IUCrJ

Volume 12 (2025)

Supporting information for article:

FLEXR-MSA: electron-density map comparisons of sequence-diverse structures

Timothy R. Stachowski and Marcus Fischer

```
Trap1
          TSKHEFQAETKKLLDI<mark>V</mark>ARSLYSEKEVFIRELISNASDALEKLRHKLVSDGQALP---EM
          SEKFAFQAEVNRMMKL<mark>I</mark>INSLYKNKEIFLRELISNASDALDKIRLISLTDENALSGNEEL
                                                                                           60
Hsp90a VETFAFQAEIAQLMSLIINTFYSNKEIFLRELISNSSDALDKIRYETLTDPSKLDSGKEL
                                                                                           60
Hsp90b VETFAFQAEIAQLMSLIINTFYSNKEIFLRELISNASDALDKIRYESLTDPSKLDSGKEL
           ... **** ::::: .::*.:**:**********
Trap1
       EIHLQTNAEKGTITIQDTG<mark>IGM</mark>TQEELVSNLGTIARSGSKAFLDALQNQA---EASSKII
                                                                                           114
         \texttt{TVKIKCDKEKNLLHVT} \textbf{D} \texttt{TG} \textcolor{red}{\textbf{VGM}} \texttt{TREELVKN} \textbf{LG} \texttt{TI} \textcolor{red}{\textbf{A}} \texttt{KSGTSEFLNKMTEAQEDGQSTSELI}
                                                                                           120
HSP90a HINLIPNKQDRTLTIVDTGIGMTKADLINNLGTIAKSGTKAFMEALQAG----ADISMI
                                                                                           115
Hsp90b KIDIIPNPQERTLTLVDTG<mark>IGM</mark>TKADLINNLGTIAKSGTKAFMEALQAG----ADISMI
                                                                                           115
          :.: ::. : ***:***: :*:.*****: *:: :
         {\tt GQFGVGFYSAFMVADRVE} \textbf{\textit{V}} {\tt VSRSAAPGSLGYQ} \textbf{\textit{W}} {\tt LSDGSGVFEIAEASG--VRTG} \textbf{\textit{T}} {\tt KIIIH}
                                                                                           172
Trap1
          {\tt GQFGVGFYSAFLVADKVI} \textbf{\textit{V}} {\tt TSKHN--NDTQHI} \textbf{\textit{W}} {\tt ESDSNEFSVIADPRGNTLGRG} \textbf{\textit{T}} {\tt TITLV}
                                                                                           178
Hsp90a GQFGVGFYSAYLVAEKVTVITKHN--DDEQYAWESSAGGSFTVRTDTGEPMGRGTKVILH
                                                                                           173
Hsp90b GQFGVGFYSAYLVAEKVVVITKHN--DDEQYAWESSAGGSFTVRADHGEPIGRGTKVILH
                                                                                           173
          ************
                                        .. : * *...
                                                     200
Trap1
        LKSDCKEFSSEARVRDVVTKYSNFVSFP
         LKEEASDYLELDTIKNLVKKYSQFINFP
                                                     206
Hsp90a LKEDQTEYLEERRIKEIVKKHSQFIGYP
                                                     201
Hsp90b
         LKEDQTEYLEERRVKEVVKKHSQFIGYP
                                                     201
          **.: .:: .
                         ::::*.*:*:*:
```

Figure S1 Sequence alignment of human HSP90 isoforms. Binding site residues are bolded, and non-conserved binding site residues are highlighted in yellow. The isoform coloring follows the same color scheme used for Fig. 2.

Table S1 PDB codes, space groups, and resolutions for human HSP90-6DMP structures.

Property	Isoform			
	Hsp90α	Hsp90β	Grp94	Trap1
PDB code	4FCP	7ULJ	7ULL	7ULK
Resolution (Å)	2.0	1.8	2.4	2.3
Space group	P21212	P65	P21212	P1211

```
H. sapiens -VETFAFQAEIAQLMSLIINTFYSNKEIFLRELISNSSDALDKIRYESLTDPSKLDSGKE 59
C. albicans -GETHEFTAEISQLMSLIINTVYSNKEIFLRELISNASDALDKIRYQALSDPSQLESEPE 59
T. brucei MTETFAFQAEINQLMSLIINTFYSNKEIFLRELISNSSDACDKIRYQSLTNQ----SVPH 56
          H. sapiens LHINLIPNKQDRTLTIVDTGIGMTKADLINNLGTIAKSGTKAFMEALQAGADISMIGQFG 119
C. albicans LFIRIIPQKDQKVLEIRDSGIGMTKADLVNNLGTIAKSGTKSFMEALSAGADVSMIGQFG 119
T. brucei LRIRVIPDRVNKTLTVEDSGIGMTKADLVNNLGTIARSGTKSFMEALEAGGDMSMIGQFG 116
          H. sapiens VGFYSAYLVAEKVTVITKHNDDEQYAWESSAGGSFTVRTD-TGEPMGRGTKVILHLKEDQ 178
C. albicans VGFYSLFLVADHVQVISKHNDDEQYVWESNAGGKFTVTLDETNERLGRGTMLRLFLKEDQ 179
T. brucei VGFYSAYLVADRVTVVSKNNEDDAYTWESSAGGTFTVTST-PDCDLKRGTRIVLHLKEDQ 175
          **** :**:: *:: *: *: *: *: ***
                                            . : *** : *.****
H. sapiens TEYLEERRIKEIVKKHS-FIGYPITLFVEK---- 207
C. albicans LEYLEEKRIKEVVKKHSEFVAYPIOLVVTKEVEK 213
T. brucei QEYLEERRLKDLIKKHS---GYDIELMVEN---- 202
           *****:*:::**** .* * *.* :
```

Figure S2 Sequence alignment of Hsp90α NTD homologs. Binding site residues are bolded, non-conserved binding site residues are highlighted in yellow. The human (blue) sequence shares 72% identity with *C. albicans* (red) and 71% with *T. brucei* (purple). *T. brucei* and *C. albicans* sequences share 69% identity. The isoform coloring follows the same color scheme used for Fig. 3.

Table S2 PDB codes, space groups, and resolutions for human, *C. albicans*, and *T. brucei* structures.

Property	Homolog			
Apo	Human	C. albicans		
PDB code	1UYL	6СЛ		
Resolution (Å)	1.4	1.6		
Space group	1222	P4322		
CNW 2442	**		<i>m.</i> 1	
SNX-2112	Human	C. albicans	T. brucei	
PDB code	4NH7 (chains A and B)	6CJR (chains A and B)	3OPD (chain A)	
Resolution (Å)	2.0	1.8	2.6	
Space group	C121	P43	P212121	
AUY-922	Human	C. albicans		
PDB code	2VCI	6CJS		
Resolution (Å)	2.0	1.9		
Space group	I222	I4122		
RDC	Human	C. albicans		
PDB code	4EGK	6CJL (chains A and B)		
Resolution (Å)	1.7	1.7		
Space group	P1211	P43		

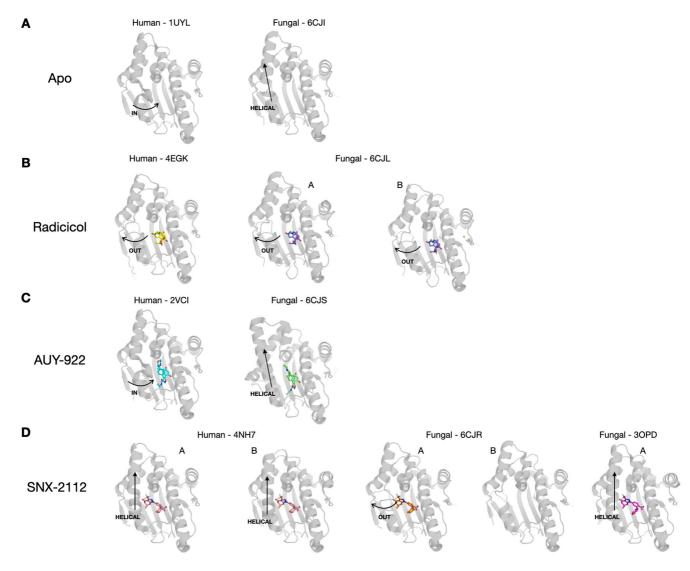


Figure S3 Overview of ATP Lid conformations across (A) apo structures and bound to (B) radicicol, (C) AUY-922, and (D) SNX-2112.

S1. Supplementary Methods

Full *FLEXR* functionality requires Coot 1.1.10, which we recommend installing through CCP4 9 (https://www.ccp4.ac.uk/download/). Details are available on GitHub:

https://github.com/TheFischerLab/FLEXR. FLEXR-MSA was written in Python 3.9 on macOS 14.7 with an Apple silicon processor. FLEXR requires Biopython, Matplotlib, Numpy, Pandas, and SciPy packages. These can be installed within an Anaconda environment or separately using pip:

```
pip3 install numpy
```

MUSCLE v5.2 (http://www.drive5.com/muscle/) can be installed with Homebrew:

```
brew install muscle
```

Ringer (is best accessed through the mmtbx library (https://cctbx.github.io/mmtbx/mmtbx.html), which comes packaged with Phenix. *Ringer* measurements can be calculated with:

```
mmtbx.ringer somepdb.pdb somepdb_map_coeffs.mtz
```

FLEXR-MSA can be downloaded by cloning the GitHub repository:

```
git clone https://github.com/TheFischerLab/FLEXR.git
```

FLEXR-MSA works from the standard Ringer output CSV files and is executed through the command line. Users the colors corresponding to each file, using command line options colors:

```
python flexr.py -m MSA -colors blue, red, crimson
```

If no colors are defined random ones are assigned. The program starts by alphabetically loading all *Ringer* outputs with the _ringer.csv extension in the working directory and prints a legend with files corresponding to the chosen colors. The color log is saved to plot legend.txt

```
Data Color

4EGK_A_ringer.csv blue

6CJL_A_ringer.csv red

6CJL B ringer.csv crimson
```

The program first extracts the amino acid sequence for each file and formats them into FASTA format and exports it to a single file:

```
ringer alignment.fasta
```

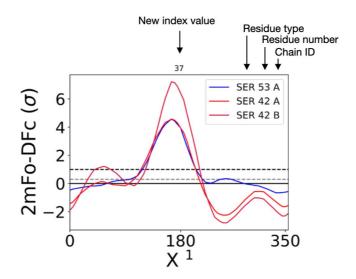
MUSCLE is used to perform a multiple sequence alignment algorithm. The aligned sequences are saved to:

```
ringer alignment muscle.fasta
```

The aligned sequences are extracted and converted into a Pandas dataframe. Each position in the alignment (including gaps, -) is assigned a new index value that relates aligned residues ("res" column). This table is saved to alignment new index.csv and looks like this:

4EGK_A_ringer.csv	6CJL_A_ringer.csv	6CJL_B_ringer.csv	res
P	-	-	0
M	-	-	1
Е	-	-	2
Е	Е	Е	3
V	Т	Т	4
E	Н	Н	5
Т	-	Е	6
F	F	F	7
F	T	T	8

The program returns to the original *Ringer* output CSV files and adds a column with the new index values for each residue. The updated *Ringer* CSV files are merged into a single dataframe. The new index values are looped over and data for residues with corresponding index values are called for plotting. The plotting portion creates a directory corresponding to the input chi value (e.g. ./chil) where the plots are saved. Plot titles and file names are labeled with the index value. The plot legends contain the original PDB residue ID followed by the chain ID. An example file is shown here. The title of the file is 37chil.png corresponding the 37th aligned position measured at Chil:



Side-chains with branched torsion angles, such as the first dihedral of Val, always yield a minimum of two peaks in *Ringer* plots. In the case where a branched residue is substituted in another structure with a non-branched residue (such as Val to Leu) can mistakenly be interpreted as a change in the number of conformations at that position between the two structures. The default option in *FLEXR-MSA* is to avoid

this situation and only compare residues with unbranched torsion angles. The user can override this with - safety False so that all aligned residues are compared.

In some situations, parts of sequences can be poorly aligned and will produce erroneous comparisons. This can be due to poor sequence similarity at the beginning and end of sequences or near unmodeled portions of models like loops. Users can manually adjust the re-indexed alignment file, alignment new index.csv, and rerun *FLEXR-MSA* by setting -reload True.

FLEXR-MSA can also calculate Pearson correlation coeffecients pairwise between Ringer plots of each residue by setting the -pearson option to True. This will produce heatmaps reflecting pairwise CC values in the directory chin cc and a CSV files of values: cc chin.csv.

Finally, setting the -render option to True will map the median CC values to the B-factor column in the first input PDB file (if present in the working directory). This allows the user to visualize the values on the protein with a program like PyMOL, which was done to produce Figure 4.