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Activation mechanism of an autoinhibited small GTPase: RalF



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Arf-GDP



autoinhibited RalF



How does it open?

close conformation

open conformation

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- how does it open?
- what is the open conformation that binds Arf?

no experimental method

- computer simulation:
 - Molecular Dynamics (MD) does not reach this scale

challenging...

• Molecular Dynamics with excited Normal Modes (MDeNM) – David Perahia







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- Long term collaboration with David Perahia (over 15 years)
- Future: elucidate the activation mechanism of other biologically relevant macromolecules