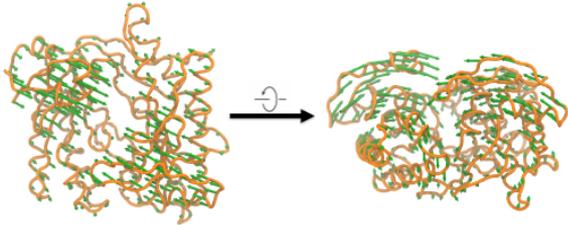
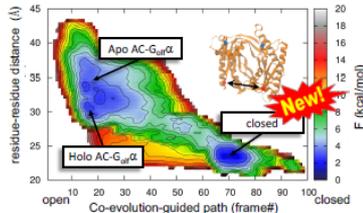


Probing AC5 Structural Plasticity by Co-evolution Analysis and Simulation



Visualisation of 1st Principal Component

Co-evolution analysis identifies the functional transition in AC5 dynamics.



Determination of AC5 free energy surface via metadynamics simulations

Currently investigating the effects of G-protein binding on free energy landscape

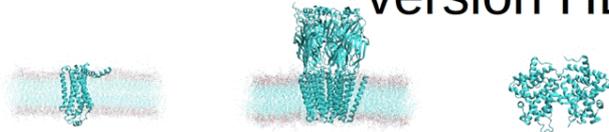
The regulation of AC(5) by G-protein from coevolution-driven molecular simulations

- ➔ Characterization of ACs intrinsic dynamics
- ➔ Identification of a NEW, previously uncharacterized, closed state.
- ➔ Regulation of AC dynamics by G-proteins

HBP Highlight

SP6

Platform for atomistic MD simulations of signal-transduction proteins in the brain



Molecular Dynamics on Web

- Web-based platform to allow access to molecular dynamics (MD) simulations of complex systems involved in signal transduction in the brain.
- Hundreds of trajectories obtained by means of state-of-the-art atomistic MD simulations in near-physiological conditions for ligand- and voltage-gated ion channels, G-protein coupled receptors and nuclear hormone receptors.
- The platform shall provide advanced tools to analyze trajectories mimicking the procedures followed by human experts.

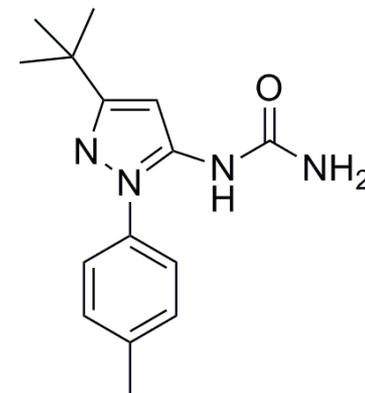
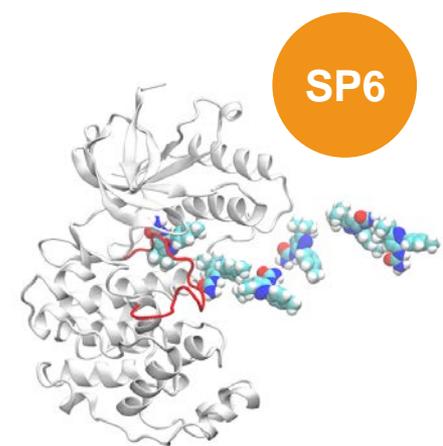


HBP Highlight

→ Ligands' unbinding constants (k_{off}): key quantities for neuroimaging experiments and for neuropharmacology

→ Predicting accurately k_{off} is difficult, yet it could help design molecules with improved residence time

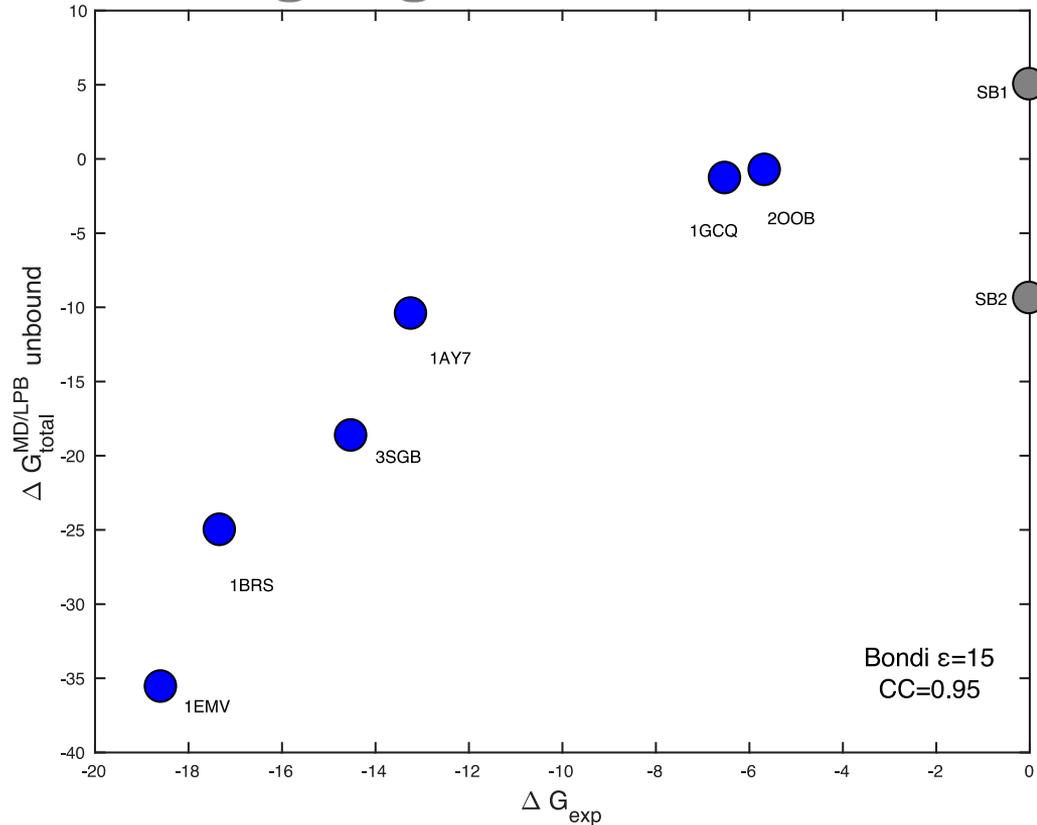
→ Novel molecular simulation methods reproduce k_{off} in a test ligand/protein system. We are applying now this technique to neuroreceptors of interest for HBP



	$k_{\text{off}} \text{ (s}^{-1}\text{)}$
Experimental ¹	0.14
Calculated	0.02 ± 0.01

Casasnovas-Perera et al, *J.Am.Chem. Soc.* 2017

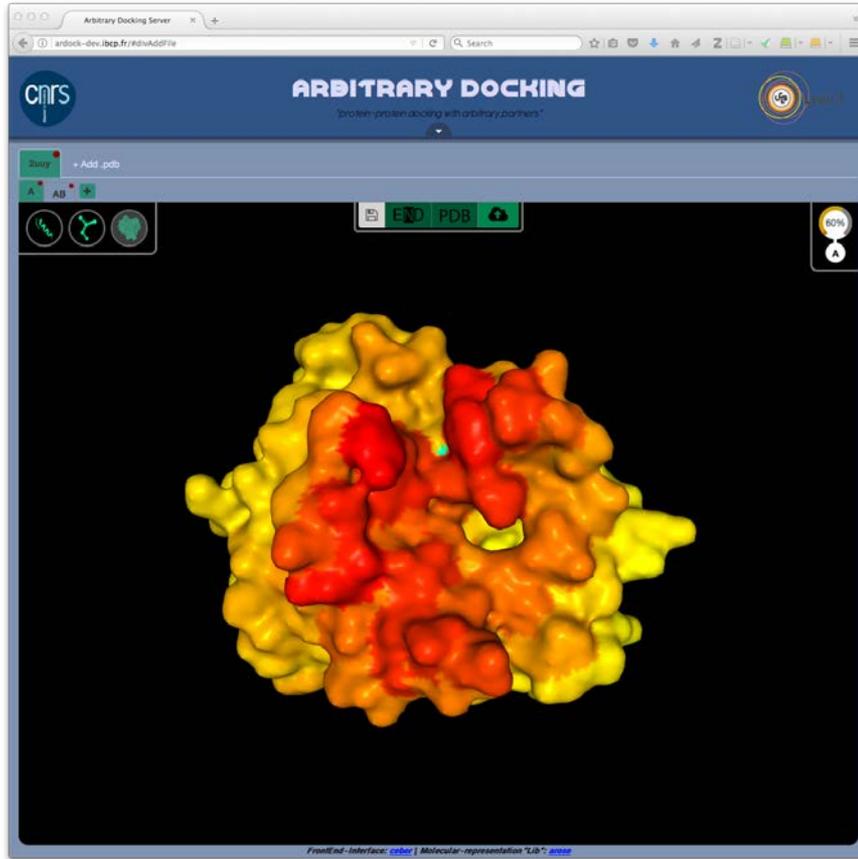
HBP Highlight



→ Molecular dynamics simulations and continuum electrostatics can be used to predict protein-protein binding affinities with high correlation

HBP Highlight

SP6



→ Structural matching with multiple probes can highlight preferred regions of interaction from isolated structures



HBP Highlight

FHF-independent conduction of action potentials along the leak-resistant cerebellar granule cell axon

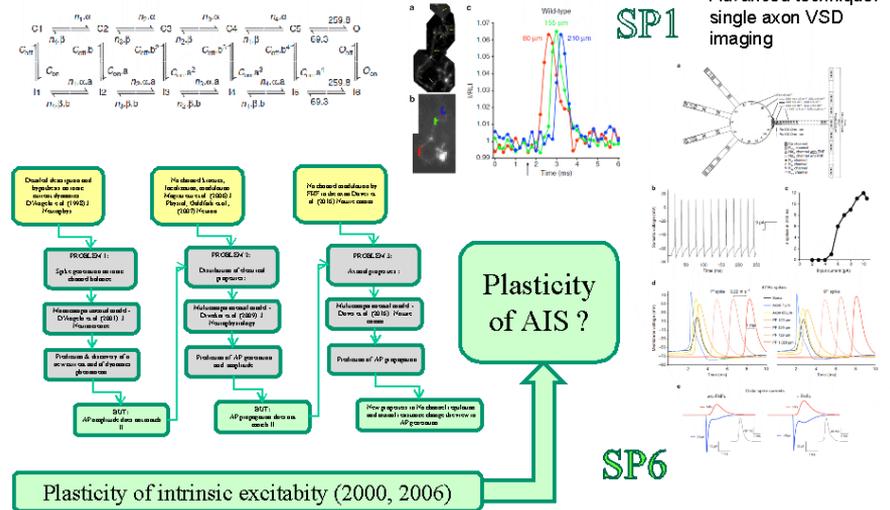


Katarzyna Dover^{1,2}, Christopher Marra^{1,3}, Sergio Solinas^{4,†}, Marko Popovic^{5,†}, Sathya Subramaniam⁶, Dejan Zecevic⁵, Egidio D'Angelo^{4,6} & Mitchell Goldfarb^{1,3}

Dover et al., 2016, *Nature Communications* Vol. 7, 12895
<http://www.nature.com/bibliosan.clas.cineca.it/articles/ncomms12895>

Dover et al. used multicompartmental modeling to analyze the spike generation and conduction properties in central mammalian axons, uncovering unusual passive and active properties

- experimental measurements using single cell voltage-sensitive dye imaging revealed quasi-infinite resistance in the axon.
- Immunostaining revealed that FHF+ Na channels are enriched in the initial segment while FHF- Na channels are located in the axon.
- In a detailed granule cell model, these properties allowed energy-less action potential propagation at constant speed.
- In conclusion, axonal conduction in central mammalian neurons is a specialized process that extends the classical Hodgking-Huxley theory.



Dover, ... D'Angelo, Goldfarb, *Nature Comm.* 2016

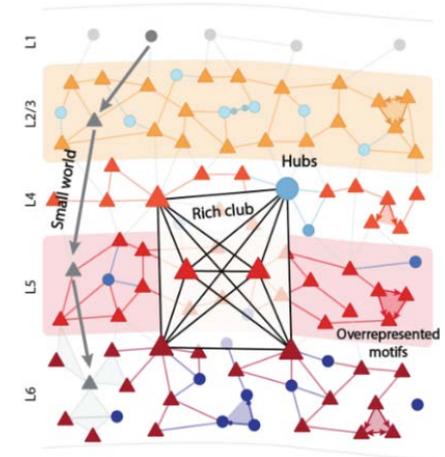
Gal et al., 2017, *Nature Neuroscience* Vol. 20, No. 7, pp 1004-113

<http://www.nature.com/neuro/journal/v20/n7/full/nn.4576.html?foxtrotcallback=true>

Gal et al. used graph theory to analyze the topology of detailed computer- reconstructed cortical microcircuits, uncovering highly non-random features of this circuit

- A small-world topology was found with an average of 2.5 synapses separating any two cells
- Pyramidal neurons maintained relatively constant excitation/inhibition ratios.
- The circuit contained highly connected hub neurons and forming an interconnected cell-type-specific rich club.
- Certain three-neuron motifs were overrepresented, matching recent experimental results.

Functionally Enhanced Topology



HBP Highlight

FHF-independent conduction of action potentials along the leak-resistant cerebellar granule cell axon

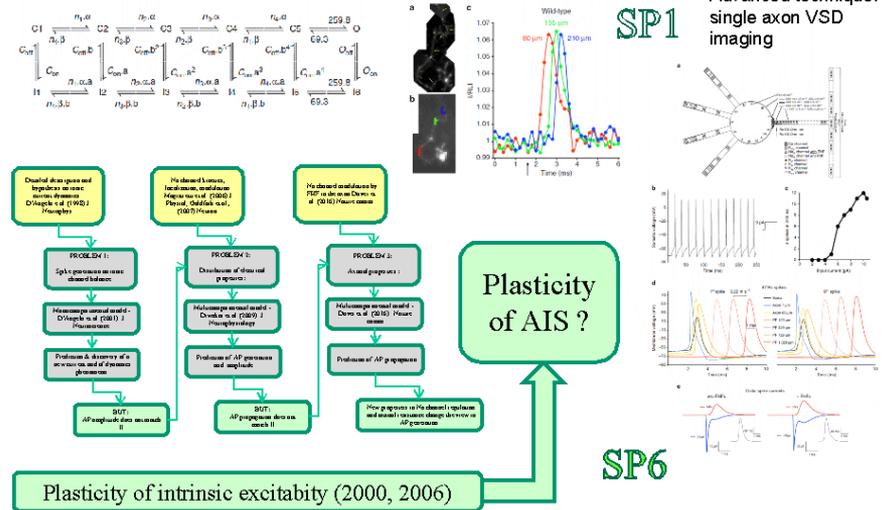


Katarzyna Dover^{1,2}, Christopher Marra^{1,3}, Sergio Solinas^{4,†}, Marko Popovic^{5,†}, Sathya Subramaniam⁶, Dejan Zecevic⁵, Egidio D'Angelo^{4,6} & Mitchell Goldfarb^{1,3}

Dover et al., 2016, *Nature Communications* Vol. 7, 12895
<http://www.nature.com/bibliosan.clas.cineca.it/articles/ncomms12895>

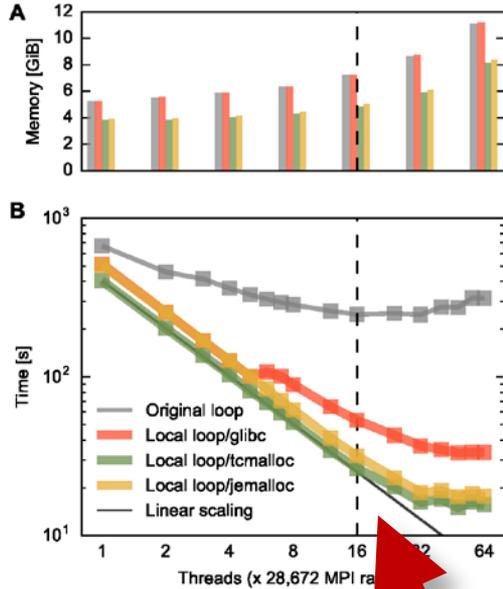
Dover et al. used multicompartmental modeling to analyze the spike generation and conduction properties in central mammalian axons, uncovering unusual passive and active properties

- experimental measurements using single cell voltage-sensitive dye imaging revealed quasi-infinite resistance in the axon.
- Immunostaining revealed that FHF+ Na channels are enriched in the initial segment while FHF- Na channels are located in the axon.
- In a detailed granule cell model, these properties allowed energy-less action potential propagation at constant speed.
- In conclusion, axonal conduction in central mammalian neurons is a specialized process that extends the classical Hodgking-Huxley theory.



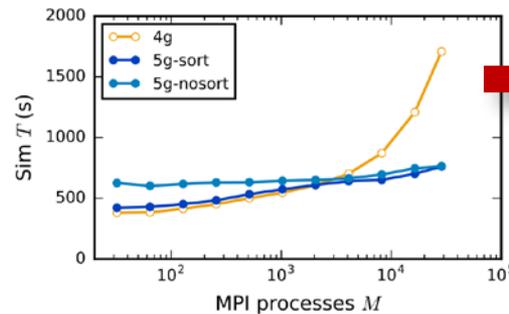
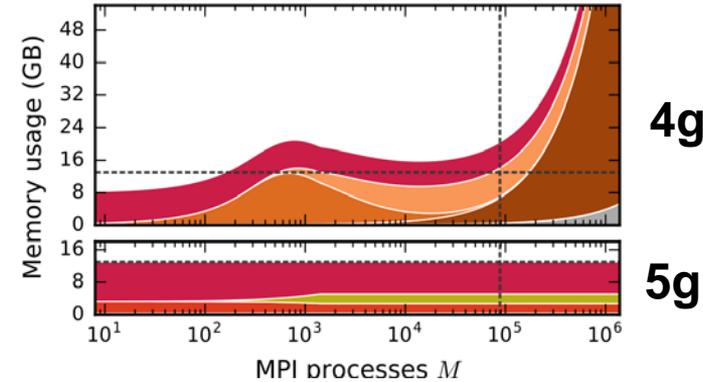
Dover, ... D'Angelo, Goldfarb, *Nature Comm.* 2016

Fast massively parallel network construction



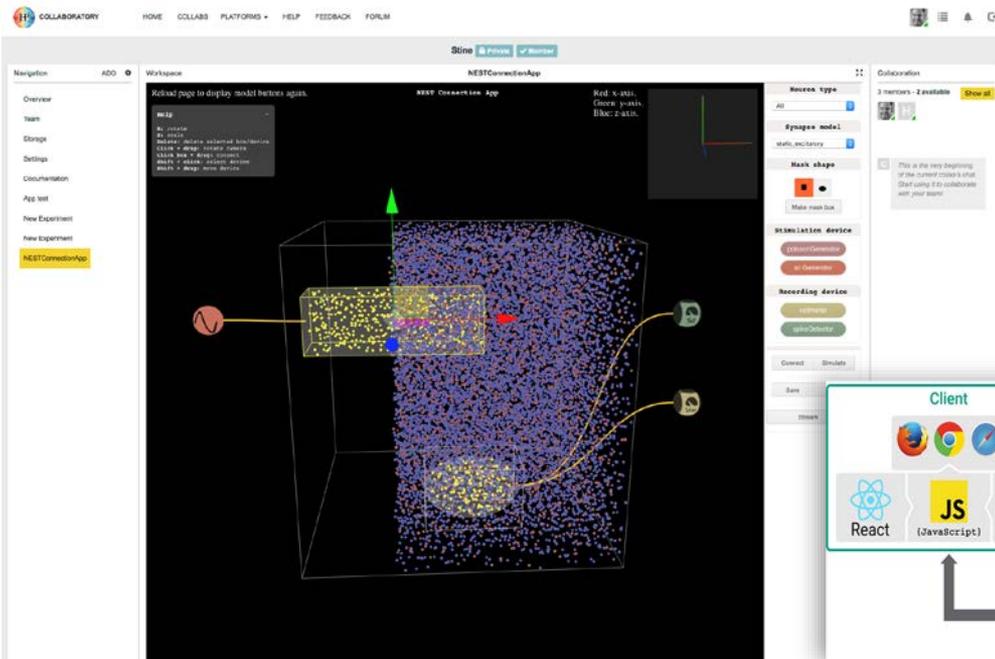
Rat-brain sized model built in 20 seconds

Two-tier connection infrastructure for exascale systems



Exascale, > 1 billion neurons

NEST Instrumentation App



- Connect recording and stimulation devices to networks via GUI
- Device connections transmitted to NEST for instantiation and simulation