

How do proteins interact... in the Furman lab?

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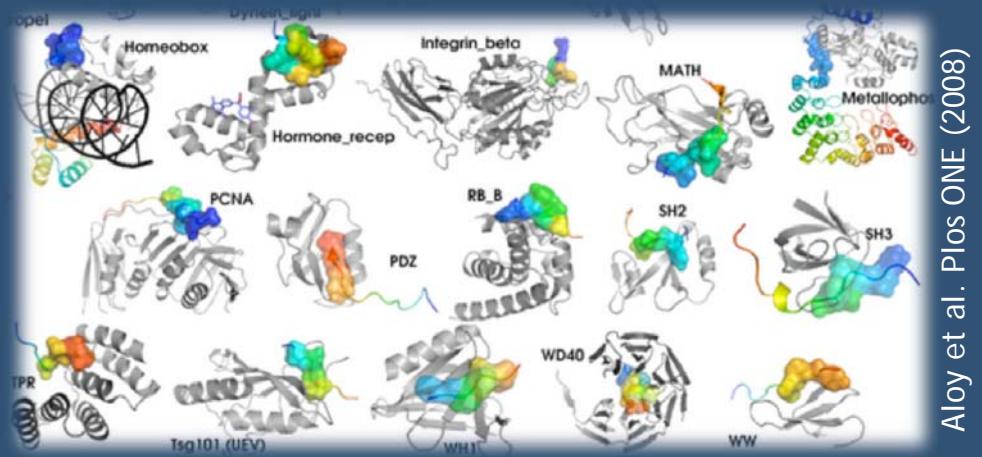
People interact... so do proteins



Often with flexible, linear... yes, **peptidic** regions

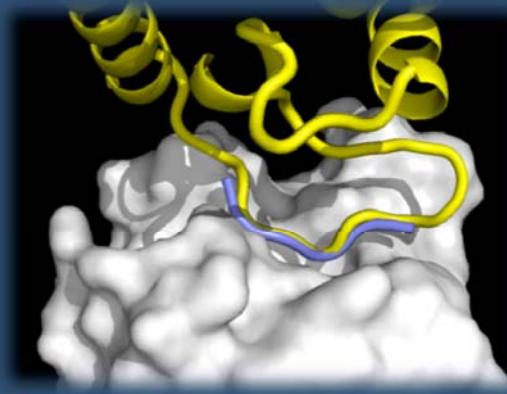
Peptide-mediated PPI's come in 3 flavors

1. Linear motifs within unstructured regions (signaling; modification)

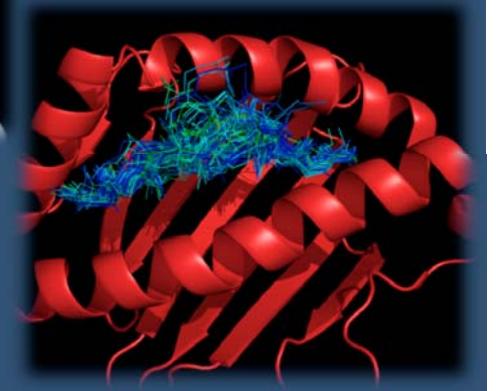


Aloy et al. Plos ONE (2008)

2. Continuous stretch at PPI interface. Contributes most of binding energy. Similar structure as free peptide



proline isomerase –
HIV capsid protein
(HAGPIA peptide)



3. Free peptide

MHC-peptide complex

Some stories from the Furman lab

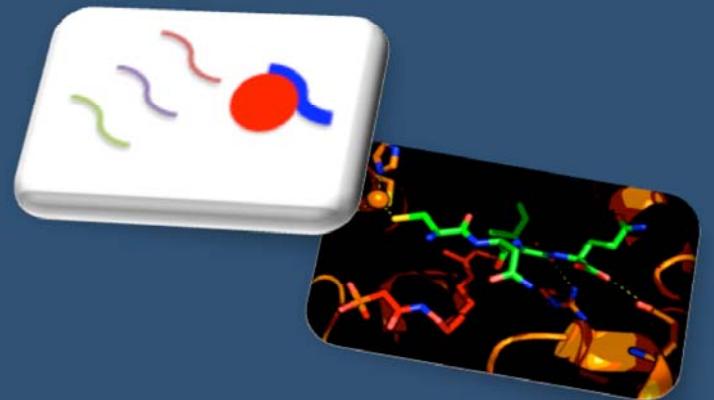
1. Model PepPI: *FlexPepDock*



1. Modulate PepPI: *FlexPepBind*

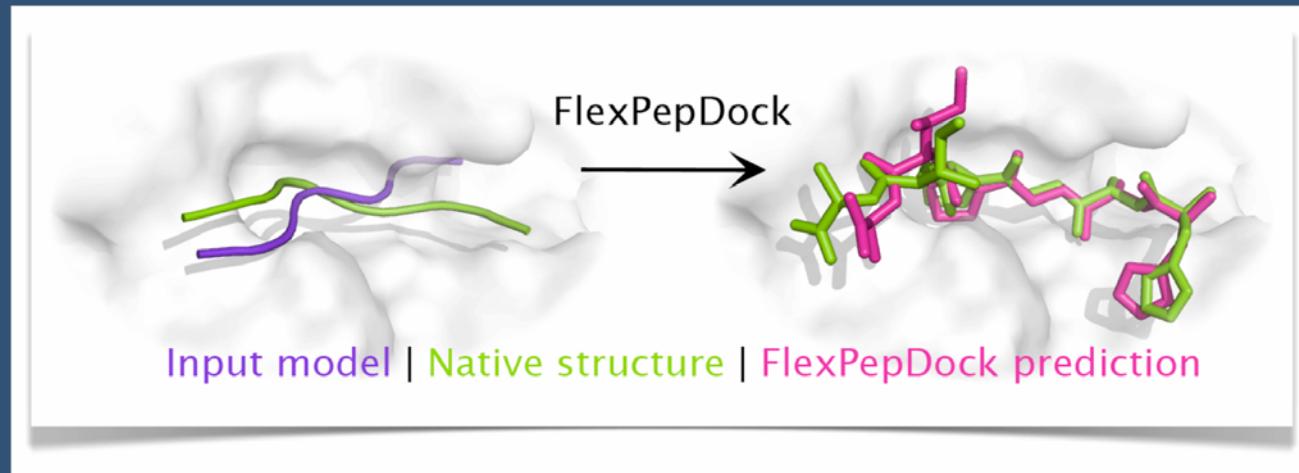
Binding and specificity prediction

- Farnesyltransferase peptide targets
- Apoptotic proteins Bcl-xL, Mcl-1 & Bcl-2



Some stories from the Furman lab

1. Model PepPI: *FlexPepDock*



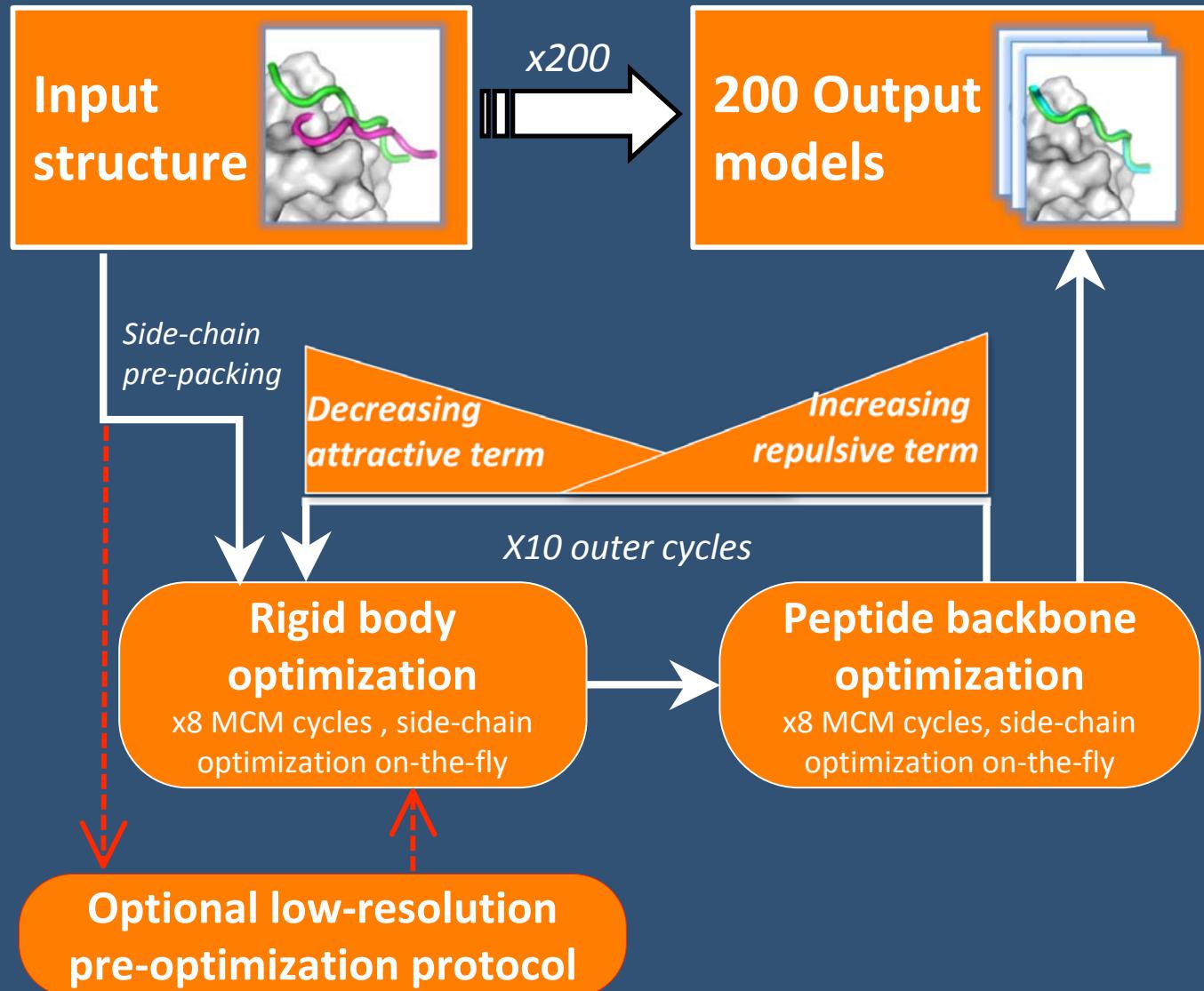
Barak Raveh, Nir London,

Lior Zimmerman,

Guy Fathy, Eyal Cohen

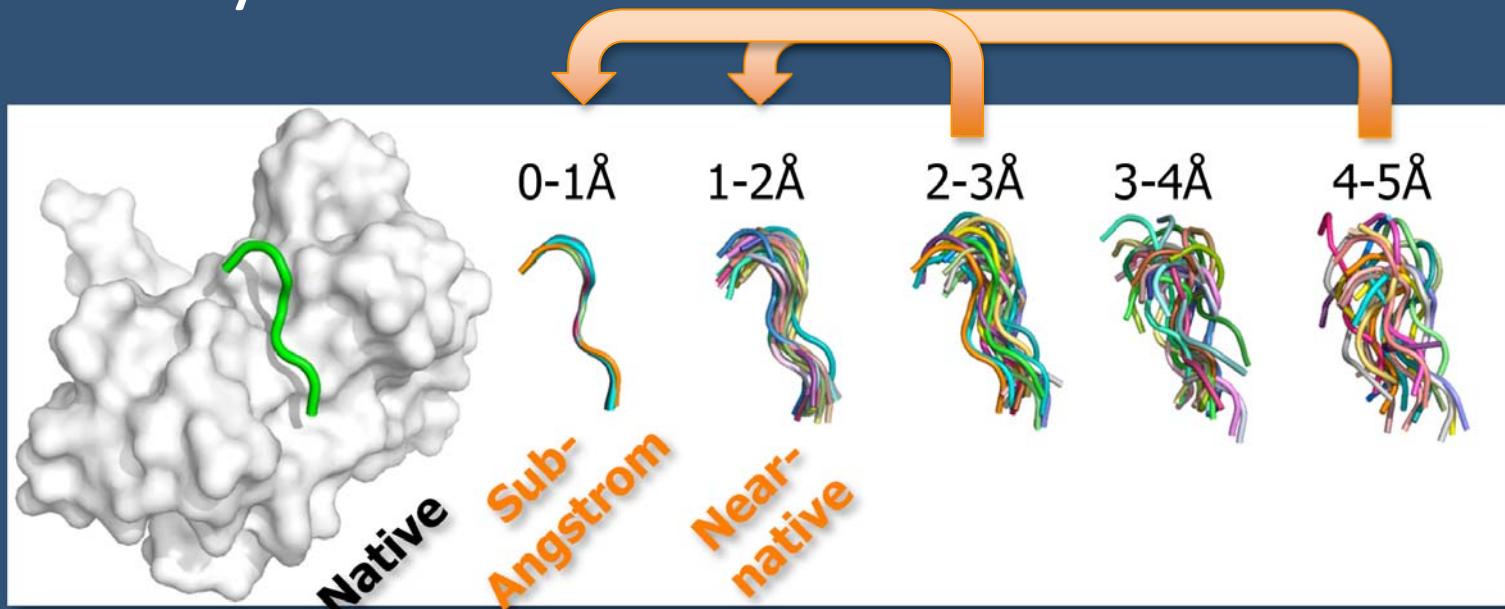
Raveh, London & Schueler-Furman. *Proteins* (2010)
Raveh, London, Zimmerman. *PloS ONE Rosettacon Issue* (2011)
London, Raveh, Cohen, Fathy & Schueler-Furman *NAR* (2011)

Outline of Rosetta *FlexPepDock*

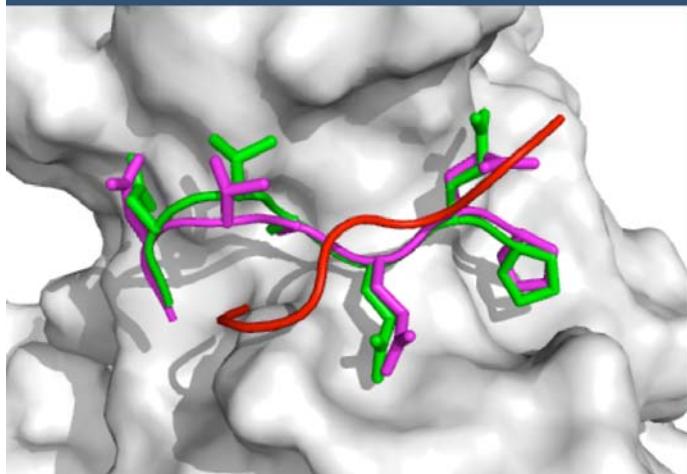


Scope & quality of *FlexPepDock*

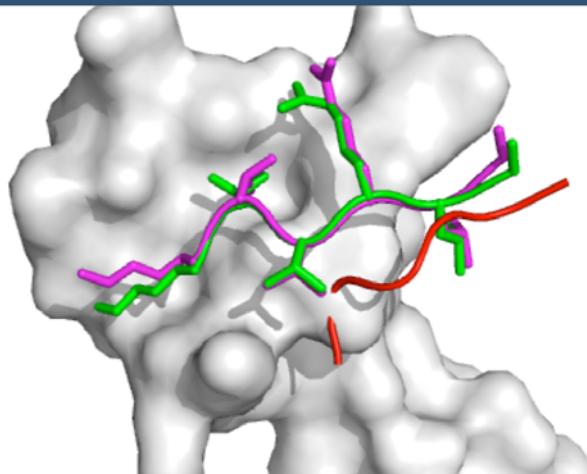
- General: tested on >50 complexes
- Intended for *refinement*
- Large effective range
- Very accurate



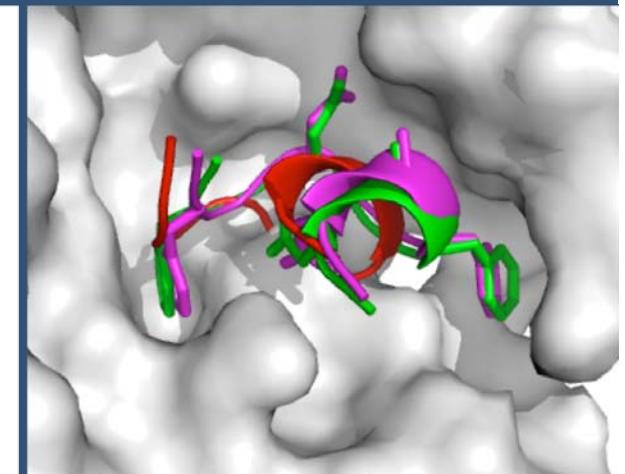
Examples



PDB: 1CZY
TRAF domain – LMP1 binding peptide



PDB: 2DS8
ClpX – SspB tail



PDB: 2IV9
AP2 – EPS15 peptide

native input prediction

➤ Accurate prediction of motif residues

More *FlexPepDock* ...

- Try our server *:

<http://flexpepdock.furmanlab.cs.huji.ac.il/>



- Rosetta *FlexPepDock ab initio* **:

Extension towards longer range

➤ See Barak's
Poster!

Current challenges:

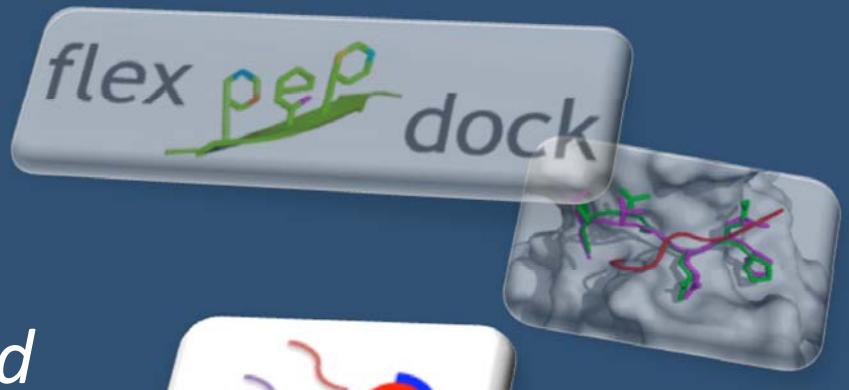
- Identification of peptide binding sites on proteins
- Receptor backbone flexibility

* London, Raveh, Cohen, Fathy & Schueler-Furman NAR (2011)

** Raveh, London, Zimmerman. PLoS ONE Rosettacon Issue (2011)

Some stories from the Furman lab

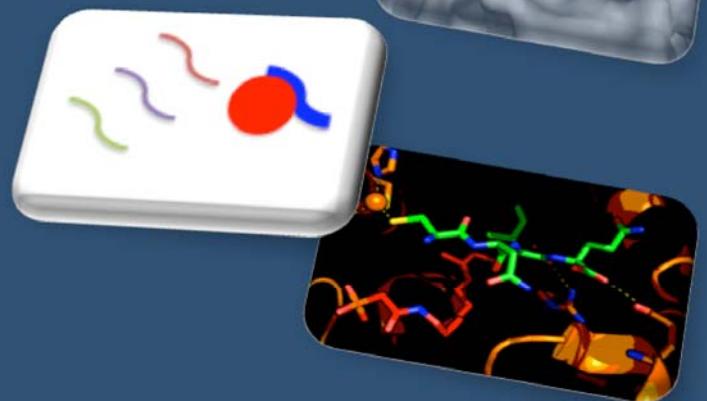
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1. Modulate PepPI: *FlexPepBind*

Binding and specificity prediction

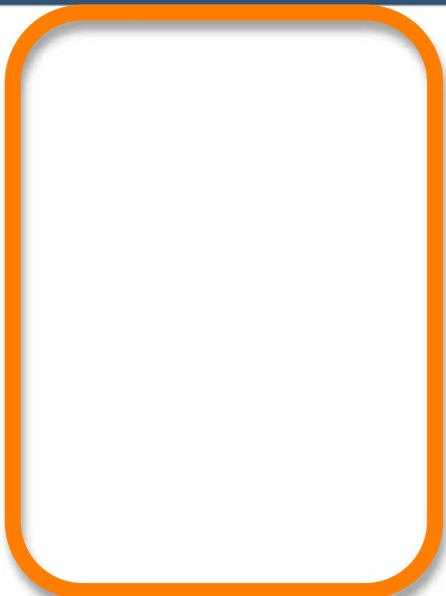
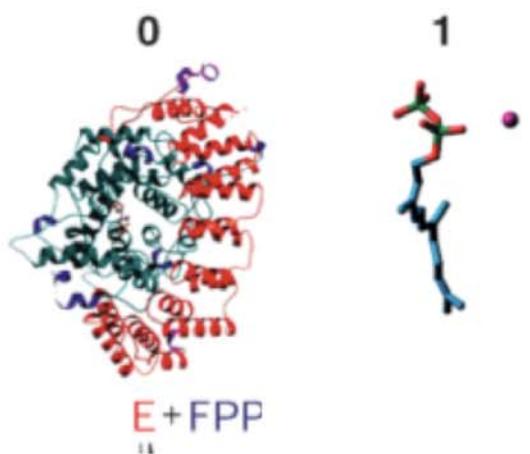
- Farnesyltransferase peptide targets*
- Apoptotic proteins Bcl-xL, Mcl-1 & Bcl-2



Nir London, Michal Sperber

* London, Lamphear, Hougland, Fierke & Schueler-Furman, PLoS CB, in press

(1) Protein Farnesylation

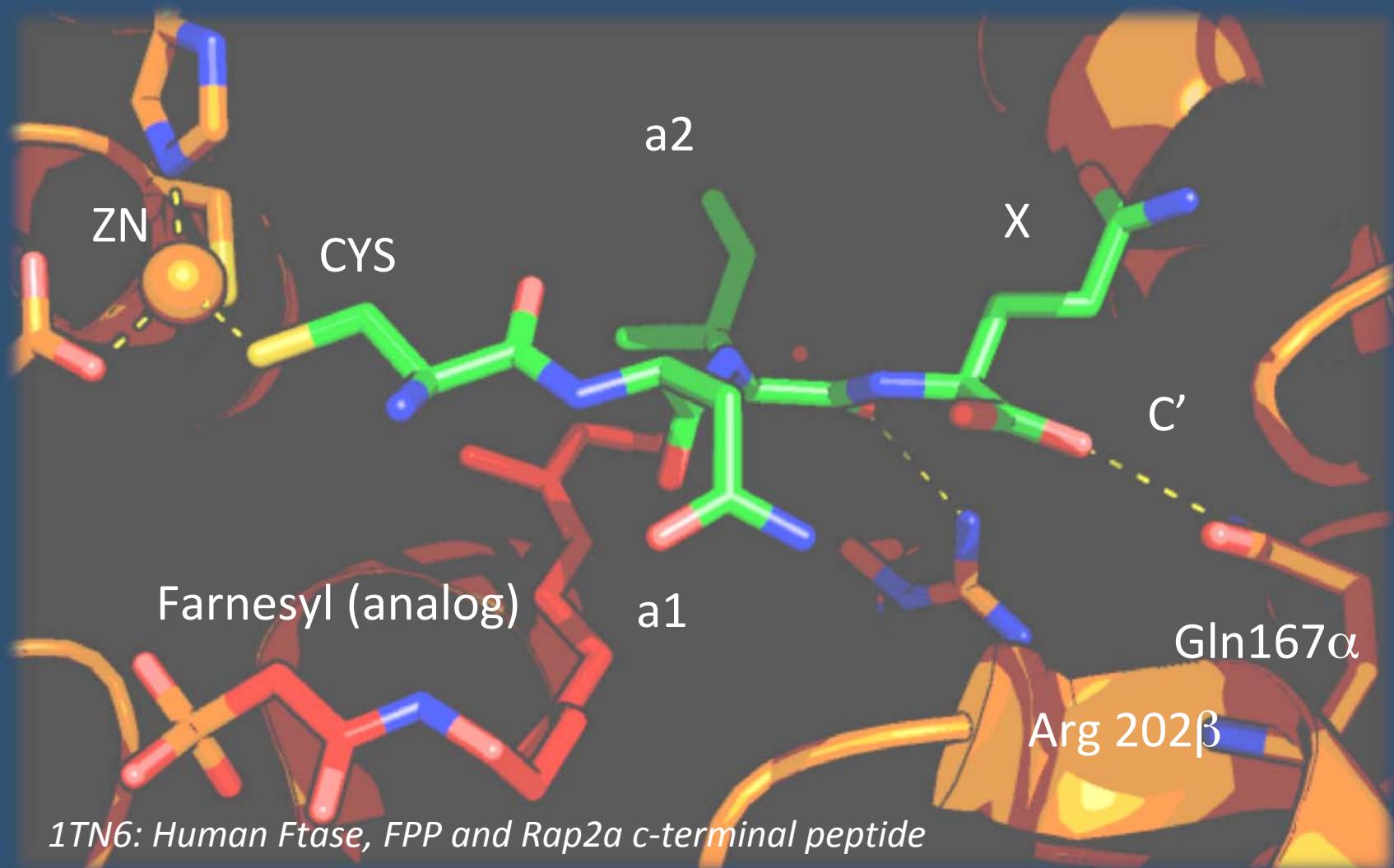


Assumption: binding ~ activity

Structure used in this study : peptide binds to E-FPP

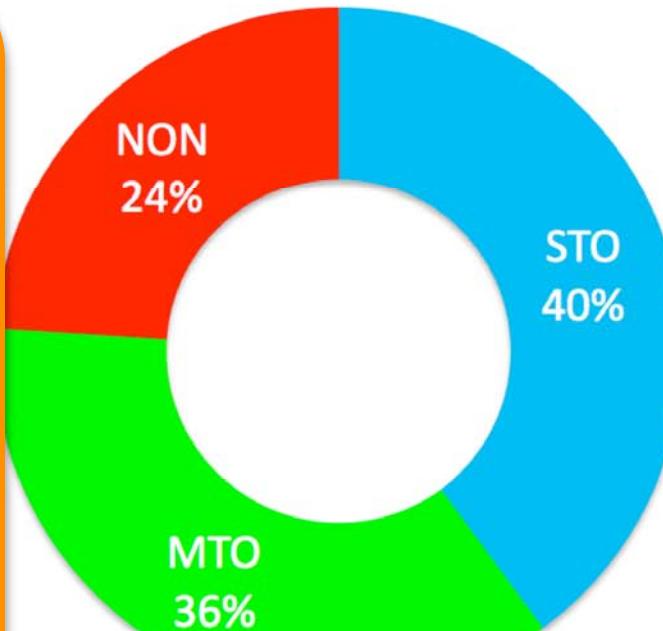
Figure from Lane & Beese. J Lipid Res (2006)

Overview of structure : FTase, FPP & peptide



Novel substrate peptides revealed

- Hougland *et al.** synthesized and characterized 213 hexapeptides of the form TKCxxx(C')

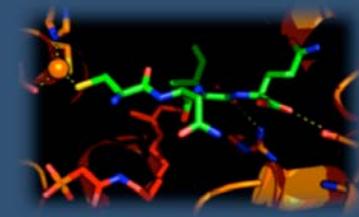


➤ Can we distinguish MTO from NON?

Can we distinguish MTO & NON?

Protocol:

Thread C' sequence
onto structure



Sampling:
FlexPepDock

Scoring: Select top-
scoring model

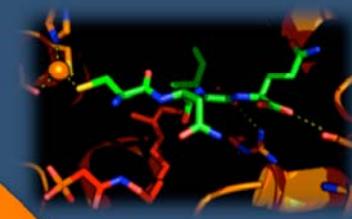
Classify

Can we distinguish MTO & NON?

Faster protocol :

- Pack peptide side chains (extra χ_1 , χ_2 rotamers)
- Minimize all interface side-chains and peptide's backbone

Thread C' sequence onto structure

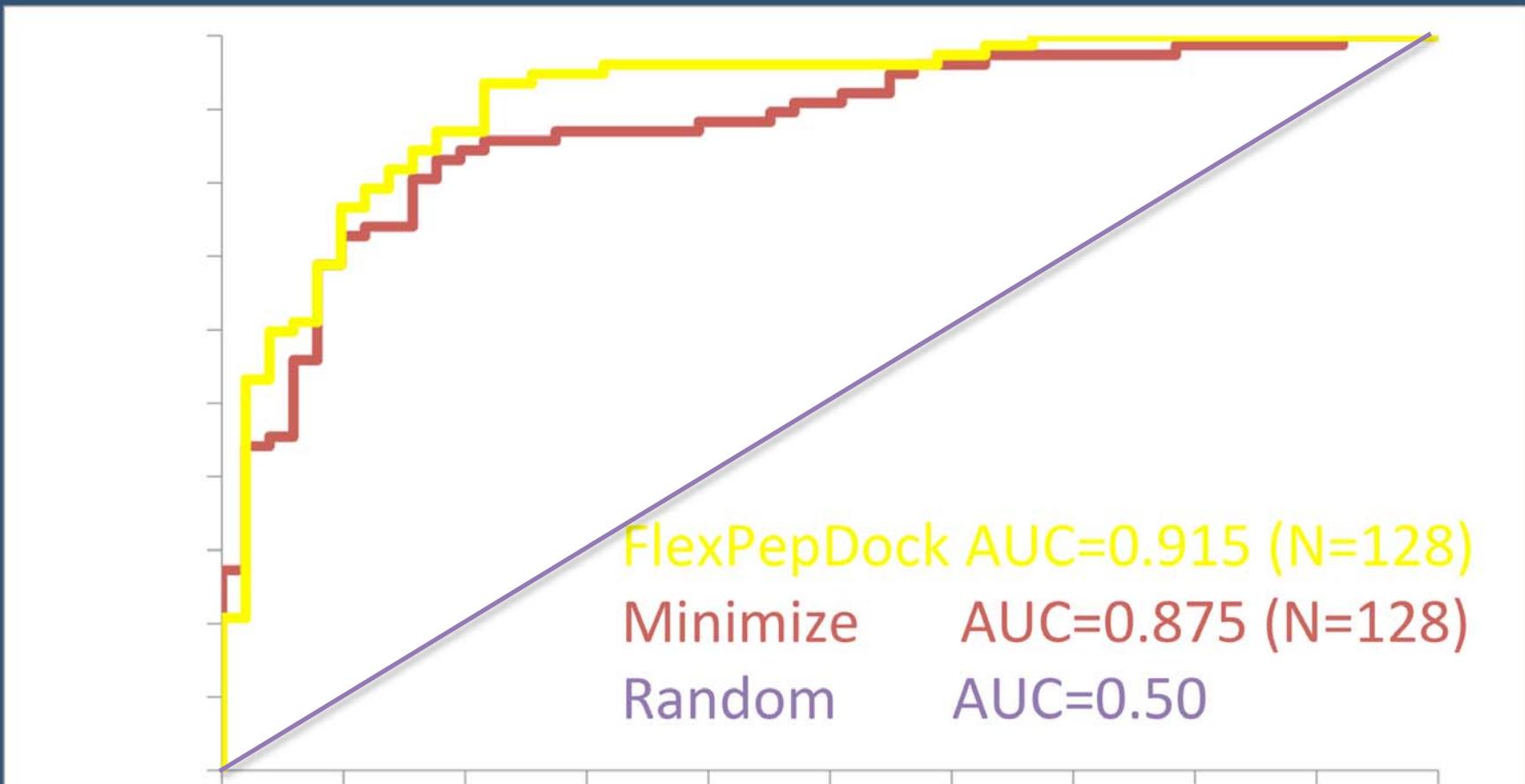


Sampling:
Optimize side chains

Sampling:
Minimize structure

Scoring: Classify

Good discrimination MTO/NON: Training set



Calibration of protocol for FTases

Sampling

Include constraints:

- Cys coordinated to Zn
- 2 Hydrogen bonds:

FlexPepDock vs minimization:

- Minimization ~ as good as FlexPepDock
(but 200x faster)

Scoring

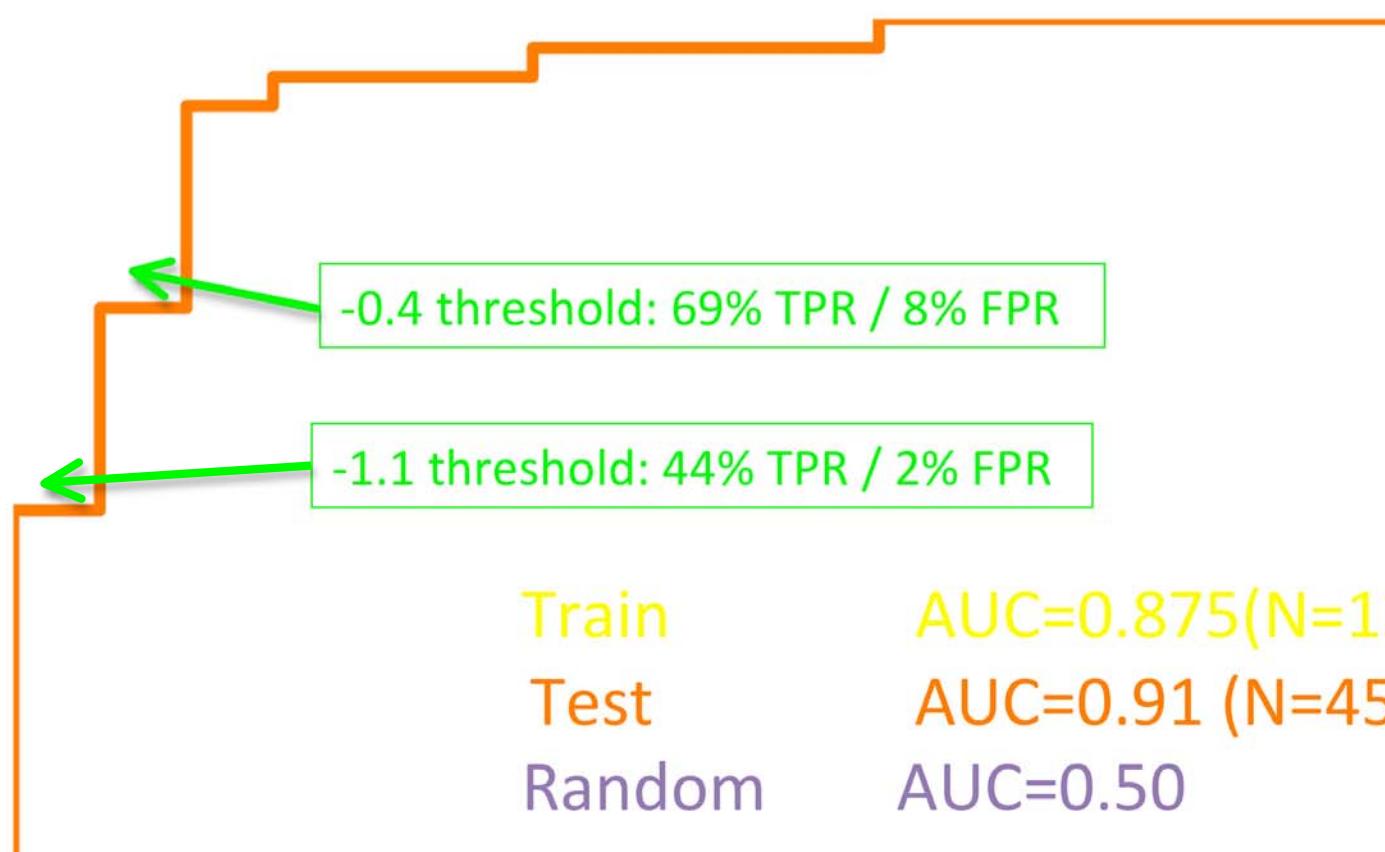
Optimize rescoring function:

- Peptide score (internal + interface)
- No E_{aa} (amino acid reference energy)

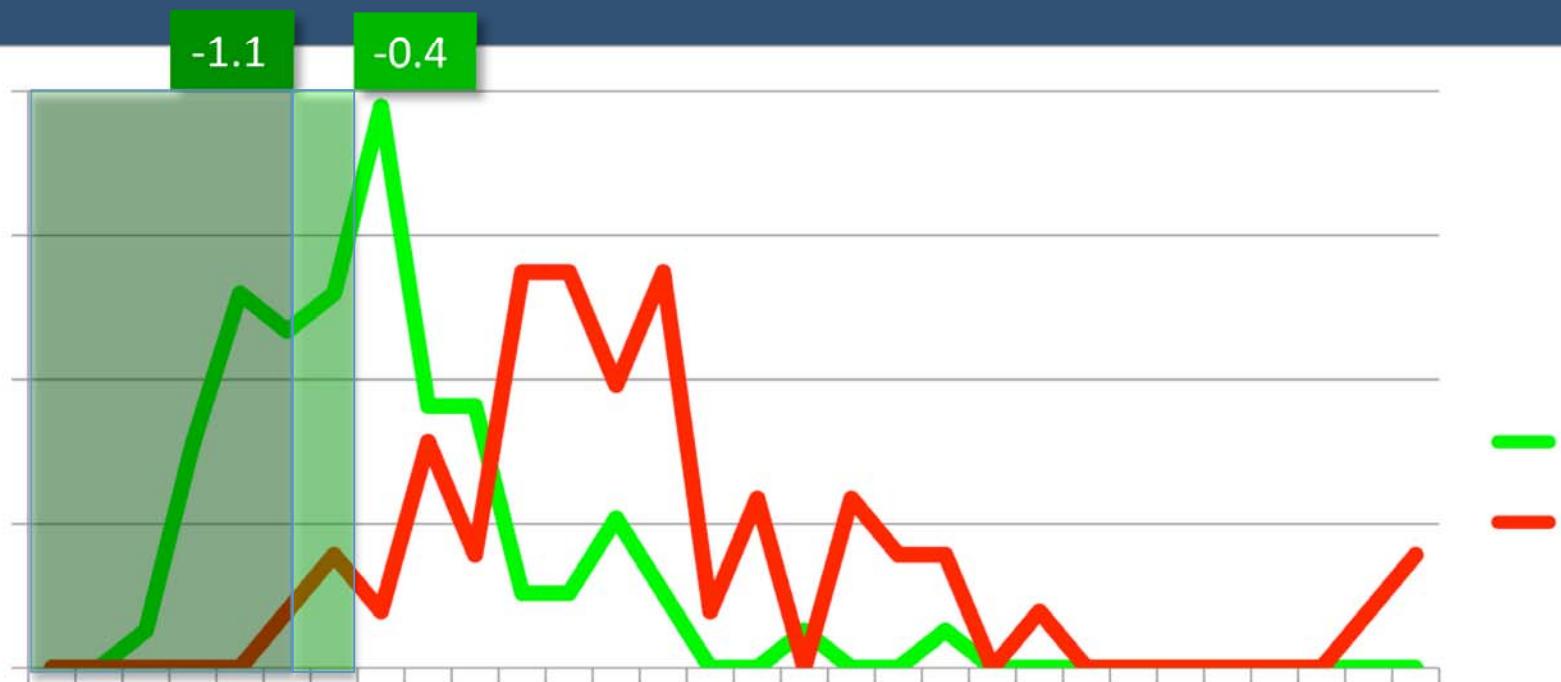


Learn on training set only!

Good discrimination MTO/NON



FTase – sequence mapping



FTase – sequence mapping

Calculate peptide scores for all possible 8000 Cxxx' combinations



Application I :

Scan genome for novel targets

Experimental validation

(Corissa Lamphear, Fierke Lab, U. Michigan)

MTO 9/16
STO 4/16
NON 3/16

➤ Only 3/16 not farnesylated

MTO –multiple turnover conditions

STO – single turnover conditions

| Motif | Protein | PreP | Score | Result |
|-------|----------|------|-------|--------|
| CYVA | Q9NTW7-3 | S | -2.88 | MTO |
| CFLT | Q2UVF0 | -- | -2.74 | MTO |
| CAFI | Q7Z2H8 | -- | -2.62 | STO |
| CWLS | A6QL63-3 | - | -2.46 | MTO |
| CCLS | Q9NZM3-3 | -- | -2.37 | MTO |
| CTTE | Q5T2R2-2 | -- | -2.14 | STO |
| CHFH | Q8TCU3-2 | --- | -2.14 | STO |
| CKLA | Q9BPZ7-6 | - | -2.06 | MTO |
| CWTC | Q8NFG4-3 | - | -1.94 | MTO |
| CSLI | Q14CB8-5 | - | -1.90 | MTO |
| CLFE | Q9UHP7-3 | -- | -1.77 | None |
| CPFF | Q8N693 | --- | -1.69 | STO |
| CGVG | A6NHS1 | - | -1.65 | MTO |
| CFDI | Q8NEB5 | -- | -1.59 | None |
| CHCI | Q99988 | -- | -1.56 | None |
| CVCV | O75391 | - | -1.12 | MTO |

Application II : Novel inhibitors ?

Experimental validation of best-scoring peptides *

MTO 10/13
STO 3/13
NON 0/13

➤ All farnesylated

➤ A new class of substrates

| Motif | PreP | Score | Result |
|-------|------|-------|--------|
| CYLI | S | -3.96 | MTO |
| CYLE | - | -3.82 | STO |
| CYLV | - | -3.60 | MTO |
| CFLV | - | -3.60 | MTO |
| CLII | ++ | -3.51 | MTO |
| CYE | - | -3.43 | MTO |
| CYE | - | -3.40 | MTO |
| CYE | - | -3.34 | STO |
| CLIV | ++ | -3.33 | MTO |
| CYLL | - | -3.24 | MTO |
| CYD | - | -3.13 | MTO |
| CWVI | - | -3.03 | STO |
| CWLV | - | -3.01 | MTO |

* Corissa Lamphear, Fierke
Lab, U. Michigan



Application III :

Pathogens use farnesylation

| Gene Annotation | | CaaX motif | FlexPep Bind | PrePS FTase | PrePS GGTase | Experiment | Bartonella henselae str Houston 1 | |
|--|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|------------|--|--|
| Gene Annotation | CaaX motif | FlexPepBind | PrePS FTase | PrePS GGTase | Experiment | | Agrobacterium tumefaciens C58 | |
| <i>Legionella pneumophila</i> | | | | | | | | |
| VC_1703 | CKQG | - | + | -- | | + | Atu0147 | |
| VC_1840 | CSDC | ++ | -- | -- | | ++ | Atu0926 | |
| <i>Vibrio cholerae</i> | | | | | | | | |
| RL022 | CQDE | + | -- | -- | | + | Atu3982 | |
| PA1388 | CFDH | ++ | -- | -- | | + | Atu5261 | |
| PA1914 | CNNT | + | -- | -- | | + | Atu6147 | |
| <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Ilo0680 | CVLL | + | ++ | ++ | known/sto/hplc | + | ECs2028 | |
| Ilo1854 | CLLM | ++ | ++ | ++ | known/mto | + | ECs2616 | |
| Ilo2031 | CLIL | ++ | ++ | +++ | mto/hplc | + | ECs3681 | |
| Ilo2768 | CIIL | + | ++ | +++ | mto/hplc | + | <i>Escherichia coli</i> O157:H7 str Sakai | |
| Ilo3138 | CILK | - | + | -- | | | STM1055 | |
| pepO | CVIW | + | + | -- | | | CTIL | |
| <i>Legionella longbeachae</i> NSW150 | | | | | | | | |
| (AnkB) lpg2144* | CVLC | ++ | ++ | -- | known | + | ECs2616 | |
| (PelA) lpg0254* | CVLM | - | ++ | +++ | known | + | ECs3681 | |
| (PelB) lpg0770* | CLIK | - | + | -- | known | + | <i>Salmonella enterica</i> subsp. <i>enterica</i> serovar Typhimurium str. LT2 | |
| (PelC) lpg1312 | CTII | ++ | ++ | ++ | known/mto | + | STM1224 (SifA)* | |
| (PelD) lpp1863* | CSLL | ++ | ++ | ++ | sto/hplc | + | CCFL | |
| (PelE) lpg1976* | CNLL | ++ | - | ++ | known | + | STM2601 | |
| (PelF) lpg2375* | CSIL | ++ | ++ | +++ | mto/hplc | + | CSPA | |
| (PelG) lpg2525* | CSIL | ++ | ++ | +++ | mto/hplc | + | <i>Francisella tularensis</i> subsp. <i>tularensis</i> Schu S4 | |
| (PelH) lpg2541* | CTIM | + | +++ | +++ | known | + | FTT1693c | |
| (PelI) lpg2607* | CIIW | + | + | -- | known | + | CFTR | |
| (PelJ) lpl2477* | CTIM | + | +++ | +++ | known | + | Rv1078 | |
| (PelK) lpl2806* | CVIS | ++ | ++ | -- | known | + | Rv1514c | |
| <i>Legionella pneumophila</i> | | | | | | | | |
| (PelL) lpg1863* | CSLL | ++ | ++ | ++ | sto/hplc | + | Rv1927 | |
| (PelM) lpg0697* | CSPT | - | + | -- | | + | Rv2972c | |
| (PelN) lpg2165 | CRQS | - | + | -- | | + | CPTG | |
| <i>Burkholderia pseudomallei</i> K96243 | | | | | | | | |
| BPSS0407 | CRLT | ++ | + | -- | | + | MT0697 | |
| BPSS0441 | CWAV | + | -- | -- | | + | MT2165 | |
| BPSS0542 | CPTS | ++ | - | -- | | + | <i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i> H37Rv and CDC1551 | |
| BPSL1063 | CFVA | ++ | + | -- | | + | Rv1078 | |
| <i>Yersinia pestis</i> biovar <i>Microtus</i> str. 91001 | | | | | | | | |
| YP003848 | CQLH | - | + | -- | | + | Rv1514c | |
| <i>Bordatella pertussis</i> Tohama I | | | | | | | | |
| BP1492 | CYPG | ++ | - | -- | | + | BP1507 | |
| BP1507 | CAAQ | + | - | -- | | + | BP1896 | |
| BP1896 | CPAA | + | -- | -- | | + | <i>Bordatella pertussis</i> Tohama I | |

Collaboration with Abu Kwaik Lab

Specific(ity) conclusions I

- ✓ *FTase FlexPepBind*: a robust model for FTase peptide binding specificity
- ✓ Binding is the bottleneck for farnesylation (*in vivo....*)
- ✓ Use of structure outperforms just sequence
- ✓ Detection of novel class of targets also in pathogens!
- ✓ Current focus: Extension to GGTases

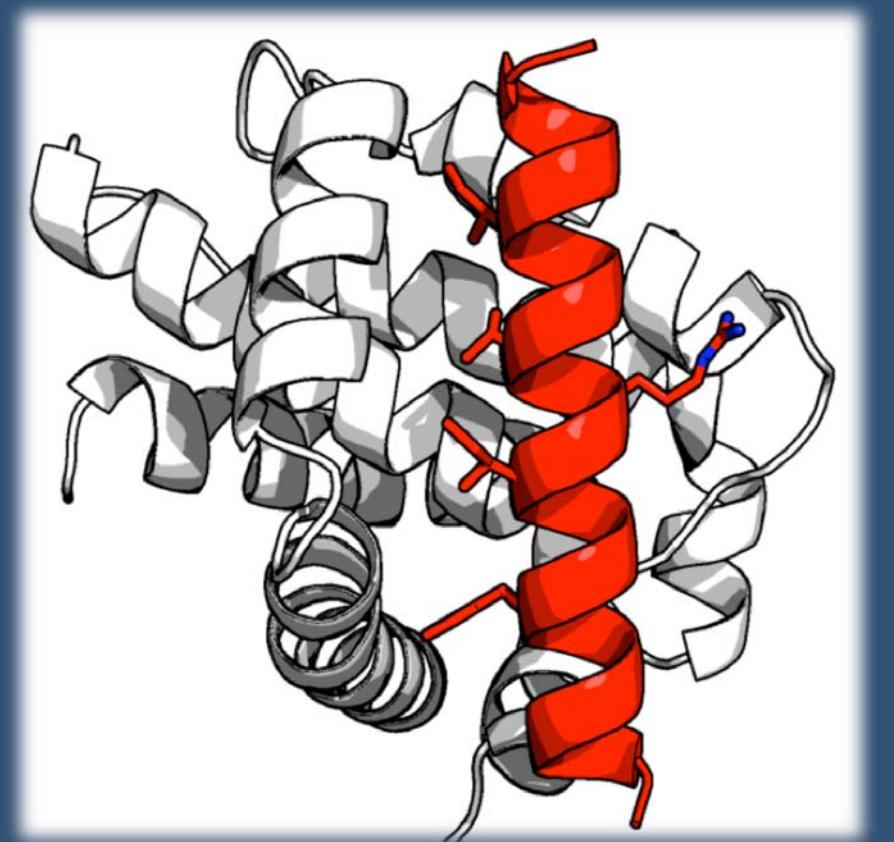
➤ See Michal's Poster!

(2) Extension to other systems: Modulation of apoptosis

Helical BH3 region in pro-apoptotic proteins binds to and inhibits pro-survival proteins

Goal:
understand binding specificity
& modulate interactions:

BIM BH3 peptide –
Bcl-xL, Mcl-1, Bcl-2

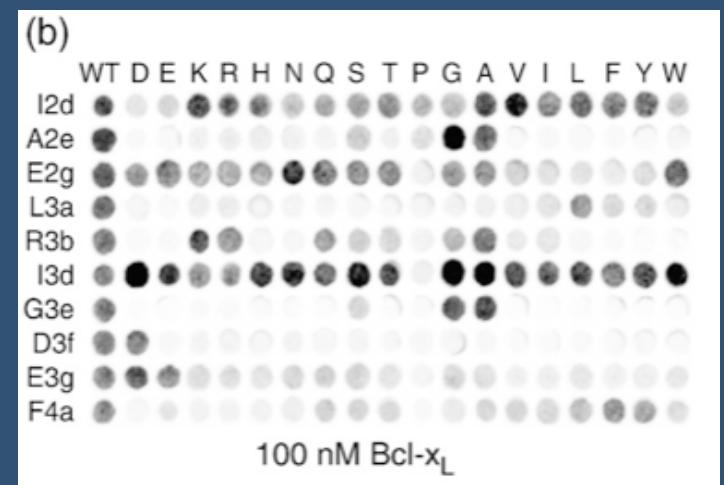
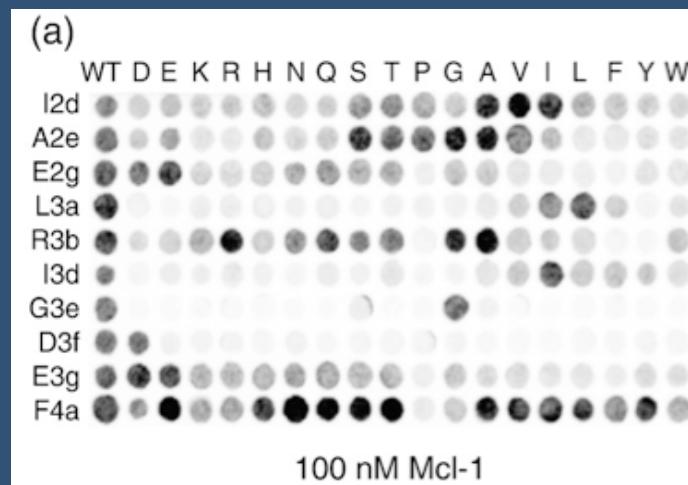
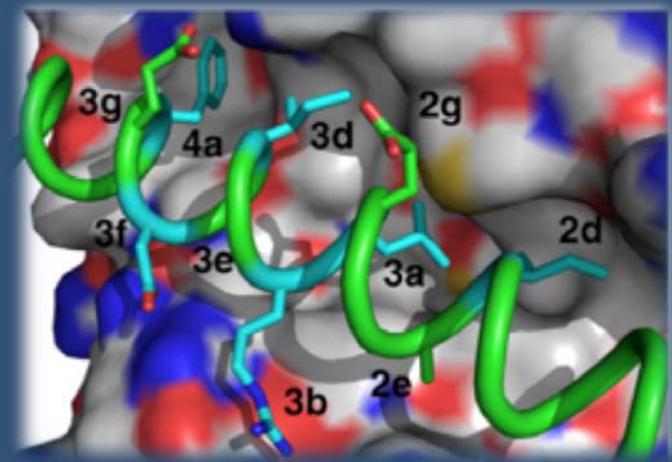


* Dutta et al., JMB 2010

The data: SPOT arrays

BIM BH3 peptide

- binds to Mcl-1 & Bcl-xL
- **TRAIN 1:** combinatorial library
(n=360: 2d: IAF; 3a:LIFA; 3b:RD; 3d:IFDNA; 4a:FVN)
- **TRAIN 2:** single mutants (n=200)
- **SPOT** with Mcl-1 & Bcl-xL



* Dutta et al., JMB 2010

Calibration of protocol for BIM BH3 - Bcl & Mcl interactions

Sampling

FlexPepDock

(simple minimization insufficient)

- $n=1000$ models/sequence
- no constraints

Evaluate several templates

Scoring

Burial of polar atoms

- Up-weight penalty for burial of polar carbonyl atoms (-10.0 -> -13.5)
- Include coulomb energy (hack_elec)

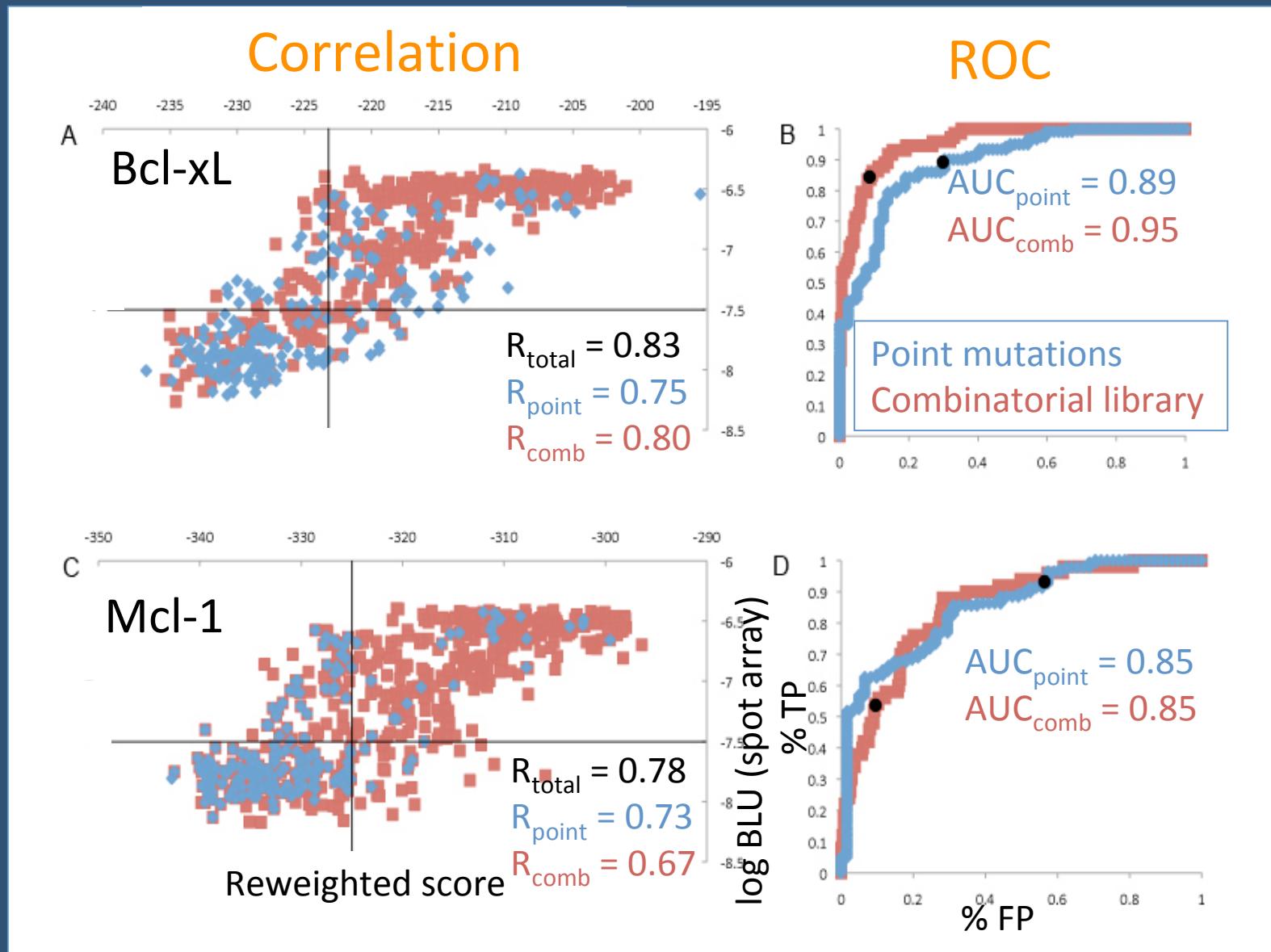
Reweighted score (from *ab initio* FlexPepDock)

$$= (\text{tot score} + \text{peptide score} + \text{interface score})/3$$

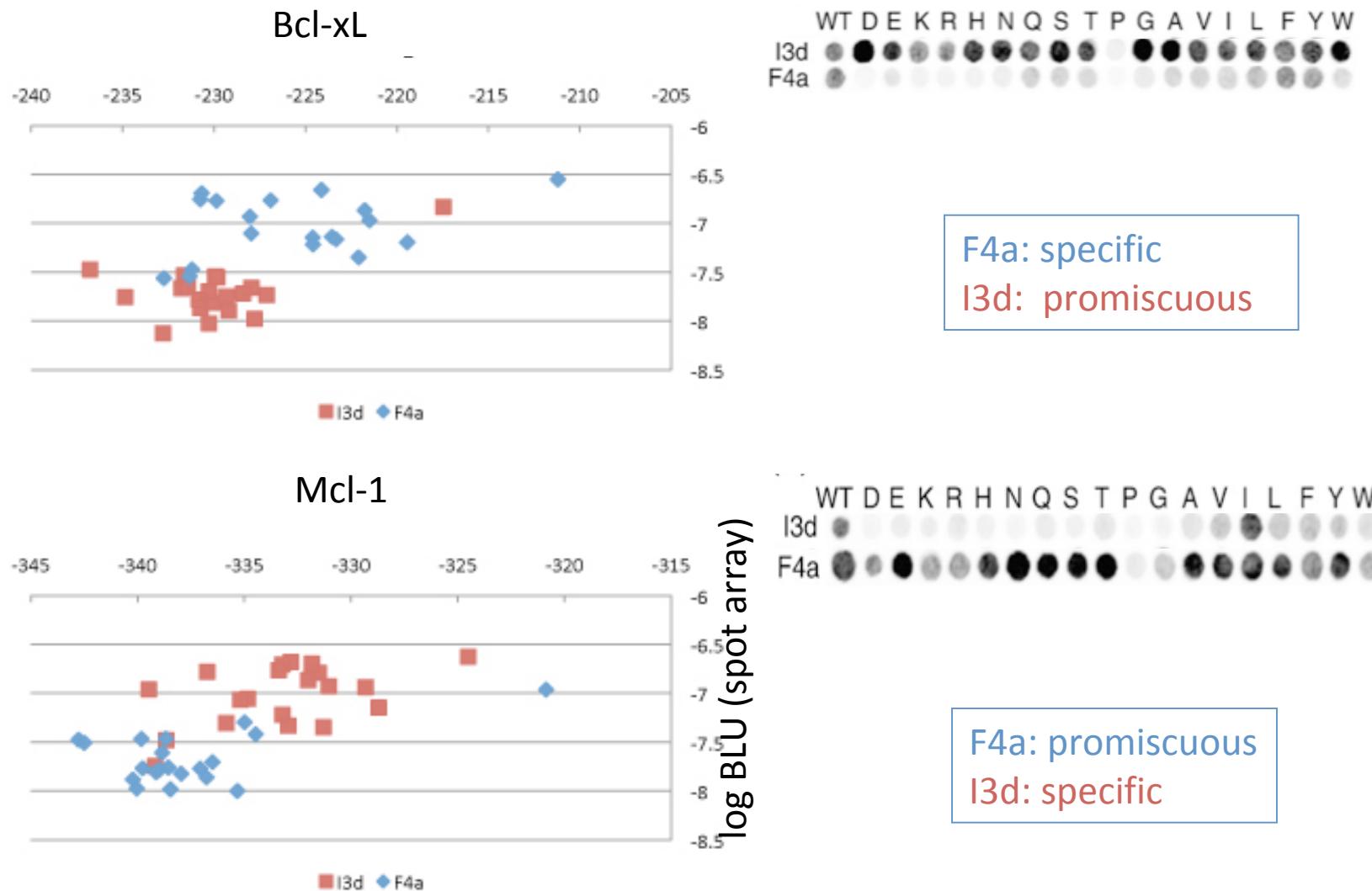
FTase revisited: → AUC=0.93

FlexPepdock with more decoys (1000 vs 200); Looser constraint (0.2 vs 0.1); using different templates

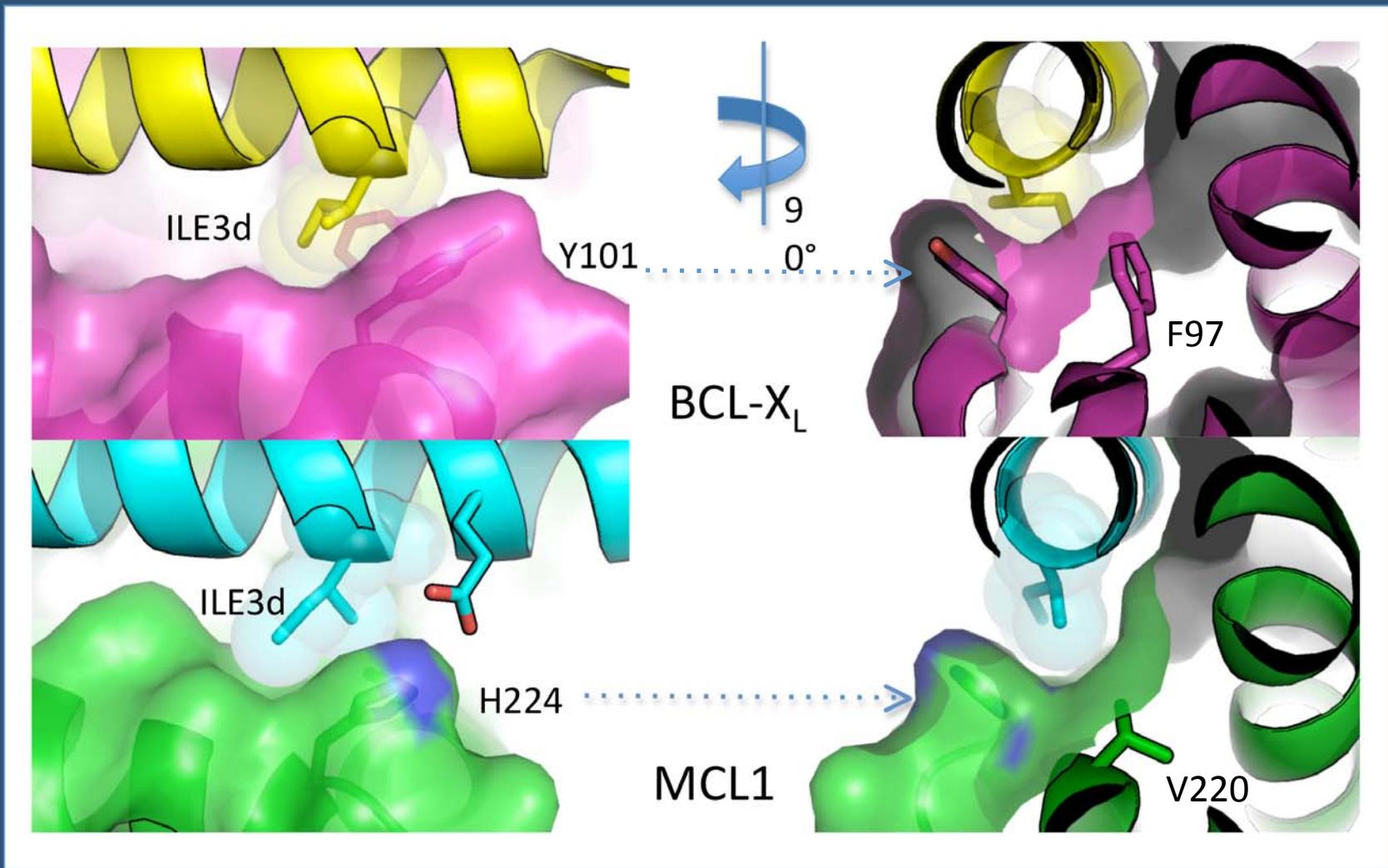
Bcl-xL & Mcl-1: Results



Bcl-xL & Mcl-1: Specificity positions



ILE 3d promiscuity/specificity



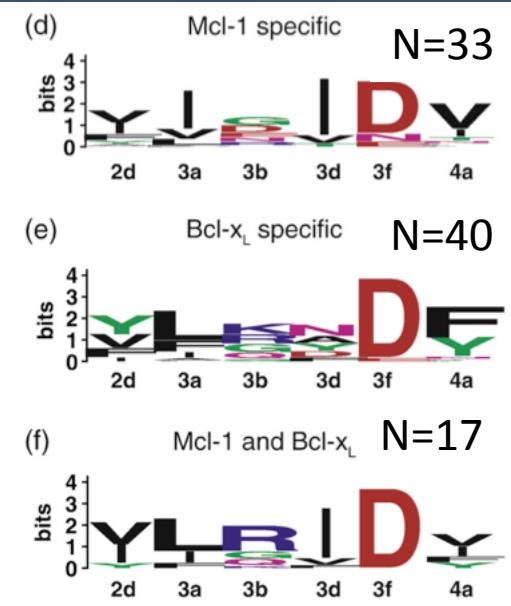
Test I: peptides isolated with yeast surface display

BIM BH3 peptide

- randomize 6 positions; express and select w yeast display
- apply positive / negative selections (FACS) to Bcl-xL and / or Mcl-1
- Measure binding affinity

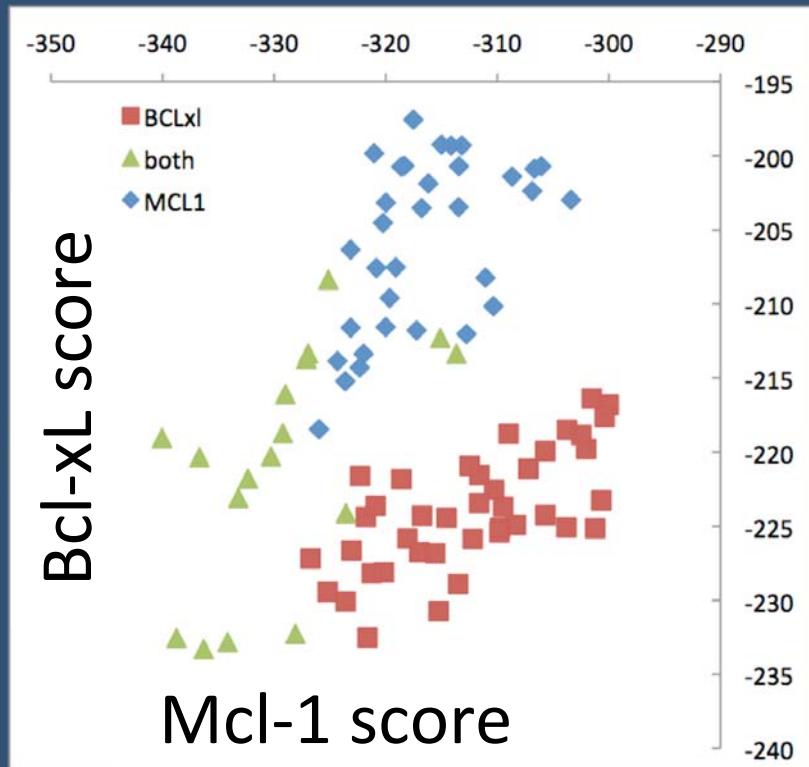
| Peptide | Sequence | K _i (nM) | | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| | | Bcl-x _L | Bcl-w | Bcl-2 | Mcl-1 | Bfl-1 |
| Bim | RPEIWIAQELRRIGDEFNAYYAR | 1.3 ± 0.4 | 2.1 ± 0.3 | 1.4 ± 0.6 | 1.9 ± 0.3 | 2 ± 0.1 |
| | Mcl-1 specific peptides | | | | | |
| MB1 | RPEIWIAQEIDRIGDEVNAYYAR | | | | 4 ± 1.8 | |
| MB2 | RPEIWFAQEIDRIGDEVNAYYAR | | | | 20 ± 2 | |
| MG1 | RPEIWFAQEFSRIGDEVNAYYAR | | | | 30 ± 6 | |
| MF11 | RPEIWVAQELERIGEEVNAYYAR | | | | 192 ± 11 | |
| MB7 | RPEIWAAQEIRRIGDENNAYYAR | | | | 273 ± 37 | |
| | Bcl-x _L specific peptides | | | | | |
| XH11 | RPEIWVAQELKRNGDEFNAYYAR | 2.9 ± 0.8 | 81 ± 11 | 73 ± 7 | | |
| XF8 | RPEIWFAQELKRNGDEYNAYYAR | 9 ± 2 | 40 ± 26 | 132 ± 61 | | |
| XG10 | RPEIWYAQEIIRRGDEFNAYYAR | 13 ± 6 | 220 ± 44 | 255 ± 3 | | |
| XD5 | RPEIWYAQELRRNGDEFNAYYAR | 6 ± 1 | 30 ± 9 | 137 ± 5 | | |
| XG12 | RPEIWYAQELGRAGDEFNAYYAR | 19 ± 1 | 109 ± 23 | 725 ± 249 | | |

■ K_i < 10 nM ■ 10 nM < K_i < 100 nM ■ 100 nM < K_i < 1000 nM ■ K_i > 1000 nM



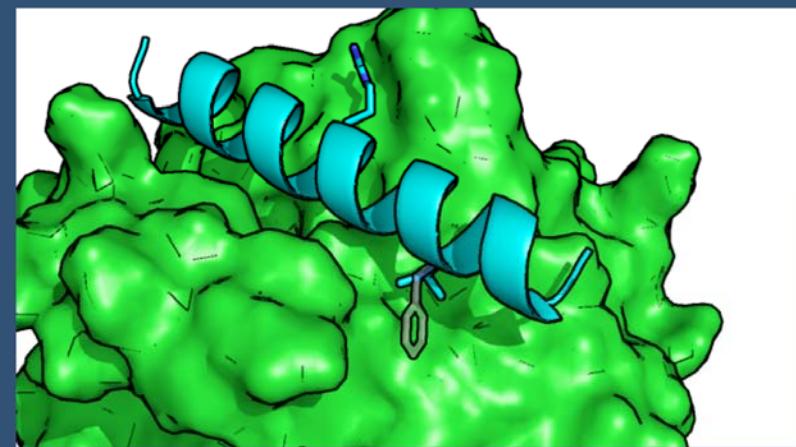
Dutta et al. JMB (2010)

Test I: peptides isolated with yeast surface display



- ✓ Bcl-xL specific set
- ✓ Both promiscuous set

Mcl-1 specific binders set
(correlated with V4a)

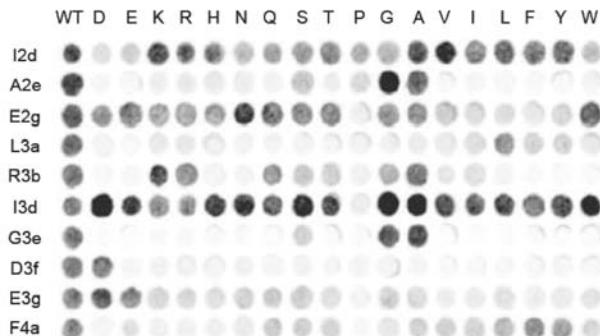


Test II: application to Bcl-2

➤ Accurate description of Bcl-2

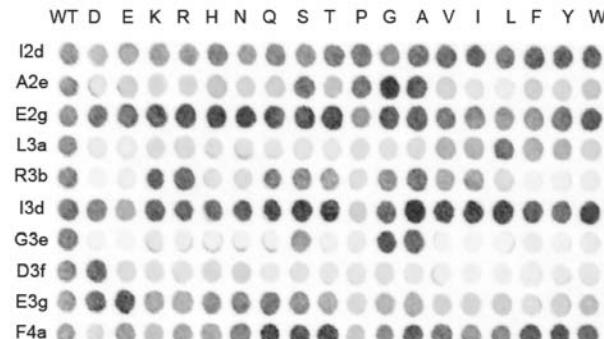
Bcl-xL: experimental

B 100nM BclXL



Bcl-2: experimental

A 100nM Bcl2



Bcl-xL: predicted

Bcl-2: predicted

➤ Bcl-2 is very similar to Bcl-xL

In collaboration with Amy Keating, MIT

Specific(ity) conclusions II

- *Bcl-FlexPepBind*: Accurate description of binding specificities of (BIM-derived) BH3 peptides to pro-apoptotic proteins Bcl-xL, Mcl-I & Bcl-2
- FlexPepBind protocol can be adapted to new system with minor changes (e.g., calibration of burial of polar atoms)
- What we learned – good results are obtained with:
 - More FlexPepDock simulations (~1000)
 - Averaged & reweighted score
 - More available templates

Summary

Peptide-protein interactions are important

1. Rosetta FlexPepDock: Highly accurate modeling protocol that accounts for peptide flexibility
2. FlexPepBind: Prediction of binding specificity:

- Identification of novel class of farnesylation targets
- Accurate modeling of binding specificity of pro-apoptotic proteins Bcl-xL, Mcl-1 & Bcl-2

Acknowledgements



Fierke group (U Michigan) Corissa Lamphear, James Hougland
Rosetta Commons

Funding: Converging Technologies Scholarship, ISF & BSF



Excited about this work?

- Want to study outside the US?
- Want to study near the GMEC on earth?
- We are looking for new PhD students and PostDocs

