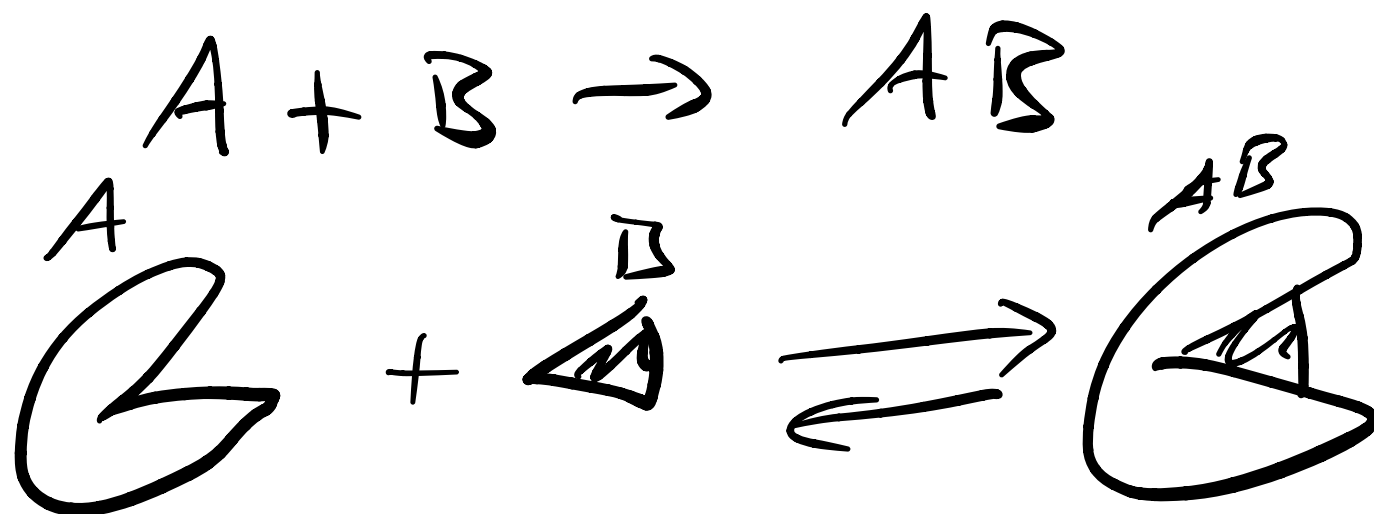
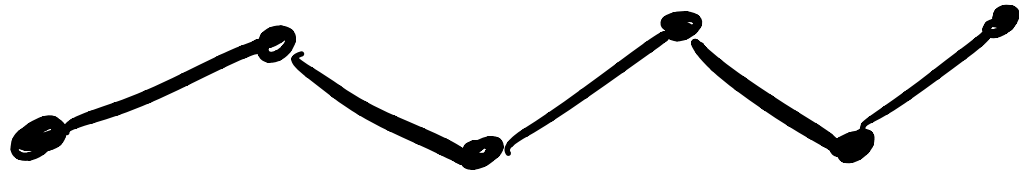
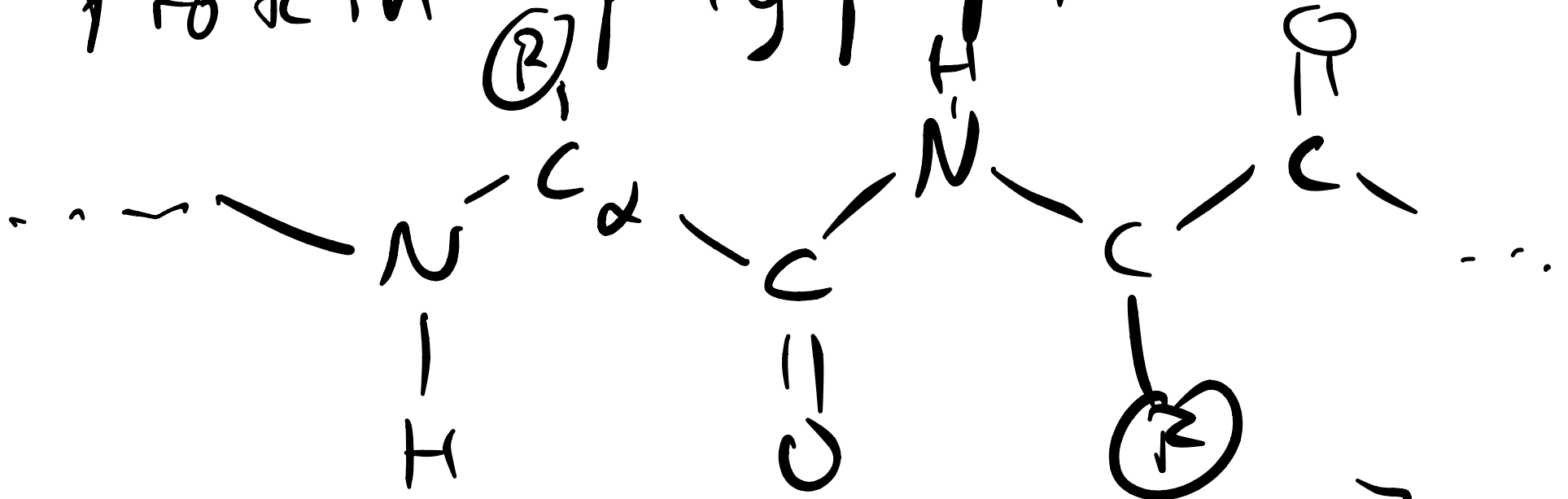


# Conformational Equilibrium

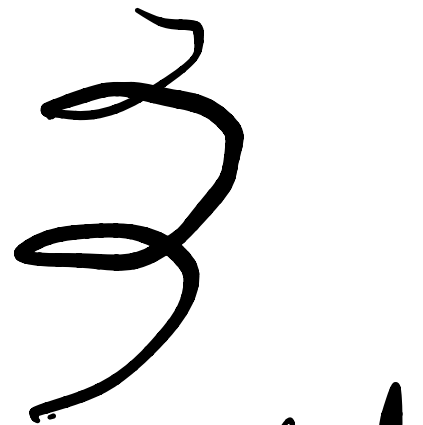




Protein  $\rightarrow$  polypeptide



Unfolded



Folded

$$\Delta G_{\text{fold}} = \Delta H - T\Delta S \quad \leftarrow$$

$< 0$  want to be folded

$\Delta H_{\text{fold}} < 0$  more favorable interactions

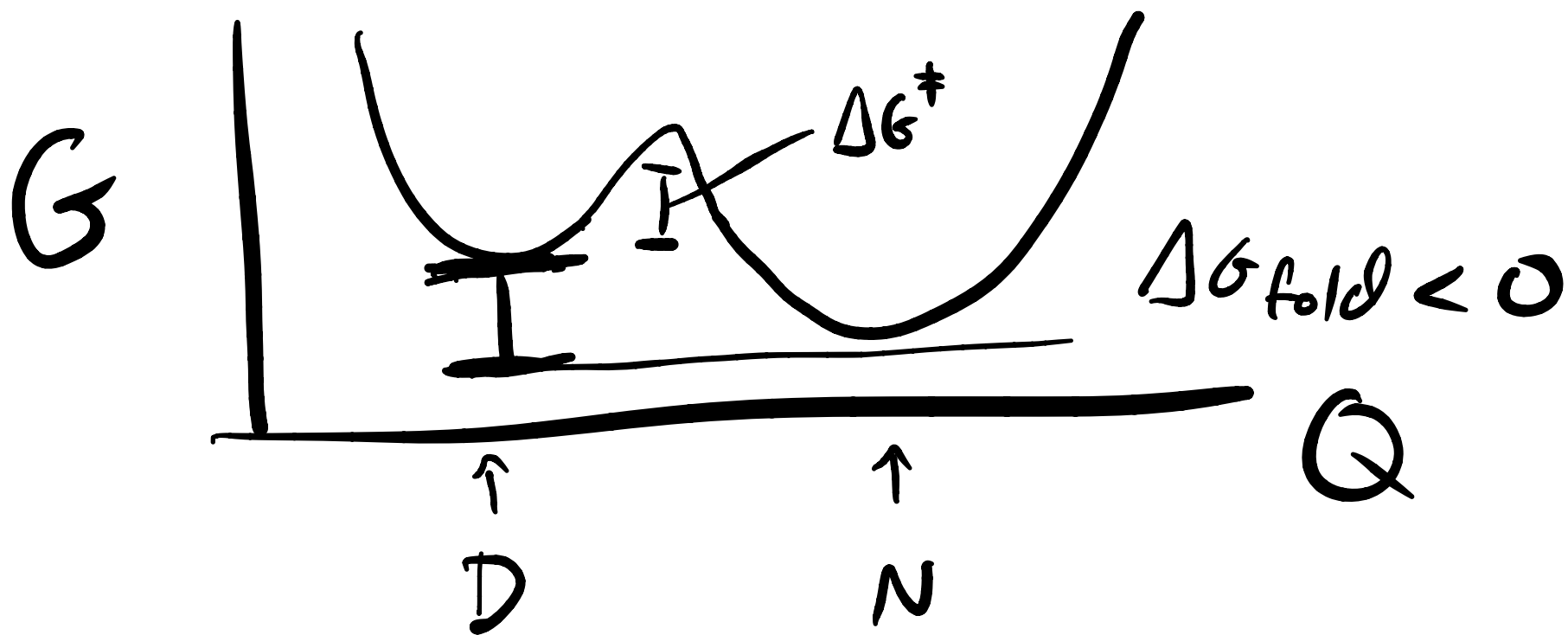
$\Delta S_{\text{fold}} < 0$  "more order"

Folding is a competition  
between entropy & enthalpy

$\Delta G_{\text{folding}} \sim -5 \rightarrow -10 \text{ kcal/mol}$

Cancellation of a large <sup>neg</sup>  $\Delta H$   
and  $-T\Delta S$

2 state model  $D \rightleftharpoons N$   
↑ denatured                      ↑ native



$Q = \#$  of native contacts

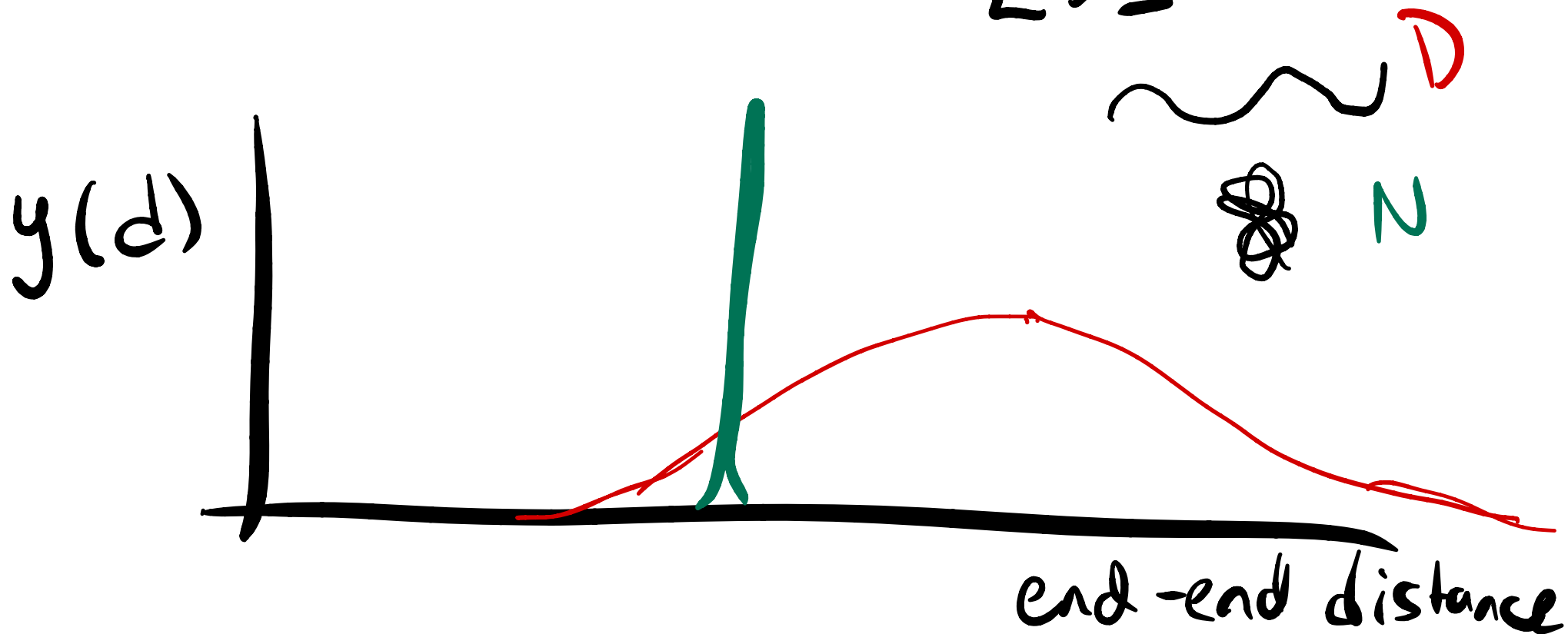
$$Q \approx 0$$

$$Q \approx Q_N$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{fold}}^{\circ} = -RT \ln K_{\text{fold}}$$



$$K_{\text{fold}} = \frac{[N]}{[D]}$$



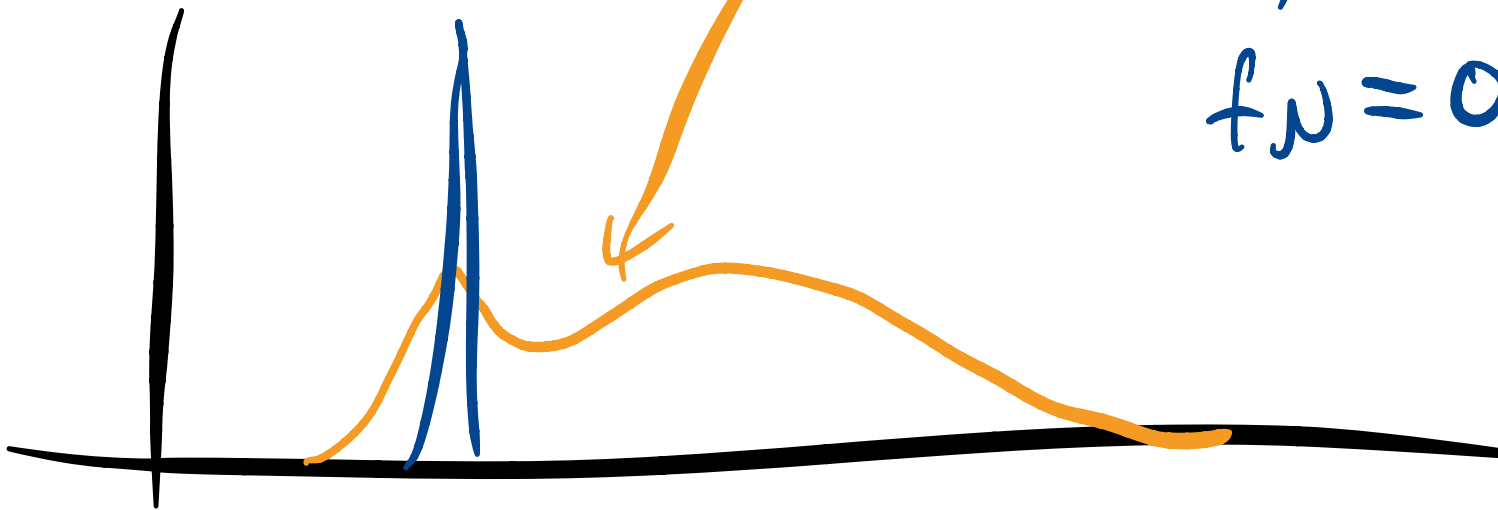
# Do measurement

$$y^{\text{observed}}(d) = f_N y_N(x) + f_D y_D(x)$$

$$f_N = f_D = 0.5$$

$$f_N = 1.0$$

$$f_N = 0.995$$



# Examples

- FRET - infer distances
- Circular Dichroism (CD)  
absorption around 220nm  
shows secondary structure
- NMR



When can we measure  $k$

$$K_{\text{fold}} = \frac{[N]}{[D]} \Rightarrow [N] = [D]k$$

$$f_N = \frac{[N]}{[N] + [D]}$$

$$= \frac{[D]k}{[D]k + [D]} = \frac{k_{\text{fold}}}{k_{\text{fold}} + 1}$$

$$f_N + f_D = 1 \Rightarrow f_D = \frac{1}{k_{\text{fold}} + 1}$$

$$f_N = 0.1 - 0.9$$

$$f_W = 0.1 = \frac{k_{\text{fold}}}{k_{\text{fold}} + 1}$$

$$0.1k + 0.1 = k \Rightarrow 0.1 = 0.9k$$

$$k_{\text{min}} = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$f_W = 0.9 \Rightarrow 0.9k + 0.9 = k$$

$$\Rightarrow k_{\text{max}} = 9$$

$$\frac{1}{9} < K_{\text{fold}} < 9 \quad \Delta G^\circ = -RT \ln k$$

$$- \ln 9 < \ln K_{\text{fold}} < \ln 9$$

$$-2.2 < \ln K < 2.2 \quad \times \quad \underbrace{-RT}$$

$$1.3 \geq \Delta G^\circ \geq -1.3 \frac{\text{kcal}}{\text{mol}} \quad \approx 0.6 \frac{\text{kcal}}{\text{mol}}$$

↪ Stability range where  
 $K_{\text{eq}}$  can be measured

$$K_{eq} = e^{-\Delta G^{\circ}/RT}$$

$$RT \approx 0.6 \frac{\text{kcal}}{\text{mol}}$$

$$e^{2.3} \approx 10$$

$$\Delta G = -2.3 RT \approx -1.4 \text{ kcal/mol}$$

$K_{fold} > 10^3$   
at room temperature  $\approx$  factor of  $10^3$

Do a denaturing experiment  
 increasing temperature  
 "melt" protein

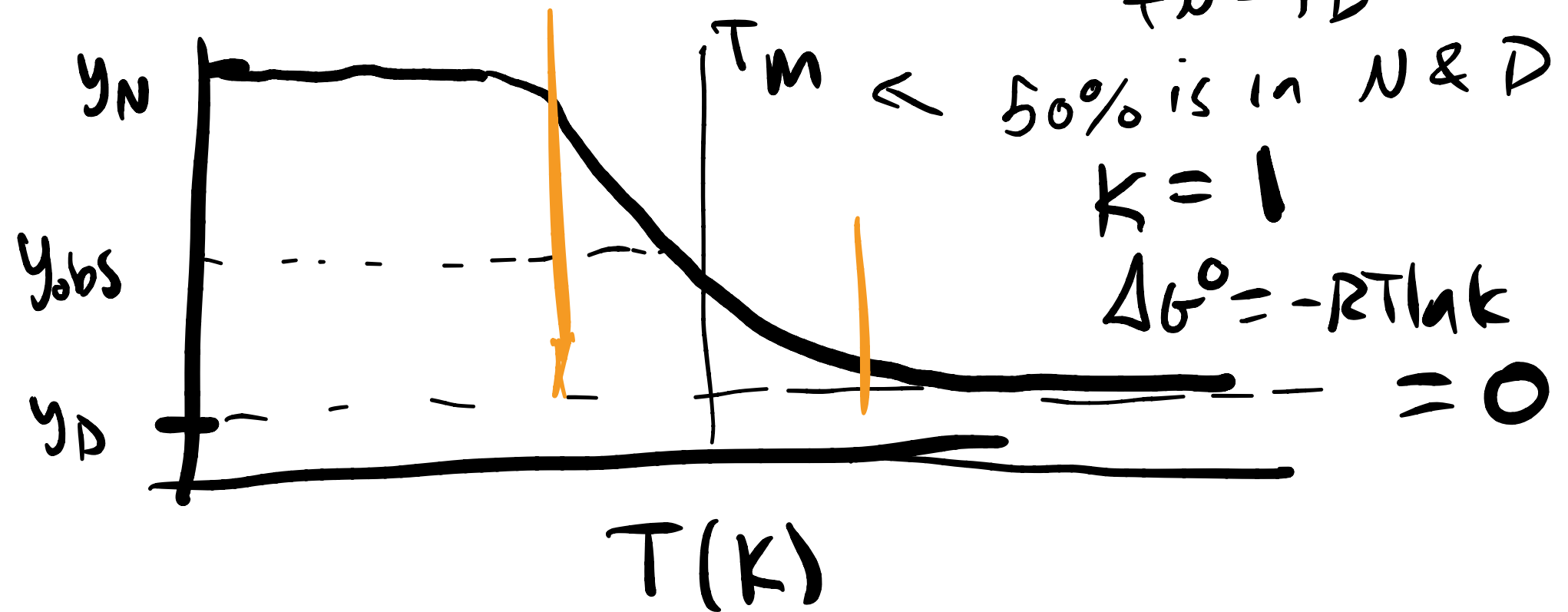
$$f_N = f_D = 0.5$$

50% is in N & D

$$K = 1$$

$$\Delta G^{\circ} = -RT \ln k$$

$$= 0$$



fit curve to a model to  
get  $\Delta G^\circ$ ,  $\Delta H^\circ$  &  $\Delta S^\circ$

$$y_{\text{obs}} = f_N y_N + (1 - f_N) y_D$$
$$= y_D + f_N (y_N - y_D)$$

$$f_N = \frac{y_{\text{obs}} - y_D}{y_N - y_D}$$

$$y_{obs} = \frac{k}{1+k} y_N + \frac{1}{1+k} y_D$$

$$= \frac{y_D + k y_N}{1+k} \quad \leftarrow$$

$$= y_D - (y_D - y_N) \frac{k}{1+k}$$

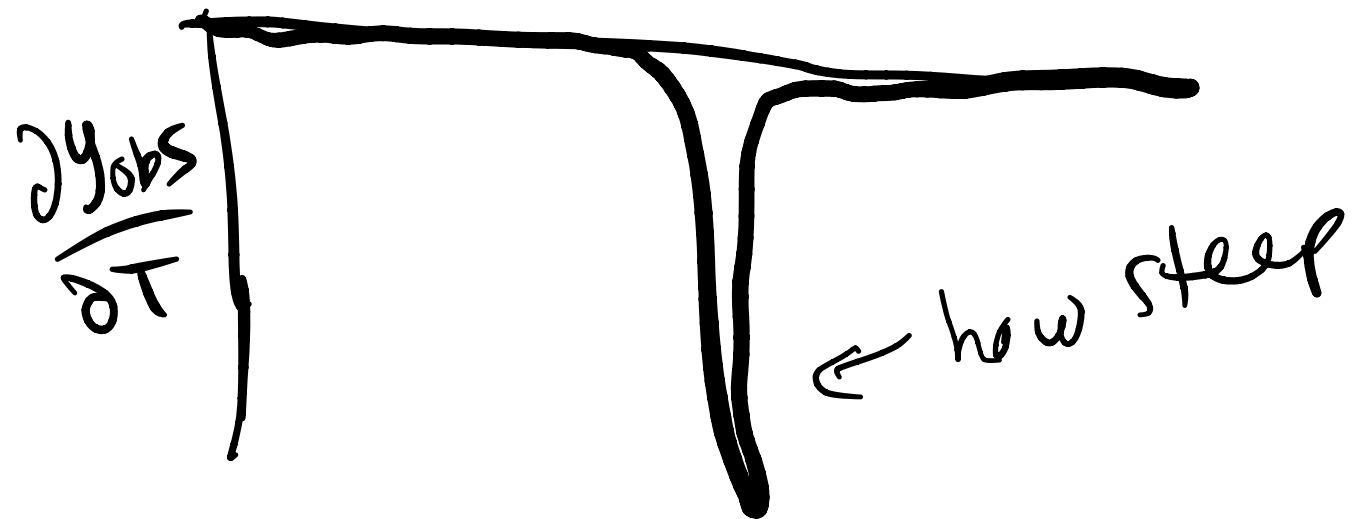
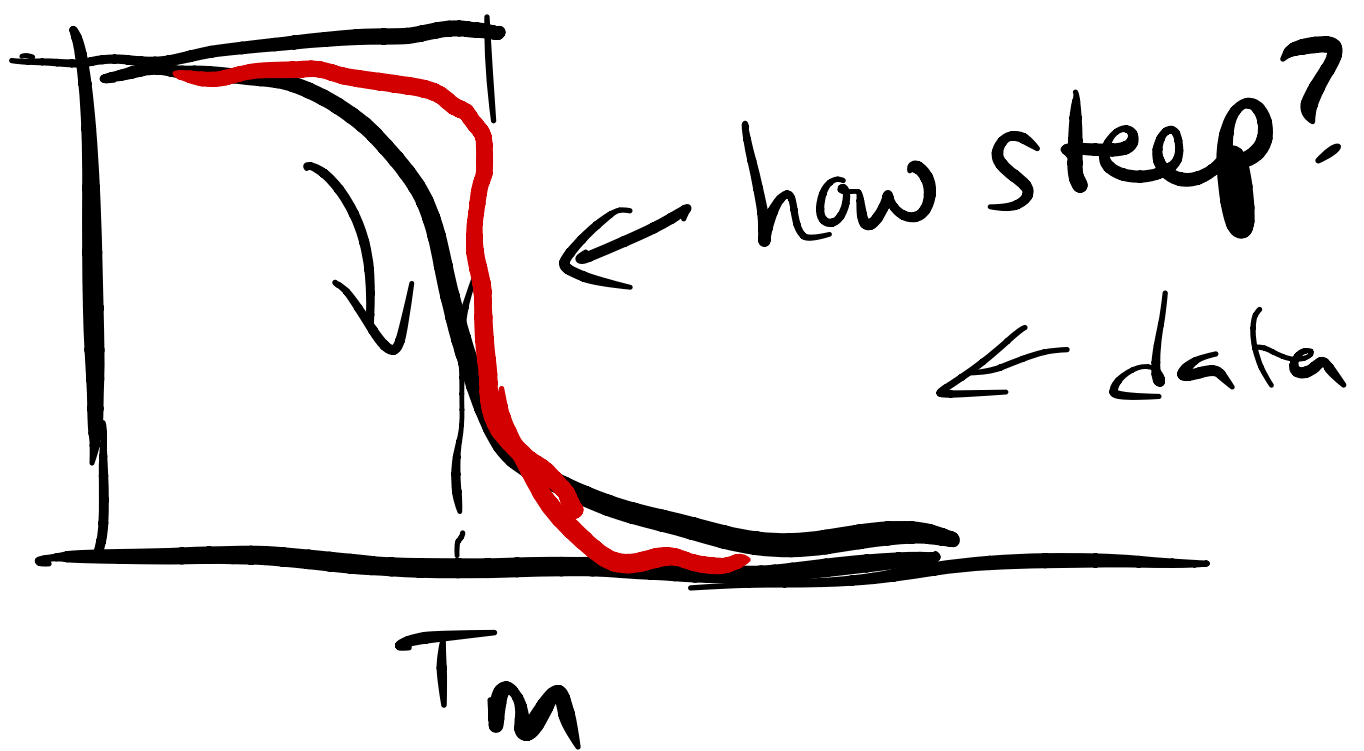
$$y_{\text{obs}} = \frac{y_D + K y_N}{1 + K} = \frac{y_D + y_N e^{-\Delta\bar{G}^\circ/RT}}{1 + e^{-\Delta\bar{G}^\circ/RT}}$$

$$\Delta\bar{G}^\circ = \Delta\bar{H}^\circ - T\Delta\bar{S}^\circ$$

$$\Delta\bar{G}^\circ = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta\bar{H}^\circ - T_m \Delta\bar{S}^\circ = 0$$

$$T_m = \Delta\bar{H}^\circ / \Delta\bar{S}^\circ$$





Simple model

$\Delta H^{\circ}$ ,  $\Delta S^{\circ}$  are  
constant

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial T} = (y_N - y_D) \frac{K}{(1+K)^2} \frac{\Delta \bar{H}^{\circ}}{RT^2}$$

$> 0$   $\nearrow$

$$\Delta H^{\circ} < 0$$

$$T_m = \Delta \bar{H}^{\circ} / \Delta \bar{S}^{\circ}$$

$$\Delta \bar{S}^{\circ} = \Delta \bar{H}^{\circ} / T_m$$



$$y_{\text{obs}} = y_D + (y_N - y_D) \frac{K}{1+K}$$

$$K = e^{-\Delta \bar{G}^{\circ}/RT} = e^{\left( -\Delta \bar{H}^{\circ}/RT + \Delta \bar{S}^{\circ}/R \right)}$$

$$\Delta G^{\circ} = \Delta H^{\circ} - T \Delta S^{\circ} = \Delta \bar{H}^{\circ} - T \Delta \bar{H}^{\circ}$$

$$= \Delta H^{\circ} (T_m - T) / T_m$$

$$K \approx e^{\Delta H^{\circ} / (RT - T_m)}$$

Can fit  $y_{\text{obs}}(T)$  to

$\Delta H^{\circ}, T_m,$

# A better model

Constant heat capacity

$C_p$  for Denatured & Native

Native:

$$d\bar{H}_N = \bar{C}_p dT$$

$$\bar{H}_N = \bar{H}_N^{\text{ref}} + \bar{C}_p (T - T_{\text{ref}})$$

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$$\bar{H}_N = \bar{H}_N^{\text{ref}} + \bar{C}_P^N (T - T_{\text{ref}})$$

$$- \left( \bar{H}_D = \bar{H}_D^{\text{ref}} + \bar{C}_P^D (T - T_{\text{ref}}) \right)$$

$$\Delta \bar{H} \approx \Delta \bar{H}_{\text{ref}} + \Delta \bar{C}_P (T - T_{\text{ref}})$$

$\curvearrowright T_m$

Can do same for  $dS$

$$d\bar{S} = \bar{C}_p / T dT$$

$$S_{N,D}^{N,D} \approx S_{N,D}^{\text{ref}} + \bar{C}_p^{N,D} \ln(T/T_{\text{ref}})$$

$$\Delta \bar{S} = \Delta \bar{S}_{\text{ref}} + \Delta \bar{C}_p \ln(T/T_{\text{ref}})$$

$$\Delta G^\circ = \Delta H^\circ - T \Delta S^\circ$$

$$K = e^{-\Delta G^\circ / RT} \rightarrow \gamma_N$$