

Submission ID #: 67174

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Project Page Link: <https://review.jove.com/account/file-uploader?src=20488118>

Title: Incorporating Target Protein Structure Flexibility and Dynamics in Computational Drug Discovery Using Ensemble-Based Docking Analysis

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Author Questionnaire

- 1. Microscopy:** Does your protocol require the use of a dissecting or stereomicroscope for performing a complex dissection, microinjection technique, or something similar? **No**
- 2. Software:** Does the part of your protocol being filmed include step-by-step descriptions of software usage? **Yes,all done**
- 3. Filming location:** Will the filming need to take place in multiple locations? **No**

Current Protocol Length

Number of Steps: 21

Number of Shots: 39

Introduction

Videographer: Obtain headshots for all authors available at the filming location.

- 1.1. **Saharuddin Bin Mohamad**: Our research focuses on applying computational techniques to design more effective drugs, aiming to accelerate drug discovery and ultimately improve treatment outcomes and patients' quality of life.

- 1.1.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera.

What research gap are you addressing with your protocol?

- 1.2. **Ahmad Fadhlurrahman Ahmad Hidayat**: Current computer-aided drug design often overlooks target protein flexibility. The discussed protocol addresses this gap by incorporating multiple protein conformations derived from molecular dynamics simulations.

- 1.2.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera. *Suggested B.roll:2.11*

What research questions will your laboratory focus on in the future?

- 1.3. **Ahmad Fadhlurrahman Ahmad Hidayat**: Ensemble-based drug design improves accuracy by considering protein flexibility. We aim to integrate artificial intelligence for faster, personalized, and more effective drug discovery in the future.

- 1.3.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera.

Videographer: Obtain headshots for all authors available at the filming location.

Testimonial Questions (OPTIONAL):

How do you think publishing with JoVE will enhance the visibility and impact of your research?

- 1.4. **Ahmad Fadhlurrahman bin Ahmad Hidayat**: I believe that publishing in Jove helps researchers to share more knowledge regarding techniques and protocols. The use of video introduces a distinct notion for publication, in contrast to traditional black and white manuscripts.

1.4.1. INTERVIEW: Named Talent says the statement above in an interview-style shot, looking slightly off-camera.

AUTHOR: Please deliver the testimonial in both Malay and English

Videographer: Please capture the testimonial in both Malay and English

Protocol

2. Root-Mean-Square Deviation (RMSD)-Based Clustering Analysis

Demonstrator: Ahmad Fadhlurrahman Ahmad Hidayat

2.1. To begin, launch the Avogadro software on a computer system [1].

2.1.1. WIDE: Talent launching the Avogadro software on a computer system.

2.2. For cluster analysis, type the command given on-screen [1]. When prompted, type **1** for the protein group to calculate least squares fit and root mean square deviation or RMSD (*R-M-S-D*), then type **1** again for system output [2].

2.2.1. TEXT ON PLAIN BACKGROUND:

Command: `gmx cluster -s md.tpr -f md_center.xtc -g cluster.log -sz cluster-size.xvg -clid clus-id.xvg -cl cluster.pdb -cutoff 1.0`

2.2.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.2-(1).mp4 00:33-00:40

2.3. Open the **cluster-size.xvg** (*cluster-size-dot-x-v-g*) file [1]. If the number of clusters is **low**, **increase** the RMSD cutoff value. Alternatively, if the number is **high**, **decrease** the cutoff [2].

2.3.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.3.mp4 00:05-00:09

2.3.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.3.mp4 00:18-00:49

Video Editor: Please speed up if necessary

2.4. Perform grace analysis with the command shown on-screen using different RMSD cutoff values as needed [1-TXT].

2.4.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.4.mp4 00:00-00:19

AND

TEXT ON PLAIN BACKGROUND:

Command: `xmgrace totalenergy.xvg`

Video Editor: Please play both shots side by side

2.5. Now, open the **Chimera** software and search for **cluster.pdb** (*cluster-dot-P-D-B*) [1]. Click on **Presents** and **Publication 1 (silhouette, rounded ribbon)** (*Publication-1-silhouette-rounded-ribbon*) for visual representation [2].

2.5.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.5.mp4 00:00-00:14

2.5.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.5.mp4 00:15-00:22

- 2.6. ~~Navigate to **File, Save Image** and click on **Save** to export the rendered image [1].~~ Sequentially click **Select, Chain, (no ID) (No-I-D)** followed by **cluster.pdb (#10) (cluster-dot-P-D-B-Number-ten)**, then **Select** and **Invert (selected models) (invert-selected-models)** [2]. Go to **Actions** then press **Atoms/Bonds (Atoms-Bonds)** and click on **delete** to isolate the chain [3].

2.6.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.6.mp4.

NOTE: Shot not provided

2.6.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.6.mp4. 00:00-00:11

2.6.3. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.6.mp4. 00:12-00:16

- 2.7. Now select **File**, click on **Save PDB (Save-P-D-B)** and press **Save** to save the file. Name the file **cluster1.pdb (Cluster-one-dot-P-D-B) [1-TXT]**.

2.7.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.7.mp4 00:00-00:16

TXT: Repeat for clusters 2 to 4

- 2.8. For ensemble-based docking, launch the **AutoDock Tools** software to open it [1]. Place files **cluster1.pdb** and **ligand.pdb** into a new folder [2].

2.8.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.8.mp4 00:02-00:11

2.8.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.8.mp4 00:12-00:26

- 2.9. Now click on **File, Preferences** and **Set**. In the pop-up, paste the folder address into the **Startup Directory** field and click **Set [1]**. Click the **blue folder icon**, choose **cluster1.pdb**, and click **Open [2]**.

2.9.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.9.mp4 00:06-00:22

2.9.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.9.mp4. 00:28-00:33

- 2.10. Go to **Edit**, then press **Charges, Add Kollman Charges**, and click **OK [1]**.

2.10.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.10.mp4 00:00-00:07

- 2.11. Click on **Grid, Macromolecules, Choose**, select **cluster1** in the **Choose Macromolecules** box, then press **Select Molecules**. Click **OK** to generate a modified **AutoDock4 macromolecule** file [1]. Save it as **cluster1.pdbqt (cluster-1-dot-p-d-b-q-t)** [2].

2.11.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.11.mp4 00:00-00:08

2.11.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.11.mp4 00:08-00:17

- 2.12. Next, empty the workspace by clicking **Edit** then press **Delete** and **Delete All Molecules**, before clicking **Continue [1]**. Then press **Ligand, Input, Open**. When a **Ligand file for Autodock4** folder appears, select **ligand.pdb**, and click **Open** and then **OK [2]**.

2.12.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.12.mp4. 00:00-00:06

2.12.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.12.mp4. 00:07-00:16

- 2.13. Now choose **Ligand**, **Torsion Tree** and **Detect Root** to define the torsional flexibility of the ligand [1]. Go to **Ligand, Output**, **Save as PDBQT** (*Save-As-P-D-B-Q-T*) and save the **Formatted Autotors Molecules** folder as **ligand.pdbqt** [2].

2.13.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.13.mp4	00:00-00:06
2.13.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.13.mp4	00:07-00:24
- 2.14. After emptying the workspace, open the **cluster1.pdbqt** file by clicking on **Grid**, **Macromolecules** and **Open**, then press **Yes** and **OK** [1]. Navigate to **Grid** again and press the **Set Map Types** and choose **Open ligand**. Select and **Open ligand.pdbqt** [2].

2.14.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.14.mp4	00:07-00:17
2.14.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.14.mp4	00:18-00:26
- 2.15. Now navigate to the **Grid Box** option under **Grid**. In the **Grid Options** box, set **number of points** in the **x, y, and z dimensions** to **120**, and **spacing** to **0.375** angstrom. Leave the center settings as default [1]. Then click **File** and **Close Saving Current** [2].

2.15.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.15.mp4	00:00-00:28
2.15.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.15.mp4	00:30-00:35
- 2.16. Go to **Grid, Output** and press **Save GPF** (*Save-G-P-F*). When the **Grid Parameter Output** file appears, enter **grid.gpf** (*grid-dot-G-P-F*) as the file name, and click **Save** [1]. Next, click on **Run** and **Run AutoGrid**. At **Parameter Filename** tab, click **Browse**. Open the **grid.gpf** file [2].

2.16.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.15.mp4	00:00-00:14
2.16.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.15.mp4	00:15-00:24
- 2.17. Now, **Browse** through the **Program Pathname**. Search for **autogrid4.exe** and click **Open** and **Launch** [1]. Sequentially click on **Docking** followed by **Macromolecules** and **Set Rigid Filenames**. When a **PDBQT Macromolecules file** appears, select **cluster1.pdbqt**, and click **Open** [2].

2.17.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.17.mp4	00:00-00:08
2.17.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.17.mp4	00:38-00:48
- 2.18. **Choose** the **Ligand** from the **Docking** menu. When the **Choose Ligands** box appears, select **ligand**, and click on **Select Ligand**, then press **Accept** in the **AutoDpf4 Ligand-Parameter dialog** [1]. Now, navigate to **Genetic Algorithm** from **Docking**. When the **Genetic Algorithm Parameters** box appears, set **GA (G-A) Runs** to **100**, and click **Accept** [2].

2.18.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.18.mp4	00:00-00:11
2.18.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.18.mp4	00:12-00:21
- 2.19. Click on **Docking, Output, Lamarckian GA(4.2)** (*La-Mark-Eeyan-G-A-Four-Point-Two*) [1]. When an **Autodock4.2 GALS** (*Auto-Dock-Four-Point-Two-Gals*) **Docking Parameter Output** file appears, name it as **docking.dpf** (*docking-dot-D-P-F*), and click **Save** [2].

2.19.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.19.mp4	00:00-00:08
2.19.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.19.mp4	00:08-00:17

- 2.20. Now press **Run** and **Run AutoDock**. A **Run Autodock** box will appear [1]. At **Parameter Filename** click **Browse**. When an **autodock4 Parameter** file appears, select **docking.dpf** and click on **Open** [2]. At **Program Pathname** click **Browse**. An **autodock4** file will appear. Search for **autodock4.exe** (*Auto-dock-Four-dot-E-X-E*) and click **Open** followed by **Launch** [3].

2.20.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.20.mp4	00:00-00:05
2.20.2. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.20.mp4	00:06-00:10
2.20.3. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.20.mp4	00:10-00:20

- 2.21. Delete all molecules as demonstrated previously and repeat the process for all cluster files [1].

2.21.1. SCREEN: 67174_SCREEN_2.21.mp4	00:47-00:55, 00:00-00:17
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Results

3. Representative Results

- 3.1. The chemical structure and the 3D structural representation of flavokawain B (*Flavo-Ka-Vain-B*) and lysozyme at the initial state before molecular dynamics simulation was obtained [1].
 - 3.1.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 8 A and B
- 3.2. The total energy of the protein structure was stable during the simulation [1] and root mean square deviation stabilized after 20 nanoseconds [2]. Root mean square fluctuation revealed high flexibility in regions between residues 40 to 50, 60 to 80, and 100 to the end [3].
 - 3.2.1. 1 LAB MEDIA: Figure 9A
 - 3.2.2. 1 LAB MEDIA: Figure 9B. *Video Editor: please highlight portion of graph going up until 20 nanosecond mark*
 - 3.2.3. LAB MEDIA: Figure 9C. *Video editor: Please highlight the three peak regions of the line graph that occur between 40–50, 60–80, and 100–end along the x-axis.*
- 3.3. A total of 15 structural clusters were obtained from root mean square deviation-based clustering of 10,001 trajectory frames, with the largest cluster containing 5,818 members [1]. Superimposed conformations of all clusters showed visible structural variations among the trajectories [2].
 - 3.3.1. LAB MEDIA: Table 1. *Video editor: Circle the top row where cluster number 1 is listed with 5,818 members.*
 - 3.3.2. LAB MEDIA: Figure 10
- 3.4. Molecular docking of flavokawain B with the representative structures of the top 4 clusters showed consistent binding at the same site across all conformations [1], with cluster 2 showing the lowest binding energy of minus 29.37 kilojoules per mole [2].
 - 3.4.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 11. *Video editor: Highlight the green structures in all four panels (A–D)*
 - 3.4.2. LAB MEDIA: Table 2. *Video editor: Circle the row with cluster number 2*
- 3.5. Electrostatic surface mapping confirmed identical binding sites in all cluster conformations, with flavokawain B nested in the same pocket region [1].
 - 3.5.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 12. *Video editor: Highlight the orange parts in all 4 blue molecules*
- 3.6. Detailed interaction analysis showed flavokawain B binding was stabilized by several surrounding residues including Ala-31 (*Alanine-Thirty-one*), Glu-35 (*Glutamine-thirty-five*), Leu-56 (*Leucine-Fifty-Six*), Gln-57 (*Gamma-carboxy-glutamic acid-Fifty-seven*),

Ile-58 (*Isoleucine-fifty-Eight*), Ala-95 (*Alanine-Ninety-Five*), Ile-98 (*Isoleucine-Ninety-Eight*), Trp-108 (*Tryptophan-one-zero-Eight*), Val-109 (*Valine-one-zero-nine*), Ala-110 (*Alanine-one-ten*), Trp-111 (*Tryptophan-one-eleven*), and Arg-114 (*Arginine-one-fourteen*) [1].

3.6.1. LAB MEDIA: Figure 13B. *Video editor: Please sequentially highlight each green and purple circle for corresponding VO narration*

Pronunciation Guide

1. Ensemble

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/ensemble>
- IPA: /ən'sɑ:mbəl/
- Phonetic Spelling: ahn-sahm-buhl

2. Conformations

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.howtopronounce.com/conformations>
- IPA: /ˌkɔ:nfɔ:r'meɪʃənz/
- Phonetic Spelling: kawn-for-may-shunz

3. Avogadro

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.howtopronounce.com/avogadro>
- IPA: /ˌævə'ɡɑ:droʊ/
- Phonetic Spelling: av-uh-gah-droh

4. RMSD (Root-Mean-Square Deviation)

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.howtopronounce.com/rmsd>
- IPA: /ˌɑ:r,ɛm,ɛs'di/
- Phonetic Spelling: ar-em-es-dee

5. Xmgrace

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.howtopronounce.com/xmgrace>
- IPA: /ˌɛksɛm'greɪs/
- Phonetic Spelling: eks-em-grayce

6. Chimera

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/chimera>
- IPA: /kaɪ'mɪrə/
- Phonetic Spelling: kai-mih-ruh

7. AutoDock

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.howtopronounce.com/autodock>
- IPA: /'ɔ:toʊ,dɔ:k/
- Phonetic Spelling: aw-toh-dawk

8. PDBQT

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.howtopronounce.com/pdbqt>
- IPA: /ˌpiːdiːbiːkjuːtiː/
- Phonetic Spelling: pee-dee-bee-kyoo-tee

9. Flavokawain B

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.howtopronounce.com/flavokawain>
- IPA: /ˌflævooʊˈkɑːweɪn/
- Phonetic Spelling: flah-voh-kah-wayn

10. Lysozyme

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/lysozyme>
- IPA: /ˈlaɪsəˌzaɪm/
- Phonetic Spelling: lai-suh-zyme

11. Alanine

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/alanine>
- IPA: /ˈæləˌniːn/
- Phonetic Spelling: al-uh-neen

12. Glutamine

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/glutamine>
- IPA: /ˈgluːtəˌmiːn/
- Phonetic Spelling: gloo-tuh-meen

13. Leucine

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/leucine>
- IPA: /ˈluːˌsiːn/
- Phonetic Spelling: loo-seen

14. Isoleucine

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/isoleucine>
- IPA: /ˌaɪsoʊˈluːˌsiːn/
- Phonetic Spelling: eye-soh-loo-seen

15. Tryptophan

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/tryptophan>
- IPA: /ˈtrɪptəˌfæn/

- Phonetic Spelling: trip-tuh-fan

16. Valine

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/valine>
- IPA: /'veɪ,li:n/
- Phonetic Spelling: vay-leen

17. Arginine

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/arginine>
- IPA: /'ɑ:rdʒə,ni:n/
- Phonetic Spelling: ar-juh-neen

18. Electrostatic

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/electrostatic>
- IPA: /ɪ,lektroʊ'stætɪk/
- Phonetic Spelling: ih-lek-troh-sta-tik

19. Molecular Dynamics

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.howtopronounce.com/molecular-dynamics>
- IPA: /mə'lekjələr daɪ'næmɪks/
- Phonetic Spelling: muh-lek-yuh-lur dai-na-miks

20. Docking

- Pronunciation link: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/docking>
- IPA: /'dɑ:kɪŋ/
- Phonetic Spelling: daw-king