## **Supporting Information for**

## Linking inhibitor motions to proteolytic stability of sunflower trypsin inhibitor-1

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**Fig. S1** The calculated RMSD of the backbone atoms of trypsin–SFTI-1 complex compared to the high resolution crystal structure from a 100 ns classic MD simulation.



**Fig. S2** Illustration of the division of QM/MM system for (a) acylation reaction (b) deacylation reaction. All atoms colored in blue are QM atoms and assigned with 6-31+G\* basis set, and the pseudo-atoms (colored in red) are treated with pseudo-bond parameters. All the left atoms are MM atoms that are treated with Amber99SB force field. The atoms connected with pseudo-atoms (colored in green) are treated as zero-charge atoms, and have no electrostatic interaction with QM atoms.



**Fig. S3** Illustration of reaction mechanism for hydrolysis of SFTI-1 by trypsin and reaction coordinates chosen at each step of (a) acylation, (b) deacylation. "–I" refers to residues belonging to inhibitor SFTI-1. For the initial step of acylation reaction, the reaction coordinate is chosen as  $d_{OG-HG} - d_{C-OG}$ , which is the distance between O-H bond of Ser195 and the distance between attacking O of Ser195 and the carbon atom of scissile bond. The reaction coordinate of the second step is  $d_{OG-HG} - d_{N-HG}$ , the distances of two H-bonds formed with the proton. The reaction coordinate of the third step is  $d_{C-N} - d_{N-HG} + d_{NE2-HG}$ , in which  $d_{C-N}$  means the distance between C and N of the scissile bond,  $d_{N-HG}$  is the distance between N atom of scissile and H, and  $d_{NE2-HG}$  is distance between H and the N atom of His57. For deacylation reaction, the reaction coordinates are  $d_{OW-HW} - d_{C-OW}$  and  $d_{C-OG} - d_{HW-OG} + d_{NE2-HW}$  for the two steps respectively.



Fig. S4 The 2-dimensional free energy surface for the first step of acylation reaction for SFTI-1.



**Fig. S5** The one-dimensional free energy curves for (a) the first step; (b) the second step; (c) the third step of acylation reaction for SFTI-1.



**Fig. S6** The change of reaction coordinates for (a) the first step; (b) the second step; (c) the third step of acylation reaction for SFTI-1. Distance names are the same as defined in Figure S3.



**Fig. S7** The one-dimensional free energy curves for (a) the first step; (b) the second step of deacylation reaction for SFTI-1.



**Fig. S8** The change of reaction coordinates for (a) the first step; (b) the second step of deacylation reaction for SFTI-1. Distance names are the same as defined in Figure S3.



**Fig. S9** The one-dimensional free energy curves for (a) the first step; (b) the second step; (c) the third step of acylation reaction for BiKF.



**Fig. S10** The change of reaction coordinates for (a) the first step; (b) the second step; (c) the third step of acylation reaction for BiKF. Distance names are the same as defined in Figure S3.



**Fig. S11** Superposition of structures of the active region for tryspin-SFTI-1 at EI (in red), TI1 (in green), TI2 (in blue) and TS3 (in yellow) states in stick mode. "–I" means this residue belongs to inhibitor SFTI-1.

Distance(Å)	EI	TS1	TI1	TS2	TI2	TS3	EA1
OG(S195)-C(K5-I)	$2.62 \pm 0.07$	1.83±0.16	$1.55 \pm 0.07$	$1.50\pm0.05$	$1.49 \pm 0.05$	$1.47 \pm 0.05$	1.33±0.03
HG(S195)-OG(S195)	$1.00\pm0.02$	$1.62 \pm 0.12$	1.63±0.12	2.03±0.11	2.13±0.19	2.29±0.12	2.71±0.18
HG(S195)-NE2(H57)	$1.82\pm0.13$	$1.08\pm0.04$	$1.06 \pm 0.03$	$1.03 \pm 0.03$	$1.05 \pm 0.02$	$1.32 \pm 0.07$	2.19±0.15
HG(S195)-N'(S6-I)	3.62±0.17	$3.45 \pm 0.33$	3.05±0.13	2.17±0.12	$1.91\pm0.09$	$1.33 \pm 0.07$	$1.03\pm0.06$
C(K5-I)-N'(S6-I)	$1.37\pm0.02$	$1.45 \pm 0.05$	$1.53 \pm 0.05$	$1.57 \pm 0.06$	$1.61 \pm 0.06$	$1.68\pm0.09$	3.07±0.14
C(K5-I)-O(K5-I)	$1.23\pm0.02$	$1.26\pm0.02$	$1.29\pm0.03$	$1.28\pm0.02$	$1.29\pm0.03$	$1.27 \pm 0.03$	$1.22\pm0.02$
ND1(H57)-OD1(D102)	2.92±0.13	3.06±0.29	2.86±0.15	3.20±0.29	$3.48\pm0.18$	$3.54 \pm 0.24$	3.14±0.26
ND1(H57)-OD2(D102)	3.16±0.22	3.03±0.18	3.12±0.17	2.79±0.15	2.77±0.14	3.03±0.19	3.20±0.28
HD1(H57)-OD1(D102)	$1.91\pm0.15$	$2.08 \pm 0.35$	$1.82\pm0.17$	$2.29\pm0.37$	2.63±0.19	$2.69 \pm 0.28$	2.19±0.31
HD1(H57)-OD2(D102)	2.48±0.23	$2.25 \pm 0.27$	2.43±0.18	$1.90\pm0.30$	1.76±0.16	2.06±0.23	$2.39 \pm 0.32$
HD1(H57)-ND1(H57)	$1.04\pm0.03$	$1.04\pm0.03$	$1.05 \pm 0.03$	$1.06\pm0.03$	$1.06\pm0.04$	$1.04\pm0.03$	$1.03\pm0.03$
N(S195)-O(K5-I)	2.99±0.13	$2.88 \pm 0.12$	3.00±0.13	2.99±0.13	2.94±0.11	$2.87 \pm 0.10$	$2.98 \pm 0.12$
N(D194)-O(K5-I)	3.26±0.18	3.25±0.20	3.49±0.17	3.52±0.18	3.47±0.17	3.60±0.19	3.41±0.19
N(G193)-O(K5-I)	$2.87 \pm 0.11$	$2.78 \pm 0.08$	$2.78 \pm 0.08$	$2.77 \pm 0.08$	$2.77 \pm 0.07$	3.06±0.13	$2.87 \pm 0.11$
∠NE2(H57)-HG(S195)	123.6±6.5	135.0±6.0	120.7±5.3	155.1±7.6	160.1±9.3	172.0±4.3	$165.2 \pm 8.0$
-N'(S6-I)/degree							
Torsion ω/degree	190.6±6.2	179.6±6.1	163.4±5.0	162.6±5.6	146.9±5.3	143.8±6.0	148.0±8.6

**Table S1.** List of key geometric parameters for the reactant, transition states, intermediate and acyl-enzyme of acylation reaction for trypsin-SFTI-1 based on QM/MM MD simulations.

Distance(Å)	EI	TS1	TI1	TS2	TI2	TS3	EA1
OG(S195)-C(K5-I)	$2.62 \pm 0.08$	$1.85 \pm 0.14$	$1.56 \pm 0.06$	$1.51 \pm 0.05$	$1.47 \pm 0.04$	$1.45 \pm 0.05$	1.33±0.03
HG(S195)-OG(S195)	$1.01 \pm 0.02$	$1.65 \pm 0.10$	$1.80\pm0.12$	2.14±0.23	$2.09 \pm 0.16$	2.33±0.15	$2.70\pm0.19$
HG(S195)-NE2(H57)	1.77±0.13	$1.07 \pm 0.03$	$1.05 \pm 0.03$	$1.04\pm0.03$	$1.06\pm0.02$	$1.29 \pm 0.09$	$2.38\pm0.16$
HG(S195)-N'(S6-I)	3.53±0.19	3.40±0.24	3.05±0.12	2.29±0.24	$1.90\pm0.10$	1.38±0.12	$1.03\pm0.04$
C(K5-I)-N'(S6-I)	$1.36\pm0.02$	$1.44 \pm 0.04$	$1.49 \pm 0.03$	$1.55 \pm 0.06$	$1.66 \pm 0.08$	1.72±0.15	3.07±0.16
C(K5-I)-O(K5-I)	1.23±0.02	$1.26\pm0.02$	$1.29 \pm 0.02$	1.29±0.03	$1.28\pm0.03$	1.27±0.03	$1.22 \pm 0.02$
ND1(H57)-OD1(D102)	3.00±0.20	$2.94 \pm 0.24$	$2.99 \pm 0.26$	3.42±0.20	3.48±0.21	3.53±0.22	3.43±0.28
ND1(H57)-OD2(D102)	3.20±0.27	$3.09 \pm 0.20$	3.08±0.19	2.78±0.12	2.81±0.14	2.86±0.13	3.09±0.26
HD1(H57)-OD1(D102)	1.99±0.23	$1.93 \pm 0.28$	2.00±0.31	$2.57 \pm 0.22$	2.62±0.23	$2.69 \pm 0.24$	$2.53 \pm 0.34$
HD1(H57)-OD2(D102)	$2.48 \pm 0.29$	$2.35 \pm 0.27$	2.28±0.26	1.77±0.17	1.83±0.19	$1.86\pm0.17$	2.16±0.32
HD1(H57)-ND1(H57)	$1.04\pm0.03$	$1.05 \pm 0.04$	$1.05 \pm 0.03$	$1.06\pm0.03$	$1.05 \pm 0.04$	$1.04\pm0.03$	$1.03 \pm 0.02$
N(S195)-O(K5-I)	3.01±0.15	$2.80 \pm 0.09$	$2.87 \pm 0.10$	2.92±0.12	3.00±0.11	3.01±0.14	$2.93 \pm 0.11$
N(D194)-O(K5-I)	3.22±0.17	3.20±0.17	3.37±0.15	3.43±0.18	$3.57 \pm 0.20$	3.60±0.19	3.39±0.18
N(G193)-O(K5-I)	$2.82 \pm 0.08$	$2.77 \pm 0.07$	$2.77 \pm 0.08$	$2.78 \pm 0.09$	$2.85 \pm 0.10$	2.82±0.10	$2.92 \pm 0.15$
∠NE2(H57)-HG(S195	127.2±6.1	136.0±6.0	143.1±5.0	$158.9 \pm 7.8$	159.7±8.8	170.4±6.2	$166.4 \pm 7.4$
-N'(S6-I)/degree							
Torsion ω/degree	187.8±6.2	178.4±6.7	175.4±5.2	159.2±6.7	147.8±5.1	$140.5 \pm 5.5$	149.7±10.8

**Table S2.** List of key geometric parameters for the reactant, transition states, intermediate and acyl-enzyme of acylation reaction for trypsin-BiKF based on QM/MM MD simulations.

**Table S3.** Intermolecular hydrogen bonds at EI state for SFTI-1 and its analogs in trypsin from 100 ns classic MD simulations. A hydrogen bond is counted if the donor-acceptor distance is less than 3.0 Å and the angle between acceptor-hydrogen-donor is less than  $135^{\circ}$ . The values indicate percentage of total simulation time for which a given H-bond was present. An interaction is recorded only if it was present for >10% in at least one simulation. ("–I" means this residue belongs to the inhibitors.)

Acceptor	Donor	Inhibitor				
		SFTI-1	BiKF	Analog-1	Analog-2	Analog-3
Gly_1-I@O	Ser_217@OG	0.18	-	0.51	0.30	0.39
Pro_1-I@O	Ser_217@OG	-	0.15	-	-	-
Gly_1-I@O	Gly_219@N	-	-	-	-	0.11
Asn_97@O	Arg_2-I@NH1/NH2	0.17	-	0.43	0.41	-
Gln_175@OE1	Arg_2-I@NH1	-	-	-	-	0.21
Cys_3-I@O	Gly_216@N	0.37	0.52	0.39	-	-
Abu_3-I@O	Gly_216@N	-	-	-	0.42	0.34
Gly_216@O	Cys_3-I@N	0.56	0.57	0.49	-	-
Gly_216@O	Abu_3-I@N	-	-	-	0.63	0.47
Thr_4-I@O	Gln_192@NE2	0.73	0.11	0.38	-	-
Ser_190@O	Lys_5-I@NZ	0.64	0.82	0.67	0.49	0.58
Lys_5-I@O	Gly_193@N	0.88	0.82	0.80	0.86	0.81
Lys_5-I@O	Ser_195@N	0.49	0.38	0.52	0.52	0.44
Ser_214@O	Lys_5-I@N	0.36	-	0.29	0.12	0.32
Gly_219@O	Lys_5-I@NZ	-	0.11	-	-	-
Ile_7-I@O	Tyr_39@OH				0.28	
Phe_41@O	Ile_7-I@N	0.11	-	-	0.14	-
Ser_96@O	Asp_14-I@N	-	-	-	-	0.37
Asp_14-I@O/OD1/OD2	Asn_97@ND2	-	-	-	-	0.75
Asp_14-I@OD1/OD2	Gln_175@NE2	0.50	-	0.25	0.47	-
Pro_16-I@O	Gln_175@NE2	-	0.39	-	-	
Total		5.00	3.86	4.73	4.64	4.79

Distance(Å)	SFTI-1	BiKF
N(T4-I) - O(I10-I)	2.96±0.13	3.10±0.16
OG(T4-I) - N(I10-I)	2.90±0.10	3.03±0.16
OG(T4-I) - OG(S6-I)	2.76±0.12	2.78±0.12
OG(S6-I) - O(P8-I)	3.57±0.30	3.72±0.27
N(G1-I) - O(F12-I) <sup>a</sup>	3.09±0.21	-
O(R2-I) - N(F12-I) <sup>a</sup>	2.93±0.11	-
NE(R2-I) - OD1(D14-I) <sup>a</sup>	2.77±0.09	-
NH2(R2-I) - OD2(D14-I) <sup>a</sup>	2.77±0.10	-
O(I2-I)-N(T12-I) <sup>b</sup>	-	2.95±0.11
N(I2-I)-OG(T12-I) <sup>b</sup>	-	3.02±0.15
OG(T12-I)-OG(S14-I) <sup>b</sup>	-	2.87±0.15

**Table S4.** Distances between heavy atoms of intramolecular hydrogen bonds for SFTI-1 and BiKF at EI state from QM/MM MD simulations.

<sup>a</sup> These hydrogen bonds are within SFTI-1;

<sup>b</sup> These hydrogen bonds are within BiKF.

**Table S5.** Intramolecular hydrogen bonds at EI state for the analogs and the wild type of SFTI-1 from 100 ns classic MD simulations. The values indicate percentage of total simulation time for which a given H-bond was present. An interaction is recorded only if it was present for >10% in at least one simulation.

Acceptor	Donor	Occupancy				
		SFTI-1	analog-1	analog-2	analog-3	
Arg_2-I@O	Arg_2-I@NH1	-	-	-	0.11	
Arg_2-I@O	Phe_12-I@N	0.70	0.74	0.59	-	
Thr_4-I@OG1	Ile_10-I@N	0.51	0.61	0.54	0.29	
Ser_6-I@OG	Thr_4-I@OG1	0.50	0.46	0.45	0.63	
Pro_8-I@O	Ser_6-I@OG	0.12	0.21	0.15	0.22	
Ile_10-I@O	Thr_4-I@N	0.66	0.73	0.45	0.71	
Ile_10-I@O	Phe_12-I@N	-	-	-	0.85	
Phe_12-I@O	Gly_1-I@N	0.30	-	0.31	-	
Phe_12-I@O	Arg_2-I@N	-	0.20	-	-	
Asp_14-I@O	Arg_2-I@N	-	0.15	-	-	
Asp_14-I@OD1	Arg_2-I@NE/NH2	0.78	0.35	0.42	-	
Asp_14-I@OD2	Arg_2-I@NE/NH2	0.91	0.33	0.36	-	
Total		4.48	3.78	3.27	2.81	