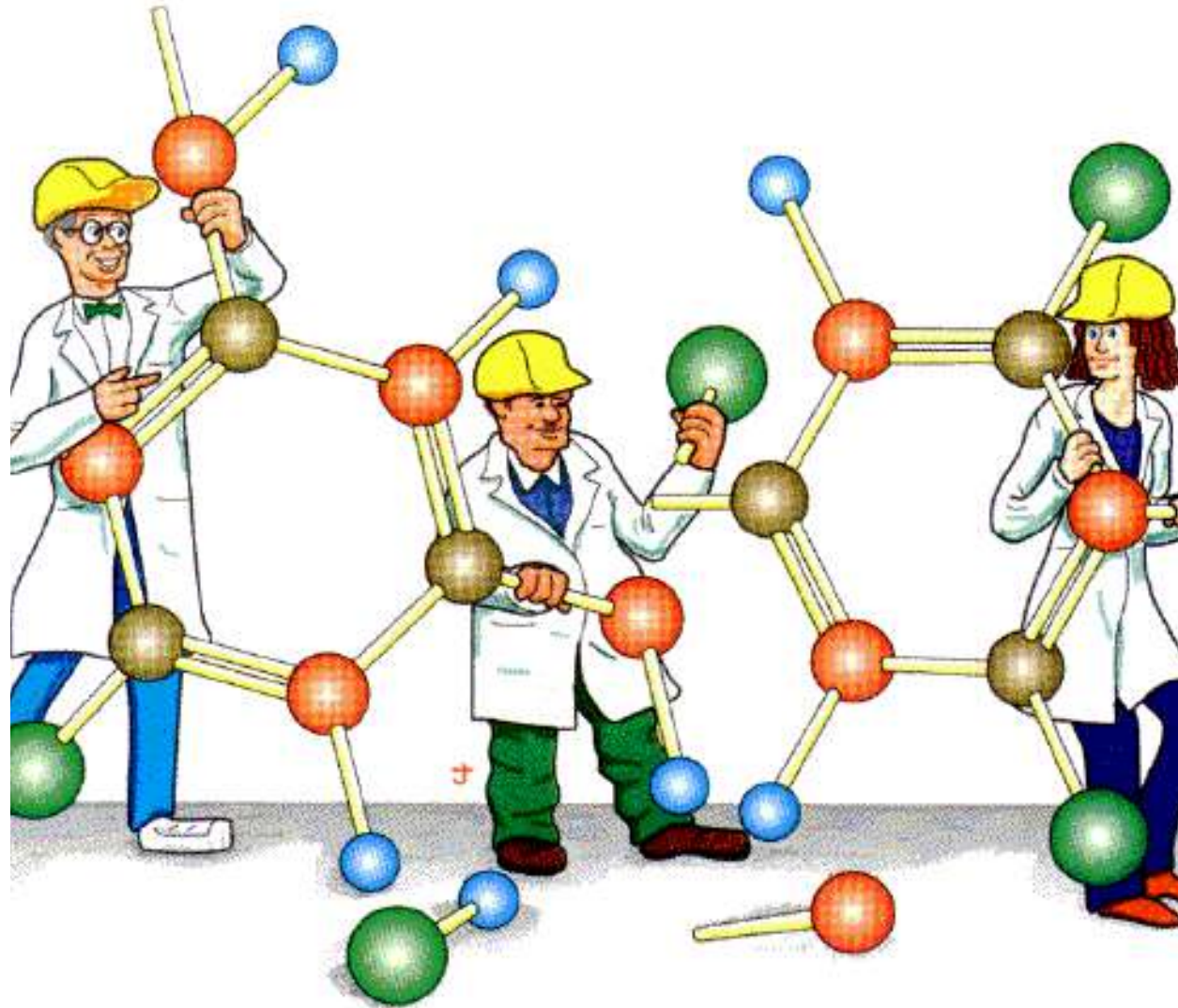
Free energy analysis

Conclusion





# What is Molecular Dynamics (MD) Simulation?



# MD Simulation

- The force is given by the negative gradient of the potential energy.

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

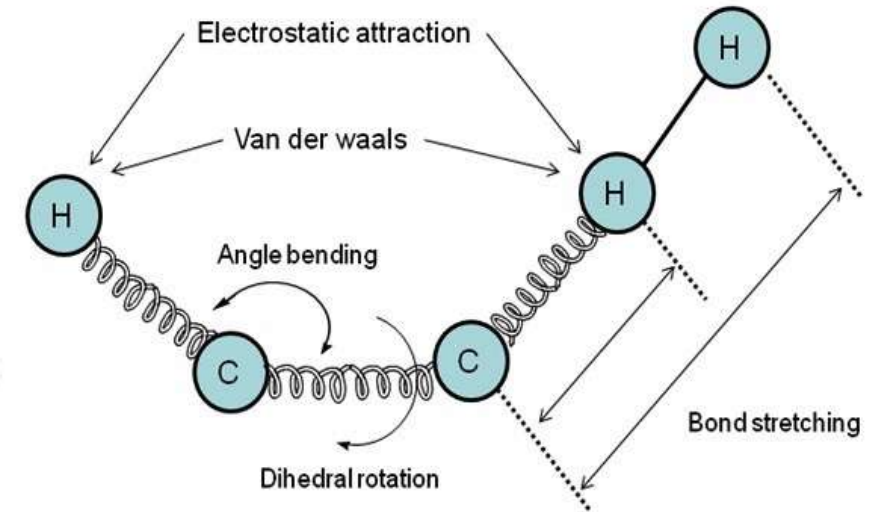
- Knowing the force allows us to accelerate the atoms in the direction of the force.

$$\vec{\mathbf{F}} = m\vec{\mathbf{a}} = m \frac{d\vec{\mathbf{v}}}{dt}$$

- Interactions between atoms (energy) are described by

## Force Fields

$$V_{\text{AMBER}} = \sum_{\text{bonds}} k(r - r_{eq})^2 + \sum_{\text{angles}} k(\theta - \theta_{eq})^2 + \sum_{\text{dihedrals}} \frac{V_n}{2} [1 + \cos(n\phi - \gamma)] / \\ + \sum_{i < j} \left[ \frac{A_{ij}}{R_{ij}^{12}} - \frac{B_{ij}}{R_{ij}^6} \right] + \sum_{i < j} \left[ \frac{q_i q_j}{\epsilon R_{ij}} \right]$$



- However**, MD simulations are limited by the fastest degree of freedom (bond vibration)  $\approx 10$  fs.
- Typically, timestep during simulation  $\approx 1-4$  fs.



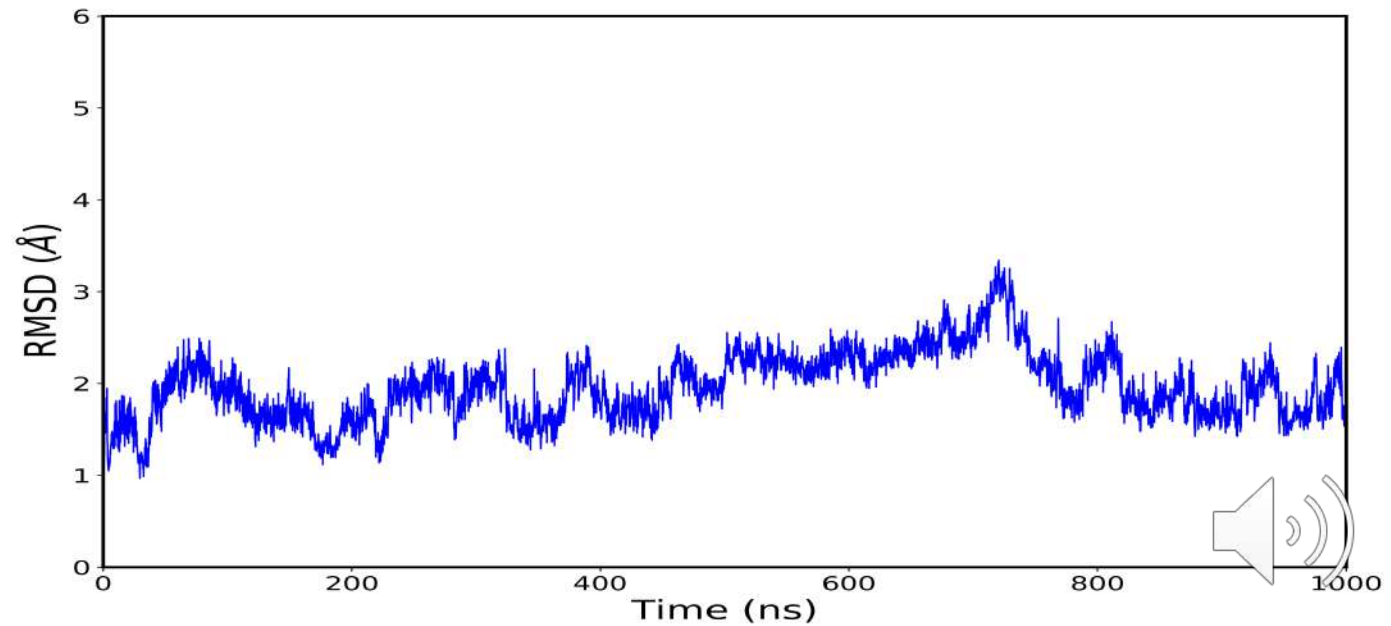
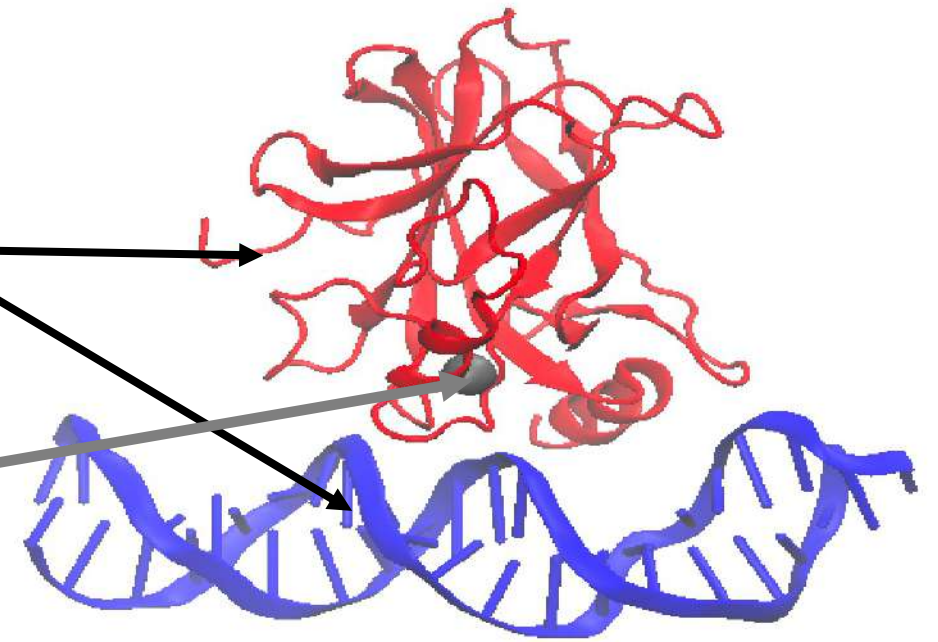
# p53/DNA complex simulation

## Simulation setup

- PDB ID: 1TSR
- Force field: AMBER ff14SB
- Zinc AMBER Force Field (ZAFF).
- Water model: TIP3P
- Ion: KCl 144 mM
- Temperature: 300 K
- Pressure: 1 bar
- No. of residues: 242 residues
- No. of protein residues: 200
- No. of DNA bp : 21
- No. of atoms the whole system : 107665 atoms
- Simulation time: 1  $\mu$ s

AMBER ff14SB

ZAFF





# Outlines

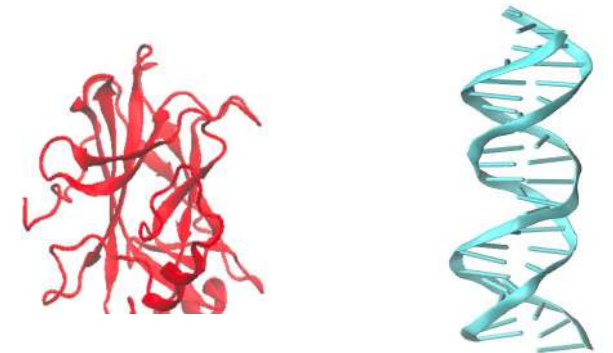
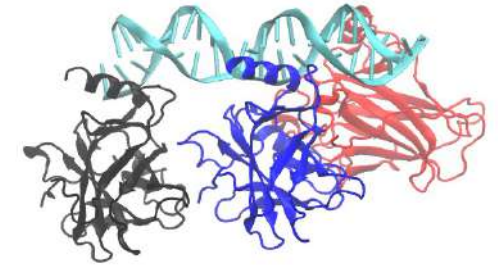
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Dissociation simulation

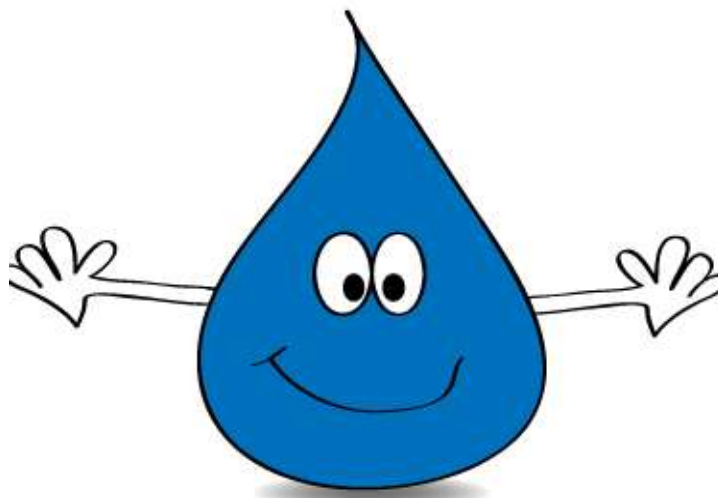
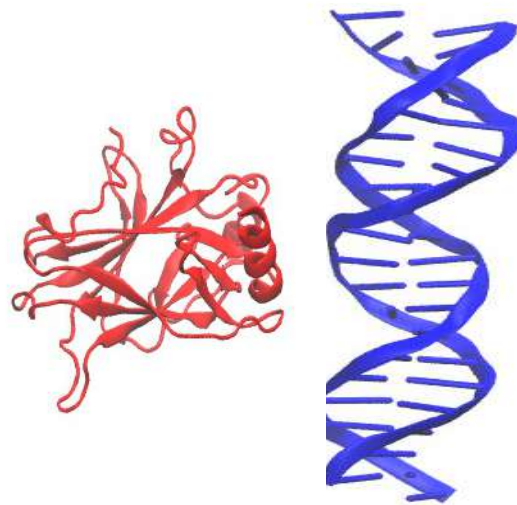
Free energy analysis

Conclusion



# Dissociation simulation

The Idea



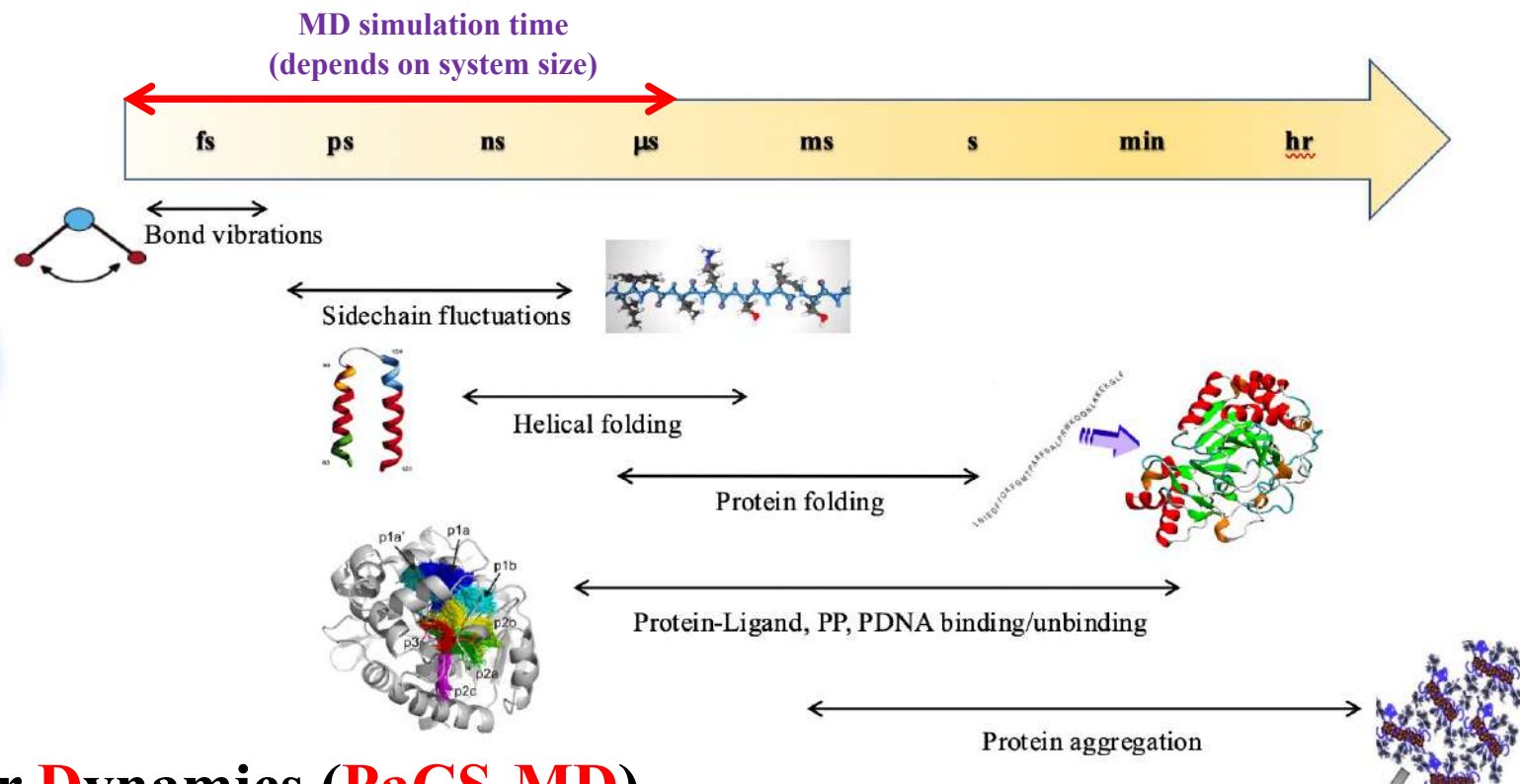
Can we do this using classical MD?



# Dissociation simulation

## Protein dynamics timescale

Enhanced sampling  
technique



## Parallel Cascade Selection Molecular Dynamics (PaCS-MD)

Harada, Kitao. J. Chem. Phys. **139**, 035103 (2013).

### Example :

For large systems (221413 atoms): for simulation step 2 fs ,  
to reach 1 second in simulation  $\approx$  100 years



TSUBAME supercomputer with 1 GPU NVIDIA P100



# Applications of PaCS-MD

## Our group successfully dissociated

- Protein/ligand by Duy-san
- Protein/protein by Hata, Miyazawa & Ogawa-san
- Protein/DNA ... currently



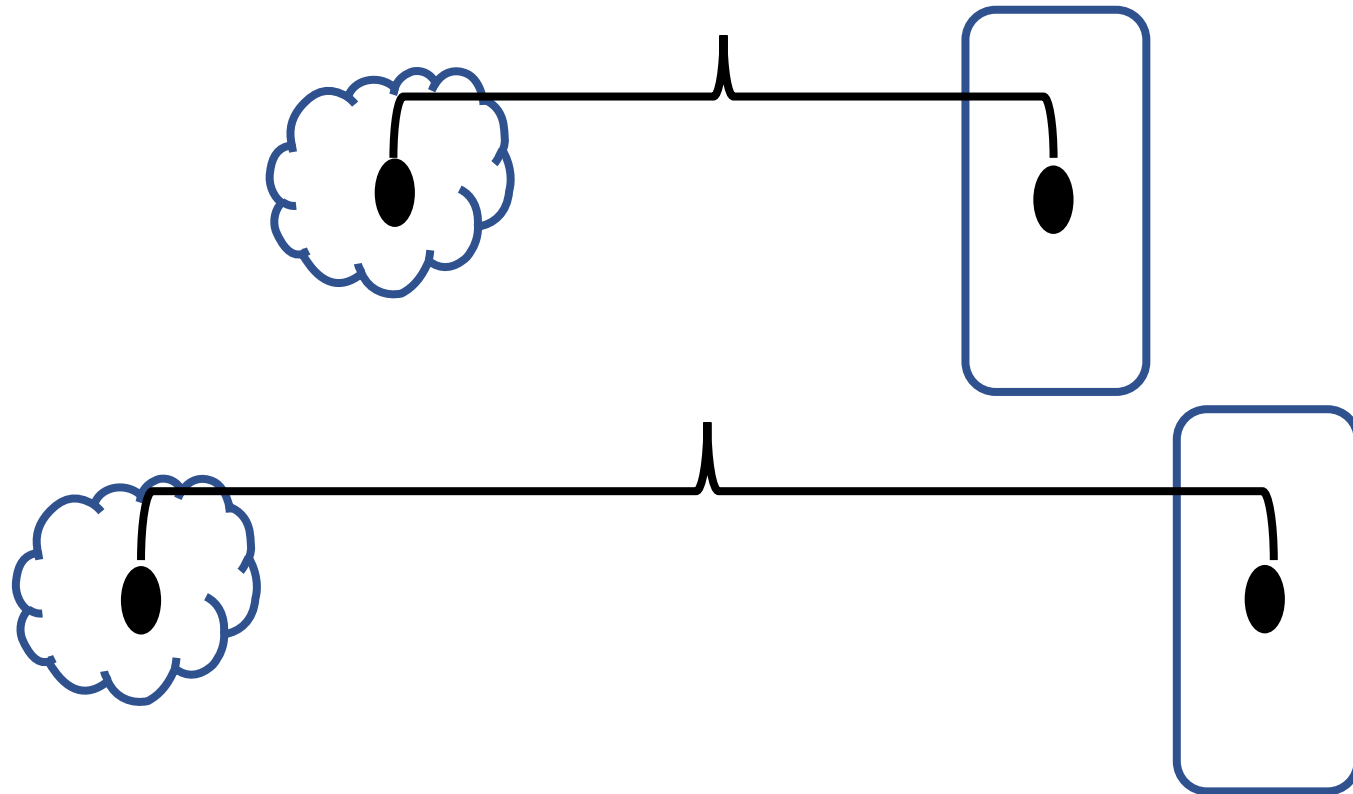
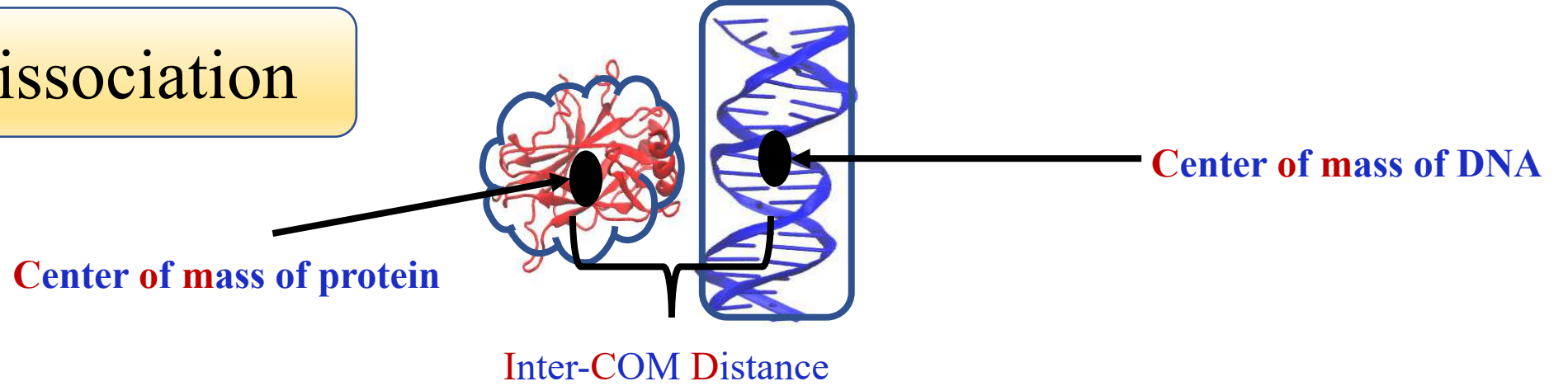
Tran & Kitao, *A. J. Phys. Chem. B* **123**, 2469–2478 (2019).

**“Binding Free Energy of Protein/Ligand Complexes Calculated using Dissociation Parallel Cascade Selection Molecular Dynamics and Markov State Model”**

Hiroaki Hata, Duy Phuoc Tran, [Mohamed Marzouk](#), Akio Kitao, Chem Archive.



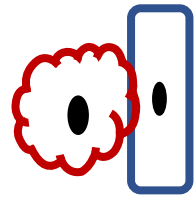
# The Idea of Dissociation



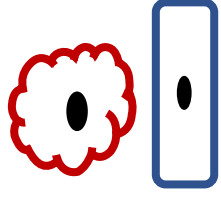
# PaCS-MD

## Parallel Cascade Selection Molecular Dynamics

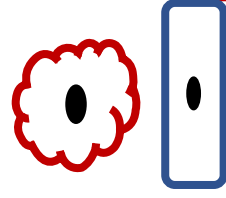
Preliminary MD simulation (0.1 ns)



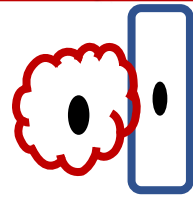
Snapshot 1



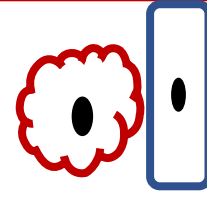
Snapshot 2



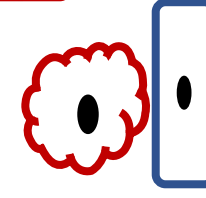
Snapshot 3



Snapshot 4

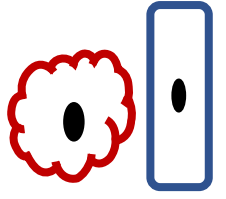


Snapshot 5



Snapshot 6

...



Snapshot 100

Structural ranking

Top 10 snapshots with higher inter-COM distance chosen for the first cycle.

Rank No.1

Rank No.2

Rank No.3

...

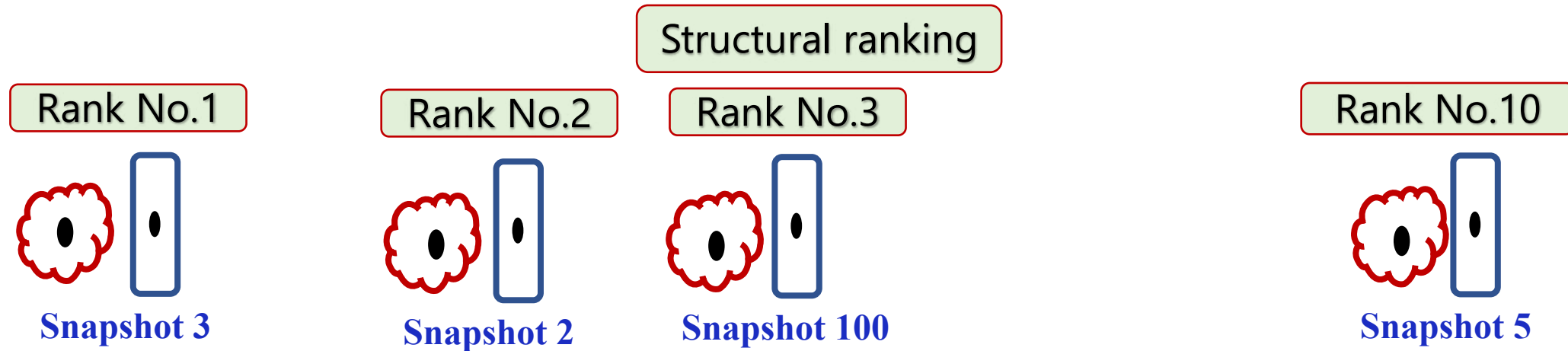
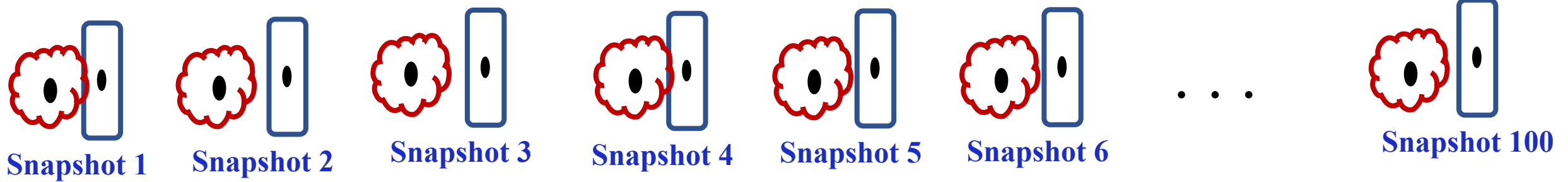
Rank No.10

10 parallel MD simulation ( 0.1 ns )

Structural ranking





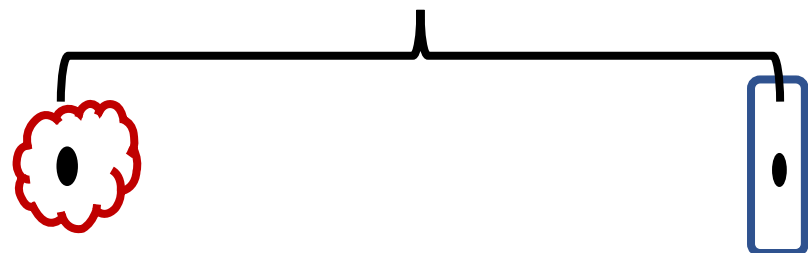


10 parallel MD simulation ( 0.1 ns )

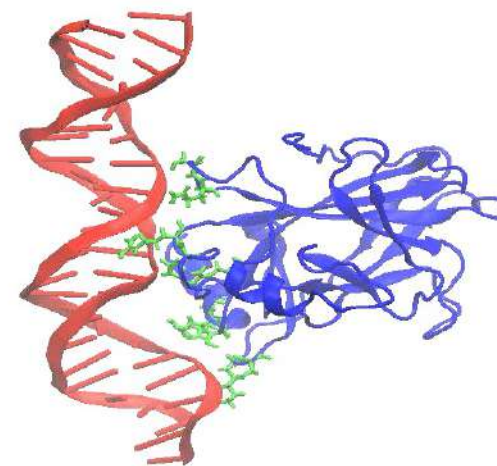
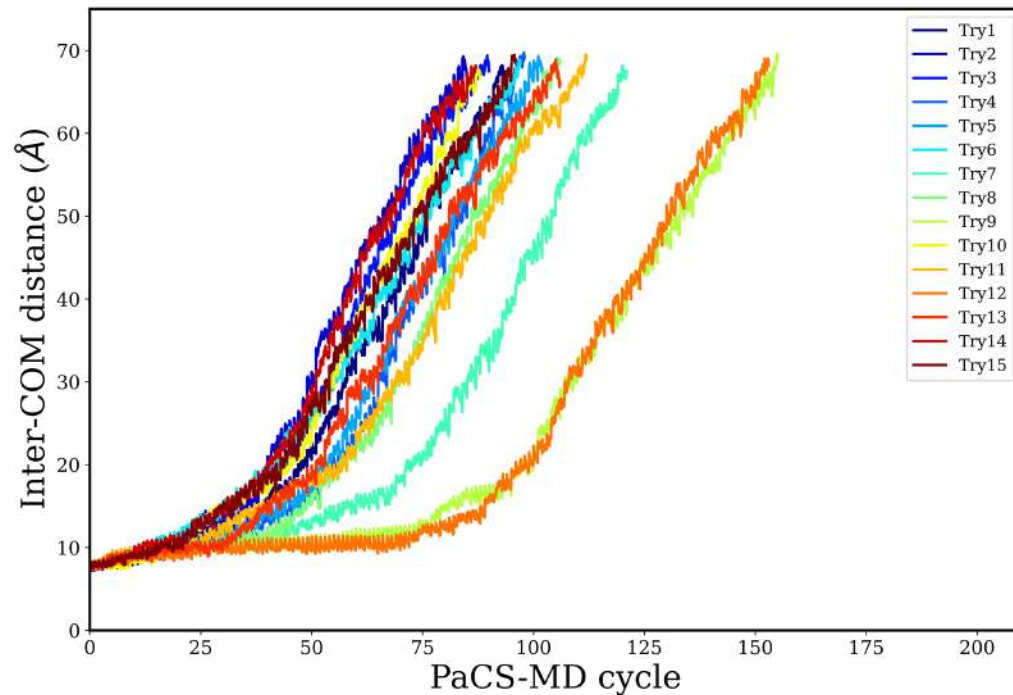
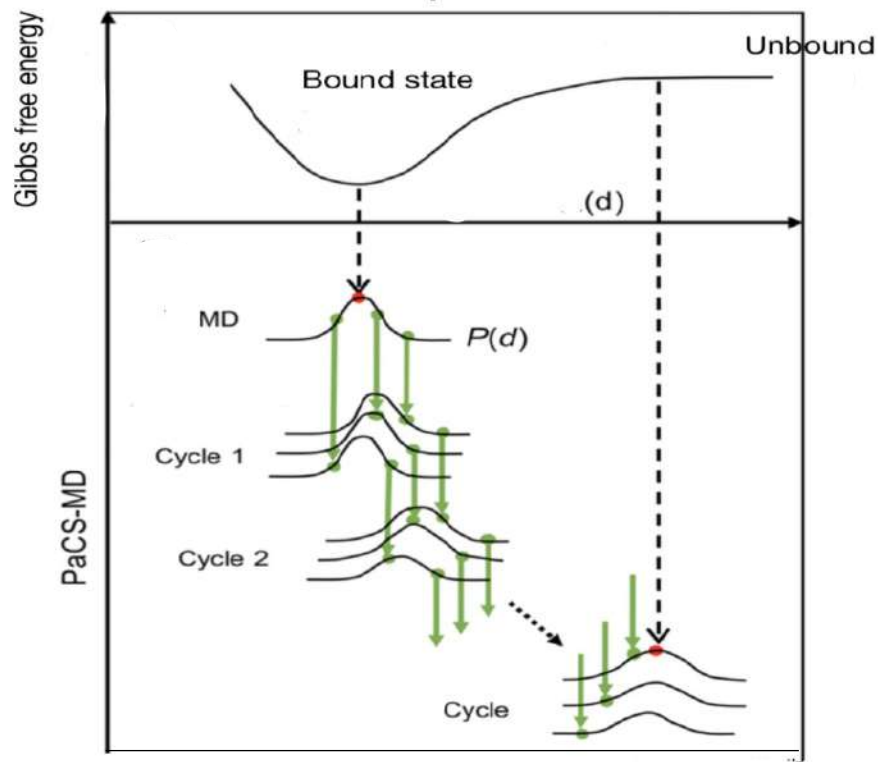
Structural ranking

⋮

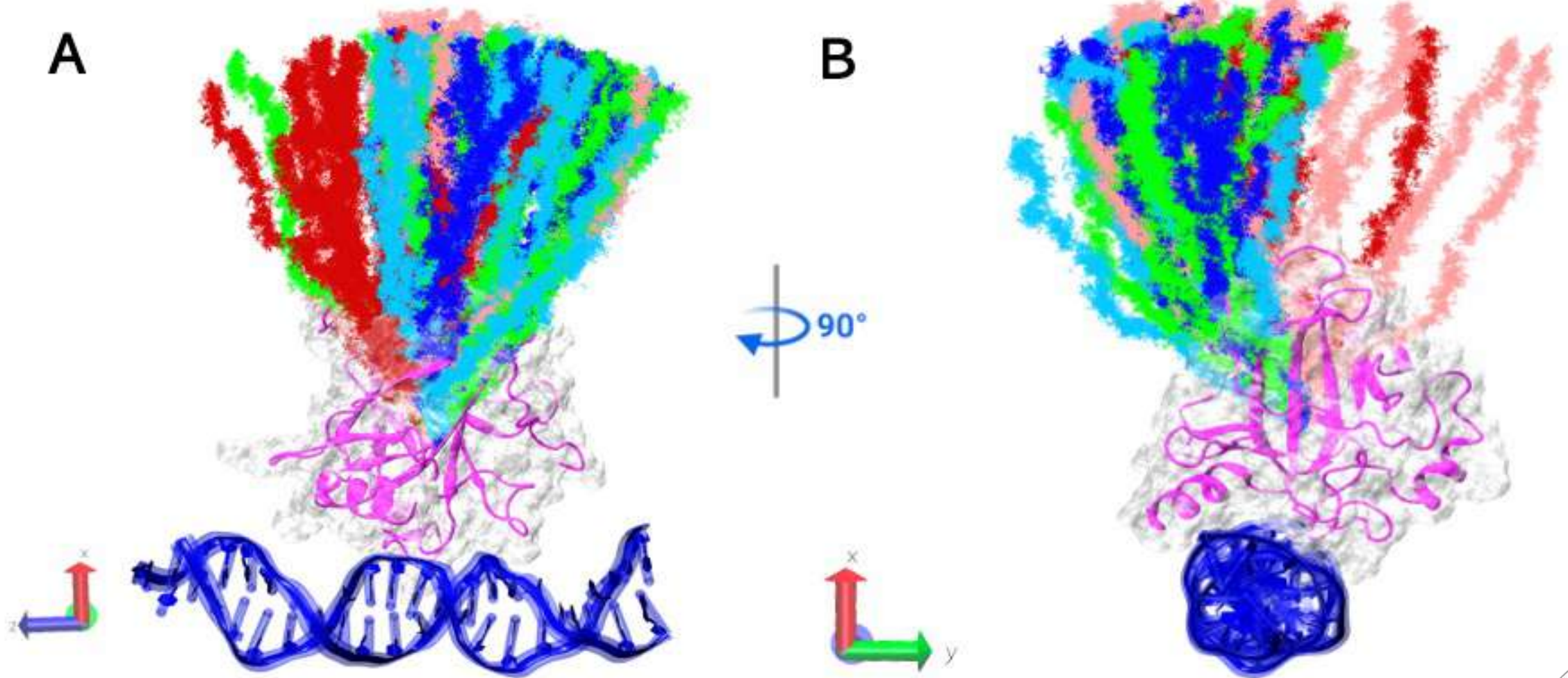
Inter-COM = 70 Å



# p53/DNA complex dissociation by PaCS-MD



# Dissociation pathways





# Outlines

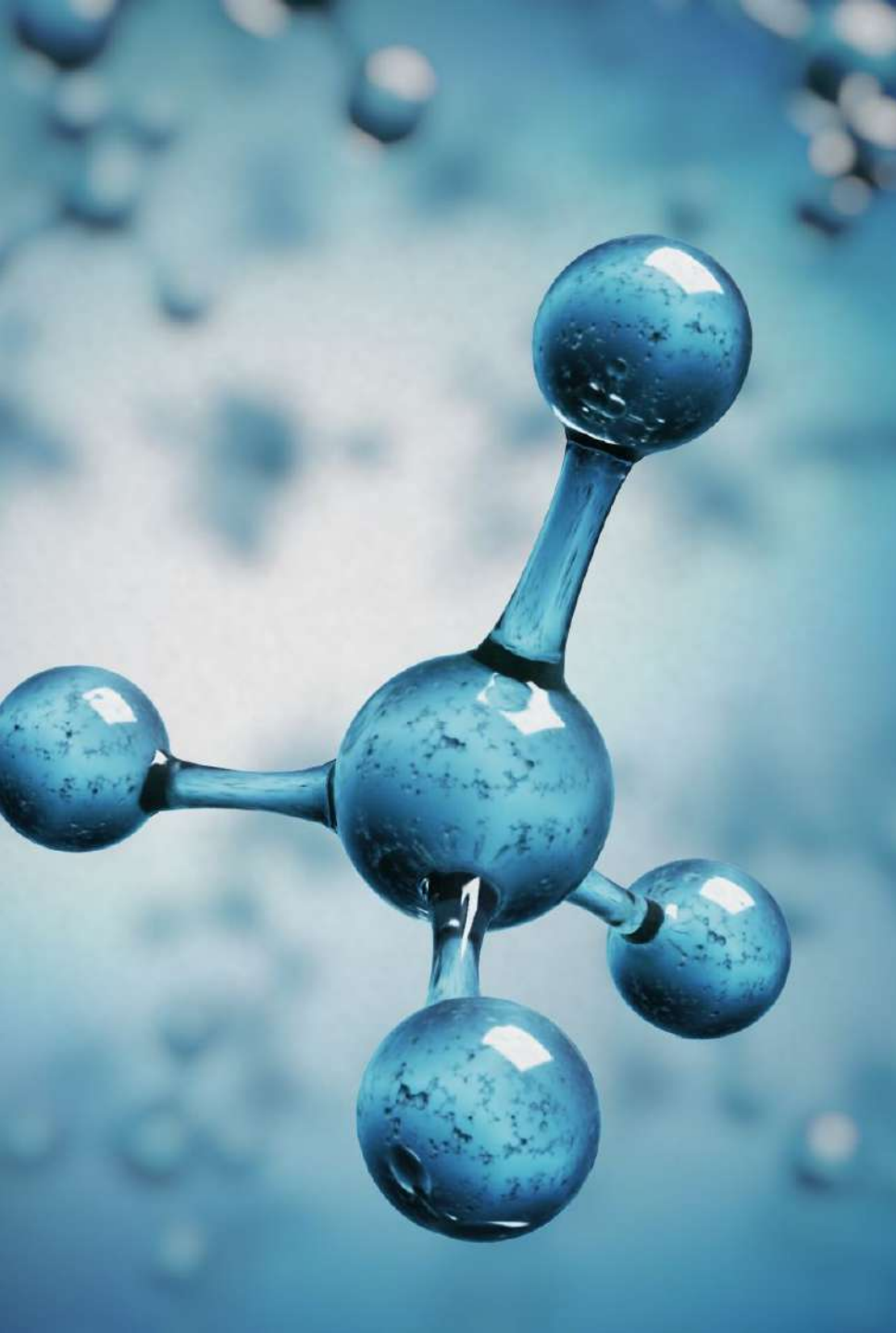
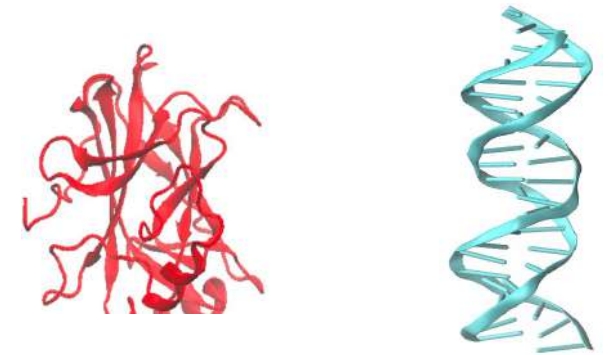
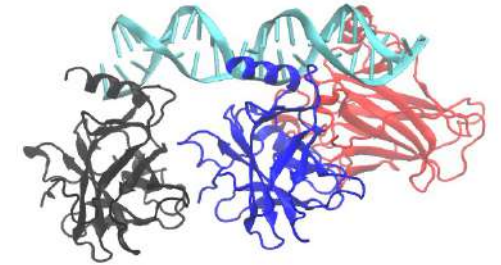
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# Free energy analysis

Markov State Model(MSM)

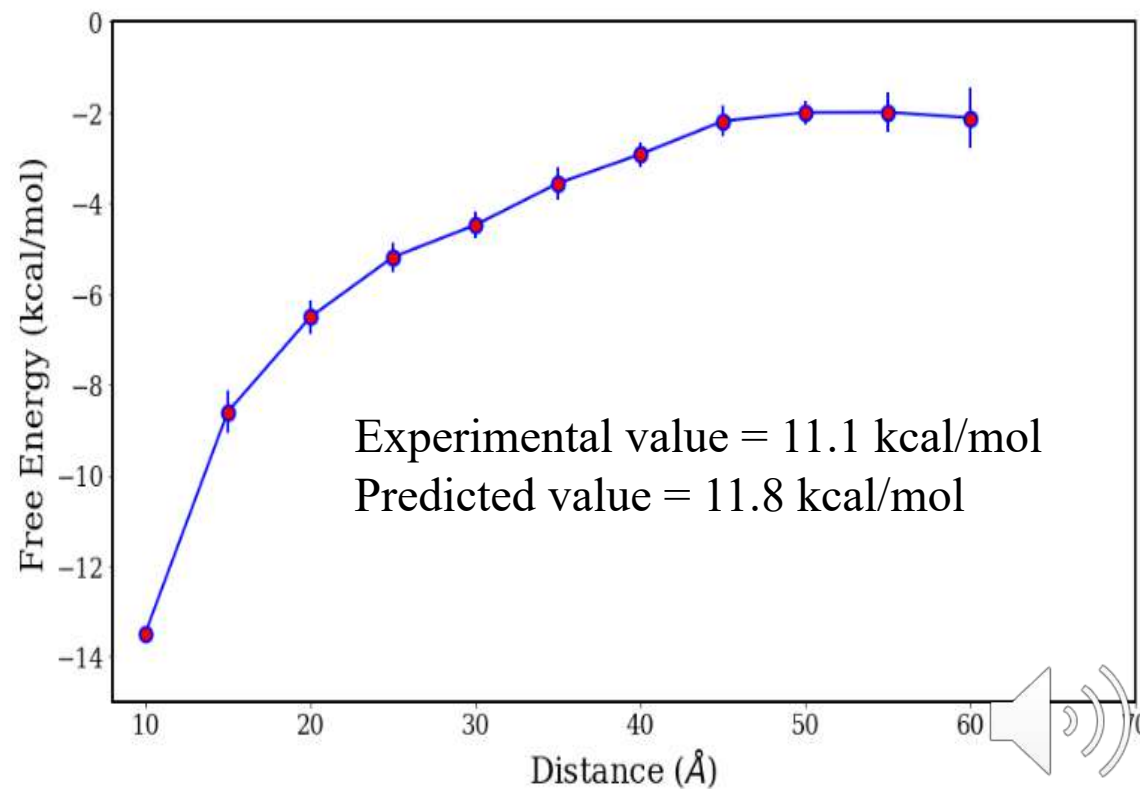
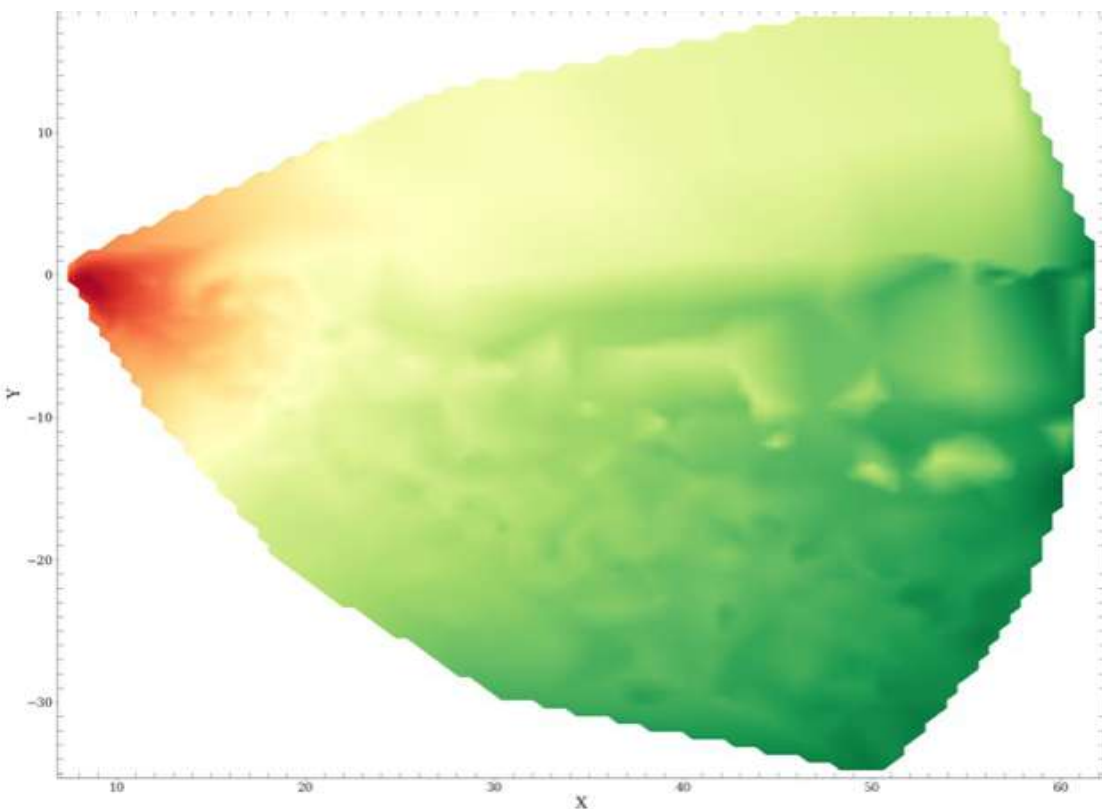


2.5.7



3.8

$$\Delta G_{bind} = -k_B T \ln \frac{P_b}{P_u}$$



# Outlines

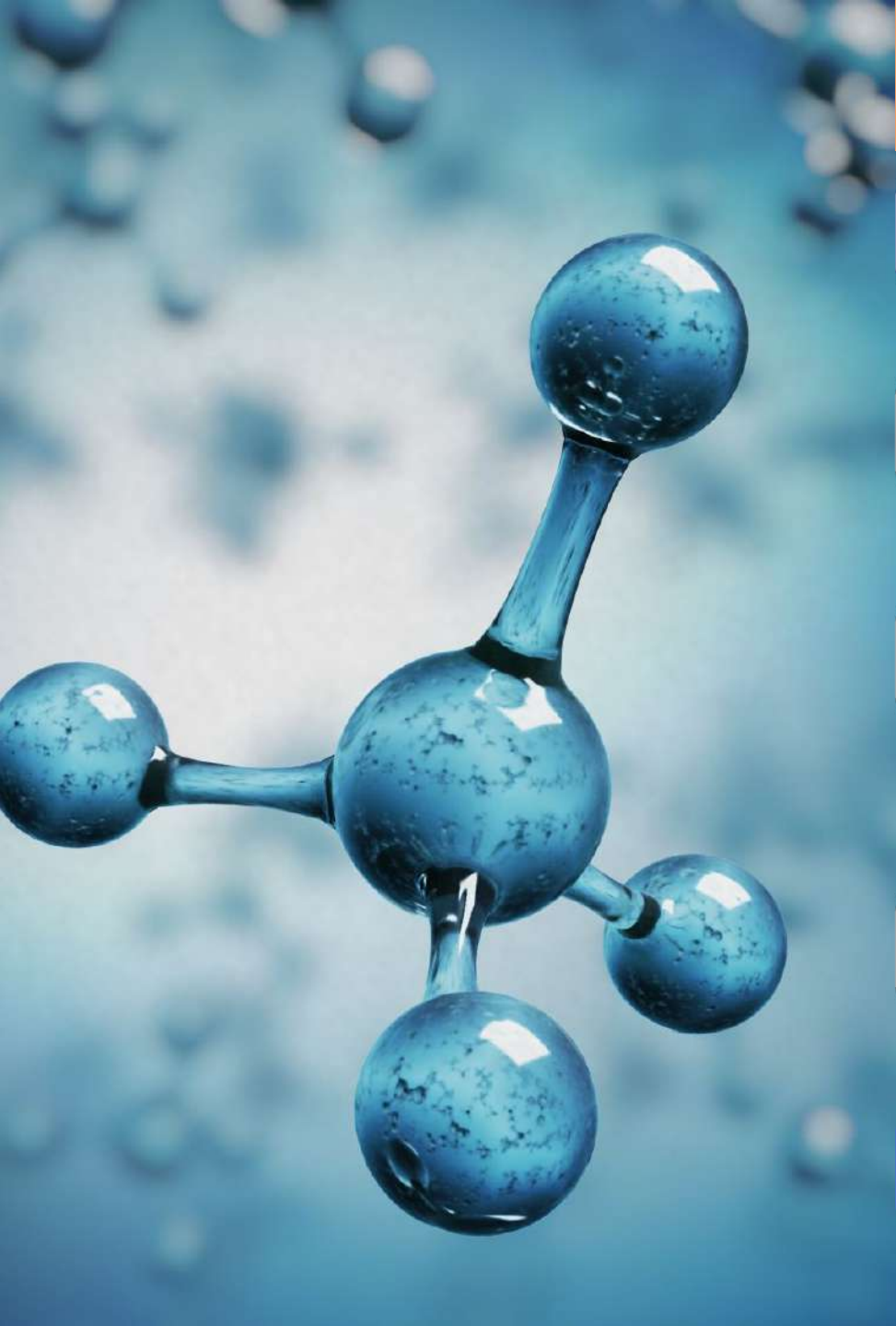
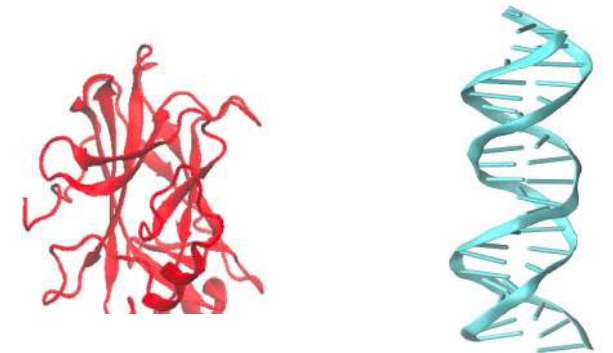
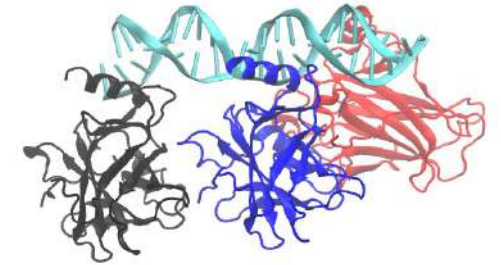
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## Conclusion

The combination of PaCS-MD/MSM was shown to be useful in the investigation of dissociation pathways of a large protein/DNA complex and can assist to obtain the free energy landscape and profile as well.

## Plan

Study the effect of mutations of one of key residues during dissociation on the binding free energy.

Using PaCS-MD/MSM to do association/dissociation simulation for p53 and DNA.



*Thank  
you*

