

***IN-SILICO* STUDIES OF RBP7, CALML3, C35, LGALS1, S100A3 PROTEINS INVOLVED IN BREAST CANCER**

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Abstract

The most important reason for death caused by cancer in females around the globe is breast cancer. Early diagnosis, proper treatment are fundamental in order to enhance the outcomes of patients. This study aims to investigate various proteins that contribute to the development and progression of breast cancer. Proteins that were chosen for this work are: Retinoid-binding protein 7, Calmodulin-like protein 3, C35 protein, Galectin-related protein and S100-A3 protein. In addition, three drugs: Raloxifene, Tamoxifen, and Fulvestrant were chosen to check if they have therapeutic effects on the above-mentioned proteins. By studying how these proteins interact with drugs, we can gain important information that could help create effective treatment. The protein sequences were retrieved from biological databases. Homology modelling was done to produce models for the selected proteins using SWISS-MODEL, then validated with help of 'SAVES v6.0' and 'ProSA'. To identify places where drug would bind to the protein, surface pockets were characterized with the employment of 'CASTp'. Each protein was then docked to three drugs using Vina in 'PyRx' and the most suitable conformation of the ligand was selected via splitting the ligand using 'AutoDock Vina'. The protein-drug interactions were then visualised in 'Biovia Discovery Studio'. The models were generated for proteins and were docked to the ligands. As predicted, the ligands successfully attached to amino acid residues in active site of the proteins by Hydrophobic bond, Hydrogen bond, Electrostatic Bond. By studying interactions between the proteins and the drugs, it is analysed about how the drug help to slow the progression of breast cancer. This highlights their potential as targeted treatments that could help stop tumor growth. This study also interprets which drug has more or less therapeutic effect for each protein that help in better treatment.

Keywords: Breast cancer, Effective treatment, Homology modelling, Drug docking, Protein-drug interactions.

Introduction

Breast cancer is a common cancer that affects many people but can be severe or fatal. It is a heterogeneous disease caused by genetic and environmental factors. (Khadijeh Barzaman 1, 2020) The breasts are two glands of different sizes and densities, sitting atop the chest muscles. (Ashley Alex 1, 2020) Breast cancer typically begins in the milk ducts, known as ductal carcinoma, but it can also start in the milk-producing lobules, called lobular carcinoma. Usually detected by a physical examination, imaging tests, and by biopsy; treatment depends on each case, and may include surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, hormonal therapy, and now, immunotherapy. (Dharambir Kashyap 1, 2022)

There are many different types of breast cancer, which can be identified through genetic and molecular testing. Tumors are often made up of different types of cells, so a tissue biopsy might not capture the full genetic diversity of the cancer. (Arielle J Medford 1 2, 2018)

The pathogenesis of breast cancer stem cells has helped us better understand how the disease develops and why it can become resistant to treatment. (Yi-Sheng Sun 1, 2017) A number of risk factors have been well established, including race, ethnicity, family history of cancer, genetic traits and lifestyle factors.

We have also found that mutations of some genes such as BRCA1, BRCA2, and others, might be involved in some cases of breast cancer. (Coughlin, 2019)

Among various diagnosis techniques, imaging techniques are the best methods for the identification of the breast cancer. Techniques like Mammography, Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), Computes tomography (CT), positron-emission tomography (PET), and single-photon emission computed tomography (SPECT) are used for diagnosis in various stages. (Seyed Hamed Jafari, 2018)

Different types of breast cancer and different stages consists of different treatment. The treatment of ductal carcinoma in situ is normally breast conserving surgery followed by radiotherapy. In stage I and II breast cancer, surgery with conservation of the breast with radiation therapy is the routine treatment. The original tumor may be eliminated by either breast-conserving surgery known as mastectomy. (Karen L Maughan, 2010)

Retinoid-binding protein 7 (RBP7), which belongs to the cellular retinol-binding protein (CRBP) family, is involved in breast cancer development. The current study seeks to investigate the prognostic value of RBP7 expression and its possible regulatory pathways in breast cancer. (Hong Lin, 2022)

Human calmodulin-like protein (CLP) is one of the calcium-binding proteins that usually get downregulated in various laboratory models of mammary tumorigenesis as well as in most breast cancers in man. (M S Rogers, 2001)

It is known that many invasive breast cancers generally overexpress C35, and in cell lines, it acts as an oncogene. It is expressed in normal breast epithelium, but it gets downregulated in breast cancer. (Wen Che, 2017) C35 is expressed in all four subtypes of breast cancer. (Kun Yin, 2015)

Galectin like protein (LGALS1) is a family of carbohydrate-binding proteins. (Mandika Chetry, 2022) Galectin-like protein is also implicated in tumorigenesis, metastasis, and immune evasion, all the more confirming its role in breast cancer pathogenesis. (Doudou Georges Massar Niang, 2022)

S-100 protein has been identified in a number of normal and neoplastic cells, including malignant ones among them. It has been found in normal and malignant breast tissues. In benign breast tissue, S-100 protein was located in myo-epithelial cells and epithelial cells of terminal duct and lobule. (S Dwarakanath, 2015)

Materials and Methods

1) Homology Modelling

The target and template proteins were selected using biological databases. They are NCBI, BLAST, PDB, and ExPASy. Selection criteria included proteins with fewer than 250 amino acids, those that had been reviewed in UniProtKB and those with relevant publications.

2) Model Generation and Validation

3D models were generated using tools like SWISS-MODEL, a server which is fully automated tool for protein structure homology modeling, available through the Expasy web platform.

Biovia discovery studio, a software used for simulations small molecules and macromolecules. PROCHECK, VERIFY 3D of the SAVES v6.1, a server tool used to evaluate the stereochemical quality of the protein. ProSa, a web tool used to identify any potential structural errors.

3) Active Site Prediction

The active sites of the generated models were predicted using CASTpFold, a platform which primarily facilitated the analytical identification of the pockets and cavities of the proteins.

4) Selection of Ligands

Ligands were selected from PubChem, a online database managed by National Library of Medicine (NLM) at the National Institute of Health (NIH). It is a resource that contains detailed information on chemicals, including their structural properties and biological effects. The selected drugs are Raloxifene, Tamoxifen and Fulvestrant.

5) Docking of Ligands and Macromolecules

Docking was performed using PyRx, a virtual screening tool used for docking target drugs with macromolecules for Drug Discovery. Splitting ligands was employed by AutoDock Vina through Command prompt. Finally, Biovia discovery studio used to study the interactions between the ligands and the the proteins.

Results and Discussion

1) Homology Modelling

Selection of target proteins: The accession numbers: NP_443192, NP_005176, AAR92035, NP_054900 and NP_002951 were obtained from NCBI of the RBP7(Retinoid-binding protein 7), CALML3 (Calmodulin like protein 3), C35 protein, LGALSL(Galectin like protein), S100-A3 protein and their respective FASTA sequences were obtained from UniProtKB.

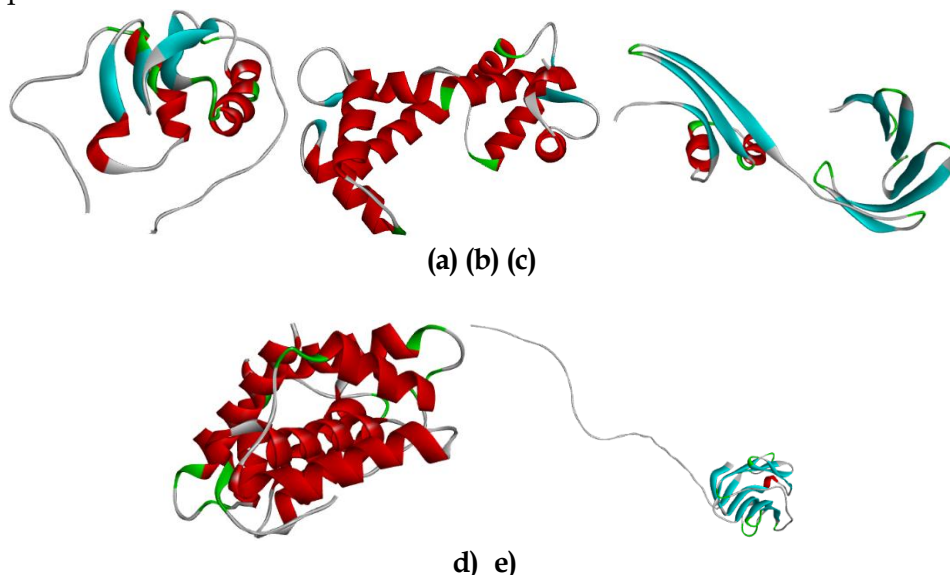
Selection of template proteins: The accession codes obtained from BLAST (6AT8_A, 1GGZ_A, 1LJK_A, 2JJ6_A, 3NSL_A) with query coverage over 70% and identity above 27%. These codes were used to search PDB, where the template proteins were examined for the

percentage of the unmodeled region in the 'sequence' section. The PDB files for the respective proteins were then downloaded.

Multiple sequence alignment: Multiple sequence alignments were performed using Clustal Omega, with the output format set to the 'Pearson/Fasta' format. Additionally, with the output format set to 'ClustalW with character counts' comparing the target proteins to the template proteins.

2) Model Generation

The models were generated for each protein accordingly using swiss model using the target sequences that were retrieved from blast searches.



**Figure 1: The Generated Models of the Proteins a) RBP7
b) CALML3 c) C35 d) LGALSL e) S100-A3 using SWISS-MODEL**

3) Model Validation

The modelled proteins were uploaded to SAVES v6.0, where the 'VERIFY 3D' and 'PROCHECK' programs were applied to each model. The resulting scores from 'VERIFY 3D', the PROCHECK summary, and the Ramachandran plots for the generated models are presented below:

Verify 3D

VERIFY Complete
38.35% of the residues have
averaged 3D-1D score ≥ 0.1
Fail

Fewer than 80% of the amino acids have
scored ≥ 0.1 in the 3D/1D profile.

Results

VERIFY Complete
68.46% of the residues have
averaged 3D-1D score ≥ 0.1
Fail

Fewer than 80% of the amino acids have
scored ≥ 0.1 in the 3D/1D profile.

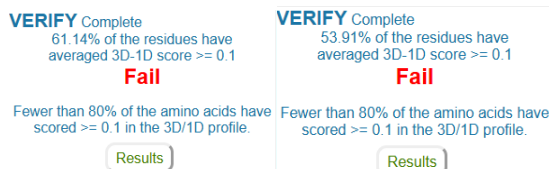
Results

VERIFY Complete
53.49% of the residues have
averaged 3D-1D score ≥ 0.1
Fail

Fewer than 80% of the amino acids have
scored ≥ 0.1 in the 3D/1D profile.

Results

a) b) c)



d) e)

**Figure 2: Verify 3D Results Obtained for the Protein Models a) RBP7
b) CALML3 c) C35 d) LGALSL e) S100-A3**

Procheck Summaries

PROCHECK SUMMARY	PROCHECK SUMMARY	PROCHECK SUMMARY
<pre> /var/www/SAVES/jobs/154282/saves.pdb 1.5 172 residues Ramachandran plot: 77.4% core 34.4% allow 4.8% gener 3.4% disall All Ramachandrans: 19 labelled residues (out of 178) Chi1-Chi2 plots: 1 labelled residues (out of 180) Side-chain params: 5 better 0 inside 0 worse Residue properties: Max.deviation: 23.2 Bad contacts: 0 Bond len/angle: 7.4 Morris et al class: 1 1 2 2 cis-peptides G-factors: Dihedrals: -0.50 Covalent: -0.57 Overall: -0.35 Planar groups: 96.4% within limits 1.6% highlighted </pre>	<pre> /var/www/SAVES/jobs/154280/saves.pdb 1.5 149 residues Ramachandran plot: 94.7% core 5.3% allow 0.0% gener 0.0% disall All Ramachandrans: 0 labelled residues (out of 147) Chi1-Chi2 plots: 0 labelled residues (out of 148) Side-chain params: 5 better 0 inside 0 worse Residue properties: Max.deviation: 4.0 Bad contacts: 0 Bond len/angle: 4.1 Morris et al class: 1 1 2 G-factors: Dihedrals: 0.07 Covalent: -0.01 Overall: 0.05 Planar groups: 89.7% within limits 10.3% highlighted </pre>	<pre> /var/www/SAVES/jobs/154274/saves.pdb 1.5 133 residues Ramachandran plot: 95.8% core 2.5% allow 1.7% gener 0.0% disall All Ramachandrans: 2 labelled residues (out of 131) Chi1-Chi2 plots: 2 labelled residues (out of 132) Side-chain params: 5 better 0 inside 0 worse Residue properties: Max.deviation: 4.0 Bad contacts: 0 Bond len/angle: 3.5 Morris et al class: 1 1 2 G-factors: Dihedrals: -0.13 Covalent: 0.08 Overall: -0.03 Planar groups: 94.7% within limits 5.3% highlighted 1 off graph </pre>

a) b) c)

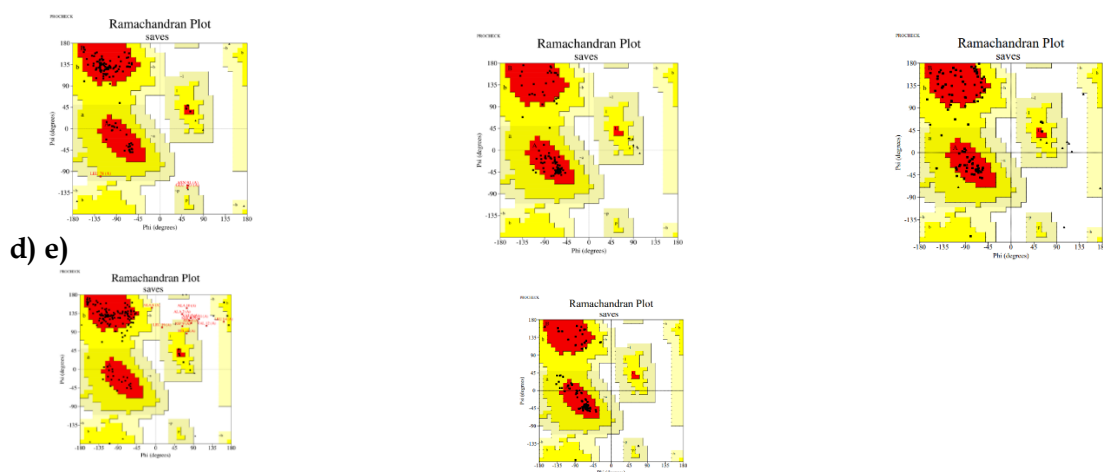
PROCHECK SUMMARY	PROCHECK SUMMARY
<pre> /var/www/SAVES/jobs/154283/saves.pdb 1.5 193 residues Ramachandran plot: 93.2% core 6.8% allow 0.0% gener 0.0% disall All Ramachandrans: 4 labelled residues (out of 189) Chi1-Chi2 plots: 3 labelled residues (out of 125) Side-chain params: 5 better 0 inside 0 worse Residue properties: Max.deviation: 4.3 Bad contacts: 3 Bond len/angle: 5.3 Morris et al class: 1 1 2 2 cis-peptides G-factors: Dihedrals: -0.03 Covalent: 0.07 Overall: 0.02 Planar groups: 92.4% within limits 7.6% highlighted 2 off graph </pre>	<pre> /var/www/SAVES/jobs/154281/saves.pdb 1.5 115 residues Ramachandran plot: 83.3% core 16.7% allow 0.0% gener 0.0% disall All Ramachandrans: 6 labelled residues (out of 113) Chi1-Chi2 plots: 3 labelled residues (out of 63) Side-chain params: 5 better 0 inside 0 worse Residue properties: Max.deviation: 3.7 Bad contacts: 0 Bond len/angle: 4.1 Morris et al class: 1 2 3 G-factors: Dihedrals: -0.46 Covalent: -0.13 Overall: -0.32 Planar groups: 92.3% within limits 7.7% highlighted </pre>

d) e)

**Figure 3: PROCHECK Summaries for the Models a) RBP7
b) CALML3 c) C35 d) LGALSL e) S100-A3**

Ramachandran Plots

a) b) c)

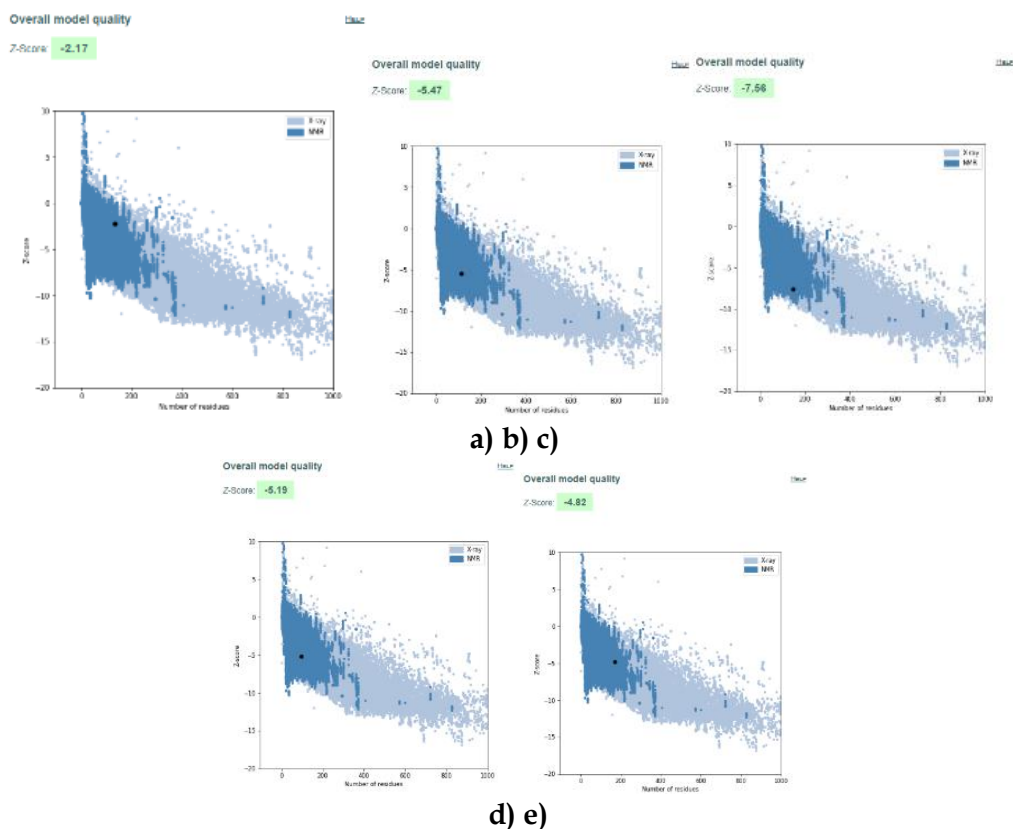


d) e)

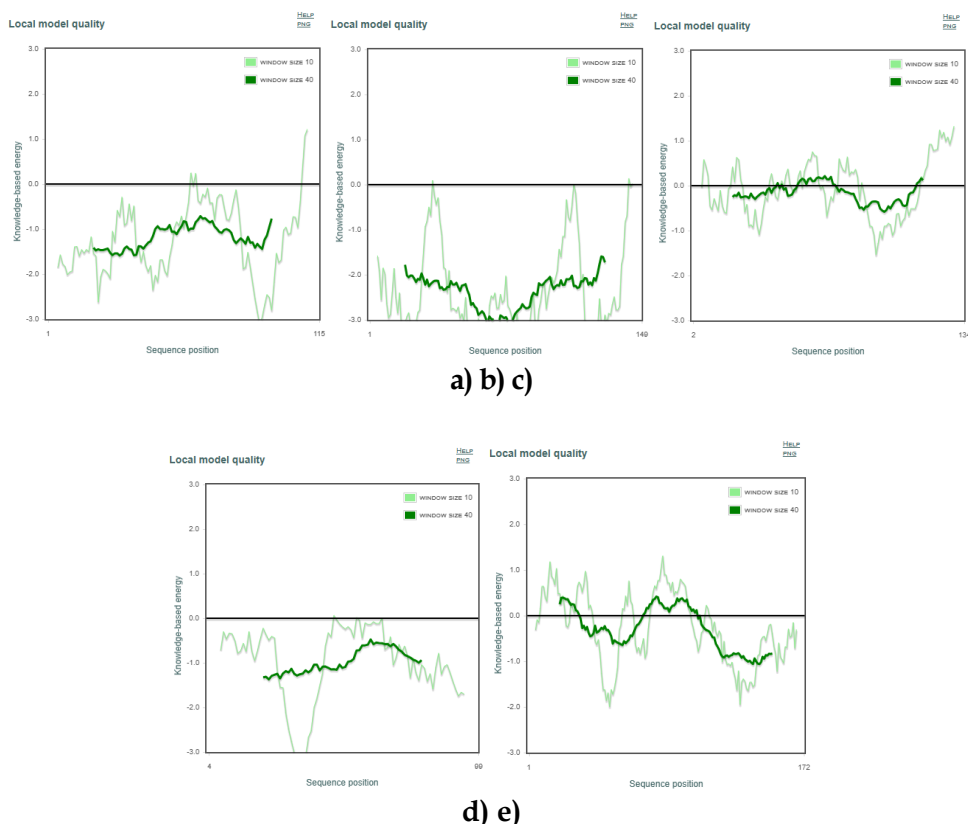
**Figure 4: RAMACHANDRAN PLOTS for the models a) RBP7 b) CALML3 c) C35
d) LGALSL e) S100-A3**

The three-dimensional (3D) profile of a protein is a table derived from its atomic structure, which is utilized to determine how accurately a specific amino acid sequence accommodates in that structure and also to check the quality of the model. The 3D profile can be applied to verify the correctness of a protein model. For additional verification, Procheck is utilized to check for more parameters. (D Eisenberg, 1997) As each model has more than 90% of its residues in the strongly favored area of the Ramachandran plot, they are considered valid for further studies.

The generated models were further validated using ProSA, and the results obtained are as follows:



**Figure 5: Z-score Graphs Obtained for the Protein Models a) RBP7
b) CALML3 c) C35 d) LGALSL e) S100-A3**



**Figure 6: Local Model Quality Graphs Obtained for the Models a) RBP7
b) CALML3 c) C35 d) LGALSL e) S100-A3**

The ProSA (Protein Structure Analysis) software is also a popular resource used for quality improvement and refinement of experimental protein structures, validation, structure modeling, and structure prediction. ProSA's interactive web-based servers yield visual depictions of the scores and the energy plots with which to visualize problems in proteins. (Markus Wiederstein, 2007)

4) Active Site Prediction

The active sites in the generated models are predicted using CASTpFold are as follows:

Table 1: Summary of Volume and Amino Acid Residues

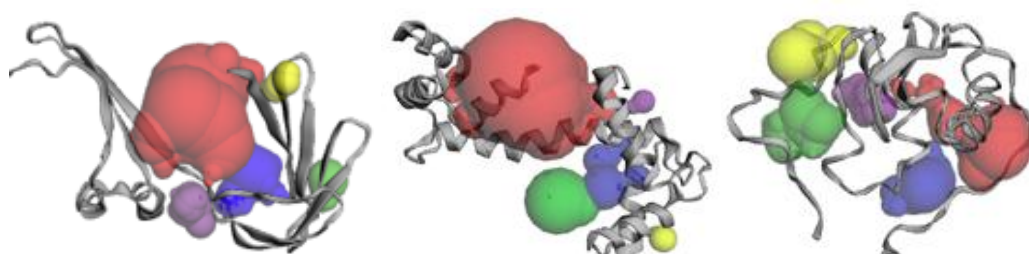
Pocket ID	Area (SA) ($\text{\AA}^2$)	Volume (SA) ($\text{\AA}^3$)
1	310.384	184.297
2	80.866	97.106
3	12.461	23.991
4	22.629	9.195
5	12.357	5.974

Pocket ID	Area (SA) (Å ²)	Volume (SA) (Å ³)
1	814.878	1855.467
2	185.967	78.691
3	13.854	32.912
4	11.495	4.568
5	16.678	3.33

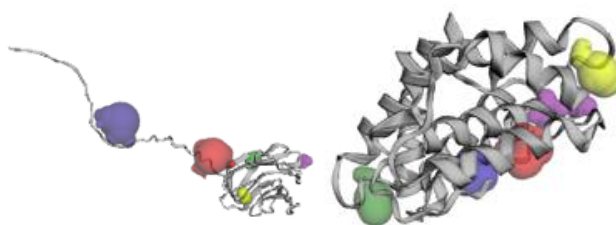
Pocket ID	Area (SA) (Å ²)	Volume (SA) (Å ³)
1	235.872	186.166
2	114.236	86.246
3	149.626	80.811
4	101.686	73.787
5	96.533	31.944

Pocket ID	Area (SA) (Å ²)	Volume (SA) (Å ³)
1	219.465	289.659
2	90.907	204.178
3	30.596	11.772
4	25.151	8.356
5	23.663	7.877

Pocket ID	Area (SA) (Å ²)	Volume (SA) (Å ³)
1	61.767	21.47
2	57.066	19.407
3	40.535	18.081
4	39.946	17.59
5	41.595	7.081



(a) (b) (c)

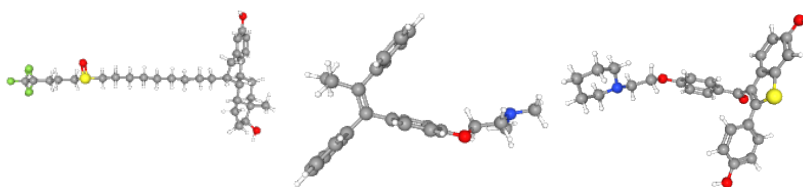


(d) (e)

Figure 7: Pockets of the models a) RBP7 b) CALML3 c) C35 d) LGALSL e) S100-A3

The Computed Atlas of Surface Topography of Proteins (CASTp) is a popular web server intended to find, locate, and quantify the geometric and topological properties of protein structures.

These properties, such as surface pockets, interior cavities, and cross channels, are vital for protein activity. CASTp offers accurate and thorough analysis of protein topography to assist in the investigation of their structural and functional characteristics. (Bowe Ye, 2024)



a) b) c)

Figure 8: 3D Structures of the Drugs: a) Raloxifene b) Tamoxifen c) Fulvestrant

5) Selection of Ligands

Through a literature review on PubMed, three drugs: Raloxifene, Tamoxifen and Fulvestrant were identified for the treatment of Breast cancer.

PubChem is an open repository containing data on small molecules and their biological activities. It offers 3D conformer models for 92.3% of the compounds in its repository. The drugs were saved in SDF format and later converted to PDB format for docking studies, enabling researchers to analyze interactions between every drug (as a ligand) and target proteins.

6) Docking of Ligand and Macromolecule

The three selected ligands were docked to each protein in PyRx using Vina. Once the program was run, the results which showed the binding affinity and RMSD values were then analyzed.

Table 2: A Summary of the Binding Affinity and RMSD Values for the Different Conformations of the Ligands Docked to the Proteins: a) RBP7 b) CALML3 c) C35 d) LGALS1 e) S100-A3

Ligand	Binding Affinity	rmsd/ub	rmsd/lb	Ligand	Binding Affinity	rmsd/ub	rmsd/lb
calmodulin.pdb raloxifene	-7.4	0	0	retinoid.pdb raloxifene	-8.1	0	0
calmodulin.pdb raloxifene	-7.4	5.126	1.134	retinoid.pdb raloxifene	-7.2	9.503	3.946
calmodulin.pdb raloxifene	-7	16.913	14.806	retinoid.pdb raloxifene	-6.8	30.105	27.772
calmodulin.pdb raloxifene	-6.8	17.381	14.576	retinoid.pdb raloxifene	-6.8	7.482	3.117
calmodulin.pdb raloxifene	-6.8	16.451	14.572	retinoid.pdb raloxifene	-6.6	31.096	28.81
calmodulin.pdb raloxifene	-6.7	17.179	14.316	retinoid.pdb raloxifene	-6.6	15.211	11.413
calmodulin.pdb raloxifene	-6.6	16.005	13.996	retinoid.pdb raloxifene	-6.6	7.447	5.991
calmodulin.pdb raloxifene	-6.6	17.749	14.973	retinoid.pdb raloxifene	-6.3	16.619	14.315
calmodulin.pdb raloxifene	-6.4	15.139	12.978	retinoid.pdb raloxifene	-6.2	7.996	3.821
calmodulin.pdb tamoxifen	-6.2	0	0	retinoid.pdb tamoxifen	-6	0	0
calmodulin.pdb tamoxifen	-6.1	4.642	1.195	retinoid.pdb tamoxifen	-5.8	4.807	3.265
calmodulin.pdb tamoxifen	-5.9	24.574	20.812	retinoid.pdb tamoxifen	-5.5	5.469	3.459
calmodulin.pdb tamoxifen	-5.7	17.411	14.828	retinoid.pdb tamoxifen	-5.5	30.992	27.996
calmodulin.pdb tamoxifen	-5.6	23.567	20.413	retinoid.pdb tamoxifen	-5.5	16.848	13.427
calmodulin.pdb tamoxifen	-5.5	2.84	1.825	retinoid.pdb tamoxifen	-5.5	31.76	28.764
calmodulin.pdb tamoxifen	-5.5	4.959	1.983	retinoid.pdb tamoxifen	-5.5	6.928	3.938
calmodulin.pdb tamoxifen	-5.4	17.213	14.622	retinoid.pdb tamoxifen	-5.5	31.857	28.729
calmodulin.pdb tamoxifen	-5.4	6.702	3.541	retinoid.pdb tamoxifen	-5.4	31.638	28.512
calmodulin.pdb fulvestrant	-7.4	0	0	retinoid.pdb fulvestrant	-5.4	0	0
calmodulin.pdb fulvestrant	-7.3	6.331	2.999	retinoid.pdb fulvestrant	-5.1	7.522	3.177
calmodulin.pdb fulvestrant	-7.1	7.897	5.082	retinoid.pdb fulvestrant	-5.1	3.836	3.199
calmodulin.pdb fulvestrant	-7	9.831	5.763	retinoid.pdb fulvestrant	-4.9	6.268	2.834
calmodulin.pdb fulvestrant	-6.9	19.344	15.556	retinoid.pdb fulvestrant	-4.9	6.309	3.293
calmodulin.pdb fulvestrant	-6.8	18.495	15.916	retinoid.pdb fulvestrant	-4.8	5.249	2.471
calmodulin.pdb fulvestrant	-6.8	18.219	15.078	retinoid.pdb fulvestrant	-4.8	6.131	2.326
calmodulin.pdb fulvestrant	-6.8	17.941	15.592	retinoid.pdb fulvestrant	-4.8	6.668	3.91
calmodulin.pdb fulvestrant	-6.7	18.059	15.634	retinoid.pdb fulvestrant	-4.7	6.799	3.427

(a) (b)

Ligand	Binding Affinity	rmsd/ub	rmsd/lb	Ligand	Binding Affinity	rmsd/ub	rmsd/lb
c35 raloxifene	-7.3	0	0	galection.pdb raloxifene	-6	0	0
c35 raloxifene	-7.2	13.484	10.17	galection.pdb raloxifene	-5.8	20.385	16.497
c35 raloxifene	-7.1	5.105	1.77	galection.pdb raloxifene	-5.8	20.842	16.819
c35 raloxifene	-7	13.834	10.089	galection.pdb raloxifene	-5.7	8.138	4.429
c35 raloxifene	-6.9	14.319	11.945	galection.pdb raloxifene	-5.6	24.479	19.849
c35 raloxifene	-6.9	12.387	6.446	galection.pdb raloxifene	-5.4	18.83	14.98
c35 raloxifene	-6.9	7.475	3.324	galection.pdb raloxifene	-5.4	8.619	4.296
c35 raloxifene	-6.8	15.113	12.38	galection.pdb raloxifene	-5.3	11.801	6.729
c35 raloxifene	-6.8	13.919	11.002	galection.pdb raloxifene	-5	16.941	13.689
c35 tamoxifen	-6.3	0	0	galection.pdb tamoxifen	-5.5	0	0
c35 tamoxifen	-6	6.346	3.032	galection.pdb tamoxifen	-5.2	5.866	4.038
c35 tamoxifen	-5.9	17	15.13	galection.pdb tamoxifen	-5	15.105	13.148
c35 tamoxifen	-5.8	14.121	11.822	galection.pdb tamoxifen	-5	23.113	20.418
c35 tamoxifen	-5.8	6.988	3.403	galection.pdb tamoxifen	-4.9	4.396	2.918
c35 tamoxifen	-5.7	6.558	2.911	galection.pdb tamoxifen	-4.9	18.824	15.005
c35 tamoxifen	-5.7	6.627	3.26	galection.pdb tamoxifen	-4.9	5.334	2.236
c35 tamoxifen	-5.7	14.018	11.607	galection.pdb tamoxifen	-4.8	30.542	26.859
c35 tamoxifen	-5.6	4.973	3.197	galection.pdb tamoxifen	-4.7	31.298	27.917
c35 fulvestrant	-6.9	0	0	galection.pdb fulvestrant	-5.6	0	0
c35 fulvestrant	-6.7	9.872	4.443	galection.pdb fulvestrant	-5.4	3.469	2.713
c35 fulvestrant	-6.3	9.715	4.259	galection.pdb fulvestrant	-4.6	22.448	19.805
c35 fulvestrant	-6.3	3.678	2.366	galection.pdb fulvestrant	-4.6	31.369	28.107
c35 fulvestrant	-6.3	10.106	4.11	galection.pdb fulvestrant	-4.5	31.926	28.402
c35 fulvestrant	-6.3	5.655	2.737	galection.pdb fulvestrant	-4.4	22.537	19.113
c35 fulvestrant	-6.2	3.146	2.217	galection.pdb fulvestrant	-4.3	5.013	3.724
c35 fulvestrant	-6.1	9.895	4.588	galection.pdb fulvestrant	-4.3	33.489	30.77
c35 fulvestrant	-6.1	19.935	17.871	galection.pdb fulvestrant	-4.3	15.432	11.999

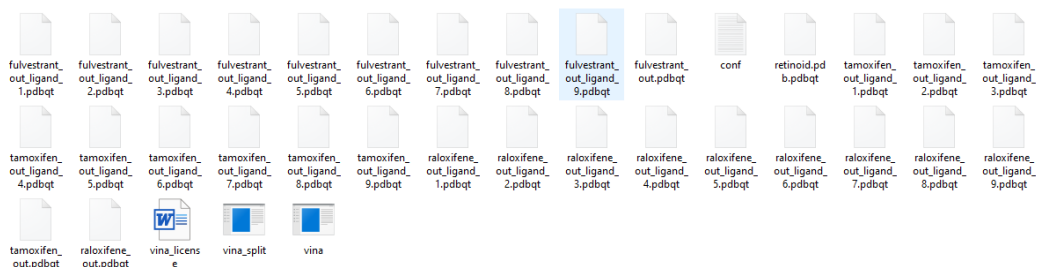
c) d)

Ligand	Binding Affinity	rmsd/ub	rmsd/lb
S100A3_raloxifene	-7.3	0	0
S100A3_raloxifene	-7.2	29.304	24.585
S100A3_raloxifene	-7	24.237	22.288
S100A3_raloxifene	-6.9	6.072	3.128
S100A3_raloxifene	-6.8	34.919	33.01
S100A3_raloxifene	-6.6	25.175	22.299
S100A3_raloxifene	-6.6	34.402	32.466
S100A3_raloxifene	-6.6	29.618	25.706
S100A3_raloxifene	-6.5	25.058	22.217
S100A3_tamoxifen	-6.1	0	0
S100A3_tamoxifen	-6	16.232	13.582
S100A3_tamoxifen	-5.9	15.702	10.863
S100A3_tamoxifen	-5.9	6.715	2.918
S100A3_tamoxifen	-5.8	4.613	1.068
S100A3_tamoxifen	-5.7	27.114	22.844
S100A3_tamoxifen	-5.6	29.315	24.376
S100A3_tamoxifen	-5.5	14.028	11.464
S100A3_tamoxifen	-5.5	33.157	29.31
S100-A3_fulvestrant	-5.3	0	0
S100-A3_fulvestrant	-5.2	34.769	32.261
S100-A3_fulvestrant	-5.2	24.712	21.561
S100-A3_fulvestrant	-5.1	24.547	21.339
S100-A3_fulvestrant	-5.1	26.273	22.974
S100-A3_fulvestrant	-5	25.903	22.237
S100-A3_fulvestrant	-5	24.339	21.189
S100-A3_fulvestrant	-5	25.275	21.522
S100-A3_fulvestrant	-4.9	2.127	1.532

e)

7) Splitting of Ligands

The docking data for each protein-ligand interaction was saved in the folder in the following path: 'C:\Users\ADMIN\.mglttools\PyRx\Macromolecules'



a)

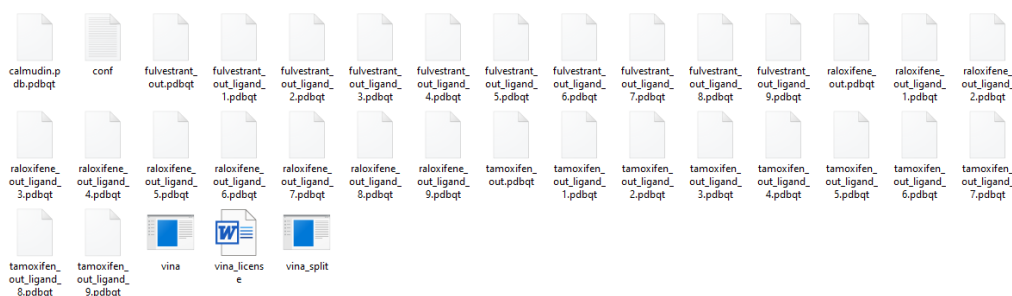




Figure 9: Split Ligand Files in Different Conformations for Protein Accordingly

AutoDock Vina is used to split the ligands into different conformations in the 'pdbqt' format, considering the RMSD values and binding energies. The conformation with the lowest binding energy and 0 RMSD is chosen for the final step, where the interactions between the drug and protein are visualized.

8) Visualization of Interactions between Ligands and Proteins

The interactions between the drugs and each protein were visualized using Discover Studio.

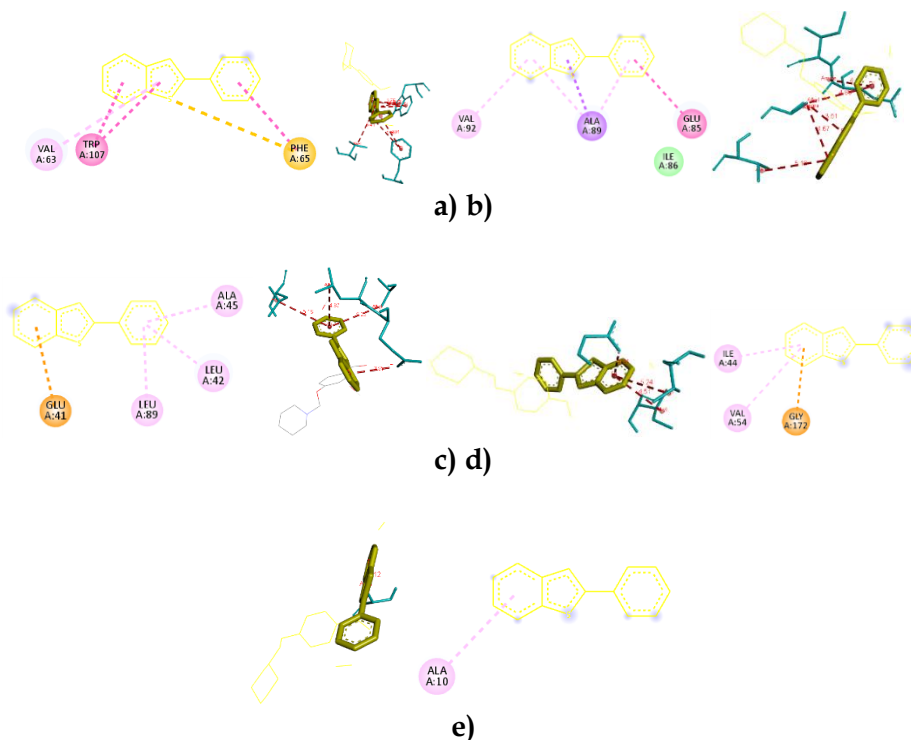


Figure 10: 2D and 3D representations of the Interactions between Raloxifene and a) RBP7 b) CALML3 c) C35 d) LGALS3 e) S100-A3

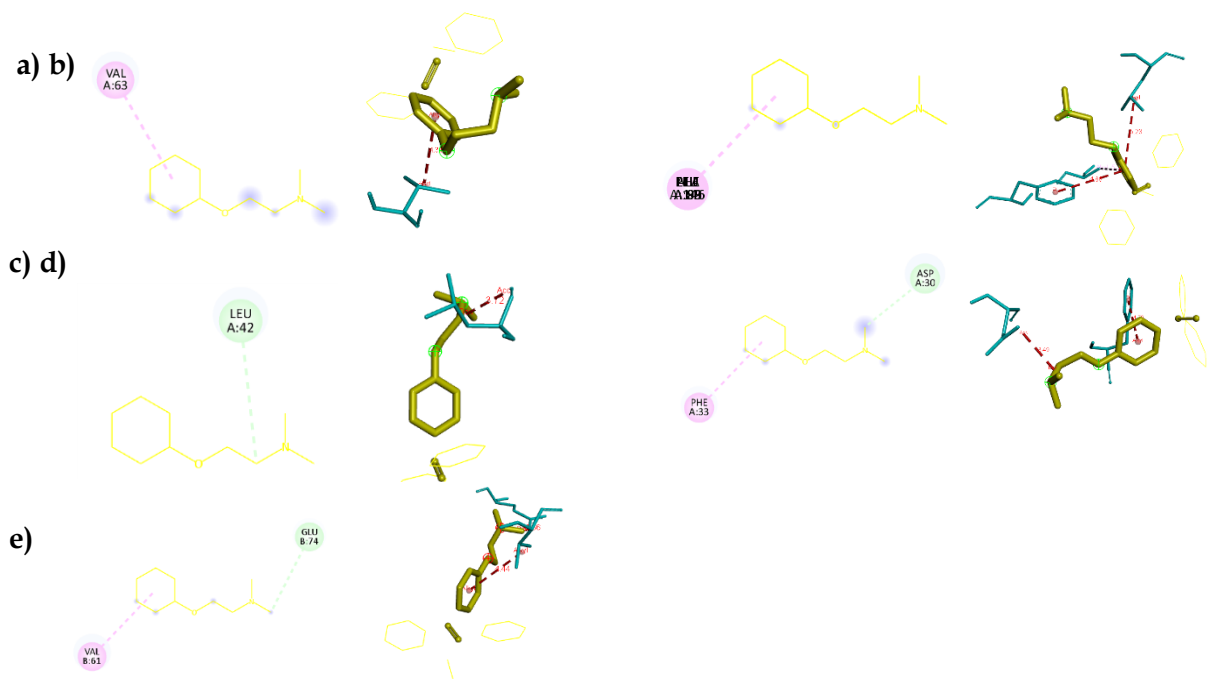
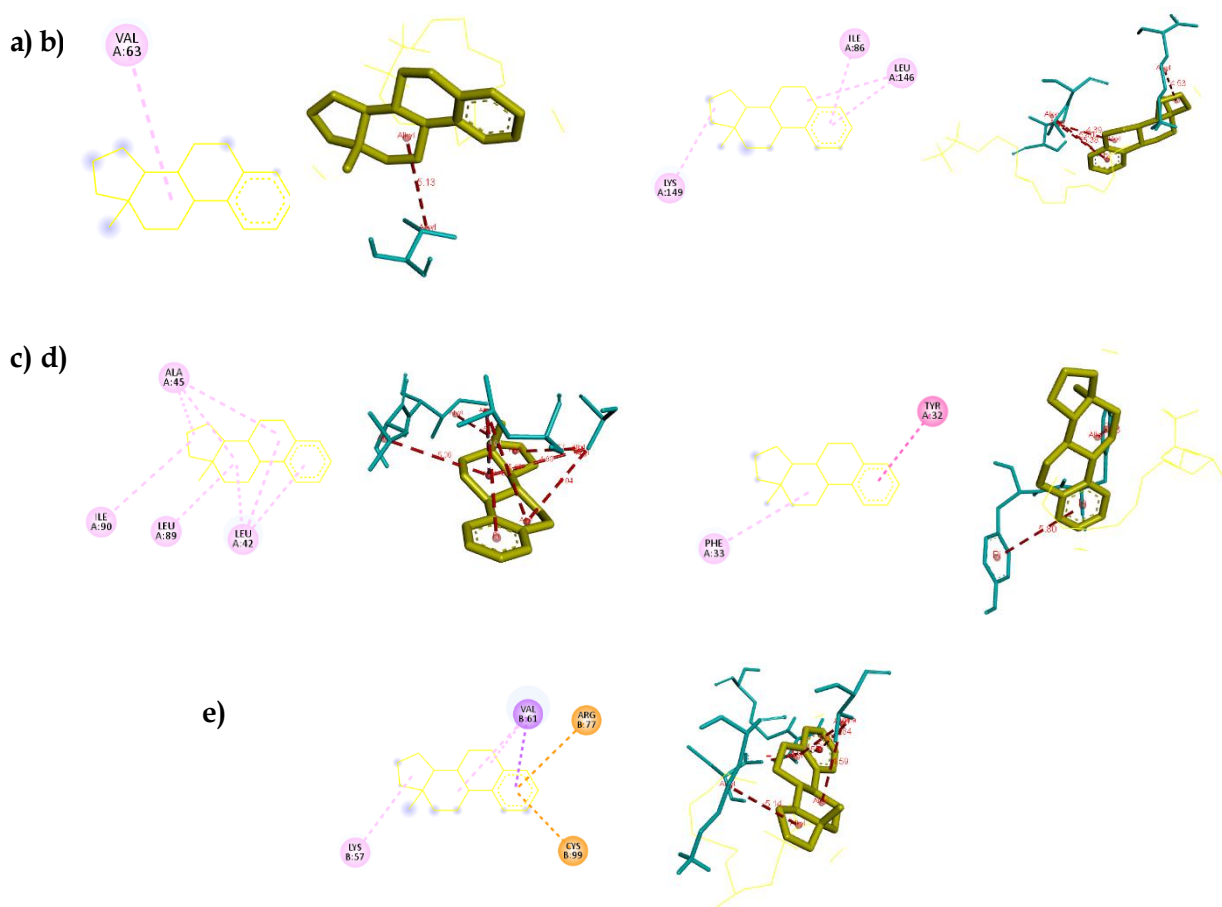


Figure 11: 2D and 3D Representations of the Interactions between Tamoxifen and a) RBP7 b) CALML3 c) C35 d) LGALS3 e) S100-A3



**Figure 12: 2D and 3D Representations of the Interactions between Fulvestrant and
a) RBP7 b) CALML3 c) C35 d) LGALS3 e) S100-A3**

The interactions between the ligand molecules (drugs) and all the five proteins were visualized in 2D and 3D using Biovia Discovery Studio. Bonds such as hydrogen bonds, hydrophobic and electrostatic interactions were seen between the ligands and certain residues of the proteins that indicate the possible binding affinity of the ligand-protein complex. Also, the existence of the salt bridges between the drug and amino acid residues indicates possible stabilization of the ligand-protein complex. Existence of traditional hydrogen bonds, is responsible for the stability of the drug- protein complex. All of these interactions are defined by pi-sigma and pi-alkyl bonds, proposes favorable binding between the ligand and the protein that modulates the function of the protein and interfere with cancer cell growth and survival pathways.

Conclusion

This study aims to understand the proteins and their role in breast cancer as well as protein-ligand interactions in order to find possible therapeutic medications. Molecular docking was successfully accomplished to assess the binding affinities between the proteins and ligands. The findings unveiled that the ligand showed favorable binding interactions

with target protein's active site with a binding affinity score. This implies that the ligand might be a viable option for more medication research or therapeutic uses.

Furthermore, the docking research revealed important interactions that affect the complex's stability and specificity, including hydrophobic, electrostatic, and hydrogen bonds. To confirm these results and evaluate the ligand's pharmacological potential, more experimental research will be required.

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