"Biological systems are necessarily metastable. They are created, modulated, and destroyed according to a temporal plan that meets the survival needs of the cell, organism, and species...Clearly, no biological system is close to true equilibrium or it would be dead...

Systems survive by consuming free energy and regulating rates...a human turns over 40 kg of ATP daily, and 90% of the information in a genome encodes biological catalysts...

The more quickly something is done, the more difficult it is to do it accurately. Accuracy and specificity often are sacrificed in the name of speed...This balance is especially important in optimizing the rate of information transfer from the gene to the structures of functional nucleic acids and proteins.

The entropic activation barrier to prompt and accurate genetic expression...is overcome by the lavish use of nucleotide triphosphate to proofread and edit..."

Paul Sigler et al, 1998.

The amino acid sequence of a protein contains all of the information for folding into the unique native state, presumed to lie at the energetic minimum



Anfinsen et al, 1961

#### **Thermodynamic Measurements**

Enthalpic (H) and entropic (TS) contributions to the free energies of the folded and unfolded states of the enzyme lysozyme as a function of temperature—Large changes over T but net stability is only a few kcal/mole



Pfeil and Privalov, 1976, adapted from Creighton text, 1997

# Major Forces Contributing to the Conformational Stability of RNase T1

### Stabilizing

Hydrogen bonding (104 HB) = 166 kcal/mole

Hydrophobic groups buried = 94 (entropy of dehydration)

## Destabilizing

Conformational entropy=177 kcal/molePeptide groups buried=81

Behavior of Two-state Proteins, Typically Fewer Than 100 Amino Acids



Deriving structure of transition state of folding for 2-state proteins by mutational analysis by comparing rates of folding and unfolding of wt and mutant



Native topology plays a key role in determining rate of folding of two-state proteins, reflecting that there is topology "searching"

Low Contact Order



**High Contact Order** 





From D. Baker, 2000

# Larger proteins fold in a more complex manner, involving intermediates and multiple routes



From Matagne, Dobson, & coworkers, 2000

#### **Energy "landscapes" connect single-polypeptide microscopics** with experimental macroscopics



# Fate of misfolded polypeptide chains in the cell – multimolecular "disordered" aggregates and, in ~20 cases, "ordered" amyloid fibrils



Adapted from Dobson, 2003

# **Mechanisms of Protein Aggregation**

### Domain Swapping



M.E.Goldberg and coworkers, 1974

#### Hydrophobic Interactions



Lewis & Pelham, 1985

Specialized Proteins that Prevent Misfolding and Aggregation - Molecular Chaperones

Binding Exposed Hydrophobic Surfaces - Release Mediated by ATP





Cheng et al, 1989; Ostermann et al, 1989; Cheng et al, 1990

#### GroEL-GroES-mediated folding reaction



Goloubinoff et al, 1989 Martin et al, 1991

#### NTP consumption for production of the enzyme rhodanese:

Translation at the ribosome - 4 ~P per peptide bond x 297 aa = 1188 ~P consumed

GroEL/GroES-mediated folding – ~130 ATP hydrolyzed/rhodanese molecule folded = ~10% amount employed for synthesis; implies multiple turnovers of 7-subunit rings, and amount energy consumed is ~100X  $\Delta G_{U-N}$ 



![](_page_17_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### POTENTIAL ACTIONS OF BINDING IN RESCUING MISFOLDED STATES (PULLING NON-NATIVE PROTEINS UP THE ENERGY LANDSCAPE)

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

Zahn and Pluckthun, 1994; Walter et al, 1996 Zahn et al, 1996

![](_page_19_Picture_0.jpeg)

## CryoEM

Negative stain

![](_page_20_Picture_2.jpeg)

GroEL-GroES-ATP

![](_page_21_Figure_0.jpeg)

# TRANS + OTC PRODUCTIVE RELEASE FROM GroEL

EL-ES-ADP CIS S S S + ES, P.K. D + ATP, + apyrase D + දිදු MgADP 15"-5' OTC + ES, MgADP OTC-GroEL 30' RANDOM S

nn

N

D

CTCN OTCN

![](_page_23_Picture_0.jpeg)

Weissman et al, 1996

![](_page_24_Figure_0.jpeg)

Xu et al, 1997

![](_page_25_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_0.jpeg)

### ATP binding, not hydrolysis, triggers productive folding

SR398-GroES-ATP is folding-active

![](_page_28_Figure_2.jpeg)

#### The γ-phosphate of ATP plays an essential role in triggering folding

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

Chaudhry et al, 2003

Estimated free energy transitions during activation of SR1

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{ADP binding} & \text{K}_{\text{D}}\text{=}~30~\mu\text{M}\\ \text{GroES binding} & \text{K}_{\text{D}}\text{=}~0.45~\mu\text{M}\\ \text{AIFx binding} & \text{K}_{\text{D}}\text{=}~16~\mu\text{M} \end{array}$ 

Chaudhry et al, 03

ATP hydrolysis at GroEL serves to advance the reaction forward, acting as a "timer"

![](_page_31_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### Ming Cheng Hsp60/GroEL Ulrich Hartl (Munich) **Kerstin Braig** Charu Chaudhry Zbyszek Otwinowski X-ray and EM work Zhaouhui Xu Helen Saibil (Birkbeck) **Paul Sigler** George Farr Topology and Wayne Fenton ATP cycle Hays Rye Jonathan Weissman

NMR studies

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