



Protein structure, intro

- Linear polymer of amino acids
- AA sequence encodes information for 3D folding of protein
- Sequence dictates structure -- structure dictates function
- Cooperative folding

Structure formation

Arrangement of a diverse set of molecular shapes along a linear polymer allows formation of specific, stable 3D structures.

The Life Puzzle

A.G. Cairns-Smith

structure. In ordinary crystals, too, one might suggest that the regularity is an incidental consequence of the rather banal way in which crystals are made—from vast numbers of only one or a few kinds of identical units (Fig. 12a).

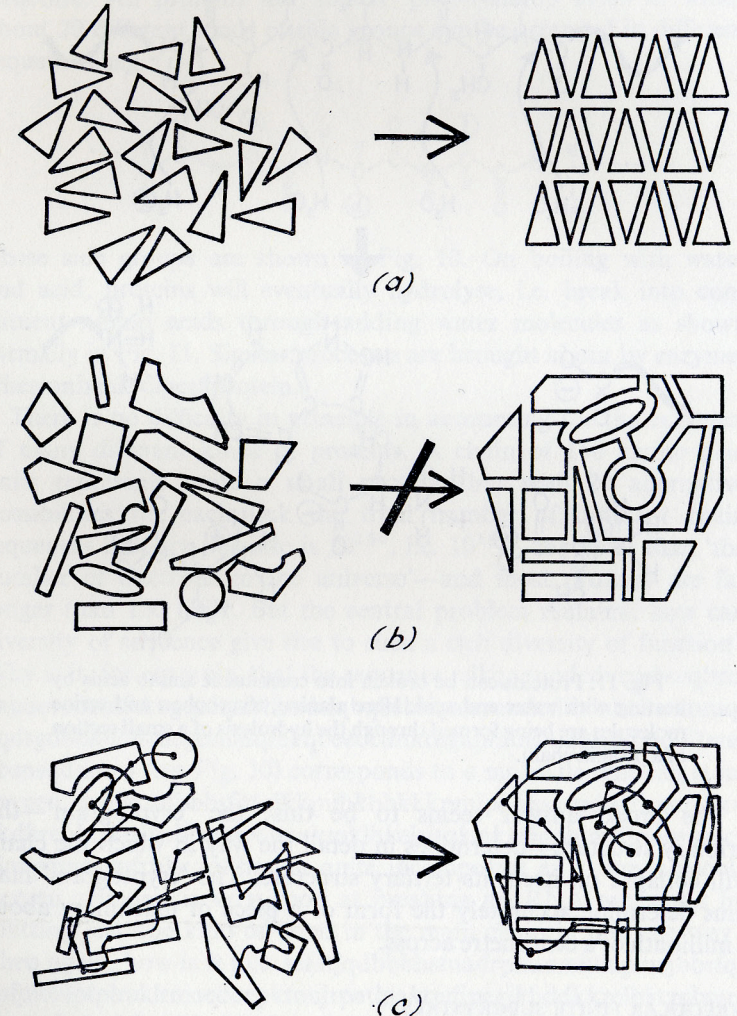
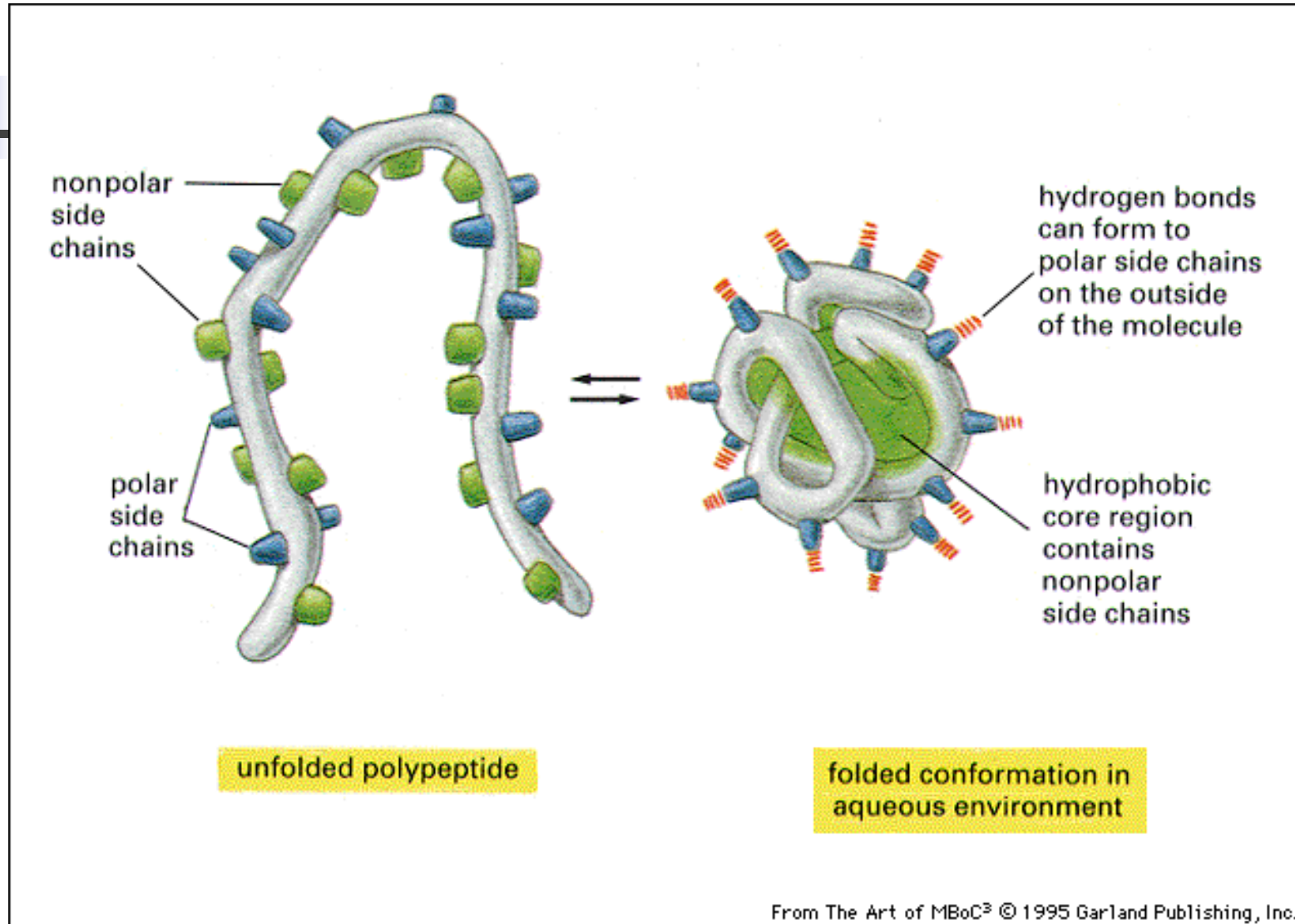
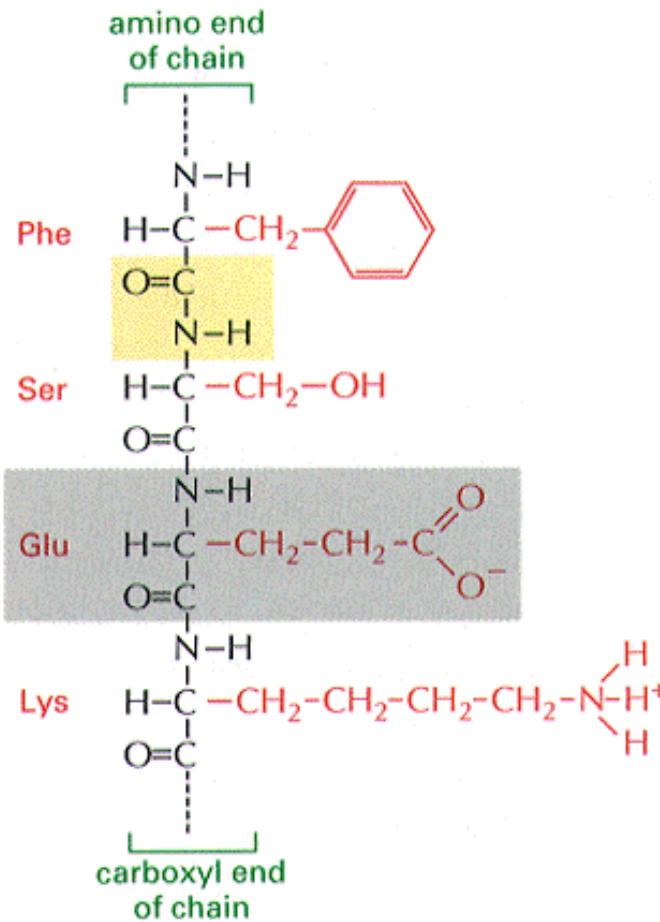
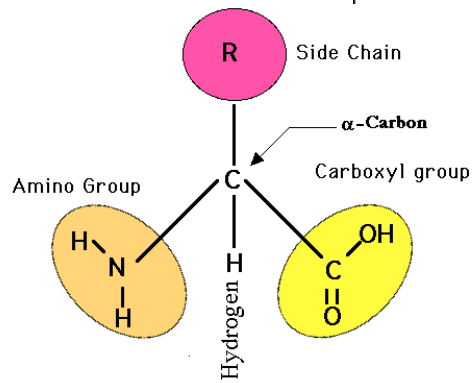


Fig. 12. (a) Under suitable circumstances a few dozen identical units may crystallise, but (b) with a complex mixture no preferred arrangement appears, unless (c) the units are joined together, in which case it becomes a possibility.

Protein, hydrophobic folding



Protein, primary structure

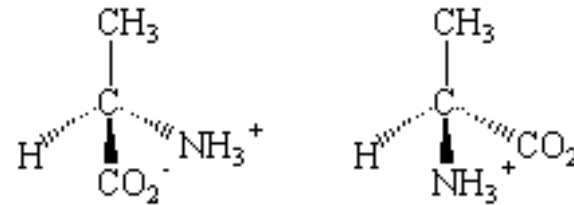


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Amino acids, properties

- Stereoisomers D-alanine L-alanine

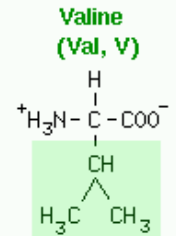
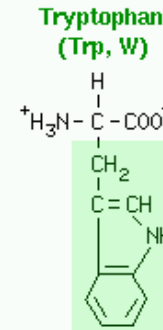
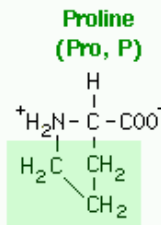
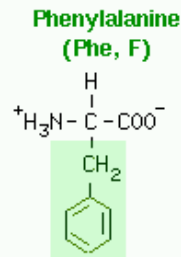
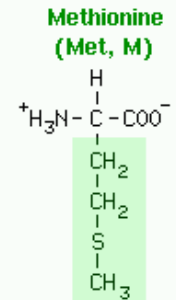
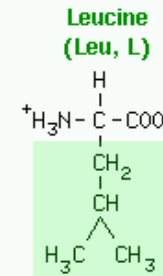
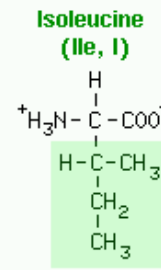
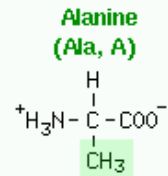


- Zwitterionic form

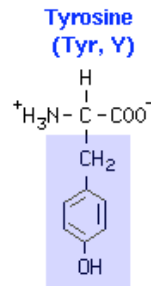
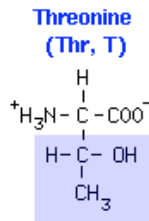
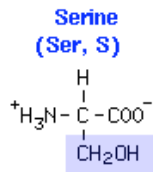
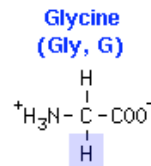
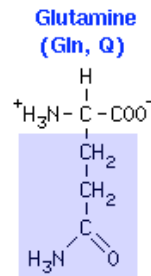
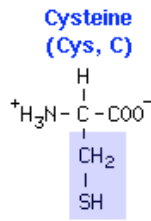
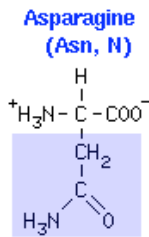


20 common amino acids

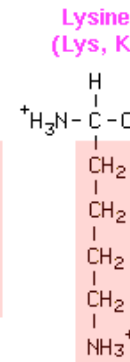
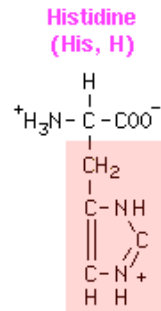
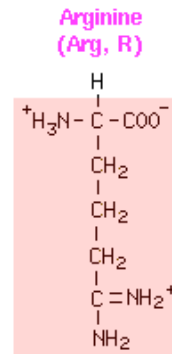
HYDROPHOBIC (NONPOLAR) AMINO ACIDS



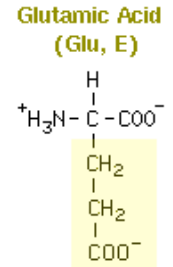
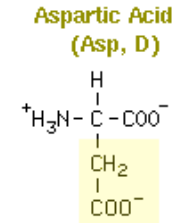
HYDROPHILIC (POLAR) UNCHARGED AMINO ACIDS



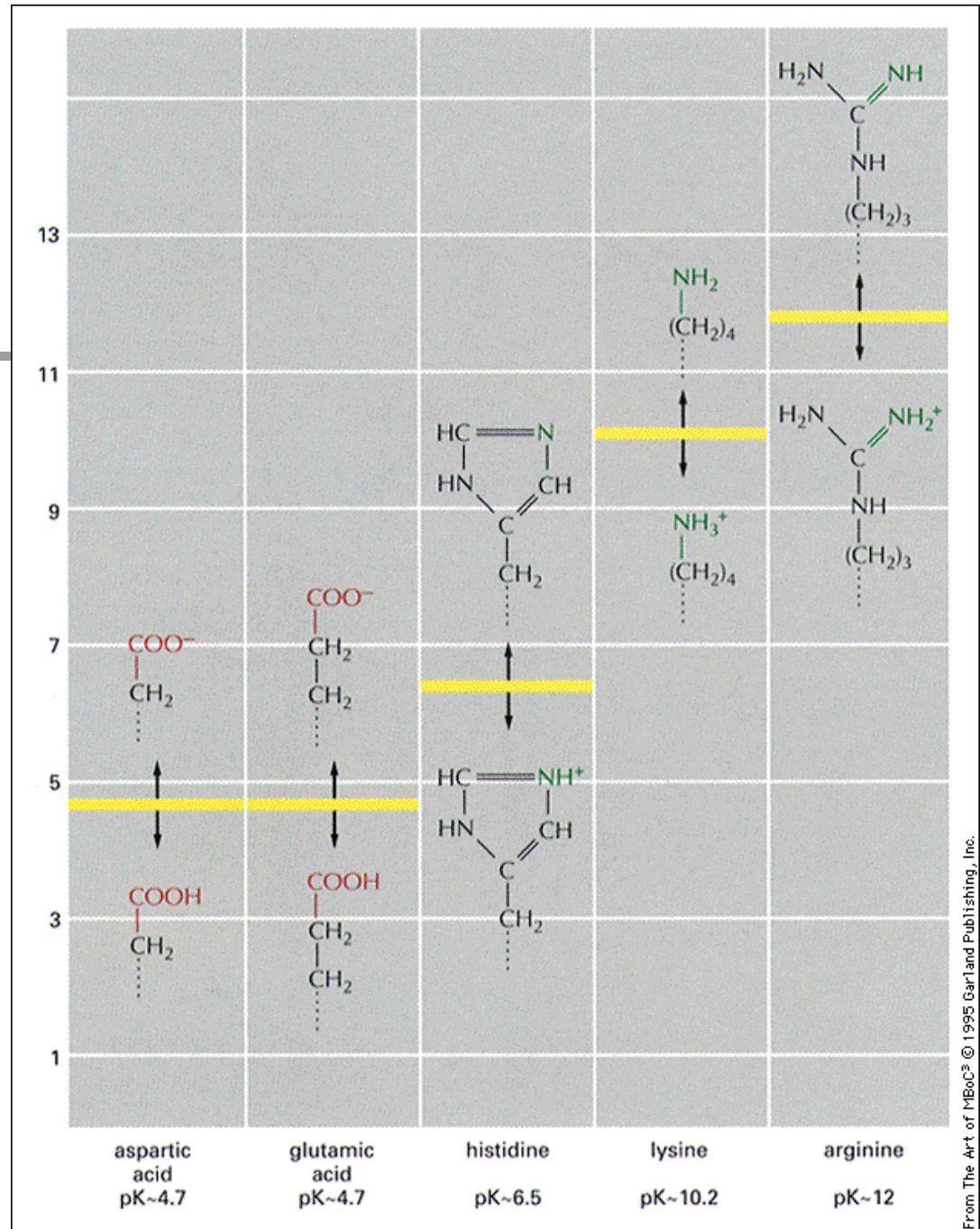
POSITIVELY-CHARGED AMINO ACIDS



NEGATIVELY-CHARGED AMINO ACIDS

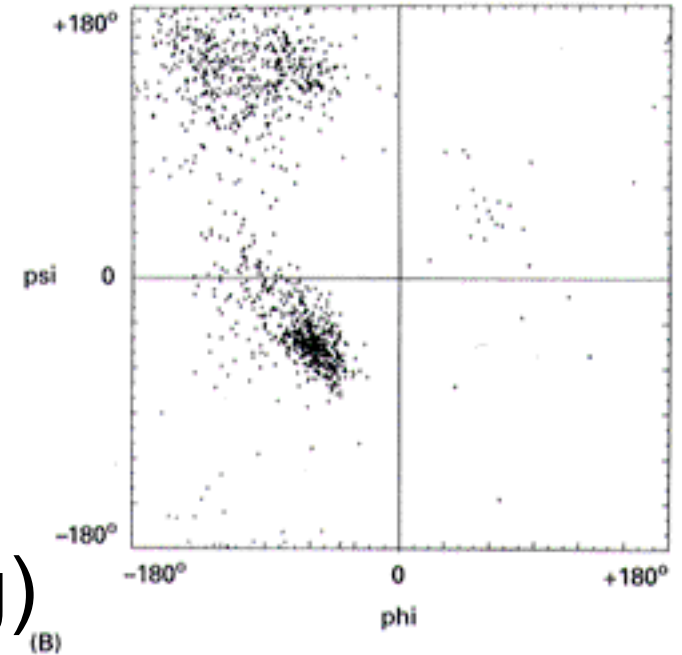
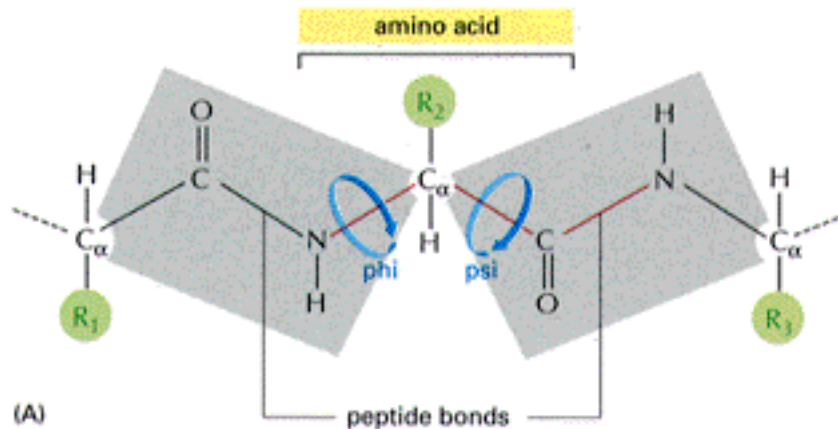


AA pKa



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Backbone torsion angles

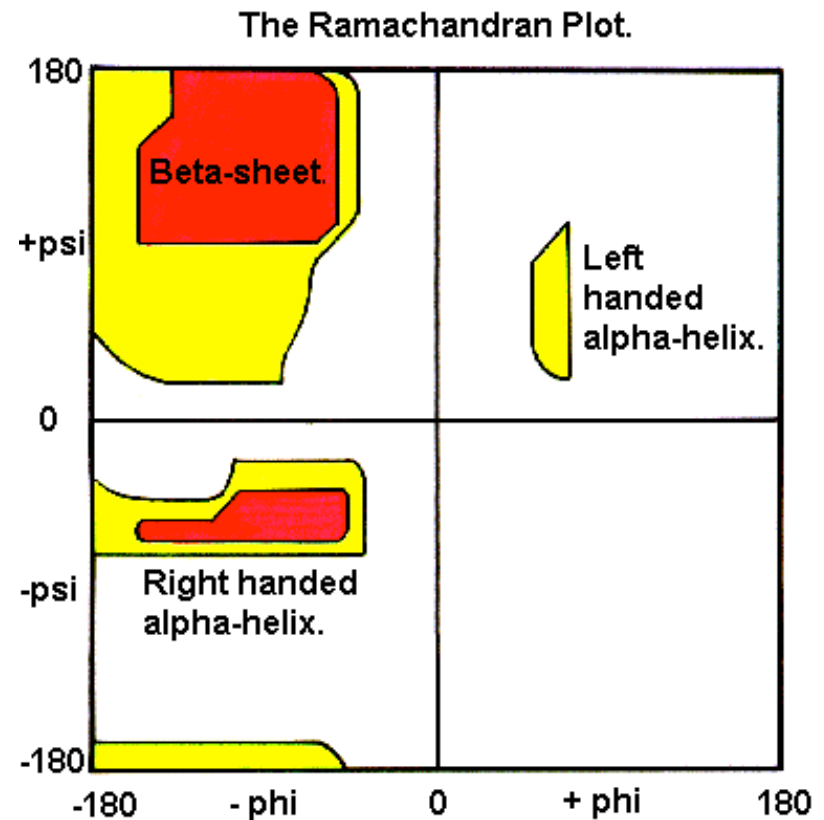


- Preferred angles (Pauling)
- Ramachandran Plot
- Repeated angles = Sec. Struct.

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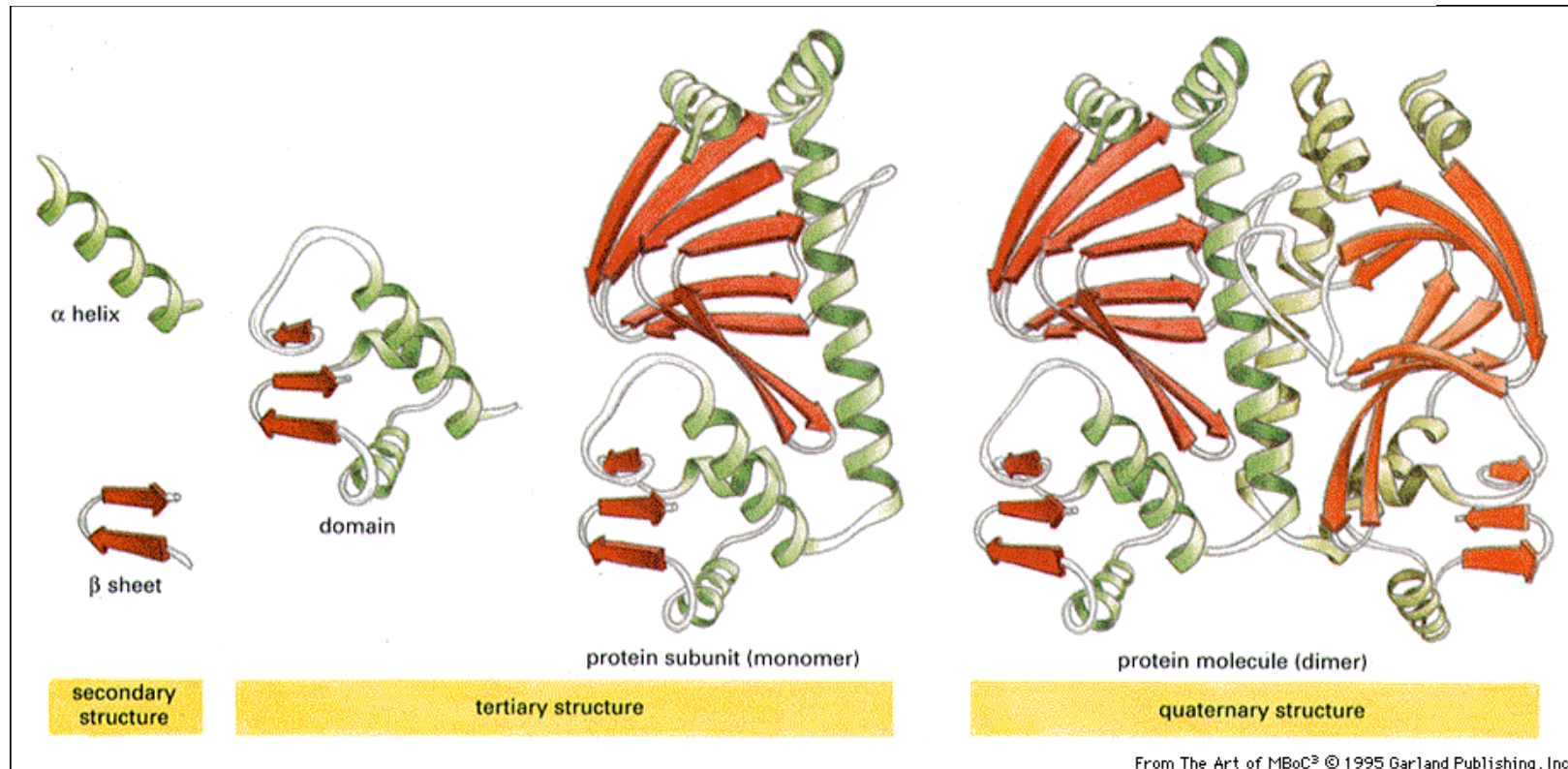
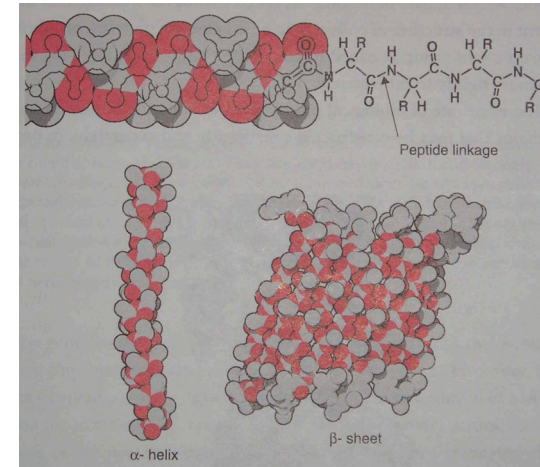
Ramachandran Plot

Red regions are conformations with no steric clashes. Yellow areas are allowed regions if slightly shorter van der Waals radii are used. Thus the left-handed alpha-helix region appears. L-amino acids cannot form extended regions of left-handed helix but occasionally individual residues adopt this conformation. These residues are usually glycine but can also be asparagine or aspartate where the side chain forms a hydrogen bond with the main chain and therefore stabilizes this otherwise unfavorable conformation. The 3(10) helix occurs close to the upper right of the alpha-helical region and is on the edge of allowed region indicating lower stability.

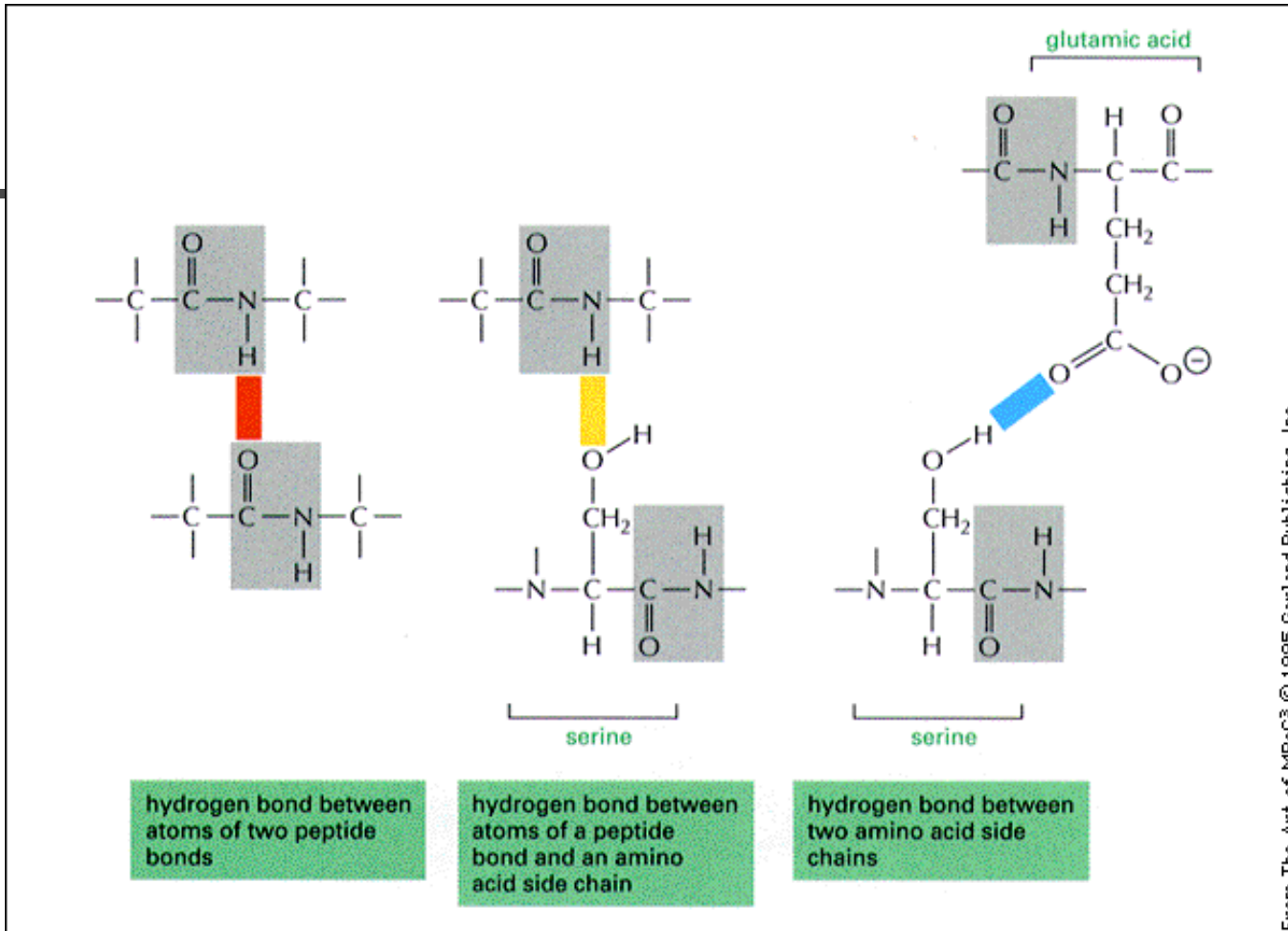
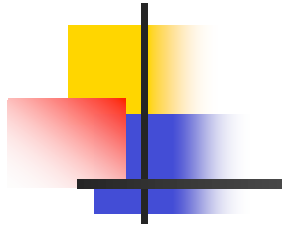


Protein, structural levels

- Primary
 - AA sequence, covalent chemical structure
- Secondary
 - Local chain folding (helix, sheet, turn)
- Tertiary
 - Global chain folding (domain formation)
- Quaternary
 - Association of well-folded units



Protein, H-bonds



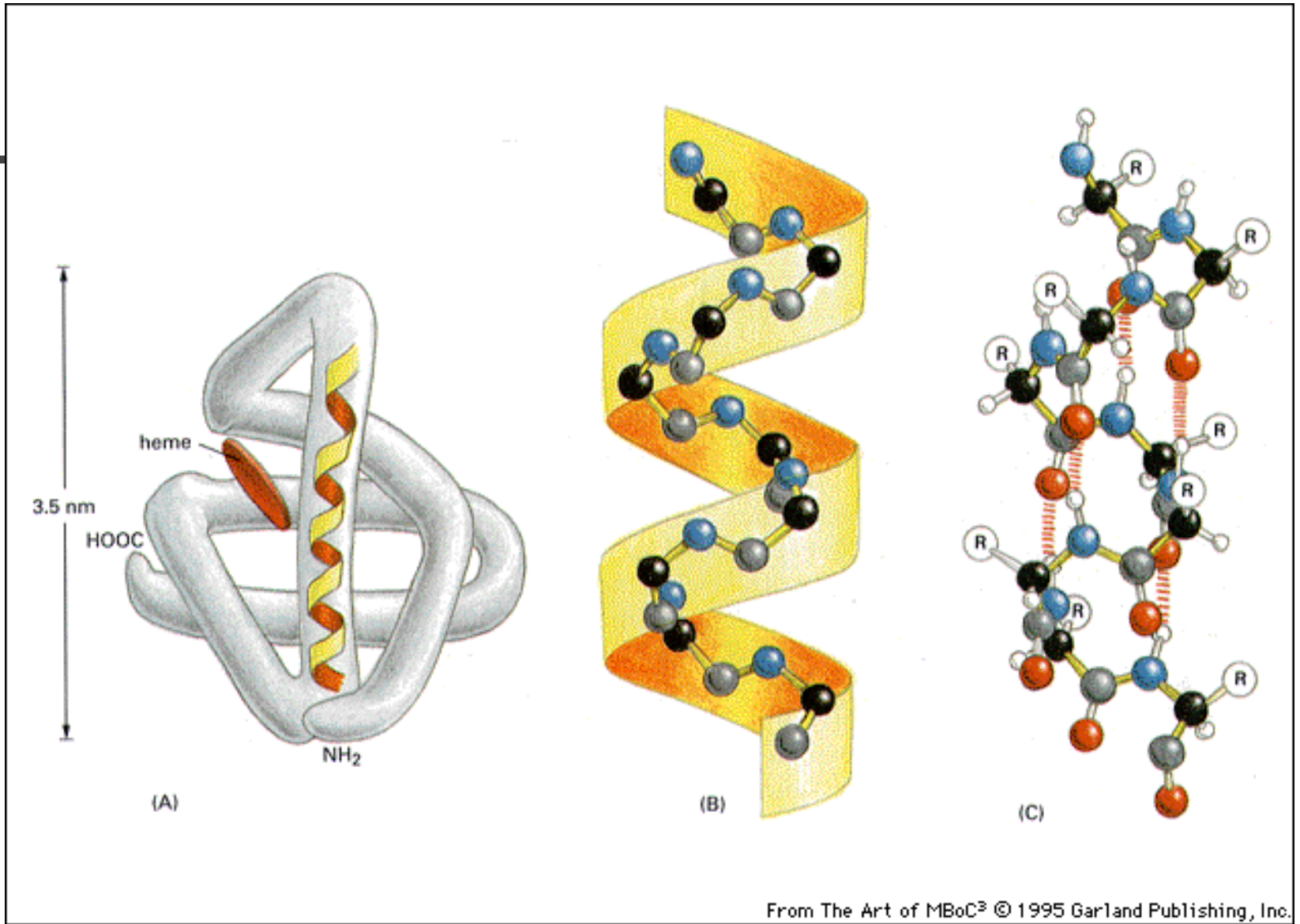
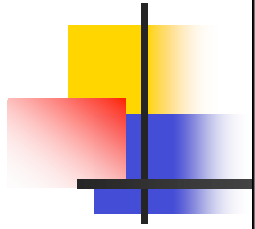
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Mainchain-mainchain

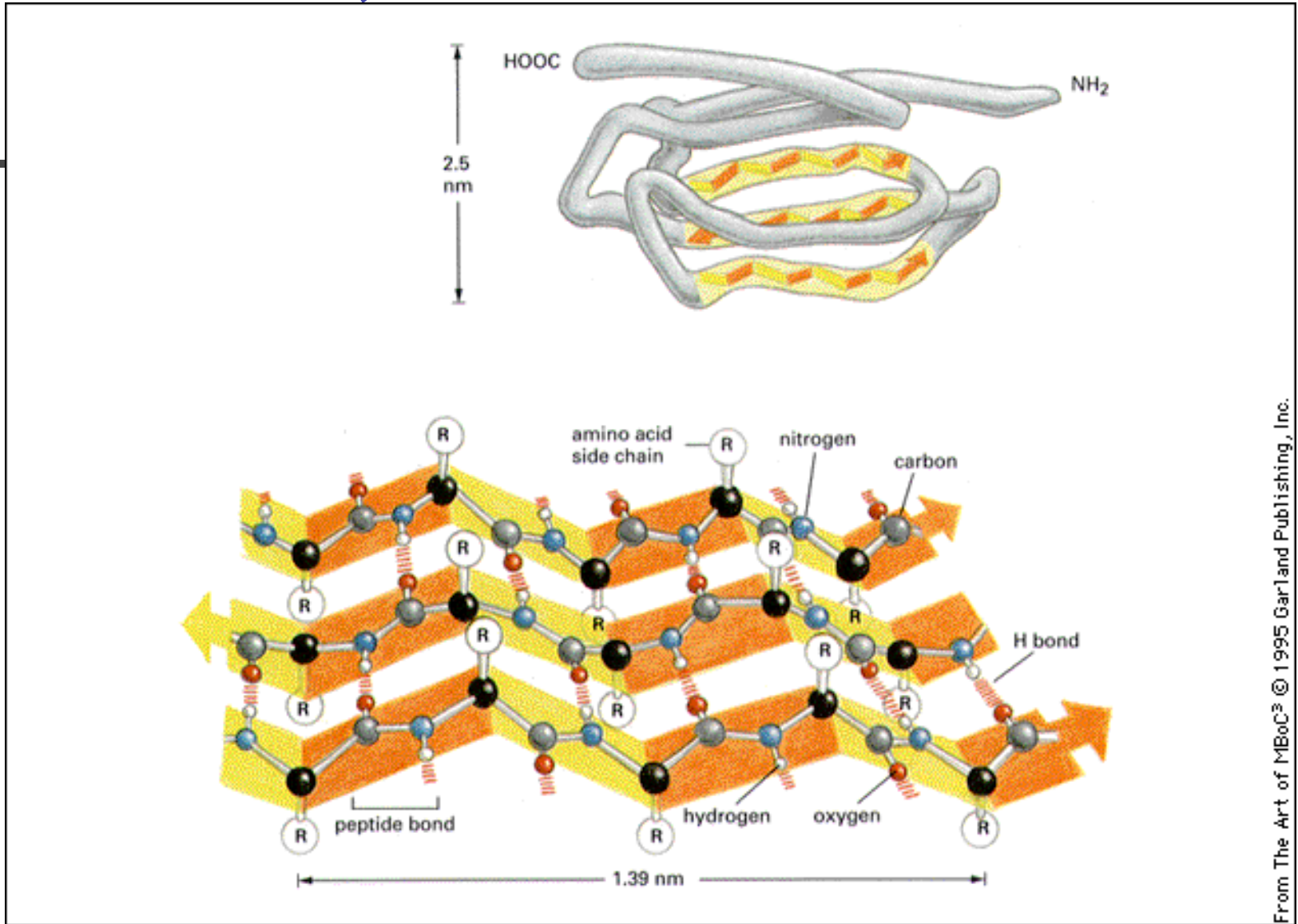
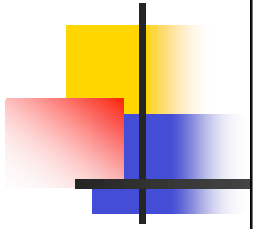
mainchain-sidechain

sidechain-sidechain

Protein, alpha-helix

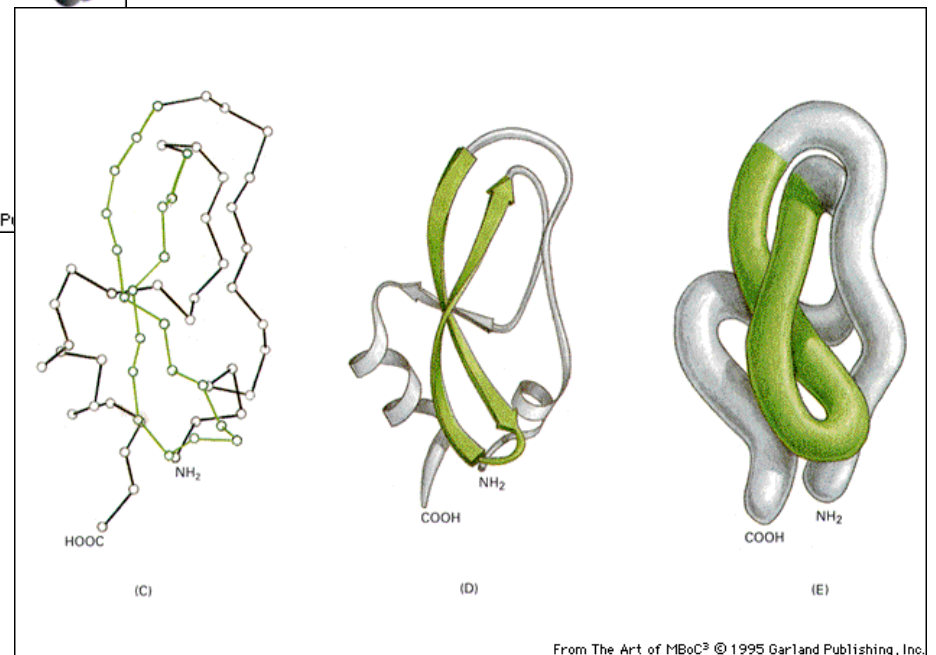
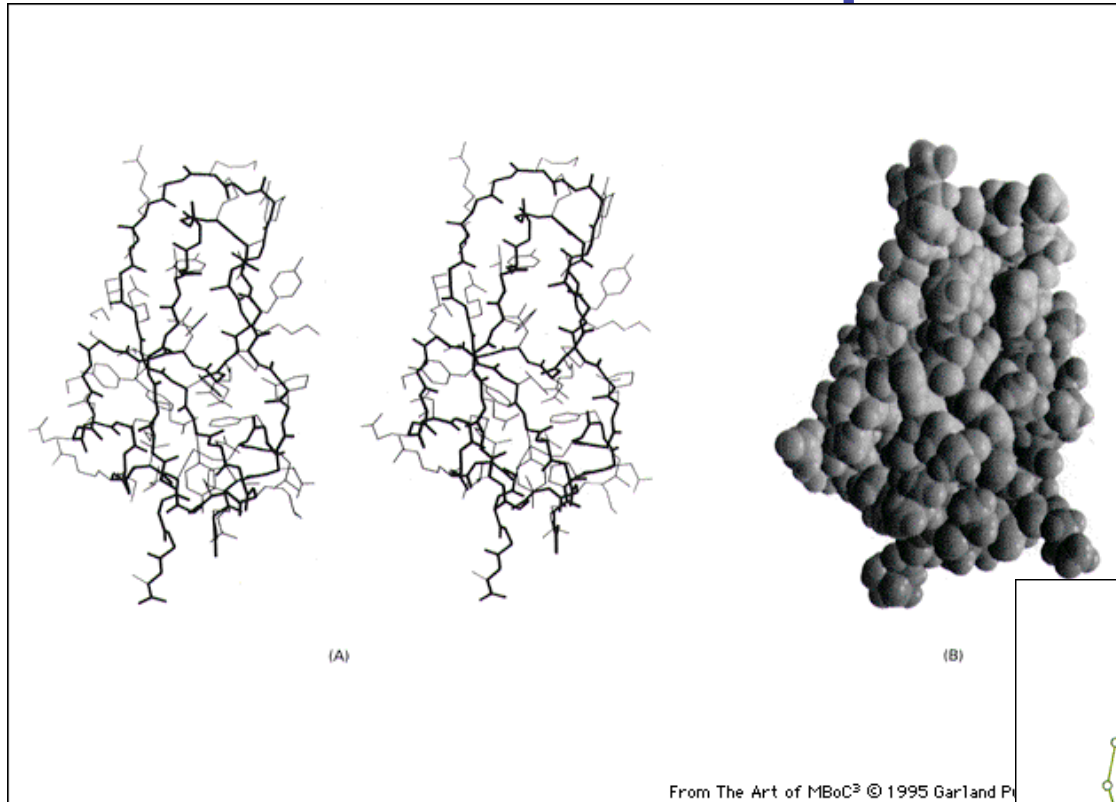


Protein, beta-sheet

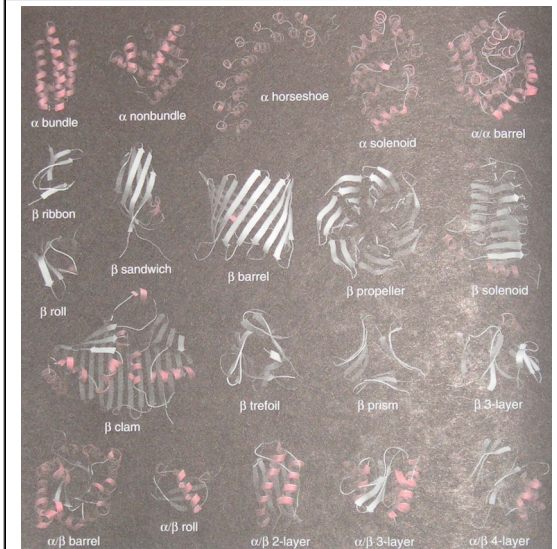
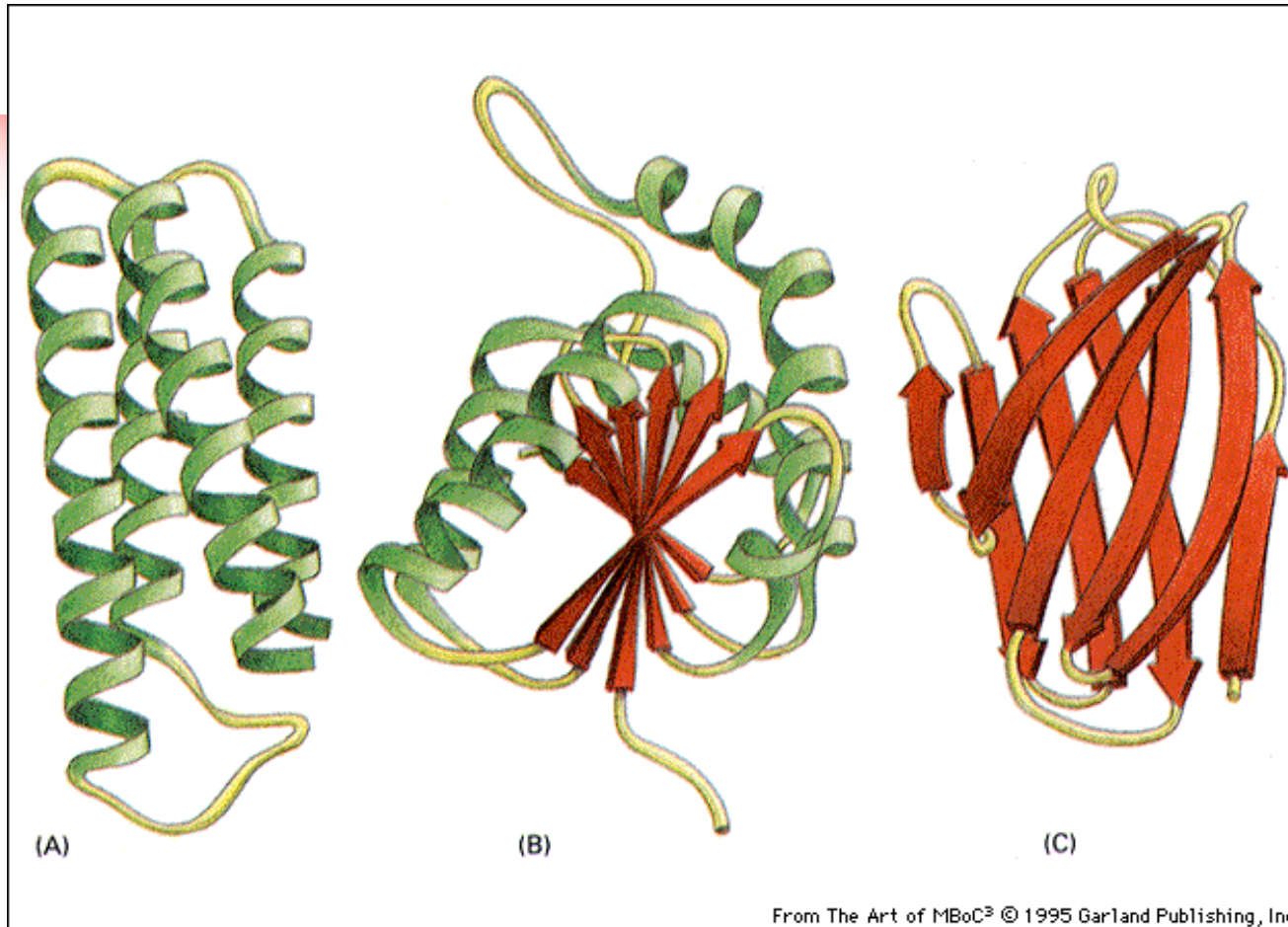


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Protein, representations



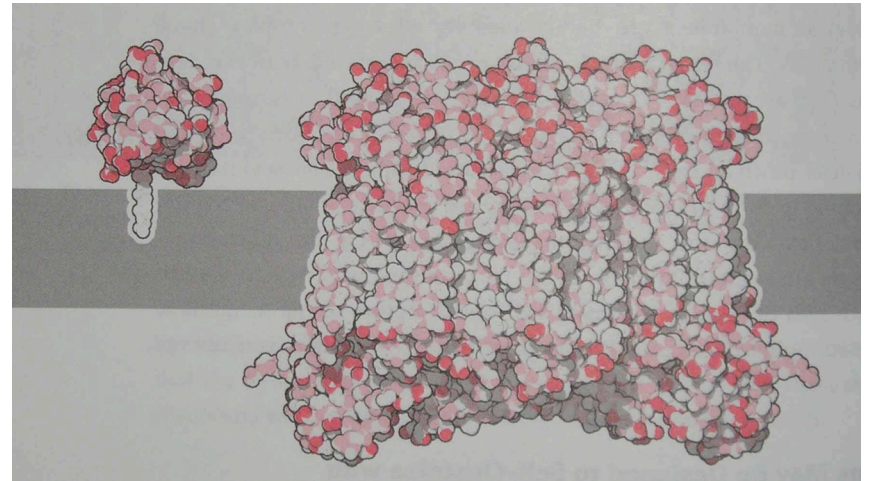
Protein, structural families



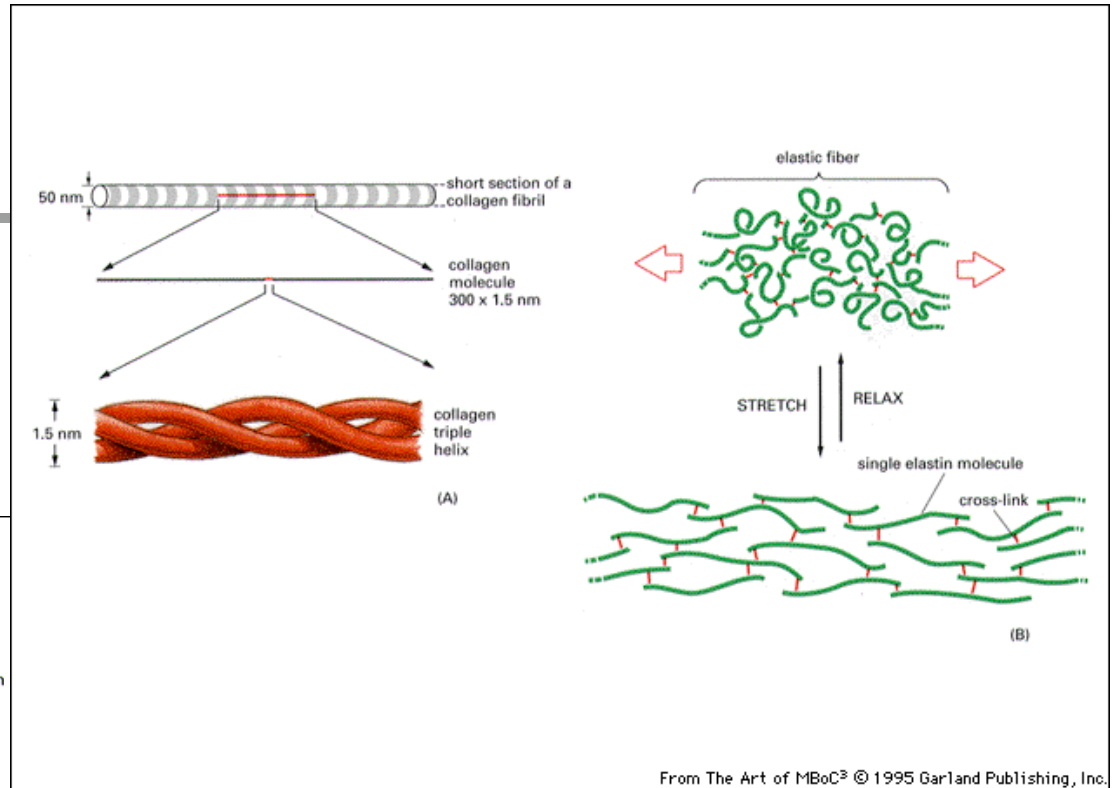
See: Anatomy & Taxonomy of Protein Structure
<http://kinemage.biochem.duke.edu/~jsr/>

Protein, classes

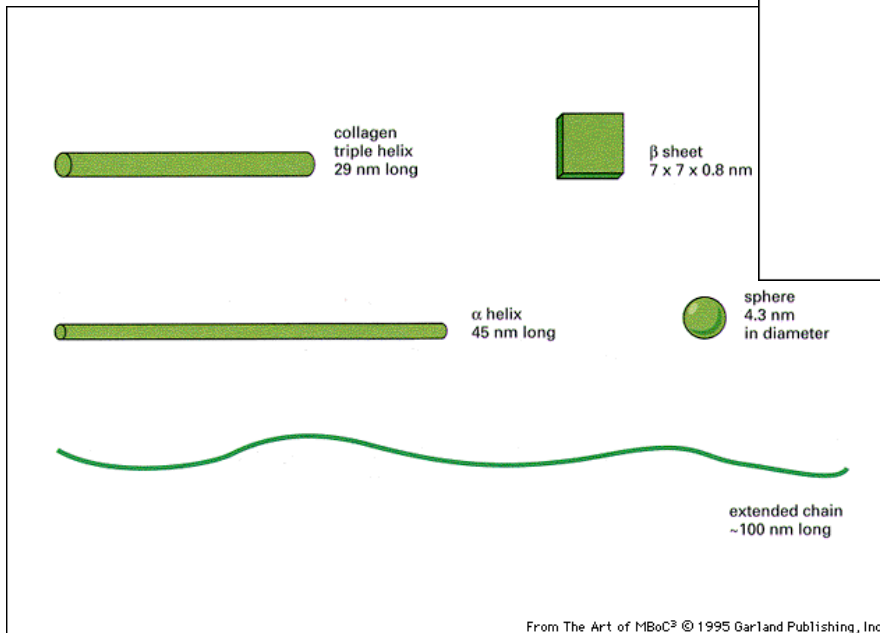
- Globular (soluble)
- Fibrous (structural)
- Membrane



Structural Proteins



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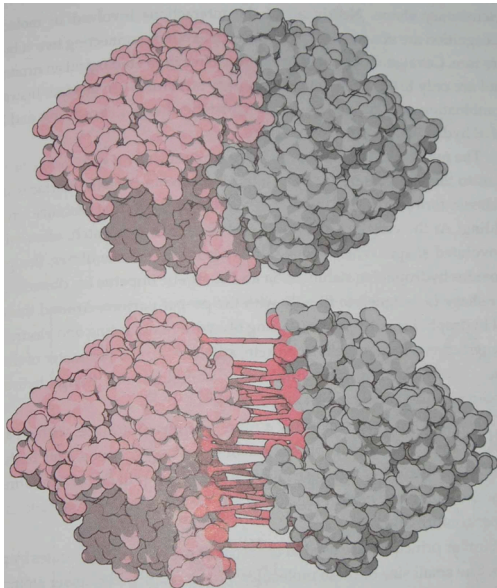


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Molecular recognition

- Crane design concepts

- High specificity requires multiple and weak contacts.
- Matching particles must have geometric complementarity.

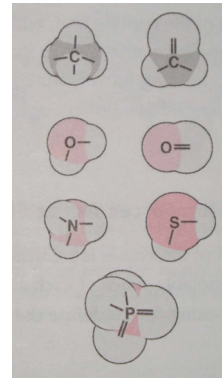


Goodsell

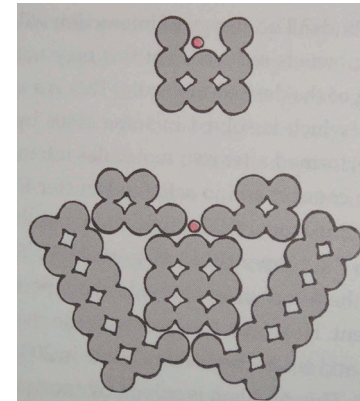
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- Also:

- Large overhead of surrounding infrastructure can position a few key sites.



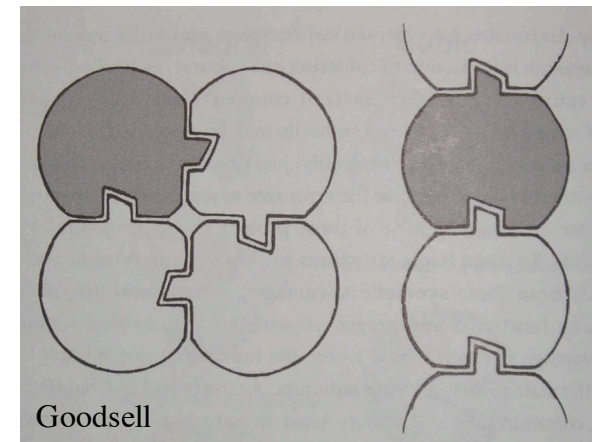
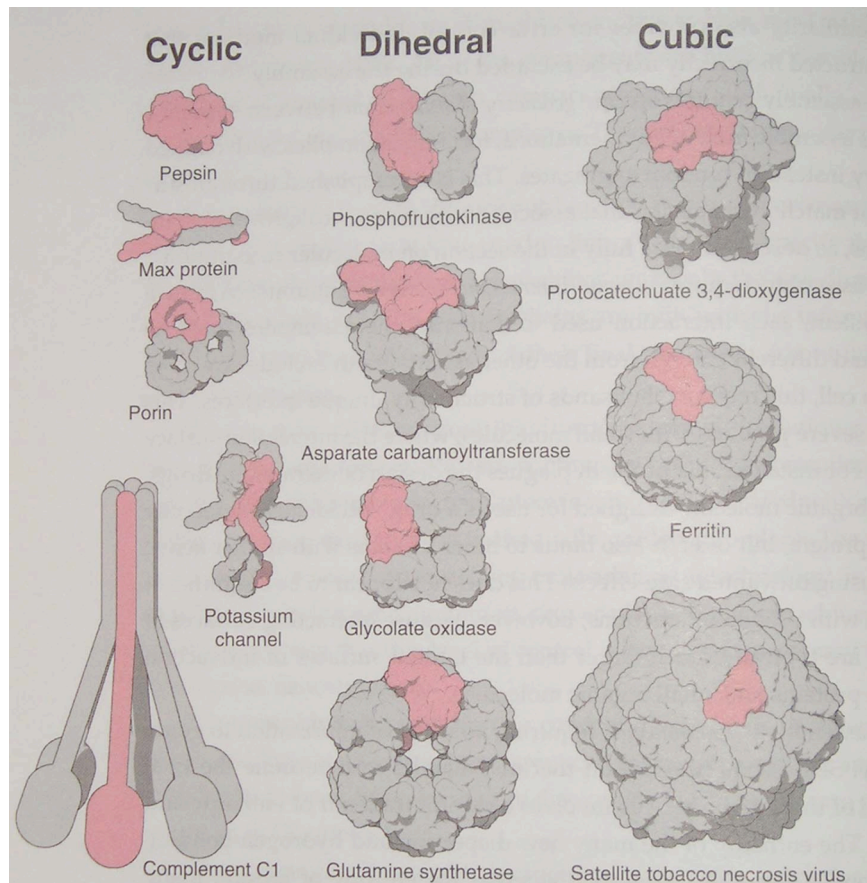
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Goodsell

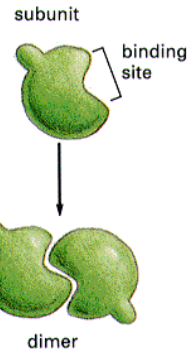
Symmetry

- Hierarchical structures of defined size.

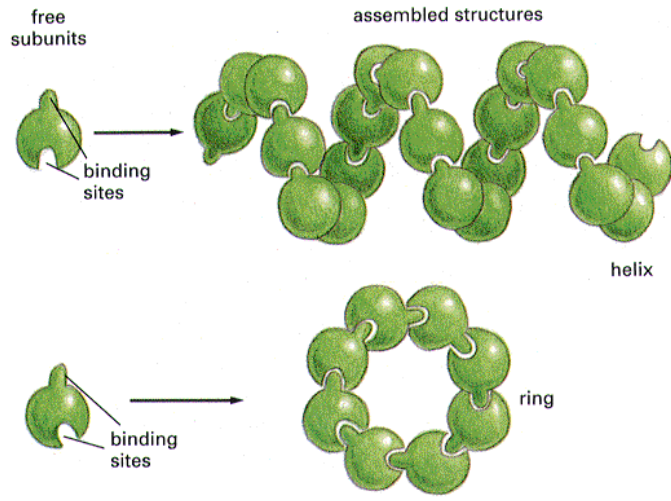


Various plans for placement of interaction surfaces...

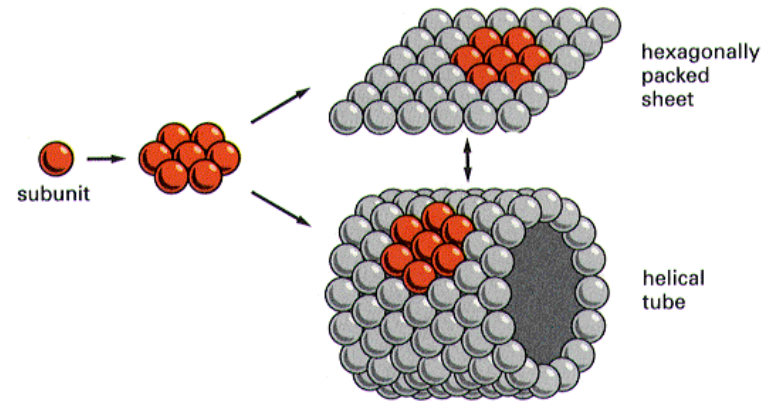
Protein, subunit assembly



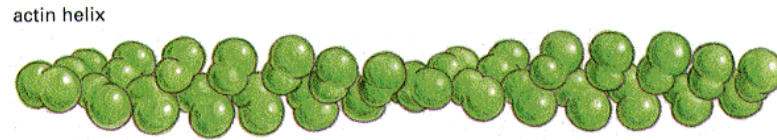
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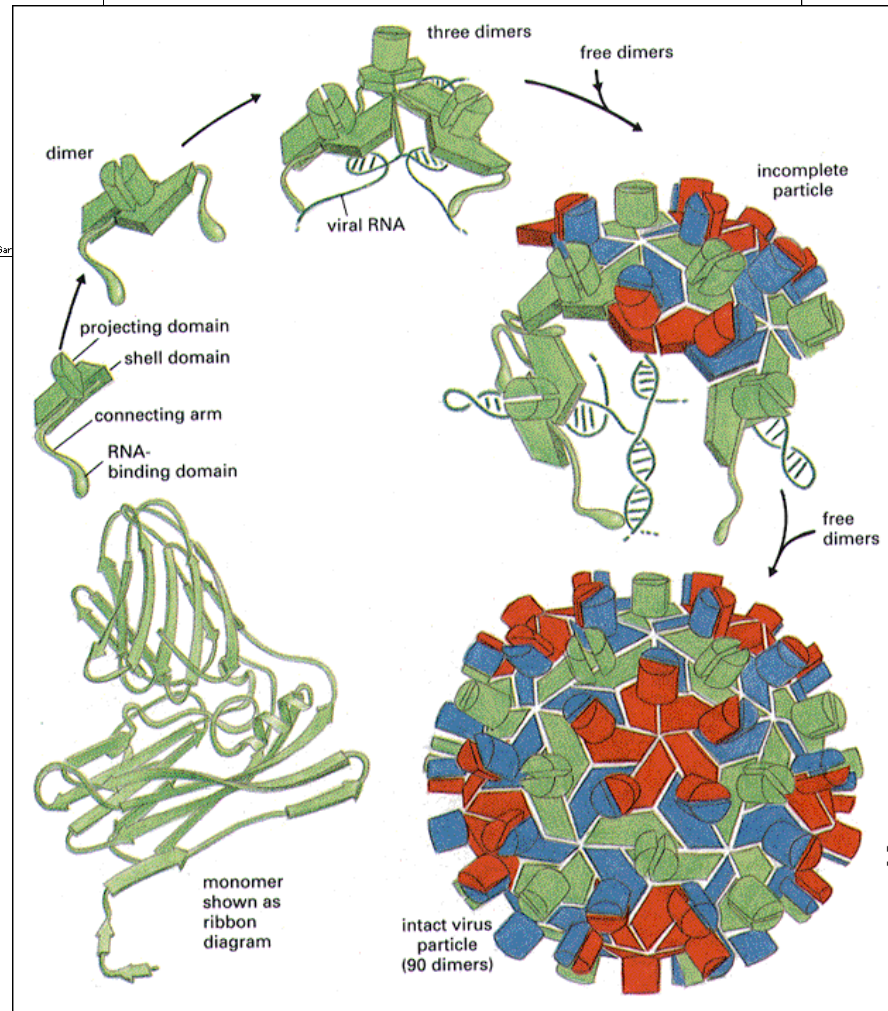
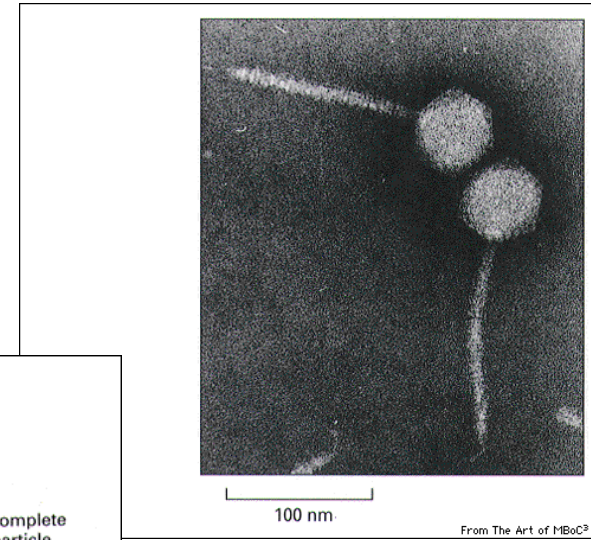
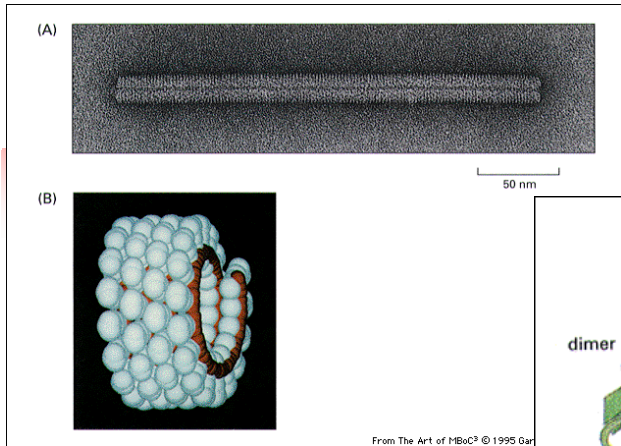


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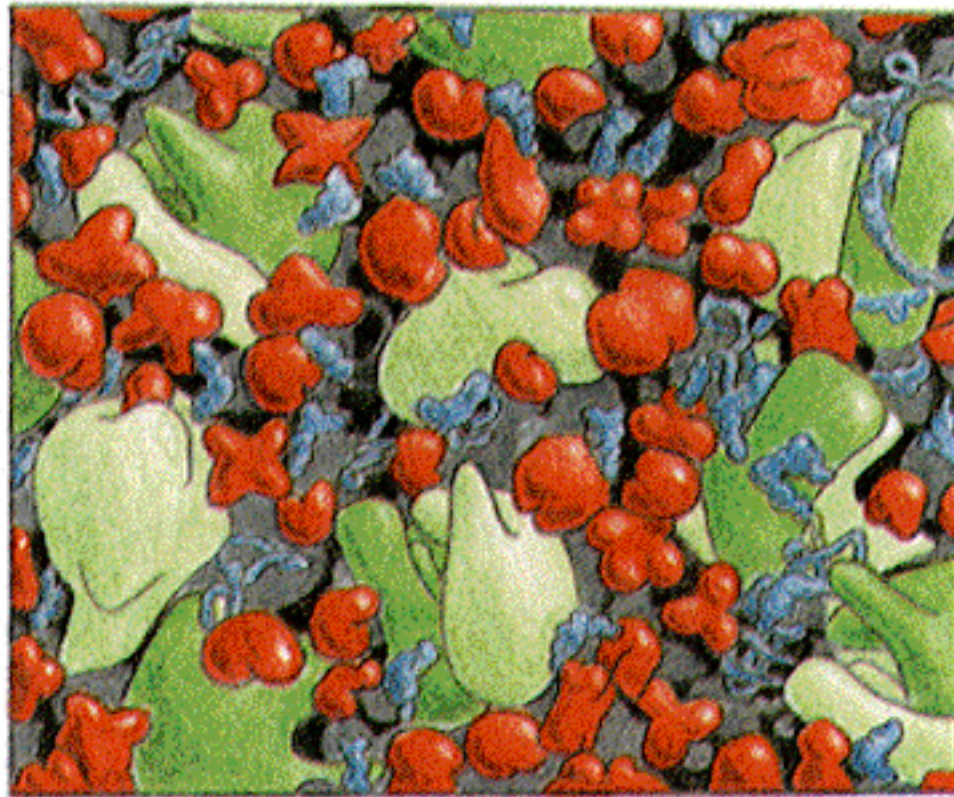
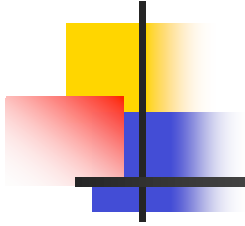


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Viral Assembly



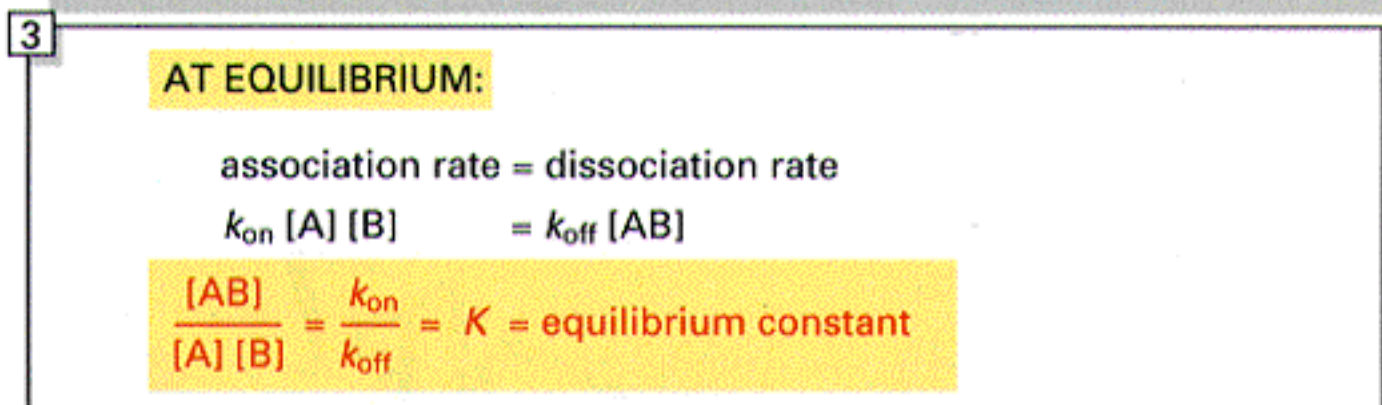
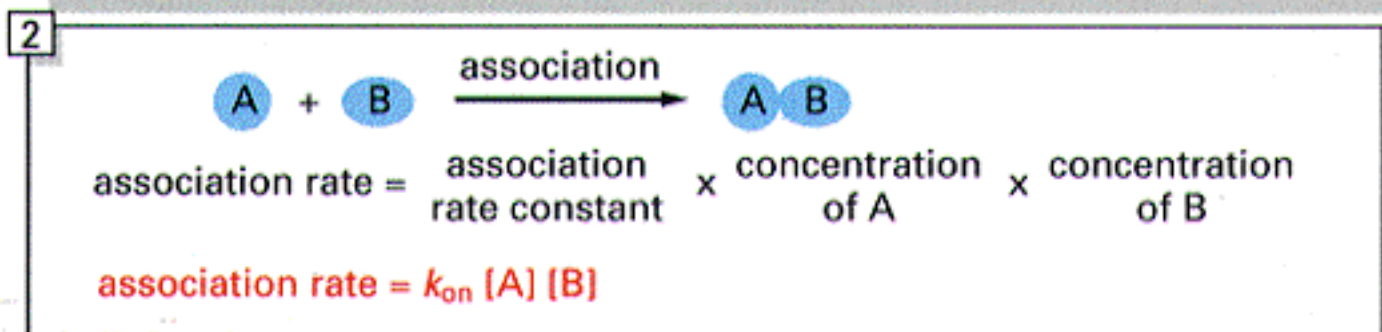
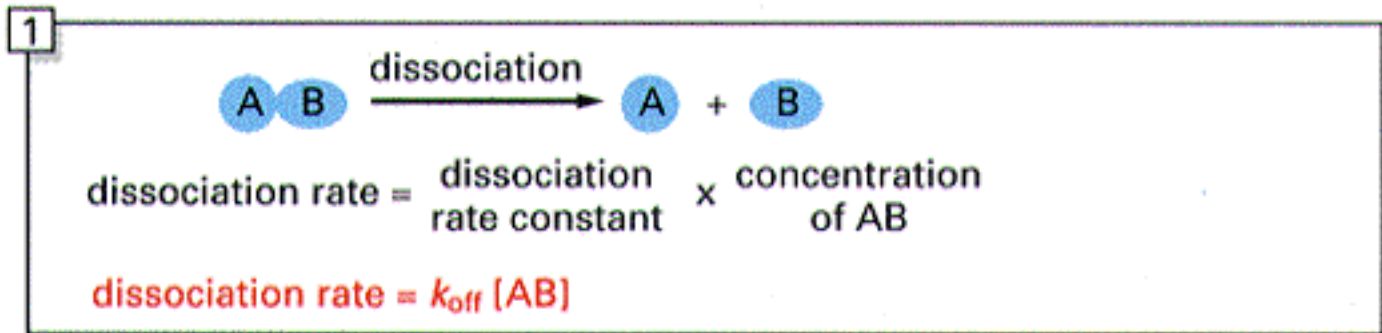
Protein, bioconcentration



100 nm

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Protein, interaction kinetics 1/2



Protein, interaction kinetics 2/2

EXAMPLE:

The concentration of a molecule present in only one copy in a typical mammalian cell (volume of $2000 \mu\text{m}^3$) is about 10^{-12}M .

If such a cell contains 10^4 copies of protein molecule A and 10^6 copies of protein molecule B,

$$[A] = 10^{-8} \text{ M} \text{ and } [B] = 10^{-6} \text{ M}$$

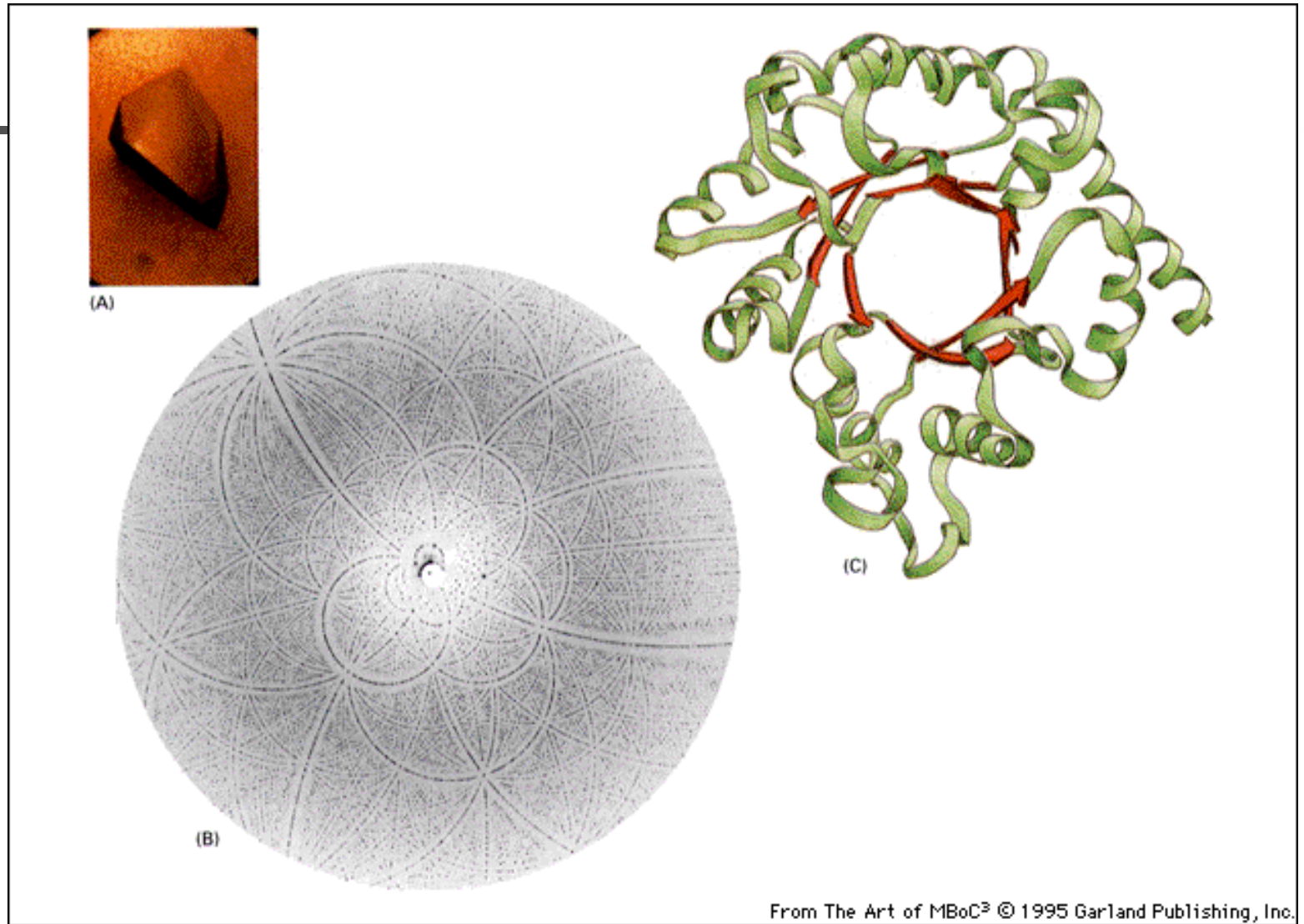
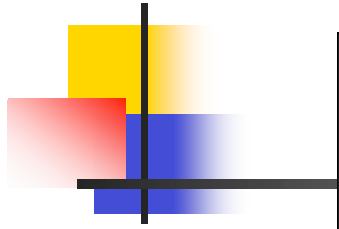
Suppose that protein A binds to protein B with $K = 10^7\text{M}^{-1}$. The ratio of bound to unbound A will be $[AB]/[A]$ and since

$$\frac{[AB]}{[A]} = K[B] = (10^7 \text{ M}^{-1})(10^{-6} \text{ M}) = 10$$

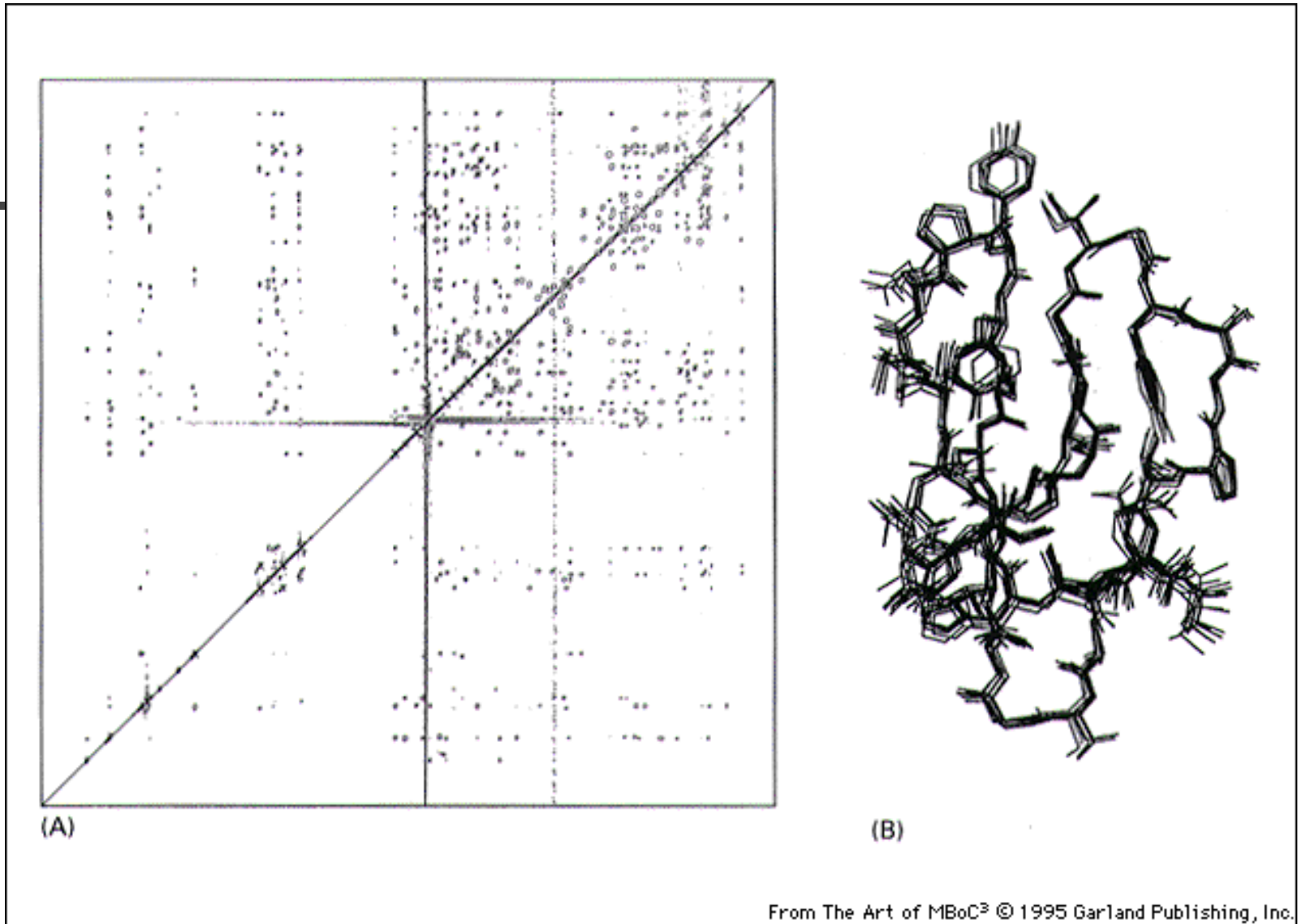
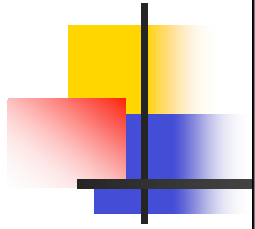
we expect one molecule of A to be free for every 10 molecules of A that are bound to B inside the cell.

Repeating the calculation for $K = 10^4\text{M}^{-1}$ shows that only about one molecule of A in a hundred would be bound to B.

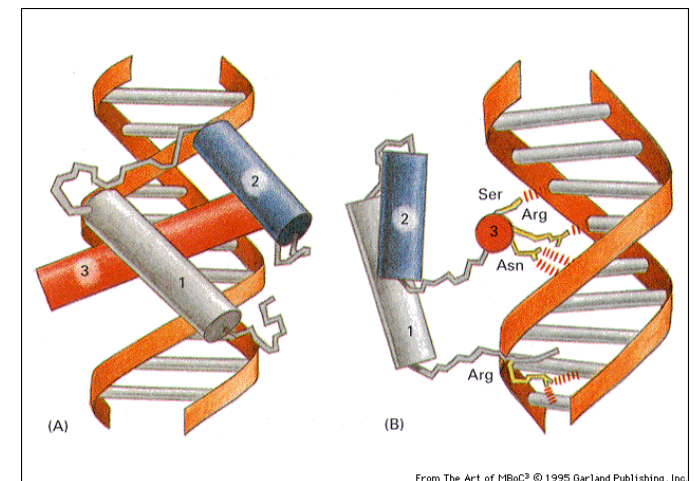
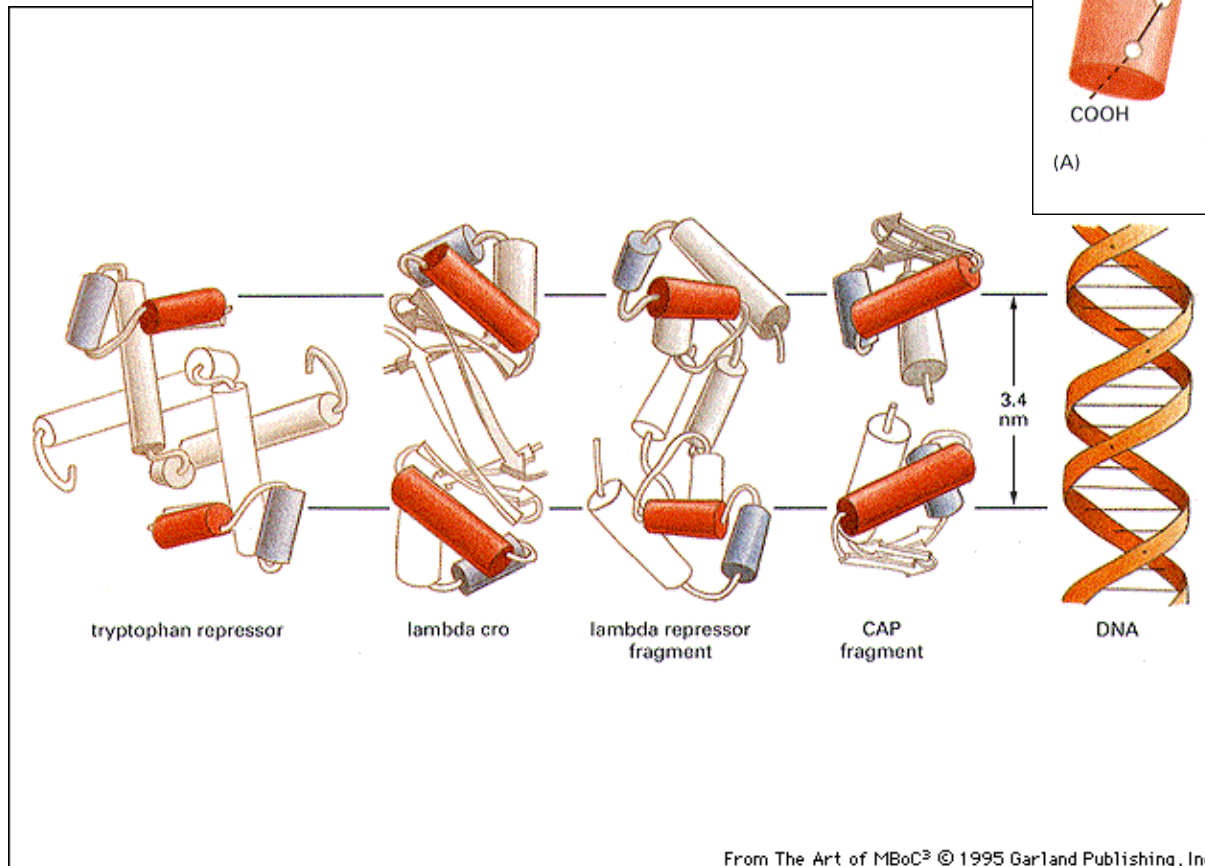
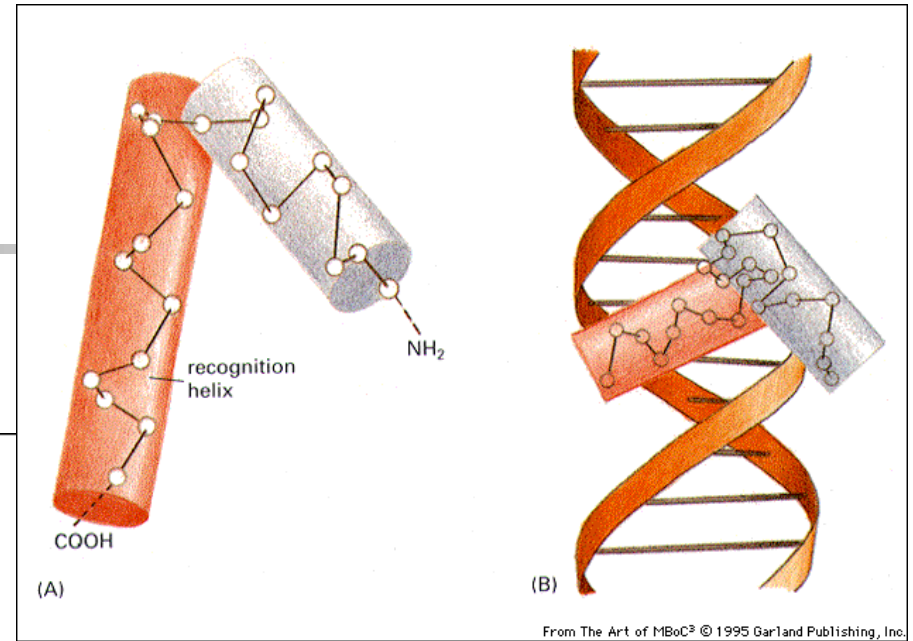
Protein, crystallography



Protein, NMR

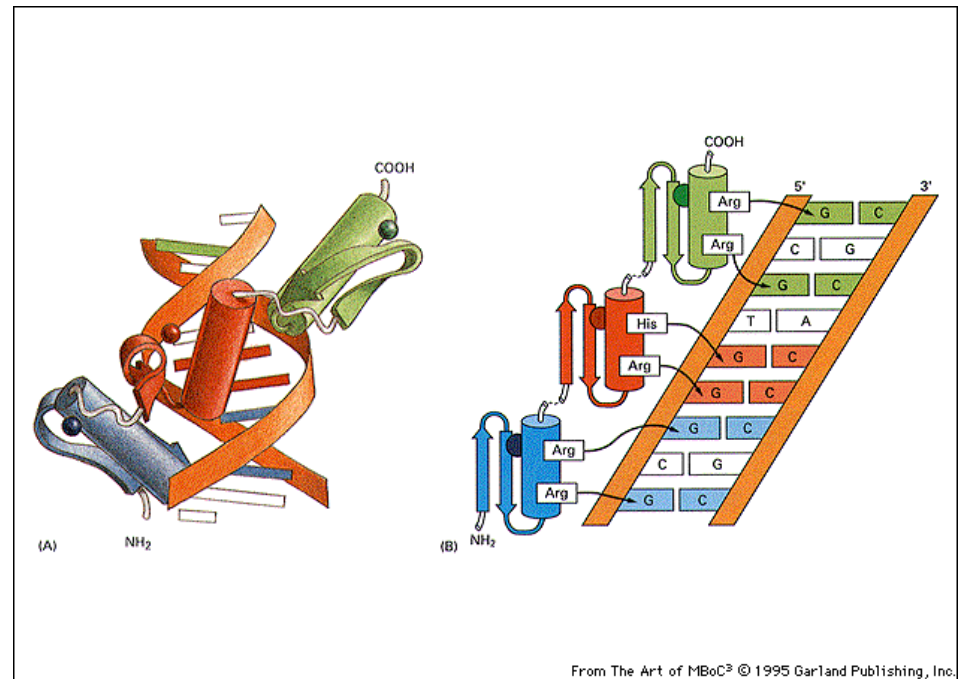
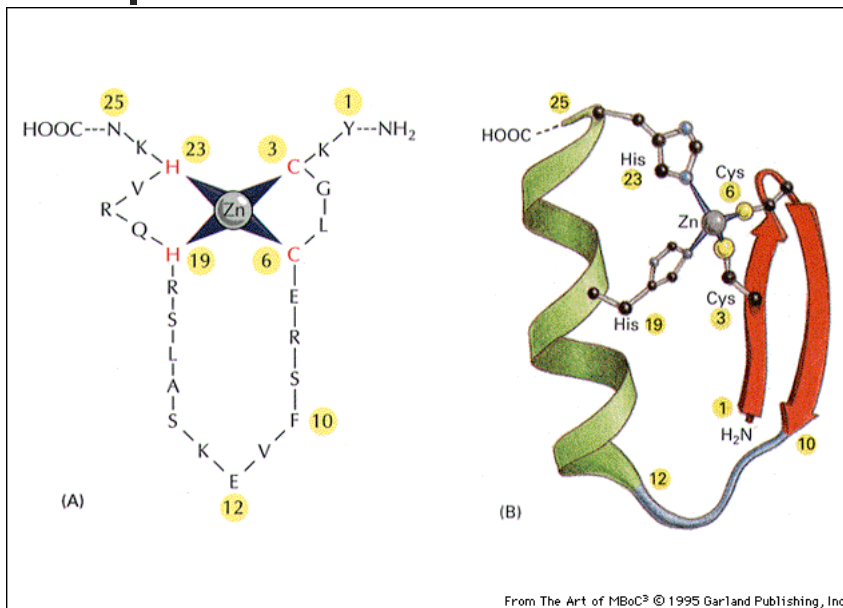


DNA binding proteins



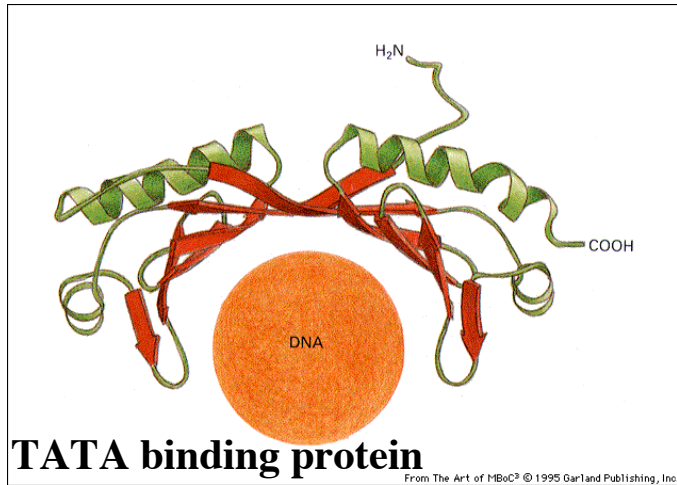
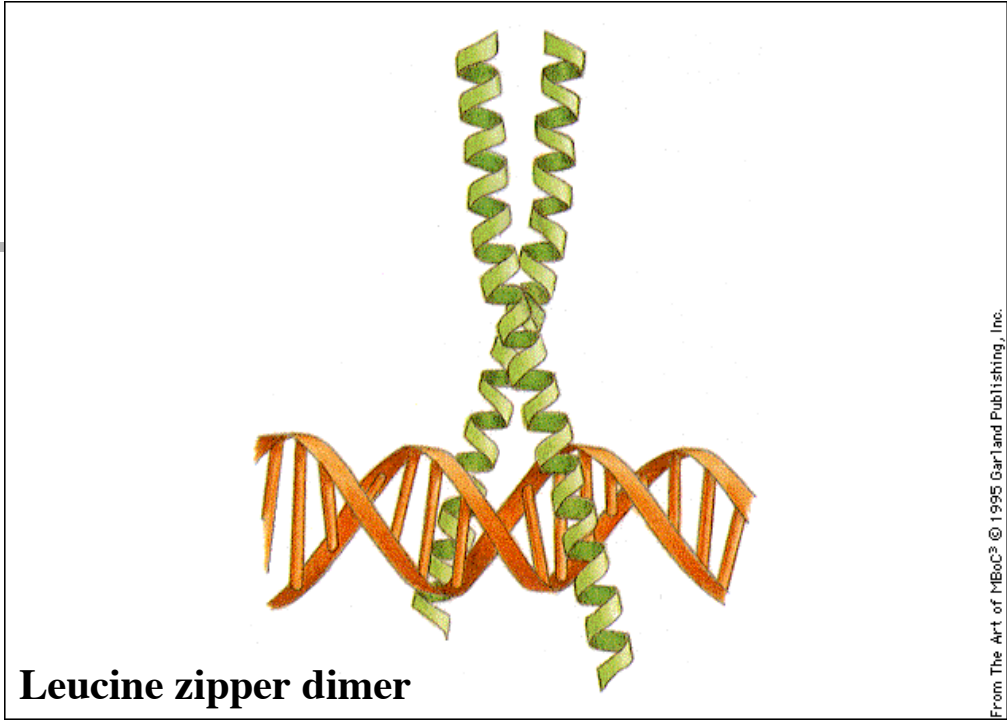
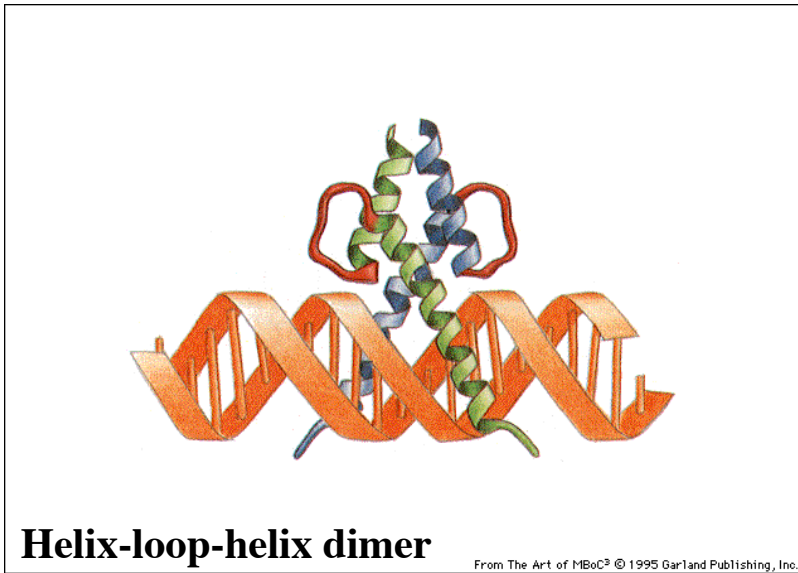
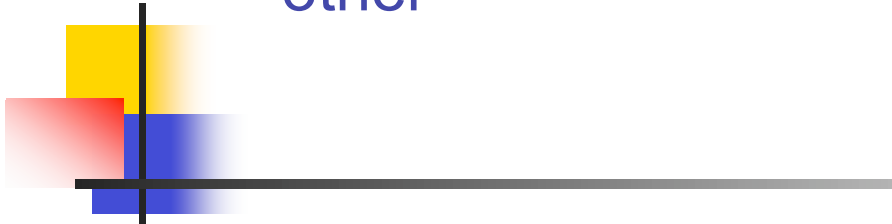
DNA binding proteins

zinc fingers



DNA binding proteins

other





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