



# **Nucleosome structural analysis**

**Structural Biology – Human Biology UPF**

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INTRODUCTION

INTERACTIONS

HISTONE 1

DNA INTERACTION

MODIFICATIONS

EVOLUTION

CONCLUSIONS

# Index

Introduction

Interactions

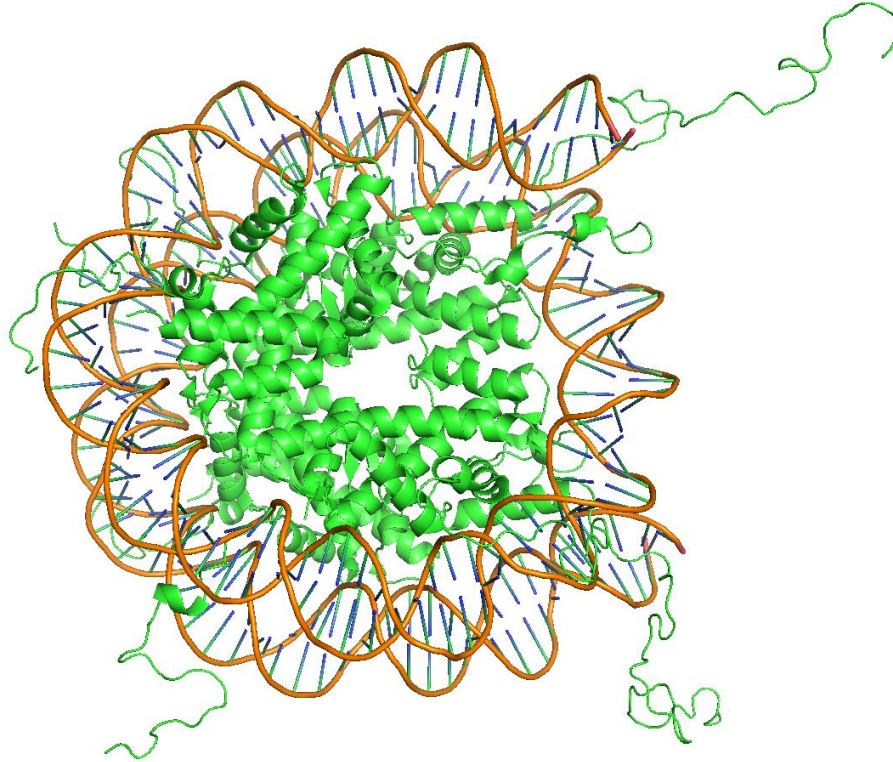
Histone 1

DNA interaction

Modifications

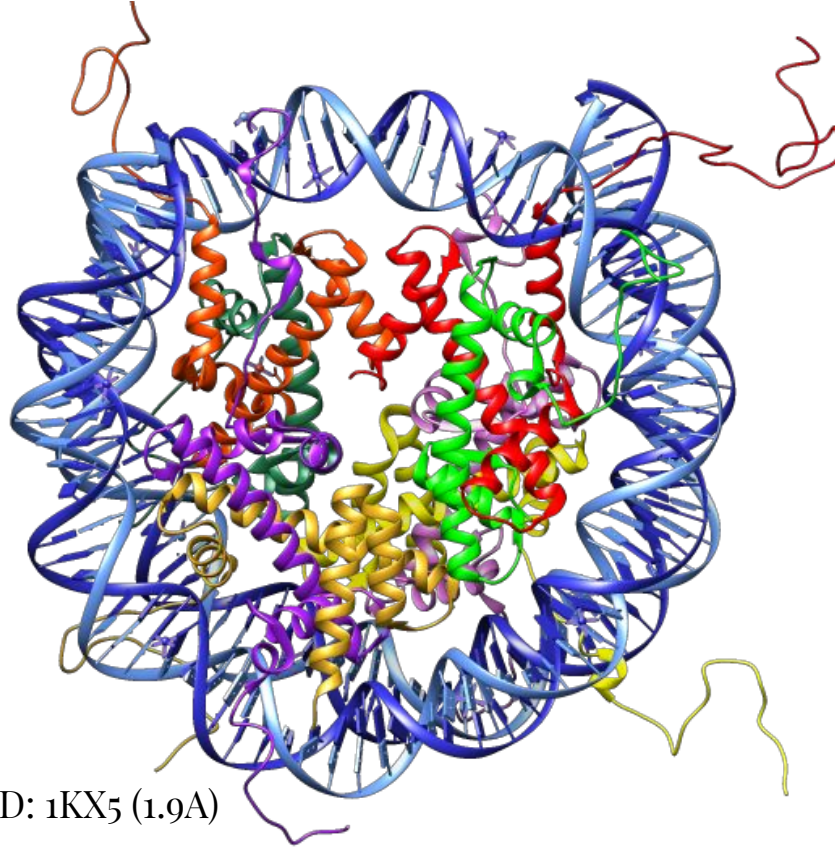
Evolution

Conclusions



pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9A)

# The nucleosome

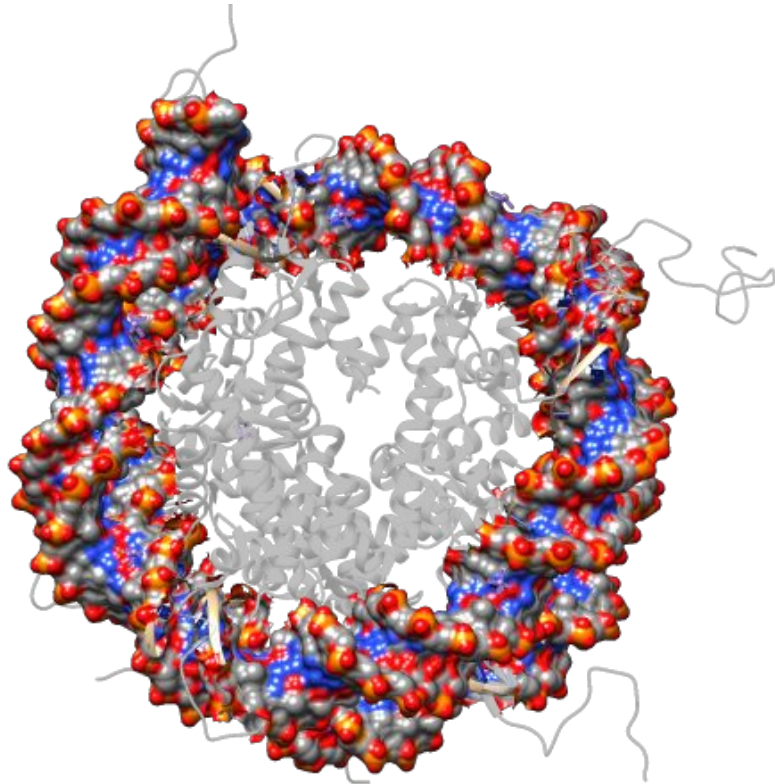


pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9A)

**Nucleosomal DNA:**  
147 bp

**Proteins:**  
-H2A and H2A'  
-H2B and H2B'  
-H3 and H3'  
-H4 and H4'

# The nucleosome: Functions



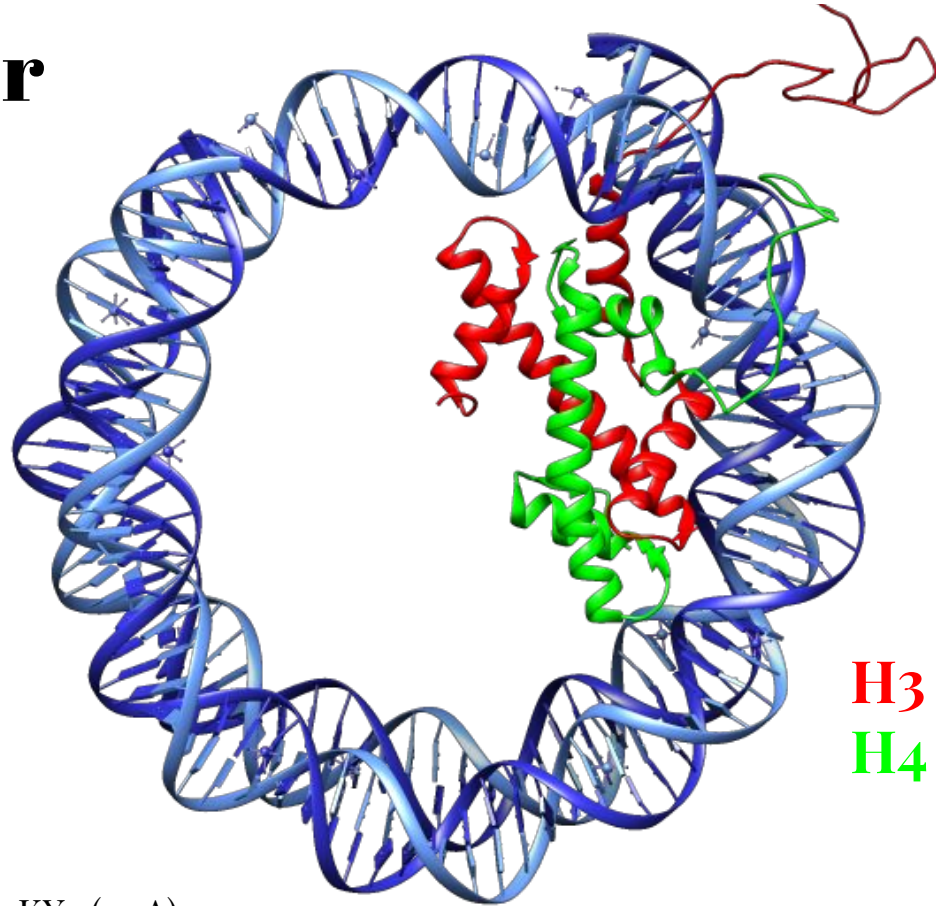
pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9A)

Assembles into higher order structures, leading to further compaction

Participates in the correct division of DNA in cells (mitosis & meiosis)

Important role in genetic regulation

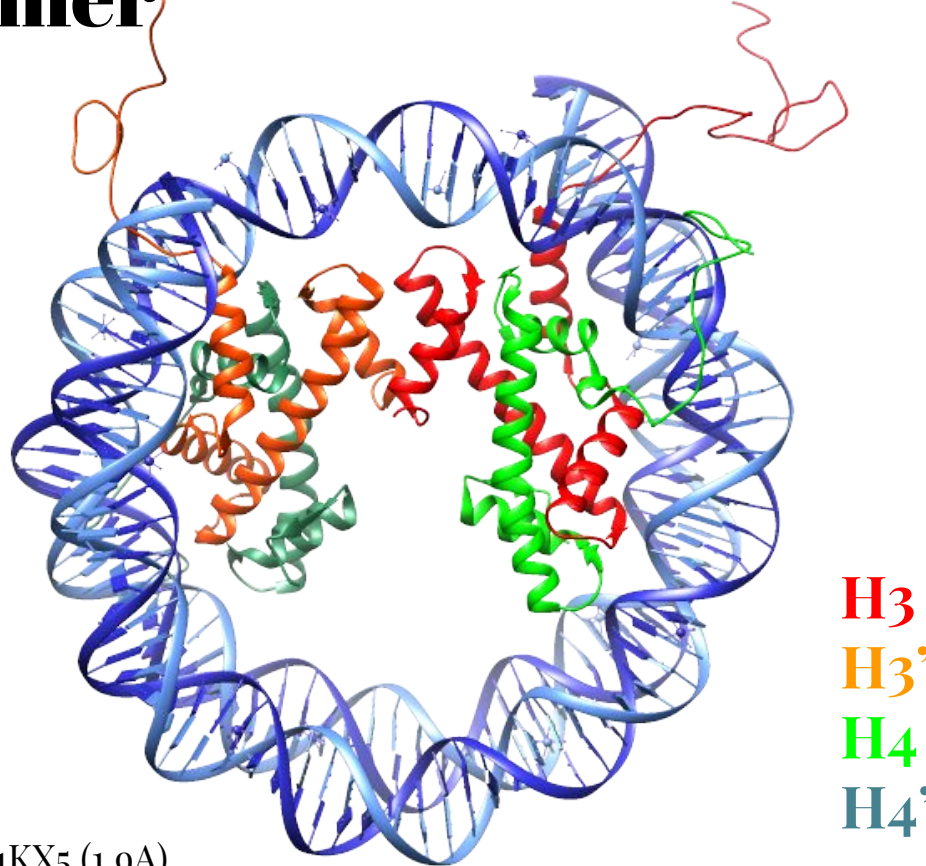
# H3-H4 dimer



H3  
H4

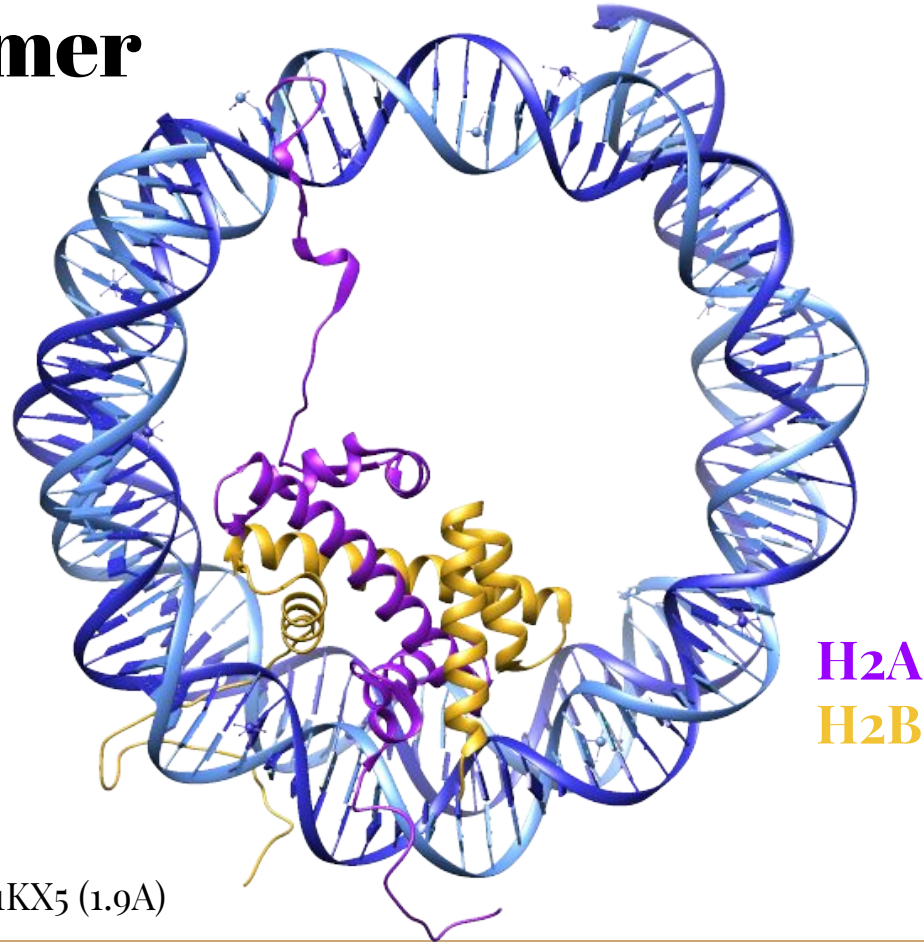
pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# H3-H4 tetramer



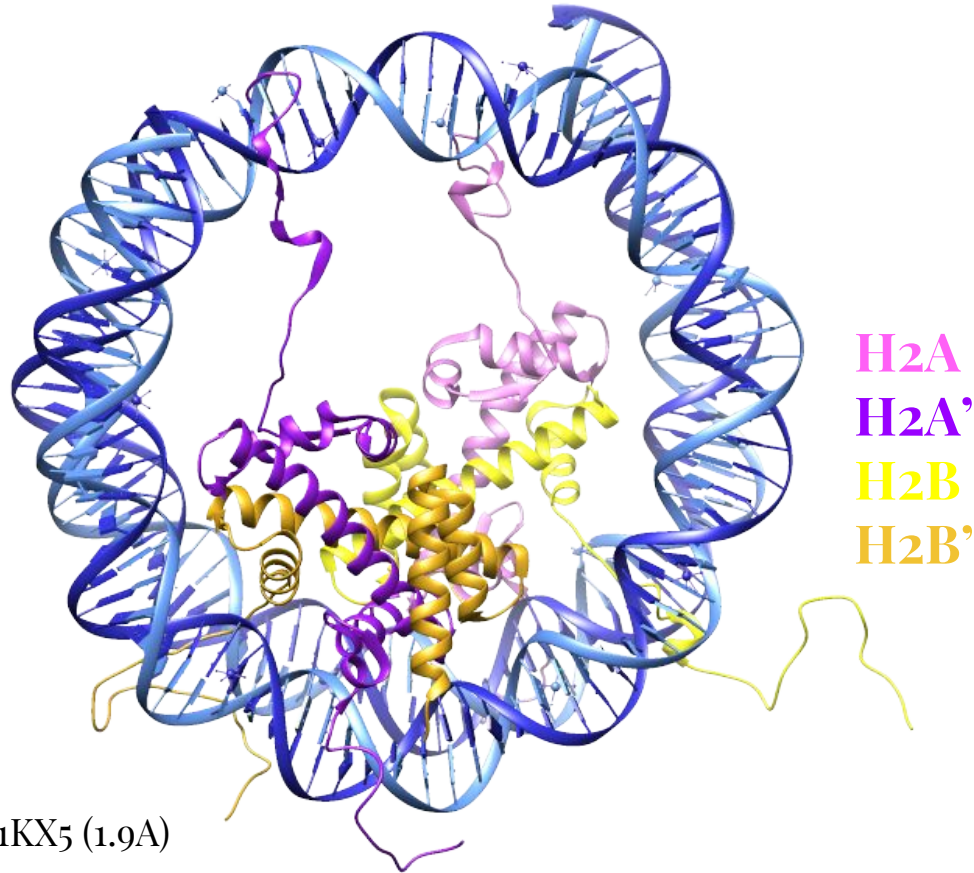
pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9A)

# H2A-H2B dimer



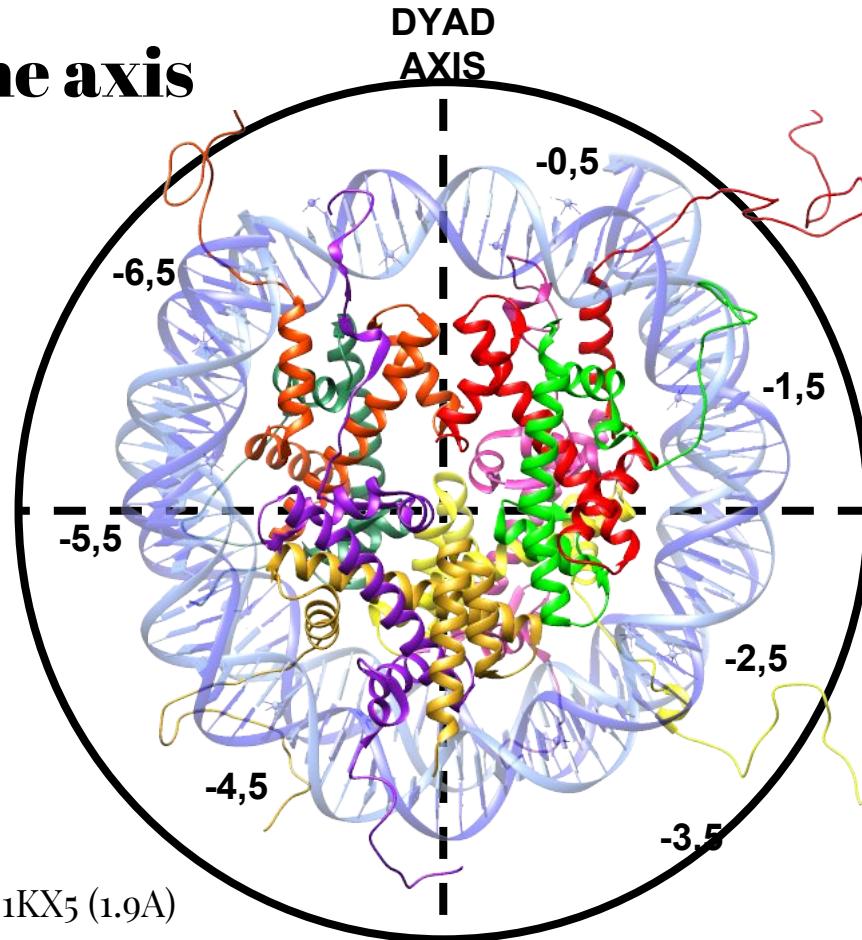
pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# H2A-H2B

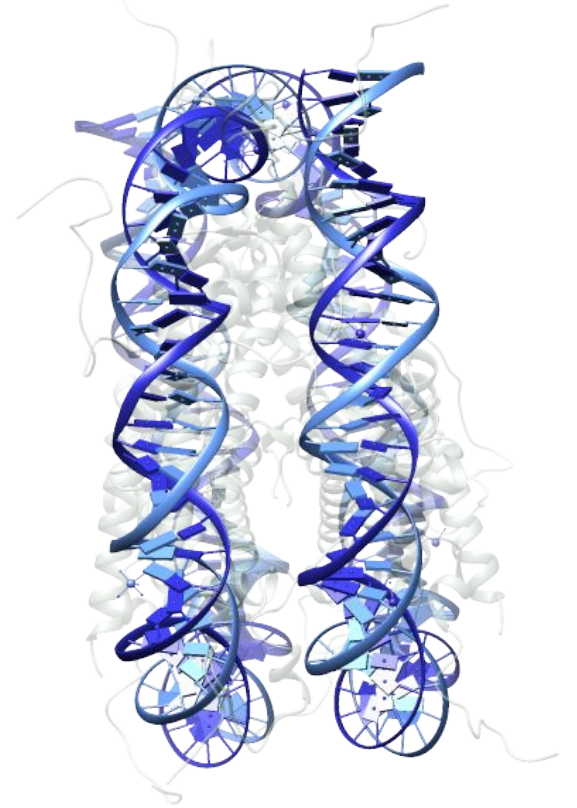


pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Nucleosome axis



pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9A)



# SCOP Classification: Histone core proteins

Class

All alpha proteins

Fold

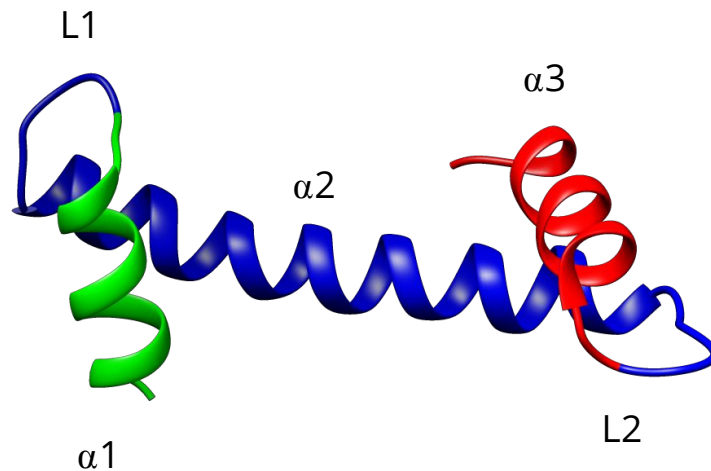
Histone fold

Superfamily

Histone fold superfamily

Family

Nucleosome core histones



pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9A)

# Histone fold

CLUSTAL W(1.60) multiple sequence alignment

```

H2A_Homo  -----RAKAKTRSSRAGLQF-FVGRVHRLLRKG-N-Y-S-E-RVGA GAP
H3_Homo   PHRYRPGTVALREIRRYQKSTE-----LLI-FKLPFORLVREIAQLF-KTDLRFQSSAV
H2B_Homo  -----KRSR-----KE--SY--SVYVYKVLKQV-HPDTGIS SKAM
H4_Homo   -----NIQGI--TKPAIRRLARRGGV-K-RISGLIY

H2A_Homo  VYLAADVLEYLELTAEILELAGNAARDNKKTRIIPRHLOLAIRNDEELNK-LLGR-VT--I--
H3_Homo   MALQEACEAYLVGLFEDTNLCAIHAKRVTIMPKDIQLARRI--R--G--ER-----
H2B_Homo  GIMNSFVNDIFERIAGEASRLAHYNKRSTITTSREIQTAVRL--LLPGELAKHAVSEGTKA
H4_Homo   EETRGVLKVFLENVIRDAVITYTEHAKRKTVTAMDVVYALKR--Q--G--RT--LY--G--

H2A_Homo  AQGGVLPNIQAVLLPK
H3_Homo   -----
H2B_Homo  VTKYTSAK-----
H4_Homo   FGG-----

```

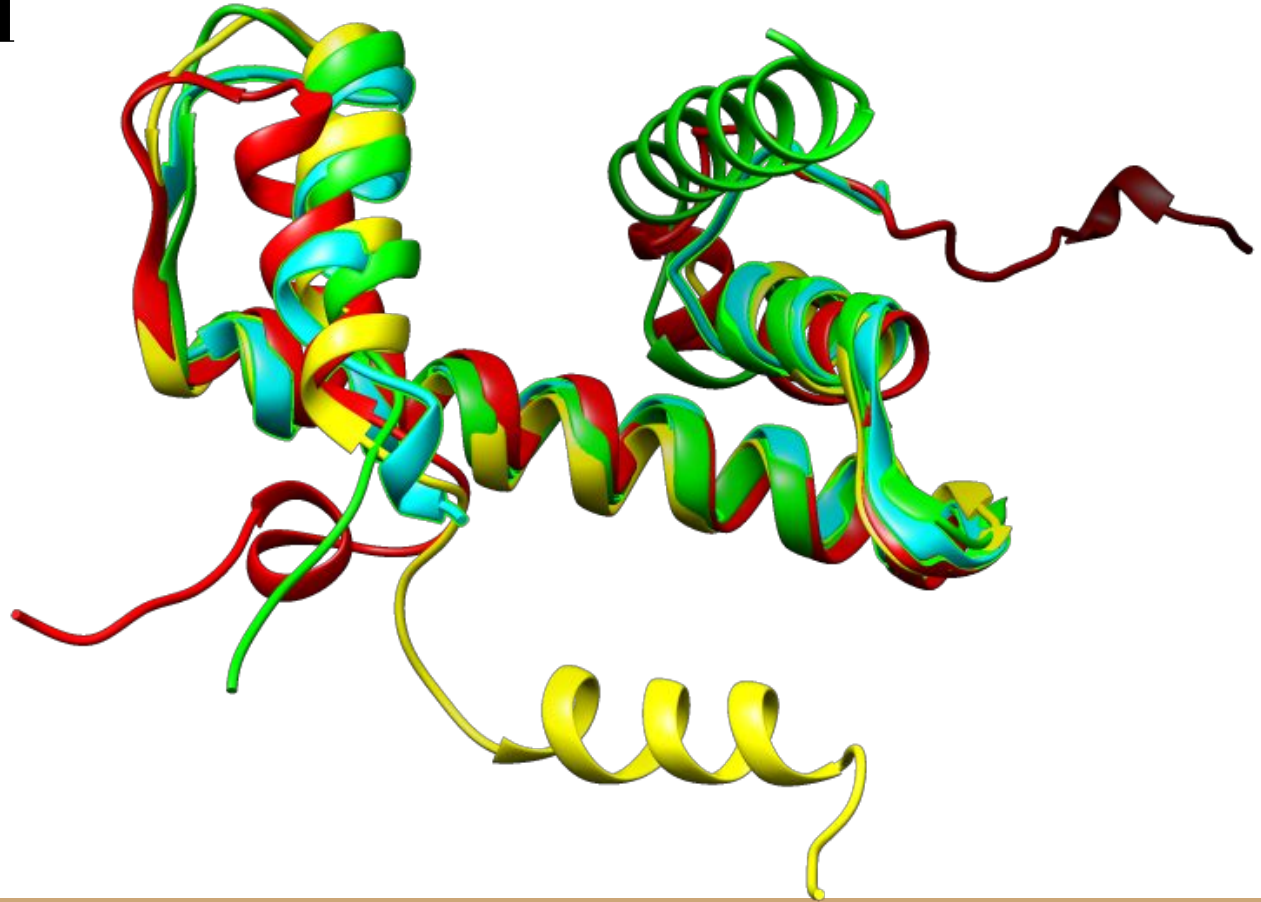
# Histone fold

H<sub>2</sub>A

H<sub>3</sub>

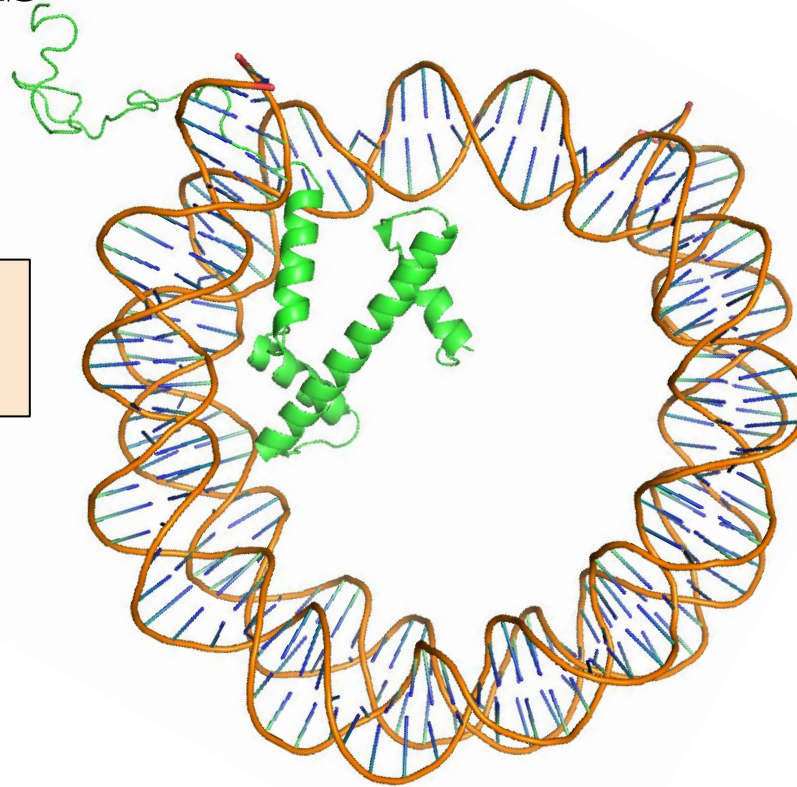
H<sub>2</sub>B

H<sub>4</sub>



# Histone tails

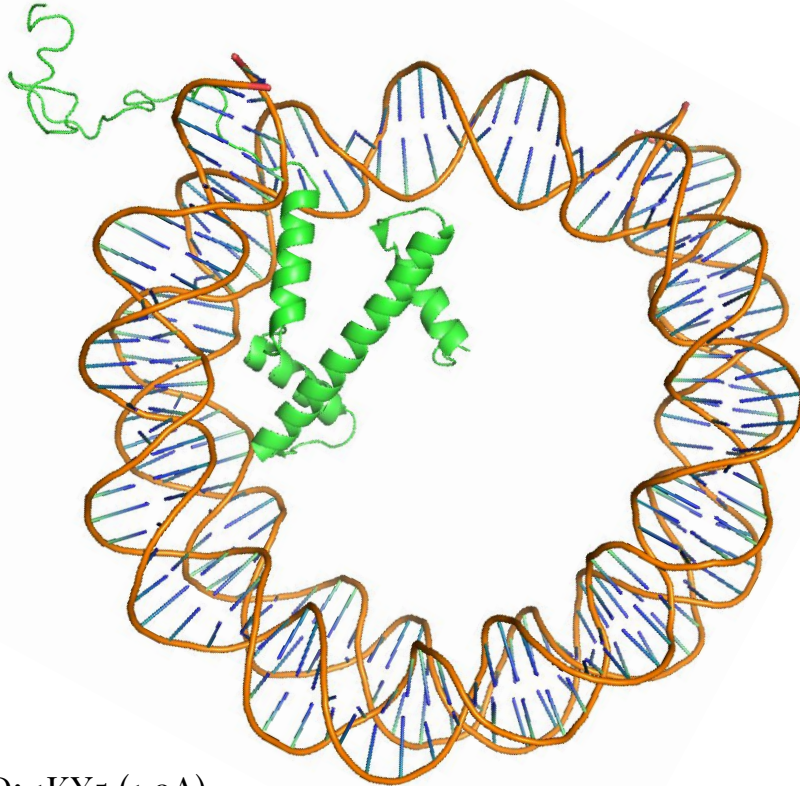
**Genetic regulation**



**Nucleosome stabilization**

pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Histone tails

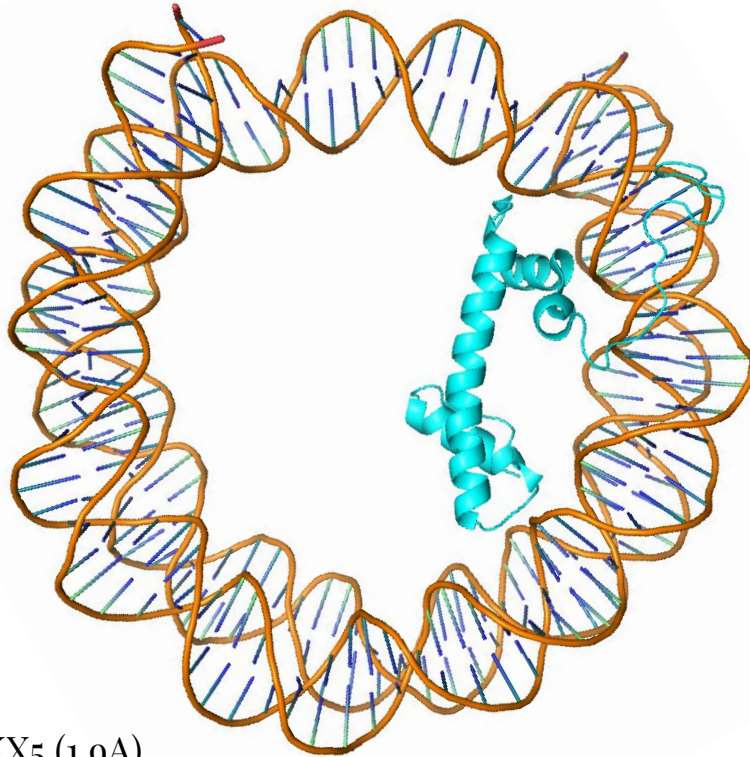


pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

**Type:**  
H3 N-terminal tail

**Function:**  
DNA wrapping

# Histone tails

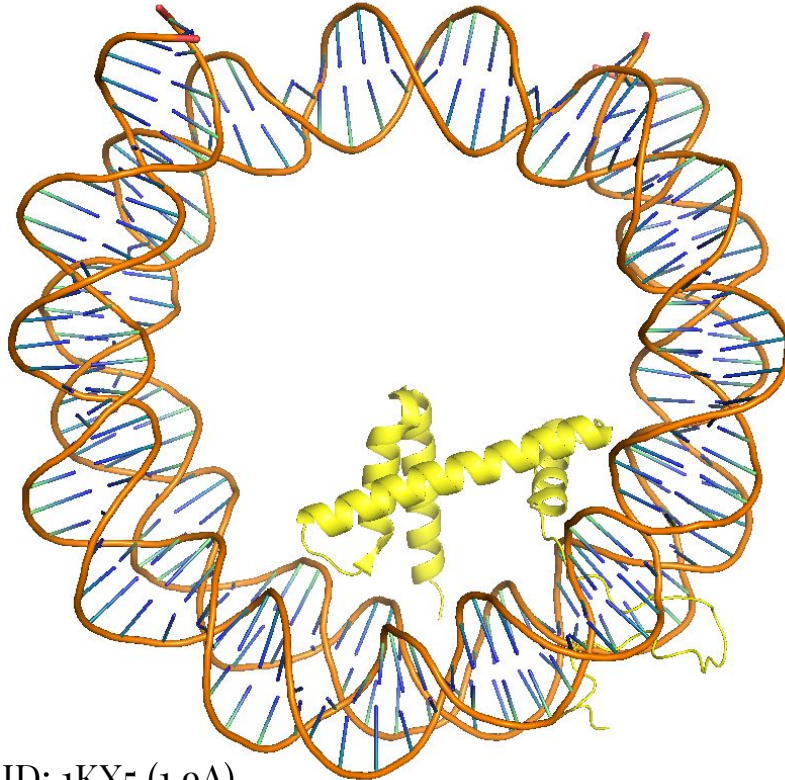


**Type:**  
H4 N-terminal tail

**Function:**  
Internucleosomal binding

pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Histone tails



pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

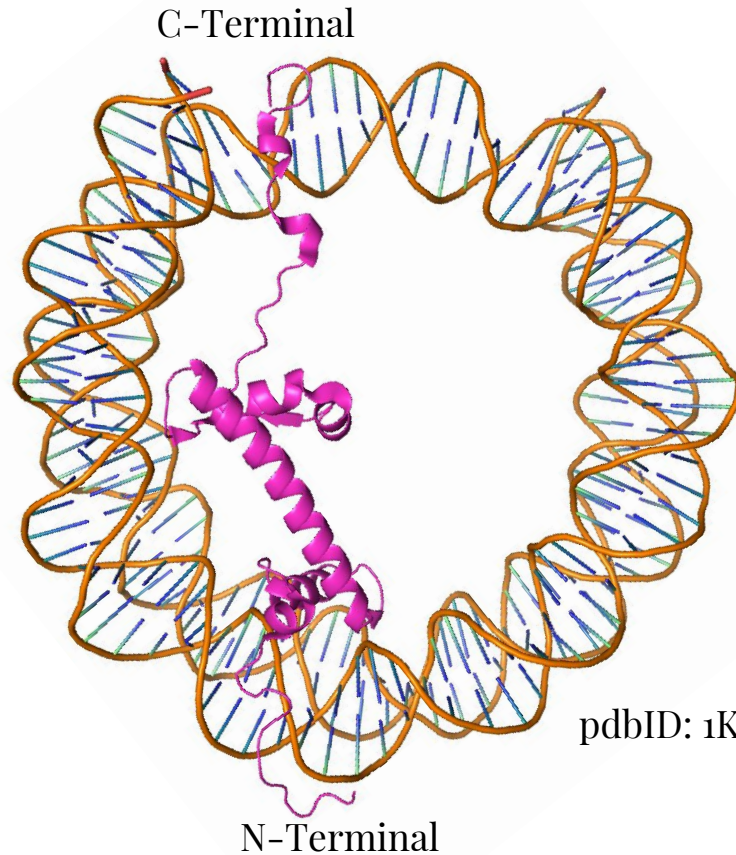
**Type:**  
H2B N-terminal tail

**Function:**  
Modulation of  
nucleosome position

# Histone tails

**Type:**  
H2A N-terminal tail

**Function:**  
Internucleosomal binding



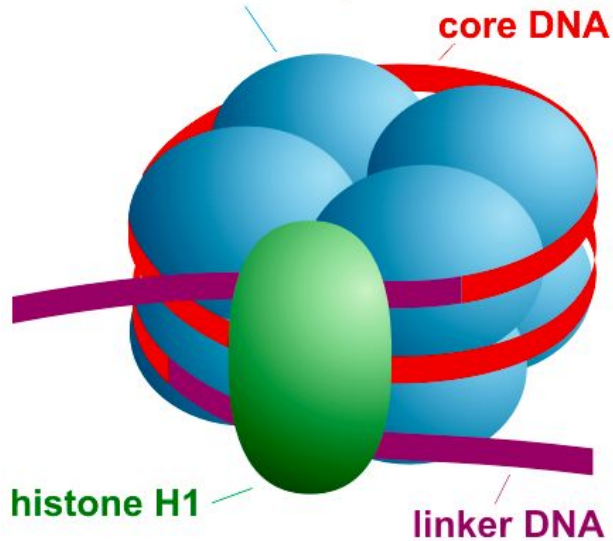
**Type:**  
H2A C-terminal tail

**Function:**  
Binding to the linker DNA

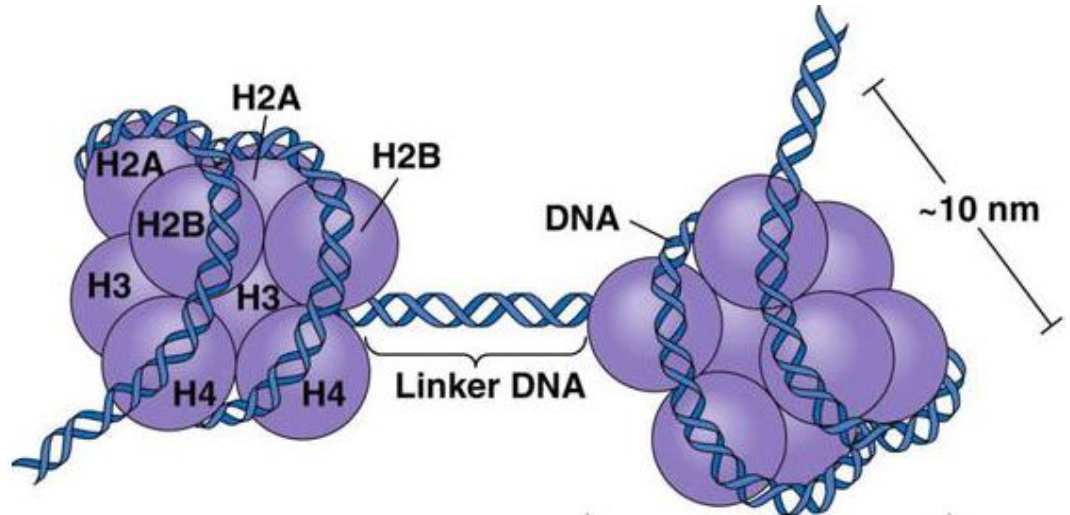
pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9A)

# Linker histone: H1

octamer of core histones:  
H2A, H2B, H3, H4 (each one  $\times 2$ )



Stabilizes the nucleosome and does not take part of the core



Source:  
[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/45/Nucleosome\\_organization.png](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/45/Nucleosome_organization.png)

Source: <http://www.info-farmacia.com/bioquimica/nucleosomas>

# SCOP Classification: H1/H5

Class

All alpha proteins

Fold

DNA/RNA-binding 3-helical bundle

Superfamily

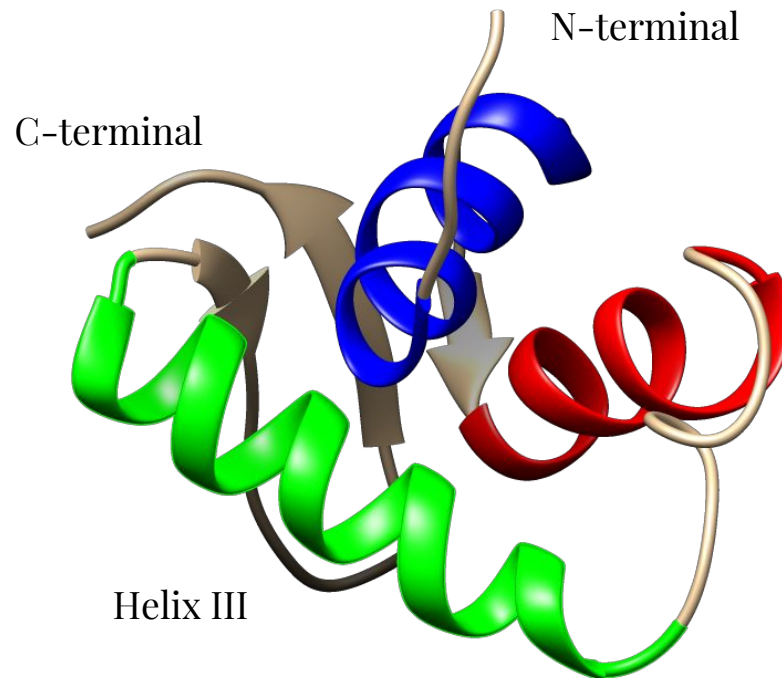
Winged helix DNA-binding domain

Family

Linker histone H1/H5

Protein

Histone H1/H5



pdbID: 1ghc

# Methods



NodeId1	Interaction	NodeId2	Distance	Angle	Energy	Atom1	Atom2	Donor	Positive	Cation	Orientation
A:2:._ARG	VDW:SC_SC	A:5:._GLN	3.751	-999.9	6.000	CZ	CG				
A:9:._LYS	VDW:SC_SC	A:17:._ARG	3.301	-999.9	6.000	CE	CZ				
A:9:._LYS	VDW:SC_SC	A:18:._LYS	3.778	-999.9	6.000	CE	CE				
A:14:._LYS	HBOND:MC	A:17:._ARG	2.895	56.437	17.000	O	NH1	A:17:._ARG			
A:15:._ALA	VDW:SC_SC	A:25:._ALA	3.575	-999.9	6.000	CB	CB				
A:16:._PRO	VDW:SC_MC	A:21:._ALA	3.450	-999.9	6.000	CB	C				
A:16:._PRO	VDW:SC_MC	A:22:._THR	3.940	-999.9	6.000	CG	C				
A:25:._ALA	VDW:SC_SC	A:30:._PRO	3.789	-999.9	6.000	CB	CB				
A:35:._VAL	VDW:SC_SC	A:38:._PRO	3.093	-999.9	6.000	CG1	CG				
A:41:._TYR	VDW:SC_SC	A:45:._THR	3.926	-999.9	6.000	CD2	CG2				
A:41:._TYR	VDW:SC_SC	A:46:._VAL	3.858	-999.9	6.000	CB	CG2				
A:42:._ARG	HBOND:MC	A:45:._THR	3.043	8.483	17.000	O	N	A:45:._THR			
A:44:._GLY	HBOND:MC	A:47:._ALA	3.450	40.329	17.000	O	N	A:47:._ALA			
A:44:._GLY	HBOND:MC	A:48:._LEU	2.983	18.438	17.000	O	N	A:48:._LEU			
A:45:._THR	HBOND:MC	A:49:._ARG	3.153	36.107	17.000	O	N	A:49:._ARG			
A:46:._VAL	HBOND:MC	A:49:._ARG	3.165	38.809	17.000	O	N	A:49:._ARG			
A:46:._VAL	VDW:SC_SC	A:49:._ARG	4.004	-999.9	6.000	CG2	CZ				
A:46:._VAL	HBOND:MC	A:50:._GLU	2.892	22.871	17.000	O	N	A:50:._GLU			
A:47:._ALA	HBOND:MC	A:50:._GLU	3.048	41.544	17.000	O	N	A:50:._GLU			
A:47:._ALA	HBOND:MC	A:51:._ILE	2.906	26.272	17.000	O	N	A:51:._ILE			
A:48:._LEU	HBOND:MC	A:51:._ILE	3.448	41.156	17.000	O	N	A:51:._ILE			
A:48:._LEU	VDW:SC_SC	A:51:._ILE	3.915	-999.9	6.000	CD1	CD1				
A:48:._LEU	HBOND:MC	A:52:._ARG	3.106	24.296	17.000	O	N	A:52:._ARG			
A:49:._ARG	HBOND:MC	A:52:._ARG	3.318	40.738	17.000	O	N	A:52:._ARG			
A:49:._ARG	HBOND:MC	A:53:._ARG	2.921	31.625	17.000	O	N	A:53:._ARG			
A:50:._GLU	HBOND:MC	A:53:._ARG	3.117	40.029	17.000	O	N	A:53:._ARG			
A:50:._GLU	HBOND:MC	A:54:._TYR	2.833	20.212	17.000	O	N	A:54:._TYR			
A:50:._GLU	VDW:MC_SC	A:54:._TYR	3.916	-999.9	6.000	C	CD1				
A:51:._ILE	HBOND:MC	A:54:._TYR	3.408	39.159	17.000	O	N	A:54:._TYR			

Source:  
<http://protein.bio.unipd.it/ring/>

# Methods

# Arpeggio



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE

## Overview [h3.pdb]

### Mutually Exclusive Interactions

Total number of contacts	3768
Of which VdW interactions	79
Of which VdW clash interactions	138
Of which covalent interactions	0
Of which covalent clash interactions	0
Of which proximal	3551

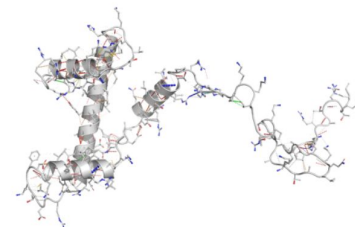
### Polar Contacts ?

Polar contacts	202
Water mediated polar contacts	0
Weak polar contacts	85
Water mediated weak polar contacts	0

### Feature Contacts

Hydrogen bonds	117
Water mediated hydrogen bonds	0
Weak hydrogen bonds	70
Water mediated weak hydrogen bonds	0
Halogen bonds	0
Ionic interactions	14
Metal complex interactions	0
Aromatic contacts	6
Hydrophobic contacts	118
Carbonyl interactions	3

Download All Results



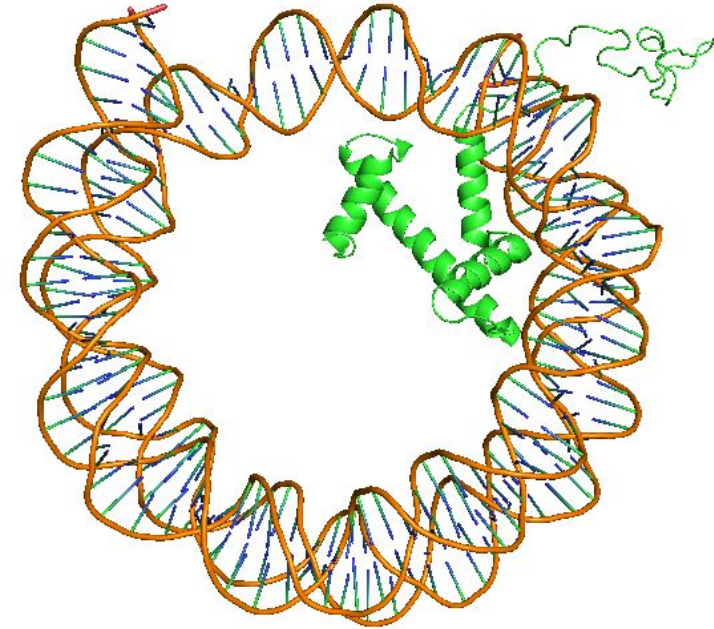
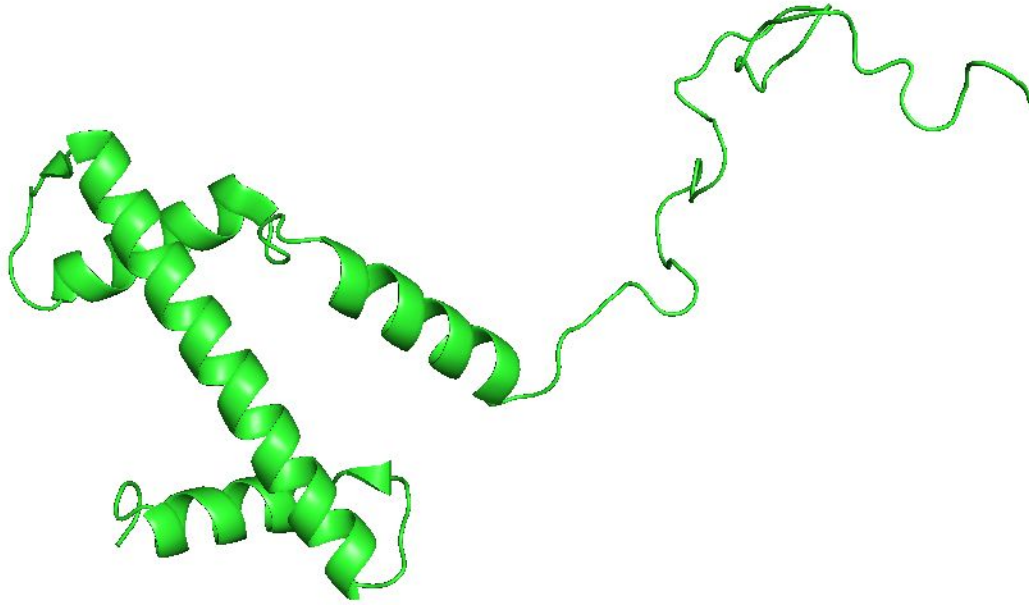
Download PyMOL Session

Source:

<http://biosig.unimelb.edu.au/arpeggioweb/result/pluto-ok-lahoma-lima/>

# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 3



pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Intra-histone interactions

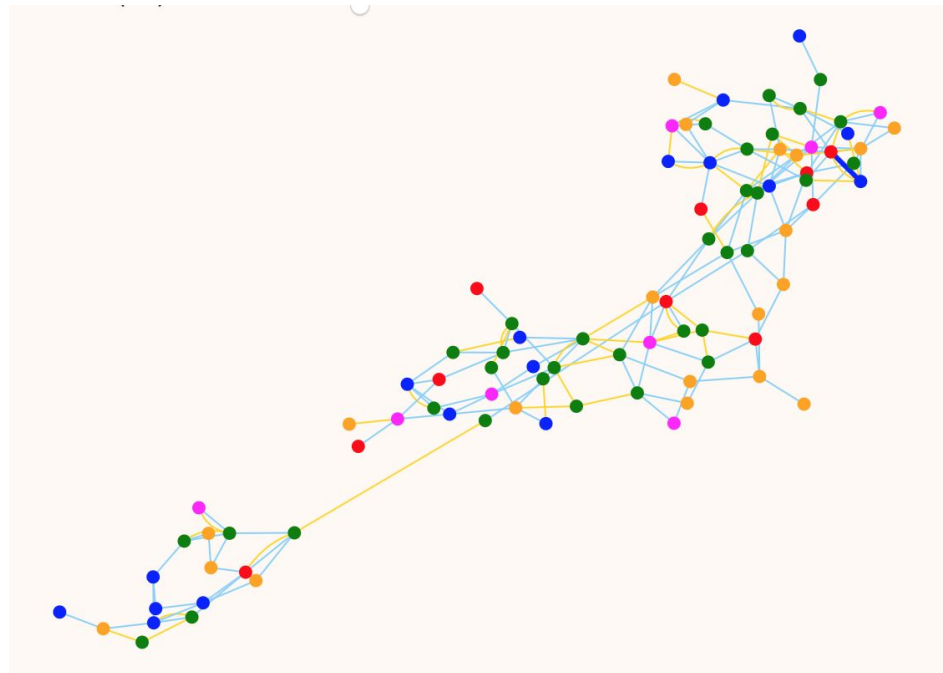
## Histone 3

HBOND

VDW

IONIC

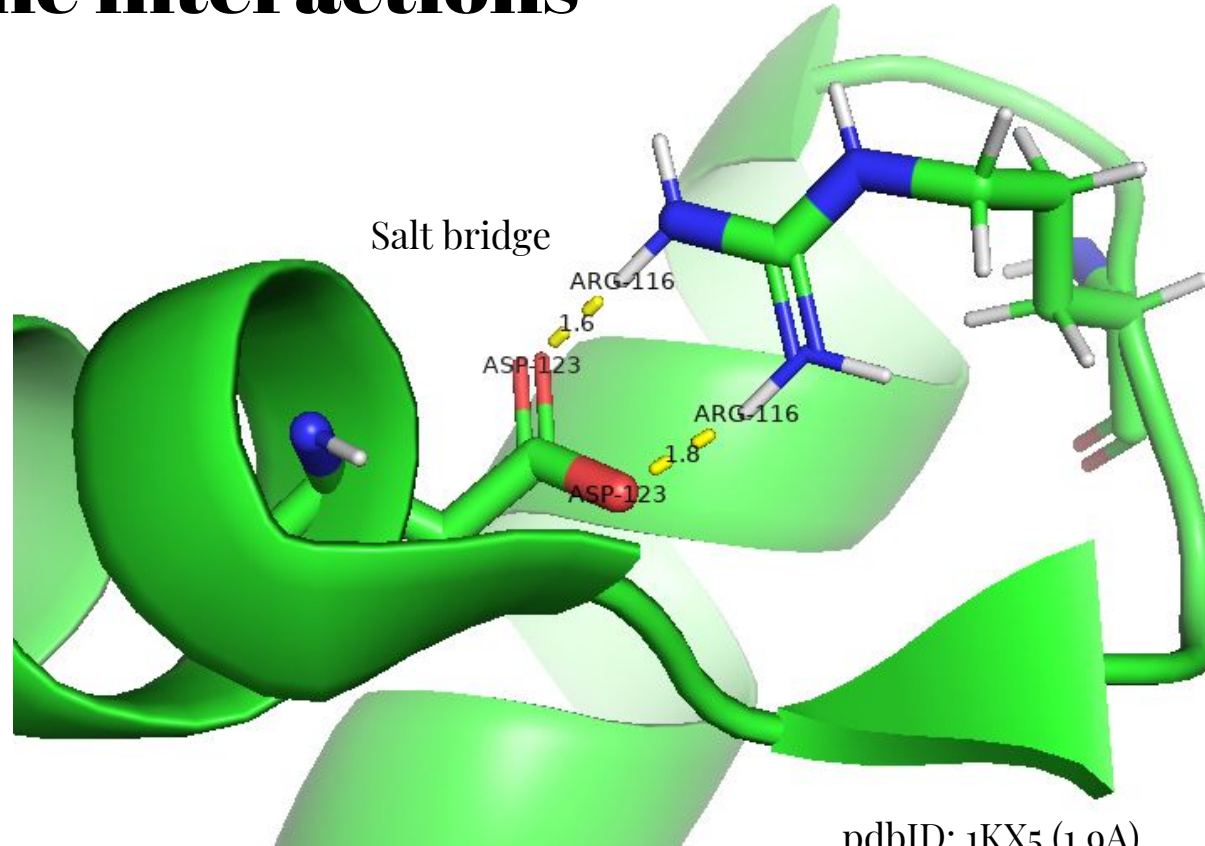
● ARG	● LYS	● CYS	● ILE	● LEU
● MET	● PHE	● PRO	● TRP	● TYR
● VAL	● ASN	● GLN	● HIS	● ALA
● GLY	● SER	● THR	● ASP	● GLU
● LIG				



Source:  
<http://protein.bio.unipd.it/ring/>

# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 3

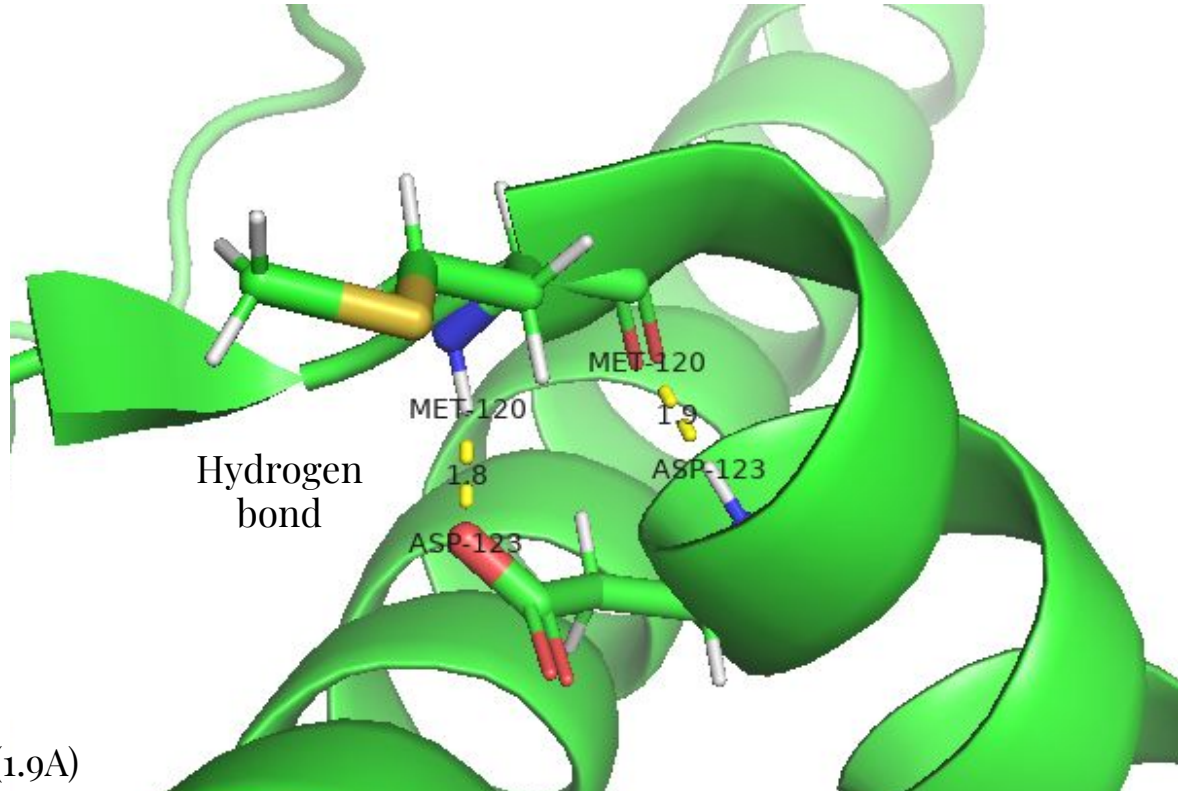
**Arg 116****Asp 123****Met 120****Asp 123**

# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 3

Arg 116

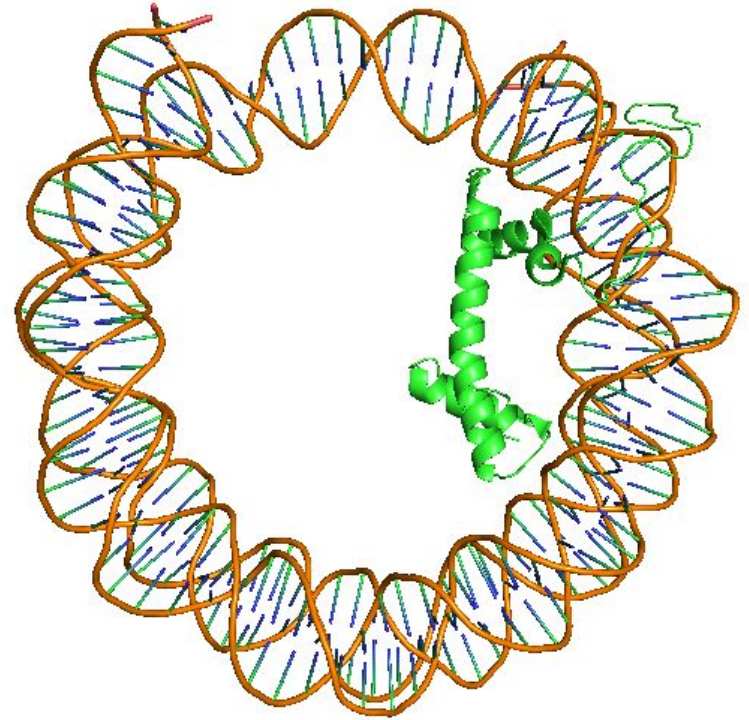
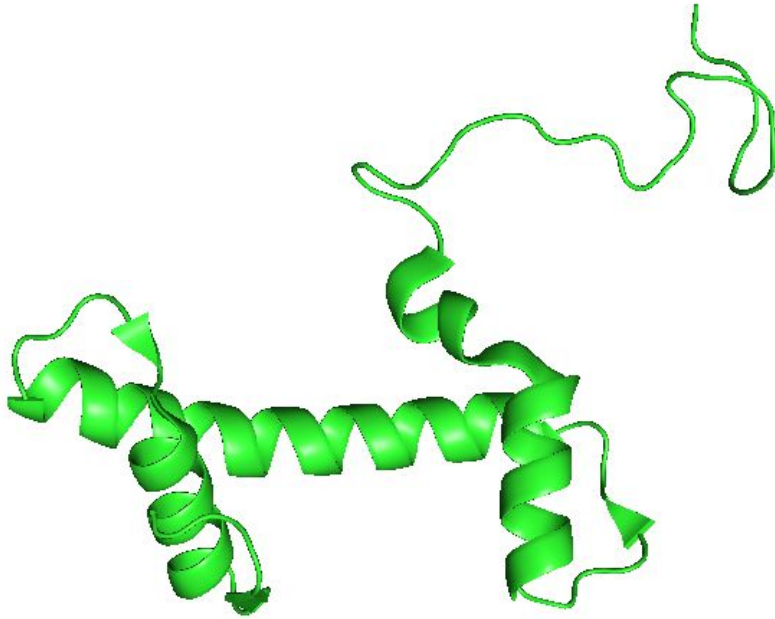
Asp 123

**Met 120****Asp 123**

pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Intra-histone interactions

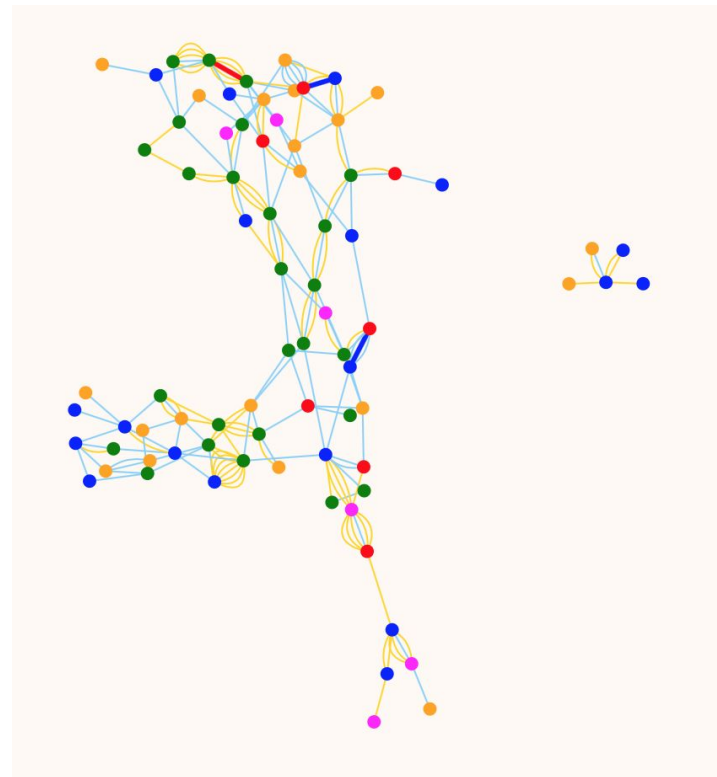
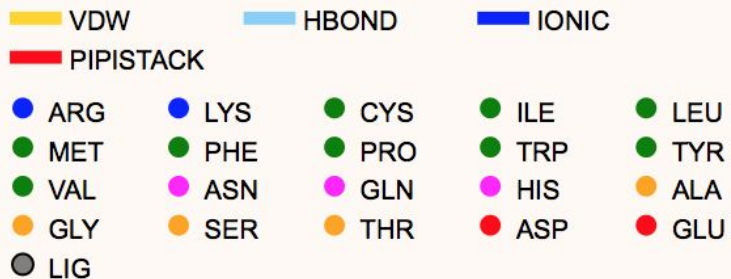
## Histone 4



pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 4

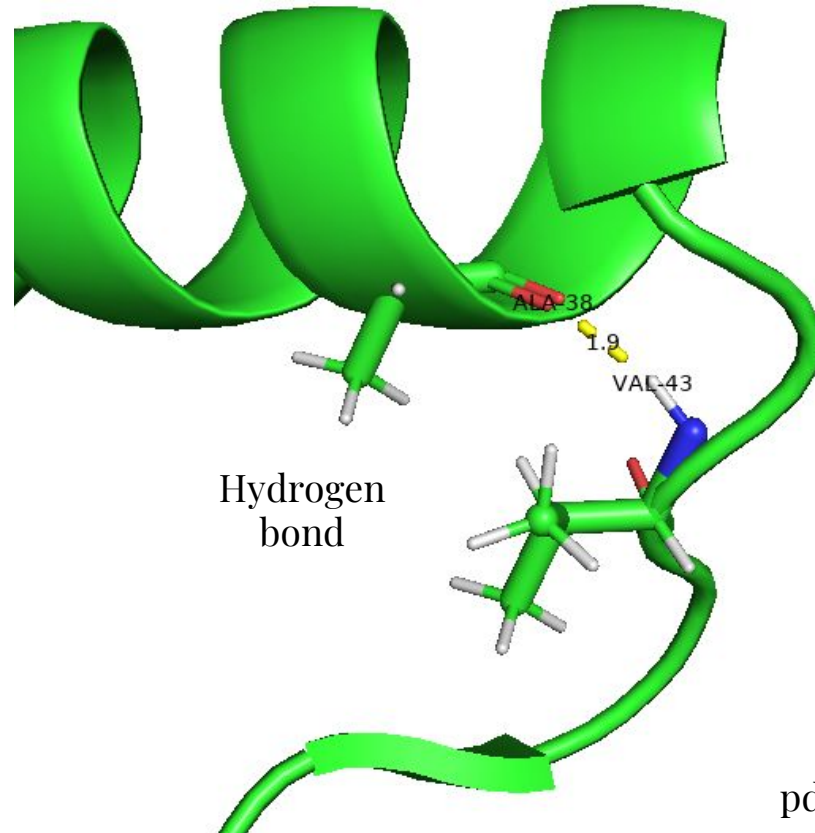


Source:  
<http://protein.bio.unipd.it/ring/>

# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 4

Ala 38	Val 43
Arg 78	Asp 85
Asp 68	Arg 92



pd bID: 1KX5 (1.9A)

# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 4

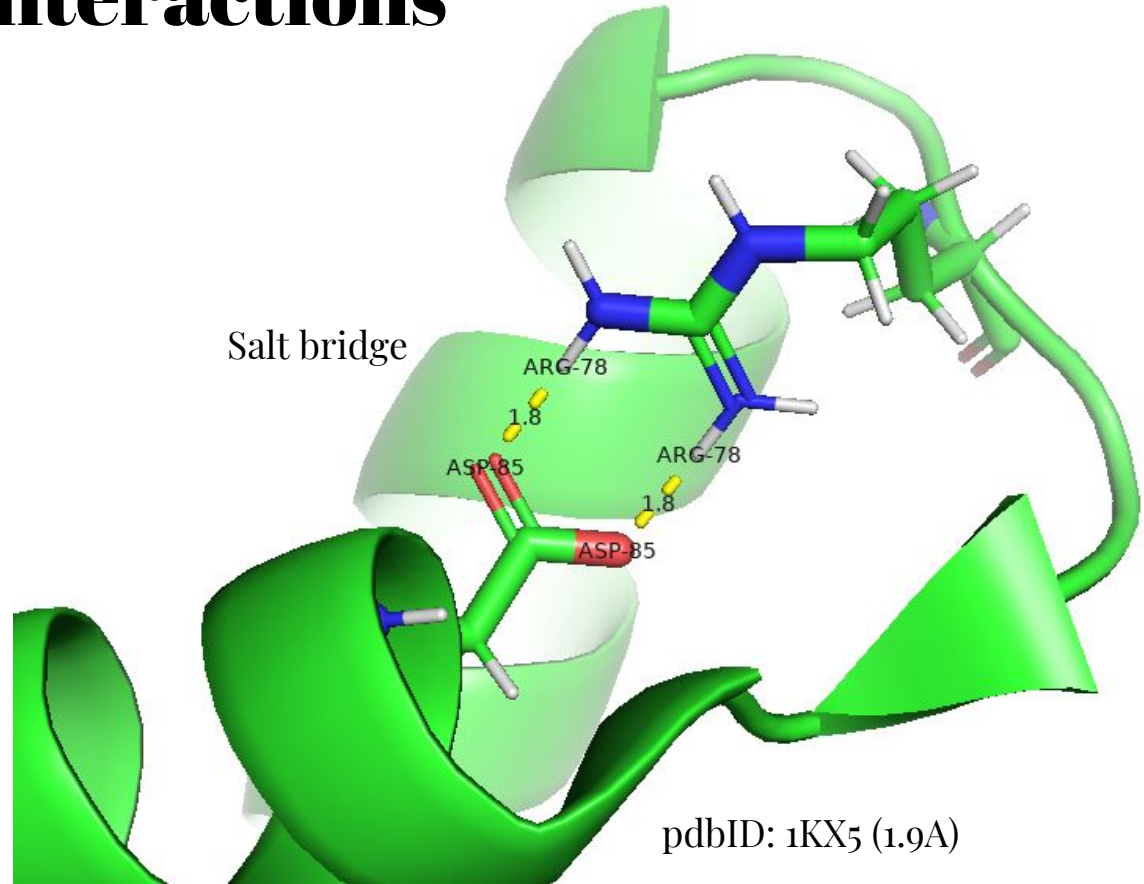
Ala 38

Val 43

**Arg 78****Asp 85**

Asp 68

Arg 92



# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 4

Ala 38

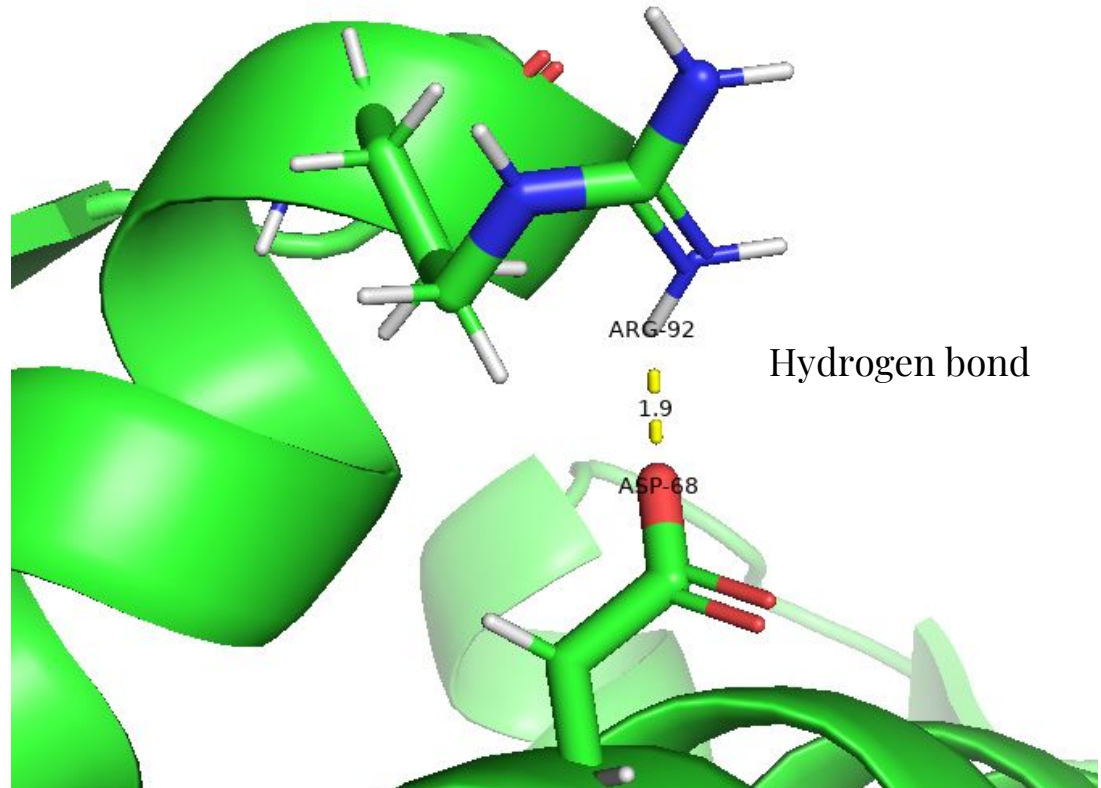
Val 43

Arg 78

Asp 85

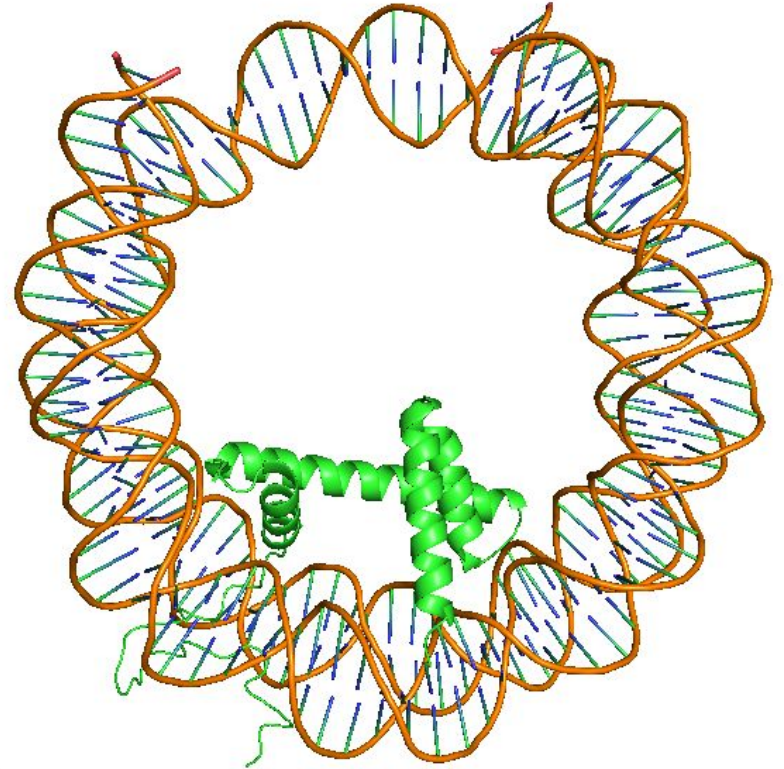
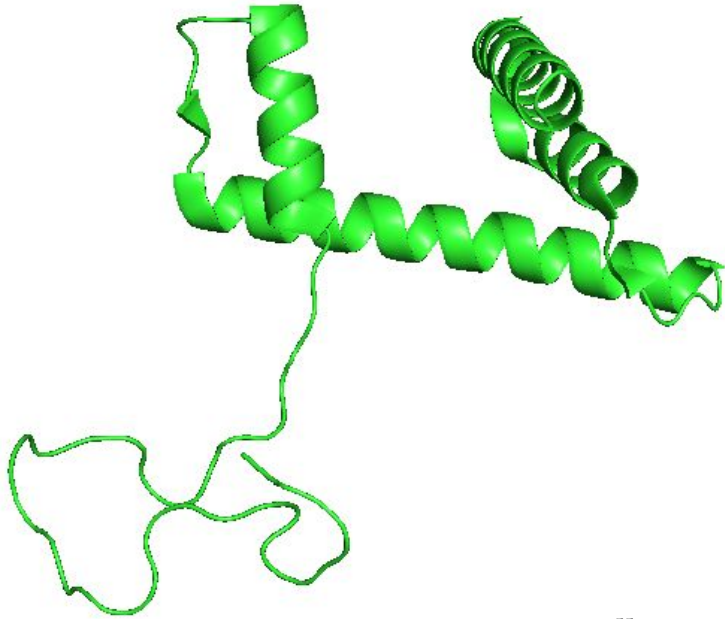
**Asp 68****Arg 92**

pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9A)



# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 2B



pdbid: 1KX5 (1.9A)

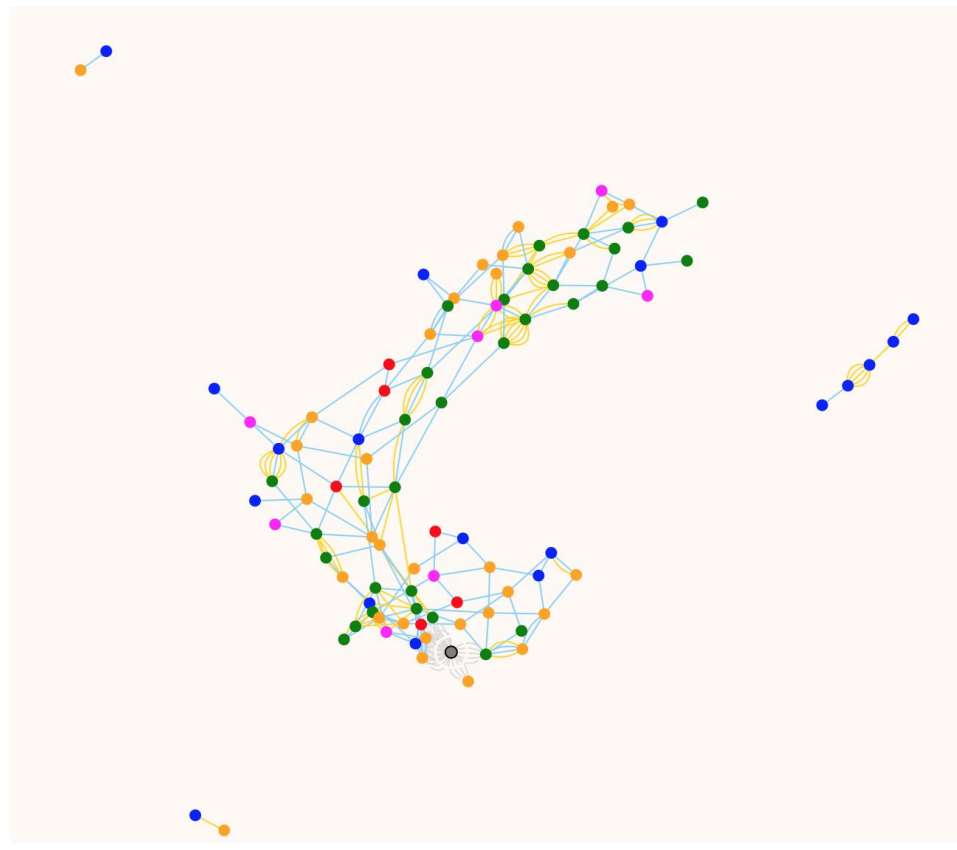
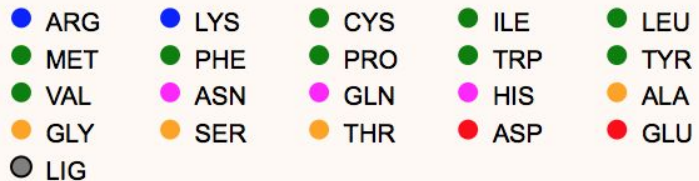
# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 2B

HBOND

VDW

IAC



Source:  
<http://protein.bio.unipd.it/ring/>

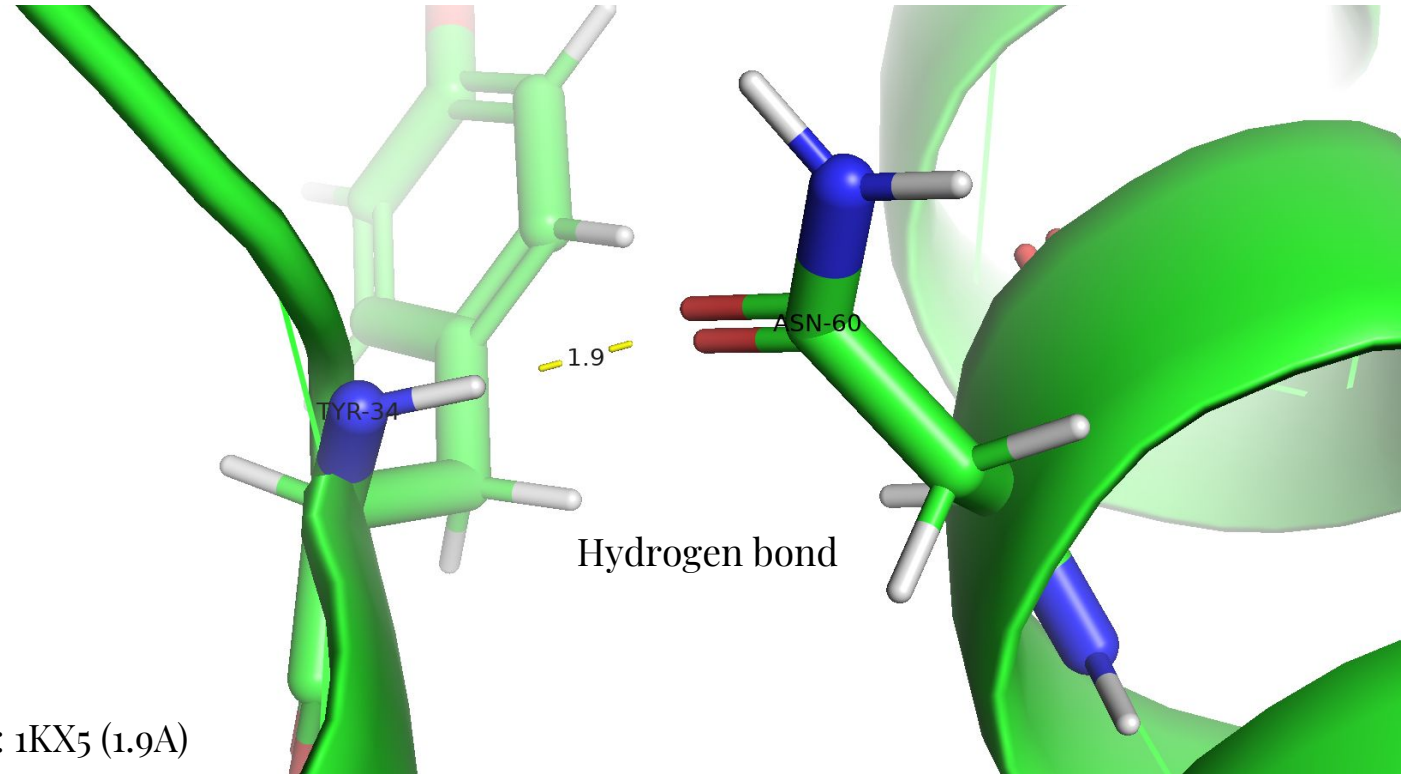
# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 2B

**Asn 60****Tyr 34**

Glu 90

Thr 87



# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 2B

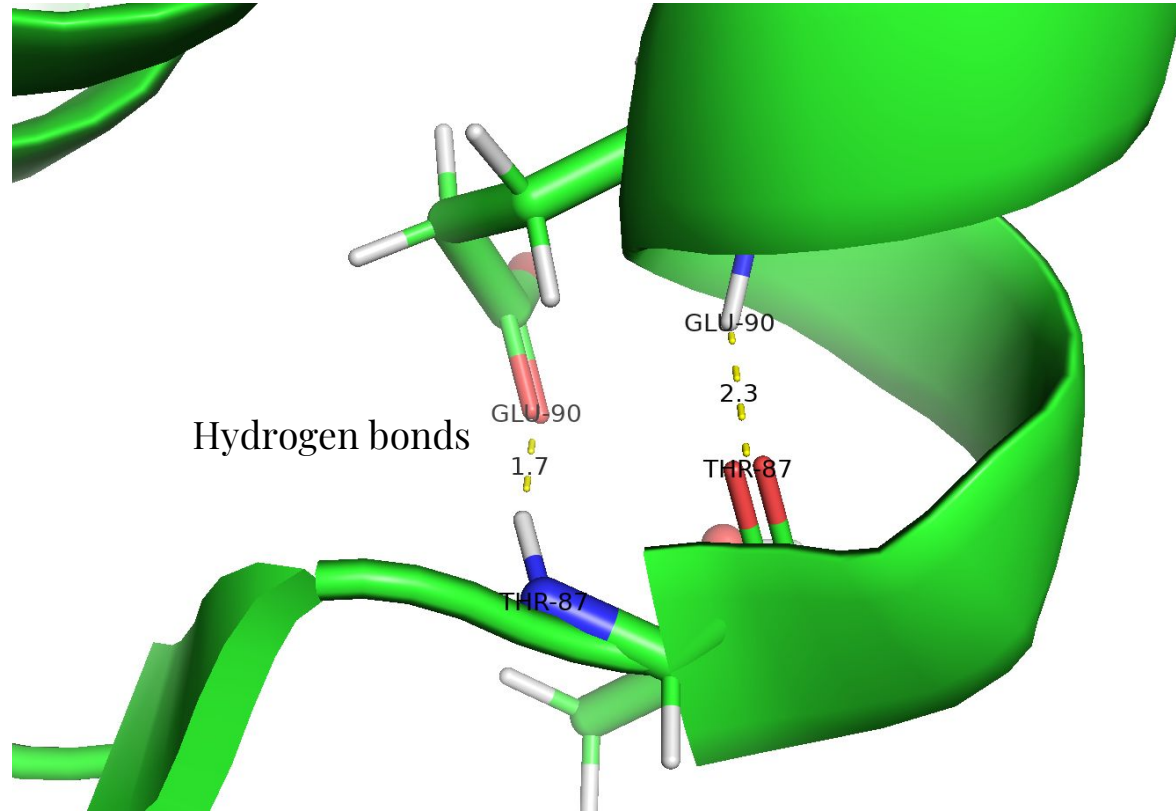
Asn 60

Tyr 34

Glu 90

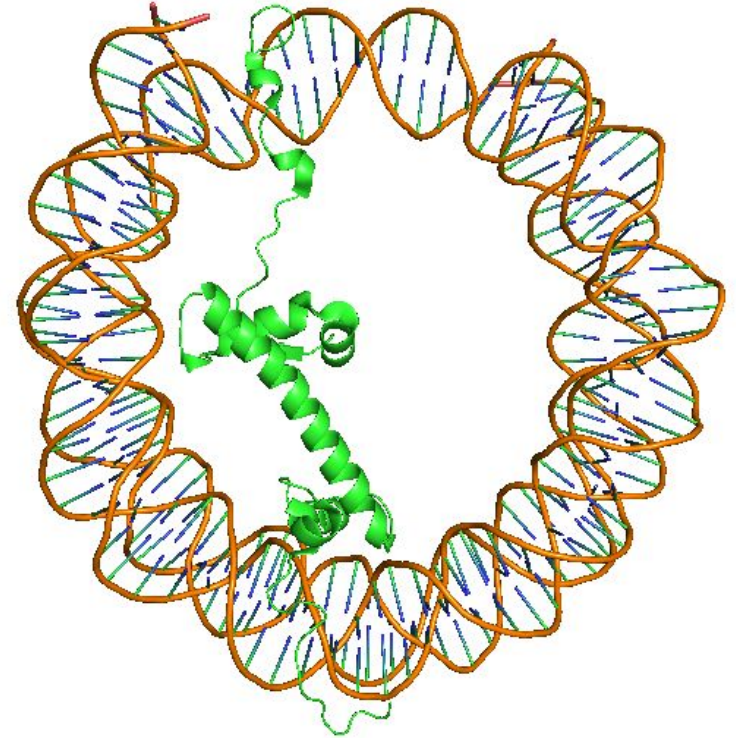
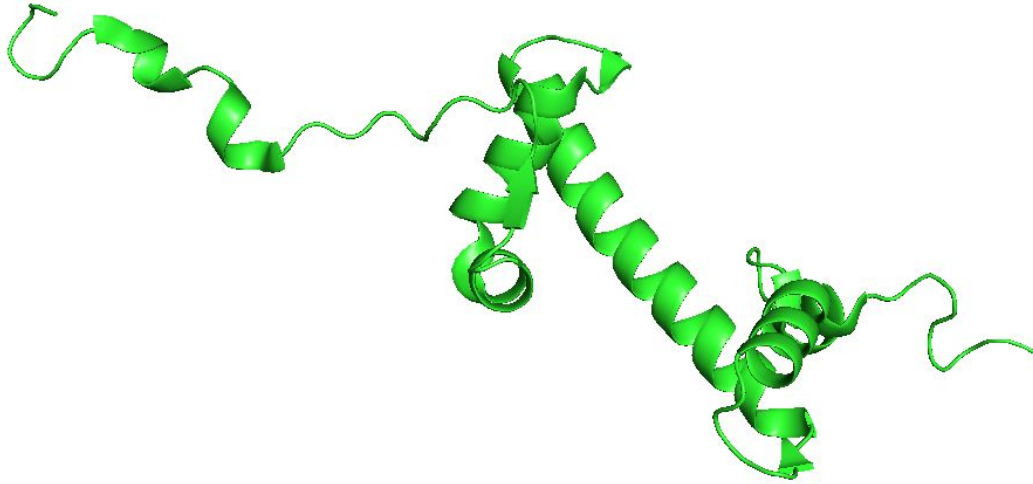
Thr 87

pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)



# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 2A



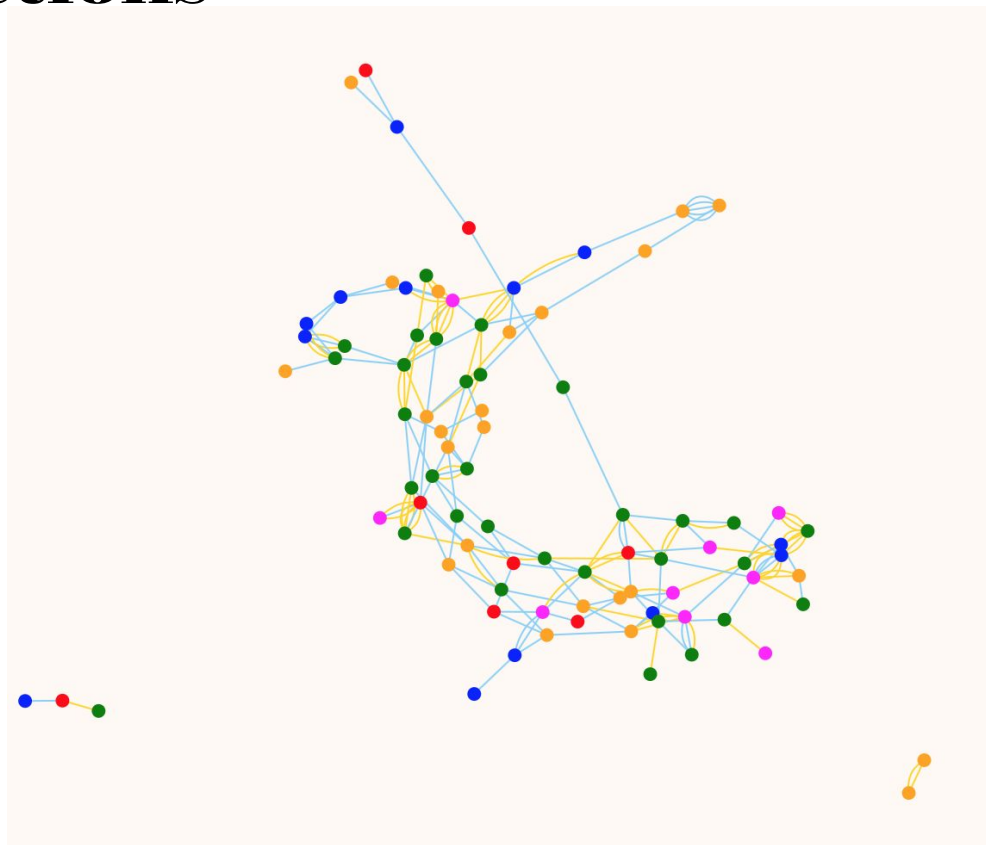
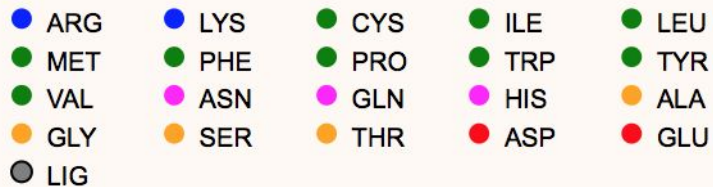
pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 2A

HBOND

VDW

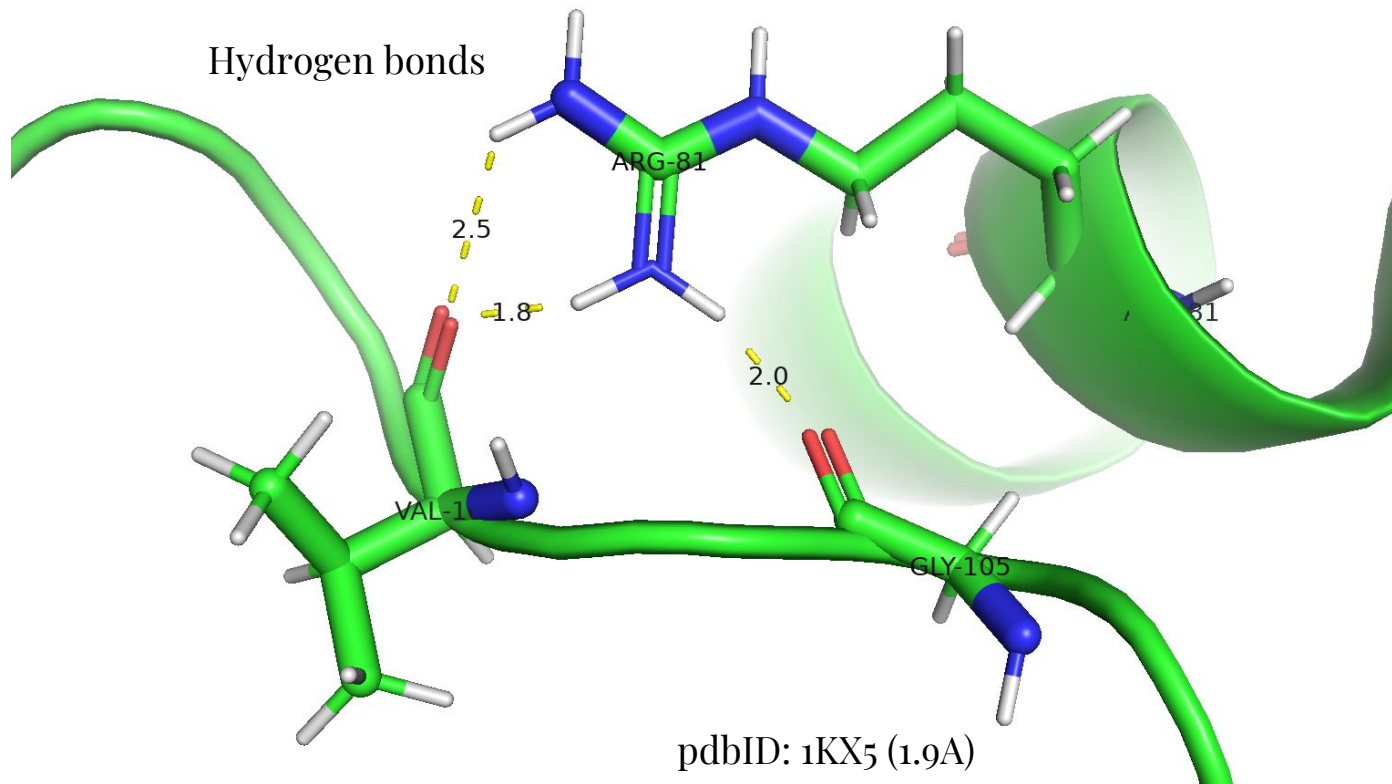


Source:  
<http://protein.bio.unipd.it/ring/>

# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 2A

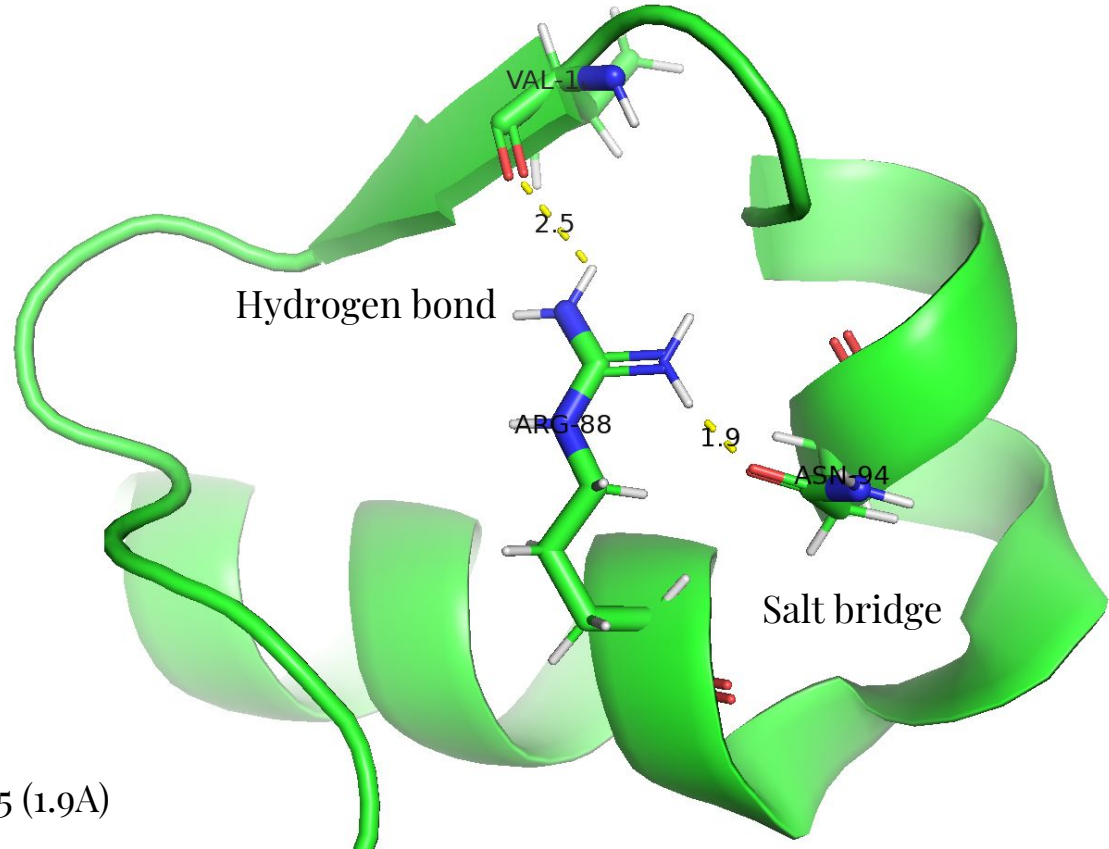
Gly 105	Arg 81	Val 107
Asn 94	Arg 88	Val 100



# Intra-histone interactions

## Histone 2A

Gly 105	Arg 81	Val 107
Asn 94	Arg 88	Val 100



pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

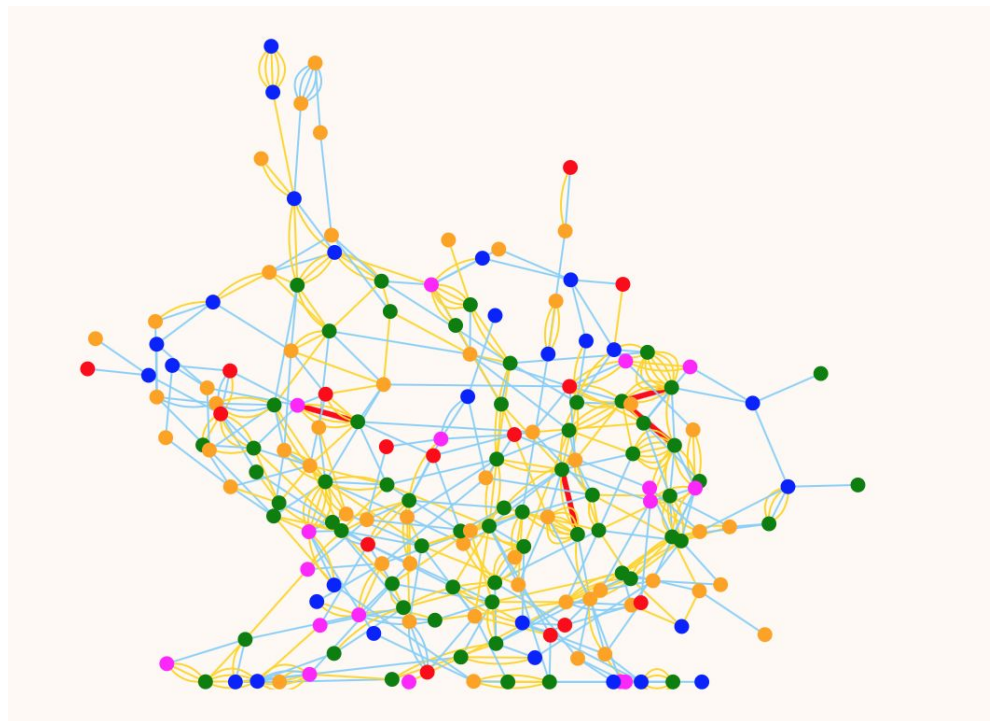
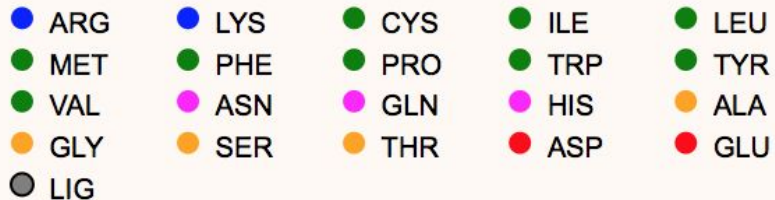
# Dimer interactions

## Histone 2A - Histone 2B

HBOND

VDW

PIPISTACK

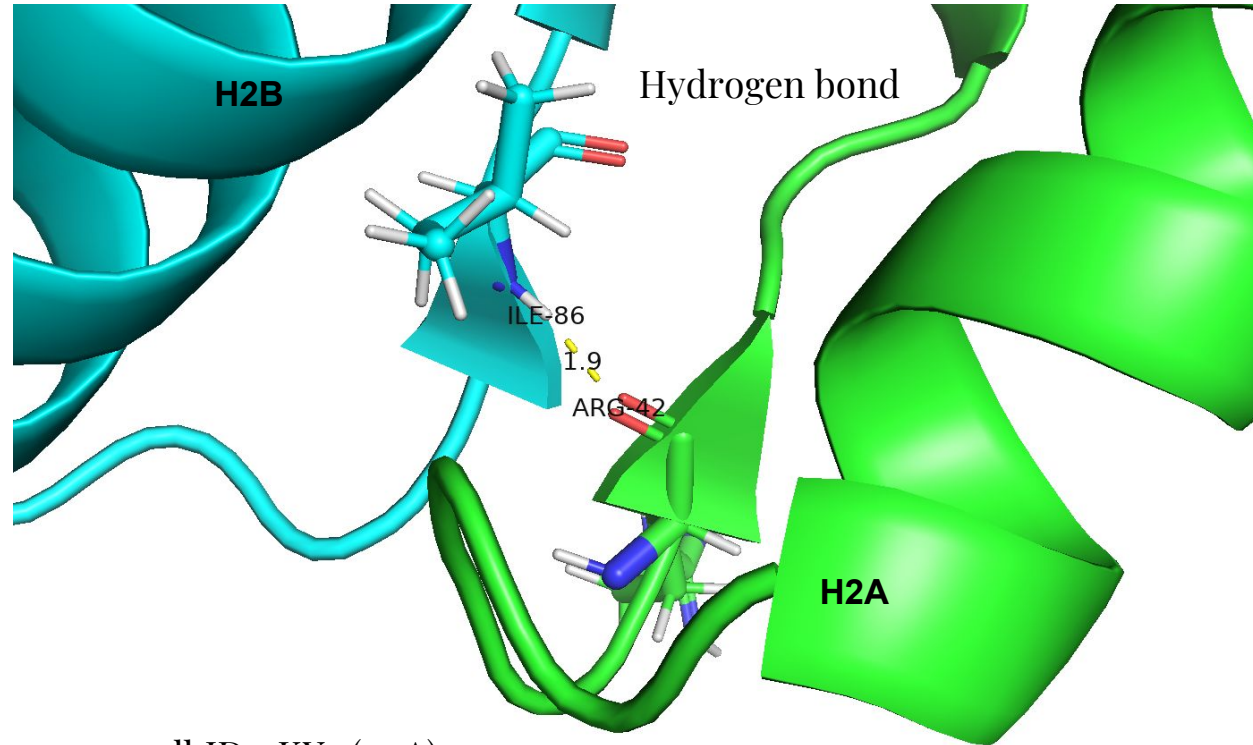


Source:  
<http://protein.bio.unipd.it/ring/>

# Dimer interactions

## Histone 2A - Histone 2B

Arg 42	Ile 86
Gly 44	Ile 86
Ile 78	Ile 51



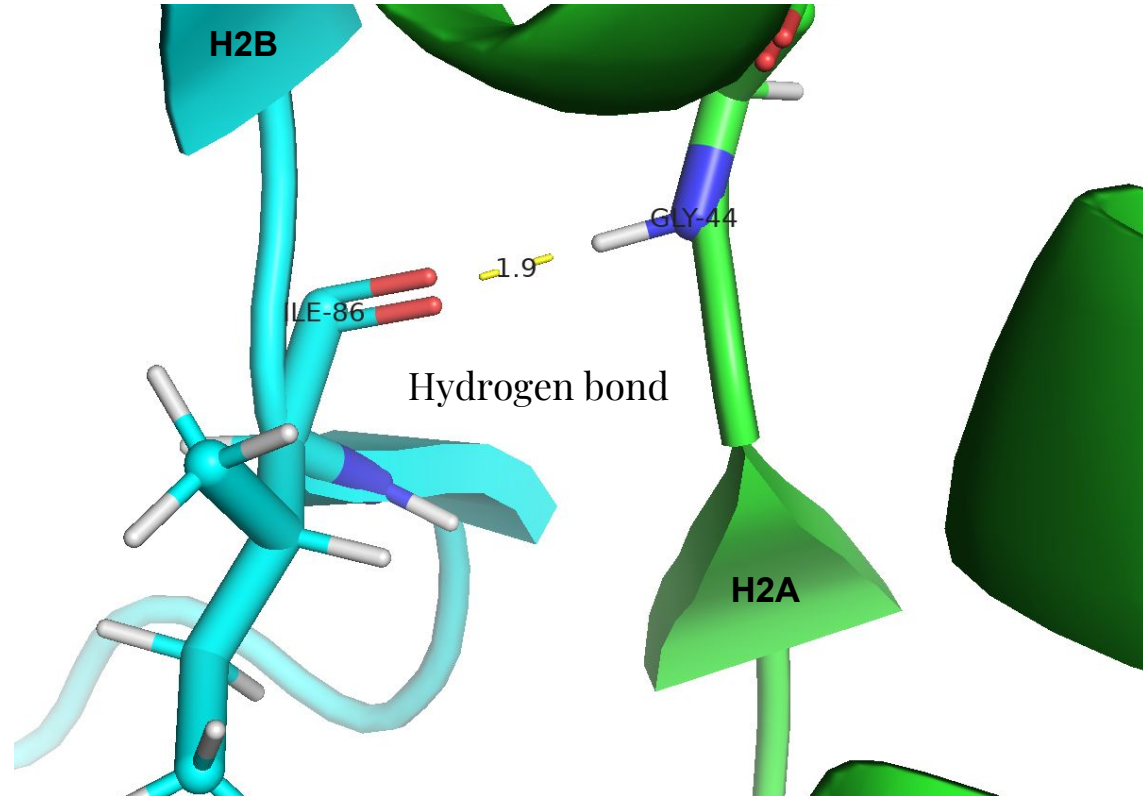
pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9A)

# Dimer interactions

## Histone 2A - Histone 2B

Arg 42	Ile 86
<b>Gly 44</b>	<b>Ile 86</b>
Ile 78	Ile 51

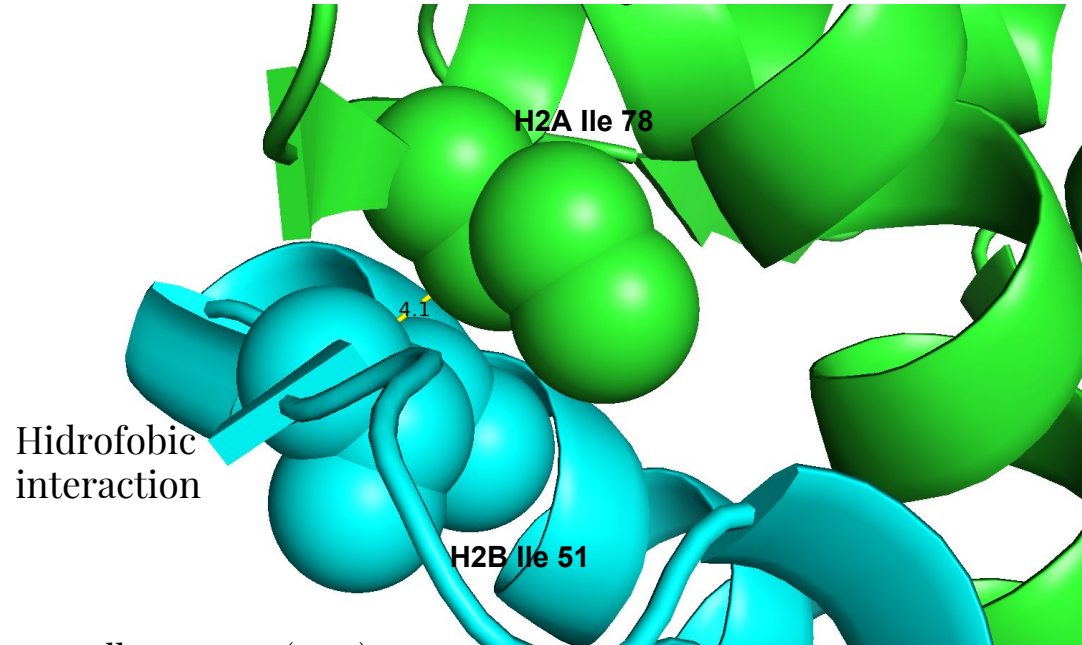
pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)



# Dimer interactions

## Histone 2A - Histone 2B

Arg 12	Ile 86
Gly 44	Ile 86
<b>Ile 78</b>	<b>Ile 51</b>



pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Dimer interactions

## Histone 3 - Histone 4

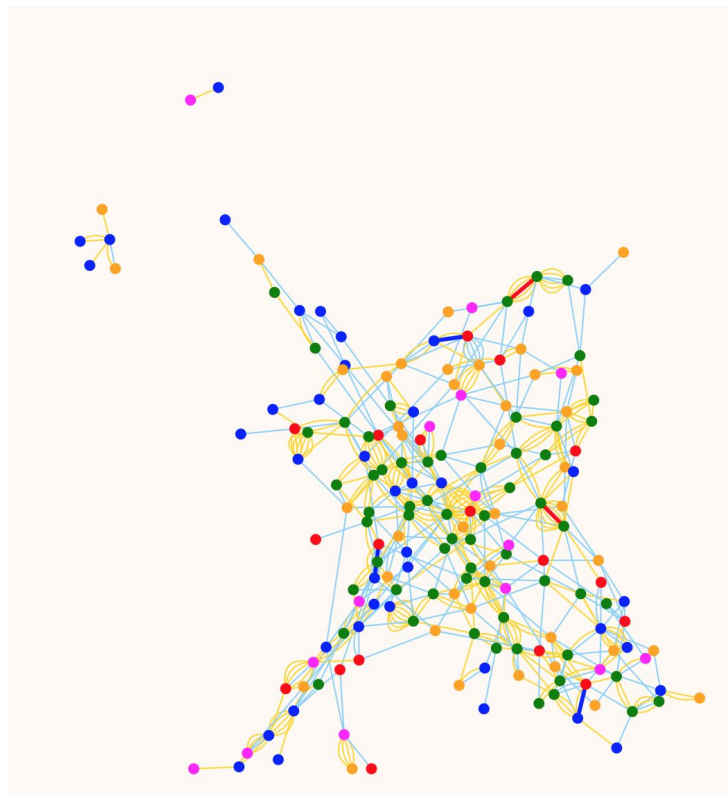
HBOND

VDW

IONIC

PIPISTACK

ARG	LYS	CYS	ILE	LEU
MET	PHE	PRO	TRP	TYR
VAL	ASN	GLN	HIS	ALA
GLY	SER	THR	ASP	GLU
LIG				

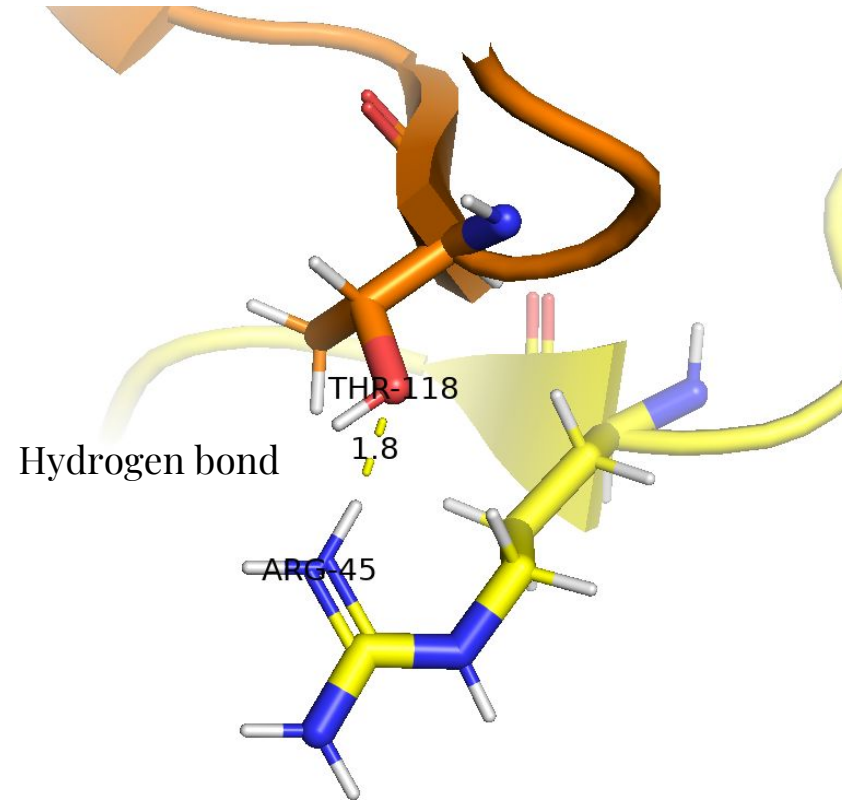


Source:  
<http://protein.bio.unipd.it/ring/>

# Dimer interactions

## Histone 3 - Histone 4

Thr 118	Arg 45
Val 117	Arg 45
Ile 119	Ser 47



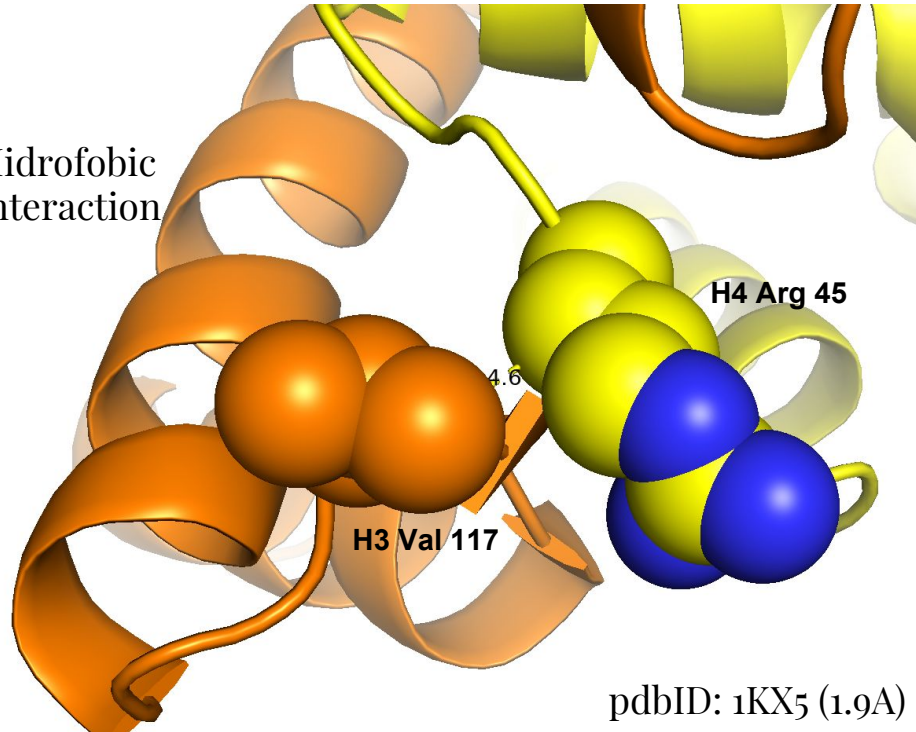
pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9A)

# Dimer interactions

## Histone 3 - Histone 4

Thr 118	Arg 45
<b>Val 117</b>	<b>Arg 45</b>
Ile 119	Ser 47

Hydrophobic  
interaction

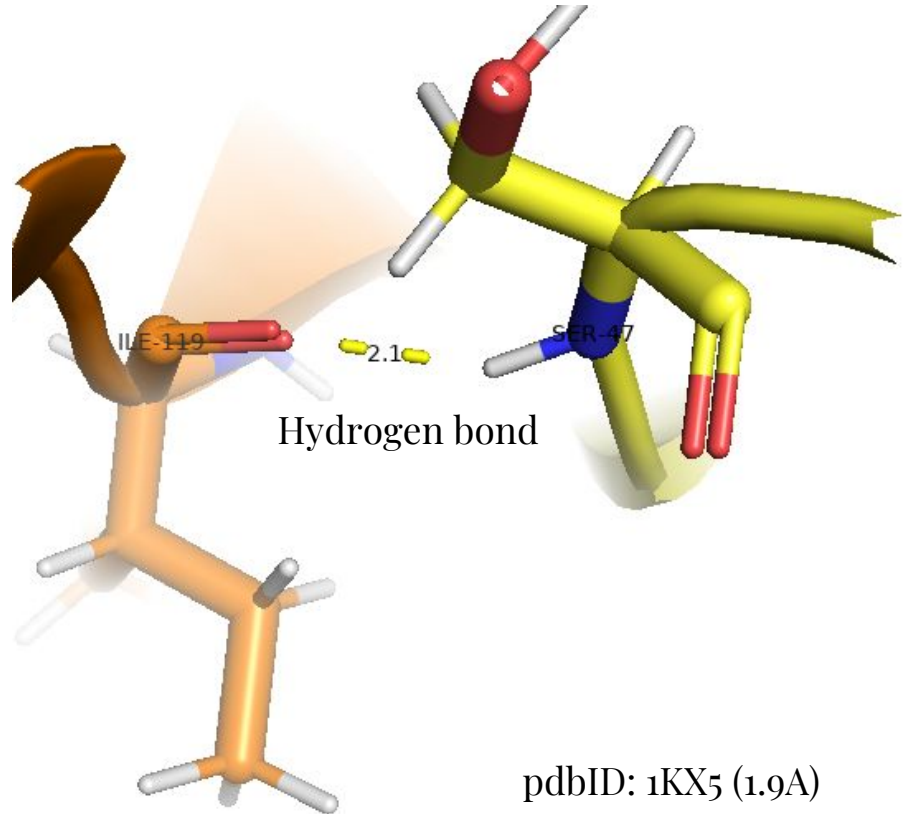


pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Dimer interactions

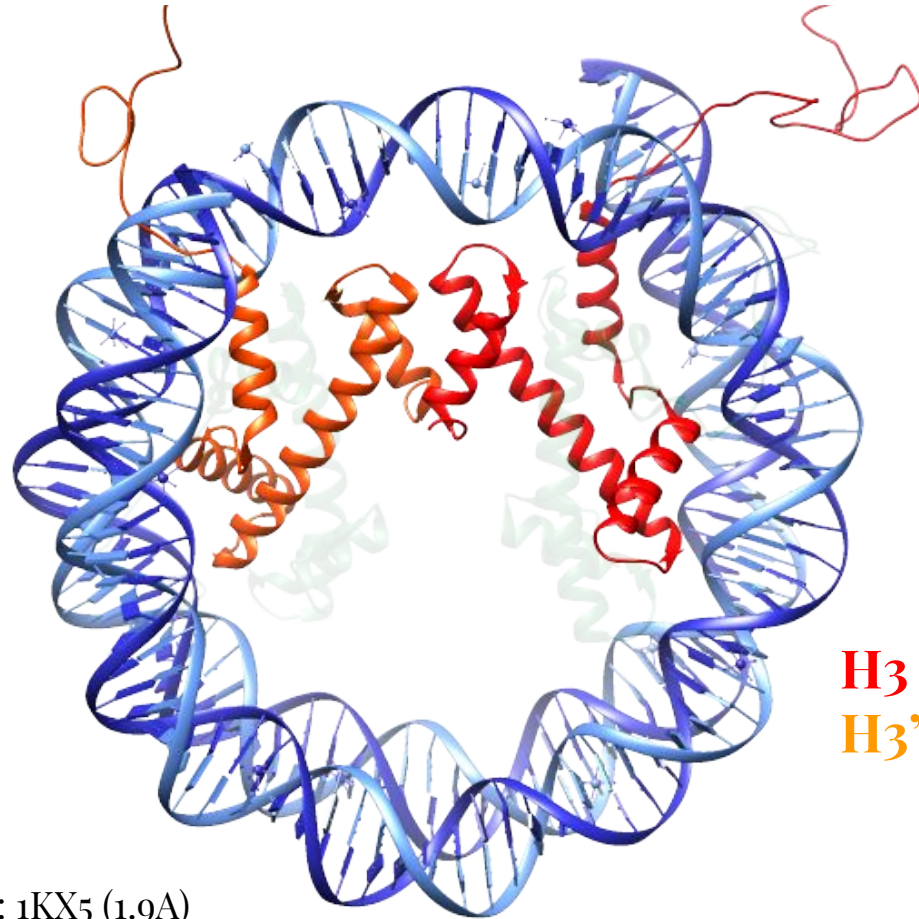
## Histone 3 - Histone 4

Thr 118	Arg 45
Val 117	Arg 45
<b>Ile 119</b>	<b>Ser 47</b>



pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Tetramer H3-H4



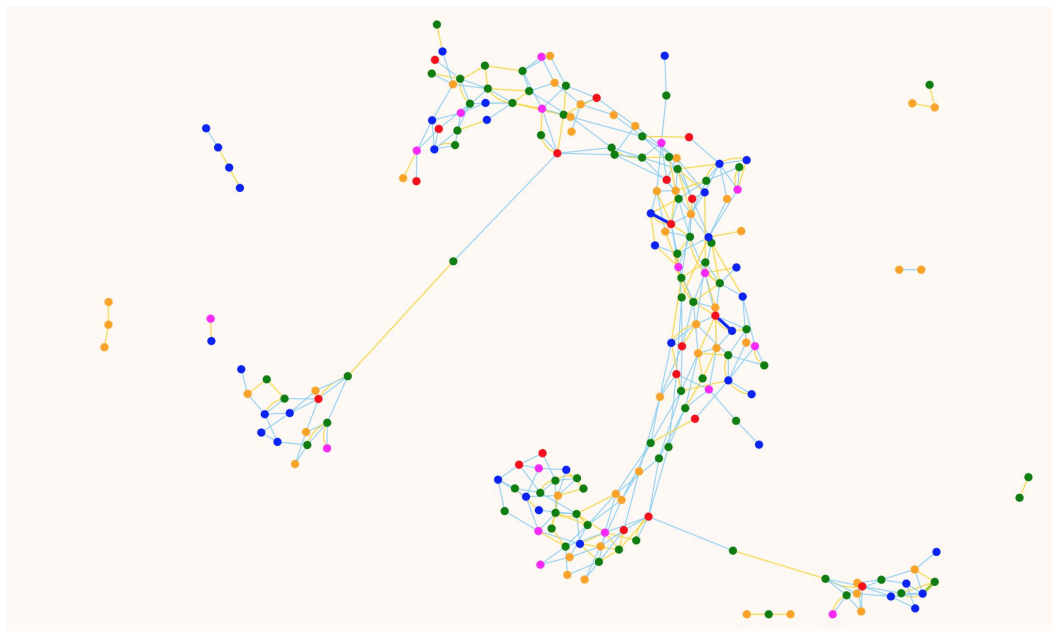
pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Tetramer

## Histone 3 - Histone 3'

— HBOND    — VDW    — IONIC  
— PICATION

<span style="color: blue;">●</span> ARG	<span style="color: blue;">●</span> LYS	<span style="color: green;">●</span> CYS	<span style="color: green;">●</span> ILE	<span style="color: green;">●</span> LEU
<span style="color: green;">●</span> MET	<span style="color: green;">●</span> PHE	<span style="color: green;">●</span> PRO	<span style="color: green;">●</span> TRP	<span style="color: green;">●</span> TYR
<span style="color: green;">●</span> VAL	<span style="color: magenta;">●</span> ASN	<span style="color: magenta;">●</span> GLN	<span style="color: magenta;">●</span> HIS	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> ALA
<span style="color: orange;">●</span> GLY	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> SER	<span style="color: orange;">●</span> THR	<span style="color: red;">●</span> ASP	<span style="color: red;">●</span> GLU
<span style="color: grey;">●</span> LIG				

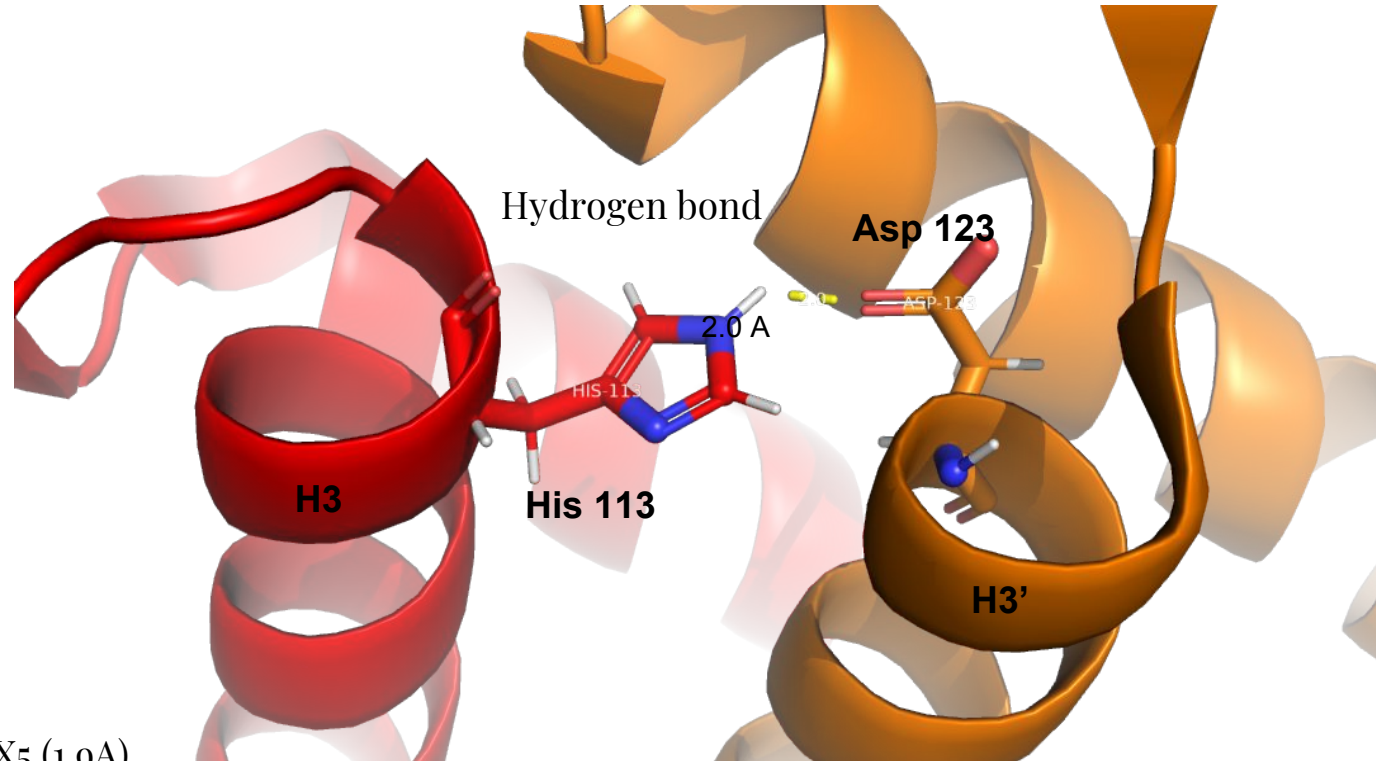


Source:  
<http://protein.bio.unipd.it/ring/>

# Tetramer

## Histone 3 - Histone 3'

His 113	Asp 123
His 113	Cys 110

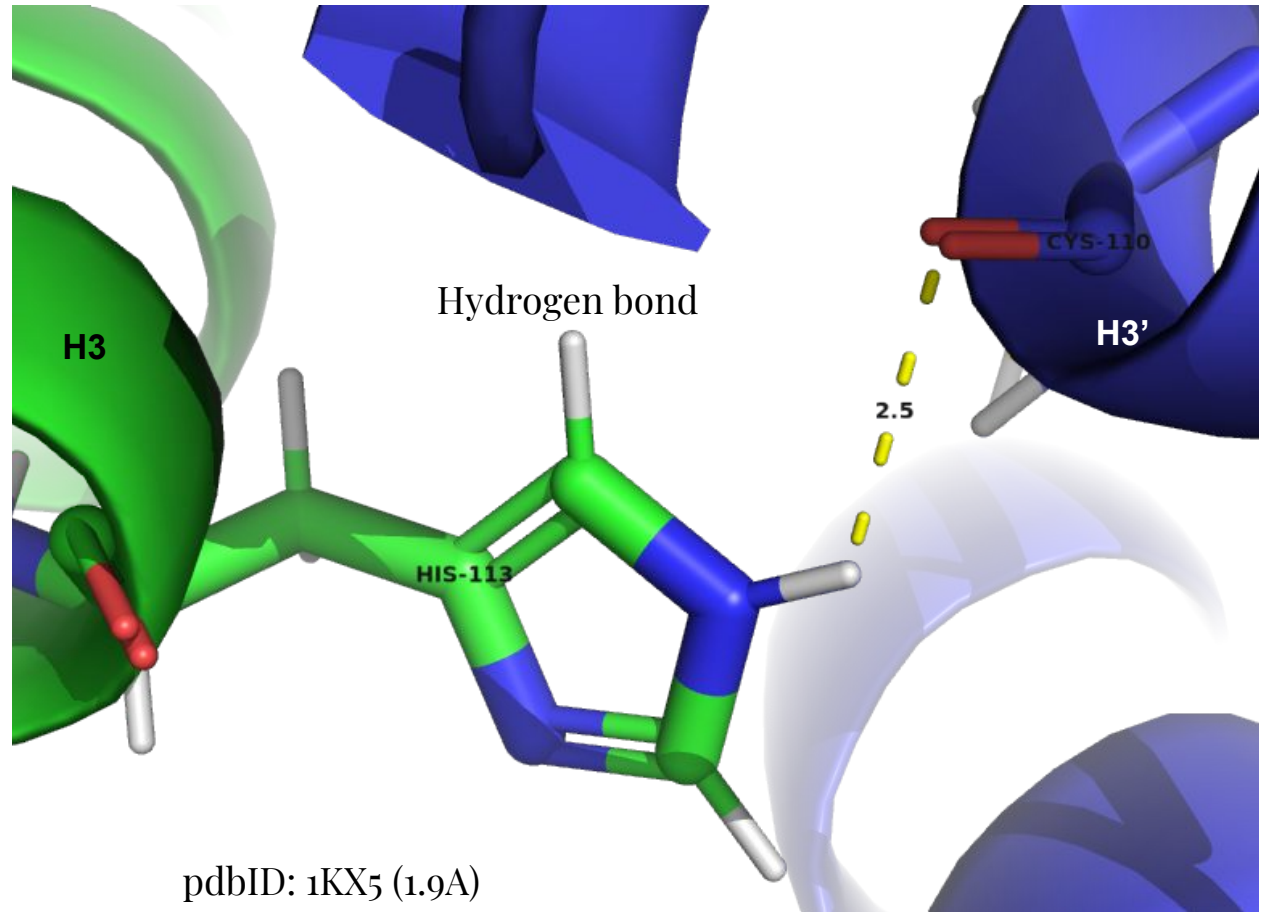


pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Tetramer

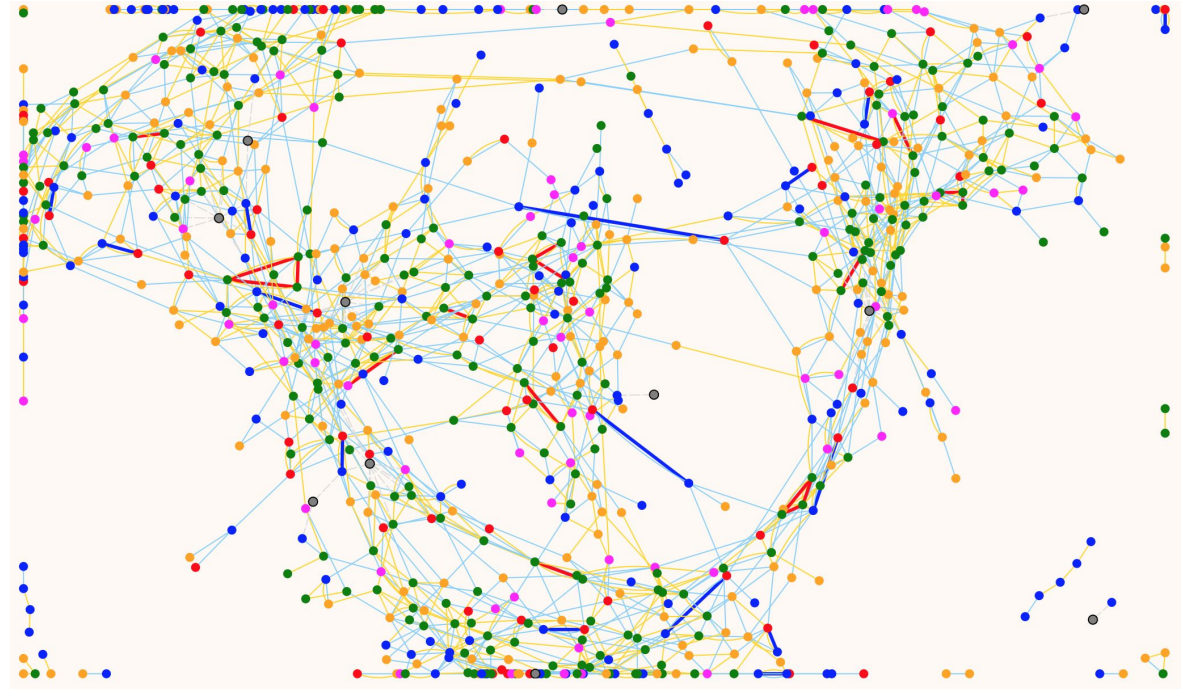
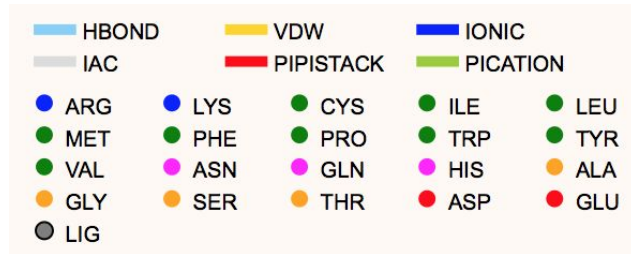
## Histone 3 - Histone 3'

His 113	Asp 123
His 113	Cys 110



pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

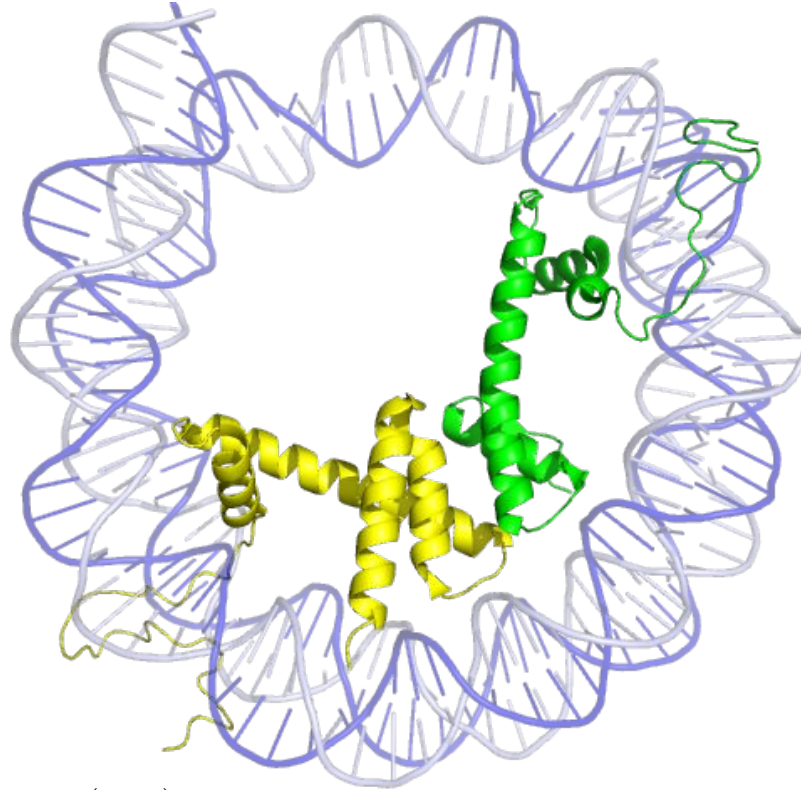
# Octamer



Source:  
<http://protein.bio.unipd.it/ring/>

# Octamer interactions

H4 – H2B



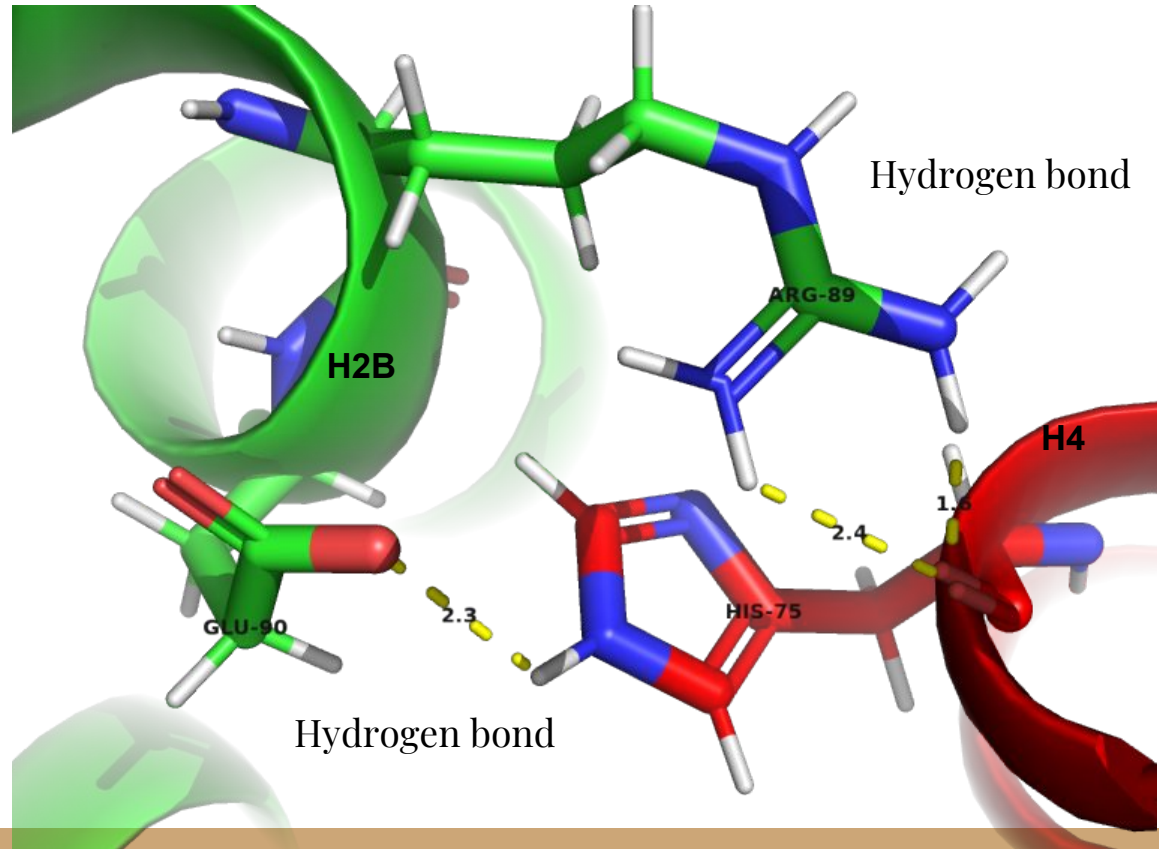
pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Octamer interactions

## Histone 4 - Histone 2B

His 75	Arg 89
His 75	Glu 90
Arg 92	Glu 73

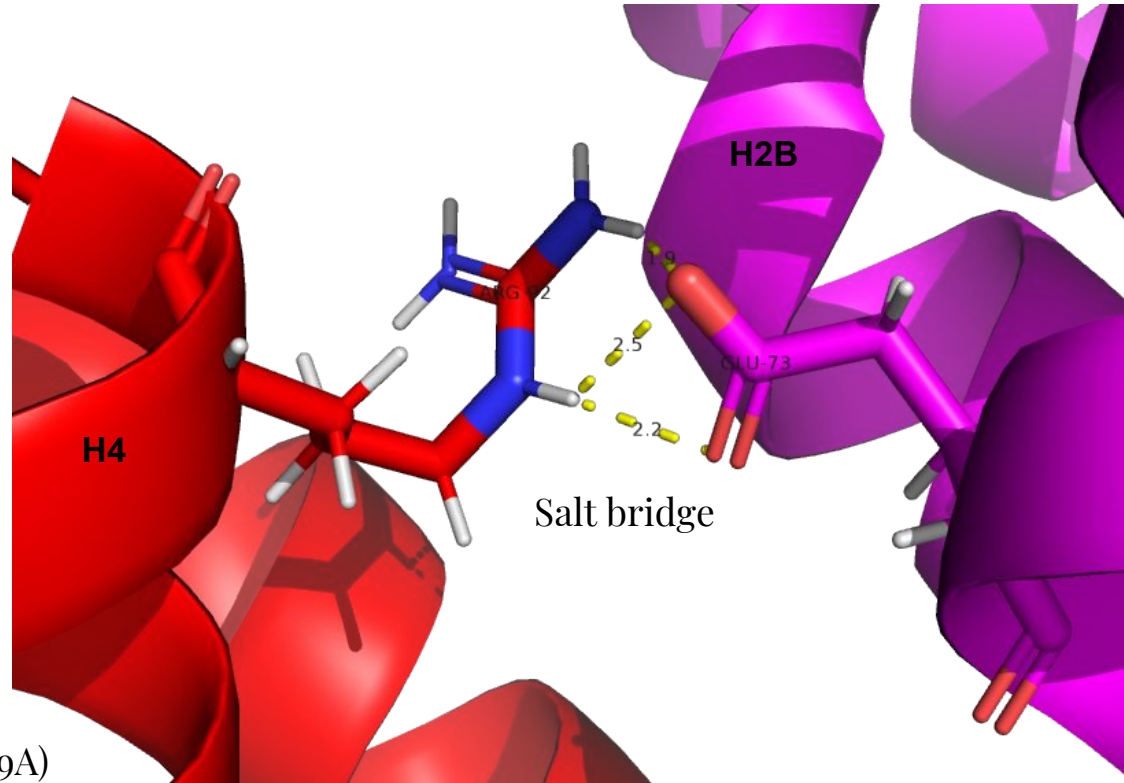
pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)



# Octamer interactions

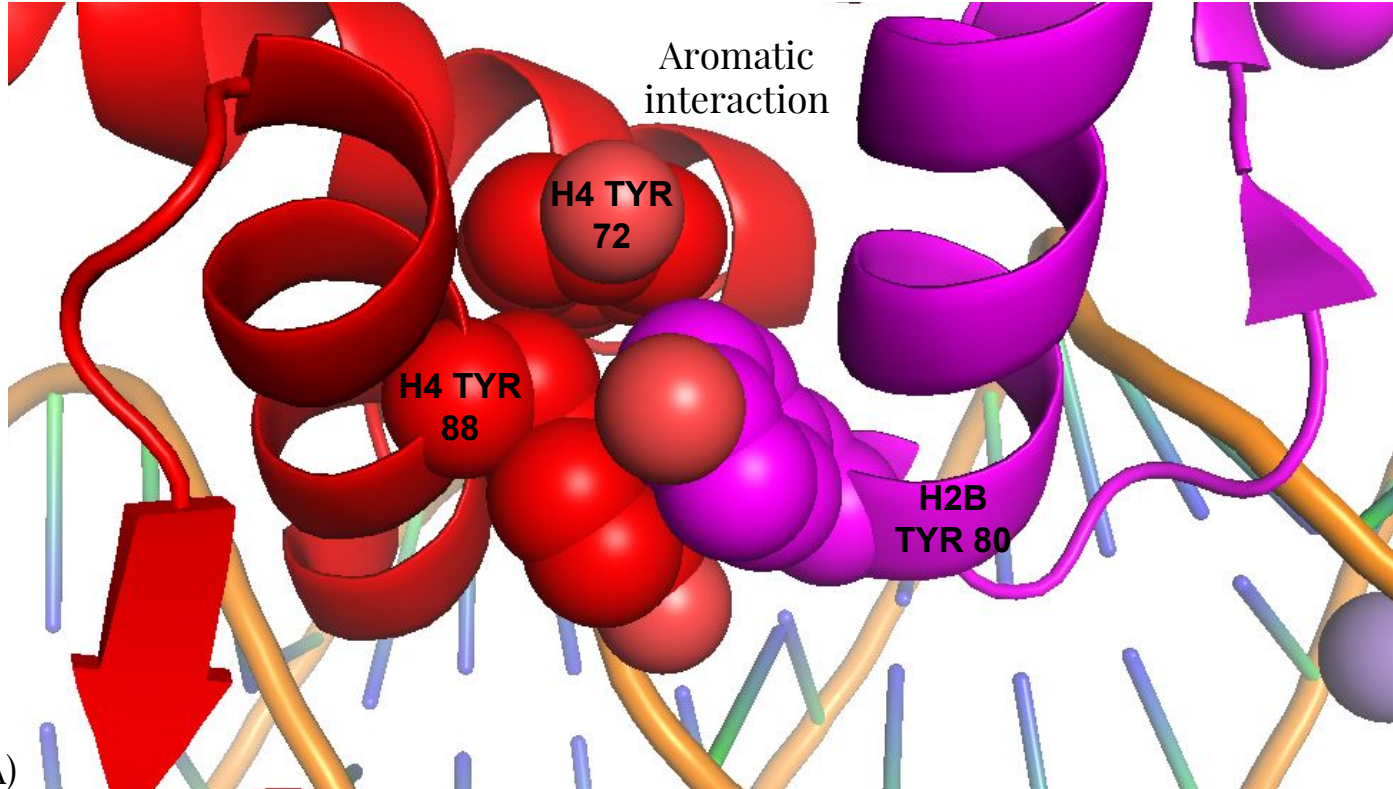
## Histone 4 - Histone 2B

His 75	Arg 89
His 75	Glu 90
<b>Arg 92</b>	<b>Glu 73</b>



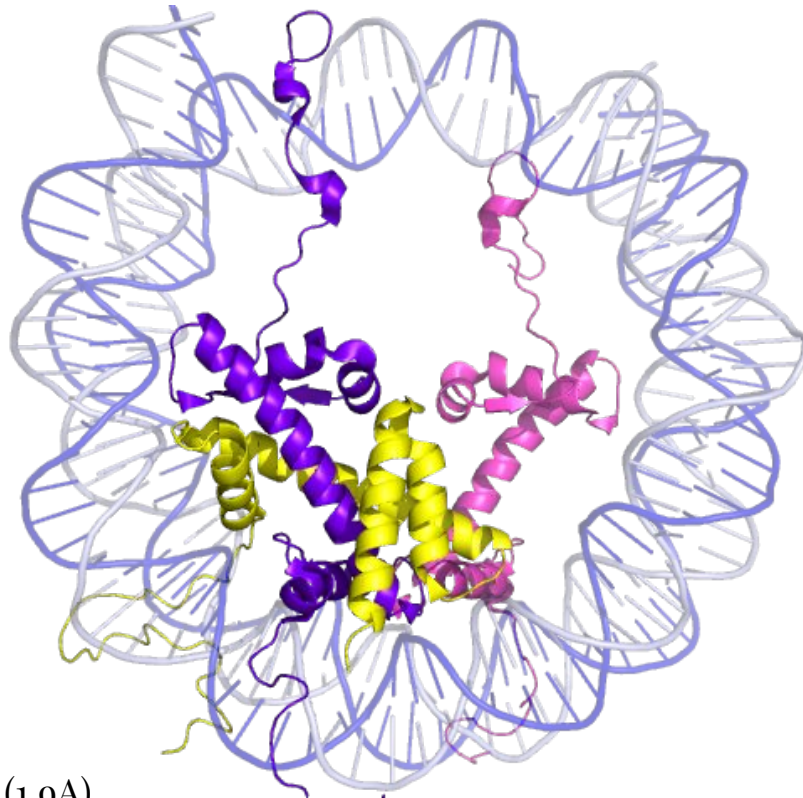
pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Octamer Hydrophobic Cluster



# Octamer interactions

H<sub>2</sub>A-H<sub>2</sub>B-H<sub>2</sub>A'

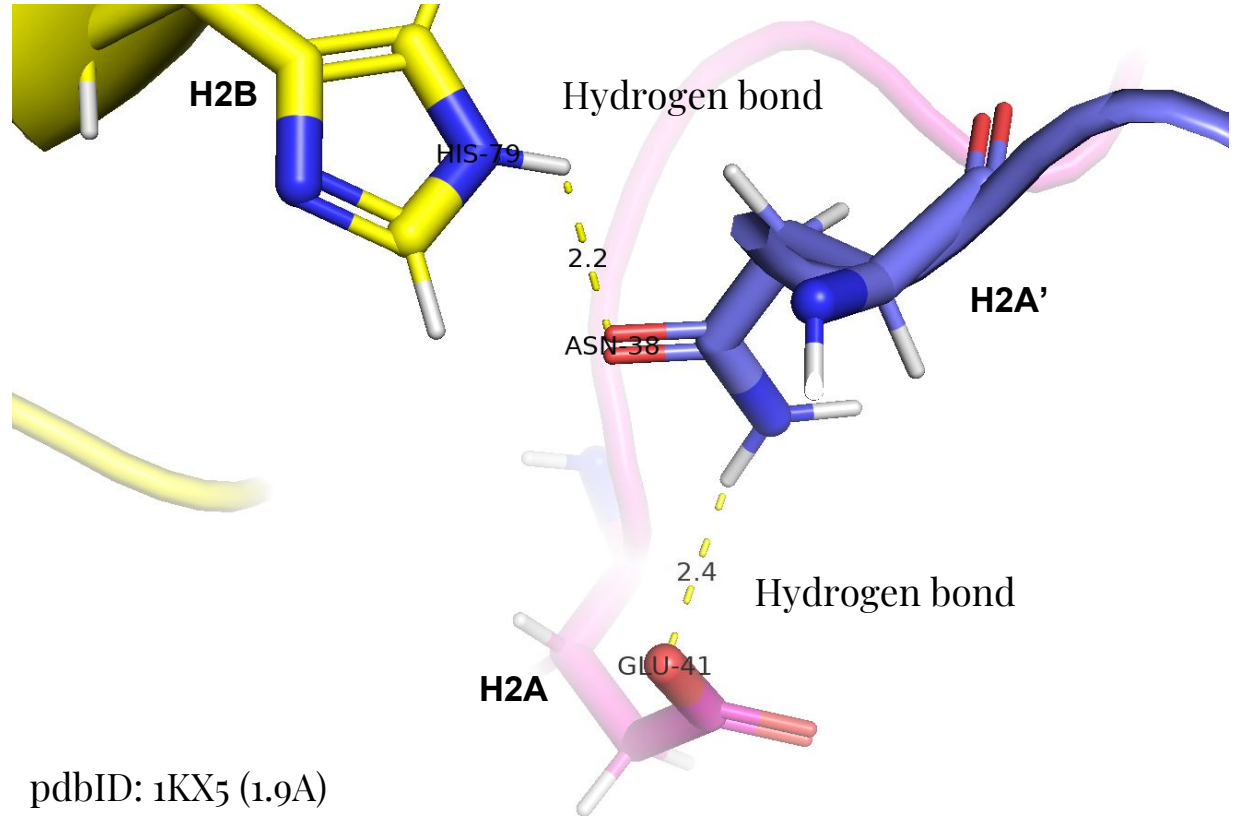


H<sub>2</sub>A  
H<sub>2</sub>A'  
H<sub>2</sub>B

pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Octamer interactions

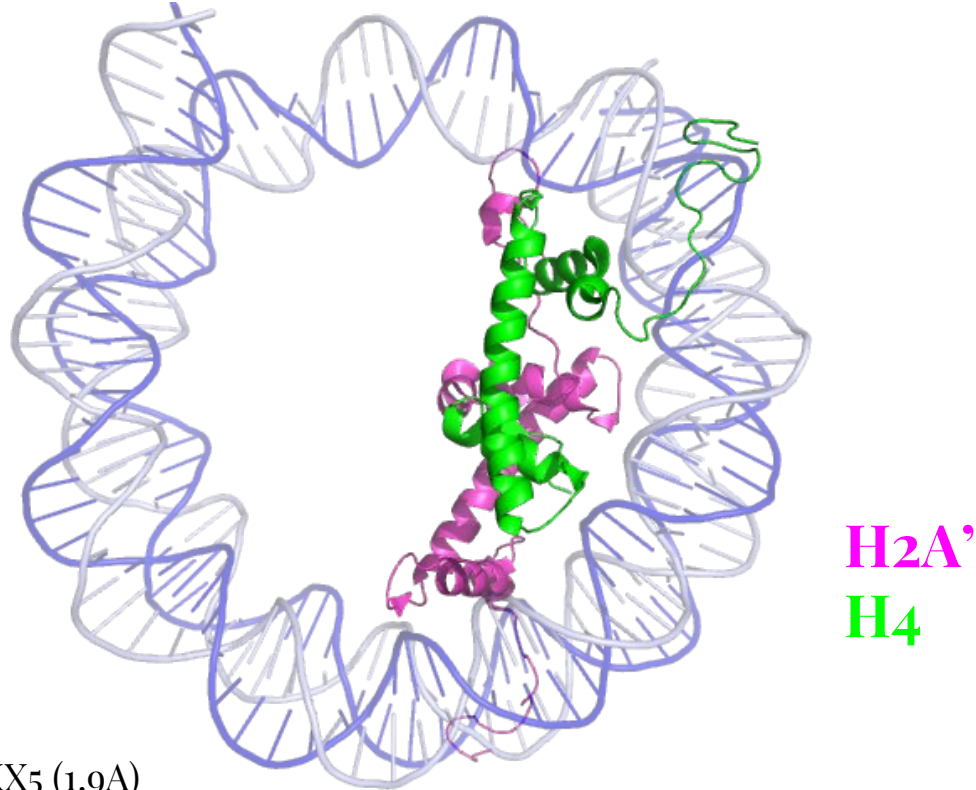
H2A 41 H2B 79 H2A' 38



pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Octamer interactions

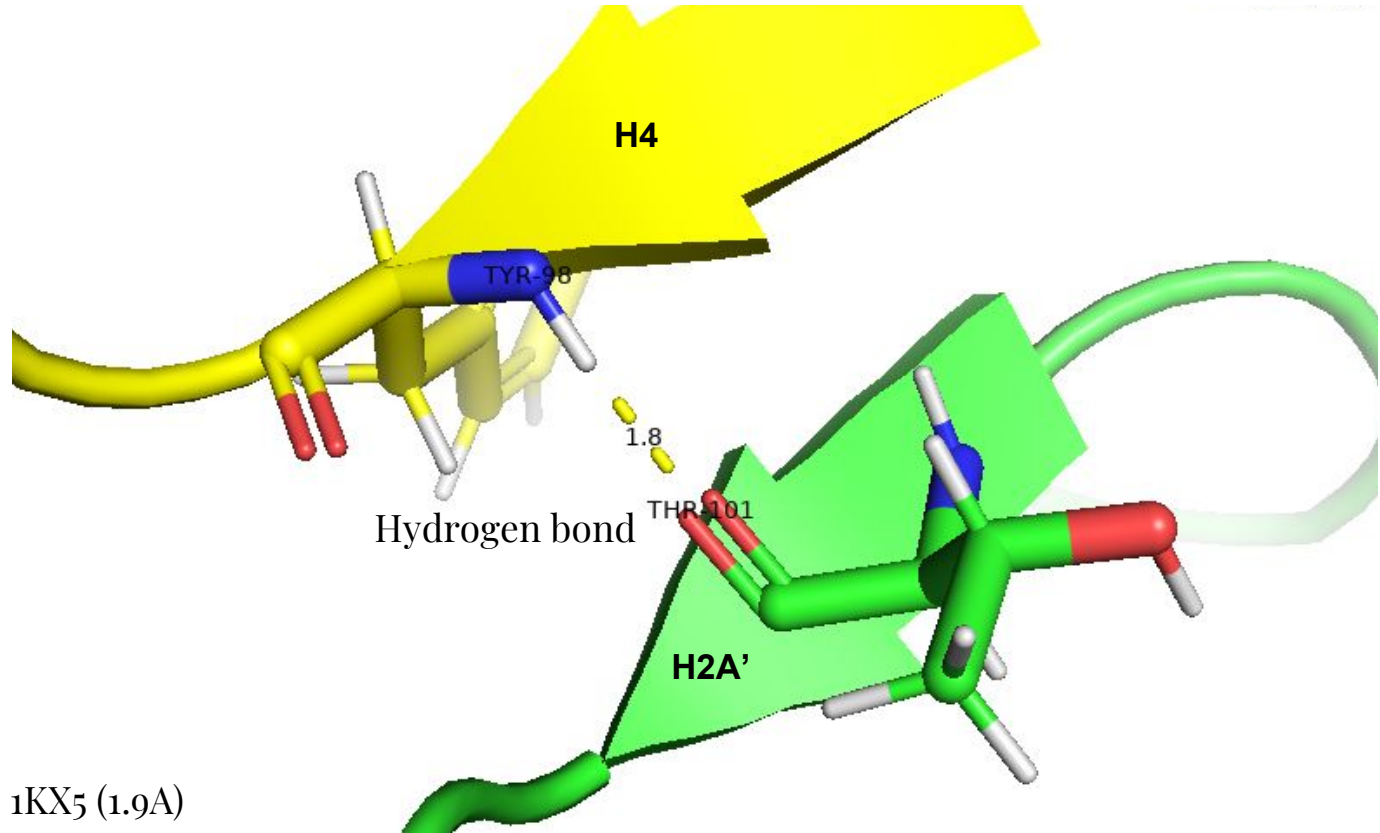
H<sub>4</sub>-H<sub>2A</sub>'



pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Octamer interactions

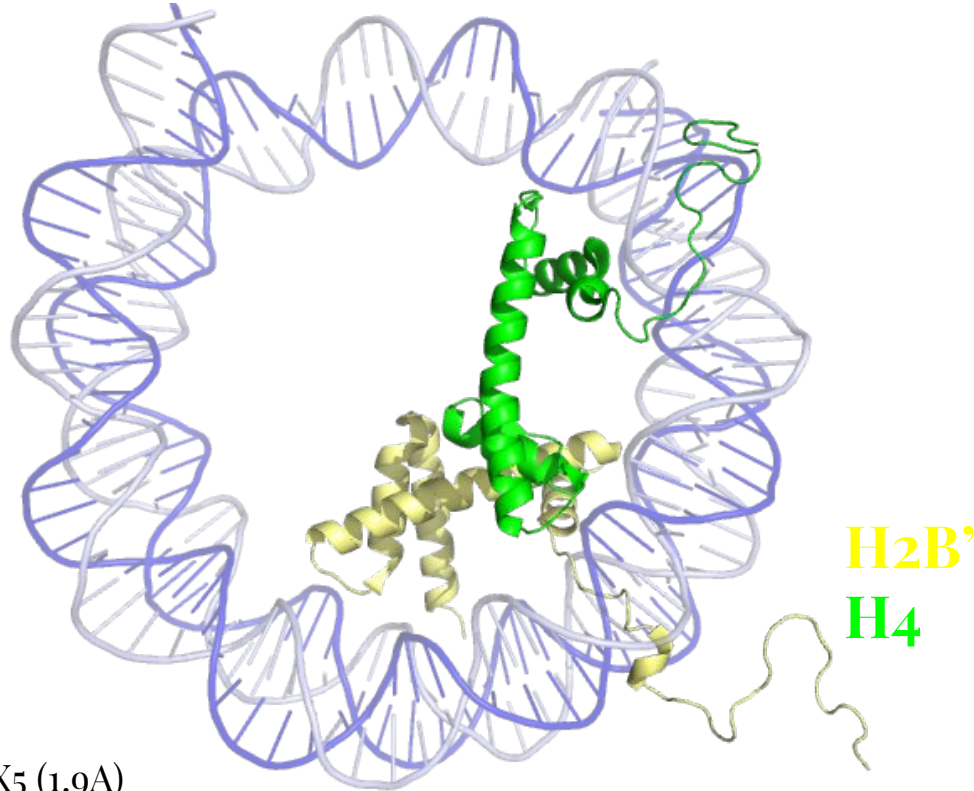
H2A' 101 H4 98



pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Octamer interactions

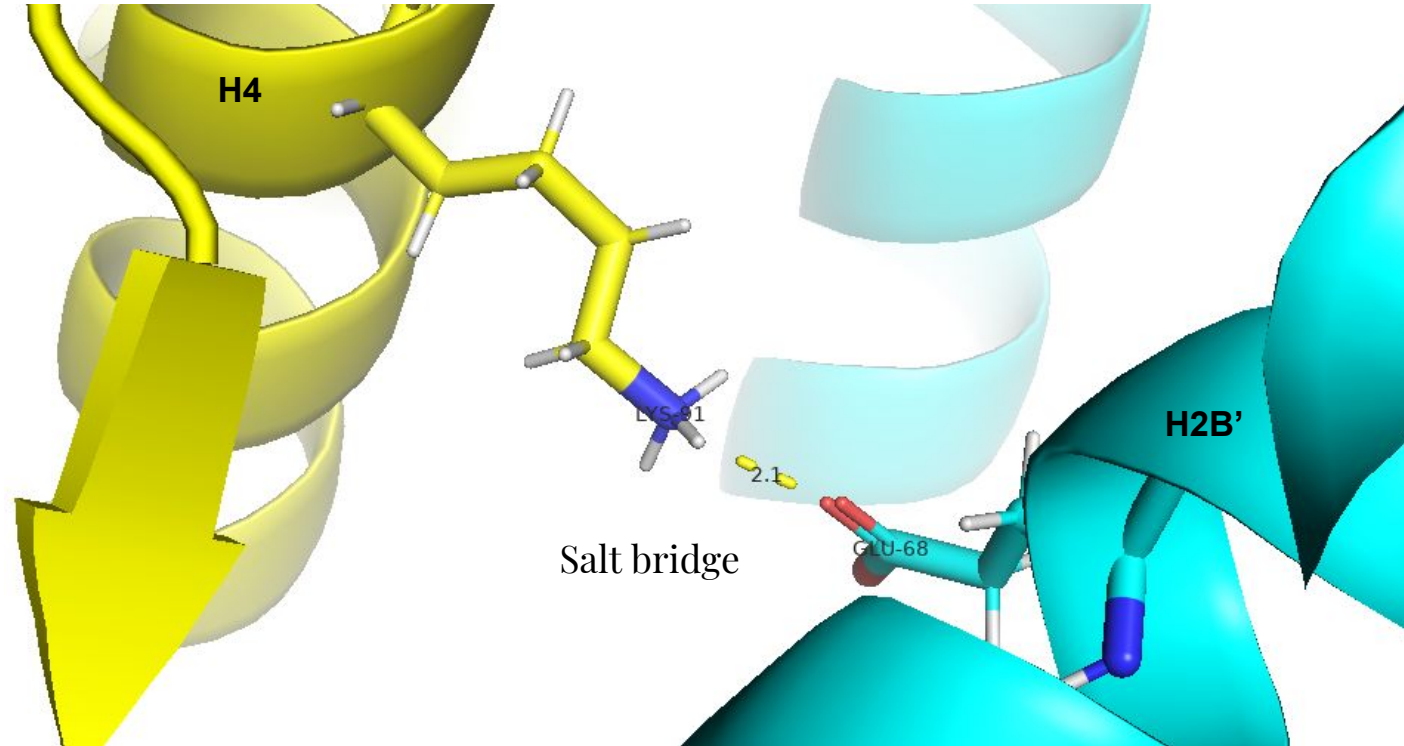
H4-H2B'



pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Octamer interactions

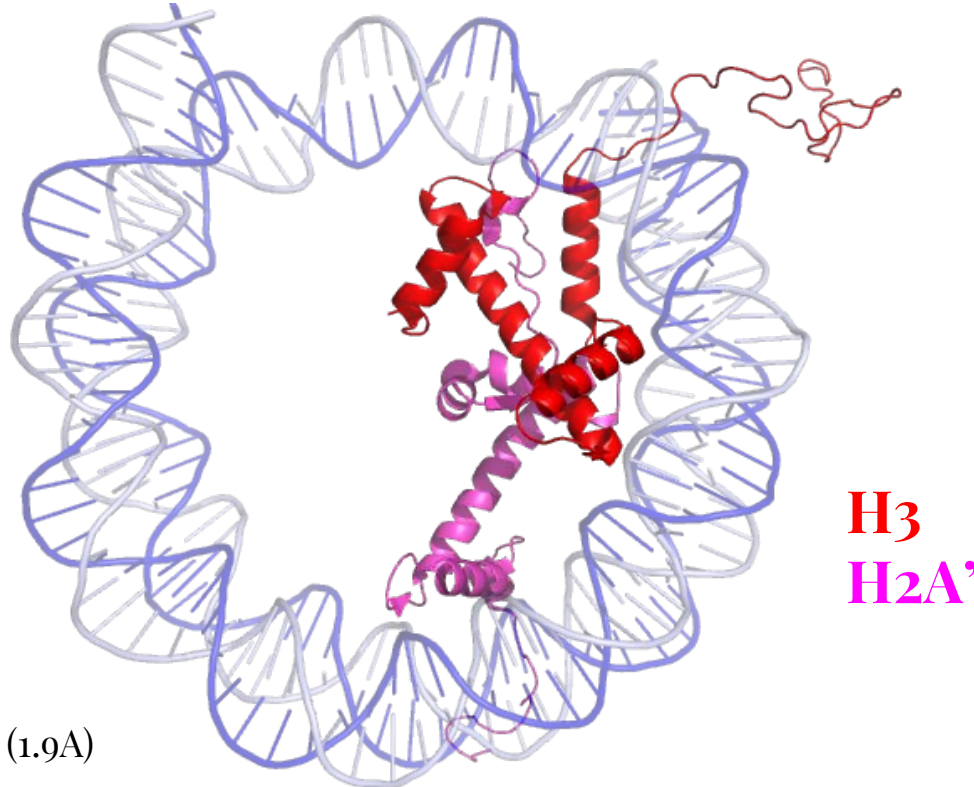
H2B' 68 H4 91



pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Octamer interactions

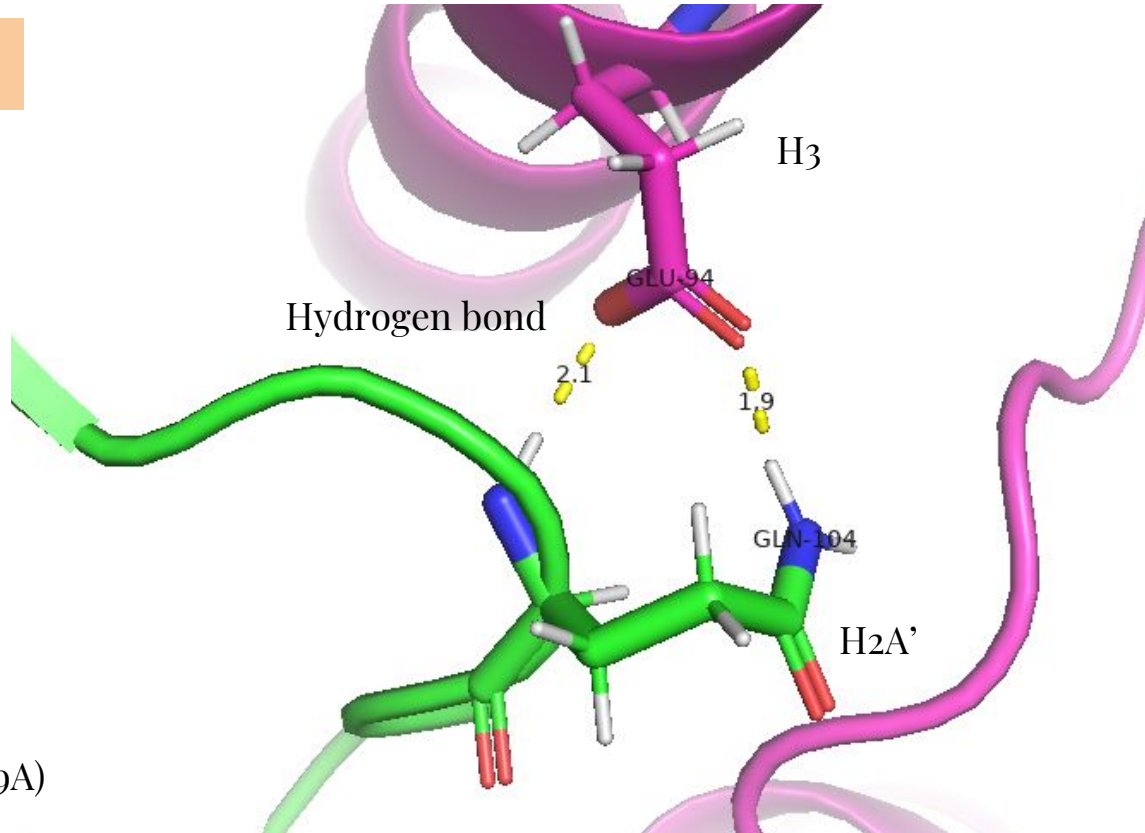
H3-H2A'



pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

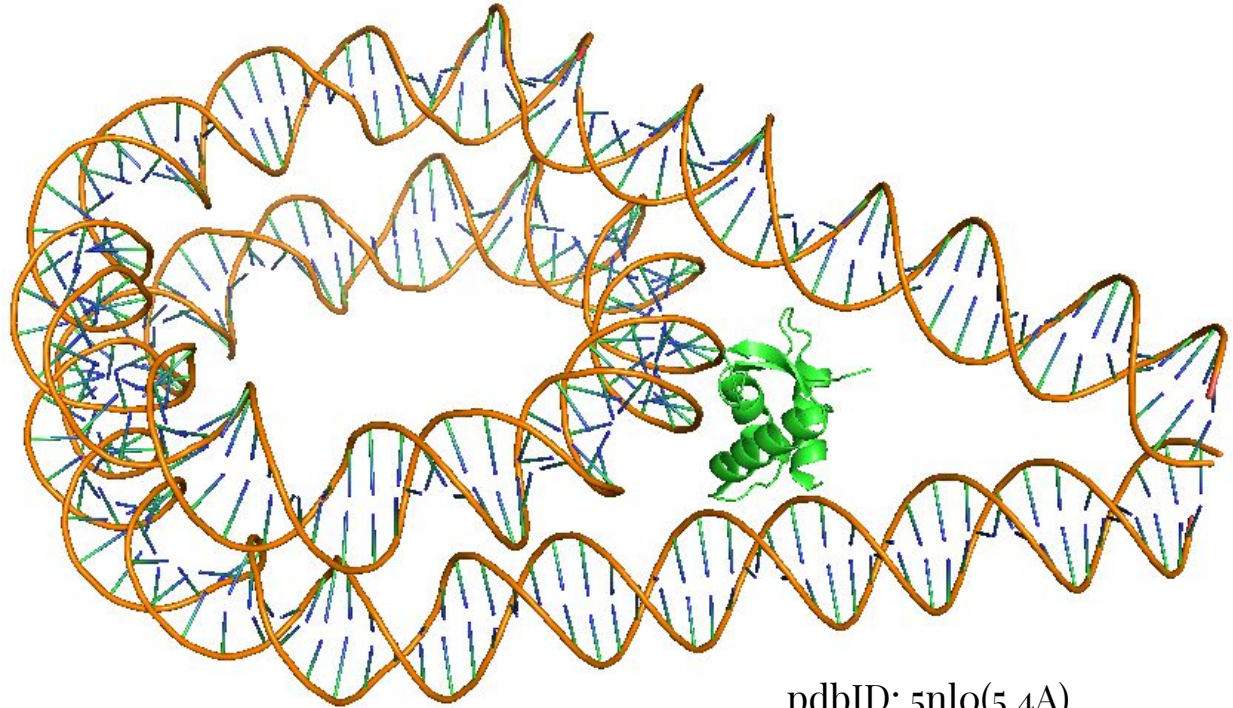
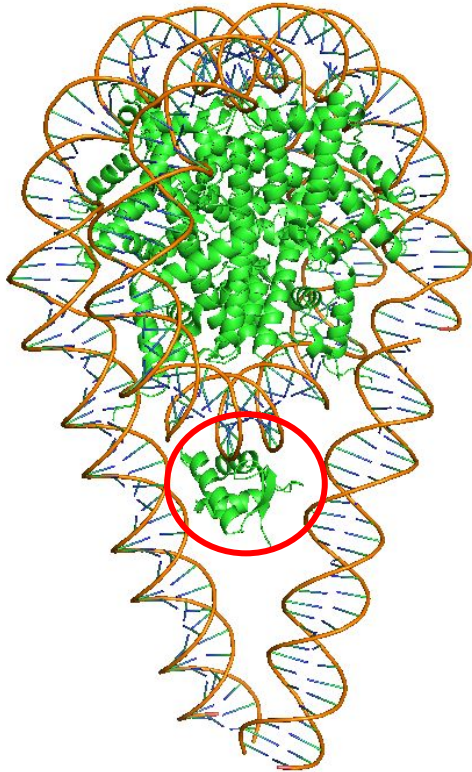
# Octamer interactions

H3 94 H2A' 104



pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Linker histone H1



pdbeID: 5nlo(5.4A)

# H1 Site 1

His 25

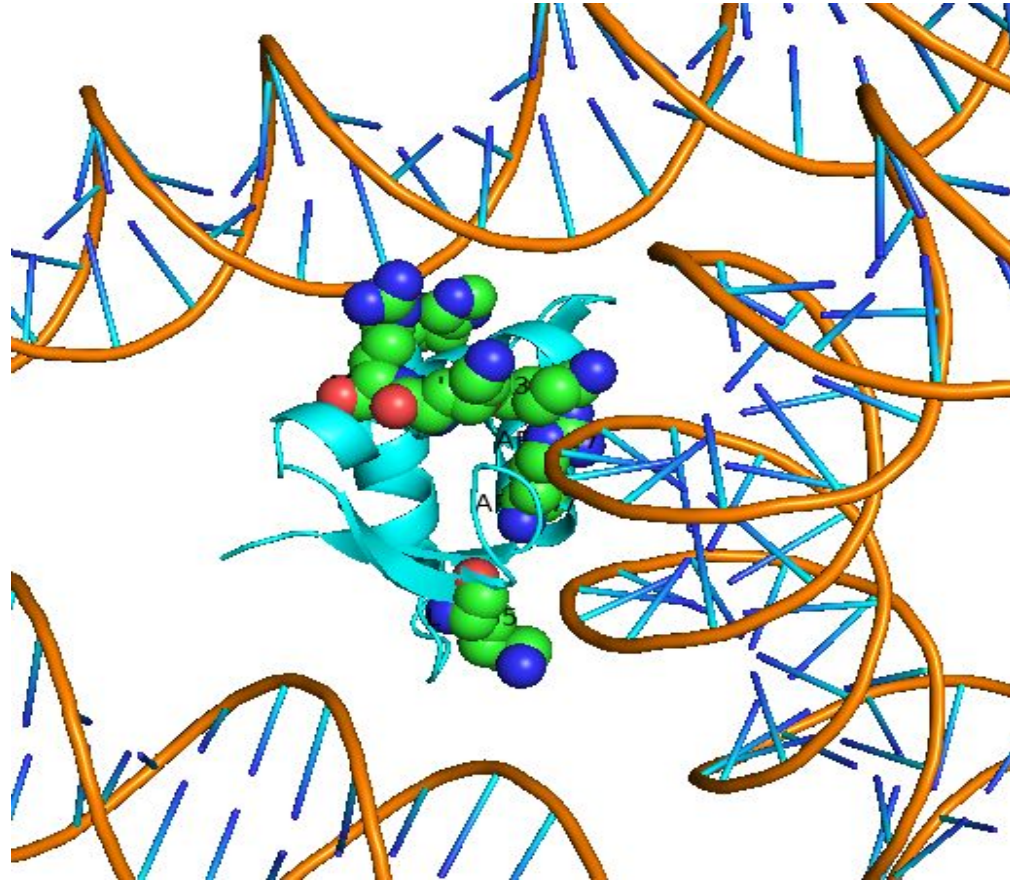
Arg 47

Lys 69

Lys 73

Arg 74

Lys 85



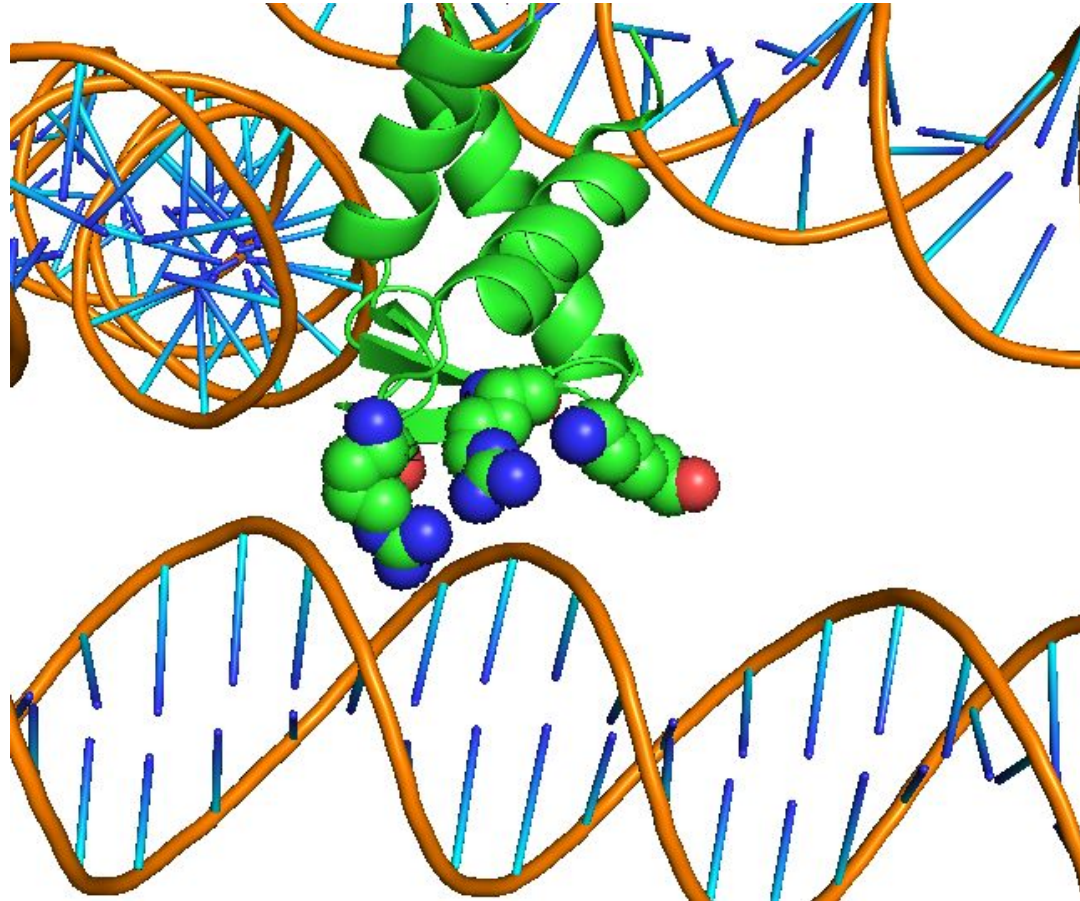
pdBID: 5nlo (5.4Å)

# H1 Site 2

Arg 42

Arg 94

Lys 97



pdbeID: 5nlo (5.4Å)

# **Types of Histone-DNA interactions**

**Salt bridge**

**Hydrogen Bond**

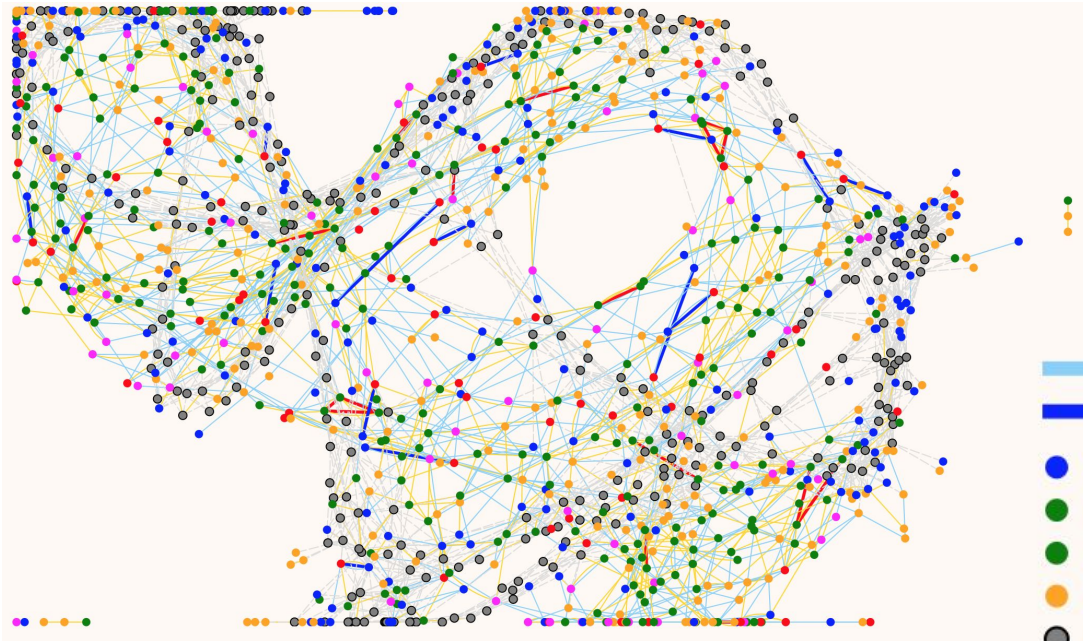
**Non-polar  
interactions**

**Minor groove  
insertion**

**AT rich regions  
interaction**

**Helix dipoles**

# Types of DNA interactions



HBOND

IONIC

ARG

MET

VAL

GLY

LIG

LYS

PHE

ASN

SER

VDW

PIPISTACK

CYS

PRO

GLN

THR

IAC

PICATION

ILE

TRP

HIS

ASP

LEU

TYR

ALA

GLU

INTRODUCTION

INTERACTIONS

HISTONE 1

DNA INTERACTION

MODIFICATIONS

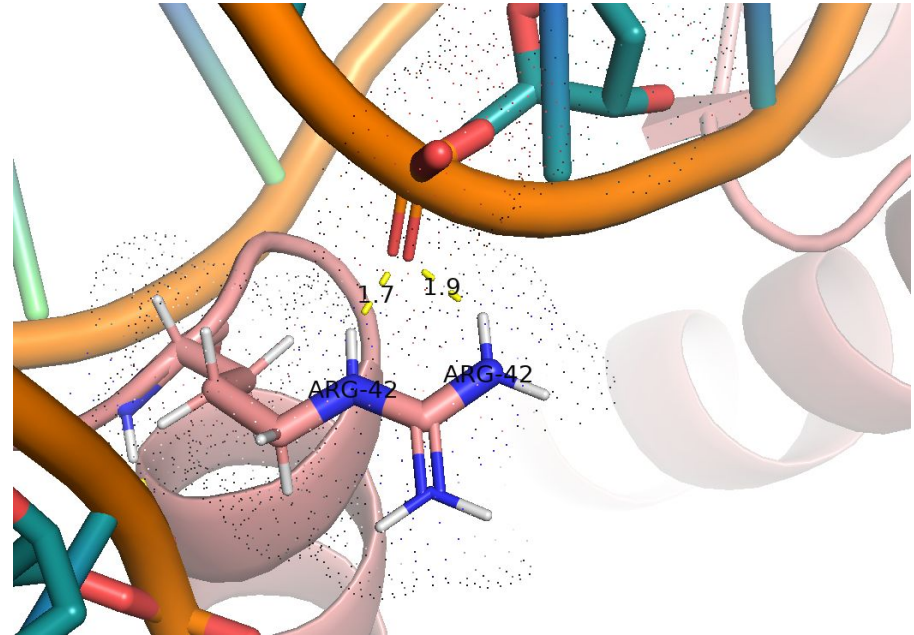
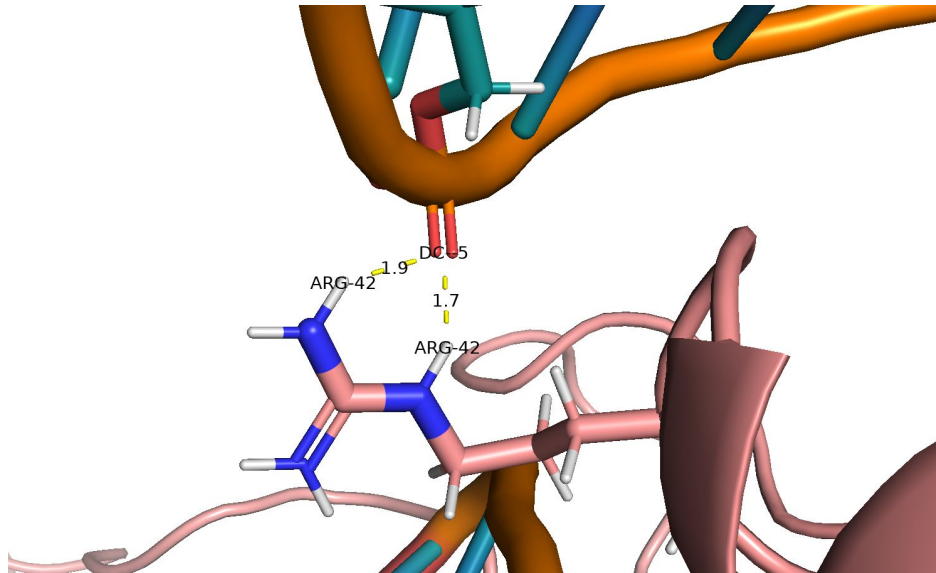
EVOLUTION

CONCLUSIONS

# DNA interactions

## Salt Bridge

H3' Arg 42



pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

INTRODUCTION

INTERACTIONS

HISTONE 1

DNA INTERACTION

MODIFICATIONS

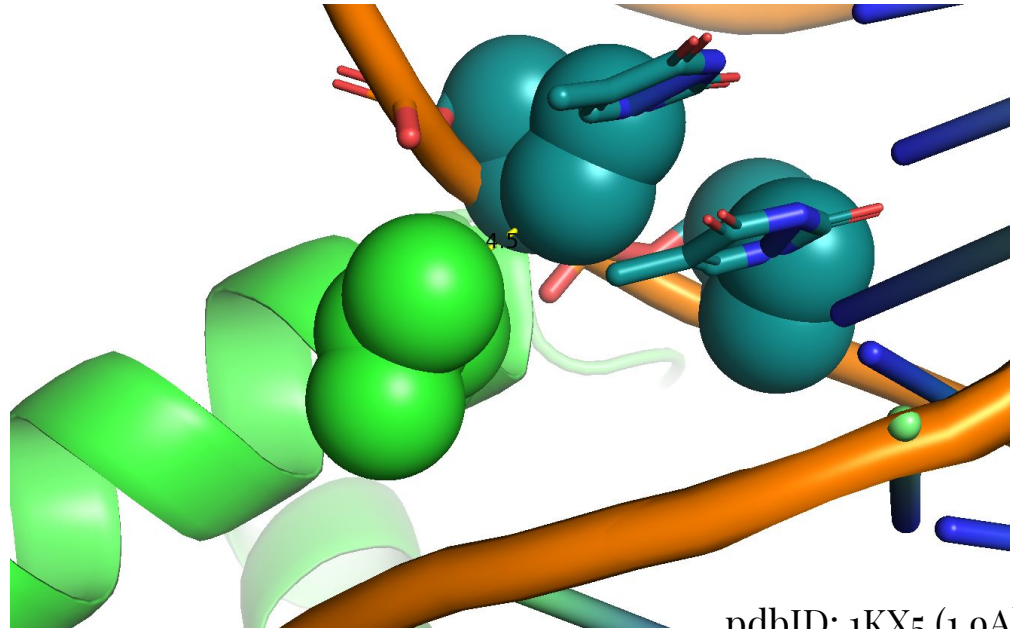
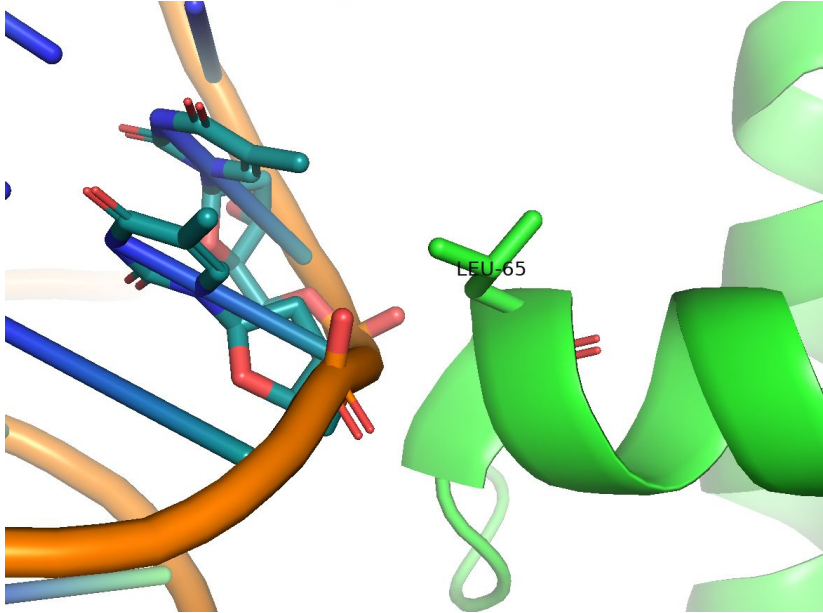
EVOLUTION

CONCLUSIONS

# DNA interactions

## Non-polar interactions

H3 Leu 65

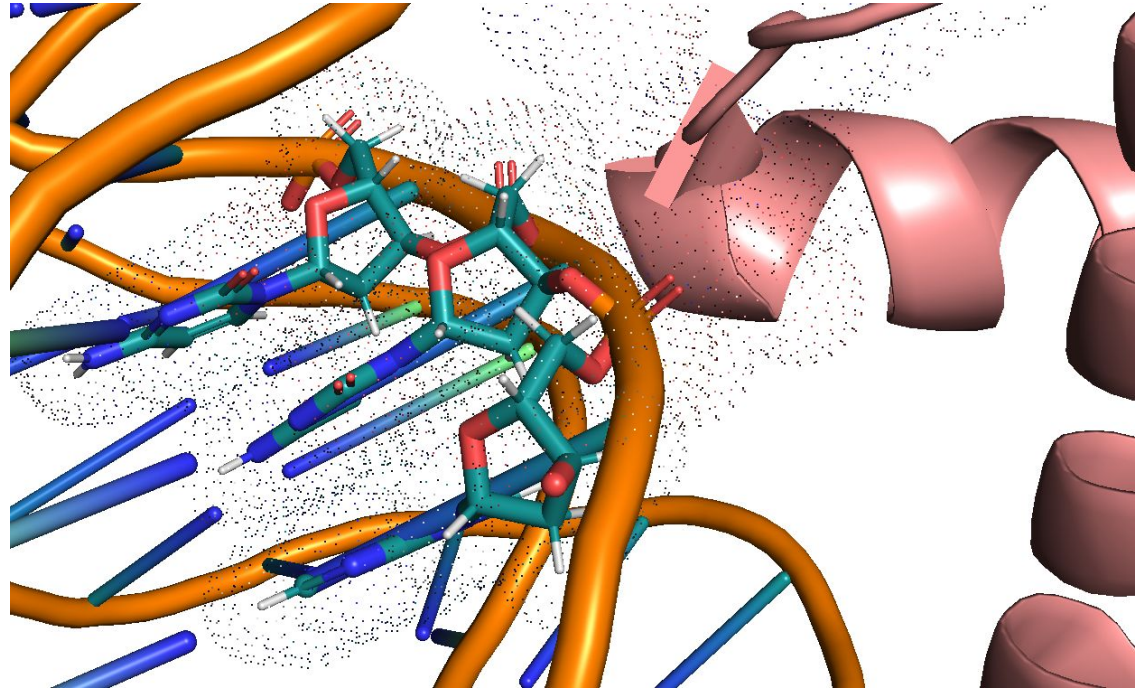


pdBID: 1KX5 (1.9A)

# DNA interactions

## Helix dipoles

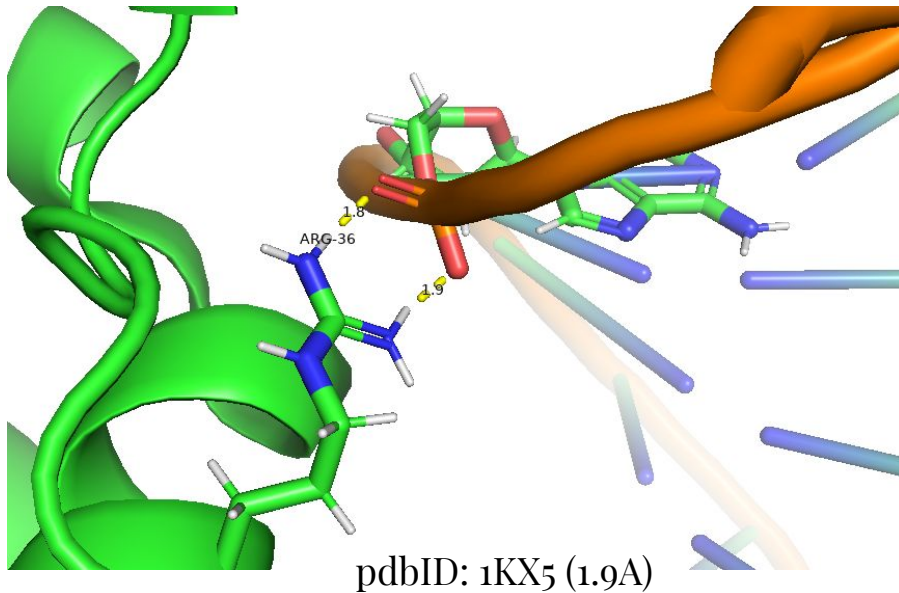
H3'



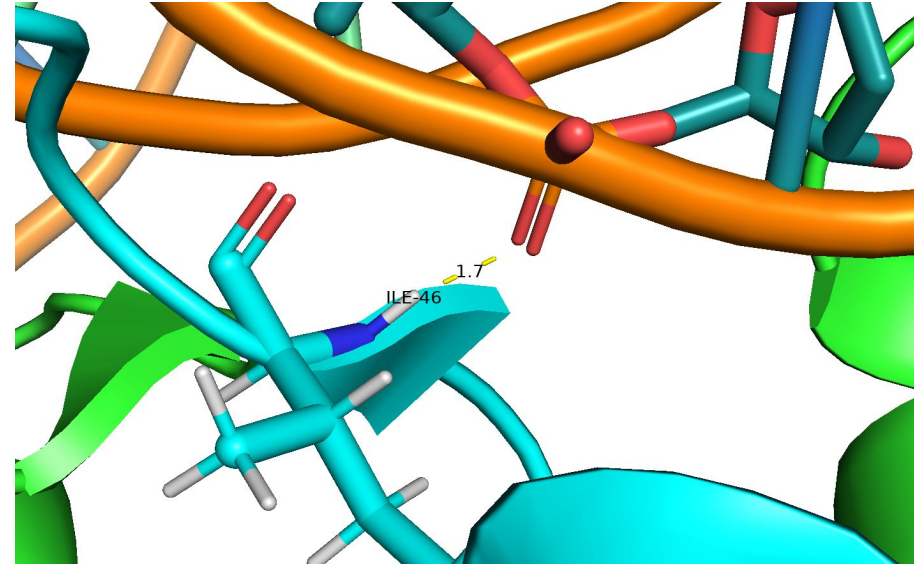
# DNA interactions

## Hydrogen bond main and side chain - DNA

H3 Arg 36



H4 Ile 46



INTRODUCTION

INTERACTIONS

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DNA INTERACTION

MODIFICATIONS

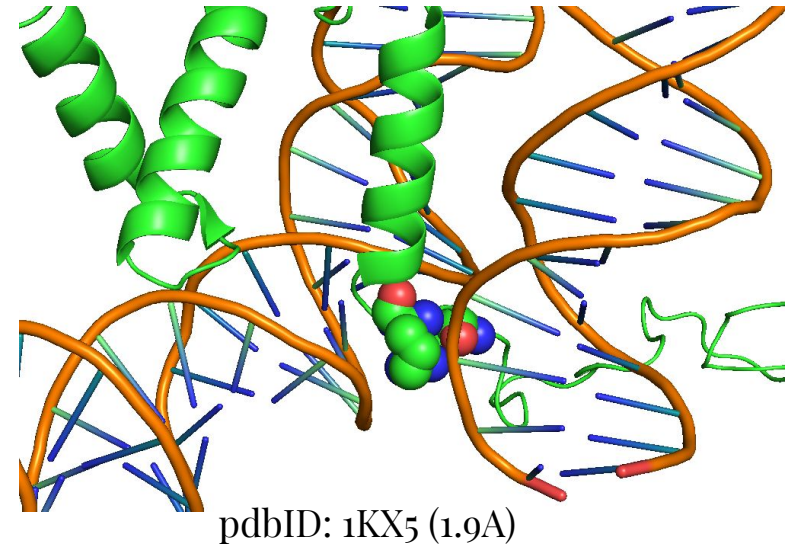
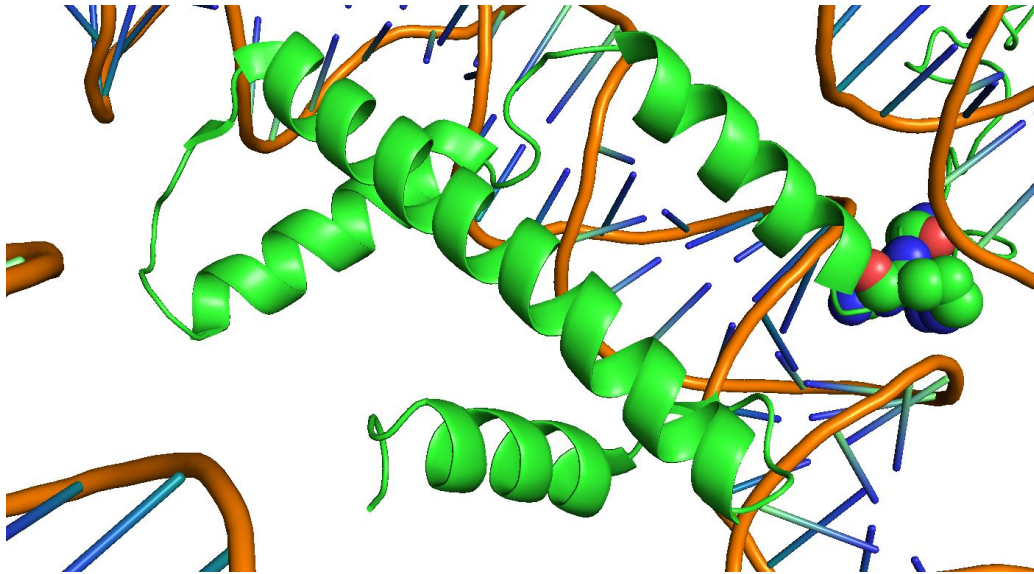
EVOLUTION

CONCLUSIONS

# DNA interactions

## Arginines minor groove insertion

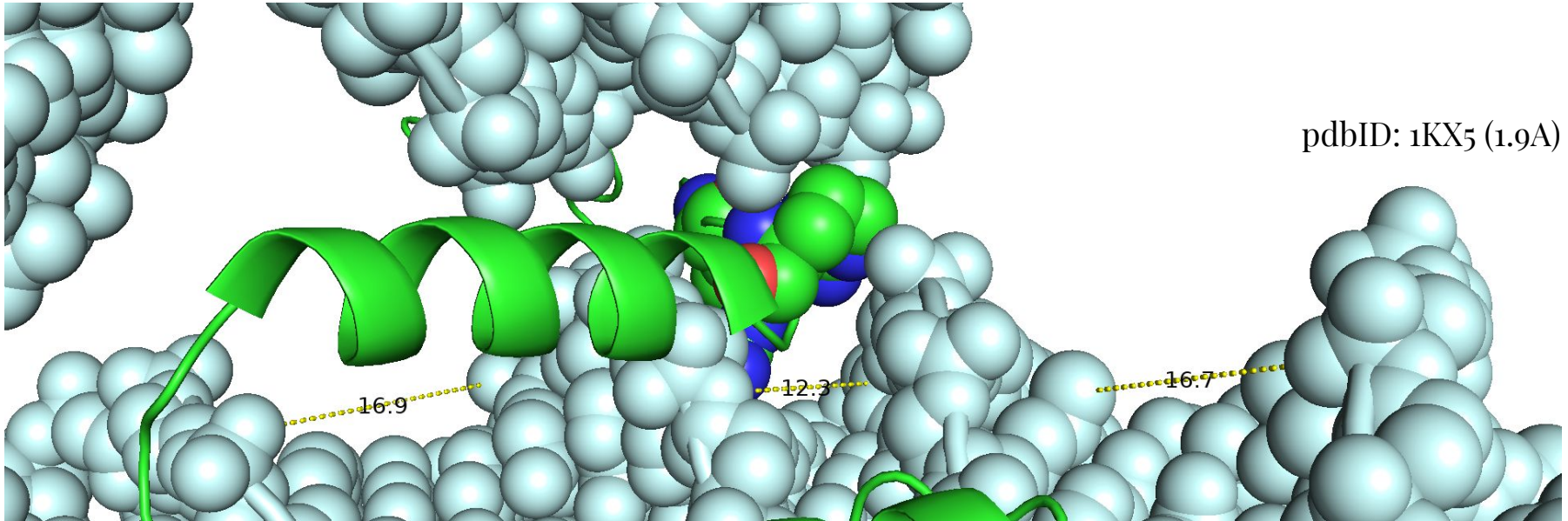
H<sub>3</sub> tail Arg 40-42

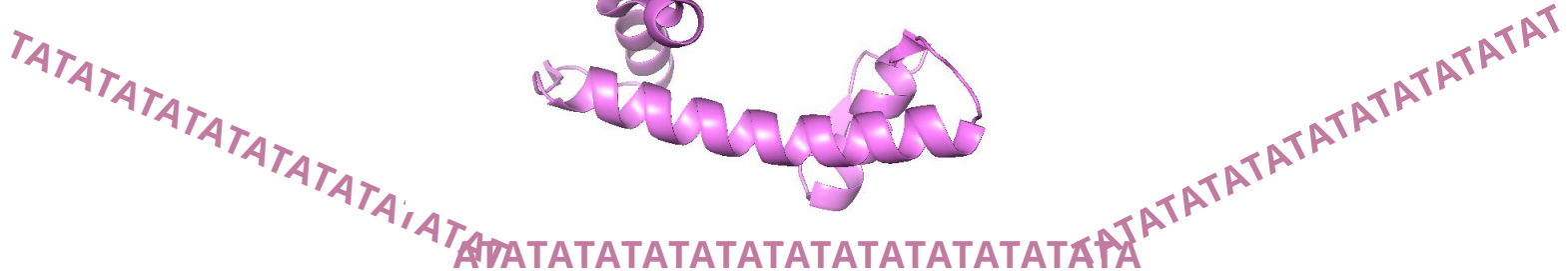


# DNA interactions

## Arginines minor groove insertion

H<sub>3</sub> tail Arg 40-42





# Post-translational modifications

## ACETYLATION

Introduces negative charge which makes the chromatin more accessible.

## METHYLATION

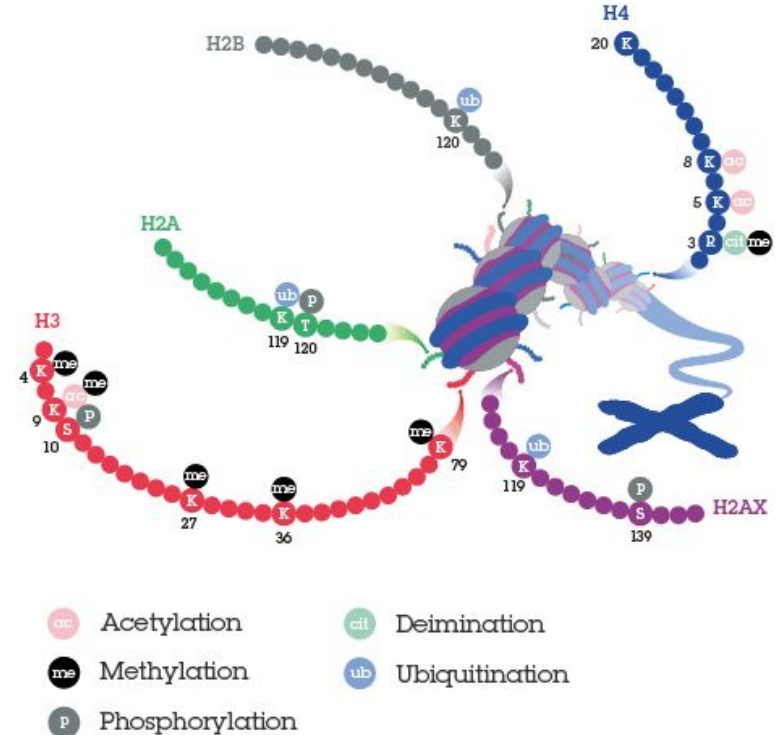
Maintains the positive charge evoking to the condensation of chromatin.

## PHOSPHORYLATION

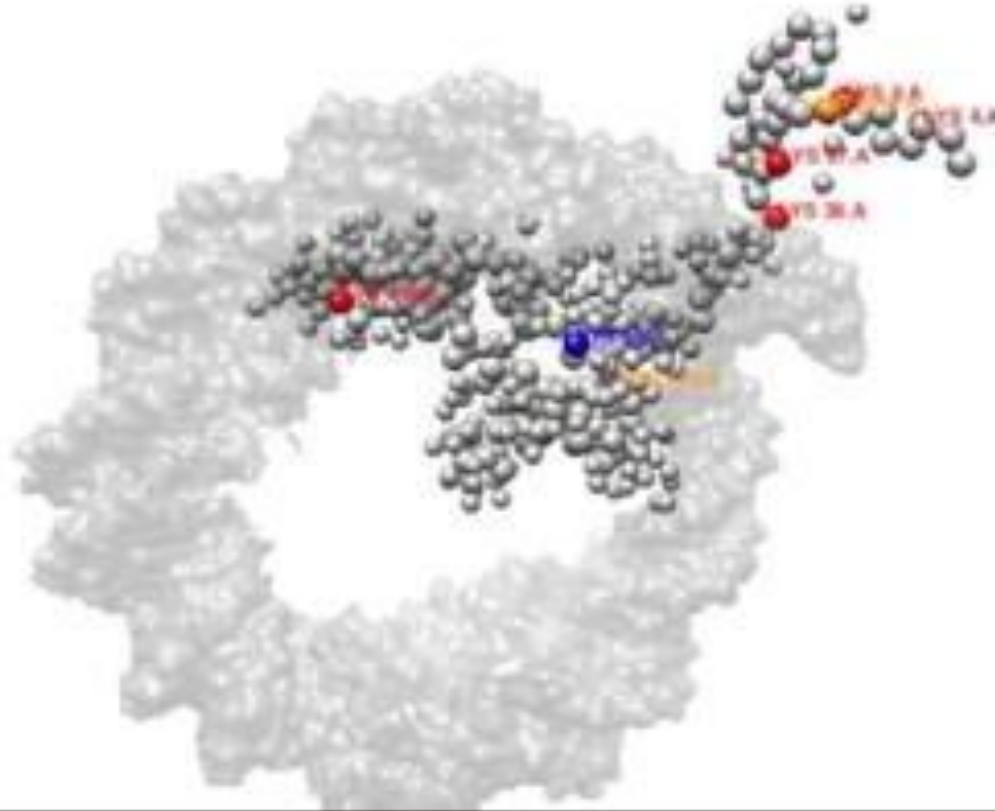
It appears in mitosis and it is thought to activate the DNA condensation.

## CITRULINIZATION

Loss of positive charge and reduction in hydrogen-bonding ability.



# Histone H3 main post-translational modifications



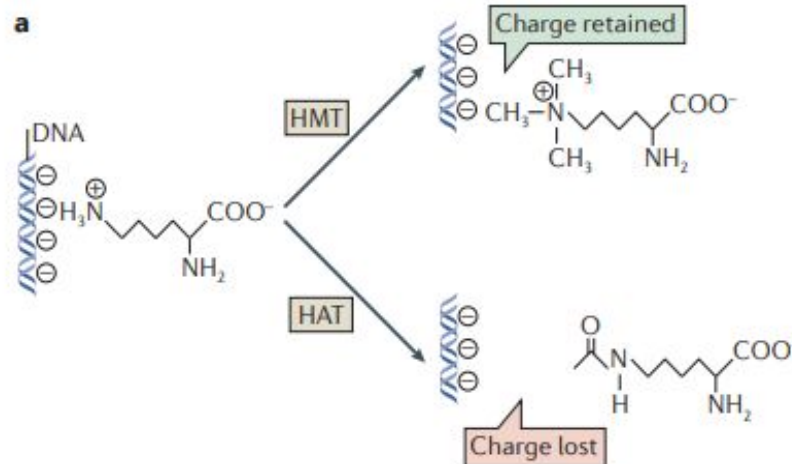
Methylations

Acetylations

Phosphorylations

# Acetylation

- **Neutralizes the positive** lysine charge, what makes that the electrostatic interactions of the tail with the DNA **weaker**
- This leads to a destabilization (euchromatin-like) of the nucleosome and respective **higher transcription activation**. It can also **attract transcription factors and chaperones** to promote transcriptio



INTRODUCTION

INTERACTIONS

HISTONE 1

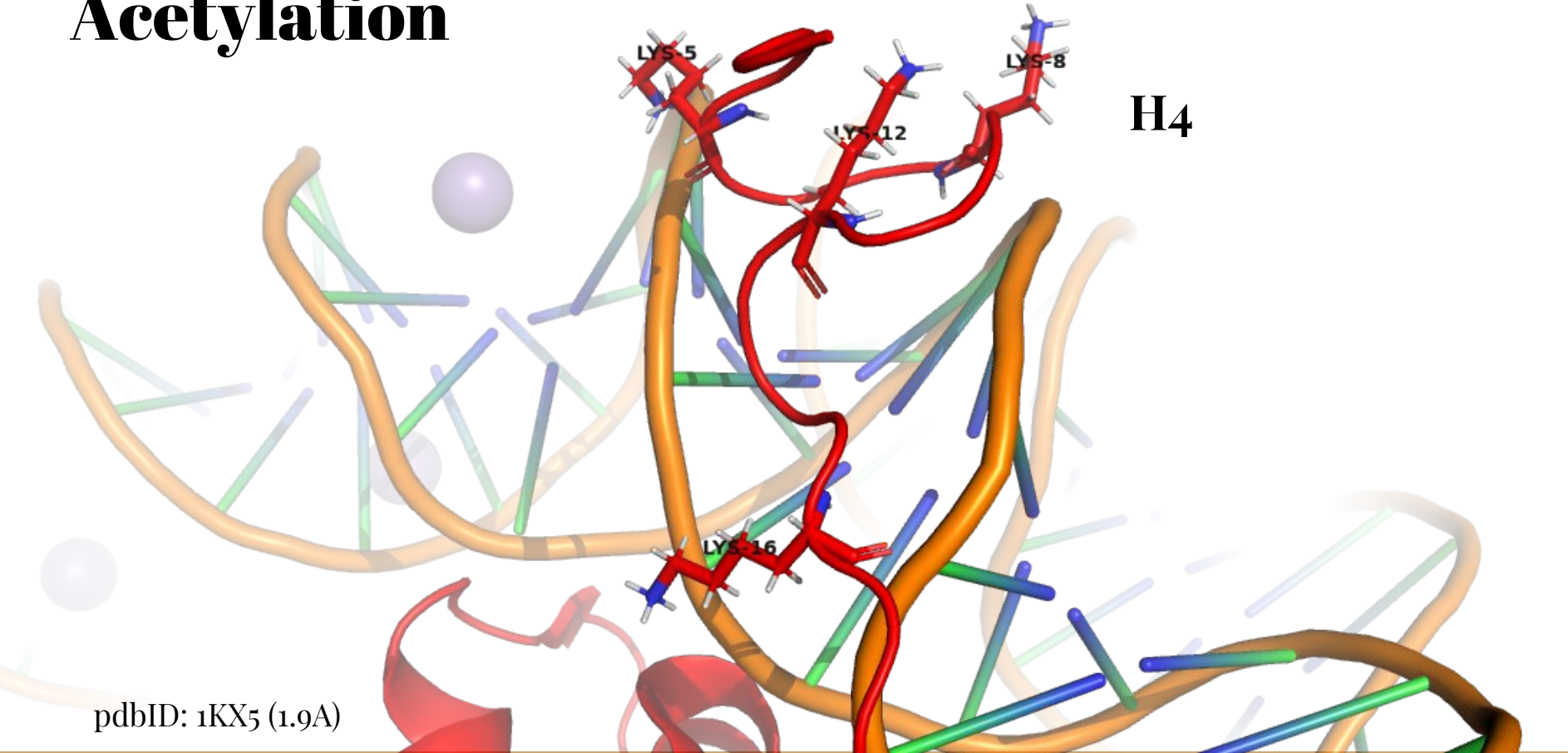
DNA INTERACTION

MODIFICATIONS

EVOLUTION

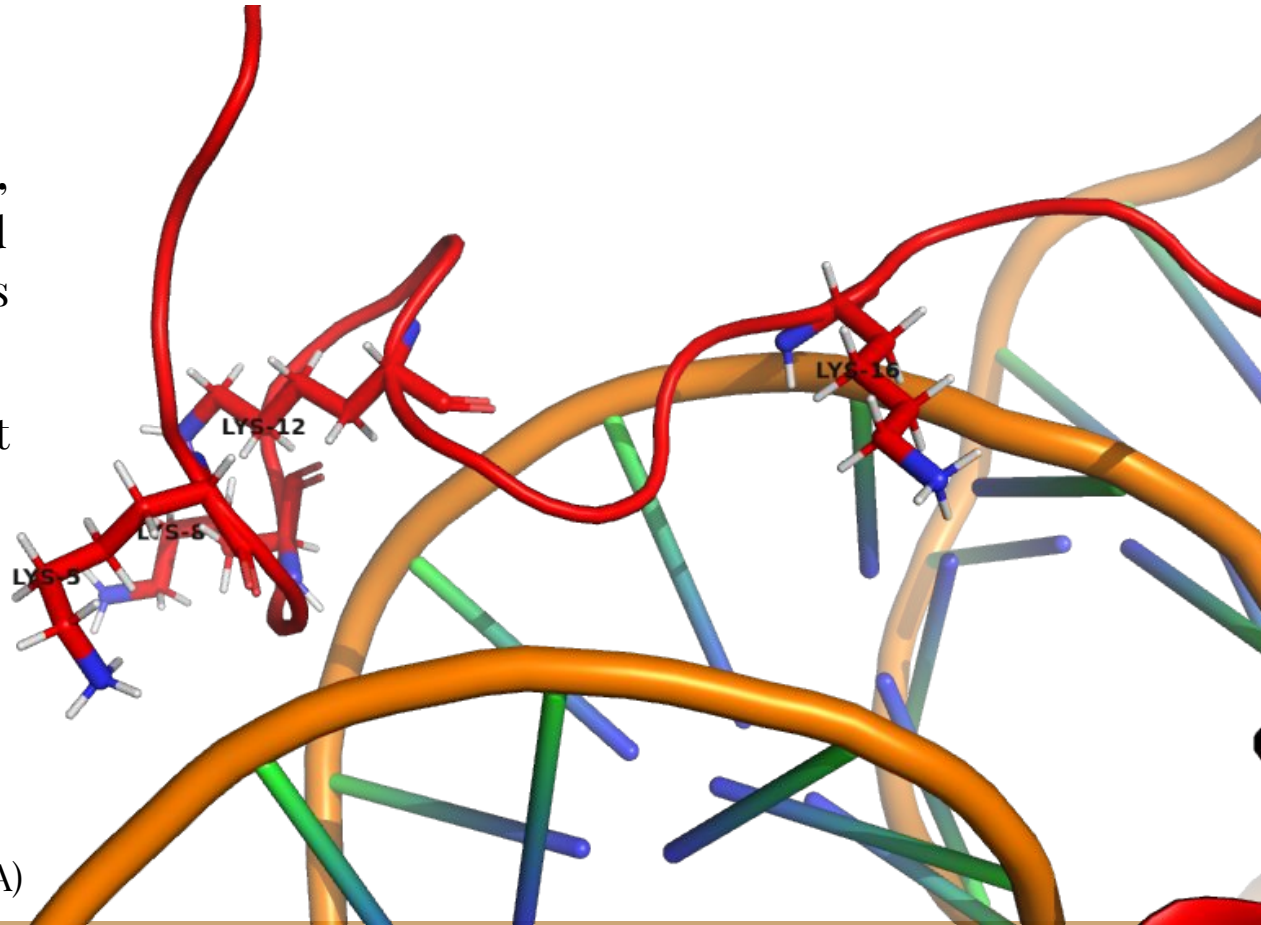
CONCLUSIONS

# Acetylation



# Acetylation

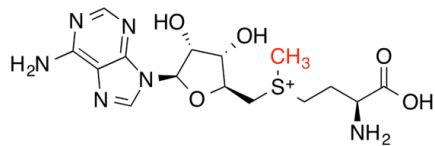
- N-terminal **H4K5**, **H4K8**, **H4K12**, **H4K16** are acetylated and are known to act as **transcriptional activators**
- They also play an important role in **epigenetic bookmarking**



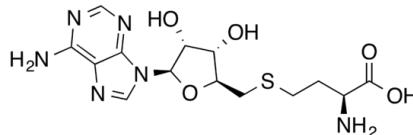
pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# Methylation

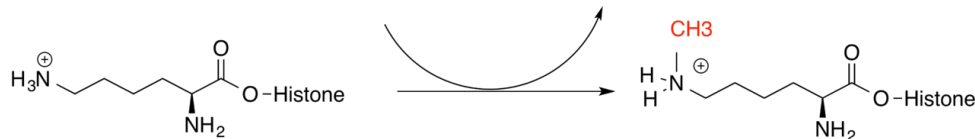
- **Maintains the positive charge** and therefore the electrostatic interaction between the histone tail and the DNA.
- It generally **represses transcription by promoting the compaction of the chromatin** (heterochromatin-like) and by **inhibiting the binding of cofactors to the chromatin**.



S-adenosyl methionine



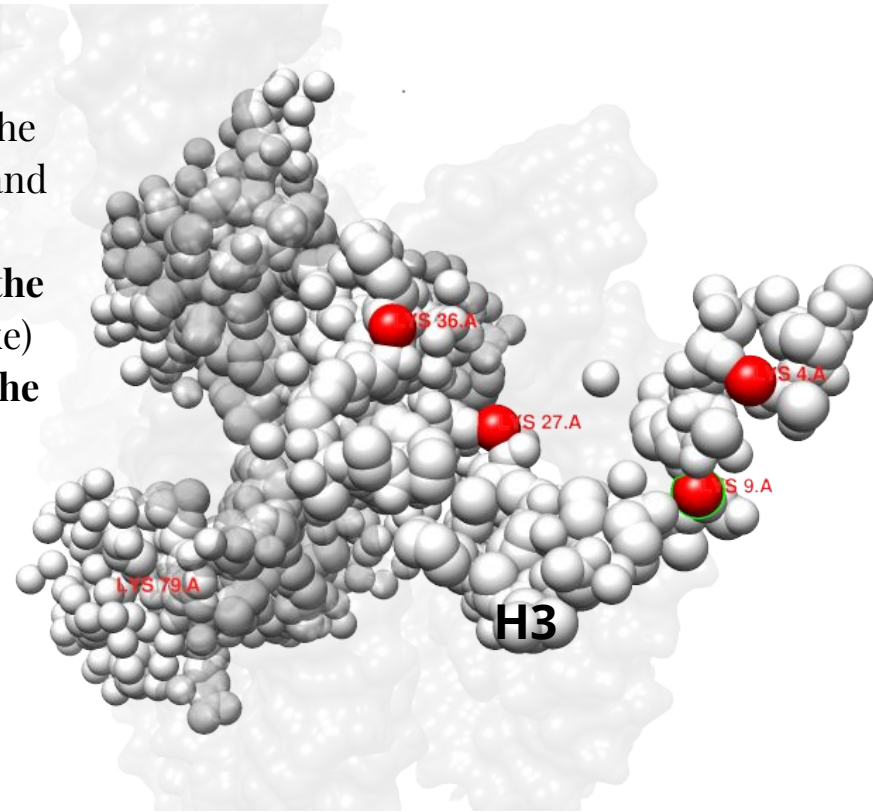
S-adenosyl homocysteine



Lysine

Lysine

Source: Wikipedia

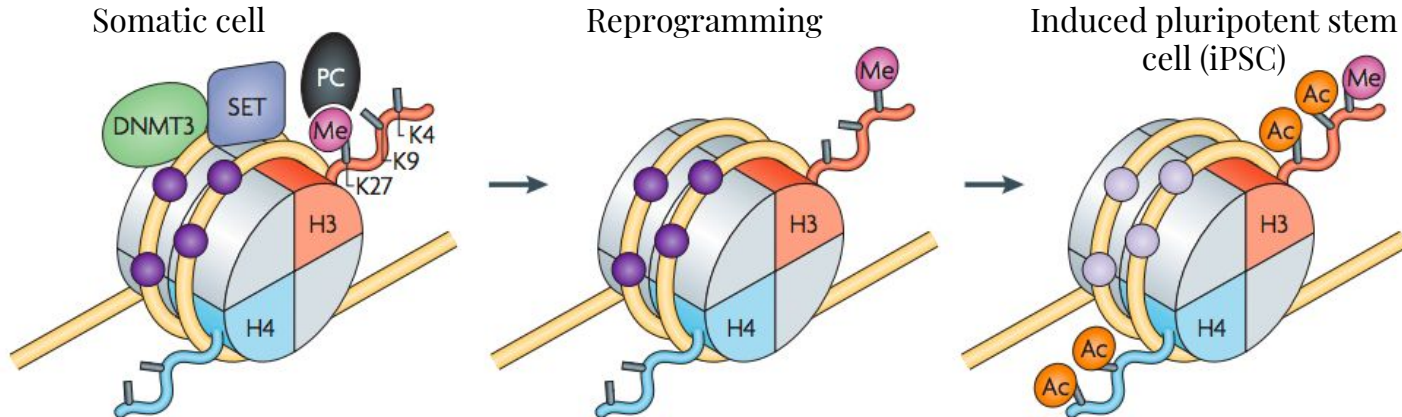
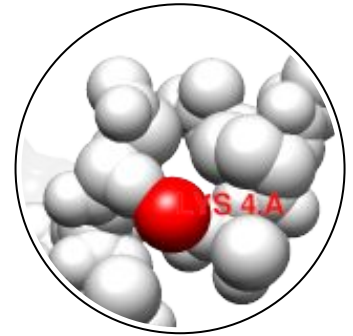


pdbID: 1KX5 (1.9Å)

# H3K4 methylation

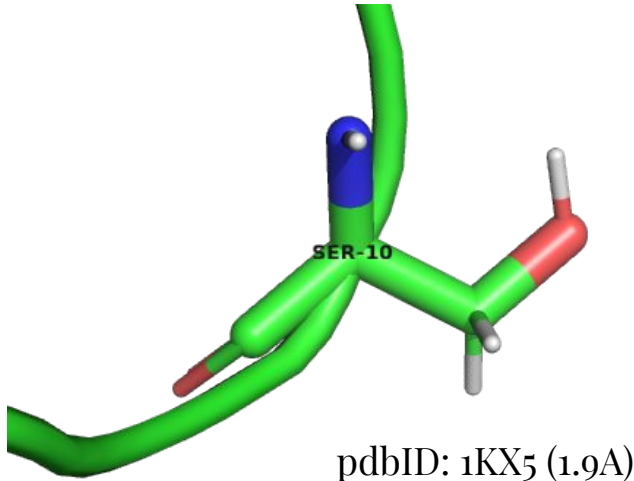
- **H3K4 trimethylation acts as a transcriptional activator** by promoting the binding of positive transcription factors and blocking negative ones.
- It allows to **activate pluripotency genes** during the reprogramming of somatic cells into induced pluripotent stem cells

H3K4



# Phosphorylation

- It is a **transient** histone modification that becomes induced by extracellular signals, DNA damage or entry into mitosis. It is targeted to **serines (S), threonines (T) and tyrosines (Y)**.
- It leads not only to the binding of specific reader proteins but also to changes in the affinity for readers or writers of other histone modifications.

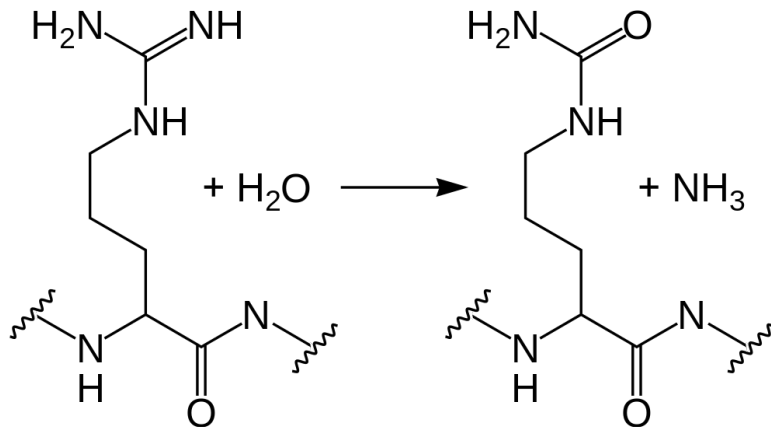


**H3S10** is one of the most studied histone phosphorylations.

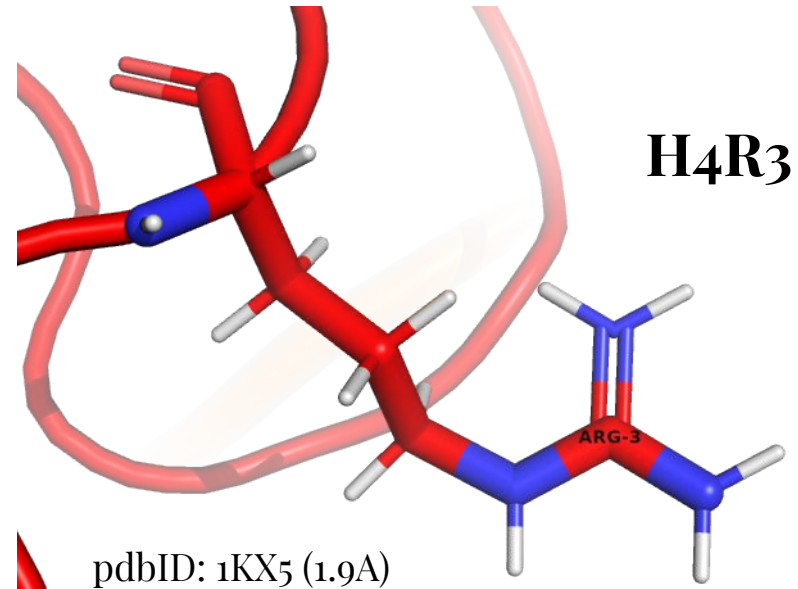
It is involved in both **transcription and cell division**, generally triggering DNA **condensation**.

# Citrunilization

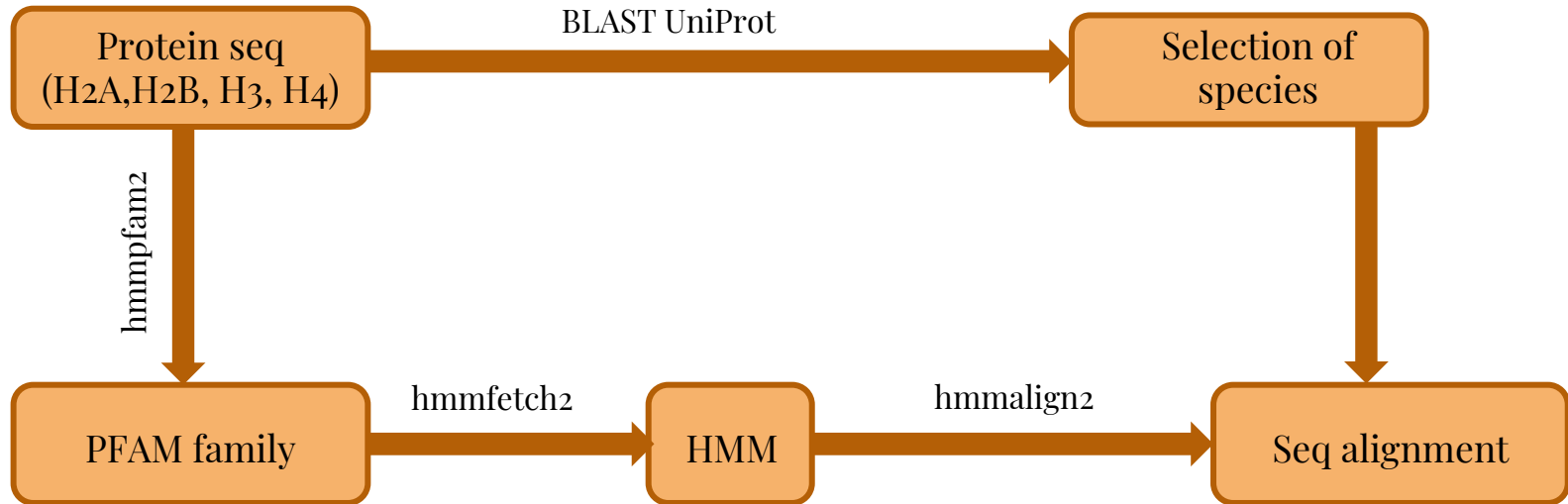
- It converts histone **arginine** to **citrulline**, and it is catalysed by peptidylarginine deiminases (**PADIs**)
- It leads to a **reduction in hydrogen-bonding** and a **looser chromatin structure**



Source: Wikipedia



# Evolution



# Evolution

## H2A

Arabidopsis\_thaliana  
 Drosophila\_melanogaster  
 Gallus\_gallus  
 Homo\_sapiens  
 Mus\_musculus  
 Oncorhynchus\_mykiss  
 Schizosaccharomyces\_pombe  
 Xenopus\_laevis  
 #=GC RF

Arabidopsis\_thaliana  
 Drosophila\_melanogaster  
 Gallus\_gallus  
 Homo\_sapiens  
 Mus\_musculus  
 Oncorhynchus\_mykiss  
 Schizosaccharomyces\_pombe  
 Xenopus\_laevis  
 #=GC RF

Arabidopsis\_thaliana  
 Drosophila\_melanogaster  
 Gallus\_gallus  
 Homo\_sapiens  
 Mus\_musculus  
 Oncorhynchus\_mykiss  
 Schizosaccharomyces\_pombe  
 Xenopus\_laevis  
 #=GC RF  
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 -RVGAGAPVYLAADVLEYLELTAEILELAGNAARDNKKTRIIIPRHLQLAVRND  
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 -RVGAGAPVYLAADVLEYLELTAEILELAGNAARDNKKSRIIPRHLQLAVRND  
 XXX

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 .....

# Evolution

H2B

Arabidopsis\_thaliana  
Drosophila\_melanogaster  
Gallus\_gallus  
Homo\_sapiens  
Mus\_musculus  
Oncorhynchus\_mykiss  
Schizosaccharomyces\_pombe  
Xenopus\_laevis  
#=GC RF

Arabidopsis\_thaliana  
Drosophila\_melanogaster  
Gallus\_gallus  
Homo\_sapiens  
Mus\_musculus  
Oncorhynchus\_mykiss  
Schizosaccharomyces\_pombe  
Xenopus\_laevis  
#=GC RF

Arabidopsis\_thaliana  
Drosophila\_melanogaster  
Gallus\_gallus  
Homo\_sapiens  
Mus\_musculus  
Oncorhynchus\_mykiss  
Schizosaccharomyces\_pombe  
Xenopus\_laevis  
#=GC RF

Arabidopsis\_thaliana  
Drosophila\_melanogaster  
Gallus\_gallus  
Homo\_sapiens  
Mus\_musculus  
Oncorhynchus\_mykiss  
Schizosaccharomyces\_pombe  
Xenopus\_laevis  
#=GC RF

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H<sub>3</sub>

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Drosophila_melanogaster
Gallus_gallus
Homo_sapiens
Mus_musculus
Oncorhynchus_mykiss
Schizosaccharomyces_pombe
Xenopus_laevis
#=GC RF
```

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## H4

```

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Homo_sapiens
Mus_musculus
Oncorhynchus_mykiss
Schizosaccharomyces_pombe
Xenopus_laevis
#=GC RF
//

```

```
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rtlygfgg
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rtlygfgg
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.....
```

INTRODUCTION

INTERACTIONS

HISTONE 1

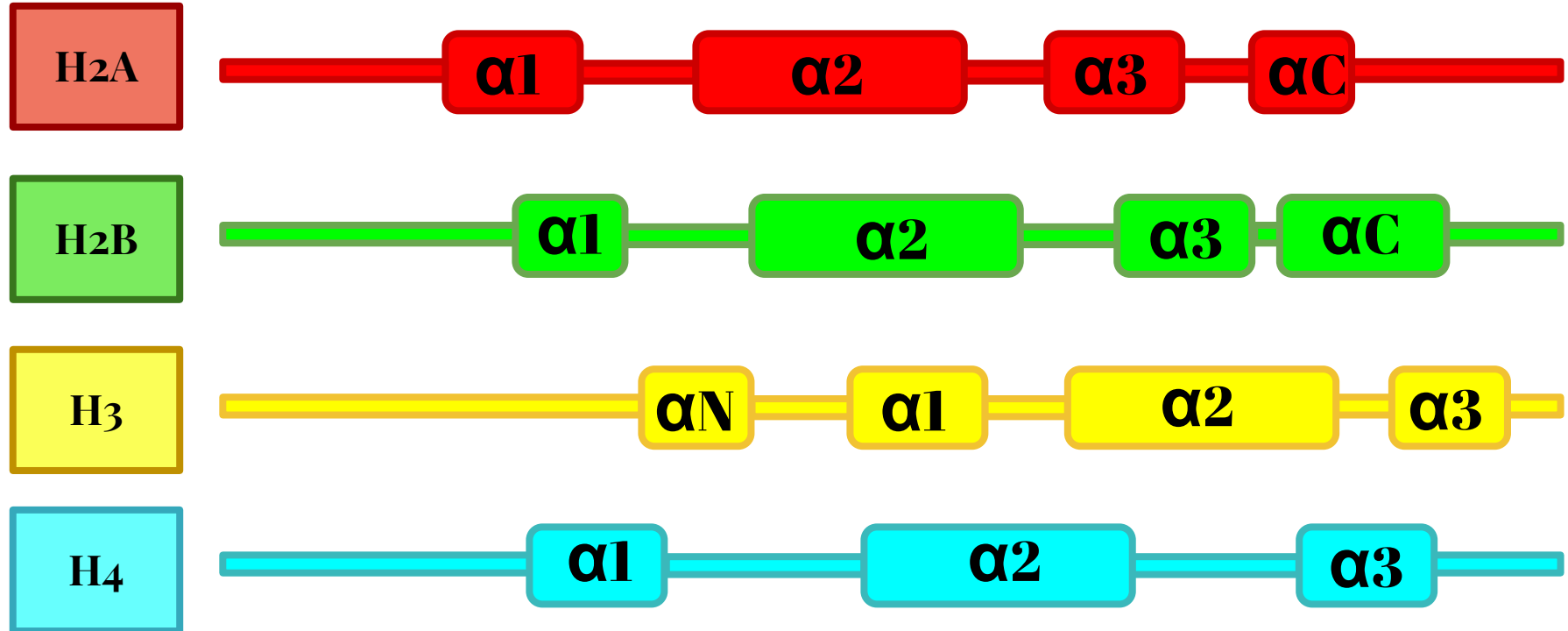
DNA INTERACTION

MODIFICATIONS

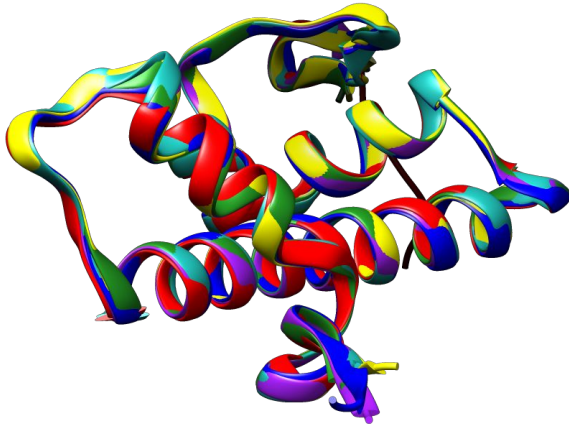
EVOLUTION

CONCLUSIONS

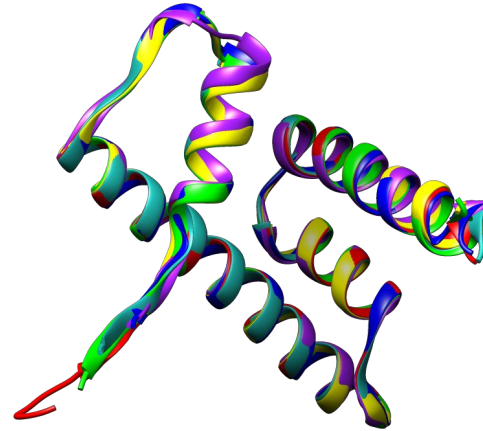
# Evolution



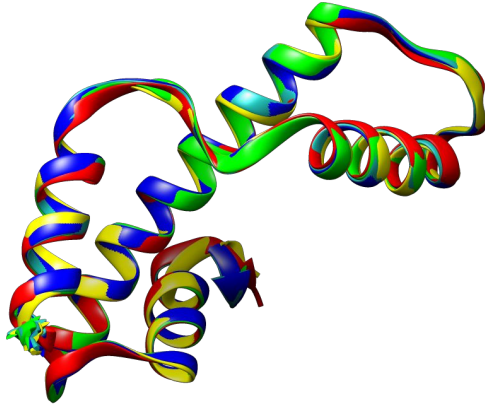
H2A  
Sc 9,35  
0,42



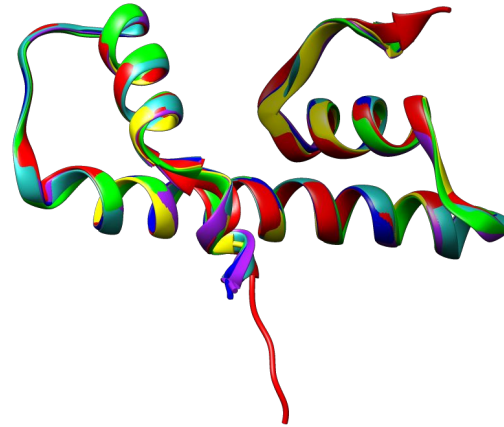
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Sc 9,25  
0,26



H3  
Sc 9,39  
0,41

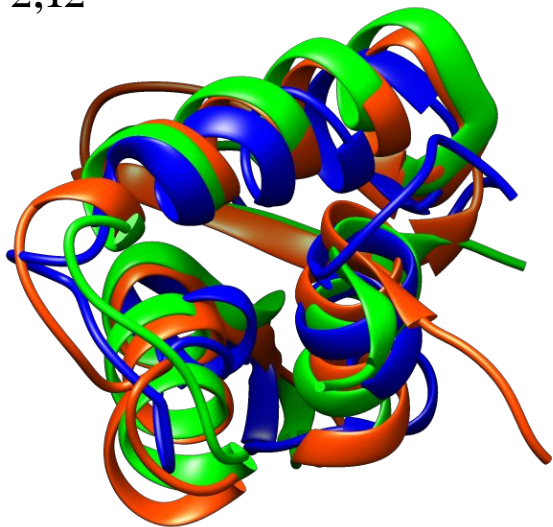


H4  
Sc 8,96  
0,35



# Evolution

H1  
Sc 7,32  
2,12



Drosophila\_melanogaster  
Gallus\_gallus  
Homo\_sapiens  
Mus\_musculus  
Oncorhynchus\_mykiss  
Xenopus\_laevis  
Saccharomyces\_cerevisiae  
#=GC RF

Drosophila\_melanogaster  
Gallus\_gallus  
Homo\_sapiens  
Mus\_musculus  
Oncorhynchus\_mykiss  
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# Conclusions

- There is a **high conservation of the histones**, except Histone 1
- Despite H1 is not a histone core protein, its **function is indispensable** for chromatin organization
- There are **stable interactions between the histones**, however with the **DNA** the interactions are **dynamic and fluctuate**.
- **DNA interactions are nonspecific of sequence**, that allows them not to be so established and the ability to fluctuate
- Post-transcriptional modifications are able to modify not only **histone's affinity for chromatin**, but also the **binding of transcriptional cofactors**
- **Histone tails** play a fundamental role in **genetic regulation and inter/intra nucleosomal interactions**

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# PEM questions

1. Which of the following is true?
  - a. H1 is important in fixing the nucleosome with the DNA linker
  - b. H1 has only one important binding site
  - c. a and b are correct
  - d. H1 is part of the octamer
  - e. All of them are correct
2. About histones interaction with DNA...
  - a. There are concrete regions of the DNA with higher affinity than others with the histones.
  - b. Histones bindings with DNA are dynamic and constantly moving
  - c. A and B are correct
  - d. Histones bind specifically with the DNA chain
  - e. All of them are correct
3. Choose the right sentence:
  - a. Histones are not under postranslational modifications
  - b. There are two H1 on the histone core
  - c. The histone core is formed by two H2A, two H2b, two H3 and two H4
  - d. The histone fold is a common domain of all histons
  - e. All the sentences are wrong
4. Related with the nucleosome structure:
  - a. The hydrophobic core is not necessary for the structure stability
  - b. H2A forms a dimer with H2A'
  - c. H3 interacts with H3', H2B and H2B' for the tetramer
  - d. H3 forms a dimer with H4
  - e. Dimer stability only depends on hydrogen bonds
5. Related with the histone core proteins structure:
  - a. All histone core proteins have a N-terminus alpha helix
  - b. All histone core proteins have a C-terminus alpha helix
  - c. All histone core proteins have four alpha helices
  - d. H2A has only three alpha helices in its structure
  - e. H4 has only three alpha helices in its structure
6. Related to the evolution of histones:
  - a. Histone core proteins are really conserved through evolution
  - b. The histone core proteins are conserved even in prokaryotes
  - c. A and B are correct
  - d. H1 is not really conserved through evolution so the function has changed
  - e. All of them are correct

# PEM questions

7. Related to the histone fold:

- a. The histone fold is found in all histones
- b. It is found only in histones
- c. A and B are correct
- d. It is composed by three alpha helices
- e. All of them are correct

8. Related with the histone tails:

- a. They are important to stabilize the binding with the DNA
- b. H2A has tails in N- and in C-terminus
- c. They contain mainly positively charged amino acids
- d. H1 has both N- and C-terminal tails
- e. All of them are correct

9. DNA-histone interactions are:

- a. Non-specific
- b. Dynamic
- c. A and B are correct
- d. Specific
- e. All the sentences are wrong

10. Related with the post translational modifications:

- a. Methylation always produces a repression of the transcription
- b. Acetylation induces a loss of charge in the histone, leading to a weaker DNA-histone binding
- c. Methylation and acetylation are the only two histone modifications described
- d. Methylation maintains the charge of the histone and its interaction with the DNA
- e. b and d are correct



# **THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION**

**Structural Biology – Human Biology UPF**