### Introduction to Protein Structure

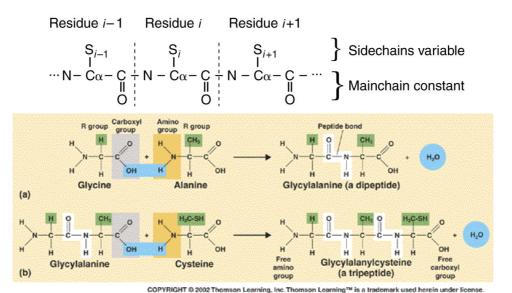
- 1-D world of nucleotide structure and amino acid sequences
- $\rightarrow$  now enter to  $\rightarrow$
- 3-D world of molecular structures

# Proteins play a variety of roles in life process

- Structural proteins
- Enzymes: proteins that catalyze (催化) chemical reactions
- Transport and storage proteins
- Regulatory proteins
- Proteins that control gene transcription
- Proteins that involved in recognition, including cell adhesion (黏著) molecules,
- Antibodies and other protein of the immune system

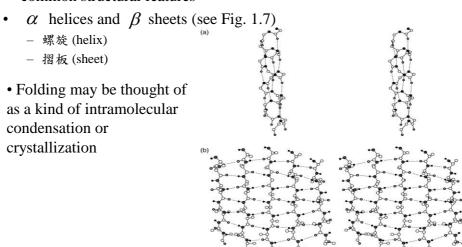
- Proteins are *large molecules*.
- In many cases only a small part of the structure an *active site* is directly functional, the rest existing primarily to create and fix the spatial relationship among the active site residues.
- Proteins evolve by structural changes, produced by mutations in the amino acid sequence and genetic rearrangements, that bring together different combinations of structural subunits.

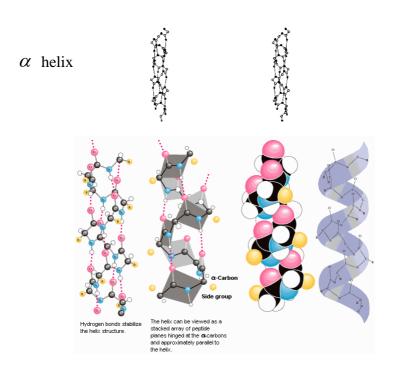
- ~ 85,000 protein structures are now known
- Most were determined by *X-ray crystallography* or *NMR* (nuclear magnetic resonance)
- Few were determined by electron microscopy and others
- Chemically, protein molecules are long polymers typically containing several thousand atoms, composed of a uniform repetitive *backbone* (or *mainchain*) with a particular *sidechain* attached to each residue (see Fig. 1.6)
- Amino acid sequence of a protein records the succession of sidechains.

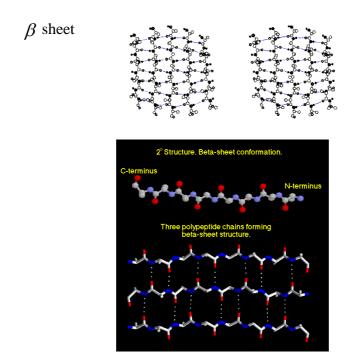


eThr Ser Asp Tyr Ser Lys Tyr Leu Asp Ser Arg Arg Ala Gin Asp Phe Val Gin Trp Leu Met Asn Thr - COO 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29

- The polypeptide chain folds into a curve in space
- The course of the chain defining a *folding pattern*
- A great variety of folding patterns: a number of common structural features





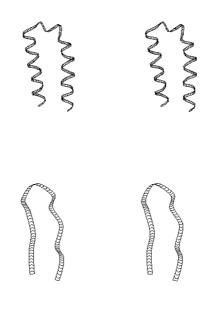


### Hierarchical nature of protein architecture

- *Primary structure*: the amino acid sequence the set of primary chemical bonds
- *Secondary structure*: the assignment of helices and sheets the hydrogen-bonding pattern of the mainchain
- *Tertiary structure*: the assembly and interactions of the helices and sheets
- *Quaternary structure*: for proteins composed of more than one subunit, the assembly of the monomers (單體)

### Additional levels to the hierarchy

- *Supersecondary structures*: include the alpha-helix hairpin, the beta-hairpin, and the beta-alpha-beta unit. (Fig. 1.8)
- *Domains*: many proteins contain compact units within the folding pattern of a single chain, that look as if they should have independent stability. (Fig. 1.9)
- *Modular proteins:* are multidomain proteins which often contain many copies of closely related domains.
  - Domain recur in many proteins in different structural contexts; that is, different modular proteins can 'mix and match' sets of domains.



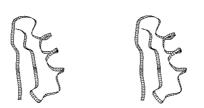
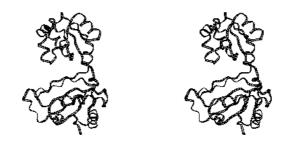
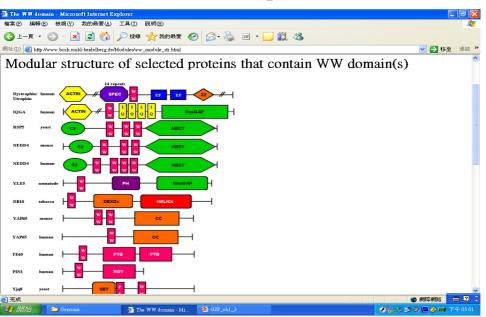


Fig. 1.9 RNA binding protein L1:



## Multidomain proteins

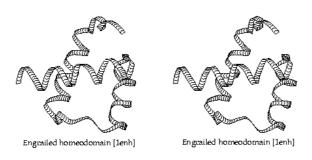


## Classification of protein structures

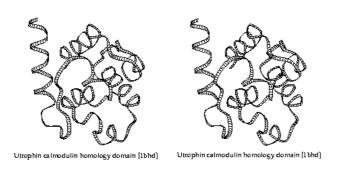
- The most general classification of families of protein structures is based on the *secondary and tertiary* structures
- Classification of protein structures occupies a key position in bioinformatics, not least as a bridge between sequence and function.

Class	Characteristic
α-helical	secondary structure exclusively or almost exclusively $\alpha$ -helical
β-sheet	secondary structure exclusively or almost exclusively $\beta$ -sheet
$\alpha + \beta$	$\alpha$ -helices and $\beta$ -sheets separated in different parts of the molecule; absence of $\beta$ - $\alpha$ - $\beta$ supersecondary structure
$\alpha/\beta$	helices and sheets assembled from $\beta$ - $\alpha$ - $\beta$ units
$\alpha/\beta$ -linear	line through centres of strands of sheet roughly linear
α/β-barrels	line through centres of strands of sheet roughly circular
little or no seco	ondary structure

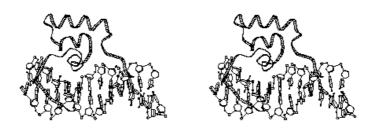
Fig 1-10a: engrailed homeodomain [1enh]:



**Fig 1-10b:** second calponin homology domain from utrophin [1bhd]:



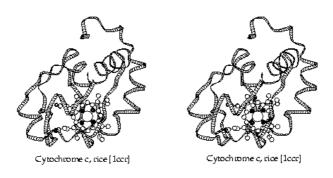
**Fig 1-10c:** HIN recombinase, DNA-binding domain [1hcr]:

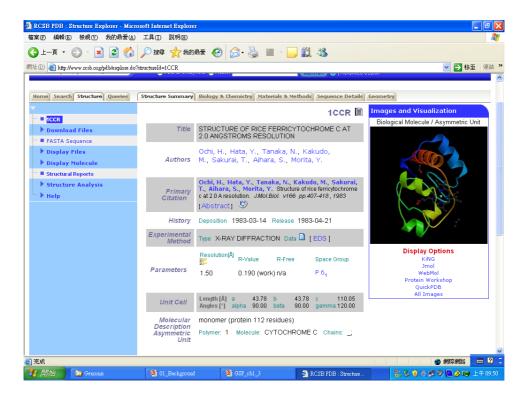


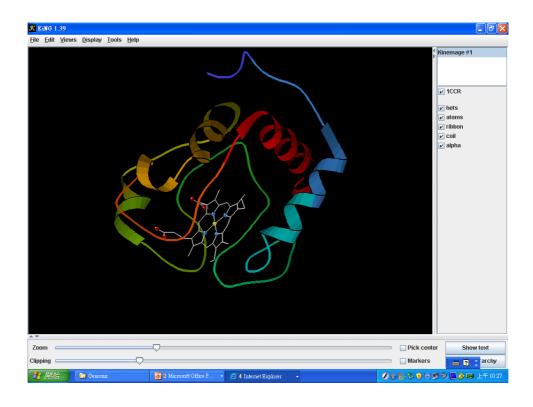
DNA-binding domain of HIN recombinase [1hcr]

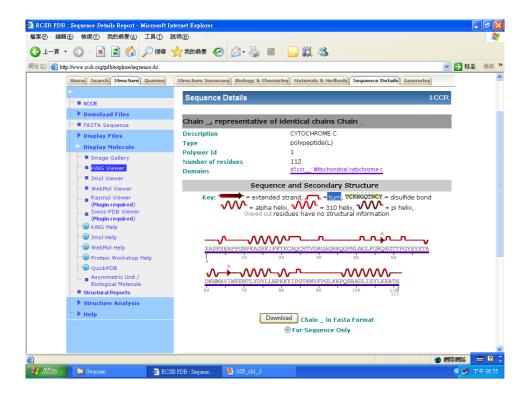
DNA-binding domain of HIN recombinase [1hcr]

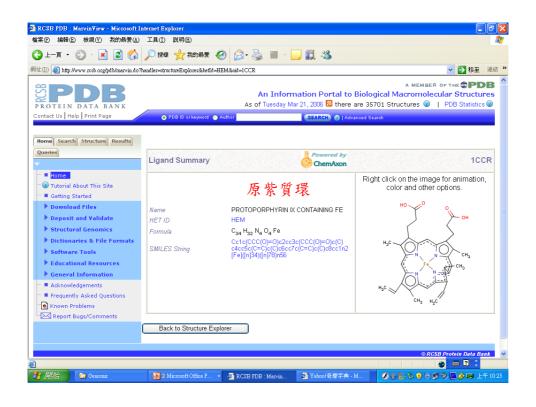
## (d) Rice embryo cytochrome c [1ccr]

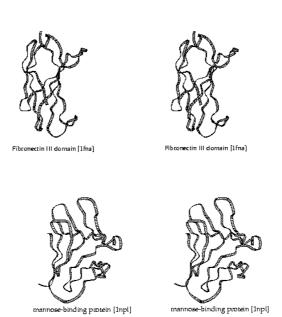


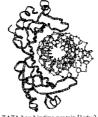












TATA-box-binding protein [lcdw]



TATA-box-binding protein [1cdw



barnase[1bm]



bamase [1bm]



OB-domain from Lys-tRNA synthetase [1bbw]



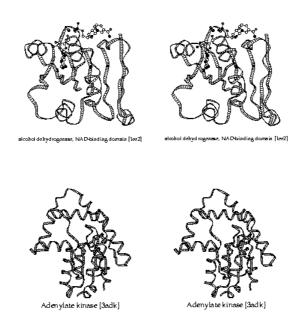
OB-domain from Lys-tRNA synthetase [1bbw]

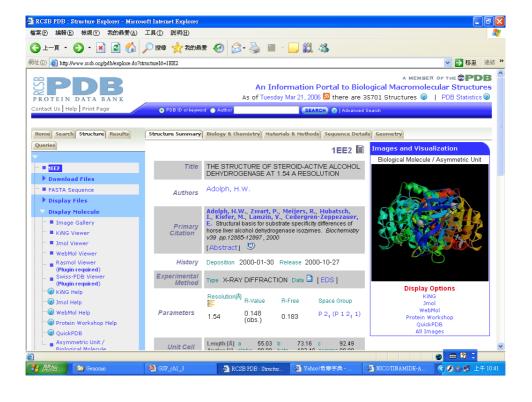


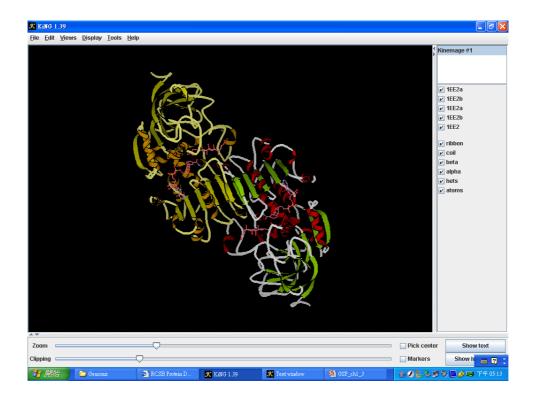
Scytalone dehydratase [3std]

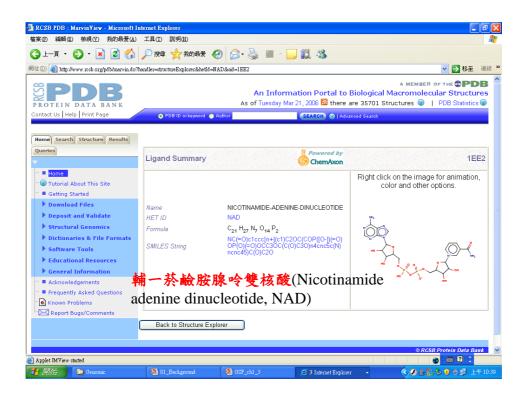


Scytalone dehydratase [3std]







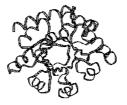




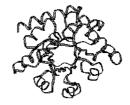
Chemotaxis receptor methyltransferase [1af7]



Chemotaxis receptor methyltransferase [1af7]



Thiamine phosphate synthase [2tps]



Thiamine phosphate synthase [2tps]



pancreatic spas molytic polypeptide [2psp]



### Web resources

- The Worldwide Protein Data Bank (wwPDB) http://www.wwpdb.org/
- The Research Collaboratory for Structural Bioinformatics (RCSB) (USA) <a href="http://www.rcsb.org/">http://www.rcsb.org/</a>
- The Macromolecular Structure Database (MSD) (UK) http://www.ebi.ac.uk/pdbe/
- The protein databank Japan <a href="http://www.pdbj.org/">http://www.pdbj.org/</a>
- BMRB (USA) http://www.bmrb.wisc.edu/
- Structural Classification of Proteins (SCOP) http://scop.mrc-lmb.cam.ac.uk/scop/
- The Molecular Modeling DataBase (MMDB)
   http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Structure/MMDB/mmdb.shtml

# Protein structure prediction and engineering

- Amino acid sequence of a protein dictates its 3D structure
- If amino acid sequences contain sufficient information to specify 3D structures of proteins, it should be possible to *devise an algorithm to predict protein structure from amino acid sequence*.
  - This has proved elusive (難以理解的).

## Less-ambitious goals:

- Secondary structure prediction which segments of the sequence form helices and which form strands of sheet?
- **Fold recognition** Given a library of known protein structures and their amino acids sequences, and the amino acid sequence of a protein of unknown structure, can we find the structure in the library that is most likely to have a folding pattern similar to that of the protein of unknown structure?
- **Homology modelling** If the sequences of two homolgous proteins have 50% or more identical residues in an optimal alignment, the structures are likely to have similar conformations over more than 90% of the model.

Aligned sequences and superposed structures of two related proteins: Alignment of Chicken lysozyme and Baboon alphalactalbumin

Chicken lysozyme Baboon alpha-lactalbumin Chicken lysozyme Baboon alpha-lactalbumin Chicken lysozyme Baboon alpha-lactalbumin KVFGRCELAAAMKRHGLDNYRGYSLGNWVCAAKFESNFNTQATNRNTDGS KQFTKCELSQNLY-DIDGYGRIALPELICTMFHTSGYDTQAIVEND-ES TDYGILQINSRWWCNDGRTPGSRNLCNIPCSALLSSDITASVNCAKKIVS TEYGLFQISNALWCKSSQSPQSRNICDITCDKFLDDDITDDIMCAKKILD DGN-GMNAWVAWRNRCKGTDVQA-WIRGCRL-I-KGIDYWIAHKALC-TEKL-EOWL-CE-K

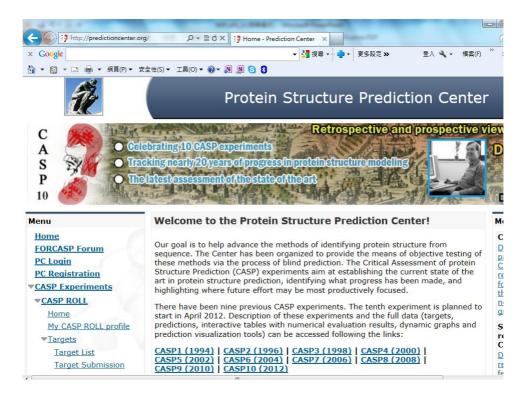
Superposition of Chicken lysozyme (black) and Baboon alpha-lactalbumin (red):



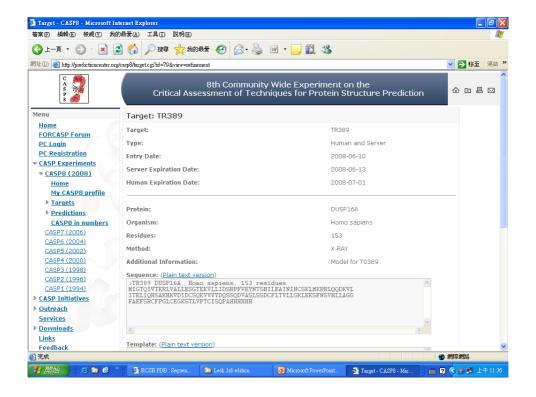


# Critical Assessment of Structure Prediction (CASP)

- Judging of techniques for predicting protein structures requires blind test.
- Predictors submit models, which are held until the deadline for release of the experimental structure.
- Then the predictions and experiments are compared – to the delight of a few and the chagrin of most.

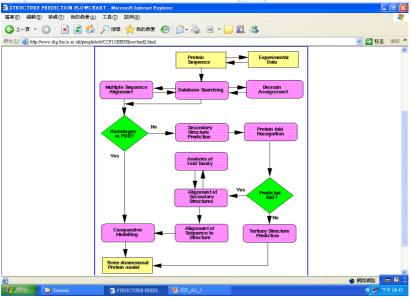






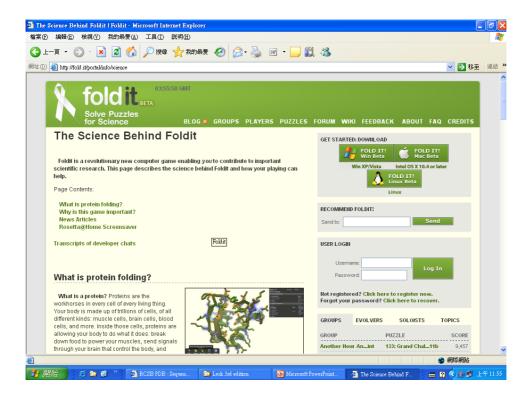
#### STRUCTURE PREDICTION FLOWCHART

http://www.russell.embl.de/gtsp/flowchart2.html



# A computer game to learn protein folding

- Maintained by University of Washington, Department of Computer Science
- <a href="http://fold.it/">http://fold.it/</a>
- Learn to play this game and get a score as high as you can
  - Download the "get started"
  - Register an account



### **Protein Engineering**

- In the laboratory we can manipulate nucleic acids and protein at will.
  - We can probe them by exhaustive mutation to see the effects on function.
  - We can endow (賦予) old proteins with new functions,
     as in the development of catalytic (催化作用)
     antibodies
  - We can even create new ones. Engineered proteins
    must obey the laws of physical chemistry but not the
    constraints of evolution. With engineered proteins we
    can explore new territory.

#### **Proteomics**

- Combines the census (統計數), distribution, interactions, dynamics, and expression patterns of the proteins within living systems.
- A data-intensive subject, depending on highthroughput measurements
  - Include DNA microarrays, and mass spectrometry.

## **DNA Microarrays**

- Or DNA chips
- Devices for checking a sample simultaneously for the presence of many sequences
- Can be used
  - To determine expression patterns of different proteins by detection of mRNAs
  - For genotyping(遺傳型), by detection of different variant gene sequences, including but not limited to single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs)

## Applications of DNA microarrays

- Identifying genetic individuality in tissues or organisms, or genotyping
- Investigating cellular states and processes
- Diagnosis of genetic disease
- Diagnosis of infectious disease
- Specialized diagnosis of disease
- Genetic warning signs
- Drug selection
- Target selection for drug design
- Pathogen (病原體) resistance
- Measuring temporal variations in protein expression

### System biology

- Integration to put all cell part back together
- First aspect:
  - The study of patterns within a cell or an organism: pathways and control cascades, and patterns of protein expression.
  - Patterns have both static and dynamic aspects
    - Identification of pairs of proteins that bind to each other, and assembly of pairwise interactions into a network Static pattern.
    - Dynamic pattern: the flow of metabolites through a network of enzymes, or the flow of information down a control cascade, is a dynamic pattern.

- Second aspect comparison of occurrence, activities and interactions of genes and proteins across different species.
  - The systems we are trying to understand arose through processes of evolution. Different species illuminate one another.
- High-throughput methods of genomics and proteomics provide data about sequences, expression patterns and interactions.
  - Systems biology takes the data as pieces of a jigsaw puzzle that extends in both space and time. To understand the complex and delicate instrument that is the living cell, we must fit the pieces into their frame.

## Clinical implications

- 1. Diagnosis of disease and disease risks
  - DNA sequencing can detect the absence of a particular gene, or a mutation.
- 2. Genetics of responses to therapy customized treatment
  - People differ in their ability to metabolize drugs, different patients with the same condition may require different dosages.

### 3. Identification of drug targets

A target is a protein the function of which can be selectively modified by interaction by a drug, to affect the symptoms or underlying causes of a disease.

### 4. Gene therapy

If a gene is missing or defective, we'd like to replace it or at least supply its product. If a gene is overactive, we'd like to turn it off.

Direct supply of proteins is possible for many diseases.

### **Practice**

- Huntington disease
- Find out the cause of this disease using the Internet search.
- What is the phenomenon of "anticipation"?
- Answer:
- The same questions for other diseases: 地中海型貧血Mediterranean anemia, 紅斑性狼瘡Systemic Lupus Erythematosus