

Computational Procedures Applied to Medicinal Chemistry



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

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Dottorando: Alberto De Petris



Overview

- ✓ **β -Secretase: Tridimensional Quantitative structure-activity relationship (3-D QSARs) and Assessment of Predictive Ability**
- ✓ **Density Functional Theory Based Ab Initio Molecular Dynamics Using the Car-Parrinello Approach**
- ✓ **A structure based virtual screening against Ornithine carbamoyltransferase 2, phaseolotoxin-insensitive from *Pseudomonas Syringae* pv *Actinidiae***

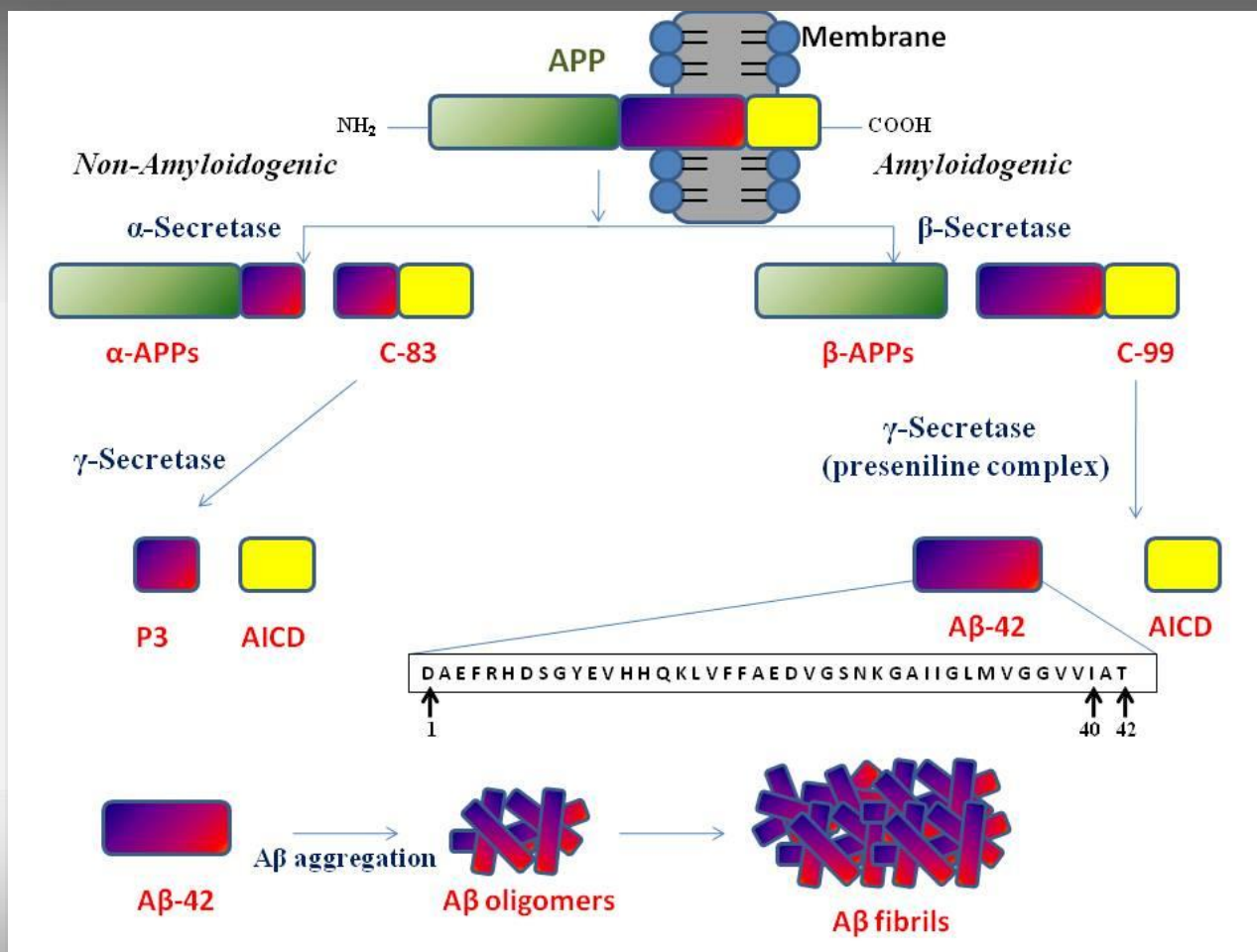
β -Secretase: Tridimensional Quantitative structure-activity relationship (3-D QSARs) and Assessment of Predictive Ability



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β site of APP cleaving enzyme

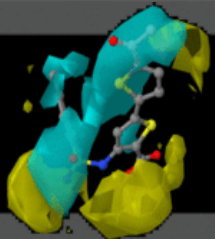


• **Progressive loss of memory**

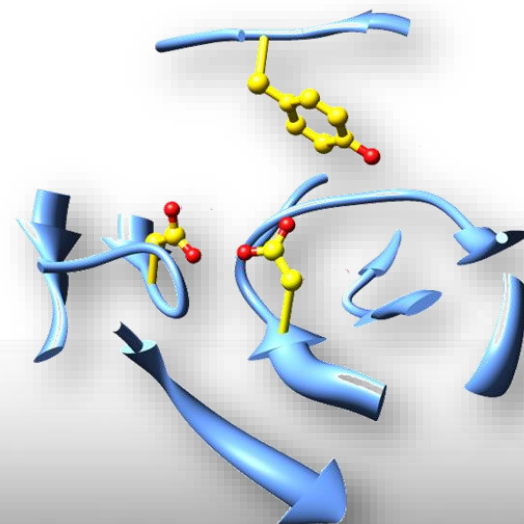
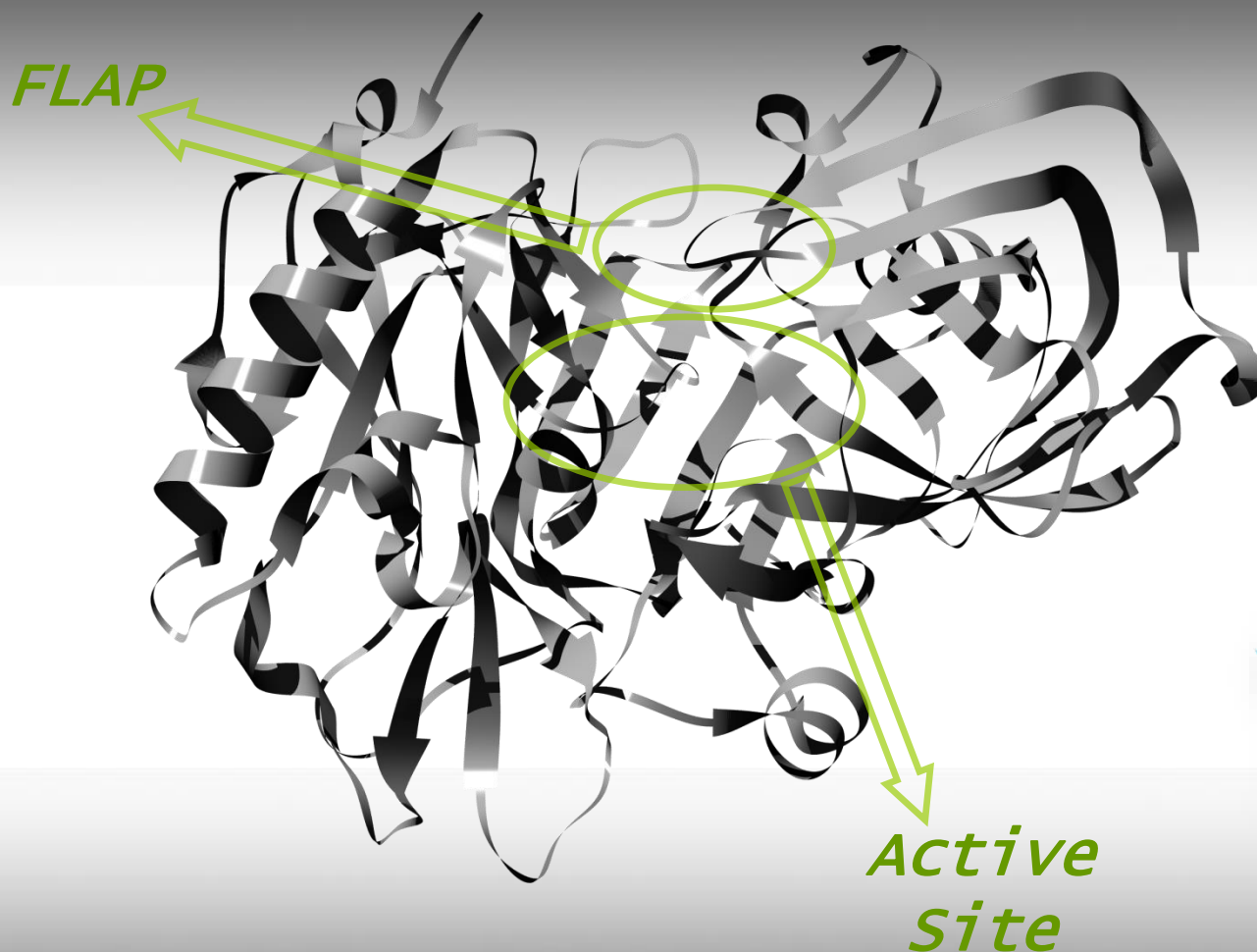
• **Loss of cognitive ability**

• **Aphasia**

1. Park, S.-Y. *Archives Pharmacal Research* 2010, 33, 1589-1609.
2. Taleb H. Al-Tel, R. A. A.-Q., Marco F. Schmidt *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* 2009, 6484-6488.
3. P. van Tijn, W. K., M. W. Marlatt *Progress in Neurobiology* 2010, 1-16.



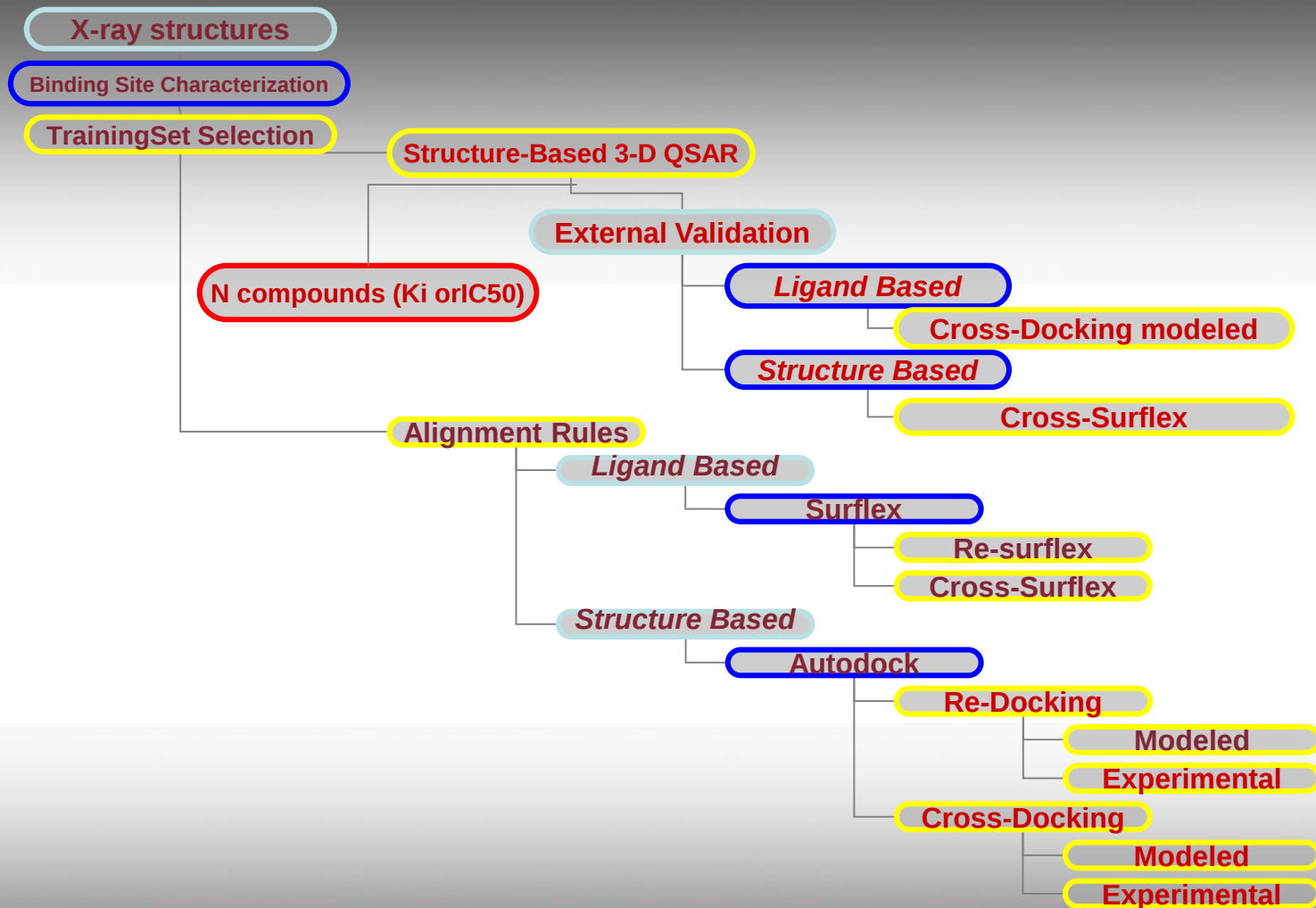
β site of APP cleaving enzyme



4. Lin Hong, G. k., Xinli Lin *Science* 2000, 290, 150-153.
5. Rueeger H., Rondeau JM., *Bioorg. Med Chem Lett.*, 2011, 21, 1942-7
6. Bursavich, M. G. R., D. H. *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* 2002, 541-558.
7. Cooper, J. B. *Current Drug Target* 2002, 155-173.



Workflow



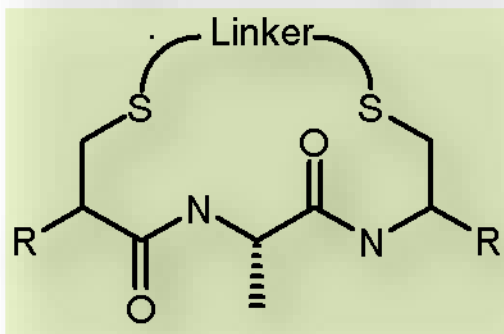
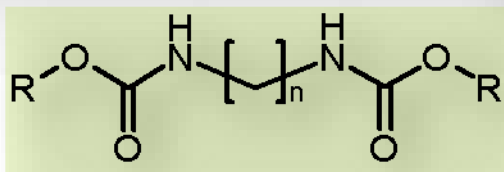
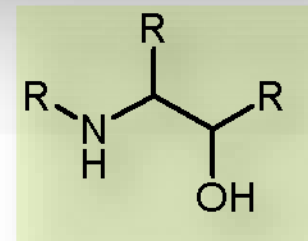
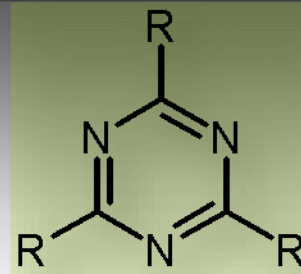
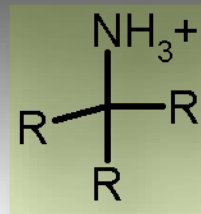
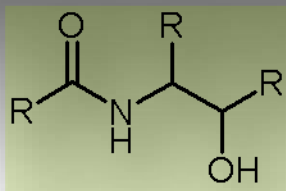


3-D QSAR Model

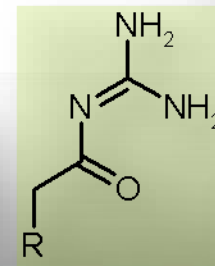
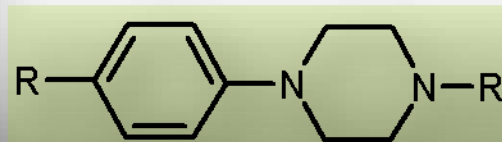
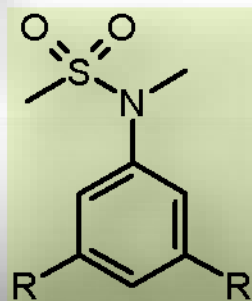
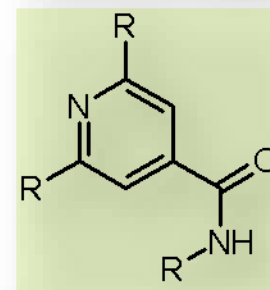
1. TRAINING SET SELECTION
2. MOLECULAR MODELS
3. MOLECULAR ALIGNMENT
4. MOLECULAR INTERACTION FIELD (AUTOGRID)
5. STATISTICAL PROCESSING OF 3-D QSAR MODELS (CRAN-R)
6. RESULTS
7. VALIDATION OF 3-D QSAR MODEL



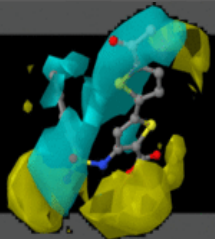
Training Set Selection



THE TRAINING SET

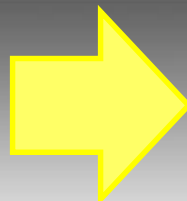


8. Berman H. M., W. J., Feng Z. *Nucleic Acids Res.* **2000**, 235-242.
9. Wenjin Yang, W. L., Yafan Lu *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* **2006**, 49, 839-842.
10. Miles Congreve, D. A., J. Alberto *Journal of Medicinal Chemistry* **2007**, 1124-1132.

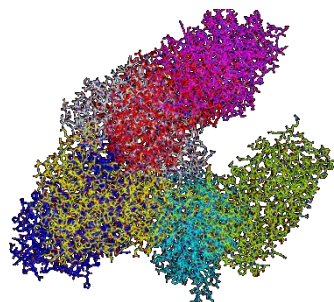


Molecular Models / Alignment

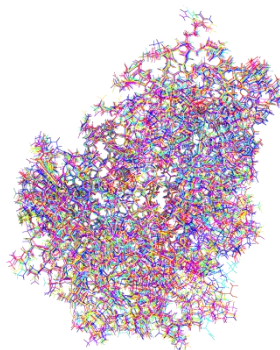
**Minimization
(AMBER9)**



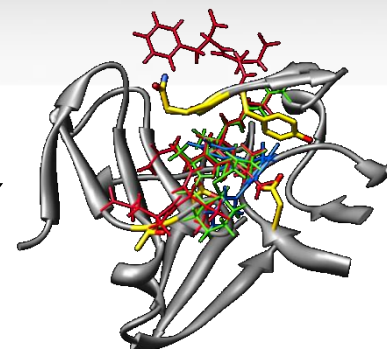
**GEOMETRIC AND
STRUCTURAL
OPTIMIZATION**



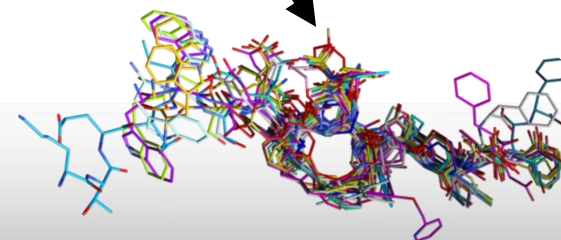
**BACE-1/Inhibitors complexes
from Protein Data Bank**



Aligned Complexes



Binding Conformation



Structure Based Alignment

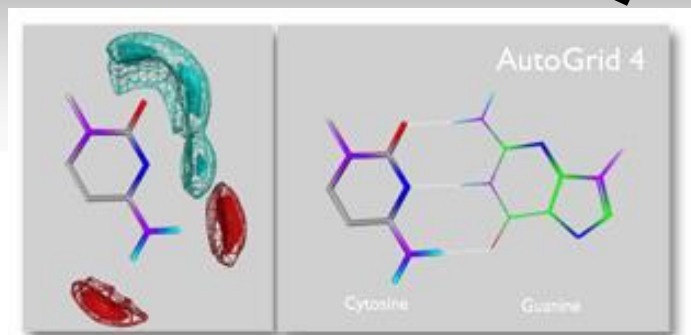
11. Meng, E. C.; Pettersen, E. F.; Couch, G. S.; Huang, C. C.; Ferrin, T. E. *BMC Bioinformatics* 2006, 7, 339.
12. Pearlman D.A., C. D. A. 1995.
13. Case, D. A.; Cheatham, T. E., 3rd; Darden, T.; Gohlke, H.; Simmerling, C.; Wang, B.; Woods, R. J. *J Comput Chem* 2005, 26, 1668-88.



Molecular Interaction Field / 3-D QSAR Model

rcmd
www.rcmd.it

Visualization and Analysis



UCSF CHIMERA

an Extensible Molecular Modeling System



N	GRID probe	V	PC	r^2	q^2	SDEP _{cv}
30	A (Aromatic Carbon Atom)	68445	3	0.98	0.84(K5FCV)	0.87
30	OA(H Bond Donor)	68445	3	0.98	0.85(KF5CV)	0.88

N= number of compounds in the training set; V=number of variables; PC= optimal number of principal components analysis; r^2 = conventional square correlation coefficient; q^2 = cross-validation correlation coefficient; SDEP= cross-validated standard error of predicting using the KFCV method; K5FCV= K-Fold (5 random groups) Cross-Validation Method

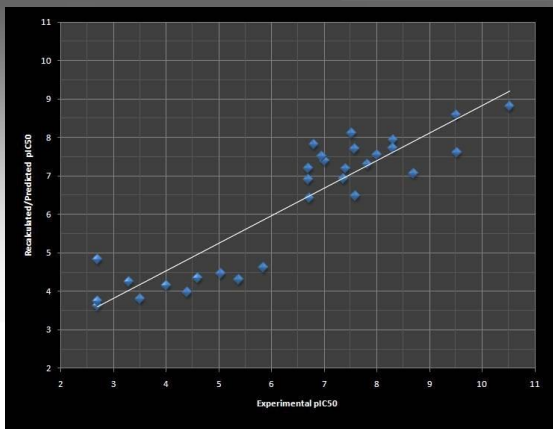
14. Autogrid4, The Scripps Research Institute, Molecular Graphics Laboratory

15. Pettersen, E. F.; Goddard, T. D.; Huang, C. C.; Couch, G. S.; Greenblatt, D. M.; Meng, E. C.; Ferrin, T. E. *J Comput Chem* **2004**, 25, 1605-12.

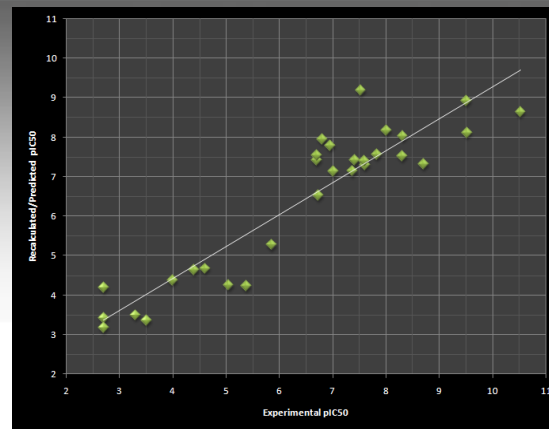
16. <http://mirrors.garr.it/mirrors/CRAN/>, The R Project for Statistical Computing



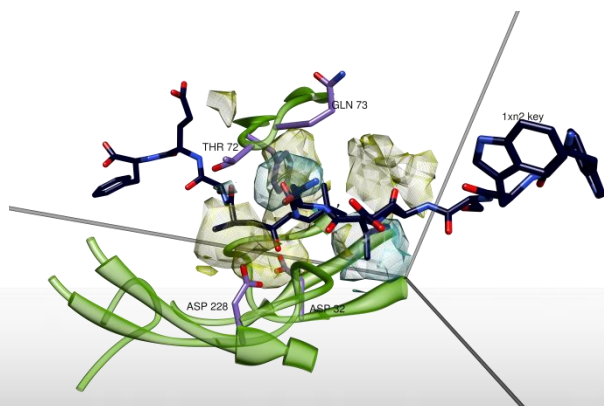
Model Interpretation



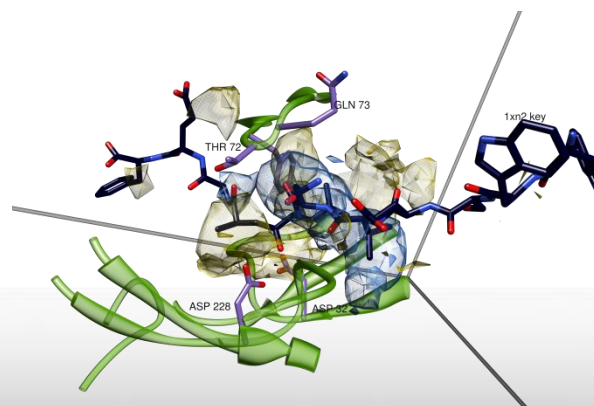
**Experimental vs Predicted pIC50
Plot for A Probe**



**Experimental vs Predicted pIC50
Plot for OA Probe**



Autogrid/R Coeff Contour Map (A Probe)



Autogrid/R Coeff Contour Map (OA Probe)



External Validation

Along with the internal validation (**cross-validation**), the predictive capabilities of the model were estimated by the selection of a **test set** of 366 compounds, extracted from 30 different review and reporting several class of BACE-1 inhibitors not used in generating the model. The activities of compounds were predicted using the **AUTOGRID/R method**. The predicted biological activities are in good agreement with the linear correlation lines obtained from the training set, which confirm that the model can be used in estimating the activities of BACE-1 inhibitors sharing a similar molecular skeleton and binding mode. The test set contain the maximal **diversity** in terms of molecular structures and bioactivities, in order to reproduce the different chemical hallmarks of the training set.

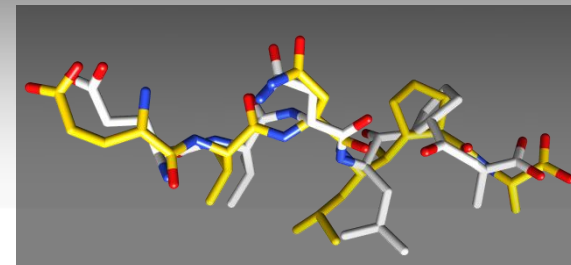
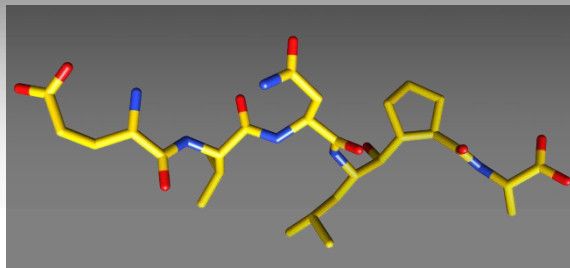
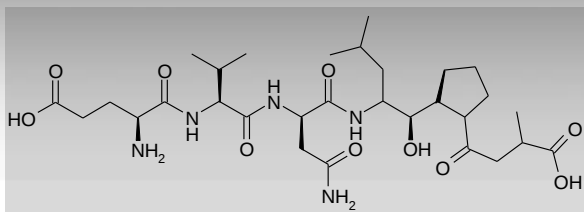
N	GRID probe	PC	SDEP
366	A (Aromatic Carbon Atom)	3	0.838
366	OA(H Bond Donor)	3	0.834

N= number of test sets; PC= optimal number of principal components analysis;
SDEP= cross-validated standard error of prediction;

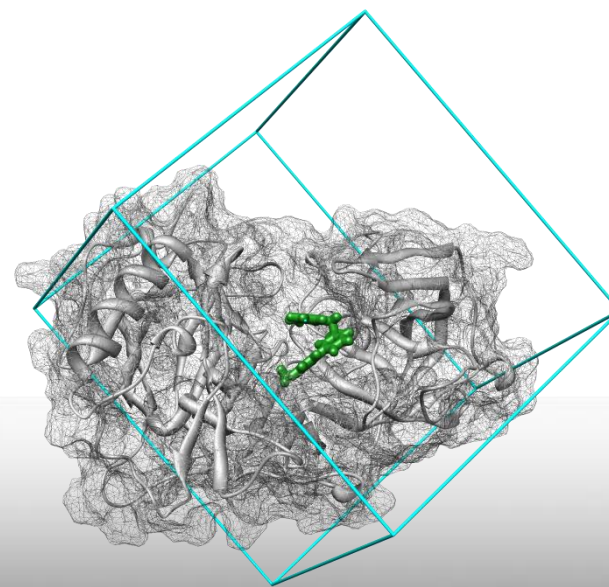
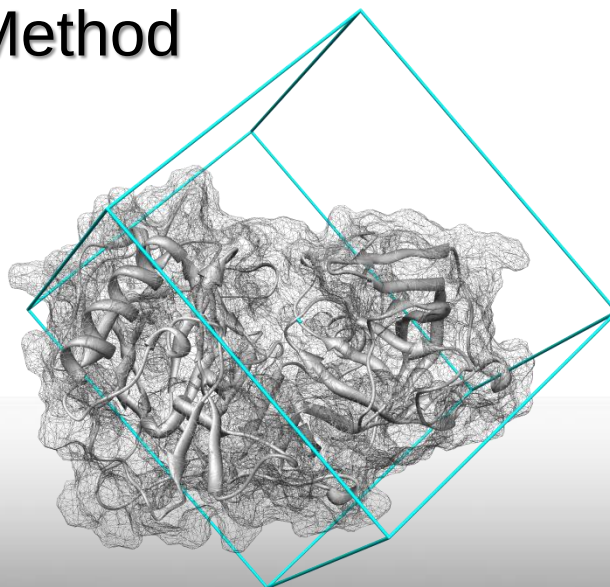
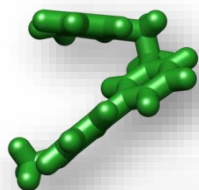


Alignment Rules

Ligand-Based Method



Structure-Based Method



17. Jain, A. N. Ligand-based structural hypotheses for virtual screening. *J. Med. Chem.* 2004, 47, 947–961
18. Goodsell, D. S.; Morris, G. M.; Olson, A. J. Automated docking of flexible ligands: applications of AutoDock. *J. Mol. Recognit.* 1996, 9, 1–5



CrossDocking Results

PDB	BD (rmsd)	BD (BE)	BC (rmsd)	BC (BE)	BF (rmsd)	BF (BE)
1fkf	2.59	-6.98	6.68	-3.37	2.45	-4.8
1m4h	1.16	-7.21	1.16	-9.87	1.16	-7.21
1tqf	2.55	-11.49	2.5	-9.62	2.13	-9.14
1w51	2.92	-9.91	2.92	-7.86	0.92	-8.99
1xn2	0.58	-13.46	0.58	-13.46	0.58	-13.46
1xn3	0.75	-9.01	0.75	-9.01	0.75	-9.01
1xs7	2.32	-8.5	4.57	-6.47	2.32	-8.5
1ym2	0.64	-11.55	0.64	-5.93	0.64	-11.55
1ym4	1.15	-11.7	2.96	-6.14	1.15	-11.7
2b8l	2.28	-10.87	3.23	-6.49	2.28	-5.06
2b8v	1.17	-13.15	1.17	-13.15	1.17	-13.15
2f3e	3.84	-10.29	3.84	-10.29	1.67	-6.63
2f3f	0.61	-13.15	3.24	-8.75	0.61	-13.15
2fdp	0.34	-17.26	4.92	-8.04	0.34	-17.26
2g94	2.21	-10.55	3.05	-7.87	1.83	-8.03
2hiz	2.81	-9.1	3.02	-6.26	2.16	-7.15
2hm1	3.14	-8.8	3.58	-7.41	1.78	-7.15
2iqg	0.69	-14.09	0.69	-6.78	0.69	-14.09
2irz	2.87	-12.33	5.02	-9.6	0.92	-10.75
2is0	2.99	-15.38	2.57	-10.66	2.37	-7.8
2of0	1.92	-8.39	1.92	-8.39	1.75	-6.69
2ohk	1.67	-9.87	2.09	-8.45	1.67	-7.68
2ohl	1.74	-5.98	1.74	-5.98	1.74	-5.98
2ohm	3.63	-6.98	2.42	-6.17	2.42	-6.17
2ohn	0.8	-8.01	0.8	-8.01	0.8	-8.01
2ohq	3.04	-8.54	3.04	-8.54	1.81	-8.35
2ohr	1.3	-8.18	1.3	-8.18	1.3	-8.18
2ohs	2.17	-8.31	2.17	-8.31	1.53	-7.94
2oht	2.14	-9.53	3.9	-8.31	2.14	-9.53
2ohu	4.57	-10.85	3.27	-9.91	2.03	-7.03

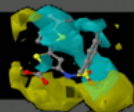
BD = Best Docked, BC = Best Cluster, BF = Best Fitted, BE = Binding Energy

■ : <2
■ : 2 < n < 3
■ : >3



The 3-D QSAR server:

<http://www.3d-qsar.com/>



Log in or Sign Up

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Launch Predictor

Datasets

About

Change Log

A 3-D QSAR MODELS DATABASE for Virtual Screening

Substance libraries, composed of million of compounds, are tested in the pharmaceutical industry with robotic systems. Furthermore, the follow-up of the "hits" is often so expensive that essentially only large companies can use this method. Virtual screening helps to decide which compounds to screen, which libraries to synthesis and which compounds to purchase from an external supplier reducing the overall cost associated to the discovery and development of new drugs.

Main classes of virtual screening methods are:

- Similarity search (ligand-based virtual screening)
- Identify a common 3-D pharmacophore, then do a 3-D database search
- Train a machine learning technique
- Protein-ligand docking

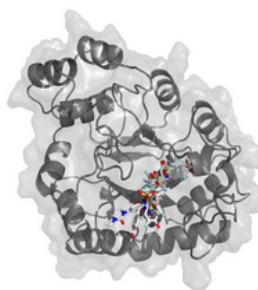
Most of these methods are computationally intensive and complex. 3-D QSAR methods are nowadays used widely in drug design, since they are computationally not demanding and afford fast generation of QSARs from which the biological activity of molecules can be predicted.

We have developed a software system for automatically score, rank and/or filter a set of structures using pre-built 3-D QSAR models.

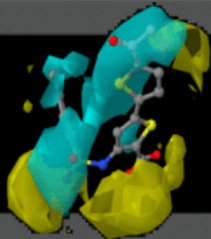
A Web interface incorporating a molecular drawing interface enables the users to process their own molecules by drawing or uploading them to the server and selecting the target for the virtual screening and biological activity prediction.

Multiple targets screening are allowed, making the RCMD 3-D QSAR Server a very interesting tool for virtual high throughput screening.

The system consists of a library of pre-built 3-D QSAR models. This database is constantly updated with published or newly developed 3-D QSAR models.



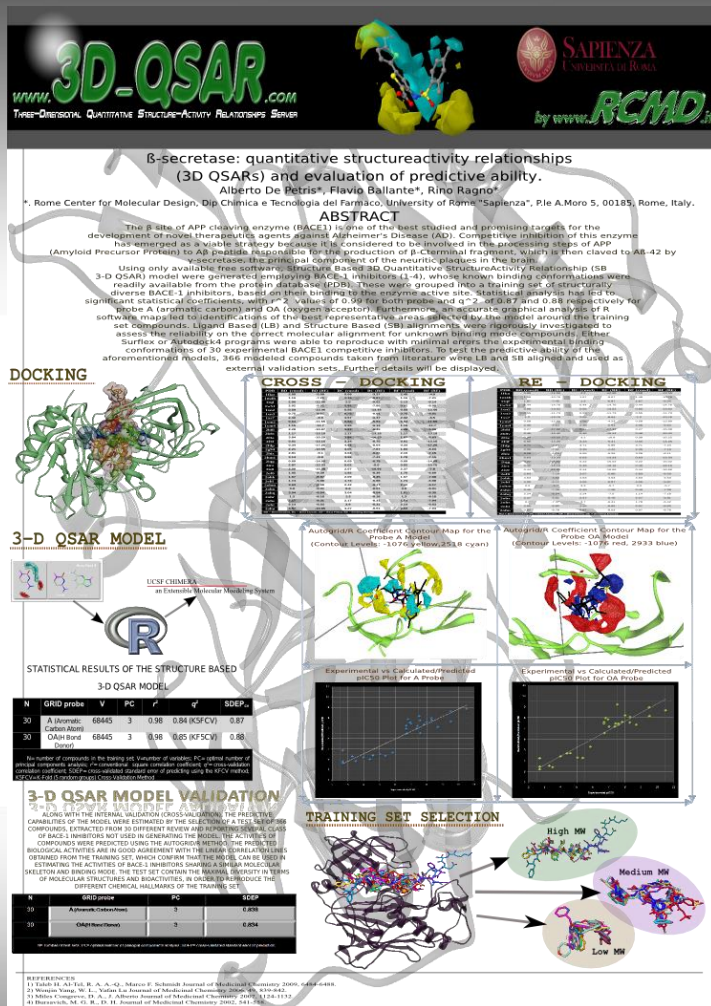
© 2011 3D QSAR SERVER powered by RCMD.



The 3-D QSAR server:

<http://www.3d-qsar.com/>

rcmd
www.rcmd.it



University of Siena VIII EWDD

Eighth European Workshop in Drug Design
May 22 - 28, 2011 - Certosa di Pontignano, Siena
(Italy)

Density Functional Theory Based Ab Initio Molecular Dynamics Using the Car-Parrinello Approach



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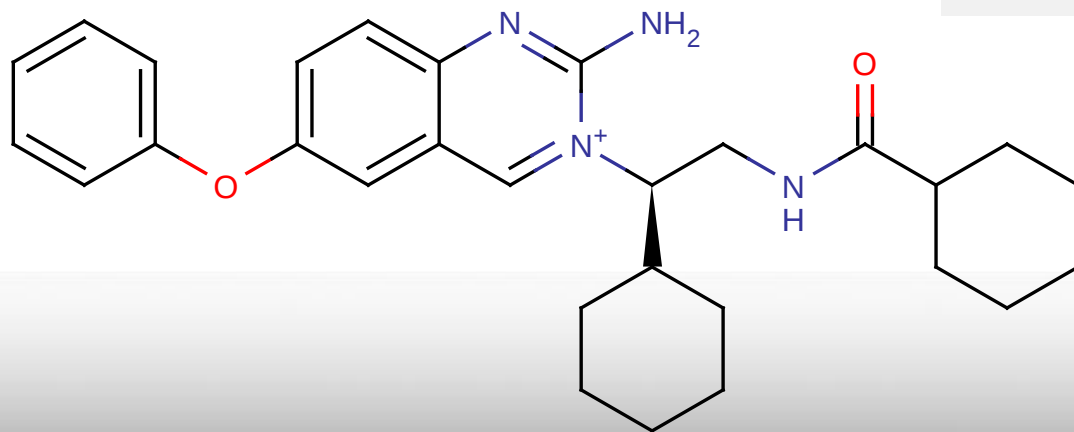


Density Functional Theory Based Ab Initio MD Using the Car-Parrinello Approach

•IUPAC: N-[(2R)-2-(2-amino-6-phenoxyquinazolin-3-ium-3-yl)-2-cyclohexylethyl] cyclohexanecarboxamide

•Binding Bioassay: Inhibition of BACE-1

Compound ID	44631815
Molecular Weight	473.62968 [g/mol]
Molecular Formula	$C_{29}H_{37}N_4O_2^+$
XLogP3-AA	6.6
H-Bond Donor	2
H-Bond Acceptor	4

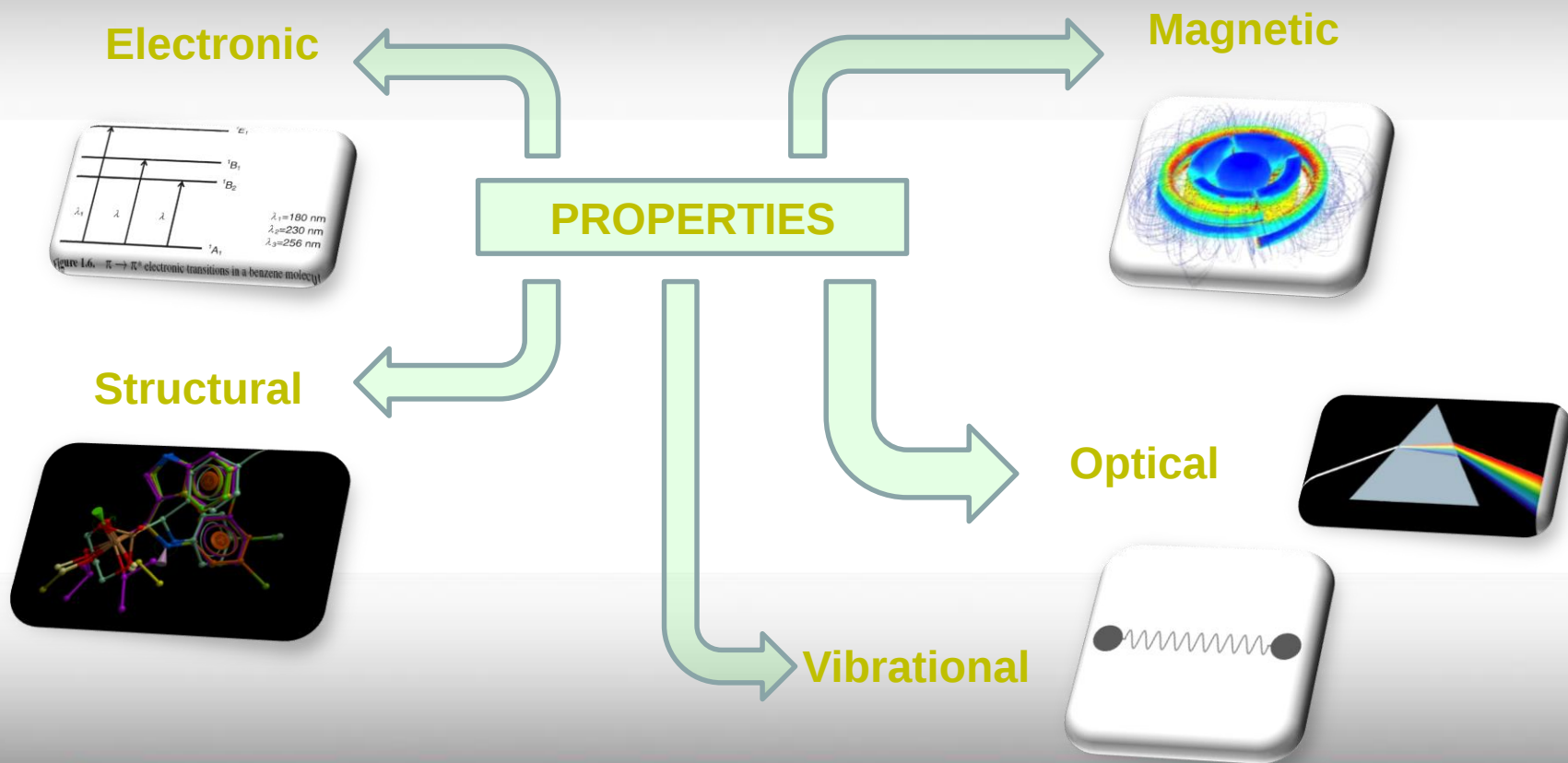


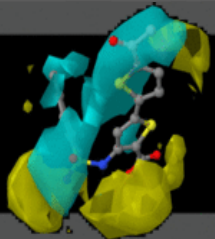


Density Functional Theory (CP2K)

The ground state electronic density $\rho(r)$ determines uniquely all possible properties of an electronic system:

$$\rho(r) \Rightarrow \text{Properties } P \text{ (e.g. conductance), i.e. } P \equiv P[\rho(r)]$$





CP2K and QUICKSTEP METHOD



Calculation of properties:



**GPW and GAPW
methods**

- GPW: Gaussian and Plane Wave basis sets
- Quickstep: DFT code within CP2K (cp2k.berlios.de)

Plane wave vs gaussian basis sets: plane waves pros and cons

Advantages

- ▶ independent of the nuclei position (good for forces)
- ▶ no BSSE
- ▶ one parameter controls the basis set size
- ▶ orthogonal
- ▶ numerical efficiency through use of FFT

Disadvantages

- ▶ large number of basis set elements needed
- ▶ **Necessary use of pseudo-potentials**
- ▶ loss of chemical insight

Border line

- ▶ fill the whole simulation box

Plane wave vs gaussian basis sets: gaussians pros and cons

Advantages

- ▶ Good already for small basis set sizes
- ▶ correspond to chemical insight
- ▶ Computationally efficient (multi-centre integrals)
- ▶ Possibility to perform all-electrons calculations

Disadvantages

- ▶ non-orthogonal
- ▶ atomic position dependent (Pulay forces)
- ▶ Basis set superposition error (BSSE)
- ▶ Systematic improvement not straightforward
- ▶ linear dependencies, over-completeness
- ▶ wrong asymptotic behaviour

Border line

- ▶ no implicit periodicity
- ▶ can be tuned for each application

19. Joost VandeVondele et al. Quickstep: Fast and accurate density functional calculations using a mixed gaussian and plane waves approach. Computer Physics Communications, 167:103 – 128, 2005.

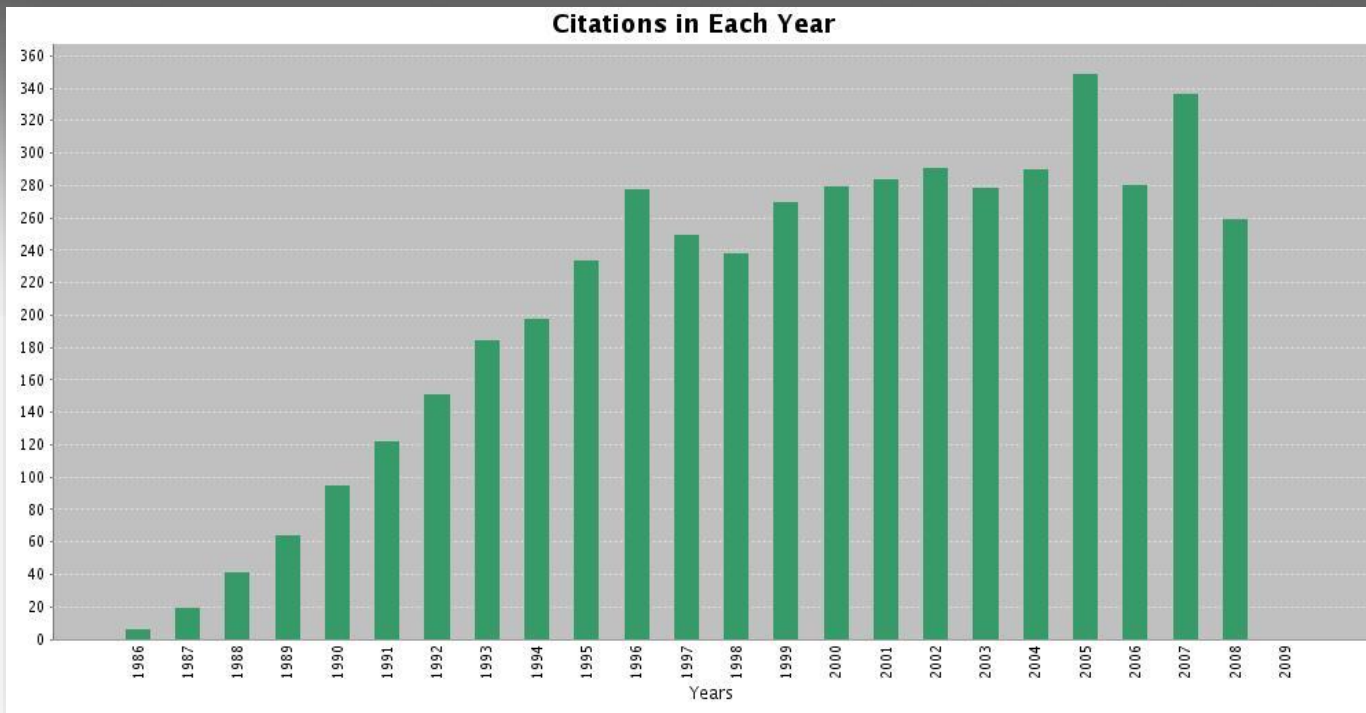
20. A hybrid Gaussian and plane wave density functional scheme G. Lippert, J. Hutter, and M. Parrinello; Mol. Phys. 92, 477 (1997)

21. The Gaussian and Augmented-Plane-Wave Density Functional Method G. Lippert, J. Hutter, and M. Parrinello; Theor.Chem Accounts 103, 124 (1999)

22. M. Krack and M. Parrinello, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys., 2, 2105 (2000)



CP2K



- Car-Parrinello is a method for performing molecular dynamics with forces obtained from electronic structure calculations performed “on the fly” as the simulation proceeds. This is known as *ab initio* molecular dynamics (AIMD).
- As a result, AIMD calculations are considerably more expensive than force-field calculations, which only involve evaluation of simple functions of position.



CP2K input file

Section path: CP2K_INPUT

Subsections

- I. ATOM
- II. DEBUG
- III. EXT_RESTART
- IV. FARMING
- V. **FORCE_EVAL**
- VI. **GLOBAL**
- VII. **MOTION**
- VIII. MULTIPLE_FORCE_EVALS
- IX. OPTIMIZE_INPUT
- X. TEST
- XI. **VIBRATIONAL_ANALYSIS**

```
@SET Cutoff 350
@SET dt 0.25

$GLOBAL
PROJECT secretase_2xjo
RUN_TYPE ENERGY
PRINT_LEVEL HIGH
$END GLOBAL

$FORCE_EVAL
METHOD Quickstep
$DFT
BASIS_SET_FILE_NAME /RCMD/opt/linux64/CP2K/cp2k/tests/QS/BASIS_MOL_OPT
POTENTIAL_FILE_NAME /RCMD/opt/linux64/CP2K/cp2k/tests/QS/POTENTIAL
$MGRID
CUTOFF ${Cutoff}
$END MGRID
$QS
EPS_DEFAULT 1.0E-12
$END QS
$SCF
EPS_SCF 1.0E-6
MAX_SCF 150
SCF_GUESS atomic
$END SCF
```

```
&XC
&XC_FUNCTIONAL Pade
$END XC_FUNCTIONAL
$END XC
&POISSON
PERIODIC NONE
POISSON_SOLVER MT
$END POISSON
&PRINT
&MOMENTS
PERIODIC FALSE
$END
$END PRINT
$END DFT
$SUBSYS
&CELL
PERIODIC NONE
ABC 30.000 30.000 30.000
$END CELL
```

```
$MOTION
&PRINT
&VELOCITIES
FORMAT ATOMIC
$END
$END PRINT
$MD
ANGVEL_ZERO
COMVEL_TOL 0.000001
&PRINT
&CENTER_OF_MASS
$END
$END PRINT
&AVERAGES
&PRINT_AVERAGES
$END
$END AVERAGES
ENSEMBLE NVE
STEPS 10000
TIMESTEP ${dt}
TEMPERATURE 600.0
$END MD
$END MOTION
```



Geometry Optimization: Two ways of solving the Kohn-Sham equation:

Reach for self-consistency (Traditional Scheme)

- Obtain lowest occupied orbitals from diagonalization of the KS matrix for a test density from occupied orbitals.

Minimization of the energy functional

- Use a non-linear minimization scheme to minimize the KS energy

```
Core Hamiltonian energy: 192.6745297129
Hartree energy: 251.6513055795
Exchange-correlation energy: -80.2271045708
Coulomb (electron-electron) energy: 2243.4298229402
Maximum deviation from MO S-orthonormality 0.7105E-14
Minimum/Maximum MO magnitude 0.3853E+00 0.1095E+01

DIIS | Current SCF DIIS buffer size: 4
DIIS | Maximum SCF DIIS error vector element: 8.401E-07
DIIS | Current SCF convergence: 1.493E-06
DIIS | Threshold value for a DIIS step: 1.000E-01
DIIS | => The SCF DIIS buffer will be updated
DIIS | => A SCF DIIS step will be performed

20.00000000 0.84E-06 0.00000085 -257.9639771237 -2.16E-12
*** SCF run converged in 29 steps ***

Electronic density on regular grids: -186.0000000195 -0.0000000195
Core density on regular grids: 185.9999999999 -0.0000000001
Total charge density on r-space grids: -0.0000000196
Total charge density g-space grids: -0.0000000196

Overlap energy of the core charge distribution: 0.00003527047067
Self energy of the core charge distribution: -622.06274311582854
Core Hamiltonian energy: 192.67452971294904
Hartree energy: 251.65130557947546
Exchange-correlation energy: -80.22710457078813
Coulomb Electron-Electron Interaction Energy
- Already included in the total Hartree term 2243.42982294020931

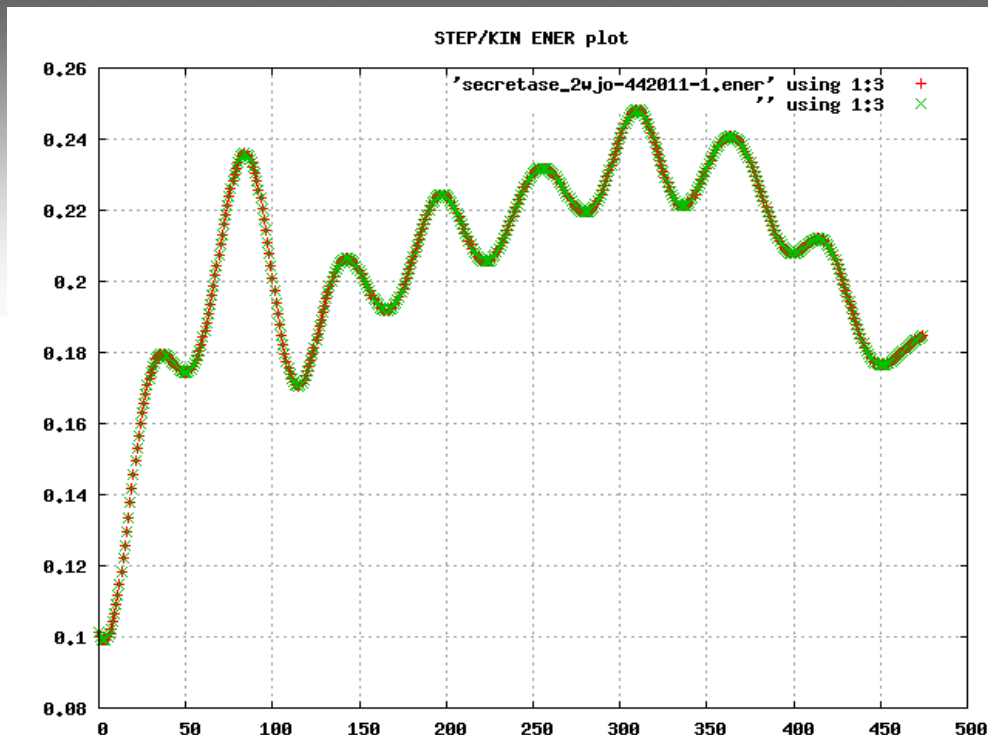
Total energy: -257.96397712372152

The electron density is written in cube file format to the file:
secretase_2wjo-442011-ELECTRON_DENSITY-1_0.cube
Electronic kinetic energy: 202.95295743270270
```



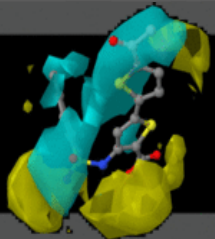
Lagrangian:

The fictitious kinetic energy of the electrons and thus their temperature is a measure for the departure from the exact Born-Oppenheimer surface during Car-Parrinello dynamics.



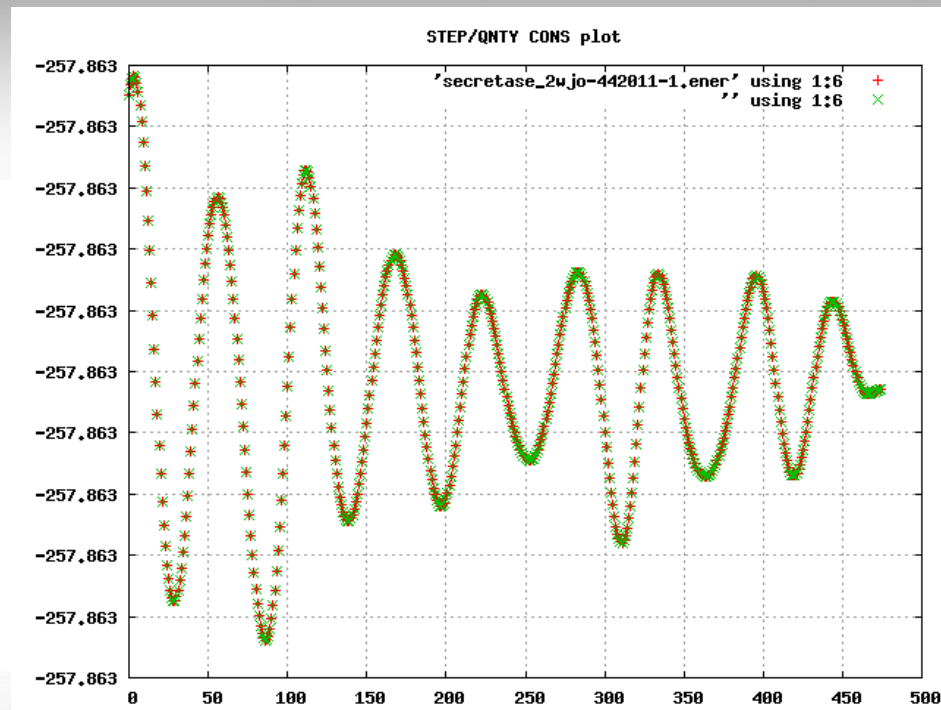
Car and Parrinello postulated the following class of Lagrangians ¹⁰⁸

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{CP}} = \underbrace{\sum_I \frac{1}{2} M_I \dot{\mathbf{R}}_I^2 + \sum_i \frac{1}{2} \mu_i \langle \dot{\psi}_i | \dot{\psi}_i \rangle}_{\text{kinetic energy}} - \underbrace{\langle \Psi_0 | \mathcal{H}_e | \Psi_0 \rangle}_{\text{potential energy}} + \underbrace{\text{constraints}}_{\text{orthonormality}}$$



Energy Conservation:

- Conserving the total energy well is not enough if the system is very **heterogeneous** and the interesting part is small
- To improve the **energy conservation** one can either improve the basis-sets, increase the cutoff, and reduce the timestep.
- Normally having good forces and larger **timestep** is advantageous.



A structure based virtual screening against Ornithine carbamoyltransferase 2, phaseolotoxin-insensitive from *Pseudomonas Syringae* pv *Actinidiae*



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

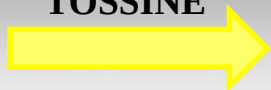


A structure based virtual screening against OTCase 2, phaseolotoxin-insensitive from *Pseudomonas Syringae* pv *Actinidiae*



***Pseudomonas*
Syringae pv.
*actinidiae***

TOSSINE



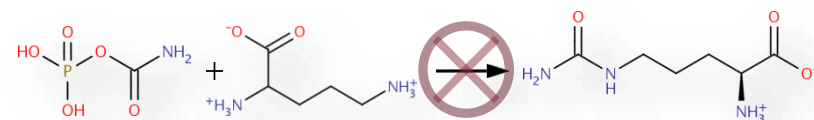
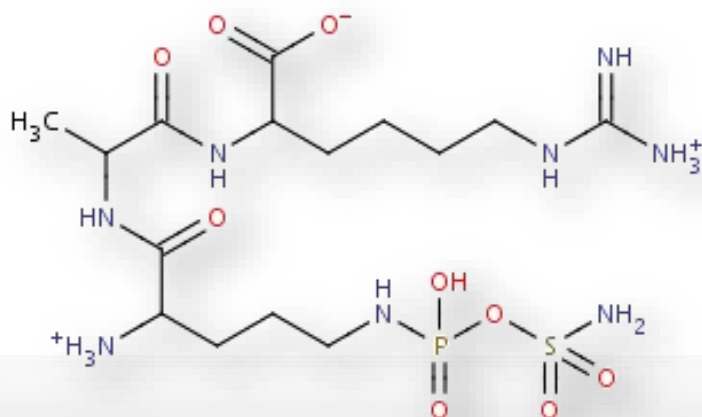
✓ **Syringolin**

✓ **Phaseolotoxin**



•Citolisi per
formazione di pori
membranosi e
fuoriuscita massiva di
 Ca^{2+} , H^+ e K^+

•Blocco della sintesi
della citrullina
nell'ospite



- Lai, J. R.; Koglin, A.; Walsh, C. T. *Biochemistry* **2006**, 45, 14869-79.
- Tamura, K.; Imamura, M.; *Physiological and Molecular Plant Pathology* **2002**, 60, 207-214.
- Bender, C. L.; Alarcon-Chaidez, F.; Gross, D. C. *Microbiology and Molecular Biology Reviews* **1999**, 63, 266.
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The Target

STEP 1

OTCase 2: FASTA sequence

MKITSLKNRNLLTMNEFNQSELSHLIDRAIECKRLKKDRIFNLGLNHLNICGI
FLKPSGRTSTSFVVASYDEGAHFQFFPADNIRFGHKESIKDFARVVGRLF
DGIAPRGFEHEVAEELAKHSGIPVWNALTDTHPTQVLADVMVKEEFGR
IEGVTIAYVGDGRNNMVTSLAIGALKFGYNLRIAPNALHPTDAVLAGIYEQ
TPERNGSIEIFTEVAAGVHQADVIYTDVWISMGESVSVEERIALLKPYKVTE
KMMALTGKADTIFMHCLPAFHDLDTAVARETPDLVEVEDSVFE
GPQSRVFDQGENRMHTIKALMLETVP

STEP 2

Homology Modeling:

- Swiss model server
- M4T Server
- Uniprot server
- CPHmodels-3.0 Server



STEP 4

Structure Based Virtual Screening

STEP 3

- Geometric and structural optimization (Amber Suite)
- Protein Alignment (Chimera)



Conclusions

- ✓ Structure-Based 3-D QSAR model
- ✓ LB and SB Alignment: Assessment
- ✓ 3-D QSAR Model: External Validation
- ✓ AIMD simulation using DFT code
- ✓ SB/VS of natural compounds vs. *Pseudomonas Syringae pv actinidiae*