

# Molecular Case Studies

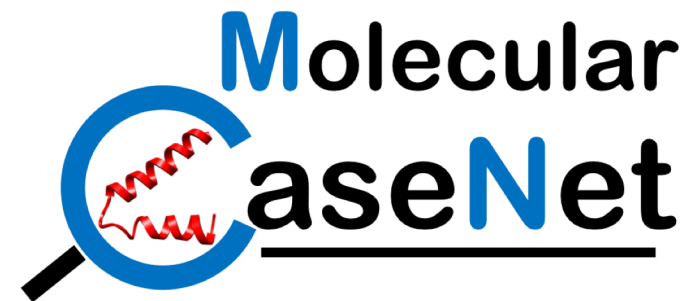
From Data to Data Science (QUBES Summer Workshop 2019)

William and Mary , Williamsburg VA

July 15 2019

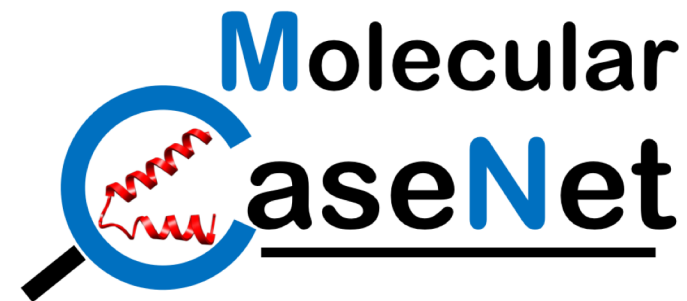
# Overview

- Introductions
- Case Studies
- Molecular Case Studies
- Nicholas' Story
- An Invitation



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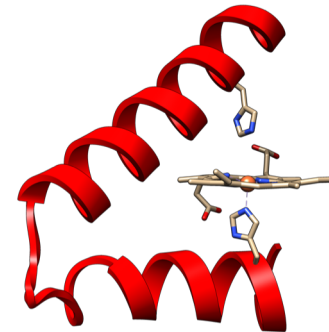
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# Getting to Know You

- Take a moment to think about your favorite protein molecule to teach about. (1 minute)
- Turn to your neighbor and introduce yourself (1 min each). Tell them about
  - what course (s) you teach or would like to teach and
  - and your favorite molecule!
- At the end of these three minutes you will introduce your neighbor and his/her favorite protein (1 min each)

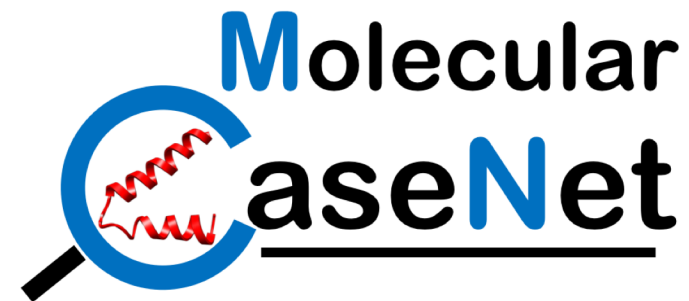
Hello!





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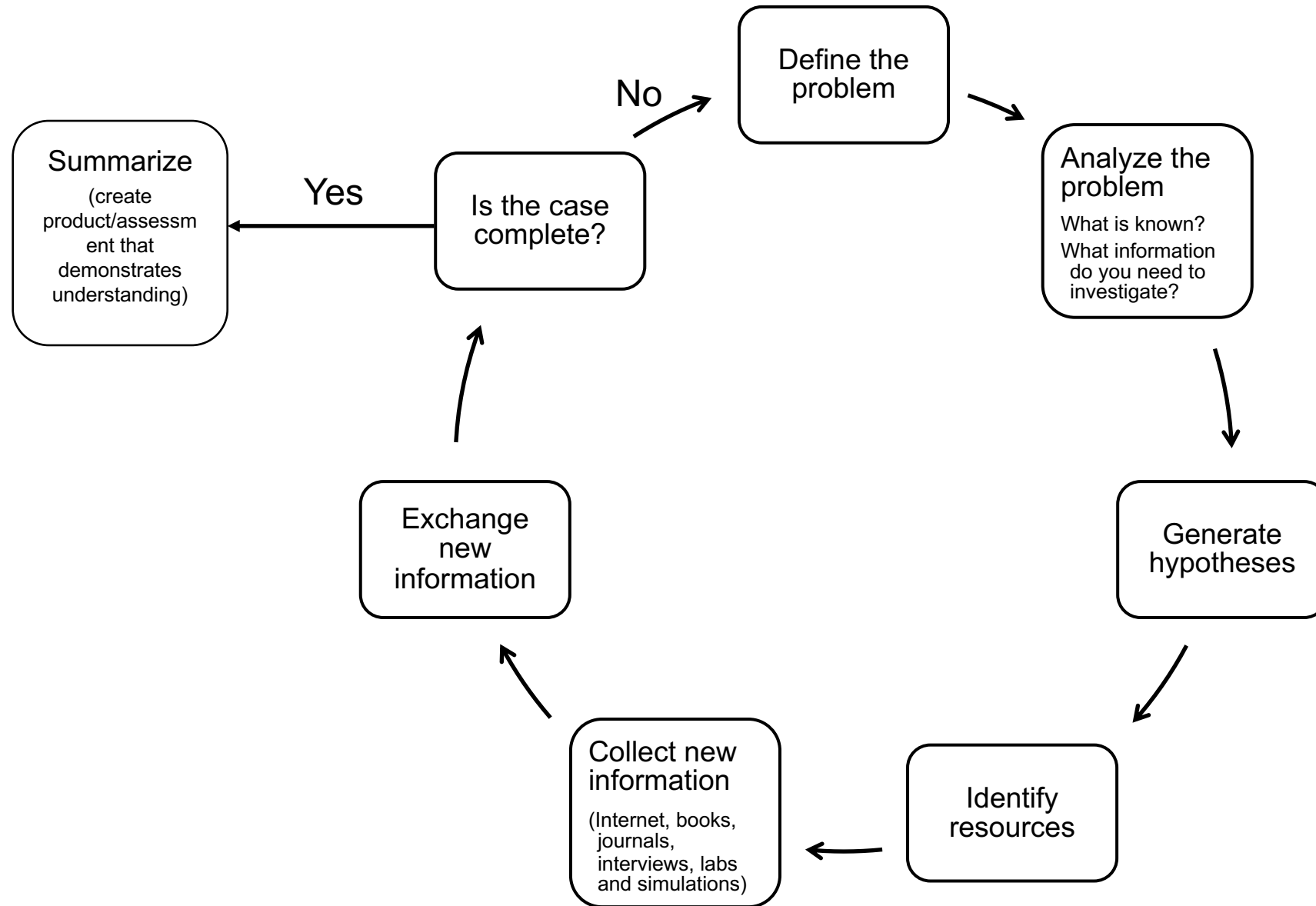


# Learning with Case Studies



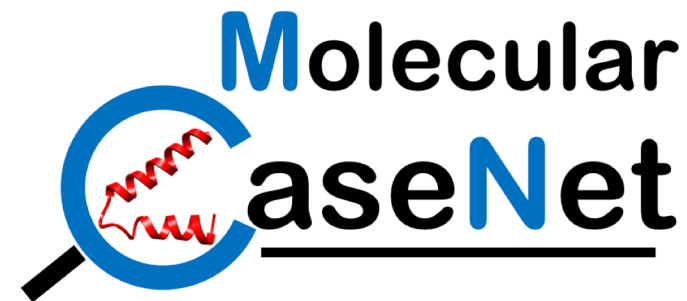
- It starts with a story..... based on complex, real-world situations

Students	Instructors	Learning	Case Type	Benefits
work in groups	act as facilitators	Instructor-directed	Launch new learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Motivate students</li><li>• Deeper learning</li><li>• Increases retention</li><li>• Persistence in the disciplines</li></ul>
gain new information through self-directed learning	function as learning experiences designers	Self-directed, active, integrated, cumulative, and connected	Application of concepts learned	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Critical analysis</li><li>• Observation</li><li>• Computation</li><li>• Written and oral communication</li><li>• Logic</li><li>• Decision-making</li></ul>



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# NSF DBI-1827011 Project Goal and Objectives

**Goal:** To assemble a new network (Molecular CaseNet); for developing case studies at the interface of biology and chemistry, discussed at a molecular level, and in atomic detail; and engaging educators in using them for biology, chemistry, and biochemistry education at the undergraduate level.

Proposed Objectives	RCN-UBE Proposal Focus
1. Determine case study topics and format	Active- and inquiry-based learning
2. Develop model case-studies, with input from diverse participants to ensure curricular relevance	Incorporating emerging sub-disciplines (e.g., bioinformatics, proteomics, and spatial reasoning) into biology curriculum
3. Share model cases to recruit new members to the network	Strategies for engaging biology (and chemistry) faculty in professional development activities

**Invitation:** To become a part of the next phase of the NSF project to develop and test molecular case studies

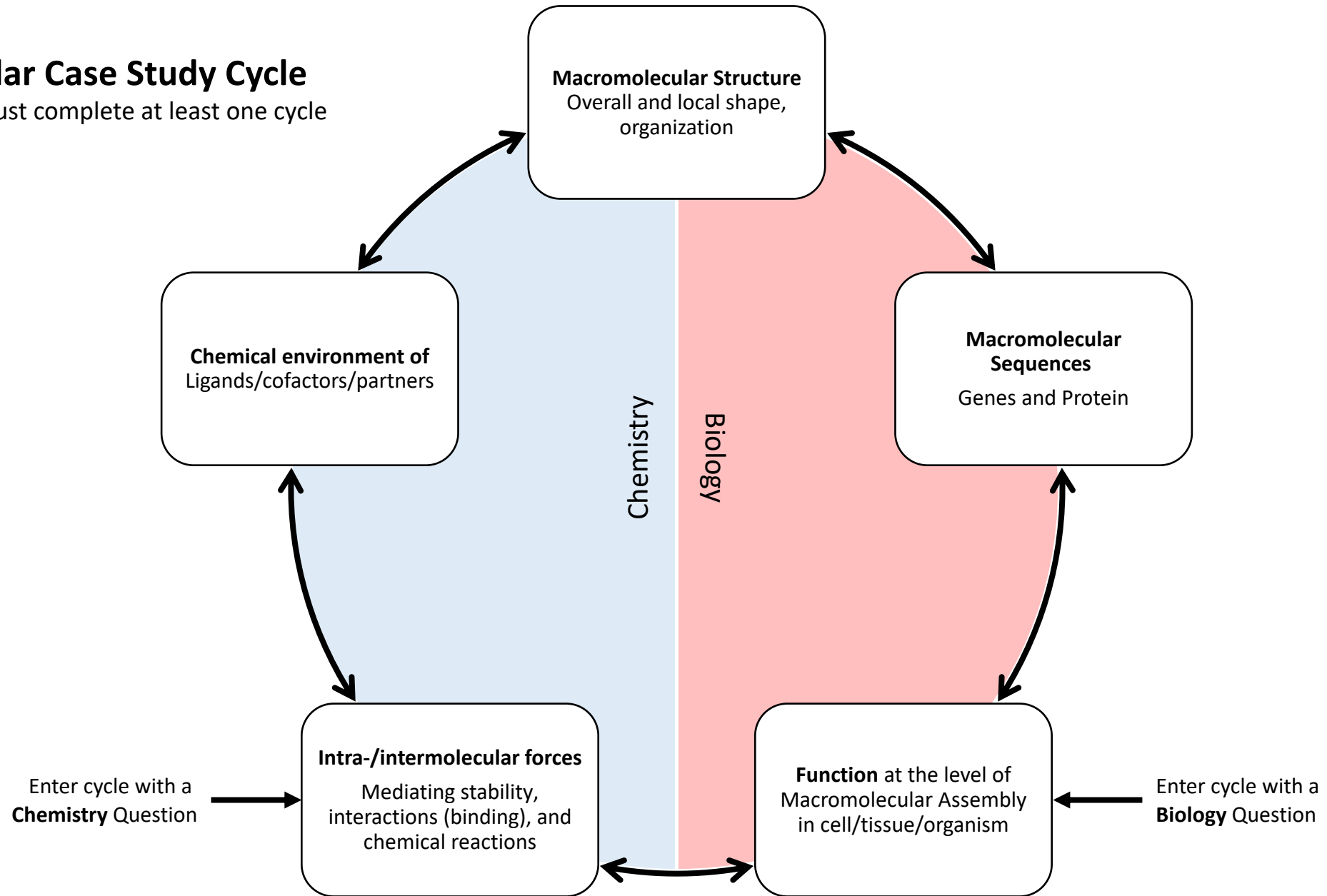
# Molecular CaseNet Steering Committee



Name	Kimberly Cortes	Shuchismita Dutta	Henry Jakubowski	Melanie Lenahan	David Marcey	Patricia Marsteller	Cassidy R. Terrell
Affiliation	Kennesaw State University, GA	Rutgers University, NJ	College of Saint Benedict, St John's University, MN	Raritan Valley Community College, NJ	California Lutheran University, CA	Emory College of Arts and Sciences, GA	University of Minnesota, Rochester, MN
Expertise	Developing, incorporating, and assessing the impact of active learning modeling activities	Using PDB data/ tools/ resources to promote a structural view of biology in biology and chemistry education	Using molecular modeling and active learning in blended classes in chemistry & biochemistry	Biology, genetics, cell biology, and molecular biology education in a Community college	Creating web-based macromolecular visualization exhibits (using JSmol)	Developing case studies and case networks	Developing and assessing 3D virtual and physical modeling activities for biochemistry education

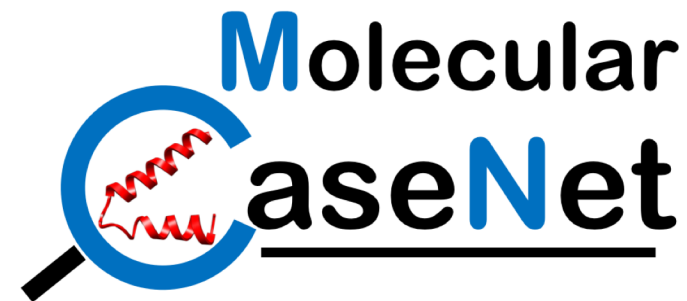
# Molecular Case Study Cycle

All cases must complete at least one cycle



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# Caution! Immersion coming

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iKQmQHh4E2w>



# Considerations in Case Development



## **Your Thoughts?**

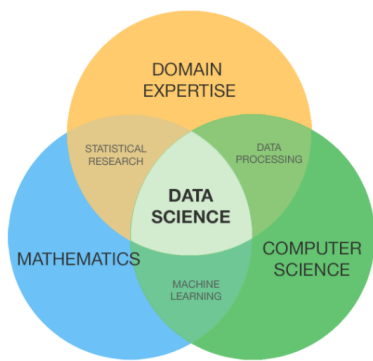
- What do you think this case is about?
- What do you already know that relates to this case?
- What do you need to know to understand the case?
- How do you think this case could be used in your class?

## **Our Thoughts**

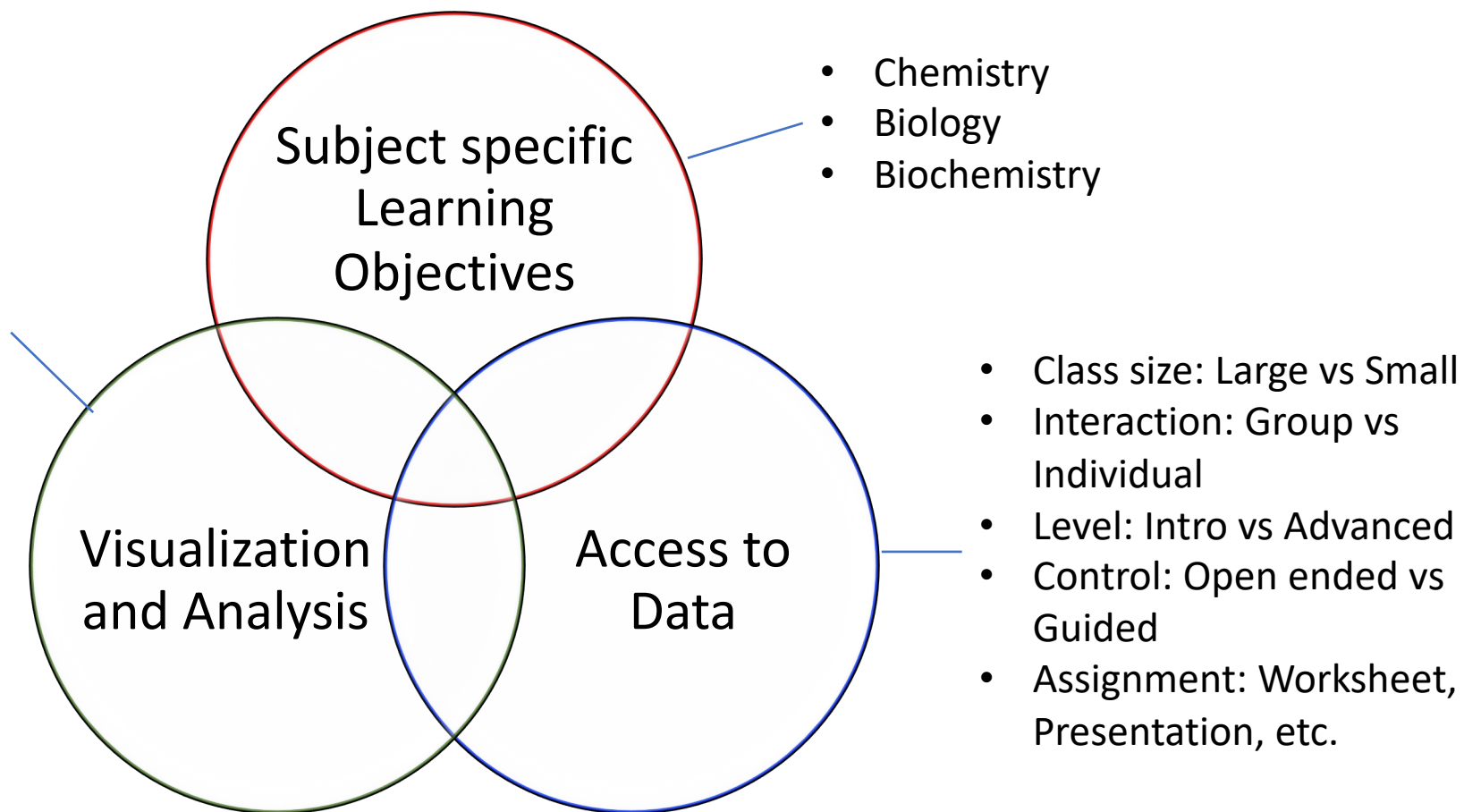
- Subject specific Learning Objectives
- Access to Data: bioinformatics, scientific literature
- Visualization/Analysis: prior exposure
- Molecular Case Study Cycle

# Molecular Case Study Design Considerations

- Limited/no prior exposure: OMM
- Some prior exposure: iCn3D
- Extensive prior exposure: PyMol, UCSF Chimera



<https://www.kdnuggets.com/2018/04/data-science-interview-guide.html>



# Learning Objectives

Chemistry	Biology	Biochemistry	Modeling and Presentation
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify different kinds of intermolecular forces (IMFs), stabilizing the structures of biomacromolecules (protein, nucleic acid, etc., in this case hemoglobin)</li> <li>Identify and differentiate covalent and noncovalent interactions of a bound ligand to a biomacromolecule (in this case, heme and oxygen binding to hemoglobin)</li> <li>Visually explore, analyze, and explain how mutation in a protein can lead to altered protein structure/ function/ properties. In this case, describe the physiological impact of structural changes resulting from the mutation at Glutamate 6 to Valine in the hemoglobin beta chain of sickle cell hemoglobin (HbS) leading to sickling of cells.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protein Structure:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify amino acids (backbone and side chains) within a protein molecule</li> <li>Name, depict, and predict potential of chemical groups in small and biomacromolecules for noncovalent and covalent interactions</li> <li>Describe the different levels of protein structure – i.e., identify primary (1°), secondary (2°), tertiary (3°), and quaternary (4°) structures within proteins</li> <li>Identify covalent (coordinate) interactions between small molecule (O<sub>2</sub>, CO) and metal ions in the Heme group</li> </ol> </li> <li>Protein Function:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain the structure of native adult hemoglobin (HbA), including tetrameric structure, and the role of hemes in binding oxygen</li> <li>Describe weak bonds (salt bridges) that stabilize the deoxy conformation of HbA</li> <li>Describe how the structure and binding properties of hemoglobin (Hb) allows oxygen binding in different tissues and physiological states</li> </ol> </li> <li>Cells and Molecules:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain the structural difference between native adult hemoglobin (HbA) and sickle cell (HbS) beta globin proteins and the genetic cause (molecular basis) of this difference</li> <li>Describe how the sickle cell mutation affects different levels of protein structure and shape of cells.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Explain how red blood cell sickling can lead to pain</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protein building blocks:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify amino acids (backbone and side chains) within a protein molecule</li> <li>Identify functional groups and their properties (hydrophobic/hydrophilic, acid/base, nucleophile/electrophile, H-bond donors/acceptors, relative solubility, redox state) within biomolecules and their constituent monomers;</li> <li>Name, depict, and predict potential of chemical groups in small and biomacromolecules for noncovalent and covalent interactions.</li> <li>Identify covalent (coordinate) interactions between small molecule (O<sub>2</sub>, CO, NO) and metal ions in the Heme group</li> </ol> </li> <li>Protein Structure:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the different levels of protein structure – i.e., identify primary (1°), secondary (2°), tertiary (3°), and quaternary (4°) structures within proteins</li> <li>Describe properties of and identify/ differentiate among specific types of secondary structures in protein - including <math>\alpha</math> helices, <math>\beta</math> sheets (parallel and antiparallel), <math>\pi</math> helices, and other <math>\beta</math> structure (reverse turns);</li> </ol> </li> <li>Protein Function:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe and compare the structure and features of T and R states of Hemoglobin (Hb) and their binding properties for reversible binding ligands</li> <li>Describe how the structure and binding properties of hemoglobin allows oxygen and CO<sub>2</sub> binding in different tissues and physiological states (cooperative binding)</li> <li>Use the binding properties of different forms of Hb for O<sub>2</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub> to explain graphs of fractional saturation vs pO<sub>2</sub> (Bohr effect)</li> <li>Describe and compare binding of other gases (e.g., CO and NO) to hemoglobin.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Cells and Molecules:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain the structural difference between native adult hemoglobin (HbA) and sickle cell (HbS) beta globin proteins and the genetic cause (molecular basis) of this difference</li> <li>Describe and compare deoxy states of normal and sickle cell hemoglobin.</li> <li>Describe how the sickle cell mutation affects different levels of protein structure and shape of cells.</li> <li>Explain how red blood cell sickling can lead to pain</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of public Bioinformatics data resources and scientific literature to learn about specific topics in biology</li> <li>Use online interactive web tutorials to display and understand structural features of biomacromolecules, ligands, and their interactions</li> <li>Display different renderings of molecules and proteins using web-based molecular modeling programs, given instructions for their use</li> <li>Optimally orient molecules in interactive web tutorials or display key feature of structure and function using web-based modeling programs</li> <li>Use screen capture to create images and inclusion of information from public biological data resources to create an educational presentation explaining the molecular bases of a biological function or process.</li> </ol>

# Nicholas' Story



**Macromolecular Structure**  
Overall and local shape, organization

**Macromolecular Sequences**  
Genes and Protein

**Chemical environment of Ligands/cofactors/partners**

**Intra-/intermolecular forces**  
Mediating stability, interactions (binding), and chemical reactions

**Function at the level of Macromolecular Assembly**  
in cell/tissue/organism

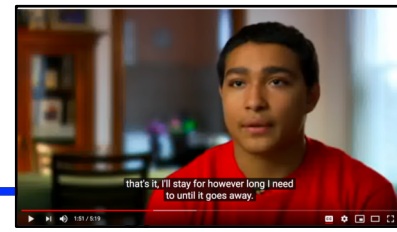
Chemistry

Biology

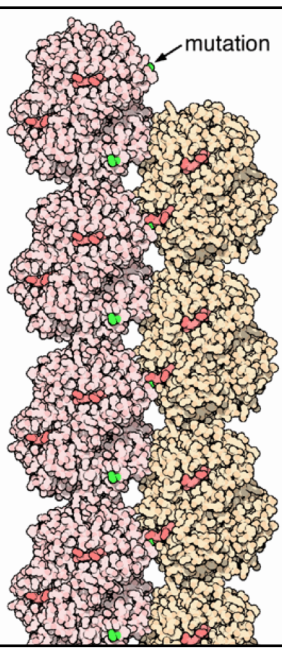
Deoxy HbS structure (PDB ID 2hbs)

CCT	GAG	GAG
Pro	Glu	Glu
5	6	7
↓		
CCT	GTG	GAG
Pro	Val	Glu
5	6	7

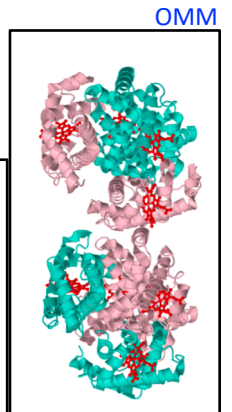
Mutation of Glu6Val in HbS



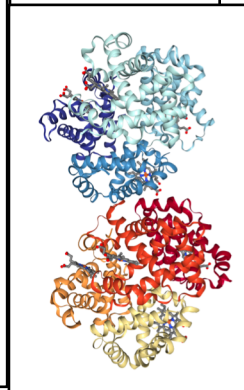
Q1. What is the molecular basis for Nicholas' condition (sickle cell disease)? What causes his pain crises?



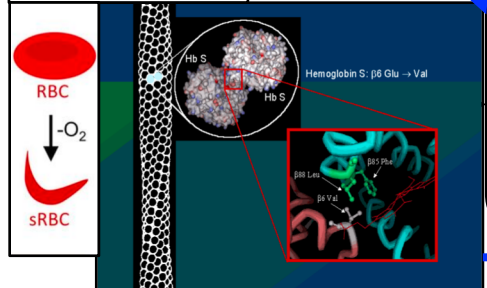
PDB-101



OMM



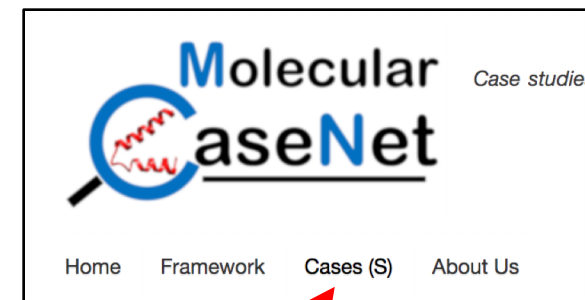
RCSB PDB



OMM

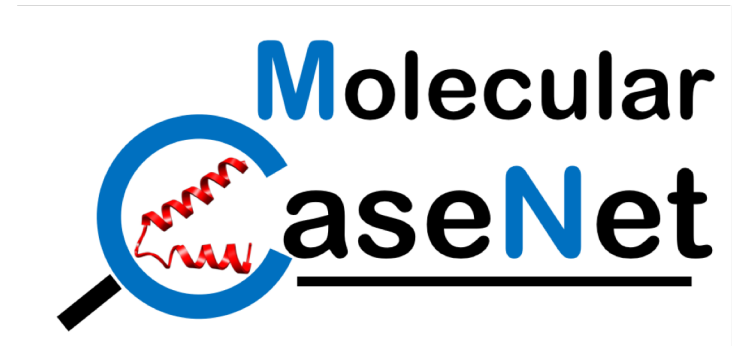
# Molecular CaseNet Website

- Go to <https://molecular-casenet.rcsb.org/>
- Open the Cases tab
- Working through the case
  1. *Introduction*: Watch video. Read the overview and suggestions for running the case at your convenience
  2. *Getting to Structure*: Start exploring the case question(s) and identify relevant molecules to explore.
  3. *Molecular Exploration*: Explore molecular interactions to understand and explain the molecular mechanism of the question at hand
  4. *Assessment*: Apply **knowledge** and **skill** to solve a new problem/challenge



# Exploring Nicholas's Story

- Go to <https://molecular-casenet.rcsb.org/>



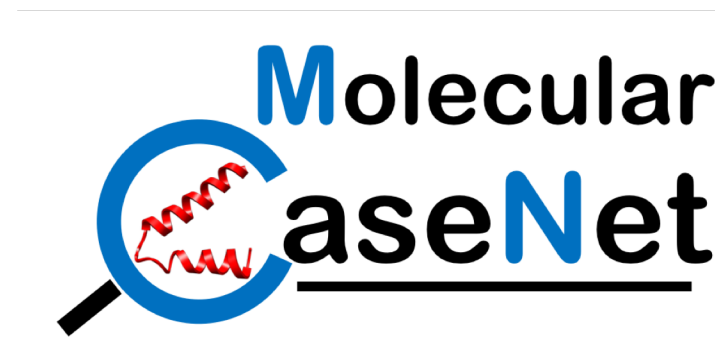
# Nicholas' Story – Discussion, Notes and more

- What was your initial impression? Share a few unexpected ones only now. We can discuss this further during the rest of the week
- Log into the website
  - U: teacher
  - P: Teachscience7!



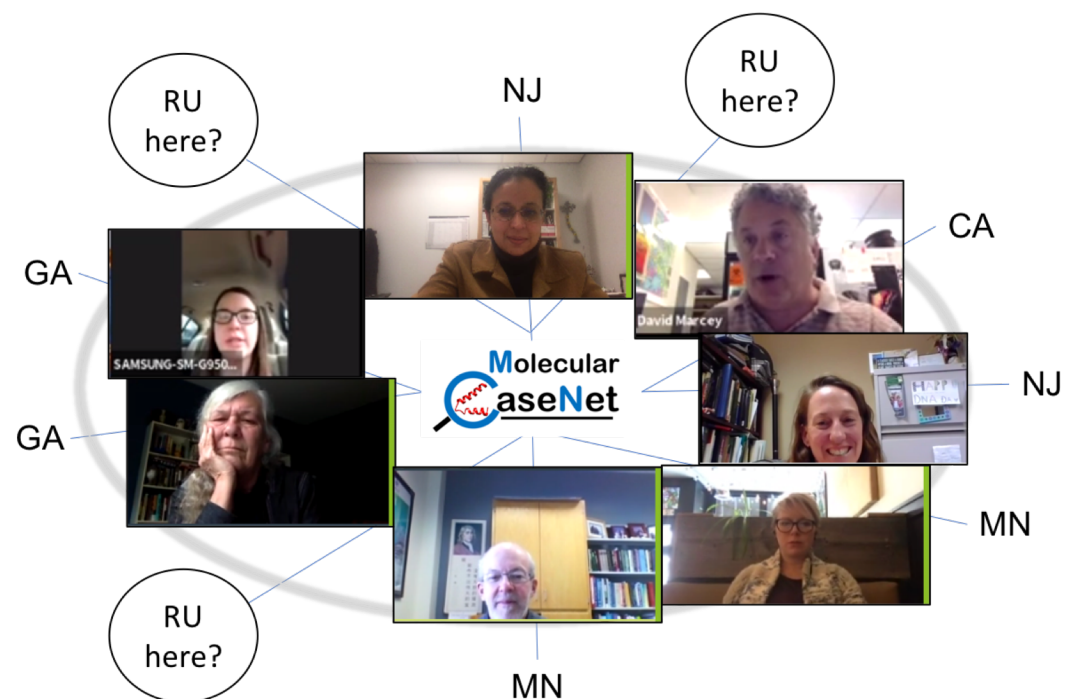
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# An Invitation ... Join us to

- Collaborate with us on writing molecular cases
- Write your own molecular case
- Pilot molecular case(s) in your classroom and provide feedback
- Become a part of the next phase of the NSF project to develop and test molecular case studies



Interested? write to Shuchi at [sdutta@rcsb.rutgers.edu](mailto:sdutta@rcsb.rutgers.edu)

# Summary

- Introductions
  - You and your favorite proteins
- Case Studies
  - Value of learning with case studies
- Molecular Case Studies
  - Framework and considerations
- Nicholas' Story
  - Your first impressions
- An Invitation
  - Join us ...

