

# Nikolaos Karalis

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## Current position

### Ph.D. candidate in Neuroscience

2013 - 2017 Faculty of Medicine, Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich  
Thesis Mechanisms of memory consolidation across hippocampal and cortical circuits  
Advisor Prof. Dr. Anton Sirota

## Education

### M.Sc. Neurasmus Joint Master in Neuroscience

2011-2012 Charité University Medicine, Berlin – Medical Neuroscience  
2012-2013 University Bordeaux II – Neuroscience and Neuropsychopharmacology  
Thesis Neuronal Signatures of Fear Memory  
Grade 18/20  
Ranking 1/5

### B.Sc. & M.Sc. School of Applied Mathematics and Physical Sciences

2004 – 2011 National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)  
Majors Computational Mathematics, Statistics  
Thesis EEG signal analysis for identification of meditative states  
Grade 7.42/10  
Grade 10/10

## Research methods

*in vivo* electrophysiology, high-dimensional data analysis, closed-loop optogenetics

## Publications (Citations: 225 ; h-index: 5 ; \*: equal contribution)

1. Prefrontal neuronal assemblies temporally control fear behavior. **Nature, 2016**  
Dejean C\*, Courtin J\*, **Karalis N\***, Chaudun F, Wurtz H, Thomas Bienvenu, Herry C
2. 4 Hz oscillations synchronize prefrontal - amygdala circuits during fear behaviour. **Nature Neuroscience, 2016**  
**Karalis N**, Dejean C, Chaudun F, Khoder S, Rozeske R, Wurtz H, Bagur S, Benchenane K, Sirota A, Courtin J, Herry C
3. Prefrontal parvalbumin interneurons shape neuronal activity to drive fear expression. **Nature, 2013**  
Courtin J, Chaudun F, Rozeske R, **Karalis N**, Gonzalez-Campo C, Wurtz H, Abdi A, Baufreton J, Bienvenu T, Herry C
4. Persistence of amygdala gamma oscillations during extinction learning predicts spontaneous fear recovery. **Neurobiology of Learning and Memory, 2013**  
Courtin J, **Karalis N**, Gonzalez-Campo C, Wurtz H, Herry C
5. Effects of Himalayan tradition meditation during a SSVEP study. **Neuroscience Letters, 2011**  
**Karalis N**, Karanasiou I, Uzunoglu N, & Braboszcz C
6. Effect of meteorological variables on the incidence of lower urinary tract infections. **European Journal of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, 2009**  
Falagas ME, Peppas G, Matthaiou DK, Karageorgopoulos DE, **Karalis N**, Theocharis G
7. Novel graph invariants for fast graph isomorphism identification. **Mitacs Proceedings, 2007**  
**Karalis N**, Aliaga R, Arnold R, Wu W
8. Combinatorial and statistical analysis of keno game. **CUMC Annual, 2007**  
**Karalis N**

## Invited Talks

|      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
| 2017 | Neuronal synchrony and oscillatory coupling           | Coupling & Causality in Complex Systems       |
| 2017 | Respiratory entrainment of memory circuits            | Harvard-LMU Young Scientists' Forum           |
| 2017 | Respiratory entrainment of prefrontal circuits        | Japan Neuroscience Society meeting            |
| 2017 | Prefrontal oscillatory mechanisms of fear behavior    | British Neuroscience Association meeting      |
| 2016 | Oscillatory circuit organization during fear behavior | LMU lecture series                            |
| 2016 | Neuronal signatures of fear behavior                  | Neurizons – Young Investigator Talks          |
| 2015 | High-density characterization of network activity     | German Neuroscience Society                   |
| 2014 | Neurophysiological correlates of rodent communication | Animal Communication Workshop                 |
| 2013 | Neuronal signatures of fear memory                    | Neurasmus Workshop                            |
| 2013 | Neuronal signatures of fear memory                    | Neurasmus Orientation Week                    |
| 2011 | SSVEP effects of Himalayan tradition meditation       | Breaking Convention                           |
| 2007 | Novel graph invariants for fast graph isomorphism     | Mitacs Industrial Math Summer School          |
| 2007 | Combinatorial and statistical analysis of keno game   | Canadian Undergraduate Mathematics Conference |

## Research Experience

|             |  |  |
|-------------|--|--|
| 2013 – now  | <b>PhD candidate</b><br>Mechanisms of memory consolidation across hippocampal and cortical circuits<br>Advisor Prof. Dr. Anton Sirota  | <b>Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München</b><br>Faculty of Medicine           |
| 2012 – 2013 | <b>M.Sc. Thesis</b><br>Neuronal signatures of fear memory<br>Supervisor Dr. Cyril Herry  | <b>Neurocenter Magendie, Bordeaux</b><br>INSERM                                |
| 2009 – 2011 | <b>M.Sc. Thesis</b><br>EEG Analysis of the neurophysiological effects of meditation on visual evoked potentials<br>Supervisors Dr. Irene Karanasiou & Dr. Nikolaos Uzunoglou | <b>National Technical University of Athens</b><br>Electrical Engineering Dept. |
| 2005 – 2009 | <b>Research assistance</b><br>CERN Grid Computing infrastructure - Network development and administration  | <b>National Technical University of Athens</b><br>High Energy Physics Dept.    |

## Scholarships and Grants

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 2014 – 2017 | Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München   |
| 2013 – 2014 | Centre for Integrative Neuroscience (CIN) - University of Tübingen                       |
| 2011 – 2013 | Erasmus Mundus scholarship for the Neurasmus Joint Master degree program in Neuroscience |
| 2010        | University of Pennsylvania Grant   |
| 2009        | Erasmus scholarship (Research exchange)  |
| 2007        | MITACS scholarship   |

## Awards

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 2010 | “Thomaideio Award” for conference presentation from National Technical University of Athens for the presentation “Short term effects of Vipassanā meditation in a single subject SSVEP study”            |
| 2008 | “Thomaideio Award” for best journal publication from National Technical University of Athens for the publication “Effect of meteorological variables on the incidence of lower urinary tract infections” |

## Experimental Techniques

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Electrophysiology</b>    | <i>in vivo</i> extracellular recordings (tetrodes, silicon probes, ECoG) in freely behaving & head-fixed rodents<br>high-dimensional neural data analysis<br>human EEG recordings |
| <b>Imaging</b>              | calcium imaging in freely-behaving mice (miniscope)<br>fiber photometry   |
| <b>Circuit manipulation</b> | closed-loop optogenetics<br>pharmacogenetics & pharmacology   |
| <b>Programming</b>          | Matlab, Python, Julia, Java, C++  |
| <b>Electronics</b>          | circuit design and implementation, electrophysiology and behavioral equipment setup, 3D printing  |
| <b>Lab techniques</b>       | stereotaxic neurosurgeries, behavioral analysis, immunohistochemistry, microscopy, cell cultures  |

## Internships

- 2011 – 2012**     **Lab Rotations - Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin**  
“Comparison of cell counting techniques for the assessment of cell death in tissue slices”  
“Effects of PEDF on primary neuronal cells after oxygen-glucose deprivation”  
Departments of Experimental Neurosurgery & Experimental Neurology  
Supervisors: Dr. Ana Luisa Piña – Dr. Marietta Zille
- 2010**            **Summer research scholar - University of Pennsylvania**  
Department of Psychiatry, Supervisor: Dr. Ruben Gur
- 2009**            **M.Sc. Thesis - Université Paul Sabatier, Toulouse**  
Centre de Recherche Cerveau et Cognition (CERCO), Supervisor: Dr. Arnaud Delorme
- 2008**            **Internship on Biostatistics - Alfa Institute of Biomedical Sciences (AIBS)**  
Supervisors: Dr. Matthew E. Falagas - Dr. Dimitrios Matthaiou
- 2007**            **Graph theory research for MapleSoft – Simon Fraser University (SFU)**  
“Algorithmic graph isomorphism determination”  
Centre for Experimental and Constructive Mathematics (CECM)  
Supervisors: Dr. Michael Monagan - Mohammad Ghebleh

## Student supervision

|                    |                  |                     |  |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>2016 – 2017</b> | Jialiing Lu      | M.Sc. Thesis        | Currently: Graduate student at Caltech |
| <b>2017</b>        | Auguste Schulz   | Research Internship | Currently: M.Sc. student at TUM        |
| <b>2016</b>        | Sandra Reinert   | Research Internship | Currently: Graduate student at LMU     |
| <b>2015 – 2016</b> | Elena Itzcovich  | Research Internship | Currently: Graduate student at LMU     |
| <b>2015 – 2016</b> | Amar Roy         | M.Sc. Thesis        | Currently: Industry                    |
| <b>2015 – 2016</b> | Felix Brechtmann | Research Internship | Currently: Industry                    |

## Scientific outreach

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>2016 – today</b> | Administrator of Systems Neuroscience mailing list   |
| <b>2016 – today</b> | Peer reviewer  |
| <b>2015 – today</b> | Organizer of Neurophysiology Nights seminar series, LMU  |
| <b>2012 – 2015</b>  | Writer & editorial board of the “CNS Charité Neuroscience Newsletter”                                |
| <b>2012 – 2013</b>  | Neurasmus course representative at the Erasmus Mundus Association (EMA)                              |
| <b>2012 – today</b> | Scholarpedia Assistant Editor  |
| <b>2011 – 2014</b>  | TED talks translator   |
| <b>2008 – 2010</b>  | American Mathematical Society's (AMS) poster series “Mathematical Moments” translator                |
| <b>2004 – 2006</b>  | Organizer and invigilator - National mathematical competitions - Hellenic Mathematical Society (HMS) |
| <b>2004</b>         | Coordinator, guide and invigilator at the International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) 2004             |
| <b>2004</b>         | Coordinator, guide and invigilator at the International Informatics Olympiad (IOI) 2004              |

## Teaching experience

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>2017</b>        | Assistance at Miniscope Workshop Munich                                      |
| <b>2015 - 2017</b> | Student supervision  |
| <b>2015</b>        | Tutor at the 7th G-Node Winter Course in Neural Data Analysis                |
| <b>2012</b>        | “Speaking to the public” (M.Sc. course), Charité University Hospital, Berlin |
| <b>2004 – 2012</b> | Private and group tutor (university and high school students), Athens        |

## References

### **Anton Sirota, Ph.D.**

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### **Cyril Herry, Ph.D.**

Researcher CR1  
INSERM U862  
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146 rue Léo Saignat  
33077 Bordeaux Cedex, France  
Email: [cyril.herry@inserm.fr](mailto:cyril.herry@inserm.fr)  
Tel: (+33) 0557573726

### **Irene Karanasiou, Dr.-Ing.**

Associate Professor  
Hellenic Military University  
National Technical University of Athens  
School of Electrical & Computer Engineering  
Microwave & Fiber Optics Laboratory  
Iroon Polytechniou 9,  
157 73 Zografou Campus, Athens, Greece  
Email: [ikaran@esd.ece.ntua.gr](mailto:ikaran@esd.ece.ntua.gr)  
Tel: (+30) 2107722289

## Travel grants

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 2017 | FENS travel grant to attend JNS Annual Meeting                                       |
| 2017 | Travel grant to attend EMBL Symposium on Neural Circuits                             |
| 2017 | Travel grant to attend 37th Blankenese Conference                                    |
| 2015 | University of Tartu – INCF travel grant  |
| 2014 | British Neuroscience Association travel grant  |
| 2013 | Hellenic Pasteur Institute travel grant  |
| 2011 | Thomaideio grant (NTUA) for active participation in conference.                      |
| 2010 | COST Grant (5th International Summer School on Emerging Technologies in Biomedicine) |
| 2010 | Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica (CWI) (Study group Mathematics with Industry)         |
| 2009 | Centre de Recherche Cerveau et Cognition   |
| 2008 | Danish Center for Applied Mathematics and Mechanics (DCAMM)                          |
| 2008 | University of Crete  |
| 2008 | Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS) grant                         |
| 2006 | FORTH scholarship  |
| 2006 | Athens Information Technology (AIT)  |
| 2006 | National Science Foundation (NSF)  |

## Conference abstracts

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2017 | Neuronal synchrony and oscillatory coupling - Functional role and implementation<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Sirota A [Coupling and Causality in Complex Systems Conference]<br>Respiratory entrainment of memory circuits<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Sirota A [SfN Meeting 2017]<br>Respiratory entrainment of prefrontal circuits<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Sirota A [Bernstein Conference 2017]<br>Respiratory entrainment of prefrontal circuits<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Sirota A [40th Meeting of Japan Neuroscience Society]<br>Respiratory entrainment of prefrontal circuits<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Sirota A [Causation, Explanation, Conditionals workshop]<br>Respiratory entrainment of prefrontal circuits<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Sirota A [EMBL Symposium Neural Circuits in the Past, Present and Future]<br>Respiratory entrainment of prefrontal circuits<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Sirota A [37th Blankenese Conference on Synaptic plasticity & stability] |
| 2016 | Manipulating and interpreting fast oscillatory dynamics using optogenetics<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Lu J, Sirota A [3rd Bordeaux Neurocampus Conference]<br>Manipulating and interpreting network dynamics using optogenetics<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Lu J, Sirota A [Bernstein Retreat - 10th Sparks Workshop]<br>Oscillatory circuit organization during fear behavior<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Courtin, J, Dejean C, Chaudun F, Rozeske R, Wurtz H, Herry C [Neurizons]  |
| 2015 | High-density electrophysiological characterization of the hippocampal and cortical network activity<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Blanco-Hernandez E, Sirota A [11th Meeting of the German Neuroscience Society 2015]<br>Multichannel extracellular recordings in freely behaving rodents<br>Resnik E, <b>Karalis N</b> , Schwesig G, Sirota A [Center of Competence in Neuroengineering Meeting 2015]  |
| 2014 | Synchronized prefrontal-amygdala 4Hz oscillations mediate fear behavior<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Courtin, J, Dejean C, Chaudun F, Rozeske R, Wurtz H, Herry C [SfN Meeting 2014]<br>Prefrontal circuits of contextual fear discrimination and generalization<br><b>Rozeske R</b> , Khoder S, Chaudun F, Karalis N, Wurtz H, Herry C [SfN Meeting 2014]<br>Towards the dissection of the olfactory sampling strategies during exploratory activity<br>Blanco-Hernandez E, Graboski J, <b>Karalis N</b> , Sirota A [Olfaction SPP 5th Annual Meeting].   |
| 2014 | Long-range synchronization of prefrontal-amygdala neuronal circuits during fear behavior<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Courtin, J, Dejean C, Chaudun F, Rozeske R, Wurtz H, Herry C [FENS Meeting 2014]<br>Prefrontal Circuits of Contextual Fear Discrimination<br>Rozeske R, Chaudun F, Khoder S, <b>Karalis N</b> , Wurtz H, Herry C [FENS Meeting 2014]<br>Medial prefrontal cortex neuronal ensembles encode conditioned fear behavior<br>Dejean C, Courtin, J, <b>Karalis N</b> , Wurtz H, Herry C [FENS Meeting 2014]<br>Synchronized prefrontal-amygdala 4Hz oscillations mediate fear behavior<br><b>Karalis N</b> , Courtin, J, Dejean C, Chaudun F, Rozeske R, Wurtz H, Herry C [NIN Interneurons Summer School]   |

- 2013** Increased prelimbic neuronal activity is associated with contextual fear discrimination  
Rozeske R, **Karalis N**, Khoder S, Herry C [4th GDR Congress]
- 2011** Effects of Himalayan tradition meditation during a SSVEP study  
**Karalis N**, Karanasiou I, Uzunoglu N [Meeting of the Society of Applied Neurosciences 2011]
- 2010** Short term effects of Vipassanā meditation in a single subject SSVEP study  
**Karalis N**, Karanasiou I, Uzunoglu N [4<sup>th</sup> Congress for Electr. Engin. Students]
- 2006** Grid Computing [TEE Research and Technology Days]

## Workshops and summer schools

- 2015** Mechanisms of Memory Consolidation, Reconsolidation and Extinction, Lausanne  
Why trust a theory? – Modern Physics Scientific Methodology, LMU  
3rd Baltic-Nordic Summer School on Neuroinformatics, University of Tartu  
Optogenetics Workshop SPP1665, Ruhr University Bochum  
7th G-Node Winter Course in Neural Data Analysis, LMU
- 2014** NIN Interneuron Summer School, Amsterdam  
Understanding Sleep: Novel Perspectives in Neurosciences, European Sleep Research Society, Milan  
Optogenetics: controlling the brain with light, University of Oxford  
International Course on Animal Communication, University of Tübingen  
Practical course optical imaging in Neuroscience, University of Tübingen
- 2013** Models of Synaptic Plasticity Doctoral Course, University of Tübingen  
1st Live Cell Imaging and Electrophysiology Workshop, Pasteur Institute, Athens  
11th Summer Course on Computational Neuroscience, Göttingen  
Neurasmus Workshop, Coimbra  
5th G-Node Winter Course in Neural Data Analysis, LMU  
Brain-Computer Interface workshop and hands-on seminar, INRIA, Bordeaux
- 2012** Super Resolution Imaging Techniques Workshop, Bordeaux Imaging Center  
Neurasmus Workshop, Barcelona  
Mathematical Cell Biology Graduate Summer Course, University of British Columbia, Vancouver  
Cerebral Ischemia: in vivo and in vitro models (Methods Course), Dept. Of Exp. Neurology, Charité, Berlin  
FELASA category B training (License for experimentation on living animals), Charité, Berlin
- 2010** 5th International Summer School on Emerging Technologies in Biomedicine, Patras  
Summer Program in Computational Neuroscience, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia  
Study Group Mathematics with Industry, Amsterdam
- 2009** 8th EEGLAB Workshop, Aspet
- 2008** Modern Methods in Industrial Mathematics Ph.D. Course, Technical University of Denmark, Copenhagen  
66th European Study Group with Industry, Technical University of Denmark, Copenhagen  
Mathematics Summer School, University of Crete  
Graduate Industrial Mathematics Modeling Camp, University of Regina  
Industrial Problem Solving Workshop, University of Regina  
2nd Workshop for Drug Design, National Hellenic Research Foundation, Athens
- 2007** MITACS Industrial Math Summer School, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver
- 2006** Arizona Winter School “Computational Aspects of Algebra and Arithmetic”, Tucson, Arizona  
Introduction to Grid Computing, Athens  
Next Generation Computing Systems - AIT Summer School, Athens  
BEST Robotics Summer School, Athens
- 2001 – 2004** Participation in national mathematical competitions

## Languages

| Language | Level          |    | Certification   |
|----------|----------------|----|---|
| Greek    | First language |    |   |
| English  | Fluent         | C2 | Cambridge First Certificate in English (2001)                                     |
| German   | Intermediate   | C1 | Zentrale Mittelstufenprüfung (2002)<br>Zertifikat Deutsch als Fremdsprache (2000) |
| Spanish  | Intermediate   | B2 |   |
| French   | Intermediate   | B2 |   |

## Soft skills courses

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2017 | Patent and IP workshop, Center for Nanoscience, Munich      |
| 2015 | Project management workshop, LMU Graduate School, Munich    |
| 2015 | Grant writing workshop, LMU Graduate School, Munich         |
| 2015 | Academic presentation workshop, LMU Graduate School, Munich |
| 2014 | Educational course on manuscript and grant writing, Milan   |

## Professional memberships

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 2017 – today | Japan Neuroscience Association                                 |
| 2014 – today | Society for Neuroscience                                       |
| 2013 – today | Bernstein Center for Computational Neuroscience                |
| 2013 – today | Neurasmus Alumni Association                                   |
| 2012 – today | Neuroscience in Bordeaux Association                           |
| 2012 – today | Federation of European Neuroscience Societies                  |
| 2012 – today | Hellenic Society for Neurosciences                             |
| 2011 – today | “School of Applied Mathematics and Physics” Alumni Association |
| 2004 – today | Hellenic Mathematical Society                                  |

## Volunteering work

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 2011        | Volunteering for EDASA (Forest Wildfire Protection), Athens                       |
| 2010        | JeffHOPE student-run free clinics, Philadelphia, PA                               |
| 2010        | Books Through Bars, Philadelphia, PA  |
| 2009 – 2012 | Photographer in various artistic events   |
| 2007        | Teaching computer skills to immigrants at the Underground Free University, Athens |
| 2005        | European Youth Week 2005, Athens  |

## Non-academic work experience

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 2011 – 2012 | Civic Consulting (Research assistance), Berlin, Germany  |
| 2011        | Greek Population Census                                  |
| 2010 – 2012 | Founder of tutoring and career counseling organization   |
| 2009 – 2011 | Photographer (freelance, Demotix agency)                 |
| 2007 – 2011 | Animateur  |
| 2004 – 2012 | Web development (PHP, HTML, CSS, Javascript, LaTeX, SQL) |
| 2010        | Hellenic Post  |
| 2004        | Hellenic Telecommunications Organization (OTE)           |
| 2004        | Athens Urban Transportation Organization (OASA)          |

## Conference participation

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| <b>2017</b> | Society for Neuroscience Meeting, Washington, DC<br>Bernstein Conference 2017, Göttingen<br>Coupling & Causality in Complex Systems, Cologne<br>Harvard-LMU Young Scientists' Forum, Munich<br>Japan Neuroscience Society annual meeting, Tokyo<br>Bernstein Retreat and Causation, Explanation, Conditionals Workshop, Tutzing<br>EMBL Symposium Neural Circuits in the Past, Present and Future, Heidelberg<br>37th Blankenese Conference on Synaptic plasticity & stability, Hamburg<br>British Neuroscience Association festival, Birmingham<br>Swiss Society for Neuroscience annual Meeting, Basel |
| <b>2016</b> | Probing neuronal circuits during behavior, Bordeaux<br>Neurizons, Göttingen<br>Bernstein Retreat and Multichannel Electrophysiology Workshop, Tutzing  |
| <b>2015</b> | Bernstein Conference, Heidelberg<br>Cutting Edge Technologies, Munich<br>Bernstein Retreat and Virtual Reality Workshop, Tutzing<br>11th Meeting of the German Neuroscience Society, Göttingen<br>Center of Competence on Neuroengineering Meeting, Technical University of Munich   |
| <b>2014</b> | Society for Neuroscience Meeting, Washington, DC<br>9th FENS Forum of Neuroscience, Milan  |
| <b>2013</b> | Bernstein Conference, Tübingen<br>1st European Neuroscience Conference by Doctoral Students, Bordeaux<br>European Neuroscience Campus Annual Meeting, Bordeaux   |
| <b>2012</b> | 8th FENS Forum of Neuroscience, Barcelona<br>ENC Network Annual Joint Meeting, Barcelona<br>Erasmus Mundus Association General Assembly, Prague<br>7th International Symposium on Neuroprotection and Neurorepair, Potsdam   |
| <b>2011</b> | Berlin Brain Days<br>22 <sup>nd</sup> European Students Conference on Regenerative Medicine, Berlin<br>Society of Applied Neuroscience meeting, Thessaloniki<br>Breaking Convention, University of Kent<br>34 <sup>th</sup> European Conference on Visual Perception, Toulouse<br>25 <sup>th</sup> Annual Hellenic Congress of Neurosurgery, Athens<br>25 <sup>th</sup> Annual Hellenic Congress of Neurology, Athens  |
| <b>2010</b> | 4 <sup>th</sup> Congress for Electrical Engineering Students, Patras   |
| <b>2009</b> | The Brain: Function, Imaging and Repair, Athens  |
| <b>2007</b> | Canadian Undergraduate Mathematics Conference, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver  |
| <b>2006</b> | Which mathematics for biology?, FORTH, University of Crete   |