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## RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

### Main research interests

RNA Biology      RNA structure-function relationship      RNA protein interactions  
Molecular virology      Host-pathogens interactions

### Education

- Oct 2018 – Nov 2022 **University of Strasbourg, France | PhD in Molecular Biology**  
IBMC – UPR 9002 – Team “RNA packaging and viral assembly”  
**Title:** “Structural study of the 5' terminal region of HIV-1 genomic RNA and rearrangements induced by Pr55<sup>Gag</sup> and its maturation products”  
**Supervisor:** Dr Valérie Vivet-Boudou
- Jan 2018 – Jul 2018 **University of Strasbourg, France | Master in Molecular and Cellular Biology**  
IBMC – UPR 9002 – Team “RNA packaging and viral assembly”  
**Titre:** “Structural study of the 5' Leader of HIV-1 genomic RNA”  
**Supervisor:** Dr Valérie Vivet-Boudou

### Technical skills

- Good laboratory practices
- Cloning
- Chemical probing of RNA molecule
- RNA work
- Sequencing library preparation
- Operating C-Trap Optical Tweezers

### Soft skills

- Ability to work independently
- Communication and teaching
- Project management
- Adaptability
- Problem solving
- Patience

### Languages

French (Native speaker)      English (Fluent)      German (Beginner)

### Work experience

- Sep 2023 – Sep 2024 **Postdoctoral researcher**, HIRI-HZI, Würzburg, Germany
  - **Group leader:** Prof Dr Neva Caliskan
  - **Project:** Investigation of translational recoding mechanisms in viral RNAs
- Oct 2018 – Nov 2022 **PhD researcher**, IBMC, Strasbourg, France
  - **Group leaders:** Dr Roland Marquet & Dr Jean-Christophe Paillart
  - **PhD Supervisor:** Dr Valérie Vivet-Boudou
  - **Project:** Structural study of the 5' terminal region of HIV-1 genomic RNA and rearrangement induced by Pr55<sup>Gag</sup> and its maturation products

Jan 2018 – Jun 2018	<b>Master thesis</b> , IBMC, Strasbourg, France <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group leaders:</b> Dr Roland Marquet &amp; Dr Jean-Christophe Paillart</li> <li>• <b>Supervisor:</b> Dr Valérie Vivet-Boudou</li> <li>• <b>Project:</b> Structural study of the 5' Leader of HIV-1 genomic RNA</li> </ul>
Jan 2017 – Mar 2017	<b>Master internship</b> , IBMC, Strasbourg, France <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group leaders:</b> Dr Roland Marquet &amp; Dr Jean-Christophe Paillart</li> <li>• <b>Project:</b> Cloning of APOBEC3 proteins family coding sequences</li> </ul>
May 2016 – Jun 2016	<b>Bachelor internship</b> , IBMC, Strasbourg, France <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group leaders:</b> Dr Eric Ennifar</li> <li>• <b>Project:</b> Mechanical study of the 70S ribosome assembly</li> </ul>
Jan 2015 – Mar 2015	<b>Technical internship</b> , Institut of Viral and Liver Disease, Strasbourg, France <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group leaders:</b> Dr Catherine Schuster</li> <li>• <b>Project:</b> Study of the protein partners of HCV IRES</li> </ul>
May 2014 – Jul 2014	<b>Technical internship</b> , IPCB, Strasbourg, France <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Group leaders:</b> Dr Ivan Tarasov &amp; Dr Nina Entelis</li> <li>• <b>Project:</b> Evaluation of a CRISPR-Cas9 approach applied to mitochondrial genome manipulation</li> </ul>

## Degrees and Diplomas

- 2022 **PhD in Molecular Biology** at the University of Strasbourg, France
- 2018 **Master's degree in “Molecular and Cellular Biology”** at the University of Strasbourg, France  
With honors “Mention Bien”
- 2016 **Bachelor's degree in “Molecular and Cellular Biology”** at the University of Strasbourg, France  
With honors “Mention Assez Bien”
- 2015 **Technical degree in “Biotechnologies”** at the Lycée Jean Rostand of Strasbourg, France  
With honors “Mention Bien”
- 2013 **French Baccalaureat in Sciences** at the Lycée Louis Pasteur of Strasbourg, France  
With honors “Mention Assez Bien”

## Peer-reviewed publications

### Published:

1. Smart, A.\*, **Gilmer, O.\***, & Caliskan, N. (2024). Translation Inhibition Mediated by Interferon-Stimulated Genes during Viral Infections. *Viruses*, 16(7), 1097. <https://doi.org/10.3390/v16071097>
2. **Gilmer, O.\***, Mailler, E.\*., Paillart, J. C., Mouhand, A., Tisné, C., Mak, J., Smyth, R. P., Marquet, R. & Vivet-Boudou, V. (2022). Structural maturation of the HIV-1 RNA 5' untranslated region by Pr55Gag and its maturation products. *RNA Biology*, 19(1), 191–205. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15476286.2021.2021677>
3. **Gilmer, O.\***, Quignon, E.\*., Jousset, A. -C.\*., Paillart, J. -C., Marquet, R., & Vivet-Boudou, V. (2021). Chemical and Enzymatic Probing of Viral RNAs: From Infancy to Maturity and Beyond. *Viruses*, 13(10), 1894. <https://doi.org/10.3390/v13101894>
4. Libre, C., Seissler, T., Guerrero, S., Batisse, J., Verriez, C., Stupfler, B., **Gilmer, O.**, Cabrera-Rodriguez, R., Weber, M. M., Valenzuela-Fernandez, A., Cimarelli, A., Etienne, L., Marquet, R.,

- & Paillart, J. -C. (2022). A Conserved uORF Regulates APOBEC3G Translation and Is Targeted by HIV-1 Vif Protein to Repress the Antiviral Factor. *Biomedicines*, 10(1), 13. <https://doi.org/10.3390/biomedicines10010013>
5. Kibe, A., Buck, S., Gribling-Burrer, A. -S., **Gilmer, O.**, Bohn, P., Koch, T., Mireisz, C. N. -M., Schlosser, A., Erhard, F., Smyth, R. P. & Caliskan, N. (2025). The translational landscape of HIV-1 infected cells reveals key gene regulatory principles. *Nat Struct Mol Biol*. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41594-024-01468-3>
  6. Neuman B. W.\* , Smart, A.\* , **Gilmer, O.\*** , Smyth, R. P.\* , Vaas, J., Böker, N., Samborskiy, D. V., Bartenschlager, R., Seitz, S., Gorbalyena, A. E., Caliskan, N. & Lauber, C. (2025). Giant RNA genomes: roles of host, translation elongation, genome architecture and proteome in nidoviruses. *PNAS*. *In press*

In preparation:

7. Gilmer, O., Pekarek, L., Kibe, A. Malik, S., Gribling-Burrer, A.-S., Smyth, R. P. & Caliskan, N.

## Conferences, workshops and seminars

**May 2024** | Poster presentation | **EMBO Recoding Meeting**, Bantry, Ireland  
"Exploring the structural heterogeneity of HIV-1 frameshift element"

**November 2023** | Workshop organisation | **Optical Tweezers C-Trap presentation for Biomedecine Students**, Würzburg, Germany

**May 2022** | Poster presentation | **StrasRNA Salon**, Strasbourg, France  
"Toward the 3D structure of the HIV-1 genomic RNA 5' untranslated region during replication late phase events"

**May 2022** | Poster presentation | **International NetRNA meeting "RNA in gene control across kingdoms"**, Bischberg, France  
"Toward the 3D structure of the HIV-1 genomic RNA 5' untranslated region during replication late phase events"

**March 2022** | Talk | **2022 Sidaction Scientific Day (Journée Scientifique de Sidaction 2022)**, Paris, France  
"Evolution of HIV-1 genomic RNA 5' untranslated region during maturation"

**May 2021** | Poster presentation | **Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory – Retroviruses**, online meeting  
"Structure of the HIV-1 genomic RNA 5'untranslated region and rearrangement induced by Gag and its maturation products"

**April 2021** | Poster presentation | **Virology Scientific Days** (Journées Francophones de Virologie), online meeting  
"Structure of HIV-1 genomic RNA and rearrangements induced by Gag"

**April 2021** | Poster presentation | **Doctoral School Days**, online meeting  
"Structure of the HIV-1 genomic RNA 5'untranslated region and rearrangement induced by Gag and its maturation products"

**November 2019** | Poster presentation | **Sidaction workshop: Université des Jeunes Chercheurs (UJC)**, Carry-Le-Rouet, France  
"HIV-1: towards a 3D model of the genomic RNA"

**March 2019** |Poster presentation | **Doctoral School Days**, Strasbourg, France  
"The 3D structure of the HIV-1 genomic RNA 5' untranslated region during the selection and packaging events"

## Technical skills

### Molecular biology

- Good laboratory practices
- Cloning
- In vitro transcription
- DNA, RNA, proteins extraction
- AKTA purification
- PCR, qPCR, RT-qPCR & RACE-PCR
- Sequencing library preparation
- Radioactive labelling
- Optical Tweezers sample preparation and instrument operating

### Cellular culture

- Cell lines used: TSFR cells (internship); HEK293T mammalian cells
- Transfection
- Flow-cytometry (Novocyte Quanteon Flow Cytometer)

### Structural biology

- SHAPE modification (NMIA, BzCN) – see Merino et al., 2005
- DMS-MaP-seq
- MOHCA-seq - see Cheng et al., 2015

### Bioinformatics

- QuSHAPE, RNASTRUCTURE and VARNA for analysis and representation of RNA structures
- R language (beginner) for basic statistics and data representation
- Proficient in Microsoft Office, Affinity Designer, Adobe Illustrator, ApE, Benchling
- Python script usage for Optical Tweezers data analysis

## Teaching and community involvement

2021 – 2022 | PhD Student representative at the Doctoral School of Life Sciences

2018 – 2021 | Supervision of Biochemistry practicals (2<sup>nd</sup> year Bachelor students) | University of Strasbourg, France (64 hours/year)

Jun 2021 – Jul 2021 | Tutoring of a 3<sup>rd</sup> year Bachelor student | University of Strasbourg, France

Mar 2019 – Jul 2019 | Tutoring of a 3<sup>rd</sup> year Bachelor student | University of Strasbourg, France & University of Saarland, Germany

## Additional activities

- Worked as a **beekeeper** (4 months over 3 years)
- Worked as a **sport animator** for children (4 months over 3 years)
- Worked as a **warehouseman** (2 months over 2 years)
- Practiced **gymnastic** at a **national level** (15 years)

## References

**Dr Valérie Vivet-Boudou**  
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