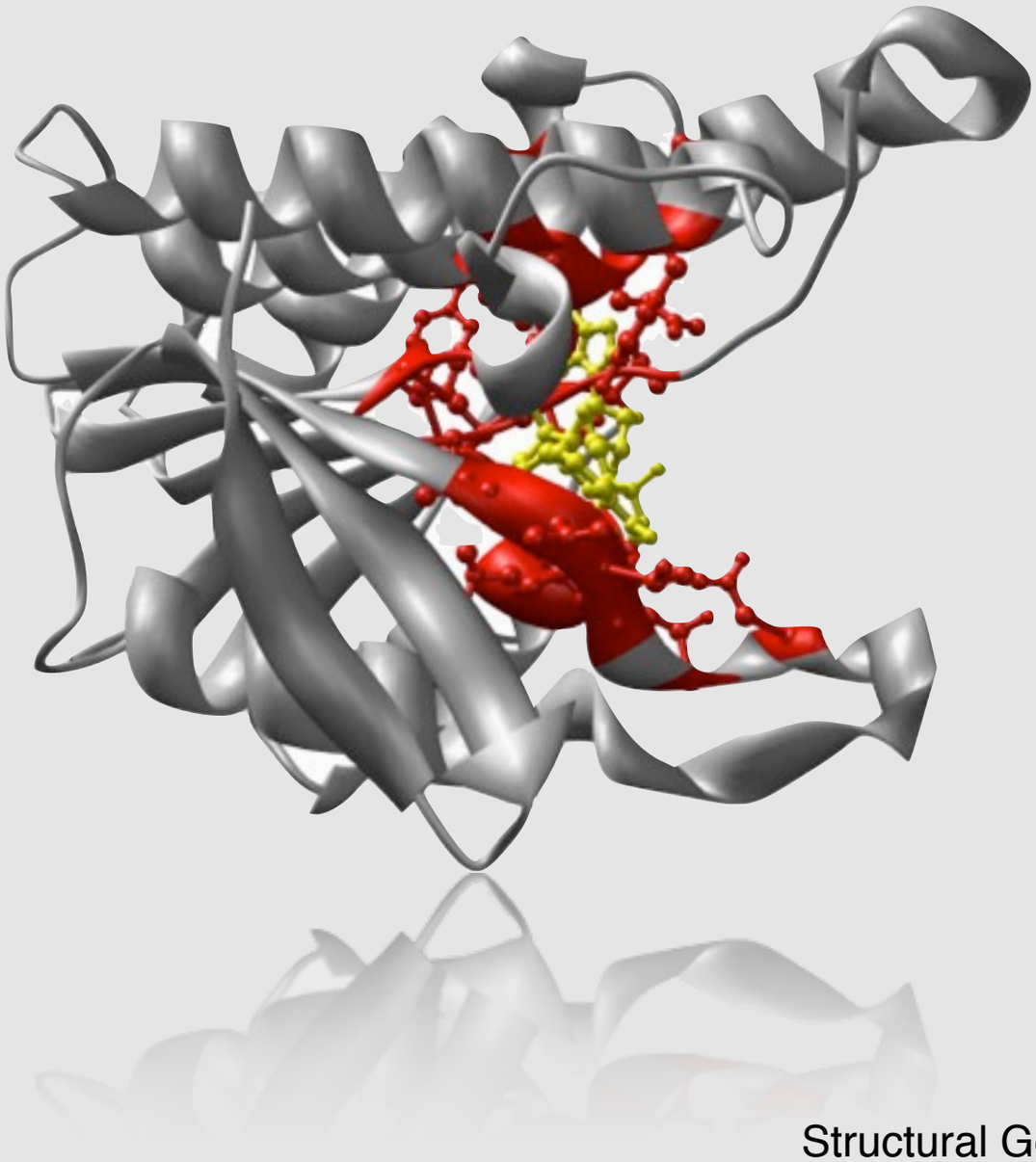
Comparative docking for predicting molecular targets of known drugs

A "kernel" for the Tropical Disease Initiative



Marc A. Marti-Renom

http://sgu.bioinfo.cipf.es

Structural Genomics Unit

Bioinformatics & Genomics Department

Centro de Investigación Príncipe Felipe (CIPF), Valencia, Spain

protein prediction .vs. protein determination

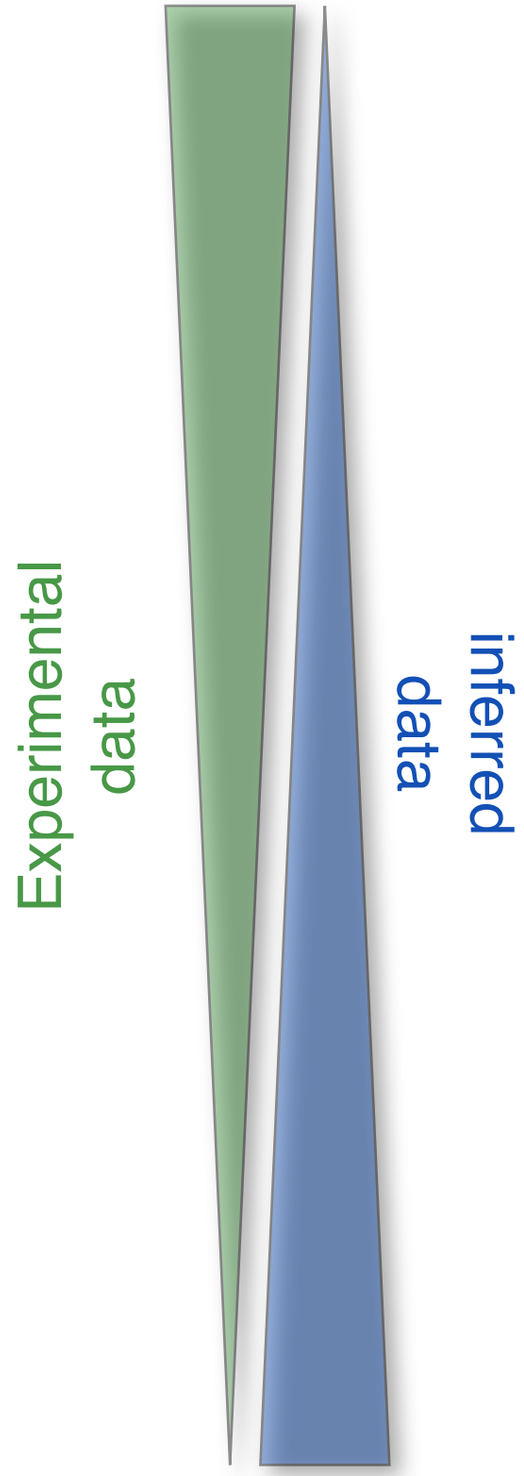
X-Ray

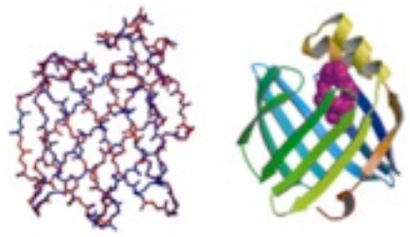
NMR

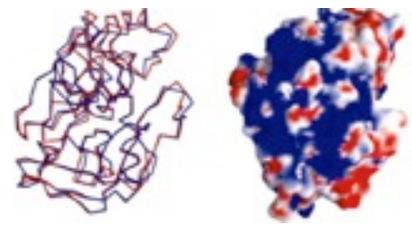
Comparative Modeling

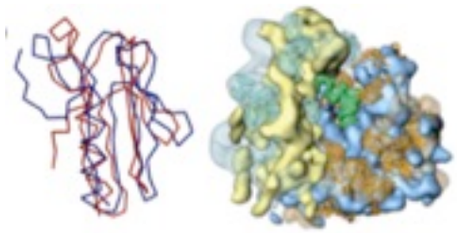
Threading

Ab-initio



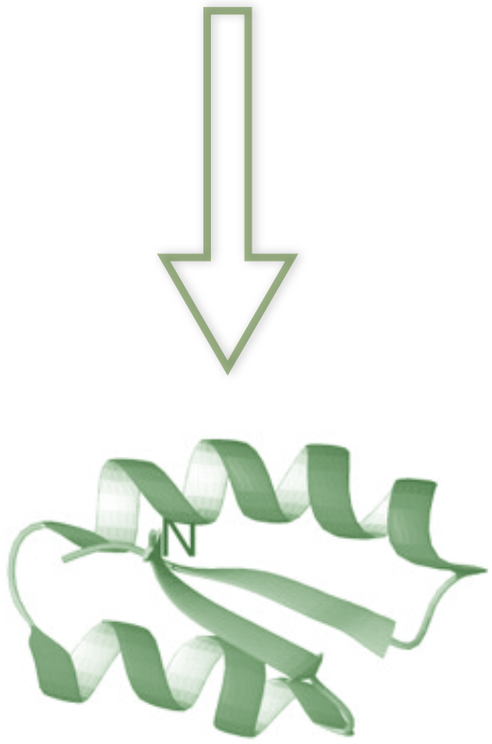


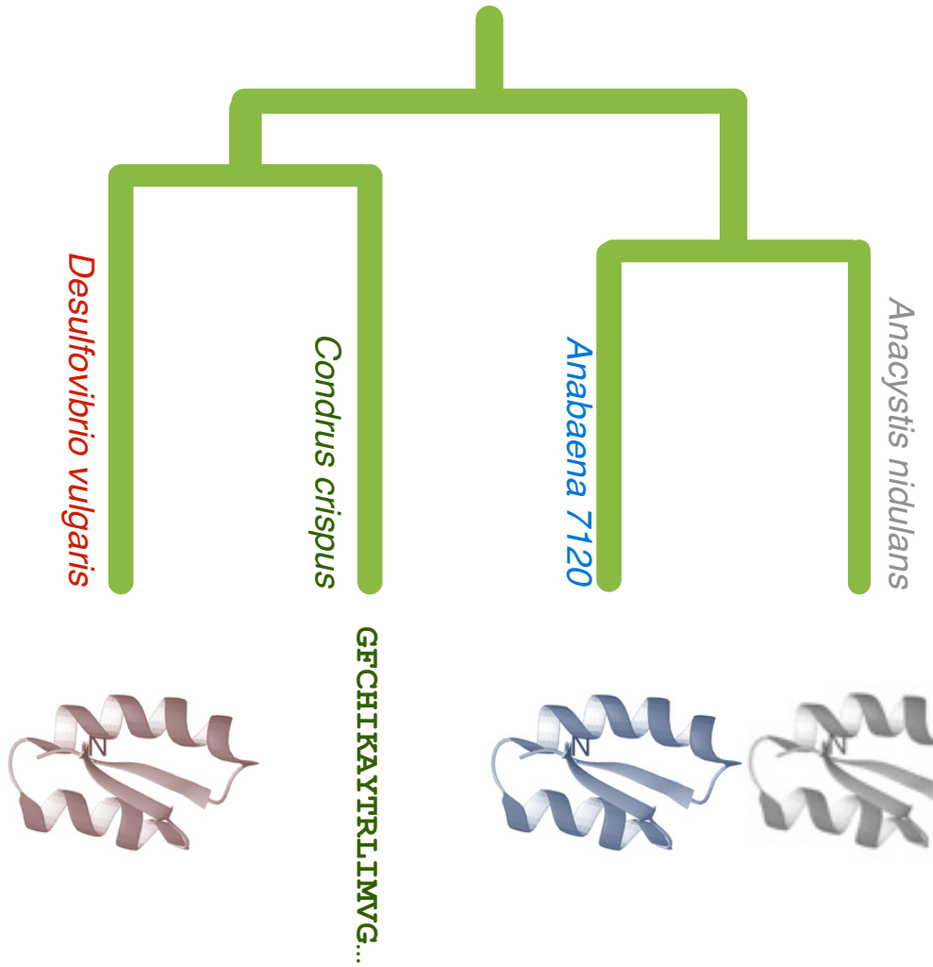




Principles of protein structure

GFCHIKAYTRLIMVG…





Folding (physics)

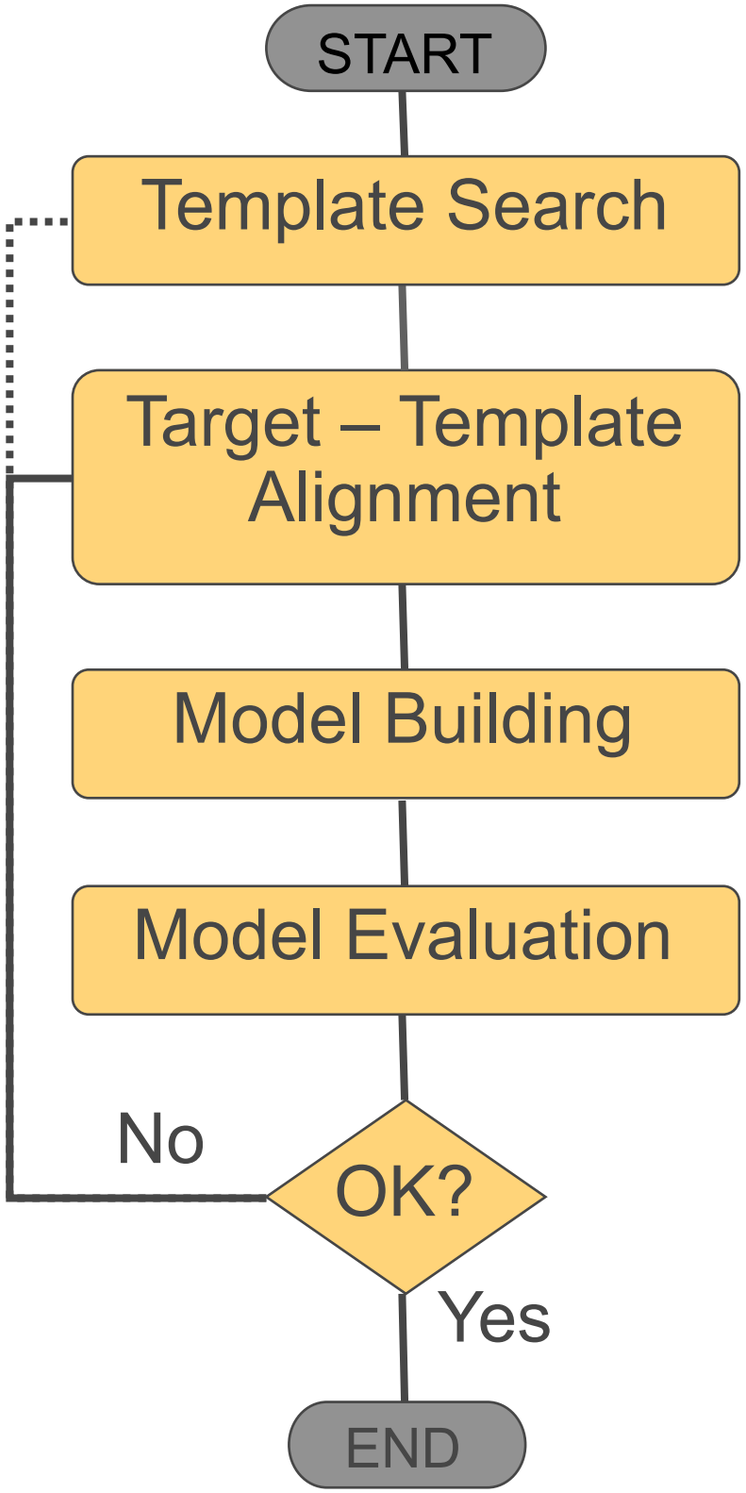
Ab initio prediction

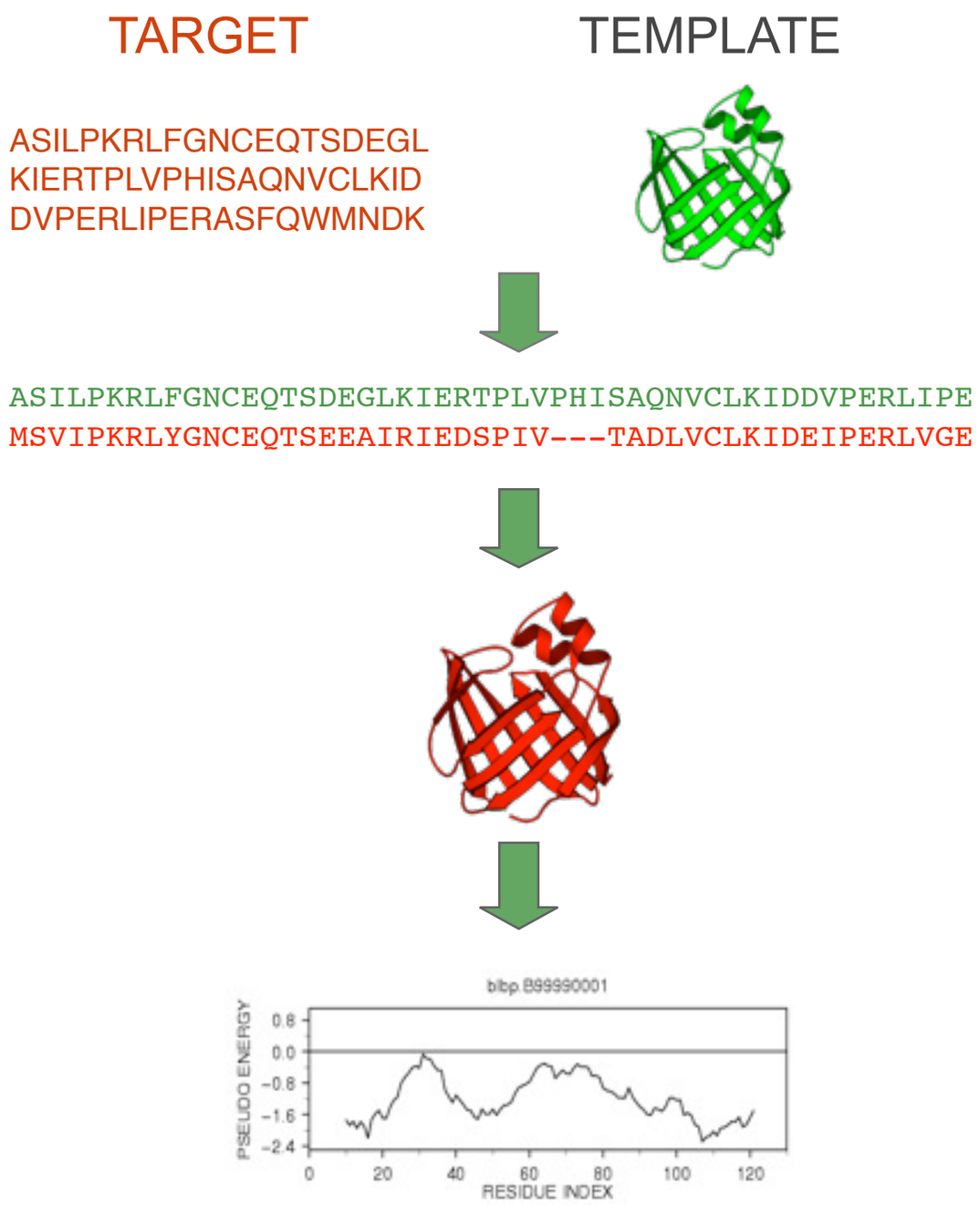
Evolution (rules)

Threading
Comparative Modeling

D. Baker & A. Sali. Science 294, 93, 2001.

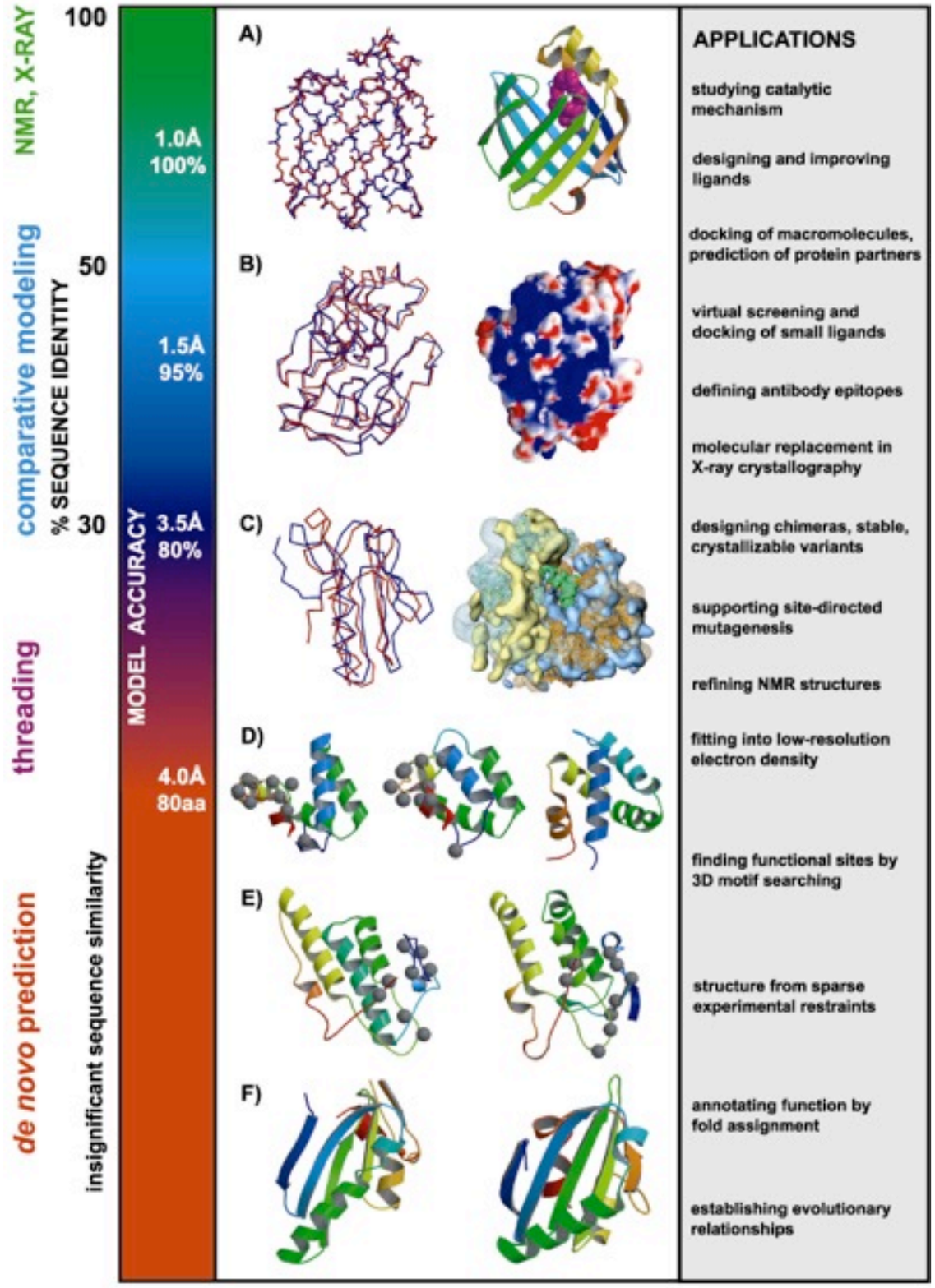
Steps in Comparative Protein Structure Modeling

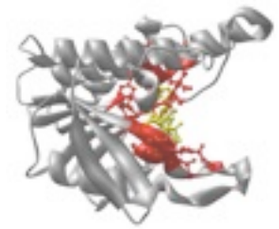




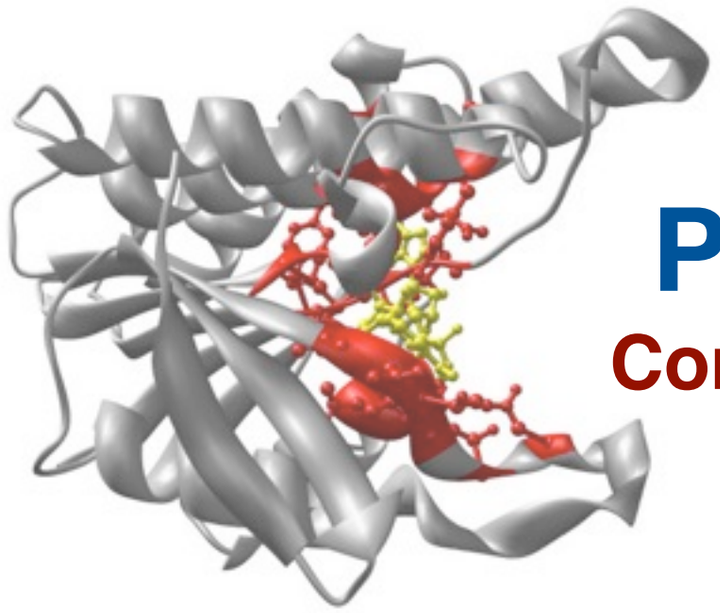
A. Šali, Curr. Opin. Biotech. 6, 437, 1995.
R. Sánchez & A. Šali, Curr. Opin. Str. Biol. 7, 206, 1997.
M.A. Marti-Renom et al. Ann. Rev. Biophys. Biomolec. Struct., 29, 291, 2000.

Utility of protein structure models, despite errors





D. Baker & A. Sali. Science 294, 93, 2001.



Protein function from structure

Comparative binding site prediction by AnnoLyze.

BMC Bioinformatics

BioMed Central

Proceedings

Open Access

The AnnoLite and AnnoLyze programs for comparative annotation of protein structures

Marc A Marti-Renom*[1], Andrea Rossi[2], Fátima Al-Shahrour[3], Fred P Davis[2], Ursula Pieper[2], Joaquín Dopazo[3] and Andrej Sali[2]

Address: [1]Structural Genomics Unit, Bioinformatics Department, Centro de Investigación Príncipe Felipe (CIPF), Valencia, Spain, [2]Departments of Biopharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and California Institute for Quantitative Biomedical Research, University of California at San Francisco, San Francisco, CA 94143, USA and [3]Functional Genomics Unit, Bioinformatics Department, Centro de Investigación Príncipe Felipe (CIPF), Valencia, Spain

Email: Marc A Marti-Renom* - mmarti@cipf.es; Andrea Rossi - andrea@salilab.org; Fátima Al-Shahrour - falshahrour@cipf.es; Fred P Davis - fred@salilab.org; Ursula Pieper - Ursula@salilab.org; Joaquín Dopazo - jdopazo@cipf.es; Andrej Sali - sali@salilab.org

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from The Second Automated Function Prediction Meeting
La Jolla, CA, USA. 30 August – 1 September 2006

Published: 22 May 2007

BMC Bioinformatics 2007, **8**(Suppl 4):S4 doi:10.1186/1471-2105-8-S4-S4

This article is available from: http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2105/8/S4/S4

Abstract

Background: Advances in structural biology, including structural genomics, have resulted in a rapid increase in the number of experimentally determined protein structures. However, about half of the structures deposited by the structural genomics consortia have little or no information about their biological function. Therefore, there is a need for tools for automatically and comprehensively annotating the function of protein structures. We aim to provide such tools by applying comparative protein structure annotation that relies on detectable relationships between protein structures to transfer functional annotations. Here we introduce two programs, AnnoLite and AnnoLyze, which use the structural alignments deposited in the DBAli database.

Description: AnnoLite predicts the SCOP, CATH, EC, InterPro, PfamA, and GO terms with an average sensitivity of ~90% and average precision of ~80%. AnnoLyze predicts ligand binding site and domain interaction patches with an average sensitivity of ~70% and average precision of ~30%, correctly localizing binding sites for small molecules in ~95% of its predictions.

Conclusion: The AnnoLite and AnnoLyze programs for comparative annotation of protein structures can reliably and automatically annotate new protein structures. The programs are fully accessible via the Internet as part of the DBAli suite of tools at http://salilab.org/DBAli/.

Background

Genomic efforts are providing us with complete genetic blueprints for hundreds of organisms, including humans. We are now faced with assigning, understanding, and modifying the functions of proteins encoded by these genomes. This task is generally facilitated by protein 3D

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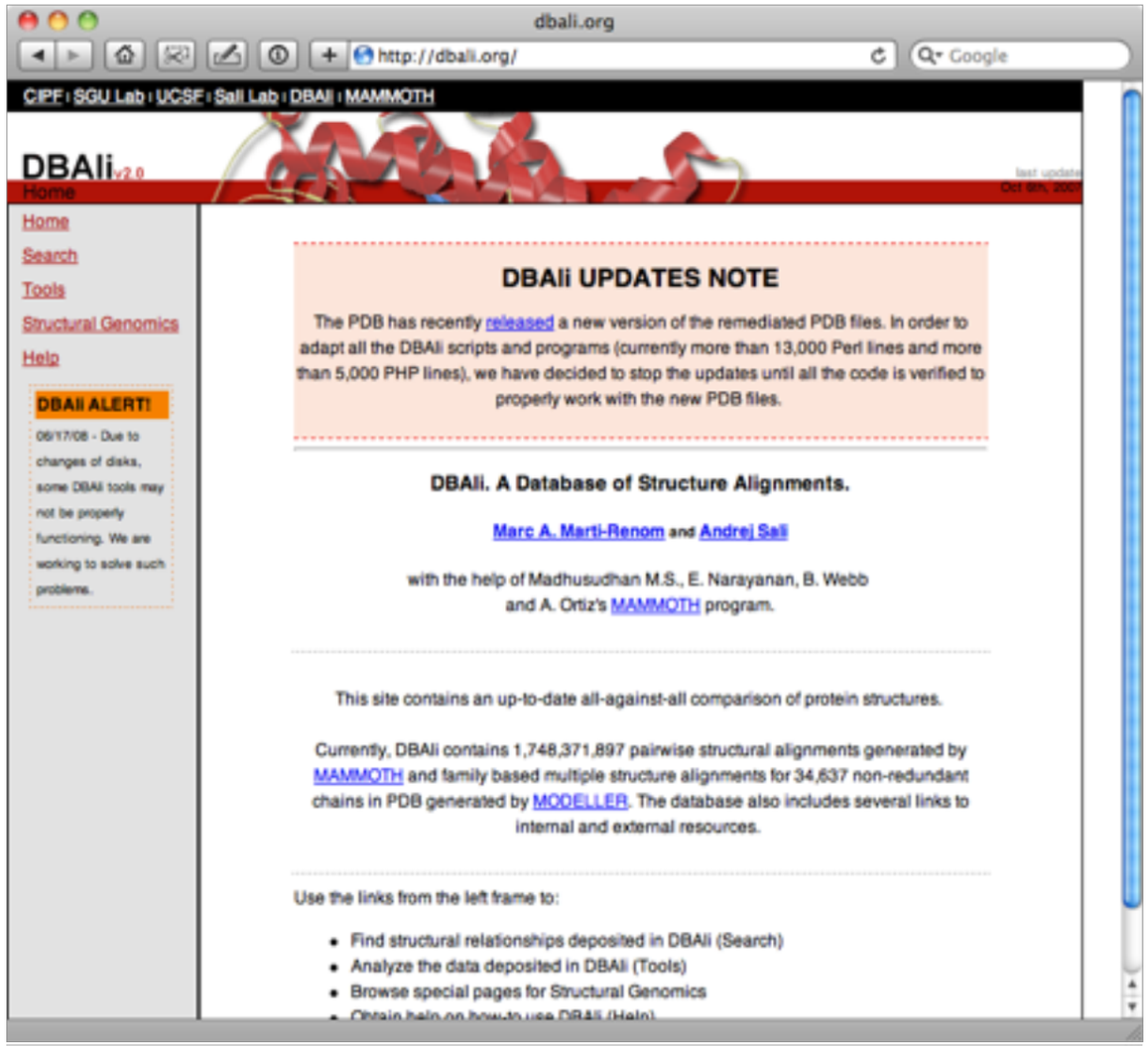
For ~20% protein structures function is *unknown*

	Structural Genomics*	Traditional methods
Annotated**	654	28,342
Not Annotated	506 (43.6%)	6,815 (19,4%)
Total deposited	1,160	35,157

** annotated as STRUCTURAL GENOMICS in the header of the PDB file*
***annotated with either CATH, SCOP, Pfam or GO terms in the MSD database*
36,317 protein structures, as of August 8th, 2006

DBAli$_{v2.0}$ database

http://www.dbali.org



- ✓ Fully-automatic
- ✓ Data is kept up-to-date with PDB releases
- ✓ Tools for "on the fly" classification of families.
- ✓ Easy to navigate
- ✓ Provides tools for structure analysis

Does not provide a stable classification similar to that of CATH or SCOP

Uses MAMMOTH for similarity detection

- ✓ VERY FAST!!!
- ✓ Good scoring system with significance

Ortiz AR, (2002) Protein Sci. 11 pp2606


BIOINFORMATICS APPLICATIONS NOTE Vol. 17 no. 8 2001 Pages 746–747

DBAli: a database of protein structure alignments

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Received on February 14, 2001; revised and accepted on April 25, 2001

ABSTRACT

Summary: The DBAli database includes approximately 35 000 alignments of pairs of protein structures from SCOP (Lo Conte *et al.*, *Nucleic Acids Res.*, **28**, 257–259, 2000) and CE (Shindyalov and Bourne, *Protein Eng.*, **11**, 739–747, 1998). DBAli is linked to several resources, including Compare3D (Shindyalov and Bourne, http://www.sdsc.edu/pb/software.htm, 1999) and ModView (Ilyin and Sali, http://guitar.rockefeller.edu/ModView/, 2001) for visualizing sequence alignments and structure superpositions. A flexible search of DBAli by protein sequence and structure properties allows construction of subsets of alignments suitable for a number of applications, such as benchmarking of sequence–sequence and sequence–structure alignment methods under a variety of conditions.

Availability: http://guitar.rockefeller.edu/DBAli/

Contact: sali@rockefeller.edu; http://guitar.rockefeller.edu

Accurate reference alignments of protein sequences are necessary for improving methods for aligning protein sequences with each other and with proteins of known structure. Such reference alignments are invariably based on comparison of protein structures because structure is more conserved in evolution than sequence (Pascarella and Argos, 1992; Sali and Overington, 1994; Fischer *et al.*, 1996; Shindyalov and Bourne, 1998; Mizuguchi *et al.*, 1998; Thompson *et al.*, 1999b; Lo Conte *et al.*, 2000; Holm and Sander, 1999; Thompson *et al.*, 1999a; Domingues *et al.*, 2000; Bateman *et al.*, 2000). Although the structure-based alignments are the best alignments for most applications, different structure comparison methods sometimes result in different alignments; many different methods are reviewed in Swindells *et al.* (1998).

DBAli is a new database of alignments of pairs of related known protein structures. Its main distinction with respect to other sources of protein structure alignments is the flexibility of selecting different sets of alignments according to a variety of criteria. One of the aims of DBAli is to provide a large set of reference alignments for comprehensive evaluation of alignment methods over the whole spectrum of sequence and structure similarity. Currently, DBAli includes all 1843 pairwise alignments from SCOP 1.38 (Lo Conte *et al.*, 2000) and 33 920 non-redundant alignments from CE with the Z-score higher than 3.8 (Shindyalov and Bourne, 1998); the non-redundant CE alignments were obtained by aligning a structure with only one other structure from the same 'H' level in the CATH classification (Orengo *et al.*, 1999). The CE database was selected as the main source of pairwise structure alignments because of its availability, completeness, currency, and automatic construction. DBAli will continue to be updated to reflect the growth of the CE database.

DBAli can be queried by MySQL (version 3.23) (DuBois, 2000). The database is searchable by sequence and structure properties of the proteins and their alignments (Figure 1). Sequence properties that can be queried include Protein Data Bank (PDB) code (Berman *et al.*, 2000), sequence similarity to entries in the database, percentage sequence identity of the alignment, length of the alignment and the number of aligned residues. Structure properties include C_α RMSD and number of residues with C_α atoms within 3.5 Å after superimposition. Each query produces a table of alignments satisfying the search criteria. The table lists the alignment name with a link to the alignment description page, a link to the original alignment file in the MODELLER format, PDB codes corresponding to the aligned structures, percentage identity between the sequences in the alignment, C_α RMSD, a link to a schematic representation of the alignment and links to the Compare3D applet (Shindyalov and Bourne, 1999) and the ModView plugin (Ilyin and Sali, 2001) for structural visualization of the alignment. The user can download the selected alignments.

All alignments were processed, but not changed, by MODELLER (Sali and Blundell, 1993). Sequence and structure properties of an alignment are shown on its main page. The main alignment page is divided in three sections: (i) the sequence alignment with general data; (ii) sequence properties; and (iii) structure properties. Links to

*To whom correspondence should be addressed.

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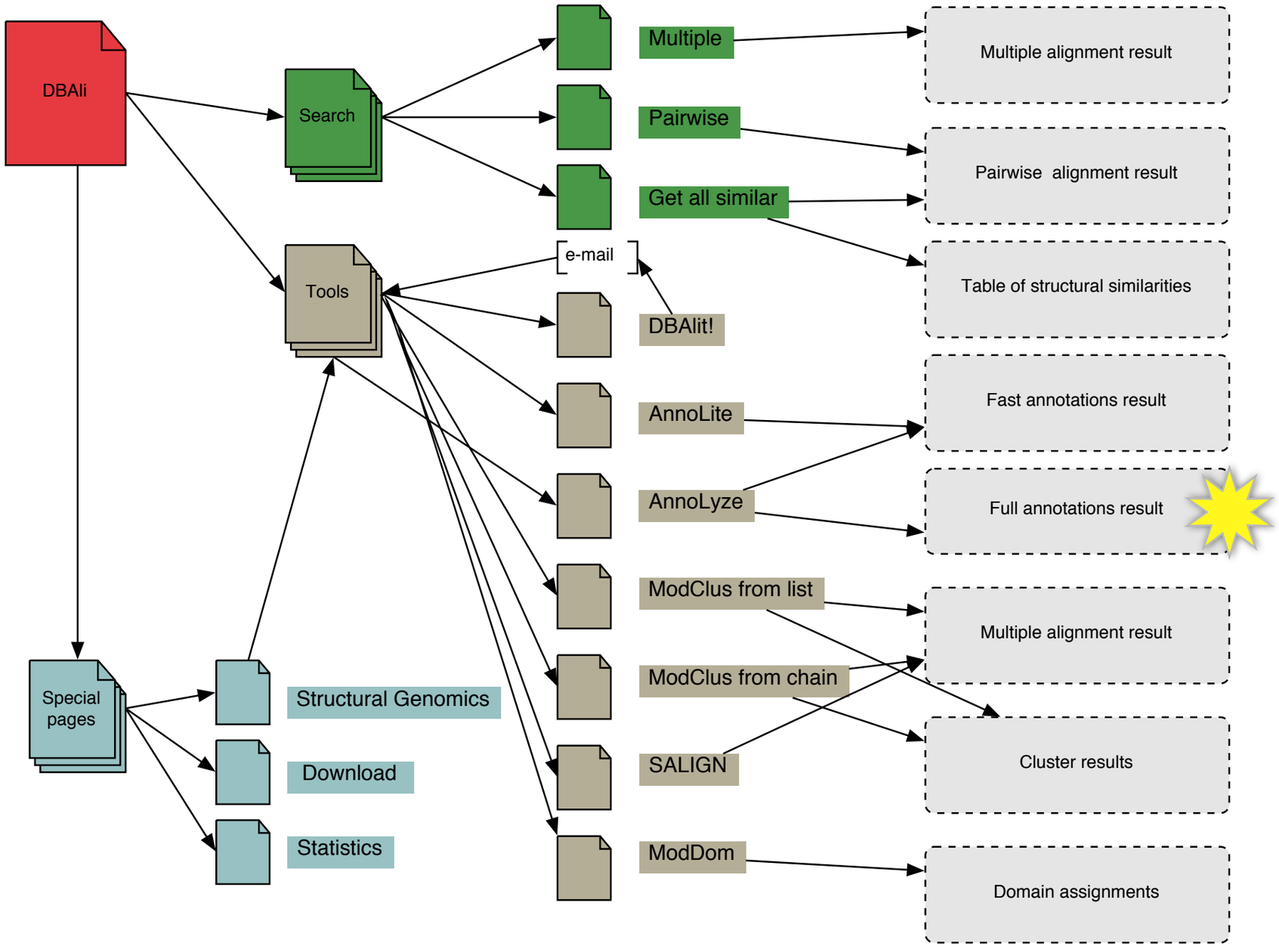
DBAli$_{v2.0}$ database

http://www.dbali.org



Marti-Renom et al. Nucleic Acids Research (2007)

Nucleic Acids Research, 2007, Vol. 35, Web Server issue **W393–W397**
doi:10.1093/nar/gkm236

DBAli tools: mining the protein structure space

Marc A. Marti-Renom[1,*], Ursula Pieper[2], M. S. Madhusudhan[2], Andrea Rossi[2], Narayanan Eswar[2], Fred P. Davis[2], Fátima Al-Shahrour[3], Joaquín Dopazo[3] and Andrej Sali[2]

[1]Structural Genomics Unit, [2]Departments of Biopharmaceutical Sciences and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and California Institute for Quantitative Biomedical Research, University of California at San Francisco, San Francisco, CA 94158-2330, USA and [3]Functional Genomics Unit, Bioinformatics Department, Centro de Investigación Príncipe Felipe (CIPF), Valencia, Spain

Received January 30, 2007; Accepted March 31, 2007

ABSTRACT

The DBAli tools use a comprehensive set of structural alignments in the DBAli database to leverage the structural information deposited in the Protein Data Bank (PDB). These tools include (i) the DBAlit program that allows users to input the 3D coordinates of a protein structure for comparison by MAMMOTH against all chains in the PDB; (ii) the AnnoLite and AnnoLyze programs that annotate a target structure based on its stored relationships to other structures; (iii) the ModClus program that clusters structures by sequence and structure similarities; (iv) the ModDom program that identifies domains as recurrent structural fragments and (v) an implementation of the COMPARER method in the SALIGN command in MODELLER that creates a multiple structure alignment for a set of related protein structures. Thus, the DBAli tools, which are freely accessible *via* the World Wide Web at http://salilab.org/DBAli/, allow users to mine the protein structure space by establishing relationships between protein structures and their functions.

INTRODUCTION

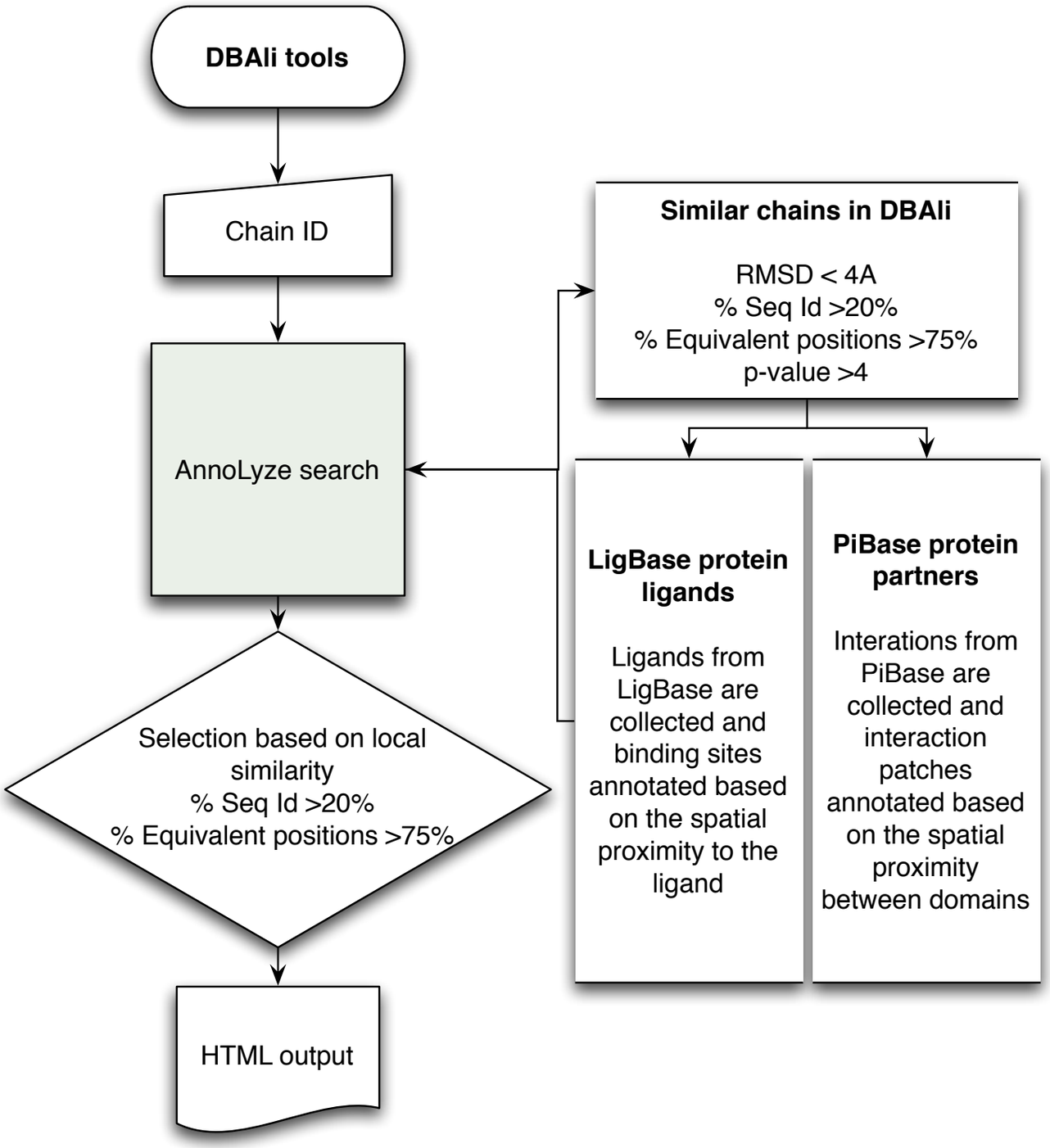
The number of known protein structures deposited in the Protein Data Bank (PDB) has grown exponentially over the years (1). This trend is expected to continue, partly due to the structural genomics efforts (2,3). Currently, there are ~41 000 protein structures deposited in the PDB, containing ~88 000 protein chains. These protein structures constitute a structural space that can be mined to facilitate the understanding, assignment and modification of protein function. Previously developed databases for the classification of protein structure domains, such as SCOP [http://scop.mrc-lmb.cam.ac.uk/scop/ (4)] or CATH [http://www.cathdb.info (5)], and servers for functional annotation of protein structures, such as ProFunc [http://www.ebi.ac.uk/thornton-srv/databases/ProFunc/ (6,7)], ProKnow [http://www.doe-mbi.ucla.edu/Services/ProKnow (8)] and Phunctioner [http://www.sbg.bio.ic.ac.uk (9)], provide an effective way of describing and annotating the protein structure space. However, none of these servers combine a comprehensive database of protein structural alignments with tools for automatically annotating protein structures.

Here, we describe five tools that aid in the analysis of the data stored in DBAli, our comprehensive relational database of pairwise and multiple structural alignments (10). These tools include (i) the DBAlit program that allows users to input their structure for comparison by MAMMOTH (11) against all chains in the PDB; (ii) the AnnoLite and AnnoLyze programs that annotate a target structure based on its stored relationships to other structures; (iii) the ModClus program that clusters structures by sequence and structure similarities; (iv) the ModDom program that identifies recurrent fragments, including domains, from structure; and (v) an implementation of the COMPARER method (12) in the SALIGN command in MODELLER that creates a multiple structure alignment for a set of related protein structures. The DBAli tools allow users to establish relationships between protein structures and their fragments in a flexible and dynamic manner.

The DBAli database is briefly introduced first. Next, we describe each of the five tools that make use of the structural alignments deposited in DBAli. Finally, we discuss the use of the DBAli tools to analyze a structure determined by the New York Structural Genomics Research Consortium (NYSGXRC).

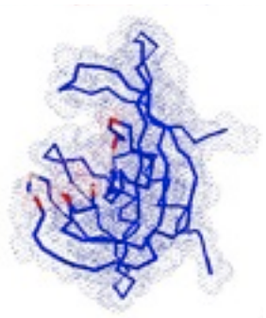
*To whom correspondence should be addressed. Tel: +34 96 3289680; Fax: +34 96 3289701; Email: mmarti@cipf.es

Method



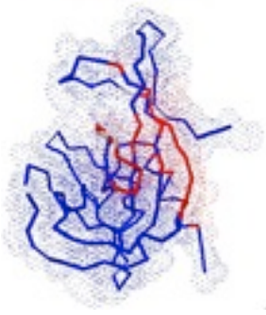
Inherited ligands: 4

Ligand	Av. binding site seq. id.	Av. residue conservation	Residues in predicted binding site (size proportional to the local conservation)
MO2	59.03	0.185	48 49 52 62 63 66 67 113 116
CRY	20.00	0.111	23 29 31 37 44 48 49 83 85 94 96 103 121
8OG	20.00	0.111	19 20 21 48 49 51 96 98 136
ACY	15.87	0.163	23 29 31 37 44 45 81 83 85 94 96 98 103 121 135



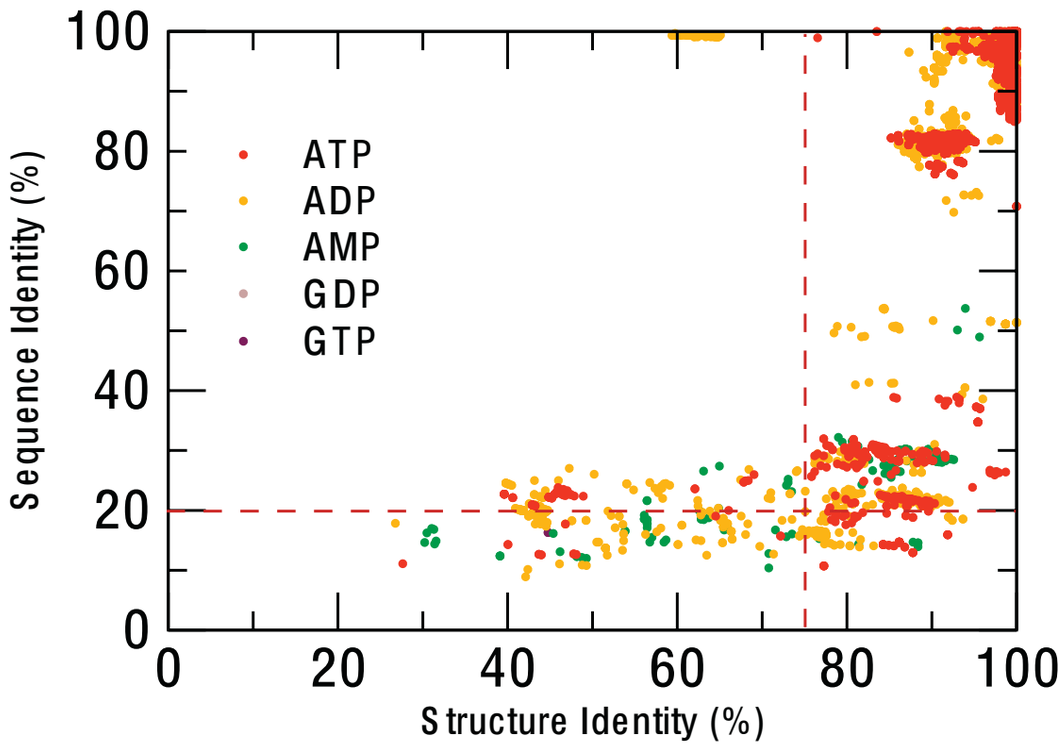
Inherited partners:1

Partner	Av. binding site seq. id.	Av. residue conservation	Residues in predicted binding site (size proportional to the local conservation)
d.113.1.1	23.68	0.948	19 20 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 93 95 97 99 134 135 138 142 145

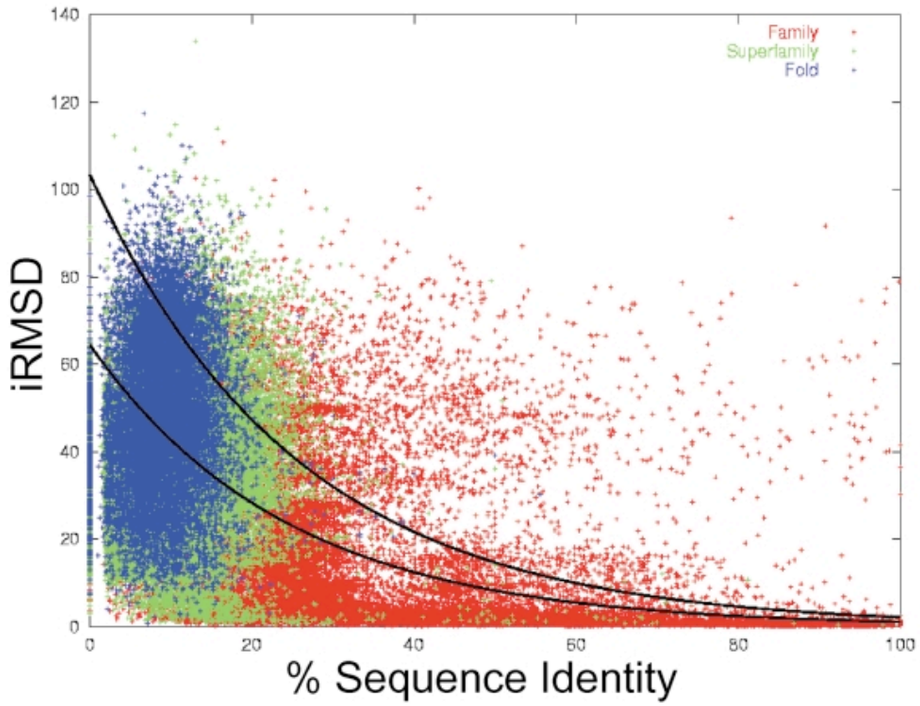


Scoring function

Ligands



Partners



Aloy *et al.* (2003) J.Mol.Biol. 332(5):989-98.

Benchmark

	Number of chains
Initial set*	78,167
LigBase**	30,126
Non-redundant set***	4,948 (8,846 ligands)

all PDB chains larger than 30 aminoacids in length (8th of August, 2006)
***annotated with at least one ligand in the LigBase database*
****not two chains can be structurally aligned within 3A, superimposing more than 75% of their Cα atoms, result in a sequence alignment with more than 30% identity, and have a length difference inferior to 50aa*

Sensitivity .vs. Precision

	Optimal cut-off	Sensitivity (%) Recall or TPR	Precision (%)
Ligands	30%	71.9	13.7

$$\text{Sensitivity} = \frac{TP}{TP + FN} \qquad \text{Precision} = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

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~90-95% of residues correctly predicted

Example (2azwA)

Structural Genomics Unknown Function

Molecule: MutT/nudix family protein

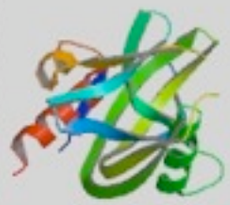
PDB ID: 2azw:A

Header:
STRUCTURAL GENOMICS, UNKNOWN FUNCTION

Compound:
MOL_ID: 1; MOLECULE: MUTT/NUDIX FAMILY PROTEIN; CHAIN: A;
ENGINEERED: YES

Source:
MOL_ID: 1; ORGANISM_SCIENTIFIC: ENTEROCOCCUS FAECALIS V583; ORGANISM_COMMON: BACTERIA; EXPRESSION_SYSTEM: ESCHERICHIA COLI; EXPRESSION_SYSTEM_COMMON: BACTERIA; EXPRESSION_SYSTEM_STRAIN: BL21(DE3); EXPRESSION_SYSTEM_VECTOR_TYPE: PLASMID; EXPRESSION_SYSTEM_PLASMID: PET15B

Resolution: 1.90Å



Links: none

SCOP: none

CATH: none

Ligands: none

Interacting partners: none

Sequence:
Md5: 09b13d23ceae0fdfcaddec636e2ddfa6KTPTAAAS
Length: 146

```
KTPTPGKREE TLTYQTRYAA YIIVSKPENN TMVLVQAPNG AYFLPGGEIE
GTETKEEAIH REVLEELGIS VEIGCYLGEA DEYFYSNHRQ TAYYNPGYFY
VANTWRQLSE PLRTNTLHWV APEEAVRLLK RGSHRWAVEK WLAAAS
```

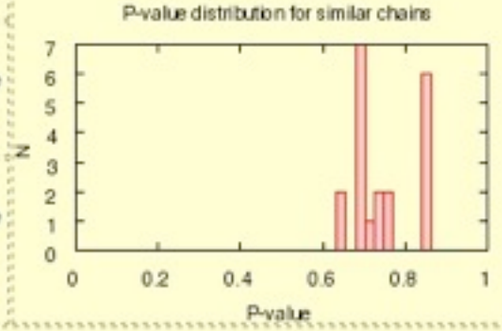
Similar structures: 20
Similar sequences: 890
Most similar structure in DBAli:

Code	SeqId(%)	EqPos	RMSD	P-Value	See
1vc9:A	22.76	123	3.57	17.28	ali

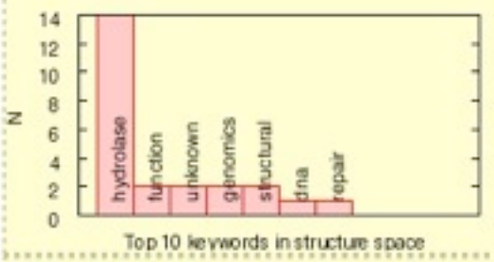
Most similar sequence in DBAli:

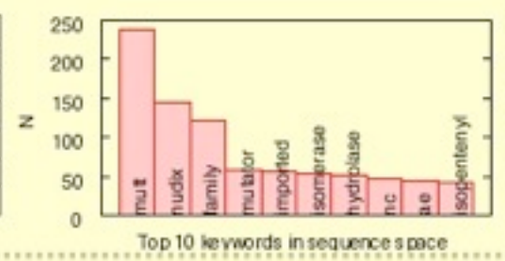
Code	SeqId(%)	EqPos	RMSD	P-Value	See
1vcd:B	24.59	122	3.47	17.00	ali

P-value distribution:

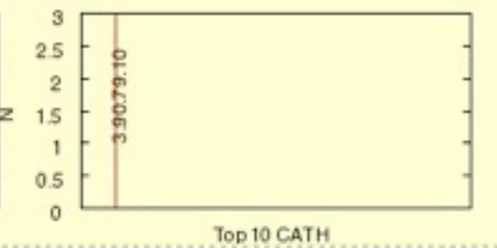


Keyword distribution:





SCOP and CATH distribution for similar structures:



Inherited ligands: 4

Ligand	Av. binding site seq. id.	Av. residue conservation	Residues in predicted binding site (size proportional to the local conservation)
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8OG	20.00	0.111	19 20 21 48 49 51 96 98 136
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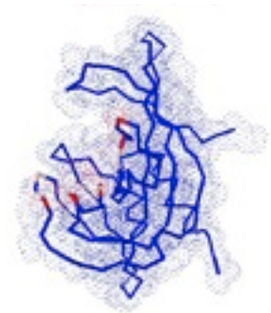
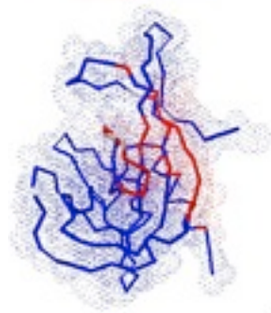
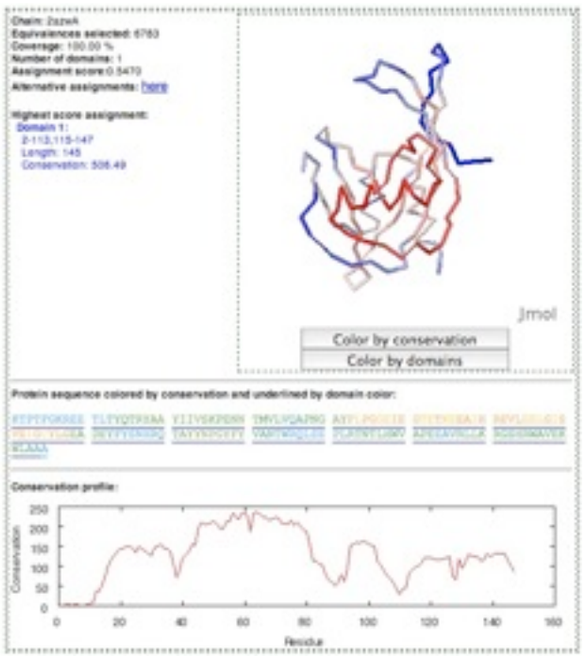
Inherited partners: 1

Partner	Av. binding site seq. id.	Av. residue conservation	Residues in predicted binding site (size proportional to the local conservation)
d.113.1.1	23.68	0.948	19 20 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 93 95 97 99 134 135 138 142 145



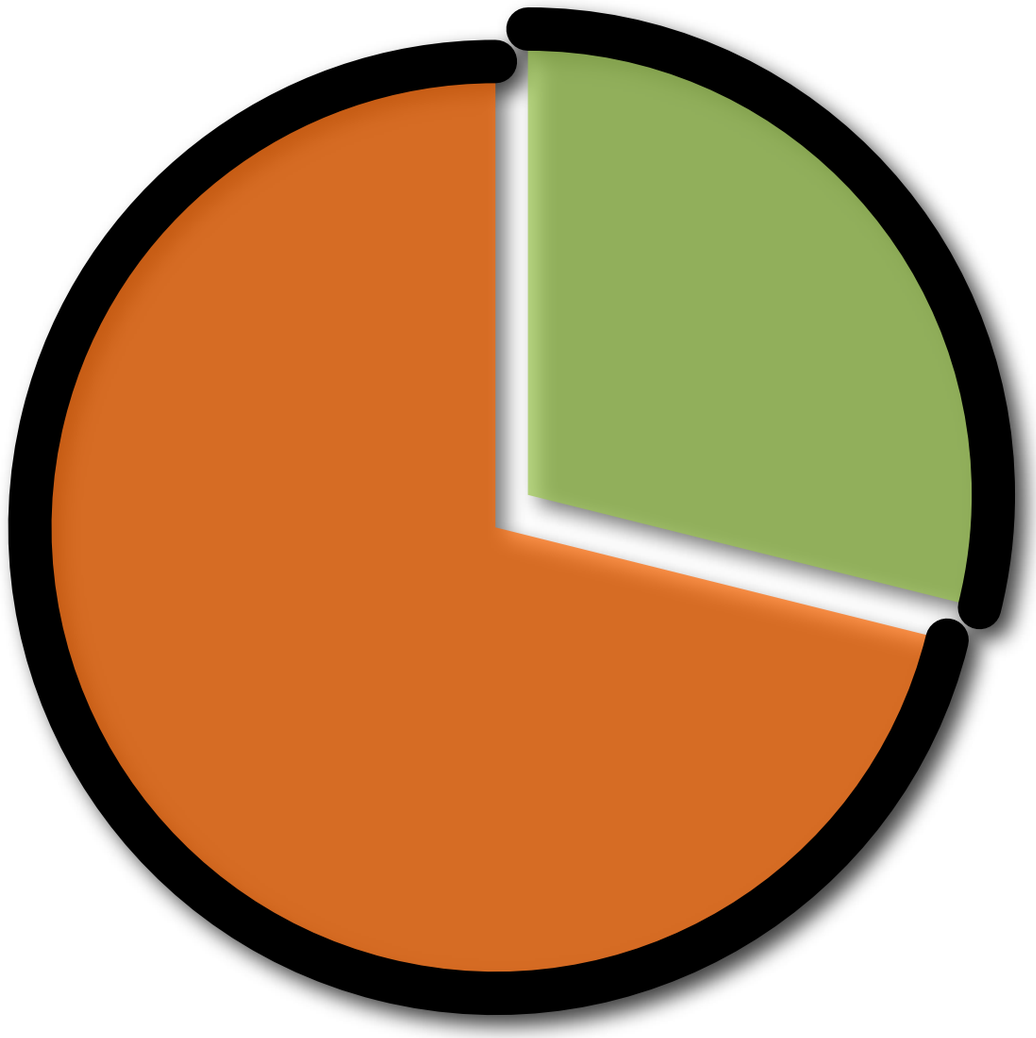




	Conf.	P-value	Link	Description
CATH:	●	1.1e-20	3.90.79.10	Nucleoside Triphosphate Pyrophosphohydrolase
SCOP:	●	4.2e-29	d.113.1.1	MutT-like
PFAM:	●	2.0e-74	PF00293	NUDIX domain
InterPro:	●	1.9e-65	IPR000086	NUDIX hydrolase
	●	2.7e-20	IPR003561	Mutator MutT
	●	2.9e-14	IPR002667	Isopentenyl-diphosphate delta-isomerase
EC Number:	●	1.7e-4	3.6.1.17	Bis(5'-nucleosyl)-tetraphosphatase (asymmetrical).
GO Molecular Function:	●	4.5e-19	0008413	8-oxo-7,8-dihydroguanine triphosphatase activity ;
	●	3.8e-13	0004452	isopentenyl-diphosphate delta-isomerase activity ;
	●	1.9e-6	0016787	hydrolase activity ;
	●	5.4e-3	0004081	bis(5'-nucleosyl)-tetraphosphatase (asymmetrical) activity ;
	●	1.9e-2	0000287	magnesium ion binding ;
GO Biological Process:	●	7.7e-11	0008299	isoprenoid biosynthesis ;
	●	1.5e-5	0006974	response to DNA damage stimulus ;
	●	1.7e-5	0006260	DNA replication ;
	●	2.4e-5	0006281	DNA repair ;

Tropical Disease Initiative (TDI)

Predicting binding sites in protein structure models.

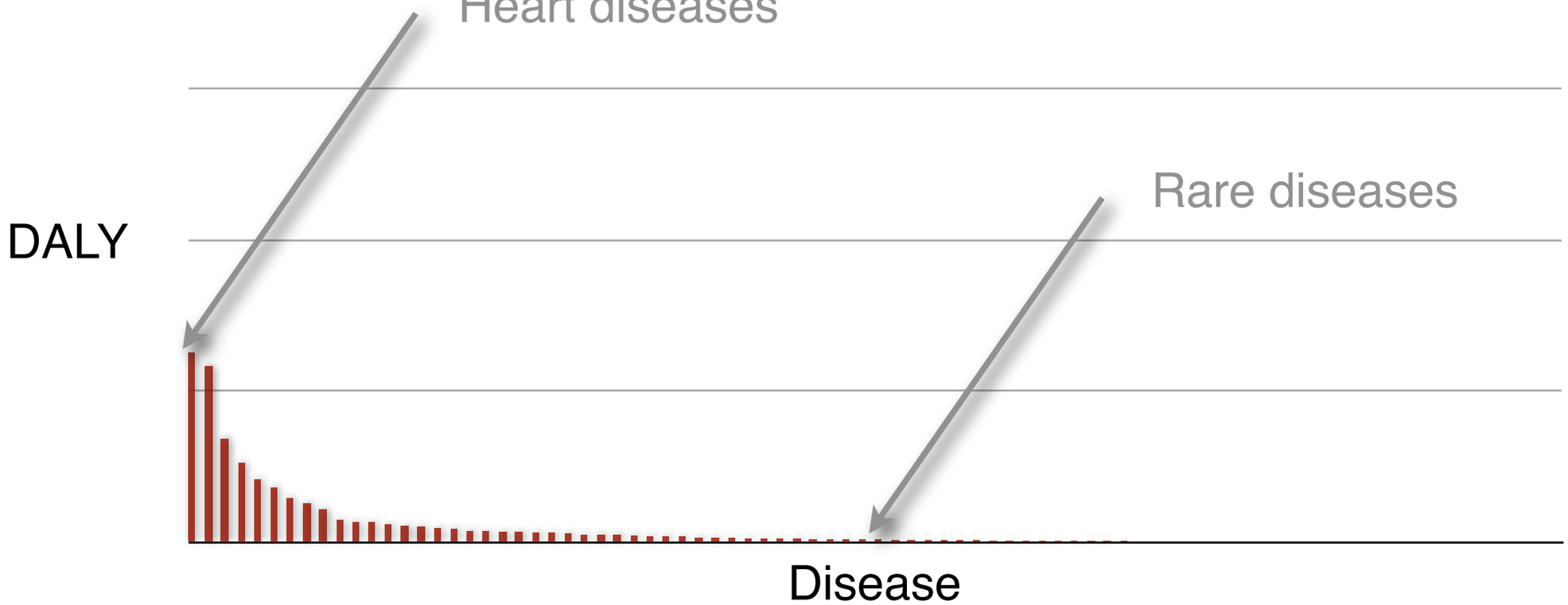


http://www.tropicaldisease.org

Need is High in the Tail

DALY Burden Per Disease in Developed Countries

DALY Burden Per Disease in Developing Countries



Disease data taken from WHO, *World Health Report 2004*

DALY - Disability adjusted life years

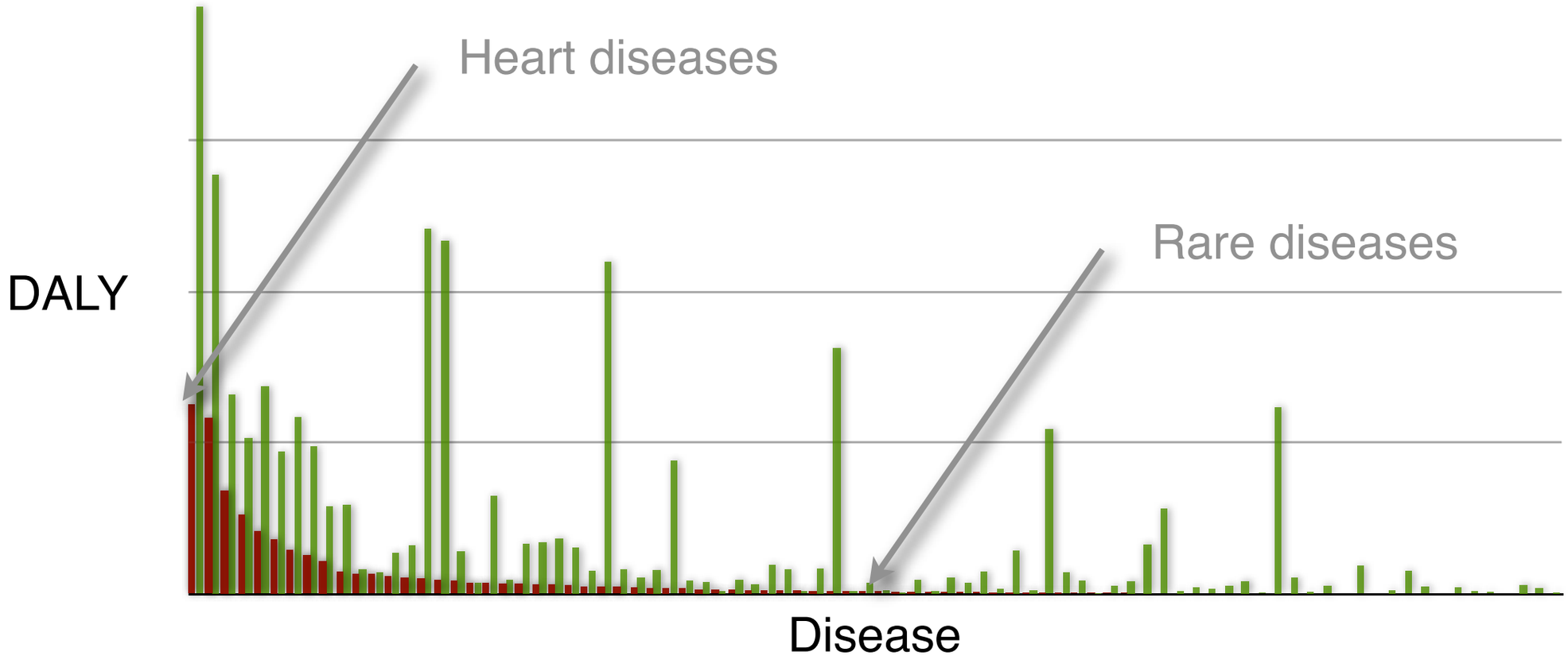
DALY is not a perfect measure of market size, but is certainly a good measure for importance.

DALYs for a disease are the sum of the years of life lost due to premature mortality (YLL) in the population and the years lost due to disability (YLD) for incident cases of the health condition. The DALY is a health gap measure that extends the concept of potential years of life lost due to premature death (PYLL) to include equivalent years of 'healthy' life lost in states of less than full health, broadly termed disability. One DALY represents the loss of one year of equivalent full health.

Need is High in the Tail

DALY Burden Per Disease in Developed Countries

DALY Burden Per Disease in Developing Countries



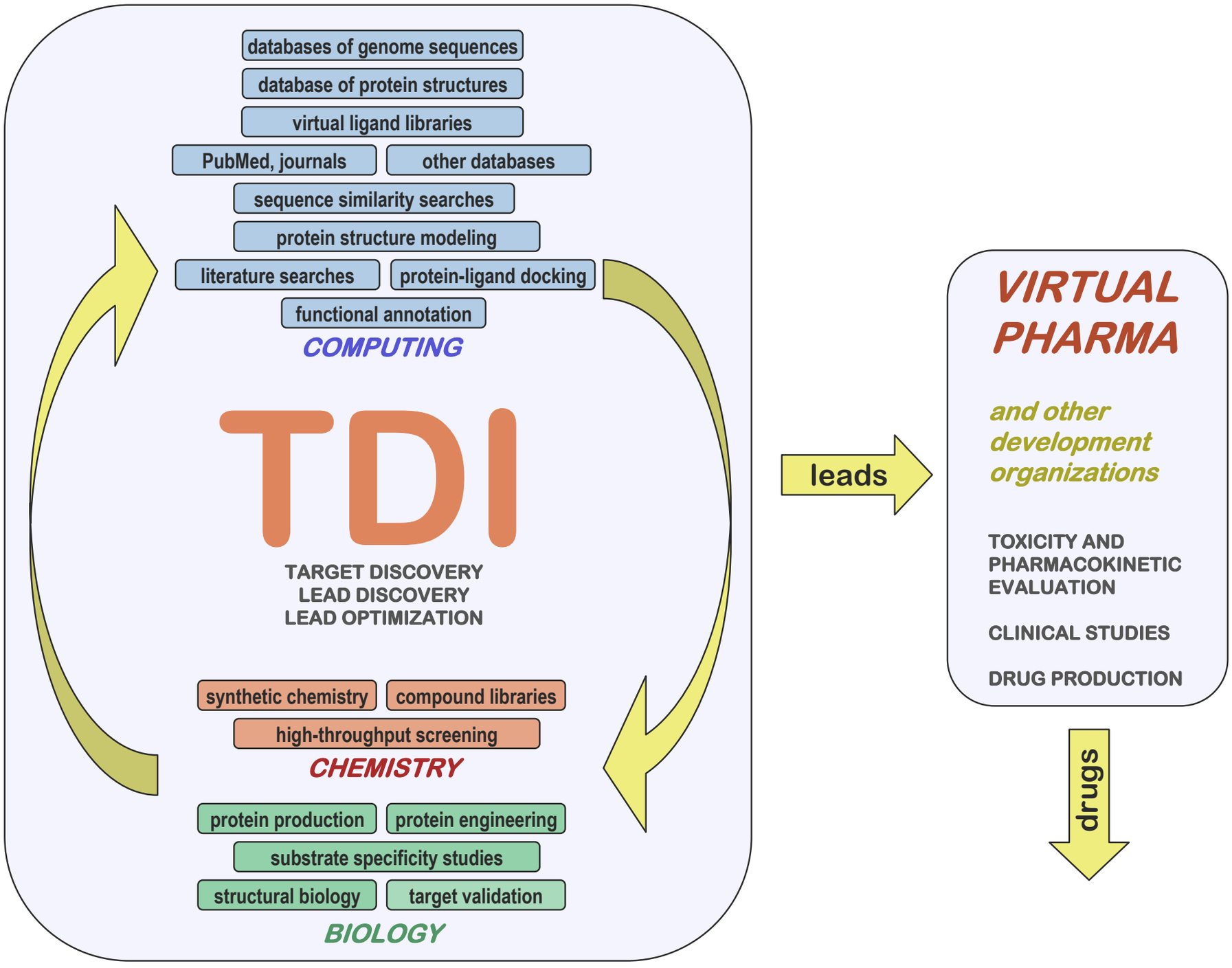
Disease data taken from WHO, *World Health Report 2004*

DALY - Disability adjusted life years

DALY is not a perfect measure of market size, but is certainly a good measure for importance.

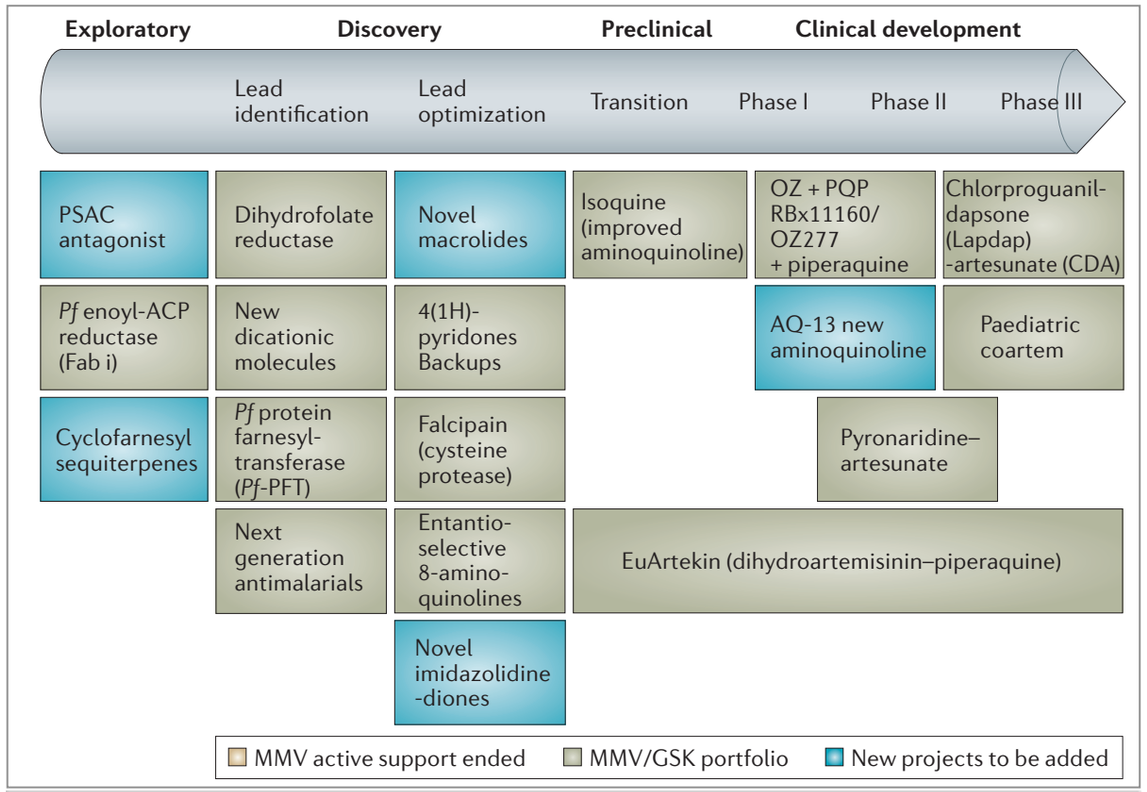
DALYs for a disease are the sum of the years of life lost due to premature mortality (YLL) in the population and the years lost due to disability (YLD) for incident cases of the health condition. The DALY is a health gap measure that extends the concept of potential years of life lost due to premature death (PYLL) to include equivalent years of 'healthy' life lost in states of less than full health, broadly termed disability. One DALY represents the loss of one year of equivalent full health.

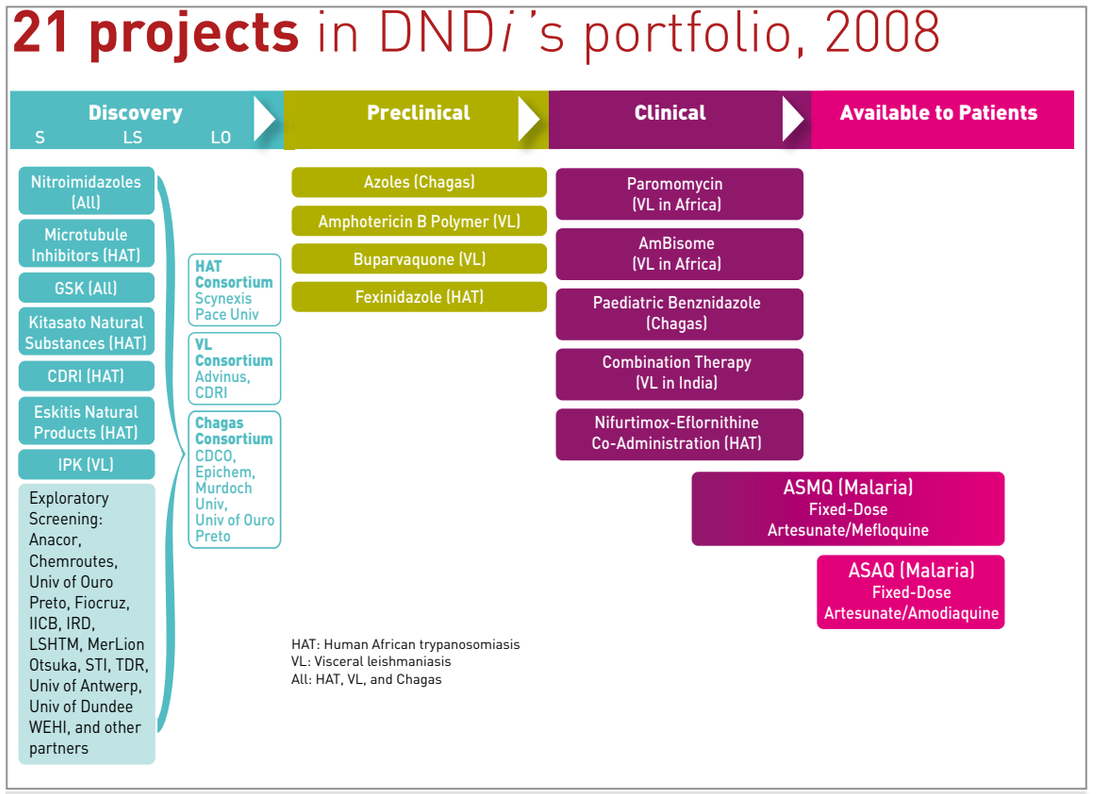
TDI flowchart



Non-Profit organizations

Open-Source + Out-Source = low cost business model





Munos (2006) Nature Reviews. Drug Discovery.

"Unprofitable" Diseases and Global DALY (in 1000's)

Malaria*	**46,486**
Tetanus	7,074
Lymphatic filariasis*	**5,777**
Syphilis	4,200
Trachoma	2,329
Leishmaniasis*	**2,090**
Ascariasis	1,817
Schistosomiasis*	**1,702**
Trypanosomiasis*	**1,525**

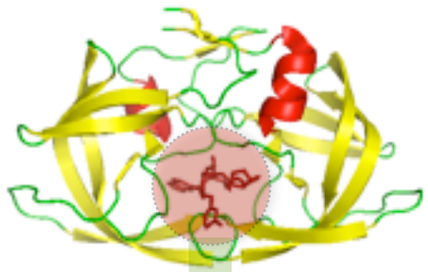
Trichuriasis	1,006
Japanese encephalitis	709
Chagas Disease*	**667**
Dengue*	**616**
Onchocerciasis*	**484**
Leprosy*	**199**
Diphtheria	185
Poliomyelitise	151
Hookworm disease	59

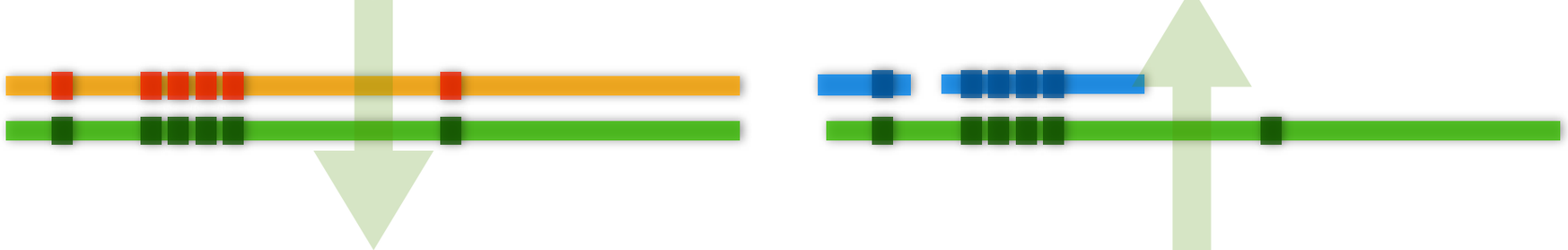
Disease data taken from WHO, *World Health Report 2004*
DALY - Disability adjusted life year in 1000's.
* Officially listed in the WHO Tropical Disease Research disease portfolio.

Comparative docking

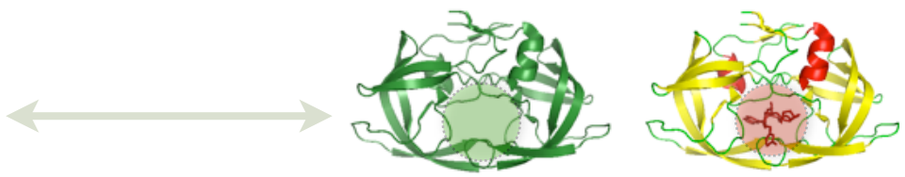
Expansion

co-crystalized protein/ligand





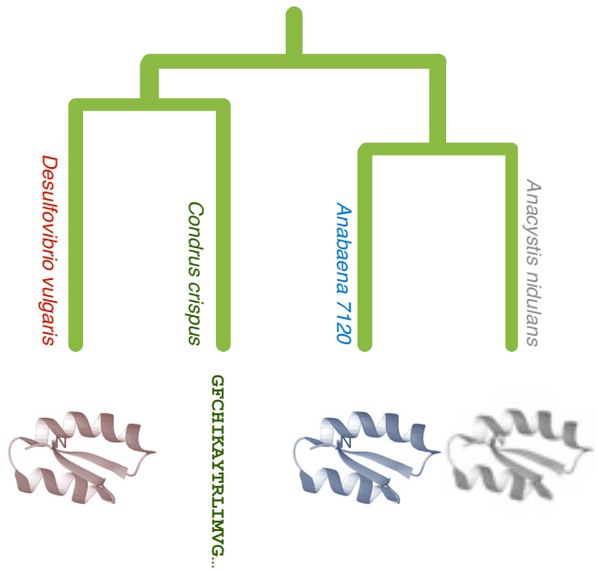
crystalized protein



template

2. Inheritance

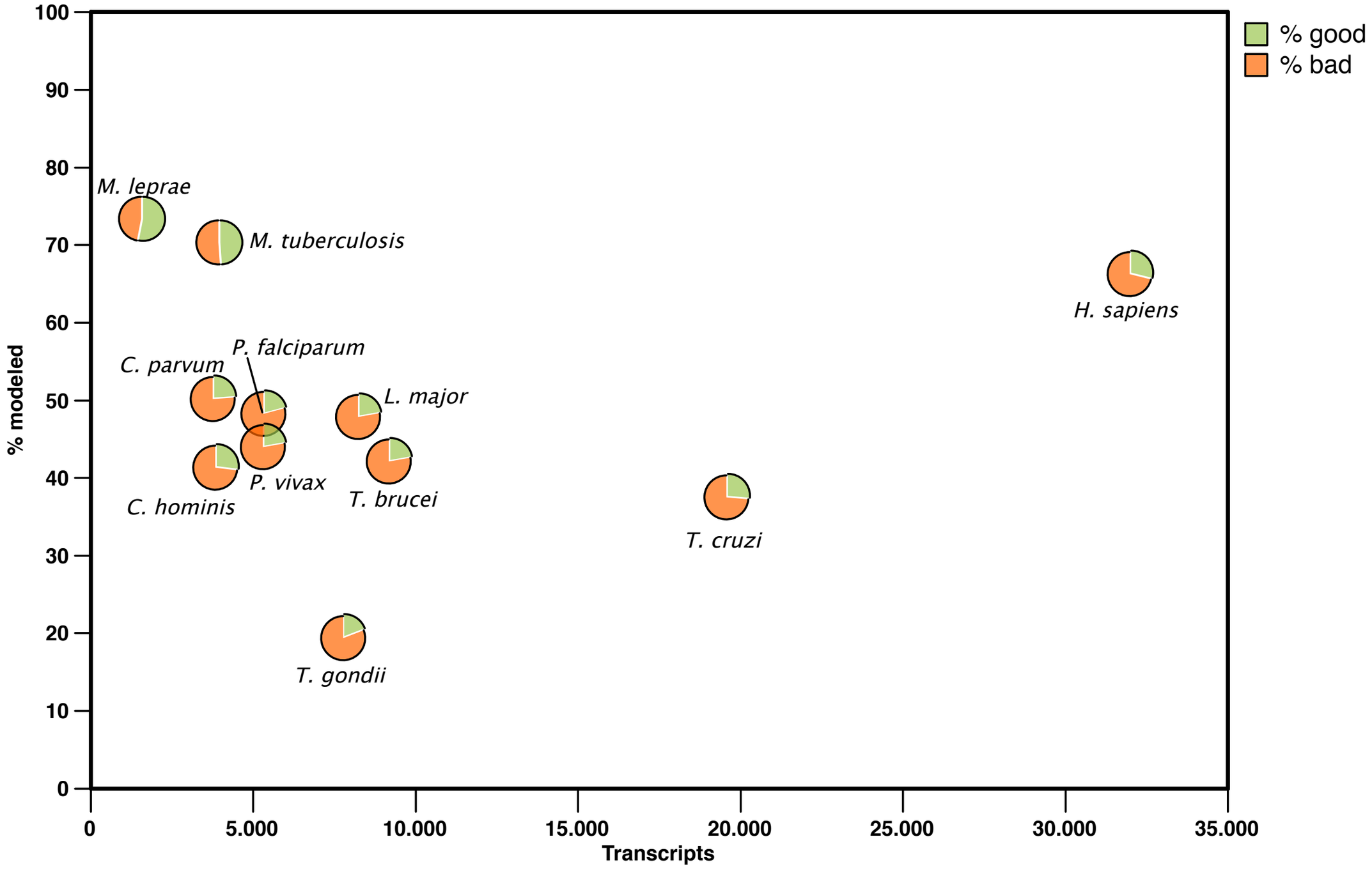
model



1. Modeling

Modeling Genomes

data from models generated by ModPipe (Eswar, Pieper & Sali)



A good model has MPQS of 1.0 or higher

Summary table

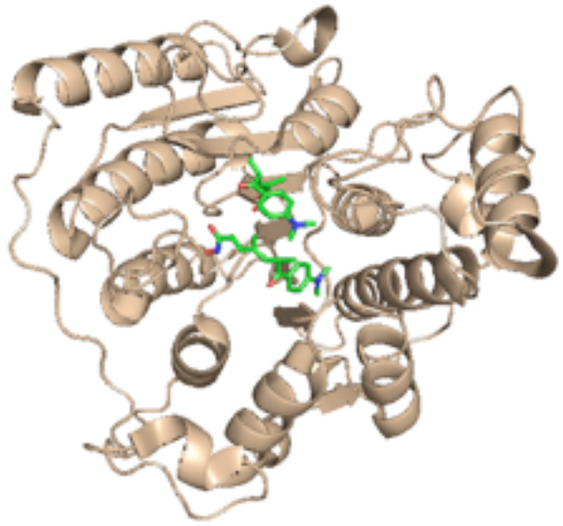
models with inherited ligands

29,271 targets with good models, 297 inherited a ligand/substance similar to a known drug in DrugBank

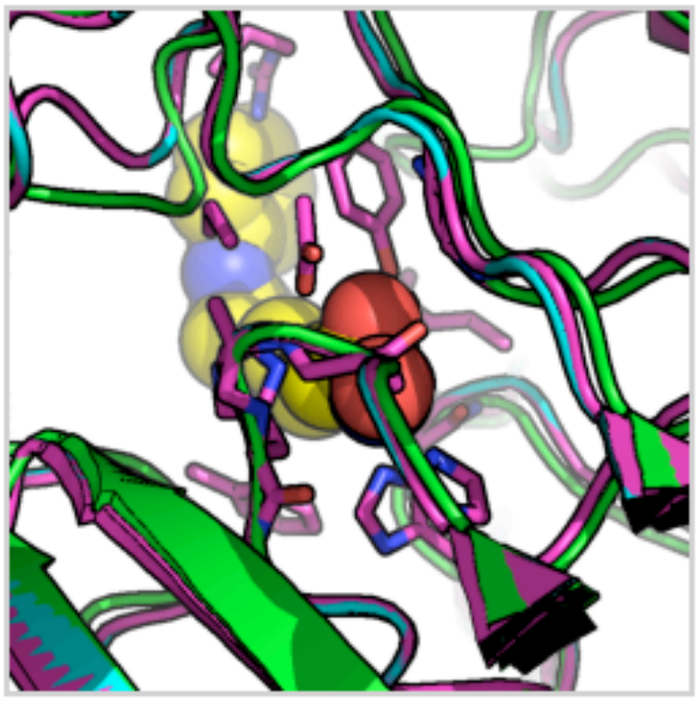
	Transcripts	Modeled targets	Selected models	Inherited ligands	Similar to a drug	Drugs
C. hominis	3,886	1,614	666	197	20	13
C. parvum	3,806	1,918	742	232	24	13
L. major	8,274	3,975	1,409	478	43	20
M. leprae	1,605	1,178	893	310	25	6
M. tuberculosis	3,991	2,808	1,608	365	30	10
P. falciparum	5,363	2,599	818	284	28	13
P. vivax	5,342	2,359	822	268	24	13
T. brucei	7,793	1,530	300	138	13	6
T. cruzi	19,607	7,390	3,070	769	51	28
T. gondii	9,210	3,900	1,386	458	39	21
TOTAL	**68,877**	**29,271**	**11,714**	**3,499**	**297**	**143**

L. major Histone deacetylase 2 + Vorinostat

Template 1t64A a human HDAC8 protein.

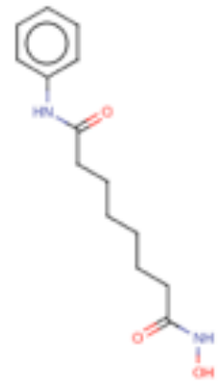


PDB		Template		Model		Ligand	Exact	SupStr	SubStr	Similar
1c3sA	83.33/80.00	1t64A	36.00/1.47	LmjF21.0680.1.pdb	90.91/100.00	SHH	DB02546	DB02546	DB02546	DB02546



DB02546 Vorinostat

Small Molecule; Approved; Investigational



Drug categories:

Anti-Inflammatory Agents, Non-Steroidal
Anticarcinogenic Agents
Antineoplastic Agents
Enzyme Inhibitors

Drug indication:

For the treatment of cutaneous manifestations in patients with cutaneous T-cell lymphoma who have progressive, persistent or recurrent disease on or following two systemic therapies.

L. major Histone deacetylase 2 + Vorinostat

Literature

Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA
Vol. 93, pp. 13143–13147, November 1996
Medical Sciences

Apicidin: A novel antiprotozoal agent that inhibits parasite histone deacetylase

(cyclic tetrapeptide/Apicomplexa/antiparasitic/malaria/coccidiosis)

SANDRA J. DARKIN-RATTRAY*†, ANNE M. GURNETT*, ROBERT W. MYERS*, PAULA M. DULSKI*, TAMI M. CRUMLEY*, JOHN J. ALLOCCO*, CHRISTINE CANNOVA*, PETER T. MEINKE‡, STEVEN L. COLLETTI‡, MARIA A. BEDNAREK‡, SHEO B. SINGH§, MICHAEL A. GOETZ§, ANNE W. DOMBROWSKI§, JON D. POLISHOOK§, AND DENNIS M. SCHMATZ*

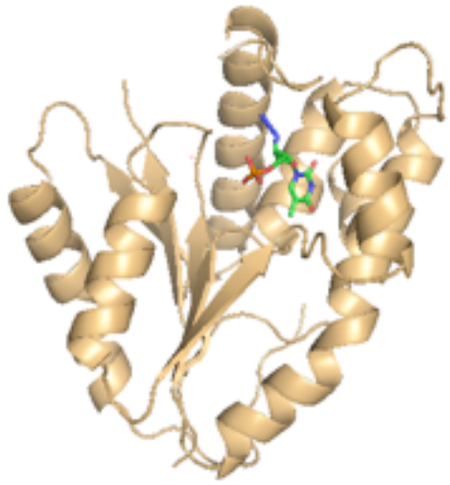
Departments of *Parasite Biochemistry and Cell Biology, ‡Medicinal Chemistry, and §Natural Products Drug Discovery, Merck Research Laboratories, P.O. Box 2000, Rahway, NJ 07065

ANTIMICROBIAL AGENTS AND CHEMOTHERAPY, Apr. 2004, p. 1435–1436 Vol. 48, No. 4
0066-4804/04/$08.00+0 DOI: 10.1128/AAC.48.4.1435–1436.2004

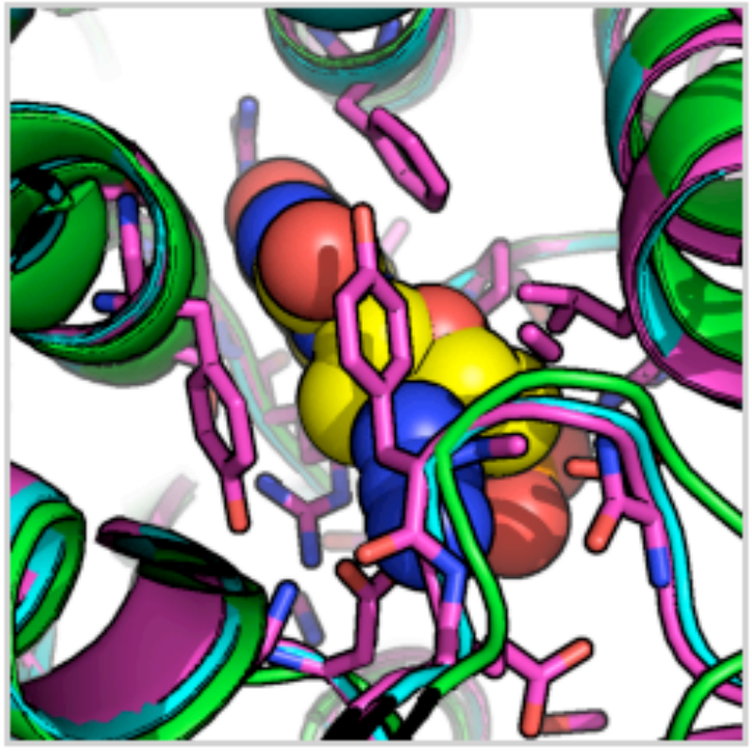
Antimalarial and Antileishmanial Activities of Aroyl-Pyrrolyl-Hydroxyamides, a New Class of Histone Deacetylase Inhibitors

P. falciparum tymidylate kinase + zidovudine

Template 3tmkA a yeast tymidylate kinase.



PDB		Template		Model		Ligand	Exact	SupStr	SubStr	Similar
2tmkB	100.00/100.00	3tmkA	41.00/1.49	PFL2465c.2.pdb	82.61/100.00	ATM		DB00495		DB00495

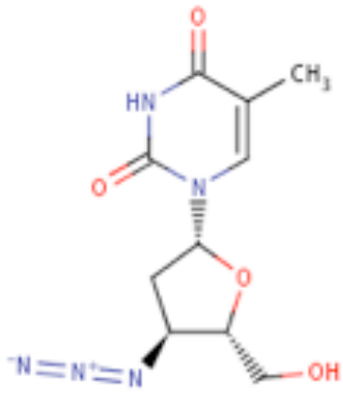


DB00495 Zidovudine

Small Molecule; Approved

Drug categories:

Anti-HIV Agents
Antimetabolites
Nucleoside and Nucleotide Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors

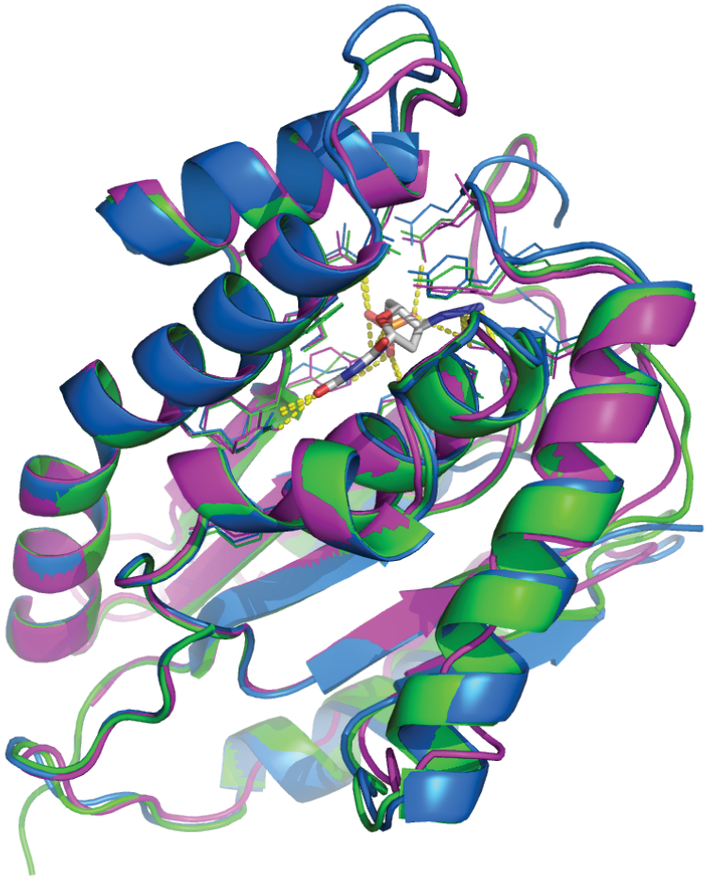


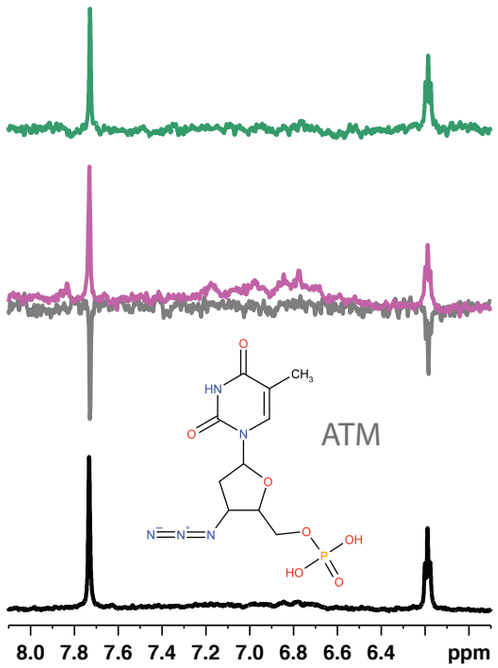
Drug indication:

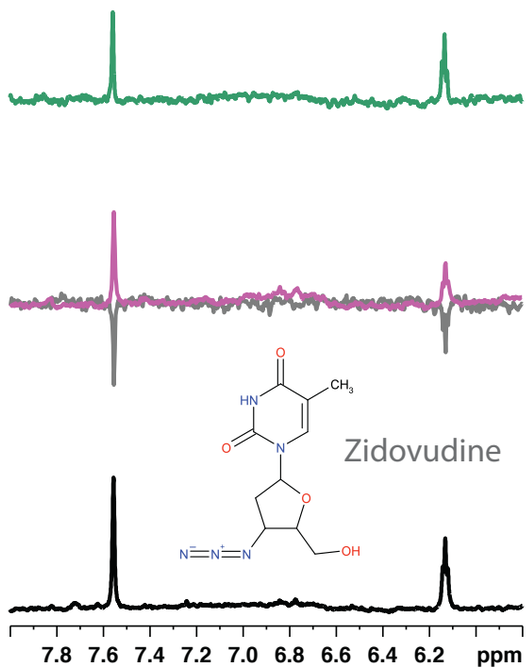
For the treatment of human immunovirus (HIV) infections.

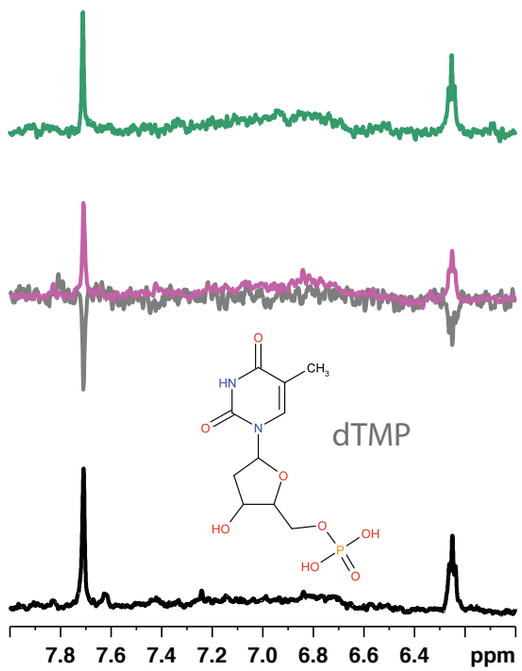
P. falciparum thymidylate kinase + zidovudine

NMR Water-LOGSY and STD experiments





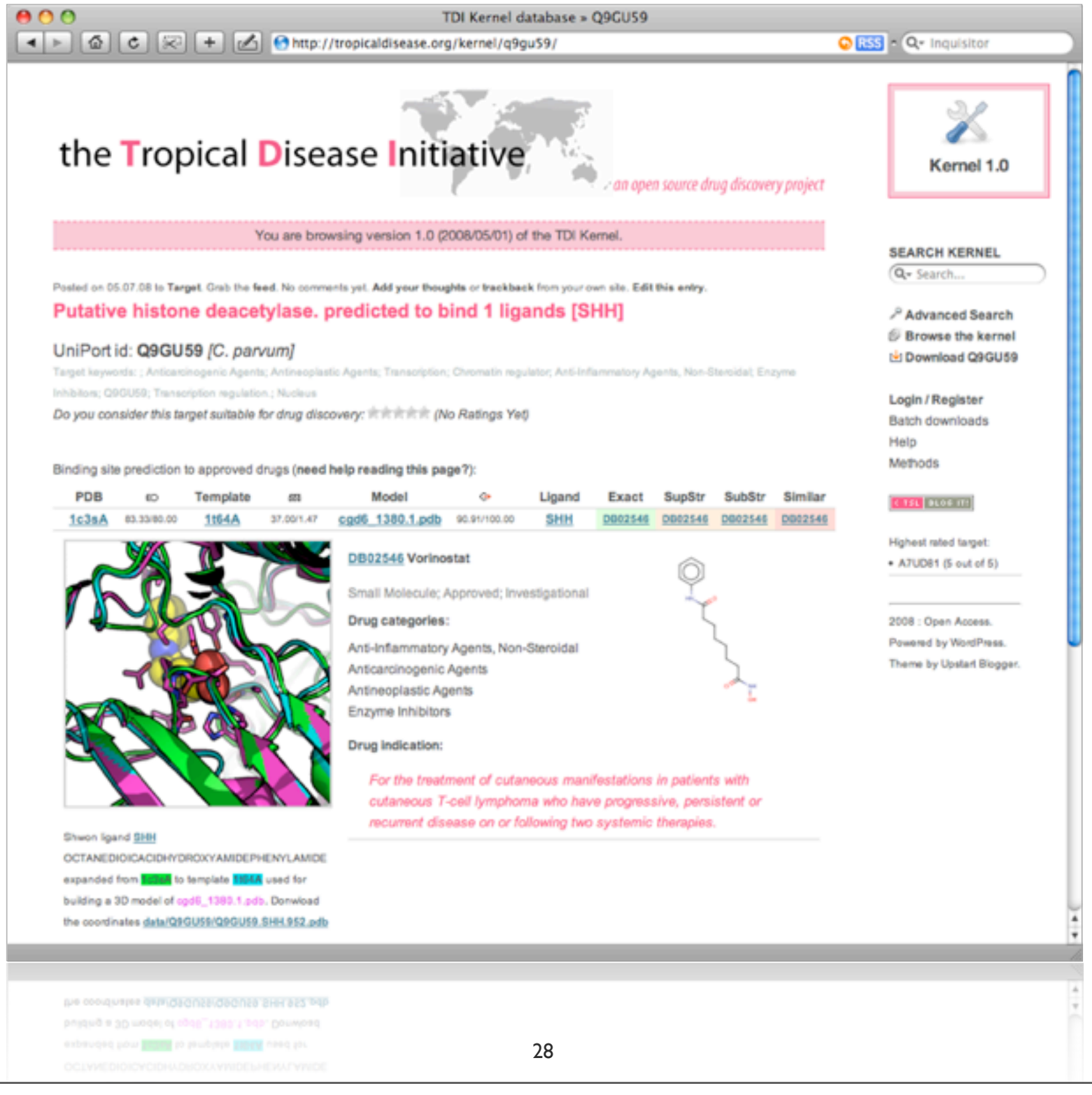




Leticia Ortí, Rodrigo J. Carbajo, and Antonio Pineda-Lucena

TDI's kernel

http://tropicaldisease.org/kernel



TDI's kernel

http://tropicaldisease.org/kernel

L. Orti *et al.*, *Nat Biotechnol* **27**, 320 (2009).

L. Orti *et al.*, *PLoS Negl Trop Dis* **3**, e418 (2009).

CORRESPONDENCE

A kernel for the Tropical Disease Initiative

To the Editor:

Identifying proteins that are good drug targets and finding drug leads that bind to them is generally a challenging problem. It is particularly difficult for neglected tropical diseases, such as malaria and tuberculosis, where research resources are relatively scarce[1]. Fortunately, several developments improve our ability to deal with drug discovery for neglected diseases: first, the sequencing of many complete genomes of organisms that cause tropical diseases; second, the determination of a large number of protein structures; third, the creation of compound libraries, including already-approved drugs; and fourth, the availability of improved bioinformatics analysis, including methods for comparative protein structure modeling, binding site identification, virtual ligand screening and drug design. Therefore, we are now in a position to increase the odds of identifying high-quality drug targets and drug leads for neglected tropical diseases. Here we encourage a collaboration among scientists to engage in drug discovery for tropical diseases by providing a 'kernel' for the Tropical Disease Initiative (TDI, http://www.tropicaldisease.org/)[2]. As the Linux kernel did for open source code development, we suggest that the TDI kernel may help overcome a major stumbling block, in this case, for open source drug discovery: the absence of a critical mass of preexisting work that volunteers can build on incrementally. This kernel complements several other initiatives on neglected tropical diseases[3–5], including collaborative web portals (e.g., http://www.thesynapticleap.org/), public-private partnerships (e.g., http://www.mmv.org/) and private foundations (e.g., http://www.gatesfoundation.org/); for an updated list of initiatives, see the TDI website above.

The TDI kernel was derived with our software pipeline[6,7] for predicting structures of protein sequences by comparative modeling, localizing small-molecule binding sites on the surfaces of the models and predicting ligands that bind to them. Specifically, the pipeline linked 297 proteins from ten pathogen genomes with already approved drugs that were developed for treating other diseases (**Table 1**). Such links, if proven experimentally, may significantly increase the efficiency of target identification, target validation, lead discovery, lead optimization and clinical trials. Two of the kernel targets were tested for their binding to a known drug by NMR spectroscopy, validating one of our predictions (**Fig. 1** and **Supplementary Data** online). It is difficult to assess the accuracy of our computational predictions based on this limited experimental testing. Thus, we encourage other investigators to donate their expertise and facilities to test additional predictions. We hope the testing will occur within the open source context, where results are made available with limited or no restrictions.

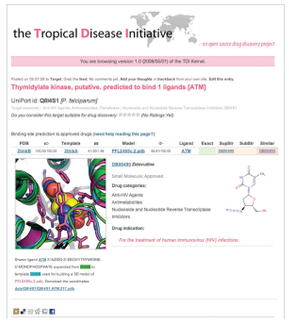


Figure 1 TDI kernel snapshot of the web page for the *Plasmodium falciparum* thymidylate kinase target (http://tropicaldisease.org/kernel/q8i4s1/). Our computational pipeline predicted that thymidylate kinase from *P. falciparum* binds ATM (3′-azido-3′-deoxythymidine-5′-monophosphate), a supra-structure of the zidovudine drug approved for the treatment of HIV infection. The binding of this ligand to a site on the kinase was experimentally validated by one-dimensional Water-LOGSY[9] and saturation transfer difference[10] NMR experiments.

Table 1 TDI kernel genomes

Organism[a]	Transcripts[b]	Modeled targets[c]	Similar[d]	Exact[e]
Cryptosporidium hominis	3,886	666	20	13
Cryptosporidium parvum	3,806	742	24	13
Leishmania major	8,274	1,409	43	20
Mycobacterium leprae	1,605	893	25	6
Mycobacterium tuberculosis	3,991	1,608	30	10
Plasmodium falciparum	5,363	818	28	13
Plasmodium vivax	5,342	822	24	13
Toxoplasma gondii	7,793	300	13	6
Trypanosoma cruzi	19,607	3,070	51	28
Trypanosoma brucei	9,210	1,386	39	21
Total	68,877	11,714	297	143

[a]Organisms in bold are included in the World Health Organization (Geneva) Tropical Disease portfolio. [b]Number of transcripts in each genome. [c]Number of targets with at least one domain accurately modeled (that is, MODPIPE quality score of at least 1.0). [d]Number of modeled targets with at least one predicted binding site for a molecule with a Tanimoto score[11] of at least 0.9 to a drug in DrugBank[12]. [e]Number of modeled targets with at least one predicted binding site for a molecule in DrugBank.

The TDI kernel is available in accordance with the Science Commons protocol for implementing open access data (http://sciencecommons.org/projects/publishing/open-access-data-protocol/), which prescribes standard academic attribution and facilitates tracking of work but imposes no other restrictions. We do not seek intellectual property rights in the actual discoveries based on the TDI kernel, in the hope of reinvigorating drug discovery for neglected tropical diseases[8]. By minimizing restrictions on the data, including viral terms that would be inherited by all derivative works, we hope to attract as many eyeballs as we possibly can to use and improve the kernel. Although many of the drugs in the kernel are proprietary under diverse types of rights, we believe that the existence of public domain pairs of targets and compounds will reduce the royalties that patent owners can charge and sponsors must pay. This should decrease the large sums of money governments and

OPEN ACCESS Freely available online PLoS NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

A Kernel for Open Source Drug Discovery in Tropical Diseases

Leticia Ortí[1,2], Rodrigo J. Carbajo[2], Ursula Pieper[3], Narayanan Eswar[3¤], Stephen M. Maurer[4], Arti K. Rai[5], Ginger Taylor[6], Matthew H. Todd[7], Antonio Pineda-Lucena[2], Andrej Sali[3]*, Marc A. Marti-Renom[1]*

1 Structural Genomics Unit, Bioinformatics and Genomics Department, Centro de Investigación Príncipe Felipe, Valencia, Spain, **2** Structural Biology Laboratory, Medicinal Chemistry Department, Centro de Investigación Príncipe Felipe, Valencia, Spain, **3** Department of Bioengineering and Therapeutic Sciences, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, and California Institute for Quantitative Biosciences, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California, United States of America, **4** Gould School of Law, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, United States of America, **5** School of Law, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, United States of America, **6** The Synaptic Leap, San Ramon, California, United States of America, **7** School of Chemistry, University of Sydney, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

Abstract

Background: Conventional patent-based drug development incentives work badly for the developing world, where commercial markets are usually small to non-existent. For this reason, the past decade has seen extensive experimentation with alternative R&D institutions ranging from private–public partnerships to development prizes. Despite extensive discussion, however, one of the most promising avenues—open source drug discovery—has remained elusive. We argue that the stumbling block has been the absence of a critical mass of preexisting work that volunteers can improve through a series of granular contributions. Historically, open source software collaborations have almost never succeeded without such "kernels".

Methodology/Principal Findings: Here, we use a computational pipeline for: (i) comparative structure modeling of target proteins, (ii) predicting the localization of ligand binding sites on their surfaces, and (iii) assessing the similarity of the predicted ligands to known drugs. Our kernel currently contains 143 and 297 protein targets from ten pathogen genomes that are predicted to bind a known drug or a molecule similar to a known drug, respectively. The kernel provides a source of potential drug targets and drug candidates around which an online open source community can nucleate. Using NMR spectroscopy, we have experimentally tested our predictions for two of these targets, confirming one and invalidating the other.

Conclusions/Significance: The TDI kernel, which is being offered under the Creative Commons attribution share-alike license for free and unrestricted use, can be accessed on the World Wide Web at http://www.tropicaldisease.org. We hope that the kernel will facilitate collaborative efforts towards the discovery of new drugs against parasites that cause tropical diseases.

Citation: Ortí L, Carbajo RJ, Pieper U, Eswar N, Maurer SM, et al. (2009) A Kernel for Open Source Drug Discovery in Tropical Diseases. PLoS Negl Trop Dis 3(4): e418. doi:10.1371/journal.pntd.0000418

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Introduction

There is a lack of high-quality protein drug targets and drug leads for neglected diseases [1,2]. Fortunately, many genomes of organisms that cause tropical diseases have already been sequenced and published. Therefore, we are now in a position to leverage this information by identifying potential protein targets for drug discovery. Atomic-resolution structures can facilitate this task. In the absence of an experimentally determined structure, comparative modeling can provide useful models for sequences that are detectably related to known protein structures [3,4]. Approximately half of known protein sequences contain domains that can be currently predicted by comparative modeling [5,6]. This coverage will increase as the number of experimentally determined structures grows and modeling software improves. A protein model can facilitate at least four important tasks in the early stages of drug discovery [7]: prioritizing protein targets for drug discovery [8], identifying binding sites for small molecules [9,10], suggesting drug leads [11,12], and optimizing these leads [13–15].

Here, we address the first three tasks by assembling our computer programs into a software pipeline that automatically and on large-scale predicts protein structures, their ligand binding sites, and known drugs that interact with them. As a proof of principle, we applied the pipeline to the genomes of ten organisms that cause tropical diseases ("target genomes"). We also experimentally tested two predicted drug-target interactions using Nuclear Magnetic

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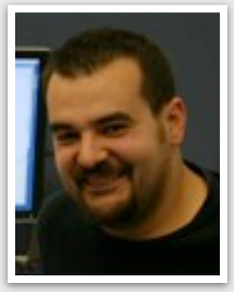
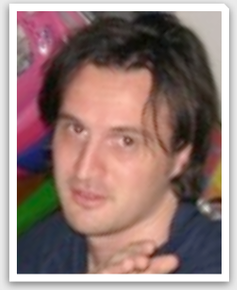
http://sgu.bioinfo.cipf.es

http://tropicaldisease.org

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