



# **Multi-scale approaches in description and design of enzymes**

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*UCLA & CNSI*

## Strategy for enzyme design

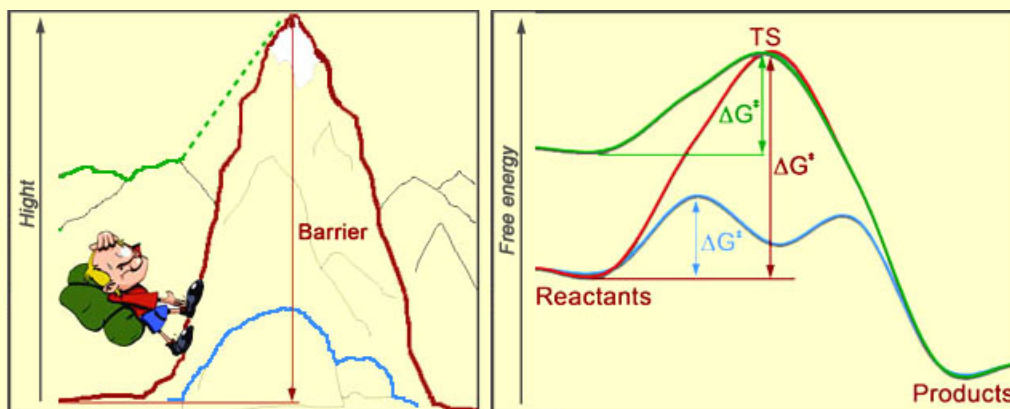
Test case: Kemp elimination

Mechanism, performance

Deducing design strategies

Our current push

# Catalysis: it is all about the barrier



## Strategy for enzyme design

Test case: Kemp elimination

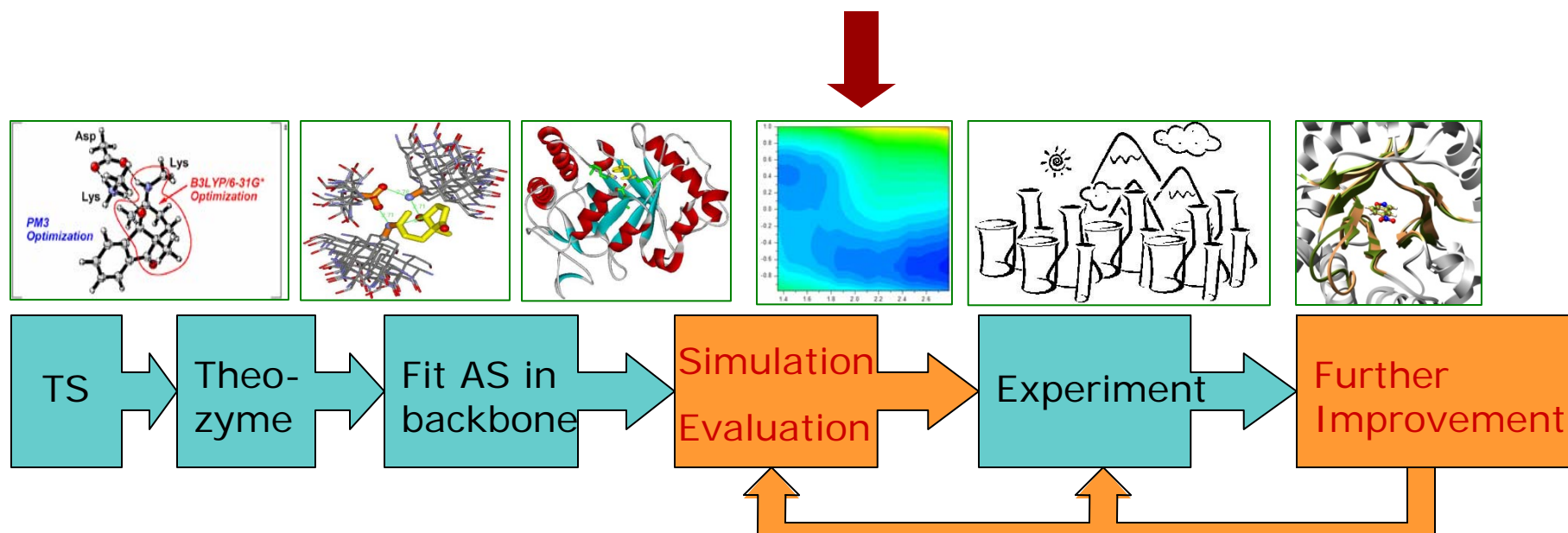
Mechanism, performance

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Our current push

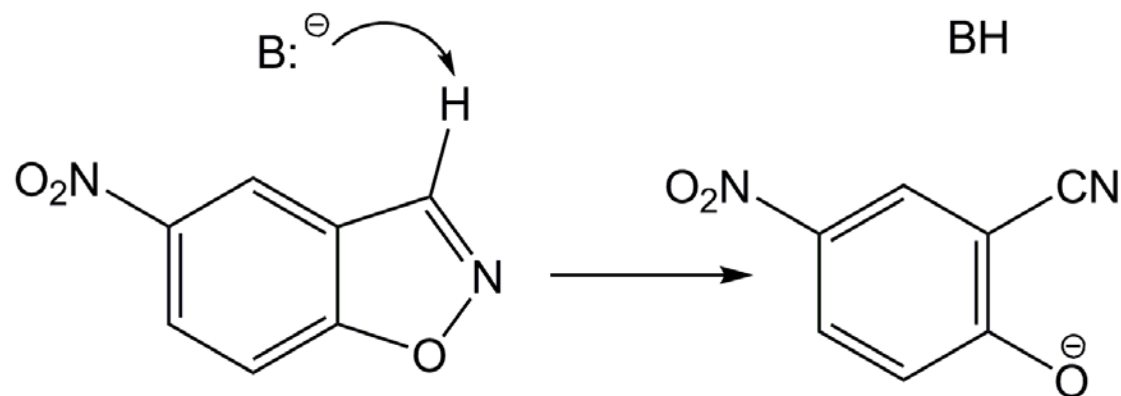
# The “inside-out” protocol:

**Big Aim:** development of an efficient protocol for the design of artificial enzymes catalyzing any reaction of interest



Strategy for enzyme design  
**Test case: Kemp elimination**  
Mechanism, performance  
Deducing design strategies  
Our current push

# Test reaction: Kemp elimination



Strategy for enzyme design  
*Test case: Kemp elimination*

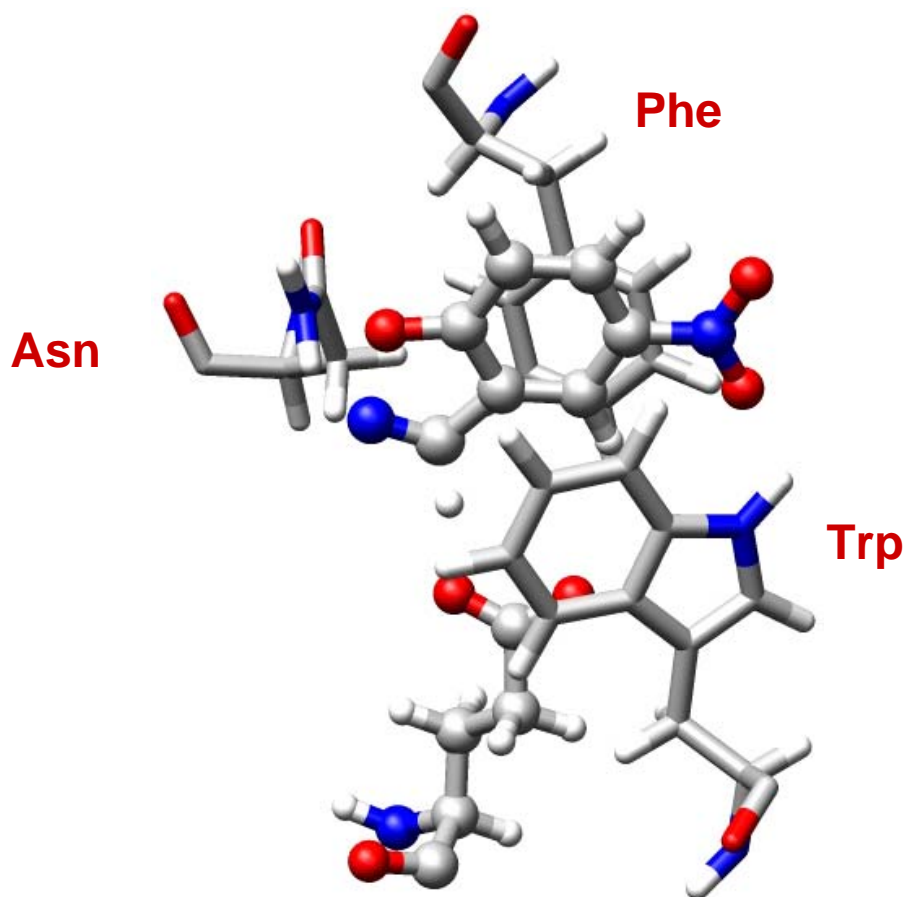
Mechanism, performance

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# Inside-out design of enzymes

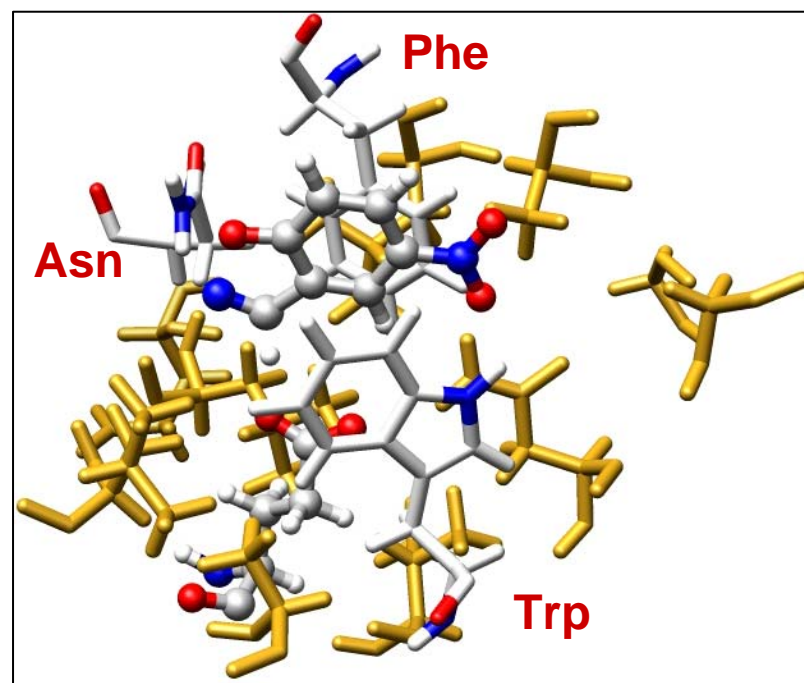
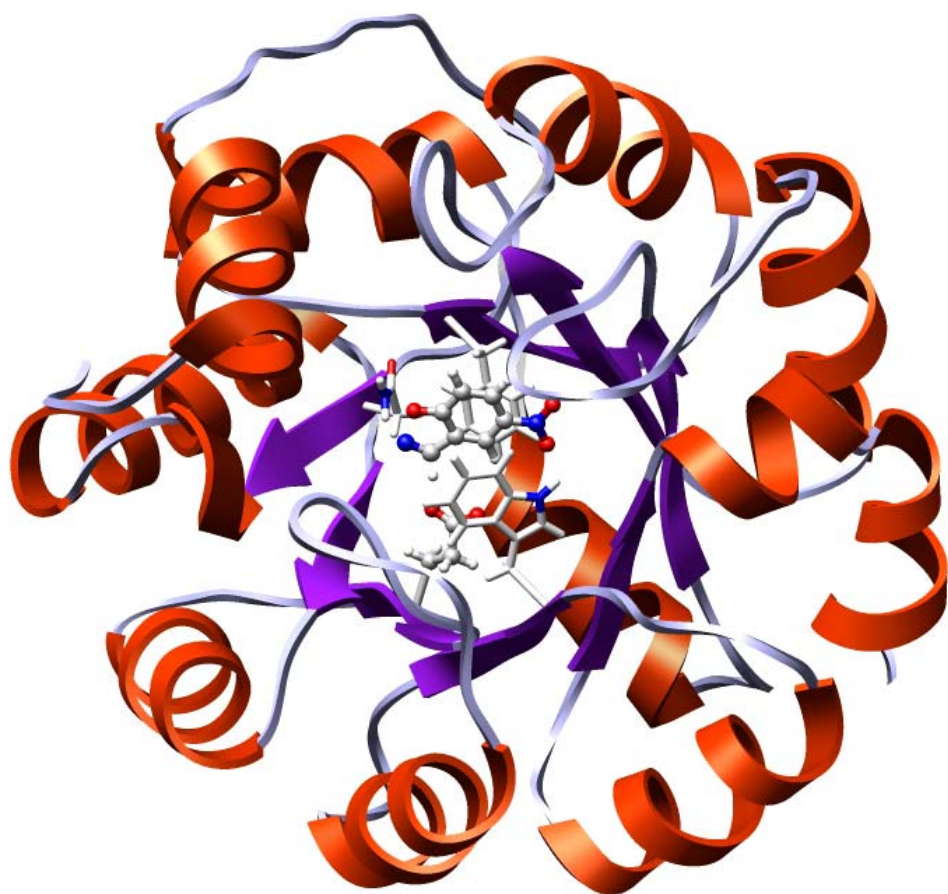
## 4. Stabilize the TS via hydrogen bond to O<sup>-</sup>



Strategy for enzyme design  
*Test case: Kemp elimination*  
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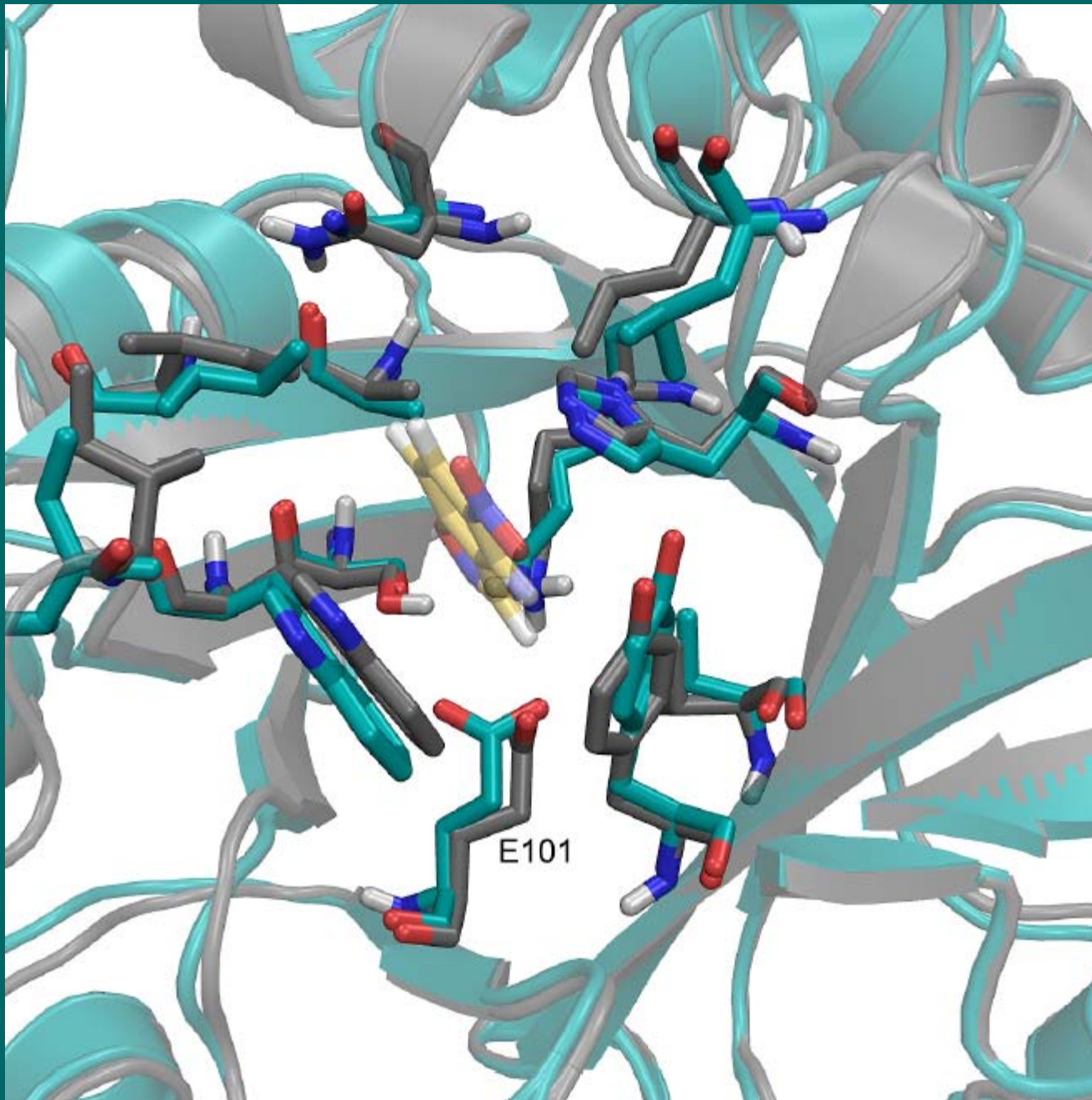
# Inside-out design of enzymes

Raw design. Testing, evaluation, and improvement are to follow.



*Yellow stuff: Leu, Ile, Val, Ala, Gly*

KE07: crystal structure (cyan) vs. design (grey).  $\text{RMSD}_{\text{backbone}} = 0.32\text{\AA}$ ,  $\text{RMSD}_{\text{overall}} = 0.95\text{\AA}$

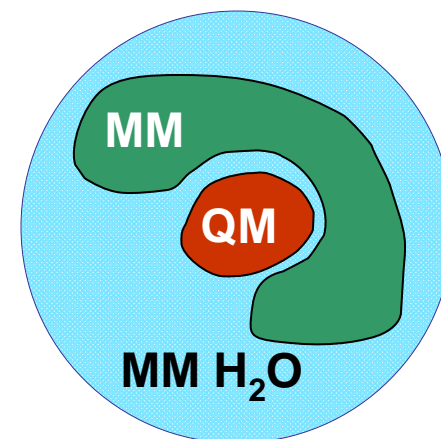


Strategy for enzyme design  
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# Testing: QM/MM Monte Carlo

## System:

chopped protein (ca. 300 residues)  
22 Å TIP4P water cap: (400-500 water molecules)  
QM-region: the substrate and the base  
MM-region: the rest of the protein and solvent



## QM/MM Metropolis Monte Carlo at 25°C and 1 atm:

5 M solvent equilibration, 10 M full eq., 25 M sampling

## Degrees of freedom:

QM-region - bond lengths, angles, dihedrals  
MM-protein - angles and dihedrals  
Solvent - translations and rotations

## QM: PDDG-PM3 - Pair-wise Distance Directed Gaussian

(A single small Gaussian function is added to pair-wise core repulsion function)

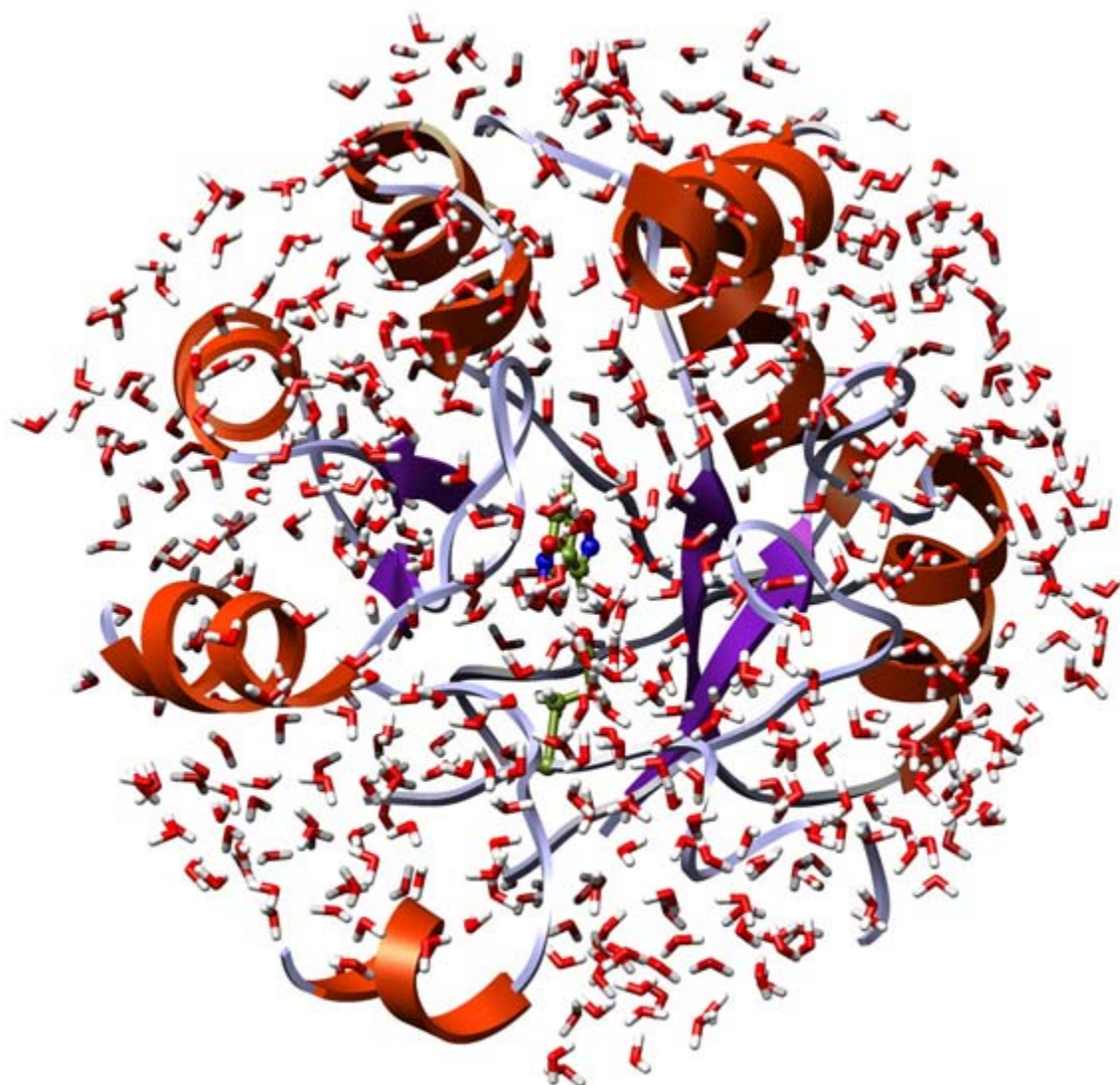
$$\underbrace{U_{ss}, U_{pp}, \beta_s, \beta_p, \zeta_s, \zeta_p}_{\text{MNDO}}, \underbrace{\alpha, a_1, b_1, c_1, a_2, b_2, c_2}_{\text{PM3}}, \underbrace{P_1, P_2, D_1, D_2}_{\text{PDDG}}$$

## MM: OPLS-force field

QM-MM interface: link atom approach, CM charges for Coulomb, and LJ

Strategy for enzyme design  
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**Mechanism, performance**  
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# System prepared for simulations:

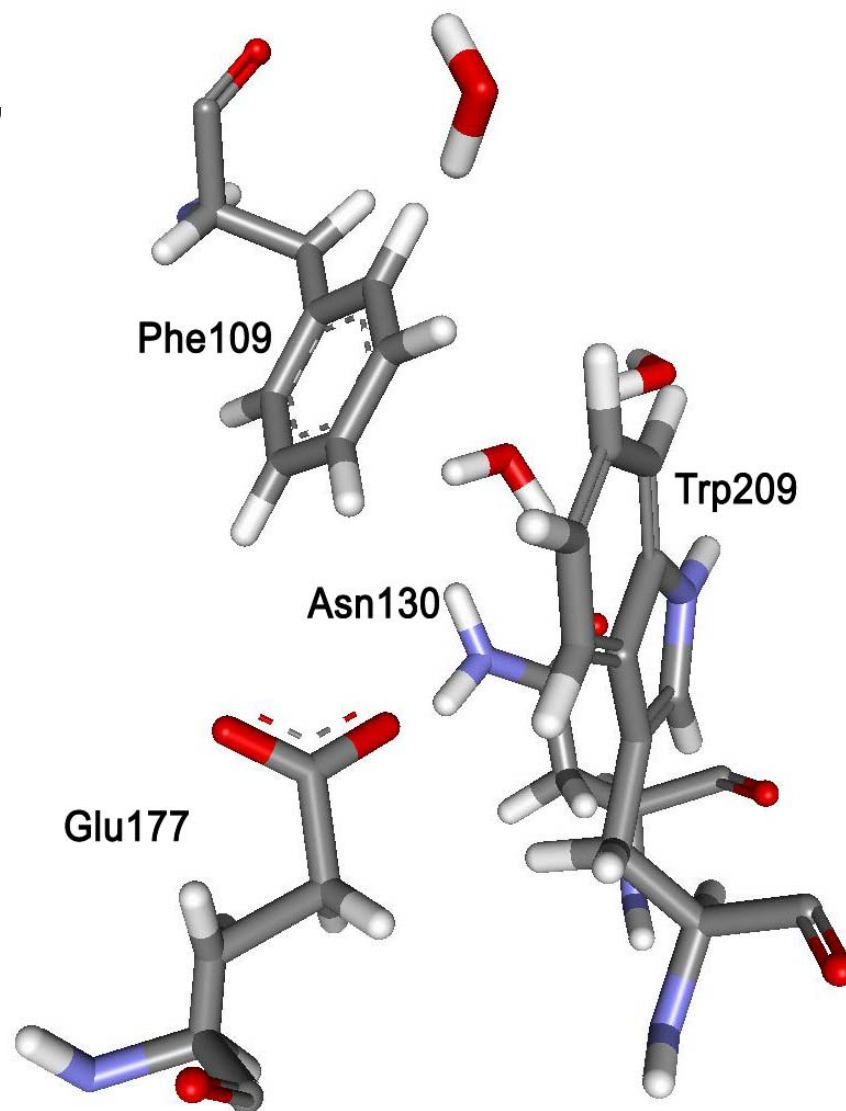


Alexandrova et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 130 (2008), 15907-15915.

Strategy for enzyme design  
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# QM/MM MC relaxation without the substrate

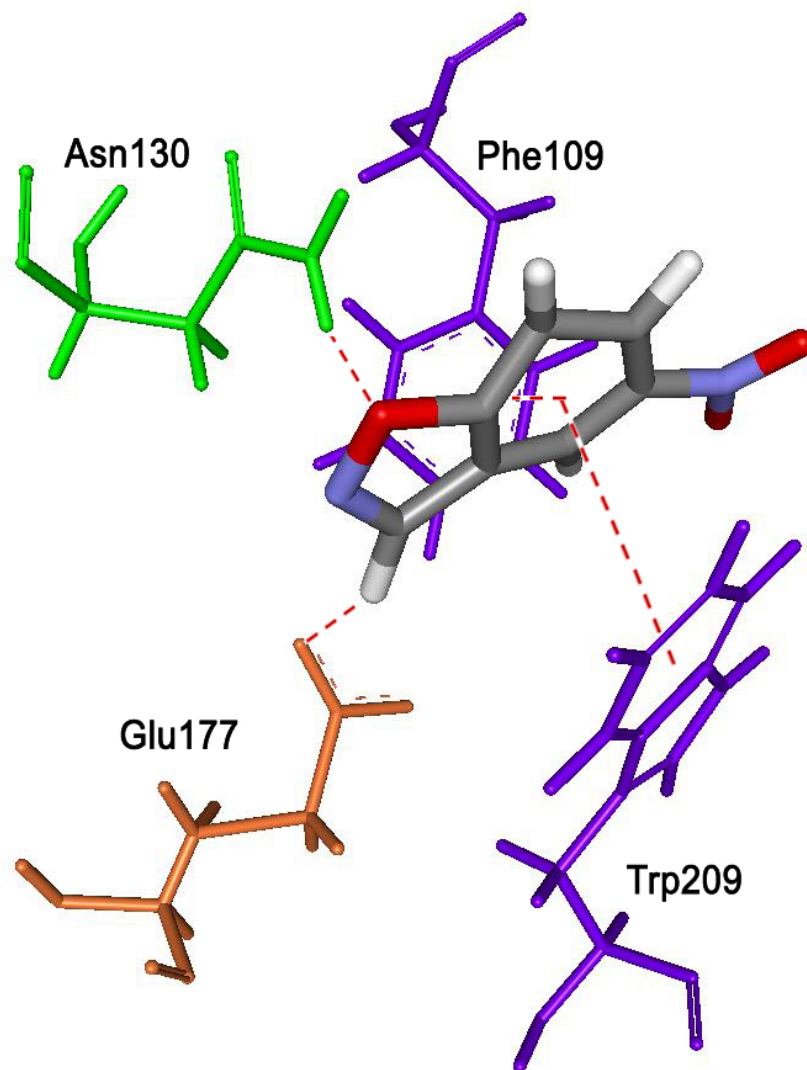
- 1) The base, Glu177 is properly positioned, isolated from the solvent, not forming any salt bridges
- 2) There is space for the substrate
- 3) All other residues are in correct orientations



Strategy for enzyme design  
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# QM/MM MC relaxation with the substrate

- 1)  $\pi$ -stacking is present
- 2) Glu177- correct protonation state
- 3) Asn130 interacts with O
- 4) No water at the reaction site



Strategy for enzyme design  
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# Free Energy Perturbation for mechanism and rate

## 1. Reaction coordinates:

$R(N-O)$ ,  $\{R(C-H) - R(O-H)\}$

## 2. Drive the reaction along the reaction coordinates: increment of 0.02-0.04 Å

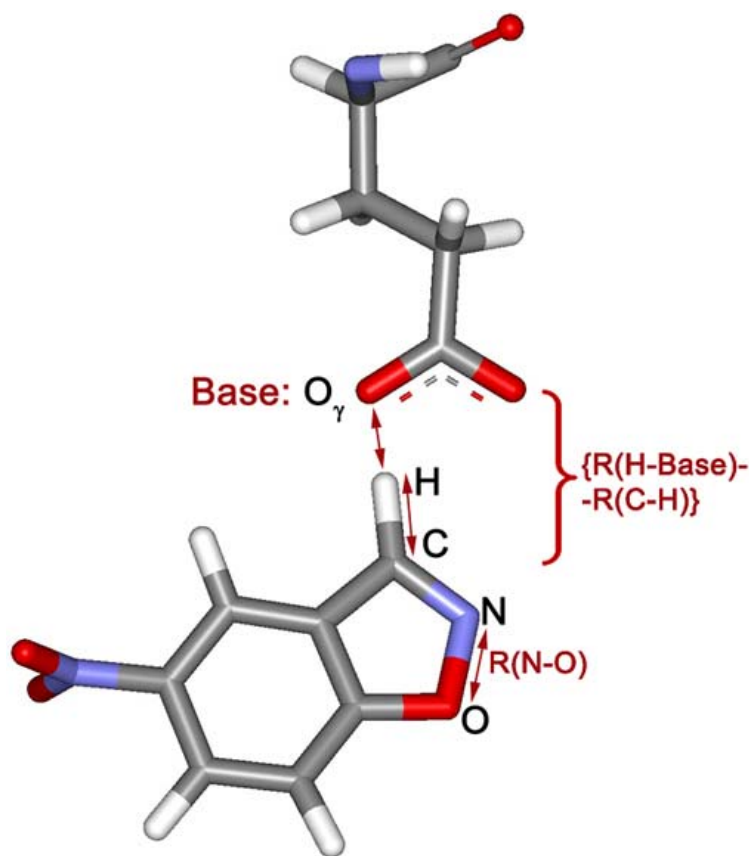
## 3. Compute $\Delta G$ per each step:

$$\Delta G(A \rightarrow B) = G_B - G_A = -k_b T \ln \left\langle \exp \left( -\frac{E_B - E_A}{k_b T} \right) \right\rangle_A$$

$50 \times 10^6$  conf. QM/MM Monte Carlo at each step.

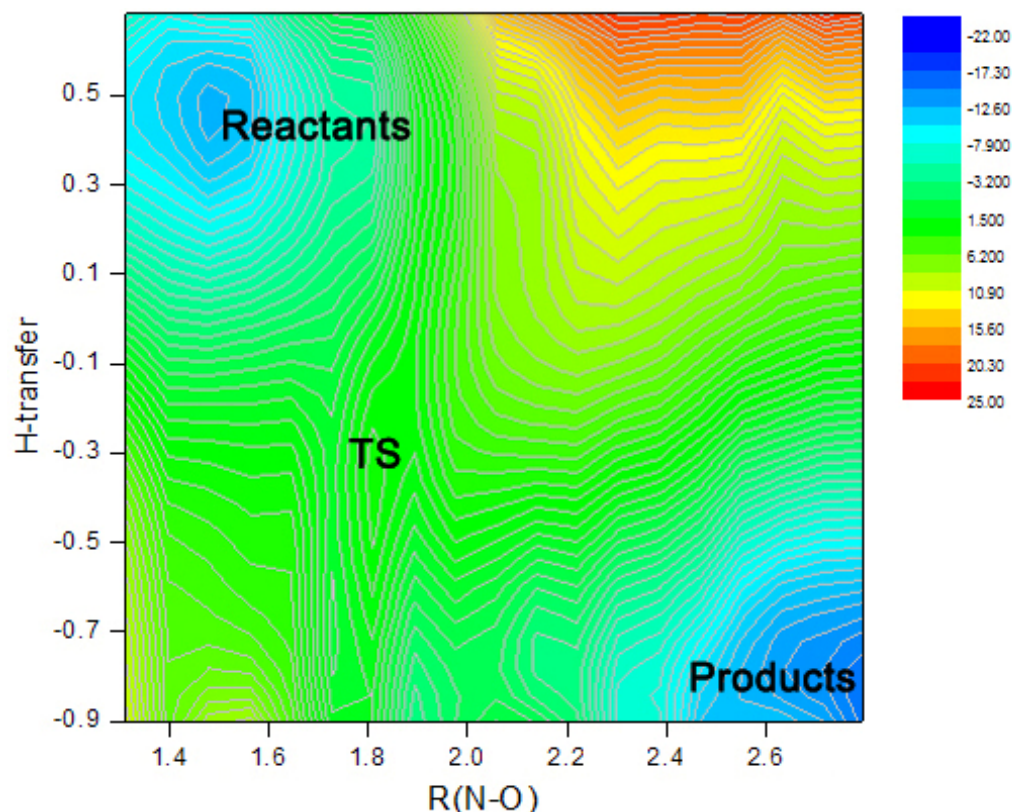
## 4. construct 1-D or 2-D free energy maps

→  $\Delta G^\ddagger$



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# Catalyzed Kemp elimination: FEP results

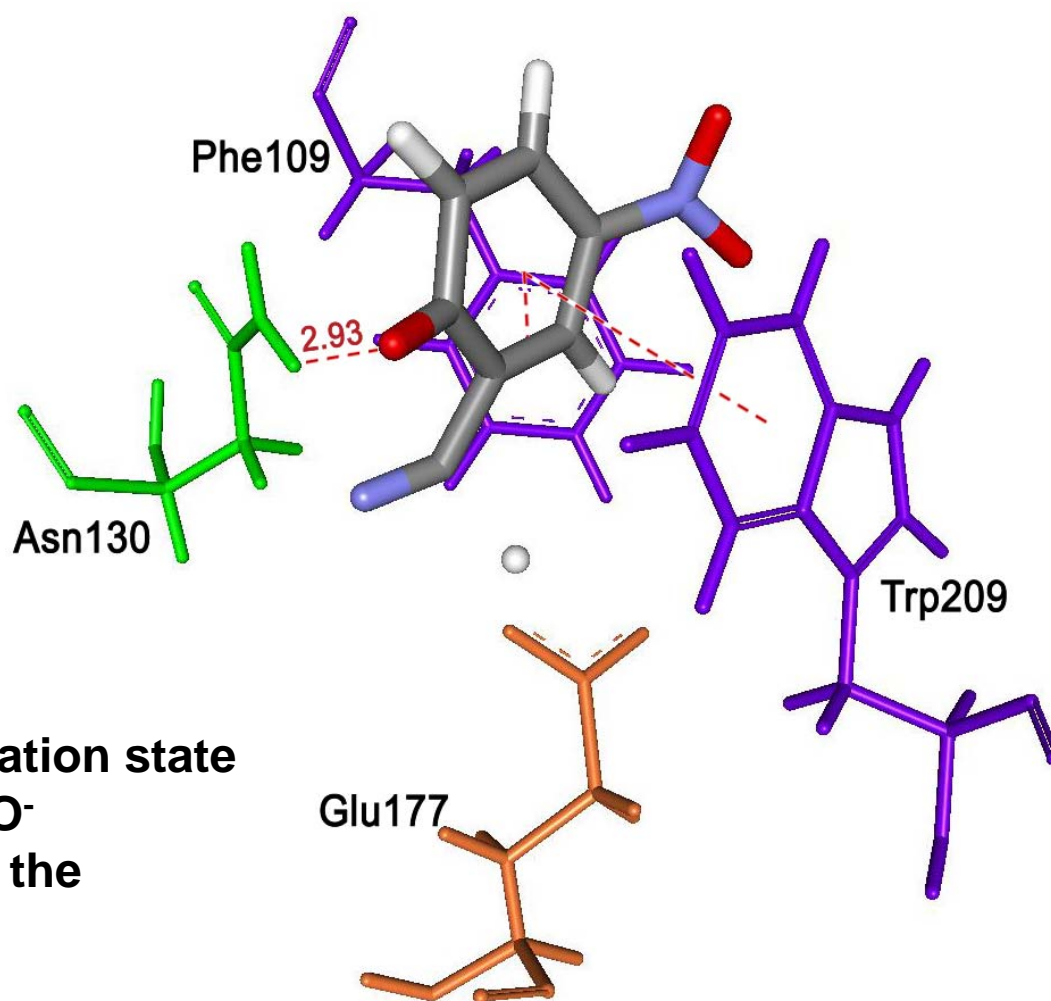


**Concerted, single-step mechanism.**  
**Asymmetric TS. H-transfer driven process.**  
 **$\Delta G^\ddagger = 13.5$  kcal/mol    $\Delta G = -4.6$  kcal/mol**

Strategy for enzyme design  
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# snap-shot from MC: region of the products

We can look at any region of the map to see what the system is doing



- 1)  $\pi$ -stacking
- 2) Glu177- correct protonation state
- 3) Asn130 interacts with O<sup>-</sup>  
(expected stabilization of the product)

$$\Delta G^\ddagger = 13.5 \text{ kcal/mol}$$

**Is it good or bad?...**

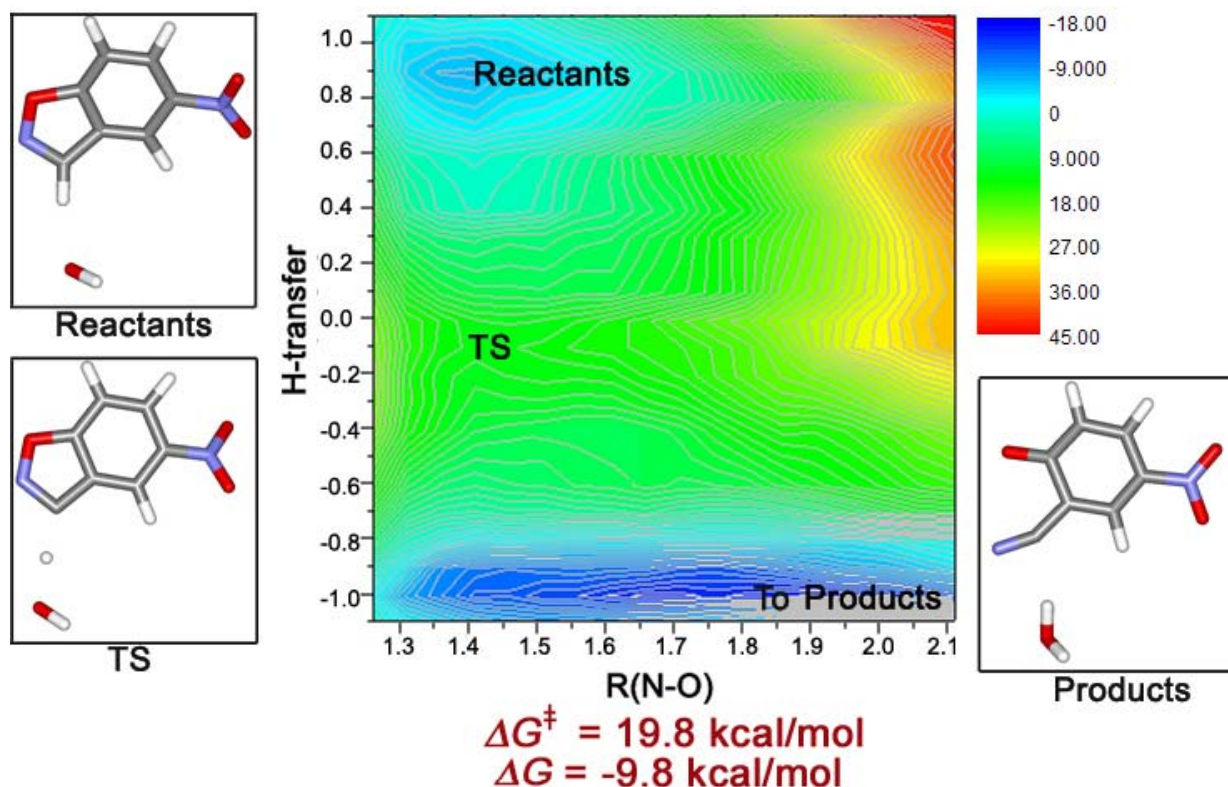
Strategy for enzyme design  
Test case: Kemp elimination

**Mechanism, performance**

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# Uncatalyzed reaction in water:



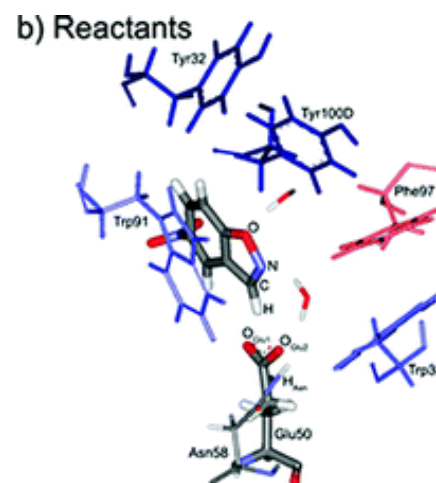
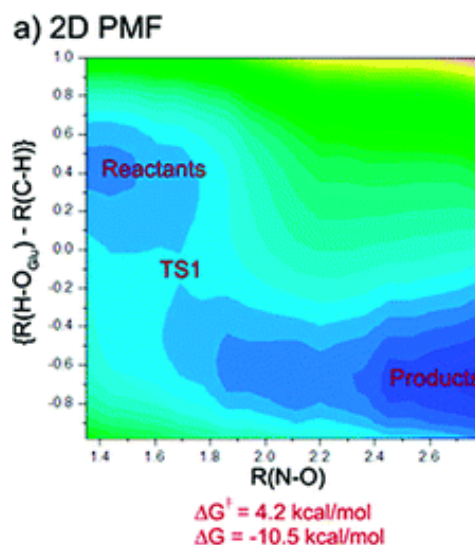
compare to  $\Delta G^\ddagger = 13.5$  kcal/mol  $\Rightarrow$  1a53 is an active enzyme

Experiment also showed catalytic activity:  $k_{cat}/k_{uncat}$  is  $2.5 \times 10^5$

Strategy for enzyme design  
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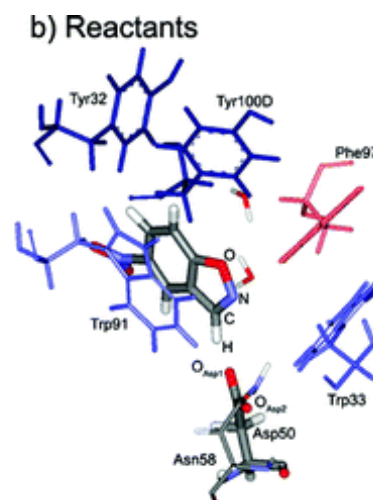
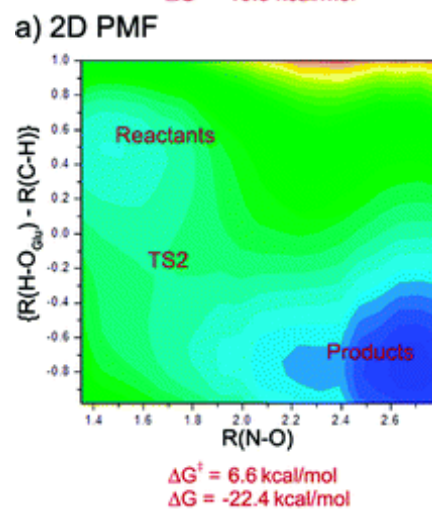
# Enzyme design is a very delicate business:

34E4 catalytic antibody:



Its E50D variant:

**1 small mutation =  
30-fold rate drop**



S.N. Thorn et al. *Nature* 373 (1995), 228-230

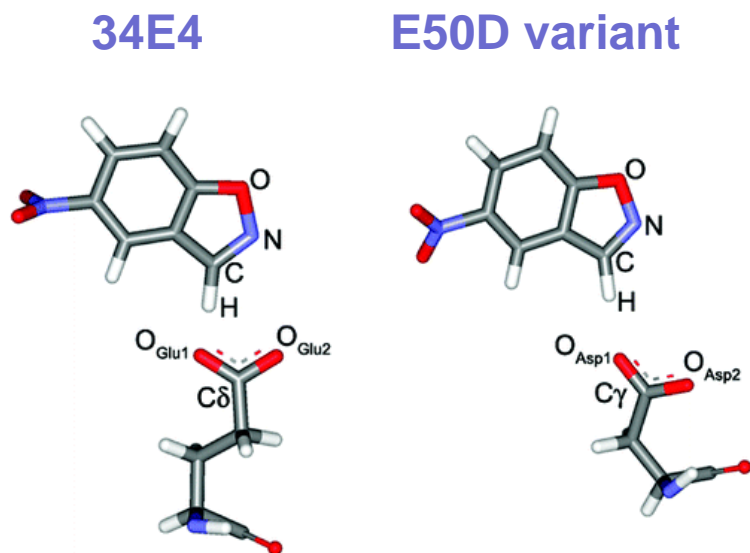
Alexandrova et al. *J. Phys. Chem. B* 113 (2009), 497-504

Strategy for enzyme design  
Test case: Kemp elimination  
Mechanism, performance  
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Our current push

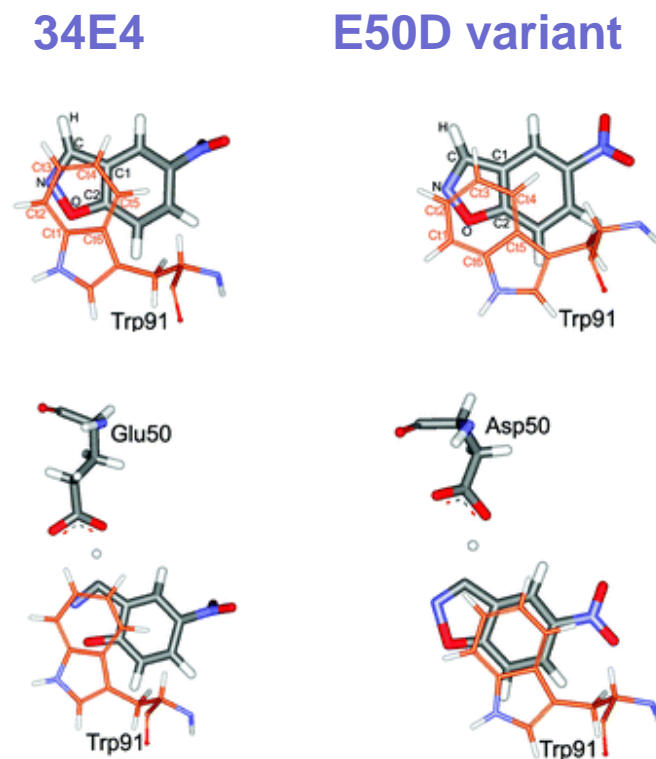
# Enzyme design is a very delicate business:

**1 small mutation = 30-fold rate drop**

Slightly suboptimal contact with the base



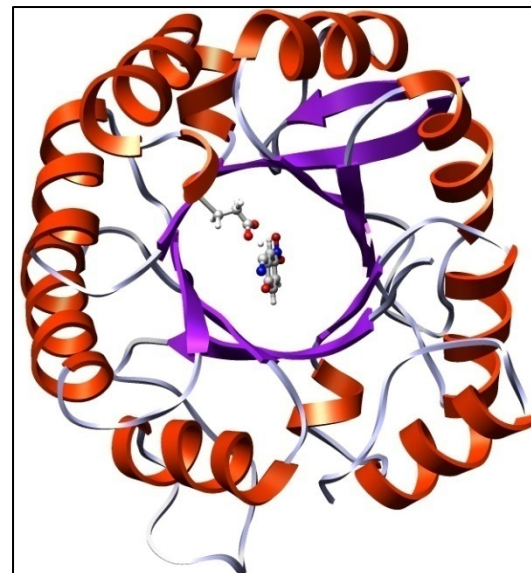
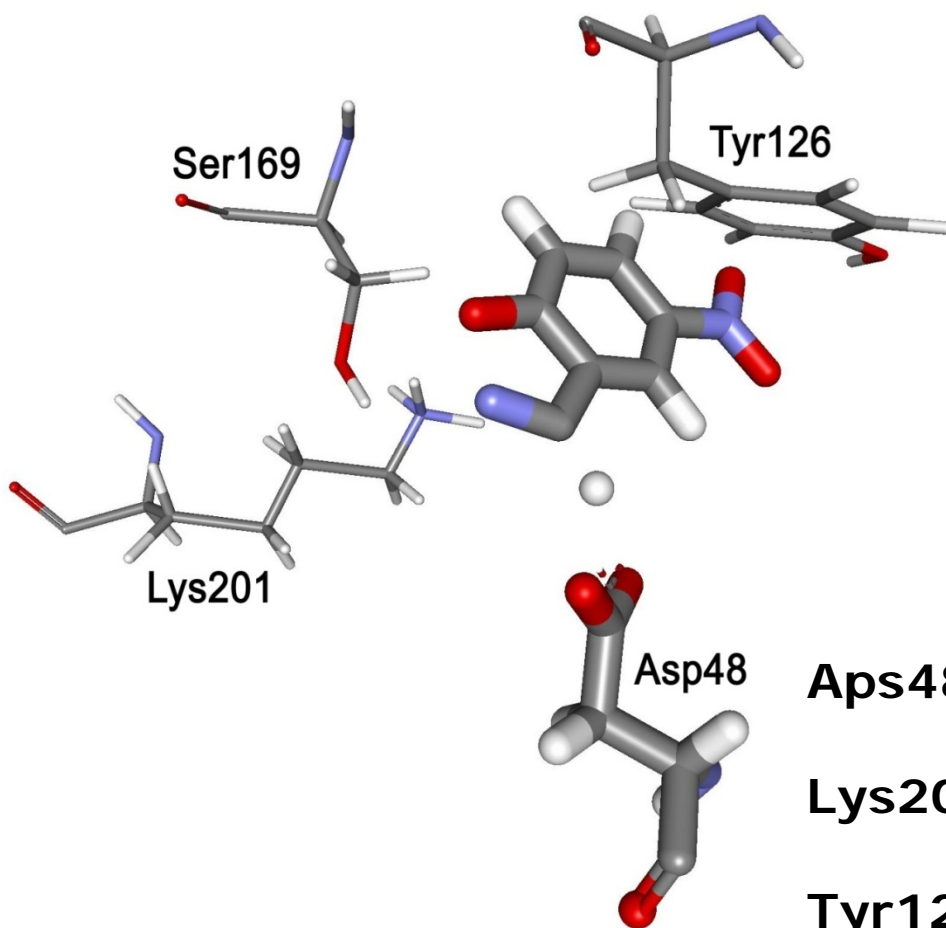
Slightly suboptimal  $\pi$ -stacking



Strategy for enzyme design  
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# KE16

## An enzyme with a problem



**Asp48: general base**

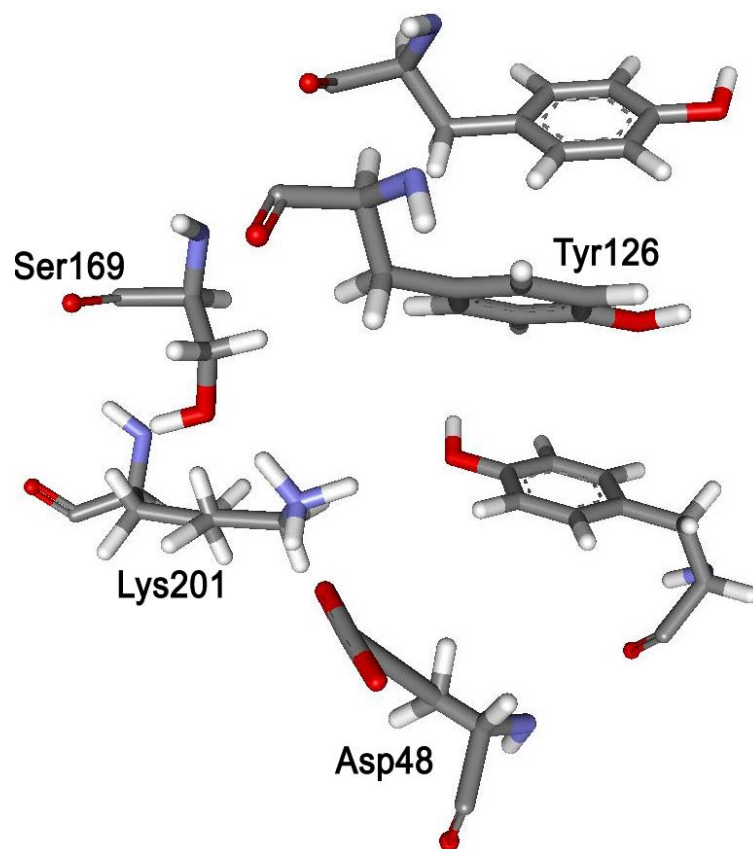
**Lys201 or Ser169: stabilization of O<sup>-</sup>**

**Tyr126: weak  $\pi$ -stacking**

Strategy for enzyme design  
Test case: Kemp elimination  
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# “An enzyme with a problem”

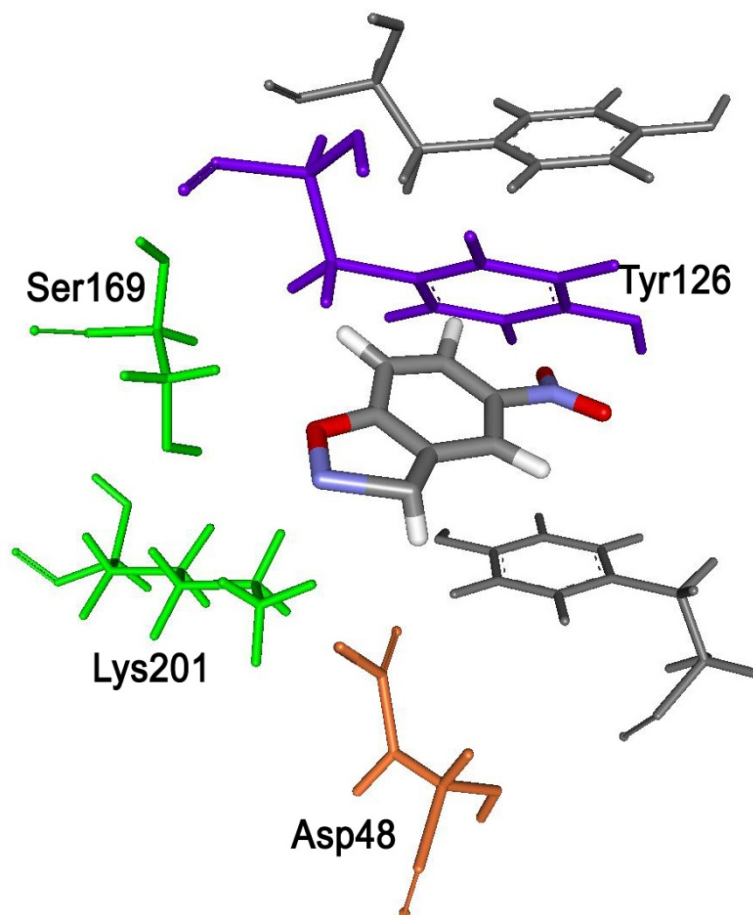
QM/MM MC relaxation without the substrate



Strategy for enzyme design  
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Our current push

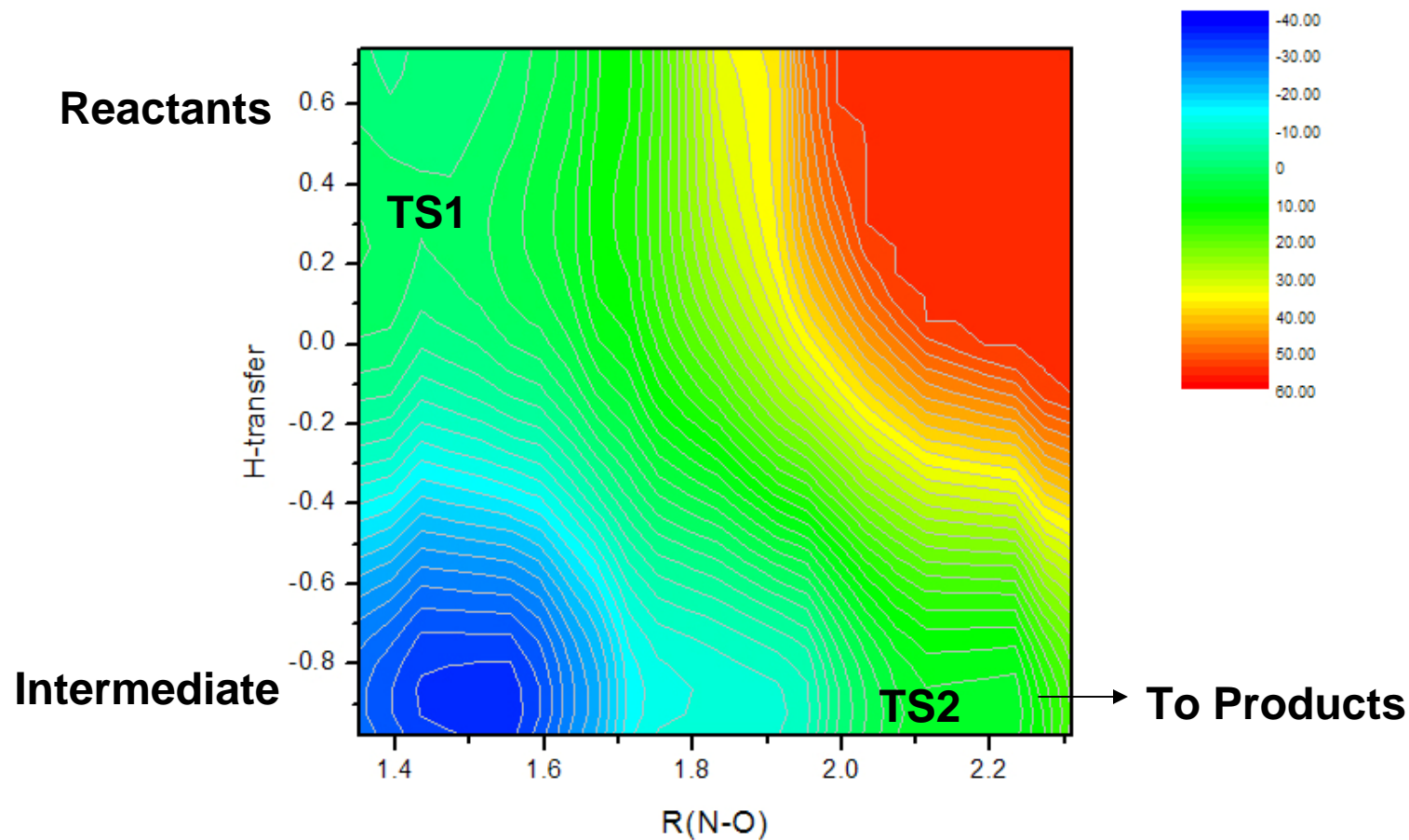
# “An enzyme with a problem”

QM/MM MC relaxation with the substrate:



Strategy for enzyme design  
Test case: Kemp elimination  
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Our current push

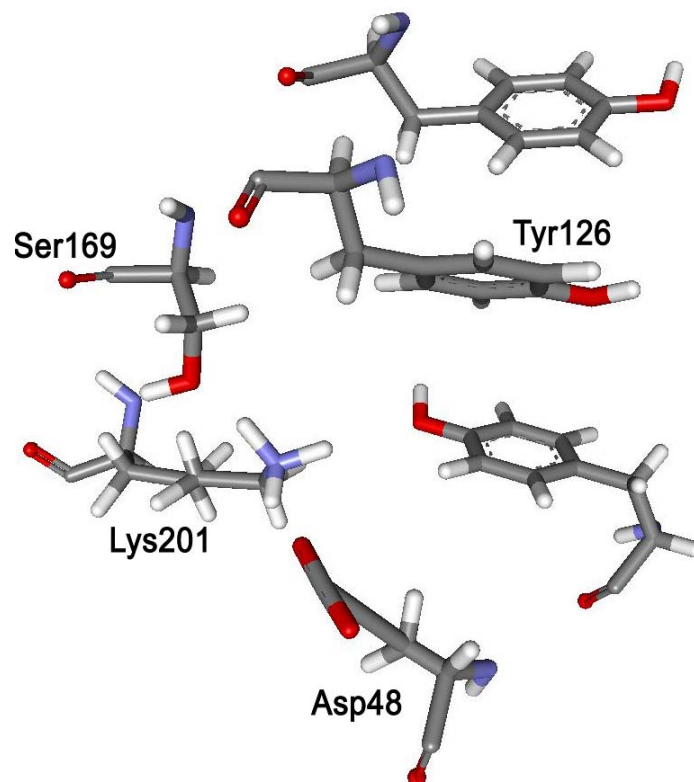
# “An enzyme with a problem”



*The mechanism in 1thf is step-wise: H-transfer happens first.*

Strategy for enzyme design  
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## “An enzyme with a problem”



**Lys is a bad residue for being in position 201:**

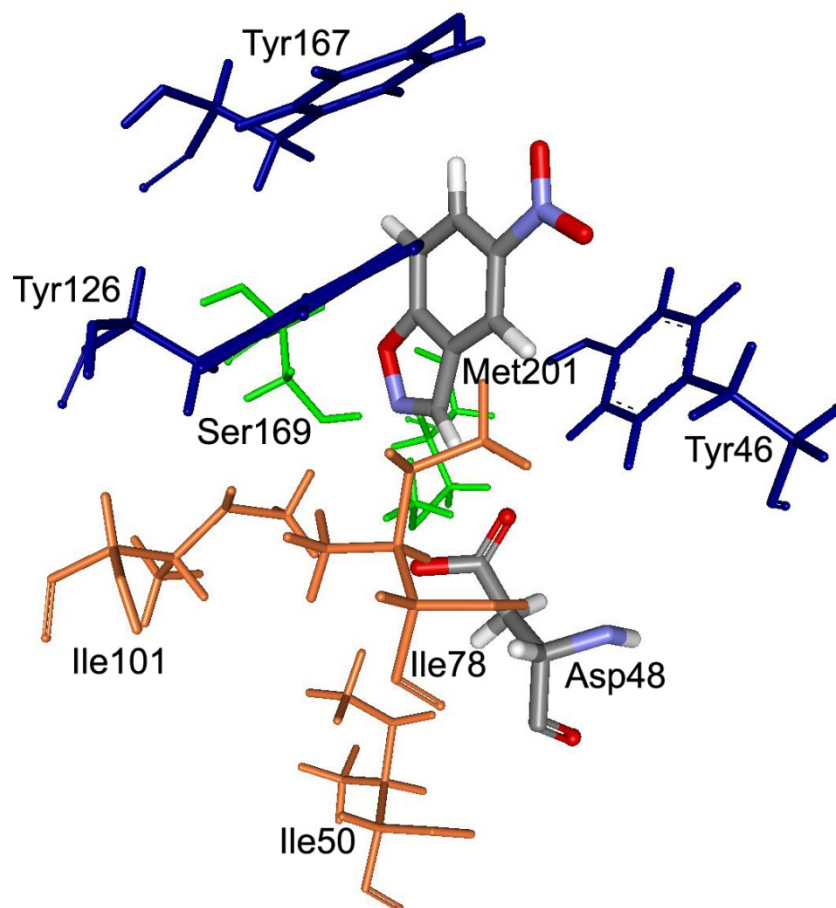
1) Tries to protonate the base, and 2) Stabilizes the intermediate too much

Experimentally observed modest activity,  $k_{\text{cat}}/k_{\text{uncat}}$  is  $5.2 \times 10^3$

Strategy for enzyme design  
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## Proposal for rescue:

**Lys201  $\Rightarrow$  Met**

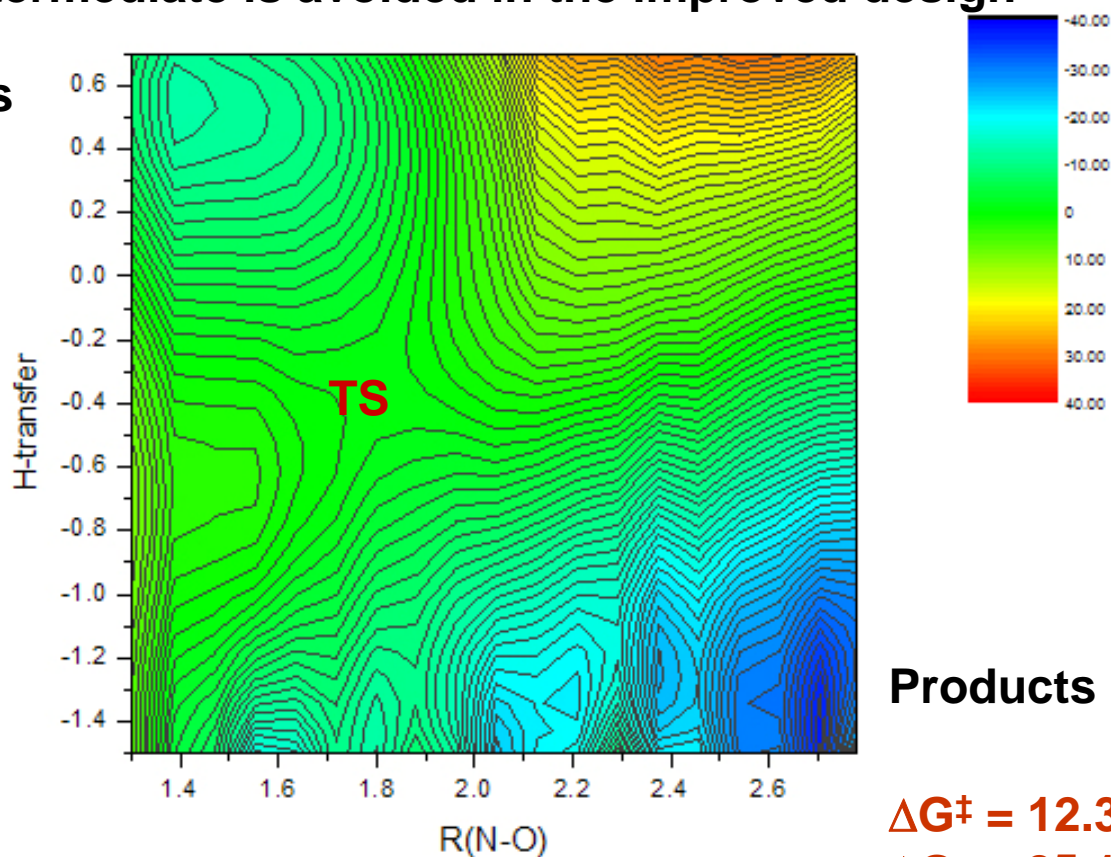


Strategy for enzyme design  
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## Proposed mutation helped:

Intermediate is avoided in the improved design

Reactants



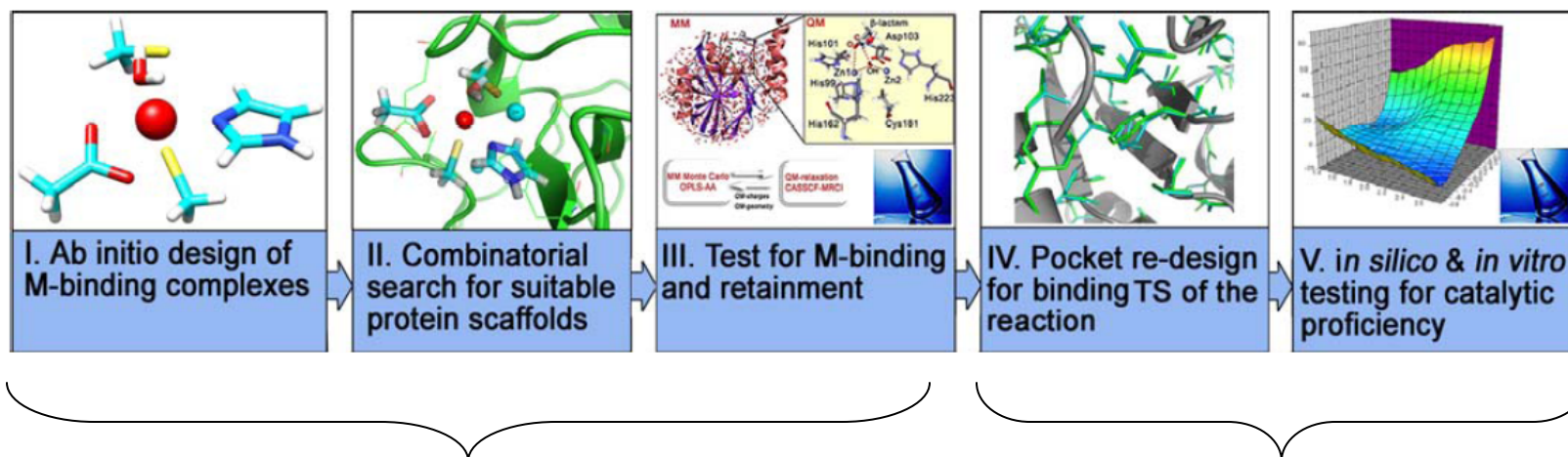
Products

$$\Delta G^\ddagger = 12.3 \text{ kcal/mol}$$

$$\Delta G = -25.1 \text{ kcal/mol}$$

Strategy for enzyme design  
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*Our current push*

# Metallo-proteins and metallo-enzymes



**Additional dimension:  
Metal and its electronic structure**

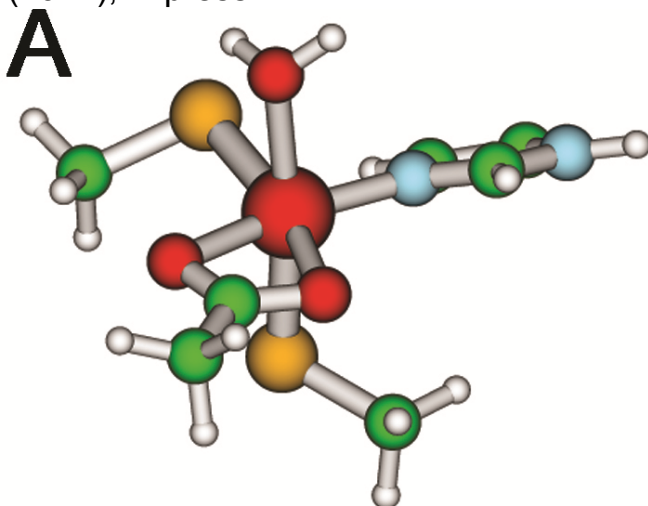
**Original inside-out protocol**

**Need for QM/MM stat mech throughout the protocol  
(starting from the installation of the metal)**

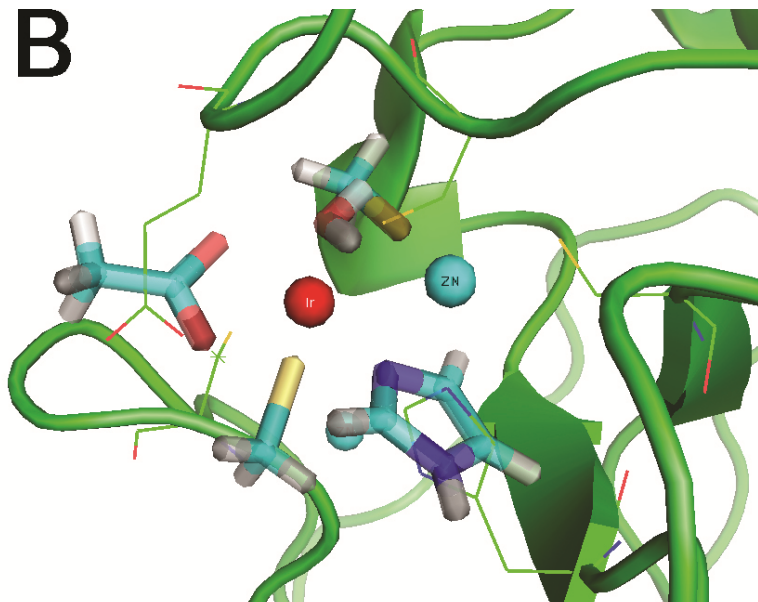
Strategy for enzyme design  
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# 1. Search for host proteins

Bioinformatics 27 (2011), in press



*Ab initio complex*



*Protein that can host it*

**Subgraph isomorphism algorithm with incorporated uncertainty:**

$$W_i = e^{-\frac{(\Delta q_i - \Delta t_j)^2}{\sigma^2}}$$
$$W = \left( \prod_{i=1}^N W_i \right)^{1/N} \prod_{j=1}^M (1 - w_j)$$

searches through the entire PDB in less than 30 minutes, for a 15-atom query structure

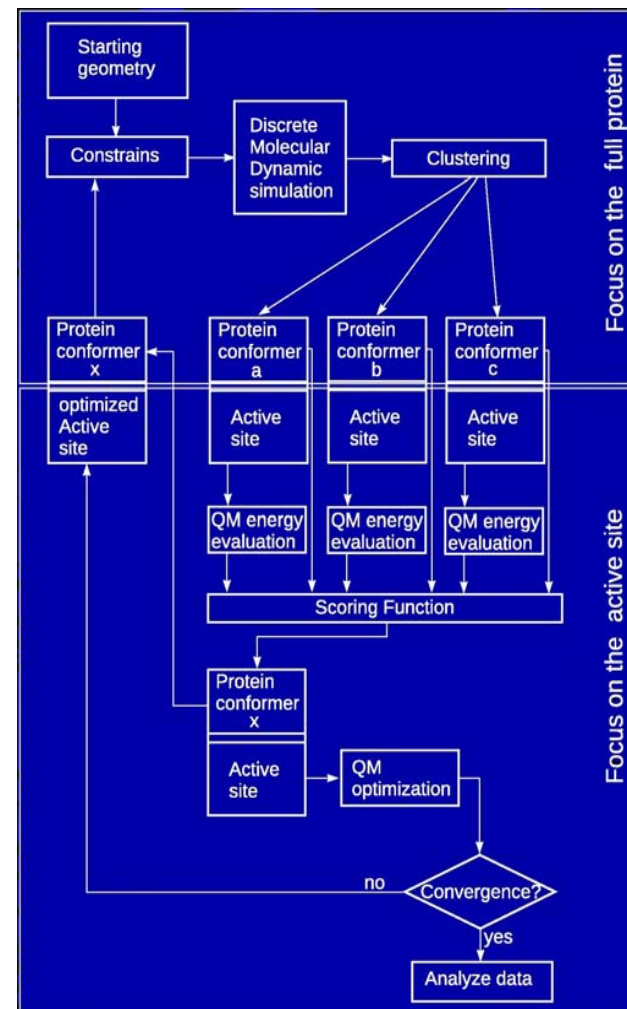
Strategy for enzyme design  
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## 2. QM/DMD: design and modeling

Our strategy:  
Coupling an extensive sampling of the whole protein with a quantum mechanical description of the catalytic center.

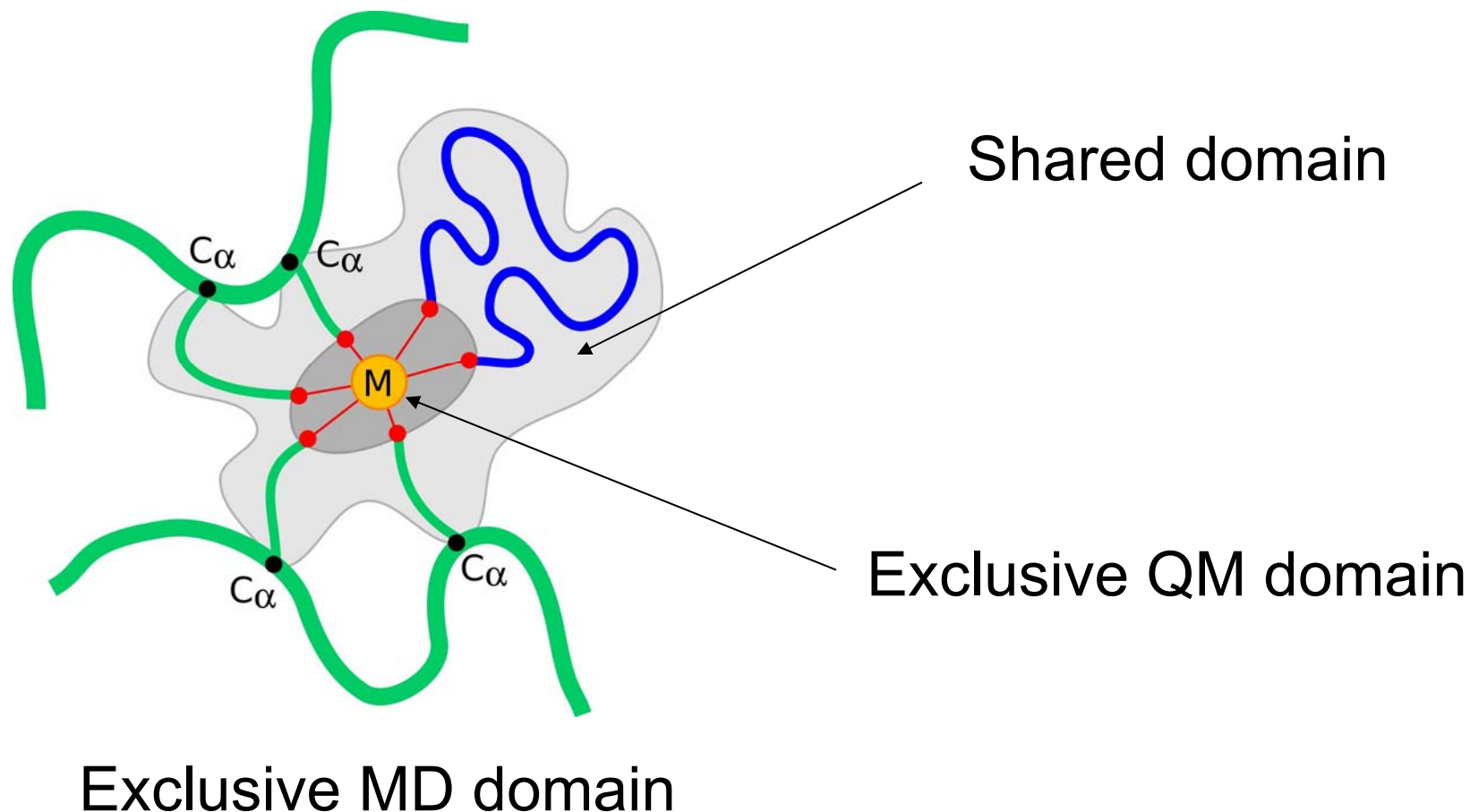
Molecular Dynamic  
- of the entire system with  
clamped active site -

Quantum mechanic  
- of the active site in the  
framework of the frozen  
protein -



Strategy for enzyme design  
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*Our current push*

## 2. QM/DMD: design and modeling

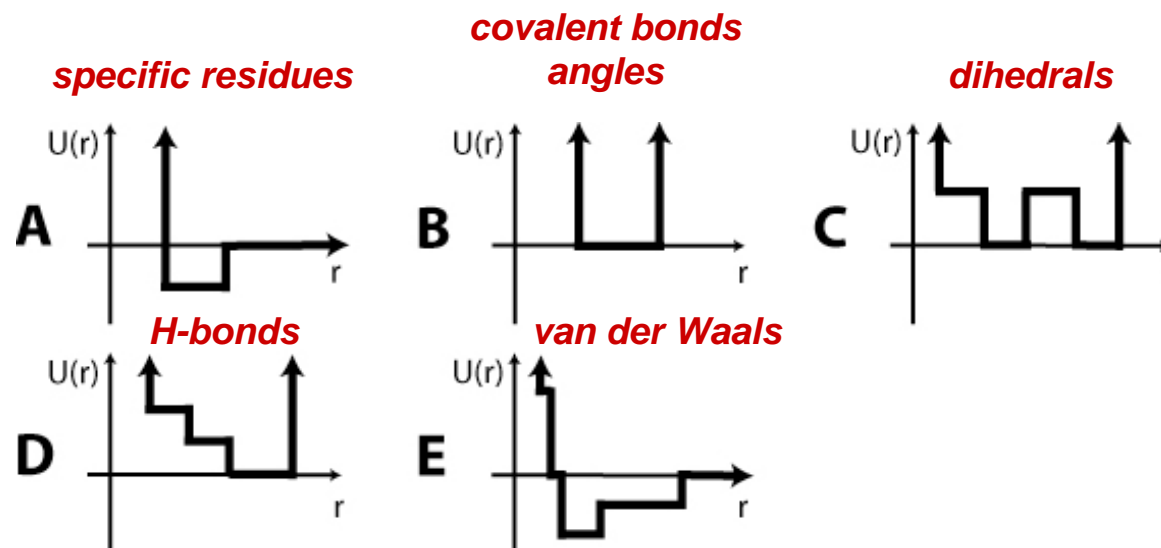
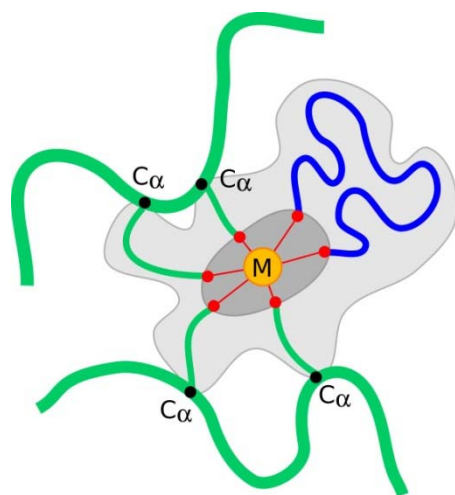


Strategy for enzyme design  
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## 2. QM/DMD: design and modeling

DMD part: extensive sampling and clustering

### Interaction potentials:

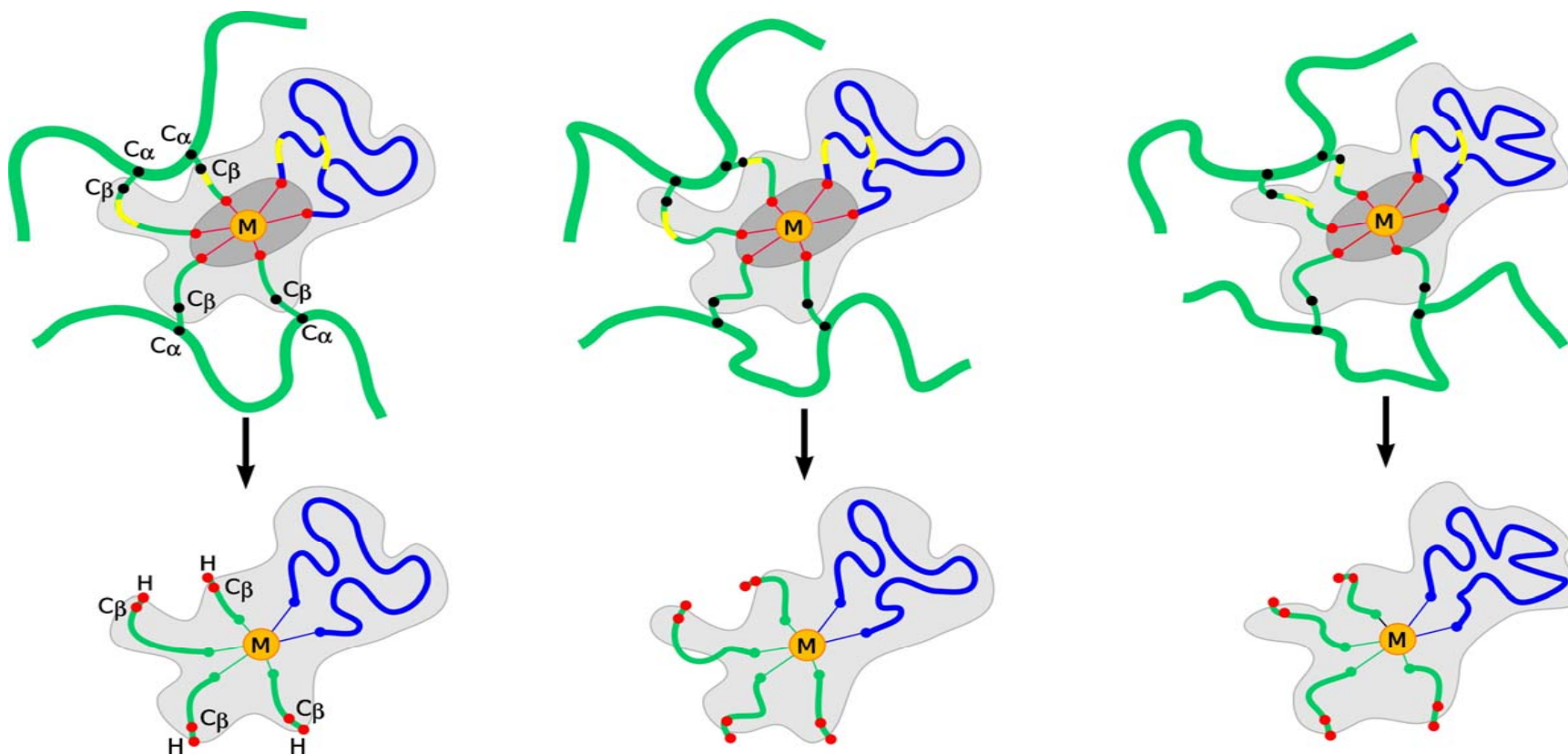


Dokholyan, N.V., Buldyrev, S.V., Stanley, H.E., and Shakhnovich, E.I., Fold. Des. 3 (6), 577 (1998).  
Ding F. et al. J. Mol. Biol 350 (5), 1035 (2005). Dokholyan, N. V., Curr. Opin. Struct. Biol. 16 (1), 79 (2006).  
Proctor E.A. Ding F. and Dokholyan N.V. Comput. Mol. Sci. 1 80 (2011).

Strategy for enzyme design  
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## 2. QM/DMD: design and modeling

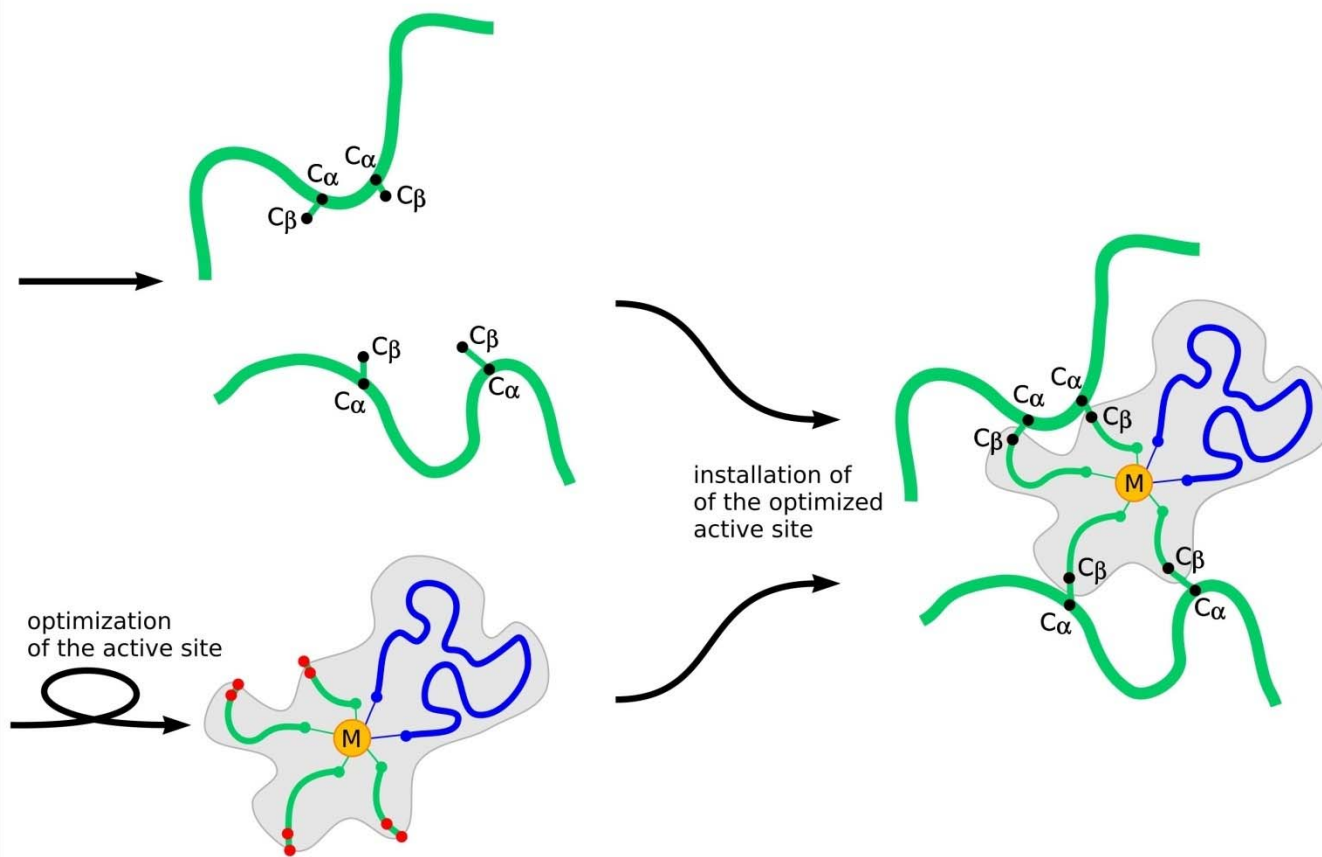
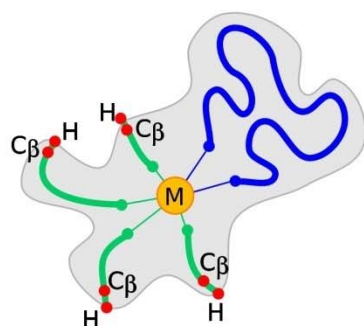
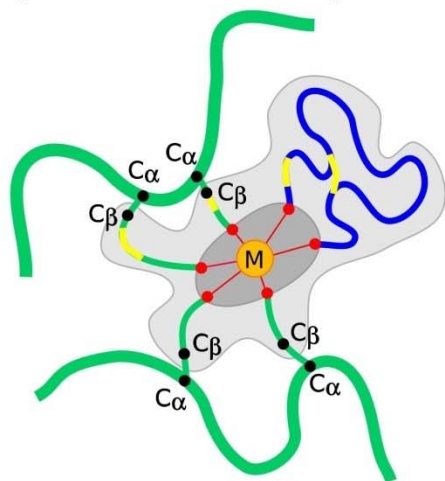
The poses resulting from the simulation are clustered according to a similarity parameter. For each cluster, a representative is selected, its active site QM energy is computed.



Strategy for enzyme design  
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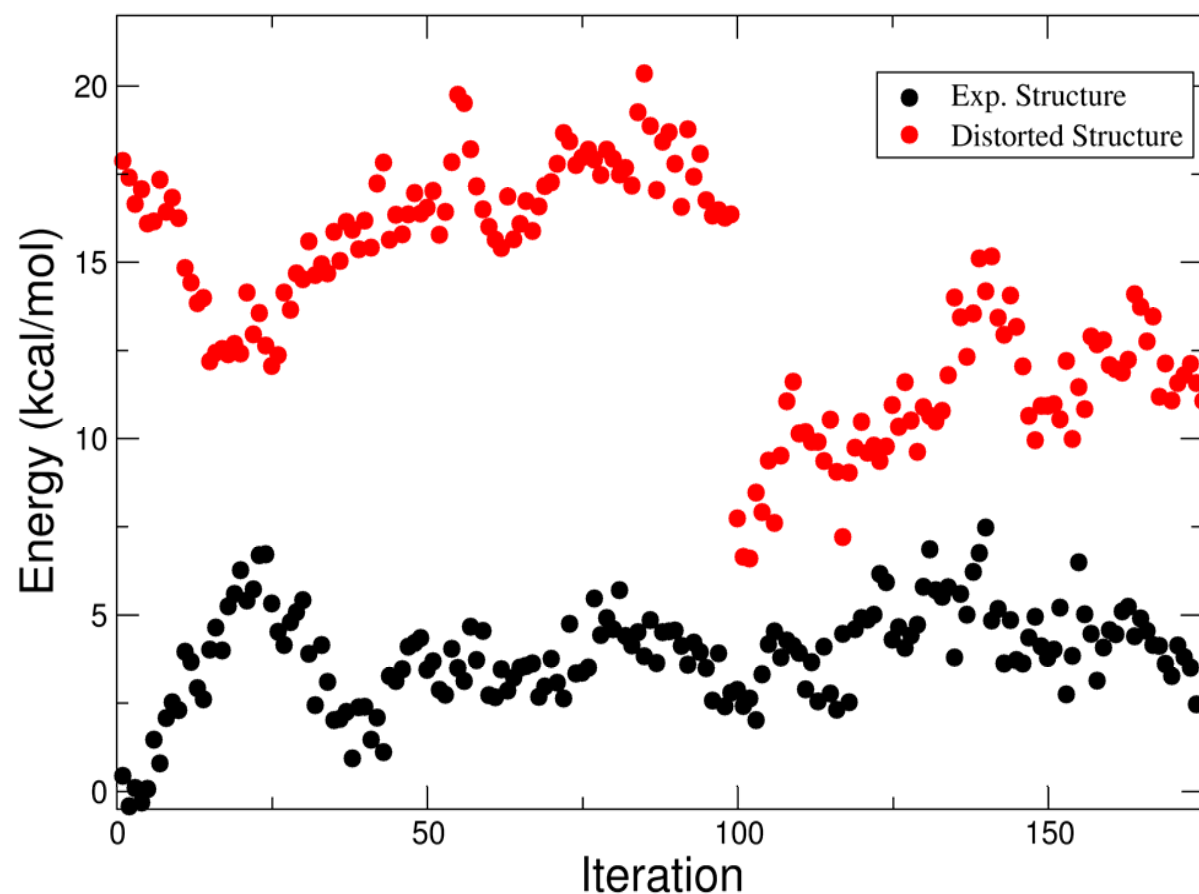
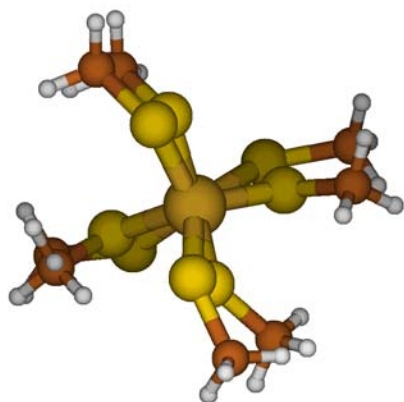
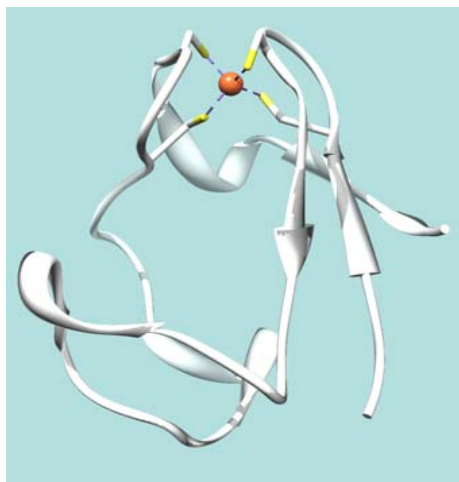
## 2. QM/DMD: design and modeling

System selected for optimization



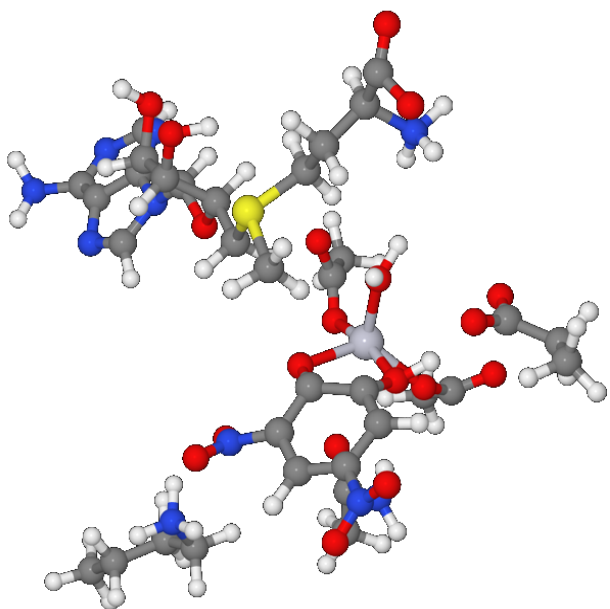
Strategy for enzyme design  
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## 2. QM/DMD: Test case: Rubredoxin

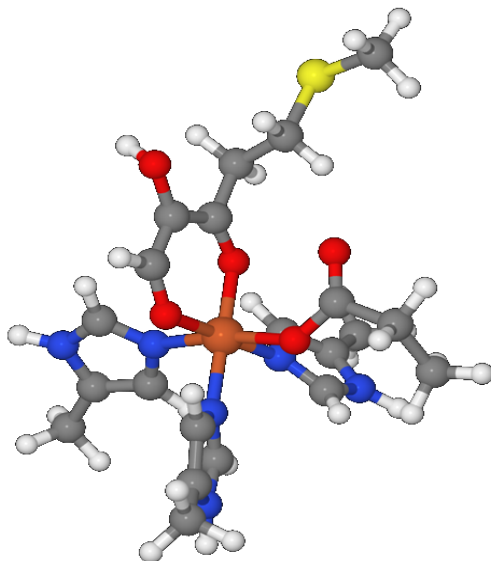


# QM/DMD: current applications

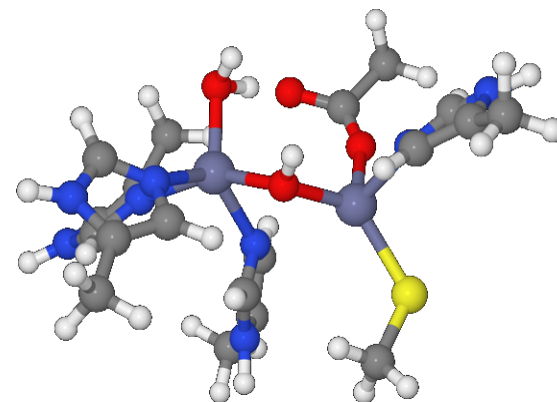
## 1) Proteins that exhibit radically different structure or function w/different metals



Catechol methyl-transferase



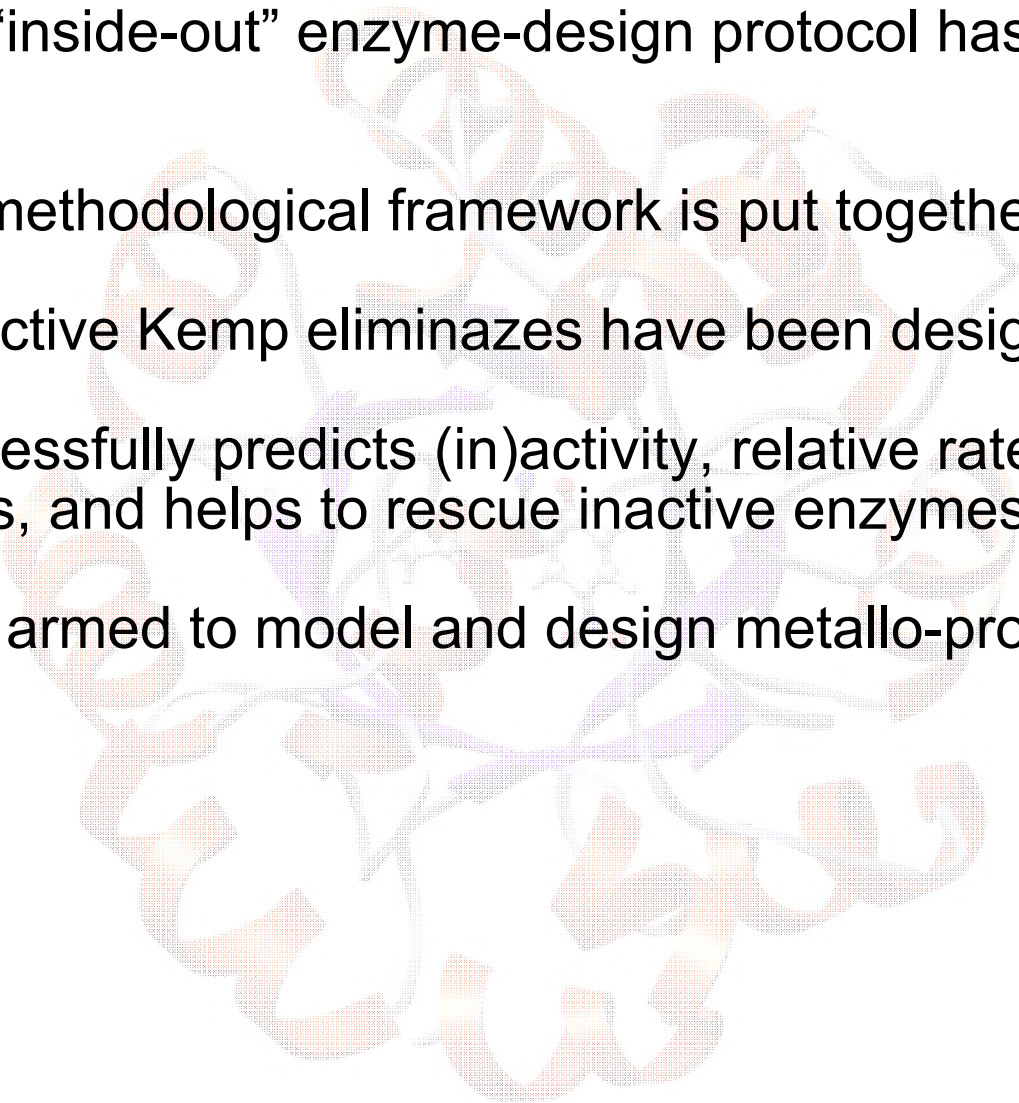
Acireductone dioxygenase



Lactamases and Ureases

## 2) Design of novel metallo-proteins

# Summary

1. An efficient “inside-out” enzyme-design protocol has been developed
  2. Multi-scale methodological framework is put together
  3. Numerous active Kemp eliminases have been designed
  4. Theory successfully predicts (in)activity, relative rates, and mechanisms, and helps to rescue inactive enzymes.
  5. We now got armed to model and design metallo-proteins too.
- 



## *Acknowledgements:*

<http://www.chem.ucla.edu/~ana/>

**Dr. William Jorgesen (Yale)**  
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**Dr. Richard Wolfenden (UNC)**

**\$\$ DARPA**  
**\$\$ UCLA**



**Dr. Manuel Sparta**



**Dr. Jin Zhang**



**Crystal Valdez**



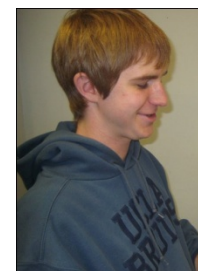
**Luan Vu**



**Mioy Hyunh**



**Diana Yu**



**Harry Wilfong**



**Ms. Sophia**