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<p>We continue to make significant progress in the development of software for: a) simulating accurate theoretical NOESY spectra based on model structures, motional assumptions, and experimental parameters; b) the statistical comparison of model-dependent calculated spectra and experimental data; and c) the automated extraction of experimental constraints from raw NOESY data. The latter program (DISCON) has been tested using data for a rigid steroid model (in both the small molecule and slow tumbling regime) and simulated data for both a B-DNA and peptide structure. It is currently being used to refine the structures of: GnRH analogs, several peptide macrolide antibiotics, yeast α-factor and small neuropeptides in micelle-associated states, and endothelin (a 21mer bisdisulfide vasoconstrictor produced in the endothelium of the vasculature).</p>			
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Four NOESY data sets for lysobactin, a rigid backbone undecapeptide macrolide, have been subjected to DISCON analysis to derive a new set of distance constraints. (We had previously derived constraints from one of the data sets using a modified ISPA³). A total of 66 constraints for refinement (using CHARMM dynamics and minimization) were selected from the DISCON output. These included 30 intraresidue, 23 sequential, and 13 long-range constraints with the following bounds assigned from the DISCON error analysis.

distance range	# of constraints	ave bounds range (Å)
2.0 - 2.7 Å	21	0.23
2.71- 3.1 Å	23	0.29
3.15- 4.4 Å	22	0.54

The best fitting structures from the refinement displayed only two bound violations exceeding 0.4 Å. The typical values of Σ (violations) was 1.1-1.6 Å, quite remarkable for a set of 66 constraints with an average experimental error of only ± 0.18 Å. The resulting "structure" also is of high precision; the backbone rmsd for the 3 best fitting structures in the set was 0.29 Å.

We believe these examples fully substantiate our claim that DISCON will provide experimental distances of sufficient accuracy for high precision conformational analysis.

One further test of DISCON deserves mention. It is based on simulated data and is our first foray into the area of DNA structural analysis. Brian Reid and K. Banks of this department had previously used a regularized B-DNA model of a self-complementary dodecamer [d(CGCGAATTCGCG)]₂ to generate simulated spectra* for a test of a refinement strategy⁴ that can be outlined as: NOESYS (at several τ_m) \rightarrow initial bounds (from a linear growth ISPA analysis) $\left[\begin{array}{l} \text{DSPACE} \rightarrow \text{model \#n} \\ \text{BKCALC} \rightarrow \text{compare simulated NOESY to "experiment" and} \\ \text{adjust bounds} \end{array} \right]_4 \xrightarrow{\text{DSPACE}} \text{Refined Model}$. The Reid/Banks procedure used $\tau_m = 30, 60, 90, 150$ ms simulated data sets to estimate observable NOE build-up rates. We applied model-free DISCON analysis to the 60 and 150 ms data (with no noise) and a 100 ms τ_m simulation which included reasonable levels of noise. The rms deviations (relative to B-Model, the coordinates that generated the simulated data) of distance constraints by these methods are summarized below.

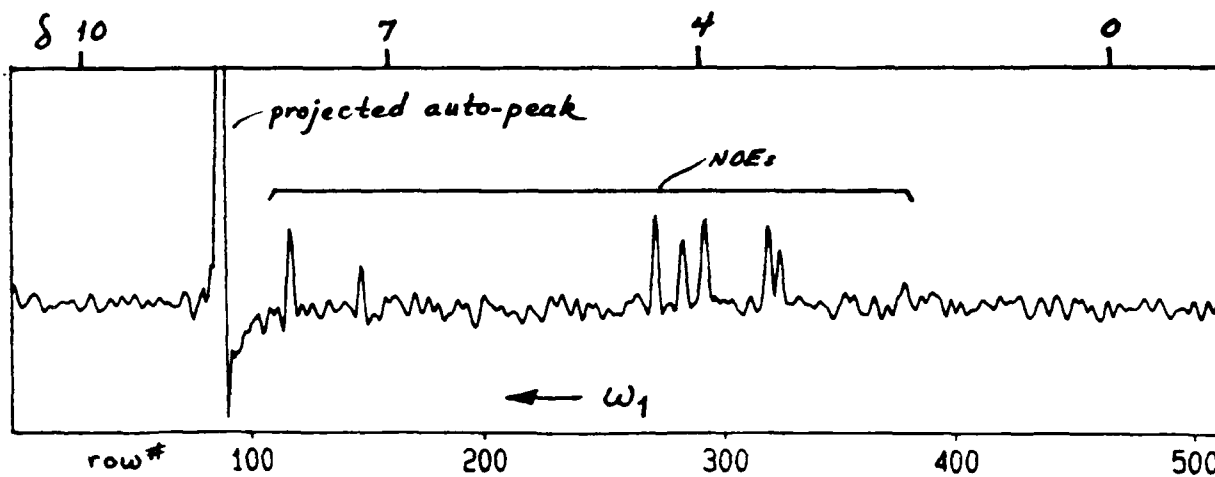
B-MODEL	r.m.s. deviation (Å)				
	initial rate	final bounds	DISCON		
			60 ms	150 ms	100 ms noise
r_{ij} range (Å)	<u>ISPA bounds</u>	<u>4 BKCALC cycles</u>			
1.91-2.3	0.09	0.12	0.01	0.04	0.02
2.31-3.1	0.11	0.09	0.02	0.08	0.06
3.11-3.8	0.33	0.07	0.03	0.17	0.20
3.81-4.7	0.77	0.22	0.17	0.21	0.41

* NOESYSIM reproduces the semi-empirical BKCALC simulation to better than $\pm 3\%$ (relative) when we use $\tau_c = 3.5$ ns, $\rho^* = 0.19$ s⁻¹.

Experimental Results.

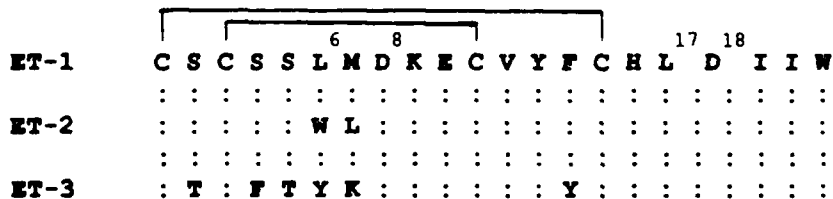
Further studies of the binding of Trp and 6-F-Trp enantiomers to albumin have confirmed that the off-rates are such as to complicate the derivation of a specific-receptor bound conformation. Additional studies are proposed.

We recently worked out procedures for obtaining NOESY data (including backbone NH connectivities) for yeast α -factor (a 13mer pheromone) and [Arg⁸]- α -neoendorphin(1-8), a neuropeptide, in micelle-associated states. Other workers have had to rely on spectra in D₂O which thus lack the structure diagnostic NH interactions. A cross-section of the NOESY of the latter neuropeptide, showing the cross-relaxation spectrum of one of its backbone Gly-NH resonances, appears below.



Clearly we will be able to obtain the required matrix of data necessary for structure elucidation. The yeast α -factor data shows even greater S/N and resolution.

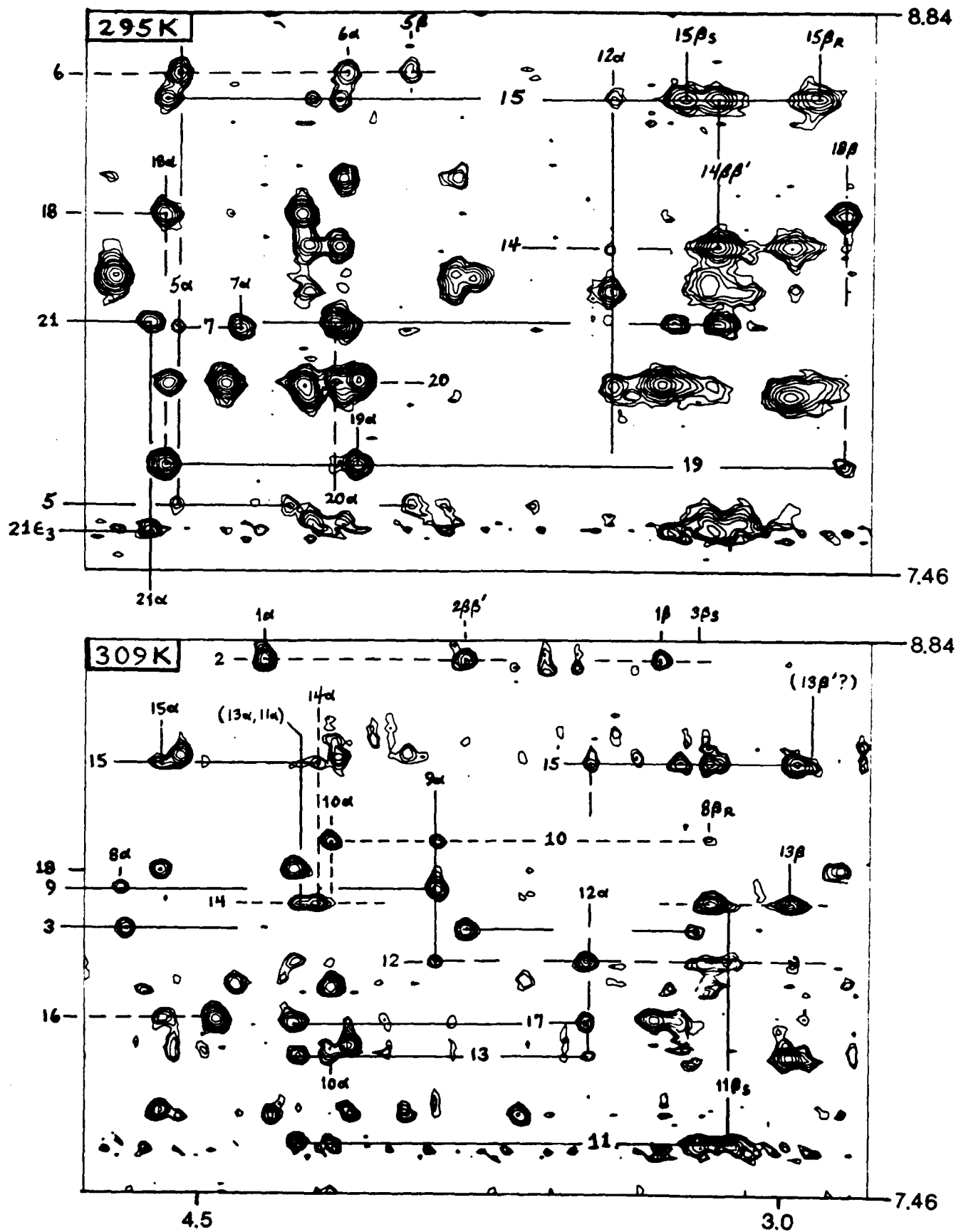
Endothelins, members of a new class of peptide vasoconstrictors, have been the other major arena for data collection. Three representative structures are shown below



ET-2 is perhaps the most potent endogenous vasoconstrictor known. As 21-residue bisdisulfides, they should be amenable to conformation elucidation by 2D NMR using DISCON and restrained dynamics annealing.

We have now collected NOESY data for native ET-1 endothelin in a variety of water/glycol mixtures at 295 and 309° K for both the protonated and neutral His¹⁶ forms in both protonic and deuteronic media. The spectra have been completely assigned at both pHs and at glycol concentrations from 20-80% (v/v). At 60% glycol the temperature gradients for backbone amide-NHs span a wide range (-11.4 - +2.7 ppt/ C) and thus NOESY spectra at different temperatures provide different unambiguous cross-peak intensities. **Figure S1** illustrates this by partially annotated NH/ α , β -H region NOESY for the acid form of ET-1.

Figure S1. The crowded NH/ α H, β H region of the NOESY spectra of 4 mM ET-1 in acidic 4:6 H₂O/*d*₆-glycol at 309°C ($\tau_m = 100$ ms) and 295°C ($\tau_m = 160$ ms).



Quantitative analysis and refinement of endothelin data sets is in progress, but a number of structural features are obvious from a qualitative analysis: 1) residues 9 → 15 form a distorted helix, 2) segmental motion occurs in the backbone for at least a portion of the 1 → 4 region and also probably at 7, 8, 3) a relatively persistent turn occurs in the vicinity of Ser⁵, and 4) the C-terminal tail is not a random coil as might be expected.

WORK PLAN (year 03):

Software Development. We plan to develop automated routines for converting DISCON output into constraints suitable for direct use in XPLOR,⁵ the present gold-standard of restrained dynamics annealing programs for structure refinement based on NOESY data. At present⁶ this program is typically used with very wide bounds categories such as: 1.8-2.7, 2.0-3.5, 2.3-5 and 2.8-6 Å. We expect DISCON constraint bounds of ±0.2 Å to 3.4 Å, ~ ±0.4 Å out to 4⁺ Å should yield much more precise structures; but the best means for incorporating such high precision constraints into XPLOR is problematic. We will use lysobactin as the primary test system for this effort, but the cyclic hexapeptide somatostatin analogs will also serve in this capacity since their structural variability has been better documented in other laboratories.

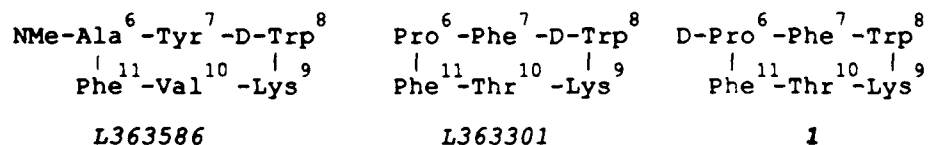
Experimental Work and Specific Structure Refinements

We will continue our refinement studies for endothelin and for yeast α-factor and [Arg⁸]-α-neoendorphin in micelles. The latter study will be extended to a 13mer neuropeptide, dynorphin. We expect to use the DISCON-XLPOR combination in the final stages of structure refinement in all cases.

As previously noted, we will continue to explore the binding geometry associated with the specific binding site of serum albumin for tryptophan. We will evaluate the displacement kinetics of Ac-G-H-K-W using ¹⁹F-NMR with L-6-fluorotryptophan as the specific binding probe. Once we have found conditions with $k_{off} \approx 50 \text{ s}^{-1}$ for the tetrapeptide, we will use exchange transferred NOESY to derive its receptor-bound conformation.

Somatostatin Analogs, rigid systems for testing DISCON

Dr. Freidinger (Merck) has kindly agreed to provide us with two remarkably potent somatostatin analogs (L363301 and L363586, below):



This class of cyclic hexapeptides has been extensively studied. Kessler et al.⁷ applied every known 2D NMR method (including E-COSY, HETCORs, and a quantitative ROESY) to analog 1 and derived a detailed solution structure and compared it to the high resolution x-ray structure of the Lys → Phe substitution analog.

Our studies will focus on L363586 and 363301 in DMSO containing 10-40% H₂O. This cryogenic media should allow us to perform NOESY spectra at sufficiently low temperature so that $\omega r_c > 3$. These results will be compared to a room temperature ROESY. We will attempt to measure every 3-bond J_{CH} and J_{HH} for the molecule and use amide-NH $\Delta\delta/\Delta T$ gradients to determine which backbone NHs are involved in persistent H-bonds.

8. a) A. Rodriguez, B. Arreguin, A. Hernandez and M. Soriano, abstract reprinted in *Biochemistry*, 27, 3092 (1988); b) A. Rodriguez-Romera, B. Arreguin and A. hernandez-Arana, *Biochimica et Biophysics Acta*, 998, 21 (1989).

INVENTIONS: None to report. The computer software for structure refinement that will result should be viewed as the result of joint support by ONR and NSF funding. We do not intend to pursue patent protection but rather will promote use in the research community by open literature publication and code distribution (at nominal cost) to potential academic and government laboratory user groups. Distribution to corporate users will be contingent upon contribution of unrestricted funds for support of continuing development of these computational methods and may be handled by a software vendor.

PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS AND REPORT (cummulative for this contract):

1. H.L. Eaton, N.H. Andersen and X. Lai, Recent Extensions of NOESYSIM, A Program for Rapid Computation of NOESY Intensity Matrices from Atomic Coordinates and Experimental Conditions, Abstract #112, 29th Exper. NMR Conf. (Rochester, N.Y., 4/88).
- *2. X. Lai, P.K. Hammen and T.M. Marschner, Computer-Aided Conformational Analysis Based on NOESY Signal Intensities, ACS Nat'l Mtg (Los Angeles, CA, 9/88); in press as a chapter in an ACS Symposium Volume.
- *3. X. Lai, T.M. Marschner, C. Chen and N.H. Andersen, "DISCON, A New Program for Obtaining Distance Constraints Corrected for Spin Diffusion," Poster #W20, 30th E.N.C., Asilomer, CA (4/89).
- *4. N.H. Andersen, H.L. Eaton and X. Lai, *Magn. Reson. in Chem.* 27, 515 (1989).
- *5. N.H. Andersen, X. Lai, T.M. Marschner, C. Chen, P.K. Hammen and S. Harris, "Programs for Quantitative NOESY Analysis and Application to Biorecognition Phenomena," Molecular Recognition Research Mtg., Charleston, SC (1/90).
- *6. P.K. Hammen K.T. Nguyen and N.H. Andersen, "Media-Induced Changes in GnRH Conformation: an NMR Study," *Biopolymers*, submitted.
- *7. N.H. Andersen and P.K. Hammen, A Conformation-Preference/Potency Correlation for GnRH Analogs: NMR Evidence," *Tetrahedron Let.*, submitted.
- *8. K.M. Banks, B.R. Reid, N.H. Andersen and X. Lai, "A Comparison of Distance Constraints derived by iterative BKCALC bounds and those from application of DISCON to a single NOESY matrix," *TAMU NMR Newsletter*, submitted.
- *9. N.H. Andersen, P.K. Hammen, K. Banks, T. Pratum, M.A. Porubcan and A.A. Tymiak, "Two-Dimensional NMR Elucidation of the Structure of Lysobactin, an Unusual Macrocyuclic Peptide," *Int. J. Peptides and Proteins*, ms in preparation.

Manuscripts and preprints (as available) will be provided together with the Progress Report due 90 JUL.

STUDENTS AND TRAINEES SUPPORTED (89/02/01 - 90/01/31):

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Philip K. Hammen ^b	G.S.	1.5(2.5) ^c	U.S.A. citizen
Chinpan Chen	G.S.	1.5	Taiwan, Chinese
Scott Harris ^b	G.S.	(1.5) ^c	U.S.A. citizen

 a) Status indicated as post-doctoral research associate (post-doc) or a graduate student research assistant (G.S.)

b) Has also worked on contract goals while supported as a teaching assistant.

c) Effort estimate.