#### EFFICIENT CONFORMER LIBRARIES TO IMPROVE SIDECHAIN OPTIMIZATION



CIBM Seminar - 20<sup>th</sup> September 2011 Sabareesh Subramaniam Senes Lab, UW Biochemistry

#### PROTEINS



Image from www.molecularstation.com

# PROTEINS

- Perform important biological functions
- Structure and function closely related
- Structures VERY helpful to study proteins
- X-Ray Crystallography, NMR to determine structure
- Computational modelling when structure not available

# Structure Prediction via Homology Modeling





Backbone



Add sidechains to achieve minimum energy configuration



# **COMPUTATIONAL MODELING**

- Structure Prediction
  - Sequence  $\rightarrow$  backbone(from homolog)  $\rightarrow$  **Sidechain** optimization
- Protein Design
- Docking







Energy = 40000 Kcal / Mol



Energy = 60 Kcal / Mol



Energy = 30000 Kcal / Mol



### **DEGREES OF FREEDOM**

Bond distances

**Bond Angles** 





Dihedral or torsional angles

\*Figures from Wikipedia

#### **STATISTICS OF DIHEDRAL ANGLES**



## **DISCRETIZED CONFORMATION LIBRARIES**





## COMBINATORIAL SEARCH SPACE (3-D JIGSAW PUZZLE)



**GLU** 



No of conformations to search 36

## COMBINATORIAL SEARCH SPACE (3-D JIGSAW PUZZLE)



No of conformations to search 36\* 54

### COMBINATORIAL SEARCH SPACE (3-D JIGSAW PUZZLE)



No of conformations to search 36\*54\*3 = 5832Typically > 10 ^ 60

# SEARCH ALGORITHMS

- Dead End Elimination
- Self Consistent Mean Field
- A\* search
- Monte Carlo Simulated Annealing
- Graph decomposition











#### **MORE SAMPLING**



#### **MORE SAMPLING**



#### ROTAMER LIBRARY DETERMINES QUALITY OF SOLUTION



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#### ROTAMER LIBRARY DETERMINES QUALITY OF SOLUTION



#### **FIXED NUMBER OF CONFORMERS**





No number in between

## GEOMETRIC FILTERS LEAD TO CONFORMER LIBRARIES



Conformers from high-res PDBs

Representative conformers

#### **IGNORES THE NATURAL DISTRIBUTION**



- People have been looking for solutions using the statistical distribution in structures
- However, the problem is that sampling is related to the <u>energetics</u> in a way that is difficult to predict



- People have been looking for solutions using the statistical distribution in structures
- However, the problem is that sampling is related to the <u>energies</u> in a way that is difficult to predict
- Solution: use <u>energetics</u> to identify the best sampling strategy for side chain optimization

## GOALS

Can we create a library that can outperform existing libraries in terms of speed and/or Energies ?

Can we create a flexible library where the conformers are in some useful order?
# Can we sort the conformers instead of extracting a fixed-size subset?



# Can we sort the conformers instead of extracting a fixed-size subset?



Conformers











Conformers



Conformers



Environments

Conformers



Environments

Conformers



Environments



### **THE first conformer**





#### Conformers

1st

### **THE second conformer**



Conformers





### CONFORMERS IN PROPORTION TO DISTRIBUTION





## A walk in Trp space

















































## 721 complete protein repacks. The lower the energy, the better.



### Flexible High-Perfomance Conformer Library

 Conformers chosen using the same criterion as the optimization algorithm - Energy

• The new library is a sorted list of conformations

 Unprecedented flexibility – the first 'n' conformers is probably the best set of 'n' conformers



side chain Optimization before the optimization exceeds optimistic expectation

of the side chain conformation library

Alessandro Senes IPiB Retreat 2011



Number of Conformers








#### NUMBER OF CONFORMERS FOR EACH AMINO ACID TYPE



## **Combinatorial search space**



# possible conformations = 10 \* 3 \* 10 \* 3 \* 10 \* 9 = 81000

## Do all positions have the same sampling requirements?



# Smaller/Better search space with distributed sampling



By moving sampling from the easy positions to the hard ones, we could be more efficient (fast) and/or achieve better energies

#### But, can we predict if a position is easy or hard?

#### **SIDECHAIN OPTIMIZATION**





## **Use Machine Learning**

Information in the backbone - pattern recognition problem?

• Use machine learning to predict requirements based on features of the backbone



## Goals

- Identify sampling requirements for each position on backbone
- Reduce run time, find better conformations (lower energy), or both

## Issues

- Identify useful features from the backbone structure
- Identify most meaningful labeling strategy to label the dataset
- Devise the best machine learning strategy to predict the label

#### Label the dataset using the EnergyTable



#### Conformers

#### Label the dataset using the EnergyTable



#### Conformers

Associate each sidechain in the database with a feature vector *X* and a label *Y* 



 $X = \{\varphi, \psi, SS, SE, PD, N, ...\}$  $Y = \{\text{Hard, Medium, Easy}\}$ 

#### **Overall Strategy**



#### **HOW EFFECTIVE ARE THE LABELS?**



Actual Labels

## **Results – Permuted labels**



#### HOW WELL DOES MACHINE LEARNING WORK?

LogitBoost



## **Results – All Classifiers**



% of proteins with significantly lower energies

## **Future Research**

- More features
- Alternative labeling strategies
- Optimize classifiers performance

#### Thank You

#### Alessandro Senes



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