

BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Georges Khazen has a multidisciplinary background with strong analytical and statistical skills. He studied Biology at the Lebanese University and went on to study Computer Engineering at the American University of Beirut, Lebanon. He received his Masters in Bioinformatics (with Distinction) from the University of Oxford, United Kingdom, where he was awarded a dissertation distinction award from Lincoln College for his work on gene regulatory networks and the application of Logic Gate techniques for the analysis of gene expression data. He pursued his PhD in Computational Neuroscience at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, and received the Dean's award for outstanding achievement for his work at the Blue Brain Project. His thesis focused on building a generic predictive model to reverse engineer the membrane composition of neocortical neurons. This involved the exploitation of online resources to provide information on the molecular, physiological and structural properties of transmembrane proteins present in neurons as well as their levels of expression and sub-cellular localization. The data collected in this way was integrated in a system of linear equations and used to compute an upper bound on how much of each protein is present in any given neuron.

Dr. Khazen joined LAU in 2011 as an Assistant Professor in Bioinformatics. His current research focuses on reverse engineering the distribution of different neuron types in the neocortex as well as the analysis of population stratification in the Levant population.