## **SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES & RESULTS**

# **Table S1. Characteristics of patients included in the analysis**



#### **Table S2.** *BCR-ABL1* **mutations detected in patients failing tyrosine kinase therapy by DNA sequencing of individual clones**

Abbreviations: CP: chronic phase; AP: accelerated phase; BP: blastic phase; CHR: complete hematologic response; WT: wildtype (i.e. unmutated BCR-ABL1), na: not available















#### **SUPPLEMENTARY RESULTS**

#### *Study group*

We evaluated 70 patients with CML-CP who developed resistance to imatinib and subsequently were enrolled in phase I and II studies of dasatinib (Table S1). The median age was 58 years (range, 15-82) and the median number of prior therapies was 4 (range, 1-9). The median time from diagnosis to imatinib therapy was 35 months (range, 1-137). The initial imatinib dose was 400 mg/day in 60 patients, 600 mg/day in 8, and 800 mg/day in 2 patients.

#### *Mutational status after imatinib failure*

Upon imatinib failure, *BCR-ABL1* kinase domain mutations were detected in 61 (87%) of 70 patients by DNA expansion of specific clones, including 38 (54%) with mutations detected in ≥20% of sequenced clones. In contrast, *BCR-ABL1* mutations were detected in only 18 (47%) of 38 patients when direct sequencing was employed in available samples. Overall, 125 mutations at 113 amino acid positions were detected by DNA expansion of specific clones, including 78 which had not been previously reported (Table S2). Mutations known to confer resistance to >1µM imatinib (M244V, G250E, Q252H, Y253H, E255K/V, F359V, H396R, and T315I) were detected in 30 (43%) of 70 patients by DNA expansion of specific clones after imatinib failure, but only in 5 (13%) of 38 by direct sequencing. Of note, 2 or more mutations within the same clone (*polymutants*) were detected in 29 (41%) of 70 patients, with individual clones expressing 2 (n=38), 3 (n=11), 4 (n=1), or even 5 (n=2) single point mutations (Figure S1A). By contrast, only 1 patient was found to carry 2 different mutations (M244V and M351T) when using direct sequencing techniques. These data indicate that the use of molecular techniques with higher sensitivity relative to conventional direct sequencing of *BCR-ABL1* can detect mutations in most patients acquiring resistance to imatinib. Furthermore, at variance with previously reported data, $<sup>1</sup>$  the emergence of polymutants not only occurs after</sup> failure of a second TKI (e.g. dasatinib) but it is rather prevalent following failure of frontline imatinib therapy.

### *Mutational status during dasatinib therapy*

Dasatinib therapy was administered for a median of 20 months (range, 2-52). Sixty-eight (97%) of 70 patients were assessable for response. Overall, the CHR rate was 66% while the MCyR was 34%, including a CCyR rate of 25%. Eighteen (26%)

patients only achieved CHR and 18 (26%) only had partial hematologic response. Three (4%) patients did not achieve any response with dasatinib therapy. DNA expansion of specific clones was performed in 32 (47%) patients during dasatinib therapy and revealed 20 additional mutations not present at dasatinib start, which involved 19 distinct amino acid positions (Table S2). Five of the additional mutations have never been previously reported and all were involved in polymutant clones. Dasatinib-resistant mutations (L248V/R, Q252H, E255K, V299L, T315I/A, and F317L/C/I/S/V) were detected in 10 (31%) of 32 patients by DNA expansion of specific clones (including 5 who carried T315I). Of the latter 32 patients, 16 (50%) were simultaneously evaluated by direct sequencing, which only detected dasatinibresistant mutations in 3 (19%) patients. All those 16 patients died after progression to blast phase**.**

## *Mechanisms of resistance of BCR-ABL1 V299L, T315I, and F317L: proof-ofconcept of the in silico methodology*

Table S3 lists the computational results obtained for unmutated and single point BCR-ABL1 mutants in complex with imatinib or dasatinib.

For imatinib, all single missense BCR-ABL1 mutations detected in clinical specimens can be classified into three major classes (Table S3): a) *sensitive*, for which the IC<sub>50</sub> fold change (FC) with respect to the unmutated kinase is  $\lt 25$  (V299L, V304); b) *partially sensitive*, for which the IC<sub>50</sub> fold change with respect to unmutated BCR-ABL1 is >25 and <50 (Q252H, F317L, F359V, and H396R); and c) resistant, for which the fold change in  $IC_{50}$  relative to the unmutated kinase is  $>50$ (G250E, L248R, E255K, Y253H, and T315I). For dasatinib, the mutant kinases T315I, V299L, L248R and F317L are extremely resistant, E255K and Q252H exhibit partial sensitivity, while all remaining mutants retain considerable affinity for this TKI.

According to both clinical and computational data, the V299L mutant isoform of BCR-ABL1 is highly resistant to dasatinib whereas no effect on imatinib binding has been observed so far. A detailed energetic analysis of the unmutated BCR-ABL1 binding site in complex with imatinib (Table S4) revealed that the residues lining the inhibitor docking pocket afford an overall stabilizing contribution of  $\Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$  = -8.02 kcal/mol, 4 residues yielding a  $\Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$  value larger than 1 kcal/mol (highlighted in bold in Table S4). Importantly, this analysis also showed that residue 299 does not contribute to imatinib binding. Consequently, substitution of valine by leucine at this position does not cause a substantial modification of the overall binding site energy  $(\sum \Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$  = -7.68 kcal/mole), which justifies the sensitivity of this mutant to imatinib.

	<b>BCR-ABL1</b>	$IC_{50[exp]}(nM)*$	$\Delta G_{bind}$ (kcal/mol)	$IC_{50}$ (nM) <sup>§</sup>	<b>FC</b>
	Unmutated	$25 - 527$ <sup>a-e</sup>	$-10.47 \pm 0.03$	21	
	T315I	$> 3000^{\text{a-e}}$	$-6.83 \pm 0.03$	21000	1000
	<b>Y253H</b>	$4000 -$ 18000b,c,e	$-7.45 \pm 0.02$	3400	162
	E255K	$> 3000^{b-e}$	$-7.56 \pm 0.02$	2877	137
	<b>L248R</b>	$>7000^{b,e}$	$-7.82 \pm 0.03$	1900	90
	G250E	$1350 - 4800^{b-e}$	$-8.14 \pm 0.01$	1090	52
imatinib	<b>H396R</b>	$1750 - 2058^{c-e}$	$-8.20 \pm 0.02$	987	47
	F359V	$1509 - 1825^{c-e}$	$-8.25 \pm 0.01$	903	43
	F317L	$1050 - 1583^{b-e}$	$-8.31 \pm 0.02$	819	39
	Q252H	734 - 2900 $^{b-e}$	$-8.32 \pm 0.01$	798	38
	M244V	$454 - 3100^{b,c,e}$	$-8.50 \pm 0.02$	590	28
	V299L	$540 - 814^{c-e}$	$-9.58 \pm 0.03$	105	5
	V304D		$-9.87 \pm 0.02$	59	2.8
	Unmutated	$0.6 - 1.8^{c-g}$	$-12.39 \pm 0.01$	0.8	$\overline{\phantom{a}}$
	T315I	$>137^{c-e,g}$	$-6.44 \pm 0.02$	19000	23750
	V299L	$15.8 - 18^{c-e,g}$	$-8.21 \pm 0.01$	960	1200
	<b>L248R</b>	$16 - 23^{e,g}$	$-8.67 \pm 0.01$	317	396
	F317L	$7.4 - 18^{c-e,g}$	$-9.23 \pm 0.03$	170	213
	E255K	$5.6 - 13^{c-e, g}$	$-10.77 \pm 0.02$	12.8	16
dasatinib	Q252H	$3.4 - 5.6^{c-e}$	$-10.85 \pm 0.01$	11.2	14
	Y253H	$1.3 - 10^{c,e,g}$	$-11.08 \pm 0.02$	7.6	9.5
	<b>H396R</b>	$1.3 - 3.0^{c-e}$	$-11.98 \pm 0.04$	1.7	2.1
	F359V	$2.2 - 2.7^{c-e}$	$-12.00 \pm 0.02$	1.6	2 <sup>1</sup>
	M244V	$1.3 - 3.6^{c,e}$	$-12.22 \pm 0.02$	1.4	1.8
	V304D		$-12.27 \pm 0.01$	$\mathbf{1}$	1.3
	G250E	$1.8 - 8.1^{\text{c-e}}$	$-12.31 \pm 0.02$	0.96	1.2
	Unmutated	$0.5 - 2.1^{e, h, i}$	$-12.67 \pm 0.02$	0.52	$\blacksquare$
	E255K	$14 - 17.6$ <sup>e,h</sup>	$-10.99 \pm 0.01$	8.8	17
	T315I	$6.3 - 11^{e, h, i}$	$-11.10 \pm 0.01$	7.4	14
	G250E	$4.1 - 12.5$ <sup>e,h</sup>	$-11.14 \pm 0.01$	6.9	13
	<b>H396R</b>	$12.5^e$	$-12.13 \pm 0.02$	1.3	2.5
ponatinib	V299L	1.2 <sup>e</sup>	$-12.13 \pm 0.02$	1.3	2.5
	F317L	$1.1 - 1.5^{e, h}$	$-10.81 \pm 0.03$	1.2	2.3
	M244V	$2.2 - 6.7$ <sup>e,h</sup>	$-12.23 \pm 0.01$	1.1	2.1
	F359V	$9.2 - 10^{e, h}$	$-12.41 \pm 0.01$	0.81	1.6
	Q252H	$2.2 - 12.9$ <sup>a,c</sup>	$-12.42 \pm 0.02$	0.79	1.5
	V304D		$-12.48 \pm 0.02$	0.72	1.4
	<b>Y253H</b>	$5.4 - 6.2^{e,h}$	$-12.64 \pm 0.03$	0.55	1.1

**Table S3. Predicted free energy of binding (**Δ**Gbind), IC50 and fold change (FC) values for BCR-ABL1 single point mutants and imatinib or dasatinib**

 ${}^{\$}\Delta\rm{G}_{bind}$  and the concentration of ligand that inhibits the kinase activity by 50% (i.e., IC<sub>50</sub>) are related by the following fundamental equation:  $\Delta G_{bind}$  = -RTln 1/IC<sub>50</sub>. Thus, once  $\Delta G_{bind}$  for a given kinase/inhibitor couple is estimated, the relative IC<sub>50</sub> value is also known by virtue of this relationship. \*Data from: <sup>a</sup>Corbin et al. *J Biol Chem*. 2002, 277:32214-19. <sup>b</sup>Walz et al. *Crit Rev Oncol Hematol.* 2006, 57:145-64. <sup>c</sup>O'Hare et al. Blood 2007, 110:2242-2249. <sup>d</sup> Redaelli et al. *J Clin Oncol.* 2009 27:469- 71.<sup>e</sup> Redaelli et al. *Am J Hematol.* 2012, 87:E125-8. <sup>f</sup> Puttini et al. *Cancer Res.* 2006, 66:11314-11322. <sup>g</sup> Burgess et al. *PNAS* 2005, 102:3395-3400.<sup>h</sup> O'Hare et al. *Cancer Cell* 2009, 16:401-412. <sup>i</sup> Huang et al. *J Med Chem.* 2010, 53:4701-4719.

	<b>WT</b>	V299L	
	$\Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$ (kcal/mol)	$\Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$ (kcal/mol)	
Y253	$-0.81$	$-0.73$	
E286	$-0.81$	$-0.60$	
V299/L	0.00	0.00	
T315/I	-1.03	$-0.95$	
F317	$-1.62$	$-1.54$	
M318	$-1.02$	$-0.89$	
I360	$-1.00$	$-1.03$	
H361	$-0.68$	$-0.77$	
D381	$-0.31$	$-0.56$	
F382	$-0.74$	$-0.61$	
$\sum \Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$ (kcal/mol)	$-8.02$	$-7.68$	

**Table S4**. **Per-residue free-energy decomposition for WT and V299L BCR-ABL1 in complex with imatinib**

The same analysis performed on the analogous BCR-ABL1 complexes with dasatinib (Table S5) not only confirms that the unmutated BCR-ABL1 binding site residues are more efficient in stabilizing the drug within the kinase pocket with respect to imatinib  $(\Sigma \Delta G_{\rm bind}^{\rm bs}$  = -9.92 kcal/mol), but perhaps more importantly, that dasatinib resistance associated with the V299L mutation cannot be totally ascribed to a disruption of the binding site conformation, as the overall stabilization energy of the binding site is only slightly decreased with respect to the unmutated kinase ( $\sum \Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$  = -9.07 kcal/mol). Therefore, other molecular mechanisms are likely contributing to the poor affinity of V299L for dasatinib.

Mutations in the P-loop and A-loop of the BCR-ABL1 kinase destabilize its inactive conformation, thus favoring an active state that impairs the binding of TKIs like imatinib that target its inactive conformation. $2-7$  Other mutations induce TKI resistance directly by causing steric hindrance within the ATP binding cleft.<sup>2-7</sup> Several of these mechanisms can exist simultaneously. X-ray spectroscopy of tyrosine kinases has revealed that shifting from a closed (inactive) to an open (active) conformation involves changes in position and orientation of multiple residues at the activation loop and at the catalytic C-helix.<sup>2-7</sup> A network of highly conserved

hydrophobic or amino-aromatic interactions – commonly termed the *hydrophobic spine*– involving residues M290, L301, H361, and F382 is stabilized during BCR-ABL1 kinase activation. $4,8$  Thus, we extended our analysis to unveil interactions between some of the amino acid substitutions encountered in our patient cohort and the spine residues that might lead to stabilization of the spine and ultimately TKI resistance. To the purpose, we applied a *per-residue* decomposition analysis to the residues involved in the spine hydrophobic interactions in the unmutated BCR-ABL1 protein in complex with imatinib and dasatinib (Table S6).

	WT	V299L
	$\Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$ (kcal/mol)	$\Delta G_{\rm bind}^{\rm bs}$ (kcal/mol)
L <sub>248</sub>	$-0.95$	$-0.99$
M290	$-1.18$	$-0.69$
V299/L	$-1.54$	$-1.12$
I313	-1.36	$-1.53$
T315	$-1.15$	$-0.88$
E316	$-0.48$	$-0.11$
F317/L	$-1.71$	-1.94
M318	$-0.08$	$-0.38$
T319	$-1.47$	$-1.43$
$\sum \Delta G_{\rm bind}^{\rm bs}$ (kcal/mol)	$-9.92$	$-9.07$

**Table S5. Per-residue free-energy decomposition for WT and V299L BCR-ABL1 in complex with dasatinib**

**Table S6**. **Hydrophobic spine per-residue free-energy decomposition for WT BCR-ABL1 in complex with imatinib or dasatinib. All values are in kcal/mol. Data standard deviations are in the range ±0.01** ÷ **±0.05**

imatinib	V <sub>299</sub>	L301	T315	F317	H361	F382
M290	$-0.35$	$-1.6$	$-0.25$	$-0.01$	$-0.01$	$-0.01$
V299	$\ast$	$-0.35$	$-0.68$	$-0.11$	$-0.01$	$-0.05$
L301	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.75$	$-0.03$	0.00	0.00
T315	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.40$	0.00	$-0.02$
F317	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	0.00	$-0.01$
H361	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.13$
$\Delta G_{bind}^{spine}$						$-4.8$
dasatinib	V299	L301	T315	F317	H361	F382
M290	$-0.81$	$-1.6$	$-0.06$	$-0.01$	$-0.02$	$-0.40$
V299	$\ast$	$-0.56$	$-0.21$	$-0.08$	$-0.01$	$-0.29$
L301	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.71$	$-0.04$	0.00	$-0.03$
T315	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.55$	0.00	$-0.05$
F317	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	0.00	0.00
H361	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-1.7$

stabilization energy of the hydrophobic spine ( $\Delta G_{bind}^{spine}$  = -4.8 kcal/mol) is substantially lower than in the case of the WT active conformation favorable to dasatinib binding  $(\Delta G_{bind}^{spine} = -7.1$  kcal/mol), as expected.

Interestingly, however, in the presence of the BCR-ABL1 V299L mutation, the hydrophobic spine is less straightened when the protein is bound to dasatinib, as shown in Table S7. This effect is mainly ascribable to the altered conformation of the leucine residue that loses interaction with M290 for approximately 0.5 kcal/mol with respect to the WT case (Figure 2B and Tables S6 & S7).

$R$ cai/iliol. Data Staliuaru deviatiolis are ili tile raliye $\pm$ 0.01 + $\pm$ 0.05						
imatinib	L <sub>299</sub>	L301	T315	F317	H361	F382
M290	$-0.29$	$-1.7$	$-0.31$	$-0.01$	0.00	0.00
L <sub>299</sub>	$\ast$	$-0.30$	$-0.70$	$-0.06$	$-0.01$	$-0.03$
L301	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.81$	$-0.02$	0.00	0.00
T315	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.49$	0.00	$-0.01$
F317	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	0.00	$-0.01$
H361	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.24$
$\Delta G_{bind}^{spine}$						$-5.0$
dasatinib	L299	L301	T315	F317	H361	F382
M290	-0.30	$-1.3$	$-0.32$	$-0.01$	$-0.02$	$-0.01$
L <sub>299</sub>	$\ast$	$-0.29$	$-0.80$	$-0.03$	$-0.01$	$-0.01$
L301	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.72$	$-0.01$	0.00	$-0.02$
T315	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	-0.53	0.00	$-0.04$
F317	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	0.00	0.00
H361	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.63$
$\Delta G_{bind}^{spine}$						-5.1

**Table S7**. **Hydrophobic spine per-residue free-energy decomposition for V299L BCR-ABL1 in complex with imatinib and dasatinib. All values are in kcal/mol. Data standard deviations are in the range ±0.01** ÷ **±0.05**

Again in the case of V299L BCR-ABL1 mutant in complex with dasatinib, a weaker interaction with H361 causes a specific repositioning of F382 in the DFG motif towards an intermediate conformation between the "in" and "out" states. Accordingly, a weaker hydrophobic interaction with the F382 residue in the intermediate conformation may act as a trigger to facilitate the transition from the active DFG-in to the inactive DFG-out state. The proposed structural mechanism thus might initiate the disruption of the spine and cause imbalance in the dynamic equilibrium between the active (to which dasatinib binds) and inactive conformation states regulating the kinase, ultimately leading to decreased drug affinity<sup>9</sup>. The critical role of residue F382 in the spine stabilization is highlighted by the considerably more favorable interaction energies of this residue with M290, V299, and, especially, H361 in the case of dasatinib. Also, the significant interaction of M290 and L301 seems to be preserved in both BCR-ABL1 kinase conformations, in agreement with crystallographic data.

T315 and F317 are two extremely deleterious mutations leading to enhanced drug resistance to both imatinib and dasatinib (Table S3). The application of the same per-residue analysis to the gatekeeper T315I BCR-ABL1 mutant isoform in complex with imatinib clearly shows that the presence of the bulkier, hydrophobic isoleucine residue causes a destabilization of the overall asset of the hydrophobic spine and the subsequent adoption of an intermediate conformation between an active and inactive kinase state (Table S8). On the contrary, a missense mutation in a drug contact point such as F317L exerts a direct, somewhat more classical effect on drug affinity by altering the tailored fitting of the binding site without any effect on the spine stabilization/destabilization (last column panel in Figure 2C & upper part of Table S8).

are in the range <b>ID.01 + ID.05</b>						
imatinib	V299	L301	I315	F317	H361	F382
M290	-0.75	$-1.5$	$-0.30$	0.00	$-0.01$	$-0.30$
V299	$\ast$	$-0.60$	$-0.83$	$-0.05$	0.00	$-0.02$
L301	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.70$	$-0.01$	0.00	$-0.02$
I315	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.43$	$-0.01$	0.00
F317	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	0.00	$-0.01$
H361	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-1.2$
$\Delta G_{bind}^{spine}$						$-6.8$
dasatinib	V299	L301	T315	L317	H361	F382
M290	$-0.78$	-1.6	$-0.18$	$-0.10$	$-0.01$	$-0.43$
V299	$\ast$	$-0.50$	$-0.28$	$-0.08$	$-0.01$	$-0.20$
L301	$\ast$	$\ast$	-0.69	$-0.03$	0.00	$-0.03$
T315	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.33$	0.00	$-0.09$
L317	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$-0.01$	0.00
H361	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	$\ast$	-1.6
$\Delta G_{bind}^{spine}$						$-7.0$

**Table S8**. **Hydrophobic spine per-residue free-energy decomposition for T315I BCR-ABL1 in complex with imatinib and F317L BCR-ABL1 in complex dasatinib, respectively. All values are in kcal/mol. Data standard deviations are in the range ±0.01** ÷ **±0.05**

An analogous situation is observed in the case of the drug-contact F317L mutant in complex with dasatinib (lower part of Table S8): as shown, several contacts with critical residues such as M290 are lost, leading to rearrangement of the binding site which, in turn, results in a substantially lower affinity of the kinase for the drug. Overall, in the case of the T315I mutant in complex with imatinib, the hydrophobic spine results to be remarkably stabilized  $(= -6.8 \text{ kcal/mol})$  with respect to the unmutated BCR-ABL1 kinase ( $\Delta G_{bind}^{spine}$  = -4.8 kcal/mol). Conversely, in the case of dasatinib, the direct replacement of phenylalanine by a leucine residue at position 317 has virtually no effect on the spine stabilization/destabilization, as the estimated  $\Delta G_{\rm bind}^{\rm spine}$  values for the unmutated and F317L isoforms are almost identical (-7.1 kcal/mol and -7.0 kcal/mol, respectively).

**Table S9. Per-residue free-energy decomposition for unmutated, T315I and T315I/V299L BCR-ABL1 in complex with imatinib**

	WT	T315I	T315I/V299L
	$\Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$ (kcal/mol)	$\Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$ (kcal/mol)	$\Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$ (kcal/mol)
Y253	$-0.81$	$-0.20$	$-0.14$
E286	$-0.81$	$-0.65$	$-0.38$
V299/L	0.00	$-0.01$	0.10
T315/I	$-1.03$	$-1.70$	$-1.78$
F317	$-1.62$	$-1.22$	$-0.92$
M318	$-1.02$	$-0.68$	$-0.58$
I360	$-1.00$	$-0.69$	$-0.51$
H361	$-0.68$	$-0.48$	$-0.41$
D381	$-0.31$	$-0.26$	$-0.34$
F382	$-0.74$	$-0.82$	$-0.68$
$\sum \Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$ (kcal/mol)	$-8.02$	$-6.71$	$-5.64$

**Table S10. Per-residue free-energy decomposition for WT, F317L, and F317L/V299L BCR-ABL1 in complex with dasatinib**



	WT	V299L	F317L
	$\Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$ (kcal/mol)	$\Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$ (kcal/mol)	$\Delta G_{bind}^{bs}$ (kcal/mol)
L248	-1.01	$-0.99$	$-0.98$
Y253	$-1.74$	$-1.68$	$-1.64$
E286	$-1.36$	$-1.33$	$-1.31$
I293	$-0.56$	$-0.55$	$-0.56$
V299/L	$-0.38$	$-0.29$	$-0.25$
T315	$-0.72$	$-0.81$	$-0.65$
F317/L	$-1.70$	-1.66	-1.55
M318	$-1.81$	$-1.76$	$-1.63$
I360	$-0.31$	$-0.33$	$-0.31$
H361	-1.56	-1.52	-1.48
D381	$-0.52$	$-0.50$	$-0.51$
3	$-11.67$	-11.42	-10.87

**Table S11. Per-residue free-energy decomposition for WT, V299L, and F317L BCR-ABL1 in complex with ponatinib**

#### **Supplemental computational details**

All parallel molecular dynamics (MD) simulations and the relevant analyses were performed using both Amber 9 and Amber 11 suites of programs $^{10-11}$  running on 256 processors on the IBM SP6 at the CINECA supercomputer center (Bologna, Italy). Molecular graphic images were produced using the UCSF Chimera package from the Resource for Biocomputing, Visualization, and Informatics at the University of California, San Francisco (supported by NIH P41 RR-01081) $^{12}$ .

In the generation of all BCR-ABL1/inhibitor molecular complexes studied in this work, the following available structures of BCR-ABL1 co-crystallized with the different tyrosine kinase inhibitors (TKIs) were employed as starting models: 1IEP.pdb (wildtype BCR-ABL1 in complex with imatinib) $^{13}$ , 2GQG.pdb (wild-type BCR-ABL1 in complex with dasatinib)<sup>14</sup>, 2V7A.pdb (T315I mutant BCR-ABL1 in complex with danusertib)<sup>15</sup>, 3OXZ.pdb (wild-type BCR-ABL1 in complex with ponatinib)<sup>16</sup>, and 3IK3.pdb (T315I mutant BCR-ABL1 in complex with ponatinib) $17$ .

The original crystal structures of the kinase/TKI complexes were inspected for integrity, and in the case of the 3OXZ.pdb file, the small, missing loops (274-279 (KEDTME), 386-392 (RLMTGDT), and 395-397 (AHA)) were built and optimized using the *Loop Refinement* modulus of the MODELER suite implemented in Discovery Studio (v.2.5, Accelrys, San Diego, CA, USA). The Amber *ff03* force field<sup>18</sup> was used to parametrize the kinase structures. The atomic partial charges for all TKIs were obtained using the RESP procedure<sup>19</sup>, and the electrostatic potentials were produced by single-point quantum mechanical calculations at the Hartree-Fock level with a 6-

31G\* basis set, using the Merz-Singh-Kollman van der Waals parameters $^{20-21}$ . Eventual missing force field parameters for the inhibitor molecules were generated using the Antichamber tool<sup>22</sup> of Amber 9/11 and the general AMBER force field (GAFF) for rational drug design. $^{23}$ 

The structures of each mutant and double mutant BCR-ABL1 in complex with the different TKIs that were obtained exploited a well-validated procedure reported in details in our previous work.<sup>24</sup> Figure S7 shows a comparison between the optimized, available crystal T315I mutant BCR-ABL1 in complex with ponatinib and the optimized structure of the same complex as obtained by applying our *in silico* mutagenesis procedure, as an example. As can be seen, the agreement between the two structures is excellent.

Each BCR-ABL1/TKI complex was then allowed to relax in a 90Å  $\times$  90Å  $\times$  90Å box of TIP3P water molecules<sup>25</sup>. The resulting system was minimized with a gradual decrease in the position restraints of the protein atoms. Finally, to achieve electroneutrality, a suitable number of neutralizing ions were added; further, the solution ionic strength was adjusted to the physiological value of 0.15 M by adding the required amounts of Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> ions. After energy minimization of the added ions for 1500 steps, keeping the protein, the ligand, and the pre-existing waters rigid, followed by an MD equilibration of the entire water/ion box with fixed solute for 2 ns, further unfavorable interactions within the structures were relieved by progressively smaller positional restraints on the solute (from 25 to 0 kcal/(mol  $\hat{A}^2$ ) for a total of 5 ns. Each hydrated complex system was gradually heated to 310 K in three intervals, allowing a 2 ns interval per each 100 K, and then equilibrated for 5 ns at 310 K, followed by 50 ns of data collection runs, necessary for the estimation of the free energy of binding (*vide infra*).

The MD simulations were performed at constant  $T = 310$  K using the Berendsen et al. algorithm<sup>26</sup> with an integration time step of 2 fs, and the applications of the Shake algorithm<sup>27</sup> to constrain all bonds to their equilibrium values, thus removing high frequency vibrations. Long-range nonbonded van der Waals interactions were truncated by using a dual cutoff of 9 and 13 Å, respectively, where energies and forces due to interactions between 9 and 13 Å were updated every 20-time steps. The particle mesh Ewald method<sup>28</sup> was used to treat the long-range electrostatics. For the calculation of the binding free energy between BCR-ABL1 and each inhibitor in water, a total of 50000 snapshots were saved during the MD data collection period described above.

The binding free energy ΔG<sub>bind</sub> of each BCR-ABL1/TKI complex in water was calculated according to the procedure termed Molecular Mechanic/Poisson-Boltzmann Surface Area (MM/PBSA), and originally proposed by Srinivasan et al<sup>29</sup>. The theoretical background of this methodology is described in details in the original papers by Peter Kollman and collaborators<sup>30</sup>, and has been successfully employed by our group in related studies.<sup>24</sup> Briefly, an MD simulation (typically in explicit solvent) was first carried out which yields a representative ensemble of structures. The average total free energy of binding between each drug and the protein receptor was then calculated as:

$$
\Delta G_{bind} = \Delta E_{MM} + \Delta G_{solv} - T\Delta S
$$
 (1)

where  $\Delta G_{bind}$  is the binding free energy in water,  $\Delta E_{MM}$  is the interaction energy between the inhibitor and the kinase,  $\Delta G_{solv}$  is the solvation free energy, and -T $\Delta S$  is the conformational entropy contribution to the binding.  $\Delta E_{MM}$  is calculated from the molecular mechanics (MM) interaction energies, according to:

$$
\Delta E_{MM} = \Delta E_{ele} + \Delta E_{vdw}
$$
 (2)

where ΔE<sub>ele</sub> and ΔE<sub>vdw</sub> are electrostatic and van der Waals interaction energies between the TKI and the kinase, which are calculated using the MM/PBSA module in the Amber 9/11 software suites.

The solvation energy,  $\Delta G_{\text{solv}}$ , is divided into two parts, the electrostatic contributions,  $\Delta G_{solv,pol}$ , and all other contributions,  $\Delta G_{solv,nonpol}$ :

$$
\Delta G_{\text{solv}} = \Delta G_{\text{solv,pol}} + \Delta G_{\text{solv,nonpol}} \tag{3}
$$

The electrostatic contribution to the solvation free energy,  $\Delta G_{solv,pol}$ , is calculated using the DelPhi software package<sup>31</sup>, which solves the Poisson-Boltzmann equations numerically and calculates the electrostatic energy according to the electrostatic potential. Interior and exterior dielectric constant values e were set equal to 1 and 80, respectively. A grid spacing of 2/Å, extending 20% beyond the dimensions of the solute, was employed. The non-polar component  $\Delta G_{solv,nonpol}$  was obtained using the following relationship<sup>32</sup>:  $\Delta G_{solv, nonpol} = \gamma \times SA + \beta$ , in which  $\gamma = 0.00542$  kcal/(mol  $\hat{A}^2$ ),  $\beta$  = 0.92 kcal/mol, and the surface area SA was estimated by means of the MSMS software<sup>33</sup>.

The quasi-harmonic analysis<sup>34</sup> was then employed directly to obtain the last term in equation (1) i.e., the change in solute entropy upon association –TΔS, from the Cartesian-coordinate covariance matrix accumulated during the corresponding molecular dynamics trajectory. To minimize the effects due to different conformations adopted by individual snapshots we averaged the estimation of entropy over 5000 snapshots. Finally, the  $IC_{50}$  values were calculated from the corresponding binding free energies using the following relationship<sup>35</sup>:

$$
\Delta G_{\text{bind}} = RT \ln K_{\text{diss}} \cong RT \ln IC_{50} \tag{4}
$$

The contribution of each kinase residue belonging to the so-called "hydrophobic spine" to the stabilization/destabilization of the active/inactive protein conformation and its eventual relation to drug resistance was investigated by means of component analysis.<sup>36</sup> Accordingly, a per residue binding free energy decomposition was performed exploiting the MD trajectory of each given inhibitor/kinase complex. This analysis was carried out using the MM/GBSA approach, $37$  and was based on the same snapshots used in the binding free energy calculation.

All BCR-ABL1/inhibitor complex structures remained stable for all 50 ns of the corresponding MD trajectories, as indicated by the small fluctuations of the rootmean-square deviation (RMSD) of the simulated position of the protein backbone atoms with respect to those of the initial structure and the corresponding temperature and total potential energy of the system as shown in Figure S8 for the wild type BCR-ABL1/imatinib complex as an example.

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**BCR-ABL1 kinase domain**



Supplemental Figure 1. ABL1 kinase domain mutations in the study cohort. (A) Chromatogram obtained from a patient after imatinib failure (right before dasatinib Supplemental Figure 1. Abert kindse domain mutations in the study conort. (A) emoniatogram obtained nom a patient arter imations randre (right before dasations<br>therapy was started) carrying 3 different point mutations with sequential therapy with imatinib followed by dasatinib.



Supplemental Figure 2. Mapping of mutations affecting imatinib and dasatinib binding onto the BCR-ABL1 kinase structure. Top panels: mapping of representative imatinib-resistant mutation sites on the unmutated BCR-ABL1/imatinib complex (left) and unmutated BCR-ABL1/dasatinib complex (right). The secondary structure is highlighted in gray, while the mutant sites are depicted as spheres, with the following color code: forest green (P-loop), gold (hinge region), red, (catalytic loop), and blue (A-loop). Bottom panels: details of the binding site of the unmutated BCR-ABL1 protein in complex with imatinib (left) and dasatinib (right) as obtained from equilibrated MD simulation snapshots. The protein backbone is portrayed as a transparent gray ribbon. The main residues involved in the interaction with each drug are shown as colored sticks and numbered. All hydrogen bonds are shown as green lines. Hydrogen atoms, water molecules, and counterions are omitted for clarity.



Supplemental Figure 3. In silico modeling of ponatinib binding to BCR-ABL1 polymutants. (A) Top: details of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 in complex with ponatinib as obtained from equilibrated MD simulation snapshots. The protein backbone is portrayed as a transparent gray ribbon, the main residues involved in drug interactions are shown as labeled colored sticks. Hydrogen bonds are shown as green lines. Middle panel: superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (red) and the BCR-ABL1<sup>T315I</sup> (purple) in complex with ponatinib. In the two complexes, the drug is depicted in red (unmutated) and purple (T315I) sticks-and-balls, respectively. Bottom: superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (red) and the BCR-ABL1<sup>V299L/F317L</sup> double mutant (black) in complex with ponatinib. In the two complexes, the drug is depicted in red (unmutated) and black (F317L/V299L) sticks-and-balls, respectively. (B) MD snapshots of dasatinib (top) and ponatinib (bottom) bound BCR-ABL1<sup>T315I/F317L</sup>. The mutant I315 and L317 are depicted as orange and cyan sticks, respectively. Note the marked difference in steric clash (golden areas in both panels), accounting for the higher affinity of ponatinib for the double mutant protein. Hydrogen atoms, water molecules and ions are omitted for clarity. (C) Sensitivity of a series of BCR-ABL1 proteins with single point mutations (black bars) or dual mutants (red bars) against ponatinib, based upon calculated IC<sub>50</sub>. Dotted blue line represents the half maximal inhibitory concentration (IC<sub>50</sub>) of ponatinib against BCR-ABL1<sup>T315</sup>.



Supplemental Figure 4. Model of nilotinib and dasatinib binding to unmutated or T315I BCR-ABL1. Top panels: details of the binding site of the unmutated BCR-ABL1 kinase domain in complex with nilotinib (left), and dasatinib (right) obtained from equilibrated MD simulation snapshots. The unmutated protein backbone is depicted as a transparent gray ribbon. The main residues involved in the interaction with each drug are shown as colored sticks and labeled. All hydrogen bonds are shown as green lines. Bottom panels: Superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (sky blue) and T315I mutant BCR-ABL1 (dark red) in complex with nilotinib (left), and unmutated BCR-ABL1 (dark cyan) and T315I mutant BCR-ABL1 (dark slate blue) in complex with dasatinib (right). In all complexes, the drug is depicted in sky blue and dark cyan (unmutated) and dark red and dark slate blue (T315I) sticks-and-balls, respectively. Hydrogen atoms, water molecules and counterions are omitted for clarity.

aData from Fabbro et al., Biochim Biophys Acta 2010, 1804:454-462. bData from O'Hare el al., PNAS 2008; 105:5507-5512. CData from Puttini et al., Cancer Res 2006; 66:11314-11322.



1313

M290

1313

 $\sum_{1313}$ 

M290

**SUPPL FIGURE 5. (A)** Top panel: superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (dark magenta) and F317L mutant BCR-ABL1 (gold) in complex with imatinib. In the two complexes, the drug is depicted in dark magenta (unmutated) and gold (F317L) sticks-and-balls, respectively. Middle panel: superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (dark magenta) and V299L mutant BCR-ABL1 (light blue) in complex with imatinib. In the two complexes, the drug is depicted in dark magenta (WT) and light blue (V299L) sticks-and-balls, respectively. Bottom panel: superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (dark magenta) and E255K mutant BCR-ABL1 (forest green) in complex with Imatinib. In the two complexes, the drug is depicted in dark magenta (WT) and forest green (E255K) sticks-and-balls, respectively. **(B)** Top panel: superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (dark cyan) and V299L mutant BCR-ABL1 (sand) in complex with dasatinib. In the two complexes, the drug is depicted in dark cyan (unmutated) and sand (V299L) sticks-and-balls, respectively. Middle panel: superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (dark cyan) and L248R mutant BCR-ABL1 (firebrick) in complex with dasatinib. In the two complexes, the drug is depicted in dark cyan (unmutated) and firebrick (L248R) sticks-and-balls, respectively. Bottom panel: superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (dark cyan) and F317L mutant BCR-ABL1 (light green) in complex with dasatinib. In the two complexes, the drug is depicted in dark cyan (unmutated) and light green (F317) sticks-and-balls, respectively. Hydrogen atoms, water molecules and counterions are omitted for clarity in all panels.

aData from Corbin et al., Blood 2003, 101:4611-4614.



Supplemental Figure 6. Model of nilotinib binding to unmutated, F317L, V299L, F317L/T315I, and F317L/V299L BCR-ABL1.(A) Superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (sky blue) and F317L mutant BCR-ABL1 (dark plum) in complex with nilotinib. In the two complexes, the drug is depicted in sky blue (unmutated) and dark plum (F317L) sticks-and-balls, respectively. (B) Superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (sky blue) and V299L mutant BCR-ABL1 (dark blue) in complex with nilotinib. In the two complexes, the drug is depicted in sky blue (unmutated) or dark blue (V299L) sticks-and-balls, respectively. (C) Superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (sky blue) and the F317L/T315I double mutant BCR-ABL1 (coral) in complex with nilotinib. In the two complexes, the drug is depicted in sky blue (unmutated) and coral (F317L/T315I) sticksand-balls, respectively. (D) Superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (sky blue) and F317/V299L mutant BCR-ABL1 (medium purple) in complex with nilotinib. In the two complexes, the drug is depicted in sky blue (unmutated) and medium purple (F317L/V299L) sticks-and-balls, respectively. Hydrogen atoms, water molecules and counterions are omitted for clarity in all panels.



**Figure 7**. Superposition of the binding site of unmutated BCR-ABL1 (red) and the T315I/F359V double mutant BCR-ABL1 (cornflower blue) in complex with ponatinib. The drug is depicted in red (unmutated) and cornflower blue (T315I/F359V) sticks-and-balls, respectively. All main residues involved in ponatinib binding are labeled.



Supplemental Figure 8. Comparison between an equilibrated molecular dynamics (MD) snapshot of the T315I mutant BCR-ABL1 in complex with ponatinib as obtained using the available crystal structure 3IK3.pdb (purple) and from our computational mutagenesis procedure<sup>15</sup> (gold). The kinase is in a ribbon representation , whereas ponatinib is shown in correspondingly colored sticks. Water, ions and counterions are omitted for clarity. For details of the MD conditions, see Supplementary results appendix.



Supplemental Figure 9. Stability of the BCR-ABL1/inhibitor complex during the MD trajectories. (A) Root-mean-square deviation of the coordinates of the backbone atoms of the wild type BCR-ABL1 kinase in complex with imatinib along the 50 ns MD simulation compared with those of the initial structure.