

Structure Validation — Ramachandran, Geometry & Energetics — Hands-on

Learn how to rigorously validate protein structures using Ramachandran statistics, backbone and sidechain geometry, steric clashes and energy-based metrics. This module takes you from raw PDB models to fully checked, documented, and simulation-ready structures with clear validation reports suitable for publications and downstream design.

Structure Validation — Ramachandran, Geometry & Energetics

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Session 1

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Ramachandran Plots & Backbone Geometry

Backbone torsion angles and secondary structure

[\$\phi/\psi\$ angles](#) [\$\alpha\$ -helix / \$\beta\$ -sheet / loop regions](#) [cis/trans peptide bonds](#)

Reading and interpreting Ramachandran plots

[favored / allowed / disallowed regions](#) [Gly / Pro / pre-Pro special cases](#) [outlier classification](#)

Backbone geometry validation toolkit

MolProbity / PROCHECK **Phenix validation**
integration with PyMOL / ChimeraX

Session 2

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Sidechains, Rotamers & Steric Clashes

Sidechain geometry and rotamer preferences

rotamer libraries **outlier sidechains** **environment-**
dependence

Steric clashes and packing defects

clashscore and bump analysis **van der Waals**
overlaps **core vs surface packing issues**

Hydrogen bond and salt-bridge networks

donor/acceptor geometry **electrostatic contacts**
water-mediated interactions

Session 3

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Energetics, Force Fields & Stability Checks

Energy functions and scoring terms

bonded vs non-bonded terms **electrostatics / van der**
Waals **implicit solvent models**

Force-field based structure checks

AMBER / CHARMM / OPLS **restrained minimization**
strain and hotspot identification

Stability and suitability for MD/docking

energy profiles and outliers **interface vs core**

stability **screening models before simulation**

Session 4

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Integrated Validation Workflow & Reporting

Designing a structure validation checklist

backbone & sidechain geometry **clashes & packing**
energy and stability metrics

Automation and batch validation

command-line validation tools **Python / shell**
scripting **integration with modelling pipelines**

Deliverables: validation dossier & simulation-ready structure

clean PDB with annotations **validation report**
(PDF/HTML) **before/after comparison figures**