Python-based Tools and Web Services for Structural Bioinformatics

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AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Outline

- Past Python-related work (at NCSA, no proteomics)
- Indiana University/IUPUI: Pervasive Tech Labs,
 Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics
- Intro to Structural Bioinformatics
- Tools/Services for Mutation Data
 - Vis tools (UCSF Chimera, PyMOL)
 - Web Services (Axis, Pywebsvcs/SOAPpy)
- Future work

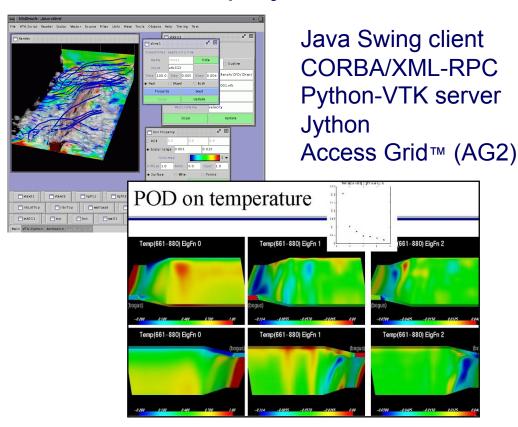




Past Python-related work

(RH at UIUC/NCSA '97-'03)

- Python-wrapped VTK [+ pyMPI] for [cluster-based]
 SciVis
- VisBench project: client-server vis & analysis





Indiana University; IUPUI

- Pervasive Technology Labs at IU six labs pervasive.iu.edu (~1999), sda.iu.edu (2003)
 - Help grow the IT economy in Indiana via collaborations in academia and industry
- Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics - Mooney Lab compbio.iupui.edu/ mooney (2003)
 - Characterize the structural elements that enable protein function
 - Understand the effects of genomic variation on the proteome





Some terminology

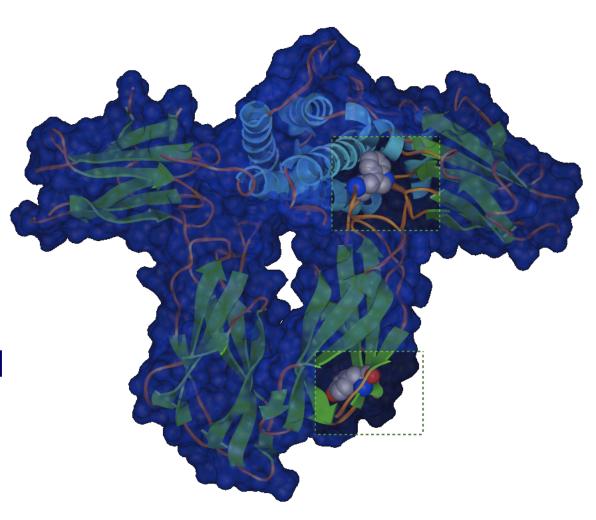
- Cell contains genome = complete set of DNA
- DNA = sequence of ATCG nucleotides
- Genes = specific seqs that encode instructions for making proteins
- Protein = molecules of (20) amino acids that perform much of life's function
- Proteome = set of all proteins in a cell
- Proteomics = study of protein's structure & function
- Bioinformatics = Biology + CS + IT





Intro to Structural Bioinformatics

- Protein Data
 Bank now
 contains more
 than 26,000
 structures
- Annotation of structural data is a challenging and relevant problem







Protein visualization tools

- UCSF Chimera (www.cgl.ucsf.edu/chimera)
- PyMOL (pymol.sourceforge.net)
- Python-based tools for interactive visualization of protein
 3-D structure (& 1-D sequence)
- Each provides a Python-based API for writing extensions





Web Services

- Any service that is:
 - available over the Internet
 - uses XML messaging
 - independent of OS & pgming Ing
- XML messaging:
 - XML-RPC, SOAP, HTTP post/get
- WSDL: Web Svcs Description Lng

For MutDB:

- Apache Axis (ws.apache.org/axis)
- PyWebSvcs/SOAPpy (pywebsvcs.sf.net)





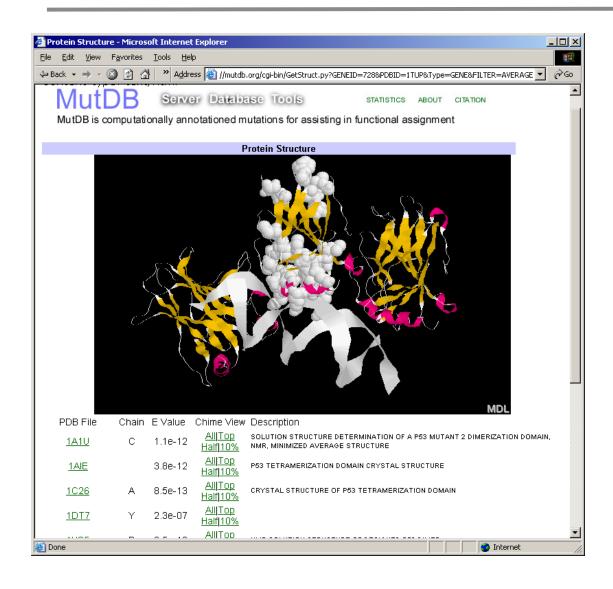
Examples of Bio Web Services

- New PDB (pdbbeta.rcsb.org/pdb)
 - alpha.rcsb.org/jboss-net/services/pdbWebService?
 wsdl
- KEGG (www.genome.jp/kegg/soap)
- biomoby.org
- Google 'bio web services'





MutDB (http://www.mutdb.org)

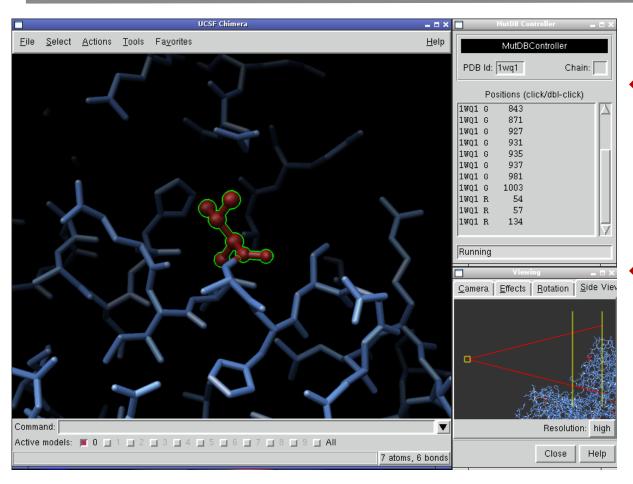


MutDB provides structural annotations for disease-associated mutations and single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs)





Structural Mutation Service



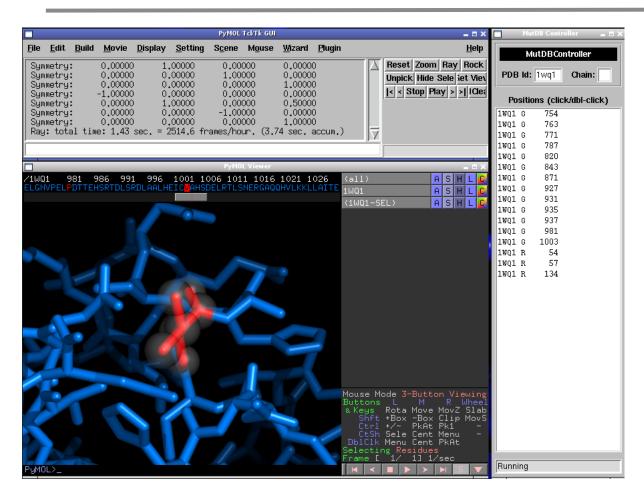
- Mutations on MutDB are mapped to protein structure
- Extension in Chimera queries MutDB

UCSF Chimera extension





PyMol Extension



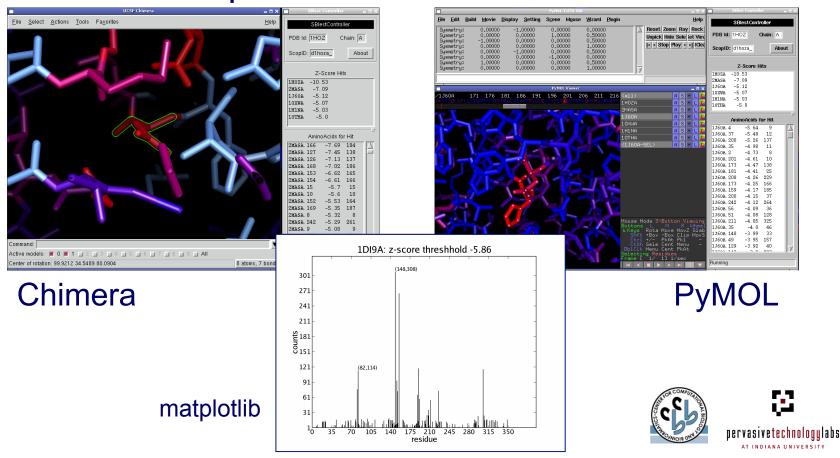
Controller window identifies mapped mutation positions which are highlighted structurally





Future work

 Web services for identifying regions of structural similarity between a query protein and a database of protein structures



Acknowledgements & Ref

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S.D. Mooney and R.B. Altman, "MutDB: annotating human variation with functionally relevant data". *Bioinformatics*. 2003 Sep 22;19(14):1858-1860



