Supplementary information

Enzymatic GTP Hydrolysis: Insights from an

Ab initio Molecular Dynamics Study

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Protein/water system. This model was based on the X-ray structure of AlF₃/GDP/Cdc42GAP/Cdc42 complex (PDB code 1GRN¹). In this complex, Cdc42 is bound to the active form of GAP, with transition state mimic AlF₃ in the active site. As we used this model to estimate the protein electrostatic field on the reactants (the catalytic water and GTP), we did not include the following groups in the model: AIF₃, GDP and WAT. Water molecules present in the X-ray structure were included. Hydrogen atoms were added to the complex assuming standard structural parameters. The complex was immersed in a 60x70x77 Å³ box containing 7,950 water molecules. The positions of the protein hydrogens and of the water molecules were equilibrated by carrying out a molecular dynamics simulation based on the AMBER 5 suite of programs². The all-atom AMBER force field³ and the TIP3P model⁴ were used for the protein and water, respectively. The dielectric constant was set equal to 1. Long range electrostatic interactions were calculated with particle mesh Ewald method⁵. Short range electrostatic and van der Waals interactions were truncated within a 12 Å cutoff. Constant temperature simulations were carried out by coupling the system to a Berendsen bath⁶ with 0.2 ps relaxation time. The hydrogen atoms and the water molecules underwent 5,000 geometry optimization steps followed by 30 ps of MD.

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CAPTION TO THE FIGURE

Figure 1SI. Three dimensional structures of models **a** and **b**. Removal of V36 amide group in model **a** resulted in a change of the WAT O–H Bond Ionicity Indexes⁷ and of the electric field on the reactants as small as ~ 2 %.



Figure 1 SI