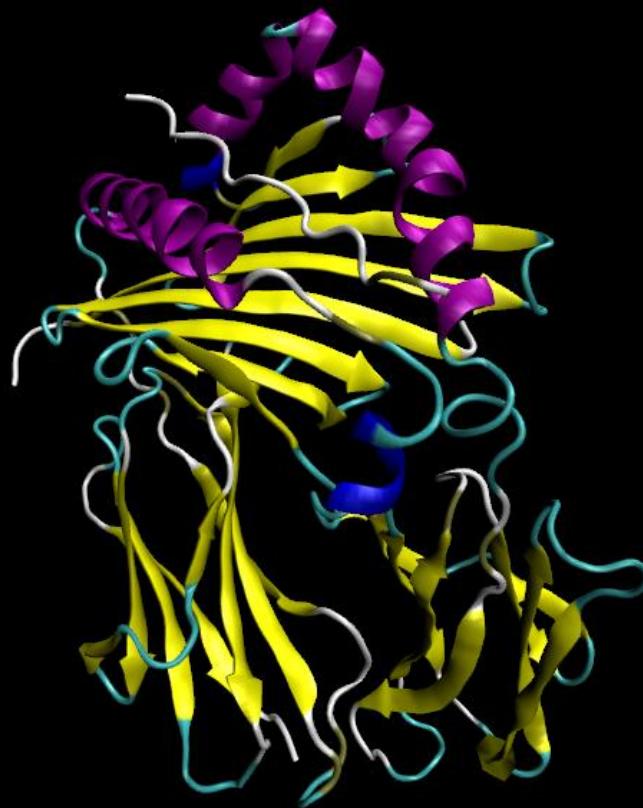


# MHC Class II



Alexandra López  
Laura Taberner  
Gemma Vilajosana  
Ilia Villate

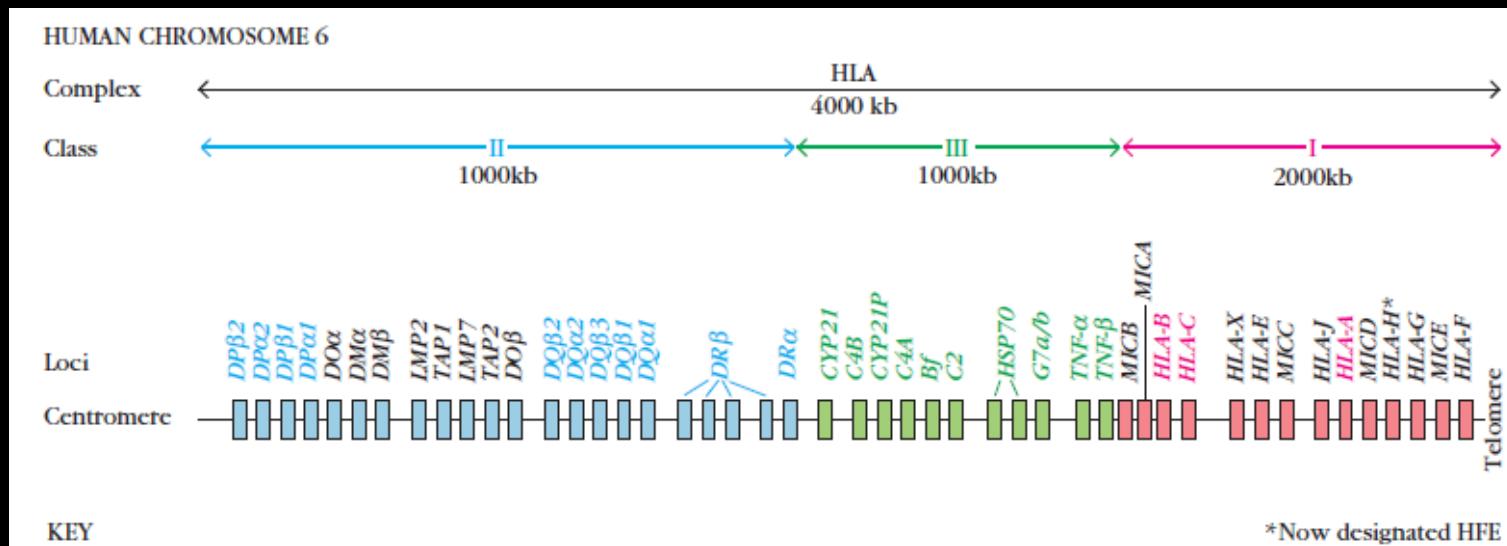
# Index

- Introduction
- Peptide binding to MHC class II
  - pockets
- Variable regions
  - Classical MHC class II superimposition
- Non classical MHC class II
  - Structure
  - Classical - Non classical MHC superimposition
- HLA-DR - HLA-DM interaction
- Conclusions

# Introduction

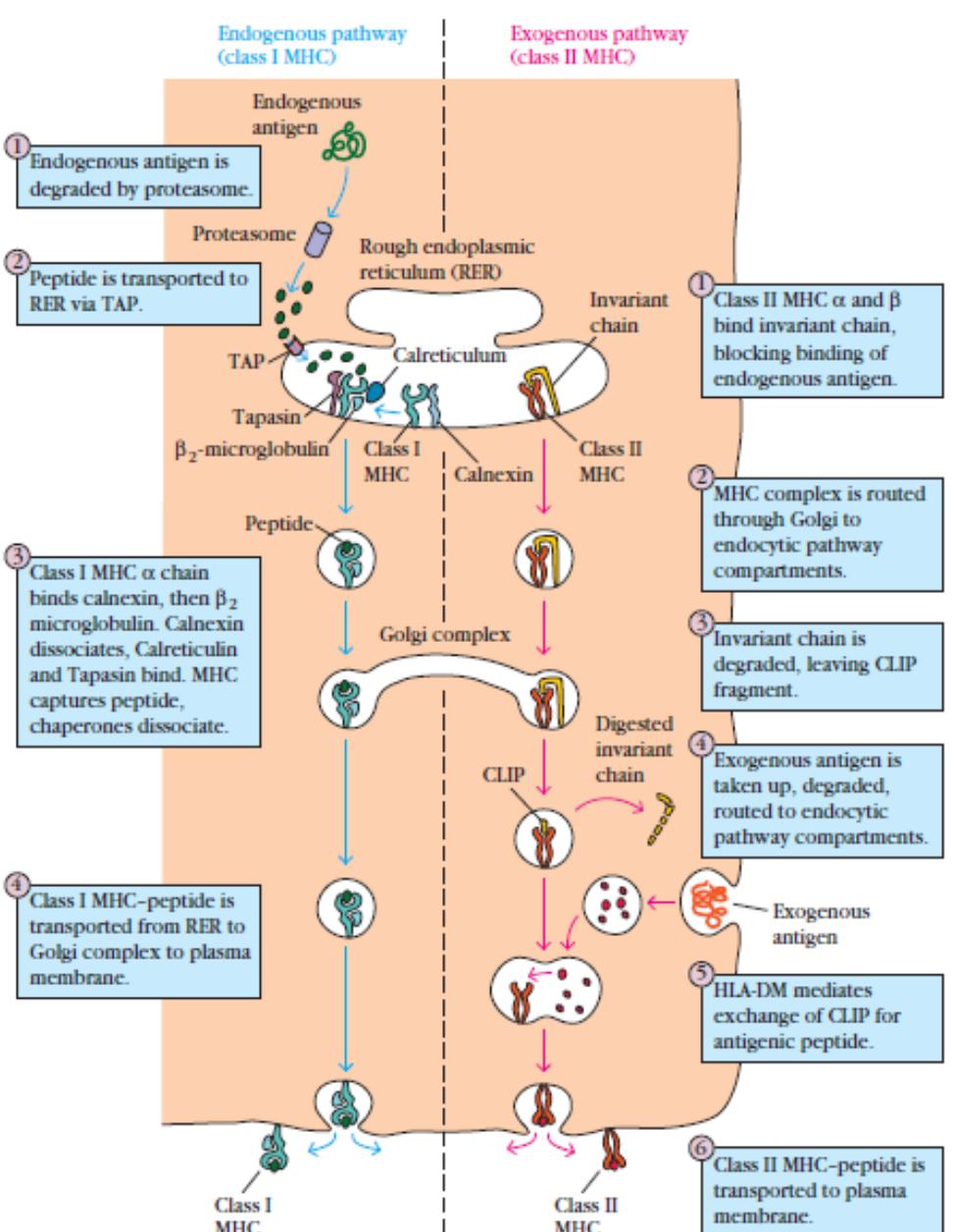
# Introduction

## The major histocompatibility complex



Human HLA complex							
Complex	HLA						
MHC class	II			III		I	
Region	DP	DQ	DR	C4, C2, BF		B	C
Gene products	DP αβ	DQ αβ	DR αβ	C' proteins	TNF-α TNF-β	HLA-B	HLA-C
						HLA-A	

# Introduction



## SELF MHC-RESTRICTION

Both CD4 and CD8 T cells can recognize antigen ONLY when it is presented by a self-MHC molecule

- Antigen processing
- Antigen presentation

	MHC class I	MHC class II
Cellular expression	All nucleated cells	Antigen-presenting cells
Recognized by	Tc cells (CD8)	Th cells (CD4)
	Endogenous antigens	Exogenous antigens

# Introduction

## MHC class II

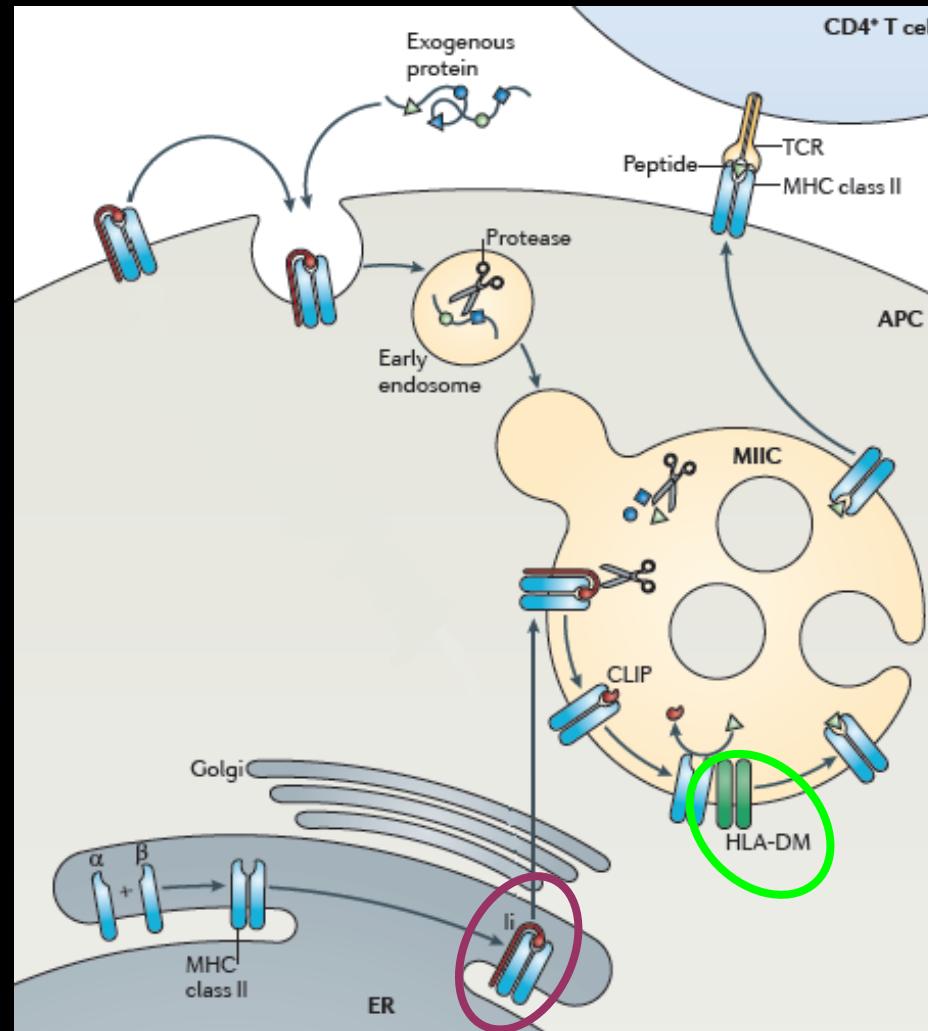
Invariant chain

CLIP

Non classical:

- HLA-DM

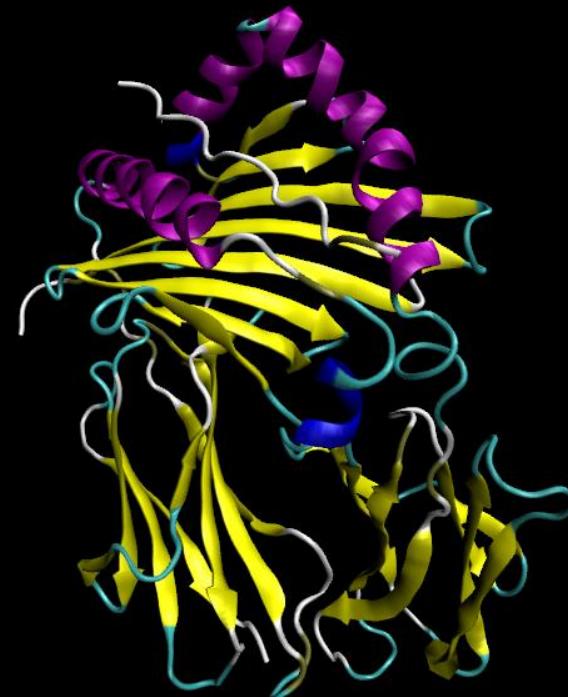
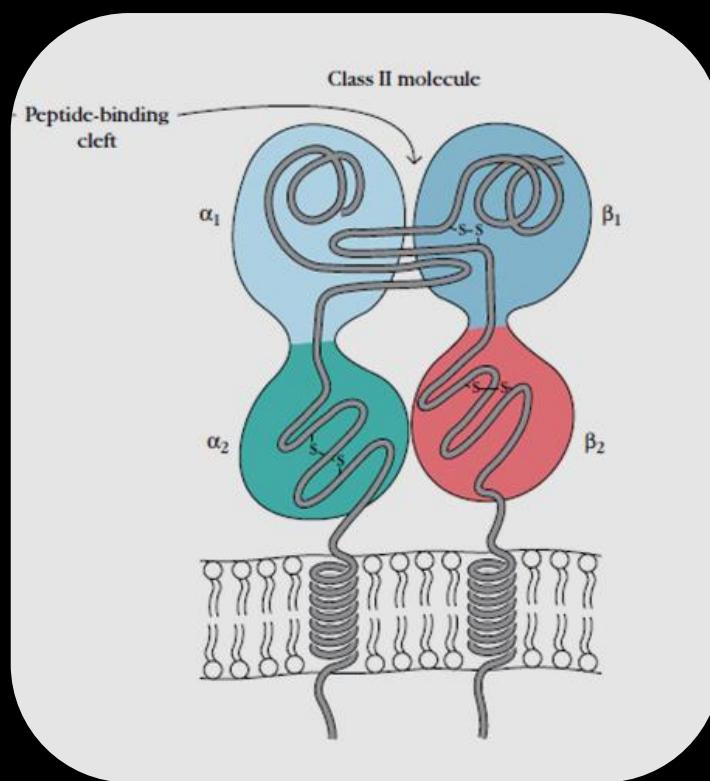
## Exogenous pathway



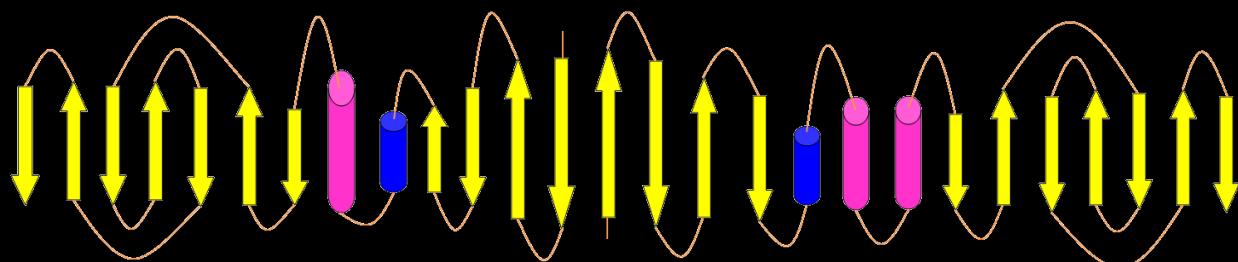
Neefjes J, Jongsma MLM. Towards a systems understanding of MHC class I and MHC class II antigen presentation. *Nature*, 2011; 11: 823-836.

# Introduction

## Class II structure



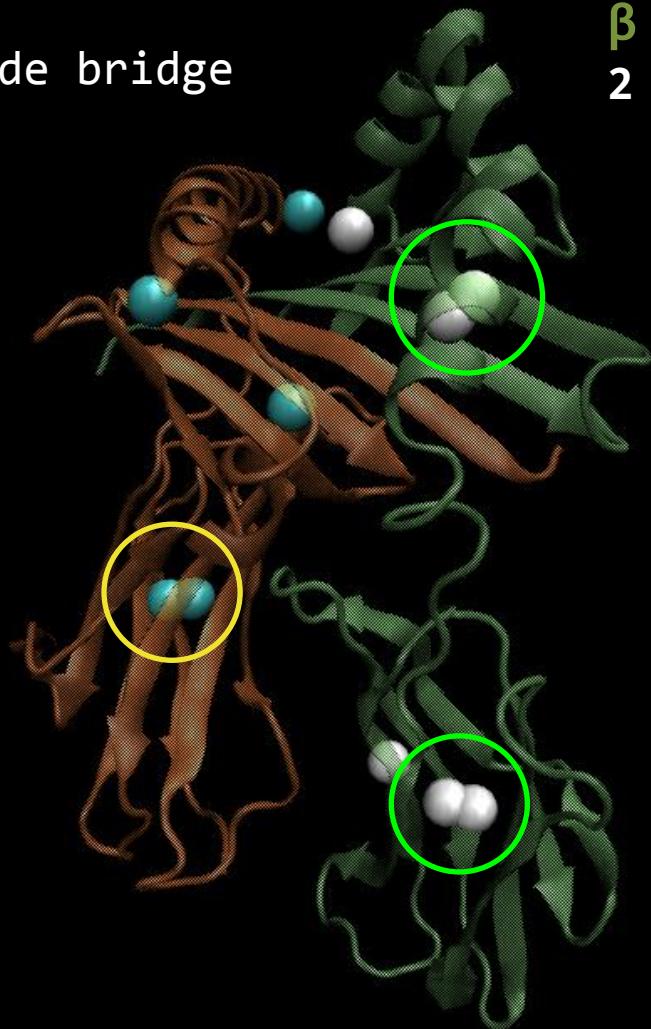
Kindt TJ, Goldsby RA, Osborne BA. Inmunología de Kuby. México : McGraw-Hill, cop. 2007. Chapter 7: Major Histocompatibility Complex, 161-181.



### Disulfide bridges

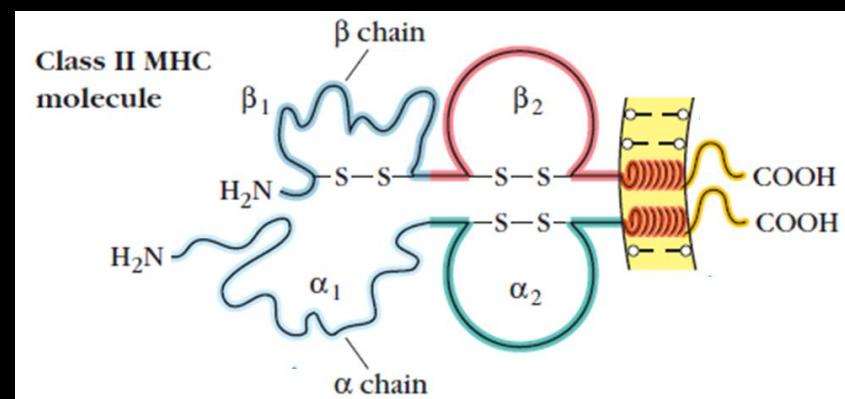
$\alpha$  chain

1 disulfide bridge



$\beta$  chain

2 disulfide bridges



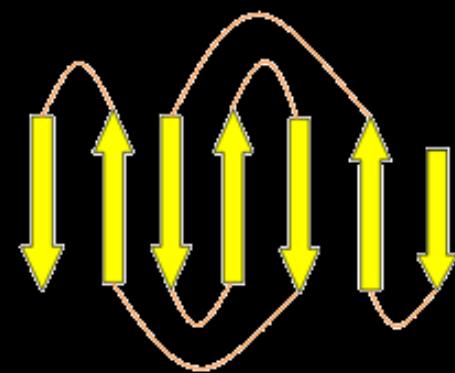
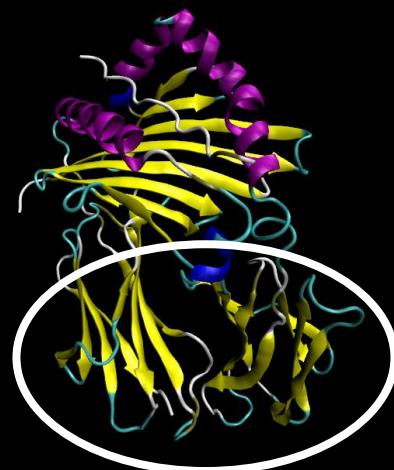
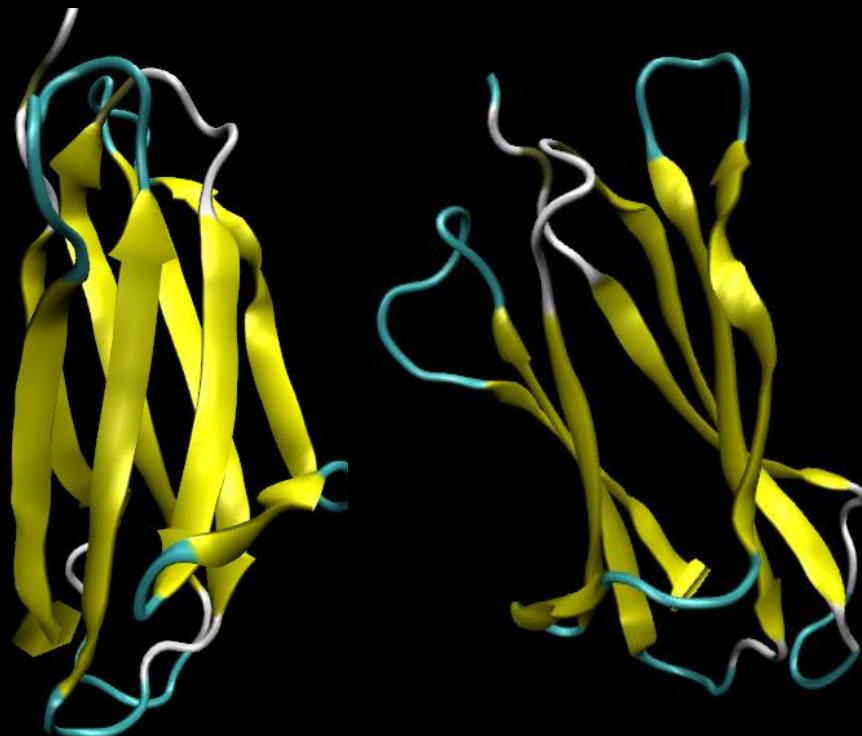
Kindt TJ, Goldsby RA, Osborne BA. Inmunología de Kuby. México : McGraw-Hill, cop. 2007. Chapter 7: Major Histocompatibility Complex, 161-181.

# Introduction

## Class II structure

$\alpha 2$  and  $\beta 2$  domains

Immunoglobulin  
fold domain

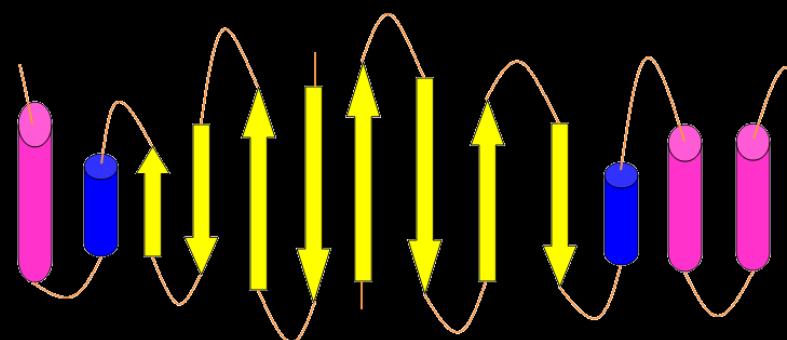
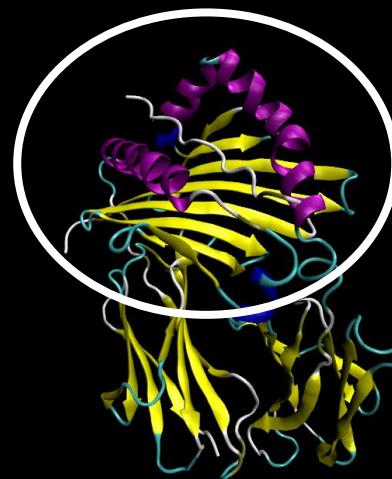
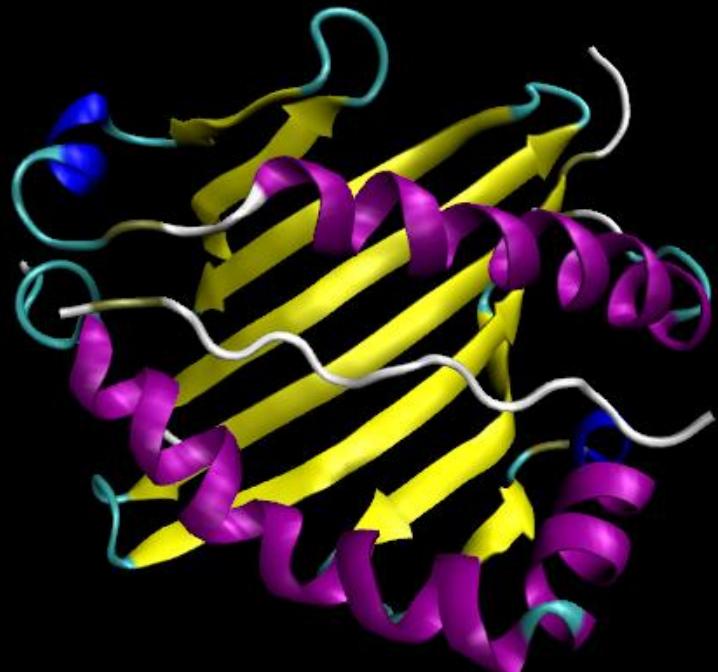


# Introduction

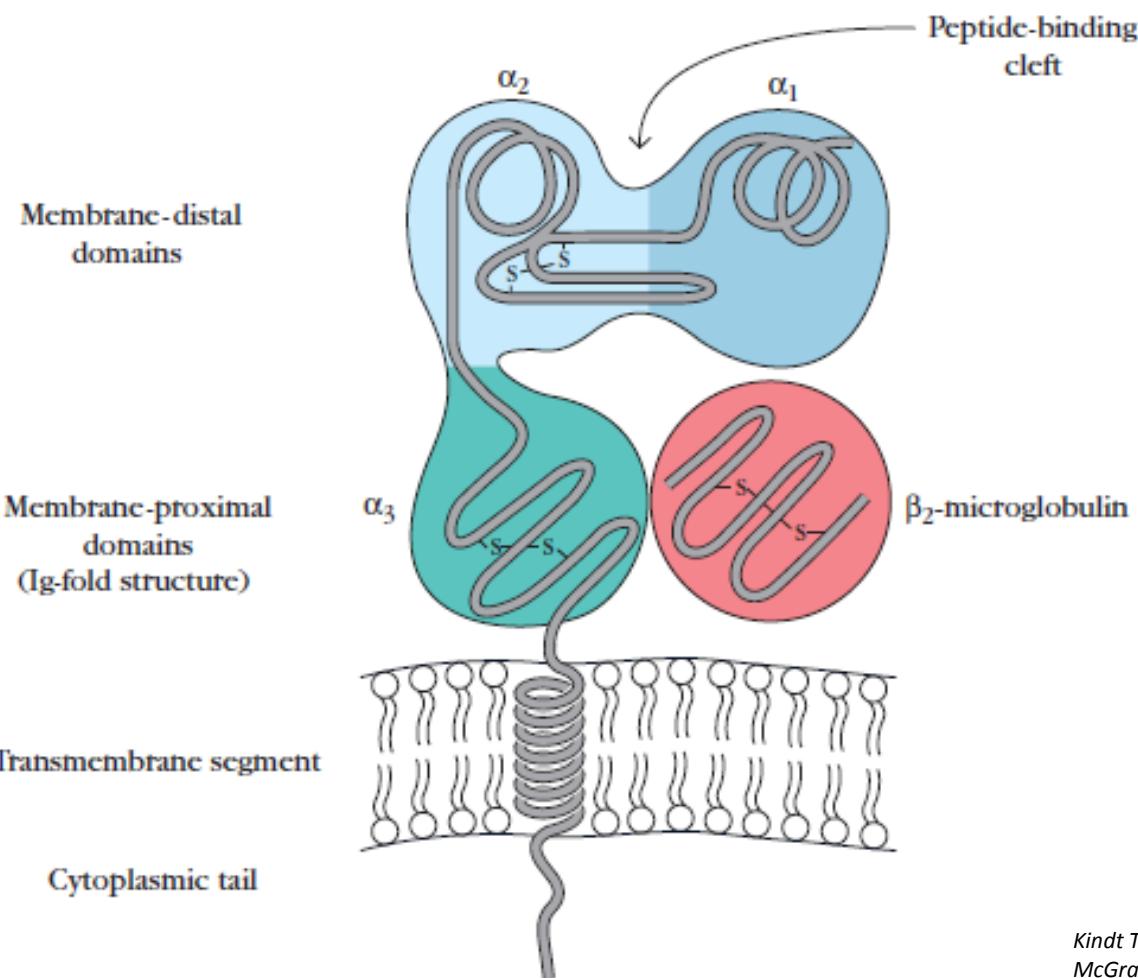
## Class II structure

$\alpha 1$  and  $\beta 1$  domains

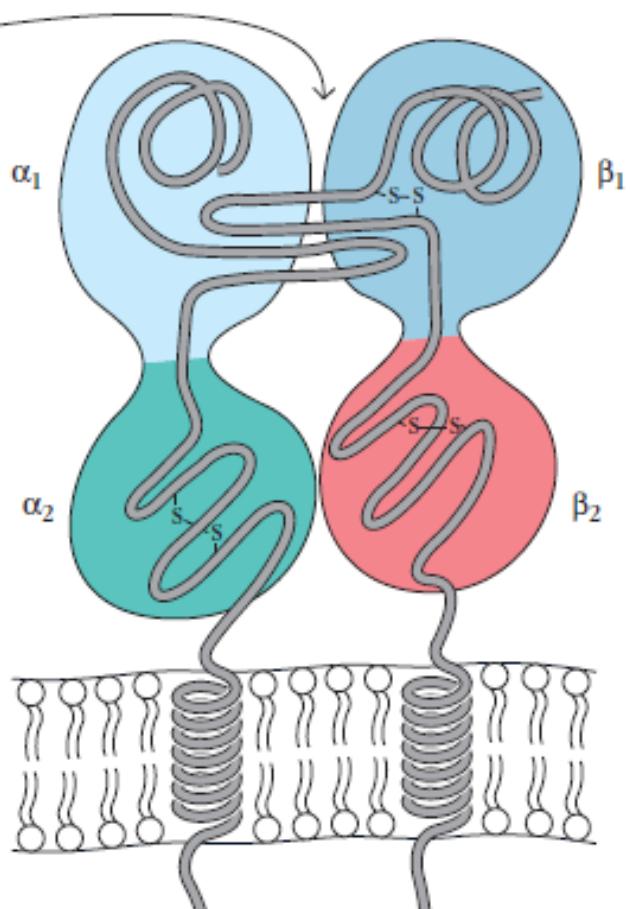
Binding  
groove



### MHC class I

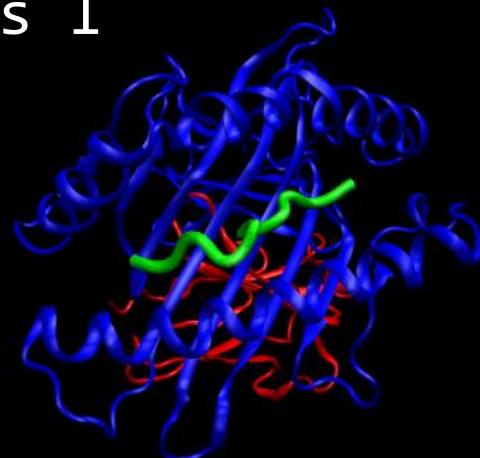


### MHC class II

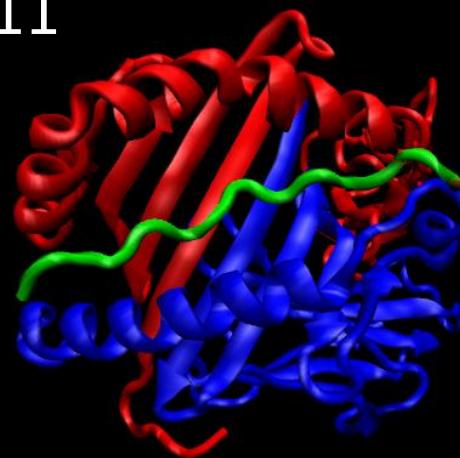


## Binding groove

Class I



Class II



	Class I molecules	Class II molecules
Peptide-binding domain	$\alpha 1/\alpha 2$	$\alpha 1/\beta 1$
Nature of peptide-binding cleft	Closed at both ends	Open at both ends
General size of bound peptides	8–10 amino acids	13–18 amino acids
Peptide motifs involved in binding to MHC molecule	Anchor residues at both ends of peptide; generally hydrophobic carboxyl-terminal anchor	Anchor residues distributed along the length of the peptide
Nature of bound peptide	Extended structure in which both ends interact with MHC cleft but middle arches up away from MHC molecule	Extended structure that is held at a constant elevation above the floor of MHC cleft

# Peptide binding site in MHC class II

# Peptide binding site (MHC class II)

Superimposition of DR1-A2 and DR1-HA

Classical MHCI:

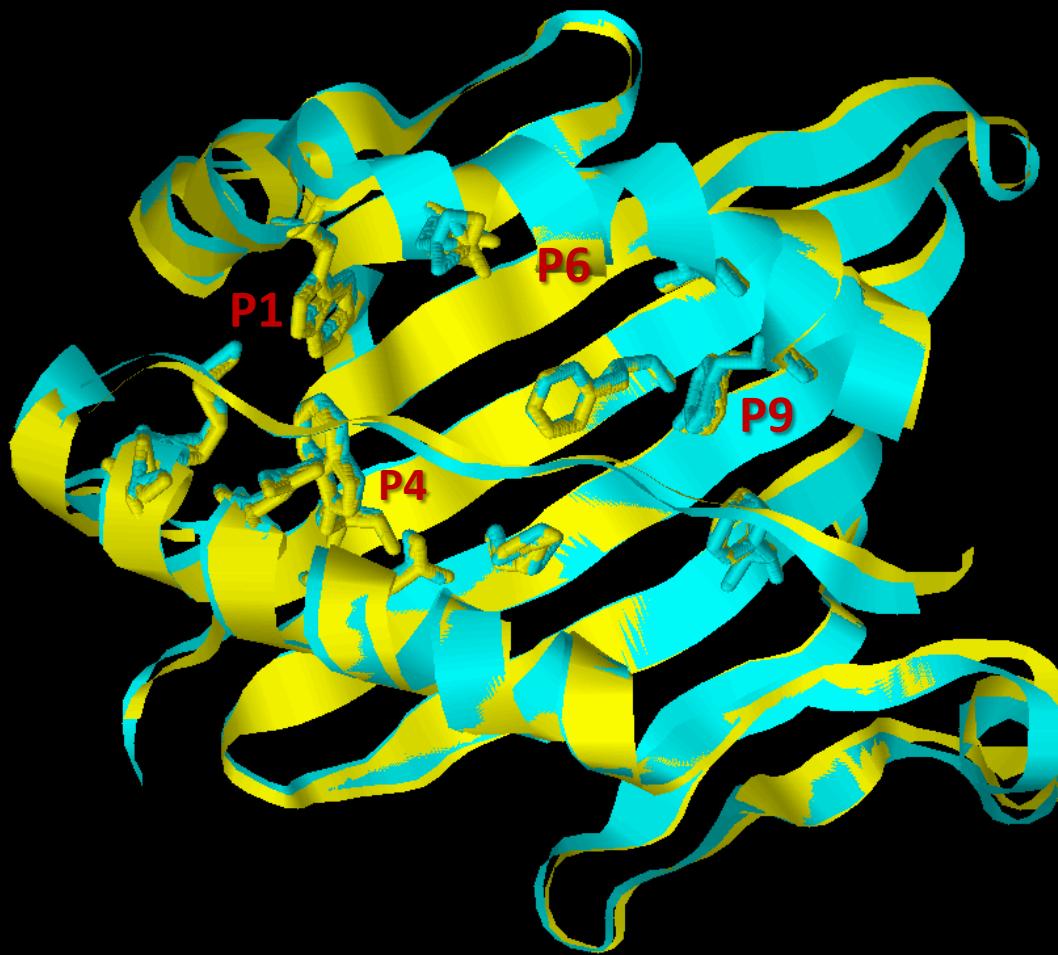
- DQ
- DPI
- DR → **A2** (endogenous peptide)
- **HA** (hemagglutinin, influenza)



RMS 0.81

Sc 9.21

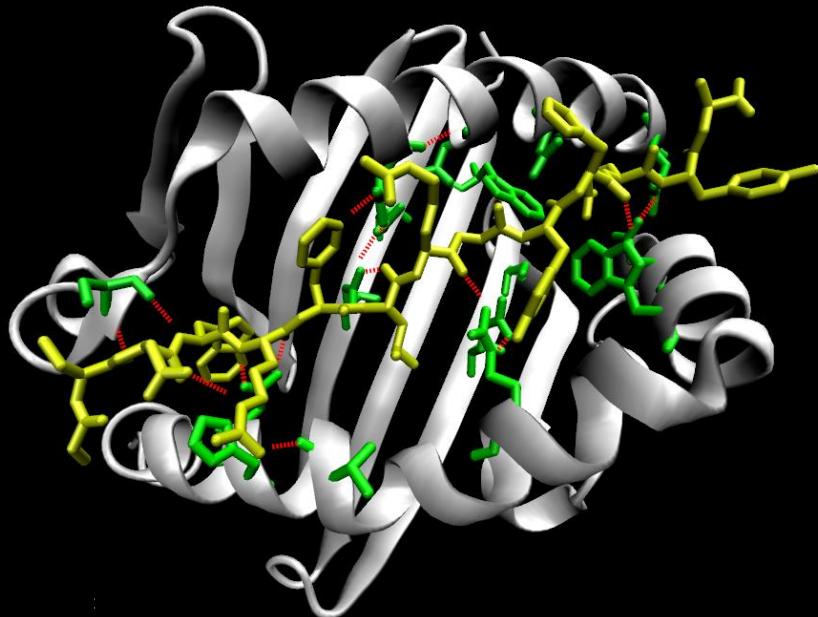
# Peptide binding site (MHC class II)



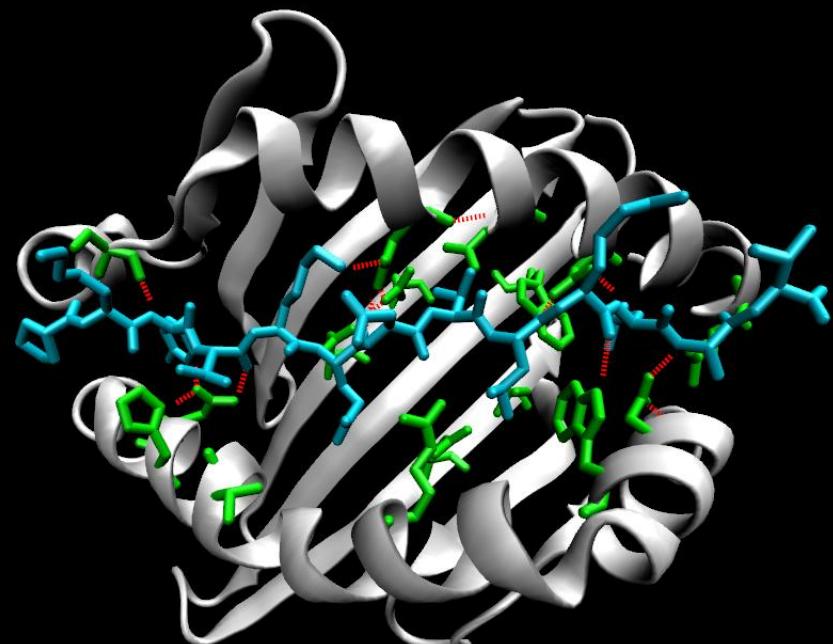
Peptide binding site  
Residues from relevant pockets are shown

# Peptide binding site (MHC class II)

Hydrogen bonds stabilize HLA-Peptide union



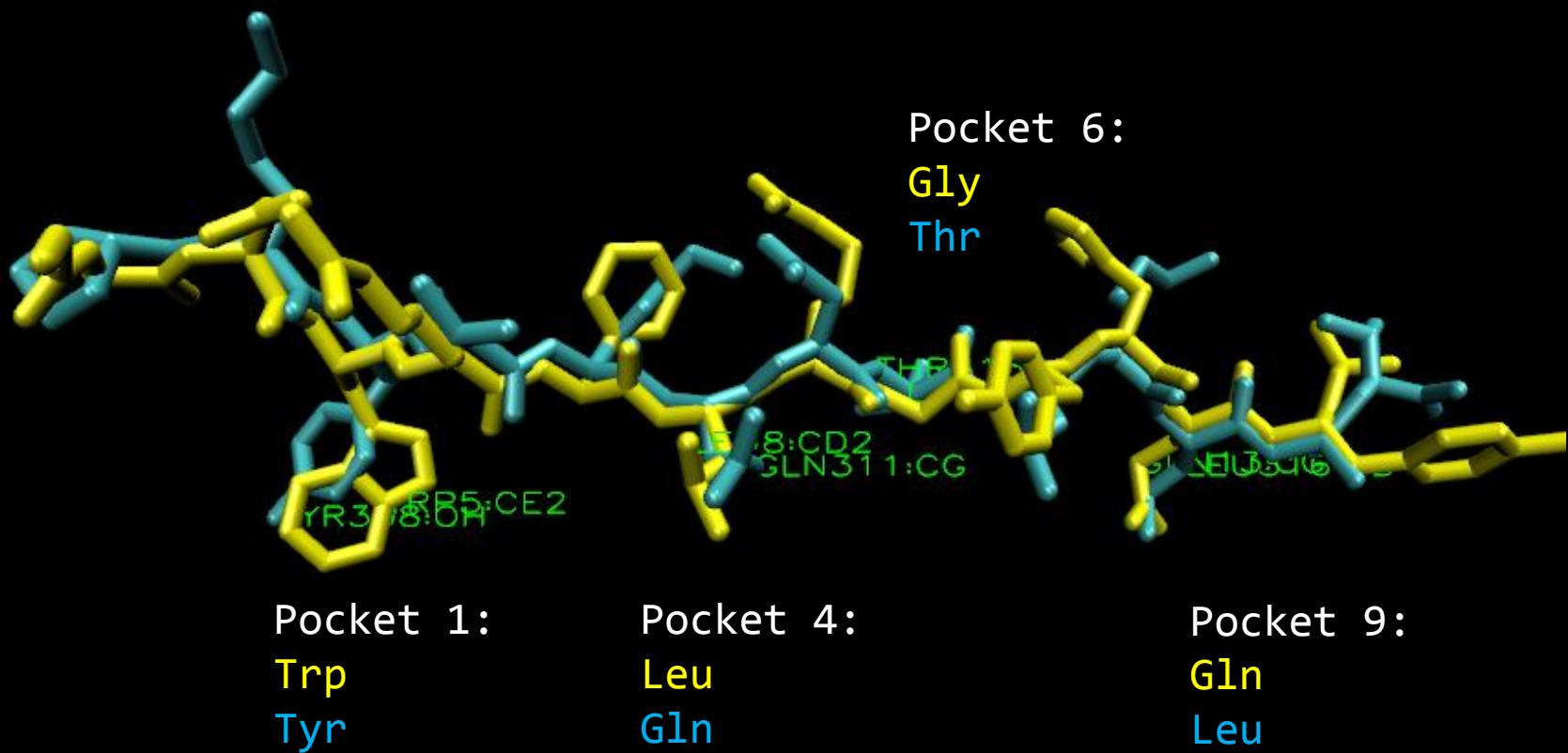
HLA-DR1 bound to A2



HLA-DR1 bound to HA

# Peptide binding site (MHC class II)

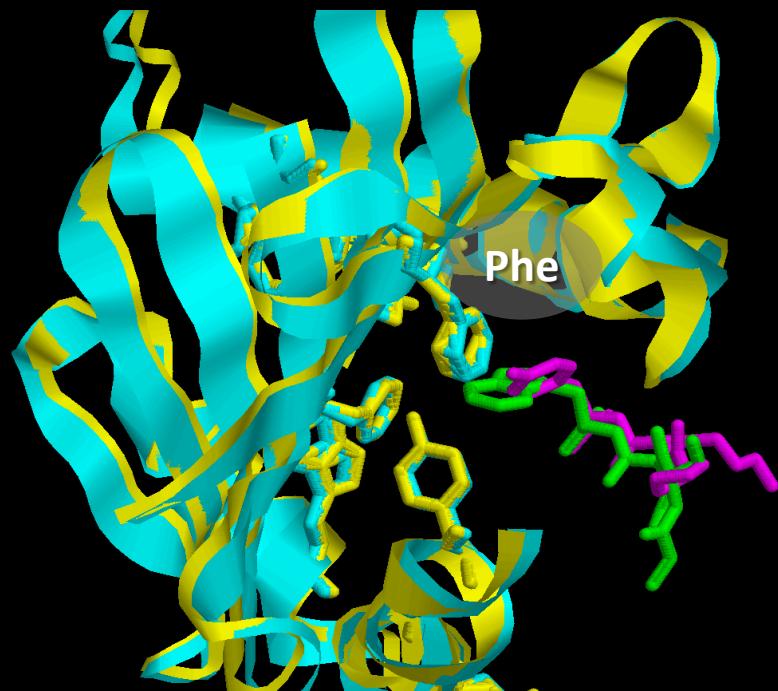
Superimposition of peptide **A2** and **HA**



# Peptide binding site (MHC class II)

## Pockets

### Pocket 1



Largest and most important

A2 places Trp  
HA places Tyr

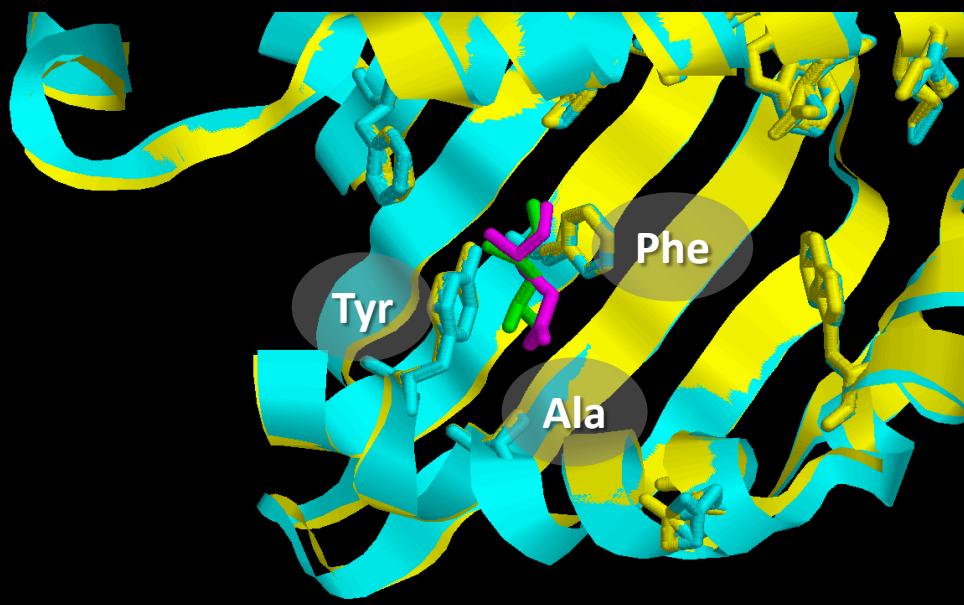
Electrostatic interaction  
with a Phe<sup>24</sup> of MHCII

DR1-A2  
DR1-HA

# Peptide binding site (MHC class II)

## Pockets

### Pocket 4



Preferences for hydrophobic residues

**A2** places **Leu**  
**HA** places **Gln**

**Electrostatic interaction** with MHC II:

Phe $\beta$ 13  
-Ala $\beta$ 74  
-Tyr $\beta$ 78

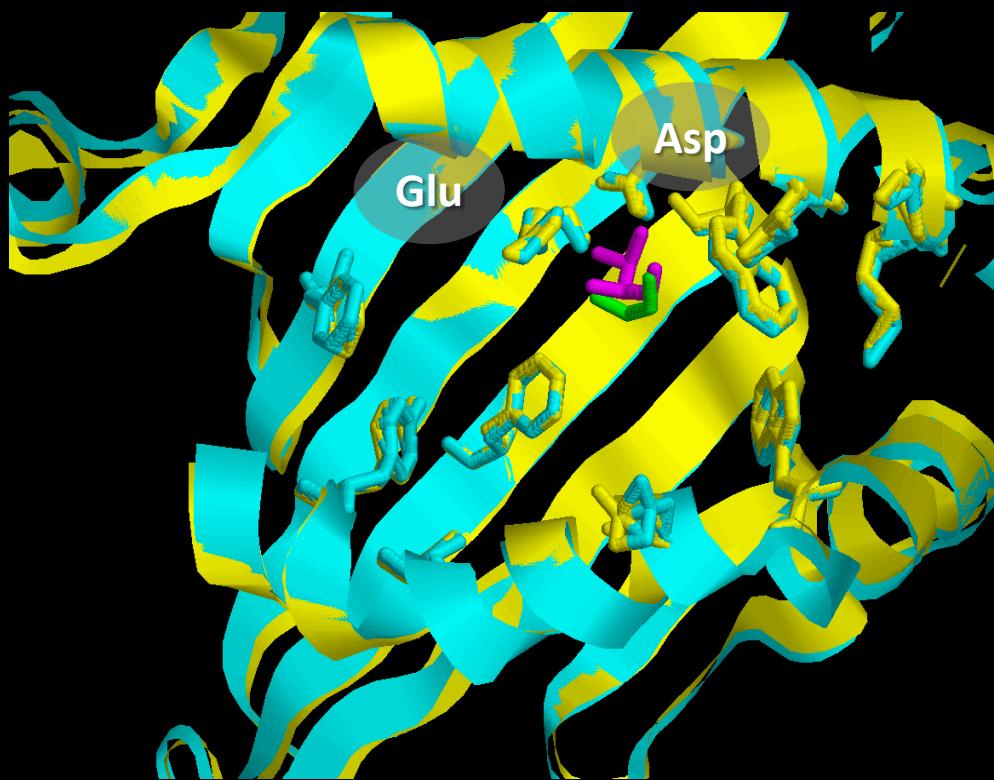
**DR1-A2**

**DR1-HA**

# Peptide binding site (MHC class II)

## Pockets

### Pocket 6



DR1-A2

DR1-HA

Preference for small residues

**A2** places **Gly**

**HA** places **Thr** (not favored)

**H bonds** through a water molecule with MHC II residues:

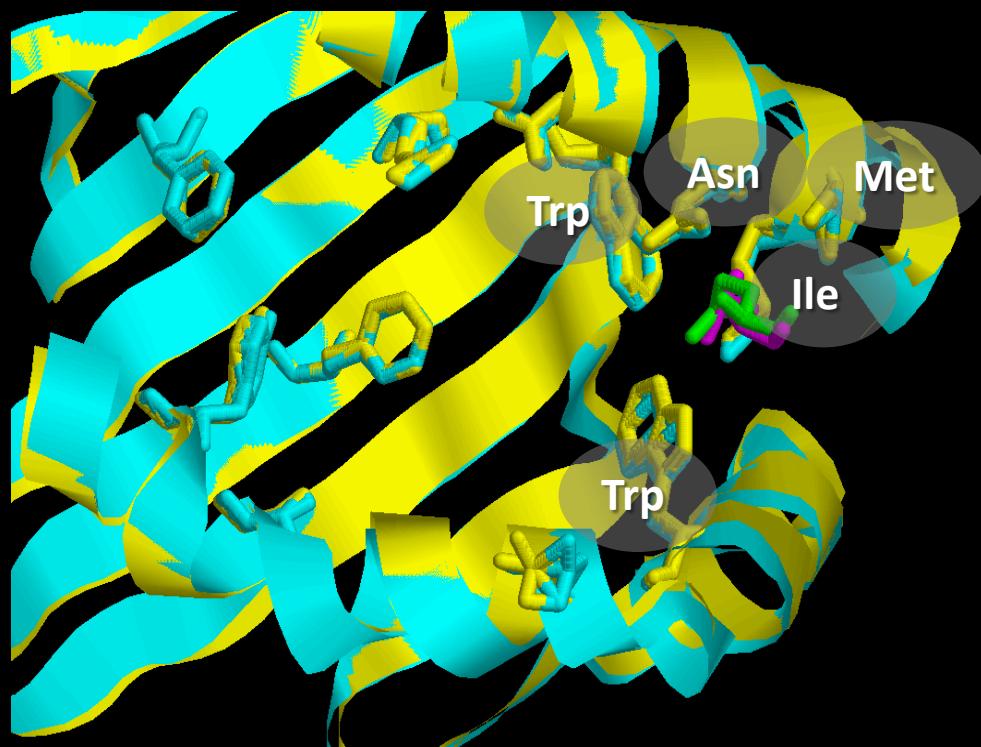
- Glu $\alpha$ 11

- Asp $\alpha$ 66

# Peptide binding site (MHC class II)

## Pockets

### Pocket 9



DR1-A2  
DR1-HA

Preferences for hydrophobic residues

A2 places Gln  
HA places Leu

Electrostatic interactions with:

- Trp $\beta$ 9
- Asn $\alpha$ 69
- Met $\alpha$ 73
- Ile $\alpha$ 72
- Trp $\beta$ 61

# Peptide binding site (MHC class II)

## Adjustment of the HLA-DR1 peptide binding site to different peptides

1. The **peptides** bind with similar conformation and placing sidechains at pockets 1, 4, 6 and 9.

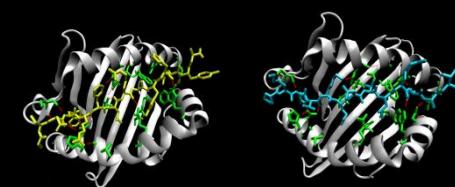


2. The conformation of the **HLA-DR1 protein mainchain** is unchanged between the A2 and HA

\*The largest mainchain deviations occur at a kink in the **b-chain helical region** near P7.



3. The pattern of **hydrogen bonds** between HLA-DR1 and the peptide mainchain atoms is also similar between the two complexes.



4. The different peptide sequences are accommodated with essentially no change in the conformation of the **sidechains** of MHC residues contacting the peptide.

# Variable regions

- Classical MHC class II -

# Variable regions (classical MHC II)



Classical MHC  
class II  
superimposition

Superimposition of 21 MHC class II

## Regions of structural heterogeneity

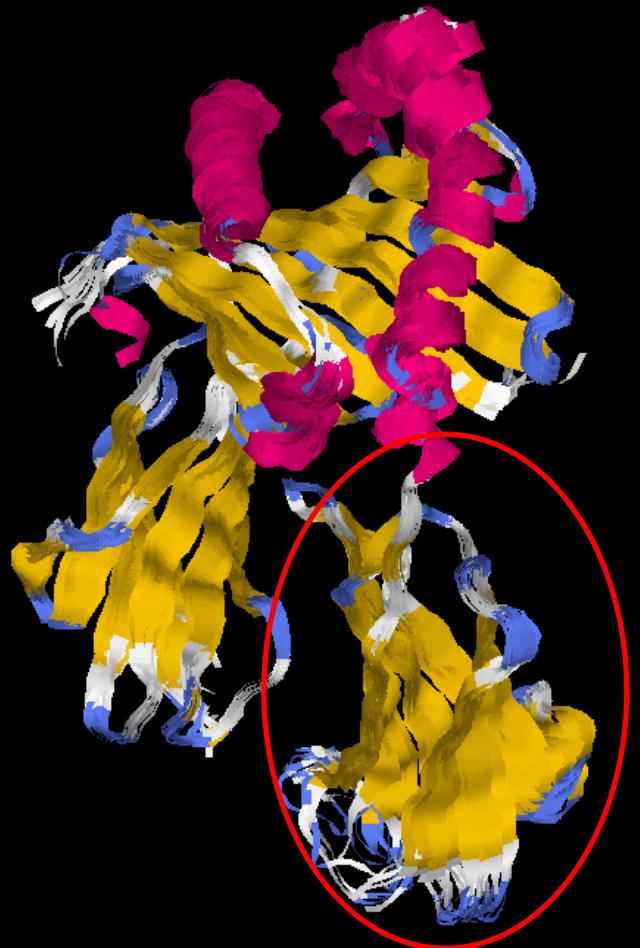
- $\beta$ 2 Ig-like domain
- kink in the  $\beta$ -subunit helical region
- $\alpha$ -subunit  $3_{10}$  helical region

RMS 0.48  
Sc 9.59

Variable regions (classical MHC II)

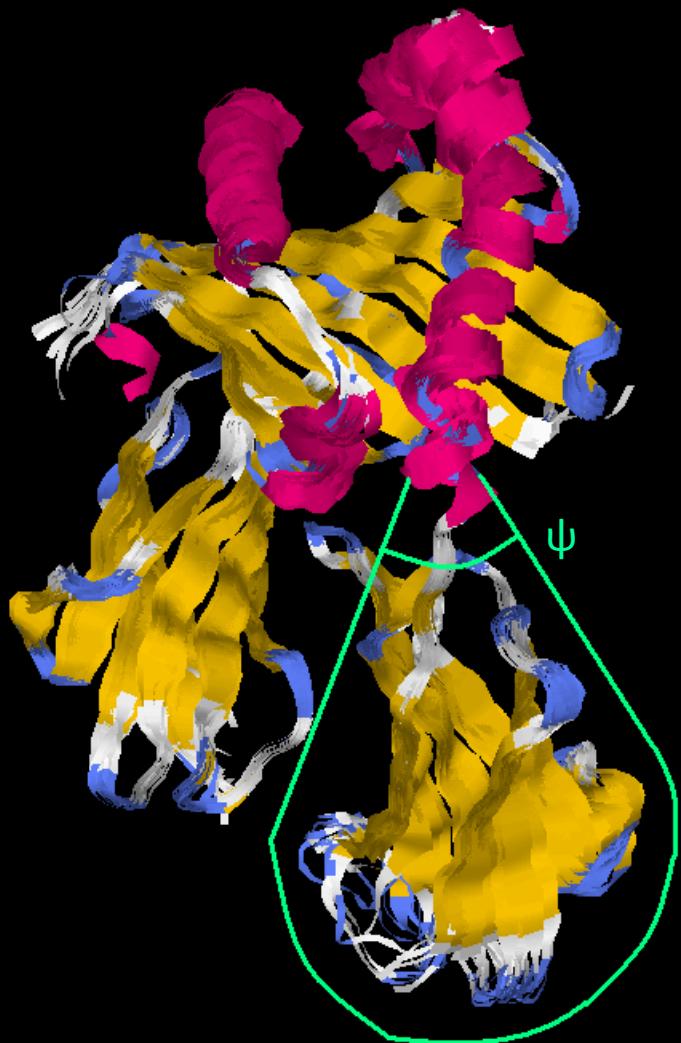
β2 Ig-like  
domain

The β2 Ig-like domain



Variable regions (classical MHC II)

β2 Ig-like  
domain



Variation of 10°

# Variable regions (classical MHC II)

β2 Ig-like domain



**Largest variation:**

A–B loop between the first two strands of the Ig domain, residues 105–112

## Variable regions (classical MHC II)

# $\beta 2$ Ig-like domain

## Multiple alignment of $\beta 2$ Ig-like domain

# Variable regions (classical MHC II)

β-helix at the kinked region

The pronounced kink in the β-subunit helical region β62-71



The peptide induces conformational changes in this region

Variable regions (classical MHC II)

β-helix at the  
kinked region



1DLH  
(HLA-DR1 -HA)  
is our  
reference  
protein

# Variable regions (classical MHC II)

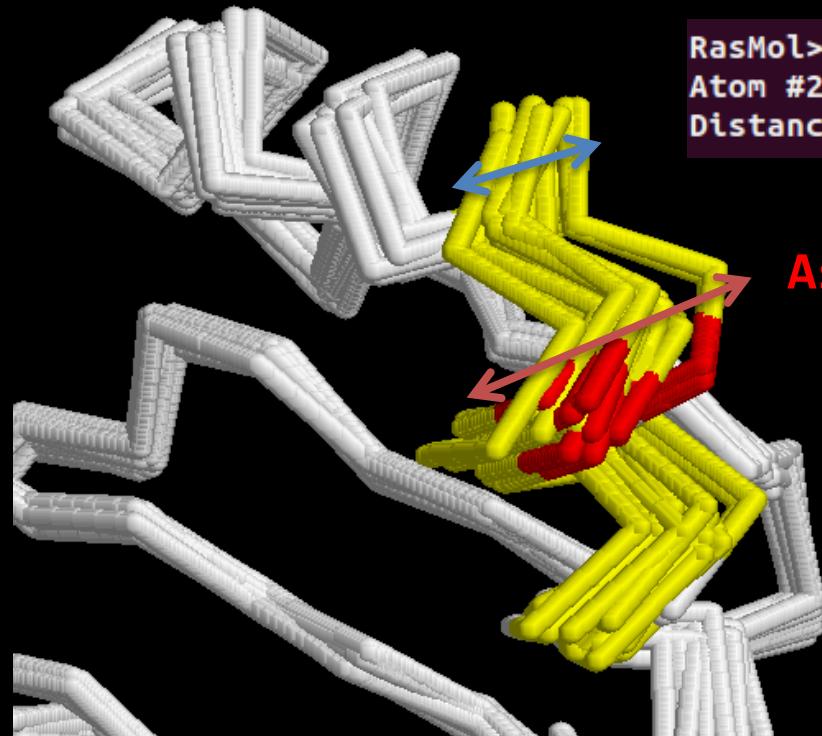
β-helix at the kinked region



1DLH  
(HLA-DR1 - HA)  
is our  
reference  
protein

# Variable regions (classical MHC II)

β-helix at the kinked region

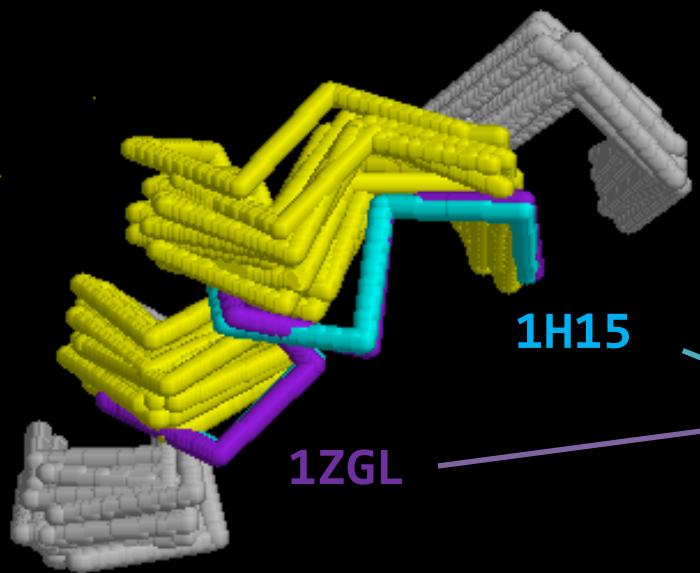


RasMol>  
Atom #2: SER63R.N (1972)  
Distance ASN62K.CA-SER63R.N: 3.987

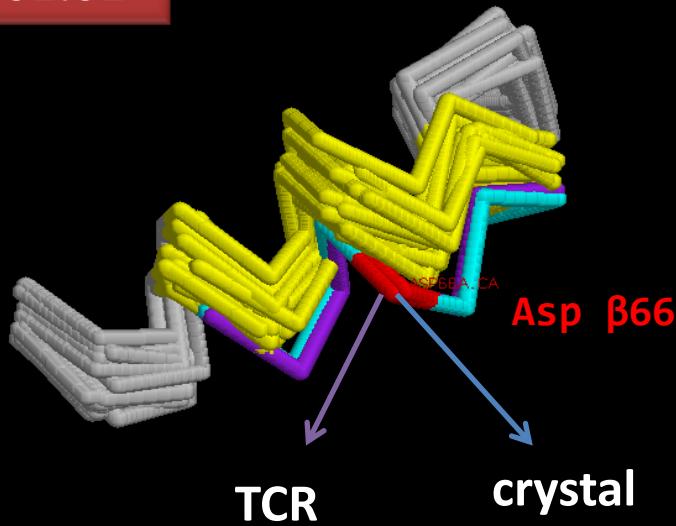
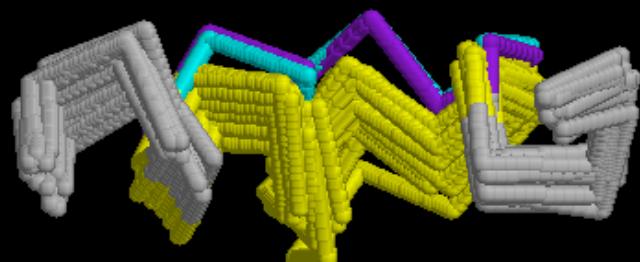
RasMol>  
Atom #2: ASP66A.CA (1895)  
Distance GLU66R.CA-ASP66A.CA: 6.018

Variable regions (classical MHC II)

β-helix at the kinked region



HLA-DR  
B5\*01:01



# Variable regions (classical MHC II)

## β-helix at the kinked region

Multiple alignment of the kink in the β-subunit helical region beta62-71

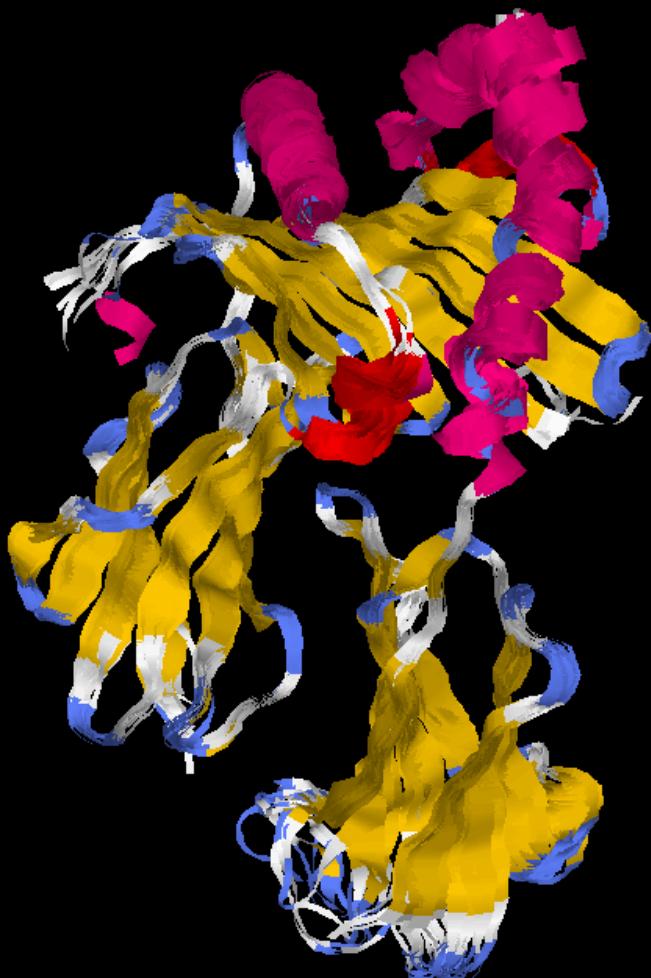
Multiple alignment of the kink in the β-subunit helical region beta62-71

3PL6	REEYVRFDSVGVYRAVTPQGRPVAEYWNSQKEVLER	ARASVDRVCRHNYEVAYRGILQR
1S9V	REEIVRFDSVGFEFRAVTLLGLPAAEYWNSQKDILER	KRAAVDRVCRHNYQLELRTTLQR
1JK8	REEYARFDSVGVYRAVTPLGPPAAEYWNSQKEVLER	TRAELDTVCRHNYQLELRTTLQR
2NNA	REEYARFDSVGVYRAVTPLGPPAAEYWNSQKEVLER	TRAELDTVCRHNYQLELRTTLQR
3QXD	QEESVRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDLLEQ	RRAAVDTYCRHNYVGESFTVQR
1DLH	QEESVRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDLLEQ	RRAAVDTYCRHNYVGESFTVQR
1JWU	QEESVRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDLLEQ	RRAAVDTYCRHNYVGESFTVQR
1KLU	QEESVRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDLLEQ	RRAAVDTYCRHNYVGESFTVQR
1SJH	QEESVRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDLLEQ	RRAAVDTYCRHNYVGESFTVQR
2G9H	QEESVRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDLLEQ	RRAAVDTYCRHNYVGESFTVQR
3L6F	QEESVRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDLLEQ	RRAAVDTYCRHNYVGESFTVQR
1H15	QEEDLRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDFLED	RRAAVDTYCRHNYVGESFTVQR
1ZGL	QEEDLRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDFLED	RRAAVDTYCRHNYVGESFTVQR
1A6A	QEENVRFDSVGFEFRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDLLEQ	KRGVDNYCRHNYGVESFTVQR
1D5M	QEELYVRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDLLEQ	KRAAVDTYCRHNYVGESFTVQR
1D5Z	QEELYVRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDLLEQ	KRAAVDTYCRHNYVGESFTVQR
2XN9	QEESVRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDLLEQ	RRAAVDTYCRHNYVGESFTVQR
3C5J	QEEOFVRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPVAEWSNSQKDLLEQ	KRGVDNYCRHNYGVESFTVQR
1R5I	QEESVRFDSVGGEYRAVTELGRPDAEYWNSQKDLLEQ	RRAAVDTYCRHNYVGESFTVQR
1UVQ	REEYARFDSVGVYRAVTPQGRPDAEYWNSQKEVLER	TRAELDTVCRHNYEVAFRGILQR
3LQZ	REEEOFVRFDSVGFEFRAVTELGRPDEEYWNSQKDILEE	RAAVPDRMCRHNYELGGPMTLQR

\*\* \* \* \* \* . \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* . \* \* \* \* \* . . \*\*

# Variable regions (classical MHC II)

## $\alpha$ -subunit $\beta_{10}$ helical region



### $\beta_{10}$ helix

→ 3 residues/turn

→ NH-CO hydrogen bonds  
(i and i+3 residues)

10-atoms rings

LESS STABLE

RARE

### WHERE?

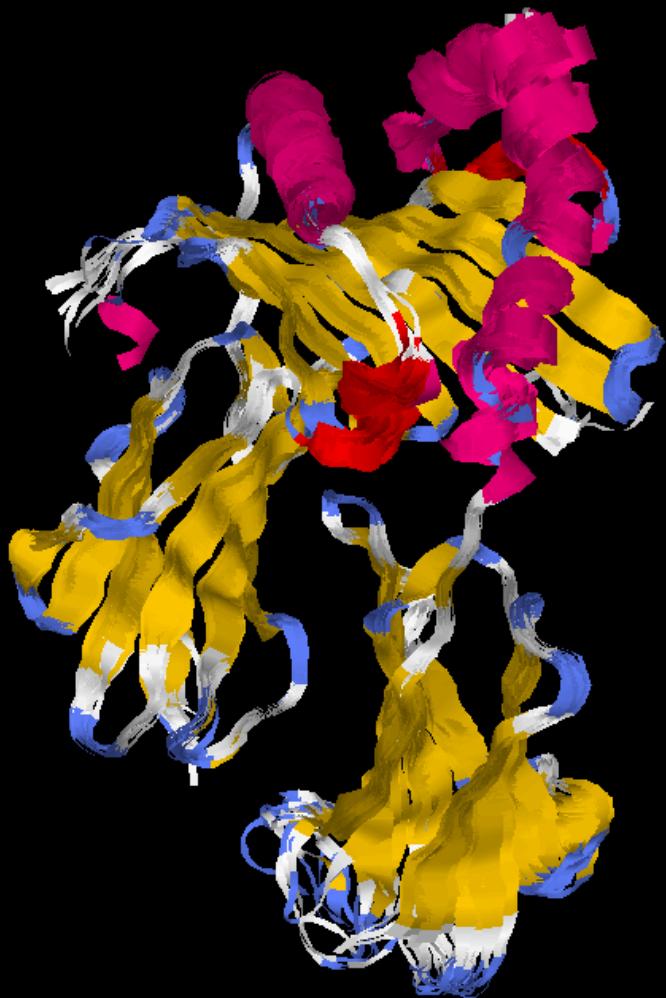
- $\alpha$ 45-51 residues

-Connects:

- $\beta$  sheet platform
- $\alpha$  helix that defines the binding groove

# Variable regions (classical MHC II)

## $\alpha$ -subunit $\beta_{10}$ helical region



The majority of class II structures:  
 $\text{Ca}$  deviation:  $2\text{\AA}$

Large deviations for the **HLA-DQ** proteins:

- **3PL6 (6.9 $\text{\AA}$ )** (HLA-DQ1-MBP)
- **1UVQ (3.8 $\text{\AA}$ )** (HLA-DQ1-Hypocretin)

\* they share the same  $\alpha$ -chain (A1\*0102)

3PL6	EDIVADHVASCVNL YQFYGPSGQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLERKETAWRWPEFSKFGGFDPQ
1S9V	EDIVADHVASGVNL YQSYGPSGQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLERKETVWCLPVLQRQFR-FDPQ
1JK8	--VADHVASYGVNL YQSYGPSGQYSHEFDGDEEFYVDLERKETVWQLPLFRRFRRFDPQ
2NNA	EDIVADHVASYGVNL YQSYGPSGQYSHEFDGDEEFYVDLERKETVWQLPLFRRFRRFDPQ
3QXD	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
1DLH	--EEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
1JWU	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
1KLU	--EHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
1SJH	--EEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
2G9H	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
3L6F	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
1H15	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
1ZGL	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
1A6A	--HVIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
1D5M	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
1D5Z	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
2XN9	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
3C5J	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
1R5T	-TKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEGRFAASCEAQ
1UVQ	FDTVADHVASCVNL YQFYGPSGQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDI FRKETAWRWPEFSKEGGEDPQ
3LQZ	--IKADHVSTY-AAFVQTHRPTGEFMFEFDEDEMVFYVLDLKKETVWLEEGQAFSFAEQ

\*\*\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

# Variable regions (classical MHC II)

# $\alpha$ -subunit $\beta_{10}$ helical region

Distance: **3PL6** (lys50) - **1DLH** (arg50)



**1DLH**  
**3PL6**

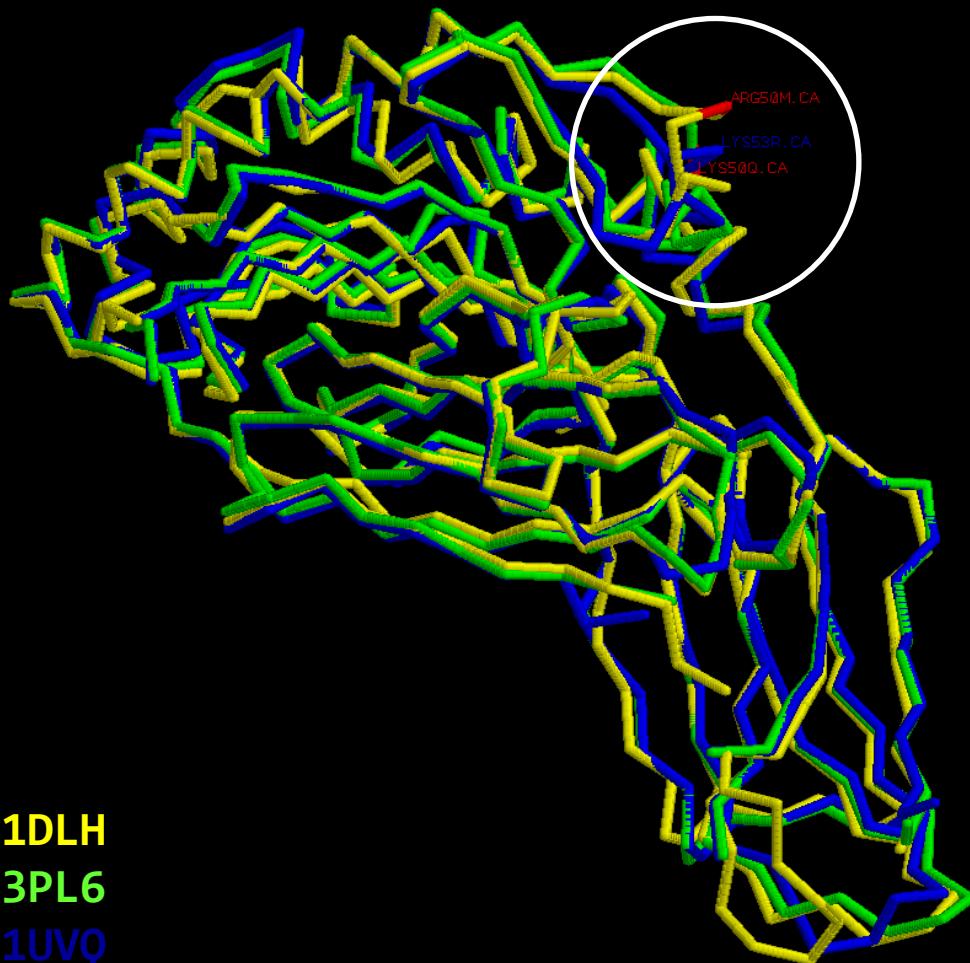
```
RasMol> set picking distance
RasMol>
Atom #1: ARG50M.CA (400)
RasMol>
Atom #2: LYS50Q.CA (414)
Distance ARG50M.CA-LYS50Q.CA: 6.966
```



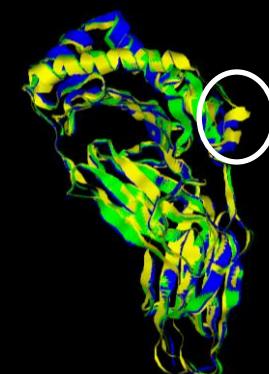
# Variable regions (classical MHC II)

## $\alpha$ -subunit $\beta_{10}$ helical region

Distance: **1UVQ** (lys53) - **1DLH** (arg50)



```
RasMol> set picking distance
RasMol>
Atom #1: ARG50M.CA (400)
RasMol>
Atom #2: LYS53R.CA (428)
Distance ARG50M.CA-LYS53R.CA: 3.896
```



# Variable regions (classical MHC II)

## $\alpha$ -subunit $3_{10}$ helical region



HLA-DQA\*01:02 alleles also show variation between each other

Sc 9.32 RMS 0.87

**A1\*0102 alleles:**

**2 glycines**

→ Structural lability

→ Multiple conformations can be adopted

3PL6	EDIVADHVASCVNLYQFYGPSQQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLERKETAWP WPEFS FGGFPQ
1S9V	EDIVADHVASYGVNLYQSYGPSQQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLERKETVWQ LPLVLRQF FDPQ
1JK8	-- VADHVASYGVNLYQSYGPSQQYSHEDGDEEFYVDLERKETVWQ LPLFRRF RRFDPQ
2NNA	EDIVADHVASYGVNLYQSYGPSQQYSHEDGDEEFYVDLERKETVWQ LPLFRRF RRFDPQ
3QXD	-- IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
1DLH	-- EEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
1JWU	-- IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
1KLU	-- EHHVIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
1SJH	-- EEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
2G9H	-- IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
3L6F	-- IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
1H15	-- IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
1ZGL	-- IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
1A6A	-- HVIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
1D5M	-- IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
1D5Z	-- IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
2XN9	-- IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
3C5J	-- IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
1R5I	-- IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ
1UVQ	EDIVADHVASCVNLYQFYGPSQQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLERKETAWP WPEFS FGGFPQ
3LQZ	-- IKADHVSTY-AAFVQTHRPTGEFMFEDEDEMVFYVLDKKETVWPL EEEFGRFA SFEAQ

# Variable regions (classical MHC II)

## α-subunit 3<sub>10</sub> helical region

### HLA-DQ 1SV9

Deletion at the α52 residue → DM resistant allele

Insertion of a residue restores the DM susceptibility

Deviations are  
not due to  
insertions or  
deletions

3PL6	EDIVADHVASCGVNLYQFYGPSGQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLERKETAWRWPEFSKFGFDPQ
1S9V	EDIVADHVASYGVNLQSYGPSGQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLGRKETVWQLPVLRIRF-FDPQ
1JK8	---VADHVASYGVNLQSYGPSGQYSHEFDGDEEFYVDLERKETVWQLPLFRRFRRFDPQ
2NNA	EDIVADHVASYGVNLQSYGPSGQYSHEFDGDEEFYVDLERKETVWQLPLFRRFRRFDPQ
3QXD	---IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASCEAQ
1DLH	----EEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
1JWU	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
1KLU	-----EHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
1SJH	----EEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
2G9H	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
3L6F	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
1H15	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
1ZGL	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
1A6A	-----HVIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
1D5M	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
1D5Z	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
2XN9	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
3C5J	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
1R5I	--IKEEHVIIQ-AEFYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFEAQ
1UVQ	EDIVADHVASCGVNLYQFYGPSGQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLERKETAWRWPEFSKFGFDPQ
3LQZ	--IKADHVSTY-AAFVQTHRPTGEFMFEFDEDEMFYVDLKKETVWLLEEFGRQAFSFEAQ

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Non classical MHC II

# Non classical MHC class II

The MHCII locus includes:

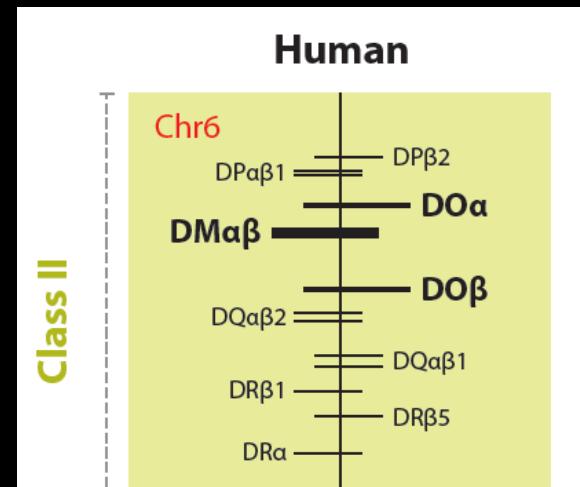
- genes encoding **classical** MHCII proteins that bind peptide antigens and present them to T cells
- genes for **non-classical** MHCII proteins that have accessory roles in the antigen-loading process.

## HLA - DM

- chaperones peptide-free MHCII, protecting it against inactivation
- catalyzes peptide exchange on loaded MHCII

## HLA - DO

- binds HLA-DM and influences the repertoire of peptides presented by MHCII proteins

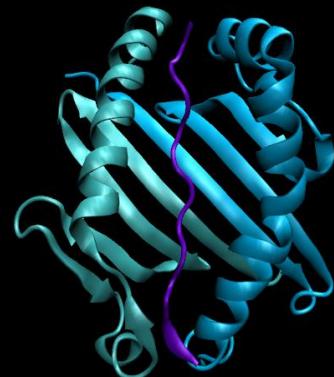


Adams EJ, Luoma AM. The adaptable major histocompatibility complex (MHC) fold: structure and function of non classical and MHC class I-like molecules. *Annu. Rev. Immunol.* 2013; 31:529–61

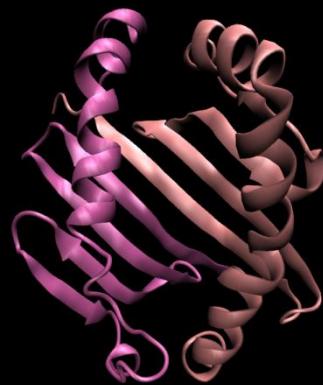
# Non classical MHC class II

Structure

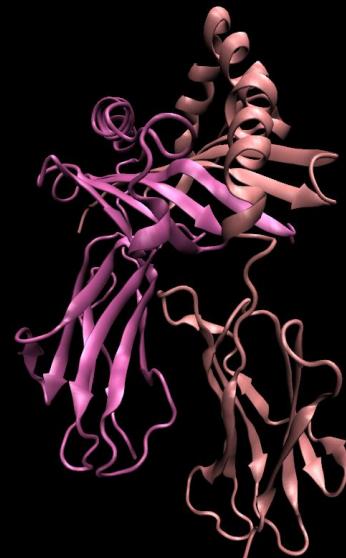
HLA-DR



HLA-DO



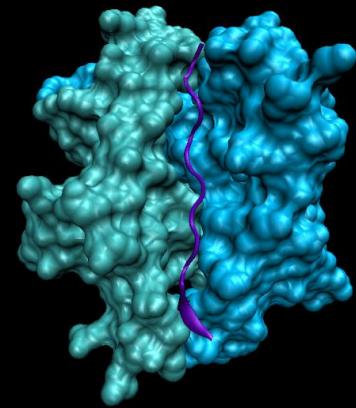
HLA-DM



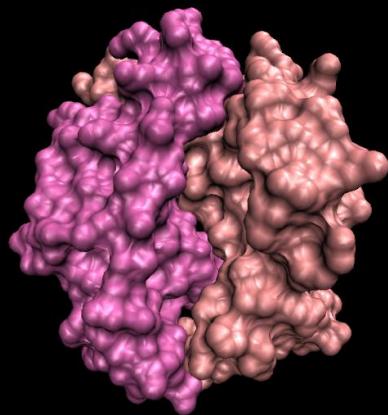
# Non classical MHC class II

Structure

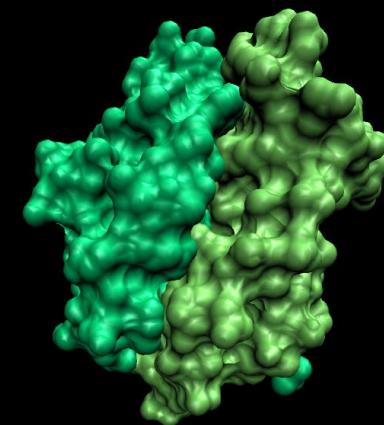
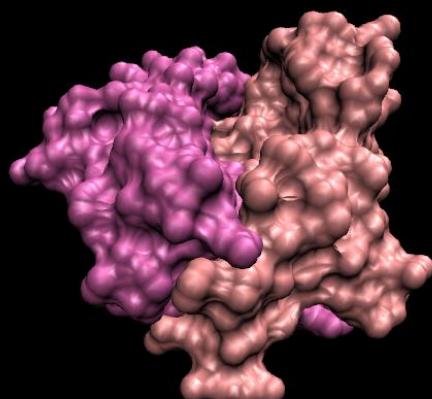
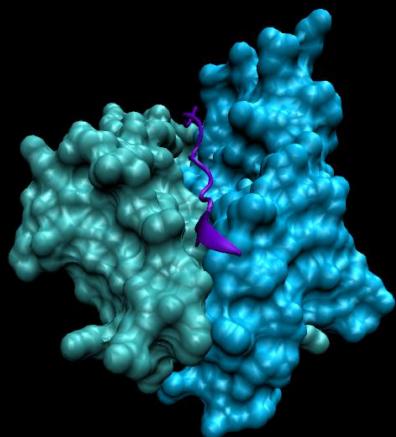
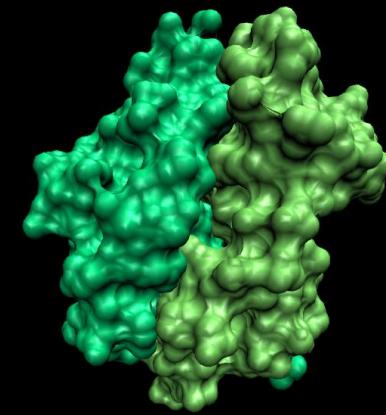
HLA-DR



HLA-DO



HLA-DM



# Non classical MHC class II

Superimposition  
classical -  
non classical



- Structure resemblance for DR, DM and DO
- Variable regions:
  - $\beta 2$  Ig-like domain
  - $\alpha$ -subunit 310 helical region
  - $\beta 1$  helix at kinked region
- DO structure is more similar to DR1

Classical MHC II

HLA II-DM

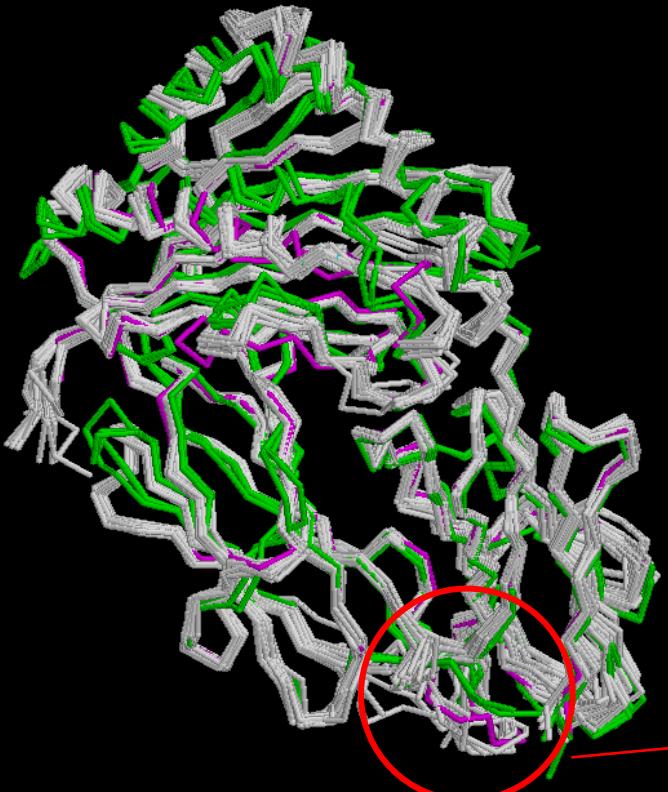
HLA II-DO

RMS 1.75

Sc 8.29

# Non classical MHC class II

Superimposition  
classical -  
non classical

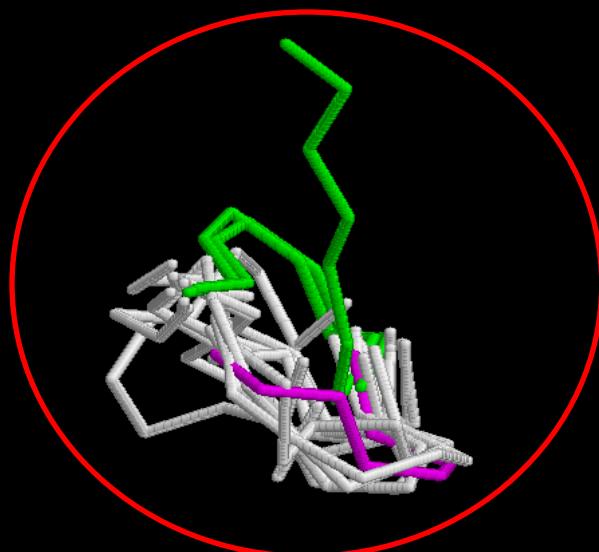


$\beta 2$  Ig-like domain

Classical MHC II

HLA II-DM

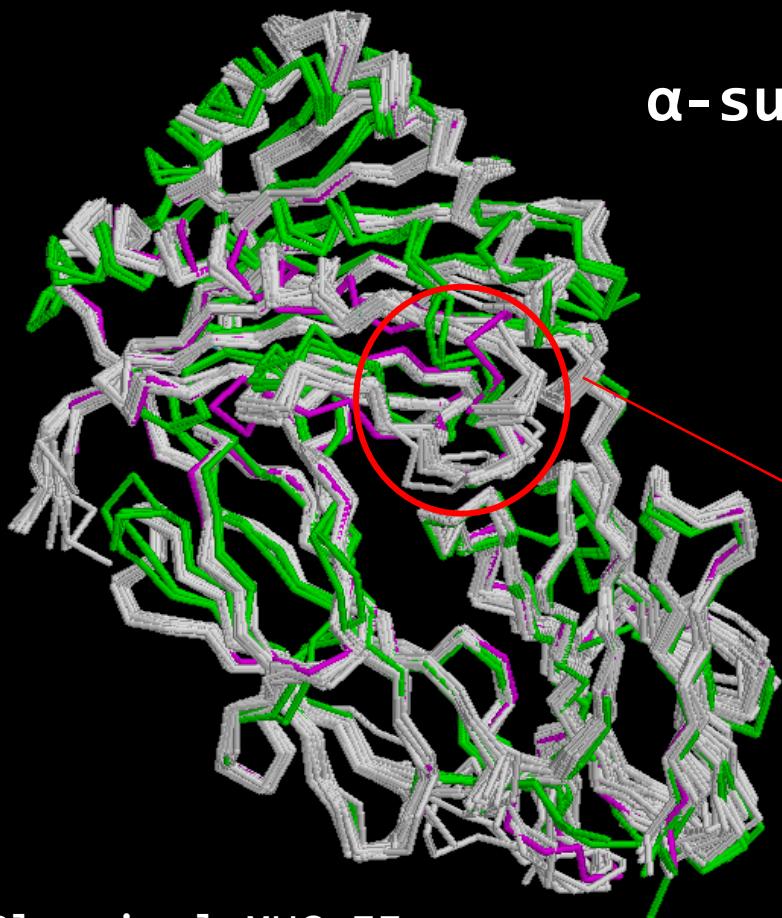
HLA II-DO



# Non classical MHC class II

Superimposition  
classical -  
non classical

$\alpha$ -subunit  $3_{10}$  helical region

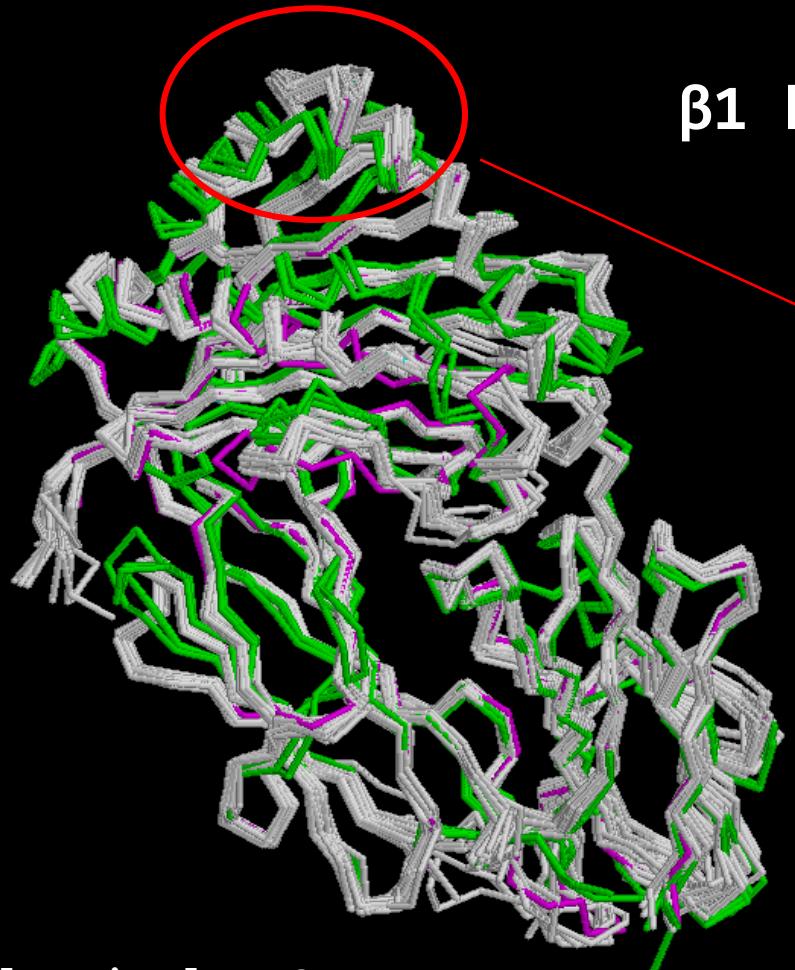


HLA II-DM  
HLA II-DO

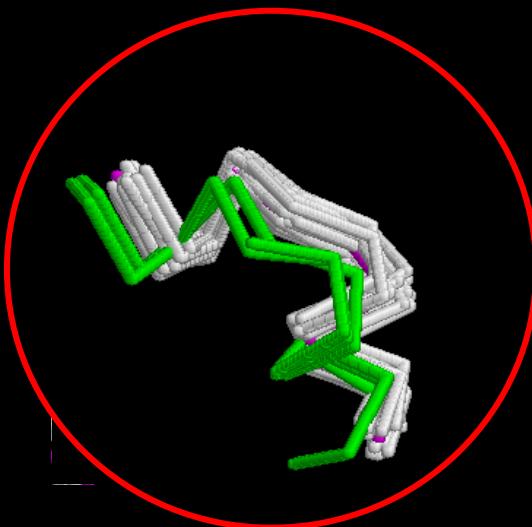


# Non classical MHC class II

Superimposition  
classical -  
non classical



$\beta 1$  helix at kinked region



Classical MHCA Class II - HLA-DO  
**β2 Ig-like domain**

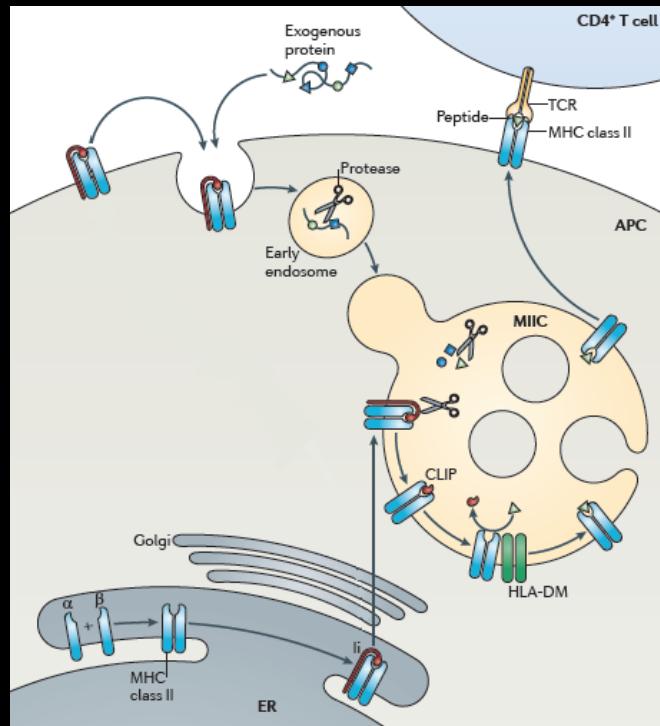
DQ	{	3PL6	RVEPTVTISPSRTEALNHHNLLICSVTDFYPSQIKVRWFRNDQEETAGVVSTPLIRNGDW
		1S9V	RVEPTVTISPSRTEALNHHNLLICSVTDFYPAQIKVRWFRNDQEETAGVVSTPLIRNGDW
		1JK8	RVEPTVTISPSRTEALNHHNLLICSVTDFYPAQIKVRWFRNDQEETTGVVSTPLIRNGDW
		2NNA	RVEPTVTISPSRTEALNHHNLLICSVTDFYPAQIKVRWFRNDQEETTGVVSTPLIRNGDW
		3QXD	RVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLICSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRNGQEEKAGVVSTGLIQNGDW
		1DLH	RVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLICSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRNGQEEKAGVVSTGLIQNGDW
		1JWU	RVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLICSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRNGQEEKAGVVSTGLIQNGDW
		1KLU	RVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLICSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRNGQEEKAGVVSTGLIQNGDW
		1SJH	RVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLICSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRNGQEEKAGVVSTGLIQNGDW
		2G9H	RVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLICSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRNGQEEKAGVVSTGLIQNGDW
		3L6F	RVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLICSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRNGQEEKAGVVSTGLIQNGDW
		1H15	RVEPKVTVYPARTQTLQHHNLLICSVNGFYPGSIEVRWFRNSQEEKAGVVSTGLIQNGDW
		1ZGL	RVEPKVTVYPARTQTLQHHNLLICSVNGFYPGSIEVRWFRNSQEEKAGVVSTGLIQNGDW
		1A6A	RVHPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLICSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRNGQEEKAGVVSTGLIHNGDW
		1D5M	RVYPEVTVYPAKTQPLQHHNLLICSVNGFYPGSIEVRWFRNGQEEKAGVVSTGLIQNGDW
		1D5Z	RVYPEVTVYPAKTQPLQHHNLLICSVNGFYPGSIEVRWFRNGQEEKAGVVSTGLIQNGDW
		2XN9	RVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLICSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRNGQEEKAGVVSTGLIQNGDW
		3C5J	RVHPQVTVYPAKTQPLQHHNLLICSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRNGQEEKAGVVSTGLIHNGDW
		1R5I	RVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLICSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRNGQEEKAGVVSTGLIQNGDW
DQ	←	1UVQ	RVEPTVTISPSRTEALNHHNLLICSVTDFYPGQIKVRWFRNDQEETAGVVSTPLIRNGDW
DP	←	3L0Z	RVOPRVNVSPSKKGPLOHHNLLICSVTDFYPGSIOVRWFNLNGOEETAGVVSTNLIRNGDW
DO	←	4I0Pcd	KVQPEVTVYPERTPLLHQHNLLICSVTGFYPGDIKIKWFLNGQEERAGVMSTGPIRNGDW

# Classical MHCA Class II - HLA-DM β2 Ig-like domain

DQ	3PL6	VDRVCRHNYEVAYRGILQRRVEPTVTISPSRTEALNHHL	LLICSVTDFYPSQIKVRWFRR
	1S9V	VDRVCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISPSRTEALNHHL	LLVCSVTDYPAQIKVRWFRR
	1JK8	LDTVCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISPSRTEALNHHL	LLVCSVTDYPAQIKVRWFRR
	2NNA	LDTVCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISPSRTEALNHHL	LLVCSVTDYPAQIKVRWFRR
	3QXD	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHH	LLVCSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
DR	1DLH	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHH	LLVCSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
	1JWU	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHH	LLVCSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
	1KLU	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHH	LLVCSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
	1SJH	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHH	LLVCSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
	2G9H	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHH	LLVCSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
DQ	3L6F	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHH	LLVCSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
	1H15	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHH	LLVCSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
	1ZGL	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPARTQTLQHH	LLVCSVNGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
	1A6A	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPARTQTLQHH	LLVCSVNGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
	1D5M	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVYPEVTVYPAKTQPLQHH	LLVCSVNGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
DP	1D5Z	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVYPEVTVYPAKTQPLQHH	LLVCSVNGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
	2XN9	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHH	LLVCSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
	3C5J	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVYPEVTVYPAKTQPLQHH	LLVCSVNGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
	1R5I	VDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHH	LLVCSVSGFYPGSIEVRWFRR
	1UVQ	LDTVCRHNYEVAFRGILQRRVEPTVTISPSRTEALNHHL	LLVCSVTDYPAQIKVRWFRR
DM	3LQZ	PDRMCRHNYELGGPMLQRRVQPRVNVSPPSKKGPLQHH	NLLVCHVTDFYPGSIQVRWFLN
	1HDM	GLQNCATHQPFWGSLTNRTRPPSVQVAKTTPFNTREP	/MLACYVWGFYPAEVITITWRKN
	2BC4	GLQNCATHQPFWGSLTNRTRPPSVQVAKTTPFNTREP	/MLACYVWGFYPAEVITITWRKN
	4I0Pab	GLQNCATHQPFWGSLTNRTRPPSVQVAKTTPFNTREP	/MLACYVWGFYPAEVITITWRKN
	4FQXcd	GLQNCATHQPFWGSLTDRTRPPSVQVAKTTPFNTREP	/MLACYVWGFYPAEVITITWRKN

# HLA DR1 - HLA DM interaction

# Interaction HLA-DR1 – HLA-DM



## HLA-DM Functions

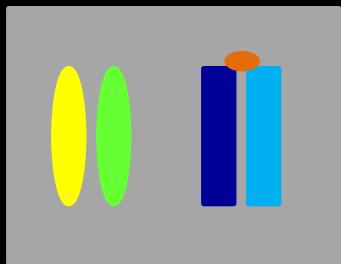
- Catalyze CLIP and low affinity peptides dissociation from DR molecules
- Stabilize empty DR proteins
- Enable rapid binding of high affinity peptides generated by proteolysis to DR

Neefjes J, Jongsma MLM. Towards a systems understanding of MHC class I and MHC class II antigen presentation. *Nature*, 2011; 11: 823-836.

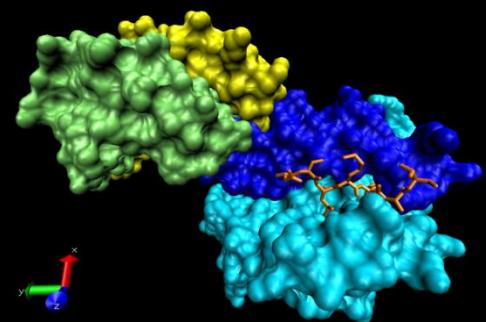
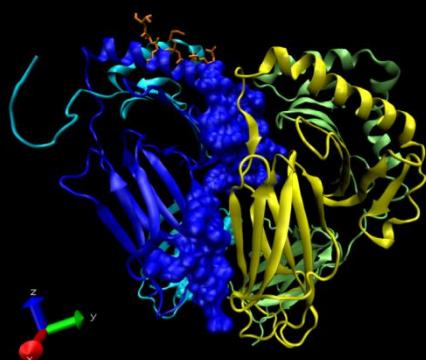
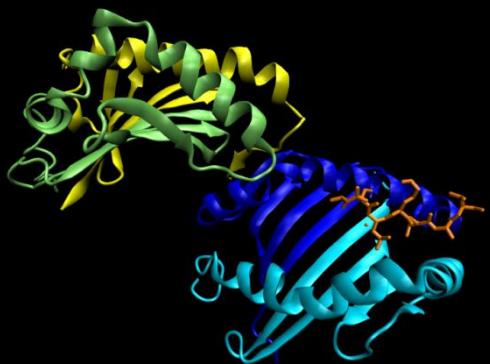
# Interaction HLA-DR1 – HLA-DM

Overview of  
the complex

DM - DR1

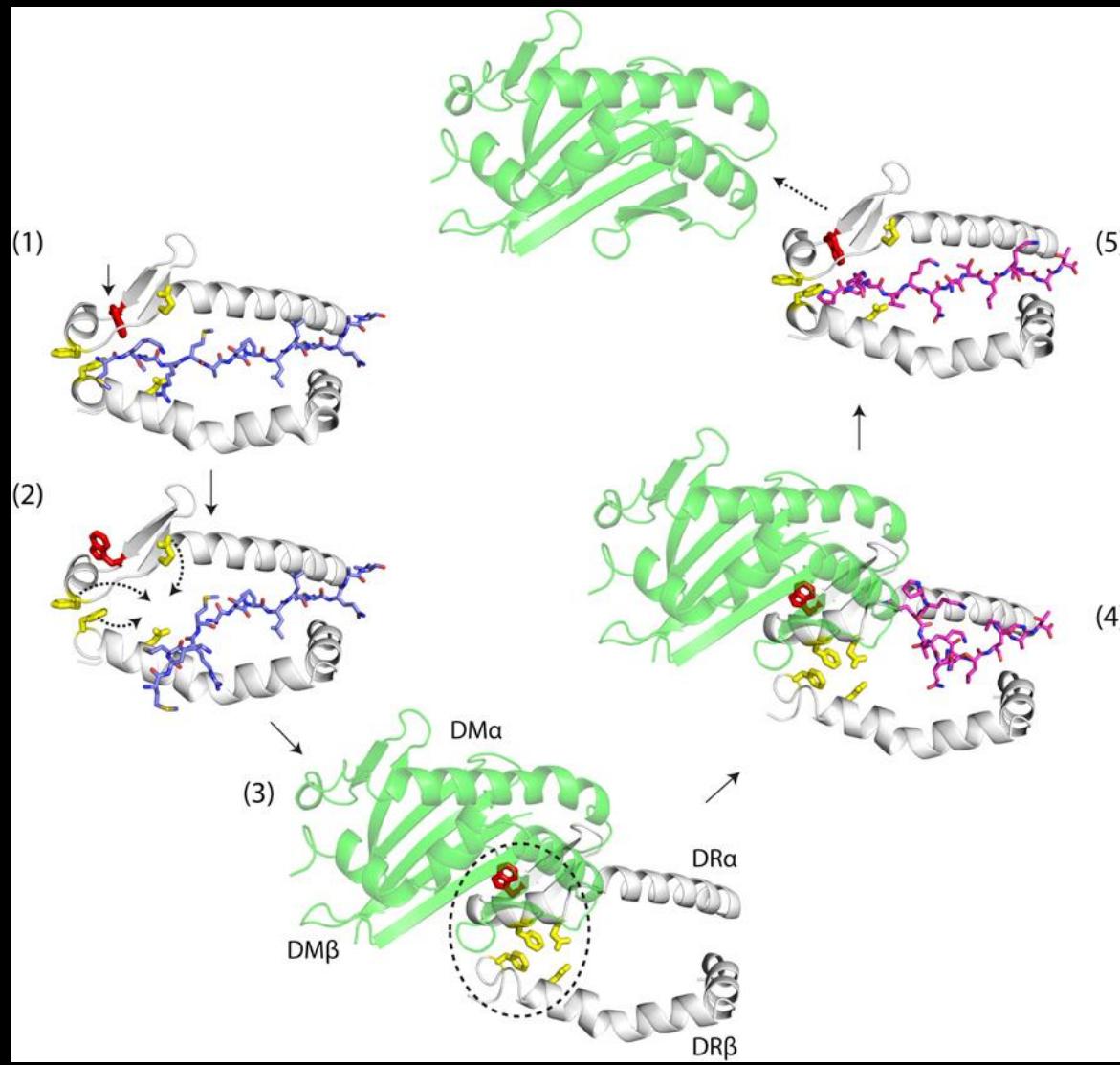


- The interface is dominated by the  $\alpha$  chains of DM and DR1
- DM does NOT obstruct the open end of the groove



# Interaction HLA-DR1 – HLA-DM

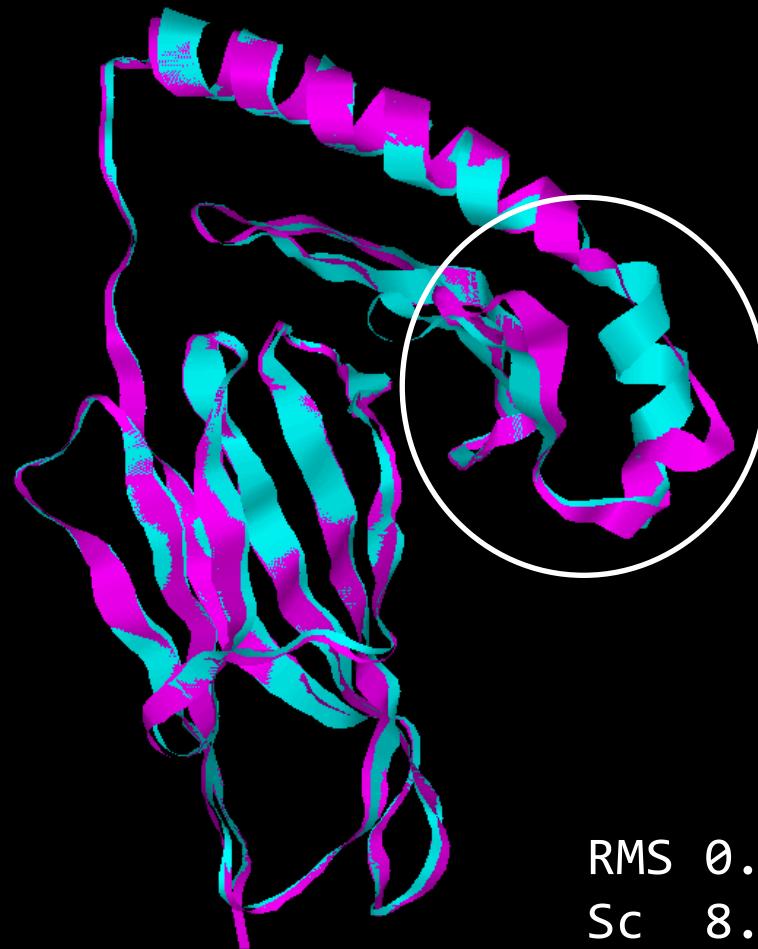
First glance



# Interaction HLA-DR1 – HLA-DM

Step by step

1  $\alpha 43W$



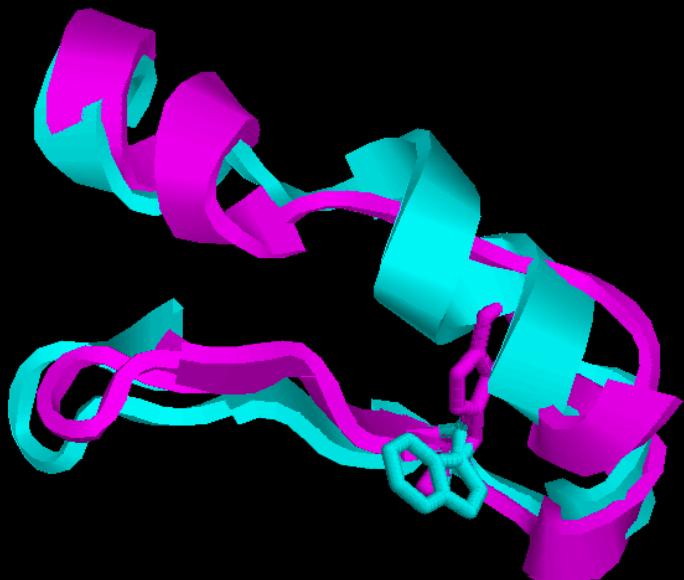
$\alpha$ DR1

$\alpha$ DR1 in complex with DM

RMS 0.84

Sc 8.92

## 1 $\alpha$ 43W



### DR1:

- lateral wall of the pocket 1
- interacts with P1 tyrosine antigen HA
- stabilizes residues in the vicinity of the P1 pocket through many interactions

### DM-DR1 complex:

- rotates out of the groove

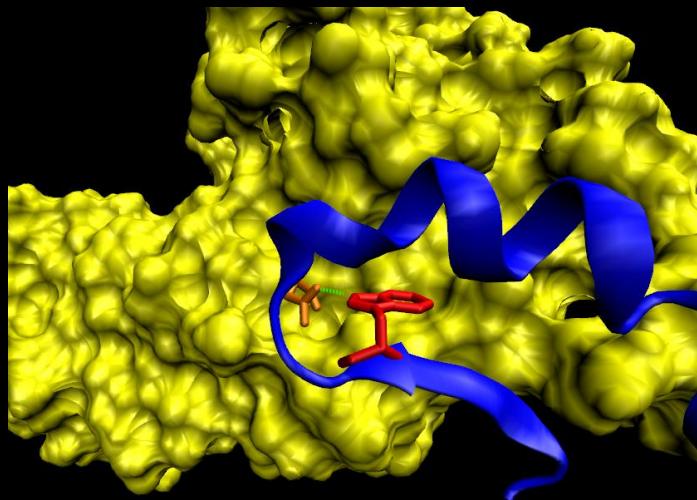
$\alpha$ DR1

$\alpha$ DR1 in complex with DM

# Interaction HLA-DR1 – HLA-DM

Step by step

## 1 $\alpha$ 43W



$\alpha$  DR1 in complex with DM  
DM

### DM-DR1 complex:

- **$\alpha$ 43W** is rotated out of the groove
- indole ring nitrogen of DR  $\alpha$ 43W forms a hydrogen bond with DM  **$\alpha$  125N**

Both residues are fully conserved

C	DR alpha												DM alpha												
	31	38	40	43	51	55	61	91	98	121	125	141	CFVSNLPPMLTVNWQHHSVP	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Human	...	I	F	H	V	D	M	A	K	T	W	R	L	E	F	G	R	F	A	S	T	N	L	P	
Chimpanzee	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gorilla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Orangutan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gibbon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Macaque	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Marmoset	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hyrax	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hedgehog	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tarsier	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rabbit	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pika	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Guinea Pig	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Squirrel	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kangaroo Rat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mouse	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Panda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dog	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Horse	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cow	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pig	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shrew	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Armadillo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tasmanian Devil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Opossum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken	L	...	E	D	A	A	Q	P	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Coelacanth	A	S	...	L	E	E	...	P	Q	...	L	A	Q	V	Q	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

## 2 DR $\alpha$ -chain



### DR1:

- 52-55: short strand parallel to the bound peptide
- 46-50:  $3_{10}$  helix

### DM-DR1 complex

- The strand and the  $3_{10}$  helix are transformed into a helix

The change is facilitated by loss of stabilizing interactions  
of  $\alpha$ W43 with neighboring structures

## 2 DR $\alpha$ -chain



### DR1:

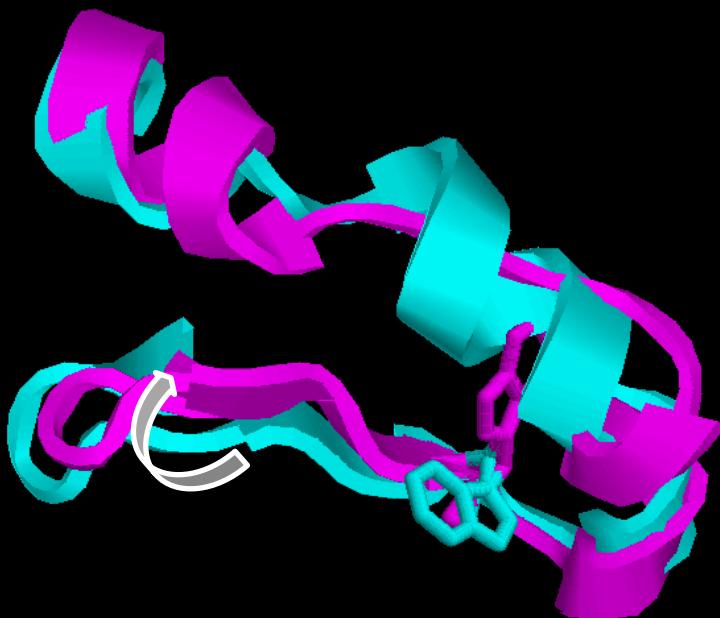
- 52-55: short strand parallel to the bound peptide
- 46-50:  $3_{10}$  helix

### DM-DR1 complex

- The strand and the  $3_{10}$  helix are transformed into a helix

The change is facilitated by loss of stabilizing interactions of  $\alpha$ W43 with neighboring structures

## 3 Floor of peptide-binding groove



**$\alpha$ DR1**

**$\alpha$  DR1 in complex with DM**

**DR1:**

- strands S3 and S4 are in a strained conformation

**DM-DR1 complex:**

- both strands move away from the  $\alpha$ -helix and towards the main  $\beta$ -sheet platform

## 4 Stabilization of the P1 pocket

$\alpha$ F51:

**DR1:** points out of the groove

**DM-DR1 complex:** moves into the P1



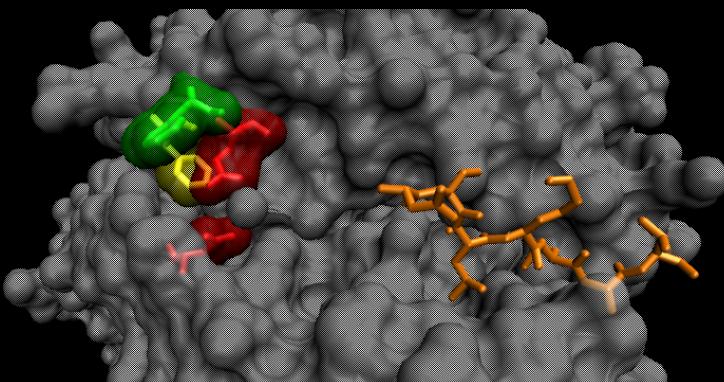
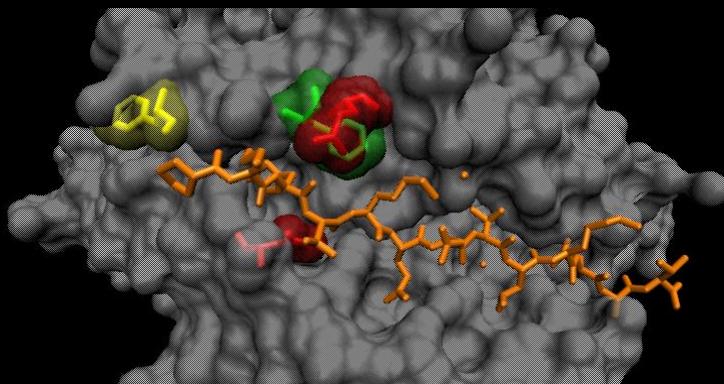
$\beta$ F89:

**DM-DR1 complex:** moves near the P1 close interaction with DR $\alpha$ F51



## 4 Stabilization of the P1 pocket

$\alpha$ E55



**DR1:**

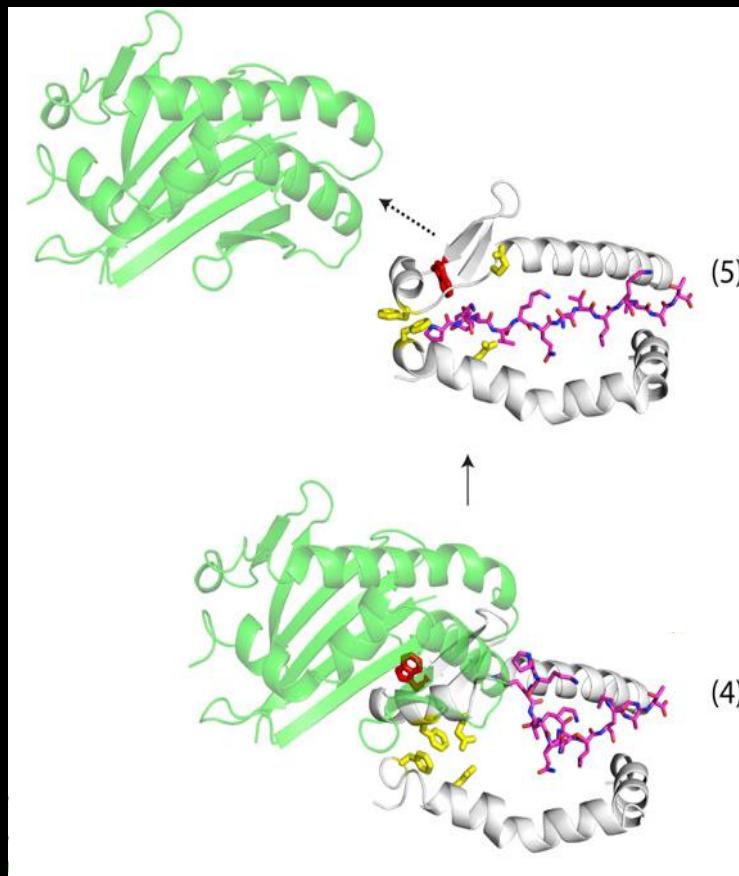
- **$\beta$ N82** interacts with the peptide

**DM-DR1 complex:**

- **$\alpha$ E55** moves into the groove where it forms a hydrogen bond with DR  **$\beta$ N82**, so it can not interact with the peptide.

**DR  $\alpha$ F51,  $\beta$ F89, and  $\alpha$ E55 stabilize the empty groove and catalyze peptide dissociation**

## 5 Selection of the highest affinity peptide ligands



Only **peptides** that successfully compete with **DR** residues for access to the **P2** site and the **P1** pocket are stably bound.

Full occupancy of the groove reverses the conformational changes associated with **DM** binding and results in **DM** dissociation.

# Conclusions

# Take home message

- ❖ Peptide selection by class II MHC proteins can be characterized by 'motifs' consisting of sidechain preferences at particular positions within the peptide.
- ❖ Completely different peptide sequences can adopt essentially the same bound conformation, with little or no adjustment of the MHC protein residues.
- ❖ Analysis of available structural information on MHC class II proteins reveals three areas of conformational lability:
  - $\beta$ 2 Ig-like domain
  - $\alpha$ -subunit  $3_{10}$  helical region
  - kink in the  $\beta$ -subunit helical region
- ❖ HLA-DM has a well-understood function in catalyzing peptide exchange on MHC II proteins
- ❖ HLA-DO is also involved in antigen presentation although its role is less well-defined

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# Multiple choice questions

1. MHC Class III genes encode molecules that are critical to immune function. These are:
  - a) Complement components and inflammatory cytokines such as TNF- $\alpha$
  - b) HLA-DR which presents peptides to T cells
  - c) HLA-DM which mediates the exchange between CLIP and the antigenic peptide
  - d) HLA-A which presents peptides to T cells
  - e) HLA-DM which presents peptides to T cells
  
2. Which of the following statements related to the binding groove is true?
  1. MHC class I groove is blocked at both ends so it is only able to bind peptides of 8 to 10 residues
  2. Peptide binding cleft in class II molecules is open at both ends allowing longer peptides to extend beyond the ends
  3. In class I molecules, the binding is carried by anchored residues found at the ends of the peptides
  4. Peptides that bind to class II molecules present internal conserved motifs that form hydrogen bonds distributed throughout the binding site
  - a) 1, 2, 3
  - b) 1, 3
  - c) 2, 4
  - d) 4
  - e) 1, 2, 3, 4

# Multiple choice questions

3. Which of the following sentences are true?

1. The immunoglobulin fold consists of a sandwich of between 7 and 9 antiparallel  $\beta$ -strands arranged in two  $\beta$ -sheets with a Greek key topology
2. Class II MHC molecules present intrachain disulfide bridges
3. MHC class III molecules are classified in the immunoglobulin superfamily
4. Class I MHC molecules are encoded by the DP, DQ and DR regions in humans

a) 1, 2, 3  
b) 1, 3  
c) 2, 4  
d) 4  
e) 1, 2, 3, 4

4. Choose the correct option:

- a) The peptides bound to DR keep a similar conformation, despite having a different aminoacidic sequence.
- b) The conformation of DR protein is unchanged with the binding of different peptides
- c) The previous sentences are correct
- d) The pattern of hydrogen bonds between the DR and the different peptides is very similar.

e) All sentences are correct

# Multiple choice questions

5. Choose the correct option about the non-classical MHC II proteins:

- a) DM and DO are two non classical MHCII with an accessory role in the antigen-loading process
- b) DO is structurally more similar to DM (the other non classical protein) than to the classical MHCII proteins
- c) The previous sentences are correct
- d) The structural similarities can not be seen at a sequence level.
- e) All the previous sentences are correct

6. What's the region of the largest conformational heterogeneity?

- a) The  $\alpha$ -subunit  $\beta_{10}$  helical region
- b) The  $\beta$ -2 Ig-like domain
- c) The two previous are correct
- d) Pronounced kink in the  $\beta$ -subunit helical region
- e) All are incorrect

7. Which sentence is true about the group of outliers in the pronounced kink of the  $\beta$ -subunit helical region?

- a) This group is consists of the HLADR molecules that present the allele B1
- b) This group is form by only two proteins
- c) The two previous are false
- d) In its crystal lattice there are intermolecular contacts at Gly 66
- e) All are false

# Multiple choice questions

8. When HLA-DR1 interacts with HLA-DM there are conformational changes in:

- a)  $\alpha$ W43
- b)  $\alpha$ -chain of DR1
- c) The two previous are correct
- d) Floor of the peptide-binding groove
- e) All answers are correct

9. HLA-DM protein's functions are:

- a) Catalyze CLIP and low affinity antigenic peptides dissociation from DR molecules
- b) Stabilize the empty DR proteins
- c) The two previous are correct
- d) Enable rapid binding of high affinity peptides to DR
- e) All answers are correct

10. Which of the following statements is true about the sequence alignment of MCH II?

- a) The sequences within the same family are very conserved
- b) In the variable regions there are many differences between different families
- c) The two previous answers are correct
- d) We cannot find any relationship between the sequence and the family
- e) All are correct