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Theoretical and Computational Biophysics Group
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Education

- Ph.D. in Biophysics (2001, Suma Cum Laude), University of Heidelberg, Germany – Molecular modelling study of the biological role of retinal Schiff base in retinal proteins
- Ph.D. program in Medicinal Chemistry (1989-1995), School of Pharmacy, Tehran University, Iran (*First rank in the Final Comprehensive Board Exam for last year Ph.D. students*) – Structure activity relationship of L-type calcium channel blockers
- Doctorate of Pharmacy (Pharm. D.) (1983-1989), School of Pharmacy, Tehran University, Iran - Thesis in Pharmacology: pharmacological characterization of chicken expansor muscle
- Diploma in Mathematics and Physics (1978-1982), Kharazmi High School, Tehran, Iran.

Awards and Honors

- Winner of the 2004 *Visualization Contest organized by the Science magazine and NSF* published in *Science* 305, 1905 (2004).
- An animation displaying the results of my simulation studies on aquaporin water channels is deposited at the Nobel Museum web site, in conjunction to the 2003 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.
<http://nobelprize.org/chemistry/laureates/2003/animations.html>

Professional experience

- **Assistant Director for Research**, NIH Resource for Macromolecular Modeling and Bioinformatics, Beckman Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; July 2001-
- **Postdoctoral research associate**, Theoretical Biophysics Group, Beckman Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; July 2000-July 2001
- **Research fellow**, Department of Theoretical Physics, University of Paderborn, Paderborn, Germany; Jan 2000-Jul 2000
- **Postdoctoral Fellow**, Dept. Mol. Biophysics, German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg, Germany; 1996-1999
- **Chemistry, Organic Chemistry and Medicinal Chemistry instructor**, School of Pharmacy, Tehran University of Medical Sciences; 1989-1995
- **Counseling Pharmacist**, Central Pharmacy of Tehran University; 1987-1995
- Editorial Board of International J. Molecular Science; 1999-
- Member of the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, 2001-
- Member of the American Biophysical Society, 2000-
- Member of the Iranian Medical Council, 1990-
- Member of the Iranian Society of Pharmacists, 1991-

Technical Skills

- Classical MD simulations
- Homology modeling of proteins
- Modeling of carbohydrate chains
- Modeling of proteins in membrane
- Calculation of quantum mechanical potential energy surfaces
- Implicit and explicit solvation
- Hybrid QM/MM calculations
- Study of proton transfer

- Grant proposal: Preparation of several grant proposals submitted to NIH, NSF, EC, DFG, and Human Frontier Science Program, as well as computer time proposals submitted to NCSA and PSC.

Teaching experience

- Biophysics of Membrane Proteins (Graduate course, UIUC, Biophysics, Winter 2003)
- Summer School for Theoretical and Computational Biophysics (UIUC, Beckman, June 2003, Oct 2004, Nov 2004)
- Pharmacology (Nursing and Pharmacy students, Tehran, 1994-1995)
- Chemistry and Medicinal Chemistry (Pharmacy students, Tehran University, 1993-1994)

References

- **Klaus Schulten, PhD**
Professor of Physics
Department of Physics and Beckman Institute
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- **Sándor Suhai, PhD**
Head and Professor of Biophysics
Department of Molecular Biophysics, German Cancer Research Center
Im Neuenheimer Feld 280, 69120 Heidelberg, Germany
Tel: +49-6221-422369; Fax: +49-6221-422333
Email: S.Suhai@dkfz-Heidelberg.de
- **Z. Luthey-Schulten, PhD**
Department of chemistry
Chemical and Life Sciences Laboratory, MC-712
600 South Mathews Avenue,
Urbana, IL 61801-3364
Tel: (217) 333-3518; Fax: (217) 244-3186
Email: zan@uiuc.edu

Publications

2004

1. N. Chakrabarti, E. Tajkhorshid, B. Roux, and R. Pomes (2004) Molecular basis of proton blockage in aquaporins. *Structure*, 12, 65-74.
2. F. Zhu, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Schulten (2004) Theory and simulation of water permeation in aquaporin-1. *Biophysical Journal* 86, 50-57.
3. B. Ilan, E. Tajkhorshid, K. Schulten, and G. A. Voth (2004) The mechanism of proton exclusion in aquaporin channels. *PROTEINS: Structure, Function, and Bioinformatics* 55:223-228.
4. F. Autenrieth, E. Tajkhorshid, J. Baudry, and Z. Luthey-Schulten (2004) Classical force field parameters for the heme prosthetic group of cytochrome c. *J. Comp. Chem.* 25:1613-1622.
5. J. Baudry, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Schulten (2004) Complementarities and convergence of results in bacteriorhodopsin trimer simulations. *Biophysical Journal* 87:1394-1395.
6. S. Hayashi, E. Tajkhorshid, H. Kandori, and K. Schulten (2004) Role of hydrogen-bond network in energy storage of bacteriorhodopsin's light-driven proton pump revealed by *ab initio* normal mode analysis. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 126:10516-10517.
7. F. Autenrieth, E. Tajkhorshid, K. Schulten, and Z. Luthey-Schulten (2004) Role of water in transient cytochrome c2 docking. *J. Phys. Chem. B* in press.
8. S. André, H. Kaltner, M. Lensch, R. Russwurm, H.-C. Siebert, E. Tajkhorshid, A. J. R. Heck, M. von Knebel-Doeberitz, H.-J. Gabius, J. Kopitz (2004) Determination of structural and functional overlap/divergence of five proto-type galectins by analysis of the growth-regulatory interaction with ganglioside GM1 in silico and in vitro human neuroblastoma cells. *Int. J. Cancer* in press.
9. E. Tajkhorshid, F. Zhu, and K. Schulten (2004) Kinetic theory and simulation of single-channel water transport. In Horia Metiu, Editor, *Handbook of Materials Modeling* in press.
10. F. Zhu, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Schulten (2004) Collective diffusion model for water permeation through microscopic channels. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* in press.
11. E. Tajkhorshid, J. Cohen, A. Aksimentiev, M. Sotomayor, and K. Schulten (2004) Towards understanding membrane channels. In *Bacterial ion channels and their eukaryotic homologues* Boris Martinac and Andrzej Kubalski, Editors. American Society of Microbiology. in press.

2003

12. R. Amaro, E. Tajkhorshid, and Z. Luthey-Schulten (2003) Developing an Energy Landscape for the Novel Function of a $(\beta/\alpha)_8$ Barrel: Ammonia Conduction through HisF. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 100, 7599-7604.
13. E. Tajkhorshid, A. Aksimentiev, I. Balabin, M. Gao, B. Isralewitz, J. C. Phillips, F. Zhu, and K. Schulten (2003) Large scale simulation of protein mechanics and function. In David Eisenberg and Peter Kim, editors, *Advances in Protein Chemistry* 66, 195-247. Elsevier Academic Press, New York, 2003.
14. P. Grayson, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Schulten (2003) Mechanisms of selectivity in channels and enzymes studied with interactive molecular dynamics. *Biophysical Journal* 85, 36-48.
15. S. Hayashi, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Schulten (2003) Molecular dynamics simulation of bacteriorhodopsin's photoisomerization using *ab initio* forces for the excited chromophore. *Biophysical Journal* 85, 1440-1449.
16. S. Park, F. Khalili-Araghi, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Schulten (2003) Free energy calculation from nonequilibrium molecular dynamics simulations using Jarzynski's equality. *Journal of Chemical Physics* 119:3559-3566.

17. M. Ø. Jensen, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Schulten (2003) Electrostatic tuning of permeation and selectivity in aquaporin water channels. *Biophysical Journal* 85, 2884-2899.
18. H.-C. Siebert, S. Andre, S.-Y. Lu, M. Frank, Herbert Kaltner, J. A. van Kuik, E. Y. Korchagina, N. Bovin, E. Tajkhorshid, R. Kaptein, J. F. G. Vliegenhart, C.-W. von der Lieth, J. Jimenez-Barbero, J. Kopitz, and H.-J. Gabius (2003) Unique Conformer Selection of the Human Growth-regulatory Lectin Galectin-1 for Ganglioside GM1 Versus Bacterial Toxins. *Biochemistry* 42, 14762-14773.

2002

19. E. Tajkhorshid, P. Nollert, M. Ø. Jensen, L. J. W. Miercke, J. O'Connell, R. M. Stroud, and K. Schulten (2002) Control of the selectivity of the aquaporin water channel family by global orientational tuning. *Science* 296, 525-530.
20. M. Jensen, S. Park, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Schulten (2002) Energetics of glycerol conduction through aquaglyceroporin GlpF. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 99, 6731-6736.
21. H. Zhou, E. Tajkhorshid, Th. Frauenheim, S. Suhai, and M. Elstner (2002) Performance of the AM1, PM3, and SCC-DFTB methods in the study of conjugated Schiff base molecules. *Chemical Physics* 277, 91-103.
22. F. Zhu, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Schulten (2002) Pressure-induced water transport in membrane channels studied by molecular dynamics. *Biophysical Journal* 83, 154-160.
23. S. Hayashi, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Schulten (2002) Structural changes during the formation of early intermediates in the bacteriorhodopsin photocycle. *Biophysical Journal* 83, 1281-1297.
24. S. Hayashi, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Schulten (2002) Structure and spectral tuning mechanism of photo-sensory protein sRII (pR). *Biophysics (Seibutsu-Butsuri)* 42, 127-130.
25. J. Saam, E. Tajkhorshid, S. Hayashi, and K. Schulten. (2002) Molecular dynamics investigation of primary photoinduced events in the activation of rhodopsin. *Biophysical Journal* 83, 3097-3112.

2001

26. M. Ø. Jensen, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Schulten (2001) The Mechanism of Glycerol Conduction in Aquaglyceroporins. *Structure* 9, 1083-1093. (featuring the cover page figure)
27. J. Baudry, E. Tajkhorshid, F. Molnar, J. C. Phillips, and K. Schulten (2001) Molecular dynamics study of bacteriorhodopsin and the purple membrane. Invited feature article, *Journal of Physical Chemistry B* 105, 905-918. (featuring the cover page figure)
28. F. Zhu, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Schulten (2001) Molecular Dynamics Study of Aquaporin-1 Water Channel in a Lipid Bilayer. *FEBS Letters* 504, 212-218.
29. S. Hayashi, E. Tajkhorshid, E. Pebay-peyroula, A. Royant, E. M. Landau, J. Navarro, and K. Schulten (2001) Structural determinants of spectral tuning in retinal proteins - bacteriorhodopsin vs. sensory rhodopsin II. *Journal of Physical Chemistry B* 105, 10124-10131. (featuring the cover page figure)
30. K. J. Jalkanen, R. M. Nieminen, K. Frimand, J. Bohr, H. Bohr, R. Wade, E. Tajkhorshid, and S. Suhai (2001) A comparison of aqueous solvent models used in the calculation of the Raman and ROA spectra of L-alanine. *Chemical Physics* 265, 125-151.
31. H. C. Siebert, E. Tajkhorshid, and J. Dabrowski (2001) Barriers to rotation around the C_{sp2}-C_{sp2} bond of the ketoaldehyde enol ether MeC(O)=CH-OEt as determined by ¹³C NMR and *ab initio* calculation. *Journal of Physical Chemistry A* 105, 8488-8494.

2000

32. E. Tajkhorshid, J. Baudry, K. Schulten, and S. Suhai (2000) Molecular dynamics study of the nature and origin of the retinal's twisted structure in bacteriorhodopsin. *Biophysical Journal* 76, 683-693.
33. E. Tajkhorshid and S. Suhai (2000) The dielectric effects of the environment on the pK_a of the retinal Schiff Base and on the stabilization of the ion pair in bacteriorhodopsin. *THEOCHEM J. Mol. Structure*, 501-502, 297-313.

1999

34. E. Tajkhorshid, B. Paizs, and Suhai S. (1999) Role of isomerization barriers in the pK_a control of the retinal Schiff base: a density functional study. *J. Phys. Chem. B*, 103, 4518-4527.
35. W. Han, E. Tajkhorshid, and S. Suhai (1999) *Ab initio*/molecular mechanics study of active site of free papain and NMA-papain complex. *J. Biomolecular Structure and Dynamics*, 16, 1019-1032.
36. E. Tajkhorshid and S. Suhai (1999) Dielectric effects due to the protein environment on the structure and proton affinity of the retinal Schiff base. *Chem. Phys. Lett.*, 299, 457-464.
37. E. Tajkhorshid and S. Suhai (1999) Influence of the methyl groups on the structure, charge distribution, and proton affinity of the retinal Schiff base. *J. Phys. Chem. B*, 103, 5581-5590.
38. E. Tajkhorshid and S. Suhai (1999) The effect of the protein environment on the structure and charge distribution of the retinal Schiff base in Bacteriorhodopsin. *Theoret. Chem. Accounts*, 101, 180-185.
39. B. Paizs, E. Tajkhorshid, and S. Suhai (1999) Electronic effects on the ground state rotational barrier of the chromophore in bacteriorhodopsin: a molecular orbital study. *J. Phys. Chem. B*, 103, 5388-5395.

1998 and earlier

40. E. Tajkhorshid, K. J. Jalkanen, and S. Suhai (1998) A density functional study of the structures and vibrational spectra of the zwitterion L-alanine in the presence of explicit water molecules. *J. Phys. Chem. B*, 102, 5899-5913.
41. C.-W. von der Lieth, H.-C. Siebert, T. Kozar, M. Burchert, M. Frank, M. Gilleron, H. Kaltner, G. Kayser, E. Tajkhorshid, N. V. Bovin, J. F. G. Vliegthart, and H.-J. Gabius (1998) Lectin ligands: New insights into their conformations and their dynamic behavior and the discovery of conformer selection by lectins. *Acta Anatomica*, 161, 91-109.
42. E. Tajkhorshid, B. Paizs, and S. Suhai (1997) Conformational effects on the proton affinity of the Schiff Base in bacteriorhodopsin: a density functional study. *J. Phys. Chem. B*, 101, 8021-8028.
43. H.-C. Siebert, R. Adar, R. Arango, M. Burchert, H. Kaltner, G. Kayser, E. Tajkhorshid, C.-W. von der Lieth, R. Kaptein, N. Sharon, J. F. G. Vliegthart, and H.-J. Gabius (1997) Involvement of laser photo CIDNP-reactive amino acid side chains in ligand binding by galctoside-specific lectins in solution. Similarities in the role of tryptophan/tyrosine residues for ligand binding between a plant agglutinin and mammalian/avian galectins and the detection of an influence of single-site mutagenesis on surface presentation of spatially separated residues. *Eur. J. Biochem.*, 249, 27-38.
44. E. Tajkhorshid, H.-C. Siebert, M. Burchert, H. Kaltner, G. Kayser, C.-W. von der Lieth, R. Kaptein, J. F. G. Vliegthart, and H.-J. Gabius (1997) A combined molecular modeling and CIDNP study of similarities in the pattern of ligand binding in mammalian and avian galectins. *J. Mol. Model.*, 3, 325-331.
45. I. Yavari, E. Tajkhorshid, D. Nourishargh, and S. Balalaie (1997) Semiempirical SCF-MO study of bowl-to-bowl inversion in corannulene and smaller circulenes. *THEOCHEM J. Mol. Structure*, 393, 163-166.
46. H.-C. Siebert, E. Tajkhorshid, C.-W. von der Lieth, R. Kleineidam, S. Kruse, R. Schauer, R. Kaptein, H.-J. Gabius, and J. F. G. Vliegthart (1996) Knowledge-based homology modeling and experimental determination of amino acid side chain accessibility by the laser photo CIDNP (chemically induced dynamic nuclear polarization) approach in solution: lessons from the small sialidase of *Clostridium perfringens*. *J. Mol. Model.*, 2, 446-455.
47. N. Radjaee-Behbahani, A. R. Dehpour, E. Tajkhorshid, and K. Kheirollahi (1996) Clonidine-induced rhythmic activity in rabbit annococcygeus muscle. *Gen. Pharmacol.*, 27, 525-528.
48. A. R. Dehpour, E. Tajkhorshid, A. Alimian, and N. Radjaee-Behbahani (1995) Different calcium dependencies of contractile activity of prostatic and epididymal portions of rat vas deferens. *Gen. Pharmacol.*, 26, 633-639.

49. A. R. Dehpour, E. Tajkhorshid, and N. Radjaee-Behbahani (1994) The role of calcium and alpha-adrenoceptors in contractile response of chick expansor secundariorum muscle to field stimulation. *Gen. Pharmacol.*, **25**, 317-323.
50. A. R. Dehpour, E. Tajkhorshid, N. Radjaee-Behbahani, and K. Kheirollahi (1993) Methoxamine-induced rhythmic activity in rabbit annococcygeus muscle. *Gen. Pharmacol.*, **24**, 841-845.
51. E. Tajkhorshid, B. Habibi-Nezhad, and P. Rashidi-Ranjbar (1992) Successes of computer-aided molecular design. *Iran. J. Chem. Chem. Engineering*, **11**, 86-100.

Lectures and Seminars

- Mechanism of Storage of Light Energy in Rhodopsins (**Sep 2004**) Invited lecture at the *International Symposium on Retinal Proteins: Experimental and Theory*, Heidelberg, Germany.
- Novel Mechanisms of Substrate Selectivity in Membrane Channels (**Sep 2004**) Invited lecture at the *2004 Annual Meeting of the German Biophysical Society*, Freiburg, Germany.
- Selective Transport of Substrates across Biological Membranes: Lessons from Computational Studies of Membrane Channels (**Jun 2004**) Invited lecture at the Department of Medicine, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, USA.
- Structural Basis of Substrate Permeation and Selectivity in Membrane Channels: Lessons from Non-Equilibrium Simulations (**Feb 2004**) Invited lecture at the *Permeation/Transport Subgroup of the 48th Annual Meeting of the Biophysical Society*, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.
- Electrostatics Regulation of Substrate Permeation and Selectivity of Aquaporins. (**Feb 2004**) *48th Annual Meeting of the Biophysical Society*, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.
- Largest-Scale Full-Atomic Simulations of Biomolecular Processes (**Nov 2003**) Invited lecture at “Multi-scale simulation of biological systems, *International Conference on Systems Biology 2003*”, St. Louis, MI, USA.
- Molecular mechanisms of photoactivation and spectral tuning in retinal proteins (**Oct 2003**) Invited lecture at “*Software Solutions to Large Scale Problems in Computational Chemistry*” *Computational Chemistry GRID Conference*, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky, USA.
- Large Scale Molecular Dynamics Simulations of Membrane Proteins. (**Jul 2003**) Invited lecture at *Computing for Biology, IBM-BNL Blue-Gene Science Workshop 2003*. Long Island, New York, USA.
- Computational Studies of Aquaporin Function and Mechanism. (**Jun 2003**) Invited lecture at Gordon Research Conference on Mechanisms of Membrane Transport, Holderness, New Hampshire, USA.
- Novel Selectivity Mechanisms of Membrane Channels: Insights from Computational Investigations of Aquaporins. (**May 2003**) Invited lecture at *Department of Molecular and Integrative Physiology*, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois, USA.
- Molecular dynamics simulation of aquaporin mutants in congenital cataracts. (**Mar 2003**) *47th Annual Meeting of Biophysical Society*, San Antonio, Texas, USA.
- Computational Modeling of Substrate Transport Through Membrane Channels (**Feb 2003**) Invited lecture at *43rd Sanibel Symposium*, St Augustine, Florida, USA.
- Architectural Design of a Highly Selective Membrane Channel. (**Oct 2002**) Molecular and Electronic Nanostructures Seminar Series (Nanohour), Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois, USA.
- Large scale molecular dynamics simulation of biomolecular systems. (**Oct 2002**) Invited lecture at “*Software Solutions to Large Scale Problems in Computational Chemistry*” *Computational Chemistry GRID Conference*, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky, USA.
- Computational chemistry for membrane channels. (**Jul 2002**) Invited lecture at *Gordon Research Conference on Computational Chemistry*, Colby-Sawyer College, New London, New Hampshire, USA.
- Aquaporin membrane channels. (**Apr 2002**) NCSA Workshop on “Biomedical Applications of Molecular Dynamics on the TeraGrid”, NCSA, *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*, Urbana, Illinois, USA.
- Computational exploration of structure-function relationship in aquaporin water channels (**Feb 2002**) Invited lecture at Chemical Biology Seminars, *University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*, Urbana, Illinois, USA.

- Structural determinants of spectral tuning in retinal proteins (**Aug 2001**) *German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg, Germany.*
- Exploring Glycerol and Water Transport in the *E. Coli* Glycerol Facilitator (GlpF) by Molecular Dynamics Simulations. (**Jun 2001**) *German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg, Germany.*
- Exploring the Glycerol Transport in GlpF by Molecular Dynamics Simulations (**Apr 2001**) *University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, California, USA.*
- Molecular basis of function in retinal proteins. (**Feb 2001**) Invited lecture at Molecular and Electronic Nanostructures Seminar Series (Nanohour), *Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois, USA.*
- Simulation of the structure and function of retinal proteins. (**2000**) Invited lecture at *Department of Physics, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, USA.*
- Theoretical study of the interaction of chromophore and protein environment in bacteriorhodopsin (**2000**) *Workshop on Theoretical studies of biological function of molecules, University of Paderborn, Paderborn, Germany.*
- Theoretical study of the structure and function of the retinal chromophore in bacteriorhodopsin. (**2000**) Invited lecture at *University of Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany.*
- The central role of the retinal Schiff base in the photoabsorption and proton transfer activities of bacteriorhodopsin. (**2000**) *University of Paderborn, Paderborn, Germany.*
- Interaction of retinoids with their biological receptive sites. (**1999**) *German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg, Germany.*
- The effect of different structural characteristics of the retinal Schiff base on the isomerization barriers and the pK_a of the chromophore. (**1998**) *Beckman Institute for Advanced Science and Technology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois, USA.*
- Theoretical study of the structure and electronic configuration of retinoids. (**1998**) *Supercomputing Workshop, German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg, Germany.*
- Conformational analysis of zwitterionic form of L-alanine in aqueous solution. (**1996**) *German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg, Germany.*
- Developmental changes of chick extensor secundarius muscle sensitivity to 5-hydroxytryptamine. (**1991**) *10th Iranian Congress of Physiology and Pharmacology, Ahwaz, IRAN.*