Special Issue

Nucleic Acid Dynamics and Structure

Message from the Guest Editor

Recognition of nucleic acid substrates by proteins is often governed by their relative stability and local dynamics. Many nucleic acid substrates, particularly RNA-based ones adopt complex structures the stability of which are often governed by function and mediated by ligand binding as RNA riboswitches in the presence of one ligand will adopt one structure, while adopting a non-functional form in the absence of ligand. Highly sampled states are often associated with binding interactions; although conformational capture of a rarely sampled state by binding of protein or a ligand can be another mechanism for forming a functional state. We will explore relationships wherein the dynamics of the nucleic acid is an important element of adopting a functional conformation. In this Special Issue, we welcome submissions of original articles as well as reviews of any topics that consider conformational dynamics and thermodynamics related to protein and ligand binding, aptamer selection, allostery and overall function for a better understanding of nucleic acid structure and dynamics including new perspectives and interpretations as well as novel technological and theoretical findings.

Guest Editor

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