

## NMR Strukturbestimmung

Peter Güntert

### Inhalt

1. Konformationsdaten aus NMR Messungen
2. Strukturbeschreibung mit Atomkoordinaten oder Torsionswinkeln
3. Strukturbestimmung: grundsätzliche Möglichkeit, praktische Schwierigkeiten
4. Strukturberechnungsalgorithmen: interaktiver Modellbau, Distanzgeometrie, Optimierung einer Zielfunktion, Simulated Annealing, Moleküldynamiksimulation, Torsionswinkeldynamik
5. Darstellung von NMR Strukturen: Strukturbündel, RMSDs
6. Strukturanalyse: Validierung
7. Automatisierung der NOE-Zuordnung und Strukturberechnung

## Konformationsdaten aus NMR Messungen

### Konformationsdaten aus NMR Messungen

1. NOEs
2.  $^3J$  skalare Kopplungen
3. H-Brücken
4. Chemische Verschiebungen
5. Residuelle dipolare Kopplungen (RDC)
- ...

### NOE (Nuclear Overhauser Effect)

NMR Daten: Integral  $V$  von NOESY Kreuzsignalen  
 Konformationsdaten: obere Schranken für  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  Distanzen,  $d$   
 Für isoliertes Spinpaar im starren Molekül:

$$V = C/d^6 \quad \text{mit } C = \text{konstant}$$

#### Eigenschaften:

- nur kurze Distanzen  $< 5 \text{ \AA}$  messbar
- dichtes Netzwerk bzgl. der Sequenz kurz- und langreichweitiger Distanzschranken
- viele  $^1\text{H}$  Atome im Molekül  $\rightarrow$  "Spindiffusion"
- interne Bewegungen  $\rightarrow$  nicht-lineare Mittelung
- Bestimmung der Konstanten  $C$ ?
- Überlapp  $\rightarrow$  mehrdeutige Zuordnung, verfälschte Integrale

$\rightarrow$  Verwendung als obere Distanzschranken

### NOE Calibration

$$V = C / d^6$$

Volume of NOESY cross peak  $\rightarrow$   $V$

"Calibration constant"  $\rightarrow$   $C$

Distance (upper distance bound)  $\rightarrow$   $d$

How to set the calibration constant?

- Known distances (intraresidual or in standard secondary structures)
- Preliminary structure, if available
- User-defined value for the average (median) upper distance limit

**NOE distance restraints → Protein structure**

Periplasmic chaperone  
FimC (205 residues)  
1967 NOE upper distance limits

Pellecchia, M., Güntert, P., Glockshuber, R., Wüthrich, K. Nature Struct. Biol. 5, 885-890 (1998)

**Problems when interpreting NOEs**

- Internal motion
- Spin diffusion
- Spectral overlap
- Chemical shift degeneracy
- Time consuming spectral analysis, if done manually → **automation**

**NMR resonance assignment is like solving a puzzle...**

...with missing pieces (incomplete signals)

...with additional pieces (artifacts)

...in the mist (low signal-to-noise, line-broadening)

**Ambiguity of chemical shift based NOE assignment**

In general, several different <sup>1</sup>H chemical shifts  $\omega_A, \omega_B$  match the position of a NOESY peak within the experimental uncertainty  $\Delta\omega$ .

→ Assignment ambiguity

Manual assignment is very cumbersome!

$|\omega_1 - \omega_A| < \Delta\omega \quad |\omega_2 - \omega_B| < \Delta\omega$

**NOEs with a unique chemical shift based assignment**

Peaks with one assignment possibility

$N = 1986$  cross peaks  
 $n = 457$  chemical shifts

Chemical shift tolerance  $\Delta\omega$  (ppm)

2D NOESY:  
 $N^{(1)} \approx N \exp(-4n \Delta\omega / \Delta\Omega)$

3D NOESY:  
 $N^{(1)} \approx N \exp(-2n \Delta\omega / \Delta\Omega)$

$N^{(1)}$  Number of uniquely assigned peaks  
 $N$  Number of cross peaks  
 $n$  Number of chemical shifts  
 $\Delta\omega$  Chemical shift tolerance  
 $\Delta\Omega$  Spectrum width

**Ambiguous distance restraints**

$$d_{\text{eff}} = \left( \sum_k d_k^{-6} \right)^{-1/6} \leq b$$

upper distance bound  
distance for assignment possibility  $k$   
sum over all assignment possibilities

- Restraint with multiple assignments
- If one assignment possibility leads to a sufficiently short distance, then the ambiguous distance restraint will be fulfilled.

→ The presence of wrong assignment possibilities has no (or little) influence on the structure, **as long as the correct assignment possibility is present.**

Nilges et al., J. Mol. Biol. 269, 408-422 (1997)

## Properties of ambiguous distance restraints

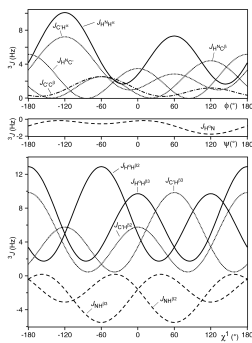
$$d_{\text{eff}} = \left( \sum_k d_k^{-6} \right)^{-1/6}$$

- $d_{\text{eff}}$  is never longer than any of the individual distances  $d_k$ :  
 $d_{\text{eff}} \leq d_k$  for all  $k$
- $d_{\text{eff}}$  is close to the smallest individual distance:  
 $d_{\text{eff}} \approx d_1$  if  $d_1 \ll d_2, d_3, \dots$
- Examples:  $d_1 = 3 \text{ \AA}, d_2 = 10 \text{ \AA} \rightarrow d_{\text{eff}} = 2.9996 \text{ \AA}$   
 $d_1 = 3 \text{ \AA}, d_2 = \dots = d_{10} = 10 \text{ \AA} \rightarrow d_{\text{eff}} = 2.9967 \text{ \AA}$

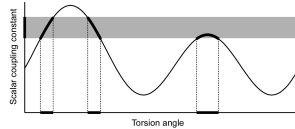
## $^3J$ skalare Kopplungen

- NMR Daten: Aufspaltung eines Signals  
Konformationsdaten: Einschränkungen von Torsionswinkeln,  $\theta$   
Karplus-Kurve:  $^3J(\theta) = A \cos^2 \theta + B \cos \theta + C$   
mit empirischen Konstanten  $A, B, C$   
Zum Beispiel:  $^3J_{\text{HNH}\alpha}(\phi), ^3J_{\text{H}\alpha\text{H}\beta}(\chi^1)$   
Eigenschaften:  
- Information nur über lokale Konformation  
- mehrdeutige Beziehung  $^3J \leftrightarrow \theta$

## $^3J$ scalar couplings



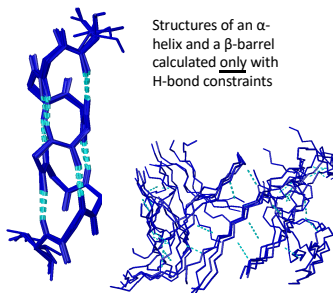
- $^3J(\theta) = A \cos^2 \theta + B \cos \theta + C$
- local information only
- ambiguous relation to torsion angle



## H-Brücken

- NMR Daten: langsamer  $^1\text{H} \rightarrow ^2\text{H}$  Austausch + NOEs  
Konformationsdaten: Donor-Akzeptor Distanz  
Typische H-Brücken:  $-\text{N}-\text{H} \cdots \text{O}=\text{C}-$  in regulären Sekundärstrukturen (Helices,  $\beta$ -Blätter)  
Eigenschaften:  
- Bzgl. Sequenz mittel- und langreichweitig  
- Donor (H) identifizierbar  
- Akzeptor (O) i. A. nur indirekt bestimmbar (benachbarte NOEs + Annahmen über Sekundärstruktur)

## Impact of hydrogen bond restraints



- Strong impact on structure
- Direct detection of H-bonds by NMR is possible, but not sensitive
- Without identification of acceptor atom  $\approx$  assumption on secondary structure

## Chemische Verschiebungen

- NMR Daten: chem. Verschiebungen,  $\delta$   
Konformationsdaten:  $(\phi, \psi)$  Torsionswinkelbereiche  
Komplexe Beziehung:  $\delta \leftrightarrow (\phi, \psi)$   
Eigenschaften:  
- einfache Messung  
-  $(\phi, \psi)$ -Werte aus Datenbank von Proteinen mit bekannter Struktur und chem. Verschiebungen (TALOS)  
- Information über lokale Konformation bzw. Sekundärstruktur

### TALOS+: Torsion angle restraints from chemical shifts

**Reliability of TALOS+ torsion angle predictions:**

- On average, TALOS+ makes consistent predictions for about 88% of the residues.
- Over all 200 database proteins, about 2.5% of the unambiguous predictions made by TALOS+ were incorrect relative to the corresponding crystal structure. However, a substantial fraction of this 2.5% appears to reflect genuine differences relative to the crystalline state, and the true error rate therefore is believed to be below 2.5%.
- On average, the uncertainty as reported by TALOS+ for the consensus predictions was 12.6° for  $\phi$ , and 12.3° for  $\psi$ .
- The actual RMSD of the "correct" predictions relative to the crystal structures was about 13.5° for  $\phi$ , and 12.9° for  $\psi$ .

### Residuelle dipolare Kopplungen (RDC)

NMR Daten: Zusätzliche Signalaufspaltung bei partieller Molekülausrichtung, z.B.  $^1J_{NH} \rightarrow ^1J_{NH} + D_{NH}$

Konformationsdaten: Orientierung von Bindungen relativ zur Molekülausrichtung

Residuelle dipolare Kopplung:  $D(\theta, \phi) = A [(3\cos^2\theta - 1) + 3/2 R \sin^2\theta \cos 2\phi]$

$A, R$  Amplitude (Betrag) und Rhombizität (Abweichung von Rotationssymmetrie) des Ausrichtungstensors

$\theta, \phi$  Richtung der Bindung relativ zum Ausrichtungstensor (Polarkoordinaten)

Eigenschaften:

- Proteinprobe in schwach ausrichtendem Medium (Flüssigkristalle/Bizellen, fadenförmige Phagen, komprimierte Gele)
- Information über globale Konformation, z.B. relative Ausrichtung von Domänen
- Entartung: 1 Messwert  $\rightarrow$  Doppelkegel von Richtungen
- Bestimmung des Ausrichtungstensors ( $A, R$ )?

### Residuelle dipolare Kopplungen

$$D(\theta, \phi) = A [(3\cos^2\theta - 1) + 3/2 R \sin^2\theta \cos 2\phi]$$

## Strukturberechnungs- algorithmen

### Ist NMR Strukturberechnung möglich?

- Grundsätzlich:
  - NOEs messen nur kurze Distanzen  $< 5 \text{ \AA}$
  - ungenauere obere Schranken
  - Kann damit die globale Struktur eines 30  $\text{\AA}$  langen Proteins bestimmt werden?  
*JA, wenn genügend Daten vorhanden sind.*
- Praktisch:
  - Zielfunktion hat viele lokale Minima
  - Kann eine (fast) optimale Struktur gefunden werden?  
*JA.*

### Strukturberechnungsalgorithmen

- Frühere Methoden:
  - Interaktiver Modellbau
  - Distanzgeometrie
  - Minimierung einer variablen Zielfunktion
- Simulated annealing:
  - Monte Carlo
  - Moleküldynamiksimulation im kartesischen Raum
  - Moleküldynamiksimulation im Torsionswinkelraum



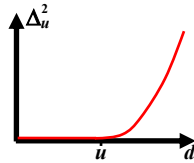
### CYANA target function

$$T = \sum \Delta_u^2 + \sum \Delta_l^2 + \sum \Delta_a^2 + \dots$$

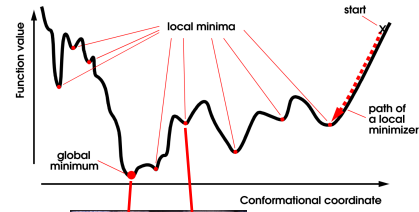
upper distance limits (NOEs)
lower distance limits (steric)
torsion angle restraints

$\Delta_u, \Delta_l, \Delta_a$ : restraint violations,

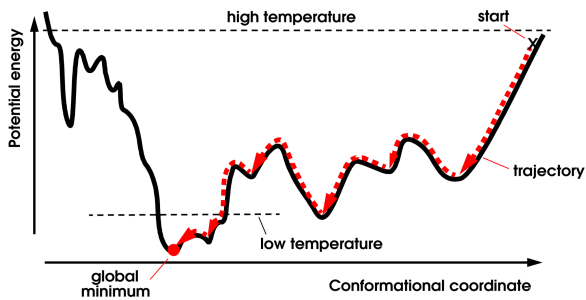
e. g.,  $\Delta_u = \begin{cases} d - u & \text{if } d > u \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$



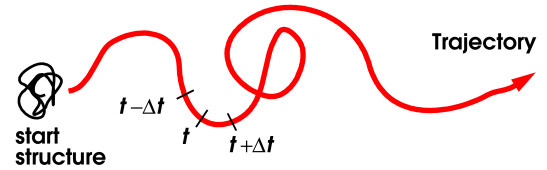
### Target function = potential energy



### Simulated annealing



### Molecular Dynamics Simulation



Numerical integration of classical equations of motion

### Integration of the equations of motion

e.g. "leap-frog" algorithm

$$q(t + \Delta t) = q(t) + \Delta t \dot{q}(t + \Delta t/2) + O(\Delta t^3)$$

$$\dot{q}(t + \Delta t/2) = \dot{q}(t - \Delta t/2) + \Delta t \ddot{q}(t) + O(\Delta t^3)$$

$q$  coordinates (Cartesian or torsional)

$\dot{q} = \frac{dq}{dt}$  velocities

$\ddot{q} = \frac{d^2q}{dt^2}$  accelerations

$\Delta t$  time step

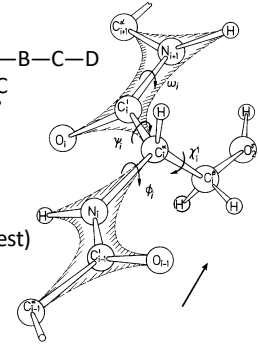
Atomkoordinaten  
Torsionswinkel

### Strukturbeschreibung

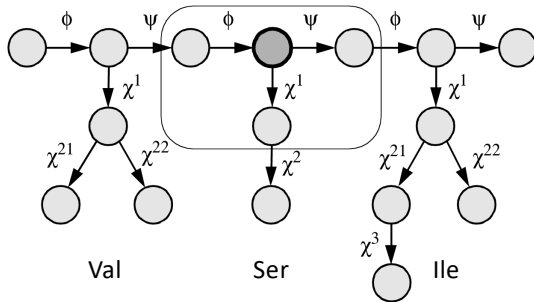
- Atomkoordinaten (kartesische Koordinaten):
- 3 Freiheitsgrade pro Atom
  - abhängig von der Wahl des Koordinatensystems
  - beinhalten auch "unwichtige" Freiheitsgrade
  - einfach
- Torsionswinkel (= Diederwinkel, Dihedralwinkel):
- Drehungen um Einfachbindungen
  - interne Koordinaten
  - essentielle Freiheitsgrade
  - Bindungslängen, Bindungswinkel fest
  - kompliziertere aber effizientere Algorithmen

### Torsionswinkel

- Definiert durch 4 Atome: A—B—C—D
  - Drehung um Bindung B—C
  - Werte von -180° bis +180°
- Torsionswinkel von AS  $i$ :
  - $\phi_i$ :  $C'_{i-1}-N_i-C^{\alpha}_i-C'_i$
  - $\psi_i$ :  $N_i-C^{\alpha}_i-C'_{i+1}-N_{i+1}$
  - $\omega_i$ :  $C^{\alpha}_i-C'_{i+1}-N_{i+1}-C^{\alpha}_{i+1}$  (fest)
  - $\chi^1_i$ :  $N_i-C^{\alpha}_i-C^{\beta}_i-C^{\gamma}_i$



### Torsionswinkel: Baumstruktur



### MD Simulation im Torsionswinkelraum "Torsionswinkeldynamik"

- Klassische Mechanik
- $N$  Torsionswinkeln als einzige Freiheitsgrade
- Etwa 10 Mal weniger Freiheitsgrade als im kartesischen Raum.
- Feste Bindungslängen und -winkel:
  - "Einfrieren" der schnellsten Bewegungen
  - Längere Zeitschritte

Jain, Vaidehi, Rodriguez, *J. Comp. Phys.* 106, 258–268 (1993)  
 Güntert, Mumenthaler, Wüthrich, *J. Mol. Biol.* 273, 283–298 (1997)

### Equations of motion

Cartesian coordinates:  $x_1, \dots, x_N$

$$m_i \ddot{x}_i = - \frac{\partial E_{\text{pot}}}{\partial x_i} \quad \text{(Newton)}$$

Generalized coordinates:  $q_1, \dots, q_n$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_k} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_k} = 0 \quad \text{(Lagrange)}$$

with  $L = E_{\text{kin}} - E_{\text{pot}}$

### Molecular Dynamics

Cartesian space

$$E_{\text{kin}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N m_i \dot{x}_i^2$$

diagonal, constant (elements  $m_i$ )

$$\ddot{x}_i = - \frac{1}{m_i} \frac{\partial E_{\text{pot}}}{\partial x_i}$$

proportional to  $N$

Kinetic energy

Mass matrix  $M$

Accelerations

Computational complexity

Torsion angle space

$$E_{\text{kin}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k,l=1}^n M(\theta)_{kl} \dot{\theta}_k \dot{\theta}_l$$

non-diagonal, non-constant,  $n \times n$

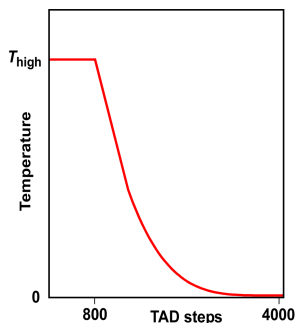
$$M(\theta) \ddot{\theta} = C(\theta, \dot{\theta}) \quad (n \text{ linear equations})$$

solving linear system of equations:  $\sim n^3$

exploiting tree structure of the molecule:  $\sim n$

### Simulated annealing protocol

- Start from random structure
- Use all restraints simultaneously
- Adjustable parameters:
  - start temperature,  $T_{high}$
  - number of TAD steps



### Temperature control

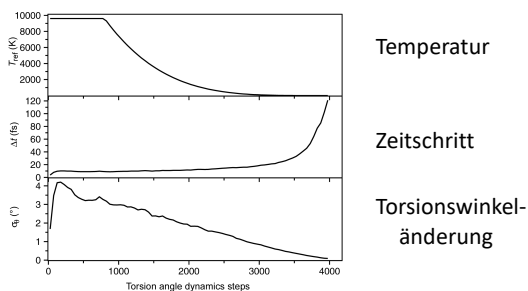
Weak coupling to a heat bath is used to control the temperature:

$$\dot{\theta} \leftarrow \dot{\theta} \sqrt{1 + \frac{T^{ref} - T}{\tau T}}$$

$\dot{\theta}$  torsional velocities  
 $T$  instantaneous temperature,  $T = \frac{2E_{kin}}{nk_B}$   
 $\tau$  coupling constant

(Berendsen et al., J. Chem. Phys. 81, 3684–3690, 1984)

### Simulated annealing mit Torsionswinkeldynamik



NMR Structure Calculation:  
Multiple Conformers

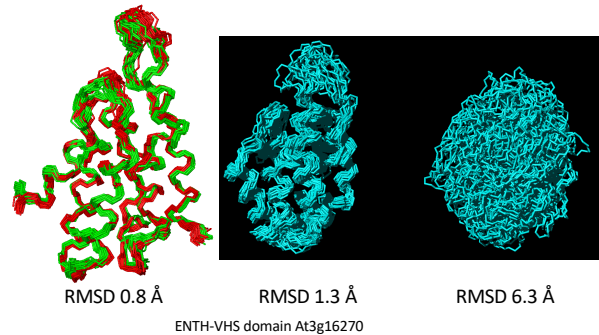


NMR Structure Calculation:  
Select Converged Conformers

## Strukturbündel

- 100 Startstrukturen mit zufälligen Torsionswinkeln
- 100 unabhängige simulated annealing Läufe mit:
  - gleichen experimentellen Daten
  - unterschiedlichen Startstrukturen
- Auswahl der 20 "besten" Strukturen mit den tiefsten Zielfunktionswerten
- Sampling des Konformationsraums?

## Strukturbündel



## RMSD (root-mean-square deviation)

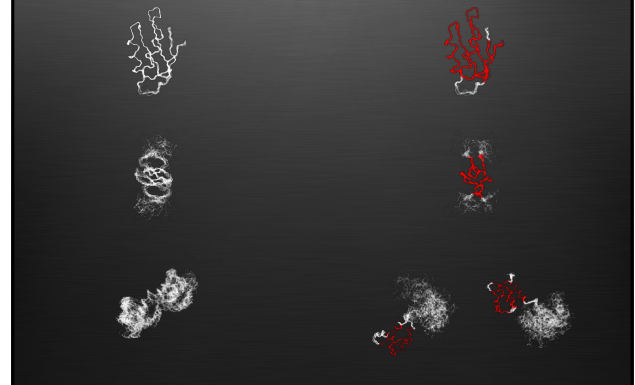
- Zwei Strukturen mit  $n$  Atomen und Koordinaten  $\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$  und  $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_n$

$$RMSD = \min_{R, \mathbf{t}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |\vec{x}_i - R\vec{y}_i - \vec{t}|^2}$$

- Minimum über alle Rotationen  $R$  und Translationen  $\mathbf{t} \rightarrow$  optimale Überlagerung

All Residues

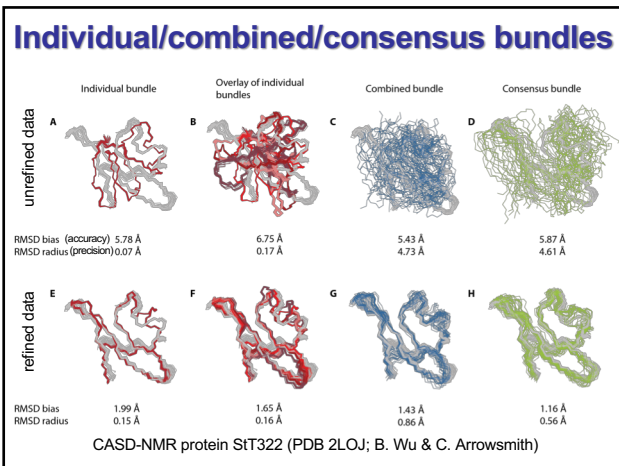
CYRANGE Domains



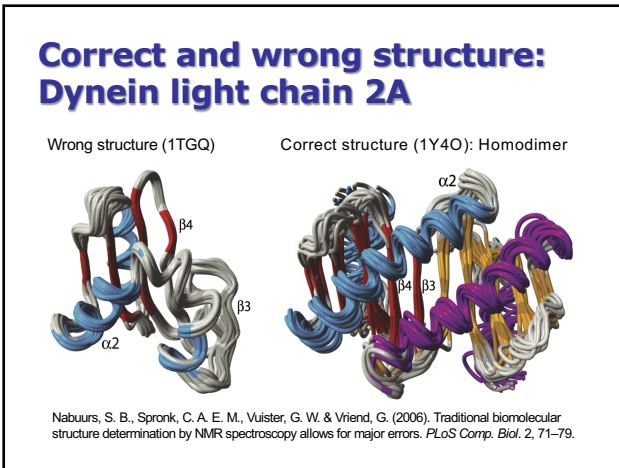
## Consensus structure bundles

## Structure accuracy vs. precision

- NMR structures are represented by bundles of conformers calculated from different randomized initial structures using identical experimental input data.
- The spread among these conformers indicates the **precision** of the atomic coordinates.
- However, there is as yet no reliable measure of structural **accuracy**, i.e. how close NMR conformers are to the "true" structure.
- Instead, the precision of structure bundles is widely (mis)interpreted as a measure of structural quality.
- Attempts to increase precision often overestimate accuracy by tight bundles of high precision but much lower accuracy.

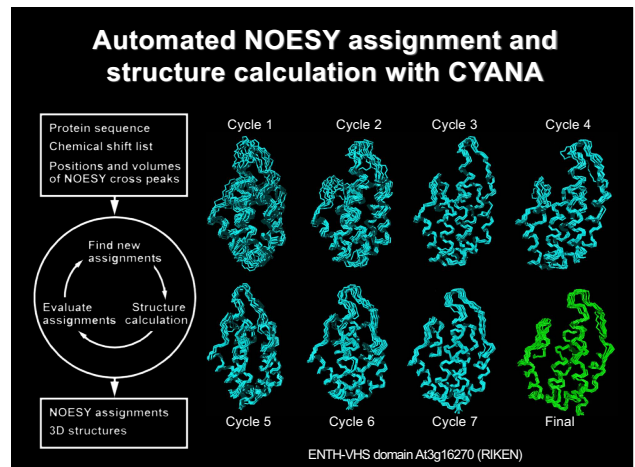


# Strukturanalyse Validierung



- ### Validation principles
- Agreement of the three-dimensional structure with
- Experimental data
  - Unused experimental data: cross-validation
  - Physical principles
  - Empirical knowledge about protein structures
- Validation of the
- Local structure
  - Global structure
- Absolute/relative validation:
- Is my structure correct? ("absolute")
  - Is structure A more likely to be correct than structure B? ("relative")

# Automatische NOE Zuordnung



## Output overview table

| Cycle                                  | : | 1      | 2     | 3     | 4    | 5    | 6    | 7    | final |
|----------------------------------------|---|--------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| <b>Peaks:</b>                          |   |        |       |       |      |      |      |      |       |
| selected                               | : | 5439   | 5439  | 5439  | 5439 | 5439 | 5439 | 5439 |       |
| with assignment                        | : | 5100   | 4806  | 4742  | 4749 | 4712 | 4678 | 4675 |       |
| without assignment                     | : | 339    | 633   | 697   | 690  | 727  | 761  | 764  |       |
| with diagonal assignment               | : | 12     | 12    | 12    | 12   | 12   | 12   | 12   |       |
| <b>Cross peaks:</b>                    |   |        |       |       |      |      |      |      |       |
| with off-diagonal assignment           | : | 5088   | 4794  | 4730  | 4737 | 4700 | 4666 | 4663 |       |
| with unique assignment                 | : | 675    | 3591  | 3872  | 3950 | 4115 | 4195 | 4194 |       |
| with short-range assignment  i-j <=1   | : | 3295   | 3208  | 3165  | 3154 | 3120 | 3102 | 3089 |       |
| with medium-range assignment 1< i-j <5 | : | 1020   | 925   | 921   | 914  | 904  | 884  | 893  |       |
| with long-range assignment  i-j >=5    | : | 773    | 661   | 644   | 669  | 676  | 680  | 681  |       |
| <b>Upper distance limits:</b>          |   |        |       |       |      |      |      |      |       |
| total                                  | : | 3786   | 2996  | 2832  | 2789 | 2707 | 2643 | 2683 | 2731  |
| short-range,  i-j <=1                  | : | 2007   | 1586  | 1486  | 1440 | 1398 | 1348 | 1273 | 1304  |
| medium-range, 1< i-j <5                | : | 1220   | 959   | 787   | 775  | 751  | 726  | 760  | 765   |
| long-range,  i-j >=5                   | : | 559    | 451   | 559   | 574  | 568  | 569  | 650  | 662   |
| Average assignments/restraint          | : | 4.81   | 1.73  | 1.27  | 1.25 | 1.18 | 1.14 | 1.00 | 1.00  |
| <b>Average target function value</b>   |   |        |       |       |      |      |      |      |       |
|                                        | : | 230.84 | 69.79 | 68.20 | 9.22 | 3.99 | 2.98 | 1.70 | 0.43  |
| <b>RMSD (residues 15..130):</b>        |   |        |       |       |      |      |      |      |       |
| Average backbone RMSD to mean          | : | 1.34   | 0.97  | 0.57  | 0.67 | 0.68 | 0.60 | 0.53 | 0.53  |
| Average heavy atom RMSD to mean        | : | 1.76   | 1.44  | 1.09  | 1.19 | 1.20 | 1.07 | 0.98 | 1.01  |

## CYANA Computation Time

- Combined NOE assignment and structure calculation of a 114 amino acid residue protein with the program CYANA:
  - 8 cycles × 100 conformers = **800 structures**
  - 10000 torsion angle dynamics steps per conformer
- Linux cluster system with Quad-core Intel Xeon E5462 (2.8 GHz, 12 MB cache), 2 GB memory/core

| Processors | Computation time (s) |
|------------|----------------------|
| 100        | 147                  |
| 50         | 217                  |
| 25         | 354                  |
| 10         | 769                  |

## Unterlagen zur Vorlesung

<http://www.bpc.uni-frankfurt.de/guentert/wiki/index.php/Teaching>