



Central European Institute of Technology BRNO | CZECH REPUBLIC

Using the IT4I infrastructure on the enzymatic reactions studies

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Molecular modelling of the biological systems

- Chemical reactions in living organisms are catalyzed by enzymes
- > Enzymes are large biomolecules containing thousands of atoms
- Modelling of the enzymatic reaction:
 - Small model containing dozens of atoms treated by the QM methods
 - Model of the full enzyme treated by the hybrid QM/MM methods



Model containing only the reaction species



Model containing the substrates and a part of the enzyme



Model of the enzyme in explicit water box

Introduction - OGT glycosyltransferase

- Uridine diphospho-N-acetylglucosamine: polypeptide β-N-acetylaminyltransferase;
 PDB ID: 3PE4
- Enzymatic transfer of N-acetylglucosamine molecule on Ser/Thr residue of protein
- Inverting glycosyltransferase of the GT-B family
- Post-translational modification: first reported in 1984



Introduction - OGT glycosyltransferase

OGT biological function: Nutrient and stress sensor (cycling dynamics comparable to that of protein-phosphorylation)

OGT function abnormalities: insulin resistance, diabetic complications, neurodegenerative disorders and cancer

OGT as a promising drug target: The TS state analogues are the best inhibitors, however several reaction mechanisms were proposed

Different Mechanisms Proposed for OGT

1. His498 as catalytic base (M_{His})

(Lazarus et al. 2011 Tvaroska et al. 2012)



2. α-phosphate as base (M_{PO4}) (Schimpl et al. 2012)



3. Water molecule for shunting proton to ASP554 (M_{Asp}) (Lazarus et al. 2012)

Structure of the Substrates in the Crystal Structures

3TAX -> hOGT4.5, Casein Kinase II subunit alpha (Ser21), UDP; Lazarus2011; 1.88 Å

4AY6 -> hOGT(TRP fragment and CD), TGF-BETA-ACTIVATED Kinase 1 and MAP3K7-BINDING PROTEIN 1 (aminoAla1395), UDP-5S-GlcNAc; Shimpl2012; **3.3 Å**

4GYW -> hOGT4.5, Casein Kinase II subunit alpha (Ser21), UDP, Ser21-GlcNAc; Lazarus2012; 1.7 Å

Acceptor Serine Side Chain Conformations

3TAX x-ray electron density around the Ser21

Undescribed density for the trans of Ser21

Presumed gauche: trans occupancy between 2:1 and 3:1

Ser21 rotation: Access to Different Proton Acceptor

4AY6 (3.30 Å) -> -g (-65°) **4GYW (1.70 Å)** -> t (169°)

Serine Side Chain Conformations for Diverse Mechanisms

Computational Methodology

- Hybrid QM/MM *ab initio* MD using CPMD/GROMOS
- Fully solvated system
- QM part treated by DFT PBE functional with Trouiller-Martins pseudopotenitials
- MM part treated by AMBER99SB force field
- Free energy reaction path optimization using the String Method on selected collective variables
- Exploring the Free Energy Surface using Metadynamics

Reaction Mechanism Studies - METADYNAMICS

- the type of accelerated molecular dynamics, where an artificial potential is added to the site already visited to allow the molecule to explore places with higher energy
- this potential can also be applied to selected collective variables (distance, angle, etc.) for a given reaction path which helps to overcome the reaction barrier
- the difficulty of the method grows exponentially with the number of collective variables

Reaction Mechanism Studies - String Method

- minimum free energy reaction path optimization
- the reaction path is divided into points (beads) with defined values of the collective variable (distance, angle, dihedral angle, etc.)
- at each point there is a molecular dynamics running where the value of the collective variable is held by means of restraints
- its difficulty does not depend on the number of collective variables and is linearly dependent on the number of beads

Eric Vanden-Eijnden, http://cims.nyu.edu/~eve2/string.htm

Partitioning of the QM and MM Zone

Large QM Zone

Atoms: 146 QM Box Size: 19.7 x 27.4 x 27.1 Å Time: 19 s/step on 80 CPUs Atoms: 106 QM atoms Box Size: 19.7 x 20.2 x 27.1 Å Time: 11 s/step on 64 CPUs

Small QM Zone

Collective Variable and Free Energy Evolution During Optimization

Most Probable Reaction Path – M_{PO4}

Summary

- Used methodology was able to distinguish between proposed mechanisms
- Catalytic process involves nucleophilic attack, proton transfer and glycosidic bond formation, in the same order for all the mechanism and has slightly dissociative S_N2 character
- N-Acetyl group stabilize leaving phosphate group
- Free energy profile suggests M_{PO4} as the most probable pathway having the TS barrier of ~24 kcal/mol

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Thank You for your kind attention !