Study Of Protein Folding

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Folding snapshots of a 10-ALA chain [1]



Amino acid model; each amino acid has 2 degrees of freedom, the phi and psi torsional angles. [2]

Levinthal's Paradox



[3]

NP or P?



Potential Energy Landscape





Conformation Sampling

[4]

Feasible Transitions

$$U_{tot} = \sum_{restraints} K_d \{ [(d_i - d_0)^2 + d_c^2]^{1/2} - d_c \} + E_{hp}$$

$$Prob(\text{accept } q) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } E_q < E_{\min} \\ \frac{E_{\max} - E_q}{E_{\max} - E_{\min}} & \text{if } E_{\min} \le E_q \le E_{\max} \\ 0 & \text{if } E_q > E_{\max} \end{cases}$$

$$P_{i} = \begin{cases} e^{\frac{-\Delta E_{i}}{kT}} & \text{if } \Delta E_{i} > 0\\ 1 & \text{if } \Delta E_{i} \le 0 \end{cases}$$

Sampling Strategy



Bins filled according to the Contact Number of a conformation

Code and Data Available

- Data Available in PDB files [Protein Data Bank]
- Code available for calculating Dihedral Angles(Phi, Psi) from Coordinates of atom.[google code library]

Code we have Written

- To calculate energy of a conformation from the atom coordinates.
- For generating sample nodes by using inducing Gaussian perturbations in existing conformations.
- To calculate atom coordinates from the dihedral angles of a node sampled.

References

- [1] An Motion Planning Approach to Folding: From Paper Crafts to Protein Folding. supported by NSF
 Guang Song, Nancy Amato, Ken Dill (UCSF), Lawrence Rauchwerger
- [2] parasol.tamu.edu
- [3] wikipedia.org
- [4] A MOTION PLANNING APPROACH TO STUDYING MOLECULAR MOTIONS*LYDIA TAPIA†, SHAWNA THOMAS†, AND NANCY M.AMATO†
- [5] parasol.tamu.edu