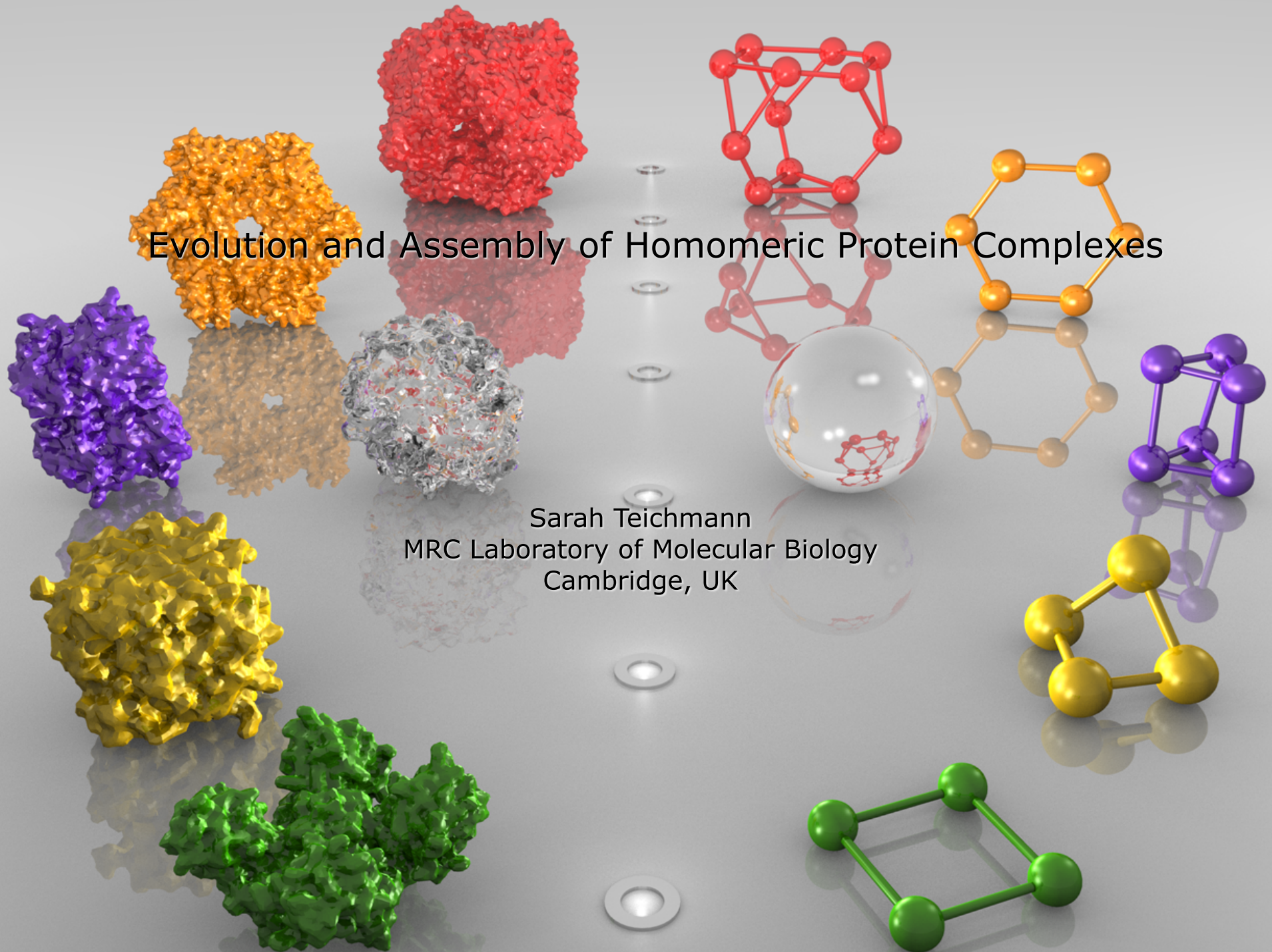


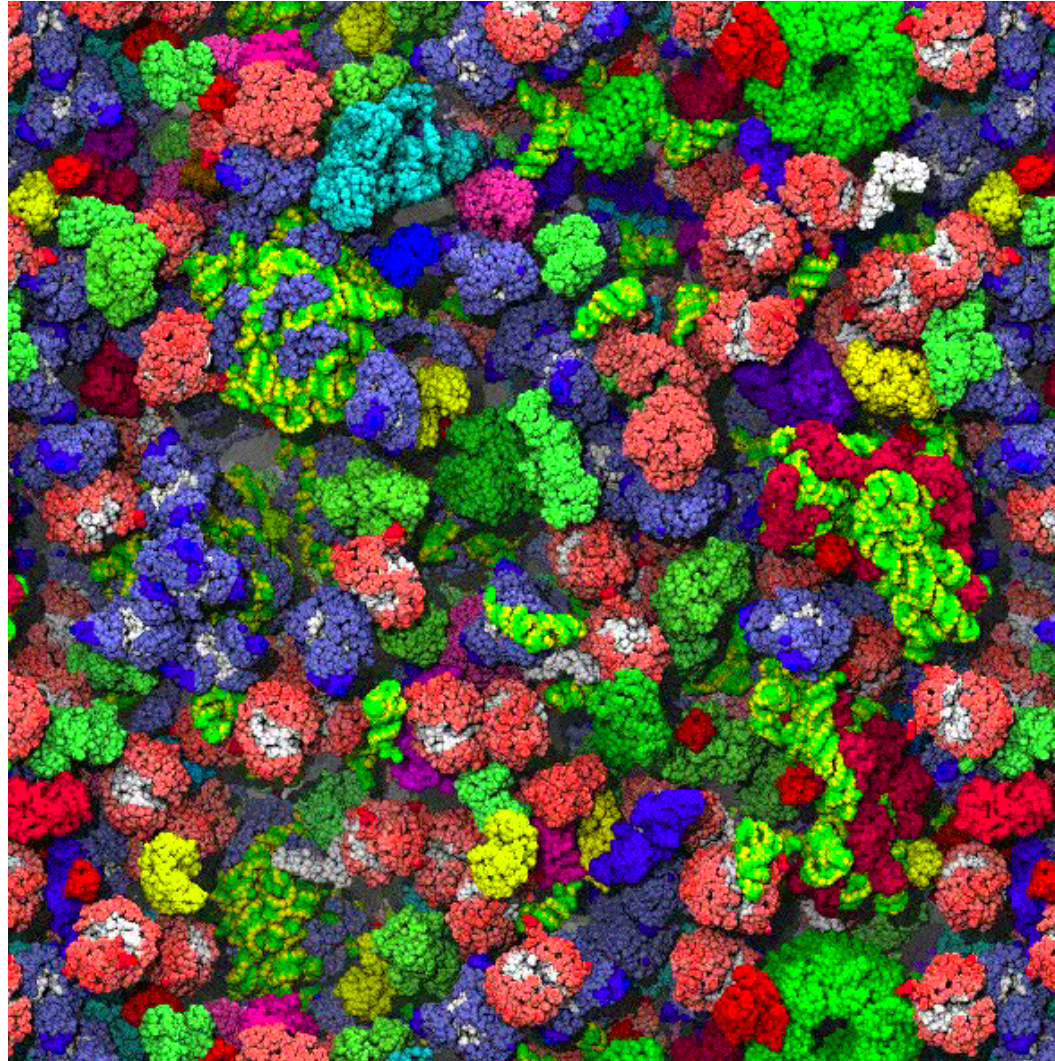
# Evolution and Assembly of Homomeric Protein Complexes

Sarah Teichmann  
MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology  
Cambridge, UK





# The inside of a cell



Adrian Elcock, U. Iowa

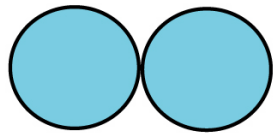


# Molecular Narcissism





**Homodimer**



Structures

Evolution

Assembly in solution



## [3Dcomplex.org](http://3Dcomplex.org) - a hierarchical classification of complexes

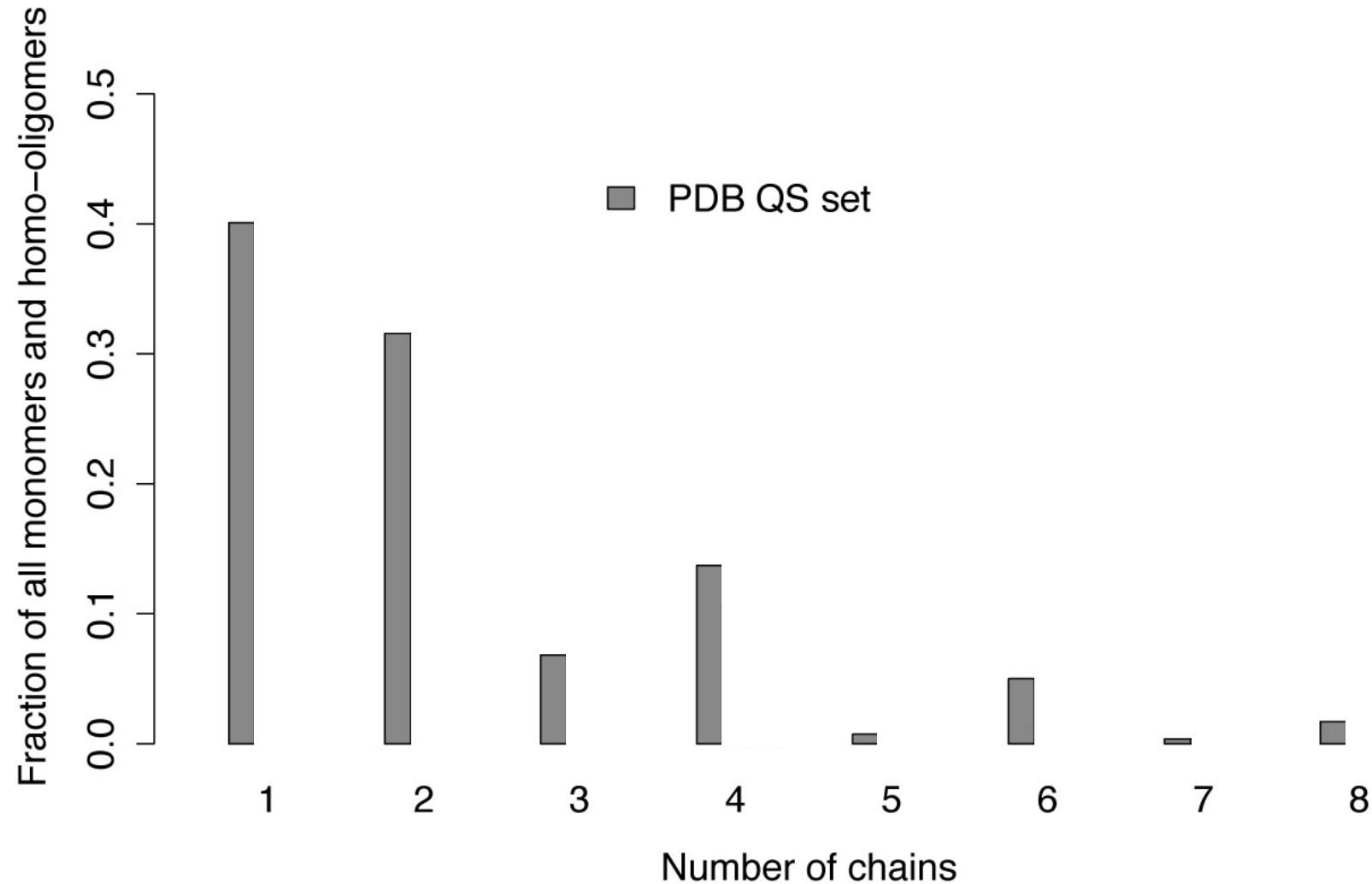
Levy, E.D., Pereira-Leal, J., Chothia, C & Teichmann, S.A. (2006) 3DComplex: a structural classification of protein complexes. *PLoS Comp Biol.*, **2**, e155.

## [www.PiQSi.org](http://www.PiQSi.org) - a wiki for quaternary structure curation

Levy, E.D (2007) PiQSi: protein quaternary structure investigation. *Structure*, **15**, 1364-7.



# How frequent are homo-oligomers?

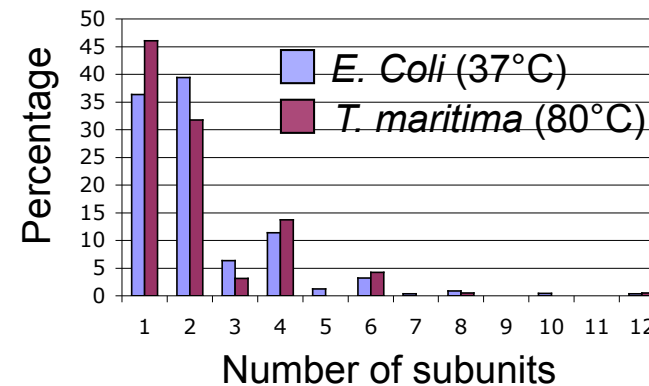


60% to 70% of proteins form homo-oligomers

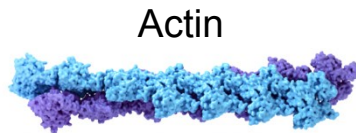


# Selective advantages of homo-oligomers

- Stability of the protein
- Functional advantages



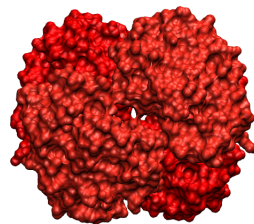
## Polymerisation



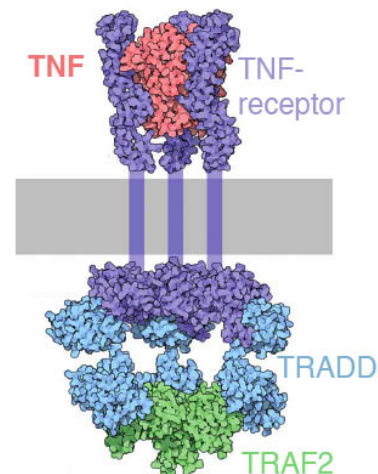
Tubulin

## Cooperativity through allosteric changes

Hemoglobin

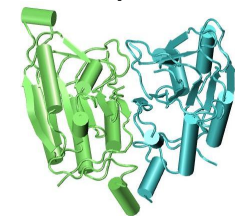


## Template for assembly



## Function regulation

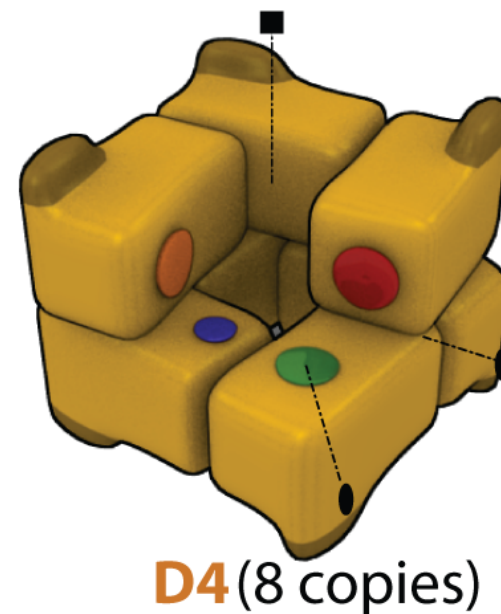
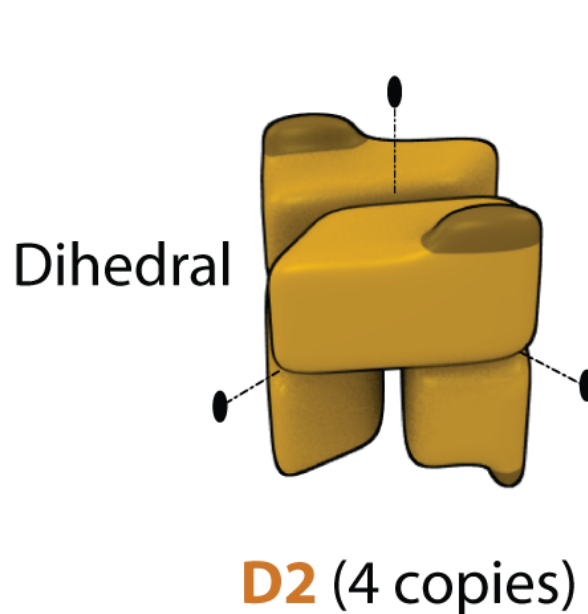
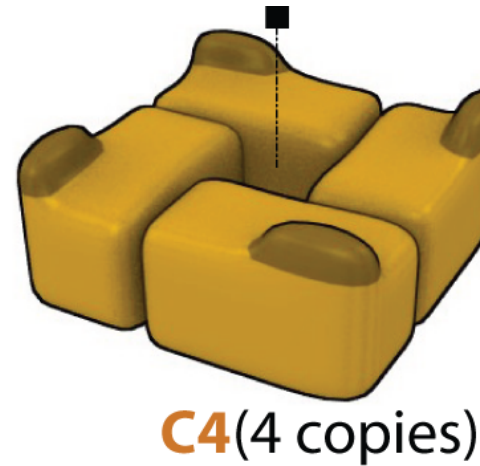
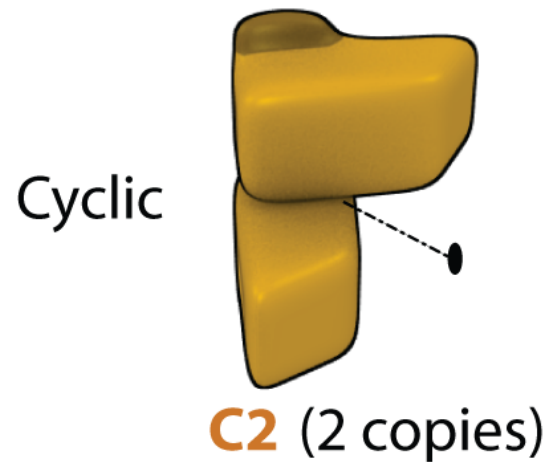
Caspase-9



Apoptosis

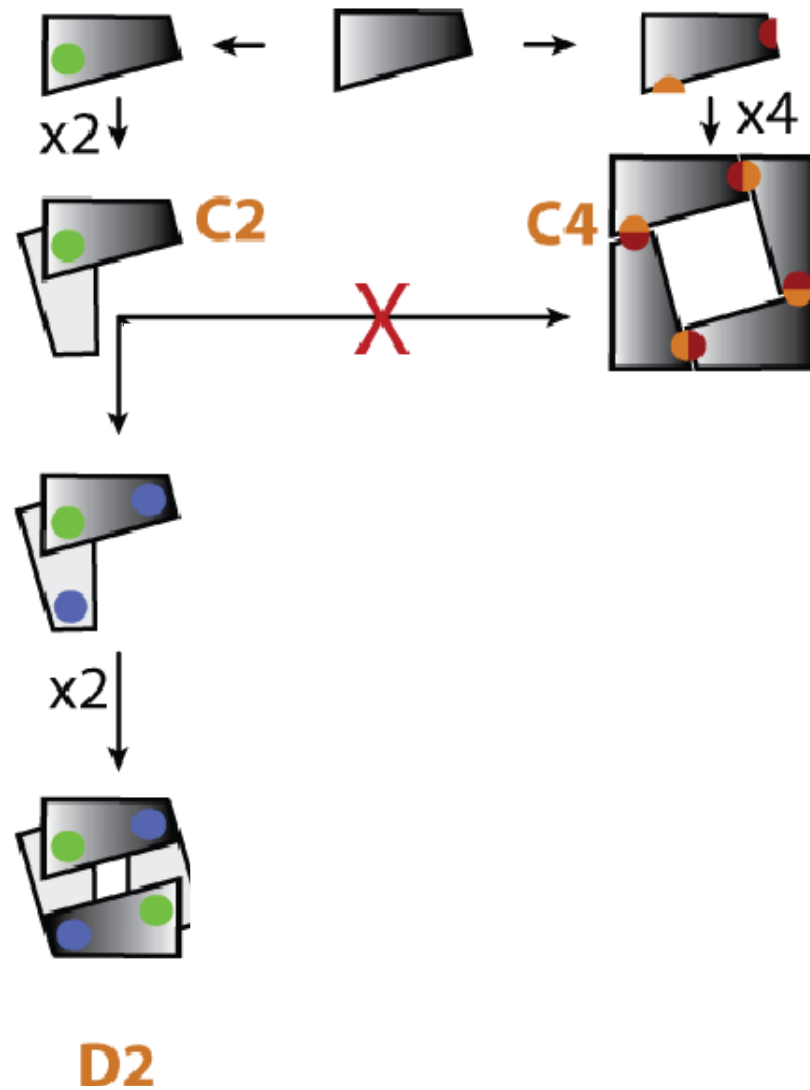


# Most proteins form **symmetric** “machines”





# Evolutionary pathways of complex assembly

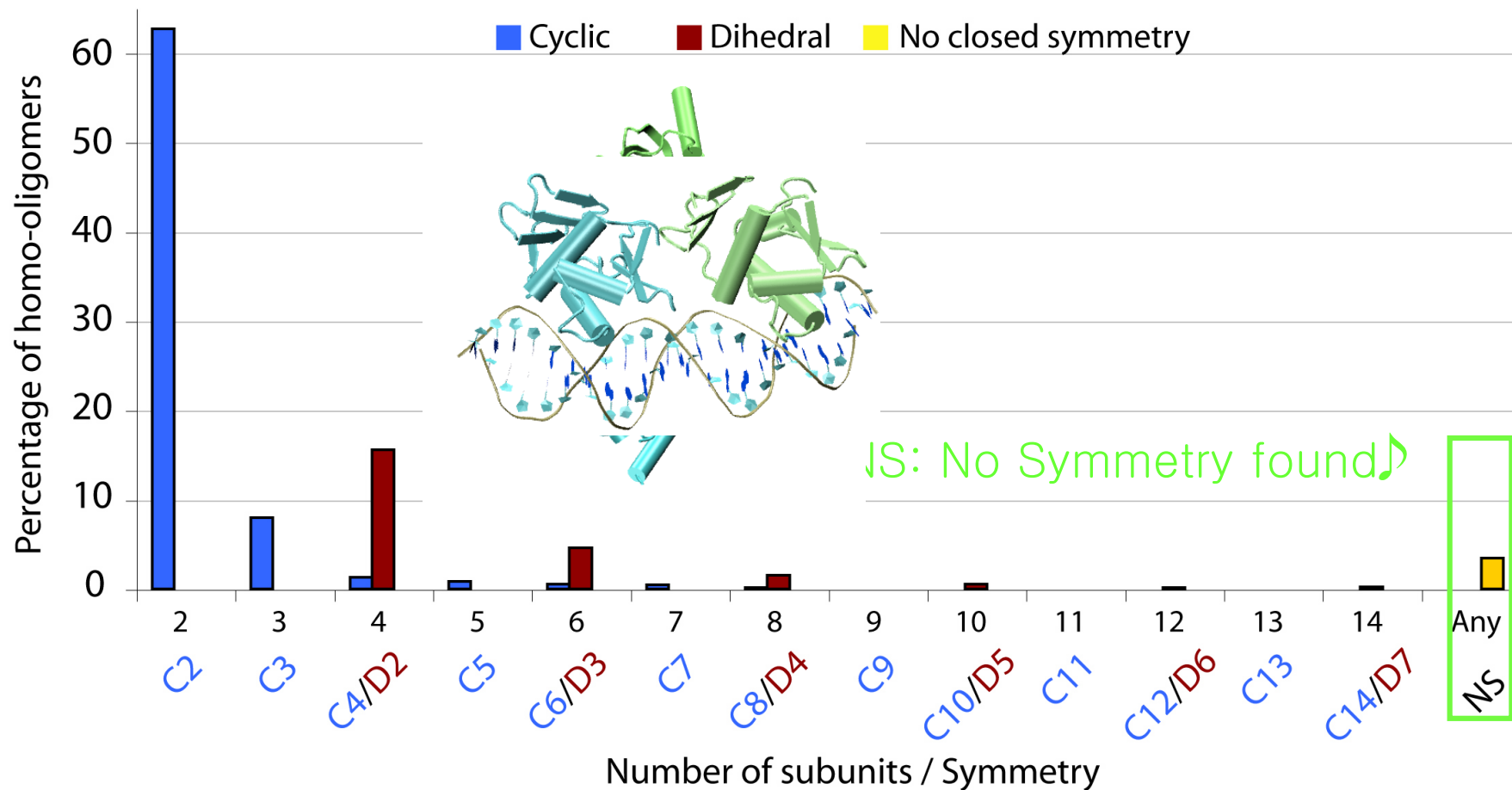


1 patch per interface  
head-to-head ● or tail-to-tail ●

2 patches per interface  
● head-to-tail ●

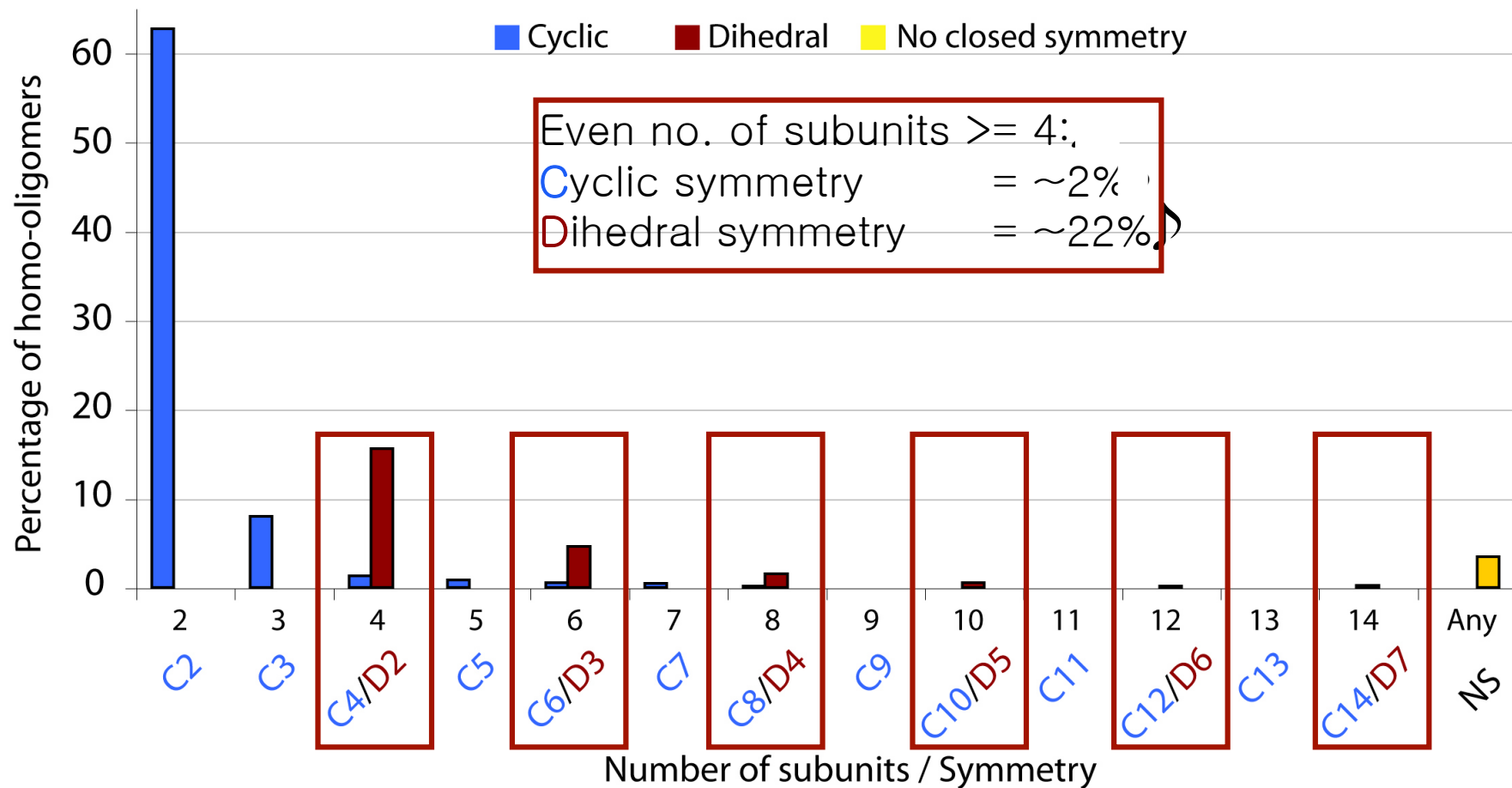


# Symmetries found in a non-redundant set of ~2500 complexes





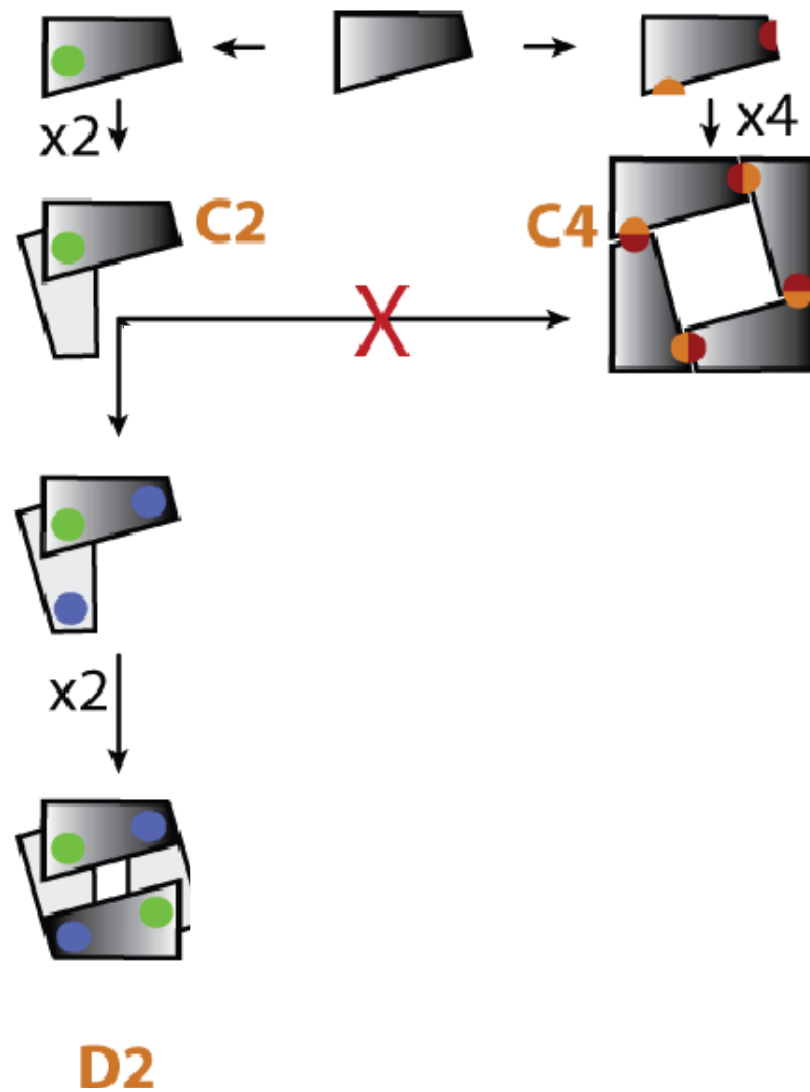
# Symmetries found in a non-redundant set of ~2500 complexes



When there is a choice, dihedral favoured and ~10x more frequent than cyclic



# Evolutionary pathways of complex assembly

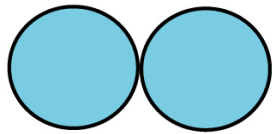


1 patch per interface  
head-to-head ● or tail-to-tail ●

2 patches per interface  
● head-to-tail ●



# Homodimer



Structures **2/3 of proteins homomers**

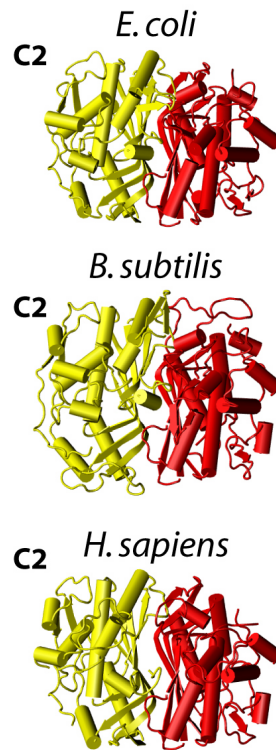
Evolution

Assembly in solution



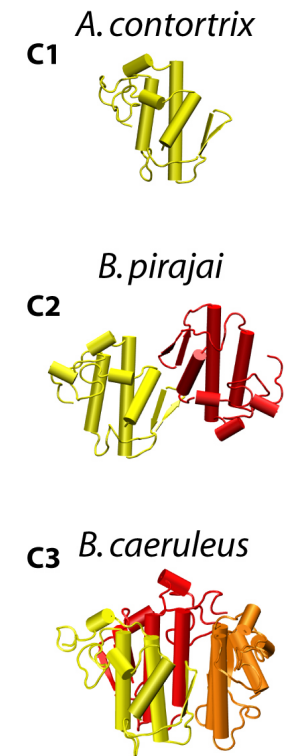
# Conservation of Quaternary Structure - Examples

**Thymidylate Synthase**



**High**

**Phospholipase A2**



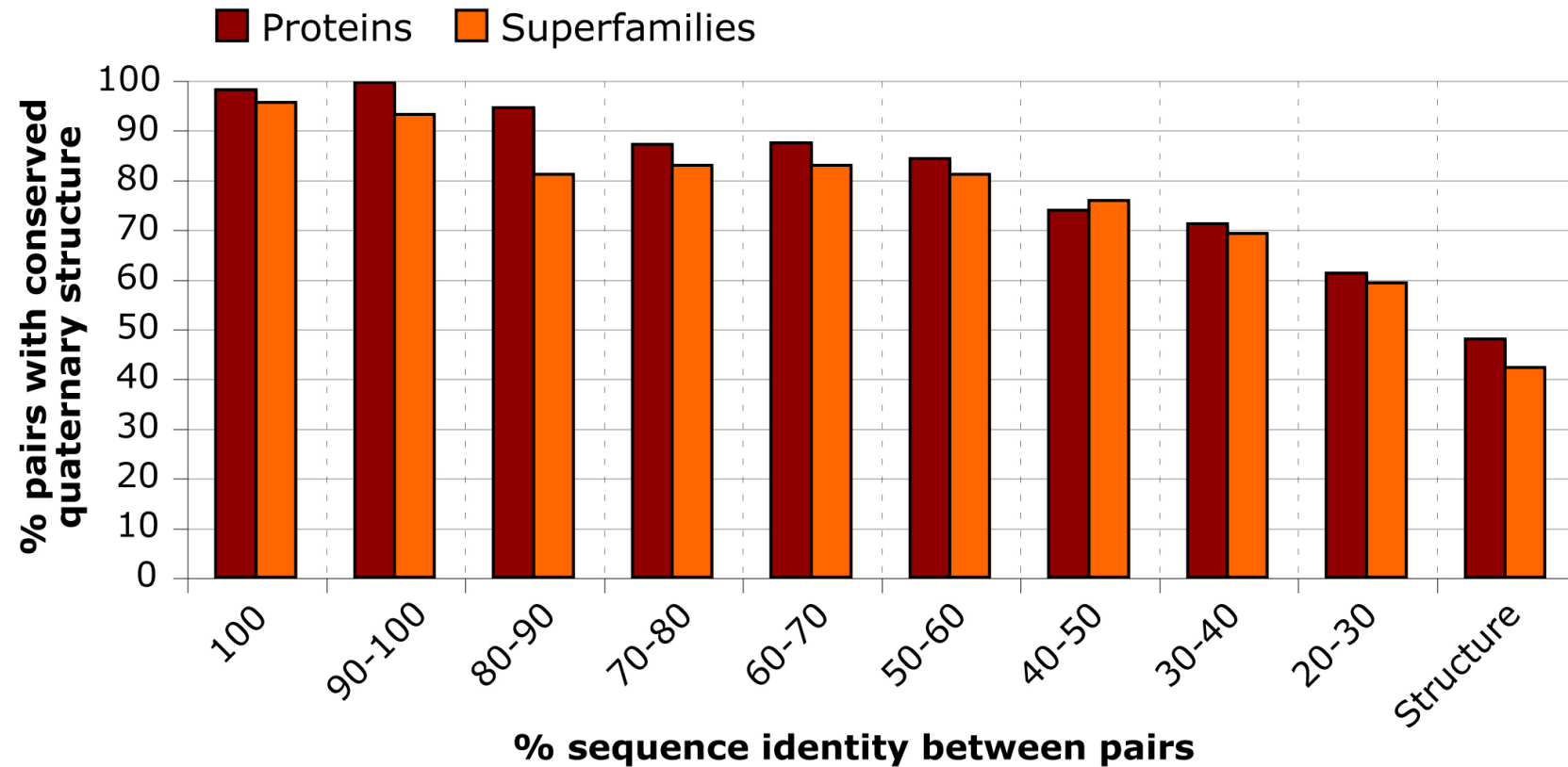
**Low**

**Conservation of Quaternary Structure**

Where do most protein stand on this spectrum?



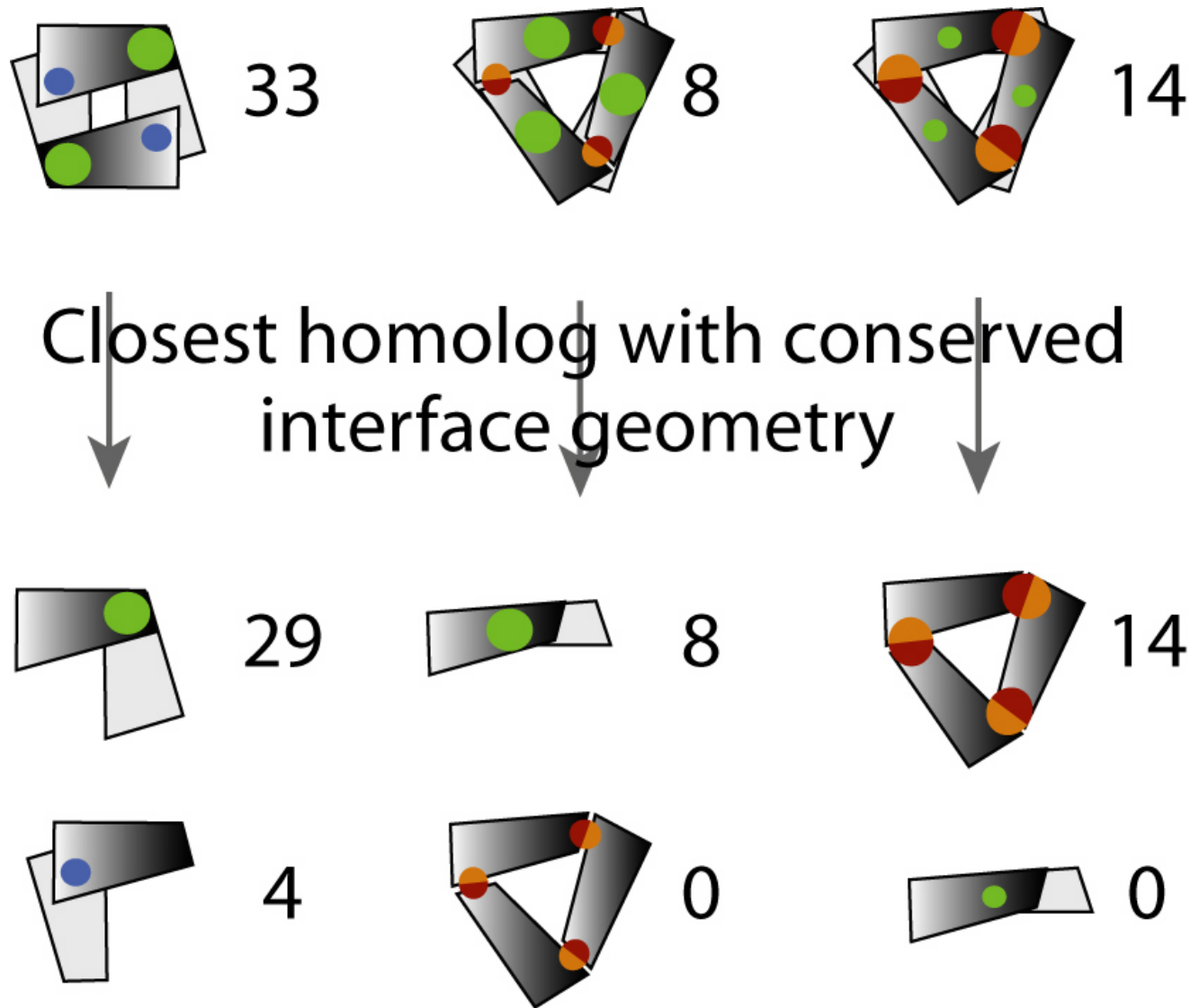
# Conservation of the Quaternary Structure



At 30% sequence identity, 70% of protein pairs conserve quaternary structure



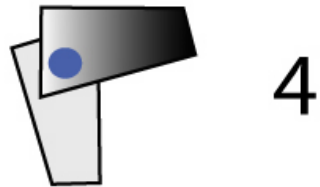
# Homology to the largest interface is common



Levy, E.D., Erba, E.B., Robinson, C.V. & Teichmann, S.A. (2008)  
Assembly reflects evolution of protein complexes. *Nature*, 453, 1262-5.



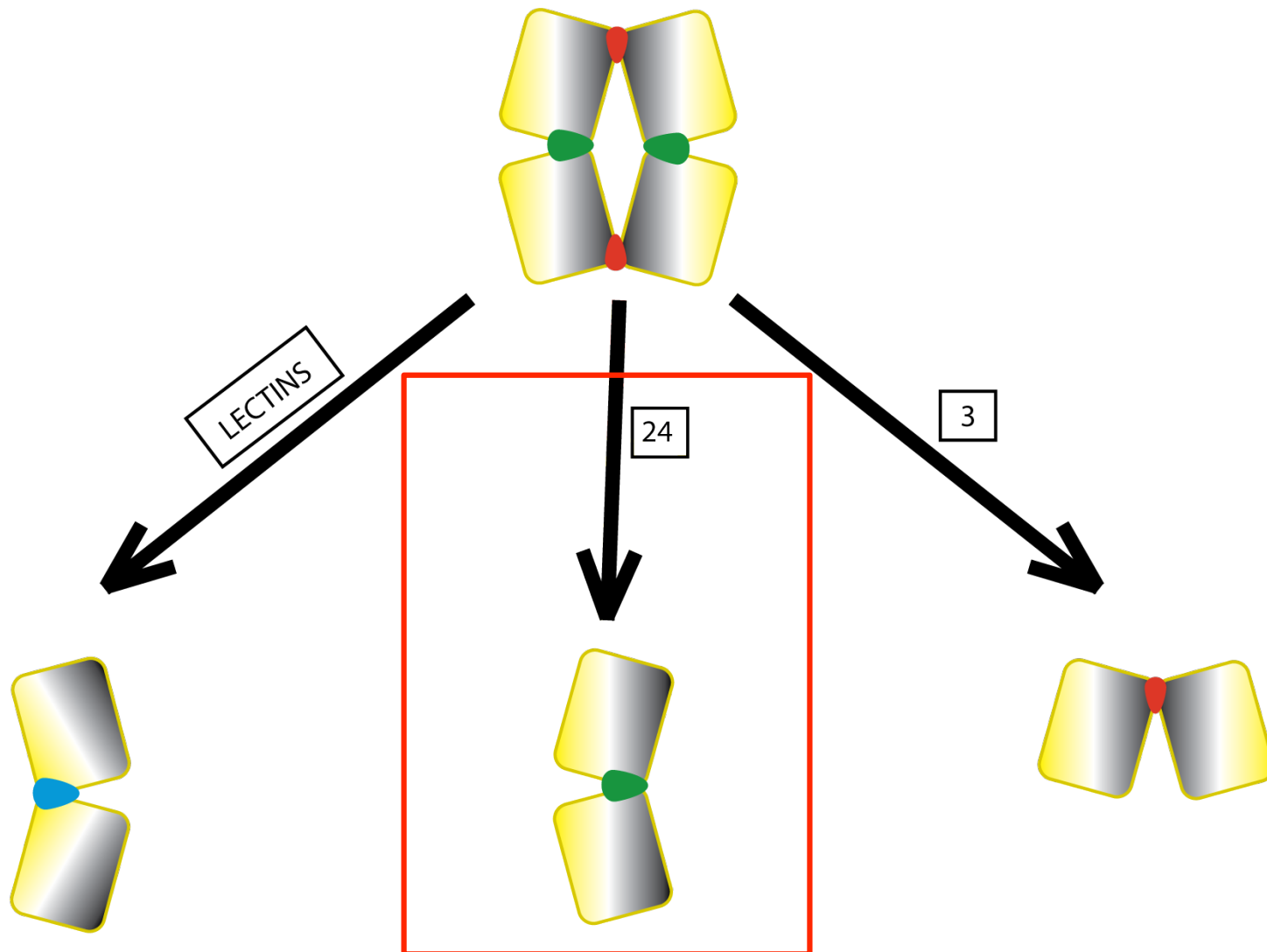
# Homology to the largest interface is common





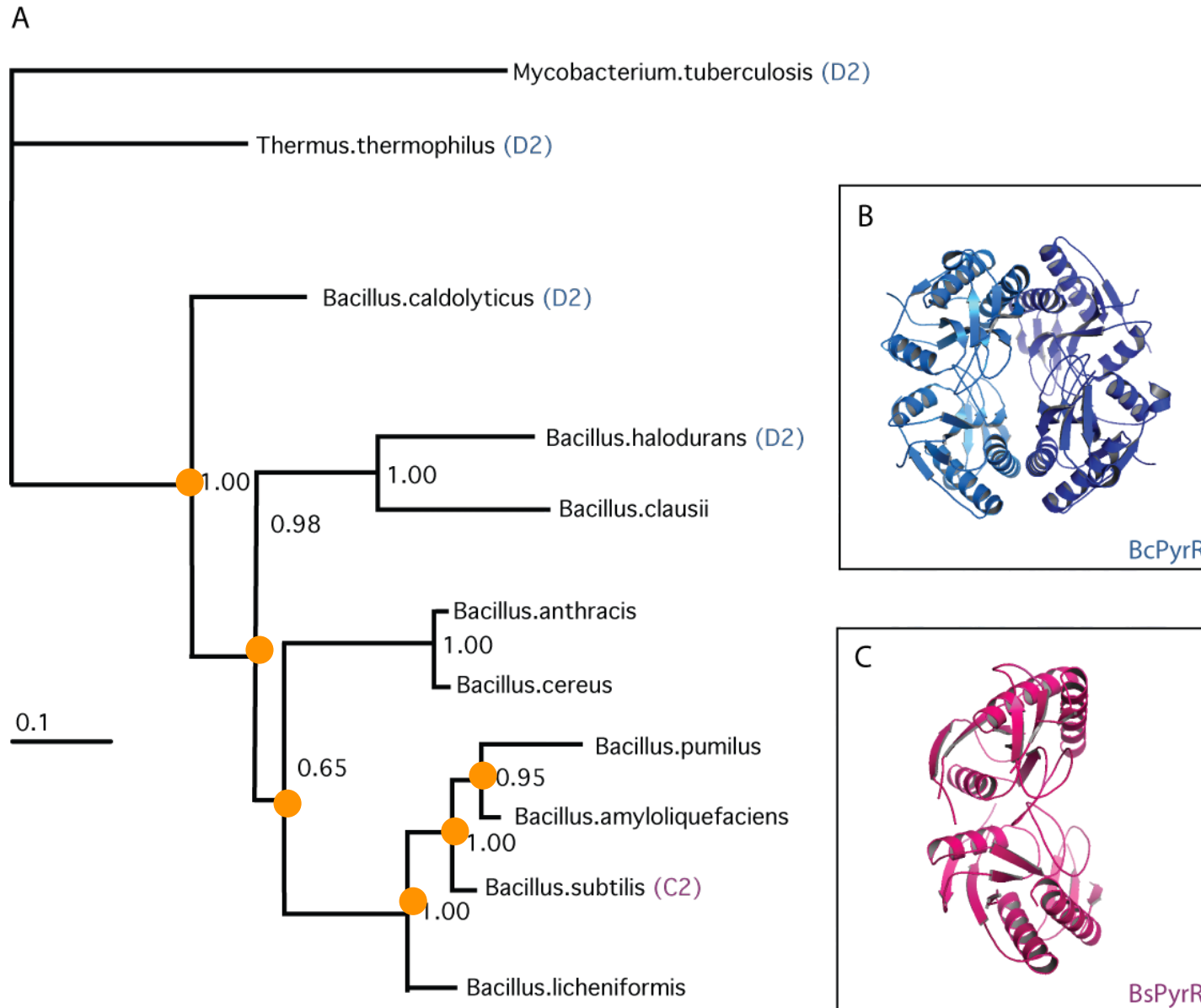
# Which mutations change quaternary structures?

Tetramer-dimer pairs with >40% sequence similarity

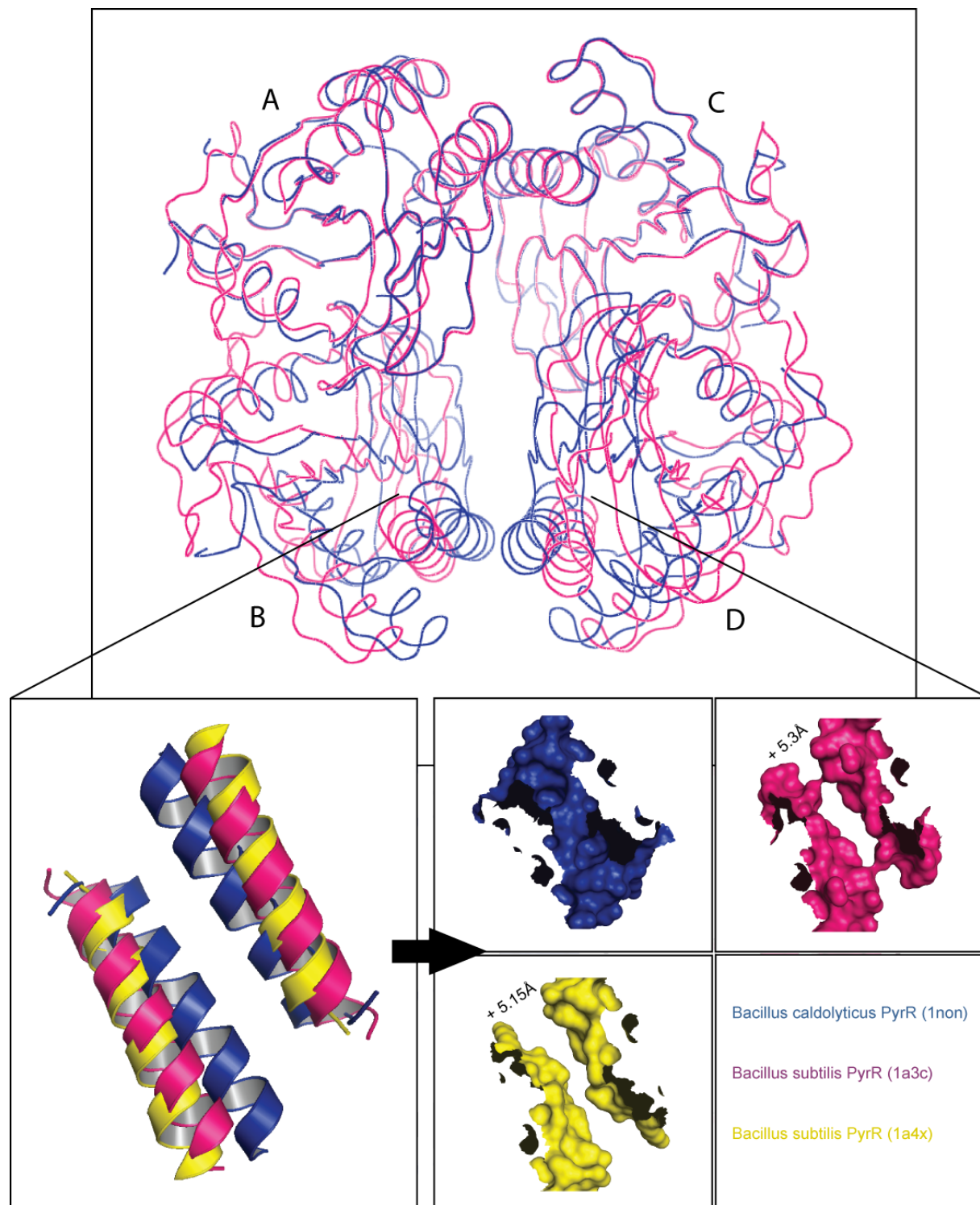




# PyrR: Evolvability of Quaternary Structure



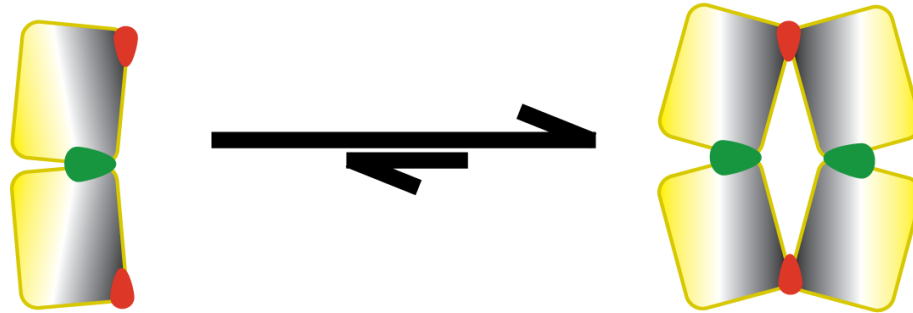






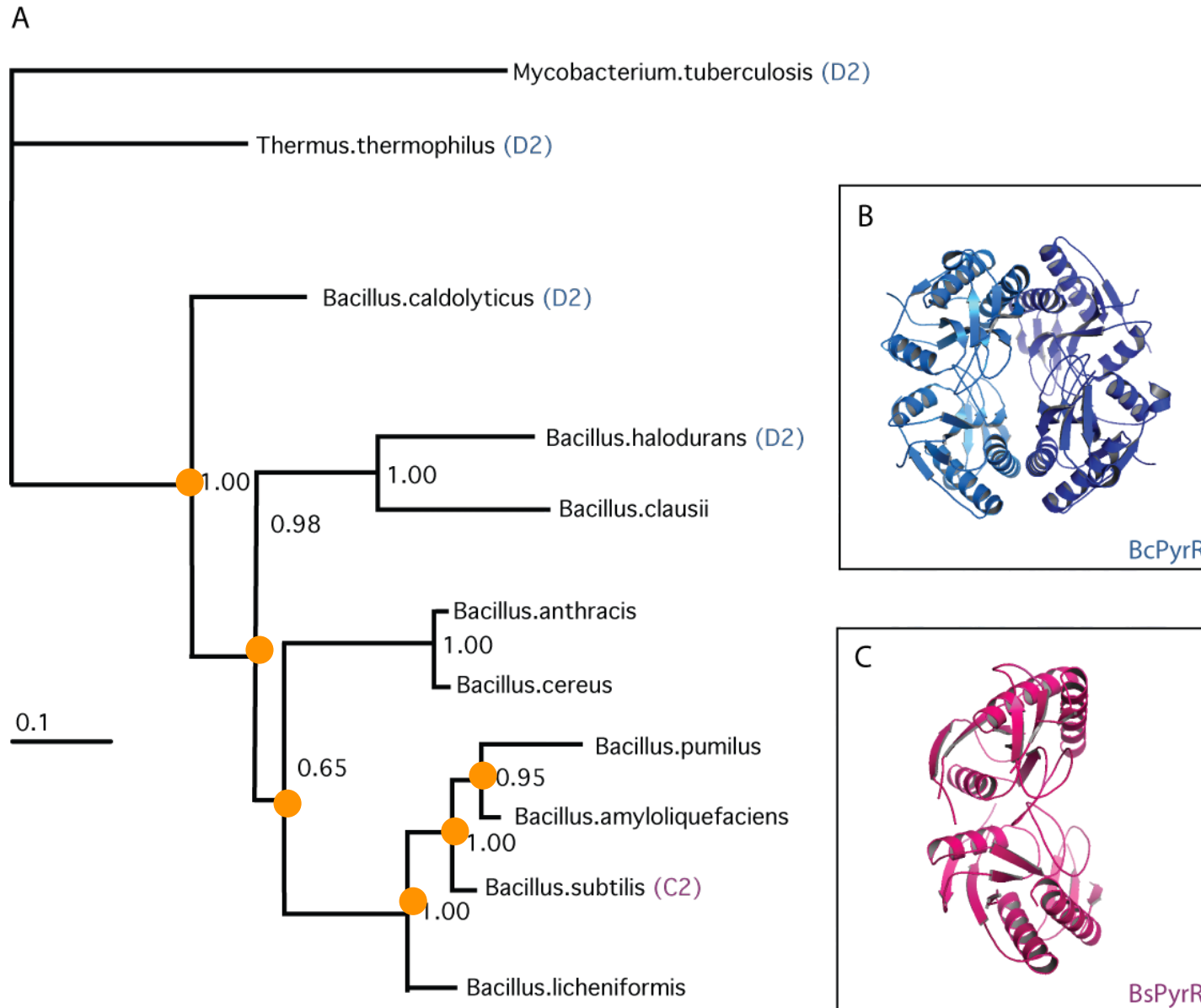
# Coupling of Interfaces

Tetramer



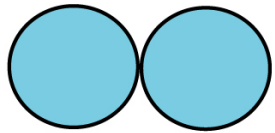


# PyrR: Evolvability of Quaternary Structure





# Homodimer



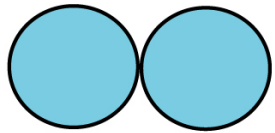
Structures **2/3 of proteins homomers**

Evolution **Conservation 4° struc/seq**  
**Cons. of large interfaces**  
**Change in angle - rewiring**

Assembly in solution



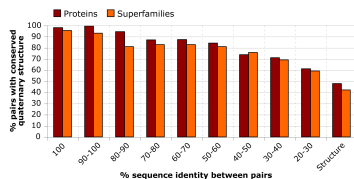
# Homodimer



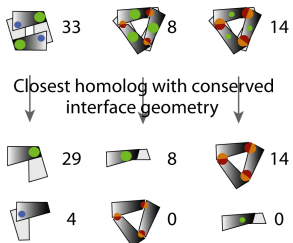
Structures **2/3 of proteins homomers**

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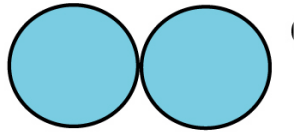
•Predict quaternary structure by homology



•Predict interface geometry for divergent homologues



# Homodimer



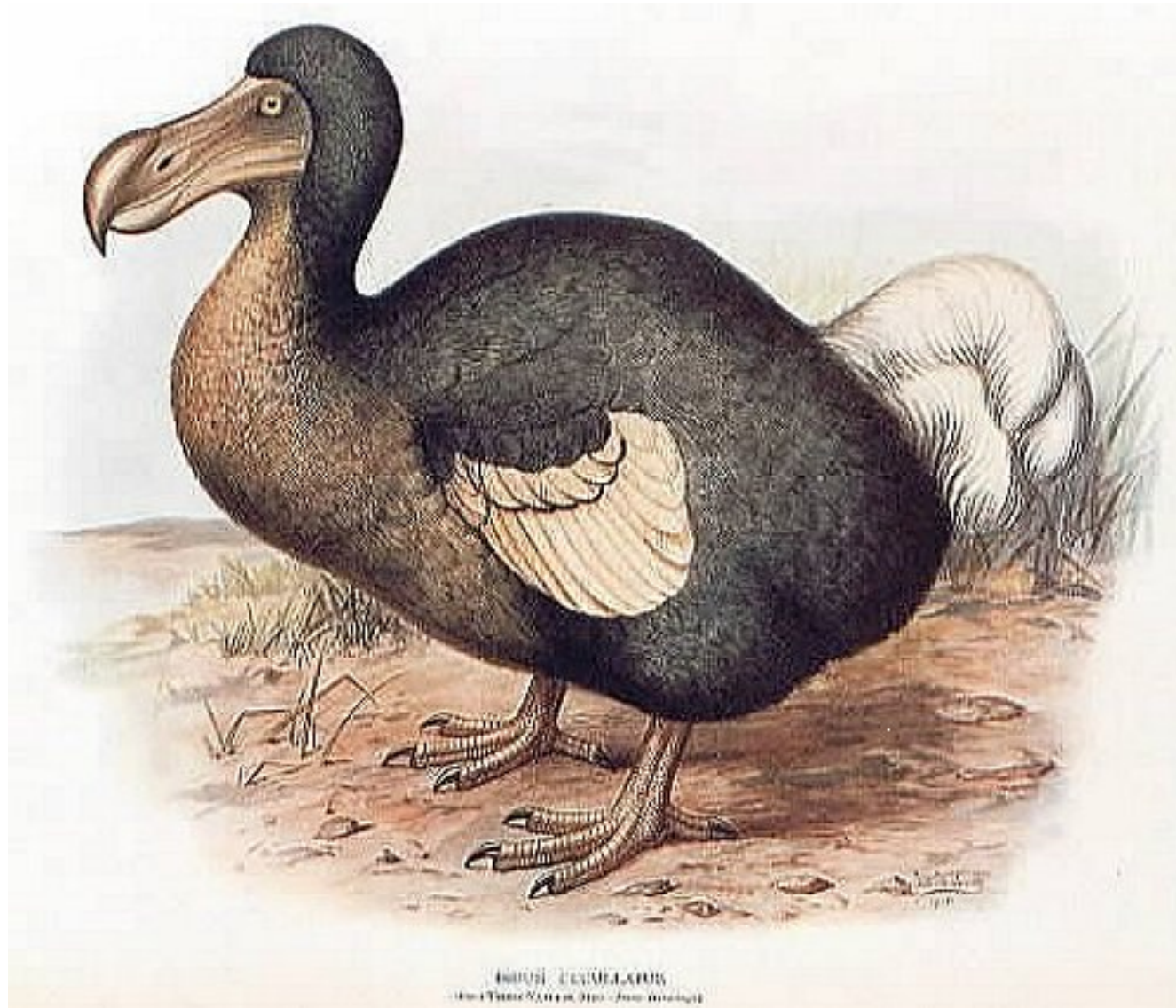
Structures **2/3 of proteins homomers**

Evolution **Cons. of large interfaces**

Assembly in solution

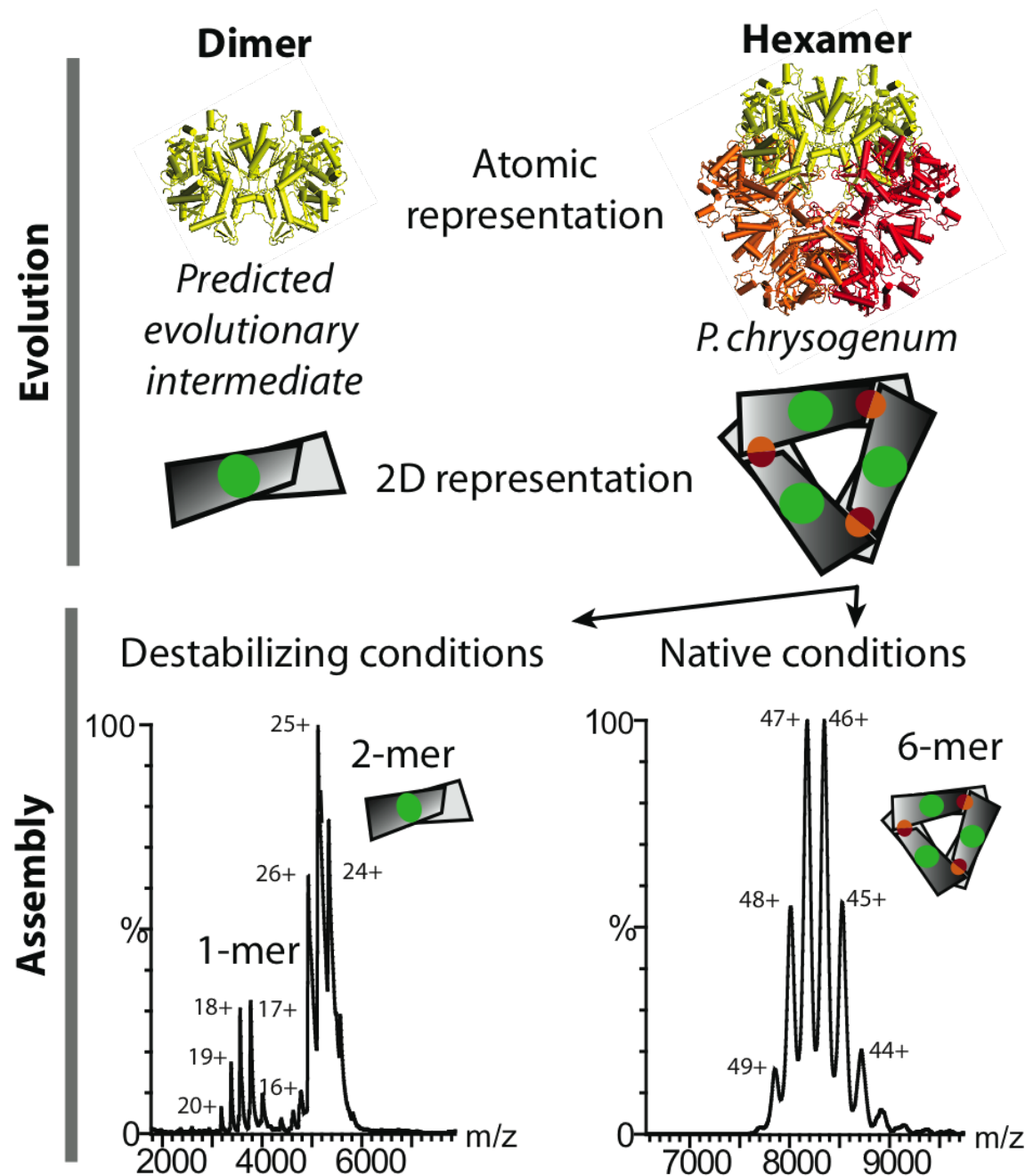


# Conservation of largest interface – An evolutionary relic?



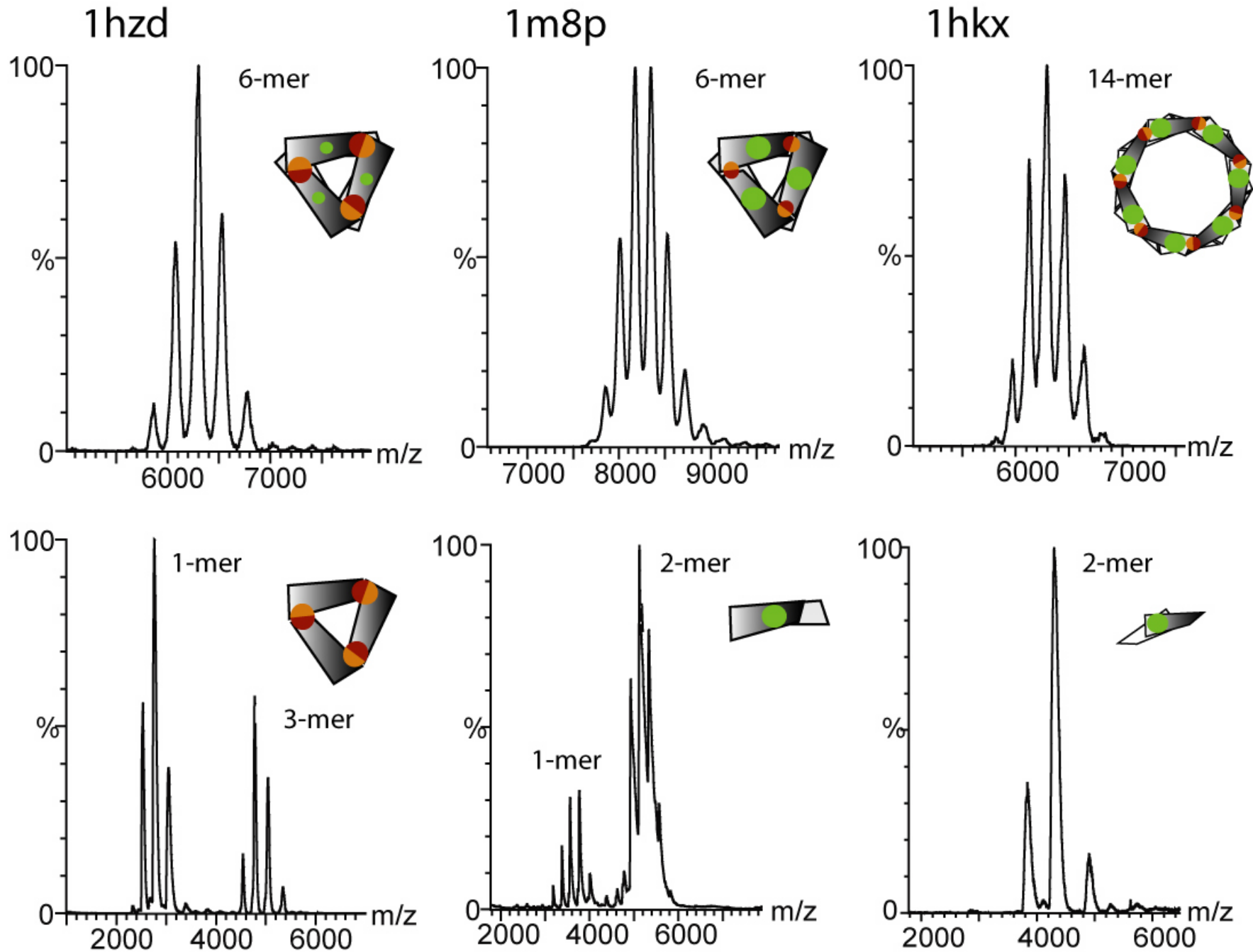


# Evolution predicts assembly pathway





# Macromolecular mass spectrometry (E.B. Erba & C.V. Robinson)





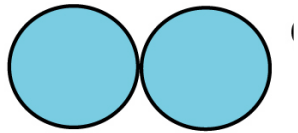
## Complexes with characterised assembly pathways - agreement with predictions

<b>a</b>	<b>PDB id</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Number of chains</b>	<b>Predicted intermediate</b>	<b>Observed intermediate</b>	<b>Agreement with prediction</b>
	1m8p	ATP sulfurylase	6	2	2	✓
	1vea	RNA Binding AP	6	3	-	-
	1hzd	AUH protein	6	3	3	✓
	1j2p	Proteasome $\alpha$ -ring	7	-	-	✓
	1umg	Fructose 1,6 biPase	8	2	2	✓
	1m3u	KHMase	10	2	2	✓
	1pvv	OCTase	12	3	<b>3;6</b>	✓
	1hkx	Ca <sup>2+</sup> dept. kinase	14	2	2	✓
<b>b</b>						
	1pfk	PFK I	4	2	2	✓
	1nhk	NDK	4	2	-	-
	1t3d	Serine AT	6	3	3	✓
	1aon	GroES	7	-	-	✓
	1di0	Lumazine Synth.	10	5	5	✓
	1ogf	rbsD	10	5	5	✓

Levy, E.D., Erba, E.B., Robinson, C.V. & Teichmann, S.A. (2008)  
Assembly reflects evolution of protein complexes. *Nature*, 453, 1262-5.



## Homodimer



Structures **2/3 of proteins homomers**

Evolution **Cons. of large interfaces**

Assembly in solution **via conserved intermediates**

**Interface size as unifying principle of evolution & assembly**



# Acknowledgements

- **Jose B. Pereira-Leal, Gulbenkian Insitute, Lisbon**



- **Emmanuel D. Levy, MRC-LMB**



- **Tina Perica, MRC-LMB**



- **Cyrus Chothia, MRC-LMB**

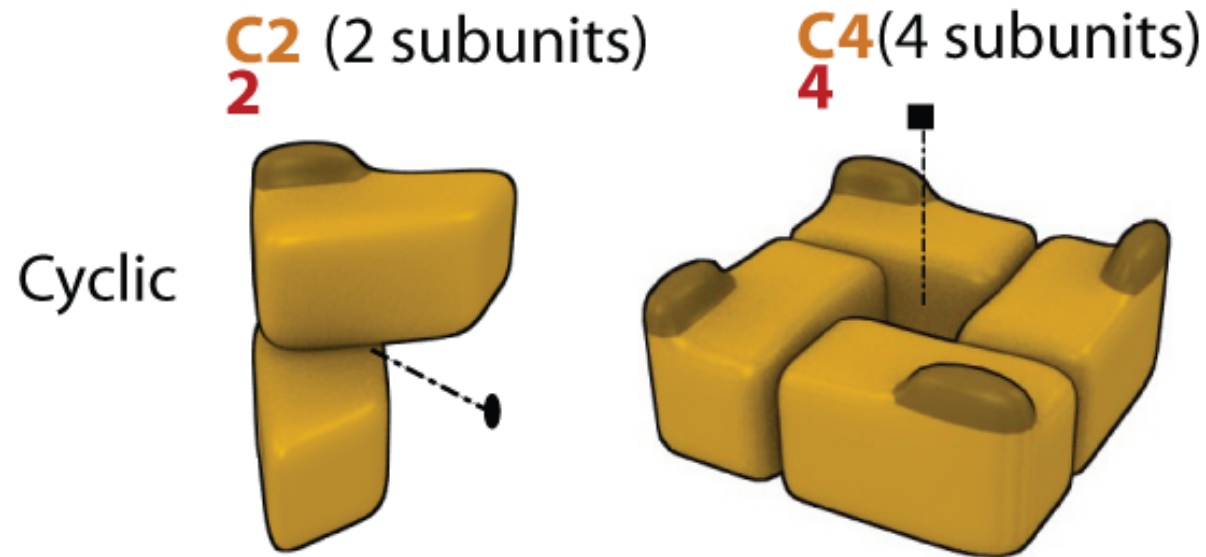


- **Carol Robinson, Dept Chemistry, Oxford.**

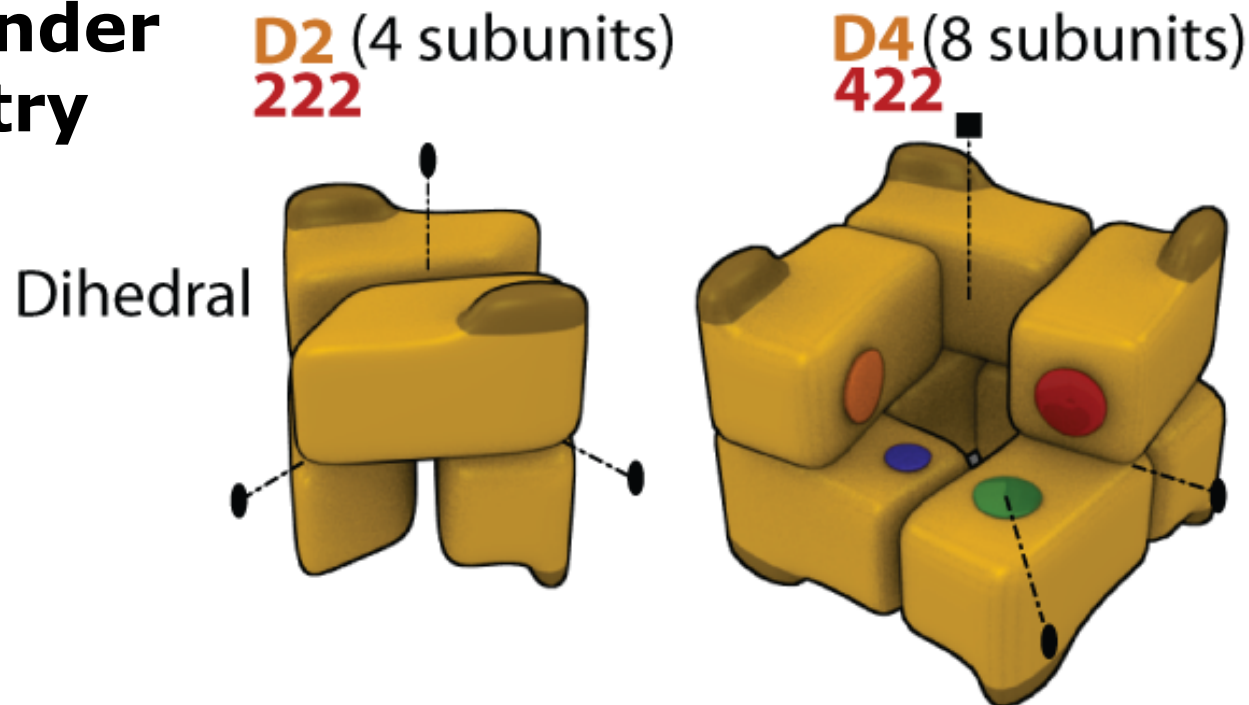


- **Elisabetta Boeri Erba, Dept Chemistry, Cambridge**





## A brief reminder of symmetry



1 patch per interface  
head-to-head ● or tail-to-tail ●

2 patches per interface  
● head-to-tail ●