

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

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NAME: Wang, Longfei

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POSITION TITLE: Research Fellow

EDUCATION/TRAINING *(Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary.)*

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE (if applicable)	Completion Date MM/YYYY	FIELD OF STUDY
Huazhong Agricultural University, Wuhan, China	B.S.	07/2005	Biology
Institute of Biophysics, Beijing, China	Ph.D.	07/2011	Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA	Research Fellow	09/2011-04/2017	Biochemistry and Pharmacology

A. Personal Statement

My long-term research interests are the mechanism of macromolecular machineries that play crucial roles in living organisms and mechanism-based development of therapies for related human diseases. I gained expertise in membrane protein biochemistry in Dr. Wenrui Chang's laboratory, where my Ph.D. work focused on light-harvesting complexes in plants and my team determined the crystal structure of the light-harvesting antenna protein CP29. I then briefly worked in Dr. Zhenfeng Liu's laboratory and solved the crystal structure of a trimeric intracellular cation (TRIC) channel. At Harvard Medical School, I extended my research skills by screening small-molecule drugs for an onco-target and pluripotency factor called LIN28. The screening assay I developed as well as the lead compounds was licensed to Twenty-eight-seven Therapeutics as one of their core pipelines. Under Dr. Hao Wu's mentorship at Boston Children's Hospital, I focused on the structure and function of human TRPM2 cation channel. By optimization of purification procedures, I obtained full-length human TRPM2, determined its cryo-EM structures three distinct states, and revealed that the opening mechanism of human TRPM2 is quite different from that of zebrafish TRPM2 (Wang et al., *Science*, 2018). With Ph.D. and post-doctoral trainings under world-class scientists and challenging studies that have answered important questions in biology, I am fully confident to lead the proposed project as an independent researcher.

B. Positions and Honors**Positions and Employment**

2011-2011 Research Associate, Institute of Biophysics, Beijing, China
 2011-2017 Research Fellow, Department of Biological Chemistry & Molecular Pharmacology, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA
 2017- Research Fellow, Program in Cellular and Molecular Medicine, Boston Children's Hospital, Boston, MA

Other Experience and Professional Memberships

2011-2012 Software Curator, SBGrid Consortium
 2015-2016 Data Science, Harvard Extension School

Honors

2001-2004 Outstanding Student, Huazhong Agricultural University
 2002 Honghua Scholarship, Huazhong Agricultural University

C. Contributions to Science

1. **Structures and gating mechanism of human TRPM2.** Transient receptor potential (TRP) melastatin 2 (TRPM2) is a cation channel associated with numerous diseases. It has a C-terminal NUDT9 homology (NUDT9H) domain responsible for binding adenosine diphosphate (ADP)–ribose (ADPR), and both ADPR and calcium (Ca²⁺) are required for TRPM2 activation. Here we report cryo–electron microscopy structures of human TRPM2 alone, with ADPR, and with ADPR and Ca²⁺. NUDT9H forms both intra- and intersubunit interactions with the N-terminal TRPM homology region (MHR1/2/3) in the apo state but undergoes conformational changes upon ADPR binding, resulting in rotation of MHR1/2 and disruption of the intersubunit interaction. The binding of Ca²⁺ further engages transmembrane helices and the conserved TRP helix to cause conformational changes at the MHR arm and the lower gating pore to potentiate channel opening. These findings explain the molecular mechanism of concerted TRPM2 gating by ADPR and Ca²⁺ and provide insights into the gating mechanism of other TRP channels.
 - a. **Wang, L.**, Fu, T. M., Zhou, Y., Xia, S., Greka, A., & Wu, H. (2018). Structures and gating mechanism of human TRPM2. *Science*, eaav4809. PMC in progress.
2. **LIN28-mediated regulation in stem cell and cancers and LIN28-targeting cancer therapies.** LIN28 is an RNA binding protein that plays crucial roles in embryonic development, pluripotency, glucose metabolism, tissue regeneration, and tumorigenesis. I identified that ZKD domain of LIN28 recruits TUTase and initiate let-7 degradation pathway by oligouridylation. I then determined the human LIN28/let-7 complex structure. Based on the structure, I developed a sensitive screening assay and performed drug screening targeting LIN28. Several lead compounds were identified from the screening that inhibits LIN28 with micro-molar potency in cells.
 - a. **Wang, L.**, Nam, Y., Lee, A.K., Yu, C., Roth, K., Chen, C., Ransey, E.M. and Sliz, P., 2017. LIN28 zinc knuckle domain is required and sufficient to induce let-7 oligouridylation. *Cell reports*, 18(11), pp.2664-2675. PMC in progress.
 - b. **Wang, L.**, Rowe, R.G., Jaimes, A., Yu, C., Nam, Y., Pearson, D.S., Zhang, J., Xie, X., Marion, W., Heffron, G.J. and Daley, G.Q., 2018. Small-Molecule Inhibitors Disrupt let-7 Oligouridylation and Release the Selective Blockade of let-7 Processing by LIN28. *Cell reports*, 23(10), pp.3091-3101. PMC in progress.
 - c. **Wang, L.**, Yang, Q., Jaimes, A., Wang, T., Strobel, H., Chen, J. and Sliz, P., 2018. MightyScreen: an open-source visualization application for screening data analysis. *SLAS DISCOVERY: Advancing Life Sciences R&D*, 23(2), pp.218-223. PMC in progress.
 - d. Zhang, J., Ratanasirintrawoot, S., Chandrasekaran, S., Wu, Z., Ficarro, S.B., Yu, C., Ross, C.A., Cacchiarelli, D., Xia, Q., Seligson, M. and Shinoda, G., Xie W., Cahan P., **Wang L.**, ..., 2016. LIN28 regulates stem cell metabolism and conversion to primed pluripotency. *Cell Stem Cell*, 19(1), pp.66-80. PMC in progress.
3. **Structure of anti-tumor peptide rBTI.** BWI-1 (buckwheat trypsin inhibitor), a member of the potato inhibitor I family, suppresses the growth of T-acute lymphoblastic leukemia cells and induces apoptosis in human solid tumor cell lines. I determined crystal structure of rBTI alone and rBTI in complex with trypsin. The structures reveal a novel conformation change of P8 position residue.
 - a. **Wang, L.**, Zhao, F., Li, M., Zhang, H., Gao, Y., Cao, P., Pan, X., Wang, Z. and Chang, W., 2011. Conformational changes of rBTI from buckwheat upon binding to trypsin: implications for the role of the P8' residue in the potato inhibitor I family. *PloS one*, 6(6), p.e20950. PMCID:PMC3115953.
4. **The crystal structure of a trimeric intracellular cation (TRIC) channel.** Trimeric intracellular cation (TRIC) channels are crucial for Ca²⁺ handling in eukaryotes and are involved in K⁺ uptake in prokaryotes. I determined the crystal structure of *Sulfolobus solfataricus* (SsTRIC) channel in the presence of

potassium. The structure revealed a Velcro-like plug-pore interacting model which serves as a unified framework for the gating mechanisms of prokaryotic and eukaryotic TRIC channels.

- a. Ou, X., Guo, J., **Wang, L.**, Yang, H., Liu, X., Sun, J. and Liu, Z., 2017. Ion-and water-binding sites inside an occluded hourglass pore of a trimeric intracellular cation (TRIC) channel. ***BMC biology***, 15(1), p.31. PMID:PMC5401562.

Complete list of published work in MyBibliography

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/myncbi/1Lkpw4Jce-GkCd/bibliography/56583926/public/?sort=date&direction=ascending>

D. Research Support:

Ongoing: None

Completed: None