"Side-Chain Packing and Semidefinite Programming"

by Eric Weissenstein

The protein folding problem is an important and difficult problem in biology today. The side chain positioning problem is a subproblem which is still very complex, especially for large polypeptides. We present a semidefinite programming approach to side chain positioning due to Chazelle, et. al. Specifically, we look at how this approach can be used to determine the effect of a single amino acid substitution on the stability of the backbone of Protein G.