

# The ABC of kinase conformations

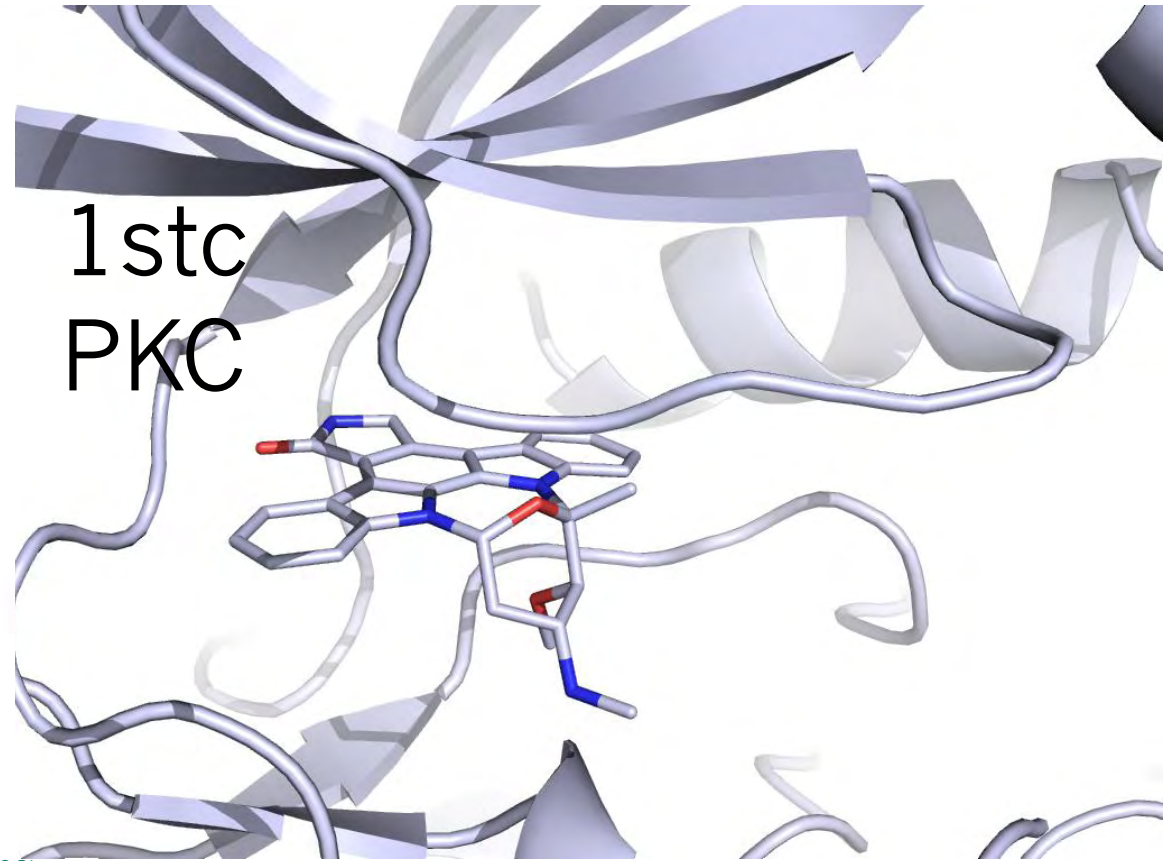
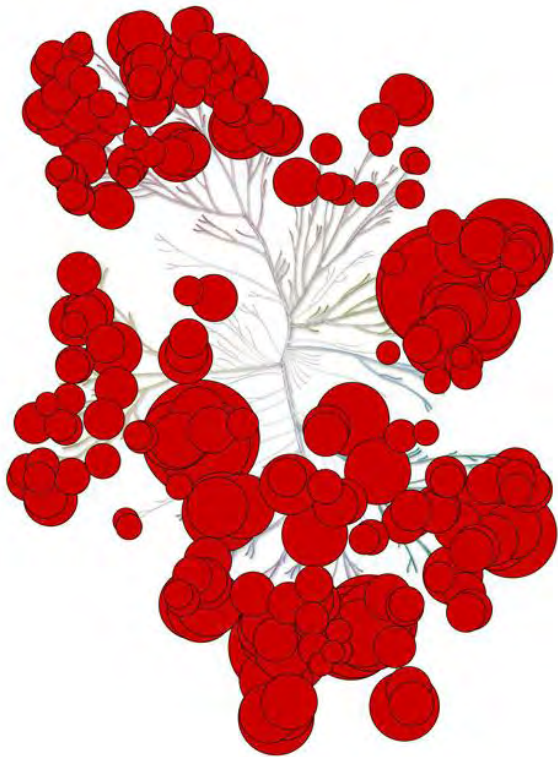
Interplay of conformation, sequence and ligand binding

Henrik Möbitz

Protein Kinase 2012

Accelrys, Cambridge Science Park, Cambridge, 21. May 2012

# STU's journey through the kinaverse ...or the inherent flexibility of kinases



[Karaman et al., Nature Biotechnology 26, p.127 \(2008\)](#)

# The ABC of kinase conformations

1. Nomenclature, conformational bias
2. Classification of kinase conformations
3. The active conformation and conformational bias
4. Mechanism of DFG out and helix- $\alpha$ C out transitions
5. Sources of selectivity

# Universal residue nomenclature & alignment

The ABC builds upon a structure based sequence alignment, in which every residue is named by distance to the closest anchor point

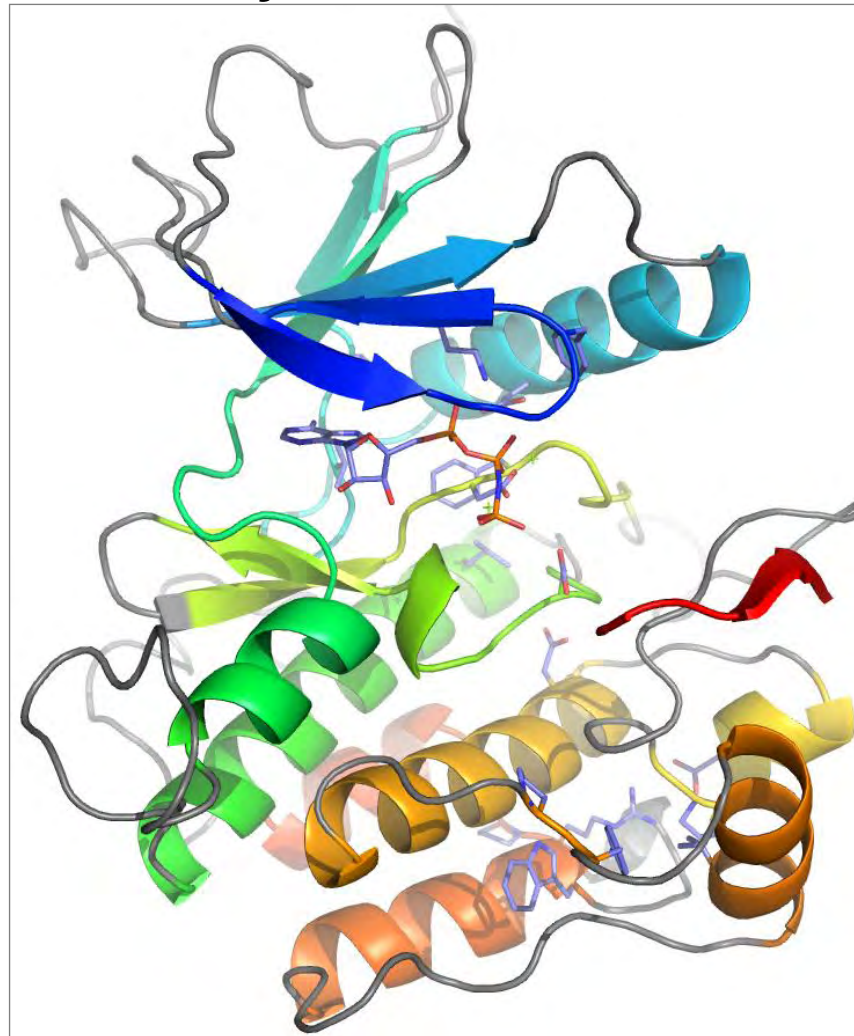
structurally  
conserved

N-term



C-term

variable  
loops/inserts

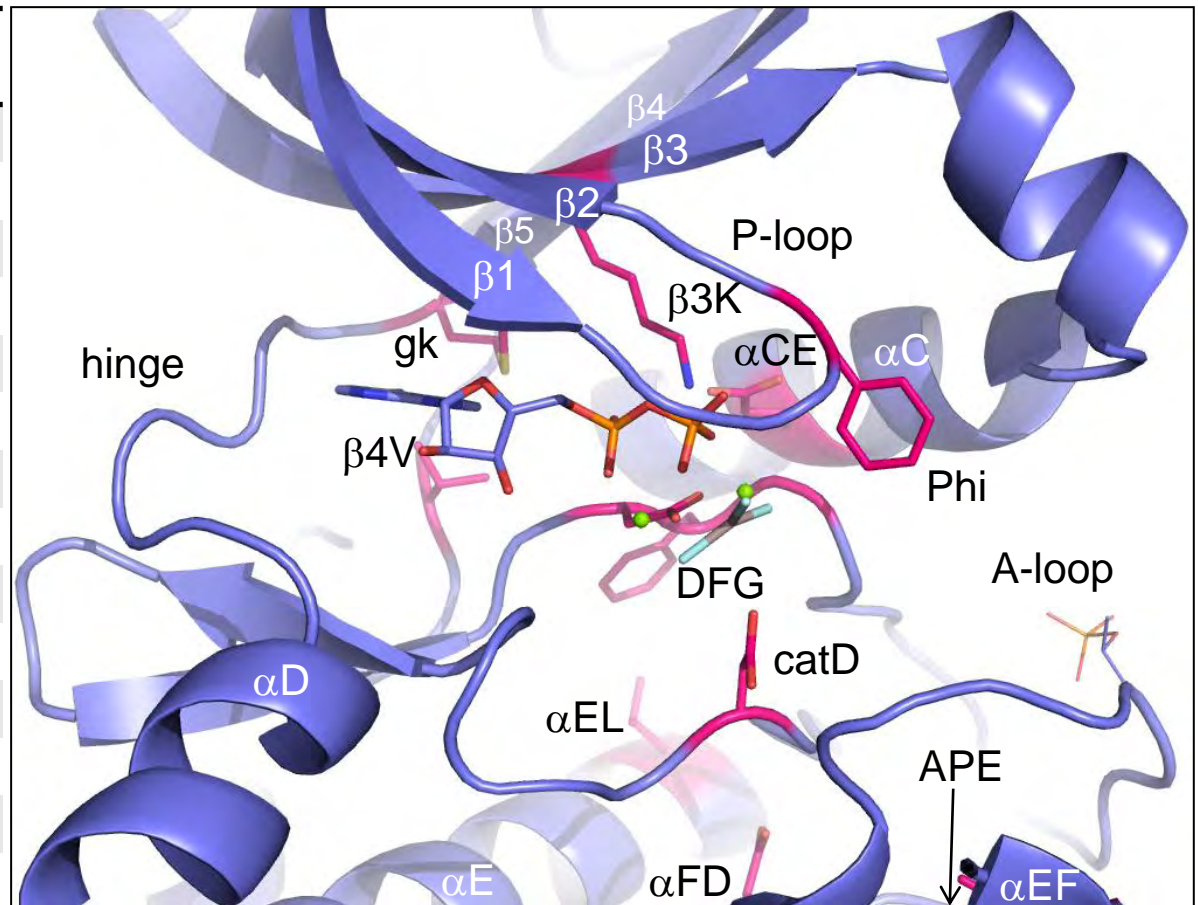




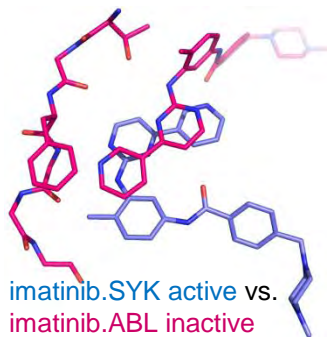
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subdomain	anchor	residue PKAa
P-loop	Phi	54
$\beta 3$	$\beta 3$ -Lys	72
$\alpha C$	$\alpha C$ -Glu	91
$\beta 4$	$\beta 4$ -Val	104
$\beta 5$ /hinge	gk	120
$\alpha E$	$\alpha E$ -Leu	157
catalytic loop	catD/N	166/171
start A-loop	DFG	184-186
end A-loop	APE	206-208
$\alpha F$	$\alpha F$ -Asp	220
	PY	237/238
$\alpha G$	$\alpha G$ -Ile	250
$\alpha H$	$\alpha H$ -Trp	273
	RP	280/281



# Conformational bias governs key aspects of kinase biology



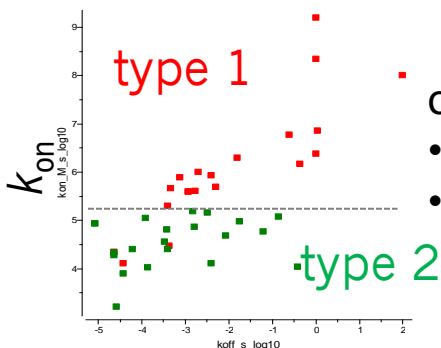
“How much energy does the target conformation cost?”

binding mode / conformation

“How similar/accessible is the target conformation in other kinases?”

$\Delta G_{\text{conf}}$

$\Delta\Delta G_{\text{conf}}$



on- target effects:

- potency
- mode of action: kinetics, ATP competition, mutant susceptibility

off-target effects:

- kinase selectivity
- ph4-properites (e.g., hERG, IP, solubility)



imatinib Ambit panel

$k_{\text{off}}$

# Conformational bias

physiologic  
pathologic

## Inhibition

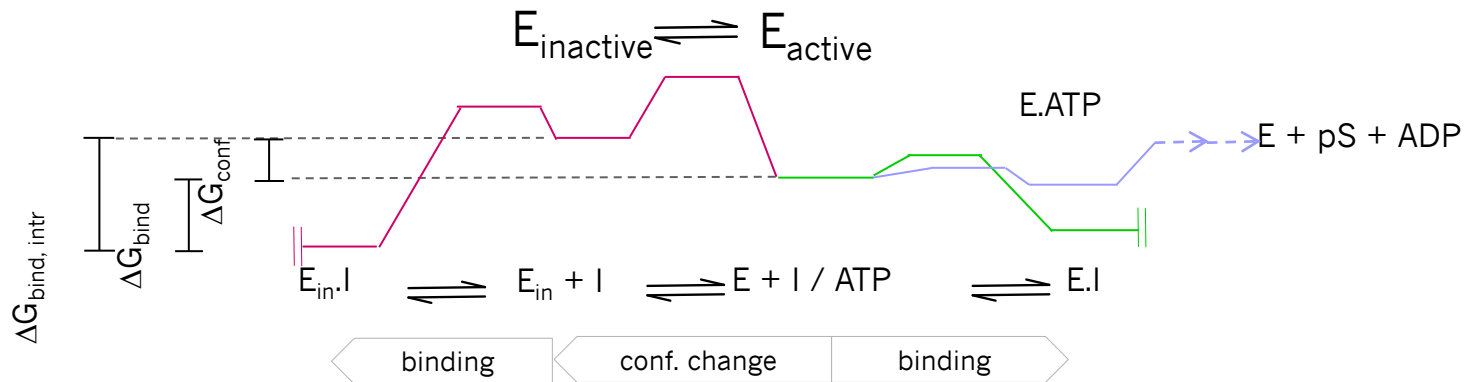
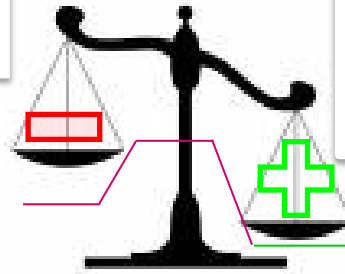
negative regulation  
allosterism (e.g. myristate pocket)

inhibitor binding

## Activation

repression of negative regulation  
positive regulation / effector binding (e.g. Cyclin)  
phosphorylation  
dimerization

mutation  
resistance mutation, helix C insertions/deletions  
nucleotide, inhibitor binding (active conformation)

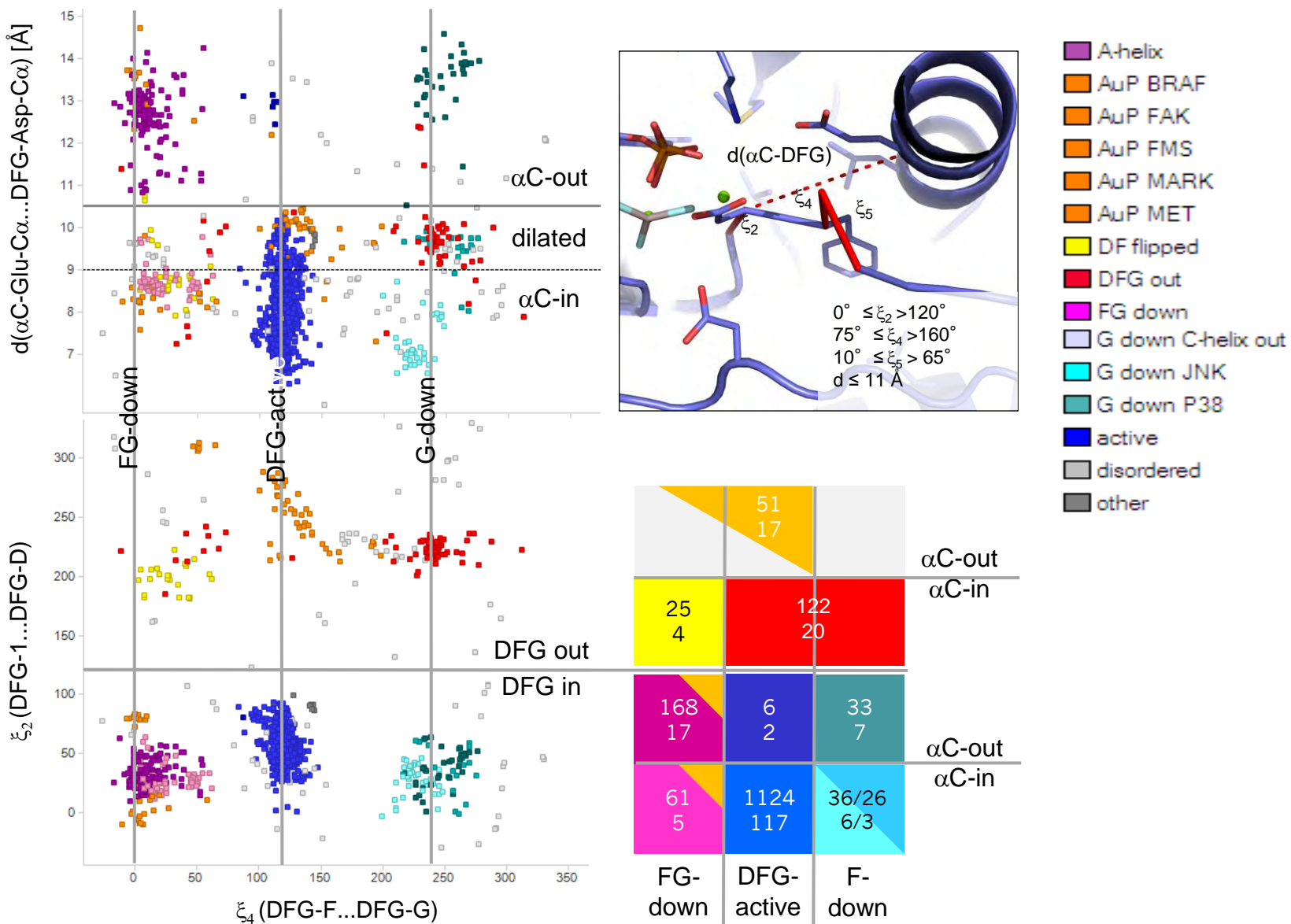


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# The London tube maps of conformational space



# Major conformations of kinases

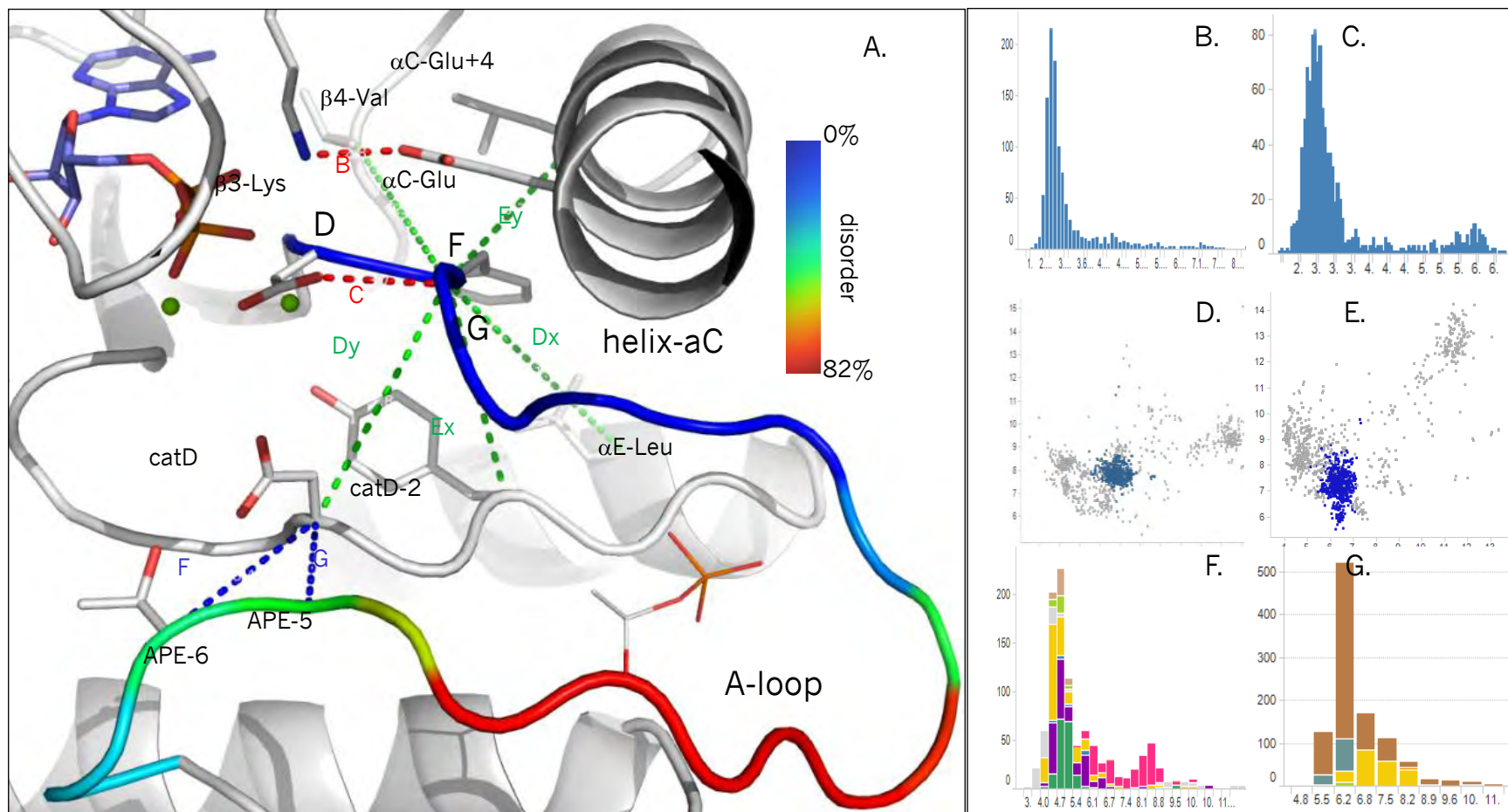
Conformation	n(chains)	n(unique kinases)	%	Template	helix- $\alpha$ C	DFG
active	1124	117	58.7	1l3r, 1ir3	in	active
DFG-active $\alpha$ C-out	6	2	0.3	1k2p	out	active
FG-down	61	5	3.2	3dt1	in	in
FG-down $\alpha$ C-out	168	17	8.8	1hck	out	in
G-down JNK	36	6	1.9	1jnk	in	in
G-down p38	23	3	1.2	1p38	dilated	in
G-down $\alpha$ C-out	33	7	1.7	1s9j	out	in
DFG-flipped	25	4	1.3	1opk	in – dilated	out
DFG-out type 2	122	20	6.4	1iep	in – dilated	out
A-under-P BRAF	28	7	1.5	1uwh	dilated	out
A-under-P FAK	5	2	0.3	2jko		out
A-under-P FMS	18	8	0.9	1t46	in – dilated	out
A-under-P MARK	18	4	0.9	2hak	in	in
A-under-P MET	12	1	0.6	3ccn	out	in
other	98	30	5.1			
disordered	137		7.1			

pdb, June 2010

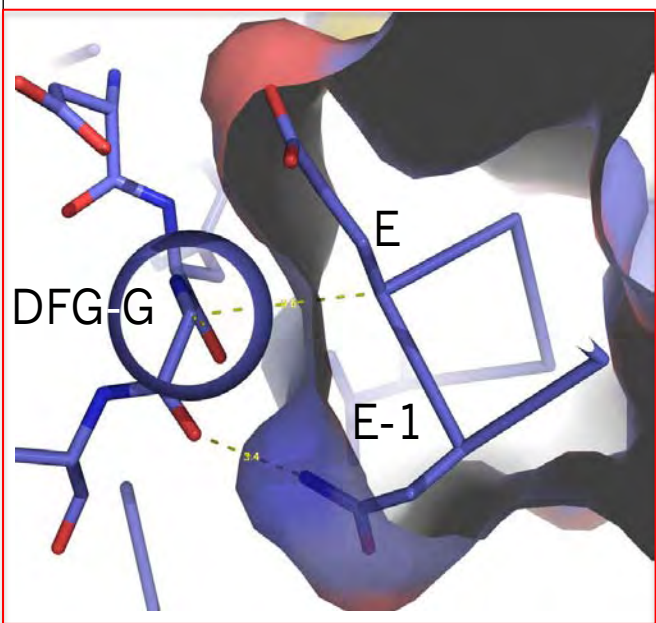
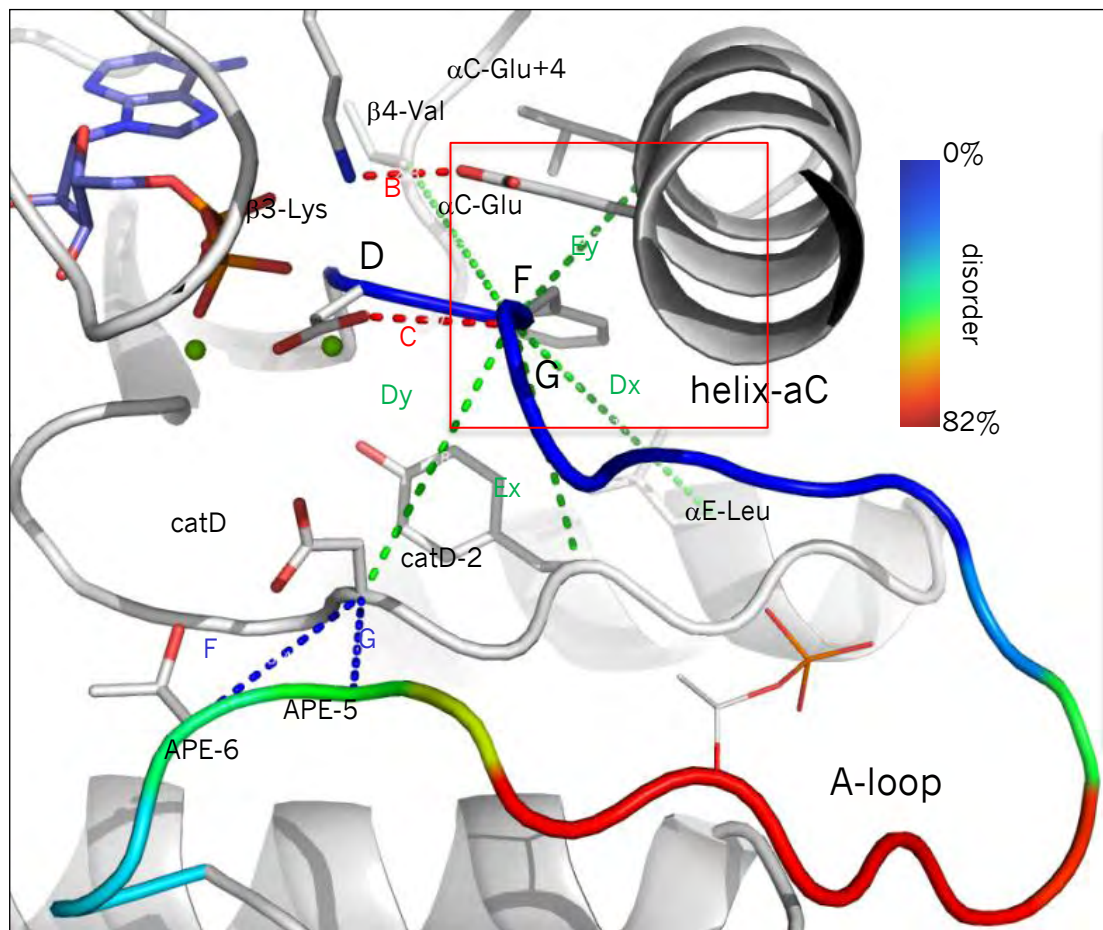
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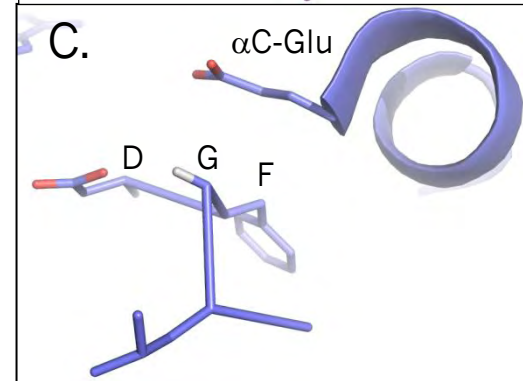
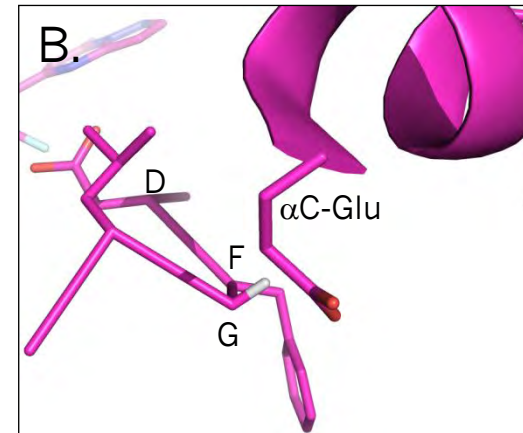
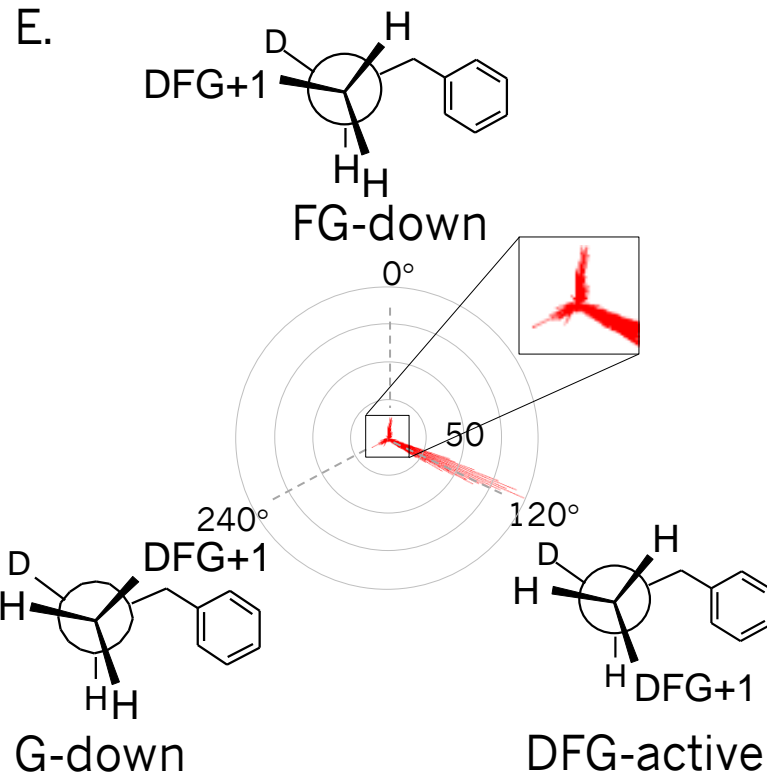
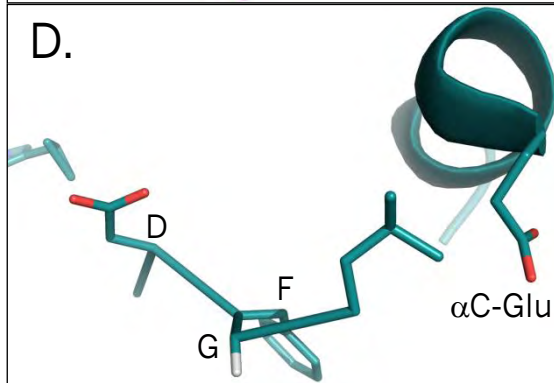
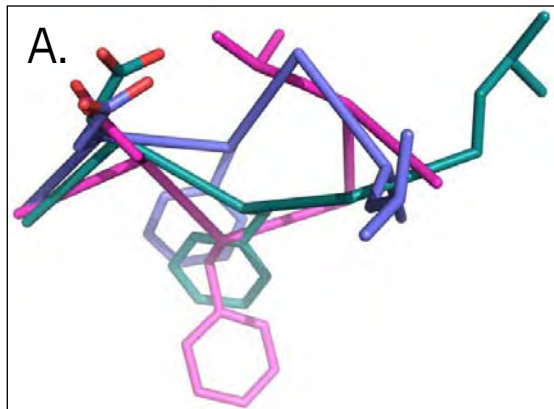
# The DFG-helix- $\alpha$ C interaction organizes all key features of the active conformation



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# DFG-helix $\alpha$ C interaction weakened in F/FG-down



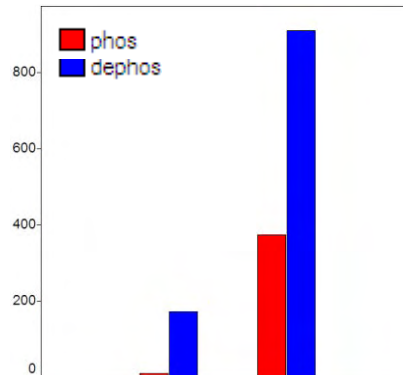
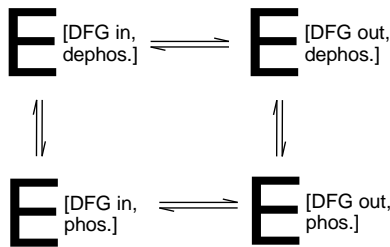
168 17	6 2	33 7	$\alpha$ C-out $\alpha$ C-in
61 5	1124 117	36/2 6 6/3	

The ABC of kin    FG-down    DFG-active    F-down

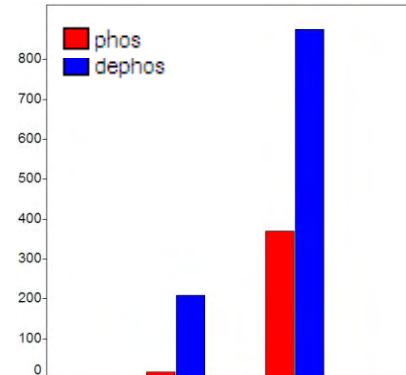


# More conformational biases

$$\Delta\Delta G = -1.0 \text{ kcal/mol}$$

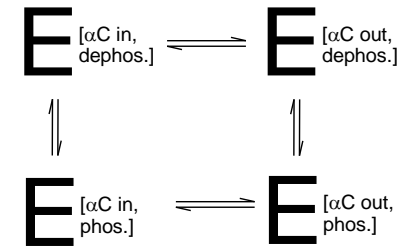


DFG out - in



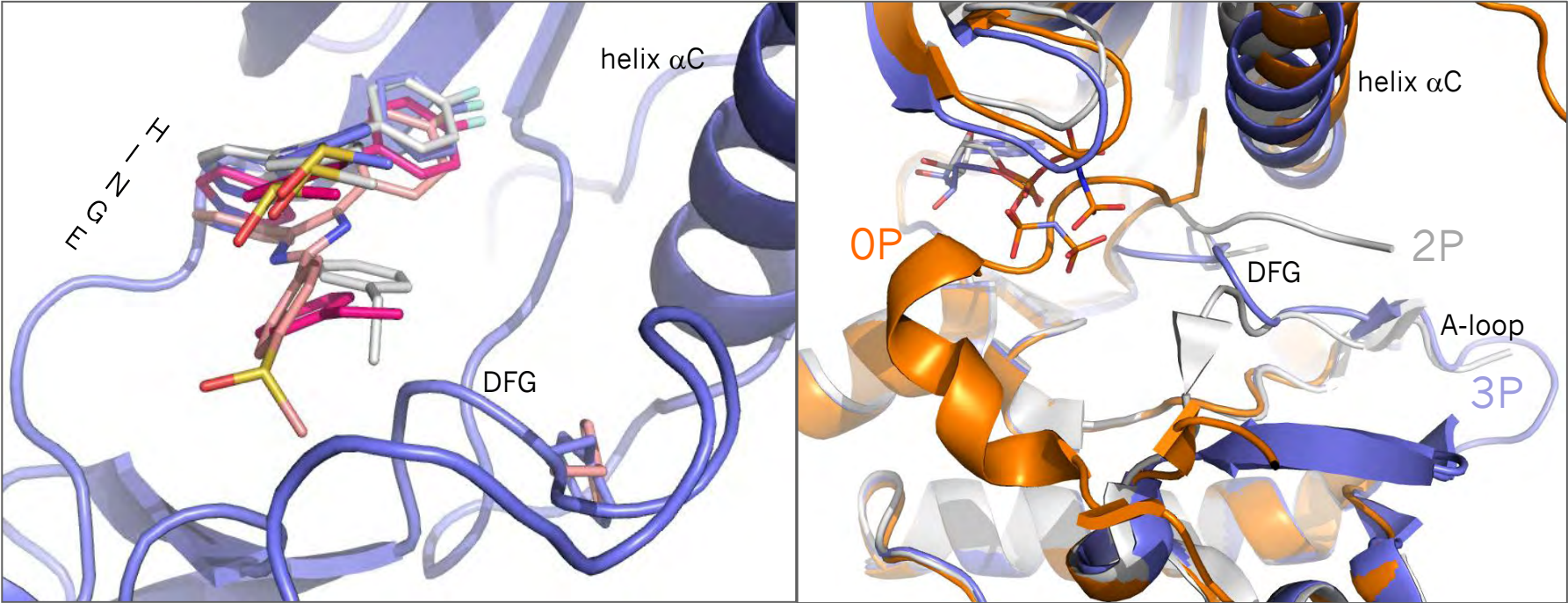
helix C out - in

$$\Delta\Delta G = -0.9 \text{ kcal/mol}$$



bias	population	n(all/bias)	$\Delta\Delta G_{\text{conf}}$ (DFG in-out)	$\Delta\Delta G_{\text{conf}}$ (helixC in-out)
phosphorylation	all	1885/463	-0.9	-1
cyclin	CDKs	438/136	+0.1	-3
nucleotide binding	nucleotide vs. apo	634/246	-0.3	+0.1
type 1 inhibitor binding	type 1 bound vs. apo	1436/1048	-0.3	+0.2
type 2 inhibitor binding	type 2 bound vs. apo	539/151	+2.5	-0.2
DFG-active	DFG-active DFG-in	1130	NA	+3.8
FG-down	FG-down DFG-in	229	NA	-0.5
G-down	G-down DFG-in	92	NA	0

# Conformational equilibrium and bias at work



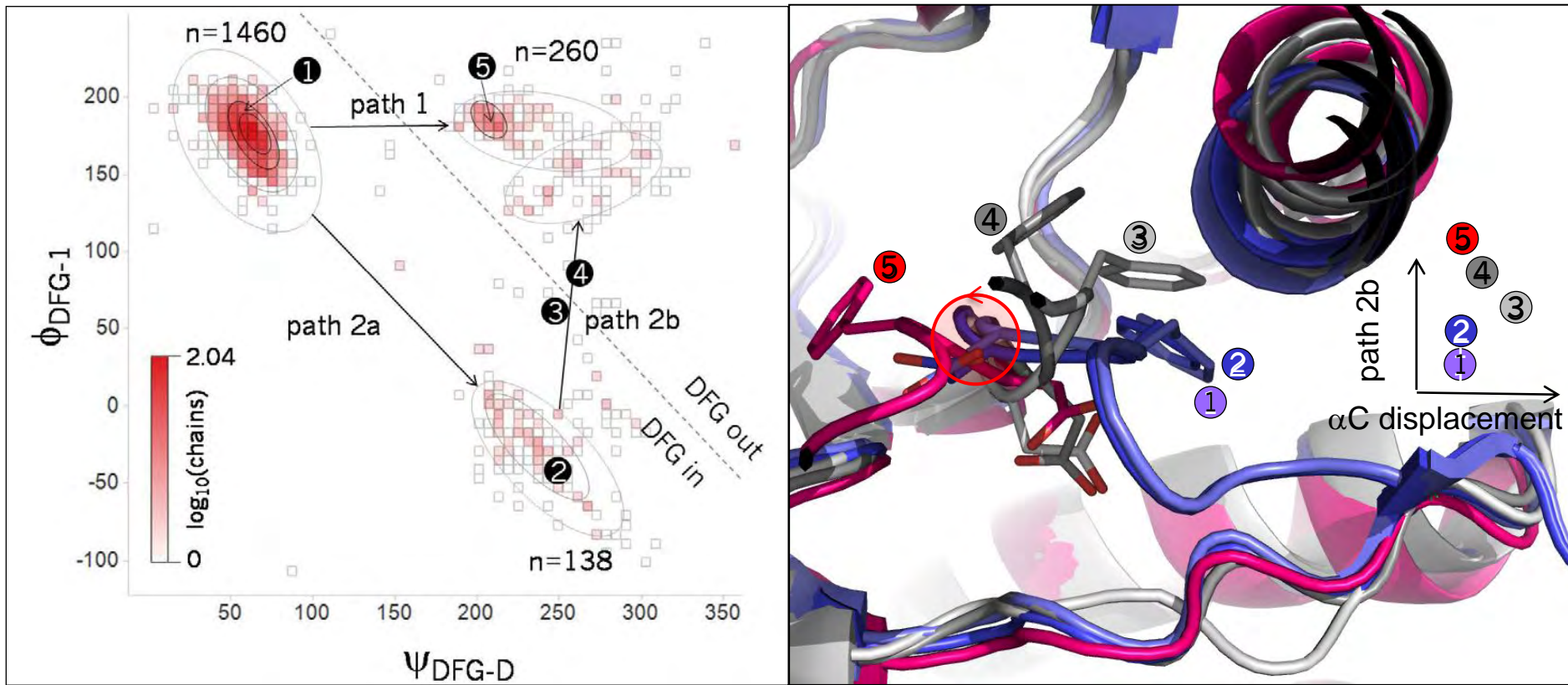
p38a.SB203580	1a9u	DFG-in	IGF1R-3P	1k3a	active (DFG-in)	197
p38a.SB203580	2ewa	DFG-in	IGF1R-2P	1jqh	other (DFG-in)	118
p38a.SB203580	2ewa	DFG-out	IGF1R-OP	1p4o	A-under-P (DFG-out)	1.6
p38a.SB203580	3gcp	DFG-out				

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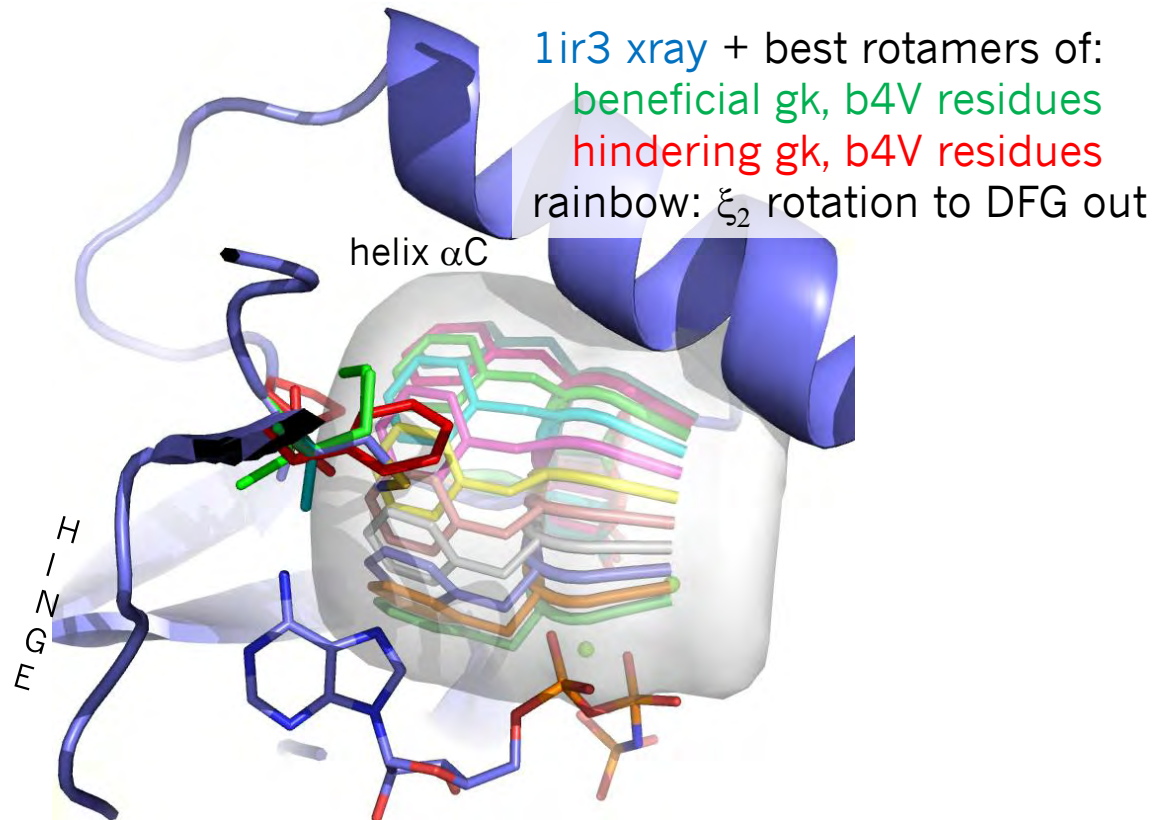
# Mechanism of DFG out transition

A side chain rotation between DFG-1 and DFG that requires a temporary displacement of helix- $\alpha$ C.



# Sequence bias of DFG out transition

hydrophobic, flexible residues lubricate transition  
polar residues hinder transition – HBs need to be broken  
small, hydrophobic DFG-1 (A,G,C,V) stabilize DFG out  
rotamers need to be compatible with DFG out switch  
helix- $\alpha$ C flexibility strictly required to allow DFG out rotation

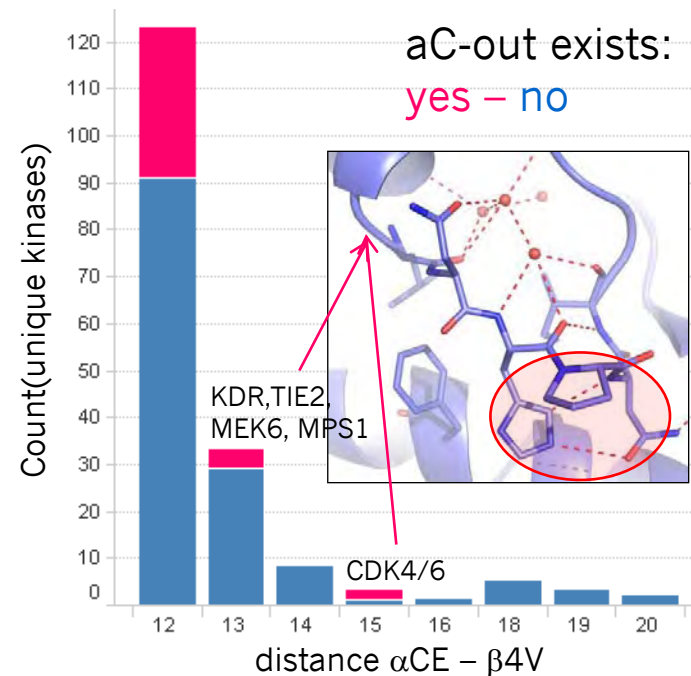
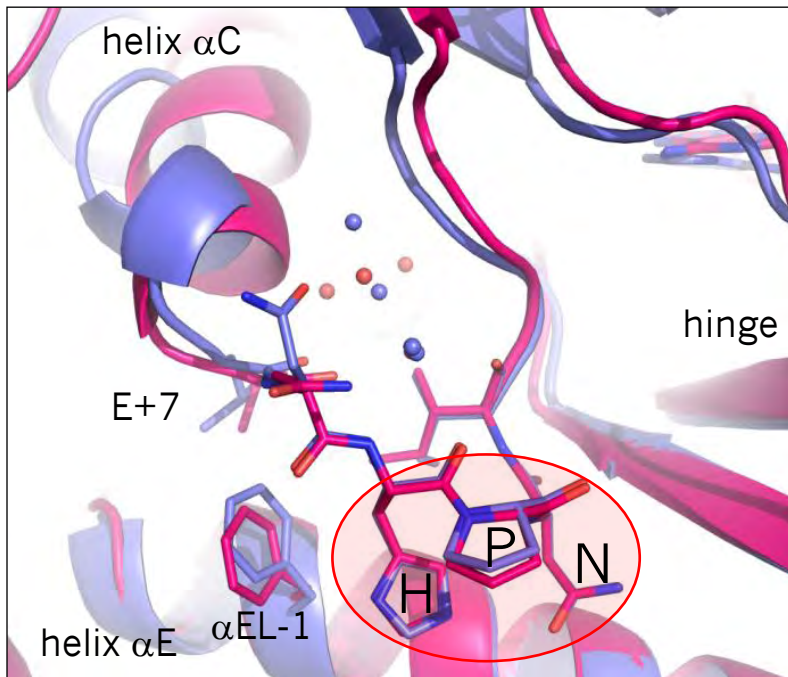




# Mechanism of helix C out transition

rigid HPN hairpin between helix  $\alpha$ C and  $\beta$ 4V pivots transition  
 inserts at  $\alpha$ C N-term and HPN hairpin (after  $\alpha$ C+7) disable transition  
 more end states and lower conservation  $\Rightarrow$  sequence bias less significant  
 simultaneous bend and twist caused by improper shifts in HPN region

2cch CDK2 active  
 2r3i CDK2 FG down helix C out



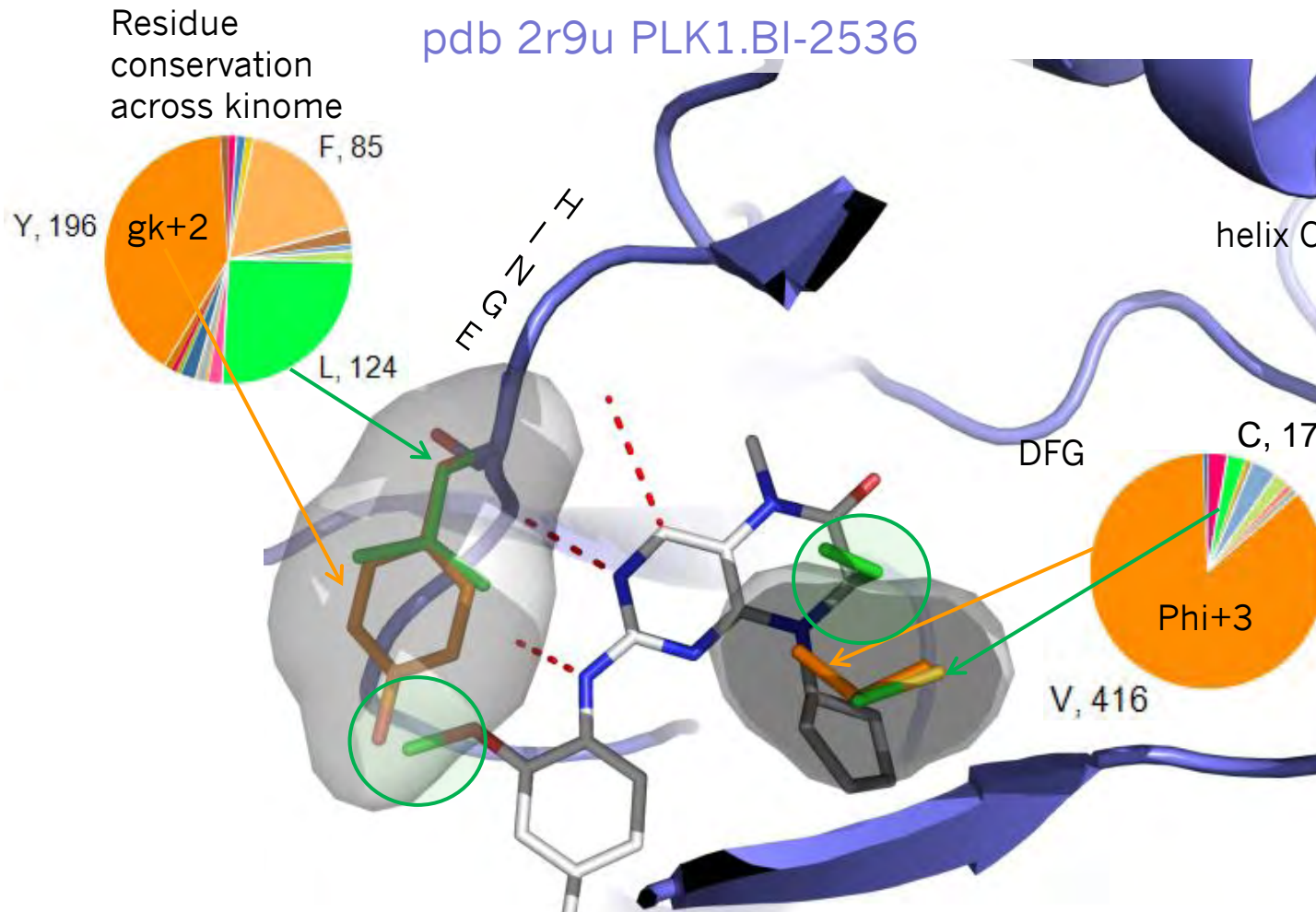


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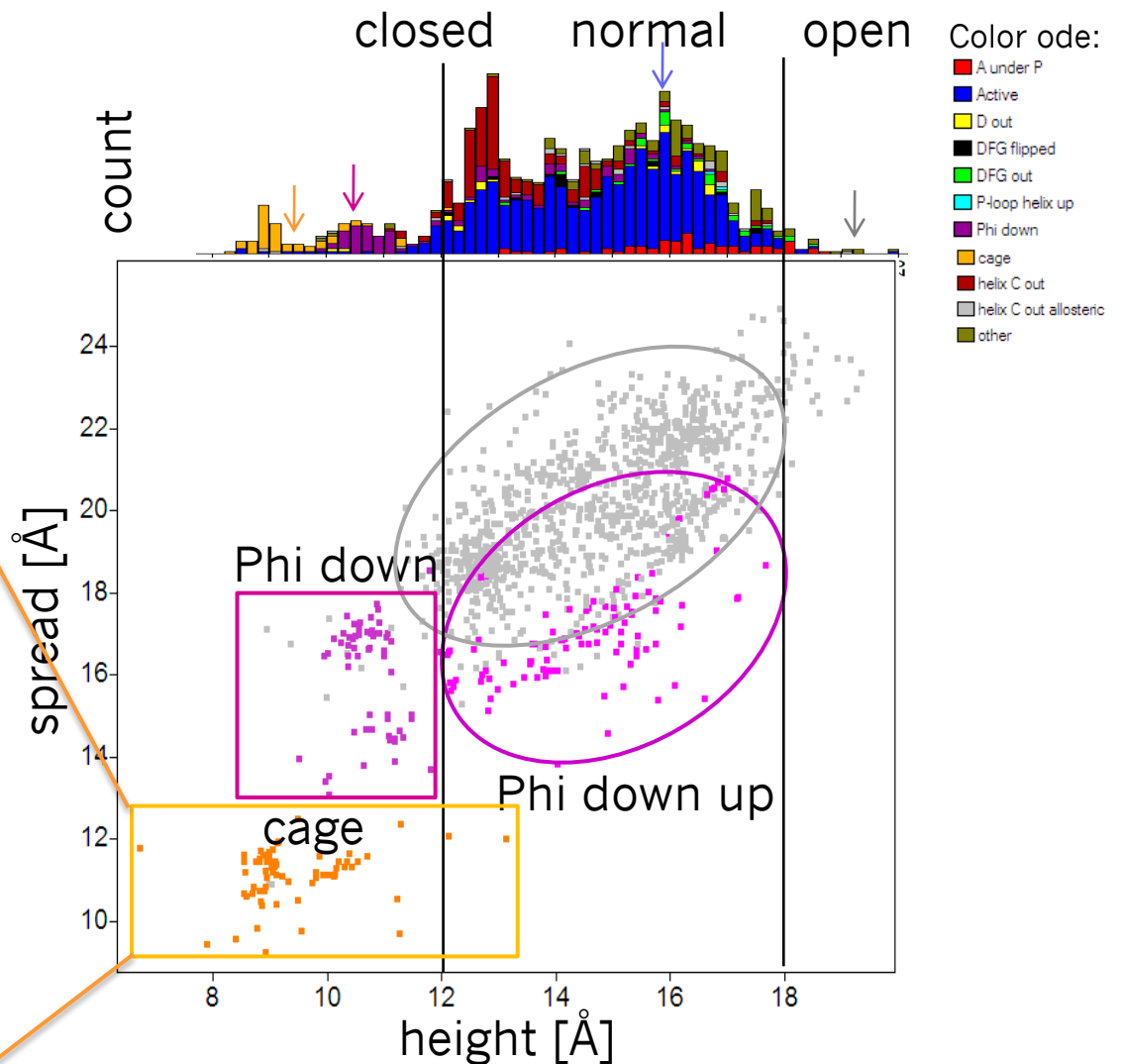
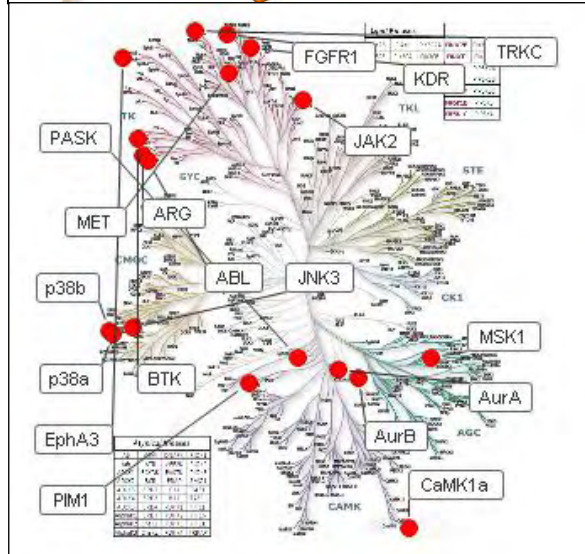
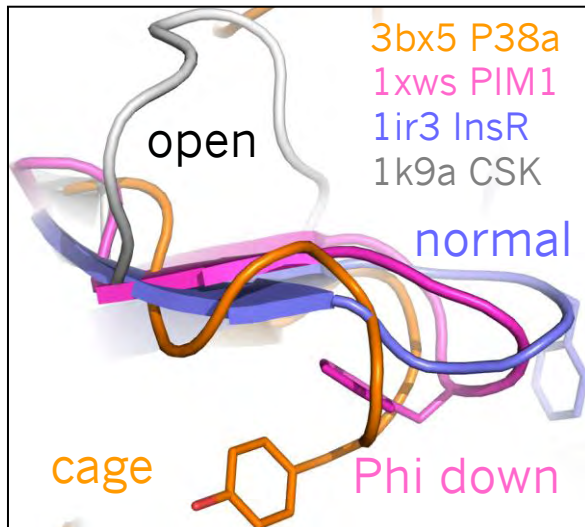
# Interaction based selectivity

Exploiting residue conservation in (standard) binding mode



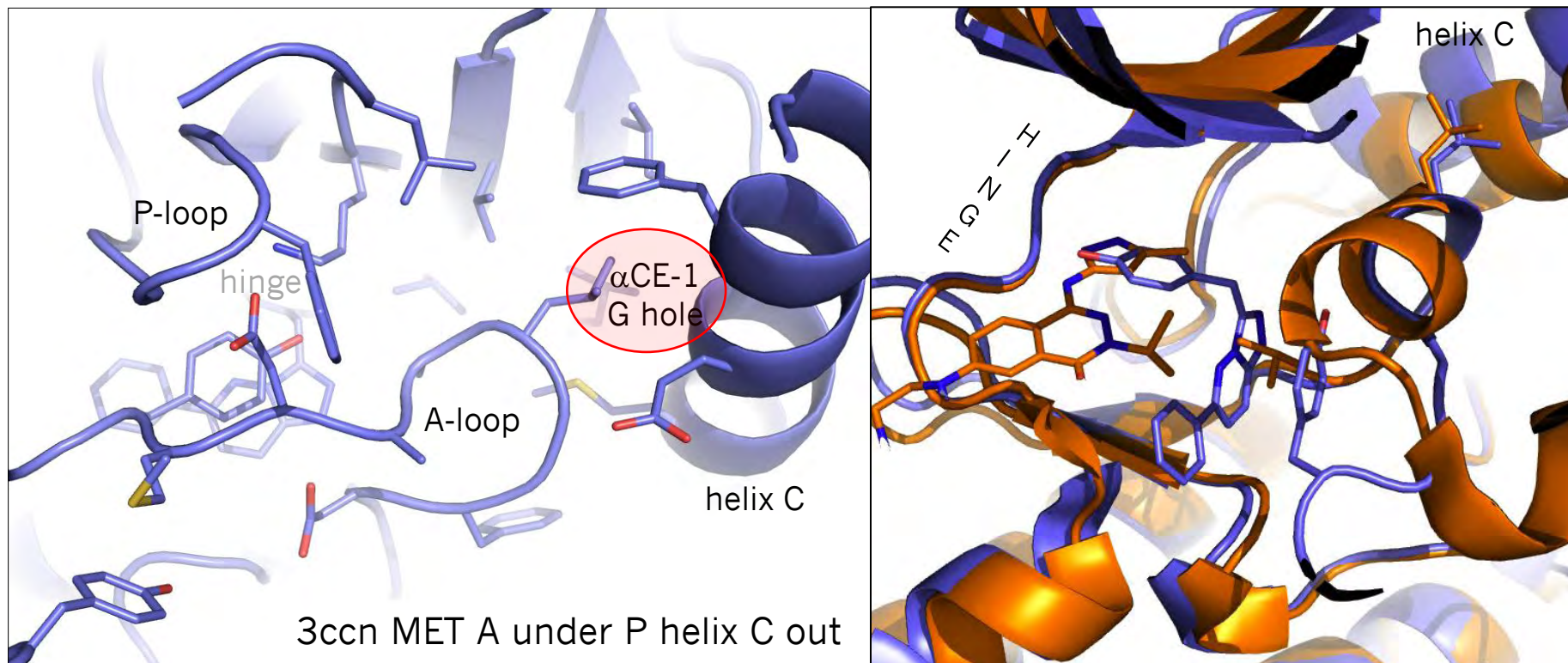
# Ligand efficiency-based selectivity

High intrinsic LE due to buriedness: closed P-loop conformations



# Selectivity from conformational penalty

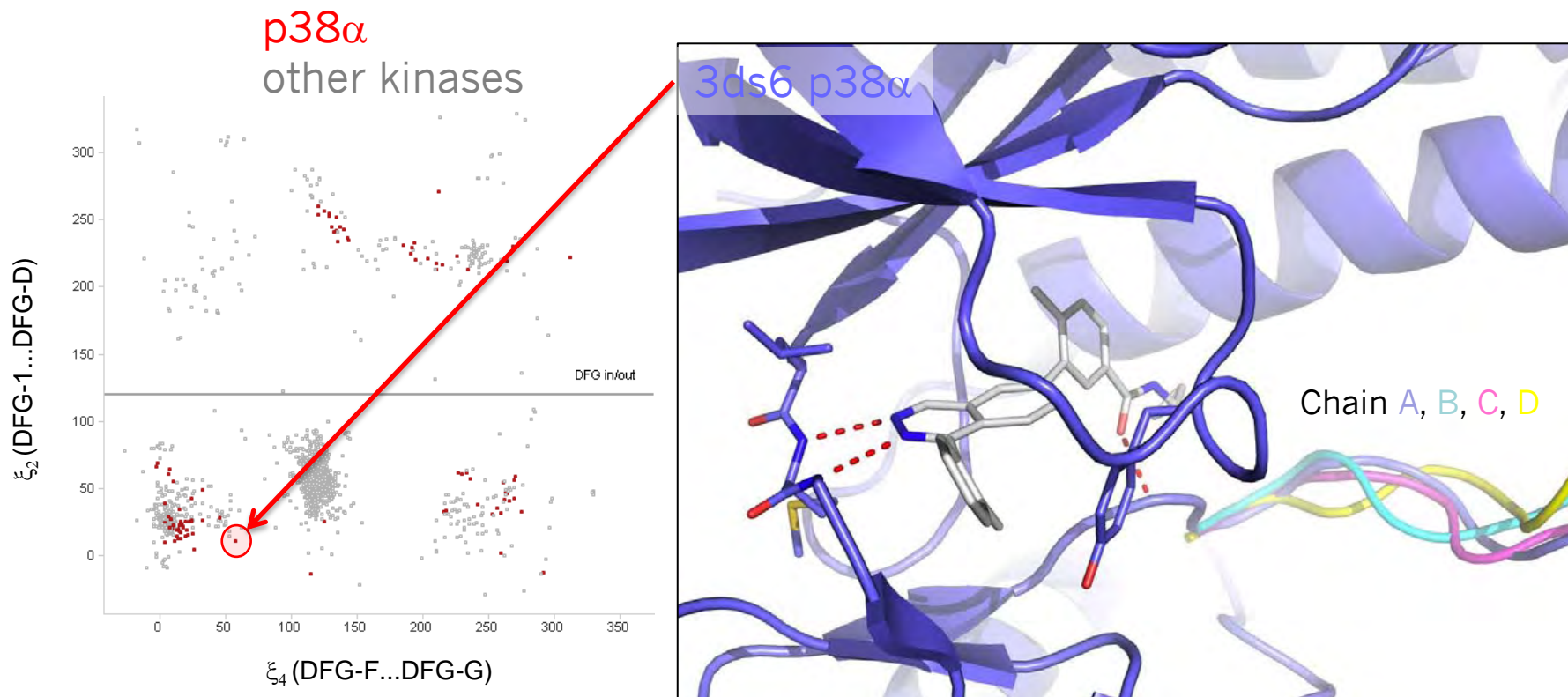
Unique conformations stabilized by non-conserved residues



3pix BTK  
3ccn MET

# Selectivity from conformational penalty

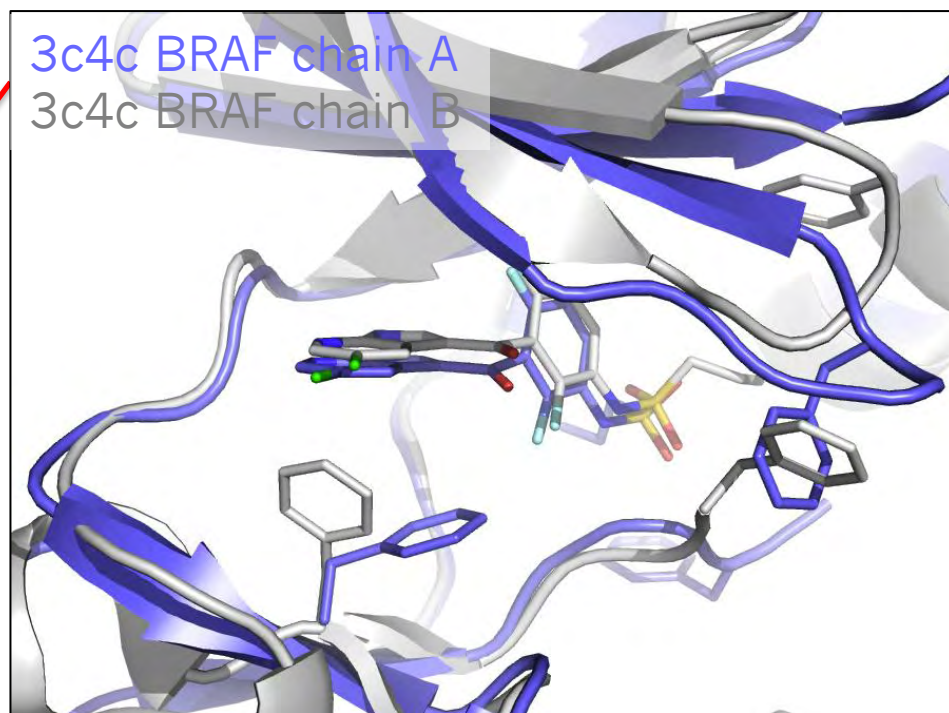
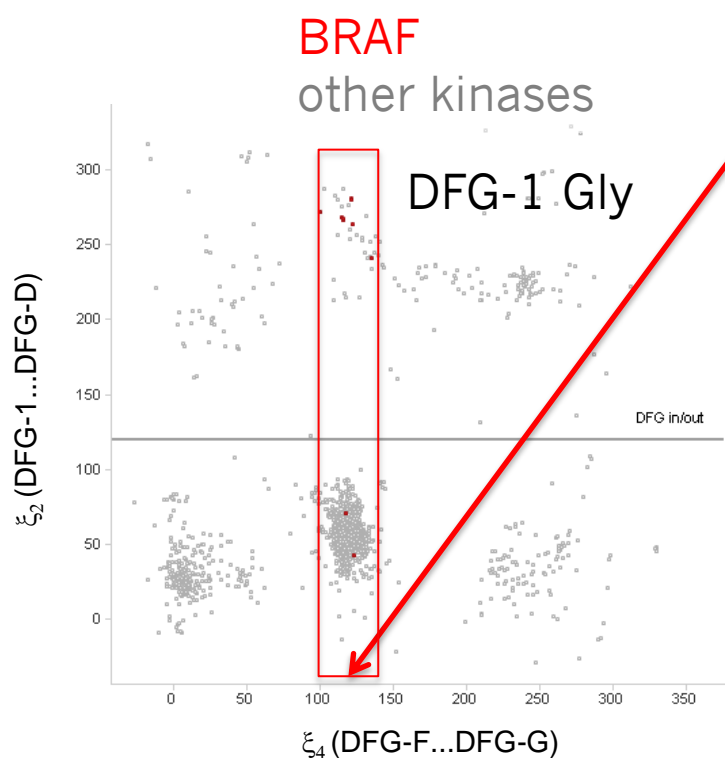
High energy conformations accessible in highly flexible kinases





# Selectivity from conformational penalty

High energy conformations accessible in flexible kinases



[PNAS 2008, 105 \(8\), 3041-3046](#)



# Acknowledgements

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