

SCIENTIFIC CARFER DEVELOPMENT

Training of future generations of scientists and technologists is a major priority for the CNB. In the 2019-2020 period, 38 PhD students received competitive fellowships (e.g., INPhINIT, FPU, FPI) to realise their PhD thesis at our institute, and 63 students obtained their PhD degree under a CNB scientist's supervision. Our centre hosted 74 undergraduate and 83 master's students from Spanish and international universities, allowing them to received first-hand experience in biotechnology research. In addition, 42 short-term trainees and visiting scientists chose the CNB for its outstanding training opportunities. Moreover, CNB researchers actively participate in some of the best university and master's degree programmes in Spain.

We are making continuous efforts to attract young people who wish to pursue a scientific career. We have already celebrated the 7th edition of the "CNB course on introduction to research" for undergraduate students. In collaboration with the CSIC and funding from the Severo Ochoa Centres of Excellence Program, we offered fellowships to attract brilliant master's students.

Our PhD training program, launched in 2014 as part of the Severo Ochoa Centres of Excellence Program, is fully established. The PhD Student's and Training Advisory Committees, with the support of the Science Communication and Outreach Officer (Susana de Lucas), organise annual activity programmes to support career development. From courses fostering public presentation skills, how to write a scientific paper, or an interactive workshop on ethics and integrity in research, to welcome events for new PhD students and predoctoral scientific workshops, we aim to improve both their scientific and other soft skills useful in an academic career.

Around 25% of our personnel are postdoctoral researchers, a task force that drives the excellence of our research and participate in the training of younger students. Our centre attracted 12 talented young scientists through international, national and regional calls such as Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions from the European Commission, Juan de la Cierva, Ramón y Cajal and Talent Attraction Programmes.

A rich program of seminars, conferences, workshops and courses, more than 150 in the 2019-2020 period, provide optimal opportunities for our researchers to keep up with the latest advances in biotechnology. Highlights from the past two years include an international a Congress in collaboration with the CBM-SO on "Chemokines and Cell Migration", involving 120 participants, and a scientific

congress in honor of the scientific career of Prof. J. L. Carrascosa to celebrate 25 years of Electronic Cryomicroscopy in Spain. The Congress attracted two Nobel laureates and had more than 150 participants.

Although the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic has forced changes in the celebration of scientific seminars, now converted in webinars, we have taken this as a new opportunity to reach wider audiences through the use of online platforms.

SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Juan Carlos Alonso Antonio Leyva Florencio Pazos Hugh Reyburn Juan José Sanz José María Valpuesta

TRAINING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Yolanda Carrasco Mark van Raaij Vicente Rubio Juan José Sanz Javier Tamames Miguel Vicente

PhD STUDENTS COMMITTEE

Alejandro Asensio Lorena Bragg Álvaro Ceballos

Aivaio Cebaile

Marta Cobo

Alberto Fuster

Sofía Gardeta

Andoni Gómez

Marcos Gragera

Diego Jiménez

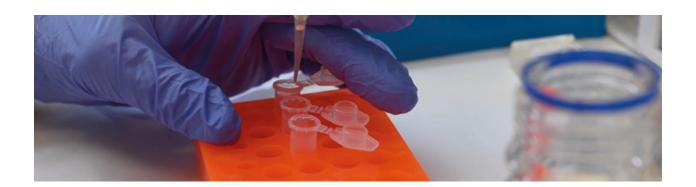
Javier López-Ibáñez

Micaela Navarro

Andrés París

Elena Sánchez

Jesús Vallejo



PhD fellowships

2 LA CAIXA INPHINIT FELLOWSHIPS

La Caixa Foundation

María José Felgueres Planells

Arturo Daniel García Vesga

10 FPU FELLOWSHIPS

Ministry Of Education, Culture And Sport

Neus Daviu Bou

Elisabet Díaz Beneitez
Álvaro Fernando García
Jiménez
Aitor Jarit Cabanillas

Elia Marcos Grañeda
José Martín Gómez

Almudena Méndez Pérez

María Jesús Rodríguez

Espinosa

Ainhoa Ruiz Iglesias

Martín Sastre Gallardo

5 FPI SEVERO OCHOA FELLOWSHIPS

Ministry of Science and Innovation

Ana Cayuela López Rafael García López Alejandro López Hurtado Jonathan Gabriel Piccirillo Adriana Quijada Freire

1 FIS FELLOWSHIP

Ministry of Science and Innovation

Esmeralda Cebrian Sastre

20 FPI FELLOWSHIPS

Ministry of Science and Innovation

Alba Cabrera Fisac
Christian Camilo Cortés
García
David Egea Benavente
Daniel Fernández Soto
Margarita Ferriz Salcedo
Carlos García Crespo
Marta García López
Samuel García Poveda
Sofía Rosa Gardeta Castillo
David Gil Cantero
Teresa Gil Gil
Marina Higuera García
Leticia Lucero López
Luis Miguel Luengo Cerrón

Luis Miguel Luengo (Mikel Marín Baquero Iris Martínez Hevia Diego Martínez Rey Aitor Muñoz López

Elena Pares Guillen Irene Varela Martínez

Undergraduate and master students fellowships

CSIC Introduction to Research Fellowships

23 JAE INTRO

Gonzalo María Aizpurua de Arteche

Julio César Aragón Lago Sandra María Camuñas Alberca Irene Castells Yus

Luis Castillo Cantero Odette Deen Rozalen Daniel del Hoyo Gómez

José María Fernández Palacios Jorge García Condado

Juan García-Agullo Rivera

Darío López García Iván Martín Martín Natalia Martínez Puente Almudena Méndez Pérez Alberto Manuel Parra Pérez Sergio Pipaón Alcibar

Julia Purificación Casino Irati Rincón Santoyo Marta Sánchez Diez

Paula Sánchez Sánchez Henry Patricio Secaira Morocho

Carlos Wert Carvajal Ana Carmen González Brenes

10 JAE INTRO-SOMMA

Yolanda Benítez Quesada Nicolae Ciobu Lucia de Dios Blázquez Jorge Huete Carrasco Alba Esteli Murillo Sánchez Sara Otaegi Ugartemendia Cesar Palacios Cuellar Álvaro Redondo del Río Ángel Ruiz Enamorado Jesús Vílchez García

6 JAE INTRO ICUS CNB (2019)

7th CNB Course Introduction to Research

María González Álvarez David Gutiérrez Baez Javier Ortiz Rivero Sergio Polo Nicoli Patricia Rus Fernández Gustavo Adolfo Sánchez Corrales



Doctoral theses

In 2019 and 2020, 63 students obtained the PhD degree under the supervision of CNB researchers.

2019

JAVIER ARRANZ-NICOLÁS

The metabolism of diacylglycerol in T cell tolerance regulation and tumor evasion.

(Isabel Mérida)

NOELIA ARTEAGA RAMOS

Identificación y caracterización de genes implicados en la variación natural para el patrón de tricomas en *Arabidopsis*.

(Carlos Alonso Blanco)

PAULA BLANCO

Inducible and acquired antibiotic resistance in *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia*.

(José Luis Martínez)

JUAN JOSÉ CESTERO

Remodelación del peptidoglicano de *Salmonella* por actividades ausentes en organismos no patogénicos. (Francisco García del Portillo)

JUAN DÍAZ COLUNGA

Mitochondrial control of gene expression and extrinsic apoptosis. (Francisco J. Iborra Rodríguez and Raúl Guantes Navacerrada)

ALEJANDRA ESCÓS LÓPEZ

New insights in p38MAPK function and potential value as therapeutic target for high-prevalence diseases. (Ana Cuenda)

MARTA GARCÍA LEÓN

Unraveling the role of *Arabidopsis* ALIX in the trafficking and turnover of abscisic acid receptors. (Vicente Rubio)

MOISÉS GARCÍA SERRADILLA

Estudio de la capacidad antiviral de Ribavirina y Nano-partículas de plata en células infectadas con Bunyavirus mediante técnicas de imagen.

(Cristina Risco Ortiz)

MARTA HERVÁS GARCÍA

Estudio de las modificaciones posttraduccionales que afectan a la proteína de la cápsida del Plum pox virus y su papel en el desarrollo del ciclo viral.

(Juan Antonio García and Sandra Martínez Turiño)

Mª DE LOS ÁNGELES HUESO GIL

Refactoring the interplay of Pseudomonas putida with solid surfaces for programming lifestyle decisions.

(Víctor de Lorenzo and Belén Calles)

SANTIAGO JOSA DE RAMOS

Functional analysis of the non-coding mouse genome through bioinformatic and CRISPR tools.

(Lluís Montoliu)

JULENE MADARIAGA MARCOS

Magnetic tweezers and fluorescence to study DNA:protein interactions.

(Fernando Moreno-Herrero)

CARMEN MAÑAS TORRES

Engineering Escherichia coli to target bladder and colon tumour cells and characterization of the adhesion process.

(Luis Ángel Fernández)

ALEJANDRO MARTÍN GONZÁLEZ

AFM characterization of DNA-binding proteins involved in the repair and organisation of DNA.

(Fernando Moreno-Herrero)

MIGUEL ÁNGEL MARTÍN SERRANO

Validación de las quinasas de éstres p38MAPKs como nuevos biomarcadores tumorales. Análisis de su papel en el cáncer de colon asociado a colitis.

(Ana Cuenda and Juan José Sanz-Ezquerro)

ANA MARTÍN LEAL

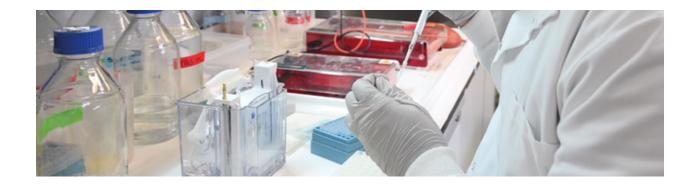
Papel del CCR5 en la oligomerización del TCR y su relevancia en la respuesta de las células T CD4 de memoria.

(Santos Mañes and Raquel Blanco)

GONZALO MARTÍNEZ MARTÍNEZ

Study of membrane proteome of DGKz-deficient cytotoxic T lymphocites.

(Isabel Mérida and Severine Gharbi)



SARA V. MERINO CORTÉS

El ácido fosfatídico producido por la DGKζ regula la respuesta de las células B a través del control del citoesqueleto de actina y la adhesión mediada por integrinas.

(Yolanda R. Carrasco)

MIGUEL MIÑAMBRES

Natural variation for phosphate starvation responses in Arabidopsis: new insights from gene expression QTL analyses in a recombinant inbred line population.

(Javier Paz-Ares)

CARMEN MORA GALLARDO

Characterization of the DIDO3-SFPQ axis in alternative splicing.

(Carlos Martínez-A and Karel van Wely)

ANDRÉS ORTIGOSA

Role of MYC transcription factors in photomorphogenesis and stomatal defence.

(Roberto Solano)

MARÍA PEÑUELAS HORTELANO

Functional Characterization of MYCs TFs in Marchantia polymorpha. (Roberto Solano)

MERCEDES PÉREZ-OLIVARES

Max function in B lymphocyte differentiation.

(Ignacio Moreno de Alborán)

ADRIANA PÉREZ PORTILLA

Estudios sobre la inmunogenética de inmunodeficiencias primarias. (Hugh Reyburn)

PATRICIA PÉREZ RAMÍREZ

Novel vaccines base on poxvirus vector MVA against human viral diseases HIV/AIDS and Zika. (Mariano Esteban and Juan García-Arriaza)

MARÍA DEL MAR PÉREZ RUIZ

Structure and function of the components of the core of T7 bacteriophage, a DNA translocation complex.

(José L. Carrascosa)

ANTONIO PICHEL BELEIRO

Structure determination of receptorbinding proteins and baseplate of Staphylococcus phage K, a therapeutic phage for control of MRSA.

(Mark J. van Raaij)

MARÍA QUIRÓS MARÍN

Aumento de la inmunogenicidad de una vacuna contra la hepatitis C (MVA-HCV) basada en el virus vaccinia modificado de Ankara (MVA). (Mariano Esteban and Juan García-Arriaza)

AÍDA REVILLA GARCÍA

Transmisibilidad, agregación cruzada y toxicidad de la proteína similar a príones RepA-WH1 en cultivos celulares de mamífero. (Rafael Giraldo)

ANA ISABEL RODRÍGUEZ

Bases moleculares de la virulencia y la resistencia en Escherichia coli: mutación, recombinación y transferencia horizontal.

(Jesús Blázquez and Jerónimo Rodríguez-Beltrán)

SARA ROMÁN GARCÍA

Funciones de la actividad adaptadora y catalítica de la proteína tirosina kinasa de Bruton en la respuesta de las células B.

(Yolanda R. Carrasco)

MARTA SANZ GAITERO

Crystallographic structure determination of bacteriophageencoded enzymes that specifically target pathogenic bacteria. (Mark J. van Raaij)

LAURA SANZ ORTEGA

Análisis del uso combinado de nanopartículas magnéticas y campos magnéticos externos para dirigir células linfoides hacia una región de interés y de su potencial en terapias de transferencia adoptiva celular en cáncer.

(Domingo F. Barber)

RUBÉN TORRES SÁNCHEZ

Bacillus subtilis RadA/Sms and RecA contribute in concert to doublestrand break repair and natural transformation, and with DisA to DNA damage tolerance.

(Juan Carlos Alonso)

JOSÉ LUIS VILAS PRIETO

Local quality assessment of cryo-EM reconstructions and its applications. (Carlos Oscar Sorzano-Sánchez and Javier Vargas)



2020

IVÁN CAMILO ACOSTA GARCÍA

A membrane remodelling system for OXPHOS activity in *Staphylococcus* aureus.

(Daniel López)

TERESA BUENO CARRASCO

The quasi-atomic structure of human tyrosine hydroxylase by cryo-electron microscopy: functional implications. (José María Valpuesta and Jorge Cuellar)

JAVIER CANTÓN BAILÓN

Relevancia de la proteína 4b de MERS-CoV en el antagonismo de la respuesta inmune innata y la virulencia.

(Isabel Sola and Luis Enjuanes)

LIDIA CERDÁN GARCÍA

Construction and validation of a large naïve library of VHHs integrated in the chromosome of *E. coli* for selection of nanobodies using bacterial display.

(Luis Ángel Fernández)

MARTA COBO SIMÓN

Ecology of marine microorganisms: biodiversity, genomics and metagenomics.

(Javier Tamames & Carlos Pedrós-Alió)

DIANA DAMIÁN APARICIO

Mechanism of regulation of flotillin levels by the staphylococcal accessory regulator SarA. (Daniel López)

CHARLOTTE DESSAUX

Dynamics of *Listeria monocytogenes* stressosome proteins in response to osmotic stress and the intracellular eukaryotic niche.

(Francisco García del Portillo and M. Graciela Pucciarelli)

DANIEL FUENTES MARTÍNEZ

Estudio de los complejos replicativos del virus de la bursitis infecciosa (IBDV) y análisis de la función de la proteína VP5.

(José F. Rodríguez and Dolores Rodríguez)

MARCOS GRAGERA CABEZUDO

Biophysical characterization of a chaperone complex involved in macroautophagy.

(José María Valpuesta and Rosario Fernández)

JAVIER GUTIÉRREZ ÁLVAREZ

Coronavirus causante del síndrome respiratorio de Oriente Medio: Patología y Protección.

(Luis Enjuanes and Isabel Sola)

FERNANDO GUTIÉRREZ DEL BURGO

DIDO3 organiza la red génica que regula la especificación y el destino de las células B.

(Carlos Martínez-A and Ricardo Villares)

LAURA HERNÁNDEZ VILLARRUBIA

Caracterización del sistema inmune Innato de la cavidad peritoneal: papel en la defensa frente a infecciones bacterianas intraperitoneales.

(Carlos Ardavín and María López Bravo)

ADRIÁN LÁZARO FRIAS

Generación de candidatos vacunales basados en el MVA frente a los ebolavirus Zaire y Sudan.

(Mariano Esteban and Juan García-Arriaza)

ALBERTO MARÍN GONZÁLEZ

Combining molecular dynamics simulations and atomic force microscopy experiments to rationalize the mechanical properties of double-stranded DNA and RNA.

(Fernando Moreno-Herrero and Rubén Pérez)

EVA MARTÍN SOLANA

El atasco ribosomal y las alteraciones polisomales como mecanismo de toxicidad en la enfermedad de Huntington.

(María Rosario Fernández Fernández and José Jesús Fernández)

PABLO MARTÍNEZ GÓMEZ

Oligomerización de CXCR4, una nueva diana para modular las funciones mediadas por CXCL12. (Mario Mellado)

ALEJANDRO PASCUAL IGLESIAS

Virus de la diarrea epidémica porcina: patogénesis y protección. (Luis Enjuanes and Sonia Zúñiga)



EVA PICO SÁNCHEZ

Engineering of *E. coli* bacteria for targeting human and murine epithelial tumor cells expressing HER2 and PD-L1 markers and their application in the colonization of mouse bladder tumours in vivo. (Luis Ángel Fernández)

MANUEL OLAZABAL MORÁN

Regulación fisiológica de PTEN tras a estimulación con factores de crecimiento.

(Ana Clara Carrera)

ANA BELÉN PEÑAHERRERA PAZMIÑO

Desarrollo de canales de microfluidica para estudio de crecimiento celular y análisis de flujo en medios porosos.

(José María Casasnovas)

MARTA ROYO LLONCH

Ecogenomics of uncultured marine prokaryotes.

(Silvia Acinas and Carlos Pedrós-Alió)

FERNANDO SANZ-GARCÍA

Predicción de la resistencia a antibióticos, intrínseca y adquirida, en *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

(José Luis Martínez and Sara Amado-Hernando)

RUBÉN SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA

Learning from data in structural bioinformatics: a protein-protein interaction study.

(José María Carazo García and Joan Segura Mora)

JAVIER SANTOS ARENAL

Identificación de cisteinil proteasas como mediadores de la disfunción de linfocitos citotóxicos inducida por PD-1. Implicaciones en la inmunoterapia del cáncer.

(Santos Mañes and Rosa Ana Lacalle)

ADRIANA LUCÍA SANZ GARCÍA

Multipartite Viruses. Organization, Emergence & Evolution. (Susanna Manrubia)

HÜSEYIN TAS

Actualización de *Pseudomonas putida* como chasis de biología sintética mediante la interoperabilidad de dispositivos genéticos.

(Víctor de Lorenzo and Angel Goñi)

MARIA-TSAMPIKA MANOLI

Synthetic and systems biology approaches towards the optimization of polyhydroxyalkanoates metabolism in *Pseudomonas putida* KT2440.

(Juan Nogales)

RABEA WAGNER

The bacterial exo- and endocytoskeleton spatially confines functional membrane microdomains. (Daniel López)

Postdoctoral and Research Fellows

In the last two years, our centre attracted 12 talented young scientists through international, national and regional calls such as Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions from the European Commission, Juan de la Cierva, Ramón y Cajal and Talent Attraction Programmes.

1 RAMÓN Y CAJAL PROGRAMME

Ministry of Science and Innovation Adrián Alejandro Valli

1 ATRACCIÓN DE TALENTO PROGRAMME

Comunidad de Madrid Pablo Pulido

1 YOUNG INVESTIGATOR PROGRAMME

Ministry of Science and Innovation Selena Giménez Ibáñez

1 MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE ACTIONS

European Comission Jorge García Marqués

8 JUAN DE LA CIERVA PROGRAMME

Ministry of Science and Innovation Alejandra Gutiérrez González Mercedes Hernando Pérez Sophie Jayne Kneeshaw Marcin Krupka Vladimir Mulens Arias Fernando Puente Sánchez Gorjana Rackov Luis Francisco Seoane Iglesias



Biophysical studies on small protein domains to correlate folding, cooperativity, binding and macromolecular assembly

Luis Alberto Campos Prieto

Ramón y Cajal Fellow Macromolecular Structures Department Associated with Dr José María Valpuesta's group

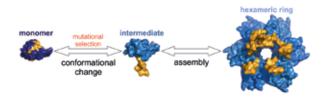
Protein folding cooperativity is the key to expand the protein behaviour in protein folding and binding. Thus, the cooperativity scale goes from intrinsically disordered proteins, with no cooperativity at all, to highly cooperative rigid folders, with few interesting phenomena inbetween, including "downhill" folders, moonlighting binding or metamorphic proteins.

I have focused my scientific interest in the study of small proteins with low cooperativity, applying protein engineering to modulate their folding. With this in mind, I have investigated the oligomerization of small proteins to form big macromolecular assemblies, creating a synthetic system where we have converted by mutations a rigid highly cooperative model into a metamorphic protein that forms stable hexameric rings in solution, and studied its functionalization with metal and/or nucleic acid binding or through protein fusion. Finally, I am applying single molecule techniques to investigate the dynamics of oligomerisation and expanding my studies to vesicles, formed of small proteins, with delivery capabilities.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Campos LA, Sharma R, Alvira S, Ruiz FM, Ibarra-Molero B, et al. Engineering protein assemblies with allosteric control via monomer fold-switching. Nat Commun 2019, 10: 5703.

Campos LA, Sadqi M, Muñoz V. Lessons about Protein Folding and Binding from Archetypal Folds. Acc Chem Res 2020; 53: 2180-2188.



Folding diagram for the new synthetic metamorphic protein created in the lab.



Light signalling and chromatin dynamics

Sandra Fonseca

Ramón y Cajal Fellow Plant Molecular Genetics Department Associated with Dr Vicente Rubio's group

PERSONNE

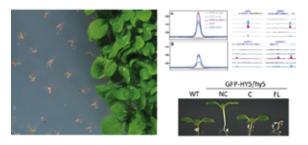
Esther Cañibano (PhD student, co-supervised with Dr V. Rubio) Laura Gómez (master student) Leticia Saez (undergraduate student)

Light fuels plant life and is an essential cue that modulates growth and development throughout all the plant life cycle. As sessile photoautotrophic organisms, plants evolved to capture light in an optimal manner and developed sophisticated strategies to perceive light signals and to transduce them into molecular signalling networks. Yet, high light intensities, as well as specific light wavelengths constitute an environmental stress that limits plant growth and development, especially if combined with other abiotic stimuli. My research focus is to understand the molecular mechanisms behind these responses, how they affect transcription and chromatin-associated events by employing, genetic, genomic and proteomic tools.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Fonseca S, Rubio V. Arabidopsis CRL4 complexes: surveying chromatin states and gene expression. Front Plant Sci 2019; 10:1095.

Ortigosa A, Fonseca S, Franco-Zorrilla JM, Fernández-Calvo P, Zander M, et al. The JA-pathway MYC transcription factors regulate photomorphogenic responses by targeting HY5 gene expression. Plant J 2020; 102: 138-152.



The COP/DET/FUS repressors are essential to maintain plant viability by limiting the activity of HY5 transcription factor to primary targets.



Molecular mechanisms regulating plant resistance against bacteria

Selena Giménez Ibáñez

"Retos Jóvenes Investigadores" Fellow Plant Molecular Genetics Department Associated with Dr Roberto Solano's group

PERSONNE

Santiago Michavilla Puente-Villegas (PhD Student, co-supervised with Dr R. Solano)

My research line falls into three areas of fundamental research, that are further combined with an additional directed applied line on important crops attacked by phytopathogenic Pseudomonas bacteria, such as tomato and kiwifruit. My research uses on one side, model plants such as Arabidopsis, Nicotiana and the liverwort Marchantia, to uncover the basic molecular mechanisms controlling hormonal plant immunity and how Pseudomonas bacteria infects hosts though its repertoire of effectors and phytotoxins. On the other side, this generated basic knowledge is directed to study these processes on crops, and to deliver novel strategies for crop protection against two of the most important disease caused by phytopathogenic Pseudomonas, the bacterial speck disease of tomato, caused by P. syringae pv. tomato, and the bacterial canker of kiwifruit, caused by P. syringae pv. actinidiae, by using biotechnology, genome editing, genetic breeding and searching for anti-infective potential novel chemicals among others. The aim is to gain knowledge into the molecular basis of hormonal plant immunity and infection by phytopathogenic Pseudomonas, towards the development of new solutions that could be applied into long-lasting strategies for crop protection against some of the most important diseases caused by Pseudomonas in crops, which negatively affect their cultivation worldwide.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Ortigosa A, Gimenez-Ibanez S, Leonhardt N, Solano R. Design of a bacterial speck resistant tomato by CRISPR/Cas9-mediated editing of SIJAZ2. Plant Biotechnol J 2019; 17 (3): 665-673.

Gimenez-Ibanez S, Zamarreño A, Garcia-Mina JM and Solano R. An evolutionarily ancient immune system governs the interactions between *Pseudomonas syringae* and an early-diverging land plant lineage. Current Biology 2019; 29(14): 2270-2281.

Gimenez-Ibanez S. Designing disease-resistant crops: From basic knowledge to biotechnology. Mètode Science Studies Journal, n11, 2020 ISBN/ISSN: 2174-3487.



Homeostatic and pathogenic contribution of Th2 immunity in cardiovascular disease

Rodrigo Jiménez-Saiz

Junior Group Leader Immunology and Oncology Department

PERSONNEL

Elisa Zubeldia (Visiting PhD student) Domenico Rosace (Visiting Scientist)

The goal of the Jiménez-Saiz Lab (https://www.jimenezsaizlab.com/) is to understand immunological principles of Th2 immunity in the context of allergic disease, particularly as it pertains to acute allergic reactions (anaphylaxis) and its modulation by the microbiota, the maintenance of IgE immunity (memory responses), and the impact of allergic disease in the development of other pathologies.

Currently, our main line of research merges the fields of allergy (Th2 immunity) and cardiovascular disease (CVD) to answer clinically relevant, fundamental questions, on a serious health, economic and social challenge: understanding the causal relationship amid these two growing and menacing diseases. We use pre-clinical models of allergy and CVD to investigate the impact of allergic pathology on CVD and to define the mechanisms mediating this process. The knowledge generated in our group will provide mechanistic understanding on the putative pathologic effect of allergic responses on CVD, which will pave the way for the identification of therapeutic targets.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Jimenez-Saiz R, Anipindi VC, Galipeau H, Ellenbogen Y, Chaudhary R, et al. Microbial Regulation of enteric eosinophils and its impact on tissue remodeling and Th2 immunity. Front Immunol 2020; 11: 155.

Barrio L, Roman-Garcia S, Diaz-Mora E, Risco A, Jimenez-Saiz R, et al. B cell development and T-dependent antibody response are regulated by p38gamma and p38delta. Front Cell Dev Biol 2020; 8: 189.

Riggioni C, Comberiati P, Giovannini M, Agache I, Akdis M, *et al.* A compendium answering 150 questions on COVID-19 and SARS-CoV-2. Allergy 2020; 75 (10): 2503-41.

Sokolowska M, Lukasik ZM, Agache I, Akdis CA, Akdis D, et al.

Immunology of COVID-19: Mechanisms, clinical outcome, diagnostics, and perspectives-A report of (EAACI). Allergy. 2020; 75(10): 2445-76.

Bruton K, Spill P, Vohra S, Baribeau O, Manzoor S, Gadkar S, et al. Interrupting reactivation of immunologic memory diverts the allergic response and prevents anaphylaxis. J Allergy Clin Immunol 2020; S0091-6749 (20) 31763-2.



Innate immunity, respiratory virus replication and pathogenesis

Marta López de Diego

"Atracción de Talento" Fellow Molecular and Cellular Biology Department Associated with Dr Luis Enjuanes and Dr Isabel Sola's group

PERSONNE

Laura Villamayor Coronado (Postdoctoral researcher) Sandra Gómez López (Technician) Darío López García (JAE-Intro Graduated student)

Influenza viruses and coronaviruses are respiratory pathogens with drastic health and economic consequences for many animal species, including humans. In our group we are interested in analysing virus host-interactions, particularly the innate immune responses induced after respiratory virus infections, since these host responses affect viral replication and pathogenesis. Our final goal is to use the knowledge generated in our research to develop new antivirals to fight these and other viral infections, and to analyse viral and host genetic factors affecting the severity of respiratory virus diseases. As such we are (i) studying the cellular functions of interferon-stimulated genes and the effect of these genes on virus replication, on the induction of innate immune responses and virus pathogenesis, (ii) studying the functional effects of mutations on influenza virulence genes on virus replication, and pathogenesis, (iii) evaluating the effect of genetic polymorphisms on innate immune response genes in the severity of the diseases induced by influenza and coronaviruses, and (iv) developing antivirals mainly targeting innate immune response proteins and viral proteins.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Nogales A, DeDiego ML. Host single nucleotide polymorphisms modulating Influenza A virus disease in humans. Pathogens 2019; 8 (4): 168.

DeDiego ML, Nogales A, Martinez-Sobrido L, Topham DJ. Interferon-induced protein 44 interacts with cellular FK506-binding protein 5, negatively regulates host antiviral responses, and supports virus replication. mBio 2019; 10 (4): e01839-19.

DeDiego ML, Martinez-Sobrido L, Topham DJ. Novel Functions of IFI44L as a Feedback Regulator of Host Antiviral Responses. J Virol 2019; 93 (21): e01159-19.

Nogales A, Ávila-Pérez G, Rangel-Moreno J, Chiem K, DeDiego ML, Martínez- Sobrido L. A novel fluorescent and bioluminescent bireporter influenza a virus to evaluate viral infections. J Virol 2019; 93(10):e00032-19.



Unravelling chloroplast protein quality control in plants

Pablo Pulido

"Atracción de Talento" Fellow Plant Molecular Genetics Department Associated with Dr. Vicente Rubio's group

PERSONNEI

Paloma Cabrerizo (undergraduate student)

Chloroplasts are the organelles that define plants. In plants, they are the unique sites of photosynthesis, the only significant mechanism of energy input into the biosphere. They also mediate numerous essential biosynthetic processes and contribute to many other functions including stress responses. As a result, correct chloroplast performance is absolutely indispensable for plant fitness and agriculture. Plants are sessile organisms that display an astonishing capacity to adapt to adverse conditions including heat, cold, drought, and salinity. However, prolonged exposure to environmental stress inevitably results in productivity losses. These challenging conditions for plant growth are highly relevant in the context of climate change and food security.

One of the main problems that stresses cause at molecular level is protein misfolding and aggregation. Recycling of damaged proteins is achieved by the action of molecular chaperones but, when recycling is not possible, toxic aggregated proteins have to be degraded by the action of proteases to avoid cellular damage. Chaperones and proteases act coordinately and constitute protein quality control (PQC) systems that are required for organismal survival. In our project, we address the characterization of the chloroplast proteostasis network. It is long known for instance that the chaperone HSP70 posttranslationally regulates important chloroplast processes such as photosynthesis. However, the precise molecular mechanisms of the chaperone action remain unresolved. Importantly, the specificity of HSP70 is driven by its DNAJ partners, adaptors that recognise unfolded substrates and transfer them to the chaperone for refolding. Thus, DNAJs are useful tools for plant editing. Besides, disrupted proteostasis results in protein aggregation inside chloroplasts triggering a chloroplast-to-nucleus retrograde signal that regulates the expression of nuclear genes encoding plastid-targeted chaperones. Ultimately, an essential hallmark of the project is to gain knowledge for rational engineering of chloroplast proteostasis and nuclear reprogramming that will assist to manipulate crops stress resistance.



Plant-Virus Coevolution

Adrian A. Valli

Ramón y Cajal Fellow Plant Molecular Genetics Department Associated with Dr Juan Antonio García's group

PERSONNEL

Irene Gonzalo Magro (Technician) Rafael García Lopez (PhD Student) Alfonso González de Prádena (PhD Student, co-supervised with Dr J.A. García) Julio César Aragón Lago (Graduate Student JAE-INTRO)

RNA viruses are among the most abundant and economically relevant pathogens infecting plants; indeed, they cause more than 50% of viral crop damage worldwide. Gaining insight about this group of viruses is then critical to reveal and understand new features of them and discover novel plant protein networks acting as defensive barriers. Intriguingly, despite the importance of plant RNA viruses for food security, it is surprising to find that very little is known about their RNA-dependent RNA polymerases (RdRPs), putative RdRP protein partners and the precise role/s of these partners during infection.

As a relevant socio-economical case we currently study the partnership between RdRP and the pyrophosphatase HAM1 deriving from Ugandan cassava brown streak virus, one the agents causing the "Ebola of plants" in cassava, which is a plant that belongs to the huge Euphorbiacea family and is the fourth most important crop on earth. To do that we follow a multidisciplinary study that includes (i) synthetic biology to build chimerical infectious clones, (ii) genomics studies to define viral quasispecies variability, (iii) structural studies by cryo-electron microscopy to define protein structures, (iv) metabolomics studies by HPLC-MS/MS to understand viral diseases, and (v) viral ecology to decipher the interaction between viruses and euphorbiaceous in nature. These approaches will greatly help us to fill gaps in our understanding of RdRPs in general, as well as the RdRP-HAM1 partnership.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Ochoa J, Valli A, Martín-Trillo M, Simón-Mateo C, García JA, Rodamilans B. Sterol isomerase HYDRA1 interacts with RNA silencing suppressor P1b and restricts potyviral infection. Plant Cell Environ 2019; 42: 3015-3026.

González de Prádena A, Sánchez-Jiménez A, San León D, Simmonds P, García JA, Valli, AA. Plant virus genome is shaped by specific dinucleotide restrictions that influence viral infection. mBio 2020; 11: e02818-19.

CNB seminars

In 2019 and the beginning on 2020, the CNB hosted around 150 seminars, including talks by international renowned institutions speakers. To overcome the difficulties of inviting speakers during COVID-19 pandemic situation, we started holding online seminars (20), which has become a new opportunity to reach wider audiences.

SEMINARS CYCLE 2019

1 MARCH

Genomics of the origin and evolution of citrus

Manuel Talón

Centro de Genómica IVIA, Spain

22 MARCH

The power of cryo-EM to elucidate biological mechanisms

Stephan Rausner

Max Plank Institute of Molecular Physiology, Germany

5 APRIL

Interplay between mutation supply and relative fitness in the evolution of antibiotic resistance

Diarmaid Hughes

Uppsala University, Sweden

12 APRIL

Uncovering the hidden half of plant development

Malcom Bennet

School of Biosciences, University of Nottingham, UK

26 APRIL

Mechanisms of leukocyte extravasation across post capillary venules of the brain: The role of the endothelial basement membrane and matrix metalloproteinases

Lydia Sorokin

Institute of physiological Chemistry and Pathobiochemistry, University of Muenster, Germany

17 MAY

The Human Protein Atlas and insights from profiling plasma proteomes

Jochen Schwenk

School of Biotechnology, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden

24 MAY

Immunotherapy and new GTPasemediated molecular mechanisms for the treatment of ALK tumors

Roberto Chiarle

Boston Children Hospital, Harvard Medical School, USA

20 SEPTEMBER

A lab of one's own: Science and Suffrage in the First World War

Patricia Fara

Clare College Cambridge, UK

15 NOVEMBER

A new perspective into the origin of animals

Iñaki Ruiz-Trillo

Institut de Biologia Evolutiva (CSIC - IBE), Spain

22 NOVEMBER

Role of CRISPR-Cas systems associated to retrotranscriptases in the defence against phages

Antonio Sánchez Amat

Universidad de Murcia, Spain

JUNIOR SEMINARS 2019

11 JANUARY

Forward thinking: pro-active coordination of shoot architecture by long distance hormonal signalling in plants

Tom Bennett

University of Leeds, UK

08 FEBRUARY

Signal and noise – New tools for cryo-EM density interpretation

Arjen Jakobi

Kavli Institute, The Netherlands

22 FEBRUARY

Bacterial cell division: may the force be with you

Mariana Gomes de Pinho

Instituto de Tecnologia Química e Biológica António Xavier, Universidad Nova de Lisboa, Portugal

15 MARCH

Engineering neurogenesis for the postnatal cerebral cortex

Benedikt Berninger

King's College, London

10 MAY

Dealing with change and uncertainty: optimal growth control across environments and individuals

Benjamin Towbin

Friedich Miescher Institute for Biomedical Research, Switzerland

14 JUNE

Nuclear mechanobiology in cancer cell migration and muscular dystrophy

Jan Lammerding

Well Institute for Molecular and Cellular Biology, Cornell University, USA

27 SEPTEMBER

Probing bacterial regulation strategies by quantitative analysis of growth and death in variable environments

Ulrich Gerland

Technical University of Munich, Germany

4 OCTOBER

Chemoreceptor based signaling in bacteria

Tino Krell

Estación Experimental del Zaidín, Spain

8 NOVEMBER

Structural insights into the infection process of bacteriophages

Nicholas Taylor

Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Protein Research, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

29 NOVEMBER

Plant signal transduction cascades - from phenotypes to atoms and back

Michael Hothorn

Department for Botany and Plant Biology, University of Geneva, Switzerland

SEMINARS CYCLE 2020

10 JANUARY

Engineering Genetic Control Systems

Mustafa Khammash

ETH Zürich, Switzerland

14 FEBRUARY

Tara Oceans: eco-systems biology at planetary scale

Chris Bowler

École Normale Supérieure Paris, France

23 OCTOBER

Conversion of *E. coli* to generate all biomass carbon from CO₂

Ron Milo

Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel

30 OCTOBER

Zooming in on the coronavirus replication organelle

Montserrat Bárcena

Leiden University Medical Center, The Netherlands

6 NOVEMBER

Sensing matrix rigidity: transducing mechanical signals from integrins to the nucleus

Pere Roca-Cusachs

IBEC, Instituto de Bioingeniería de Cataluña, Spain

13 NOVEMBER

Role of titan cells in the virulence of the pathogenic yeast *Cryptococcus neoformans* and new therapeutical approaches

Oscar Zaragoza

National Centre for Microbiology, ISCIII, Spain

27 NOVEMBER

Host microbe interactions in the intestine in health and disease

Fiona Powrie

Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology and Translational Medicine, University of Oxford, UK

JUNIOR SEMINARS 2020

17 JANUARY

The global ocean microbiome through the lens of metaomics

Shinichi Sunagawa

ETH Zürich, Switzerland

31 JANUARY

Influenza virus-host interactions

Adolfo García-Sastre

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, USA

21 FEBRUARY

Novel targets and biomarkers of PD-1 inhibitory function

Vassiliki Boussiotis

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. Boston, USA

9 OCTOBER

Plasma membrane-to-chloroplast communication: learning from viruses

Rosa Lozano-Duran

Shangai Center for Plant Stress Biology (Chinese Academy of Sciences), China

16 OCTOBER

Integrins in immune cells: New roles for old players

Susanna Fagerholm

Faculty of Biological and Environmental Sciences, University of Helsinki, Finland

10 NOVEMBER

The immune system of bacteria: Beyond CRISPR

Rotem Sorek

Weizmann Institute of Science Rehovot, Israel

20 NOVEMBER

Breath of life: oxygen sensing across eukaryotic kingdoms

Francesco Licausi

Wadham College, Oxford University, UK

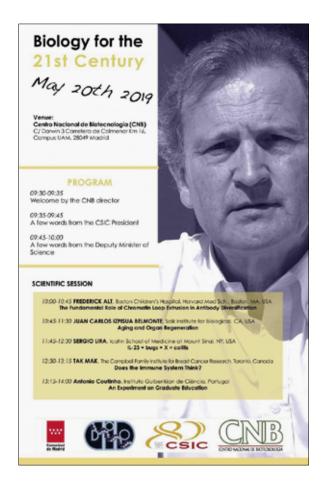
4 DECEMBER

Systems biology and model-based analysis of multi-omic microbiome data

Elhanan Borenstein

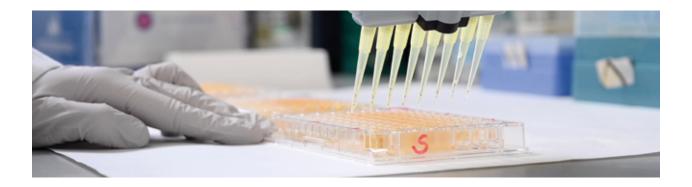
Blavatnik School of Computer Science & Sackler Faculty of Medicine, Tel Aviv University, Israel











Scientific meetings and courses

CNB researchers have participated in the organisation of almost 50 conferences, workshops and courses in the last two years.

2019

11 FEBRUARY (CNB)

Programmability and predictability of Biological Systems

Víctor de Lorenzo, Juan Nogales, Juan Poyatos

15 FEBRUARY (CNB)

Neurodevelopmental disorders and brain repair symposium

Marta Nieto

5-29 MARCH (CNB)

Training course: Biotechnology facing the challenges of today's society

José Manuel Franco and Leonor Kremer

13-15 MARCH

Madrid, Spain

CECAM workshop: From sequences to functions: challenges in the computation of realistic genotypephenotype maps

Susanna Manrubia, José A. Cuesta

20 MAY (CNB)

Biology of the 21st Century

Ana Clara Carrera, Isabel Mérida, Mario Mellado

22-24 MAY

Alcalá de Henares, Spain Instruct Biennial 2019

José María Carazo

12-13 JUNE (CNB)

25 years of cryoelectron microscopy in Spain: a tribute to José L. Carrascosa

Jose María Carazo, José R Castón, Jose María Valpuesta

16-21 JUNE

Miraflores de la Sierra, Spain VIII National Genetic Course

Almudena Fernández and Lluís Montoliu

17 JUNE (CNB)

Predoctoral Scientific Workshop

CNB PhD Student's Committee

19-22 JUNE

London, UK

Invadosome consortium 7th meeting: Mechano-chemical signals in invasion

Inés M Antón

26-29 JUNE

Salamanca, Spain

3rd European Chemokine and Cell Migration Conference

Mario Mellado

26-28 JUNE

Valencia, Spain

GEIVEX Symposium on Extracellular Vesicles In Biomedicine

Mar Valés-Gómez

1-2 JULY (CNB)

Il Practical course on Genome Editing and Gene Therapy

Almudena Fernández and Lluís Montoliu

08-11 JULY

Madrid, Spain

Instruct course on Image Processing for Electron Microscopy and hybrid modelling

José María Carazo and Carlos Óscar Sorzano

16-19 JULY

Madrid, Spain

42º Congreso de la Sociedad Española de Bioquímica y Biología Molecular

Fernando Moreno-Herrero, Juan José Sanz (Biochemistry in the city)

16-19 JULY (CNB)

Gene Regulation and Cell Signalling Symposium at the 42 SEBBM Congress

Ana Cuenda

20-24 JULY

Madrid, Spain

Evolutionary dynamics Symposium at the 12th EBSA and 10th ICBP-IUPAP Biophysics Congress

Susanna Manrubia



20-24 JULY

Madrid, Spain

12th EBSA and 10th ICBP-IUPAP Congress

José María Valpuesta

1-13 SEPTEMBER

Madrid, Spain

2nd Edition of the Instruct course on Image Processing for Electron Microscopy and hybrid modelling

José María Carazo and Carlos Óscar Sorzano

11-13 SEPTEMBER

Madrid, Spain

Microscopy at the Frontiers of Science 2019 (6th Joint Congress of the Spanish and Portuguese Societies of Microscopy)

Carmen San Martín

15-22 SEPTEMBER

Heidelberg, Germany

EMBO Practical Course: Synthetic Biology in Action: Bridging Natural/ Non-Natural

Víctor de Lorenzo

5 NOVEMBER

Granada, Spain

Biomarkers and EVs: concepts, advances and technical considerations. Hands-on GEIVEX workshop

Mar Valés-Gómez

6-8 NOVEMBER

Madrid, Spain

5th International GEIVEX symposium

Mar Valés-Gómez

8 NOVEMBER

Edinburgh, United Kingdom
From DNA to RNA synthesis,
processing and cancer symposium

Susana de Lucas

14 NOVEMBER

Paris. France

2019 ARRIGE (Association for Responsible Research and Innovation in Genome Editing) annual meeting

Lluís Montoliu

19 NOVEMBER (CNB)

Emprendimiento e innovación: oportunidades desde la perspectiva de género

Cristina Merino

22-23 NOVEMBER

Paris, France

Workshop: Grant evaluation assessment for graduate students, Institute Pasteur

Daniel López

25-27 NOVEMBER

Madrid, Spain

IPAD-MD and INFRAFRONTIER Annual Meeting 2019

Lluís Montoliu

28-29 NOVEMBER

Madrid, Spain

2nd ASEICA Educational Symposium

Ana Cuenda

16-17 DECEMBER (CNB)

XXVII Scientific Workshop

Susana de Lucas

19 DECEMBER (CNB)

XXVII CNB Workshop "Advances in Molecular Biology by Young Researchers Abroad

Inés M Antón, Susana de Lucas, Mar Valés, Silvia Ayora, Domingo F Barber, Urtzi Garaigorta, Sandra Fonseca, Juan Poyatos, Carmen San Martín

2020

29 JANUARY (CNB)

Looking at Cell Biology From a Virus Perspective: A tribute to Amelia Nieto on her retirement

Urtzi Garaigorta, Pablo Gastaminza, Laura Marcos, Susana de Lucas, Juan Ortín, Noelia Zamarreño

30-31 JANUARY

Madrid, Spain

Understanding and reprogramming developmental visual disorders: from anophthalmia to cortical impairments

Paola Bovolenta, Marta Nieto

JANUARY-JUNE

e-learning

Curso de especialización en vesículas extracelulares

GEIVEX, Universidad Francisco de Vitoria

Mar Valés-Gómez



7 FEBRUARY (CNB)

Evolution of antibiotic resistance workshop

José Luis Martínez, Álvaro San Millán, Jesús Blázquez

19 FEBRUARY (CNB)

Latest advances in microscopy technologies

Sylvia Gutiérrez-Erlandsson, José María Valpuesta

28 FEBRUARY (CNB)

Colloquium on Systems and Synthetic Biology Mapping, understanding and engineering the microbiome

Víctor de Lorenzo, Juan Nogales, Juan Poyatos, Javier Tamames

11-15 JUNE

Glasgow, UK (Online) FENS Forum

Marta Nieto

3 AND 17 JUNE (CNB)

2nd Simposium NanoBiocargo: design, development and production of nanocontainers and nanovehicles

José R Castón, José María Valpuesta

29 JUNE

Online

III Practical course on Genome Editing and Gene Therapy

Almudena Fernández, Lluís Montoliu

26-30 OCTOBER

Online

Instruct Course on the development of image processing workflows in streaming and structural data analysis components for Electron Microscopy

José María Carazo, Carlos Óscar Sorzano

4-6 NOVEMBER

Online

17th ASEICA International Congress

Ana Cuenda

4-7 NOVEMBER

Online

5th European Days of Albinism (5EDA)

Lluís Montoliu

14 NOVEMBER

Online

2020 ARRIGE annual meeting

Lluís Montoliu

14-18 DECEMBER

Madrid, Spain

Instruct virtual course on Single Particle Analysis by CryoEM

José María Carazo, Carlos Óscar Sorzano

17 DECEMBER

Online

GEIVEX-UFV / TeNTaCLES 2020 Minisymposium on EVs

Mar Valés-Gómez

16-17 DECEMBER (CNB)

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XXVIII CNB Scientific Workshop

Susana de Lucas, Ricardo Villares

21 DECEMBER (CNB)

Online

XXVIII CNB Workshop Advances in Molecular Biology by Young Researchers Abroad

Inés M Antón, Susana de Lucas, Carmen San Martín, Mar Valés, Urtzi Garaigorta, Alvaro San Millán, Sandra Fonseca, Pablo Pulido, Juan Poyatos