



Progress in Targeting KRAS through the Frederick RAS Initiative

Frank McCormick

■ Disclosures: Advisor to BridgeBio, Leidos Biomedical, Frontier Medicines, Quanta Therapeutics, Amgen, Pfizer



← Frederick National Lab Advisory Committee

Frederick National Lab for Cancer Research

(operated by Leidos Biomedical Research Inc)

- Biomedical Imaging
- Clinical Research,
- Data Science
- Genetics
- HIV/AIDS
- Serologic Sciences Network

- Immunology
- Molecular Biology
- Pathology
- Virology
- Cancer Research
- NExT/CBC

CEO and Director,
Ethan Dmitrovsky, MD



CSO, Len Freedman, PhD



- Nanotechnology Characterization
- Antibody Characterization
- Research Technology

- Cancer Data Sciences
- National cryo-EM Facility
- **RAS Initiative**

Director, Cancer Research
Technology Program,
Dwight Nissley, PhD



\$3M/year 14 FTEs

Current RAS Initiative cCRADA partners





Test direct inhibitors of the active forms of KRAS in the clinic

Clinical testing of compounds that prevent RAS binding to PI 3' kinase α

Molecular description of RAS activation of Raf-1

Biochemical and biophysical analysis

In silico modeling, in collaboration with Dept of Defense/Lawrence Livermore National Lab, *et al*

Develop inhibitors of this process

Structural analysis of protein complexes to facilitate new approaches to drug discovery

Mechanisms of drug resistance

Develop drugs that inhibit NRAS, other GTPases

ID of RAS proteoforms in cancer cells

Determine how the NF1 protein neurofibromin is regulated



Hub and Spoke Model




 University of California San Francisco
 






























































Community Engagement



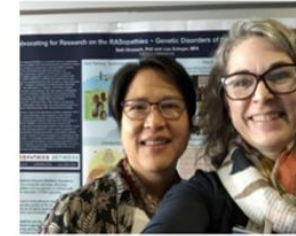
Scientific Presentations



Mentoring from Experts



Community Networking



RAS Initiative Website

11,000+ monthly visitors

The RAS Initiative

More than 30 percent of all human cancers — including 95 percent of pancreatic cancers and 45 percent of colorectal cancers — are driven by mutations of the RAS family of genes. NCI established the RAS Initiative in 2013 to explore innovative approaches for attacking the proteins encoded by mutant forms of RAS genes and to ultimately create effective, new therapies for RAS-related cancers.

- RAS Research Teams**
Learn about the nine highly collaborative research teams that compose the RAS Initiative. View their progress, projects, tools, collaborators, and team members.
- RAS Community Outreach**
Through community and technical collaborations, workshops, and symposia, the RAS Initiative seeks to increase the sharing of knowledge and resources that are essential to defeat cancers caused by mutant RAS genes.
- RAS Central**
To help solve the 30-year challenge of how to treat RAS-driven cancers, we need an open model of collaboration. Whether you are a dedicated RAS expert or curious researcher, we encourage you to help advance the research by joining our RAS community.

KRAS G12C inhibition drives anti-tumour immunity in lung cancer but combinations with anti-PD1 immunotherapy may only benefit patients with 'inflamed' tumours

Using a novel immunogenic mouse model of KRAS-mutant lung cancer, the Downward lab asks the questions 'what is the effect of KRAS G12C on the tumour microenvironment and on anti-tumour immunity?' and 'how well will anti-PD1 immunotherapy work in combination with KRAS G12C inhibitors?'

RAS Dialogue Blog

18,742 subscribers

KRAS G12C inhibition drives anti-tumour immunity in lung cancer but combinations with anti-PD1 immunotherapy may only benefit patients with 'inflamed' tumours

November 14, 2022, by Jesse Boumelha, Edurne Mugarza, Sophie de Carné Trécesson, Febe van Maldegem, Miriam Molina and Julian Downward Francis Crick Institute, London

[Continue Reading >](#)

The use of Molecular Docking as a ligand discovery tool; Can machine learning help the pursuit for ligands?

July 6, 2022, by Trent E. Ballius and Megan Rigby

[Continue Reading >](#)

Could CryoEM structures of neurofibromin lead the way to better therapeutic approaches for Neurofibromatosis type 1?

May 18, 2022, by Dom Esposito

[Continue Reading >](#)

RAS Lab Discussion Forum

1,255 members

New RAS Dialogue from Julian Downward's Lab

Posted by Megan Rigby on Nov 28, 2022

Using a novel immunogenic mouse model of KRAS-mutant lung cancer, the Downward lab asks the questions 'what is the effect of KRAS G12C on the tumour microenvironment and on anti-tumour immunity?' and 'how well will anti-PD1 immunotherapy work in combination with KRAS G12C inhibitors?'

Read about it here:
<https://www.cancer.gov/research/key-initiatives/ras/ras-central/blog/2022/q...>

Discuss this message

Kestutis Urba
mK-ras activates polyamines via ...ERK- c-myc pathway, because of c-myc-ODC axis. Upregulated polyamine synthesis affects macrophage polarisation:

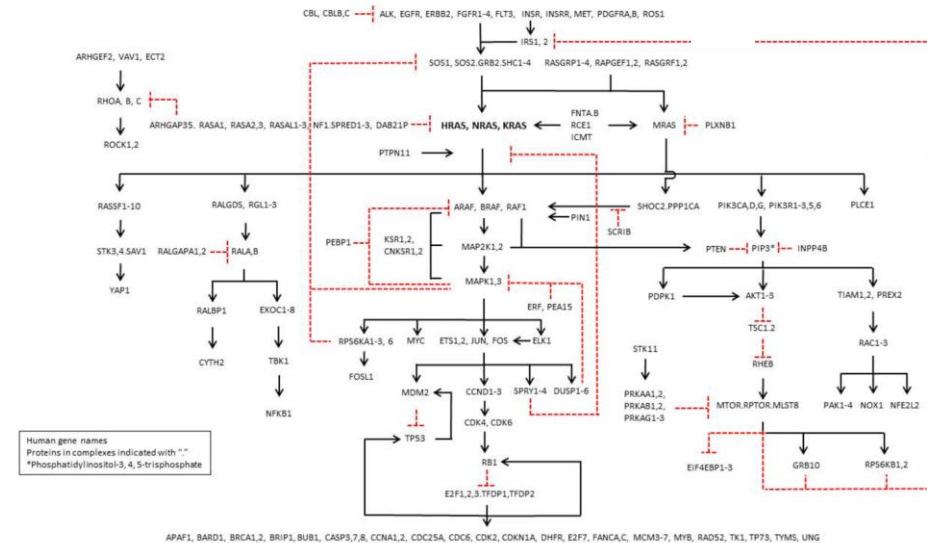
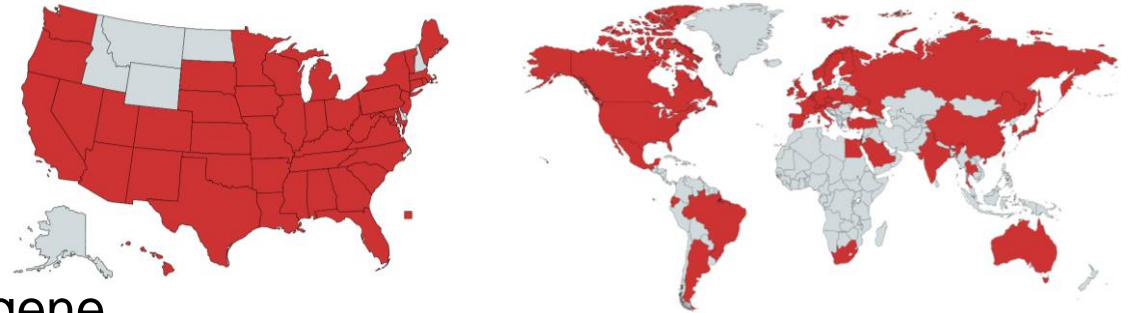
Latour YL, Gobert AP, Wilson KT. The role of polyamines in the regulation of macrophage polarization and function. *Amino Acids*. 2020 Feb;52(2):151-160. doi: 10.1007/s00726-019-02719-0. Epub 2019 Apr 23. PMID: 31016375; PMCID: PMC6812587.

If M2 macrophages predominate, this develops tumour anti-immunity, too.



Distribution of RAS reagents

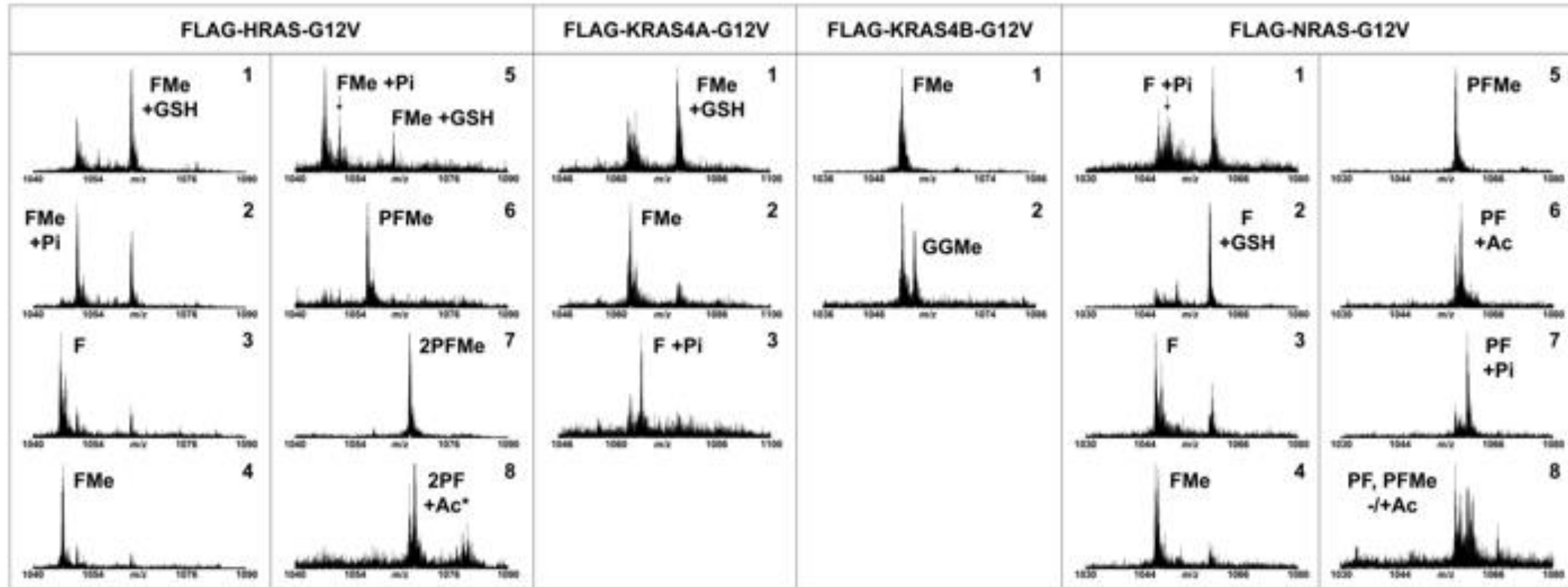
- Reagents widely distributed across the world
 - Materials sent to 623 Universities and NPOs
 - 43 states, 45 countries, 6 continents
- 13,127 plasmids & vectors distributed through Addgene
 - More than 3,000 individual RAS and RAS pathway plasmids
 - At least 1 request for each of the 180 genes
 - 21 complete RAS pathway kits (360 plasmids each)
 - 23 complete RAS mutant kits (61 plasmids each)
- 1,503 cell lines distributed from FNLCCR
- RAS-dependent MEFs licensed to 23 companies and distributed to 97 academic groups
- KRAS-FMe materials licensed to 7 companies





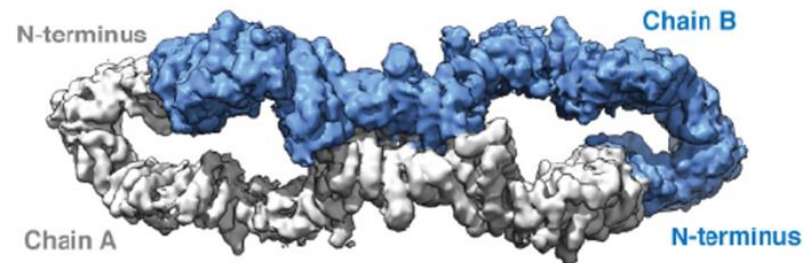
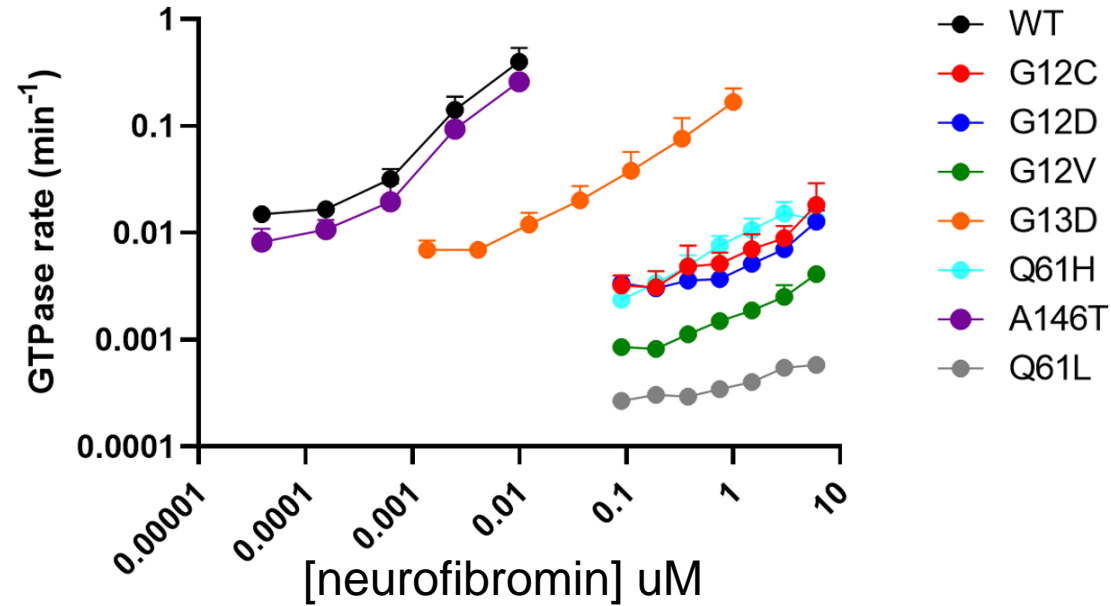
Analysis of RAS isoforms in cancer cells

Abundant FLAG-RAS-G12V proteoforms identified within a Panc1 cell line model by optimized IP-TDMS analysis





Biochemical and structural analysis of KRAS mutants

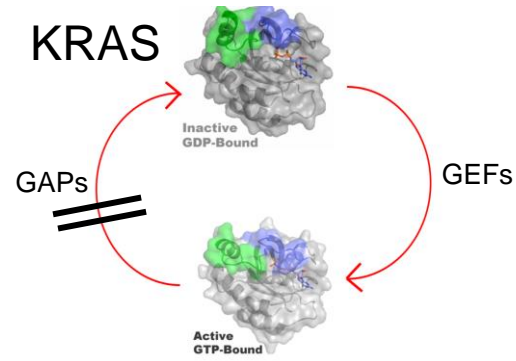


KRAS G13D sensitivity to neurofibromin-mediated GTP hydrolysis

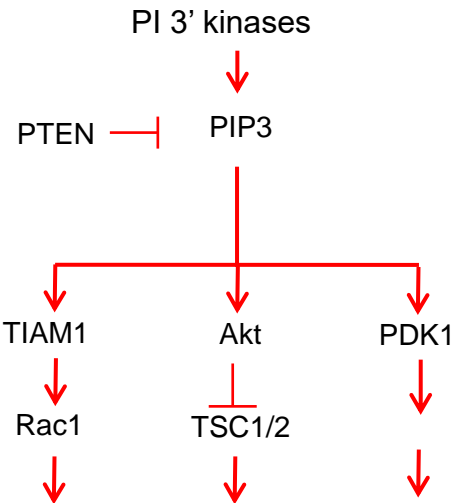
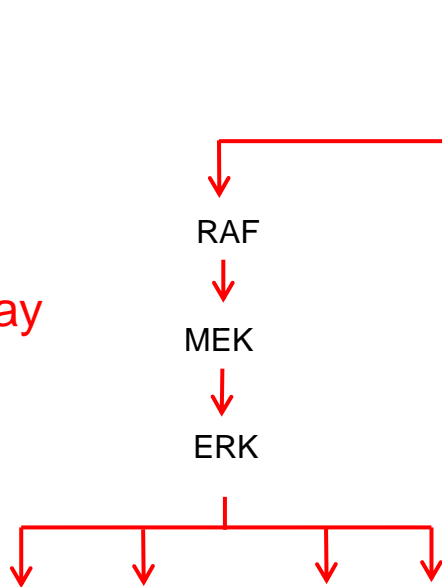
Dana Rabara^{a,1}, Timothy H. Tran^{a,1}, Srisathiyarayanan Dharmiah^a, Robert M. Stephens^a, Frank McCormick^{a,b,2}, Dharendra K. Simanshu^{a,2}, and Matthew Holderfield^{a,2,3}



Targeting KRAS directly, and through activation of RAF and PIK3CA



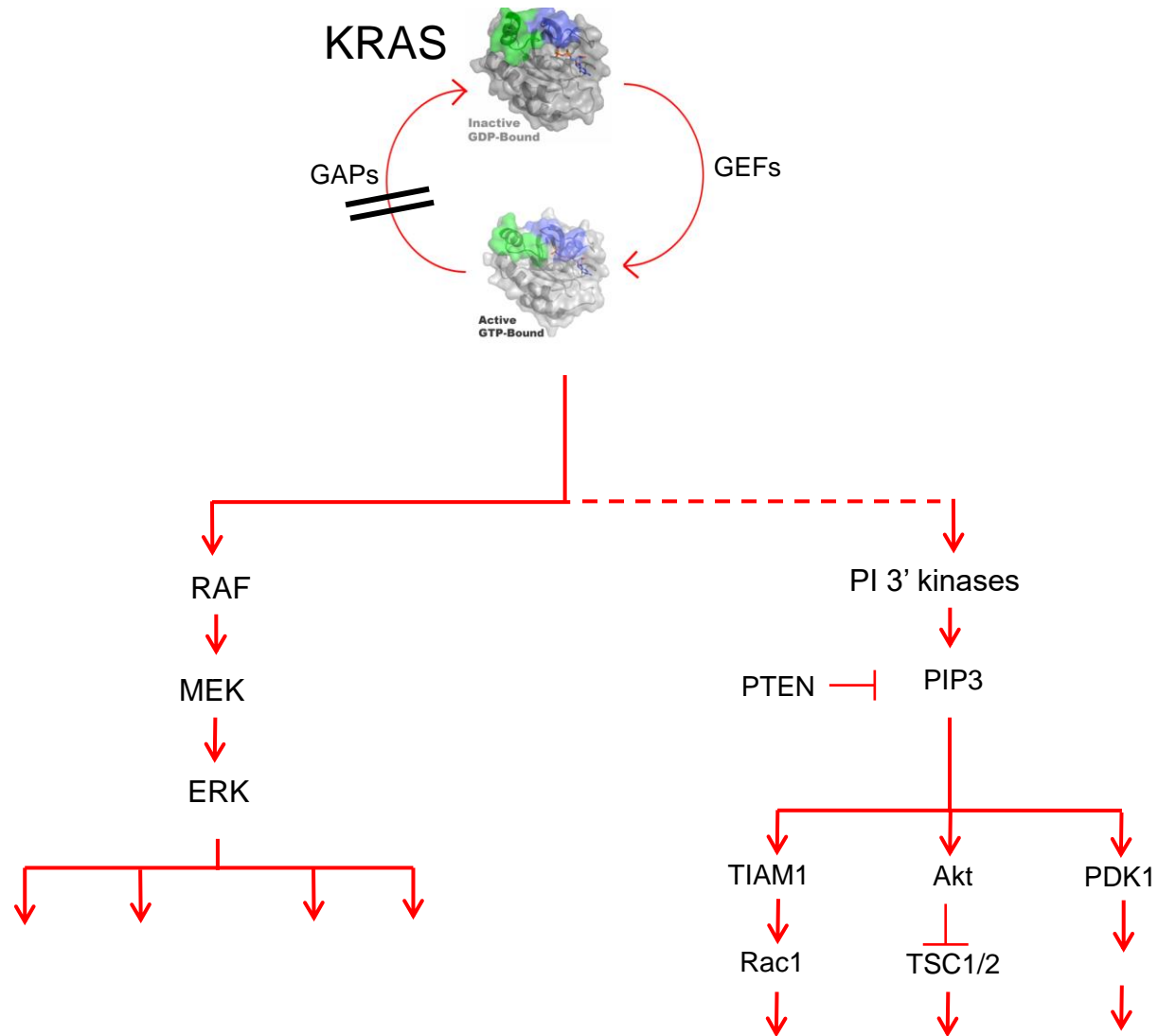
MAP Kinase pathway



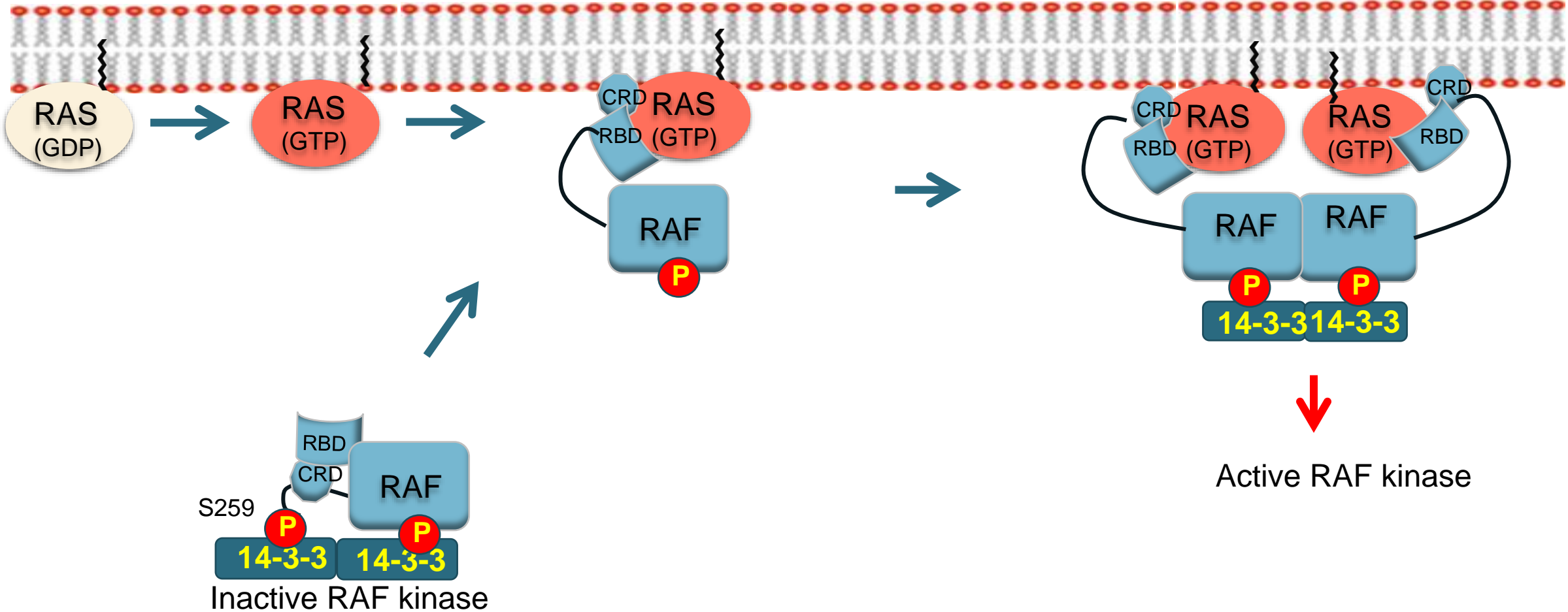
PI 3' Kinase pathway



Targeting KRAS directly, and through activation of RAF and PIK3CA



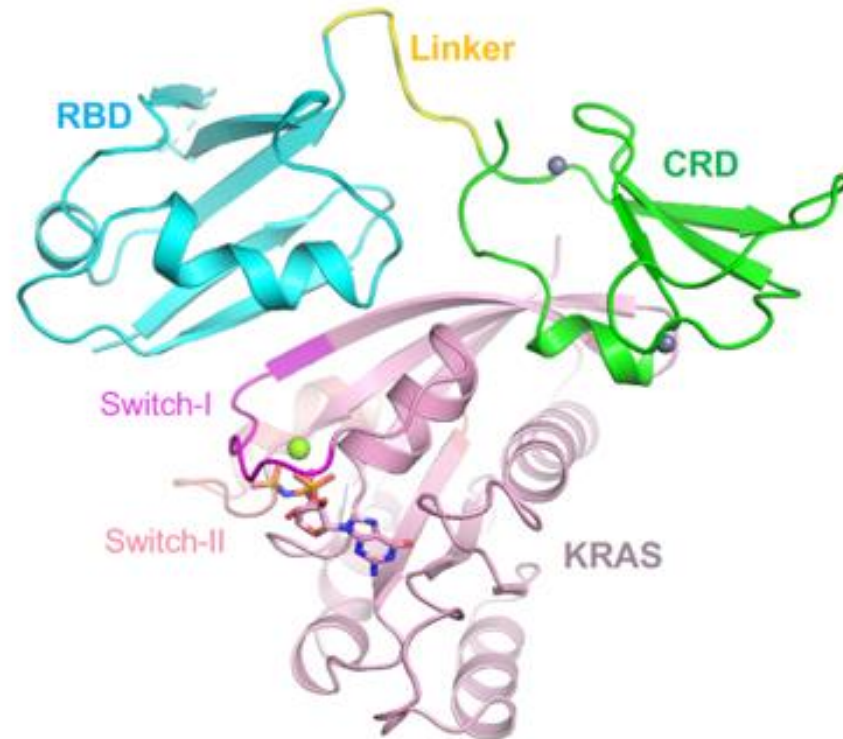
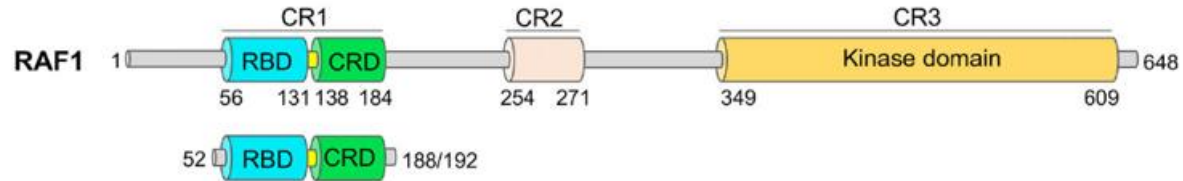
Targeting RAS-dependent activation of RAF kinase





The RAS-RAF interface

RBD: RAS binding domain
CRD: Cysteine rich domain

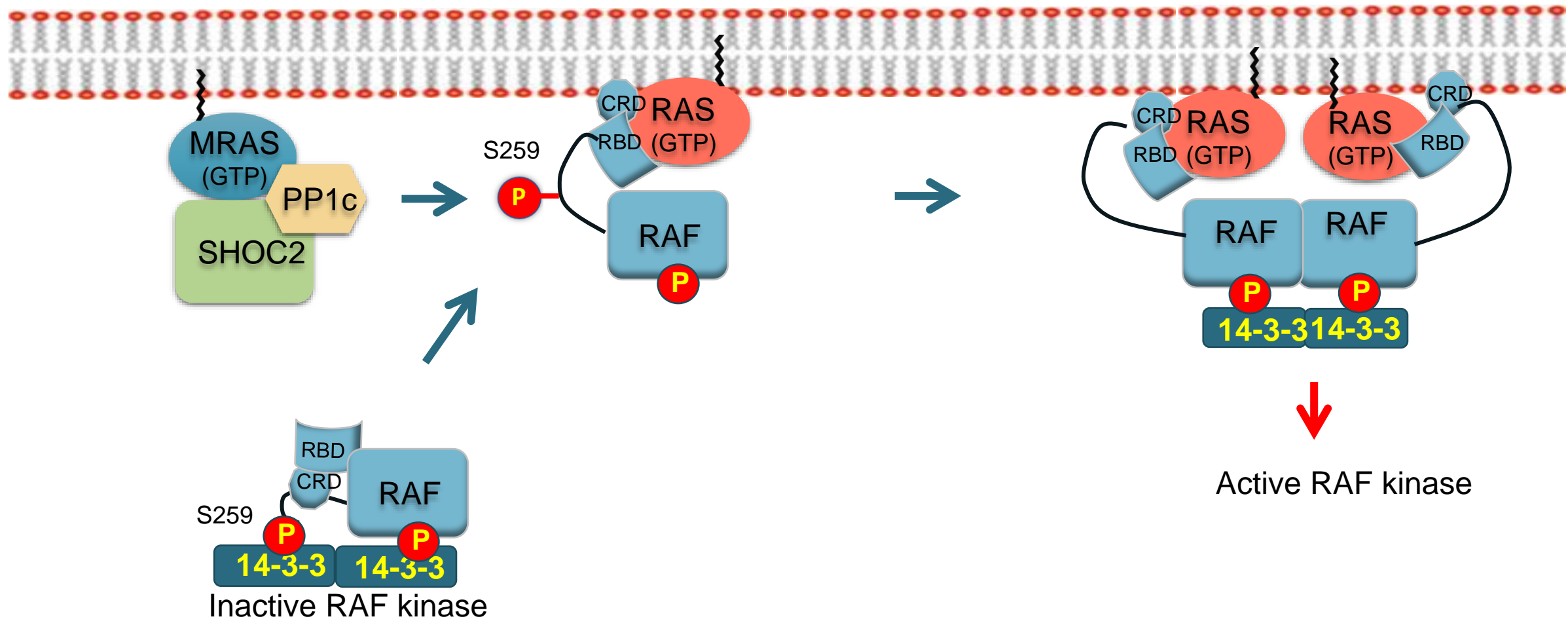


KRAS interaction with RAF1 RAS-binding domain and cysteine-rich domain provides insights into RAS-mediated RAF activation

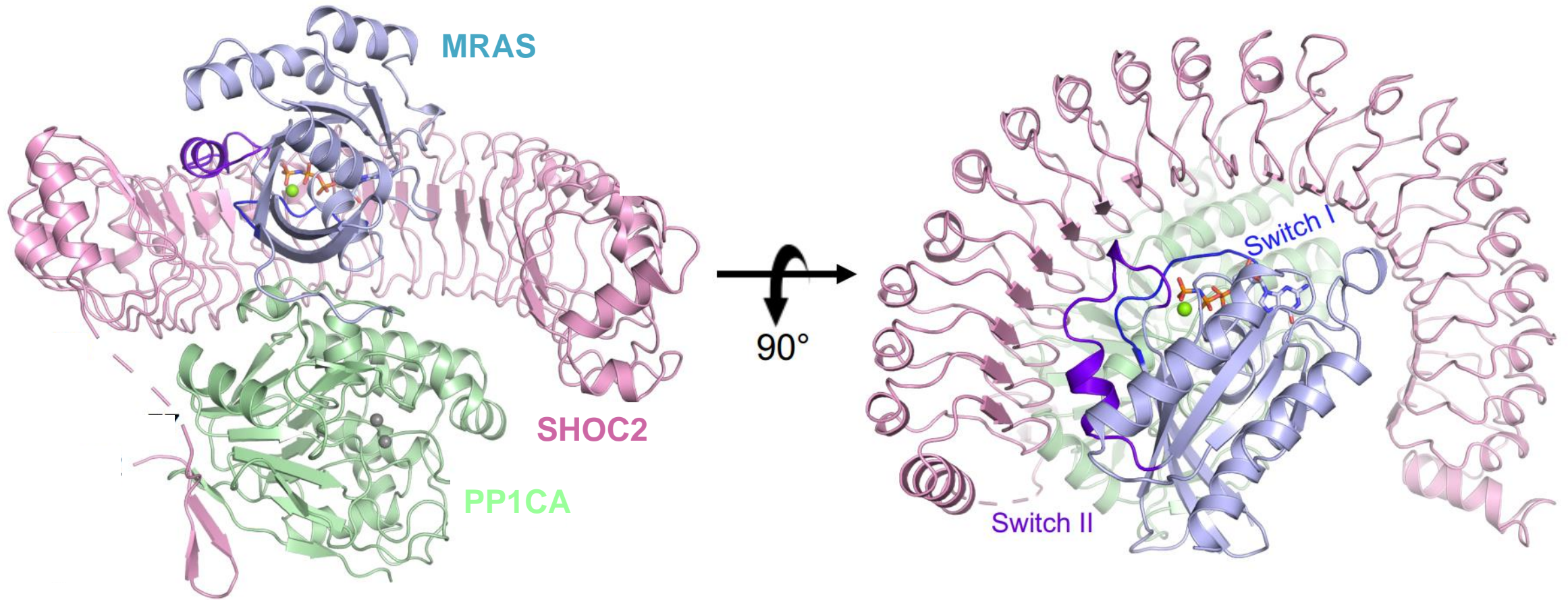
Timothy H. Tran, Albert H. Chan, Lucy C. Young, Lakshman Bindu, Chris Neale, Simon Messing, Srisathyanarayanan Dharmalingam, Troy Taylor, John-Paul Denson, Dominic Esposito, Dwight V. Nissley, Andrew G. Stephen, Frank McCormick, Dharendra K. Simanshu



MRAS-SHOC2-PP1C is essential in RAS Cancers



Structure of the MRAS.SHOC2.PP1C complex



nature structural & molecular biology

Article
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41584-022-00841-4>
Structure of the SHOC2–MRAS–PP1C complex provides insights into RAF activation and Noonan syndrome

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Published online: 29 September 2022
Daniel A. Benson¹, Patrick Alexander¹, Kelly Sneath¹, Nicole Hartig¹,
Matthew Drew¹, Simon Messing¹, Lorenzo I. Finci¹, Dwight V. Nisley¹,
Frank McCormick¹, Dominic Esposito¹, Pablo Rodriguez-Viciana¹,
Andrew G. Stephen¹ and Dharendra K. Simarathu¹

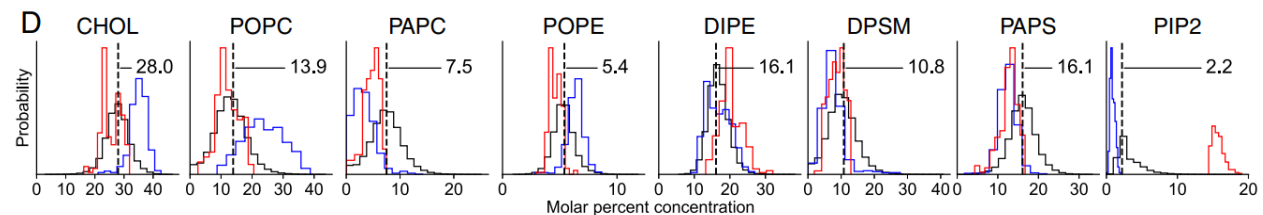
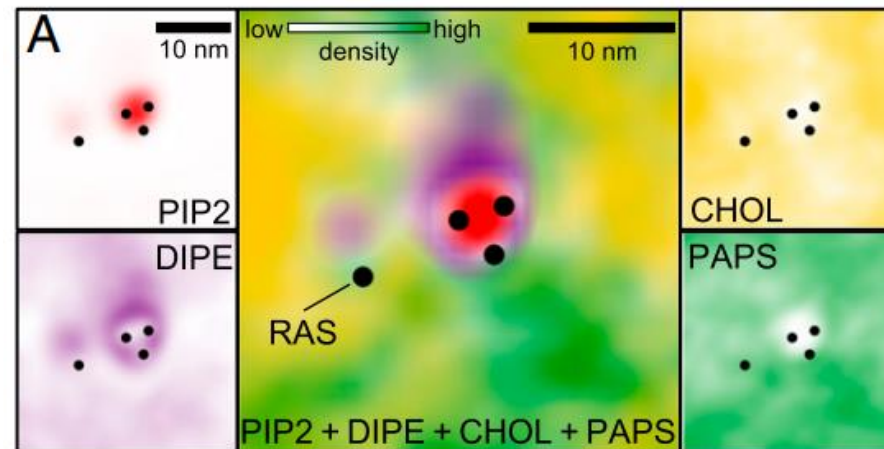
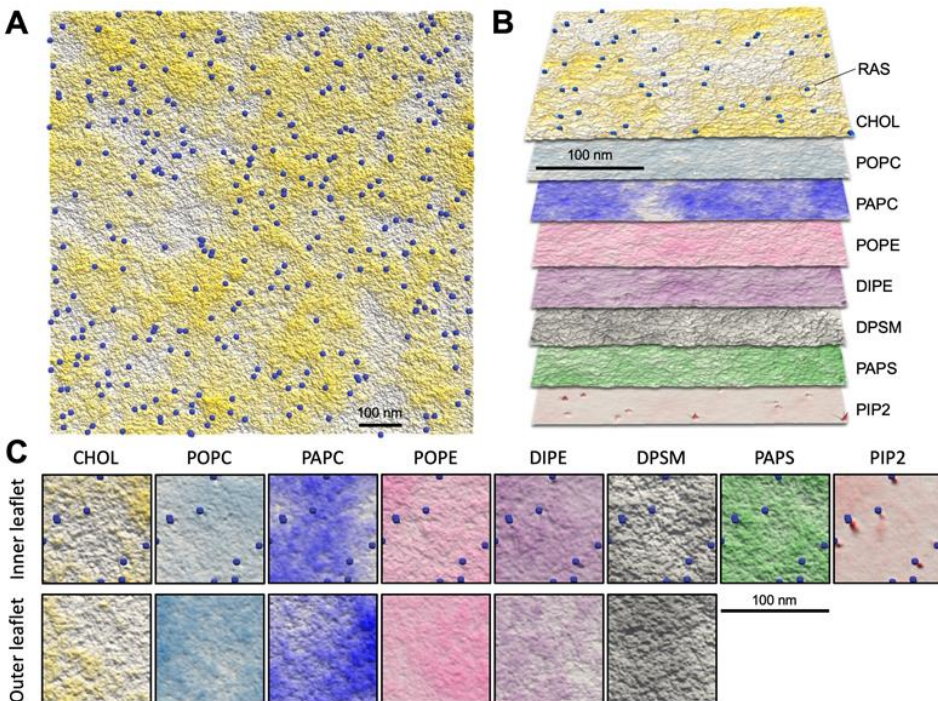


Modeling RAS and RAF using machine learning

Machine learning-driven multiscale modeling reveals lipid-dependent dynamics of RAS signaling proteins

Helgi I. Ingólfsson^a, Chris Neale^b, Timothy S. Carpenter^a, Rebika Shrestha^a, Cesar A. Lopez^a, Timothy H. Tran^a, Tomas Oettel^a, Harsh Bhatia^a, Liam G. Stanton^a, Xiaohua Zhang^a, Shiv Sundram^a, Francesco Di Natale^a, Animesh Agarwal^a, Gautham Dharuman^a, Sara L. L. Kokkila Schumacher^a, Thomas Turbyville^a, Gulcin Gulten^a, Que N. Van^a, Debanjan Goswami^a, Frantz Jean-Francois^a, Constance Agamassi^a, De Chen^a, Jeevapani J. Hettige^a, Timothy Travers^a, Sumantra Sarkar^a, Michael P. Surh^a, Yue Yang^a, Adam Moedy^a, Shusen Liu^a, Brian C. Van Essen^a, Arthur F. Voter^a, Arvind Ramanathan^a, Nicolas W. Hengartner^a, Dharendra K. Simanshu^a, Andrew G. Stephen^a, Peer-Timo Bremer^a, S. Gnanakaran^a, James N. Glosi^a, Felice C. Lightstone^a, Frank McCormick^{a,1}, Dwight V. Nissley^{a,1}, and Frederick H. Streitz^{a,1}

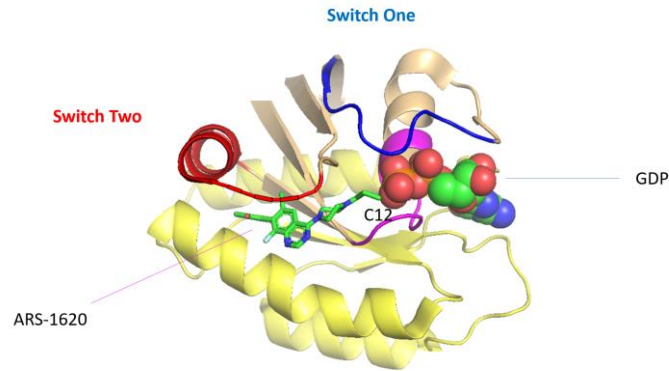
^aPhysical and Life Sciences Directorate, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA 94550; ^bTheoretical Biology and Biophysics Group, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM 87545; ^cRAS Initiative, The Cancer Research Technology Program, Frederick National Laboratory, Frederick, MD 21701; ^dComputing Directorate, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA 94550; ^eDepartment of Mathematics and Statistics, San José State University, San José, CA 95192; ^fData Centric Systems, IBM T. J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598; ^gCenter for Nonlinear Studies, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM 87545; ^hTheoretical Division, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM 87545; ⁱComputing, Environment & Life Sciences Directorate, Argonne National Laboratory, Lemont, IL 60439; and ^jHelen Diller Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of California, San Francisco, CA 94115



Targeting KRAS G12C with direct, covalent inhibitors

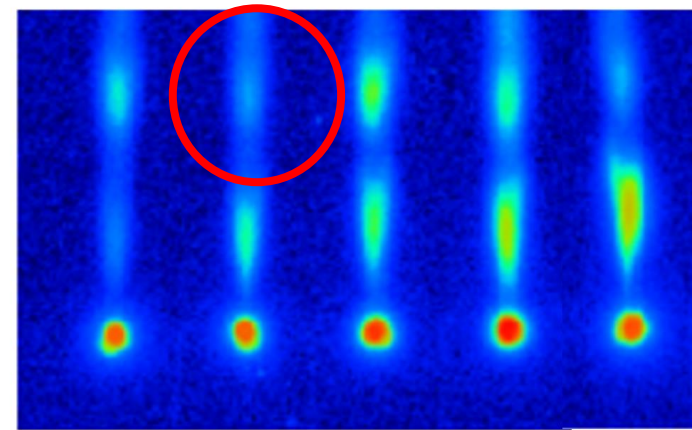


Levels of GDP and GTP on RAS oncogenic mutants



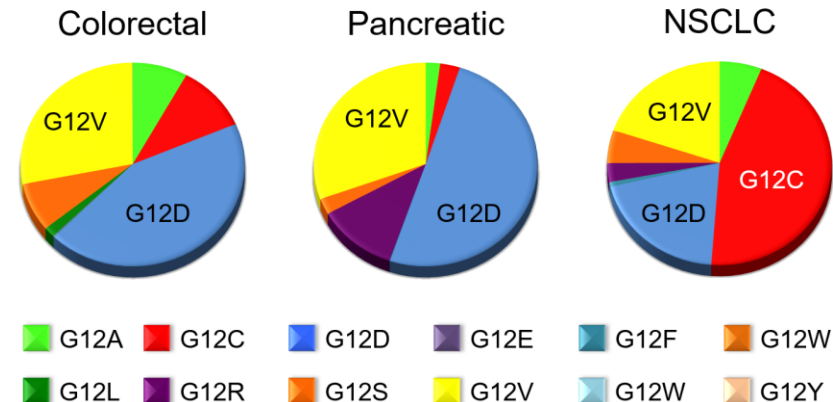
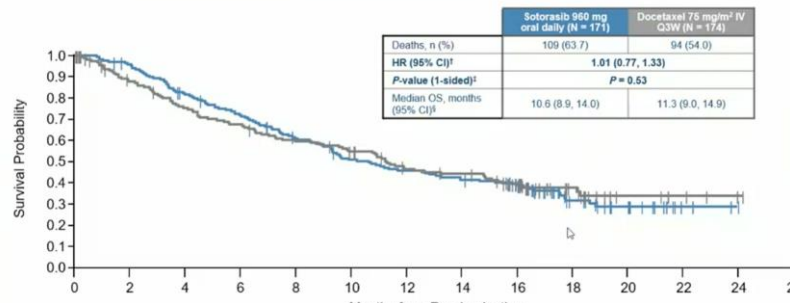
K-Ras(G12C) inhibitors allosterically control GTP affinity and effector interactions

Jonathan M. Ostrem^{1*}, Ulf Peters^{1*}, Martin L. Sosa¹, James A. Wells² & Kevin M. Shokat¹



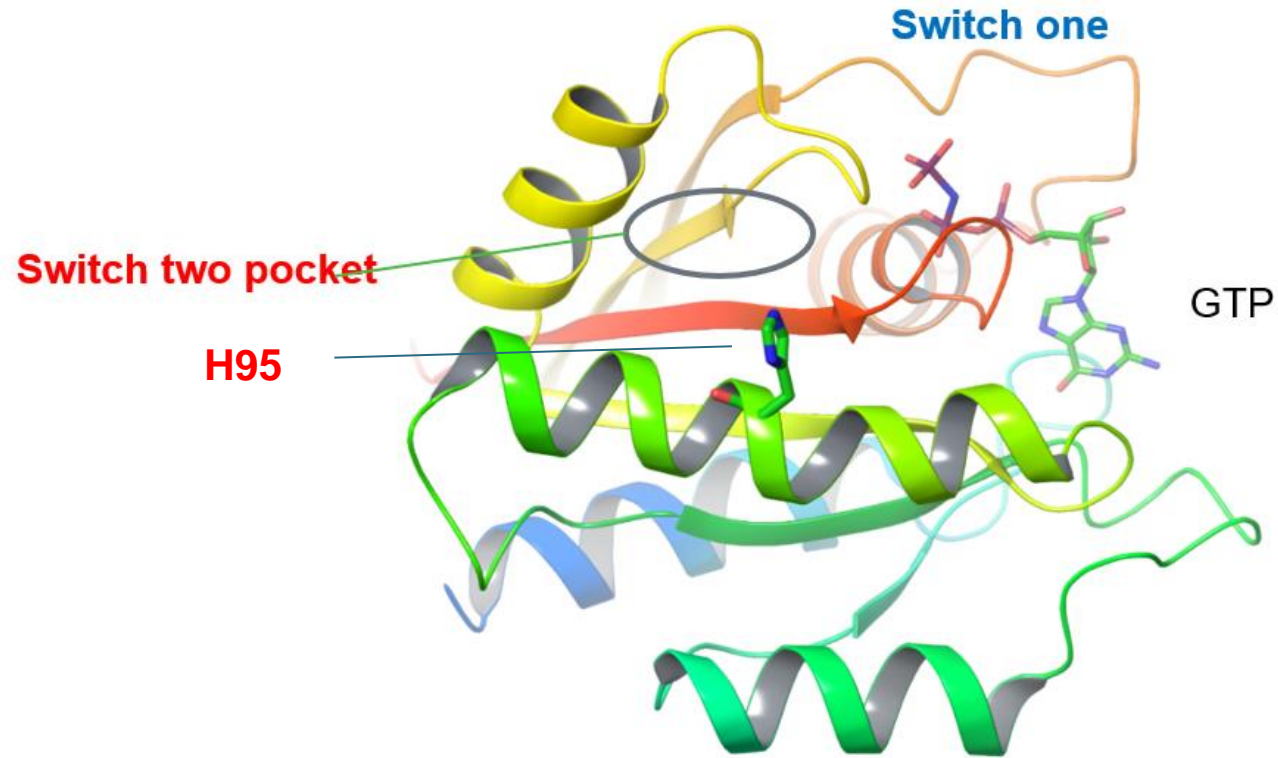
WT G12C G12D G12V Q61L

OS: Sotorasib vs Docetaxel*



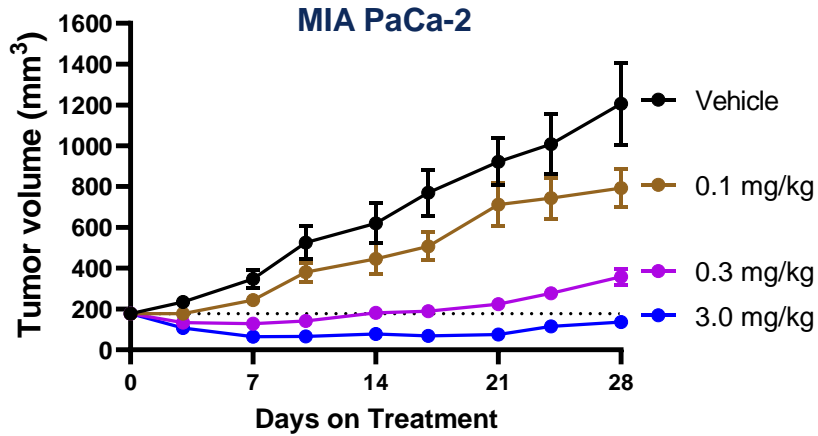


Targeting the GTP-bound forms of KRAS G12C, G12D, G12V, et al

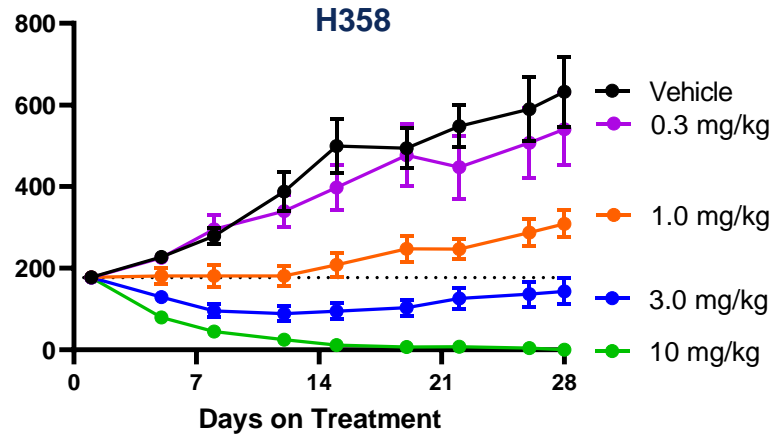


K-RAS FAINNTKSFEDIH**H**YREQIKRVKD
H-RAS FAINNTKSFEDIH**Q**YREQIKRVKD
N-RAS FAINNTKSFADINLYREQIKRVKD

Targeting active, GTP-forms of KRAS G12C in vivo

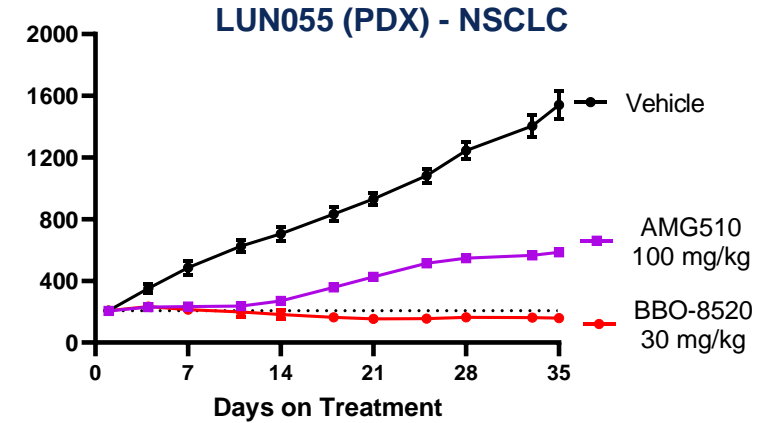


ED₅₀	ED₉₀
0.13 mg/kg	0.40 mg/kg
EC₅₀	EC₉₀
4.6 nM	9.9 nM



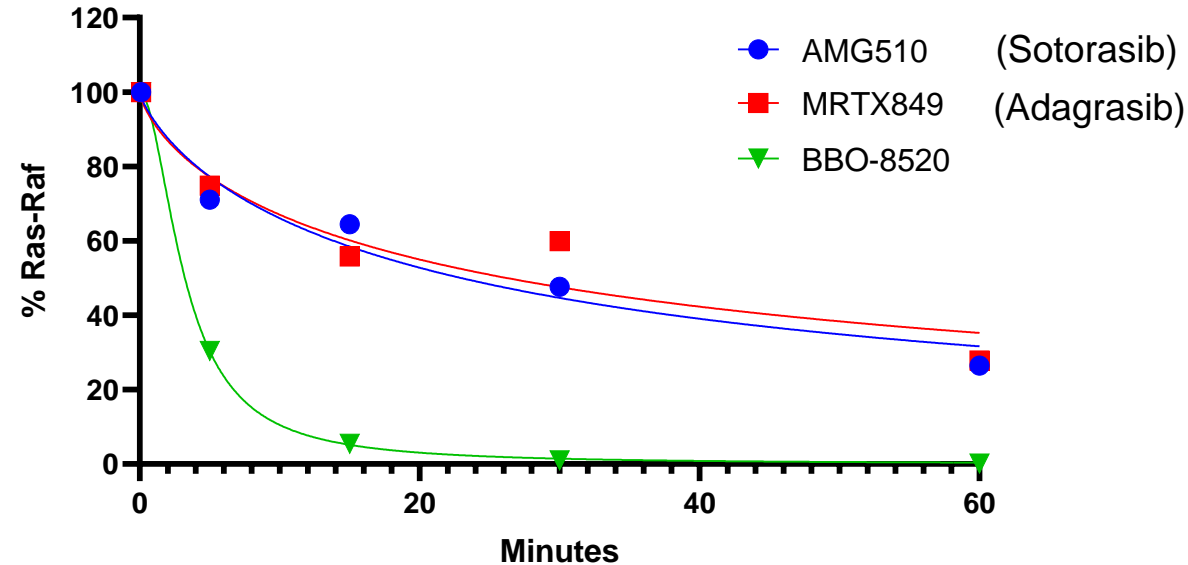
10/10 CRs at 10 mg/kg

ED₅₀	ED₉₀
0.61 mg/kg	1.6 mg/kg
EC₅₀	EC₉₀
14 nM	34 nM



Group (n=10)	Day 35		
	TGI	Regression	FF AUC ₀₋₂₄ (ng*hr/ml)
BBO-8520	100%	23% (7/10)	59
AMG510	71%	- (1/10)	1563

Rapid inhibition of KRAS^{G12C} binding to RAF in cells



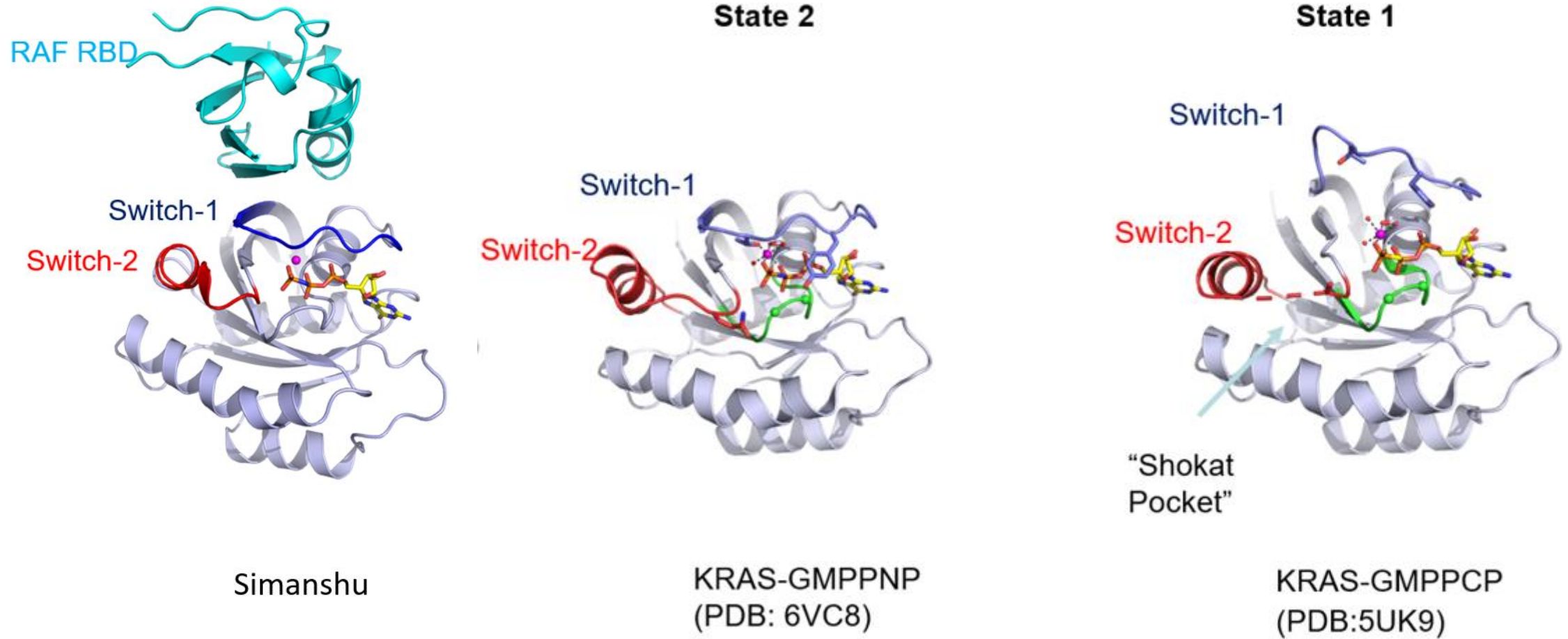
We expect to begin clinical testing later this year

First in class compound that directly targets the active, GTP-bound state of KRAS G12C

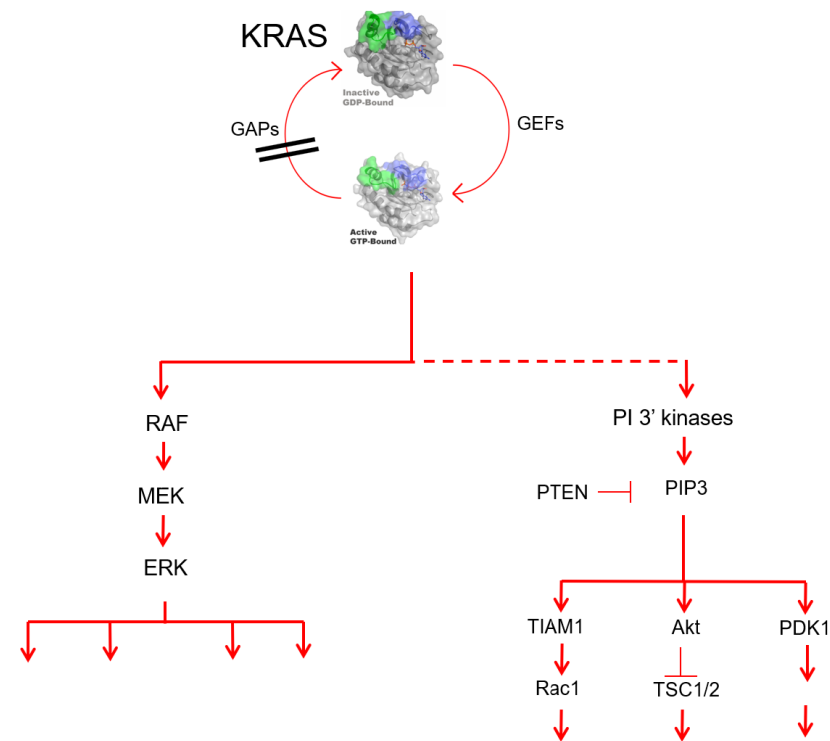
Drugs targeting active states of KRAS G12D and KRAS G12V to follow



RAS.GTP can exist in 2 states



The Role of RAS-PI 3' kinase in cancer



Binding of Ras to Phosphoinositide 3-Kinase p110 α Is Required for Ras-Driven Tumorigenesis in Mice

Surbhi Gupta,^{1,4} Antoine R. Ramjaun,^{1,4} Paula Haiko,² Yihua Wang,¹ Patricia H. Warne,¹ Barbara Nicke,¹ Emma Nye,² Gordon Stamp,² Kari Alitalo,³ and Julian Downward^{1,*}

¹Signal Transduction Laboratory
²Experimental Pathology Laboratory
 Cancer Research UK London Research Institute, 44 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PX, UK
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⁴These authors contributed equally to this work.
 *Correspondence: downward@cancer.org.uk
 DOI 10.1016/j.cell.2007.03.051



Cancer Cell
 Previews

Killing Tumors by Keeping Ras and PI3' Kinase Apart

Tina L. Yuan¹ and Frank McCormick^{1,*}
¹Yuan-Dill Family Comprehensive Cancer Center, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA 94158, USA
 *Correspondence: frankmccormick@ucsf.edu
 http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ccr.2013.10.015

Requirement for Interaction of PI3-Kinase p110 α with RAS in Lung Tumor Maintenance

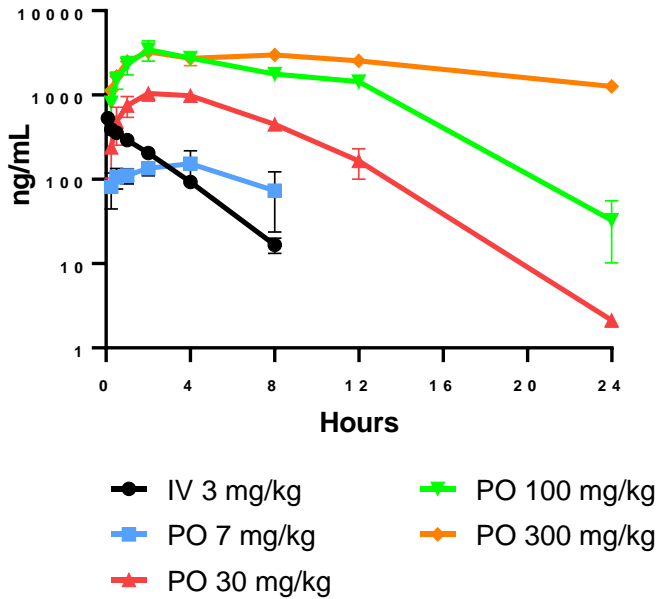
Esther Castellano,^{1,7} Clare Sheridan,^{1,7} May Zaw Thin,² Emma Nye,³ Bradley Spencer-Dene,³ Markus E. Diefenbacher,⁴ Christopher Moore,¹ Madhu S. Kumar,¹ Miguel M. Murillo,^{1,8} Eva Grönroos,⁵ Francois Lassailly,² Gordon Stamp,³ and Julian Downward^{1,8,*}



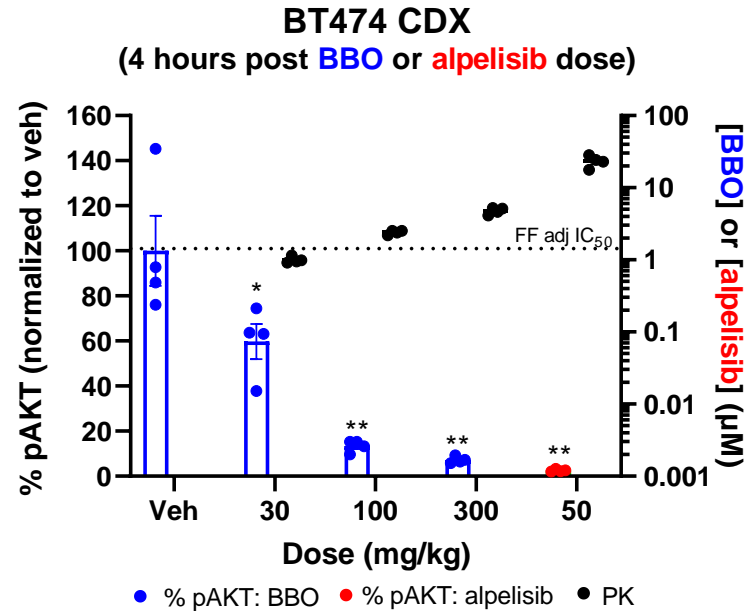
We have developed a potent, orally available compound that binds to PIK3CA and prevents RAS activation

Breaker achieves pAKT inhibition in tumors without provoking hyperglycemia

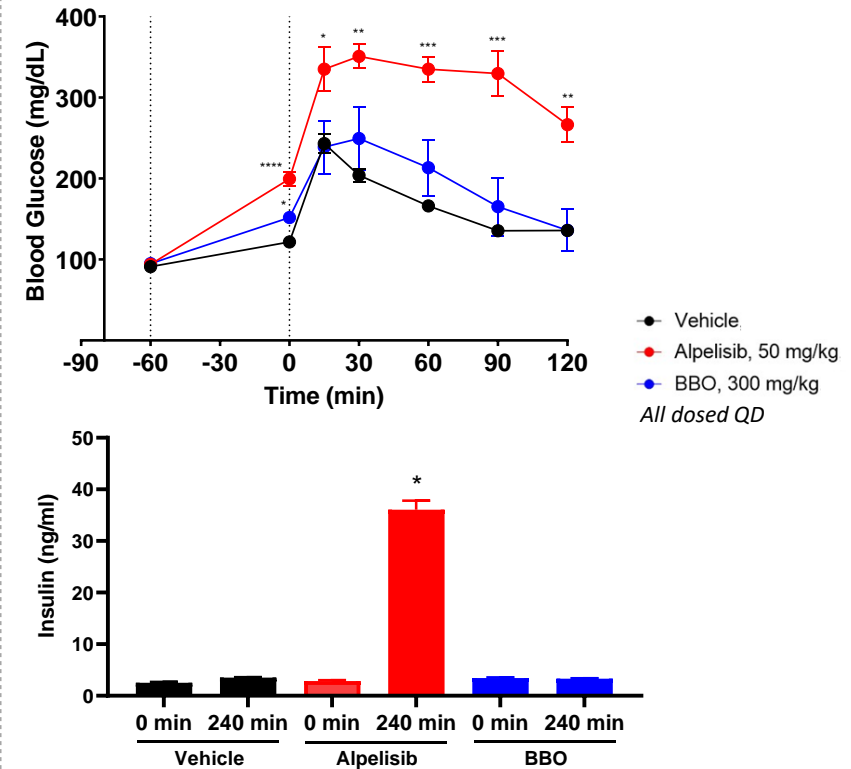
Dose Ranging Mouse PK



Dose Response PD¹ Full target inhibition achieved at 100 mg/kg



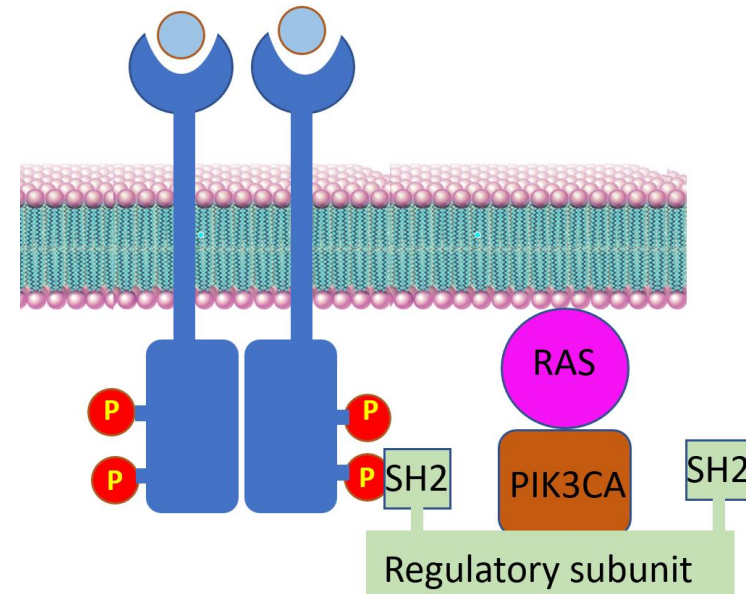
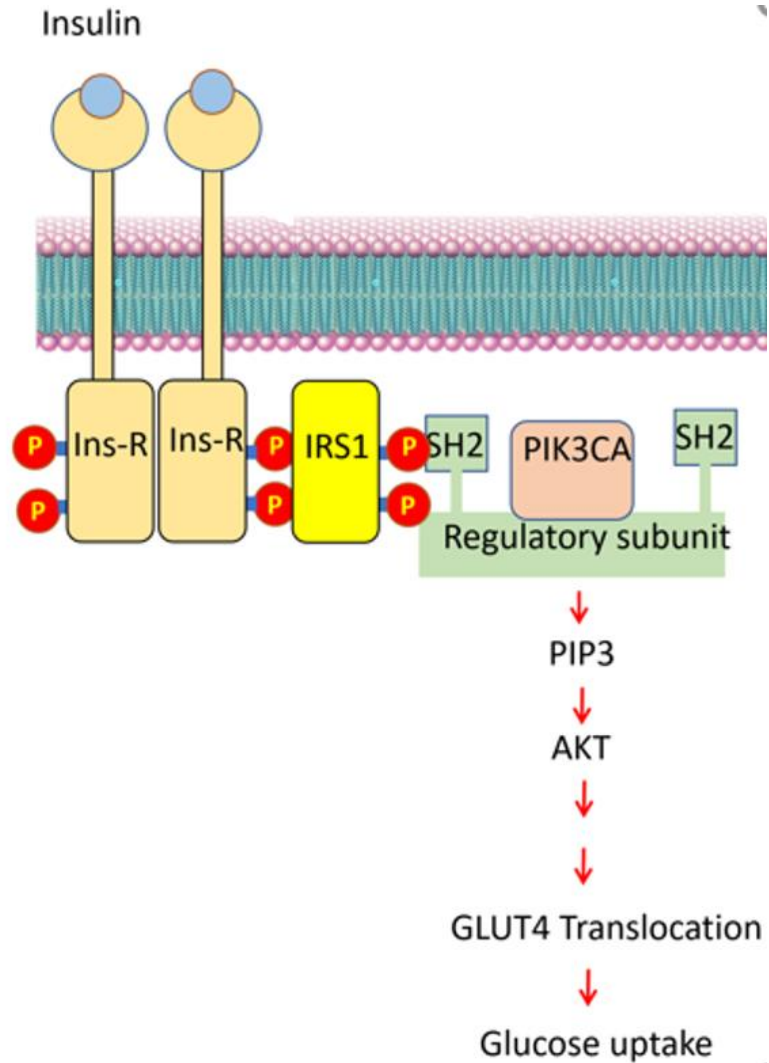
Breaker MOA does not affect glucose metabolism²



1. One-way ANOVA with Dunnett's test vs vehicle; *p<0.01, **p<0.0001

2. Top: One-way ANOVA with Dunnett's test vs vehicle, *p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001, ****p<0.0001, Bottom: One-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test vs all other groups : *p<0.0001

Compounds that bind PIK3CA and prevent RAS binding; Inhibition of signaling in tumor cells without provoking hyperglycemia





Anticipating Drug Resistance in the clinic

First in class direct KRAS G12 ON inhibitors

- Point mutations that prevent drug binding
- Activation of other RAS genes, other proteins in the pathway
- Differentiation state changes
- Activation of YAP signaling
- Others?

First in class RAS-PIK3CA Breakers

- Point mutations that prevent drug binding
- Loss of PTEN?
- Activation of other PI kinases?
- Alternative pathways??



Frederick National Lab



Anna Maciag



Dhirendra
Simanshu

Bridge Bio



Eli Wallace



Pedro Beltran

Lawrence Livermore National Lab



Yue Yang



Felice
Lightstone