

Prof. Dr. Francesco Gervasio, University of Geneva

francesco.gervasio@unige.ch



Francesco L. Gervasio is full Professor of Biomolecular and Pharmaceutical Modeling in the Pharmaceutical Sciences Department of University of Geneva and Full Professor of Chemistry and Structural and Molecular Biology at University College London. He holds a Ph.D. degree in chemistry from the University of Firenze and has been a Post-Doc and and Oberassistent in the group of Michele Parrinello from 2002 to 2009, before joining the Spanish National Cancer Research Centre as group leader in 2009, UCL as full professor in 2013 and the University of Geneva as full professor in 2020. His research interests are in the field of computational chemistry, biophysics and structural biology. He has contributed to the development of successful computational methods to sample rare events and reconstruct free energy surfaces, including one of the most successful Metadynamics derivatives, namely PT-metaD. More recently he developed SWISH, a computational method that is able to successfully locate cryptic (hidden) binding sites in difficult ("undruggable") pharmaceutical targets. He applies computational approaches to study protein conformational dynamics, ligand-target association and target flexibility. His methods helped clarify the activation mechanism of G protein-coupled receptors and the mode of action of cancer-causing mutations.

Prof. Gervasio has an H-index of 45 and is the author of more than 100 publications in high-ranked journals, including Nature, Nature Methods, Science Advances, Cancer Cell, PNAS, Angew. Chem., JACS, etc. He is the director of the JC Maxwell CECAM node, the chief editor of Frontiers in Biological Modeling and Simulation and a member of the Faculty of 1000.

Professor Gervasio actively collaborates with a number of pharmaceutical companies, including AstraZeneca, UCB and Heptares. He organised several international conferences, including the CECAM workshop 2018 on Allosteric Regulation of Cell Signalling and he has delivered more than 100 invited lectures and seminars.