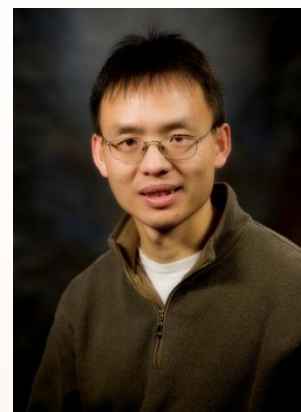


# Dr. Junpeng Deng

Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology

Dr. Junpeng Deng obtained his Ph.D in biophysics at the Ohio State University in 2001, where his research focused on structure-function studies on nucleic acids. Deng then joined a research lab of Howard Hughes Medical Institute in Seattle, Wash., led by Dr. Wim HOL, a pioneer in protein crystallography and structure- based drug design. In 2006, Deng joined the faculty at Oklahoma State University, where he has developed a vigorous research program in structural biology, focusing on essential proteins related to Parkinson's disease, cytokine signaling, autoimmune and infectious diseases.

Determining the three-dimensional structure of proteins at high-resolution by x-ray crystallography is a powerful approach to investigate and understand the biochemical function of proteins. By using x-ray crystallography in combination with various biophysical and biochemical approaches, Deng and his team aim to provide better understanding of the mechanism by which certain proteins function with respect to their related human diseases, such as neurodegenerative diseases, autoimmune diseases and infectious diseases. His goal is to obtain invaluable structural information for designing better therapeutics in the future.



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