Supplemental Information

TAB1 binding induced p38α conformation change: an accelerated molecular dynamics simulation study

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Fig. S1 (a) The 10 of the 684 PCs capture approximately 70% of the p38α motion in pp38α-TAB1 simulation. (b) The contribution of each residue to first two PCs is displayed. (c) Representative conformations of p38α in apo p38α simulation (I1), p38α-TAB1 simulation (I2), the pp38α-TAB1 simulation (I).
Fig. S2 (a) The root-mean-square deviation (RMSD) of p38α A-loop in p38α-TAB1 and pp38α-TAB1 simulations referenced to the crystal structure (PDB:4LOO, PDB:4LOP, PDB:4LOQ). The representative structures are given. (b) Probability distribution function (PDF) of the root-mean-square deviation (RMSD) of the A-loop in pp38α-TAB1 simulations. (c) The RMSD of p38α A-loop in p38α-TAB1 and pp38α-TAB1 simulations referenced to the inactive p38α kinase.
Fig. S3 (a) Hydrogen bond networks of Thr/Tpo180 and Tyr/Ptr182 in p38α-TAB1 and pp38α-TAB1 simulations. (b) The hydrogen bond between Asp150 and Thr185 during simulation of p38α-TAB1 and pp38α-TAB1 systems.
Fig. S4 (a) The root-mean-square fluctuation (RMSF) per residue for p38α in p38α-TAB1 and pp38α-TAB1 simulations. (b) Vector field representations of the second principal component (PC) obtained from p38α of p38α-TAB1 simulation and pp38α-TAB1 simulation. The colors of residues are in accordance with the RMSFs values (units in Å).
Fig. S5 (a) Dynamic cross-correlation maps for p38α kinase in apo p38α simulation. Correlation values range from −1 to +1, with positive values (dark red) indicating that two residues are correlated and negative values (light sea blue) indicating that they are anti-correlated. (b) Vector field representations of the first two principal components (PCs) obtained from apo p38α simulation. The colors of the residues indicate the root-mean-square fluctuation (RMSF) values (units in Å).
**Fig. S6** The time evolution of secondary structures (structures defined using the dictionary of the secondary structure of proteins (DSSP)) of the disordered fragment of TAB1 during pp38α-TAB1 simulation.

The key structural differences between active and inactive states are the changes in the unfolding of the A-loop. The A-loop RMSD value of the sampling structures in our simulation is ~4.5 Å compared to inactive state. The following figures show the difference among the intermediate states sampling in our simulation, inactive state, and active state.

**Fig. S7** Superposition of the three p38α structures, including the inactive state (A-loop in blue), active state (A-loop in red), and the intermediate state M (A-loop in cyan).
We extend the simulation time of the apo p38α, p38α-TAB1, pp38α-TAB1 and pp38α-TAB1 systems to 1000 ns. The RMSD of the three systems was recalculated and shown in the following figure. The RMSD values reached a plateau with minor variations after ~400 ns. Such motion suggests that the 600 ns simulation is sufficient for obtaining the stability of each system.

**Fig. S8** The root-mean-square deviation (RMSD) of backbone atom of the apo p38α, p38α-TAB1, pp38α-TAB1 and pp38α-TAB1 simulations over the 1000 ns MD trajectories.