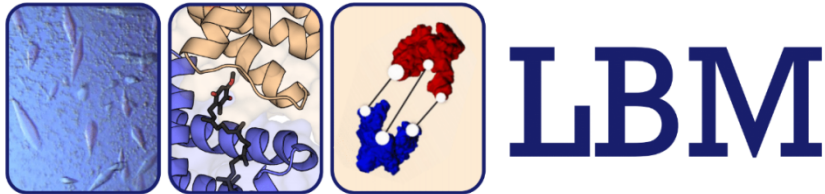


# Assessment of FM and FM/TBM modeling in CASP13

*Luciano A. Abriata and Matteo Dal Peraro*

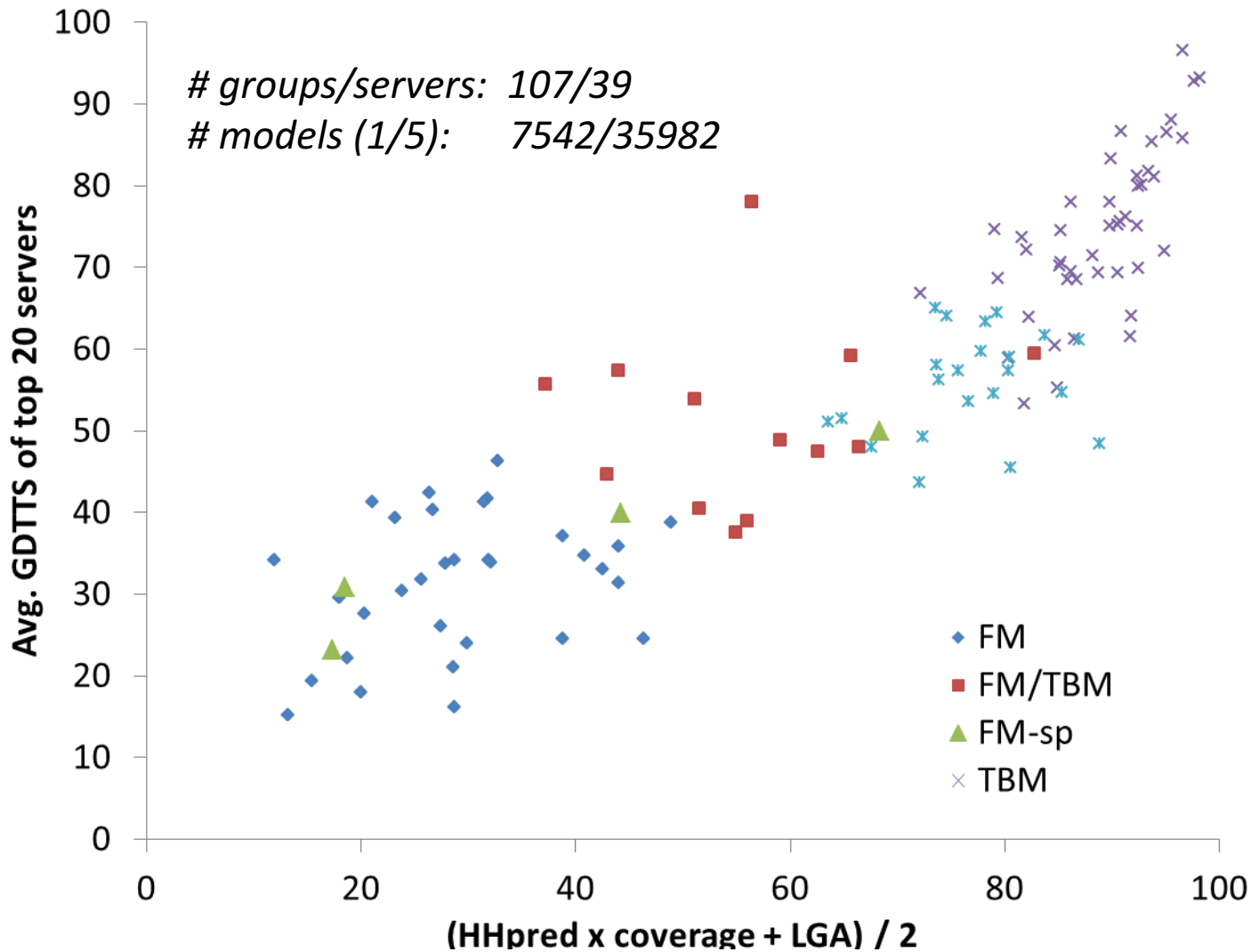
Laboratory for Biomolecular Modeling – LBM  
Institute of Bioengineering, School of Life Sciences  
Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne - EPFL



# Acknowledgements

- **CASP13 (and CASP12)** organizers
  - Andriy, John, Torsten, Krzysztof, Maya and **Anna!**
  - *Prediction Center*
  - Previous assessors and all predictors
- Great and constructive experience
- Exciting to witness 2 consecutive huge transformations in protein structure prediction

# CASP13 tertiary structure track: 32 FM & 13 FM/TBM (+ 4 FM-special)



*Details on classification by Lisa Kinch & Andriy Kryshchak*

# **Part 1: EU-specific evaluations**

# Strategy for EU-specific evaluations

Target EUs, models and tables from the *Prediction Center*



*Clustering at 3 Å*

~half of the models for initial inspection, represented by top GDTTS models



*JS + HTML*

Web App for interactive navigation of model clusters: 6 main scores, others available too



*Visual Inspection*

Designation of best cluster(s) for each EU



*Further evaluation of models  
in best cluster, if worth*

Model(s) designated best for each EU

# CASP12-like web app: facilitates assessment, and is easily opened to the public

<http://lucianoabriata.altervista.org/papersdata/casp12fmassessment/casp12-fm-fmtbm-assessment-3Aclusters.html>

Select a target:  #

In these plots correlating different metrics to GDTTs, each dot represents a set of models clustered at 3Å RMSD. Click on dots to see a representative model in 3D and compare it to the target.

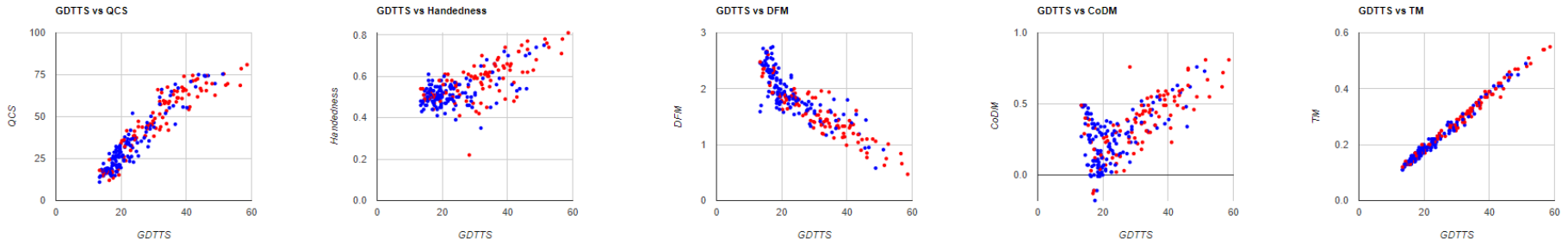


Table summarizing top models

PyMol script to compare filtered models to target

Interactive 3D visualization of Target synchronized to model

Interactive 3D visualization of Model synchronized to target

Rank by GDTTs	GDTTs	Metric	Representative Model (hover to see all)
1	58.63	GDTTs	<a href="#">T0960TS322_1-D2 (1)</a> ...
2	56.84	GDTTs	<a href="#">T0960TS457_4-D2</a> ...
3	56.55	GDTTs	<a href="#">T0960TS055_5-D2</a> ...
4	52.68	GDTTs	<a href="#">T0960TS366_5-D2 (1)</a> ...
5	52.08	GDTTs	<a href="#">T0960TS086_3-D2</a> ...
6	51.49	QCS	<a href="#">T0960TS322_3-D2</a> ...
7	51.19	QCS	<a href="#">T0960TS324_1-D2 (1)</a> ...
19	43.75	QCS	<a href="#">T0960TS145_3-D2</a> ...
9	48.81	DFM	<a href="#">T0960TS261_2-D2</a> ...
6	51.49	CoDM	<a href="#">T0960TS322_3-D2</a> ...
85	28.27	CoDM	<a href="#">T0960TS068_5-D2 (1)</a> ...
13	46.13	CoDM	<a href="#">T0960TS192_2-D2 (1)</a> ...
14	46.13	Handed	<a href="#">T0960TS322_5-D2</a> ...

[\[Download script\]](#)

Run from PyMOL's File menu or by lanching PyMOL with:  
pymol nameofscript.pml

```
load T0960-D2.pdb
select T0960-D2
spectrum selection=sele

load T0960TS322_1-D2
select T0960TS322_1-D2
spectrum selection=sele
align T0960TS322_1-D2,T0960-D2

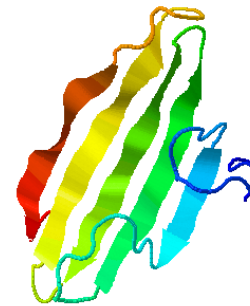
load T0960TS457_4-D2
select T0960TS457_4-D2
spectrum selection=sele
align T0960TS457_4-D2,T0960-D2

load T0960TS055_5-D2
select T0960TS055_5-D2
spectrum selection=sele
align T0960TS055_5-D2,T0960-D2

load T0960TS366_5-D2
```



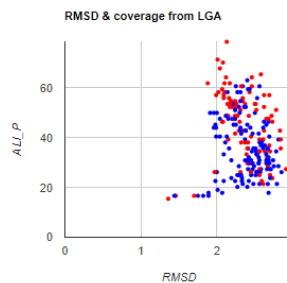
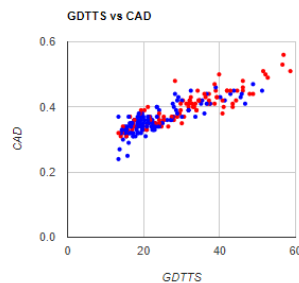
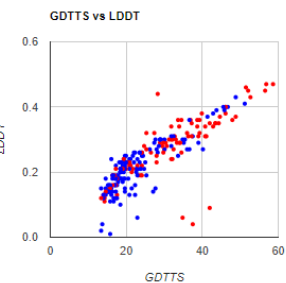
JSmol



JSmol

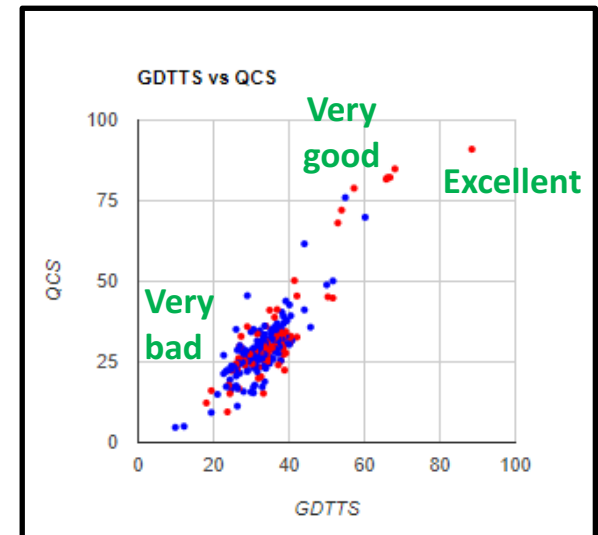
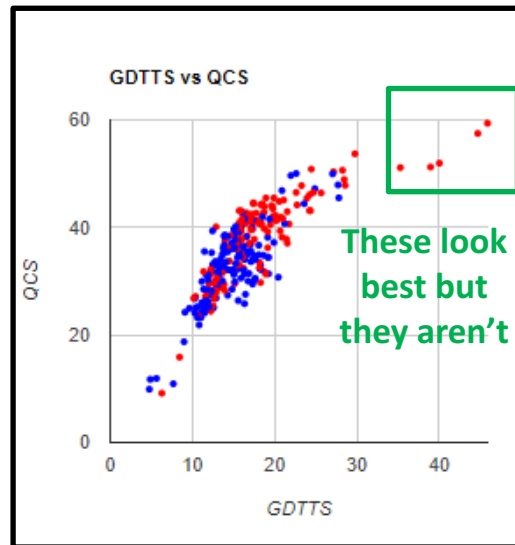
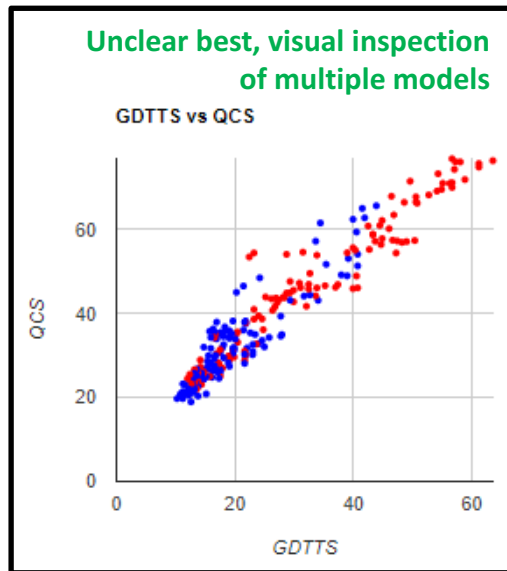
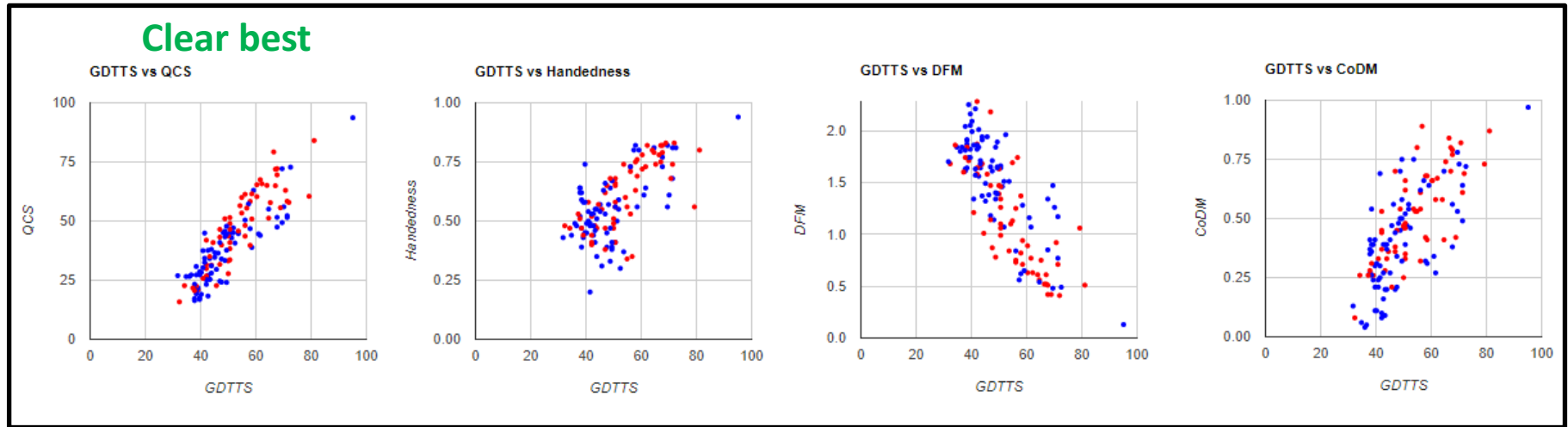
(1) Contains at least one model submitted as #1

## Extended Information



**NEW: more scores, show servers in distinct color, and built auxiliary web apps also for models clustered at 1 Å and for analysis with no splitting**

# Examples of correlation plots

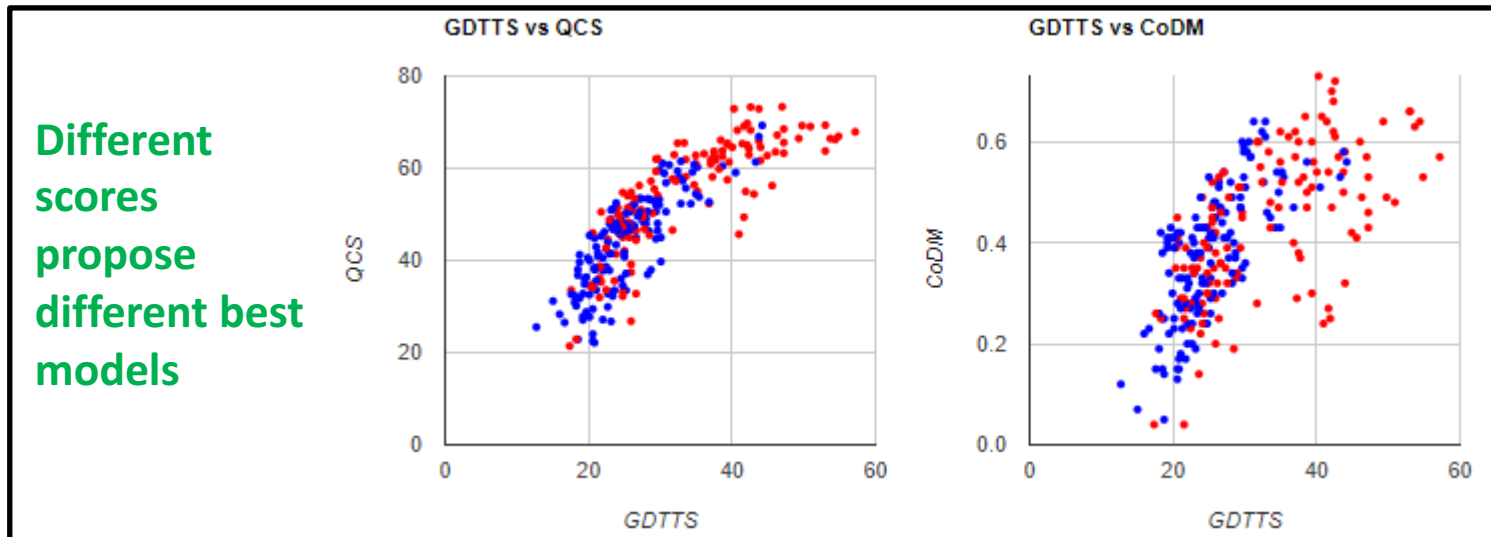
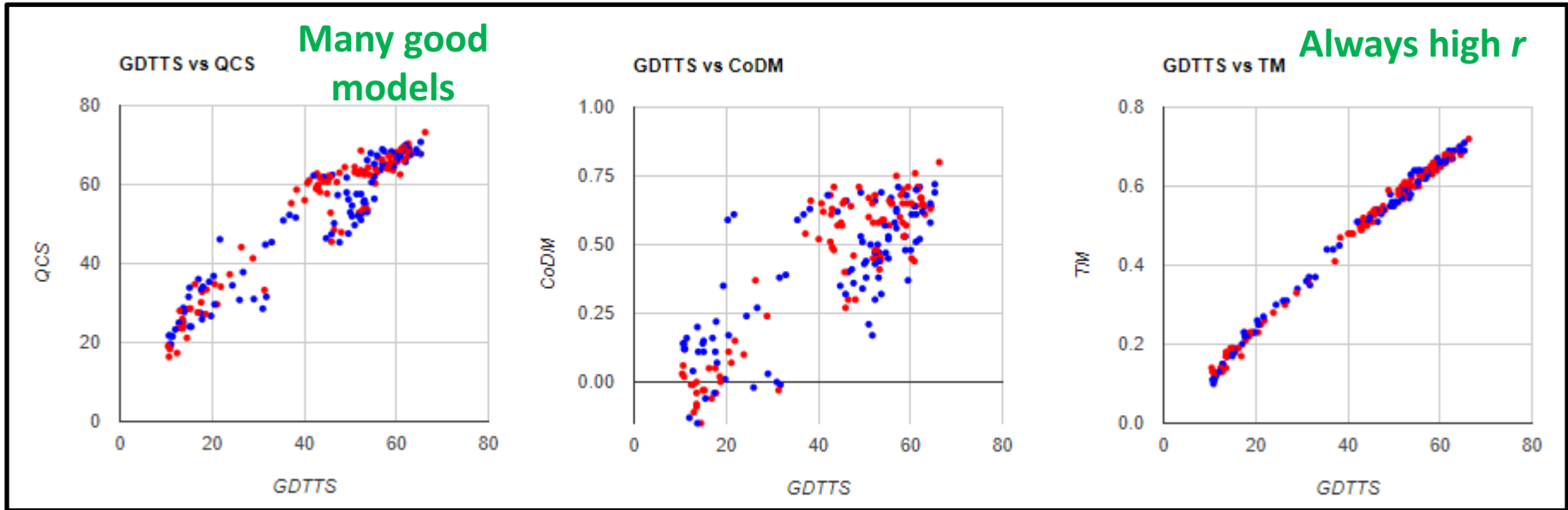


→ GDTTS & QCS turn out to be the two most informative scores, in our experience

\* For QCS see Cong et al *Bioinformatics* 2011

Part 1: EU-specific evaluations

# Examples of correlation plots



GDTS & QCS indeed grouped separately in analysis by Olechnovic et al. *Bioinformatics* 2018



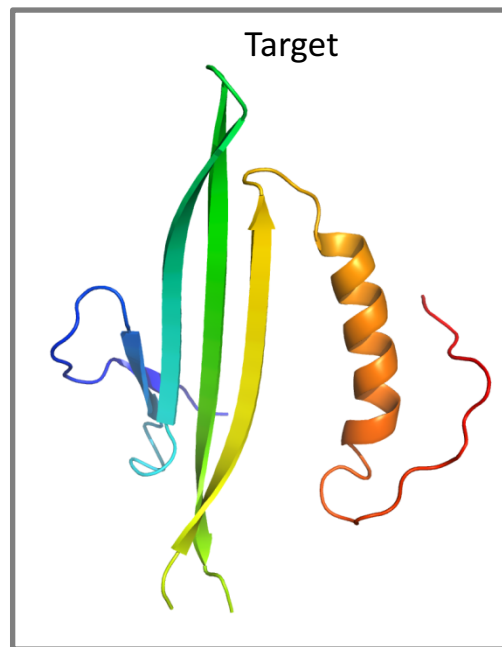
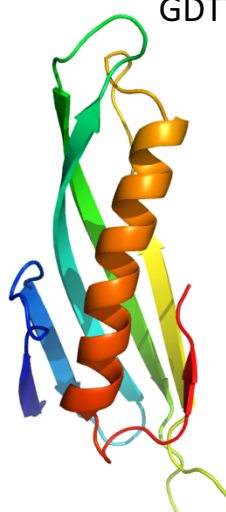
# Importance of guiding visual assessment by multiple scores

**T0991-D1  
(FM)**

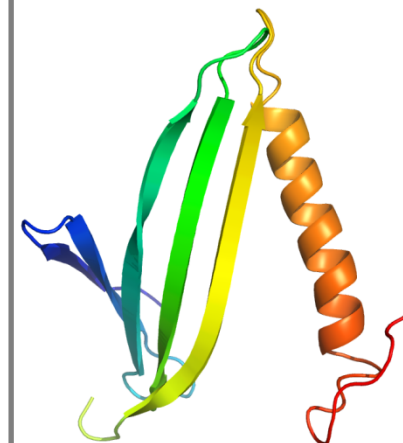
Top GDTTS



Top QCS, second GDTTS

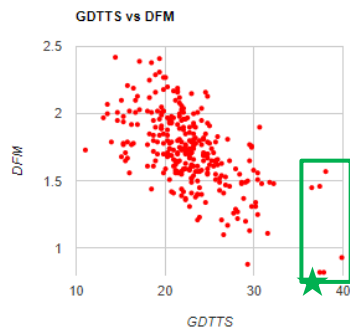
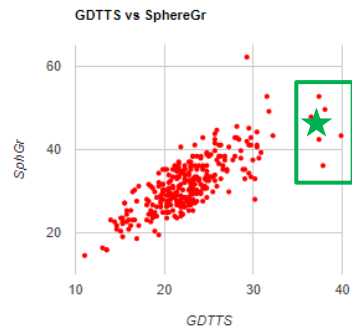
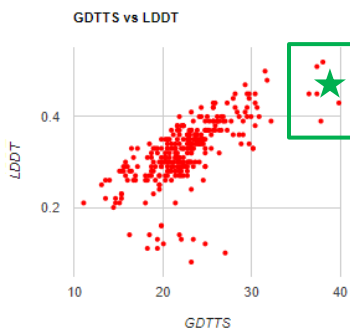
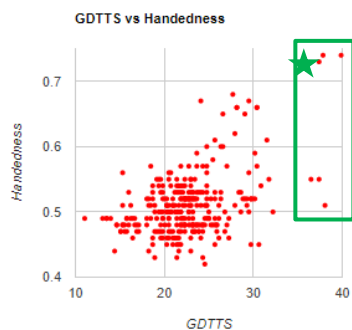
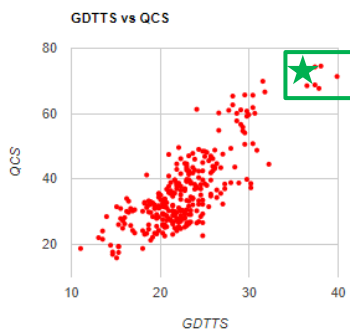


TS366\_3  
(top by DFM,  
designated best)



**HHscore 13.98**  
**LGA 73.5**  
**Neff/L HHblits 0.01**

**GDTTS 37.4**  
**QCS 68.8**  
**DFM 0.82**

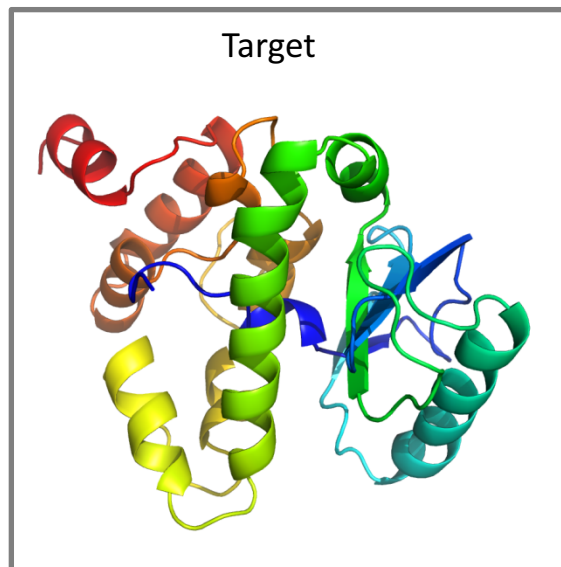


**Part 1: EU-specific evaluations**

# Several very hard targets with folds captured

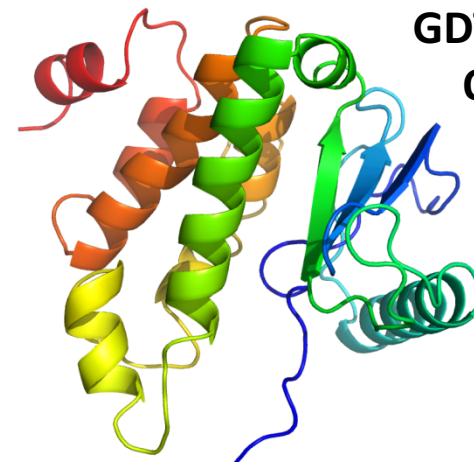
**T0990-D3**  
**(FM)**

**HHscore 2.76**  
**LGA 23.8**  
**Neff/L HHblits 0.2**



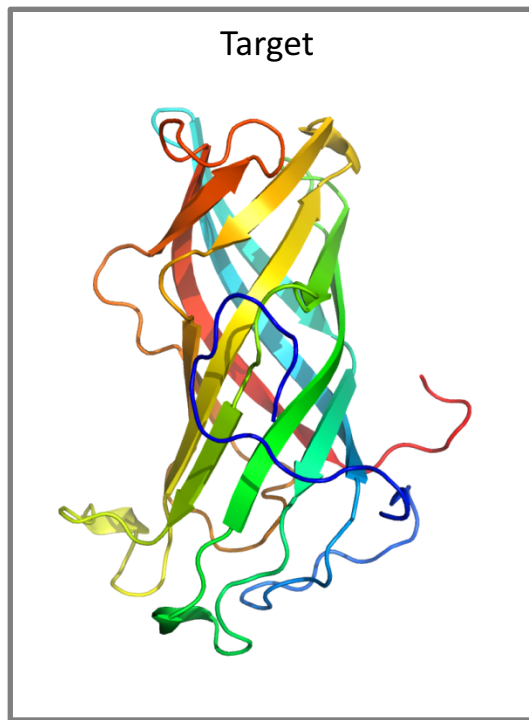
TS043\_1  
(designated best)

**GDTTS 50**  
**QCS 80**

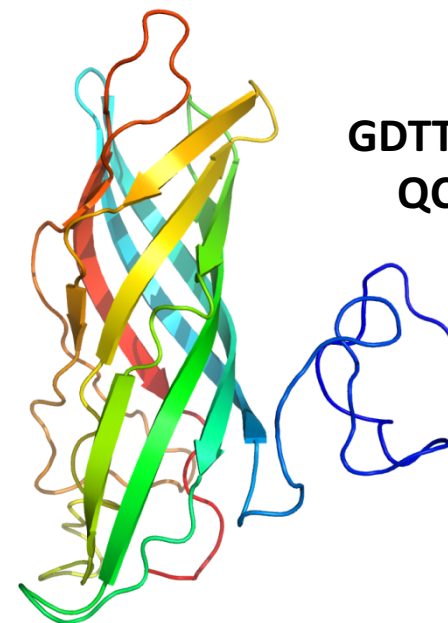


**T1010-D1**  
**(FM)**

**HHscore 0.69**  
**LGA 39.5**  
**Neff/L HHblits 0.07**



**GDTTS 50**  
**QCS 80**

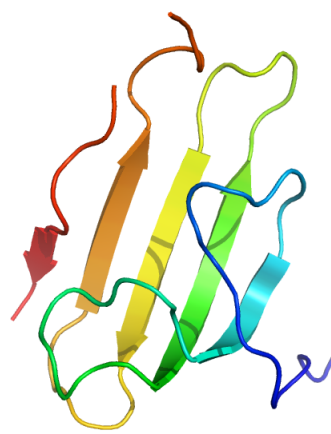
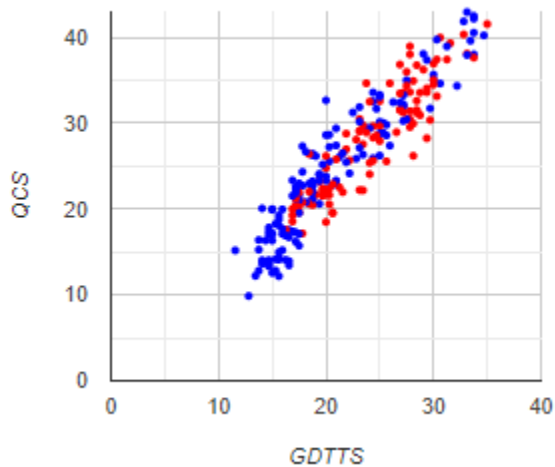


TS117\_1

# Only two very difficult EUs with no best model

## T0981-D2 (FM)

GDTTS vs QCS

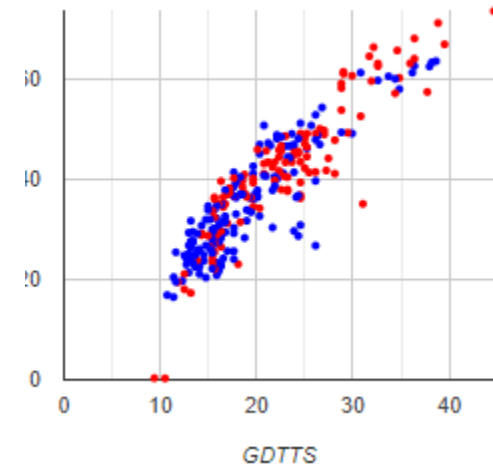


All scores low; here model of highest GDTTS looks reasonable but is missing the last strand which is separated in sequence. And models that are complete are too bad...

**HHscore 14 LGA 63.8 Neff/L HHblits 0.07**

## T0989-D2 (FM)

GDTTS vs QCS



Long extended N-terminus and C-terminal beta hairpin, none is well positioned; but the central beta sheet is quite good in some models.

**HHscore 4.9 LGA 55.1 Neff/L HHblits 0.01**

# **Impact of progress in CASP13:**

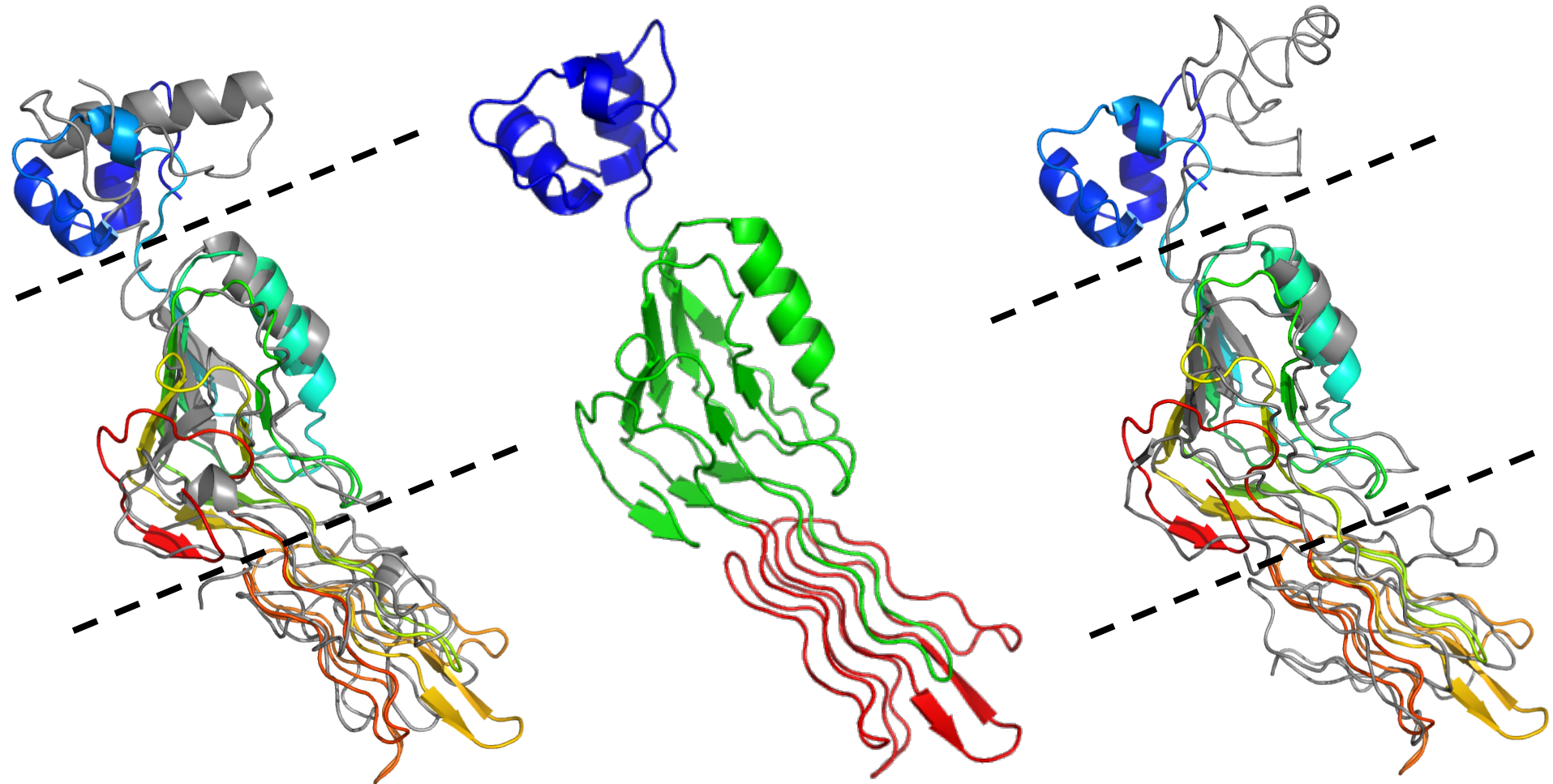
**Examples of “FM-special” targets for which full models were very good**

# Example: T0953s2 (D1: FM/TBM, D2 & D3: FM)

TS117\_4 (Top by TM, 2.53 Å  
RMSD over 61% of sequence)

Target by EU (D1, D2, D3)

TS224\_3 (Top by GDTTS)

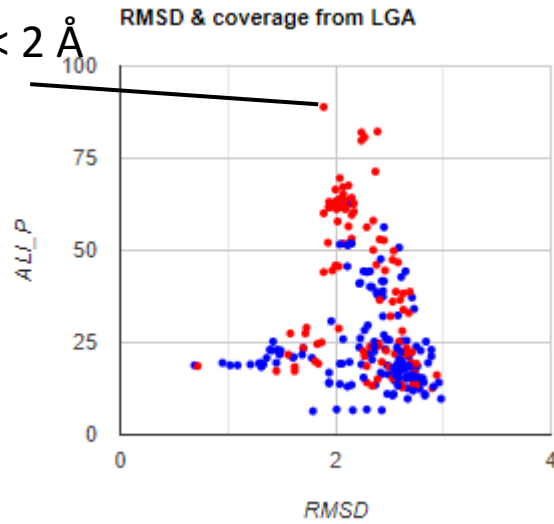
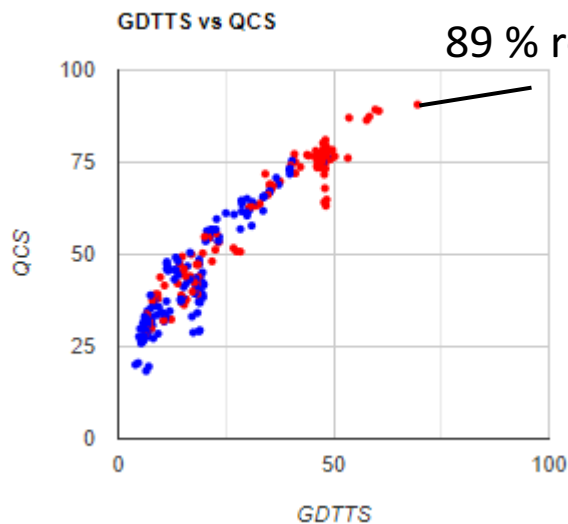
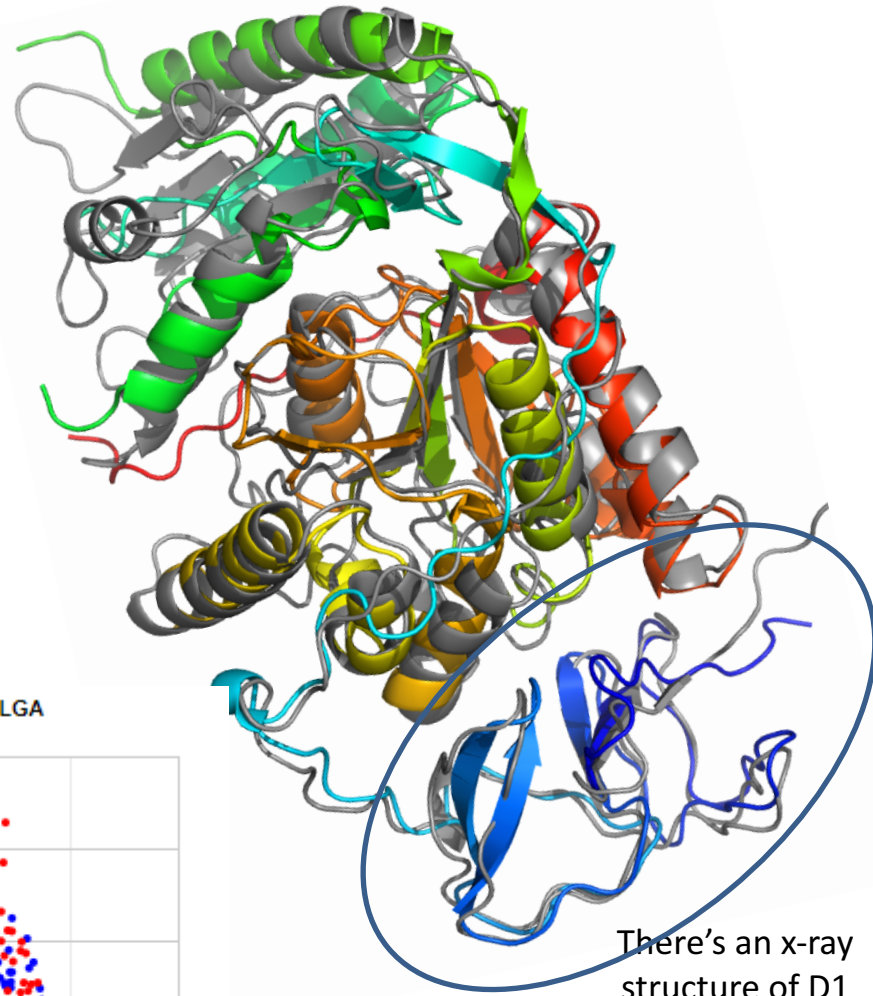


# Example: T1000 (D1: TBM not eval., D2:FM)

TS043\_1 (Top by GDTTS, scores quite good by all metrics)

**GDTTS 69.5**  
**QCS 90.7**

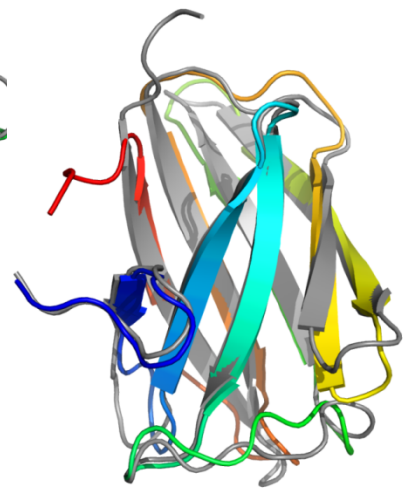
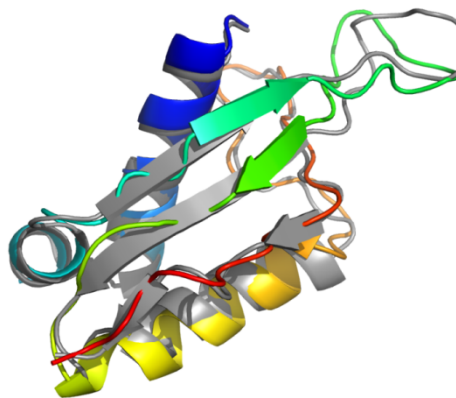
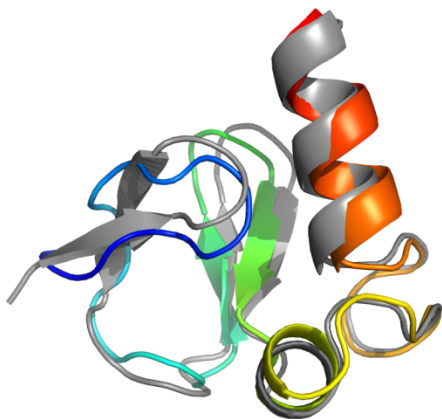
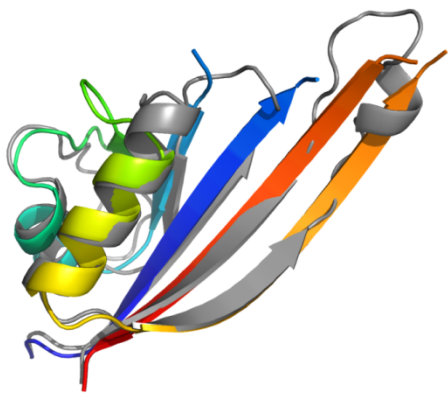
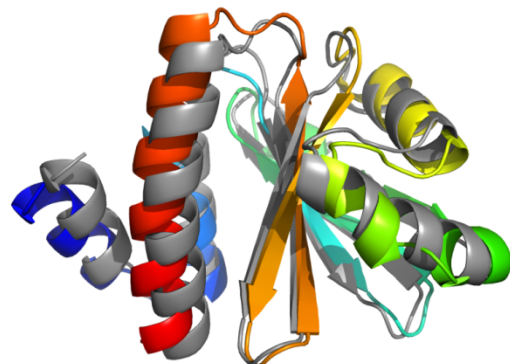
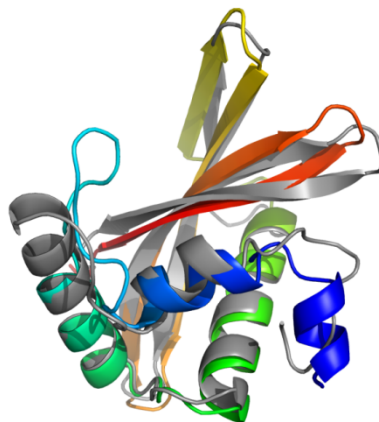
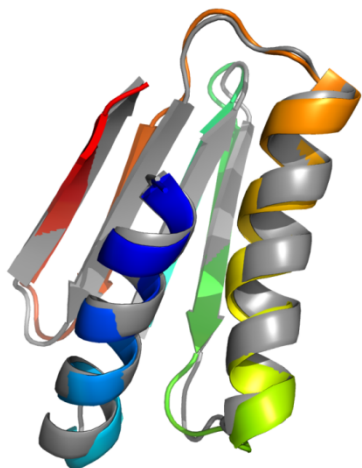
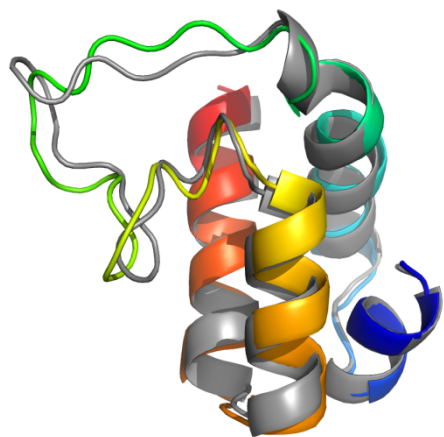
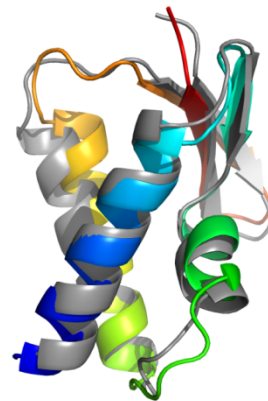
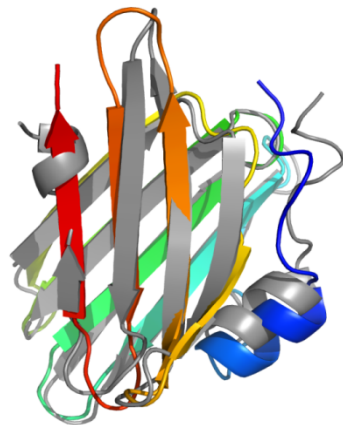
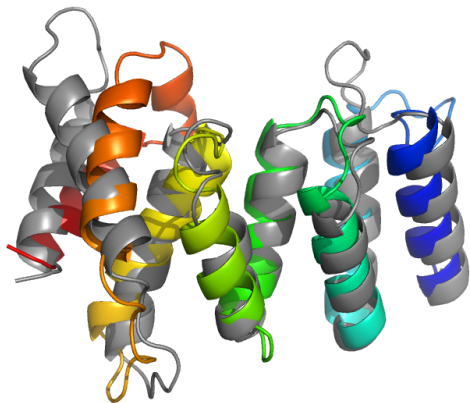
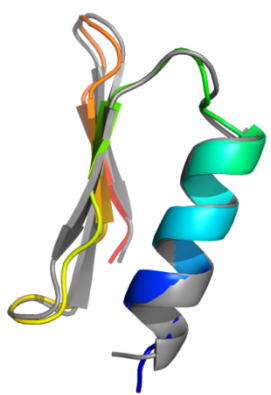
Parts missing in exp target structure



There's an x-ray structure of D1

**Notable progress in CASP13:**

**12 hard EUs that reached  
near atomistic resolution by many groups**



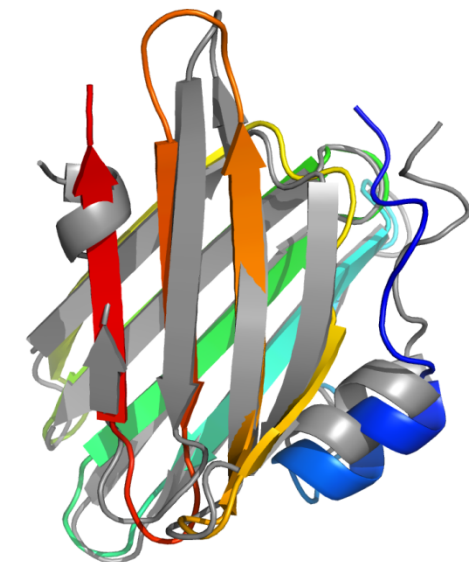


**T0968s2-D1  
(FM)**

TS043\_1-D1  
(12 models)

2.33 Å over full  
sequence (115  
residues)

HHscore 19  
LGA 50  
Neff/L HHblits 1.23



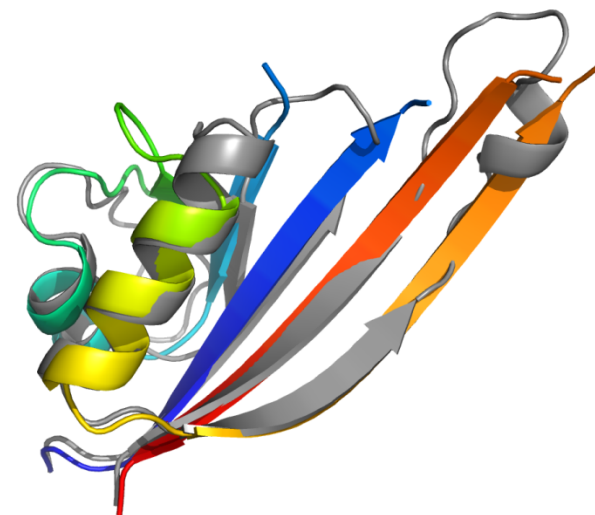
GDTTS 80 & QCS 90

**T0970-D1  
(FM/TBM)**

TS043\_2-D1 (5  
models plus 4  
from TS347)

2.78 Å over 89%  
of sequence (total  
96 residues)

HHscore 17  
LGA 67  
Neff/L HHblits 1.61



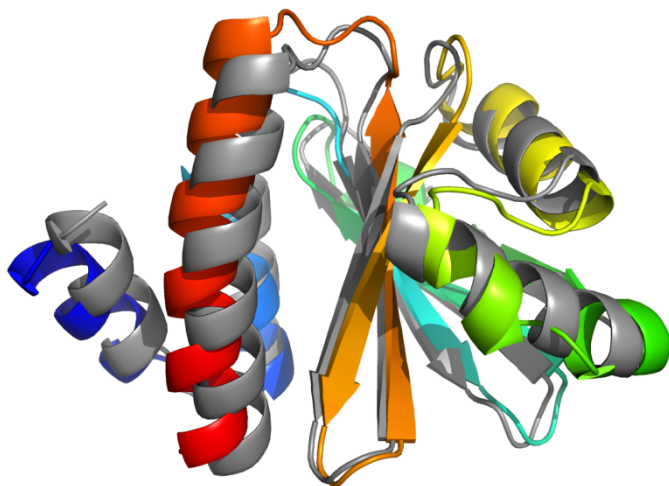
GDTTS 80 & QCS 90

**T1001-D1 (FM)**

TS222\_4-D1  
(106 models)

2.32 Å over full  
sequence (139  
residues)

HHscore 11  
LGA 55  
Neff/L HHblits 0.04



GDTTS 74 & QCS 93

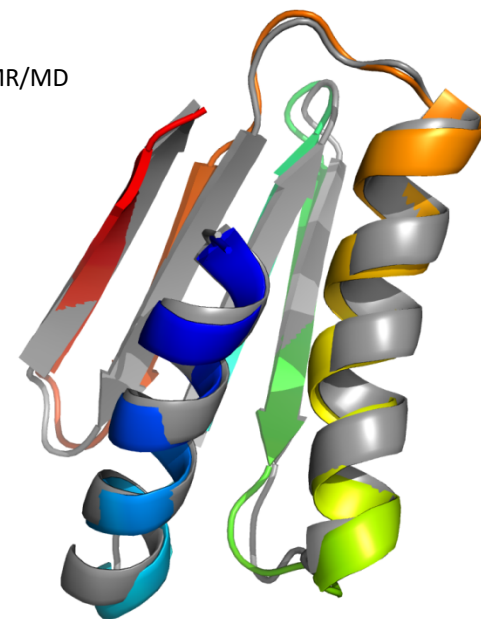
**T1008-D1  
(FM/TBM)**

TS281\_1-D1  
(126 models)

1.14 Å over full  
sequence (77  
residues)

HHscore 61  
LGA 74  
Neff/L HHblits 0.01  
GDTTS 91  
QCS 95

NMR/MD



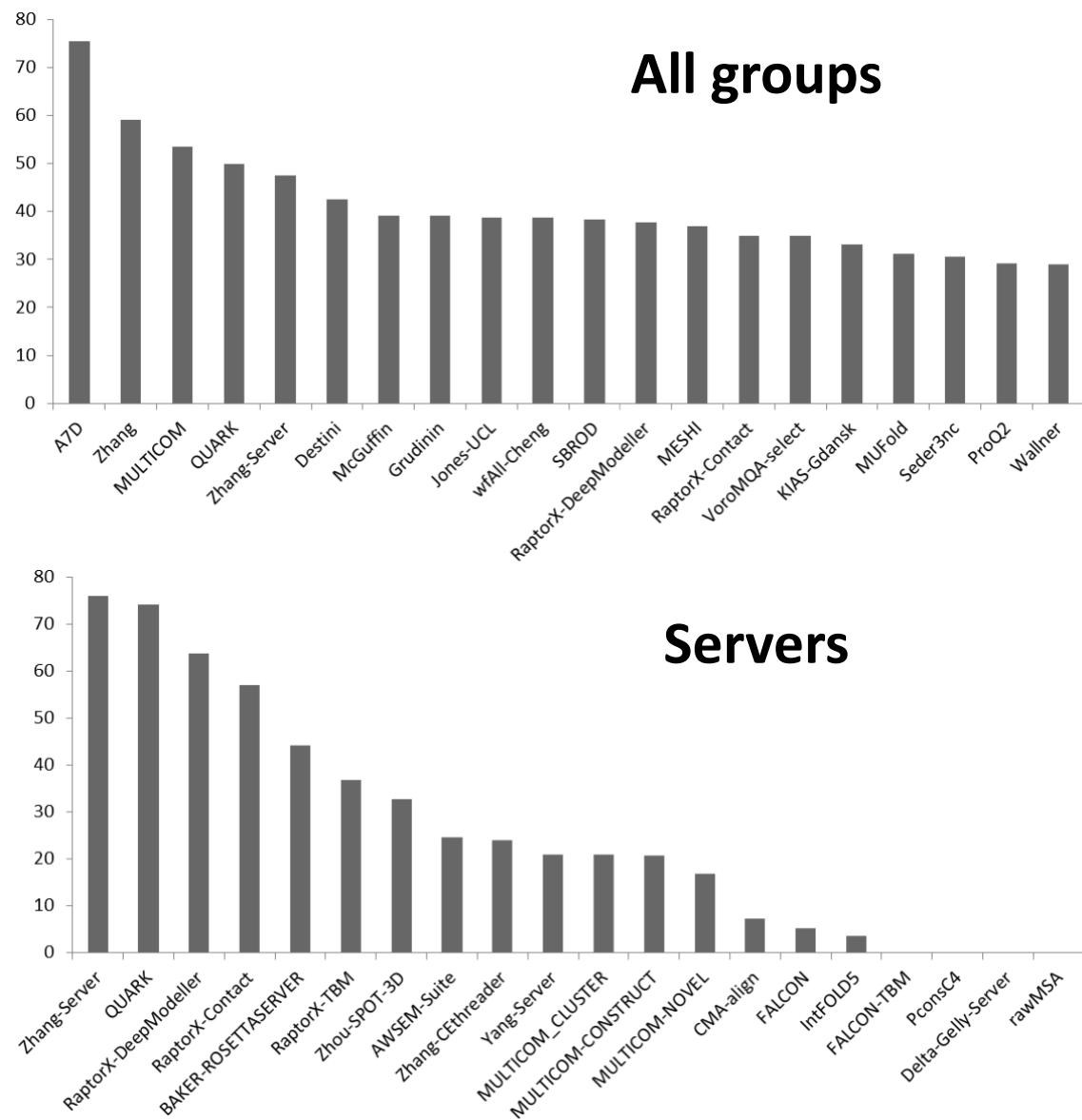
**Part 1: EU-specific evaluations**

# **Part 2: Rankings**

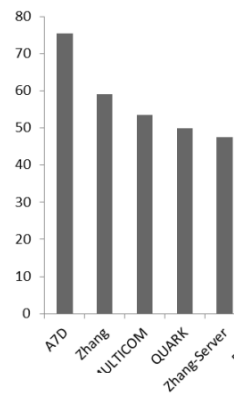
# Ranking based on Z-scores of GDTTS & QCS

Ranking = **sum Z-scores** combined from **GDTTS & QCS** (as these are by far the two most informative scores to guide visual assessment) on all **models submitted as #1**, for **TBM/FM, FM and FM\_sp** target EUs, and considering **sum of Z-score > -2**.

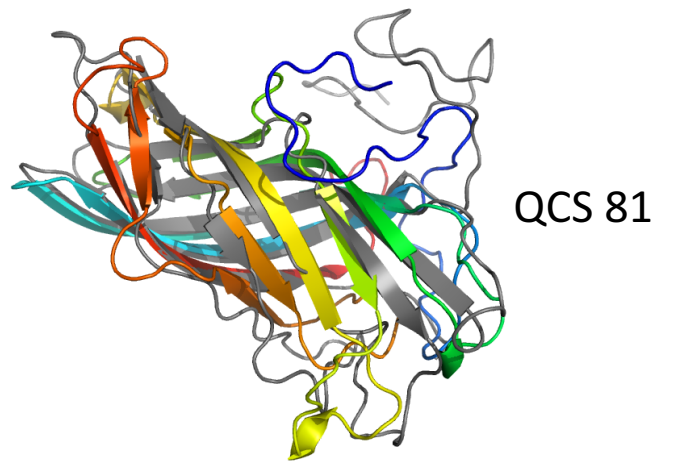
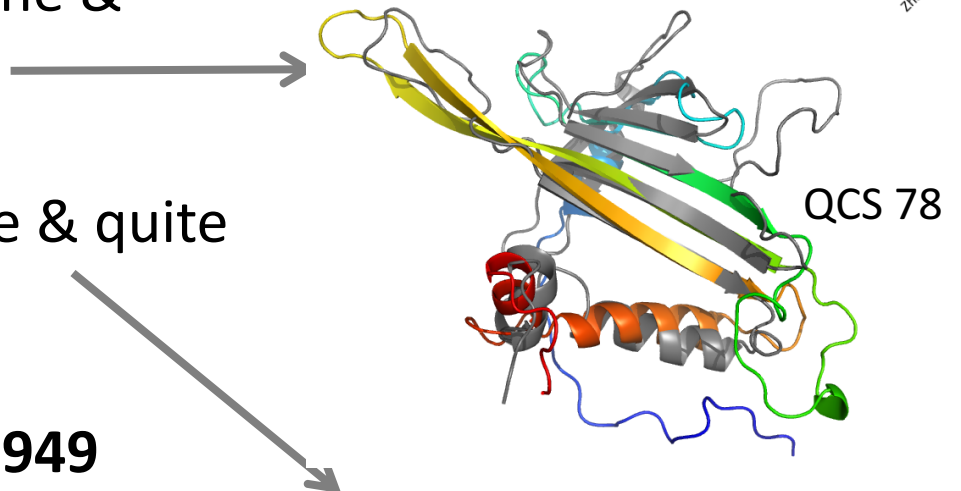
**Ranking is very robust:** scores with GDTTS only or QCS only return the same top groups.



**Notable highlights:** groups not in top 5 who provided the only best models for some targets (upon visual evaluation)

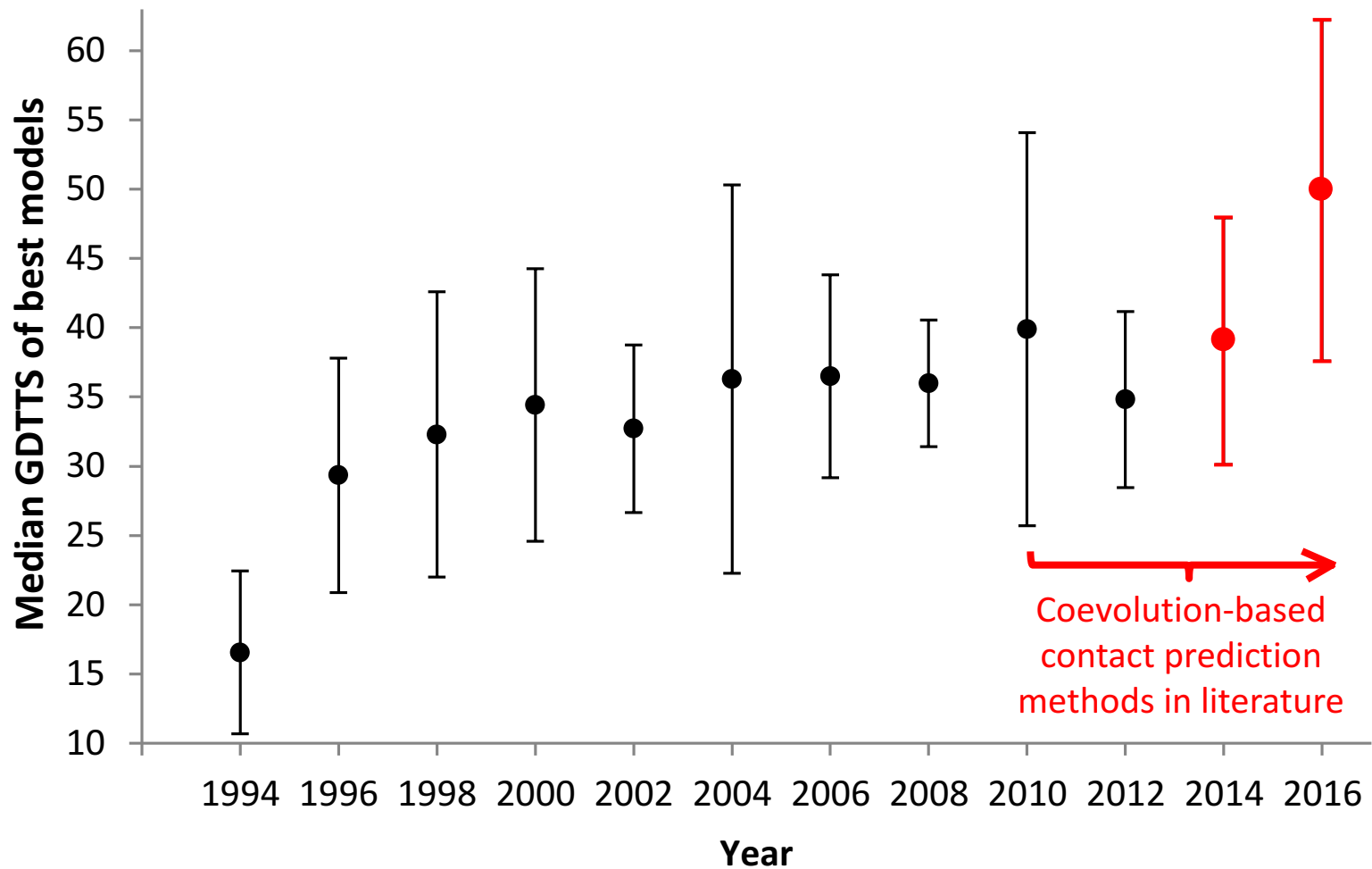


- **ZHOU-SPOT for T0998-D1:** alone & quite better than runners-up
- **Jones-UCL for T1010-D1:** alone & quite better than runners-up
- **RaptorX-DeepModeller for T0949**
- **KIAS-Gdansk for T0957s1-D1**
- **BAKER for T0975-D1**
- **Venclovas for T0991-D1**



# **Part 3: Progress**

# Progress in Free Modeling (FM/TBM not considered)

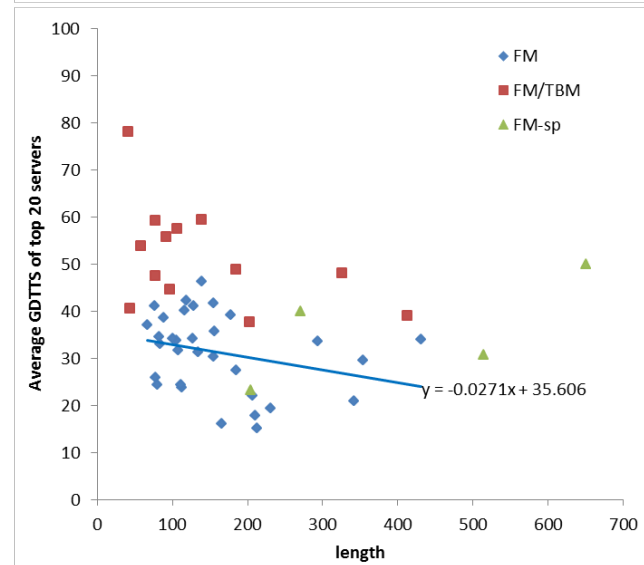
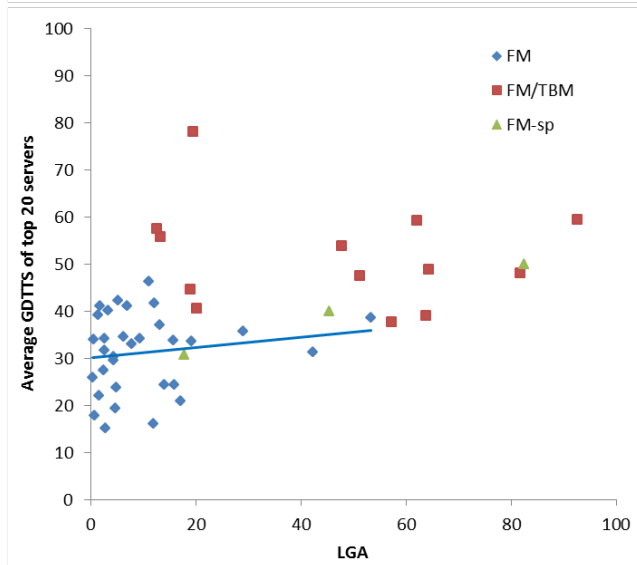
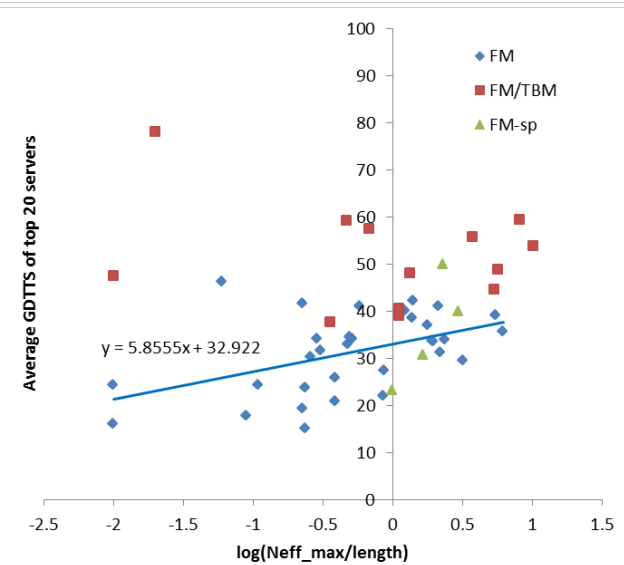
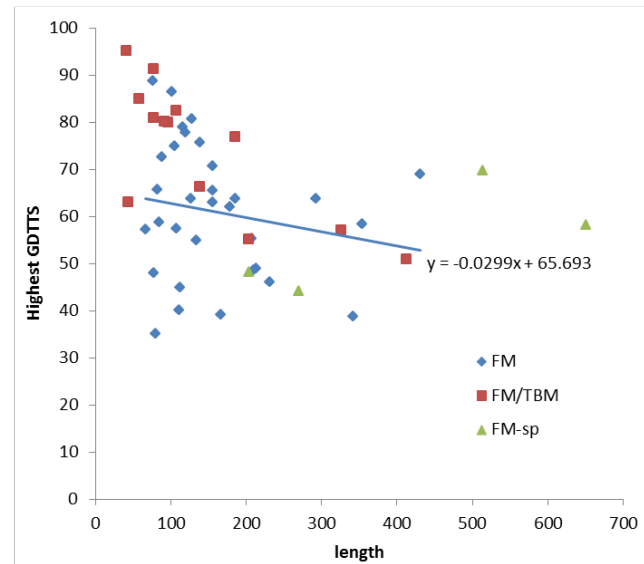
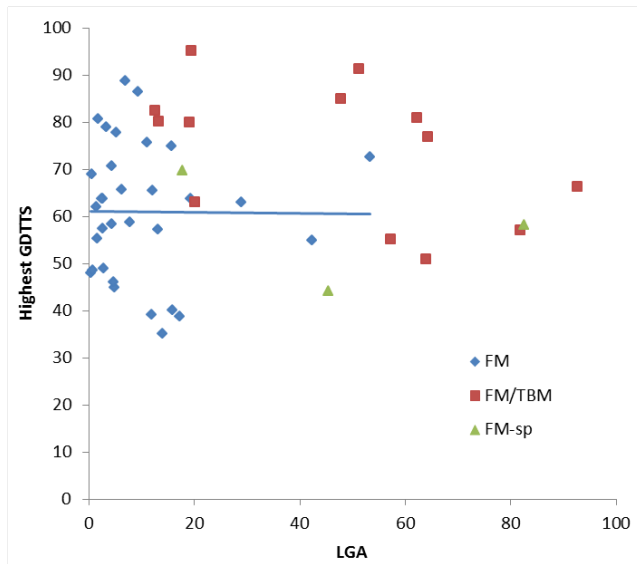
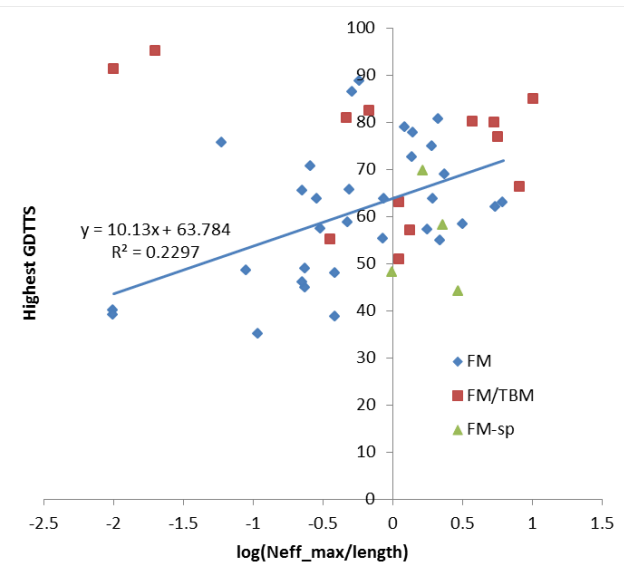


## Notes:

- Exact definition of FM EUs might vary from year to year
- CASP12 and CASP13 EUs of roughly of similar difficulty

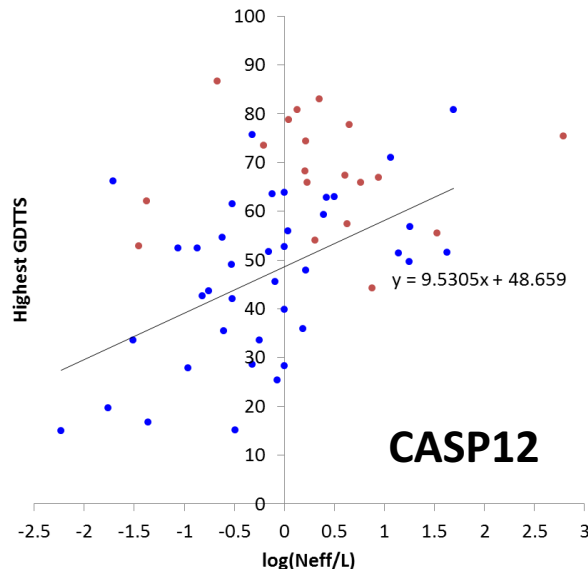
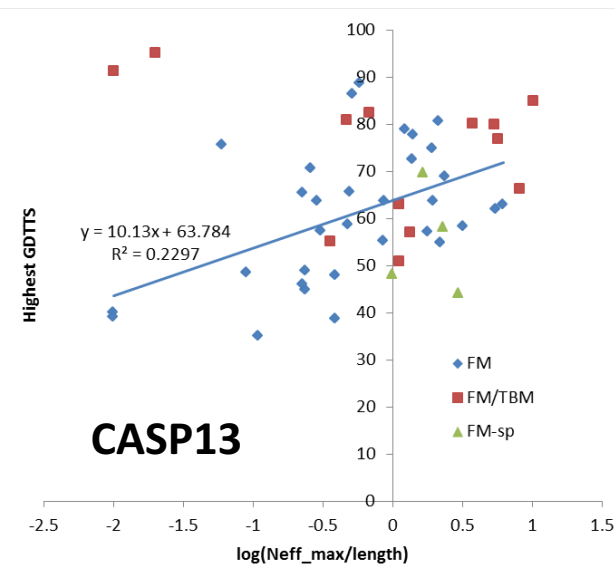
# Possible sources of improvement:

alignment depth, existing templates, domain size?



# Possible sources of improvement:

**alignment depth**, existing templates, domain size?



- From CASP12 to CASP13 significant improvement in performance
- Do some predictors have access to special, close metagenomics databases ?



# Key conclusions from CASP13 on the tertiary structure prediction track

- Yet another significant improvement in prediction quality, mainly due to the rise of **machine learning methods** combined with **coevolution-based contact prediction**
- Reaching **nearly atomistic resolution** of the backbone for some very difficult EUs (< 150 residues) by **many groups!**
- Predictions are so good that **splitting EUs is in some cases not necessary**
- Alignment depth allows for better top models than in CASP12, but now seem to need lower numbers of sequences
- Templates of poor sequence similarity might be better identified than in CASP12
- Remaining limitations: **domain size** and **alignment depth**