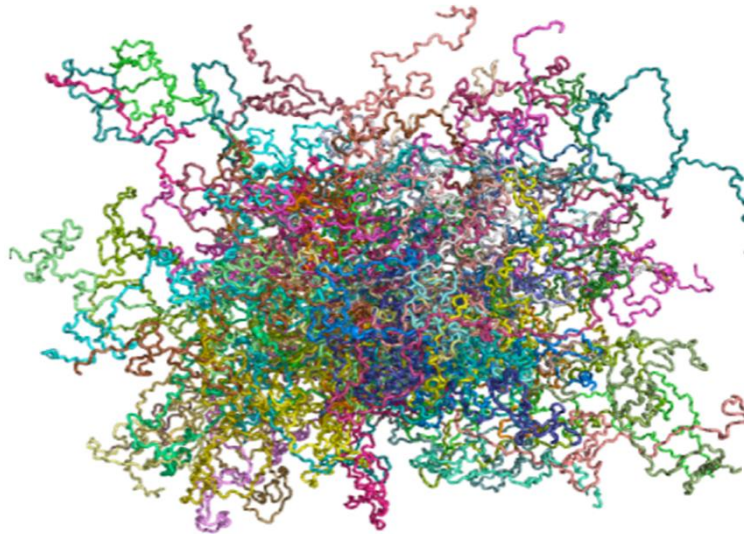


# Liquid state NMR spectroscopy of (disordered) proteins



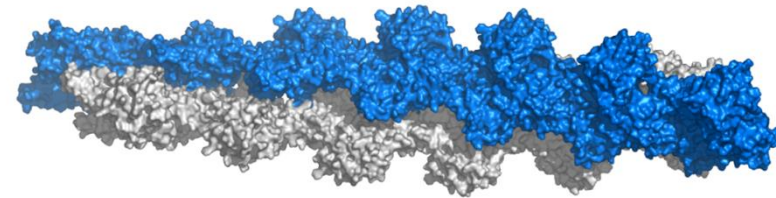
**Disordered proteins**  
**Assignment**  
**Conformational ensemble**  
**Interactions**

*<http://journals.plos.org/plosbiology/article?id=10.1371/journal.pbio.1000034>*

**Winter School in Brno, January 7-11 2019**

# Reminder: Proteins

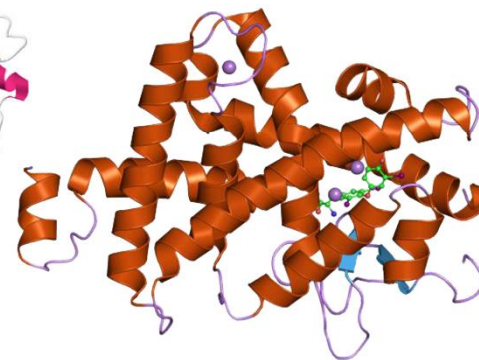
- ” Biopolymers composed of 20 different amino acids
- ” Vast range of functions in all domains of life:
  - . Catalysis
  - . Transport
  - . Signalling
  - . Structure
  - . ...



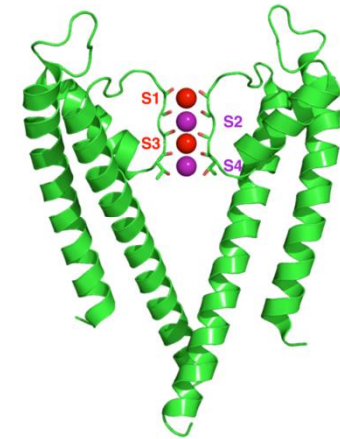
Actin filament



Hexokinase

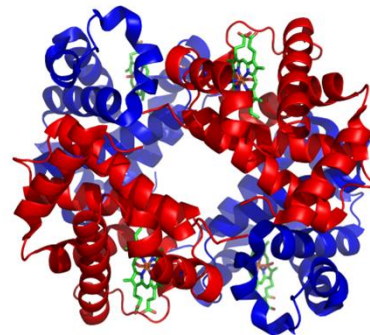


Thyroid hormone receptor

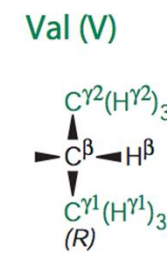
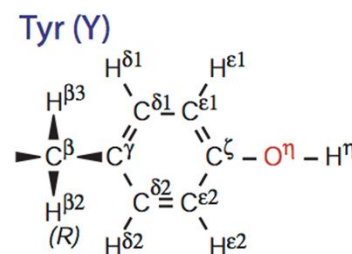
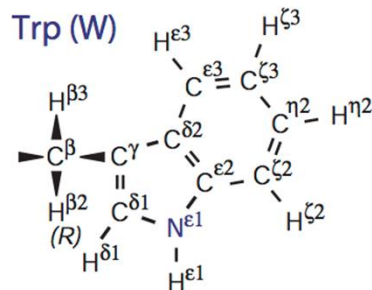
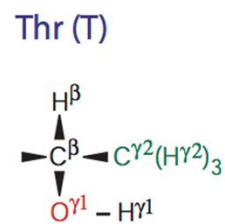
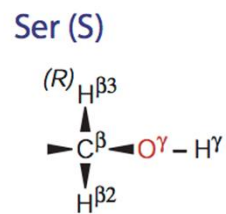
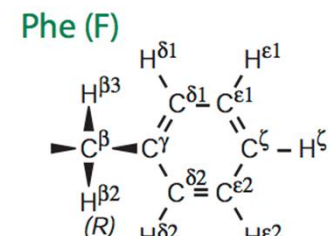
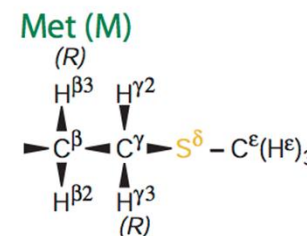
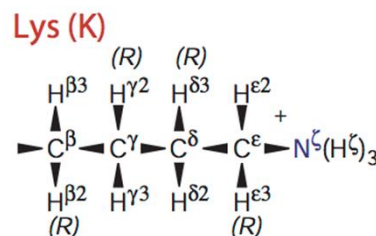
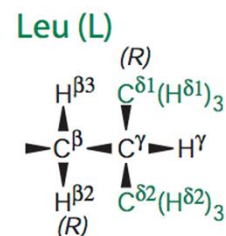
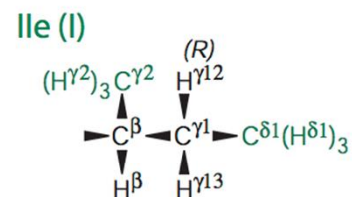
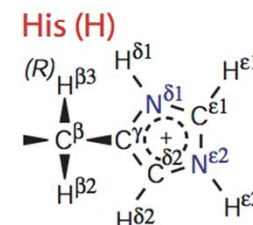
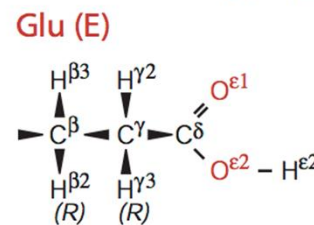
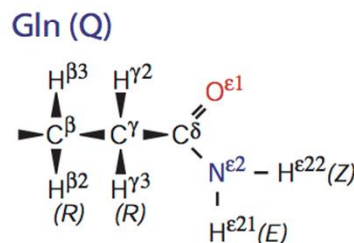
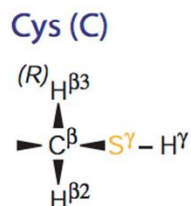
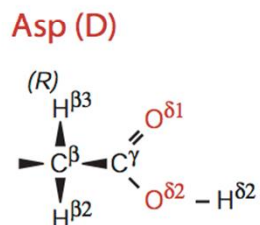
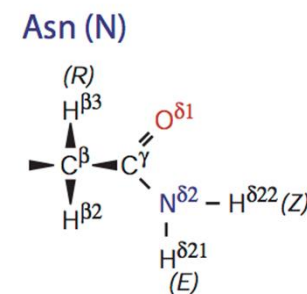
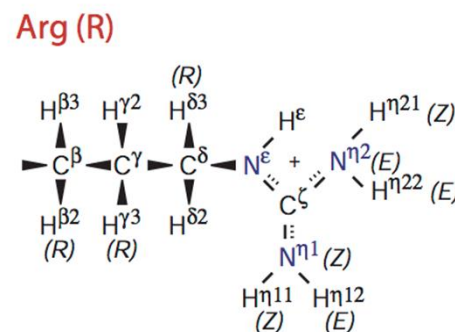
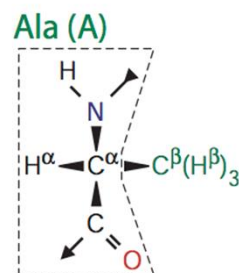
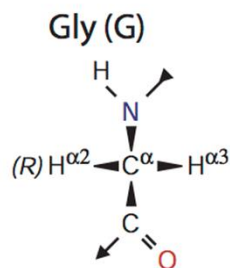
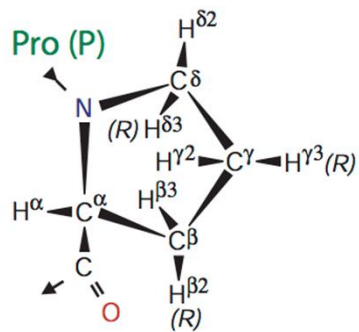


Potassium channel

Haemoglobin

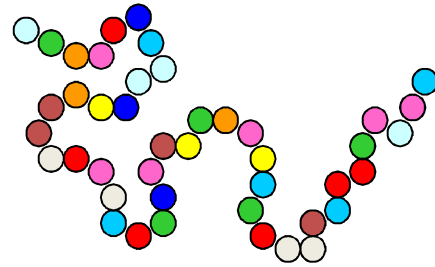


# The 20 natural amino acids



# Protein structure

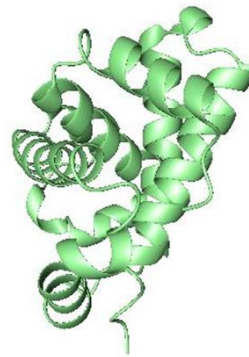
“ Primary: sequence



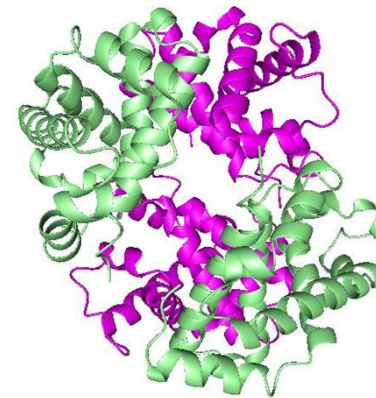
“ Secondary: helix, sheet, turn



“ Tertiary: domain



“ Quaternary: assemblies of domains or proteins





# NMR of proteins

- ” Close-to-native environment: solution, in-cell
- ” disordered proteins
- ” “Structure” of IDPs
- ” Dynamics, conformational changes
- ” Interactions
- ” Posttranslational modifications
- ” ...

# NMR of proteins: Issues

- “ Sensitivity
  - . mg amounts of protein typically required
- “ Isotope labeling
  - .  $^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ ,  $^2\text{H}$ , specific labeling schemes
- “ Size
  - . slow molecular tumbling / resonance overlap

# A project in protein NMR

Typically required:

- “ Overexpression with isotope labeling
- “ High  $B_0$  field
- “ Two- and higher-dimensional spectroscopy

Typical steps:

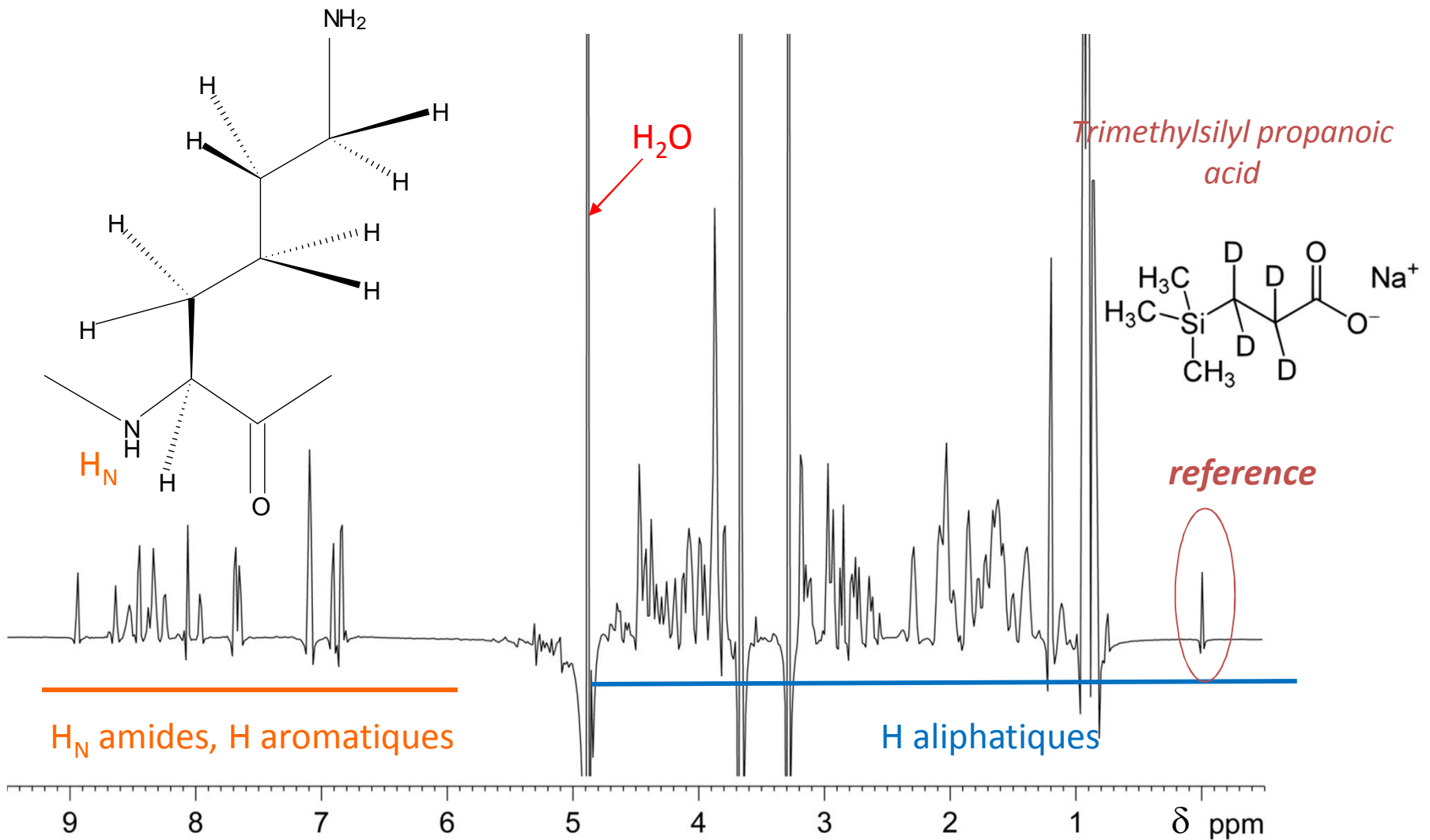
- “ Feasibility tests, %fingerprint+spectra
- “ Resonance assignment
- “ Structural information
- “ Measurement of dynamics, interactions,  $\tilde{\omega}$

# **GETTING STARTED: PROTON NMR**

**1D NMR**



# 1D proton Spectrum of peptides and proteins



# <sup>1</sup>H Chemical Shifts of amino acids

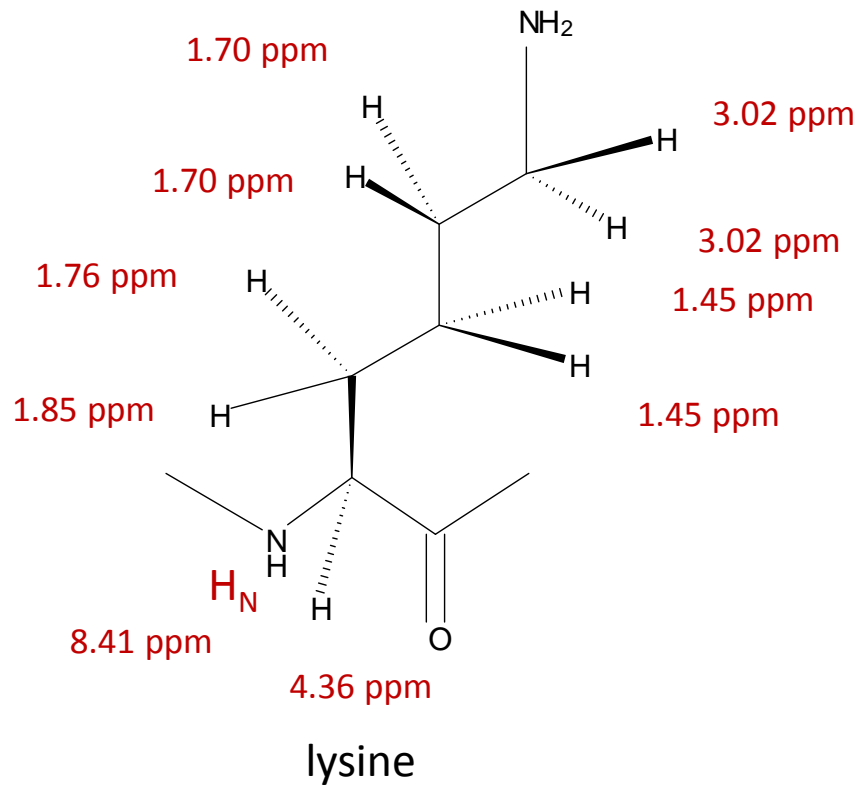
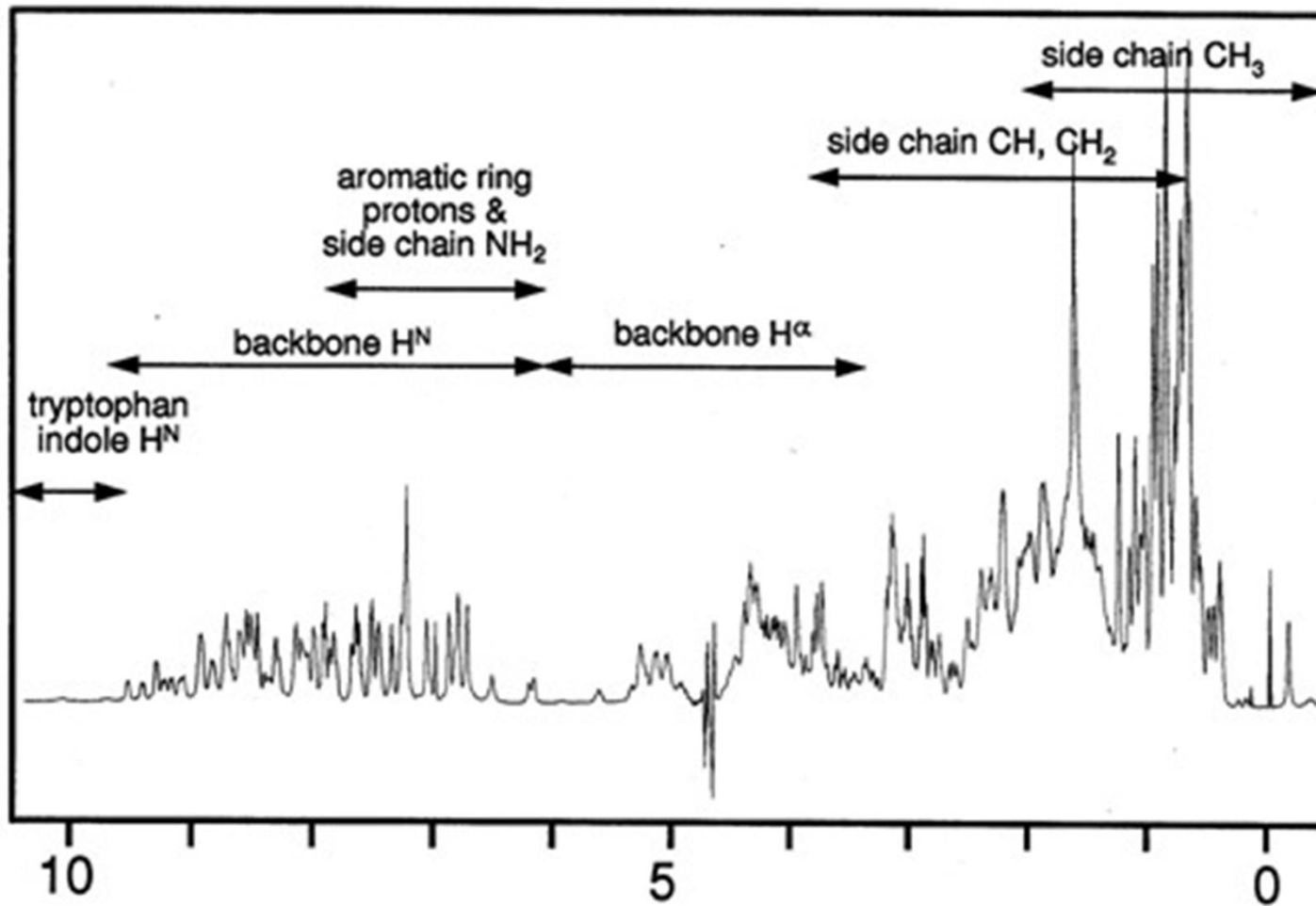


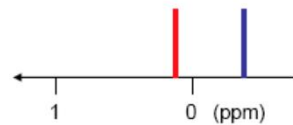
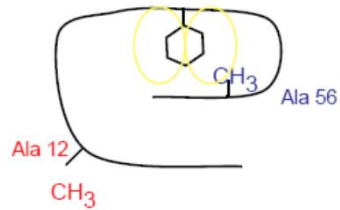
TABLE 2.3. Random Coil <sup>1</sup>H Chemical Shifts for the 20 Common Amino Acid Residues<sup>a</sup>

Residue	NH	αH	βH	Others
Gly	8.39	3.97		
Ala	8.25	4.35	1.39	
Val	8.44	4.18	2.13	γCH <sub>3</sub> 0.97, 0.94
Ile	8.19	4.23	1.90	γCH <sub>2</sub> 1.48, 1.19 γCH <sub>3</sub> 0.95 δCH <sub>3</sub> 0.89
Leu	8.42	4.38	1.65, 1.65	γH 1.64 δCH <sub>3</sub> 0.94, 0.90
Pro <sup>b</sup>		4.44	2.28, 2.02	γCH <sub>2</sub> 2.03, 2.03 δCH <sub>2</sub> 3.68, 3.65
Ser	8.38	4.50	3.88, 3.88	γCH <sub>3</sub> 1.23
Thr	8.24	4.35	4.22	
Asp	8.41	4.76	2.84, 2.75	
Glu	8.37	4.29	2.09, 1.97	γCH <sub>2</sub> 2.31, 2.28
Lys	8.41	4.36	1.85, 1.76	γCH <sub>2</sub> 1.45, 1.45 δCH <sub>2</sub> 1.70, 1.70 εCH <sub>2</sub> 3.02, 3.02 εNH <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup> 7.52
Arg	8.27	4.38	1.89, 1.79	γCH <sub>2</sub> 1.70, 1.70 δCH <sub>2</sub> 3.32, 3.32 NH 7.17, 6.62
Asn	8.75	4.75	2.83, 2.75	γNH <sub>2</sub> 7.59, 6.91
Gln	8.41	4.37	2.13, 2.01	γCH <sub>2</sub> 2.38, 2.38 δNH <sub>2</sub> 6.87, 7.59
Met	8.42	4.52	2.15, 2.01	γCH <sub>2</sub> 2.64, 2.64 εCH <sub>3</sub> 2.13
Cys	8.31	4.69	3.28, 2.96	
Trp	8.09	4.70	3.32, 3.19	2H 7.24 4H 7.65 5H 7.17 6H 7.24 7H 7.50 NH 10.22
Phe	8.23	4.66	3.22, 2.99	2,6H 7.30 3,5H 7.39 4H 7.34
Tyr	8.18	4.60	3.13, 2.92	2,6H 7.15 3,5H 6.86
His	8.41	4.63	3.26, 3.20	2H 8.12 4H 7.14

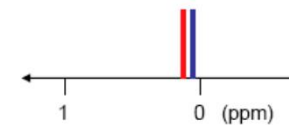
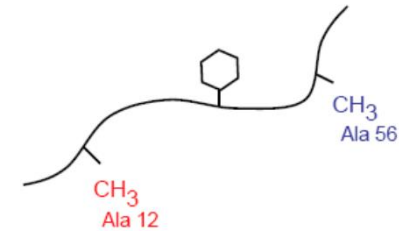
# $^1\text{H}$ spectral Dispersion due to protein 3D folding



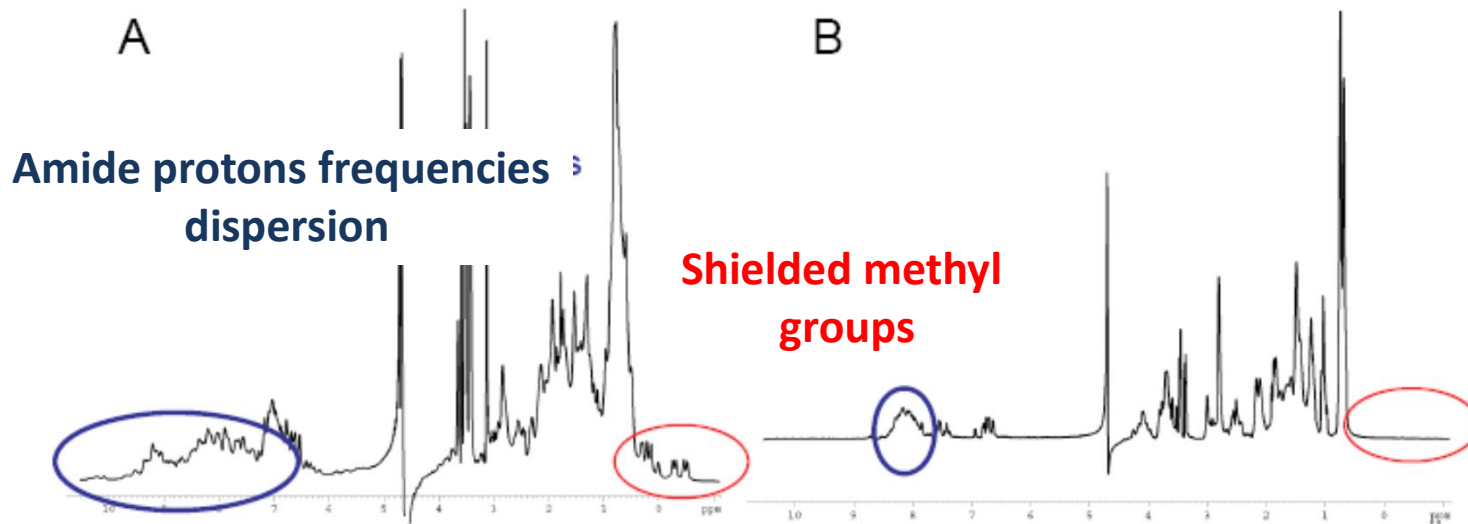
# $^1\text{H}$ Spectral Dispersion by 3D fold of proteins



*Folded protein*



*Disordered protein*

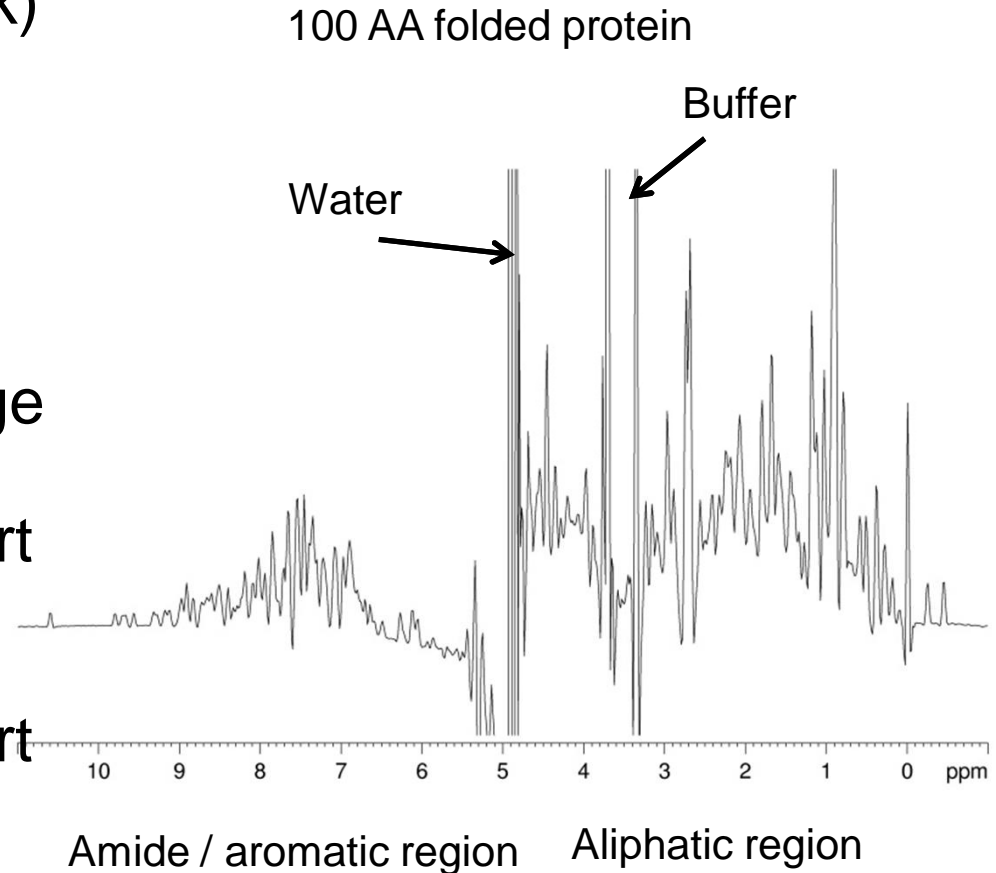


spectre  $^1\text{H}$  @ 600MHz, 298K 200 residue protein



# Specificity of protein NMR (and peptides)

- “ NMR experiment in H<sub>2</sub>O (with 5-10% D<sub>2</sub>O for the lock)
- “ Need water suppression and, ideally, NMR-invisible buffers
- “ Detected signals are pH dependent (pH<7) because amide N-H protons exchange with water protons
- “ High Molecular Weight, short T<sub>2</sub> fast relaxation (loss of coherence)
- “ High Molecular Weight, short T<sub>2</sub> fast relaxation (loss of coherence)
- “ Isotopic labeling: <sup>15</sup>N, <sup>13</sup>C, <sup>2</sup>H
- “ Most applications require higher-dimensional spectra!

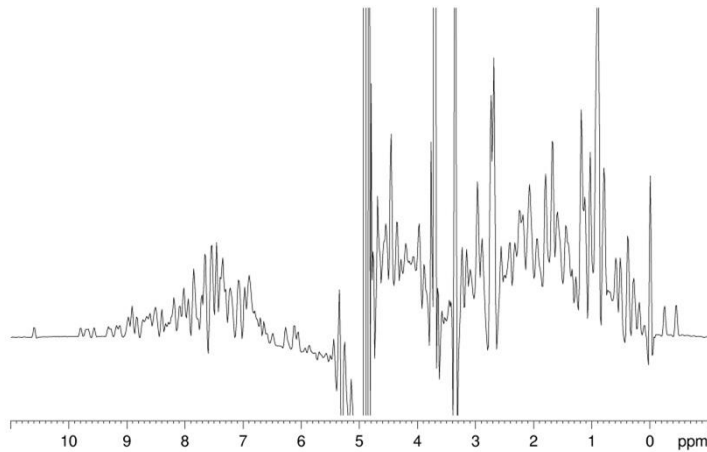


C. Smet-Nocca

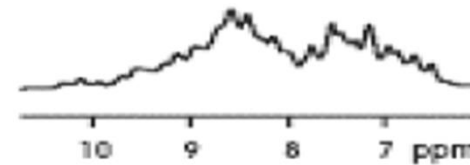


# Protein NMR

1D proton spectrum  
100 aa protein



1D proton spectrum  
500 aa protein



High Molecular Weight, short  $T_2$  fast relaxation (loss of coherence)

Resonance broadening  $\leftrightarrow$  relaxation

→ NMR spectroscopy is « traditionnally » **limited to 200-250 aa proteins of about 20-25 kDa**

# $^1\text{H}$ NMR Spectrum of proteins

Proteins,  $^1\text{H}$  spectrum interpretation is impossible :

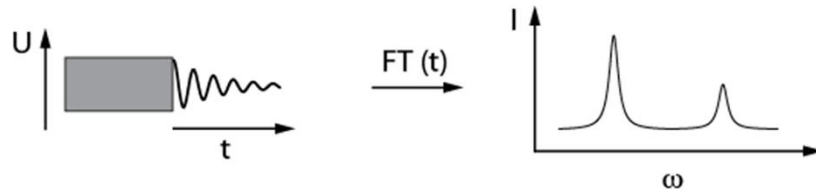
- Signal number
- overlap

But usefull to:

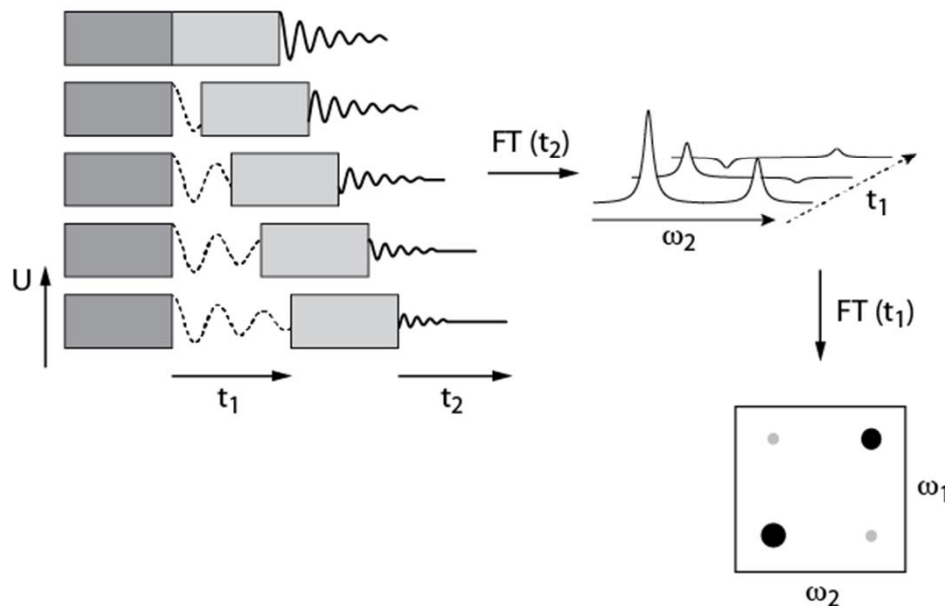
- Check protein in sample
- Check protein concentration (by comparison with a protein reference spectrum)
- Check signal to noise
- solution contamination (bad dessalting)
- Globular or disordered
- calibration of  $^1\text{H}$  excitation pulse (P1)
- Check shims

# From 1D to 2D

## 1D



## 2D



“ Additional frequency dimension is indirectly recorded via an incremented delay

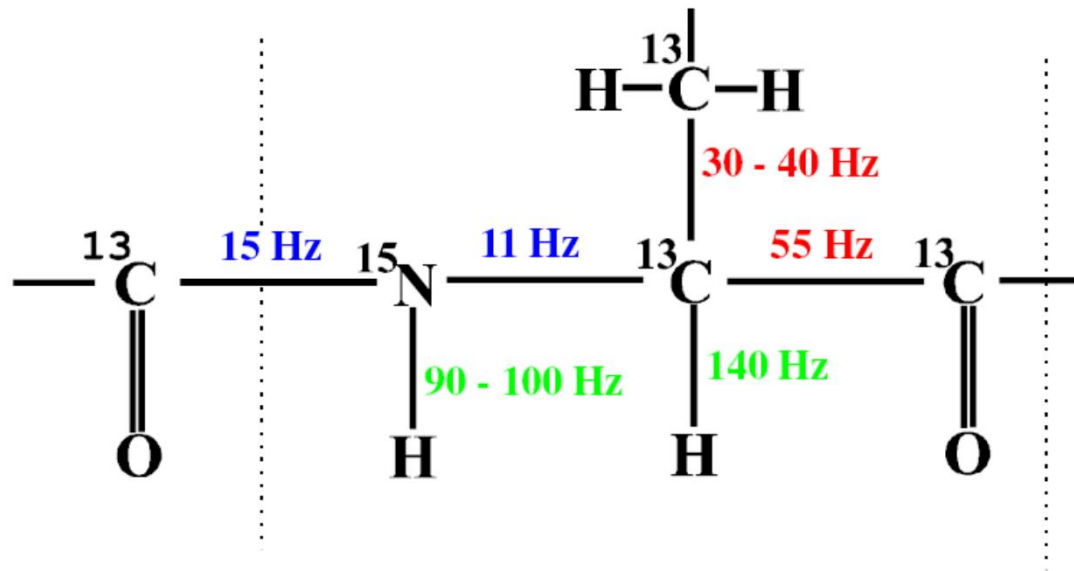
“ Imprints frequencies of coupled nuclei onto signals of the 1D spectrum

⇒ 2-dimensional Fourier transformation

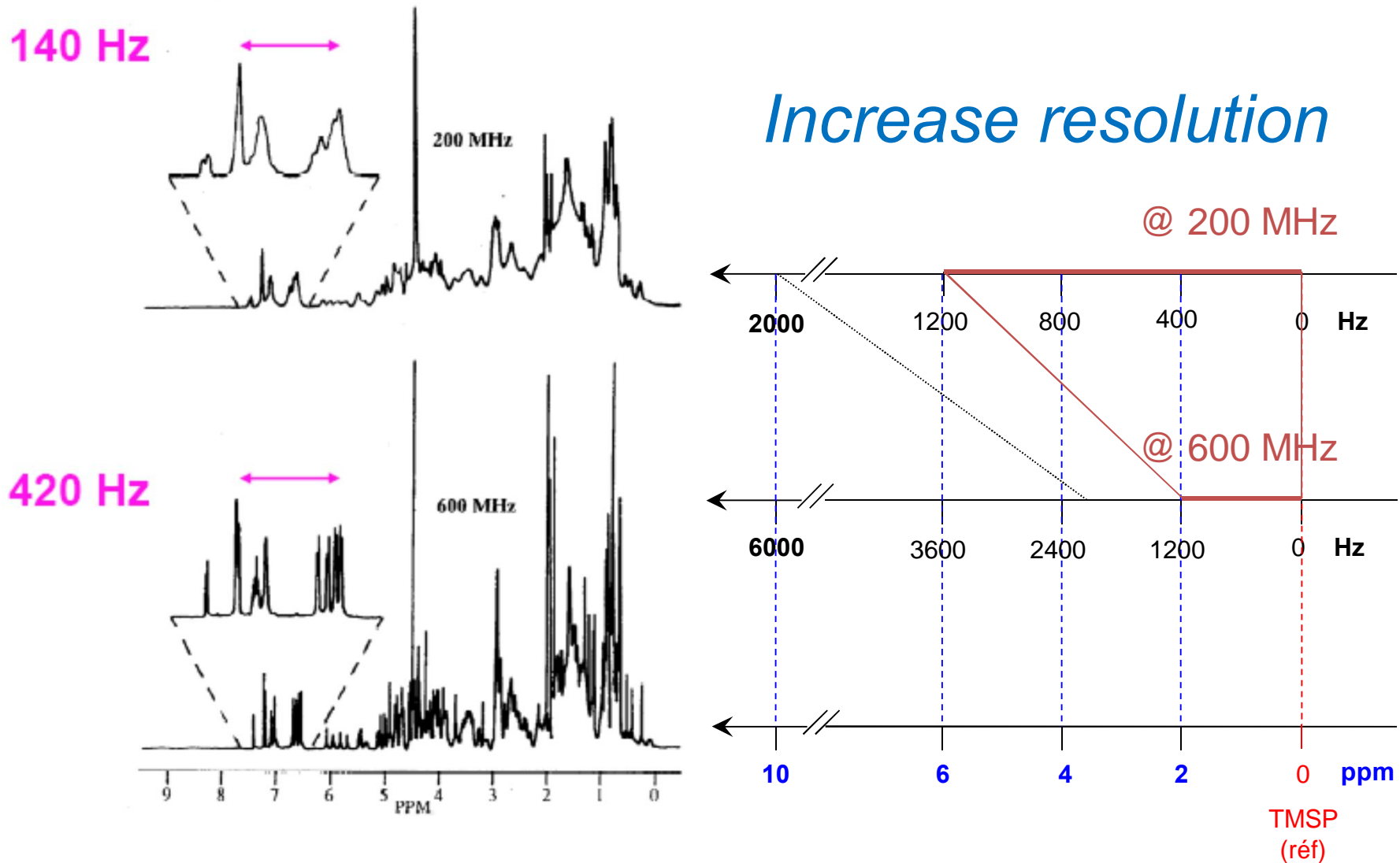


# Scalar coupling (J)

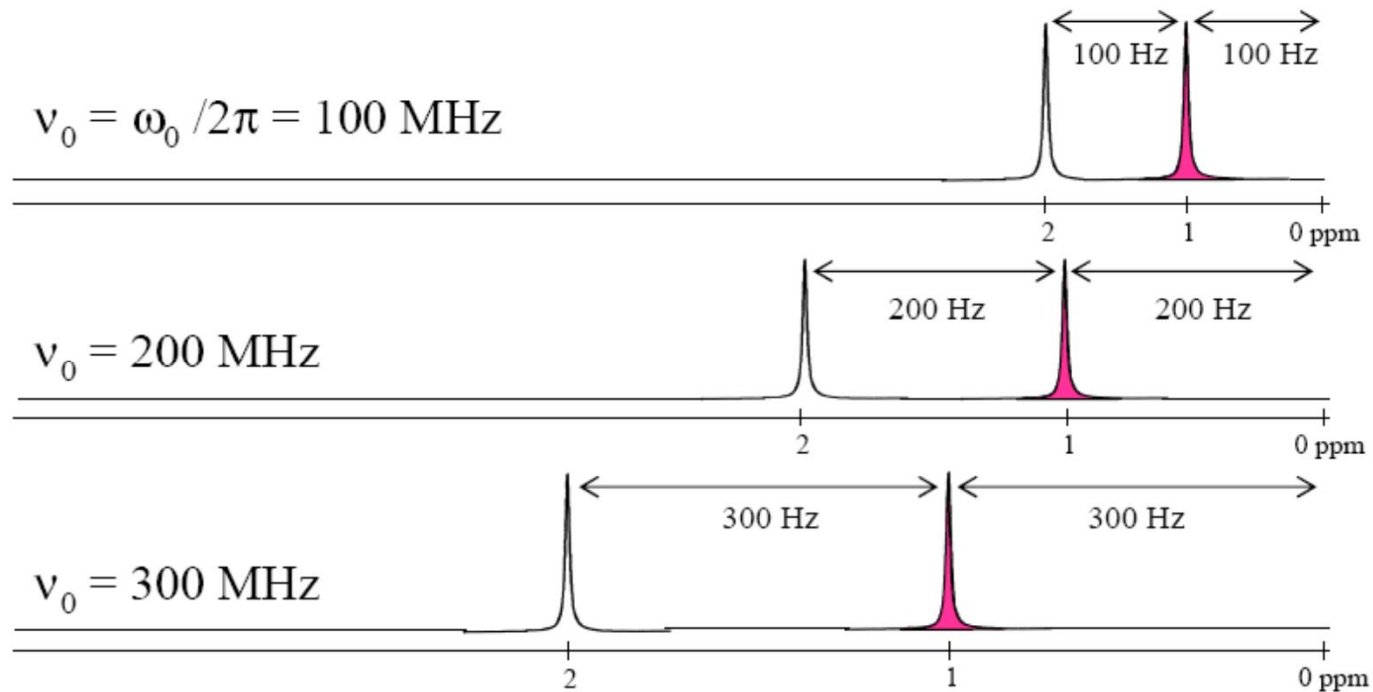
## Heteronuclear coupling in polypeptidic chains



# Spectrum Evolution in function of $B_0$ : spectral resolution



# Spectrum Evolution in function of $B_0$ : spectral resolution



→ « stretch » of the scale with increase  $B_0$

# Solvent

Solvent:

- compound solubilisation/ signal resolution
- lock and shim (total or partial deuteration)

→ but intense signal because [ $^1\text{H}$  of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ] = 111 M (1.11 M si 1%  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )

→ [proteine] = 10  $\mu\text{M}$  – 1 mM

” eliminate signals from solvent

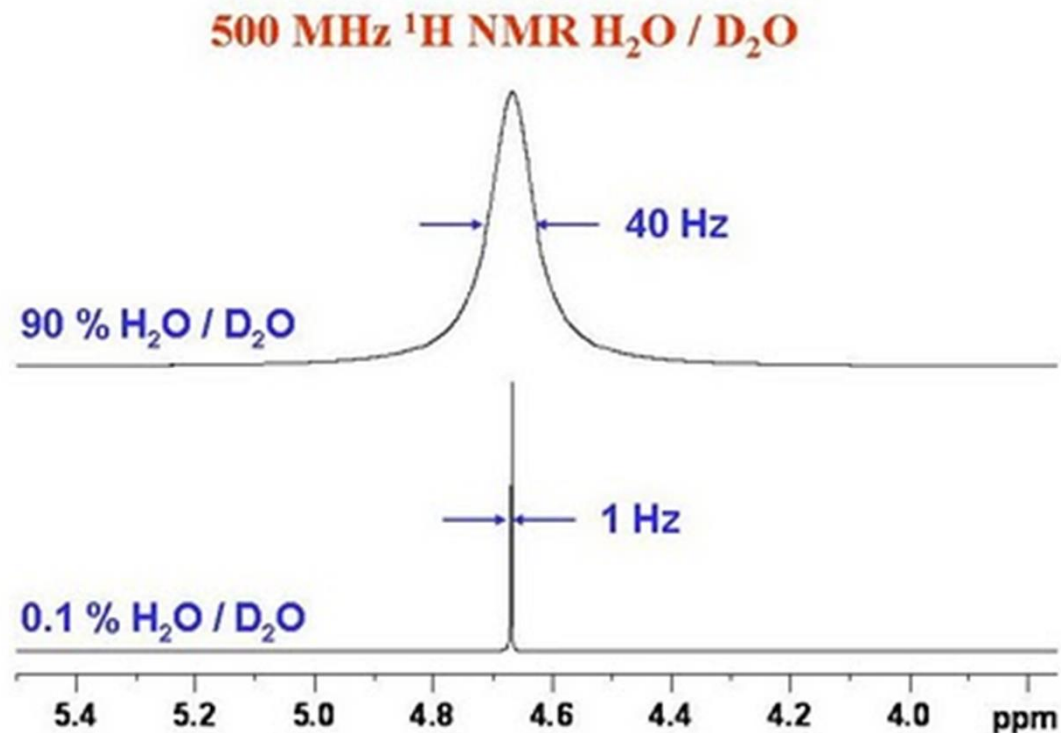
” Residual signal from protonated solvent when using deuterated solvent

” Solvent signal from protonated solvent (par ex.  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  for protein study)

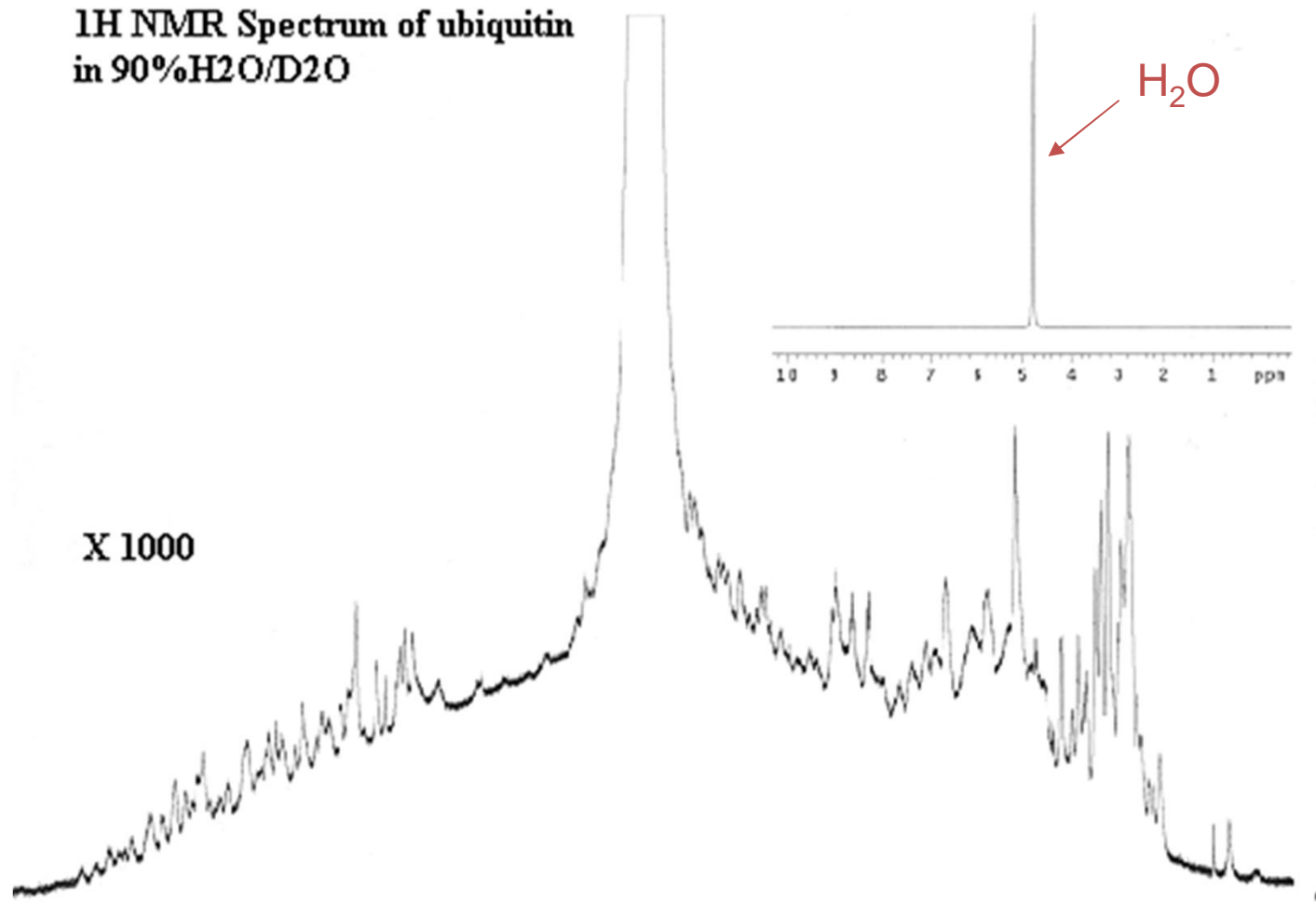


# Water resonance width

- “ **radiation damping** : The strong magnetisation of the water signal induces currents in the coil of the spectrometer, which generate magnetic field affecting peak width
- “ depend on water amount, tuning of the probe,  $B_0$ ,  $\tilde{\omega}$

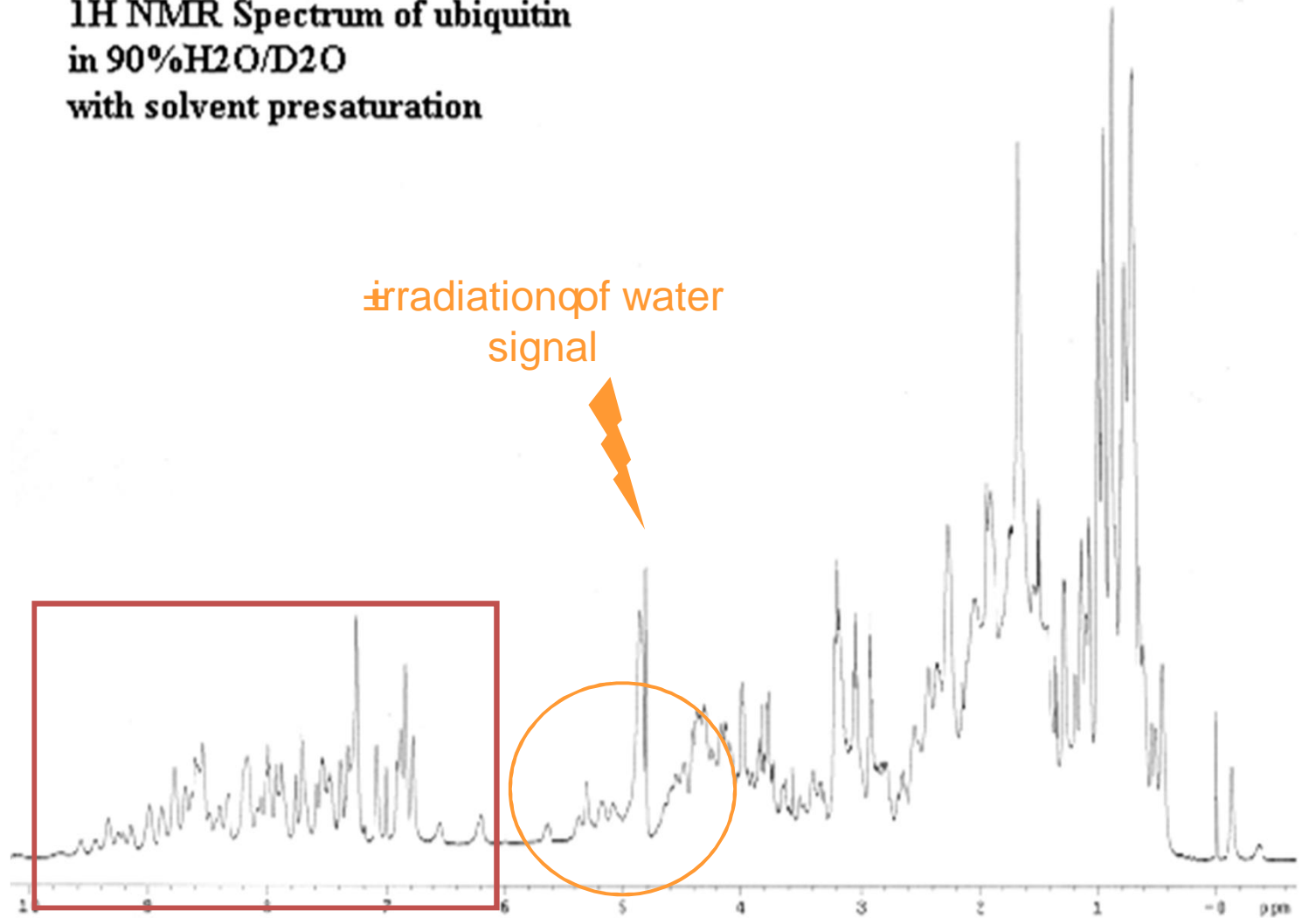


# NMR spectrum of a model protein, ubiquitin



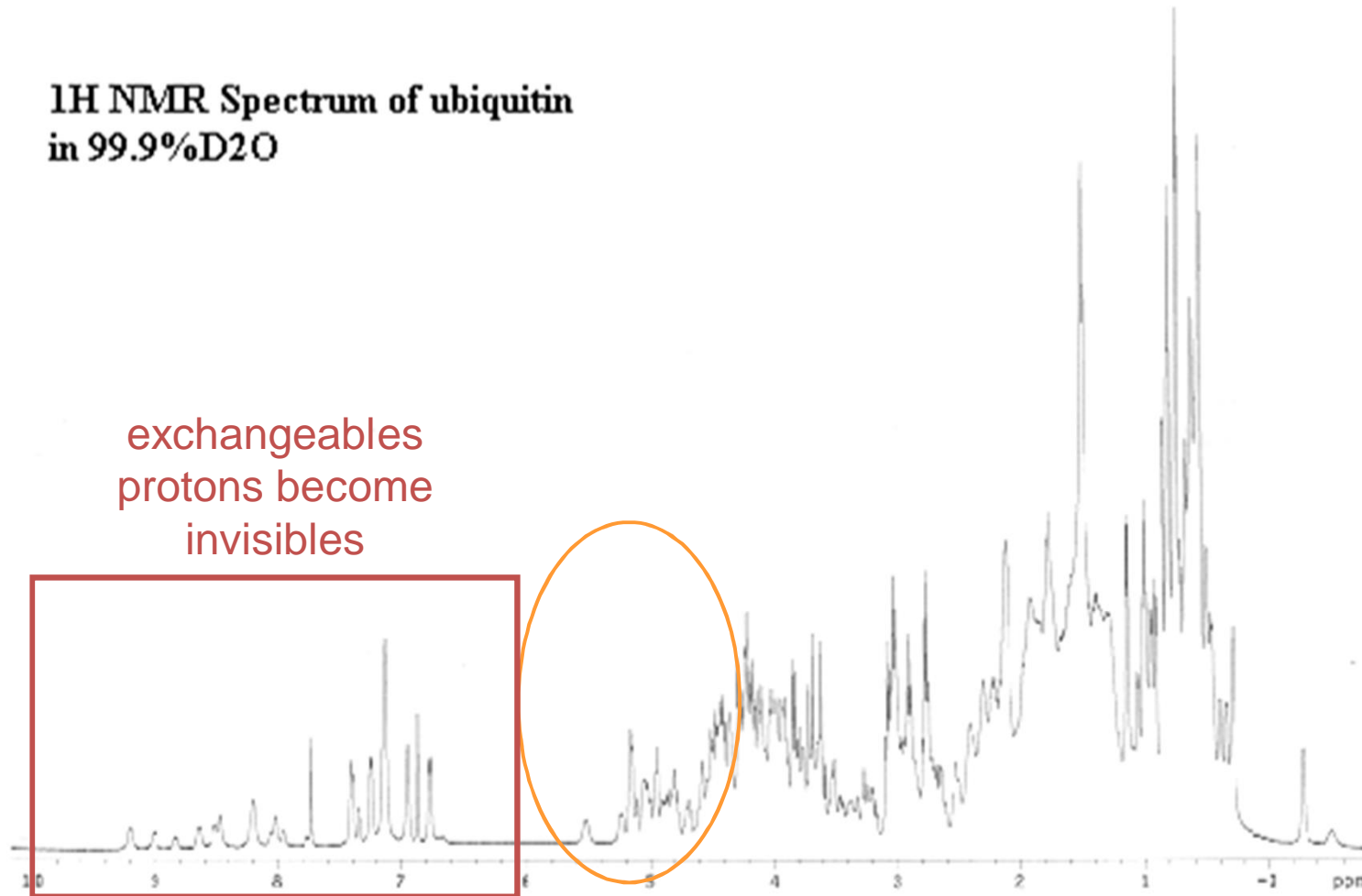
# NMR spectrum of a model protein, ubiquitin

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of ubiquitin  
in 90% H<sub>2</sub>O/D<sub>2</sub>O  
with solvent presaturation**

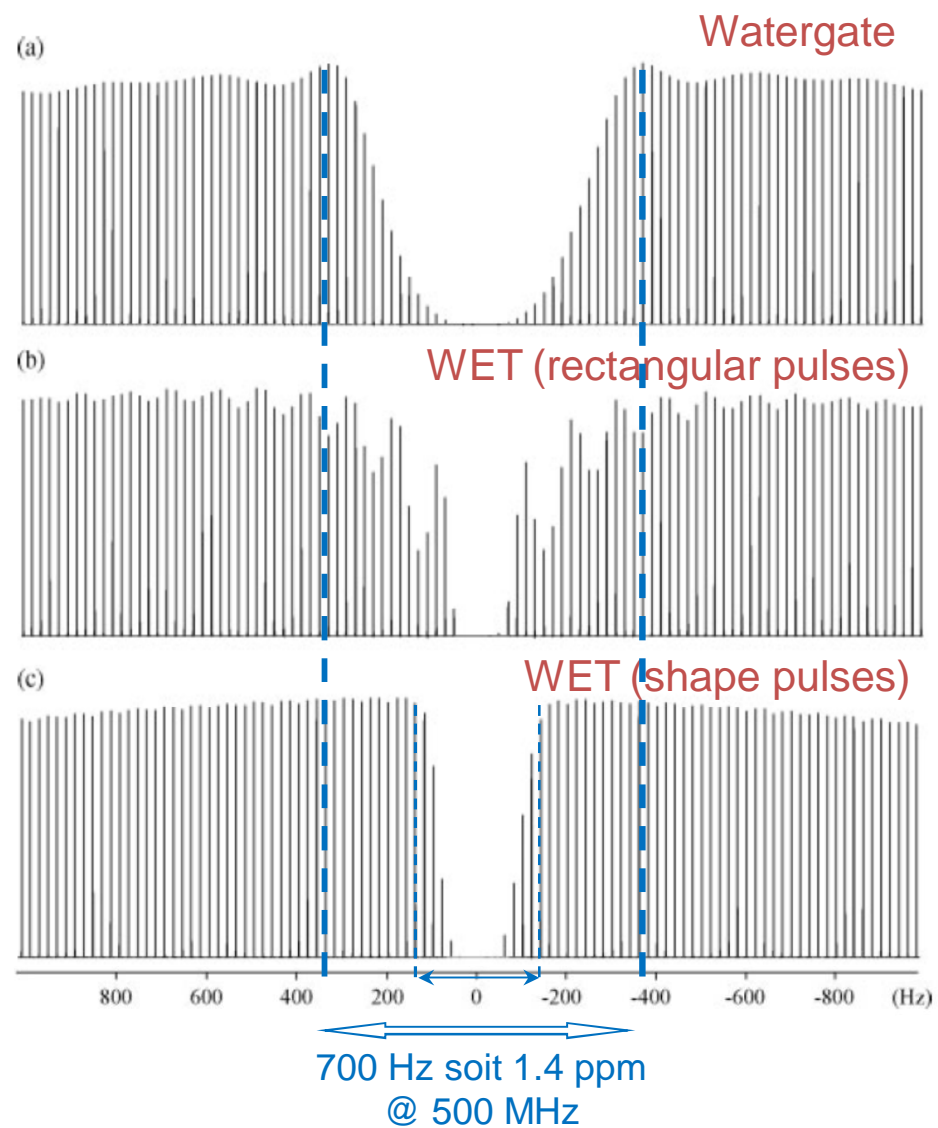
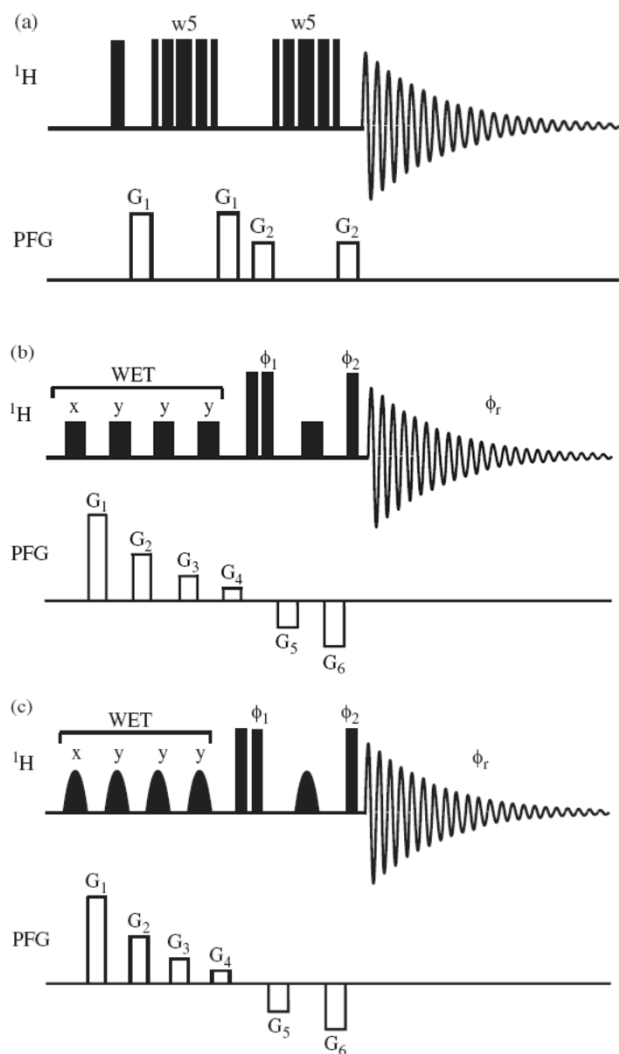


# NMR spectrum of a model protein, ubiquitin

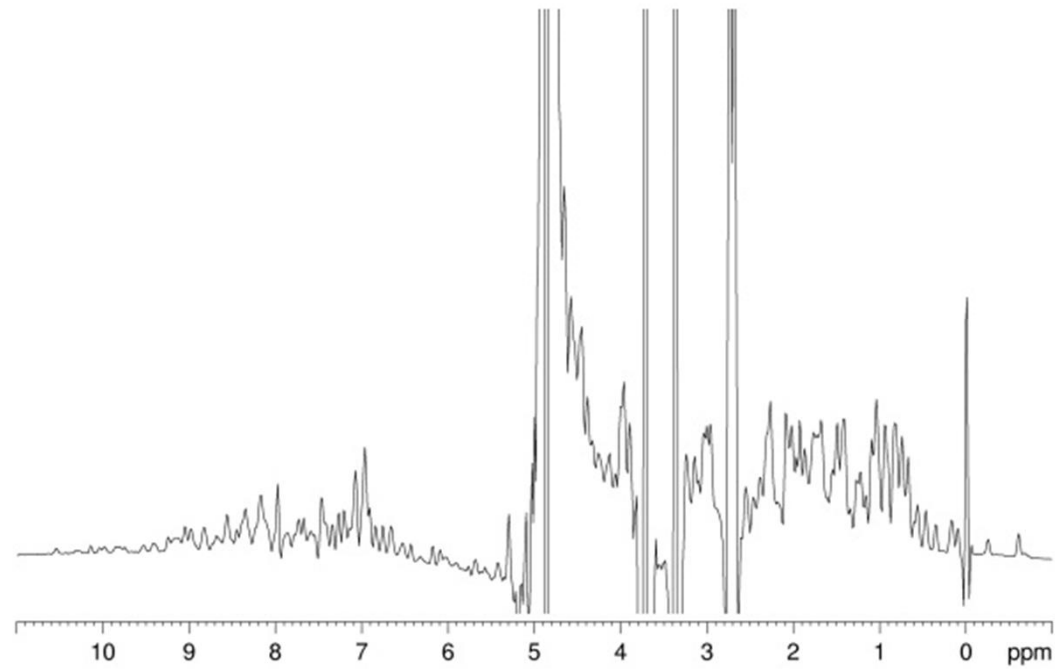
**<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectrum of ubiquitin  
in 99.9%D<sub>2</sub>O**



# Solvent Signal Suppression



# NMR 1D to NMR 2D



**RMN 1D  $\leftrightarrow$  1 frequency**

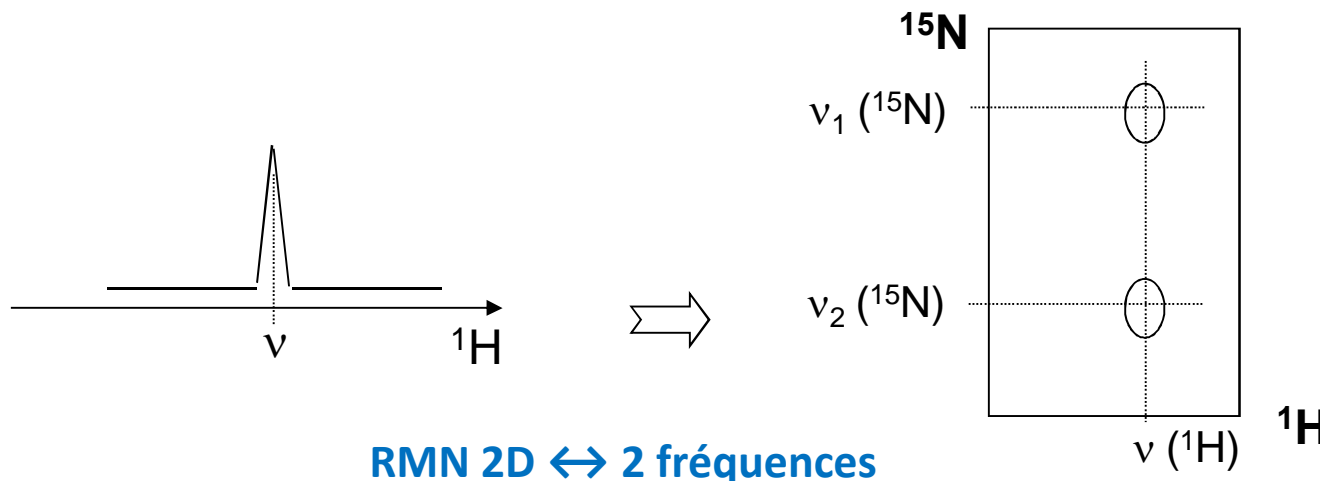
# NMR 1D to NMR 2D

- 2D NMR : 2<sup>nd</sup> dimension = <sup>1</sup>H or <sup>15</sup>N or <sup>13</sup>C
- isotopic labeling <sup>15</sup>N and/or <sup>13</sup>C : stable isotopes, non radioactives!
- for example : detection of coupled <sup>15</sup>N-<sup>1</sup>H in proteins(all backbone HN + lateral chain HN)
- two <sup>1</sup>H with the same resonance frequency could have different <sup>15</sup>N frequencies

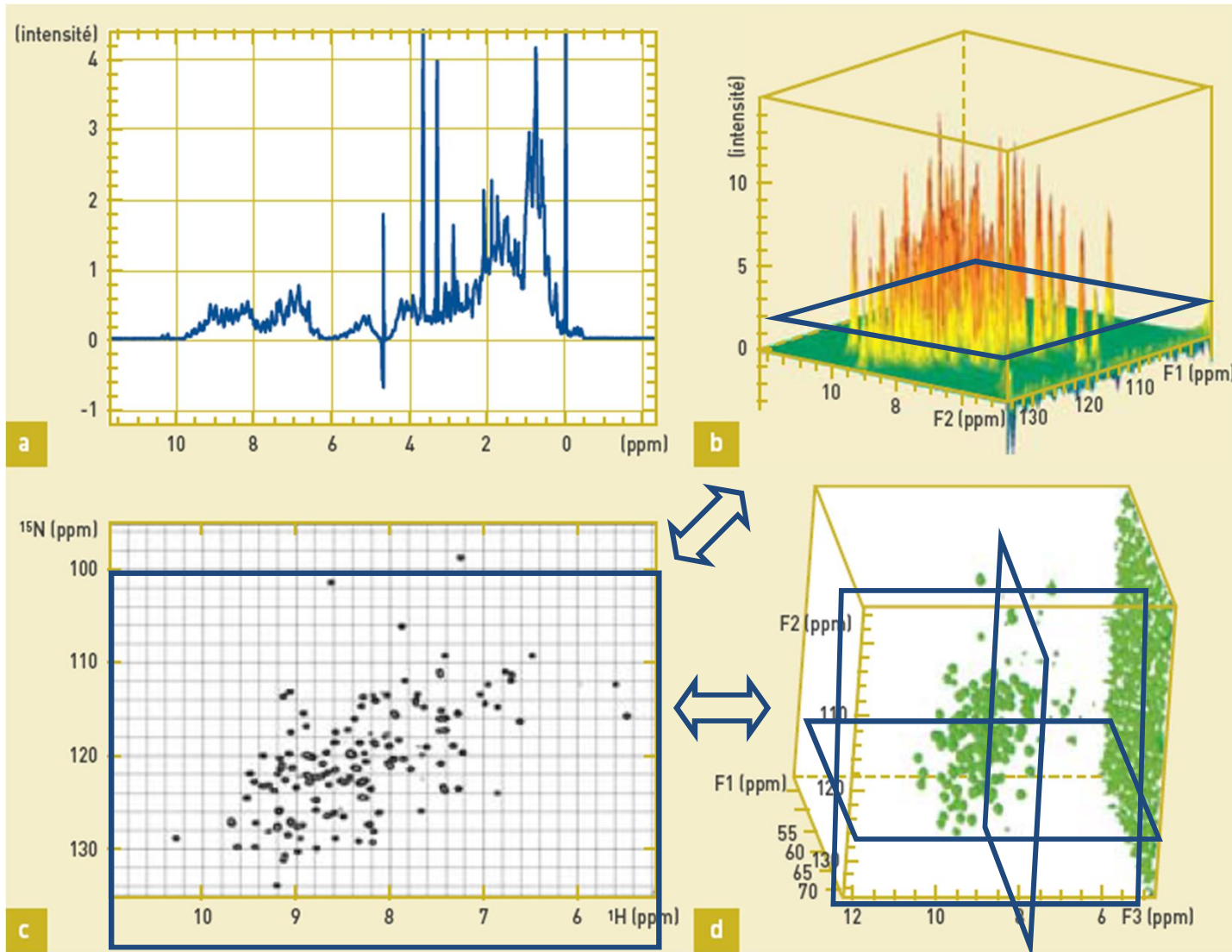
% 1H	99,9885
% 2H	0,0115
% 3H	0

% 12C	98,93
% 13C	1,07
% 14C	0

% 14N	99,632
% 15N	0,368



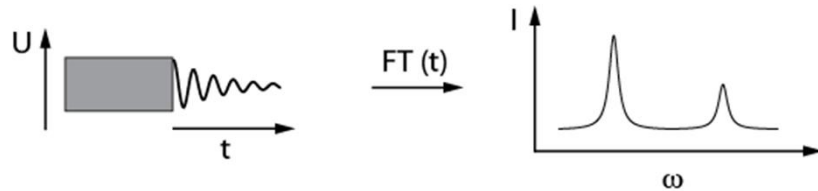
# From 1D NMR to multi-dimensional NMR



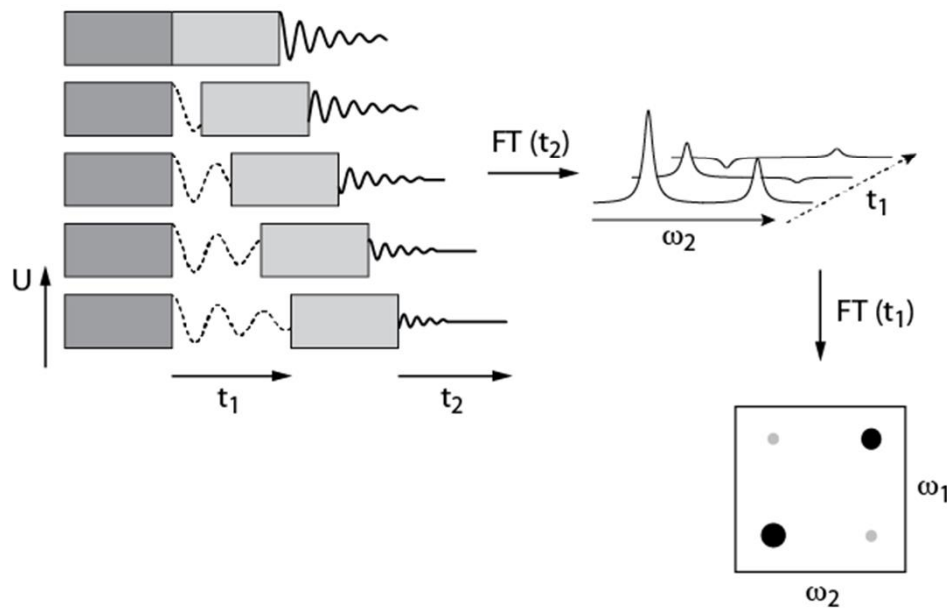


# From 1D to 2D

## 1D



## 2D

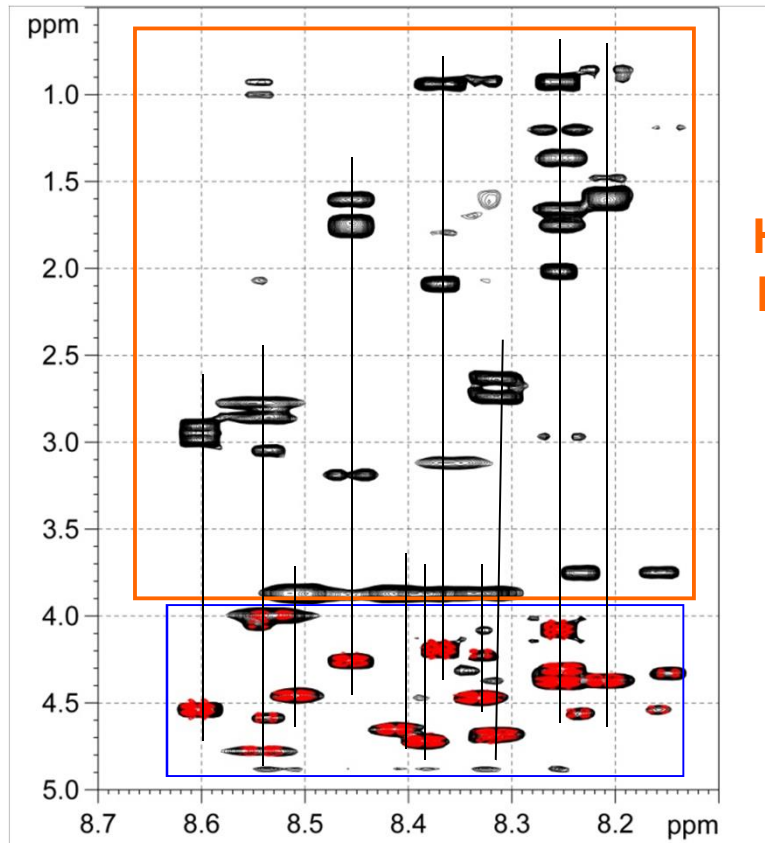


“ Additional frequency dimension is indirectly recorded via an incremented delay

“ Imprints frequencies of coupled nuclei onto signals of the 1D spectrum

⇒ 2-dimensional Fourier transformation

# 2D $^1\text{H}$ NMR: covalent connections



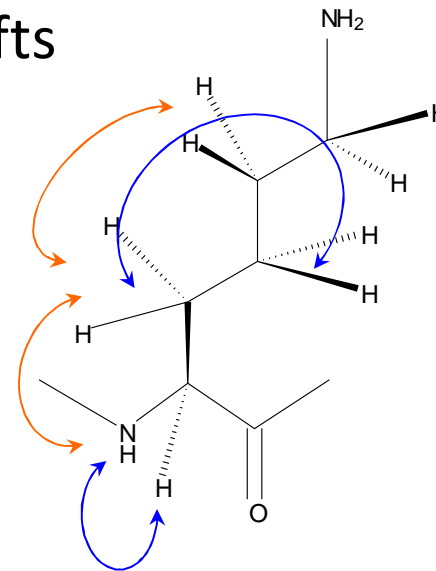
$\text{H}_\text{N}-\text{H}_\beta$ ,  
 $\text{H}_\text{N}-\text{H}_\gamma$ ,  
...

$\text{H}_\text{N}-\text{H}_\alpha$

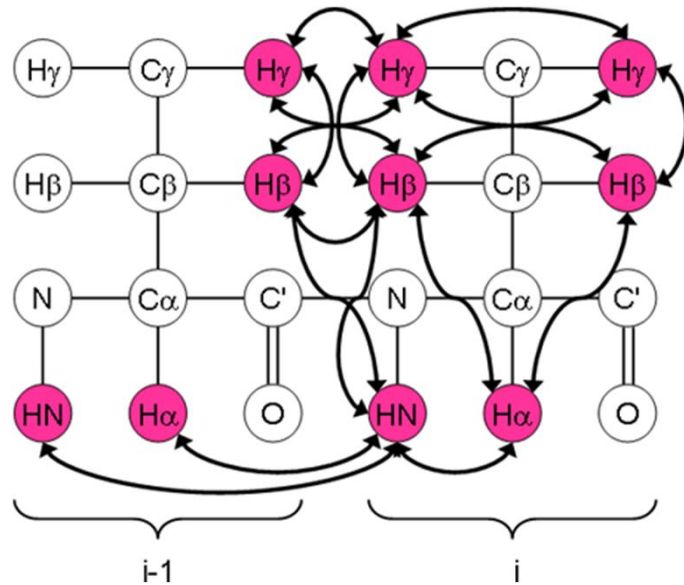
**TOCSY**  
**COSY**

C. Smet-Nocca

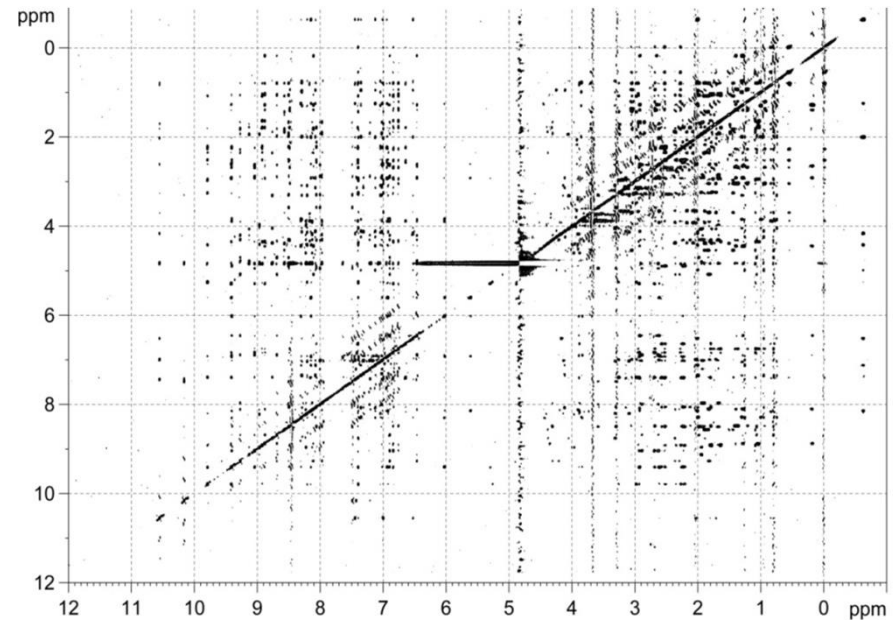
- Through-bond correlations of protons within individual amino acid residues via J coupling: COSY, TOCSY
- Identify residue type via characteristic chemical shifts



# 2D $^1\text{H}$ NMR: through-space connections



<http://www.protein-nmr.org.uk/solution-nmr/spectrum-descriptions/h-h-noesy/>



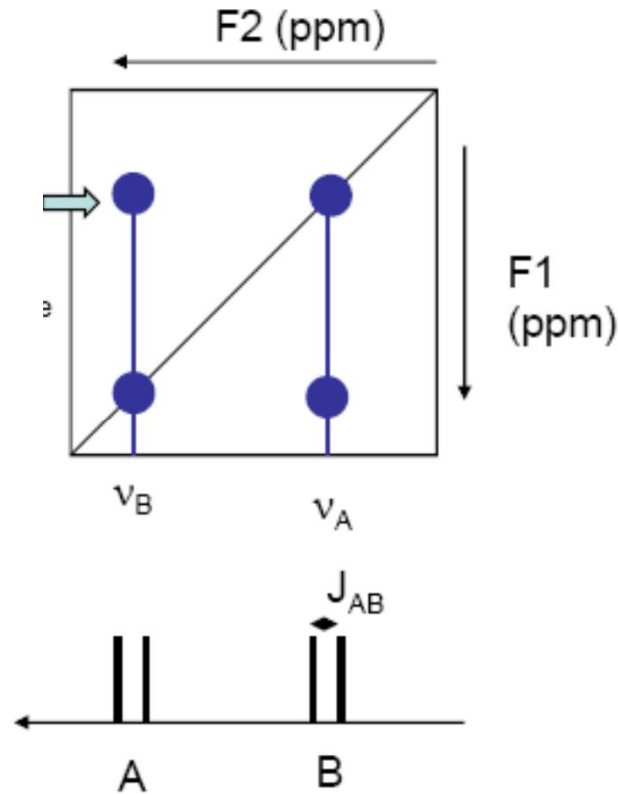
- “ NOESY: through-space correlations of protons within and between amino acid residues via dipolar coupling (NOE)
- “ Sequential assignment of  $^1\text{H}$  resonances
- “ Structural information

C. Smet-Nocca

# Homonuclear correlation spectroscopy

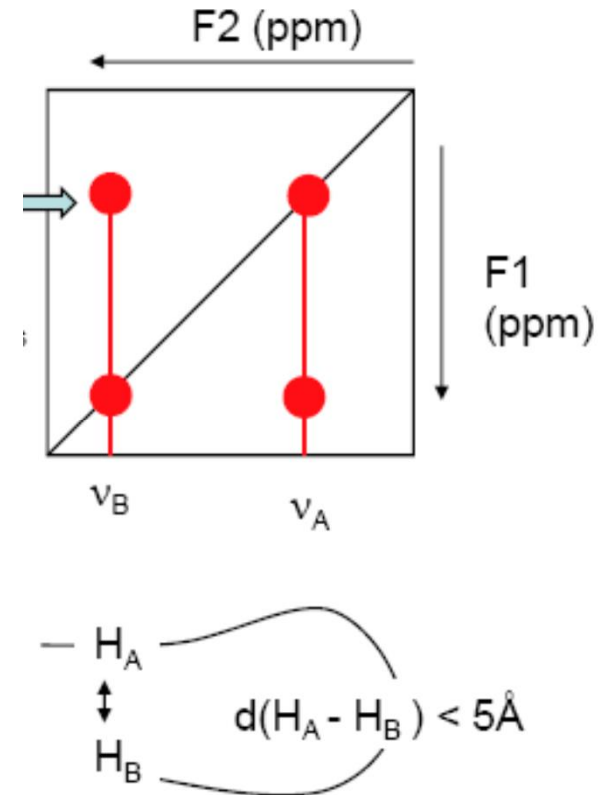
via scalar coupling  
(COSY, TOCSY)

Correlation peak due to a coupling constant



Dipolar coupling (NOESY, ROESY)

Correlation peak due to proximity (through space) of 2 protons



# $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ COSY et TOCSY

➤ COSY : homonuclear coupling  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$

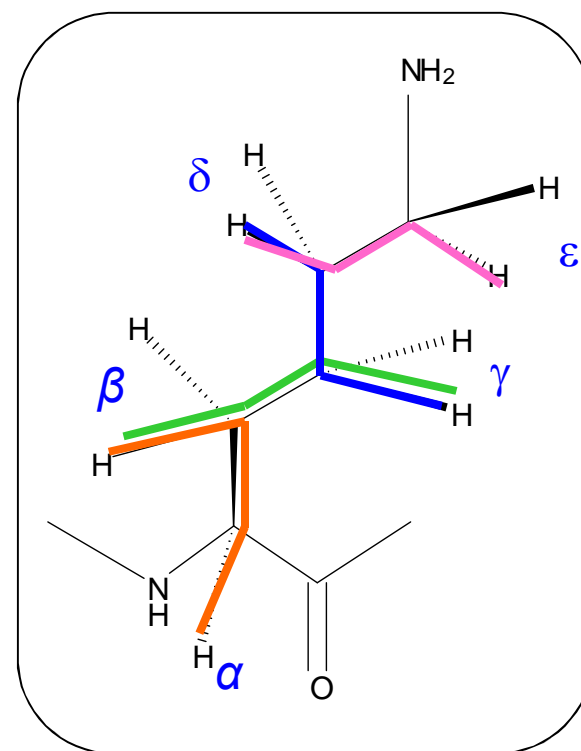
$^3\text{J}$  (3 chemical bonds)

➤ TOCSY : homonuclear coupling  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$

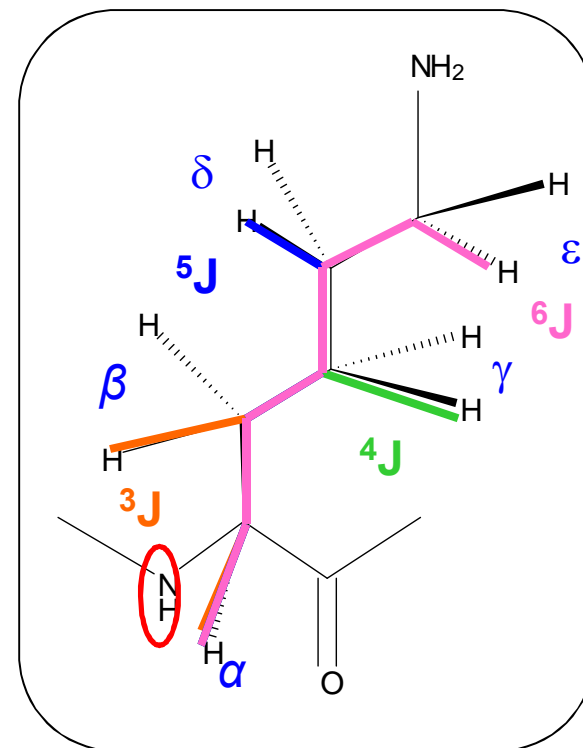
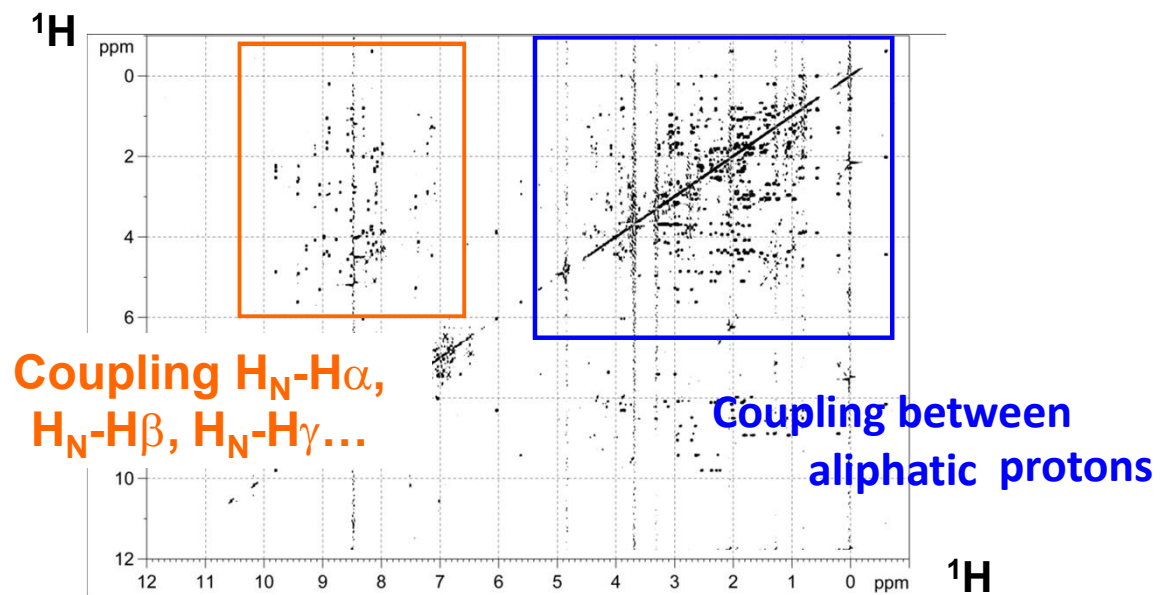
$^3\text{J} + ^4\text{J} + ^5\text{J} + ^6\text{J}$  (de 3 to 6 chemical bonds)

“ No isotopic labeling

“ Experiments allowing assignment of protons chemical shift values



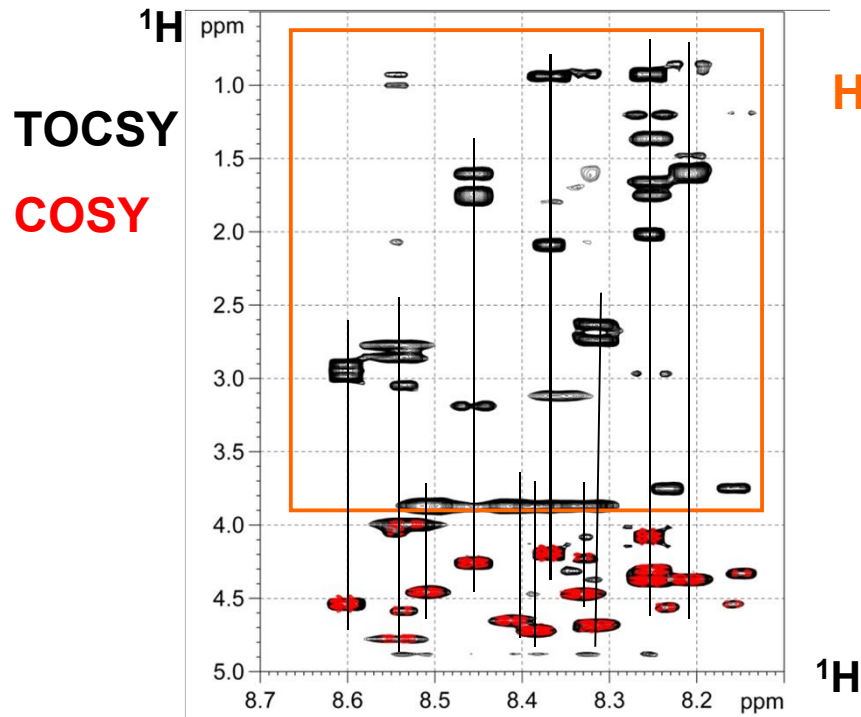
# $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ COSY et TOCSY



# $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ COSY and TOCSY

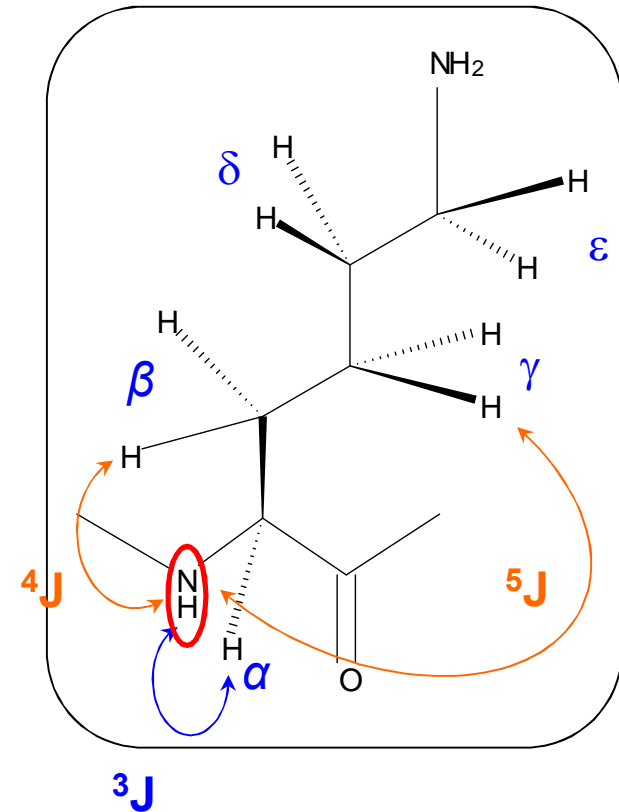
“ Chemical shift tables  $\delta$   $\text{H}_\text{N}$ ,  $\text{H}_\alpha$ ,  $\text{H}_\beta$ ,  $\text{H}_\gamma$ ,  $\text{H}_\delta$ ,  $\text{H}_\epsilon$ ,... :

➤ identification of the residue type



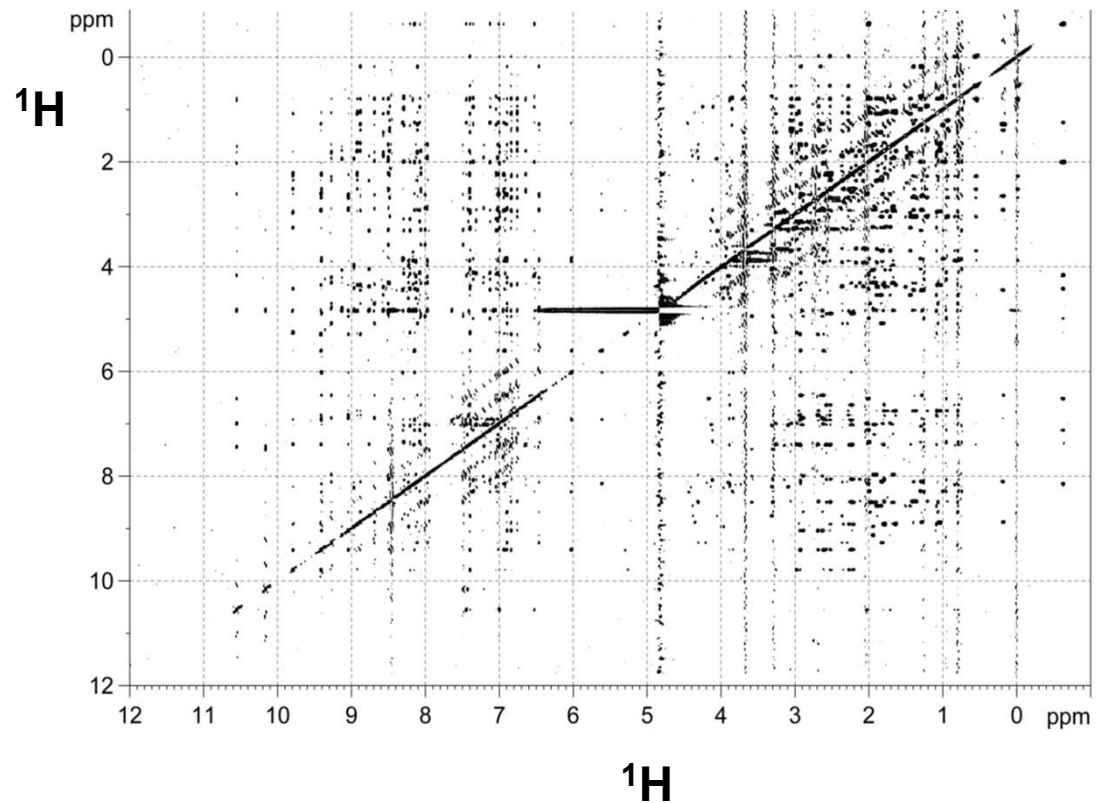
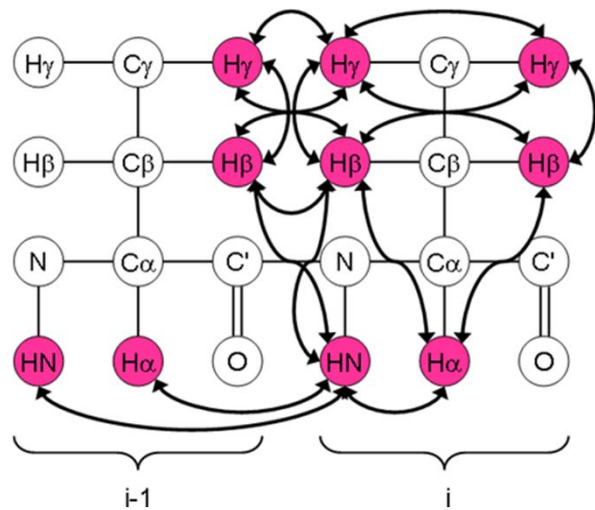
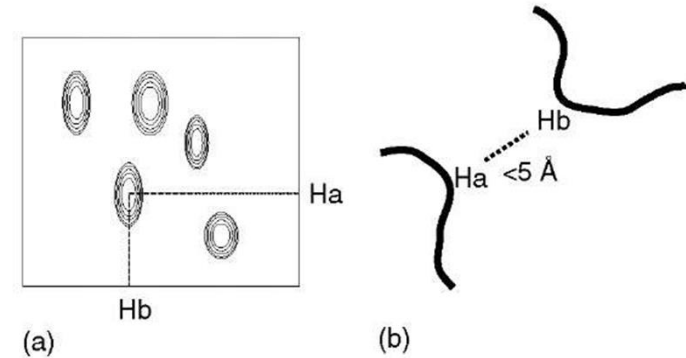
$\text{H}_\text{N}$ - $\text{H}_\beta$ ,  $\text{H}_\text{N}$ - $\text{H}_\gamma$ ...

$\text{H}_\text{N}$ - $\text{H}_\alpha$



# Nuclear Overhauser Effect spectroscopy : dipolar coupling

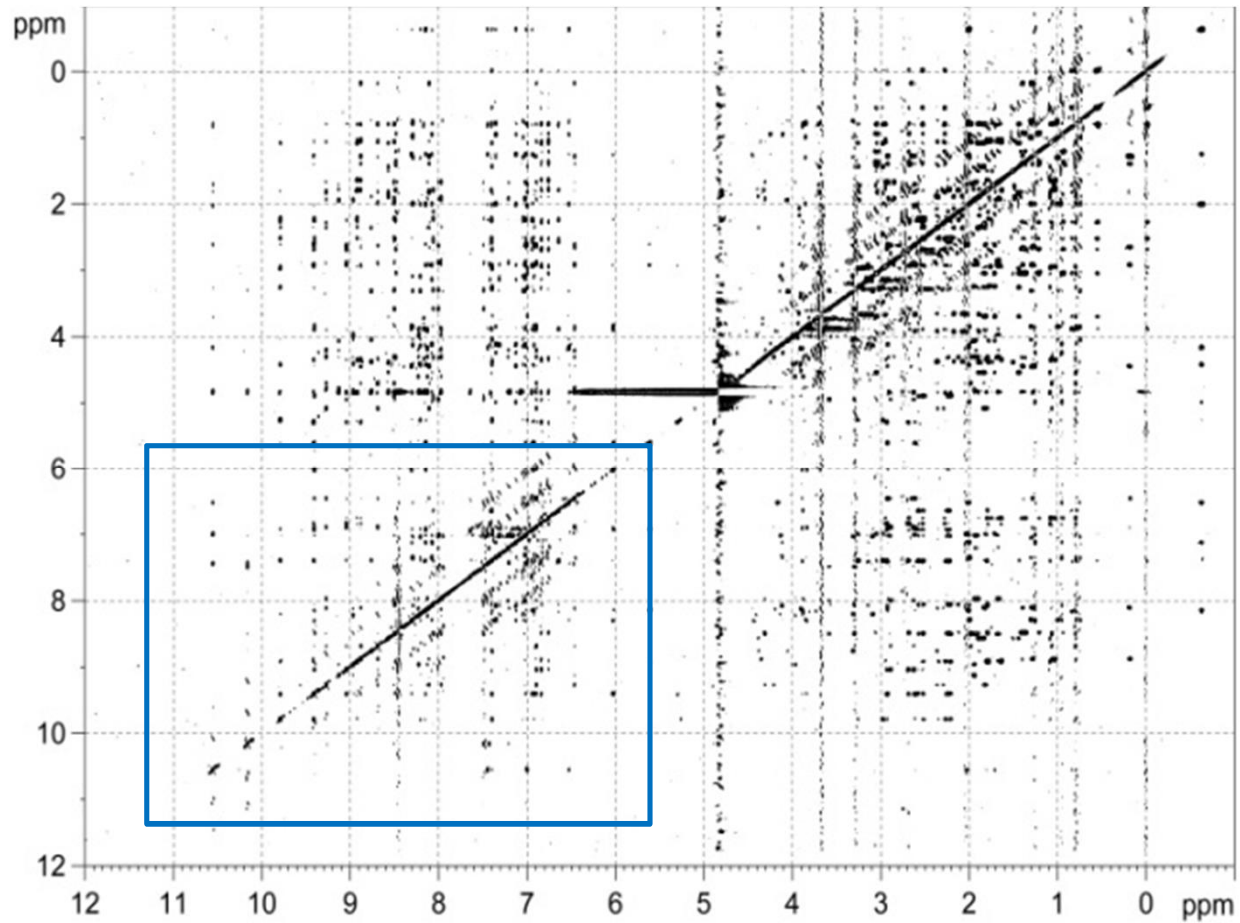
- No isotopic labeling
- **NOE effect will provide the distance constraints for structure**





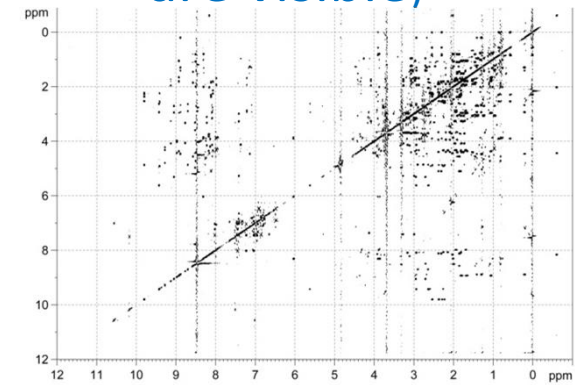
# $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$ NOESY

$I_{\text{cross}}$  : proportional to  $1/r^6$  with  $r$  is the distance between 2 nuclei



$\text{H}_\text{N}$ - $\text{H}_\text{N}$  coupling  $\leftrightarrow$  secondary structures

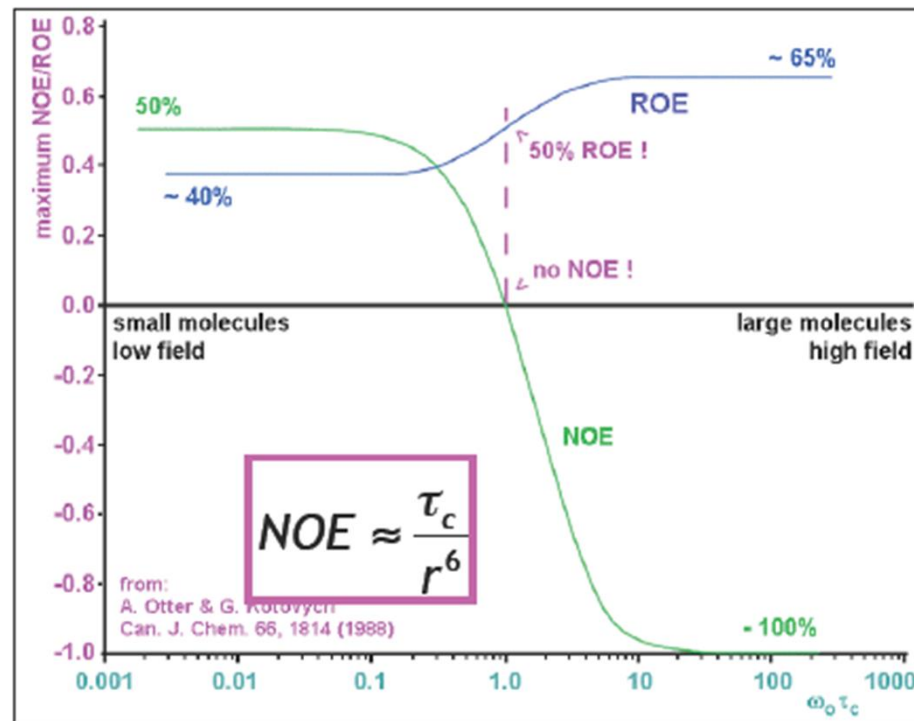
Similar to TOCSY  
(some scalar coupling  
are visible)



+  
dipolar coupling  
(through space less  
than 5 Å apart)

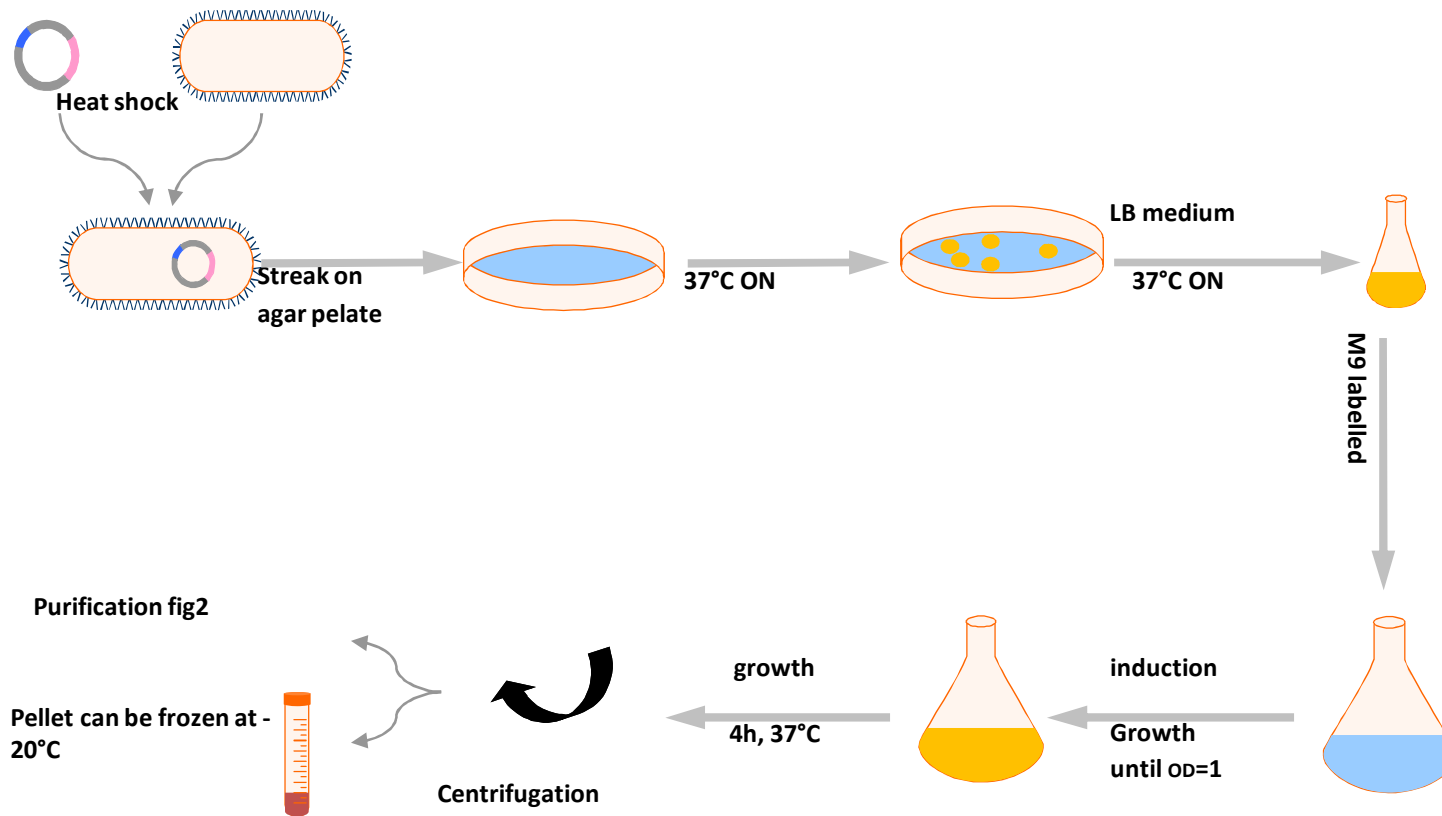
# NOESY ou ROESY

- “ **NOESY** : not adapted for compound with molecular masses of 800 – 1500 Da (NOE  $\approx$  0)
- “ **ROESY** : less intense signal but  $\neq$ 0



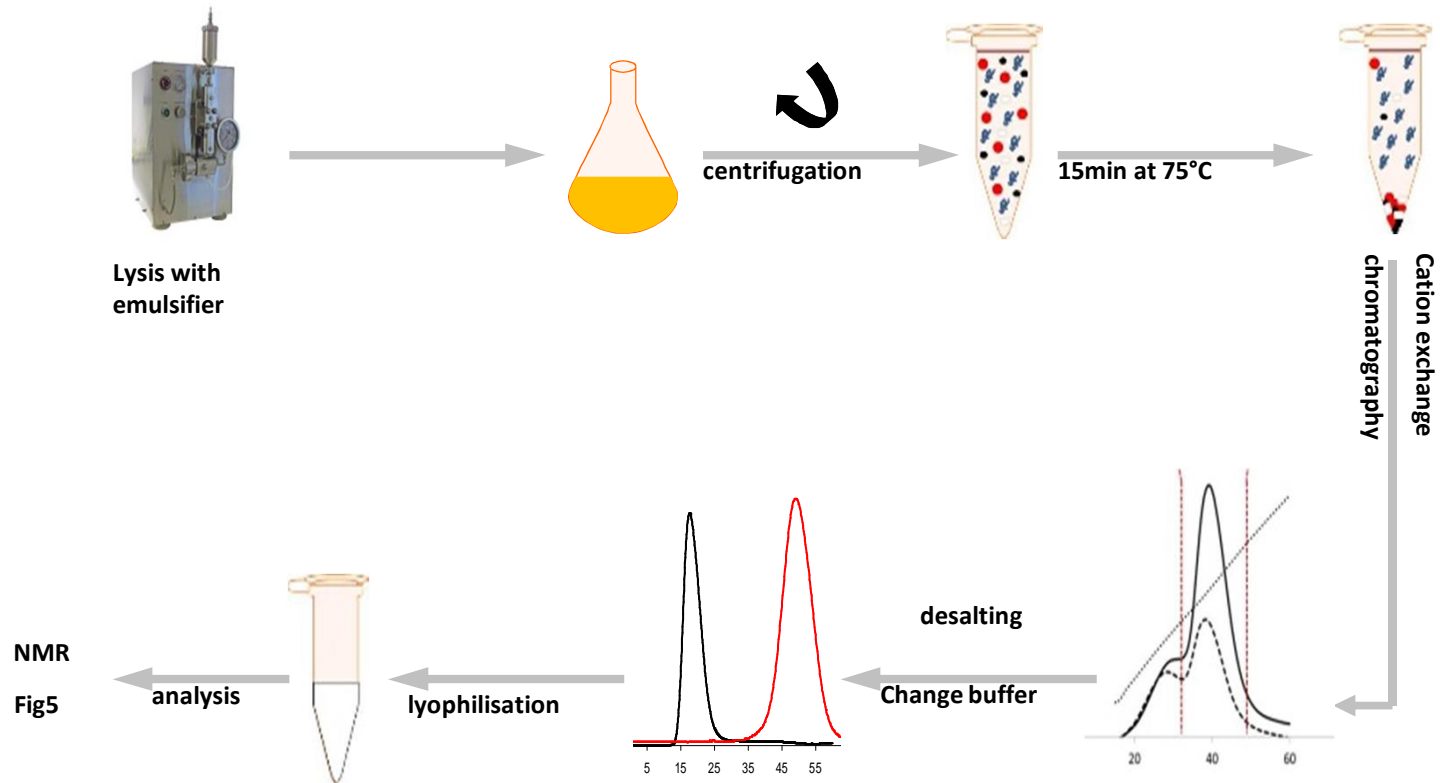
Heteronuclear NMR .  
the standard for proteins

# Isotopic labeling of proteins



- “ In most cases, the protein of interest is overexpressed recombinantly in bacteria (E. coli)
- “ Use minimal medium with  $^{15}\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$ -glucose as sole nitrogen and carbon sources

# Isotopic labeling of proteins



” Purification

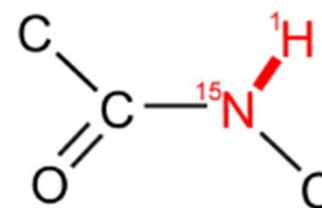
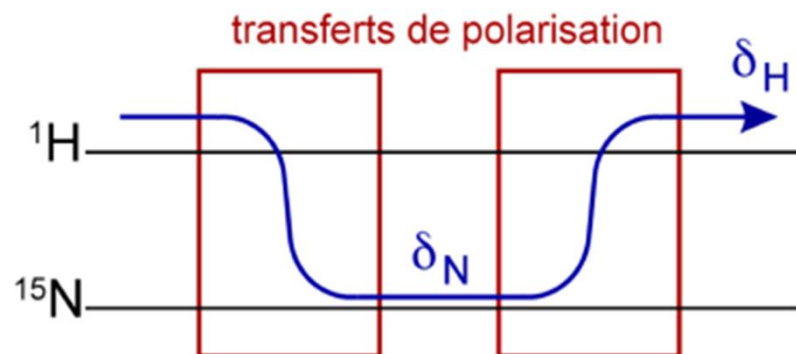
# Heteronuclear NMR experiments

- “ In most solution NMR experiments, initial excitation and final detection of the signal is still done on  $^1\text{H}$  due to superior sensitivity
- “ Rather complex pulse sequences serve to excite desired coherences and suppress unwanted ones

Two-dimension NMR is essential to obtain high-resolution spectra of complex biomolecules

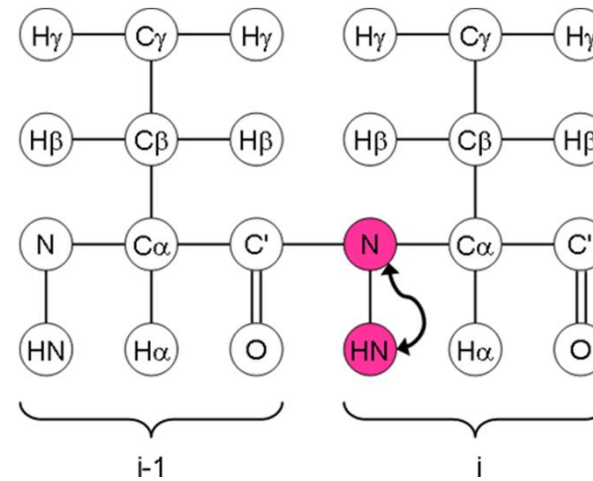
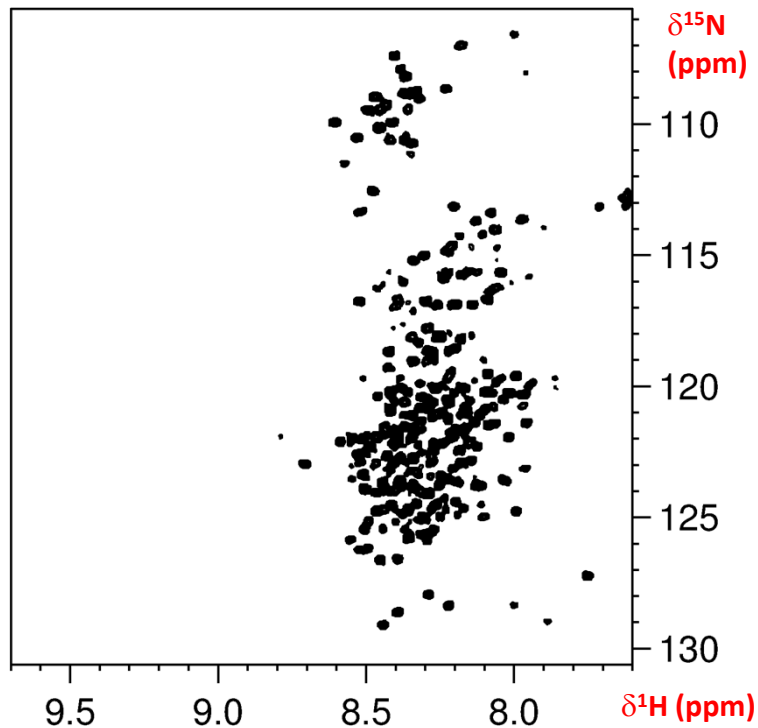
The HSQC experiment: a keystone of biological NMR

G. Bodenhausen et D. J. Ruben, *Chem. Phys. Lett.* 1980, 69, 185.



# $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^1\text{H}$ HSQC: the fingerprint of a protein

HSQC: heteronuclear single quantum coherence



$^{15}\text{N}$  isotopic labeling of the protein is required

One cross-peak for each N-H amide group in the protein (as well as N-H-containing side-chains)

Check folding and amenability for further study

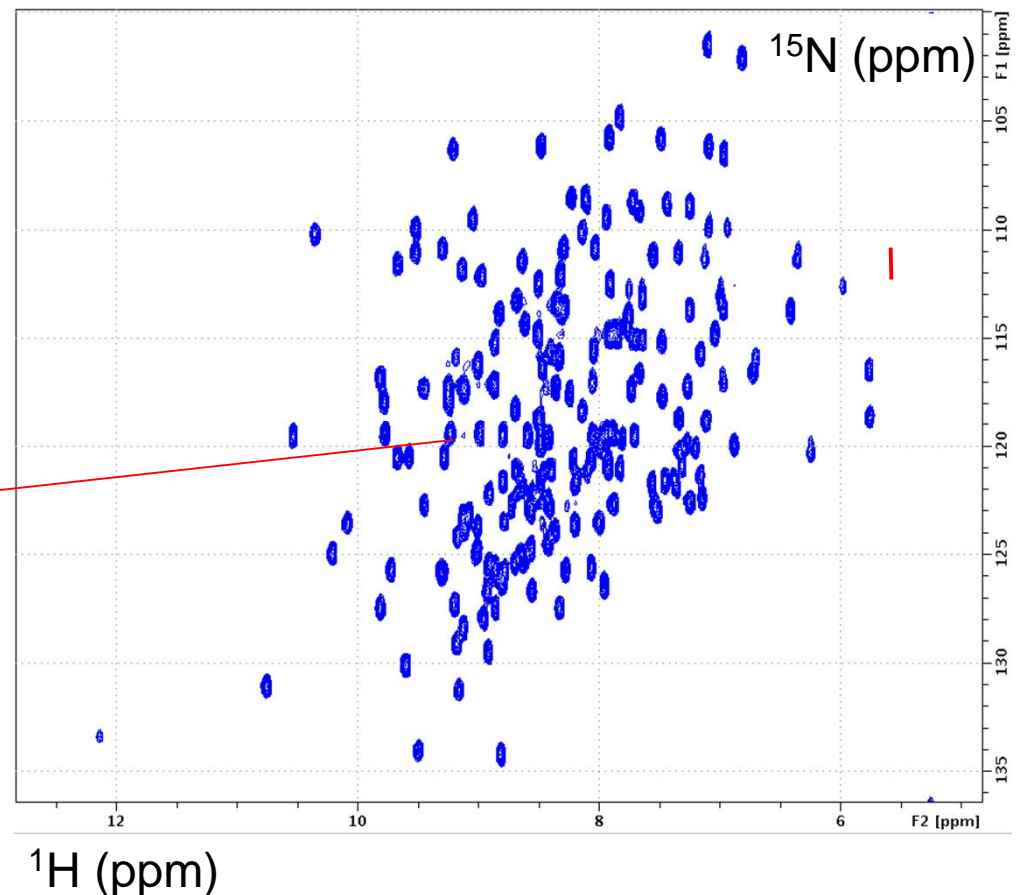
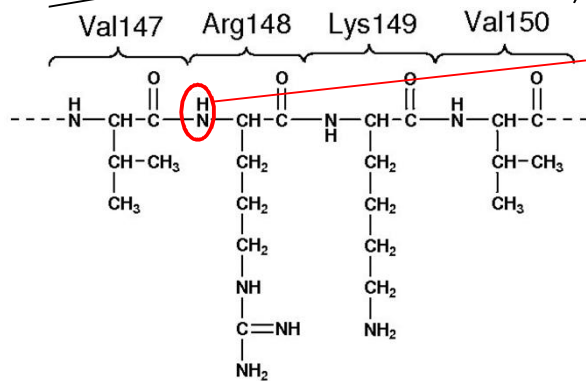
Basic experiment for protein NMR in solution

# $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^1\text{H}$ HSQC: the fingerprint of a protein

2D proton-nitrogen correlation spectrum

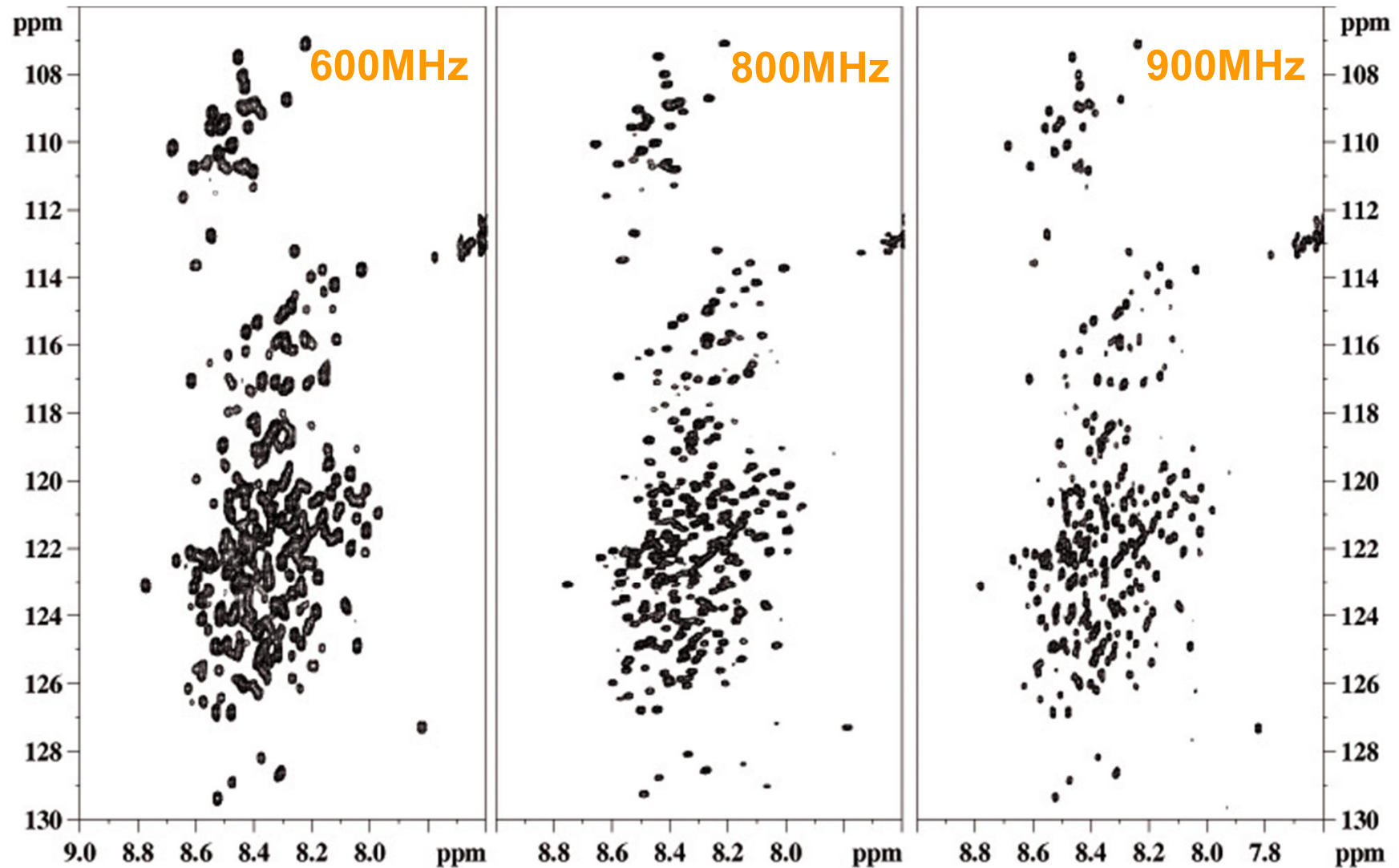
One peak per Amino Acid (excepts prolines)  
originating from the amide function present in  
every amino acid.

```
DEKKKGPKV TVKVYFDLRI GDEDVGRVIF GLFGKTVPKT VDNFVALATG  
EKGFYKNSK FHRVIKDFMI QGGDFTRGDG TGGKSIYGER FPDENFKLKH  
YGPWVSMAN AGKDTNGSQF FITTVKTAWL DGKHVVFQKV LEGMEVVRKV  
ESTKTDSRDK PLKDVIIADC GKIEVEKPFA IAKE
```

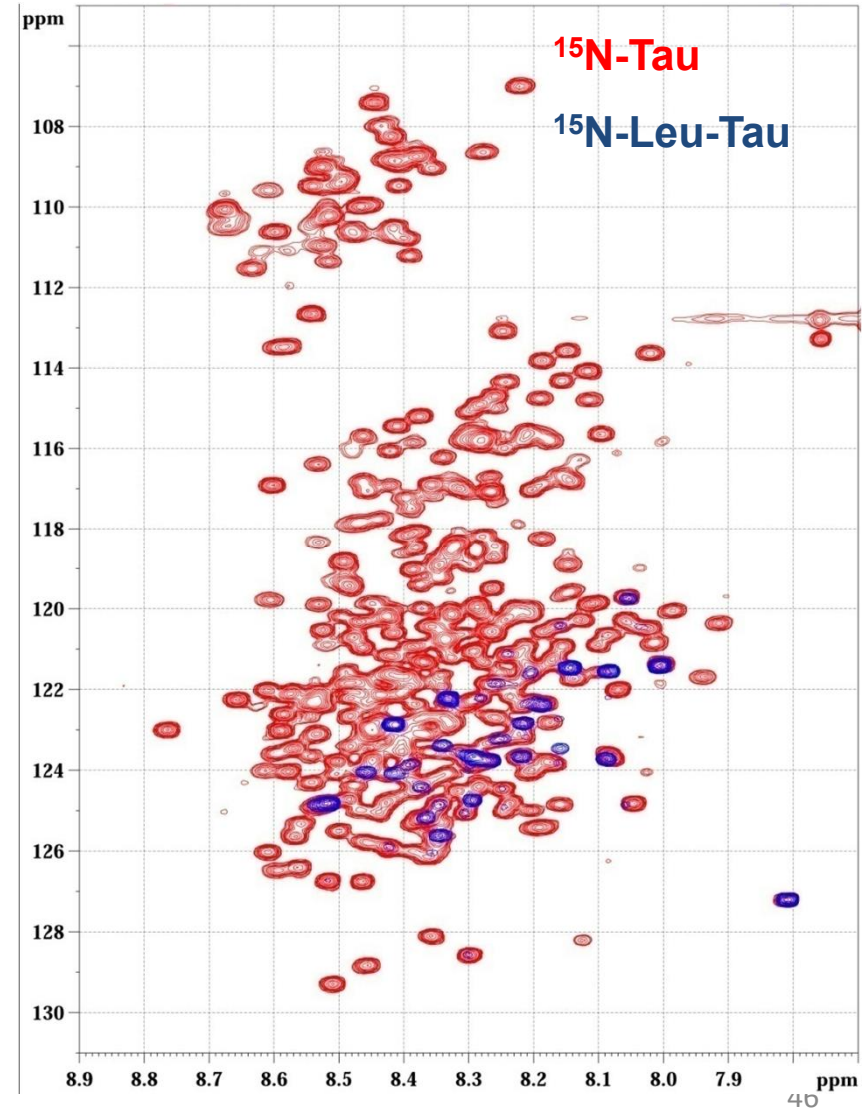
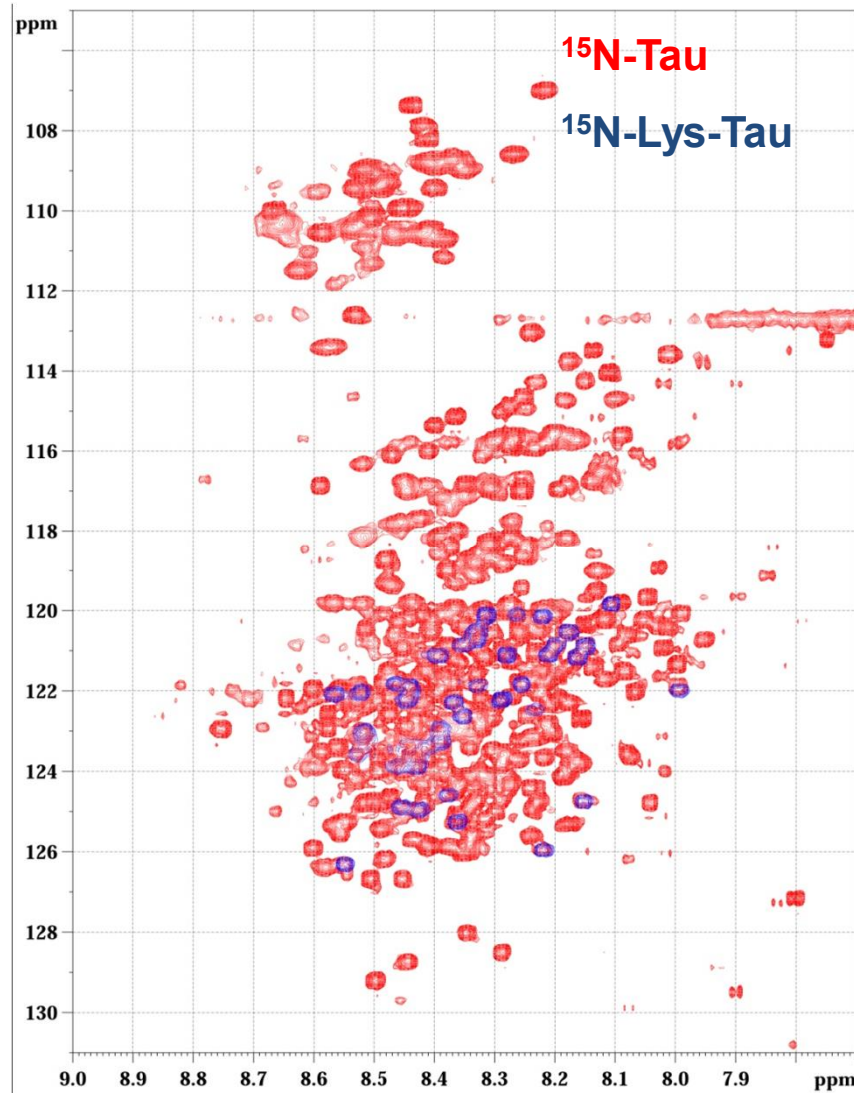




# Resolution: Fields 600, 800, 900 MHz

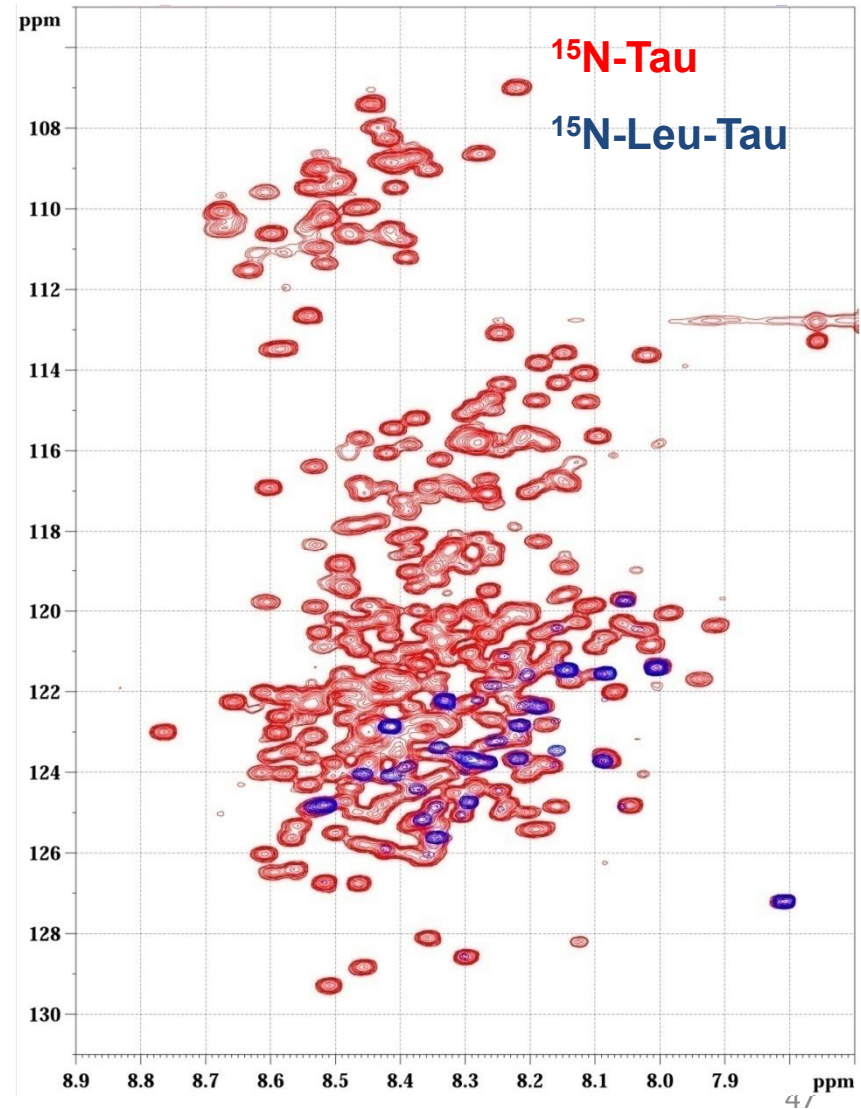
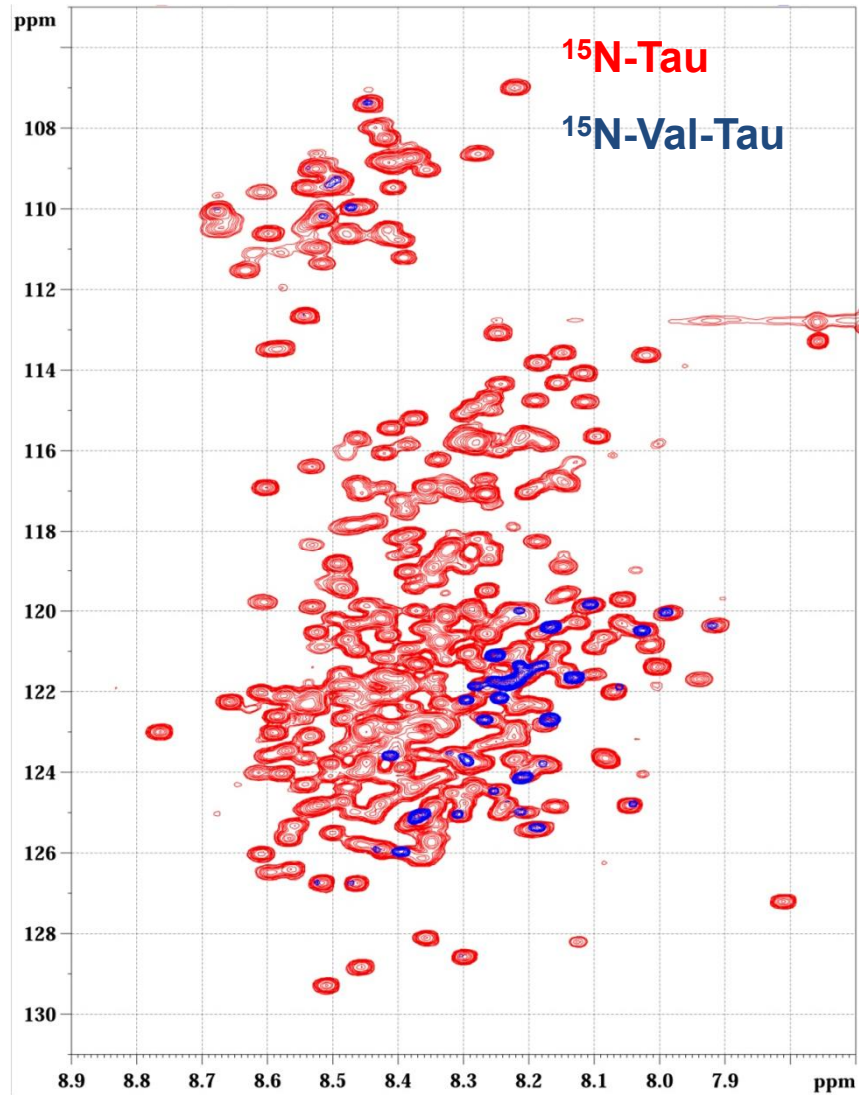


# Selective labelling: $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$ HSQC sub-spectrum



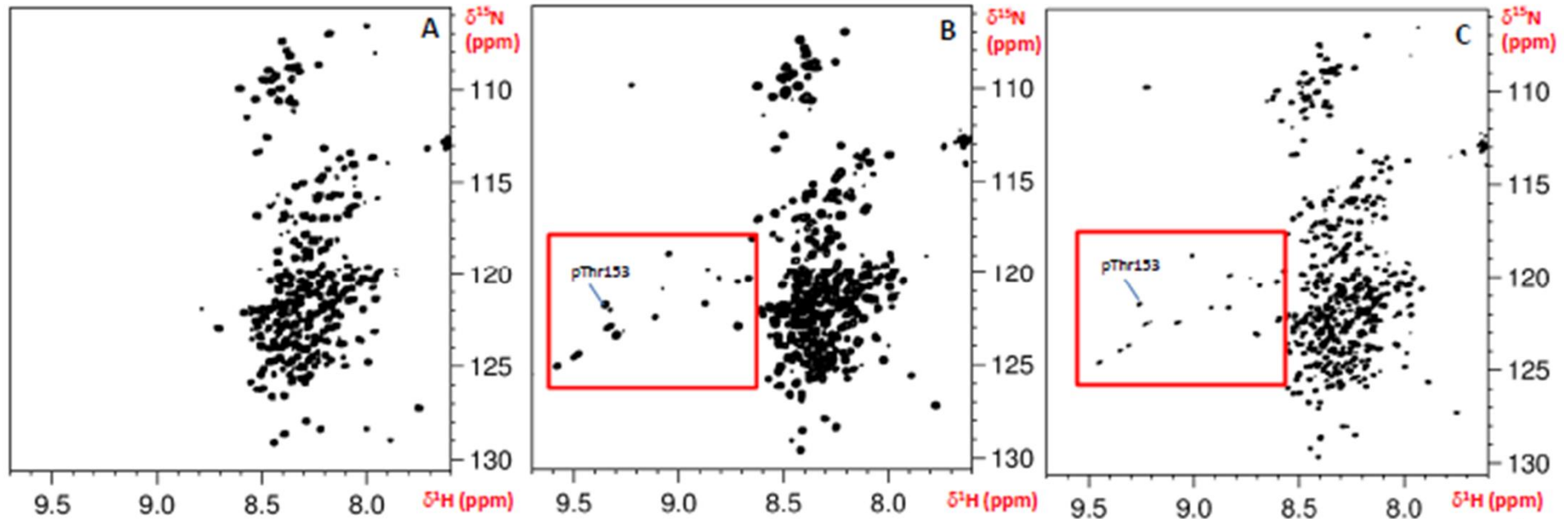
Problem: amino-acid scrambling in bacteria

# Selective labelling: $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$ HSQC sub-spectrum





# $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$ HSQC of phosphorylated IDPs

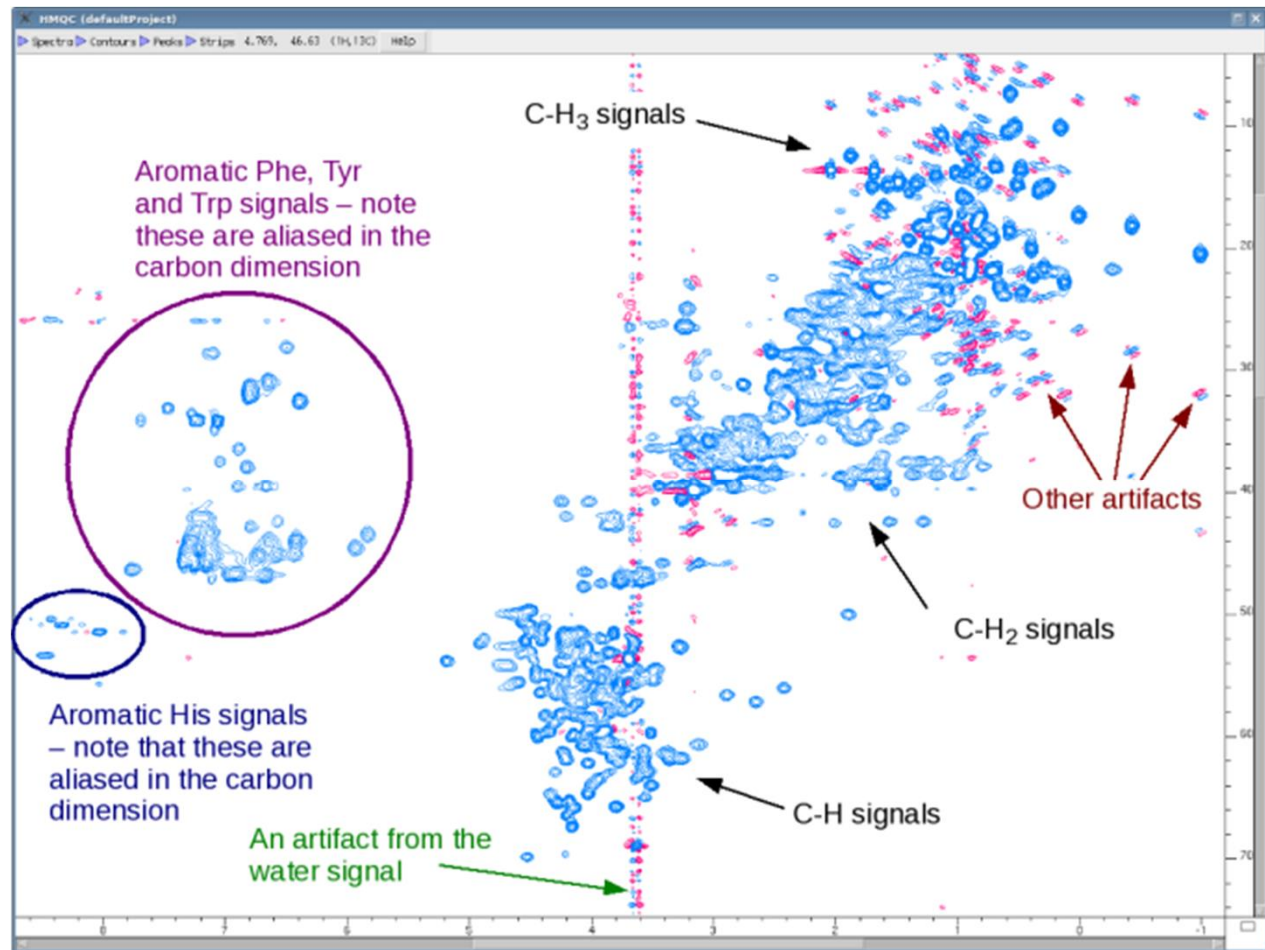
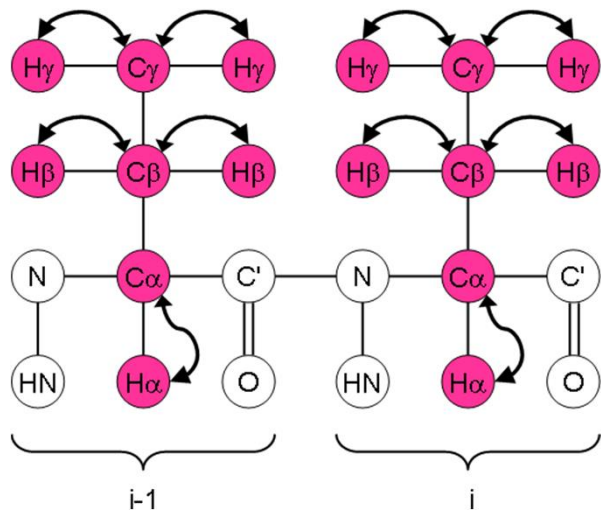


**A** and **B** at 600 MHz, 2048 and 256 data points at spectral widths of 14 and 25 ppm / $^1\text{H}$  (F2) and  $^{15}\text{N}$  (F1) dimensions, 32 scans were used, and total duration of the acquisition was **2 hr 44 min**.

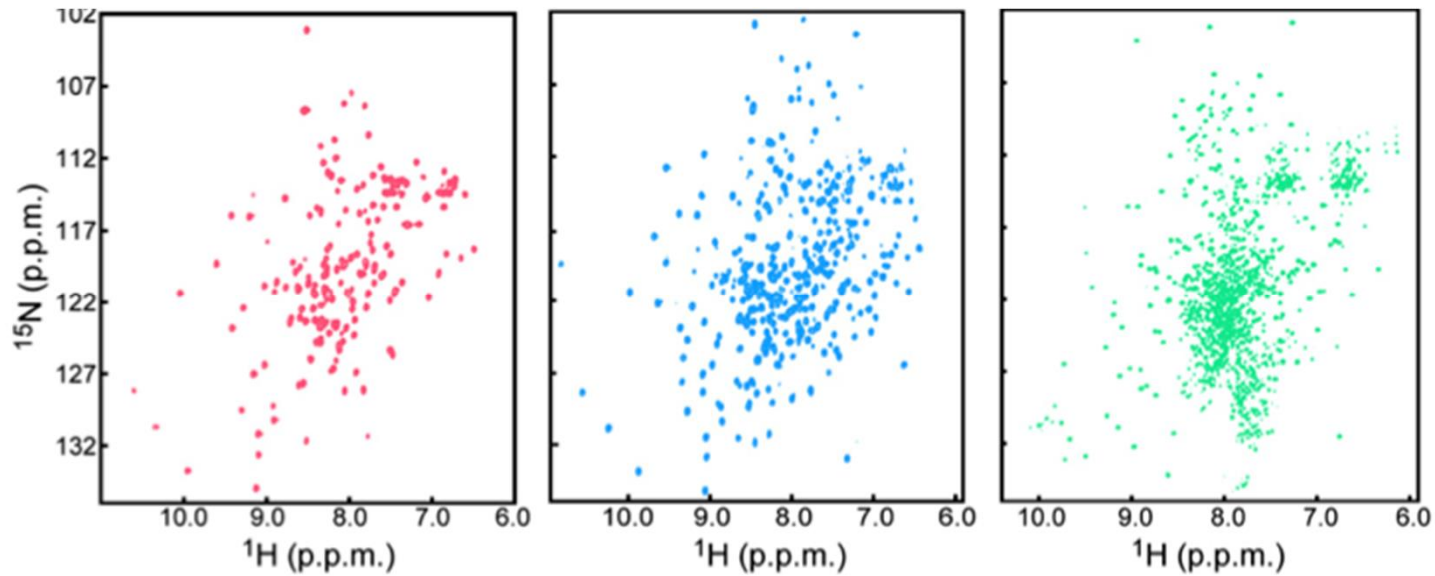
**C** at 900 MHz, 3072 and 416 data points at spectral widths of 14 and 25 ppm / $^1\text{H}$  (F2) and  $^{15}\text{N}$  (F1) dimensions, 48 scans were used, and total duration of the acquisition was **6 hr 37 min**.

# $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ -HMQC (2D)

## Heteronuclear correlation spectroscopy



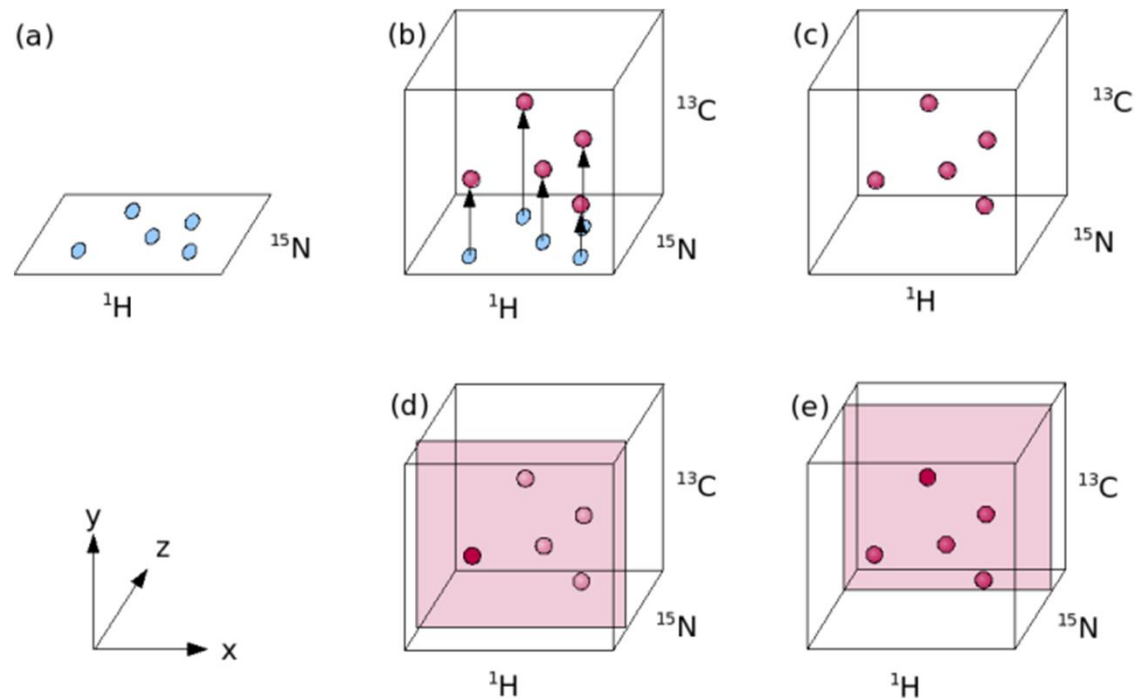
# Limits of 2D spectroscopy



Gelis et al., Cell 131, 756, 2007

- “ Problems of crowding and peak overlap for larger proteins
- “ Which HSQC peak corresponds to which residue of the protein?

# Solution: 3-dimensional spectra

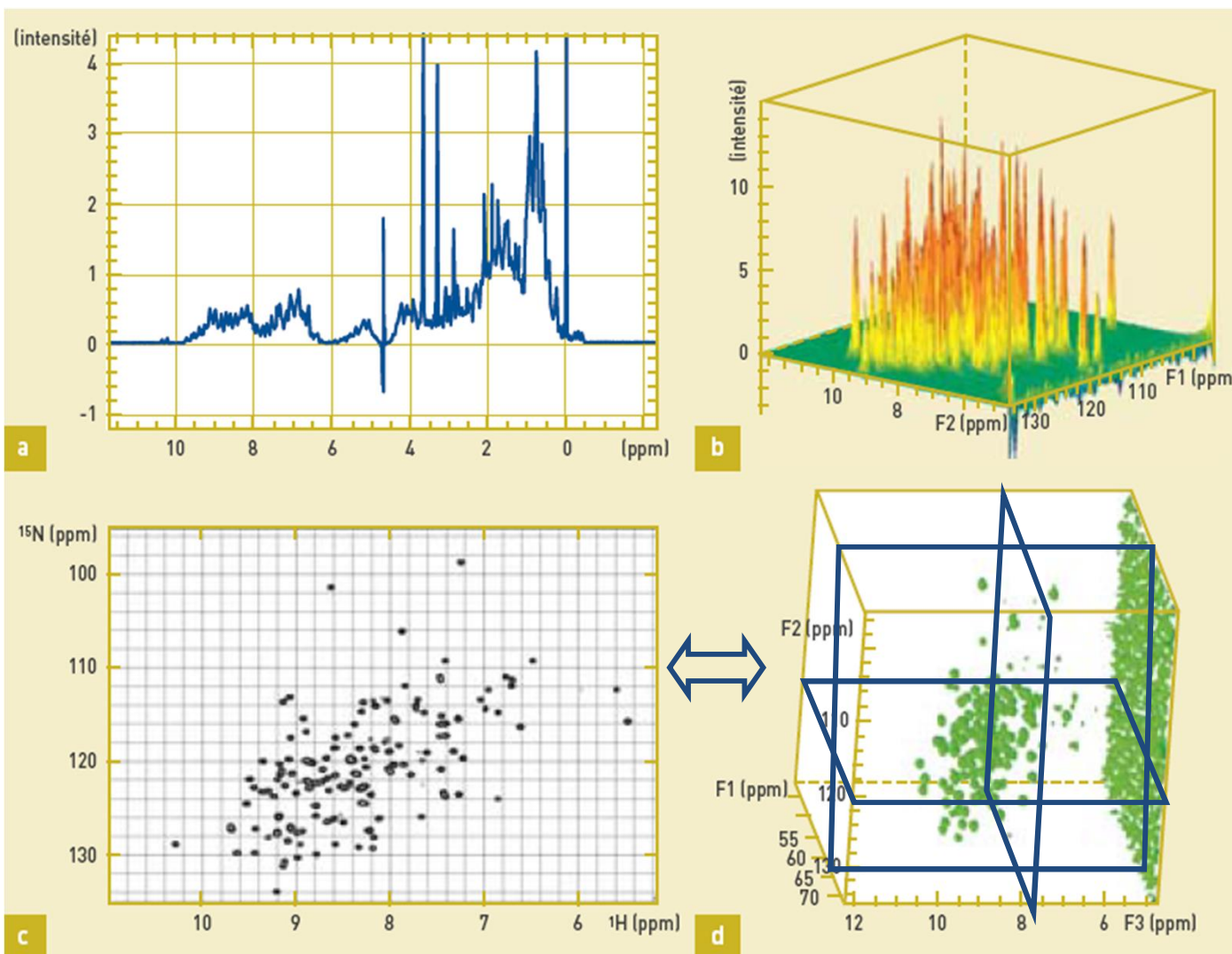


<http://www.protein-nmr.org.uk/solution-nmr/assignment-theory/visualising-3d-spectra/>

- “ Resolve  $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^1\text{H}$  HSQC in an additional  $^{13}\text{C}$  dimension
- “ Visualize and analyze as 2-D planes

# From 2D NMR to 3D NMR

Add a 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension in frequency

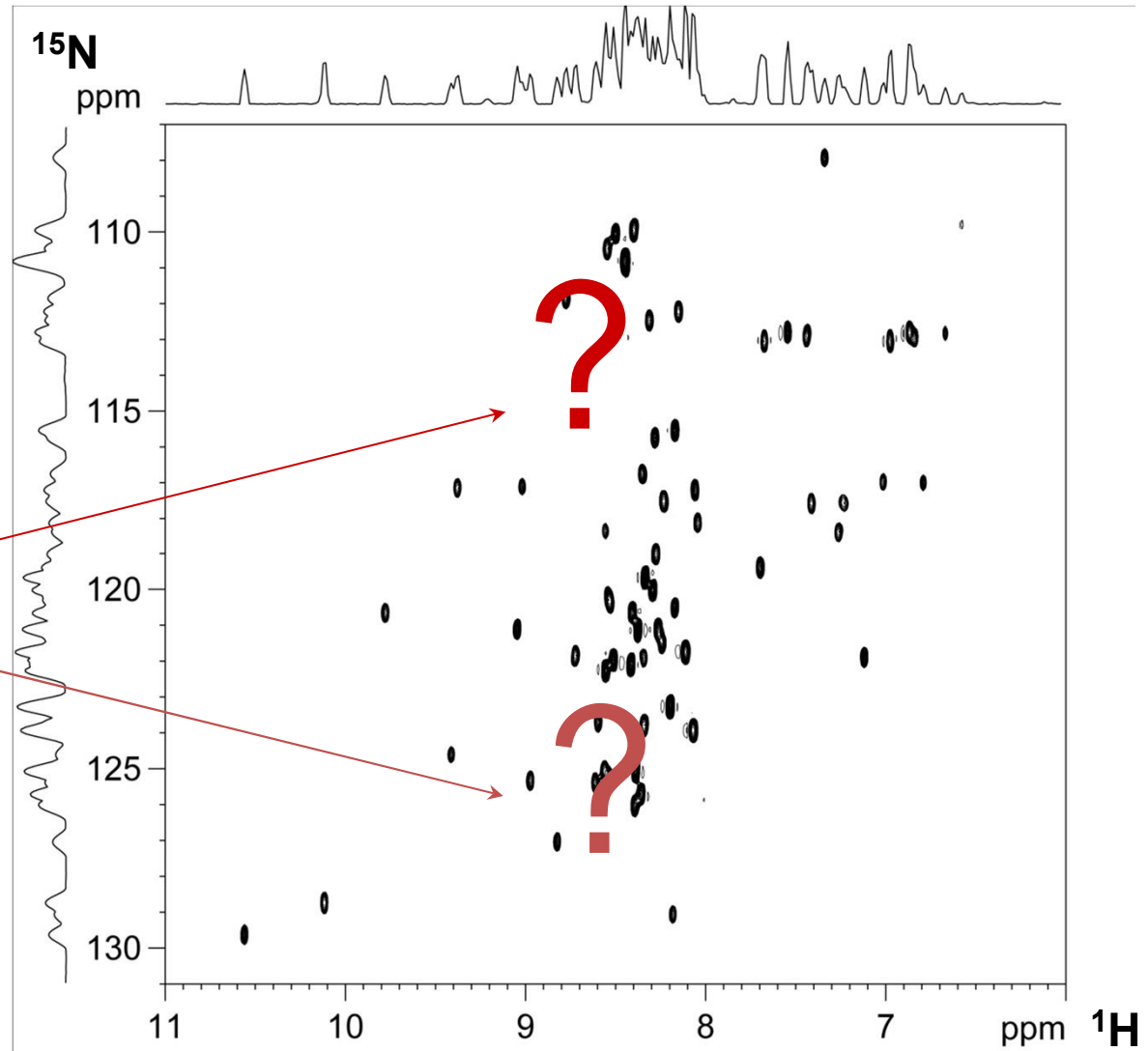
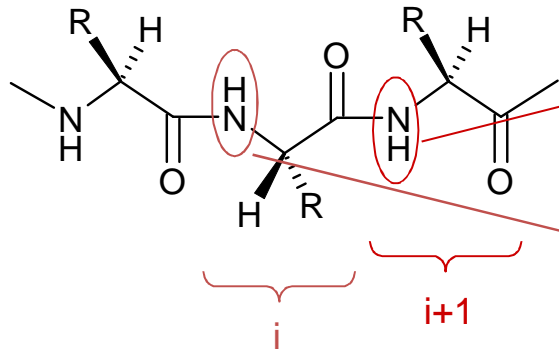




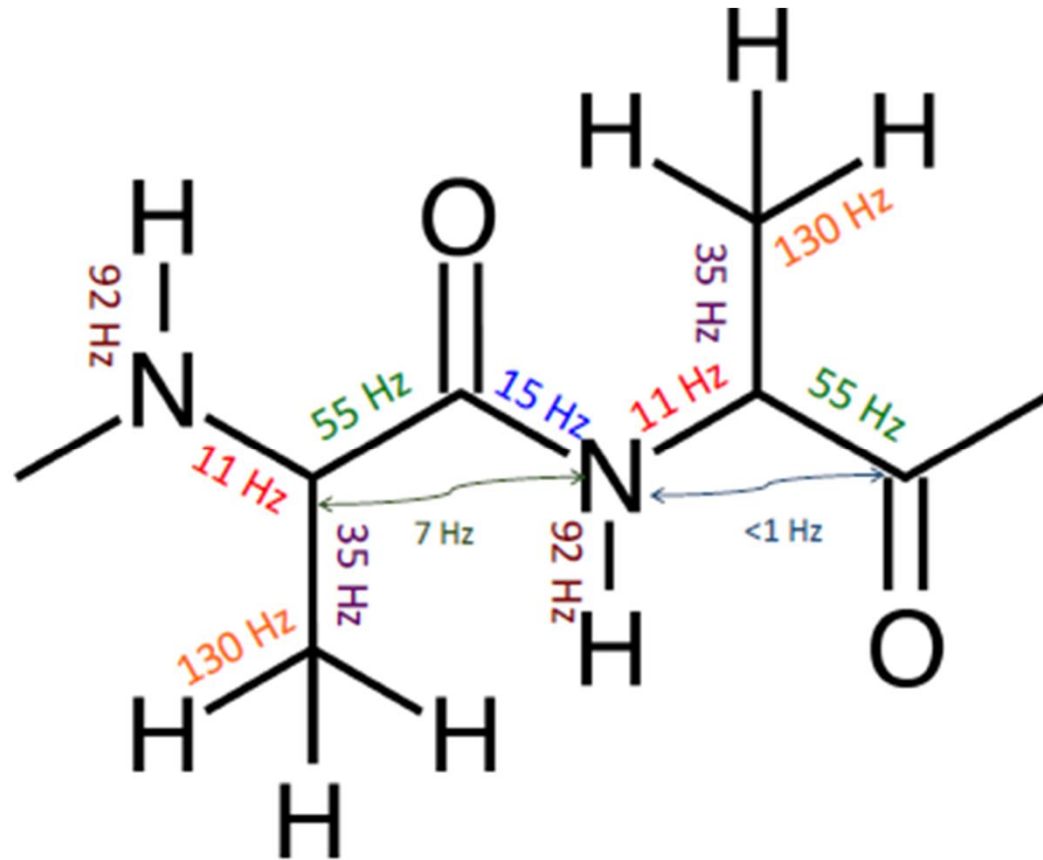
# NMR signal assignments

assignment

= link a signal to an atom



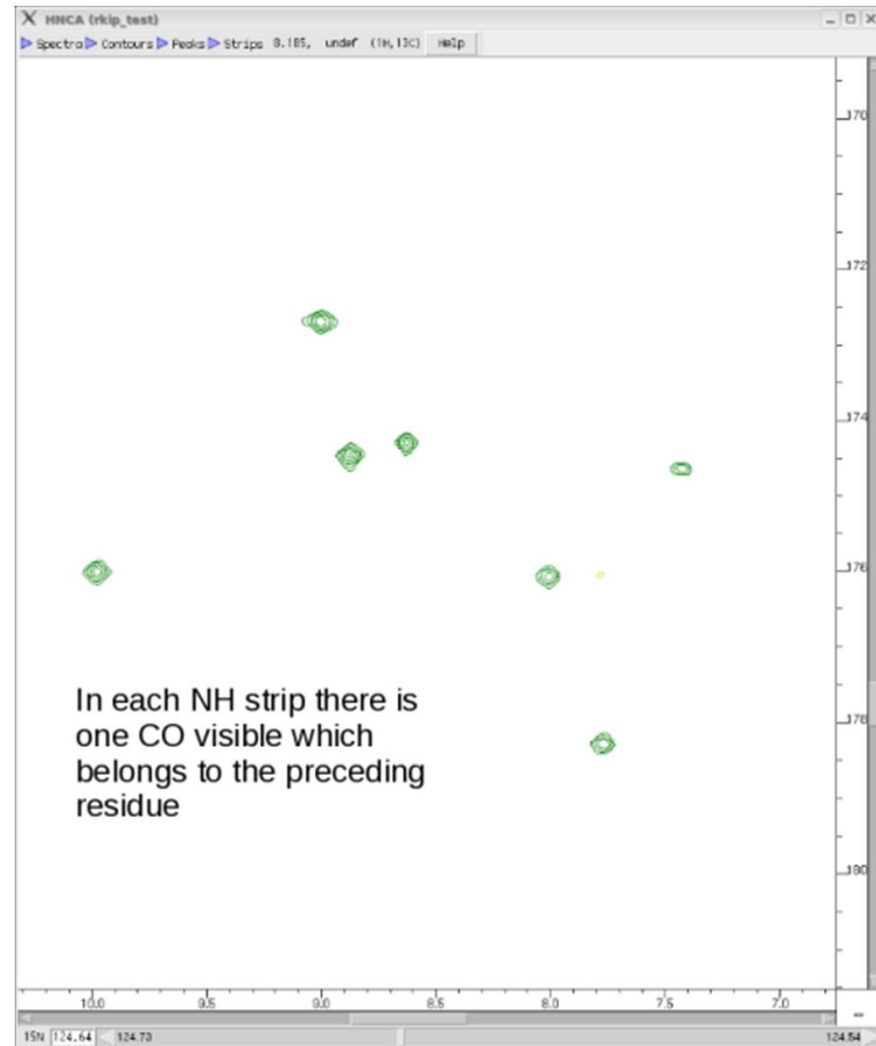
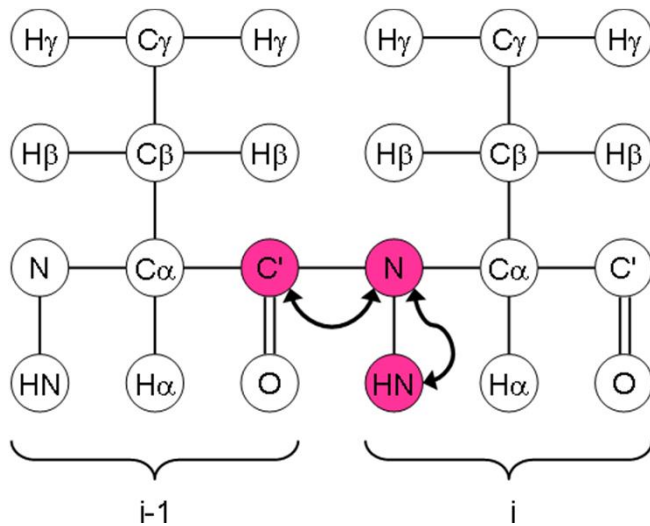
# Assignment strategy



The topology defined by scalar coupling networks on the protein backbone is used to design the assignment strategy

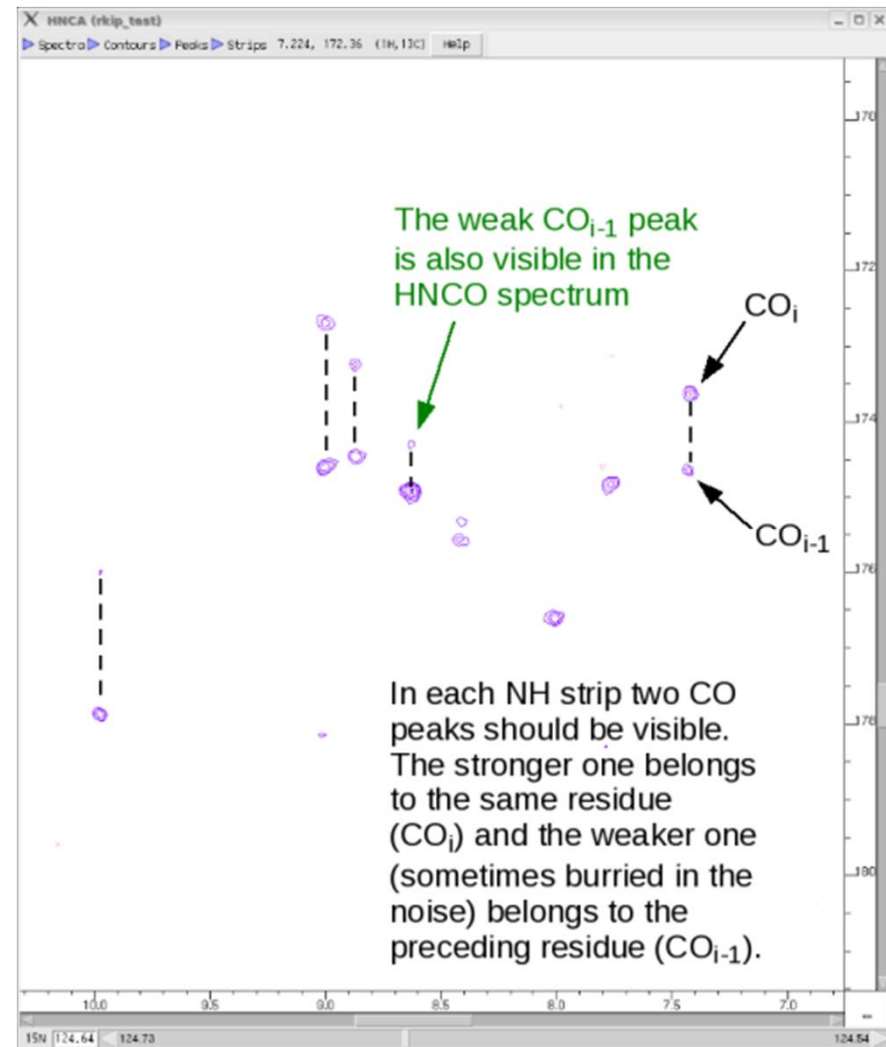
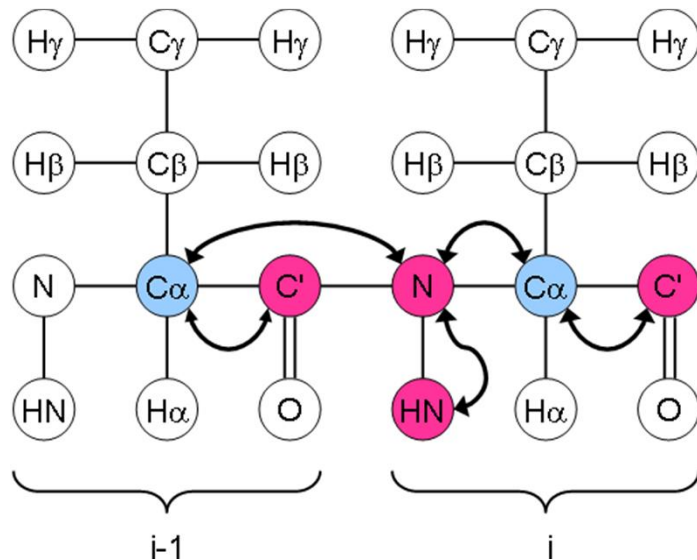
# HNCO (3D)

- “ Need  $^{15}\text{N}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  isotopic labeling
- “ Experiment to connect  $\text{H}_\text{N}$  from residue  $i$  with  $^{13}\text{C}$  carbonyl (CO) from residue  $i-1$



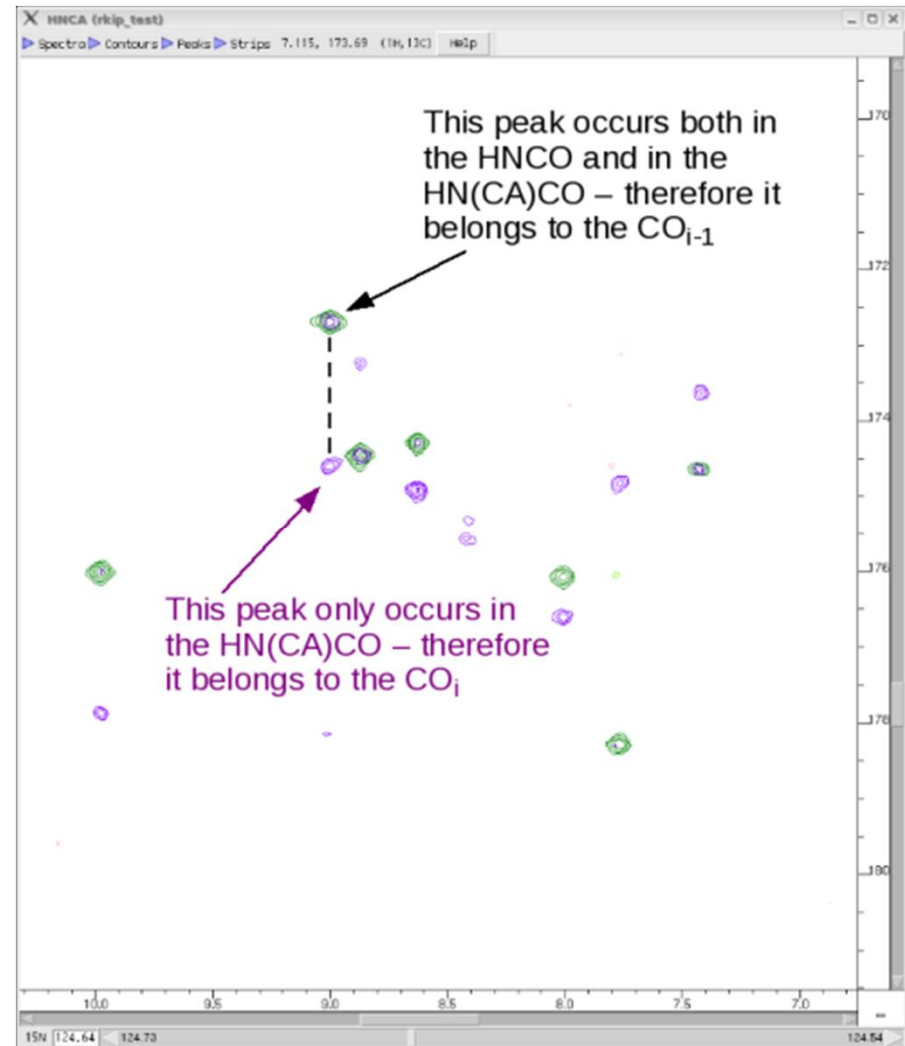
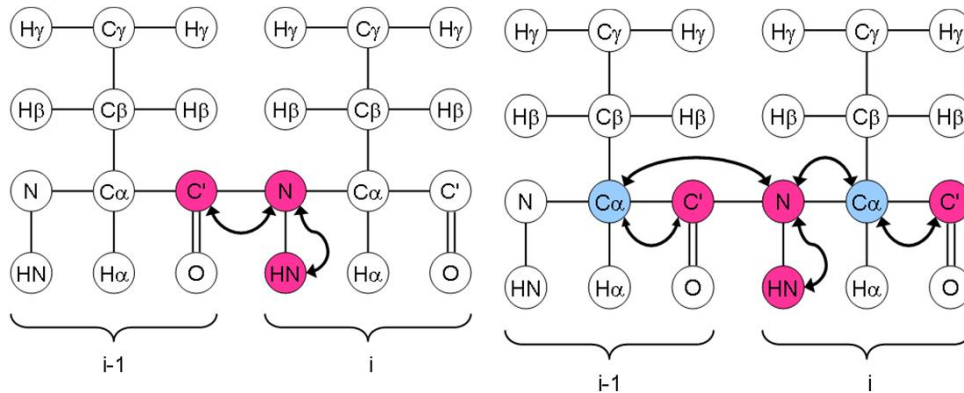
# HN(CA)CO (3D)

- “ Need  $^{15}\text{N}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  isotopic labeling
- “ Experiment to connect  $\text{H}_\text{N}$  from residue  $i$  with  $^{13}\text{C}$  carbonyl (CO) from residues  $i$  and  $i-1$



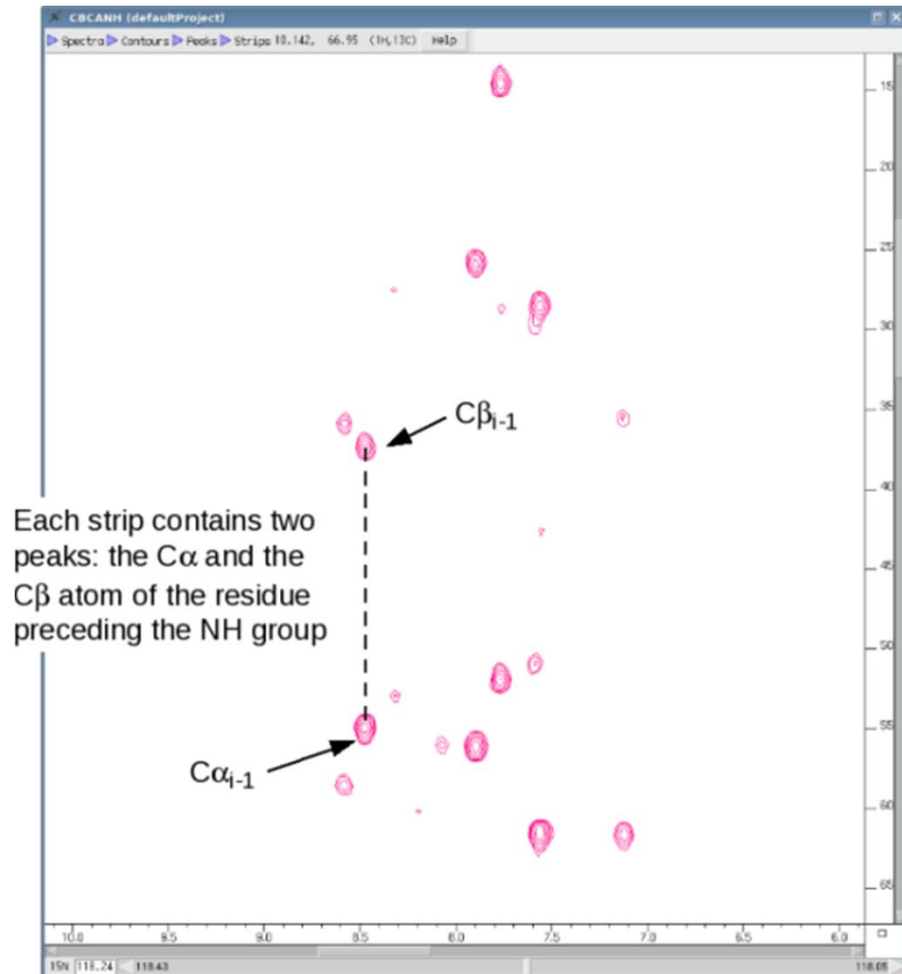
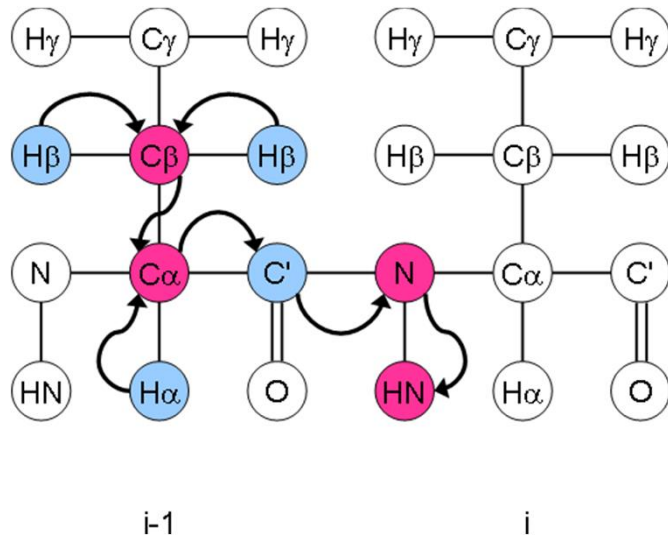
# HN(CA)CO et HNCO (3D)

- “ Need  $^{15}\text{N}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  isotopic labeling
- “ Experiment to connect  $\text{H}_\text{N}$  from residue  $i$  with  $^{13}\text{C}$  carbonyl (CO) from residues  $i$  and  $i-1$



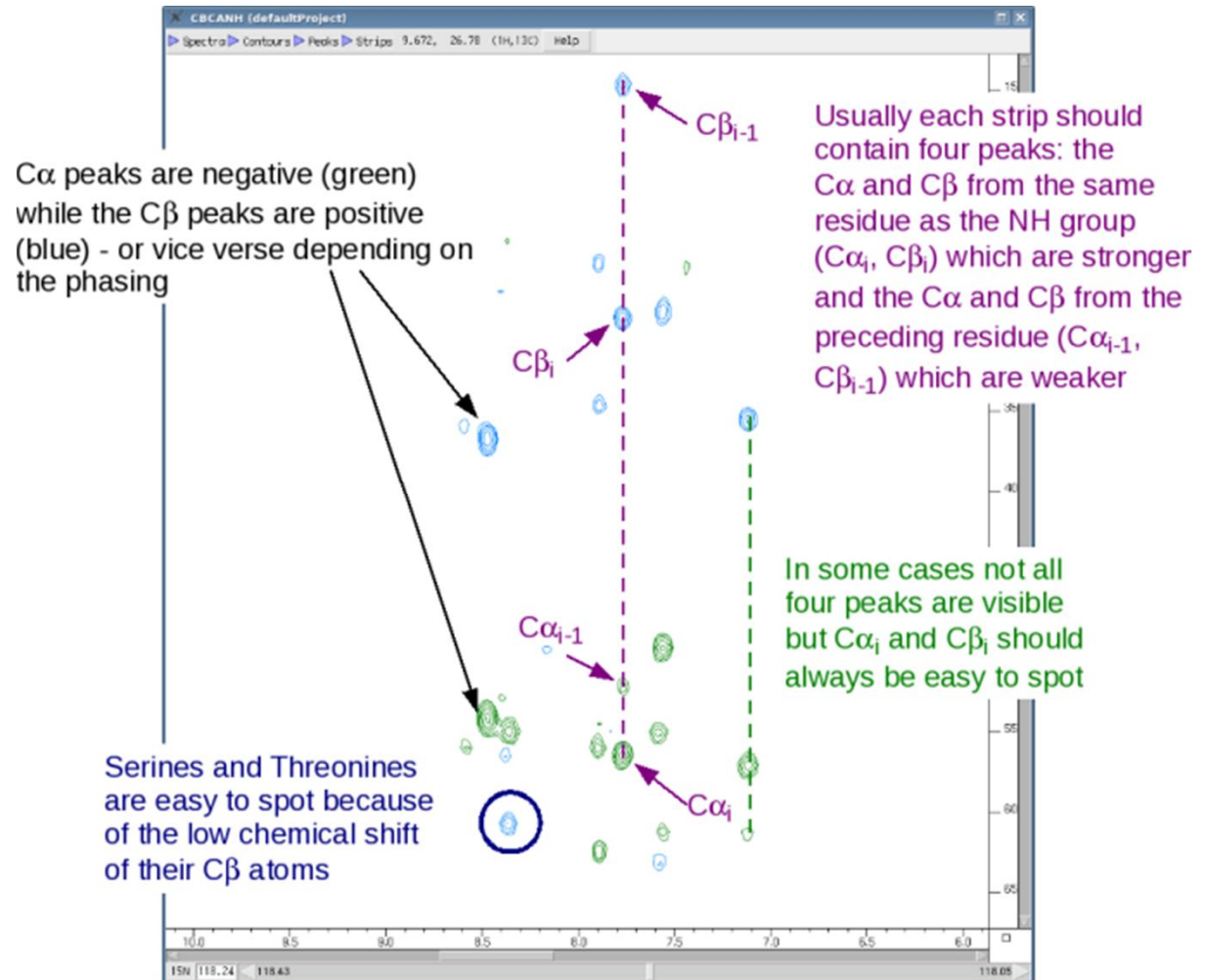
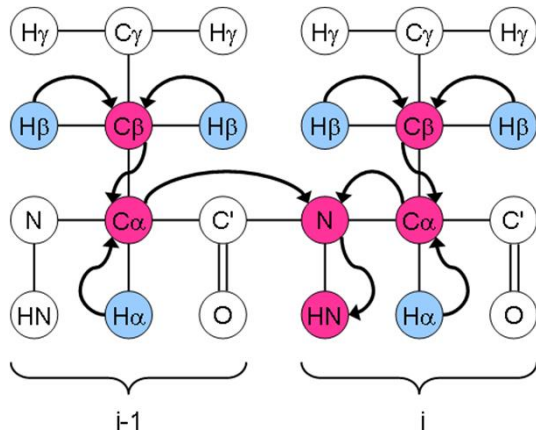
# HN(CO)CACB (3D)

- Need  $^{15}\text{N}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  isotopic labeling
- Experiment to connect  $\text{H}_\text{N}$  from residue  $i$  with  $^{13}\text{C}_\alpha$  and  $^{13}\text{C}_\beta$  from residues  $i-1$

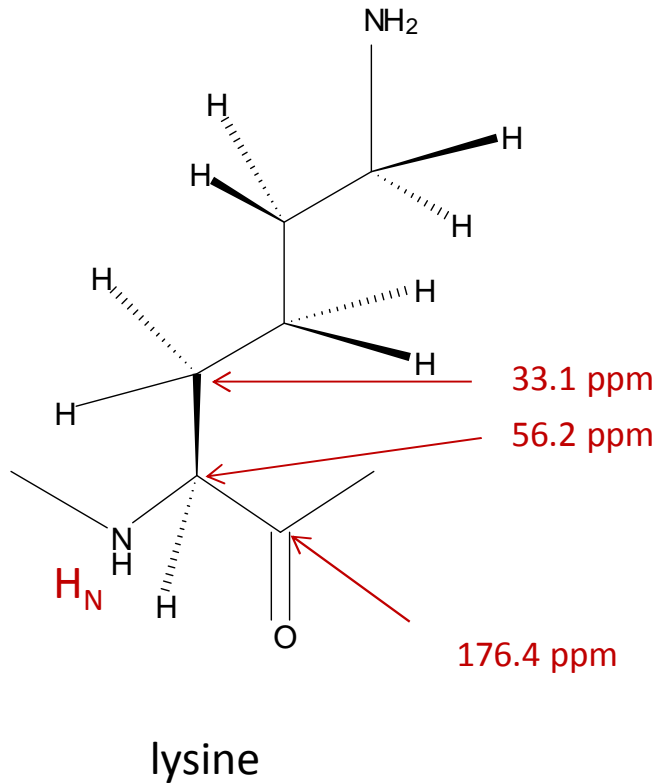


# HNCACB (3D)

- Need  $^{15}\text{N}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  isotopic labeling
- Experiment to connect  $\text{H}_\text{N}$  from residue  $i$  with  $^{13}\text{C}_\alpha$  and  $^{13}\text{C}_\beta$  from residues  $i$  and  $i-1$



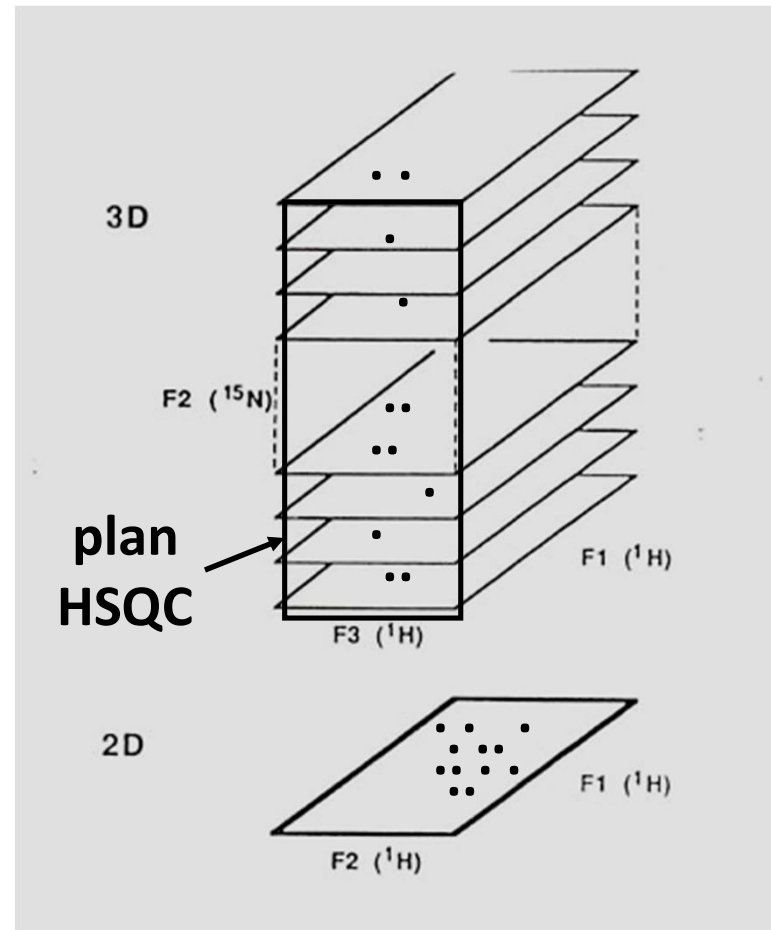
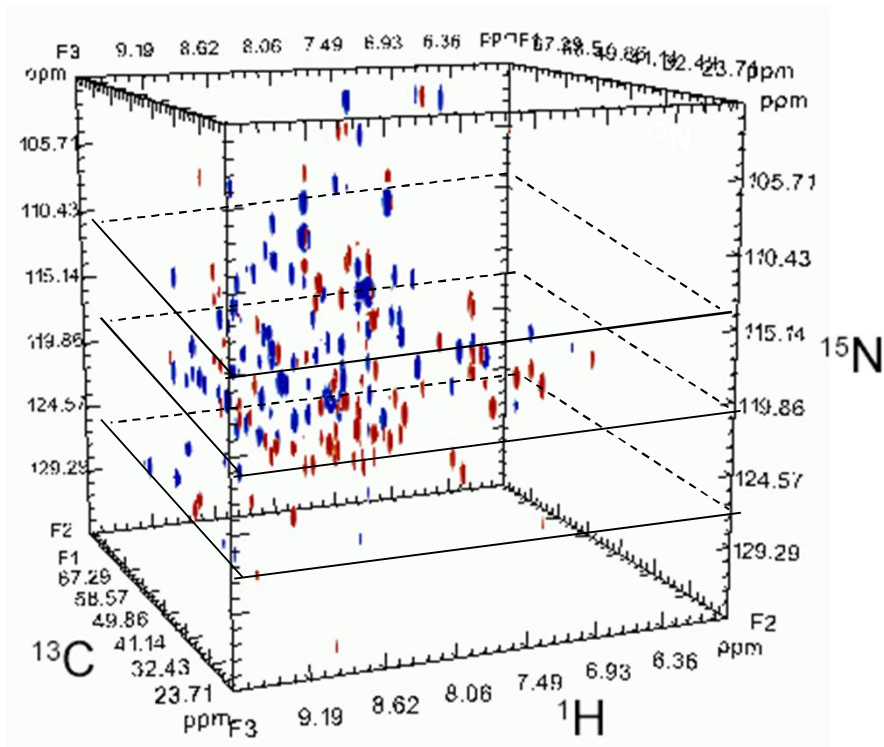
# $^{13}\text{C}$ Chemical shift values of amino acid residues



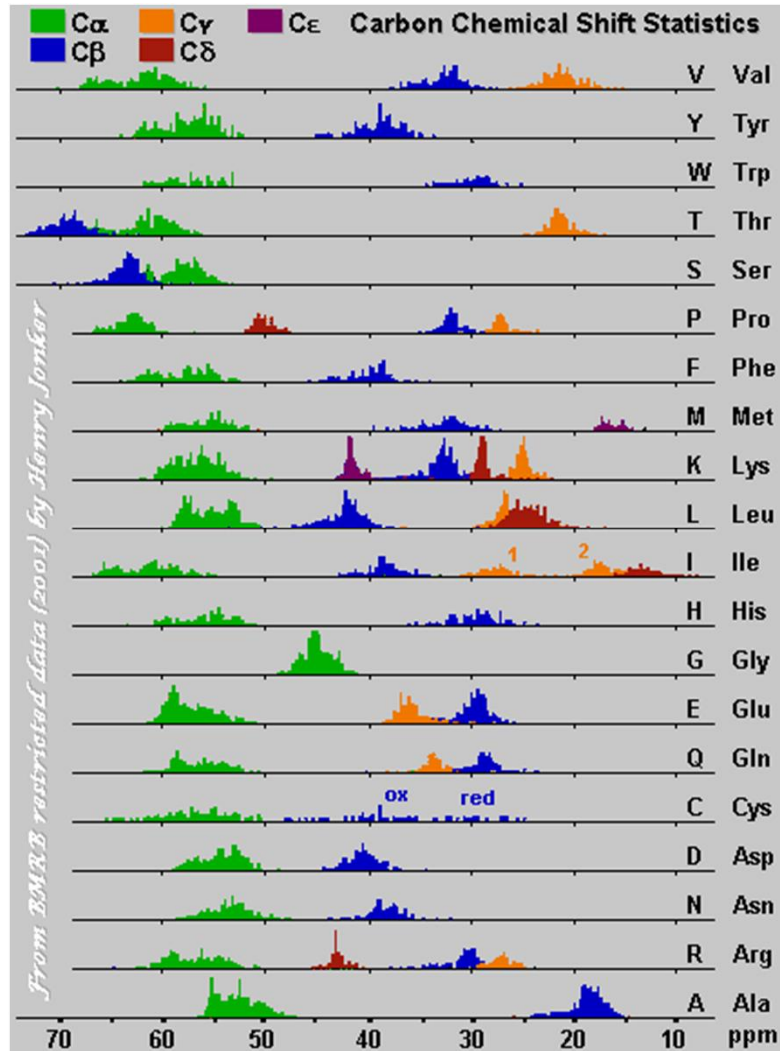
	$\text{C}\alpha$	$\text{C}\beta$	$\text{CO}$	$\text{Hn}$	$\text{N}$
<b>A</b>	52,5	19,1	177,8	8,35	125,0
<b>C</b>	55,4	41,1	174,6	8,54	118,7
<b>D</b>	54,2	41,1	176,3	8,56	119,1
<b>E</b>	56,6	29,9	176,6	8,40	120,2
<b>F</b>	57,7	39,6	175,8	8,31	120,7
<b>G</b>	45,1		174,9	8,41	107,5
<b>H</b>	55	29	174,1	8,56	118,1
<b>I</b>	61,1	38,8	176,4	8,17	120,4
<b>K</b>	56,2	33,1	176,4	8,36	121,6
<b>L</b>	55,1	42,4	177,6	8,28	122,4
<b>M</b>	55,4	32,9	176,3	8,42	120,3
<b>N</b>	53,1	38,9	175,2	8,51	119,0
<b>P</b>	63,3	32,1	177,3		
<b>Q</b>	55,7	29,4	176	8,44	120,5
<b>R</b>	56	30,9	176,3	8,39	121,2
<b>S</b>	58,3	63,8	174,6	8,43	115,5
<b>T</b>	61,8	69,8	174,70	8,25	112,0
<b>V</b>	62,2	32,9	176,3	8,16	119,3
<b>W</b>	57,5	29,6	176,10	8,22	122,1
<b>Y</b>	57,9	38,8	175,9	8,26	120,9



# Principles of sequential assignment of protein with 3D spectra



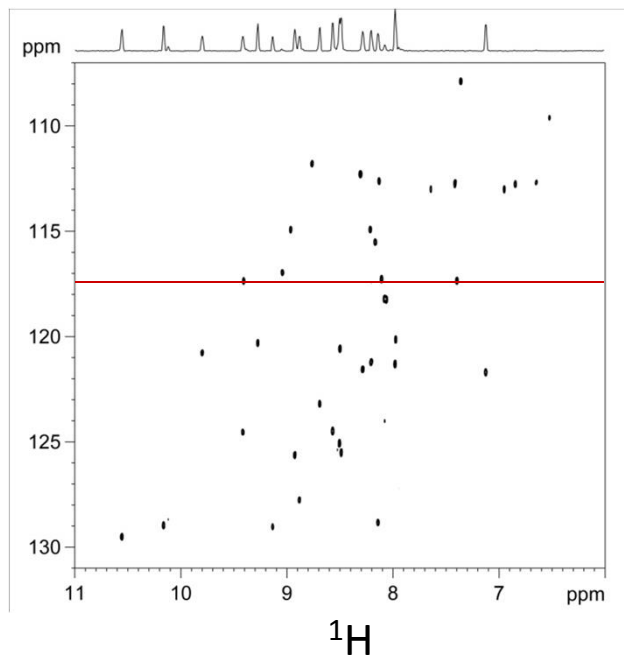
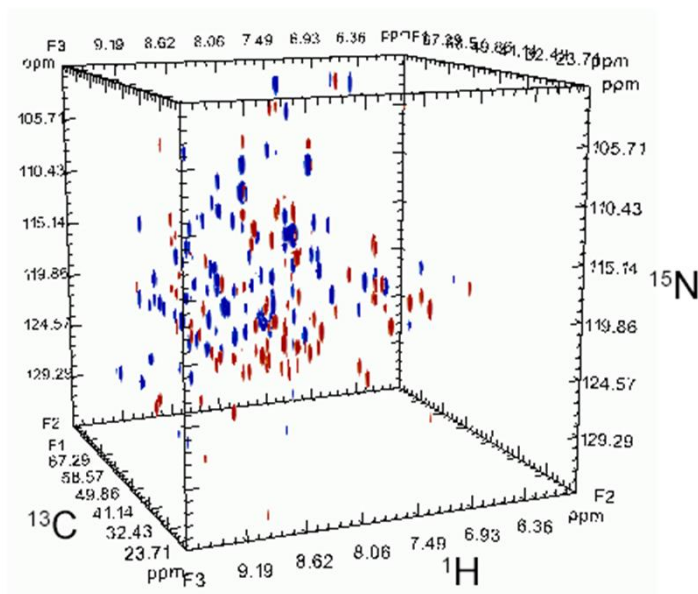
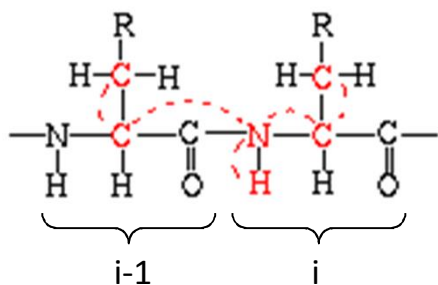
# Identifying residue types



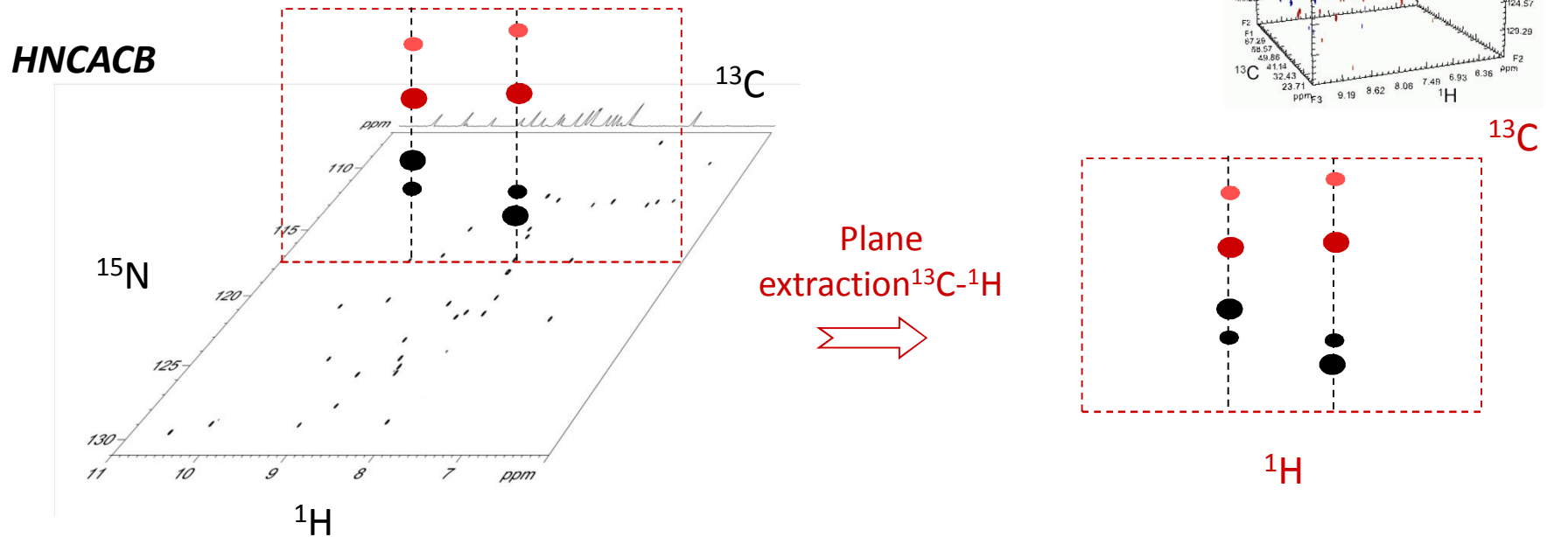
- “ Different amino acids have characteristic  $^{13}\text{C}$  chemical shifts
- “ map NMR data onto the protein sequence
- “ if the data correspond to a sequence of amino acids that is unique in the protein, these residues have been sequentially assigned.

# Principles of sequential assignment of protein with 3D spectra

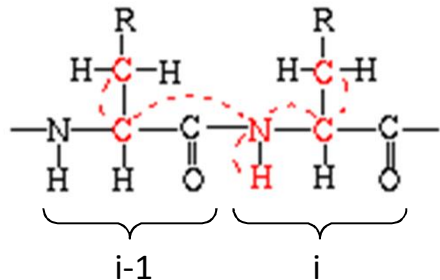
HNCACB



# Principles of sequential assignment of protein with 3D spectra

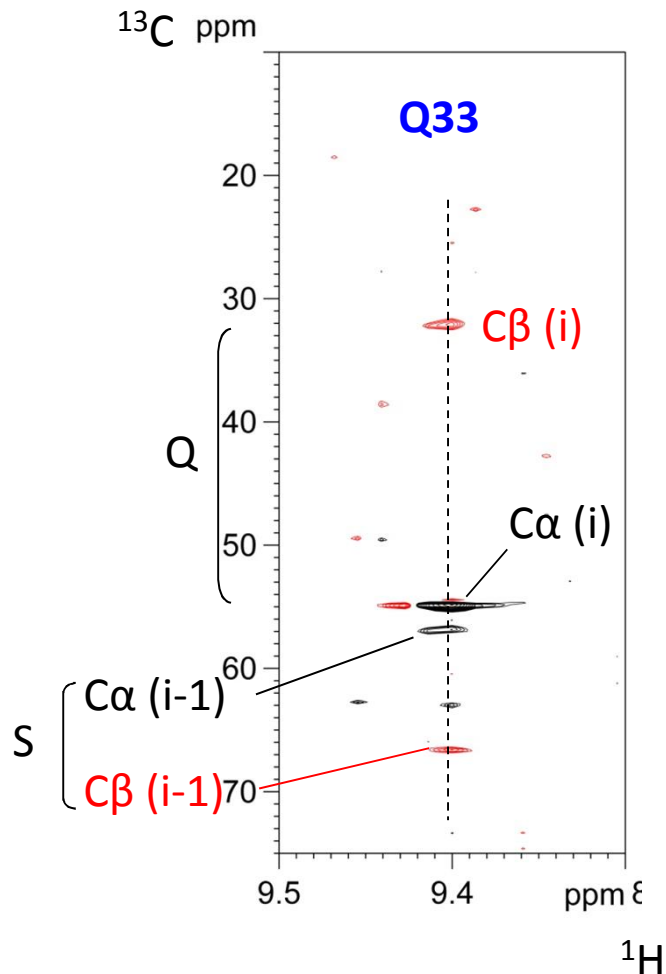


HNCACB



- “ Intense signals:  $C\alpha$  ●,  $C\beta$  ● residue  $i$
- “ Weaker signals :  $C\alpha$  ●,  $C\beta$  ● residue  $i-1$

# Principles of sequential assignment of protein with 3D spectra



$(C\alpha\ i, C\beta\ i) \rightarrow i = \text{Gln (Q)}$

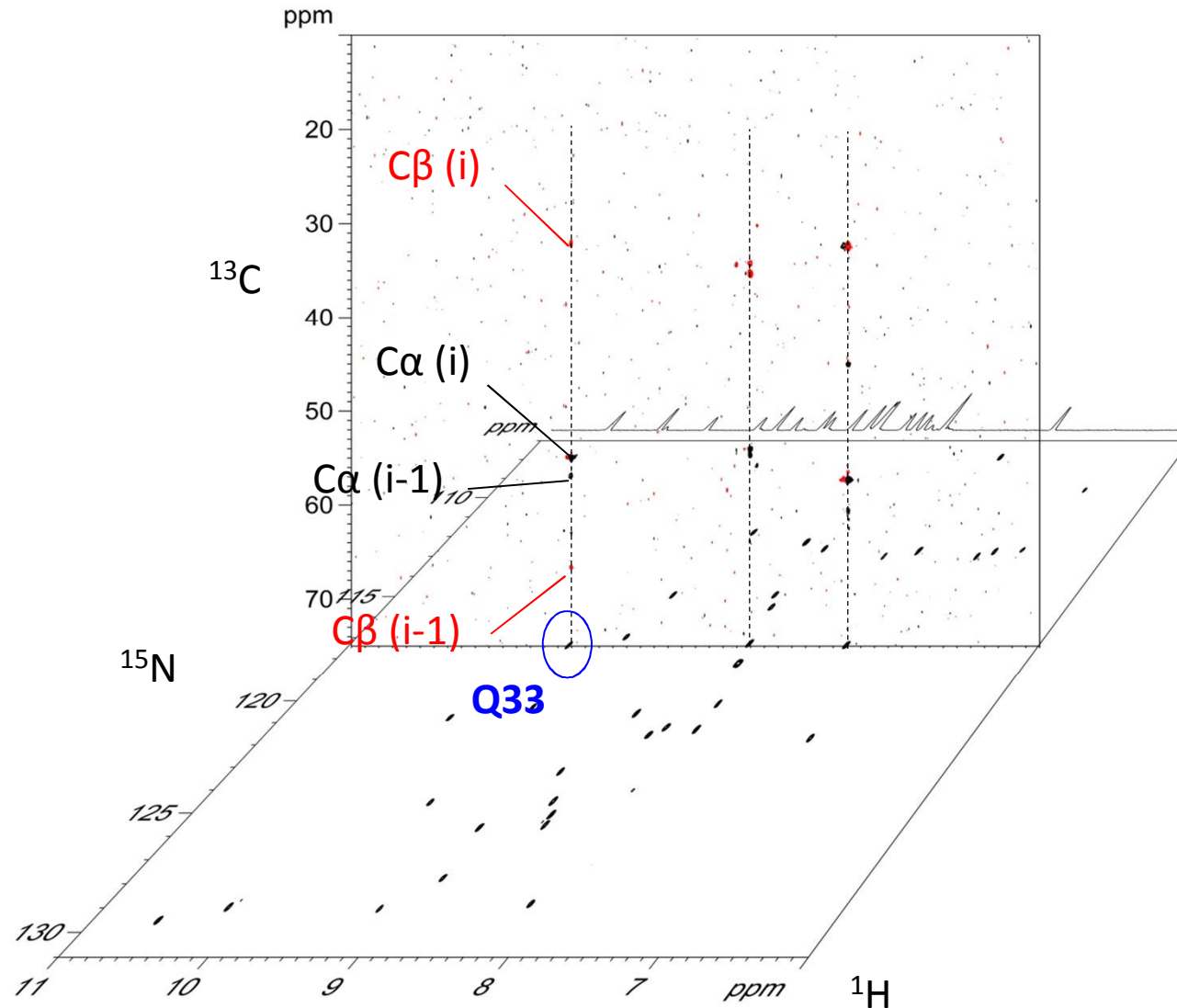
$(C\alpha\ i-1, C\beta\ i-1) \rightarrow i-1 = \text{Ser (S)}$

$\rightarrow$  pair Ser-Gln (SQ)

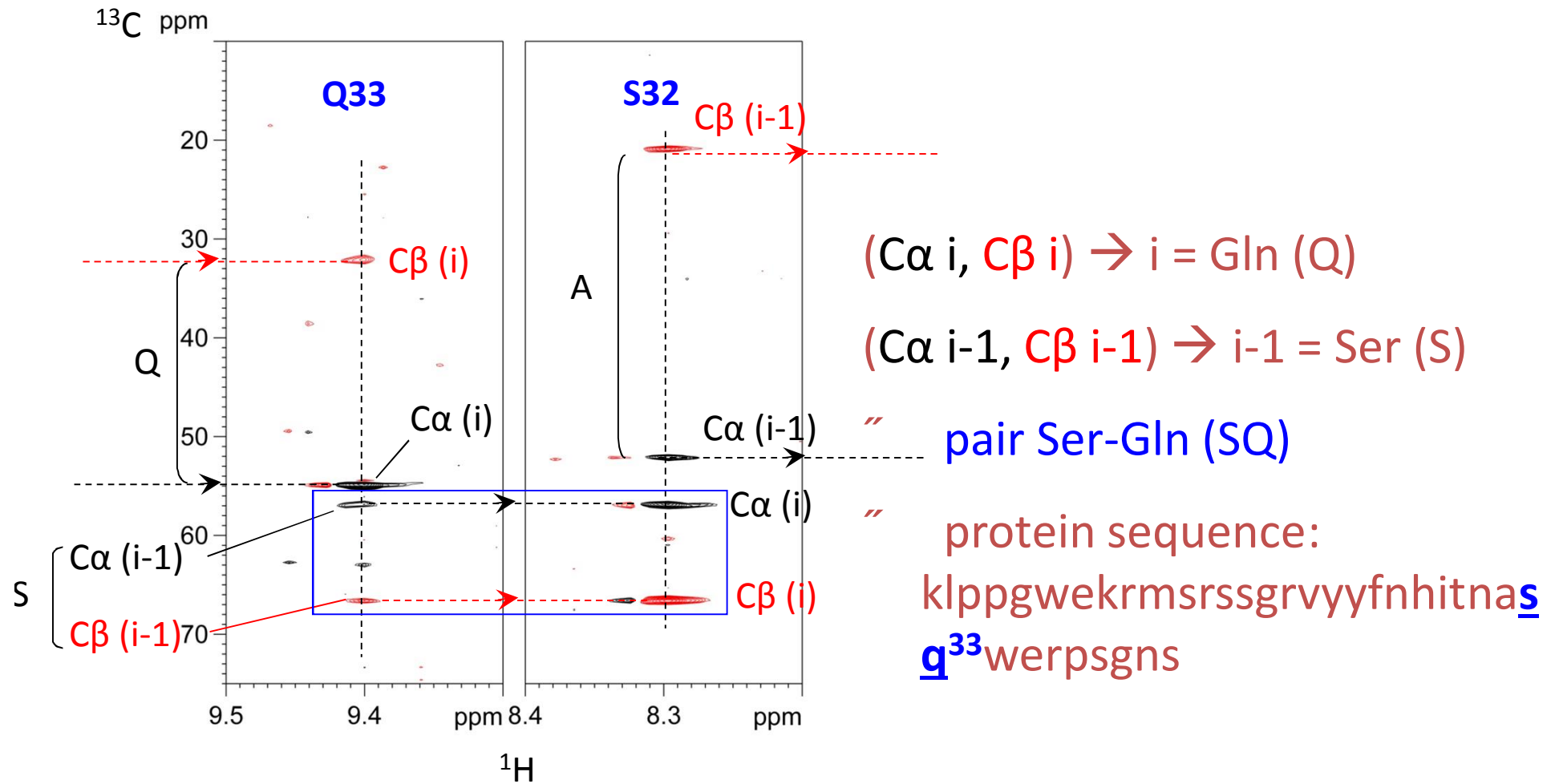
$\rightarrow$  Protein sequence

klppgwekrmsrssgrvyyfnhitnasq<sup>33</sup>  
werpsgns

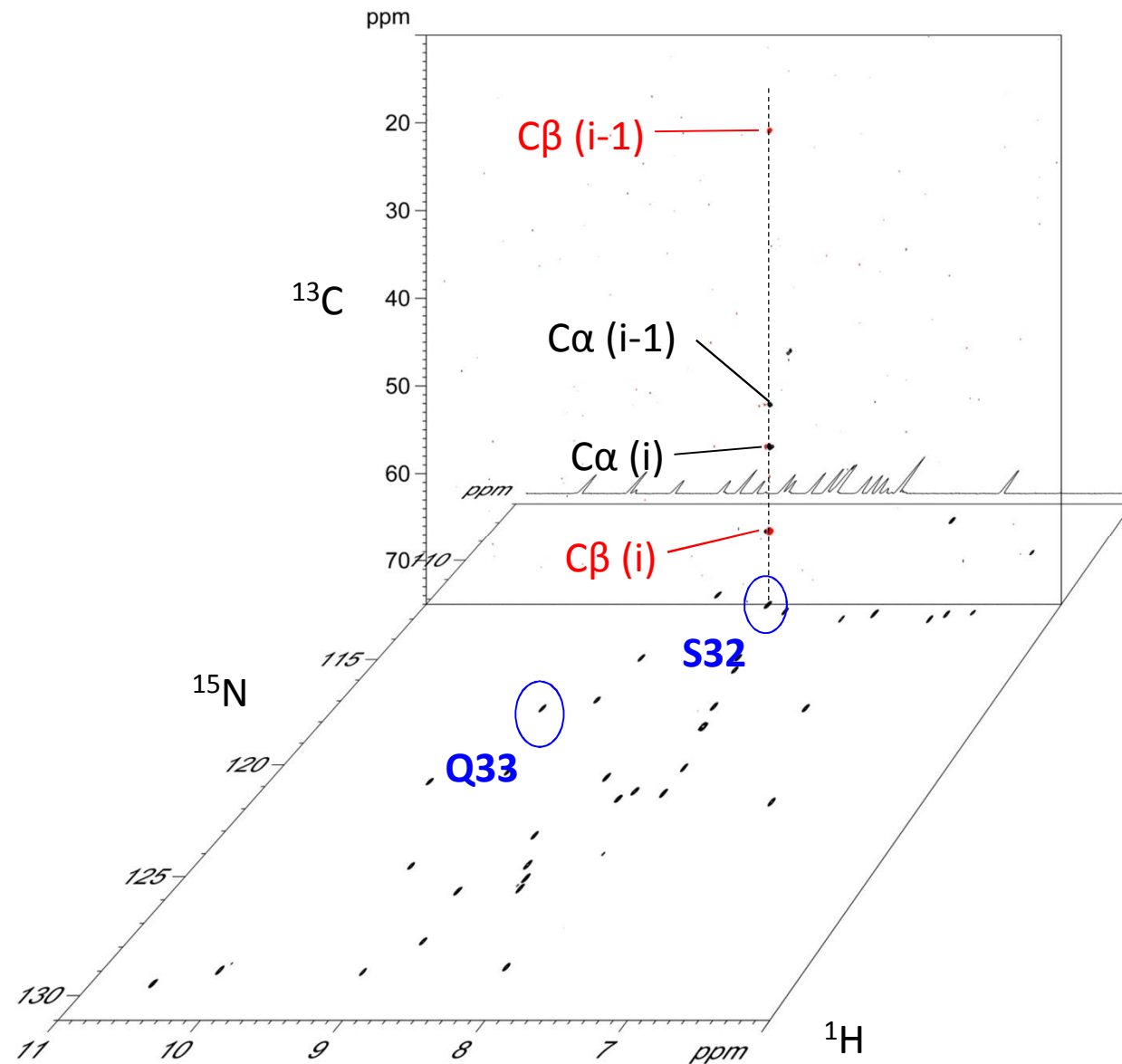
# Principles of sequential assignment of protein with 3D spectra



# Principles of sequential assignment of protein with 3D spectra

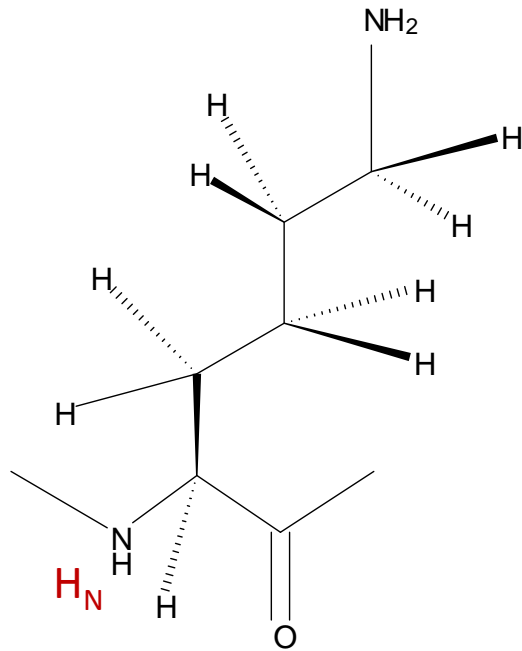


# Principles of sequential assignment of protein with 3D spectra





# $^{13}\text{C}$ chemical shift values of amino acid residues

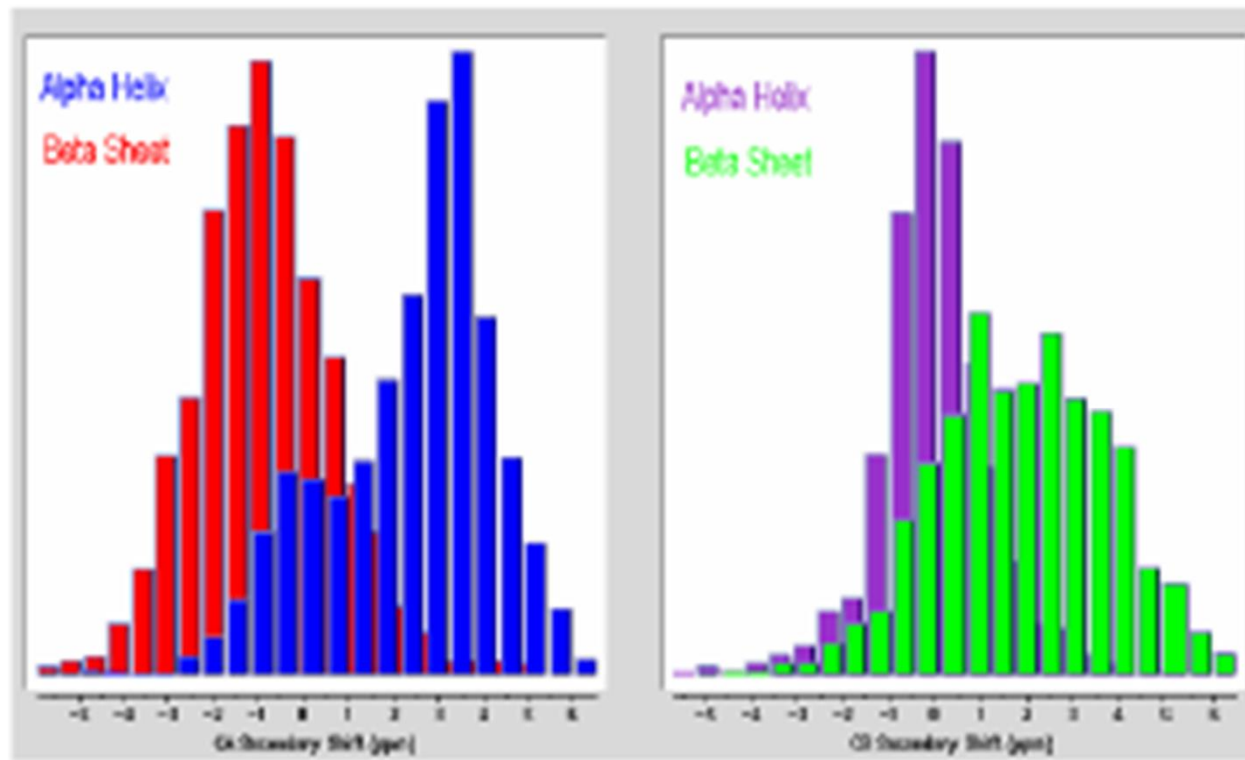


lysine

	C $\alpha$	C $\beta$	CO	H $\alpha$	N
A	52,5	19,1	177,8	8,35	125,0
C	55,4	41,1	174,6	8,54	118,7
D	54,2	41,1	176,3	8,56	119,1
E	56,6	29,9	176,6	8,40	120,2
F	57,7	39,6	175,8	8,31	120,7
G	45,1		174,9	8,41	107,5
H	55	29	174,1	8,56	118,1
I	61,1	38,8	176,4	8,17	120,4
<b>K</b>	<b>56,2</b>	<b>33,1</b>	<b>176,4</b>	<b>8,36</b>	<b>121,6</b>
L	55,1	42,4	177,6	8,28	122,4
M	55,4	32,9	176,3	8,42	120,3
N	53,1	38,9	175,2	8,51	119,0
P	63,3	32,1	177,3		
Q	55,7	29,4	176	8,44	120,5
R	56	30,9	176,3	8,39	121,2
S	58,3	63,8	174,6	8,43	115,5
T	61,8	69,8	174,70	8,25	112,0
V	62,2	32,9	176,3	8,16	119,3
W	57,5	29,6	176,10	8,22	122,1
Y	57,9	38,8	175,9	8,26	120,9

# CO, CA and CB chemical shifts depend on the secondary structure

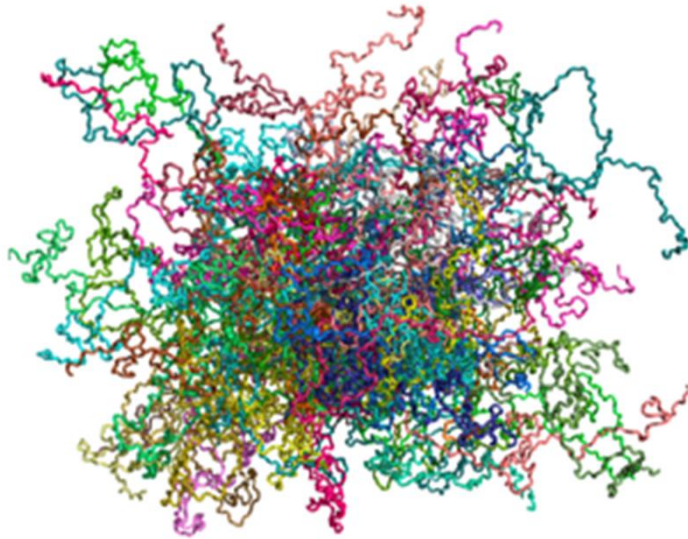
Chemical shifts: first raw information from the assignment



Tau in Alzheimer Disease

**NMR APPLICATION IN BIOLOGY:  
INTRINSICALLY DISORDERED PROTEINS**

# Intrinsically disordered proteins (IDPs)

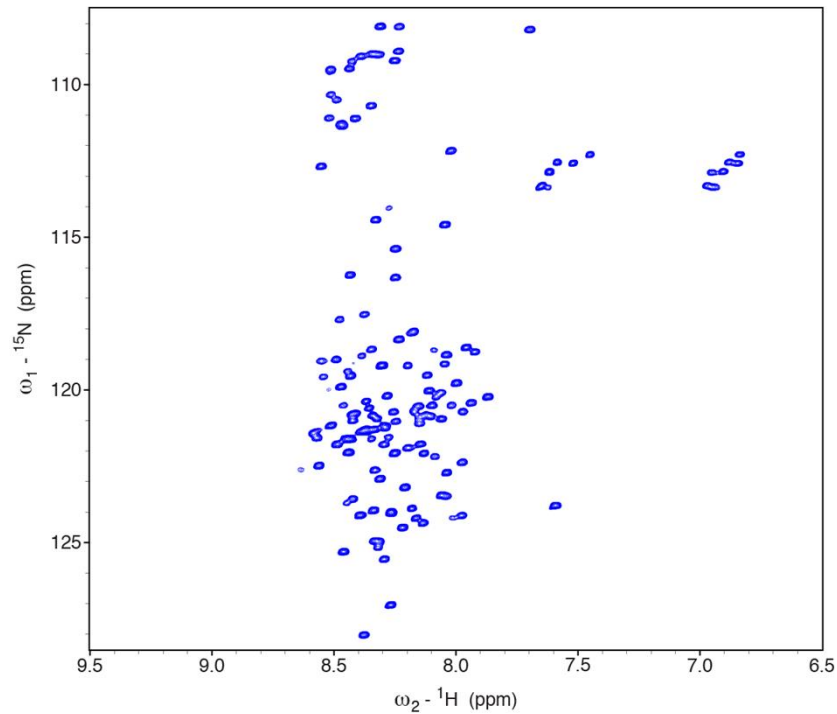


- “ Proteins or protein regions can be functional even in the absence of a fixed structure
- “ Often encountered in signaling, scaffolding, cell-cycle regulation, ...

IDPs play crucial roles in several important diseases (Alzheimer's, Parkinson, cancer)

⇒ NMR is the perfect tool to study this class of proteins

# Studying IDPs by NMR

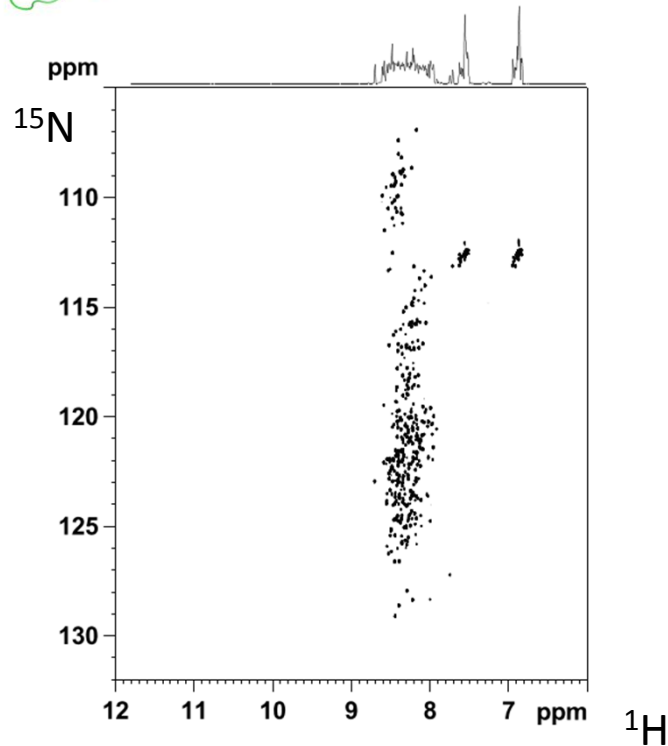
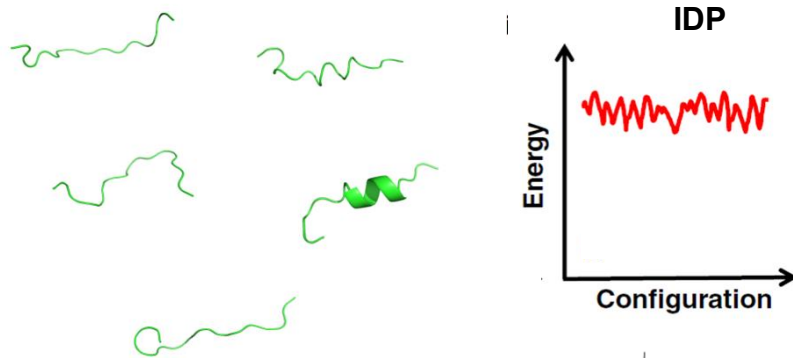


- ” IDPs are characterized by a narrow amide  ${}^1\text{H}$  chemical shift range
  - ” Fast exchange between the many different conformations populated by the protein
- ⇒ one peak per residue observed

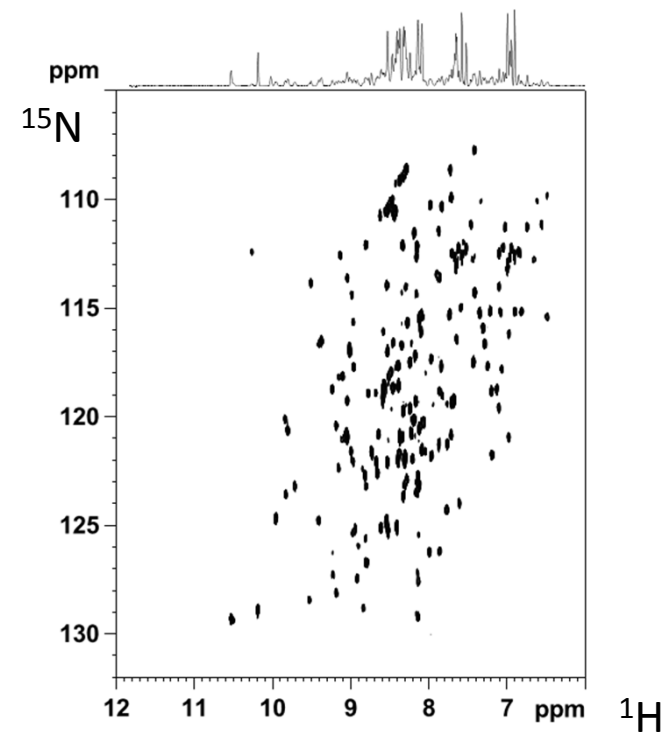
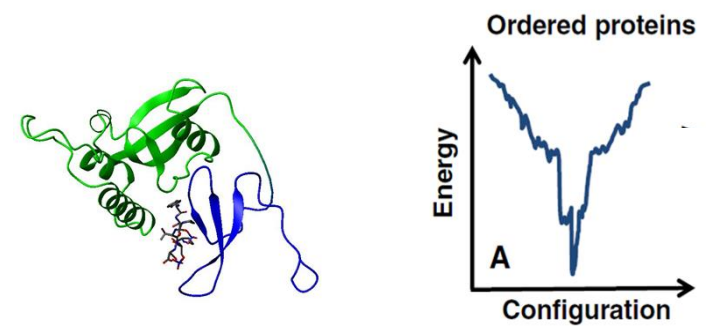
⇒ Use different NMR techniques (chemical shifts, relaxation, RDCs, PREs,...) to characterize conformational sampling, binding interactions, ...

# Tau is an intrinsically disordered protein (IDP)

IDP (Tau)



Globular protein (Pin1)



# Chemical Shifts of IDPs

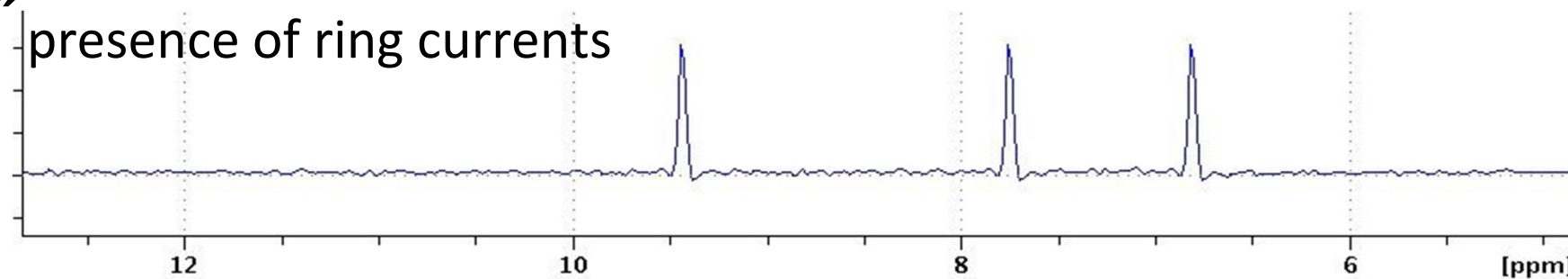
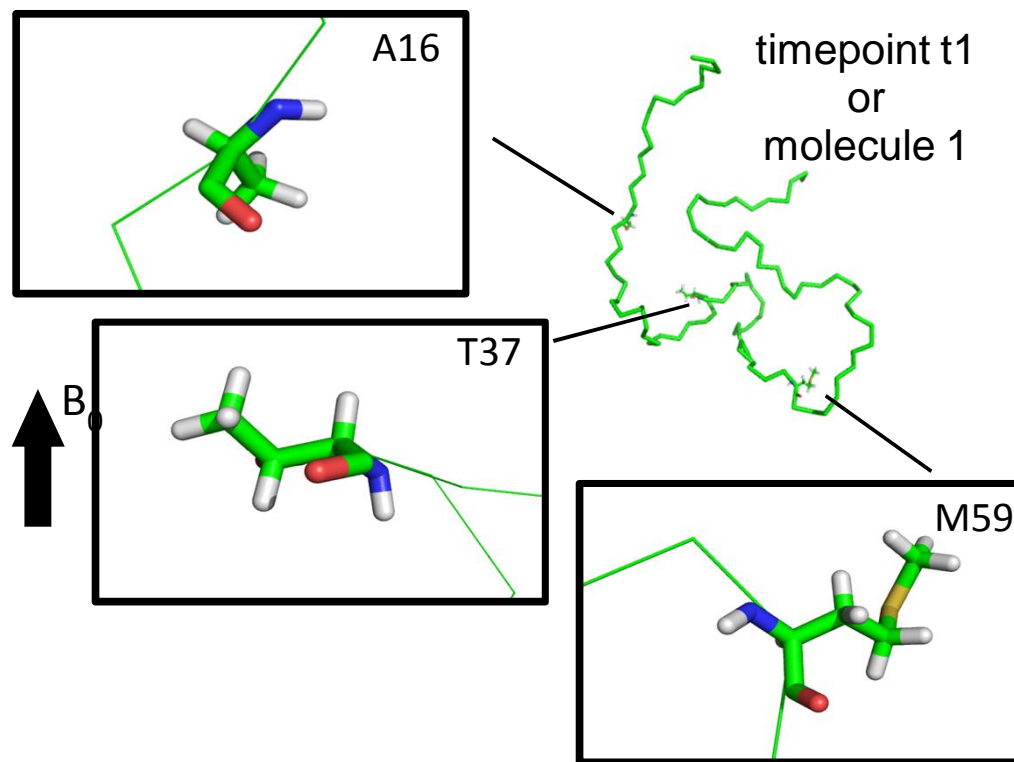
“ The chemical shifts (coordinates of a peak) are determined by several factors:

“ nature of the sidechain of the residue and neighbouring residues

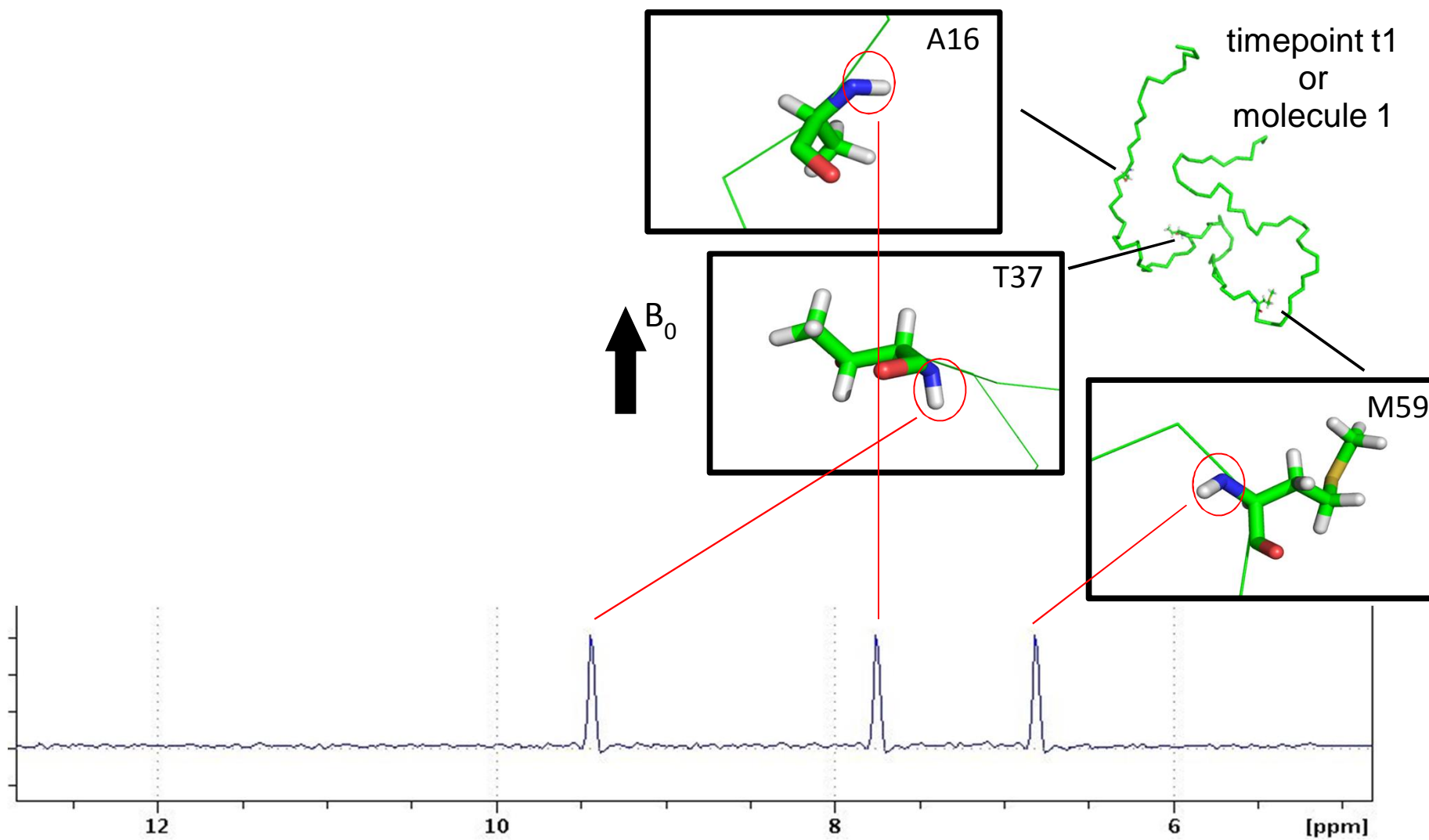
“ presence of hydrogen bonds

“ local relative geometry of the chemical bonds (torsion angles)

“ presence of ring currents

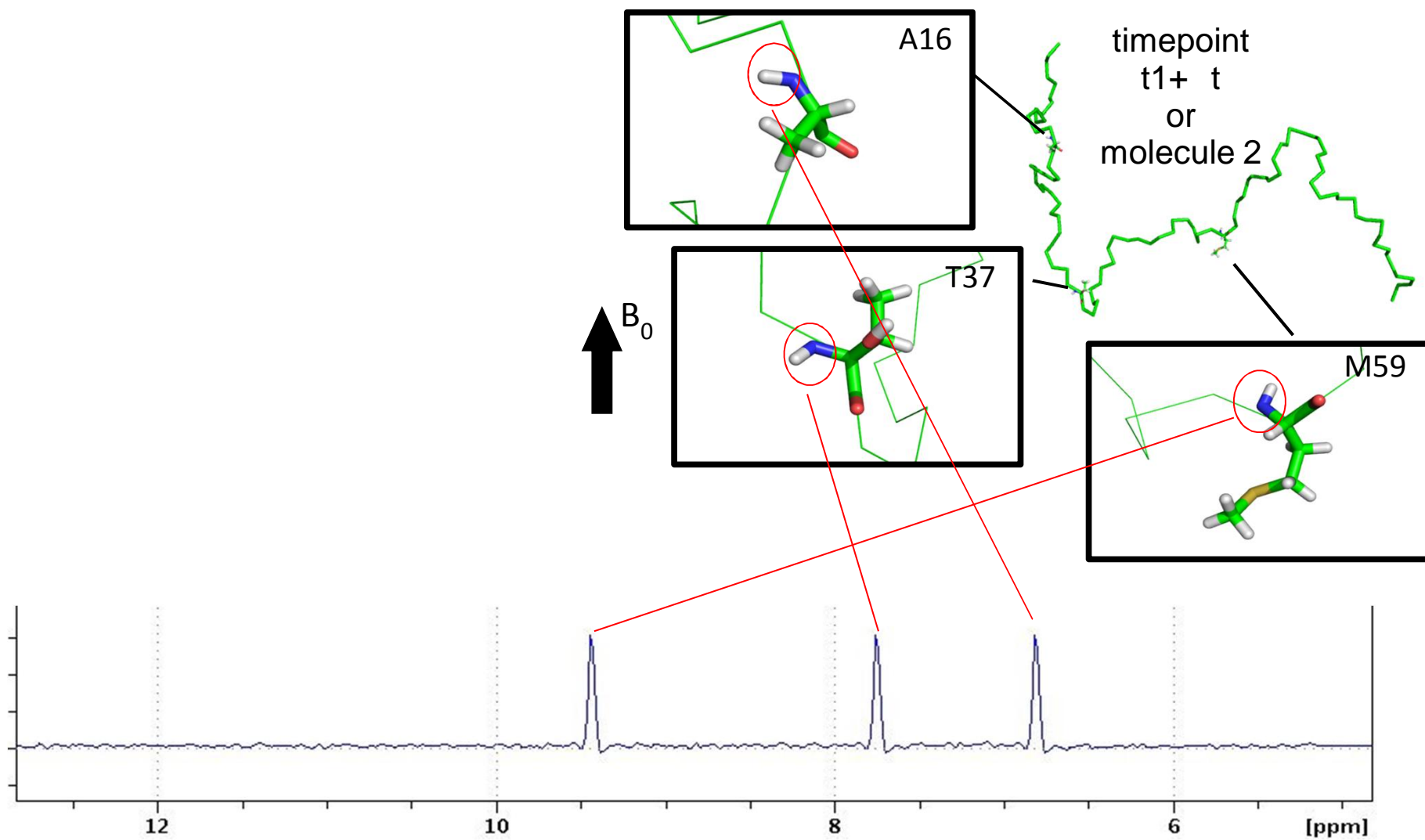


# Chemical Shifts of IDPs

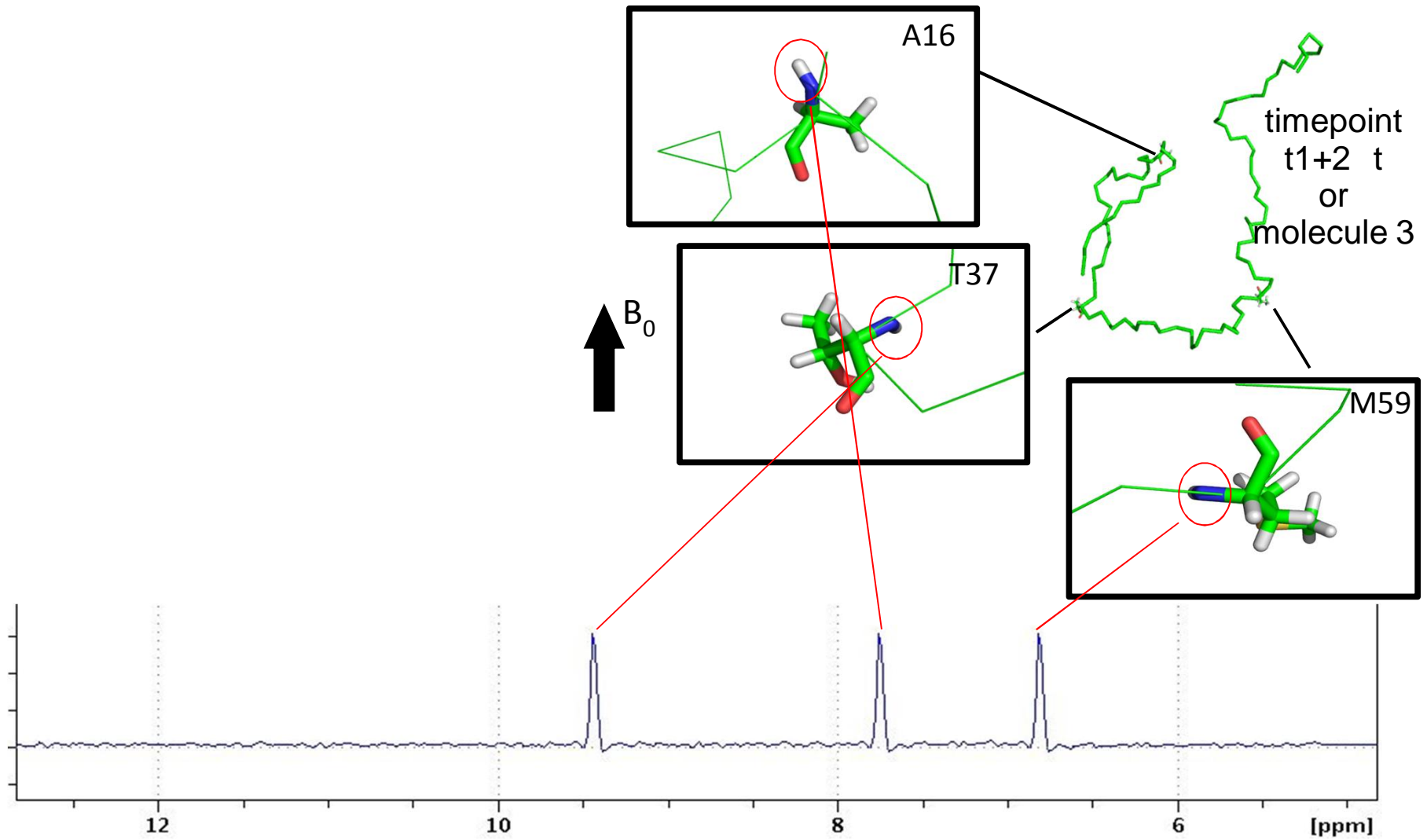




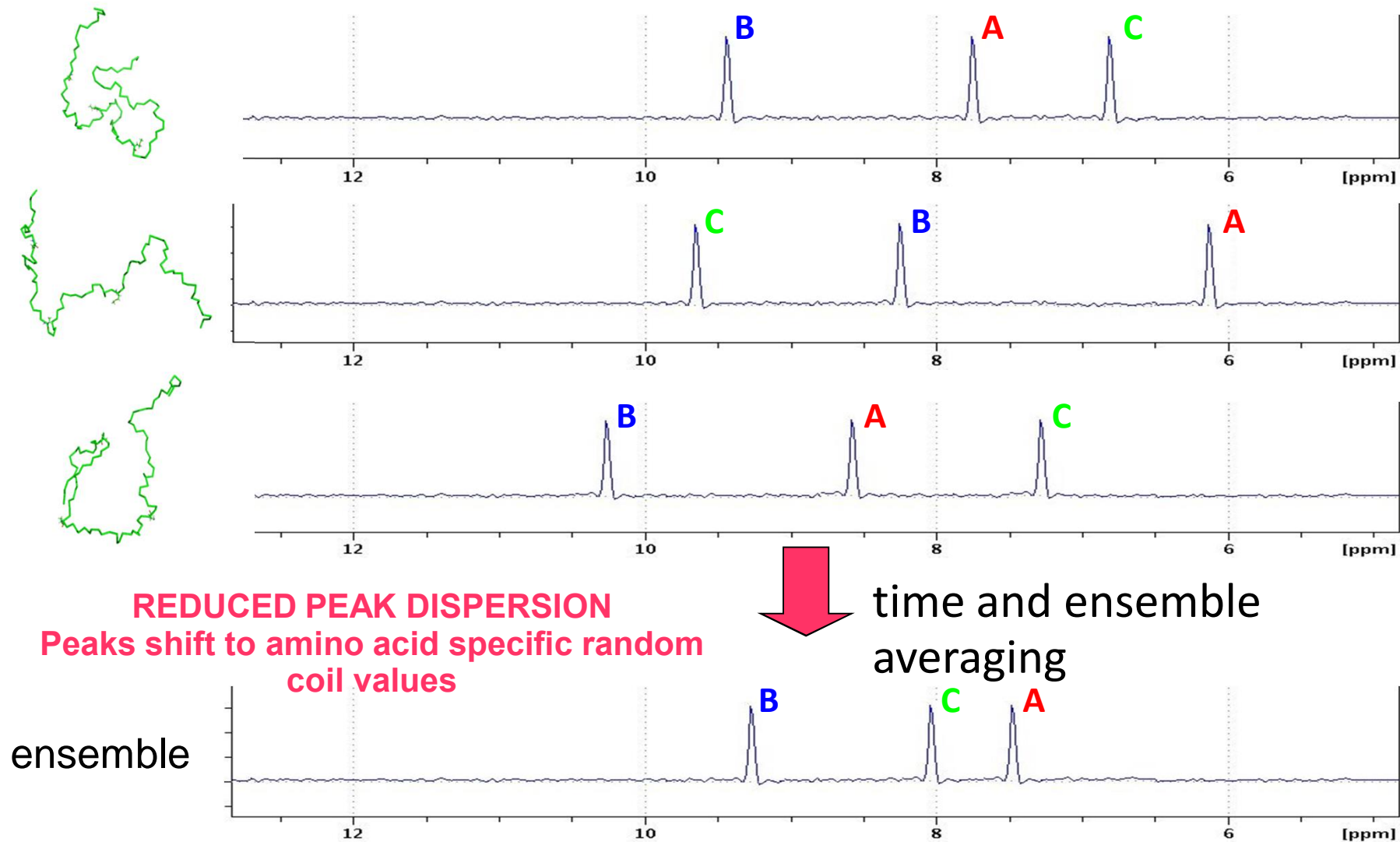
# Chemical Shifts of IDPs



# Chemical Shifts of IDPs

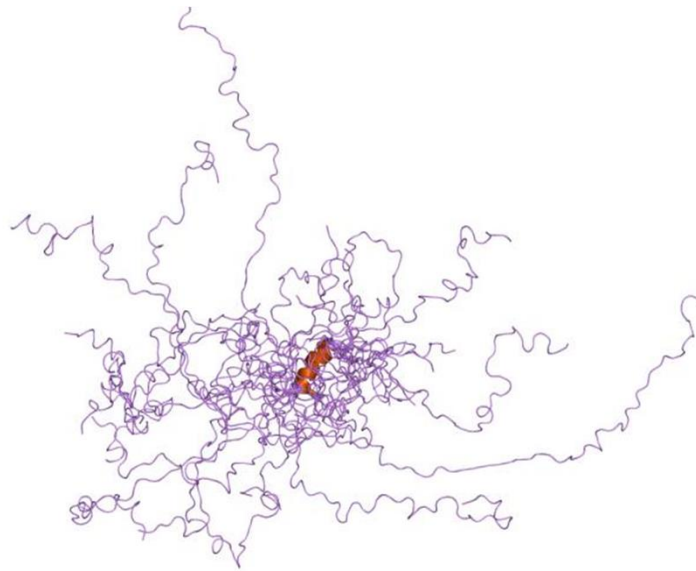


# Chemical Shifts of IDPs : average of conformational sampling



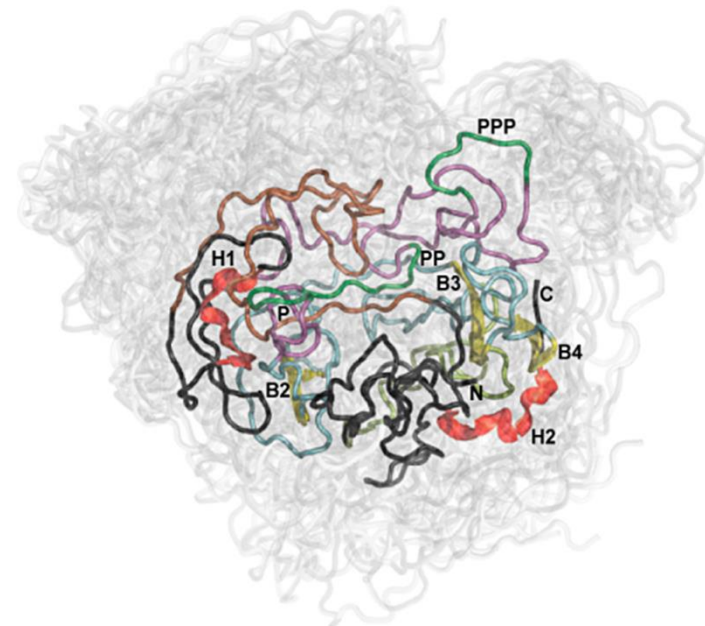
# → IDPs « Structures »

Intrinsically disordered proteins

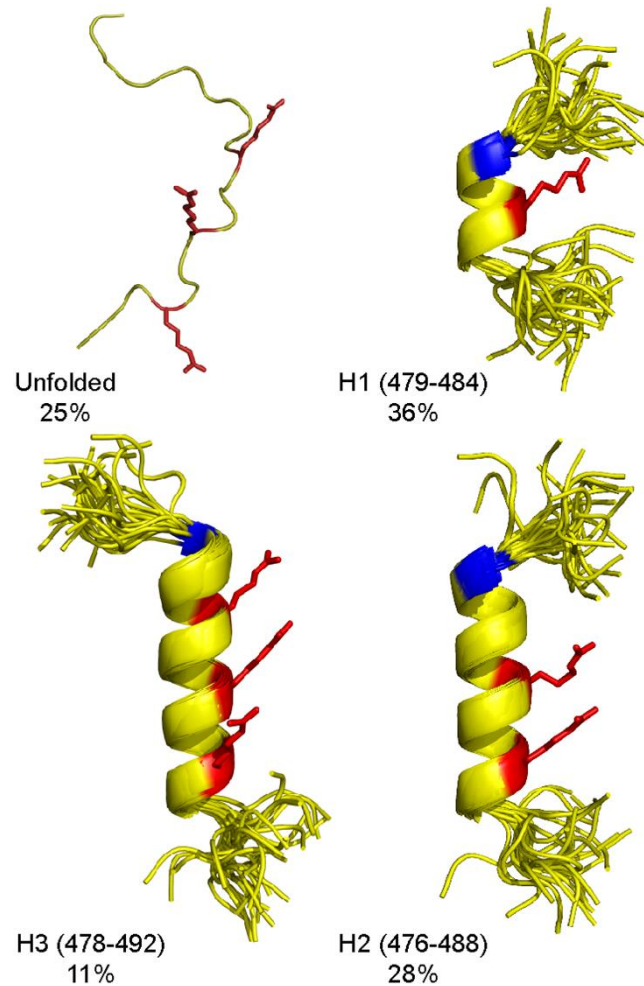


Conformational ensemble

A word of caution



# IDPs: not completely random

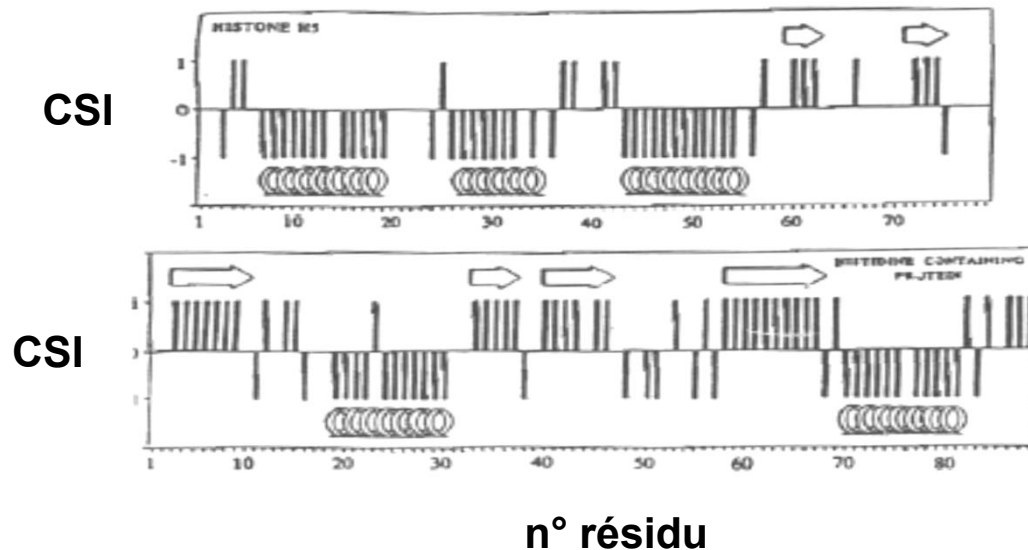


- ” Binding sites in IDPs can sample conformations similar to the bound state already without their binding partner
- ” Pre-configuration for binding
- ” Conformational ensemble characterized in detail by NMR

# Identification of secondary structure propensity

→ difference of value of  $C\alpha$ ,  $C\beta$  ou  $CO$  compared to value of  $C\alpha$ ,  $C\beta$  ou  $CO$  'random coil', respectively

- si  $\Delta C\alpha < 0$ ,  $\Delta C\beta > 0$ ,  $\Delta CO < 0 \rightarrow \beta$  sheet
- si  $\Delta C\alpha > 0$ ,  $\Delta C\beta < 0$ ,  $\Delta CO > 0 \rightarrow \alpha$  helix

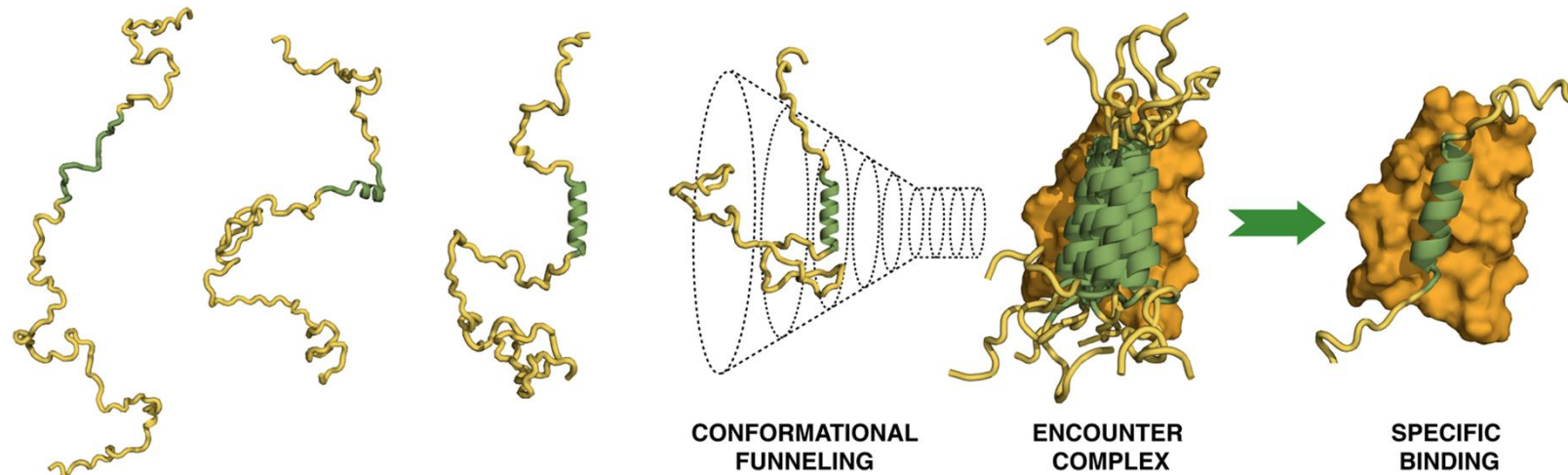


$$\delta(H\alpha)_{obs} - \delta(H\alpha)_{rc} < -0,2 ppm \Rightarrow CSI = -1$$

$$\delta(H\alpha)_{obs} - \delta(H\alpha)_{rc} > 0,2 ppm \Rightarrow CSI = 1$$

$$|\delta(H\alpha)_{obs} - \delta(H\alpha)_{rc}| < 0,2 ppm \Rightarrow CSI = 0$$

# IDPs: characterize binding mechanisms



- “ Relaxation dispersion NMR measurements allow to characterize binding pathways of IDPs
- “ Binding of pre-configured conformations, formation of nonspecific encounter complexes

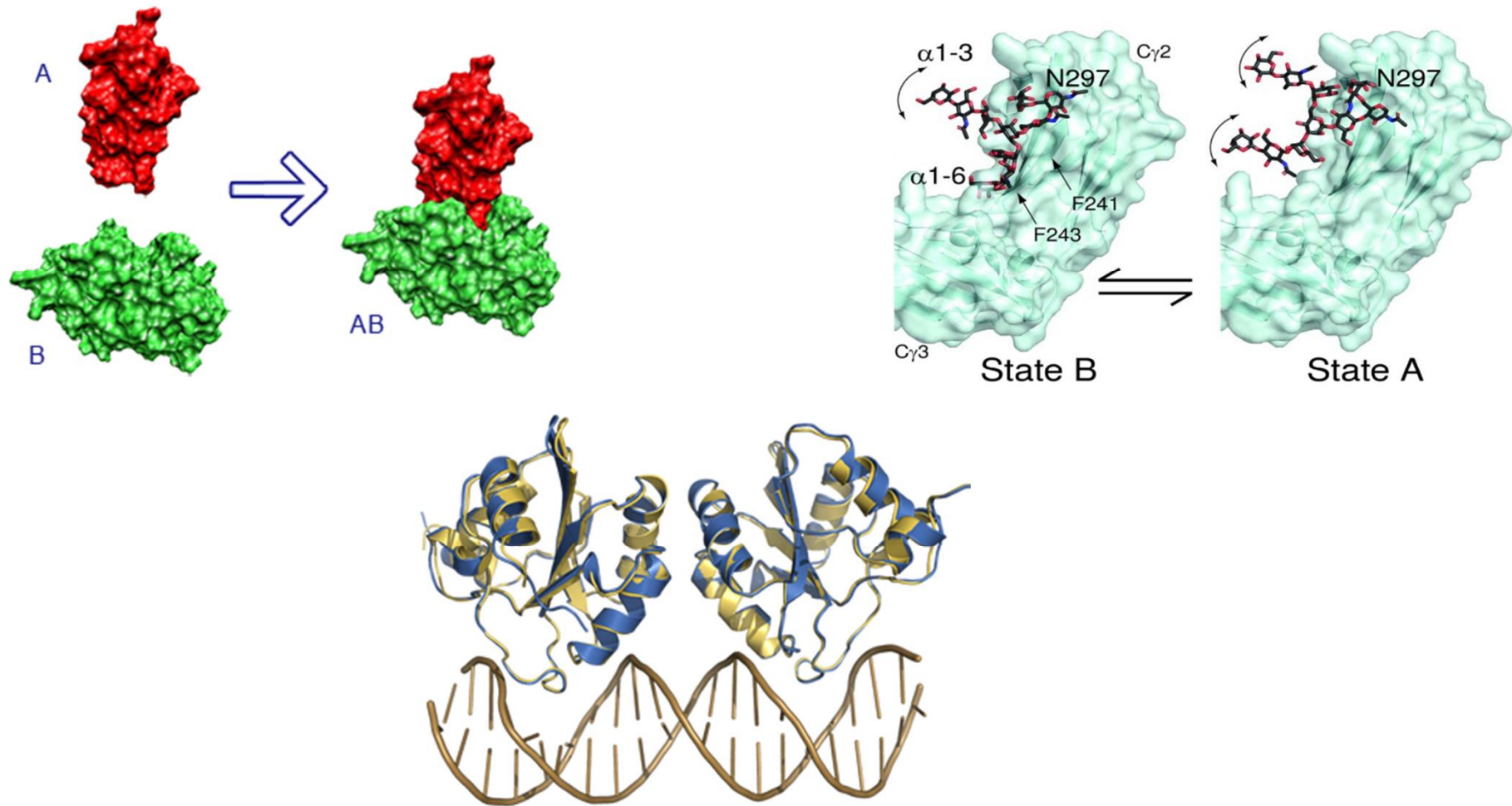
protein-protein and protein ligand Interactions

# **APPLICATION**

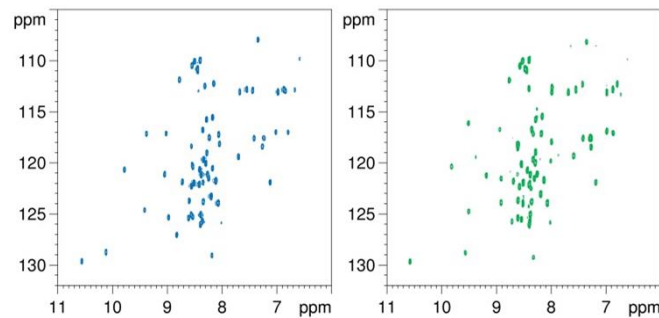
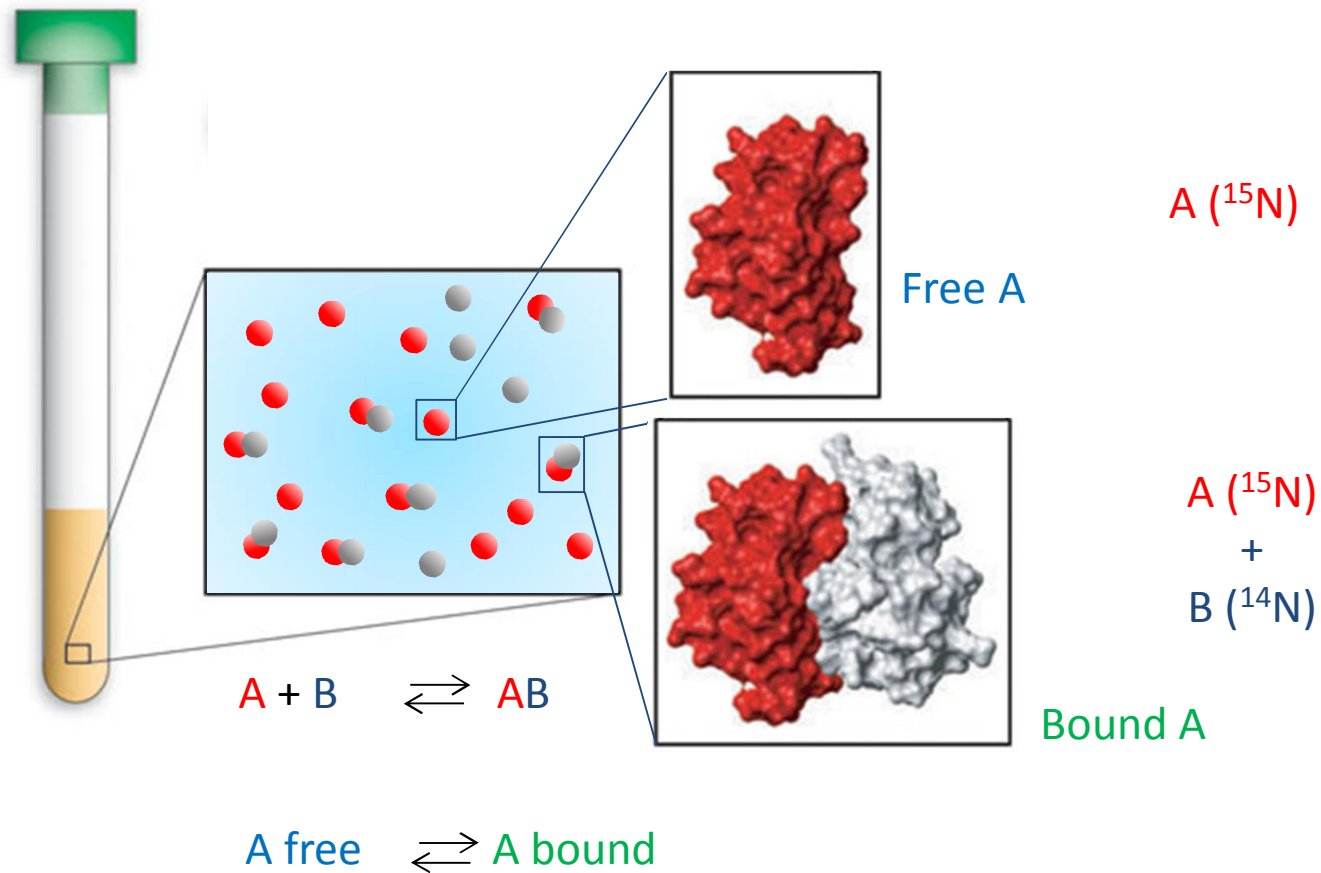


# Biomolecular interaction characterization

protein-protein, protein-DNA, proteine-glycan ou protein-ligand



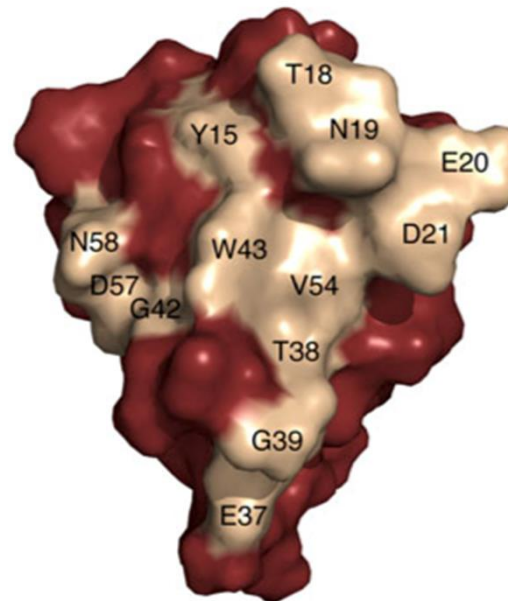
# NMR exchange measurements



→ A free and A bound are different

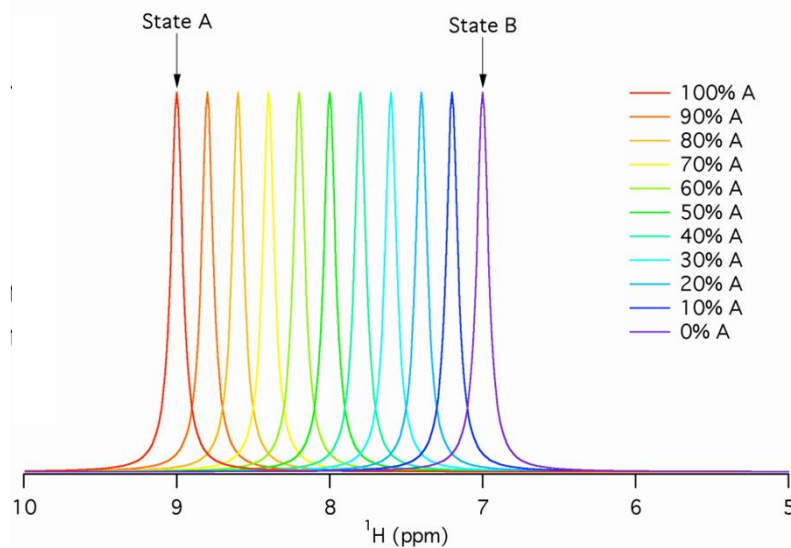
## Titration: $K_D$ from NMR

- “ Some restrictions apply: concentration range, requirement for peaks shifting in fast exchange
- “ Even if these conditions are not met, the binding interface can usually still be mapped from shift changes / peak broadening

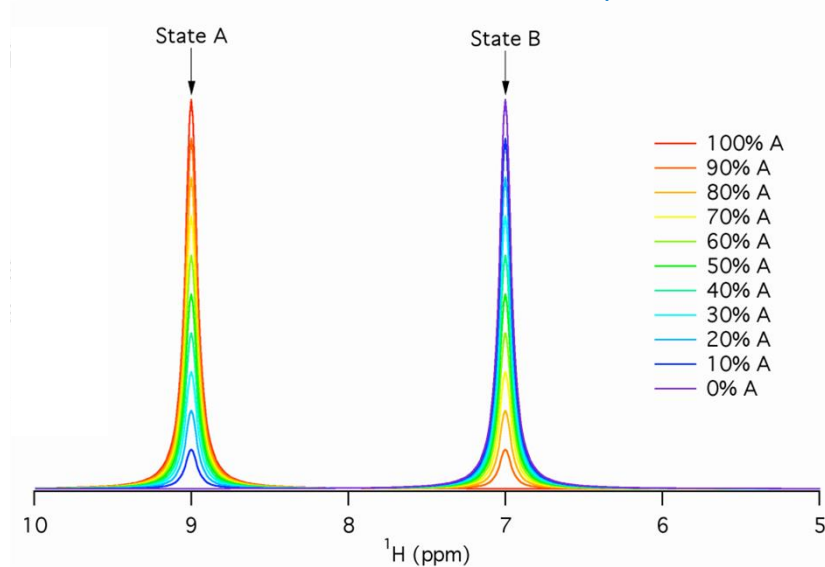


# Two exchange regime: fast vs. slow

Fast exchange (on the NMR time scale)



Slow exchange (on the NMR time scale)



- “ 1 peak at the « weighted » average of A and B
- “ The peak will shift between frequency from state A to frequency of state B as the state population varied

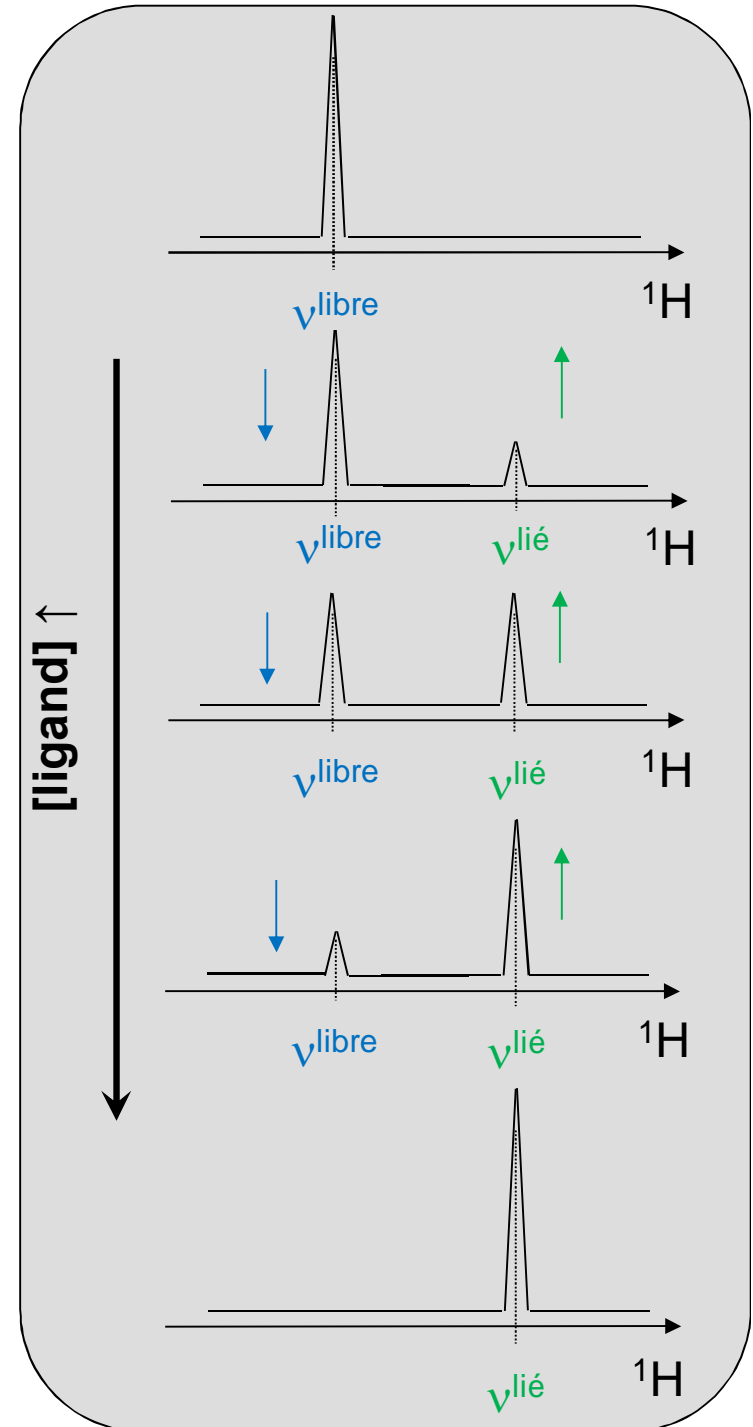
- “ 2 peaks corresponding to state A and state B, which relative intensities reflects the fraction of population in each state
- “ Peaks do not shift, rather their intensities are modified as the state populations varied

# $K_D$ by NMR

Slow exchange

→ Strong complex (low  $K_D$ )

- “ The chemical shift value of an atom is sensitive to its chemical environment
- “ Protein(A) at constant concentration in the presence of protein (B) at increasing concentration : NMR signal of(A) will change according to the amount of added (B), meaning depending on the amount of(AB)complex that is formed

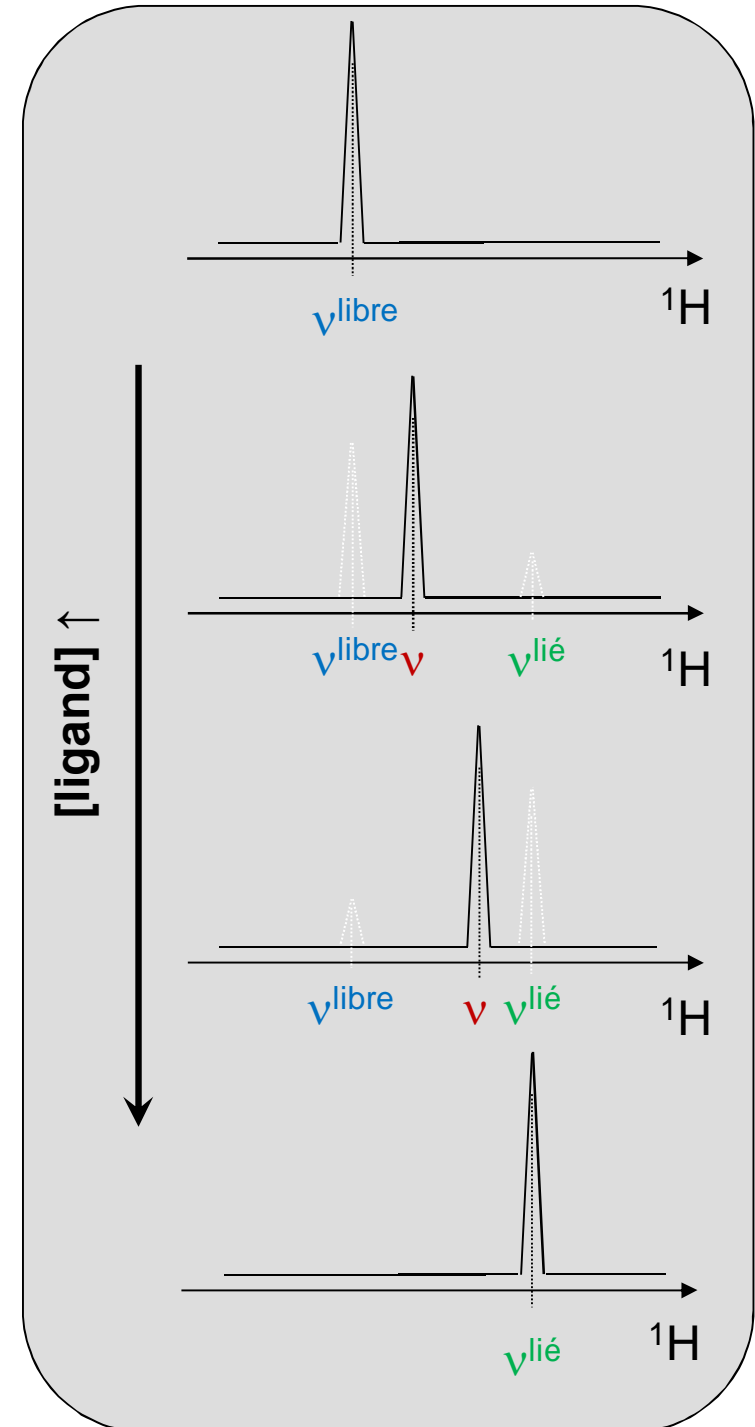


# $K_D$ by NMR

Fast exchange

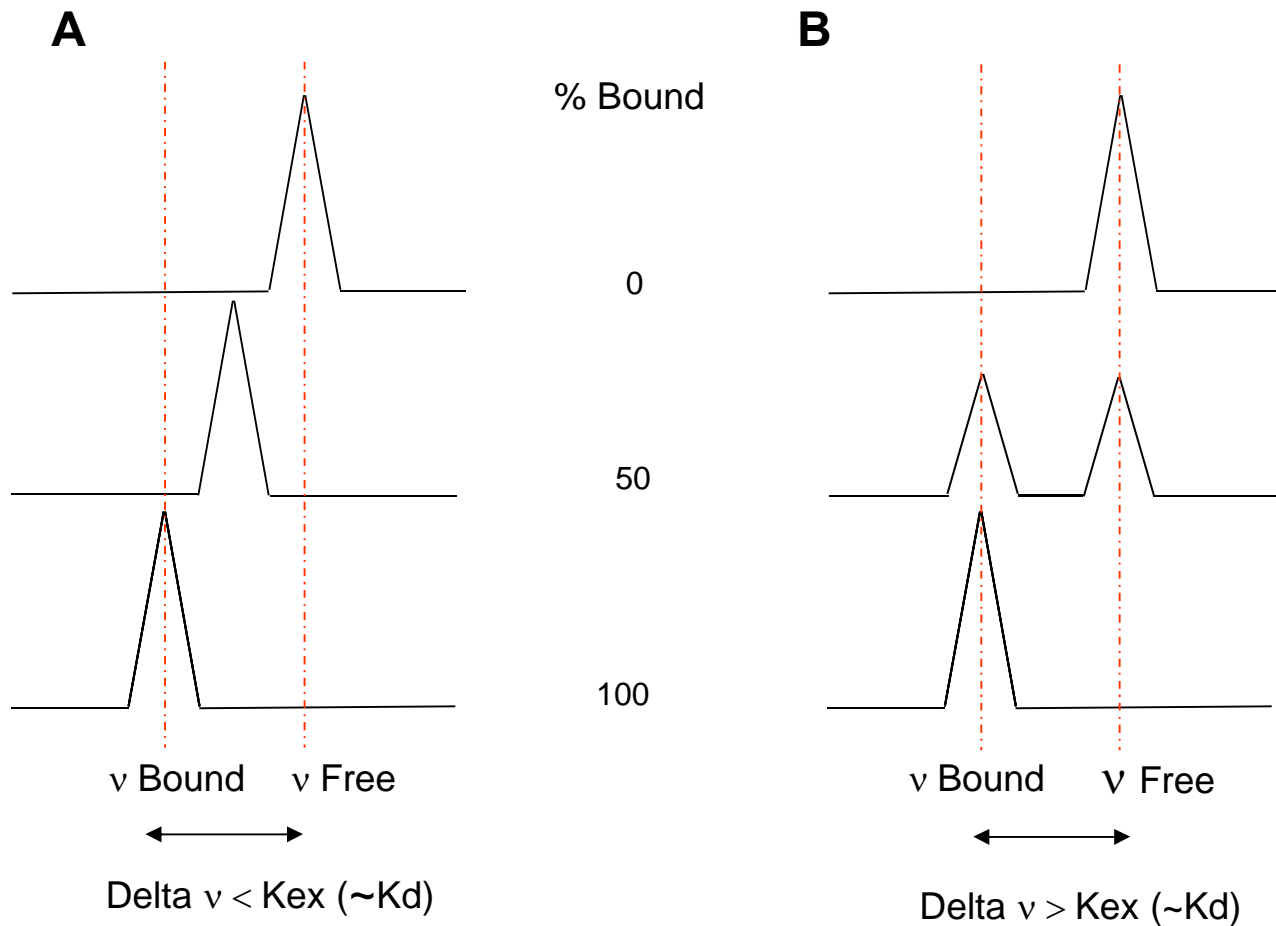
→ Weak complex

- “ The chemical shift value of an atom is sensitive to its chemical environment
- “ Protein(A) at constant concentration in the presence of protein (B) at increasing concentration : NMR signal of (A) will change according to the amount of added (B), meaning depending on the amount of (AB) complex that is formed



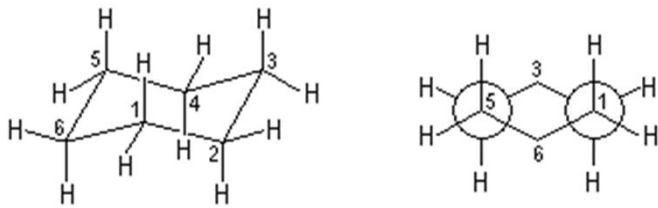
# Two exchange regime: fast vs. slow

On the NMR time scale

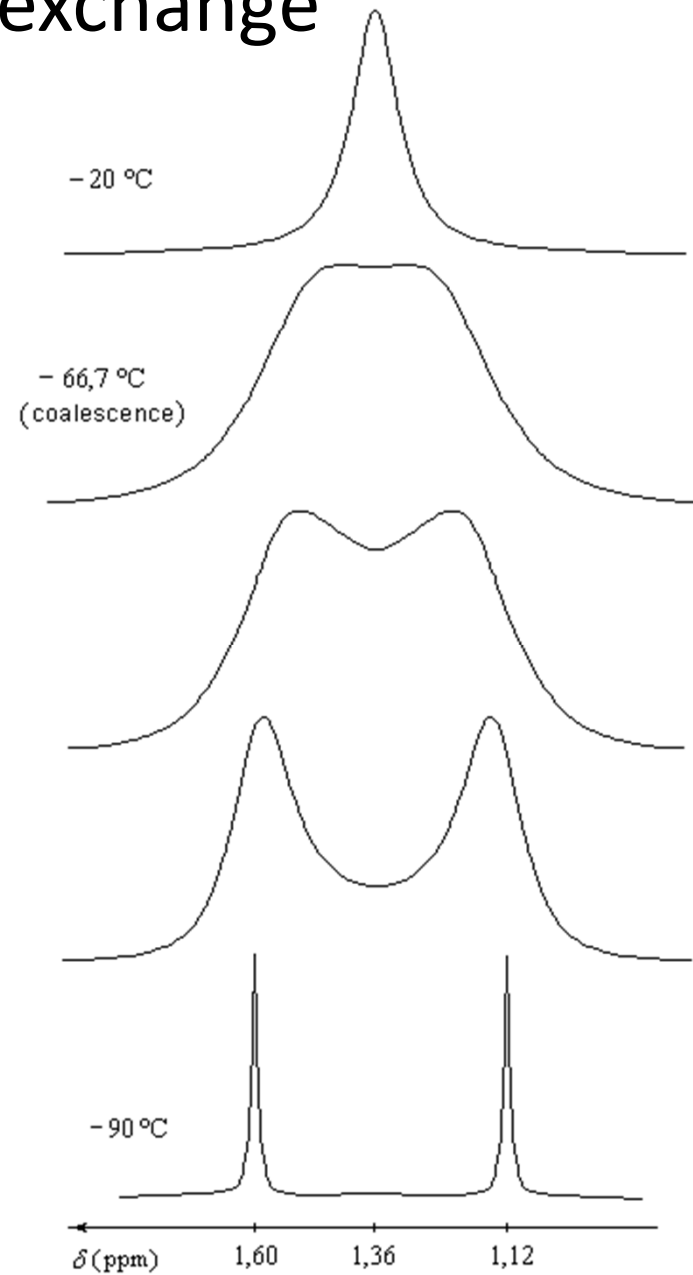
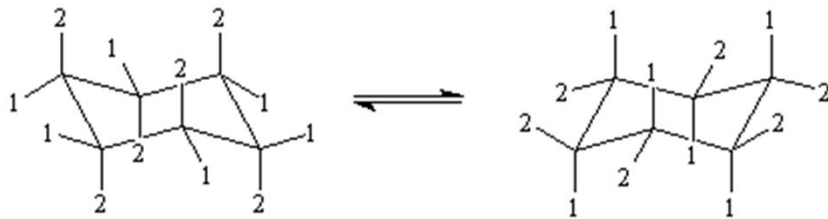


# Temperature influence on the exchange

## Example of cyclohexane

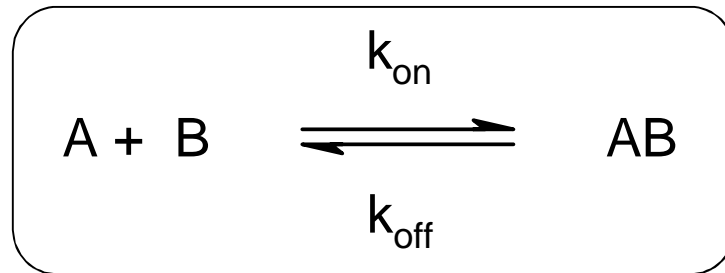


## Conformationnel exchange:





# Characterization of a protein-protein interface: definition of the dissociation constant for a complex



$$K_D = \frac{[A] \cdot [B]}{[AB]}$$

[A], [B] and [AB] are the concentrations of A, B and AB complex at equilibrium.

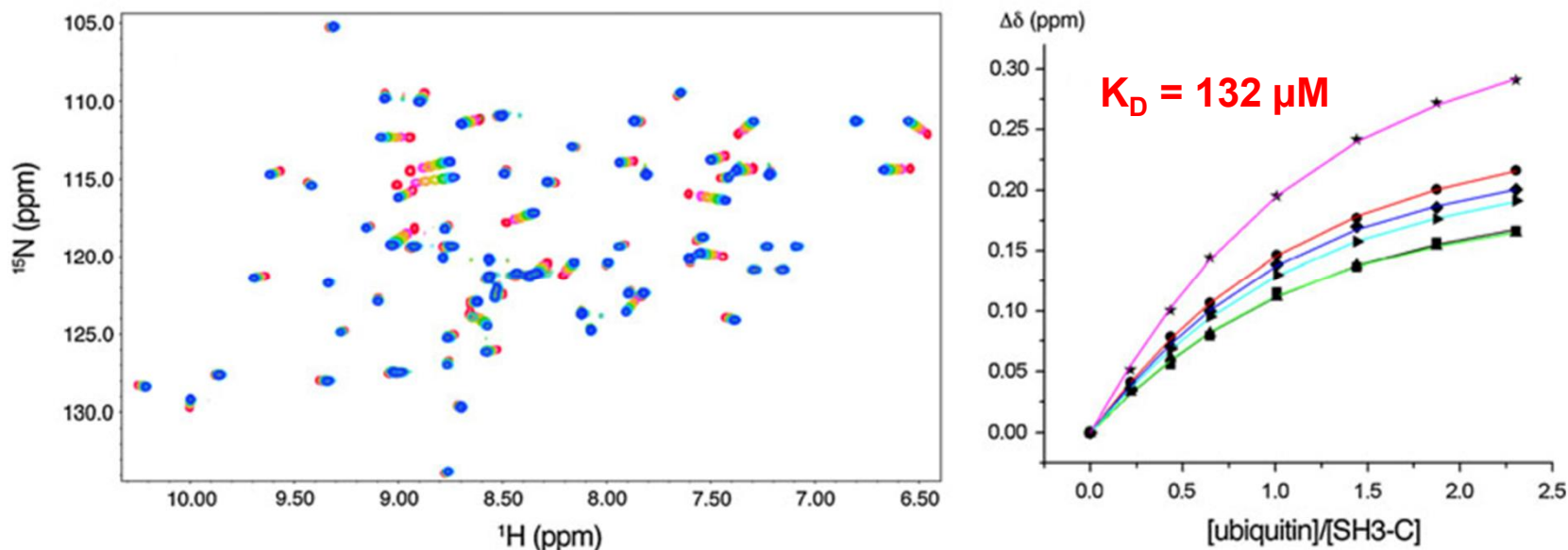
Concentrations at equilibrium are described as

$$\begin{aligned} [A]_0 &= [A] + [AB] \\ [B]_0 &= [B] + [AB] \end{aligned} \quad \text{with } [A]_0 \text{ and } [B]_0 \text{ the initial concentrations of A and B.}$$

Concentration of complex at equilibrium described as (from  $K_D$  expression)

$$[AB] = \frac{1}{2} \left( [A]_0 + [B]_0 + K_D - \sqrt{([A]_0 + [B]_0 + K_D)^2 - 4[A]_0[B]_0} \right)$$

# Titration: $K_D$ from NMR

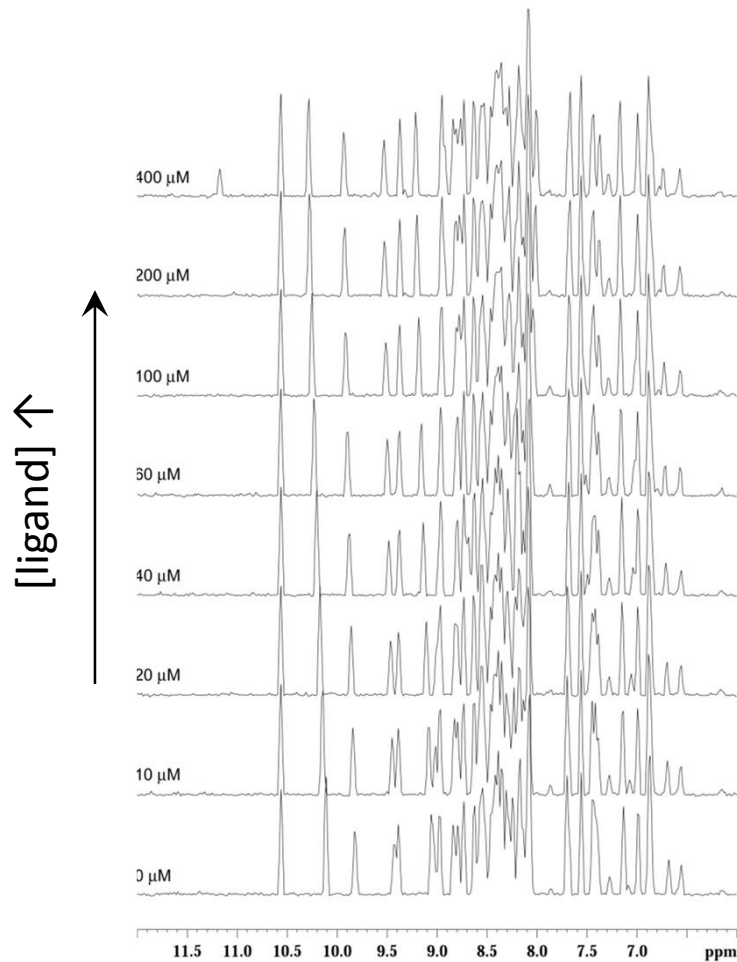


Ringkjøbing Jensen et al., Eur Biophys J 40, 1371, 2011

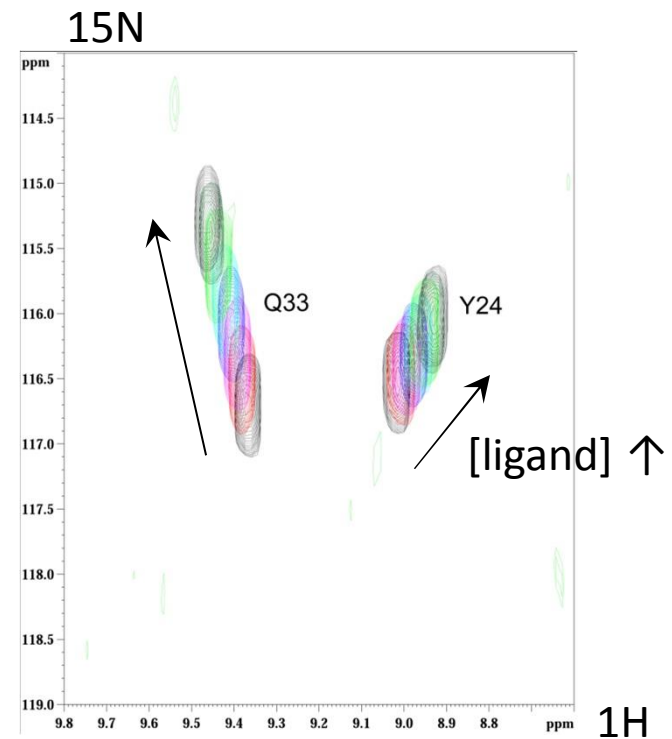
- “ Add unlabeled partner to isotope-labeled protein in increasing concentrations, record HSQCs
- “ Determine  $K_D$  from peak shifts

# $K_D$ by RMN

Chemical shift perturbation of a  $^{15}\text{N}$ -labelled protein with increasing amount of unlabelled ligand



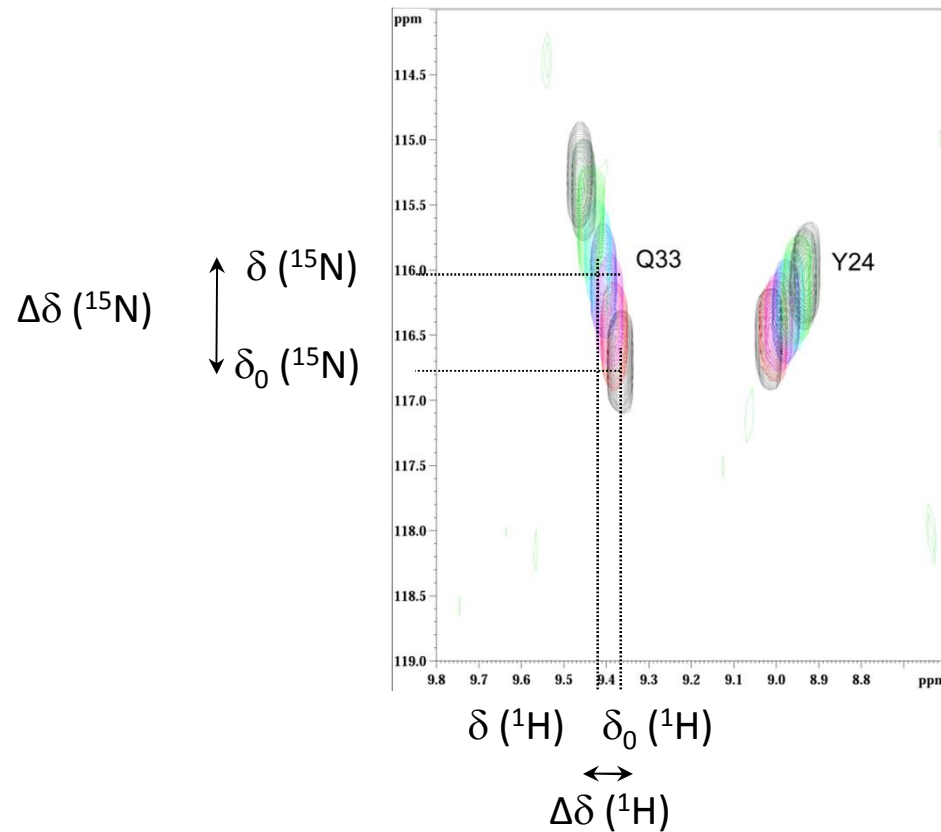
2D :  $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^1\text{H}$  HSQC



# $K_D$ by RMN

Chemical shift perturbation of a  $^{15}\text{N}$ -labelled protein with increasing amount of unlabelled ligand

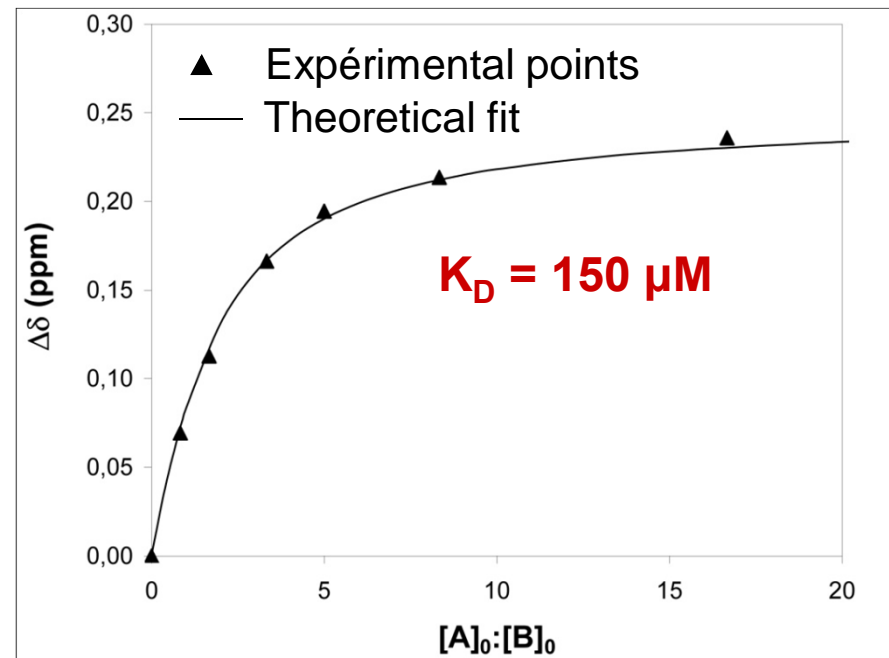
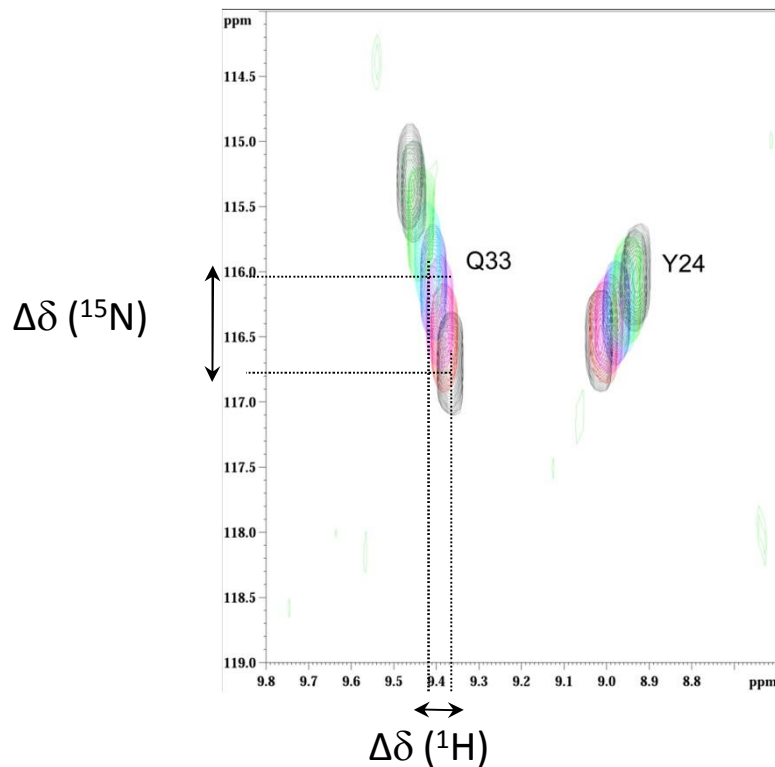
$$\delta = \delta - \delta_0 = \sqrt{[\delta(^1\text{H})]^2 + 0.2[\delta(^{15}\text{N})]^2}$$



# $K_D$ by RMN

Chemical shift perturbation of a  $^{15}\text{N}$ -labelled protein with increasing amount of unlabelled ligand  $\rightarrow$  determination of dissociation constant ( $K_D$ )

$$\Delta\delta = \frac{\Delta\delta_{\max}}{2} ([A]_0 + [B]_0 + K_D - \sqrt{([A]_0 + [B]_0 + K_D)^2 - 4[A]_0[B]_0})$$

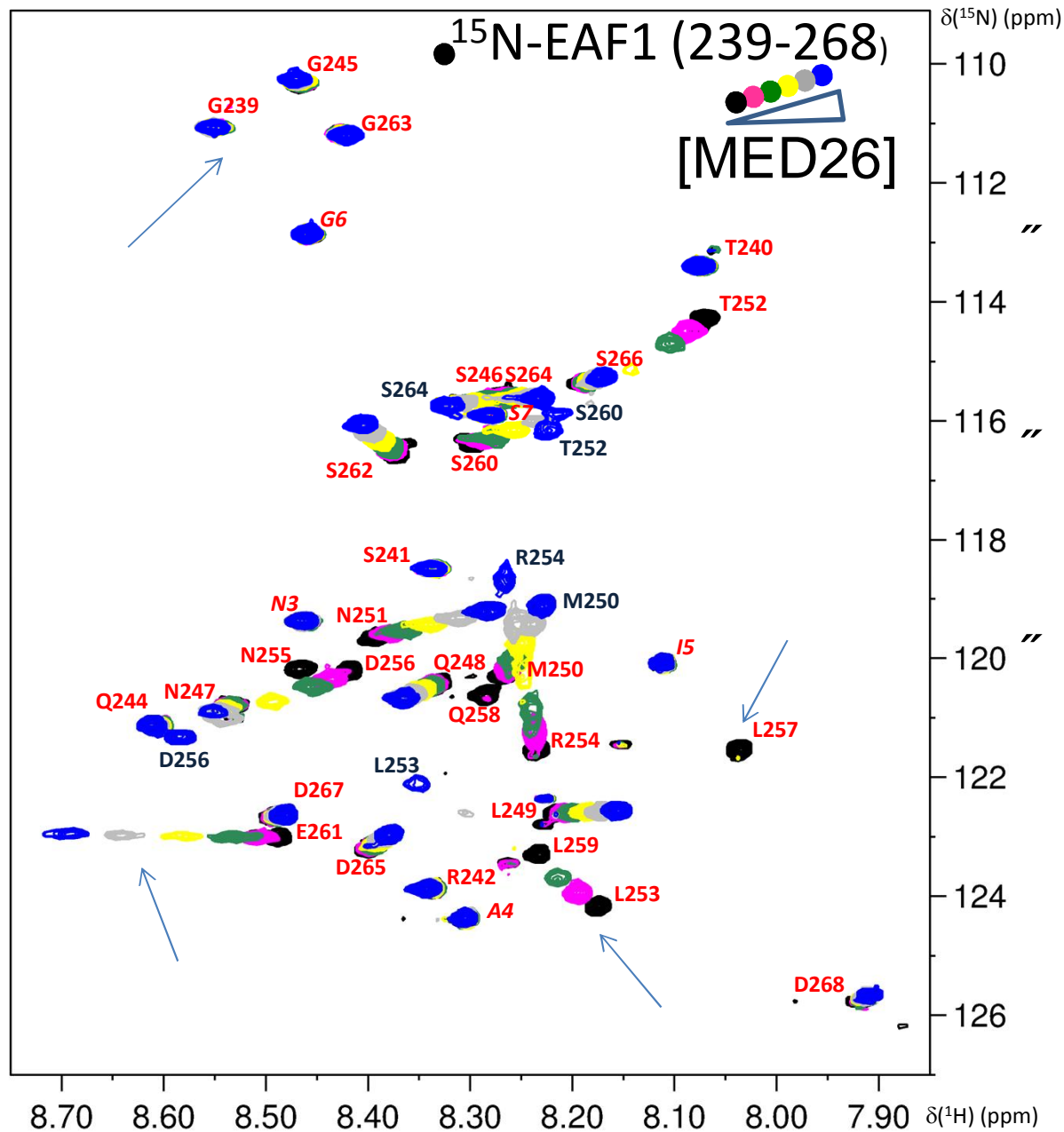


# Folding upon binding

Example of the interaction of **TAF7** (TBP-associated factor 7) or **EAF1** (Eleven-nineteen Lysine-rich in Leukemia-Associated Factor 1) with Med26 N-Terminal domain (NTD) :

Switch from Initiation to elongation of transcription

# Titration of $^{15}\text{N}$ -EAF peptide with unlabelled MED26



'' Need assignment of the bound peptide (3D)

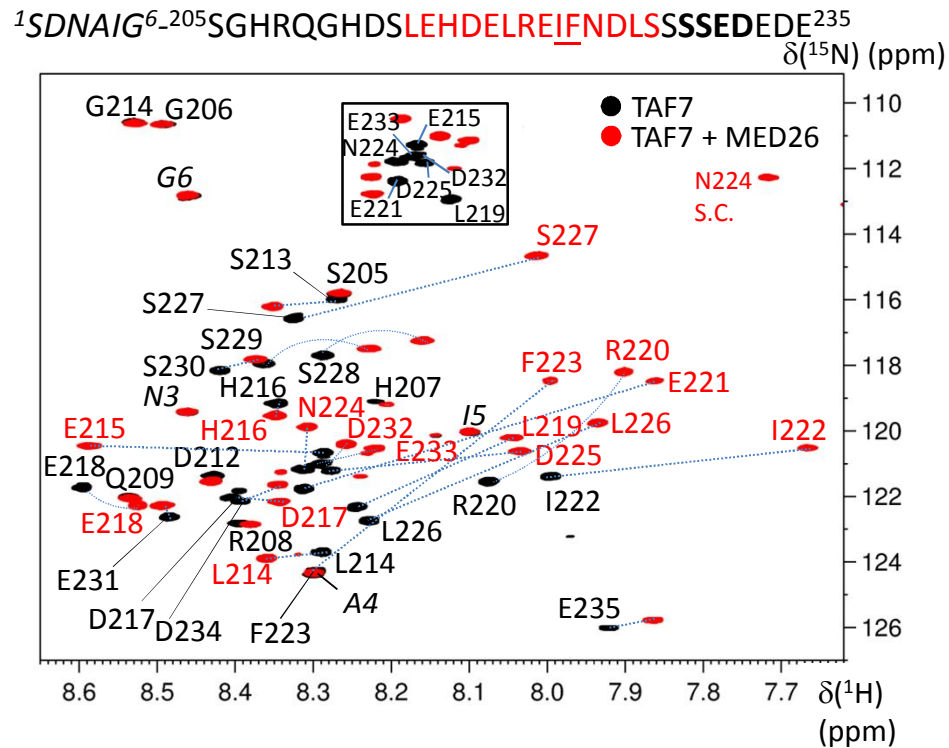
'' Definition of the binding region

''  $K_d$  estimation





# Folding of $^{15}\text{N}$ -TAF7 peptide upon binding MED26

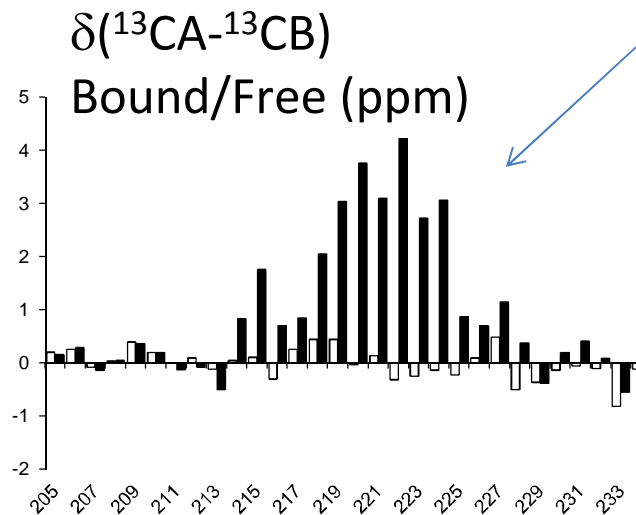
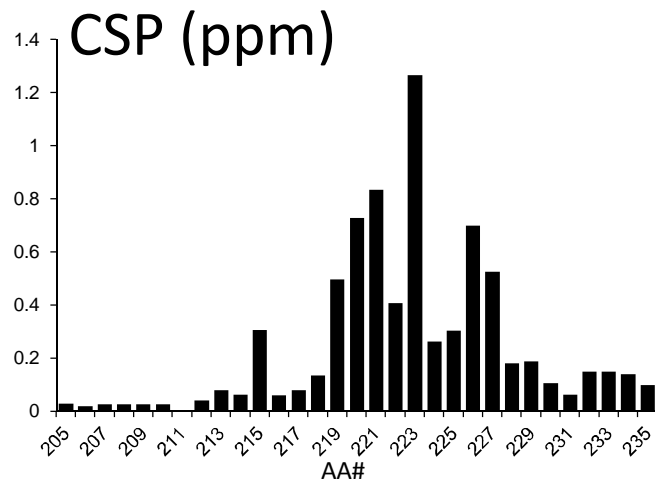


$^{15}\text{N}$ -TAF7 (205-235)

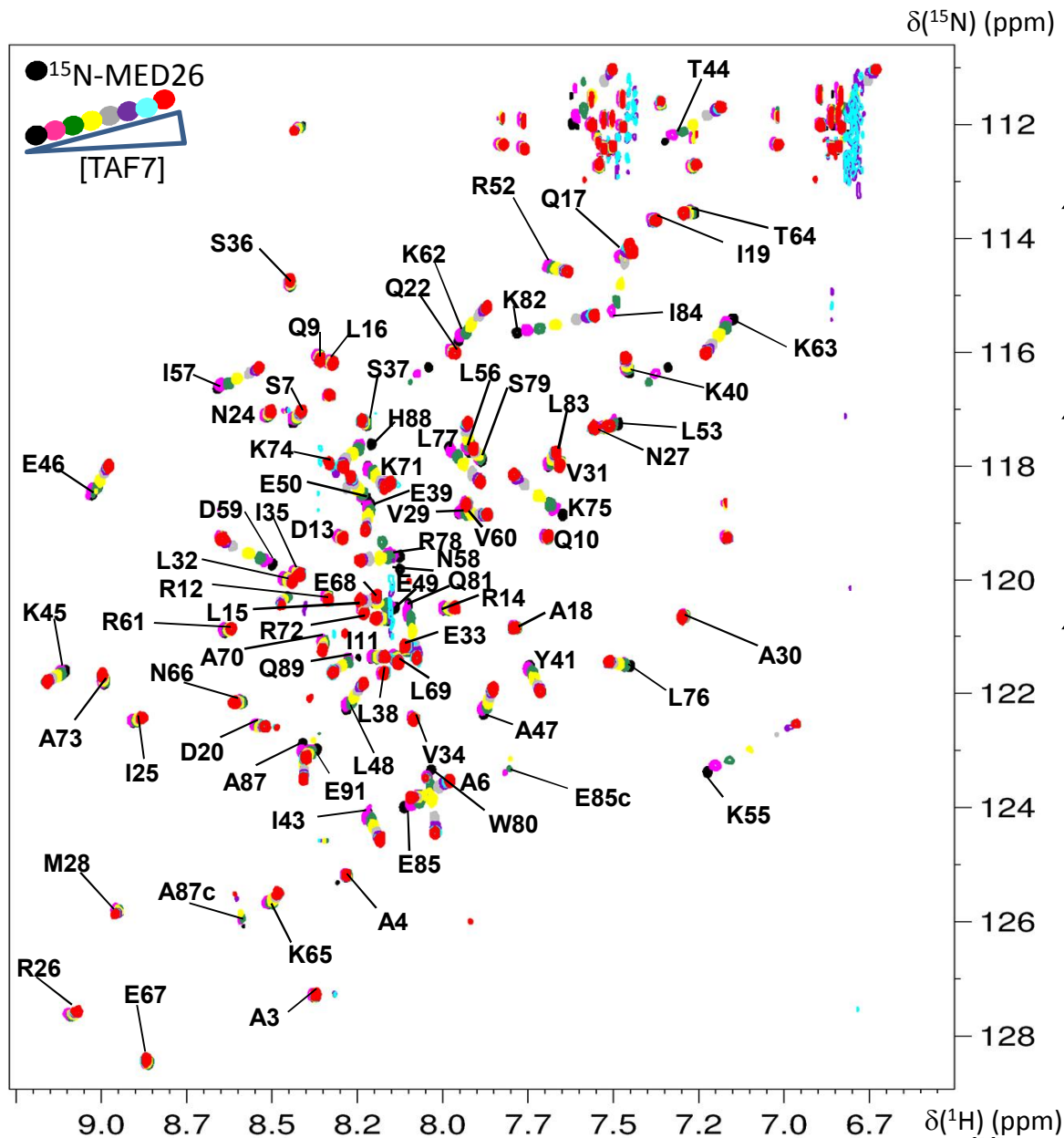
“ Use assignment of the free/bound peptide to define 2D structure

“ Definition of the binding region

**Helix formation**



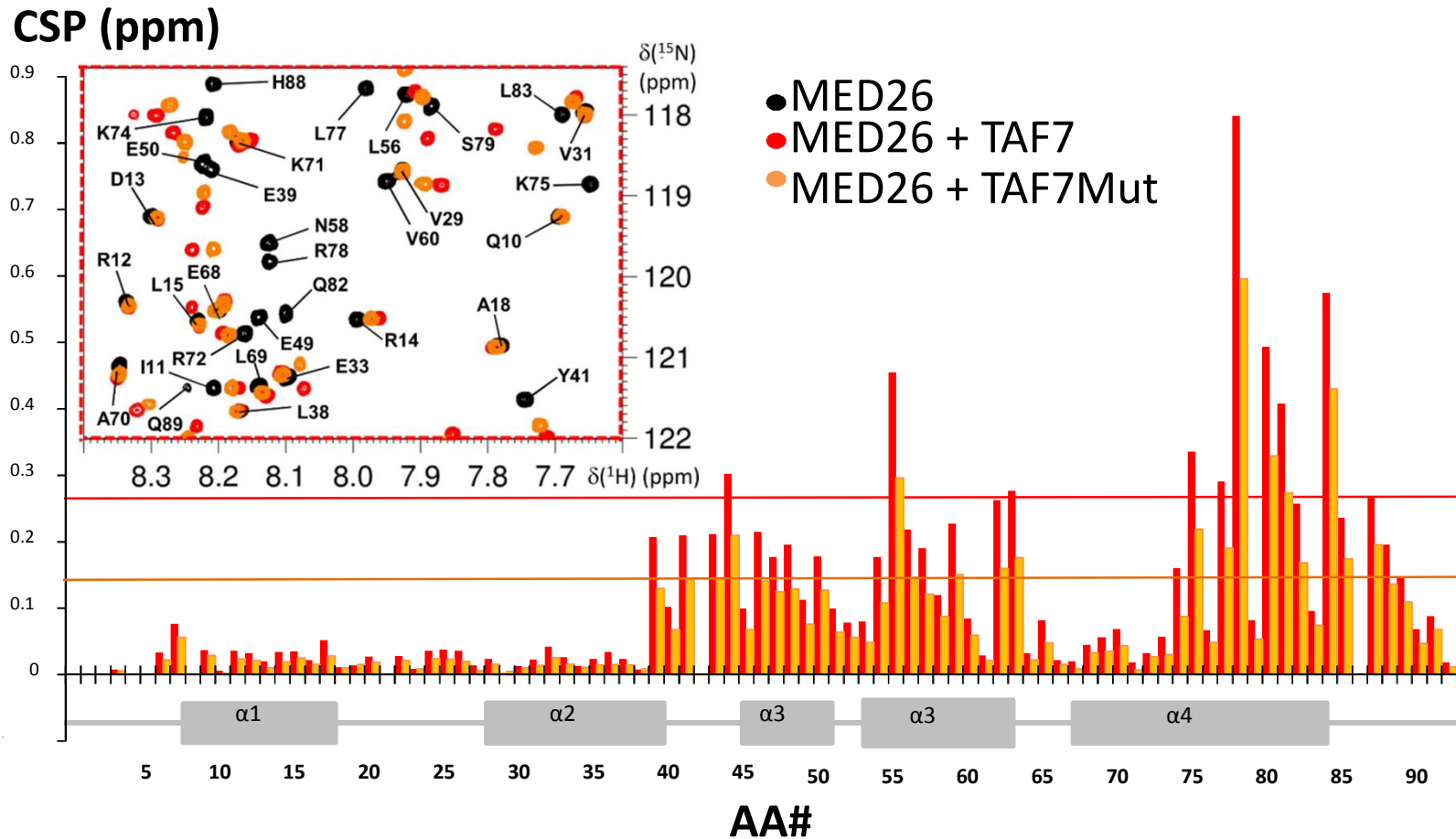
# Titration of $^{15}\text{N}$ -MED26 with unlabelled TAF7 peptide



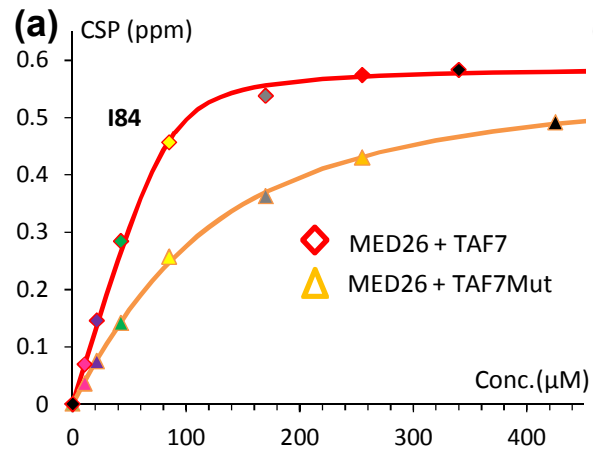
- '' Need assignment of the bound MED26 (3D)
- '' Definition of the binding region
- ''  $K_d$  estimation

# Titration of $^{15}\text{N}$ -MED26 with unlabelled TAF7 peptide

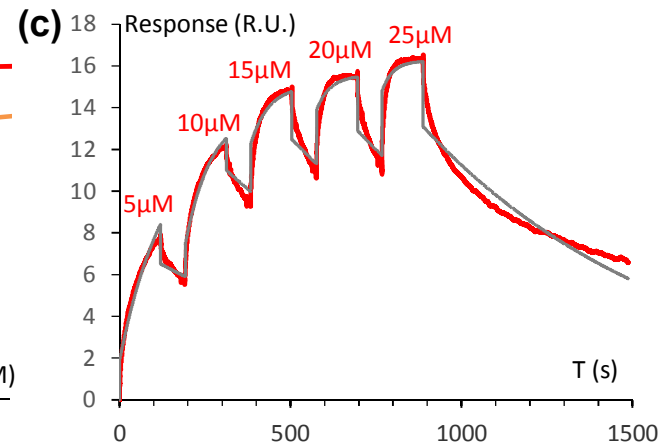
## Definition of the binding region



# Titration of $^{15}\text{N}$ -MED26 with unlabelled TAF7 peptide



NMR

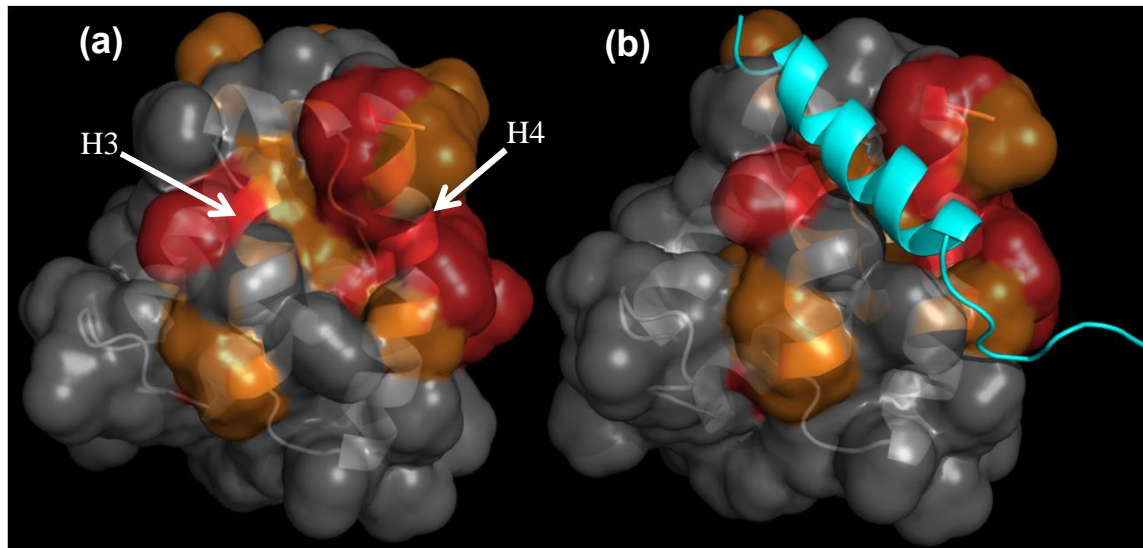


SPR

# $^{15}\text{N}$ -MED26 interaction with TAF7 peptide

Color coded CSP reported on MED26 surface

TAF7 calculated dihedral angle estimated from CS with **TALOS** and NOEs

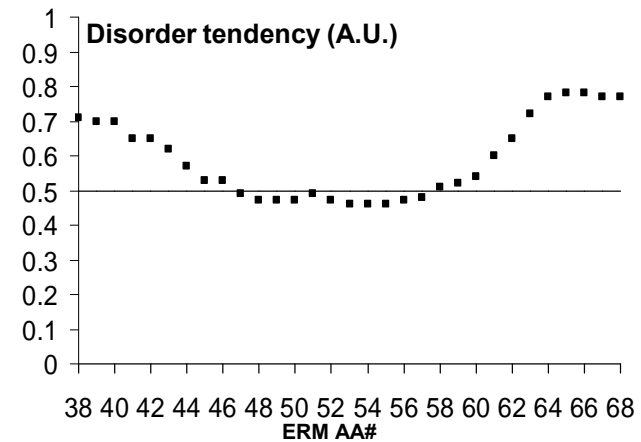
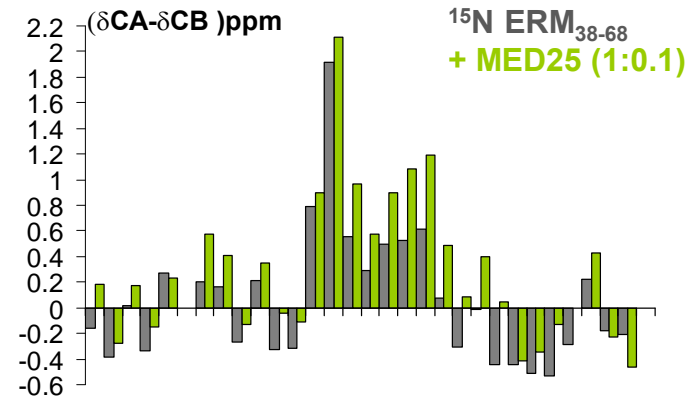
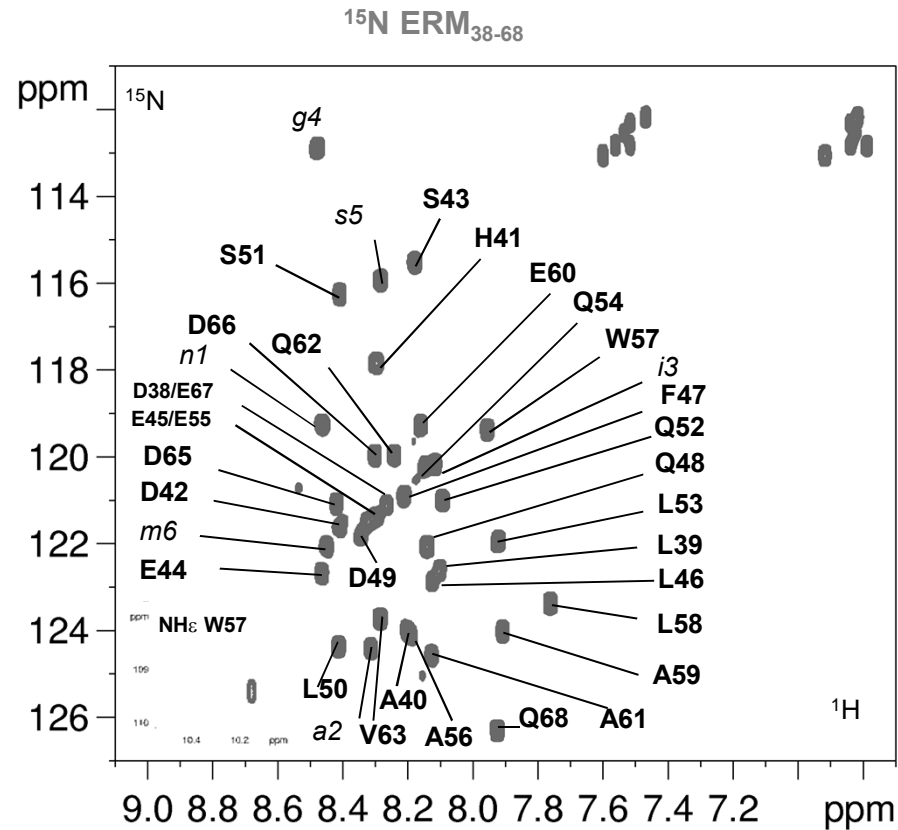


**Haddock** docking model of the complex based on a few intermolecular NOEs and CSP data

Folding upon binding, fuzzy complexes

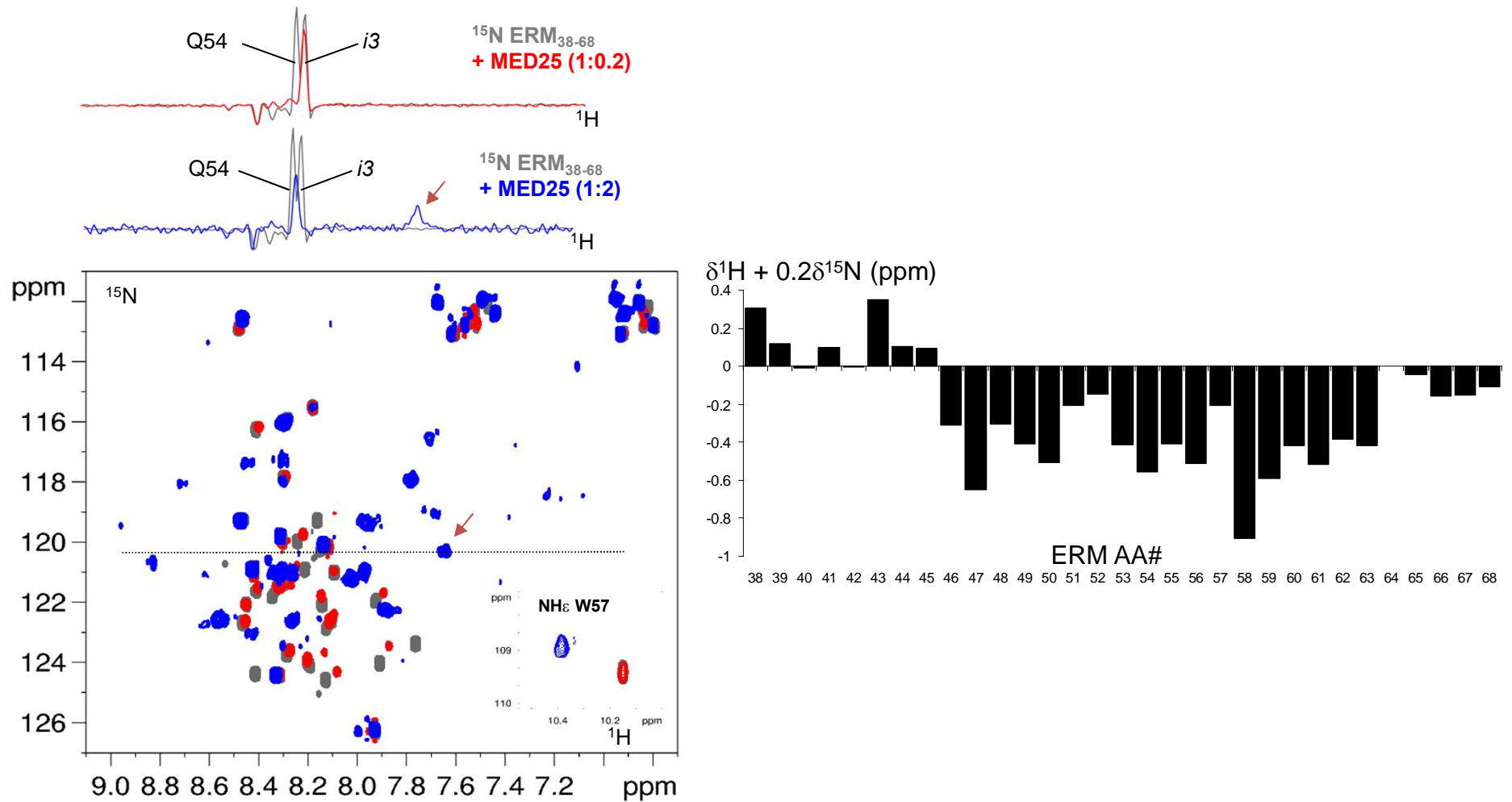
Example of the interaction of the TAD domain of  
ERM transcription factor  
with Med25 ACID domain

# ERM peptide is disordered, with some helical tendency



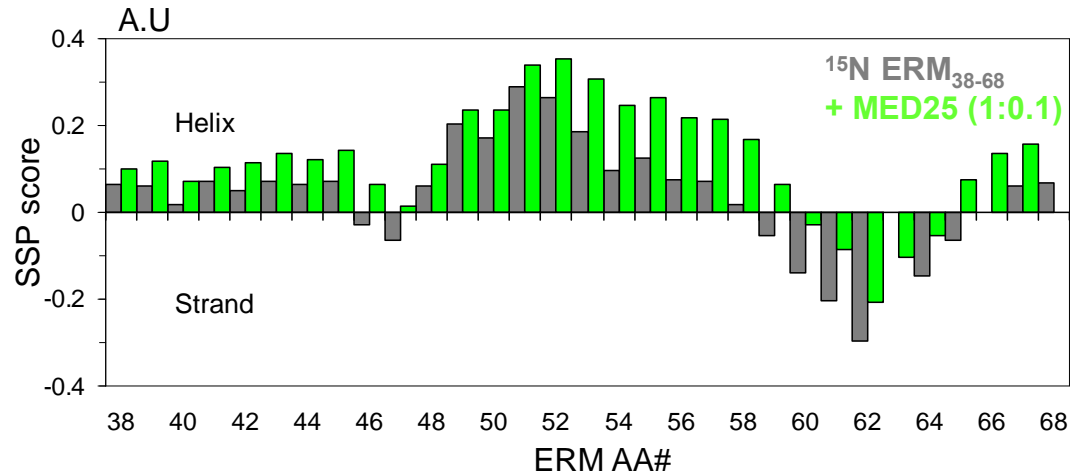
<sub>1</sub>*nai*<sub>3</sub> *gsm*<sub>6</sub> <sub>38</sub>DLAHDSEELF<sub>47</sub>QDLSQLQEAW<sub>57</sub>LAEAQVPDDEQ<sub>68</sub>

# Mapping of ERM interaction sequence

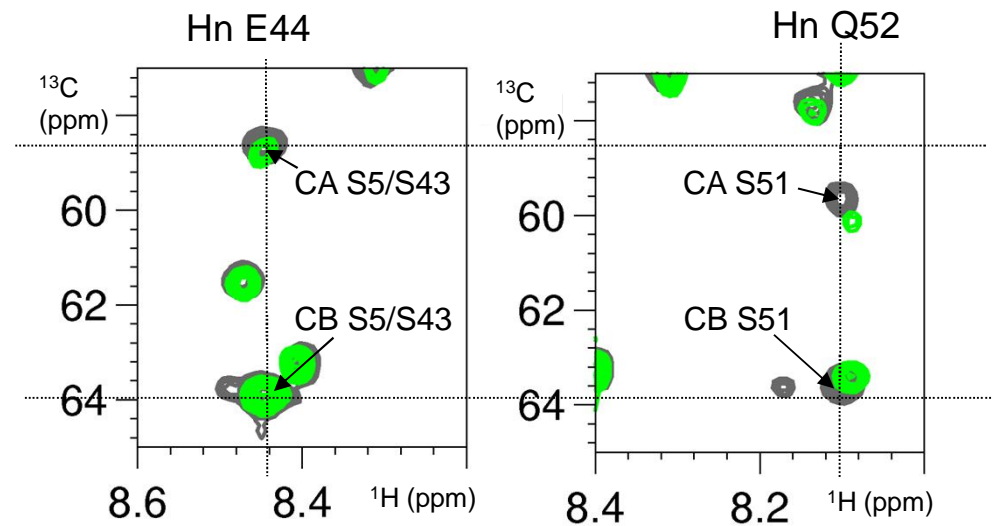




# ERM folding upon MED25 ACID binding



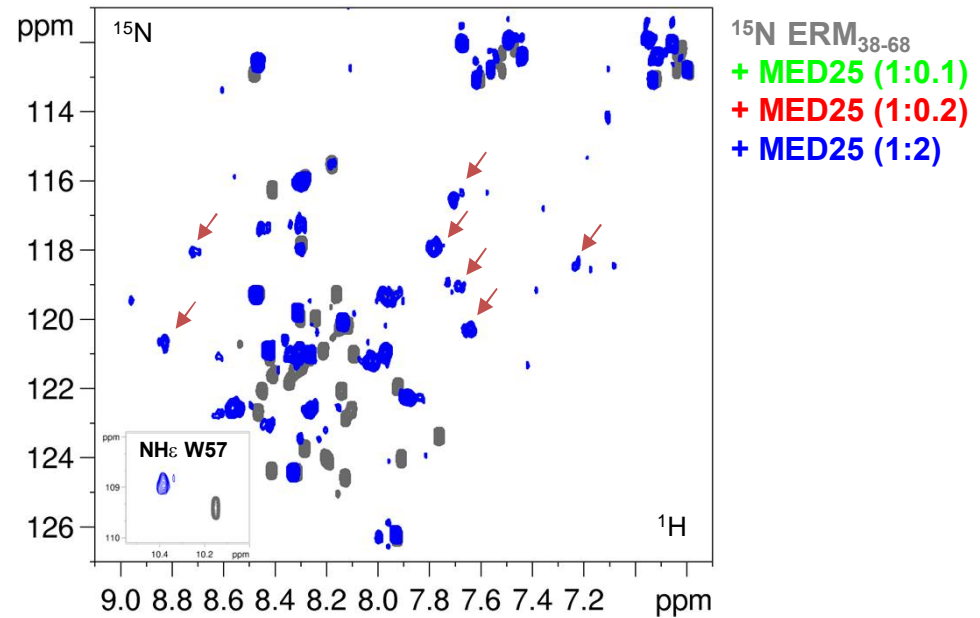
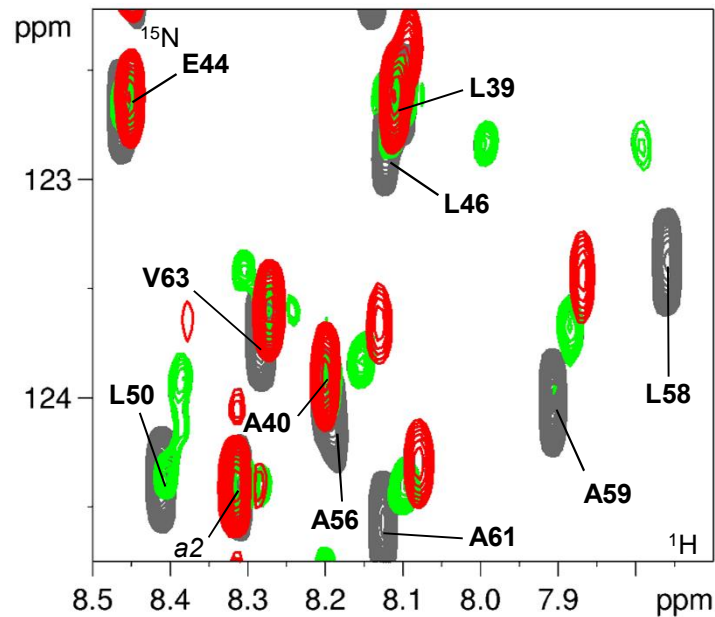
Secondary structure propensity scores: free/bound



# Inconsistent fast and slow exchange regimes

Fast exchange at low stoichiometry

Kd by ITC  $0.6\mu\text{M}$  ????



Encounter complex

# Mapping of interaction surfaces

Wild type ERM sequence

F/W-mutated ERM sequence

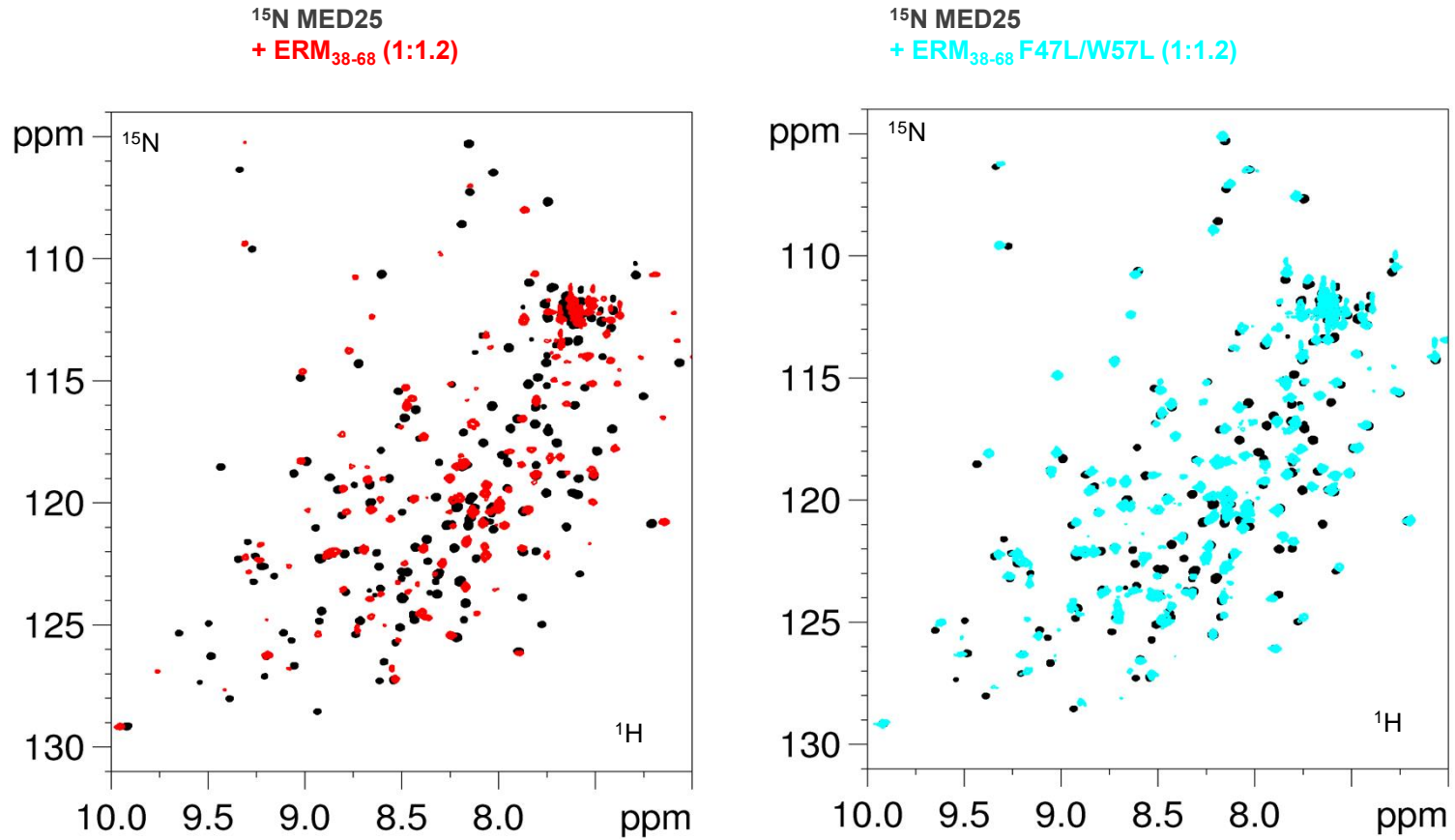
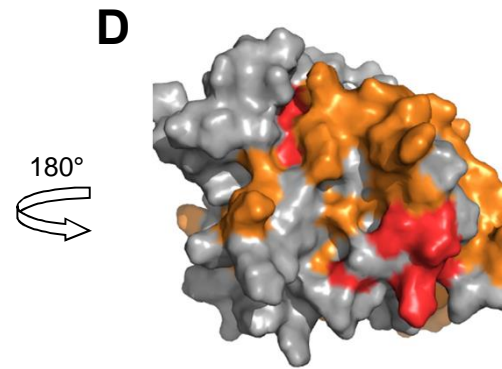
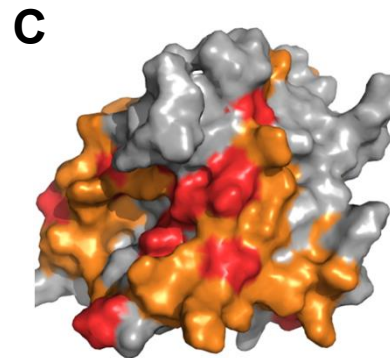
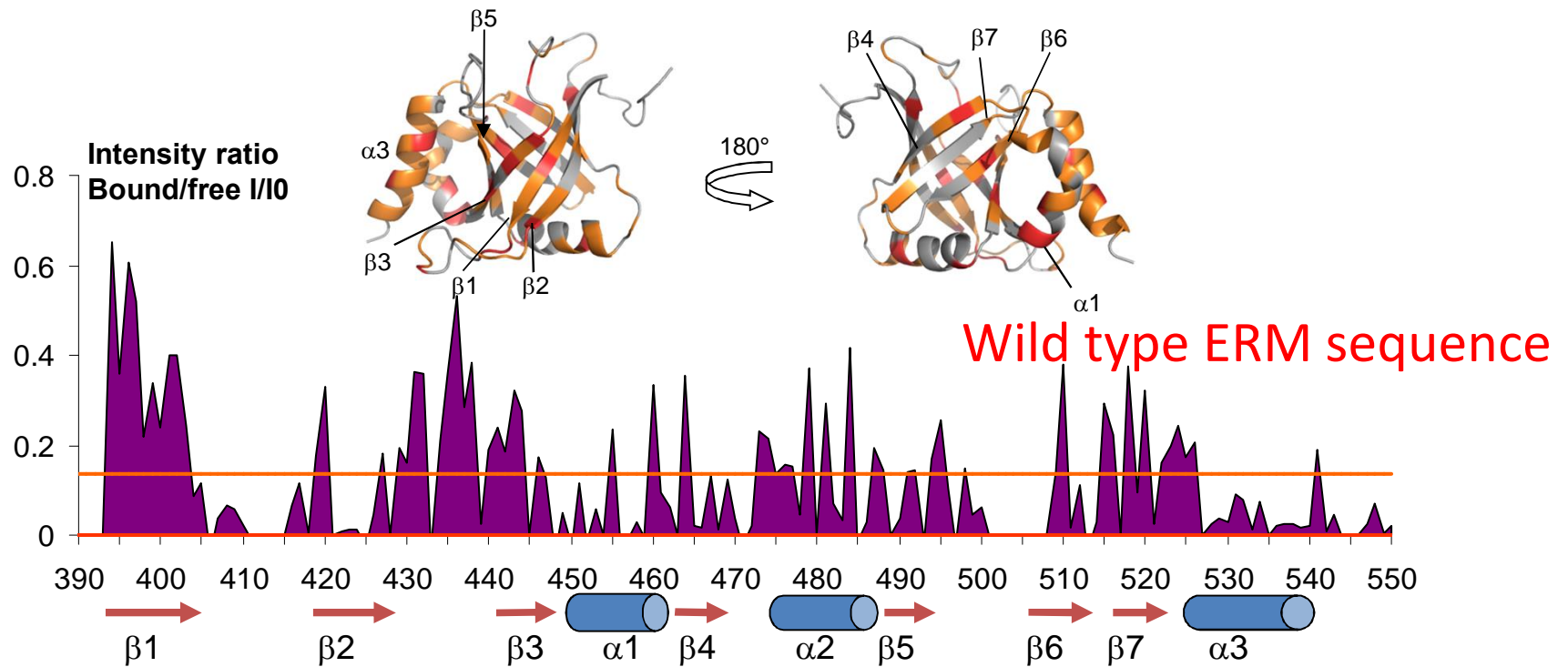


Figure 4

# Mapping of interaction surfaces



# Mapping of interaction surfaces

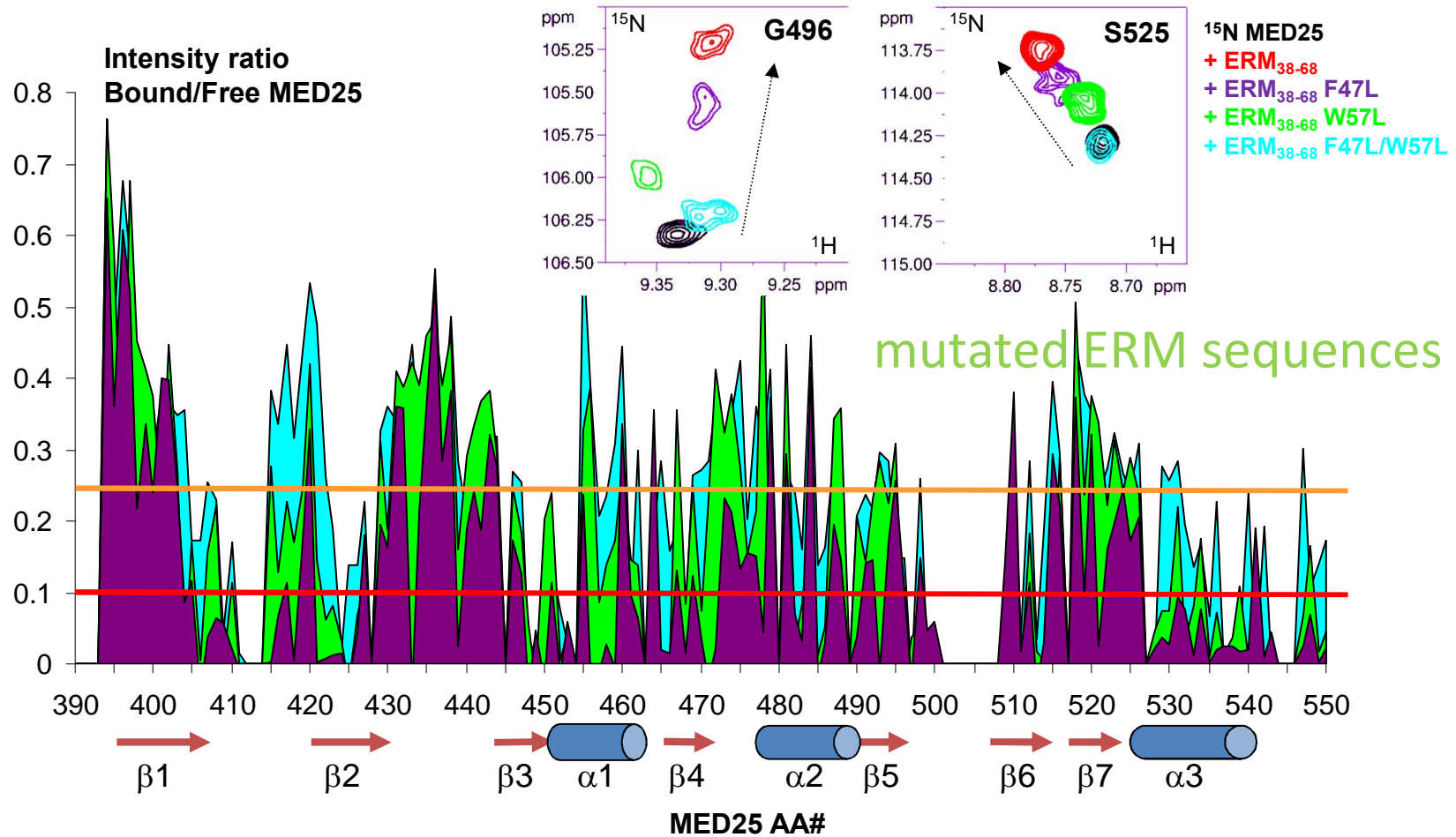
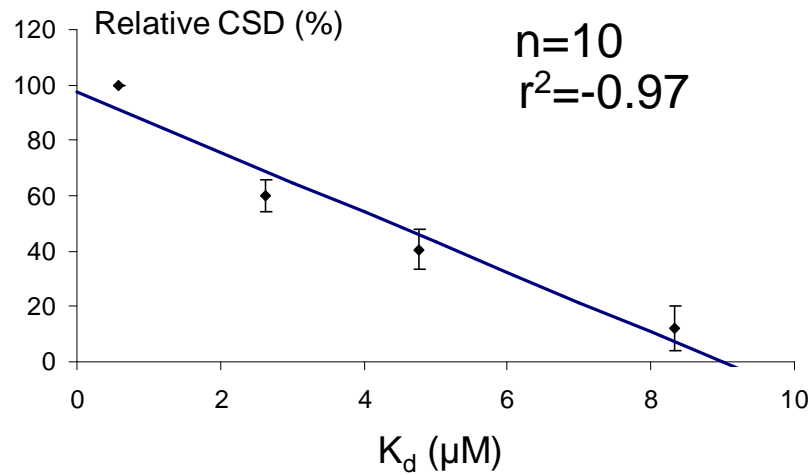
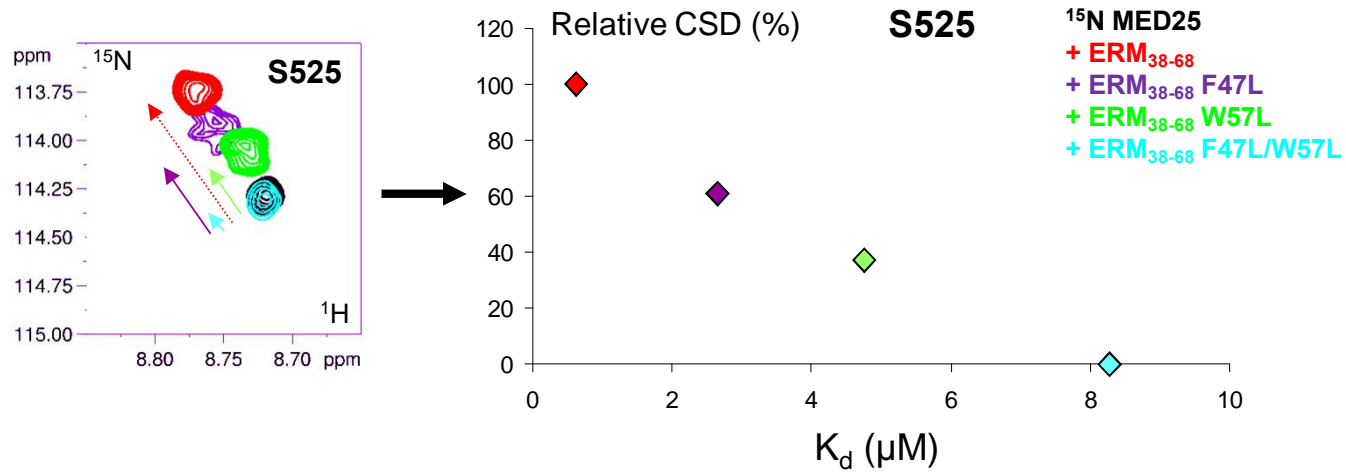
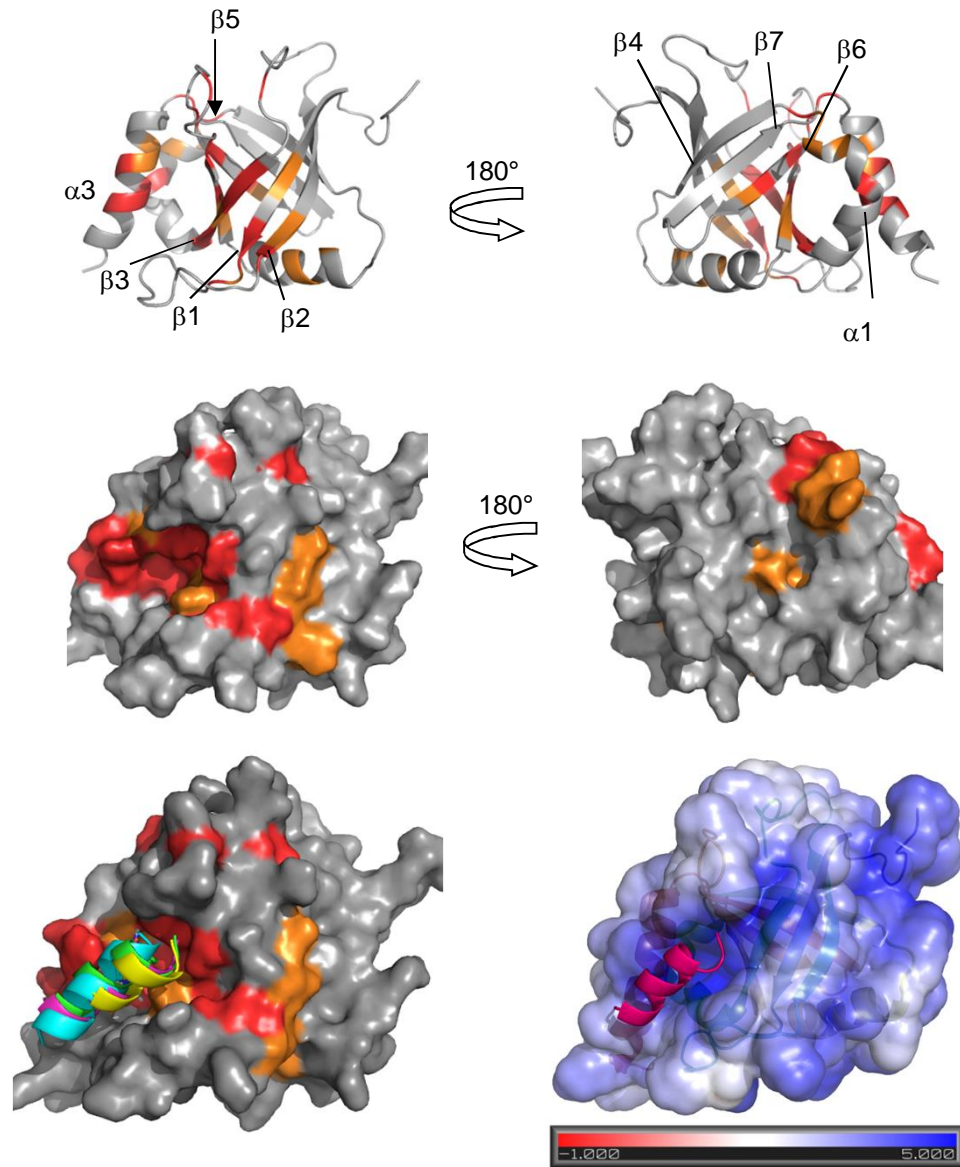


Figure 5

# Exchange NMR: sampling bound/free conformations



# Haddock model of the complex MED25 ACID/ERM TAD



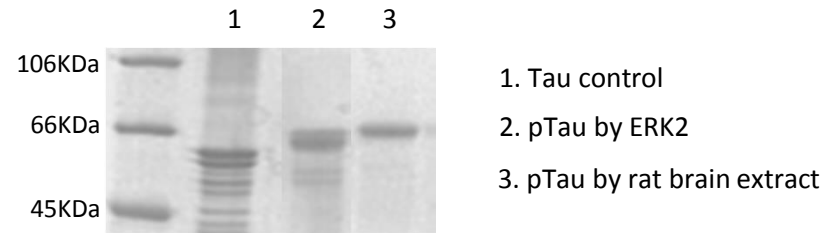
Post-translational modifications

# Application

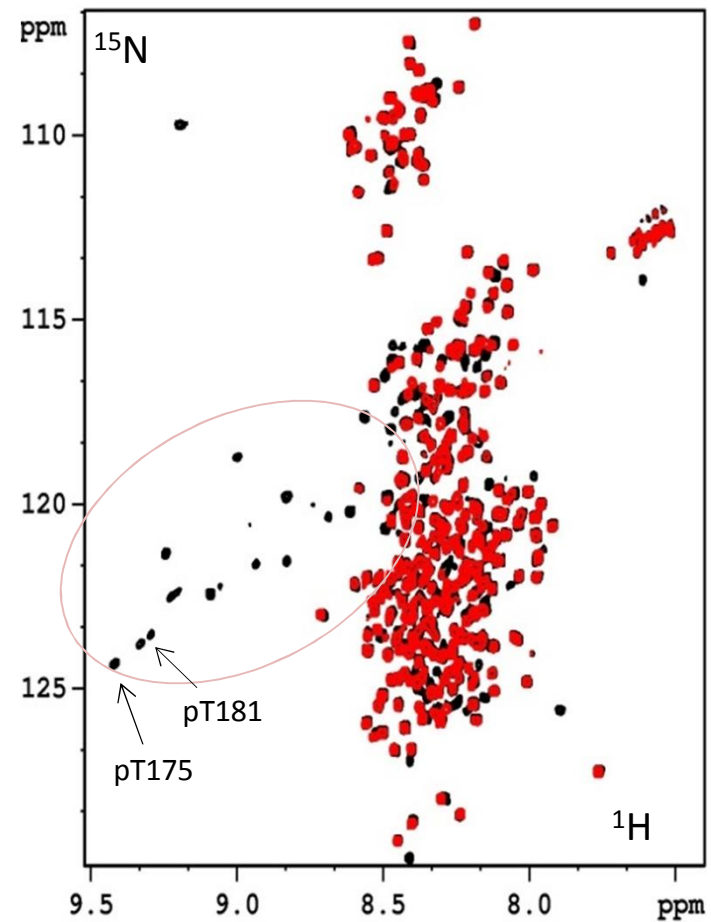
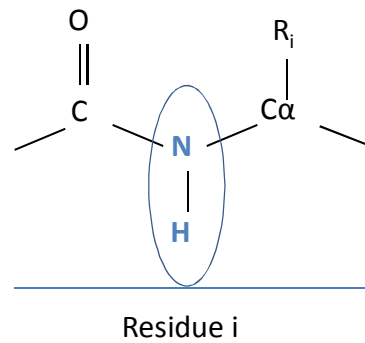
Identification strategies of the PTMs  
Example of Tau phosphorylation  
and acetylation



# Phosphorylation

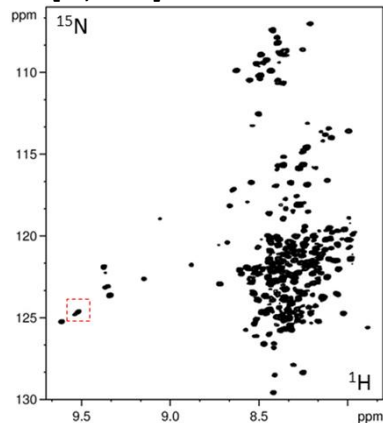


Description of HSQC spectrum

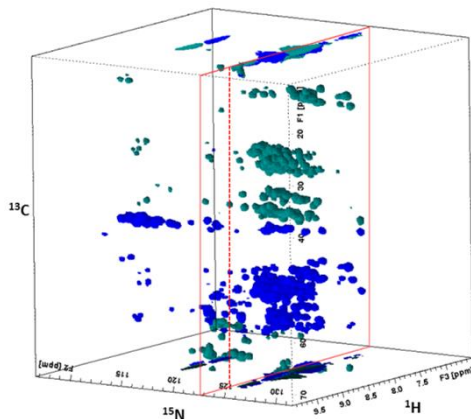


# Phosphorylation: strategy of identification

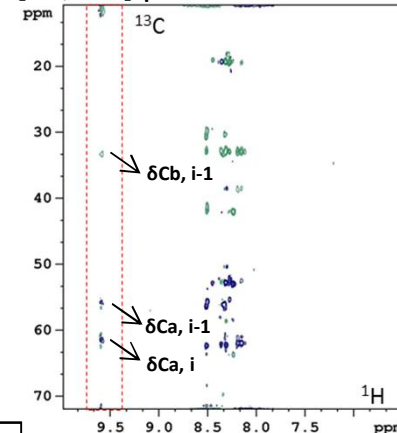
[H,  $^{15}\text{N}$ ] HSQC of Tau441



[H,  $^{15}\text{N}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ] HNCACB of  $^{15}\text{N}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  Tau441



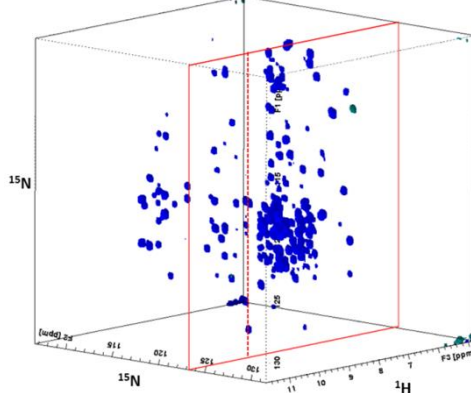
[ $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ] plane of  $^{13}\text{Ca}$  and  $^{13}\text{Cb}$



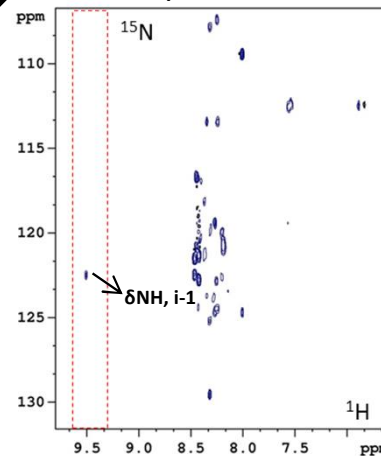
Identification of 'X-pS/pT-P' motif

In case of two identical 'X-pS/pT-P' motifs

[H,  $^{15}\text{N}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ ] HNCANN of  $^{15}\text{N}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  Tau441



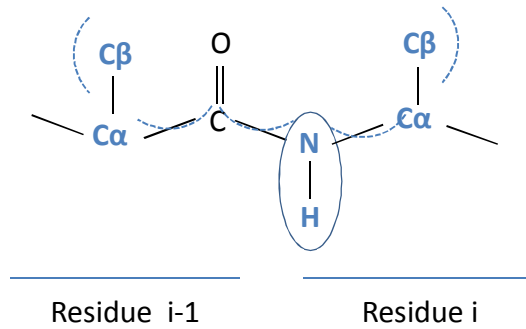
[H,  $^{15}\text{N}$ ] plane of  $^{15}\text{NH}$



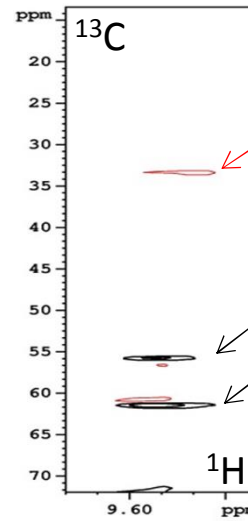
Identification of 'X-pS/pT-P' motif

# Strategy of identification: K-pT175, K-pT181

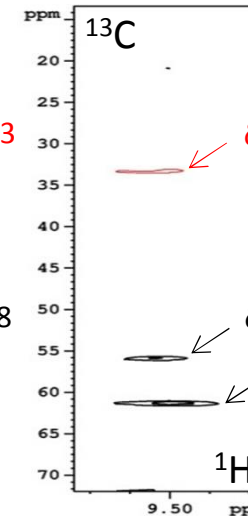
Description of HNCACB spectrum



9 pT-P motifs of Tau  
2 K-pT-P motifs of Tau



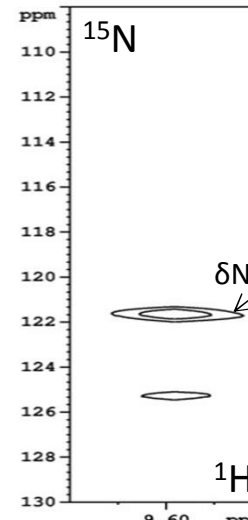
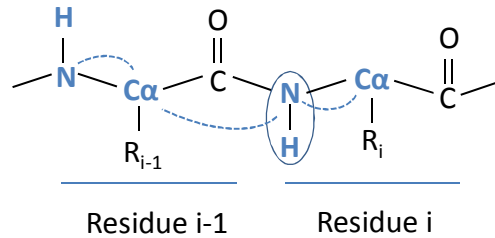
Lys-pThr175-Pro



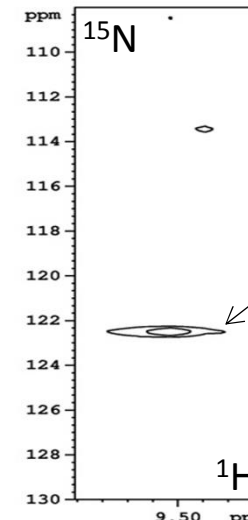
Lys-pThr181-Pro

<sup>13</sup>C-CB resonances outside the spectrum window (74 ppm)

Description of HNCANN spectrum



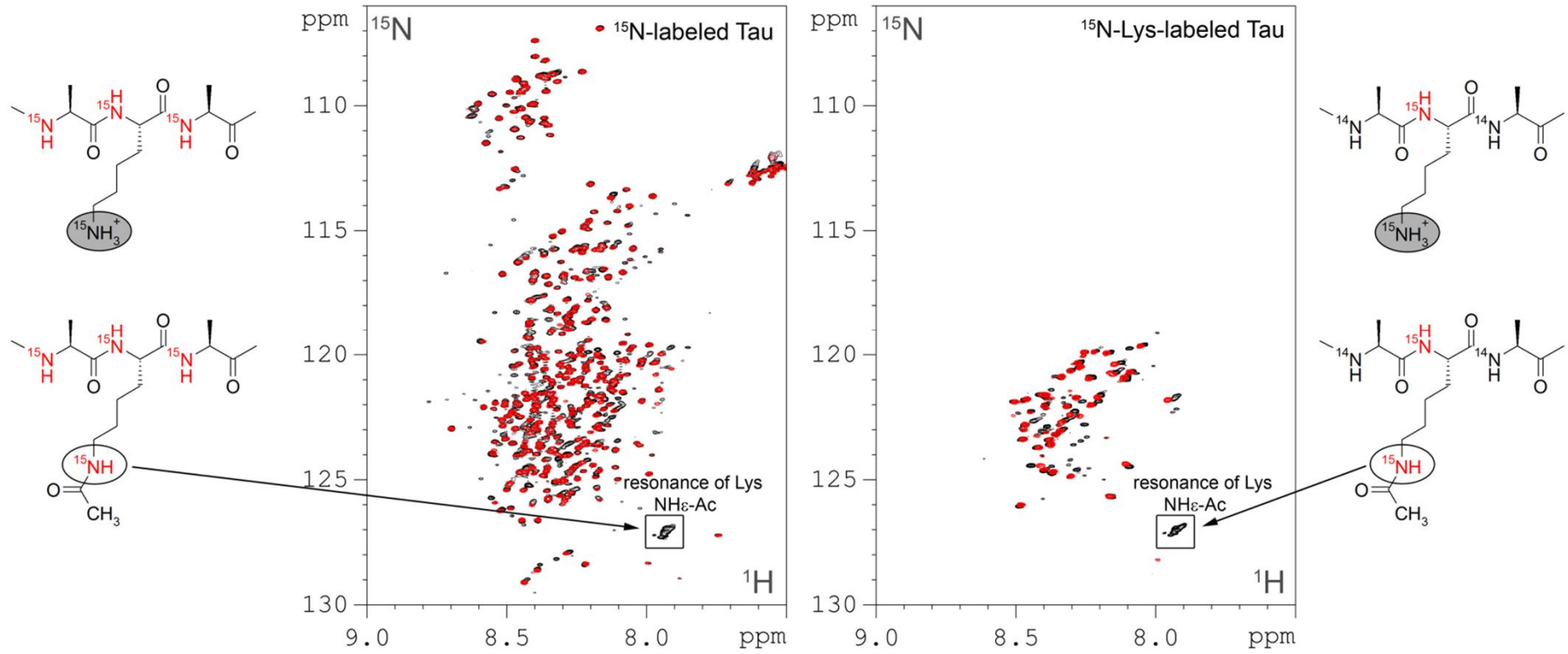
Lys-pThr175-Pro



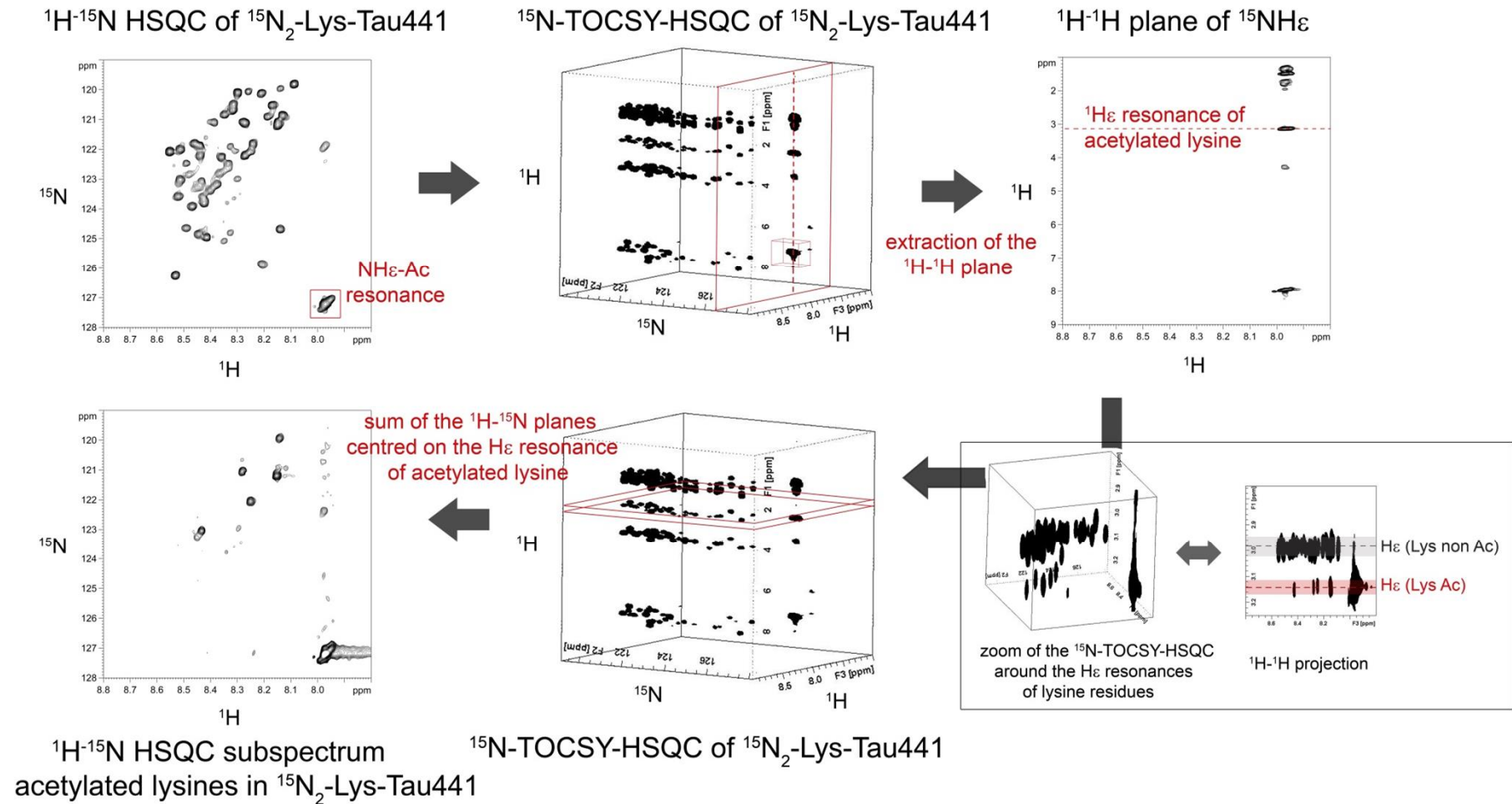
Lys-pThr181-Pro

(B)

# Acetylation

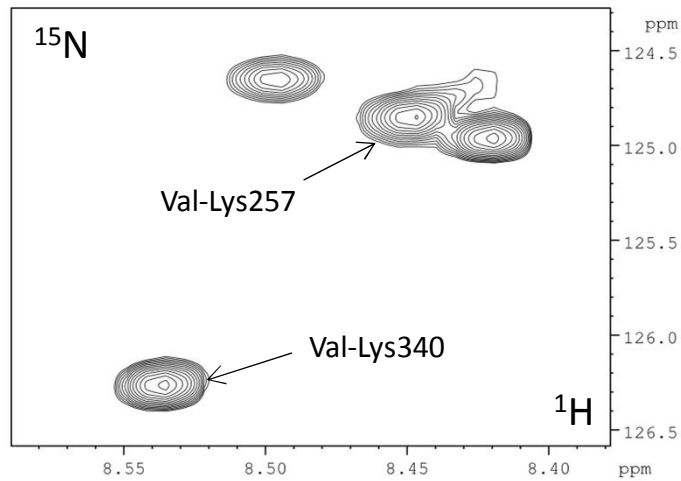
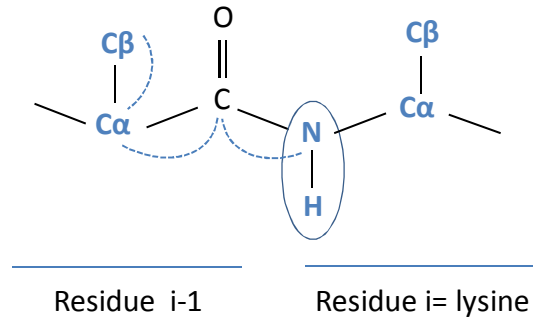


# Acetylation: identification strategy

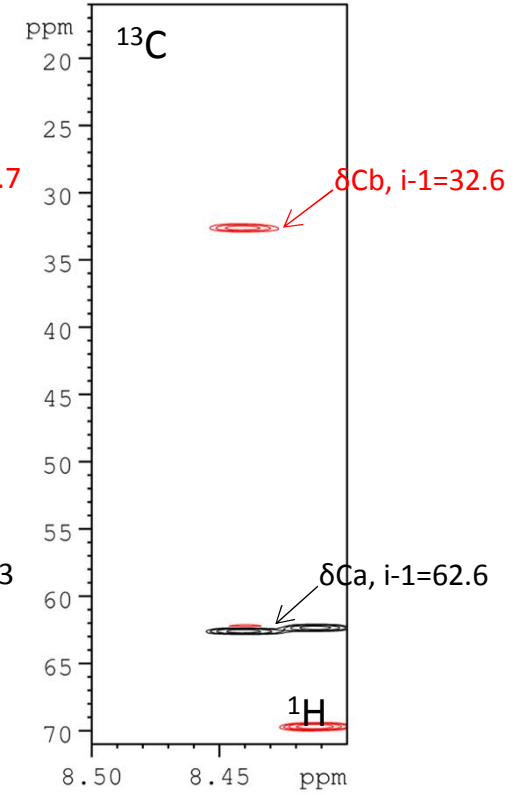
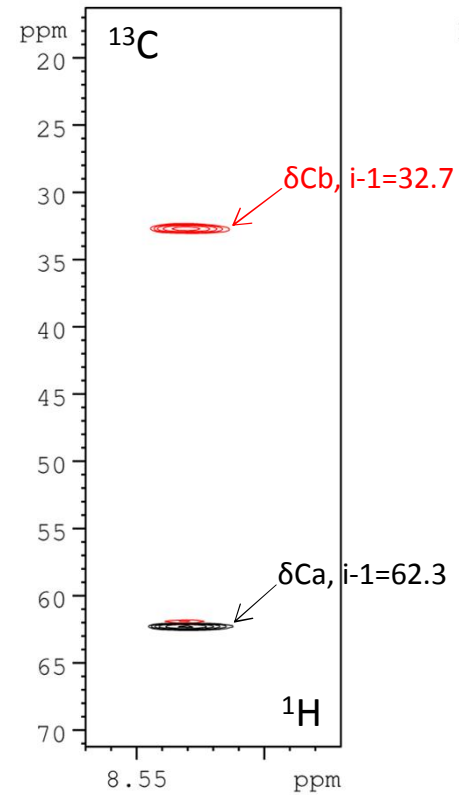


# Acetylation: identification strategy

Description of HN(CO)CACB spectrum



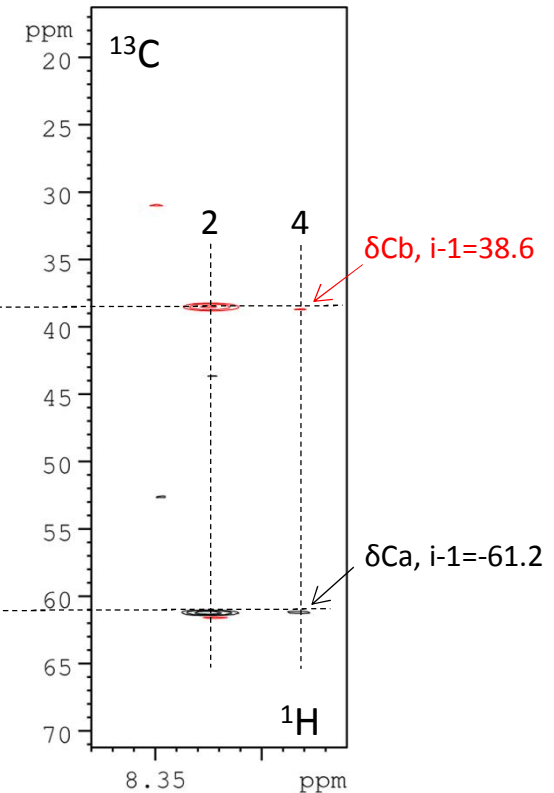
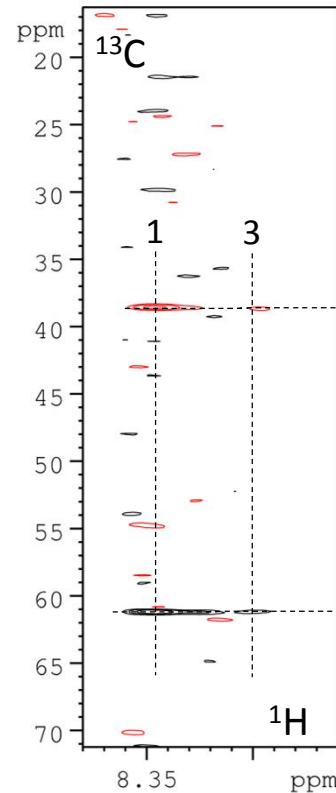
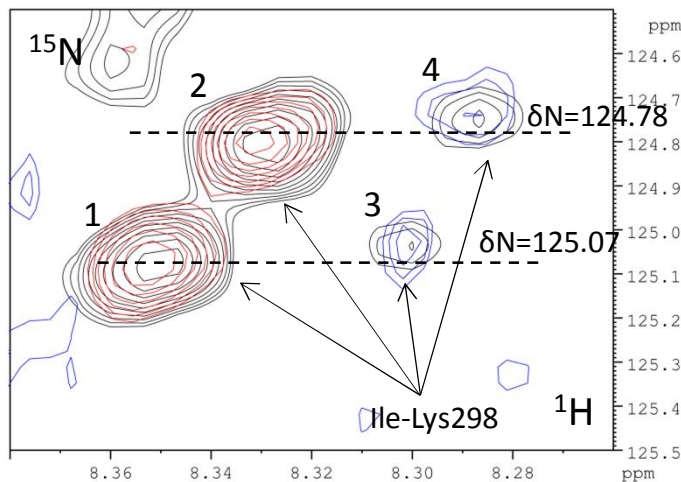
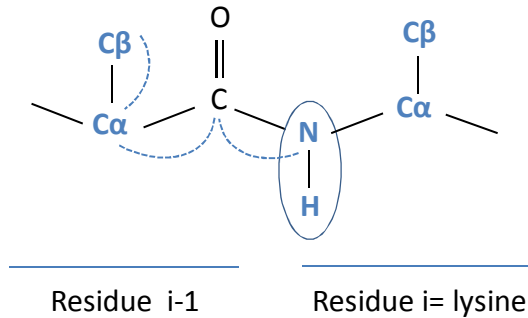
(A)



(B)

# Acetylation: identification strategy

Description of HN(CO)CACB spectrum



1 Ile-Lys motif in Tau sequence

The splitting of each of non-acetylated and acetylated K298 resonance is due to the proximity of another acetylation site in the Tau sequence which has been identified as the 'i-4' residue

## A few references:

### Protocols

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