

MS10-P4 Molecular modelling studies of protein-ligand interactions on haloalkane dehalogenases

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Haloalkane dehalogenases (EC 3.8.1.5) are enzymes belong to the α/β -hydrolase superfamily [1] of enzymes that catalyze the hydrolytic cleavage of carbon-halogen bonds in halogenated hydrocarbons to yield the corresponding alcohol, a proton and a halide [2]. Therefore, haloalkane dehalogenases (HLDs) catalyze reactions of great environmental and biotechnological significance. This work is focused on the protein-ligand interactions in a recently constructed stable and solvent-resistant haloalkane dehalogenase DhaA from *Rhodococcus rhodochrous* NCIMB 13064 and its variants with mutations in the residues that form the access tunnel connecting the enzyme's buried active site to the surrounding solvent. In the previous study [3] crystallographic analysis followed by classical molecular dynamics revealed that enhanced catalytic activity of mutant DhaA106 is due to an increase in the diameter of the access tunnel and the mobility of the adjacent secondary structure elements. In this work we study the interactions and different binding sites between a protein and a ligand by using molecular dynamics method GROMACS [4] and PELE [5,6] (an acronym Protein Energy Landscape Exploration) that combines a Monte Carlo stochastic approach with protein structure prediction and is capable of accurately reproducing long time scale processes.

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