#### **Supporting Information**

## Alignment-independent comparison of binding sites based on DrugScore potential fields encoded by 3D Zernike descriptors

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| Ligand ID | CR1   | СНЗ   | 0     | OA    | Ν     | Combined |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
|           |       |       |       |       |       | probe    |
|           |       |       |       |       |       | atoms    |
| LDA       | 0.740 | 0.750 | 0.791 | 0.801 | 0.760 | 0.779    |
| PMP       | 0.947 | 0.954 | 0.942 | 0.929 | 0.938 | 0.950    |
| SAM       | 0.723 | 0.746 | 0.723 | 0.698 | 0.732 | 0.730    |
| LLP       | 0.925 | 0.932 | 0.904 | 0.908 | 0.910 | 0.925    |
| U5P       | 0.715 | 0.719 | 0.719 | 0.700 | 0.714 | 0.720    |
| 1PE       | 0.595 | 0.611 | 0.625 | 0.650 | 0.627 | 0.623    |
| SUC       | 0.777 | 0.769 | 0.773 | 0.765 | 0.772 | 0.776    |
| GSH       | 0.769 | 0.767 | 0.747 | 0.773 | 0.753 | 0.765    |
| PLM       | 0.628 | 0.615 | 0.636 | 0.641 | 0.627 | 0.632    |
| BOG       | 0.576 | 0.560 | 0.555 | 0.563 | 0.538 | 0.562    |
| average   | 0.739 | 0.742 | 0.741 | 0.743 | 0.737 | 0.746    |

Table S1. AUC values for the Hoffmann dataset using EasyMIF potential fields<sup>[a]</sup>

[a] Average AUC values for each set of proteins binding identical ligands are shown for Zernike descriptors encoding EasyMIF potential fields for five individual probe atoms (CR1: aromatic carbon, CH3: aliphatic carbon, O: carbonyl oxygen, OA: hydroxyl oxygen, N: peptide nitrogen), as well as the combination of all probe atoms.

## Table S2. Flexibility dataset<sup>[a]</sup>

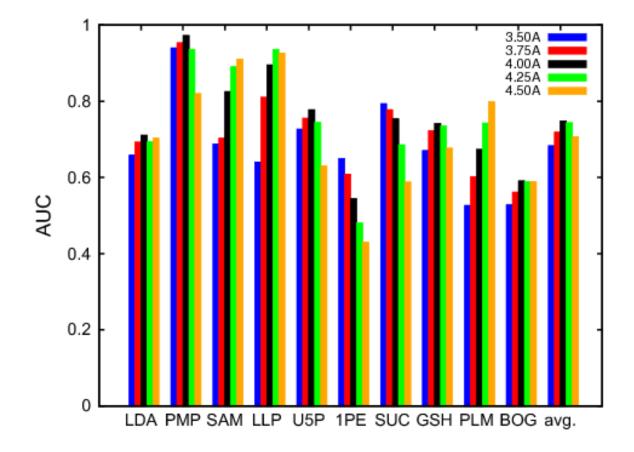
| Drug target                   | Abbreviation | PDB ID | RMSD <sub>ave</sub> <sup>[b]</sup> | RMSD <sub>max</sub> <sup>[b]</sup> | Zernike<br>distance <sup>[c]</sup> |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Angiotensin-converting enzyme | ACE          | 1uze   |                                    |                                    |                                    |
|                               |              | 1086   | 0.17                               | 0.37                               | 21330.64                           |
|                               |              | 1uzf   | 0.35                               | 0.79                               | 41197.00                           |
| Aldose reductase              | AR           | 1ah0   |                                    |                                    |                                    |
|                               |              | 1ah3   | 1.06                               | 3.19                               | 111021.46                          |
|                               |              | 2acr*  | 0.88                               | 1.72                               | 86527.13                           |
| Cyclin-dependent kinase 2     | CDK2         | 1aq1   |                                    |                                    |                                    |
|                               |              | 1buh*  | 1.77                               | 3.20                               | 155848.87                          |
|                               |              | 1dm2   | 1.75                               | 4.49                               | 100957.52                          |
| Cyclooxygenase 2              | COX2         | 1cvu   |                                    |                                    |                                    |
|                               |              | 1cx2   | 1.24                               | 3.78                               | 84748.22                           |
|                               |              | 3pgh   | 1.11                               | 3.96                               | 79374.00                           |
| Dihydrofolate reductase       | DHFR         | 3dfr   |                                    |                                    |                                    |
|                               |              | 6dfr*  | 1.47                               | 1.96                               | 134312.93                          |
| Estrogen receptor             | ER           | 112i   |                                    |                                    |                                    |
|                               |              | 3ert   | 2.61                               | 4.47                               | 163801.75                          |
|                               |              | 1err   | 2.01                               | 4.39                               | 161791.85                          |
| Factor Xa                     | FXa          | 1f0r   |                                    |                                    |                                    |
|                               |              | 1fjs   | 1.09                               | 2.57                               | 74442.37                           |
|                               |              | 1ksn   | 0.67                               | 1.65                               | 33929.45                           |
|                               |              | 1xka   | 1.27                               | 2.46                               | 97423.25                           |
| HIV reverse transcriptase     | HIVRT        | 1vrt   |                                    |                                    |                                    |
| _                             |              | 1rt1   | 1.51                               | 2.45                               | 139005.08                          |
|                               |              | 1c1c   | 1.88                               | 3.12                               | 147504.77                          |

|                                                  |       | 1rth  | 1.62 | 2.28  | 115346.27 |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|------|-------|-----------|
| Hydroxymethylglutaryl-CoA reductase              | HMGR  | 1hw8  |      |       |           |
|                                                  |       | 1hwk  | 0.61 | 1.49  | 26031.82  |
| Neuraminidase                                    | NA    | 1a4g  |      |       |           |
|                                                  |       | 1a4q  | 0.48 | 2.11  | 51189.42  |
|                                                  |       | 1nsc  | 0.34 | 1.49  | 26188.83  |
| P38 mitogen activated protein kinase             | P38   | 1a9u  |      |       |           |
|                                                  |       | 1kv1  | 3.84 | 10.41 | 198962,60 |
|                                                  |       | 1kv2  | 3.54 | 11.26 | 183360.77 |
| Phosphodiesterase 5                              | PDE5  | 1xoz  |      |       |           |
|                                                  |       | 1xp0  | 0.79 | 2.23  | 54872.88  |
| Peroxisome proliferator activated receptor gamma | PPARg | 1fm6  |      |       |           |
|                                                  |       | 1fm9  | 1.47 | 4.64  | 129794.50 |
|                                                  |       | 2prg  | 0.71 | 1.27  | 99456.17  |
| Thrombin                                         | THR   | 1ba8  |      |       |           |
|                                                  |       | 1hgt* | 0.69 | 1.85  | 58977.18  |
| Thymidine kinase                                 | TK    | 1kim  |      |       |           |
|                                                  |       | 1ki4  | 1.78 | 2.90  | 56462.93  |

[a] *Apo* structures are marked by an asterisk.  $RMSD_{ave}$  is the average conformational variability of all binding site residues.  $RMSD_{max}$  is the maximum side chain movement among all binding site residues. Both values were taken from Huang and Jacobsen<sup>36</sup>.

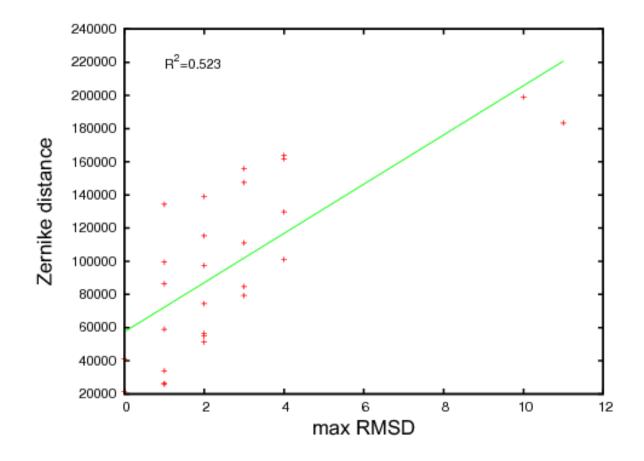
### [b] In Å.

[c] Manhattan distance of Zernike descriptors encoding all five utilized DrugScore probe atoms.



## Figure S1. Influence of varying DrugScore grid box sizes on Zernike descriptor performance using the Hoffmann dataset

DrugScore potential fields for grid boxes of varying size, i.e. extending by 3.5 Å, 3.75 Å, 4.0 Å, 4.25 Å and 4.5 Å over the ligand in the crystal structure, were computed and transformed to Zernike descriptors. For each protein five individual trials were performed for which the size of the DrugScore grid box of the query protein was gradually varied according to the above values whereas the size of the DrugScore grid boxes of all other proteins were kept constant. Resulting averaged AUC values for each ligand subset (LDA, PMP, SAM, LLP, U5P, 1PE, SUC, GSH, PLM, and BOG) as well as for the entire Hoffmann dataset (avg.) are shown.



# Figure S2. Structural differences between binding sites and Zernike distances using the flexibility dataset

For pairs of crystal structures of the same protein (compare Table S2) maximal structural differences (max RMSD; in Å) between corresponding side chains or loops are plotted against binding site distances in terms of Zernike descriptors (Zernike distances).  $R^2 = 0.523$  (0.434) is obtained if all crystal structures are taken into account (if the p38 structures showing the largest structural differences (max RMSD > 10 Å) are discarded).