

MHC

STRUCTURE ANALYSIS OF THE MAJOR HISTOCOMPATIBILITY COMPLEX

Laura Cañadas, Clàudia Garcia, Laia Joval and Ariadna Pinar



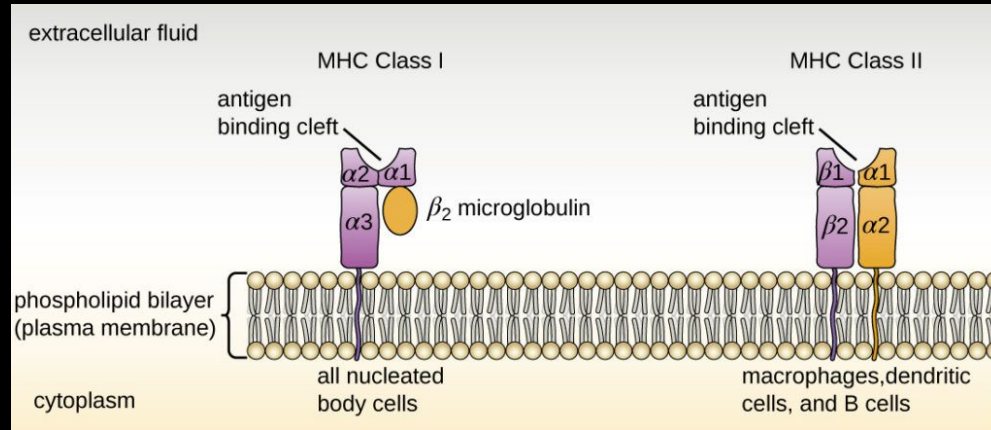
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1. Introduction
2. HLA I structure
3. HLA II structure
4. Binding groove: HLA I vs. HLA II
5. Peptide binding: HLA II
6. Labile regions: HLA II
7. Non-classical vs Classical HLA II
8. General conclusions

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



Courses.lumenlearning.com. (2018). *Major Histocompatibility Complexes and Antigen-Presenting Cells* | Microbiology. [online]

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

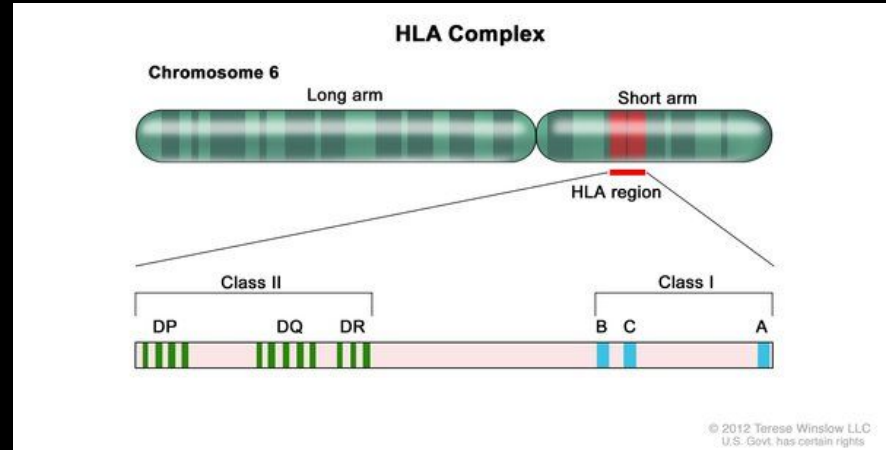
Lineage:

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]

Scop.mrc-lmb.cam.ac.uk. (2018). *SCOP: Structural Classification of Proteins*. [online] Available at: <http://scop.mrc-lmb.cam.ac.uk/scop/> [Accessed 24 Feb. 2018].

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

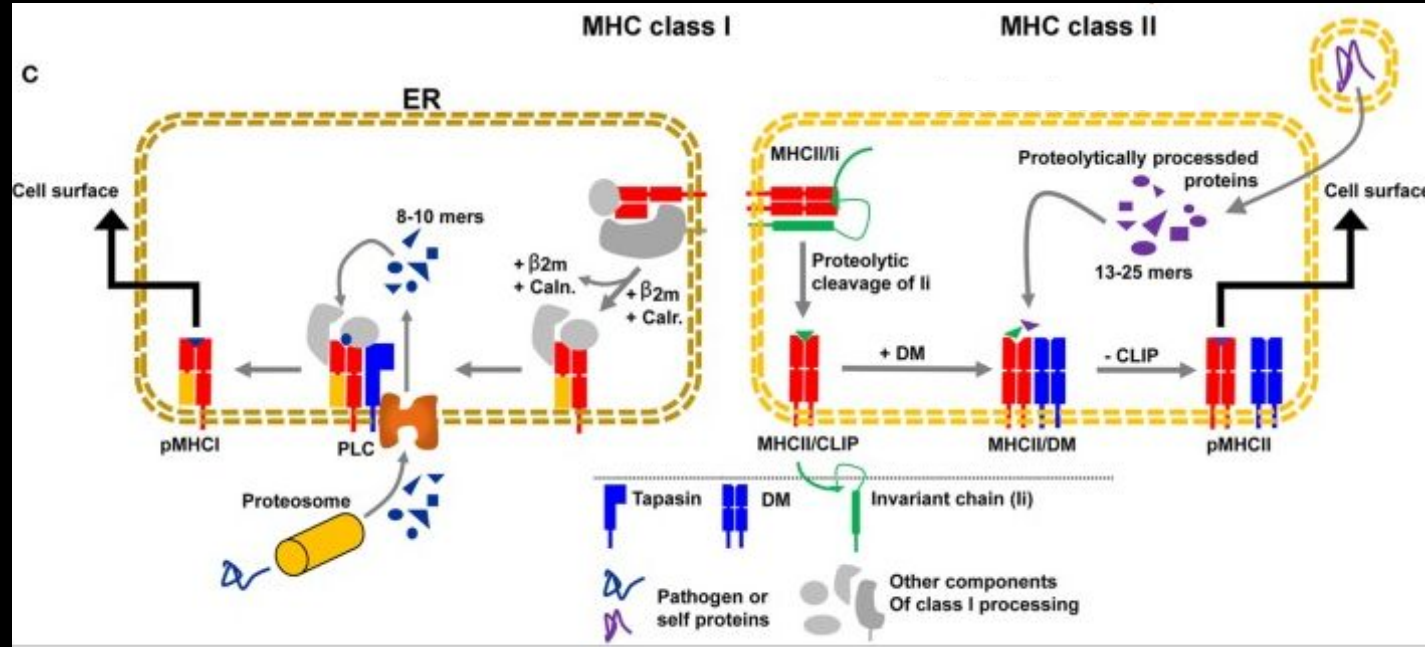
- ❑ Expressed in all nucleated cells
- ❑ Interacts with cytotoxic T cells (CD8+)
- ❑ Presents inner antigens

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

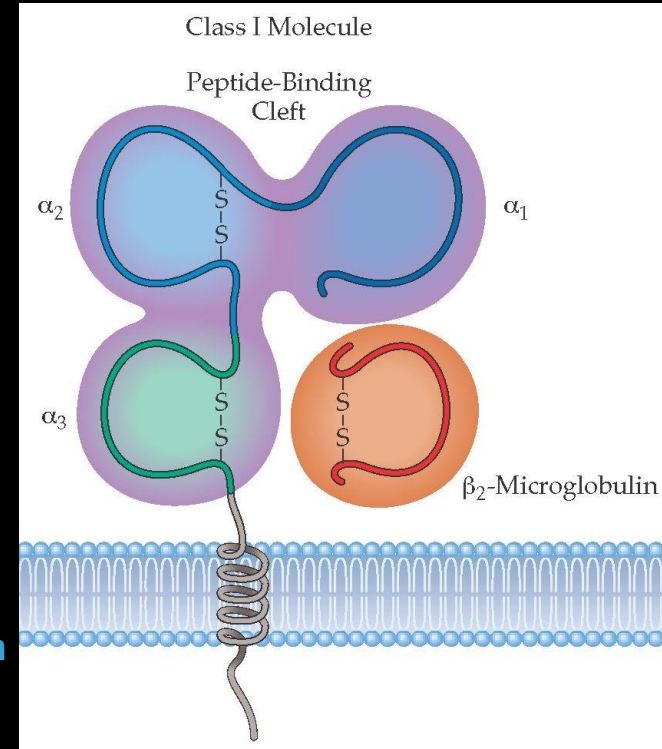
Antigen processing + antigen presentation:



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.

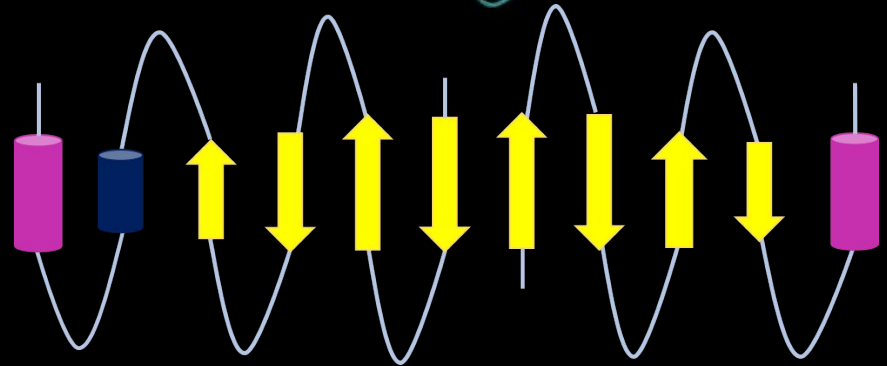
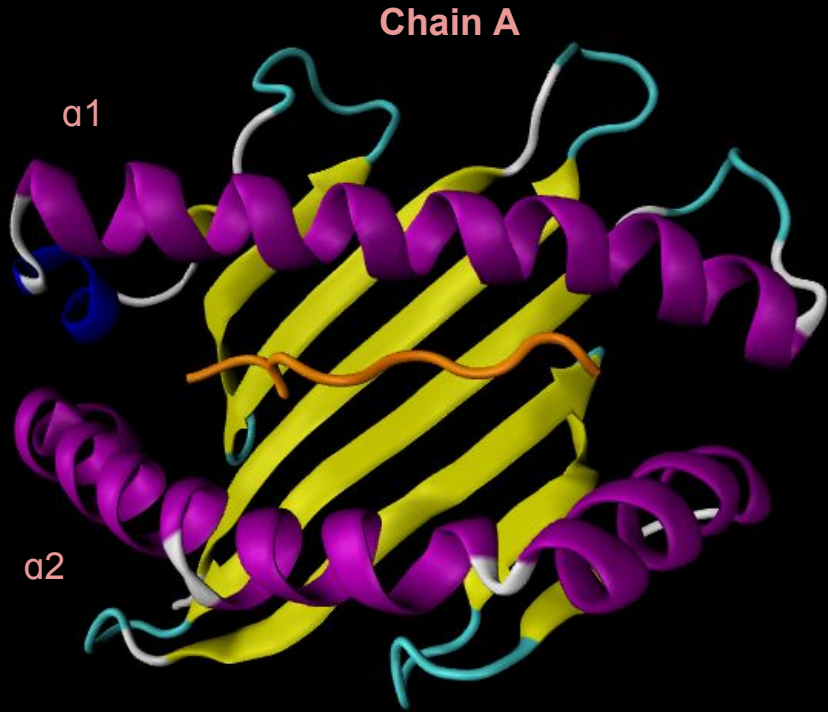
2. HLA I STRUCTURE

HLA I - Structure

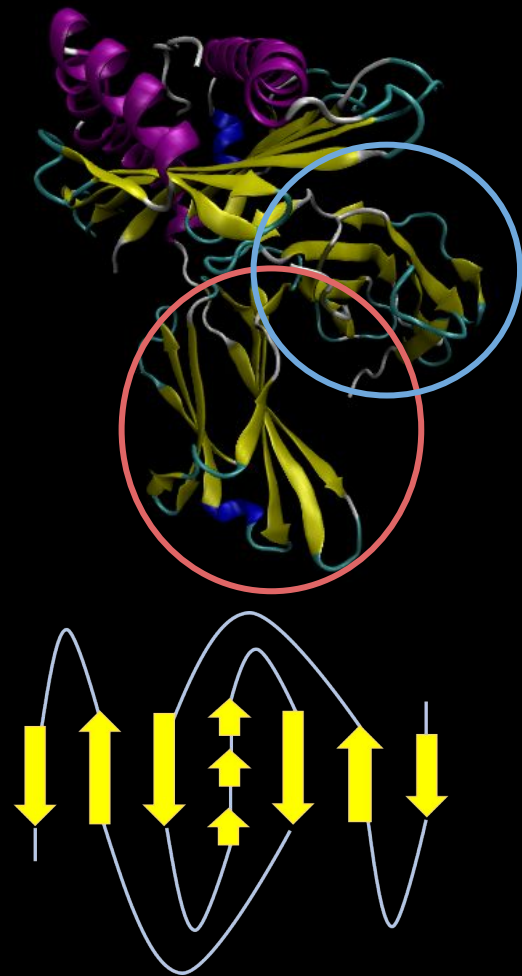
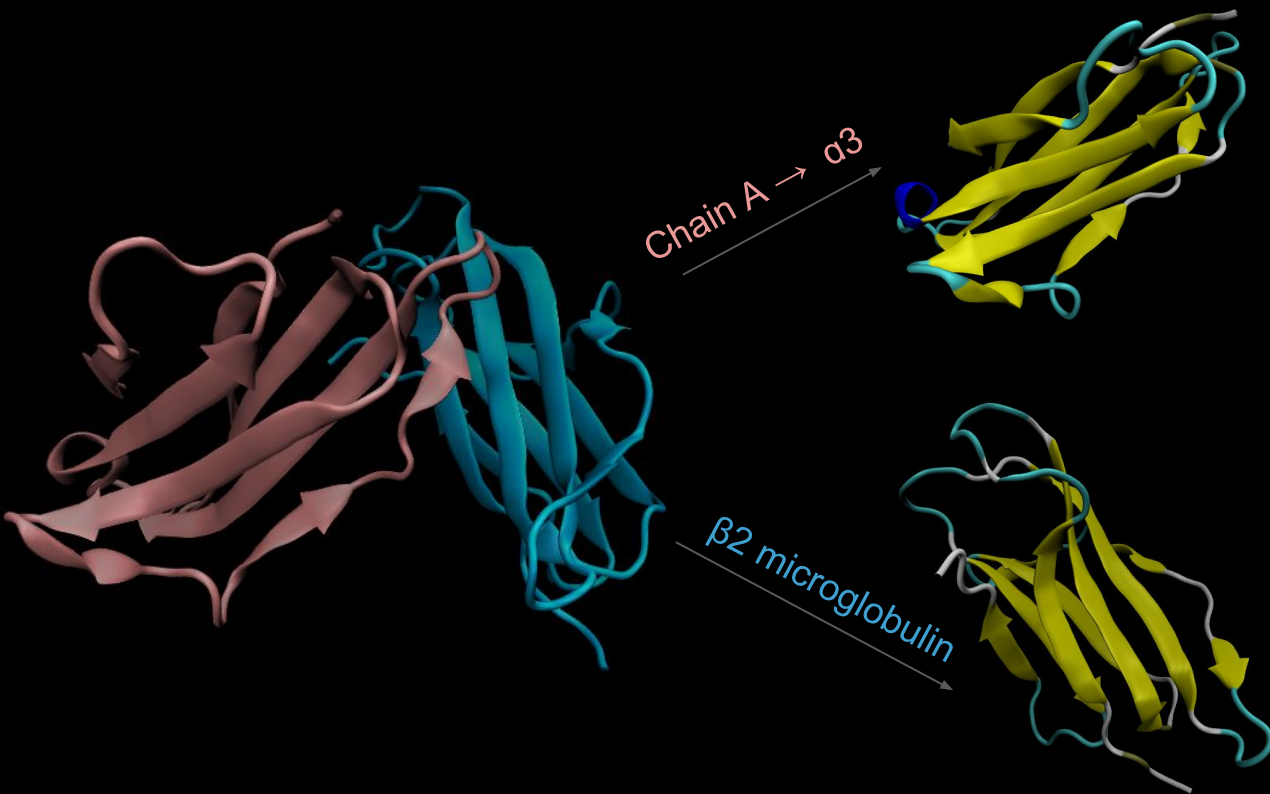


Acharya, T. (2018). *Difference between MHC Class I and MHC Class II Proteins* - microbeonline. [online] microbeonline. Available at: <https://microbeonline.com/difference-mhc-class-mhc-class-ii-proteins/> [Accessed 25 Feb. 2018].

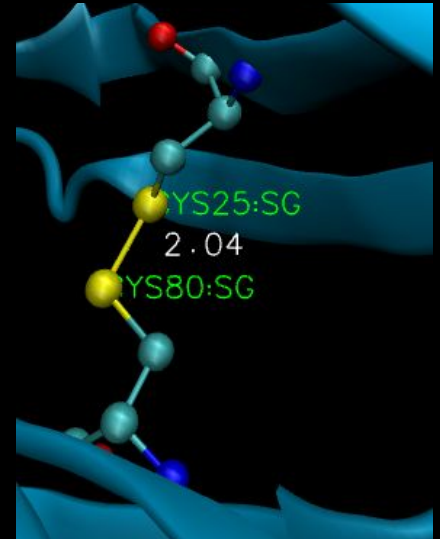
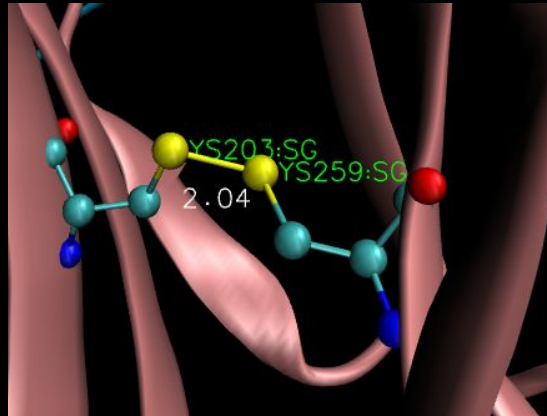
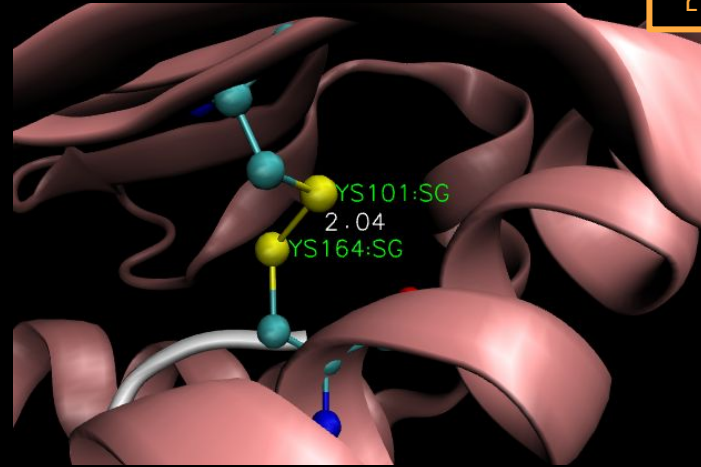
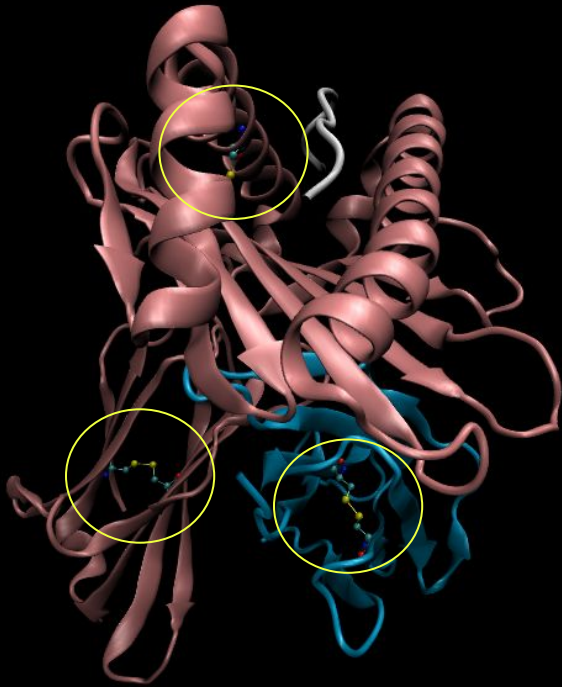
HLA I - Binding Groove



HLA I - Ig-like domains

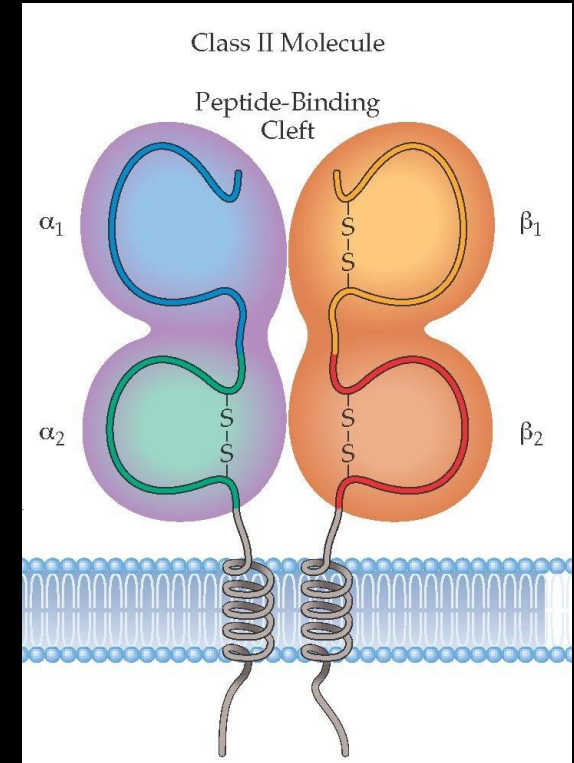
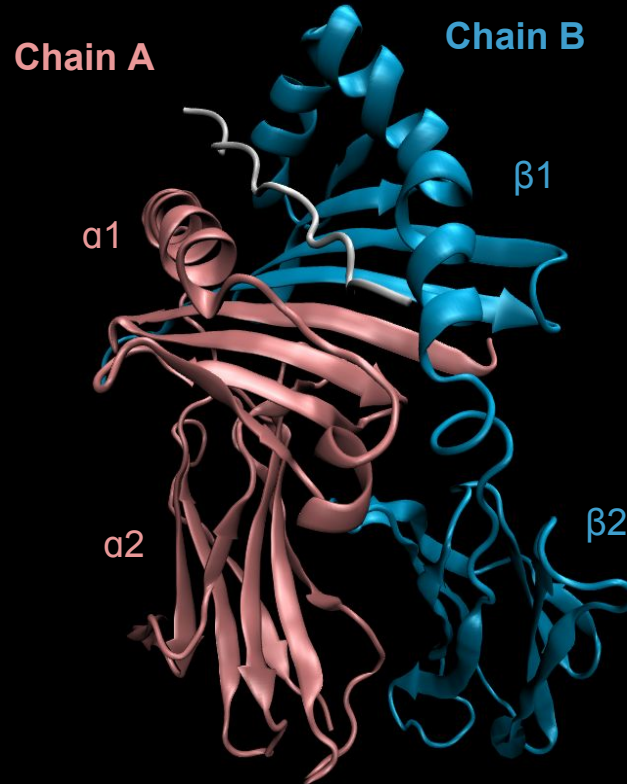


HLA I - Disulfide bridges



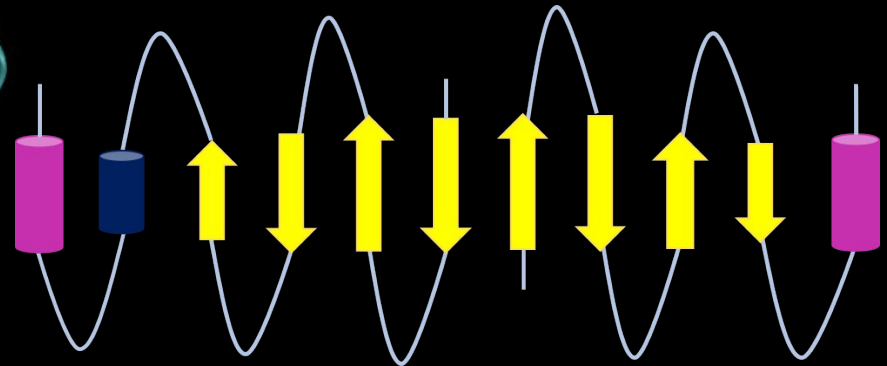
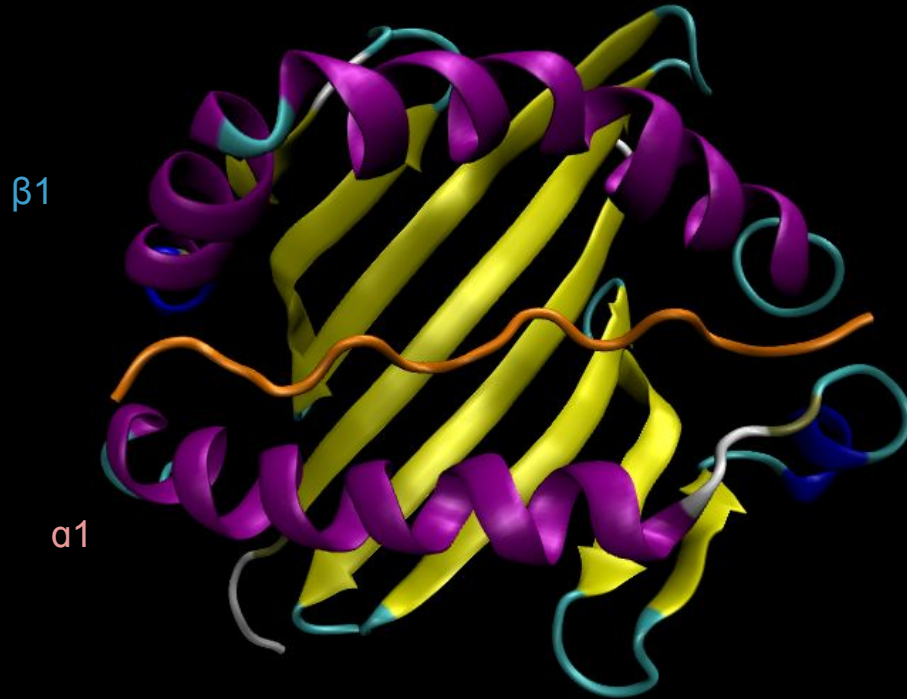
3. HLA II STRUCTURE

HLA II - Structure

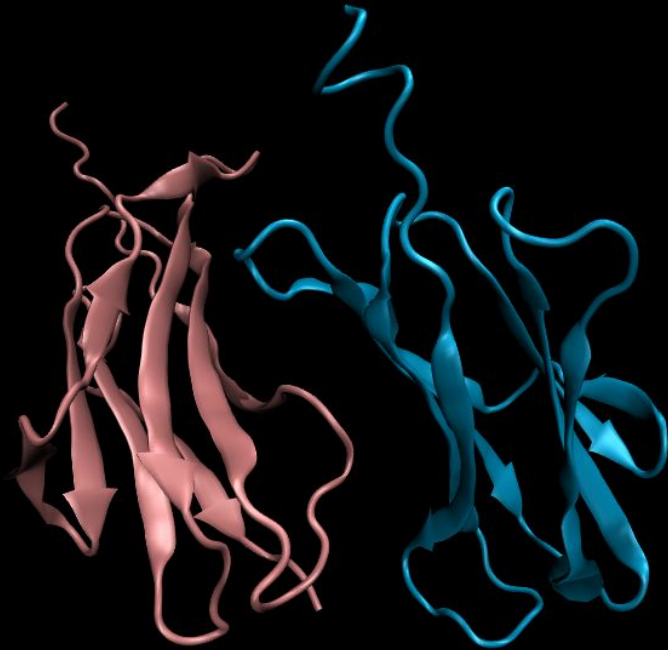


Acharya, T. (2018). *Difference between MHC Class I and MHC Class II Proteins* - microbeonline. [online] microbeonline. Available at: <https://microbeonline.com/difference-mhc-class-mhc-class-ii-proteins/> [Accessed 25 Feb. 2018].

HLA II - Binding Groove



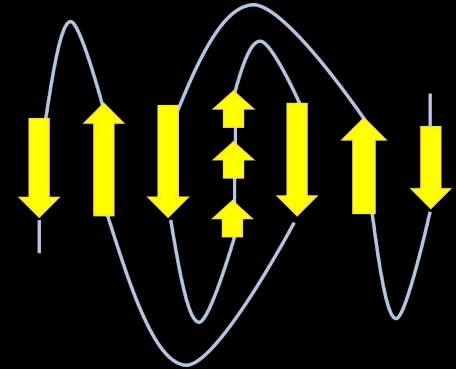
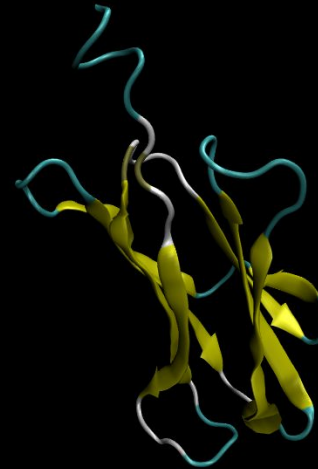
HLA II - Ig-like domains



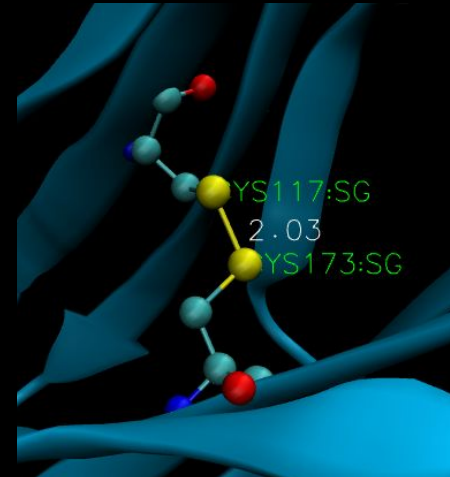
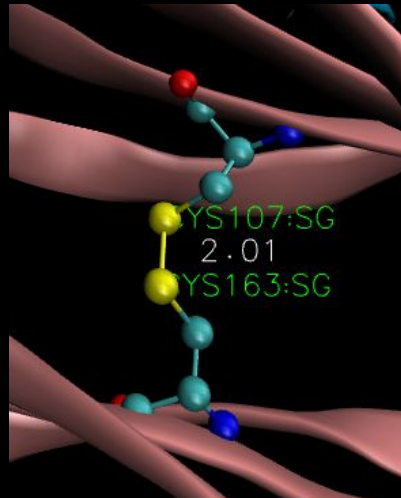
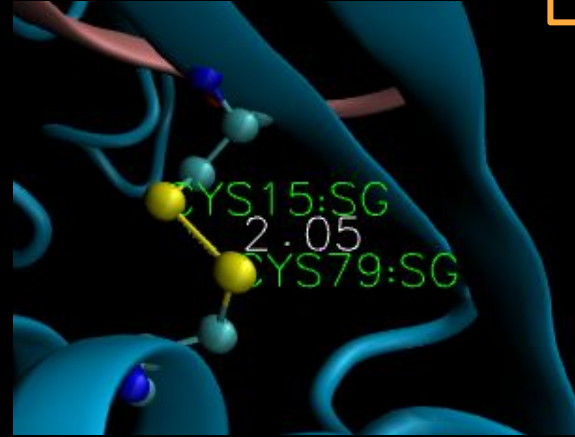
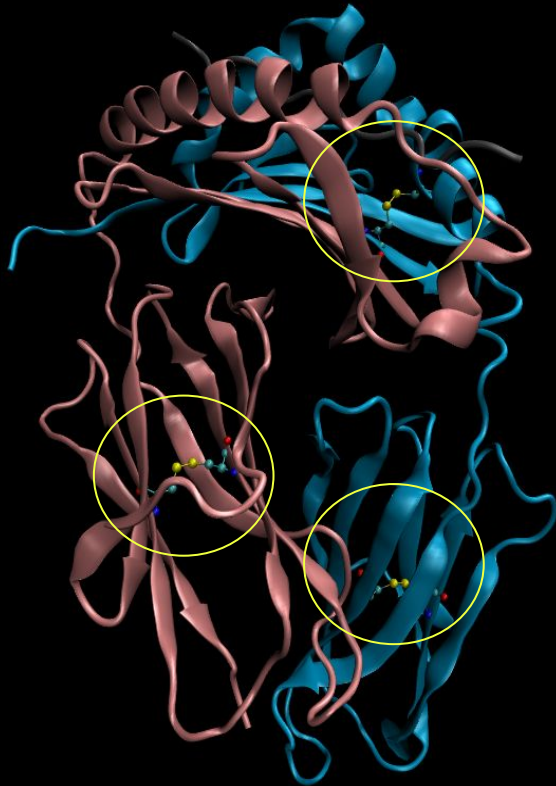
Chain A $\rightarrow \alpha 2$



Chain B $\rightarrow \beta 2$



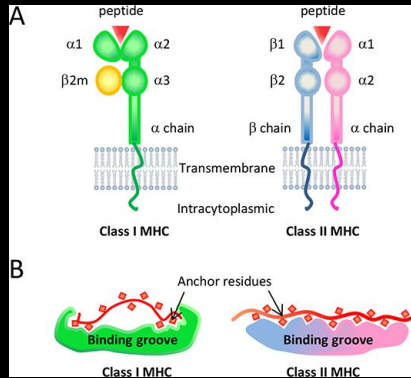
HLA II - Disulfide bridges



4. BINDING GROOVE

Binding groove: HLA I vs HLA II

4. BINDING GROOVE

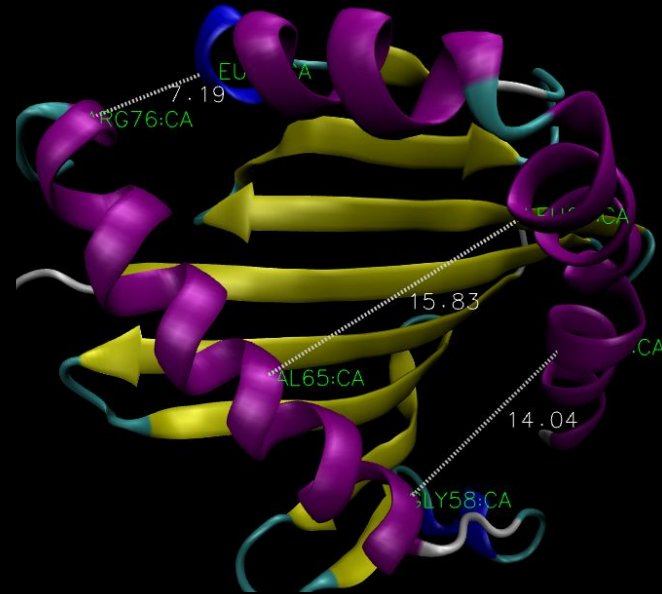
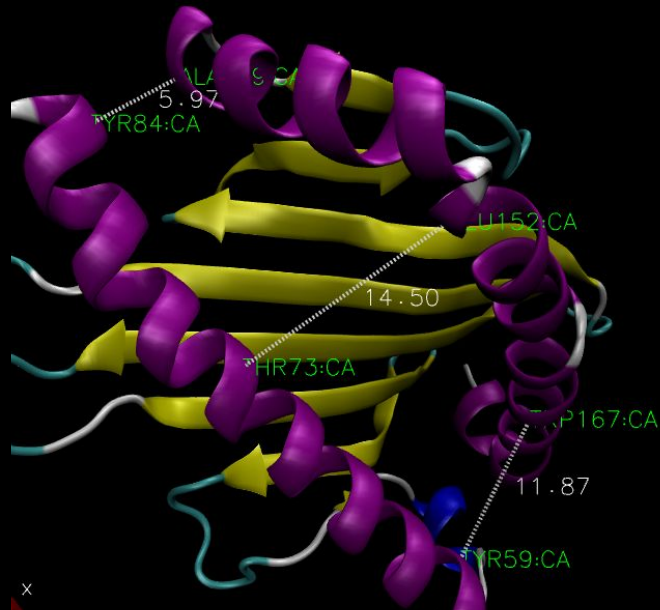


Gutiérrez, S., Esteban, E., Lützelshwab, C. and Juliarena, M. (2017). Major Histocompatibility Complex-Associated Resistance to Infectious Diseases: The Case of Bovine Leukemia Virus Infection. *Trends and Advances in Veterinary Genetics*.

	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

4. BINDING GROOVE



Binding groove: Superimposition

4. BINDING GROOVE



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

5. PEPTIDE BINDING: HLA II

Hydrophobic pockets

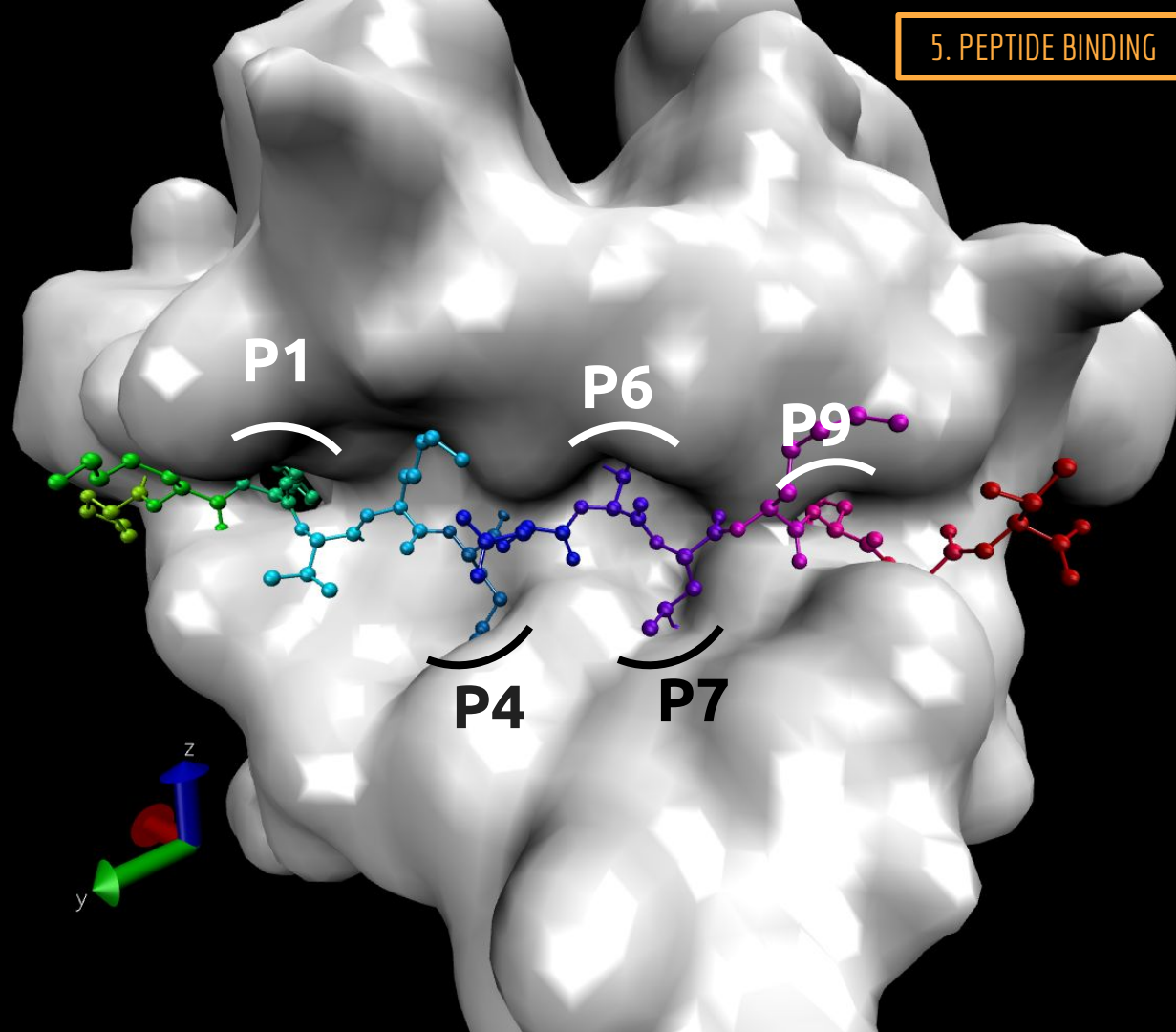
HLA-DR1(DRA, DRB1*0101)

Pdb id: 1dlh

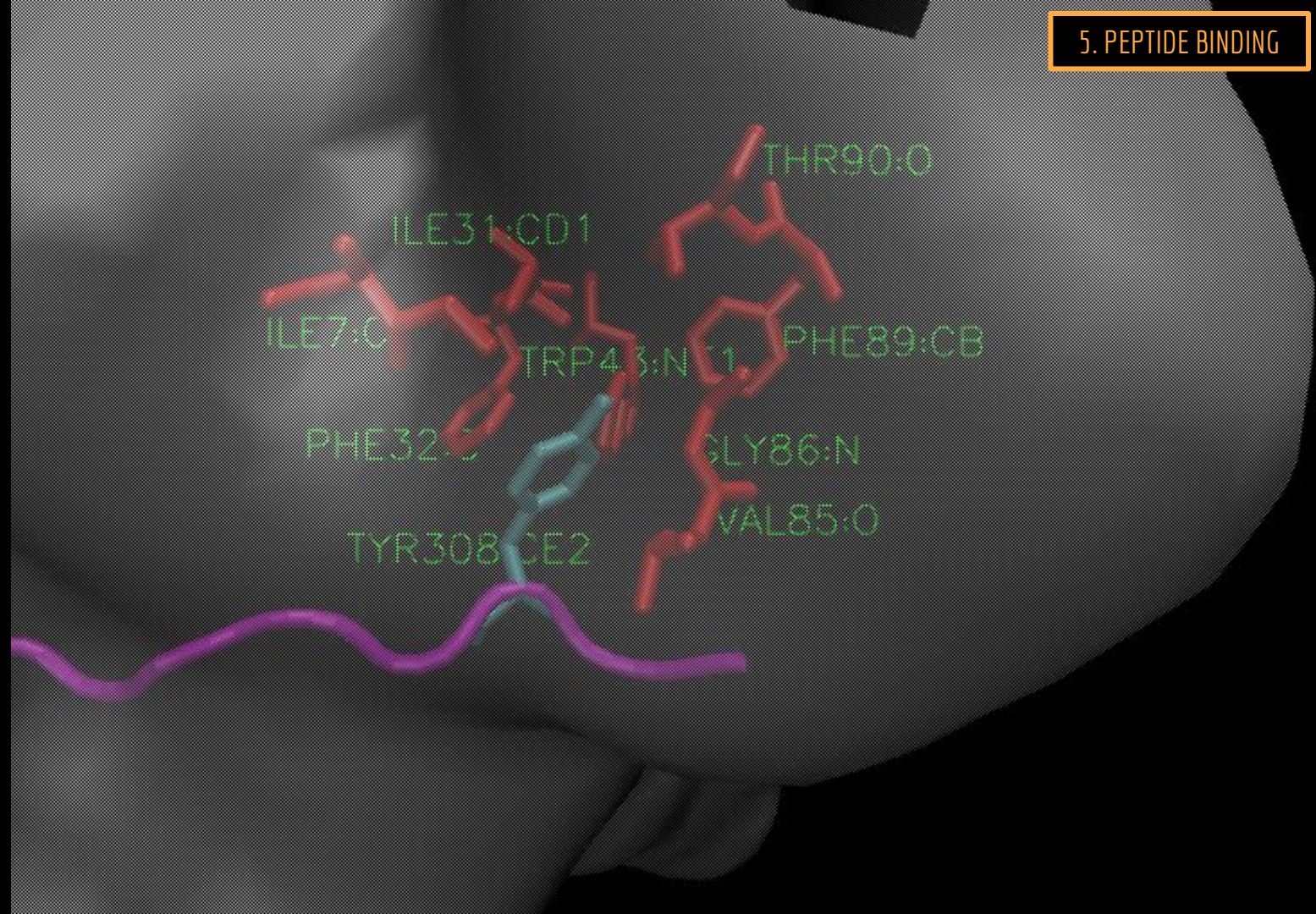
Influenza Virus

Haemagglutinin Peptide

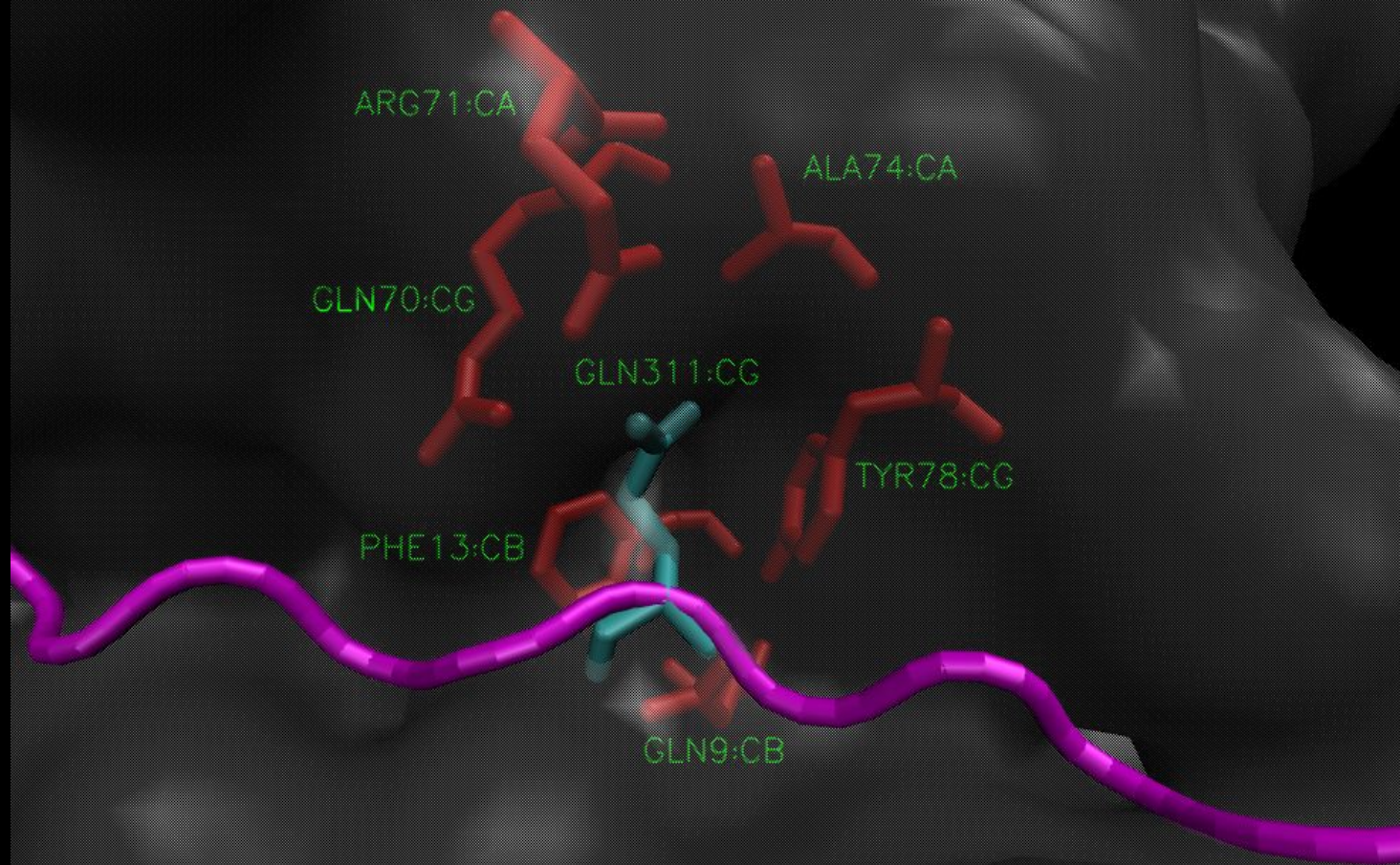
(residues 306-318:
PKYVKQNTLKLAT)



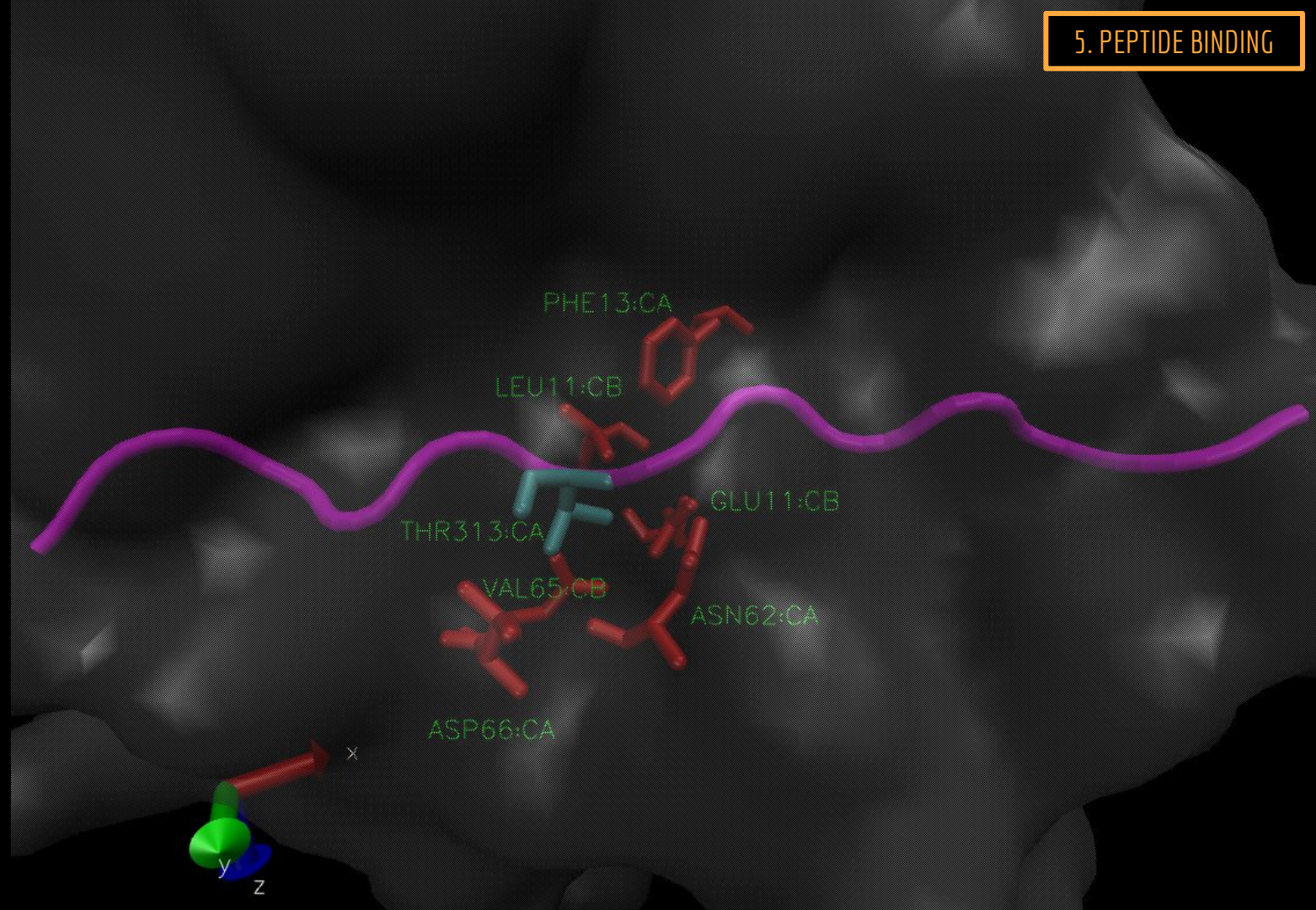
POCKET 1



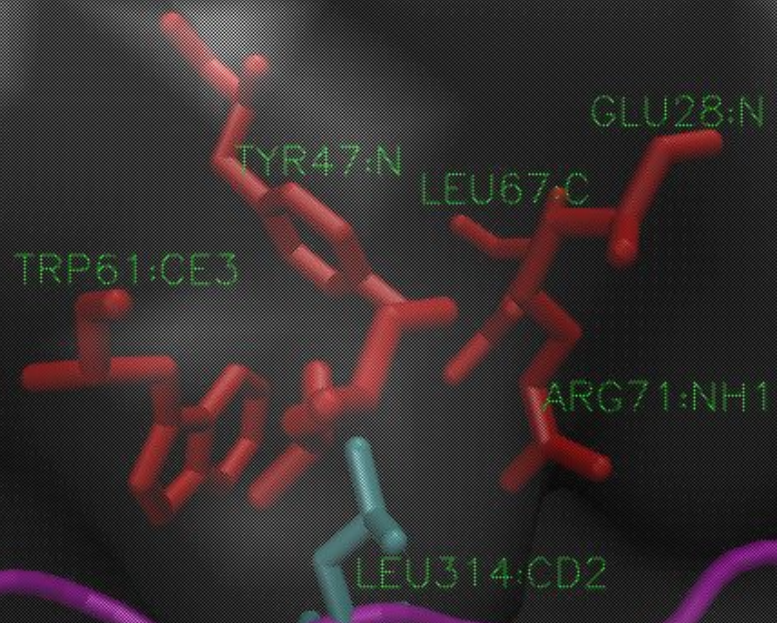
POCKET 4



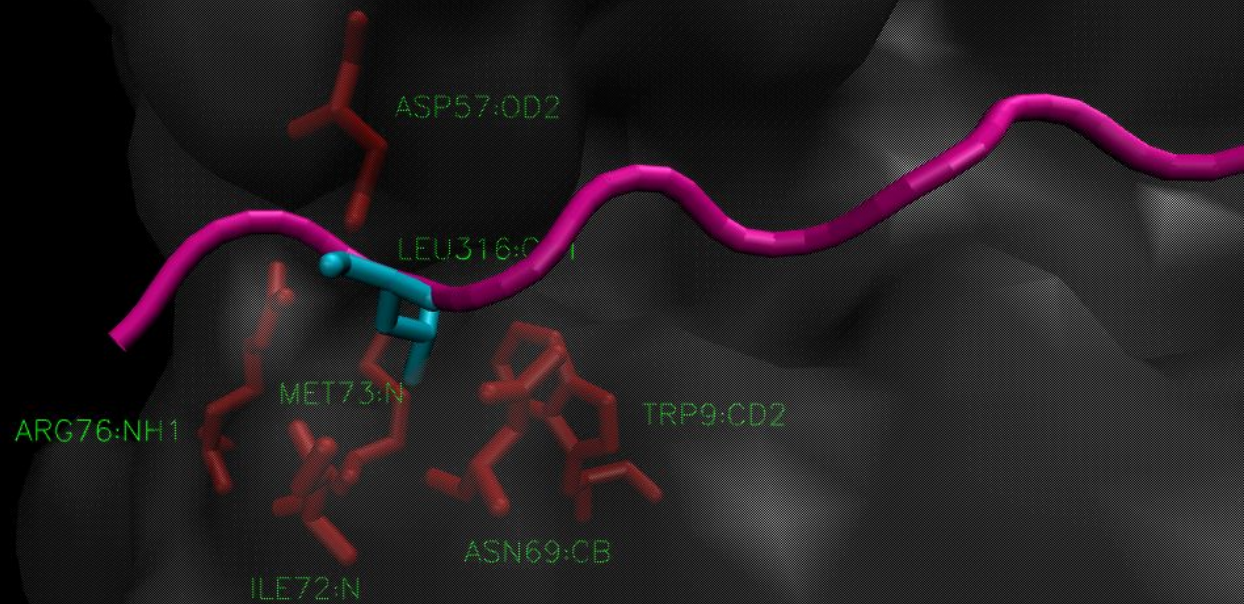
POCKET 6



POCKET 7



POCKET 9



Hydrogen bonds

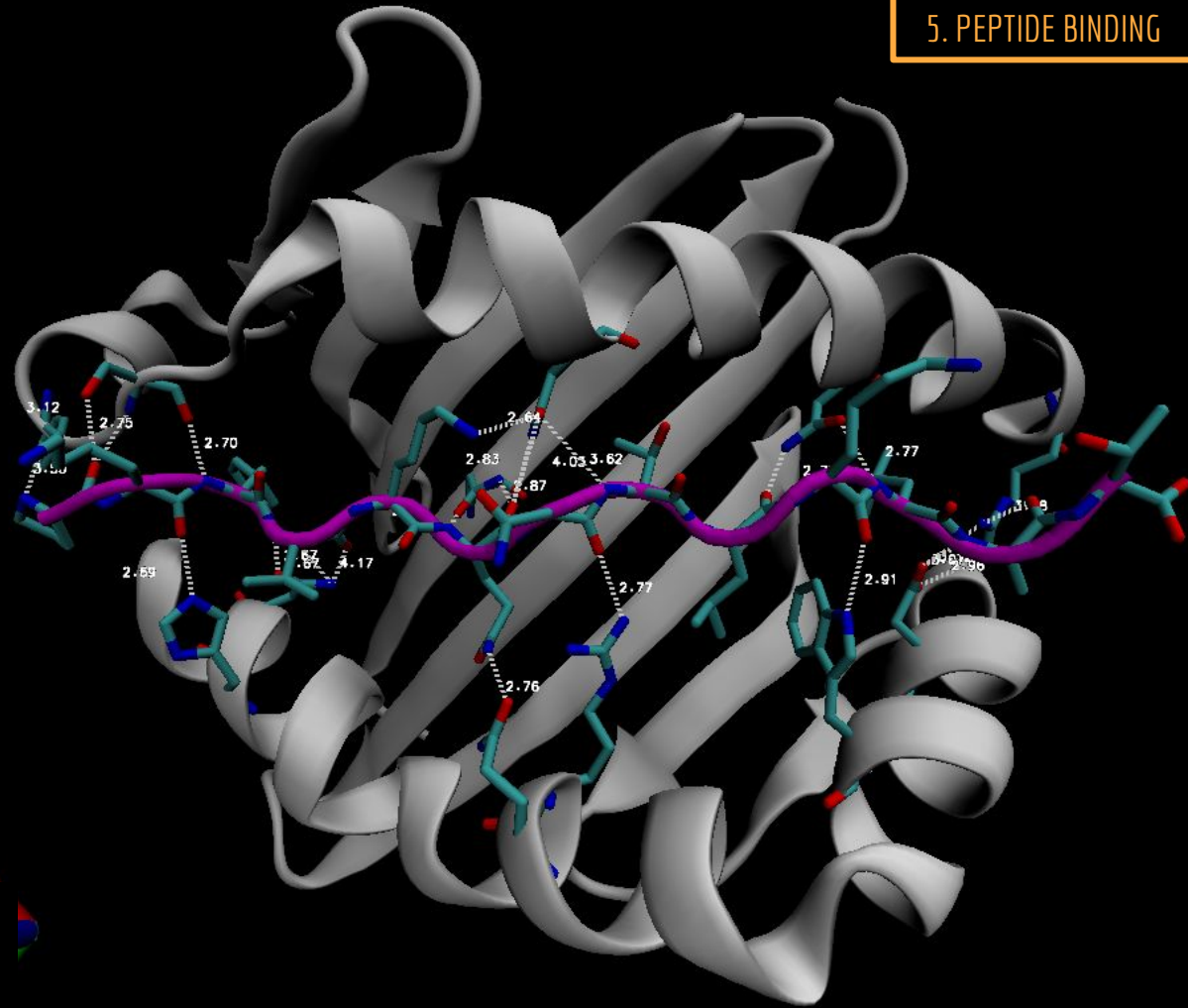
HLA-DR1(DRA, DRB1*0101)

Pdb id: 1dlh

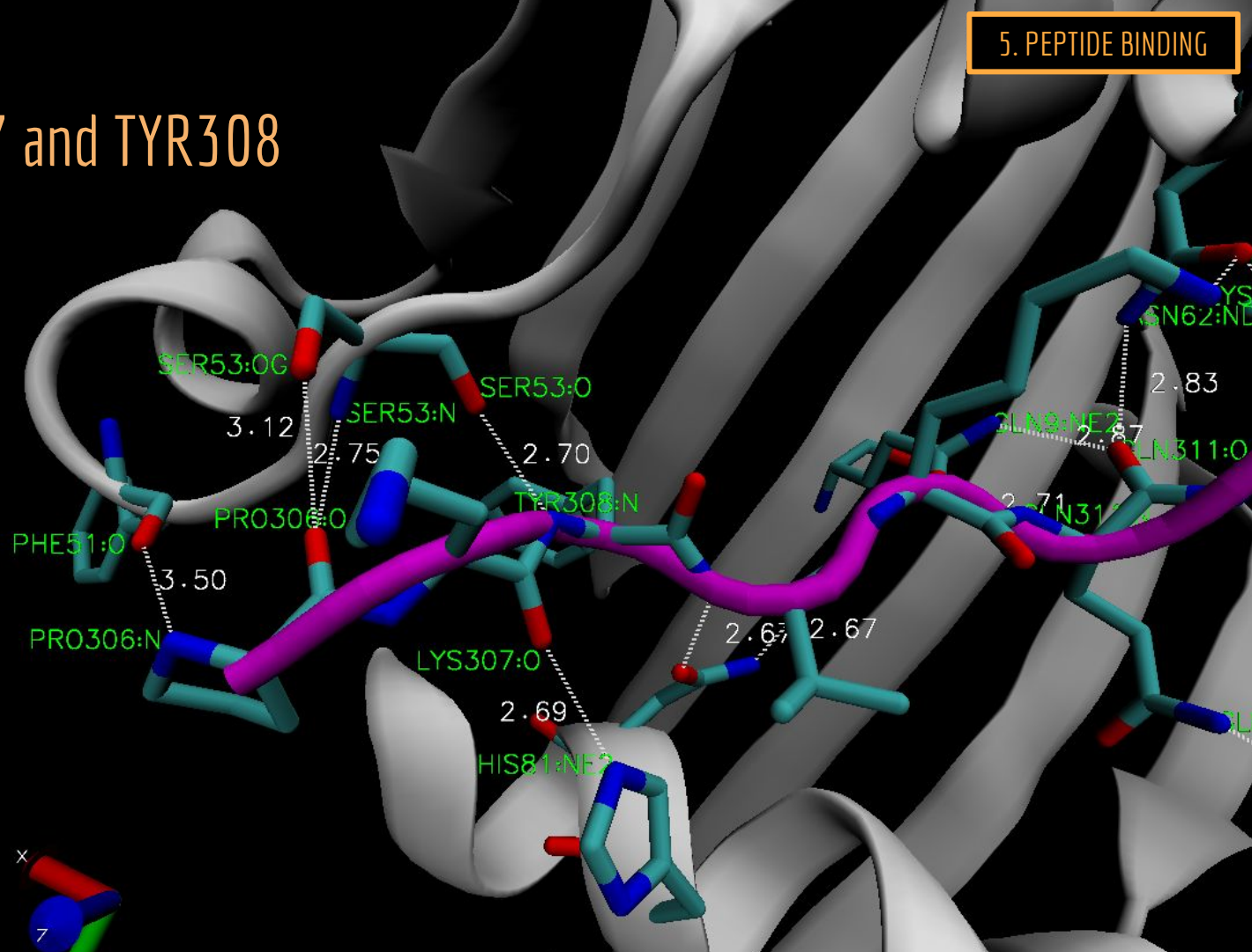
Influenza Virus

Haemagglutinin Peptide

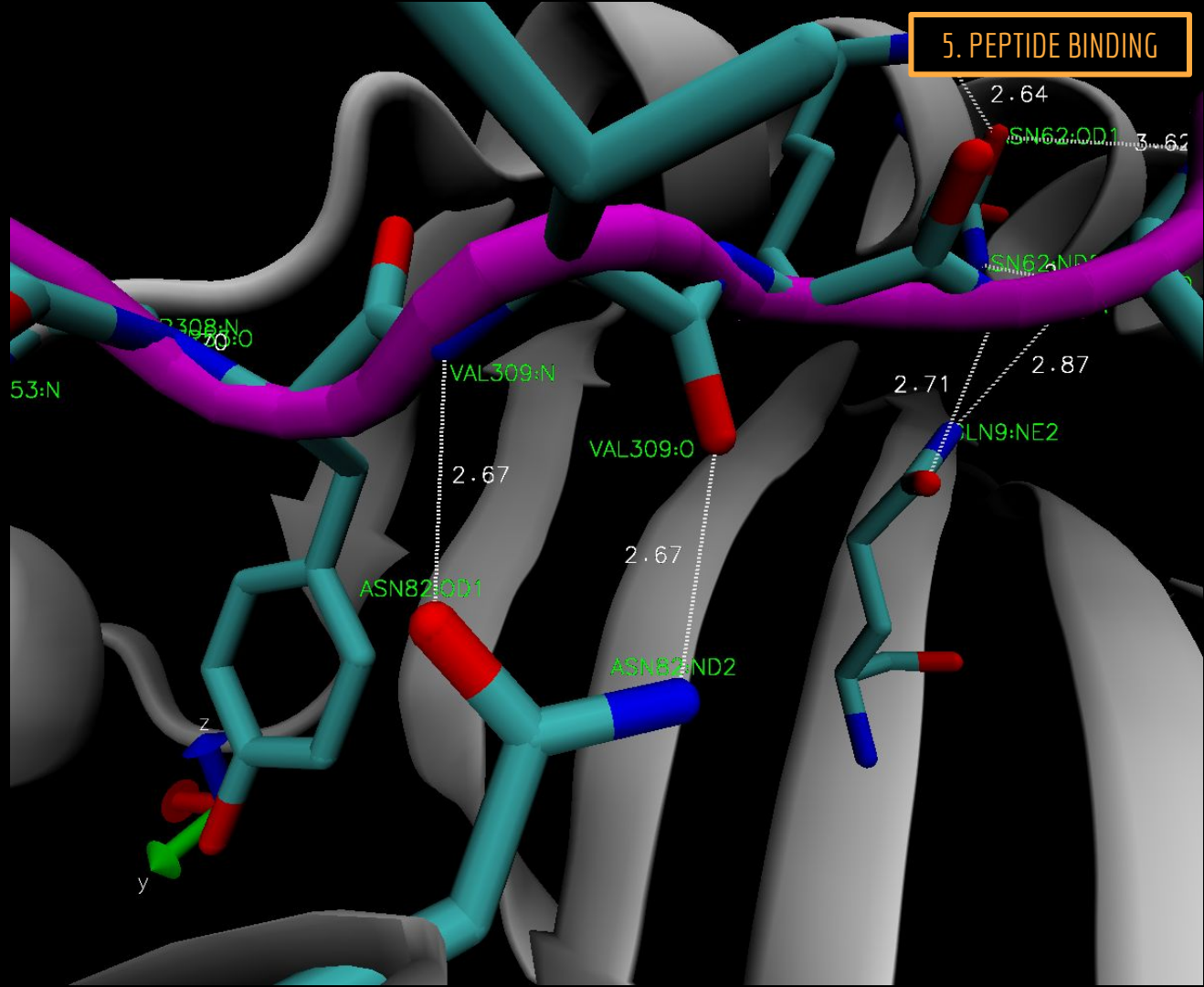
(residues 306-318:
PKYVKQNTLKLAT)



PRO306, LYS307 and TYR308

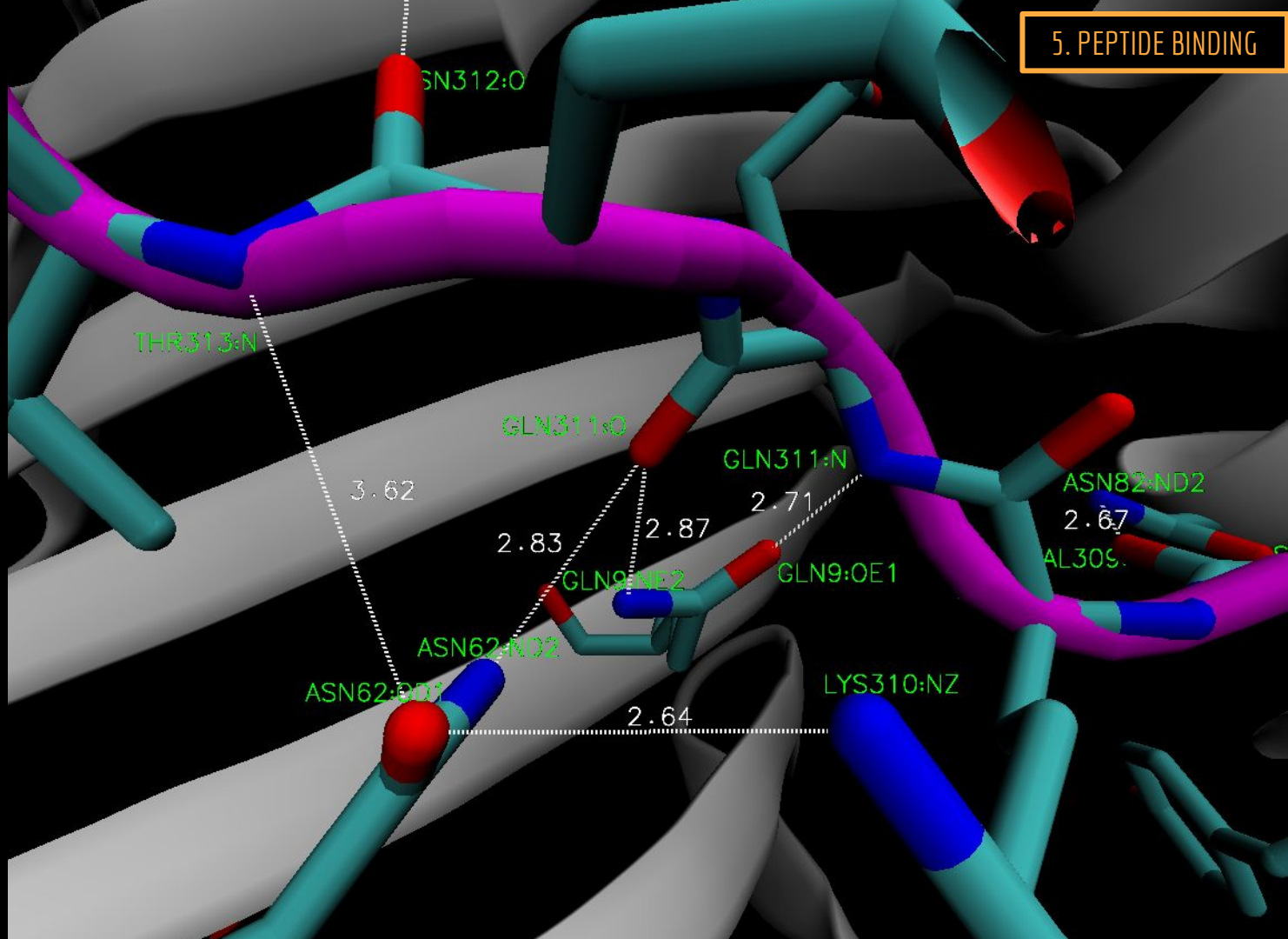


VAL309

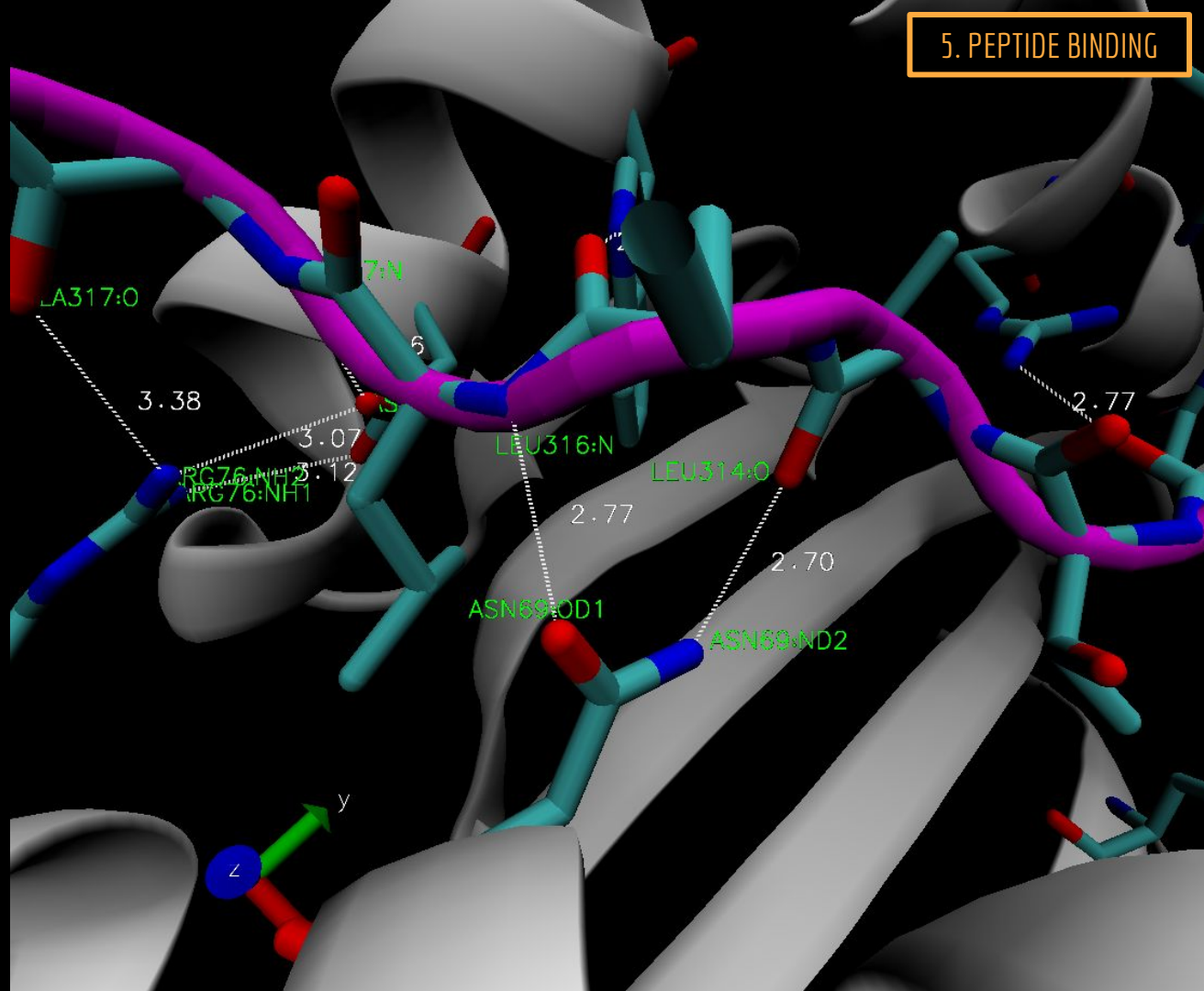


GLN311,
ASN312
and
THR313

5. PEPTIDE BINDING

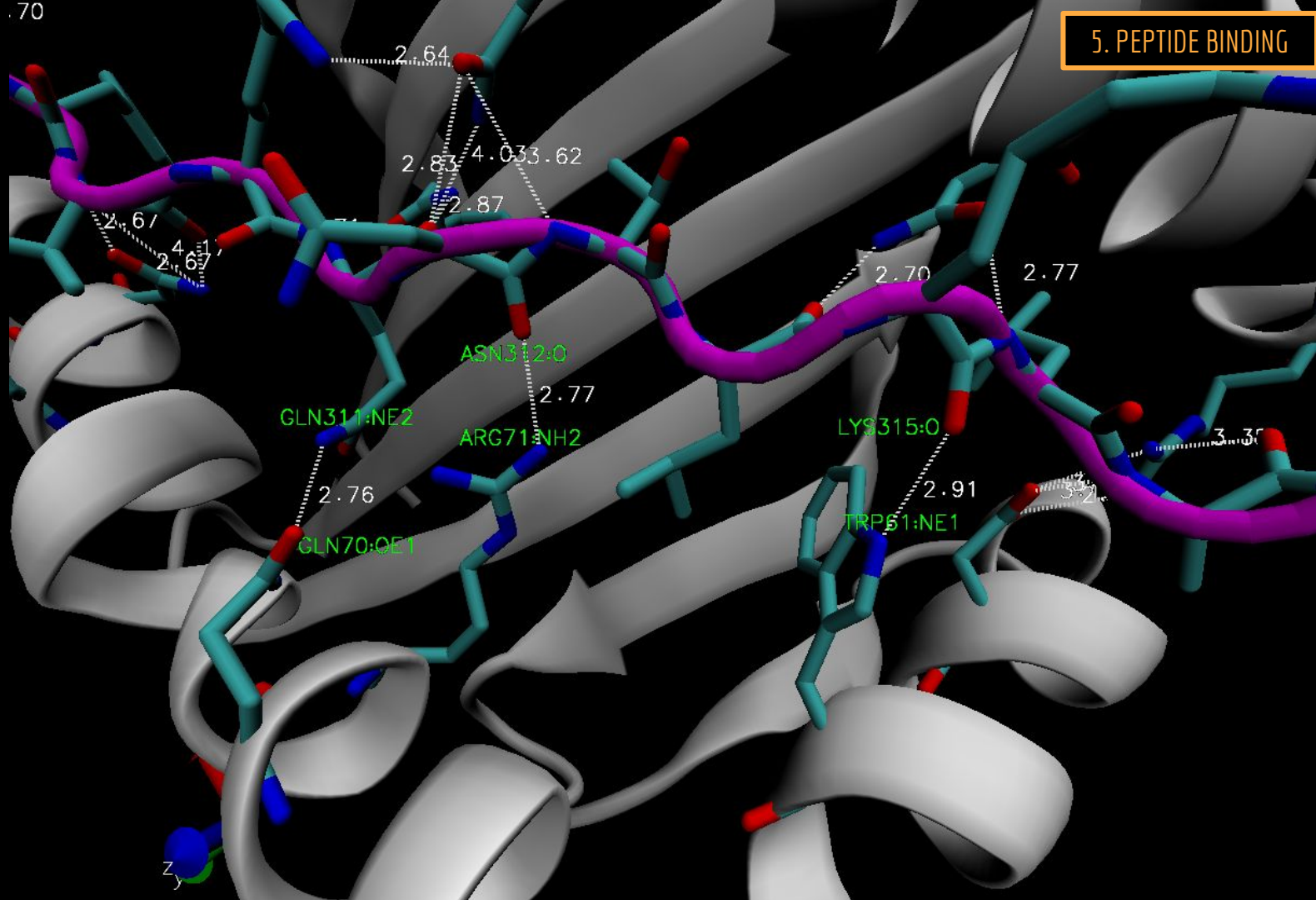


LEU314 and LEU316

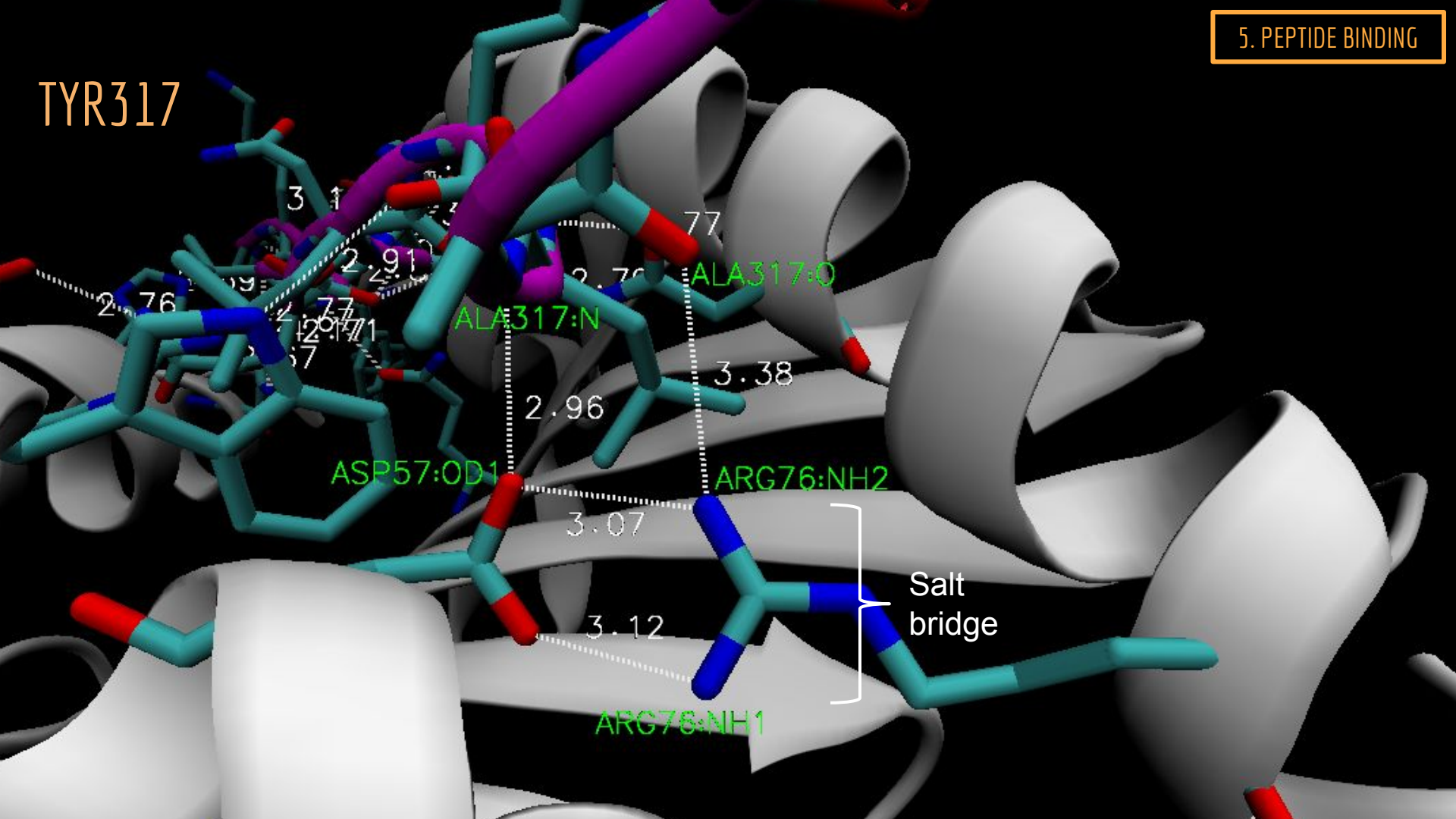


GLN311,
ASN312
and
LYS315

5. PEPTIDE BINDING



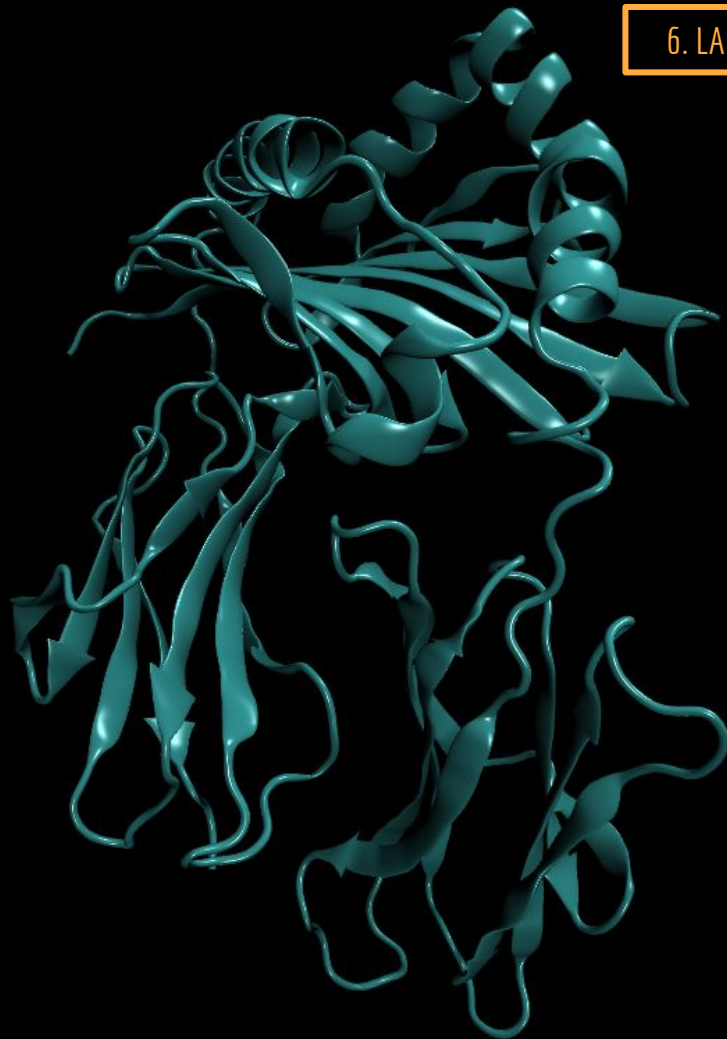
TYR317



6. LABILE REGIONS

HLA-II Structures Comparison

- Structural superimposicions:
 - 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

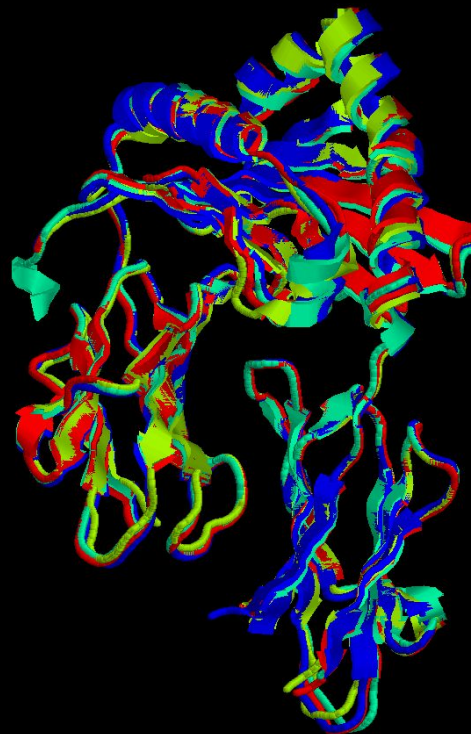
HLA-DR



Sc 9.73

RMSD 0.56

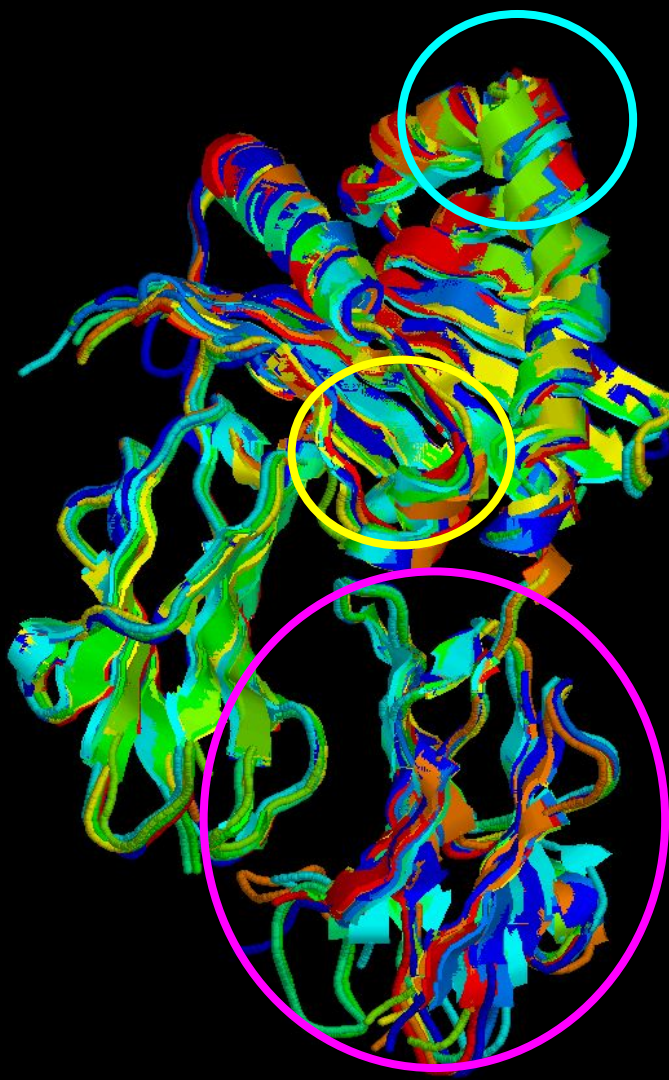
HLA-DQ



Sc 9.70

RMSD 0.88

Variable regions

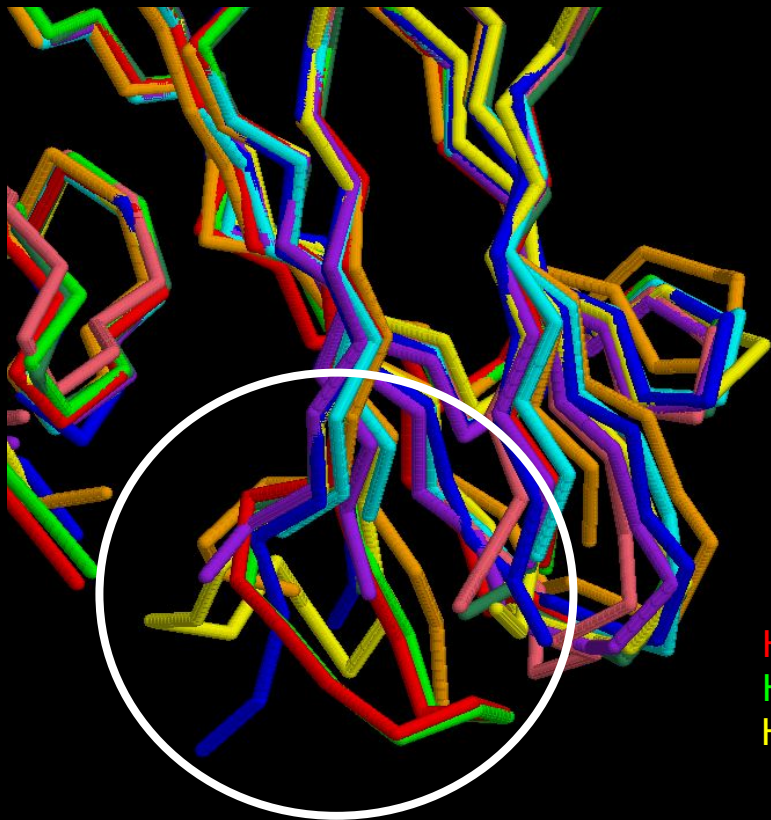


Helical kink on the $\beta 1$ domain

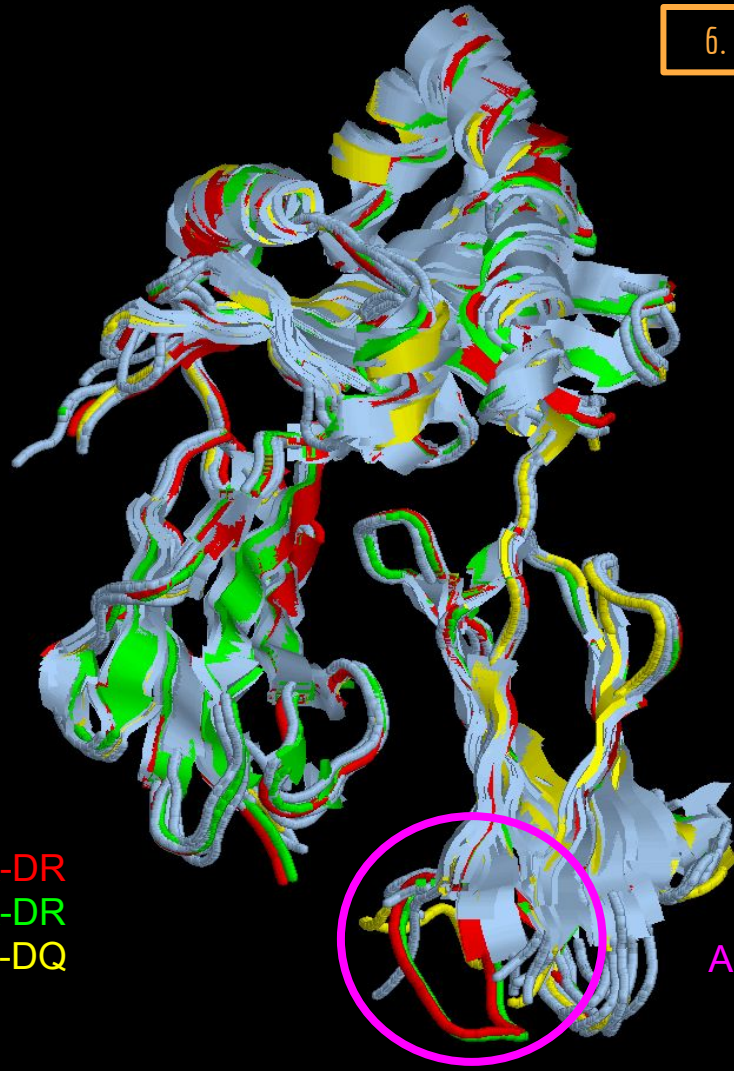
3_{10} Helix on the α chain

$\beta 2$ Ig-like domain

$\beta 2$ Ig-like Domain



HLA-DR
HLA-DR
HLA-DQ



A-B loop

β 2 Ig-like Domain

Sequence Alignment (A-B loop)

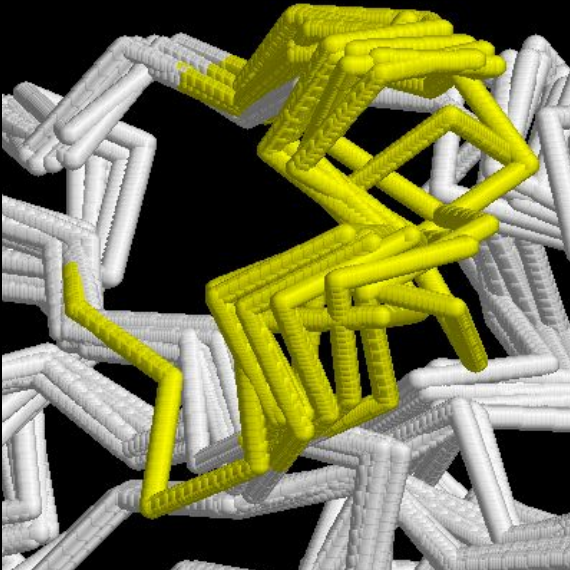
DRB1*03_01	DAEYWNSQKDLLEQKRGRVDNYCRHNYGVVESFTVQRRVHPKVTVPSP	KTQPLQHNNLLV
DRB1*14_02	DAEYWNSQKDLLEQRRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVHPKVTVPSP	KTQPLQHNNLLV
DRB1*04_01	DAEYWNSQKDLLEQKRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVYPEVTVYPA	KTQPLQHNNLLV
DRB1*15_01	DAEYWNSQKDILEQARAAVDTYCRHNYGVVESFTVQRRVQPKVTVPSP	KTQPLQHNNLLV
DRB1*01_01	DAEYWNSQKDLLEQRRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVPSP	KTQPLQHNNLLV
DPB1*02_01	DEEYWNSQKDILEEERAVPDRMCRHNYELGGPMTLQRRVQPRVNVSPS	KKG-----HNNLLV
DQB1*06_02	DAEYWNSQKEVLEGTRAELDTVCRHNYEVAFRGILQRRVEPTVTISPS	-----NLLV
DQBI*05_02	VAEYWNSQKEVLEGARASVDRVCRHNYEVAYRGILQRRVEPTVTISPS	-----NLLI
DQB1*03_02	AAEYWNSQKEVLERTRAELDTVCRHNYQLELRITTLQRRVEPTVTISP-	-----LLV
DQB1*02_01	AAEYWNSQKDILERKRAAVDRVCRHNYQLELRITTLQRRVEPTVTISPS	R-----NLLV
	*****::** * * ***** : :***** * *.: *	**:

1jk8 (DQ8)	AAEYWNSQKEVLERTRAELDTVCRHNYQLELRITTLQRRVEPTVTISPS	RTEALNHHNLLV
------------	---	--------------


 A-B loop

3_{10} Helix

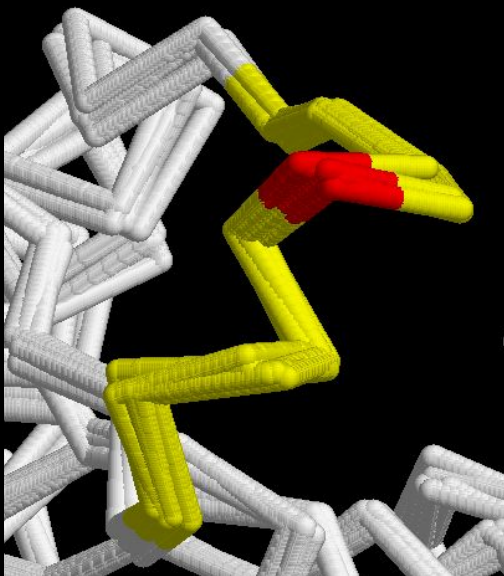
- From $\alpha 45$ to $\alpha 51$
- 3 residues/turn
- Hydrogen bonds between i and $i+3$ residues



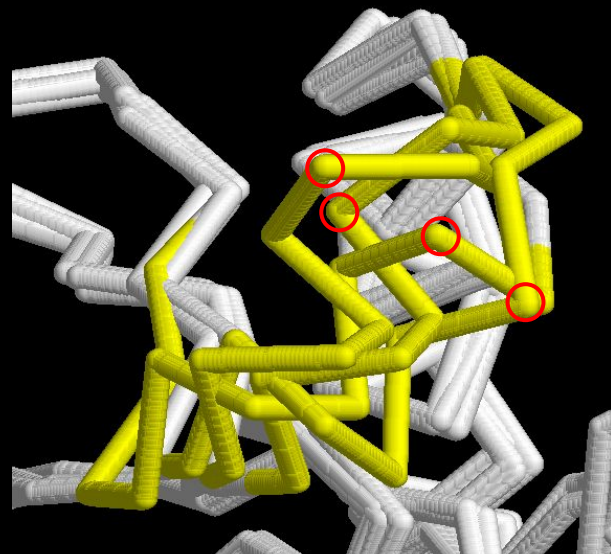
3_{10} Helix

HLA-II DQ proteins show a higher deviation at the 3_{10} helix

HLA-DR



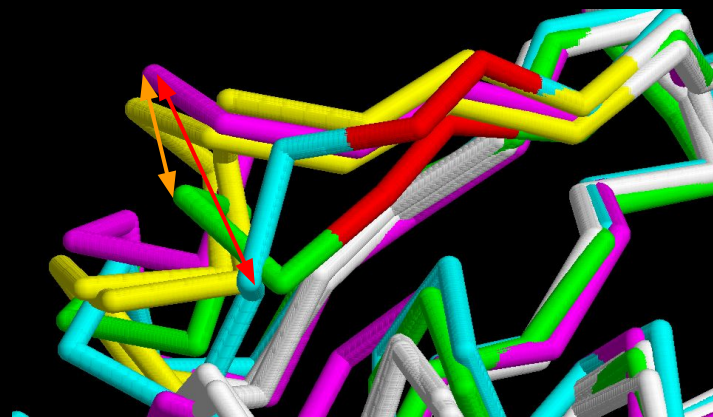
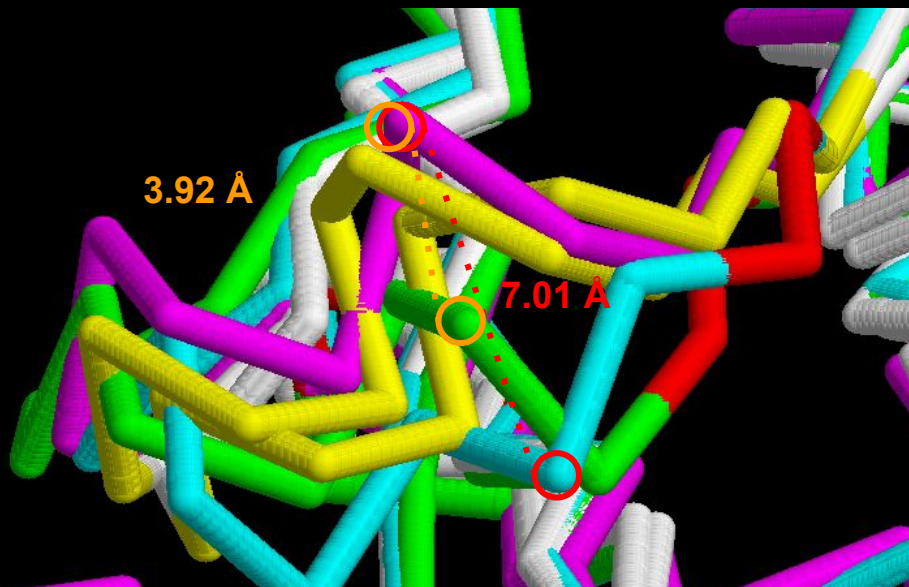
HLA-DQ



residue $\alpha 50$

3_{10} Helix

Glycines on positions $\alpha 52$ and $\alpha 53$ increase structural lability of the 3_{10} helix



Glycines
1DLH
3PL6
1UVQ

3₁₀ Helix

Sequence alignment

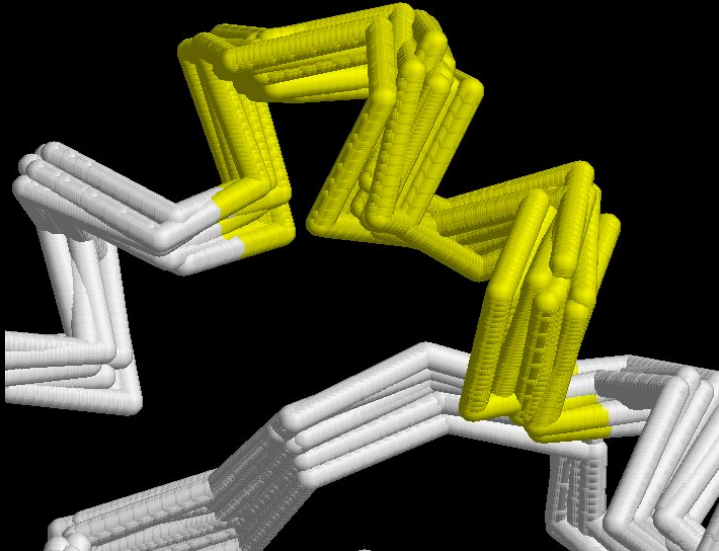
1UVQ →
3PL6 →

DRB1*03_01	----HVIIQ-AE FYLNP DQSGEF MFD FDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWR	LEEFGRFASFEAQG
DRB1*14_02	---EEHVIIQ-AE FYLNP DQSGEF MFD FDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWR	LEEFGRFASFEAQG
DRB1*04_01	--KEEHVIIQ-AE FYLNP DQSGEF MFD FDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWR	LEEFGRFASFEAQG
DRB1*15_01	--KEEHVIIQ-AE FYLNP DQSGEF MFD FDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWR	LEEFGRFASFEAQG
DRB1*01_01	---EEHVIIQ-AE FYLNP DQSGEF MFD FDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWR	LEEFGRFASFEAQG
DPB1*02_01	-IKADHVSTY-AAFVQTHRPTGEFMFEFDEDEM FYVDL DKKETVWH	LEEFGRFASFEAQG
DQB1*06_02	DIVADHVASCGVNLYQFYGPSGQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLERKETAWR	WPEFSKFGGDPQG
DQB1*05_02	DIVADHVASCGVNLYQFYGPSGQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLERKETAWR	WPEFSKFGGDPQG
DQB1*03_02	DIVADHVASYGVNLYQSYGPSGQYSHEFDGDEEFYVDLERKETVWQ	LPLFRRFRFPDPQF
DQB1*02_01	--VADHVASYGVNLYQSYGPSGQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLGRKETVWC	LPVLRQFR-FDPQF
	** . : **: . : ** * : ** : ** : *	: : * : *

Glycines on positions $\alpha 52$ and $\alpha 53$ increase affinity with HLA-DM proteins

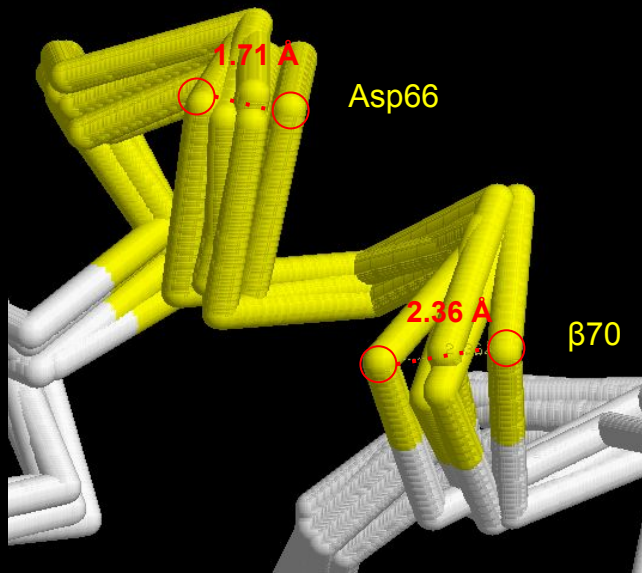
β 1-Helical Kink

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

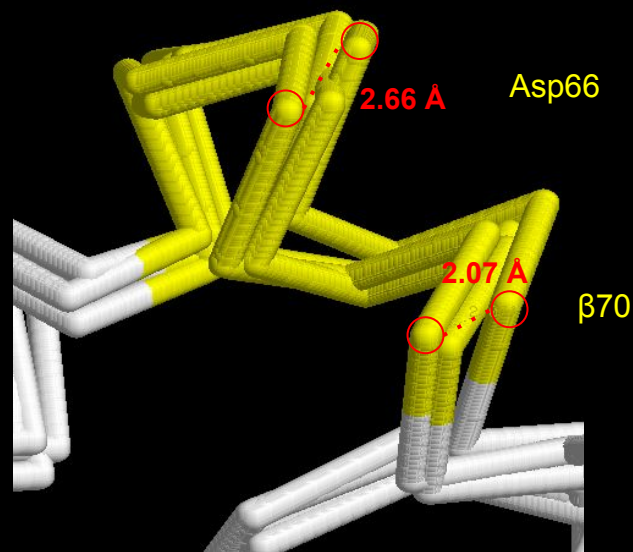


β 1-Helical Kink

HLA-DR



HLA-DQ



β 1-Helical Kink

Sequence alignment

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

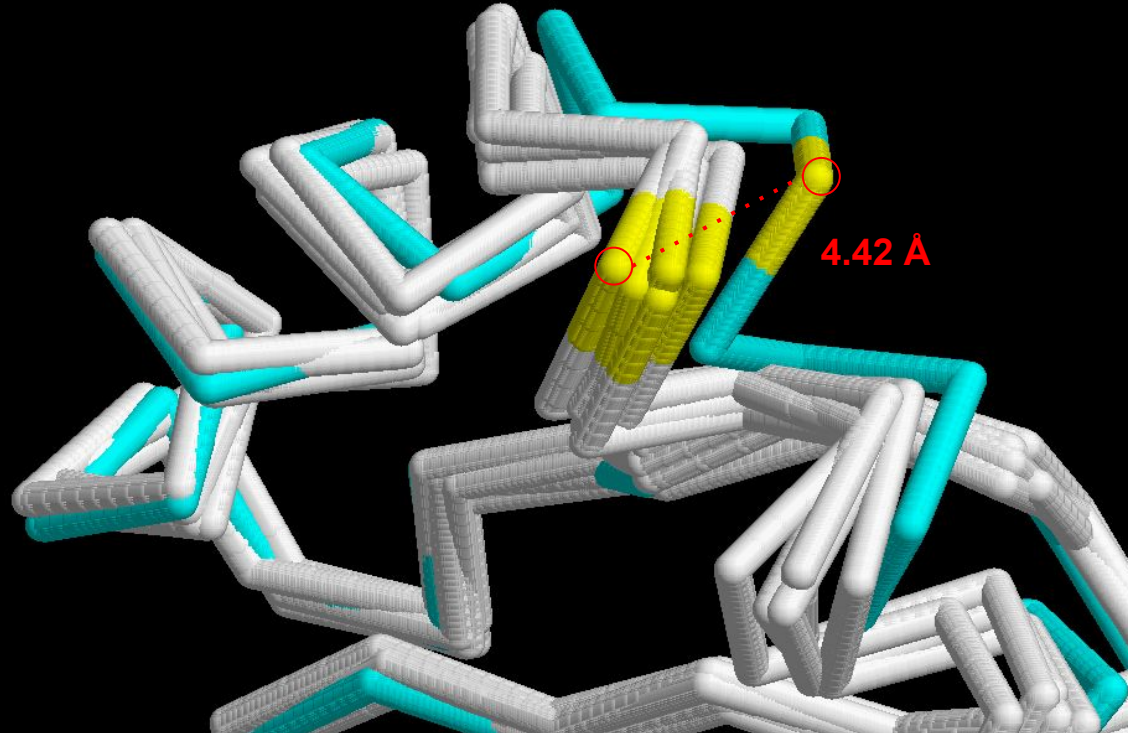
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DAEYWNSQKDLLEQRRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVHPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHNNLLV
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DAEYWNSQKDLLEQRRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHNNLLV
DEEYWNsqKDILEEERAVPDRMCRHNYELGGPMTLQRRVQPRVNVSPSKKG---HNLLV
DAEYWNsqKEVLEGTRAELDTYCRHNYEVAFRGILQRRVEPTVTISPS-----NLLV
VAEYWNsqKEVLEGARASVDRVCRHNYEVAYRGILQRRVEPTVTISPS-----NLLI
AAEYWNsqKEVLERTRAELDTYCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISP-----LLV
AAEYWNsqKDILERKRAAVDRVCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISPSR-----NLLV
*****::**  *  *  ***** :      :***** * *.: *      **:
  
```

β 1-Helical Kink

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

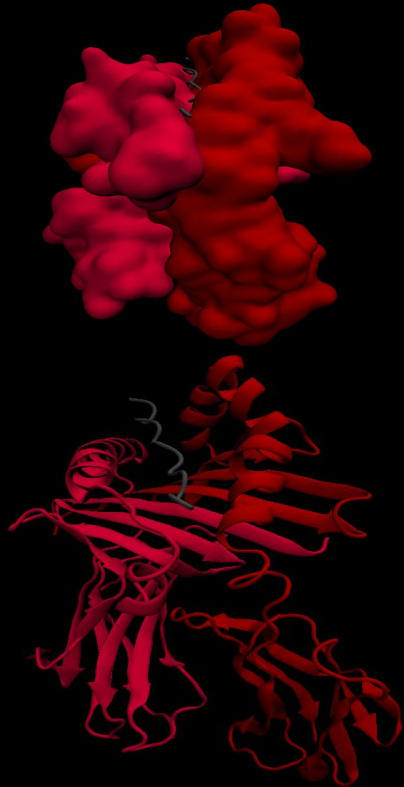
Non-Classical HLA II

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

Structural comparison

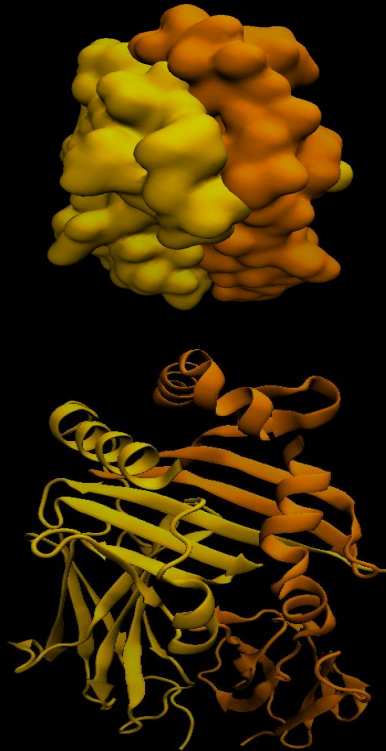
Classical

HLA- DR1

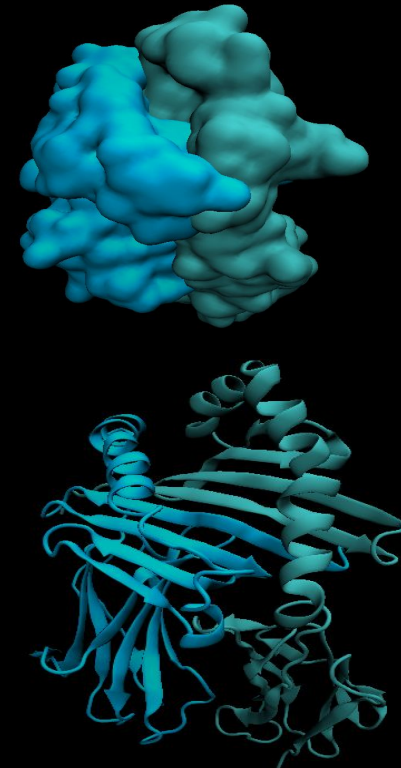


Non-classical

HLA- DM



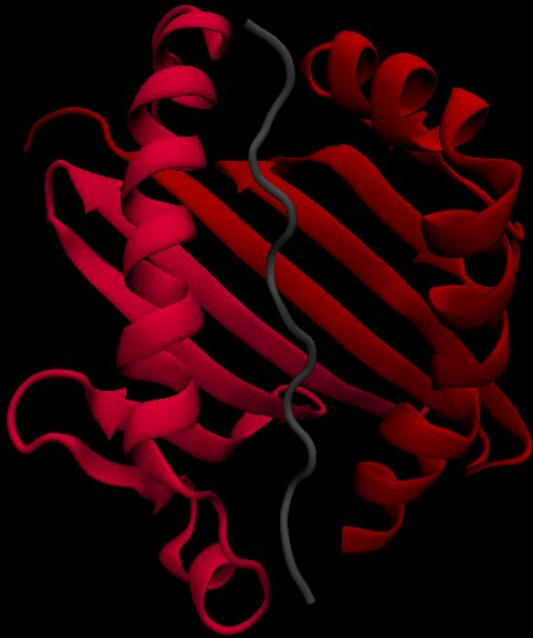
HLA- DO



Binding groove comparison

Classical

HLA- DR1

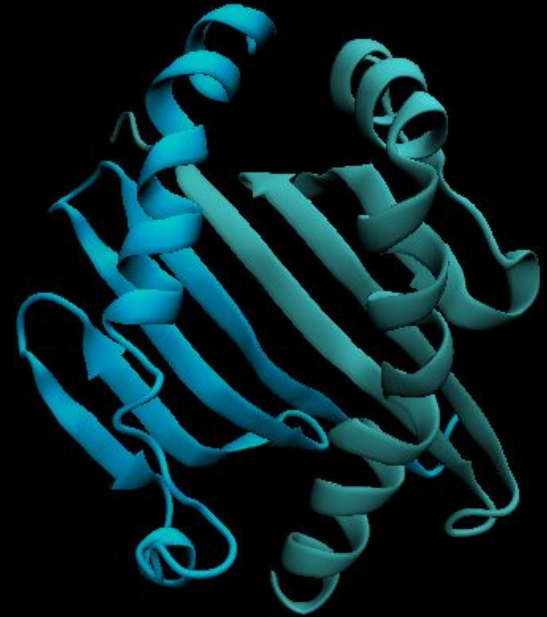


Non-classical

HLA- DM

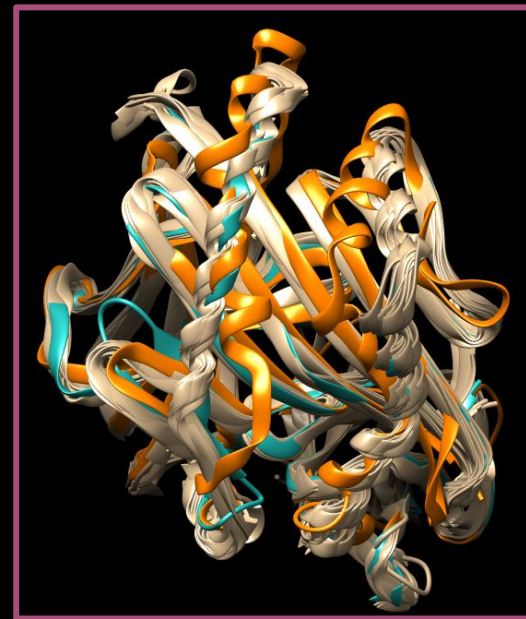


HLA- DO



Superimposition

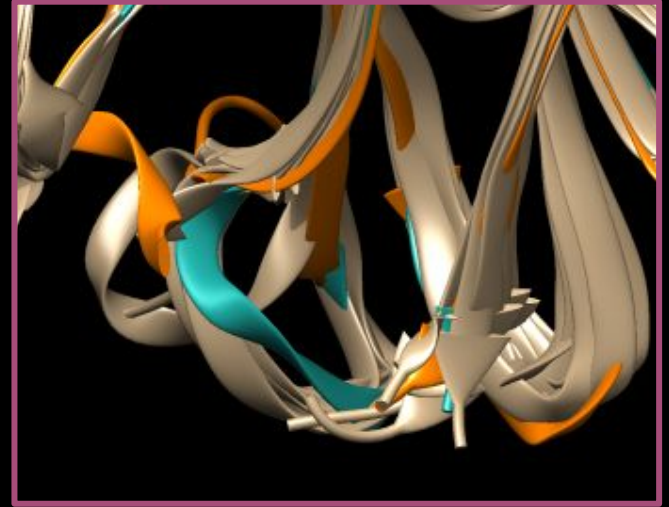
7. NON-CLASSICAL HLA II



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

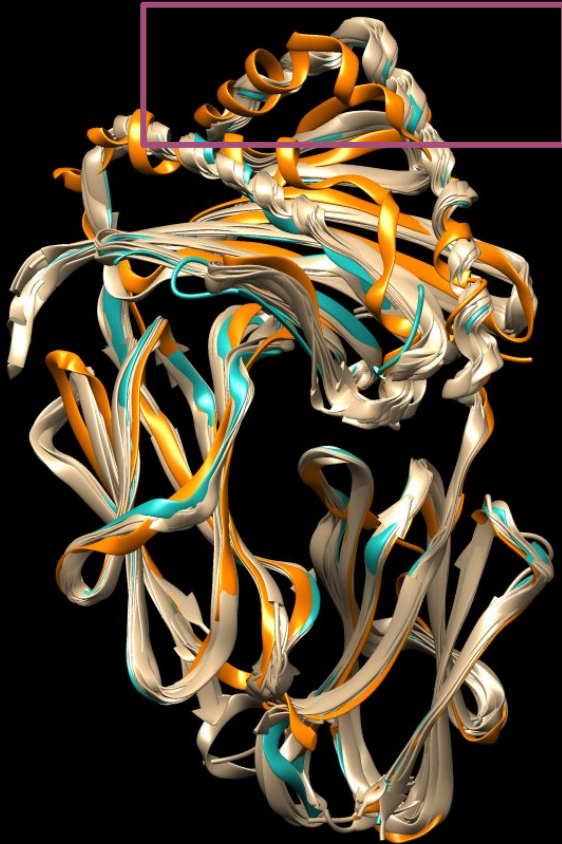
+ 1 HLA -DO

β2 Ig-like Domain

CLASICAL	DQ	1uvq 3pl6 2nna 1s9v	DAEYWNSQKEVLEGTRAELDTVCRHNYEVAFRGILQRRVEPTVTISPS-----NLLV VAEYWNSQKEVLEGARASVDRVCRHNYEVAYRGILQRRVEPTVTISPS-----NLLI AAEYWNSQKEVLERTRAELDTVCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISP-----LLV AAEYWNSQKDILERKRAAVDRVCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISPSR-----NLLV
	DR	1a6a 6atf 5jlz 1bx2 1dlh	DAEYWNSQKDLLEQKRGRVDNYCRHNYGVVESFTVQRRVHPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHNNLLV DAEYWNSQKDLLEQRRRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVHPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHNNLLV DAEYWNSQKDLLEQKRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVPEVTVYPAKTQPLQHNNLLV DAEYWNSQKDILEQARAAVDTYCRHNYGVVESFTVQRRVQPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHNNLLV DAEYWNSQKDLLEQRRRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHNNLLV
	DP	3lqz	DEEYWNSQKDILEEERAVPDRMCRHNYELGGPMTLQRRVQPRVNVSPSKKG---HNLLV
	DO	4i0p	DAEQWNSRLDLLERSQAVDGVCRHNYRLGAPFTVGRKVQPEVTVYPERTPLLHQHNNLH
	DM	1hdm	LSQHLNQKDTLMQRLNGLQN--CATHTQPFWGSLTNRTRPPSVQVAKTPFNTREPVMILA
NON-CLASICAL			: * . : : : . : * : * * : :
			: * . : : : . : * : * * : :

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

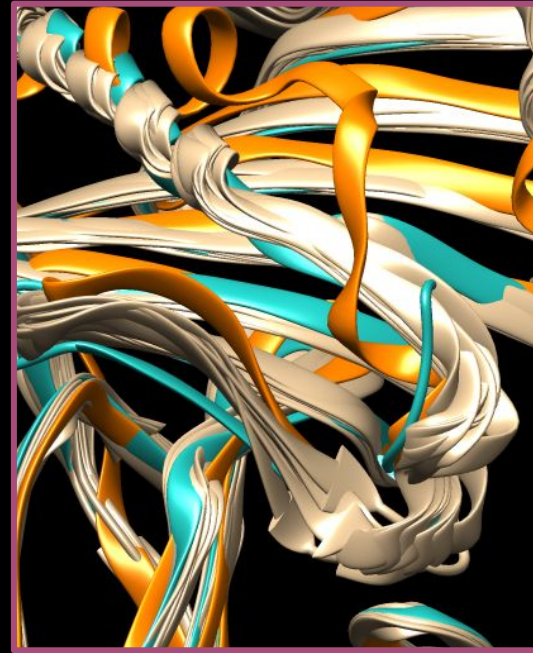
β 1-Helical Kink

CLASICAL	DQ	1uvq 3pl6 2nna 1s9v	DAEYVNSQKEVLEGTRAELDTVCRHNYEVAFRGILQRRVEPTVTISPS-----NLLV VAEYVNSQKEVLEGARASVDRVCRHNYEVAYRGILQRRVEPTVTISPS-----NLLI AAEYVNSQKEVLERTRAELDTVCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISP-----LLV AAEYVNSQKDILERKRAAVDRVCRHNYQLELRTTLQRRVEPTVTISPSR-----NLLV
	DR	1a6a 6atf 5jlz 1bx2 1dlh	DAEYVNSQKDLLEQKRGVVDNYCRHNYGVVESFTVQRRVHPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHNNLLV DAEYVNSQKDLLEQKRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVHPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHNNLLV DAEYVNSQKDLLEQKRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVYPEVTVYPAKTQPLQHNNLLV DAEYVNSQKDILEQKRAAVDTYCRHNYGVVESFTVQRRVQPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHNNLLV DAEYVNSQKDILEQKRAAVDTYCRHNYGVGESFTVQRRVEPKVTVYPSKTQPLQHNNLLV
	DP	3lqz	DEEYVNSQKDILEEERAVPDRMCRHNYELGGPMTLQRRVQPRVNVSPSKKG---HNLLV
	DO	4i0p	DAEQVNSRLDLLERSQAVDGVCRHNYRLGAPFTVGRKVQPEVTVYPERTPLLHQHNNLLH
	DM	1hdm	LSQHLNQKDTLMQRLNGLQN--CATHTQPFWGSLTNRTRPPSVQVAKTTPFNTREPVMLA : *.: : : . : * : * * : *

β 1-Helical Kink sequence is mainly conserved in Classical HLA II

β 1-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

3_{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

CLASICAL	DQ	1uvq	DIVADHVASC	GVNLYQFYGPSGQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLERKETAWRWPEFSKFGGFD	PQG
		3pl6	DIVADHVASC	GVNLYQFYGPSGQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLERKETAWRWPEFSKFGGFD	PQG
		2nna	DIVADHVASY	GVNLYQSYGPSGQYSHEFDGDEEFYVDLERKETVWQLPLFRRFRRF	DPQF
		1s9v	--VADHVASY	GVNLYQSYGPSGQYTHEFDGDEQFYVDLGRKETVWCLPVLRQFR-F	DPQF
	DR	1a6a	----HVIIQ-AE	FYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFE	EAQG
NON-CLASICAL		6atf	---EEHVIIQ-AE	FYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFE	EAQG
		5jlz	--KEEHVIIQ-AE	FYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFE	EAQG
		1bx2	--KEEHVIIQ-AE	FYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFE	EAQG
		1dlh	---EEHVIIQ-AE	FYLNPDQSGEFMFDFDGDEIFHVDMAKKETVWRLEEFGRFASFE	EAQG
	DP	3lqz	-IKADHVSTY-AA	FVQTHRPTGEFMFEFDEDEMFYVDLDKKETVWHLEEFQAFSFE	EAQG
	DO	4i0p	--KADHMGSYGPA	FYQSYGASGQFTHFEDEEQLFSVDLKKSEAVWRLP	PEFGDFARFPDQG
	DM	1hdm	--LQNHTFLH-TV	YQCQDGSPSVGLSEAYDEDQLFFDFSQNTRVPRLP	EFADWAQEQGDA

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 comparisson 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 $\beta 2$ Ig-like domain
b) The 3-10 helix
c) a and b
d) the $\beta 1$ 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

