Supplementary Figures and Tables



Figure S1: Convergence plots: free energies in different zones for WT system plotted against aggregate metadynamics time.



18

16

14

12

10

8

6

4

2

zone 1

zone

zone 4

ZODA

zone

zone

zone

zone

0 24

zone 3

(b) 20

e Energy in kcal/mol

Free

8 10 12 14 16 18



16 log kcal/mol

.⊆

Free

12

10 Energy

8

6

4

2





6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20

Figure S2: Free energy landscapes with zones of interest for MEK1 WT, SSDD, E203K, F53S, and di-phosphorylated systems.

WT

(a) 18

16

14

12

10

8

6

4

2

0

zone 1 •

zone

zone

zone

zone

zone

0 2 4 6

•

zone

. zone













Note: (I) denotes inactive feature and (A) denotes active feature

Fig. S3: MEK1 WT structures and their structural characteristics across zones

MEK_SSDD

















Fig. S4: MEK1 SSDD structures and their structural characteristics across zones

MEK_dp











PS note: (I) denotes inactive feature and (A) denotes active feature

MEK_dp



PS note: (I) denotes inactive feature and (A) denotes active feature

Fig. S5: MEK1 diphosphorylated structures and their structural characteristics across zones









[0.5,0,0]

Fig. S6: MEK1 F53S structures and their structural characteristics across zones









Note: (I) denotes inactive feature and (A) denotes active feature

Fig. S7: MEK1 E203K structures and their structural characteristics across zones







Fig. S8: Boltzmann weighted Hydrogen bond occupancy (BW-HB) in panels (a,d,g) and SASA (BW-SASA) in panels (b,e,h). Metric to compute the tendency of a peptide to have EX2 Vs Mixed EX1/EX2 exchange kinetics demonstrated for MEK1 WT: Log₁₀ (norm standard deviation(SASA))/(1- hydrogen bond occupancy) in panels (c,f,i) for MEK WT, SSDD and E203K systems.



Fig. S9: Average RMSD of MEK1 systems wrt key subdomains: A-loop and P-loop, (a). Hydrogen bond occupancy difference in A-loop and α C-helix between MEK1 variant and MEK1 WT (b). Plot of accumulated hydrogen bond occupancy in the α C-helix domain and A-loop of MEK1 for inactive conformations. (Threshold 0.5) in panels (c).



Fig. S10: Molecular docking poses (kinase and binding site views) of ATP binding to MEK1: (top) WT, (middle) SSDD, (bottom) E203K. In addition to the conserved interactions between the ATP and the protein being preserved, the Mg²⁺ ion and water molecules mediate critical interactions with the protein.



Fig. S11: Molecular docking poses (binding site view) of FLTEYVA to most active zones of MEK1 variants: (left) WT, (middle) E203K, (right) SSDD. Transition states of both Tyr (top) and Thr (bottom) phosphorylation were modeled in the reaction competent zones.



Fig. S12: Comparison of hydrogen bonding and DSSP analysis for zone 1 of 3 MEK1 variants. The results show qualitative similarity between the two analyses.

a. WT ATP Docking Results

STRUCTURE	ZONE INFO	FREE ENERGY (KCAL/MOL)	BINDING AFFINITY (KCAL/MOL)	MG ²⁺ COORDINATION	D208 – MG²+ DISTANCE (Å)	ADENOSINE H-BONDS	REACTION COMPETENT?
Zone 1	 KE salt bridge broken DFG out A-loop partially helical 	0.66	-18.472	~	9.81	~	×
Zone 2	 KE salt bridge broken DFG in A-loop partially helical 	2.35	-16.841	~	1.39	~	~
Zone 3	 KE salt bridge broken DFG in A-loop partially helical 	6.28	-15.432	~	1.23	~	~
Zone 4	 KE salt bridge broken DFG in A-loop unfolded 	11.62	-14.846	~	1.96	~	~
Zone 5	 KE salt bridge broken DFG in/out A-loop partially helical 	5.08	-15.967	~	1.40	~	~
Zone 7	 KE salt bridge partly intact DFG in A-loop unfolded 	13.6	-20.327	~	2.12	\checkmark	~

b. SSDD ATP Docking Results

STRUCTURE	ZONE INFO	FREE ENERGY (KCAL/MOL)	BINDING AFFINITY (KCAL/MOL)		D208 – MG ²⁺ DISTANCE (Å)	ADENOSINE H-BONDS	REACTION COMPETENT?
Zone 1	 KE salt bridge broken DFG out A-loop partially helical 	3.46	-13.482	~	2.05	×	×
Zone 3	 KE salt bridge broken DFG out A-loop partially helical 	0.77	-14.462	~	5.53	×	×
Zone 4	 KE salt bridge broken DFG out A-loop partially helical 	0.9	-16.956	\checkmark	7.06	×	×
Zone 5	 KE salt bridge broken DFG in/out A-loop partially helical 	1.22	-16.984	\checkmark	10.44	~	×
Zone 6	 KE salt bridge broken DFG in A-loop partially helical 	0.85	-16.742	\checkmark	8.82	~	×
Zone 7	 KE salt bridge broken DFG in A-loop partially helical 	1.87	-15.245	\checkmark	6.62	×	×
Zone 9	1. KE salt bridge formed 2. DFG in 3. A-loop unfolded	5.23	-15.258	\checkmark	2.03	~	\checkmark
Zone 10	 KE salt bridge formed DFG in A-loop partially helical 	6.92	-14.138	×	3.39	\checkmark	×
Zone 11	 KE salt bridge partly formed DFG in A-loop unfolded 	11.37	-13.656	~	4.85	×	×
Zone 12	 KE salt bridge partly formed DFG in A-loop unfolded 	11.98	-18.038	~	2.00	\checkmark	~

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c. E203K ATP Docking Results

STRUCTURE	ZONE INFO	FREE ENERGY (KCAL/MOL)	BINDING AFFINITY (KCAL/MOL)	MG ²⁺ COORDINATION	D208 – MG ²⁺ DISTANCE (Å)	ADENOSINE H-BONDS	REACTION COMPETENT?
Zone 1	 KE salt bridge broken DFG out A-loop partially helical 	2.59	-20.278	~	5.21	~	×
Zone 2	1. KE salt bridge broken 2. DFG out 3. A-loop unfolded	5.72	-14.421	~	7.68	~	×
Zone 3	1. KE salt bridge broken 2. DFG out 3. A-loop unfolded	1.07	-14.599	~	8.09	~	×
Zone 4	1. KE salt bridge formed 1. DFG in 3. A-loop unfolded	3.64	-18.914	~	6.23	~	~
Zone 5	 KE salt bridge broken DFG in/out A-loop unfolded 	6	-17.246		5.25	X	×

Table S1: Molecular docking of ATP to different zones of MEK1: (a) WT, (b) SSDD, (c) E203K.

a. WT Peptide Docking Results

STRUCTURE	TYR-BOUND BINDING AFFINITY (KCAL/MOL)	THR-BOUND BINDING AFFINITY (KCAL/MOL)	REACTION COMPETENT?	TYR PHOSPHORYLATION COMPETENT?	THR PHOSPHORYLATION COMPETENT?
Zone 1	-	-	×	×	×
Zone 2	-3.989	-	\checkmark	\checkmark	×
Zone 3	-5.872	-5.595	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Zone 4	-	-6.442	\checkmark	×	\checkmark
Zone 5	-4.821	-	\checkmark	\checkmark	×
Zone 7	-4.723	-	\checkmark	\checkmark	×

b. SSDD Peptide Docking Results

STRUCTURE	TYR-BOUND BINDING AFFINITY (KCAL/MOL)	THR-BOUND BINDING AFFINITY (KCAL/MOL)	REACTION COMPETENT?	TYR PHOSPHORYLATION COMPETENT?	THR PHOSPHORYLATION COMPETENT?
Zone 1	-	-	×	×	×
Zone 3	-6.151	-5.372	×	\checkmark	\checkmark
Zone 4	-5.421	-5.001	×	\checkmark	\checkmark
Zone 5	-	-	×	×	×
Zone 6	-6.515	-6.649	×	\checkmark	\checkmark
Zone 7	-4.518	-4.853	×	\checkmark	\checkmark
Zone 9	-7.201	-6.548	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Zone 10	-	-6.315	×	×	\checkmark
Zone 11	-4.789	-6.396	×	\checkmark	\checkmark
Zone 12	-6.466	-5.543	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark

c. E203K Peptide Docking Results

STRUCTURE	TYR-BOUND BINDING AFFINITY (KCAL/MOL)	THR-BOUND BINDING AFFINITY (KCAL/MOL)	REACTION COMPETENT?	TYR PHOSPHORYLATION COMPETENT?	THR PHOSPHORYLATION COMPETENT?
Zone 1	-1.007	-	×	\checkmark	×
Zone 2	-6.666	-6.447	×	\checkmark	\checkmark
Zone 3	-5.414	-	×	\checkmark	×
Zone 4	-6.257	-4.580	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Zone 5	-5.678	-4.939	×	\checkmark	\checkmark

Table S2: Molecular docking of FLTEYVA peptide derived from ERK1 (PDB: 5UMO) to different zones of MEK1: (a) WT, (b) SSDD, (c) E203K.