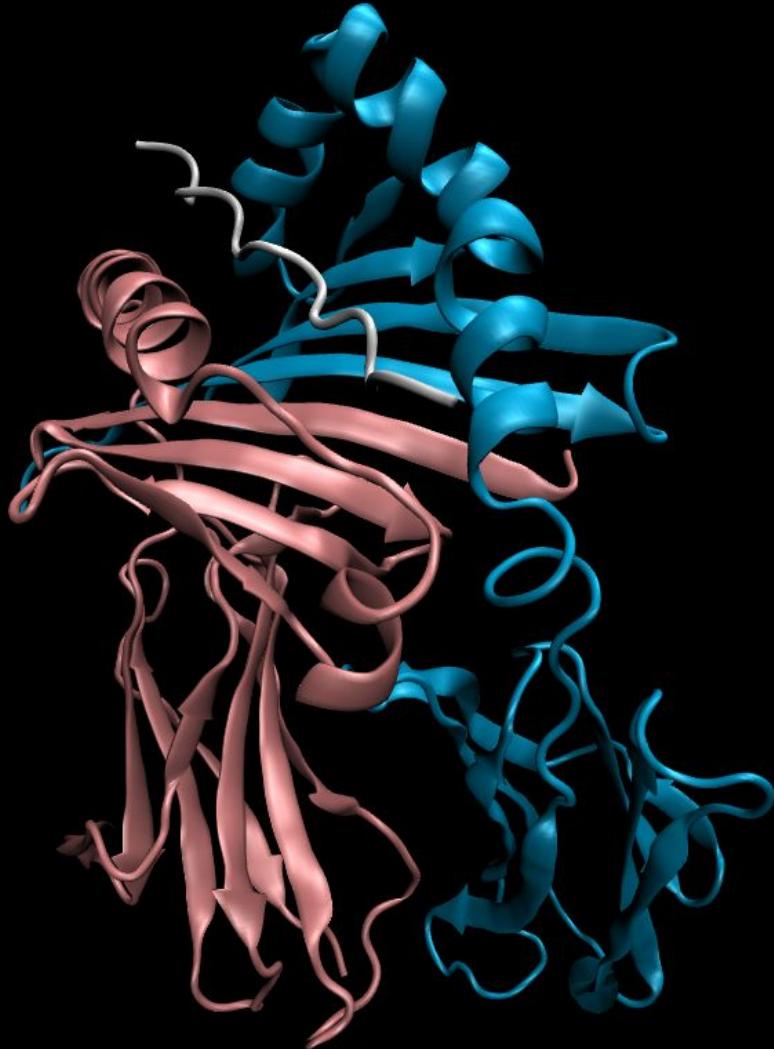


MHC

STRUCTURE ANALYSIS OF THE MAJOR HISTOCOMPATIBILITY COMPLEX

Laura Cañadas, Clàudia Garcia, Laia Joval and Ariadna Pinar



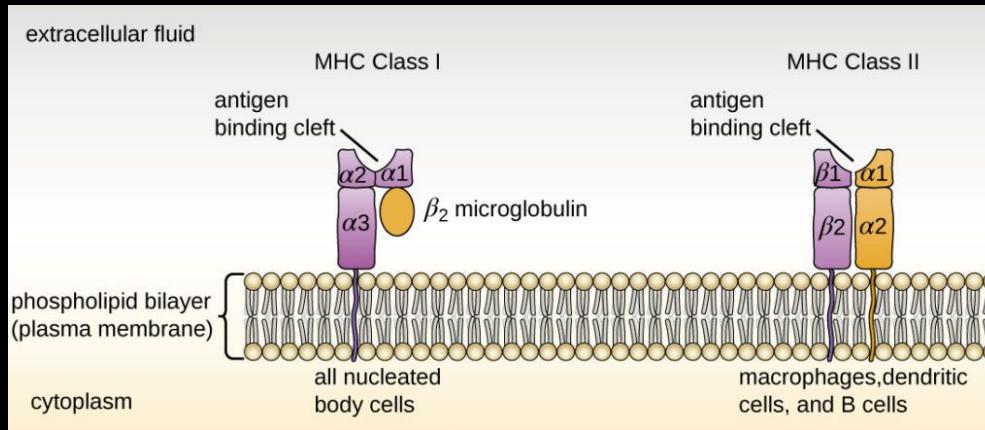
INDEX

1. Introduction
2. HLA I structure
3. HLA II structure
4. Binding groove: HLA I vs. HLA II
5. Peptide binding: HLA II
6. Labile regions: HLA II
7. Non-classical vs Classical HLA II
8. General conclusions

1. INTRODUCTION

The major histocompatibility complex

- Family of genes found in all vertebrates.
- Function: to present peptidic fragments to T lymphocytes
- Two different classes: HLA-I and HLA-II



The major histocompatibility complex

SCOP CLASSIFICATION

Lineage:

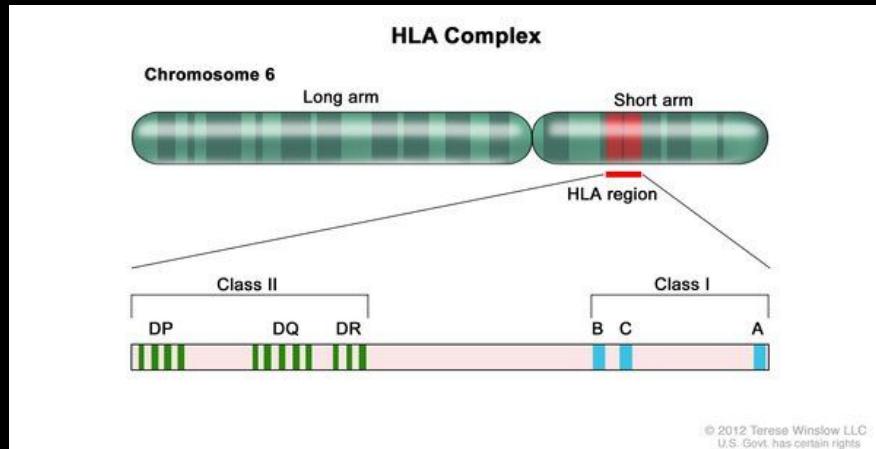
1. Root: [scop](#)
2. Class: [All beta proteins](#) [48724]
3. Fold: [Immunoglobulin-like beta-sandwich](#) [48725]
*sandwich; 7 strands in 2 sheets; greek-key
some members of the fold have additional strands*
4. Superfamily: [Immunoglobulin](#) [48726]
Superfamily
5. Family: [C1 set domains \(antibody constant domain-like\)](#) [48942]
6. Protein: Class II MHC alpha chain, C-terminal domain [88618]
7. Species: [Human \(Homo sapiens\). HLA-DM \[TaxId: 9606\]](#) [88619]
probably orthologous to the mouse H2-DM

Lineage:

1. Root: [scop](#)
2. Class: [Alpha and beta proteins \(a+b\)](#) [53931]
Mainly antiparallel beta sheets (segregated alpha and beta regions)
3. Fold: [MHC antigen-recognition domain](#) [54451]
dimeric
4. Superfamily: [MHC antigen-recognition domain](#) [54452]
Superfamily
5. Family: [MHC antigen-recognition domain](#) [54453]
6. Protein: Class II MHC alpha chain, N-terminal domain [88806]
7. Species: [Human \(Homo sapiens\). HLA-DM \[TaxId: 9606\]](#) [88807]

The major histocompatibility complex

- Human leucocytic antigen (HLA)
- Polygenic and polymorphic
- HLA-I
 - A
 - B
 - C
- HLA-II
 - DP (a, b)
 - DQ (a, b)
 - DR (a, b)



Reference, G. (2018). *Narcolepsy*. [online] Genetics Home Reference. Available at: <https://ghr.nlm.nih.gov/condition/narcolepsy> [Accessed 24 Feb. 2018].

The major histocompatibility complex

HLA I

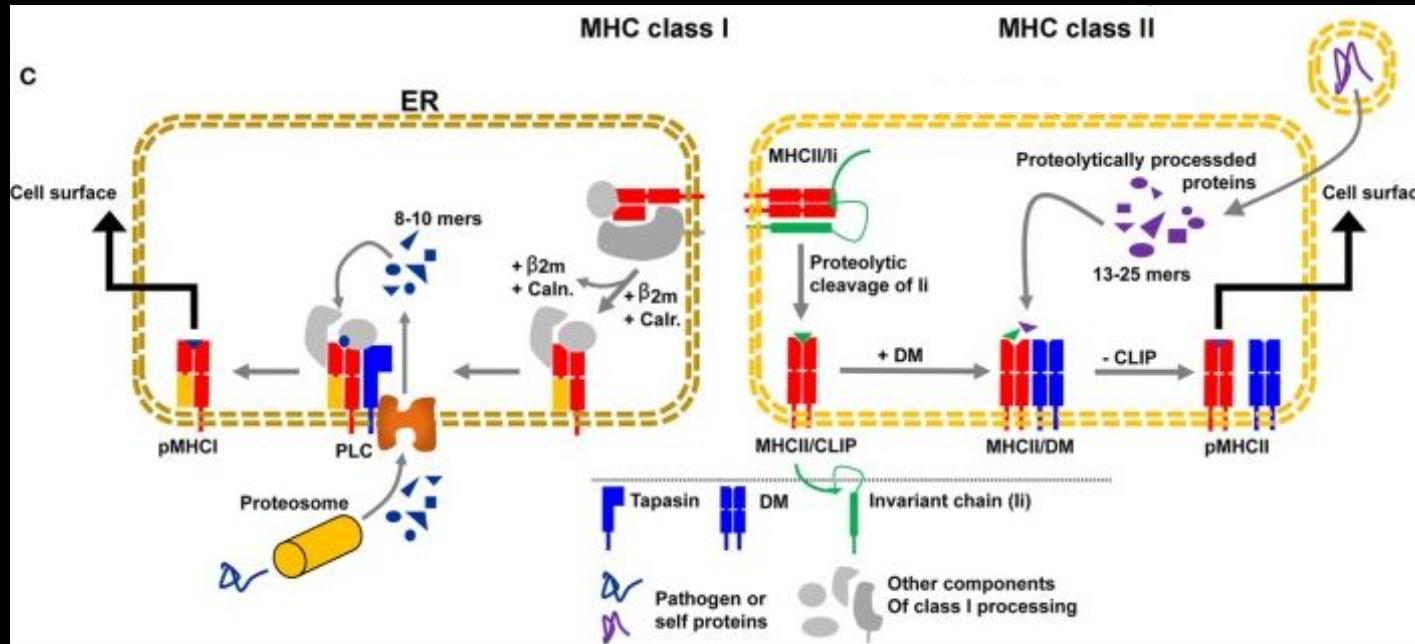
- ❑ Expressed in all nucleated cells
- ❑ Interacts with cytotoxic T cells (CD8+)
- ❑ Presents inner antigens

HLA II

- ❑ Expressed by exclusively by APCs (dendritic cells, macrophages, B cells)
- ❑ Interacts with helper T cells (CD4+)
- ❑ Presents exogenous antigens

The major histocompatibility complex

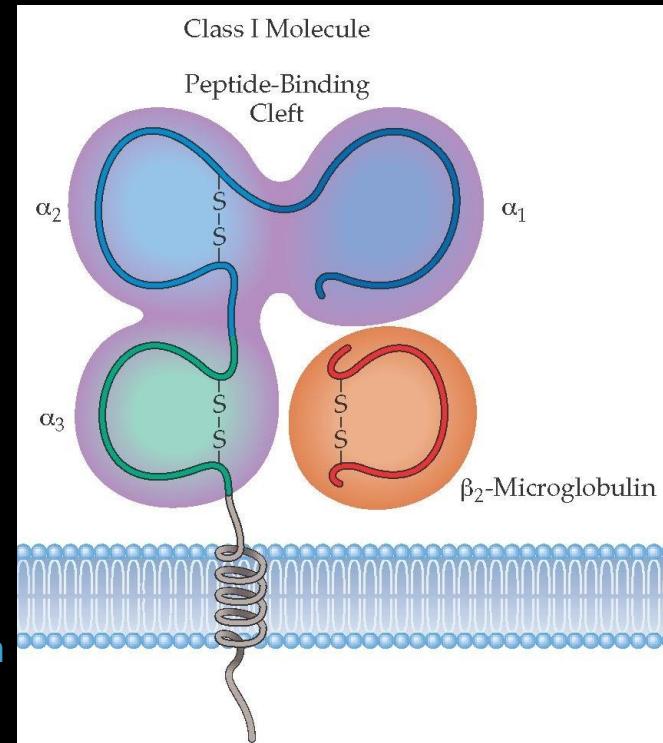
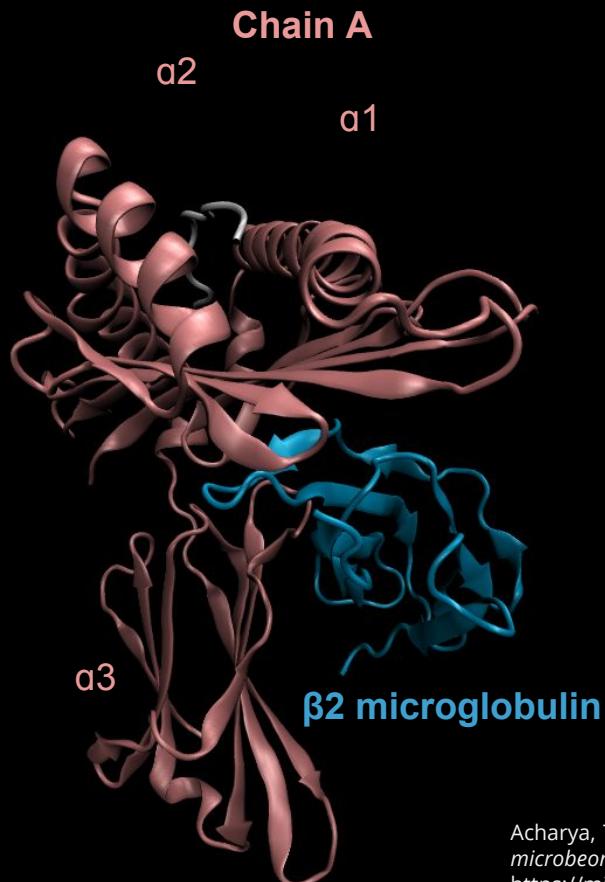
Antigen processing + antigen presentation:



Wieczorek, M., Abualrous, E., Sticht, J., Álvaro-Benito, M., Stolzenberg, S., Noé, F. and Freund, C. (2017). Major Histocompatibility Complex (MHC) Class I and MHC Class II Proteins: Conformational Plasticity in Antigen Presentation. *Frontiers in Immunology*, 8.

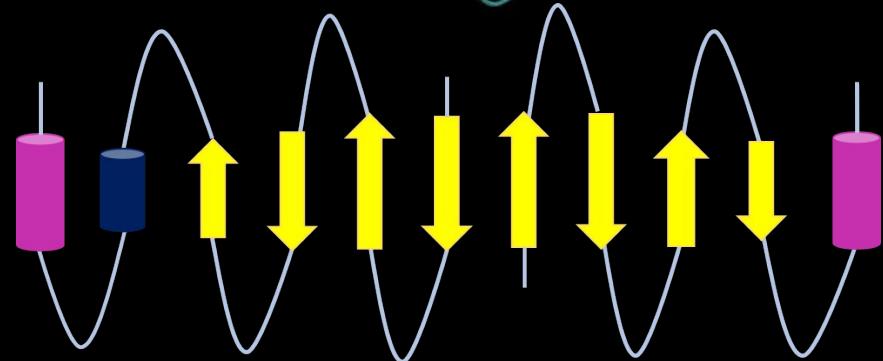
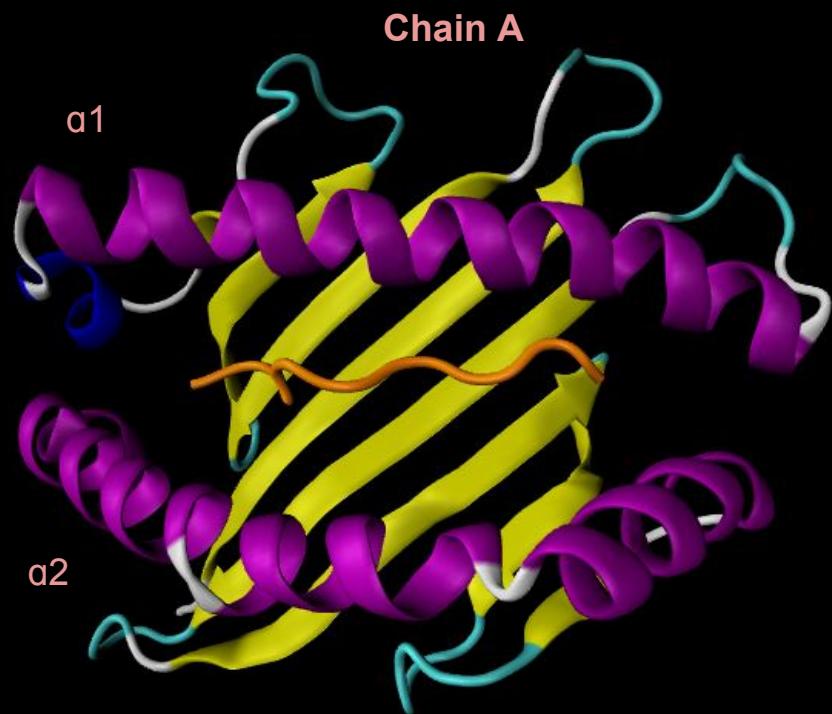
2. HLA I STRUCTURE

HLA I - Structure

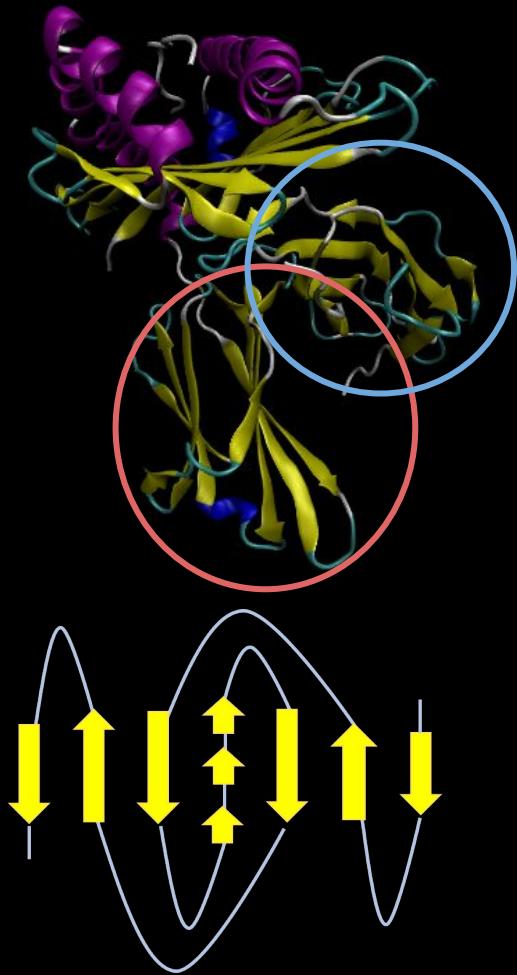
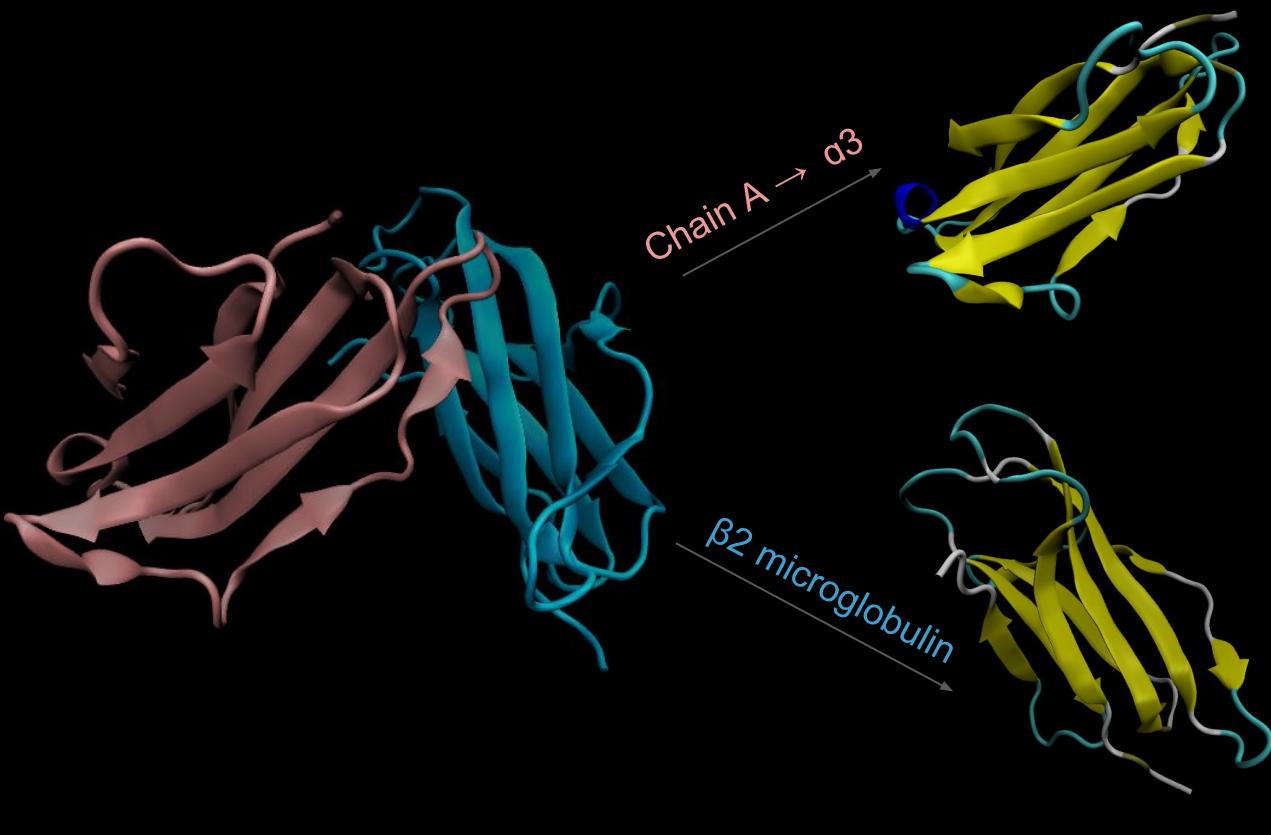


Acharya, T. (2018). *Difference between MHC Class I and MHC Class II Proteins* - *microbeonline*. [online] microbeonline. Available at: <https://microbeonline.com/difference-mhc-class-mhc-class-ii-proteins/> [Accessed 25 Feb. 2018].

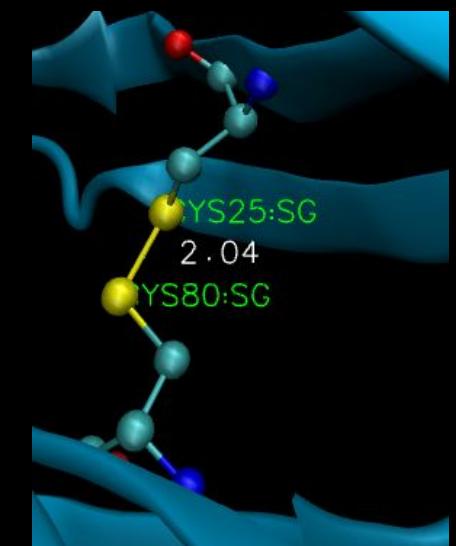
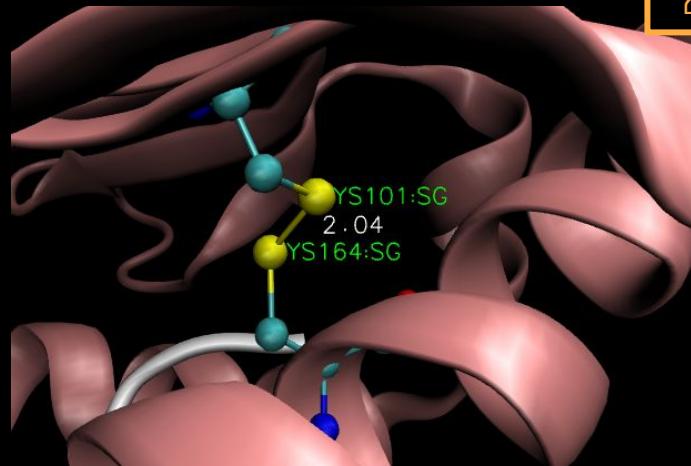
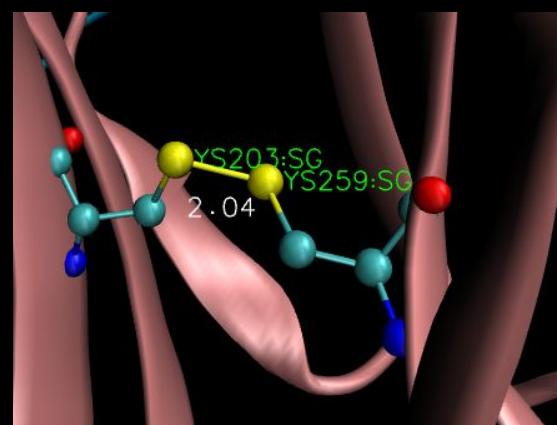
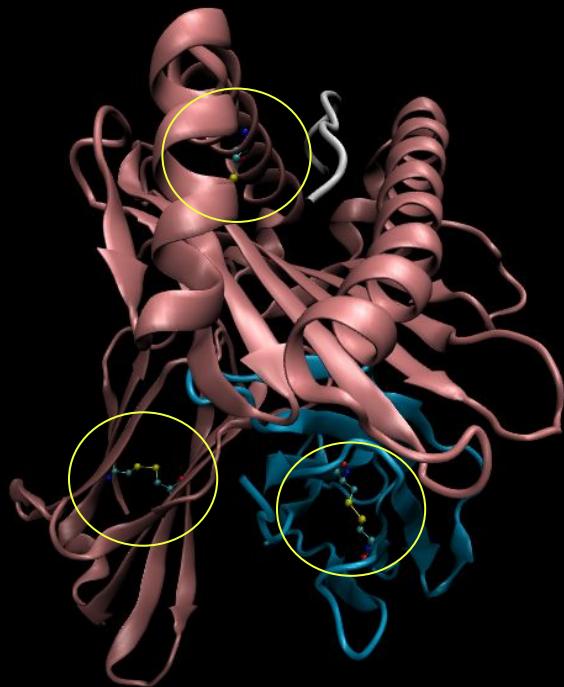
HLA I - Binding Groove



HLA I - Ig-like domains

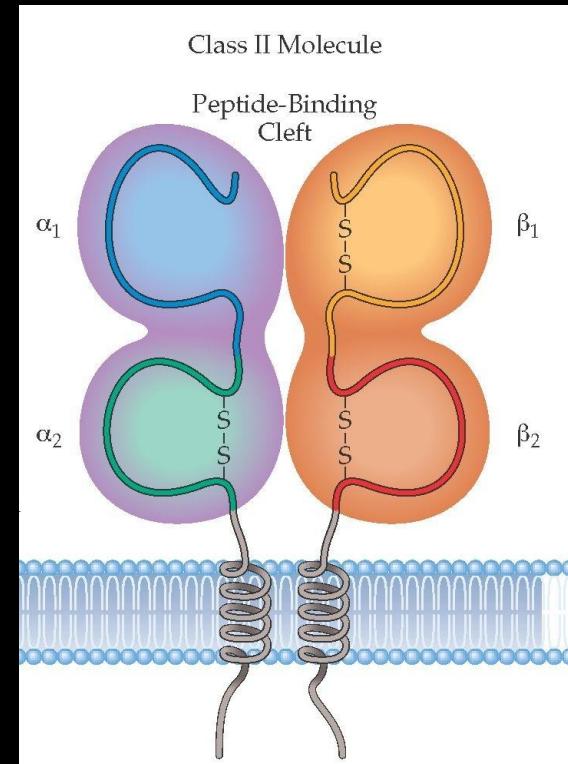
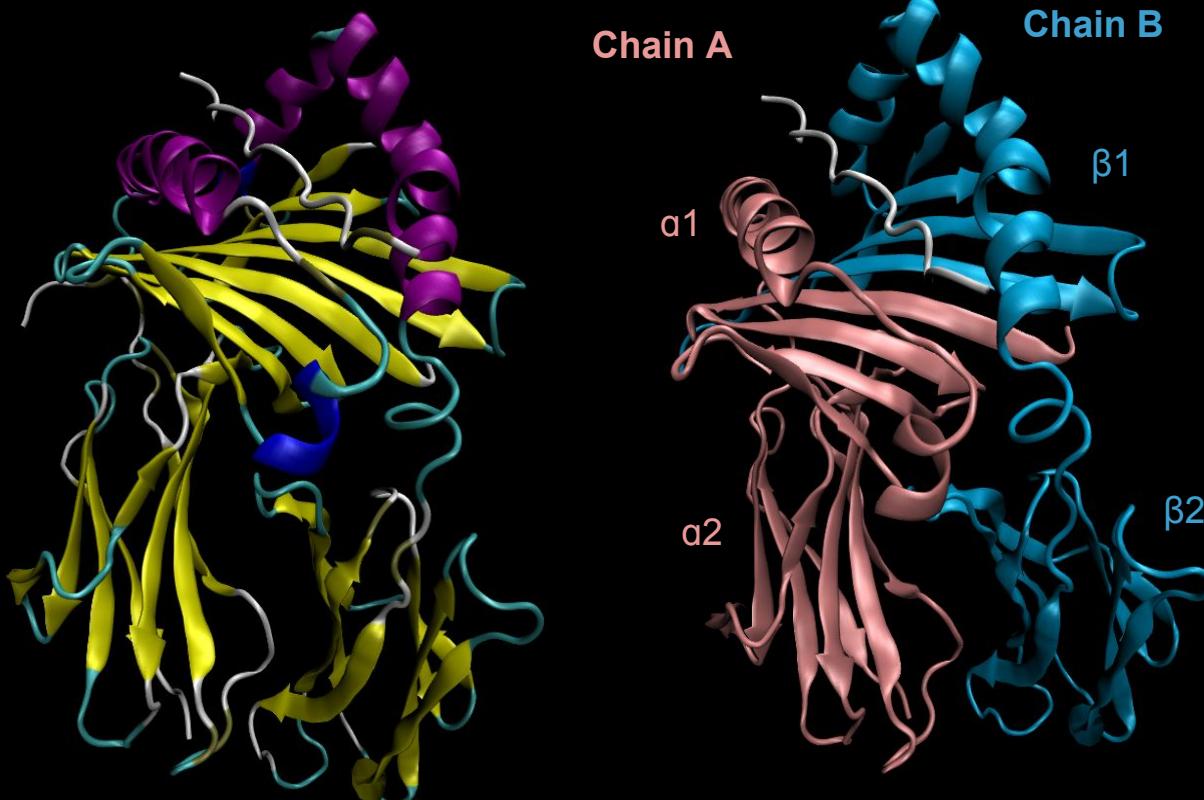


HLA I - Disulfide bridges



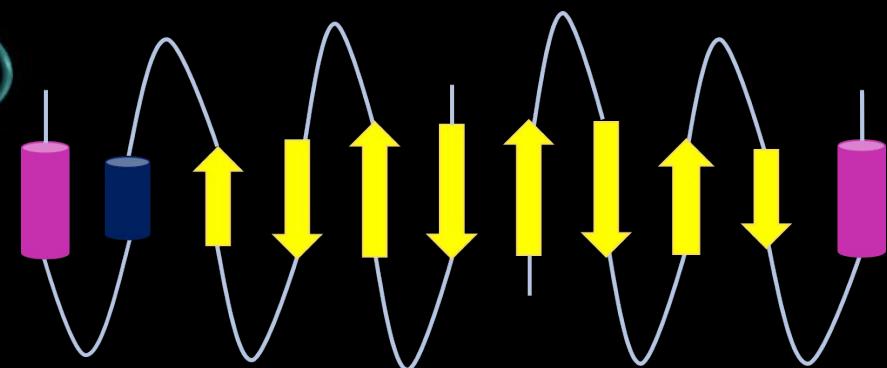
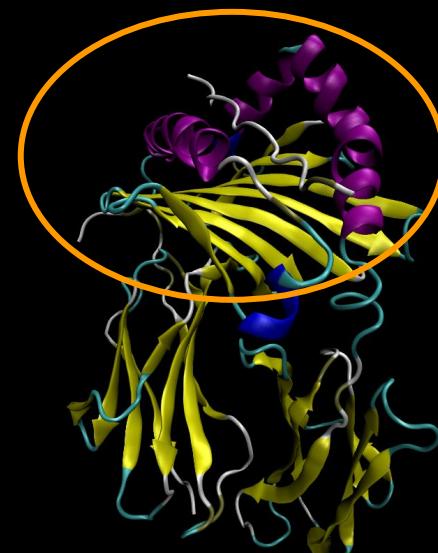
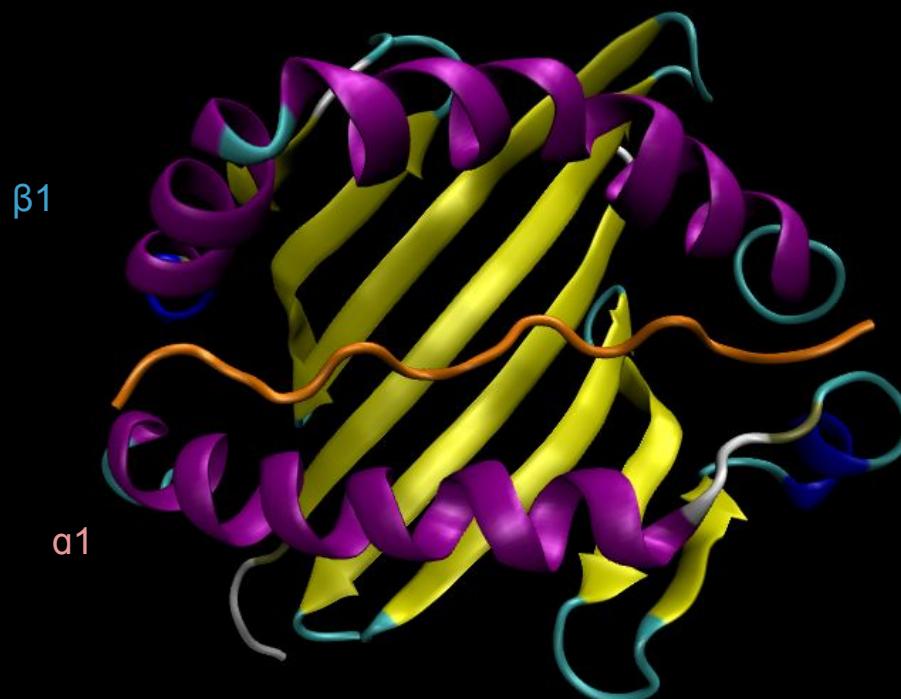
3. HLA II STRUCTURE

HLA II - Structure

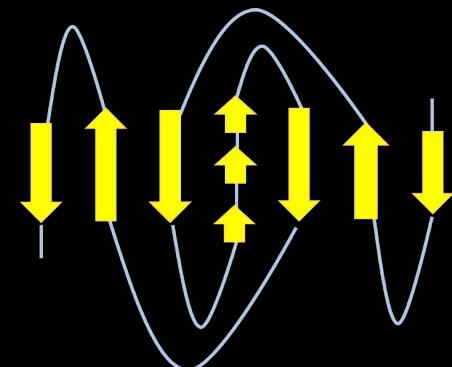
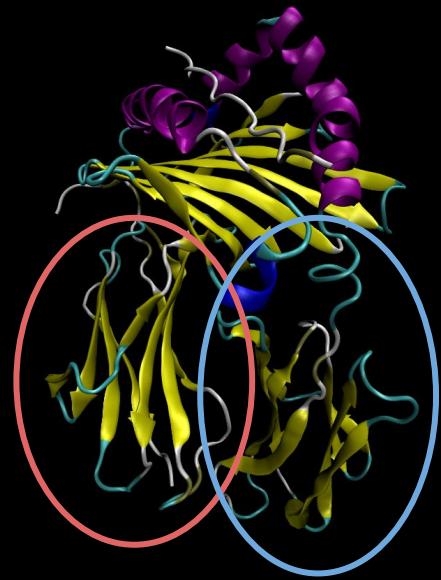
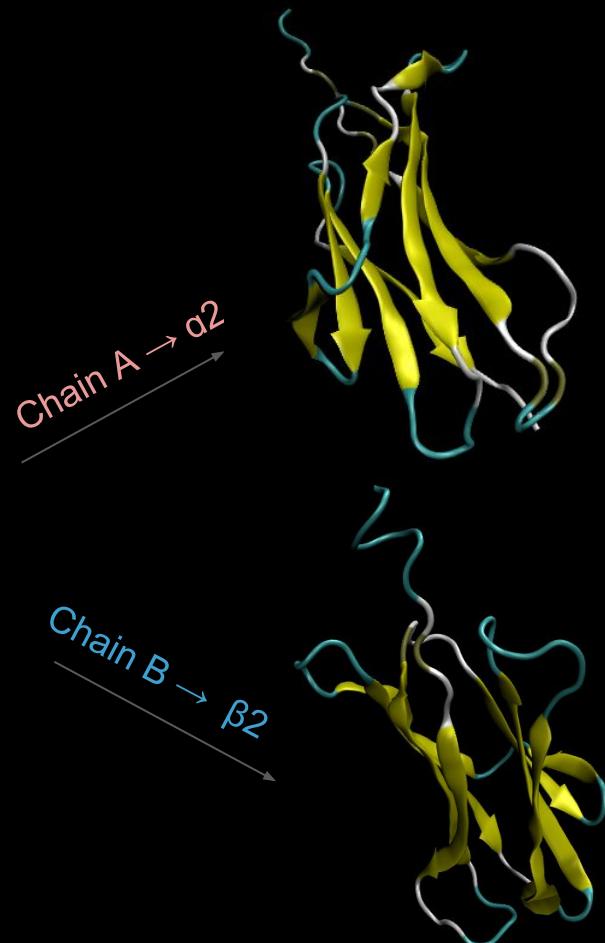
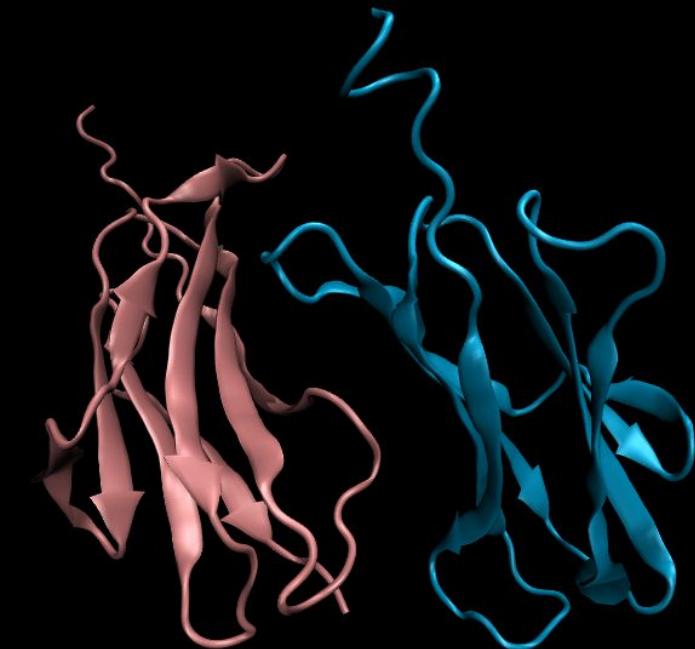


Acharya, T. (2018). *Difference between MHC Class I and MHC Class II Proteins - microbeonline*. [online] microbeonline. Available at: <https://microbeonline.com/difference-mhc-class-mhc-class-ii-proteins/> [Accessed 25 Feb. 2018].

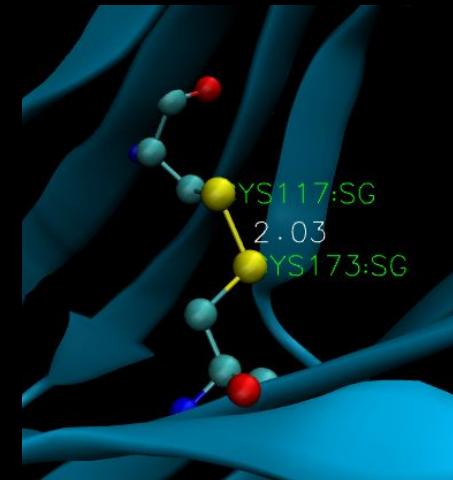
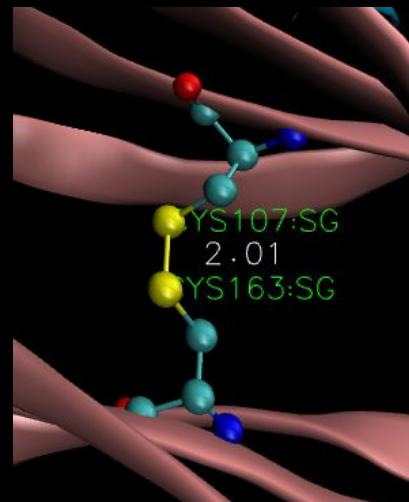
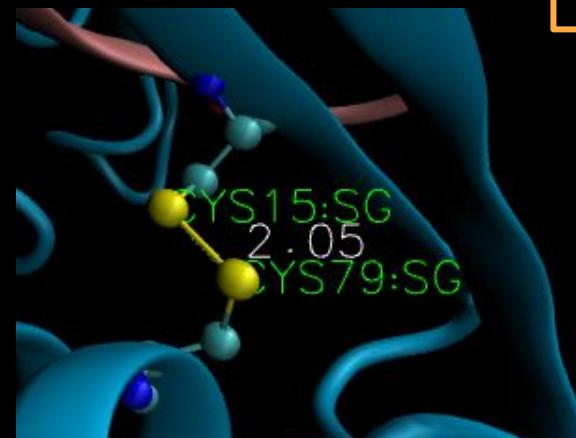
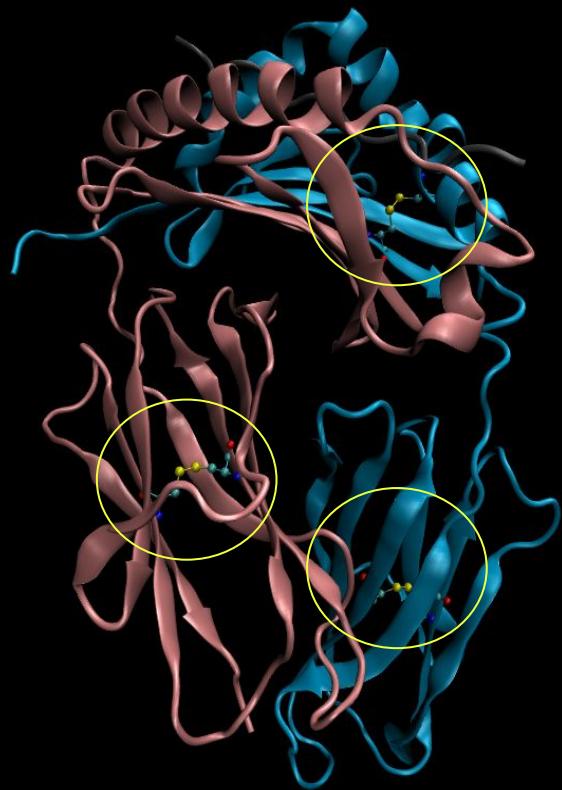
HLA II - Binding Groove



HLA II - Ig-like domains

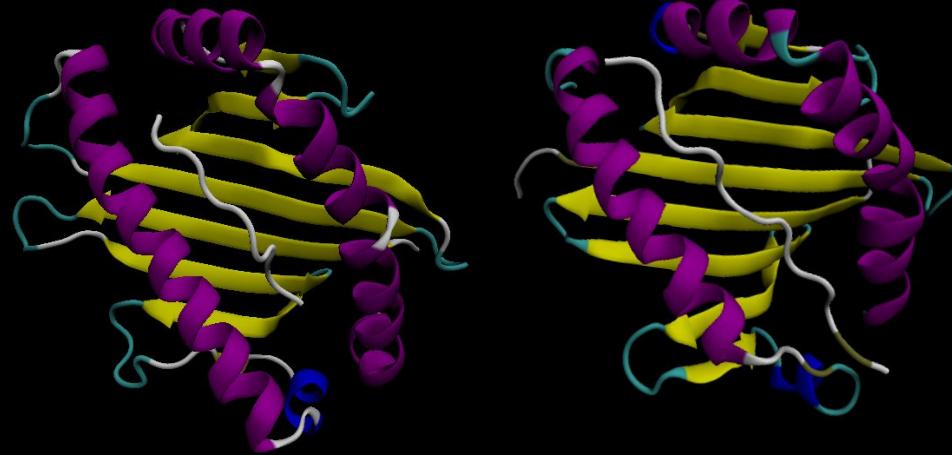
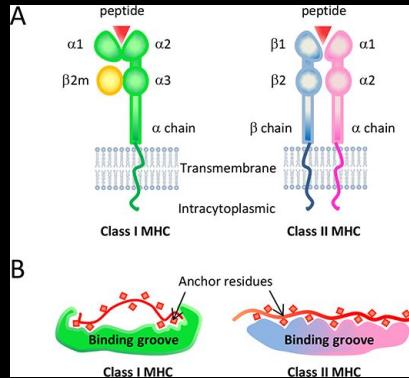


HLA II - Disulfide bridges



4. BINDING GROOVE

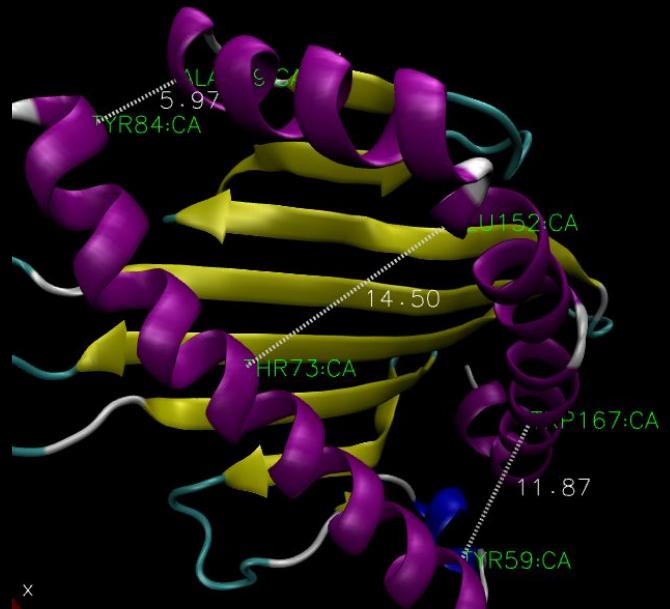
Binding groove: HLA I vs HLA II



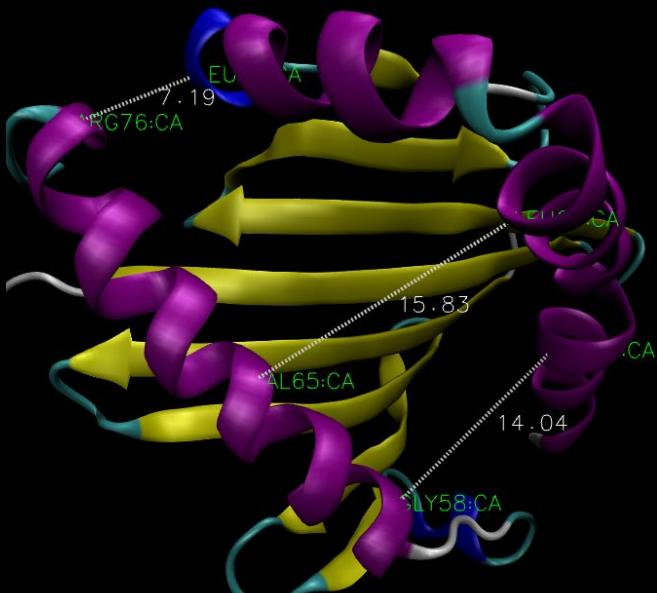
Gutiérrez, S., Esteban, E., Lützelschwab, C. and Juliarena, M. (2017). Major Histocompatibility Complex-Associated Resistance to Infectious Diseases: The Case of Bovine Leukemia Virus Infection. *Trends and Advances in Veterinary Genetics*.

	HLA I	HLA II
Peptide-binding domain	alfa-1 and alfa-2	alfa-1 and beta-1
Size of peptides (aa)	8-14	13-25
Nature of bound peptide	endogen	exogen
Bounding	both ends tightly bound at either end of the cleft	the ends are not tightly bound the peptide extends beyond the cleft

Binding groove: HLA I vs HLA II

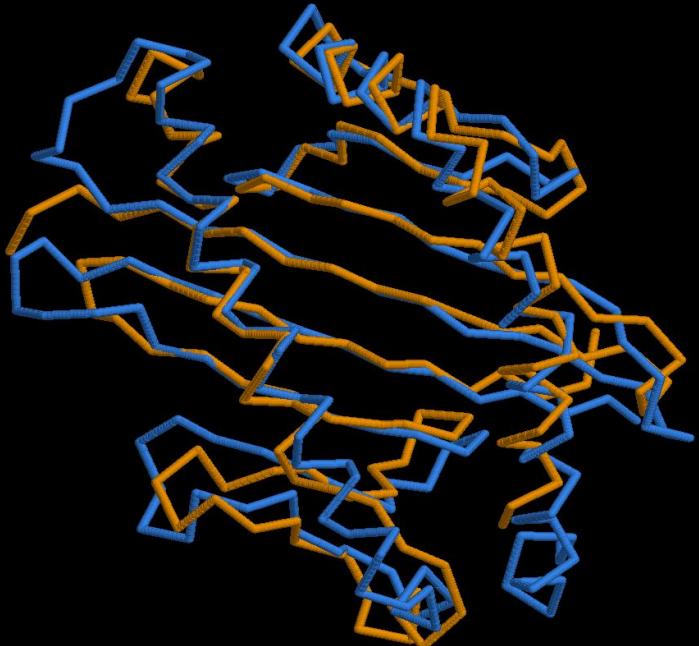


HLA I: TYR84 - ALA-139
THR73 - GLU152
TYR59 - GLU152



HLA II: ARG76 - LEU53
VAL65 - LEU67
GLY58 - TYR78

Binding groove: Superimposition



Blue: HLA-I Gold: HLA-II

```
./2xpg-groove.pdb 2xpg-groove { ALL
 1.00000  0.00000  0.00000  0.00000
 0.00000  1.00000  0.00000  0.00000
 0.00000  0.00000  1.00000  0.00000 }
./1dlh-groove.pdb 1dlh-groove { ALL
 0.54722  -0.71432  -0.43622  69.12080
 -0.83697  -0.47023  -0.27994  40.91301
 -0.00516  0.51829  -0.85519  -30.29049 }
```

Alignment score Sc = 6.179957
 Alignment length Lp = 176
 RMS deviation after fitting on 142 atoms = **1.785783**
 Secondary structures are from DSSP

STAMP Structural Alignment of Multiple Proteins

Version 4.4 (May 2010)
 by Robert B. Russell & Geoffrey J. Barton
 Please cite PROTEINS, v14, 309-323, 1992

Running roughfit.

Sc = STAMP score, RMS = RMS deviation, Align = alignment length
 Len1, Len2 = length of domain, Nfit = residues fitted
 Secs = no. equivalent sec. strucs. Eq = no. equivalent residues
 %I = seq. identity, %S = sec. str. identity
 P(m) = P value (p=1/10) calculated after Murzin (1993), JMB, 230, 689-694
 (NC = P value not calculated - potential FP overflow)

No.	Domain1	Domain2	Sc	RMS	Len1	Len2	Align	NFit	Eq.	Secs.	%I	%S	P(m)
Pair 1	2xpg-groove	1dlh-groove	6.18	1.79	182	162	176	142	137	0	14.60	100.00	2.30e-02

Reading in matrix file peptides.mat...
 Doing cluster analysis...
 Cluster: 1 (2xpg-groove & 1dlh-groove) Sc 6.18 RMS 1.79 Len 176 nfit 142
 See file peptides.1 for the alignment and transformations

5. PEPTIDE BINDING: HLA II

Hydrophobic pockets

HLA-DR1(DRA, DRB1*0101)

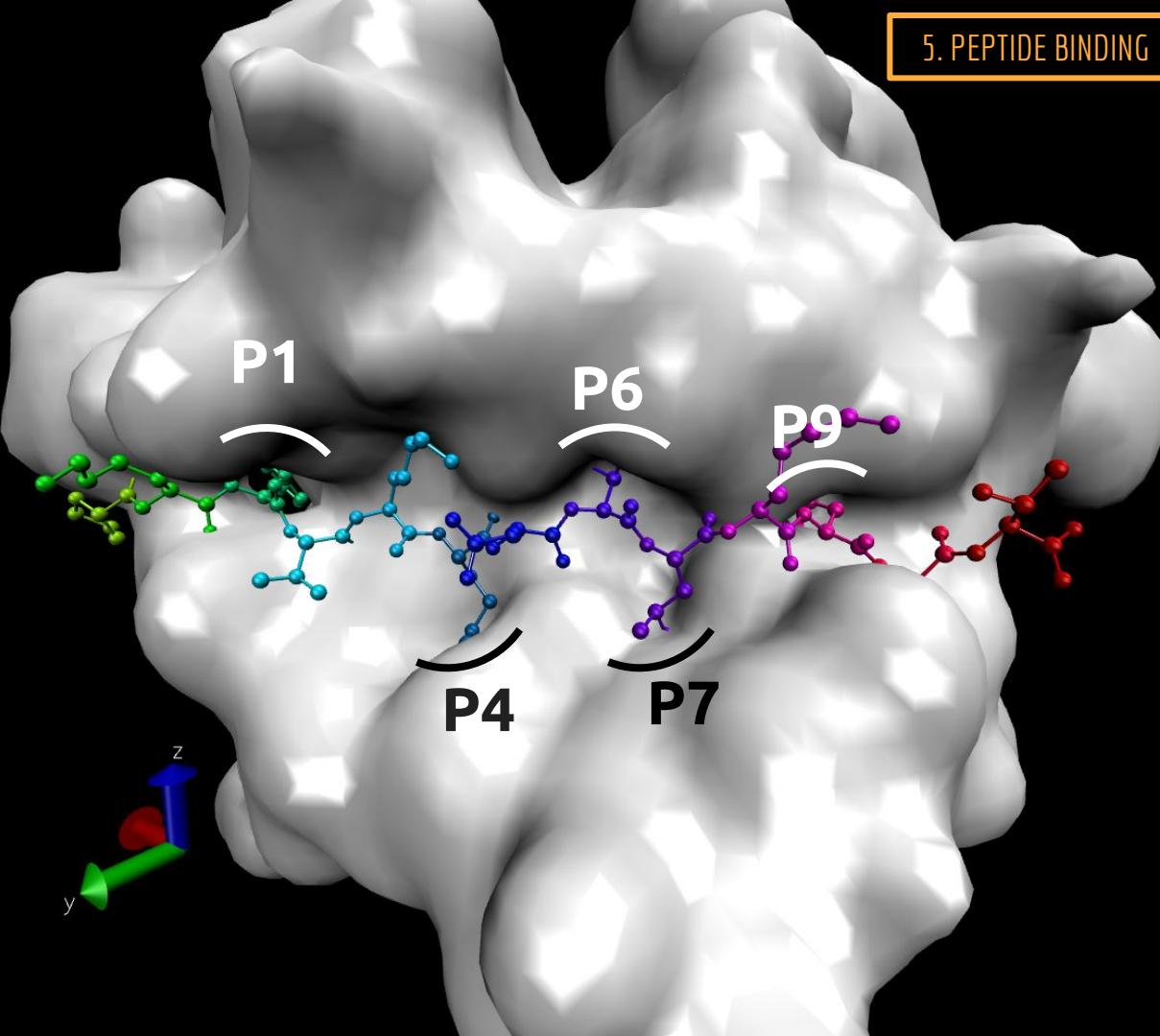
Pdb id: 1dlh

Influenza Virus

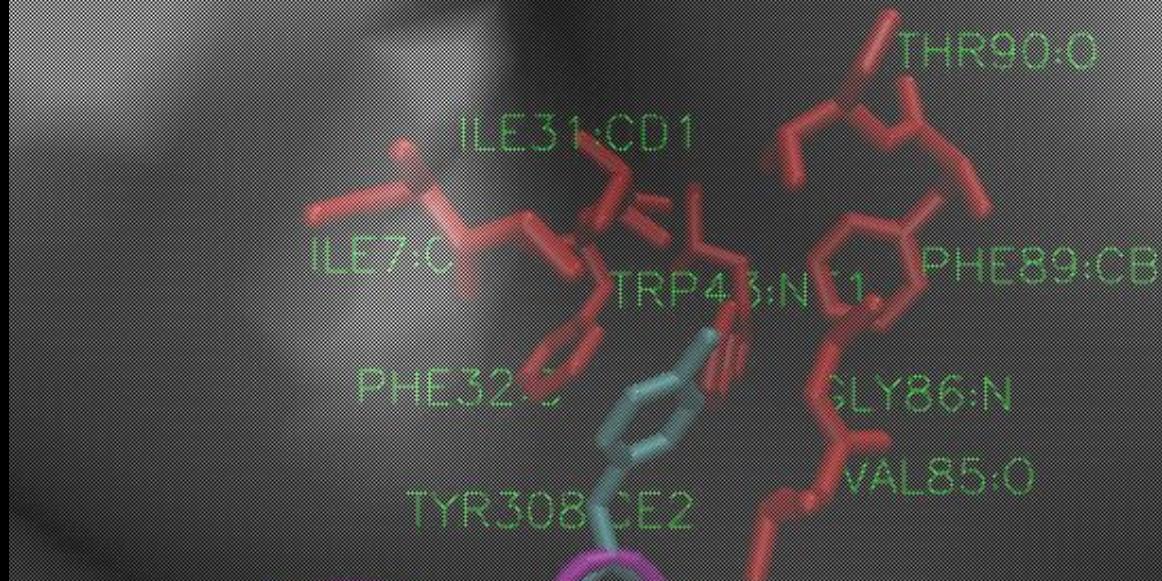
Haemagglutinin Peptide

(residues 306-318:

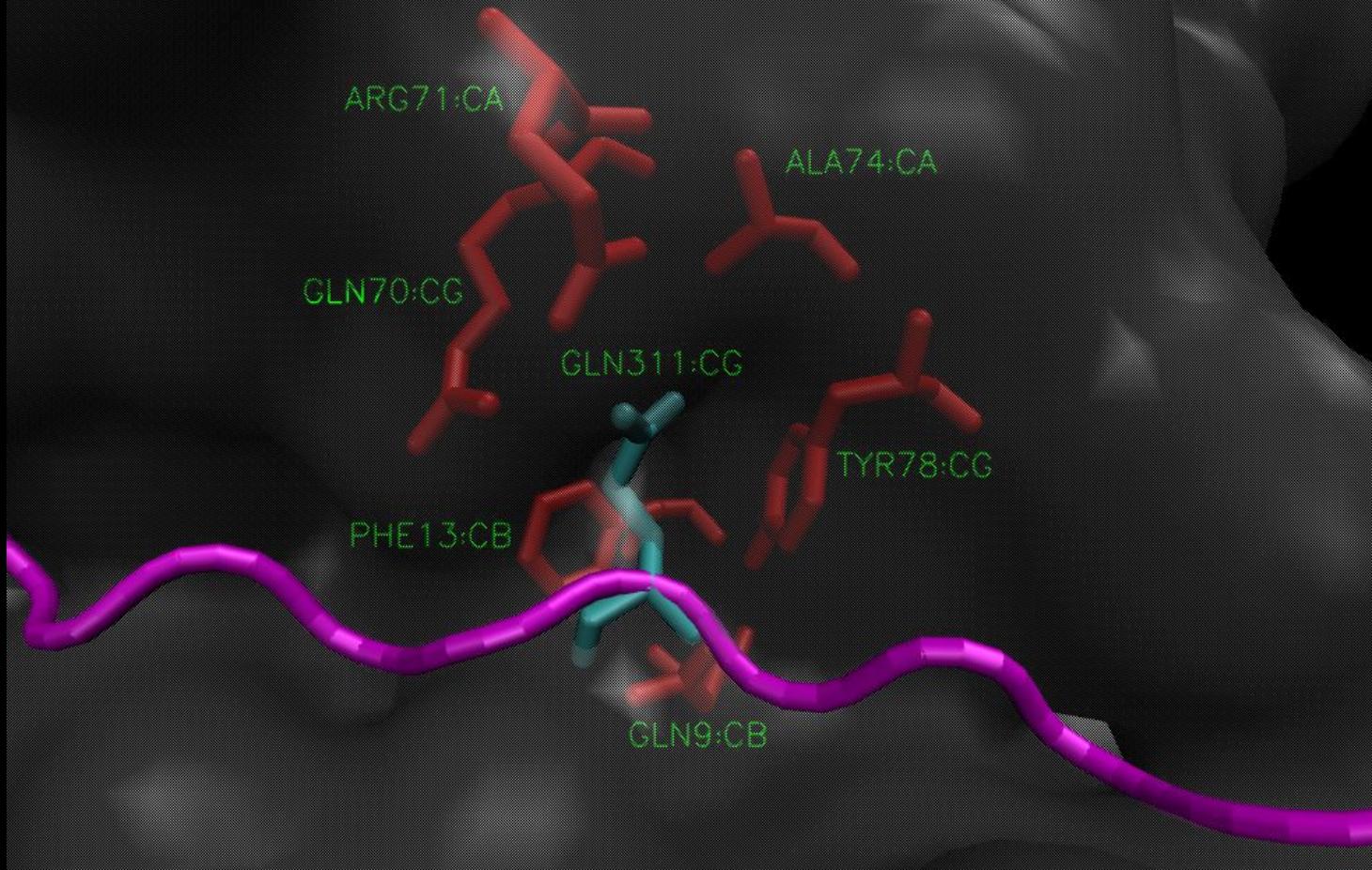
PKYVKQNTLKLAT)



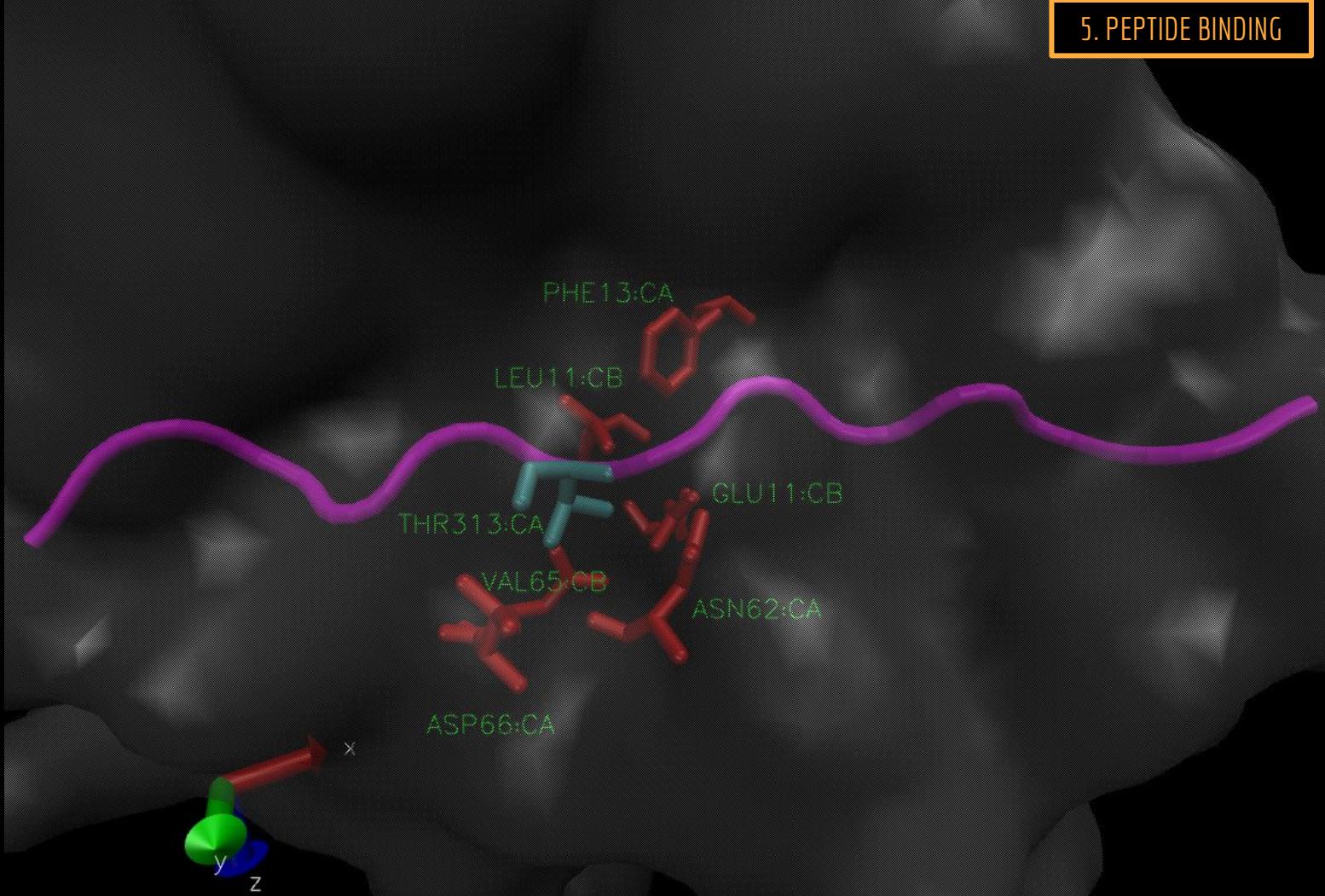
POCKET 1



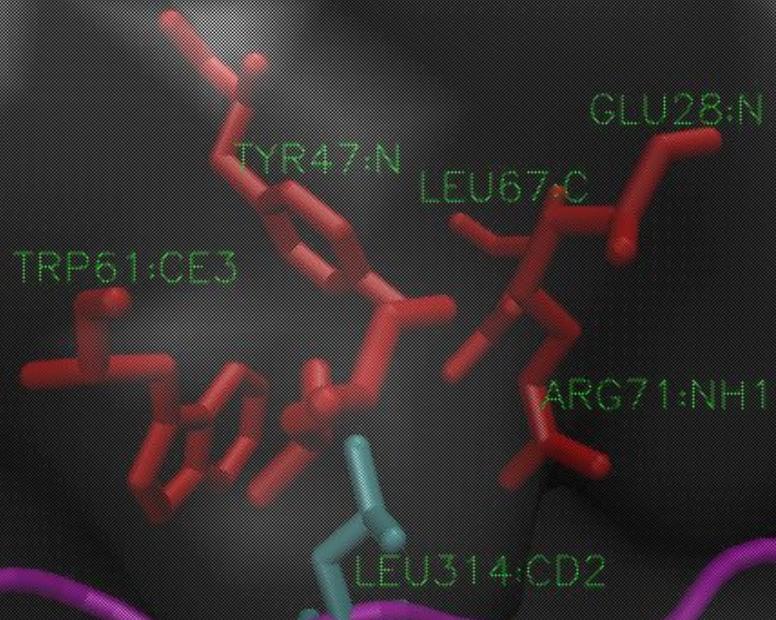
POCKET 4



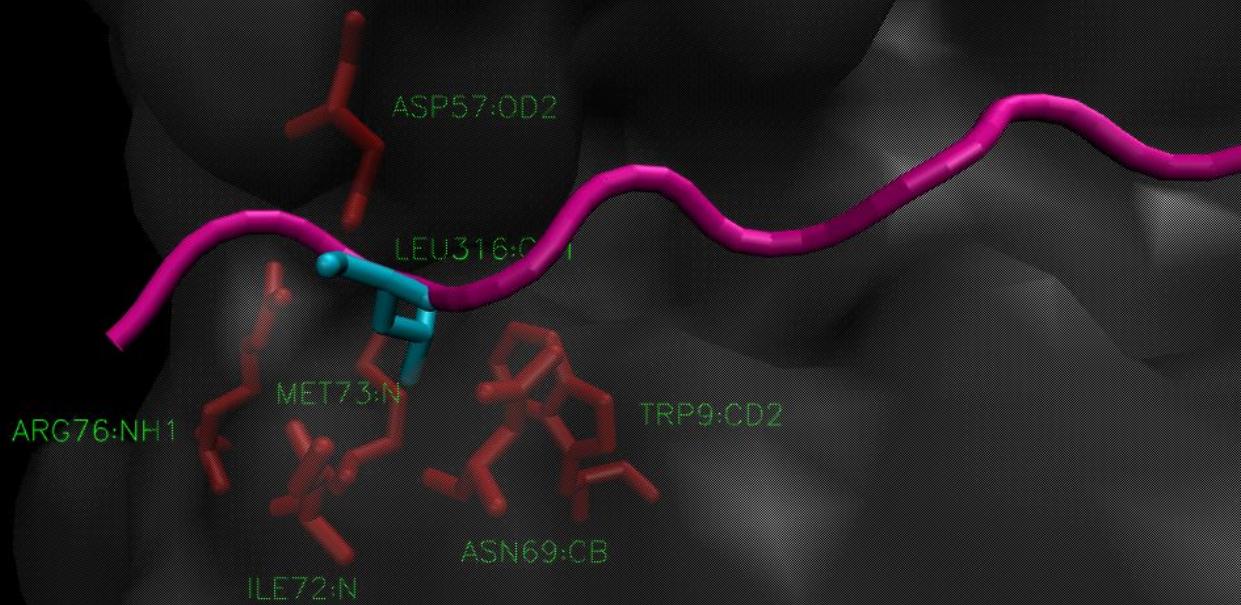
POCKET 6



POCKET 7



POCKET 9



Hydrogen bonds

HLA-DR1(DRA, DRB1*0101)

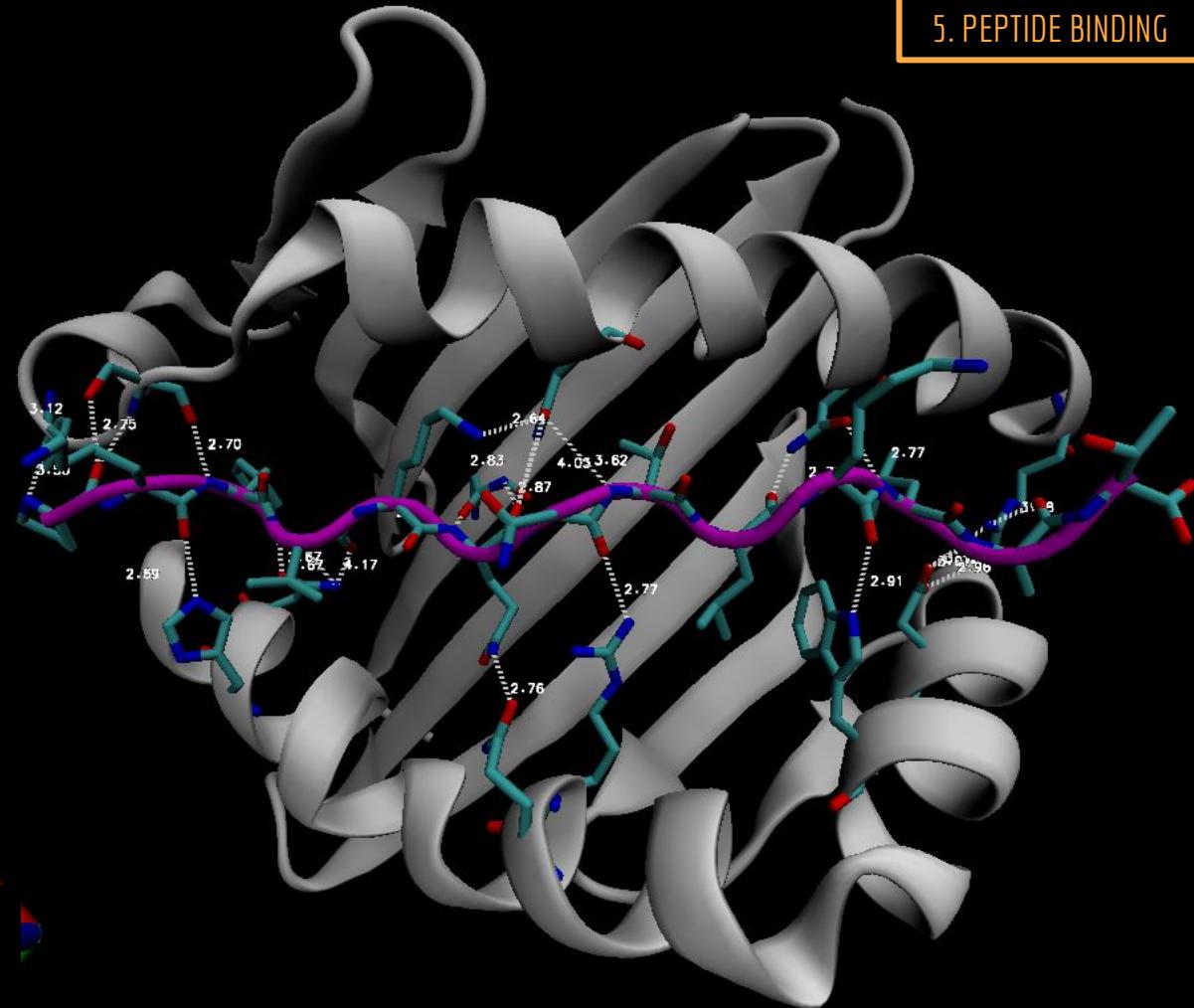
Pdb id: 1dlh

Influenza Virus

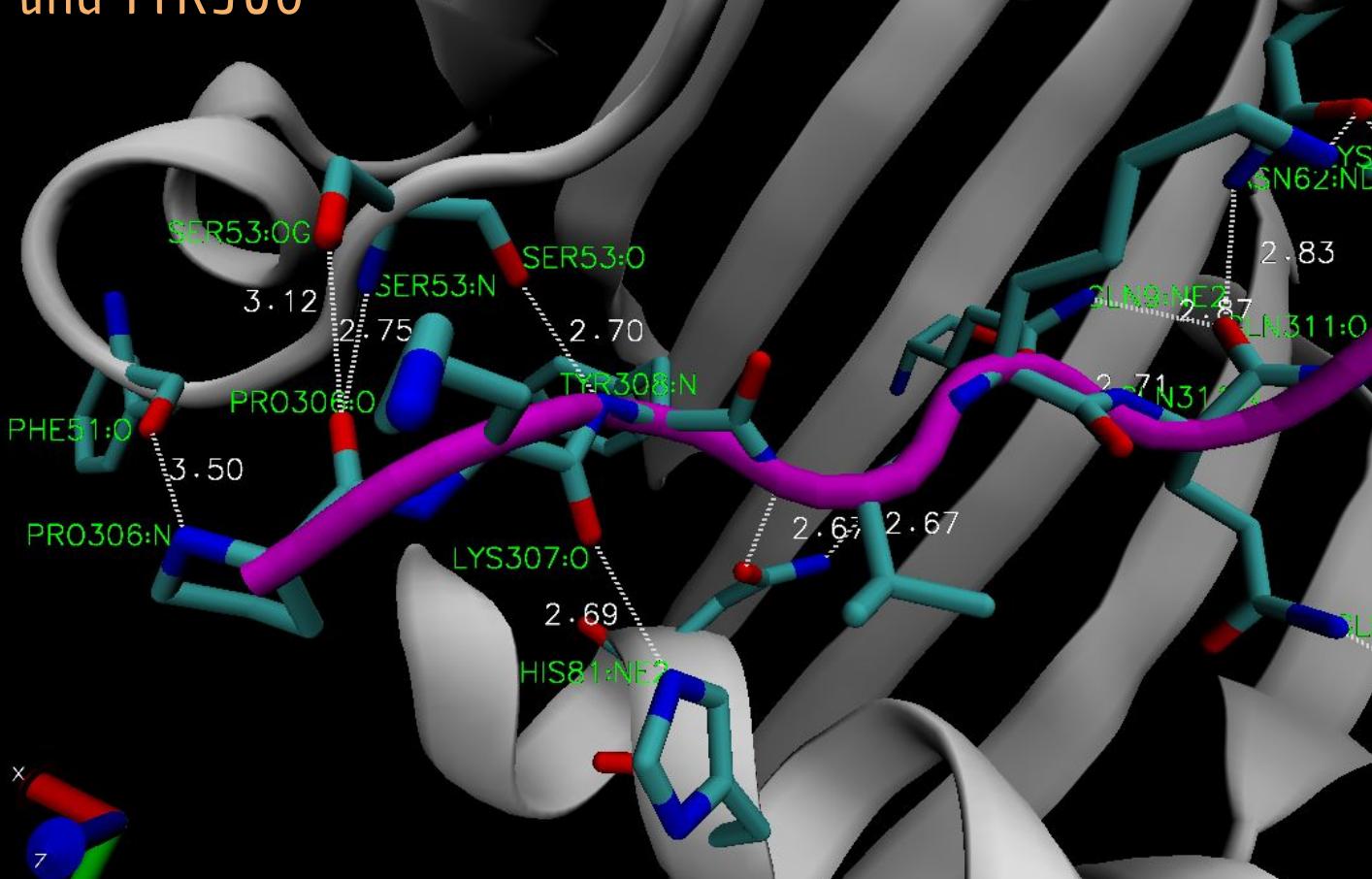
Haemagglutinin Peptide

(residues 306-318:

PKYVKQNTLKAT)

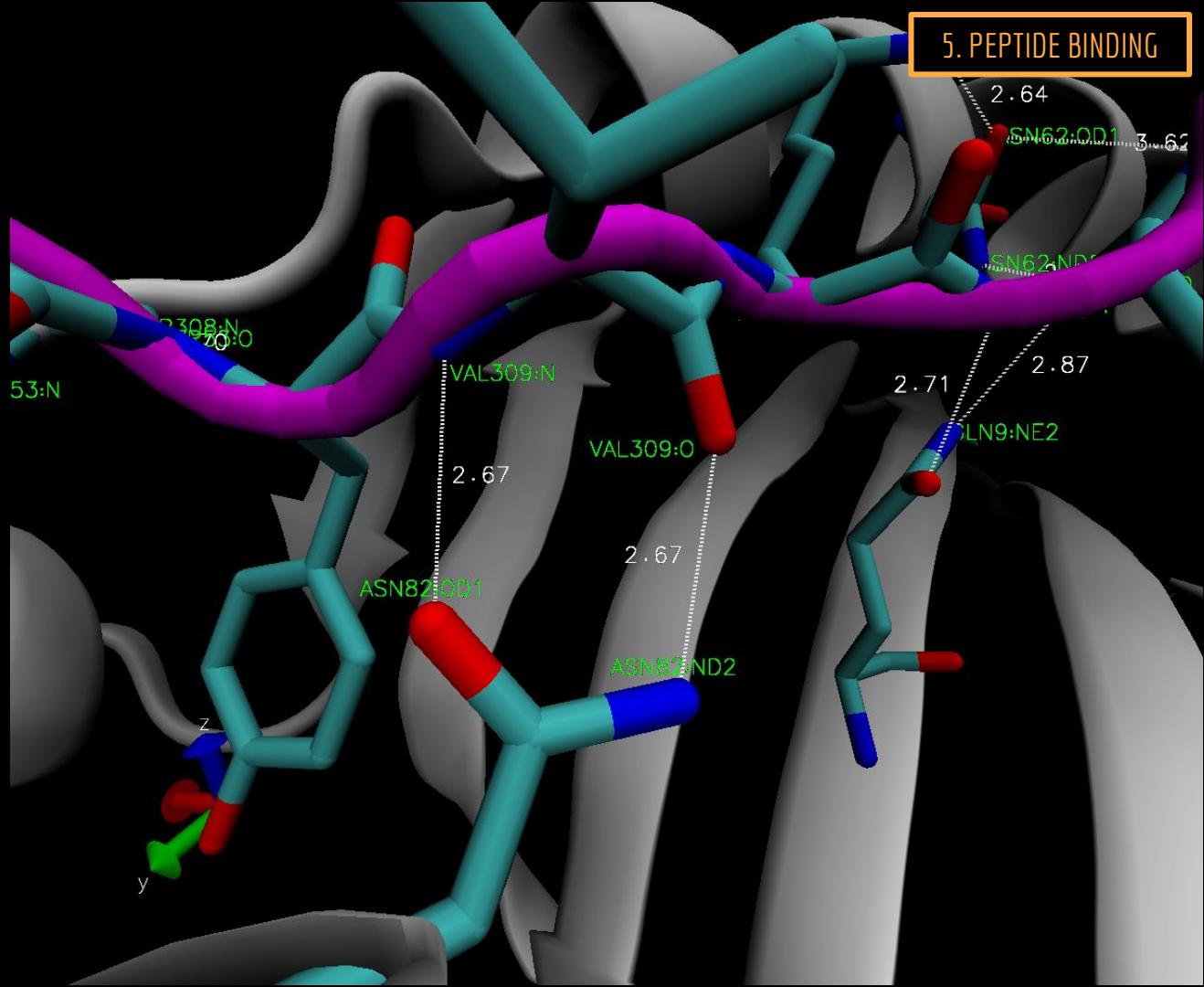


PR0306, LYS307 and TYR308

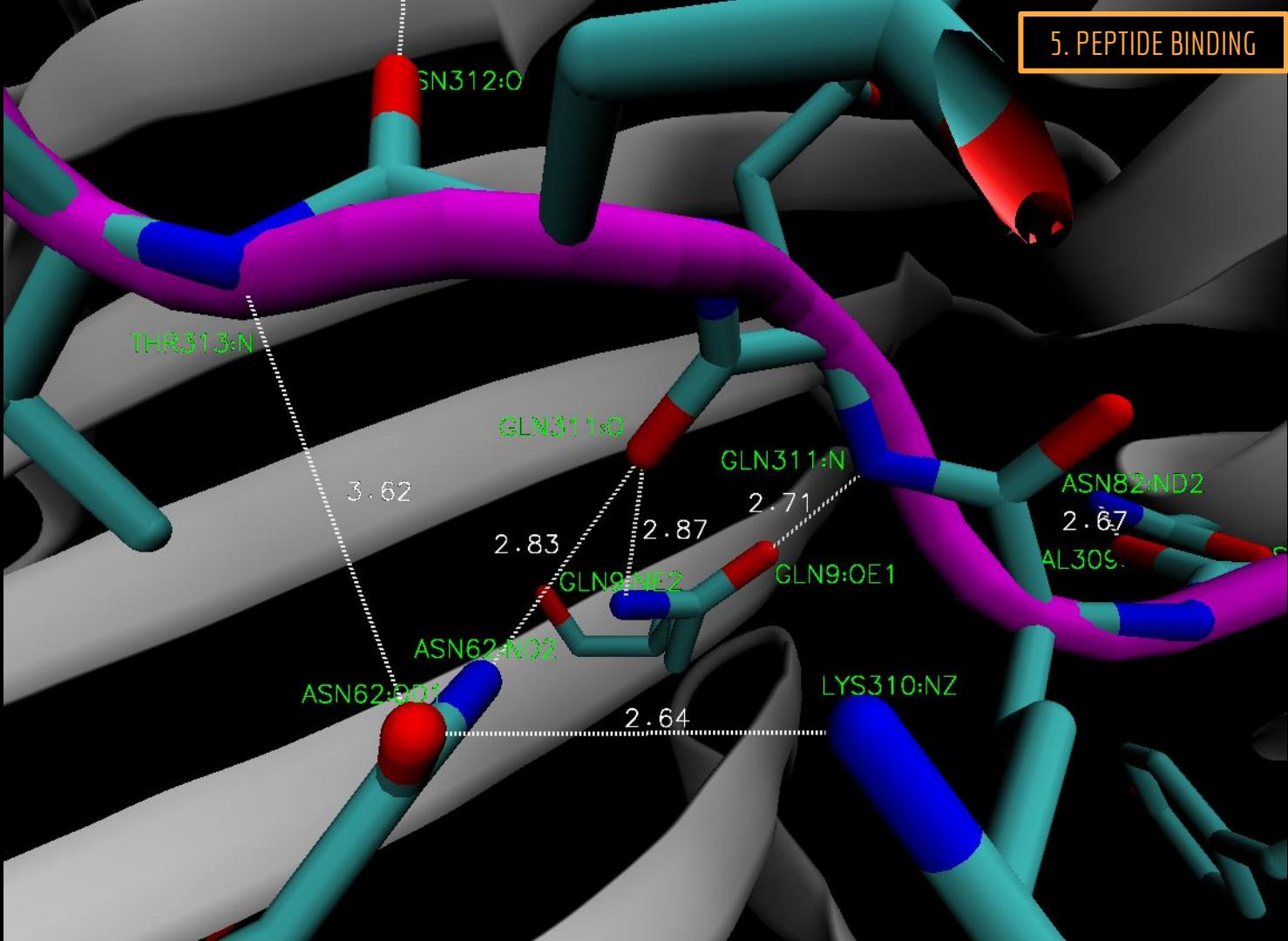


5. PEPTIDE BINDING

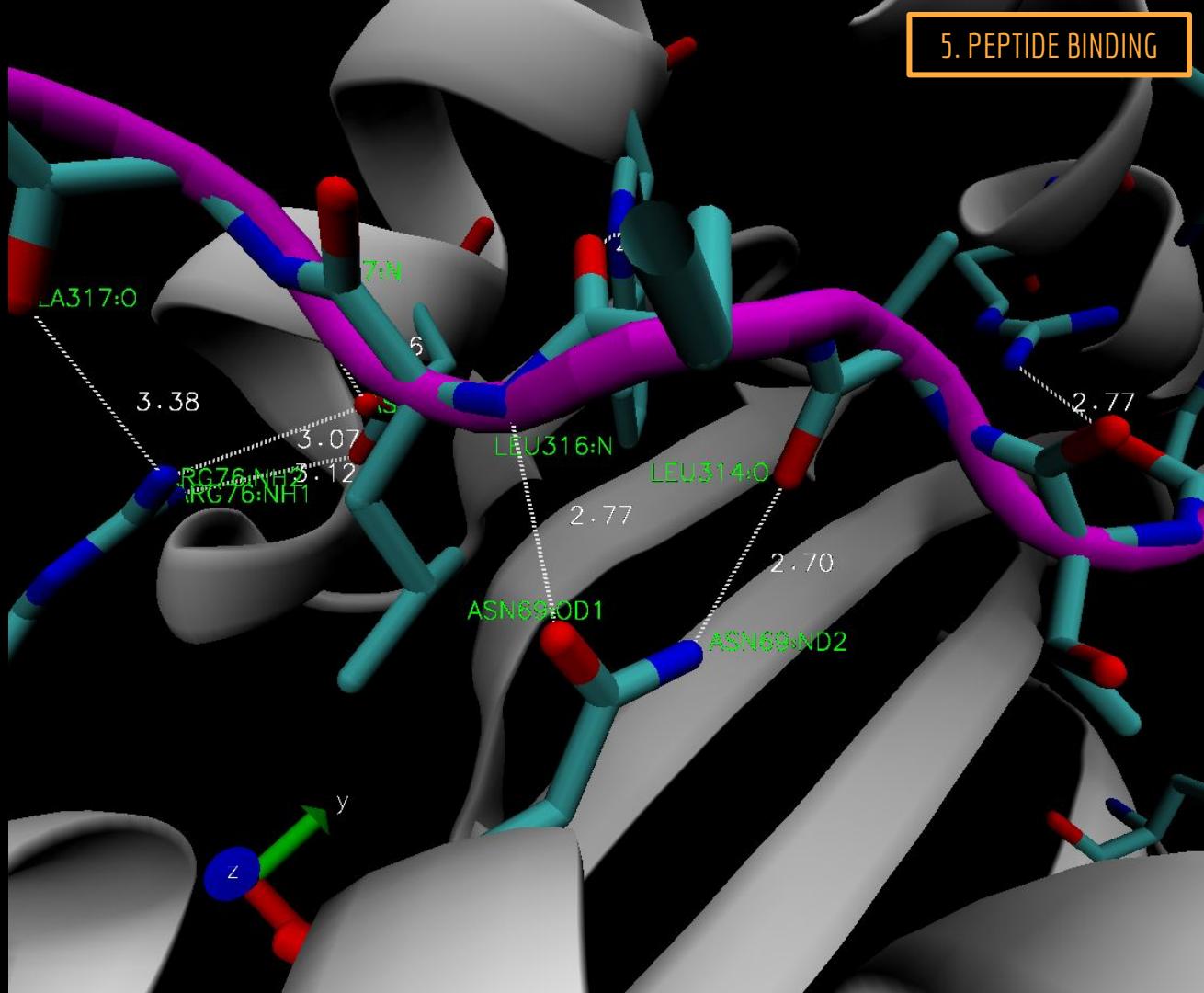
VAL309



GLN311,
ASN312
and
THR313

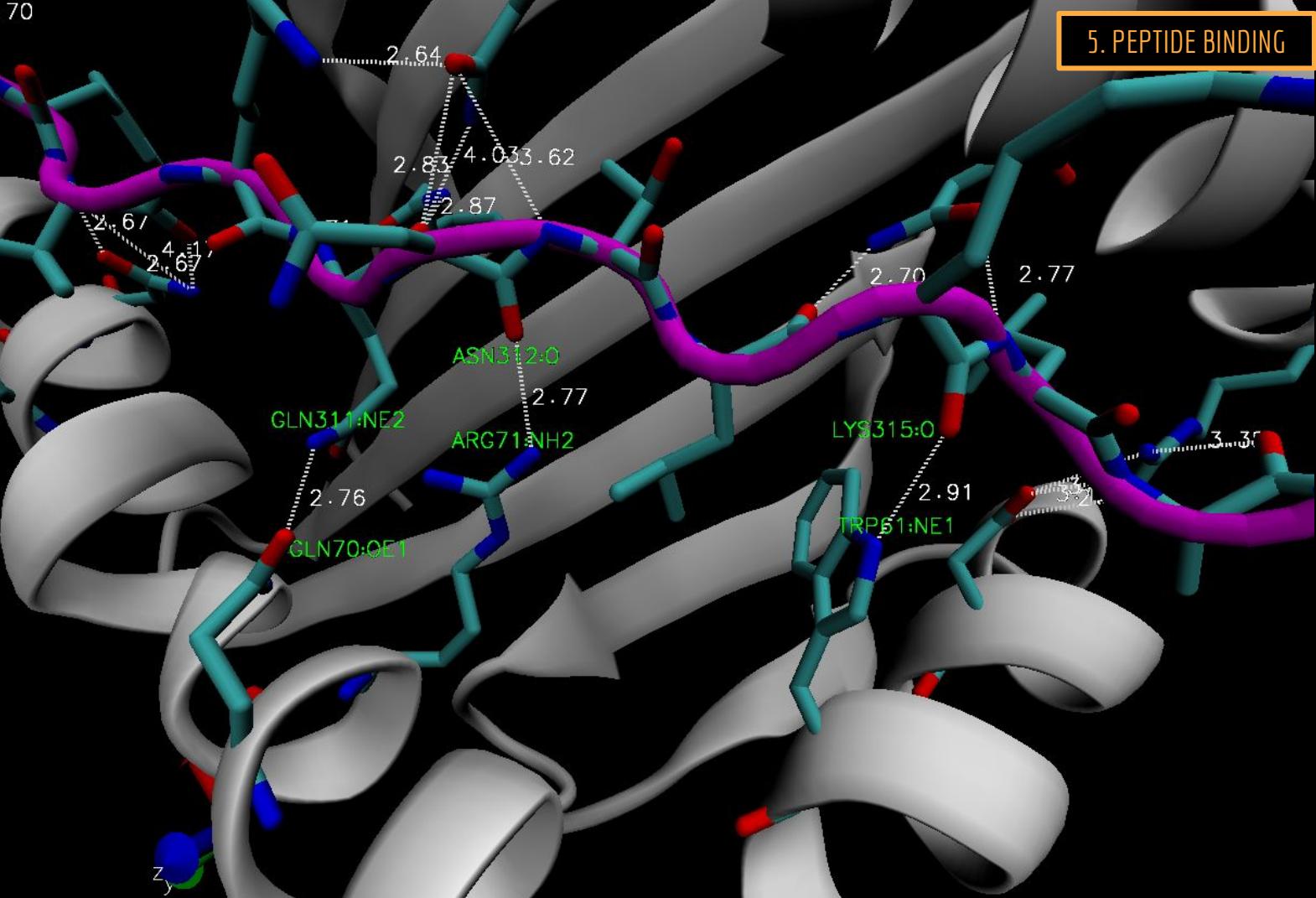


LEU314 and LEU316

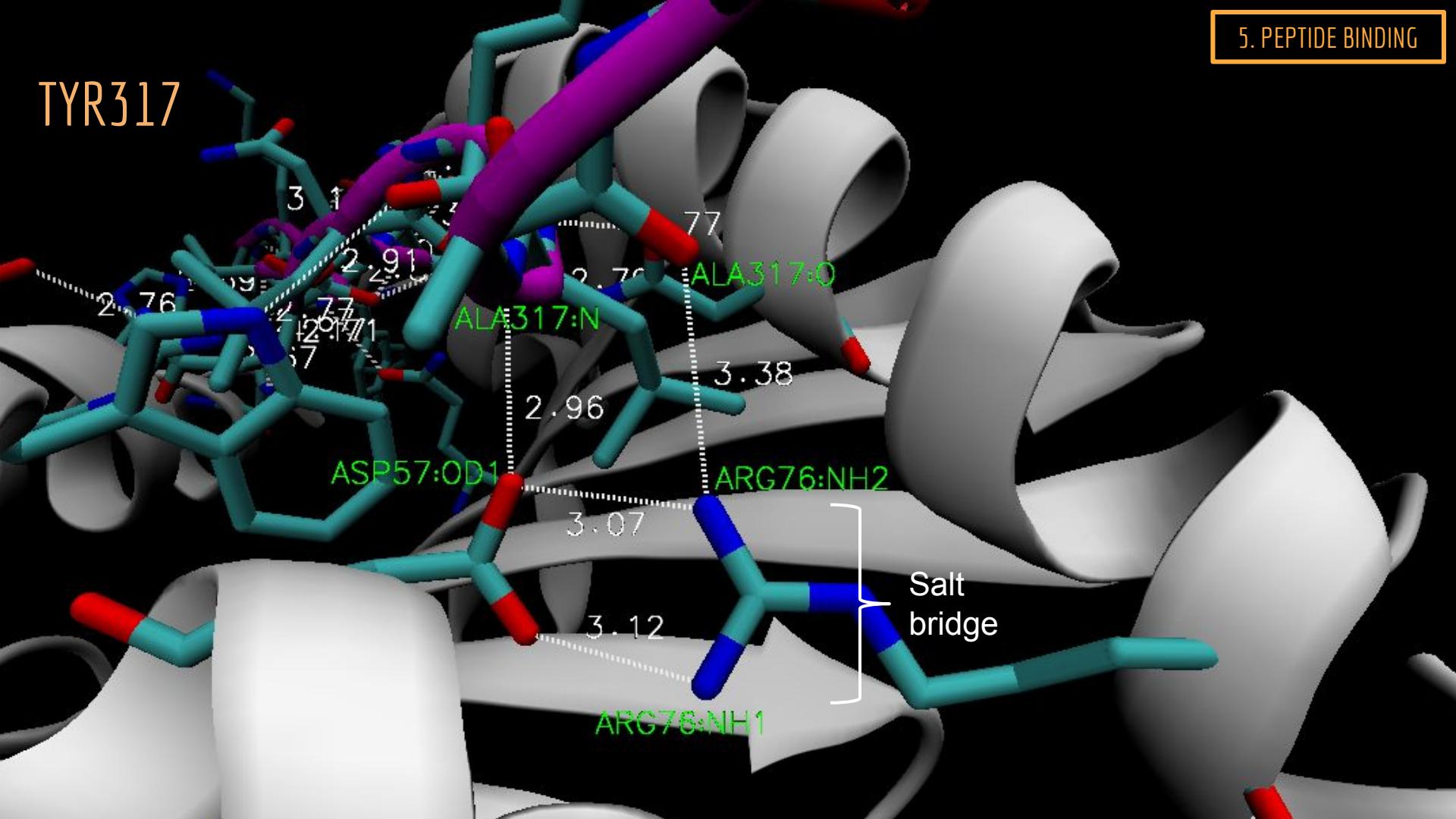


GLN311,
ASN312
and
LYS315

5. PEPTIDE BINDING



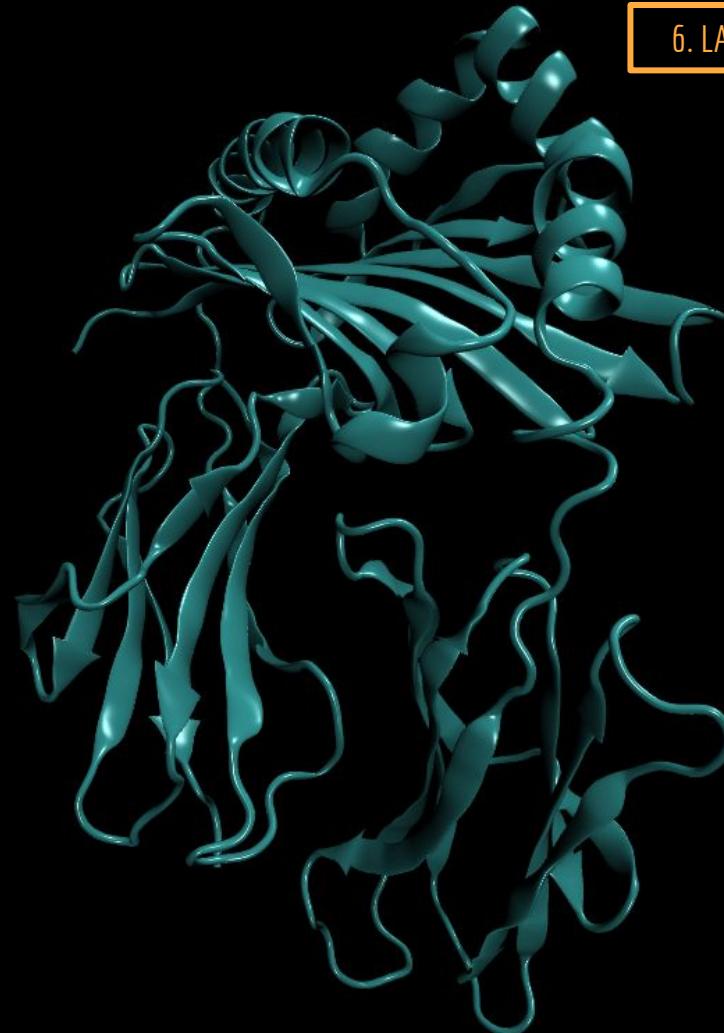
TYR317



6. LABILE REGIONS

HLA-II Structures Comparison

- Structural superimpositions:
 - 3 superimpositions:
 - All classical HLA-II
 - Only DR
 - Only DQ
- Sequence alignment



HLA-II Superimposition

5 HLA-DR

5 HLA-DQ

1 HLA-DP



Sc 9.41

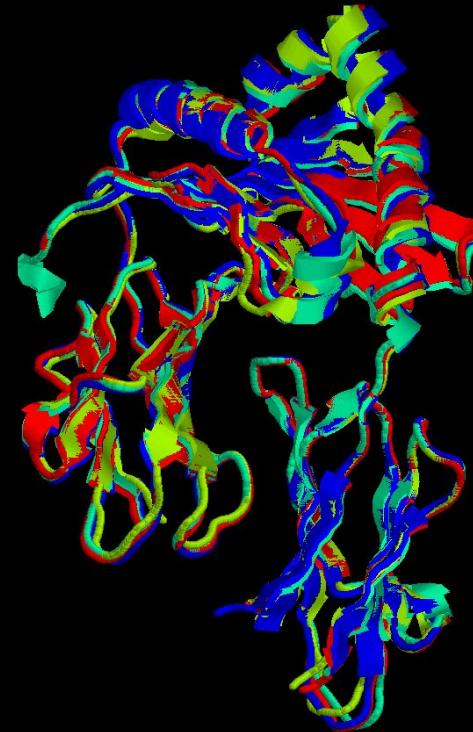
RMSD 0.95

HLA-II Superimposition

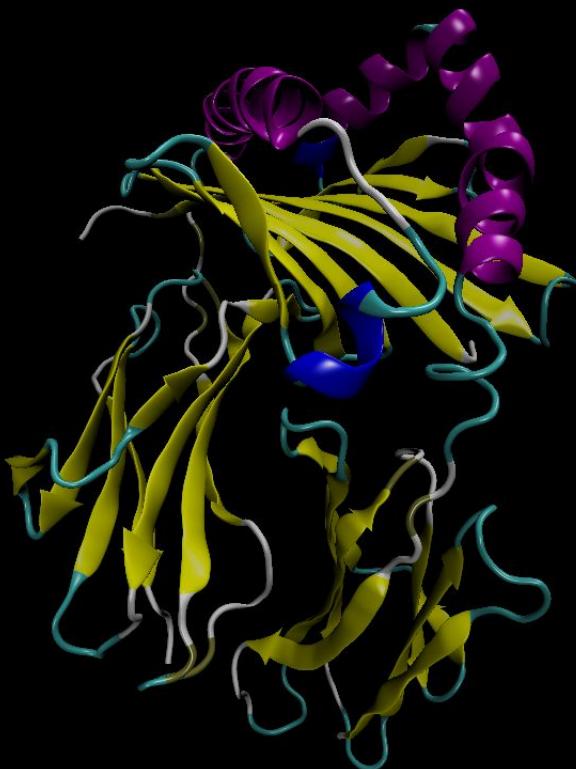
HLA-DR



HLA-DQ



Variable regions

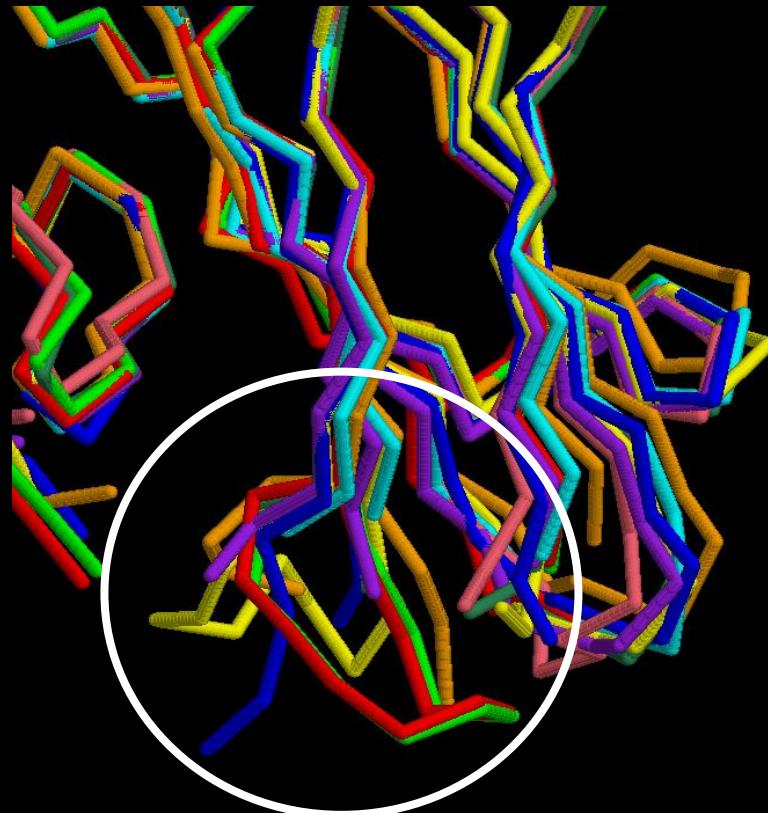


Helical kink on the $\beta 1$ domain

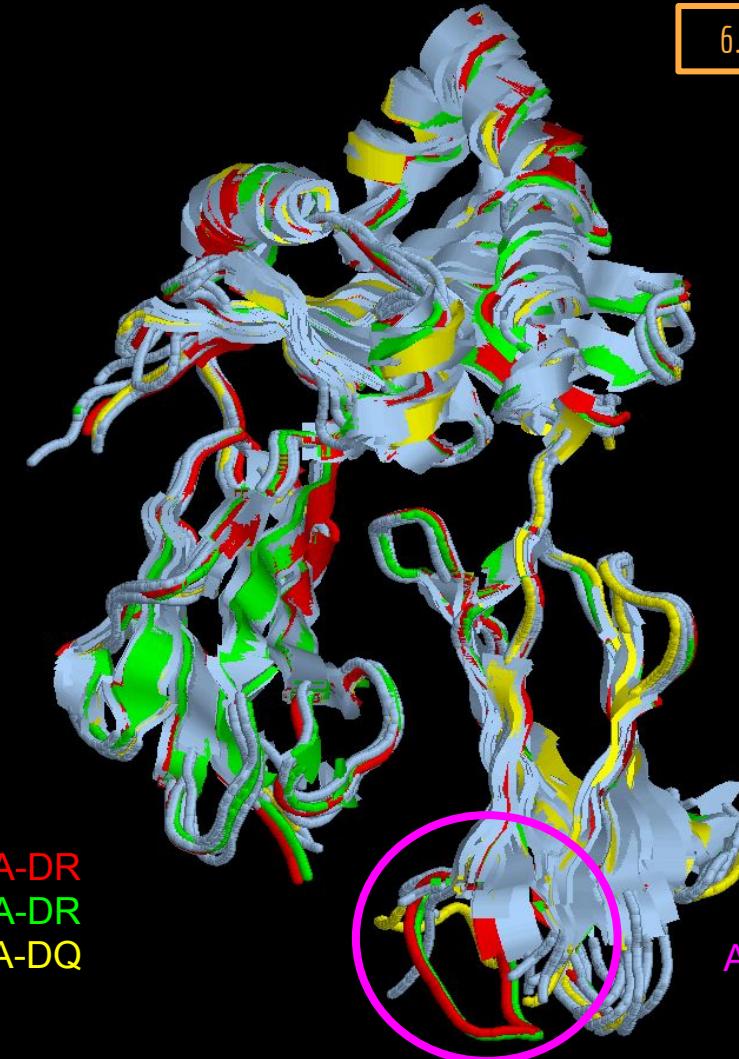
3_{10} Helix on the α chain

$\beta 2$ Ig-like domain

$\beta 2$ Ig-like Domain



HLA-DR
HLA-DR
HLA-DQ



A-B loop

β2 Ig-like Domain

Sequence Alignment (A-B loop)

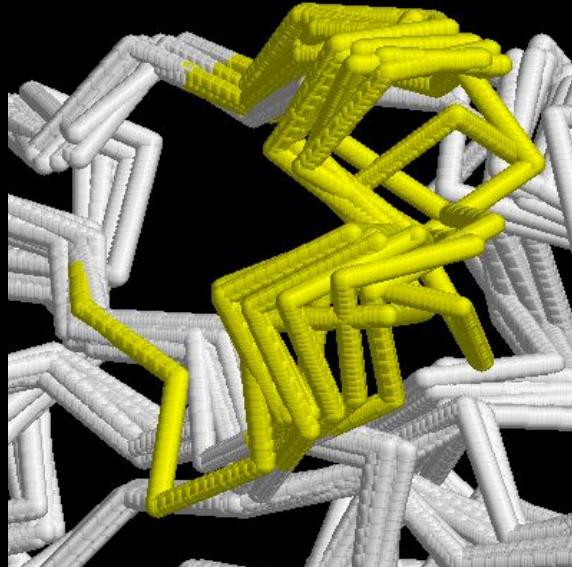
DRB1*03_01 DRB1*14_02 DRB1*04_01 DRB1*15_01 DRB1*01_01 DPB1*02_01 DQB1*06_02 DQB1*05_02 DQB1*03_02 DQB1*02_01	DAEYWNSQKDLLEQKGRGRVDNYCRHNYGVVESFTVQRRVHPKVTVYPS KTQPLQHHH NLLV DAEYWNSQKDLLEQRRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVHPKVTVYPS KTQPLQHHH NLLV DAEYWNSQKDLLEQKRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVYPEVTVYPA KTQPLQHHH NLLV DAEYWNSQKDILEQARAAVDTYCRHNYGVVESFTVQRRVQPKVTVYPS KTQPLQHHH NLLV DAEYWNSQKDLLEQRRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPS KTQPLQHHH NLLV DEEYWNSQKDILEEERAVPDRMCRHNYLEGGPMTLQRRVQPRVNVS PSKKG-----H NLLV DAEYWNSQKEVLEGTRAELDTVCRHNYEVAFRGILQRRVEPTVTISPS ----- NLLV VAEYWNSQKEVLEGARASVDRVCRHNYEVAYRGILQRRVEPTVTISPS ----- NLLI AAEYWNSQKEVLERTRAELDTVCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISP ----- LLV AAEYWNSQKDILERKRAAVDRVCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISPS R----- NLLV *****: : * * . * * * * : : * * * * . * : * * : *
1jk8 (DQ8)	AAEYWNSQKEVLERTRAELDTVCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISPS RTEALNH NLLV



A-B loop

β_{10} Helix

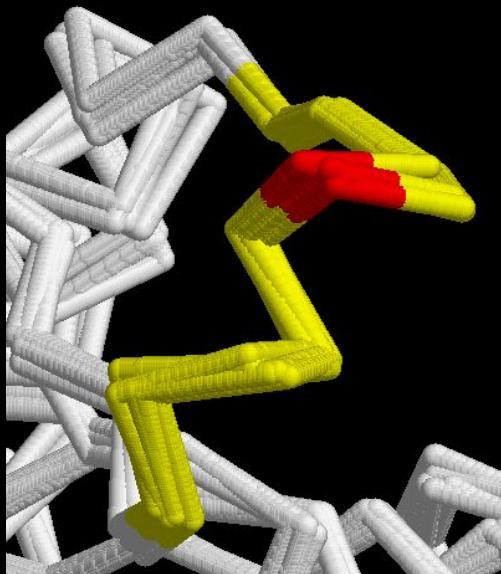
- From $\alpha 45$ to $\alpha 51$
- 3 residues/turn
- Hydrogen bonds between i and $i+3$ residues



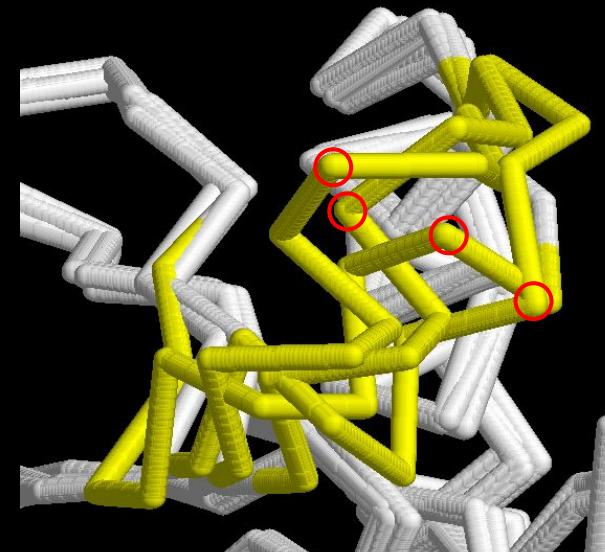
β_{10} Helix

HLA-II DQ proteins show a higher deviation at the β_{10} helix

HLA-DR

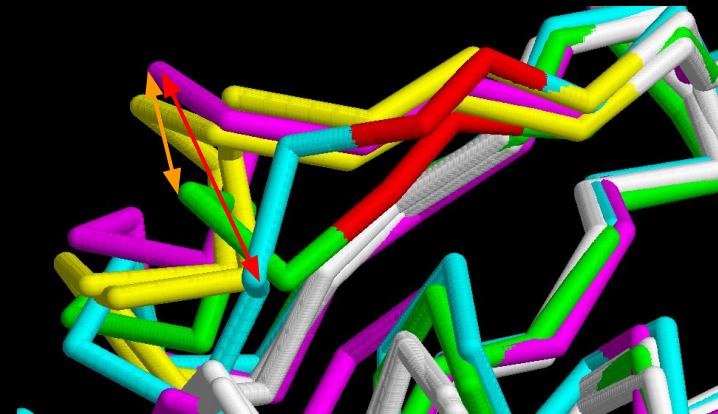
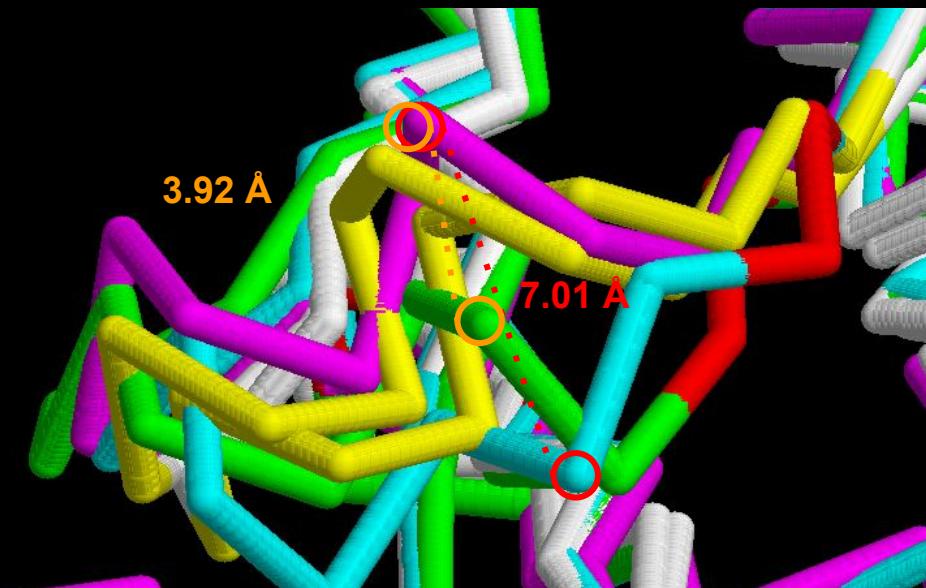
residue $\alpha 50$

HLA-DQ



β_{10} Helix

Glycines on positions α 52 and α 53 increase structural lability of the β_{10} helix



3₁₀ Helix

Sequence alignment

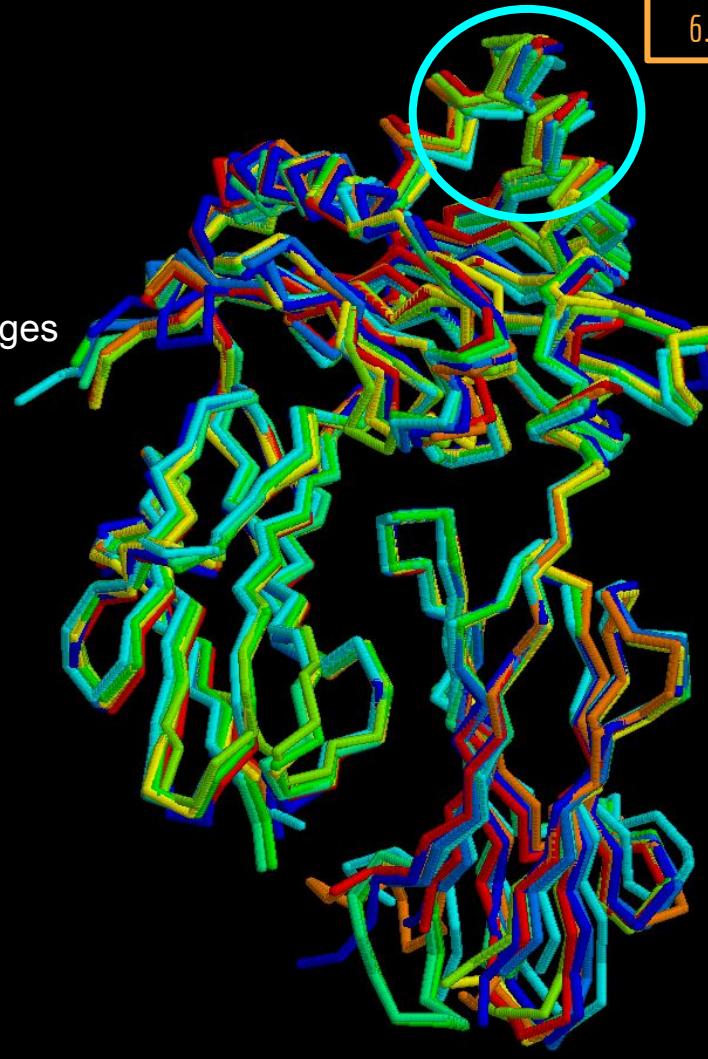
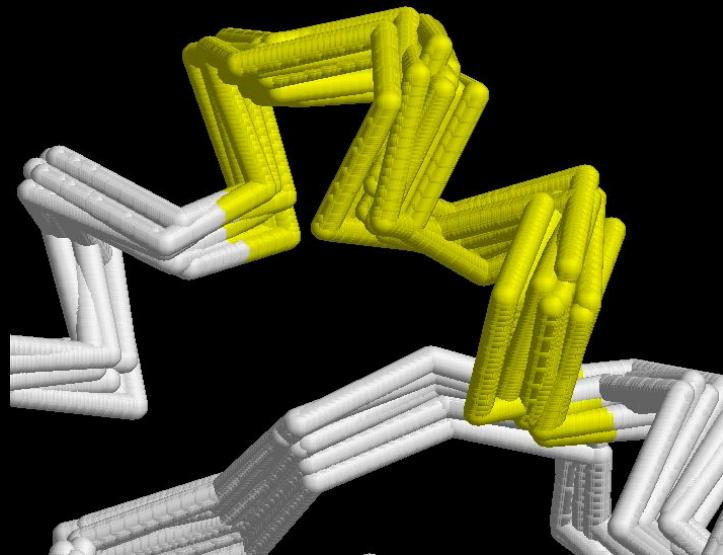
1UVQ →
3PL6 →

DRB1*03_01
DRB1*14_02
DRB1*04_01
DRB1*15_01
DRB1*01_01
DPB1*02_01
DQB1*06_02
DQBI*05_02
DQB1*03_02
DQB1*02_01

Glycines on positions α 52 and α 53 increase affinity with HLA-DM proteins

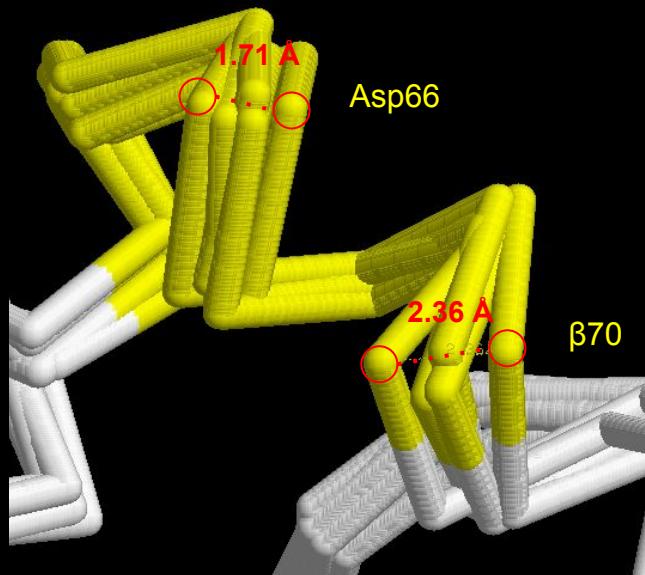
β 1-Helical Kink

- From β 62 to β 70
- Involved in peptide-induced conformational changes
- Interacts with TCR

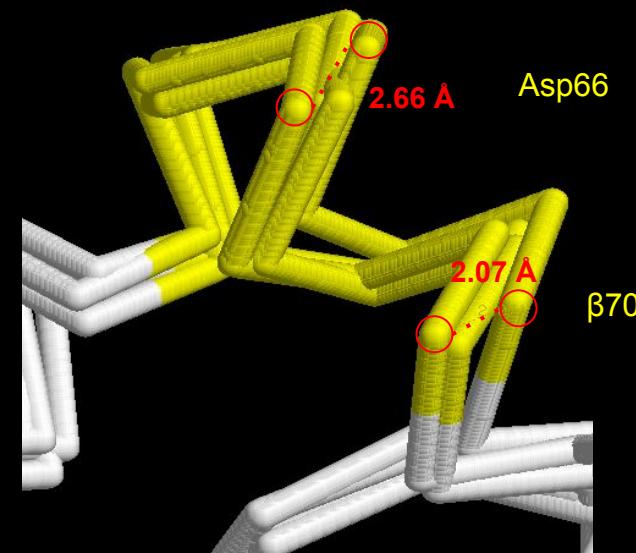


β 1-Helical Kink

HLA-DR



HLA-DQ



β1-Helical Kink

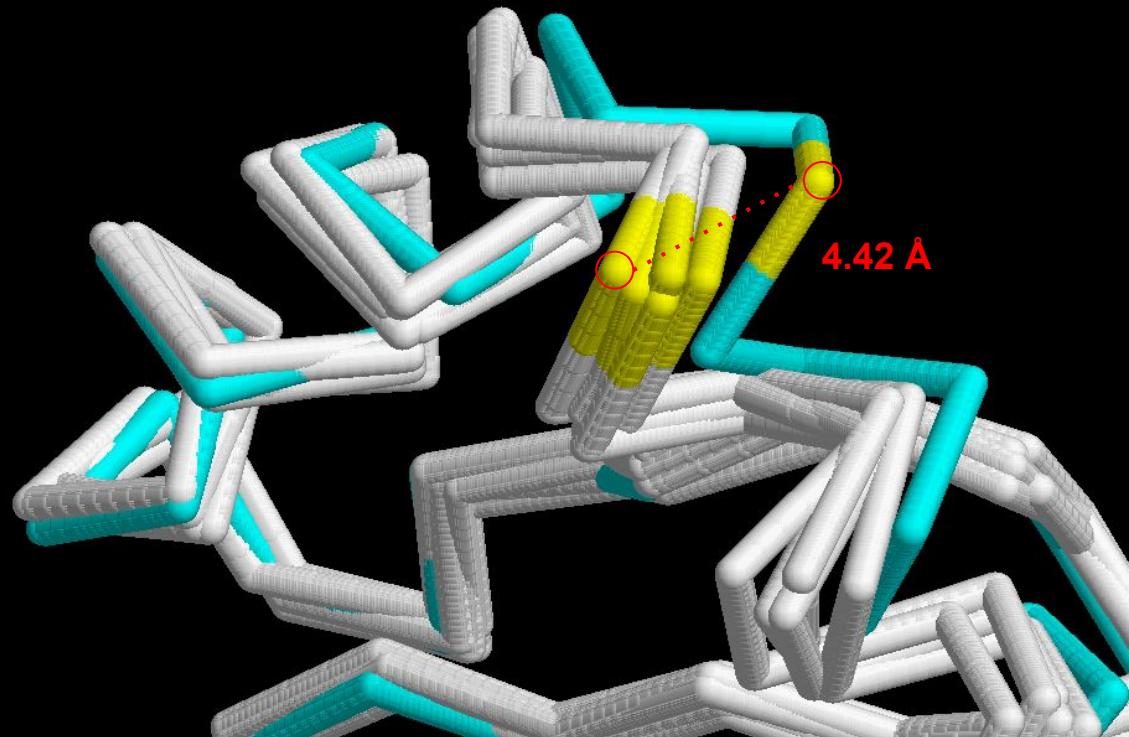
Sequence alignment

DRB1*03_01	DAEYW	NSQKDLLEQ	KRGRVDNYCRHNYGVVESFTVQRRVHPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLV
DRB1*14_02	DAEYW	NSQKDLLEQ	RRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVHPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLV
DRB1*04_01	DAEYW	NSQKDLLEQ	KRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVYPEVTVYPAKTQPLQHHNLLV
DRB1*15_01	DAEYW	NSQKDILEQ	ARAAVDTYCRHNYGVVESFTVQRRVQPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLV
DRB1*01_01	DAEYW	NSQKDLLEQ	RRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHHNLLV
DPB1*02_01	DEEYW	NSQKDILEE	RAVPDRMCRHNYELGGPMTLQRRVQPRVNVSPSKKG----HNLLV
DQB1*06_02	DAEYW	NSQKEVLEG	TRAELDTVCRHNYEVAFRGILQRRVEPTVTISPS-----NLLV
DQBI*05_02	VAEYW	NSQKEVLEG	ARASVDRVCRHNYEVAYRGILQRRVEPTVTISPS-----NLLI
DQB1*03_02	AAEYW	NSQKEVLER	TRAELDTVCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISP-----LLV
DQB1*02_01	AAEYW	NSQKDILER	KRAAVDRVCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISPSR-----NLLV
	*****	:**	*. * * ***** : :***** * *. : * * *:

β 1-Helical Kink

- The β 1-helical kink changes its conformation in response to interactions with TCR
- There's a higher desviation at Asp66

1ZGL: Bound to TCR



7. CLASSICAL HLA II

VS.

NON-CLASSICAL HLA II

Classical and Non-classical HLA II

Classical HLA II

- **DR**
- **DP**
- **DQ**
- Highly polymorphic
- Peptide-binding

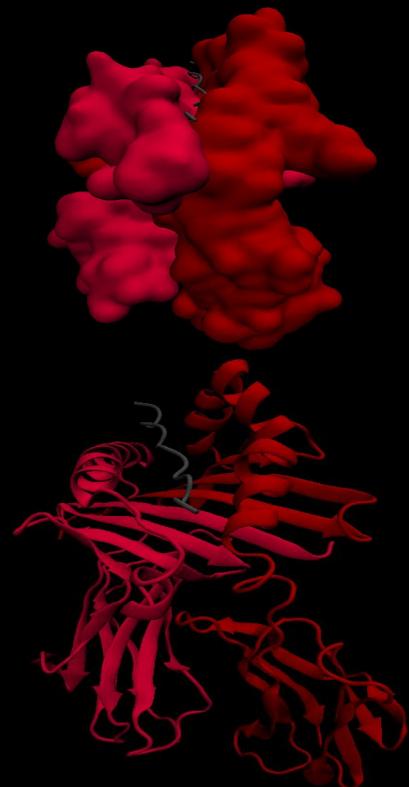
Non-Classical HLA II

- **DM** → regulation of peptide exchange in HLA II molecules
- **DO** → inhibit DM-mediated catalysis of peptide exchange
- Non- polymorphic
- Non-peptide binding

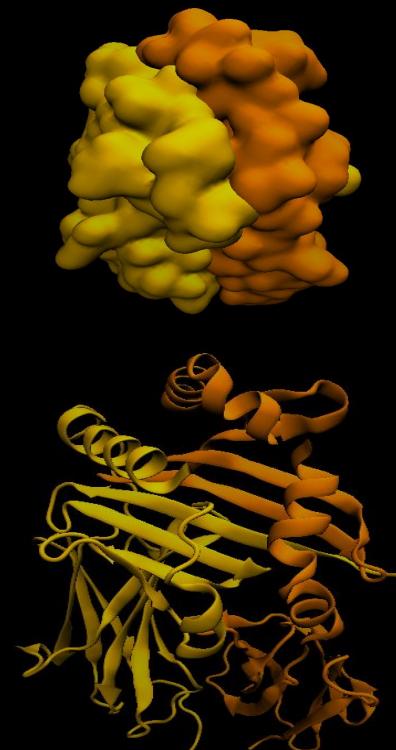
Structural comparison

Classical

HLA- DR1

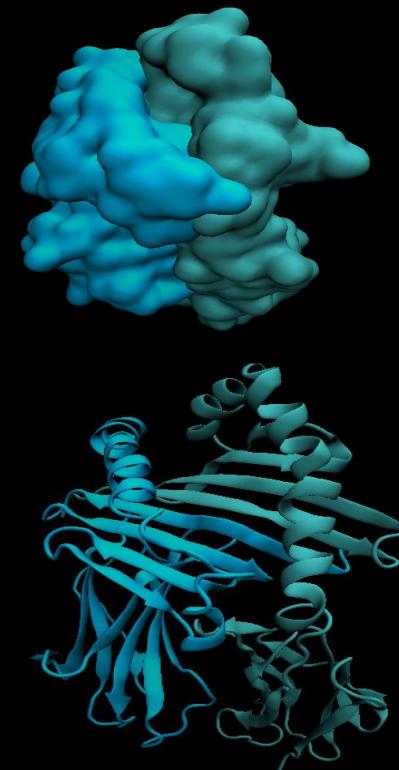


HLA- DM



Non-classical

HLA- DO



Binding groove comparison

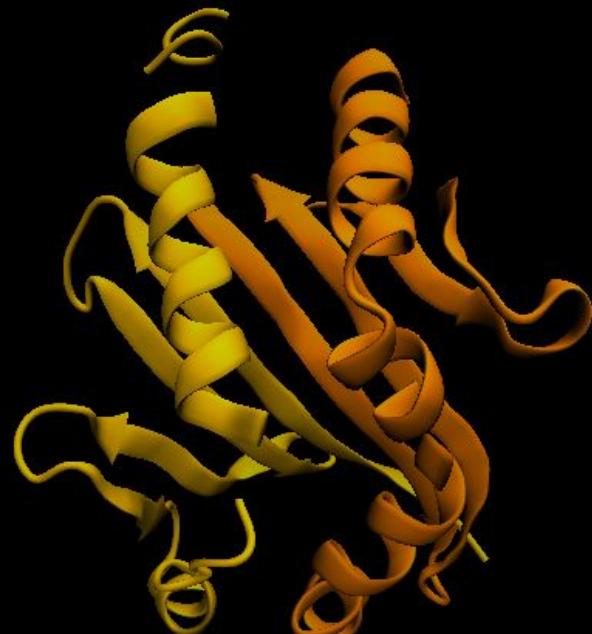
Classical



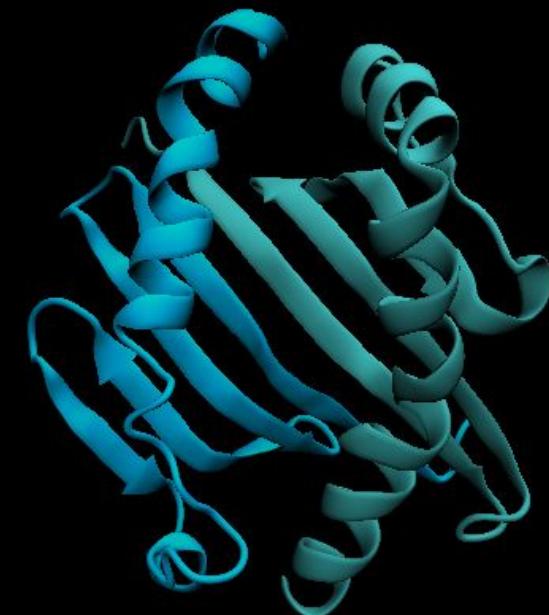
HLA- DR1

Non-classical

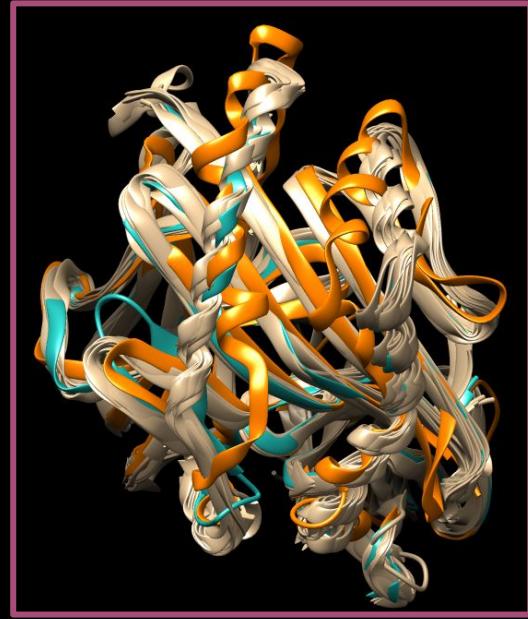
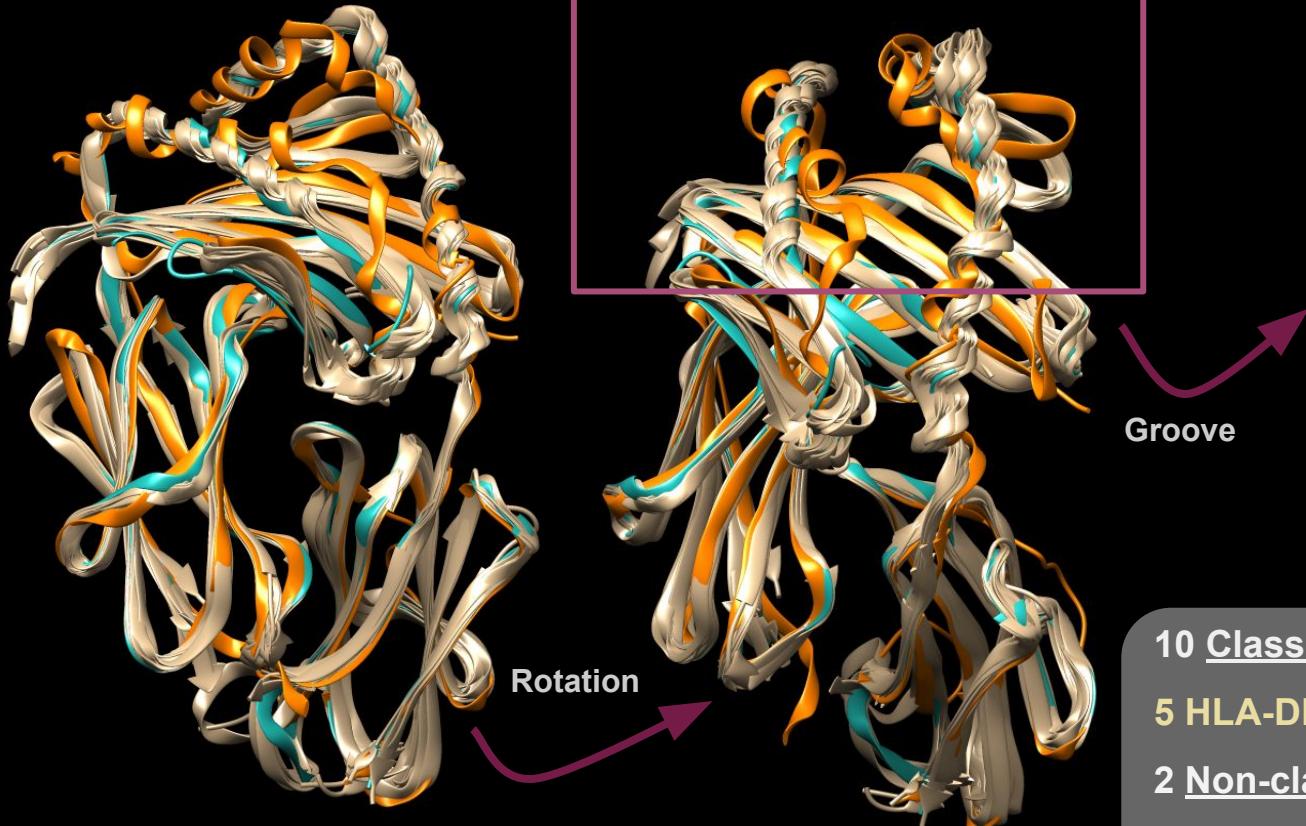
HLA- DM



HLA- DO



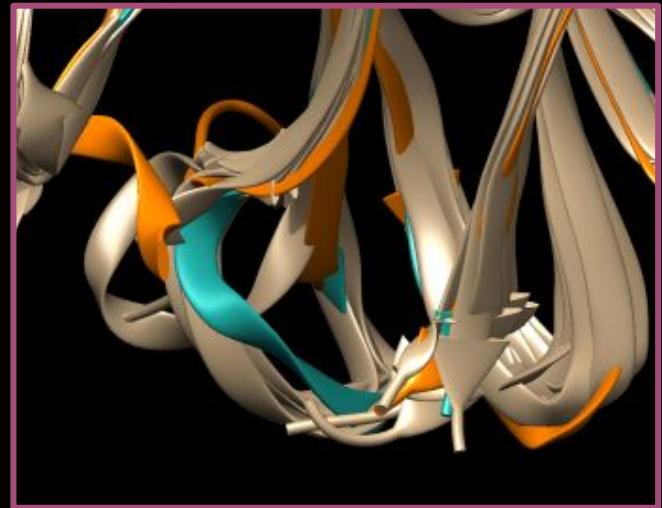
Superimposition



10 Classical HLA II : 4 HLA-DQ +
5 HLA-DR + 1 HLA-DP
2 Non-classical HLA II : 1 HLA -DM +
1 HLA - DO

Sc 8.41 RMSD 1.73 → Generally sharing same structure

$\beta 2$ Ig-like Domain



10 Classical HLA II : 4 HLA-DQ +

5 HLA-DR + 1 HLA-DP

2 Non-classical HLA II : 1 HLA -DM

+ 1 HLA - DO

β2 Ig-like Domain



β2 Ig-like Domain sequence is not conserved in DM either in DO

β2 Ig-like Domain sequence has highly heterogeneity between different subtypes of HLA

β 1-Helical Kink



10 Classical HLA II : 4 HLA-DQ +

5 HLA-DR + 1 HLA-DP

2 Non-classical HLA II : 1 HLA -DM

+ 1 HLA - DO

β1-Helical Kink



β1-Helical Kink sequence is mainly conserved in Classical HLA II

β1-Helical Kink sequence is mainly different in DM and DO

However, sequence differs more in DM than in DO in comparison to Classical HLA II

β_{10} Helix

10 Classical HLA II : 4 HLA-DQ +
5 HLA-DR + 1 HLA-DP
2 Non-classical HLA II : **1 HLA -DM**
+ **1 HLA - DO**

3₁₀ Helix

3₁₀ Helix sequence is not conserved in classical HLA II molecules
3₁₀ Helix sequence is either conserved in non-classical HLA molecules
However, sequence differs more in DM than in DO in comparison to
classical HLA II

General Conclusions

- The HLA-II binding groove is wider than in HLA-I.
- HLA-II present a typical pattern of hydrophobic pockets and a conserved hydrogen bond network.
- The beta 2 Ig-like domain is one of the most labile regions in HLA-II.
- Glycines at the $\alpha 52$ and $\alpha 53$ positions may confer structural lability in the 3-10 helix region, allowing multiple conformers to be adopted, and may increase affinity with the HLA-DM.
- The first helical kink at the alpha helix from beta 1 domain is involved in conformational changes related to antigenic peptide binding and TCR interactions.
- HLA-DM structure differs more in structure and sequence than HLA-DO in comparison to classical HLA II.
- HLA-DM has a closed-up binding groove.
- Classical HLA-II and non-classical HLA-II seem to be paralogs.

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PEM Questions

1. The MHC complex is a family of genes that is found in all vertebrates. In humans, this complex is called:
 - a) Human labile complex (HLC)
 - b) Human leukocytic antigen (HLA)**
 - c) Human leukocytic complex (HLC)
 - d) Human labile antigen (HLA)
 - e) Human long region (HLR)
2. The main difference between HLA-I and HLA-II molecules is:
 - a) HLA-I is expressed in macrophages and HLA-II in nucleated cells.
 - b) HLA-I presents peptides to CD4+ T cells and HLA-II to CD8+ T cells.
 - c) HLA-I is expressed in all nucleated cells and HLA-II in antigen presenting cells.**
 - d) HLA-I and HLA-II are expressed in the same cells.
 - e) HLA-I and HLA-II are expressed in all cell types.
3. Which of the following regions show structural variability in classical MHC II proteins?
 - a) The β 2 Ig-like domain
 - b) The 3-10 helix
 - c) a and b
 - d) the β 1 helical kink
 - e) All of the above**
4. Which classical HLA II proteins show more variability in the 3-10 helix?
 - a) HLA-DR
 - b) HLA-DQ**
 - c) a and b
 - d) HLA-DP
 - e) All of the above

PEM Questions

5. Which secondary structure forms the groove of a HLA II protein?
 - a) 8-antiparallel beta strand bordered by two alpha helices
 - b) 4-antiparallel beta strand bordered by four alpha helices
 - c) beta barrel
 - d) 8 alpha helices
 - e) 8 antiparallel beta strand
6. Which of the following statement is true about classical and non-classical HLA II molecules?
 - a) DR, DO and DM are the three types of non-classical HLA II molecules
 - b) DO and DM are types of classical HLA II molecules
 - c) Between DO and DM the most similar to DR is DO
 - d) Between DO and DM the more similar to DR is DM
 - e) DO and DM share the same sequence.
7. Which pockets are typically presented in HLA-II proteins?
 - a) Pocket 1, pocket 2, pocket 3, pocket 4 and pocket 5
 - b) Pocket 1, pocket 4, pocket 6, pocket 7 and pocket 9
 - c) Only pocket 1
 - d) They are different for each serotype
 - e) As many pockets as residues the peptide bound has
8. Which type of interactions are established between the peptide and the HLA-II protein?
 - a) Salt bridges
 - b) Hydrogen bonds
 - c) Hydrophobic interactions
 - d) Salt bridges and Hydrogen bonds
 - e) Hydrophobic interactions and Hydrogen bonds
9. Classical and non-classical HLA proteins:
 - a) Have different functions
 - b) Have similar structure
 - c) Have different functions and similar structures
 - d) Have the same function
 - e) Have the same functions and different structures
10. In HLA II, which of the following domains interacts with TCR?
 - a) The $\beta 2$ Ig-like domain
 - b) The 3-10 helix
 - c) The $\beta 1$ helical kink
 - d) All of the above
 - e) None of the above

MHC

STRUCTURE ANALYSIS OF THE MAJOR HISTOCOMPATIBILITY COMPLEX

Laura Cañadas, Clàudia Garcia, Laia Joval i Ariadna Pinar

