

Perry Spratt is graduate student in Kevin Bender's lab at UCSF. His work focuses on understanding how rare mutations found in patients with autism spectrum disorder and intellectual disability alter the electrical properties of neurons. Recently, he has discovered that mutations in a specific sodium channel gene unexpectedly impair dendritic excitability and synaptic plasticity in neurons. He is now working with other collaborators at UCSF to develop approaches of reversing these deficits with the goal of ultimately developing therapies to treat children with these disorders.