

# Computational prediction of intrinsic disorder

FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS TO MODERN RESOURCES



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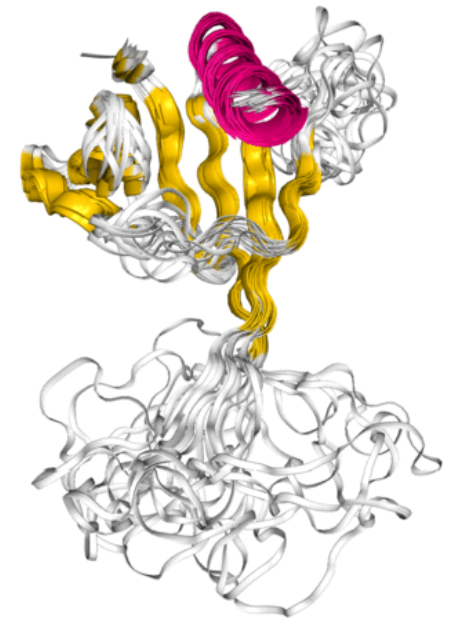
January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019

# Intrinsic disorder

**Intrinsically disordered proteins<sup>1</sup> (IDPs)** have at least one **intrinsically disordered region (IDR)**.

IDRs lack a stable structure in isolation and take form of conformational ensembles. “*Intrinsic*” reflects the fact that the disordered state is encoded in the sequence.

<sup>1</sup> also called floppy, pliable, rheomorphic, flexible, mobile, partially folded, natively denatured, natively unfolded, natively disordered, intrinsically unstructured, intrinsically denatured, intrinsically unfolded, ...



15 superimposed NMR structures of the methylosome subunit of spliceosomal assembly protein ICLN (chaperone for spliceosomal small nuclear ribonucleoproteins)

# Intrinsic disorder

## **Abundant in nature**

- computational studies estimate that 30 to 50% of eukaryotic proteins have one or more long IDR

## **Involved in numerous molecular functions**

- signaling, regulation, assembly, molecular recognition (proteins and nucleic acids), translation and transcription

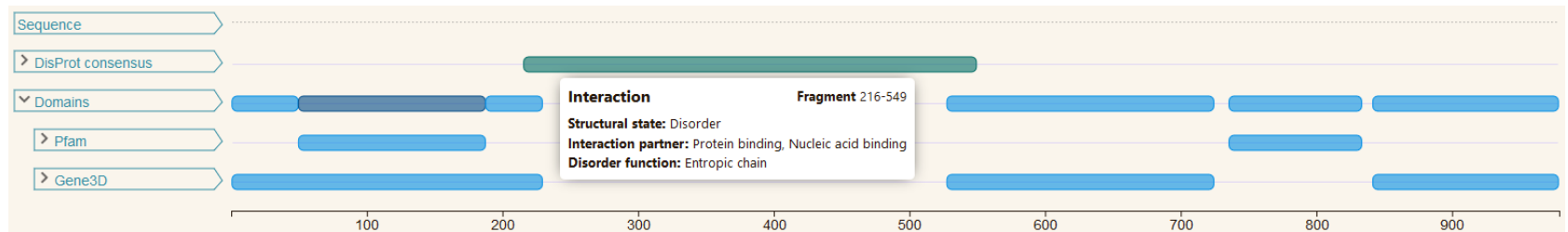
## **Only about 1,600 IDPs (3,500 IDRs) are annotated experimentally**

- experimental data are used to develop and validate computational models
- computational prediction often plays a key role to produce initial hypothesis about presence and function of disorder

# Prediction of intrinsic disorder

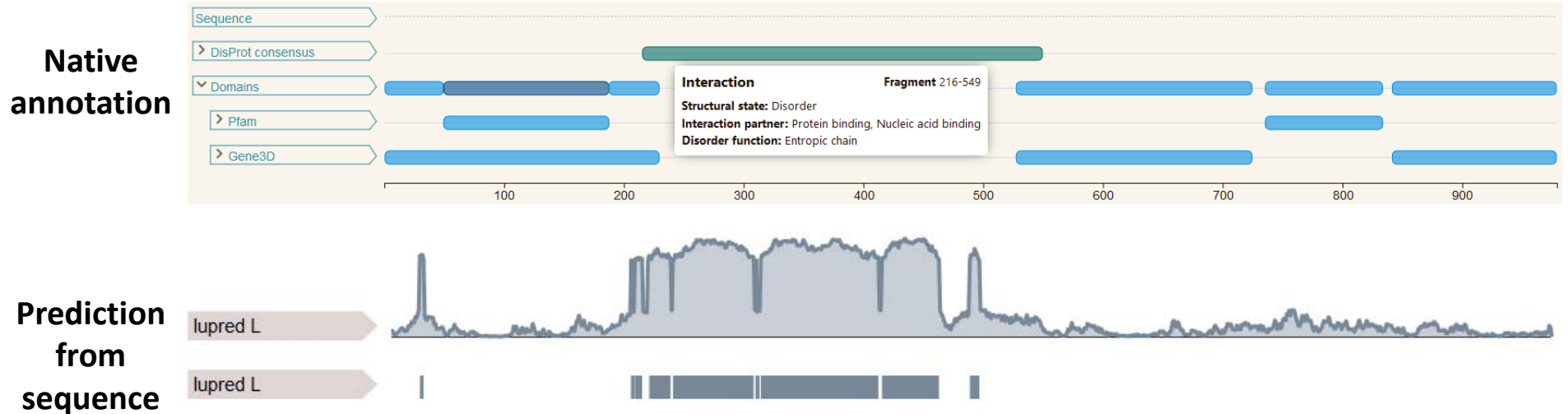
P06701 (UniProt) / DP00530 (DisProt): **silent information regulator (Sir3p) from yeast**

**Native  
annotation**



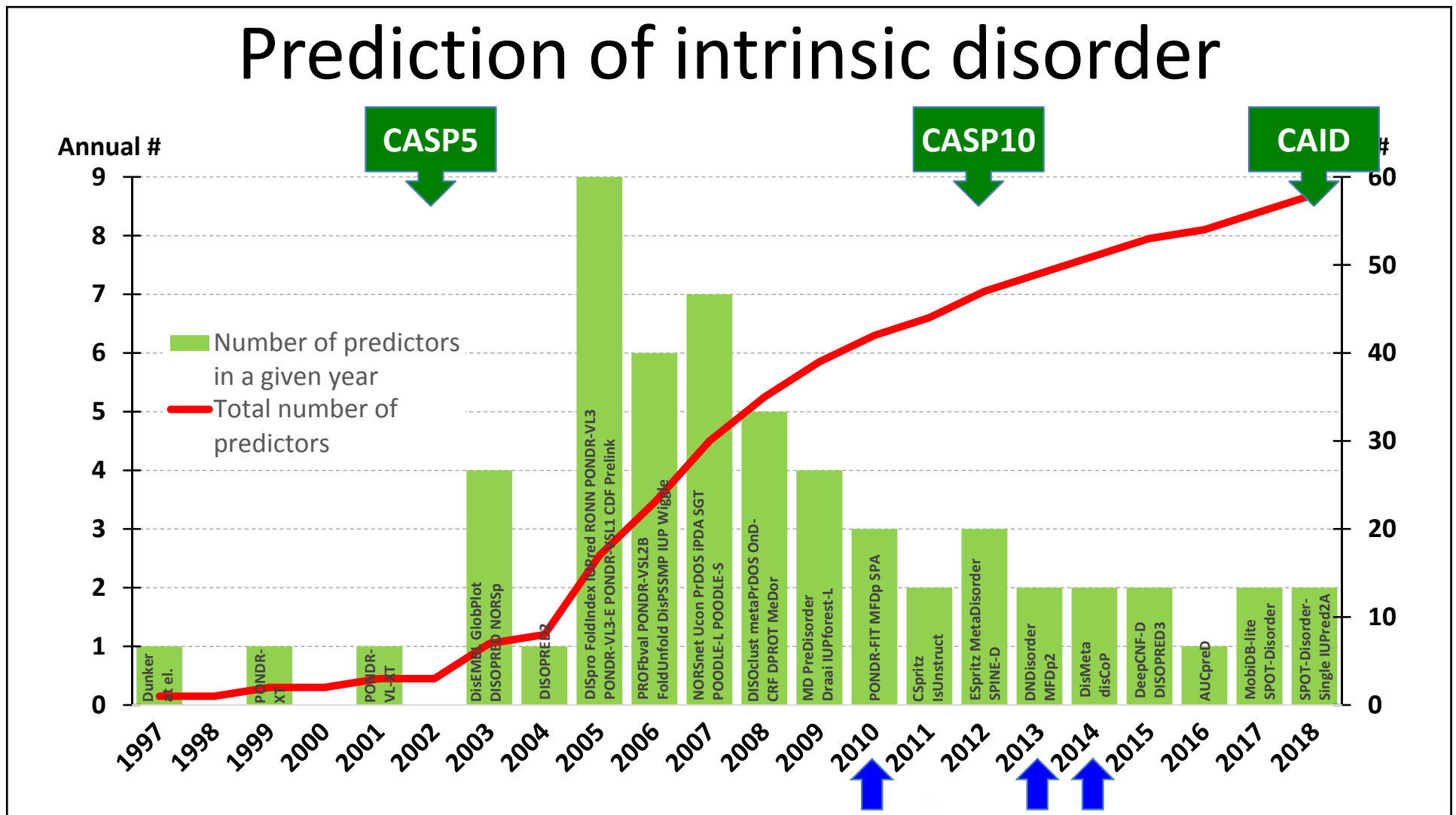
# Prediction of intrinsic disorder

P06701 (UniProt) / DP00530 (DisProt): **silent information regulator (Sir3p) from yeast**

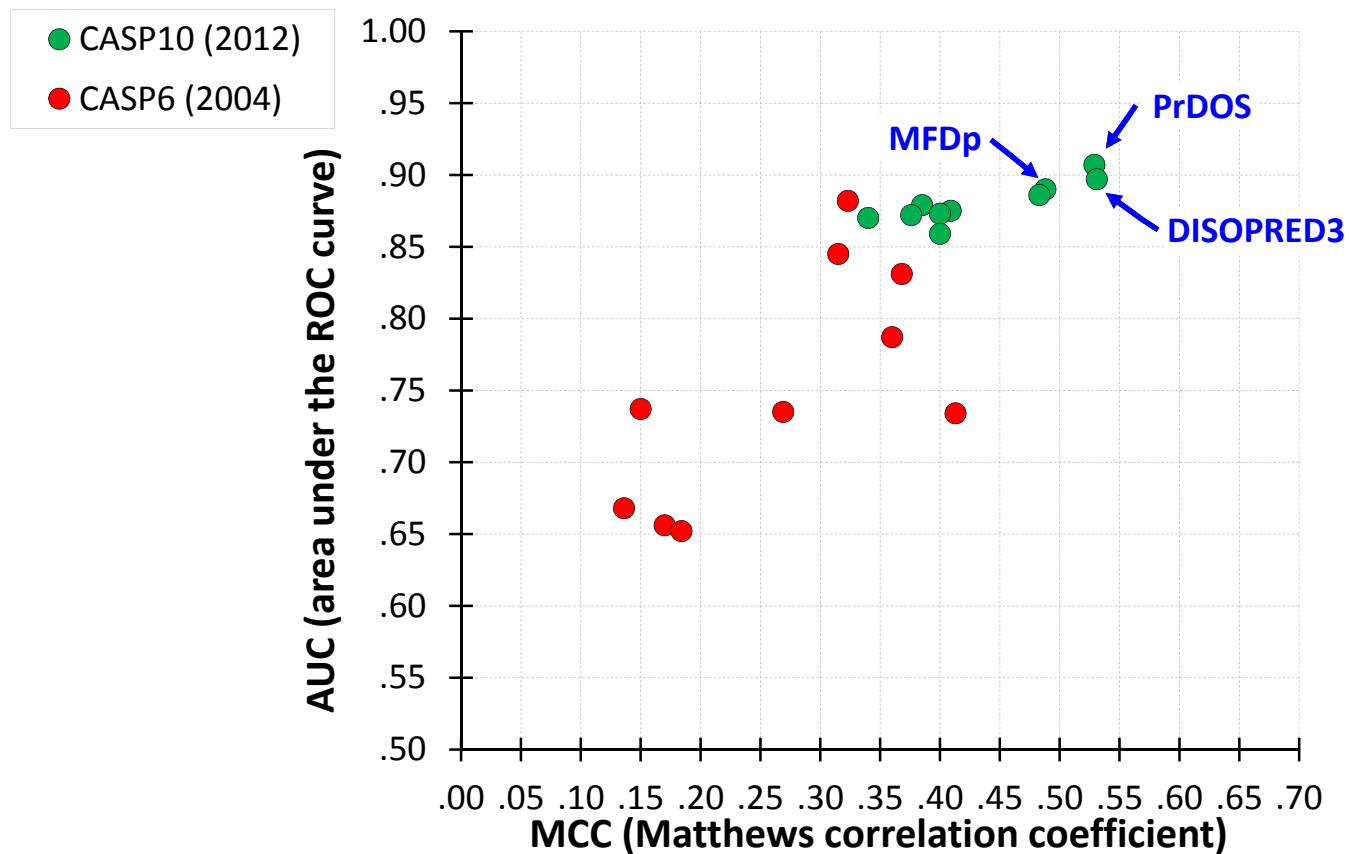


Dosztányi Z, Csizmók V, Tompa P, Simon I. The pairwise energy content estimated from amino acid composition discriminates between folded and intrinsically unstructured proteins. *J Molecular Biology* 347:827-39, 2005

# Prediction of intrinsic disorder



# Prediction of intrinsic disorder



Jin Y, Dunbrack RL. Assessment of disorder predictions in CASP6. *Proteins* 61(Suppl 7):167-75, 2005

Monastyrskyy B, Kryshchak A, Moulton J, Tramontano A, Fidelis K. Assessment of protein disorder region predictions in CASP10. *Proteins* 82(Suppl 2):127-37, 2014

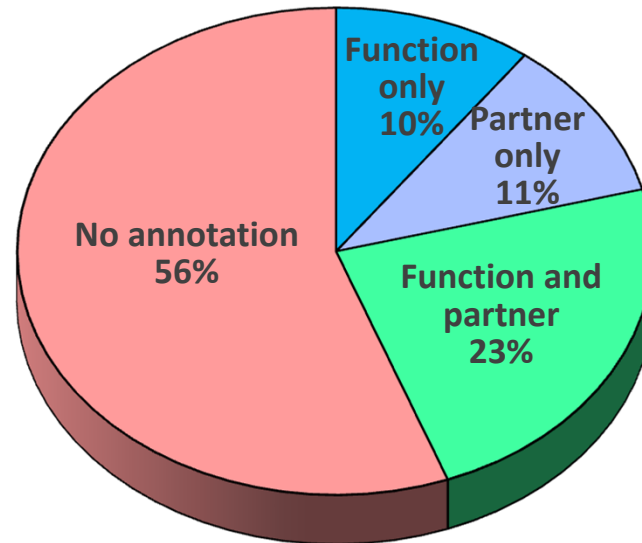
# Functions of intrinsic disorder

## Molecular partners

**Protein** (417 IDRs)  
**DNA** (76 IDRs)  
**RNA** (33 IDRs)  
 Lipid (30 IDRs)  
 Metal (39 IDRs)  
 Small molecule (32 IDRs)  
 Inorganic Salt (1 IDR)

## Molecular functions

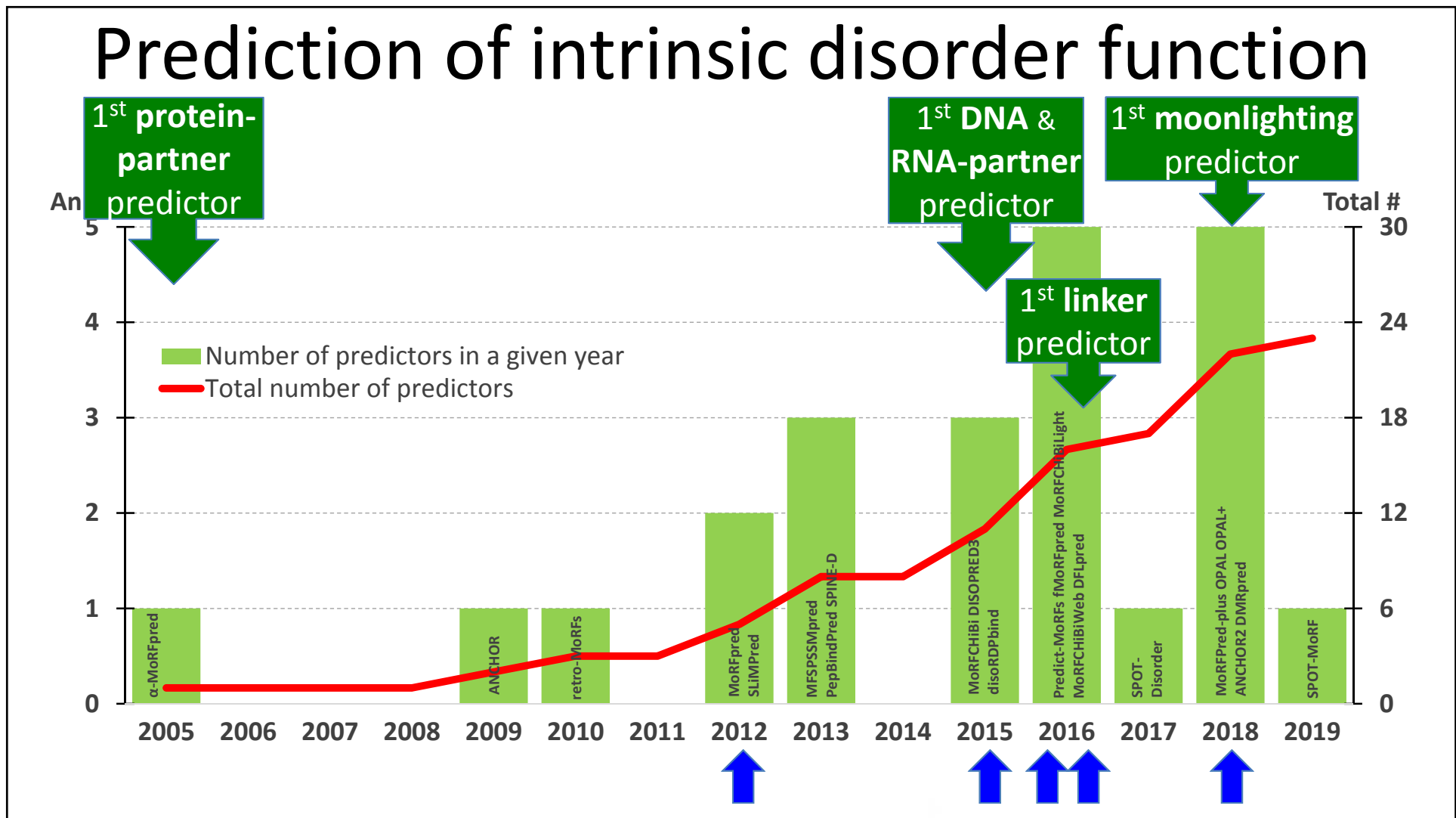
**Entropic Chain** (186 IDRs)  
 Molecular Recognition: Assembler (232 IDRs)  
 Molecular Recognition: Effector (181 IDRs)  
 Molecular Recognition: Chaperone (30 IDRs)  
 Molecular Recognition: Display Site (23 IDRs)  
 Molecular Recognition: Scavenger (17 IDRs)



Katuwawala A, Ghadermarzi S, Kurgan L. Computational Prediction of Functions of Intrinsically Disordered Regions, In: Uversky VN, (Ed),  
*Dancing protein clouds: Intrinsically disordered proteins in health and disease, Part A*, 2019



# Prediction of intrinsic disorder function



# Modern resources for disorder prediction

## Databases of predicted disorder

- MobiDB at <http://mobidb.bio.unipd.it/>
- D<sup>2</sup>P<sup>2</sup> at <http://d2p2.pro/>

## Disorder prediction center

- DEPICTER at <http://biomine.cs.vcu.edu/servers/DEPICTER/>

## Quality assessment for disorder predictions

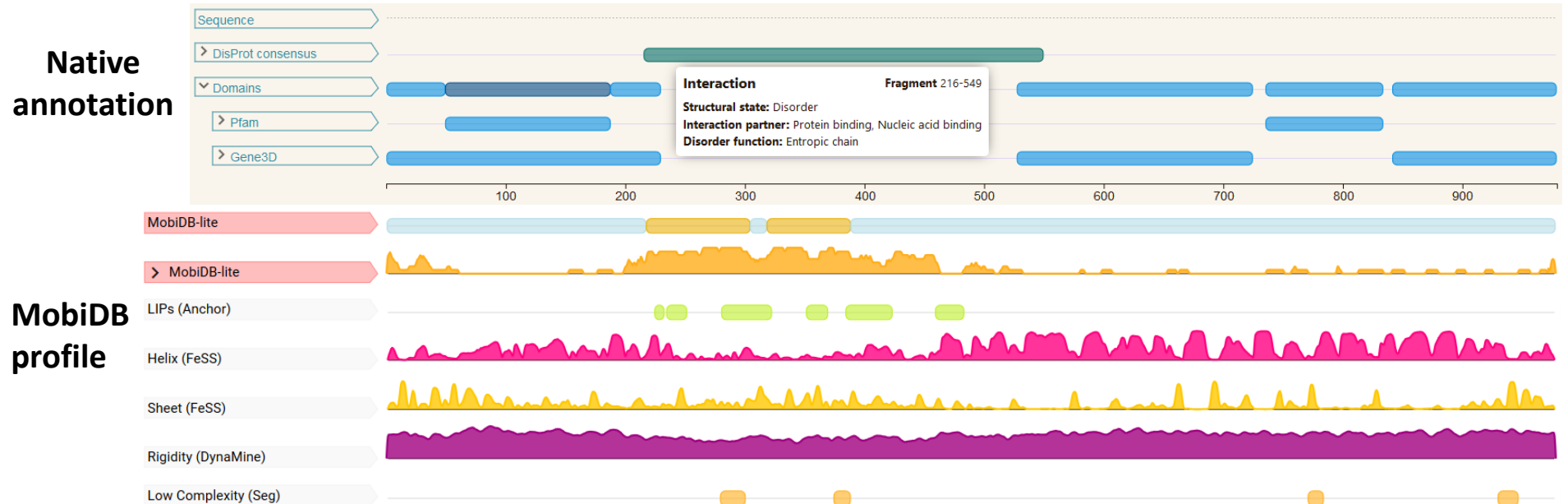
- QUARTER at <http://biomine.cs.vcu.edu/servers/QUARTER/>

# MobiDB

<http://mobidb.bio.unipd.it/>

Predictions of intrinsic disorder and protein-partner regions for 75 million proteins

P06701 (UniProt) / DP00530 (DisProt): **silent information regulator (Sir3p) from yeast**



Piovesan D, Tabaro F, ..., Tosatto S. MobiDB 3.0: more annotations for intrinsic disorder, conformational diversity and interactions in proteins. *Nucleic Acids Res.* 46(D1):D471-D476, 2018

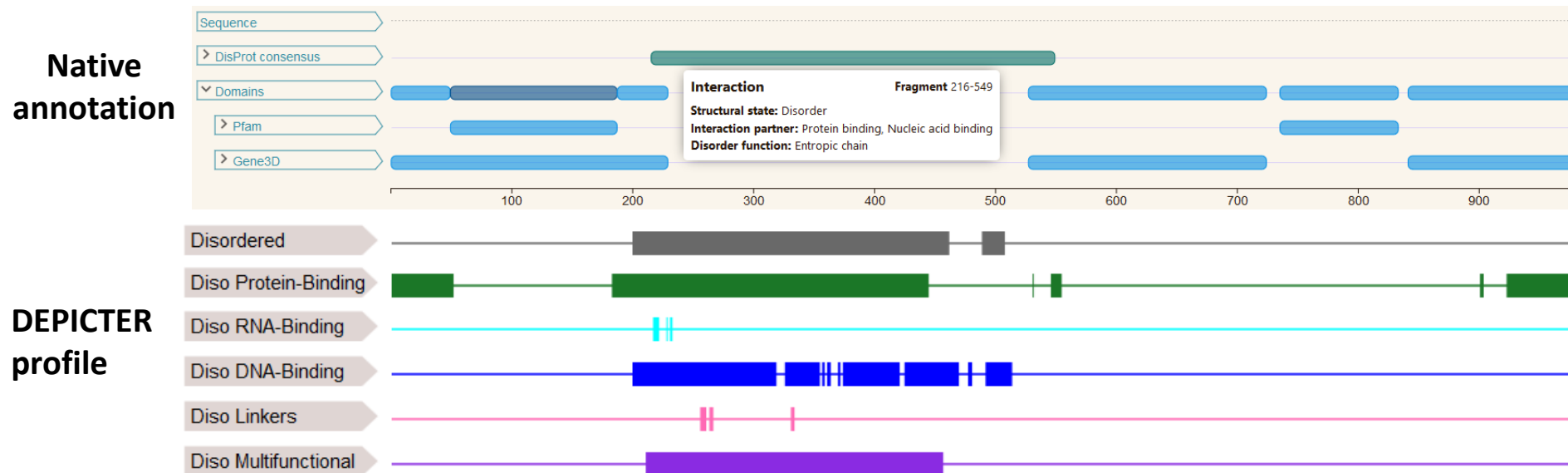
# DEPICTER

DisorderEd Prediction center

<http://biomine.cs.vcu.edu/servers/DEPICTER/>

Webserver for integrated **prediction of disorder and disorder functions**

P06701 (UniProt) / DP00530 (DisProt): **silent information regulator (Sir3p) from yeast**



Barik A, Katuwawala A, ..., Kurgan L. DEPICTER: intrinsic disorder and disorder function prediction server, *J Molecular Biology* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmb.2019.12.030>, 2020

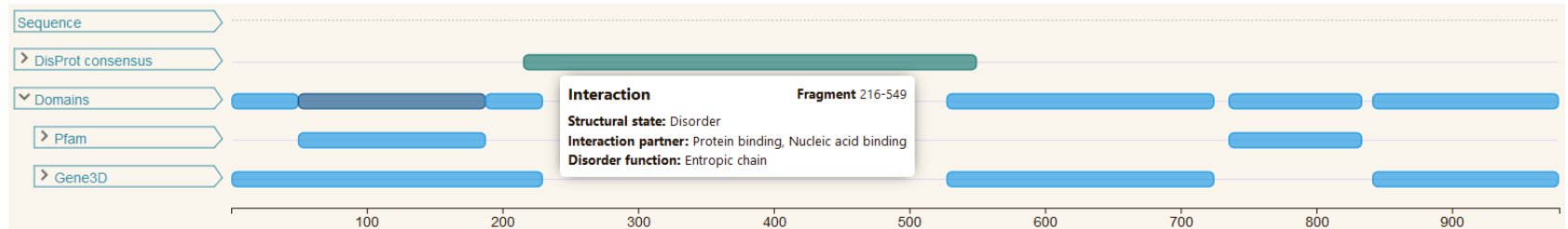
# QUARTER

Quality Assessment for pRotein inTrinsic disordEr pRedictions  
<http://biomine.cs.vcu.edu/servers/QUARTER/>

Webserver for **quality assessment of disorder predictions**

P06701 (UniProt) / DP00530 (DisProt): **silent information regulator (Sir3p) from yeast**

Native  
annotation



QUARTER  
profile



Hu G, Wu Z, Oldfield CJ, Wang C, Kurgan L. Quality assessment for the putative intrinsic disorder in proteins. *Bioinformatics* 35(10):1692-1700, 2019

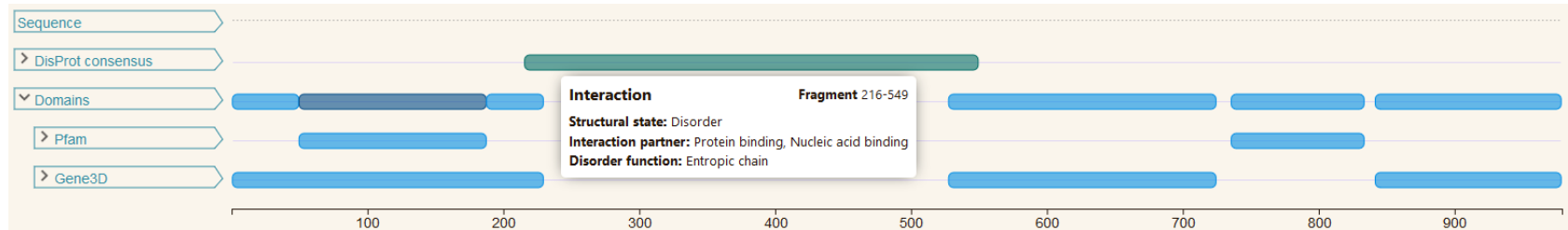
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# Summary

80+ predictors, **23 years** of history

Intrinsic disorder **can be accurately predicted directly from the sequence**

Methods that **predict selected IDR functions** are available

**Modern resources** emphasize convenience and predictive quality

- pre-computed disorder predictions
- integrated prediction of disorder and disorder functions
- indication of predictive quality/uncertainty at the amino acid level

# Acknowledgments



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**Dr. Christopher Oldfield** (Virginia Commonwealth University, USA) <sup>QUARTER</sup>



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**Dr. Zhonghua Wu** (Nankai University, China) <sup>QUARTER</sup>

