Are Helicases a Druggable Protein Family?

RNA helicases are motor enzymes

Enzyme activity: ATP hydrolysis (ATPase), RNA unwinding (helicase)

Unwinding of RNA duplex is coupled to ATP hydrolysis and processive translocation of the helicase by one nucleotide

(-)ds tRNA 5

apo-nsp13

nsp13-ANP

Upf1-RNA

nsp13

Tom Knight (UCL)

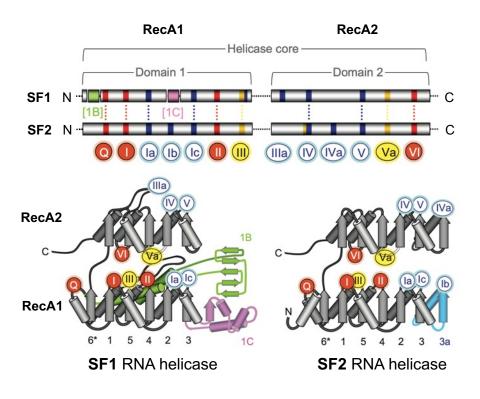
7NIO

7NNO 6JYT

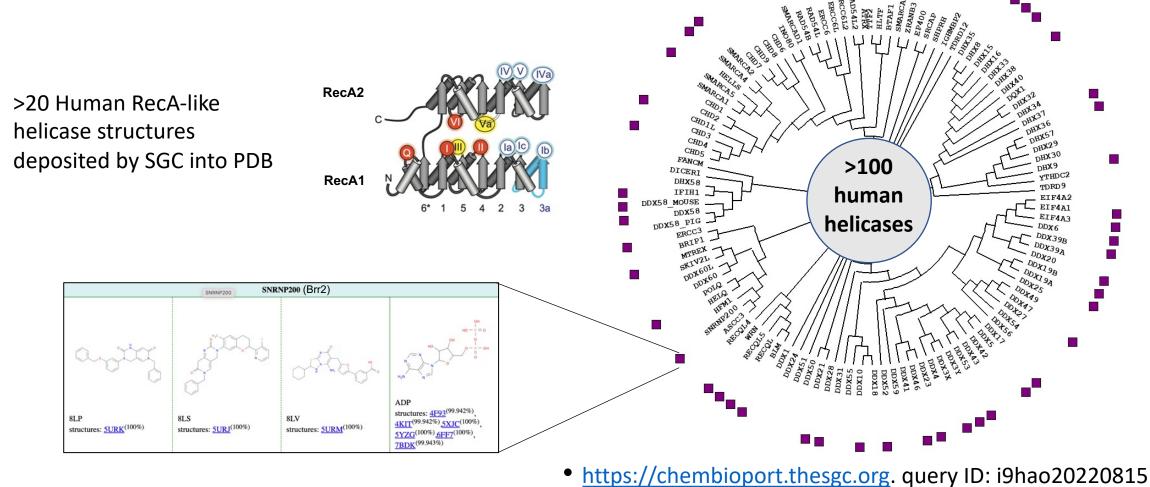
2XZL

Rec 1A domain Rec 2A domain
1B domain
Stalk domain
Zinc-binding domain
AMP-PNP (ANP)
(+)ssRNA strand

Helicase Superfamilies		
SF6	MCMs	
SF5	Rho	
SF4	φ 12 P4 DnaB	
SF3	SV40 Ltag HPV E1	
SF2	elF4A RecQ	
SF1	Upf1p UvrD	



HeliHub: function, disease association, structure, & inhibitors



Matthieu Schapira (SGC Toronto)

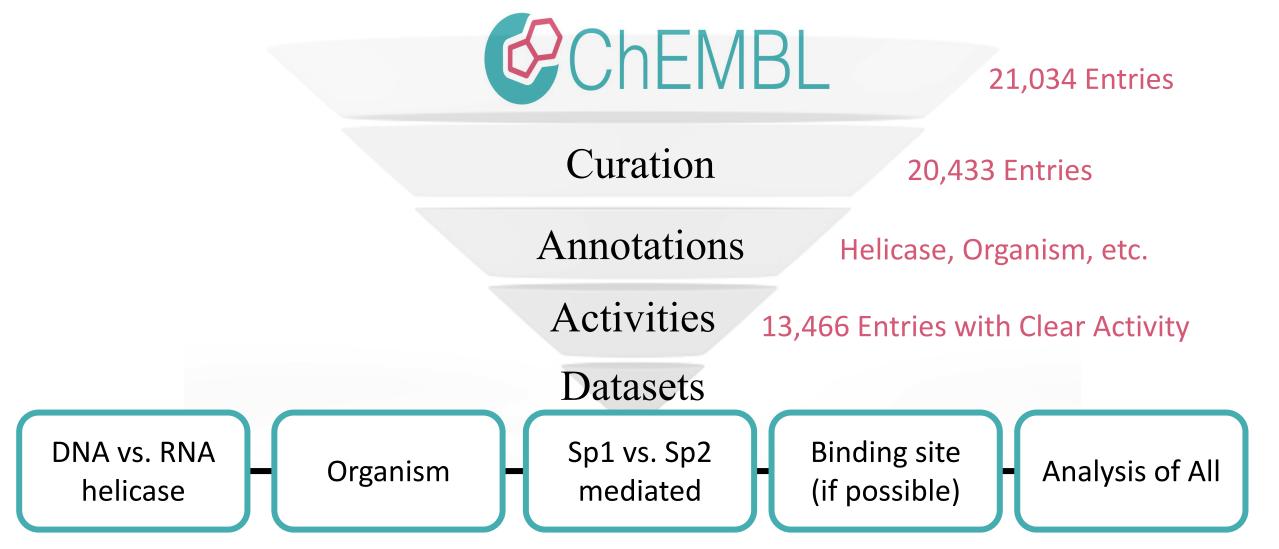
• Expansion to include viral pathogens

PDB entries

or ligand

with substrate

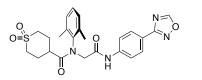
Heli-SMACC – Bioactivity data in ChEMBL for drugs targeting any helicase

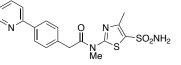


Small molecule helicase inhibitors

- Some (limited) evidence of druggability
 - $\circ~$ from phenotypic screening
 - $\circ~$ from biochemical assays

HSV/VZV helicase-primase inhibitors

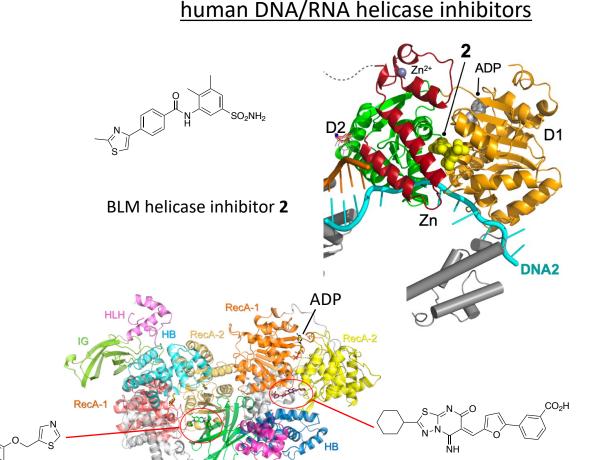




amenamevir (shingles, approved)

pritelivir (acyclovir-resistant HSV, Ph III)

Structural and mutagenesis studies indicate that inhibitors bind at noncanonical (allosteric) pockets – not the ATP or RNA/DNA sites



Brr2 helicase inhibitors

https://fragalysis.diamond.ac.uk/viewer/react/preview/target/nsp13

= MENU FRAGALYSIS: NSP13 SAVE < SHARE OWNLOAD STRUCTURES

NH O'

diamond 🕕 SGC Janssen T COVID Moonshot ✓ TIMELINE

Û

2 CONTRIBUTORS

Tag Details	Q Search	_ ^
Tag name 💲	Category 🗘 Creator 🗘 Date 🗘	
✓ A - Nucleotide Site	Sites SELECT HITS 10/27/202	21 🖉
B - RNA-3' Site	Sites SELECT HITS 10/27/202	21 /
B2 - RNA-3' Site 2	Sites SELECT HITS SITES 10/27/202	21 /
C1 - RNA-5' Site	Sites SELECT HITS 10/27/202	21 /
C2 - RNA-5' Proximal	Sites SELECT HITS SILECT HITS	21 🧪
D1 - RNA-central	Sites SELECT HITS 10/27/202	21 /
Hit List Fi 🔵 DUnion	Snow untagged Snow all Select	~
Sites Serie	es Discussion Other	
A - Nucleotide Site		
B - RNA-3' Site		
B2 - RNA-3' Site 2		
C1 - RNA-5' Site		
C2 - RNA-5' Proximal		
D1 - RNA-central		
E - Stalk		
Hit navigator	Q Search	17 =
MW logP TPSA HA Hacc	Hdon Rots Rings Velec SELECT ALL HITS Selected:	0
X0029_0A		
<i>1.</i> 197 1 66 14 2	2 2 1 74 H OH	
🔲 ХООЗ4_ОВ	OALPCSDV	

A L P C S D V

A L P C S D V

2. 203 1 60 13 2 1 2 1 72

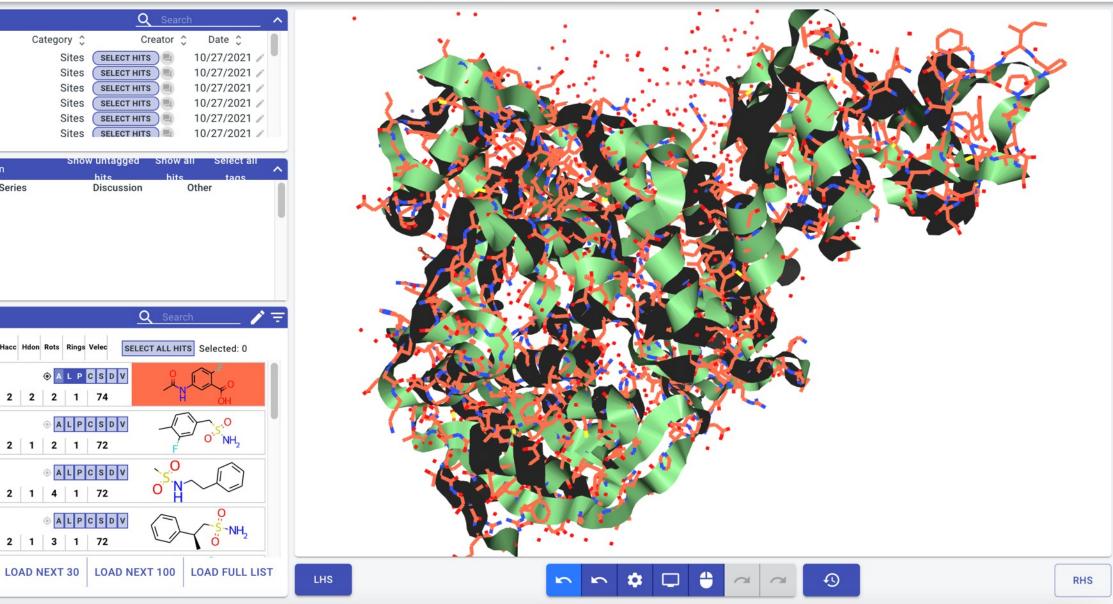
3. 199 1 46 13 2 1 4 1 72

4 199 1 60 13 2 1 3 1 72

X0176_0B

X0183_0B

TOTAL 13



8

nsp13: Diamond X-ray Fragment Screen (Joe Newman and Frank von Delft)

Testing the Druggability of SARS-CoV-2 nsp13

Ligand Screening

- Diversity vs targeted
- ATPase vs helicase (unwinding) vs binding (biophysical)
- Positive control?
- Fragment elaboration
 - mM $\rightarrow \mu M$
- Virtual docking
 - ATP vs RNA vs non-canonical site
 - CACHE challenge #2

Goal: use all available ideas and share results in real time