Cover design

α4, a protein designed from first principles by W.F.DeGrado, D.Eisenberg (UCLA) and their co-workers, to fold into a four α-helical bundle, and synthesized at DuPont. Coordinates were generated by Z.R.Wasserman and F.R.Salemme using computer graphics, energy minimization and molecular dynamics averaging to build a model with approximate P222 space group symmetry. Experimental work by L.Regan, S.P.Ho, and W.F.DeGrado show that this protein, and analogues of it lacking one or more loops, is α-helical in solution and has a hydrodynamic radius consistent with the model.
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