# Full title

Improved de novo Structure Prediction in CASP11 by Incorporating Co-evolution

Information into Rosetta

Short title

Structure Prediction using Co-evolution

Sergey Ovchinnikov<sup>1, 2, \*</sup>, David E Kim<sup>2, 3, \*</sup>, Ray Yu-Ruei Wang<sup>1, 2</sup>, Yuan Liu<sup>1, 2</sup>, Frank DiMaio<sup>1, 2</sup>, and David Baker<sup>1, 2, 3,  $\wedge$ </sup>

^Corresponding author

dabaker@u.washington.edu

(206) 543-1295

(206) 685-1792 (fax)

<sup>1</sup> Department of Biochemistry, University of Washington, Seattle 98195, Washington

<sup>2</sup> Institute for Protein Design, University of Washington, Seattle 98195, Washington

<sup>3</sup> Howard Hughes Medical Institute, University of Washington, Seattle 98195,

Washington

\*Contributed equally to this work.

This article has been accepted for publication and undergone full peer review but has not been through the copyediting, typesetting, pagination and proofreading process which may lead to differences between this version and the Version of Record. Please cite this article as an 'Accepted Article', doi: 10.1002/prot.24974 © 2015 Wiley Periodicals, Inc. Received: Jul 06, 2015; Revised: Nov 27, 2015; Accepted: Dec 12, 2015 Key words: protein structure prediction; rosetta; *ab initio* prediction; co-evolution; contact prediction.

## ABSTRACT

We describe CASP11 *de novo* blind structure predictions made using the Rosetta structure prediction methodology with both automatic and human assisted protocols. Model accuracy was generally improved using co-evolution derived residue-residue contact information as restraints during Rosetta conformational sampling and refinement, particularly when the number of sequences in the family was more than three times the length of the protein. The highlight was the human assisted prediction of T0806, a large and topologically complex target with no homologs of known structure, which had unprecedented accuracy -- <3.0 Å root-mean-square deviation (RMSD) from the crystal structure over 223 residues. For this target, we increased the amount of conformational sampling over our fully automated method by employing an iterative hybridization protocol. Our results clearly demonstrate, in a blind prediction scenario, that co-evolution derived contacts can considerably increase the accuracy of template-free structure modeling.

# INTRODUCTION

The Eleventh Critical Assessment of Techniques for Protein Structure Prediction (CASP11) had considerably more free modeling targets (45 domains) than recent CASP experiments (three times more than in CASP10) and hence provided a significantly larger benchmark for template-free modeling methods. In this article, we describe the methods used to generate structure models for these targets by our fully automated structure prediction server, Robetta<sup>1</sup> (BAKER-ROSETTASERVER), and the human assisted approaches used to generate models in cases we thought could significantly improve with human intervention (BAKER). As in previous CASP experiments, our general approach was to sample a diverse set of conformations using the Rosetta fragment assembly method<sup>2</sup> followed by all-atom refinement<sup>3</sup>, and select final models based on clustering and Rosetta all-atom energy. Due to the sheer size of the conformational search space, the success of this approach for high accuracy models has been limited to small proteins (<100 residues). In CASP11, we used residue-residue co-evolution derived restraints<sup>4-6</sup> during sampling and refinement to help guide the search towards the native conformation. The results clearly indicate that given sufficient numbers of aligned sequences, co-evolution derived contacts can considerably increase structure prediction accuracy. For one example (T0806), the predicted structure had significantly higher accuracy than any previous prediction in the 20 years of CASP experiments for proteins over 100 amino acids lacking homologs of known structure.

# **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### Robetta de novo pipeline

Figure 1 outlines the automated Robetta protocol used for difficult targets without clearly detectable homologs of known structure. The individual steps are described in the following sections. At the very beginning of the protocol (not shown in Figure 1), Robetta scans the query sequence for signal sequences using SignalP<sup>7</sup> and removes them if found as they are unlikely to be present in the final structure.

#### Domain boundary prediction

Domain boundaries were predicted from PDB structures with sequence similarity to the query using an iterative process. For each iteration, HHSearch<sup>8</sup>, Sparks-X<sup>9</sup>, and RaptorX<sup>10</sup> were used to identify templates from the PDB100 database and generate alignments. The sequence was threaded onto the template structures to generate partial models, which were then clustered to identify distinct topologies that were ranked based on the likelihood of the alignments (RosettaCM supplementary methods<sup>11</sup>). Structural similarity in the top ranked cluster was determined within a 30 residue sliding window using  $MaxSub^{12}$  with a 4Å threshold and the closest coil positions to sites where the MaxSub value was less than 10, 20, or 30% (in order of precedence) were selected as potential domain boundaries. Potential domains of at least 35 residues, including regions that were not covered by the partial-threads or not similar in structure (<30% average windowed MaxSub), were passed on to a next template search iteration. A confidence score<sup>11</sup> was estimated for each domain using the degree of structural consensus between the top ranked partial threads from each alignment method. Since templates were likely to be incorrect for regions with low confidence, domain boundaries were also identified in regions with confidence scores less than 0.2 using the multiple sequence alignment

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

(MSA) based method "msa2domains".<sup>13</sup> Through this iterative process, the most confident non-overlapping clusters were identified that, together, covered the full length of the target sequence, and domain boundaries were assigned at the transitions between the clusters. Final domains with confidence scores less than 0.2 were classified in the "twilight" regime<sup>14</sup>, and modeled using the Rosetta comparative modeling (RosettaCM<sup>11</sup>) and *ab initio* (RosettaAB<sup>2,15</sup>) protocols.

#### **GREMLIN** co-evolutionary restraints

For each domain with a confidence score equal to or less than 0.6, Robetta determined if there were enough homologous sequences to accurately predict residue-residue coevolution contacts. High confidence targets were excluded since additional information was likely not gained over that contained in the template coordinates. Due to the three day time constraint for servers, a fast alignment tool, HHblits<sup>16</sup>, was used to find at least 2L (2 times the sequence length) sequences with e-values within the range of 1E-20 to 1E-4, 75% to 50% alignment coverage, and a 90% identity redundancy cutoff. During CASP11, the latest clustered uniprot database available for HHblits was from 2013, therefore, if less than 2L sequences were found, Jackhmmer<sup>17</sup> was used to search against the latest uniref90 sequence database<sup>18</sup> with the same search criteria. If at least 1L sequences were identified, GREMLIN<sup>5</sup> was used to learn a global statistical model of the MSA using a pseudo likelihood approach,<sup>4</sup> and contacts were predicted using the residueresidue coupling values obtained from the model fitting procedure. The top 3L/2 contacts with sequence separation of at least 3 were converted to restraints, and the weights of these restraints were normalized by the average of the coupling scores. Distance restraints were implemented as sigmoidal functions of the form:

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

restraint(d)=3\*weight\*(1+exp(-slope(d-cutoff))-1 where d was the distance between the constrained C $\beta$  atoms (C $\alpha$  for glycine) and the cutoffs and slopes were amino acid pair specific (Supporting Information Table III in reference<sup>5</sup>). These distance restraints supplement the Rosetta energy function; the combination ensures the sampling of physically realistic structures consistent with the contact predictions. Given that both the number of contacts and the Rosetta energy function are roughly proportional to the length of the protein, we found that simple scaling of the restraint score by 3 fold gave a dynamic range similar to that of the Rosetta energy roughly independent of the protein length.

Residue pairs with strong co-evolution signals are not always in contact, some interactions may be intermediate, ligand mediated, or between copies of a homooligomeric protein. When the number of homologous sequences is low, an increased number of predicted contacts may be incorrect due to noise. To overcome these inaccuracies, we use a sigmoidal restraint with no penalty after a certain distance, as opposed to a linear (bounded) or quadratic (harmonic) penalty [Fig. 2(A)]. The disadvantage of using sigmoidal restraints is that there is no gradient past the distance cutoff, and therefore, a large amount of sampling is required (see sections below). The advantage is the ability to sample within protein-like space while maximizing self-consistent contacts [Fig. 2(B)]; inconsistent contacts, which are likely to be incorrect, do not contribute to the restraint score.

#### Rosetta ab initio modeling

RosettaAB has previously been described in detail<sup>2,15</sup>. Conformational sampling is carried out using a Monte Carlo fragment replacement strategy guided by a lowresolution score function that favors protein-like features. Bond angles and bond lengths are kept fixed, and side-chains are represented by a single "centroid" interaction center; the only degrees of freedom are the backbone phi, psi, and omega torsion angles. Conformational sampling proceeds, starting from an extended chain, by random replacement of backbone torsion angles with torsion angles from fragments selected from PDB templates using the Rosetta fragment picker<sup>19</sup>. Previously described sequence profile, secondary structure (SS), and Ramachandran based score terms were used for fragment selection, in addition to depth dependent structure profile<sup>20</sup>, phi and psi torsion<sup>21</sup>, and solvent accessibility<sup>21</sup> score terms. Score term weights were optimized from a previous unpublished benchmark and used as default in the "make fragments.pl" wrapper script available in the Rosetta software package. The previously described SS quota mechanism<sup>19</sup> was not used in favor of a single predictor,  $PSIPRED^{22}$ . Variable fragment lengths of 3-19 residues were used as previously described<sup>23</sup>. If GREMLIN contacts were predicted, they were used as sigmoidal restraints for sampling and refinement, and only 3 and 9 residue fragments were used.

#### Rosetta comparative modeling

RosettaCM has previously been described in detail<sup>11</sup>. In summary, the protocol recombines structural elements from clustered partial-threads and models missing segments using a combination of fragment insertion and mixed torsion-Cartesian space minimization. Conformational sampling is performed using the Rosetta low-resolution score function<sup>2</sup> with spatial restraints that are generated separately from each cluster<sup>24</sup>. If

GREMLIN contacts were predicted, the clusters were re-ranked using this information, and the template based spatial restraints were supplemented with the co-evolution restraints for sampling and refinement. The weighted fraction of top contacts made in each partial-thread was used to modify the p-correct scores<sup>11</sup> for re-ranking clusters. The contribution of the GREMLIN term was scaled so that the score of the best scoring template was zero.

#### Rosetta refinement

All models were relaxed in the Rosetta full atom energy function first in torsion space and then in cartesian space<sup>3</sup>. If GREMLIN contacts were predicted, the GREMLIN score was added to the all atom energy during full-atom refinement; in both the RosettaCM and RosettaAB protocols, the C $\beta$ -C $\beta$  amino acid specific GREMLIN restraints were replaced with ambiguous distance restraints between side-chain heavy atoms (cutoff 5.5, slope 4).

#### Model Sampling and Selection

Robetta uses the BOINC<sup>25</sup> distributed computing project, Rosetta@home (R@h; http://boinc.bakerlab.org/rosetta), to generate models. Each R@h work unit runs as many independent sampling trajectories as possible within a 4 hour average run time limit on a host computer. RosettaAB models were generated from 12,000 work units for the query sequence, and 4,000 each for up to 2 sequence homologs and 2 query sequence variants with at least 90 percent coverage whose termini were trimmed based on predicted disorder<sup>26</sup>. Around 71,000 models were generated for each query sequence and 28,000 for each homolog and trimmed variant, on average. If GREMLIN contacts were predicted, models were only generated for the query sequence. The top 10,000 all-atom scoring (and restraint fit if GREMLIN contacts existed) query models were clustered with

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

the top 2,000 scoring models for each homolog and trimmed variant. The top scoring query model from each of the top 4 clusters ranked by cluster size and the overall top scoring query model not represented in the clusters were selected, and the top 3 scoring models from this subset were submitted as models 2, 3, and 5, ordered by score. The remaining models, 1 and 4, were selected from among the best scoring 100 RosettaCM models by identifying low-energy clusters and averaging. For each model, we compute a neighbor-weighted probability, where the Bolzmann weight of each structure is calculated, and then -- for each conformation -- the weight of nearby neighbors is added, scaled by the similarity of the two structures using maxsub with a 3Å radius. Using this metric, the highest-probability structure and its ten nearest neighbors are selected, and they are averaged in Cartesian space by superimposing and computing the mean coordinates for each atom. Positions with too much variability (positional B factor >100) are not averaged, but instead are assigned the coordinates of the selected model. These averaged models are then refined using Rosetta relax with coordinate constraints. The order of these final models was determined by the rank of the alignment cluster from which they belonged to. RosettaCM models were generated from up to 3,000 work units; the number of work units was a function of  $L^{1}\log(L)$  where L is the sequence length. On average, 5,100 models were generated for up to 5 partial-thread clusters each.

#### **Domain** assembly

The method used for domain assembly for multiple domain targets depended on whether an alignment was generated to a template that contained all of the domains. If no such template was found, the final selected models for each domain were combined into a full-

length model using the Rosetta domain assembly method<sup>27</sup>, which assembles domains by performing fragment insertion within the linkers. If domain models superimposed with a full-length partial thread, RosettaCM was used to guide assembly based on the orientation in the full length model by recombining the domain models with the full-length partial thread.

#### Human intervention

We decided to manually intervene only for targets we thought would significantly improve in prediction accuracy using either methods not yet implemented in Robetta or with more sampling (7 FM domains). For the remaining targets, we simply submitted the Robetta models. The general protocol we used is shown in Figure 3. The majority of human targets were chosen if GREMLIN contacts were predicted. If a large fraction of the top co-evolving contacts were not made in the Robetta models, more RosettaAB models were produced (T0824, T0826 and T0836). If most contacts were made, further optimization of the Rosetta all-atom energy and co-evolution restraints was carried out through multiple RosettaCM iterations starting with the Robetta models as initial templates (T0806). Fragment insertions were also made in template regions (10 percent of the total moves) to introduce more diversity. Some targets were also chosen if there were templates suggesting possible homo-oligomeric states that Robetta did not detect. For these targets (T0763, T0785 and T0799), RosettaCM was used to generate models in the oligometric states inferred from templates. The final submissions for these targets were selected from the oligomeric state runs and the original Robetta server models ranked by GOAP score<sup>28</sup>.

RESULTS

As described in the methods, for CASP11 we sought to automate as much of the prediction process as possible, and for many targets the "human" group submitted Robetta server models. We first describe automated Robetta results and second, results for targets where additional human-guided calculations were carried out.

#### Robetta

A significant development in Robetta since last CASP was the use of predicted coevolution contacts to generate restraints for conformational sampling. To evaluate the contribution of the predicted contacts in our automated protocol, we reran the CASP FM targets for which they were used through the standard automated protocol without predicted contact information. As shown in Figure 4, 9 out of 13 domains have improved GDT-TS<sup>29</sup> quality scores in the original run with contact information compared to this control, and 5 improve by over 6 GDT-TS units. It is clear that co-evolutionary information can significantly improve modeling accuracy. Figure 5 shows a number of notable Robetta submitted models. T0790-D2 (domain 2; 130 residues alpha/beta; 2.9L sequences) model 3 has 3.9 Å  $C_{\alpha}$ -RMSD over 92 residues to the native [Fig. 5(A)]. The modeled region (101-293) covering the assessor's official domain (136-265) includes 63 extra residues due to an incorrect domain parse and missing coordinates at the C-terminus in the native structure. Despite modeling the incorrectly parsed domain, a significant portion of the native topology consisting of helices packed against an anti-parallel betasheet was correctly modeled. The most confident predicted contacts are within the antiparallel beta-sheet [right structure in Fig. 5(A); contacts are represented as lines in the native structure]. The prediction accuracy is better by 13.1 GDT-TS units than the no contact control. Another highlight was the correctly predicted helical region in T0789-

D1 model 2 (residues 6-81; 2.7L sequences), which has 2.8 Å  $C_{\alpha}$ -RMSD over 71 residues to the native structure [Fig. 5(B)]. The predicted contacts are consistent with the overall topology [right structure in Fig. 5(B)], and the prediction accuracy is better than the control by 6.5 GDT-TS units.

Robetta also made notable predictions for T0761-D2 [model 4; Fig. 5(C)] and T0767-D2 [model 3; Fig. 5(D)], which do not use co-evolution information. Although Robetta incorrectly predicted the domain boundary for T0761-D2 (residues 150-285), it modeled a shorter region spanning residues 202-285 with 3.9 Å C<sub>a</sub>-RMSD over 68 residues to the native. RosettaCM was used for this prediction and improves upon the best input template (4fnq) in TM-score<sup>30</sup> from 0.43 to 0.57. For T0767-D2 (residues 133-312), Robetta correctly assigns the domain boundary and models a 188 residue region (residues 131-318) with 4.0 Å C<sub>a</sub>-RMSD over 92 residues to the native. Although the quality of models is generally low for most FM domains due to their difficulty, length, and/or lack of homologous information, Robetta's best models are top ranked among servers for a significant number of domains (13). Robetta ranked 3rd overall considering the best submitted models among humans and servers according to the official assessment for FM domains; two human groups (BAKER and Kiharalab) rank better.

#### Human intervention

For the four targets, which had sufficient sequences for GREMLIN contact predictions, the human protocol yielded better models than the automated Robetta protocol. The primary differences between the human and the Robetta protocol were increased sampling in the first topology level search, and iterative recombination of the resulting

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

models (this makes it possible for accurately modeled features in different models to be combined; the chance that all regions are correctly modeled in one fold level Monte Carlo trajectory is very small). For two of the four targets, the submitted models were the best for these targets in CASP11 by a considerable margin. These include T0806 (34.4 vs. 60.7 GDT-TS) and T0824 (41.2 vs. 55.3 GDT-TS). Both targets had no detectable structural homolog in the PDB, but had a large number of homologous sequences for accurate co-evolution contact prediction (T0806 had 5L and T0824 had 3L sequences). The second best model for both targets came from David Jones' group, which also used co-evolutionary information in their modeling protocol. The two other targets were trans-membrane domains and had less sequences (T0826-D1 with 2L and T0836 with 1L). For these targets, David Jones' group submissions were better (T0826-D1: 37.7 vs 29.1 and T0836: 44.1 vs 39.0 GDT-TS). For T0836, we incorrectly excluded the first 30 residues as a signal peptide, which hurt performance. Our successful predictions and those of David Jones' clearly show that co-evolutionary contact information can significantly improve structure prediction for difficult targets provided there are sufficient numbers of sequences in their families.

The predictions made using oligomeric states inferred from detected templates (T0763, T0785 and T0799) were no better than the Robetta models, which is not surprising given that the templates were incorrect.

#### What went wrong

As in previous CASP experiments, correct domain parsing and classification remains challenging yet important for accurate modeling. The assessors parsed 19 out of 30 full-

length FM targets into multiple domains accounting for 34 domains from multi-domain targets, and Robetta reasonably parsed only 5 domains. 2 out of 11 single domain targets were incorrectly parsed into multiple domains, and 4 multi-domain targets were modeled as single domains. It is not surprising that domain prediction was difficult for CASP11 FM targets due to the lack of detectable structure homologs and, for some targets, the number of homologous sequences was also limited. In addition to incorrect domain parsing, some targets were modeled using the Robetta CM protocol only (T0793-D5, T0824, and T0827), and would likely have improved using the *de novo* RosettaAB protocol.

The model ranking by Robetta was quite poor; only 6 of 45 FM domains had model 1 submissions that were the best of the 5 submitted models. To make the bookkeeping simple, Robetta during CASP11 always selected template based RosettaCM structures for submitted model 1 and 4, and *de novo* structures for 2, 3 and 5 submitted models. This was clearly a very poor strategy for producing good model 1 predictions, since, in the difficult target regime, the *de novo* models were generally better and the templates for comparative modeling were quite distant from the actual structure.

Because the CASP11 Robetta ranking scheme was so poor, it can be improved (retrospectively) very easily. Model Quality Assessment (MQA) methods use features such as evolutionary information, residue environment, statistical and knowledge based potentials, and various predicted structural features to score models and have been shown to improve model ranking in previous CASP experiments<sup>31,32</sup>. Simply re-ranking the 5 submitted Robetta models using the MQA method, ProQ2<sup>33</sup>, significantly improves

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

model 1 accuracy for the FM domains [Fig. 7]. Still better results could likely be obtained by re-ranking a larger set of models from both RosettaCM and RosettaAB. We will implement an improved model selection scheme in the public Robetta server and test it in the ongoing CAMEO<sup>34</sup> structure prediction evaluation project.

Among our human submissions, three (T0806, T0824 and T0826) of the four targets that used GREMLIN restraints had regions with poor fragment quality due to incorrect SS predictions. It is likely that using GREMLIN restraints directly in fragment selection would yield improved models. We did not improve upon our server submissions for the three targets that were modeled using homo-oligomeric states due to the use of incorrect templates.

#### Discussion

Compared to CASP10 and CASP9, CASP11 had substantially more FM domains and overall many challenging targets. Although most targets were difficult to model accurately, there were a few outstanding highlights owing to the use of accurately predicted co-evolutionary contacts. The results suggest that provided there are enough homologous sequences available, large topologically complex proteins with no homologous structures in the PDB can be modeled with close to atomic-level accuracy using Rosetta with co-evolutionary restraints; T0806 is the first blind prediction of a relatively large (258 residues) topologically complex protein with such accuracy (<3.0 Å RMSD over 223 residues).

Our results and those of others clearly show that predicted contacts are useful at the conformational sampling stage. Predicted contacts may also be useful at other steps in the structure prediction process. Many FM domains were from multi-domain targets that were difficult to accurately parse using our template and MSA based domain prediction methods, and GREMLIN contacts could help to improve domain prediction and accurately model domain orientation. Predicted contacts likely can also improve fragment selection for Rosetta de novo folding calculations, help validate oligomeric states inferred from templates and model symmetric oligomers *de novo* (as illustrated by T0680 from CASP10, modeling with the correct oligomeric state in addition to sparse contact information can improve prediction accuracy).

The major limitation to methods such as GREMLIN is the dependence on the availability of homologous sequences, and indeed, half of the CASP11 FM targets had less than 1L homologous sequences. Although 5L sequences provide consistent high accuracy contacts<sup>5</sup>, we reasoned that less accurate contacts from at least 1L would still be better than no predicted contacts for free-modeling targets. However, it was the targets with close to 5L sequences, T0806 and T0824, for which the most accurate models were produced. Further analysis on a benchmark of 13 free-modeling targets with more than 5L sequences, showed similar results. 11 of the 13 targets converged and the C $\alpha$ -RMSD of the predicted structures to the experimentally determined structures over the converged residues were below 4.0Å<sup>39</sup>. This study also showed that the number of non-redundant (at 80% identity cutoff) sequences over the square-root of length is a better predictor of accuracy than sequences per length when there are less than 5L sequences. The proteins

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

that had many sequences typically represented families that are found in prokaryotic organisms. The amount of available sequence data continues to expand through sequencing efforts covering many different organisms, and there is also potential for using in-vitro evolution involving "directed evolution" selection schemes<sup>35</sup> and deep sequencing<sup>36</sup> to identify coupled residue pairs. Large scale genome and metagenomic sequencing is having an unanticipated impact on protein structure modeling, enabling accurate protein structure modeling using co-evolution based predicted contacts. As more simple yet diverse eukaryotic organisms are sequenced, through projects such as the recent Tara Ocean expedition<sup>37,38</sup>, it will make it possible to accurately model not just prokaryotic protein families but also a large number of eukaryote specific protein families.

## Availability

Robetta and GREMLIN are available for non-commercial use at http://robetta.bakerlab.org and http://gremlin.bakerlab.org, respectively. The Rosetta software suite can be downloaded from http://www.rosettacommons.org.

#### Acknowledgments

The authors thank Keith Laidig and Darwin Alonso for developing the computational and network infrastructure and Rosetta@home participants for providing the computing resources necessary for this work. They also thank the CASP11 organizers, the structural biologists who generously provided targets, and Jinbo Xu (RaptorX), Johannes Söding (HHSearch), and Yaoqi Zhou (Sparks-X) for making their excellent software available and providing technical support.

# References

- 1. Kim DE, Chivian D, Baker D. Protein structure prediction and analysis using the Robetta server. Nucleic acids research 2004;32(Web Server issue):W526-531.
- 2. Simons KT, Ruczinski I, Kooperberg C, Fox BA, Bystroff C, Baker D. Improved recognition of native-like protein structures using a combination of sequence-dependent and sequence-independent features of proteins. Proteins 1999;34(1):82-95.
- 3. Conway P, Tyka MD, DiMaio F, Konerding DE, Baker D. Relaxation of backbone bond geometry improves protein energy landscape modeling. Protein science : a publication of the Protein Society 2014;23(1):47-55.
- 4. Balakrishnan S, Kamisetty H, Carbonell JG, Lee SI, Langmead CJ. Learning generative models for protein fold families. Proteins 2011;79(4):1061-1078.
- Kamisetty H, Ovchinnikov S, Baker D. Assessing the utility of coevolution-based residue-residue contact predictions in a sequence- and structure-rich era. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America 2013;110(39):15674-15679.
- 6. Ovchinnikov S, Kamisetty H, Baker D. Robust and accurate prediction of residueresidue interactions across protein interfaces using evolutionary information. eLife 2014;3:e02030.
- 7. Petersen TN, Brunak S, von Heijne G, Nielsen H. SignalP 4.0: discriminating signal peptides from transmembrane regions. Nature methods 2011;8(10):785-786.
- 8. Soding J. Protein homology detection by HMM-HMM comparison. Bioinformatics 2005;21(7):951-960.
- 9. Yang Y, Faraggi E, Zhao H, Zhou Y. Improving protein fold recognition and template-based modeling by employing probabilistic-based matching between predicted one-dimensional structural properties of query and corresponding native properties of templates. Bioinformatics 2011;27(15):2076-2082.
- 10. Kallberg M, Wang H, Wang S, Peng J, Wang Z, Lu H, Xu J. Template-based protein structure modeling using the RaptorX web server. Nature protocols 2012;7(8):1511-1522.
- 11. Song Y, DiMaio F, Wang RY, Kim D, Miles C, Brunette T, Thompson J, Baker D. High-resolution comparative modeling with RosettaCM. Structure 2013;21(10):1735-1742.
- 12. Siew N, Elofsson A, Rychlewski L, Fischer D. MaxSub: an automated measure for the assessment of protein structure prediction quality. Bioinformatics 2000;16(9):776-785.
- 13. Kim DE, Chivian D, Malmstrom L, Baker D. Automated prediction of domain boundaries in CASP6 targets using Ginzu and RosettaDOM. Proteins 2005;61 Suppl 7:193-200.
- 14. Doolittle RF. Of URFs and ORFs: a primer on how to analyze derived amino acid sequences. Mill Valley, California: University Science Books; 1986.

- 15. Bradley P, Misura KM, Baker D. Toward high-resolution de novo structure prediction for small proteins. Science 2005;309(5742):1868-1871.
  - 16. Remmert M, Biegert A, Hauser A, Soding J. HHblits: lightning-fast iterative protein sequence searching by HMM-HMM alignment. Nature methods 2012;9(2):173-175.
  - 17. Eddy SR. Accelerated Profile HMM Searches. PLoS computational biology 2011;7(10):e1002195.
- 18. Suzek BE, Wang Y, Huang H, McGarvey PB, Wu CH. UniRef clusters: a comprehensive and scalable alternative for improving sequence similarity searches. Bioinformatics 2015;31(6):926-932.
- 19. Gront D, Kulp DW, Vernon RM, Strauss CE, Baker D. Generalized fragment picking in Rosetta: design, protocols and applications. PloS one 2011;6(8):e23294.
- 20. Zhou H, Zhou Y. Fold recognition by combining sequence profiles derived from evolution and from depth-dependent structural alignment of fragments. Proteins 2005;58(2):321-328.
- 21. Faraggi E, Xue B, Zhou Y. Improving the prediction accuracy of residue solvent accessibility and real-value backbone torsion angles of proteins by guided-learning through a two-layer neural network. Proteins 2009;74(4):847-856.
- 22. Jones DT. Protein secondary structure prediction based on position-specific scoring matrices. Journal of molecular biology 1999;292(2):195-202.
- 23. Raman S, Vernon R, Thompson J, Tyka M, Sadreyev R, Pei J, Kim D, Kellogg E, DiMaio F, Lange O, Kinch L, Sheffler W, Kim BH, Das R, Grishin NV, Baker D. Structure prediction for CASP8 with all-atom refinement using Rosetta. Proteins 2009;77 Suppl 9:89-99.
- 24. Thompson J, Baker D. Incorporation of evolutionary information into Rosetta comparative modeling. Proteins 2011;79(8):2380-2388.
- 25. Anderson DP. BOINC: A System for Public-Resource Computing and Storage. IEEE/ACM International Workshop on Grid Computing. Pittsburgh, PA; 2004. p 4-10.
- 26. Ward JJ, McGuffin LJ, Bryson K, Buxton BF, Jones DT. The DISOPRED server for the prediction of protein disorder. Bioinformatics 2004;20(13):2138-2139.
- 27. Wollacott AM, Zanghellini A, Murphy P, Baker D. Prediction of structures of multidomain proteins from structures of the individual domains. Protein science : a publication of the Protein Society 2007;16(2):165-175.
- 28. Zhou H, Skolnick J. GOAP: a generalized orientation-dependent, all-atom statistical potential for protein structure prediction. Biophysical journal 2011;101(8):2043-2052.
- 29. Zemla A. LGA: A method for finding 3D similarities in protein structures. Nucleic acids research 2003;31(13):3370-3374.
- 30. Xu J, Zhang Y. How significant is a protein structure similarity with TM-score = 0.5? Bioinformatics 2010;26(7):889-895.
- 31. Kryshtafovych A, Fidelis K, Tramontano A. Evaluation of model quality predictions in CASP9. Proteins 2011;79 Suppl 10:91-106.

- 32. Kryshtafovych A, Barbato A, Fidelis K, Monastyrskyy B, Schwede T, Tramontano A. Assessment of the assessment: evaluation of the model quality estimates in CASP10. Proteins 2014;82 Suppl 2:112-126.
  - 33. Ray A, Lindahl E, Wallner B. Improved model quality assessment using ProQ2. BMC bioinformatics 2012;13:224.
  - 34. Haas J, Roth S, Arnold K, Kiefer F, Schmidt T, Bordoli L, Schwede T. The Protein Model Portal--a comprehensive resource for protein structure and model information. Database : the journal of biological databases and curation 2013;2013:bat031.
  - 35. Romero PA, Arnold FH. Exploring protein fitness landscapes by directed evolution. Nature reviews Molecular cell biology 2009;10(12):866-876.
  - 36. Shendure J, Ji H. Next-generation DNA sequencing. Nature biotechnology 2008;26(10):1135-1145.
  - 37. Bork P, Bowler C, de Vargas C, Gorsky G, Karsenti E, Wincker P. Tara Oceans. Tara Oceans studies plankton at planetary scale. Introduction. Science 2015;348(6237):873.
  - 38. Sunagawa S, Karsenti E, Bowler C, Bork P. Computational eco-systems biology in Tara Oceans: translating data into knowledge. Molecular systems biology 2015;11(5):809.
  - 39. Ovchinnikov S, Kinch L, Park H, Liao Y, Pei J, Kim DE, Kamisetty H, Grishin N, Baker, D. Large-scale determination of previously unsolved protein structures using evolutionary information. eLife 2015;4:e09248.

# **Figure Legends**

Figure 1: Fully automated Robetta structure prediction protocol.

Figure 2: Choice of restraint functional form. A) Alternative functional form for restraint penalty functions. B) Use of sigmoidal restraints with no gradient beyond 8Å requires a large amount of sampling, but reduces the impact of incorrect contact predictions on the resulting models, which maximize satisfaction of internally consistent sets of contacts.

Figure 3: Human assisted structure prediction protocol.

Figure 4: Comparison of Robetta results with (during CASP11) and without (post CASP control) GREMLIN predicted contacts.

Figure 5: Robetta highlights. A) T0790-D2 (residues 136-265); B) T0789-D1 (residues 6-81); C) T0761-D2 (residues 202-285); D) T0767-D2 (residues 133-312). All the GREMLIN contact predictions used in modeling are shown in the scatter plot; most of the high scoring residue pairs were indeed in contact in the native structure (x axis). Lines connect residue pairs with GREMLIN score  $\geq 1.5$  (for cases with more sequences, more contacts are shown, with cutoff as indicated in figure); green, minimal heavy atom distance less than 5Å; yellow, distance less than 10Å and red, greater than 10Å.

Figure 6: Human assisted prediction highlights. A) T0806; B) T0824; C) T0836

Figure 7: Re-ranking the 5 submitted models using a single-model MQA method, ProQ2, improves model 1 accuracy for FM domains

Acc

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.



John Wiley & Sons, Inc.



Figure 2: Choice of restraint functional form. A) Alternative functional form for restraint penalty functions. B)
Use of sigmoidal restraints with no gradient beyond 8Å requires a large amount of sampling, but reduces the impact of incorrect contact predictions on the resulting models, which maximize satisfaction of internally consistent sets of contacts.
87x34mm (300 x 300 DPI)

Accepted





Accepted

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.



 Figure 4: Comparison of Robetta results with (during CASP11) and without (post CASP control) GREMLIN predicted contacts.
84x70mm (300 x 300 DPI)

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.



Figure 5: Robetta highlights. A) T0790-D2 (residues 136-265); B) T0789-D1 (residues 6-81); C) T0761-D2 (residues 202-285); D) T0767-D2 (residues 133-312). All the GREMLIN contact predictions used in modeling are shown in the scatter plot; most of the high scoring residue pairs were indeed in contact in the native structure (x axis). Lines connect residue pairs with GREMLIN score ≥ 1.5 (for cases with more sequences, more contacts are shown, with cutoff as indicated in figure); green, minimal heavy atom distance less than 5Å; yellow, distance less than 10Å and red, greater than 10Å. 164x133mm (300 x 300 DPI)

Acce

٦

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.



Figure 6: Human assisted prediction highlights. A) T0806; B) T0824; C) T0836 164x128mm (300 x 300 DPI)

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.



 Figure 7: Re-ranking the 5 submitted models using a single-model MQA method, ProQ2, improves model 1 accuracy for FM domains 84x70mm (300 x 300 DPI)

John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

# Table I. BAKER human targets

		Best GDT-TS		
Target	Parameters for MSA*	Human	<b>Robetta Server</b>	Others
T0806	4.60L, 1E-40, iter8, jackhmmer	60.7	26.2	34.7
T0824	2.46L, 1E-06, iter8, jackhmmer	55.3	28.5	41.2
T0826-D1	1.80L, 1E-40, iter8, jackhmmer	29.1	23.4	37.7
T0836	1.10L, 1E-06, iter4, hhblits	39.0	27.0	44.1
T0763	N/A	20.8	20.8	39.0
T0785	N/A	25.7	25.7	30.1
T0799-D1	N/A	16.0	19.9	21.6
T0799-D2	N/A	23.5	27.9	31.9

\* Number of sequences / length of target, e-value threshold, search iterations, search method

Accepted