**Sai P. Gourisankar, Ph.D.**

Email: [saipg@stanford.edu](mailto:saipg@stanford.edu) | LinkedIn: <https://goo.gl/c4CBdo>

**Education and Training**

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| NCI K99/R00 Postdoctoral Fellow  *Stanford Cancer Institute, USA* | 2023-present |
| Ph.D., M.S., Chemical Engineering  *Stanford University, USA* | 2023 |
| M.P.P., Public Policy  M.St., Global History  *University of Oxford, UK* | 2017  2016 |
| B.S., Chemical Engineering  B.A., Plan II Liberal Arts  *University of Texas at Austin, USA* | 2015 |

**Research Interests**

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| Engineering novel chemical strategies for cancer therapy, e.g., induced proximity therapeutics |
| Discovering therapeutic vulnerabilities in mechanisms of gene regulation |

**Grants**

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| NCI Pathway to Independence Award for Outstanding Early-Stage Postdoctoral Researchers (K99/R00)(1K99CA296700-01) | 2025 |
| Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NIH 1F31HD103339-01) | 2020 |
| NSF Graduate Research Fellowship | 2017 |

**Selected Honors and Awards**

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| Rhodes Scholarship | 2015 |
| Astronaut Foundation Scholarship (national research award) | 2014 |
| Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship | 2013 |

**Highlighted Publications** (\*indicates co-first authorship)

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|  | **S. Gourisankar**\*, A. Krokhotin\*, W. Ji\*, X. Liu, C-Y. Chang, S. H. Kim, Z. Li, W. Wenderski, J.M. Simanauskaite, H.Yang, H. Vogel, T. Zhang, N.S. Gray, G.R. Crabtree. Rewiring cancer drivers to activate apoptosis. *Nature*, **620**, 417-425 (2023).  Highlighted in:   * + - Phelan, J., Staudt, L. “Double-headed Molecule activates cell-death pathways in cancer cells”. *Nature*, 620, 285-286 (2023).     - Miura, G. “Linked to death”. *Nat. Chem. Biol.*, 19, 1043 (2023).     - Kolata, G. “Flipping a Switch and Making Cancers Self-Destruct”. The New York Times. Published July 26, 2023.     - Dolgin, E. “Two-armed Molecule Flips Switch on Gene Regulation”. Cancer Discovery News in Brief. Published July 27, 2023.     - Wu, L.L. “’An unholy union’: Stanford scientists create drug that flips cancer driver into killer”. Endpoints News. Published July 27, 2023. |
|  | R.C. Sarott\*, **S. Gourisankar**\*, B. Karim\*, S.A. Nettles, H.Yang, B.G. Dwyer, J.M. Simauskaite, J. Tse, H. Abuzaid, A. Krokhotin, T. Zhang, S.M. Hinshaw, M.R. Green, G.R. Crabtree, N.S. Gray. Re-localizing transcriptional kinases to activate apoptosis. *Science,* **386**, eadl5361 (2024)*.*  Highlighted in:   * + - Atkinson, V. “Hijacking kinases to kill cancer”. *Chemical & Engineering News*. Published October 14, 2024. |

**All Publications** (\*indicates co-first authorship)

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| 1. | M.N. Nix\*, **S. Gourisankar**\*, R.C. Sarott, B.G. Dwyer, S.A. Nettles, M.M. Martinez, H. Abuzaid, H. Yang, Y. Wang, J.M. Simanauskaite, B.A. Romero, H.M. Jones, A. Krokhotin, T.N. Lowensohn, L. Chen, C. Low, M.M. Davis, D. Fernandez, T. Zhang, M.R. Green, S.M. Hinshaw, N.S. Gray, G.R. Crabtree. A bivalent molecular glue linking lysine acetyltransferases to oncogene-induced cell death. *bioRxiv*, (*in revision at Cell*)(2025). |
| 2. | M.J. Bond, R.P. Golden, G. DiGiovanni, B. Howard, R.C. Sarott, B.A. Karim, **S. Gourisankar**, G. Alexe, K. Ross, N.S. Gray, K. Stegmaier. Rewiring the fusion oncoprotein EWS/FLI in Ewing sarcoma with bivalent small molecules. *bioRxiv* (*in revision at J. Am. Chem. Soc.*) (2025). |
| 3. | **S. Gourisankar**\*, S.A. Nettles\*, W. Wenderski, J.A. Paulo, S.H. Kim, K.C. Roepke, C. Ellis, H.Z. Abuzaid, S.P. Gygi, G.R. Crabtree. Synaptic activity causes minute-scale changes to BAF complex composition and function” *Molecular Cell* **85**, 12, 2374-89 (2025)*.* |
| 4. | R.C. Sarott\*, **S. Gourisankar**\*, B. Karim\*, S.A. Nettles, H.Yang, B.G. Dwyer, J.M. Simauskaite, J. Tse, H. Abuzaid, A. Krokhotin, T. Zhang, S.M. Hinshaw, M.R. Green, G.R. Crabtree, N.S. Gray. Re-localizing transcriptional kinases to activate apoptosis. *Science,* **386**, eadl5361 (2024)*.* |
| 5. | **S. Gourisankar**, A. Krokhotin, W. Wenderski, G.R. Crabtree. Context-specific functions of chromatin remodellers in development and disease. *Nature Rev. Genetics*, **25**, 340-361 (2024). |
| 6. | **S. Gourisankar**\*, A. Krokhotin\*, W. Ji\*, X. Liu, C-Y. Chang, S. H. Kim, Z. Li, W. Wenderski, J.M. Simanauskaite, H.Yang, H. Vogel, T. Zhang, N.S. Gray, G.R. Crabtree. Rewiring cancer drivers to activate apoptosis. *Nature*, **620**, 417-425 (2023). |
| 7. | E.J. Chory, J.G. Kirkland, C-Y. Chang, V.D. D’Andrea, **S. Gourisankar**, E.C. Dykhuizen, G.R. Crabtree. Chemical inhibitors of a selective SWI/SNF function synergize with ATR inhibition in cancer cell killing. *ACS Chem. Biol.,* **15**, 1685-1696 (2020). |
| 8. | E.Y. Son\*, A. Krokhotin\*, **S. Gourisankar**, C-Y. Chang, G.R. Crabtree. *ARID1B* is a dosage-sensitive regulator of PRC distribution and Hox gene regulation in human neural progenitors. *ResearchSquare* (2021) (*in revision at Nat. Comm.):* preprint doi: 10.21203/rs.3.rs-959800/v1. |
| 9. | R.J. Stover\*, E. Moaseri\*, **S. Gourisankar**, N. Rahbar, B. Changalvaie, M. Iqbal, T. Truskett, K. Johnston. Formation of small gold nanoparticle chains with high NIR extinction through bridging with calcium ions. *Langmuir*, **32**, 1127-1138 (2016). |
| 10. | R.J. Stover, A.K. Murthy, G.D. Nie, **S. Gourisankar**, B.J. Dear, T.M. Truskett, K.V. Sokolov, K.P. Johnston. Quenched assembly of NIR-active gold nanoclusters capped with strongly bound ligands by tuning particle charge via pH and salinity. *J. Phys Chem C.*, **118**, 14291-14298 (2014). |
| 11. | A.K. Murthy, R.J. Stover, A.U. Borwankar, G.D. Nie, **S. Gourisankar**, T.M. Truskett, K.V. Sokolov, K.P. Johnston. Equilibrium gold nanoclusters quenched with biodegradable polymers. *ACS Nano*., **7**, 239-251 (2013). |
| 12. | A.K. Murthy, R.J. Stover, W.G. Hardin, R. Schramm, G.D. Nie, **S. Gourisankar**, K.V. Sokolov, K.P. Johnston. Charged gold nanoparticles with essentially zero serum protein adsorption in undiluted fetal bovine serum. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.,* **135**, 7799-7802 (2013). |
| 13. | N.W. Smith, **S.P. Gourisankar**, J.L. Montchamp, S.V. Dzyuba. Silver-free synthesis of nitrate-containing room-temperature ionic liquids. *New J. Chem*., **35**, 909-914 (2011). |

**Patents and Applications**

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| G.R. Crabtree, N. Gray, **S. Gourisankar,** *et al*. Heterobifunctional compounds and methods of use thereof. WO/2025/007026, published February 2025. |
| G.R. Crabtree, N. Gray, **S. Gourisankar**, *et al.* Compositions, systems, and methods for modulating a target gene. WO/2023/215311, published September 2023. |
| G.R. Crabtree, **S. Gourisankar**, *et al.* Modulation of gene expression via transcription factor-chemical induced proximity (TF-CIP). WO/2022/098989, published December 2022. |

**Selected Presentations**

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| European Society for Hematology, Estoril, Portugal, *invited talk* | Oct 2025 |
| MIT-Broad Institute Chemical Biology SuperGroup, *invited talk* | Oct 2025 |
| Center for Targeted Protein Degradation, Dundee, U.K., *invited talk* | June 2025 |
| Max Planck Institute for Biomedical Research, Heidelberg, Germany, *invited talk* | June 2025 |
| Synthesis Workshop, online <https://shorturl.at/6Fsp4> *invited talk* | May 2025 |
| AACR, Major Symposia: Harnessing Induced Proximity, Chicago, IL, *invited talk* | Apr 2025 |
| American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Chicago, IL, *invited talk* | Apr 2025 |
| Prof. K. Shokat Group Seminar, UCSF, San Francisco, CA, *invited talk* | Mar 2025 |
| Experimental Therapeutics, MD Anderson Cancer Ctr., Houston, TX, *invited talk* | Nov 2024 |
| Prof. R. Tijan and Prof. X. Darzaq Joint Group Seminar, Berkeley, CA, *invited talk* | Aug 2024 |
| American Chemical Society National Meeting Fall 2024, Denver, CO | Aug 2024 |
| Fragile Nucleosome Seminar, online<https://youtu.be/-eNl-ByXB-E>, *invited talk* | Apr 2024 |
| Proximity-Inducing Pharmacology, IRB Biomed Conference, Barcelona, Spain | May 2023 |
| Steel Symposium for Developmental Oncology, Memorial Sloan, New York, NY | May 2023 |
| Dana Farber Targeted Protein Degradation Seminar, Cambridge, MA, *invited talk* | Jan 2023 |
| American Institute of Chemical Engineers Nat’l Meeting, Atlanta, GA, *invited talk* | Nov 2014 |

**Teaching Experience**

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| University of Chicago | Chicago, IL USA  *Guest Speaker, Cancer Biology Seminar* | 2025 |
| Stanford University | Stanford, CA USA  *Instructor, INDE 209: Analysis of Life Science Companies* | 2020-2022 |
| Stanford University | Stanford, CA USA  *Teaching Assistant, CHEMENG 355: Advanced Biochemical Engineering* | 2020-2021 |
| Stanford Prison Education Project, San Bruno Jail | San Bruno, CA USA  *Lecturer, Genetics and CRISPR/Cas9* | 2018-2019 |
| University of Texas at Austin | Austin, TX USA  *Tutor, CHE 317: Introduction to Chemical Engineering* | 2013 |

**Trainees Mentored**

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| Hanxi Tang – Graduate Student, Stanford Chemical & Systems Biology |
| Meredith Nix – Graduate Student, Stanford Chemistry |
| Basel Karim – Graduate Student, Stanford Chemistry |
| Hind Abuzaid – Research Assistant, Stanford Pathology |
| Jason Tse – Research Assistant, Stanford Chemical and Systems Biology |
| Juste Simanauskaite – Research Assistant, Stanford Pathology |
| Kyra Roepke – Undergraduate research student; Stanford Pathology, won Goldwater Scholarship |
| Makayla Conley – Undergraduate research student, Stanford Pathology |

**Academic Service**

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| Reviewer for *ACS Chem. Biol.*, *Nature Genetics, Nature Communications* | 2022-present |
| Stanford Office of Global Scholarships | Stanford, CA USA  *Interviewer, Rhodes and Marshall Scholarship Candidates* | 2019-present |
| Stanford Department of Chemical Engineering | Stanford, CA USA  *Chair, Convocation and Research Symposium* | 2018-2020 |

**Industry Experience**

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| Co-founder and Advisor, Shenandoah Therapeutics | Woodside, CA USA | 2023-present |

**References**

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| Professor Gerald Crabtree, MD  Stanford University | crabtree@stanford.edu  ‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬‬ |
| Professor Nathanael Gray, PhD  Stanford University Chem-H | nsgray01@stanford.edu |
| Professor Michael Green, PhD  The University of Texas – MD Anderson Cancer Center | Mgreen5@mdanderson.org |