

**Fig. S7-1. Simulations of MOP-μOR and HMP-μOR: the W293 side chain orientation. (A)** Basically, the W293 dihedral angle  $chi^{2,1}$  fluctuates around two favorable values (~0° in MOP-μOR and ~120° in HMP-μOR). The  $chi^{2,1}$  value is plotted as a function of simulation time in (**B**, **C**) the two independent MD simulations for each system and in (**D**) the forward and backward alchemical free energy perturbations in the bound state.

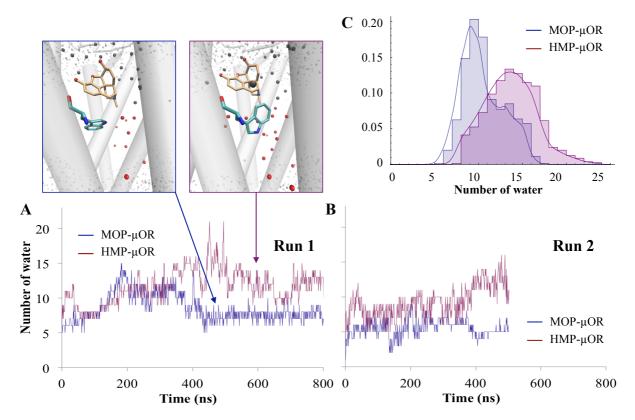


Fig. S7-2. MD simulations of MOP- $\mu$ OR and HMP- $\mu$ OR: number of water molecules inside the  $\mu$ OR binding cavity. (A, B) The number plotted as a function of time in the two independent MD simulations. (C) Normalized histograms of the data plotted in (A).

We performed Welch's *t*-test on the two sets of data plotted in Fig. S7-2A. The results (Table S7-1) indicate that the difference shown in Fig. S7-2A is statistically significant.

Table S7-1. Welch's t-test a on the data shown in Fig. S7-2A.

P-value <sup>b</sup>	Difference in mean values	Standard error	95% confidence interval of the difference	Intermediate values used in the test	
				t	d <i>f</i>
< 0.0001	3.086	0.133	2.825-3.347	23.2261	1541

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The test assumes normal distribution of the two datasets. Although this is not the case for MOP, the test has been shown to be still robust with a large sample size [1] (i.e.  $\geq 200$  [2]).

Table S7-2. Distances (Å) between the agonists and selected protein residues averaged over two independent MD runs.

	MD run	I296	M151	G325	I322
МОР	Run 1 (0.8 µs)	$2.4 \pm 0.2$	$2.2 \pm 0.2$	$2.4 \pm 0.3$	$3.3 \pm 0.5$
	Run 2 (0.5 µs)	$2.4\pm0.2$	$2.2 \pm 0.2$	$2.9 \pm 0.7$	$2.3 \pm 0.2$
НМР	Run 1 (0.8 µs)	$2.4 \pm 0.2$	$2.3 \pm 0.2$	$5.0 \pm 0.3$	$2.7 \pm 0.2$
	Run 2 (0.5 µs)	$2.6 \pm 0.3$	$2.1 \pm 0.2$	$5.8 \pm 0.4$	$2.6 \pm 0.3$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> P-value much less than the threshold (0.05) indicates significant difference between the two datasets.

## **Supporting references**

- 1. Fagerland MW. t-tests, non-parametric tests, and large studies--a paradox of statistical practice? BMC medical research methodology. 2012;12:78. Epub 2012/06/16. doi: 10.1186/1471-2288-12-78. PubMed PMID: 22697476; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC3445820.
- 2. Fagerland MW, Sandvik L. Performance of five two-sample location tests for skewed distributions with unequal variances. Contemp Clin Trials. 2009;30(5):490-6. doi: Doi 10.1016/J.Cct.2009.06.007. PubMed PMID: ISI:000270073800018.