

**Protein Dynamics is Linked to Rigidity**  
**Merging geometrical and topological properties**

# Geometrical Simulation

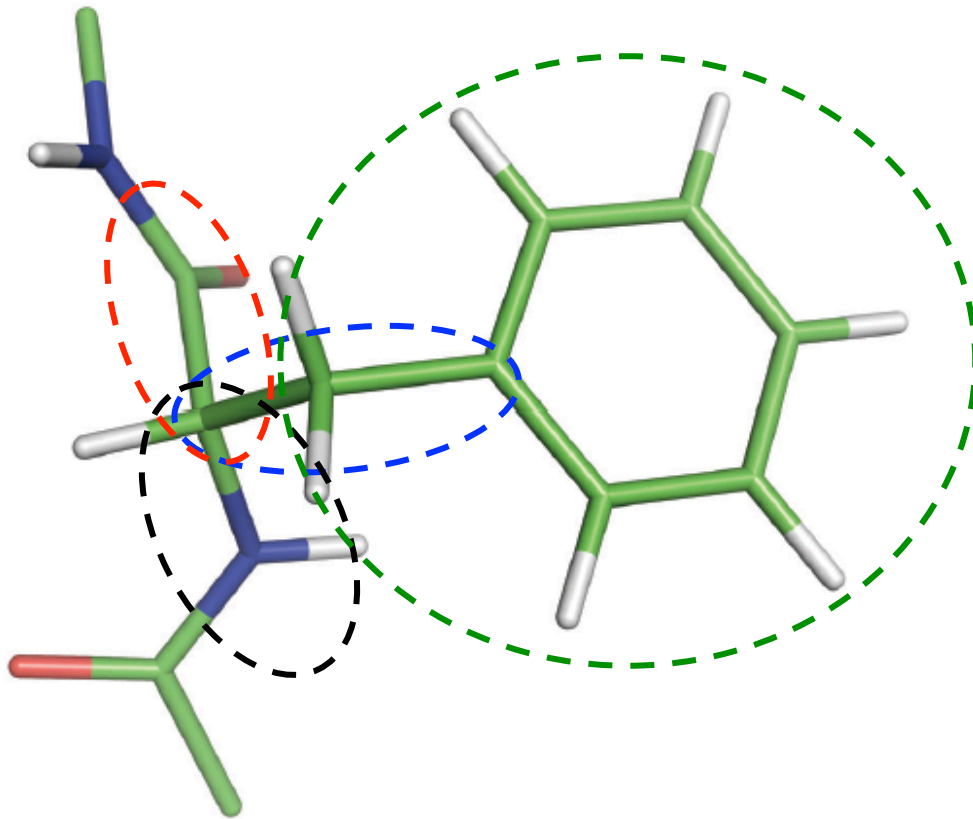
**Geometrical Simulation compared to Molecular Dynamics and Elastic Networks:**

C. David and D.J. Jacobs, *Characterizing protein motions from structure*,  
J. Mol. Graph Model, **31**:41-56 (2011)

# Geometrical Simulation (GS)

## An example of Rigid Cluster Decomposition (RCD)

molecular structure



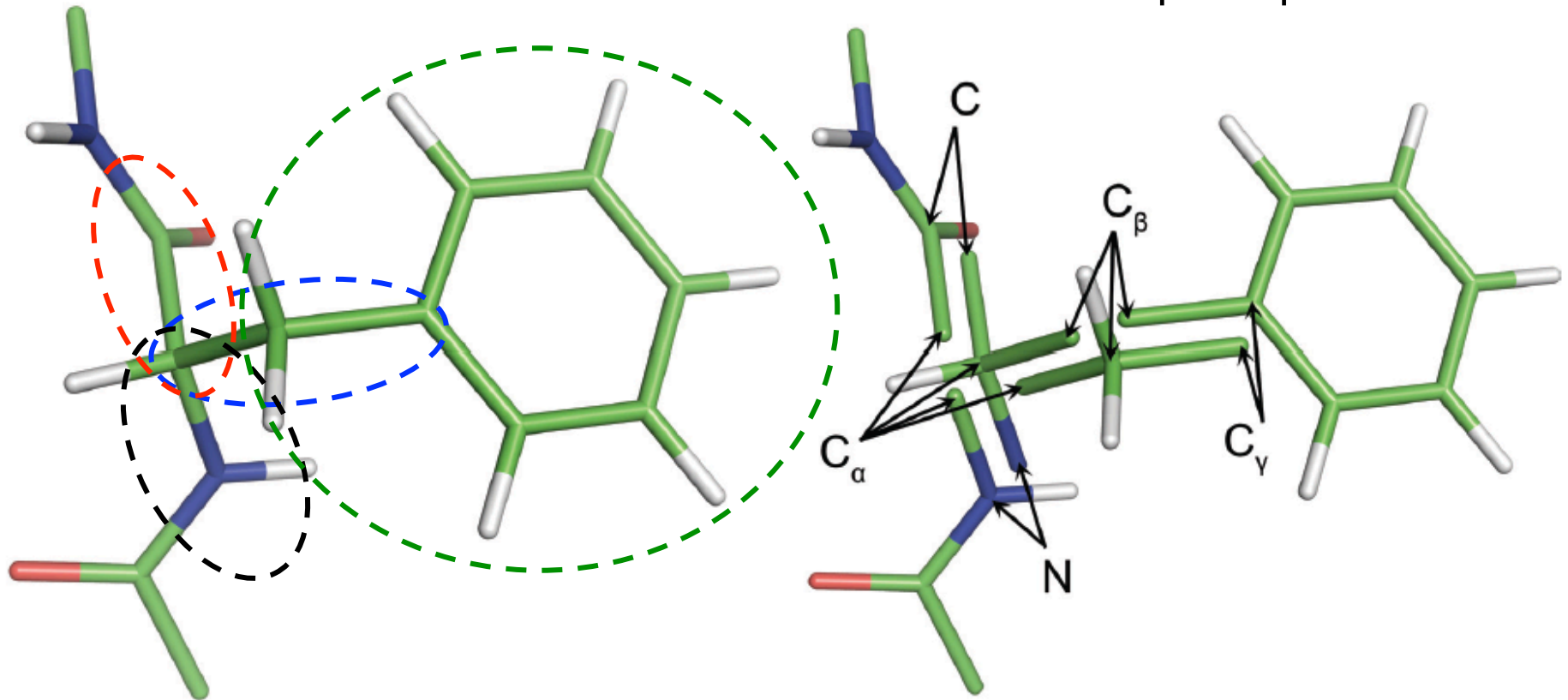
Identification of rigid clusters  
using graph rigidity analysis

1. D. Farrell, K. Speranskiy and M.F. Thorpe, *Proteins*, **78**:2908–2921 (2010)
2. Daniel W. Farrell, Ph.D. Thesis, *Generating stereochemically acceptable protein pathways*, Arizona State University (2010)

# Geometrical Simulation (GS)

## An example of Rigid Cluster Decomposition (RCD)

molecular structure → RCD creates multiple copies of atoms



1. D. Farrell, K. Speranskiy and M.F. Thorpe, *Proteins*, **78**:2908–2921 (2010)
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# Geometrical Simulation (GS)

## Virtual potentials maintain molecular structure

$$V_{POINT} = \frac{1}{2} A \sum_{\langle ab \rangle} |\vec{r}_a - \vec{r}_b|^2$$

Shared atoms  
merge together

$$V_{MAX} = \frac{1}{2} A \sum_{\langle ab \rangle} \begin{cases} (|\vec{r}_a - \vec{r}_b| - d_{ab}^{MAX})^2 & \text{for } |\vec{r}_a - \vec{r}_b| \geq d_{ab}^{MAX} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Prevent atoms from  
getting too far apart

$$V_{MIN} = \frac{1}{2} A \sum_{\langle ab \rangle} \begin{cases} (|\vec{r}_a - \vec{r}_b| - d_{ab}^{MIN})^2 & \text{for } |\vec{r}_a - \vec{r}_b| \leq d_{ab}^{MIN} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

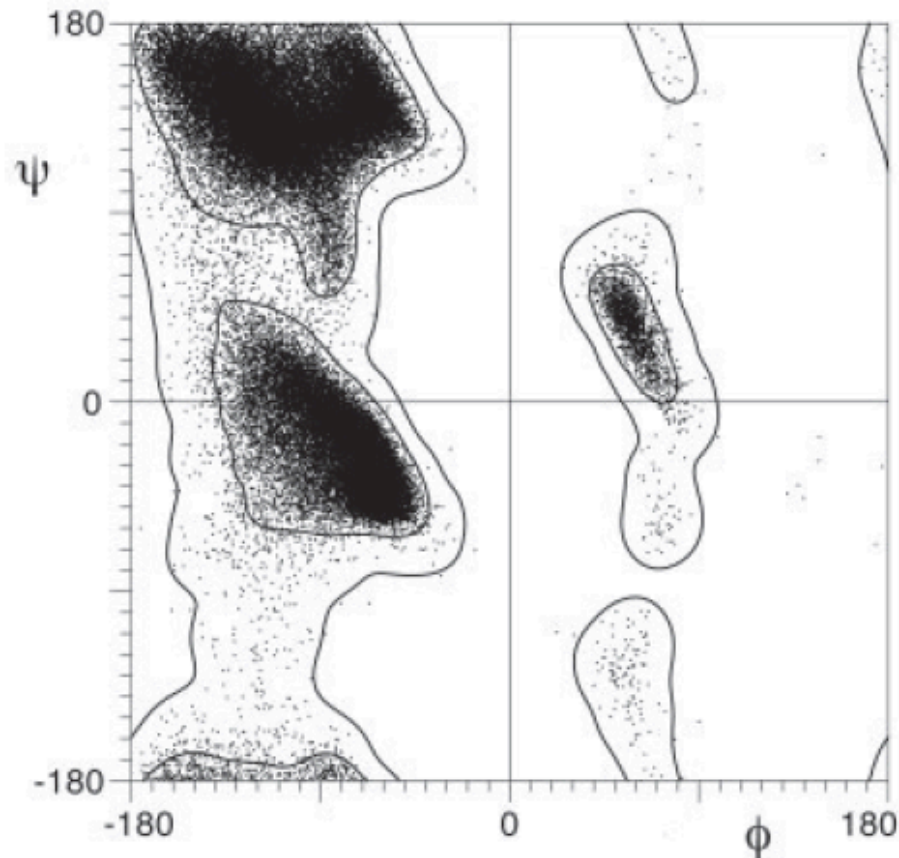
Prevent atoms from  
getting too close

**Relaxation Step: Energy minimization method brings constraint network to ZERO energy.**

1. D. Farrell, K. Speranskiy and M.F. Thorpe, *Proteins*, **78**:2908–2921 (2010)
2. Daniel W. Farrell, Ph.D. Thesis, *Generating stereochemically acceptable protein pathways*, Arizona State University (2010)

# Geometrical Simulation (GS)

Distance inequalities maintain canonical local structural characteristics



## Example

Ramachandran plots as well as rotamers are reproduced using distance inequality potentials.

GS parameters were optimized\*\* to keep local geometries that are sampled statistically equivalent to structures from X-ray crystals and that generated by MD simulation.

See: B.K. Ho, A. Thomas and R. Brasseur, *Protein Science* 12:2508-2522 (2003)

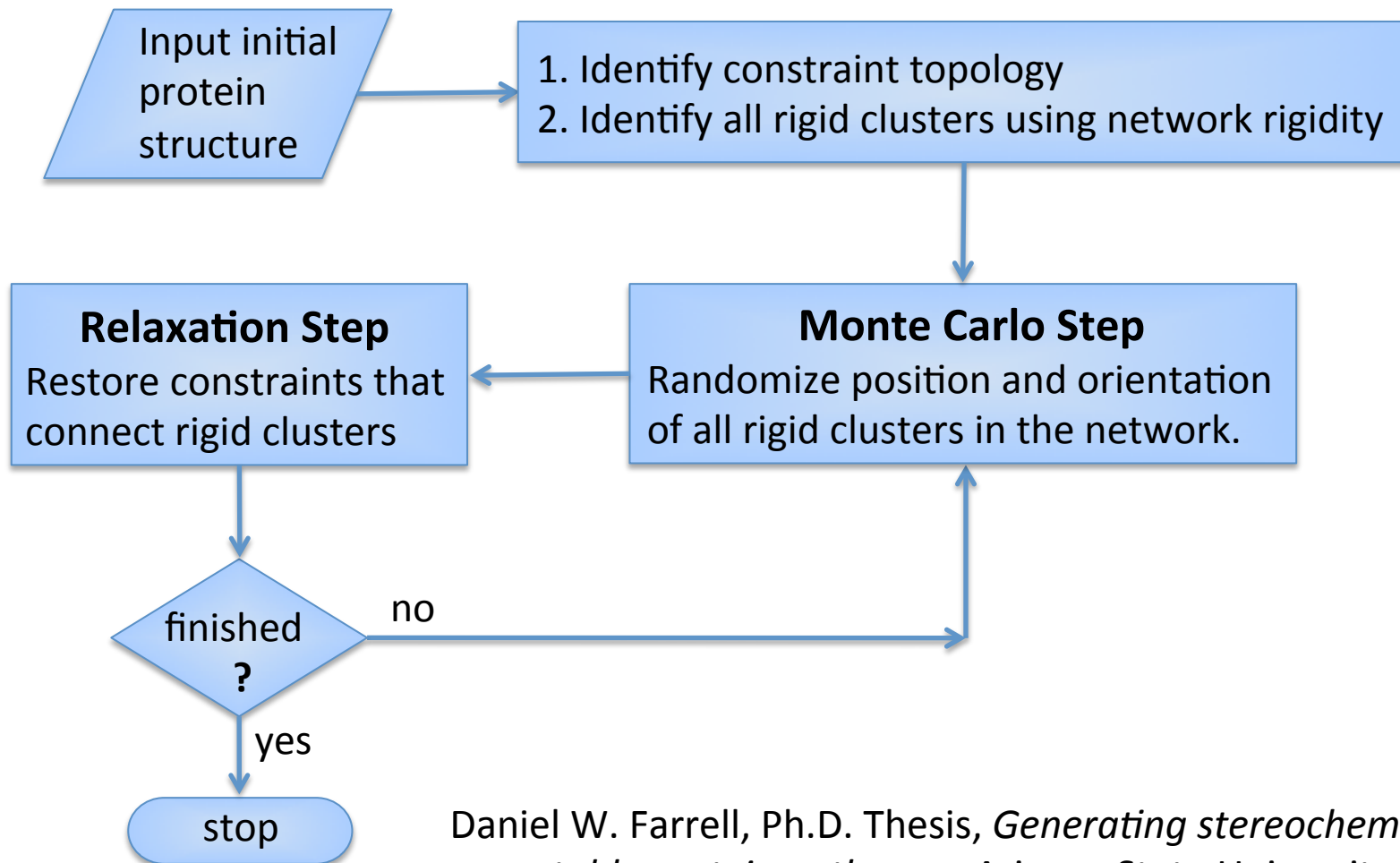
Figure from: S.C. Lovell, J. M. Word, J. S. Richardson and D. C. Richardson.  
*The penultimate rotamer library*. *Proteins* 40:389-408 (2000)

\*\* Daniel W. Farrell, Ph.D. Thesis, *Generating stereochemically acceptable protein pathways*, Arizona State University (2010)

# Geometrical Simulation (GS)

## Exploration of conformations for fixed constraint topology

### High Level Overview



Daniel W. Farrell, Ph.D. Thesis, *Generating stereochemically acceptable protein pathways*, Arizona State University (2010)