



The Czech Academy  
of Sciences

# Annotation and validation of nucleic acid structures. Increasing quality and interoperability of the data

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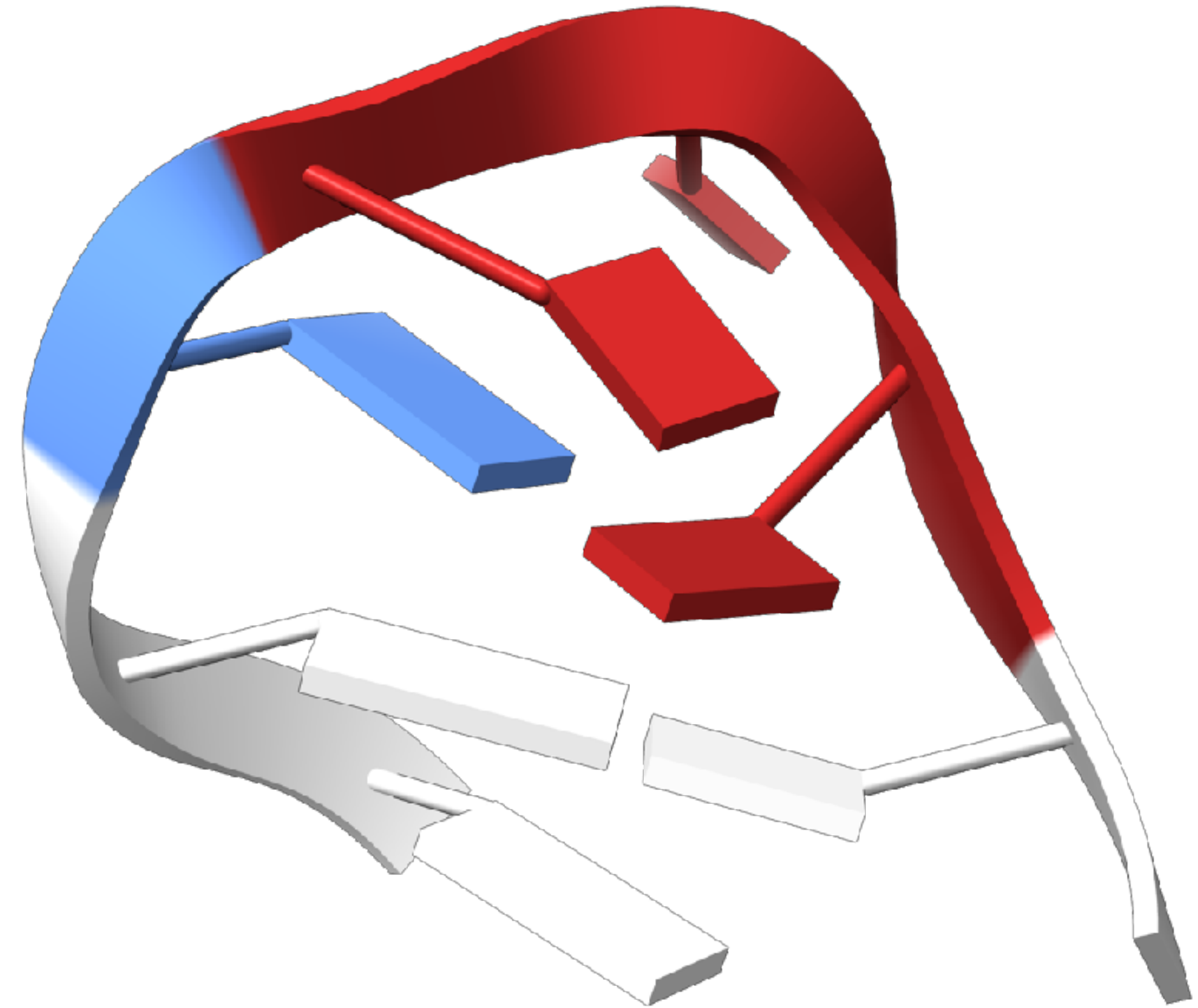
*Computational Approaches to RNA Structure and Function*

*2024-08-02*

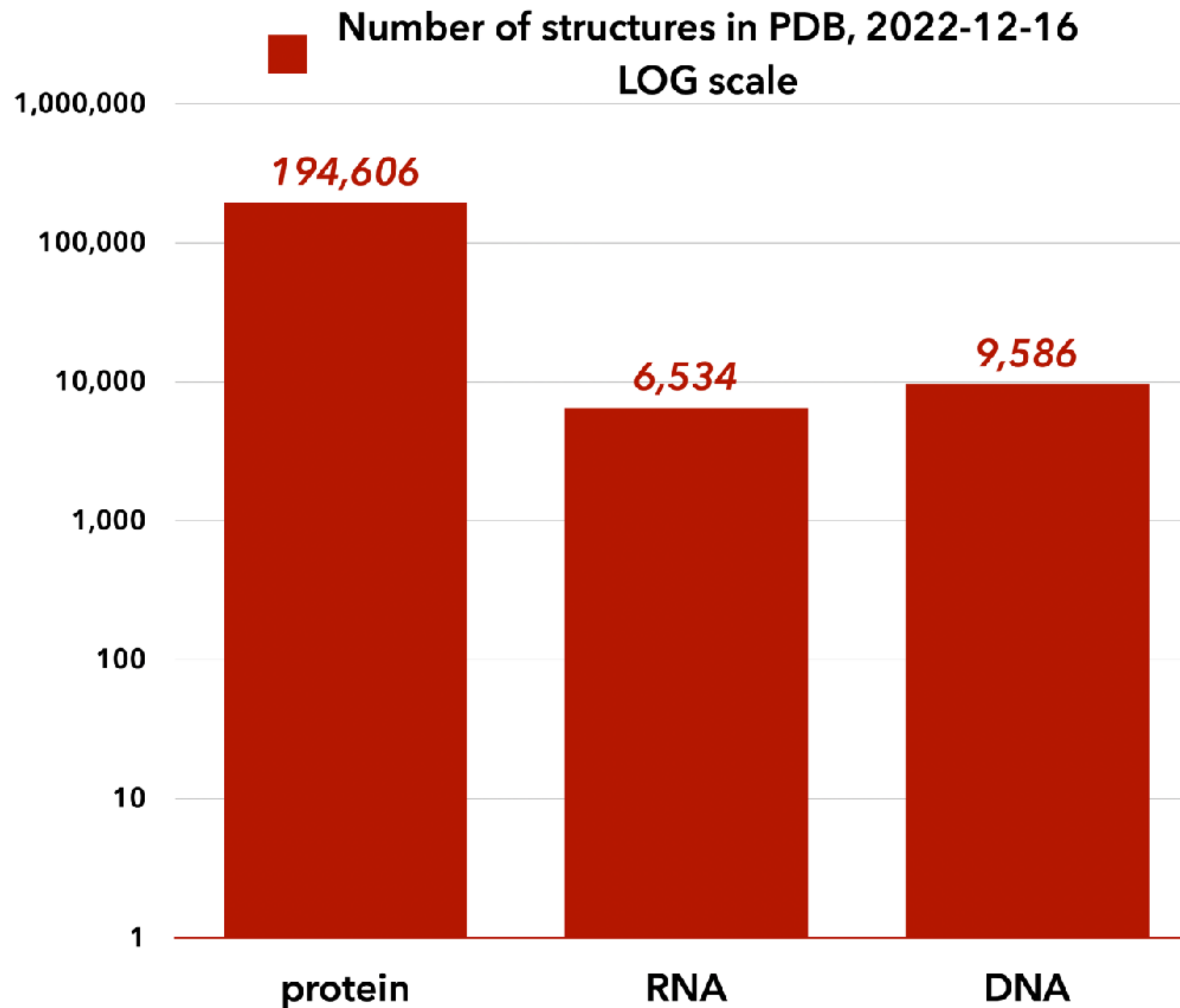


# Why discuss the quality of structural data

- Public archive should be reliable source of *validated* information
  - PDB data are often used by non-experts
  - mmCIF does not capture all features of biomolecules
- Nucleic acids are of special concern ...

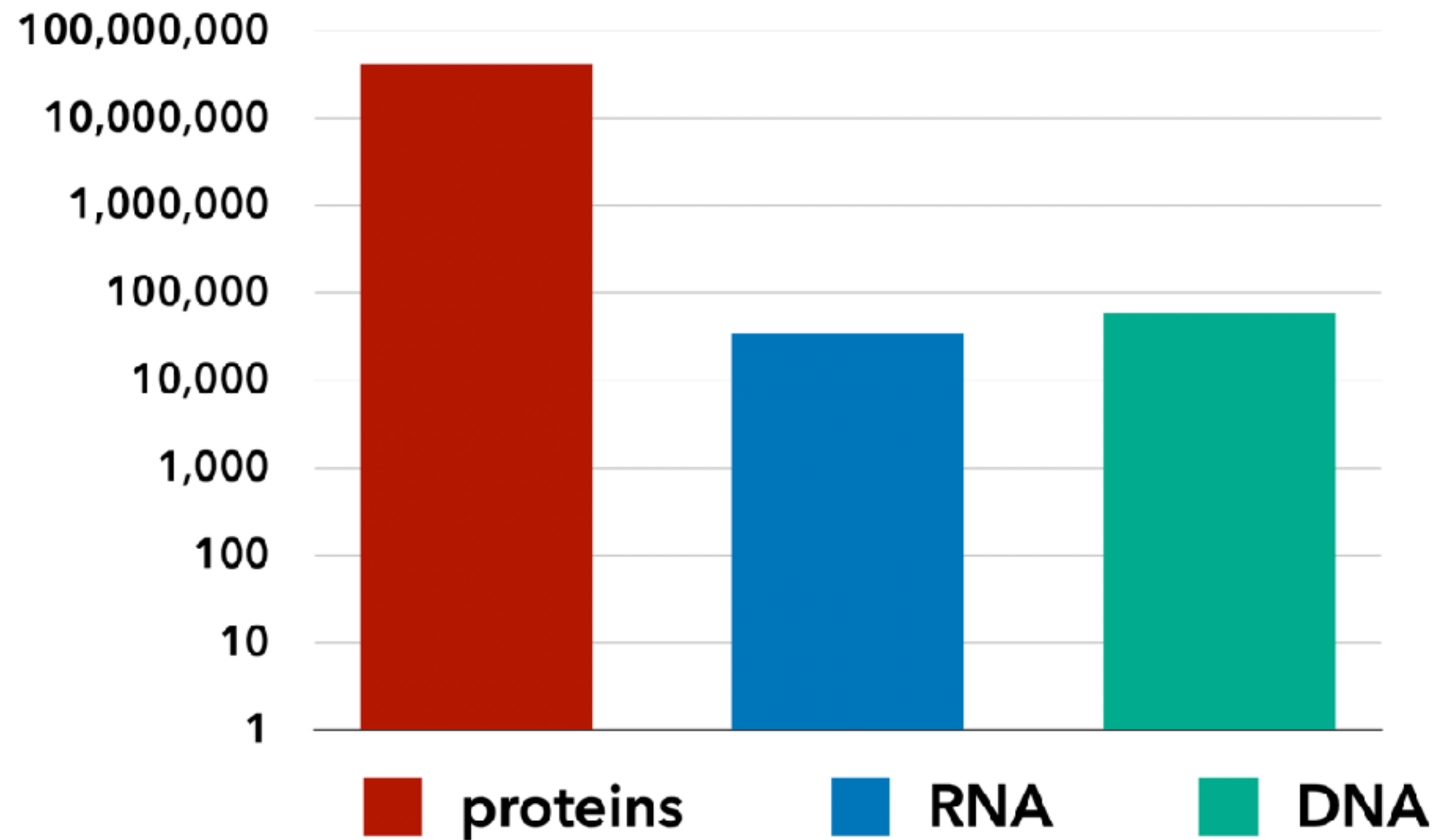


# PDB archive: 7.6% of NA structures



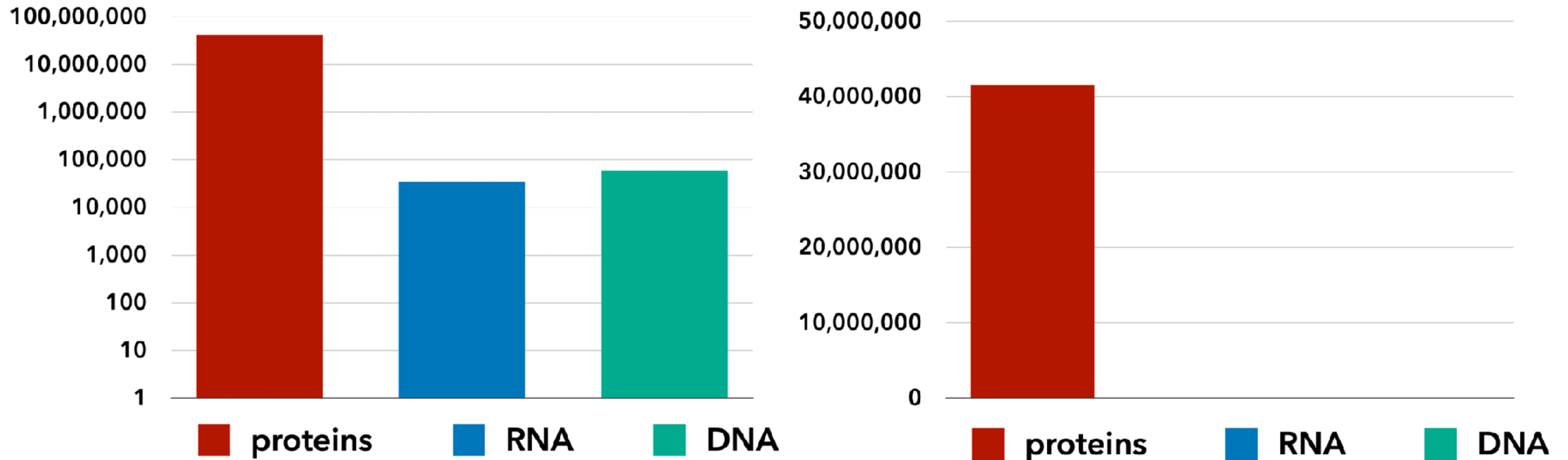
# Small number of high quality NA models: need for sophisticated tools

Amino acids and nucleotides in high-resolution structures ( $\leq 2.0 \text{ \AA}$ )



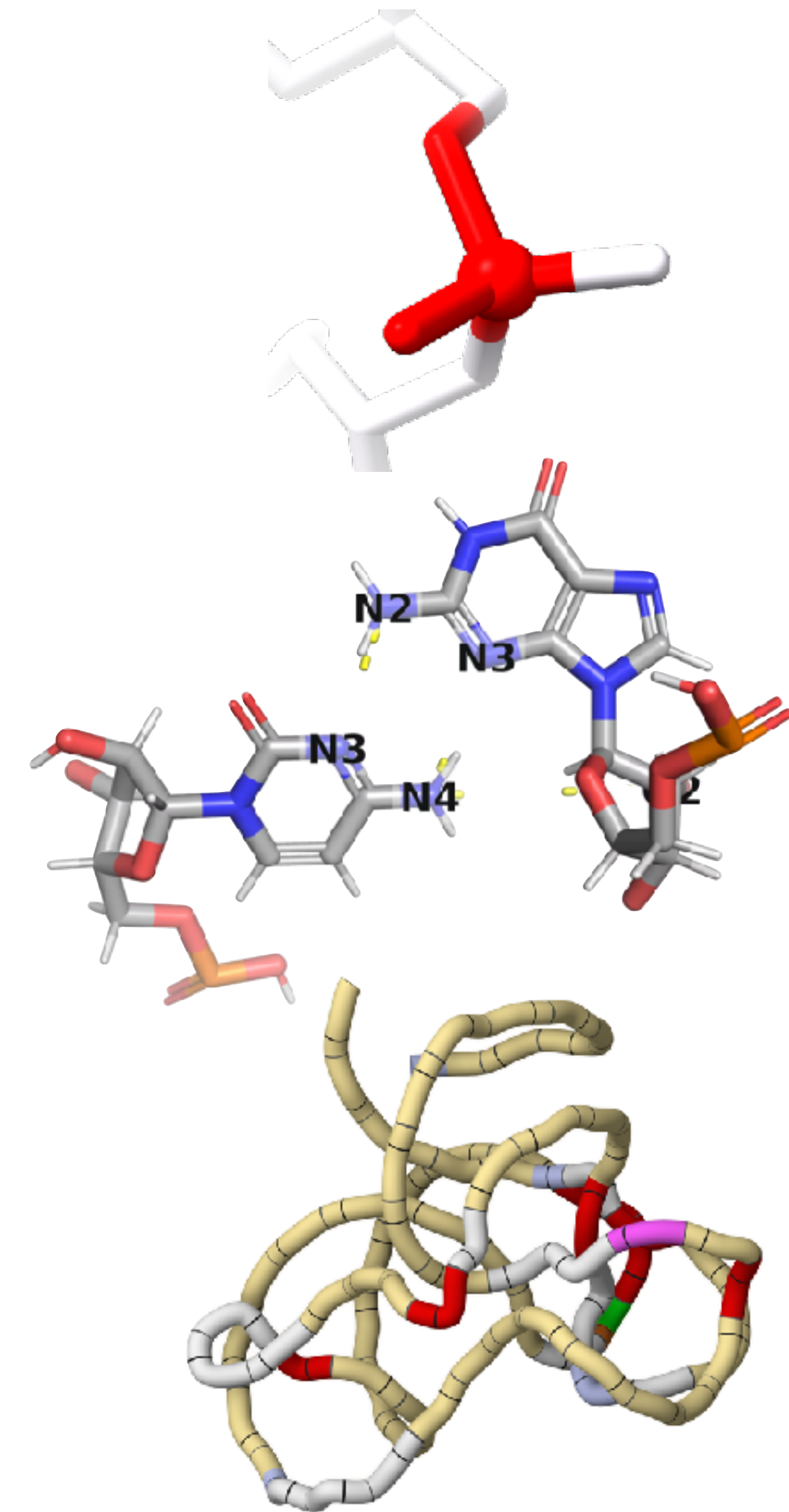
# Small number of high quality NA models: need for sophisticated tools

Amino acids and nucleotides in high-resolution structures ( $\leq 2.0 \text{ \AA}$ )



# Three main sources of errors in NA structures

1. Valence geometry
2. Base pairing
3. Backbone geometries



# Remediation at *dnatco.datmos.org*



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**DNATCO** enables an in-depth analysis and validation of nucleic acid structures

Analyze your structure

Examples: [Ribosomal fragment \(4qvl\)](#) [tRNA \(1ehz\)](#) [Quadruplex DNA \(5hix\)](#)

Select

PDB

PDB ID

Enter PDB ID

Analyze



Main features

4QVI Crystal structure of mutant ribosomal protein M218L TthL1 in complex with 80nt 23S RNA from *Thermus thermophilus*

Assigned NtCs

Resolution 1.9 Å (Low: 23.5)

Structure Info

Main features

Downloads

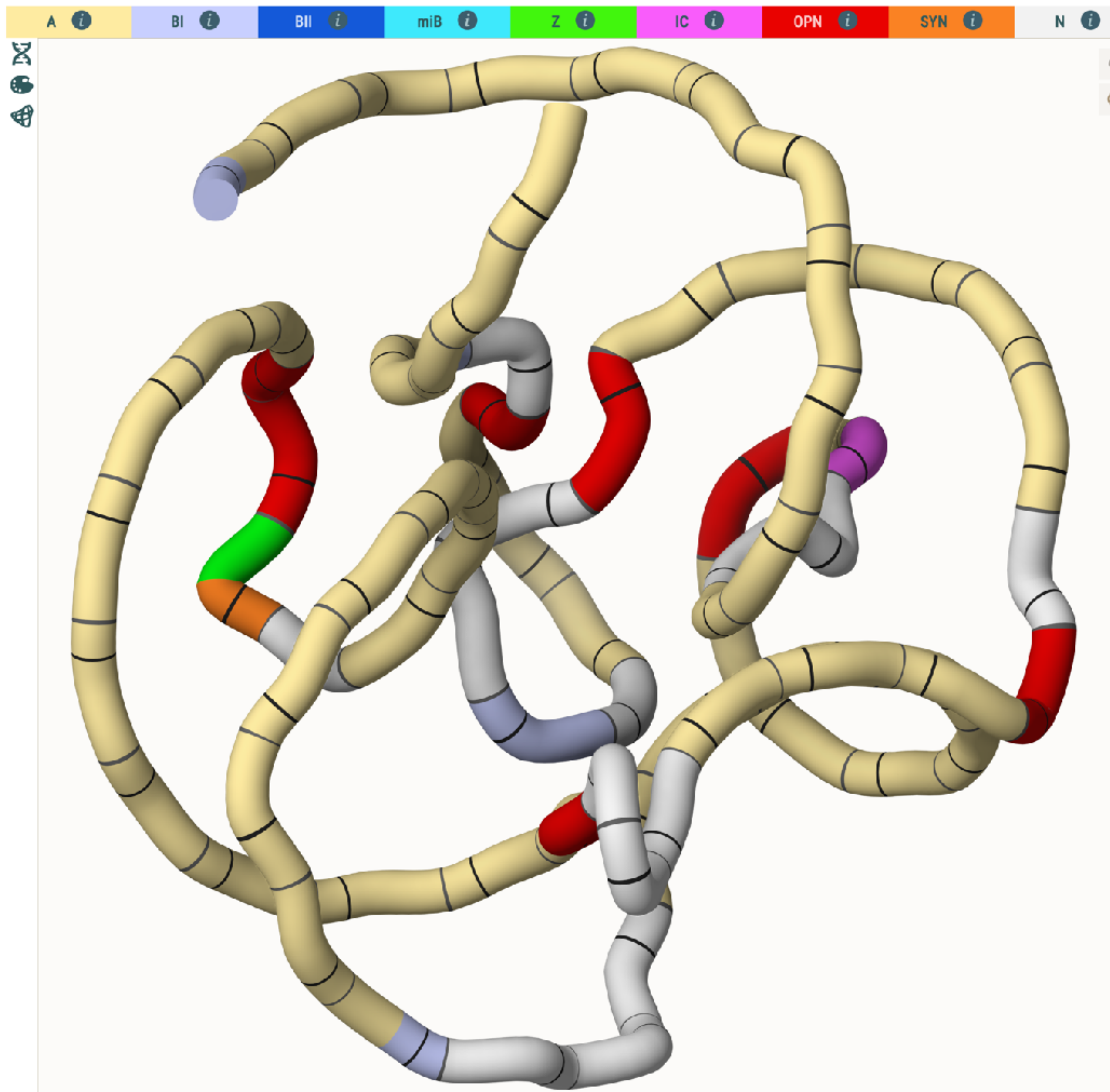
Help

Counts of NtC [i](#)

NtC	Count
AA00	40
AA01	4
AB05	3
NANT	14
OP13	2
AA08	8
BB16	1
OP24	1
OP10	1
OP09	1
OP20	1
ZZ1S	1
OP04	1
IC01	1

Counts of CANA [i](#)

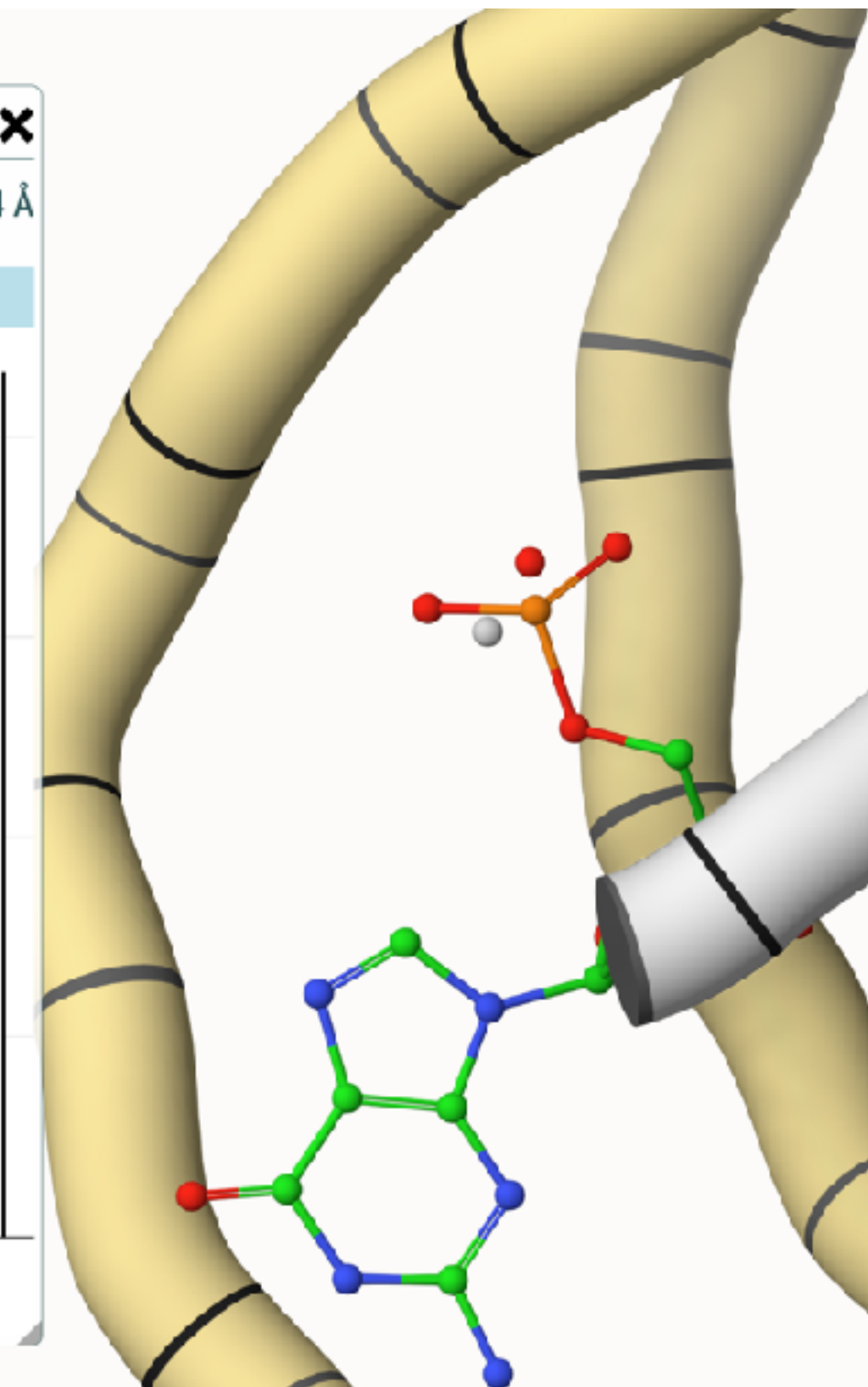
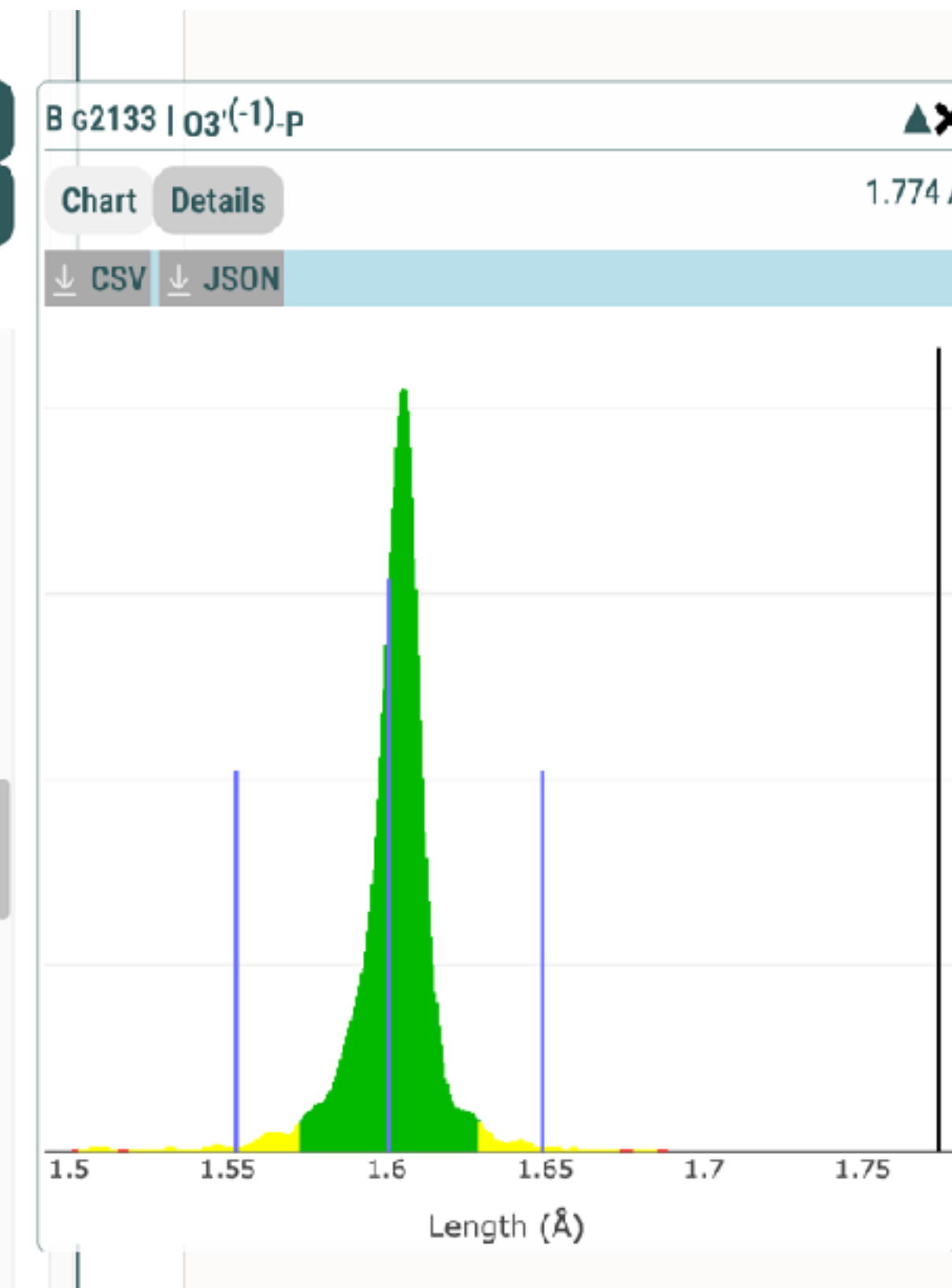
CANA	Count
AAA	48
AAw	4
A-B	3
NAN	14
OPN	7
BBw	1
ZZZ	1
ICL	1





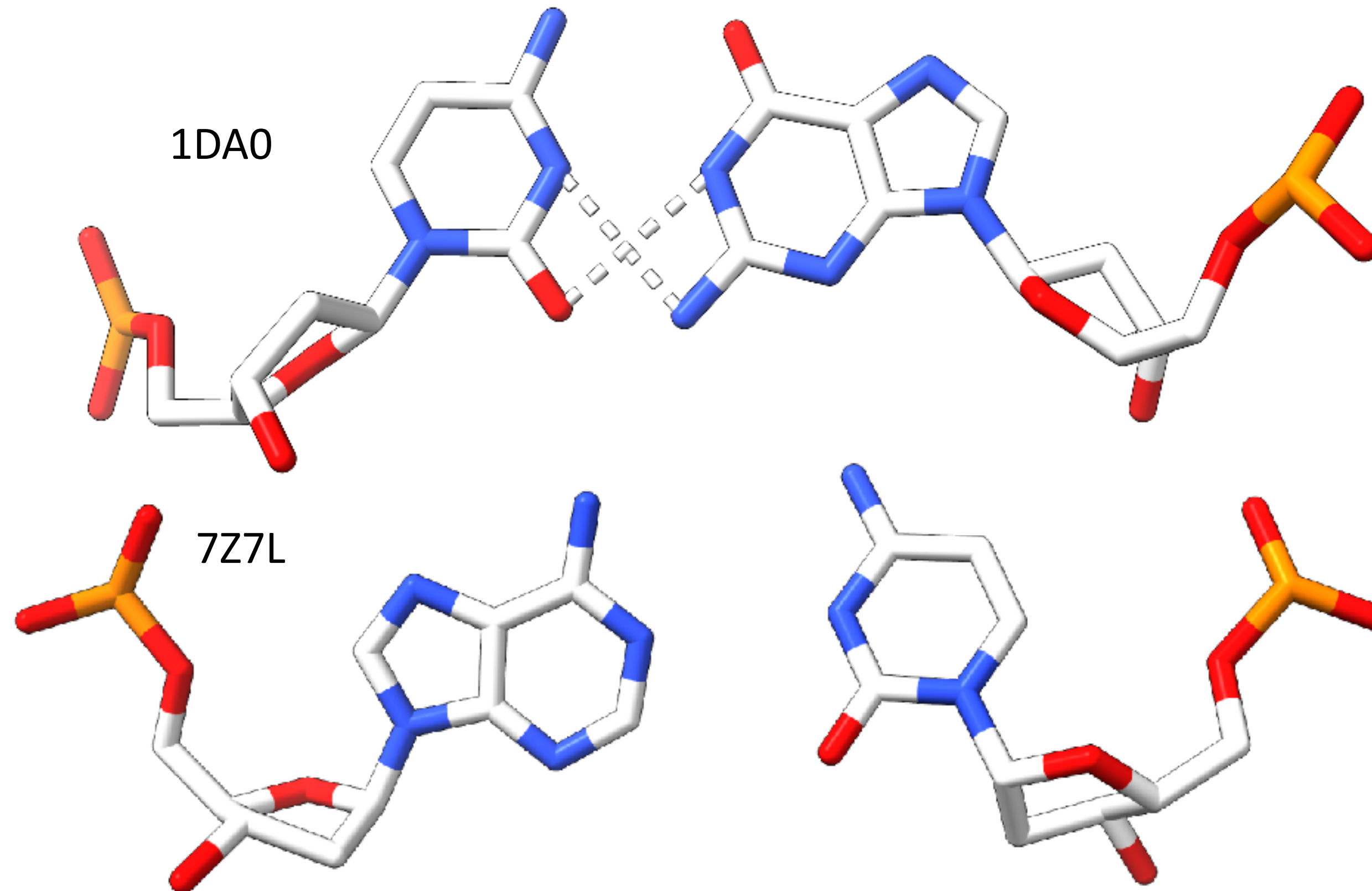
# 1. Valence geometry

- Refinement programs use different restraints
- Validation by PDB and other tools is inconsistent and statistically naive
- NAVAL - an expert group to suggest clarification
  - results at [dnatco.datmos.org](http://dnatco.datmos.org)

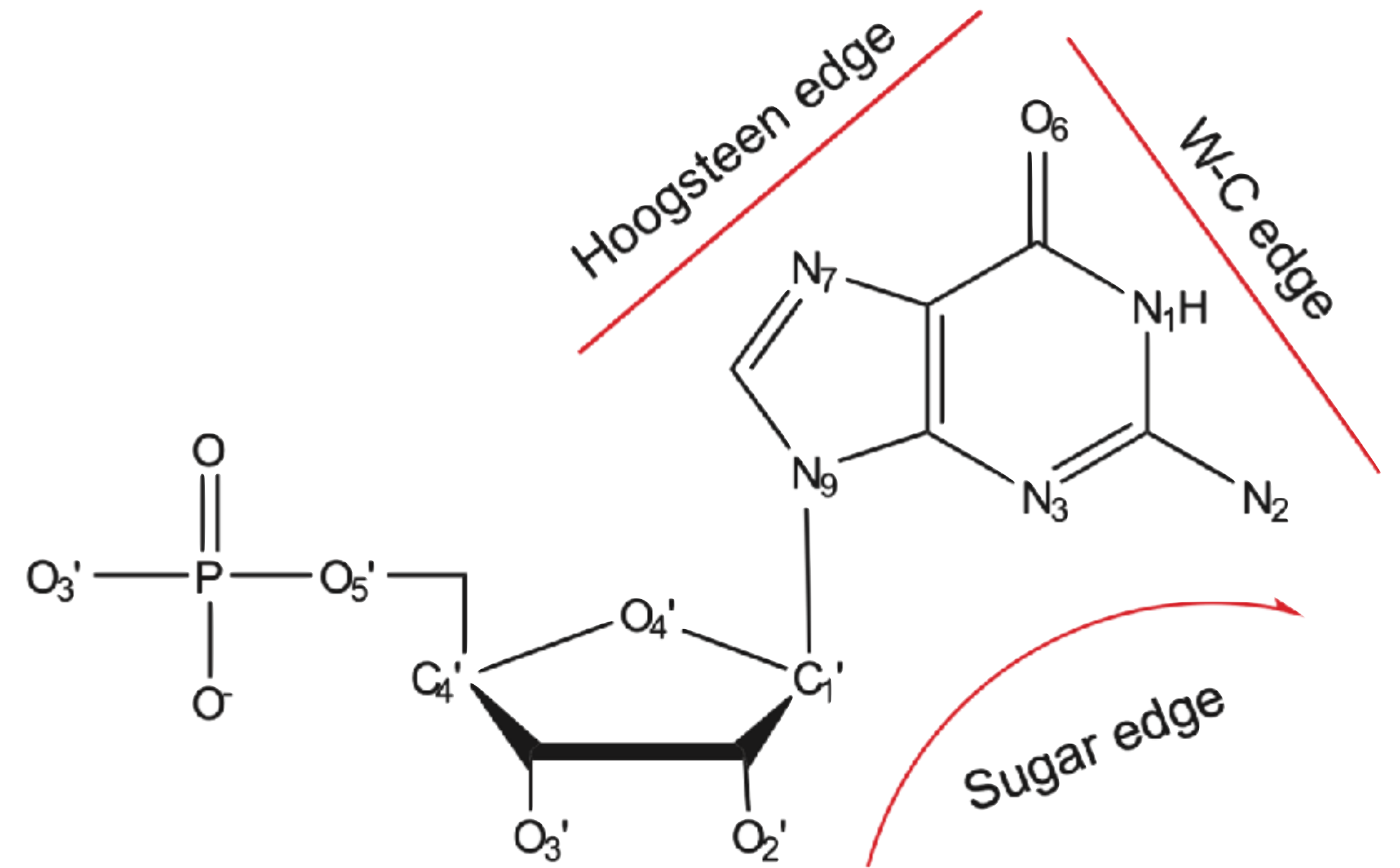
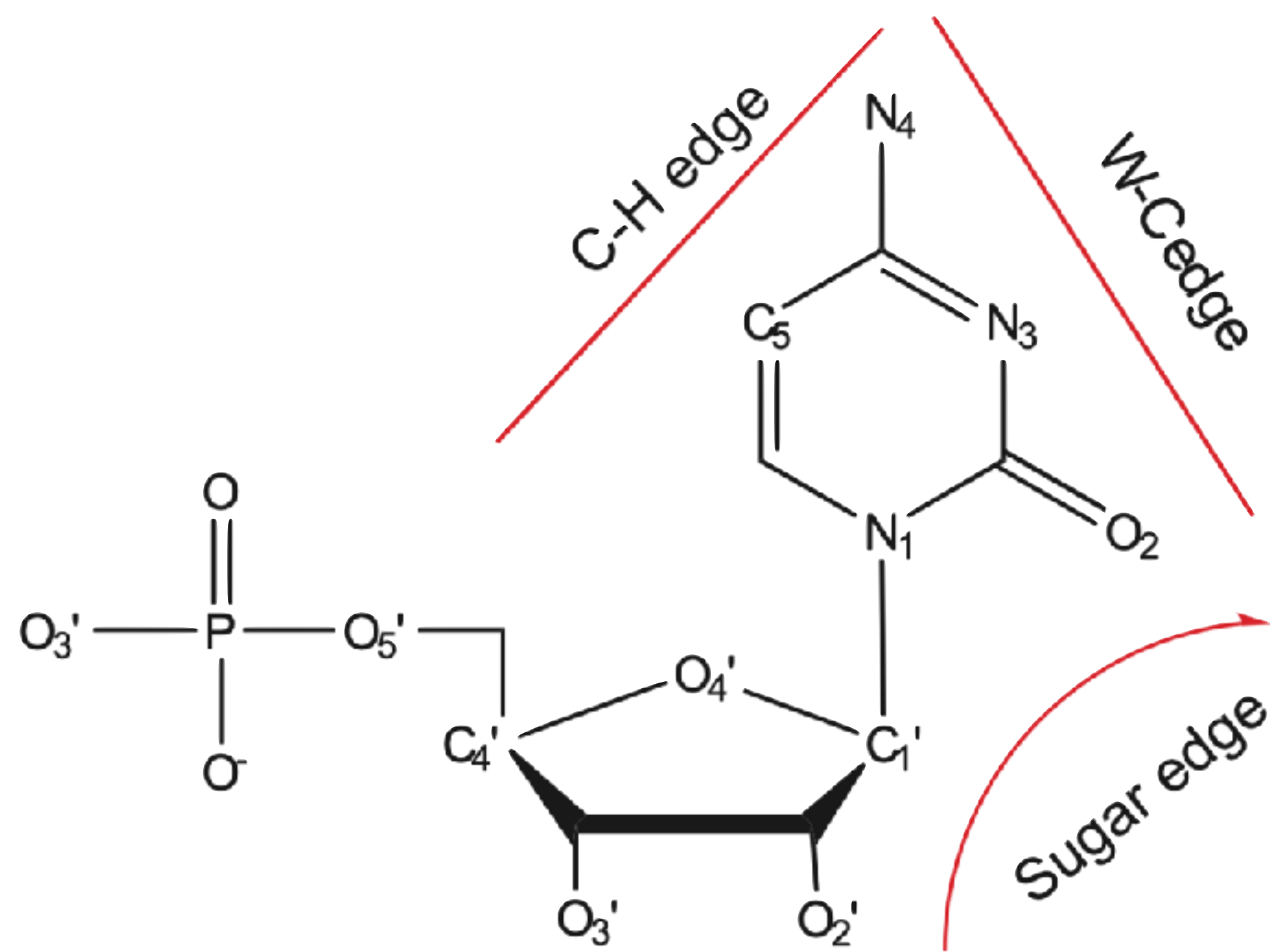


# 2. Base pairing classification is essential for prediction of RNA 2D and 3D

- The PDB archive is not reliable
- Available programs provide incomplete & conflicting results



## 2. New Base Pair assignment based on the Leontis-Westhof classes

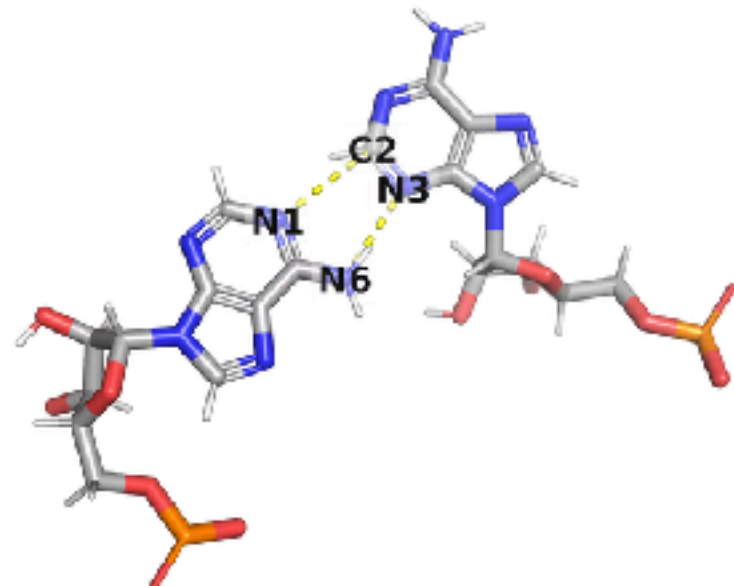


# 2. New Base Pair assignment at [basepairs.datmos.org](http://basepairs.datmos.org)

<a href="#">Home</a>	<a href="#">cWW</a>	<a href="#">cWWa</a>	<a href="#">tWW</a>	<a href="#">tWWa</a>	<a href="#">cWH</a>	<a href="#">tWH</a>	<a href="#">cWS</a>	<a href="#">tWS</a>	<a href="#">cHH</a>	<a href="#">tHH</a>	<a href="#">cHS</a>	<a href="#">tHS</a>	<a href="#">cSS</a>	<a href="#">tSS</a>
<a href="#">A-A (39)</a>	<a href="#">A-C (6)</a>	<a href="#">A-G (632)</a>	<a href="#">A-U (0)</a>	<a href="#">C-A (27)</a>	<a href="#">C-C (18)</a>	<a href="#">C-G (35)</a>	<a href="#">C-U (2)</a>	<a href="#">G-A</a>	<a href="#">G-C (11)</a>	<a href="#">G-G</a>	<a href="#">G-U (186)</a>	<a href="#">U-A (79)</a>	<a href="#">U-C (8)</a>	
				<a href="#">U-G (30)</a>	<a href="#">U-U (12)</a>									

## 6: trans Watson-Crick / Sugar

A



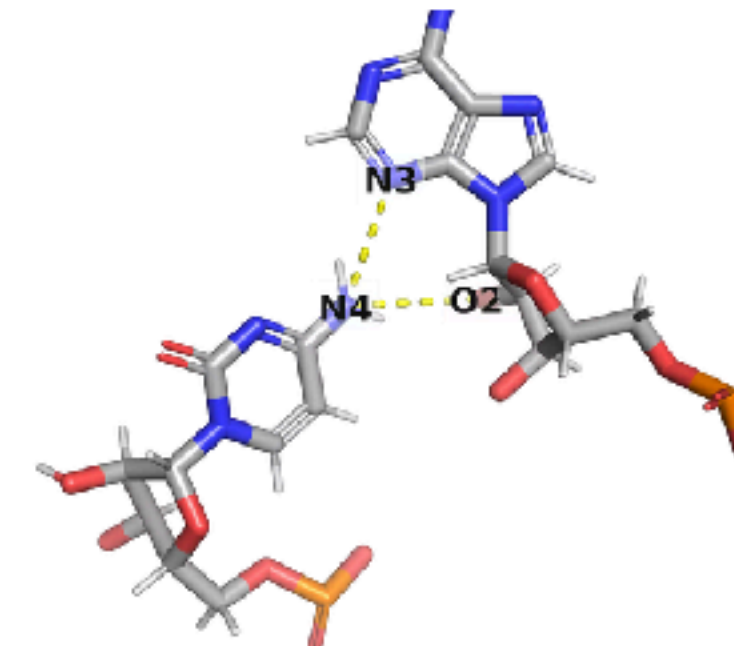
3ccq 0-A2018 ··· 0-A1829

[show statistics + exemplars](#)

G

not defined

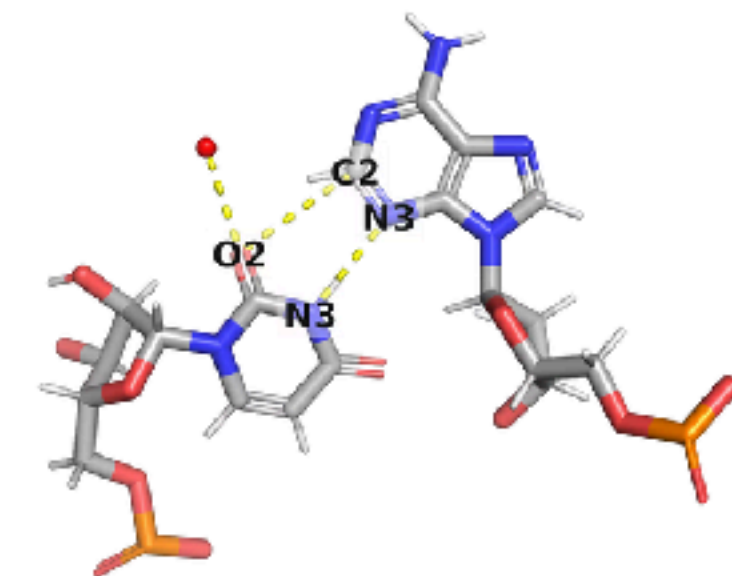
C



3ccu 0-C1983 ··· 0-A1981

[show statistics + exemplars](#)

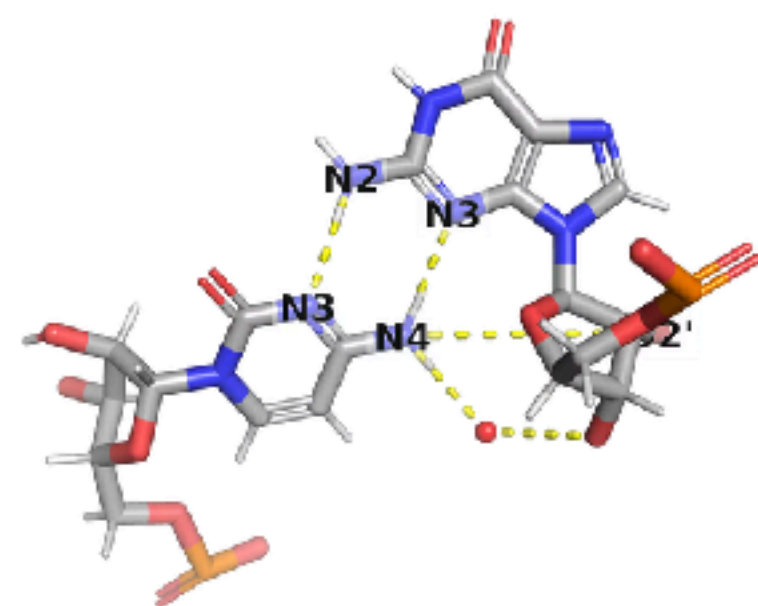
U



1s72 0-U779 ··· 0-A776

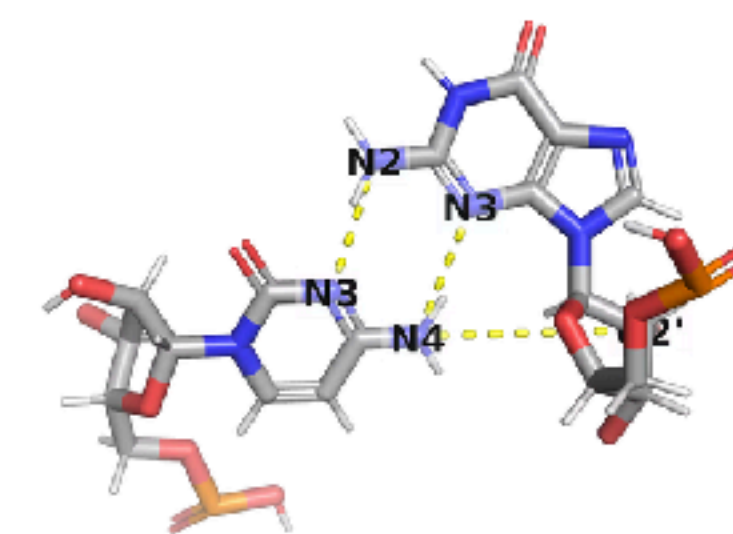
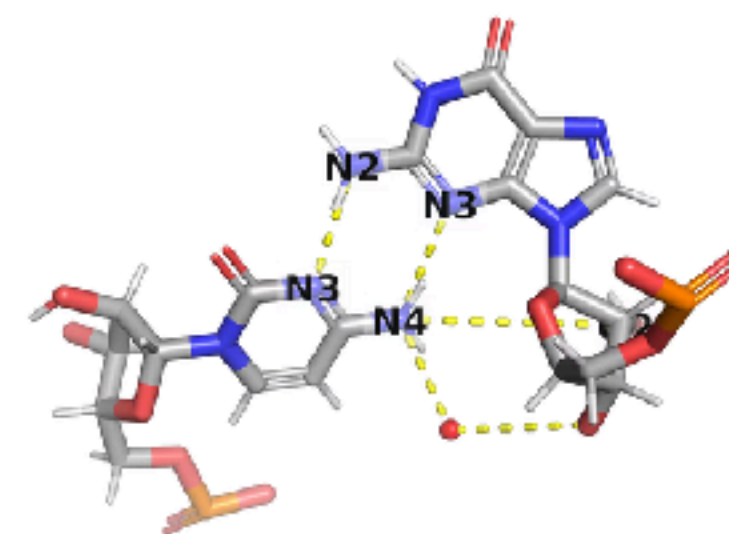
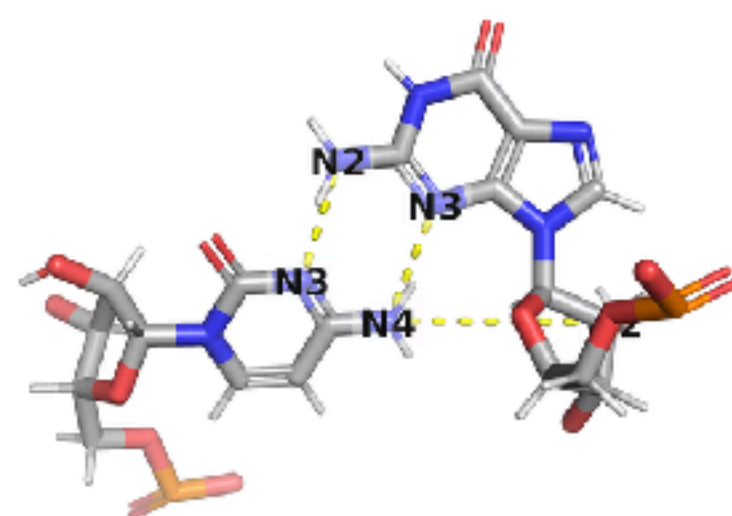
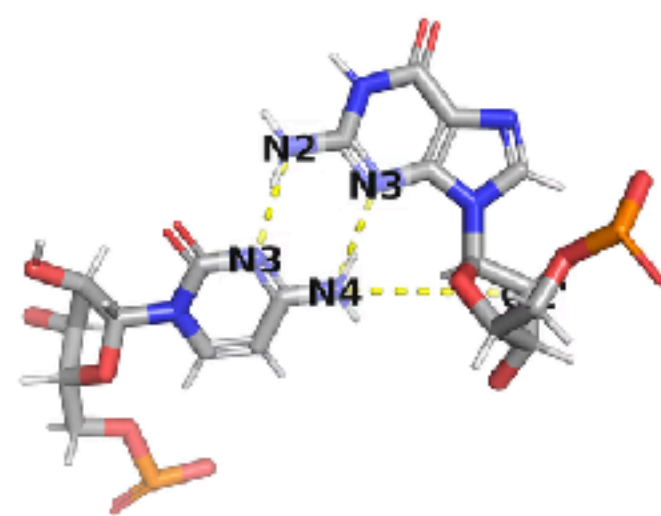
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A

[Home](#)[cWW](#)[cWWa](#)[tWW](#)[tWWa](#)[cWH](#)[tWH](#)[cWS](#)[tWS](#)[cHH](#)[tHH](#)[cHS](#)[tHS](#)[cSS](#)[tSS](#)[A-A \(39\)](#)[A-C \(6\)](#)[A-G \(632\)](#)[A-U \(0\)](#)[C-A \(27\)](#)[C-C \(18\)](#)[C-G \(35\)](#)[C-U \(2\)](#)[G-A](#)[G-C \(11\)](#)[G-G](#)[G-U \(186\)](#)[U-A \(79\)](#)[U-C \(8\)](#)[U-G \(30\)](#)[U-U \(12\)](#) Basic  Parameter ranges  SQL**Data source**All Polar Contacts — Reference Set ▼ RNA  DNA  Both**Order by**Smallest Edge RMSD ▼ Rotate images[Reset filters](#)[Enable FR3D comparison](#)

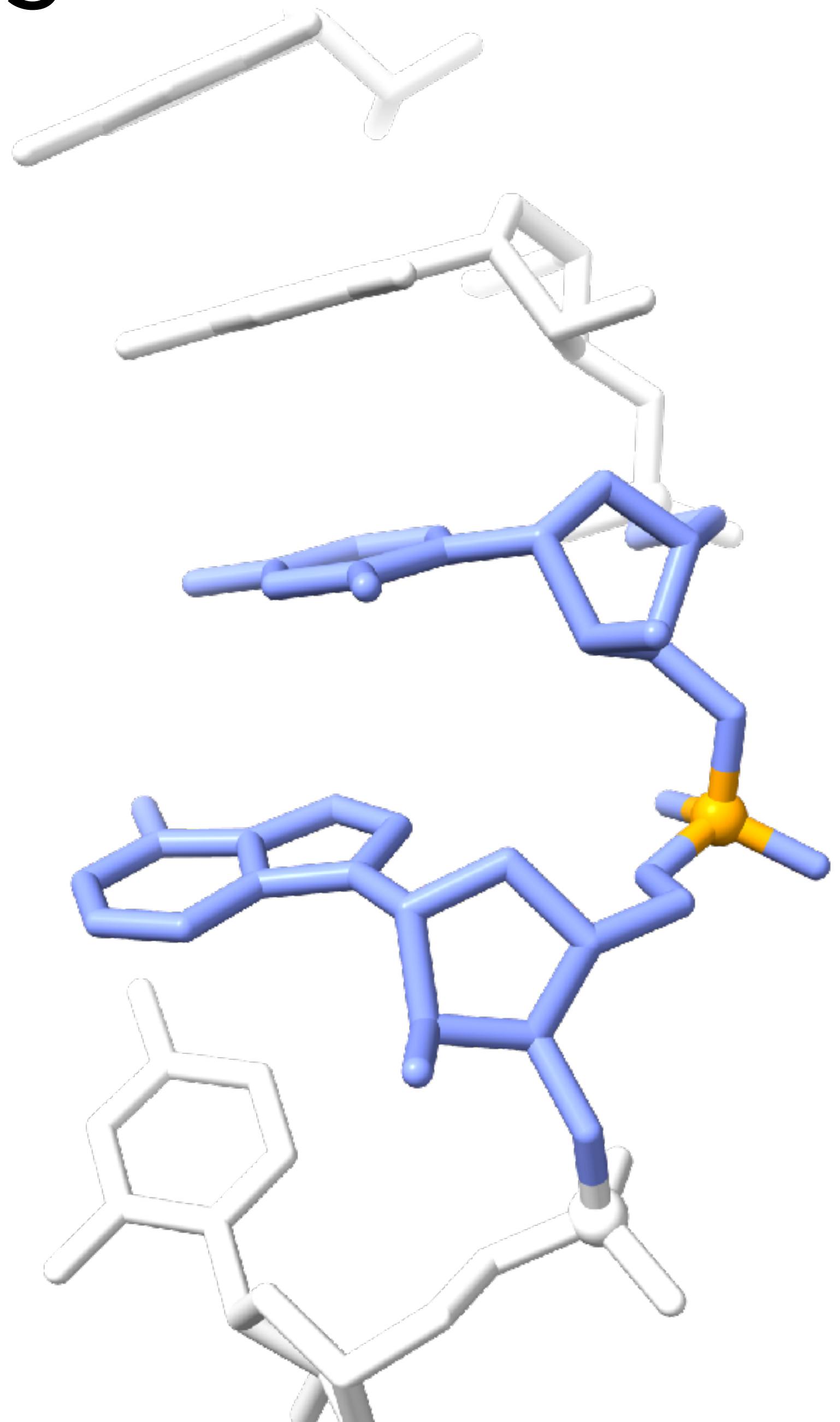
Reference tWS C-G basepair

58462 × tWS-C-G from 3954 PDB structures

[▽ expand plots ▾](#)

### 3. The NA backbone geometry: often ignored ... to the detriment of the field

- NA backbone is conformationally complex:
  - the smallest unit for analysis is *dinucleotide*
  - torsion angles correlate, 2- or 3-D correlations are misleading
- Complex analysis of the PDB data provided **96 NtC classes**



# 3. NtC: dinucleotide conformational classes

*[dnatco.datmos.org](http://dnatco.datmos.org)*



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4QVI Crystal structure of mutant ribosomal protein M218L TthL1 in complex with 80nt 23S RNA from *Thermus thermophilus*  
Resolution 1.9 Å (Low: 23.5)

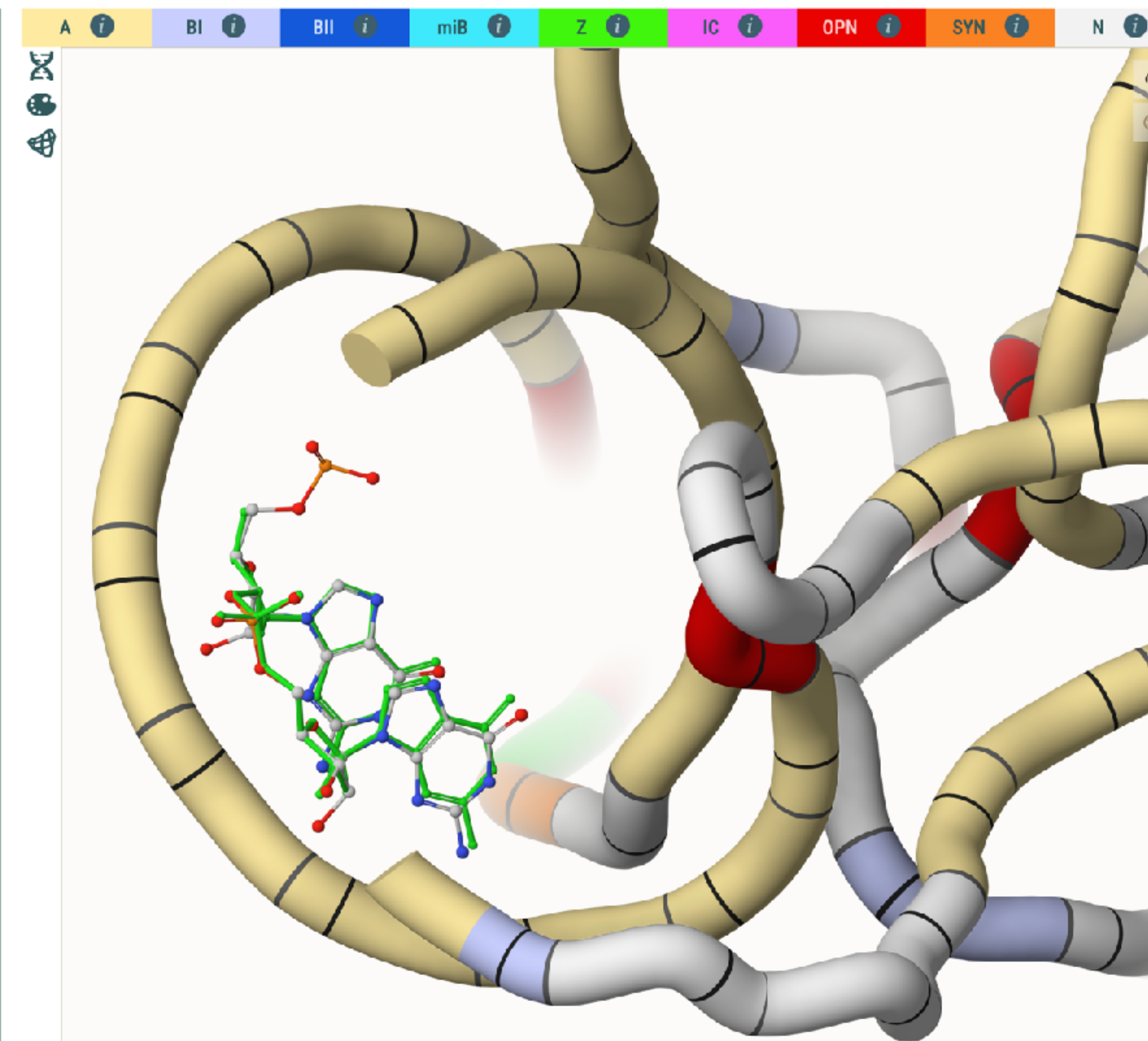
Backbone conformational quality

Chain All NAs

Table of assigned dinucleotide NtC classes

B	c2146	g2147	ZZ1S	ZZZ	66	0.212
B	g2147	g2148	AA05	AAw	0	0.524
B	g2148	g2149	AA00	AAA	87	0.171
B	g2149	u2150	AA00	AAA	71	0.205
B	u2150	g2151	AA00	AAA	86	0.171
B	g2151	g2152	AA00	AAA	54	0.198
B	g2152	g2153	AA00	AAA	69	0.139
B	g2153	g2154	AA00	AAA	72	0.229
B	g2154	g2155	AA01	AAw	94	0.147
B	g2155	g2156	AA00	AAA	19	0.503
B	g2156	g2157	AB05	A-B	27	0.475
B	g2157	a2158	OP22	OPN	0	0.770
B	a2158	g2159	BA17	B-A	0	0.805
B	g2159	g2160	AA11	AAw	0	0.640
B	g2160	c2161	AA00	AAA	54	0.312
B	c2161	g2162	AA00	AAA	65	0.293
B	g2162	c2163	AA00	AAA	54	0.357
B	c2163	c2164	AA00	AAA	36	0.446
B	c2164	g2165	AA00	AAA	47	0.391
B	g2165	g2166	AA00	AAA	68	0.301
B	g2166	u2167	AA00	AAA	68	0.218

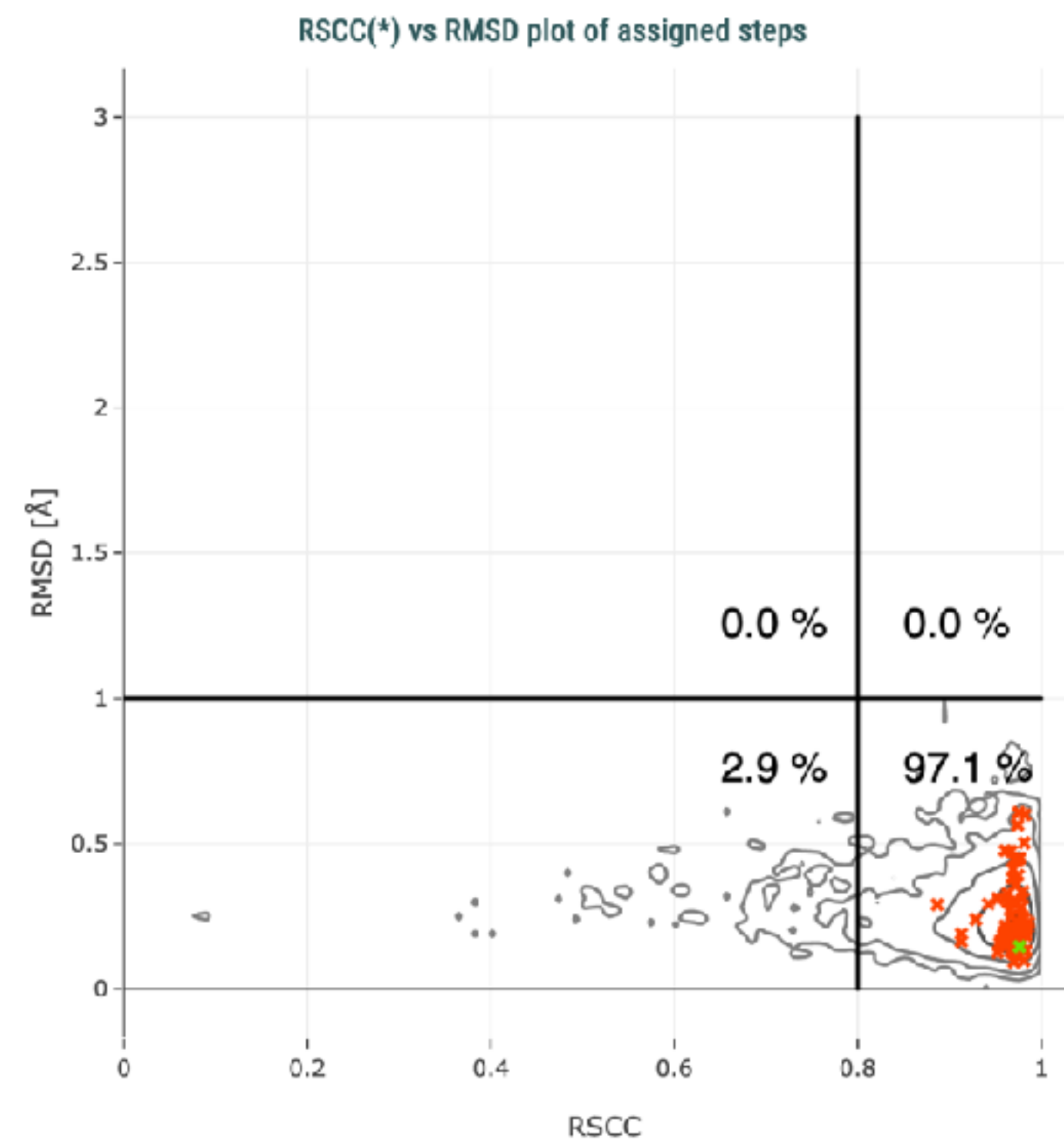
- annotate, validate, and refine



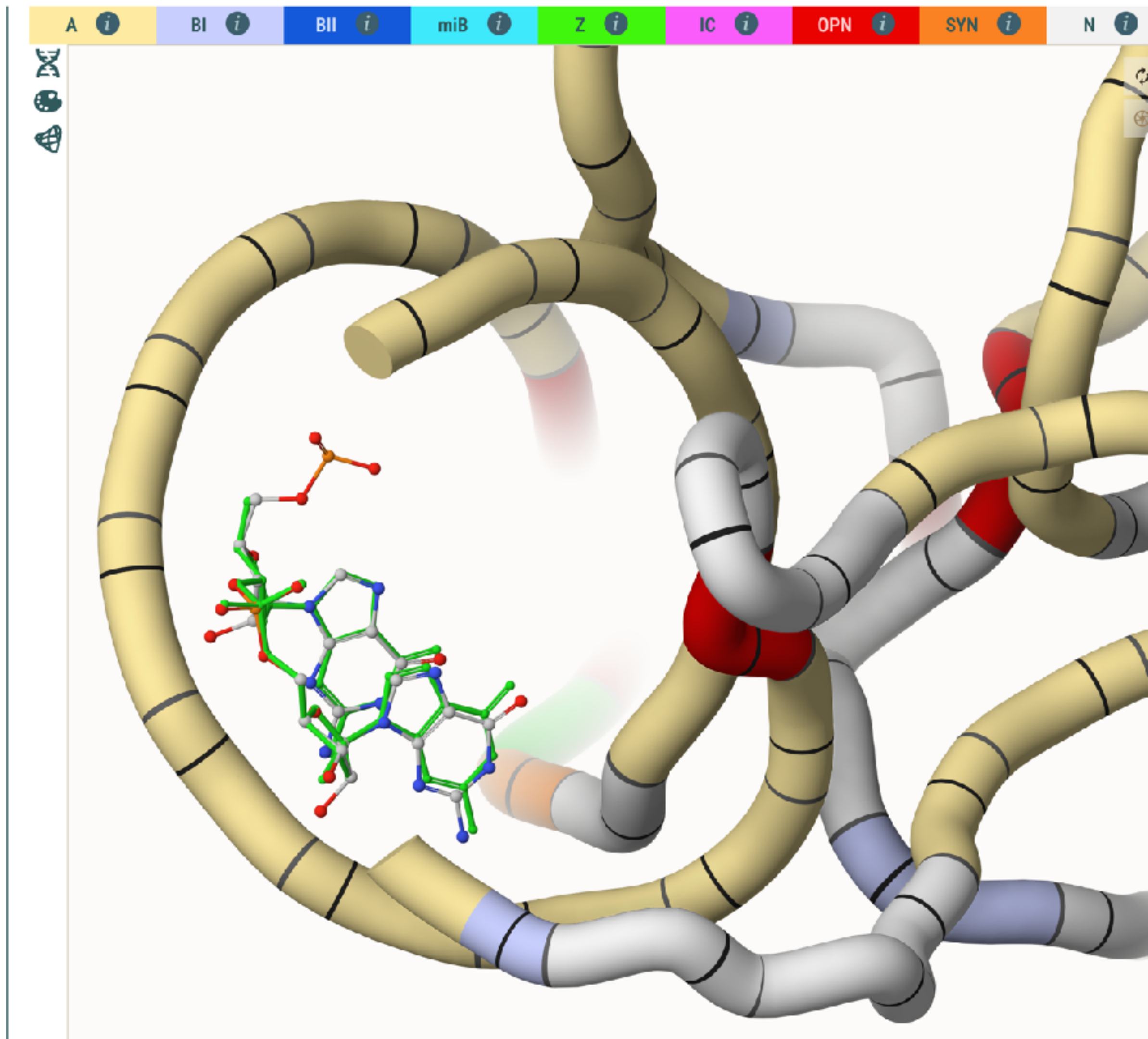
# 3. New validation tool: rmsd/RSCC diagrams



- ... fit between electron density (RSCC) & the closest NtC (rmsd)



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*Thank you for your time!*

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