

Alexander Sobolevsky earned his PhD in biophysics in 1999 from the Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology, where he studied the mechanisms of gating and ion channel block of NMDA receptor channels using kinetic modeling and patch-clamp recordings from freshly isolated rat hippocampal neurons under the guidance of Prof. Boris Khodorov. He held his first postdoctoral position in the lab of Dr. Lonnie Wollmuth at Stony Brook University, where he studied the functional architecture of ionotropic glutamate receptors (iGluRs) using the substituted cysteine accessibility method (SCAM). He continued his postdoctoral training with Dr. Eric Gouaux, first at Columbia University and then at Oregon Health and Science University, where he solved the first structure of iGluR. He joined the faculty of Columbia University in 2010 as an Assistant Professor of biochemistry and molecular biophysics. His lab studies the structure and function of ion channels, particularly iGluRs and transient receptor potential (TRP) channels, using electrophysiology, protein biochemistry, molecular biology, X-ray crystallography and cryo-electron microscopy (cryo-EM). In 2017, he was promoted to an Associate Professor.