



Short project : Assignation and detection of protein transmembrane regions

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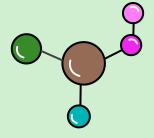




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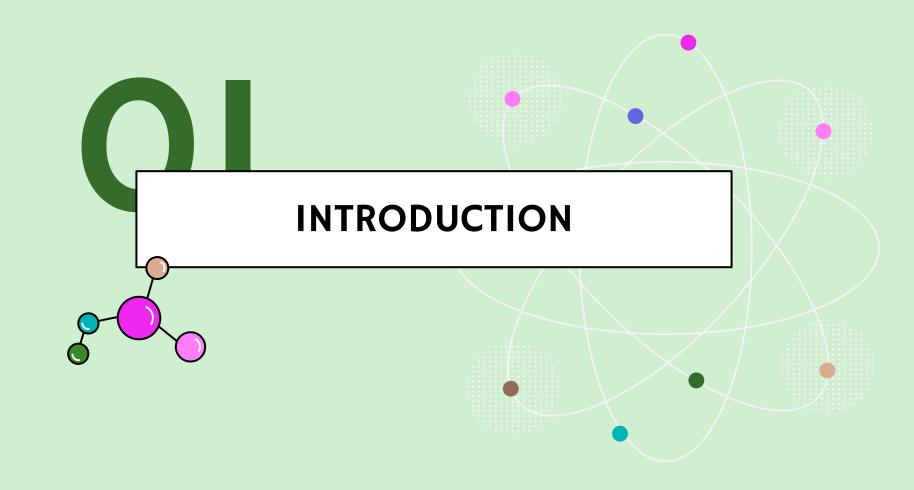
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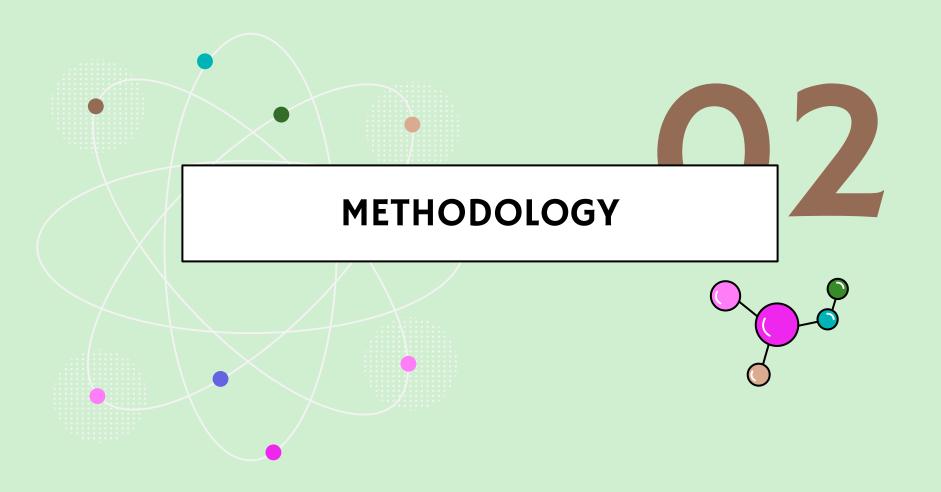
INTRODUCTION

Overview of Transmembrane Proteins:

- > Play essential roles in molecular transport and signal transduction.
- > Structural analysis is complex due to challenges in crystallizing without lipid bilayers.
- Underrepresented in databases such as the Protein Data Bank.

Project Objective:

- > Develop a computational tool to detect and assign transmembrane regions based on atomic coordinates.
- Utilize structural data like hydrophobicity and solvent-accessible surface areas to identify membrane boundaries and differentiate membrane proteins from globular proteins.





METHODOLOGY - Input and Preprocessing

Input:

> Takes a Protein Data Bank (PDB) file with the 3D protein structure.

Preprocessing:

- > DSSP Algorithm: Used to calculate solvent accessibility of each residue.
- > Filter to retain only surface-exposed residues.
- > Data stored in a dictionary, including residue names and 3D coordinates.



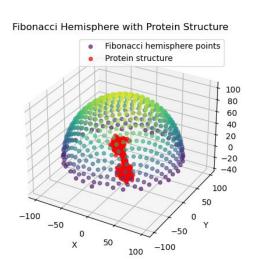
METHODOLOGY - Membrane Interaction Analysis

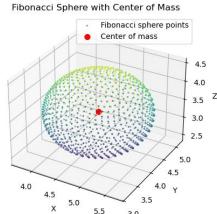
Spherical Sampling:

- Protein is sliced along axes generated using Fibonacci lattice methods to analyze membrane interaction.
- Each axis is defined by vectors extending from the protein's center of mass.

Hydrophobicity Profiling:

- For each axis, the protein is sliced into 1 Å thick sections.
- Residue hydrophobicity is evaluated using predefined scales.
- The ratio of hydrophobic residues near the membrane surface is analyzed to identify transmembrane regions..







METHODOLOGY - Membrane Plane Construction

Membrane Planes:

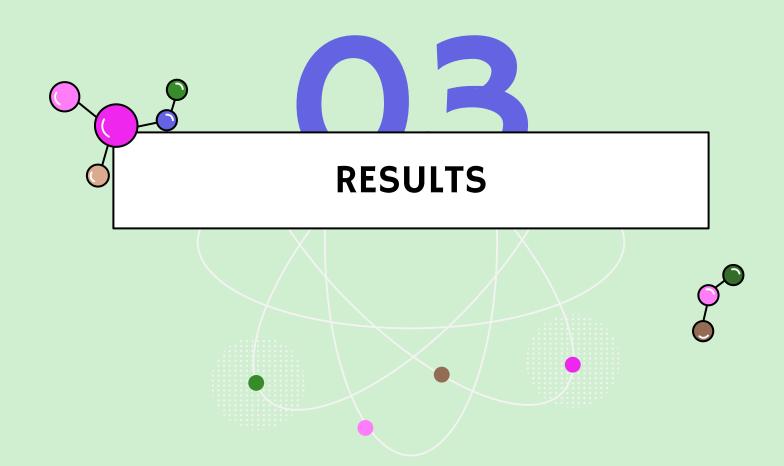
- > After determining the optimal axis, two membrane planes are generated perpendicular to this axis.
- Membrane planes positioned 15 Å above and below the center of mass (30 Å total thickness).

Recalculation:

> Hydrophobicity ratio recalculated for different membrane thicknesses to find optimal boundaries.

Visualization:

Outputs a modified PDB file with dummy atoms representing membrane planes and a PyMOL script to visualize the protein and membranes.





RESULTS - Test Protein (2MOZ)

Efficiency:

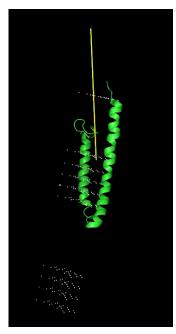
- Successfully generated points on a hemisphere and calculated the hydrophobicity ratio.
- Membrane Plane Accuracy: The tool positioned the two membrane planes at a 32 Å distance instead of the expected 30 Å.

Visualization:

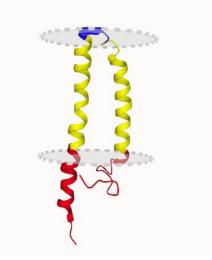
Created PyMOL (.pml) file, but the membrane planes were not perfectly aligned.

Program Performance:

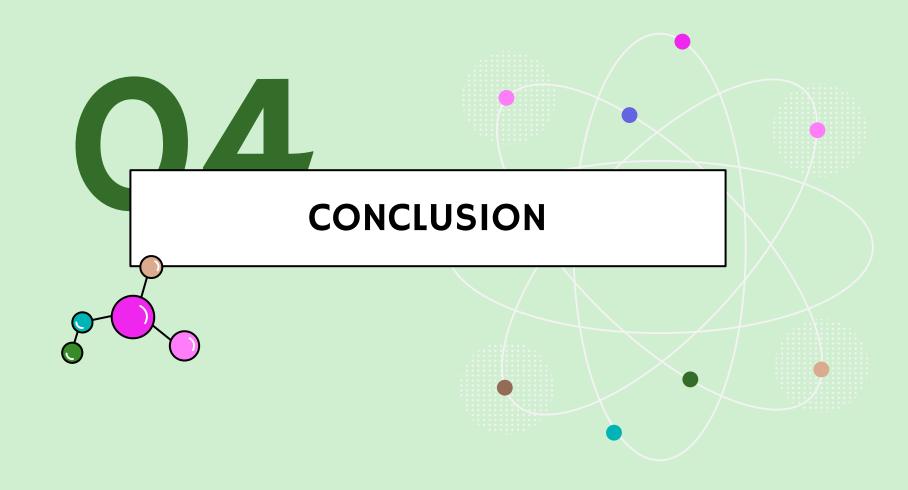
- Best axis identified with a hydrophobicity factor of 0.6805.
- Runtime: 2.18 seconds



PyMol visualization



PDB_TM representation





CONCLUSION

Successes:

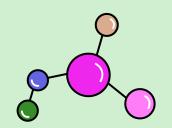
- Efficient identification of membrane axes using multiprocessing.
- > Hydrophobicity analysis successfully detects transmembrane regions.

Limitations:

- > Membrane plane positioning was not possible.
- Need for a more robust membrane plane generation method.

Future Work:

- > Implement a mechanism to adjust membrane thickness.
- > Further optimize the placement and orientation of membrane planes.





THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!



