

Lectures & Practices Agenda

Session	Lecture	Practice		
1	Prologue: molecular representation			
	Introduction to (computer-aided) drug design			
	Origin of 3D structures			
	Molecular recognition	Use of UCSF chimera to analyze protein-ligand complexes		
2	Binding free energy estimation			
	Introduction to molecular docking	Ligand-protein docking with AutoDock Vina		
3	Introduction to molecular (virtual) screening	Ligand-based virtual screening with SwissSimilarity		
4	Short introduction on target prediction of small molecules	Use of SwissTargetPrediction to perform reverse screening.		
5	Introduction to ADME, pharmacokinetics, druglikeness	Estimate physicochemical, pharmacokinetic, druglike and related properties with SwissADME		
6	Short introduction to bioisosterism	Use of SwissBioisostere to perform bioisosteric design		









Vendor	Num. of compounds (Sep. 2018)	For more, see http://zinc.docking.org
Asinex	533,412	Cost: • ~ 1 to 15 \$ per molecule when
Chembridge	1,508,897	buying entire large collection
ChemDiv	1,487,287	 ~ 100 \$ per molecule for cherry
Enamine	2,152,818	among different collections
LifeChemicals	379,184	
Otava	258,919	
Princeton	1,179,874	
SPECS	212,184	
TimTec	1,021,001	
Vitas	1,406,461	









Experimental Screening – HTS – Hit-to-Lead

Follow up:

- 1. Re-test the actives in the primary assay to confirm they are hits
- 2. Check whether the activity could be due to some **reactivity** (e.g. redox, alkylation,...) or some **physicochemical behavior** (absorbance, aggregation,...)
- 3. Perform a dose **response-curve** and determine IC_{50}
- 4. Check the identity/purity of the compound in the well (NMR, Mass spec.)
- 5. Cluster actives and see if (i) multiple members of the family are actives (ideal), (ii) only one member is active (problem?) or (iii) if all members are active (problem?)
- 6. Possibly synthesize (or buy) and test some molecules similar to the actives
- 7. Perform a **secondary assay** (different experimental conditions to verify that the activity is not assay-dependent)
- 8. Select, among the true, confirmed actives those that are the most **synthetically accessible**, with the best **ADME-tox profile**, etc...



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Molecular Screening – Molecule Filtering Filtering can be done to: Concentrate the search on drug-like molecules (Lipinski's rule of 5, ...) or given physchem properties (log P, MW, ...) Remove promiscuous or dye compounds Remove compounds with toxic moieties (stability, reactivity, ...)

Molecular Screening – Molecule Filtering – Promiscuous compounds

Promiscuous compounds are molecules found actives on multiple targets from different families.

Possible reasons:

- unspecific chemical reactivity (acyl halides, Michael addition, alkylating agents...),
- redox reactions,
- instability (acetals, ...),
- interference with assay measurement (fluorescence, absorbance, chelators...),
- aggregators





Molecular Screening – Molecule Filtering – Promiscuous compounds Methods to predict promiscuous molecules were developed by: 1. Compiling sets of known promiscuous and non-promiscuous compounds 2. Analysis of frequent scaffolds, fragments or molecular features in promiscuous molecules 3. Creation of rules/filters to identify promiscuous compounds 4. Test predictive ability on sets established in 1. Ex.: Lilly MedChem. Bruns, R. F.; et al. J. Med. Chem. 2012, 55, 9763-9772. PAINS. Baell, J. B.; et al. J. Med. Chem. 2010, 53, 2719–2740. - Pfizer LINT. Blake, J. F. et al. Med Chem 2005, 1, 649-655. - Abott ALARM NMR. Huth, J. R.; et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, 127, 217–224. - Structural alert. Brenk, R.; et al. ChemMedChem 2008, 3, 435–444. Unil King 48















Reverse Screening and Target Prediction – General Objective		
Methods:		
1. Molecular similarity		
Calculate molecular similarities between query molecule and ligands of known targets (e.g. SEA, SwissTargetPrediction, …)		
2. Protein structure-based		
Systematically dock the query molecules to all possible protein targets with available 3D structure (e.g. TarFisDock, idTarget, …)		
3. Data mining and machine learning methods		
Use machine learning to associate molecular substructures and target names (e.g. A. Bender, et al., ChemMedChem, 2007, 861–873)		
4. Analysis of bioactivity spectra		
Experimental readouts (e.g. expression profiles) of small molecules are used as molecular descriptor to compare molecules and suggest new drug applications (e.g. Mantra,)		
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Reverse Screening and Target Prediction – SwissTargetPrediction

Use of 2D and 3D similarity

• Gfeller, D.; Michielin, O.; Zoete, V. Shaping the Interaction Landscape of Bioactive Molecules. Bioinformatics. 2013, 29, 3073–3079.

• Gfeller, D.; Grosdidier, A.; Wirth, M.; Daina, A.; Michielin, O.; Zoete, V. SwissTargetPrediction: a Web Server for Target Prediction of Bioactive Small Molecules. Nucleic Acids Res. 2014, 42(Web Server issue), W32-8.

• Gfeller D., Zoete V. Protein homology reveals new targets for bioactive small molecules. Bioinformatics. 2015, 31, 2721-7.

• Daina A., Michielin O., Zoete, V. SwissTargetPrediction: updated data and new features for efficient prediction of protein targets of small molecules. Nucleic Acids Res., 2019, 47 (Web Server issue), W357–W364







Reverse Screening and Target Prediction – SwissTargetPrediction.ch Prediction by homology Use of protein homology relationships to predict the targets of small molecules across different species: - exploiting target homology improves the predictions, especially for molecules experimentally tested in other species,

- mapping small molecule interactions among orthologs improves prediction accuracy,
- including paralogs does not.



(Virtual) Screening and Reverse Screening	
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