# NMR Determination of Amide N-H Equilibrium Bond Length from Concerted Dipolar Coupling Measurements 

Lishan Yao, Beat Vögeli, Jinfa Ying, and Ad Bax<br>Laboratory of Chemical Physics, NIDDK, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20892-0520

## Theoretical Analysis

RDCs measured in multiple alignments can be expressed as: ${ }^{1,2}$

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{M}}=D_{\max }^{I S}\langle\mathbf{B}\rangle\langle\mathbf{A}\rangle \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{M}}$ is the $L \times N$ RDC matrix and $\mathbf{B}$ is an $L \times 5$ matrix, each row of which is a vector $b$ :
$b=\left\{\left(3 z^{2}-1\right) / 2, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\left(x^{2}-y^{2}\right), \sqrt{3} x z, \sqrt{3} y z, \sqrt{3} x y\right\}$,
where $(x, y, z)$ are the Cartesian coordinates of the internuclear vector. $\mathbf{A}$ is a $5 \times N$ matrix, each column of which is a vector $a$. The vector $a$ has the same form as $b$, but with $x, y, z$ denoting the orientation of the magnetic field in the molecular frame. $D_{\max }^{I S}$ is a constant, defined as
$D_{\text {max }}^{I S}=-\mu_{0} \hbar \gamma_{I} \gamma_{S}\left\langle r_{I S}^{-3}\right\rangle / 4 \pi^{2}$
where $\mu_{0}$ is the magnetic permittivity of vacuum, $\hbar$ is the Planck's constant, $\gamma_{X}$ is the gyromagnetic ratio of spin X , and $r_{I S}$ is the inter-nuclear distance. By assuming a group of residues with only symmetric motions of uniform amplitude, described by an order parameter $S$, eq 1 can be written as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{M}}=\mathbf{B A} m a t \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

with the apparent alignment matrix Amat given by:
$\mathbf{A m a t}=-\mu_{0} \hbar \gamma_{I} \gamma_{S}\left\langle r_{\text {IS }}^{-3}\right\rangle S\langle\mathbf{A}\rangle / 4 \pi^{2}$
If two types of RDCs are measured in a given macromolecule, such as $\mathrm{C}^{\alpha}-\mathrm{C}^{\prime}$ and $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{N}}$ in the present study, the apparent alignment matrix element ratio is
$\frac{\operatorname{Amat}\left(C^{\prime} C \alpha\right)}{\operatorname{Amat}(N H)}=\frac{\gamma_{C} \gamma_{C} S_{C^{\prime} C \alpha}\left(\frac{1}{r_{C^{\prime} C \alpha}^{3}}\right\rangle}{\gamma_{N} \gamma_{H} S_{N H}\left(\frac{1}{r_{N H}^{3}}\right\rangle}$
The apparent alignment matrix of $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ is determined by using the iterative DIDC method, ${ }^{2}$ starting from the GB3 NMR-refined X-ray structure (PDB entry 2OED). Use of the 2OED starting structure results in $100 \%$ convergence, but the results do not depend on the starting point. ${ }^{2}$ A total of 45 residues are included in the procedure, with the remaining 11 being filtered out because of fast amide proton exchange with solvent ( N terminal 2 residues), by resonance overlap in one or more of the mutants ( 5 residues), or due to elevated dynamics, as identified by the iterative DIDC protocol ${ }^{2}$ (4 residues). The
same iterative DIDC procedure is used to determine the alignment matrices of the $\mathrm{C}^{\alpha}-\mathrm{C}^{\prime}$ bond vectors for the five mutants.

This study evaluated the dynamics of the $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ bond relative to a frame defined by the $\mathrm{C}^{\alpha}-\mathrm{C}^{\prime}$ bond vectors. Isotropic internal motions of rigid peptide groups to a first approximation impacts $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ and $\mathrm{C}^{\alpha}-\mathrm{C}^{\prime}$ bond vectors equally and factors out in our dynamics evaluation. The $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ bond dynamics relative to the $\mathrm{C} / \mathrm{N}$-atom frame remains, however, as does the effect of anisotropy of the peptide plane motion about the $\mathrm{C}^{\alpha}-\mathrm{C}^{\alpha}$ axis (so-called $\gamma$ motions). ${ }^{3,4}$ Here we build a coordinate system, with the origin on the amide N atom, the z axis parallel to the time-averaged $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ orientation, the $y$ axis in the plane defined by $\mathrm{C}^{\prime}, \mathrm{N}$ and $\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{N}}$, and the $x$ axis perpendicular to this plane. The displacement distribution function of $\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{N}}$ in this frame is defined as $\rho(r, \theta, \phi)$, where $(r, \theta, \phi)$ are the $\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{N}}$ polar coordinates. To a good approximation, the bond stretching motion and angular libration are separable, so that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\rho(r, \theta, \phi) \approx \rho_{1}(r) \rho_{2}(\theta, \phi) \tag{7}
\end{equation*}
$$

Below, we will treat bond stretching using quantum statistical mechanics, but approximate angular fluctuations by Gaussian distributions, in agreement with classical statistical mechanics when the amplitude of the librations is small.

## $\mathbf{N}-\mathrm{H}$ bond stretching

The stretching motion around the equilibrium bond length can be described by harmonic oscillation with a small anharmonic correction. The approximate energy potential is:

$$
\begin{equation*}
E=E_{0}+\frac{1}{2} k\left(r-r_{e q}\right)^{2}+\frac{1}{6} f\left(r-r_{e q}\right)^{3} \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $r_{e q}$ is the equilibrium bond length, $E_{0}$ is the energy in the equilibrium, $k$ and $f$ are force constants. $E_{0}$ acts as a reference and has no influence on the distribution function, and is therefore omitted in the derivation below. Instead of solving the Schrödinger equation for the energy function of eq 8 , we first solve the equation for an ideal quantum harmonic oscillator and subsequently use first order perturbation theory to include the effect of anharmonicity. For a quantum oscillator with the Hamiltonian

$$
\begin{equation*}
H=\frac{p^{2}}{2 m}+\frac{1}{2} m \omega^{2} x^{2} \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\omega=(k / m)^{1 / 2}$, the solution of the Schrödinger equation is, ${ }^{5}$
$\psi_{n}(x)=\sqrt{\frac{1}{2^{n} n!}}\left(\frac{m \omega}{\pi \hbar}\right)^{1 / 4} \exp \left(-\frac{m \omega x^{2}}{2 \hbar}\right) H_{n}\left(\sqrt{\frac{m \omega}{\hbar}} x\right)$
in which
$H_{n}(x)=(-1)^{n} \exp \left(x^{2}\right) \frac{d^{n}}{d x^{n}} \exp \left(-x^{2}\right)$
$E_{n}=\hbar \omega(n+1 / 2)$
The equilibrium wave function in the canonical ensemble then is given by
$\psi_{e q}(x)=\sum \exp \left(-E_{n} / k_{B} T\right) \psi_{n}(x) / \sum \exp \left(-E_{n} / k_{B} T\right)$
where $k_{B}$ is the Boltzmann constant and $T$ is the temperature. It is worth noting that the energy difference between the ground state $(n=0)$ and the first excited state $(n=1)$ equals $\sim 10 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ for the $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ stretching motion, where $k_{B} T$ is $\sim 0.6 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}$ in room temperature. The coefficient of the first excitation state in eq 13 is $\sim 10^{7}$ times smaller than for the ground state, and all excited states may be safely ignored, simplifying eq 13 to:
$\psi_{e q}(x) \approx \psi_{0}(x)=\left(\frac{m \omega}{\pi \hbar}\right)^{1 / 4} \exp \left(-\frac{m \omega x^{2}}{2 \hbar}\right)$
The fluctuation of $x$ is
$\left\langle x^{2}\right\rangle=\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x^{2} \psi_{0}^{*}(x) \psi_{0}(x) d x=\frac{\hbar}{2 m \omega}$
equal to what was obtained by quantum statistics, ${ }^{6}$ in the limit $\hbar \omega \gg k_{B} T$ :
$\left\langle x^{2}\right\rangle=\frac{\hbar}{2 m \omega} \operatorname{coth} \frac{\hbar \omega}{2 k_{B} T}$.
To consider the effect of anharmonicity on the wave function, first order perturbation theory yields:

$$
\begin{align*}
& E=E_{0}+H_{00}^{\prime}+\sum_{m \neq 0} \frac{\left|H_{0 m}^{\prime}\right|^{2}}{E_{0}-E_{m}}+\ldots  \tag{17}\\
& \Psi(x)=\psi_{0}(x)+\sum_{m \neq 0} \frac{H_{0 m}^{\prime}}{E_{0}-E_{m}} \psi_{m}(x)+\ldots \tag{18}
\end{align*}
$$

where
$H_{0 m}^{\prime}=\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{6} f x^{3} \psi_{0}^{*}(x) \psi_{m}(x) d x$
$H_{0 m}^{\prime}$ can be derived from eqs 10,11 and 19. Since $\psi_{m}(x)$ is an odd function when $\mathrm{m}=1,3,5 \ldots$, and an even function when $\mathrm{m}=0,2,4 \ldots, H^{\prime}{ }_{0 m}$ is zero when m is an even number. For the first odd component one finds:

$$
\begin{equation*}
H_{01}^{\prime}=(4 \sqrt{2})^{-1} f\left(\frac{\hbar}{m \omega}\right)^{3 / 2} \tag{20}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $f$ is the force constant of eq 8 . By ignoring the higher order perturbation, the wave function of eq 18 can be approximated by:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\Psi(x)=\psi_{0}(x)-(4 \sqrt{2})^{-1} f \hbar^{1 / 2} m^{3 / 2} \omega^{5 / 2} \psi_{1}(x) \tag{21}
\end{equation*}
$$

It is then straightforward to calculate $<\mathrm{x}\rangle$ :

$$
\begin{equation*}
\langle x\rangle=\frac{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x \Psi^{*}(x) \Psi(x) d x}{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Psi^{*}(x) \Psi(x) d x}=-\frac{f \hbar}{4 m^{2} \omega^{3}\left(1+c^{2}\right)} \approx-\frac{f}{2 m \omega^{2}}\left\langle x^{2}\right\rangle \tag{22}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $c=(4 \sqrt{2})^{-1} f \hbar^{1 / 2} m^{3 / 2} \omega^{5 / 2}$ and $c^{2}$ is very small (see below), permitting the approximation of eq 22, commonly found in the literature. ${ }^{7}$ The non-zero average of $\langle x\rangle$ is caused by anharmonicity of the oscillation. We can then write the density function as

$$
\begin{equation*}
\rho_{1}(x)=\left(\frac{m \omega}{\pi \hbar}\right)^{1 / 2} \exp \left(-\frac{m \omega x^{2}}{\hbar}\right)\left(1-c \sqrt{\frac{2 m \omega}{\hbar}} x\right)^{2} /\left(1+c^{2}\right) . \tag{23}
\end{equation*}
$$

During the derivation of eq 23 , the equilibrium value of $x$ is assumed to be zero. The general form of $\rho_{1}$ therefore should be written as:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\rho_{1}(r)=\left(\frac{m \omega}{\pi \hbar}\right)^{1 / 2} \exp \left(-\frac{m \omega\left(r-r_{e q}\right)^{2}}{\hbar}\right)\left(1-c \sqrt{\frac{2 m \omega}{\hbar}}\left(r-r_{e q}\right)\right)^{2} /\left(1+c^{2}\right) \tag{24}
\end{equation*}
$$

in which $r_{e q}$ is the equilibrium distance. In our polar coordinate system $r>0$, whereas the range of $x$ is $[-\infty,+\infty]$ in eq 23. However, the high frequency of the $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ bond stretching restrains $r$ to a very narrow distribution, making it appropriate to use eq 24 for $\rho_{1}(r)$. To proceed further, we employ the force constants $k\left(1109.8 \mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}-\AA^{2}\right)$ and $f(-6577.2$ $\mathrm{kcal} / \mathrm{mol}-\AA^{3}$ ) calculated for N -methylacetamide $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ bond stretching by MP2 quantum methods ${ }^{8}$ to derive the distribution function $\rho_{1}(r)$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
\rho_{1}(r)=5.676 \exp \left(-103.64\left(r-r_{e q}\right)^{2}\right)\left(1+1.572\left(r-r_{e q}\right)\right)^{2} \tag{25}
\end{equation*}
$$

The corresponding coefficient $c^{2}$ is rather small, only 0.012 . From eq 25 one obtains $\langle r\rangle=0.0154+r_{\text {eq }}$
Another important average is the value of $\left\langle r^{-3}\right\rangle^{-1 / 3}$, which is the pertinent bond length average in RDC and ${ }^{15} \mathrm{~N}$ relaxation studies, denoted $r_{\text {eff }}$ in the main text, and can also be evaluated from eq 25 . Numeric solution of $r_{e f f}-r_{e q}$ and $\langle r\rangle-r_{e q}$ versus $r_{e q}$ are plotted in Figure S2, and show the nearly constant difference between $<r>$ and $r_{e q}$, whereas $r_{e f f}-r_{e q}$ scales with $r_{e q}$.

## N-H libration

The next step is to find a suitable angular distribution for the N-H bond libration, describing motions of the proton in directions orthogonal to the time-averaged $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ vector. The librational motion in $(\theta, \phi)$ space is difficult to depict physically, and is more conveniently described by 2D Cartesian coordinates $(u, v)$ of a unit vector with average orientation along $z$, where $u$ is along $x$ and $v$ along $y$. Here we assume a 2D Gaussian distributed motion with

$$
\begin{equation*}
\rho(u, v)=\frac{1}{2 \pi \sigma_{u} \sigma_{v}} \exp \left(-u^{2} / 2 \sigma_{u}^{2}\right) \exp \left(-v^{2} / 2 \sigma_{v}^{2}\right) \tag{27}
\end{equation*}
$$

Together with distribution function $\rho_{1}(r)$ from eq 25 , we have

$$
\begin{align*}
& \rho(r, u, v)=\rho(u, v) \rho_{1}(r) \\
& =\frac{5.676}{2 \pi \sigma_{u} \sigma_{v}} \exp \left(-103.64\left(r-r_{e q}\right)^{2}\right)\left(1+1.572\left(r-r_{e q}\right)\right)^{2} \exp \left(-u^{2} / 2 \sigma_{u}^{2}\right) \exp \left(-v^{2} / 2 \sigma_{v}^{2}\right) \tag{28}
\end{align*}
$$

For $\sigma_{u, v} \ll 1$, the order parameter $S$ and asymmetric motion parameter $\eta$ then are obtained from:

$$
\begin{align*}
& S=\left(3\left(1-\sigma_{u}^{2}-\sigma_{v}^{2}\right)-1\right) / 2  \tag{29}\\
& \eta=\left(\sigma_{v}^{2}-\sigma_{u}^{2}\right) / S \tag{30}
\end{align*}
$$

Eq 28 is used as the distribution function for the H atom in the RDC fitting procedure.

## Fitting of $\mathbf{C}^{\mathbf{\prime}}-\mathbf{H}^{\mathrm{N}}$ RDCs

In a first step, the $\mathrm{C}^{\prime}-\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{N}}$ RDCs of 45 rigid residues were fitted to obtain the equilibrium bond length $r_{e q}$ and $S$ with the constraint $\sigma_{u}^{2}=\sigma_{v}^{2}$, and using the constraint $S_{N H}^{\prime}\left\langle 1 / r_{N H}{ }^{3}\right\rangle=0.872$ obtained from the iterative DIDC analysis. Using the iterative DIDC method and eq 5, the alignment matrix itself is determined from the amide $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ RDCs, which carry the highest measurement precision. The average orientation of each $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ vector is determined from $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ RDCs in separate measurements (see discussion below). The fitting results were shown in table 1 of the main text, with which the explicit form of eq. 28 was obtained,
$\rho(r, u, v)=\frac{5.676}{0.06 \pi} \exp \left(-103.64(r-1.008)^{2}\right)(1+1.572(r-1.008))^{2} \exp \left(-u^{2} / 0.06\right) \exp \left(-v^{2} / 0.06\right)$
In the second step, $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ and $\mathrm{C}^{\prime}-\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{N}}$ RDCs of each secondary structure fragments are fitted without the constraint $\sigma_{u}^{2}=\sigma_{v}^{2}$, and allowing for residue-specific $S$ and $\eta$ values, but with the $r_{e q}$ obtained from the first step. In this two-step fitting process, a numeric distribution of $\rho(r, u, v)$ is generated and used for further analysis.

Besides the acquired $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ RDCs described in the main text, a slightly different series of HNCO experiments were also performed to simultaneously extract ${ }^{15} \mathrm{~N}-{ }^{1} \mathrm{H},{ }^{13} \mathrm{C}^{\alpha}$ ${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}^{\prime}$ RDCs, without $\mathrm{C}^{\alpha}$ decoupling during $\mathrm{C}^{\prime}$ evolution and ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ decoupling off during nitrogen evolution. The primary purpose of these experiments was to determine RDCs and residual chemical shift anisotropy contributions to the chemical shifts, which permit extracting CSA of $\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{N}}, \mathrm{N}$ and $\mathrm{C}^{\prime},{ }^{10}$ which will be discussed in a separate paper. In addition to the five mutants described in the main text, the sixth mutant K19EK4A was also included in these measurements. The six alignments again were determined from N H RDCs using iterative DIDC, and the average orientation of each $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ vector is calculated by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\langle\mathbf{B}\rangle=\frac{1}{D_{\max }^{I S}} \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{M}}\langle\mathbf{A}\rangle^{+} \tag{31}
\end{equation*}
$$

and used for the $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ and $\mathrm{C}^{\prime}-\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{N}}$ RDCs fitting described above. Using $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{C}^{\alpha}-\mathrm{H}^{\alpha}$ angles derived from these $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ vector orientations and the $\mathrm{C}^{\alpha}-\mathrm{H}^{\alpha}$ bond vector orientations obtained in our previous study, ${ }^{2}$ fitting of ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HNH} \alpha}$ values to the Karplus equation gives a record low rmsd of 0.33 Hz (Figure S3). ${ }^{11}$
The order parameter of each $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ vector can also be obtained from eq 31. But as discussed previously, ${ }^{2}$ the order parameter is far more sensitive to experimental error than the structure. We carried out a two-step procedure to fit experimental RDCs as discussed
in our early study. Initially, the RDCs were fitted using the symmetric motion model, but if the fitting error exceeds the measurement error the fit was repeated using the full fiveparameter asymmetric motion model, yielding both $S$ and $\eta$ values. The resulting $S$ values are plotted in Figure S4. The purpose of the site-specific fitting is to repeat the analysis carried out in our early iterative DIDC paper but with better quality RDCs. The order parameters were compared to relaxation order parameters as well as order parameter from GAF model determined by Blackledge et. al as shown in Fig. S4.


Figure S1. Definition of the coordinate system used (see text). The origin is set at the $N$ atom; $C, N$ and the time-averaged $H$ position fall in the yz plane, and the z axis corresponds to the time-averaged N - H orientation.


Figure S2. (A) The N-H bond elongation of $\langle r\rangle$ and $r_{\text {eff }}$, where $r_{\text {eff }}=1 /\left\langle r^{-3}\right\rangle^{1 / 3}$.


Figure S3. Fit of experimental ${ }^{3} J_{\mathrm{HNH} \alpha}$ values in $\mathrm{GB} 3{ }^{11}$ to an optimized Karplus equation, using dihedral angles corresponding to the $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ orientations newly obtained from RDCs $\left(\mathrm{C}^{\alpha}-\mathrm{H}^{\alpha}\right.$ orientations from Yao et al. ${ }^{2}$ ). The rmsd is 0.33 Hz , with mobile residues D40 and L12 not included in the fit and rmsd calculation.


Figure S4. Generalized order parameter, $S$, of $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{H}$ vectors. The filled symbols represent residues that could be fitted to within the experimental RDC error $( \pm 0.3 \mathrm{~Hz})$ with the symmetric motion model, while the open symbols are for residues that required the asymmetric motion model to achieve a satisfactory fit to the RDCs. Residues K19 and G41 (cyan) show small discrepancies of structure or/and dynamics in different mutants, but for completeness are nevertheless included in the figure (in cyan). The red line corresponds to ${ }^{15} \mathrm{~N}$ relaxation order parameters derived by Hall and Fushman, ${ }^{12}$ using the axially symmetric diffusion model. The relaxation order parameters were scaled by 0.985 to match the bond length 1.015 obtained in this study (vs $1.02 \AA$ used by Hall and Fushman). The RDCs order parameters are scaled by $S_{N H}=S_{N H}^{\prime} S_{C^{\prime} C \alpha}=0.910 \times 0.990=$ 0.901 , where 0.990 accounts for the calculated zero-point libration of the $\mathrm{C}^{\prime} \mathrm{C}^{\alpha}$ bond vectors ( $S_{C^{\prime} C \alpha}=0.990$ ).


Figure S5. Impact of hydrogen bond length on the N-H equilibrium bond length from DFT calculations for the model system shown in (B). The initial geometry of the system was obtained from the GB3 2OED structure, with the center phenylalanine geometry
taken from F52 and two formamide positions matched to the backbone atoms of its Hbond partners, K4 and D46. The system was geometry optimized at the B3LYP/6$311++\mathrm{G}^{* *}$ level using the Gaussian03 program ${ }^{13}$ by restraining all heavy atom dihedral angles of the center residue as well as the positions of the two formamide moieties relative to the peptide backbone, while allowing bond lengths and angles to vary. Then the $\mathrm{O}-\mathrm{H}$ distance $\left(\mathrm{d}_{\mathrm{OH}}\right)$ was altered stepwise from $1.8 \AA$ to $2.6 \AA$ by translating the H -bond-accepting formamide along the $\mathrm{H} . . . \mathrm{O}$ direction away from the phenylalanine (panel B), after which the entire model system is re-optimized. During this re-optimization, all non-H-atom dihedral angles of the peptide are fixed at their starting values, as are the orientations and positions of the two formamide fragments relative to the peptide backbone, each defined by one distance, two angular, and three dihedral angle restraints.

Table S1. Experimental N-H RDCs of 5 GB3 mutants. The RDCs of each mutant are scaled to produce $\mathrm{Da} \approx 10 \mathrm{~Hz}$.

|  |  |  | K19EK4A-C- | K19EK4A-N- | K19AT11K |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Residue | K19AD47K | K19ED40N | His <br> 6 | His $_{6}$ | K19 |
| 3 | -8.831 | 13.148 | -9.503 | -11.378 | -15.477 |
| 4 | -5.908 | 20.057 | -13.106 | -13.075 | -11.522 |
| 5 | -6.669 | 9.532 | -6.603 | -10.257 | -1.991 |
| 6 | -5.216 | 10.068 | -3.159 | -11.028 | -5.03 |
| 7 | -4.337 | -2.381 | -0.795 | -8.015 | 3.143 |
| 8 | -7.248 | -2.561 | 7.401 | -7.313 | -4.12 |
| 9 | -1.403 | -2.413 | -2.651 | -3.136 | 7.761 |
| 10 | -9.646 | -10.478 | $\mathrm{~N} / \mathrm{A}$ | -6.318 | -7.318 |
| 11 | -8.625 | -6.683 | $\mathrm{~N} / \mathrm{A}$ | -0.271 | -5.03 |
| 12 | -5.358 | 0.923 | -3.862 | -8.985 | -3.044 |
| 13 | -4.913 | 12.244 | -6.041 | -10.286 | -5.647 |
| 14 | -6.545 | 10.961 | -6.555 | -11.185 | -4.716 |
| 15 | -6.345 | 10.548 | -6.745 | -11.554 | -5.517 |
| 16 | -5.823 | 14.795 | -8.994 | -11.292 | -6.3 |
| 17 | -6.724 | 17.333 | -11.34 | -12.768 | -11.851 |
| 18 | -4.235 | 16.124 | -13.706 | -12.266 | -14.836 |
| 19 | -4.478 | 13.842 | -13.048 | -11.98 | -14.697 |
| 20 | -2.9 | 0.178 | -5.959 | -9.232 | -12.158 |
| 21 | -4.855 | 2.851 | -6.923 | -10.013 | -14.182 |
| 22 | 8.617 | 13.704 | -13.392 | -5.178 | -6.871 |
| 23 | 6.814 | 16.257 | -14.06 | -6.823 | -8.573 |
| 24 | 13.435 | N/A | N/A | 7.108 | 4.377 |
| 25 | $\mathrm{~N} / \mathrm{A}$ | $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}$ | $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}$ | 4.907 | 5.073 |
| 26 | 9.603 | 15.263 | -15.032 | -4.2 | -6.094 |
| 27 | 9.37 | 13.286 | -7.956 | -0.651 | -3.115 |
| 28 | 15.819 | 3.482 | -1.686 | 11.53 | 8.961 |
| 29 | 15.378 | 8.355 | -13.037 | 1.938 | 0.777 |

-S10 -

| 30 | 9.648 | 14.394 | -10.87 | -1.682 | -3.575 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 31 | 9.586 | 5.115 | 2.483 | 8.284 | 3.624 |
| 32 | 18.319 | -0.07 | -3.781 | 13.767 | 11.808 |
| 33 | 14.912 | 9.236 | -10.44 | 4.043 | 1.876 |
| 34 | 9.134 | 11.821 | -5.181 | 1.316 | -1.538 |
| 35 | $\mathrm{~N} / \mathrm{A}$ | 2.399 | 2.709 | 11.956 | 7.068 |
| 36 | 18.136 | 2.848 | -6.529 | 10.548 | 8.546 |
| 37 | 5.624 | 16.841 | -11.467 | -5.218 | -6.566 |
| 38 | -7.518 | -8.426 | 20.017 | 6.5 | -2.252 |
| 39 | 2.764 | -7.341 | 12.059 | 16.999 | 12.422 |
| 40 | -0.343 | -6.811 | 17.124 | 11.303 | 3.564 |
| 41 | -0.099 | -8.135 | 16.849 | 11.117 | 6.394 |
| 42 | -8.711 | -9.641 | 18.406 | 1.09 | -4.237 |
| 43 | -5.528 | -9.203 | 3.766 | -8.621 | -0.613 |
| 44 | -6.061 | 9.363 | -4.326 | -11.103 | -3.498 |
| 45 | -7.255 | 11.144 | -6.366 | -10.579 | -3.625 |
| 46 | -7.175 | 17.121 | -10.876 | -12.274 | -8.454 |
| 47 | -4.162 | 3.553 | -5.598 | -4.789 | 3.294 |
| 48 | 4.532 | -3.774 | 1.928 | 11.868 | 14.888 |
| 49 | 9.268 | -9.579 | -3.297 | 7.619 | 16.901 |
| 50 | -5.21 | 16.556 | -9.528 | -11.525 | -7.224 |
| 51 | -7.808 | 18.331 | -12.075 | -12.818 | -12.644 |
| 52 | -7.321 | 11.522 | -7.132 | -8.33 | -2.486 |
| 53 | -6.054 | 6.176 | -2.486 | -10.961 | -3.698 |
| 54 | -5.946 | -0.957 | -0.603 | -9.455 | -0.143 |
| 55 | -6.058 | 1.31 | 4.217 | -8.846 | -4.087 |
| 56 | -5.579 | -7.386 | 2.308 | -8.397 | 0.874 |

Table S2. Experimental $\mathrm{C}^{\prime}-\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{N}}$ RDCs of 5 GB 3 mutants. The $\mathrm{C}^{\prime}-\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{N}}$ RDCs of each mutant are scaled by the same factor as corresponding N-H RDCs.

| Residue | K19AD47K | K19ED40N | K19EK4A- $^{\text {K. }}$ <br> 3 | 2.363 | 2.129 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| C-His $_{6}$ | -5.093 | K19EK4A- <br> N-His $_{6}$ | K19AT11K |  |  |
| 4 | -3.706 | 2.665 | -0.433 | -0.671 | -3.044 |
| 5 | 0.008 | 6.239 | -2.966 | -3.313 | -3.458 |
| 6 | -2.401 | 3.359 | -2.172 | -1.749 | -0.194 |
| 7 | -1.277 | 4.14 | -1.13 | -3.259 | -2.404 |
| 8 | -1.601 | 0.845 | -1.801 | -2.781 | 0.914 |
| 9 | -2.449 | 4.984 | N/A | -3.442 | -2.427 |
| $10^{*}$ | 1.631 | -3.374 | N/A | -1.335 | 0.552 |
| $11^{*}$ | -4.379 | -2.668 | N/A | 1.31 | -2.035 |
| $12^{*}$ | -1.503 | 1.644 | 0.442 | -1.883 | -2.602 |
| 13 | -1.294 | -1.639 | 0.063 | -2.489 | 0.958 |
| 14 | 0.351 | $\mathrm{~N} / \mathrm{A}$ | $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{A}$ | -1.773 | -2.183 |
| 15 | -0.587 | -0.393 | -0.091 | 0.823 | N/A |

-S11 -

| 16 | -0.844 | 2.544 | 0.405 | -1.971 | -1.773 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 17 | -3.052 | 1.316 | 1.157 | 0.56 | 0.047 |
| 18 | 1.49 | 5.524 | -3.203 | -2.114 | -2.579 |
| 19 | -4.853 | 1.001 | 1.698 | -0.515 | -3.069 |
| 20 | 0.099 | 5.815 | -5.212 | -3.584 | -4.61 |
| 21 | -5.136 | -3.774 | 4.922 | -2.54 | N/A |
| 22* | 6.519 | -0.762 | -2.409 | 4.243 | 4.282 |
| 23 | -3.08 | 6.403 | -3.916 | -4.649 | -4.792 |
| 24* | -0.774 | N/A | N/A | 0.989 | -0.555 |
| $25 *$ | N/A | N/A | N/A | 5.204 | 7.081 |
| 26 | 0.156 | 1.664 | -3.778 | -3.217 | -4.643 |
| 27 | -1.491 | 5.161 | -2.484 | -4 | -2.778 |
| 28 | 0.275 | -1.913 | 5.362 | 4.715 | 2.249 |
| 29 | 5.567 | -2.601 | -3.057 | 2.286 | 4.433 |
| 30 | -1.106 | 5.98 | -4.809 | -4.017 | -5.39 |
| 31 | -1.738 | 0.429 | 2.92 | -1.142 | -1.602 |
| 32 | 2.955 | -2.569 | 3.07 | 6.425 | 6.183 |
| 33 | 4.359 | -0.475 | -4.571 | -0.098 | 0.663 |
| 34 | -1.059 | 6.792 | -4.286 | -4.25 | -4.009 |
| 35* | N/A | -1.973 | 5.485 | 1.772 | -0.633 |
| 36 | 5.377 | -2.743 | -0.546 | 5.257 | 7.379 |
| 37 | -1.063 | 5.128 | -4.668 | -3.594 | -5.592 |
| 38 | -3.381 | -3.12 | 4.24 | -1.948 | -1.886 |
| 39 | 5.733 | -0.74 | 0.114 | 5.239 | 4.889 |
| 40* | -0.209 | -2.243 | 3.726 | 4.338 | 3.257 |
| 41* | 2.996 | -0.448 | 1.42 | 2.045 | 2.1 |
| 42 | -4.543 | -2.146 | 2.848 | -1.56 | -4.653 |
| 43 | -2.323 | -1.097 | 4.579 | -0.696 | -1.603 |
| 44 | -0.47 | -2.927 | -0.336 | -1.997 | 2.293 |
| 45 | 0.223 | 6.462 | -3.09 | -3.358 | -3.69 |
| 46 | -1.365 | -0.043 | -1.438 | -2.081 | 1.864 |
| 47 | -1.91 | 4.582 | N/A | -4.223 | -2.511 |
| 48 | -3.612 | -0.243 | 3.325 | 1.617 | -0.534 |
| 49 | 6.562 | -1.406 | -2.57 | 3.868 | 5.013 |
| 50 | -2.386 | 0.241 | 0.947 | -3.408 | -1.141 |
| 51 | -2.791 | 1.314 | 0.695 | 1.18 | 0.746 |
| 52 | -2.047 | 6.429 | -4.675 | -4.139 | -5.58 |
| 53 | -0.625 | 0.002 | -1.169 | -0.533 | 3.315 |
| 54 | -0.695 | 4.98 | -2.478 | -3.1 | -3.016 |
| 55 | -1.016 | 0.475 | -1.383 | -2.122 | 2.306 |
| 56 | -1.487 | 2.285 | 1.188 | -2.217 | -1.883 |

* Residues not included in the uniform bond length fitting.
-S12 -

Table S3. Experimental N-H RDCs of 6 GB3 mutants. The RDCs of each mutant are scaled to produce $\mathrm{Da} \approx 10 \mathrm{~Hz}$. The N-H RDCs were obtained from different measurements in different time (see supplementary text). As a result, the N-H RDCs are slightly different from those in Table S1.

| Residue | K19AD47 | K19ED40 | K19EK4 | K19EK4 | K19AT11 | K19EK4 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | K | N | A-C-His ${ }_{6}$ | A-N-His ${ }_{6}$ | K | A |
| 3 | -9.011 | 14.211 | -8.884 | -11.599 | -15.448 | -10.559 |
| 4 | -5.982 | 19.744 | -12.991 | -13.076 | -11.783 | -14.568 |
| 5 | -7.161 | 9.511 | -6.312 | -10.149 | -1.993 | -7.224 |
| 6 | -5.59 | 10.088 | -3.089 | -11.398 | -4.981 | -7.409 |
| 7 | -4.718 | -2.286 | -0.711 | -8.019 | 3.054 | -1.801 |
| 8 | -7.293 | -2.589 | 7.778 | -7.337 | -4.067 | 5.642 |
| 9 | -1.895 | -2.266 | -2.771 | -3.193 | 7.882 | -3.727 |
| 10 | -9.777 | -10.394 | N/A | -6.329 | -7.413 | 8.931 |
| 11 | -8.381 | -6.56 | N/A | -0.328 | -5.044 | 13.614 |
| 12 | -5.41 | 0.94 | -3.716 | -9.201 | -3.013 | -3.397 |
| 13 | -5.196 | 12.554 | -5.935 | -10.748 | -5.691 | -8.38 |
| 14 | -6.985 | 10.953 | -6.523 | -11.231 | -5.012 | -8.099 |
| 15 | -6.75 | 10.855 | -6.68 | -11.401 | -5.33 | -7.803 |
| 16 | -6.336 | 14.767 | -8.855 | -11.457 | -6.387 | -12.099 |
| 17 | -7.148 | 17.16 | -11.549 | -12.743 | -11.723 | -13.087 |
| 18 | -4.337 | 15.818 | -13.548 | -11.961 | -14.762 | -14.999 |
| 19 | -4.763 | 13.363 | -12.898 | -12.13 | -14.754 | -14.019 |
| 20 | -2.709 | 0.298 | -5.669 | -9.046 | -12.106 | -5.768 |
| 21 | -4.511 | 2.848 | -6.252 | -9.818 | -14.194 | -7.215 |
| 22 | 8.771 | 13.419 | -13.701 | -4.729 | -6.836 | -16.901 |
| 23 | 6.76 | 16.224 | -14.028 | -6.895 | -8.78 | -16.582 |
| 24 | 13.22 | 7.386 | -4.182 | 7.033 | 4.521 | -4.484 |
| 25 | 17.188 | 4.274 | -12.422 | 5.149 | 4.946 | -12.033 |
| 26 | 9.678 | 14.902 | -14.866 | -4.392 | -6.011 | -16.633 |
| 27 | 9.494 | 13.593 | -7.63 | -0.706 | -3.448 | -10.21 |
| 28 | 15.523 | 3.449 | -2.117 | 11.898 | 8.916 | -1.484 |
| 29 | 15.335 | 8.366 | -13.157 | 1.978 | 0.834 | -13.526 |
| 30 | 9.791 | 14.342 | -11.068 | -1.571 | -3.741 | -13.589 |
| 31 | 9.532 | 6.202 | 2.563 | 8.443 | 3.655 | 1.306 |
| 32 | 18.043 | 0.253 | -4.084 | 13.345 | 11.784 | -2.792 |
| 33 | 15.183 | 9.178 | -10.561 | 4.012 | 1.894 | -11.467 |
| 34 | 9.241 | 11.464 | -4.811 | 1.481 | -1.456 | -7.688 |
| 35 | 11.693 | 2.38 | 2.681 | 12.107 | 7.394 | 2.346 |
| 36 | 17.709 | 3.266 | -6.902 | 10.303 | 8.519 | -5.982 |
| 37 | 5.419 | 17.229 | -11.316 | -5.153 | -6.612 | -15.426 |
| 38 | -7.15 | -7.974 | 20.036 | 6.905 | -2.138 | 19.634 |
| 39 | 2.914 | -7.509 | 11.718 | 17.119 | 12.4 | 14.589 |
| 40 | -0.148 | -6.576 | 17.037 | 11.053 | 3.719 | 16.97 |
| 41 | 0.072 | -8.262 | 16.603 | 11.184 | 6.286 | 14.692 |


| 42 | -8.76 | -9.69 | 18.623 | 0.914 | -4.278 | 17.026 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 43 | -5.833 | -9.595 | 4.046 | -8.462 | -0.386 | 3.428 |
| 44 | -6.219 | 9.342 | -4.005 | -11.118 | -3.298 | -5.985 |
| 45 | -7.753 | 10.772 | -6.25 | -10.345 | -3.462 | -8.465 |
| 46 | -7.38 | 17.181 | -10.073 | -11.829 | -8.391 | -10.955 |
| 47 | -4.749 | 4.464 | -4.648 | -4.968 | 3.488 | -4.631 |
| 48 | 4.315 | -3.516 | 1.575 | 11.765 | 14.876 | 4.728 |
| 49 | 8.819 | -9.553 | -3.732 | 7.614 | 16.779 | -0.424 |
| 50 | -5.69 | 16.711 | -9.272 | -11.793 | -7.419 | -12.748 |
| 51 | -8.282 | 18.282 | -11.398 | -12.46 | -12.525 | -13.101 |
| 52 | -7.947 | 11.116 | -6.996 | -8.333 | -2.311 | -8.398 |
| 53 | -6.334 | 6.523 | -2.268 | -11.227 | -3.742 | -3.693 |
| 54 | -6.265 | -0.58 | -0.289 | -9.534 | 0.16 | -0.167 |
| 55 | -6.318 | 1.94 | 4.388 | -9.052 | -4.296 | 2.219 |
| 56 | -5.6 | -7.666 | 2.555 | -8.417 | 0.863 | 2.065 |

(1) Tolman, J. R. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2002, 124, 12020-12030.
(2) Yao, L.; Vogeli, B.; Torchia, D. A.; Bax, A. Journal of Physical Chemistry B 2008, 112, 6045-6056.
(3) Lienin, S. F.; Bremi, T.; Brutscher, B.; Bruschweiler, R.; Ernst, R. R. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1998, 120, 9870-9879.
(4) Bouvignies, G.; Bernado, P.; Meier, S.; Cho, K.; Grzesiek, S.; Bruschweiler, R.; Blackledge, M. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A. 2005, 102, 13885-13890.
(5) McGervey, J. D. Quantum Mechanics Concepts and Applications; Academic Press: New York, 1995.
(6) McQuarrie, D. A. Statistical Mechanics; Harper and Row: New York, 1976.
(7) Henry, E. R.; Szabo, A. J. Chem. Phys. 1985, 82, 4753-4761.
(8) Case, D. A. J. Biomol. NMR 1999, 15, 95-102.
(9) Mayer, J. E.; Mayer, M. G. Statistical Mechanics; Wiley: New York, 1940.
(10) Cornilescu, G.; Bax, A. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2000, 122, 10143-10154.
(11) Vogeli, B.; Yao, L. S.; Bax, A. J. Biomol. NMR 2008, 41, 17-28.
(12) Hall, J. B.; Fushman, D. J. Biomol. NMR 2003, 27, 261-275.
(13) Gaussian 03, Revision C.02, Frisch, M. J.; Trucks, G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Scuseria, G. E.; Robb, M. A.; Cheeseman, J. R.; Montgomery, Jr., J. A.; Vreven, T.; Kudin, K. N.; Burant, J. C.; Millam, J. M.; Iyengar, S. S.; Tomasi, J.; Barone, V.; Mennucci, B.; Cossi, M.; Scalmani, G.; Rega, N.; Petersson, G. A.; Nakatsuji, H.; Hada, M.; Ehara, M.; Toyota, K.; Fukuda, R.; Hasegawa, J.; Ishida, M.; Nakajima, T.; Honda, Y.; Kitao, O.; Nakai, H.; Klene, M.; Li, X.; Knox, J. E.; Hratchian, H. P.; Cross, J. B.; Bakken, V.; Adamo, C.; Jaramillo, J.; Gomperts, R.; Stratmann, R. E.; Yazyev, O.; Austin, A. J.; Cammi, R.; Pomelli, C.; Ochterski, J. W.; Ayala, P. Y.; Morokuma, K.; Voth, G. A.; Salvador, P.; Dannenberg, J. J.; Zakrzewski, V. G.; Dapprich, S.; Daniels, A. D.; Strain, M. C.; Farkas, O.; Malick, D. K.; Rabuck, A. D.; Raghavachari, K.; Foresman, J. B.; Ortiz, J. V.; Cui, Q.; Baboul, A. G.; Clifford,
S.; Cioslowski, J.; Stefanov, B. B.; Liu, G.; Liashenko, A.; Piskorz, P.; Komaromi, I.; Martin, R. L.; Fox, D. J.; Keith, T.; Al-Laham, M. A.; Peng, C. Y.; Nanayakkara, A.; Challacombe, M.; Gill, P. M. W.; Johnson, B.; Chen, W.; Wong, M. W.; Gonzalez, C.; and Pople, J. A.; Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2004.

