

NMR for structural biology

Specificities and limitations

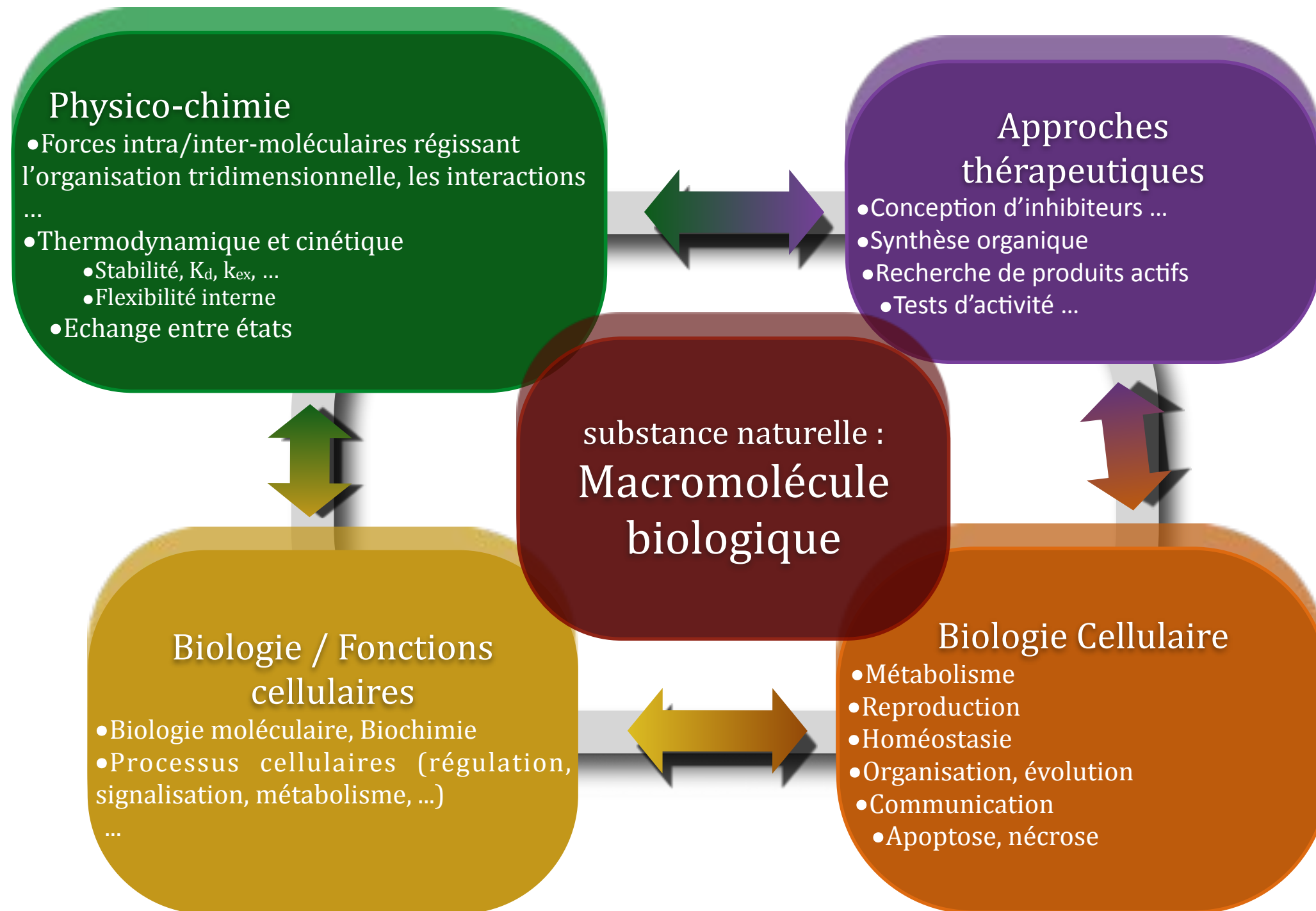
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carine.VAN-HEIJENOORT@cnrs.fr

Biologie Structurale

Discipline cherchant à décortiquer, expliquer et prédire les mécanismes à la base du fonctionnement des macromolécules biologiques



décortiquer, expliquer et prédire les mécanismes à la base du fonctionnement des macromolécules biologiques

RMN : sonde à l'échelle atomique de l'environnement électronique des atomes et de leur variation au cours du temps

Relation Séquence-Structure-Dynamique-Fonction des protéines

Utiliser et développer des méthodes de RMN adaptées

Répondre à une problématique biologique

Attribution automatique basée sur la structure (NOENet)

Cinétique-thermodynamique-structure des états multiples en échange
La dispersion de relaxation

Caractérisation des états multiples dans les protéines
*Petites protéines G Arfs
Domaines d'annexines*

Compréhension des processus d'interaction mettant en jeu des protéines intrinsèquement dépliées
*Domaines T
Domaine Cter de ErbB2*

NMR as a tool for structural biology

✓ Questions

- ▶ When is NMR “the” appropriate technique?
- ▶ What does a protein “look like” by NMR?

✓ Specificities

- ▶ Local (one peak per observable atom - ^1H , ^{13}C , ^{15}N , ^{19}F , ^{31}P , etc.)
- ▶ Simultaneous measurement of all the local probes (large number of molecules at equilibrium, measurement of averaged values in space and time)
- ▶ Quantitative (volume of peaks proportional to number of observed atoms)
- ▶ Highly sensitive to local and global environment, and to the variation of this environment
 - Internal flexibility (100ps-ns)
 - Internal dynamics - exchange between conformations (μs -ms)
 - Buffer, pH, temperature, pressure ...
- ▶ Structural parameters (environment, distances, angles)
- ▶ Thermodynamics and kinetic parameters (entropy, ΔG , K_d , pKa, k_{ex} ...)

NMR as a tool for structural biology

✓ Questions

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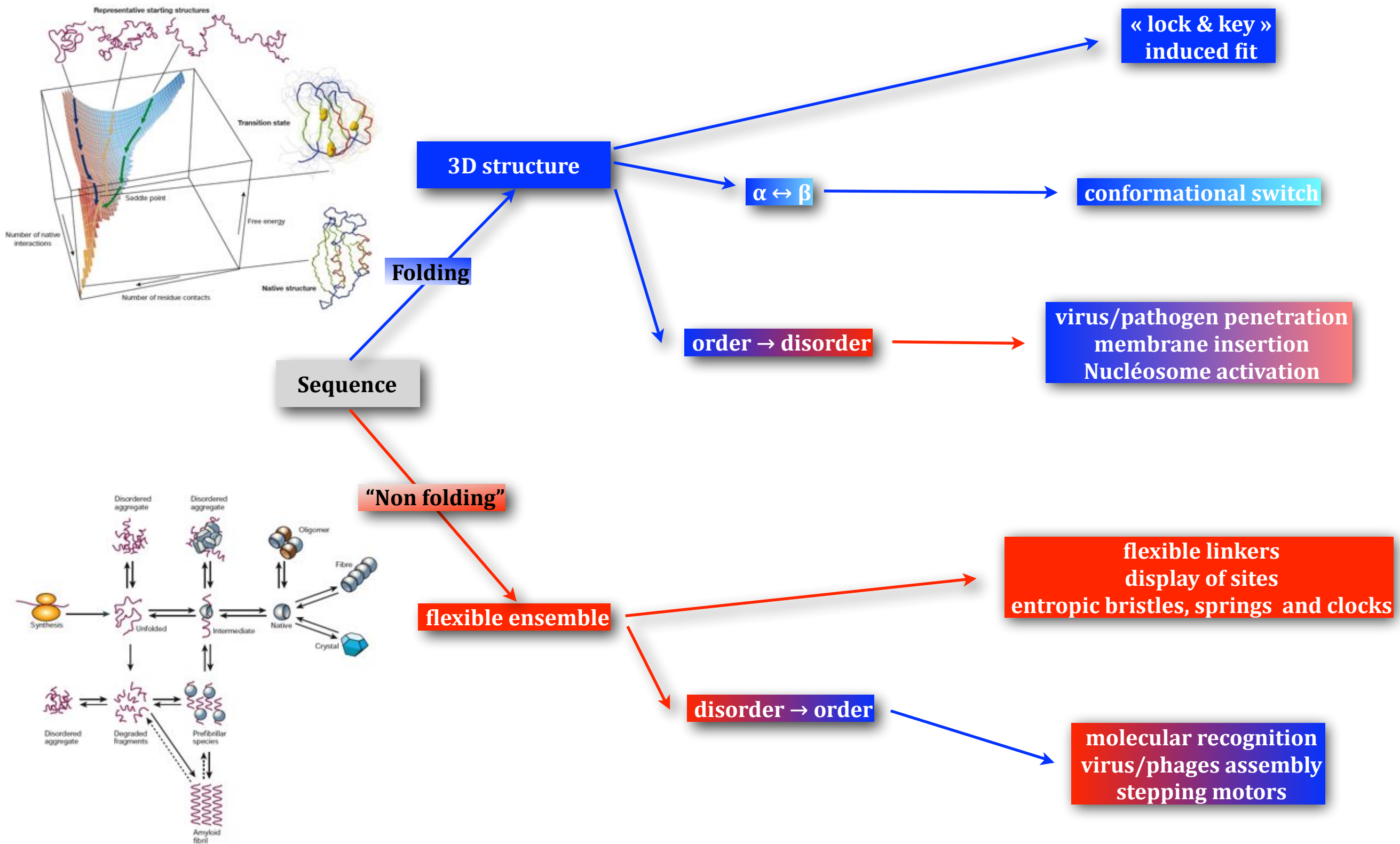
✓ Specificities ...

- ▶ **Disordered regions, Intrinsically Disordered Proteins, conformational changes, excited states, allosteric processes, interactions (transient), interfaces (loose/sliding/high throughput), post-translational modifications**
- ▶ **... and possibly/marginally protein structure ...**

✓ Limitations

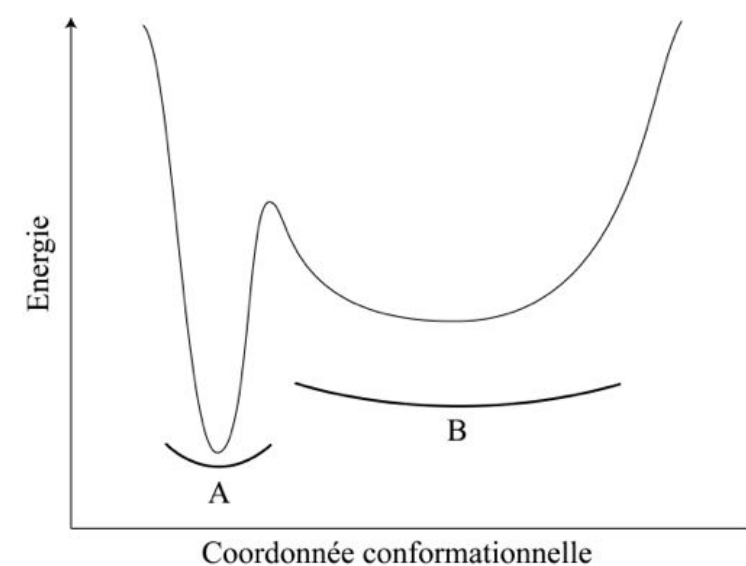
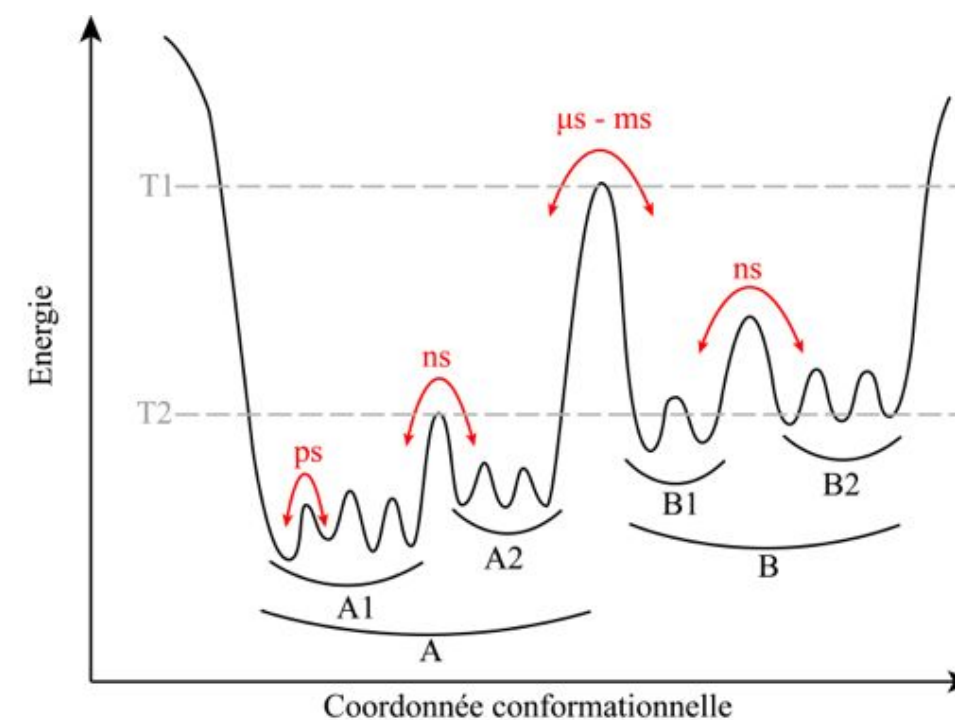
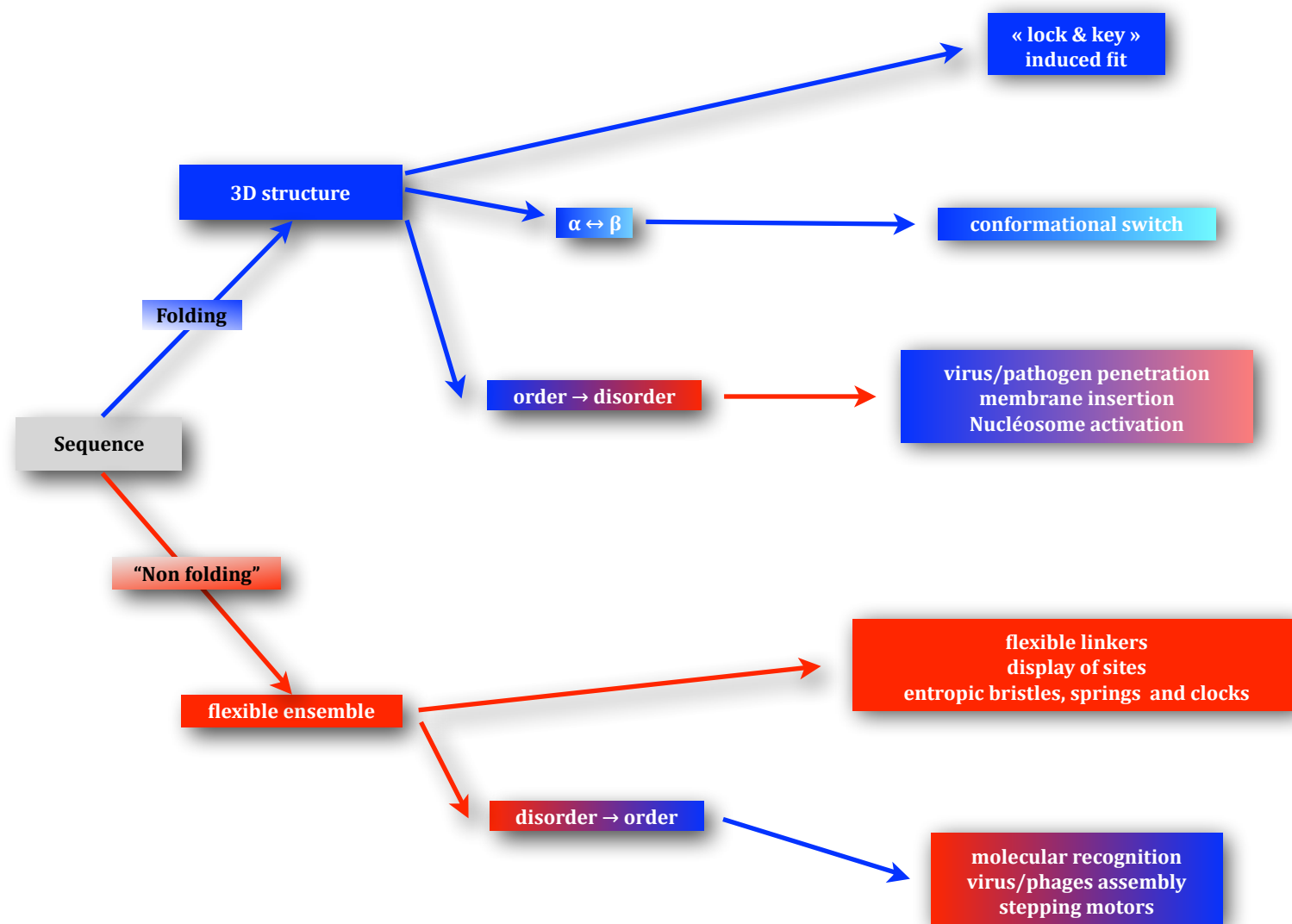
- ▶ NMR is not a sensitive technique ... NMR is sensitive to the size of the molecule ...
 - ▶ **depends on the question (300μM->10μM)**
 - ▶ **depends on the dynamics of the system**
 - ▶ **depends on the physical state (liquid/solid) of the sample.**
- ▶ **Requires labeling approaches, importance of the sample preparation.**

A view of protein multiple states



Dunker et al., *Journal of Molecular Graphics and Modelling* **19**, 26–59, 2001
 Dobson, C., *Nature* **426**, 18-25, 2003

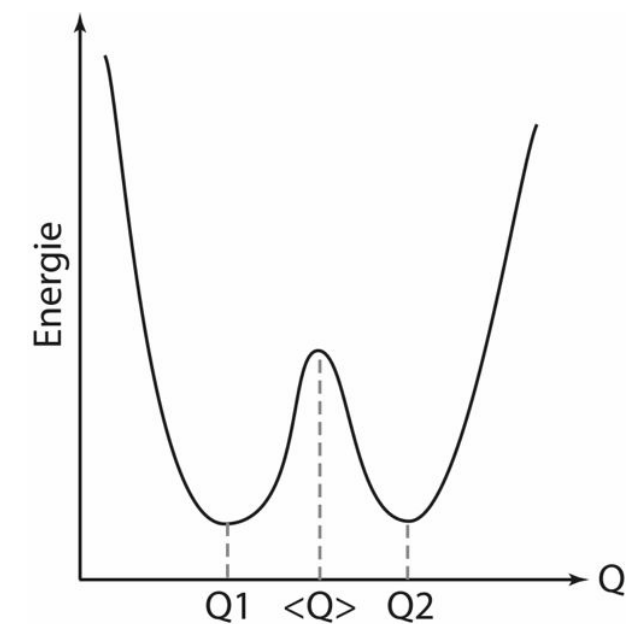
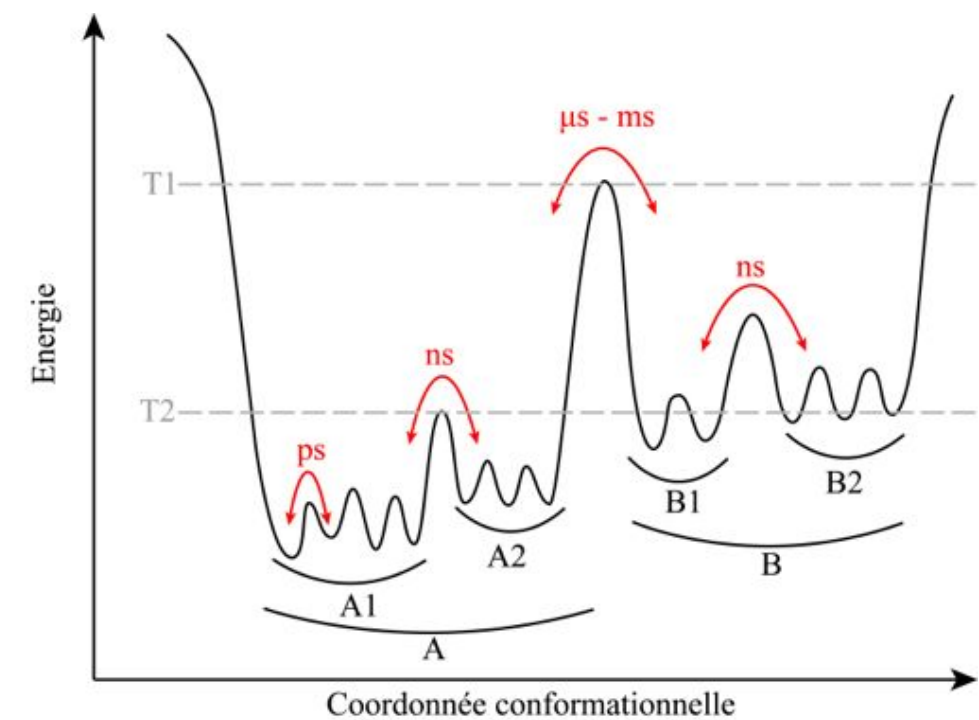
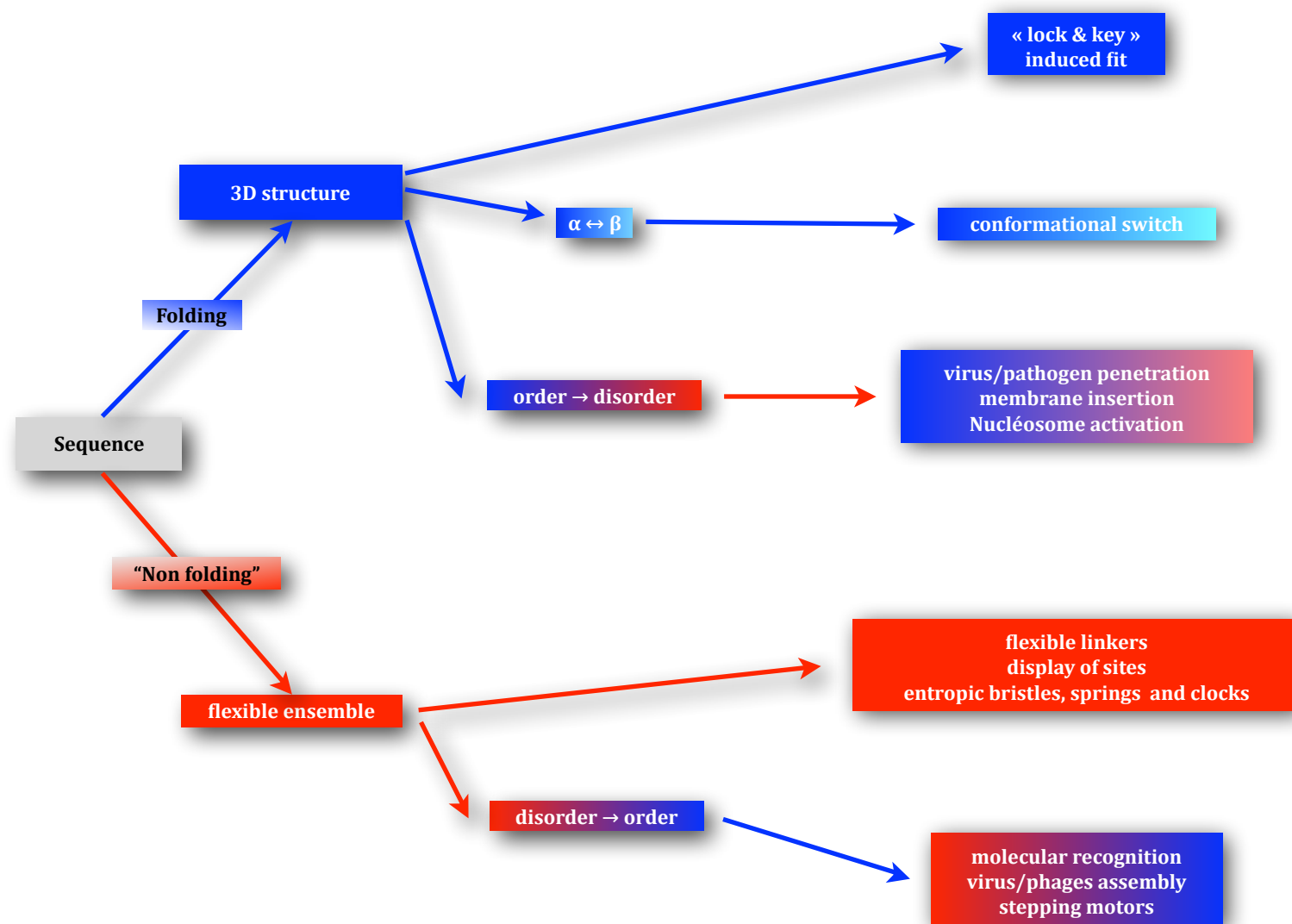
A view of protein multiple states



- ✓ Les protéines sont des ensembles thermodynamiques : ensemble d'états conformationnels en échange
- ✓ Différents ensembles d'états peuvent être fonctionnellement différents.
- ✓ L'ensemble le plus peuplé n'est pas forcément l'état de plus basse énergie interne (état A) ni celui de plus grande entropie (état B) mais celui de plus basse enthalpie libre ($G=H-TS$).
- ✓ La valeur moyenne d'une propriété n'est pas forcément représentative d'une conformation.

⇒ Importance fondamentale de caractériser la dynamique et les états multiples des protéines

A view of protein multiple states

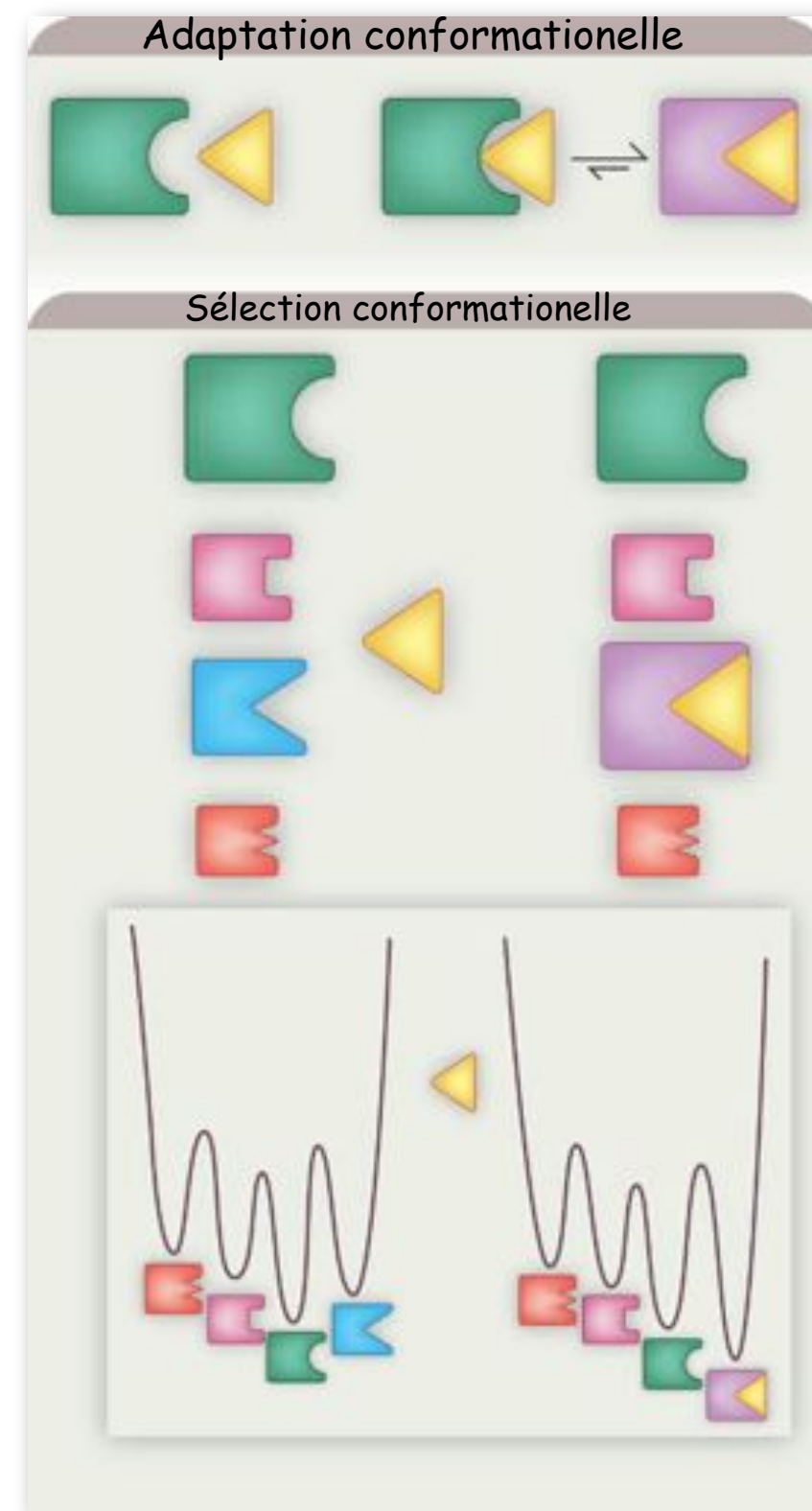
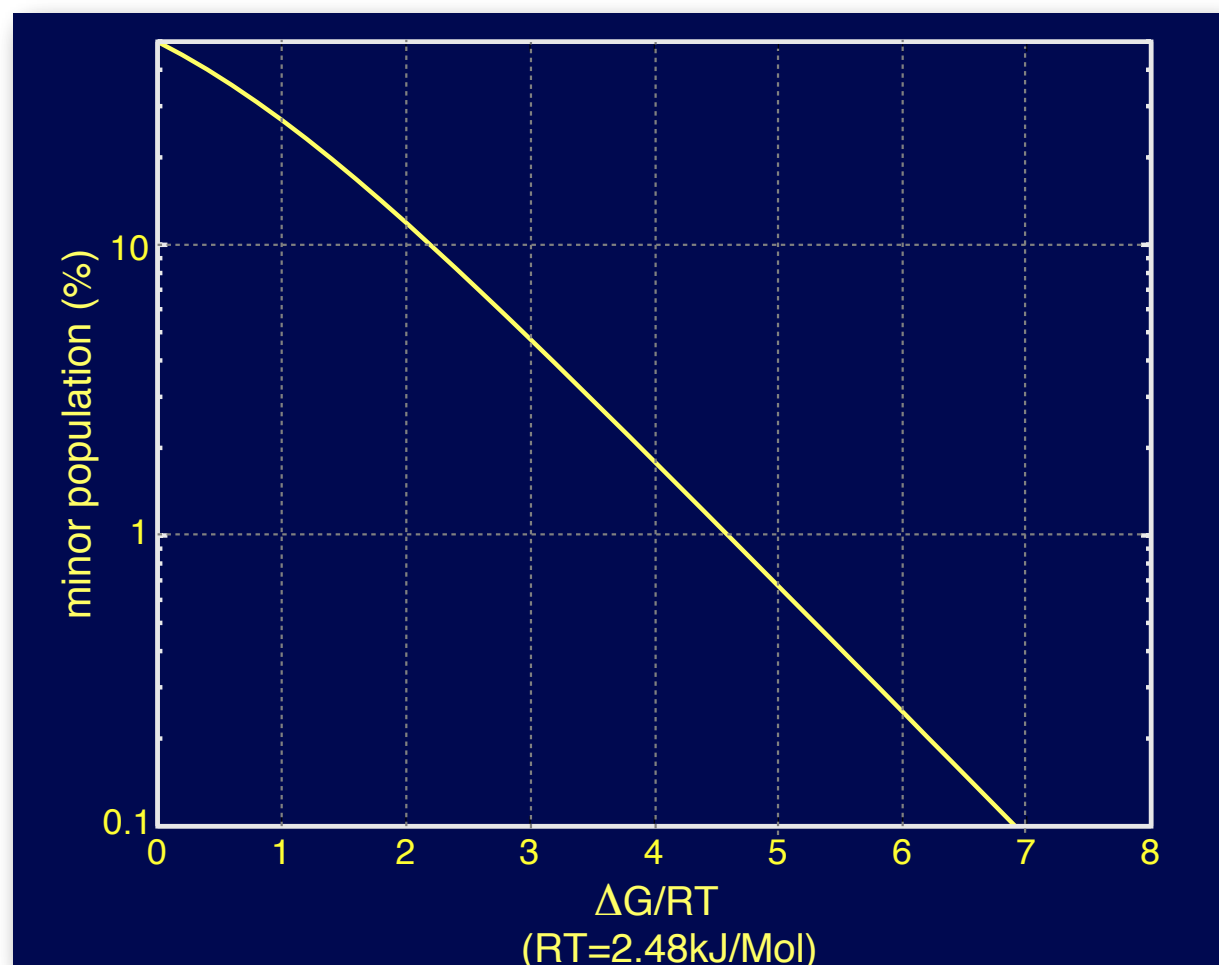


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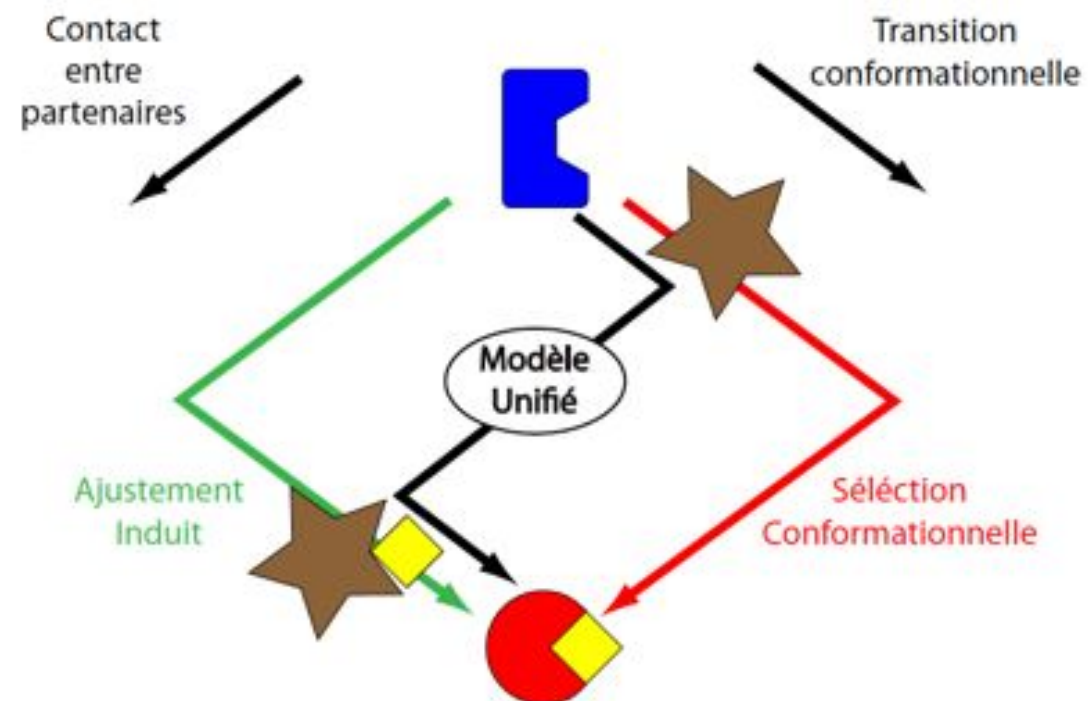
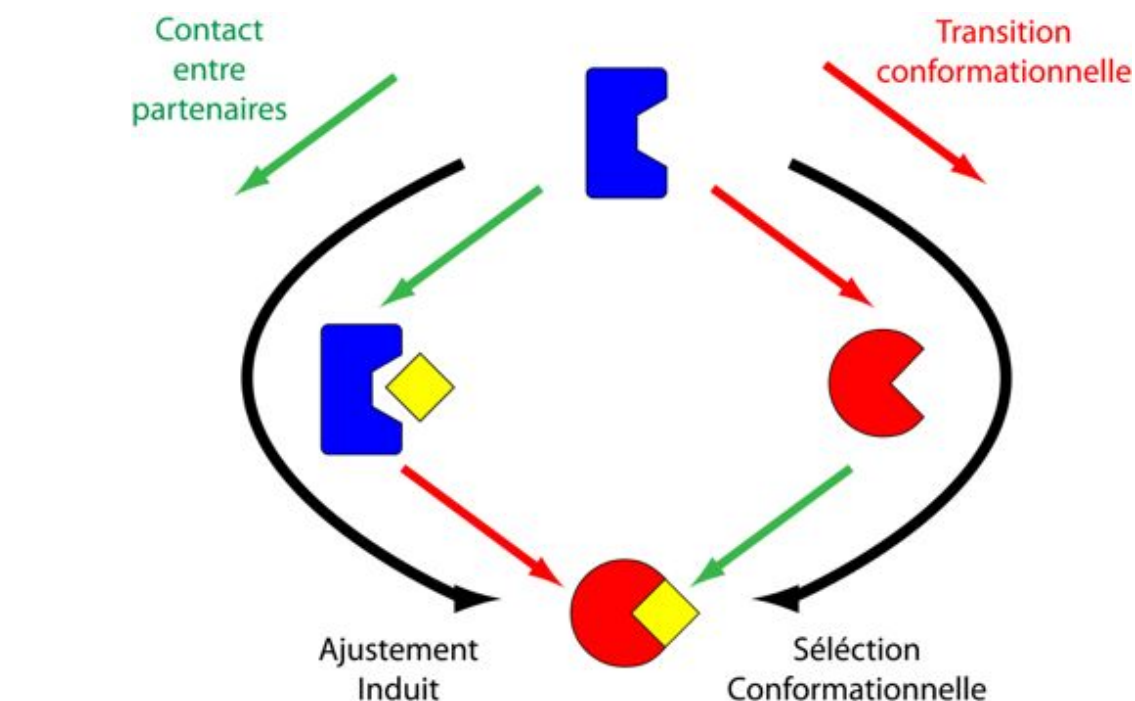
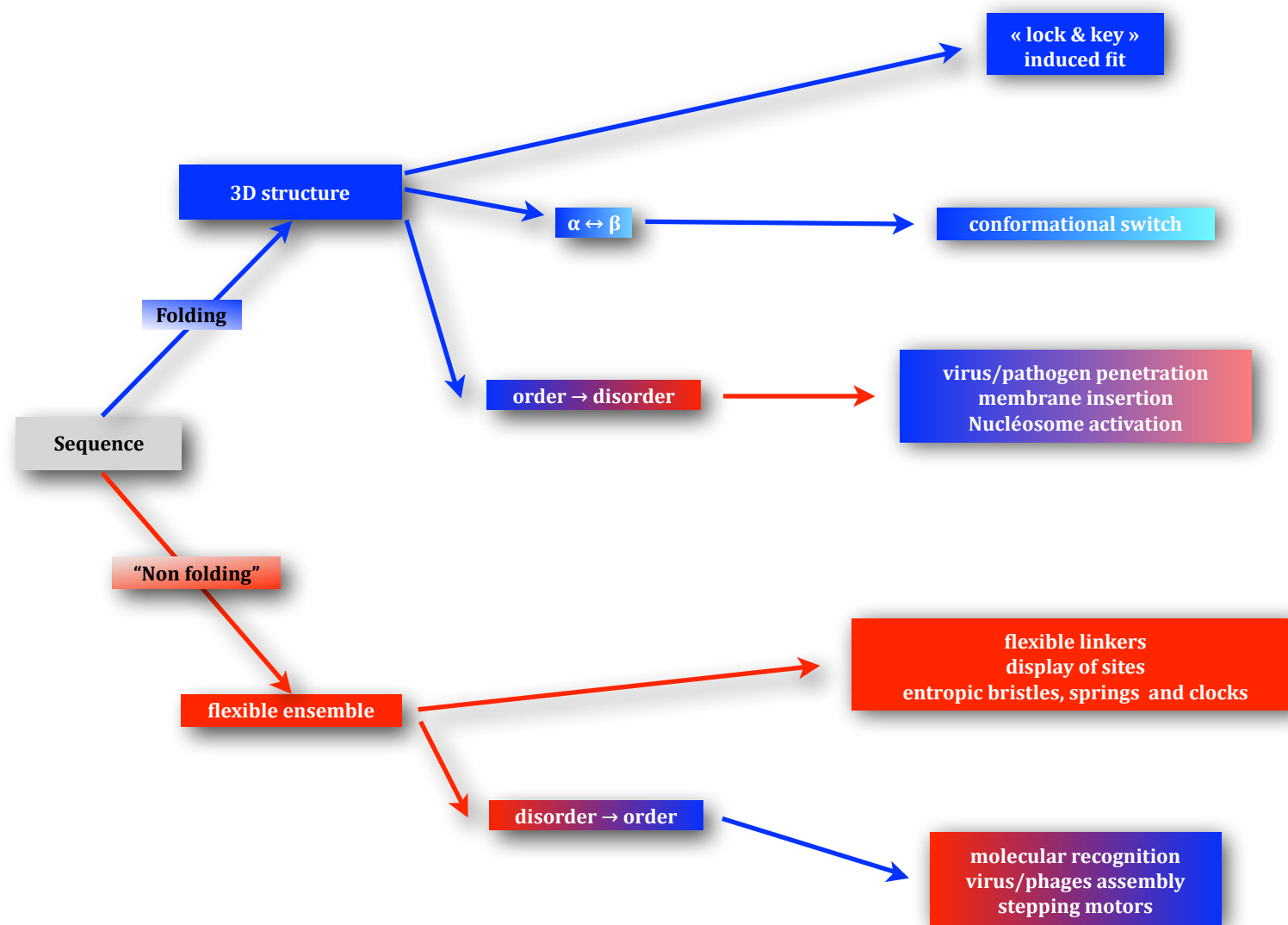
⇒ Importance fondamentale de caractériser la dynamique et les états multiples des protéines

Caractérisation des états faiblement peuplés: une étape importante pour la compréhension des mécanismes d'action des protéines

- ⇒ Protéines : multiple conformations à l'équilibre thermique en solution
 - ⇒ Cristallographie RX : Sélection d'une conformation lors de la cristallisation
 - ⇒ RMN : Ensemble conformationnel moyenné dans le temps
- ⇒ Etat "fondamental" > 90%
- ⇒ Etats de haute énergie, faiblement peuplés : rôles dans la liaison de substrats, dans les cycles catalytiques, dans les processus de repliement (états de transition)
- ...



A view of protein multiple states



- ⇒ Importance fondamentale de caractériser la dynamique et les états multiples des protéines
- ⇒ Importance fondamentale de caractériser la cinétique de l'échange entre les ensembles d'états conformationnels

Vertessy, B. ; Orosz, F. Bioessays 2011, 33, 30–34.
 [Grünberg, R. ; Leckner, J. ; Nilges, M. Structure 2004, 12, 2125–2136.]

The timescales in NMR

why NMR is sensitive to multiple timescales motions

Molecular motions influence NMR parameters

Motions timescales versus NMR timescales ?

Three distinct timescales in NMR

o Equilibrium constant time T_1 / Signal lifetime T_2

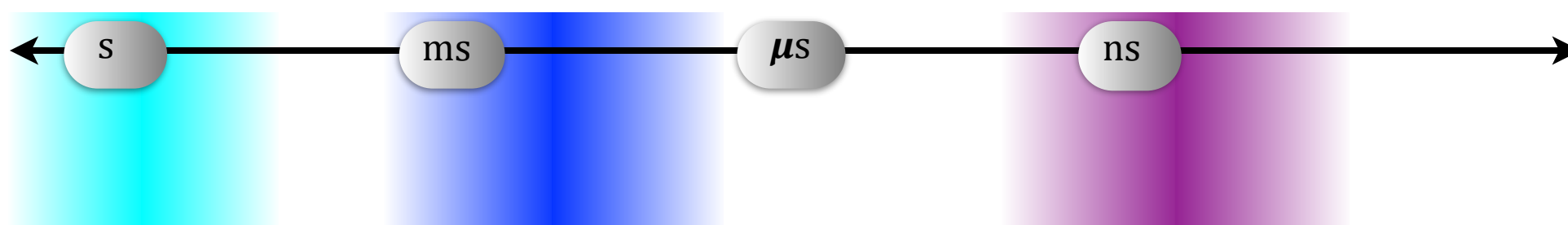
- NMR experiment \leftrightarrow perturbation of spins system
- Typical timescale for (macro)molecules in solution : 100 ms - s (T_1) / 10ms-s (T_2)
- Determine the lowest frequency of motions that can be characterized during one NMR experiment.

o Spectral range : $\tau=1/\Delta\nu$

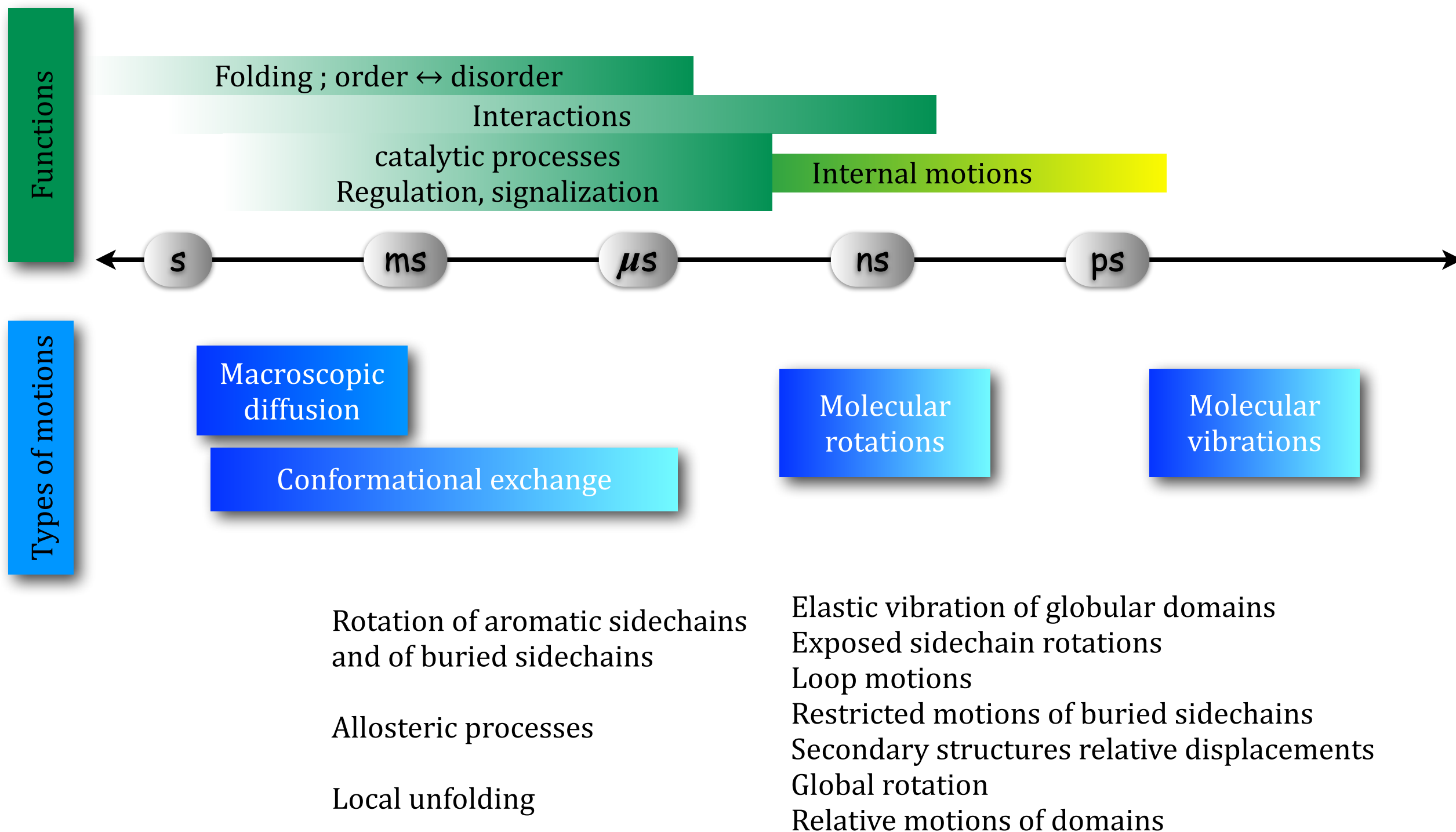
- Spectrum features : chemical shift range, couplings, ...
- Averaging if the interactions by motions that have higher frequencies
- Perturbation of spectral appearance by motions/processes occurring around this timescale

o "Larmor" timescale: $\tau=1/\omega_0$

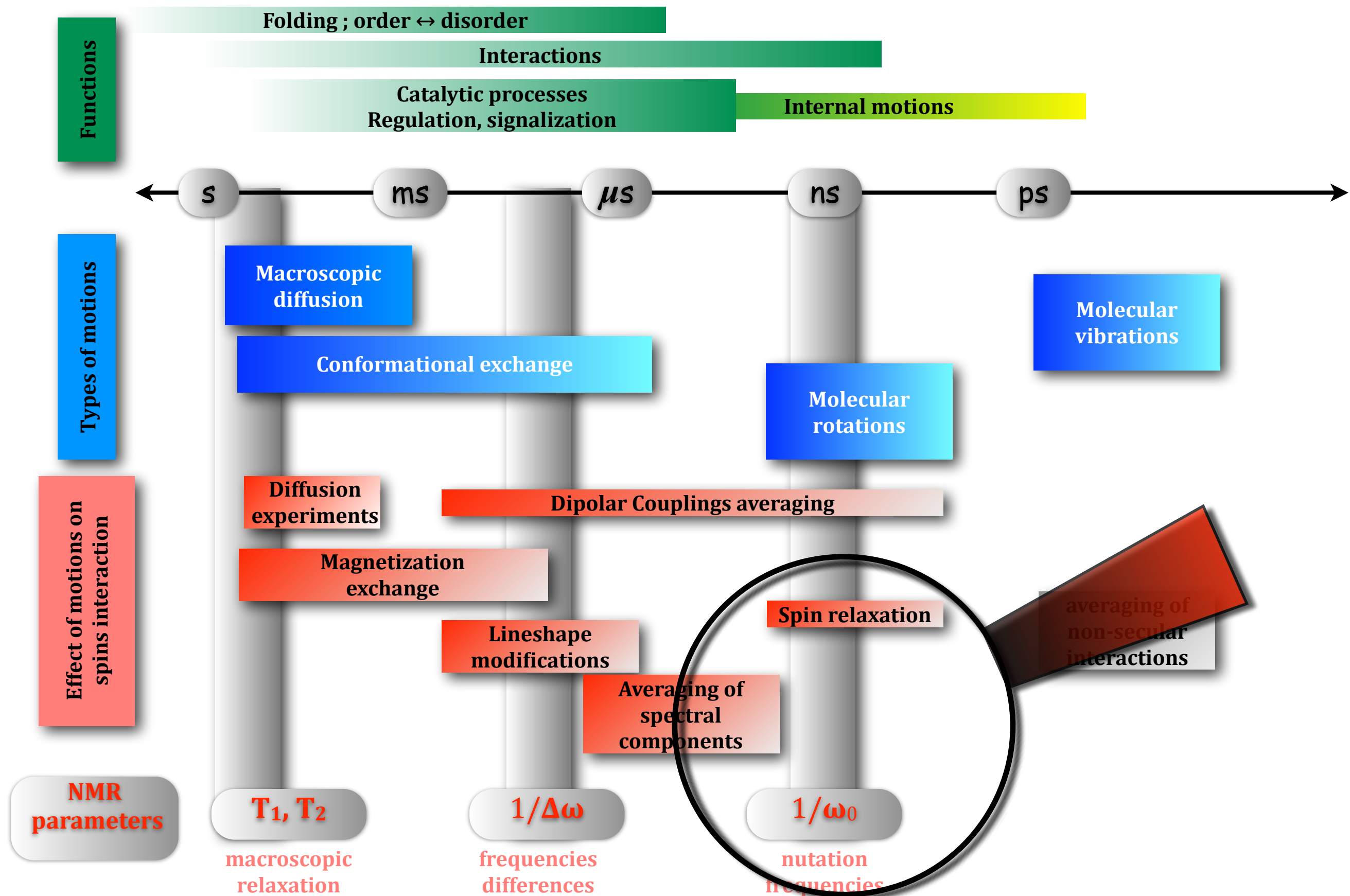
- Precession frequency of the spins in the magnetic field $B_0=\omega_0/\gamma$
- Efficiency of spins state transitions during the relaxation processes is determined by the spectral density of molecular motions around these frequencies.



A view of protein motions timescales



How motions are « visible » in NMR ?



NMR timescales

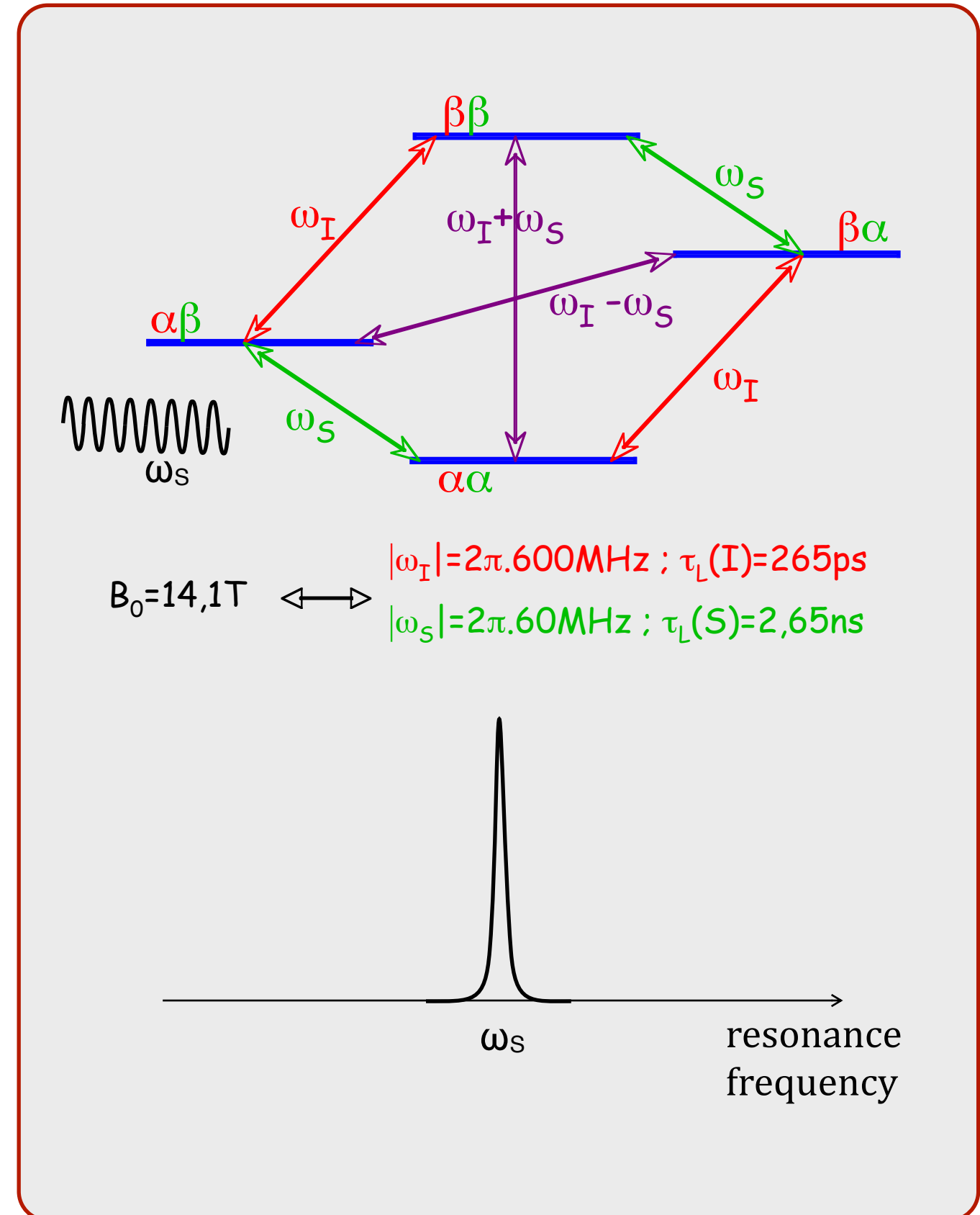
1. Larmor timescale

- ✓ Resonance frequencies of the spin (i.e. difference of energy between the different observable states of the spin system)

$$|\omega_0| = |\gamma B_0|$$

$$\tau_{Larmor} = \frac{1}{\omega_0}$$

- ✓ Motions in this timescale have no effect on the appearance of the spectra.
- ✓ Motions in this timescale are responsible for the efficiency of the relaxation processes.
- ✓ The relationship between «motions» and relaxation rate constants is indirect.



NMR timescales

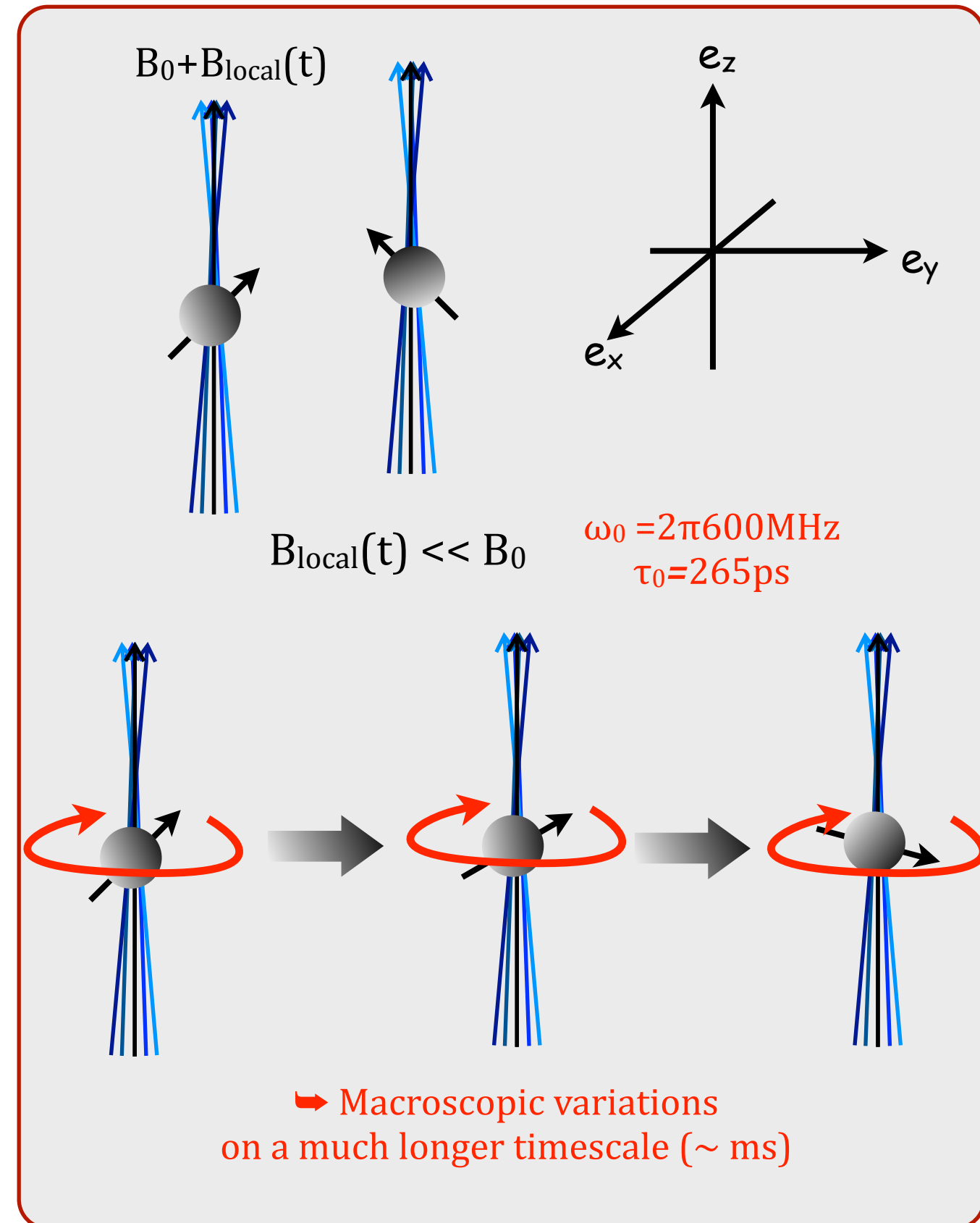
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- ✓ Motions in this timescale are responsible for the efficiency of the relaxation processes.
- ✓ The relationship between «motions» and relaxation rate constants is indirect.
- ✓ $B_{local}(t)$ depends on the local interactions between spins (dipolar interactions, anisotropy of chemical shifts, electrons) whose fluctuations create local electromagnetic waves.

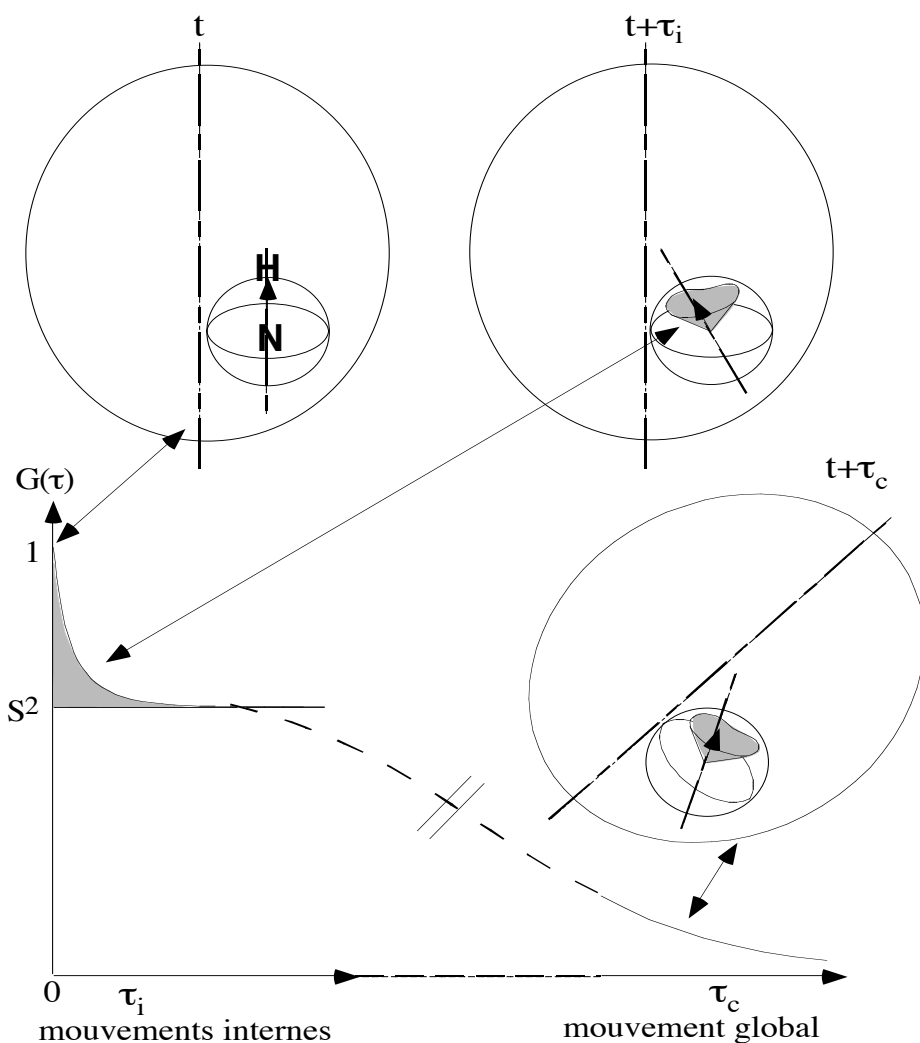


NMR timescales

1. Larmor timescale

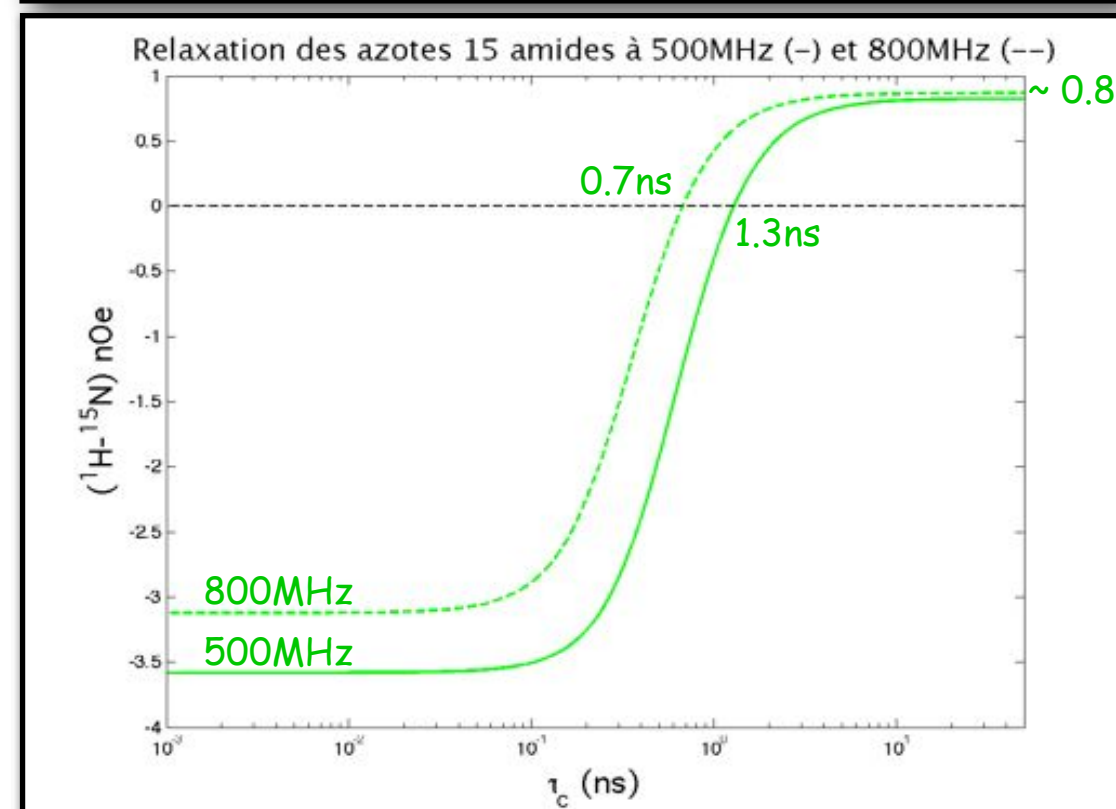
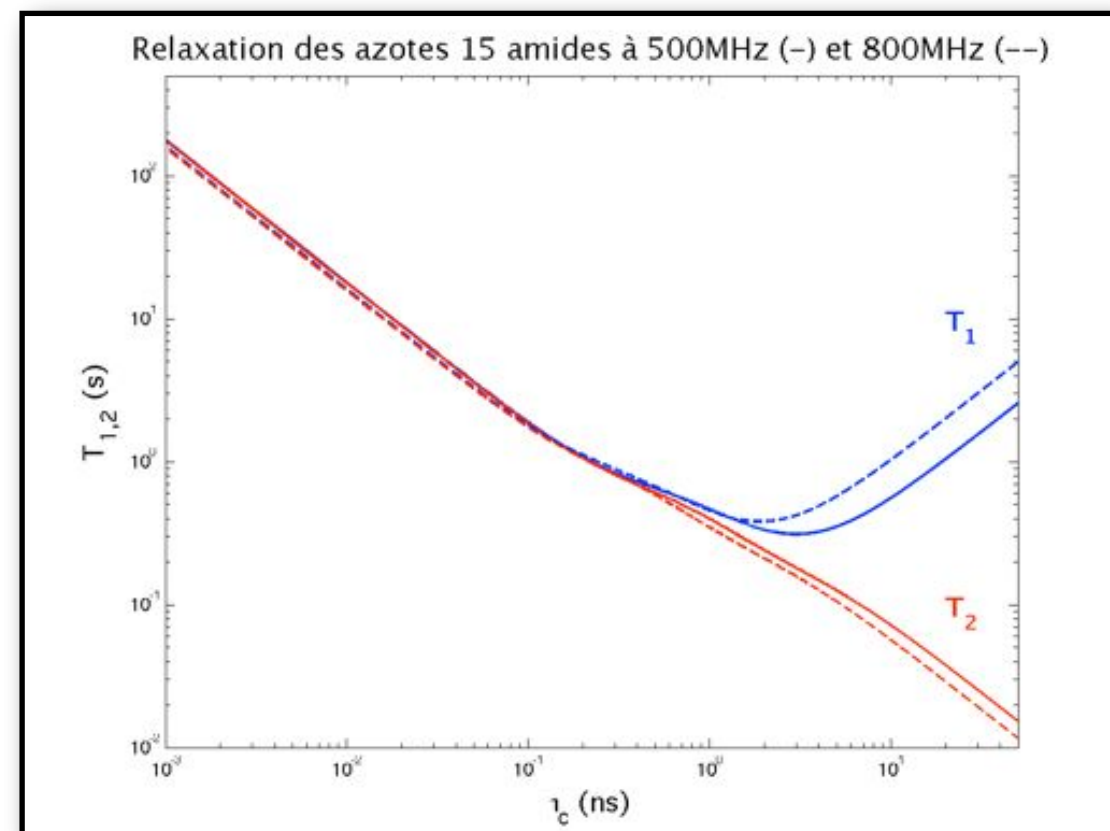
In practice

- ✓ Measurement of 3 relaxation parameters, R1, R2, and hetNOE that gives information about the local flexibility of ^1H - ^{15}N bonds in ps-ns range.
- ✓ Models to extract parameters of motions : global/local correlation times (timescale), order parameters (amplitude), etc.



Lipari & Szabo "model free" approach

Lipari, G.; Szabo, A. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1982, 104, 4546–4559

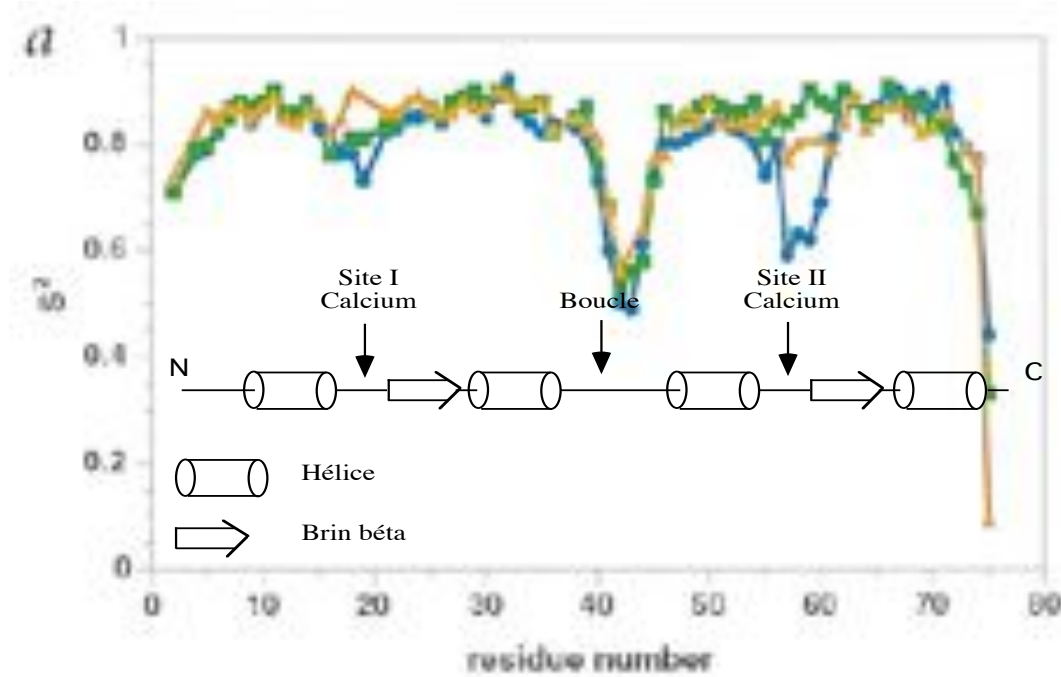


NMR timescales

1. Larmor timescale

In practice

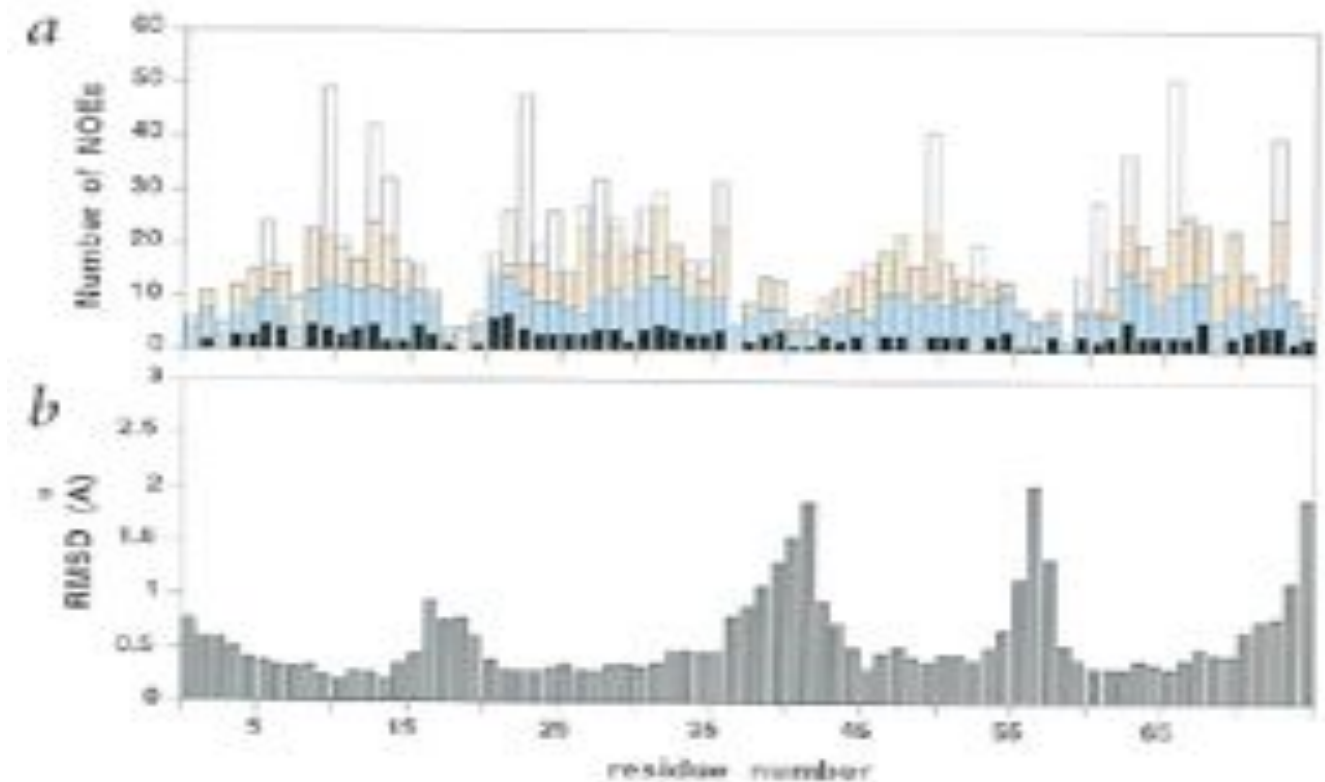
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Calbindin D_{9k}
 Apo
 (Ca₂₊)₁^I-N56A
 (Cd₂₊)₁^{II}



Mäler et al., Nat. Struct. Biol. 7, 245 (2000)

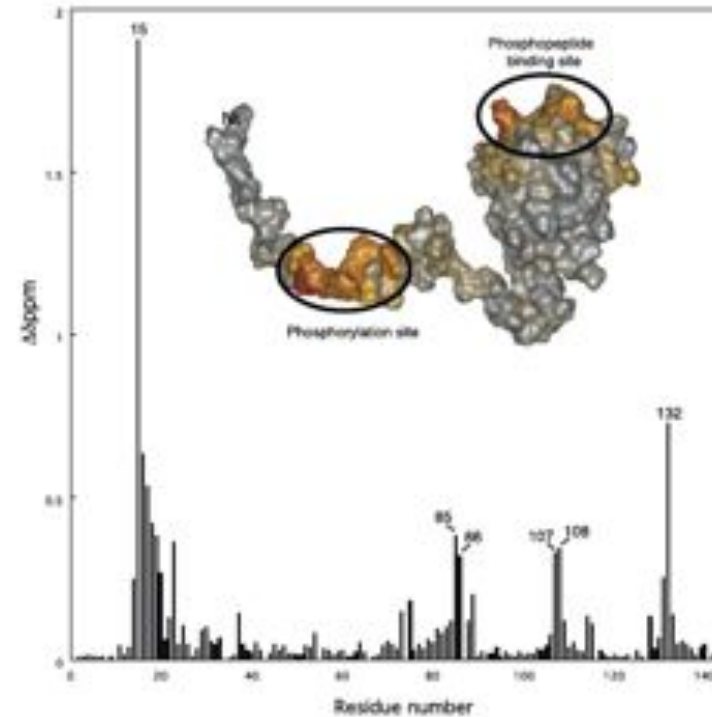
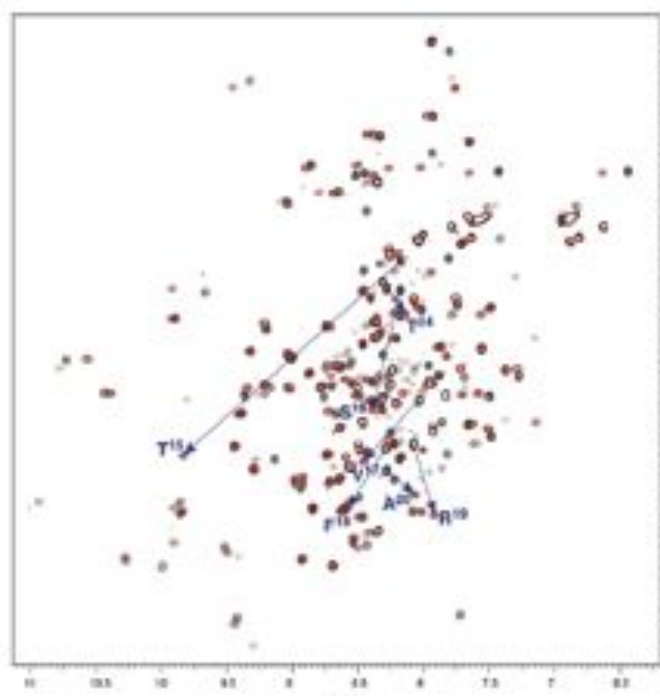
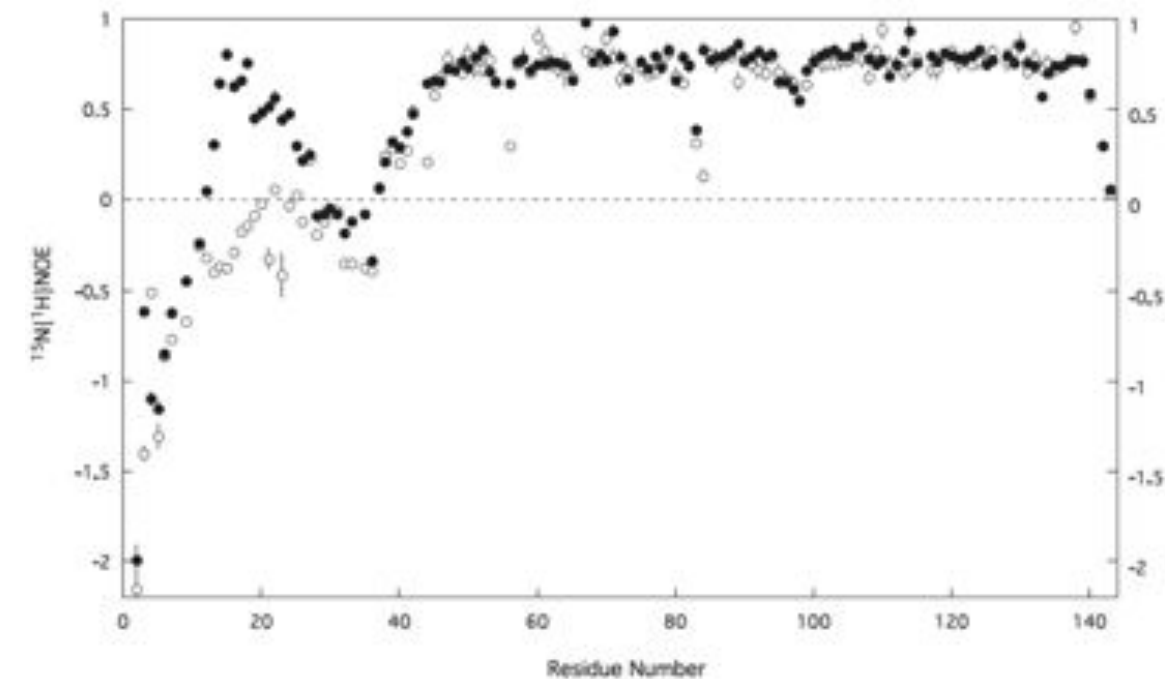
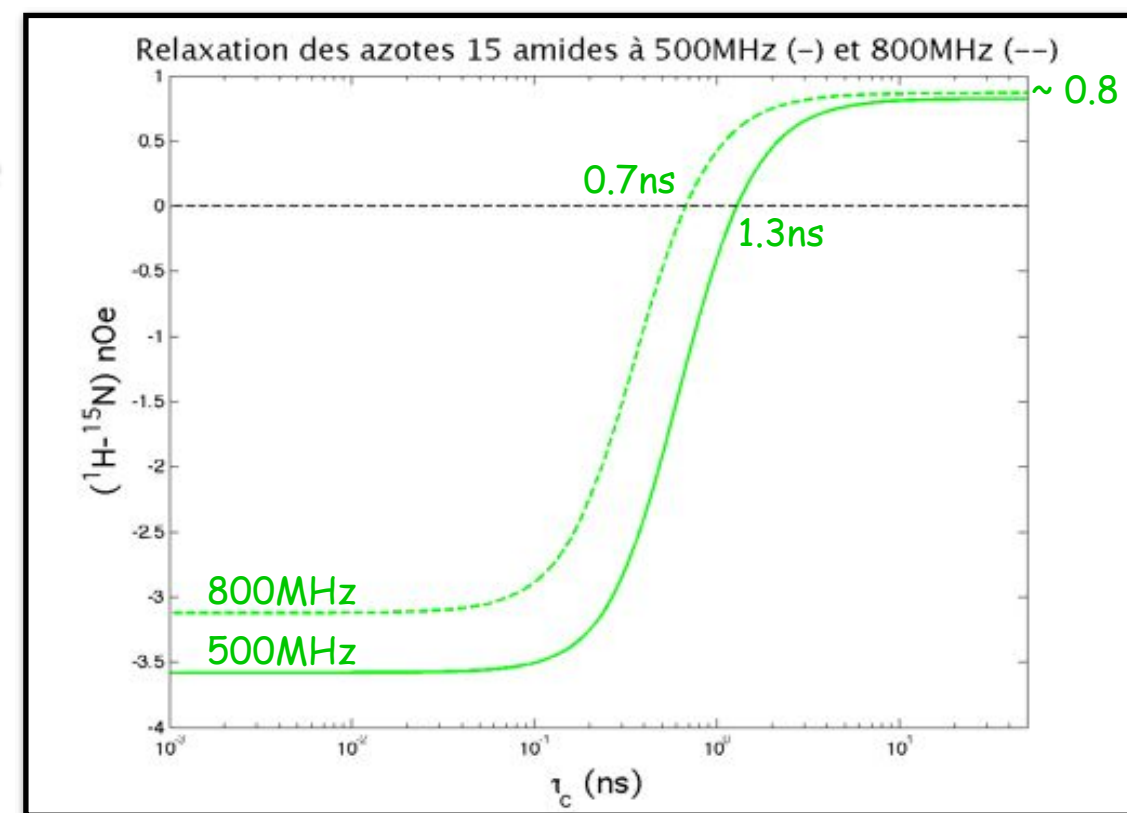
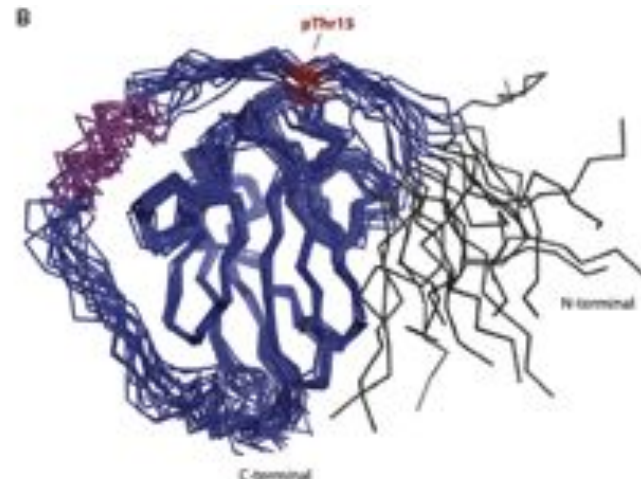
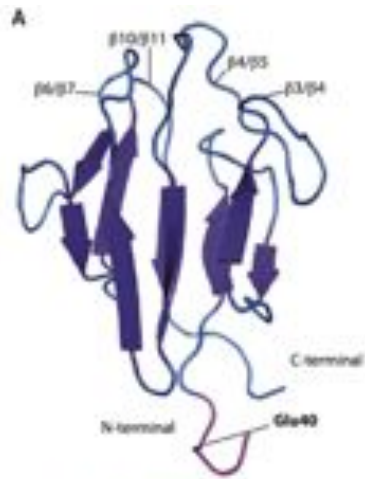


NMR timescales

1. Larmor timescale

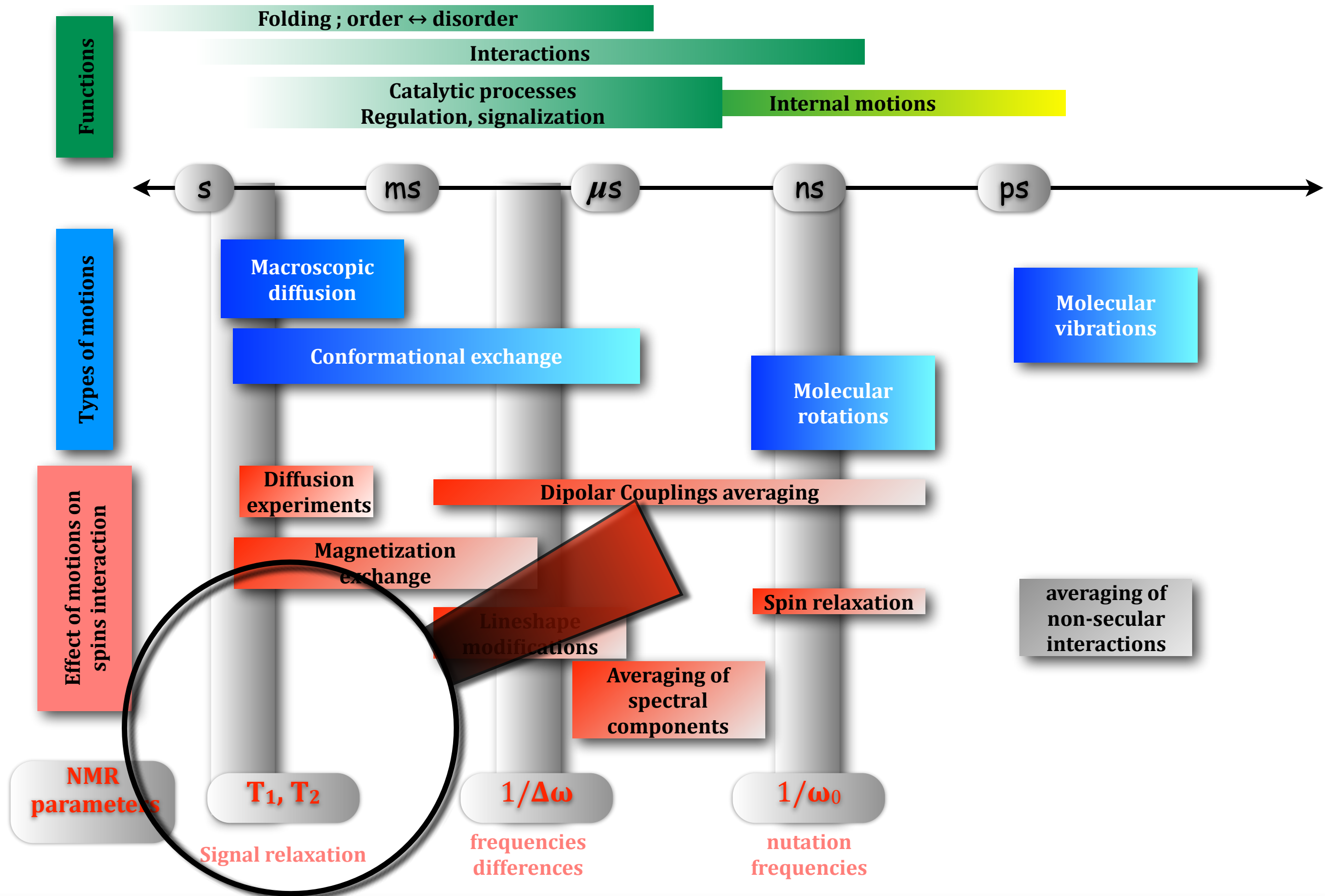
In practice

- ✓ hetNOE ($^1\text{H} \rightarrow ^{15}\text{N}$) is easy to measure and gives qualitative information about the local flexibility of $^1\text{H}-^{15}\text{N}$ bounds in 100ps range.



Philippe Barthe, Christian Roumestand, Marc J. Canova, Laurnt Kremer, Corinne Hurand, Virginie Molle and Martin Cohen-Gonsaud, "Dynamic and Structural Characterization of a Bacterial FHA Protein Reveals a New Autoinhibition Mechanism". Structure 17, 568-578 (2009).

How motions are « visible » in NMR ?

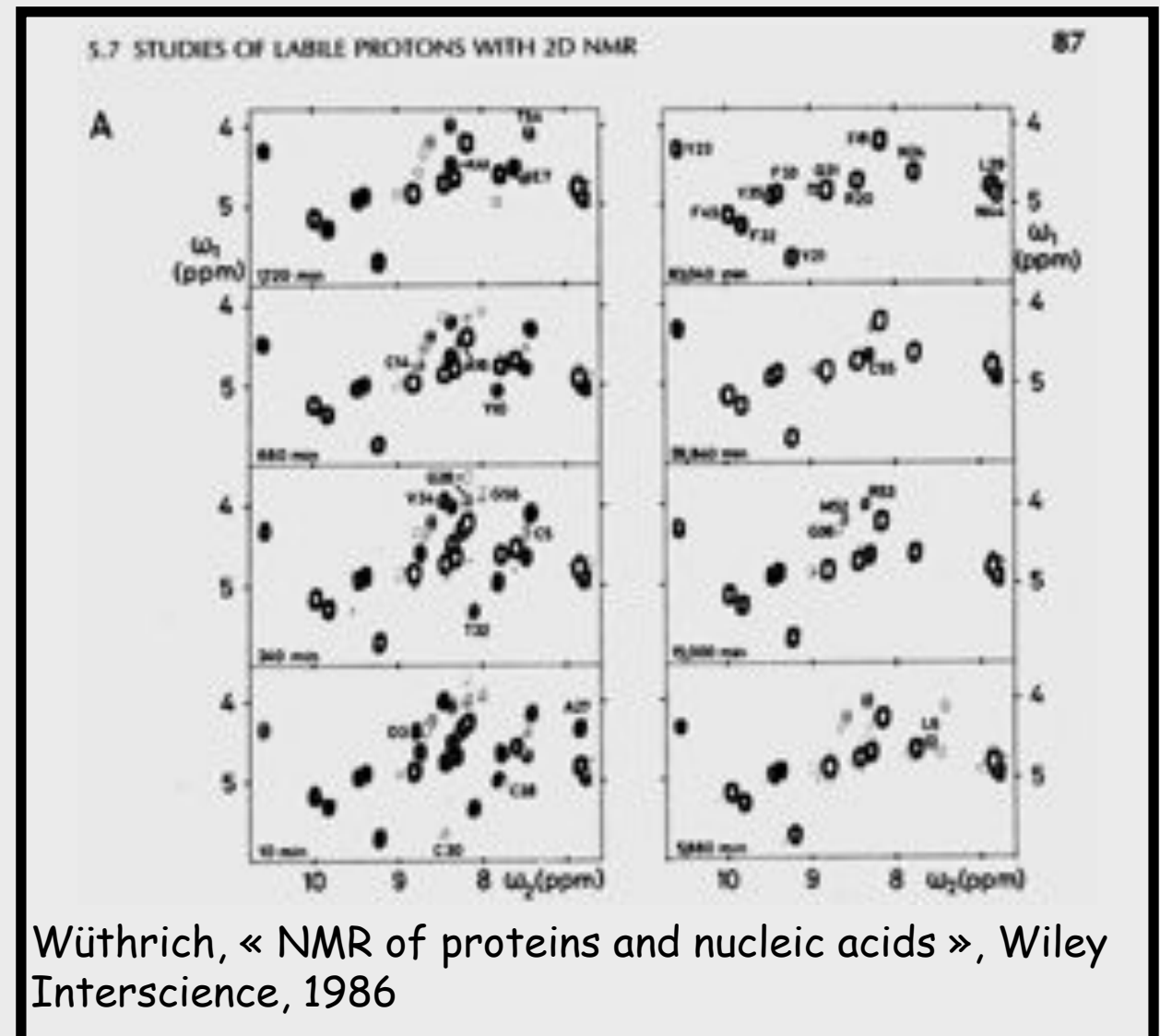


NMR timescales

2. Relaxation times

- ✓ Longitudinal relaxation time constant T_1 characterizes the time it takes to the spin system to return to equilibrium.
- ✓ It determines the delay between two scans
- ✓ Motions slower than T_1 can not be characterized by one NMR scan.
- ✓ NB. T_1 depends on the magnetic field strength B_0 , the type of spin, the size of the molecule, the local dynamics of the system, the temperature, etc.

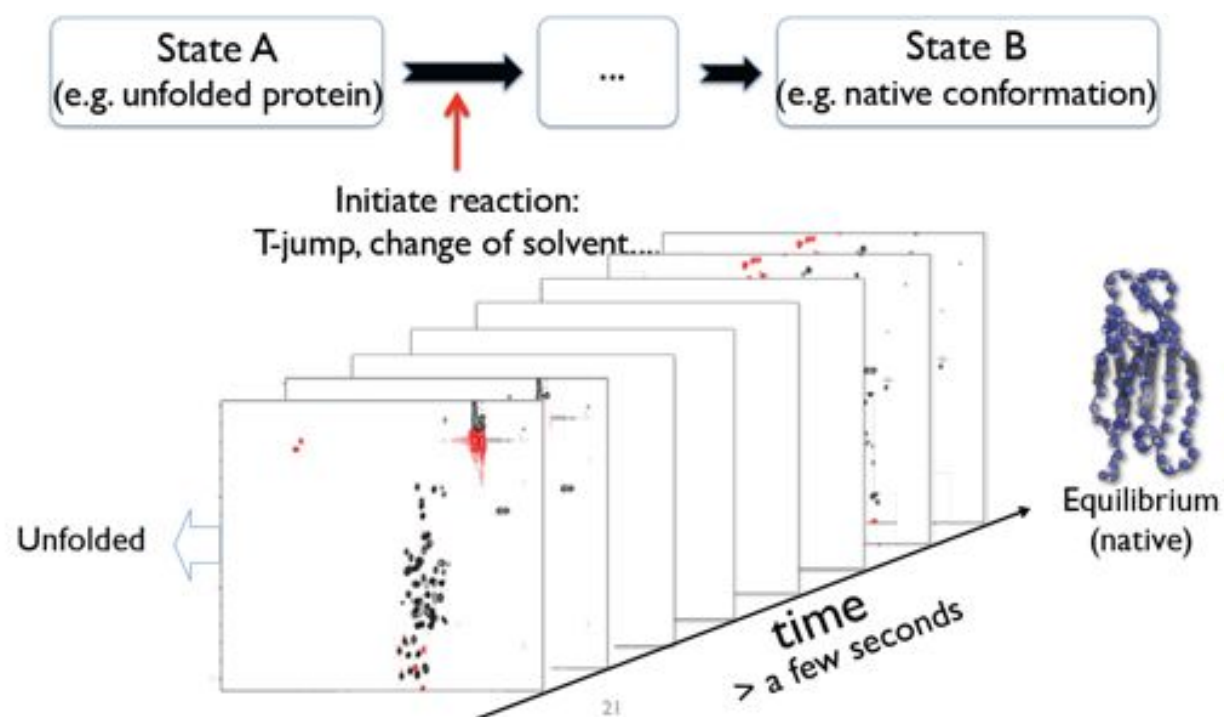
Dynamical processes slower than T_1
 «real time» kinetics
 folding/unfolding
 Interactions, exchange
 H/ D exchange
 ...



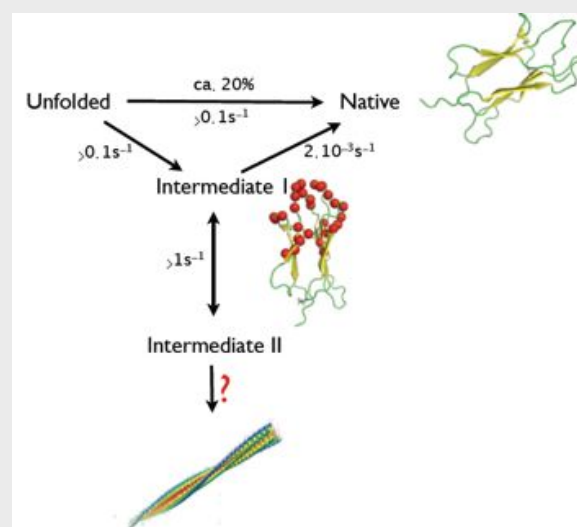
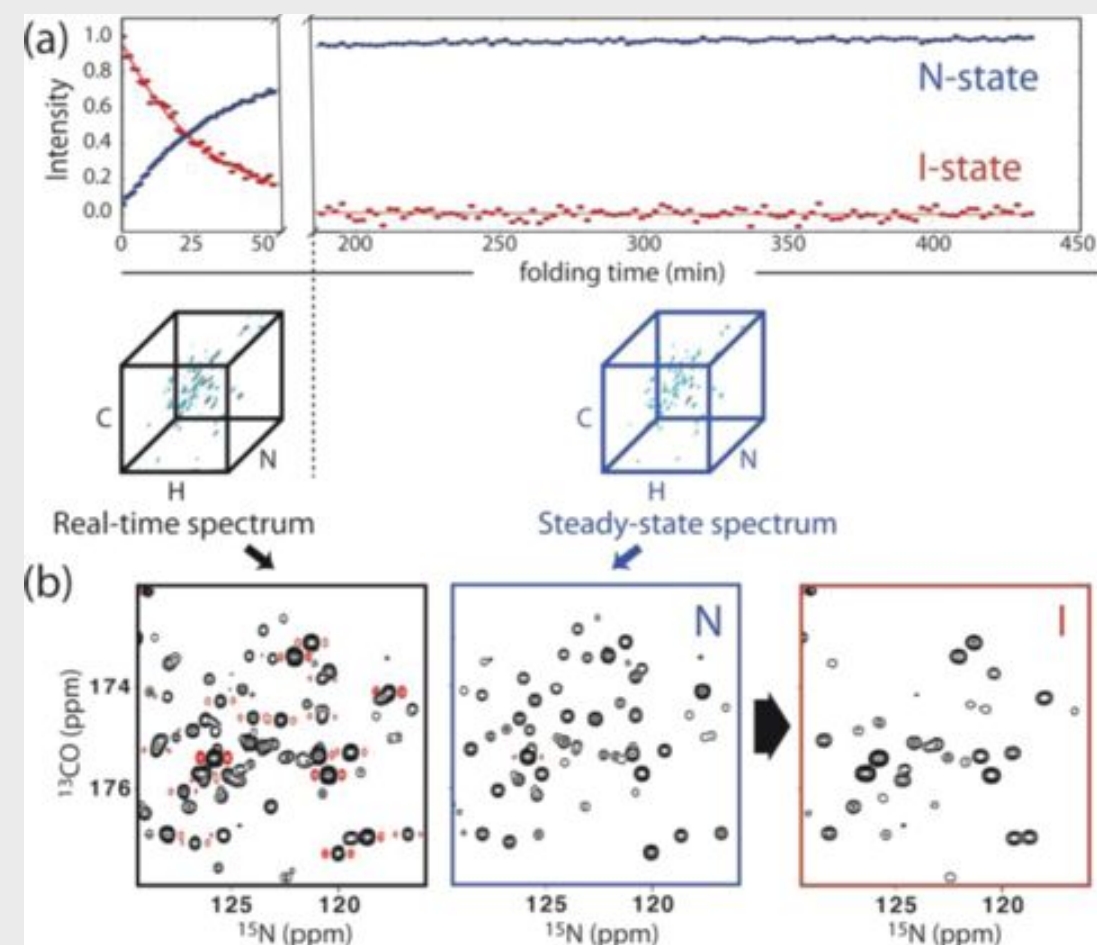
NMR timescales

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“Playing” with T_1 : FAST/BEST experiments

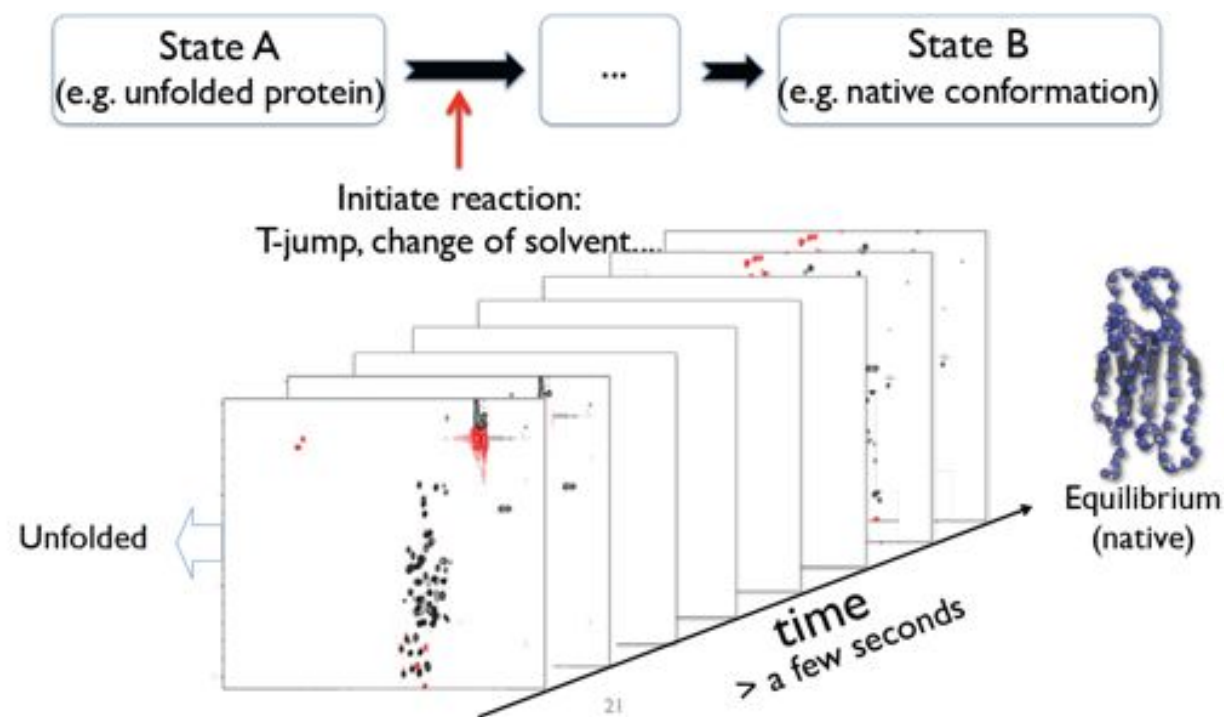


Corazza et al., *J. Biol. Chem.* 2010, Rennella et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2012

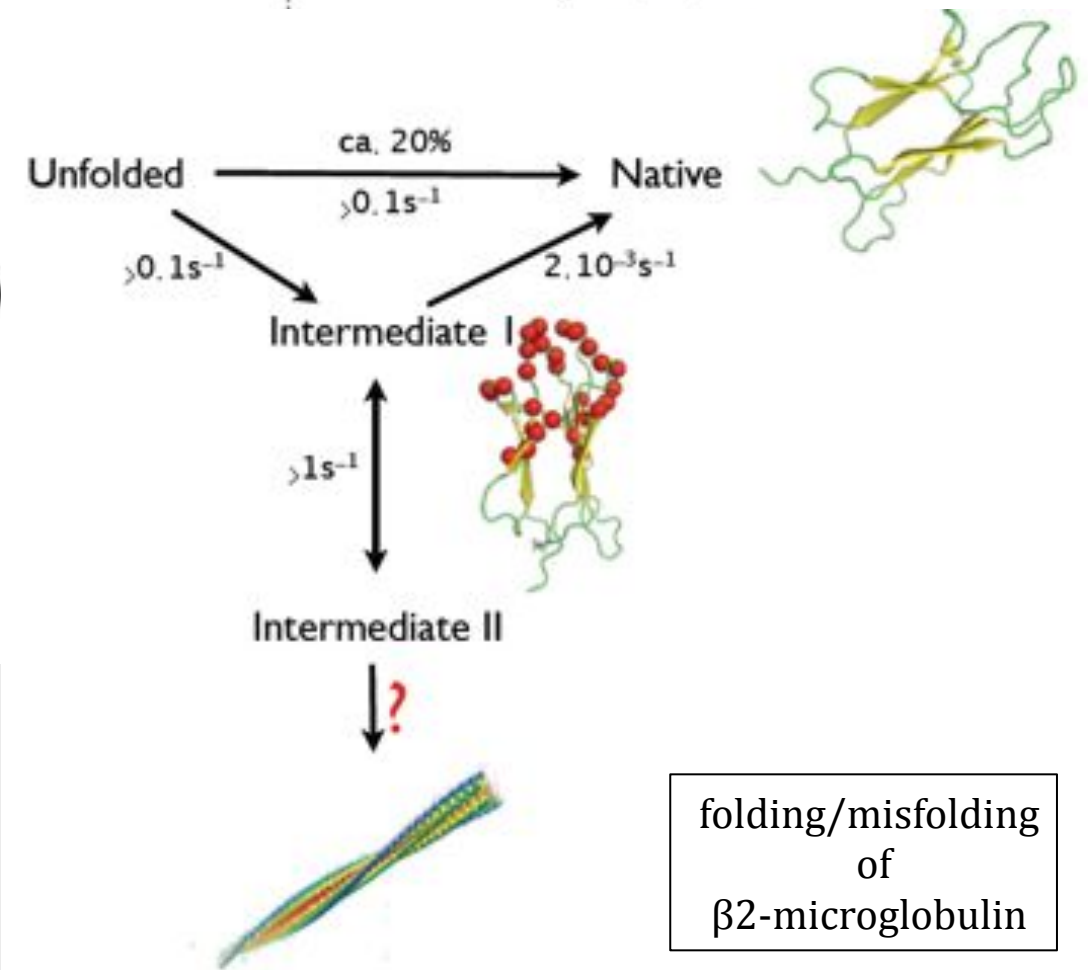
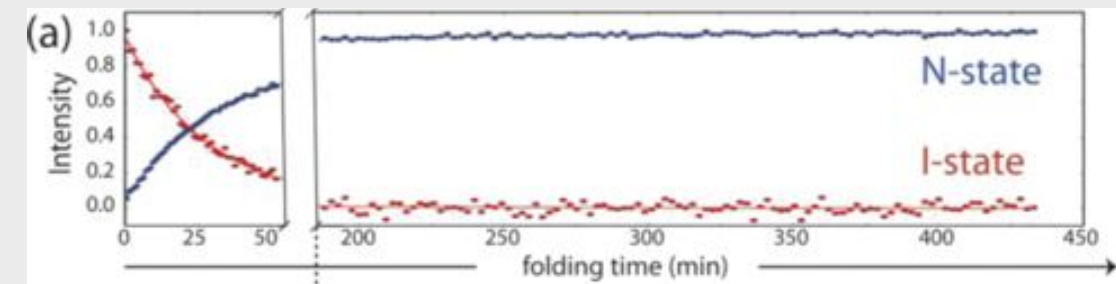
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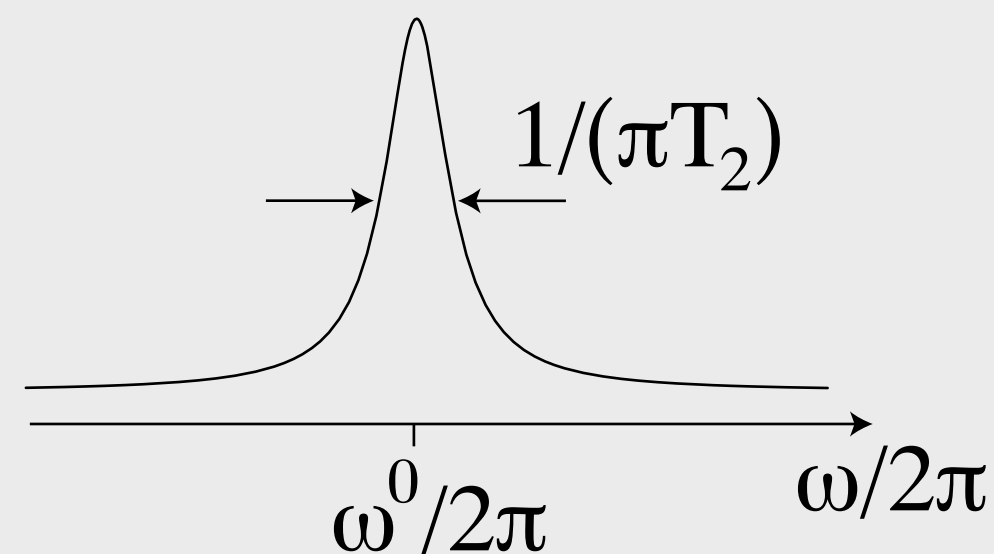
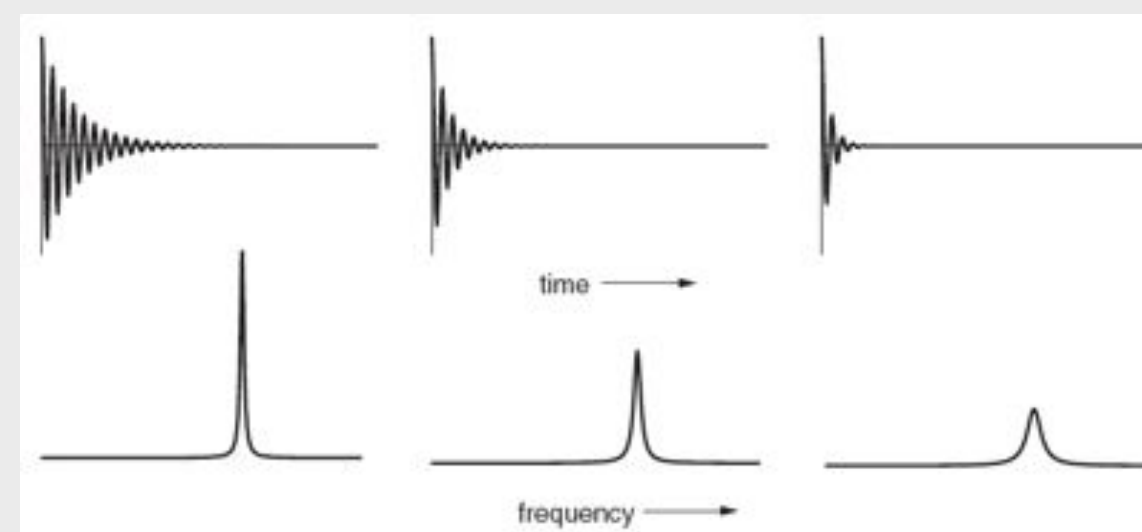
Corazza et al., *J. Biol. Chem.* 2010, Rennella et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2012

NMR timescales

2. Relaxation times

- ✓ Transversal relaxation time constant T_2 characterizes the lifetime of the signal.
- ✓ It determines the linewidth of the resonances
- ✓ NB. T_2 depends on the magnetic field strength B_0 , the type of spin, the environment of the spin, the size of the molecule, the local dynamics of the system, the temperature, etc.

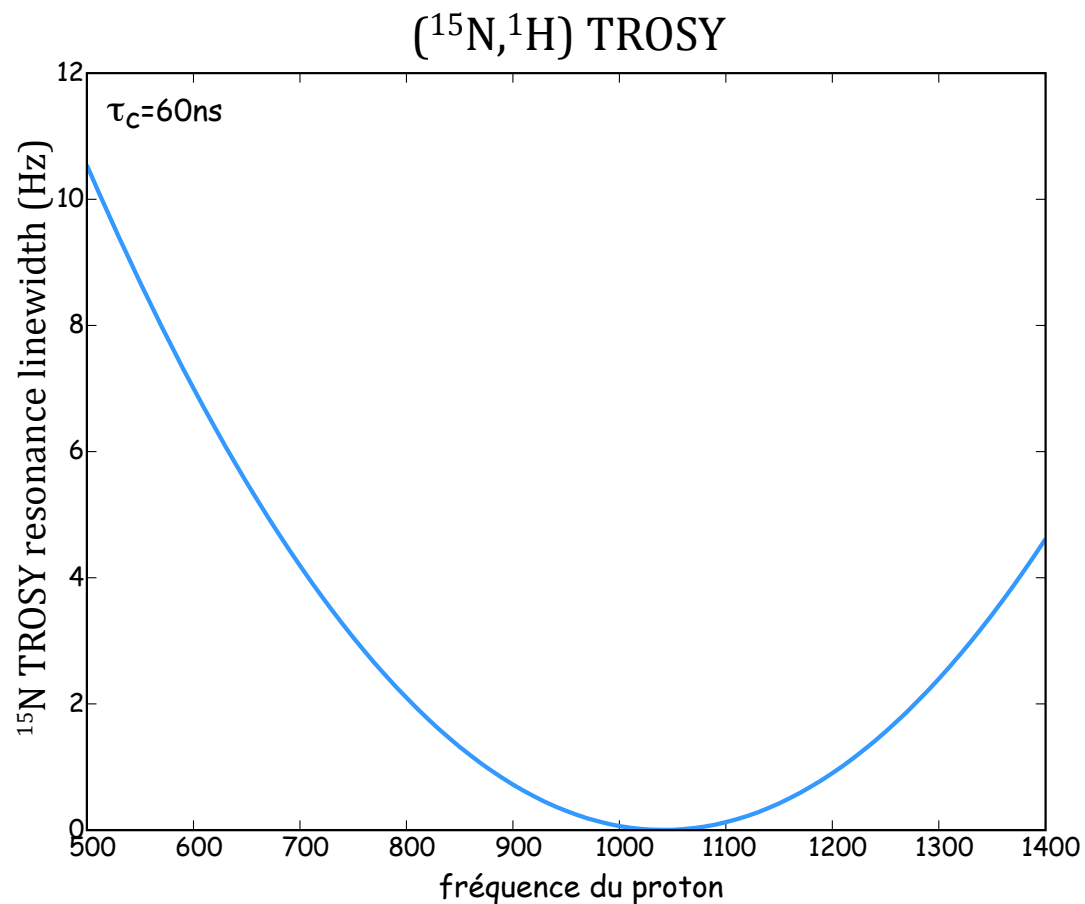
$$M_x(t) = -M_{eq} \sin(\omega_0 t) \exp(-t/T_2)$$



NMR timescales

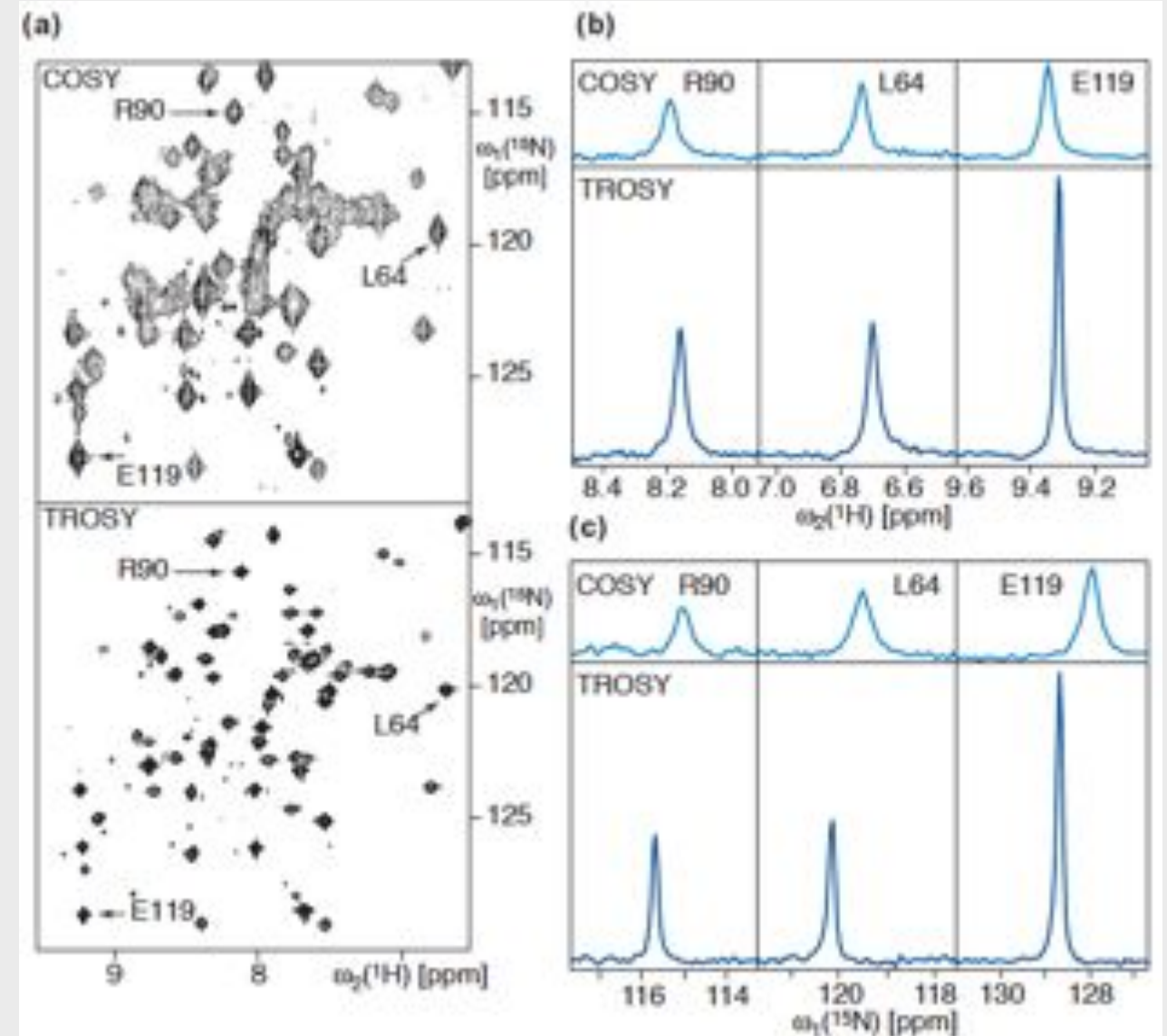
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Playing with T_2 : TROSY experiments Transverse Relaxation Optimized Spectroscopy

Pervushin, K. Riek, R., Wider, G. and Wütrich, K (1997) Attenuated T_2 relaxation by mutual cancellation of dipole-dipole coupling and chemical shift anisotropy indicates an avenue to NMR structures of very large biological macromolecules in solution. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A. 94, 12366-12371



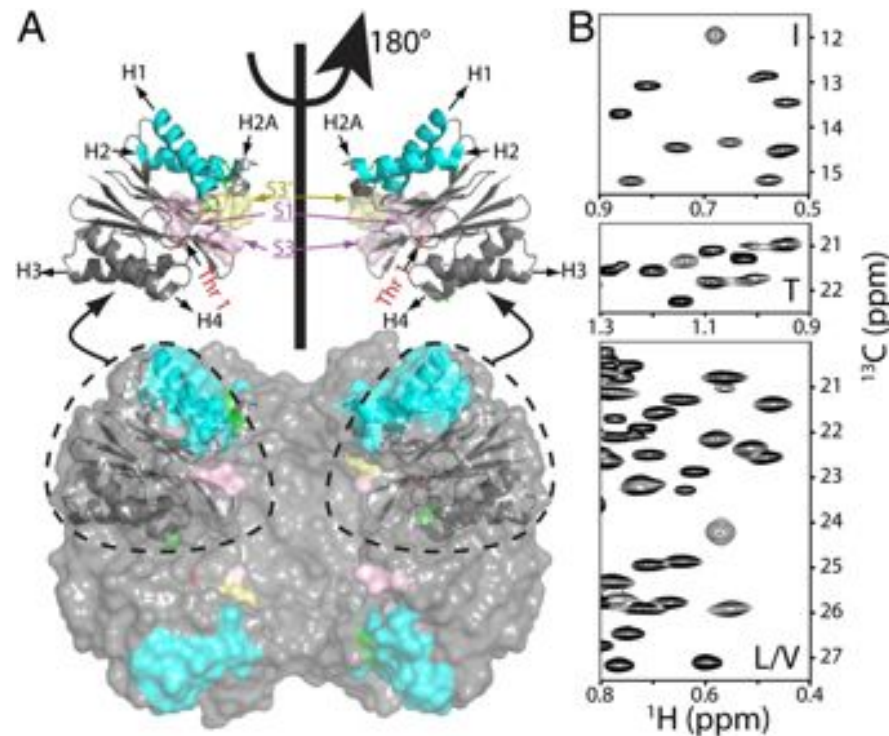
$2\text{H},^{15}\text{N}$ -labeled 110-kDa octameric protein 7,8-dihydroneopterin aldolase

NMR timescales

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⇒ functional studies



Lichi Shia and Lewis E. Kay (2014), Tracing an allosteric pathway regulating the activity of the HslV protease, PNAS February 11, vol. 111 no. 6

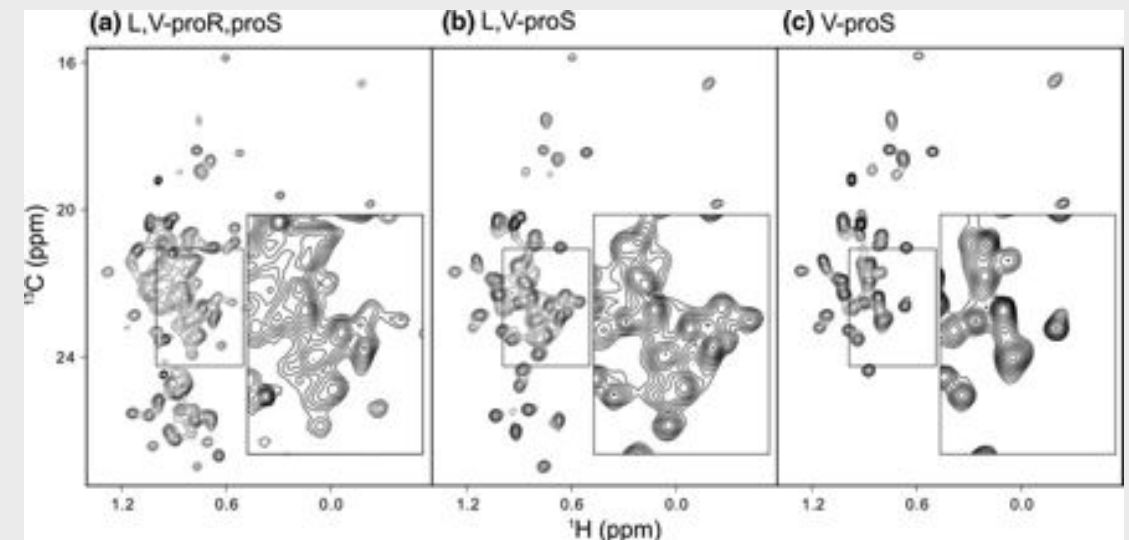
Playing with T_2 : TROSY experiments

Transverse Relaxation Optimized Spectroscopy

Vitali Tugarinov, Peter M. Hwang, Jason E. Ollerenshaw, and Lewis E. Kay (2003) Cross-Correlated Relaxation Enhanced ^1H - ^{13}C NMR Spectroscopy of Methyl Groups in Very High Molecular Weight Proteins and Protein Complexes. J. AM. CHEM. SOC. 2003, 125, 10420-10428

TROSY effect that involves cancellation of intra-methyl dipolar relaxation interactions

⇒ $^{13}\text{C}^1\text{H}_3$ labeling strategies



Comparison of HMQC spectra recorded on specifically methyl-labeled TET2 samples (468 kDa).

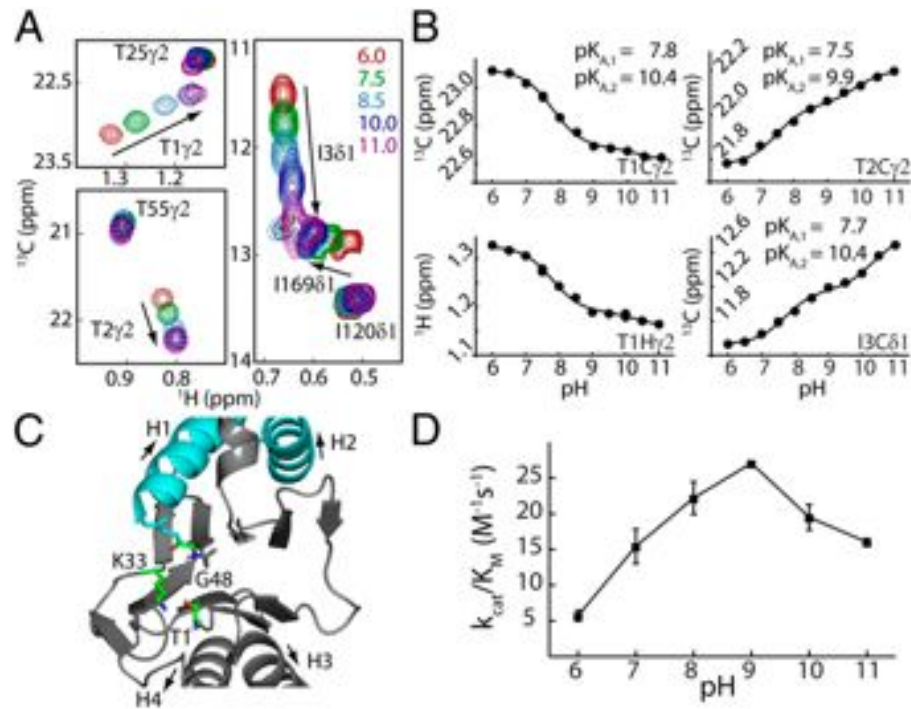
Guillaume Mas • Elodie Crublet • Olivier Hamelin • Pierre Gans • Jérôme Boisbouvier (2013) Specific labeling and assignment strategies of valine methyl groups for NMR studies of high molecular weight proteins. J Biomol NMR 57:251-262

NMR timescales

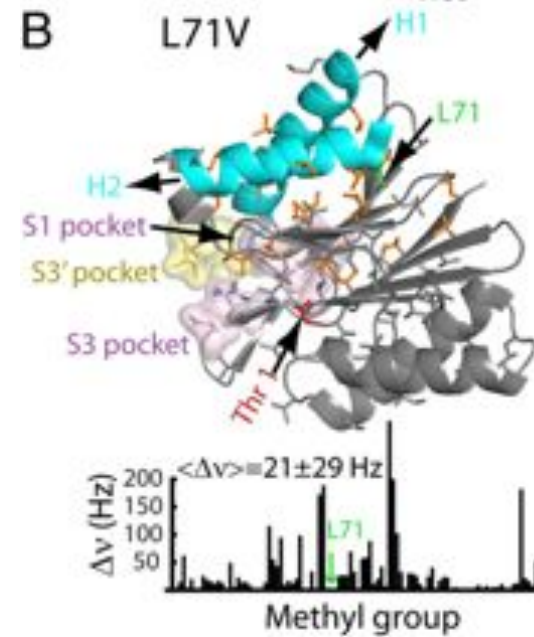
2. Relaxation times

Playing with T2 : $^{13}\text{C}^1\text{H}_3$ Methyl TROSY experiments

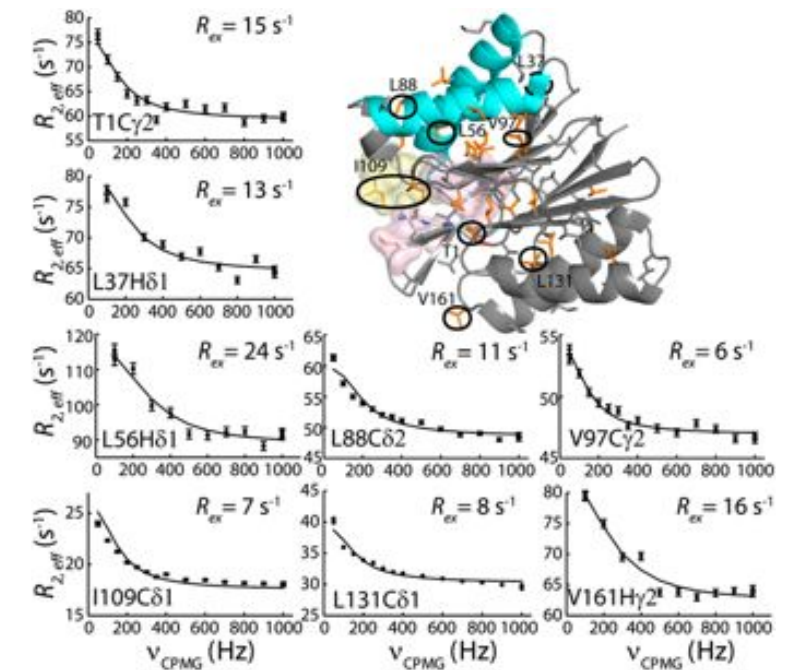
- ⇒ Assignment strategies : mutations + nOes + cristal structures
- ⇒ functional studies



pKa measurements, catalytic mechanism



mutants, allosteric pathways



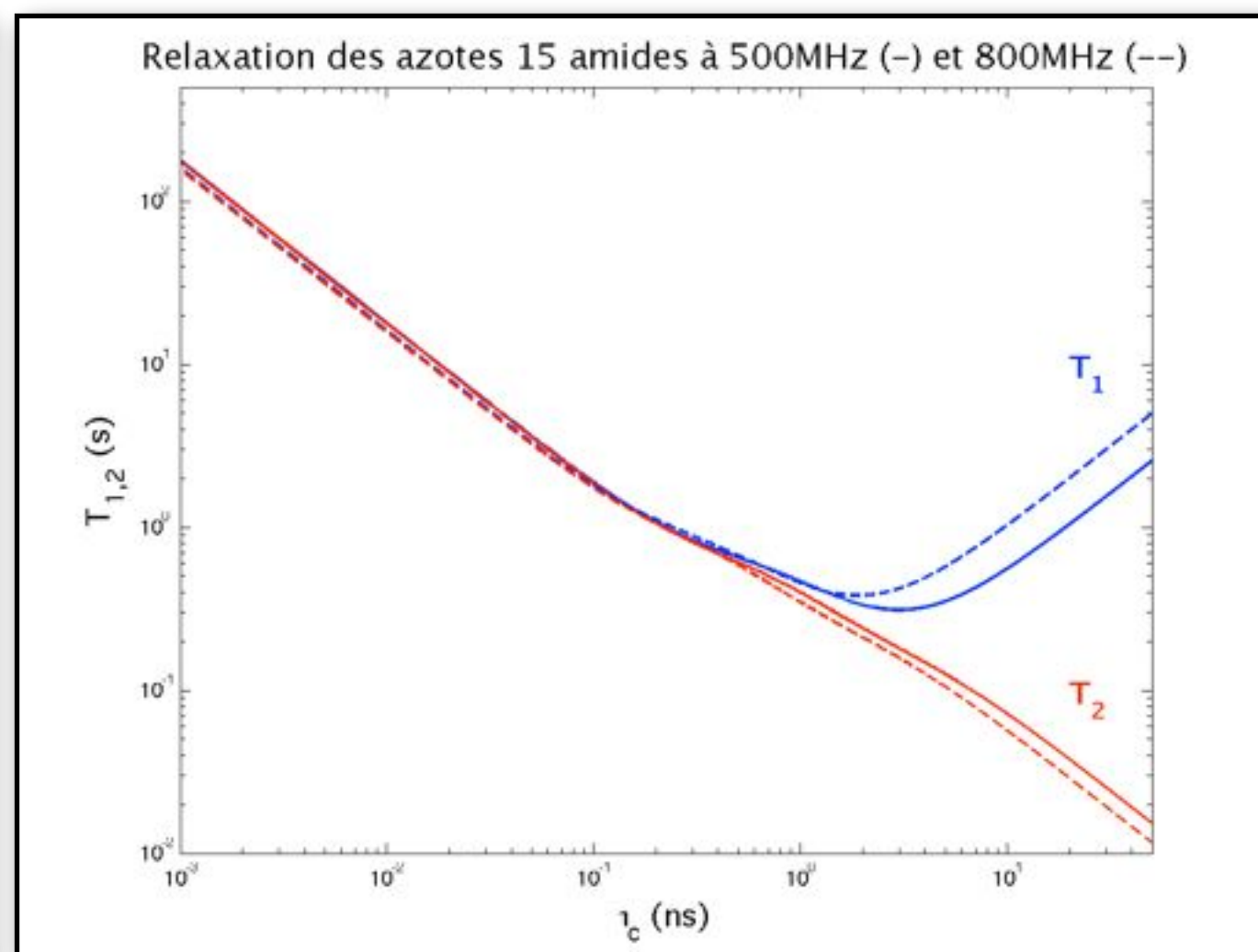
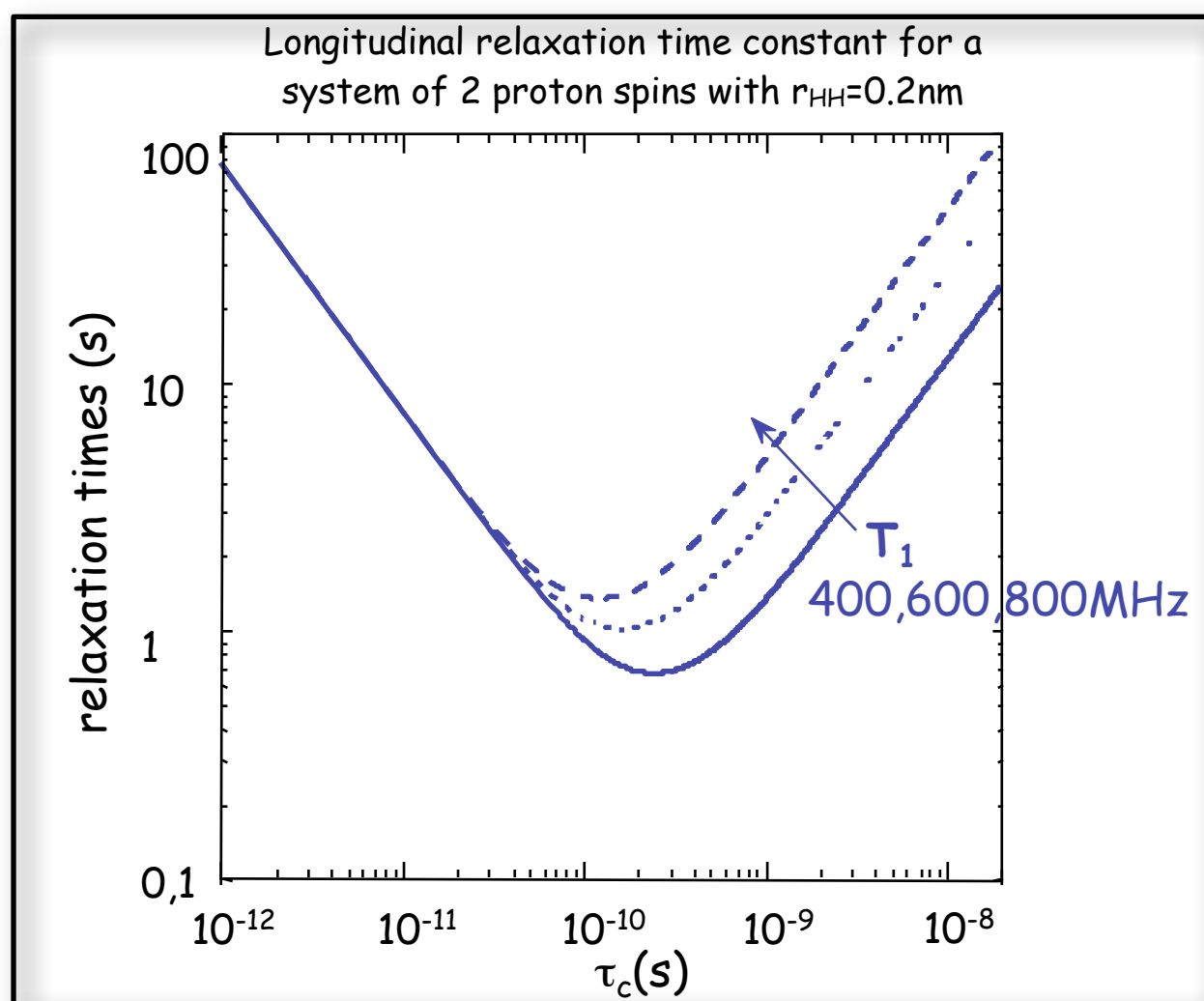
multiple states & flexibility related to functions

Lichi Shia and Lewis E. Kay (2014), Tracing an allosteric pathway regulating the activity of the HslV protease, PNAS February 11, vol. 111 no. 6

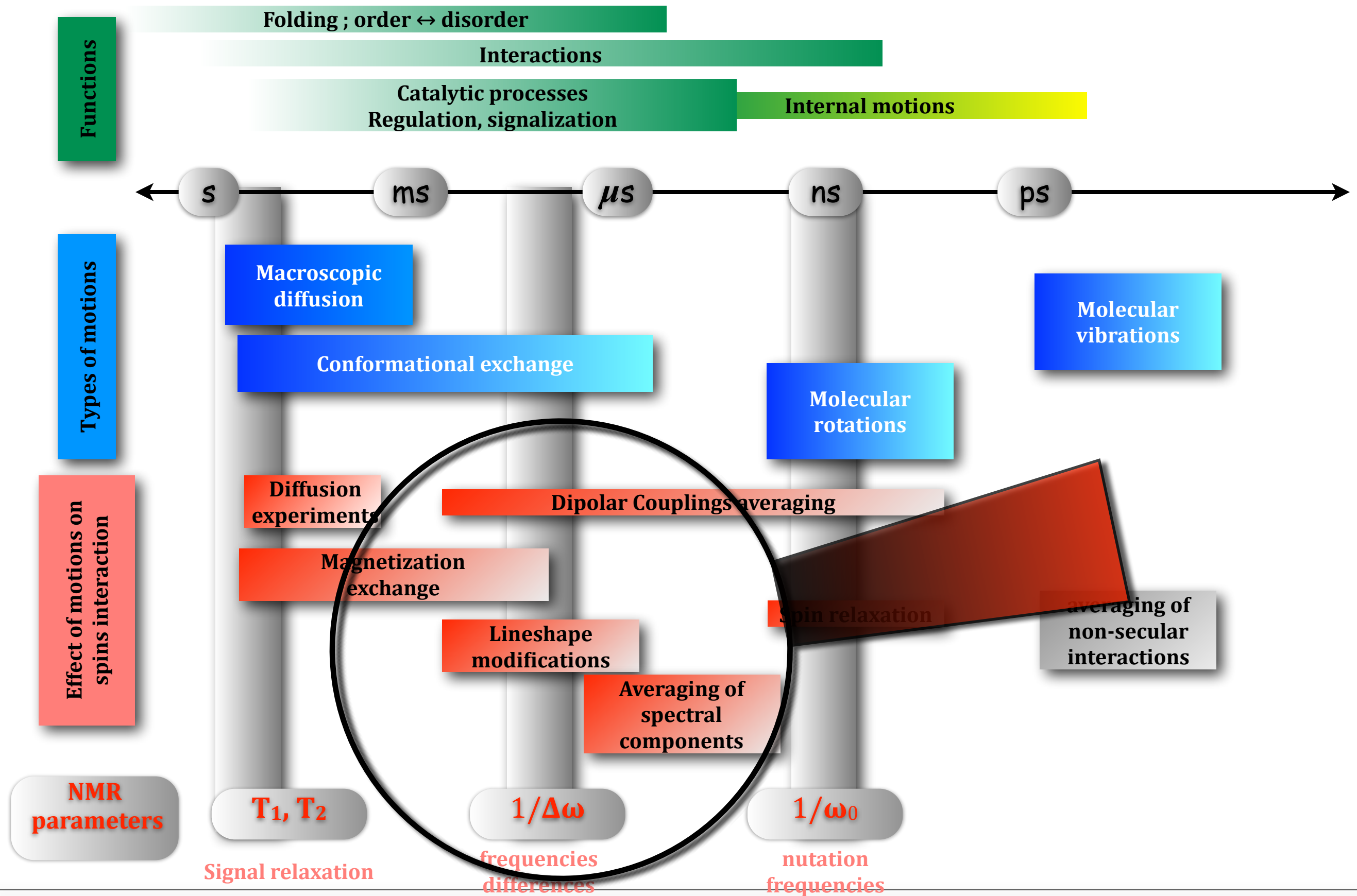
NMR timescales

1. Relaxation times

- ✓ Relaxation constants depends on the magnetic field strength B_0 , the type of spin, the size of the molecule, the local dynamics of the system, the environment of the spin, the state of neighbors spins, etc.
- ✓ They can be modified to get faster signal recovery / longer lifetime
 - ☞ analysis of faster processes or unstable systems / large systems.



How motions are « visible » in NMR ?



NMR timescales

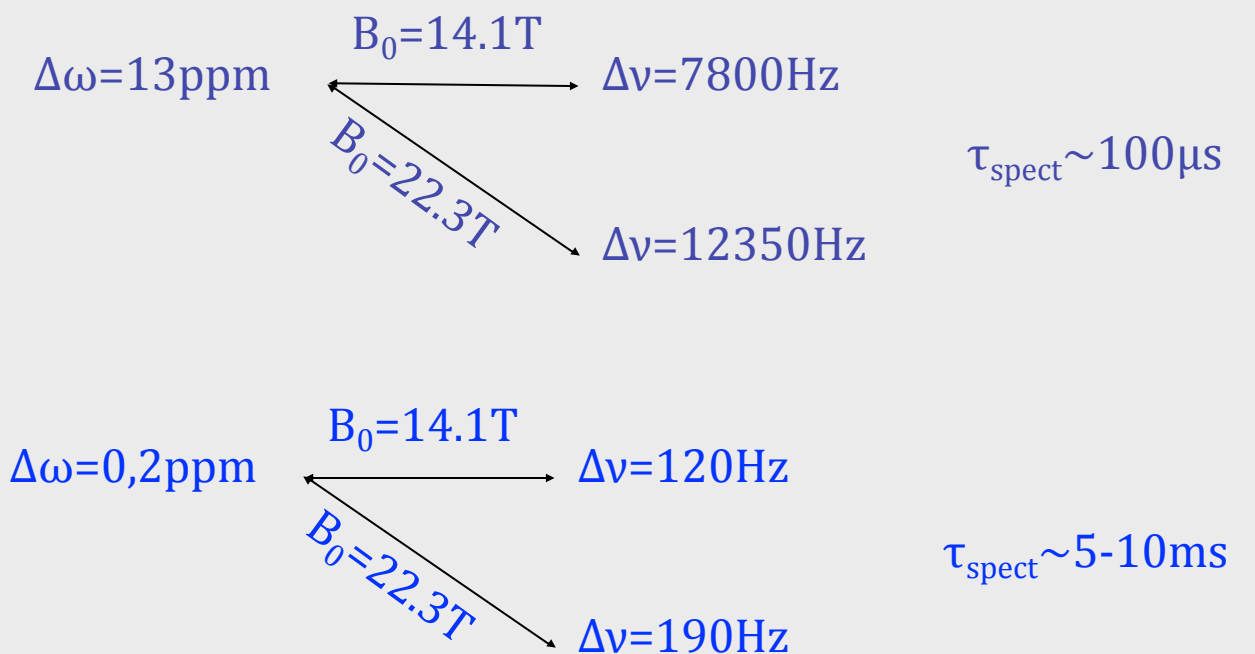
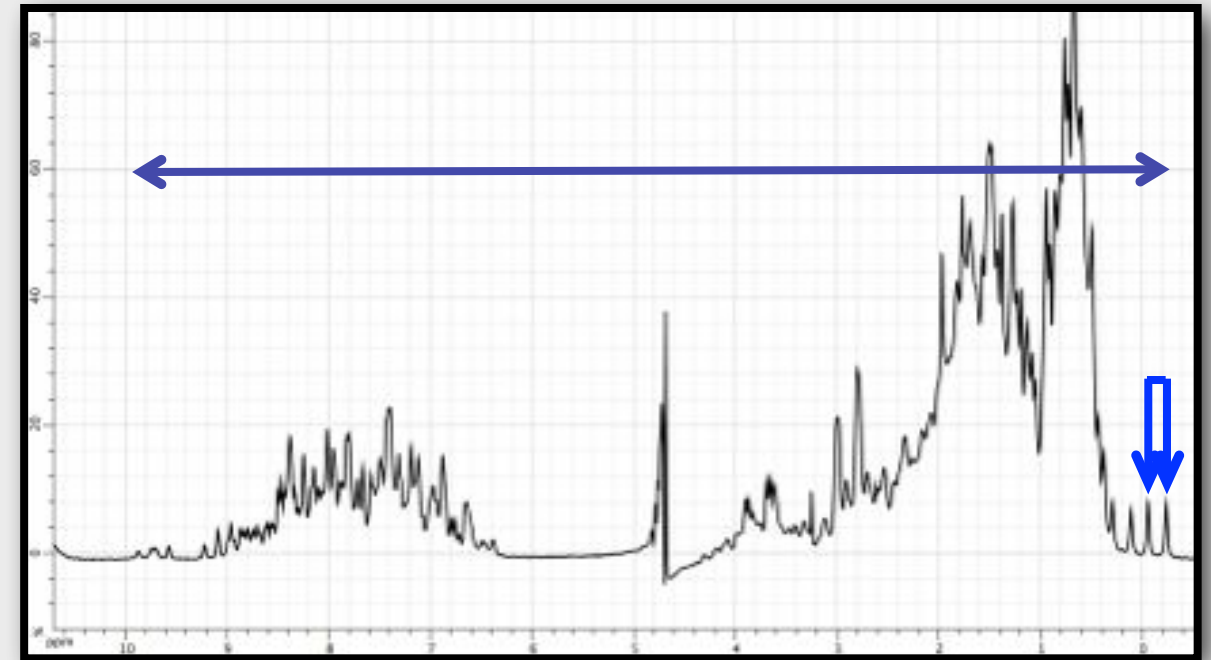
3. «Spectral» or «chemical shift» timescale

- ✓ Largest observable difference of resonance frequency (spectral width)
- ✓ Smallest observable difference of resonance frequency (resolution)

$$\Delta\nu(\text{Hz}) = \Delta\delta(\text{ppm}) * 10^{-6} * \frac{\gamma B_0}{2\pi}$$

$$\tau_{\text{spect}} = \frac{1}{\pi \Delta\nu(\text{Hz})}$$

- ✓ $\Delta\nu$ depends on the magnetic field strength B_0 , the type of the spins.
- ✓ Different nuclei or same nuclei in different environments
- ✓ Motions slower than $\Delta\nu$ have no effect on the appearance of the spectra.
- ✓ $\Delta\nu$ depends on the nature of the interactions between the spins.



NMR timescales

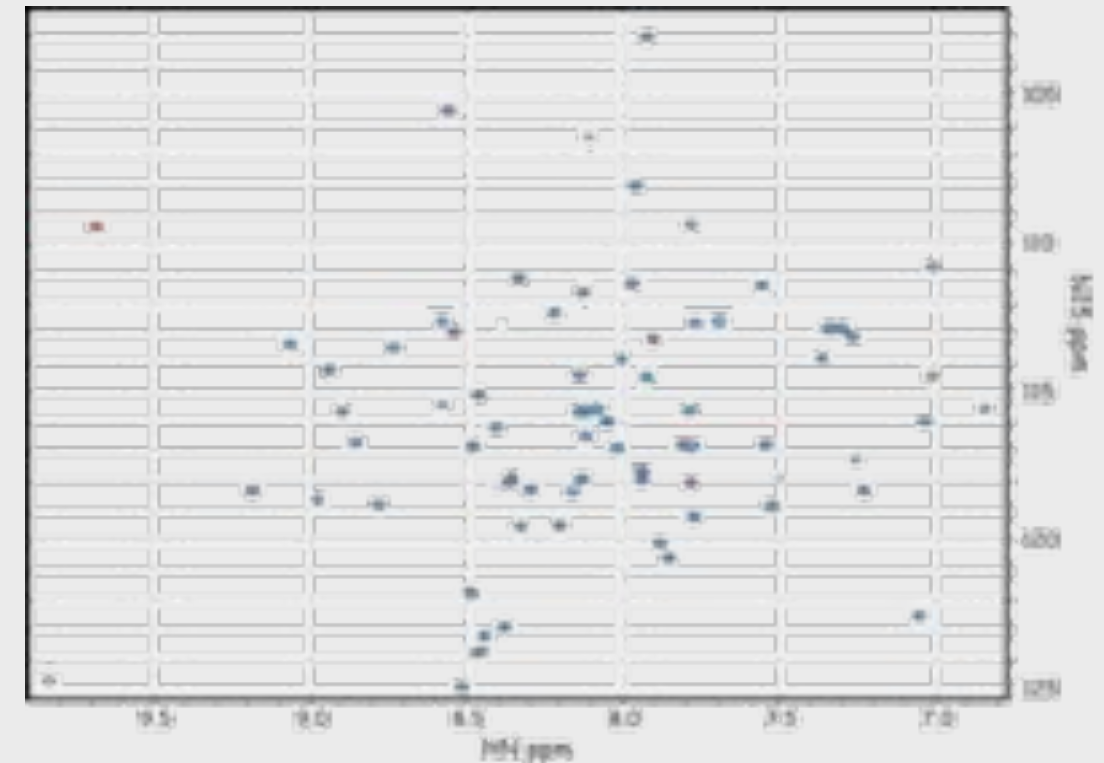
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$$\begin{array}{l} \Delta\omega(^{15}\text{N})=25\text{ppm} \xleftarrow{B_0=14,1\text{T}} \Delta\nu\sim 1500\text{Hz} \\ \tau_{\text{spect}}\sim 0,7\text{ms} \\ \Delta\omega(^1\text{H})=3,5\text{ppm} \xleftarrow{B_0=14,1\text{T}} \Delta\nu\sim 2000\text{Hz} \\ \tau_{\text{spect}}\sim 0,5\text{ms} \end{array}$$

NMR timescales

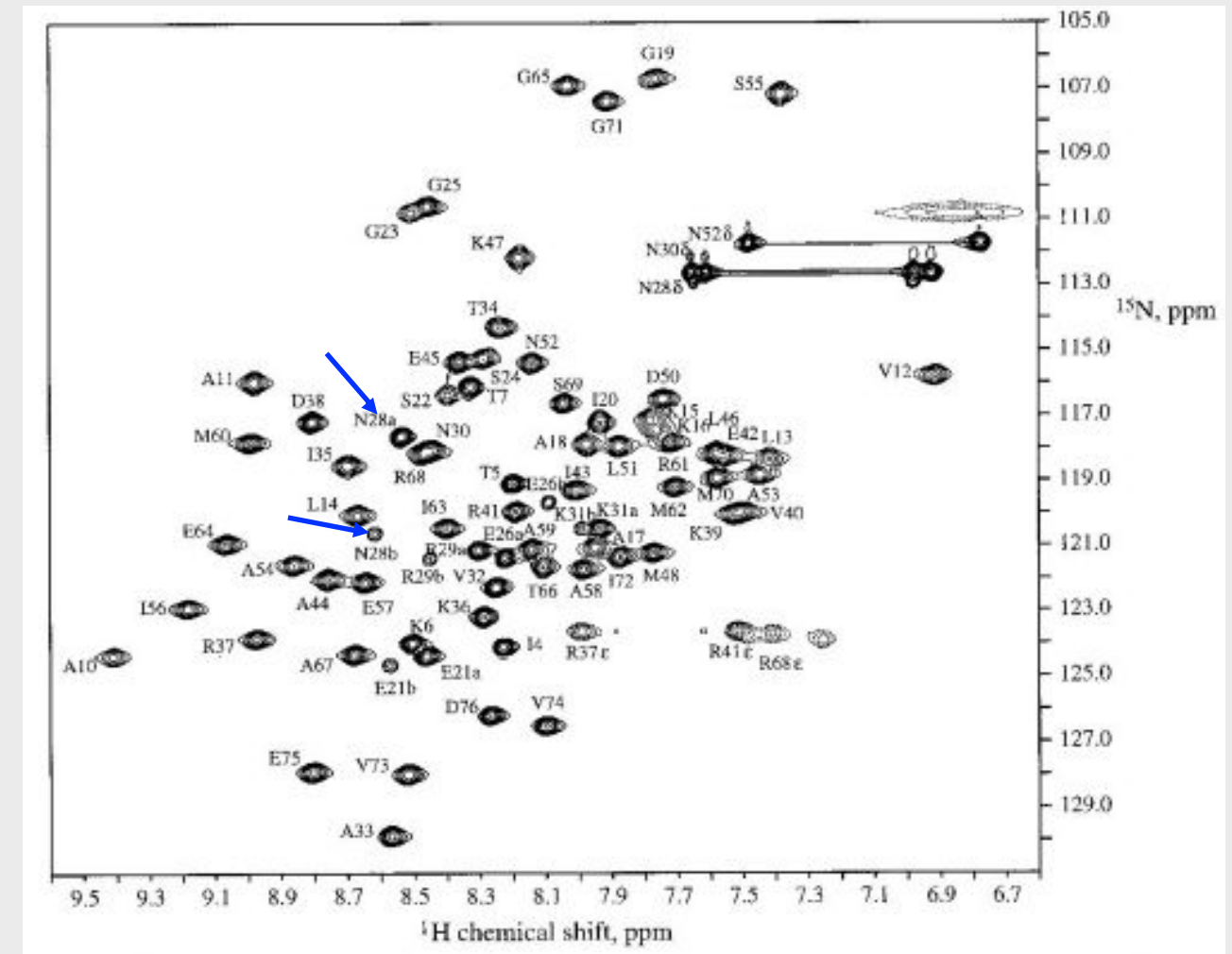
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$$\Delta\omega(^{15}\text{N}) = 1,5\text{ppm} \xleftrightarrow{B_0 = 14,1\text{T}} \Delta\nu \sim 100\text{Hz}$$

$$\tau_{\text{spect}} \sim 10\text{ms}$$

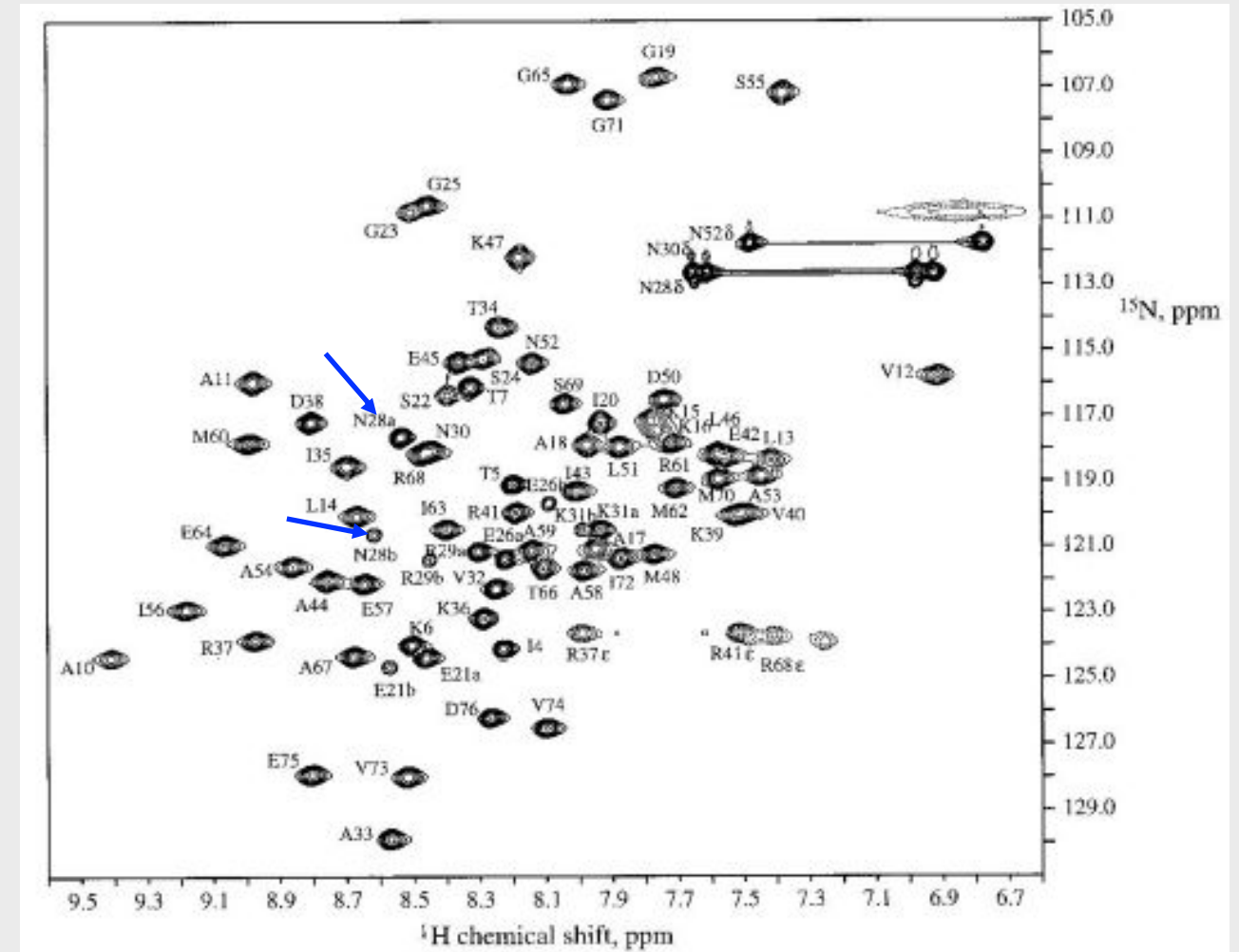
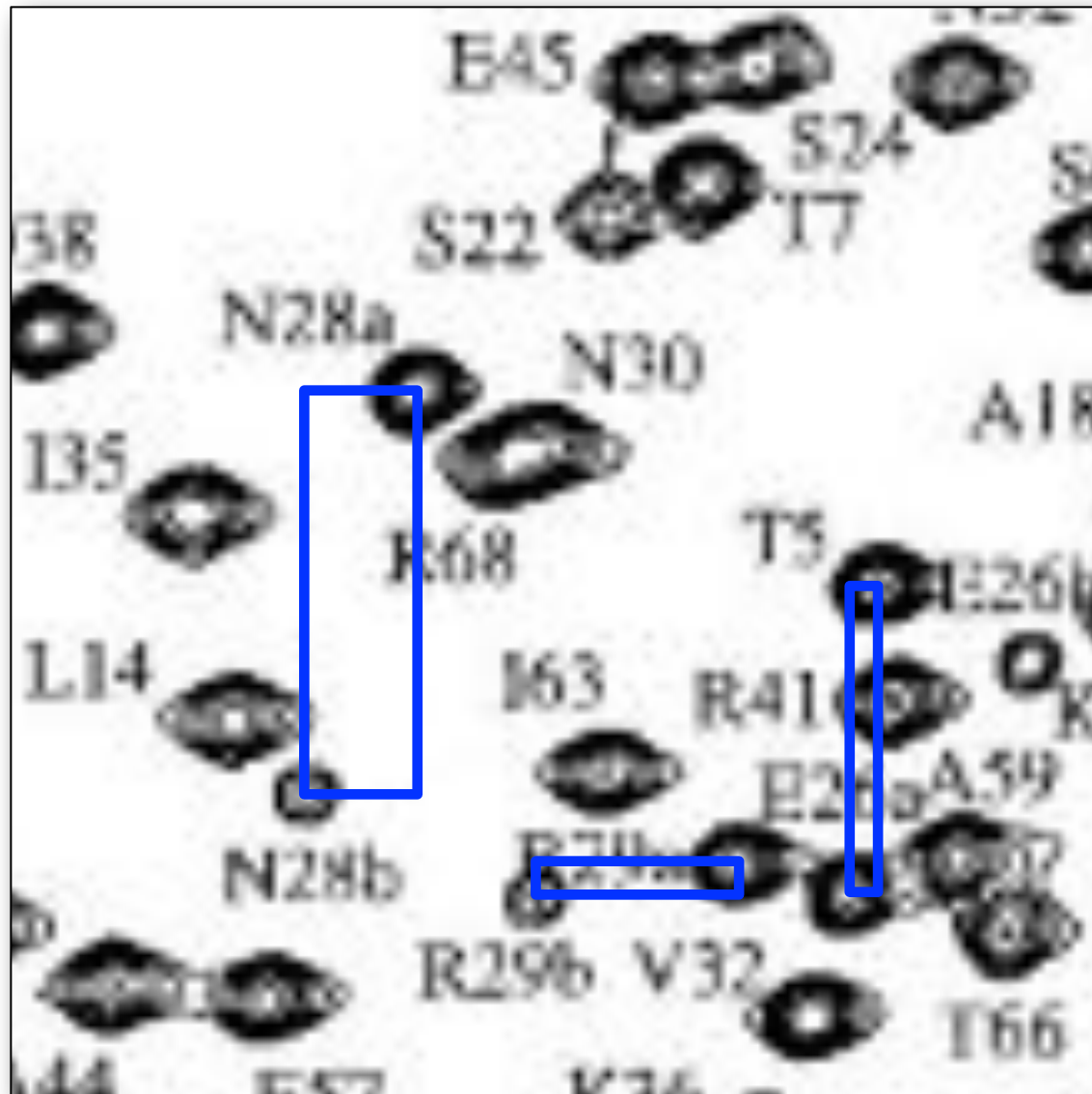
$$\Delta\omega(^1\text{H}) = 0,5\text{ppm} \xleftrightarrow{B_0 = 14,1\text{T}} \Delta\nu \sim 300\text{Hz}$$

$$\tau_{\text{spect}} \sim 3\text{ms}$$

Same nucleus ; two different conformations

NMR timescales

3. «Spectral» or «chemical shift» timescale



$$\Delta\omega(^{15}\text{N})=1,5\text{ppm} \xleftrightarrow{B_0=14,1\text{T}} \begin{matrix} \Delta\nu\sim 100\text{Hz} \\ \tau_{\text{spect}}\sim 10\text{ms} \end{matrix}$$

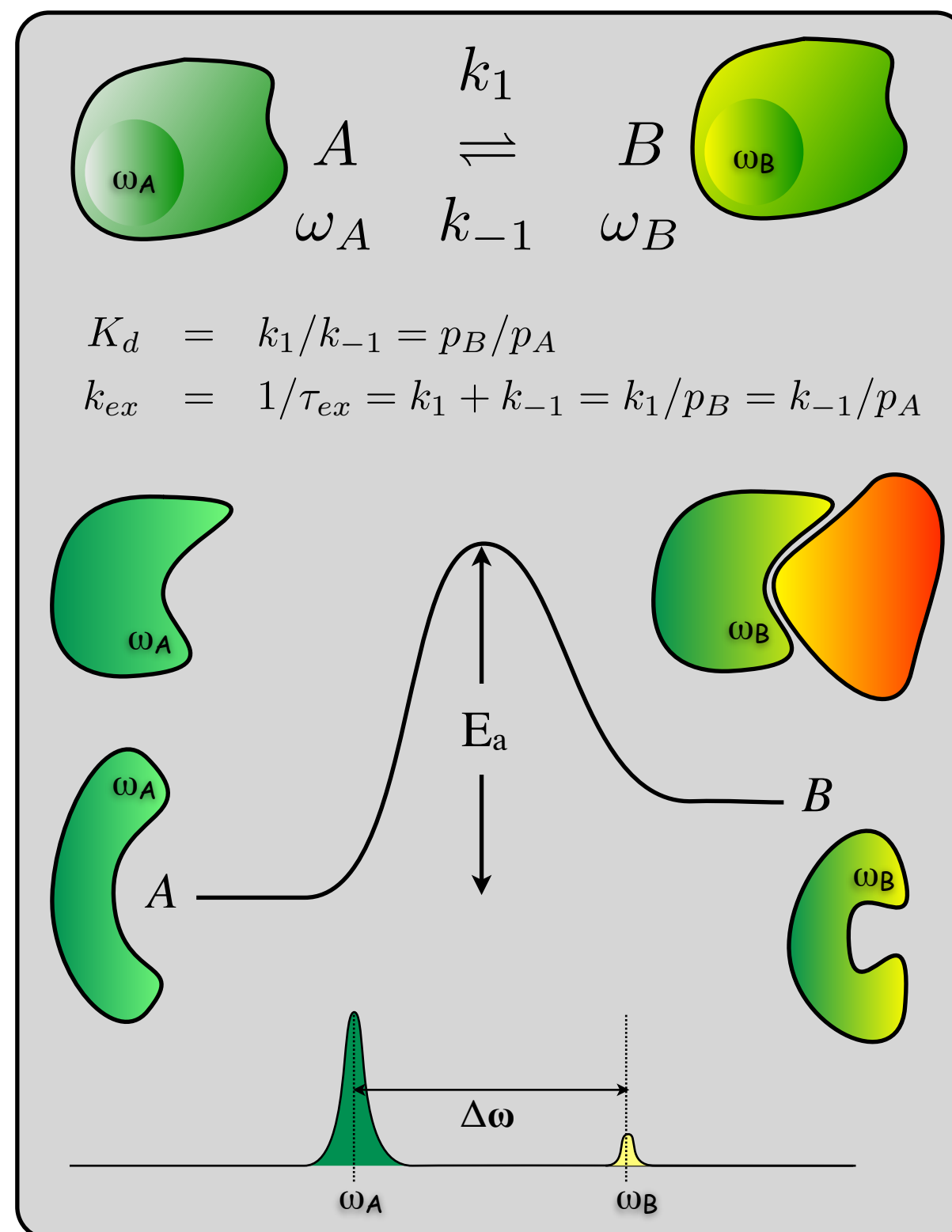
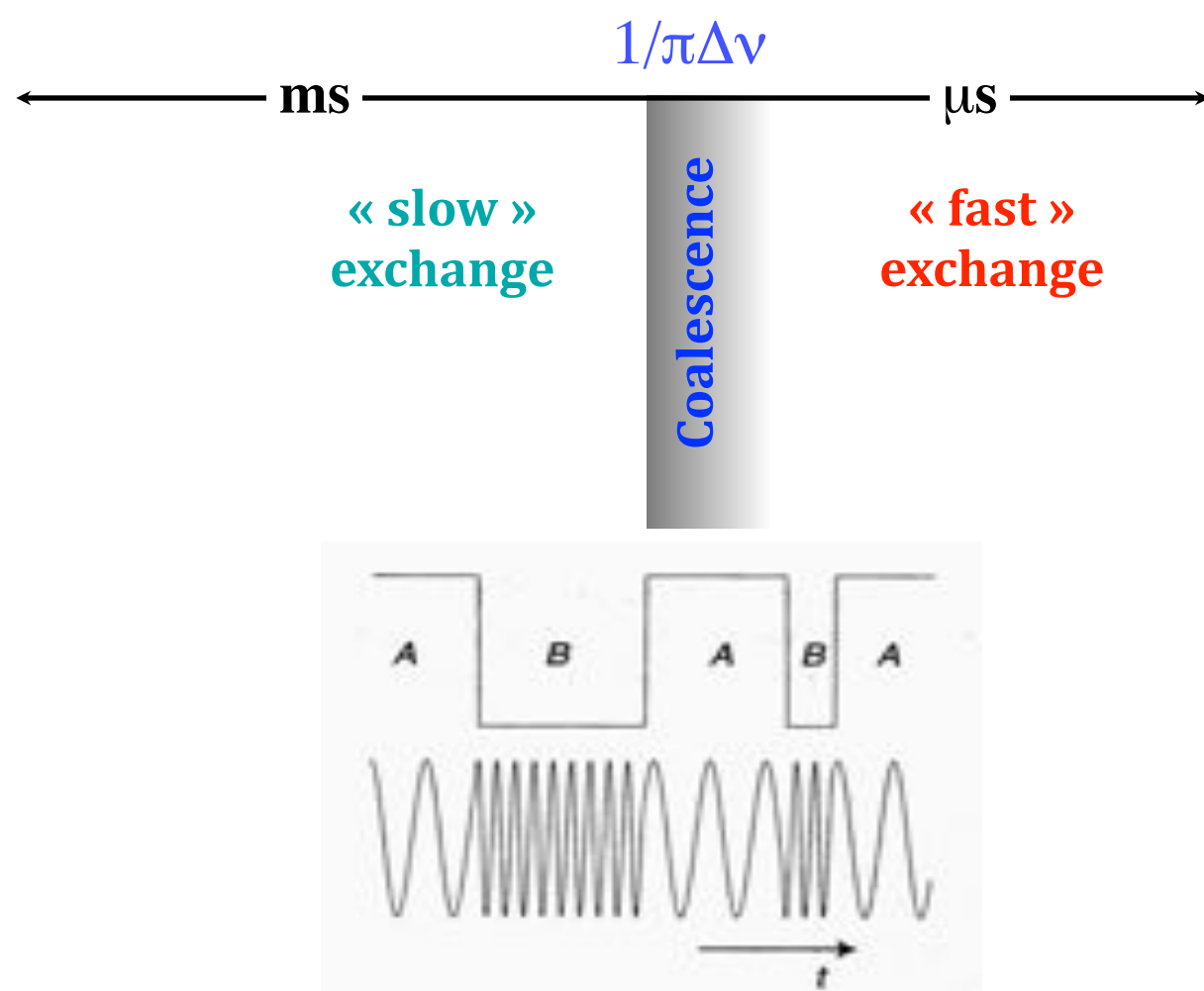
$$\Delta\omega(^1\text{H})=0,5\text{ppm} \xleftrightarrow{B_0=14,1\text{T}} \begin{matrix} \Delta\nu\sim 300\text{Hz} \\ \tau_{\text{spect}}\sim 3\text{ms} \end{matrix}$$

Same nucleus ; two different conformations

NMR timescales

3. «Spectral» or «chemical shift» timescale

- ✓ Processes that are on the spectral timescale (μs - ms range) affect the appearance of the spectra.
- ✓ These processes generally correspond to conformational/chemical exchange.
- ✓ The effects on spectra depend on the relative values of k_{ex} (τ_{ex}) $\Delta\omega/2$ ($2/\Delta\omega$). One talk of **slow** or **fast** exchange at the chemical shift timescale.



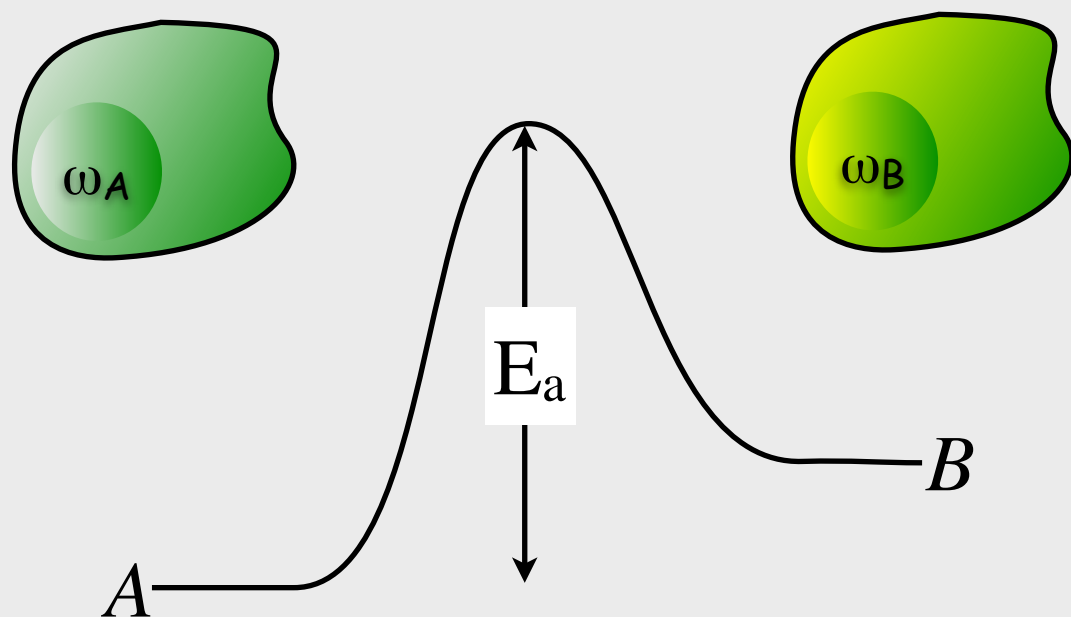
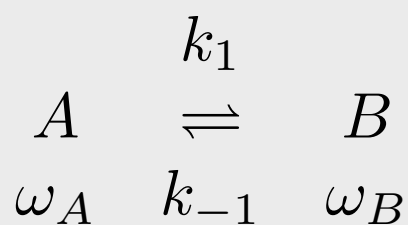
NMR timescales

3. «Spectral» or «chemical shift» timescale

Intramolecular

vs

Intermolecular processes



thermodynamic parameters

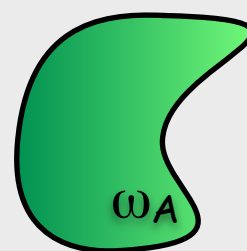
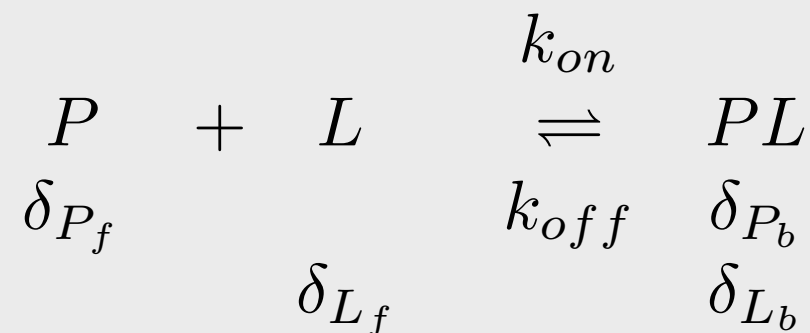
$$K_{eq} = k_1/k_{-1} = p_B/p_A$$

$$\Delta G = -RT \ln K$$

kinetic parameters

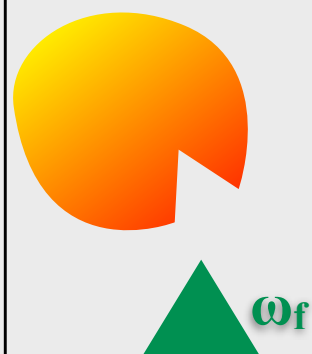
$$k_{ex} = 1/\tau_{ex} = k_1 + k_{-1} = k_1/p_B = k_{-1}/p_A$$

$$k_{ex}(T) = k_0 \exp(-E_a/kT)$$



$$k_{ex} = k_{on}[P] + k_{off}$$

$$k_{ex} = k_{on}[L] + k_{off}$$



$$K_d = \frac{[P][L]}{[PL]} = \frac{k_{off}}{k_{on}}$$

NMR timescales

3. «Spectral» or «chemical shift» timescale

Exchange \leftrightarrow broadening

Exchange regime

👉 “Fast” exchange : $\Delta\omega \ll k_{ex}$

⇒ One peak at $\omega = p_A\omega_A + p_B\omega_B$

⇒ $R_{ex} \propto B_0^2$

👉 “intermediate” exchange : $\Delta\omega \simeq k_{ex}$

⇒ One or several broadened peaks

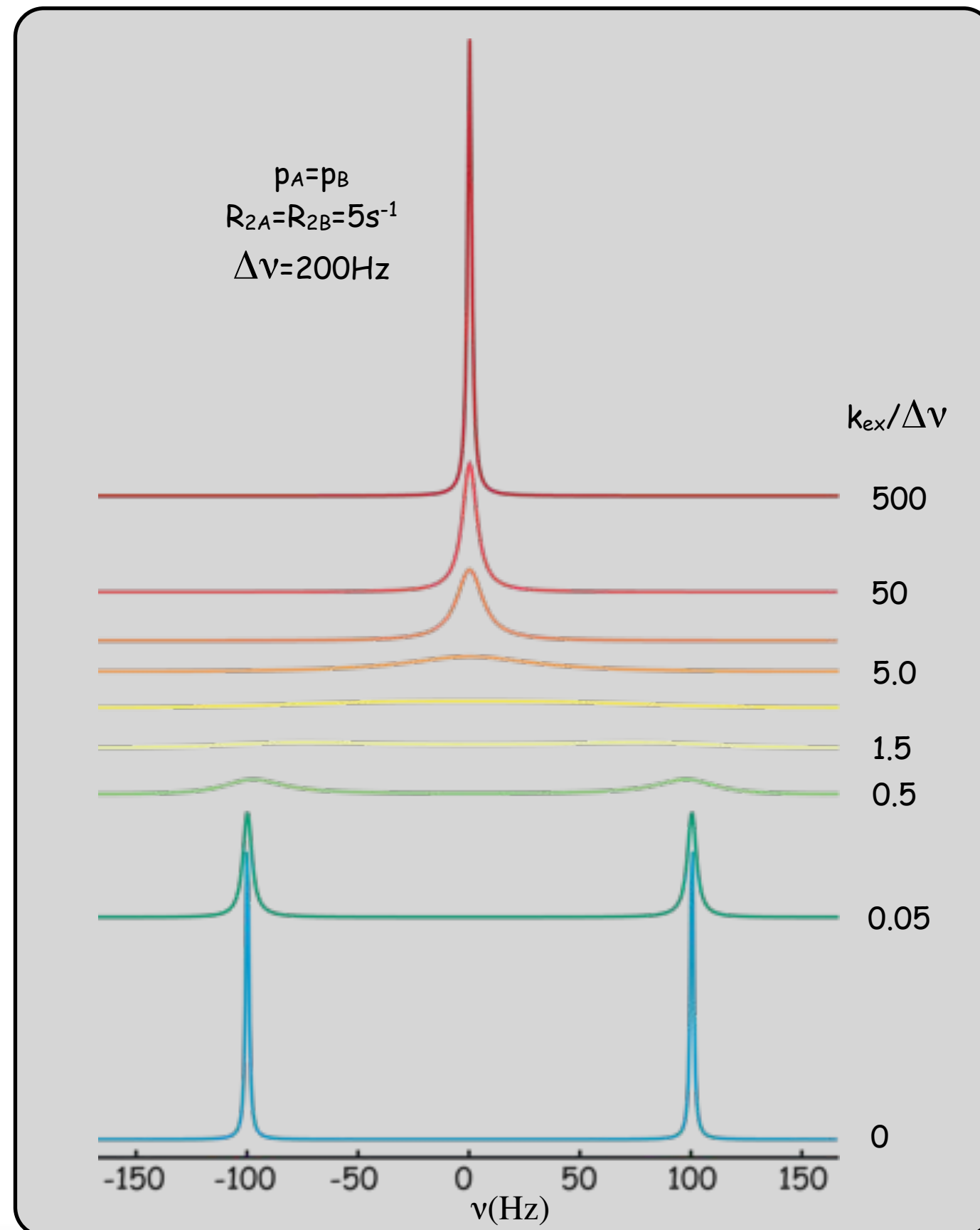
⇒ $R_{ex} \propto B_0$

👉 “slow” exchange : $\Delta\omega \gg k_{ex}$

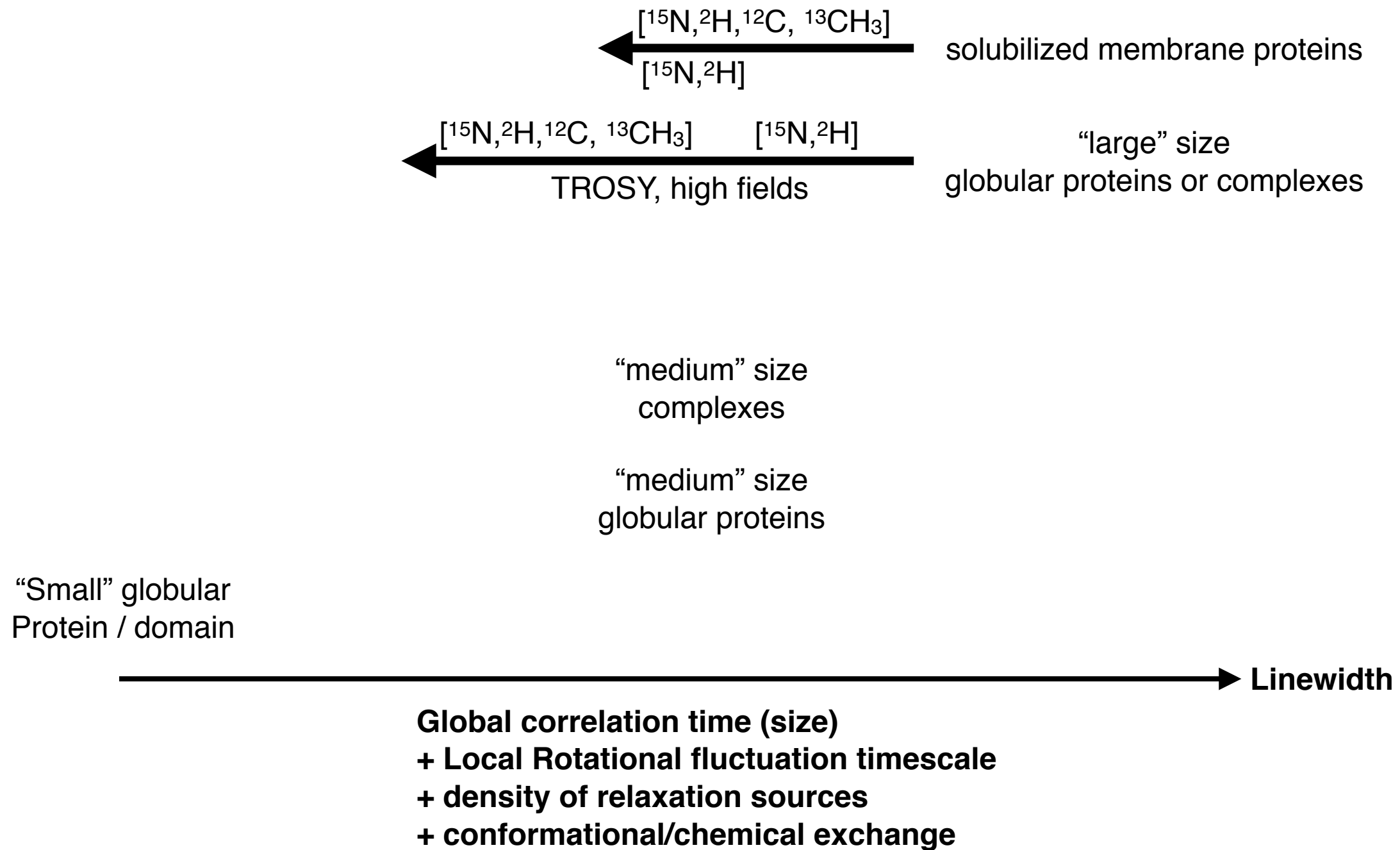
⇒ Several peaks

⇒ R_{ex} independent of B_0

⇒ $R_{ex}^{(B)} \rightarrow k_{BA} = p_A k_{ex}$; $R_{ex}^{(A)} \rightarrow k_{AB} = p_B k_{ex}$

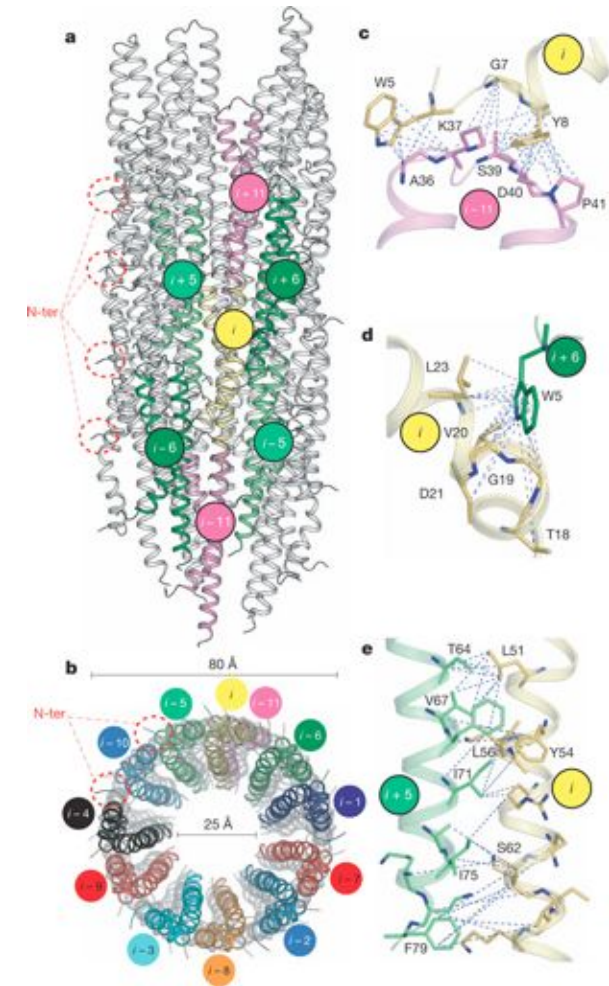
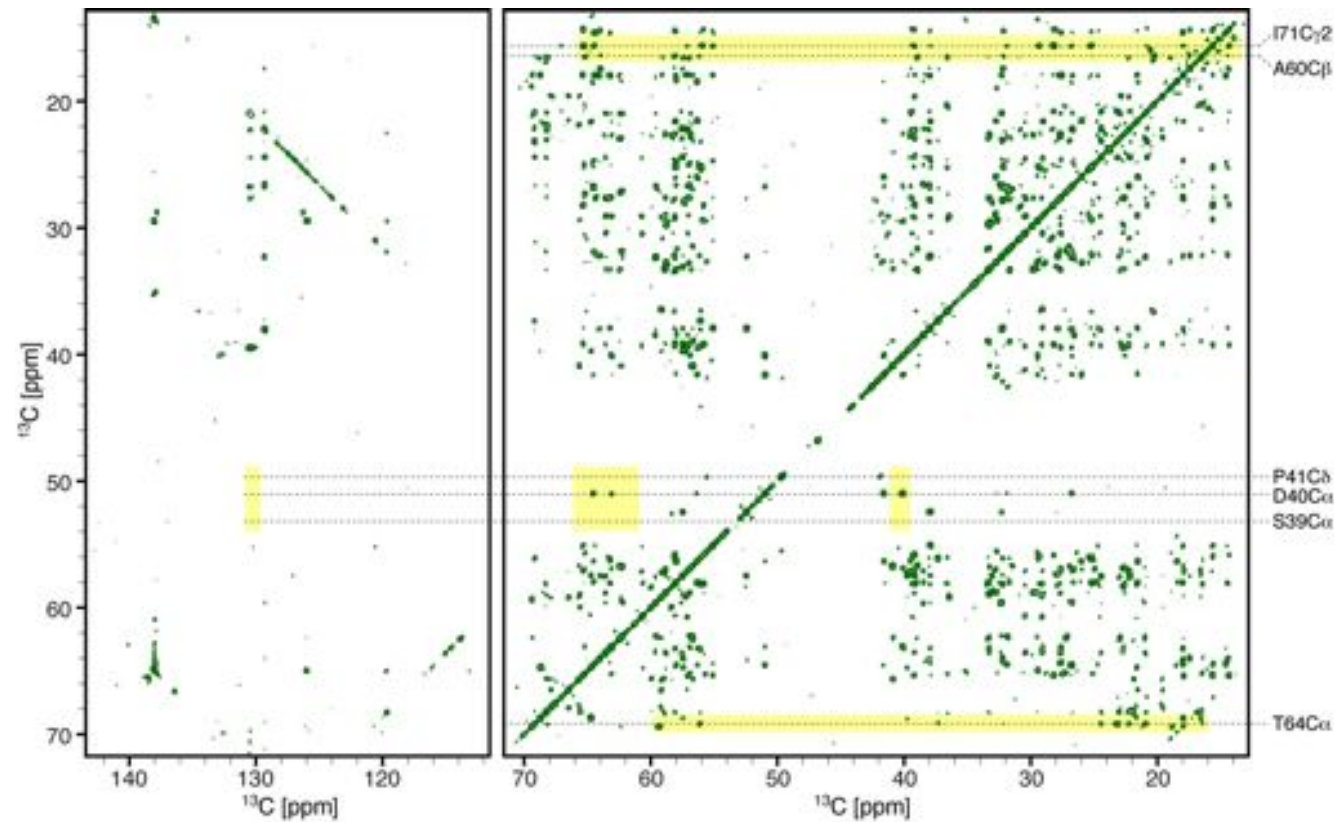
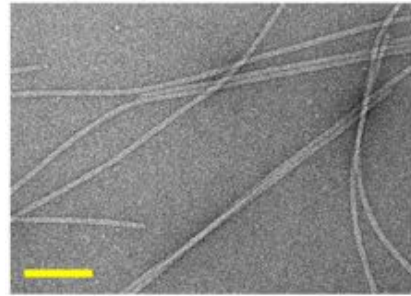


NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.



NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.

Solid State NMR

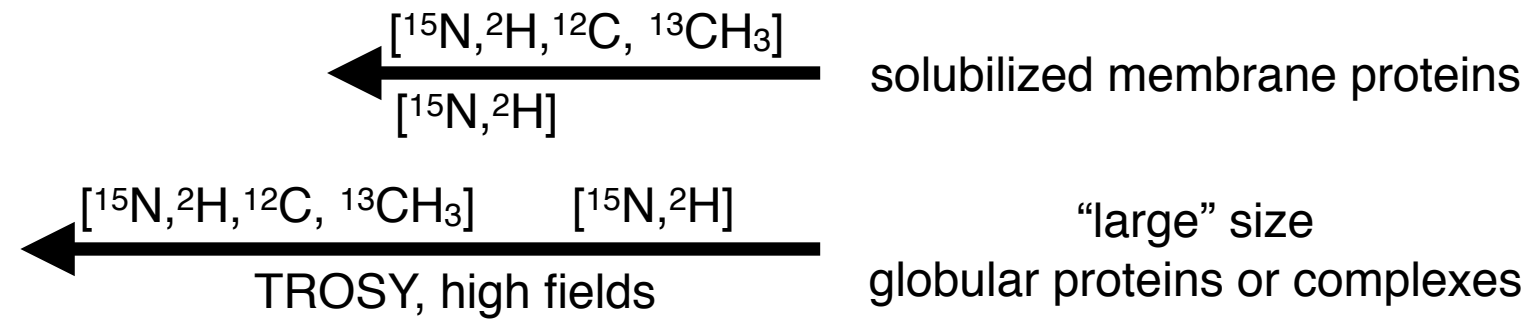


Antoine Loquet et al. Atomic model of the type III secretion system needle, Nature 2012

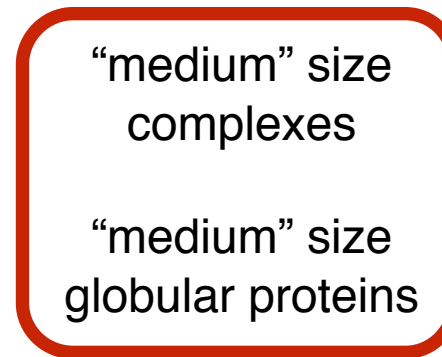
Linewidth

- ~~Global correlation time (size)~~
- + Local Rotational fluctuation timescale
- + density of relaxation sources
- + conformational/chemical exchange
- + conformational heterogeneity

NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.



Very variable linewidths

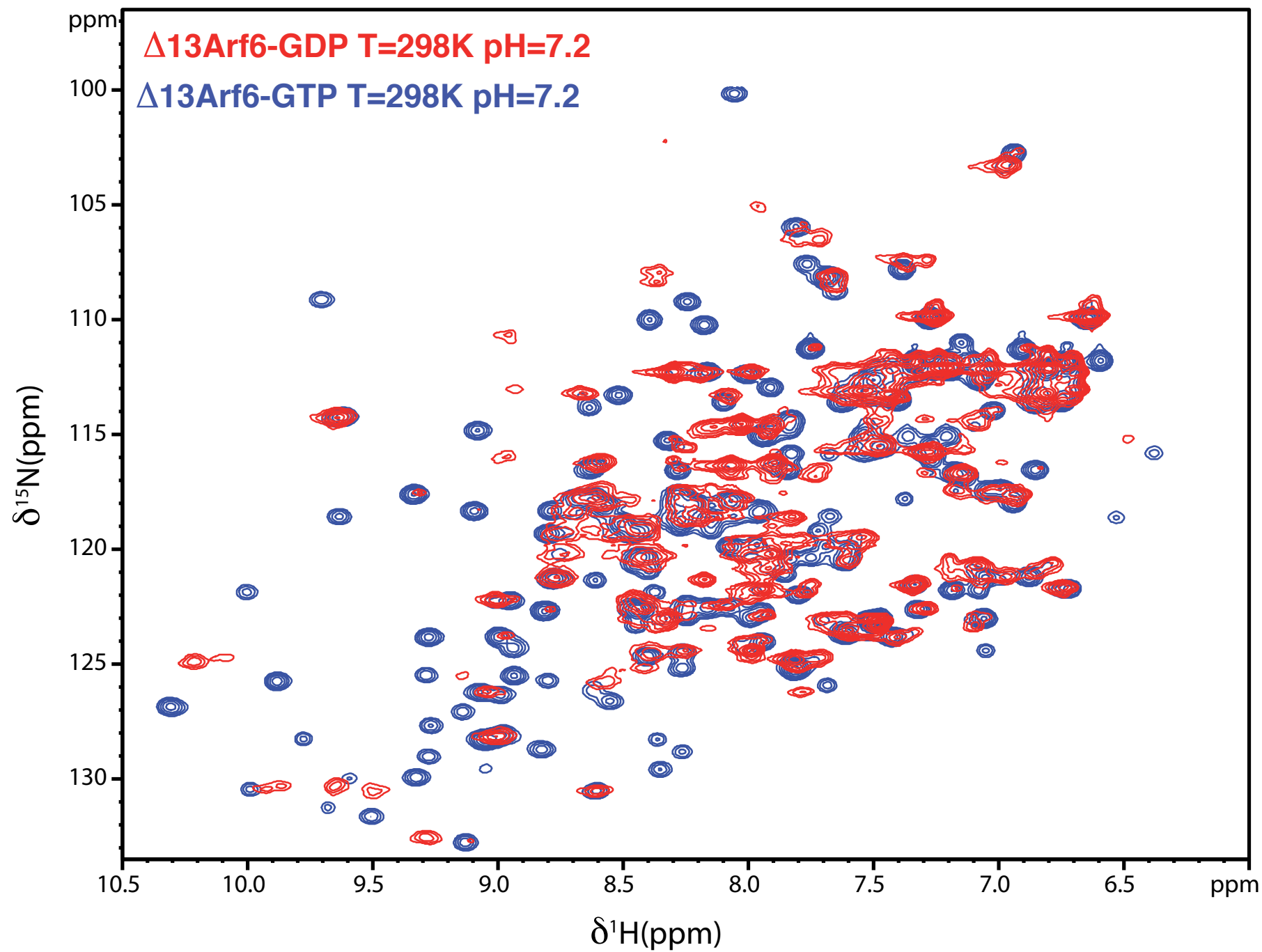


“Small” globular
 Protein / domain



- Global correlation time (size)**
- + Local Rotational fluctuation timescale**
- + density of relaxation sources**
- + conformational/chemical exchange**

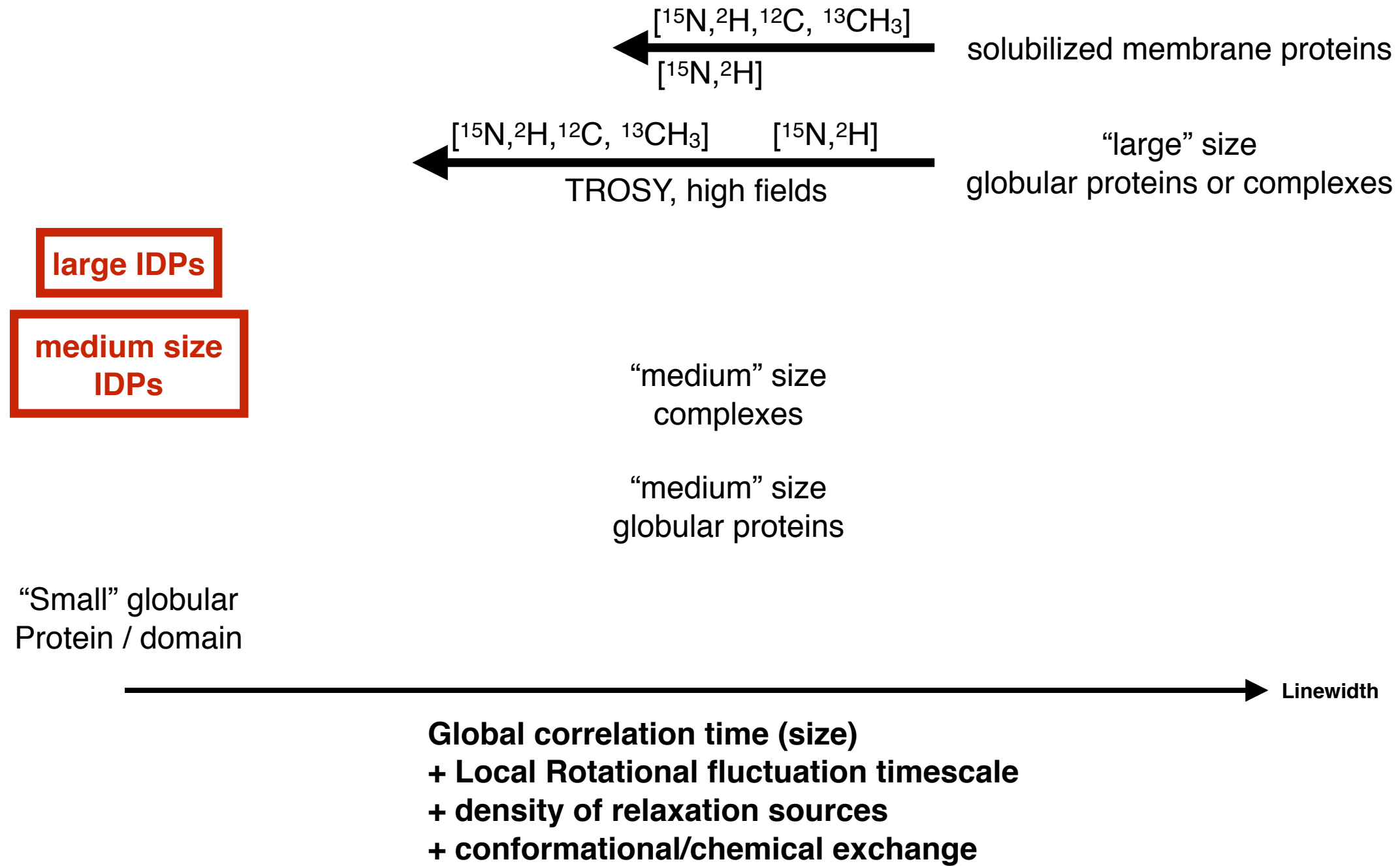
NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.



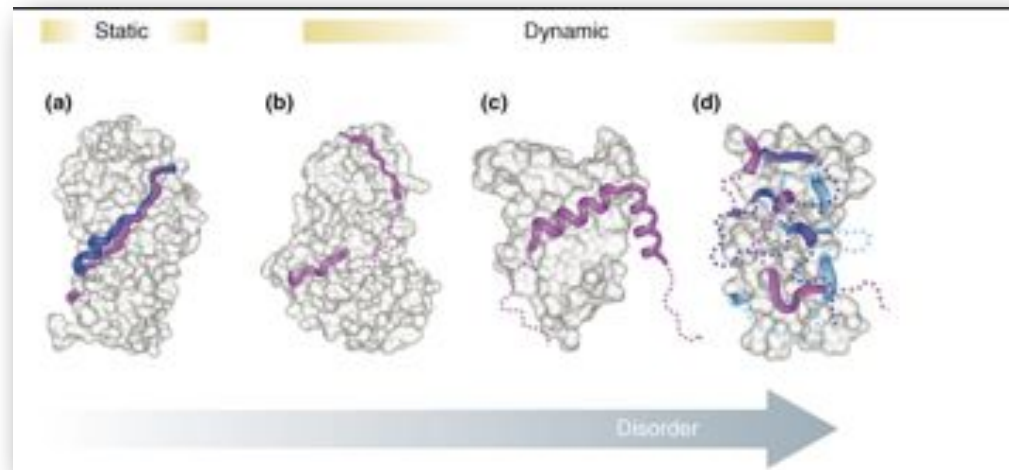
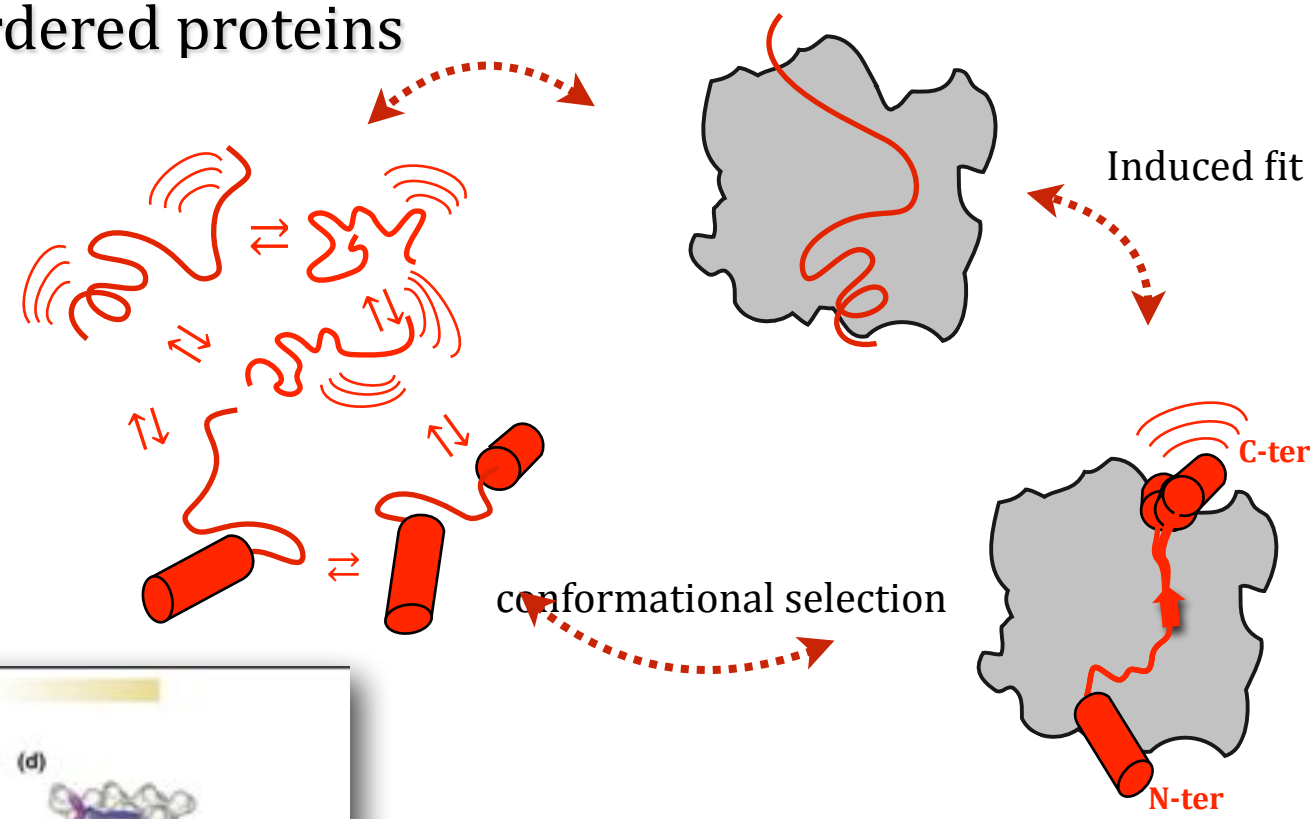
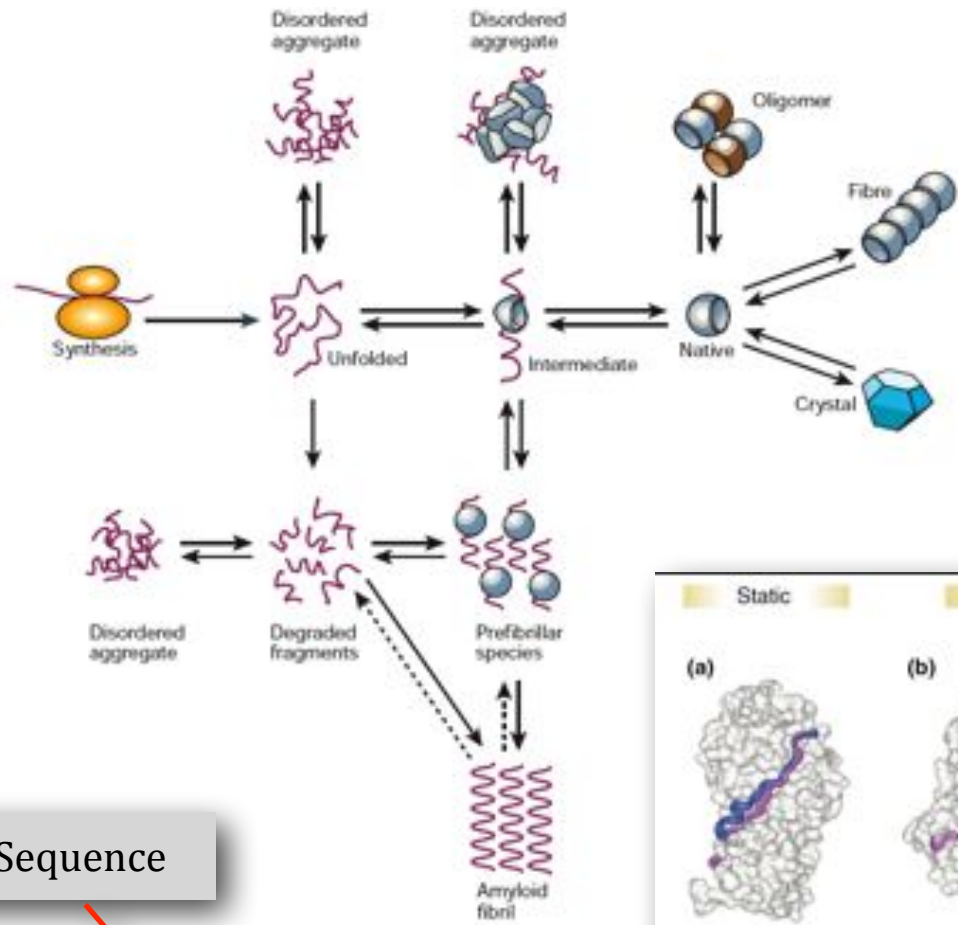
—————→ Linewidth

Global correlation time (size)
+ Local Rotational fluctuation timescale
+ density of relaxation sources
+ conformational/chemical exchange

NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.



A view of protein multiple states Intrinsically disordered proteins



Sequence

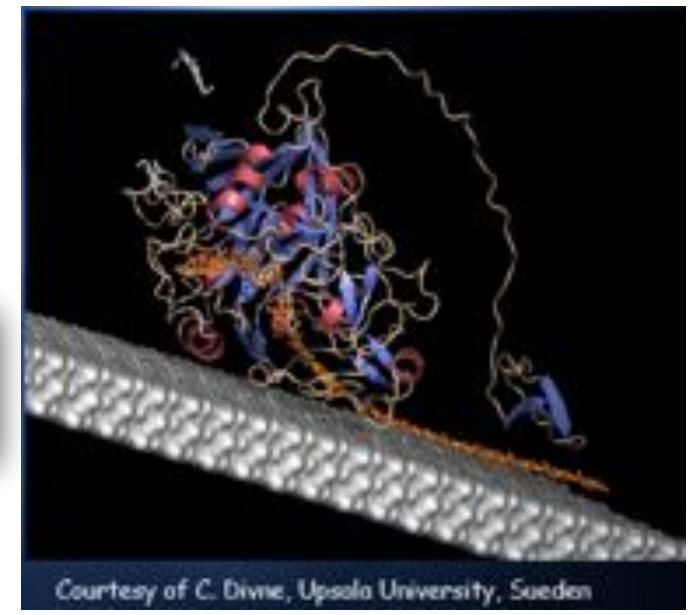
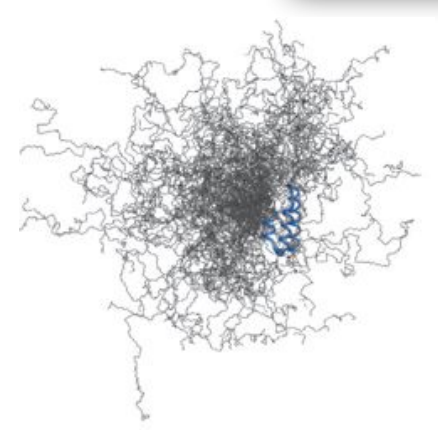
“Non folding”

flexible ensemble

**flexible linkers
display of sites
entropic bristles, springs and clocks**

disorder → order

**molecular recognition
virus/phages assembly
stepping motors**



Courtesy of C. Divne, Uppsala University, Sweden
Cellulases

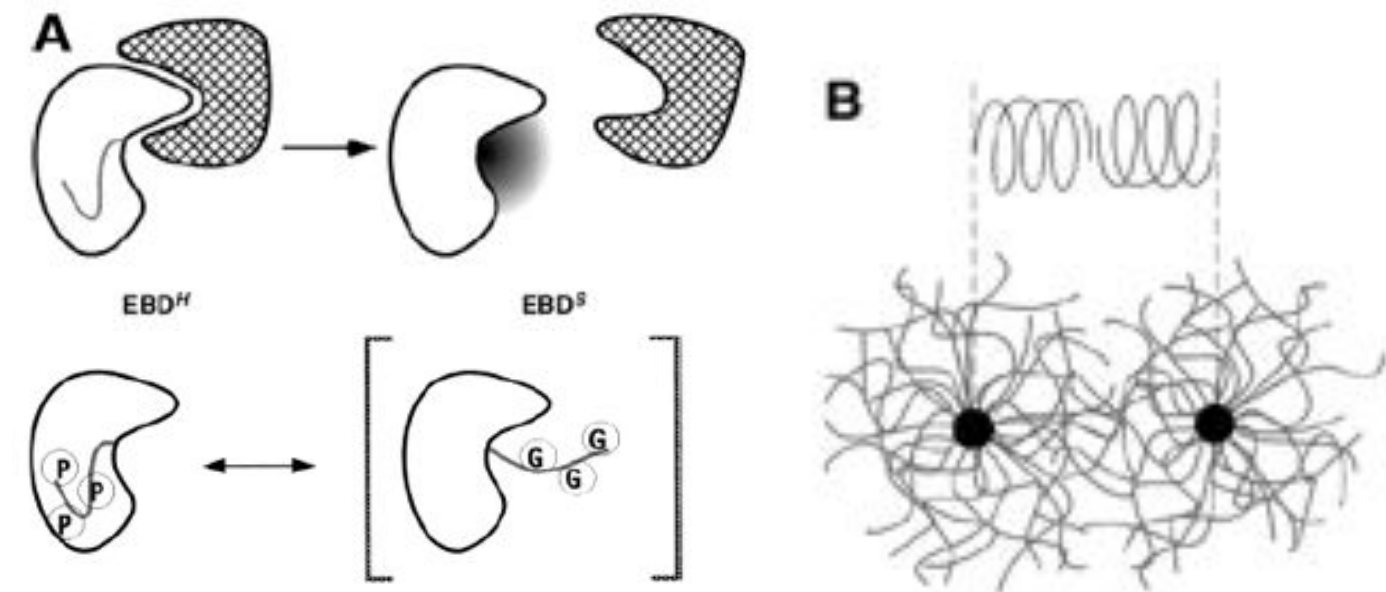
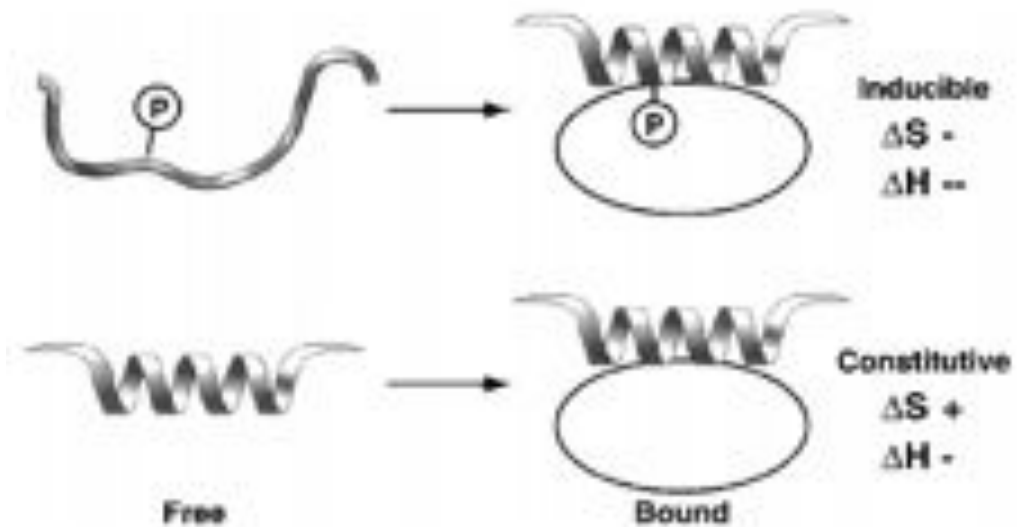
A view of protein multiple states

Intrinsically disordered proteins

- Functions requiring fast “turnover”.
 - Molecular recognition in regulation processes
 - Signaling
 - Cell cycle
 - Development
 - Endocytosis
 - ⇒ Highly involved in diseases
- Disorder as a function
 - entropic brushes (neurofilaments H & M)
 - entropic clocks (K⁺ Channel ball and chain in nerve axons)
 - entropic springs (titin)
- Low occurrence of disorder : biosynthesis, metabolism

NB. Enzymes preponderant in PDB (except kinases)

moderate affinities, large binding interfaces, high selectivities, inducible via post-translational modifications



Jan H. Hoh, “Functional Protein Domains From the Thermally Driven Motion of Polypeptide Chains: A Proposal”, *PROTEINS: Structure, Function, and Genetics* 32:223–228 (1998)

NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

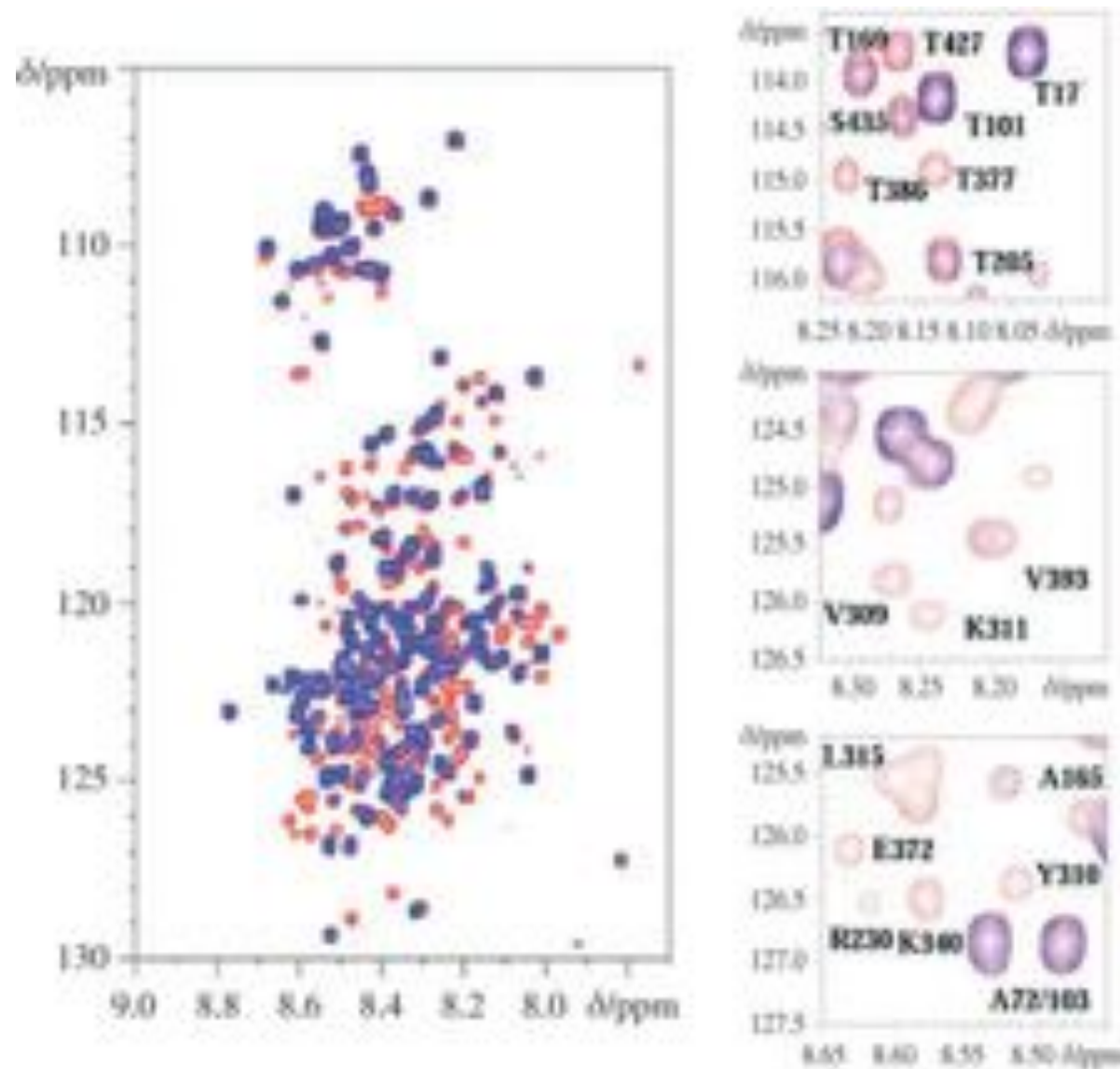


Figure 4. HSQC spectrum (full spectrum (top) and selected annotated zooms (bottom)) of tau free in solution (red) and integrated into mature PHFs (blue).

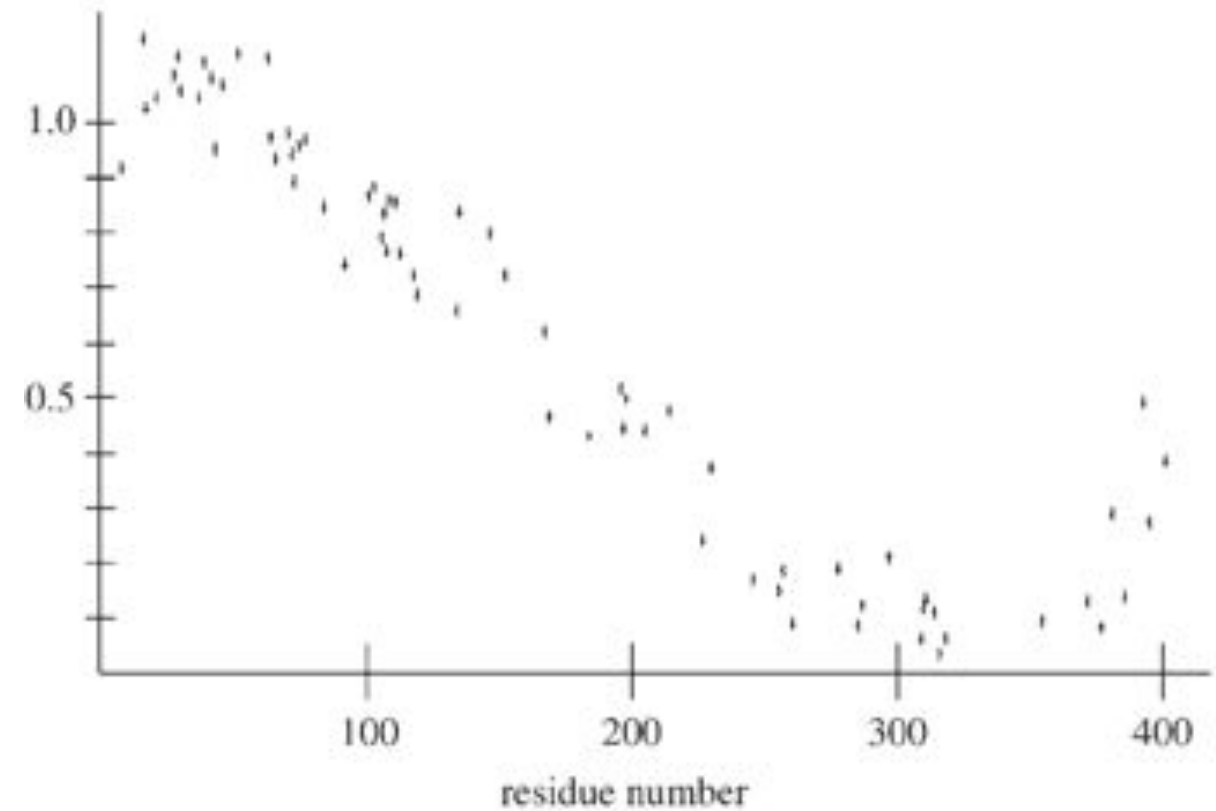


Figure 5. Ratio of the peak intensities in the spectra of free tau and PHF-tau. Only isolated peaks were taken into account.

Alain Sillen et al., (2005) ChemBioChem, **6**, 1849 – 1856, Regions of Tau Implicated in the Paired Helical Fragment Core as Defined by NMR.

NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

Caractérisation de l'ensemble des conformères

Propension à former des structures secondaires

déplacements chimiques

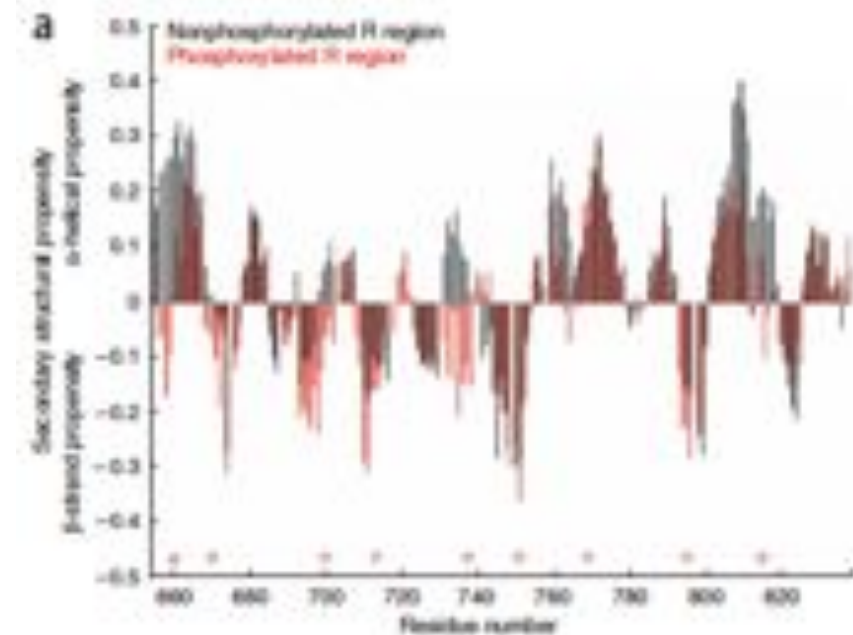
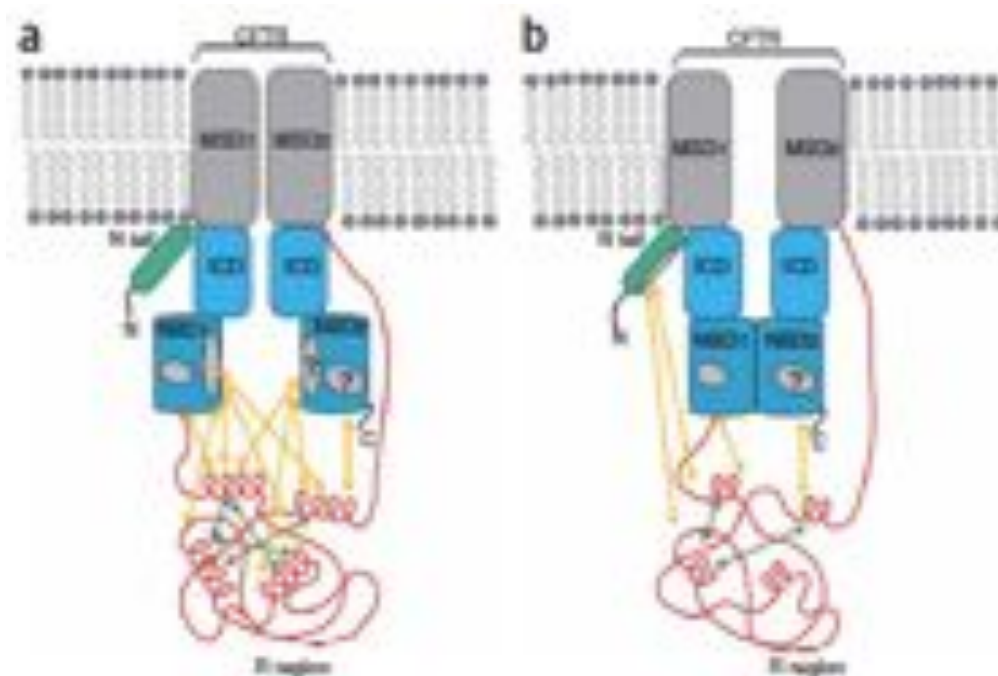
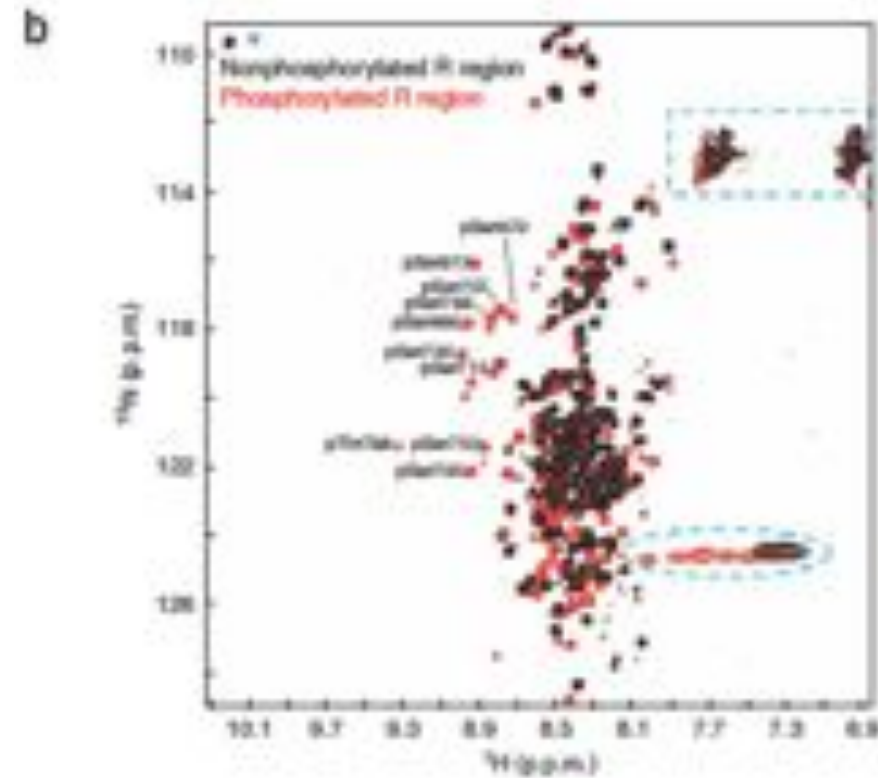
- Secondary Shifts
- SSP (Secondary Structure Propensity)

Relaxation des spins

RDCs

Contacts longues distances ?

PRE

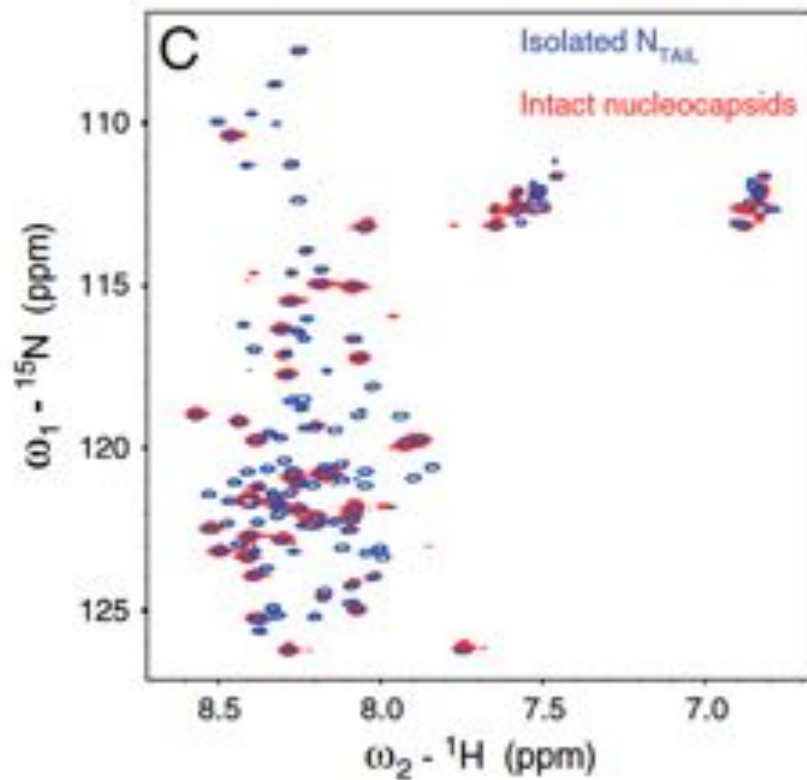
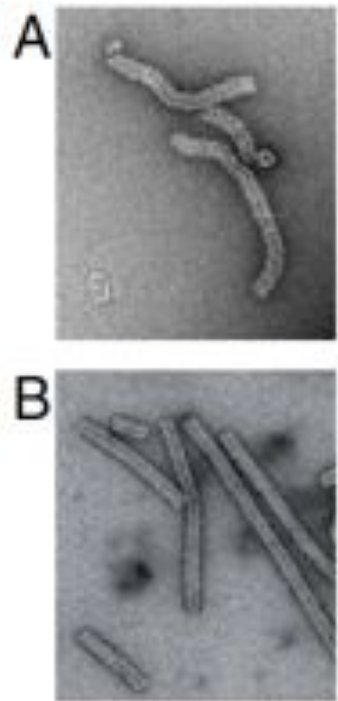
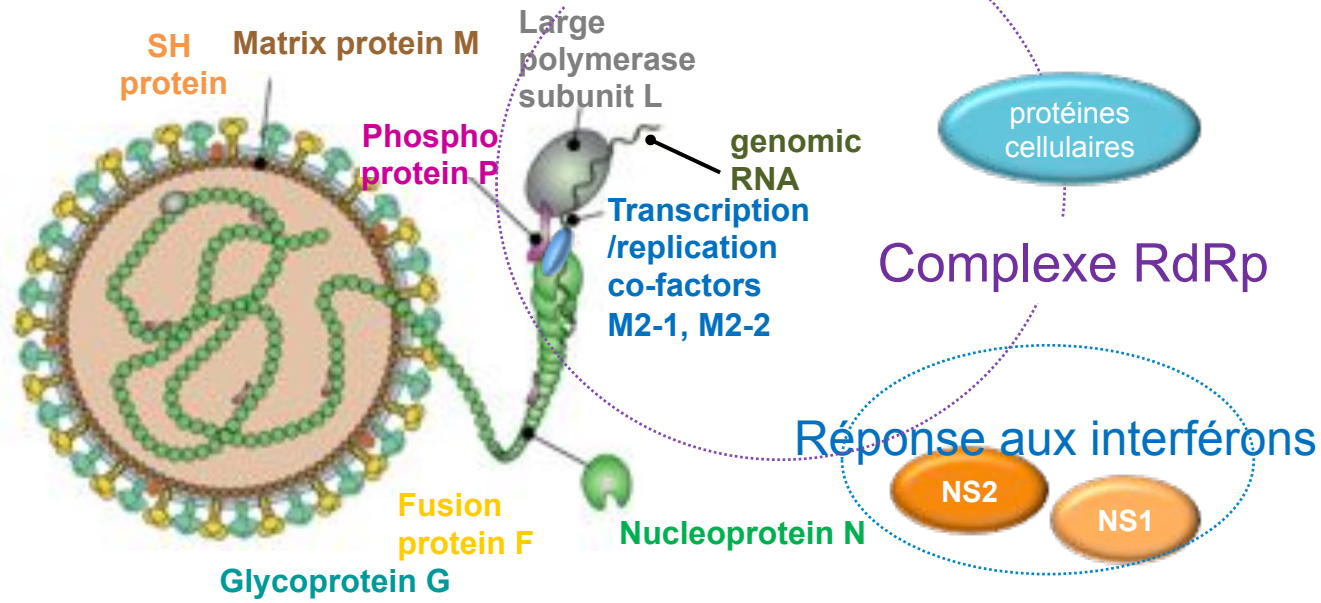


Baker et al 2007 *Nat. Struct. Mol. Biol.* **14**(8), 738

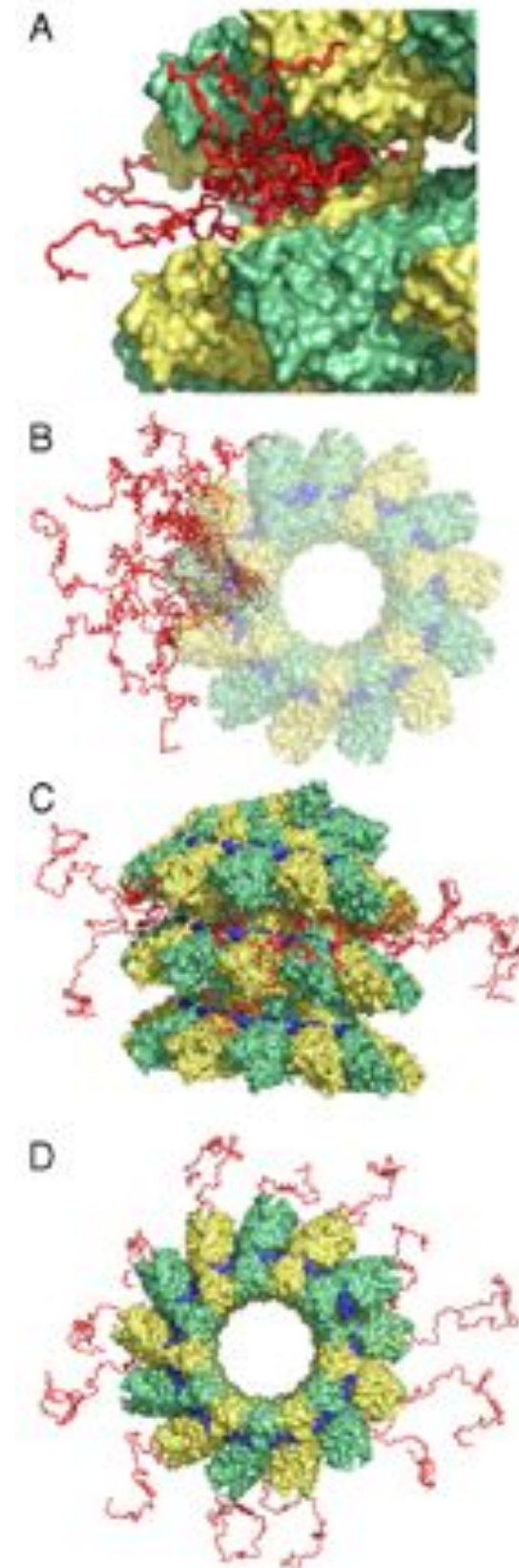
NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

Viral proteins



EM
NMR
SAXS

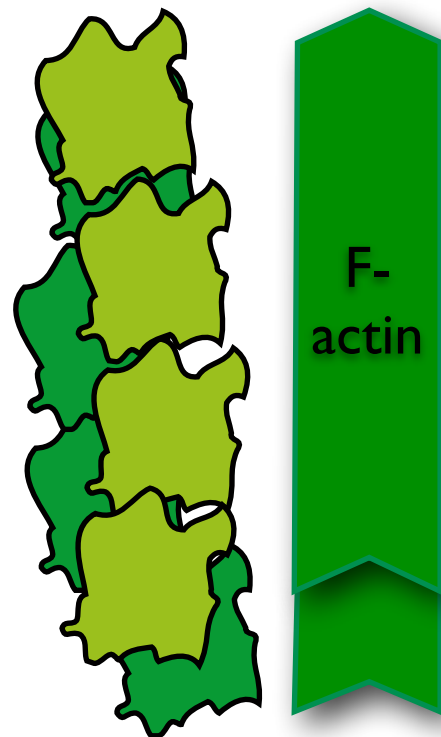
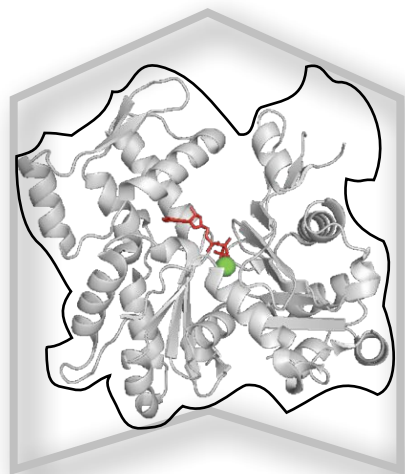
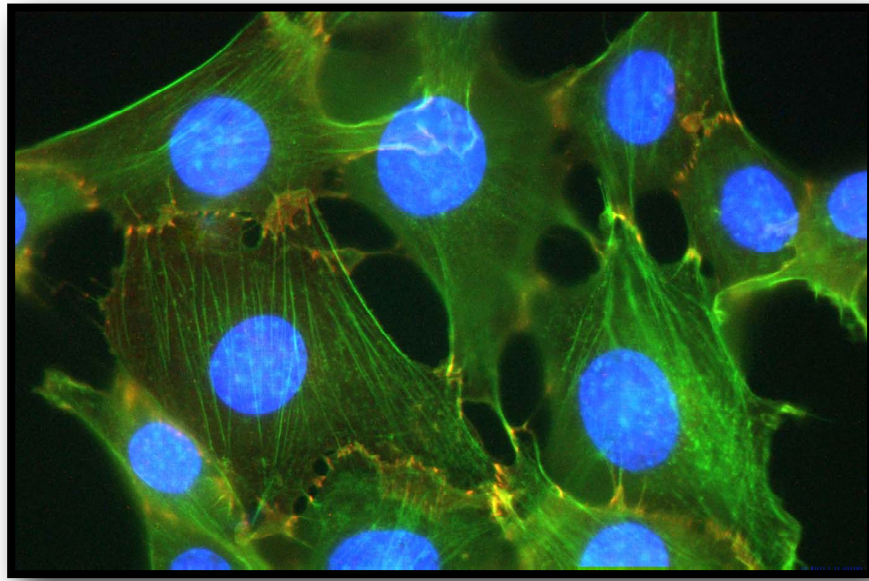


Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

Rôle of disorder in regulation processes

Les domaines T β /WH2 - régulation de la polymérisation de l'actine

*Collaboration Marie-France Carlier Louis Renault
Thèse Michael Domanski, François-Xavier Cantrelle, Célia Deville*



Acteur majeur de multiples processus cellulaires

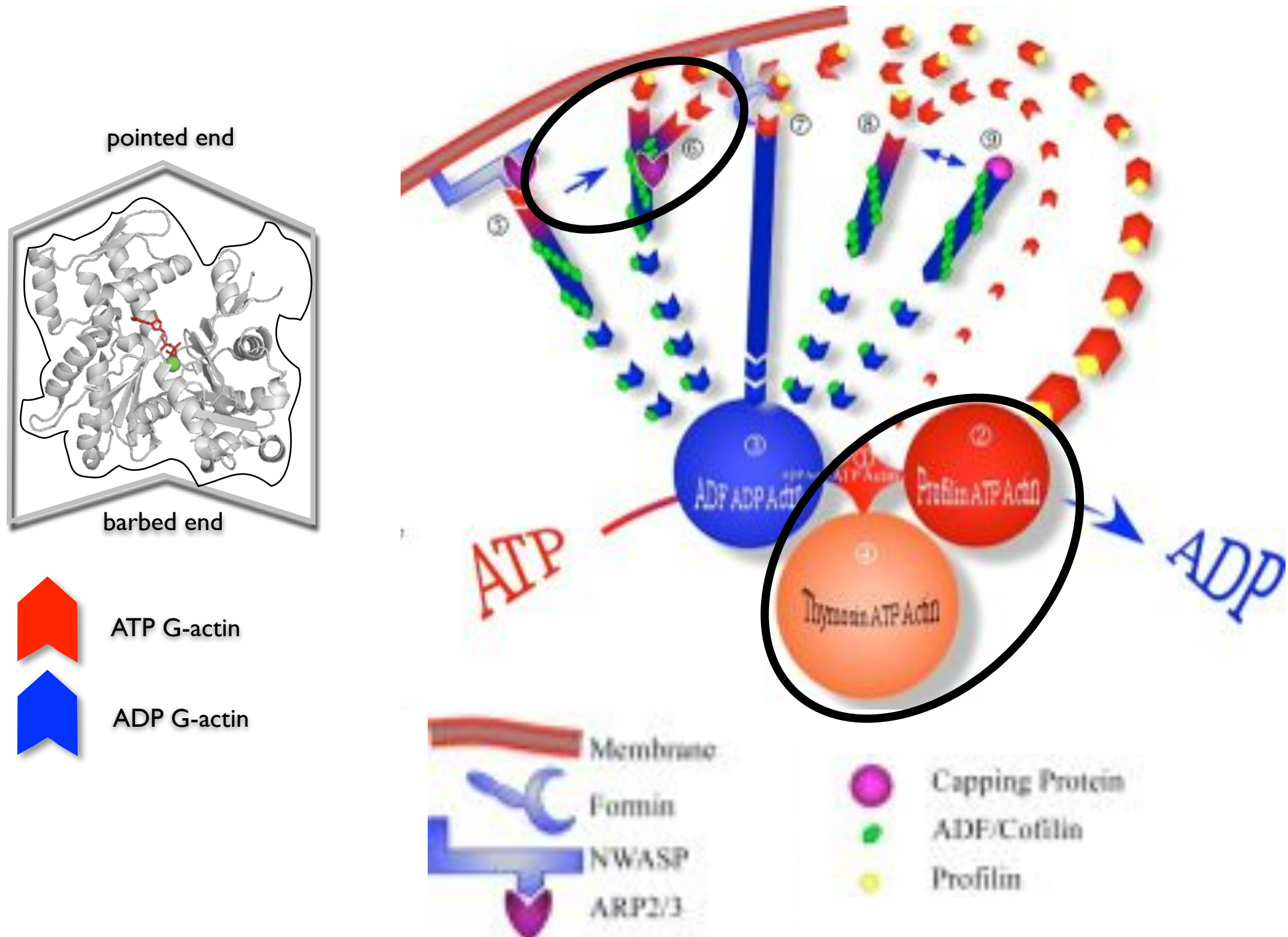
- Motilité
(division cellulaire, plasticité synaptique, endocytose)
- Morphogénèse
(polarité embryonnaire ..)
- Mouvements cellulaire
(extension de lamellipode / adhésion cellulaire)

➔ **Assemblage/désassemblage dynamique de filaments d'actine**

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

Rôle of disorder in regulation processes

➔ Dynamique des filaments d'actine régulée par des ABPs (Actin Binding Proteins)



Carlier and Pantaloni 2007

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

Rôle of disorder in regulation processes

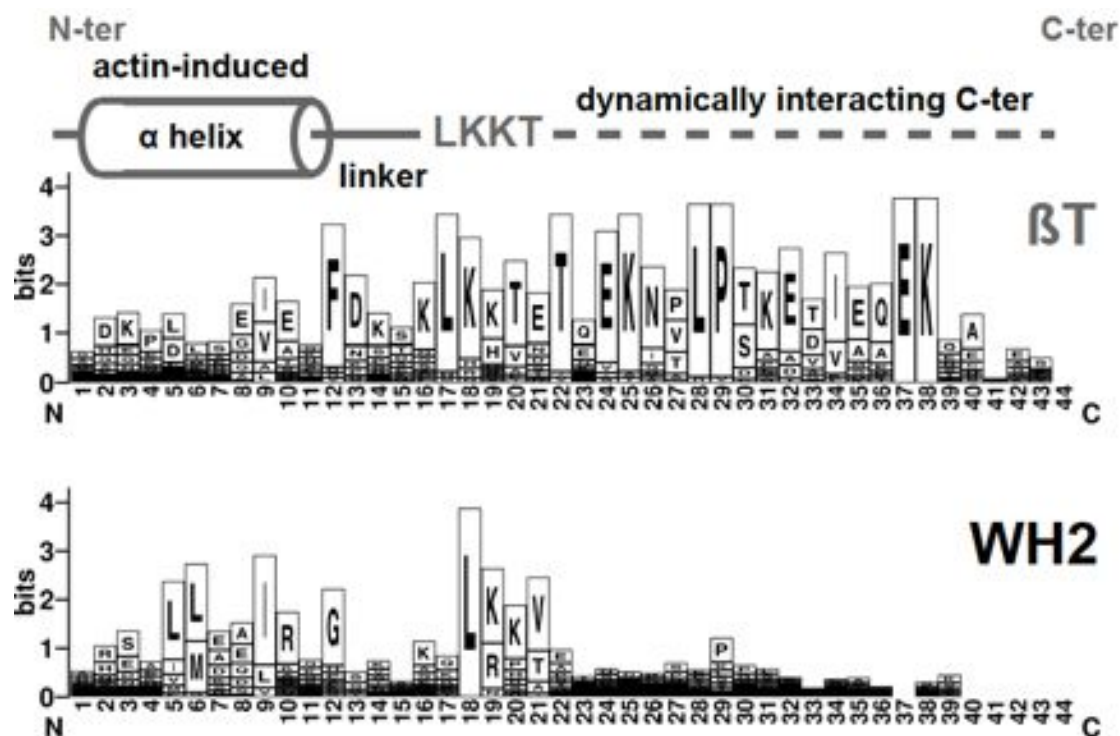
Les domaines Tβ/WH2 - régulation de la polymérisation de l'actine

Protein	Cellular functions / non-canonical properties
ATP-G actin sequestering / profilin-like β-thymosin domains	
Thymosin β4	cell motility (300-600 μM in hematopoietic cells)
Ciboulot	Drosophila brain development
TetraThymosin-β	C. elegans development
Filament branching machineries using Arp2/3 complex	
N-WASP	endocytosis, cell motility (invadopodia) / Filament Barbed end capture
WASH	endosomes trafficking
WHAMM	ER-Golgi transport, Golgi organization
WAVE2	cell motility (lamellipodia, ruffles), cell-cell contact
JMY	cell motility / actin nucleation
RickA	Rickettsiae pathogen intracellular actin-based motility
ActA	Listeria pathogen intracellular actin-based motility
Synergy of WH2 domains with other actin-binding domains	
VASP/Evi	cell motility / Filament Barbed end tracking
MIM	morphogenesis (ciliogenesis)
WIP	cell motility (WASP regulation)
INF2	eukaryotic cell polarity / Filament severing
SALS	muscle sarcomere organization
Lmod	muscle sarcomere organization / actin nucleation
Multi-functionnal WH2 repeat proteins	
Spire	polarity in early embryogenesis / actin nucleation, filament Barbed end capping, filament severing
Cobl	neuro-morphogenesis (ciliogenesis) / actin nucleation, filament severing, ADP-actin-sequestering
VopF/VopL	V. cholerae / parahaemolyticus pathogen infection / actin nucleation

Carlier et al. Int. Rev. Cell. Mol. Biol. 2011

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

Rôle of disorder in regulation processes

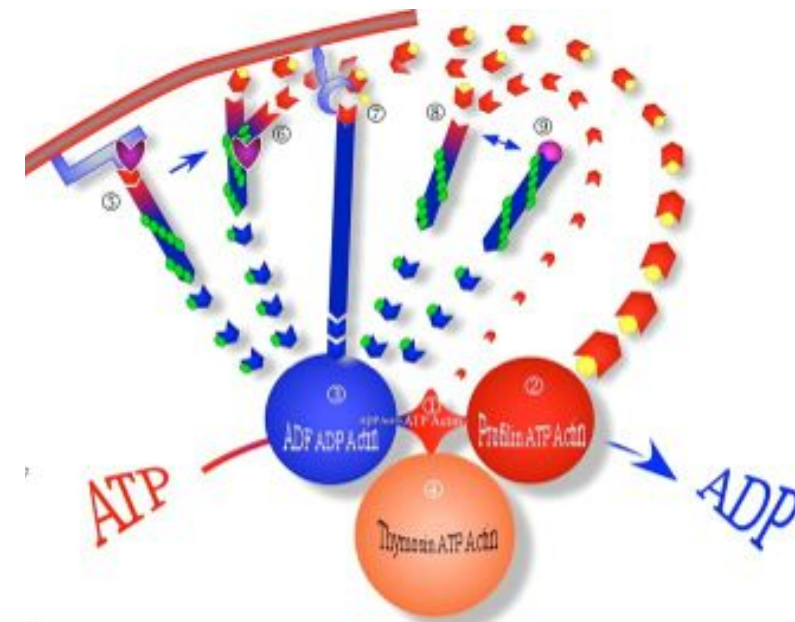
Les domaines T β /WH2 - régulation de la polymérisation de l'actine

Low sequence identity, variable length (25-55)
 40% among t β domains, 20% among WH2 domains, <15% for t β /WH2
 N-ter helical propensity, LKKT/V, variable C-ter length
 Intrinsically disordered

- ▶ Usually moderate affinities (μ M)
- ▶ Tunable specificities modulated by
 - key residues spread along the sequence
 - versatility of folding upon binding processes
 - variable flexibility in the complexes with actin
 - post-transcriptional modifications
 - expression levels of partners
 - Cooperative / antagonist key interactions
 - Allosteric processes

Multiple functions

- Sequestration of monomeric actin (Isolated WH2/T β)
- Promotion of polymerization at barbed end (Isolated WH2/T β)
- Nucleation (Formins, WH2/T β repeats, WASP, N-WASP, WAVE, ...)
- Filaments branching (WASP, N-WASP, WAVE, ...)
- Filaments capping (CP, CARMIL)
- Filaments severing (WH2/T β repeats)
- Inactivation/Activation of signaling cascades (WASP, WAVE, ...)



Relation séquence /function ?
 Mécanismes d'action ?

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

Rôle of disorder in regulation processes

Les domaines T β /WH2 - régulation de la polymérisation de l'actine

Un défi

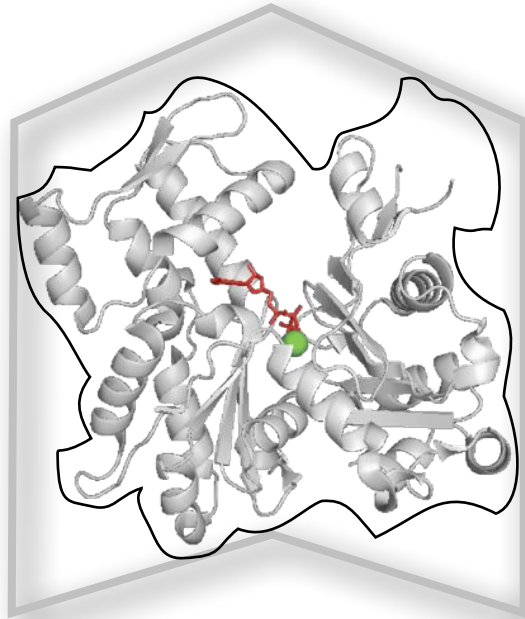
Polymérisation de l'actine (60 μ M @ 4°C)

Actine extraite du muscle de lapin

Grande flexibilité des domaines WH2

Flexibilité des états liés

Faible stabilité

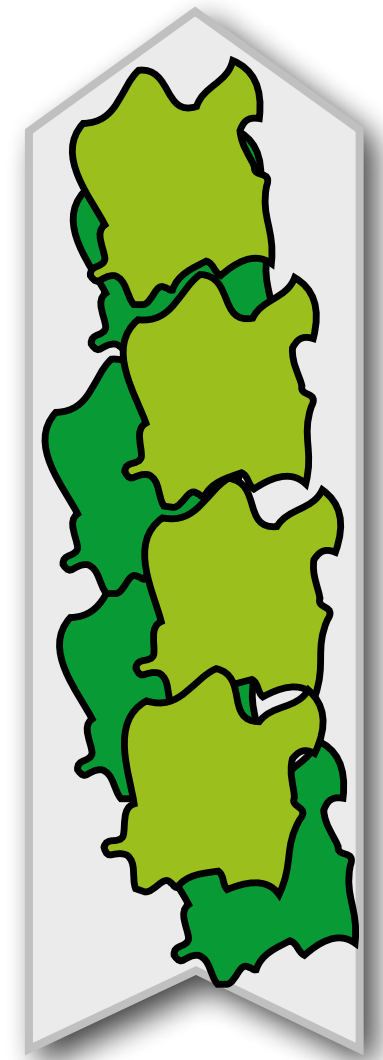


Des évolutions majeures

Spectromètres à très hauts champs

Cryosondes

Production d'actine recombinante



Association de plusieurs techniques

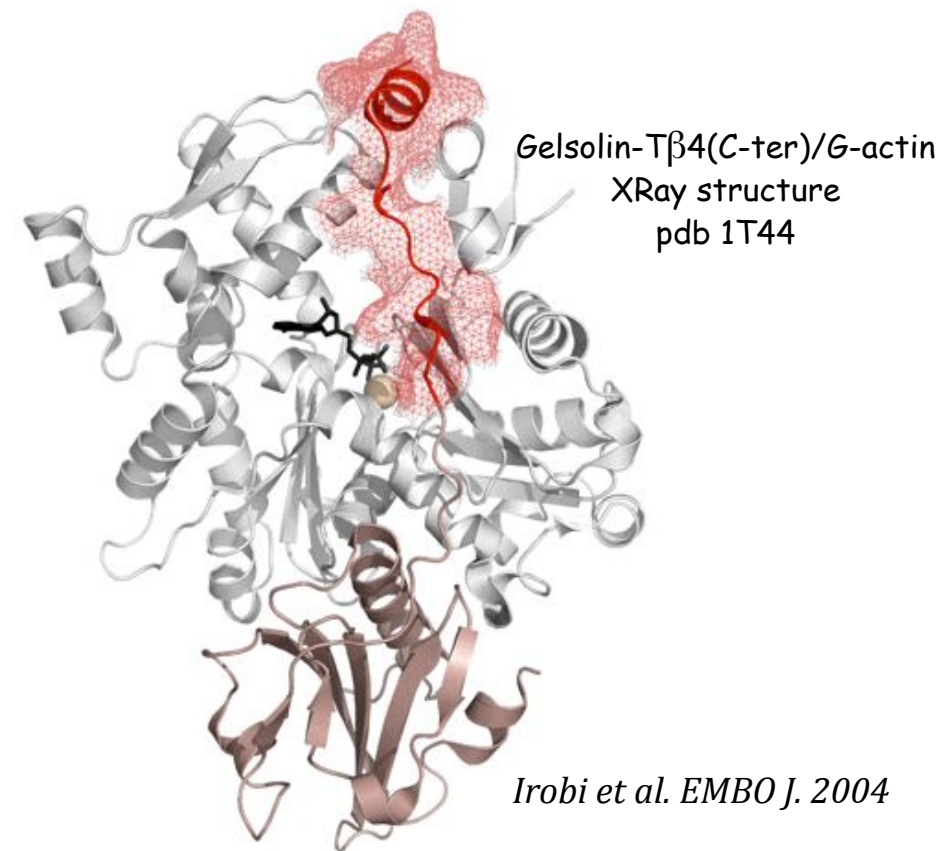
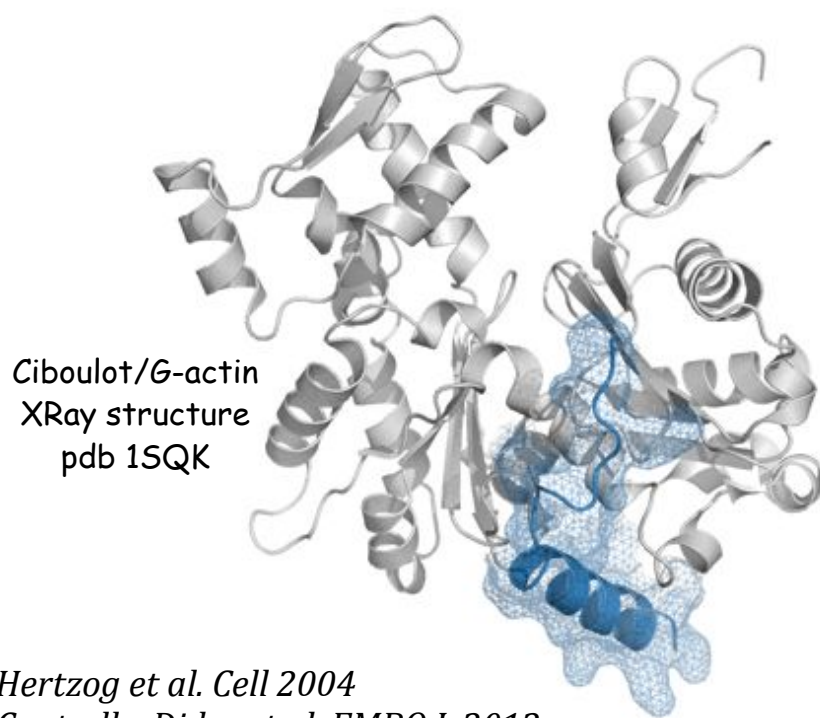
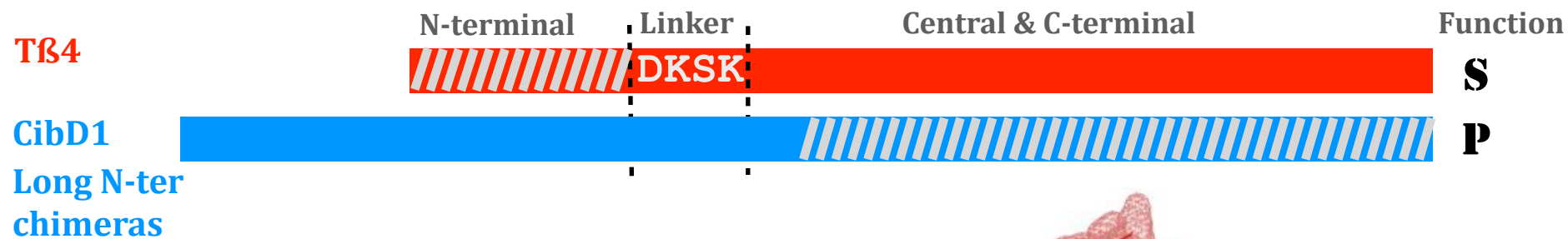
Diffraction RX, RMN, SAXS

NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

Les domaines Tβ/WH2 - régulation de la polymérisation de l'actine

	difficulties	informations
XRay diffraction	cristallization conditions dynamics / heterogeneity	Partial view of the complex Detailed view of the interface

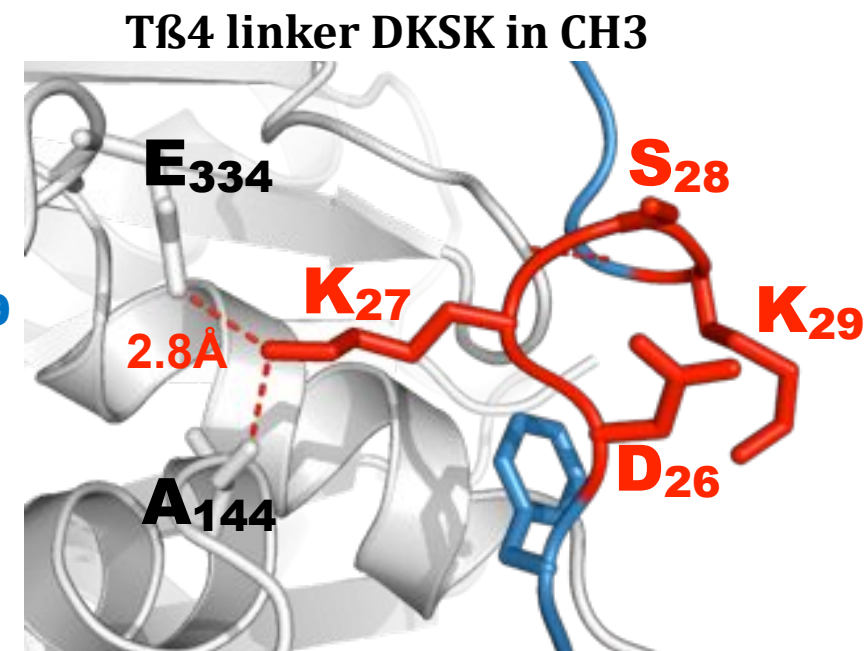
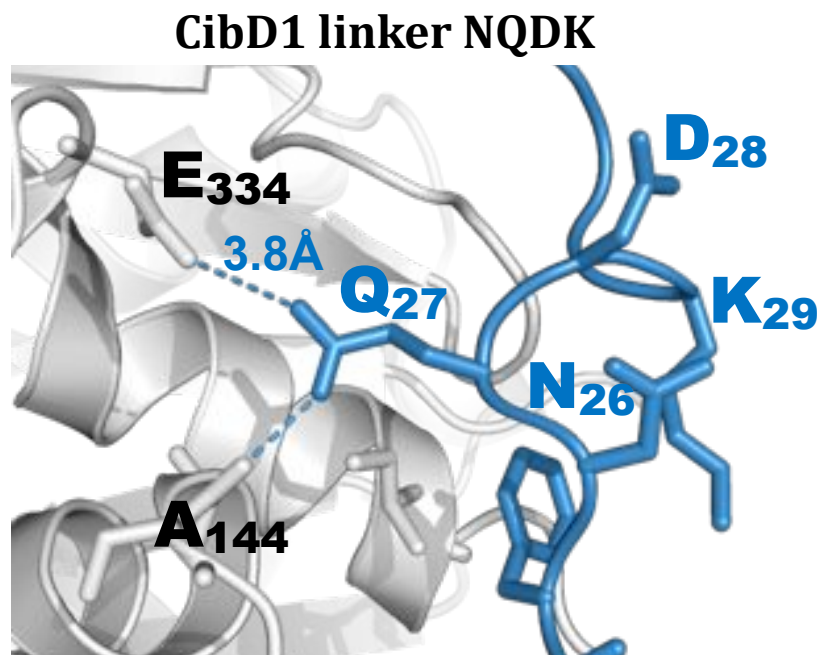
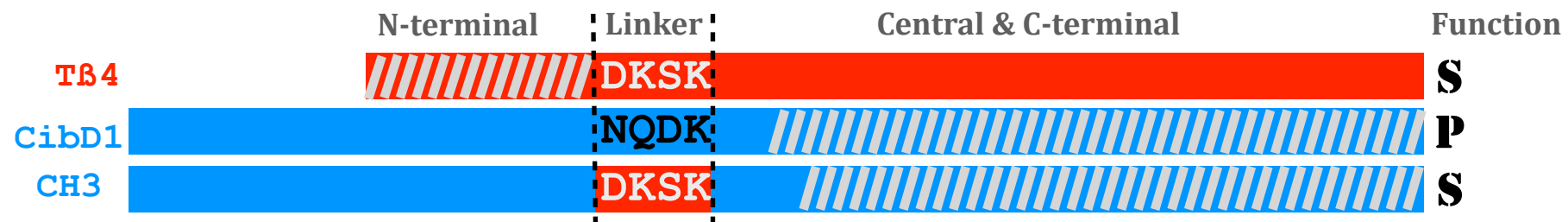


NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

Les domaines Tβ/WH2 - régulation de la polymérisation de l'actine

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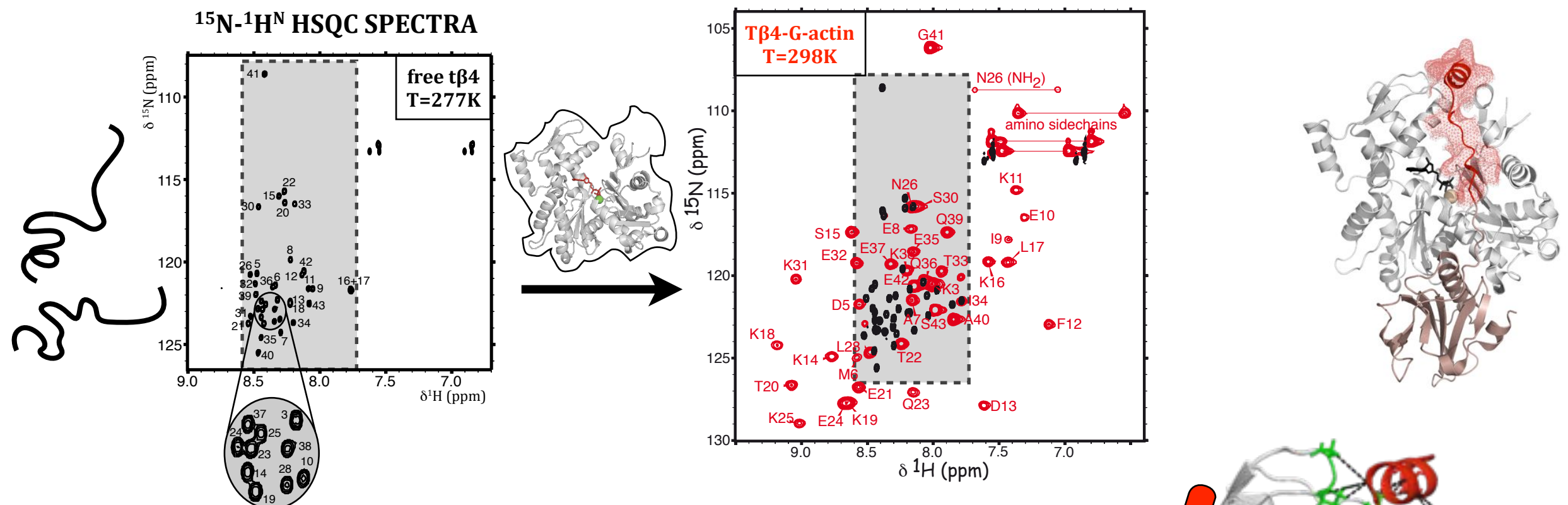


Salt bridge GLU^{actine} ---LYS^{linker,WH2}

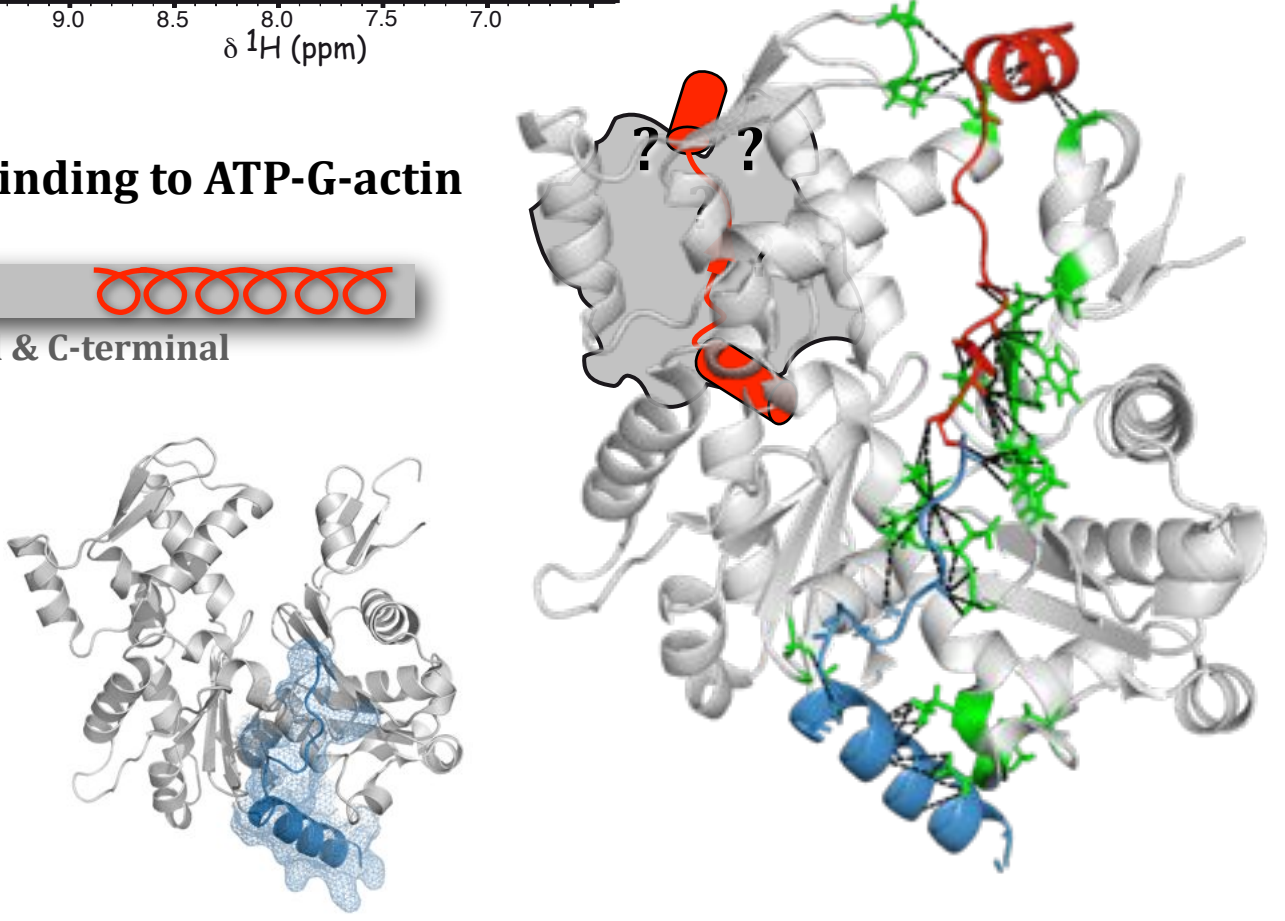
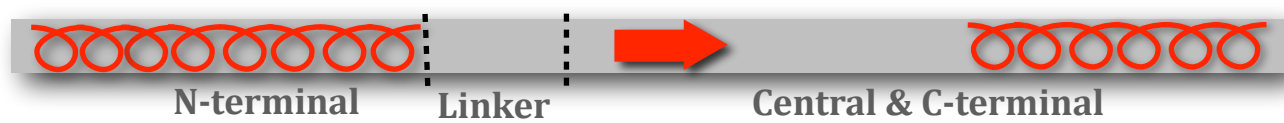
NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

Les domaines Tβ/WH2 - régulation de la polymérisation de l'actine



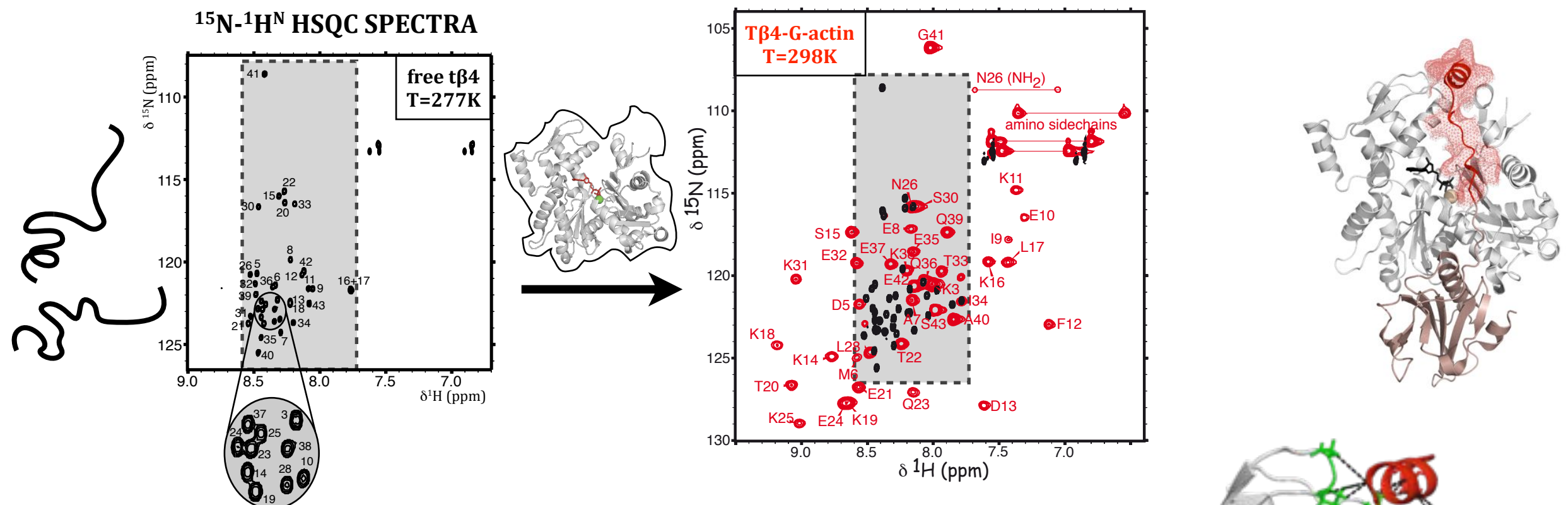
☞ Complete folding of all analyzed forms upon binding to ATP-G-actin



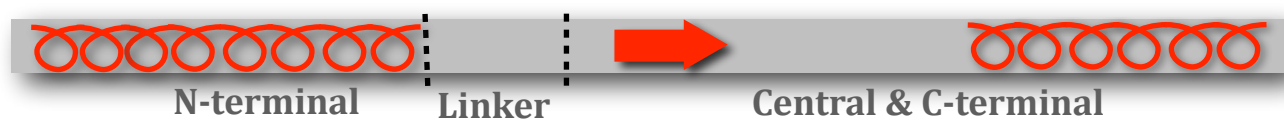
NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

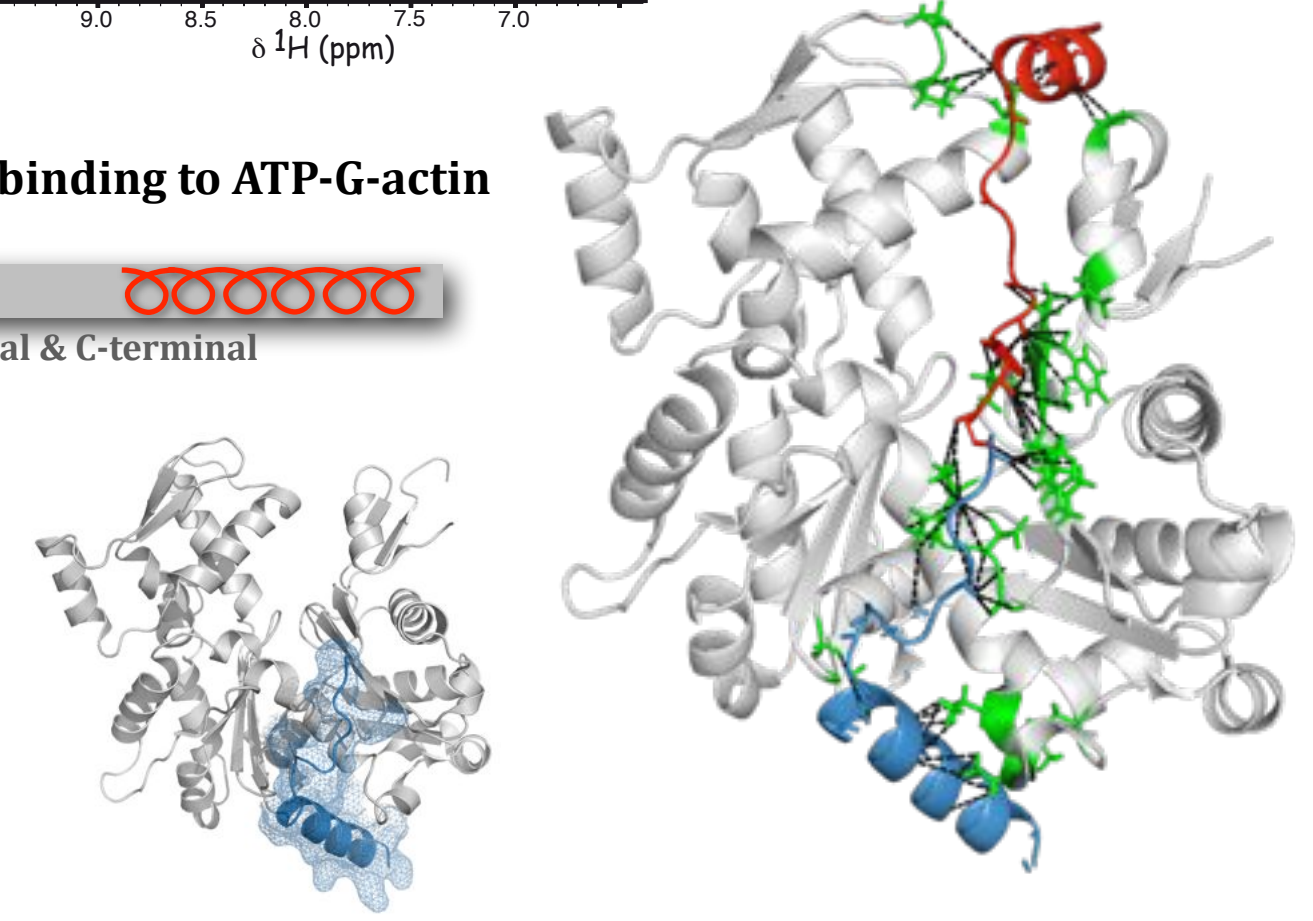
Les domaines Tβ/WH2 - régulation de la polymérisation de l'actine



☞ Complete folding of all analyzed forms upon binding to ATP-G-actin



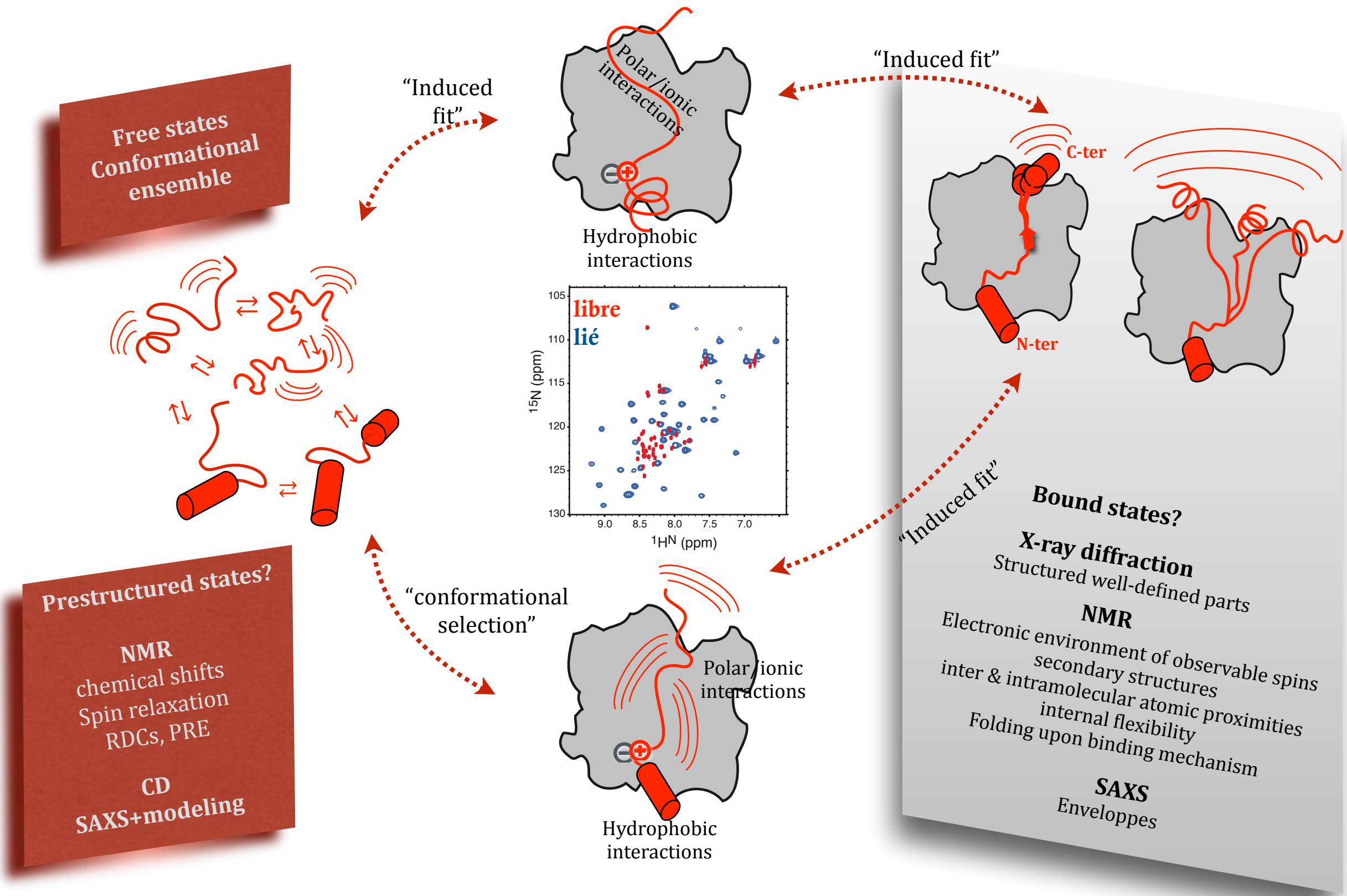
+ nOe data
+ partial XRay structures



NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

Les domaines Tβ/WH2 - régulation de la polymérisation de l'actine

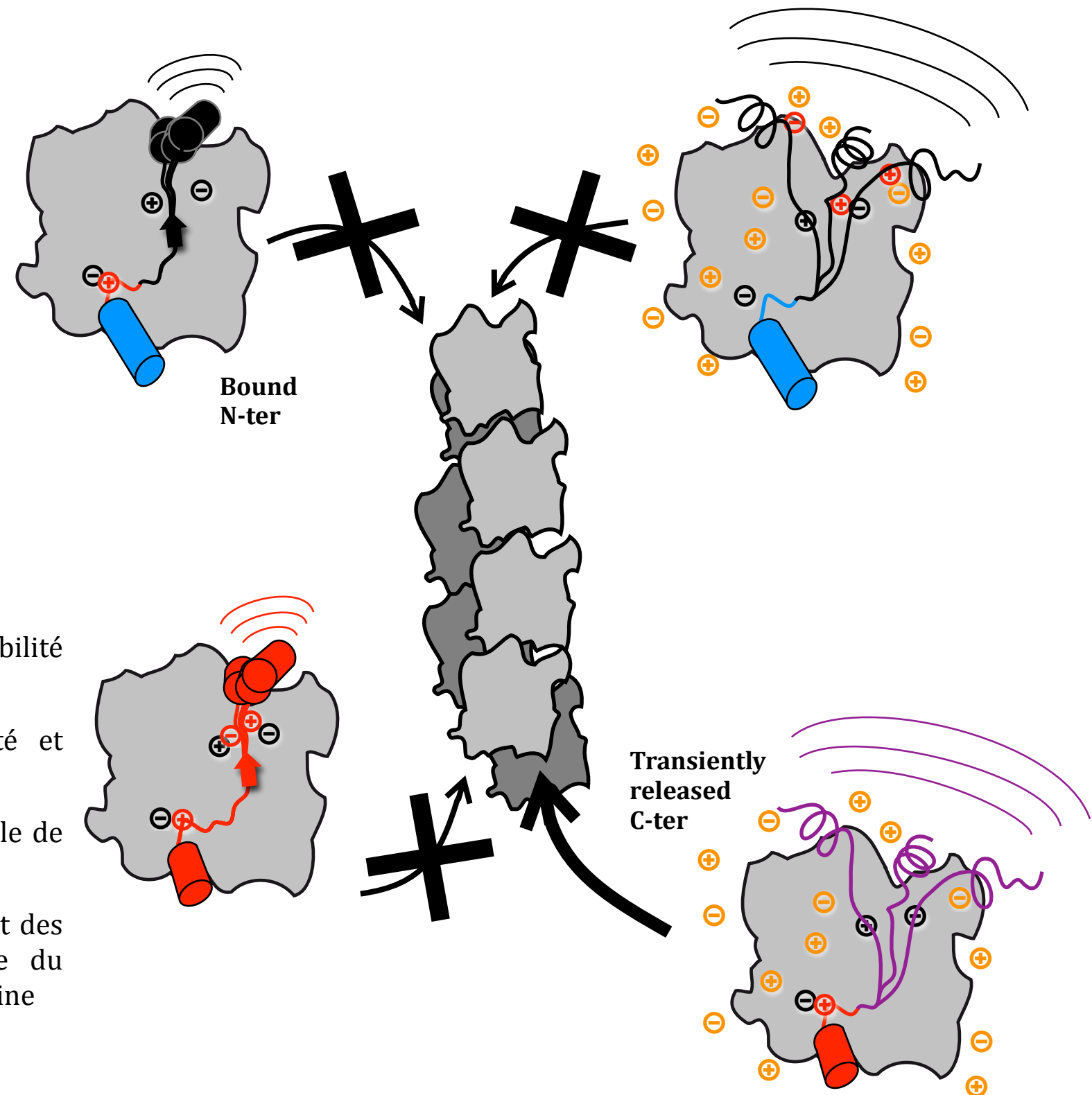
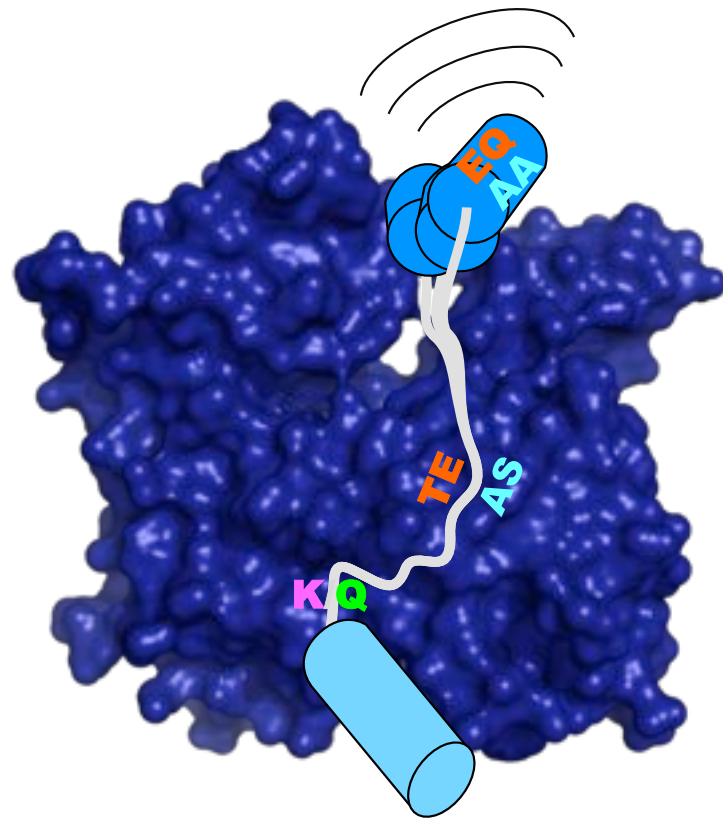


Domanski et al. JBC 2004, Hertzog et al. Cell 2004, Cantrelle et al. EMBO J. (2012)

NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

Les domaines T β /WH2 - régulation de la polymérisation de l'actine

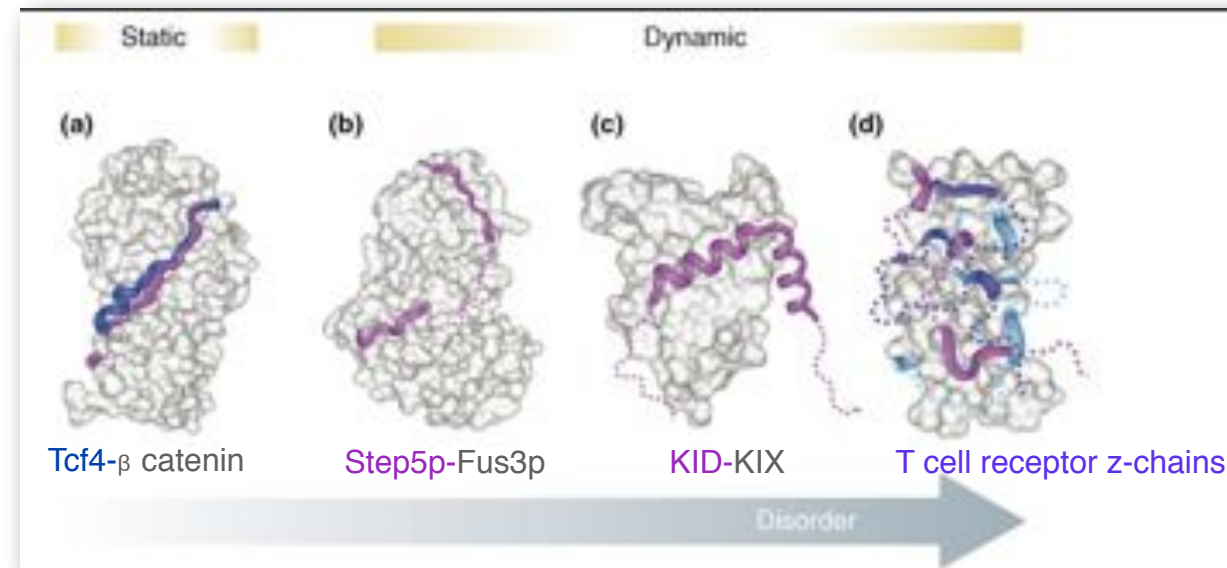


- ▶ Interactions électrostatique/polaires modulent la flexibilité locale dans l'état lié
- ▶ Interaction électrostatique clé contrôle la flexibilité et l'ancrage du fragment désordonné sur sa cible
- ▶ Hélice amphipatique/interactions hydrophobes contrôle de l'ancrage et modulation de l'affinité globale
- ▶ Modulation fine pour obtenir des affinités modérées et des fonctions variées, compatibles avec la dynamique du processus de polymérisation/dépolymérisation de l'actine

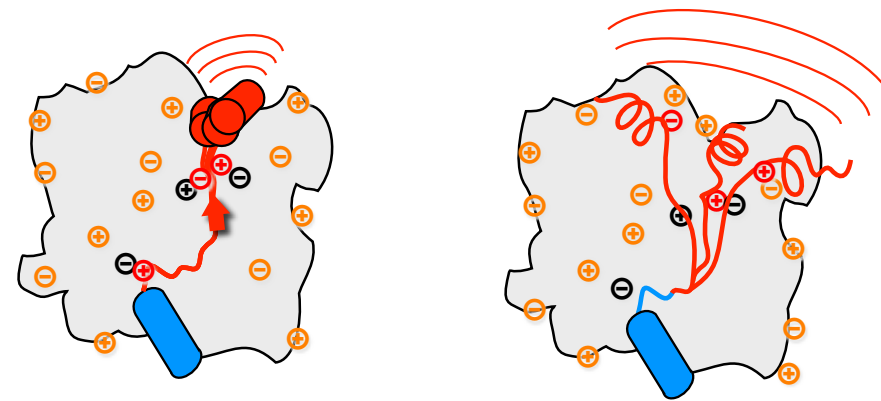
NMR - Spatial and Time scales are highly intermingled.

Investigation of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

polymorphism & structural disorder
in protein-protein interactions involving IDPs



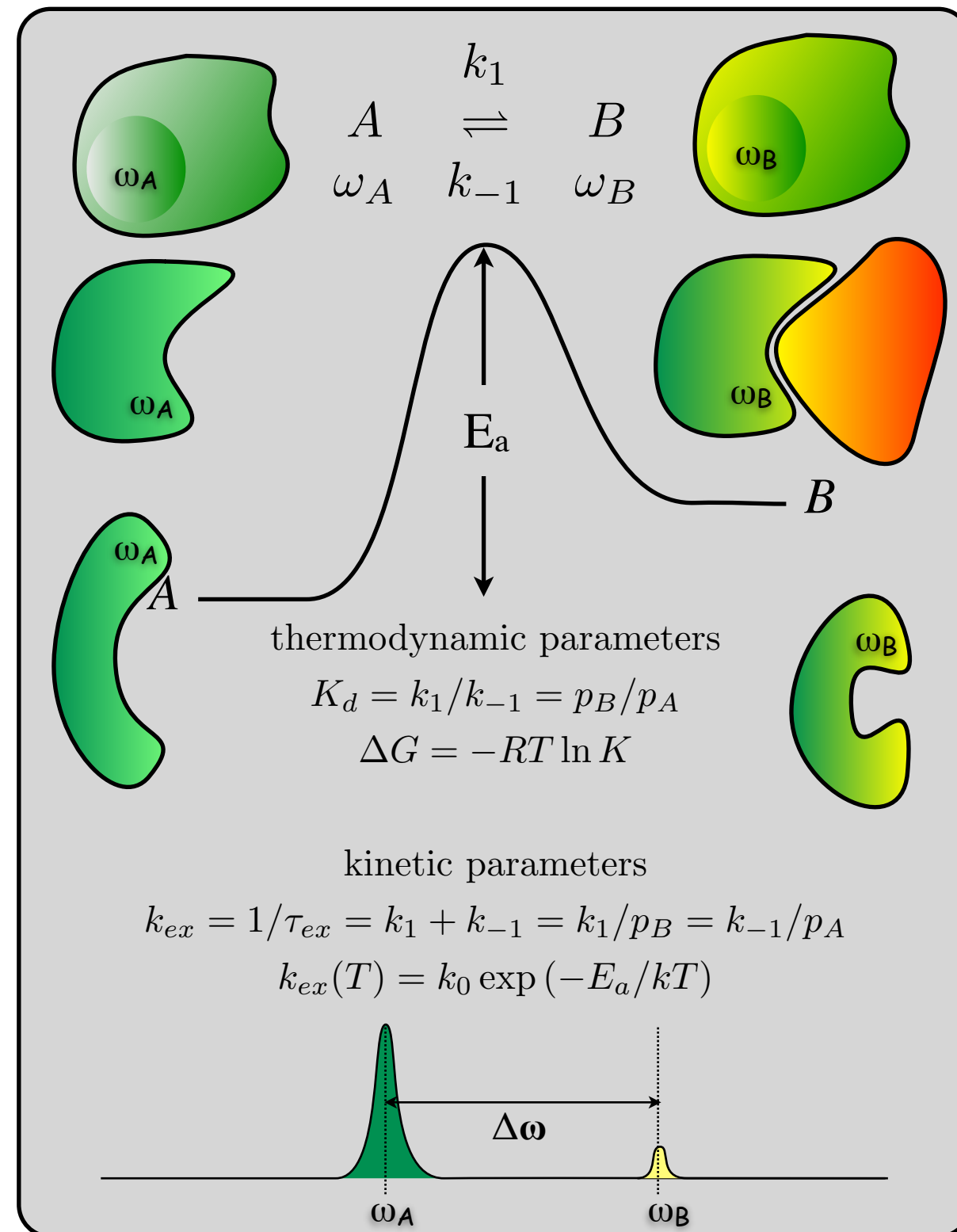
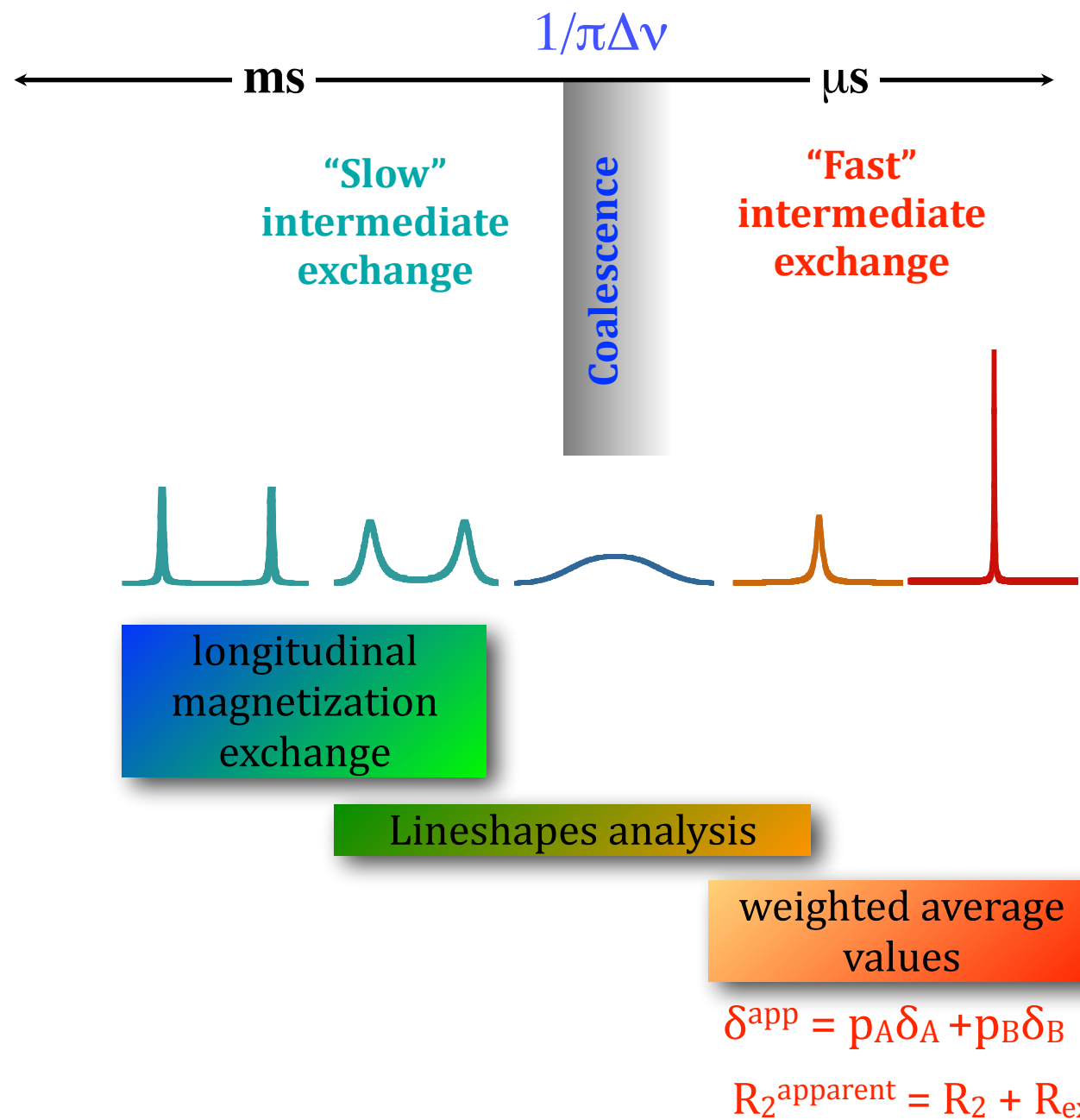
Tompa & Fuxreiter, TIBS 2007



- ⇒ Control of the «fuzziness» of the complexes via scarce variations along the whole sequence
- ⇒ Role of local dynamics in the function of intrinsically disordered proteins.

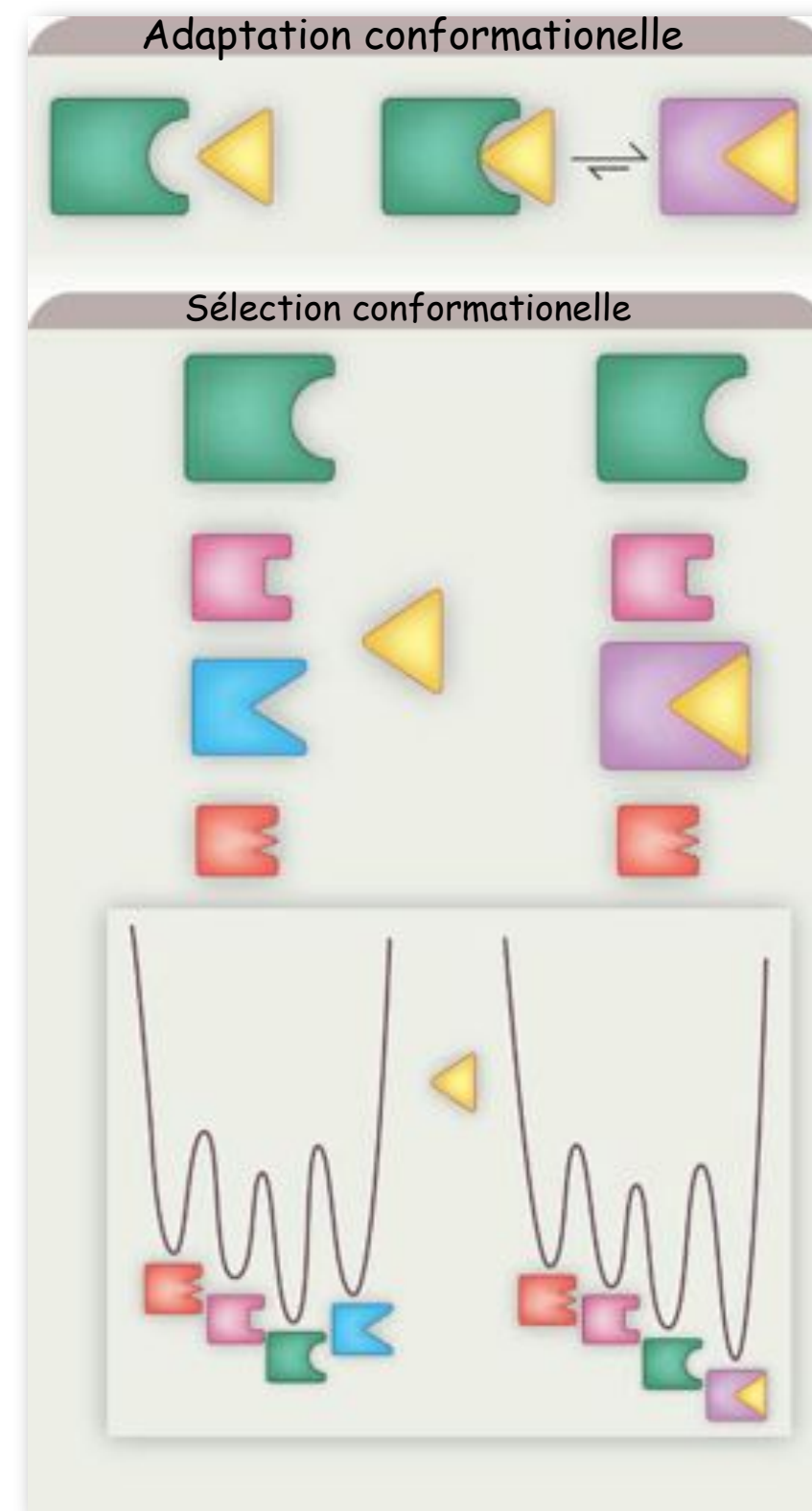
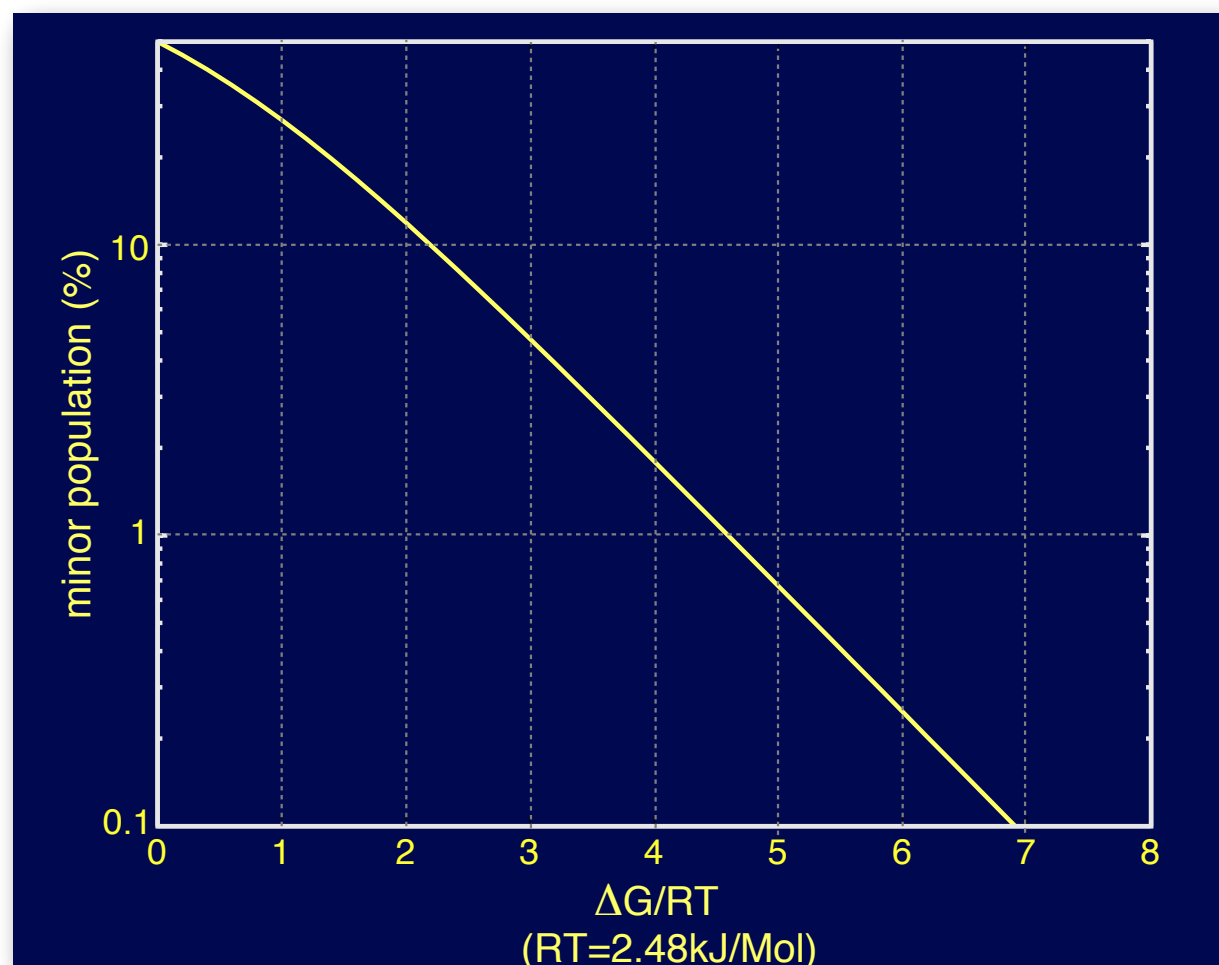
Characterization of dynamic processes in the spectral timescale

Some methods to characterize conformational exchange



Caractérisation des états faiblement peuplés: une étape importante pour la compréhension des mécanismes d'action des protéines

- ⇒ Protéines : multiple conformations à l'équilibre thermique en solution
 - ⇒ Cristallographie RX : Sélection d'une conformation lors de la cristallisation
 - ⇒ RMN : Ensemble conformationnel moyenné dans le temps
- ⇒ Etat "fondamental" > 90%
- ⇒ Etats de haute énergie, faiblement peuplés : rôles dans la liaison de substrats, dans les cycles catalytiques, dans les processus de repliement (états de transition)
- ...



Characterization of dynamic processes in the spectral timescale conformational exchange

Exchange regime

Case of unequal populations

👉 “Fast” exchange : $\Delta\omega \ll k_{ex}$

⇒ One peak at $\omega = p_A\omega_A + p_B\omega_B$

⇒ $R_{ex} \propto B_0^2$

👉 “intermediate” exchange : $\Delta\omega \simeq k_{ex}$

⇒ One or several broadened peaks

⇒ $R_{ex} \propto B_0$

👉 “slow” exchange : $\Delta\omega \gg k_{ex}$

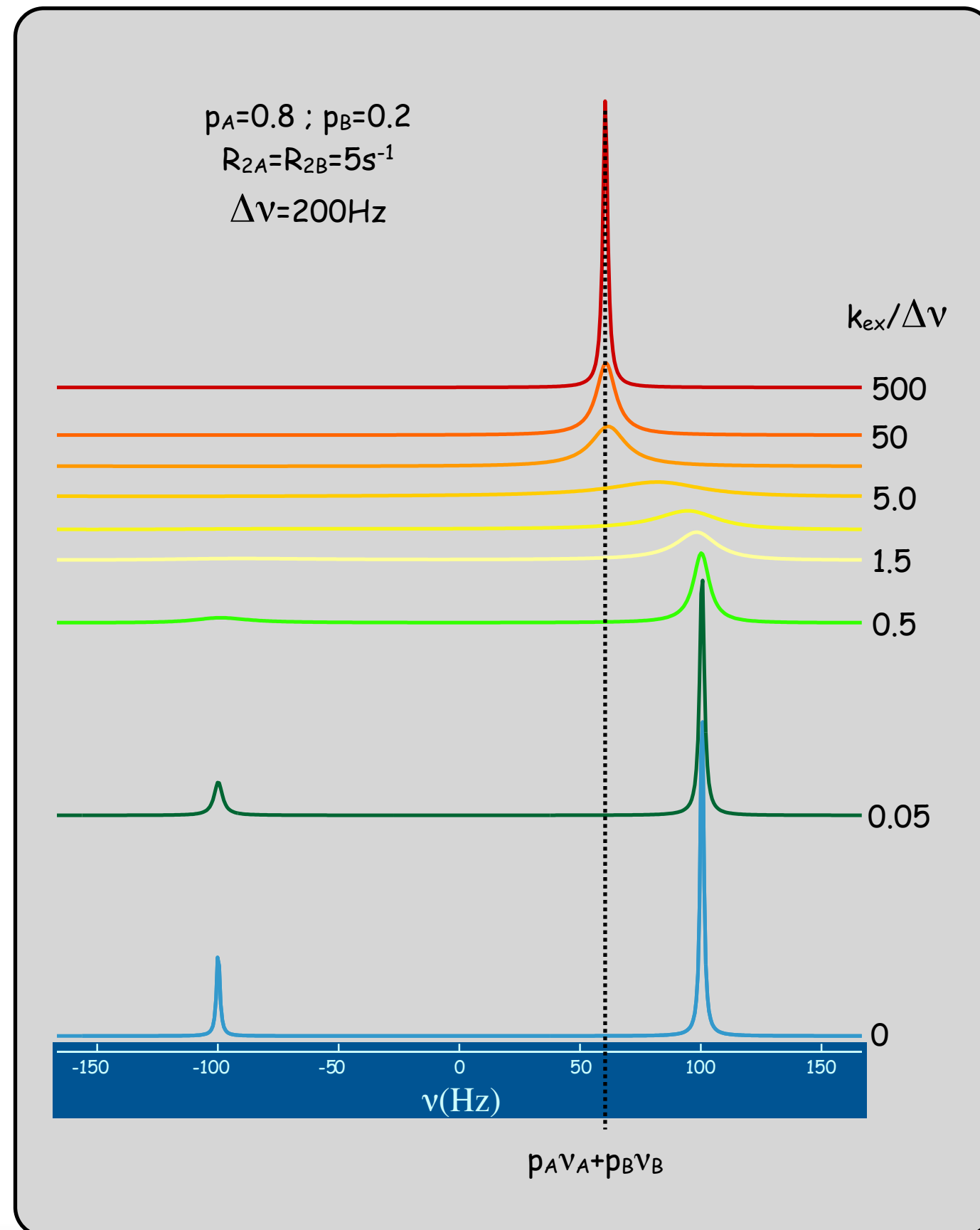
⇒ Several peaks

⇒ R_{ex} independent of B_0

⇒ $R_{ex}^{(B)} \rightarrow k_{BA} = p_A k_{ex}$; $R_{ex}^{(A)} \rightarrow k_{AB} = p_B k_{ex}$

$$p_A \gg p_B \Rightarrow R_{ex}(B) \gg R_{ex}(A)$$

👉 **The minor peak can be undetectable even in a slow exchange regime.**



Characterization of dynamic processes in the spectral timescale

The case of one observed peak

Case of unequal populations

👉 “Fast” exchange : $\Delta\omega \ll k_{ex}$

- ⇒ One peak at $\omega = p_A\omega_A + p_B\omega_B$
- ⇒ $R_{ex} \propto B_0^2$

👉 **Number of states in exchange ?**

👉 “intermediate” exchange : $\Delta\omega \simeq k_{ex}$

- ⇒ One or several broadened peaks
- ⇒ $R_{ex} \propto B_0$

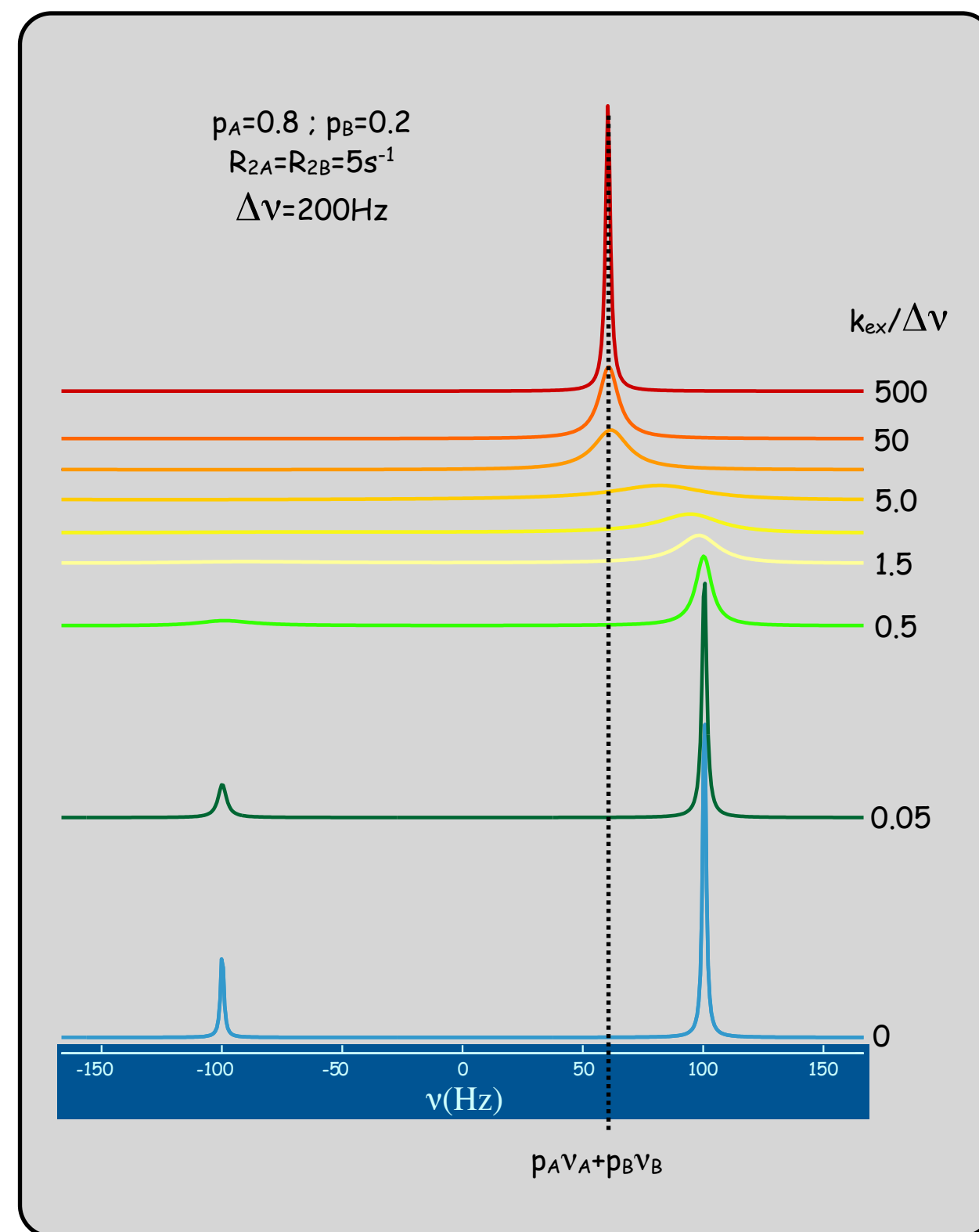
👉 “slow” exchange : $\Delta\omega \gg k_{ex}$

- ⇒ Several peaks
- ⇒ R_{ex} independent of B_0
- ⇒ $R_{ex}^{(B)} \rightarrow k_{BA} = p_A k_{ex}$; $R_{ex}^{(A)} \rightarrow k_{AB} = p_B k_{ex}$

$$p_A \gg p_B \Rightarrow R_{ex}(B) \gg R_{ex}(A)$$

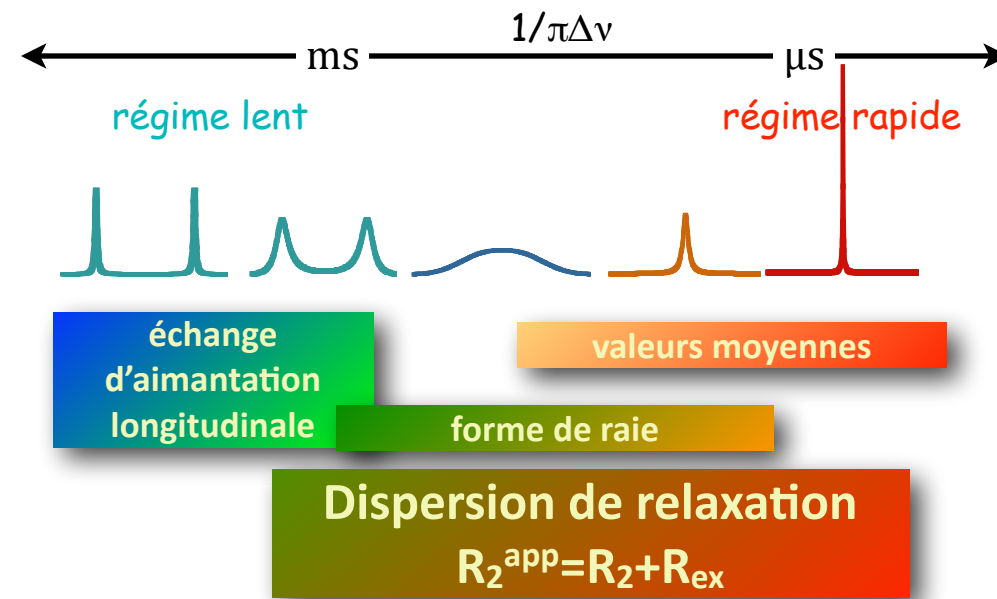
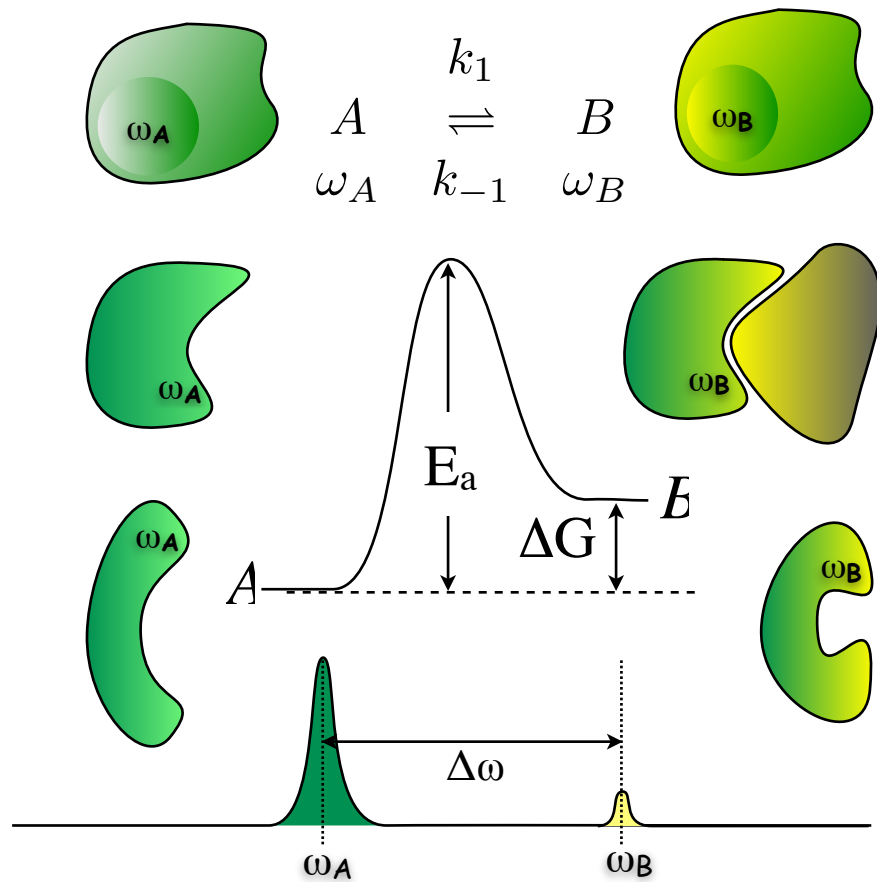
👉 **The minor peak can be undetectable even in a slow exchange regime.**

Experiments to characterize thermodynamics, kinetics and structural parameters of the exchange when only one peak is observed ?



Characterization of dynamic processes in the spectral timescale

The case of one observed peak



Une seule résonance apparente, plusieurs états en échange



paramètres thermodynamiques

$$K_{eq} = k_1/k_{-1} = p_B/p_A$$

$$\Delta G = -RT \ln K_{eq}$$

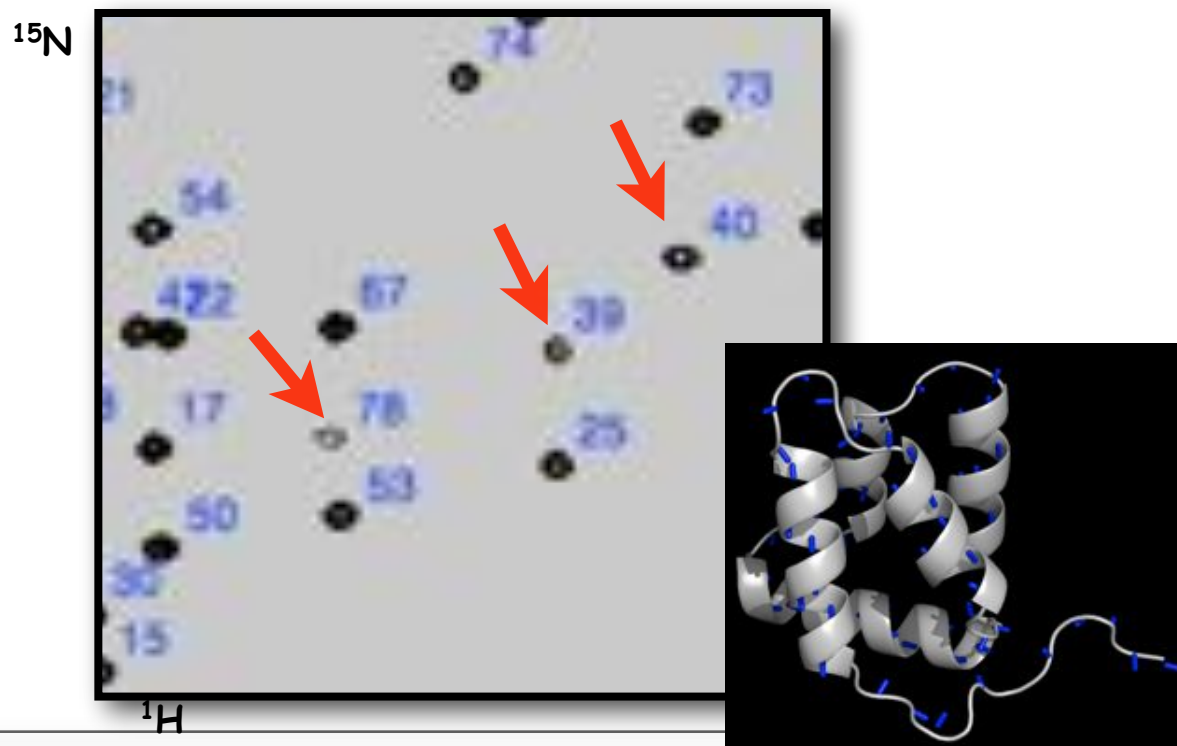
paramètres cinétiques

$$k_{ex} = 1/\tau_{ex} = k_1 + k_{-1} = k_1/p_B = k_{-1}/p_A$$

$$k_{ex}(T) = k_0 \exp(-E_a/kT)$$

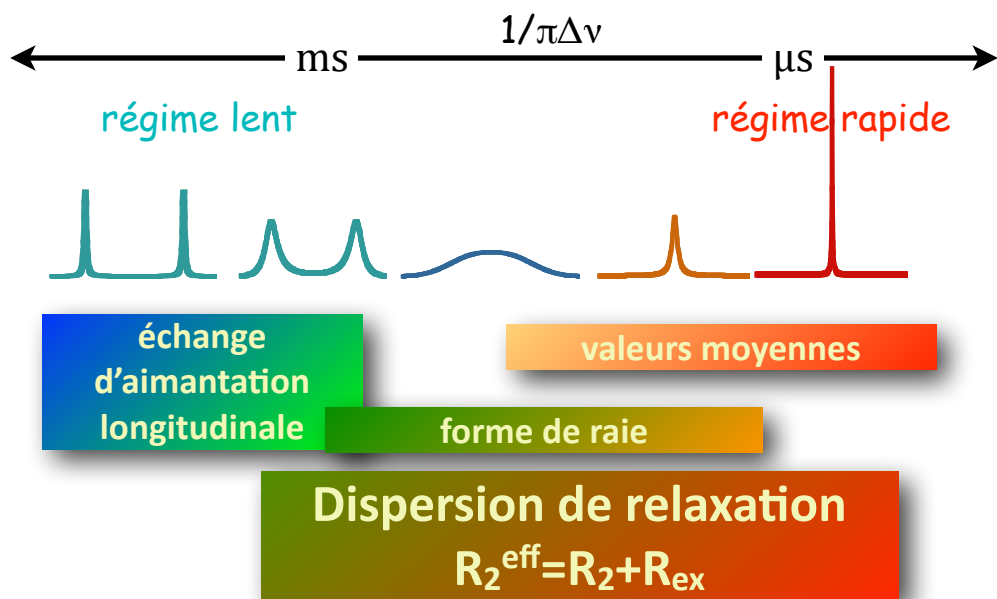
paramètres structuraux

$$\Delta\omega ; \omega_A ; \omega_B$$

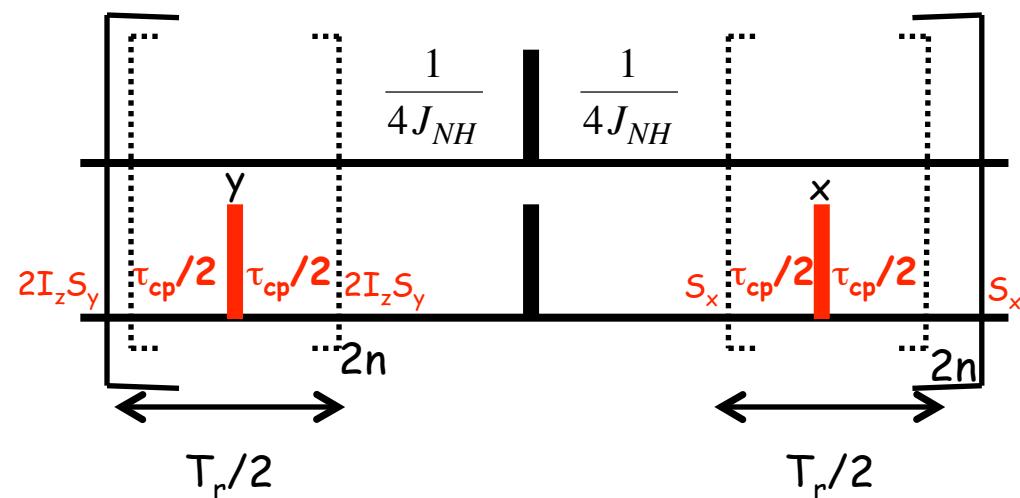
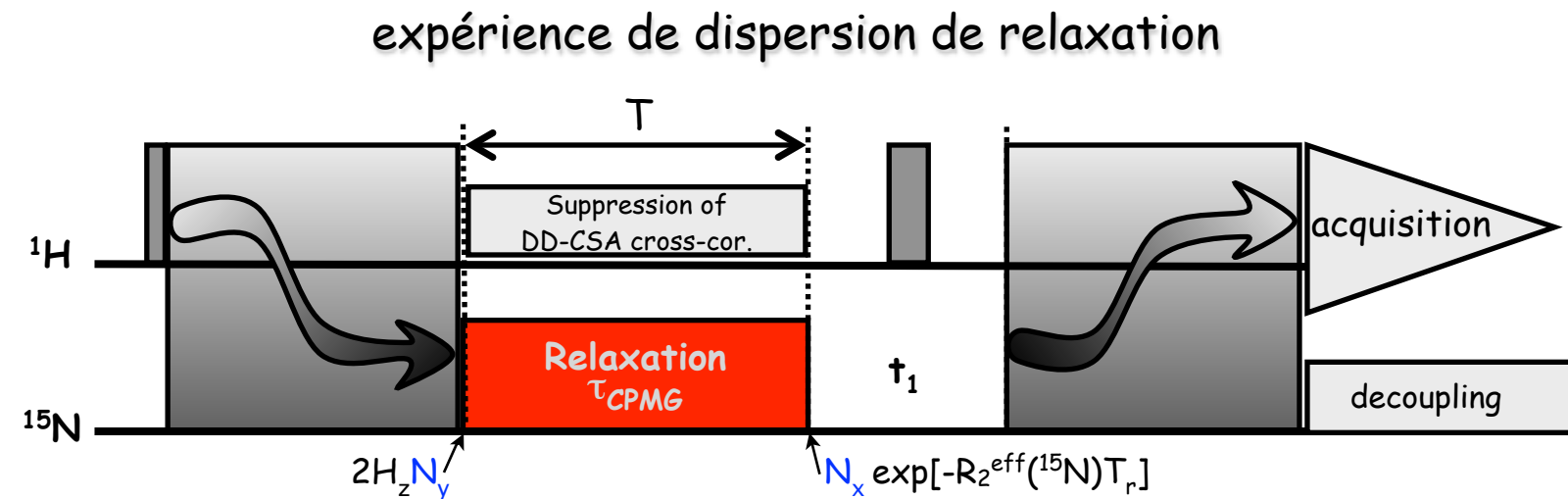


Characterization of dynamic processes in the spectral timescale

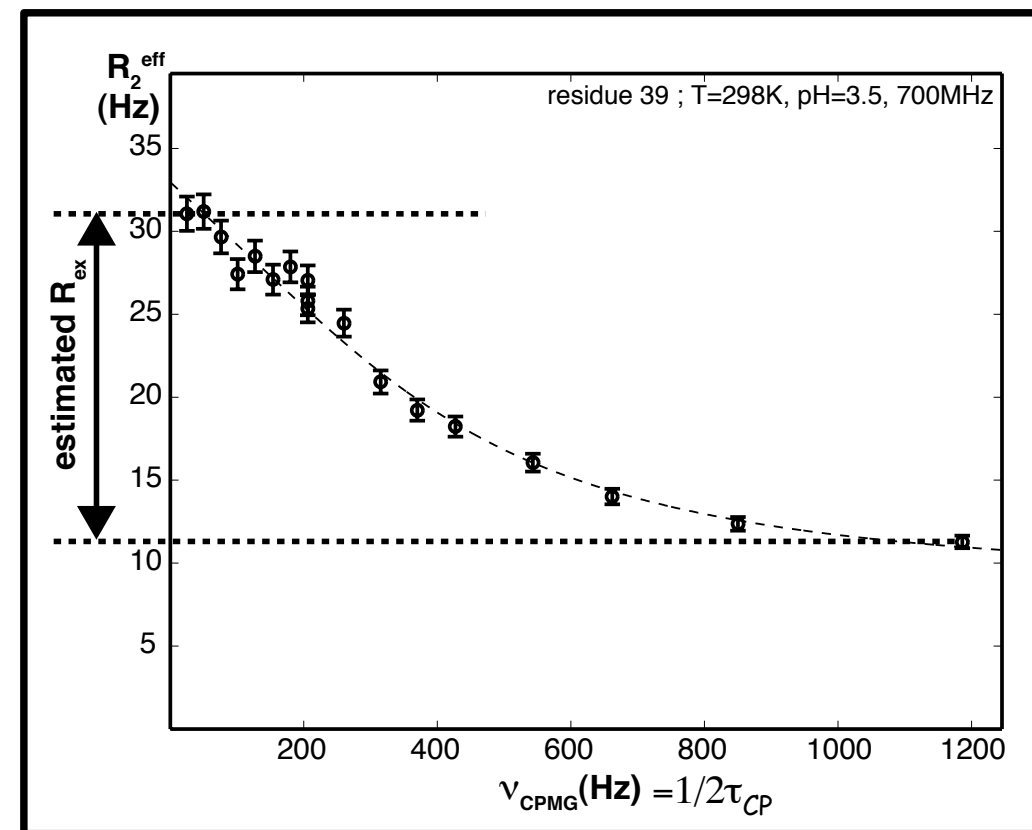
The case of one observed peak



Une seule résonance apparente, plusieurs états en échange



$$R_2^{eff} = R_2^0 + R_{ex}(p_B, k_{ex}, \delta\omega, \tau_{CP}, 2N_{echo})$$



Characterization of dynamic processes in the spectral timescale

The case of one observed peak - relaxation dispersion experiments

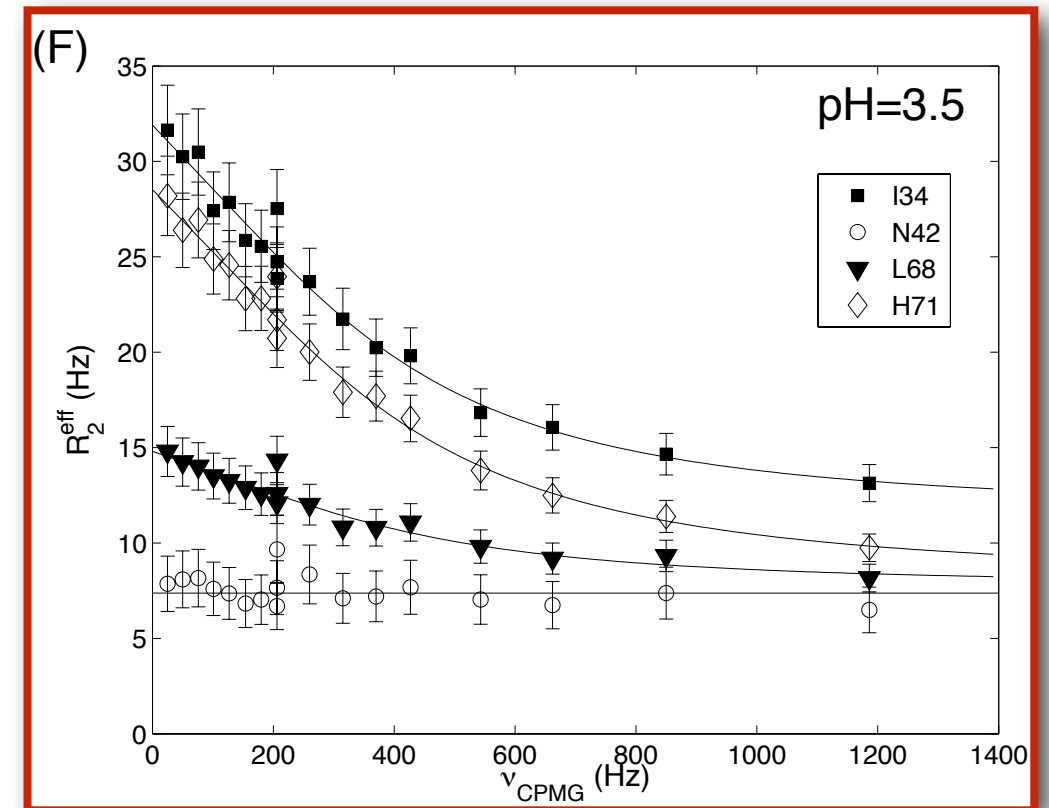
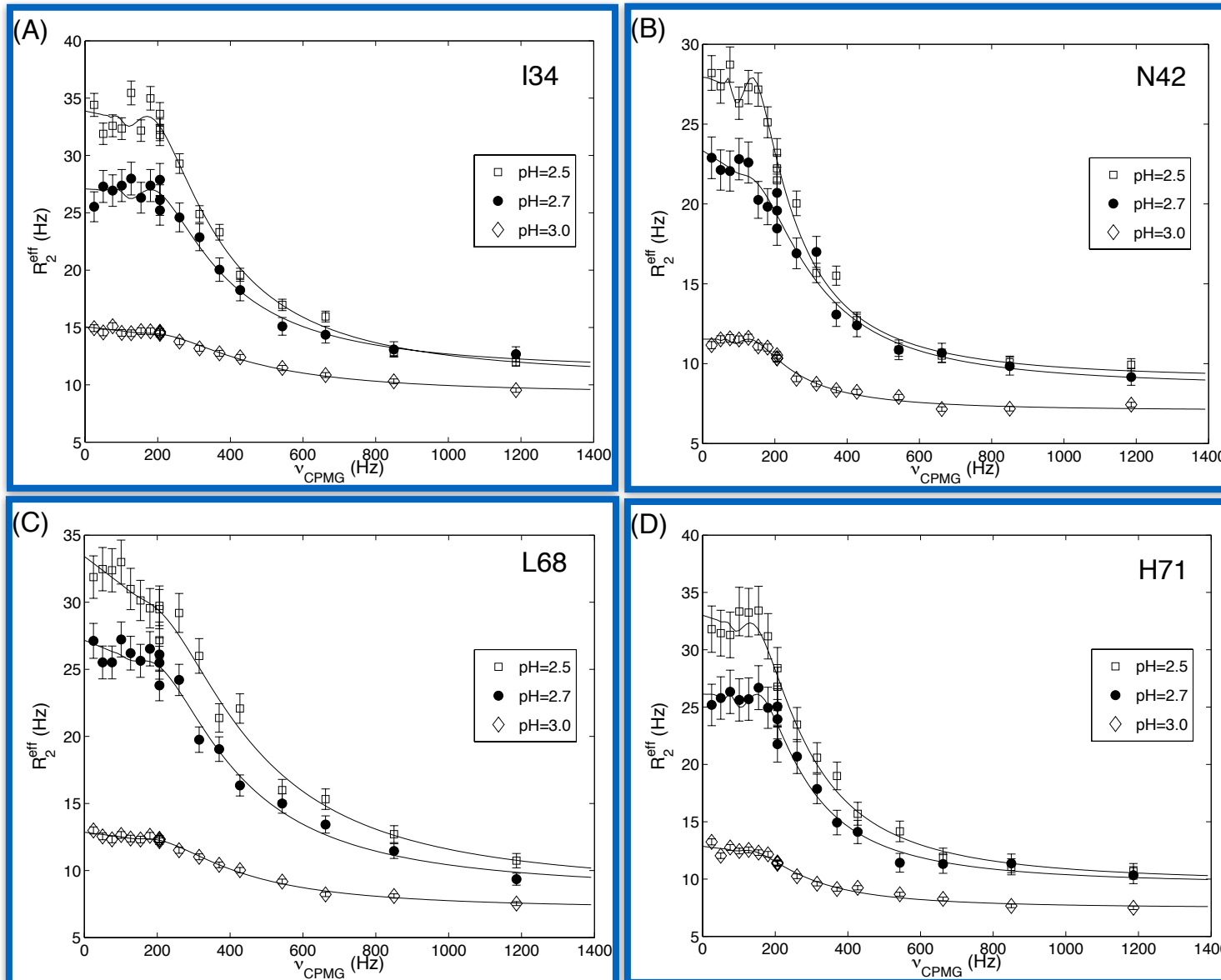
The presence of dispersion indicate conformational exchange in the 100us-10ms range
 Different exchange regimes yield different 'type' of dispersion curves

☞ Intermediate/Slow exchange regime

$$p_B \ll p_A$$

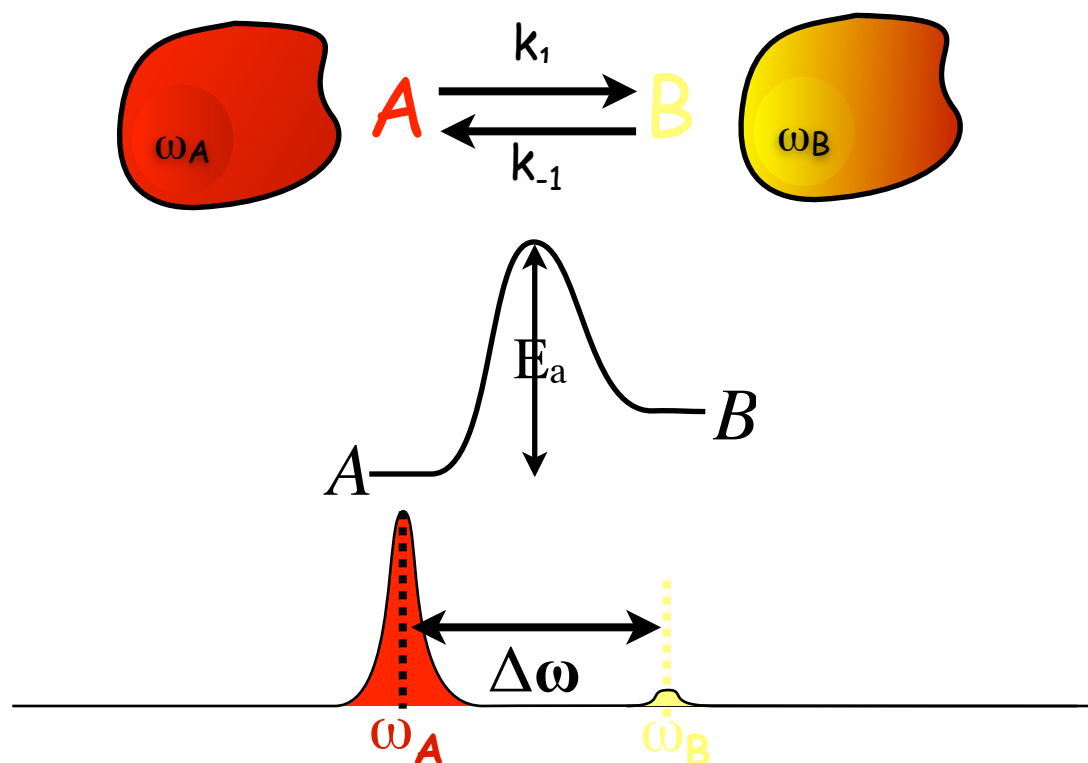
☞ Fast exchange regime

$$p_B \approx p_A$$



Characterization of dynamic processes in the spectral timescale

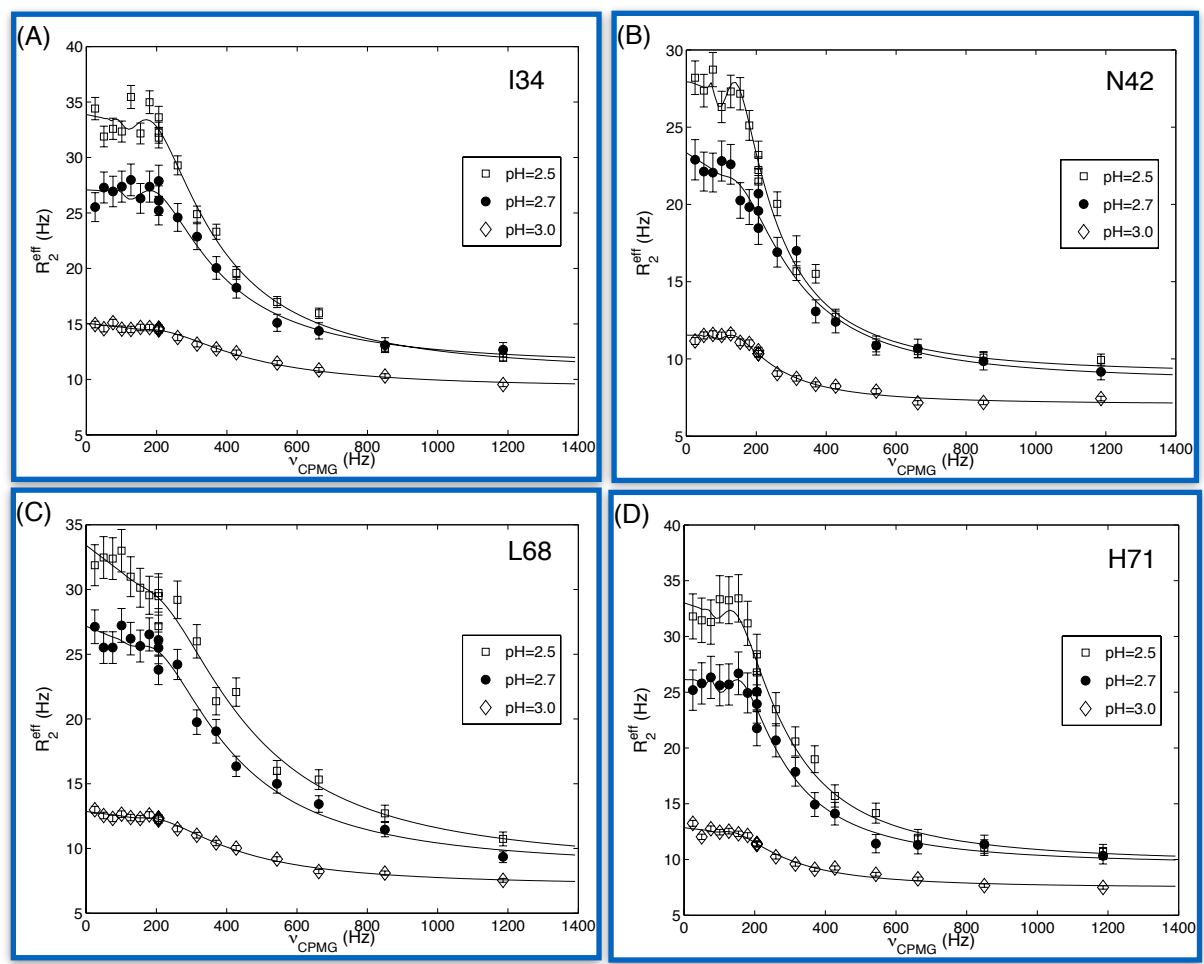
The case of one observed peak - slow regime with one major conformation



Elargissement du pic majoritaire donne des informations sur la nature de l'état non détectable.

Ajustement global des courbes de RD conduit aux paramètres cinétique, thermodynamique de l'échange et à des informations structurales sur l'état minoritaire

- ⇒ $\tau_{ex} = 2-5$ ms
- ⇒ $p_B = 1\% \rightarrow 10\%$
- ⇒ Individual $\Delta\omega(^{15}\text{N}) = 0 \leftrightarrow 8$ ppm



$$R_2^{app} = R_2^{inf} + 0.5k_{ex} - \nu_{CP} \text{acosh} (D_+ \cosh \eta_+ - D_- \cos \eta_-)$$

$$D_+ = 0.5 \left[1 + \frac{\phi + 2\Delta\omega^2}{\sqrt{\phi^2 + \zeta^2}} \right] ; D_- = 0.5 \left[-1 + \frac{\phi + 2\Delta\omega^2}{\sqrt{\phi^2 + \zeta^2}} \right]$$

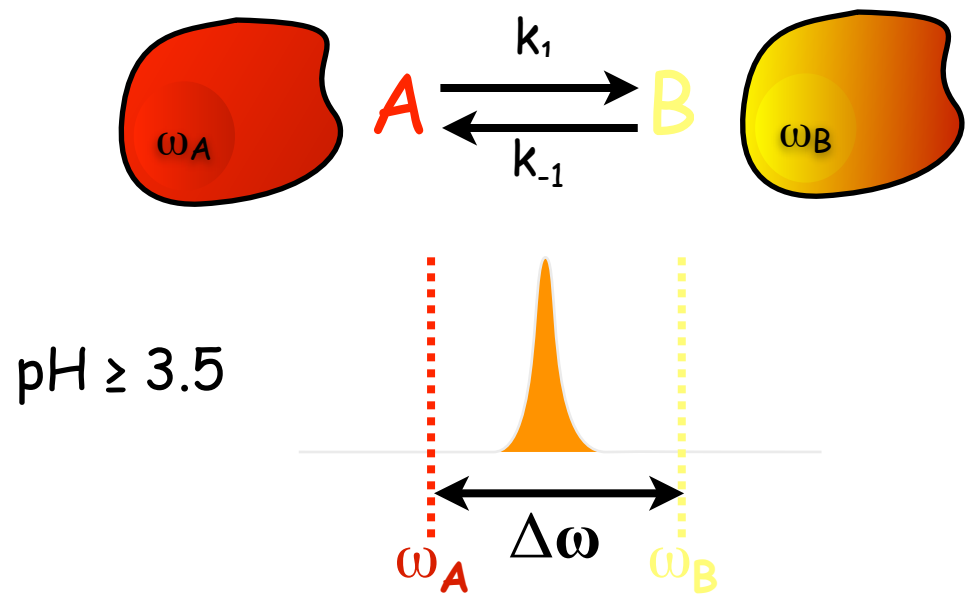
$$\eta_+ = \frac{\tau_{CP}}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{\phi + \sqrt{\phi^2 + \zeta^2}} ; \eta_- = \frac{\tau_{CP}}{\sqrt{2}} \sqrt{-\phi + \sqrt{\phi^2 + \zeta^2}}$$

$$\phi = [(p_B - p_A)k_{ex}]^2 - \Delta\omega^2 + 4p_A p_B k_{ex}^2$$

$$\zeta = 2\Delta\omega(p_B - p_A)k_{ex}$$

Characterization of dynamic processes in the spectral timescale

The case of one observed peak - fast exchange regime

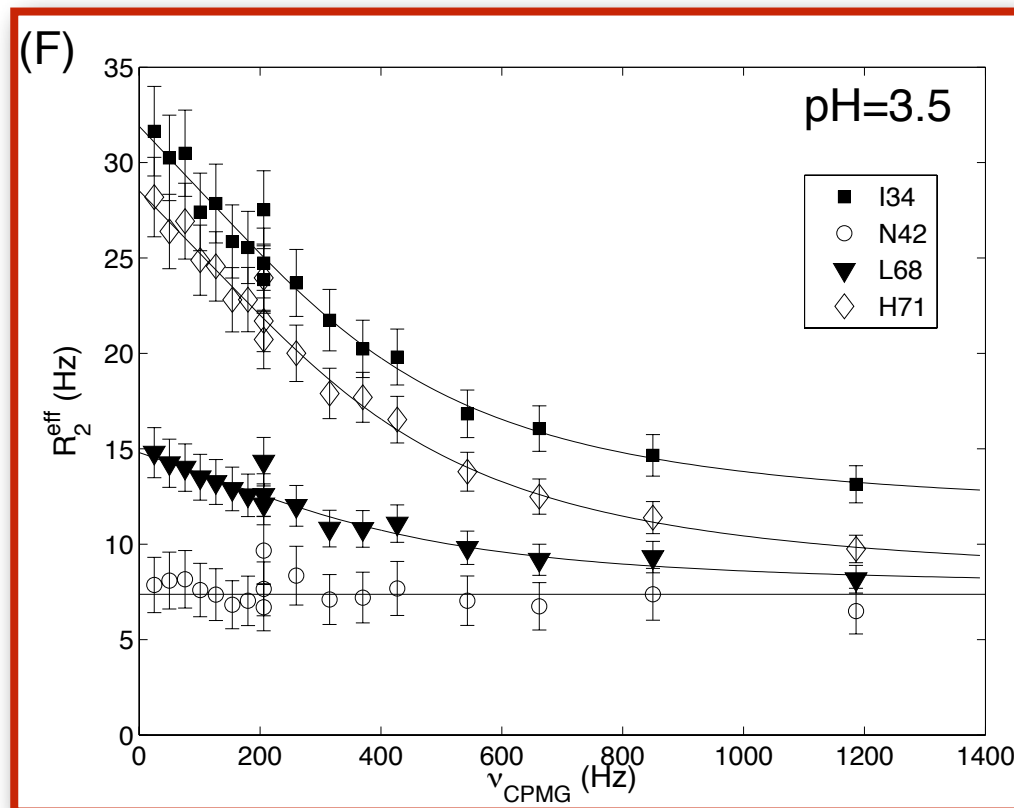


☞ Régime d'échange rapide : l'ajustement global des courbes de RD permet d'obtenir la constante de vitesse d'échange k_{ex} et le produit $p_A p_B \Delta\omega^2$.

☞ $\tau_{ex} \sim 0.5 \text{ ms}$

☞ $p_B \simeq p_A$

☞ $\Delta\omega(^{15}\text{N}) \sim 0 \leftrightarrow 3 \text{ ppm}$



$$R_2^{\text{app}} = R_2^{\text{inf}} + p_A p_B \Delta\omega^2 \tau_{ex} \left[1 - 4\tau_{ex} \nu_{CP} \tanh \frac{1}{4\tau_{ex} \nu_{CP}} \right]$$

Quelques exemples typiques de la littérature

Caractérisation d'états intermédiaires de repliement

“Petites protéines globulaires” (domaine SH3)

Korzhnev and Kay (2008) *Acc Chem Research* 41(3) 442-451. *Probing Invisible, Low-Populated States of Protein Molecules by Relaxation Dispersion NMR Spectroscopy: An Application to Protein Folding*

Repliement au cours d'une interaction

Sugase et al. (2007) *Nature* 447, 1021-1025. *Mechanism of coupled folding and binding of an intrinsically disordered protein.*

Hansen et al. (2009) *J. Mol. Biol.* 387,1-9. *Binding Kinetics of Histone Chaperone Chz1 and Variant Histone H2A.Z-H2B by Relaxation Dispersion NMR Spectroscopy.*

Sélections conformationnelles

Interaction protéine-ligand (lysozyme)

Mulder et al, *Nat. Struct. Biol.* 2001, 8(1), 932. *Studying excited states of proteins by NMR spectroscopy*

Bouvignies et al., *Nature* 2011, 477, 111. *Solution structure of a minor and transiently formed state of a T4 lysozyme mutant*

Allostérie (partenaires de KIX)

Brüschweiler, Schanda, Kloiber, Brutscher, Kontaxis, Konrat and Tollinger, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* (2009) 131, 3063–3068. *Direct Observation of the Dynamic Process Underlying Allosteric Signal Transmission.*

Enzymes

Boehr, Dyson and Wright (2006) *Chem. Rev.* 106, 3055-3079, *An NMR Perspective on Enzyme Dynamics*

Hwang et al, *PNAS* **99**, 13561 (2002) ; *PNAS* **101**, 9618 (2004) *Solution structure and dynamics of the outer membrane enzyme PagP by NMR.* Boehr et al, (2006) *Science*, 106, 3055-3079, *The Dynamic Energy Landscape of Dihydrofolate Reductase Catalysis.* Henzler-Wildman

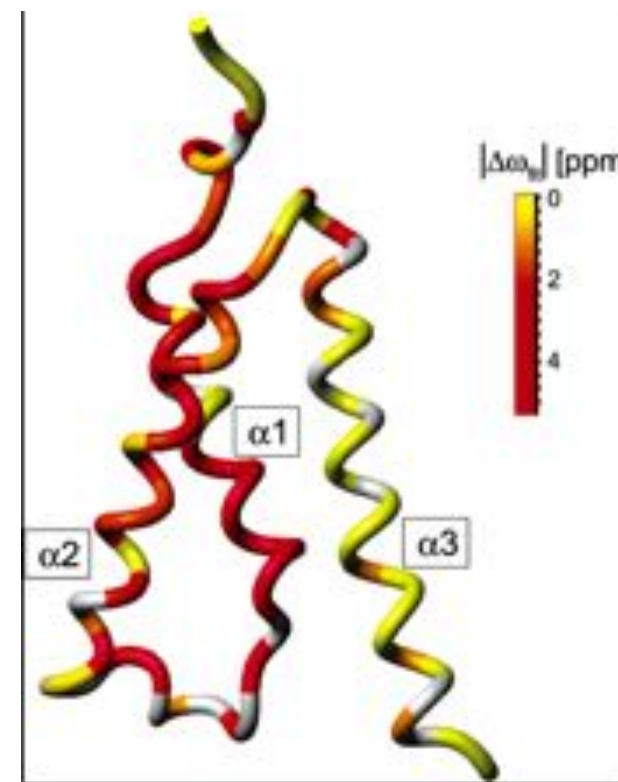
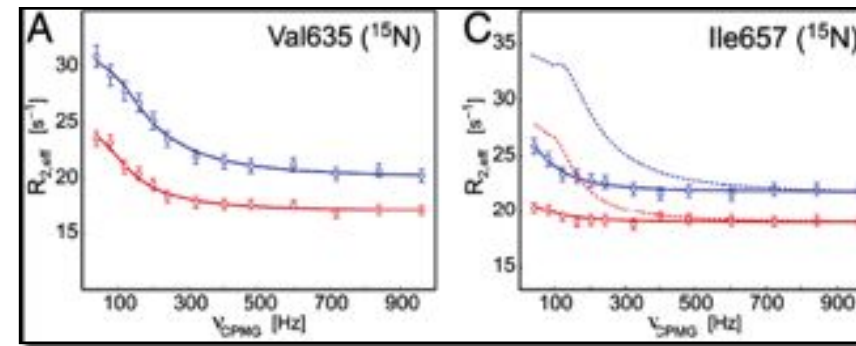
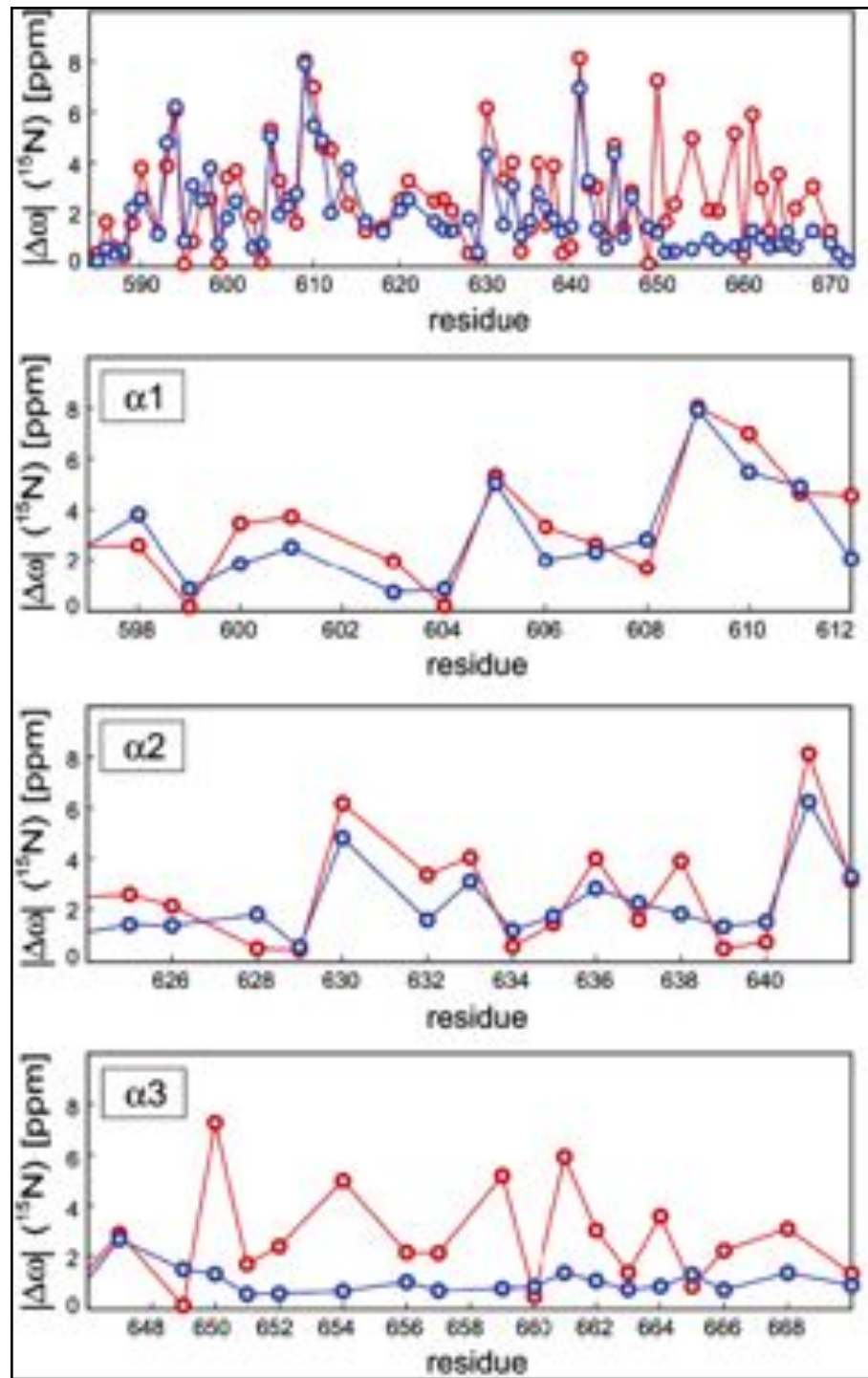
et al. (2007) *Nature* 450, 838-844 *Intrinsic motions along an enzymatic reaction trajectory (Adenylate kinase).* Eisenmesser et al. (2005) *nature* 438, 117-121. *Intrinsic dynamics of an enzyme underlies catalysis (prolyl cis–trans isomerase cyclophilin A (CypA)).*

Hansen, Vallurupalli and Kay. *J Biomol NMR* (2008) 41:113–120, Using relaxation dispersion NMR spectroscopy to determine structures of excited, invisible protein states

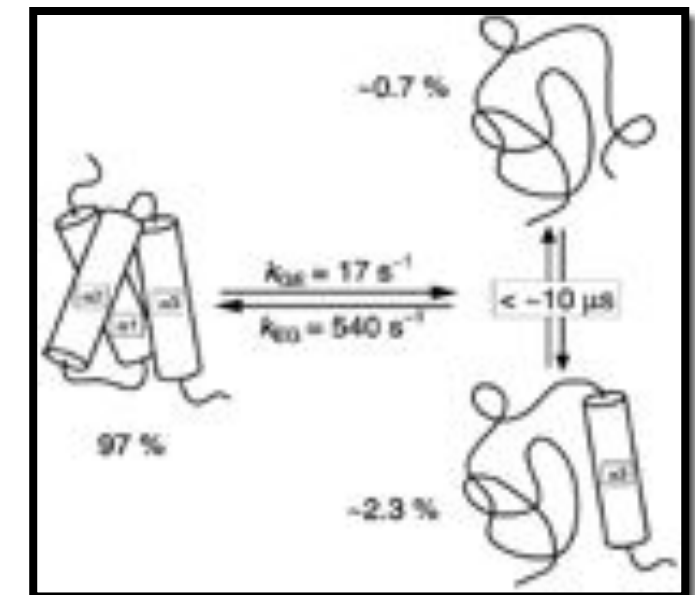
Characterization of dynamic processes in the spectral timescale

Folding processes

KIX domain of CPB



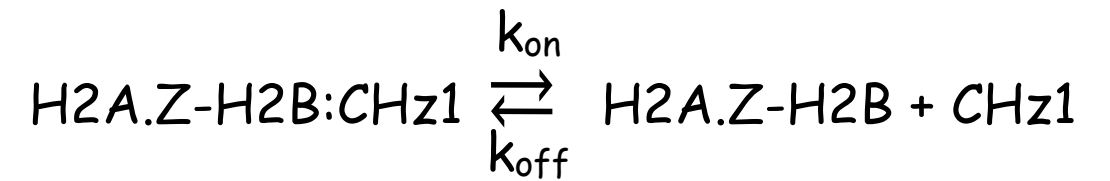
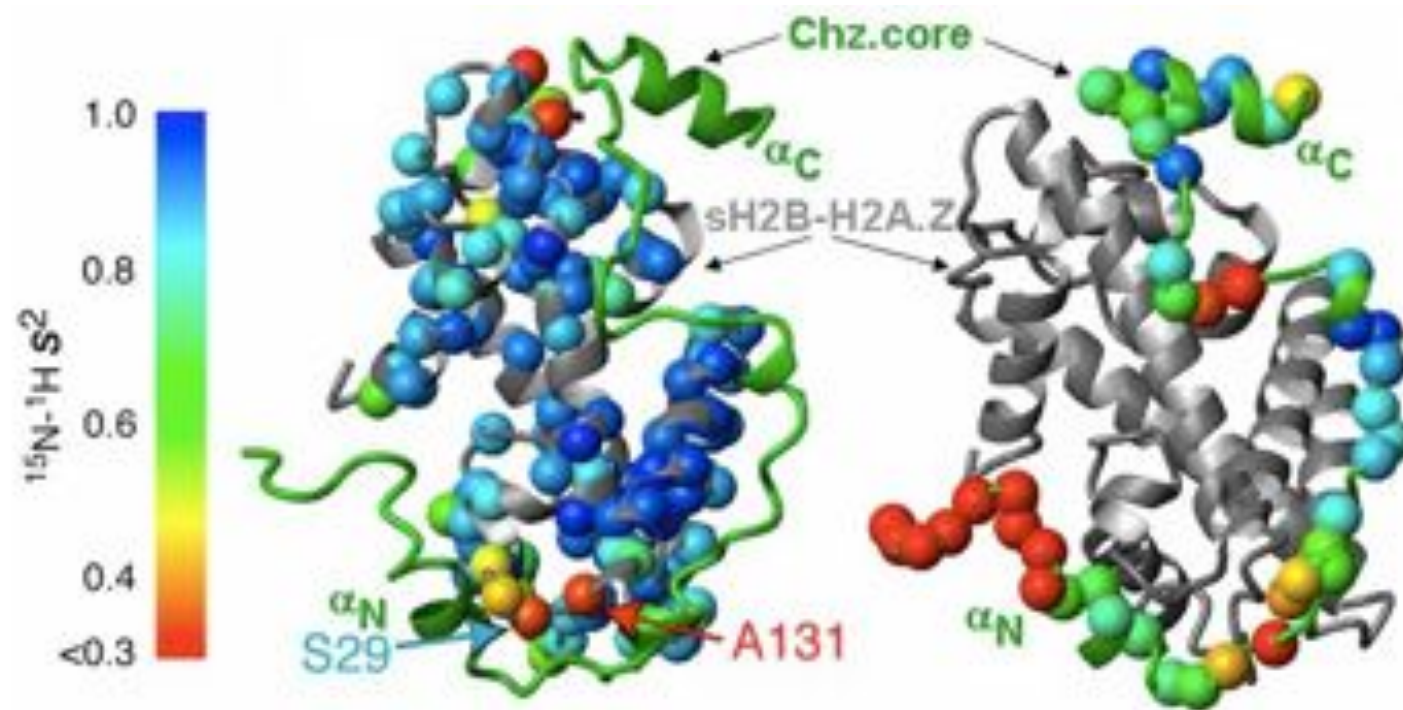
pH=5.5, T=300K



repliement au cours d'une interaction

Binding Kinetics of Histone Chaperone Chz1 and Variant Histone H2A.Z-H2B by Relaxation Dispersion NMR Spectroscopy

D. Flemming Hansen, Zheng Zhou, Haniqiao Feng, Lisa M. Miller Jenkins, Yawen Bai and Lewis E. Kay (2009) J. Mol. Biol. 387,1-9.



$$K_D = k_{\text{off}}/k_{\text{on}}$$

(micromolar range)

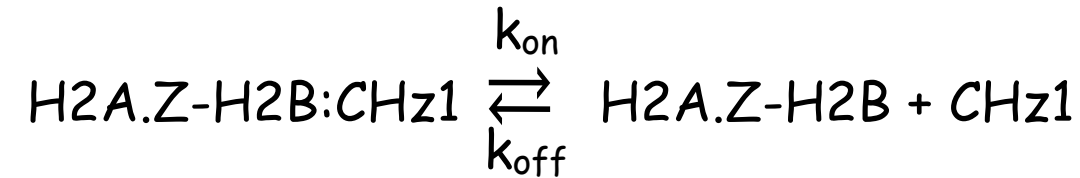
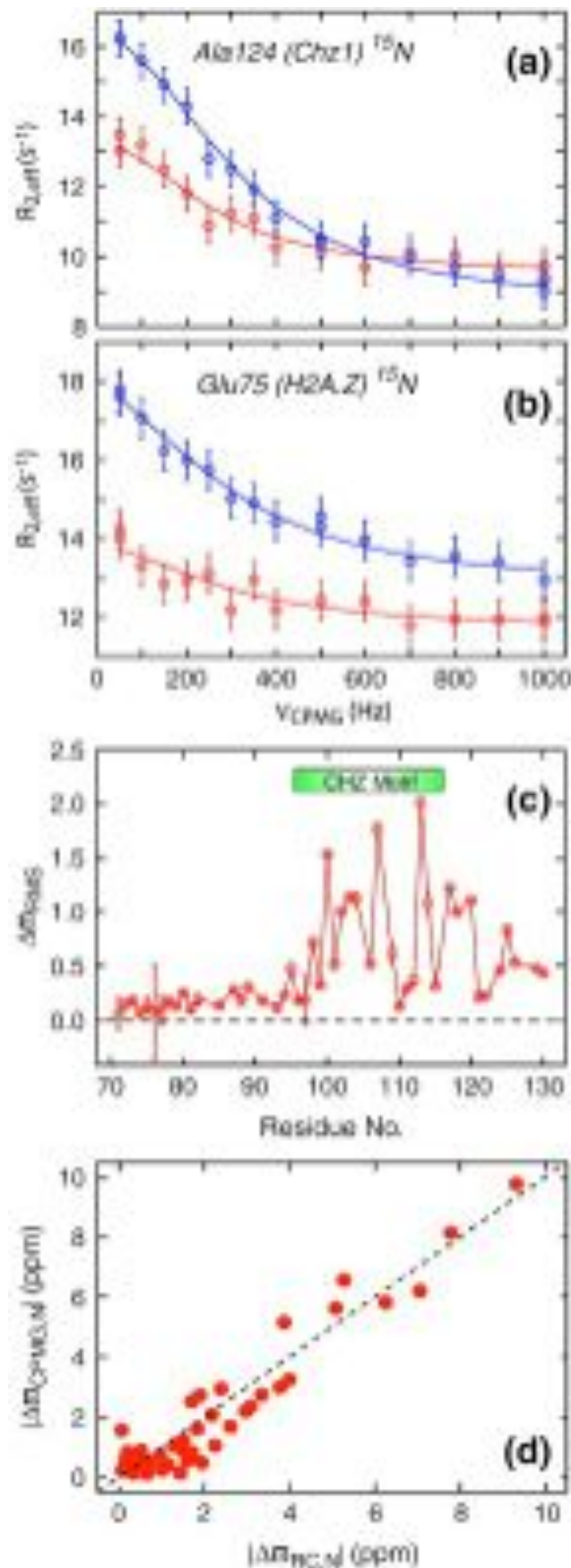
Zhou et al. Nat. Struct. Mol. Biol.(2008), 15(8), 868

Analyse de l'élargissement des résonances du complexe 1:1 du à l'échange avec les formes libres minoritaires (~1%) invisibles

Observation of H2A.Z-H2B : $k'_{\text{on}} = k_{\text{on}}[\text{CHz1}]$

Observation of CHz1 : $k''_{\text{on}} = k_{\text{on}}[\text{H2A.Z-H2B}]$

repliement au cours d'une interaction



⇒ Les données de dispersion de relaxation (RD) sont compatibles avec un processus d'échange entre deux états.

⇒ Les variations de déplacements chimiques obtenus à partir des données de RD sont compatibles avec les $\Delta\omega$ connus entre les états libres et liés (NB. déplié pour CHz1 libre)

⇒ Les données de RD se rapportent bien au processus de liaison.

⇒ Elles permettent une détermination précise des paramètres thermodynamiques et cinétiques.

$k_{\text{on}} = 10^8 \pm 10^7 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1} \gg$ rapide que la limite de diffusion ($\sim 10^5 - 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$), probablement due à de fortes contributions électrostatiques.

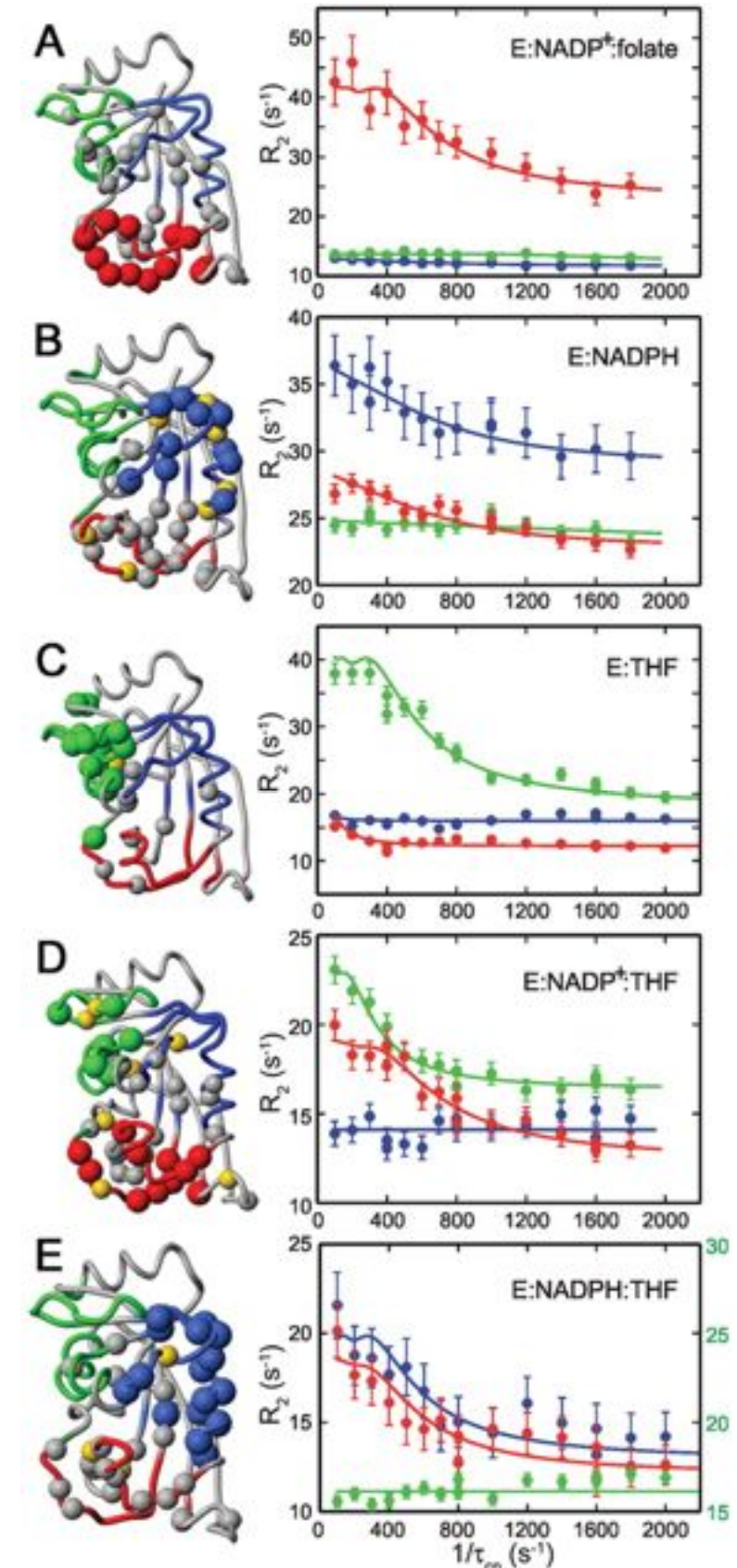
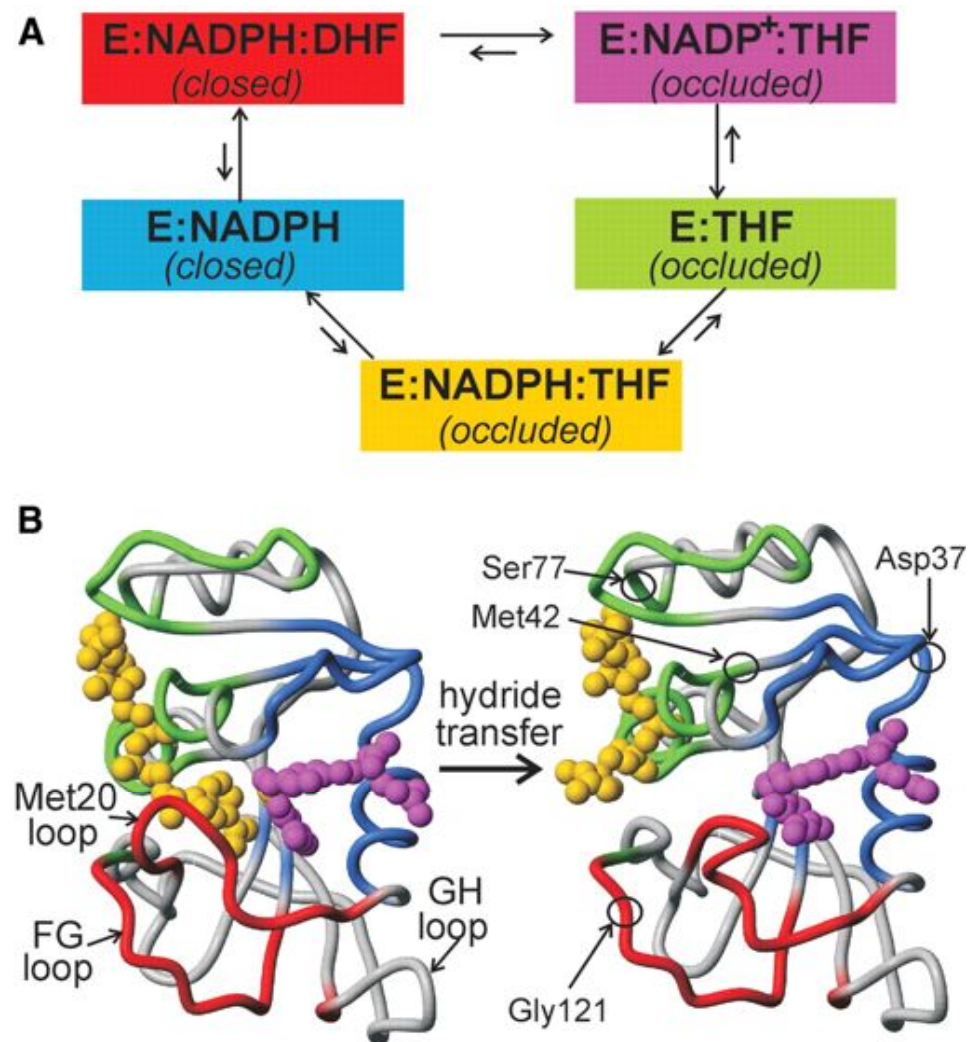
$k_{\text{off}} = 22 \pm 2 \text{ s}^{-1}$: limite supérieure pour les vitesses à laquelle les histones H2A.Z-H2B sont fournies par la chaperone Chz1 au complexe de remodelage de la chromatine SWR1 (qui catalyse ensuite le remplacement de l'histone canonique H2A-H2B par H2A_Z-H2B)

NB. Données à comparer avec la vitesse d'ouverture du nucléosome $\sim 20 - 90 \text{ s}^{-1}$ déterminée par FRET.

Sélection conformationnelle

⇒ Couplage mouvements - catalyse

Le cas de la dihydrofolate réductase (DHFR)

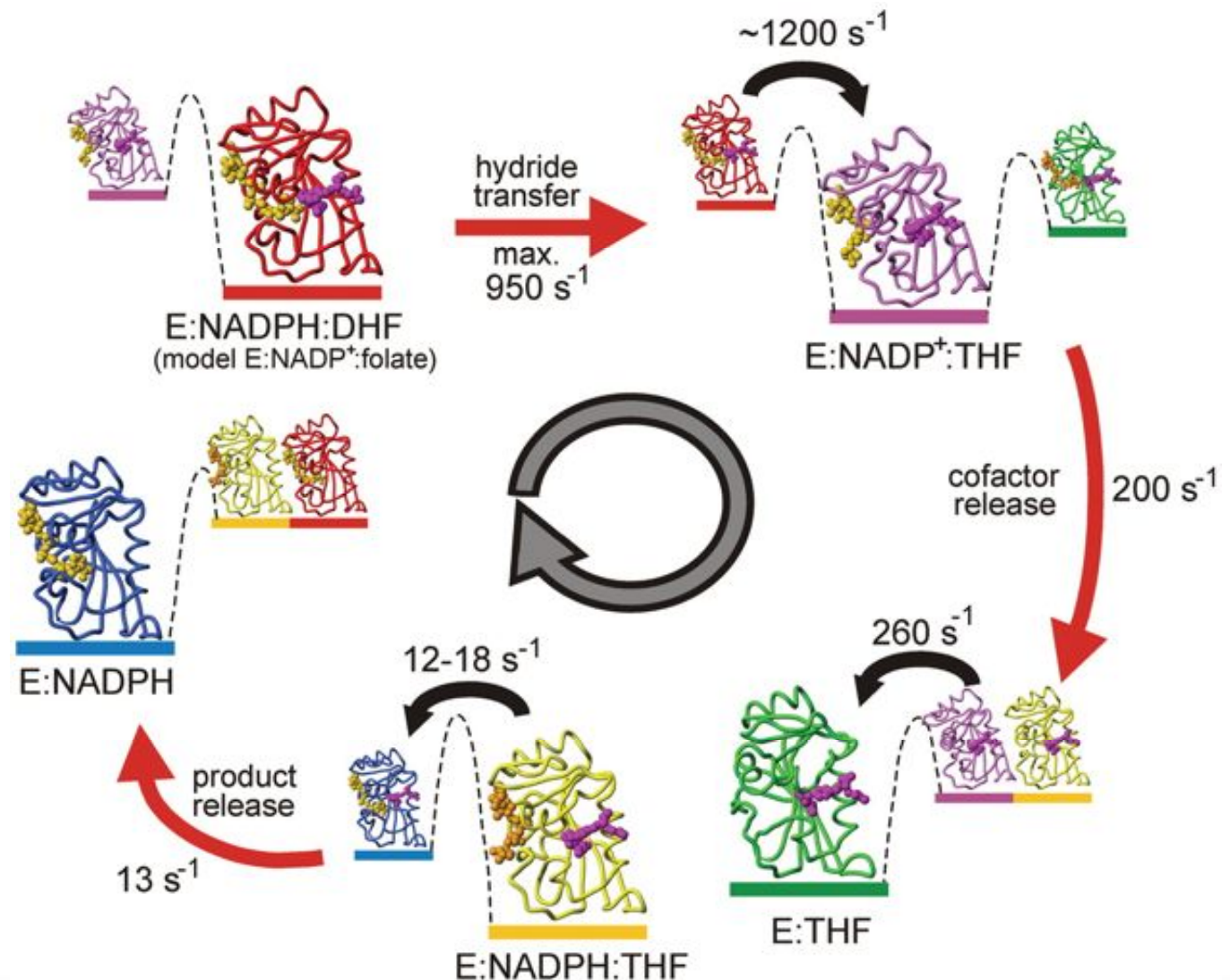
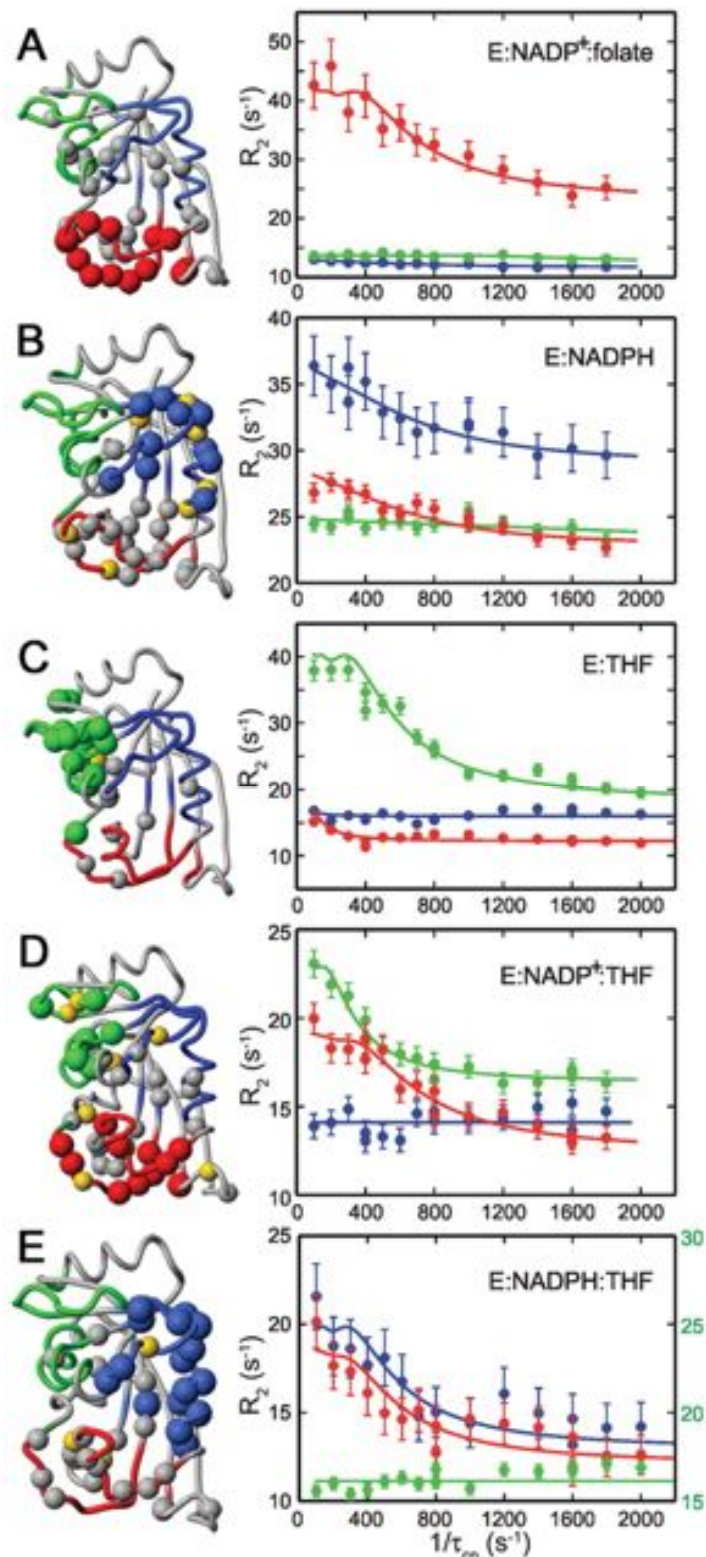


Sélection conformationnelle

⇒ A chaque étape du cycle, la conformation majoritaire est en échange avec les états précédent et/ou suivant dans le cycle.

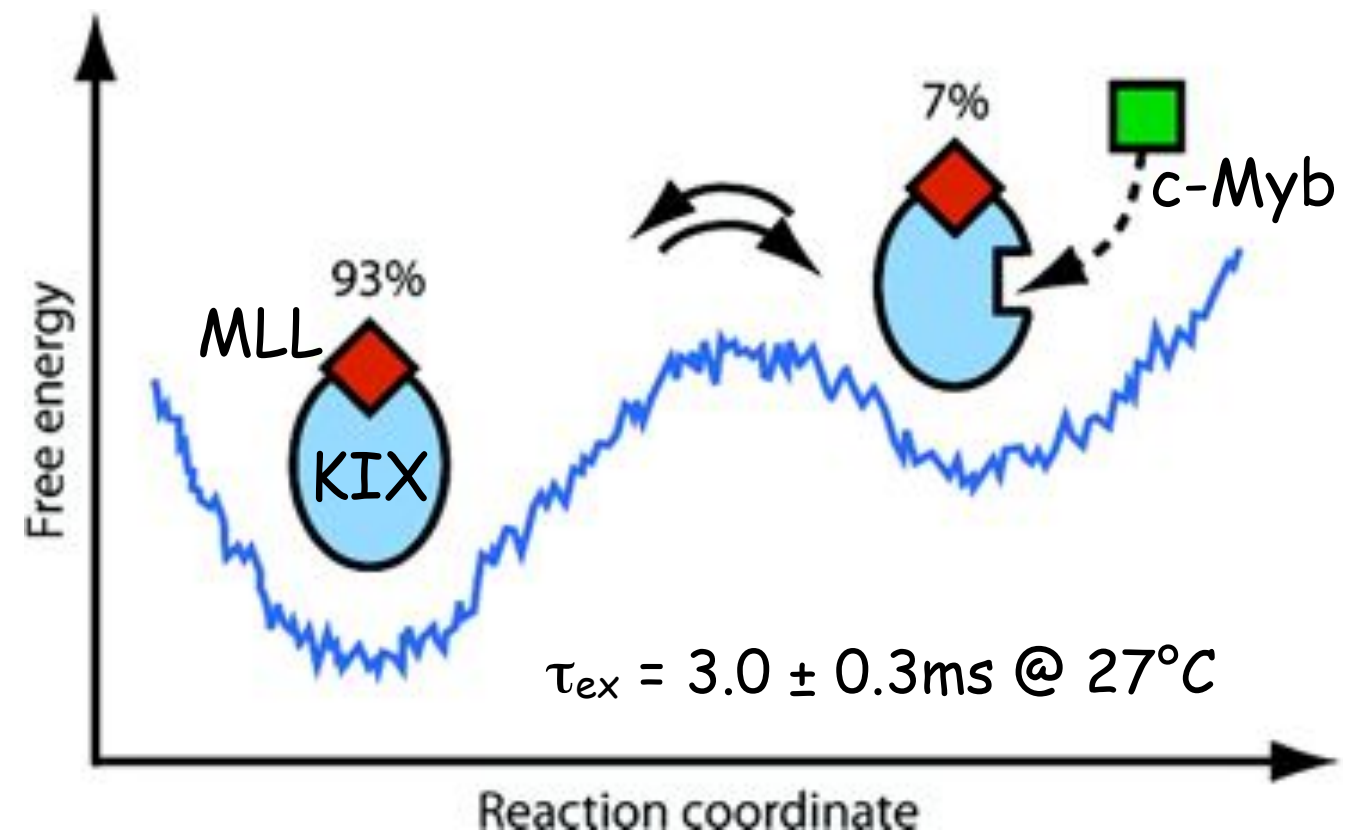
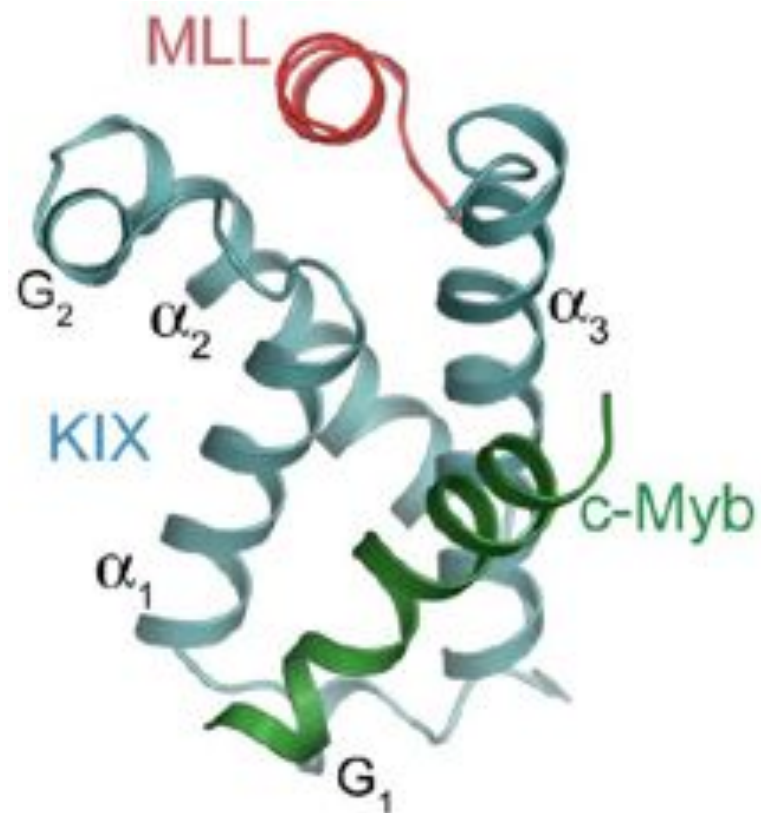
⇒ Constantes cinétiques et thermodynamique associées aux échanges sont compatibles avec les données enzymatiques.

⇒ La vitesse de transfert de l'hydrure et les vitesses de recyclage à l'état stationnaire sont contrôlées par la dynamique des transitions entre les états fondamentaux et excités au cours du cycle.



Sélection conformationnelle / allostérie

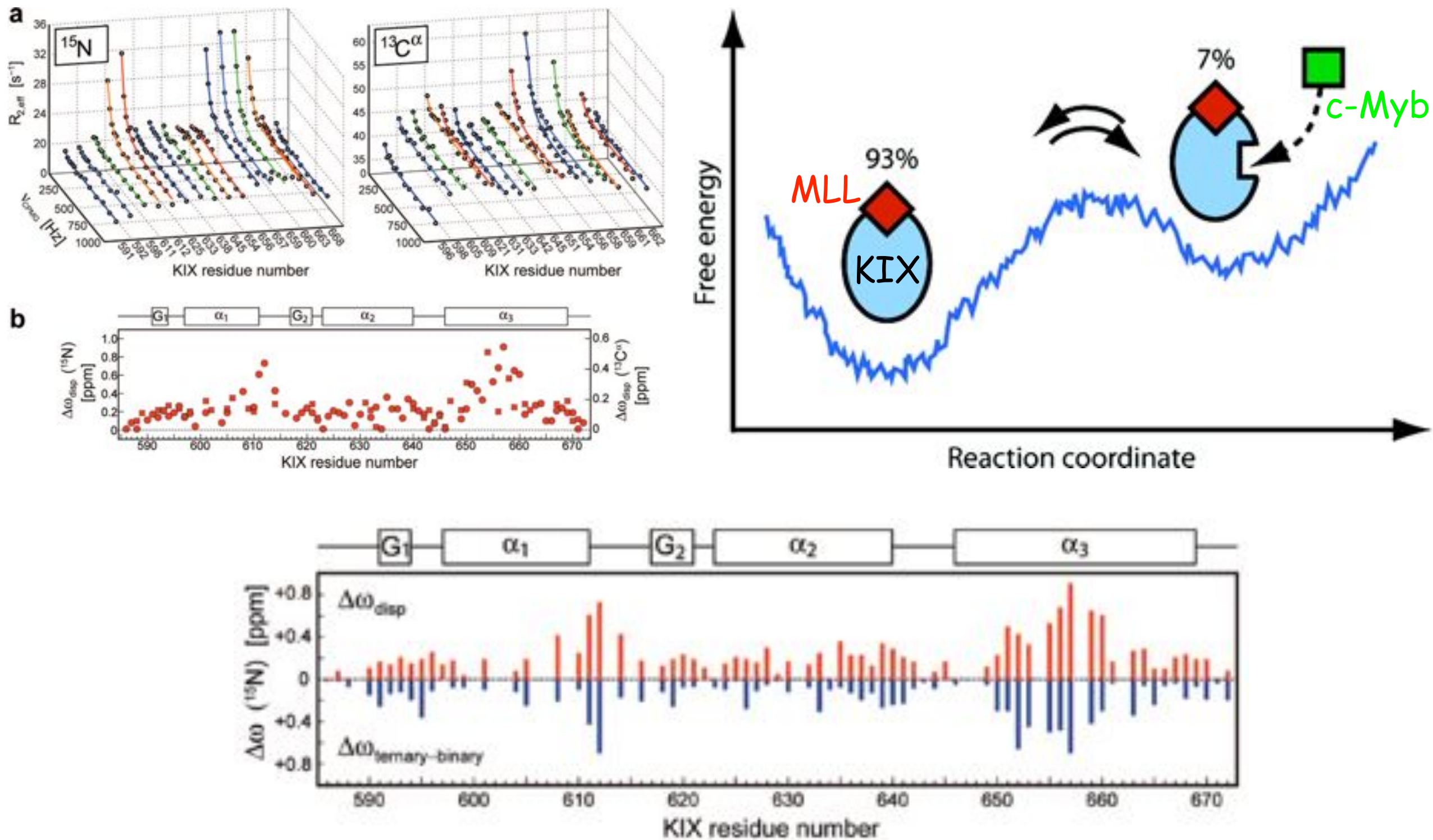
Direct Observation of the Dynamic Process Underlying Allosteric Signal Transmission



- ⇒ La liaison du domaine d'activation du facteur de transcription MLL à KIX induit une redistribution des populations relatives des conformères de KIX en faveur de l'état dans lequel le site de liaison de c-Myb (pKID) est préformé.
- ⇒ Cet état minoritaire n'est pas détectable dans la forme libre de KIX

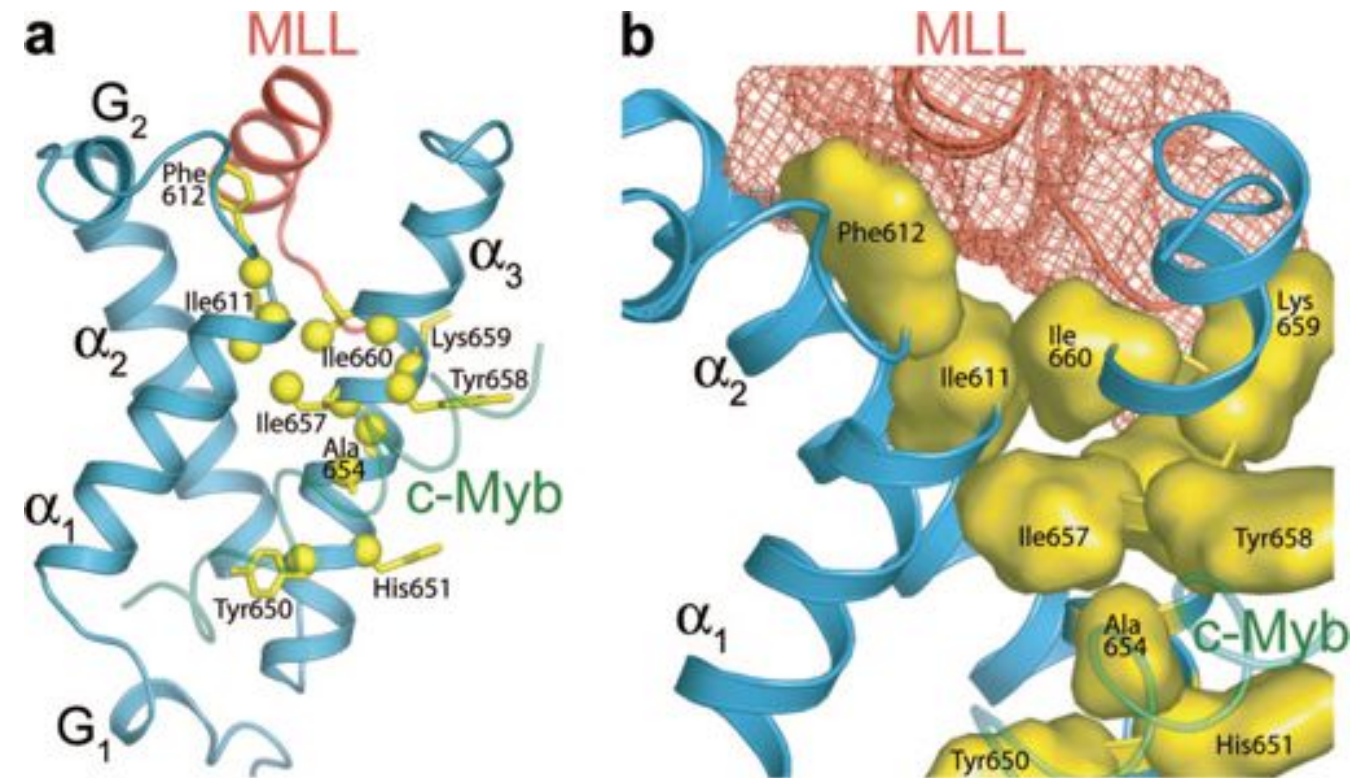
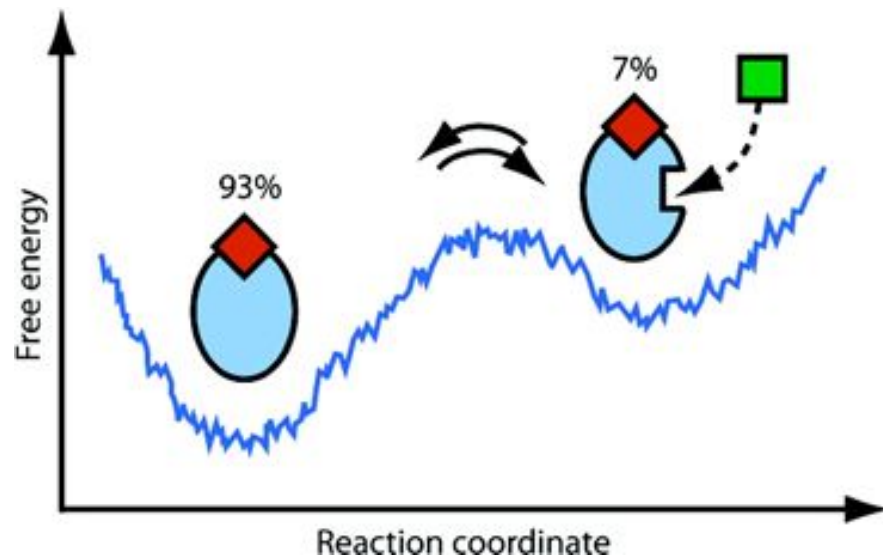
Sélection conformationnelle / allostérie

Direct Observation of the Dynamic Process Underlying Allosteric Signal Transmission



Sélection conformationnelle / allostérie

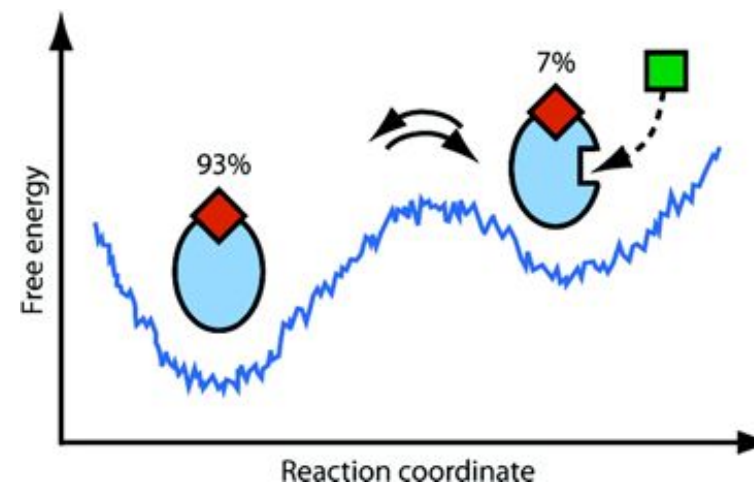
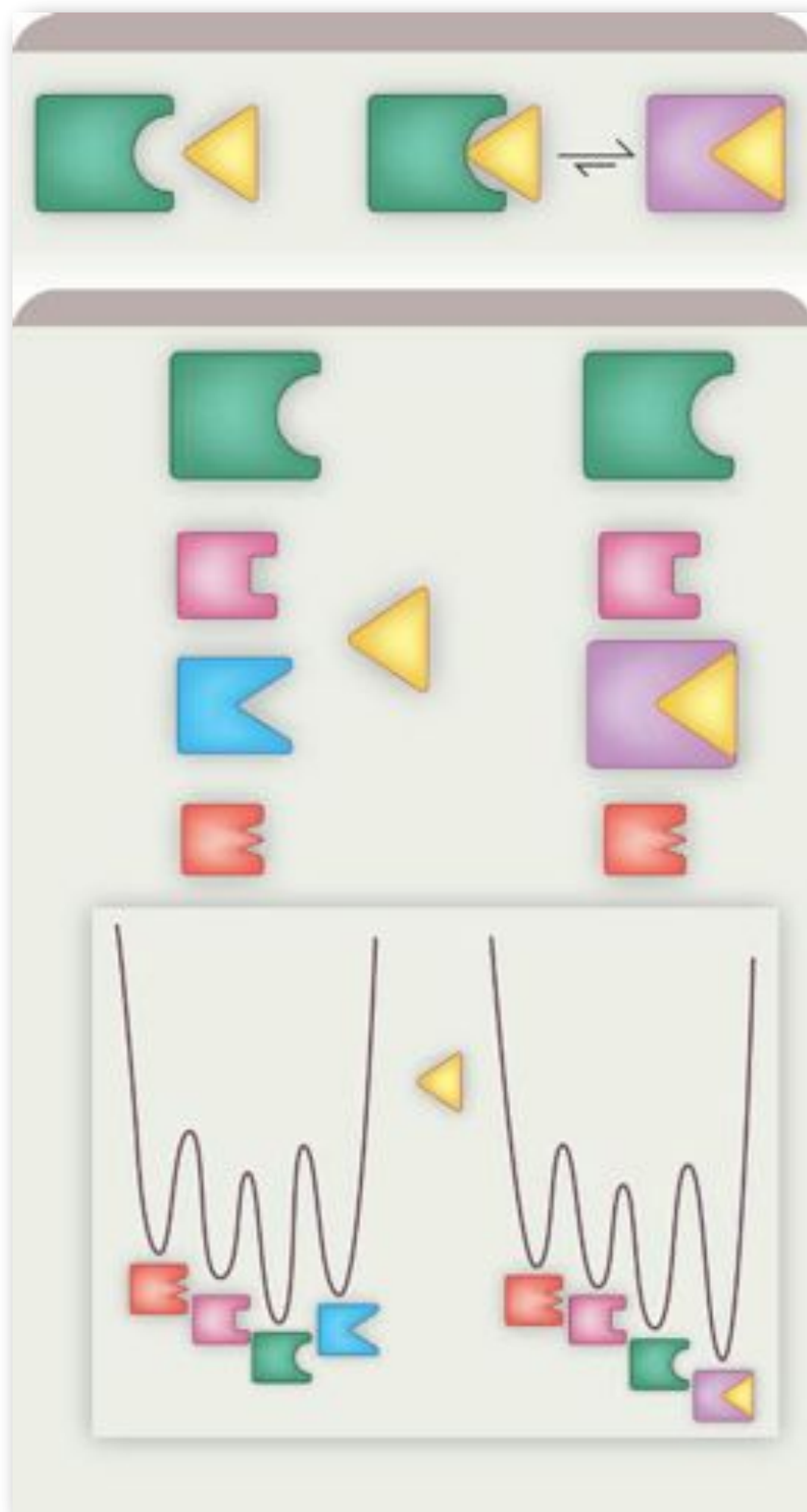
Direct Observation of the Dynamic Process Underlying Allosteric Signal Transmission



⇒ Les chaînes latérales des isoleucines participent à la formation d'un réseau d'interactions qui constitue le «chemin» à travers lequel se transmet l'information allostérique.

⇒ L'analyse de la transition allostérique du domaine KIX de CBP fournit une description à l'échelle atomique du mécanisme de transmission coopérative d'information entre deux facteurs de transcription.

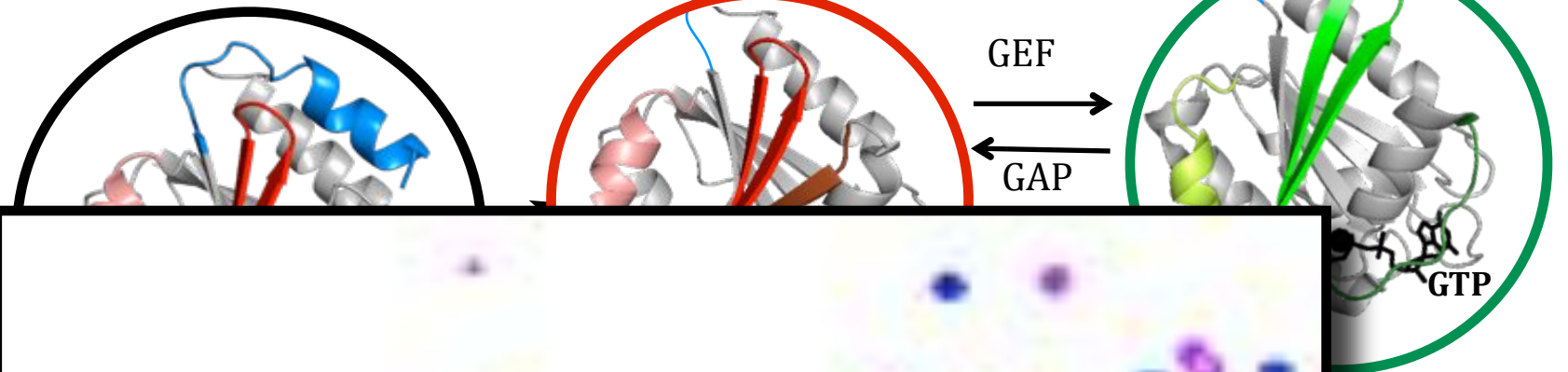
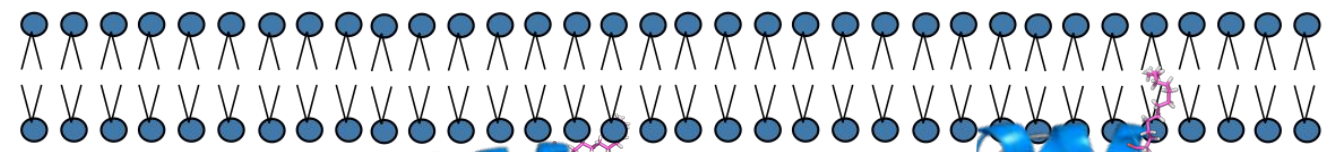
Sélection conformationnelle / allostérie



- ⇒ Modulation des affinités selon le degré de peuplement du conformère de plus haute affinité.
- ⇒ Réglage fin des affinités peut être critique pour la régulation de la spécificité de la transcription. Plusieurs résultats indiquent que la coopérativité des interactions entre les facteurs de transcription (médiées par CBP) peuvent promouvoir une synergie dans l'activation transcriptionnelle.
- ⇒ Moreover, the rate at which allosteric information is transmitted between binding sites might pose an essential constraint for the flow of information through the networks of proteins that regulate gene transcription in the cell.

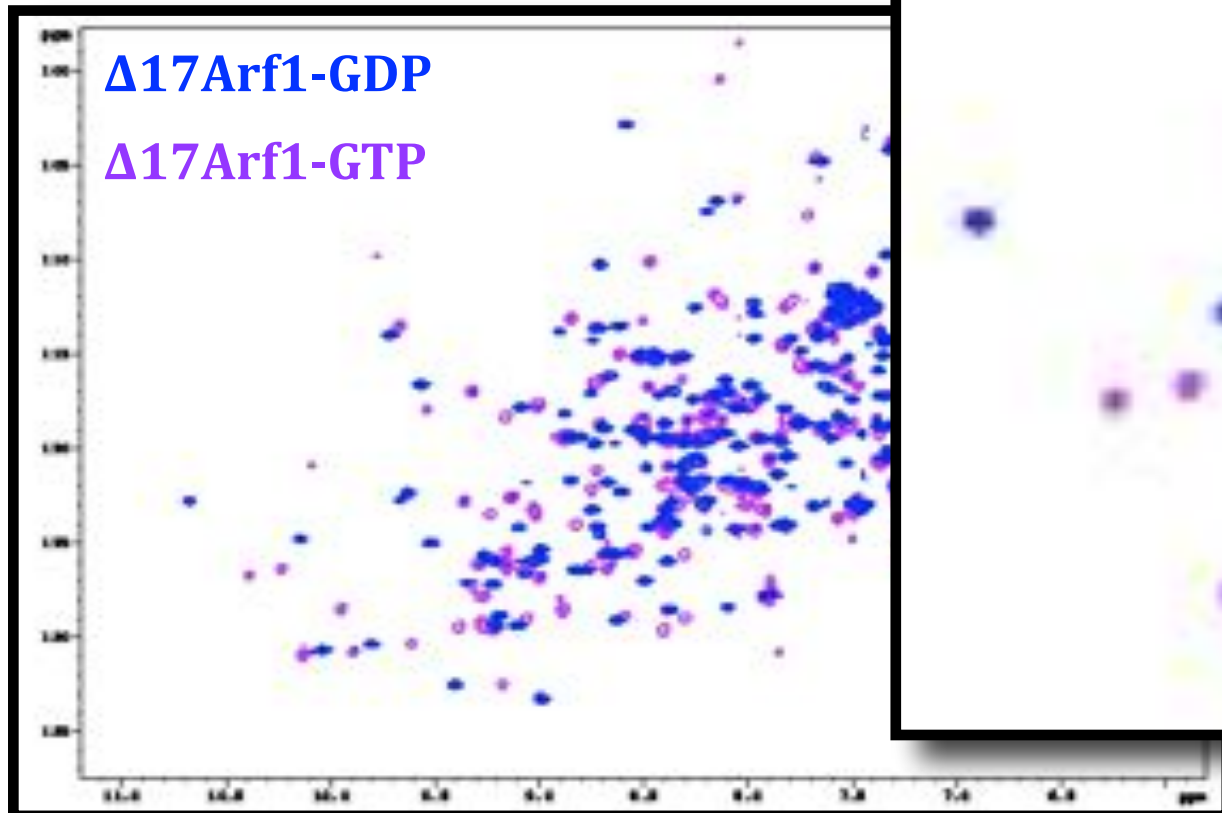
Un exemple de l'apport de la RMN dans la relation dynamique/fonction: Le rôle de la dynamique dans le switch conformationnel de petites protéines G

Interrupteur moléculaire
Changements de conformation de grande amplitude
Rôle de la dynamique dans le switch conformationnel

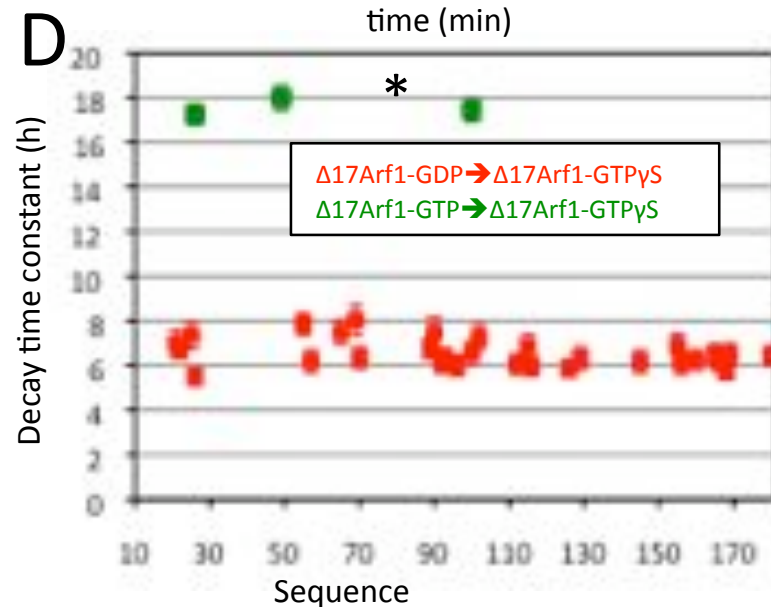
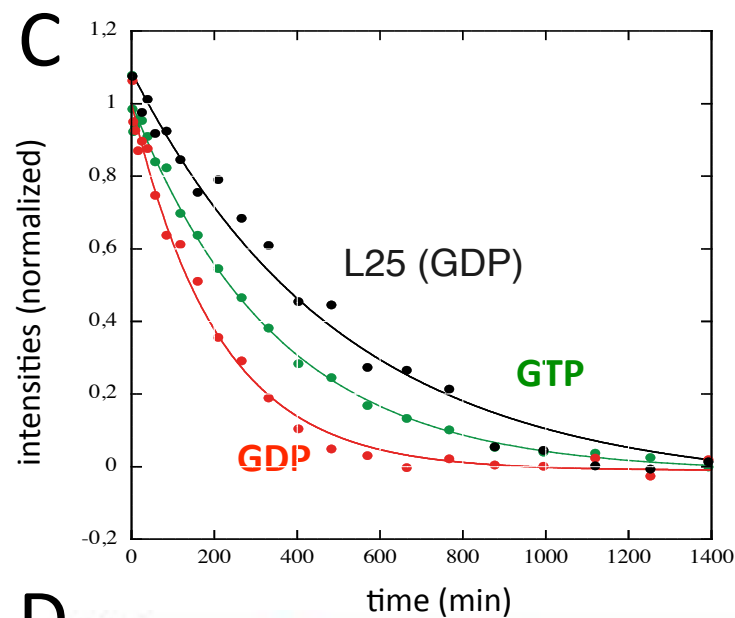
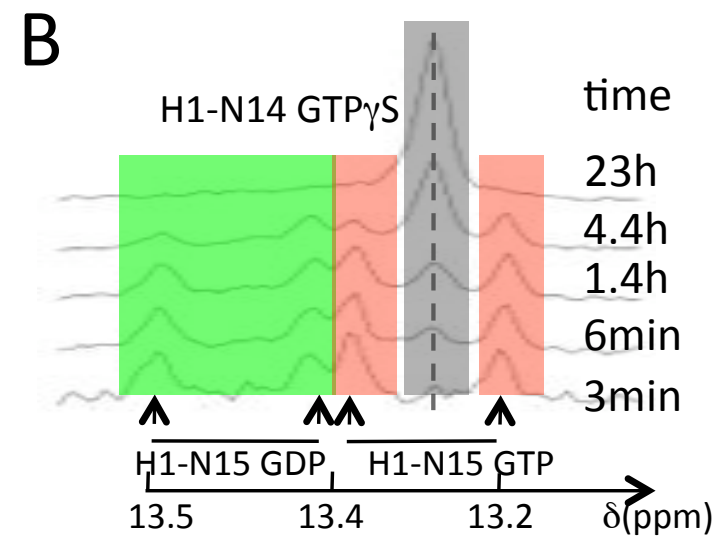
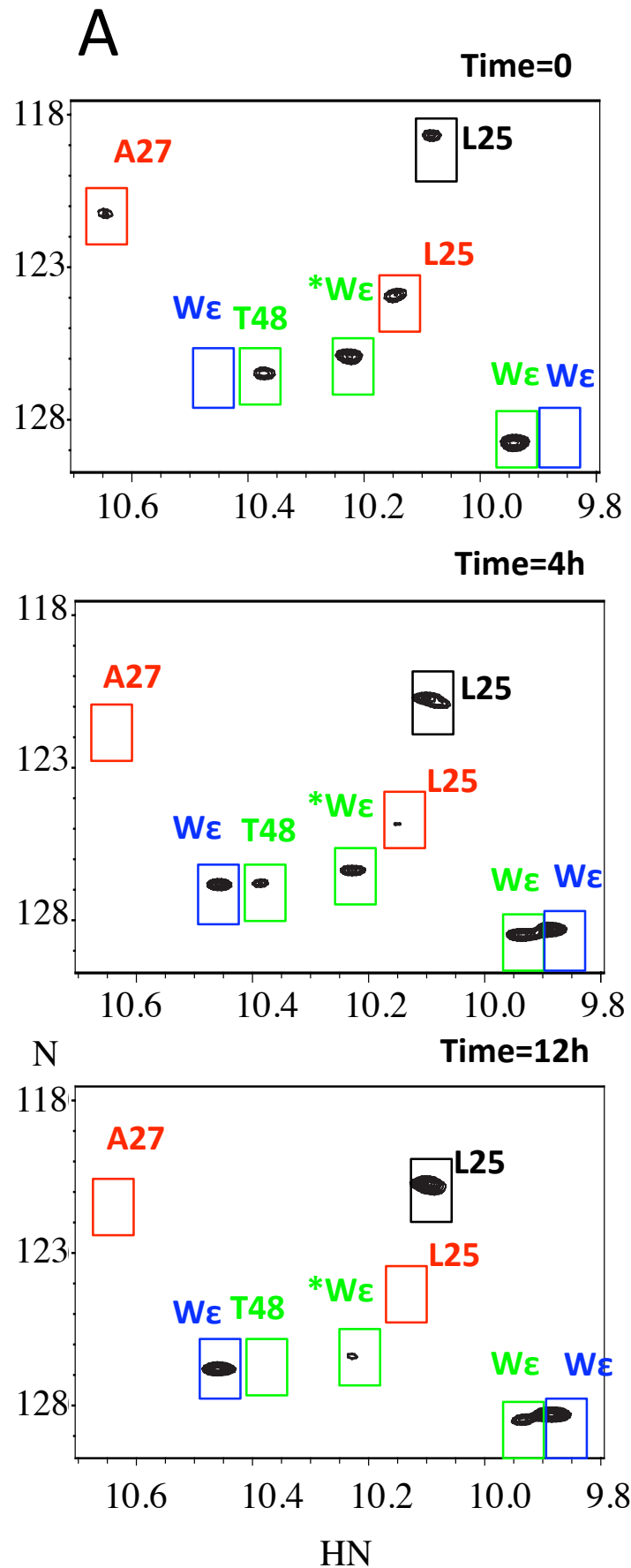


FL-

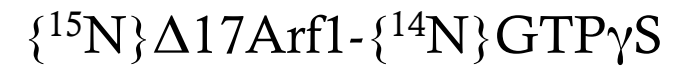
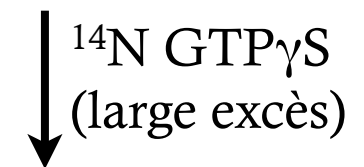
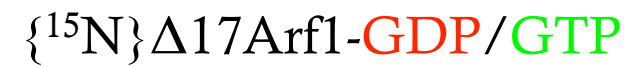
rf1-GTP



Un exemple de l'apport de la RMN dans la relation dynamique/fonction: Le rôle de la dynamique dans le switch conformationnel de petites protéines G



☞ Suivi de la cinétique de sortie du nucléotide par RMN et du changement de conformation associé en temps réel

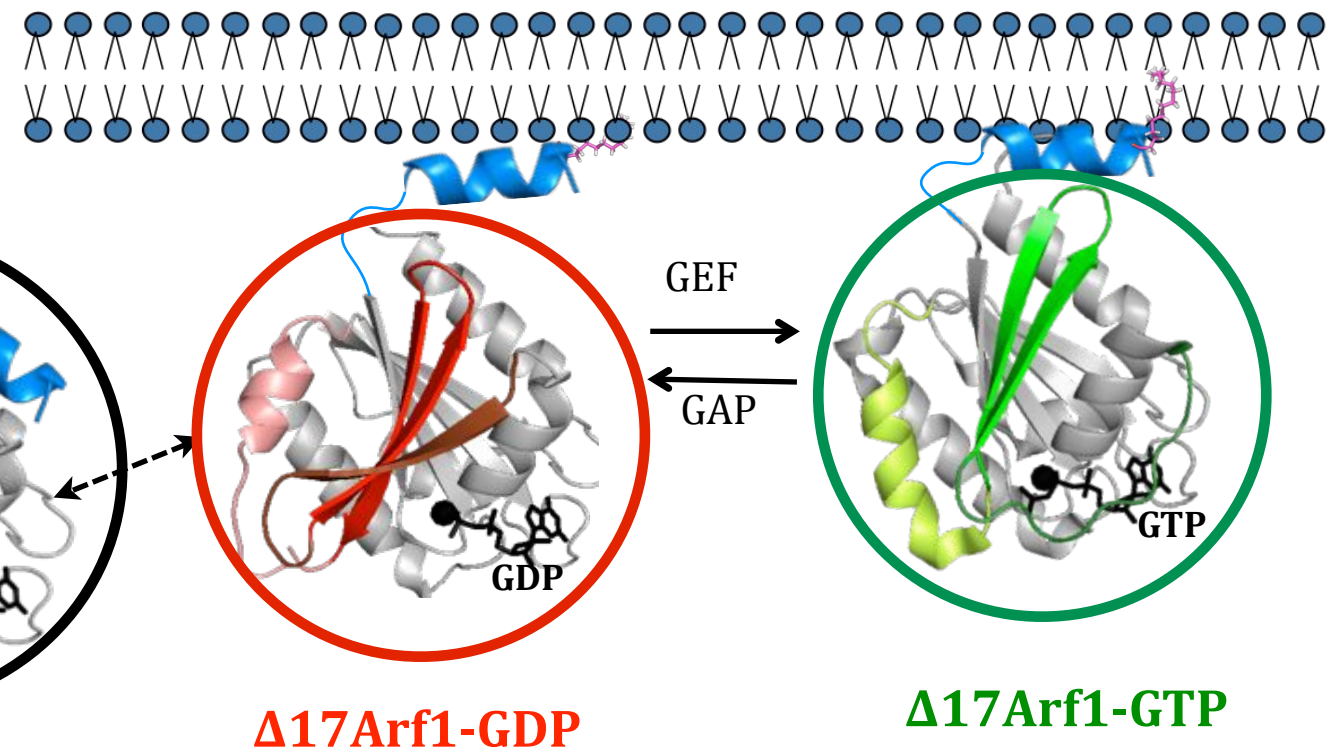


☞ *Le changement de conformation associé à l'échange du GDP est plus lent que la vitesse de sortie du nucléotide*

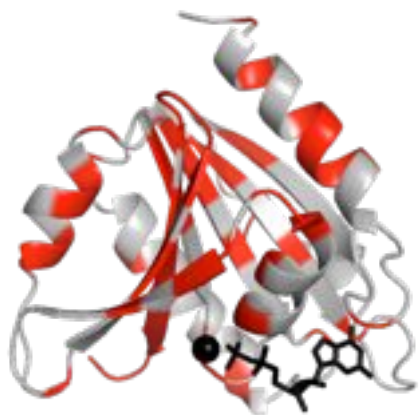
☞ Existence de formes intermédiaires lors du switch

Un exemple de l'apport de la RMN dans la relation dynamique/fonction: Le rôle de la dynamique dans le switch conformationnel de petites protéines G

Interrupteur moléculaire
Changements de conformation de grande amplitude
Rôle de la dynamique dans le switch conformationnel

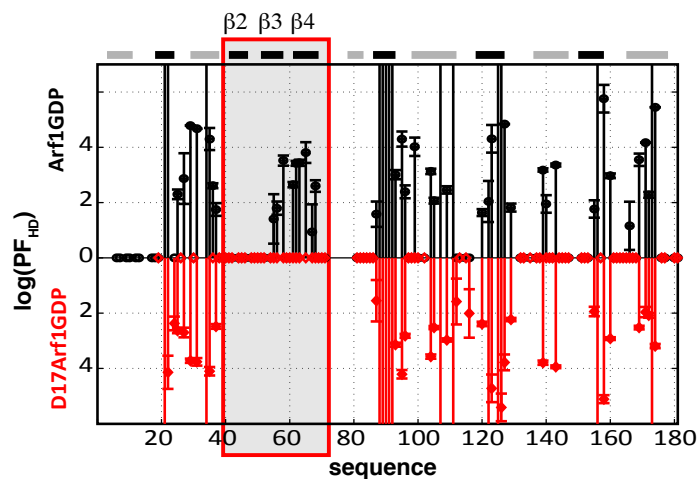


Dispersion de relaxation
(μs - ms)



échange μs - ms
dans $\Delta 17$ Arf1-GDP

Echange $^1H \leftrightarrow ^2H$
(mn - h)



protection par rapport à l'échange H/D
dans $\Delta 17$ Arf1-GDP et FL-Arf1-GDP

⇒ Plasticité particulière de la forme $\Delta 17$ Arf1-GDP

⇒ Mouvements concertés le long de la protéine lors de l'ouverture de l'hélice N-ter permettant le switch conformationnel.

⇒ Ouverture du feuillet β dans la zone de switch