Specificity Prediction and Design of Phosphoswitches

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- Use PDZ domains as a model system for method development and structural understanding

PDZ domains recognize several positions in C-terminal peptides with high specificity









Phage Display Data Sets:

- 54 Human PDZ Domains (16 X-ray & 2 NMR complexes in PDB)
- 28 C. elegans PDZ Domains (none in PDB)
- Erbin PDZ Domain Mutants:
 - 91 Point Mutants
 - 61 5-8 Residue Mutants (E-1 to E-61)
 - 53 Enumerating a Mutational Pathway WT...E-14











































Method/Scoring Function Notes

• Upweighted interface energies by a factor of 2



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- NMR structures were proved just as effective as crystal structures (or more)

Future Directions/ Challenges

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- Electrostatics:
 - Intricate hydrogen bond networks radius of convergence, demand high resolution
 - Surface salt bridges not weighted strongly enough in default score function

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Regulated Scaffolding Project Goal

Engineering an adapter domain to have peptide binding and/or specificity regulated by phosphorylation





























Next Step: Use computational design to test several models of phophoregulation

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Destabilize Domain Structure



Phosphorylation Dephosphorylation



Next Step: Use computational design to test several models of phophoregulation





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