



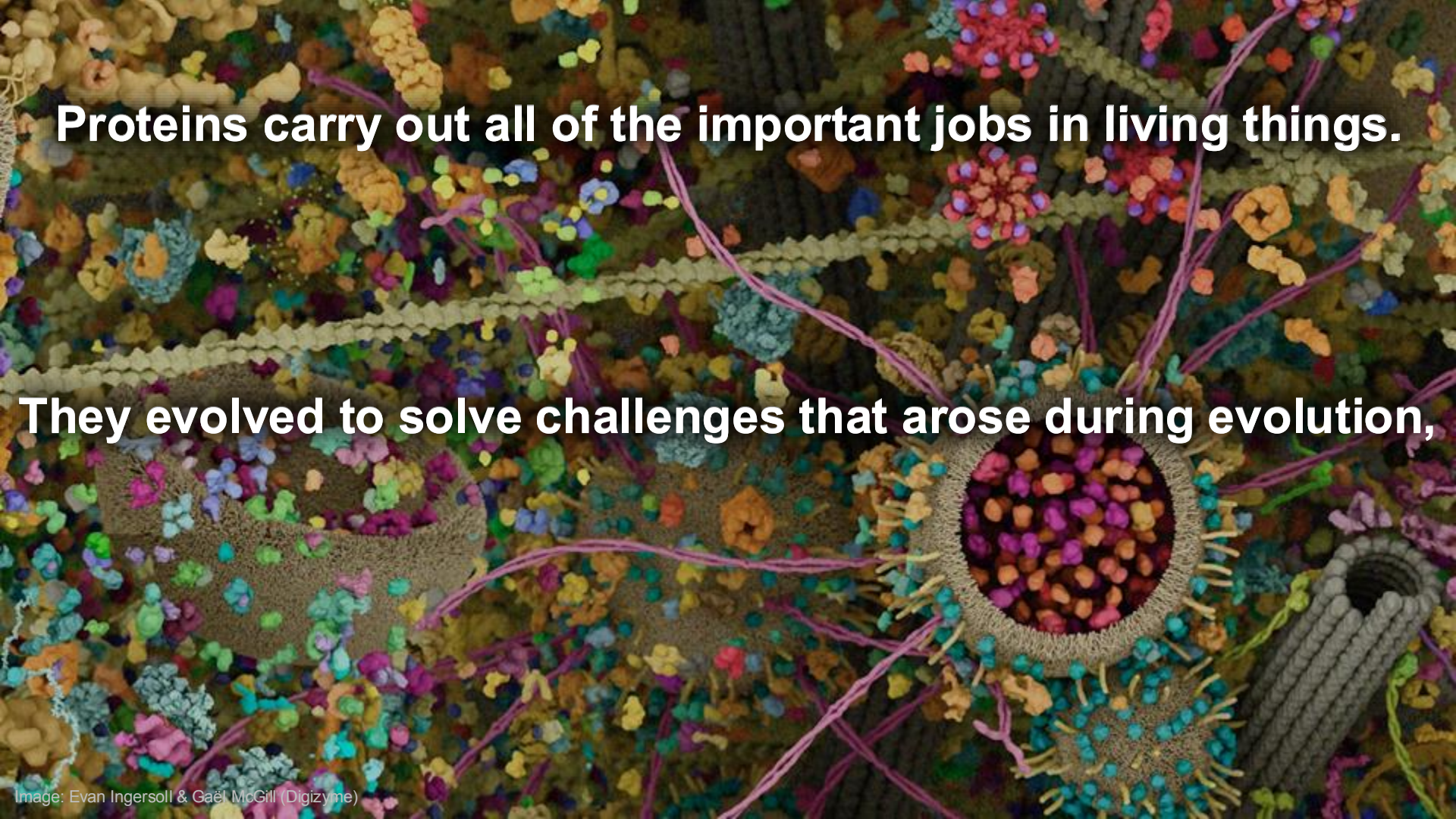
DE NOVO PROTEIN DESIGN

Proteins carry out all of the important jobs in living things.



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They evolved to solve challenges that arose during evolution,





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They evolved to solve challenges that arose during evolution,

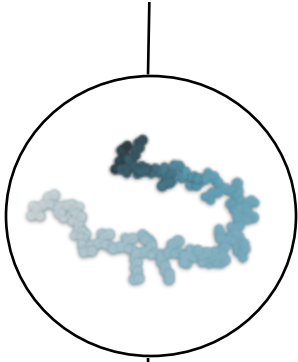
but we face new challenges today.

Biology



CAATGTTGC...

Gene
Sequence



Amino Acid
Sequence



Biological
Function

Biology



CAATGTTGC...



Gene
Sequence

Amino Acid
Sequence

Biological
Function



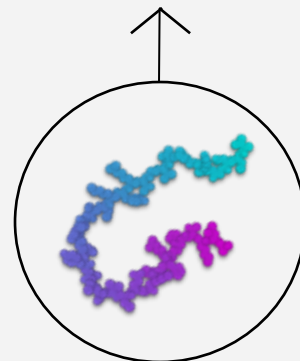
Design

Make protein and test

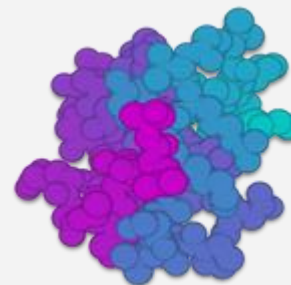
New
Gene
Sequence

TTCATGGCT...

New
Amino Acid
Sequence



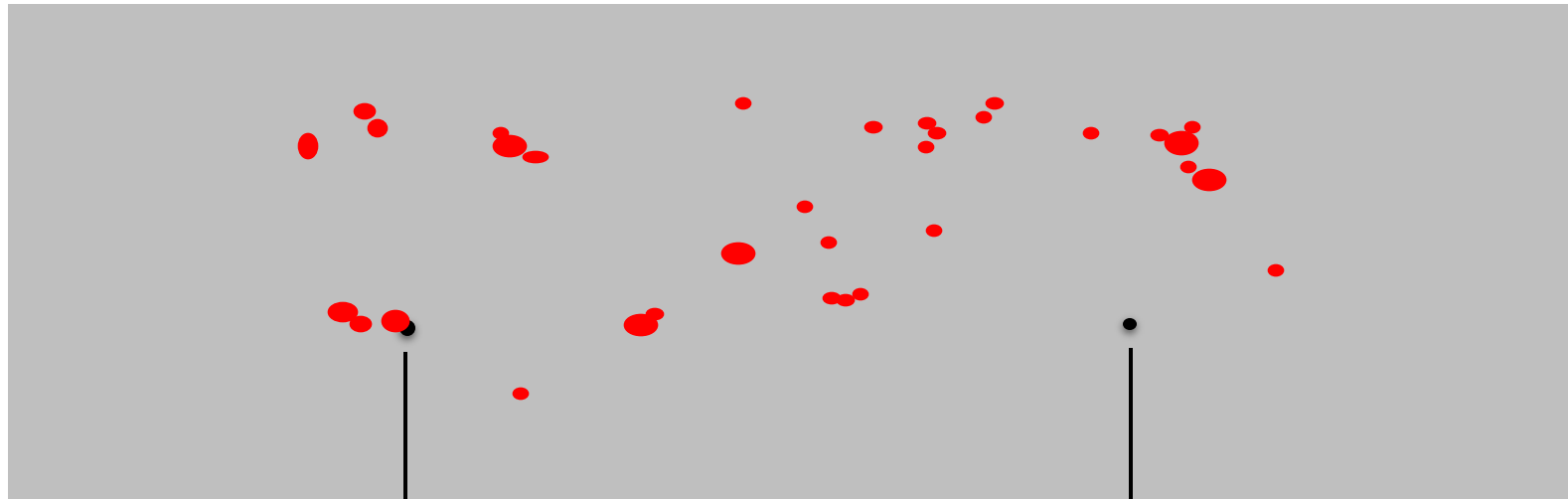
Desired
Function



A vast universe of possible proteins

● Proteins in Nature

○ Possible Proteins



Traditional protein engineering

De novo protein design

Number of 100-residue amino acid sequences: $20^{100} = 10^{130}$

Number of naturally occurring proteins: $\sim 10^{15}$

A brief history of protein design

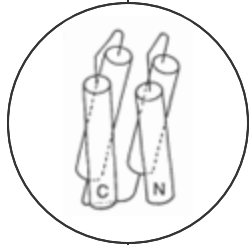
1988

now

A brief history of protein design

NEW STRUCTURES

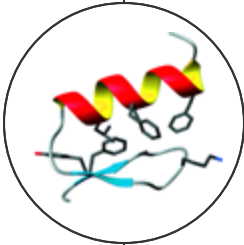
1988



Bill DeGrado

University of California,
San Francisco

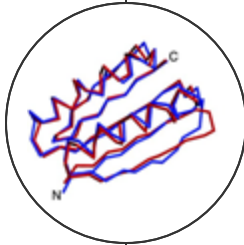
1997



Steve Mayo

California Institute
of Technology

2003



Brian Kuhlman

University of North
Carolina at Chapel Hill

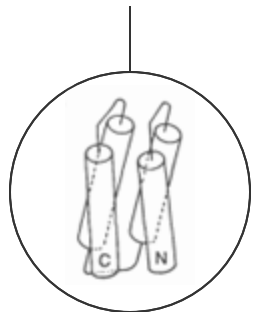
now

A brief history of protein design

NEW STRUCTURES

NEW FUNCTIONS

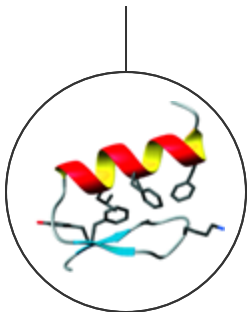
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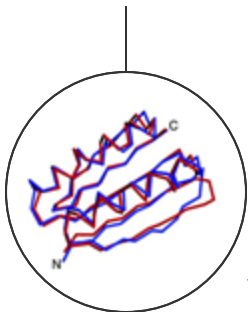
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Rosetta@Home

Volunteer Computing

2008



Foldit

Online Game

now

**1,000s of
Projects &
Researchers**



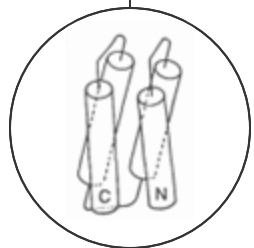
A brief history of protein design

NEW STRUCTURES

NEW FUNCTIONS

NEW ERA

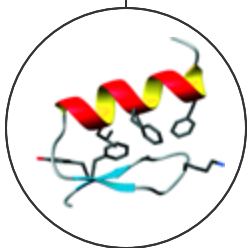
1988



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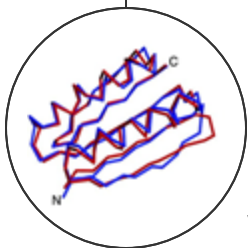
1997



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2005



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Foldit
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**1,000s of
Projects &
Researchers**

2021–now



**>100 developer teams
>80,000 licenses**



Designing proteins with RFdiffusion

Inspired by deep-learning methods for generating synthetic images.

e.g. Stable Diffusion, DALL-E

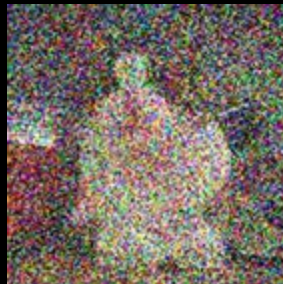
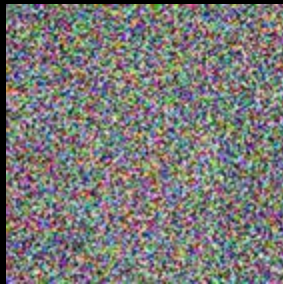
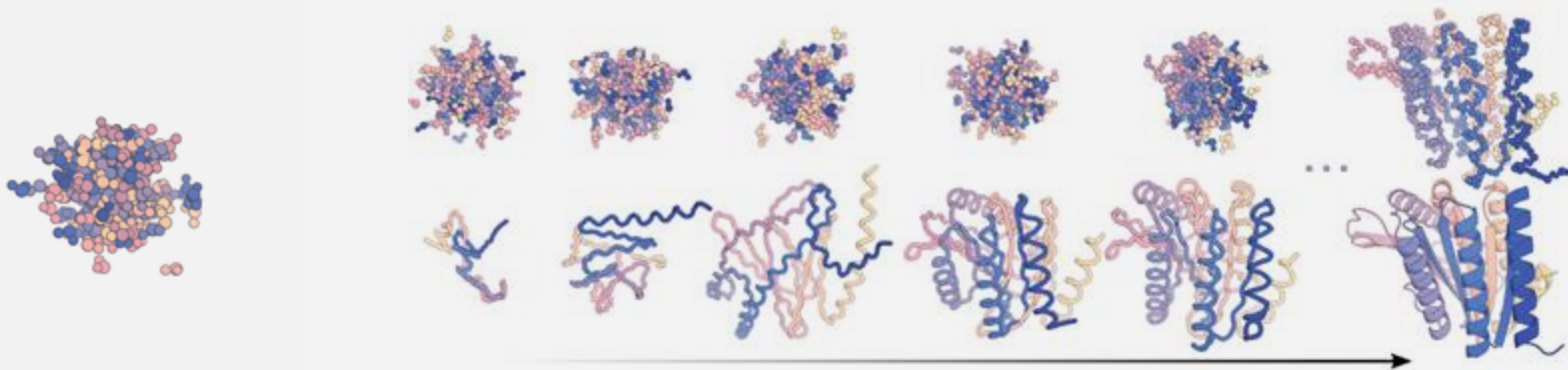
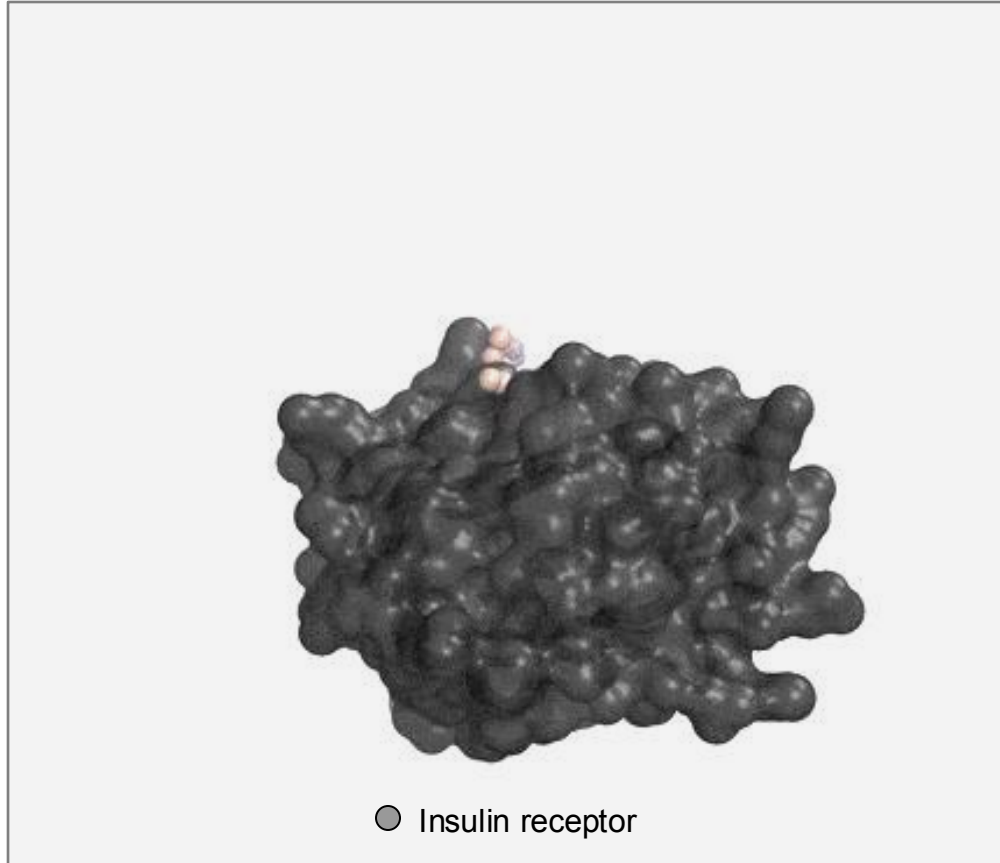


Image: Arash Vahdat and Karsten Kreis (NVIDIA)



Joe Watson, David Juergens, Nathaniel Bennett, Brian Trippe, Jason Yim, Helen Eisenach, Woody Ahern, et al. Nature, 2023

Diffusion of an insulin mimic



Medicine



Technology



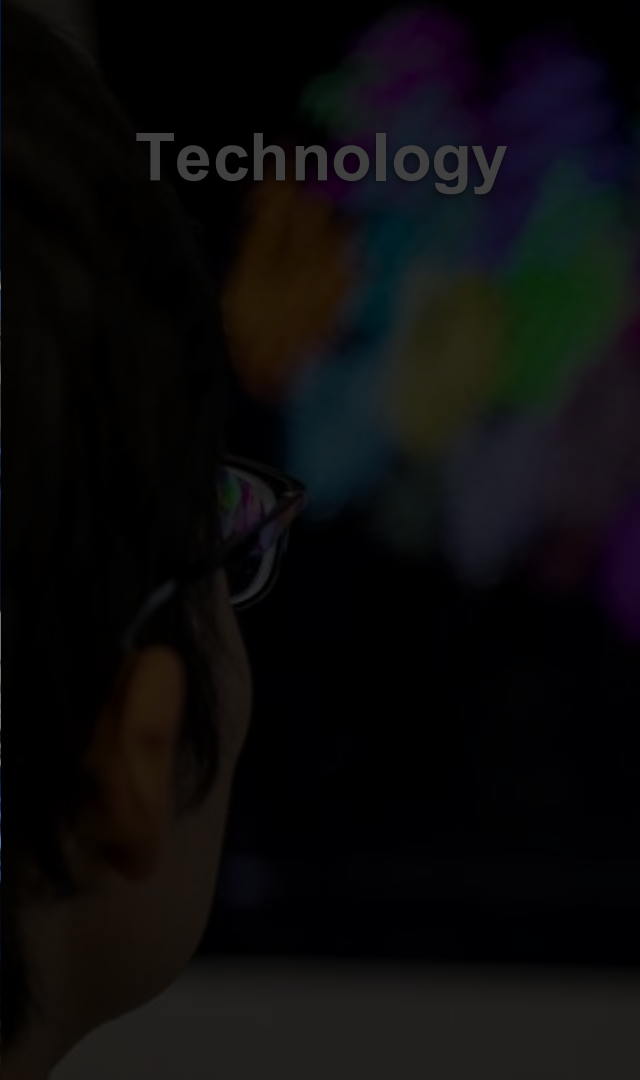
Sustainability



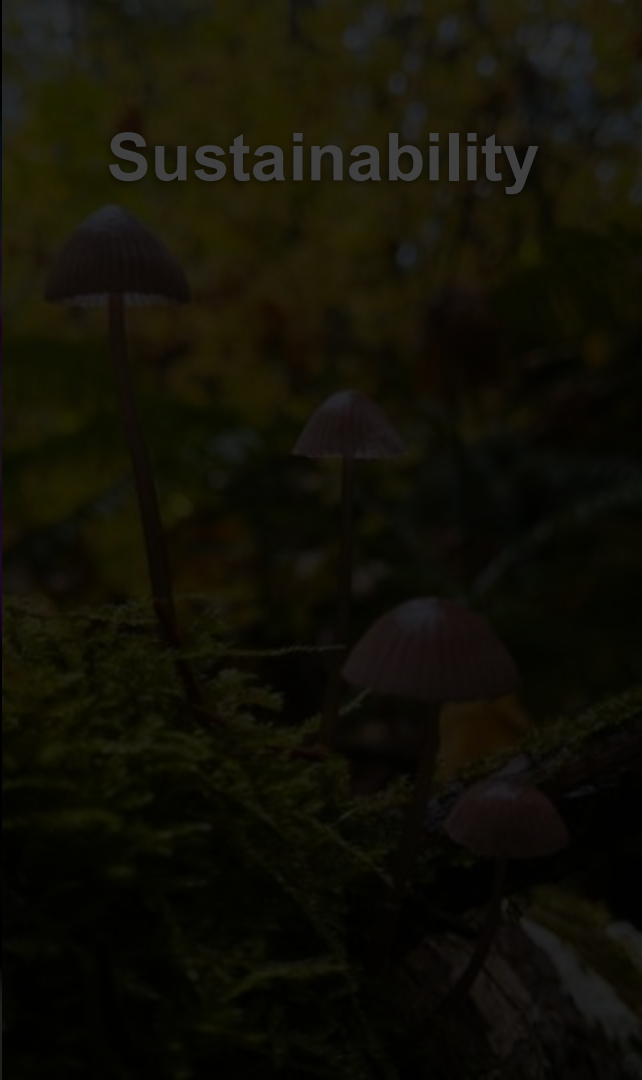
Medicine



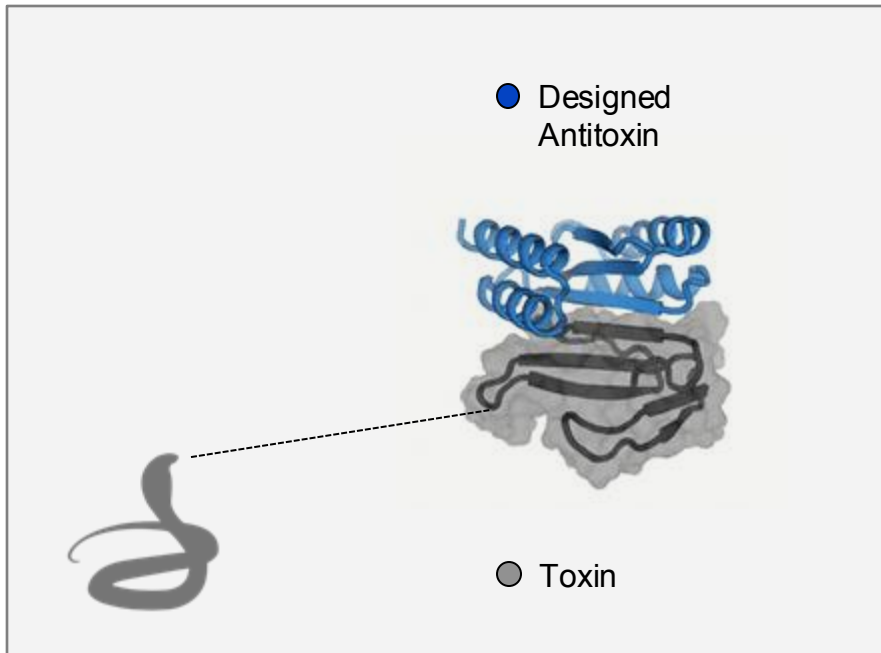
Technology



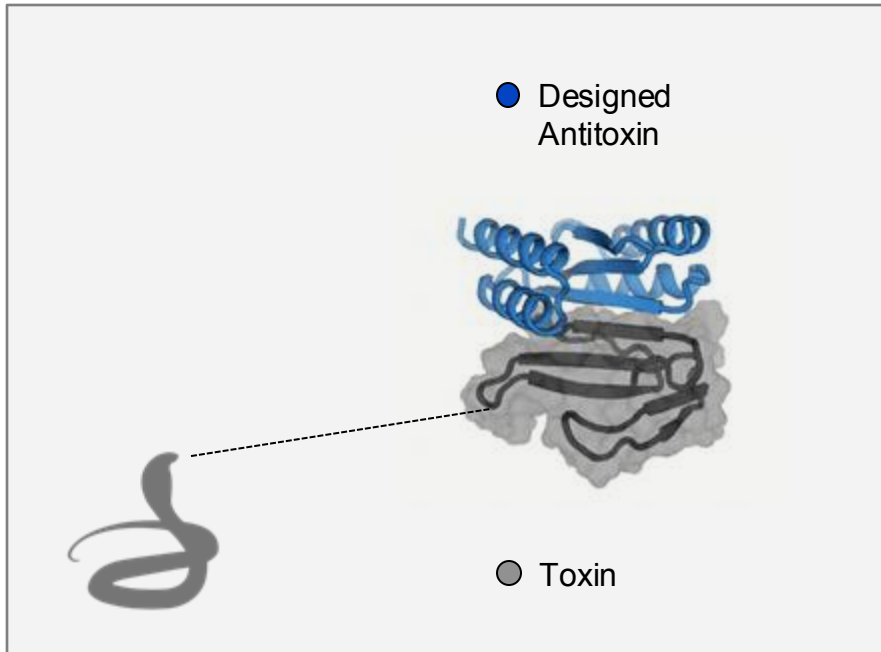
Sustainability



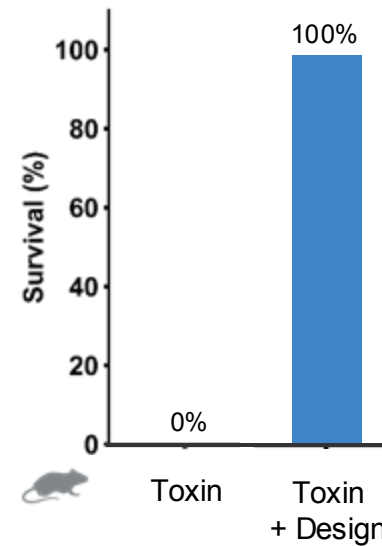
Neutralizing snake toxin



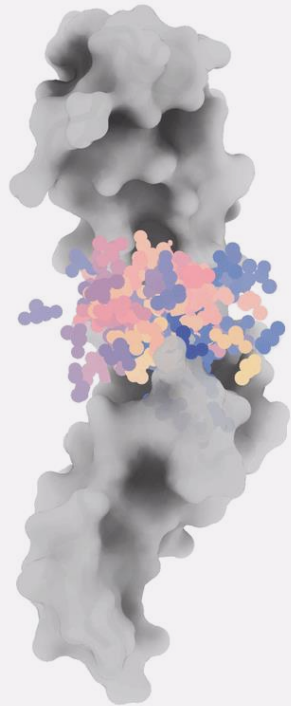
Neutralizing snake toxin



Protects animals from lethal doses of cobratoxin.

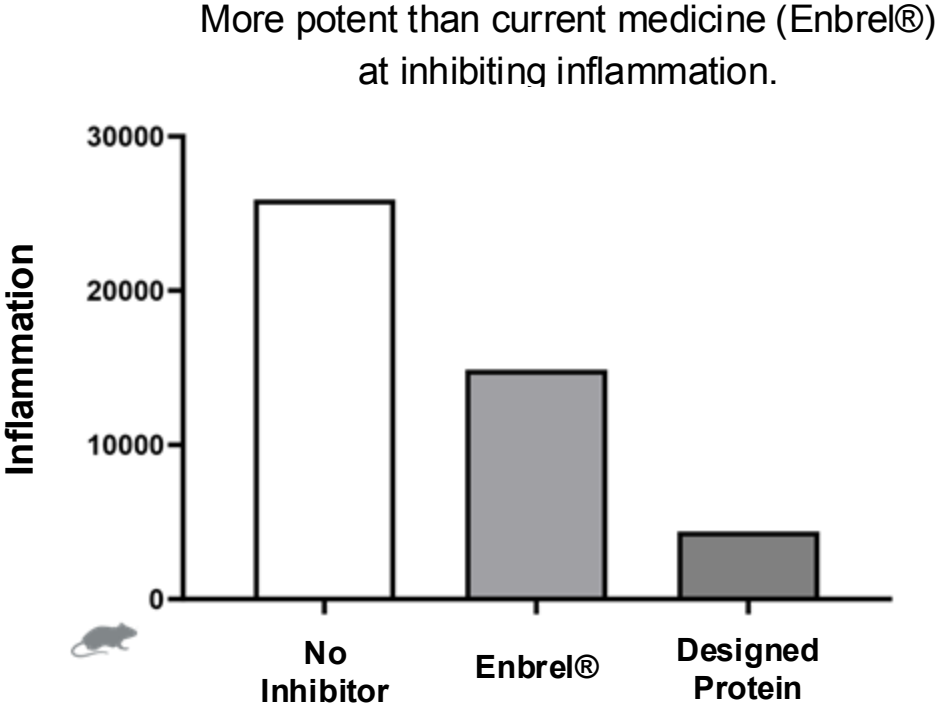
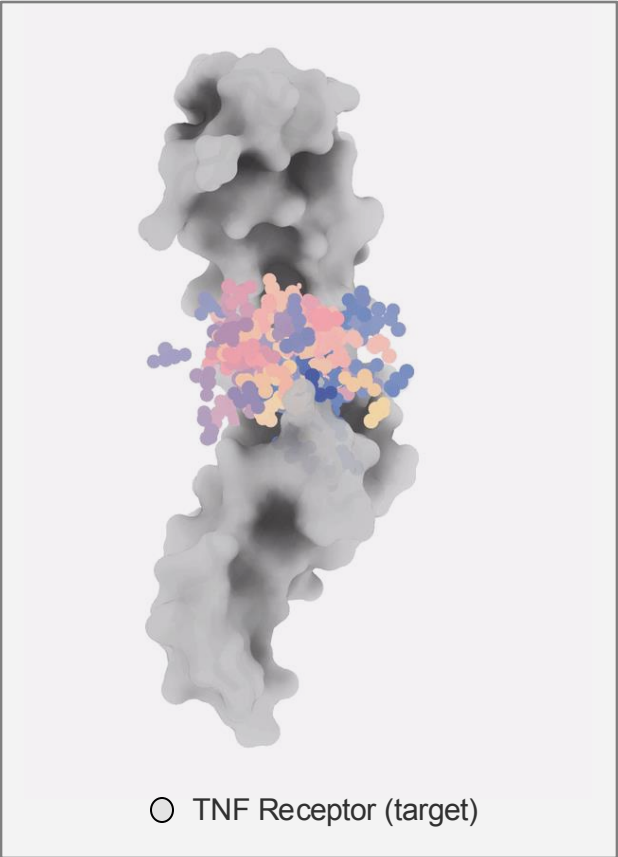


Suppressing inflammation

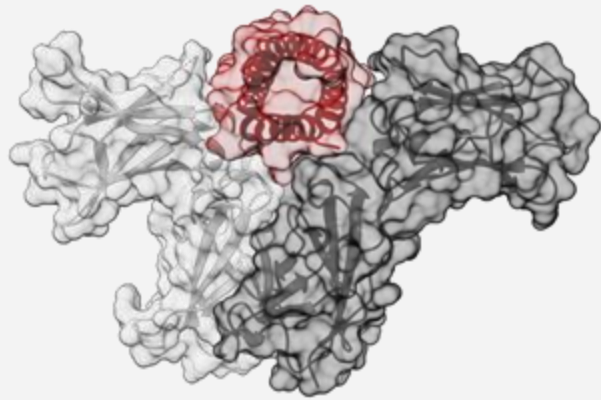


○ TNF Receptor (target)

Suppressing inflammation

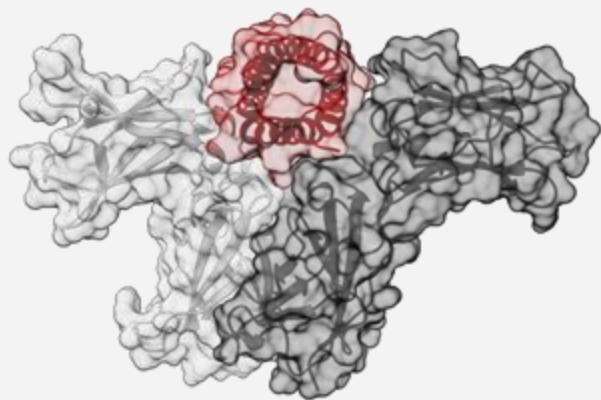


Shrinking tumors



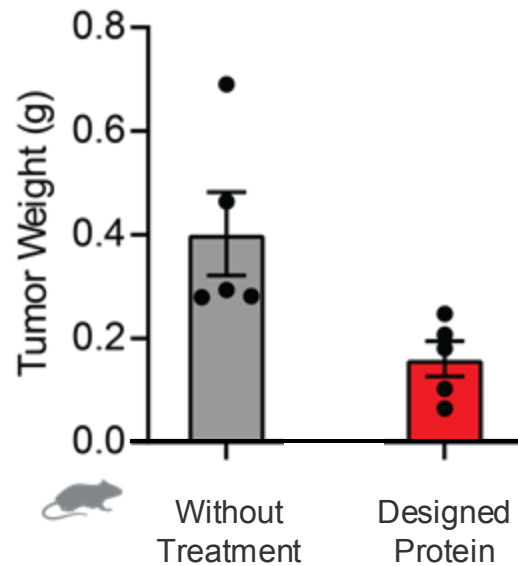
- Receptor 1 (IL-21R)
- Receptor 2 (Common γ)

Shrinking tumors

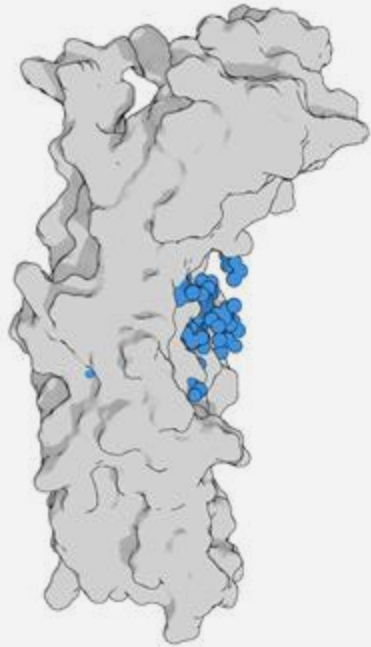


- Receptor 1 (IL-21R)
- Receptor 2 (Common γ)

Pancreatic Cancer

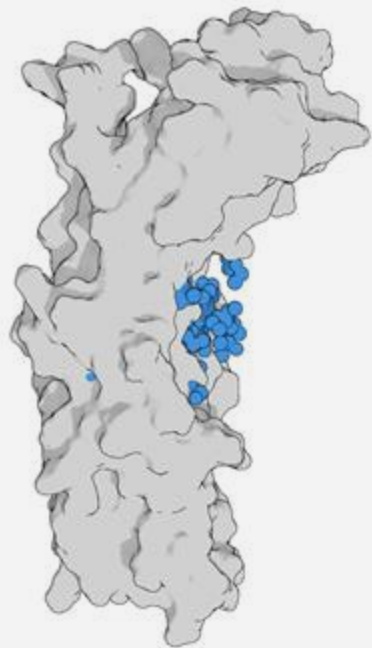


Targeting influenza with de novo antibodies



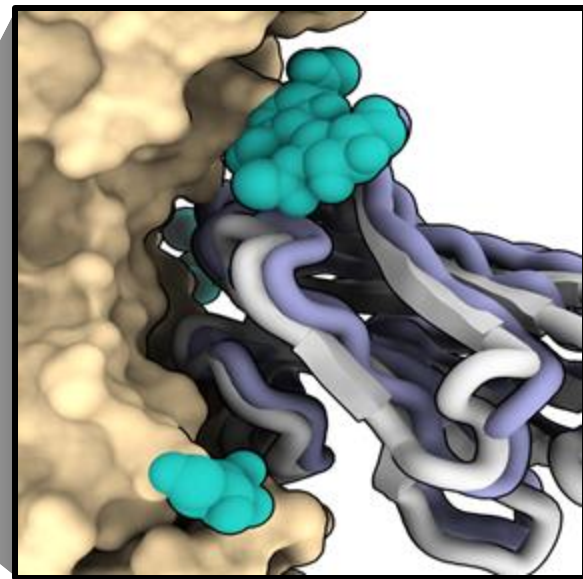
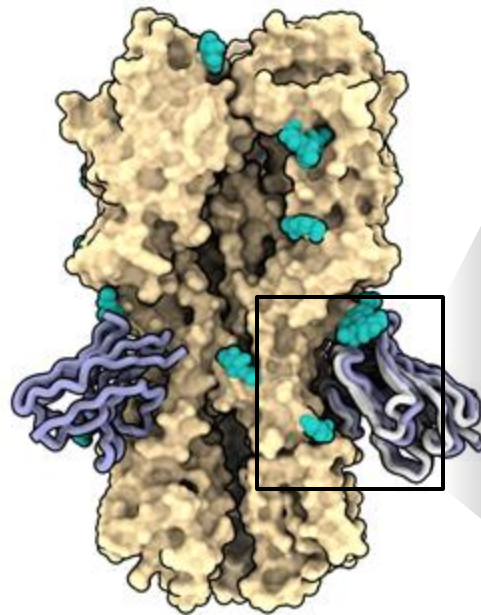
○ Influenza HA (target)

Targeting influenza with de novo antibodies



○ Influenza HA (target)

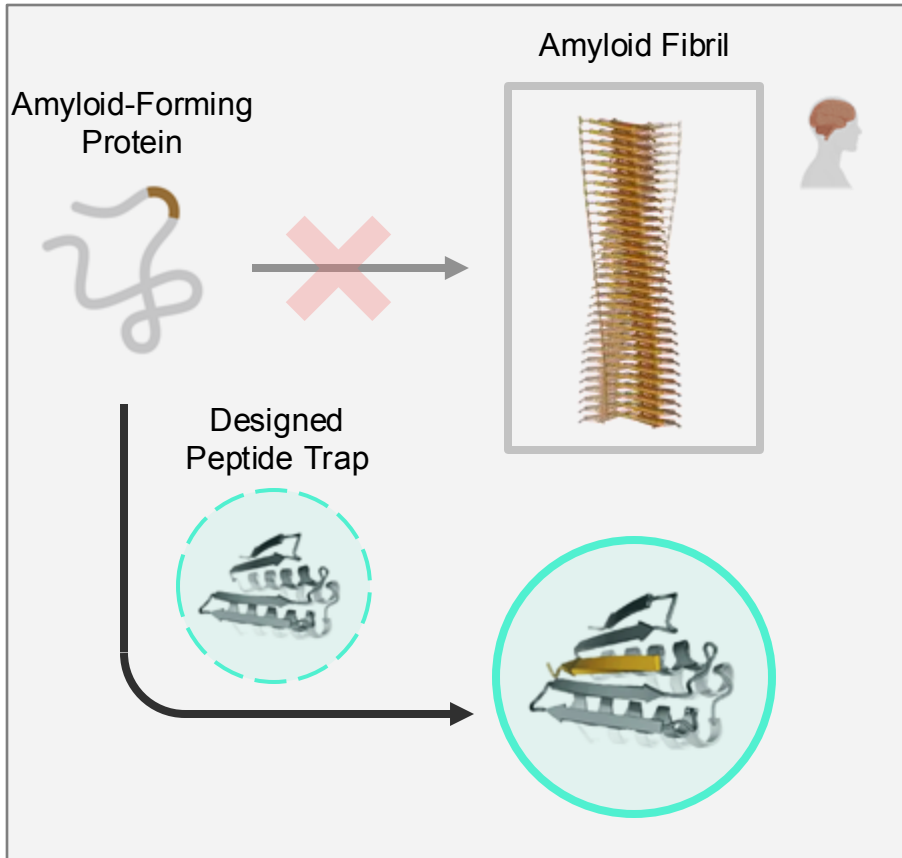
Cryo-EM Structure



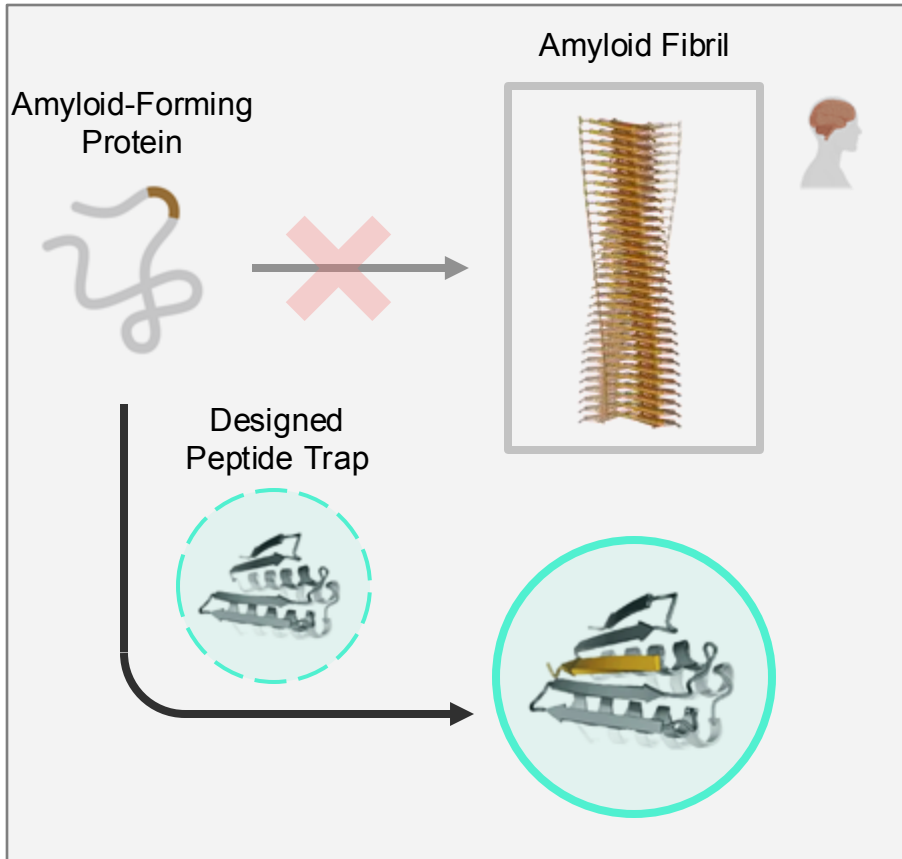
○ Intended

● Measured

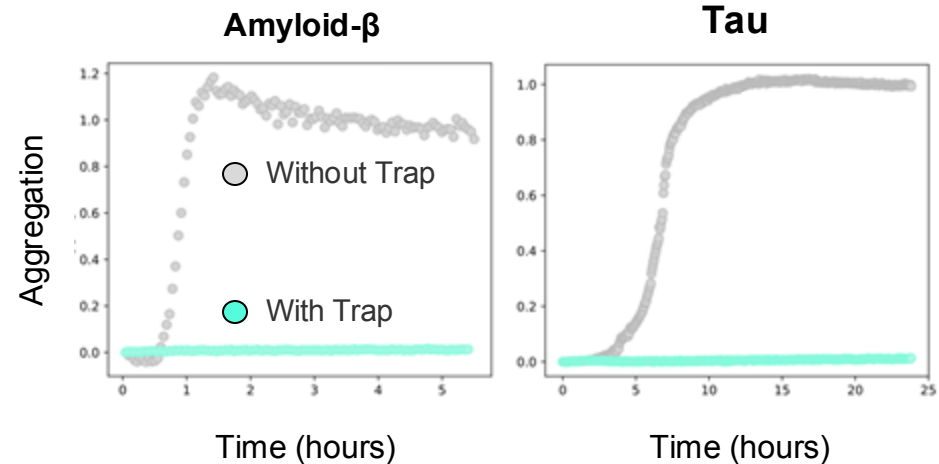
Blocking Alzheimer's-associated amyloid fibrils



Blocking Alzheimer's-associated amyloid fibrils



Prevents fibril formation in the lab.



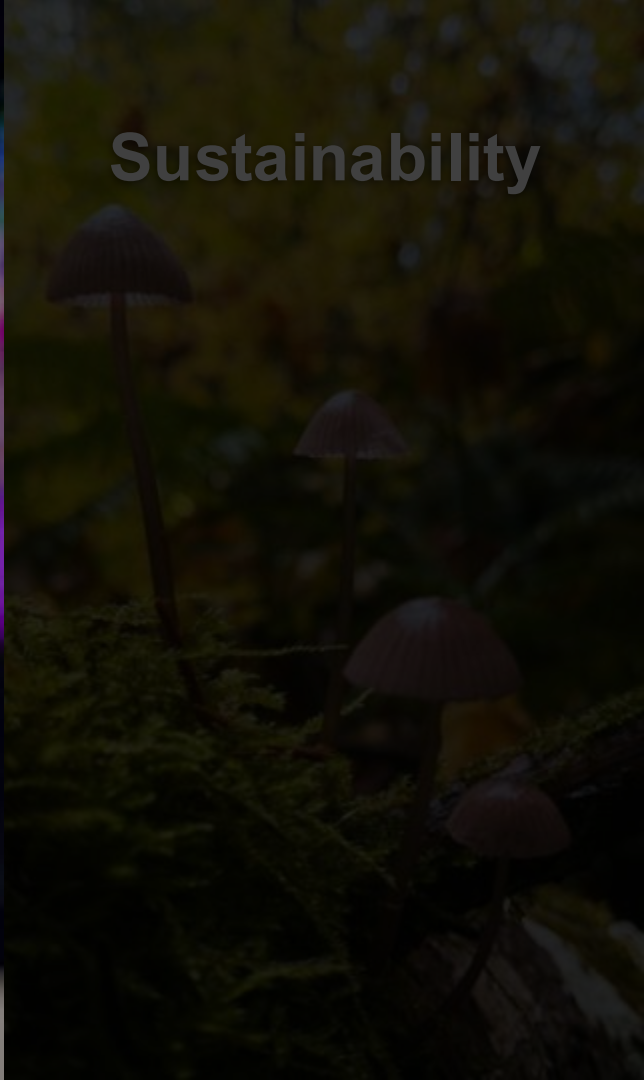
Medicine



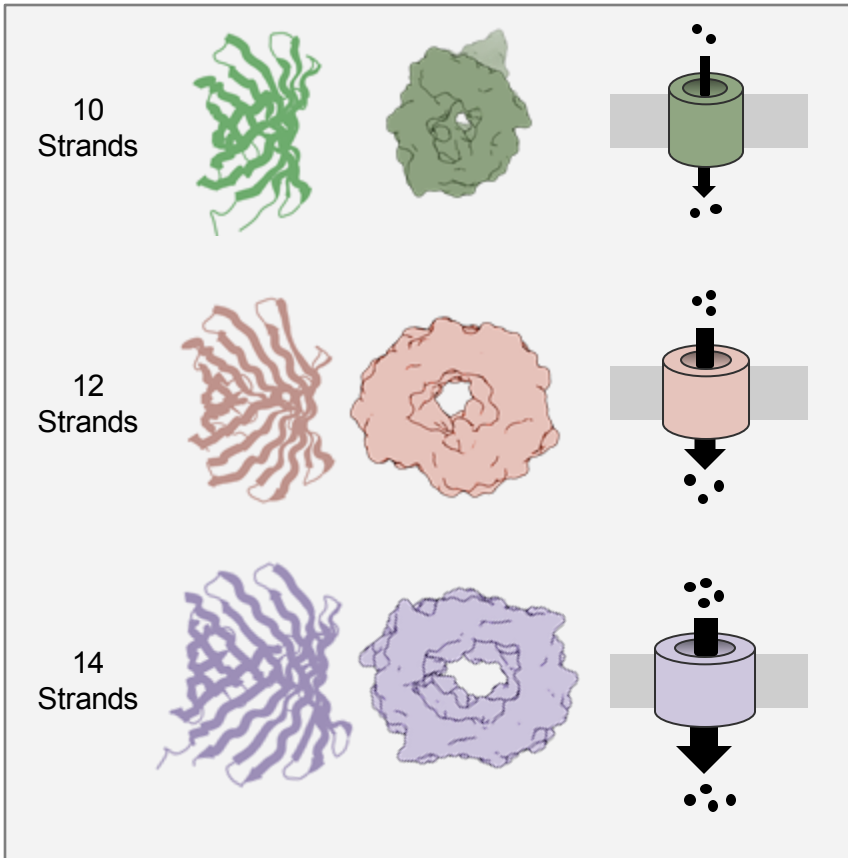
Technology



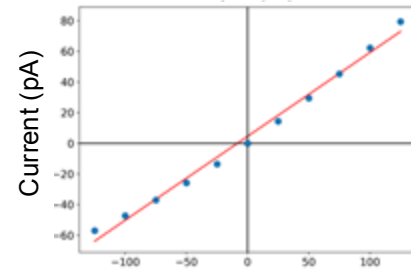
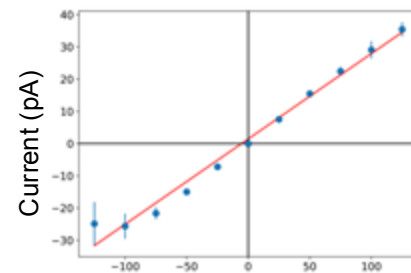
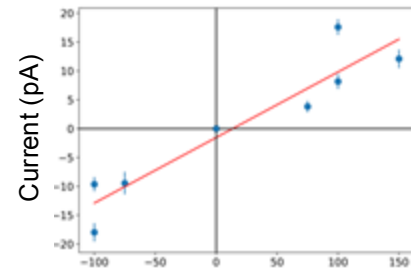
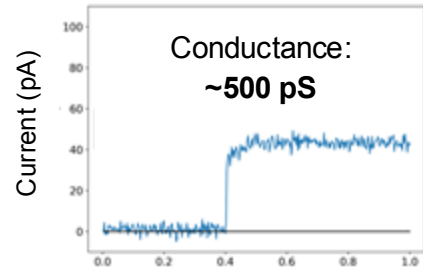
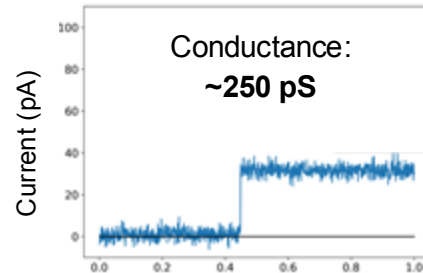
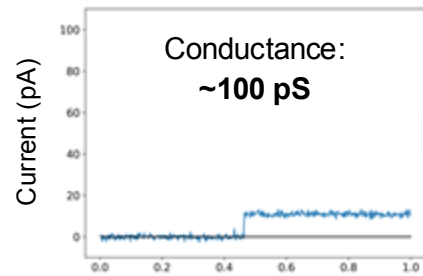
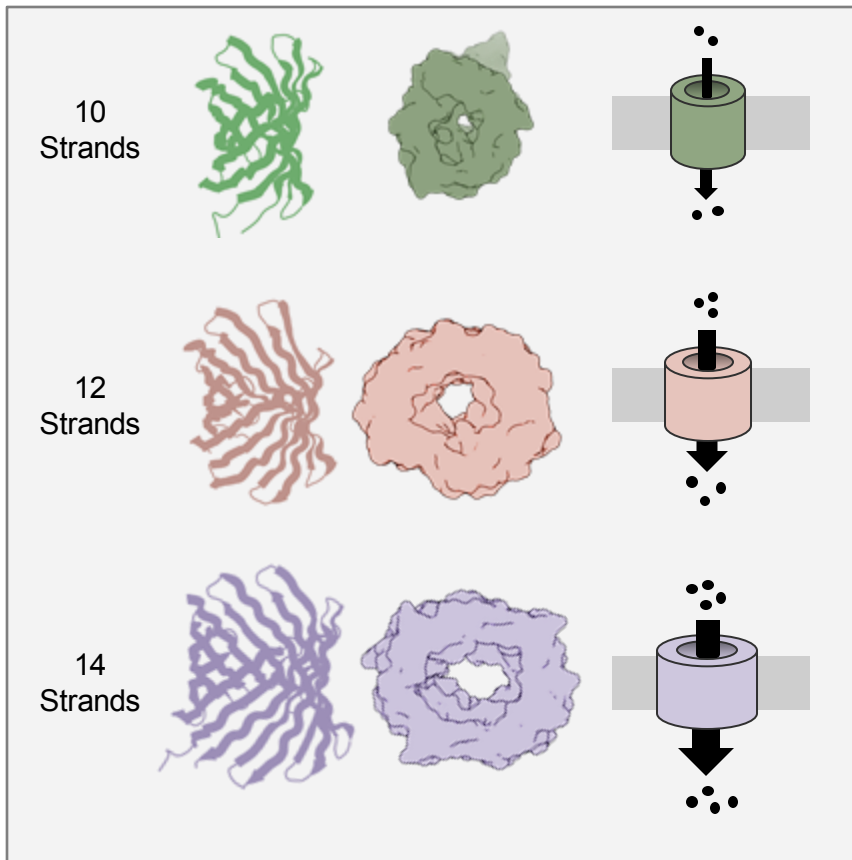
Sustainability



Conductive nanopores



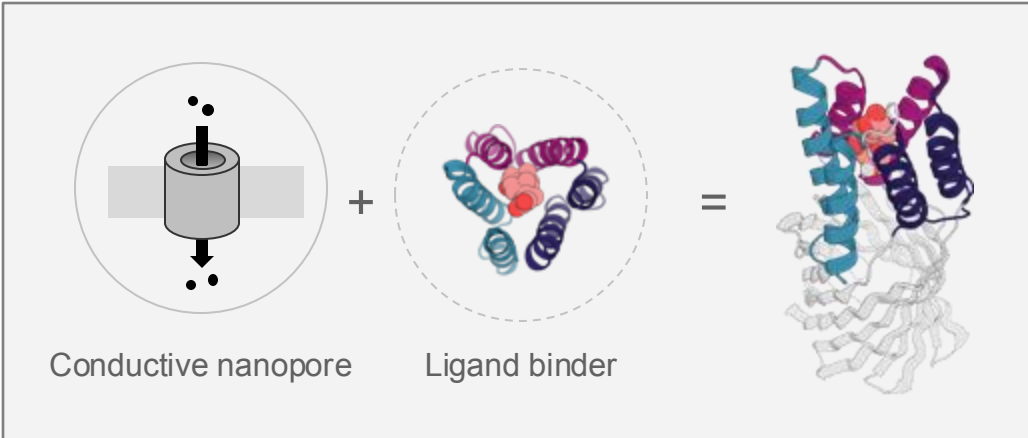
Conductive nanopores



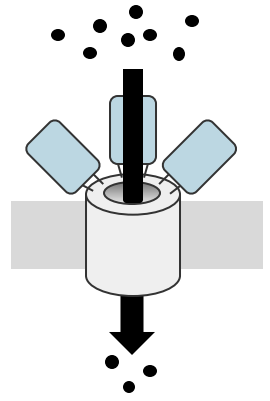
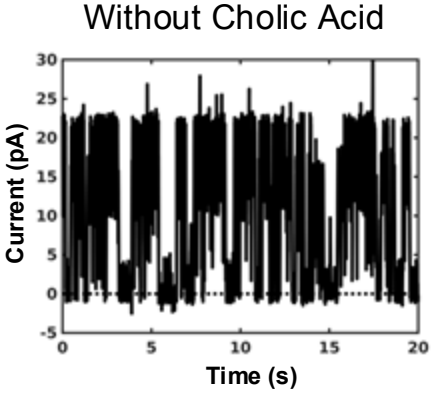
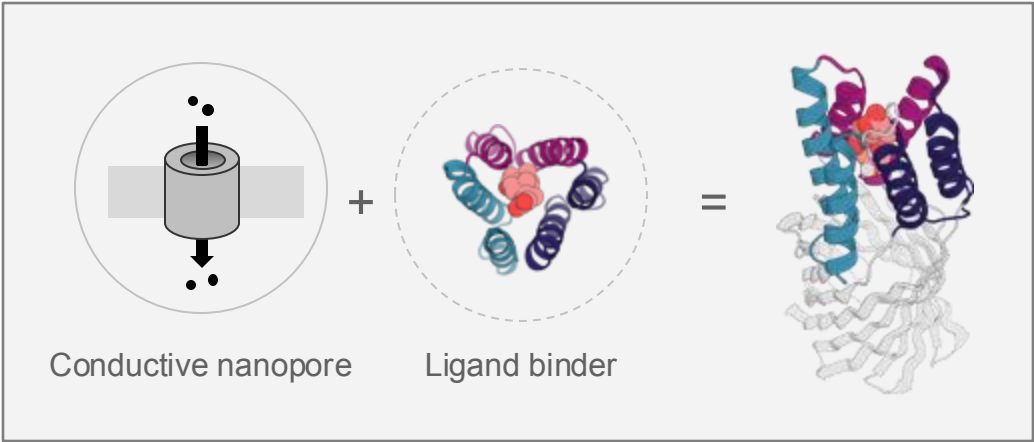
Timepoints

Voltage (mV)

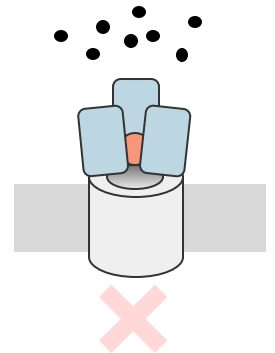
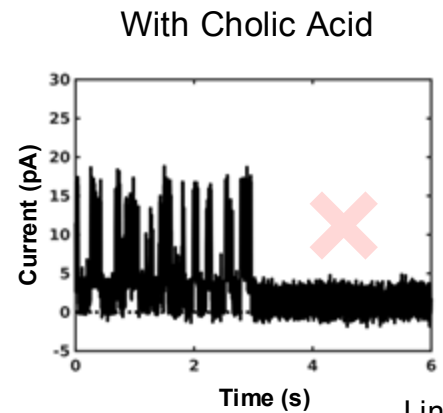
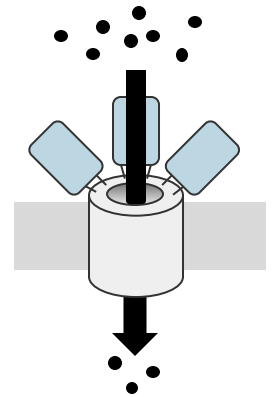
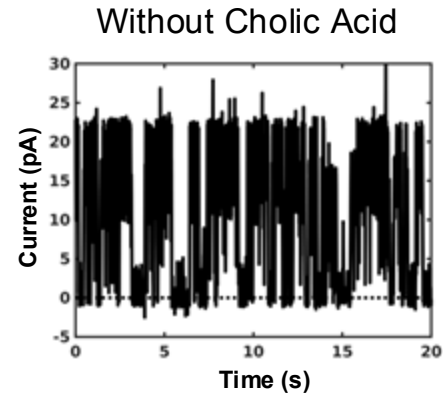
Sensing chemicals



Sensing chemicals

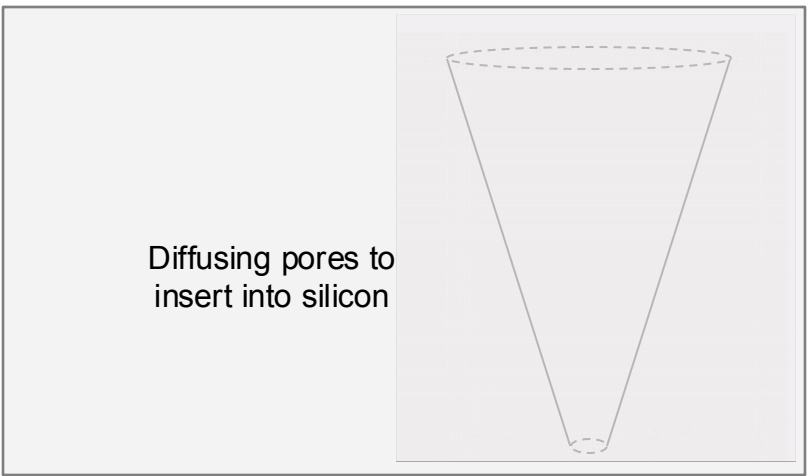
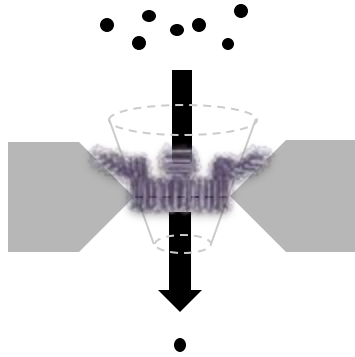
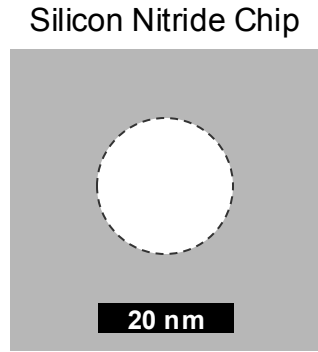


Sensing chemicals





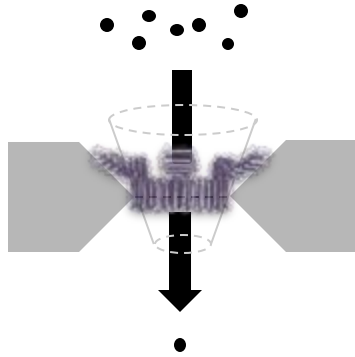
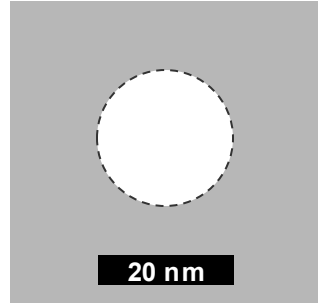
Combining proteins and digital technology



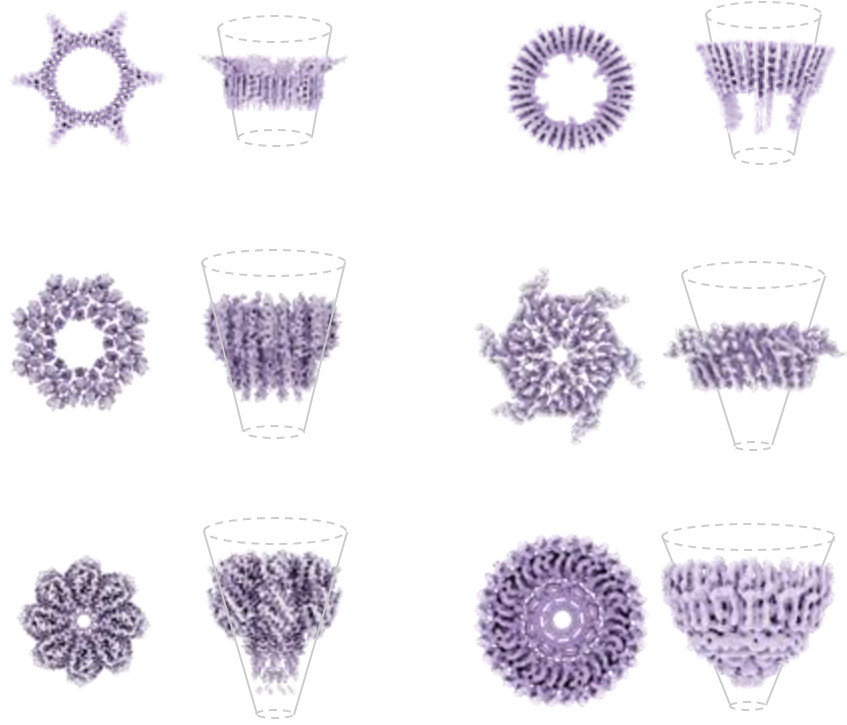


Combining proteins and digital technology

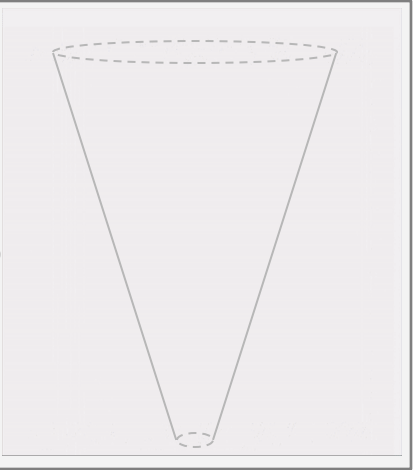
Silicon Nitride Chip



Cryo-EM Structures



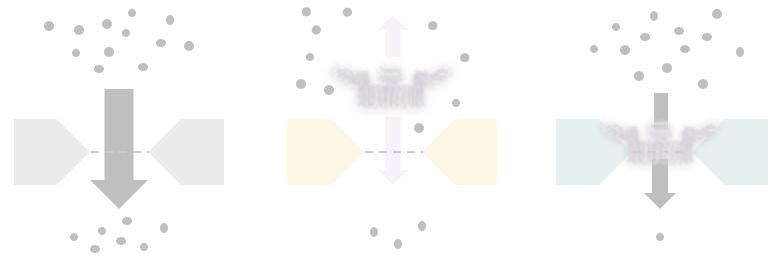
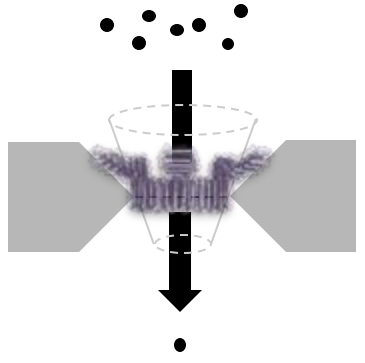
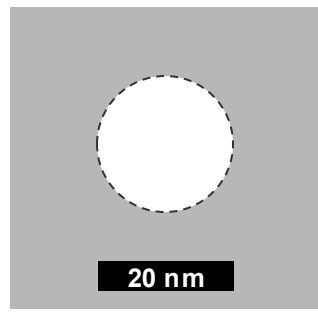
Diffusing pores to insert into silicon





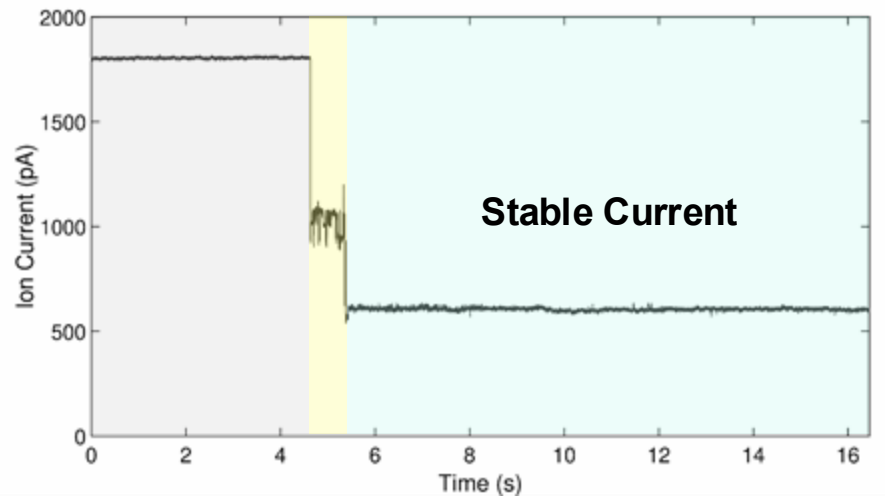
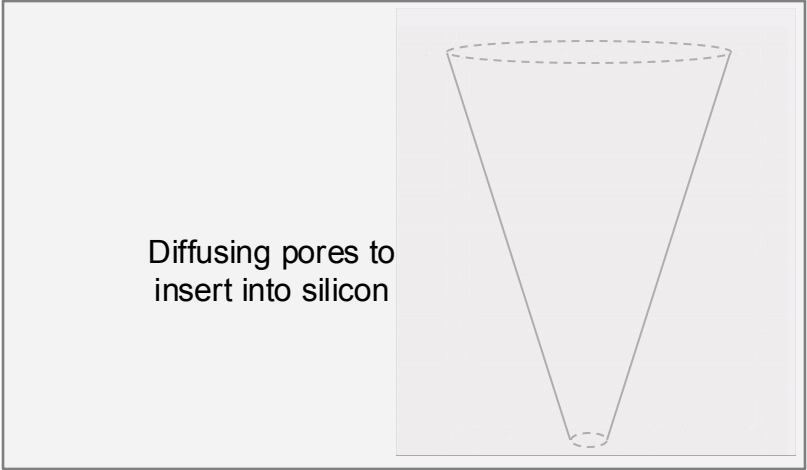
Combining proteins and digital technology

Silicon Nitride Chip

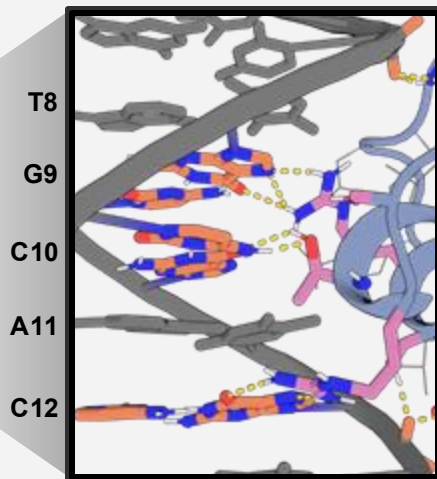
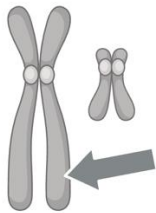


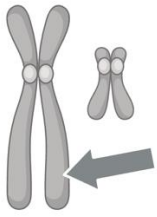
Chip Only

Integrated Protein Pore

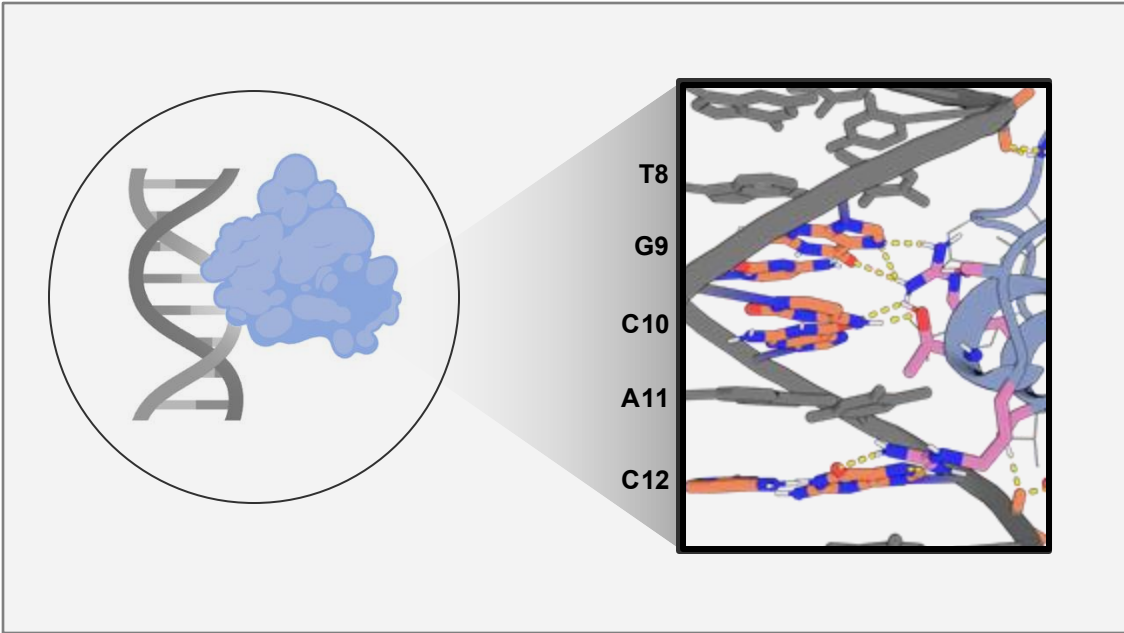


Targeting DNA





Targeting DNA

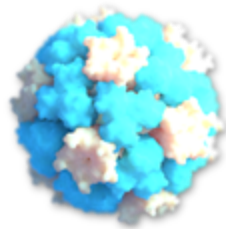


Binding Specificity



First computationally designed protein medicine

2016



Neil King

UW Medicine

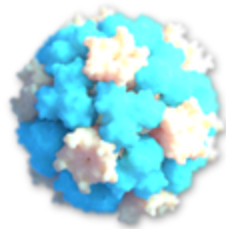
Alexandra Walls, Brooke Fiala, et al. Cell, 2020

Alexandra Walls, et al. Cell, 2021

designed by King and Veessler Labs (UW Medicine)

First computationally designed protein medicine

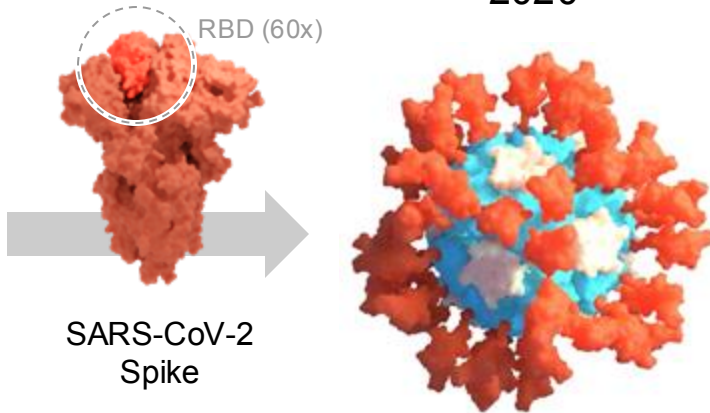
2016



Neil King

UW Medicine

2020

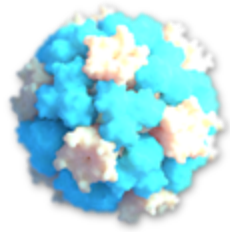


Alexandra Walls, Brooke Fiala, et al. Cell, 2020

Alexandra Walls, et al. Cell, 2021

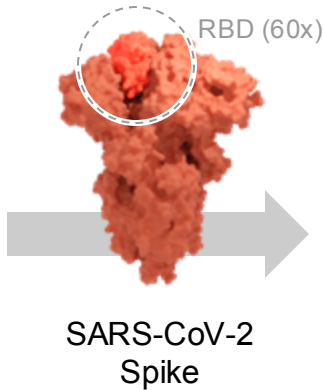
First computationally designed protein medicine

2016

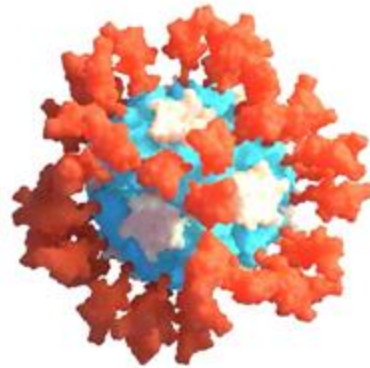


Neil King

UW Medicine



2020



2022

SKYCovione™ COVID-19 vaccine
approved in U.K. & South Korea

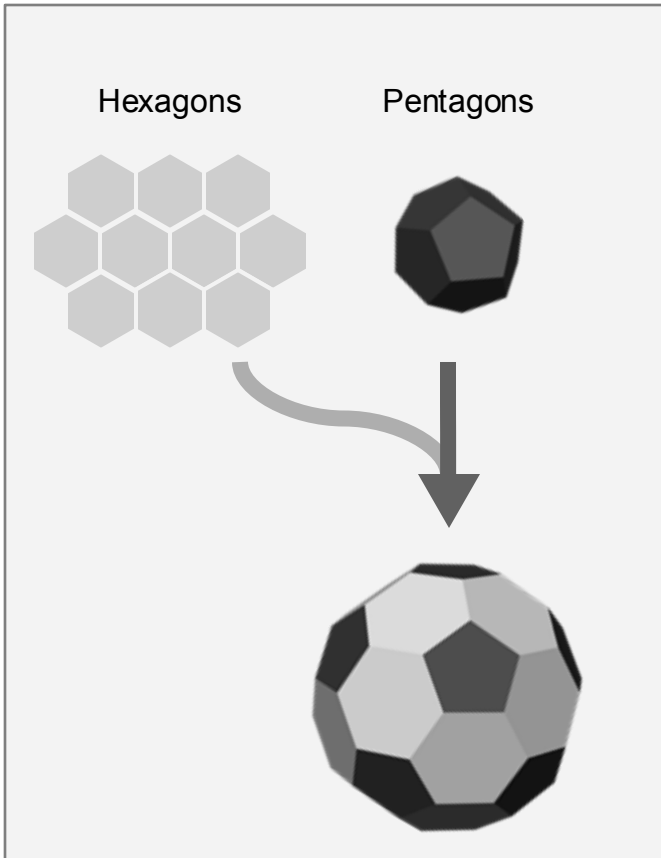


image: SK Bioscience

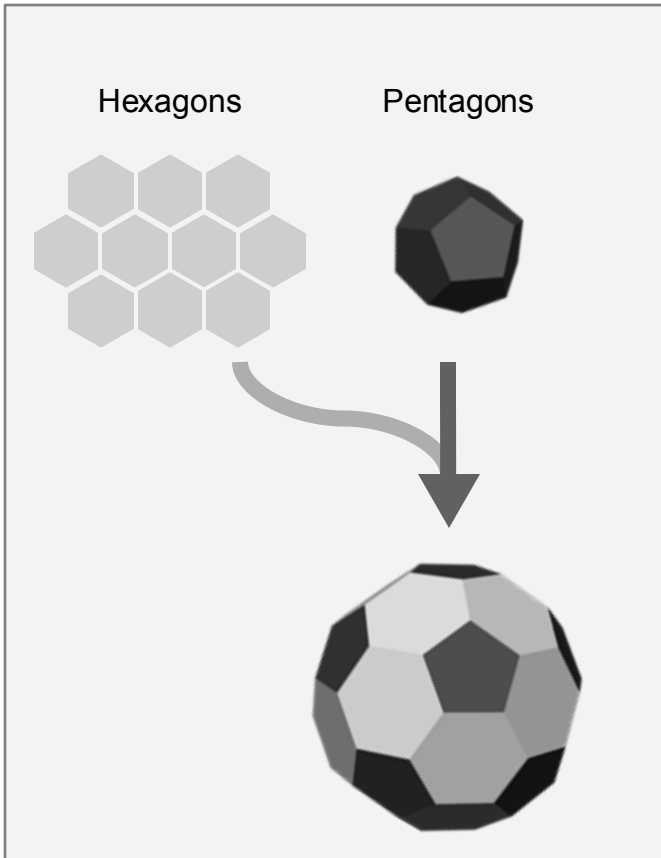
Alexandra Walls, Brooke Fiala, et al. Cell, 2020

Alexandra Walls, et al. Cell, 2021

Larger containers through symmetry breaking

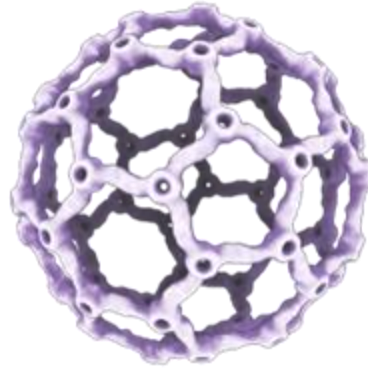


Larger containers through symmetry breaking



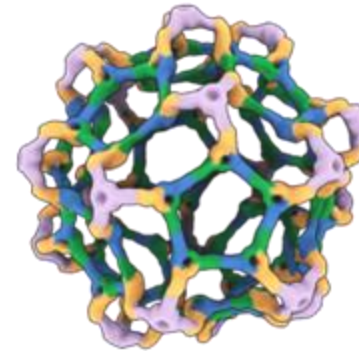
Cryo-EM Structures

Quasisymmetry



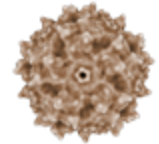
1 unique protein,
180 chains

Pseudosymmetry



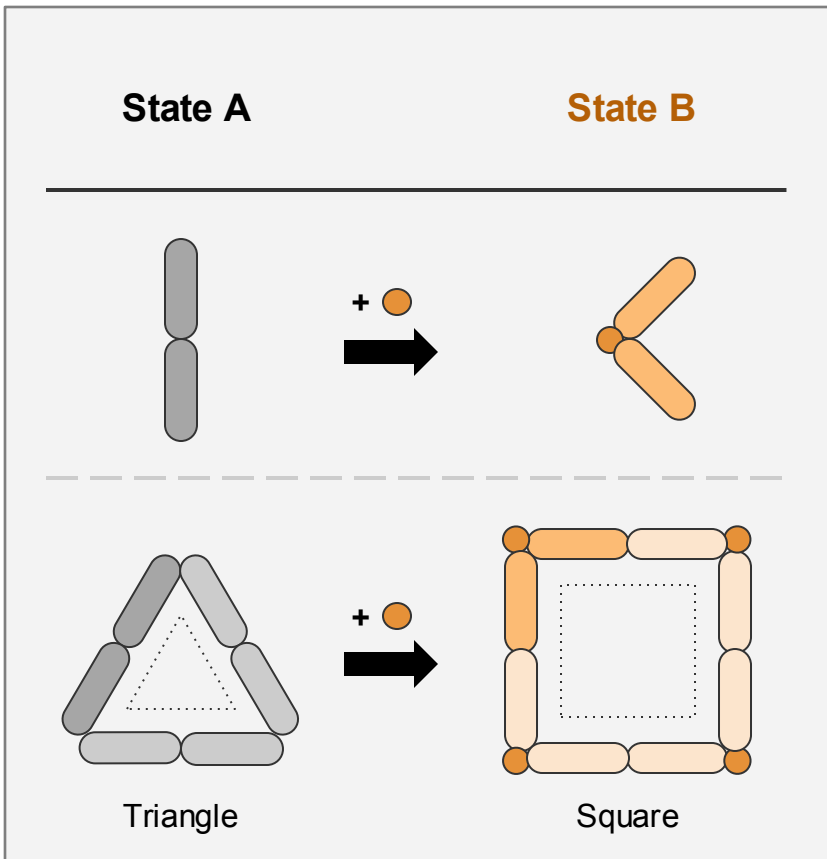
4 unique proteins,
240 chains

AAV
For Scale

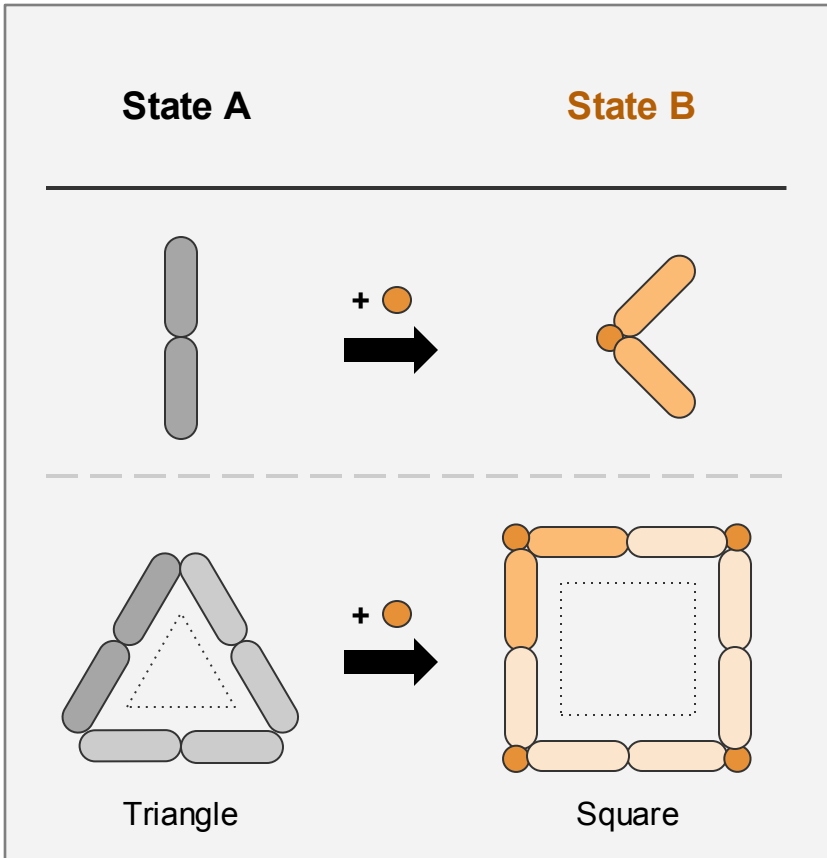


20 nm

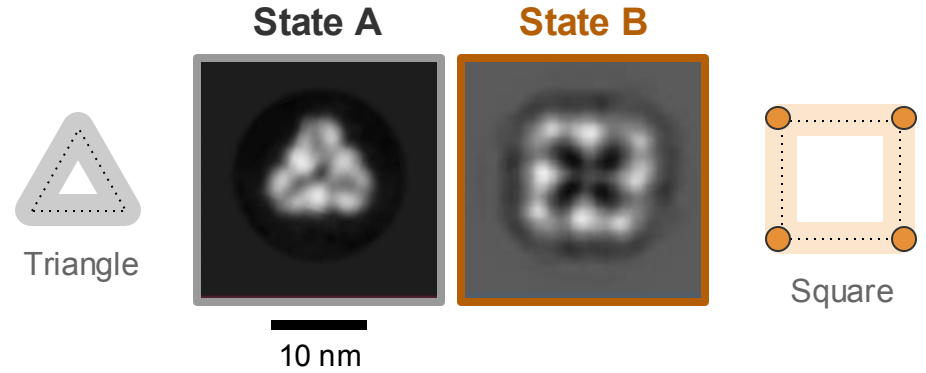
Molecular switches



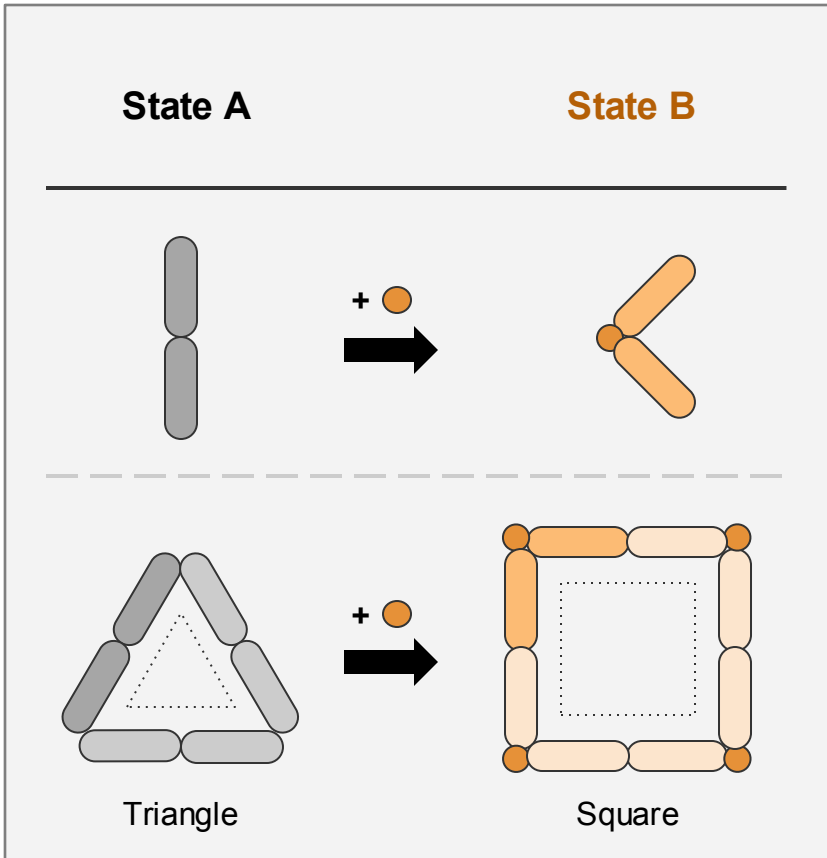
Molecular switches



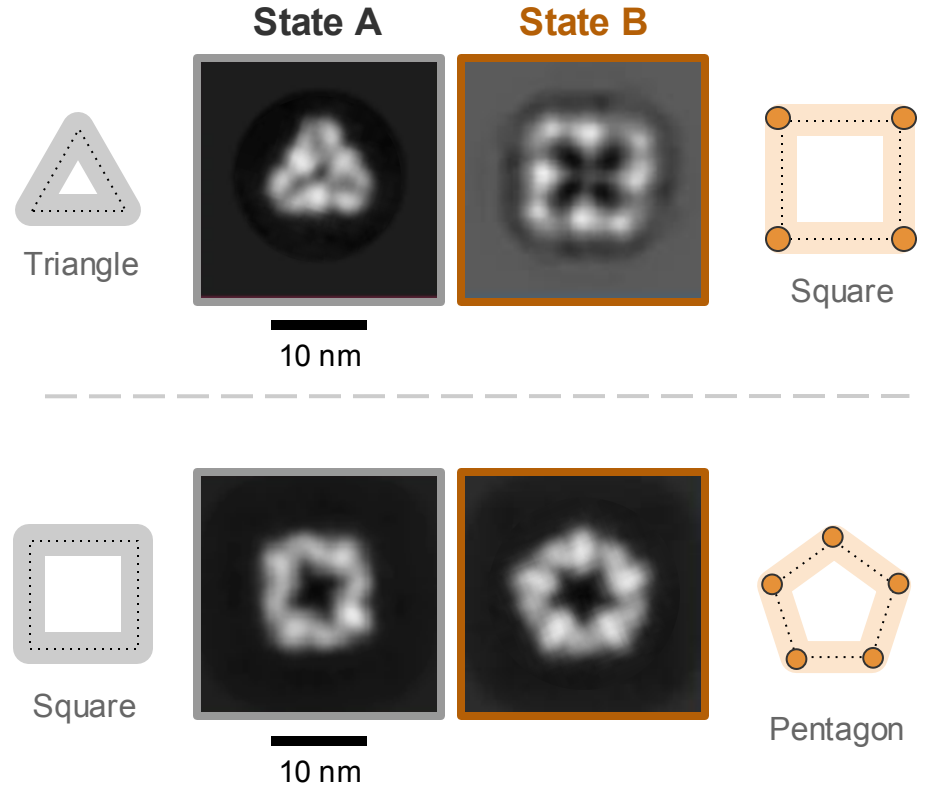
Electron Micrograph



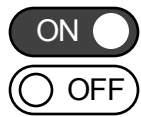
Molecular switches



Electron Micrograph



Controllable immunotherapies



Begin Treatment

Add Medicine

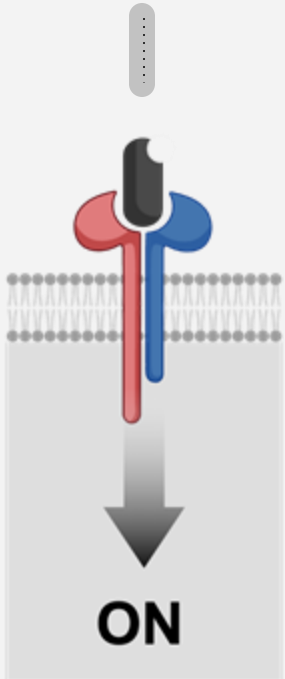
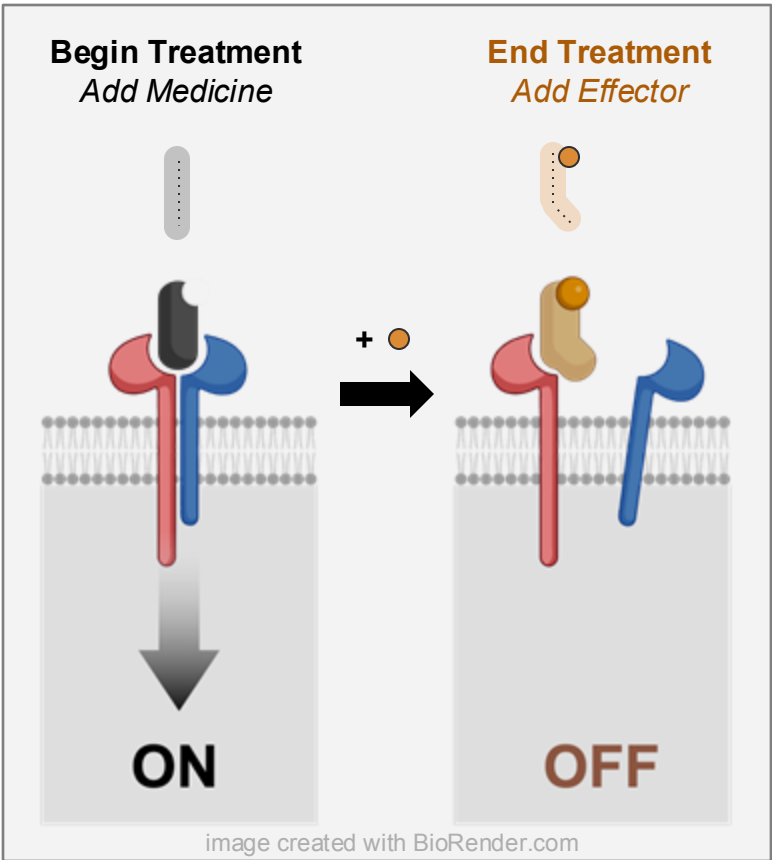
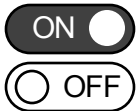


image created with BioRender.com

Controllable immunotherapies

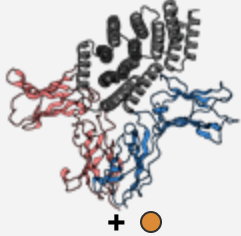


Controllable immunotherapies



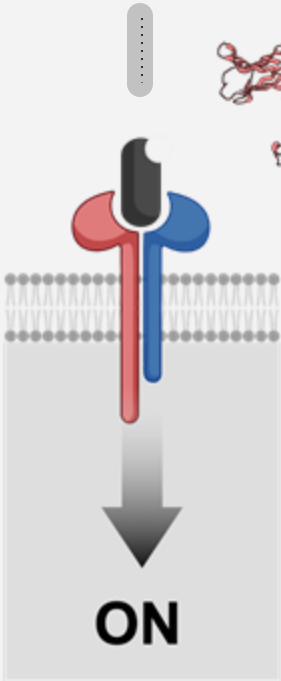
Begin Treatment

Add Medicine

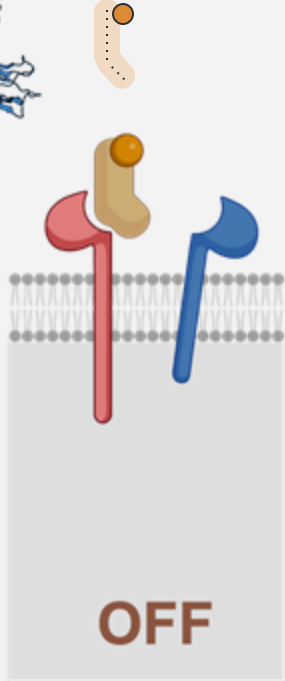


End Treatment

Add Effector



ON



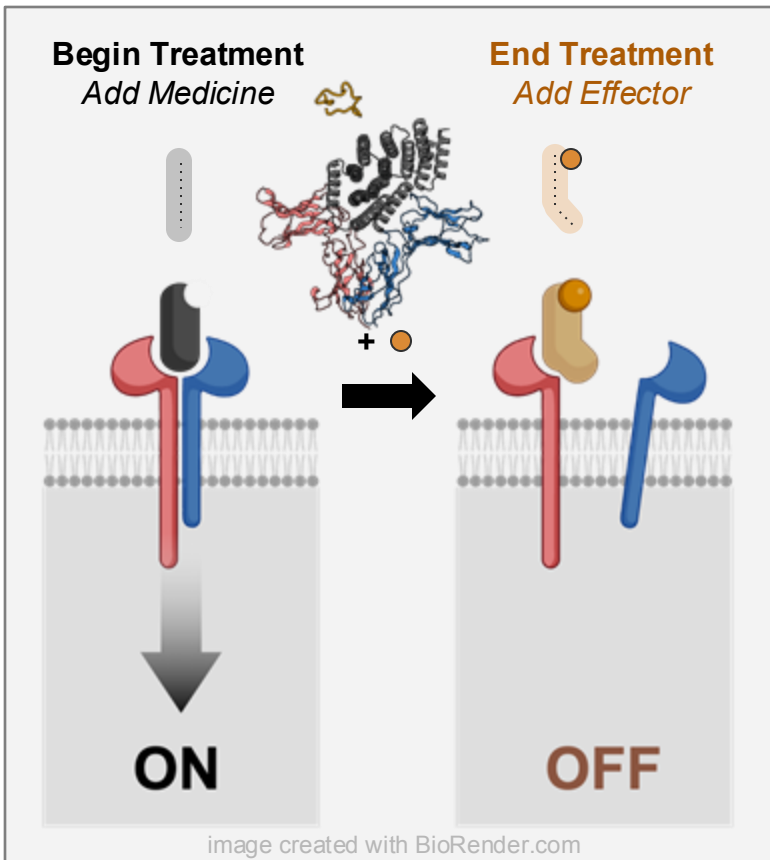
OFF

image created with BioRender.com

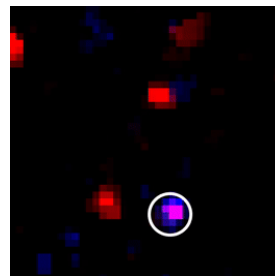
ON

OFF

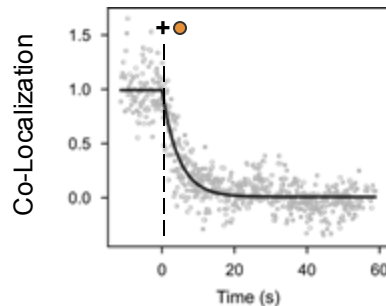
Controllable immunotherapies



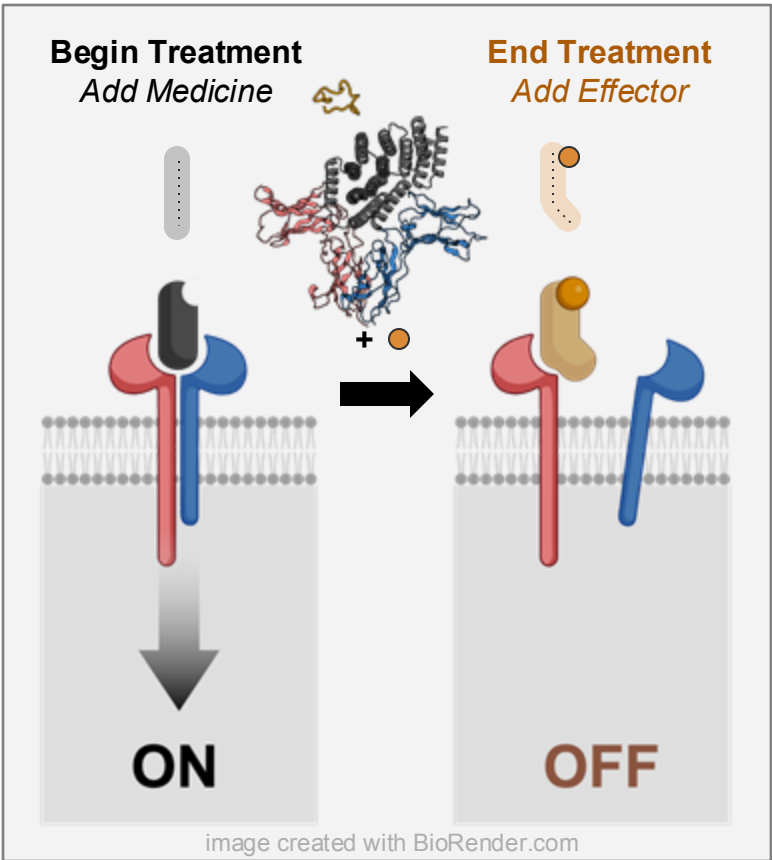
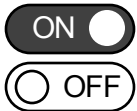
Observed Co-Localization



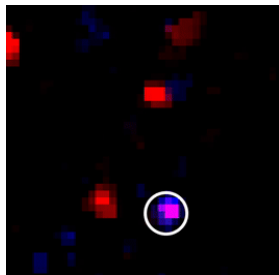
- Receptor 1 (IL-2R β)
- Receptor 2 (Common γ)



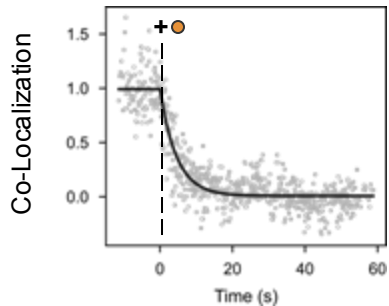
Controllable immunotherapies



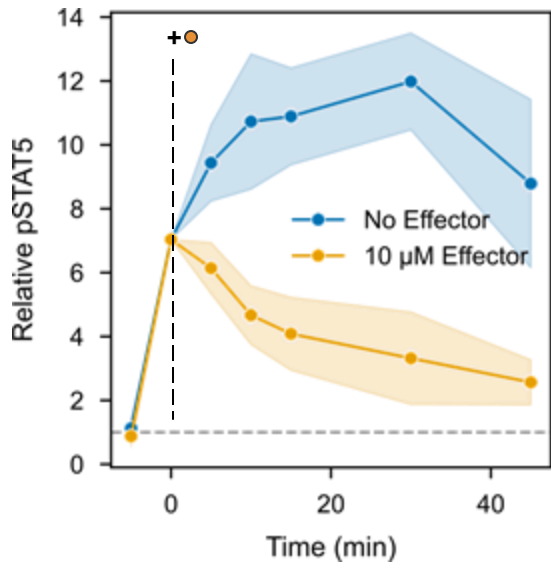
Observed Co-Localization



- Receptor 1 (IL-2R β)
- Receptor 2 (Common γ)



Cell Signaling



Medicine



Technology

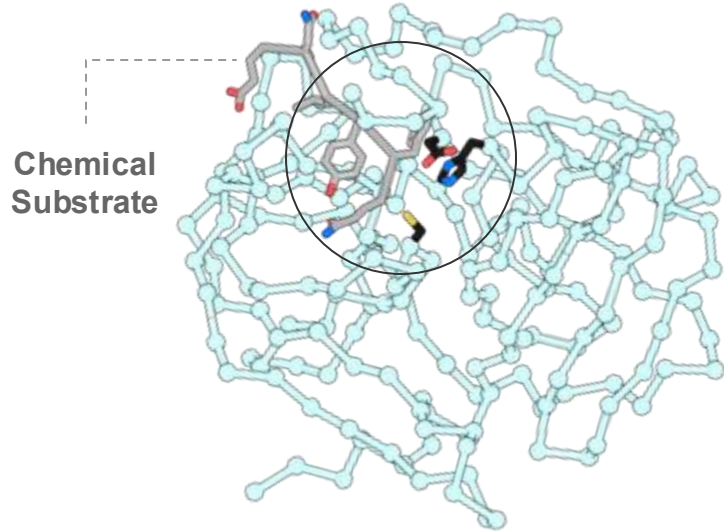


Sustainability

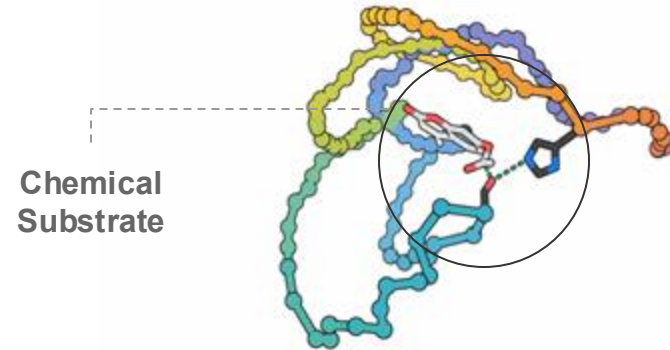


Custom catalysts

Natural Enzyme



Designed Enzyme

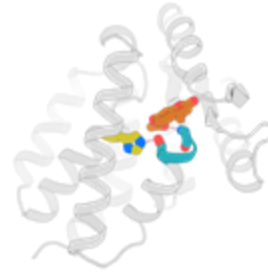
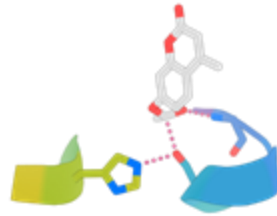


Building up new enzymes

1

Ser-His dyad

Oxyanion contacts: 1



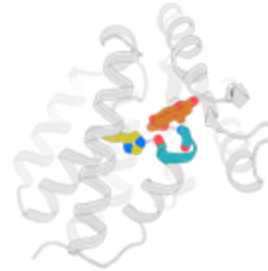
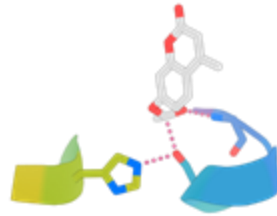
Inactive

Building up new enzymes

1

Ser-His dyad

Oxyanion contacts: 1

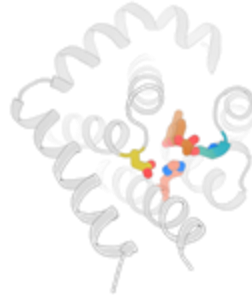


Inactive

2

Ser-His-Asp triad

Oxyanion contacts: 1



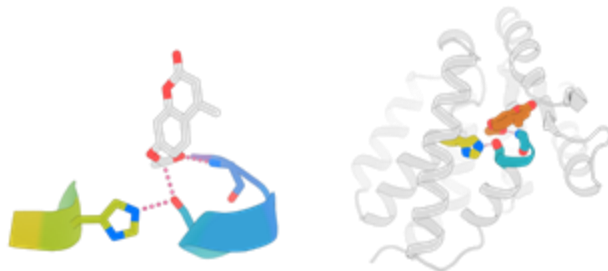
Works once... then stuck

Building up new enzymes

1

Ser-His dyad

Oxyanion contacts: 1

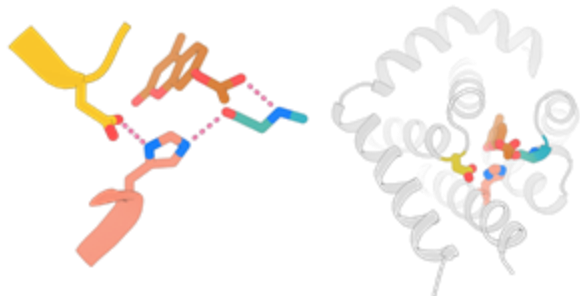


Inactive

2

Ser-His-Asp triad

Oxyanion contacts: 1

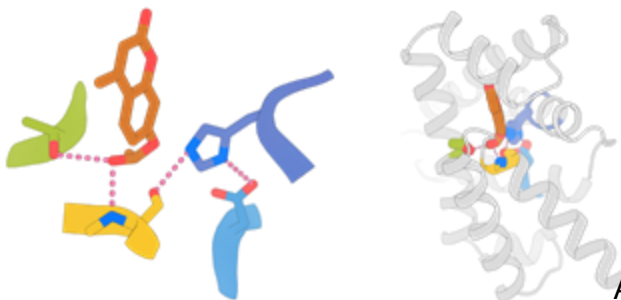


Works once... then stuck

3

Ser-His-Asp triad

Oxyanion contacts: 2

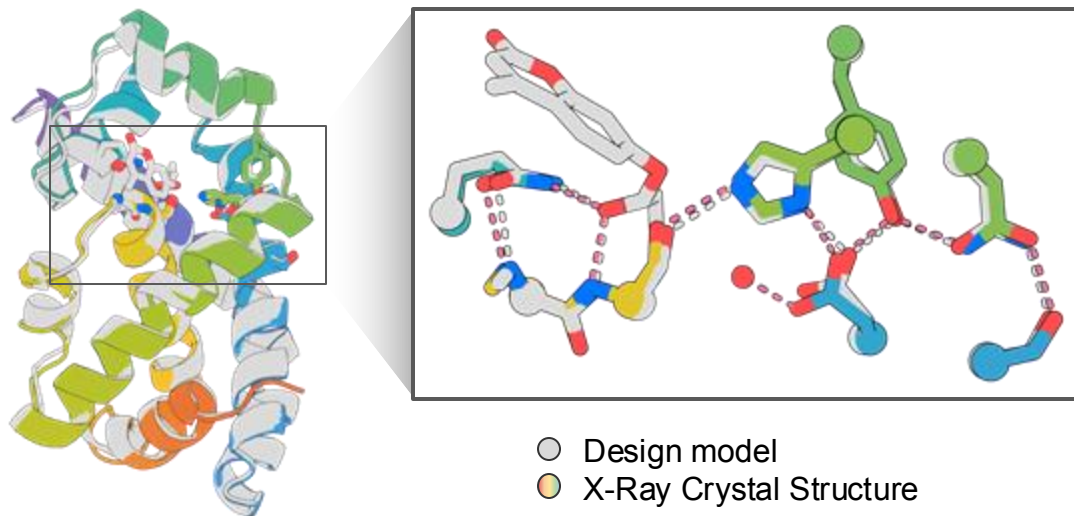


Active!

$$\frac{k_{\text{cat}}}{K_{\text{M}}}$$

3,800 M⁻¹ s⁻¹

Building up new enzymes



3

Ser-His-Asp triad
Oxyanion contacts: 2

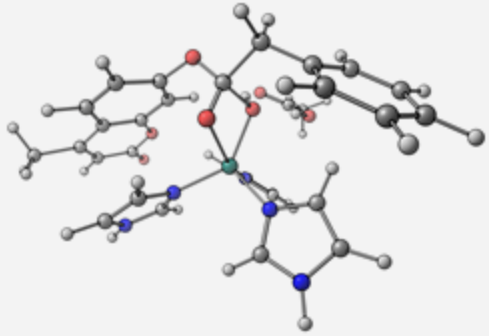


Active!

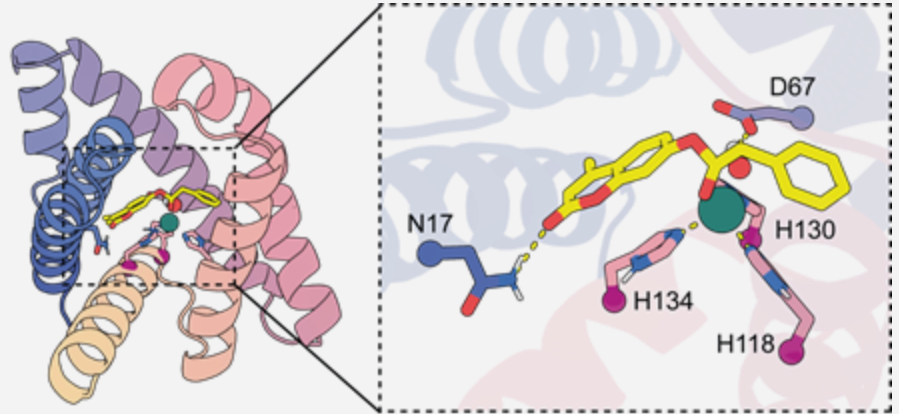
$k_{\text{cat}}/K_{\text{M}}$
3,800 M⁻¹ s⁻¹



Using metal to break chemical bonds

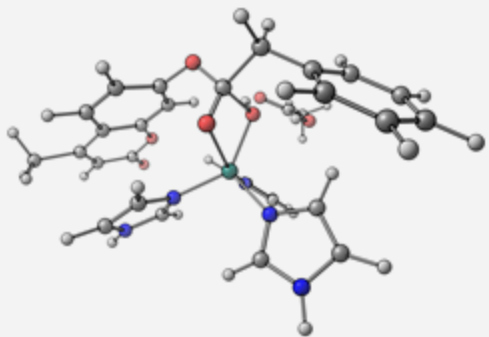


Start from quantum chemistry calculation

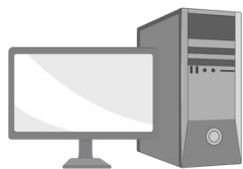
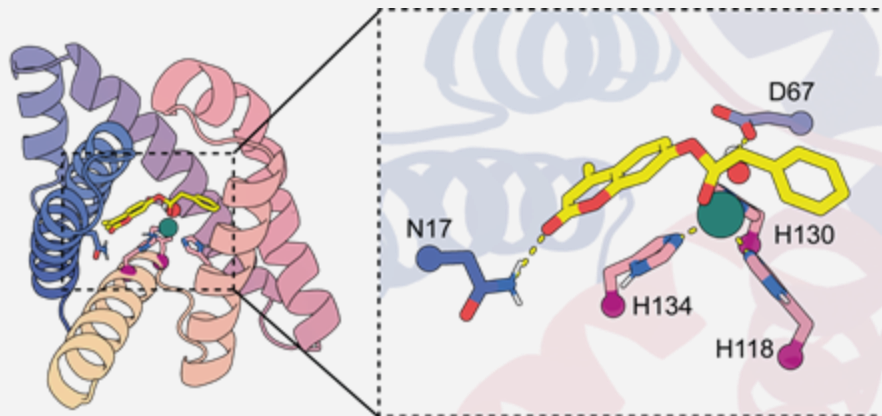




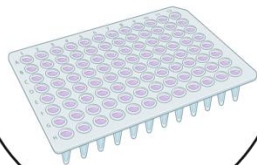
Using metal to break chemical bonds



Start from quantum chemistry calculation

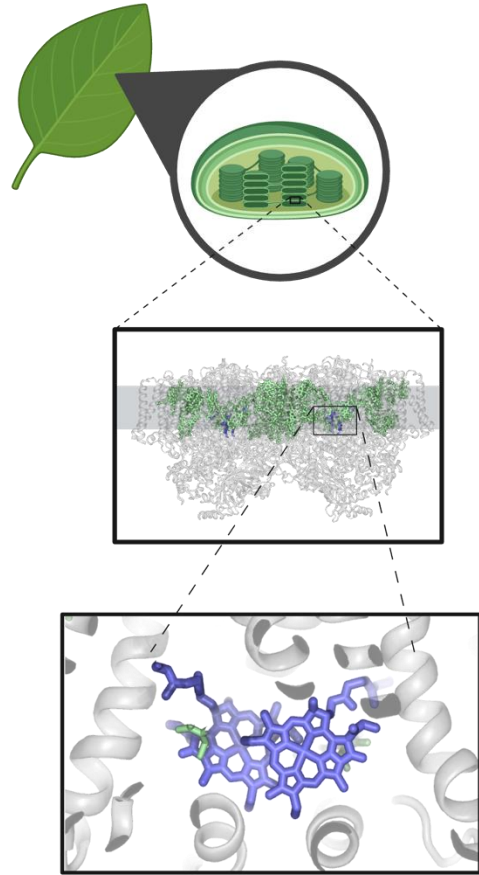


96



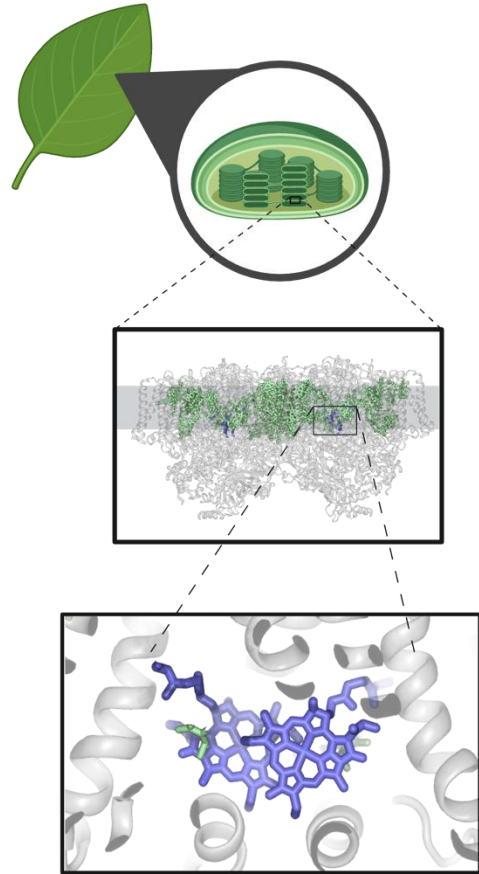
$23,000 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$
 k_{cat}/K_M

Harvesting sunlight

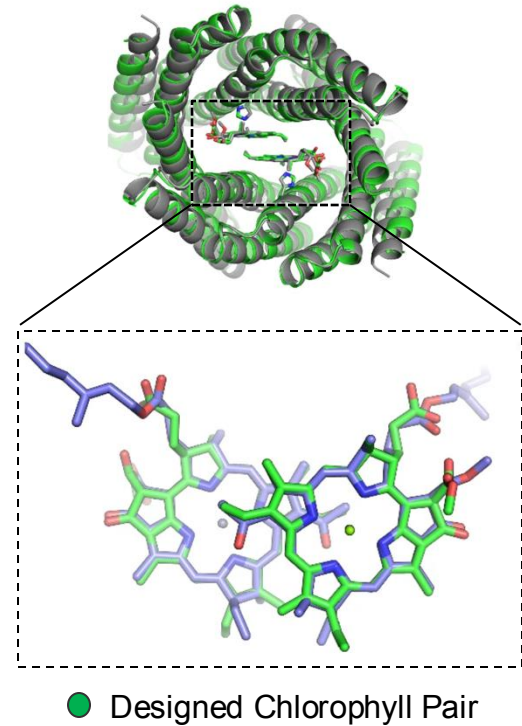


● Natural Chlorophyll Pair

Harvesting sunlight

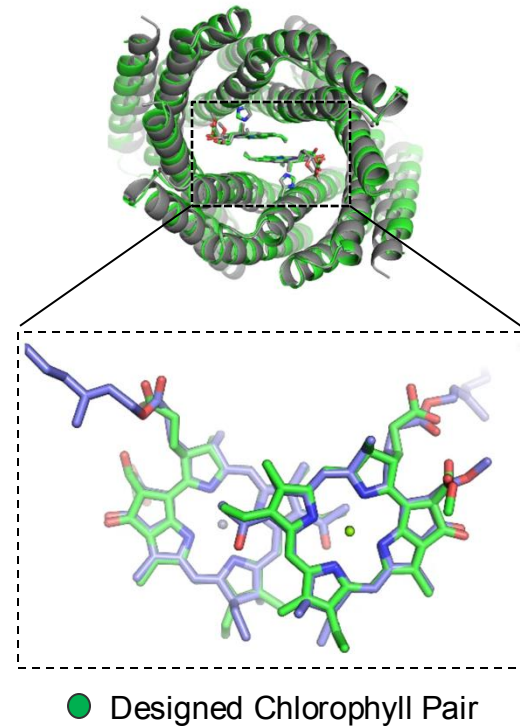
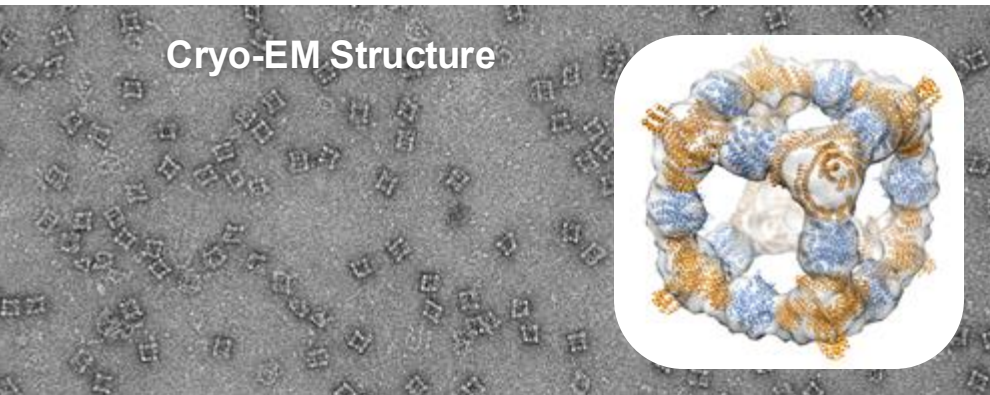
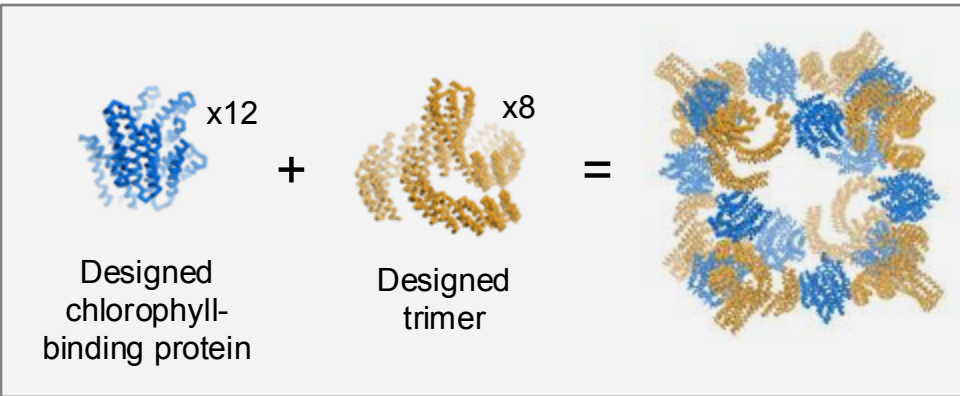


● Natural Chlorophyll Pair

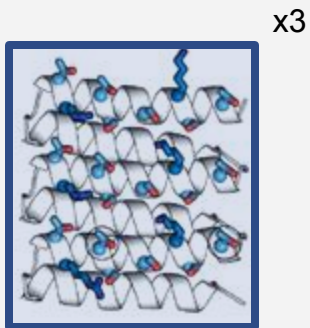


● Designed Chlorophyll Pair

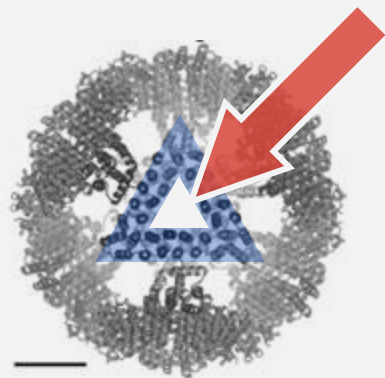
Harvesting sunlight



Growing semiconductors

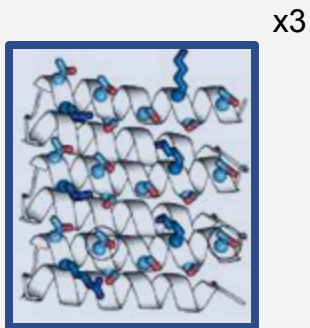


Zinc Oxide
Template

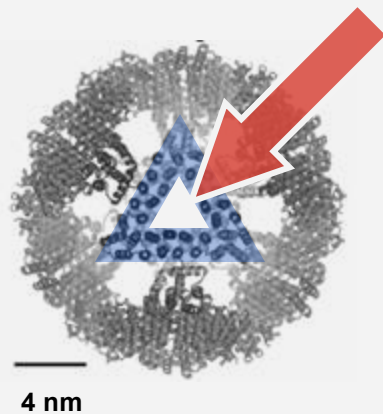


4 nm

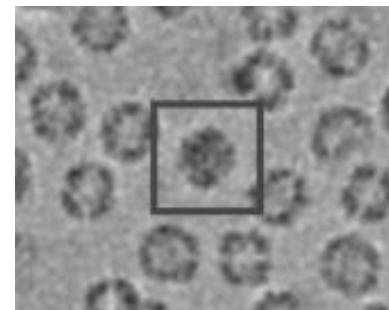
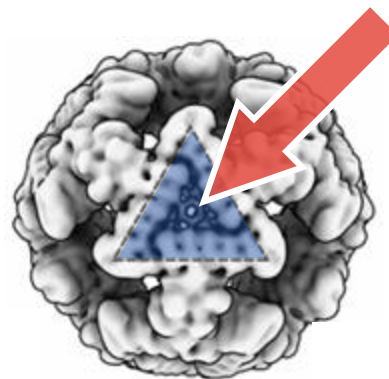
Growing semiconductors



Zinc Oxide
Template



Cryo-EM Structure
with Zinc Oxide



A whole new world of designed proteins

Medicine

Pandemic Preparedness

Cancer & Immunotherapy

Neurodegeneration

Technology

Chemical Sensors

Bio-Electronic Devices

Drug Delivery

Sustainability

Breaking Down Plastic

Artificial Photosynthesis

Nanoscale Manufacturing

