Protein Stability, Folding, and Dynamics

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Two-state model:

D 🖚 N

(denatured) (native)

What is favored in this equilibrium, D or N?

What forces operate?

Which forces are the most important?

Protein Stability, Folding, and Dynamics (denatured) (native) What is the equilibrium? Lies to the right Therefore, ΔG is negative What forces operate? Non covalent: H-bonds? yes, definitely, but those with water in D-state Ionic (salt-bridges)? yes, but not that many and non specific van der Waals? yes, but not a driving force until there is compaction Hydrophobic? YES, bury hydrophobic residues Covalent: yes, but most proteins don't have any Disulfide bonds? Which force(s) are the most important? Hydrophobic!





