

## Systematical Analysis to Assist the Significance of Rv1907c Gene with the Pathogenic Potentials of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv

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### Abstract

Tuberculosis (TB) is currently among the major ten causes for death worldwide being brought about 1.7 million passing in 2016. The singular vaccine candidate available for its treatment till now is Bacillus Calmette-Guerin (BCG) which now also fails to provide accurate protection against this deadly disease. *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv (*M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv), the causative agent of this malady is currently turned out to be so intense and make extremely difficult to treat its infection. This manuscript covers some bioinformatics approaches against conserved hypothetical proteins which pretend to act as a thioredoxin-like protein. Thioredoxin (Trx) proteins are the redox proteins that are rotate between two forms, one is oxidized disulfide and the other one is reduced dithiol forms. Therefore it is said to be as an important component in many cellular redox reactions. The Trx protein of our study contains a conserved motif CXXC which is essential for its enzymatic activity. Mutational analysis of this protein declares its essentiality instability of the protein. This study concludes that this protein might be essential in several cellular processes carried out by this bacterium and further targeting this protein might give us a novel therapeutic antituberculosis drug.

**Keywords:** *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv; Alveolar macrophages; Phagolysosome; Thioredoxin; Cysteine

**Abbreviations:** TB: Tuberculosis; *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv: *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv; Trx: Thioredoxin; TrxR: Thioredoxin Reductase; GrxA: Glutaredoxin; FAD: Flavin Adenine Dinucleotide; NCBI: National Center for Biotechnology Information; MSA: Multiple Sequence Alignment; NADPH: Nicotinamide Adenine Dinucleotide Phosphate.

### Introduction

Tuberculosis (TB) broadens its horizon day by day by increasing the numbers of individuals have been suffering from this disease [1]. Primarily this disease is caused by *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv (*M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv) in humans but there are other species also which contribute equally to infection in case of animals [2]. The pathogenesis due to this bacterium still resides as an escalating worldwide vigor problem that requires novel remedial and defensive procedures [3]. There are an estimated 10.4 million incidents of TB globally ranging from 8.8 million to 12.2 million were reported in 2016. According to World Health Organization (WHO) report TB burden and mortality rate is highest in India in comparison with other countries [4]. The facade of multi-drug-resistant strains of this bacterium is also creating a worldwide crisis. The confrontation of the bacterium in the cellular immune response plus their capability to endure as well as reactivation on an afterwards phase is scantily unstated [5].

*M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv is an obligate aerobe which exists in the innate immune component of lung known as alveolar phagocytes which are mononuclear cells responsible for killing of most the pathogen but unfortunately is unable to affect *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv. These cells have been considered to employ a range of redox system to defend themselves adjacent to the oxidative stress produced through macrophages [6]. The above-stated studies have also exposed so as the thioredoxin scheme that might too assist for the upgrading of inactivated proteins originate through the oxidative stress come in front. Thioredoxin (Trx) proteins are the redox proteins that rotate between two forms, one is oxidized disulfide and the other one is reduced dithiol forms. Trx is in its oxidized state, in turn, showing

reduction through flavoenzyme, thioredoxin reductase, through a redox-active cysteine conjugate plus flavin adenine dinucleotide like a substitute overwhelming cellular nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NADPH). Reduced Trx produced in this behavior is hence delivered for reducing disulfide of the intentioned proteins within the cellular environment [7]. The NADPH-dependent disulfide reduction method is necessarily used for a range of physiological roles.

For instance, two thioredoxin proteins are belonging to *E. coli*, TrxA and TrxC and another protein glutaredoxin have been recognized as the requirement for cellular DNA production through performing as an electron donor for the important enzyme ribonucleotide reductase. The thioredoxin system is consists of three components Trx, TrxR and NADPH. This system is an omnipresent redox conduit originates within the spacious assortment of phyla. The reduction of Trx that while present in their dithiol structure be the major disulfide reductase in living cells [8]. This redox scheme has an extensive assortment of the natural purpose, with sustaining the intracellular reduced condition in the facade of the oxidizing extracellular surroundings. Trx and TrxR inside *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv are probably participating comparable mean role opposing oxidative anxiety seeing already pragmatic in additional prokaryotes, consequently creating thioredoxin an objective intended for the antituberculosis drugs [9].

*M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv whole genome sequence revealed that it

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encodes three thioredoxin proteins (TrxA, TrxR and TrxC). A recent report has been found the signaling of foremost is the biochemical inhibitor of *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv TrxC [10]. Since mycobacteria complex lacks the glutathione-dependent detoxification system, the thioredoxin scheme should importantly add for the pathogen resistance adjacent to oxidative intermediates and it is also shown that proteins are extremely preserved between living organisms like prokaryotes and eukaryotes, with sequence homology between 27 and 69% [11]. Correspondingly, *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv TrxC has 50 and 29% sequence homology to *E. coli* and human thioredoxin.

Trx system has been exposed to detoxify injurious agents, for example, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, alkyl hydroperoxidase and supplementary oxidants that are also involved in preclusion, interference and the restore protein structure that somehow get damaged by oxidative stress [12]. The earlier abandoned reduction of glutathione disulfide by the thioredoxin system is currently being considered in the group; GSSG which may be able to attain considerable concentrations. In this circumstance of defense from oxidative tension, it is remarkable that the thioredoxin system might be an *in-vitro* electron donor for the so-called plasma glutathione peroxidase [13].

Reports on *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv relate the thioredoxin redox cycle with resistance to the isoniazid, the first line drug in TB treatment [14]. The function of the thioredoxin arrangement has also been examined in other protozoan parasites such as *Entamoeba histolytica* (*E. histolytica*). It is a facultative anaerobe and can assault host tissues; where it is faced with the human immune response and required to deal with immediate oxygen species. A parasitic superoxide dismutase detoxifies superoxide anions unrestricted from activated macrophages. Hydrogen peroxide produced in this effect is consequently reduced by the mutual action of a thioredoxin reductase-like protein and a thioredoxin peroxidase-like protein. Recently it has been shown that these antioxidant enzymes are also dependable for the improvement of confrontation to metronidazole [15], a drug used for more than 25 years in the management of anaerobic and microaerophilic pathogens. However, the precise participation of the thioredoxin reductase-like enzyme in this method remains to be elucidated. Therefore in this manuscript, we show various bioinformatics aspects as structural, functional and mutational studies of gene Rv1907c of *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv which might empower experimental work in this field and might be found a suitable antituberculosis drug as shown in Table 1 [16-18].

## Materials and Methods

### Retrieval of the target protein sequence

Mycobrowser is the database where *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv data is available easily like nucleotide sequence or protein sequence else physiochemical properties are also easily available here. For the protein

sequence, we know the enzymatic functions, signaling functions, structural functions etc. We have selected the sequence of the Rv1907c hypothetical gene for the study of the thioredoxin-like protein [19].

### Multiple sequence alignment

MSA is the alignment of three or more biological sequences of similar length. The applications of the multiple sequence alignment outcome, evolutionary relationship between the sequences, homology can be evidenced studies. For generating the sequence alignment Clustal Omega uses HMM profile-profile techniques [20]. Clustal Omega tool is suitable for medium-large alignments. Biological sequence similarity by Pairwise Sequence Alignment tool is an important step for identifying the relationship of functional, structural and/or evolutionary characteristics.

### Protein-protein interaction network

For the study of the protein-protein interaction between two genes, there will be a server known as STRING database. Protein-protein interaction connections as direct (physical) or indirect (functional) associations; String could do that from computational prediction; from in sequence communication between organisms, and from connections aggregated from other principal databases [21]. String database interaction result shown separately for each data and the cutoff value as low confidence: scores <0.4; medium: 0.4 to 0.7; high: >0.7.

### Prediction of the signal peptide

Analysis of cleavage site prediction was done by SignalP 4.1 server. Rv1907c protein sequence was examined by SignalP 4.1 server (<http://www.cbs.dtu.dk/-services/SignalP>). The Y-score (combined cleavage site score) distinguishes between C-score peaks by choosing the one where the slope of the S-score is steep. The S-score (signal peptide score) distinguish positions within signal peptides from positions in the mature part of the proteins and from proteins without signal peptides and the C-score is trained to be high at the position immediately after the cleavage site [22-24].

### Disulfide-bonding in protein

Disulfide bonds in protein play an important role in protein stability conformation. Primary structure of protein cysteine residue formed disulfide bridges. Disulfide bonds and Cysteine residues are important for protein structure and function. Due to the utilization of SVM binary server to DiANNA 1.1 web server predict bonding state of cysteine, these cysteines are paired by Recursive Neural Network to show disulfide bridges [25,26]. Study of the disulphide bonding helps for experimental structure determination and defining the stability of the proteins.

S.No.	Tools	URL	Function	Reference
1	Clustal Omega	<a href="https://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/">https://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/</a>	For the Multiple sequence alignment.	[20]
2	STRING	<a href="https://string-db.org/cgi/network.pl?taskId=BUe3enVFzh8M">https://string-db.org/cgi/network.pl?taskId=BUe3enVFzh8M</a>	For the study of protein-protein interaction.	[21]
3	SignalP 4.1	<a href="http://www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/SignalP/">http://www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/SignalP/</a>	For the predicts the presence and location of signal peptide cleavage sites	[22,23]
4	DiANNA 1.1	<a href="http://clavius.bc.edu/~cletelab/DiANNA/">http://clavius.bc.edu/~cletelab/DiANNA/</a>	For the study of Cysteine state and Disulfide bond partner prediction.	[25,26]
5	PSIPRED v3.3	<a href="http://bioinf.cs.ucl.ac.uk/psipred/">http://bioinf.cs.ucl.ac.uk/psipred/</a>	For predict secondary structure of the protein.	[27,28]
6	iSTABLE	<a href="http://predictor.nchu.edu.tw/istable/">http://predictor.nchu.edu.tw/istable/</a>	For the integrated predictor for protein stability change upon single mutation.	[30]
7	DynaMut webservice	<a href="http://biosig.unimelb.edu.au/dynamut/analysis">http://biosig.unimelb.edu.au/dynamut/analysis</a>	For the prediction of protein stability changes upon mutation using Normal Mode Analysis	[31]

Table 1: Table showing enlists the different servers used in the study.

## Secondary structure prediction

The secondary structure was predicted by using PSIPRED v3.3 (<http://bioinf.cs.ucl.ac.uk>) servers [27,28].

## Mutational analysis

In proteomics and genomics, contemplates studies of protein strength free energy change ( $\Delta\Delta G$ ) upon single point mutation may likewise enable for the explanation to process. The greater part of the  $\Delta\Delta G$  esteems are almost zero (around 32% of the  $\Delta\Delta G$  informational index ranges from  $-0.5$  to  $0.5$  kcal/mole) and both the esteem and indication of  $\Delta\Delta G$  might be either positive or negative for a similar change obscuring the relationship among mutated and expected  $\Delta\Delta G$  esteem. Keeping in mind the final goal to conquer this issue, we portray another indicator that segregates between 3 change classes: destabilizing mutations ( $\Delta\Delta G < -1.0$  kcal/mol), balancing out transformations ( $\Delta\Delta G > 1.0$  kcal/mole) and nonpartisan changes ( $-1.0 \leq \Delta\Delta G \leq 1.0$  kcal/mole) [29]. Prediction of protein stability change upon a single point mutation was predicted by iStable online server [30] and DynaMut web server [31].

## Results

### Retrieval of the target protein sequence

For the retrieval of the target protein sequence, we have been used Mycobrowser database which has all the nucleotide and protein sequence of *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv strain. Our query protein Rv1907c has 648 bp gene length or 24 kDa protein. It is a conserved hypothetical protein and not studied before.

### A Multiple sequence alignment

In multiple sequence alignment tool Clustal Omega, we studied our query protein Rv1907c of *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv shows the homology with other conserved thioredoxin family protein of *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv as shown in Figure 1.

### Protein-protein interaction network

Inside the environment of cell type protein-protein interaction with other proteins, *In silico* tools STRING v9.1 have been used for this study. STRING is a search tool for retrieval of interacting genes. A study of a large repository of protein-protein interactions has been done by STRING database; involving functional interactions, stable complexes, and regulatory interactions along with proteins. The cutoff value of STRING server is between (0-1), low confidence: scores  $< 0.4$ ; medium: 0.4 to 0.7; high:  $> 0.7$ . The results of Rv1907c protein-protein interaction shows that it is highly interacted with the *katG* and *furA*

genes. These both genes present in immediate upstream region of the Rv1907c and thus highly interact with interested protein. *katG* gene is involved in non protective oxidative stress response and *furA* is found to be negative regulator of *katG* gene. For the functioning partner *katG* act as a bi-functional enzyme with both catalase and broad-spectrum peroxidase activity and *furA* shows ferric uptake regulation protein as shown in Figure 2, better consideration of the interaction networks should be seen on the server site.

### Prediction of the signal peptide

Signal peptide prediction was done by SignalP 4.1 prediction server. In the SignalP 4.1 server, FASTA format of the protein sequence is acceptable and other criteria are fulfill for running the program are organism group, D-cutoff value, graphical output, output format, method and positional limit. In our study, the organism group is Gram-positive bacteria with the D-Score cut-off value of 0.45. For the searching of signal peptide result are 45<sup>th</sup> residue at highest Y-Score and therefore the other two cleavage sites with relatively lower Y-Score predicted to be as 45<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> position residue is in the protein sequence of Rv1907c. All the cleavage sites were predicted towards the carboxyl- terminal of arginine as shown in Figure 3.

### Disulfide-bonding in protein

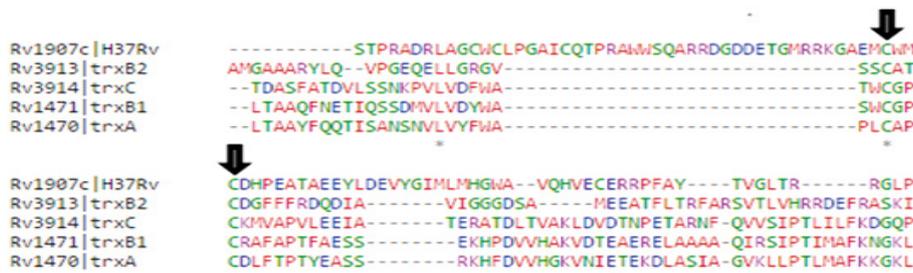
For the analysis of Rv1907c protein by DiANNA 1.1 web server as shown in Figure 4 shows the Disulfide oxidation state prediction on the 60<sup>th</sup> position with score 0.98578 and the Disulfide bond prediction on the position of 24<sup>th</sup>-32<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>-32<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup>-93<sup>th</sup>.

### Secondary structure prediction

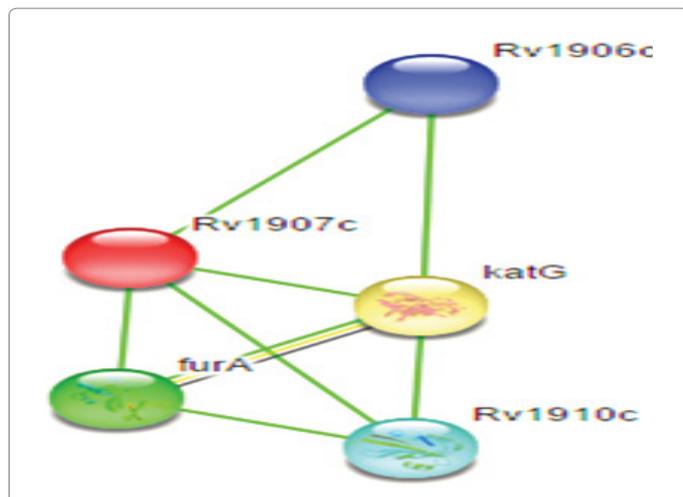
PSIPRED server predicted to the secondary structure prediction of the protein analysis by the single amino acid sequence or FASTA format submission of the protein sequence (<https://www.predictprotein.org/>). For the analysis of PSIPRED server predicted the Helix (H), extended strand in beta-sheet (E) and coiled region of the protein. The viewer layout predicted features that correspond to regions of the Rv1907c protein queried sequence. The positions of the amino acids show their protein binding region as well as polynucleotide binding regions respectively as shown in Figure 5. Whereas the PSIPRED server has predicted that the events of the 4  $\alpha$ -helices and 6  $\beta$ -strands are shown in the Rv1907c protein sequence.

### Mutational analysis

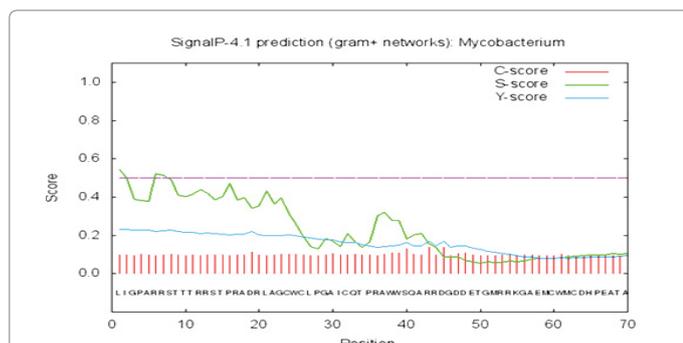
iStable metaserver and STRUM are utilized for the analysis of mutational studies of our query protein to analyze the single point mutation. In Rv1907c which is hypothetical protein has a thioredoxin motif (CXXC). For the single point mutation studies, we have selected



**Figure 1:** Systematic demonstration of the multiple sequence alignment of the *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv of Rv1907c protein sequence which result out the homology of this protein sequence with other thioredoxin proteins of *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv by using Clustal Omega.



**Figure 2:** Interaction of Rv1907c by STRING tool. String server predicts the interacting partner of the protein with their efficiency of interaction. The figure shows that Rv1907c interacts with *katG* with 0.859 score and *furA* with 0.728 and the cutoff value of this server is (0-1).



**Figure 3:** The location of cleavage sites within Rv1907c protein by SignalP 4.1 server. In this figure shows the location of most probable cleavage sites prediction for signal peptide search yields 45<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> residue at highest Y-Score. The other two cleavage sites with comparatively lower Y-Score predicted to be at 19<sup>th</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup> residues in the protein sequence of Rv1907c.

**DIANNA 1.1 server**

Sequence Position	Cysteine neighborhood window	Score
24	DRLAGWCLFG	0.0
26	LAGWCLFGAI	0.0
32	LFGAIQTFRA	0.0
60	KGAEMCMWDH	0.98578
63	EMCMWDHPEA	0.0
93	VQHVCEERFF	0.0
167	DAHLYCAIAIF	0.0

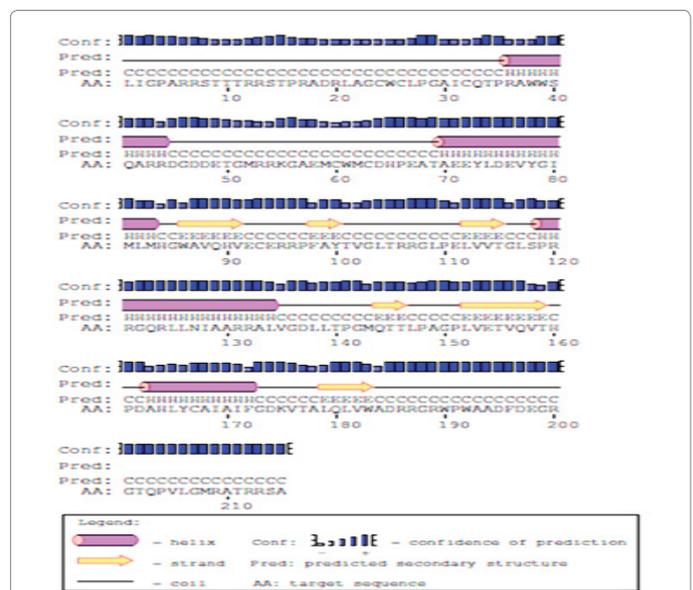
  

Cysteine-cysteine distance	Distance	Seed	Score
24-26	2	DRLAGWCLFG-LAGWCLFGAI	0.0192
24-32	8	DRLAGWCLFG-LFGAIQTFRA	0.0411
24-60	36	DRLAGWCLFG-KGAEMCMWDH	0.40192
24-63	39	DRLAGWCLFG-EMCMWDHPEA	0.01677
24-93	69	DRLAGWCLFG-VQHVCEERFF	0.02508
24-167	143	DRLAGWCLFG-DAHLYCAIAIF	0.01639
26-32	6	LAGWCLFGAI-LFGAIQTFRA	0.0411
26-60	34	LAGWCLFGAI-KGAEMCMWDH	0.01043
26-63	37	LAGWCLFGAI-EMCMWDHPEA	0.01037
26-93	67	LAGWCLFGAI-VQHVCEERFF	0.01343
26-167	141	LAGWCLFGAI-DAHLYCAIAIF	0.01139
32-60	28	LFGAIQTFRA-KGAEMCMWDH	0.01055
32-63	31	LFGAIQTFRA-EMCMWDHPEA	0.01045
32-93	61	LFGAIQTFRA-VQHVCEERFF	0.02764
32-167	135	LFGAIQTFRA-DAHLYCAIAIF	0.01038
60-63	3	KGAEMCMWDH-EMCMWDHPEA	0.03349
60-93	33	KGAEMCMWDH-VQHVCEERFF	0.00363
60-167	107	KGAEMCMWDH-DAHLYCAIAIF	0.0624

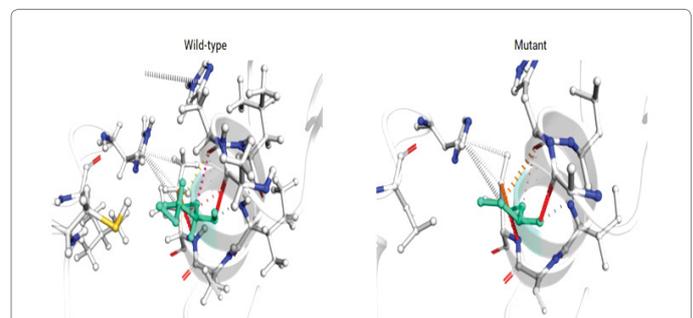
**Figure 4:** Disulphide bond prediction in between Cysteine-Cysteine residues. The figure clearly shows the Disulphide oxidation state prediction on the position of 60<sup>th</sup> with score 0.98578 and the Disulphide bonds prediction using a trained Neural network shows cysteine residues were present in 24<sup>th</sup>-32<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>-32<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup>-93<sup>th</sup>.

cysteine residue because of the CXXC motif and cysteine residue make disulfide bond which is important for experimental structure determination and defining the stability of the proteins. In Rv1907c, there are seven cysteine residues present on 24, 26, 32, 60, 63, 93 and 167 positions. Moreover, cysteine residue 60<sup>th</sup> and 63<sup>rd</sup> position are the thioredoxin motif site, therefore, it was decided to check change in stability of the protein at this cysteine.

**Single point mutation studies through protein sequence:** In thioredoxin protein Cysteine residue is crucial for functional activity, therefore mutation at this position with all other amino acid had been shown in Figure 6. iStable meta server calculation there are DDG<-0.5 means (large decrease of stability), DDG>0.5 means (increase of stability) and -0.5<=DDG<=0.5 means (neutral stability). In the graph, we have seen that there is more than 3 amino acids have largely decreased the stability means -0.5 or below value towards negative (Tables 2 and 3). In the past research analysis, there were some findings which prove



**Figure 5:** Protein secondary structure prediction by PSIPRED tool. The graphical output of PSIPRED prediction of secondary structure of the protein shows 4  $\alpha$ -helices extends from 36<sup>th</sup>-44<sup>th</sup>, 70<sup>th</sup>-83<sup>th</sup>, 118<sup>th</sup>-134<sup>th</sup> and 163<sup>th</sup>-172<sup>th</sup> residue and 6  $\beta$ -strands.



**Figure 6:** Prediction of Interatomic Interactions. The figure shows the study of Interatomic interaction due to change in the single amino acid. By changing the cysteine residue of 167<sup>th</sup> positions by serine, the hydrogen bond, water-mediated hydrogen bond, halogen bond and aromatic contacts are disrupted. Wild-type and mutant residues are colored in light-green and are also represented as sticks alongside with the surrounding residues which are involved on any type of interactions.

Position	I-Mutant 2.0		MUpro		iStable	
	DDG	Stability	DDG	Conf. Score	Stability	Conf. Score
C24S	-0.58	Decrease	-1.28	-0.99006162	Decrease	0.774014
C26S	-0.58	Decrease	-1.04	-0.78773185	Decrease	0.783164
C32S	-0.33	Decrease	-1.89	-0.67104070	Decrease	0.795649
C60S	-0.63	Decrease	-1.13	-0.66134712	Decrease	0.816418
C63S	-0.53	Decrease	-1.58	-1	Decrease	0.820475
C93S	-0.71	Decrease	-1.01	-0.93314897	Decrease	0.671629
C167S	-0.73	Decrease	-1.28	-0.37210931	Decrease	0.816823

**Table 2:** Comparative studies by iStable (Metaserver) for protein stability prediction confirms that the wild type cysteine on position 167<sup>th</sup> mutate with serine (Cys167Ser) has highest decrease in stability.

Position	DynaMut	ENCoM	mCSM	SDM	DUET
	DDG value/				
	Stability	Stability	Stability	Stability	Stability
C24S	-0.297 Decrease	-0.289 Decrease	-1.790 Decrease	-1.310 Decrease	-1.708 Decrease
C26S	0.017 Increase	0.227 Increase	-1.806 Decrease	-1.400 Decrease	-1.756 Decrease
C32S	-0.087 Decrease	-0.504 Decrease	-1.107 Decrease	-1.850 Decrease	-1.102 Decrease
C60S	-0.367 Decrease	-0.255 Decrease	-0.110 Decrease	-0.730 Decrease	-0.174 Decrease
C63S	-0.272 Decrease	-0.282 Decrease	-0.893 Decrease	-1.350 Decrease	-0.770 Decrease
C93S	-0.425 Decrease	-0.433 Decrease	-0.917 Decrease	-1.940 Decrease	-1.052 Decrease
C167S	-1.560 Decrease	-0.581 Decrease	-2.213 Decrease	-1.230 Decrease	-2.109 Decrease

**Table 3:** Study of protein stability change after a single point mutation by using Normal Mode Analysis by DynaMut server. The table concludes that the stability highest decreases stability at 167<sup>th</sup> residue by changing cysteine to serine.

the mutation of cysteine by serine shows the major function loss. As further studies in thioredoxin, protein motif is also CXXC so we select the cysteine residue for mutation. In the iStable metaserver program we select a 25°C temperature and 7.0 pH.

**Protein stability changes upon mutation using normal mode analysis by DynaMut server:** DynaMut web server has been used for the analysis of the impact of the mutations on protein dynamics and stability resulting from vibration entropy changes. This web server executes two distinct, normal mode approaches which can be used to analyze and visualize protein dynamics by sampling conformations and their assessment. DynaMut integrates our graph-based marks alongside through usual mode dynamics to produce a consensus prediction of the impact of the mutation on protein stability. This approach outperforms alternative approaches to predict the effects of mutations on protein stability and flexibility (p-value <0.001), achieving a correlation of up to 0.70 on blind tests. Proteins are extremely vibrant molecules, whose function is fundamentally linked to their molecular motions. In spite of the crucial role of protein dynamics, their computational simulation cost has led to most structure-based approaches for evaluating the impact of mutations on protein structure and function relying upon static structures.

## Discussion

Studies regarding these findings lead us to know about the risk of development of this disease in new individuals. The risk is on rising due to unavailability of an effective drug. Although the number of incidences had been decreased, the risk increases day by day also due to several environmental factors. There is continuous effort had been put by scientists in order to increase the effectiveness of the vaccine and in searching for a new drug target. This manuscript elaborates the characteristics of the Rv1907c gene of *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv. This 24kDa protein is a conserved hypothetical gene [17]. Multiple sequence alignment data showed that this gene share similarity with other thioredoxin genes of *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv which might be an important finding towards its effectiveness as a thioredoxin protein

[18]. STRING database shows its several interacting partners which include its neighboring partners as well as *katG* and *furA* [19]. These both genes are present in adjacent upstream region of Rv1907c and *katG* involved in response from non protective oxidative stress process occurring in *M. tuberculosis*. *furA* is found to be negatively regulating expression of *katG* gene. The study of these two genes thus remains us willing to knowing the fact about involvement of Rv1907c in stress response [32,33]. SignalP 4.1 server has been used for the prediction of cleavage site present in Rv1907c. This server shows the location of the most probable cleavage site at 45<sup>th</sup> and 47<sup>th</sup> residue with highest y score. There are two other cleavage sites which are lower than the Y-Score to be predicted as 19<sup>th</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup> residues in the protein sequence of Rv1907c [22-24]. Disulfides bonding are also present in 24<sup>th</sup>-32<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>-32<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup>-93<sup>th</sup> position in the protein [25,26]. For the secondary structure prediction of Rv1907c protein sequence finds 4 alpha helices (from 36<sup>th</sup>-44<sup>th</sup>, 70<sup>th</sup>-83<sup>th</sup>, 118<sup>th</sup>-134<sup>th</sup> and 163<sup>rd</sup>-172<sup>th</sup>) and 6 beta sheets [27,28]. Thioredoxin proteins contain a conserved amino acid motif CXXC which is essential for its activity and cysteine residue make disulfide bond which is important for experimental structure determination and defining the stability of the proteins [29]. Cysteine residue 60<sup>th</sup> and 63<sup>rd</sup> position are the thioredoxin motif site, therefore, we check to change the stability of the protein at this cysteine. Single point mutation by the iStable metaserver proves that the mutation of cysteine at 167<sup>th</sup> position (C167S) with serine causes maximum loss of stability [30] and also we cross-check with DynaMut server finds a loss of interatomic interaction in the mutant type in comparison with the wild-type species [31]. After analysis of Rv1907c, we find that this gene might possess' thioredoxin activity that seems to be essential for the vitality of *M. tuberculosis* H<sub>37</sub>Rv inside the phagosomes of the host. Further study of this gene might come out with the production of effective drug therapy against this deadly disease.

## Conclusion

The Trx protein of our study contains a conserved motif CXXC which is essential for its enzymatic activity. Mutational analysis of

this protein declares its essentiality instability of the protein. This study concludes that this protein might be essential in several cellular processes carried out by this bacterium and further targeting this protein might give us a novel therapeutic antituberculosis drug.

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