

# Protein packing model with the universal geometric factor of volume and surface area ratio

Ming-Chya Wu (吳明佳)

Department of Physics, National Central University, Taoyuan, Taiwan Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan

E-mail: mcwu@ncu.edu.tw Homepage: http://in.ncu.edu.tw/mcwu/

### **Plan of this talk**

To introduce a *simple* and *universal parameter*, which is useful in

characterizing complicated and diverse protein conformations.



### Outline

Introduction

Universal geometrical factor for protein conformations

Simple packing models for the factor

Conclusion

### Introduction

Proteins assume specified conformations from their chemical compositions or sequences to develop biological activity and functional specificity.



**7 Classes of Proteins:** proteins outside cells (I), proteins on membranes (II), proteins for transport and storage (III), proteins acting as chemical factories (IV), proteins working with DNA (V), proteins for building new proteins (VI), and proteins for building organizations (beams and girders) (VII). (Protein Data Bank, http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/index.html)

### Introduction

Proteins are biomolecules, consisting of one or more long chains of amino acids residues.

Properties of the amino acid sequence of a protein determine its 3D structure.



### Introduction

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ATOM	11	C	VAL	17		-10	.500	8	.184	15	.315	1.00	9.63		2PTN	11
ATOM	12	0	VAL	17		-9	496	7	. 688	14	.748	1.00	9.63		2PTN	11



 $E_{\rm tot} = E_{\rm LJ} + E_{\rm cl} + E_{\rm hb} + E_{\rm tors},$ 

here 
$$E_{\text{LJ}} = \sum_{j>i} \left( \frac{A_{ij}}{r_{ij}^{12}} - \frac{B_{ij}}{r_{ij}^{6}} \right),$$
$$E_{\text{cl}} = 332 \sum_{j>i} \frac{q_{i}q_{j}}{er_{ij}},$$
$$E_{\text{lb}} = \sum_{j>i} \left( \frac{C_{ij}}{r_{ij}^{12}} - \frac{D_{ij}}{r_{ij}^{10}} \right),$$
$$E_{\text{tors}} = \sum_{n} U_{n} \left( 1 \pm \cos(k_{n}\varphi_{n}) \right).$$

### **Protein data bank**



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This resource is powered by the Protein Data Bank archive-information about the 3D shapes of proteins, nucleic acids, and complex assemblies that helps students and researchers understand all aspects of biomedicine and agriculture, from protein synthesis to health and disease.

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### **Protein data bank**

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Modules	About the PDB & Data	Archiving Cu	urriculum						
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### **Protein data bank**



#### PDB Statistics: Overall Growth of Released Structures Per Year

Other Statistics



### **Protein conformation and function**



Basically, a protein can be considered as a number of atoms (spheres) in a certain arrangement.

### **Ramachandran plot**

The main chain N-C<sub> $\alpha$ </sub> and C<sub> $\alpha$ </sub>-C bonds are relatively free to rotate, and can be respectively represented by two torsion angles  $\phi$  and  $\psi$ . These angles can only appear in certain combinations due to steric hindrances, which define the allowed regions of the torsion angles for secondary structures in the plot



The Ramachandran plot is a practical criterion for improving the quality of NMR or crystallographic protein structures.

However, correct torsion angle distributions do not imply the validity of 3D structures.

### **Protein packing density**

Biophysical Journal Volume 81 August 2001 751-766

#### Are Proteins Well-Packed?

Jie Liang\* and Ken A. Dill<sup>†</sup>

\*Department of Bioengineering, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois 60607-7052 and \*Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, University of California at San Francisco, San Francisco, California 94143-1204



FIGURE 2 Geometry of a simplified 1D model molecule to illustrate the procedure mapping the Voronoi diagram to the Delaway transquation (c) The molecule formed by the union of atom disks of uniform size. Voronoi diagram is in dashed lines. (b) The shape enclosed by the boundary polygon is the convex hull. It is tessellated by the Delaway triangulation. (c) The alpha shape of the molecule is formed by removing these Delaway edges and triangles that are not completely contained within the molecule. A molecular void is represented in the alpha shape by two empty triangles.

Larger proteins are packed more loosely than smaller proteins.

### **Criteria for 3D structures**

Liang and Dill have reported that the protein packing is heterogeneous, and in terms of packing density, protein molecules may be either well-packed or loosely packed.
 (J. Liang and K. A. Dill, Biophys. J. 81, 751 (2001). )

- I Zhang et al. showed that the packing density of single domain proteins decreases with chain length, which shares a generic feature of random polymers satisfying loose constraint in compactness.
  - (J. Zhang, et al., J. Chem. Phys. 118, 6102 (2003).)

Protein packing density is not a universal parameter!

Question: Is there a universal parameter for protein conformations?

### **ARVO, CAVE, ARVO-CL, CAVE-CL packages**

#### These packages are designed to calculate the solvent accessible surface area and volume of overlapping spheres via analytic equations.



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Computer Physics Communications

www.elsevier.com/locate/cpd

Computer Physics Communications 165 (2005) 59-96

#### ARVO: A Fortran package for computing the solvent accessible surface area and the excluded volume of overlapping spheres via analytic equations \*

Ján Buša<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Jozef Džurina<sup>b,c</sup>, Edik Hayryan<sup>a,c</sup>, Shura Hayryan<sup>a</sup>, Chin-Kun Hu<sup>a,\*</sup>, Ján Plavka<sup>b,c</sup>, Imrich Pokorný<sup>b,c</sup>, Jaroslav Skřivánek<sup>b,c</sup>, Ming-Chya Wu<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica, Nankang, Taipei 11529, Taiwan <sup>b</sup> Department of Applied Mathematics, Technical University in Košice, 040 01 Košice, Slovak Republic <sup>c</sup> Laboratory of Computing Technology and Automation, Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, Russia

Comp. Phys. Comm. 165, 59-96 (2005).



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ARVO-CL: The OpenCL version of the ARVO package – An efficient tool for computing the accessible surface area and the excluded volume of proteins via analytical equations\*

Ján Buša Jr.<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Shura Hayryan<sup>a</sup>, Ming-Chya Wu<sup>a,d,e</sup>, Ján Buša<sup>b</sup>, Chin-Kun Hu<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica, Nankang, Taipei 11529, Taiwan

<sup>b</sup> Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Informatics, Technical University of Košice, 040 01 Košice, Slovak Republic

<sup>c</sup> FURT Solutions, s.r.o., Strojárenská 3, 040 01 Košice, Slovak Republic

<sup>d</sup> Research Center for Adaptive Data Analysis, National Central University, Chungli 32001, Taiwan

e Department of Physics, National Central University, Chungli 32001, Taiwan





CAVE: A package for detection and quantitative analysis of internal cavities in a system of overlapping balls: Application to proteins \*

Ján Buša<sup>a,b,c</sup>, Shura Hayryan<sup>a</sup>, Chin-Kun Hu<sup>a,d,\*</sup>, Jaroslav Skřivánek<sup>a,e</sup>, Ming-Chya Wu<sup>a,f,g</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica, Nankang, Taipei 11529, Taiwan

<sup>b</sup> Technical University in Košice, 040 01 Košice, Slovak Republic

<sup>c</sup> Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Dubna, Russia

<sup>d</sup> Center for Nonlinear and Complex Systems and Department of Physics, Chung Yuan Christian University, Chungli 32023, Taiwan

e SORS Research, 04001 Košice, Slovak Republic

<sup>f</sup> Research Center for Adaptive Data Analysis, National Central University, Chungli 32001, Taiwan <sup>2</sup> Department of Physics, National Central University, Chungli 32001, Taiwan

#### J Comp. Chem. 30, 346-357 (2009); Comp. Phys. Comm. 181, 2116-2125 (2010).



Computer Physics Communications 190 (2015) 224-227



CAVE-CL: An OpenCL version of the package for detection and quantitative analysis of internal cavities in a system of overlapping balls: Application to proteins



Ján Buša Jr. <sup>a,b</sup>, Ján Buša <sup>b</sup>, Shura Hayryan <sup>a</sup>, Chin-Kun Hu <sup>a,\*</sup>, Ming-Chya Wu <sup>a,c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Institute of Physics, Academia Sinica, Nankang, Taipei 11529, Taiwan

<sup>b</sup> Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Informatics, Technical University of Košice, 040 01 Košice, Slovak Republic

<sup>c</sup> Research Center for Adaptive Data Analysis, National Central University, Chungli 32001, Taiwan

Comp. Phys. Comm. 190, 224-227 (2015).



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### **ARVO**

The file input.dat consists of two lines

0 0 0 2 - 1st sphere: center at (0,0,0) and radius=2 0 0 2 2 - 2nd sphere: center at (0,0,2) and radius=2



The output.dat file read as:

Volume: 56.5486678 Area: 75.3982237 Spheres num: 2

The file input.dat contains two lines

0 0 0 2 0 1.73205080756888 1 2



The screen output af er th command: "mpirun -np 2 parvo" was

Rotation after bad Nord Pole test! Processor 0 results: V: 26.1654833 A: 37.6991118 Processor 1 results: V: 30.3831845 A: 37.6991118 Volume: 56.5486678 Area: 75.3982237 Spheres num: 2

The input.dat file with 8 spheres:

The screen output after the command: "mpirun -np 5 parvo" was

Processor 0 results: V: 852.520233 A: 389.756652 Processor 3 results: V: 0. A: 0. Processor 4 results: V: 718.770219 A: 320.442451 Processor 2 results: V: 36.6247159 A: 13.114286 Processor 1 results: V: 722.019662 A: 288.559143 Volume: 2329.93483 Area: 1011.87253 Spheres num: 8



### **ARVO**

ARVO can calculate solvent inaccessible volume and solvent accessible surface area in a very accurate way.

14-residue peptide rgkwtyngityegr



Input file is obtained from the PDB code 1j4m.pdb

The screen output after the command: "mpirun -np 8 parvo" reads as:

Processor 6 results: V:138.191267 A:170.402091Processor 7 results: V:139.91866 A:165.475971Processor 0 results: V:127.595148 A:169.080939Processor 1 results: V:115.924238 A:171.063623Processor 5 results: V:111.994168 A:176.278727Processor 4 results: V:140.388721 A:183.673615Processor 2 results: V:157.553423 A:173.478737Processor 3 results: V:110.807138 A:151.68257

Volume: 1042.37276 Area: 1361.13627 Spheres num: 121

### CAVE

CAVE can detect the cavities in a molecule and calculate solvent inaccessible volume and solvent accessible surface area.



The probe radius 1.20000005 The protein name 2ptn Total number of atoms: 1629 allocated: 20000 Rashin set Total number of neighbors: 62054 Neighbors total: 62054 allocated: 2000000 Maximum: 66 allocated: 200 Number of the preliminary triangles: 2236 Number of vertices: 2278 2197 active triangles before lugs cutting. After lugs cutting: 2197 1. south: 1443 1444 1453

340 internal points Clusters: 26 Re ation : 11 1. segment conta s 17 vities. 11 triangles were d leted from the list IT. 326 internal triangles were deleted from the list IT. 340 internal triangles vertices! 1. segment contains cavity! Triangles number after 1. segment: 0 Number of s gments: Total: 1 Deleted: 0 Cavity enveloping: 1 1. ca ity segment contains 340 triangles. To al n mber of cavities is 17. Total number of triangles is 340. Total number of spheres is 203.

Number of atoms: 1629 There exists cavity! Inaccessible volume: 37436.2361 Accessible surface area: 9315.41184 Cavities volume: 32.4669432 Surface area of cavities: 181.732348 1. boundary volume: 563.196503 1. boundary surface area: 389.741749

- 1. cavity volume: 0.0590741273
- 1. cavity surface area: 1.10512934
- 2. boundary volume: 515.125257
- 2. boundary surface area: 375.817426
- 2. cavity volume: 0.00464992906
- 2. cavity surface area: 0.194346908 . . .
- 16. boundary volume: 1628.63036 16. boundary surface area: 862.982504 16. cavity volume: 6.12086952
- 16. cavity surface area: 36.522405
- 17. boundary volume: 614.397572
- 17. boundary surface area: 423.464562
- 17. cavity volume: 0.0684193718
- 17. cavity surface area: 1.43204525
- STOP End statement executed

### Scaling in volume and surface area

#### Definition

 $V(r_p, N)$ : van der Waals volume (unit: Å<sup>3</sup>)  $A(r_p, N)$ : solvent accessible surface area (unit: Å<sup>2</sup>)  $r_p$ : radius of the probe sphere (unit: Å) N: number of atoms in the protein

$$r_{\rm N} = r_{\rm C} = 1.55$$
Å;  $r_{\rm S} = 2.00$ Å;  $r_{\rm O} = 1.40$ Å;  $r_p = 0.0$ Å

Using ARVO package for the calculation.
 [ARVO package: J. Busa, et al. Comp. Phys. Comm. 165, 59-96 (2005).





http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accessible\_surface\_area



Dependence of V and A on N for 28,664 PDB protein structures. The numbers indicate the slopes.



Dependence of V and A on  $r_p$ 

### V/A<r> Ratio

**Definition:** 

 $R(r_p) = \frac{V(r_p, N)}{A(r_p, N) \cdot \langle r \rangle}$ 

V: van der Waals volume (unit: Å<sup>3</sup>)
A: solvent accessible surface area (unit: Å<sup>2</sup>)
r<sub>p</sub>: radius of the probe sphere (unit: Å)
N: number of atoms in the protein
<r>: average radius of atoms in the protein (unit: Å)



M.-C. Wu, M. S. Li, W.-J. Ma, M. Kouza, and C.-K. Hu, EPL 96, 68005 (2011).

 $r_{\rm N} = r_{\rm C} = 1.55$ Å;  $r_{\rm S} = 2.00$ Å;  $r_{\rm O} = 1.40$ Å;  $r_p = 1.40$ Å  $R = R (r_p = 0$ Å)  $R_s = R (r_p = 1.4$ Å)

Gaussian fit:

$$y = y_0 + \frac{S}{w\sqrt{\pi/2}} exp\left[-\frac{2(x - x_c)^2}{w^2}\right]$$

Уo	x <sub>c</sub>	w	S	Р	
0.0053	0.4910	0.0046	0.0008	0.9840	

Maxima locate at:

 $R \cong 0.4910$  (real structure)

 $R \cong 0.5120$  (extended structure)

Remark: R = 0.333 for distinct spheres

### **Statistics on secondary structures**



- (a) Probability density function of R statistics for whole protein molecules, helix, sheet, and other structures.
- (b) *R* as a function of the fraction of atoms in helix structures. The slope of the linear fit is 0.0001, and the correlation level is 0.005 (very low).
- (c) *R* as a function of the fraction of atoms in sheet structures. The slope of the linear is 0.0002, and the correlation level is 0.005 (very low).

### V/A<r> Ratio for $r_p = 1.4$ Å

$$R_s = R(r_p = 1.4) = \frac{V}{A \cdot \langle r \rangle}$$

V: solvent inaccessible volume (unit: Å<sup>3</sup>) A: solvent accessible surface area (unit: Å<sup>2</sup>)  $r_p$ : radius of the probe sphere (unit: Å) <r>: average radius of atoms in the protein (unit: Å)



- The distribution of  $R_s$  for 28,236 proteins using the probe sphere with radius of 1.4Å. The maximum of the Gaussian fit is located at  $R_s \approx 1.2402$ .
- As a universal parameter, R is more useful than  $R_s$ .

### **R and Energy Minimization**



Folding simulation using the SMMP package

F. Eisenmenger, et.al., Comput. Phys. Commun. 138, 192-212(2001).



#### R = 0.491 should be somewhat related to the energy global minimum of protein molecules.

### V/A<r> and hydrophobicity of amino acids



The distribution of the ratio of hydrophilic (H<sub>+</sub>) and hydrophobic (H<sub>-</sub>) amino acids in a molecule for 723 protein structures (from Protein Sequence Culling Server), based on the Kyte-Doolittle scale.

The Gaussian fit is centered at 0.594.

#### *R* as a function of $H_+/H_-$ .

- The slope of the linear fit (blue dashed line) is -0.0033, and the correlation level is 0.2 (notably lower than 0.5, indicating no correlation between them).
- The inset shows the distribution of R for the 723 protein structures.

### V/A<r> for intrinsically disordered proteins



Statistics of *R* for 38 intrinsically disordered protein structures shows that the ratio is 0.4906±0.005, which is within the tolerance determined by the ensemble of 28,664 PDB protein structures.

The 38 intrinsically disordered protein structures are available in B. Mészáros, et al., J. Mol. Biol. 372, 549 (2007).

The ratio holds once a polypeptide folds to a compact structure no matter of its species.

M.-C. Wu, M. S. Li, W.-J. Ma, M. Kouza, and C.-K. Hu, EPL 96, 68005 (2011).

### **Proteins with multiple chains**



#### $\blacksquare$ *R* = 0.491 holds for proteins with multiple chains or complexes.

### Conclusions



- $R(r_p = 0) = 0.491 \pm 0.005$  is universal for native protein structures, including intrinsically disordered proteins.
- R = 0.491 should be somewhat related to the energy global minimum of protein molecules.

MOLECULAR MACHINERY: A Tier of the Protein Data Book

tube

spitball



Protein Data Bank, http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/home/home.do



http://h10010.www1.hp.com/wwpc/tw/zh/ http://www.princeton.edu/cbe/news/archive/?id=2360 The tube model and sheet model seem potential models for the ratio: R = 0.491.

R = 0.491 can serve as a necessary condition for checking the validity of PDB data and designing protein-like sequences.

R = 0.491 does not correspond to a unique conformation, but it confines molecular conformations in a folding simulation from vast possibilities to a smaller space. It may be useful in protein folding simulations or in structure identification experiments.



## Thanks for your attention.

**S**