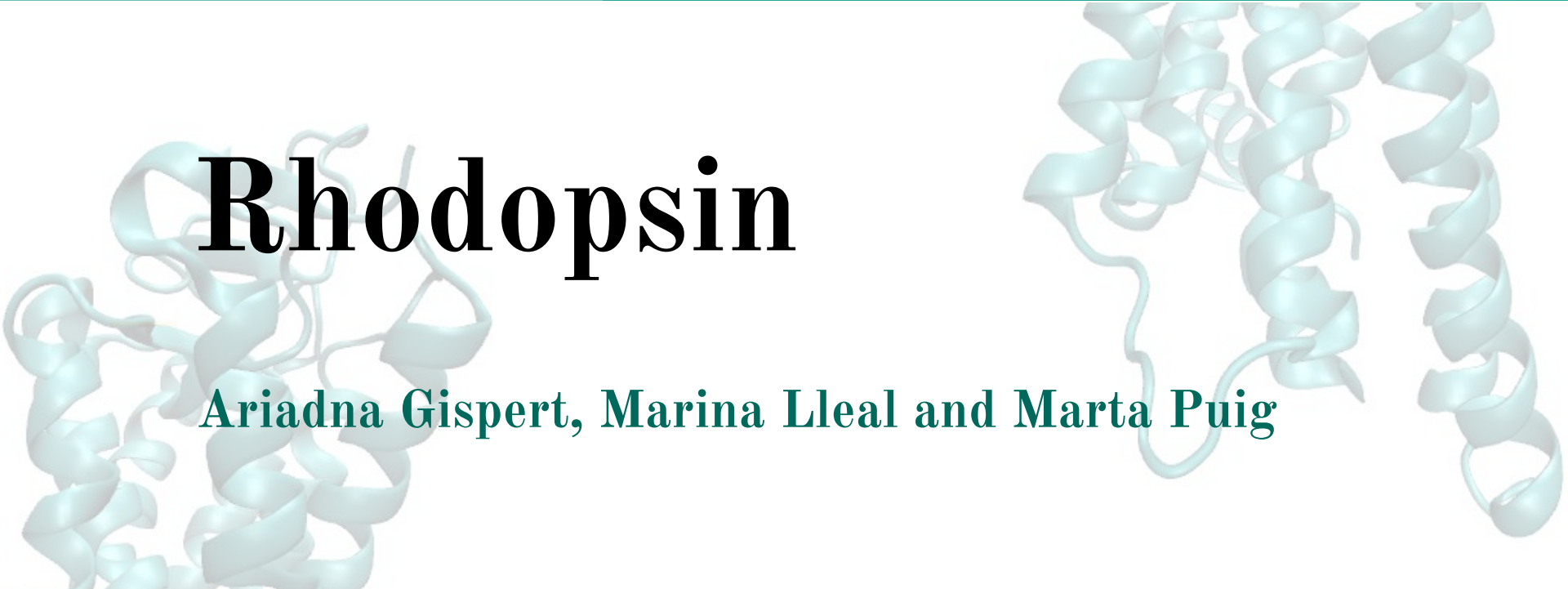


# Rhodopsin

Ariadna Gispert, Marina Lleal and Marta Puig





# Index

- Introduction
- Main features of rhodopsin structure: inactive vs. active
  - Changes in conformation after photoactivation
  - Interaction with G-protein
- Sequence comparisons:
  - Rhodopsin from different animal species
  - Bacteriorhodopsin
- Structure comparisons: squid rhodopsin
- Conclusions



# Introduction

## Rhodopsin

- G-protein coupled receptors family (GPCR)
- Membrane protein with 7 transmembrane helices
- 2 parts
  - Apoprotein (opsin)
  - Prosthetic group (chromophore) → RETINAL
- Function → Phototransduction of the visual perception
- Found in rod cells

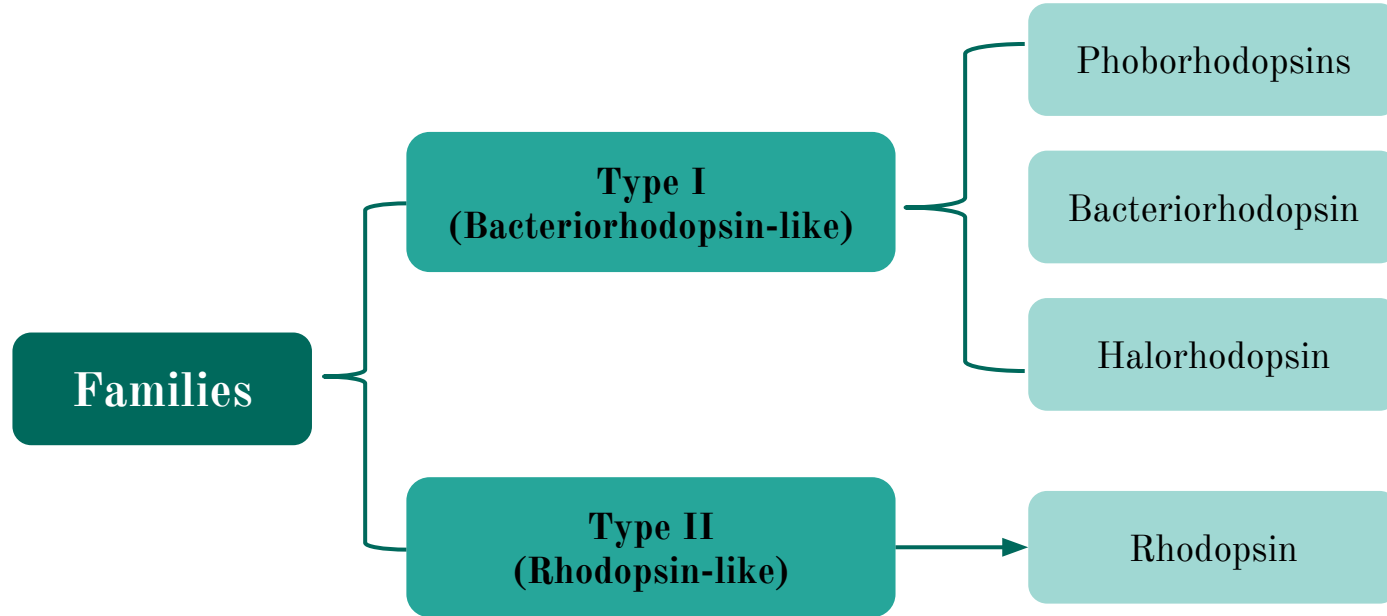


# SCOP Classification

<b>Class</b>	Membrane and cell surface proteins and peptides
<b>Fold</b>	A G-coupled receptor-like
<b>Superfamily</b>	Family A G-coupled receptor-like
<b>Family</b>	Rhodopsin-like
<b>Protein</b>	Rhodopsin



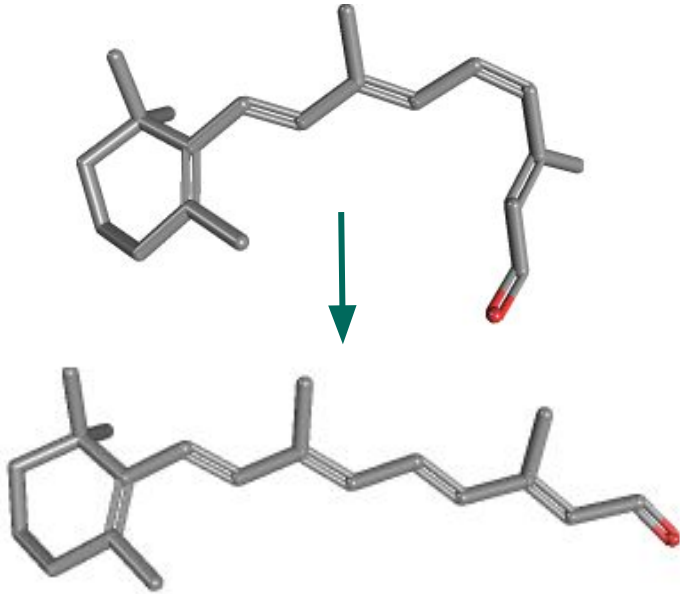
# Classification



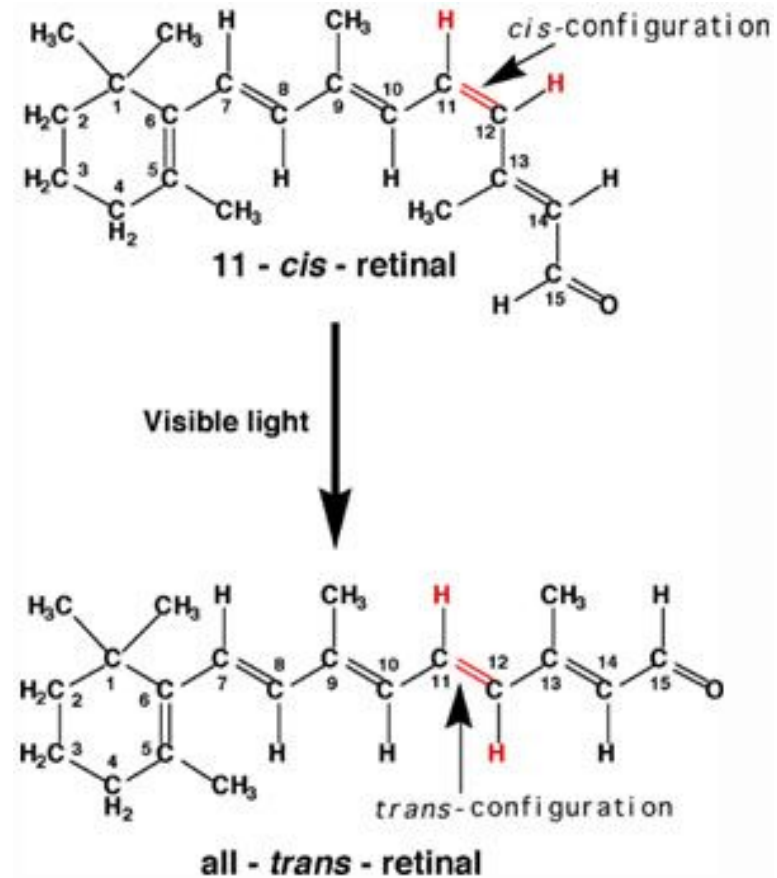


# Rhodopsin ligand: retinal

Upon light absorption, a cis-trans isomerization occurs. This isomerization changes the retinal:



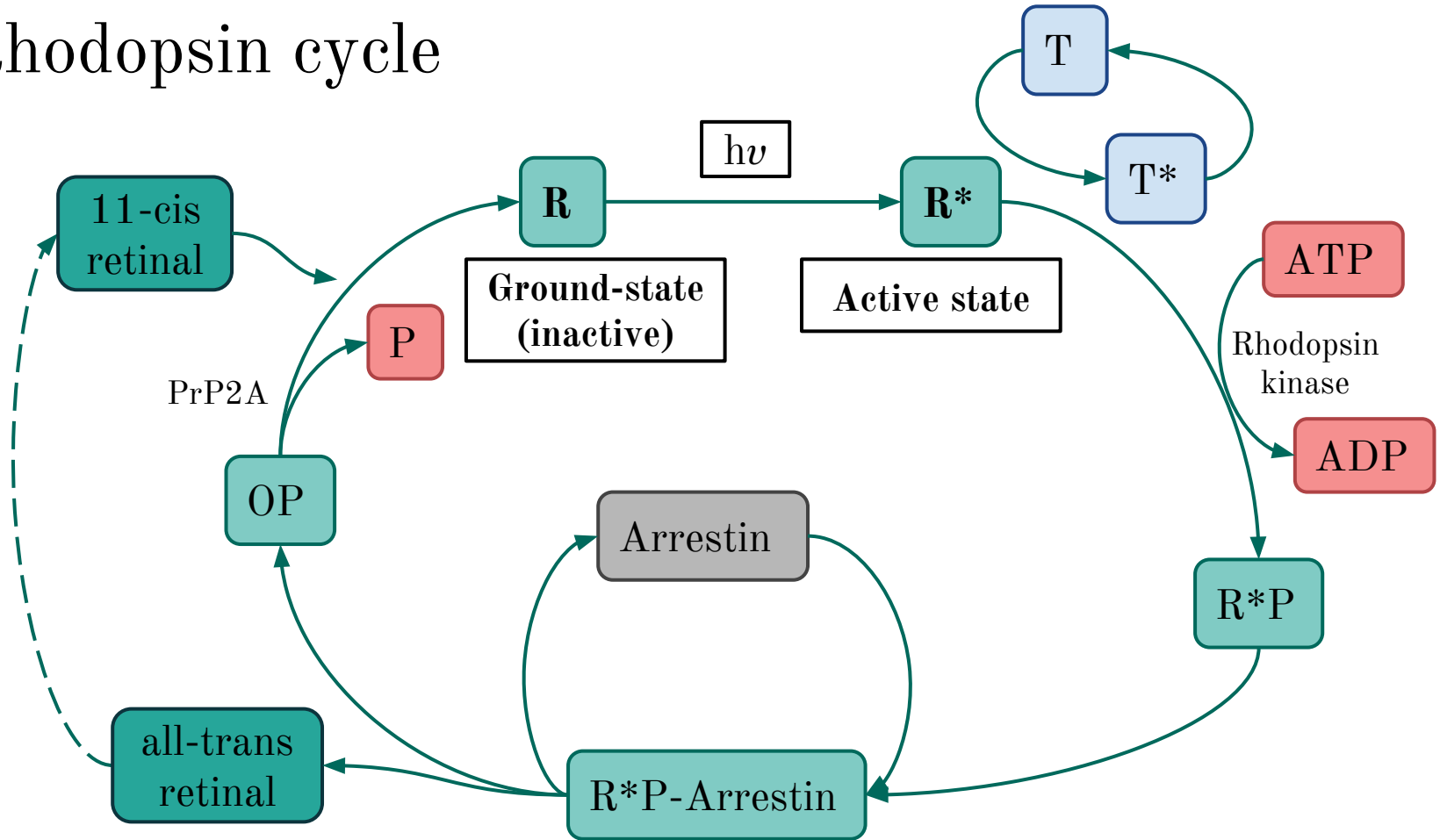
Images from PubChem



Extracted from Cassiday R, Frey, R, 2000



# Rhodopsin cycle

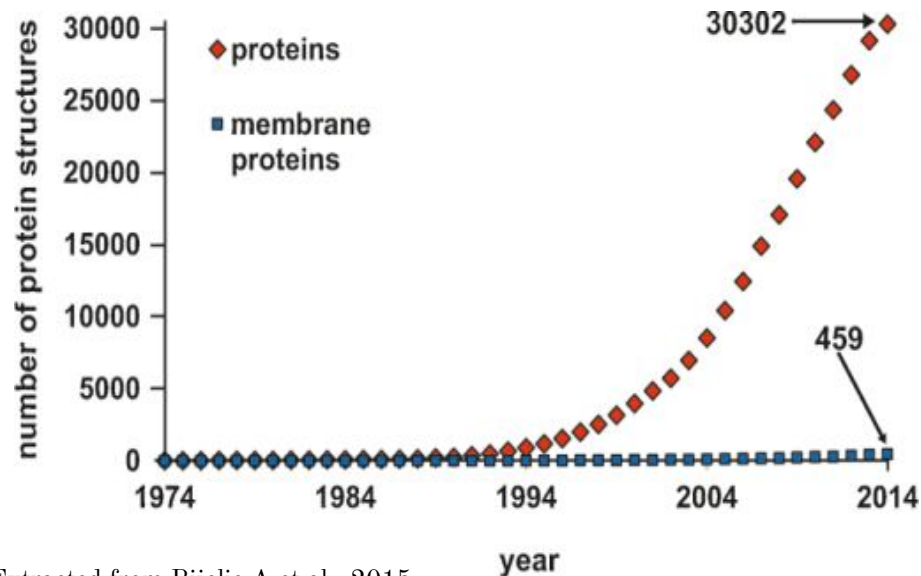




# Difficulties in rhodopsin crystallisation

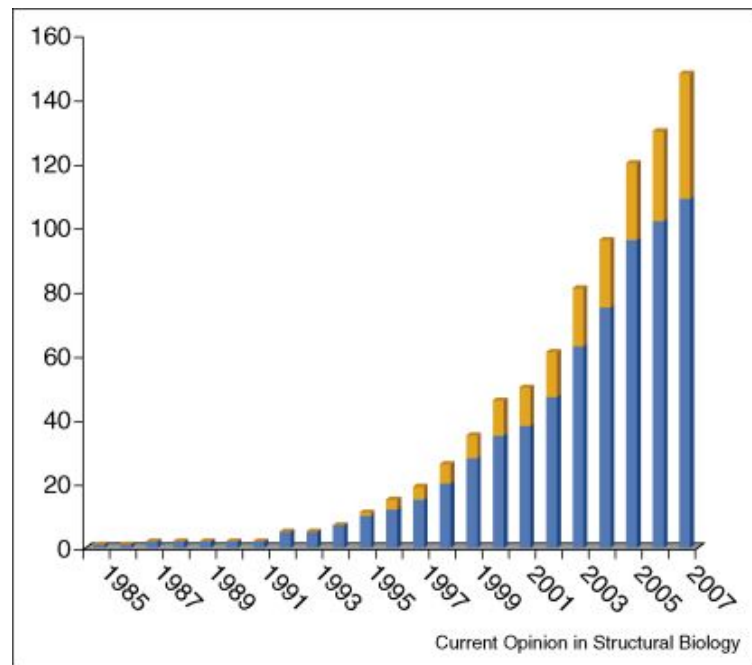
## Low number of available structures

Number of total proteins in PDB vs. membrane proteins



Extracted from Bijelic A et al., 2015

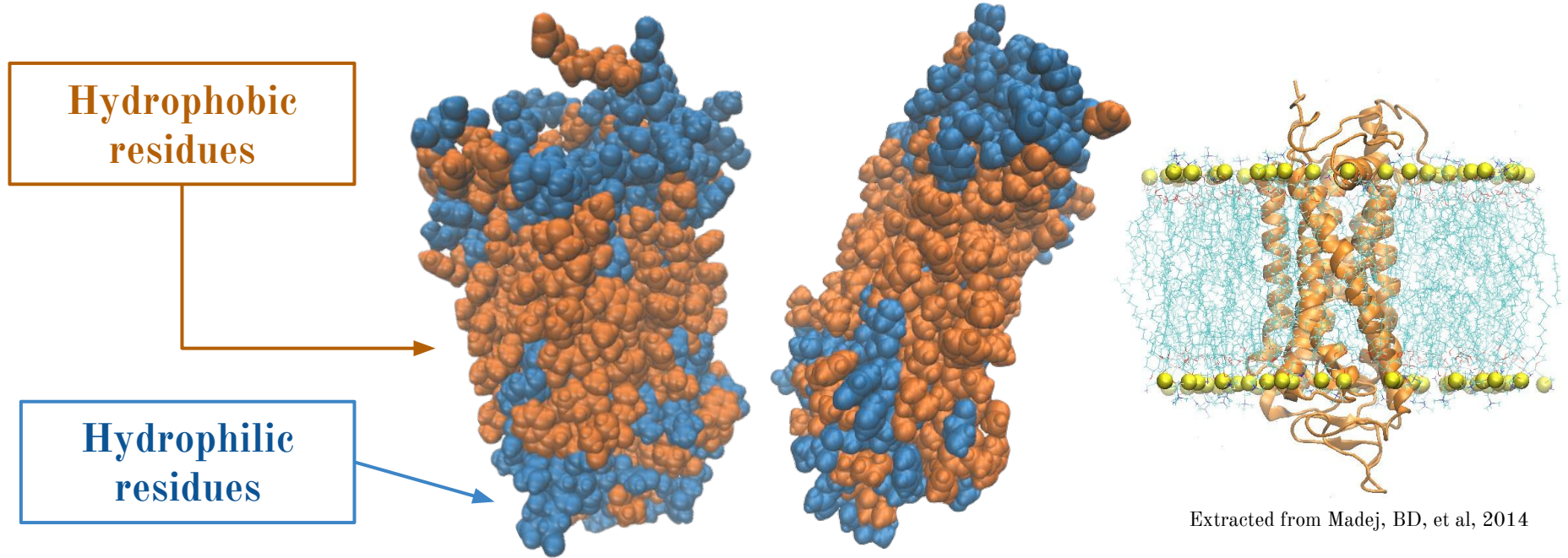
Prokaryotic (blue) vs. eukaryotic (yellow) membrane proteins in PDB



Extracted from Carpenter EP et al., 2008



# Rhodopsin structure: hydrophobicity





# Rhodopsin structure: X-ray crystallisation

PDB structures:

**1U19**  
INACTIVE

**3PQR**  
ACTIVE



Bovine rhodopsin

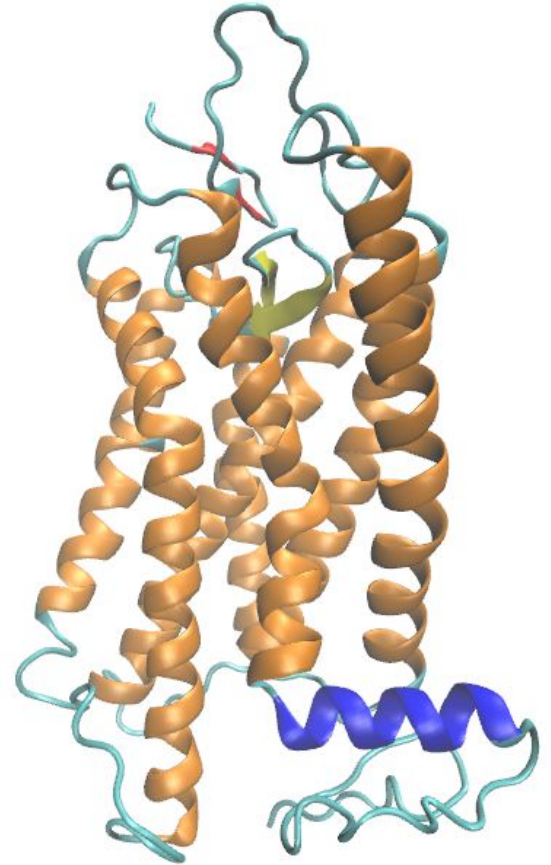
Extracellular N-terminus

3 extracellular loops

7 transmembrane helices

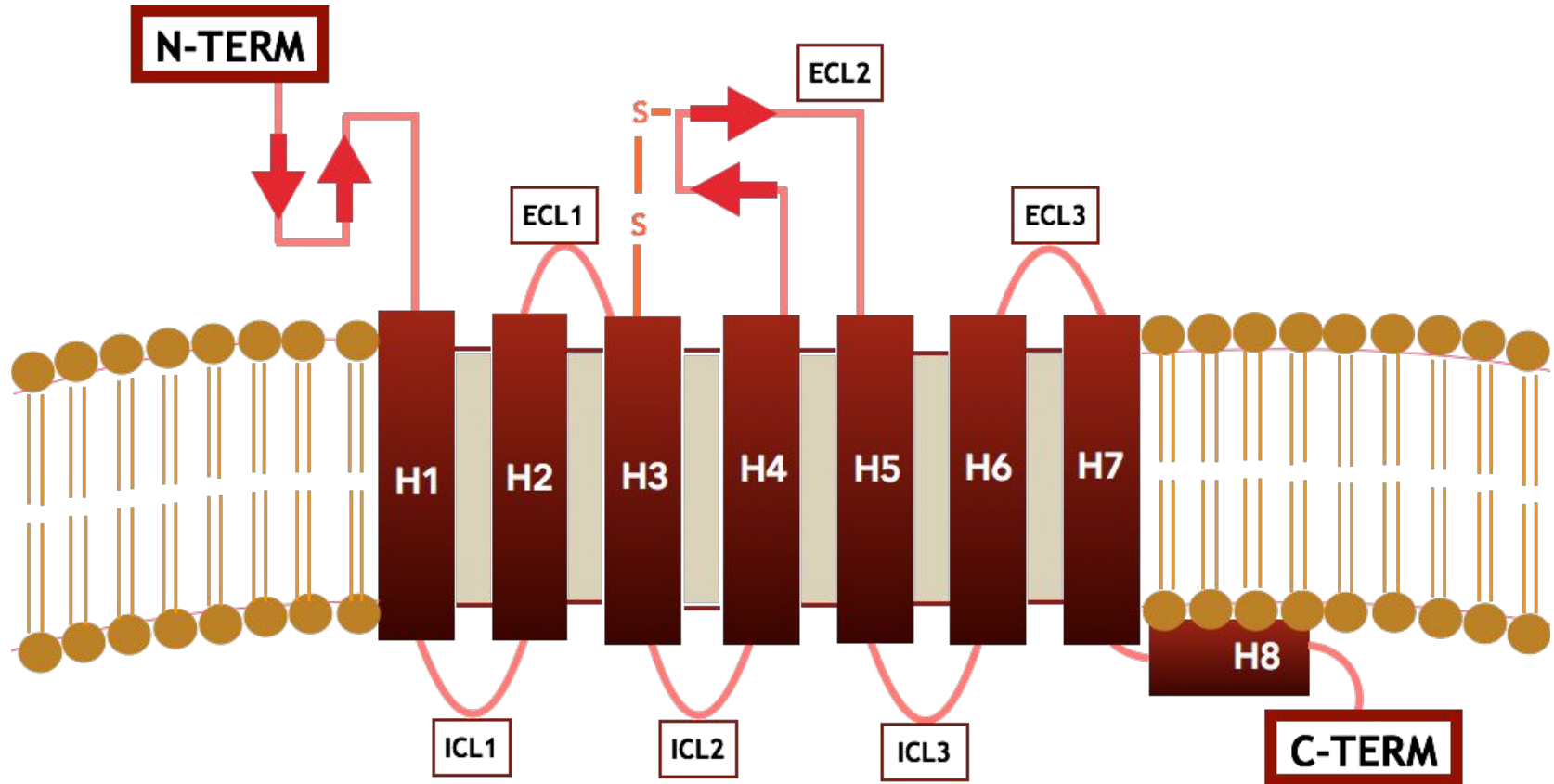
3 intracellular loops

Intracellular C-terminus  
with a short helix





# Rhodopsin structure: 2D representation

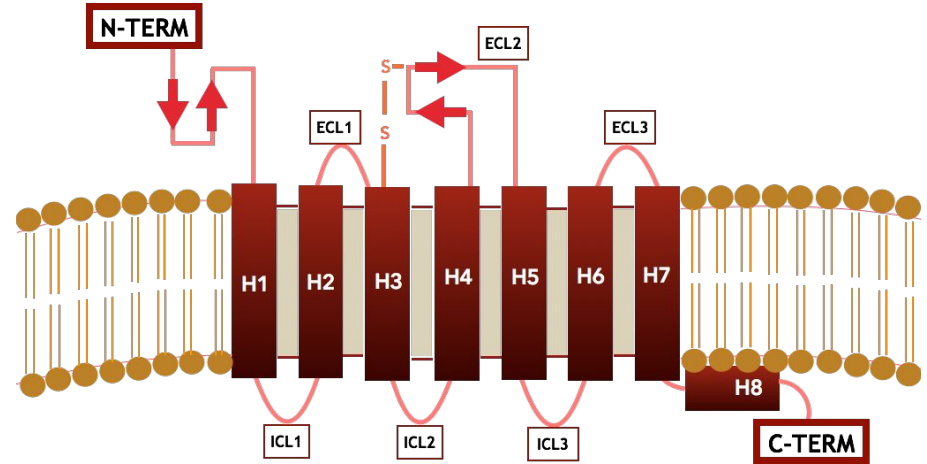




# Rhodopsin structure: outline

Most relevant areas:

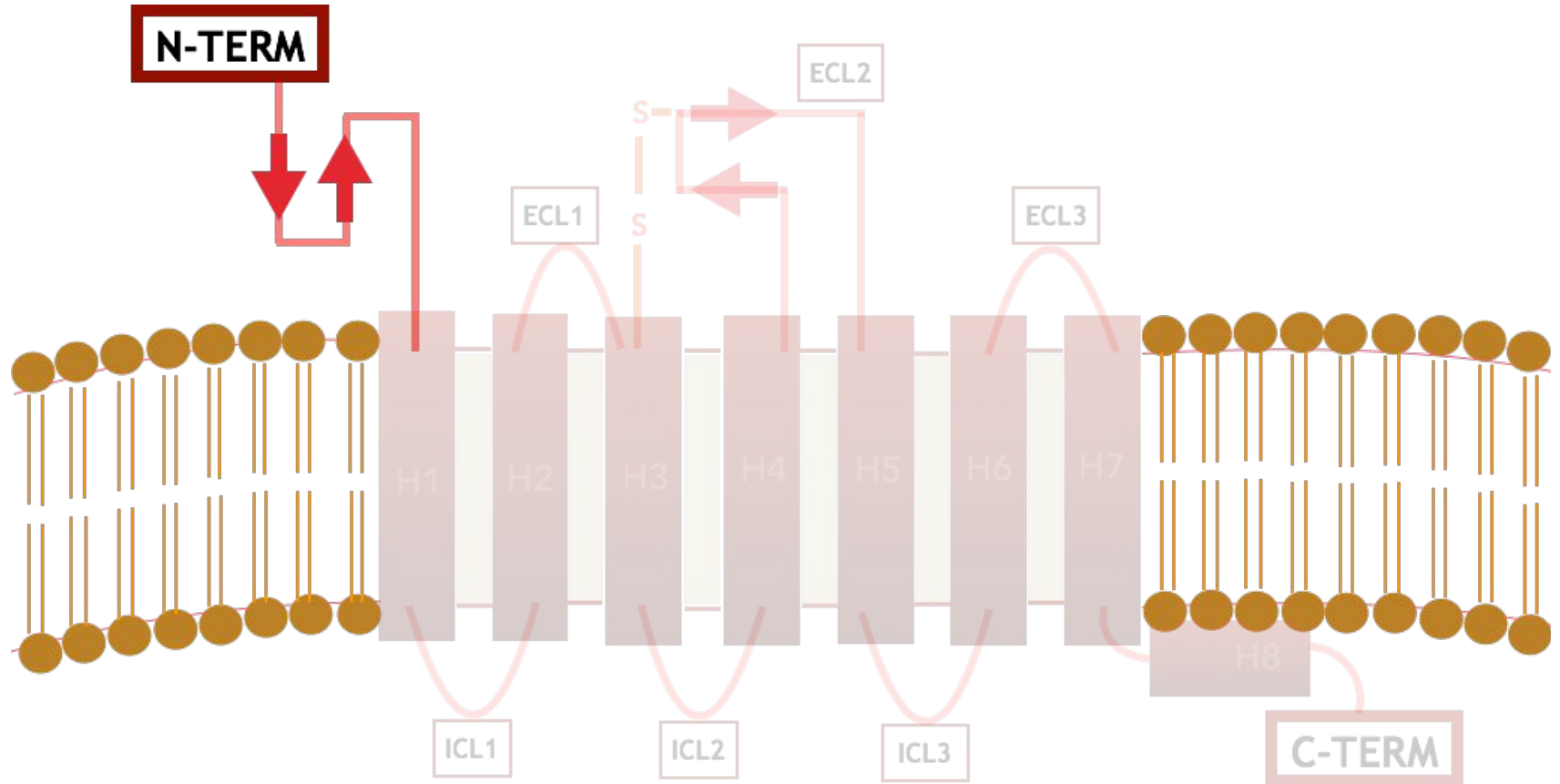
- N-terminus
- **Second extracellular loop (ECL2)**
- **Ligand binding site**
- **7TM domain**
- Third intracellular loop (ICL3)
- C-terminus



**Comparison: INACTIVE vs ACTIVE**



# N-terminus

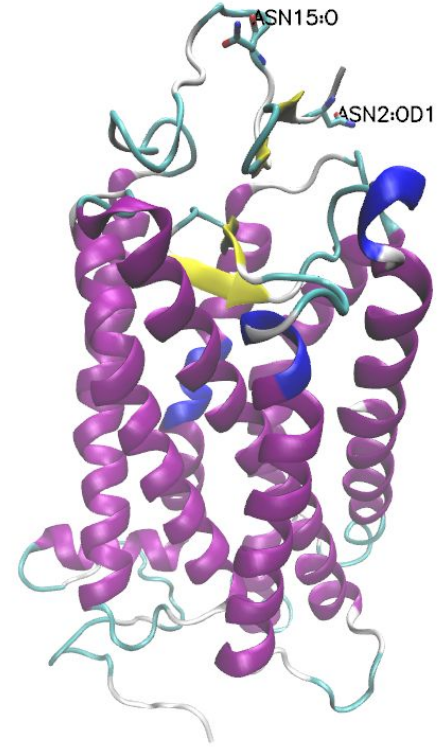
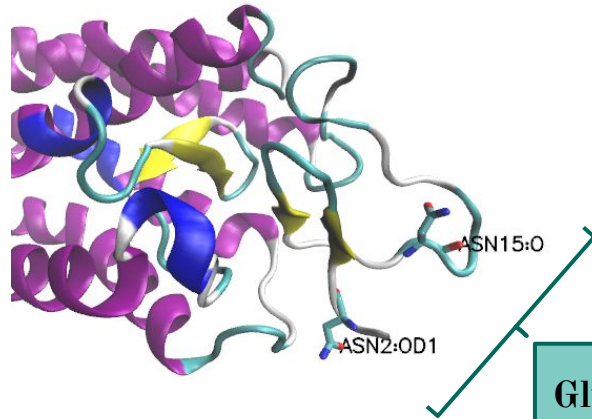
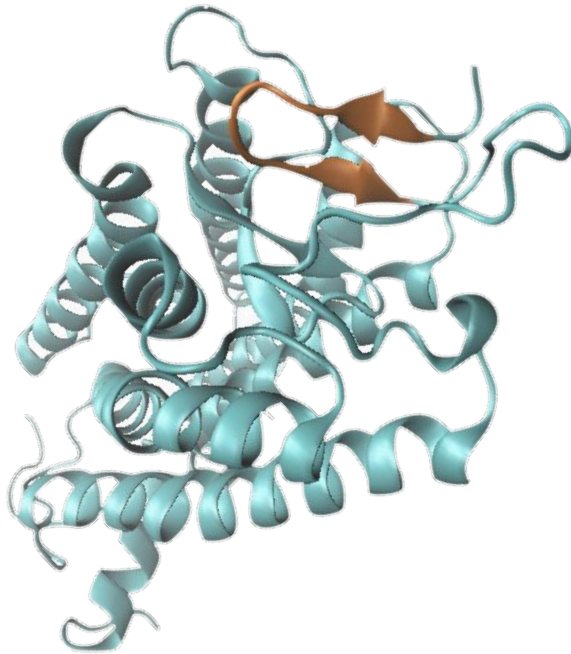




# N-terminus

- Extracellular side
- Two-stranded  $\beta$  sheet
- Glycosylation sites  $\rightarrow$  Asn2 and Asn15

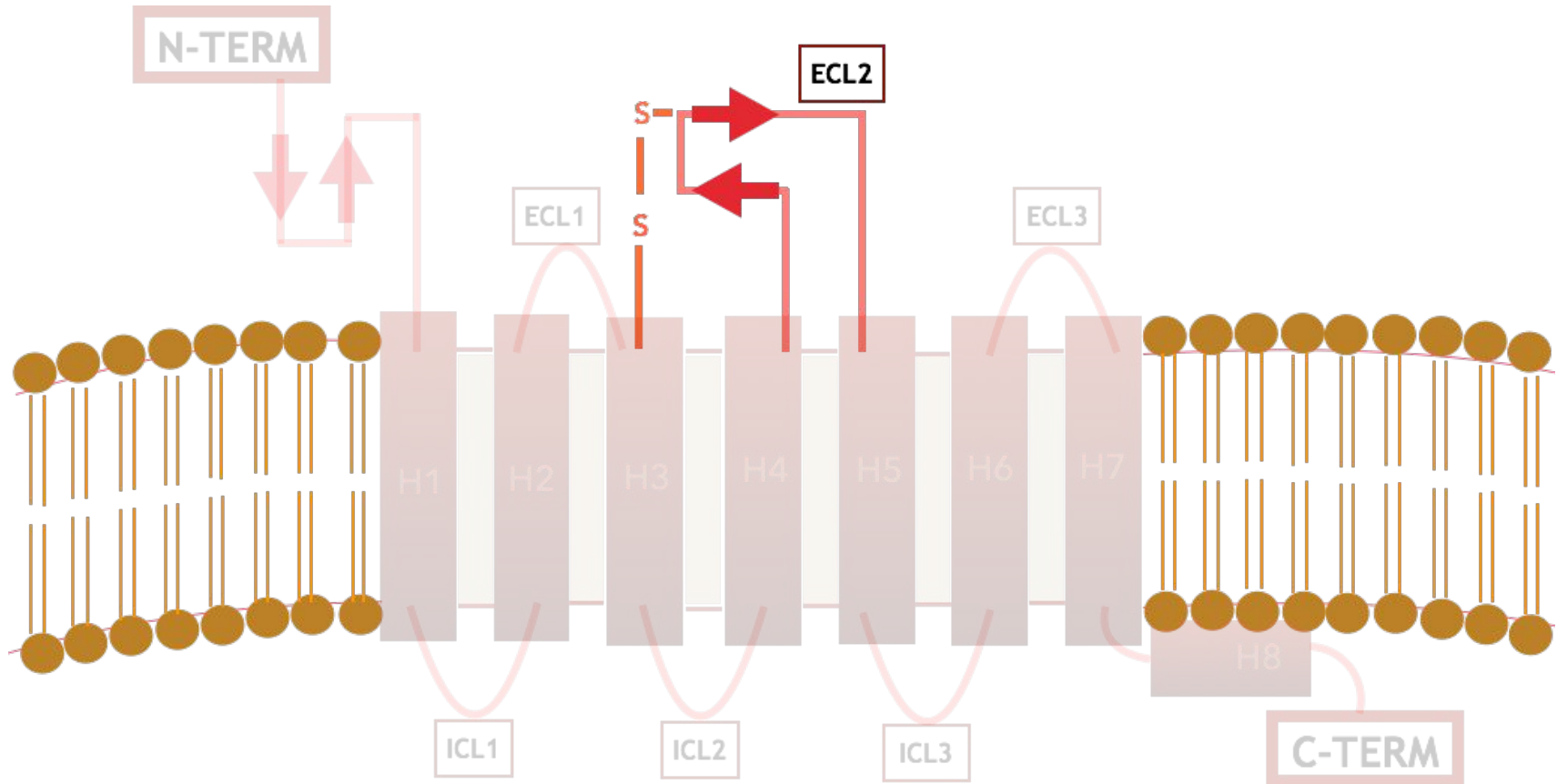
Essential role  
in function



Glycosylation sites



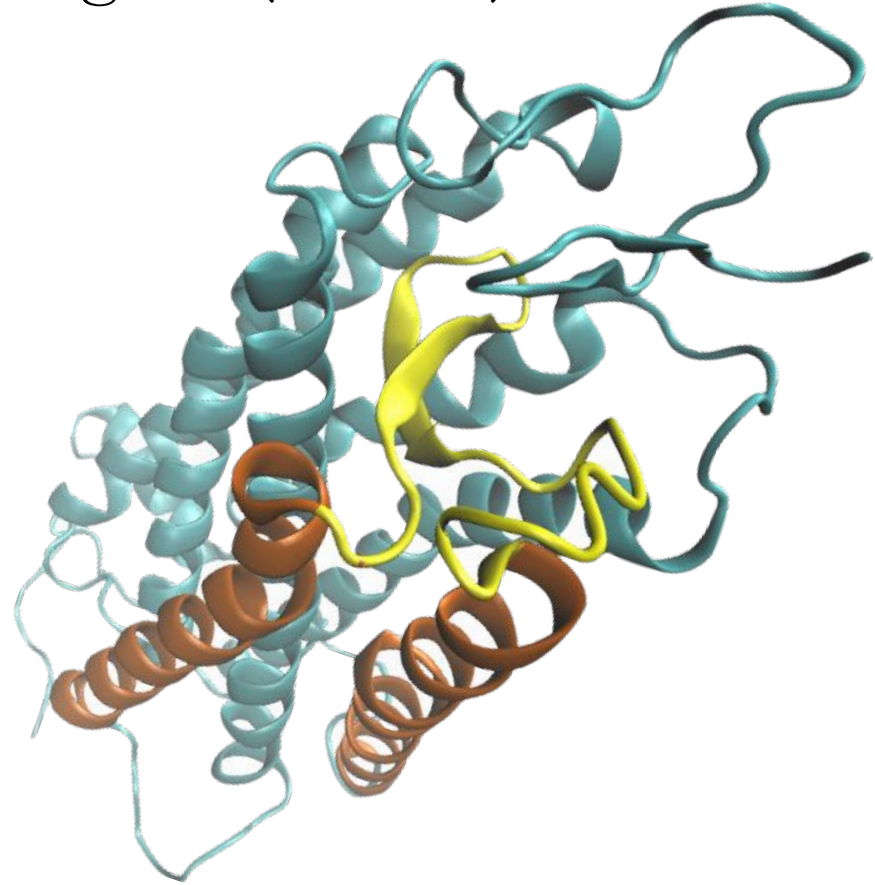
# Second Extracellular Loop (ECL2)





# Second Extracellular Loop region (ECL2)

- Essential for
  - Folding
  - Ligand binding
  - Biological function
- Connects H4 and H5
- Twisted two-stranded  $\beta$ -sheet
- Blocks rapid exit of the ligand (retinal) from the binding site



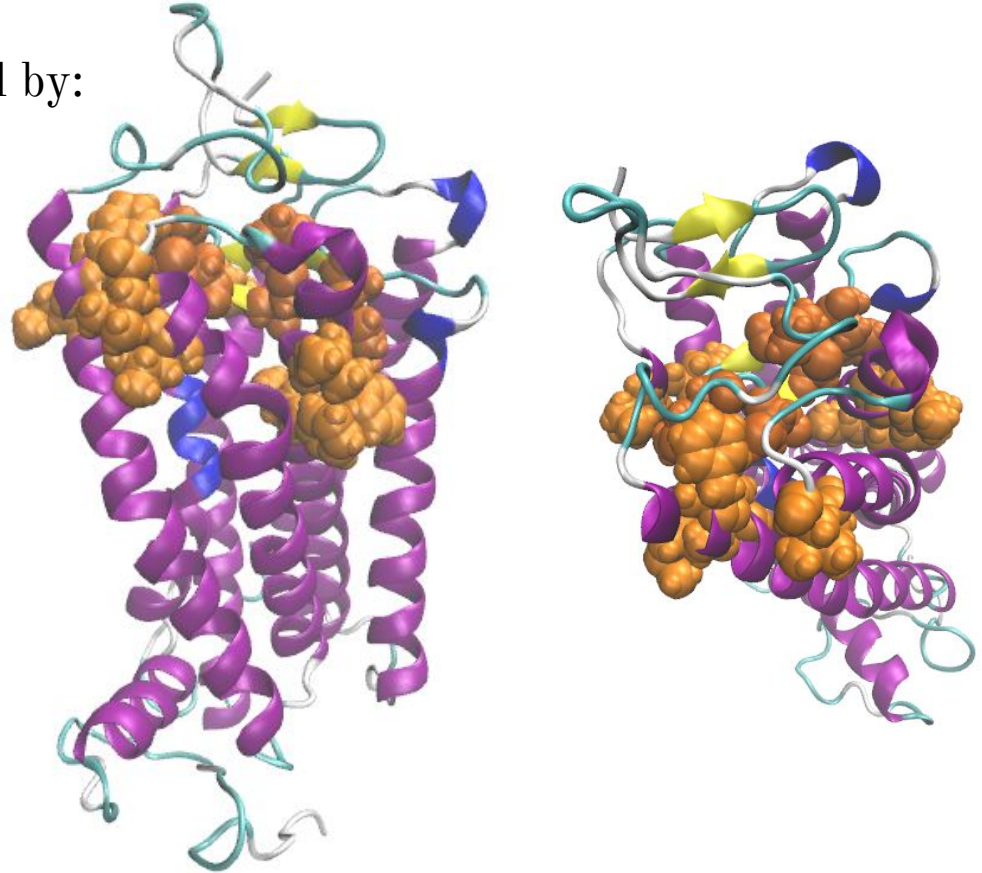


# Second Extracellular Loop (ECL2)

The position of this  $\beta$ -sheet is stabilized by:

- **Hydrophobic interactions**
- Disulfide bond
- Hydrogen bonding network
- Salt bridge

Surrounding residues  
of the helix bundle,  
especially those from  
H1, H2, H3, and H7





# Second Extracellular Loop (ECL2)

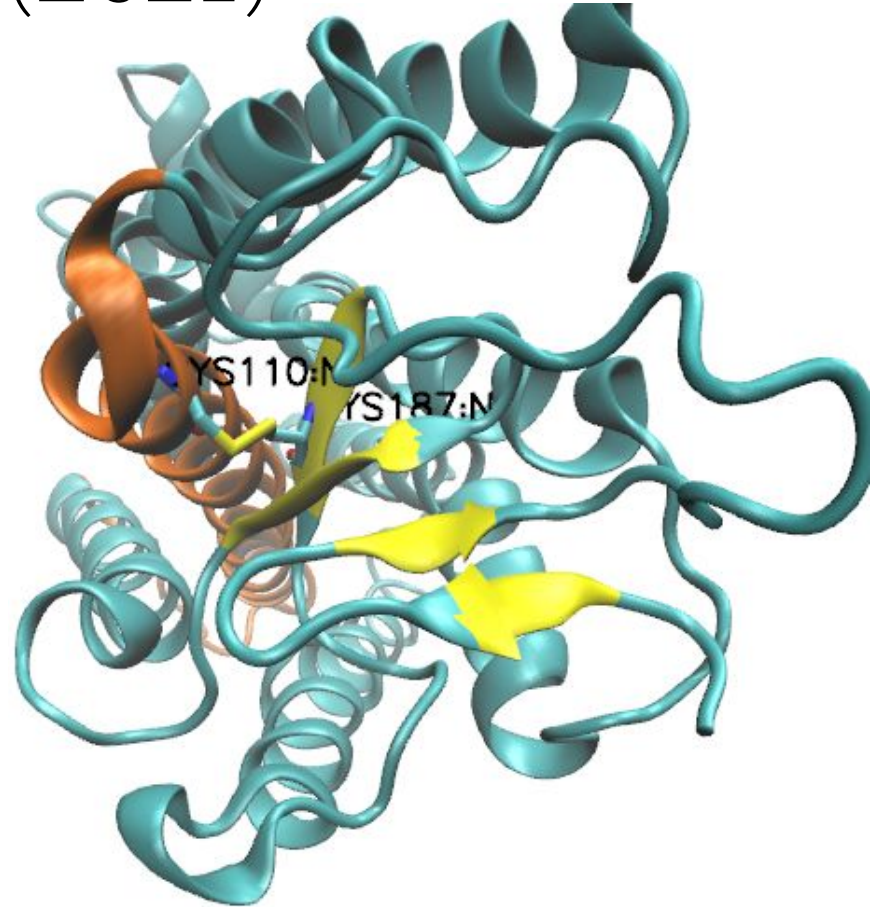
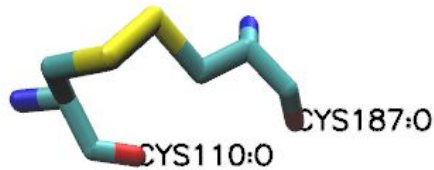
The position of this  $\beta$ -sheet is stabilized by:

- Hydrophobic interactions
- Disulfide bond**  $\rightarrow$  Highly conserved
- Hydrogen bonding network
- Salt bridge

Cys110 - Cys187

H3

ECL2





# Second Extracellular Loop (ECL2)

The position of this  $\beta$ -sheet is stabilized by:

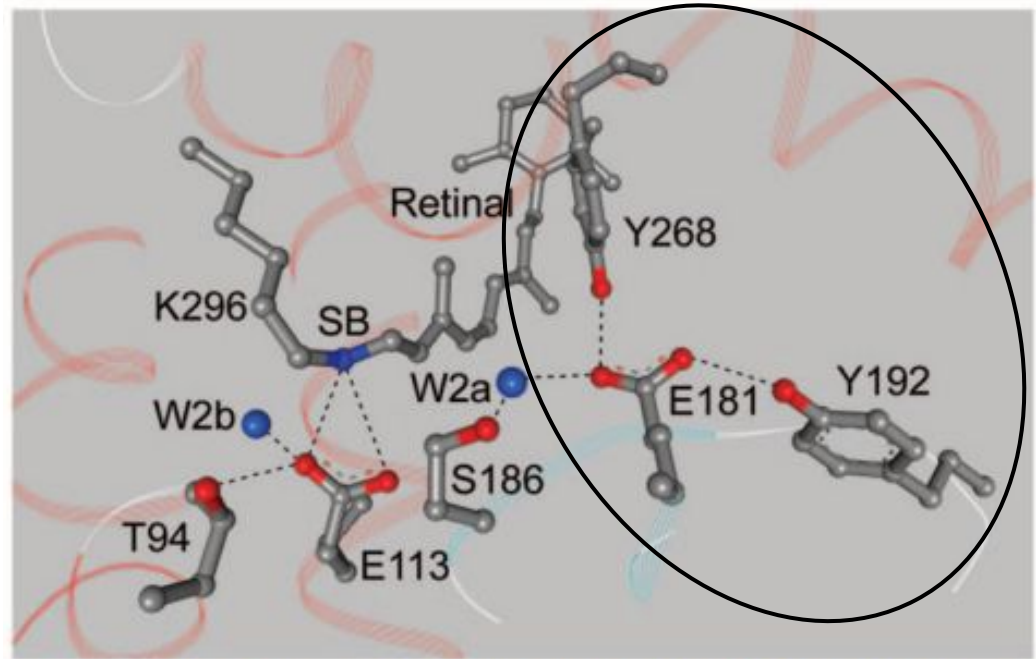
- Hydrophobic interactions
- Disulfide bond
- **Hydrogen bonding network**
- Salt bridge

Glu181 - Tyr192

ECL2

Tyr268

H6



Extracted from Janz JM et. al., 2004

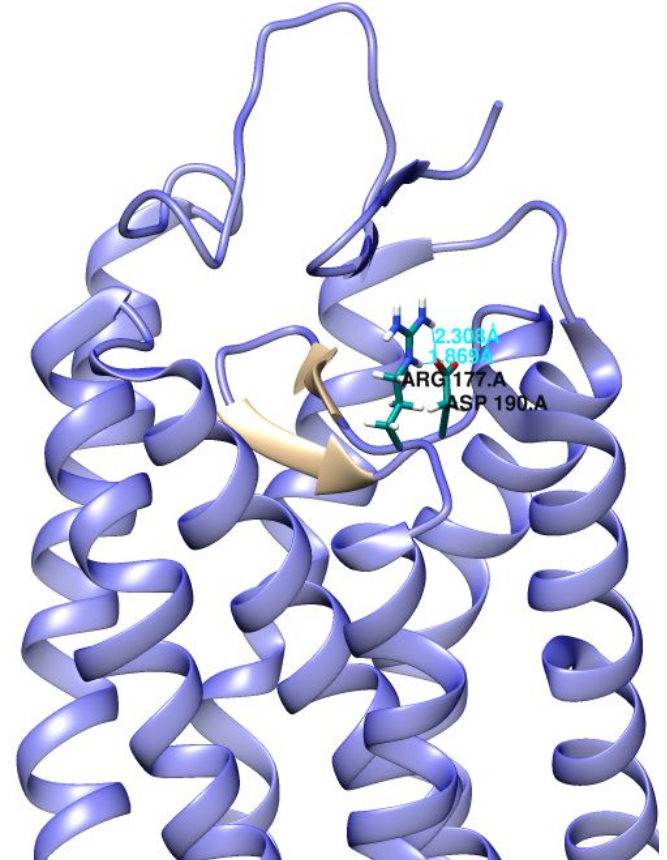
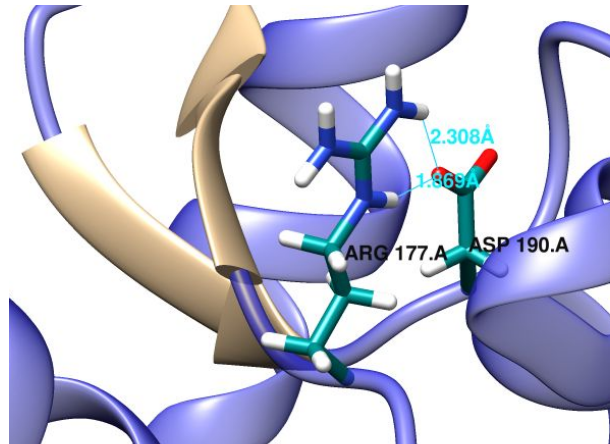


# Second Extracellular Loop (ECL2)

The position of this  $\beta$ -sheet is stabilized by:

- Hydrophobic interactions
- Disulfide bond
- Hydrogen bonding network
- **Salt bridge**

Arg177 - Asp190





# Second Extracellular Loop (ECL2): **ACTIVE**

ECL2 is part of the retinal binding site

- Conformational changes in key residues:

Glu 181

Ser 186

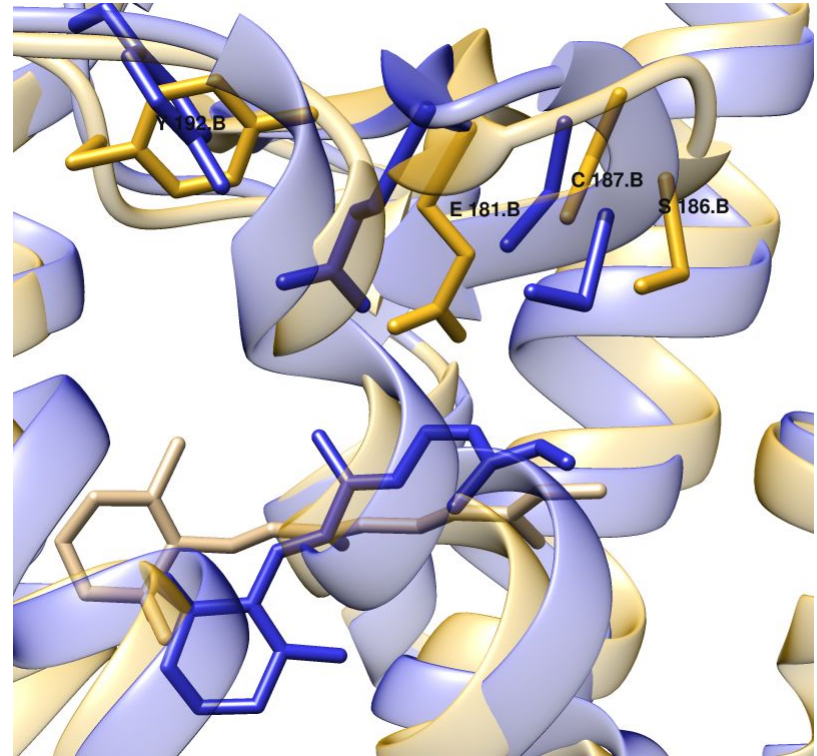
Cys 187

Tyr 192

These residues are in contact and covering the retinal molecule

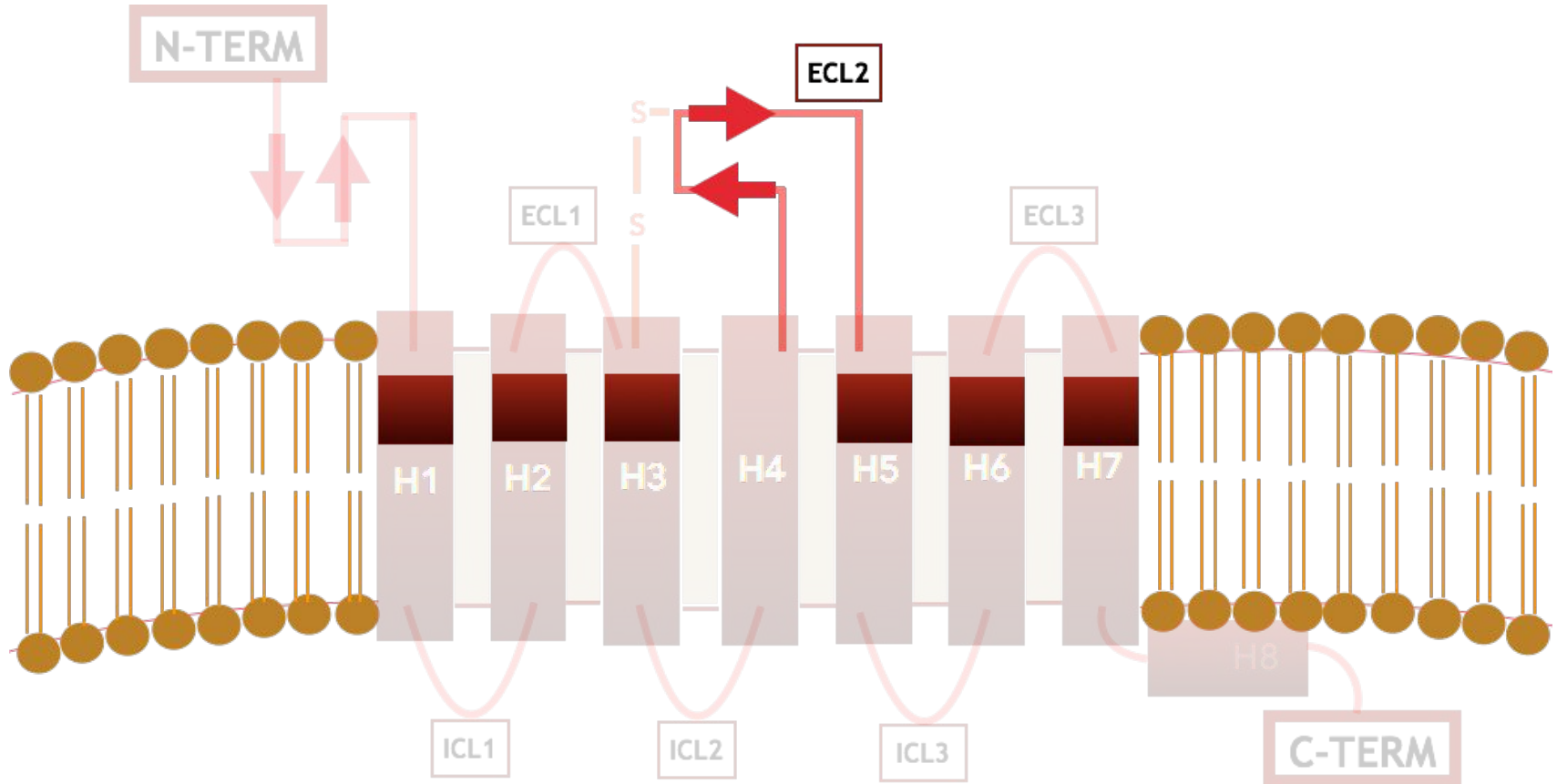
**ACTIVE**

**INACTIVE**





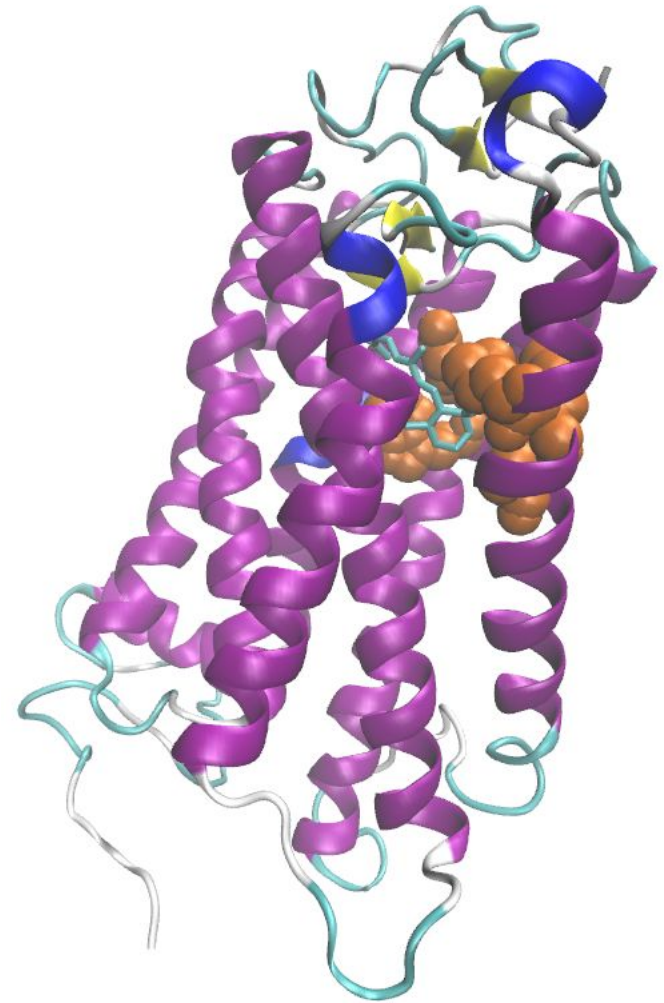
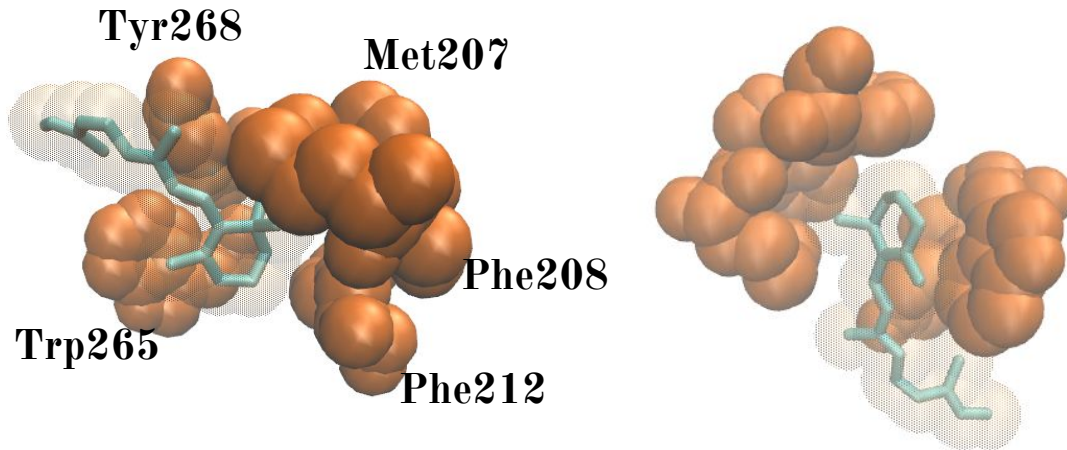
# Ligand binding site





# Ligand binding site

- Extracellular side of the transmembrane bundle
- Mostly surrounded by hydrophobic residues
- Stabilizes retinal
- Dynamic changes during photoactivation

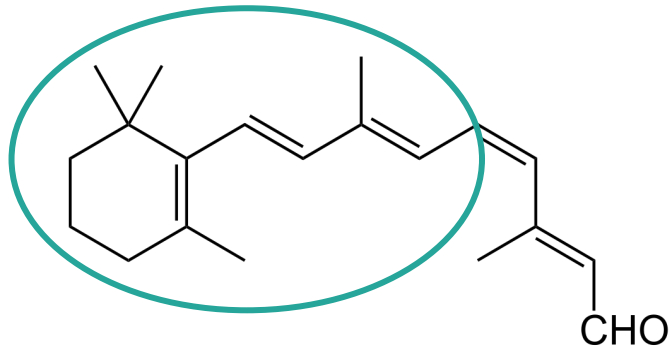




# Ligand binding site

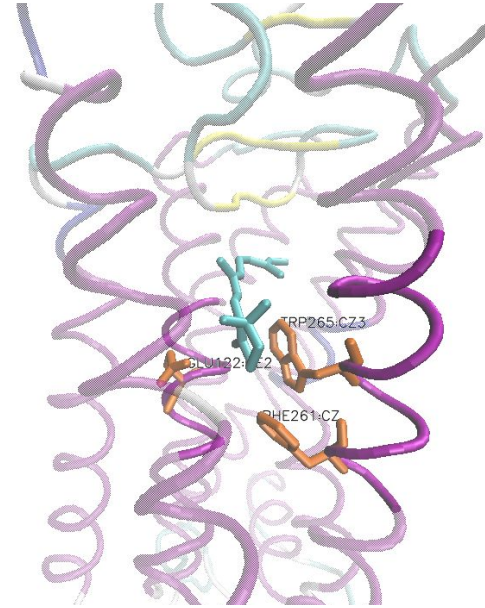
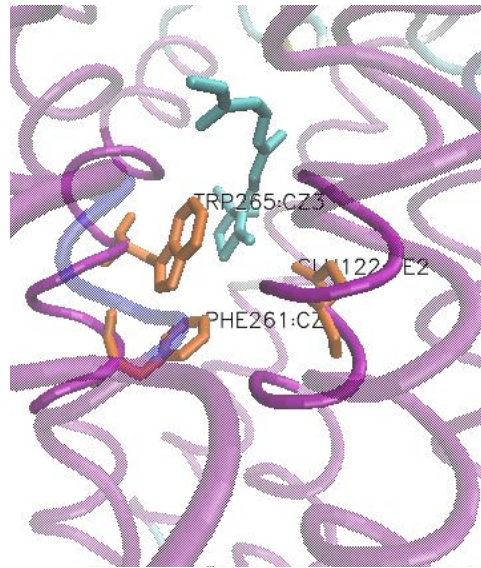
Retinal: cis-conformation

**$\beta$ -ionone ring**



Position of  $\beta$ -ionone ring:

→ **covered** from the cytoplasmic side  
by residues from H3 and H6



**Glu122, Phe261, and Trp265**



# Ligand binding site

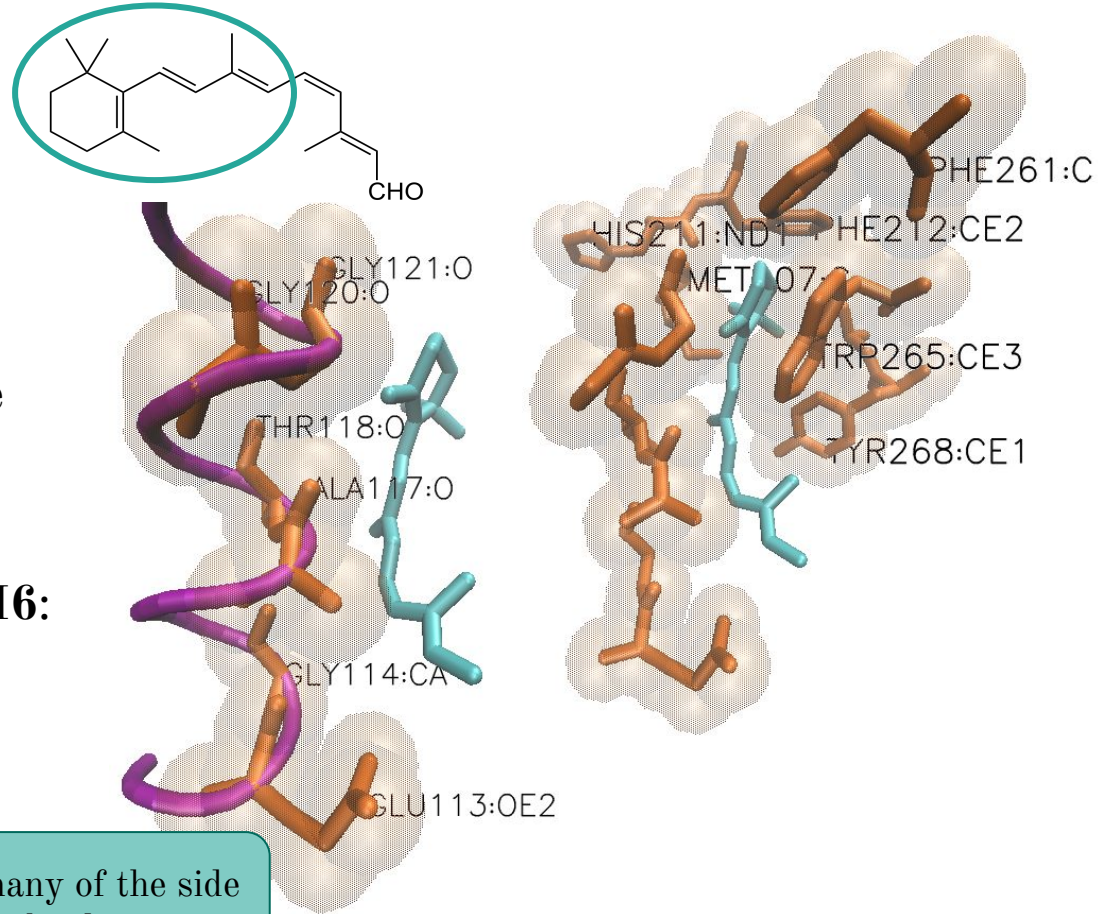
Retinal: cis conformation

## $\beta$ -ionone ring

From the  $\beta$ -ionone ring to C11, the retinal runs **parallel to H3**

Side chains, mostly from **H5 and H6**:

- Surround the  $\beta$ -ionone ring
- Restrict its orientation



H3 provides many of the side chains for the binding site

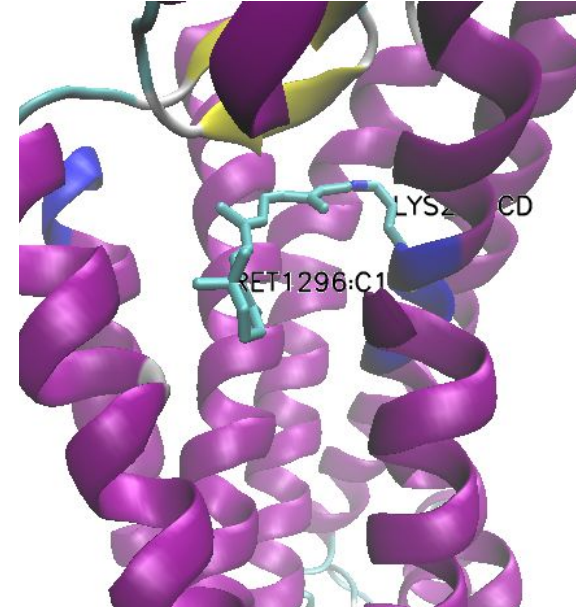
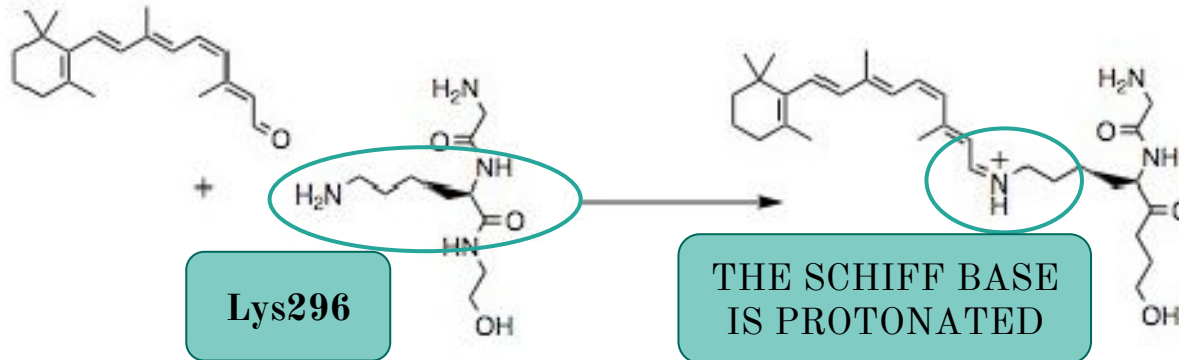
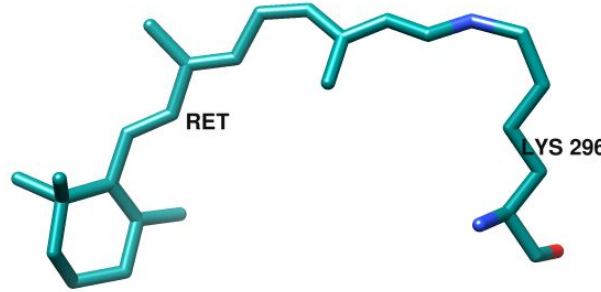
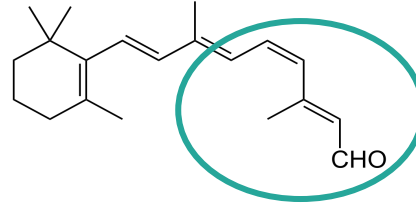


# Ligand binding site

Schiff base



Retinal binds covalently  
to Lys296 (H7)





# Ligand binding site

## Schiff base: hydrophobic interactions

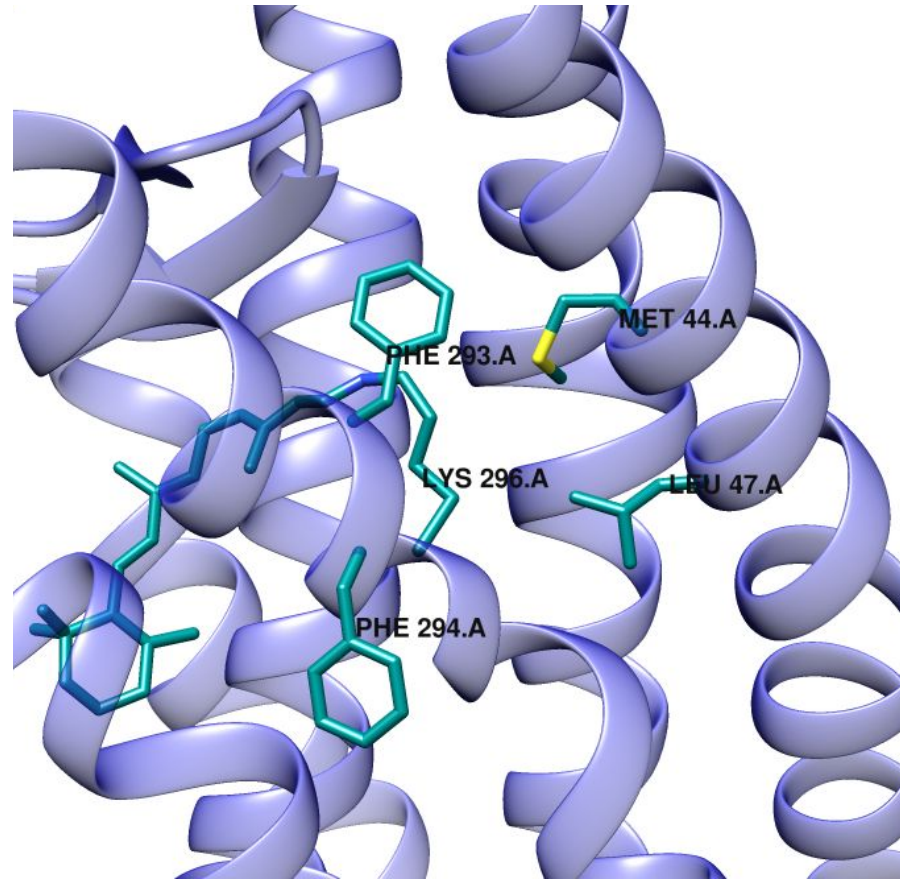
Side chain direction of Lys296 is supported by:

- A nearby peptide bond

**Phe293 and Phe294**

- Hydrophobic side chains in H1

**Met44 and Leu47**

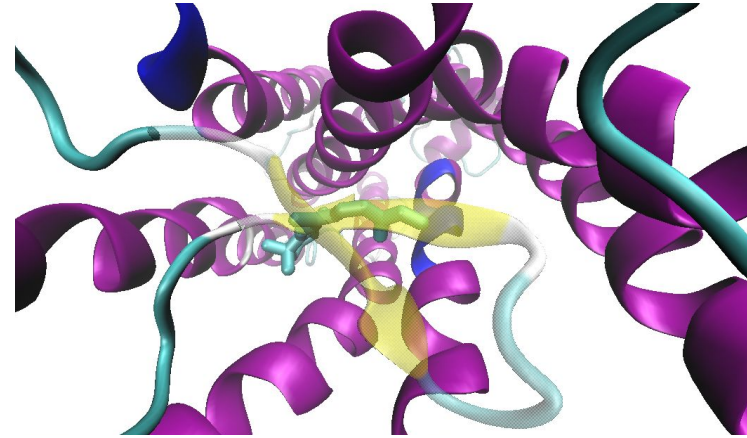
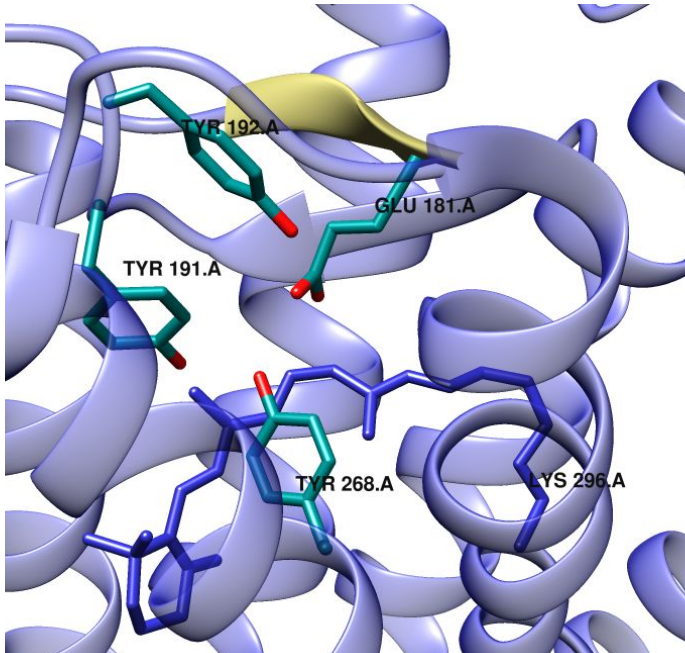




# Ligand binding site

**Schiff base: extracellular site**

→ covered by  $\beta 4$  sheet from ECL2



**Glu181**  
( $\beta 3$  sheet)

Surrounded by a cluster of  
3 polar residues

**Tyr191**

**Tyr192**

**Tyr268**

Side chain points  
towards the retinal

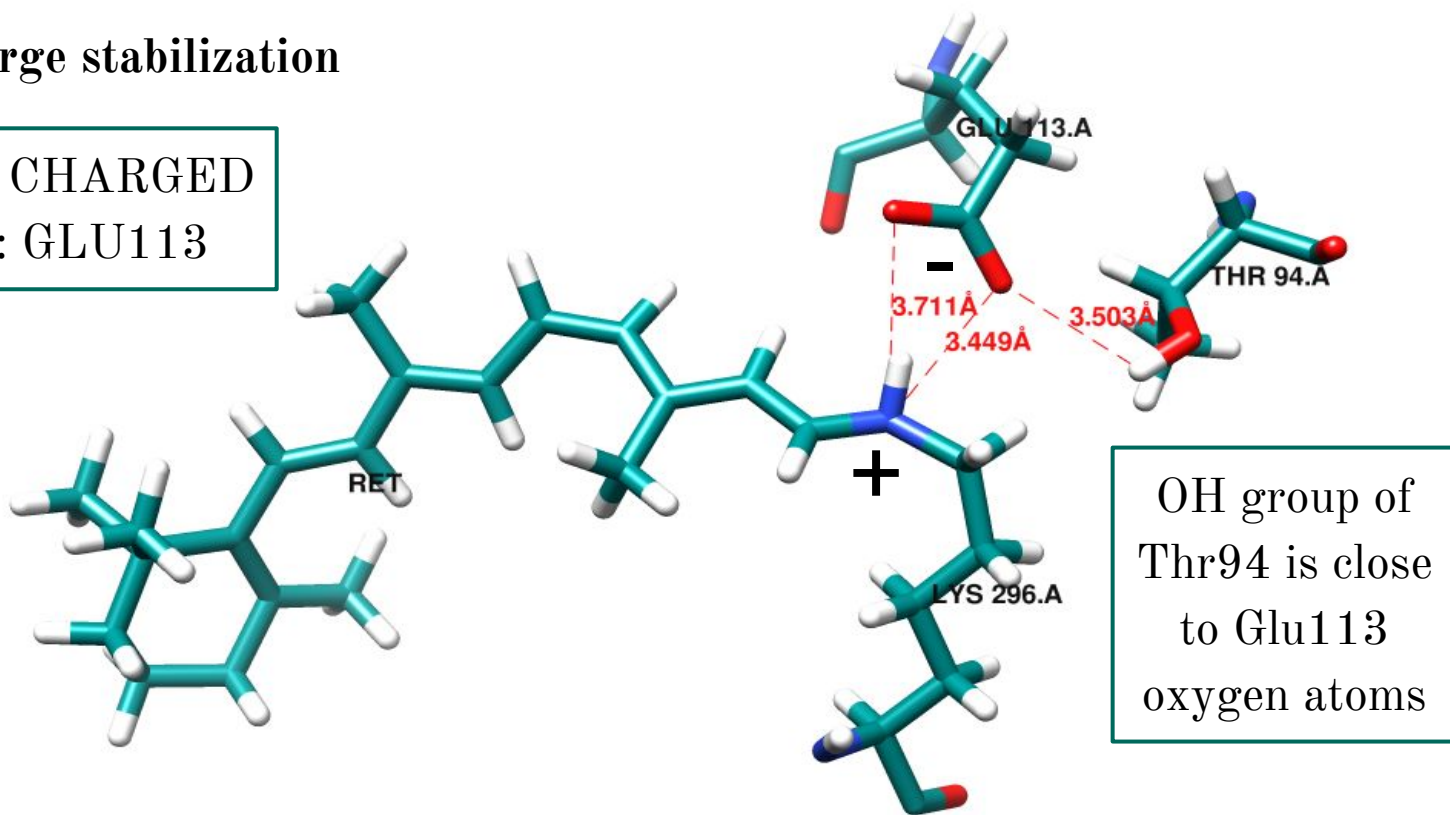
Their OH groups cover part of the  
retinal binding site



# Ligand binding site

**Schiff base: charge stabilization**

NEGATIVELY CHARGED  
COUNTERION: GLU113





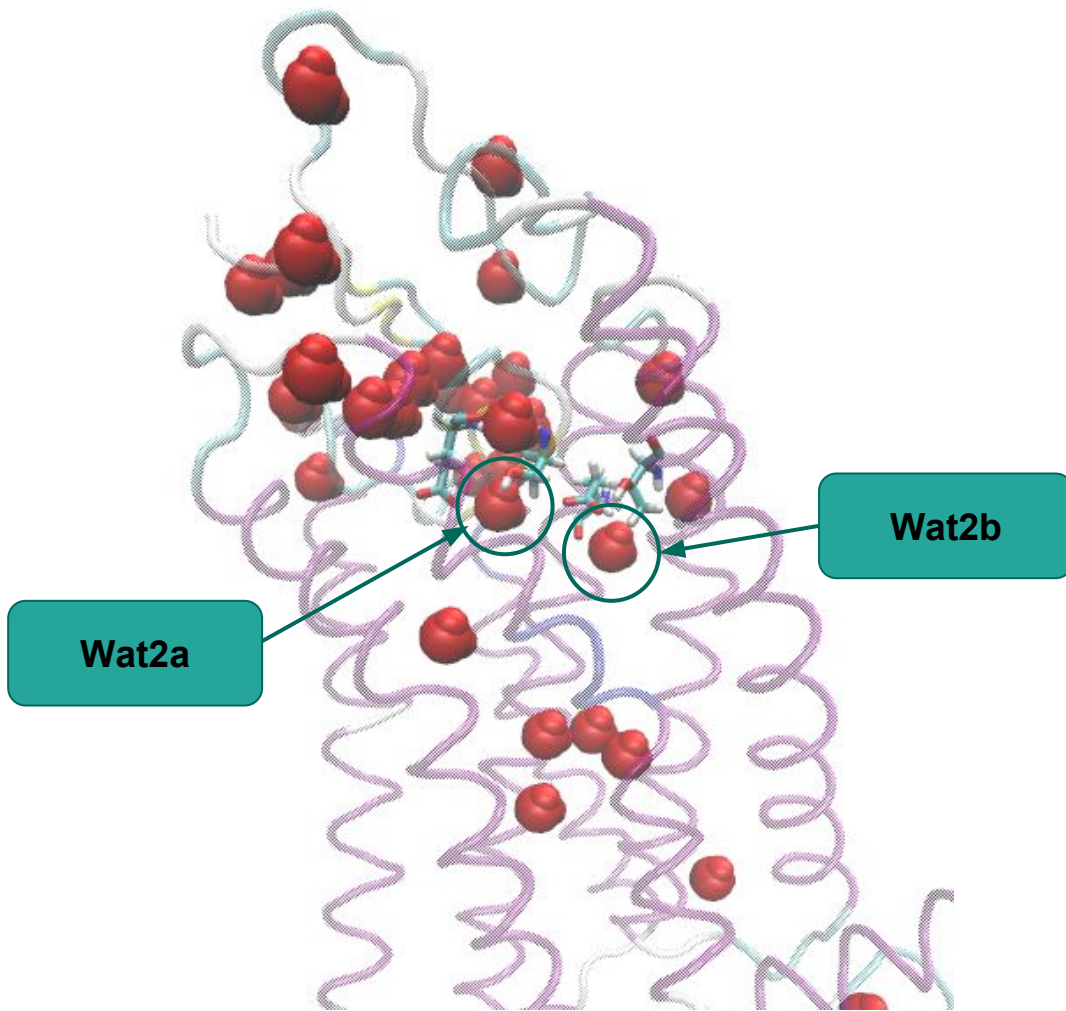
# Ligand binding site

## Hydrogen bonding network



## Important water molecules

Same position in all crystals

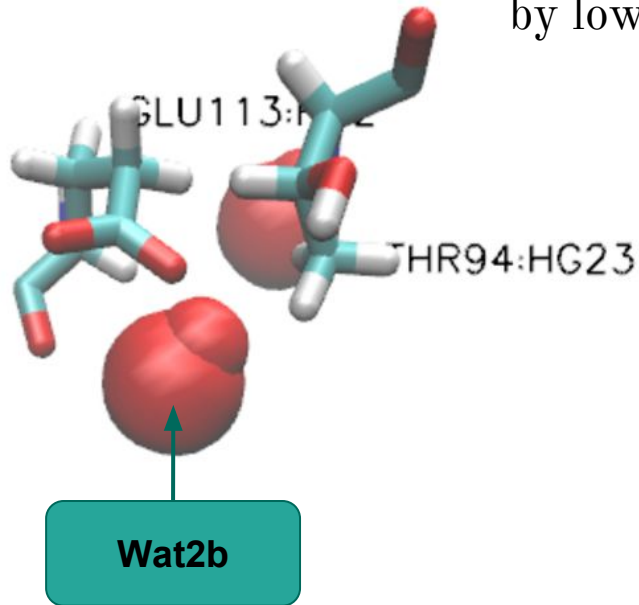




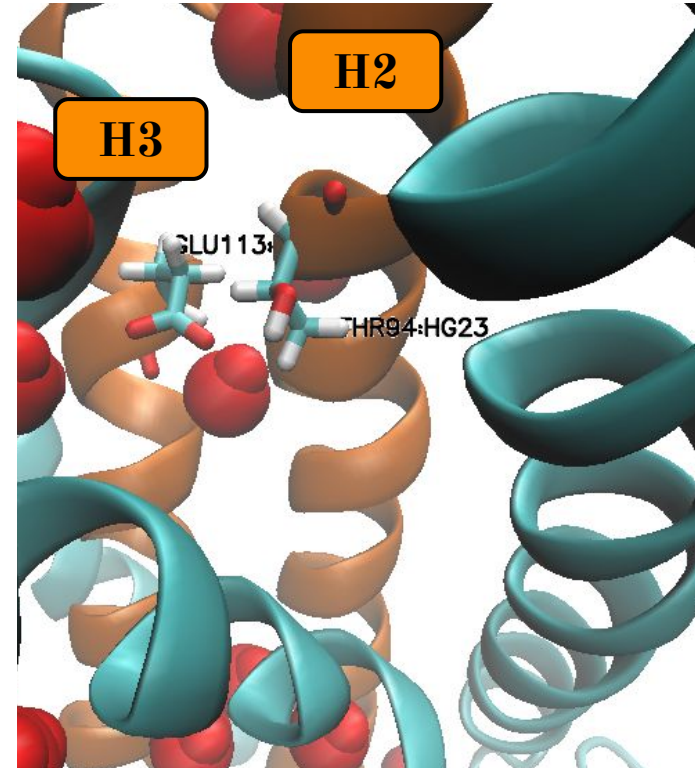
# Ligand binding site

## Hydrogen bonding network

Wat2b → Near Glu113: stabilizes salt bridge  
by lowering its pKa



Fills a spatial gap between H2 and  
H3 at the retinal-binding site

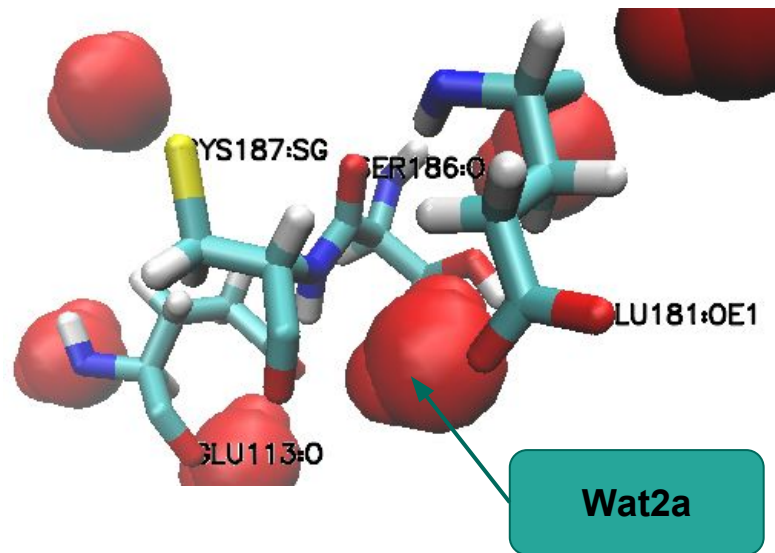




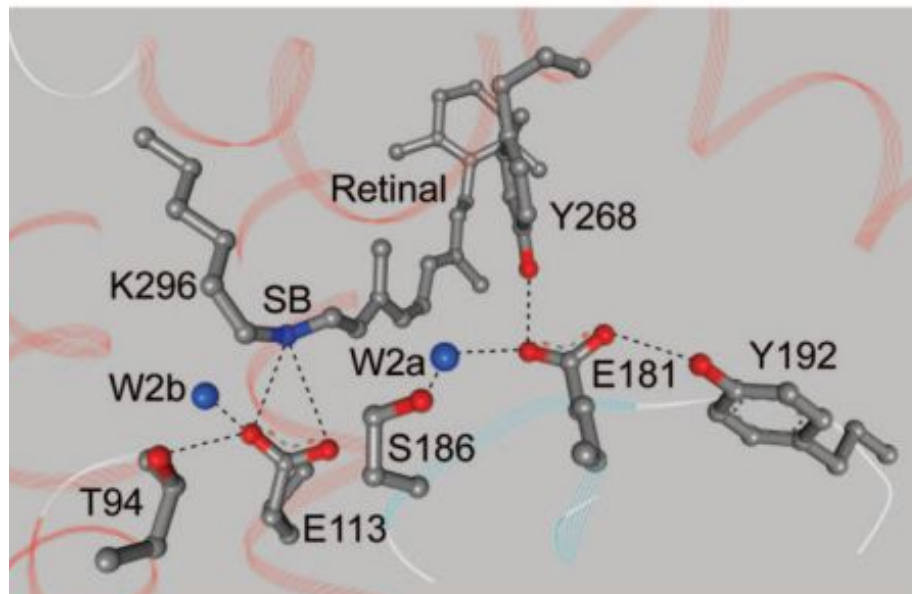
# Ligand binding site

## Hydrogen bonding network

Wat2a → H bonds: Ser186,  
Cys187 and Glu181



H-bonding network postulated on the basis  
of QM/MM modelling and MD simulations



Extracted from Janz JM et. al., 2004



# Ligand binding site

Factors contributing to the stability of the protonated Schiff base:

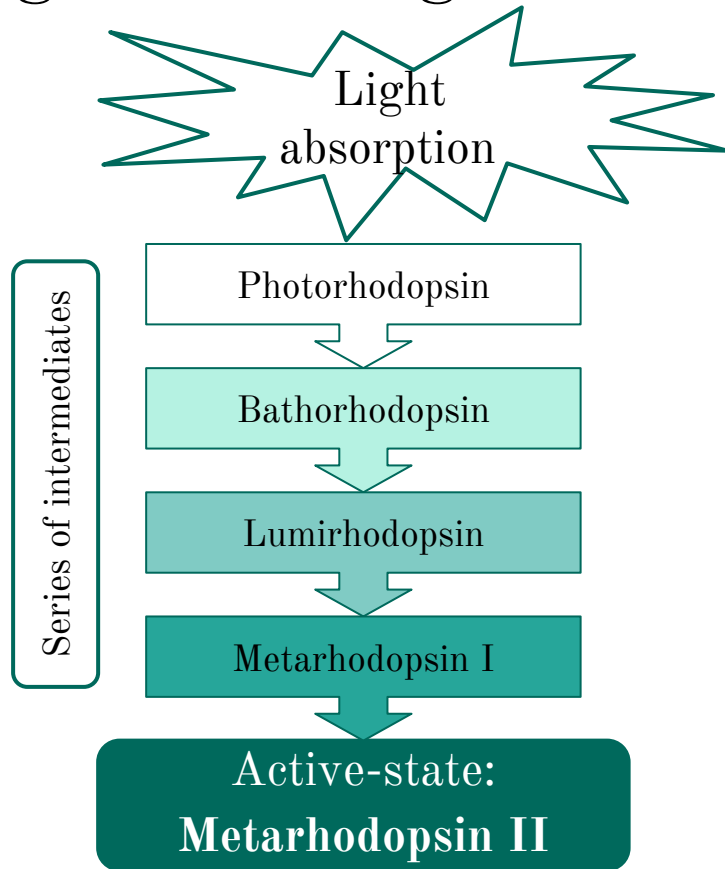
- Negatively charged Glu113 at a very short distance from the Schiff base
- Hydrogen bonding network:
  - Reduces Glu113 basicity
  - Thr94 and Wat2b involved

**CHANGES IN  
PHOTOACTIVATION**

The proton is kept at the Schiff base nitrogen atom rather than at the carboxylate oxygen atom



# Ligand binding site: **ACTIVE**



## Photon-induced cis-trans isomerisation of retinal

The retinal flips 180° around the double bond

The  $\beta$ -ionone ring tilts towards the space between helices 5 and 6

Deprotonation of the Schiff base

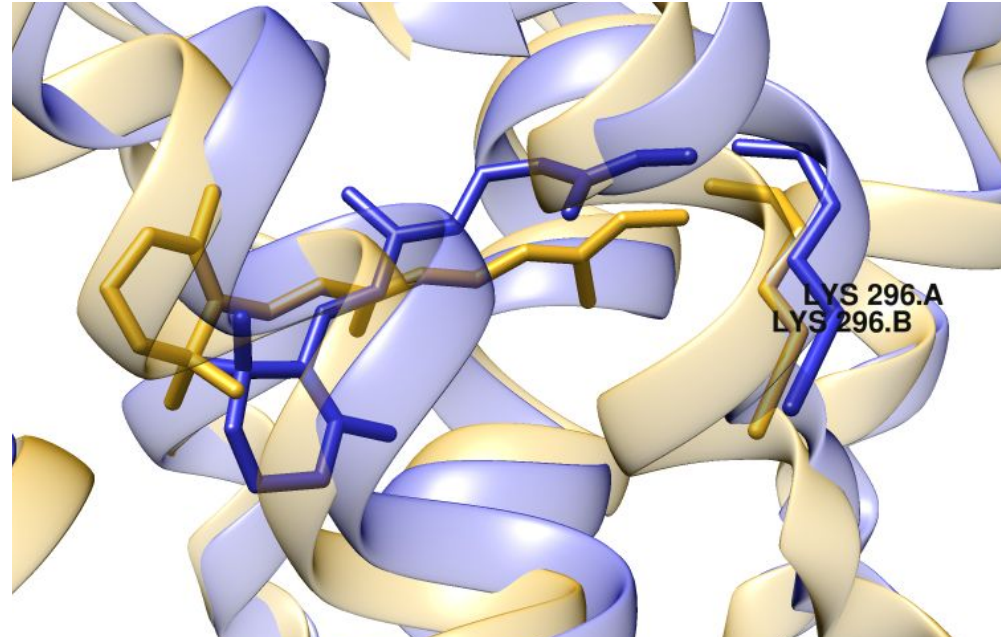
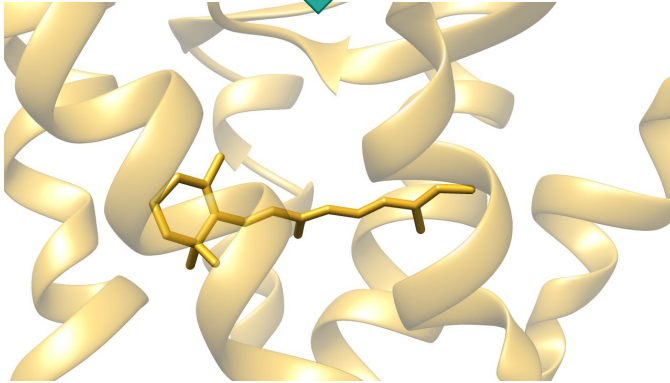
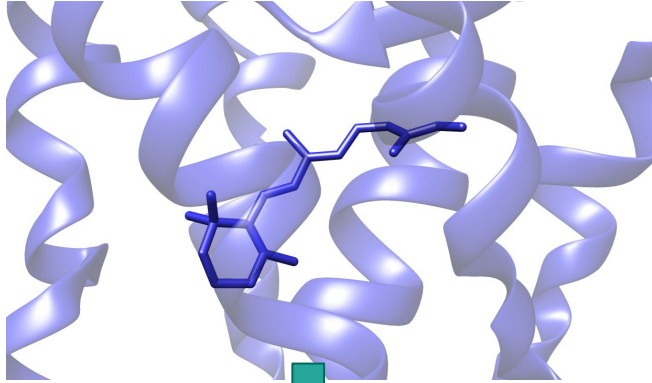
Protonation of Glu113



# Ligand binding site: **ACTIVE**

**ACTIVE**

**INACTIVE**





# Ligand binding site: **ACTIVE**

**ACTIVE**

**INACTIVE**

The arrangement around the Schiff base is of particular interest in terms of understanding the mechanism of the photoactivation of rhodopsin.

Presence of retinal causes adjustment of side chains:

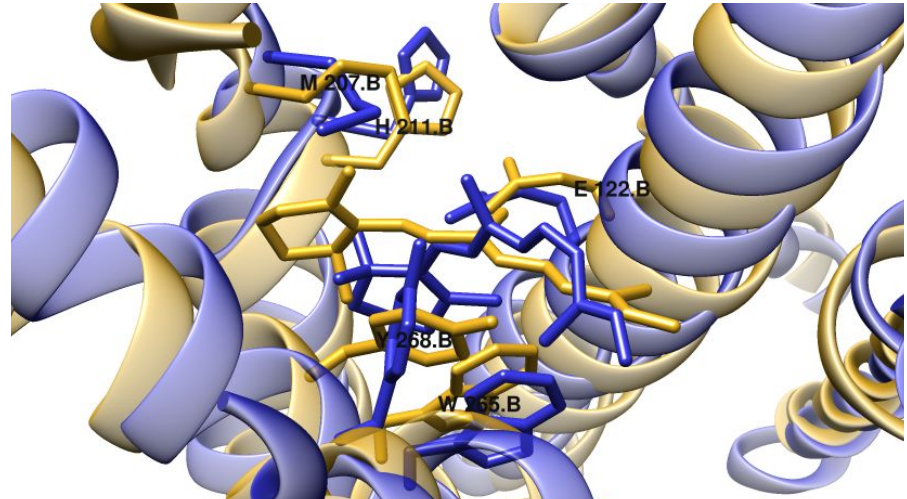
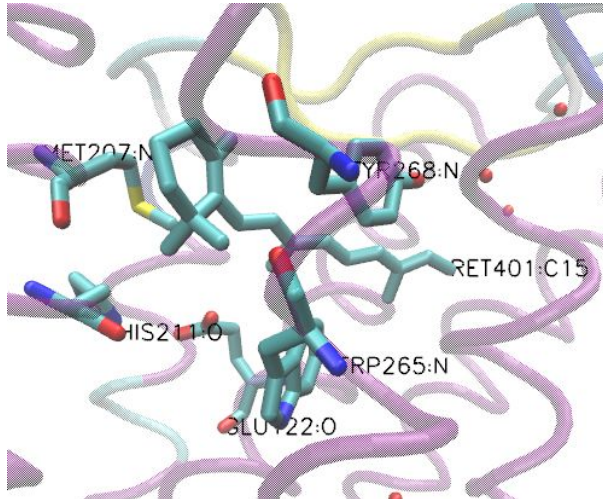
**Met207**

**His211**

**Glu122**

**Trp265**

**Tyr268**





# Ligand binding site: **ACTIVE**

**ACTIVE**

**INACTIVE**



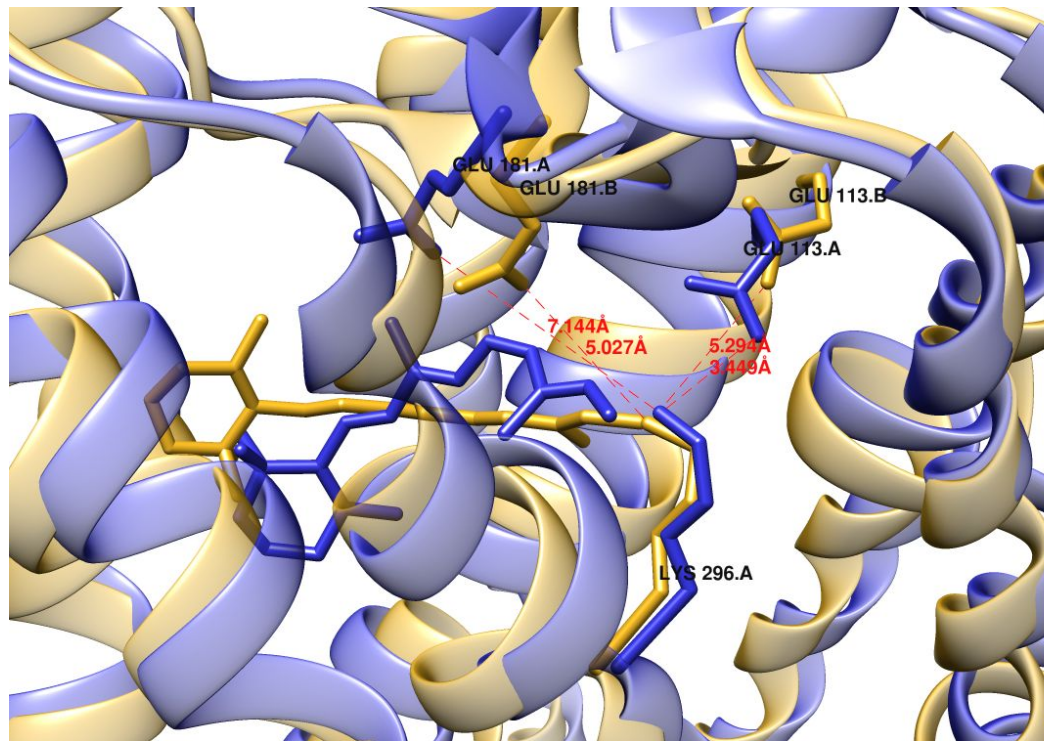
Distance between Schiff base  
and side chain carboxyl group  
of Glu113

3,4 to 5,3 Å



Distance between Schiff base  
and Glu181

7,1 to 5,0 Å





# Ligand binding site: INACTIVE vs. ACTIVE

## INACTIVE

→ Protonated Schiff base

→ Short distance between Schiff base and Glu113 (counterion)

→ Complex hydrogen bonding network around ligand binding site

## ACTIVE

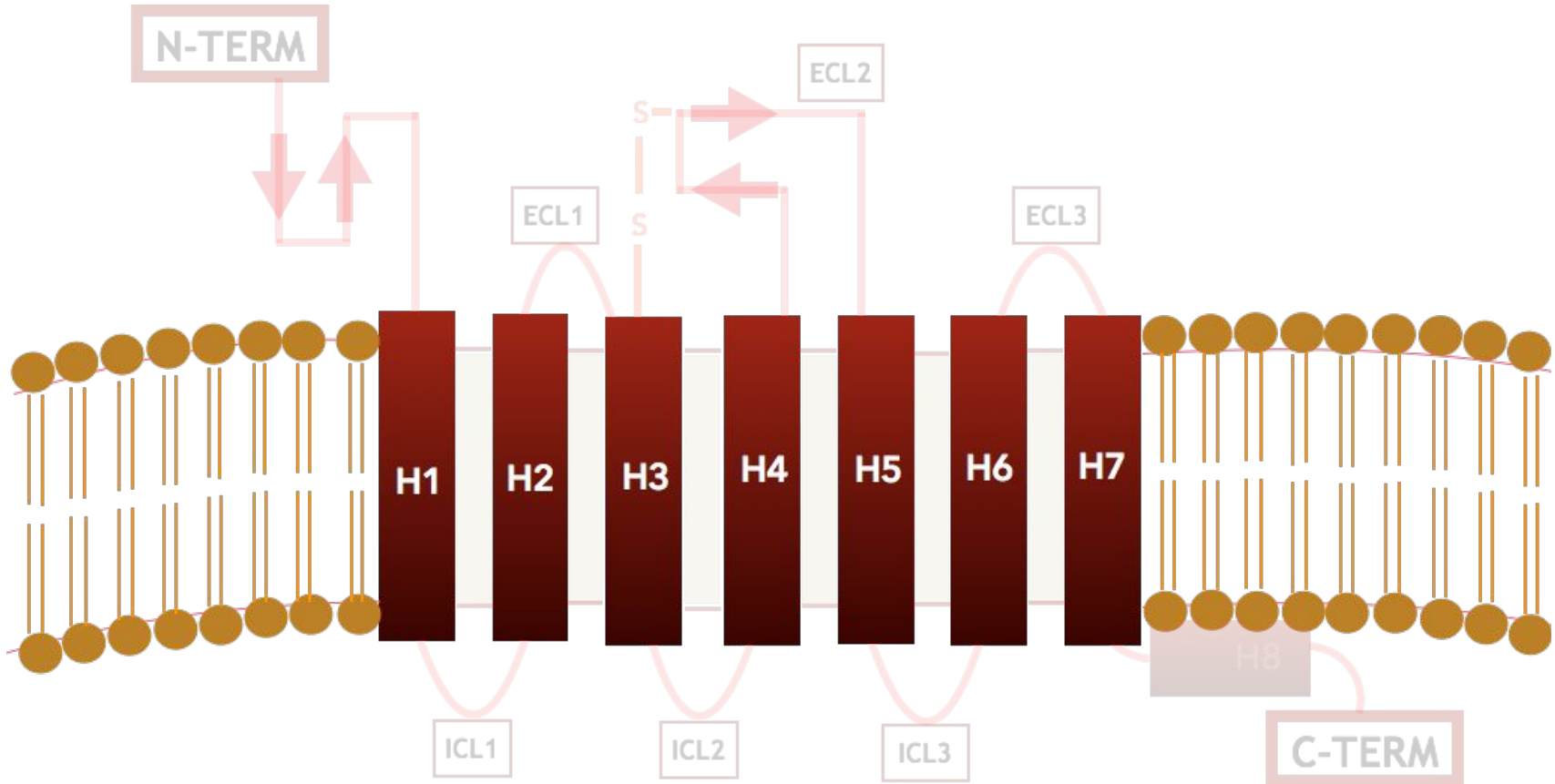
→ Deprotonated Schiff base

→ Elongation and torsional motions of retinal polyene chain and  $\beta$ -ionone ring

→ Changes in the H-bonding network



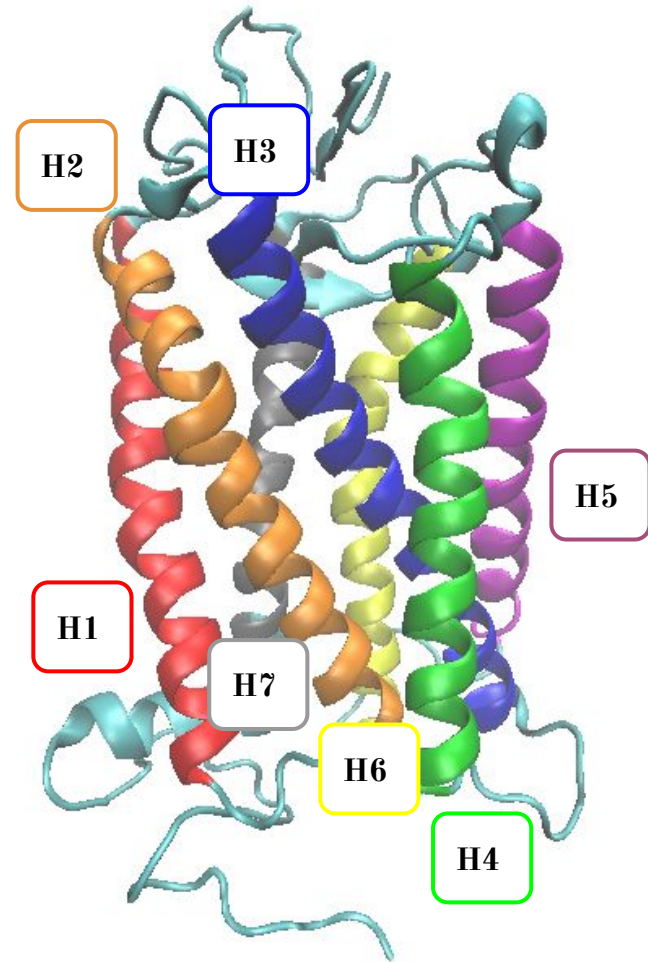
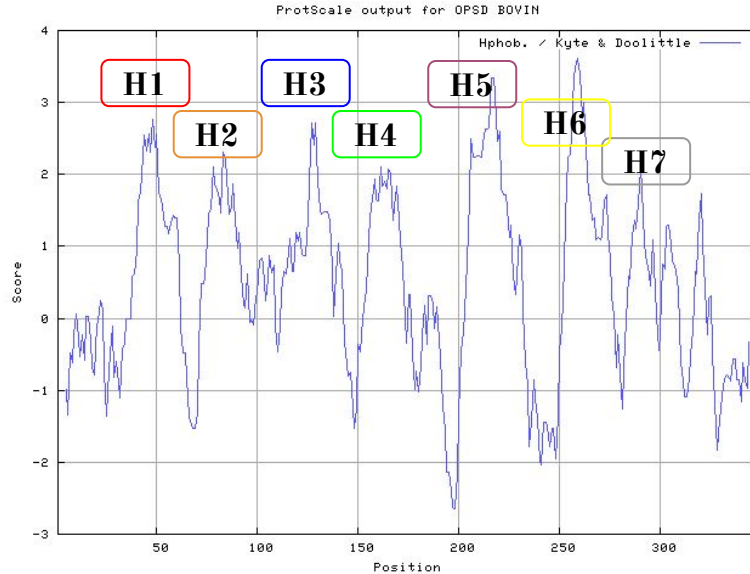
# 7TM domain





# 7TM domain

- Common in all GPCR
- 7 transmembrane helices





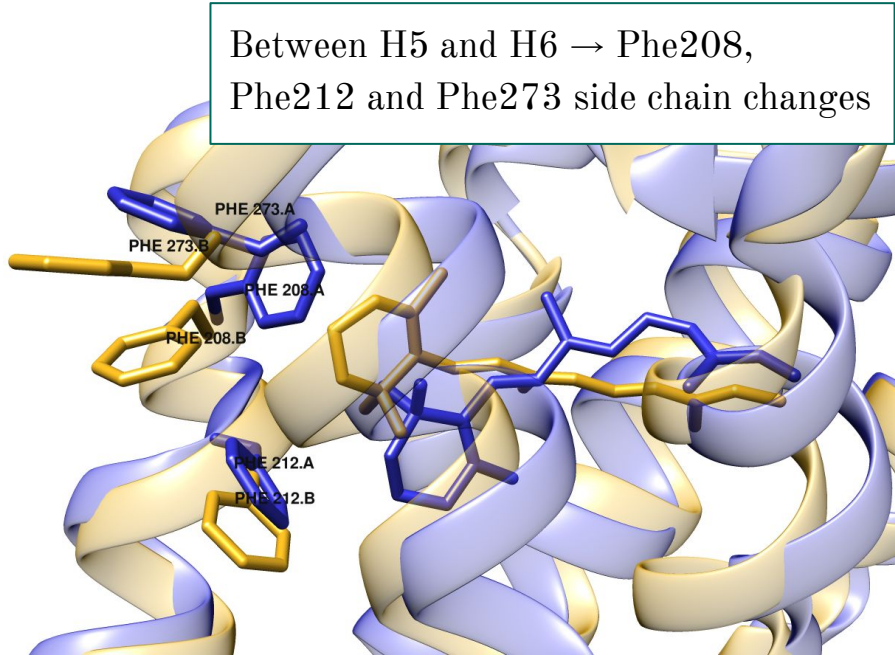
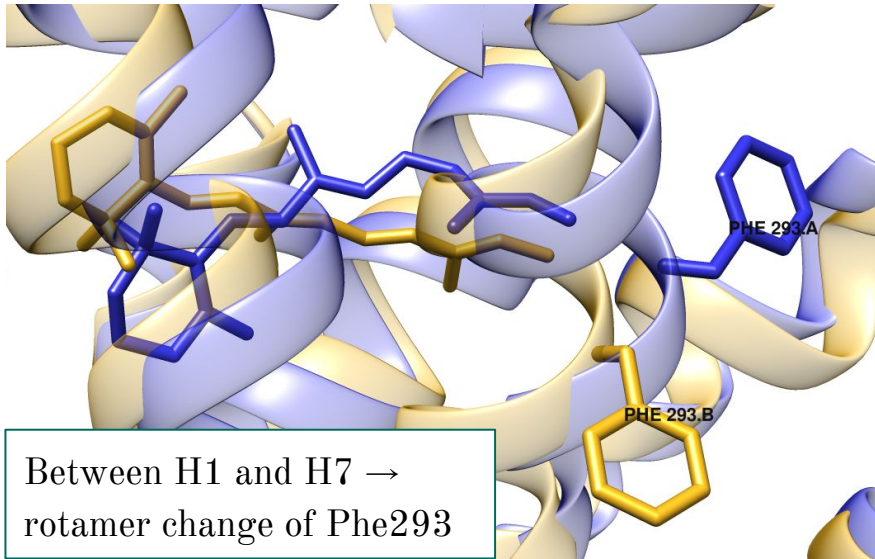
# 7TM domain: **ACTIVE**

**ACTIVE**

**INACTIVE**

## Conformational changes after photoactivation

Two openings of the retinal binding site:





# 7TM domain: **ACTIVE**

**ACTIVE**

**INACTIVE**

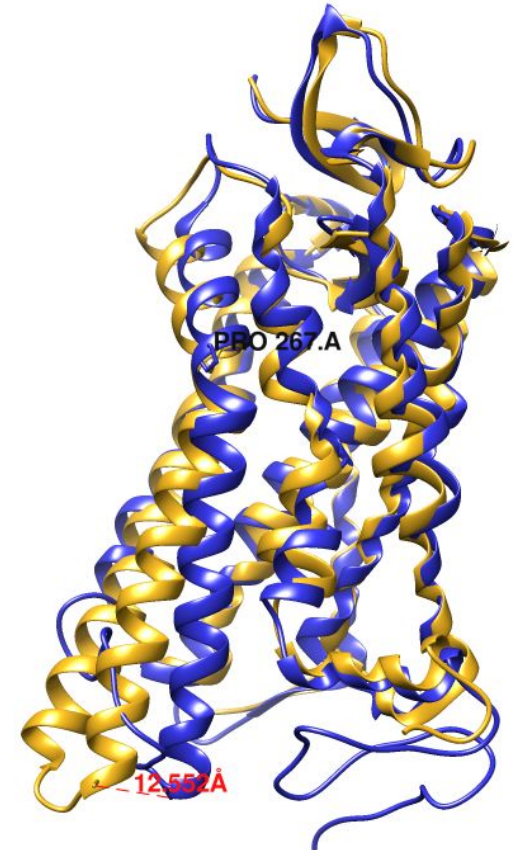
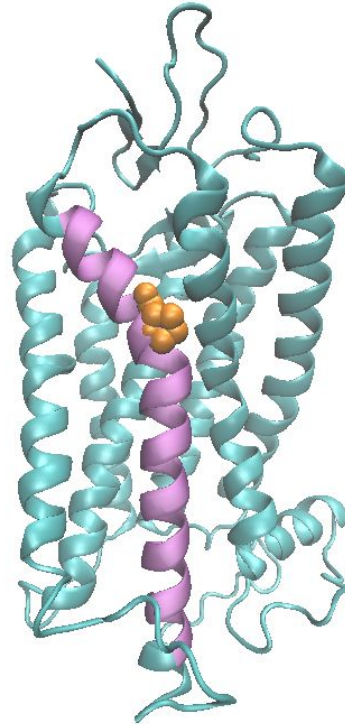
## Conformational changes after photoactivation

Pro267 acts as a hinge in H6

H6 bends away from the core

A crevice in the cytoplasmatic side is created

G-protein interaction and  
signal transduction





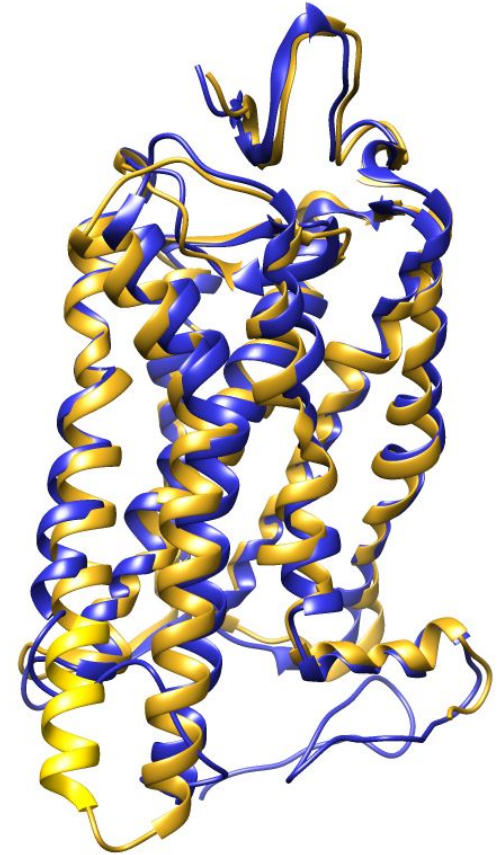
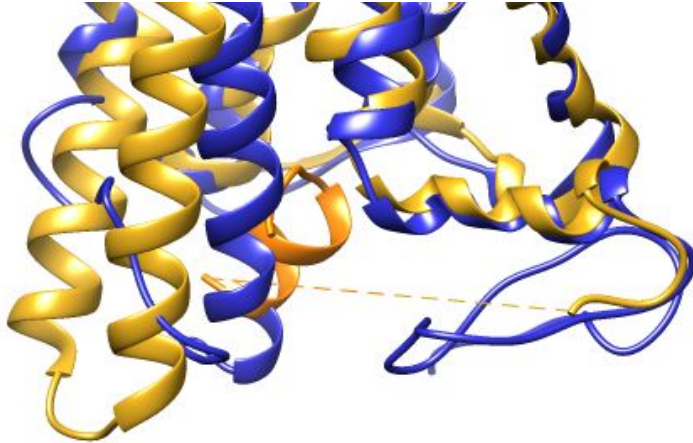
# 7TM domain: **ACTIVE**

**ACTIVE**

**INACTIVE**

## Conformational changes after photoactivation

- 8-residue elongation of H5
- Expansion of the interface for G protein interaction
- Higher binding affinity for G protein

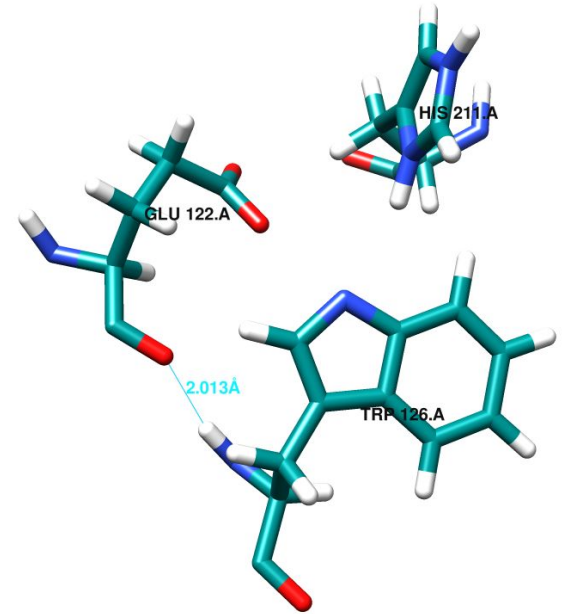
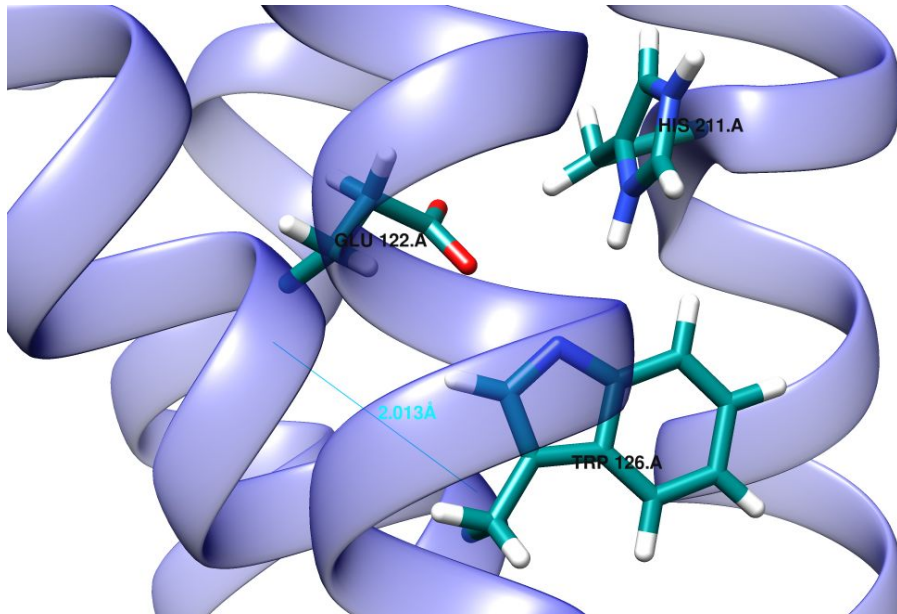




# 7TM domain

## Conformational changes after photoactivation

Motion of H5 towards H6 → changes in the H3-H5 H bonding network



Glu122 - Trp126

H3

His211

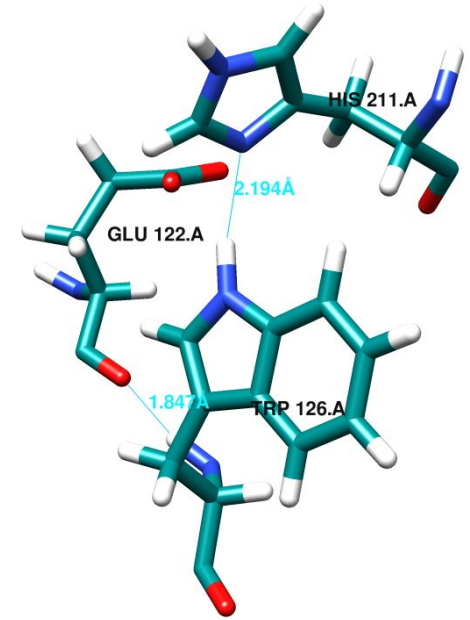
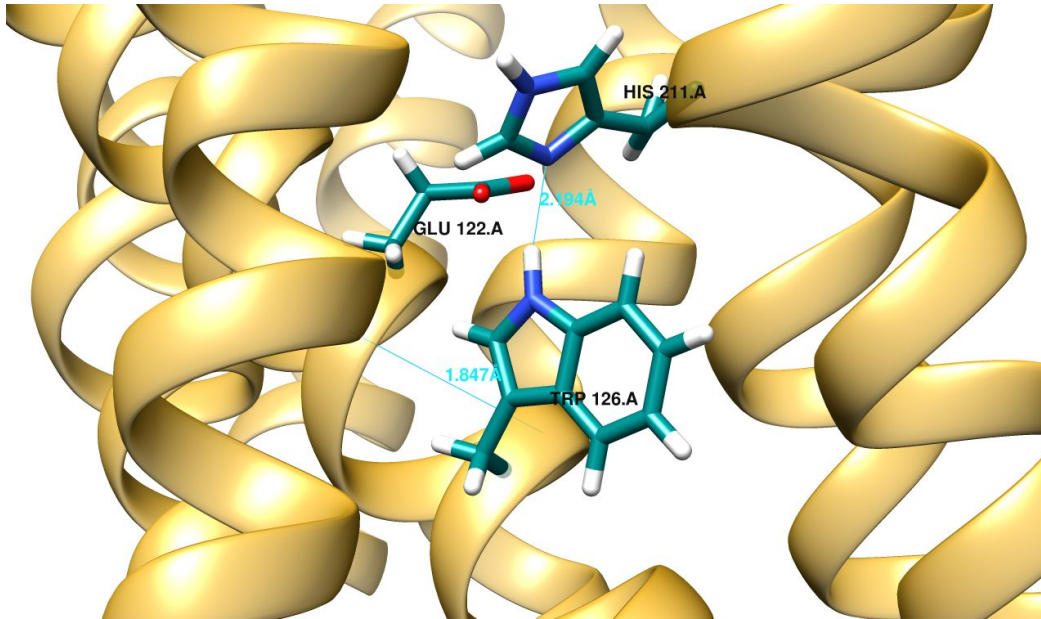
H5



# 7TM domain: **ACTIVE**

## Conformational changes after photoactivation

Motion of H5 towards H6 → changes in the H3-H5 H-bonding network



Glu122 - Trp126 - His211

H3

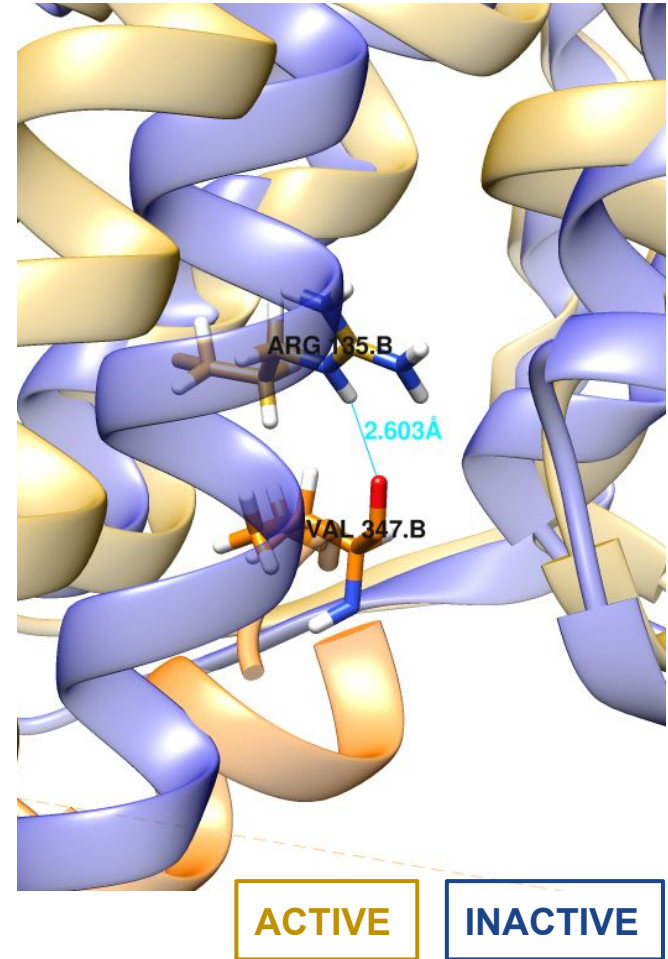
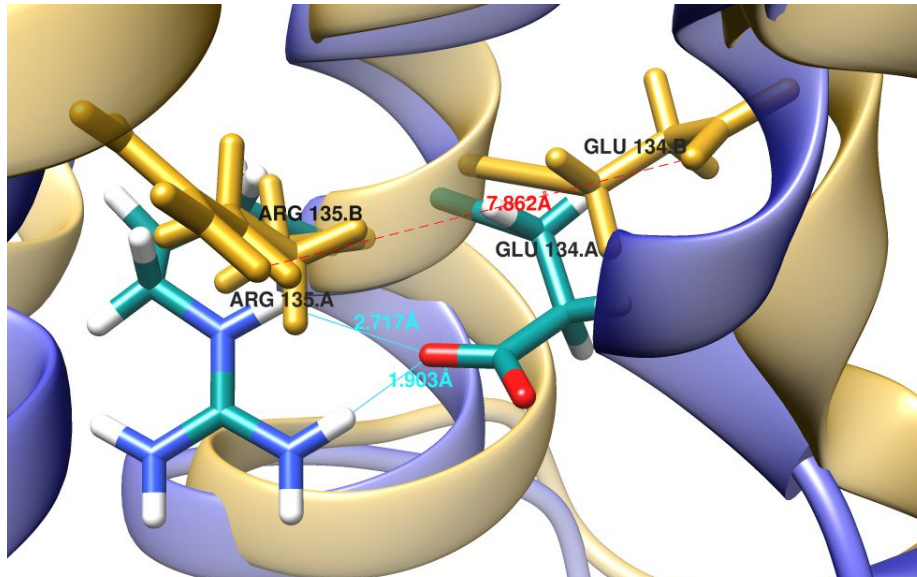
H5



# 7TM domain: **ACTIVE**

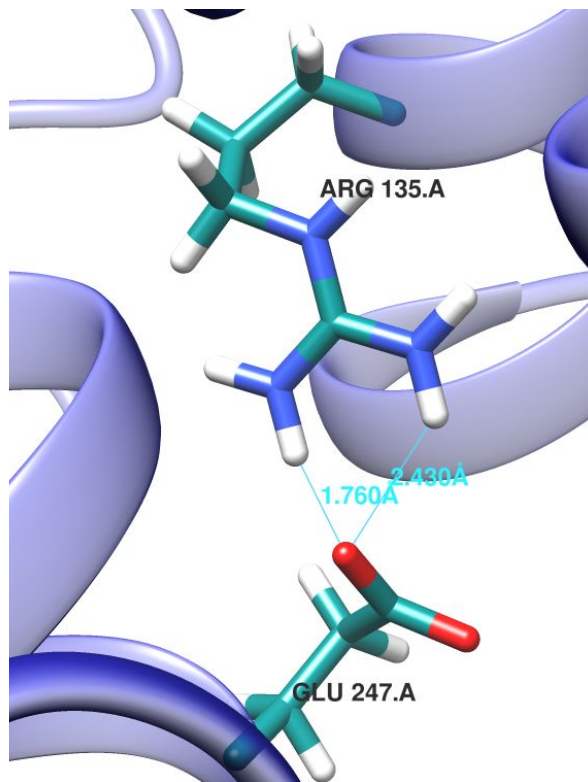
## Conformational changes after photoactivation

- Glu134-Arg135 interaction in H3 is lost (ERY motif)
- H bond between Arg135 and G $\alpha$  C-term (Val)





# Ionic lock



Salt bridge

Arg135 - Glu247

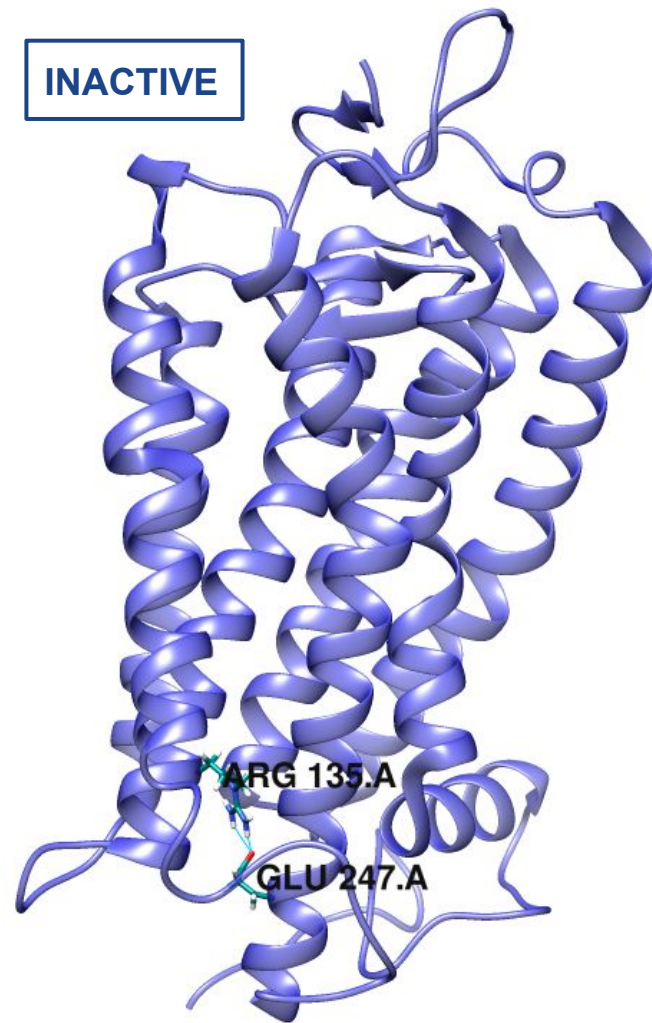
H3

H6

G-PROTEIN  
BINDING SITE  
IS BLOCKED

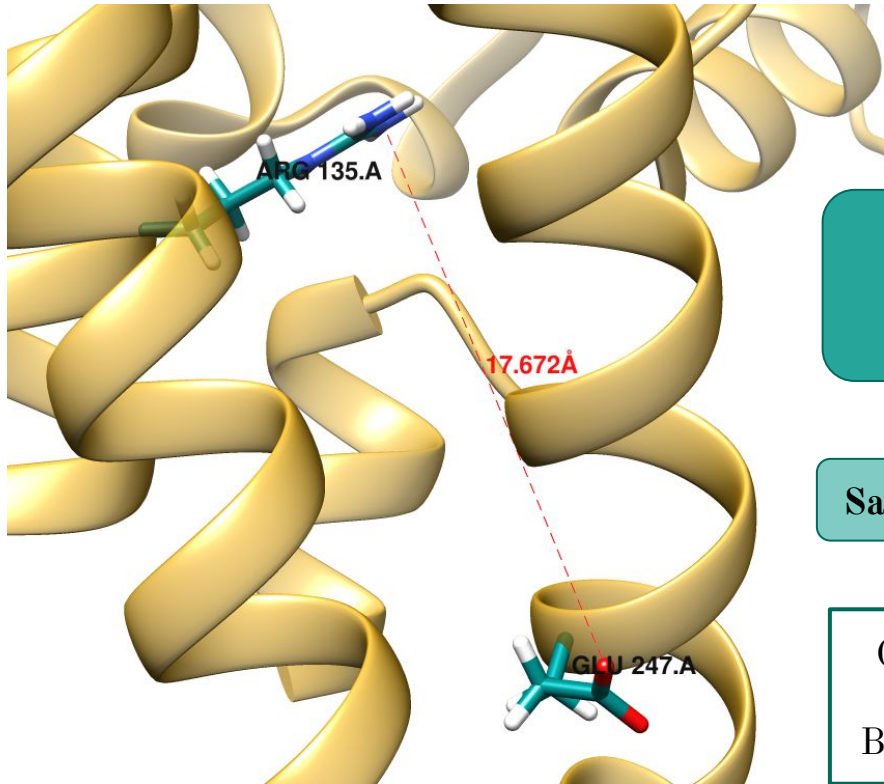
E(D)RY motif + E247:  
Conserved in GPCRs

INACTIVE





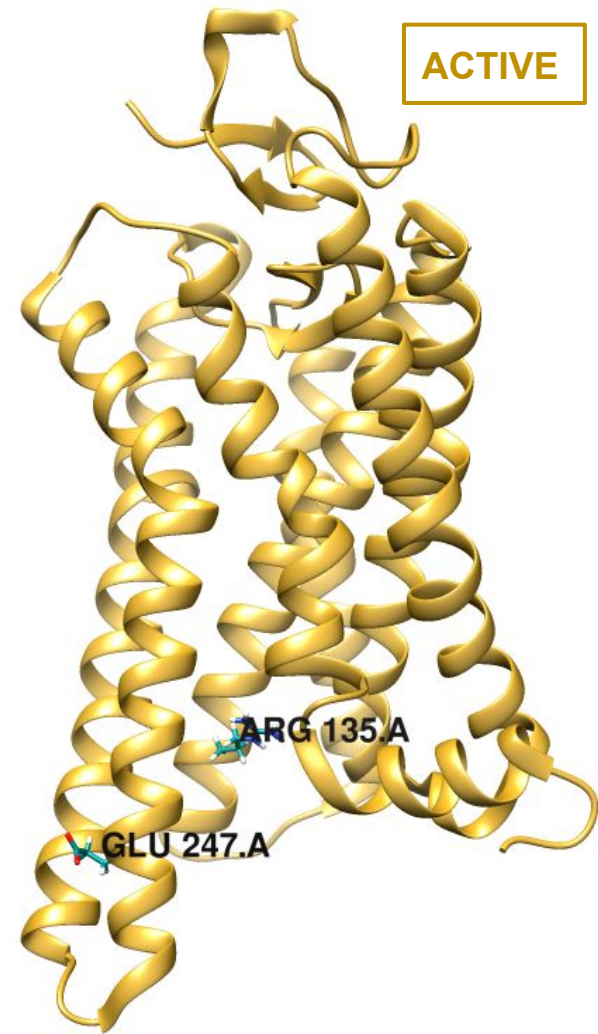
# Ionic lock: **ACTIVE**



H6 bends  
away from  
the core

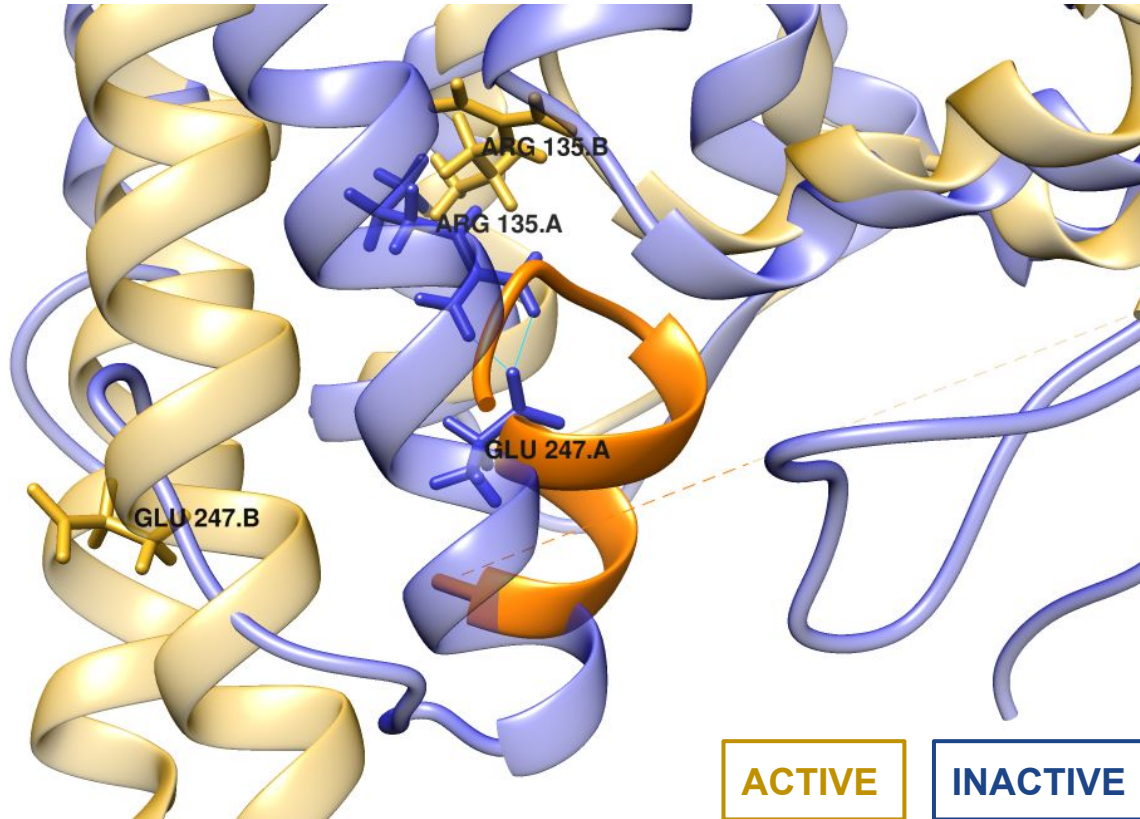
Salt bridge breaks

OPENING OF  
G-PROTEIN  
BINDING SITE





# Ionic lock: **INACTIVE** vs. **ACTIVE**





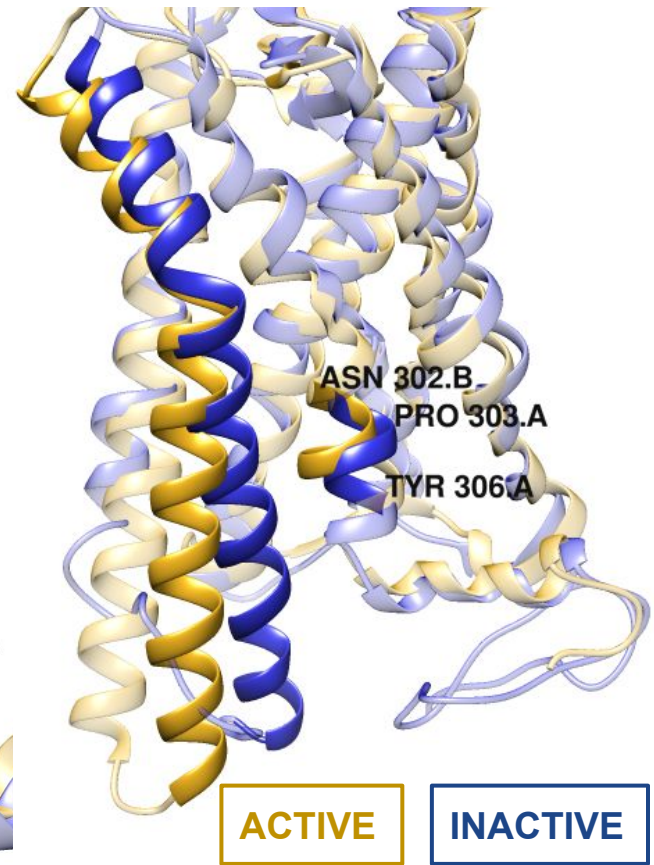
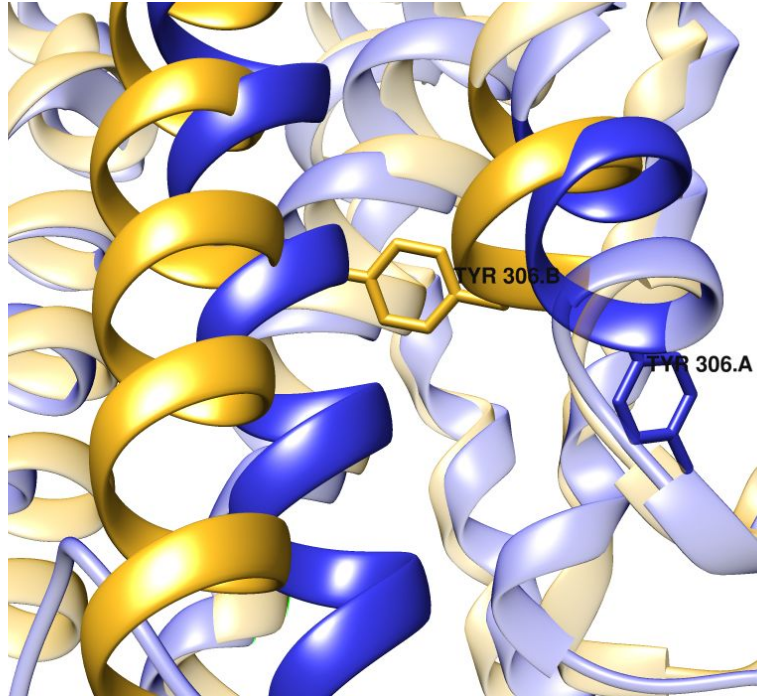
# NPXXY motif

## Conformational changes after photoactivation:

Tyr306  
(H7) shifts  
towards H6

Pushes H6  
away from the  
transmembrane  
bundle

Helps breaking  
the ionic lock



Common to all GPCRs



# 7TM domain and ionic lock: ACTIVE

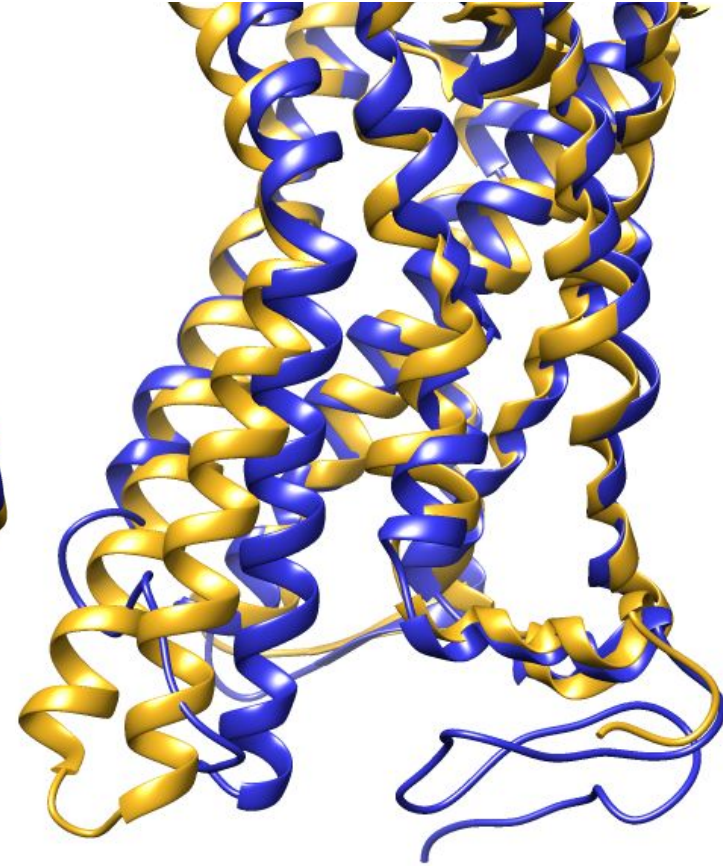
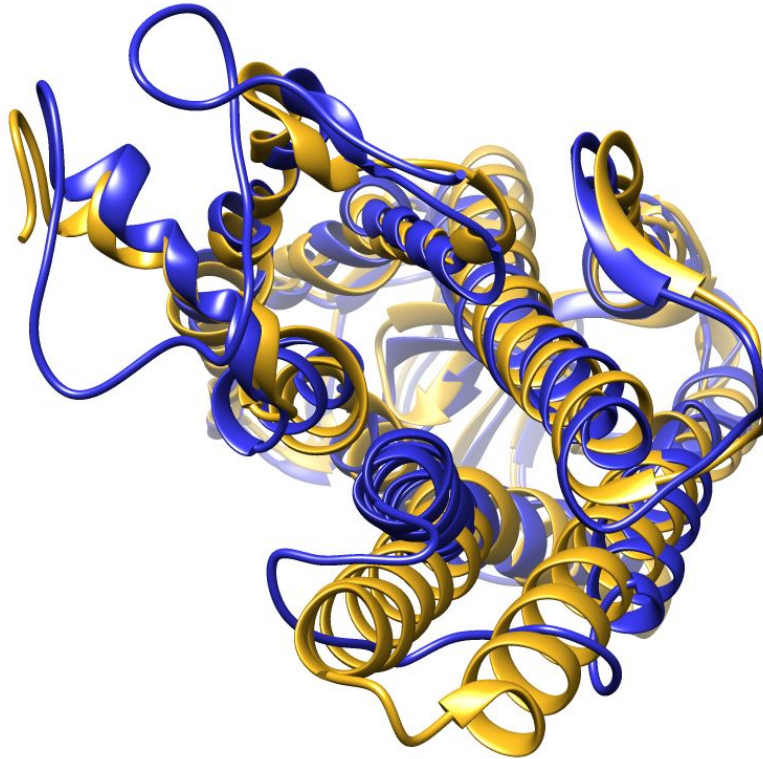
ACTIVE

INACTIVE

## Conformational changes after photoactivation

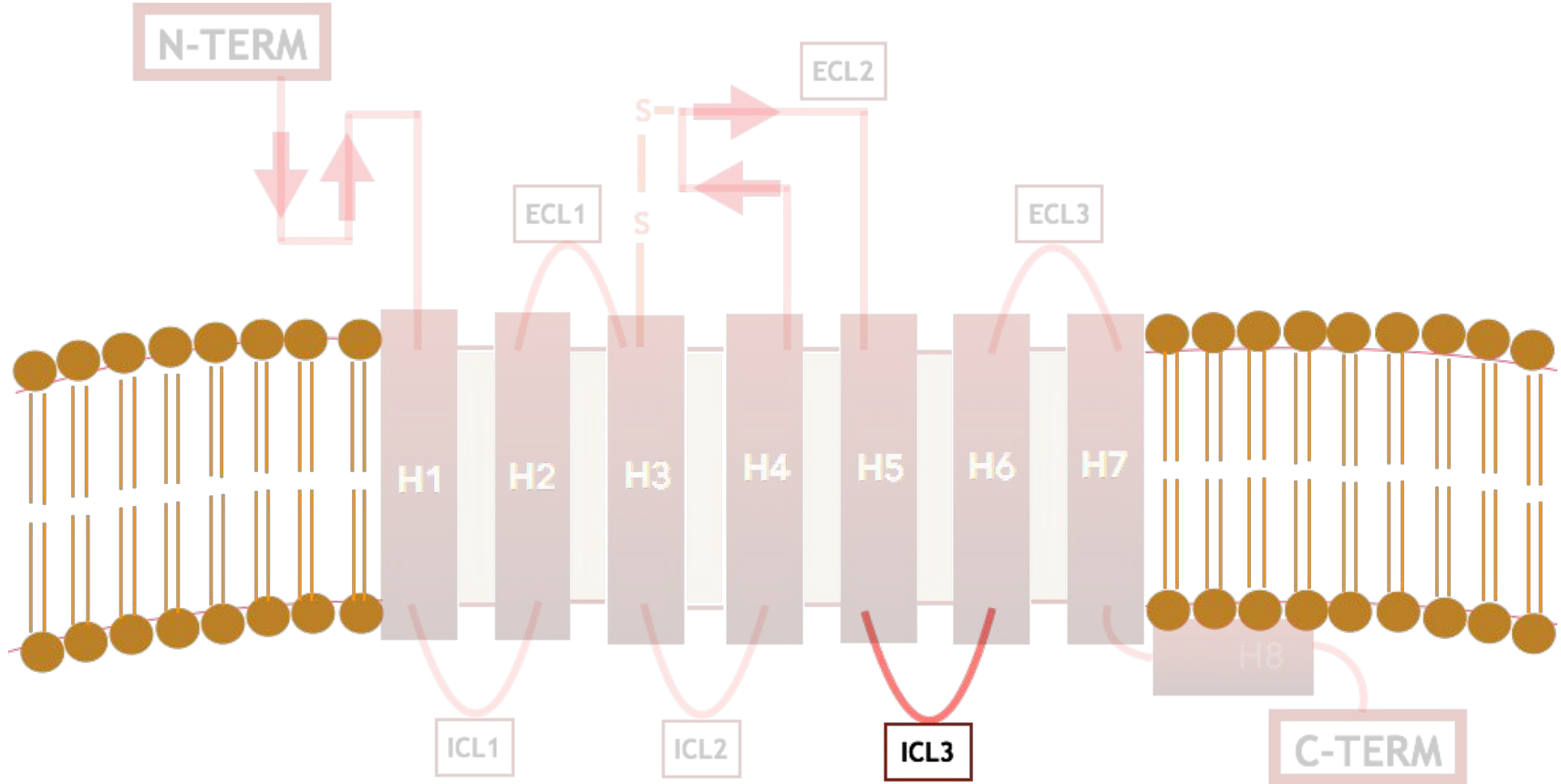
Rotational tilt  
of H6

Motion of its  
cytoplasmic end  
away from H3





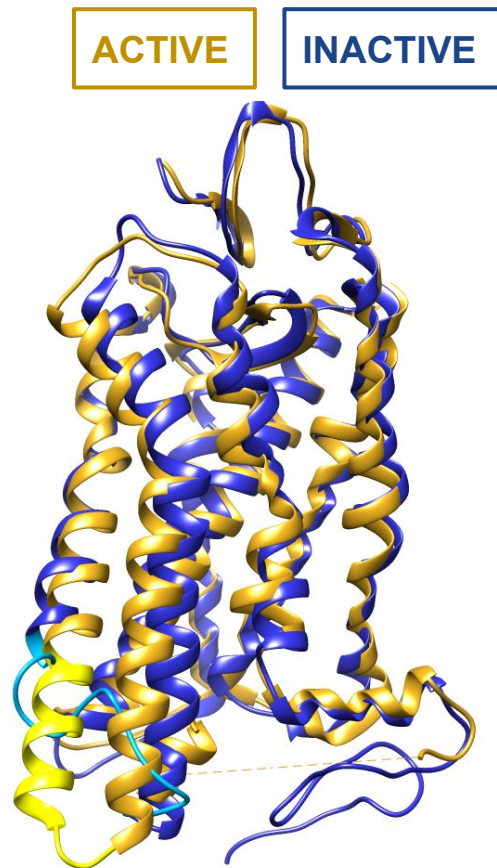
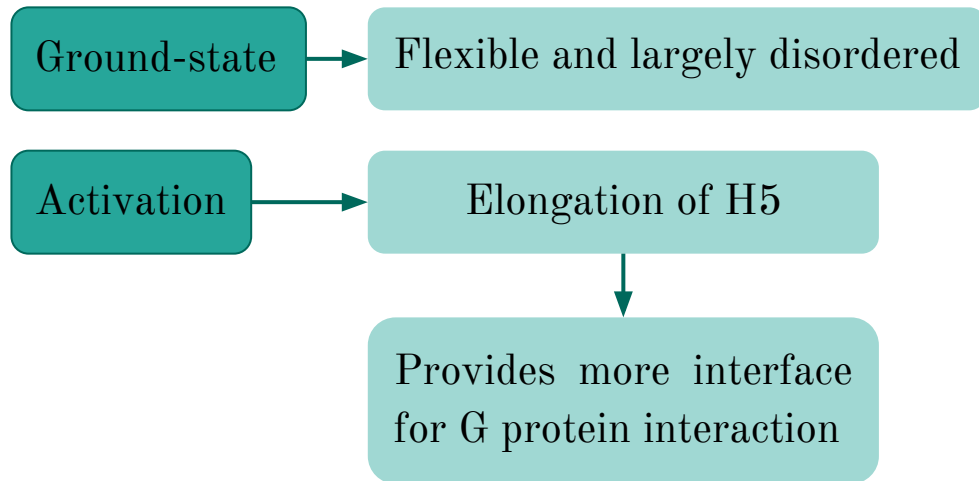
# Third Intracellular Loop (ICL3)





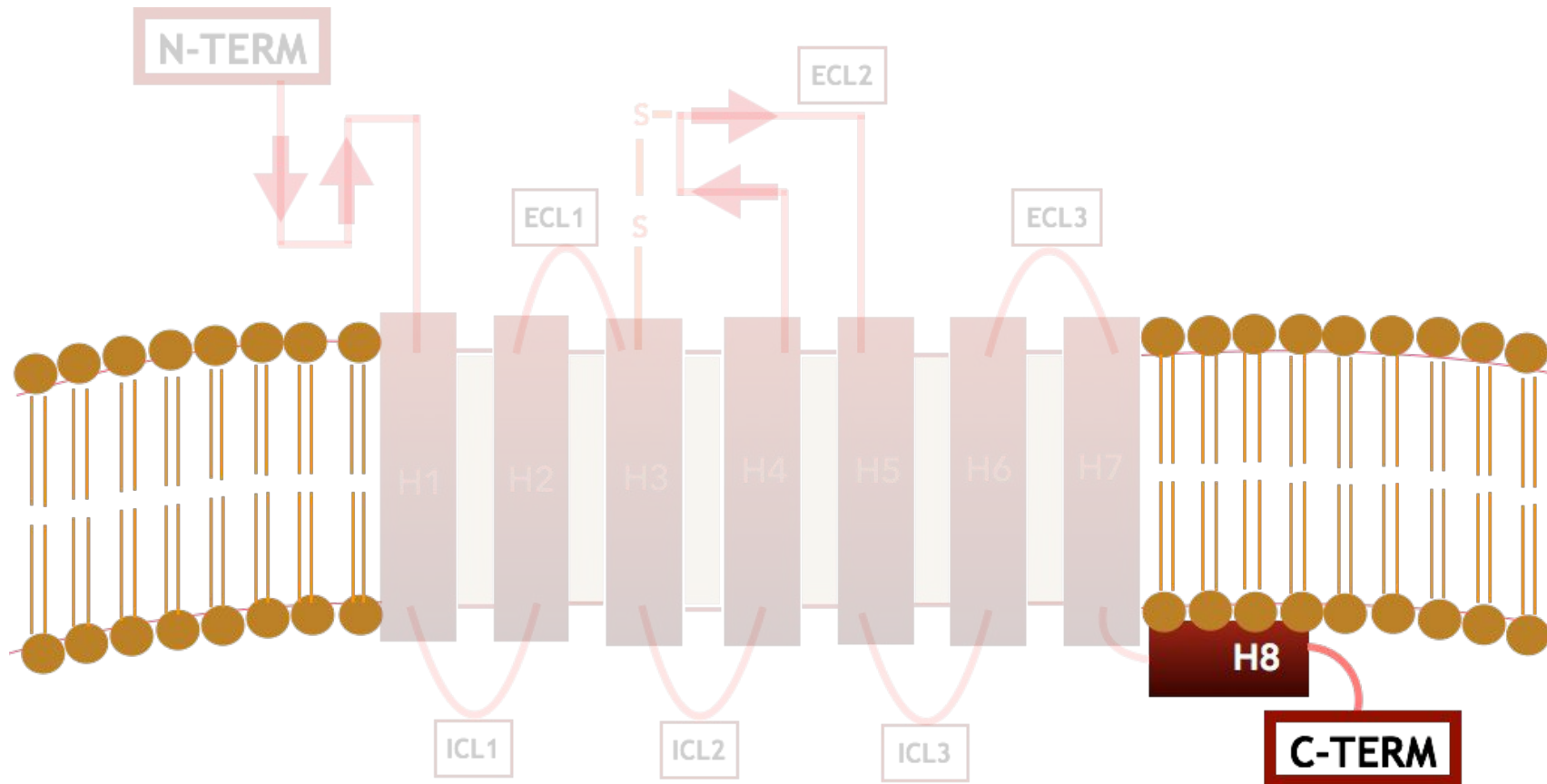
# Third Intracellular loop (ICL3)

Loop region between helices 5 and 6





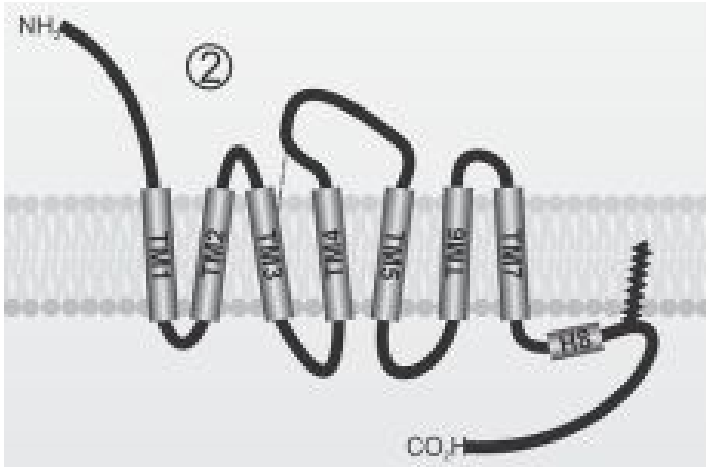
# C-terminus



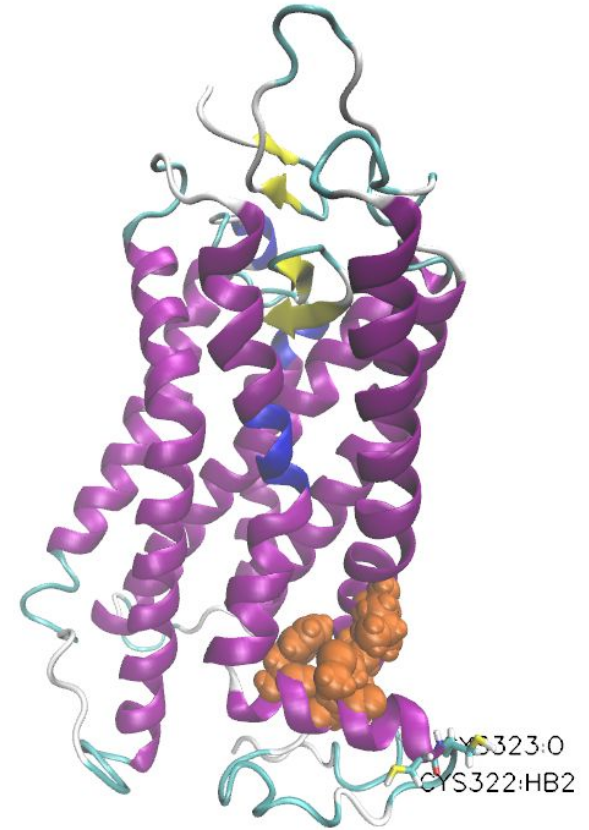


# C-terminus

- On the cytoplasmic side
- Short amphipathic helix (H8) perpendicular to H7
  - Hydrophobic interactions with H1 and its following loop
- Palmitoylation of 2 Cys → anchored to membrane



Extracted from Adams MN et. al., 2011

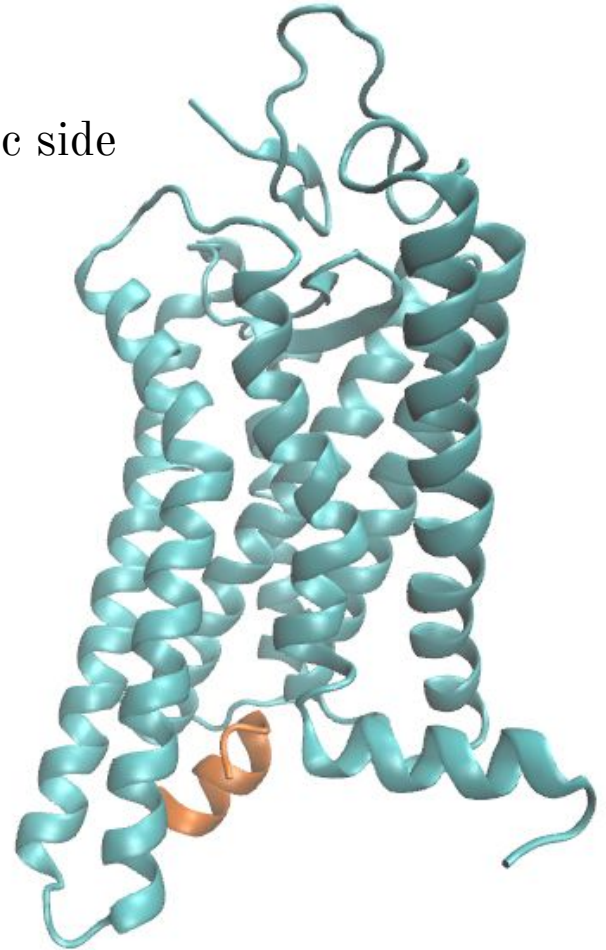
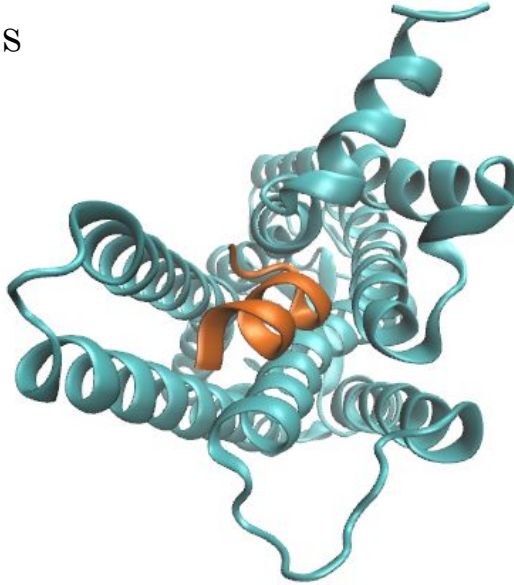
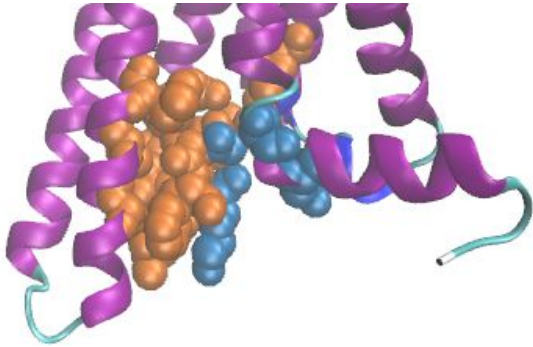




# G protein interaction

Binding of the  $G\alpha$  peptide of G protein on the cytoplasmic side of rhodopsin facilitated by two sets of interactions:

1. Hydrophobic interactions
2. Polar interactions





# G protein interaction

## 1. Hydrophobic interactions between:

Leu 341

Leu 344

Val 347

G protein residues:

Phe 350

Leu 349

Rhodopsin side-chains:

Ala 246  
(H6)

Val 250  
(H6)

Met 253  
(H6)

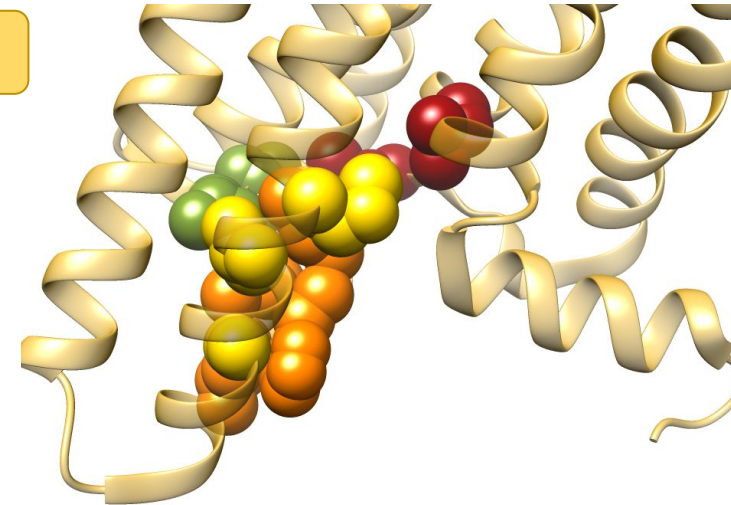
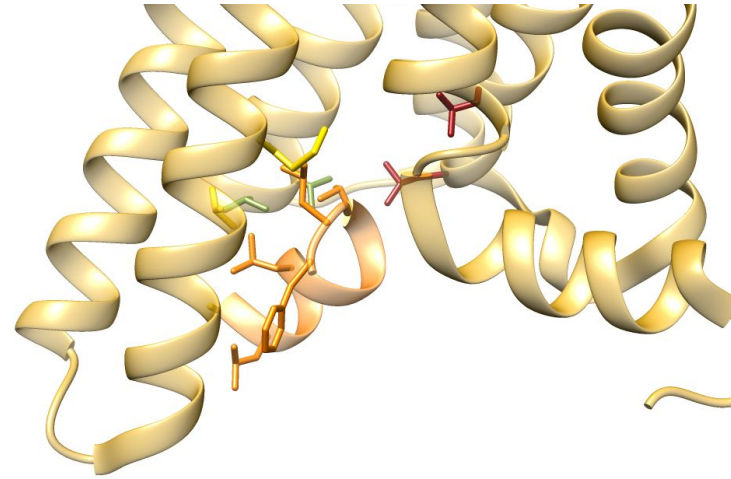
Val 138  
(H3)

Val 139  
(H3)

Rhodopsin backbone:

Leu 72  
(H2)

Leu 76  
(H2)





# G protein interaction

## 2. Polar interactions between:

G protein carbonyl groups:

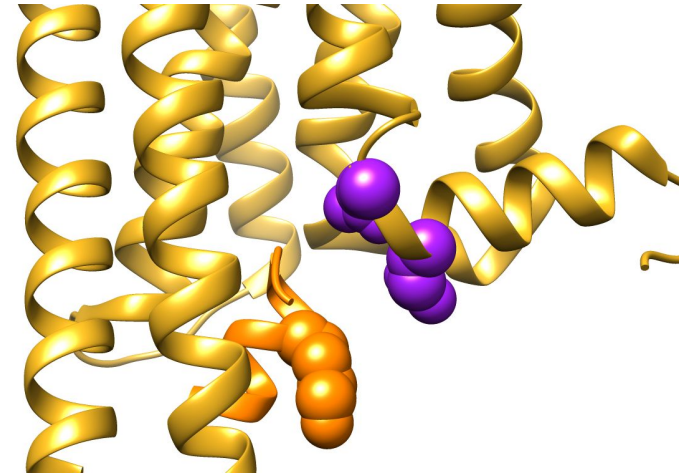
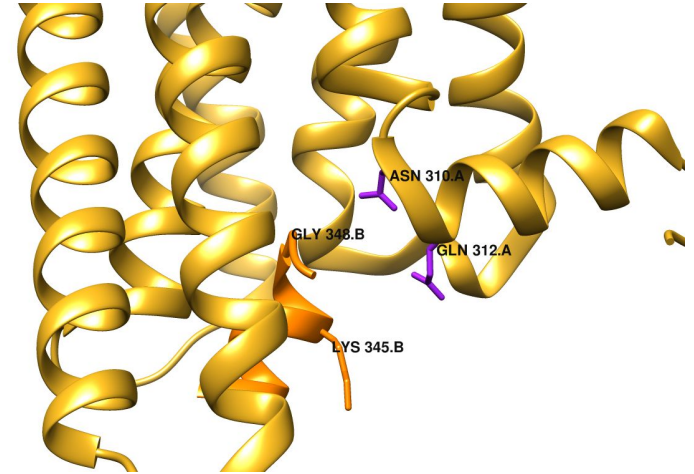
Lys 345

Gly 348

Rhodopsin residues:

Asn 310  
(H8)

Gln 312  
(H8)





# Rhodopsin: sequence alignment

## Rhodopsin-like family

Human (*Homo sapiens*)

**Bovine** (*Bos taurus*)

Mouse (*Mus musculus*)

Chicken (*Gallus gallus*)

Zebrafish (*Danio rerio*)

African clawed frog (*Xenopus laevis*)

Common fruit fly (*Drosophila melanogaster*)

Japanese flying squid (*Todarodes pacificus*)

Tiger wandering spider (*Cupiennius salei*)

Whiteleg shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*)

## Bacteriorhodopsin-like family

*Halobacterium salinarum*

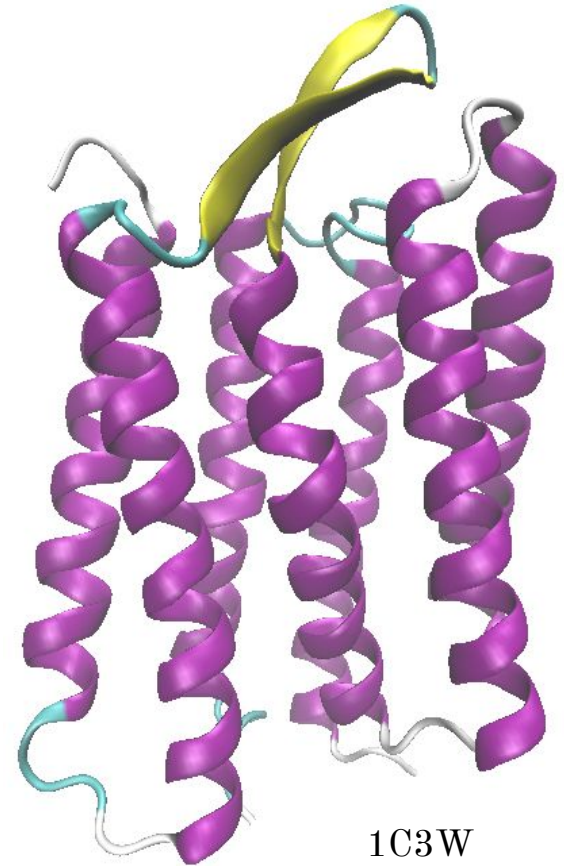
*Nostoc sp.*

Sequence alignment  
with PFAM 7TM  
domain HMM profile



# Bacteriorhodopsin

- Light driven ion pump
- Retinal changes from 13-cis to all-trans conformation
- First crystallised in the late 90s
- Now more than 100 structures in PDB
- 7 transmembrane alpha helices





# Rhodopsin: sequence alignment

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9  
Variable Average Conserved

	151	161	171	181	191
Homo	I I V I G F P I -	N F L T L Y V T V Q	H K K L R T P L N Y	I L L N L A V A D L	F M V L G G - F T S
Squid	g i c g i i g c g G	N G I V I Y L F T K	T K S L Q T P A N M	F I I N L A F S D F	T F S L V N g F P L
Spider	m l l g i i s v c G	N G I V L Y L M A T	C K N L R S P N N L	L V M N L A F S D F	C M M A F M - M P T
Drosophila	i m i g m i s w c G	N G V V I Y I F A T	T K S L R T P A N L	L V I N L A I S D F	G I M I T N - T P M
Xenopus	f l i l l g l p i -	N F M T L F V T I Q	H K K L R T P L N Y	I L L N L V F A N H	F M V L C G - F T V
Danio	f l i l t g f p i -	N F L T L Y V T I E	H K K L R T P L N Y	I L L N L A I A D L	F M V F G G - F T T
Mus	I l i v l g f p i -	N F L T L Y V T V Q	H K K L R T P L N Y	I L L N L A V A D L	F M V F G G - F T T
<b>Bos</b>	I l i m l g f p i -	N F L T L Y V T V Q	H K K L R T P L N Y	I L L N L A V A D L	F M V F G G - F T T
Gallus	m l i l l g f p v -	N F L T L Y V T I Q	H K K L R T P L N Y	I L L N L V V A D L	F M V F G G - F T T
Crustacean	v i m g c l s i a G	N F V V I W V F M N	T K S L R S P A N L	L V V N L A F S D F	L M M L T M - F P P
Nostoc	r a k t r t q s s -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -
Halobacterium	g a l t k v y s y -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -
	201	211	221	231	241
Homo	T L Y T S L H G Y F	V F G P T G C N L E	G F F A T L G G E I	A L W S L V V L A I	E R Y V V V C K P M
Squid	M T I S C F L K K W	I F G F A A C K V Y	G F I G G I F G F M	S I M T M A M I S I	D R Y N V I G R P M
Spider	M A A N C F A E T W	I L G P F M C E I Y	G M F G S L F G C G	S I W S M V M I T L	D R Y N V I V R G M
Drosophila	M G I N L Y F E T W	V L G P M M C D I Y	A G L G S A F G C S	S I W S M C M I S L	D R Y Q V I V K G M
Xenopus	T M Y T S M H G Y F	I F G P T G C Y I E	G F F A T L G G E V	A L W S L V V L A V	E R Y I V V C K P M
Danio	T M Y T S L H G Y F	V F G R L G C N L E	G F F A T L G G E M	G L W S L V V L A I	E R W M V V C K P V
Mus	T L Y T S L H G Y F	V F G P T G C N L E	G F F A T L G G E I	A L W S L V V L A I	E R Y V V V C K P M
<b>Bos</b>	T L Y T S L H G Y F	V F G P T G C N L E	G F F A T L G G E I	A L W S L V V L A I	E R Y V V V C K P M
Gallus	T M Y T S M N G Y F	V F G V T G C Y I E	G F F A T L G G E I	A L W S L V V L A V	E R Y V V V C K P M
Crustacean	M V V S C Y W Q T W	T L G A L F C E I Y	A F F G S L F G C A	S I W T M V F I T A	D R Y N V I V K G V
Nostoc	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -
Halobacterium	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -



# Rhodopsin: sequence alignment

	251	261	271	281	291
Homo	S N F R F - - G E N	H A I M - g V A F T	W V M A L A C A A P	P L A G W S R - - -	- - Y I P E G L Q C
Squid	A A S K K m s H R R	A F I M - - I I F V	W L W S V L W A I G	P I F G W G A - - -	- - Y T L E G V L C
Spider	A A K P L - - T R T	R A V M - n I L F V	W V Y A V G W T I T	P M Y G W S R - - -	- - Y V P E G A M T
Drosophila	A G R P M - - T I	P L A L g k I A Y I	W F M S S I W C L A	P A F G W S R - - -	- - Y V P E G N L T
Xenopus	A N F R F - - G E N	H A I M - g V A F T	W I M A L S C A A P	P L F G W S R - - -	- - Y I P E G M Q C
Danio	S N F R F - - G E N	H A I M - g V A F T	W V M A C S C A V P	P L V G W S R - - -	- - Y I P E G M Q C
Mus	S N F R F - - G E N	H A I M - g V V F T	W I M A L A C A A P	P L V G W S R - - -	- - Y I P E G M Q C
<b>Bos</b>	S N F R F - - G E N	H A I M - g V A F T	W V M A L A C A A P	P L V G W S R - - -	- - Y I P E G M Q C
Gallus	S N F R F - - G E N	H A I M - g V A F S	W I M A M A C A A P	P L F G W S R - - -	- - Y I P E G M Q C
Crustacean	S A E P L - - T S G	G A M L - r I A G T	W A F T L A W C L P	P F F G W N R - - -	- - Y V P E G N M L
Nostoc	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -
Halobacterium	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - R F V W	W A I S T A A M L Y	I L Y V L F F g f t	s K A E S M R P E V

	301	311	321	331	341
Homo	S C G I D Y y t l k	p e V N N E S F V I	Y M F V V H F T I P	M I I I F F C Y G Q	L V F T V K E - - -
Squid	N C S F D Y i s - -	r d S T T R S N I L	C M F I L G F F G P	I L I I F F C Y F N	I V M S V S N H E K
Spider	G C T V D Y i s - -	t e P N P L S Y L I	A Y A V A V Y F V P	L C T M I Y C Y T F	I V M Q V A S H E K
Drosophila	S C G I D Y l e - -	r d W N P R S Y L I	F Y S I F V Y Y I P	L F L I C Y S Y W F	I I A A V S A H E K
Xenopus	S C G V D Y y t l k	p e V N N E S F V I	Y M F I V H F T I P	L I V I F F C Y G R	L L C T V K E A - -
Danio	S C G V D Y y t r t	p g V N N E S F V I	Y M F I V H F F I P	L I V I F F C Y G R	L V C T V K E - - -
Mus	S C G I D Y y t l k	p e V N N E S F V I	Y M F V V H F T I P	M I V I F F C Y G Q	L V F T V K E - - -
<b>Bos</b>	S C G I D Y y t p h	e e T N N E S F V I	Y M F V V H F I I P	L I V I F F C Y G Q	L V F T V K E - - -
Gallus	S C G I D Y y t l k	p e I N N E S F V I	Y M F V V H F M I P	L A V I F F C Y G N	L V C T V K E - - -
Crustacean	A C G T D Y l t - -	e t E L S R S Y L Y	V Y S V W V Y L F P	L A Y I I Y S Y T F	I V K A V A A H E K
Nostoc	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -
Halobacterium	A S T F - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - -



# Rhodopsin: sequence alignment

	351	361	371	381	391
Homo	- - - - -	- - - A A A Q Q Q	E S A T T T Q K A E K	E V T R M V I I M V	I A F L I C W V P Y
Squid	E M A A M A K R - -	- - - L N A K E L R	K A Q A G A N A E M	R L A K I S I V I V	S Q F L L S W S P Y
Spider	Q - - - L R D Q A K	K M N I A S L R A N	S D N Q K T S A E I	R L A K V A L M T V	I L W F M A W T P Y
Drosophila	A M R E Q A K - - -	- K M N V K S L R S	S E D A E K S A E G	K L A K V A L V T I	T L W F M A W T P Y
Xenopus	- - - - -	- - - - A A Q Q Q Q	E S L T T T Q K A E K	E V T R M V V I M V	V F F L I C W V P Y
Danio	- - - - -	- - - - A A A Q Q Q Q	E S E T T T Q R A E R	E V T R M V I I M V	I A F L I C W L P Y
Mus	- - - - -	- - - - A A A Q Q Q Q	E S A T T T Q K A E K	E V T R M V I I M V	I F F L I C W L P Y
<b>Bos</b>	- - - - -	- - - - A A A Q Q Q Q	E S A T T T Q K A E K	E V T R M V I I M V	I A F L I C W L P Y
Gallus	- - - - -	- - - - A A A Q Q Q Q	E S A T T T Q K A E K	E V T R M V I I M V	I A F L I C W V P Y
Crustacean	G M R E R A K - - -	- K M G V K S L R S	E E A Q K T S A E C	R L C K V A L M T V	T L W F V A W T P Y
Nostoc	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -
Halobacterium	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -

	401	411	421	431	441
Homo	A S V A F Y I F T H	Q G S - - N F G P I	F M T I - P A F F A	K S A A I Y N P V I	Y i m m n k q f r n
Squid	A V V A L L A Q F G	P L E W - - V T P Y	A A Q L - P V M F A	K A S A I H N P M I	Y s v s h p k f r e
Spider	L T L A F A G V F T	D R F H - - V T P M	S T I W - G S V F A	K A S A C Y N P I V	Y g i s h p k y r a
Drosophila	L V I N C M G L F K	F E G L - T P L N T	I W - - G A C F A	K S A A C Y N P I V	Y g i s h p k y r i
Xenopus	A Y V A F Y I F T H	Q G S - - N F G P V	F M T V - P A F F A	K S S A I Y N P V I	Y i v l n k q f r n
Danio	A G V A - W Y I F T	H Q G S - E F G P V	F M T L - P A F F A	K T S A V Y N P C I	Y i c m n k q f r h
Mus	A S V A F Y I F T H	Q G S - - N F G P I	F M T L - P A F F A	K S S S I Y N P V I	Y i m l n k q f r n
<b>Bos</b>	A G V A F Y I F T H	Q G S - - D F G P I	F M T I - P A F F A	K T S A V Y N P V I	Y i m m n k q f r n
Gallus	A S V A F Y I F T N	Q G S - - D F G P I	F M T I - P A F F A	K S S A I Y N P V I	Y i v m n k q f r n
Crustacean	F V I N W G G M F N	K P I V - - - T P	L F S I w G S V F A	K A N A V Y N P I V	Y a i s h p k y r a
Nostoc	- - - - -	- - - E - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- l a n l y d k l v
Halobacterium	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	- k v l r n v t v v



# Rhodopsin vs. bacteriorhodopsin: STAMP

```

1c3w  TGRPEWIWLALGTALMGLGTLVFLVKGMGVSDPDAK---KFY-AITT-LVPA-IAF-TMY
1u19  -MNGTEGPNFYVPFSNKTGVVRSFPEA-PQYYL--AEPWQ-FSML-AAY-MFLL-IMLGF

1c3w  LSMLLGYG-LTM-----VPGGEQN-P-I--YWA-RYADWLFTTPLLLLDLALLVDADQG
1u19  PINFL--TLYVTVQHKKL----RTPLNYILLNLAVA-D-----

1c3w  TILALVGADGIMIGTGLVGALTKVYSYRFVWWAISTAAMLYILYVLFFGFSMRPEVASTF
1u19  -----

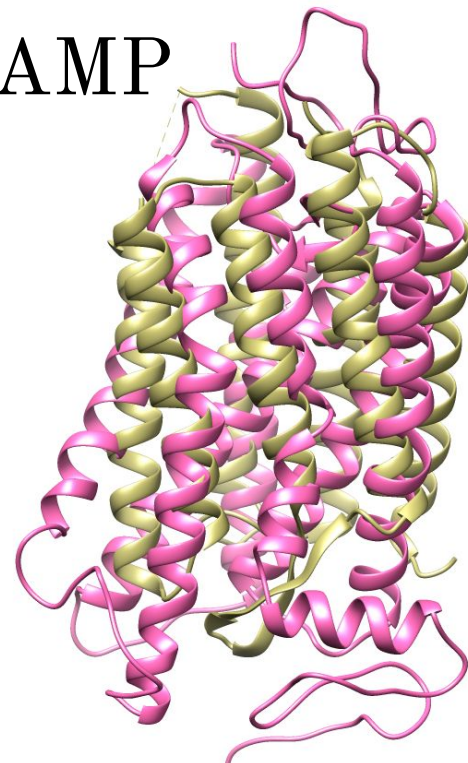
1c3w  KVL-----RNV-TVVL-WSAYPVVWLIGSEG----
1u19  ---LFMVFGGFTTTLTSLHGYSVFGPTGCNLEG-FFAT-LGGEIALWSLVV--LAIERY

1c3w  -----AGIV-PLNI-ETLL-FMVL-DVSAKVG-F-----GLILLRSRAI
1u19  VVVCCKPMSNFRFGENHAIMGV--AFT-WVMA-LACA-A----PPLVGWSRY--I----PE

1c3w  -F-----
1u19  GMQCSCGIDYYTPHEETNNESFVIYMFVVHFIPLIVIFFCYGQLVFTVKEAAAQQQESA

1c3w  -----G-----
1u19  TTQKAEKEVTRMVIIMVIAFLICWLPHYAGVAFYIFTHQGSDFGPIFMTIPAFFAKTSAVY

1c3w  -----
1u19  NPVIYIMMNKQFRNCMVTTLCCKGNPLGDDEASTTVSKTETSQVAPA
    
```



Bacteriorhodopsin

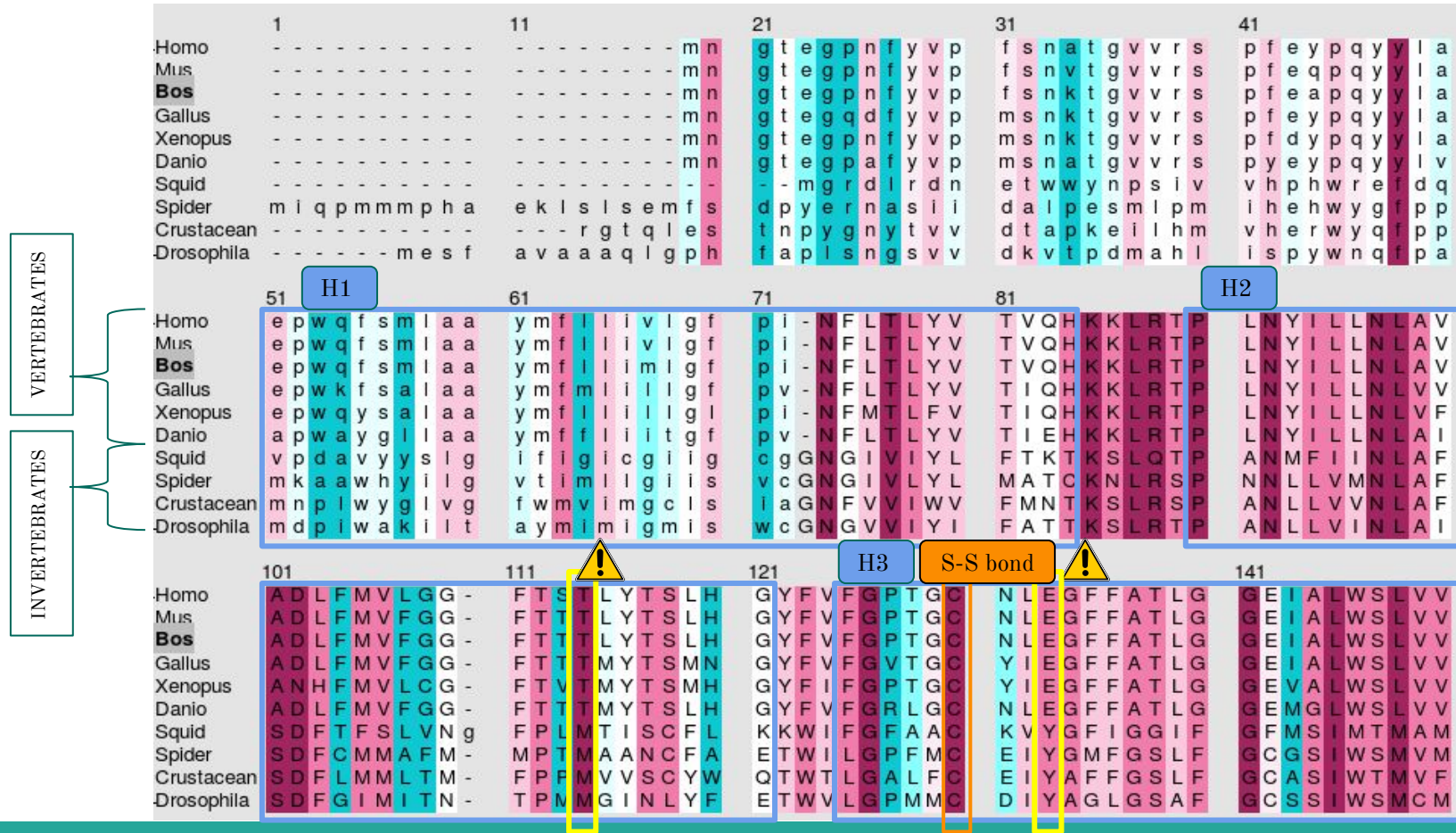
Bovine rhodopsin

No.	Domain1	Domain2	Sc	RMS	Len1	Len2	Align	NFit	Eq.	Secs.	%I	%S	P(m)
Pair 1	1c3w	1u19	0.29	2.08	222	348	376	12	8	0	12.50	100.00	1.00e+00

Reading in matrix file rhodopsin.mat...  
 Doing cluster analysis...  
 Cluster: 1 ( 1c3w & 1u19 ) Sc 0.29 RMS 2.08 Len 376 nfit 12 LOW SCORE

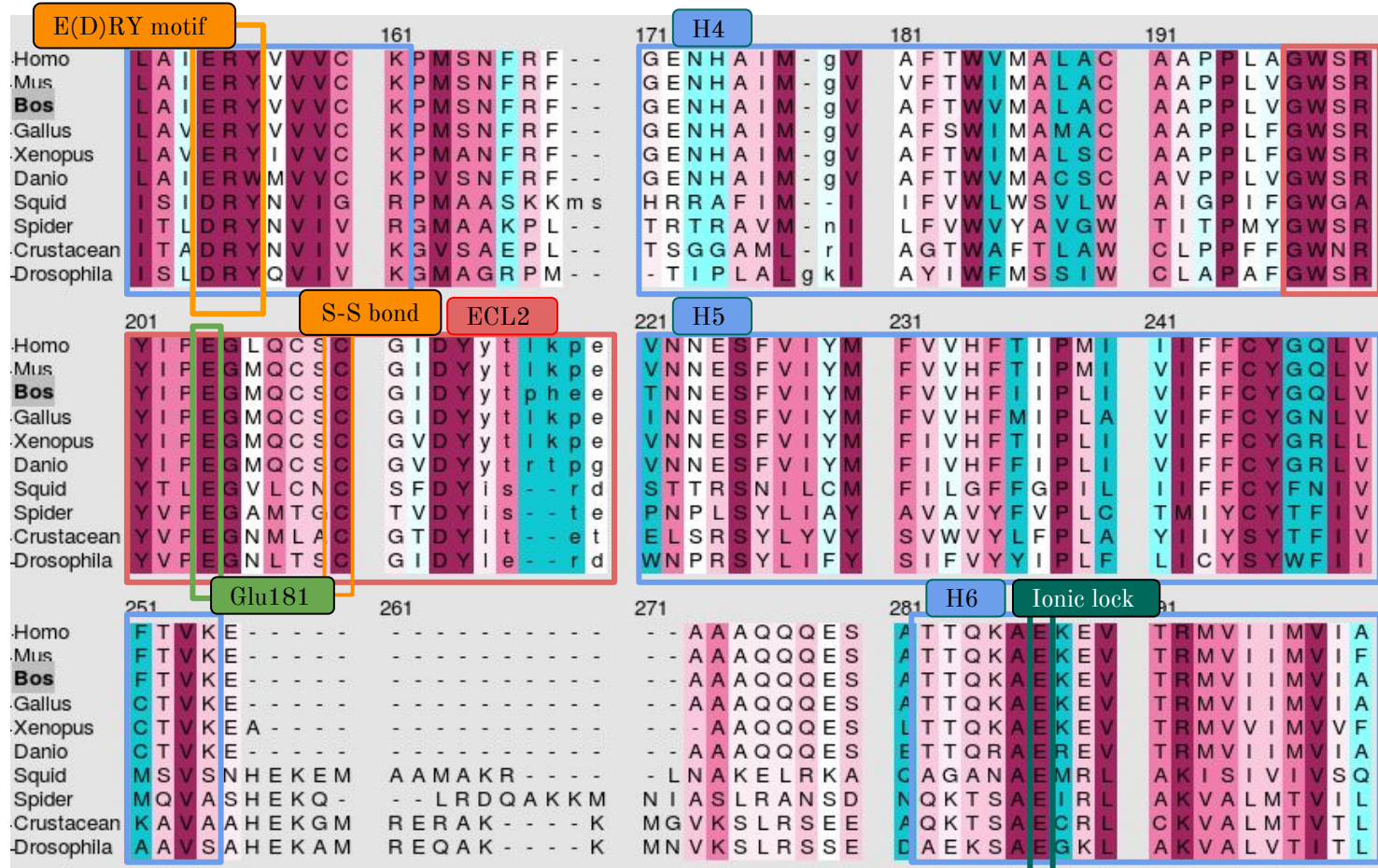


# Rhodopsin: conservation in sequence alignments





# Rhodopsin: conservation in sequence alignments





# Rhodopsin: conservation in sequence alignments

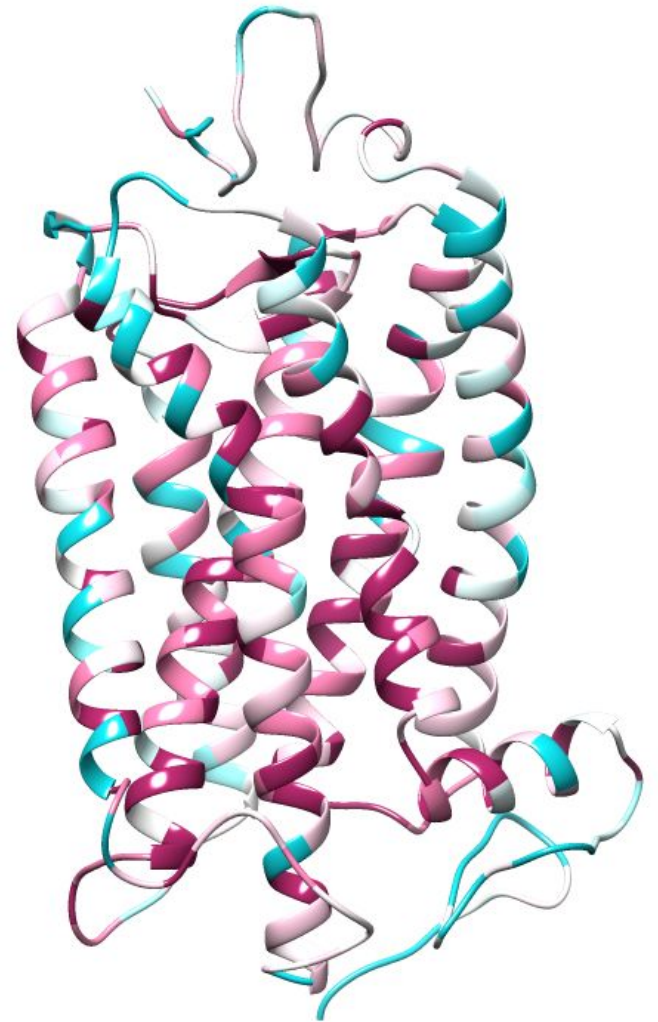
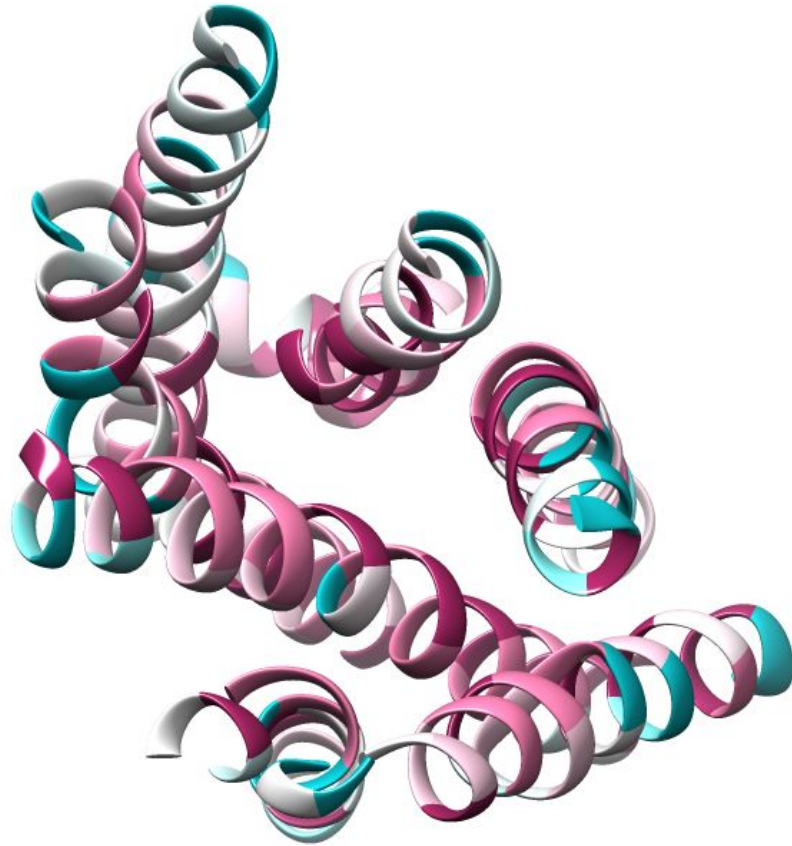
	301	Pro267	311	321	H7	331	Schiff base	341	NPXXY motif
Homo	F L I C W V P Y A S	V A F Y I F T H Q G	S - N F G P I F M T	I - P A F F A K S A	A I Y N P V I Y	i m			
Mus	F L I C W L P Y A S	V A F Y I F T H Q G	S - N F G P I F M T	L - P A F F A K S S	S I Y N P V I Y	i m			
Bos	F L I C W L P Y A G	V A F Y I F T H Q G	S - D F G P I F M T	I - P A F F A K T S	A V Y N P V I Y	i m			
Gallus	F L I C W V P Y A S	V A F Y I F T N Q G	S - D F G P I F M T	I - P A F F A K S S	A I Y N P V I Y	i v			
Xenopus	F L I C W V P Y A Y	V A F Y I F T H Q G	S - N F G P V F M T	V - P A F F A K S S	A I Y N P V I Y	i v			
Danio	F L I C W L P Y A G	V A - W Y I F T H Q	G S E F G P V F M T	L - P A F F A K T S	A V Y N P C I Y	i c			
Squid	F L L S W S P Y A V	V A L L A Q F G P L	E W - V T P Y A A Q	L - P V M F A K A S	A I H N P M I Y	s v			
Spider	W F M A W T P Y L T	L A F A G V F T D R	F H - V T P M S T I	W - G S V F A K A S	A C Y N P I V Y	g i			
Crustacean	W F V A W T P Y F V	I N W G G M F N K P	I V - - - T P L F S	I w G S V F A K A N	A V Y N P I V Y	a i			
Drosophila	W F M A W T P Y L V	I N C M G L F K F E	G L T P L N T I W -	- - G A C F A K S A	A C Y N P I V Y	g i			

	351	361	371	381	391
Homo	m n k q f r n c m l	t t l i c c g k n p l	g d d e a s a t v s	k t e t s q v a p a	- - - - -
Mus	l n k q f r n c m l	t t l i c c g k n p l	g d d e a s a t a s	k t e t s q v a p a	- - - - -
Bos	m n k q f r n c m v	t t l i c c g k n p l	g d d e a s t t v s	k t e t s q v a p a	- - - - -
Gallus	m n k q f r n c m i	t t l i c c g k n p l	g d e d t s a g k t	e t s s v s t s q v	s p a - - - -
Xenopus	l n k q f r n c l i	t t l i c c g k n p f	g d e d g s s a a t	s k t e a s s v s s	s q v s p a - - -
Danio	m n k q f r h c m i	t t l i c c g k n p f	e e e e g a s t t a	s k t e a s s v s s	s s v s p a - - -
Squid	s h p k f r e a i s	q t f p w v l t c c	q f d d k e t e d d	k d a e t e i p a g	e s s d a a p s a d
Spider	s h p k y r a a l n	q k f k c l g k p e	t s d k v g d t t t	v c s e m d k t t s	e - - - - -
Crustacean	s h p k y r a a l e	k k l p c l a c a t	d g r d g g s d a g	s t a t t e t p e k	t e s a - - - -
Drosophila	s h p k y r l a l k	e k c p c c v f g k	v d d g k s s d a q	s q a t a s e a e s	k a - - - - -



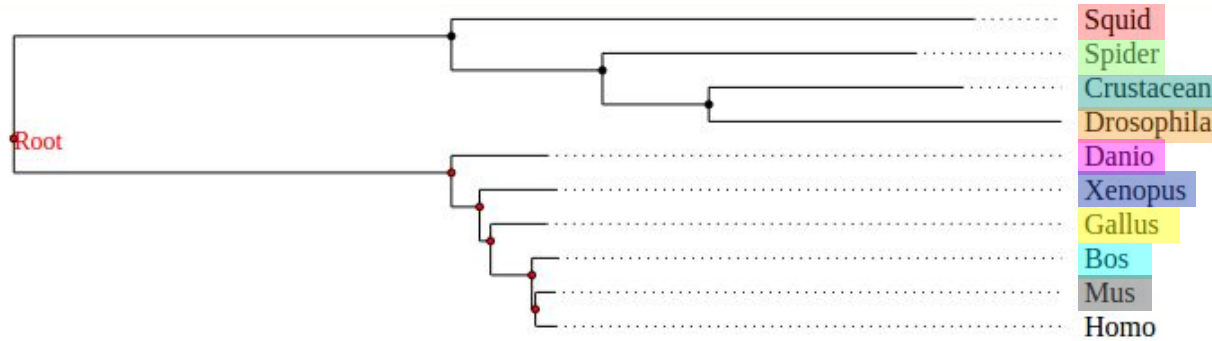
# Rhodopsin: conserved residues



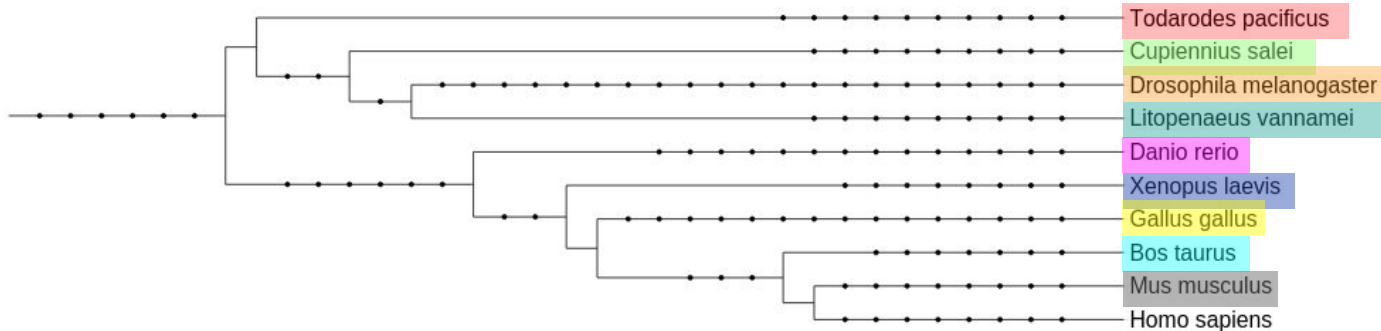


# Rhodopsin: sequence alignment

Phylogenetic tree obtained from rhodopsins alignment



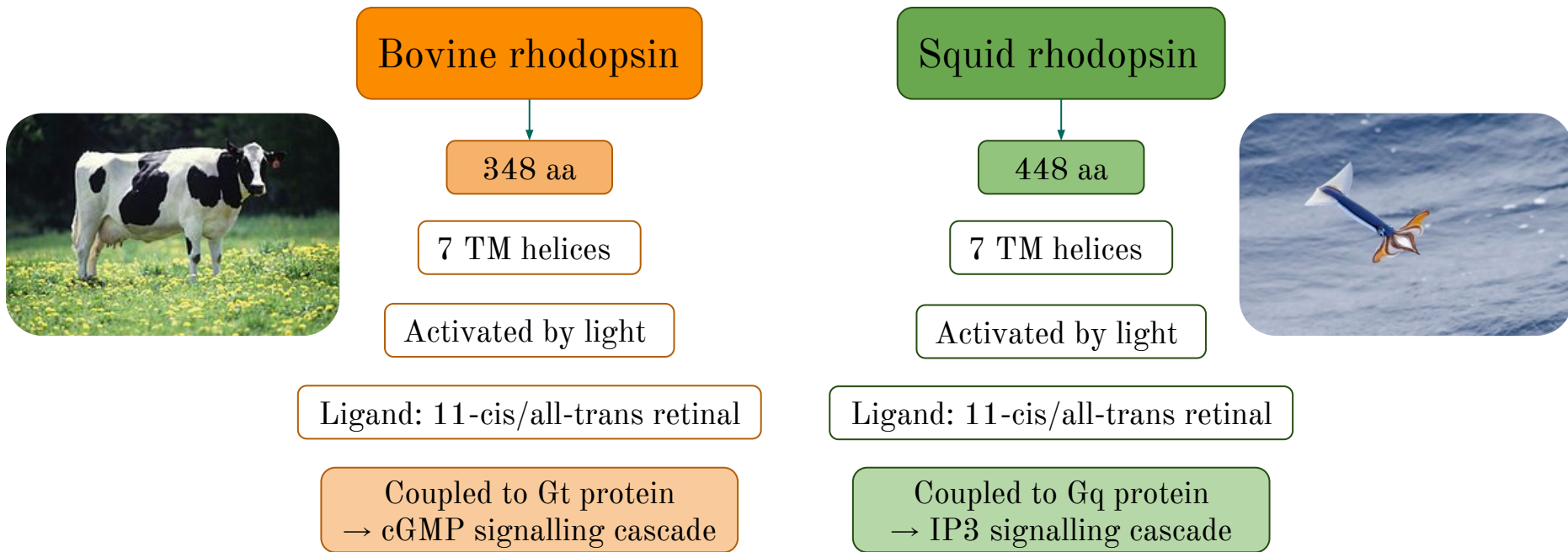
Phylogenetic tree obtained from iTOL (interactive tree of life)





# Rhodopsin orthologues: bovine vs. squid

Only another GPCR-rhodopsin crystallised → Japanese flying squid (2Z73)





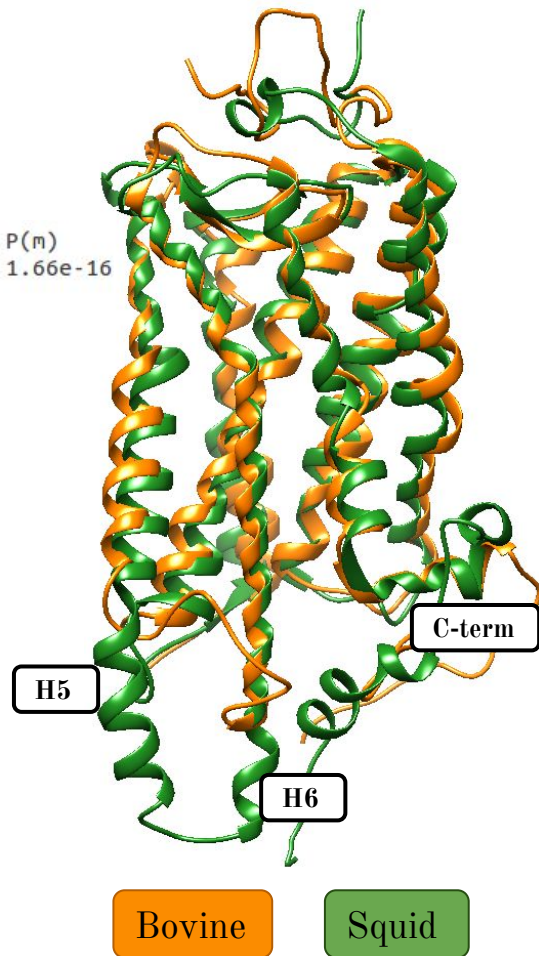
# Bovine vs. squid rhodopsin: STAMP

```
No.  Domain1      Domain2      Sc  RMS  Len1 Len2  Align NFit Eq. Secs.  %I  %S  P(m)
Pair 1  1u19      2z73          5.86 1.52  348  350   386  268 260    0 28.08 100.00 1.66e-16
Reading in matrix file rhodopsin.mat...
Doing cluster analysis...
Cluster: 1 ( 1u19 & 2z73 ) Sc 5.86 RMS 1.52 Len 386 nfit 268
```

Low RMSD value → High structural similarity

- Conserved 7TM domain
- H5 and H6 extended to the cytoplasmic side
- Extended C-term

By means of  
its longer  
sequence



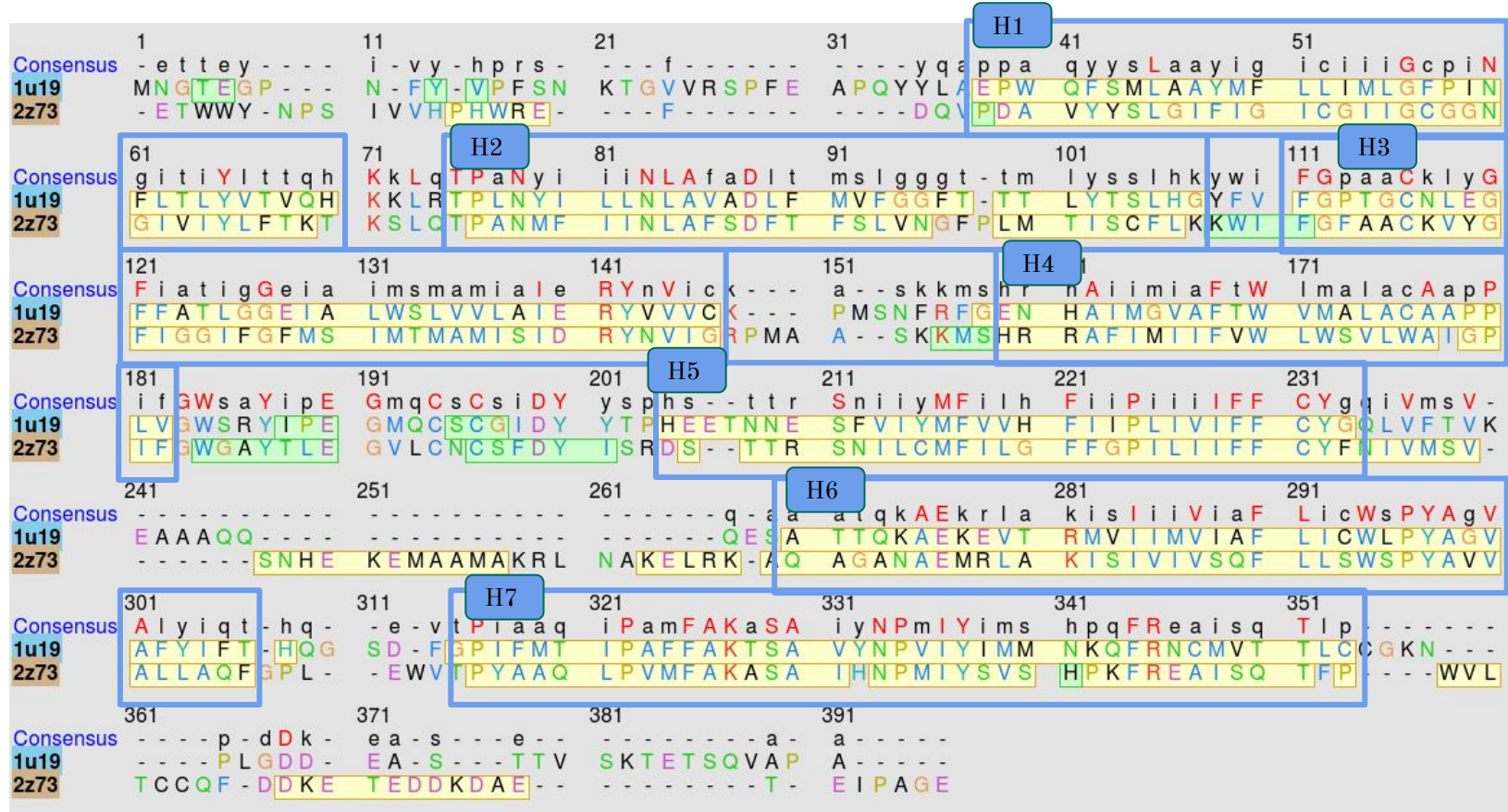


# Bovine vs. squid rhodopsin: structure alignment

Consensus	1	11	21	31	41	51
1u19	- e t t e y - - - -	i - v y - h p r s -	- - - f - - - - -	- - - - y q a p p a	q y y s L a a y i g	i c i i i G c p i N
2z73	M N G T E G P - - -	N - F Y - V P F S N	K T G V V R S P F E	A P Q Y Y L A E P W	Q F S M L A A Y M F	L L I M L G F P I N
	- E T W W Y - N P S	I V V H P H W R E -	- - - F - - - - -	- - - - D Q V P D A	V Y Y S L G I F I G	I C G I I G C G G N
Consensus	61	71	81	91	101	111
1u19	g i t i Y l t t q h	K k L q T P a N y i	i i N L A f a D l t	m s l g g g t - t m	l y s s l h k y w i	F G p a a C k l y G
2z73	F L T L Y V T V Q H	K K L R T P L N Y I	L L N L A V A D L F	M V F G G F T - T T	L Y T S L H G Y F V	F G P T G C N L E G
	G I V I Y L F T K T	K S L Q T P A N M F	I I N L A F S D F T	F S L V N G F P L M	T I S C F L K K W I	F G F A A C K V Y G
Consensus	121	131	141	151	161	171
1u19	F i a t i g G e i a	i m s m a m i a I e	R Y n V i c k - - -	a - - s k k m s h r	h A i i m i a F t W	I m a l a c A a p P
2z73	F F A T L G G E I A	L W S L V V L A I E	R Y V V V C K - - -	P M S N F R F G E N	H A I M G V A F T W	V M A L A C A A P P
	F I G G I F G F M S	I M T M A M I S I D	R Y N V I G R P M A	A - - S K K M S H R	R A F I M I F V W	L W S V L W A I G P
Consensus	181	191	201	211	221	231
1u19	i f G W s a Y i p E	G m q C s C s i D Y	y s p h s - - t t r	S n i i y M F i l h	F i i P i i i I F F	C Y g q i V m s V -
2z73	L V G W S R Y I P E	G M Q C S C G I D Y	Y T P H E E T N N E	S F V I Y M F V V H	F I I P L I V I F F	C Y G Q L V F T V K
	I F G W G A Y T L E	G V L C N C S F D Y	I S R D S - - T T R	S N I L C M F I L G	F F G P I L I I F F	C Y F N I V M S V -
Consensus	241	251	261	271	281	291
1u19	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - - q - a a	a t q k A E k r l a	k i s I i i V i a F	L i c W s P Y A g V
2z73	E A A A Q Q - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - - Q E S A	T T Q K A E K E V T	R M V I I M V I A F	L I C W L P Y A G V
	- - - - - S N H E	K E M A A M A K R L	N A K E L R K - A Q	A G A N A E M R L A	K I S I V I V S Q F	L L S W S P Y A V V
Consensus	301	311	321	331	341	351
1u19	A l y i q t - h q -	- e - v t P i a a q	i P a m F A K a S A	i y N P m I Y i m s	h p q F R e a i s q	T l p - - - - -
2z73	A F Y I F T - H Q G	S D - F G P I F M T	I P A F F A K T S A	V Y N P V I Y I M M	N K Q F R N C M V T	T L C C G K N - - -
	A L L A Q F G P L -	- E W V T P Y A A Q	L P V M F A K A S A	I H N P M I Y S V S	H P K F R E A I S Q	T F P - - - - W V L
Consensus	361	371	381	391		
1u19	- - - - p - d D k -	e a - s - - - e - -	- - - - - a - - -	a - - - -		
2z73	- - - - P L G D D -	E A - S - - - T T V	S K T E T S Q V A P	A - - - -		
	T C C Q F - D D K E	T E D D K D A E - -	- - - - - T - - -	E I P A G E		

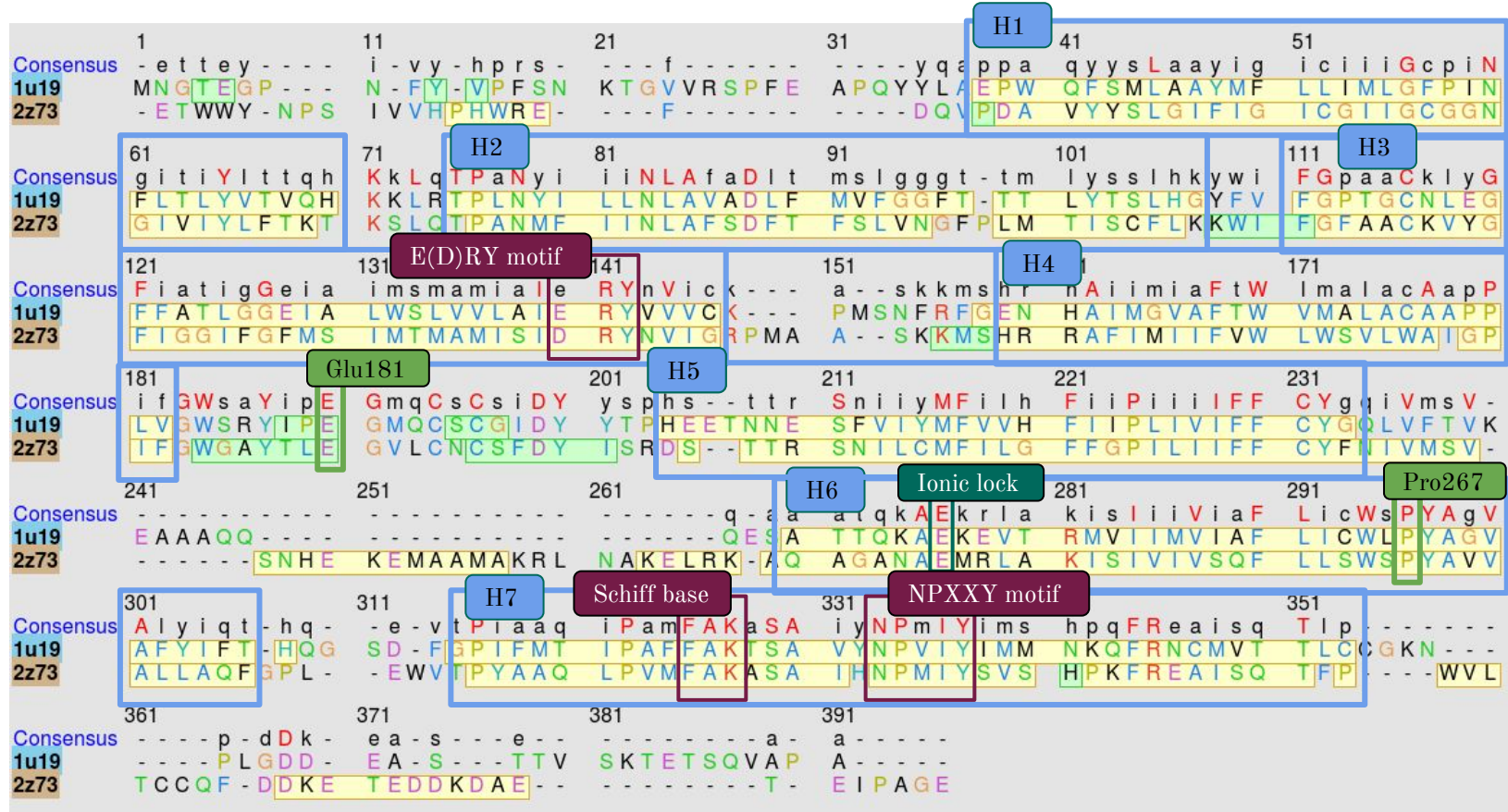


# Bovine vs. squid rhodopsin: structure alignment





# Bovine vs. squid rhodopsin: structure alignment



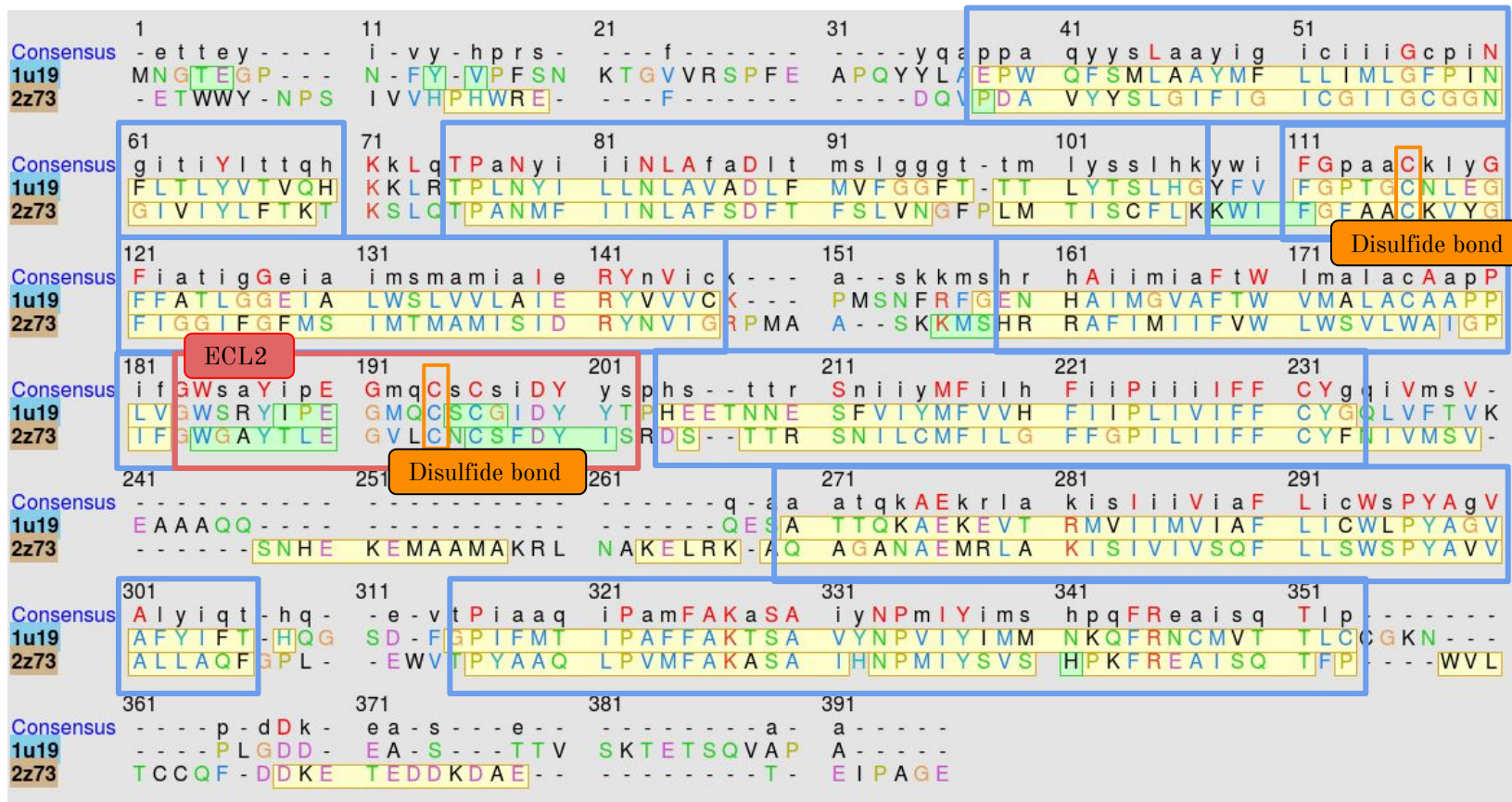


# Bovine vs. squid rhodopsin: structure alignment

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1u19	- e t t e y - - - -	i - v y - h p r s -	- - - f - - - - -	- - - y q a p p a	q y y s L a a y i g	i c i i i G c p i N
2z73	M N G T E G P - - -	N - F Y - V P F S N	K T G V V R S P F E	A P Q Y Y L A E P W	Q F S M L A A Y M F	L L I M L G F P I N
	- E T W W Y - N P S	I V V H P H W R E -	- - - F - - - - -	- - - D Q V P D A	V Y Y S L G I F I G	I C G I I G C G G N
Consensus	61	71	81	91	101	111
1u19	g i t i Y l t t q h	K k L q T P a N y i	i i N L A f a D l t	m s l g g g t - t m	l y s s l h k y w i	F G p a a C k l y G
2z73	F L T L Y V T V Q H	K K L R T P L N Y I	L L N L A V A D L F	M V F G G F T - T T	L Y T S L H G Y F V	F G P T G C N L E G
	G I V I Y L F T K T	K S L Q T P A N M F	I I N L A F S D F T	F S L V N G F P L M	T I S C F L K K W I	F G F A A C K V Y G
Consensus	121	131	141	151	161	171
1u19	F i a t i g G e i a	i m s m a m i a I e	R Y n V i c k - - -	a - - s k k m s h r	h A i i m i a F t W	I m a l a c A a p P
2z73	F F A T L G G E I A	L W S L V V L A I E	R Y V V V C K - - -	P M S N F R F G E N	H A I M G V A F T W	V M A L A C A A P P
	F I G G I F G F M S	I M T M A M I S I D	R Y N V I G R P M A	A - - S K K M S H R	R A F I M I F V W	L W S V L W A I G P
Consensus	181	191	201	211	221	231
1u19	i f G W s a Y i p E	G m q C s C s i D Y	y s p h s - - t t r	S n i i y M F i l h	F i i P i i i I F F	C Y g q i V m s V -
2z73	L V G W S R Y I P E	G M Q C S C G I D Y	Y T P H E E T N N E	S F V I Y M F V V H	F I I P L I V I F F	C Y G Q L V F T V K
	I F S W G A Y T L E	G V L C N C S F D Y	I S R D S - - T T R	S N I L C M F I L G	F F G P I L I I F F	C Y F N I V M S V -
Consensus	241	251	261	271	281	291
1u19	E A A A Q Q - - - -	- - - - - q - a a	- - - - - q - a a	a t q k A E k r l a	k i s I i i V i a F	L i c W s P Y A g V
2z73	- - - - - S N H E	K E M A A M A K R L	N A K E L R K - A Q	T T Q K A E K E V T	R M V I I M V I A F	L I C W L P Y A G V
	- - - - -	- - - - -	- - - - -	A G A N A E M R L A	K I S I V I V S Q F	L L S W S P Y A V V
Consensus	301	311	321	331	341	351
1u19	A l y i q t - h q -	- e - v t P i a a q	i P a m F A K a S A	i y N P m I Y i m s	h p q F R e a i s q	T l p - - - - -
2z73	A F Y I F T - H Q G	S D - F G P I F M T	I P A F F A K T S A	V Y N P V I Y I M M	N K Q F R N C M V T	T L C C G K N - - -
	A L L A Q F G P L -	- E W V T P Y A A Q	L P V M F A K A S A	I H N P M I Y S V S	H P K F R E A I S Q	T F P - - - - W V L
Consensus	361	371	381	391		
1u19	- - - p - d D k -	e a - s - - - e -	- - - - - a - - -	a - - - -		
2z73	- - - P L G D D -	E A - S - - - T T V	S K T E T S Q V A P	A - - - -		
	T C C Q F - D D K E	T E D D K D A E -	- - - - - T -	E I P A G E		



# Bovine vs. squid rhodopsin: structure alignment





# Conclusions

- Since transmembrane proteins are difficult to crystallize, bovine rhodopsin is one of the few structures that exist
- Bovine rhodopsin is used as a model to study rhodopsin structure and function due to:
  - Difficulties in transmembrane protein crystallization
  - Particularities of the extraction procedure
- Upon photoactivation, retinal undergoes a cis/trans isomerization and the Schiff base is deprotonated
- Light induces conformational changes in rhodopsin structure:
  - Bending of H6 → opening of a crevice → G protein binding and activation
- Most of the residues involved in the interaction with G protein are conserved
- The binding of retinal to the Lys forming the Schiff base is conserved



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# Multiple Choice Questions

1. How is rhodopsin activated?

- a. By ligand binding
- b. By light exposure
- c. It is always active
- d. By a second messenger
- e. By dimerisation

2. Identify the correct sentences

- a. Rhodopsin is a membrane receptor with 7 transmembrane helices
- b. Membrane proteins are difficult to crystallize
- c. a and b are correct
- d. Rhodopsin signals through a G protein
- e. a, b and d are correct



# Multiple Choice Questions

## 3. Regarding rhodopsin structure

- a. It contains 5 domains
- b. It does not have beta-sheets
- c. It has 7 transmembrane helices
- d. It is highly polar
- e. It is a globular protein

## 4. After light exposure, which protein does rhodopsin activate?

- a. G protein
- b. MAP Kinase
- c. Cyclin
- d. Phosphatase
- e. Peptidase



# Multiple Choice Questions

5. Which of the following sentences are true?

- a. There are not many rhodopsin PDB structures
- b. It is not located in the eyes
- c. a and b are true
- d. The formation of a salt bridge between Phe235 and Phe236 is crucial for its activation
- e. a, b and d are true

6. Which of the following sentences are false?

- a. There are 2 SCOP families: Bacteriorhodopsin-like and Rhodopsin-like
- b. Bacteriorhodopsin is an ion pump
- c. Bacteriorhodopsin has been crystallized
- d. Bacteriorhodopsin is highly similar to bovine rhodopsin
- e. All of them are false



# Multiple Choice Questions

## 7. Regarding rhodopsin structure

- a. Its characteristic fold is a TIM barrel
- b. Water molecules are not relevant for its structure
- c. Retinal is bound to rhodopsin through a Schiff base
- d. Helix 8 is a transmembrane helix
- e. There are not glycosylation sites in rhodopsin

## 8. Identify the correct sentences:

- a. Light inactivates rhodopsin
- b. The creation of a crevice is necessary to allow G protein binding
- c. a and b are correct
- d. Arg134-Lys256 interaction is very conserved
- e. a, b and d are correct



# Multiple Choice Questions

## 9. Choose the correct sentence

- a. G protein is always bound to rhodopsin
- b. The cis conformation of retinal activates rhodopsin
- c. The ligand binding site is located at the cytoplasmic side of rhodopsin
- d. In rhodopsin, loops are only found in the extracellular side
- e. The Lys involved in Schiff base formation in the ligand binding site is conserved

## 10. Choose the correct sentence

- a. Rhodopsin has 8 alpha-helices
- b. Rhodopsin has 2 two-stranded beta-sheets
- c. A Schiff base is involved in retinal binding to rhodopsin
- d. The retinal isomerization produced by light activates rhodopsin
- e. All of them are correct



# Rhodopsin

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