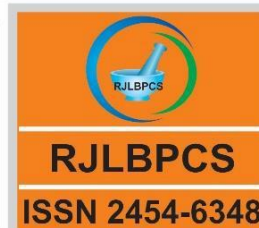


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Original Research Article

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## VIRTUAL DOCKING ANALYSIS OF ATRANORIN WITH FUNGAL CLASS I HYDROPHOBIN

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**ABSTRACT:** Lichen thallus is an organism of composite nature i.e. consortium of photo and mycobiont. The secondary metabolites produced by the fungal partner exhibited various biological activities. In present study, one of the compounds produced by the lichens i.e., atranorin was evaluated for its binding affinity with the class I hydrophobin. Hydrophobin are present outside the cell wall and thus forming the layer of biofilms. Biofilms present outside the cell wall of the fungal pathogens might represents the first barrier for the antifungal agents. The present study investigates the binding affinity and in silico docking of Dew A (Class I Hydrophobin). The protein ligand docking was performed by the AutoDock Vina and visualized by the Chimera. The hydrogen bonds present in the docked files presents the atranorin as a potent ligand and its potential in near future as biofilm degrading agent.

**KEYWORDS:** Atranorin, Biofilm, Hydrophobin, Lichens.

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**1.INTRODUCTION** Lichens are unique group of fungi and the thallus is formed by the consortium of photo and mycobiont forming a new entity [1]. There are around 1050 secondary metabolites have been reported so far from the lichen thallus [2]. The secondary metabolites produced by the fungal partner are well known for their biological activities. Few of the already known biological activities are antibacterial, antifungal, antiherbivore, antioxidant etc [3-6]. In present study, atranorin, one of the compound produced from lichens was investigated in silico for its binding affinity against hydrophobin class I protein. Hydrophobin class I proteins are the surface proteins forming the biofilm outside the fungal cell [7, 8].

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## 2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

**2.1 Accession of Target Protein:** Protein 3D structures were downloaded from RSCB: Class I Hydrophobin DewA (PDB ID: 2LSH)[9].

**Ligand Selection:** Atratorin 3D structure was downloaded from PubChem compound database[10]. Three dimensional structure was prepared using CADD Group Chemoinformatics Tools and User Services[11]. Structure energy was minimized and hydrogen's were added and charges were assigned using Gasteiger[12].

**Analysis of target active binding sites:** The active binding sites of aforementioned protein were analyzed via Metapocket 2.0[13].

### Molecular Docking Analysis

Ligand-Protein docking was used to analyzed the binding affinity of Atratorin with the aforementioned protein's structure. The PDB file was analyzed before docking solvents were deleted and hydrogens and other parameters was set[14]. Docking was performed via AutoDock Vina[15]. The docked files were visualized via UCSF Chimera 1.11.2 developed by Resource for Biocomputing, Visualization, and Informatics (RBVI)[16].

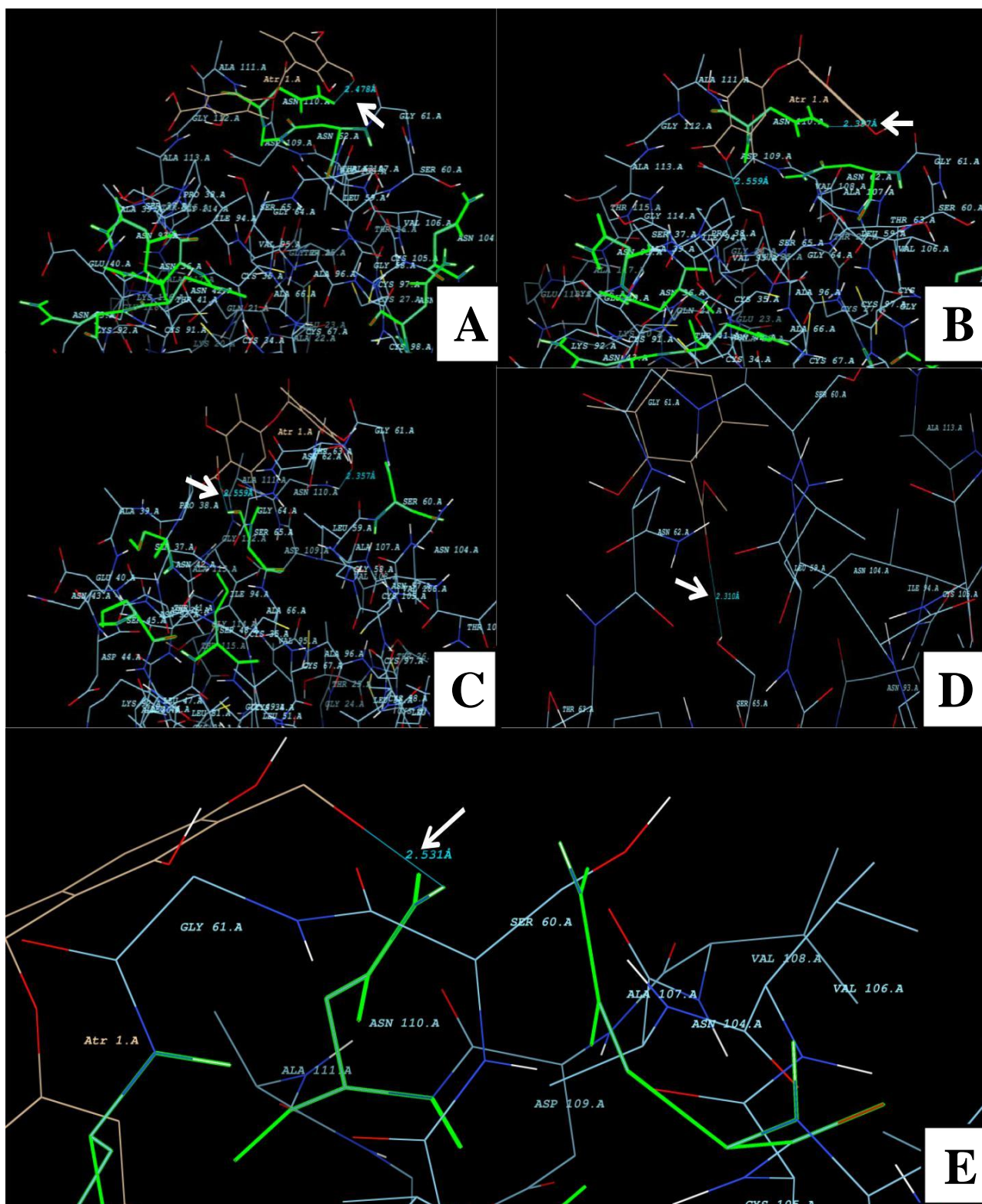
## 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSIONS

The investigated docking results were expressed in terms of binding affinity between class I hydrophobin DewA (2LSH) and atratorin. The docking results of three binding sites were listed in Table 1. The binding site 2 and 3 exhibited more promising results and good binding affinity with the atratorin. The hydrogen bonding and bond lengths provides sufficient evidence of the successful docked atratorin in binding site of DewA. The most significant docked results were exhibited in the Fig. 1 and 2. The class I hydrophobin Dew A protein was isolated from *Aspergillus nidulans* and is fibril forming class I hydrophobin[7]. *A. nidulans* is a rare pathogen in the patients suffering from neutrophil defects[17]. *A. nidulans* is an invasive pathogen[18]. The hydrophobins present outside the cell of *A. nidulans* may represent first barrier for antibiotics[7, 19]. The successful docking of atratorin provides the insight in the biofilm degradation of *A. nidulans* and its future potential as a biofilm degrading agent.

**Table 1: Virtual docking results of DewA with Atratorin.**

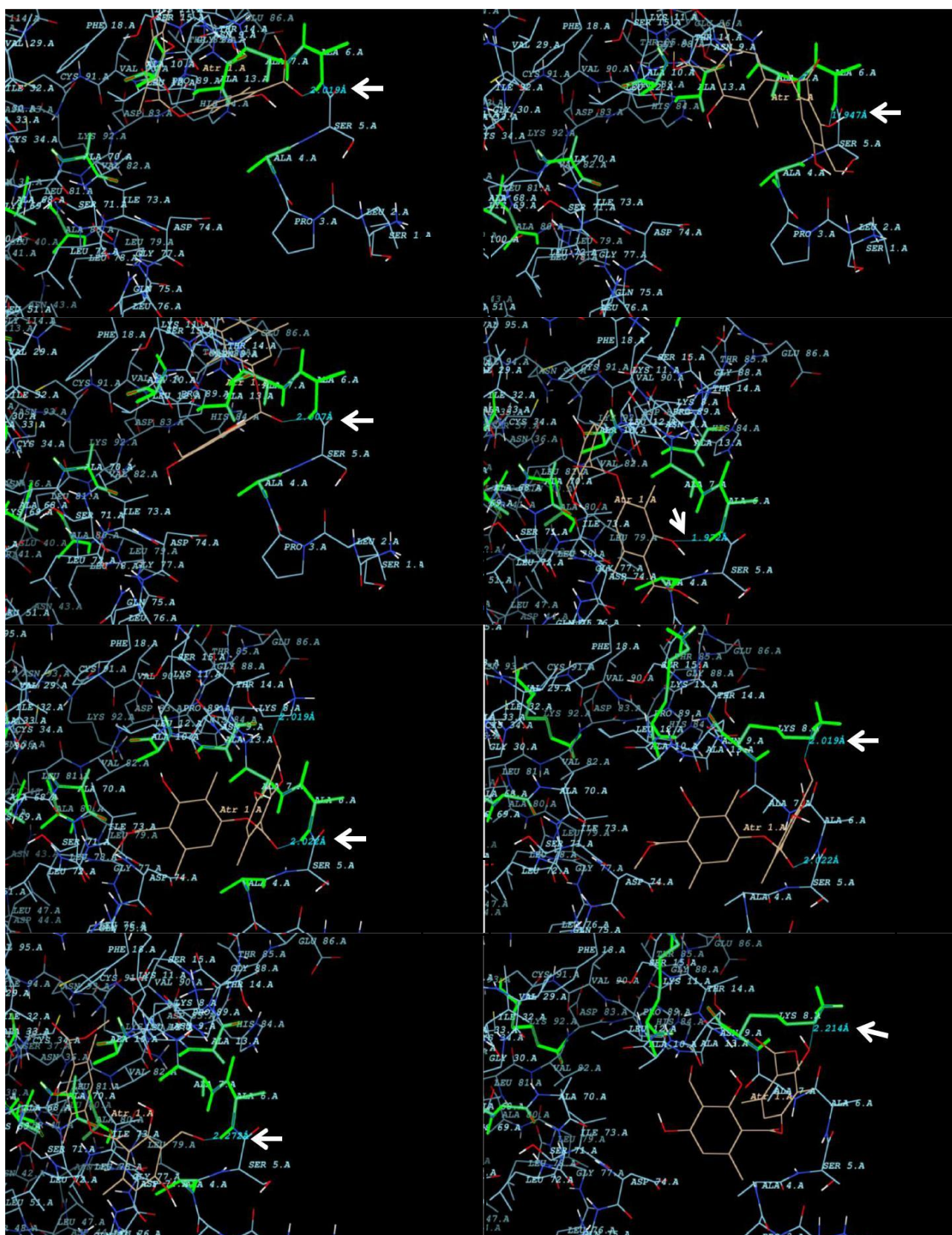
S.No.	Binding site	State	Score	RMSD l.b.	RMSD u.b.	HBond (all)	HBond Ligand Atom	HBond Receptor Atom	Ligand	Amino acid residue	Bond Length A°
1	1	Viable	-4.7	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	-	-	-
2	1	Viable	-4.7	1.683	3.775	0	0	0	-	-	-
3	1	Viable	-4.3	2.109	3.848	0	0	0	-	-	-
4	1	Viable	-2.7	2.048	7.446	0	0	0	-	-	-

<b>5</b>	1	Viable	-2.7	2.679	6.865	0	0	0	-	-	-
<b>6</b>	1	Viable	-2.5	2.202	5.161	0	0	0	-	-	-
<b>7</b>	2	Viable	-4.1	0.0	0.0	1	1	1	O8	Asn110	2.478
<b>8a</b>	2	Viable	-3.9	1.945	3.466	2	2	2	O8	Asn 110	2.357
<b>8b</b>									O4	Ser 65	2.559
<b>9</b>	2	Viable	-3.8	2.145	6.833	0	0	0	-	-	-
<b>10</b>	2	Viable	-3.8	2.272	6.915	0	0	0	-	-	-
<b>11a</b>	2	Viable	-3.5	1.589	2.782	2	2	2	O7	Ser 65	2.310
<b>11b</b>									O8	Asn 110	2.531
<b>12</b>	2	Viable	-3.5	1.606	3.229	0	0	0	-	-	-
<b>13</b>	2	Viable	-3.5	2.146	3.196	0	0	0	-	-	-
<b>14</b>	2	Viable	-3.5	1.859	7.62	0	0	0	-	-	-
<b>15</b>	2	Viable	-3.4	2.575	5.623	0	0	0	-	-	-
<b>16</b>	3	Viable	-3.3	0.0	0.0	1	1	1	O7	Ala 6	2.019
<b>17</b>	3	Viable	-2.9	2.675	7.175	0	0	0	-	-	-
<b>18</b>	3	Viable	-2.8	2.018	7.228	1	1	1	O3	Ala 6	1.947
<b>19</b>	3	Viable	-2.8	2.482	5.895	1	1	1	O6	Ala 6	2.007
<b>20</b>	3	Viable	-2.8	2.467	6.188	0	0	0	-	-	-
<b>21</b>	3	Viable	-2.6	1.885	3.57	1	1	1	O2	Ala 6	1.972
<b>22a</b>	3	Viable	-2.6	2.114	6.399	2	2	2	O6	Ala6	2.022
<b>22b</b>									O8	Lys 8	2.019
<b>23</b>	3	Viable	-2.6	2.072	6.079	1	1	1	O8	Ala 6	2.272
<b>24</b>	3	Viable	-2.6	2.679	4.703	0	0	0	-	-	-
<b>25</b>	3	Viable	-2.5	2.792	4.992	1	1	1	O2	Lys8	2.214



**Fig. 1:** Virtual docking at binding site 2 A. Hydrogen Bonding at Table 1 Sr. No. 7; B. Hydrogen Bonding at Table 1 Sr. No. 8a; C. Hydrogen Bonding at Table 1 Sr. No. 8b; D. Hydrogen Bonding at Table 1 Sr. No.11a; E. Hydrogen Bonding at Table 1 Sr. No. 11b. All the Hydrogen bonds were indicated white arrow.





**Fig. 2:** Binding site 3 A. Hydrogen Bonding at Table 1 Sr. No. 16; B. Hydrogen Bonding at Table 1 Sr. No. 18; C. Hydrogen Bonding at Table 1 Sr. 19; D. Hydrogen Bonding at Table 1 Sr. No. 21; E. Hydrogen Bonding at Table 1 Sr. No. 22a; F. Hydrogen Bonding at Table 1 Sr. No. 22b; G. Hydrogen Bonding at Table 1 Sr. No. 23; H. Hydrogen Bonding at Table 1 Sr. No. 25. All the Hydrogen bonds were indicated white arrow.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Docking study of the targeted Dew A hydrophobin with atranorin concludes that atranorin is a good ligand which docks well within the binding sites of Dew A. Thus, it might play an important role in the fungal biofilm degradation in near future.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Author has no conflict of interest.

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