

# Refinement in Phenix

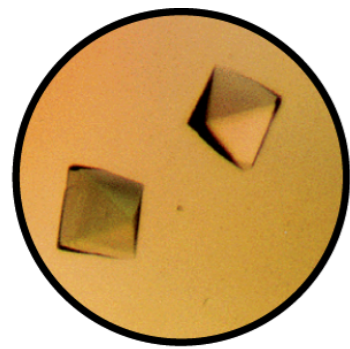
*Argonne, June, 2011*

**Paul Adams**

Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory and Department of  
Bioengineering UC Berkeley



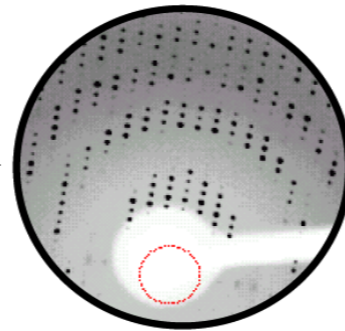
# The Crystallographic Process



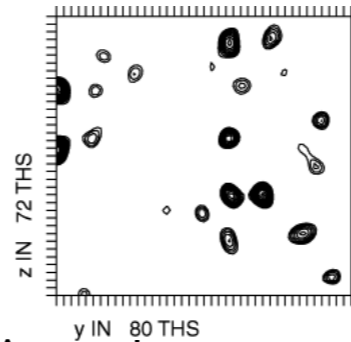
Crystallization



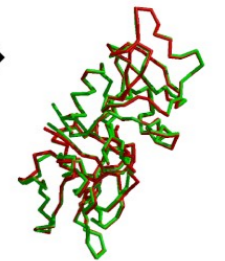
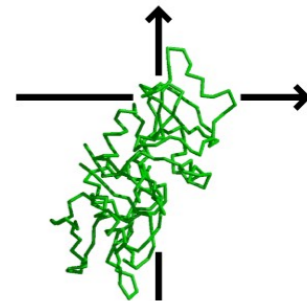
Data collection



Data processing

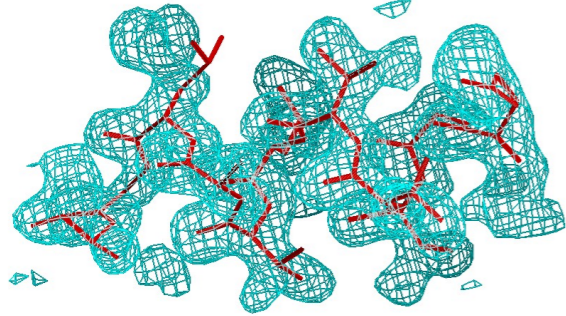


Anomalous scatterer location

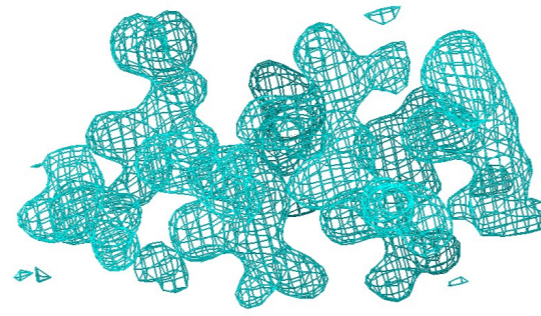


Molecular replacement

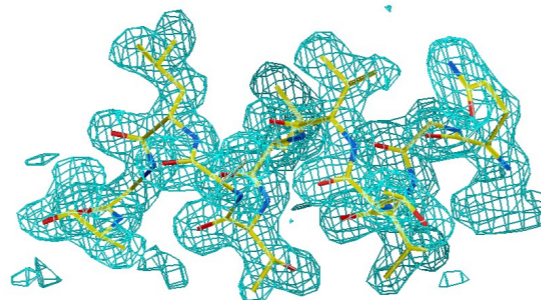
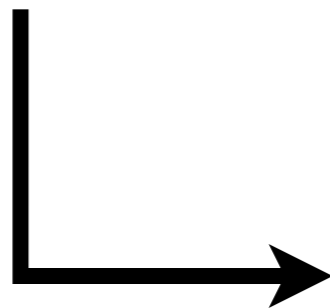
Map Interpretation



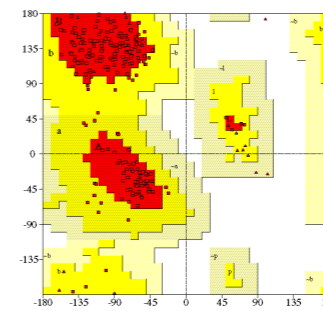
Phase improvement



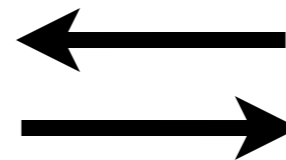
Phase determination



Model refinement

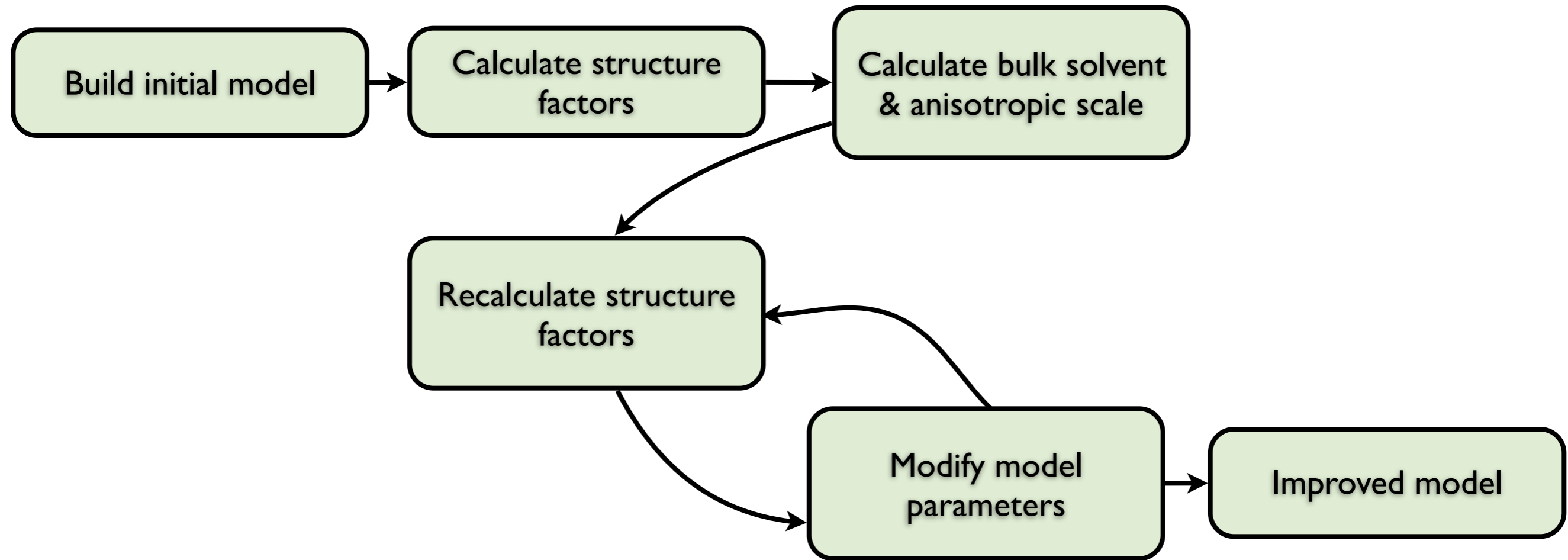


Validation



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# Overview of Structure Refinement



- Structure refinement is an iterative process that changes the model parameters while improving the fit to the experimental data

# Crystallographic Structure Refinement

- An *optimization* algorithm is used to minimize a *target function* by changing the *parameters* of the model
- Parameters:
  - coordinates, B-values, occupancies
- Optimization algorithm:
  - minimization, simulated annealing
- Target function (Objective function):
  - Function based on electron density (real-space refinement)
  - Function based on structure factors (reciprocal-space refinement)

$$E = E_{chem} + w_a \sum_{hkl} \frac{1}{\sigma^2} (|F_o| - |F_c|)^2$$

  
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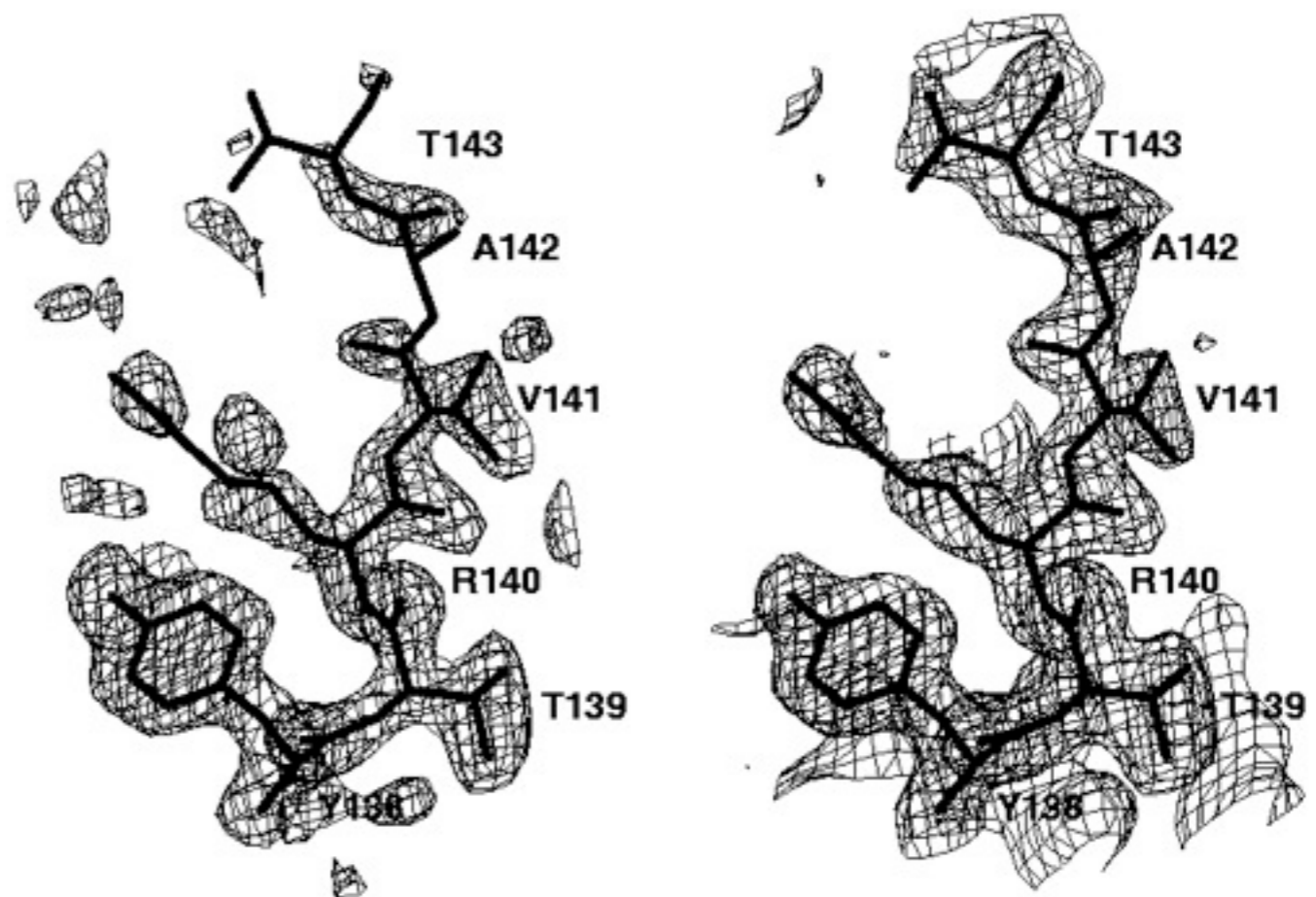
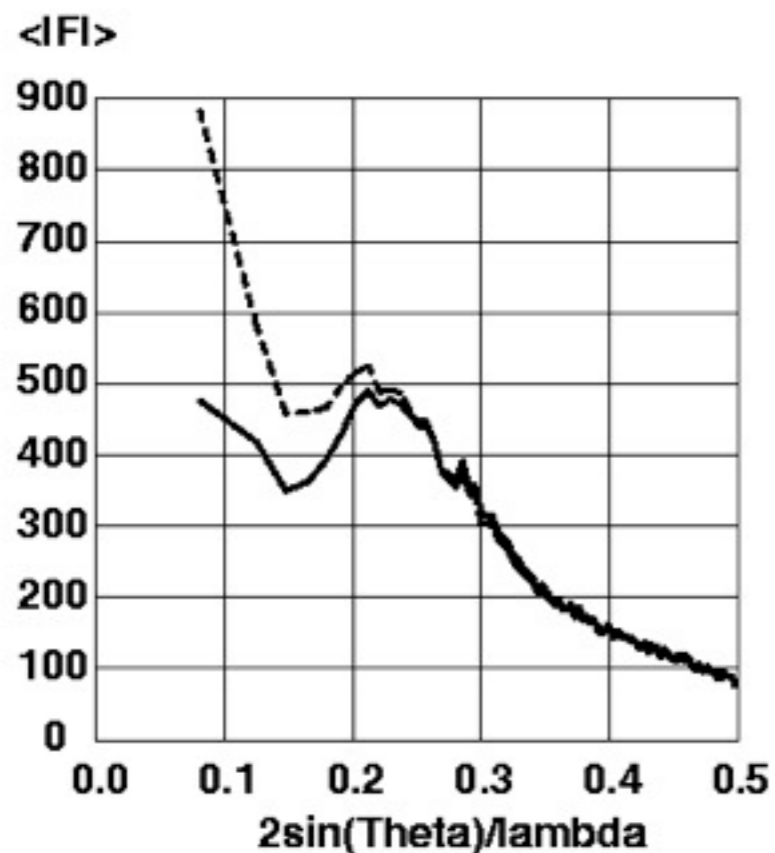
# Why do we need Refinement?

- The models generated by hand or automatically typically have errors and are incomplete:
  - Missing atoms that should be included (missing domains, loops, sidechains, ligands, water, ...)
  - Atoms that have been misplaced
- This is a result of:
  - Experimental phases are sometimes poor, especially at low resolution
  - Molecular Replacement phases can generate model bias
  - Every atom that has an error affects all calculated structure factors and thus changes the density at all other points in the map
- As the model is improved, the phases improve, revealing new aspects of the structure (loops, sidechains, ligands, water, ...)

# The Model

- Structure factors from the model are calculated using a FFT (by sampling the Gaussian form factors on a grid)
- The model has to include a contribution from the bulk solvent in the crystal (calculated using a mask around the protein)

$$\mathbf{F} = k\{\mathbf{F}_{\text{calc}} \exp[-\Delta B(\sin \theta/\lambda)^2] + d_{\text{solv}} \mathbf{F}_{\text{solv}} \exp[-B_{\text{solv}}(\sin \theta/\lambda)^2]\}$$



  
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# The X-ray Term

- Real space:

- Least-squares residual:  $\sum (\rho_{\text{obs}} - \rho_{\text{calc}})^2$
- Convolution product:  $\sum \rho_{\text{obs}} \times \rho_{\text{calc}}$
- Sum of differences:  $\sum |\rho_{\text{obs}} - \rho_{\text{calc}}|$

- Reciprocal space:

- Least-squares residual:  $\sum (|F_{\text{obs}}| - k |F_{\text{calc}}|)^2$
- Correlation coefficient between  $|F_{\text{obs}}|$  and  $|F_{\text{calc}}|$
- Functions including phases:
  - $\sum w [(A_{\text{obs}} - k A_{\text{calc}})^2 + (B_{\text{obs}} - k B_{\text{calc}})^2]$

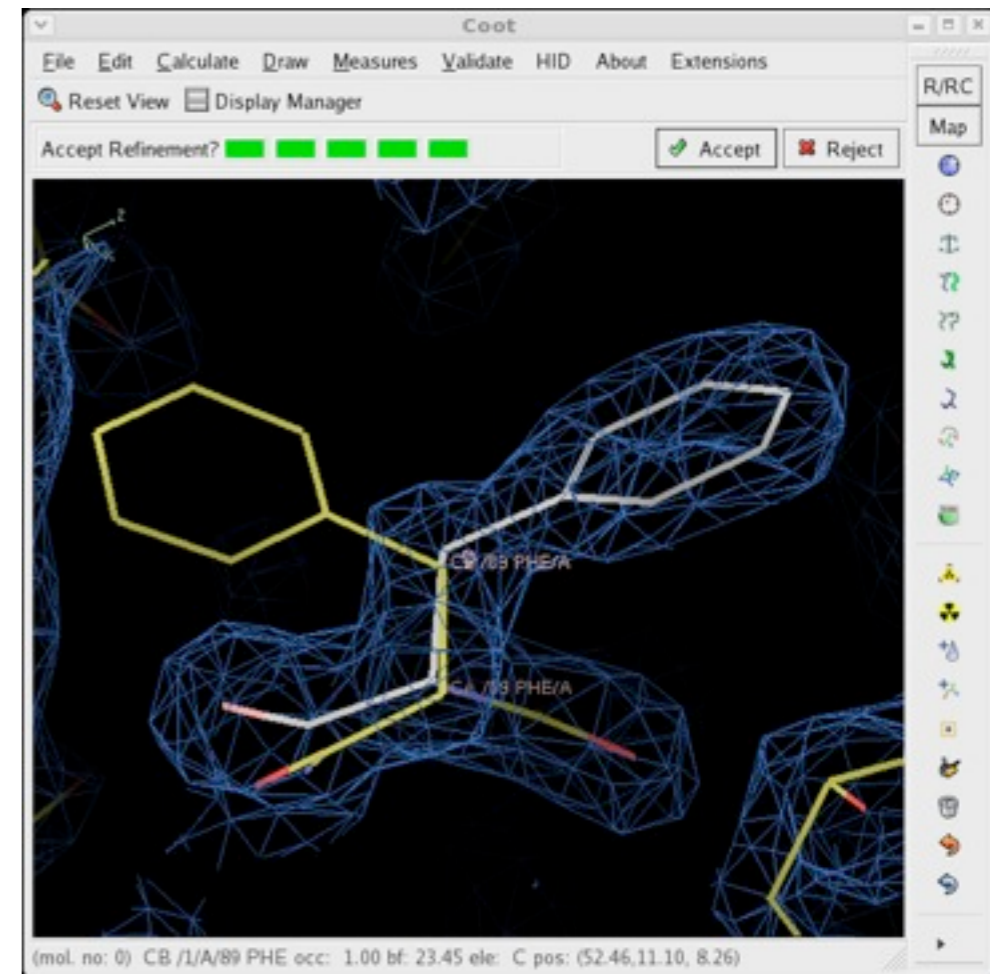


Image from ccp4wiki

# Observations and Parameters

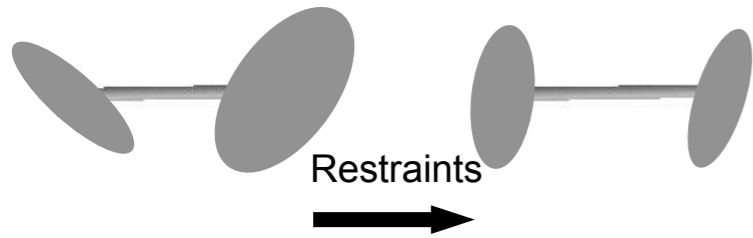
- In contrast to small molecule crystallography we have:
  - Large unit cells, typically 50% disordered solvent, flexibility
  - Often limited resolution (2.5Å or worse)
  - Observation to parameter ratios close to 1 or worse

Resolution	Reflections	xyz	xyzB	xyzU
3.0	3,500	0.8	0.6	0.3
2.5	6,800	1.6	1.2	0.5
1.9	13,500	3.1	2.3	1.0
1.5	29,800	6.8	5.1	2.3
1.2	58,800	13.3	10.0	4.4
1.0	81,300	18.5	13.8	6.1

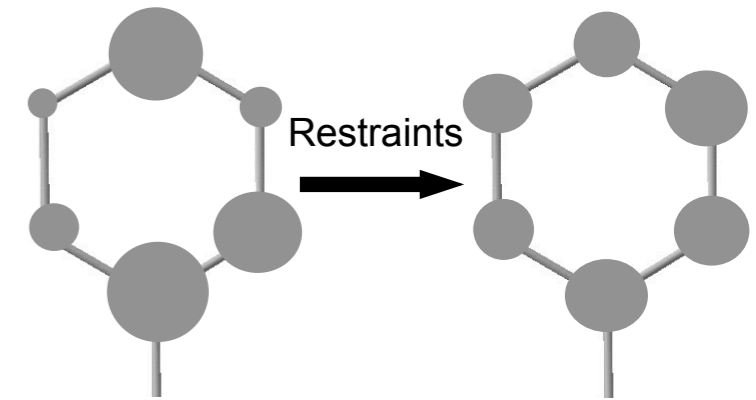


# Improving the Observation to Parameter Ratio

- To make refinement practical the observation to parameter ratio is increased using restraints and constraints:
- Restraint
  - Model property  $\sim$  ideal value
  - Adds prior observed information (reduces the number of parameters refined)
  - Inclusion of chemical information in the objective function
- Constraint
  - Model property = ideal value
  - Removes one or more parameters from the model



# Other Restraints



- Atomic displacement parameters
- Bonded atoms should have similar displacement parameters
- Restrain bonded atoms to have similar displacement values:
  - $E = \sum_{\text{bonds}} W (ADP_1 - ADP_2)^2$
- Restrain displacement parameters for each atom to be similar to those of the atoms in their neighborhood:

$$E_{ADP} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{atoms}}} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{M_{\text{atoms}}} \frac{1}{r_{ij}^{\text{distance\_power}}} \frac{(U_i - U_j)^2}{\left(\frac{U_i + U_j}{2}\right)^{\text{average\_power}}} \right]_{\text{sphereR}}$$

# Constraints

- Rigid-body refinement
  - For example, molecule consists of two domains, only refine position and orientation of each domain uses only  $2 * (3 \text{ rotational} + 3 \text{ translation}) = 12$  parameters
  - So few parameters it requires only low-resolution data
- Rigid groups
  - Torsion angle refinement
- Atomic Displacement Parameters
  - All atoms have the same B one parameter
  - All main-chain and all side-chain atoms in each residue have the same B one or two parameters per residue
  - TLS refinement 20 parameters per group
- Non-crystallographic symmetry
  - A number of N NCS-related molecules/domains are assumed to be identical
  - Reduces the number of parameters by a factor N

# Restraint and Constraint Values

- Bond lengths and angles for proteins come from a study of Engh & Huber
  - They analysed the geometry of fragments of small molecule crystal structures similar to those found in amino acids
  - This yielded a list of distinct atom types, ideal bond lengths and angles, and estimates of their variance
  - Modifications of some values have been necessary over time (based on very high resolution structures)
- A similar analysis has been carried out for nucleic acids
- For other compounds values can be generated à la Engh & Huber, calculated by certain programs, or found in databases

# Reducing Overfitting in Refinement

- Cross-validation
  - Brunger, Nature 355, 472, 1992
- Torsion angle dynamics refinement
  - Rice & Brunger, Proteins 19, 277, 1994
- Translation-Libration-Screw refinement
  - Winn et al., Acta Cryst. D 57, 122-133, 2001
- Maximum likelihood formulation of refinement
  - Bricogne, Meth. Enzymol. 276, 361, 1997
  - Murshudov, Dodson, Vagin, CCP4, 1996
  - Pannu & Read, Acta Cryst. A 52, 659-668, 1996
  - Adams, Pannu, Read, Brunger, PNAS 94, 5018, 1997

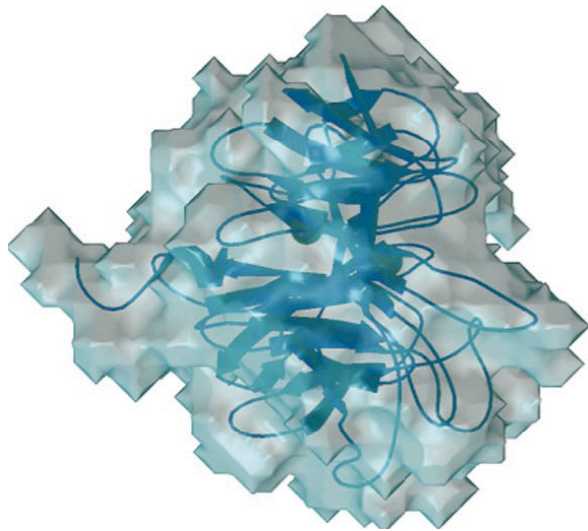
# Number of Observations and Parameterizations

	Worse than 3.5Å	3.5Å to 2.5Å	2.5Å to 1.5Å	1.5Å to 1.0Å	Better than 1.0Å
Coordinates	<i>Rigid bodies</i>	<i>Chemical constraints</i>	<i>Chemical constraints and restraints</i>	<i>Chemical restraints</i>	<i>Unrestrained</i>
Atomic Displacement Parameters	<i>Domains, isotropic or anisotropic. TLS</i>	<i>Grouped, isotropic, TLS</i>	<i>Individual, restrained, isotropic, TLS</i>	<i>Individual, restrained, anisotropic</i>	<i>Individual, unrestrained, anisotropic</i>
NCS	<i>Constrained</i>	<i>Constrained and/or tightly restrained</i>	<i>Restrained and/or unrestrained</i>	<i>Unrestrained</i>	<i>Unrestrained</i>

- Start with the most conservative parameterization
- Only move to a less conservative parameterization after consulting minimally biased indicators (free R-value, Ramachandran plot, chemistry)
- Experimental phases usually permit a less conservative final parameterization

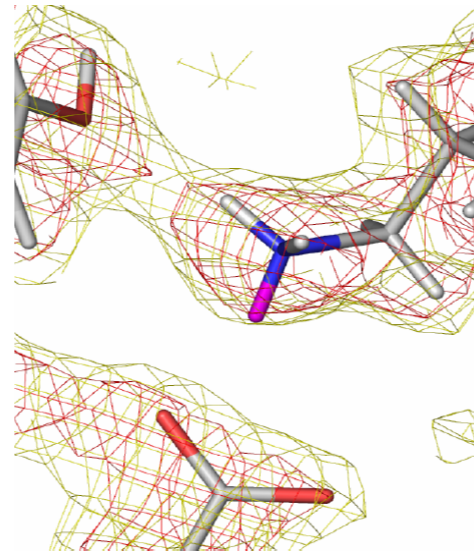
# Comprehensive Structure Refinement

Low



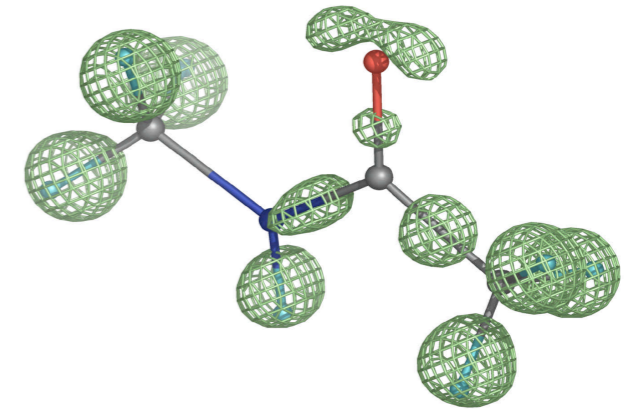
- Rigid body
- Group ADP
- Torsion angle constraints
- Simulated annealing
- NCS restraints (including automatic NCS determination and restraints generation)
- TLS refinement
- Occupancies (individual or group, automatically constrained for alternate side chains)
- Anomalous scattering factor refinement (individual or group)
- Twinned refinement target
- Joint refinement against X-ray and Neutron data

Medium/High



- Restrained coordinates
- Restrained ADPs (iso/aniso)
- Automated water picking

Ultra-high



- Interatomic scatterers
- Unrestrained refinement
- Explicit hydrogens

*Pavel Afonine, Nat Echols, Ralf Grosse-Kunstleve & Peter Zwart, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory*

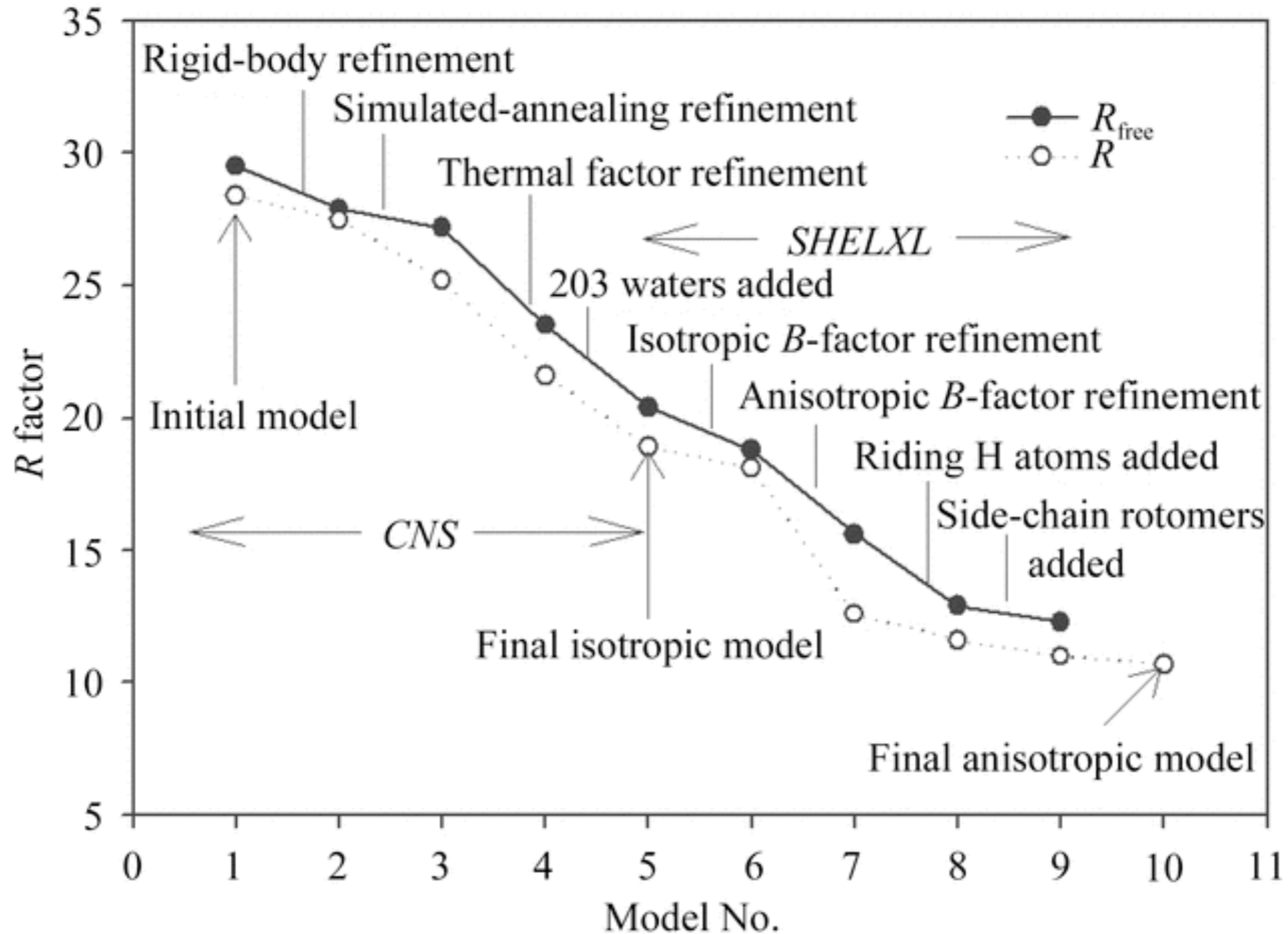
*Acta Cryst.* 2005, **D61**:850-855.

*Acta Cryst.* 2007, **D63**:1194-1197.

**Phenix**



# Why Automate Structure Refinement?

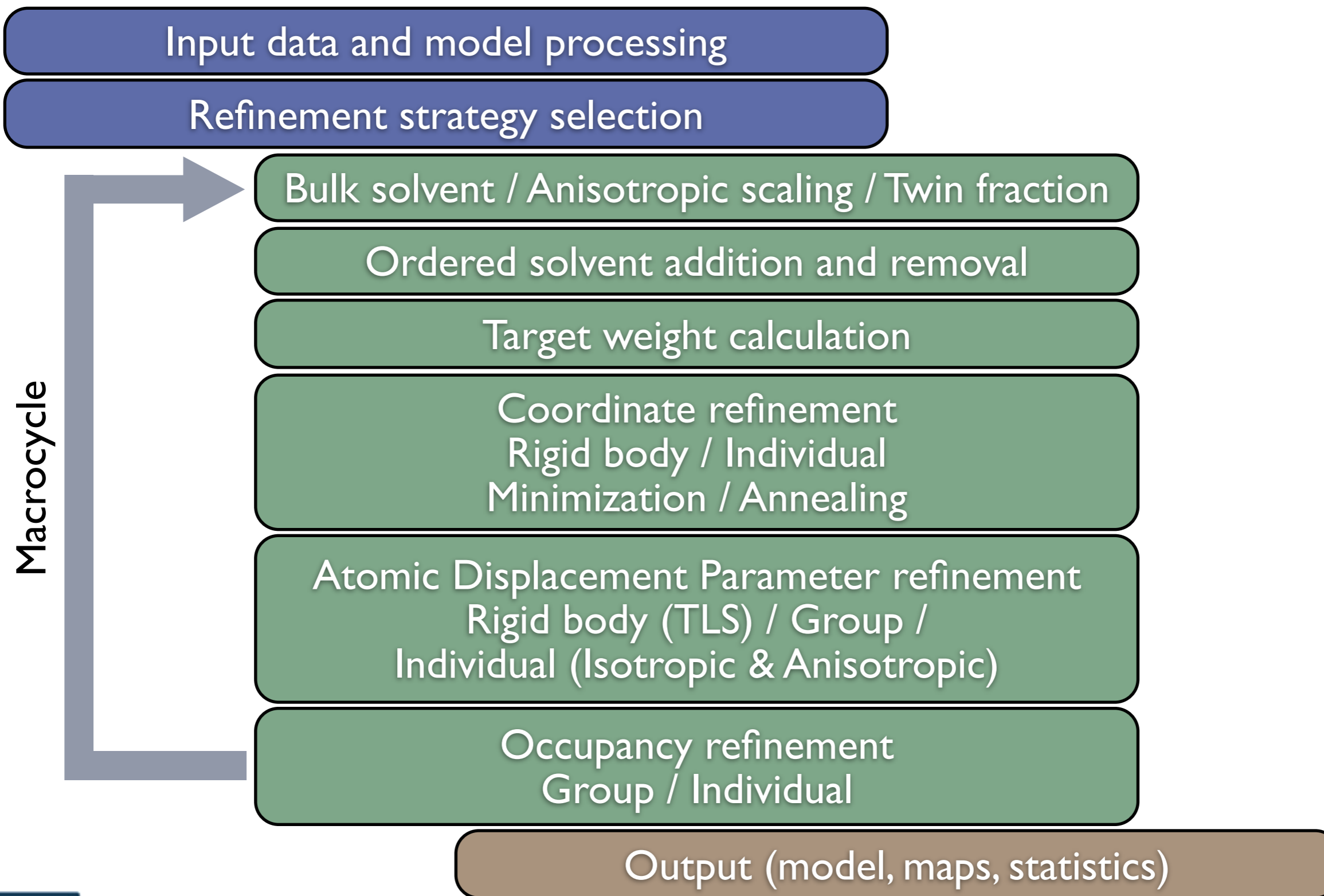


*Acta Cryst.* (2002). D58, 2009-2017, Yousef et al.

**Phenix**



# Refinement Protocol



*Pavel Afonine, Ralf Grosse-Kunstleve & Peter Zwart, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory*

**Phenix**

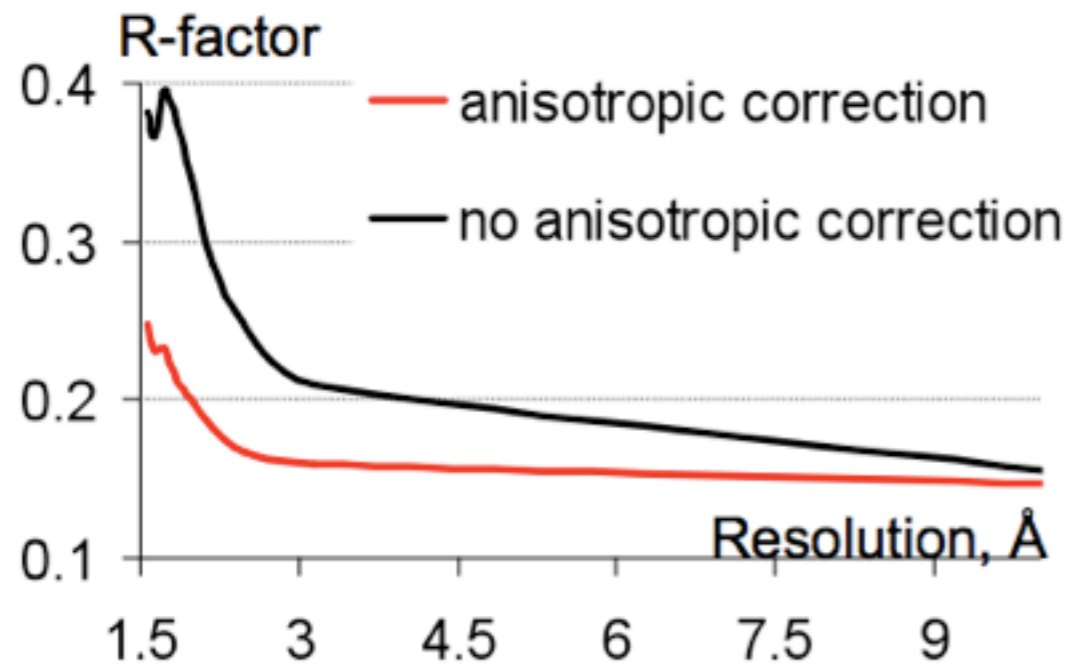


# Robust Scaling & Bulk Solvent Correction

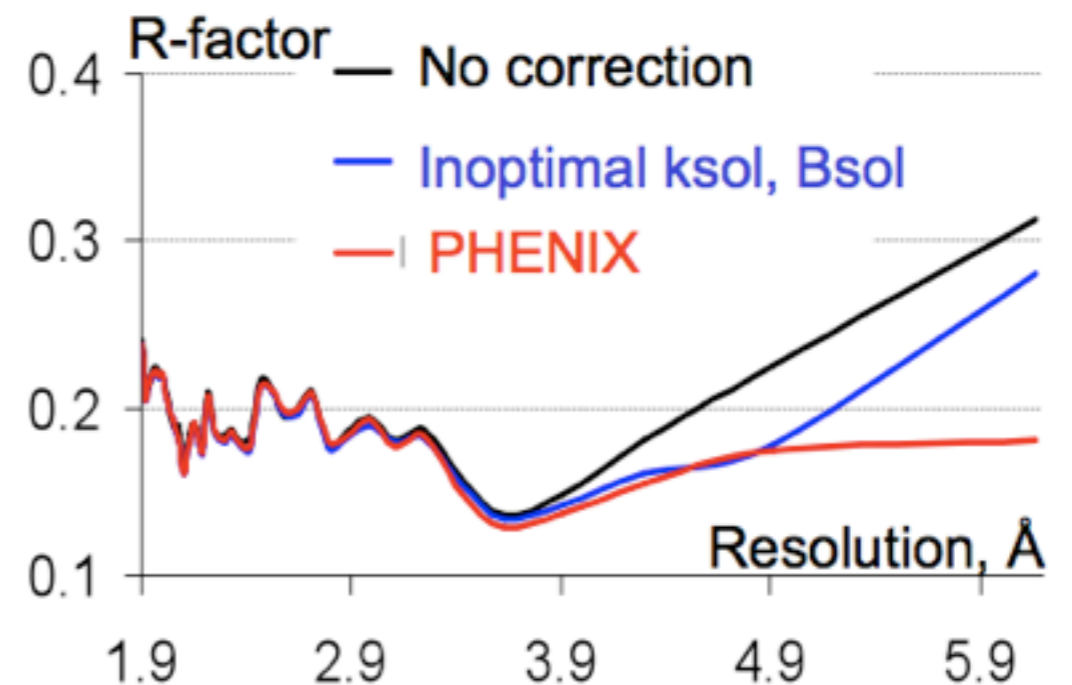
$$\mathbf{F}_{\text{MODEL}} = k_{\text{OVERALL}} e^{-sU_{\text{CRYSTAL}} s'} \left( \mathbf{F}_{\text{CALC\_ATOMS}} + k_{\text{SOL}} e^{-\frac{B_{\text{SOL}} s^2}{4}} \mathbf{F}_{\text{MASK}} \right)$$

- Bulk solvent scaling uses a grid search with optimization
- Combines both bulks solvent and anisotropic scaling

## ■ Anisotropic scaling (PDB: 2mhr)



## ■ Effect of Bulk Solvent



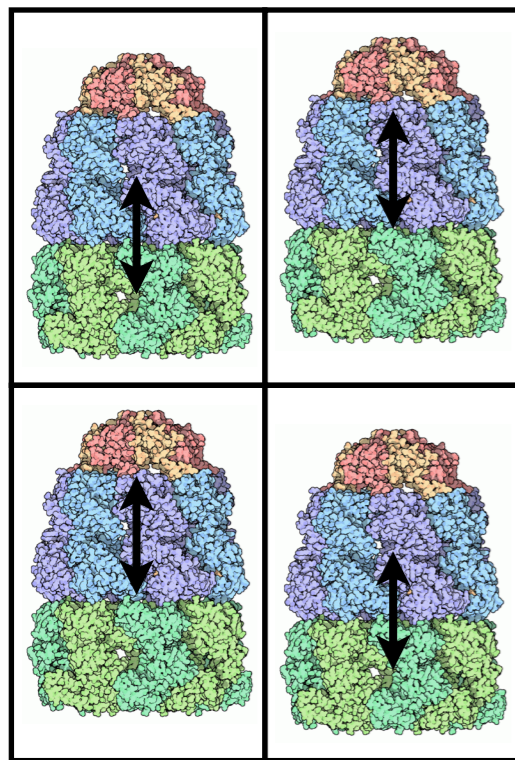
Pavel Afonine, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory

Acta Cryst. 2005, **D61**:850-855.

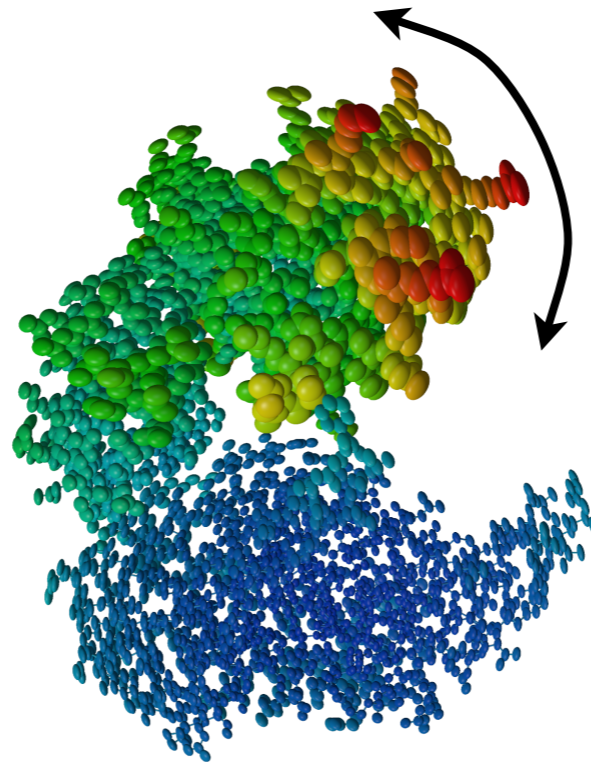


# Modeling Atomic Displacements

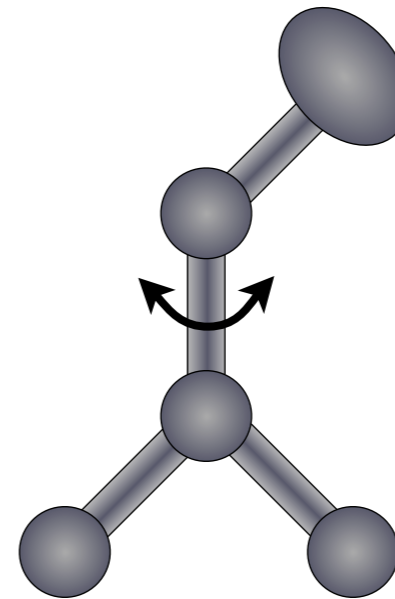
- Atom displacements are typically anisotropic
  - $U_{\text{Total}} = U_{\text{Crystal}} + U_{\text{Rigid}} + U_{\text{Torsion}} + U_{\text{Atom}}$



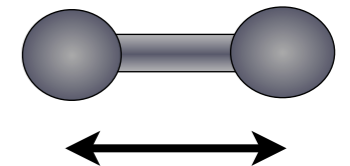
$U_{\text{Crystal}}$



$U_{\text{Rigid}}$



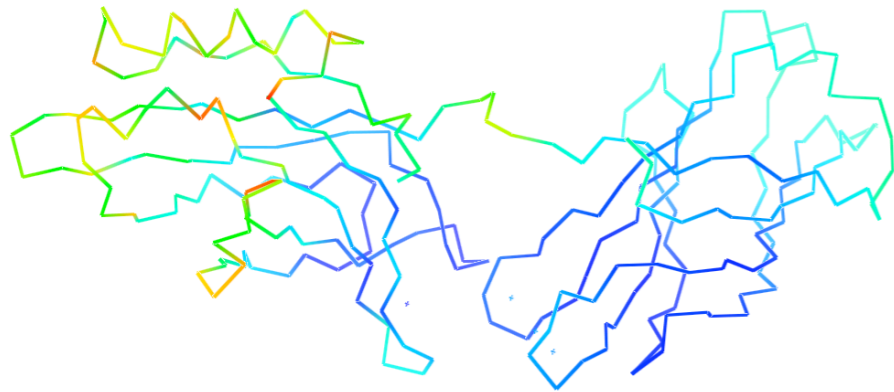
$U_{\text{Torsion}}$



$U_{\text{Atom}}$

# Improved ADP Refinement

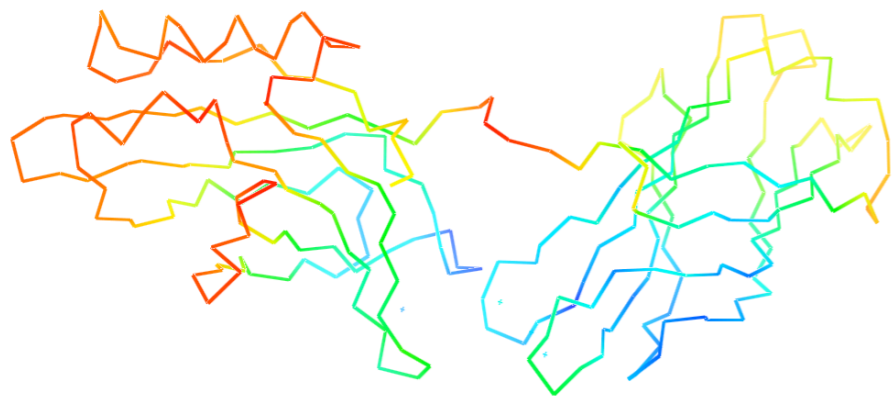
*Synaptotagmin, 3.2Å*



CNS  
R-free=34%  
R=29%



PHENIX – Isotropic restrained ADP  
R-free=27.7%  
R=24.6%



PHENIX – TLS + Isotropic ADP  
R-free=24.4%  
R=20.7%

# Refinement GUI

The screenshot shows the 'Input files' section of the phenix.refine GUI. It features a table with columns for 'File path', 'Format', and 'Data type'. Below the table are controls for 'Space group' (set to P 21 21 21) and 'Unit cell' (64.897 78.323 38.792 90.000 90.000). Other sections visible include 'X-ray data and experimental phases' and 'Neutron data'.

File path	Format	Data type
/Users/pdadams/Work/Scratch/phenix/rnase-s-tutorial/rnase-s/rnase25....	ccp4_mtz	X-ray data
/Users/pdadams/Work/Scratch/phenix/rnase-s-tutorial/rnase-s/rnase-s....	PDB	model

Space group: P 21 21 21    Unit cell: 64.897 78.323 38.792 90.000 90.000

The screenshot shows the 'Refinement settings' section of the phenix.refine GUI. It is divided into 'Strategy' and 'General Parameters' sections.

**Strategy**

- Refinement strategy:  Individual sites,  Real-space,  Rigid body,  Individual ADPs,  Group ADPs,  TLS parameters,  Occupancies,  Anomalous groups
- Modify selections for: Individual sites (dropdown), Edit (button), Number of cycles: 1 (spinbox)

**General Parameters**

- Automatically add hydrogens to model,  Update waters,  NCS restraints
- Simulated annealing (Cartesian),  Simulated annealing (Torsion angles),  Find NCS restraints automatically
- Fix bad sidechain rotamers,  Automatically correct N/Q/H errors,  Secondary structure restraints
- Use experimental phases,  Model interatomic scattering,  Reference model restraints
- Target function: ML (dropdown), Scattering table: n\_gaussian (dropdown)
- Buttons: Define NCS groups, Miscellaneous settings..., All parameters...

# Results - Summary

The screenshot shows the phenix.refine application window. The menu bar includes PHENIX, Preferences, Help, Run, Abort, Save, Graphics, ReadySet, NCS, and Xtrriage. The main window is titled 'Configure Refine\_2' and has tabs for Results, Geometry outliers, Validation, and Model quality. The 'Results' tab is active, showing a list of output files in a table format. To the right of the table are buttons for 'Open in Coot', 'Open in PyMOL', 'Open in PHENIX', and 'Sequence viewer'. Below the file list is the 'Refinement statistics' section, which includes buttons for 'Compare statistics', 'Plot statistics by cycle', and 'Plot statistics by resolution'. A table titled 'Before and after refinement:' shows the change in R-work, R-free, Bonds, and Angles. At the bottom, a table titled 'X-ray statistics by resolution bin:' provides detailed data for different resolution ranges.

**Output files**

File path	Format	Data type
rnase-s_pdadams_refine_2.eff	phil	Effective parameters for this run
rnase-s_pdadams_refine_2.geo	PDB	Geometry restraints before refinement
rnase-s_pdadams_refine_2.log	text	phenix.refine log file
rnase-s_pdadams_refine_2.pdb	PDB	Refined model
rnase-s_pdadams_refine_2_info.txt	text	Run summary in text format
rnase-s_pdadams_refine_2_map_coeffs.mtz	ccp4_mtz	Map coefficients for Coot

**Refinement statistics**

Before and after refinement:

	Starting	Final
R-work	0.3611	0.2147
R-free	0.4305	0.2718
Bonds	0.028	0.024
Angles	4.517	2.282

X-ray statistics by resolution bin:

	R-work	R-free	%complete	FOM	Phase error	Scale factor	#work	#test
49.9818 - 4.2743	0.1726	0.2082	99.5%	0.87	17.44	0.96	1378	153
4.2743 - 3.3928	0.1890	0.2518	98.4%	0.87	20.08	1.07	1285	143
3.3928 - 2.9640	0.2342	0.2890	99.8%	0.82	23.45	1.06	1290	144
2.9640 - 2.6000	0.2711	0.3100	99.9%	0.75	20.84	0.96	1274	142

Project: rnase-s\_pdadams

# Results - Rebuilding and Validation

Good morning Paul. Welcome to Coot

Project: rnase-s\_pdadams

### Validation

Basic statistics for rnase-s\_pdadams\_refine\_2.pdb:

Ramachandran outliers:	0.0%	(Goal : < 0.2%)	Ramachandran favored:	98.9%	(Goal : > 98%)
Rotamer outliers:	10.4%	(Goal : 1%)	C-beta outliers:	2	(Goal : 0)
Clashscore:	11.44				

### Ramachandran analysis

[View Ramachandran plots](#)

No Ramachandran outliers detected.

### Rotamer analysis

[View Chi1-Chi2 plots](#)

Note that although a residue may lie in the favored regions of the Chi1-Chi2 plot, outliers are flagged based on the distribution of all non-branched Chi angles in a residue.

Rotamer outliers:

Chain	Residue	Score	Chi1	Chi2	Chi3	Chi4
A	ASP 1	0.02	343.4	103.3	-	-
A	GLN 32	0.00	244.3	81.8	341.1	-
A	ARG 40	0.00	106.1	228.4	306.0	227.8
A	SER 48	0.08	20.6	-	-	-
A	ARG 63	0.00	335.1	138.0	340.8	148.9
A	ILE 70	0.96	295.4	223.8	-	-
A	THR 76	0.00	1.9	-	-	-
A	LEU 91	0.20	217.6	261.5	-	-
B	ASP 1	0.00	356.1	82.7	-	-
B	GLN 32	0.55	336.8	287.1	74.4	-
B	ARG 40	0.00	97.7	236.1	230.7	103.7

### C-beta deviation analysis

C-beta position outliers:

Chain	Residue	Conf.	Deviation	Angle
A	GLN 32	0.323	81.36	

# Model Validation

- In science we construct models to explain experimental observations
- We must always ask if the model is correct, or as correct as it can be given the experimental uncertainties
  - Does the model fit the experimental data?
  - Does the model confirm prior knowledge?
  - Does the model predict things that we can measure? (typically leads to other experiments)

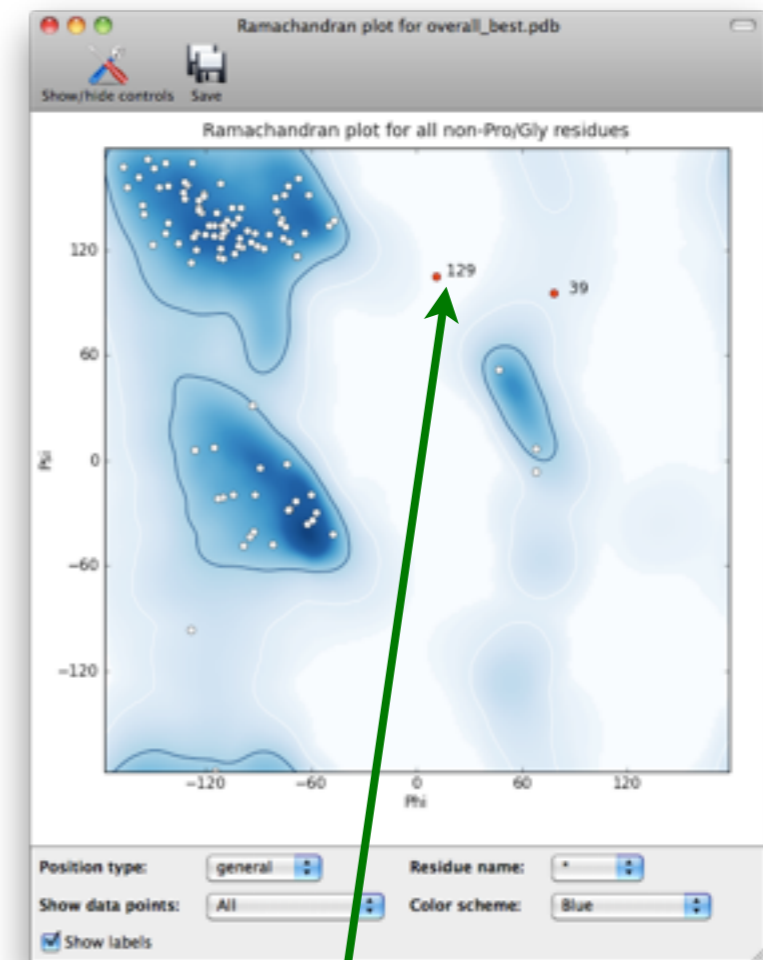
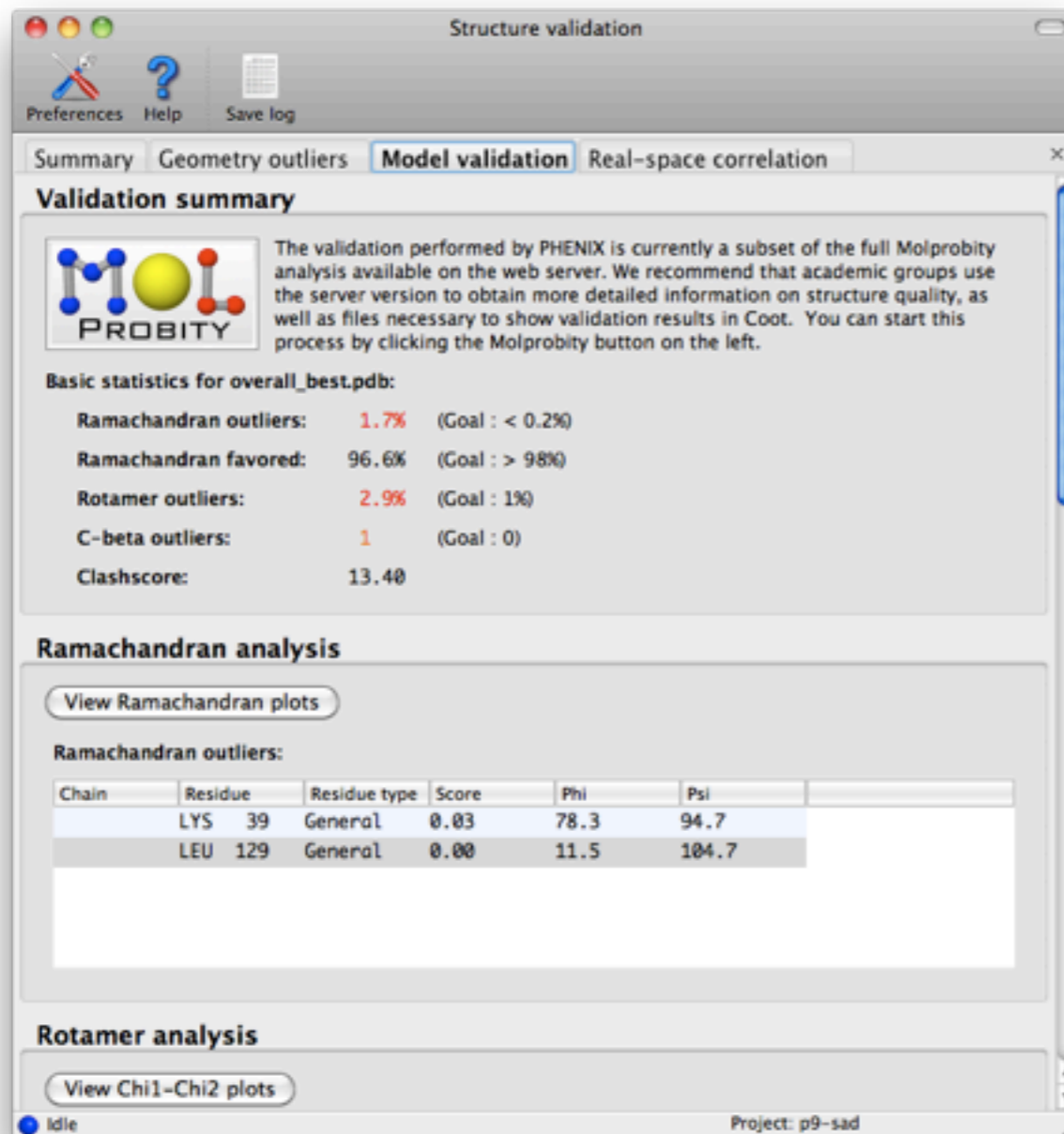


# Validation

- Global validators:
  - R-factors (e.g. Free-R-factor)
  - Overall deviations from ideal bond lengths and bond angles
- Local validators:
  - Deviations from ideal geometry
  - Deviations from known distributions of backbone torsion angles (protein)
  - Deviations from known distributions of side chain conformations (protein)
  - Local fit of model to electron density
  - Contacts between atoms (unlikely chemical interactions, too close atoms)

# Validation

- Outlier lists recenter Coot view; Probe dots automatically loaded
- optional real-space correlation (if reflections available), with B-factor analysis



outliers in graphs also recenter Coot

# Parallel validation of multiple structures

- Identifies points of difference between structures of the same protein, with optional map superpositioning

The screenshot displays the Phenix software interface. On the left, a 'Parallel structure comparison' window shows a table with columns for residue numbers and names (19 LEU, 21 LYS, 23 LYS, 24 GLU, 25 ASP, 27 LEU, 28 LYS, 29 LYS, 31 GLU) and rows for different PDB chains. The table contains various status indicators like 'OUTLIER', 'mt', 'mm-40', and 'm'. Below the table is a 'Coot controls' window with a list of models to be compared, including 3fhi.pdb:chain A, 3dnd.pdb:chain A, 1l3r.pdb:chain E, 3fjq.pdb:chain E, 1syk.pdb:chain A, 1syk.pdb:chain B, and 3dne.pdb:chain A. On the right, the main Coot window shows a 3D molecular model with a blue mesh and colored sticks representing the protein structure. The interface includes standard menu bars and toolbars.

	19 LEU	21 LYS	23 LYS	24 GLU	25 ASP	27 LEU	28 LYS	29 LYS	31 GLU
3fhi.pdb:A	---	---	OUTLIER	tt0	m-20	mt	---	mtm	---
3dnd.pdb:A	OUTLIER	OUTLIER	tttt	tt0	m-20	OUTLIER	mtmm	mtt	mm-40
1l3r.pdb:E	---	---	tttp	---	m-20	mt	---	mtt	mm-40
3fjq.pdb:E	---	tmtm?	tttt	mt-10	m-20	mt	mtt	mtt	mm-40
1syk.pdb:A	n?	mtt	tptm	tp10	t70	OUTLIER	mppt	mtt	tp10
1syk.pdb:B	n?	mtt	tptm	tp10	t70	OUTLIER	mppt	mtt	mt-10
3dne.pdb:A	OUTLIER	mppt	ttpt	mt-10	m-20	OUTLIER	mtmm	mtt	mm-40

**Phenix**

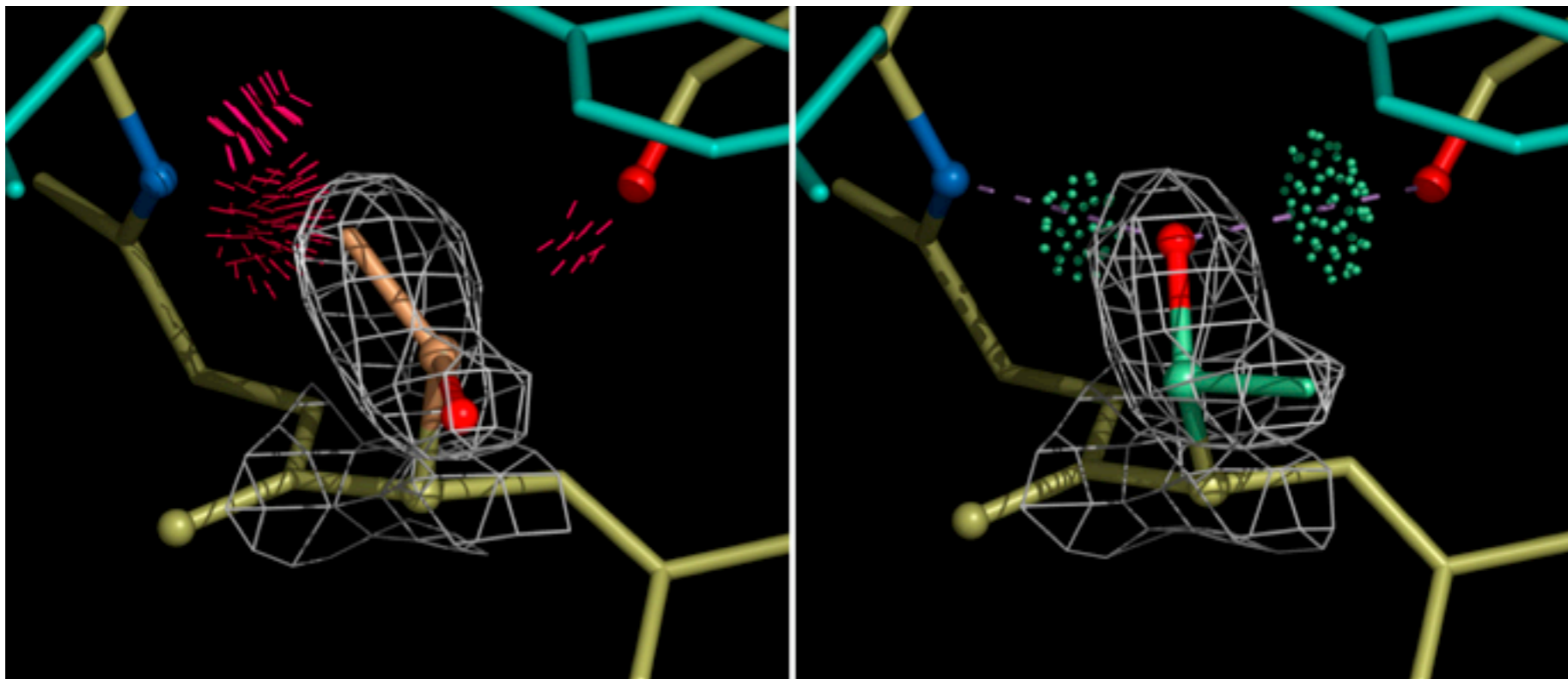
Nat Echols, Nigel Moriarty, Pavel Afonine, Ralf Grosse-Kunstleve (LBL) & Herb Klei (BMS)

# Active use of Validation Measures

- Automated fixing of rotamers
- Automated flipping of side chains
- Accounting for local context
- Using prior knowledge about secondary structure as restraints
- Using similar high resolution structures as restraints

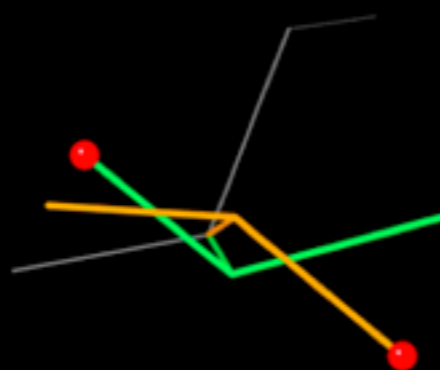
# Automated Rotamer Fixing

- Electron density can often be ambiguous for some residues (e.g. Leu)
- Methods developed for validation (identifying incorrect rotamers) can be used to automatically fix problem residues



1sbp, 1.7Å

Cbdev = .39 Å  
Chi1 = -109°  
N-Ca-Cb = 98°  
3 bad clashes  
no H-bonds  
C in > density



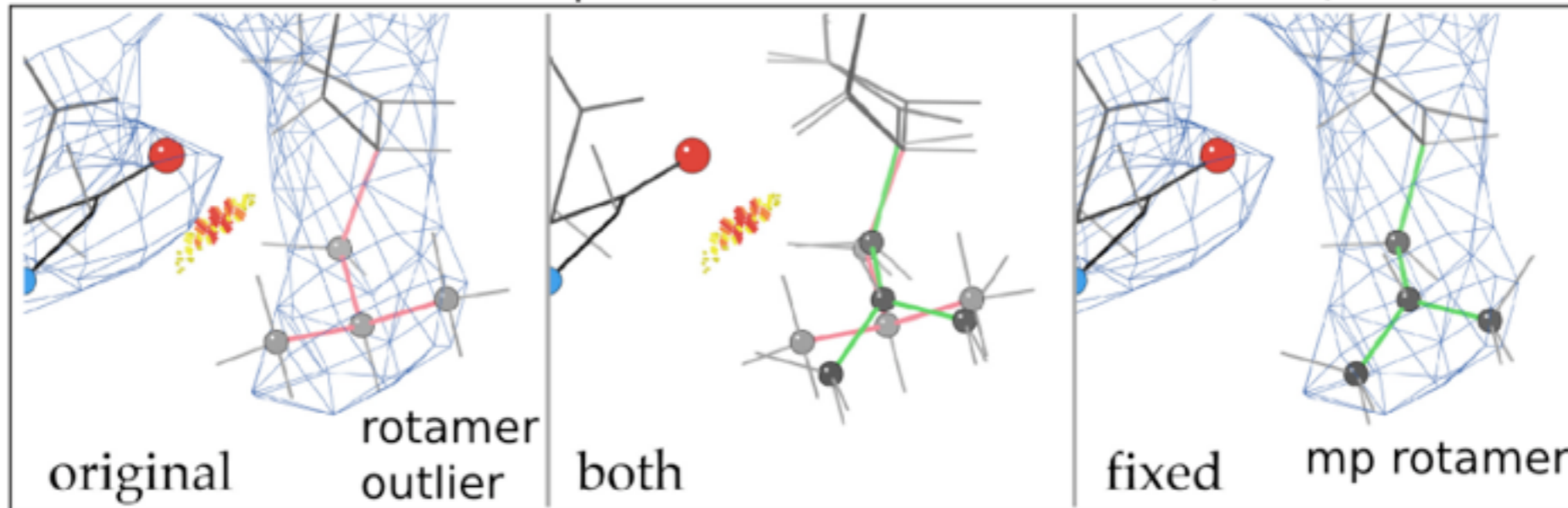
Cbdev = 0  
Chi1 = 73°  
N-Ca-Cb = 110°  
no bad clashes  
2 H-bonds  
O in > density

**Phenix**

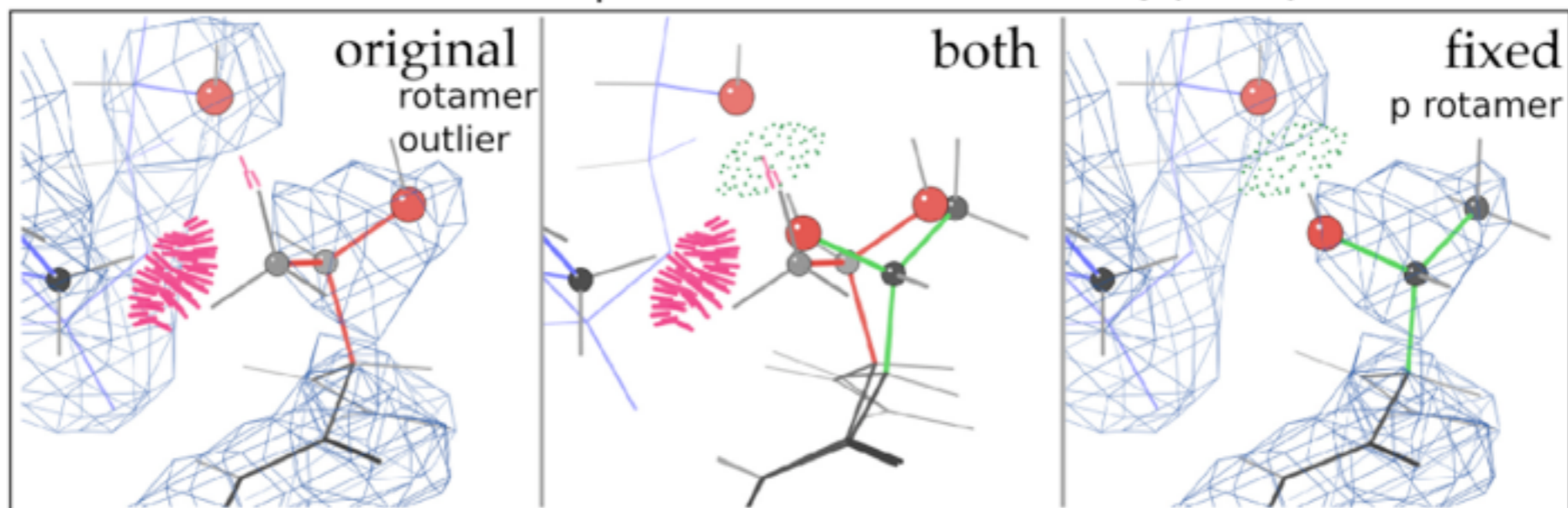
Jeff Headd, Duke University

# Automated Rotamer Fixing

Autofix Example 1: Leu D 427 from 1A0E (2.7Å)



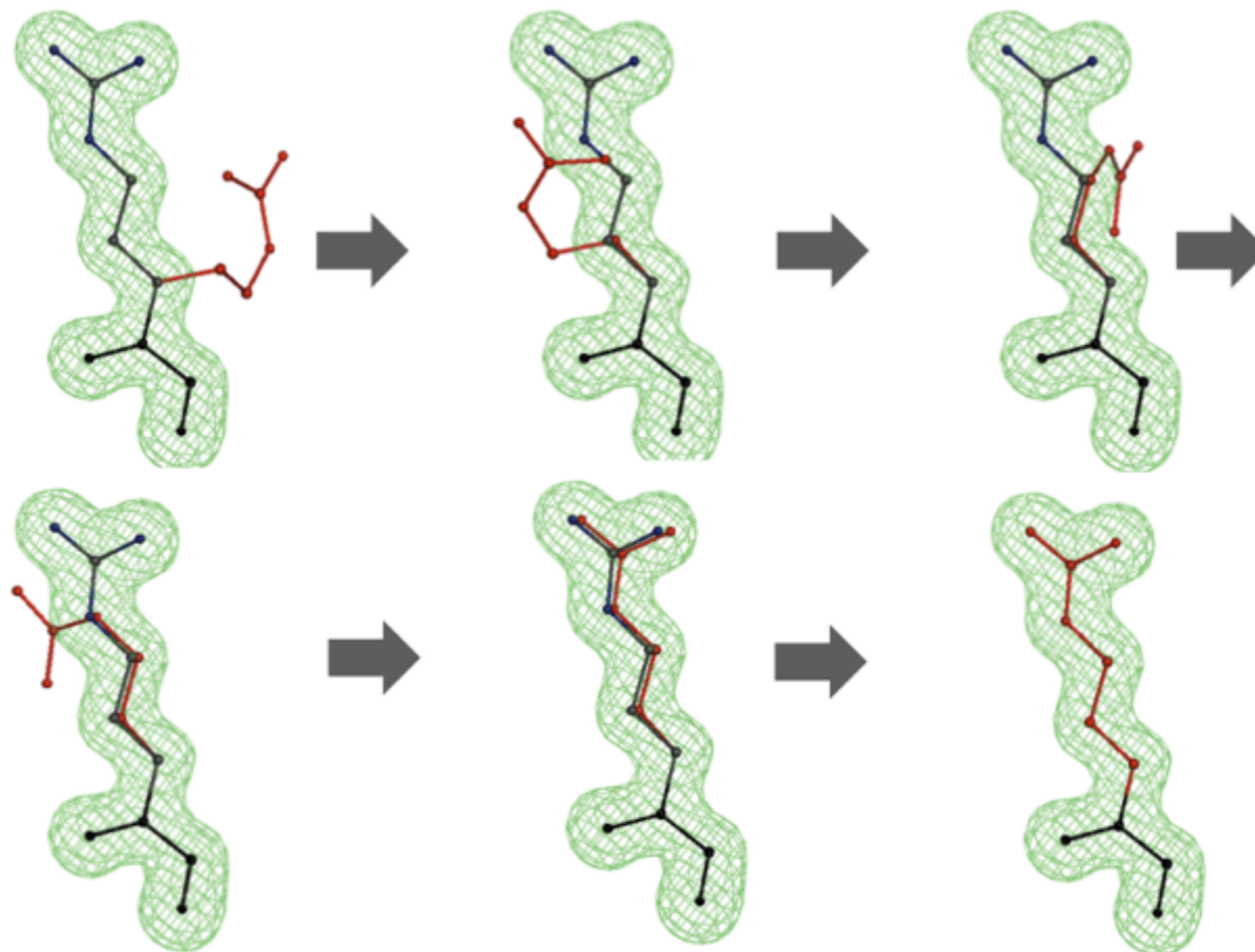
Autofix Example 2: Thr O 3 from 1YHQ (2.4Å)



Headd JJ, Immormino RM, Keedy DA, Emsley P, Richardson DC, Richardson JS. Autofix for backward-fit sidechains: using MolProbity and real-space refinement to put misfits in their place. *J Struct Funct Genomics*. 2009 Mar;10(1):83-93.

# Automated Rotamer Fixing in Refinement

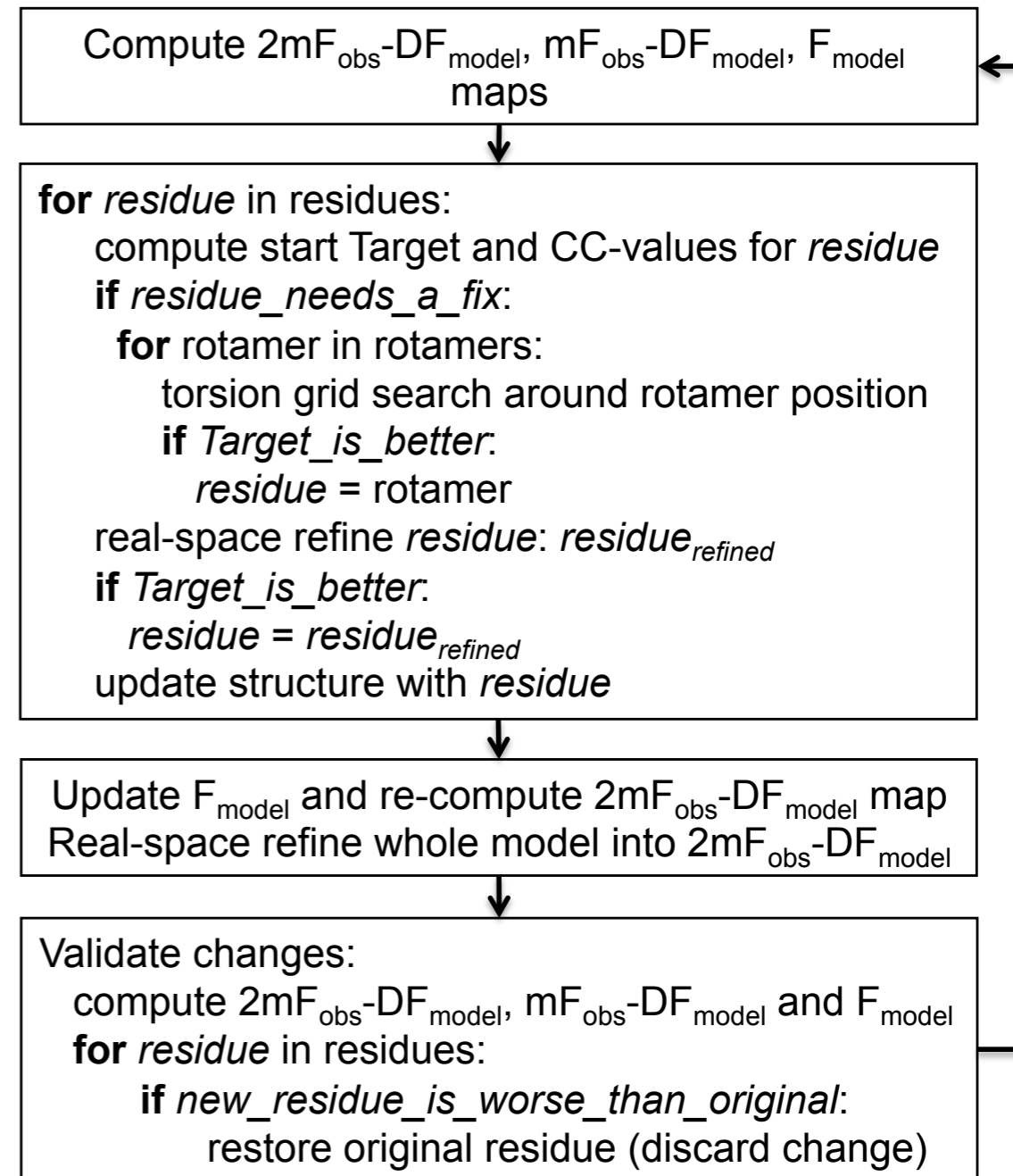
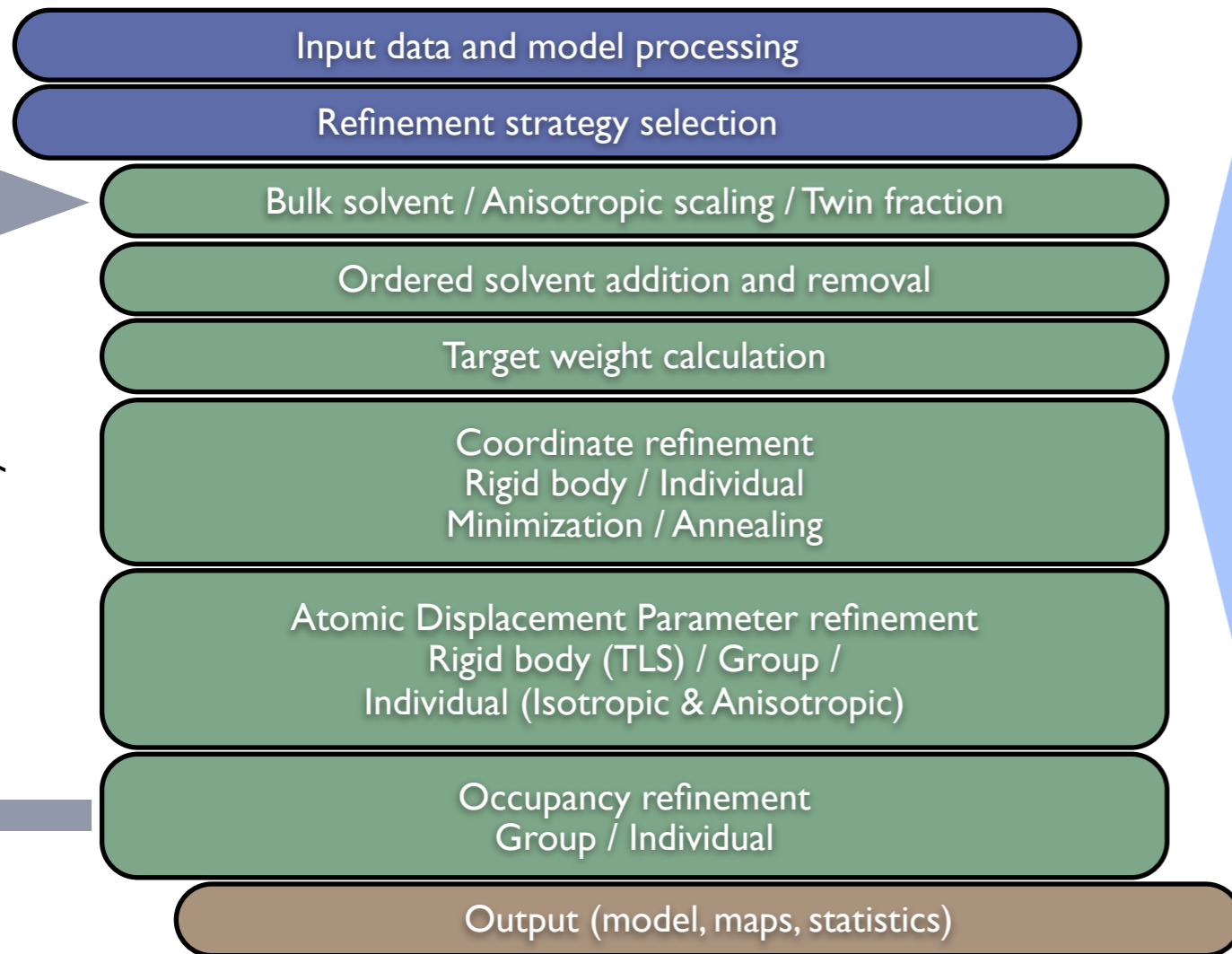
- Assessment of local quality of side chains by comparison to rotamer library
- Torsion angle search against density with real space refinement



**Phenix**

Pavel Afonine, Ralf Grosse-Kunstleve, Jeff Headd

# Protocol



% **phenix.refine model.pdb data.hkl **fix\_rotamers=true****

Fix bad sidechain rotamers

**Phenix**

Pavel Afonine, LBL  
Nat Echols, LBL



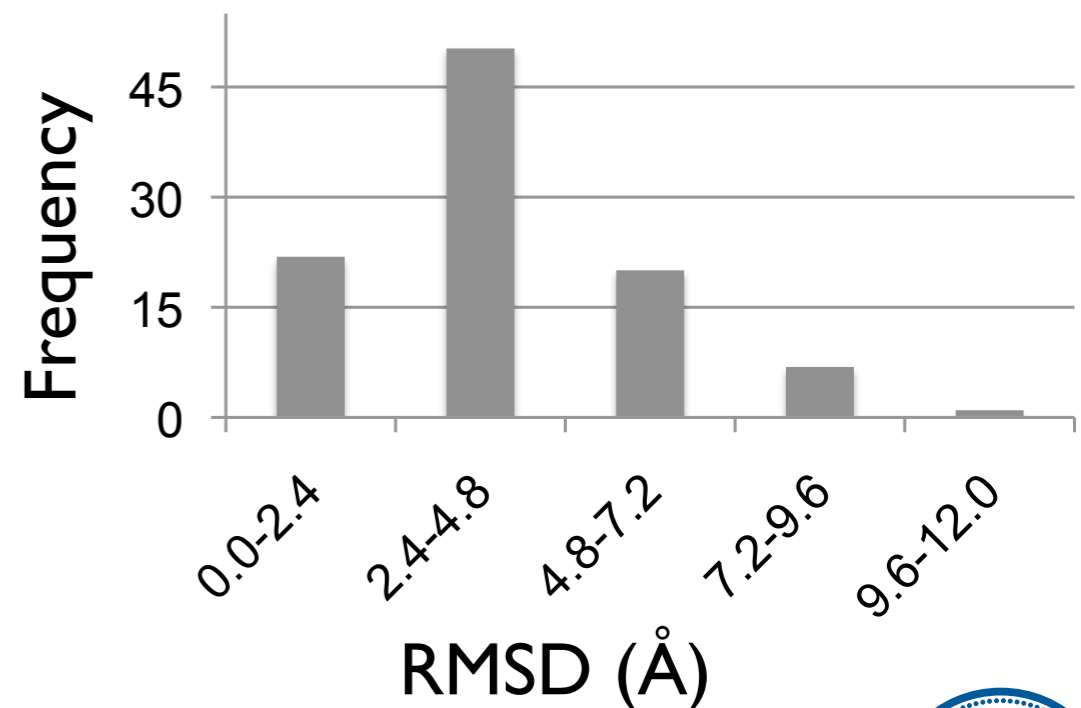
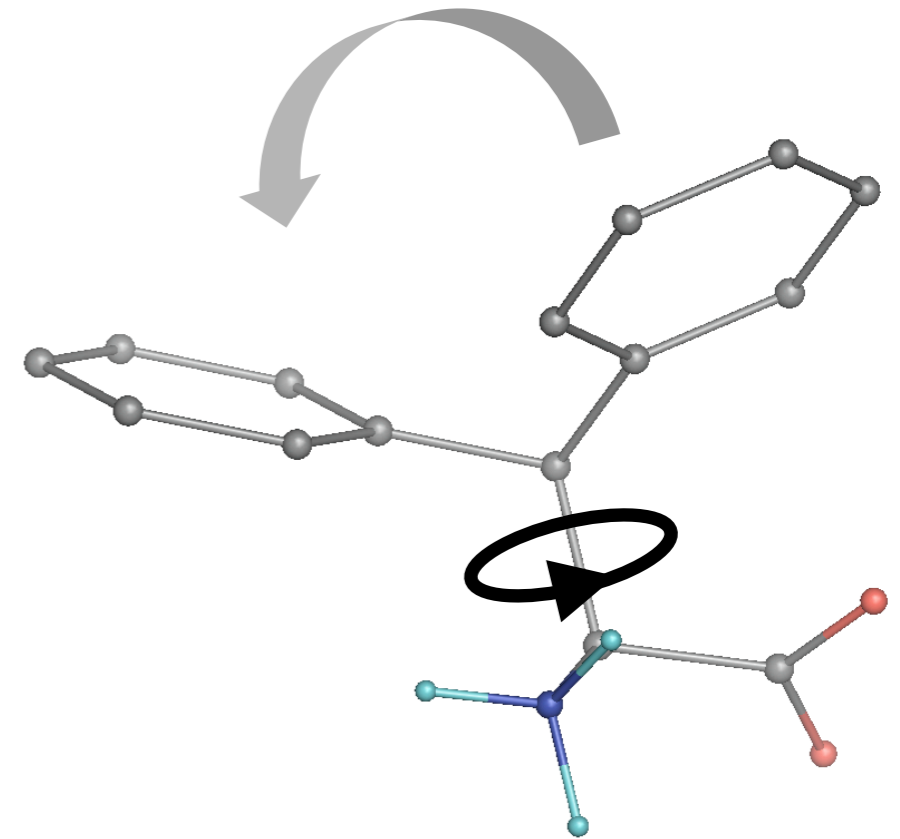


# Testing Performance

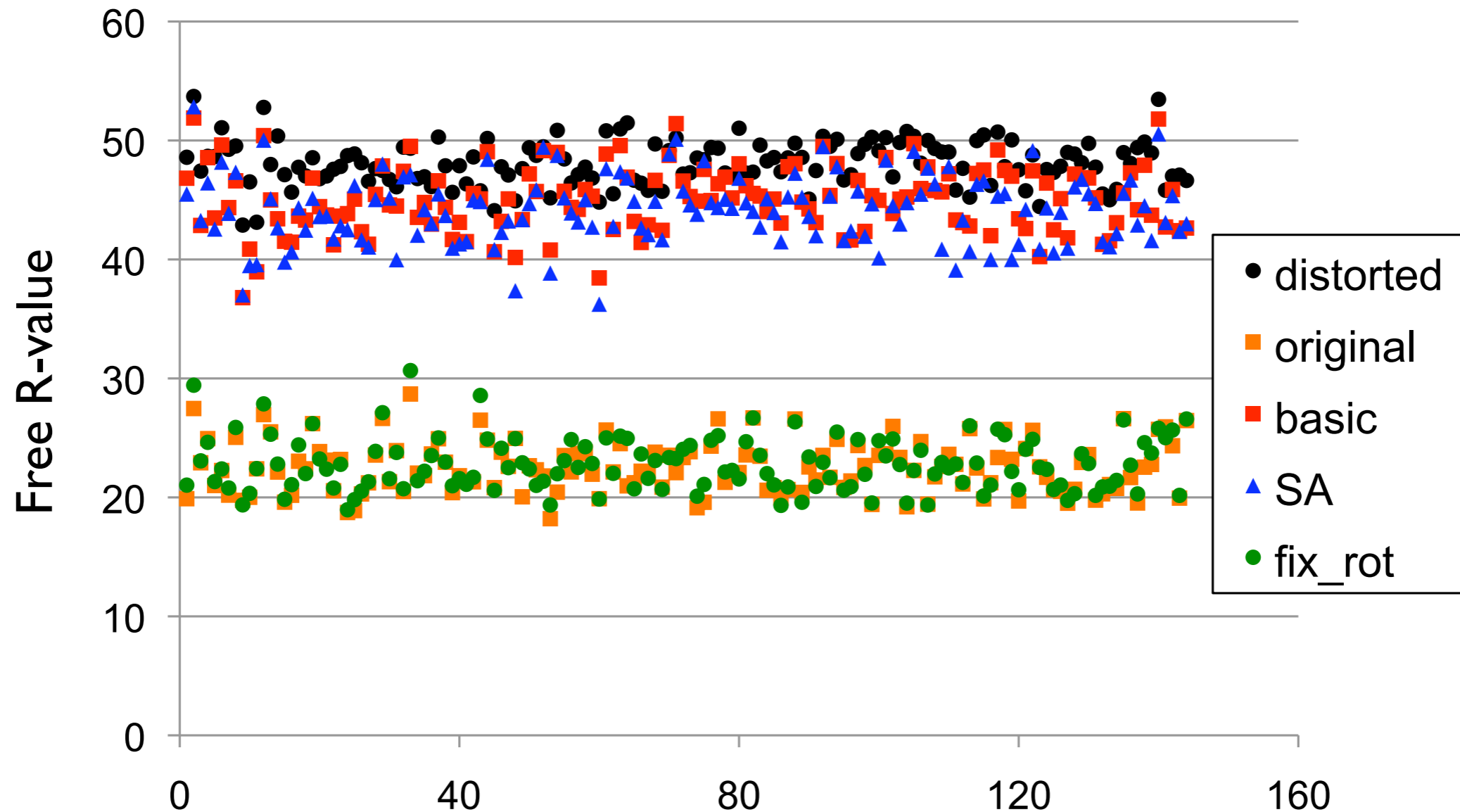
Test refinement of 150 structures from PDB in resolution range 1.5-3.0Å:

- Refine original models
  - Basic refinement
  - Basic refinement + local real-space refinement
- *Generate distorted models:*
  - Remove water
  - For each residue select the most distant rotamer
  - Quick geometry regularization to remove bad clashes
- Refine distorted models
  - Basic refinement
  - Basic refinement + Simulated Annealing
  - Basic refinement + local real-space refinement

(Where *basic refinement* is individual coordinates, ADPs, occupancies, and solvent model update)

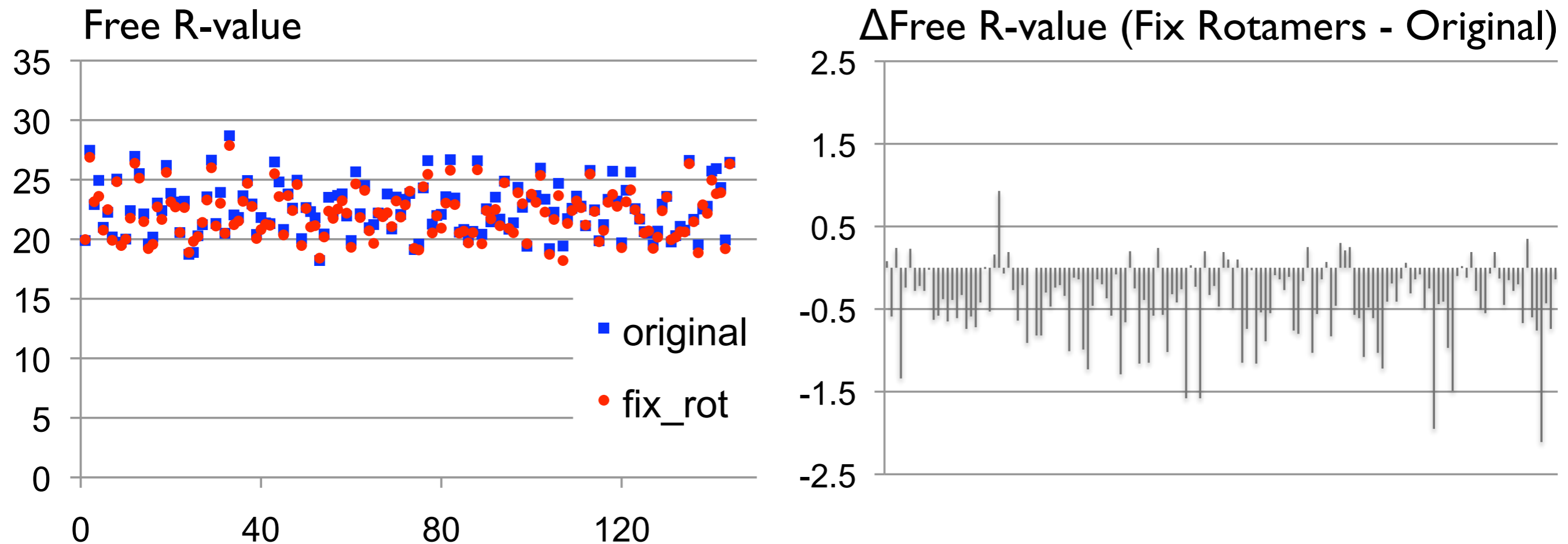


# Refinement of Distorted Models



- Errors in rotamers are difficult to fix using gradient methods or simulated annealing
- Local searching and real space refinement can recover the correct rotamers in many cases

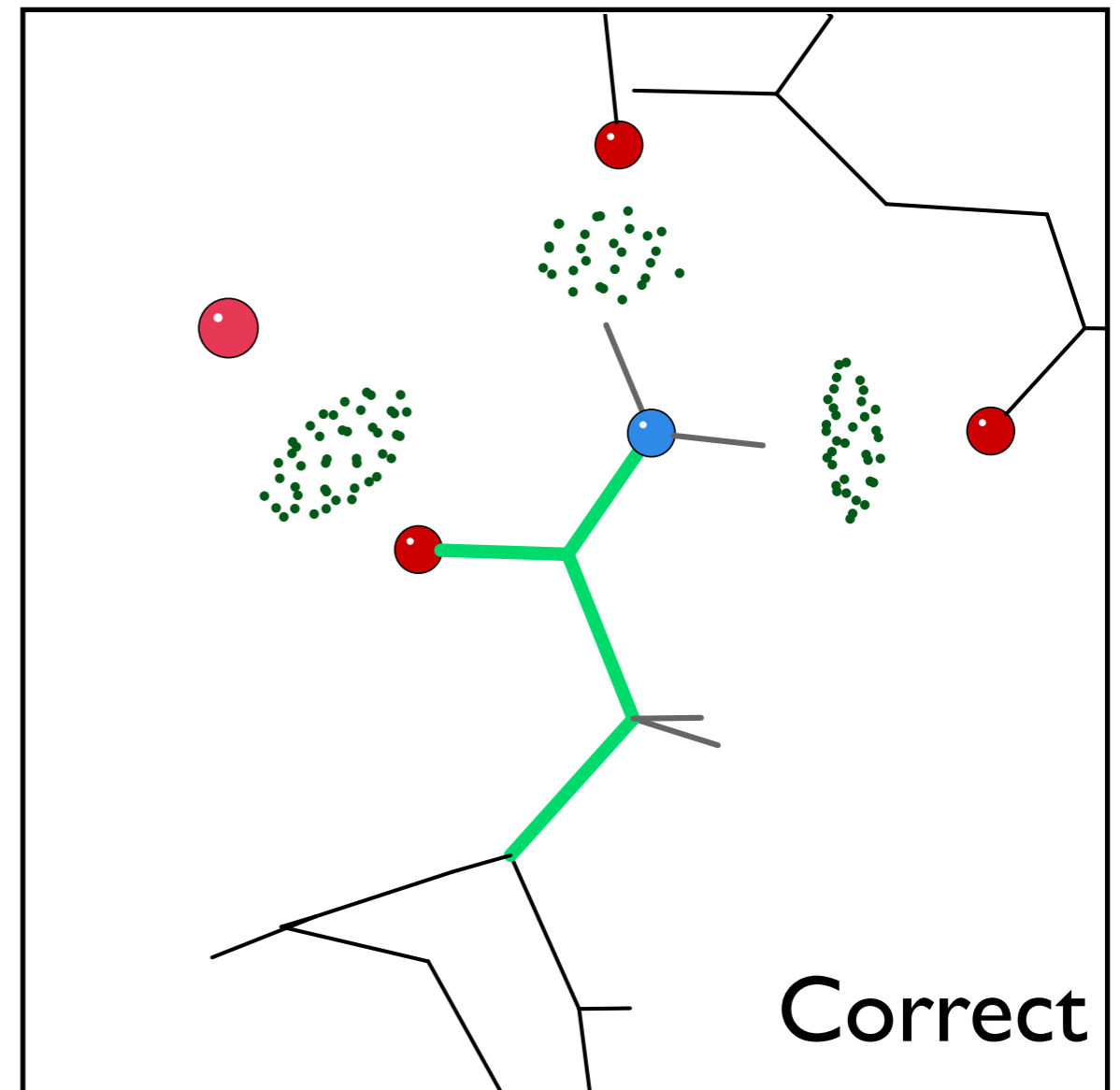
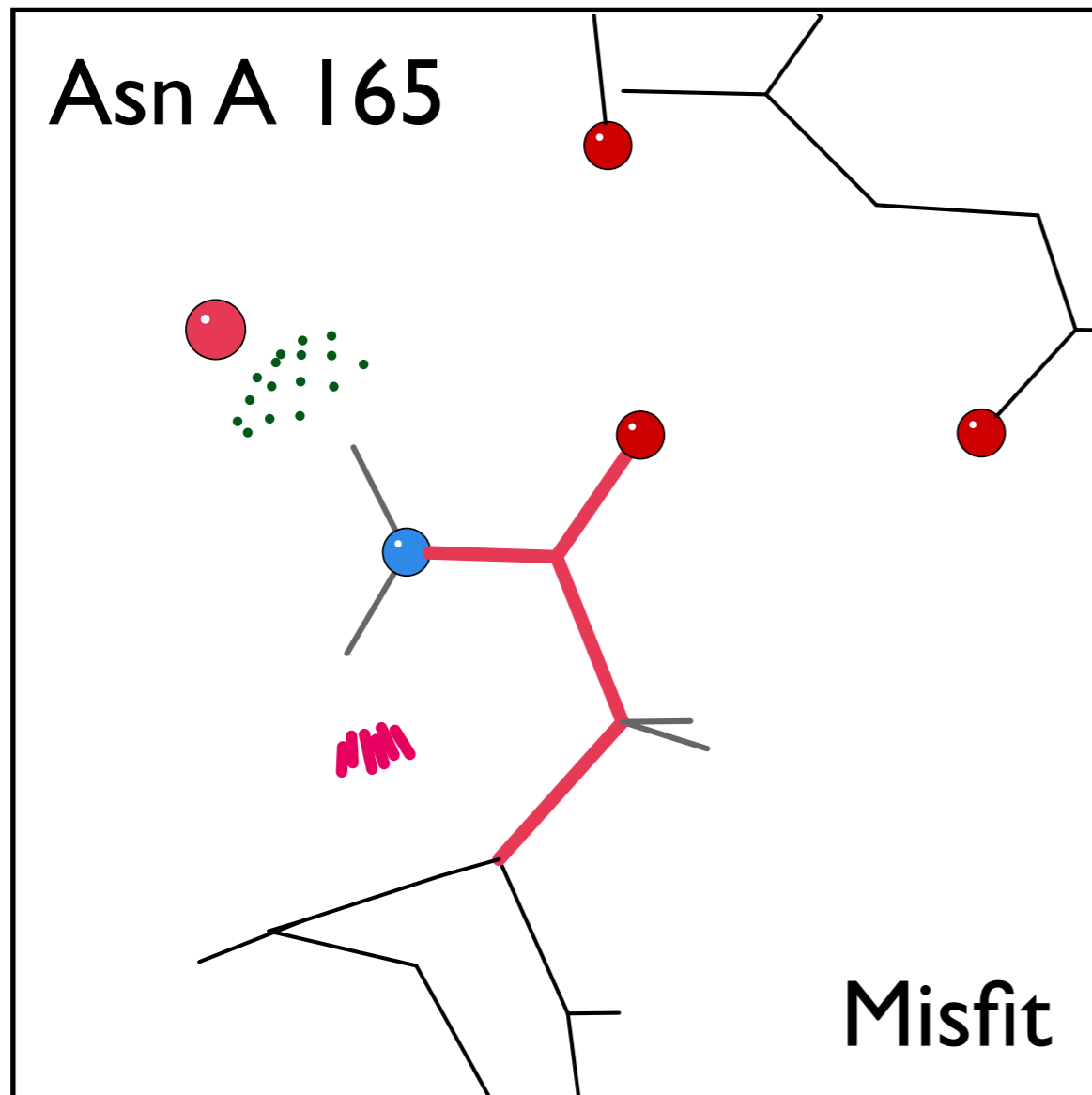
# Refinement of Original Models



- Refinement with automated rotamer fixing typically improves free R-values
- Many structures in the PDB could have multiple rotamer errors that can be corrected
- More analysis is required (e.g. impact at low resolution)

# Automated Asn/Gln/His Corrections

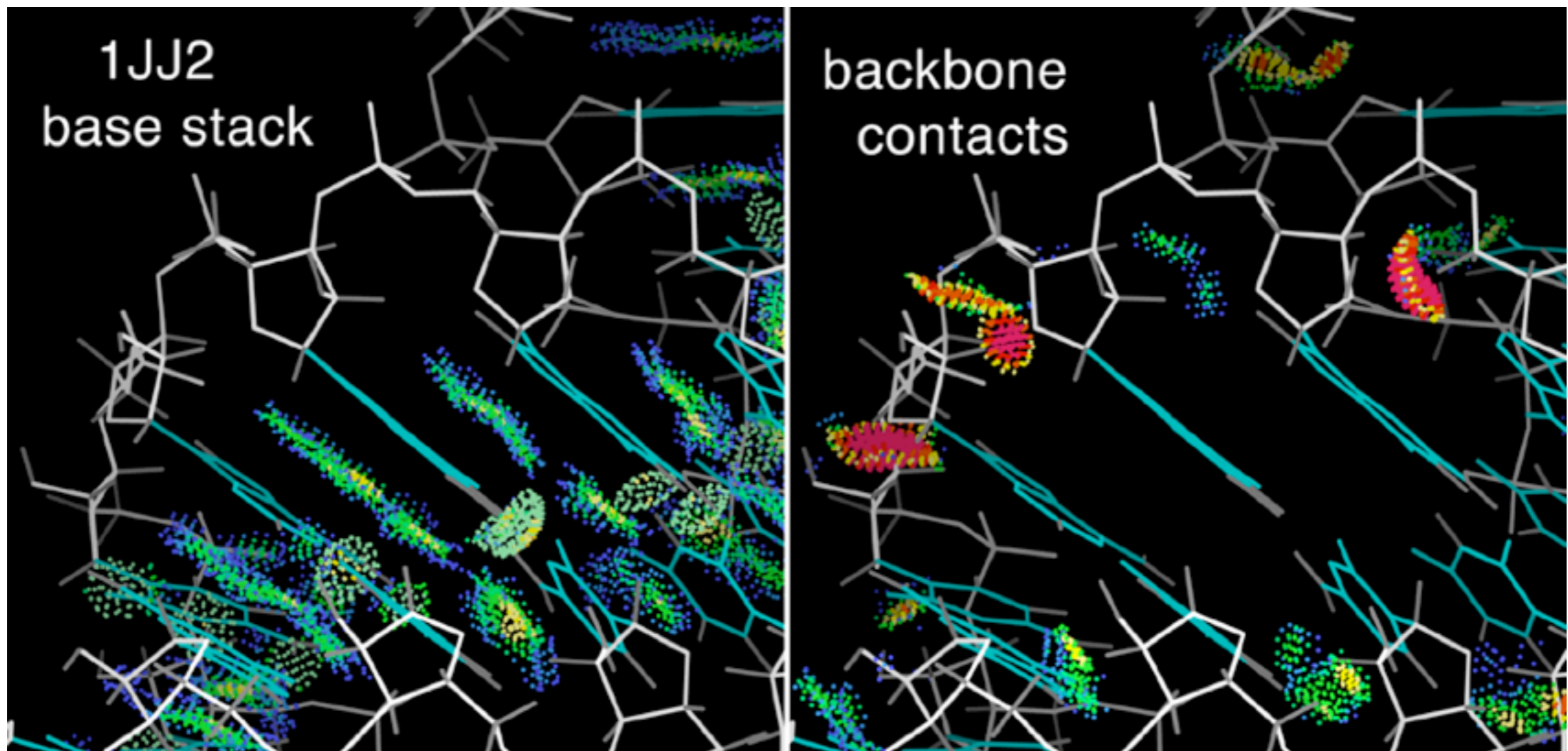
- Automatically detect and correct flipped N/Q/H residues at each macrocycle
- Uses MolProbity/Reduce methodology (H-bonds, clashes) to determine correct orientation



Sulfate Binding Protein (ISBP)

# Problems in Nucleic Acid Structures

- Nucleic acid structures (esp. RNA) are often solved at low resolution
- The interactions between bases are often favorable
- It is common to see geometric problems with the backbone

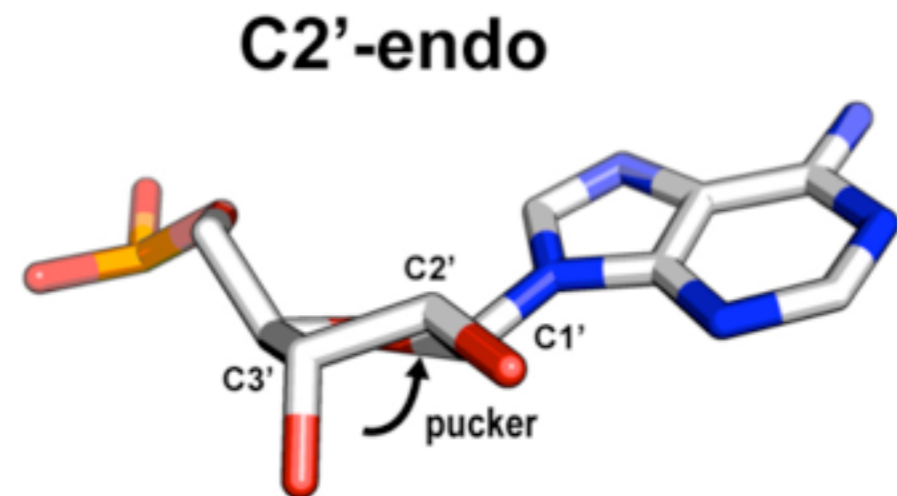
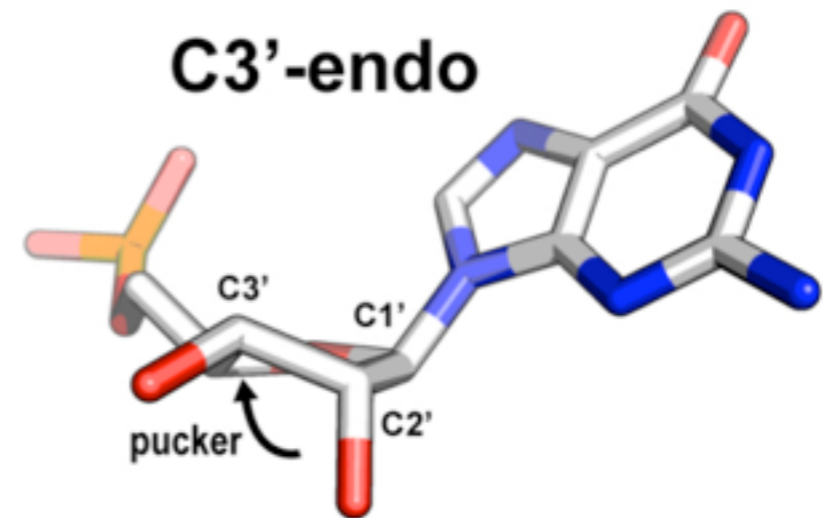
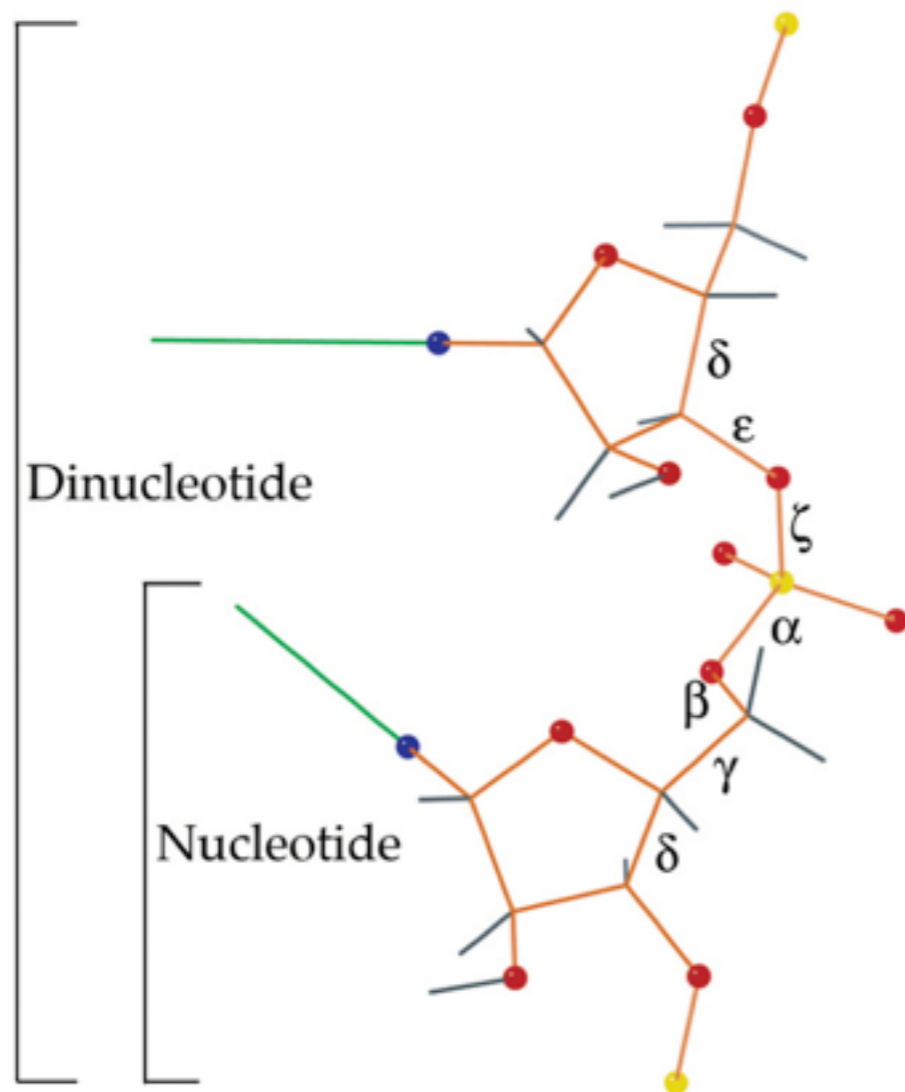


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# Conformation Dependent Geometry

- Nucleic acids have specific conformational variations in their backbone (arising from different sugar puckers)
- The different puckers lead to different local ideal geometries
- The best pucker is automatically recognized and the restraints dynamically modified



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Ralf Grosse-Kunstleve, LBL

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# Secondary structure restraints

- For coordinate refinement, restrain hydrogen bond length (or N-O distance if hydrogens absent)
- Automatic annotation using KSDSSP\* ([phenix.ksdssp](#))
- Secondary structure groups for phenix.refine provided by [phenix.secondary\\_structure\\_restraints](#)

```
HELIX      1      1 ASP A   37  GLY A   48  1                               12
SHEET      1      A 2 ARG A   13  ASP A   14  0
SHEET      2      A 2 LEU A   27  SER A   30 -1  O  ARG A   29  N  ARG A   13
```

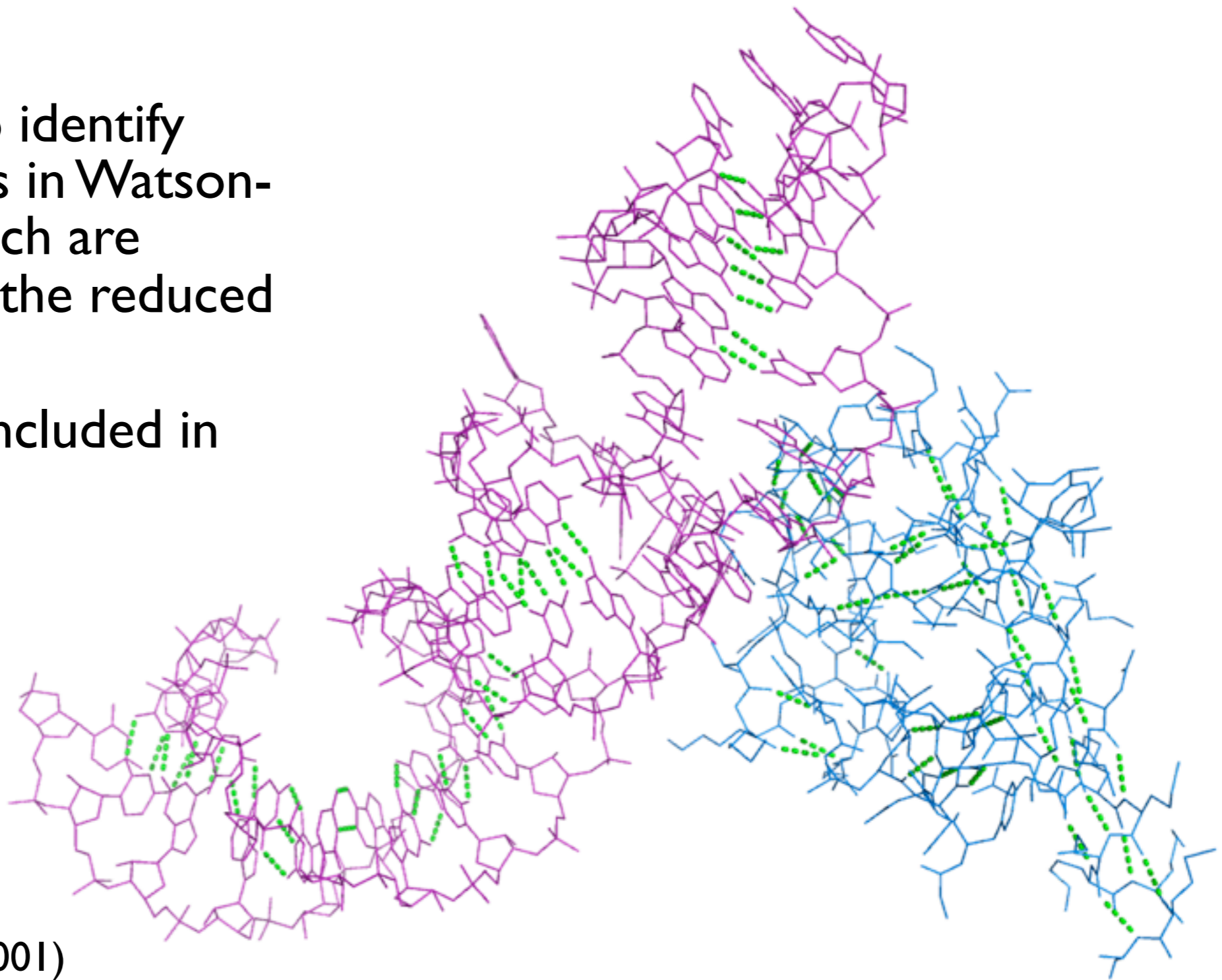


```
refinement.secondary_structure.helix {
  selection = "chain 'A' and resseq 263:275"
  helix_class = 1
}
refinement.secondary_structure.sheet {
  first_strand = "chain 'A' and resseq 13:14"
  strand {
    selection = "chain 'A' and resseq 27:30"
    sense = antiparallel
    bond_start_current = "chain 'A' and resseq 29"
    bond_start_previous = "chain 'A' and resseq 13"
  }
}
```

\* Open-source (BSD-like) reimplementaion of the DSSP algorithm, by authors of UCSF Chimera (<http://www.cgl.ucsf.edu/Overview/software.html>). The only free program of its type!

# Base pairing restraints

- Uses PROBE to identify hydrogen bonds in Watson-Crick pairs, which are converted into the reduced syntax
- Automatically included in refinement



Example (protein+RNA):  
Signal recognition particle  
(Batey et al. JMB 307:229, 2001)  
PDB ID: 1hq1



# Editing secondary structure

The screenshot displays the Phenix software interface. The main window shows a protein structure with a central helix highlighted in light green. The Secondary structure editor panel is open, showing the current selection as 'chain '' and resseq 175:183'. The panel includes sections for Helices and Sheets, each with a table of parameters and control buttons.

**Refinement settings**

**Secondary structure editor**

Restraint settings Recalculate bonds Apply changes Revert

Done editing Hide helices Hide sheets Molecule settings

Current selection: chain '' and resseq 175:183

**Helices**

Helix selection	Type	Sigma	Slack
chain '' and resseq 60:62	3_10	None	None
chain '' and resseq 88:91	alpha	None	None
chain '' and resseq 157:159	3_10	None	None
chain '' and resseq 185:187	3_10	None	None

+ - Edit helix Change sigma Change slack

**Sheets**

Sheet	Type	Sigma	Slack
1 (17 strands)	AP	None	None

+ - Change sigma Change slack

Strand	Sense	Start bonds	Bond to
chain '' and resseq 193:201	antiparallel	chain '' and r...	chain '' and r...
chain '' and resseq 175:183	antiparallel	chain '' and r...	chain '' and r...
chain '' and resseq 162:171	antiparallel	chain '' and r...	chain '' and r...
chain '' and resseq 142:150	antiparallel	chain '' and r...	chain '' and r...
chain '' and resseq 131:139	antiparallel	chain '' and r...	chain '' and r...

+ - Edit strand Change bond start Change bond-to

Current structure: 4 helices and 1 sheets.

# Secondary structure restraints: examples

- Automatic annotation with default settings, no H atoms
- DNA-binding protein, 3.1 Å (early in refinement)\*

SS	R-work	R-free	$\Delta R$	Ramachandran outliers
-	0.2883	0.3689	0.0806	2.52%
+	0.2877	0.3652	0.0775	2.25%

\* data provided by A. Schoeffler, UC Berkeley.

- Bacterial protein, 2.25 Å (AutoSol model)

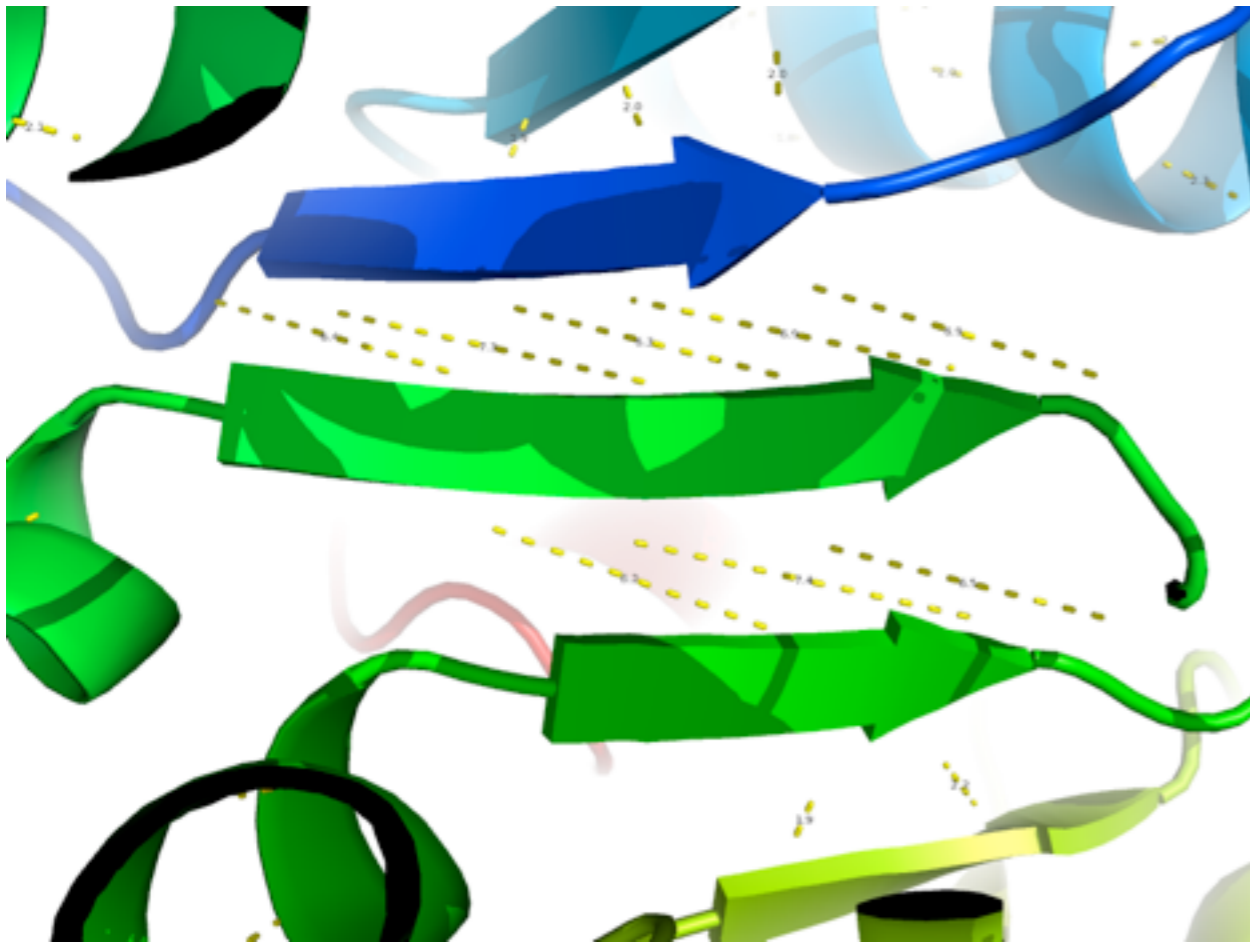
SS	R-work	R-free	$\Delta R$	Ramachandran favored**
-	0.2733	0.3246	0.0523	95.07%
+	0.2723	0.3221	0.0488	96.41%

\*\* no outliers

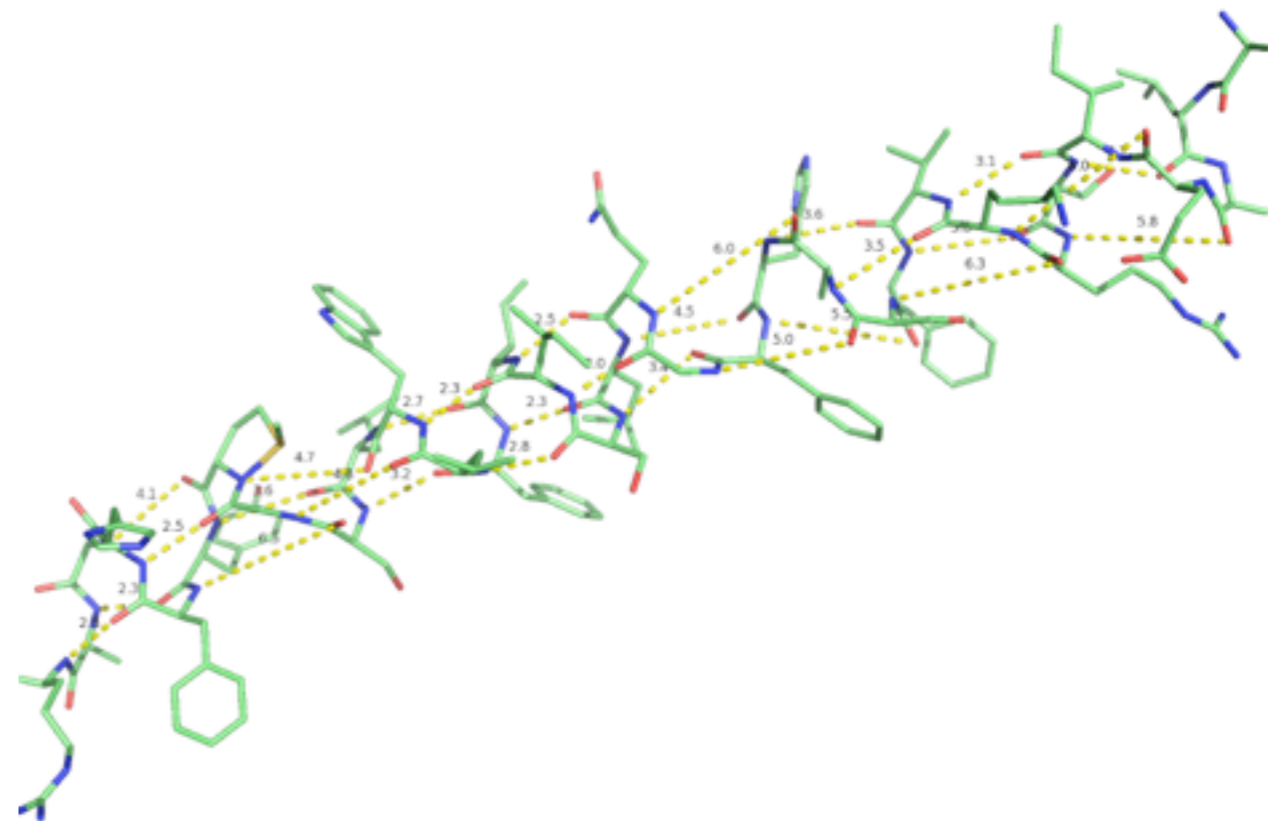
- Careful manual annotation may improve results

# Hydrogen bond quality control

- Automatic annotation is challenging - many false positives and negatives
- Outlier filtering throws out excessively long bonds, but not all of these are truly invalid
- Improved detection and/or prediction methods are needed



PDB ID 1a8i: SHEET records in PDB file are shifted



PDB ID 2o0l: distorted geometry prevents automatic detection of helix

# Reference Model Restraints for Low Resolution Refinement

- Improve low resolution refinement by using a related higher resolution structure as a reference.
- Generate reference dihedral restraints for all matching dihedral angles between the working model and the reference model.
- Restraints take the form of a simple harmonic:

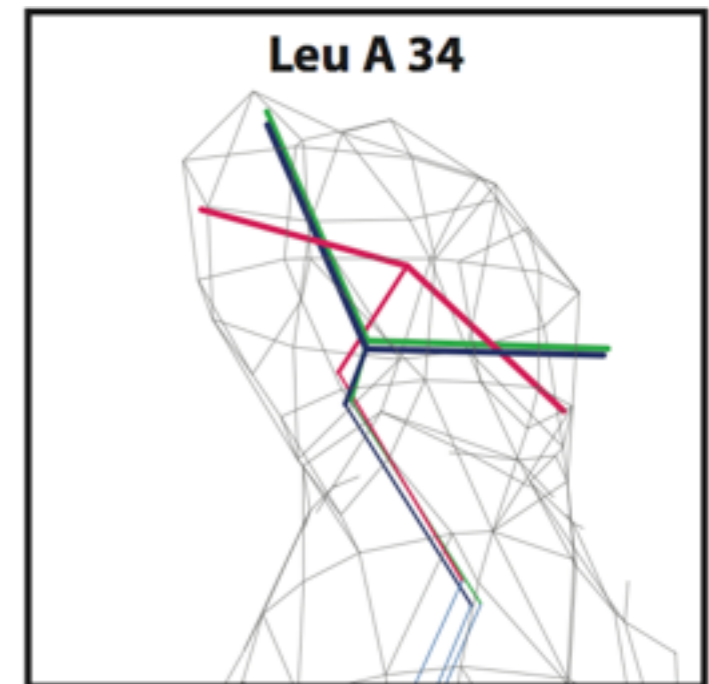
$$E_{total} = \sum_{i=1}^n E_i \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} E_i = \omega_i \Delta_i^2, \quad \Delta_i \leq l \\ E_i = \omega_i l^2, \quad \Delta_i > l \end{array} \right\} \quad \omega_i = \frac{1}{\sigma^2}$$

- where  $\sigma$  is the ESD,  $\Delta$  is the difference between the model dihedral and reference dihedral, and  $l$  is a 'limit' parameter that limits how far the model dihedral may vary from the reference dihedral before being shut off.
- The 'limit' parameter allows differences between the working and reference models (e.g. hinges, conformational changes)
- Pre-correct rotamer outliers in the working model to match the  $\chi$  angles of the reference model if the reference model has a proper rotamer at that position.

# Reference Structures

- Use the information contained in a well-defined high resolution structure to improve models generated with lower resolution data
- Dihedral angle restraints pulls the model towards the higher resolution reference (until the deviation is too great)

		1GTX alone	1OHV	1GTX w/ ref.
Leu A 34	X <sub>1</sub>	203.5°	186.4°	185.6°
	X <sub>2</sub>	225.6°	45.6°	46.3°
	Rotamer	Outlier	<b>tp</b>	<b>tp</b>
Glu A 41	X <sub>1</sub>	295.4°	287.7°	287.7°
	X <sub>2</sub>	177.1°	172.6°	173.0°
	X <sub>3</sub>	47.5°	73.2°	73.0°
	Rotamer	<b>mt-10</b>	<b>mt-10</b>	<b>mt-10</b>



■ 1GTX ■ 1OHV ■ 1GTX, w/ 1OHV reference

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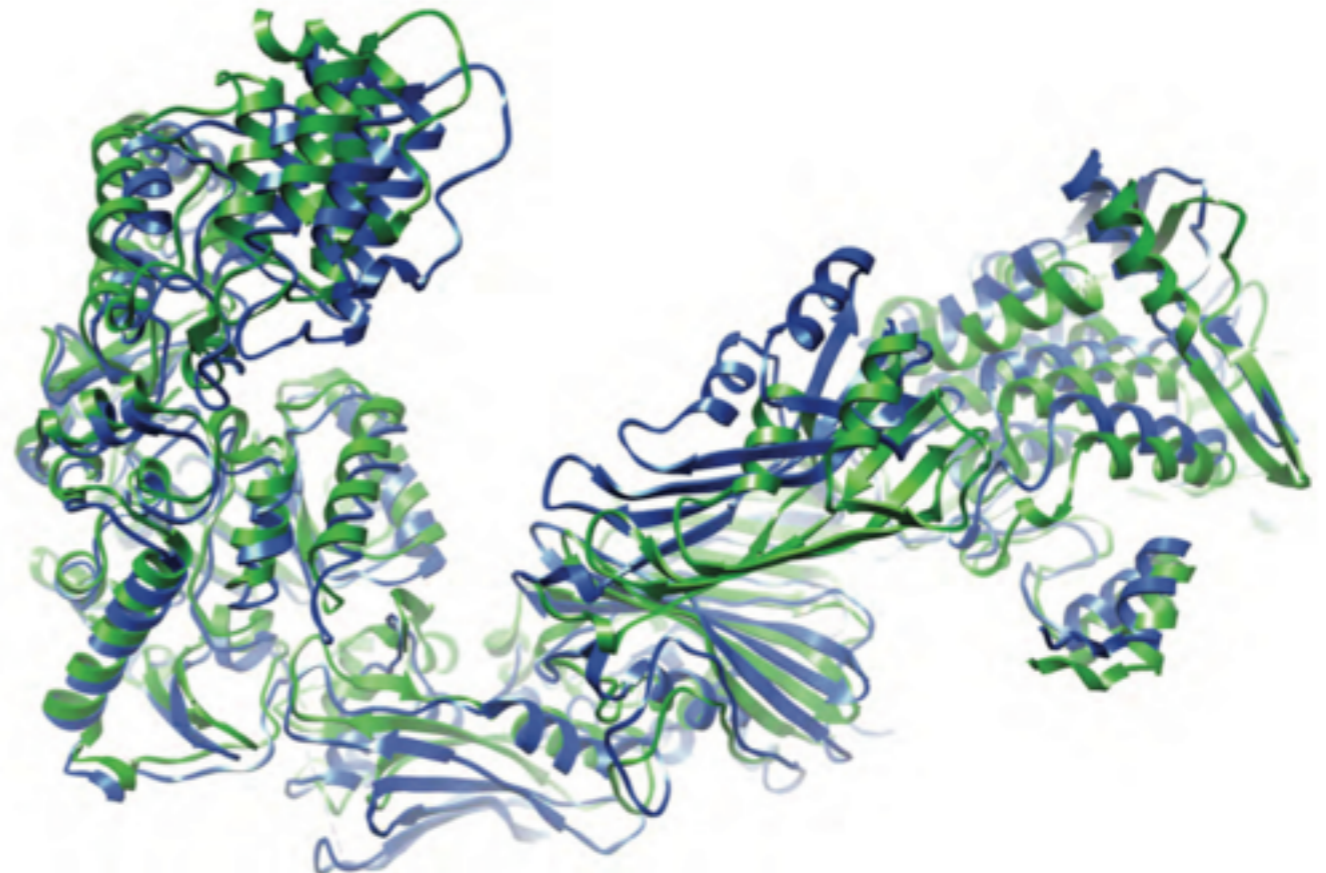
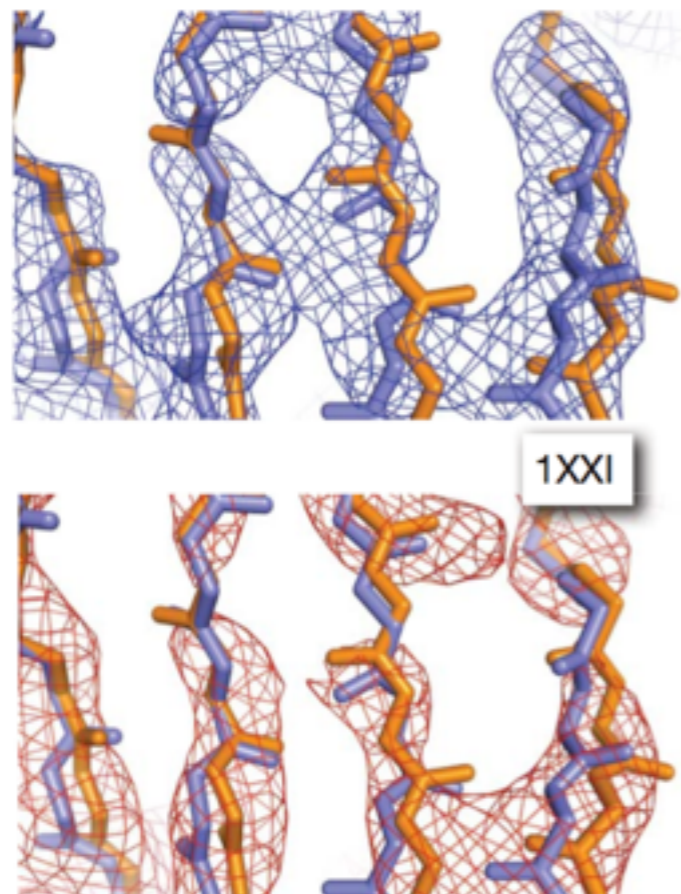
# Reference Structures

- Overall statistics are improved - better geometry and better fit to the experimental data

	Validation Criteria	1GTX, no reference	1OHV	1GTX, 1OHV reference	Target Value
All-Atom Contacts	Clashscore, all atoms:	24.5	7.98	13.54	
	Clashscore percentile	89 <sup>th</sup>	97 <sup>th</sup>	97 <sup>th</sup>	
Protein Geometry	Poor rotamers:	12.31%	2.30%	4.63%	< 1%
	Ramachandran outliers:	0.65%	0.22%	0.27%	< 0.2%
	Ramachandran favored:	92.88%	97.06%	96.14%	> 98%
	C $\beta$ deviations > 0.25Å:	3	0	3	0
	MolProbity score:	3.16	1.87	2.41	
	MolProbity score percentile	64 <sup>th</sup>	94 <sup>th</sup>	96 <sup>th</sup>	
	Residues with bad bonds:	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0%
	Residues with bad angles:	0.38%	0.00%	0.43%	< 0.1%
Residual	R-work	0.1546		0.1586	
	R-free	0.2379		0.2186	

# The DEN Method

- Researchers have developed other methods to add prior information into structure refinement and fitting (Schroeder et al., 2010)
- A deformable elastic network is used to restrain the model to an external structure
- Better models are produced (geometric and R-values)



**Phenix**

# Summary

- Algorithms previously used for validation can be used to automatically correct models during refinement
  - Automated rotamer refitting
  - Automated sidechain flips
- Low resolution structure solution and refinement is challenging, but can be improved
  - Inclusion of external information provides additional observations
    - Secondary structure restraints
    - High resolution reference models
- There is room for improvement of the geometric restraints used in refinement



# Challenges Remain

- Low resolution structure solution and refinement
- Structure completion
  - Automated identification, fitting and refinement of ligands, metals, ions, and water
  - Identification, fitting and refinement of discrete disorder (multiple conformations)
  - Representing other forms of disorder
- Automated parameterization of models in refinement
  - ADPs, TLS groups, NCS, hydrogens
- Handling different kinds of twinning and integrating it into the whole structure solution process
- Automated understanding of chemistry

# Acknowledgments

- **Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory**

- Pavel Afonine, Nat Echols, Jeff Headd, Ralf Grosse-Kunstleve, Nigel Moriarty, Nicholas Sauter, Peter Zwart

- **Los Alamos National Laboratory**

- Tom Terwilliger, Li-Wei Hung

- **Cambridge University**

- Randy Read, Airlie McCoy, Laurent Storoni, Gabor Bunkoczi, Robert Oeffner

- **Duke University**

- Jane Richardson & David Richardson, Ian Davis, Vincent Chen, Jeff Headd, Chris Williams, Bryan Arendall, Laura Murray

- **Others**

- Garib Murshudov & Alexi Vagin
- Kevin Cowtan, Paul Emsley, Bernhard Lohkamp
- Alexandre Urzhumtsev & Vladimir Lunin
- David Abrahams
- PHENIX Testers & Users: James Fraser, Herb Klei, Warren Delano, William Scott, Joel Bard, Bob Nolte, Frank von Delft, Scott Classen, Ben Eisenbraun, Phil Evans, Felix Frolow, Christine Gee, Miguel Ortiz-Lombardia, Blaine Mooers, Daniil Prigozhin, Miles Pufall, Edward Snell, Eugene Valkov, Erik Vogan, Andre White, and many more

- **Funding:**

- NIH/NIGMS:
  - *P01GM063210, P50GM062412, P01GM064692, R01GM071939*
- Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory
- PHENIX Industrial Consortium

