Protein Dynamics in Cellular Environments

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Rommie E. Amaro. UC San Diego. ATPESC Extreme Computing. July 2019

Convergence of HPC, data science, & data enabling transformative advances at the intersection of observational and simulation sciences



Research breakthroughs will occur at the interface of observational and simulation science



Environmental & atmospheric chemistry (Climate Change)



Energy & Materials (Sustainable Energy)



Biology & medicine (New Therapeutics)



Molecular Dynamics Simulations as a Computational Microscope



Chemistry, Physics, Math, Software Supercomputers & GPUs

p53: Guardian of the genome



Non-transcriptional activi

Downstream signalling: target gene transcription

Frequency of p53 mutations in cancer



>600,000 new cancer patients annually in the US with p53 point mutations



Susceptible to oncogenic mutations that inactivate by lowering its stability



Brown et al. (2009) Nature Reviews. Cancer, 9(12), 862–873

Dream of cancer biologists: small-molecule p53 reactivation



Cell

Martins, et al., Modeling the

therapeutic efficacy of p53 restoration in tumors, *Cell*, 2006.

Simulations Reveal Target Flexibility



5% exposed, matches NMR

Wassman, Baronio, Demir, et al. Nature Comm., (2013)

New Site Opens



> 95 X-ray structures



"Open" MD structure

New Site is Druggable



Wassman, Baronio, Demir, et al. Nature Comm., (2013)

Vajda et al., Computational Solvent Mapping: http://ftmap.bu.edu/

Discovery of novel reactivation compound & rationalization of clinical trial compound



Wassman, Baronio, Demir, et al. Nature Comm., (2013)

Our computational approach discovers more novel p53 reactivation compounds in 6 months than all the research efforts of the previous 20 years combined





15/138 compounds tested in mammalian cancer cell lines rescue p53 activity and kill cancer cell





Computational biophysics bridges gaps across scales



Need to go into and across key "capability gaps"; Computational methods to give unseen views into the inner workings of cells at the molecular level



Volume 2, Article No. 0148, 2018

PERSPECTIVES

nature

Multiscale methods in drug design bridge chemical and biological complexity in the search for cures

Rommie E. Amaro and Adrian J. Mulholland

Abstract | Drug action is inherently multiscale: it connects molecular interactions to emergent properties at cellular and larger scales. Simulation techniques at each of these different scales are already central to drug design and development, but methods capable of connecting across these scales will extend our understanding of complex mechanisms and our ability to predict biological effects. Improved algorithms, ever-more-powerful computing architectures and the accelerating growth of rich data sets are driving advances in multiscale modelling methods capable of bridging chemical and biological complexity from the atom to the cell.



3D structural data to build visible virtual cells



Cell-centered, data-centric modeling framework



Lipid bilayers with realistic geometries

Surface definition, tesselation

Lipid triangles positioned



Remove clashing lipids









LipidWrapper: Durrant JD, Amaro RE (2014) PLoS Comput Biol 10(7): e1003720.

Moving from single protein to whole virus



Alasdair Steven, NIH

Fully Atomic Reconstructions

> PyMolecule LipidWrapper CellPACK



- Improved sense of the physical arrangement of biological entities in complex biological milieu
- Enables simultaneous study of multiple components
- Mesoscale molecular models as a platform for other simulation approaches (e.g., Brownian dynamics, Mcell, lattice boltzmann MD)

... leads us to new avenues of investigation, not possible on the single protein scale

In-silico pandemic 2009 H1N1 Influenza Virus





Protein Dynamics from Viral Simulations



mo	BVLL
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Cell-Scale Markov State Models of Protein Dynamics



- Markov state models define metastable states and transitions between states
- Allows extraction of long timescale dynamics from many short timescale simulations

B. E. Husic, V. S. Pande, J. Am. Chem. Soc. (2018).; J. D. Chodera, F. Noé, Curr. Opin. Struct. Biol. (2014).



MSMs characterize loop dynamics & druggable pockets



Virion has 30 NAs, 236 HAs Enough sampling to make a Markov state model (MSM) of NA loop dynamics

2-state Macrostate model open/closed



MFPT for the 150-loop:

- open to closed 52.9ns
- *closed to open*198.4 ns



Comparison to single glycoprotein simulations



- Two MSMs, one each for viral coat and single glycoprotein simulations
- Same feature selection (residues 146 to 156) and lag time (7.5 ns)
- Both independently converged according to CK tests
- Same relative populations, and similar MFPT ratios, but different absolute rates

	Mean First Passage Time (ns)		
	Single Glycoprotein	Viral Coat	
Open to Closed	390	164	
Closed to Open	1000	520	
MFPT Ratio	2.6	3.2	

Molecular and Brownian Dynamics at Cellular Scales





Unexpected role of the NA secondary site

Created 4 virions, ~15 million atoms each Including reassorted strains, "gain of function" strain:

	HA	NA	NA stalk length
CALI09 (wt)	CALI09	CALI09	long
VIET04 (wt)	VIET04	VIET04	short
BLUMEN	CALI09	VIET04	short
IMAI	VIET04	CALI09	long







http://amarolab.ucsd.edu

Acknowledgements

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