



IN SILICO SCREENING OF ISOLATED PHYTOCONSTITUENTS FROM HYDROALCOHOLIC EXTRACT OF CYPERUS ROTUNDUS USING CAD SOFTWARE SCHRODINGER VERSION 10.5

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Abstract

Application of Computational (in silico) methods are widely applied in drug discovery. In drug discovery process, recognition of the appropriate drug target is the first and leading task. These targets are biomolecules which mainly include DNA, RNA and proteins (such as receptors, transporters, enzymes and ion channels). Rationale of such targets is necessary to exhibit a sufficient level of 'confidence' and to get knowledge of their pharmacological relevance to the disease under investigation. *Cyperus rotundus* is one of the promising medicinal plant having anti-arthritis activity. This study is to illustrate some of the in silico methods applied for the validation of isolated molecules from the plant. This article aims to bring out the new technique in drug discovery.

Keyword: *In silico*, Computational, Validation, Biomolecules

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Introduction

At the present time, in silico methodologies have become a decisive part of the drug discovery development. This is mostly because they can force the entire drug development path, identifying and discovering new potential drugs with a significant reduction to cost and time. Moreover, computer-aided drug design (CADD) approaches are important for reducing the experimental use of animals for in vivo testing, for aiding the design of safer drugs, and for repositioning known drugs, assisting medicinal chemists at each step (design, discovery, development, and hit-optimization) during the drug discovery process.(1) On one hand, conventional methods for drug discovery involve the costly random screening of synthesized compounds or natural products.(2) On the other hand, computational procedures can be very multifarious, requiring interdisciplinary studies and the application of computer science to rationally design effective and commercially feasible drugs.

Method

The structures of the isolated phytoconstituents of *Cyperus rotundus* CR namely CR-1, CR-2 and CR-3 were converted to 3D structures using potential algorithms and application of high efficient force fields.(3) Initial geometrical optimization and energy minimization of molecules were performed by using Ligprep tool of Schrodinger suite 10.. Various ionization states were generated using a Ligprop module using a special program EPIK along with various possible conformers and tautomers(4). Molecular properties of the processed ligands were studied by using Qikprop module. Qikprop module also predicts the ADME profiles.(5)

Molecular Docking studies

Post Docking Calculations

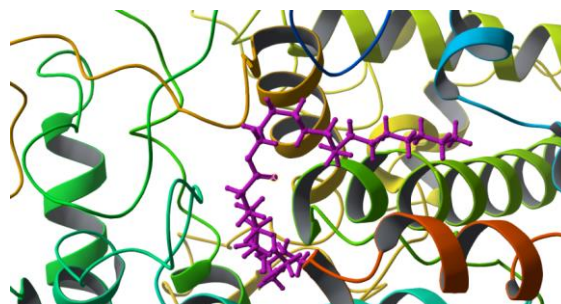


Figure 1: 3D Binding interactions of compound CR-1

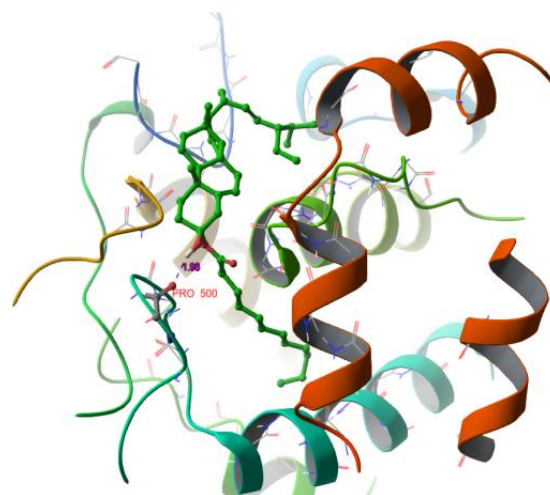


Figure 2: 3D Binding interactions of compound CR-2 with COX-2

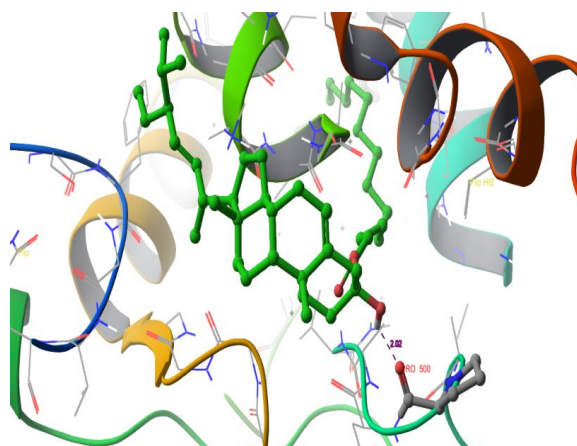


Figure3: 3D Binding interactions of compound CR-3 with COX-2

Table-1 Docking results and protein ligand binding interactions of isolated compounds

| Molecule | No. of rotational bonds | Mol._MW | Donor HB | Acceptor HB | RuleOfFive | RuleOfThree |
|-----------|-------------------------|---------|----------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| CR-03.mol | 19 | 639.056 | 0 | 1.75 | 2 | 1 |
| CR-02.mol | 17 | 611.002 | 0 | 1.75 | 2 | 1 |
| CR-01.mol | 28 | 490.852 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 |

Results and Discussion

Table-2: Predicted molecular properties of the dataset ligands

| ligand | GScore | DockScore | LipophilicEvdW | PhobEn | PhobEnHB | PhobEnPairHB | HBond | Electro | Sitemap | PiCat | CIBr | LowMW | Penalties | HBPenal | ExposPenal | RotPenal | EpikStatePenalty | Similarity | Activity |
|-------------|--------|-----------|----------------|--------|----------|--------------|-------|---------|---------|-------|------|-------|-----------|---------|------------|----------|------------------|------------|----------|
| CR-03.mol | -5.89 | -5.89 | -5.89 | -0.36 | 0 | 0 | -0.61 | -0.16 | -0.4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0.23 | 0.29 | 0 | -- | -41 |
| CR-03.mol-2 | -4.8 | -4.8 | -6.79 | -0.9 | 0 | 0 | -1.33 | -0.27 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0.2 | 0.29 | 0 | -- | -51.95 |
| CR-03.mol-3 | -3.7 | -3.7 | -6.37 | -0.84 | 0 | 0 | -0.48 | 0.02 | -0.39 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0.07 | 0.29 | 0 | -- | -46.17 |
| CR-02.mol | -2.85 | -2.85 | -5.13 | -0.56 | 0 | 0 | -0.96 | -0.34 | -0.4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0.26 | 0.28 | 0 | -- | -43.34 |
| CR-01.mol | -2.83 | -2.83 | -6.64 | -1.23 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -0.04 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0.11 | 0.98 | 0 | -- | -47.02 |
| CR-02.mol-2 | -2.75 | -2.75 | -4.95 | -0.36 | 0 | 0 | -1.59 | -0.4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0.27 | 0.28 | 0 | -- | -44.48 |
| CR-03.mol-4 | -1.02 | -1.02 | -5.32 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -0.48 | -0.05 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0.54 | 0.29 | 0 | -- | -45.49 |

Table 3: Predicted pharmacokinetic (ADME) profile of isolated compounds

| Molecule | QPpolrz | QPlogPC16 | QPlogPoct | QPlogPw | QPlogPo/w | QPlogS | CIQPlogS | QPlogHERG | QPPCaco | QPlogBB | QPPMDCK | QPlogKp |
|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|----------|---------|
| CR-03.mol | 68.148 | 18.597 | 23.179 | 0.393 | 12.042 | -11.798 | -11.88 | -5.201 | 2092.76 | -1.361 | 1099.03 | -0.92 |
| CR-03.mol | 73.624 | 21.02 | 24.606 | 0.776 | 12.976 | -14.66 | -11.88 | -6.401 | 2412.255 | -1.439 | 1281.458 | -0.767 |
| CR-03.mol | 73.603 | 21.058 | 24.556 | 0.784 | 12.975 | -14.716 | -11.88 | -6.434 | 2429.413 | -1.439 | 1291.312 | -0.759 |
| CR-03.mol | 74.336 | 21.424 | 24.738 | 0.816 | 13.095 | -15.149 | -11.88 | -6.571 | 2428.459 | -1.463 | 1290.764 | -0.772 |
| CR-02.mol | 69.532 | 19.432 | 23.325 | 0.984 | 12.109 | -13.57 | -11.284 | -6.074 | 2463.832 | -1.264 | 1311.098 | -0.965 |
| CR-02.mol | 69.889 | 19.576 | 23.436 | 1.016 | 12.168 | -13.711 | -11.284 | -6.133 | 2477.138 | -1.267 | 1318.753 | -0.953 |
| CR-02.mol | 69.611 | 19.491 | 23.315 | 0.969 | 12.125 | -13.689 | -11.284 | -6.109 | 2479.212 | -1.268 | 1319.947 | -0.975 |
| CR-02.mol | 69.878 | 19.629 | 23.416 | 1.009 | 12.166 | -13.822 | -11.284 | -6.176 | 2468.684 | -1.278 | 1313.889 | -0.967 |
| CR-01.mol | 62.799 | 21.429 | 19.931 | -0.878 | 12.099 | -14.401 | -8.569 | -7.431 | 2968.76 | -2.009 | 1603.791 | 0.262 |

Table-4. Predicted pharmacokinetic (ADME) profile of isolated compounds

| Molecule | CNS | SASA | FOSA | FISA | PISA | WPSA | volume | Human Oral Absorption | % Human Oral Absorption | SA fluorine | SA amideO | PSA |
|-----------|-----|----------|----------|--------|--------|------|----------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-------------|-----------|--------|
| CR-03.mol | -2 | 1033.806 | 937.716 | 71.199 | 24.891 | 0 | 2155.519 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 51.387 |
| CR-03.mol | -2 | 1184.83 | 1085.977 | 64.692 | 34.161 | 0 | 2290.139 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 51.018 |
| CR-03.mol | -2 | 1187.761 | 1088.685 | 64.368 | 34.709 | 0 | 2289.485 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 50.97 |
| CR-03.mol | -2 | 1210.638 | 1115.065 | 64.386 | 31.188 | 0 | 2308.649 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 50.958 |
| CR-02.mol | -2 | 1110.106 | 1019.011 | 63.723 | 27.371 | 0 | 2157.434 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 50.9 |
| CR-02.mol | -2 | 1117.557 | 1024.362 | 63.477 | 29.719 | 0 | 2165.781 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 51.467 |
| CR-02.mol | -2 | 1116.388 | 1029.772 | 63.438 | 23.177 | 0 | 2160.401 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 50.892 |
| CR-02.mol | -2 | 1123.419 | 1033.468 | 63.633 | 26.318 | 0 | 2166.337 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 51.458 |
| CR-01.mol | -2 | 1255.362 | 1168.864 | 55.186 | 31.312 | 0 | 2164.749 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 36.868 |

Results

Docking results and protein ligand binding interactions of isolated compounds are shown in Table-1. Predicted molecular properties of the dataset ligands are shown in Table-2. Various molecular properties such as molecular weight, dipole, volume, solvent accessible surface area (SASA), hydrophobic component of SASA (FOSA), hydrophilic component of SASA (FISA), π (carbon and attached hydrogen) component of SASA (PISA) and weakly polar component of the SASA of the halogens (P&S) (WPSA) have been derived by Qikprop module as in Table-3. Molecular weight of all the isolated compounds are in normal range of (130-700 Daltons). Parameters such as dipole, volume, SASA, FISA, PISA and WPSA are all in normal range as per the suggested module.

Predicted ADME parameters include partition co-efficient, predicted aqueous solubility (QPlogS), probability of CNS effects, blockage HERG K⁺ channels (QPlogHERG), apparent CaCO₂ cell permeability (QPPCaCO), blood brain partition co-efficient (QPlogBB), apparent MDCK cell permeability (QPPMDCK), skin permeability (QPlogKp), binding to human serum albumin (QPlogKhsa) and human oral absorption of the given data sets of ligands are given in Table-4. All the compounds that is CR-1, CR-2, CR-3 showed higher human oral absorption with the highest of 100%.

CONCLUSION

In the current investigation it can be hypothesized that the probable COX-2 inhibitory potential of isolated components of CR that is CR-1, CR-2, CR-3 and docking simulations were performed in order to identify binding efficiency and binding strength energy towards COX-2 protein. Among all the dataset CR-3 showed highest dock score of G(-)5.89 with better ADME profile. Higher the negative side of G score and D score more efficient the ligand predicts. Binding energy in the protein ligand interaction explain how fit the ligand binds with target protein. Molecular docking studies of these isolated components provided deeper insight in understanding the probable confirmation of their tested ligand in the COX-2 protein environment.

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