

Supporting Information:

**Increase the realism of in silico pHLP peptide
models with a novel pH gradient CpHMD
method**

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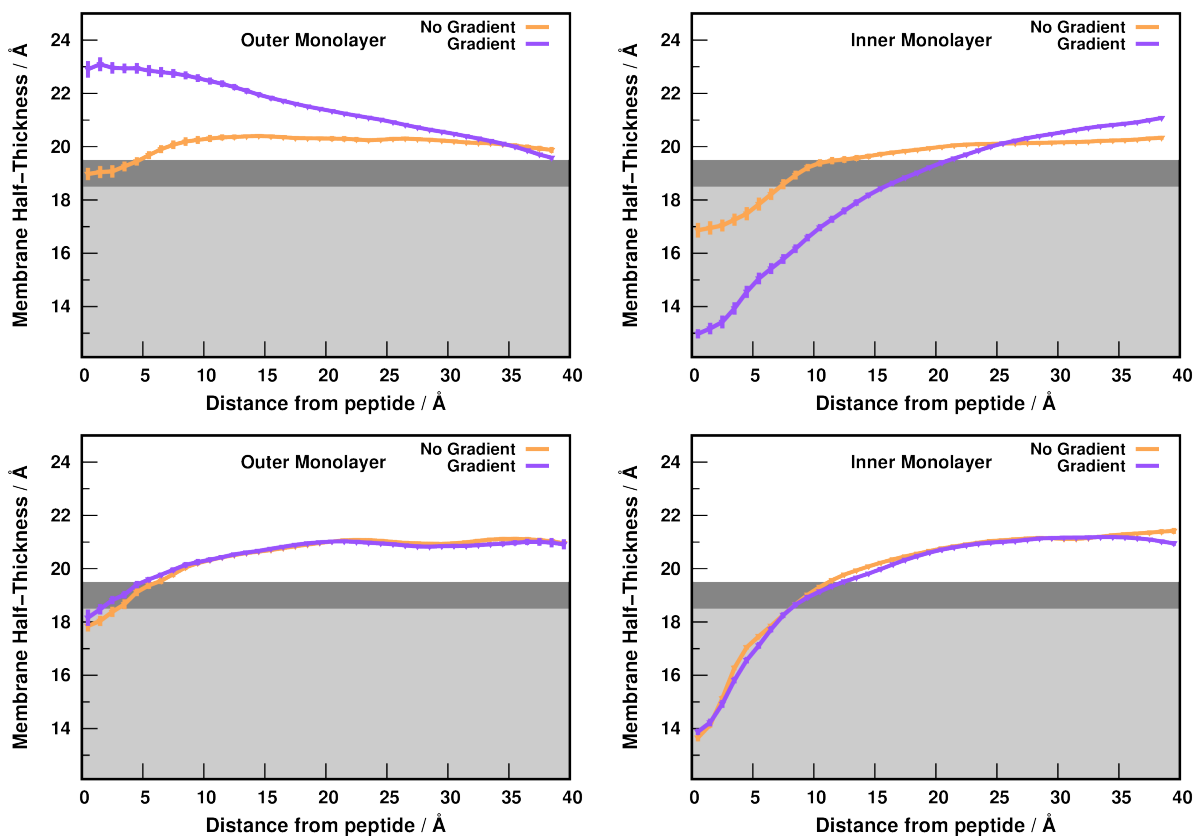


Figure S1: Outer (left) and inner (right) monolayer half-thickness values in the xy plane along the *wt* (top) and Var3 (bottom) peptides distance. The representations show the membrane deformations induced by the peptides, in both setup conditions at pH 6.0, up to the 'bulk' lipids (15–40 Å away). The error bars were calculated from the SEM using all replicates every 0.5 Å and they were plotted every 1 Å for visual clarity. The grey shaded region is the membrane interior, while the dark grey region corresponds to the experimental range of fluid POPC (~ 19 Å for each monolayer).^{S1}

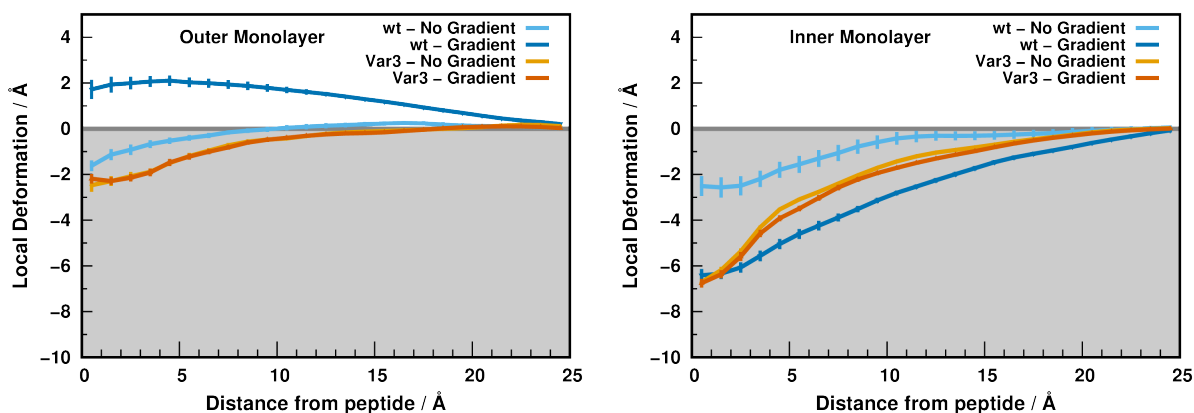


Figure S2: Outer (left) and inner (right) local monolayer deformations induced by the *wt* (blue/cyan) and Var3 (orange/brown) peptides, in both setup conditions at pH 4.0. These deformations values are calculated from the half thickness values calculated along the xy plane distance to the peptides. The maximum distance shown (~ 25 Å) corresponds to the unperturbed 'bulk' lipids. The error bars were calculated every 1 Å, using all replicates, with a SEM method and they were plotted every 1 Å for visual clarity. The grey-shaded region corresponds to the membrane interior.

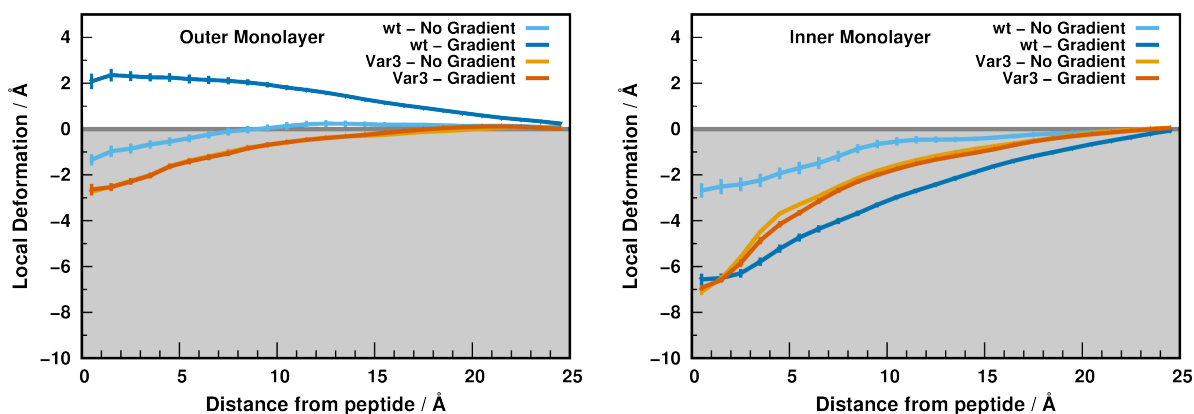


Figure S3: Outer (left) and inner (right) local monolayer deformations induced by the *wt* (blue/cyan) and Var3 (orange/brown) peptides, in both setup conditions at pH 5.0. These deformations values are calculated from the half thickness values calculated along the xy plane distance to the peptides. The maximum distance shown (~ 25 Å) corresponds to the unperturbed 'bulk' lipids. The error bars were calculated every 1 Å, using all replicates, with a SEM method and they were plotted every 1 Å for visual clarity. The grey-shaded region corresponds to the membrane interior.

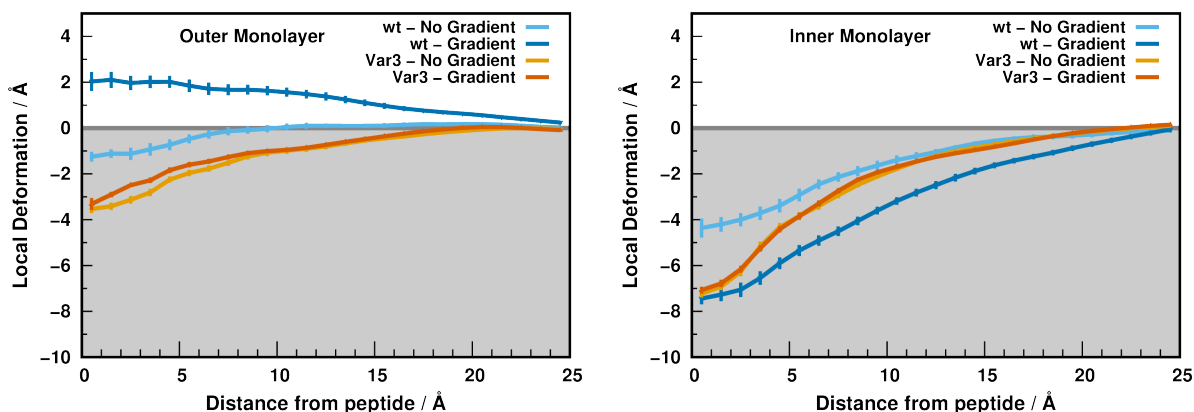


Figure S4: Outer (left) and inner (right) local monolayer deformations induced by the *wt* (blue/cyan) and Var3 (orange/brown) peptides, in both setup conditions at pH 7.0. These deformations values are calculated from the half thickness values calculated along the xy plane distance to the peptides. The maximum distance shown (~ 25 Å) corresponds to the unperturbed 'bulk' lipids. The error bars were calculated every 1 Å, using all replicates, with a SEM method and they were plotted every 1 Å for visual clarity. The grey-shaded region corresponds to the membrane interior

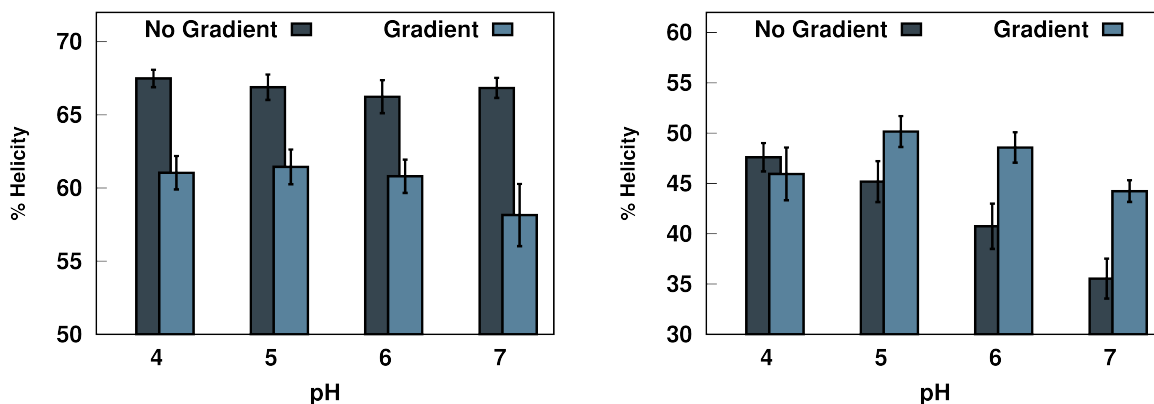


Figure S5: Percentage of α -helix content of *wt* (left) and Var3 (right) peptides in both gradient and non-gradient pH setups, at all pH values. Note that, in the gradient setup, pH refers to the pH_{out} , since pH_{in} is fixed at 7.2. The average percentage of helicity was calculated using the equilibrated segment of all replicates. The error values were calculated with a standard error of the mean (SEM).

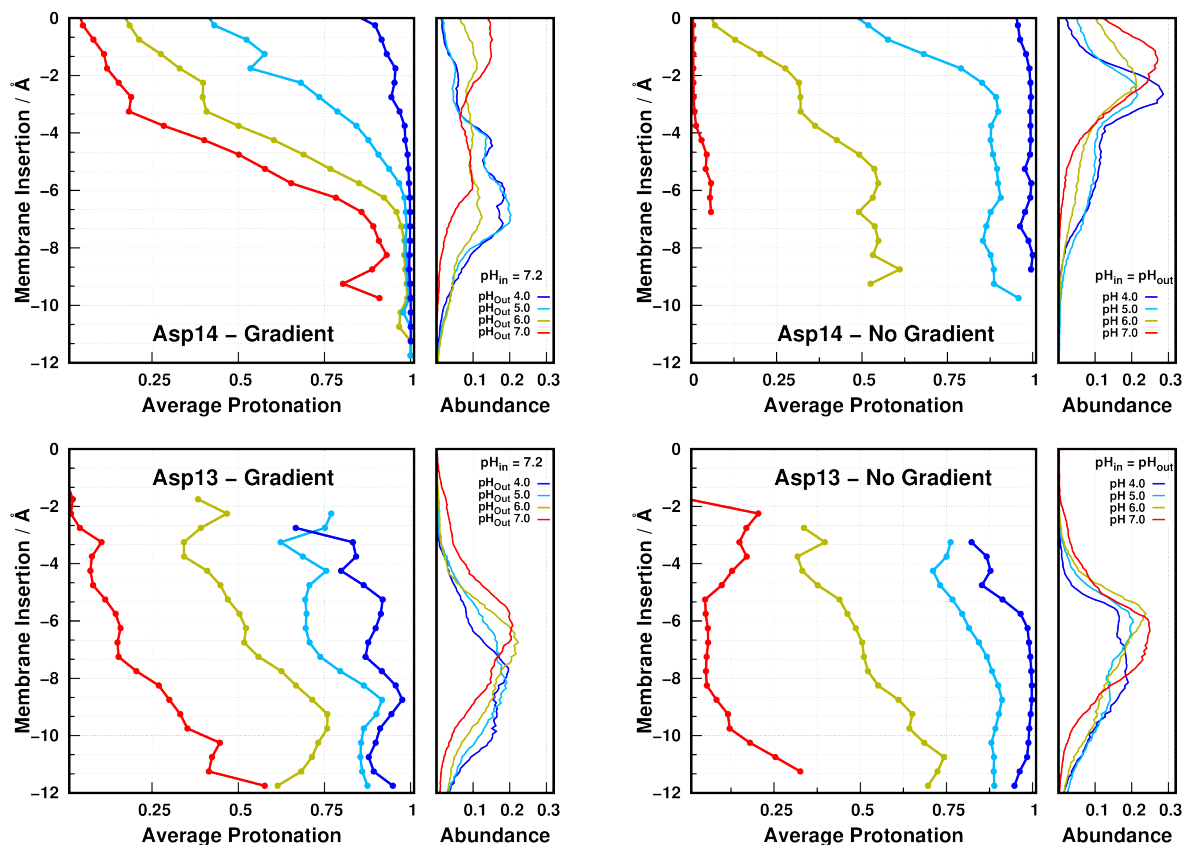


Figure S6: Protonation profiles of Asp14 (*wt*; top) and Asp13 (Var3; bottom) in a Gradient (left) and no Gradient (right) setup. The profiles indicate the average protonation of the Asp residue, at each pH value, for each insertion slice (left sub-plots) and the histogram distribution of residue insertion in the membrane for each pH value (right sub-plots). The protonation errors bars were omitted for clarity and the average error size was ~ 0.1 .

References

- (S1) Kučerka, N.; Nieh, M.-.; Katsaras, J. Fluid phase lipid areas and bilayer thicknesses of commonly used phosphatidylcholines as a function of temperature. *Biochem. Biophys. Acta, Biomembr.* **2011**, *1808*, 2761–2771.