



# Cell Communication III: Steroid Hormones

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10/12/10





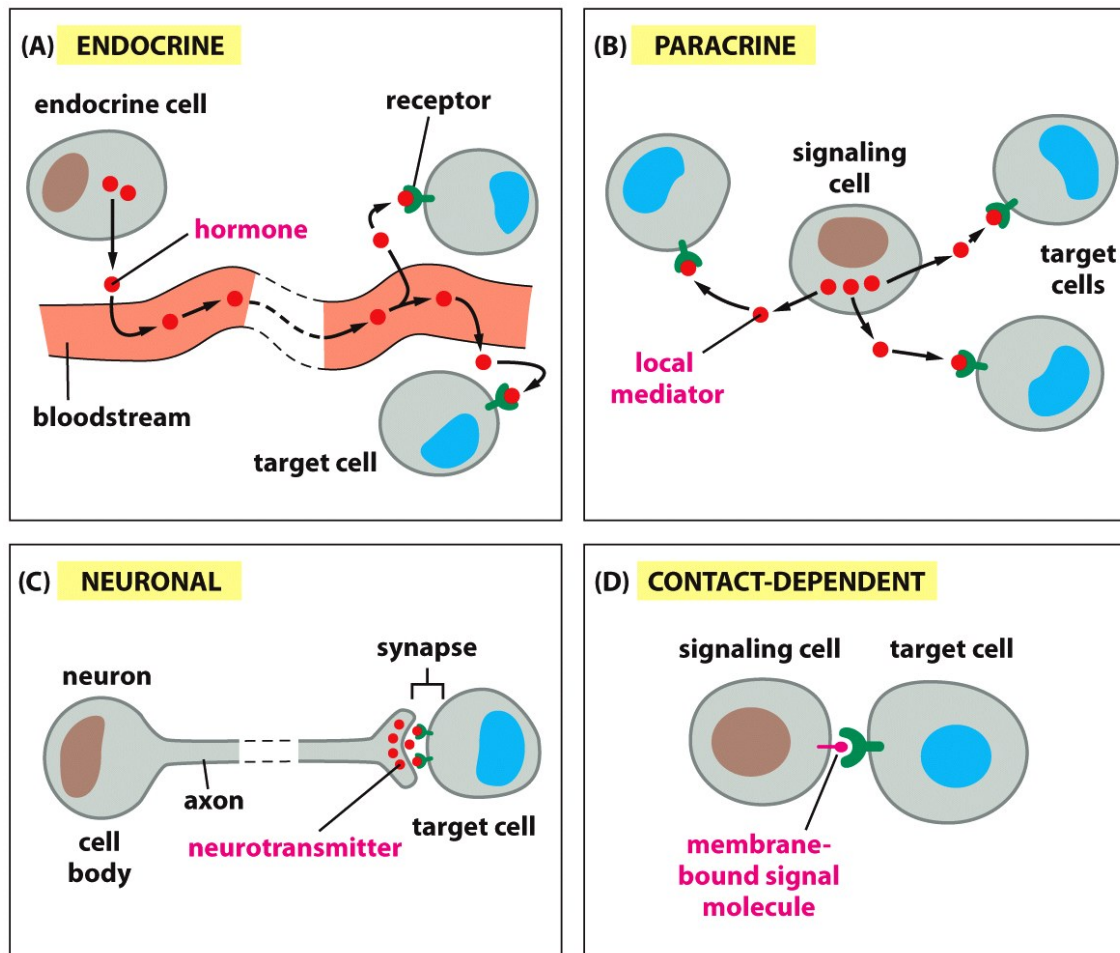
# Cell Communication Review

- Small Molecules
  - Example molecule?
  - What are its chemical characteristics?
- Peptides and Proteins
  - Example hormone?
  - Characteristics of this peptide hormone?




# Cell Communication Review II

- How do these signals get around?

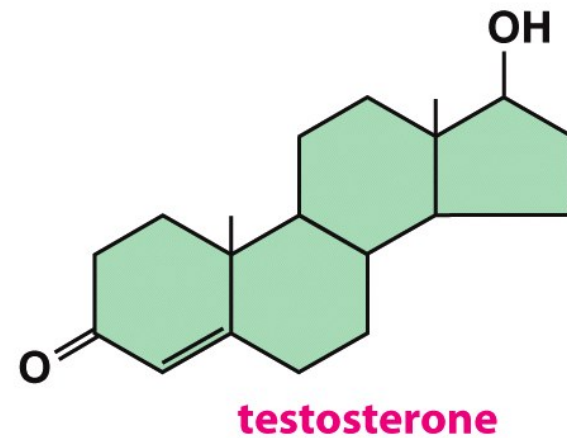
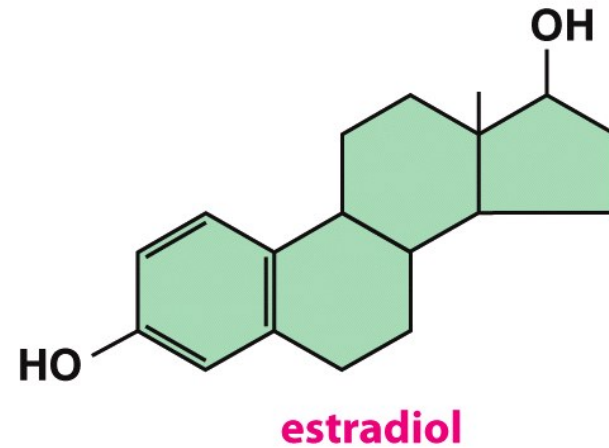
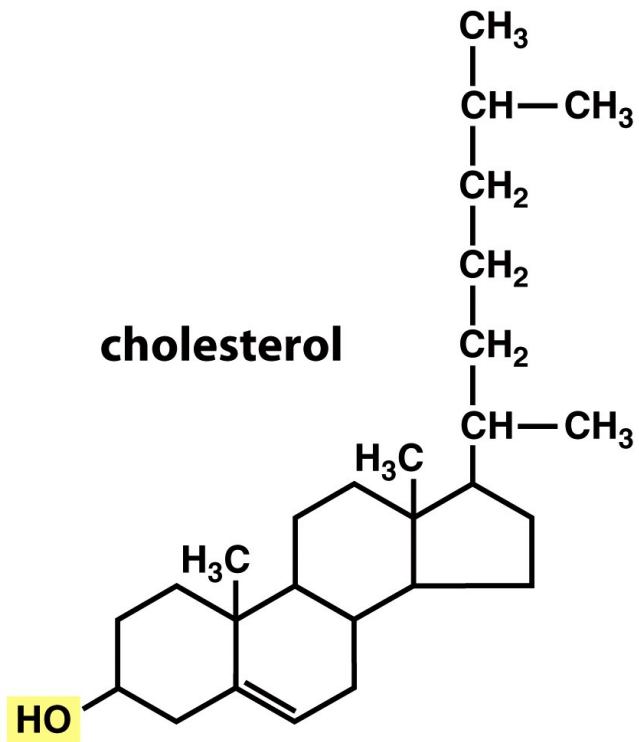




# Steroid Hormones

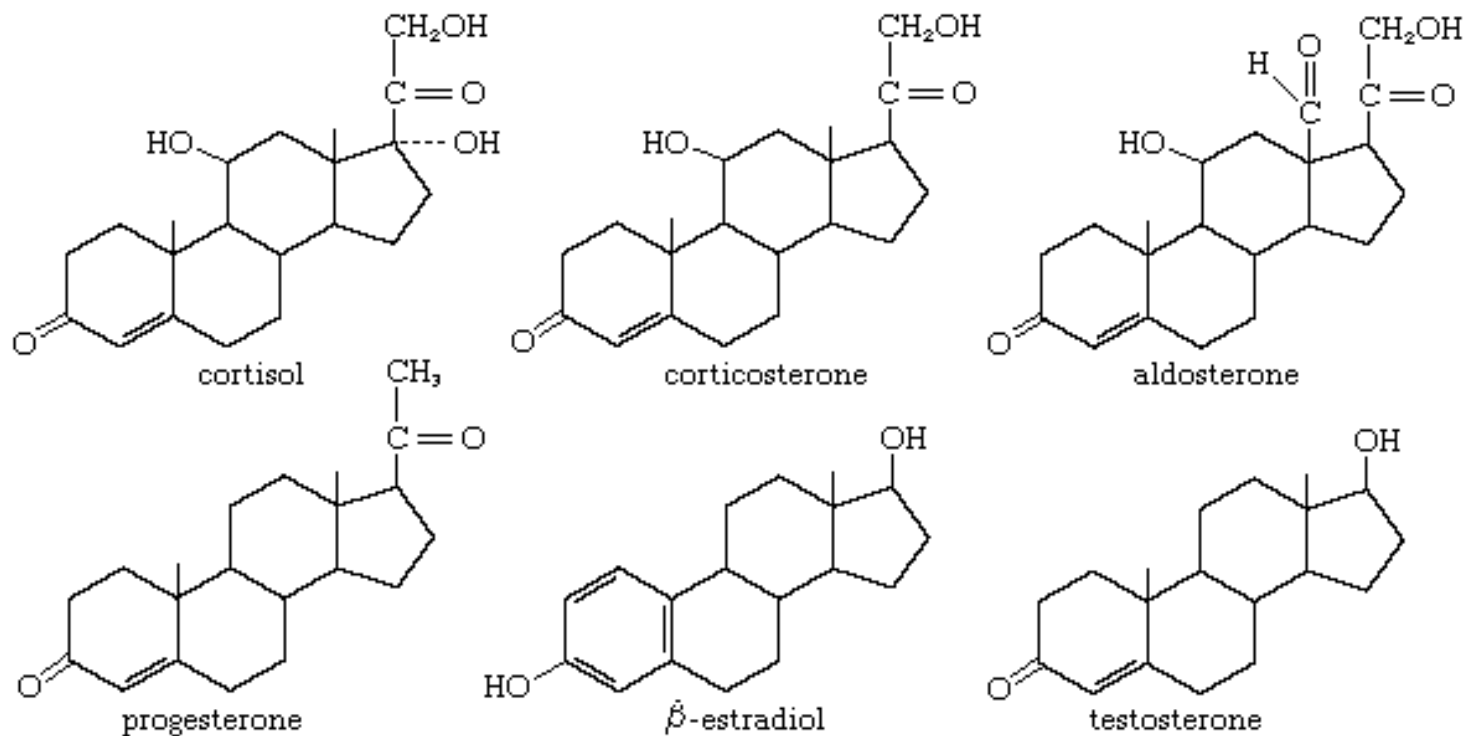
- Different class of hormone
    - Structure
    - Transport
    - Receptors
    - Function
  
  - Estrogen will be the model steroid hormone for this lecture
  - Contrast to Insulin and NO
- 

# Derived from Cholesterol



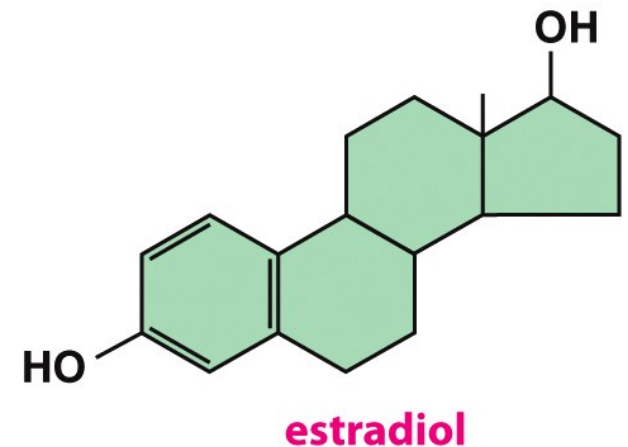
# Steroid Hormones

- Generally:
  - Considered small molecules
  - Very similar chemical structures
  - Fundamentally

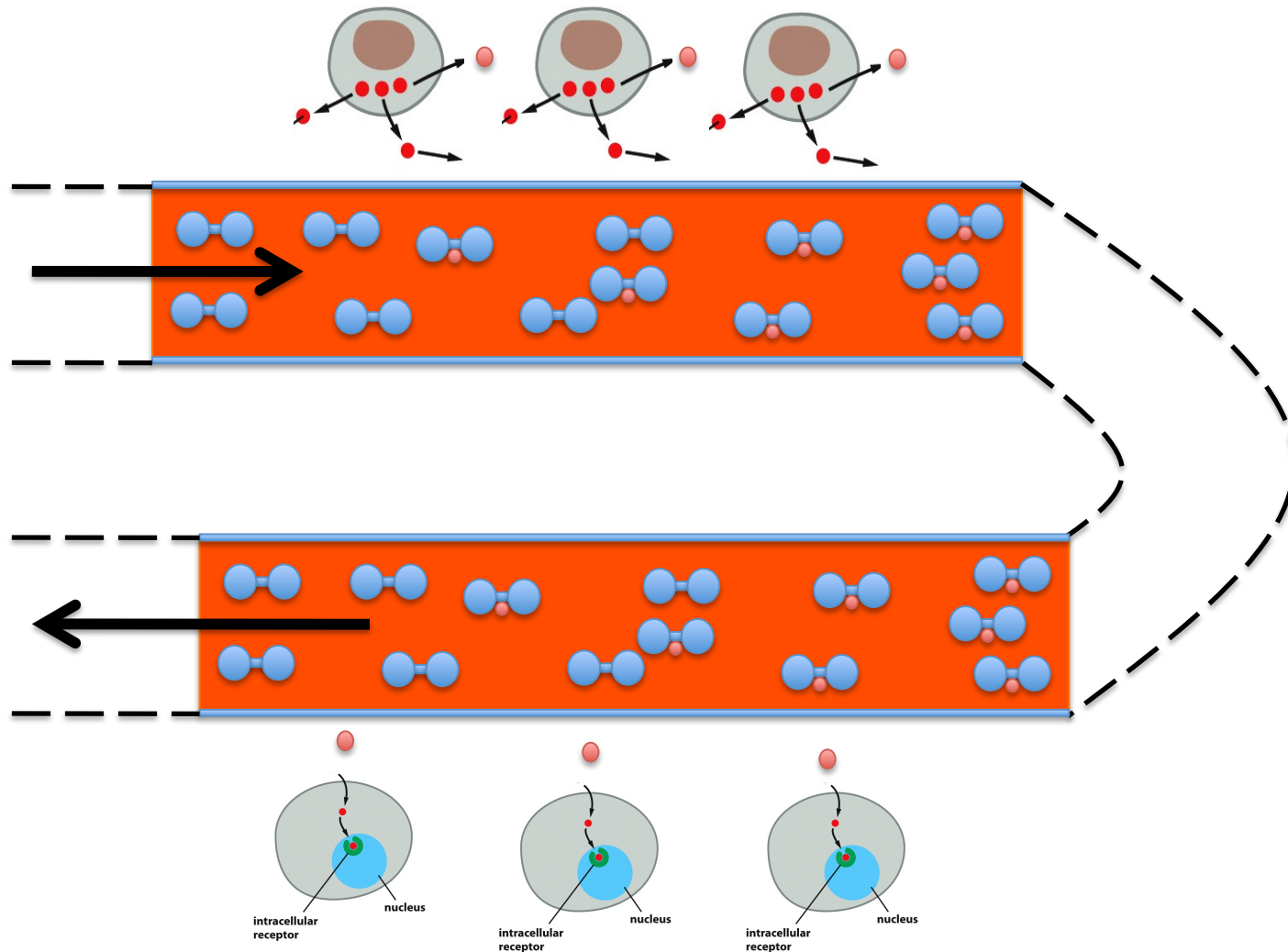


# Consequences of Hydrophobic Hormones

- Solubility in water?
- Solubility in lipid membrane?
- How does this affect its transportation in blood?



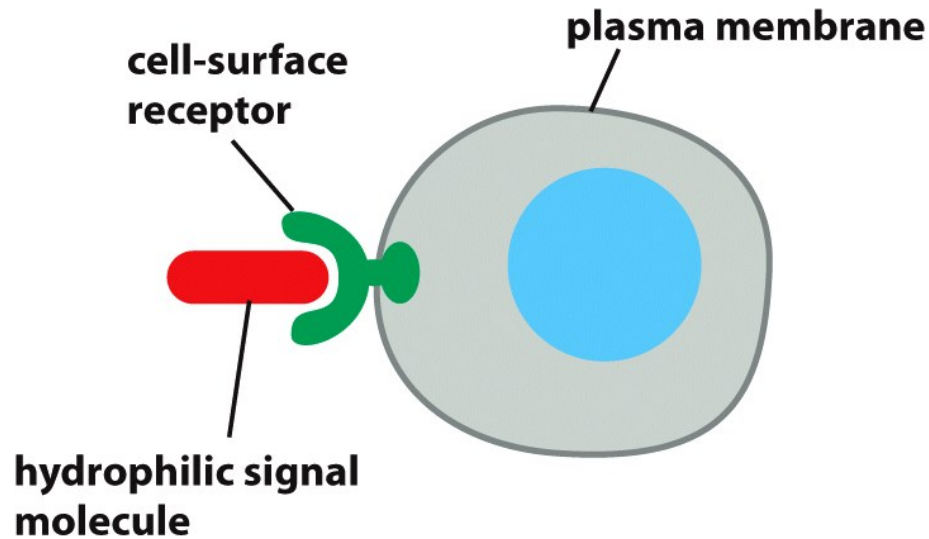
# Steroid Hormones catch a ride on Carrier Proteins



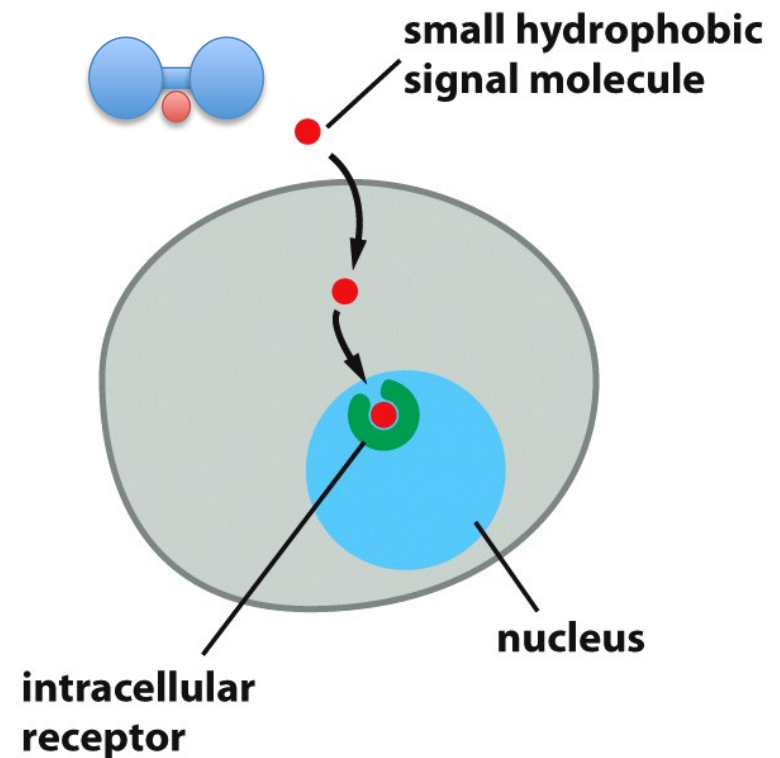


# How are receptors different?

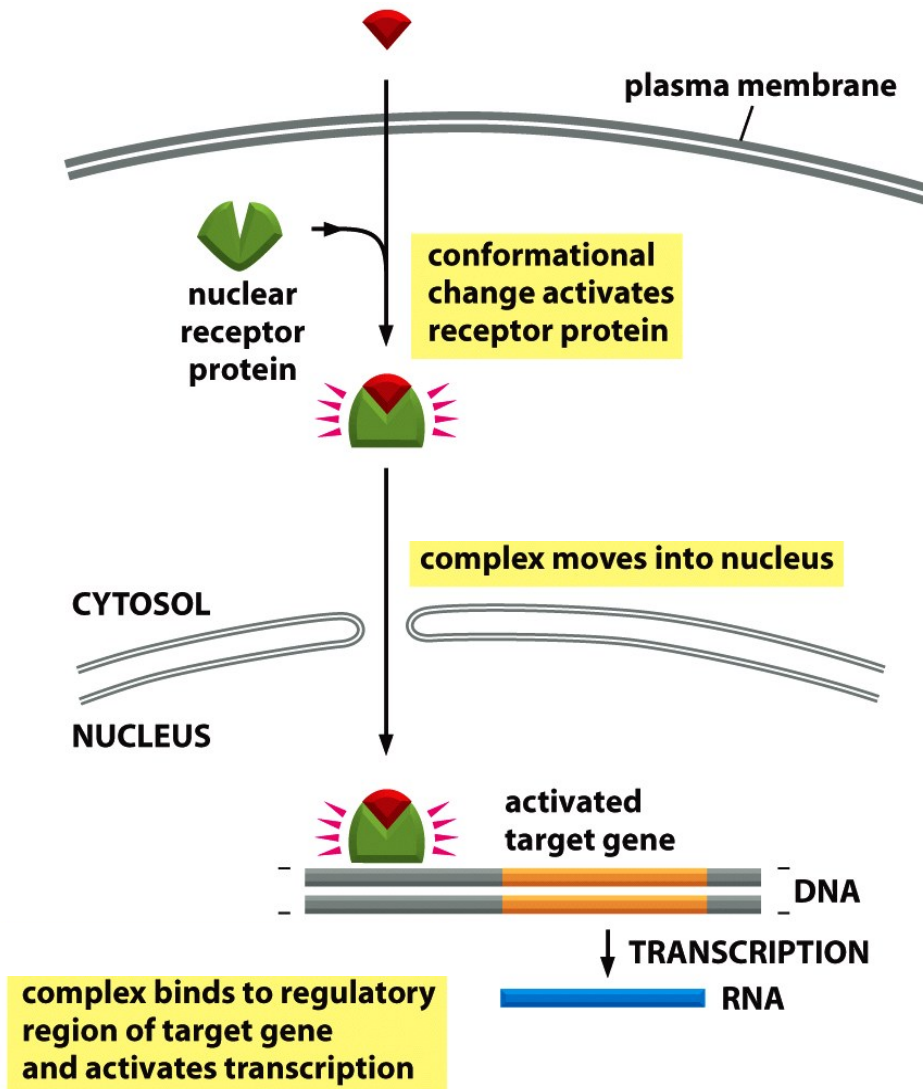
(A) CELL-SURFACE RECEPTORS



(B) INTRACELLULAR RECEPTORS




# Basic Nuclear Receptor Activation





# Lets get specific: The Estrogen Receptor

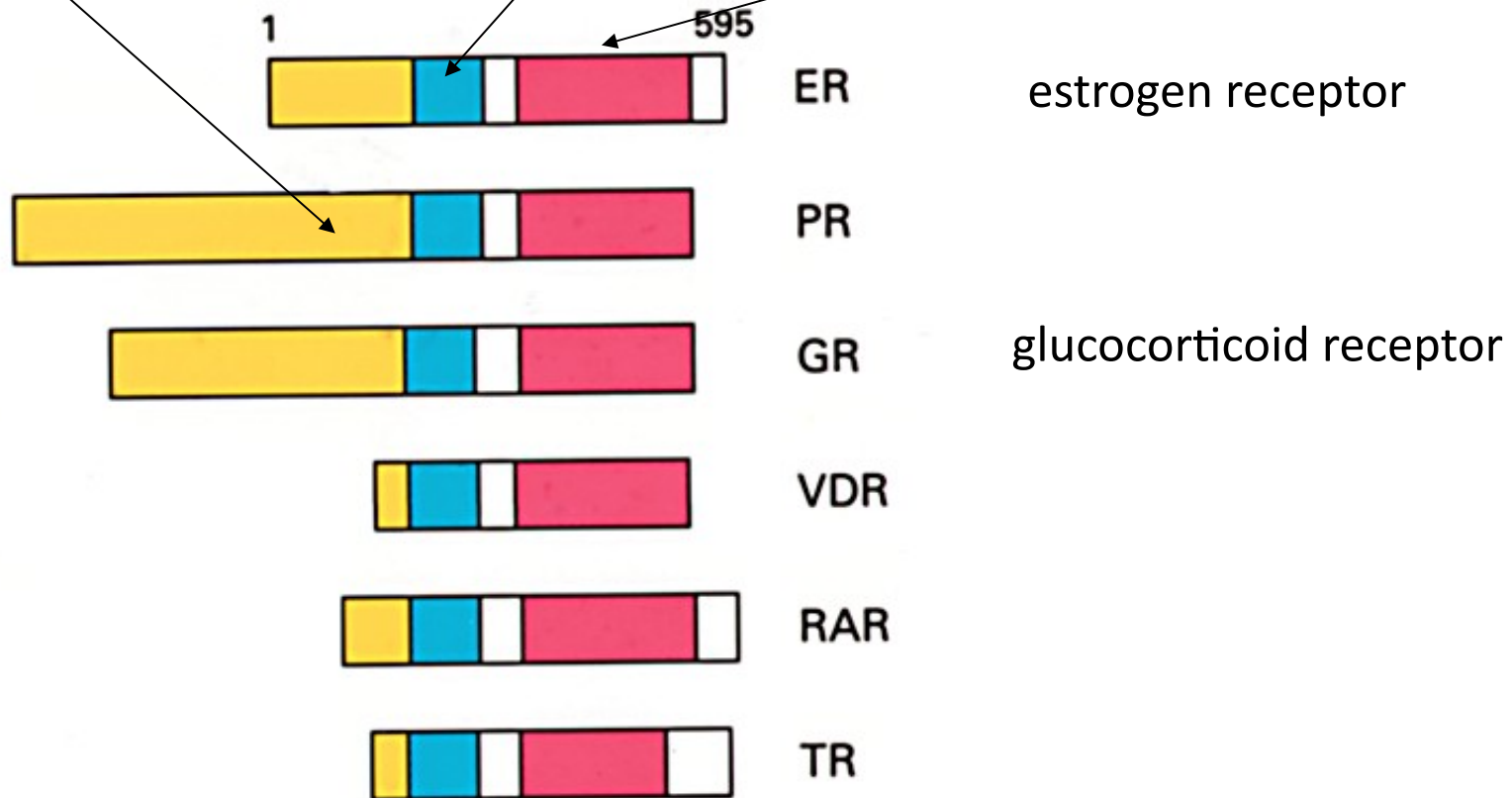
- A nuclear receptor
  - Binds Estrogen and affects DNA transcription
  - Changes pattern of gene expression
  - Affect on organism is slow (minutes to days)
- 

# Nuclear Receptor Subfamily

Yellow shows the highly variable activation domain

Blue shows the highly conserved DNA binding domain ~66 amino acids

Red shows the hormone binding domain



# ESTROGEN RECEPTOR ALPHA LIGAND-BINDING DOMAIN COMPLEXED TO ESTRADIOL

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### Primary Citation

**Crystallographic comparison of the estrogen and progesterone receptor's ligand binding domains.**

Tanenbaum, D.M., Wang, Y., Williams, S.P., Sigler, P.B.

Journal: (1998) Proc.Natl.Acad.Sci.USA **95**: 5998-6003

PubMed: 9600906

PubMedCentral: PMC27574

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**PubMed Abstract:**

The 2.8-A crystal structure of the complex formed by estradiol and the human estrogen receptor-alpha ligand binding domain (hERalphaLBD) is described and compared with the recently reported structure of the progesterone complex of the human progesterone receptor ligand binding domain,...

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### Molecular Description

**Classification:** Receptor

**Structure Weight:** 60742.57

**Molecule:** ESTROGEN RECEPTOR

**Polymer:** 1 **Type:** polypeptide(L) **Length:** 258

**Chains:** A, B

**Fragment:** LIGAND-BINDING DOMAIN

### Source

**Polymer:** 1

<b>Scientific Name:</b>	Homo sapiens	<b>Taxonomy:</b>	Human	<b>Expression System:</b>	Escherichia coli
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### Ligand Chemical Component

Identifier	Name	Formula	Binding Affinity (BindingDB)	Interaction View
AU	GOLD ION	Au		Ligand Explorer
EST	ESTRADIOL	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>24</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	EC50 : 0.007 - 5.7 nM IC50 : 0.5 - 570 nM Kd : 0.2 - 0.87 nM Ki : 0.113 - 100 nM	Ligand Explorer

### Biological Assembly 1



More Images...

View in Jmol: SimpleViewer, Other Viewers, Protein Workshop

Biological assembly 1 assigned by authors and generated by PISA (software)

### Deposition Summary

**Authors:** Tanenbaum, D.M., Wang, Y., Sigler, P.B.

**Deposition:** 1998-02-19

**Release:** 1998-09-16

**Last Modified (REVDAT):** 2009-02-24

### Experimental Details

**Method:** X-RAY DIFFRACTION

**Exp. Data:** Structure Factors

**Resolution[Å]:** 2.80

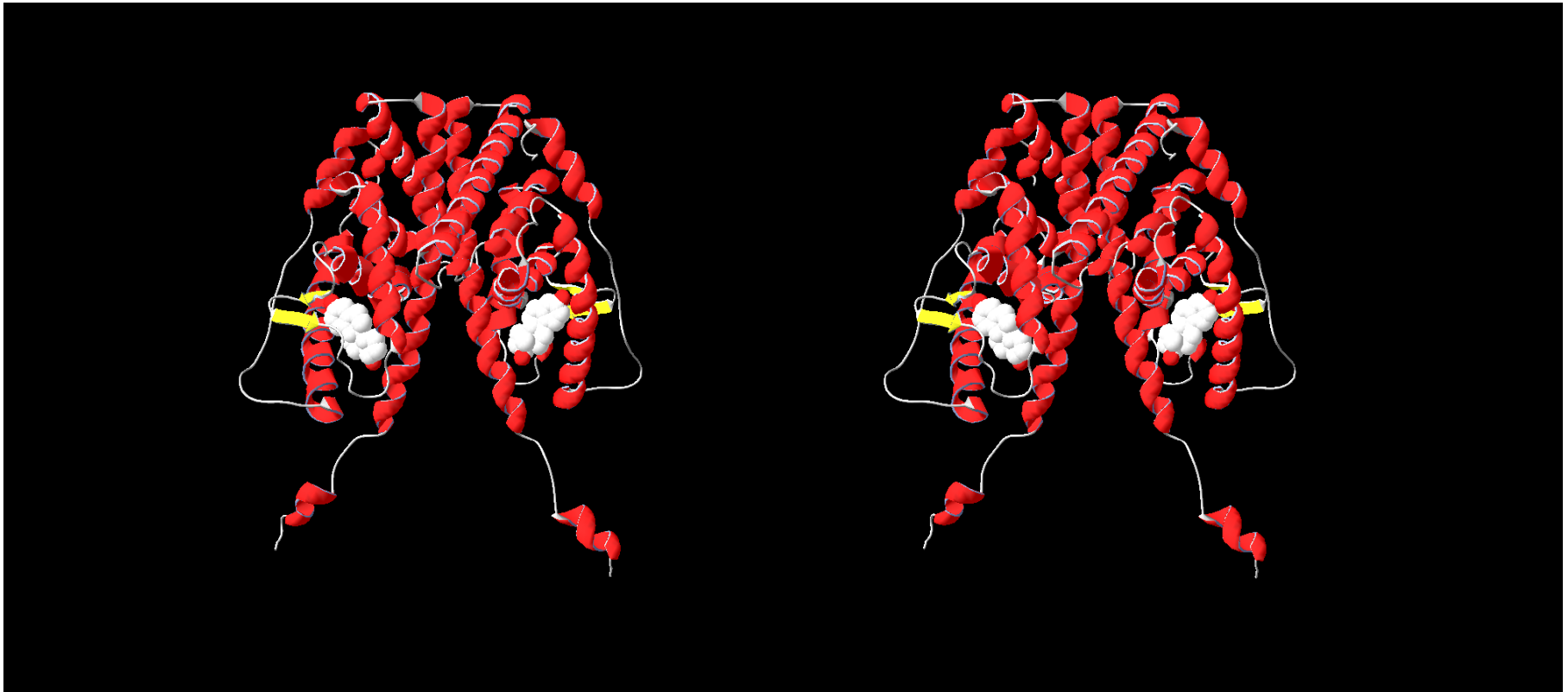
**R-Value:** 0.223 (obs.)

**R-Free:** 0.274

**Space Group:** H 3 2

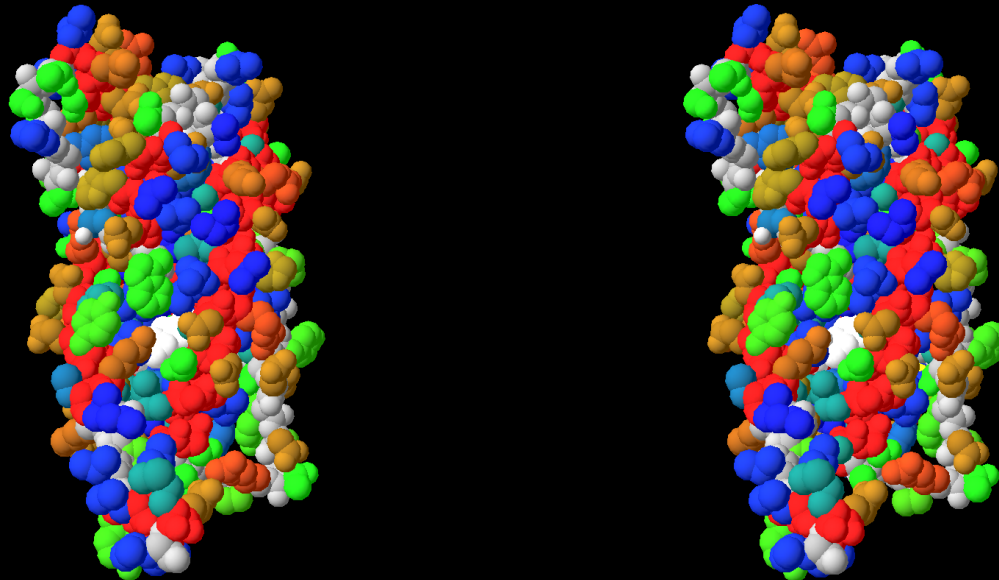
**Unit Cell:**

# Estrogen Receptor: Ligand Bound

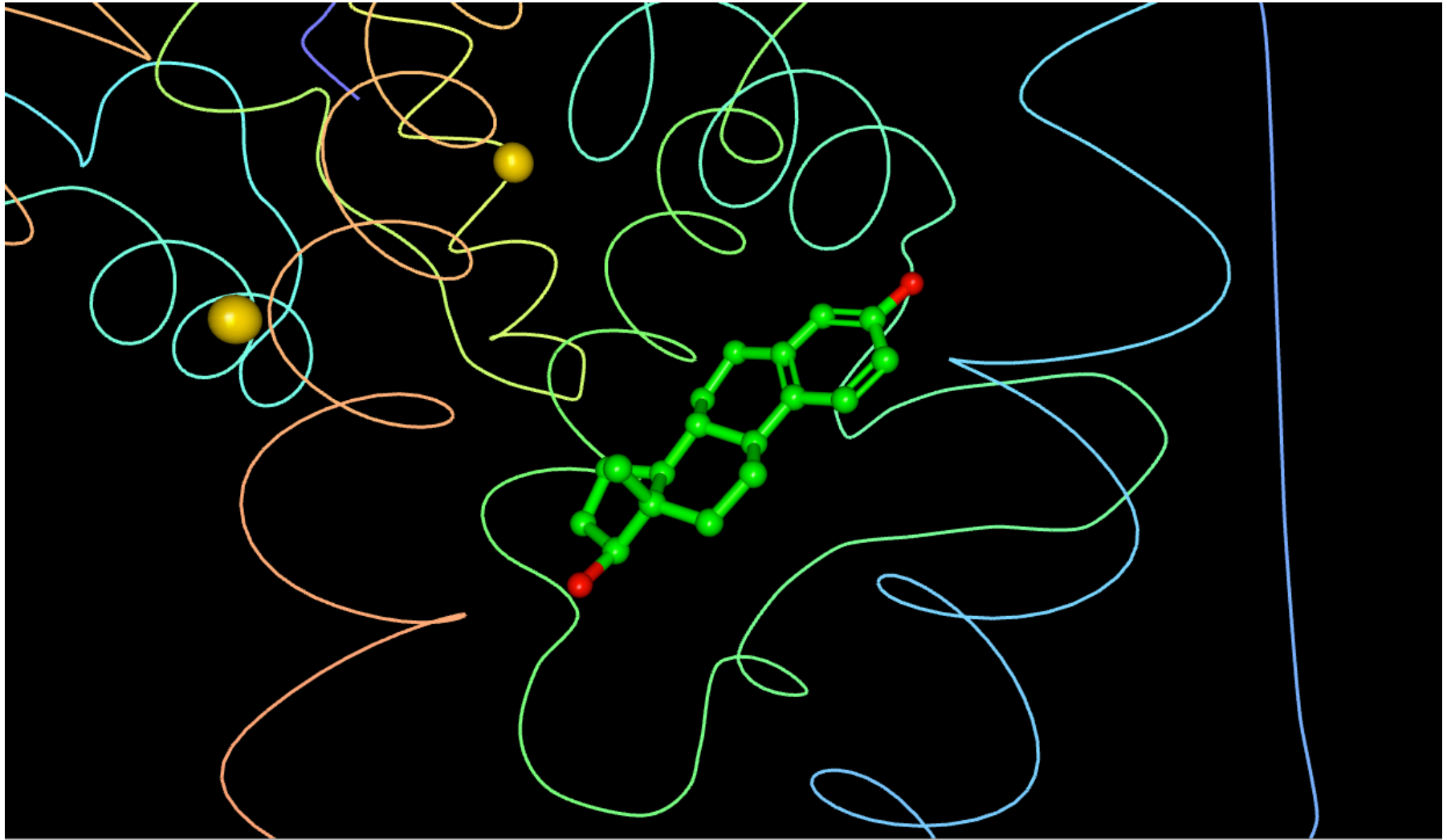


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# Additional views

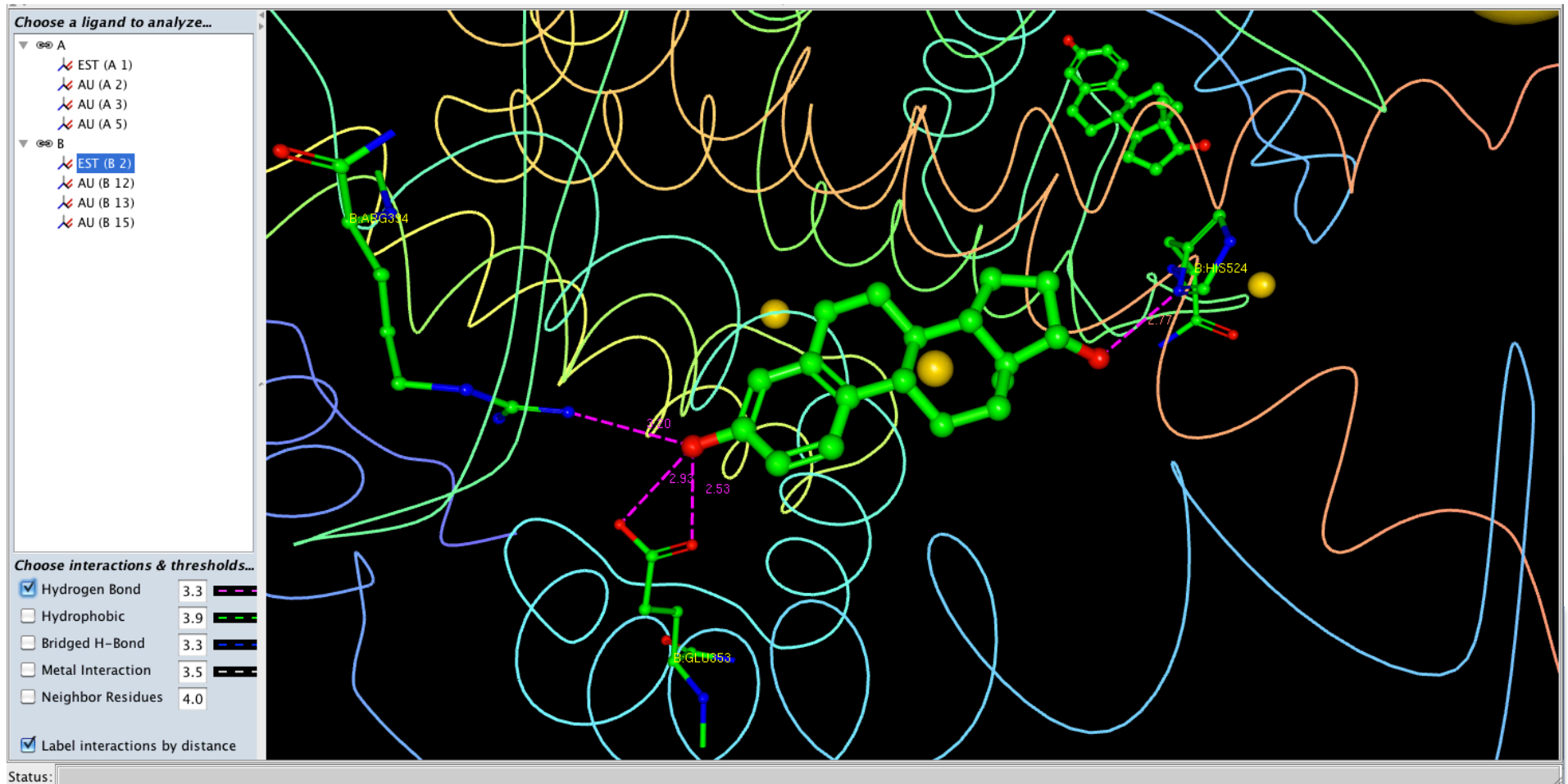


# Estrogen Bound to receptor

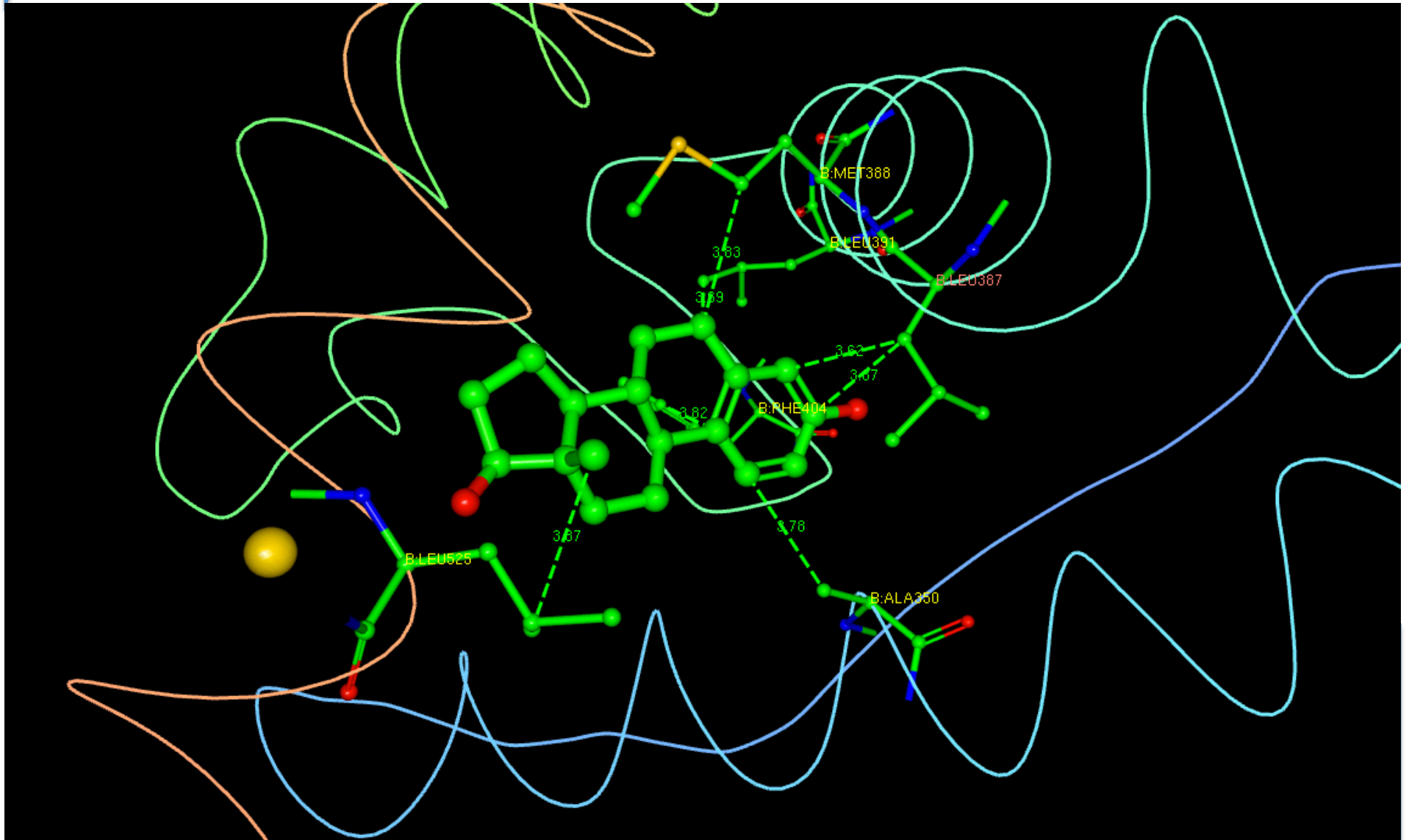




# Hydrogen Bonds

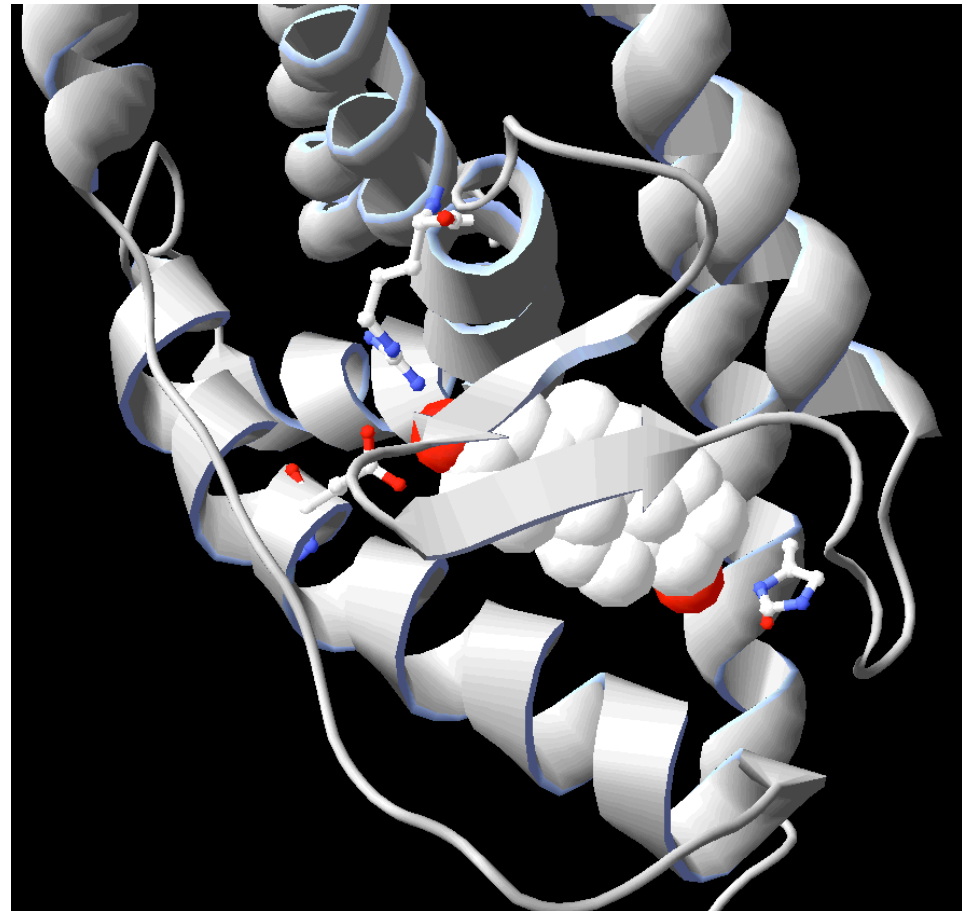


# Hydrophobic Contacts



# Estrogen bound to Ligand binding domain

- Deep pocket
- Specific H-bonds
- Very Hydrophobic



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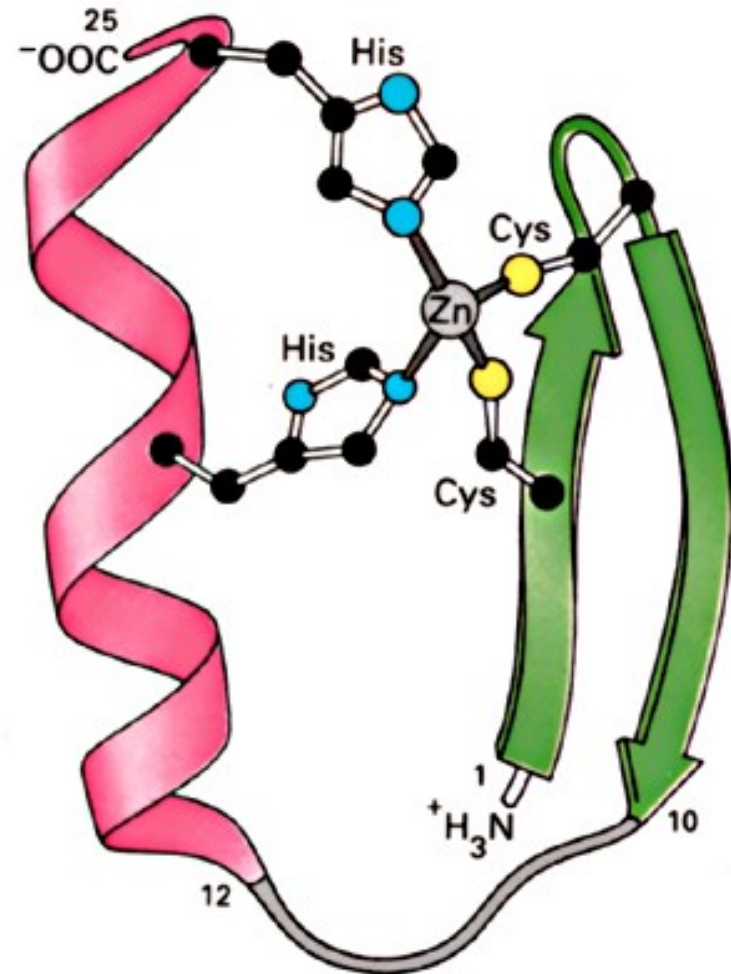
# Binding Triggers Activity

- How could this happen?
- We know:
  - Only active when \_\_\_\_\_
  - One estradiol per ER monomer
  - Forms dimers
  - Ligand binding domain is connected to DNA binding domain (Not shown yet)



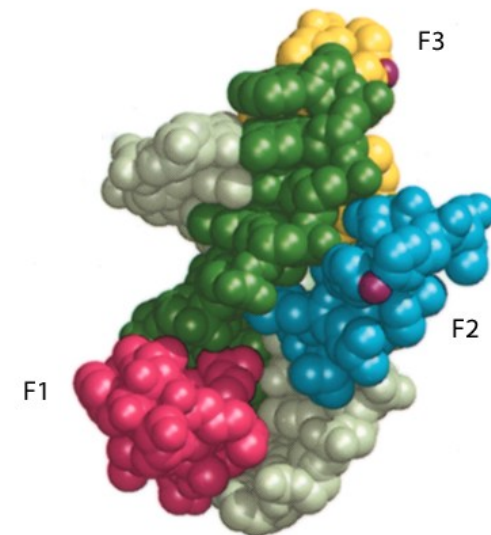
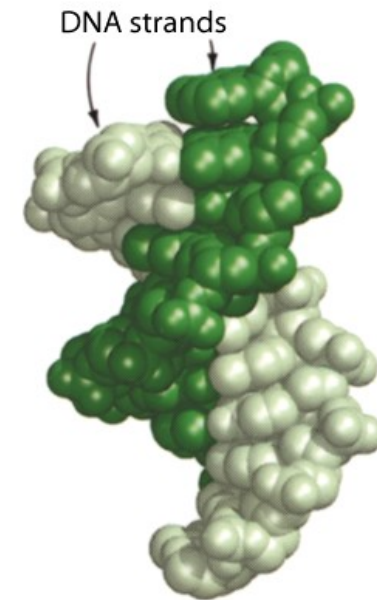
# DNA Binding Domain

- Zn finger
- >700 genes include this fold
- Zif268, a classic Zn finger is shown here
- The \_\_\_\_\_ interacts with the DNA



# Steroid Receptors use Zn fingers

- Structural motif is highly versatile
- Proteins can have 1 to 37 of these fingers
- More fingers, longer DNA sequence recognized
- Recognition is based of non-covalent, complementarity between amino acids on helix and base pair sequence of DNA



# Steroid receptors recognize related DNA sequences

5'—NAG **AA**CANNNTG**TT**CTN—3'

3'—NTC**TT**GTNNNAC**AA**GAN—5'

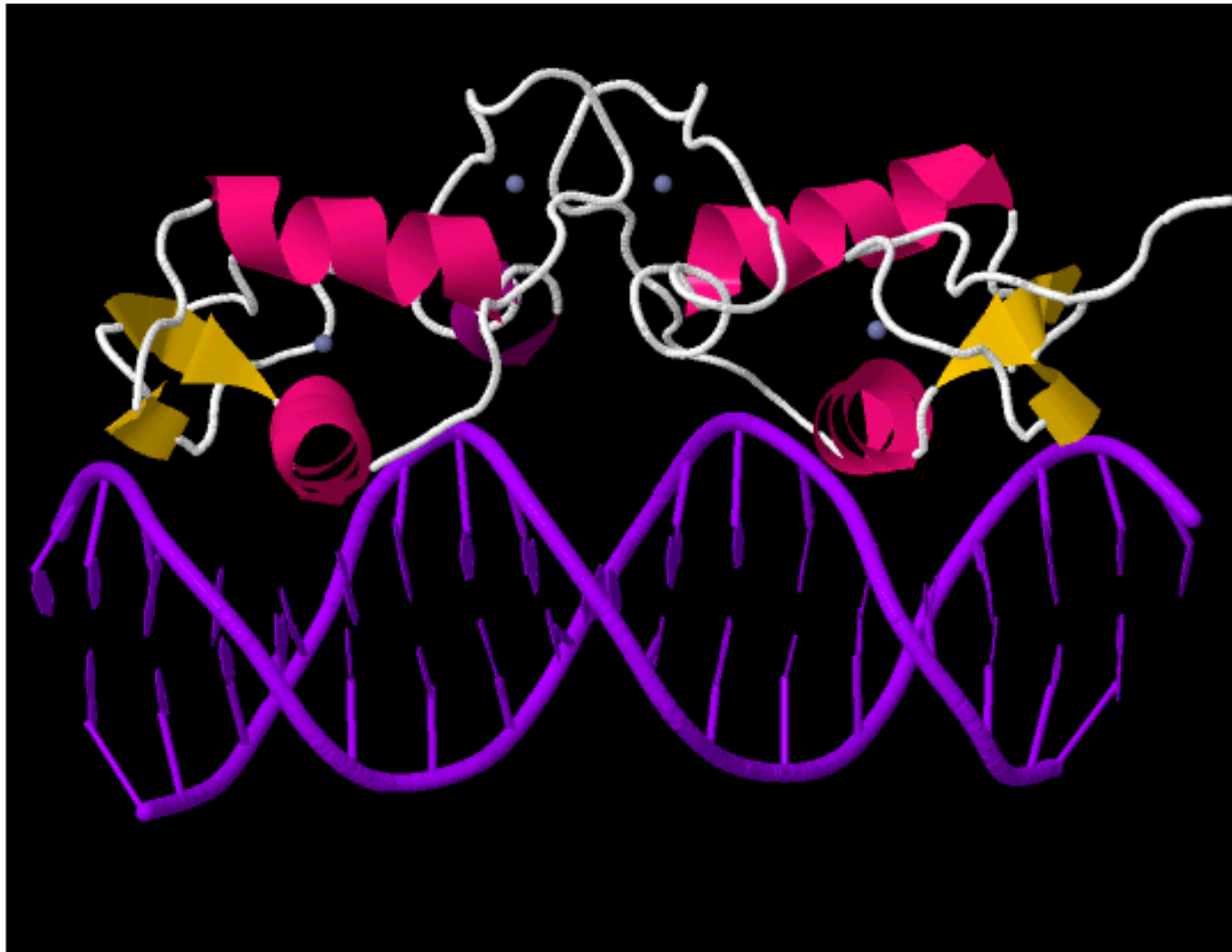
**Glucocorticoid response element  
(GRE)**

5'—NAG **GT**CANNNTG**AC**CTN—3'

3'—NTC**CA**GTNNNACT**TG**GAN—5'

**Estrogen response element  
(ERE)**

# ER DNA binding domain



PDB 1HCQ





# Un-natural Signaling?

- Non-natural non-steroidal ligands
- Environmental Estrogens
  - \_\_\_\_\_: from plants but remember plants don't have cholesterol so must be non-steroidal pathways to derivatives.
  - \_\_\_\_\_: “Other” estrogens
    - DDT (the most potent estrogenic mimic known, much stronger than estrogen)
    - Bisphenol A – Nalgen recalled its plastic water bottles due to this compound

