

Supporting Information for

The Active Site of Melanopsin: The Biological Clock Photoreceptor

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I. Full sequence alignment of squid rhodopsin and mouse melanopsin.

FASTA sequences of squid rhodopsin (P31356) and mouse melanopsin (Q9QXZ9) were aligned using CLUSTALW2 (ref-1) as shown below. Alignments of the transmembrane portions of squid rhodopsin (2Z73 at 2.8 Å), and that of melanopsin, according to the TMHMM prediction (ref-2) using the TMHMM v2 server, were performed using CLUSTALW2 and are displayed below. The transmembrane region alignments were found to be in agreement with the full FASTA sequence alignment with only one exception in Helix II. In GPCRs, the extracellular domain, intracellular domain, and interhelical loops are structures that are directly responsible for the function of the protein; consequently, these regions will have great diversity in their primary sequence and may not show strong sequence alignments to other GPCRs. On the other hand, the transmembrane domain serves mostly the same function in GPCRs, which is to span and stabilize the protein in the cell membrane. In order to maintain the functionality of these regions, the hydrophobicity and overall dipole moment of the helix must be preserved, so it is expected that the transmembrane helices between GPCRs will show greater conservation than the other regions. Since the alignment for Helix II contained no gaps, it was adopted into the main sequence alignment. The modified alignment used for determining correspondence between rhodopsin and melanopsin residues is shown below. Residues marked in blue indicate the 163 out of 373 residues in squid rhodopsin mutated to make the mouse melanopsin homology model. The following mutations resulted in the loss of negative (D27V, D194T, E231G, E233A, E245R, E290H, D340S, D341G) and positive (K109E, K145G, R193F, K239E, K244L) charge. Similarly, the following mutations resulted in the gain of negative (Q28D, F105E, K109E, N229E, A235E, K239E) and positive charge (K61R, K63R, Q66R, K146R, H149K, M225R, S228R, K232R, E245R, K248R, G252R, R258K). The residues at 94, 240, and 241 in squid rhodopsin were used to fill the corresponding positions in the homology model. Within the 4.5Å of the active site, marked by the red boxes in the alignment, 18 out of 38 residues were mutated. Although this alignment contains some large gaps, they occur before and after the seven transmembrane regions, indicating that the gaps are found only in the extracellular domain and intracellular domain respectively. Since these domains are outside of the 4.5Å radius of retinal, residues in these regions are not expected to impact

the calculations. For the homology model, residues 1-25 and 342-373 of squid rhodopsin were used for the extracellular and intracellular domain respectively.

>Squid Rhodopsin (P31356) FASTA Sequence from www.uniprot.org
MGRDLRDNETWWYNPSIVVPHWREFDQVPDAVYYSLGIFIGICGIIGCGGNGIVIYLFTKTKSLQ
TPANMFIINLAFSDFTFLSVNGFPLMTISCFKKWIFGFAACKVYGFIGGIFGFMMSIMTMAMISIDRY
NVIGRPMAASKKMSHRRAFIMIIFVWLWSVLWAIGPIFGWGAYTLEGVLNCNSFDYISRDSTTRSN
ILCMFILGFFGPILIIFFCYFNIVMSVSNHEKEMAAMAKRLNAKELRKAQAGANAEMRLAKISIVIV
SQFLLSWSPYAVVALLAQFGPLEWVTPYAAQLPVMFAKASAIHNPMIYSVSHPKFREAISQTFPVV
LTCCQFDDKETEDDKDAETEIPAGESSDAAPSADAQMKEMMAMMQMKMQQQAAYPPQGYAP
PPQGYPPQGYPPQGYPPQGYPPQGAPPQGAPPAAAPPQGVNDNQAYQA

> Mouse Melanopsin (Q9QXZ9) FASTA Sequence from www.uniprot.org
MDSPSGPRVLSSLTQDPSFTTSPALQGIWNGTQNVSRAQLLSVSPTTSQAPVFFASSLY
HAHYTLGTVILLVGLTGMLGNLTIVYTFCRNRGLRTPANMFIINLAVIDFLMSVTQAPVFFASSLY
KKWLFGETGCEFYAFCGAVFGITSMITLTAIMDRYLVITRPLATIGRGSKRRTALVLLGVWLYAL
AWSLPPFFGWSAYVPEGLLTSCSWDYMFTPQVRAYTMLLCFVFFLPLLIIIFCYIFIFRAIRETGR
ACEGCGESPLRQRRQWQRLQSEWKMAKVALIVILLFVLSWAPYSTVALVAFAGYSHILTPYMSVV
PAVIAKASAIHNPIIYAITHPKYRVAIAQHLPCLGVLLGVSGQRSHPSLSYRSTHRSTLSSQSDLSSI
SGRKRQESLGSESEVGWTDTETTAAWGAAQQASGQSFCSQNLEDGEKLASSSPQVRSKTPKVP
PSTCRPMKGQGARPS SLRGDQKGRLAVCTGLSEC PHPHTSQFPLAFLEDDVTLRHL

Full alignment between Rhodopsin and Melanopsin

Squid	---MGRDLRDNETWWYNPSIVVPHW---	E 25
Mouse	MDSPSGPRVLSSLTQDPSFTTSPALQGIWNGTQNVSRAQLLSVSPTTSQAPVFF 60	
Squid	FDQVPDAVYYSLGIFIGICGIIGCGGNGIVIYLFTKTSLQTPANMFIINLAVIDFTFSL 85	
Mouse	TVDVPDHAYTLGTVILLVGLTGMLGNLTIVYTFCRNRGLRTPANMFIINLAVIDFLMSV 120	
Squid	VNGFPLMTISCFKKWIFGFAACKVYGFIGGIFGFMMSIMTMAMISIDRYNVIGRPMAASK 145	
Mouse	T-QAPVFFASSLYKKWLFGETGCEFYAFCGAVFGITSMITLTAIMDRYLVITRPLATIG 179	
Squid	KMSHRRAFIMIIFVWLWSVLWAIGPIFGWGAYTLEGVLNCNSFDYISRDSTTRSNILCMF 205	
Mouse	RGSKRRTALVLLGVWLYALAWSLPPFFGWSAYVPEGLLTSCSWDYMFTPQVRAYTMLLF 239	
Squid	ILGFFGPILIIIFCYFNIVMSVSNHEKEMAAMAKRLNAKELRKAQAGANAEMRLAKISIV 265	
Mouse	CFVFFLPLLIIIFCYIFIFRAIRETGRACEGC--SPLRQRRQWQRLQSEWKMAKVALI 297	
Squid	IVSQFLLSWSPYAVVALLAQFGPLEWVTPYAAQLPVMFAKASAIHNPMIYSVSHPKFREA 325	
Mouse	VILLFVLSWAPYSTVALVAFAGYSHILTPYMSVVPAVIAKASAIHNPIIYAITHPKYRVA 357	
Squid	ISQTFPWLTCCQFDD-----KETEDDKDAETEIPA 356	
Mouse	IAQHLPCLGVLLGVSGQRSHPSLSYRSTHRSTLSSQSDLWIISGRKRQESLGSESEVGW 417	
Squid	GESSDAAPSADAQMKEMMAMMQMQQ---QQAAAYPPQGYAPPPQGYPQGYPQGYPPQ 413	
Mouse	TDTETTAAWGAAQQASGQSFCSQNLEDGEKLASSSPQVRSKTPKVPGPSTCRP--MKGQ 475	
Squid	GYPPQGYPPPPQGAPPQGAPPAAAPPQGVNDNQAYQA----- 448	
Mouse	GARPSSLRGDQKGRLAVCTGLSEC PHPHTSQFPLAFLEDDVTLRHL 521	

Alignment within the transmembrane regions

Squid TM1	PDAVYYSLGIFIGICGIIGCGGNGIVIYLFTKT	33	(30-62)
Mouse TM1	-----LGTVILLVGLTGMLGNLTIVYTF---	23	(72-94)
Squid TM2	ANMFIINLAFSDFTFSLVNGFPPLMTISCFL	30	(69-98)
Mouse TM2	--MFIINLAVSDFLMSVTQAPVFFA-----	23	(106-128)
Squid TM3	FGFAACKVYGFIGGIFGFMSIMTMAMISIDRYNVI	35	(103-137)
Mouse TM3	-----EFYAFCGAVFGITSMITLTAIM-----	23	(143-165)
Squid TM4	SHRRAFIMIIFVWLWSVLWAIGPIFG-	26	(148-173)
Mouse TM4	----TALVLLGVWLYALAWSLPPFFGW	23	(186-208)
Squid TM5	DSTTRSNILCMFILGFFGPILIIIFCYFNIVMSVSNHEKEMAAMAK	46	(194-239)
Mouse TM5	-----TMLLFCFVFFLPLIIIFCYIFI-----	23	(235-257)
Squid TM6	ELRKAQAGANAEMRLAKISIVIVSQFLLSWSPYAVVALLAQFG	43	(245-287)
Mouse TM6	-----LIVILLFVLSWAPYSTVALVAFA-	23	(296-318)
Squid TM7	--TPYAAQLPVMFAKASAIHNPMIYSVSH	27	(293-319)
Mouse TM7	ILTPYMSSVPAVIAKASAIHNPIIYAIT-	28	(319-521)

Modified alignment (Helix II alignment incorporated)

Squid	--MGRDLRDNETWWYNPSIVVPHWR-----	E	25
Mouse	MDSPSGPRVLSSLTQDPSFTTSPALQGIWNGTQNVSVRQQLSVSPTTSQAHQAAAWVPFP		60
Squid	FDQVPDAVYYSLGIFIGICGIIGCGGNGIVIYLFTKTKSLQTPANMFIIINLA FSDT FSL		85
Mouse	TVDVPDHAYTLGTV ILLV GLTGMLGNLTIVYTFCRNRGLRTPA NMFII LA VSDF MSV		120
Squid	VNGFPLMTISCFLKKWIFGFAACKVYGFIGGIFGFMSIMTMAMISIDRYNVI G RPMASK		145
Mouse	TQAPVFFAISSLYKKWLFGETGCEFYAFCGAVFGITS MITLTAIMDRYLVITRPLATIG		179
Squid	KMSHRRAFIMIIFVWLWSVLWAIGPIFGW CAYTLEGVLNCNSFDY ISRDSTTRSN ILCMF		205
Mouse	RGSKRR TALVLLGVWLYALAWSLPPFFGW AYVPEGLLTCSWDY MTFTPQVRAY TMLLF		239
Squid	ILGFFGPILIIIFCYFNIVMSVSNHEKEMAAMAKRLNAKELRKAQAGANAEMRLAKISIV		265
Mouse	CFVFF LPLLIIIFCYIFI FRAIRETGRACEGCGERLSPLRQRQWQRLQS EWKMAKVALI		297
Squid	IVS CFLLSWSPYAVVALLAQFGPLEWVTPYAQLPVMFAKASAIHNPMIYSVSHPKFREA 325		
Mouse	VILL FVLSWAPYSTVALVAFAGYSHILTPYMS SVPAVIKASAIHNPIIYAITHPKYRVA		357
Squid	I SQTFPWVLTCQFDD		356
Mouse	IAQHLPCLGVLLGVSGQRSHPSLSYRSTHRSTLSSQSSDLSWISGRKRQESLGSESEVGW		417
Squid	GESSDAAPSADAAQMKE MMQQ QQAA YPPQGYAPPQGYPPQGYPPQ 413		
Mouse	TDTETTAAWGAAQQASGQSFC CSQNLEDGELKASSSPQVQRSKTPKVPGPSTCRP --MKGQ		475
Squid	GYPPQGYPPPPQGAPPQGAPPAA PPQGVDNQAYQA 448		
Mouse	GARPSSLRGDQKGRLAVCTGLSEC PHHTSQFPLAFLEDDVTLRHL		521

II. Distance of the Schiff-base nitrogen to key amino acid residues in the squid rhodopsin and mouse rhodopsin.

Table S1: Comparison of distances from the PSB nitrogen atom to side chain oxygen atom of N87, Y111 and E180 residues in squid rhodopsin and Q87, Y111 and E180 residues in mouse melanopsin.

Distance (Å)	Squid Rhodopsin	Mouse Melanopsin
OH (Y111)...N (PSBR)	3.41	3.08
OD1 (N87Q)...N (PSBR)	3.93	4.71
OE2 (E180)...N (PSBR)	4.29	4.12

III. Bond lengths, angles and dihedral angles along the retinal polyene chain of the PSB11 chromophore in squid rhodopsin and mouse melanopsin.^{1,3595}

BOND LENGTH (Å)

Bond	Squid Rhodopsin	Mouse Melanopsin
C5=C6	1.361	1.358
C6-C7	1.469	1.472
C7=C8	1.357	1.355
C8-C9	1.444	1.448
C9=C10	1.377	1.373
C10-C11	1.421	1.430
C11=C12	1.379	1.371
C12-C13	1.431	1.435
C13=C14	1.391	1.385
C14-C15	1.397	1.400
C15=N	1.324	1.315
BLA (Å)	0.068	0.078
λ_{max} (nm)	490	447

Note: Increase in BLA contributes to the decrease in λ_{max} .

BOND ANGLE (deg)

Bond	Squid Rhodopsin	Mouse Melanopsin
C5=C6-C7	121.748	123.105
C6-C7=C8	122.567	124.644
C7=C8-C9	127.903	127.113
C8-C9=C10	115.826	116.648
C9=C10-C11	128.475	128.095

C10-C11=C12	126.459	126.314
C11=C12-C13	129.361	128.297
C12-C13=C14	117.101	117.475
C13=C14-C15	123.500	122.806
C14-C15=N	123.102	122.929

DIHEDRAL ANGLE (deg)

Bond	Squid	Mouse
	Rhodopsin	Melanopsin
C5=C6-C7=C8	-45.47	-42.597
C6-C7=C8-C9	-173.51	-175.141
C7=C8-C9=C10	160.06	172.509
C8-C9=C10-C11	178.90	171.266
C9=C10-C11=C12	168.89	167.832
C10-C11=C12-C13	-17.26	-22.069
C11=C12-C13=C14	165.77	163.759
C12-C13=C14-C15	176.11	172.100
C13=C14-C15=N	163.17	166.761
C14-C15=N-C	179.55	178.601

IV. ONIOM (QM/MM) where QM=B3LYP/6-31G*; MM= AMBER96; optimized Cartesian coordinates (in Å).

Retinal geometry of squid rhodopsin (490 nm)

51 Atoms

N	9.796233	38.054782	57.858373	H	16.203974	46.156939	59.824983
H	8.874230	38.327781	58.190451	C	14.869973	44.599724	60.325323
H	9.949860	37.043264	57.784239	H	14.771476	43.680386	60.893245
C	17.131212	44.828289	61.316098	C	13.772753	44.876468	59.427957
C	18.532048	44.846576	60.654834	C	13.645232	46.232245	58.791031
C	18.870817	46.259227	60.126053	H	14.483039	46.425287	58.111967
H	19.906116	46.277020	59.772084	H	13.676323	47.020597	59.551211
H	18.779472	47.006821	60.922821	H	12.721317	46.331297	58.215712
H	18.237644	46.559165	59.284186	C	12.925458	43.821423	59.175028
C	18.548568	43.860266	59.463264	H	13.167594	42.897372	59.686577
H	18.399492	42.824057	59.788053	C	11.761487	43.797790	58.360372
H	19.506550	43.917572	58.932764	H	11.313150	44.752256	58.089777
H	17.755349	44.100632	58.751135	C	11.061109	42.678445	57.961636
C	16.912775	44.359680	62.574668	H	10.061518	42.853916	57.567039
C	15.608993	44.463847	63.332561	C	11.469136	41.306496	57.959251
H	15.119096	43.483846	63.410627	C	12.906167	40.878555	58.117623
H	14.902069	45.168229	62.891403	H	13.087954	40.474542	59.121559
H	15.819203	44.788952	64.362000	H	13.595416	41.701705	57.942621
C	19.631556	44.455889	61.667449	H	13.152791	40.094901	57.395900
H	19.860961	45.321078	62.302797	C	10.472504	40.349016	57.793664
H	20.550740	44.232709	61.115124	H	9.437313	40.675394	57.796475
C	19.220124	43.289667	62.561279	C	10.729282	38.979201	57.692339
H	18.961602	42.416279	61.948123	H	11.721453	38.619755	57.440379
H	20.049083	42.987873	63.210366				
C	18.004888	43.701138	63.388020				
H	17.572340	42.835050	63.909033				
H	18.305715	44.399838	64.183154	N	9.536555	37.770705	58.055030
C	16.029066	45.291883	60.462118	H	8.652185	38.035166	58.506020

Retinal geometry of mouse melanopsin (447 nm)

51 Atoms

N	9.536555	37.770705	58.055030
H	8.652185	38.035166	58.506020

H	9.663435	36.762490	57.921536	C	35.223538	8.465664	16.095637
C	16.896084	44.580690	61.786132	C	35.575557	9.928031	15.962908
C	18.358192	44.786896	61.322341	H	36.372887	10.073718	15.222171
C	18.566113	46.269721	60.935087	H	35.894625	10.387829	16.898835
H	19.613902	46.434563	60.665674	H	34.692141	10.470690	15.602100
H	18.320884	46.930397	61.775062	C	34.716811	5.663125	15.885088
H	17.967183	46.571643	60.072391	H	34.261306	4.670450	15.988319
C	18.649815	43.881527	60.105541	H	35.678087	5.520899	15.369712
H	18.701231	42.830259	60.410656	C	33.821342	6.567984	15.042812
H	19.613400	44.145544	59.657082	H	32.824641	6.620010	15.492403
H	17.875110	43.969477	59.339211	H	33.692457	6.135658	14.042543
C	16.574050	44.111854	63.019571	C	34.397880	7.983650	14.926069
C	15.181455	44.063435	63.598212	H	35.031968	8.065493	14.028753
H	14.808043	43.033520	63.650082	H	33.585097	8.708361	14.775229
H	14.455235	44.659683	63.042434	C	36.432612	8.157183	18.218899
H	15.218442	44.431866	64.634084	H	36.147971	7.894226	19.236736
C	19.373618	44.450753	62.437242	C	37.574754	8.860050	17.991401
H	19.473228	45.323616	63.091085	H	37.851853	9.007029	16.952494
H	20.360131	44.282930	61.990588	C	38.486832	9.440215	18.944544
C	18.942312	43.256586	63.283238	C	38.191727	9.389086	20.419274
H	18.805268	42.372106	62.645830	H	37.438774	8.633720	20.641006
H	19.715611	43.001970	64.013196	H	37.808565	10.345121	20.785965
C	17.624085	43.588667	63.977149	H	39.092373	9.147788	20.990478
H	17.212995	42.705492	64.487803	C	39.627532	10.034788	18.447995
H	17.794607	44.332410	64.774947	H	39.795602	9.960811	17.379603
C	15.890171	44.909756	60.763936	C	40.533658	10.815884	19.212458
H	16.105047	45.753516	60.112549	H	40.175547	11.114086	20.194388
C	14.799379	44.155628	60.485922	C	41.752051	11.354073	18.857318
H	14.626657	43.273588	61.092688	H	42.133455	12.116700	19.526857
C	13.831180	44.374326	59.430754	C	42.634430	11.026008	17.784490
C	13.923933	45.608065	58.575660	C	42.379761	9.826035	16.903419
H	14.870607	45.602746	58.025708	H	41.716662	10.084853	16.067383
H	13.913291	46.520925	59.182327	H	41.901359	9.025744	17.471605
H	13.125844	45.664238	57.833565	H	43.297345	9.421118	16.472648
C	12.894633	43.389228	59.240190	C	43.752532	11.847084	17.616102
H	13.011245	42.498232	59.850922	H	43.894133	12.691885	18.287052
C	11.737365	43.422707	58.400698	C	44.715035	11.652702	16.622000
H	11.371285	44.396256	58.083790	H	44.680531	10.768083	15.991591
C	10.954095	42.351096	58.054642				
H	9.968790	42.567740	57.651687				
C	11.300848	40.958731	58.058937				
C	12.738963	40.491129	58.061467				
H	12.990353	39.958233	58.987196				
H	13.431241	41.323099	57.954979				
H	12.917668	39.802974	57.226767				
C	10.263723	40.042115	58.003495				
H	9.239572	40.390368	58.100933				
C	10.473911	38.667940	57.839762				
H	11.434242	38.303403	57.485884				

Retinal geometry of bovine rhodopsin (495 nm)

51 Atoms

N	45.694430	12.502870	16.364385	N	45.703702	12.547579	16.397008
H	45.807918	13.373397	16.914726	H	45.798153	13.420060	16.948515
H	46.444345	12.305347	15.688714	H	46.460402	12.359470	15.726177
C	35.568625	7.669884	17.142234	C	35.56823	7.663189	17.134140
C	34.995010	6.241890	17.288725	C	34.976945	6.243572	17.296092
C	33.702505	6.321771	18.128443	C	33.695275	6.346527	18.149956
H	32.952901	6.975493	17.676432	H	32.942163	6.992959	17.693294
H	33.929950	6.733959	19.112773	H	33.936137	6.779354	19.122385
H	33.266081	5.325390	18.272255	H	33.256346	5.355480	18.320644
C	35.970925	5.283604	18.004033	C	35.950178	5.278854	18.006785
H	36.198759	5.598337	19.027142	H	36.188698	5.594798	19.027106
H	36.916052	5.188017	17.461361	H	36.890095	5.174061	17.456379
H	35.523240	4.284771	18.068614	H	35.494355	4.284128	18.077921

Retinal geometry of G89Q mutant in bovine rhodopsin (481 nm)

51 Atoms

N	45.703702	12.547579	16.397008	N	45.703702	12.547579	16.397008
H	45.798153	13.420060	16.948515	H	45.798153	13.420060	16.948515
H	46.460402	12.359470	15.726177	H	46.460402	12.359470	15.726177
C	35.56823	7.663189	17.134140	C	35.56823	7.663189	17.134140
C	34.976945	6.243572	17.296092	C	34.976945	6.243572	17.296092
C	33.695275	6.346527	18.149956	C	33.695275	6.346527	18.149956
H	32.942163	6.992959	17.693294	H	32.942163	6.992959	17.693294
H	33.936137	6.779354	19.122385	H	33.936137	6.779354	19.122385
H	33.256346	5.355480	18.320644	H	33.256346	5.355480	18.320644
C	35.950178	5.278854	18.006785	C	35.950178	5.278854	18.006785
H	36.188698	5.594798	19.027106	H	36.188698	5.594798	19.027106
H	36.890095	5.174061	17.456379	H	36.890095	5.174061	17.456379
H	35.494355	4.284128	18.077921	H	35.494355	4.284128	18.077921
C	35.227206	8.454329	16.082277	C	35.227206	8.454329	16.082277
C	35.594714	9.911349	15.935536	C	35.594714	9.911349	15.935536
H	36.383520	10.043106	15.183150	H	36.383520	10.043106	15.183150
H	35.930920	10.374018	16.863924	H	35.930920	10.374018	16.863924
H	34.712749	10.461268	15.582097	H	34.712749	10.461268	15.582097
C	34.675798	5.657484	15.900328	C	34.675798	5.657484	15.900328
H	34.207358	4.672519	16.017026	H	34.207358	4.672519	16.017026
H	35.629399	5.496137	15.376384	H	35.629399	5.496137	15.376384
C	33.787592	6.569625	15.058211	C	33.787592	6.569625	15.058211
H	32.796416	6.646288	15.516465	H	32.796416	6.646288	15.516465
H	33.640448	6.129839	14.063669	H	33.640448	6.129839	14.063669

C	34.390856	7.971958	14.920526	C	40.541124	10.796788	19.204042
H	35.024910	8.028786	14.021130	H	40.180866	11.087439	20.187307
H	33.591870	8.709929	14.760913	C	41.755120	11.348514	18.853008
C	36.437170	8.148578	18.206283	H	42.126322	12.111321	19.528107
H	36.149801	7.893908	19.225444	C	42.644878	11.034159	17.782820
C	37.586181	8.839670	17.976867	C	42.404216	9.838480	16.891732
H	37.866820	8.979327	16.937929	H	41.740890	10.097675	16.055968
C	38.498442	9.418106	18.930867	H	41.931819	9.029015	17.452104
C	38.200856	9.367253	20.405336	H	43.326450	9.445797	16.459415
H	37.443685	8.615672	20.625373	C	43.757917	11.865015	17.626960
H	37.822303	10.324330	20.773376	H	43.887410	12.707784	18.303102
H	39.099456	9.121205	20.977686	C	44.731215	11.685132	16.641207
C	39.640588	10.012831	18.436786	H	44.712851	10.802351	16.007253
H	39.811859	9.939519	17.369039				

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