Intrinsically accessible motions enable Optimal binding of substrate or drugs



Conformational flexibility + sequence variability mediates substrate selectivity

Two conformations of P450-CYP2B4: open (orange) with a large substrate (bifonazole, red), and closed (light blue) with the smaller substrate 4-(4-chlorophenyl) imidazole (blue)

See.

N. Tokuriki and D. S. Tawfik (2009) Science 324: 203-207

Sequence evolution an information-theoretic approach

Residue index

3



Information entropy (Shannon, 1951)

$$S(i) = \sum_{x_i=1}^{20} P(x_i) \log \frac{1}{P(x_i)}$$

Mutual information (MI)

$$I(i, j) = \sum_{x_i=1}^{20} \sum_{y_j=1}^{20} P(x_i, y_j) \log \frac{P(x_i, y_j)}{P(x_i)P(y_j)}$$

for correlated mutations analysis (CMA)

Mutual Information without the influence of phylogeny

MIp - to eliminate random noise and phylogenetic components

$$\mathbf{MI}_{\mathbf{p}}(i, j) = \mathbf{I}(i, j) - \mathbf{APC}$$

APC = Average product correction

= [I(i, x) I(j, x)] / <I(i, j)>



where I(i, x) is the mean mutual information of column $i = \sum j I(i, j)$

Dunn, Wahl and Gloor (2008) Bioinformatics 24: 333-340

HIV-I protease correlated mutation analysis (CMA)





Dr. Ying Liu

Liu, Eyal & Bahar (2008) Bioinformatics

MDR mutations distinguished by CMA





Summary

• two groups of correlated mutation sites

| functional aspects | Structural location | structural dynamics |
|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| phylogenetic | exposed | mobile |
| multi-drug resistant | dimerization interface | restrained |

Liu, Eyal & Bahar (2008) Bioinformatics 15, 1243.



Questions:

- Are key mechanical sites (e.g. hinges) conserved?
- Is there any correlation between sequence variability and structural dynamics?
- How does the structure ensure substrate specificity *and* conformational adaptability?



systematic study of a set of enzymes



Liu Y, Bahar I (2012) "Sequence Evolution Correlates with Structural Dynamics" Mol Biol Evol 9, 2253-63



Evol



http://www.csb.pitt.edu/prody/tutorials/evol_tutorial/index.html

Correlation between sequence entropy & conformational mobility



Liu Y, Bahar I (2012) "Sequence Evolution Correlates with Structural Dynamics" Mol Biol Evol 9, 2253-63

Mobility increases with sequence entropy



Liu & Bahar Mol Biol Evol (2012)

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Hinge sites are evolutionarily conserved

despite their moderate-to-high exposure to environment



Liu & Bahar Mol Biol Evol (2012)

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Amino acids involved in intermolecular recognition are distinguished by their co-evolution propensities

3



Liu Y, Bahar I (2012) "Sequence Evolution Correlates with Structural Dynamics" Mol Biol Evol 9, 2253-63

3

Amino acids involved in intermolecular recognition are distinguished by their high global mobility



Liu Y, Bahar I (2012) "Sequence Evolution Correlates with Structural Dynamics" Mol Biol Evol 9, 2253-63





Four types of functional sites

| Functional site | Mobility in global modes | Sequence evolution | Dominant Feature |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Chemical (catalytic, ligand binding) | Minimal | Conserved | high fidelity, precision |
| Core | Minimal | Conserved | high stability |
| Hinge sites | Minimal | Conserved | rotational flexibility |
| Substrate recog- nition (specific) | High | High co-evolution propensity | adaptability |

Liu & Bahar Mol Biol Evol (2012); Liu, Gierasch & Bahar, PLoS Comp Bio (2010)

Allosteric communication mechanisms explored by network models

Diffusion of signal obeys a Markov process

The structure is modeled as a network

Network connectivity given by Γ

References

Laplacian based manifold methods (Belkin & Niyogi)

Chennubhotla & Bahar Mol Systems Biology (2006); PLoS Comp Bio (2007)



Markov Model of Network Communication

 $\Gamma = D - A$ where A = connectivity/affinity matrix and D = diagonal matrix of degrees

A discrete-time, discrete-state Markov process is defined by setting the conditional probability of signal transduction from residue *j* to *i* as

 $m_{ij} = a_{ij} / d_j$

The conditional probability matrix $\mathbf{M} = \{m_{ij}\}$, also called the Markov transition matrix, is

 $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{D}^{-1}$

 ${f M}$ completely defines the stochastics of information transfer over the network of residues.

Hitting time: a measure of communication efficiency between two endpoints

Based on all possible pathways

| path | # of steps | Path Probability |
|--|------------|------------------|
| j ightarrow i | 1 | 0.5 |
| $j \rightarrow k \rightarrow j \rightarrow i$ | 3 | 0.5^{2} |
| $\left j \rightarrow k \rightarrow j \rightarrow k \rightarrow j \rightarrow i \right.$ | 5 | 0.5^{3} |



$$H(j,i) = 1 \times 0.5 + 3 \times 0.5^2 + \dots = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (2j-1) \times 0.5^j, = 3.$$

| path | # of steps | Path Probability |
|---|------------|------------------|
| i ightarrow j ightarrow k | 2 | 0.5 |
| $i \to j \to i \to j \to k$ | 4 | 0.5^{2} |
| $i \to j \to i \to j \to i \to j \to k$ | 6 | 0.5^{3} |

$$H(k,i) = 2 \times 0.5 + 4 \times 0.5^2 + \dots = 2\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} j \times 0.5^j = 4.$$

P(t) = M P(0), where $M = AD^{-1}$ is the conditional prob matrix for signal diffusion

Fluctuations as determinant of communication



Chennubhotla & Bahar (2007) PLoS Comp Bio



Nadler, Lafon, Kevrekidis & Coifman (2005) Diffusion Maps, Spectral Clustering and Eigenfunctions of Fokker-Planck Operators, NIPS 18; Coifman et al (2005) PNAS 102, 7426.

Active sites are distinguished by effective communication properties



Chennubhotla & Bahar (2007) PLoS Comp Bio

CONCLUSION





Proteins are designed to favor functional changes in their structure. Pre-existing soft modes facilitate substrate binding.

Collective mechanics/allosteric dynamics are mediated by conserved residues

The intrinsic motions confer enhanced flexibility at substrate recognition sites

Correlated mutations at recognition sites enable substrate specificity while conferring conformational adaptability

Accurate modeling of protein dynamics is essential to assessing target druggability

Mechanics vs chemistry?

How does complexity scale with size of the system?



Increasing specificity/chemistry)

DISCUSSION



Different tools for different time/length windows: MD cannot explore long-time processes for multimeric systems; ANM does not incorporate detailed atomic forces

Not all evolutionarily correlated sites refer to structural or dynamic correlations

Accurate modeling of protein dynamics is essential to computer-aided drug discovery, but not sufficient for quantitative evaluation of binding affinity

Druggability simulations identify druggable sites, but not the type of drugs that optimally bind those sites

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