Algorithms in Structural Bioinformatics

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Assignment 2

Announced: 25.04.2021 / Deadline: Sunday 09.05.2021 23:59

Part I.

The crystal structure of the receptor binding domain of SARS-COV-2 Spike glycoprotein in complex with COVOX-269 Fab was recently determined and deposited with Protein Data Bank (PDB id: 7NEH). The structure of its mutant N501Y has also been determined (PDB id: 7NEG).

1. Report on the following:
    a. Method by which the two structures were determined and their Resolution
    b. Number of chains and number of residues in each chain for every structure
    c. Number of water molecules in the structure (for both pdb files)
    d. Which are the ligands (heteroatoms) that present in the structures

2. Determine the R.M.S.D. between receptor binding domain of SARS-COV-2 Spike glycoprotein complex and its mutant
    a. Over all atoms
    b. Over Ca atoms

3. Visualize the two protein structures of the complex using Chimera (https://www.cgl.ucsf.edu/chimera/) showing the secondary structure elements. Please highlight the regions of interest.
    a. One figure per structure
    b. One figure with the two structures superposed

Part II.

a) Consider 50 Ca atoms of SARS-COV-2 Spike glycoprotein (PDB id: 7NEH), indexed E401 to E450. Construct the corresponding 51x51 Cayley-Menger matrix B.

b) Compute rank(B); explain why the obtained value is correct.

c) Perturb entries of B by 2%, and 4% (maintaining symmetry, positive entries), then confirm that rank(B)>5. In each case, compute Gram matrix G, apply SVD: $G=U\Sigma U^T$. Let S be the diagonal matrix containing zeros and the 3 largest singular values of G. Compute the 3D coordinates as $\sqrt{S}U^T$, and report the c-RMSD against the original structure for both perturbations.