

# QSAR STUDY OF PURINE-SCAFFOLD NOVEL CLASS OF HSP90 BINDERS THAT INHIBIT THE PROLIFERATION OF CANCER CELLS 

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#### Abstract

The chaperone heat shock protein $90(\mathrm{Hsp} 90)$ is an emerging target for designing anticancer agent due to its important roles in maintaining transformation and modulating the survival and growth potential of cancer cells. Quantitative structure-activity relationship (QSAR) studies have been carried out in a series of purine derivatives with Hsp90 inhibitory activities. The best QSAR model with-good correlation coefficient $\left(r^{2}=0.8519\right)$, of high statistical significance and well explained the variance in activity.


Key words - QSAR modeling, Anticancer activity, ETA indices, Burden eigenvalues.

## I. Introduction

It is estimated that during the next few years, cancer will overtake cardiovascular disease as the main cause of mortality, making it a disease of considerable concern. In most developed nations, cancer is already the second greatest cause of death. Cancer cells may invade nearby tissues and spread through the blood stream and lymphatic system to other parts of the body. ${ }^{1-2}$ Targeting only one anomaly might not be enough to undo the changed phenotype because many malignancies are the result of several transformation-specific regulatory alterations. Therefore strategies which can affect multiple targets are being envisioned, for example chaperones, which are the proteins that allow cancer cell's to tolerate the components of dysregulated pathways that would otherwise be lethal, the inactivation of which would effect multiple molecular alterations. ${ }^{3}$ The heat shock protein 90 is one such chaperone that plays crucial roles in preserving cell-specific transformation (Hsp90). Eukaryotes require the cytoplasmic Hsp90 for viability in all circumstances. . The ATPase binding region of Hsp90 is currently under intensive study, because of its role in cancer and protein maintenance. ${ }^{4-6}$ Adenosine triphosphate (ATP) is bound and hydrolyzed by a pocket in the protein's N -terminal region, controlling how it functions. High-affinity ligands that occupy this pocket stop Hsp90 client proteins from separating from the chaperone complex. As a result, the bound proteins are destroyed by the proteasome before they can reach their full functional shape. When these proteins are broken down by Hsp90 inhibitors, cancer cells in culture experience cell-specific growth arrest, apoptosis, and tumour growth suppression. A class of purine derivatives with Hsp90 inhibitory activities has been designed using peculiar bent Hsp90 inhibitors and existent Hsp90 crystal data. ${ }^{7}$ The first derivatives of this class to be developed and synthesised (PU3) displayed a modest affinity and had cellular effects. Many of its analogues with modifications to PU3's C-2 and 9-N have been created, and their anticancer effectiveness against Hsp90 has been tested. ${ }^{8-9}$

QSAR experiments were conducted and are presented here to discover the critical physiochemical and structural factors for anticancer action.

## II . RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The QSAR analysis was carried out on the set of 35 compounds (Chiosis et al., 2002) as shown in table 1, taking the anticancer activity ( $\log B A$ ) as dependant and different physiochemical parameters (Hansch and Leo, 1979; Hansch et al., 1995) such as ETA indices (Eta_epsi_A) and Burden eigenvalues (SpMax1_Bh_v_, SpMax6_Bh_m_, SpMin4_Bh_p_, SpMin4_Bh_m_).The values for the physiochemical parameters were taken from the literature (Hansch and Leo, 1979). The multiple linear regression analysis was executed on a personal computer using NCSS version 2007. The pearson correlation matrix (Table 3) was constructed to determine the intercorrelation between the physiochemical parameters used in QSAR analysis.

## III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Different combinations of (independent) physiochemical parameters showing some acceptable correlation with the (dependent) anticancer activity were carried out using stepwise multiple regression analysis to develop meaningful QSAR equation. The equation were of statistical significance with a correlation coefficient value of more than 0.9.

Table 1. Structural features and anticancer activity of the compound



Table 2. Calculated ETA indices, Burden eigenvalues and anticancer activity used in the regression analysis

| $\log$ BA | Eta_epsi_A | SpMax1_Bh_v_ | SpMax6_Bh_m_- | SpMin4_Bh_p_ | SpMin4_Bh_m_ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| -0.653 | 0.852 | 3.919 | 2.82 | -1.085 | 0.999 |
| -1.033 | 0.847 | 3.919 | 2.829 | 1.085 | 1.001 |
| -1.114 | 0.842 | 3.919 | 2.844 | 1.085 | 1.003 |
| -1.071 | 0.838 | 3.919 | 2.863 | 1.085 | 1.004 |
| -1.309 | 0.842 | 3.921 | 2.891 | 1.109 | 1.024 |
| -2.057 | 0.833 | 3.921 | 2.901 | 1.107 | 1.035 |
| -1.717 | 0.833 | 3.92 | 2.916 | 1.115 | 1.043 |
| -1.196 | 0.842 | 3.921 | 2.891 | 1.109 | 1.024 |
| -1.209 | 0.842 | 3.916 | 2.924 | 1.107 | 0.994 |
| -1.679 | 0.838 | 3.916 | 2.926 | 1.127 | 1.015 |
| -1.505 | 0.838 | 3.916 | 2.925 | 1.196 | 1.156 |
| -0.978 | 0.842 | 3.921 | 2.907 | 1.123 | 1.046 |
| -0.875 | 0.842 | 3.921 | 2.907 | 1.123 | 1.046 |
| -1.025 | 0.842 | 3.928 | 2.884 | 1.12 | 1.038 |
| -0.176 | 0.847 | 3.889 | 2.833 | 1.135 | 1.028 |
| -0.74 | 0.868 | 3.915 | 2.878 | 1.115 | 0.994 |
| -0.23 | 0.857 | 3.915 | 2.927 | 1.17 | 0.998 |
| -0.531 | 0.857 | 3.916 | 2.926 | 1.143 | 1.002 |
| -0.732 | 0.873 | 3.921 | 2.893 | 1.087 | 0.971 |


| -0.544 | 0.867 | 3.921 | 2.9 | 1.088 | 0.972 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| -0.949 | 0.862 | 3.921 | 2.906 | 1.088 | 0.972 |
| -1.139 | 0.893 | 3.921 | 2.918 | 1.093 | 0.971 |
| -1.176 | 0.867 | 3.923 | 2.926 | 1.106 | 0.989 |
| -0.114 | 0.886 | 3.929 | 2.926 | 1.144 | 0.98 |
| -0.991 | 0.873 | 3.922 | 2.925 | 1.095 | 0.981 |
| -1.255 | 0.867 | 3.921 | 2.927 | 1.092 | 0.985 |
| -0.544 | 0.873 | 3.891 | 2.896 | 1.136 | 0.995 |
| -1.02 | 0.867 | 3.942 | 2.927 | 1.179 | 1.052 |
| 0.155 | 0.867 | 3.891 | 2.898 | 1.137 | 0.997 |
| -0.964 | 0.867 | 3.923 | 2.927 | 1.163 | 1.101 |
| -0.833 | 0.881 | 3.922 | 2.927 | 1.118 | 0.979 |
| -0.633 | 0.858 | 3.921 | 2.832 | 1.07 | 1.001 |
| -1.06 | 0.837 | 3.922 | 2.848 | 1.069 | 1.001 |
| 0.346 | 0.903 | 3.893 | 2.913 | 1.125 | 0.917 |
| 0.283 | 0.915 | 3.923 | 2.928 | 1.158 | 0.938 |

Model No. $1 \operatorname{logBA}=-16.0608,17.6945( \pm 3.4650) E t a \_e p s i \_A$
$\mathrm{N}=35, \mathrm{MSE}=0.1684, \mathrm{R}^{2}=0.4414, \mathrm{AR}^{2}=0.4245, \mathrm{Q}-\mathrm{VALUE}=3.9453$
Model No. $2 \log \mathrm{BA}=60.6557,16.7209( \pm 3.0275) E t a \_$epsi_A, $-19.3687( \pm 5.6831)$ SpMax1_Bh_v_
$\mathrm{N}=35, \mathrm{MSE}=0.1274, \mathrm{R}^{2}=0.5902, \mathrm{AR}^{2}=0.5646, \mathrm{Q}-\mathrm{VALUE}=6.0302$
Model No. $3 \log$ BA $=18.0971,-8.8648( \pm 1.8827)$ SpMax6_Bh_m_, 16.7024( $\pm 2.2898)$ SpMin4_Bh_p_, $-11.8446( \pm 1.3925)$ SpMin4_Bh_m_
$\mathrm{N}=35, \mathrm{MSE}=0.0868, \mathrm{R}^{2}=0.7296, \mathrm{AR}^{2}=0.7035, \mathrm{Q}-\mathrm{VALUE}=9.8406$
Model No. $4 \operatorname{logBA}=11.6663$, $9.1629( \pm 3.9458)$ Eta_epsi_A, $-9.4945( \pm 1.7827)$ SpMax6_Bh_m_, 13.7078( $\pm 2.5011)$ SpMin4_Bh_p_, -8.1408( $\pm 2.0597)$ SpMin4_Bh_m_
$\mathrm{N}=35, \mathrm{MSE}=0.0761, \mathrm{R}^{2}=0.7708, \mathrm{AR}^{2}=0.7403, \overline{\mathrm{Q}}-\mathrm{VALUE}=11.5368$
Model No. $5 \operatorname{logBA}=37.9639,10.0885( \pm 3.9034)$ Eta_epsi_A, $-7.5332( \pm 4.8695)$ SpMax1_Bh_v_, $-8.4078( \pm 1.8790)$
SpMax6_Bh_m_, 12.0113( $\pm 2.6796)$ SpMin4_Bh_p_, $-6.9826( \pm 2.1481)$ SpMin4_Bh_m_
$\mathrm{N}=35, \mathrm{MSE}=0.0726, \mathrm{R}^{2}=0.7883, \mathrm{AR}^{2}=0.7518, \mathrm{Q}-\mathrm{VALUE}=12.2295$
After deleting outlier compound no. 12, 13, 20 and 29 the final model become ;
Model No. $6 \operatorname{logBA}=24.5706,10.3679( \pm 3.3110)$ Eta_epsi_A, $-3.5028( \pm 4.4985)$ SpMax1_Bh_v_, $-9.4862( \pm 1.6113)$ SpMax6_Bh_m_, 13.0144( $\pm 2.2892$ )SpMin4_Bh_p_, -7.6663( $\pm 1.8254)$ SpMin4_Bh_m_ $\mathrm{N}=31, \mathrm{MSE}=0.0518, \mathrm{R}^{2}=0.8519, \mathrm{AR}^{2}=0.8223, \mathrm{Q}-\mathrm{VALUE}=17.8182$

Here N is the number of compounds used in the study, MSE is the mean square error of estimation, $\mathrm{R}^{2}$ is the regression coefficient, $\mathrm{AR}^{2}$ is the adjusted regression coefficient and Q -value is the Quality factor.
The generated equations showed the importance of the physiochemical paramaters, especially ETA indices (Eta_epsi_A) and Burden eigenvalues (SpMax1_Bh_v_, SpMax6_Bh_m_, SpMin4_Bh_p_, SpMin4_Bh_m_).Among these equations, Eq. 6 with the highest correlation coefficient $(r=0.9229)$ with $\mathrm{r}^{2}{ }_{\mathrm{cv}}=0.8262$ was considered to be the best model, explaining $85.1 \%$ variance in activity. The low standard error of estimate (s) and high F value suggest that the model is highly statistically significant. The correlation between the observed and predicted activities of all the compounds using Eq. 6 (the best result) is represented graphically in fig. 1 , fig. 2 and fig. 3.

Table 3. Correlation Matrix

|  | log_BA | Eta_epsi_A | SpMax1_Bh_v_ | SpMax6_Bh_m_ | SpMin4_Bh_p_ | SpMin4_Bh_m_ |
| :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| log_BA | 1.0000 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eta_epsi_A | 0.6644 | 1.0000 |  |  |  |  |
| SpMax1_Bh_v_ | -0.4467 | -0.0944 | 1.0000 |  |  |  |
| SpMax6_Bh_m_ | -0.0547 | 0.3603 | 0.1959 | 1.0000 |  |  |
| SpMin4_Bh_p_ | 0.2286 | 0.1727 | -0.083 | 0.5483 | 1.0000 |  |
| SpMin4_Bh_m_- | -0.5139 | -0.6176 | 0.1829 | 0.0319 | 0.4578 | 1.0000 |

Table 4. Result of cross validation

| Model <br> No. | N | PRESS | SSY | PRESS/SSY | $\mathrm{R}^{2}$ | $\mathrm{R}^{2} \mathrm{cv}$ | PSE | $\mathrm{S}_{\text {press }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 35 | 5.5587 | 4.3925 | 1.2655 | 0.4414 | -0.2655 | 0.0674 | 0.4104 |
| 2 | 35 | 4.0783 | 5.8729 | 0.6944 | 0.5902 | 0.3056 | 0.0577 | 0.3570 |
| 3 | 35 | 2.6906 | 7.2606 | 0.3706 | 0.7296 | 0.6294 | 0.0468 | 0.2946 |
| 4 | 35 | 2.2807 | 7.6706 | 0.2973 | 0.7708 | 0.7027 | 0.0432 | 0.2757 |
| 5 | 35 | 2.1068 | 7.8445 | 0.2686 | 0.7883 | 0.7314 | 0.0415 | 0.2695 |
| 6 | 31 | 1.2954 | 7.4522 | 0.1738 | 0.8519 | 0.8262 | 0.0367 | 0.2276 |

Table 5. Residual report

| Com. No. | Obs. logBA | Pred. logBA | Residual |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | -0.653 | -0.613 | -0.040 |
| 2 | -1.033 | -0.765 | -0.268 |
| 3 | -1.114 | -0.975 | -0.139 |
| 4 | -1.071 | -1.204 | 0.133 |
| 5 | -1.309 | -1.276 | -0.033 |
| 6 | -2.057 | -1.575 | -0.482 |
| 7 | -1.717 | -1.671 | -0.046 |
| 8 | -1.196 | -1.276 | 0.080 |
| 9 | -1.209 | -1.368 | 0.159 |
| 10 | -1.679 | -1.329 | -0.350 |
| 11 | -1.505 | -1.502 | -0.003 |
| 12 | -1.025 | -1.198 | 0.173 |
| 13 | -0.176 | -0.254 | -0.078 |
| 14 | -0.740 | -0.554 | -0.186 |
| 15 | -0.230 | -0.448 | 0.218 |
| 16 | -0.531 | -0.824 | 0.293 |
| 17 | -0.732 | -0.854 | 0.122 |
| 18 | -0.949 | -1.086 | 0.137 |
| 19 | -1.139 | -0.805 | -0.334 |
| 20 | -1.176 | -1.127 | -0.049 |
| 21 | -0.114 | -0.387 | 0.273 |
| 22 | -0.991 | -1.133 | 0.142 |
| 23 | -1.255 | -1.281 | 0.026 |
| 24 | -0.544 | -0.323 | -0.221 |
| 25 | -1.020 | -0.736 | -0.284 |
| 26 | -0.964 | -1.253 | 0.289 |
| 27 | -0.833 | -0.755 | -0.078 |
| 28 | -0.633 | -0.882 | 0.249 |
| 29 | -1.060 | -1.268 | 0.208 |
| 30 | 0.346 | 0.274 | 0.072 |
| 31 | 0.283 | 0.420 | -0.137 |
|  |  |  |  |



Fig. 1 plot of Observed $\log B A$ versus Predicted $\log B A$


Fig. 2 plot of Observed $\log \mathrm{BA}$ versus Residual


The described QSAR analysis led to the identification of important physiochemical parameters in explaining the variation in activity in a set of 35 compounds. Hence the model can be useful in the optimization of activity in this class of molecules, leading to improved Hsp90 inhibitors for assessment as anticancer therapeutics.

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