



Laboratory for Bioinformatics and Computational Chemistry
Institute of Nuclear Sciences VINCA

Prediction of protein functions and protein-protein interactions using machine learning

Vladimir Perović



MLA@MATF



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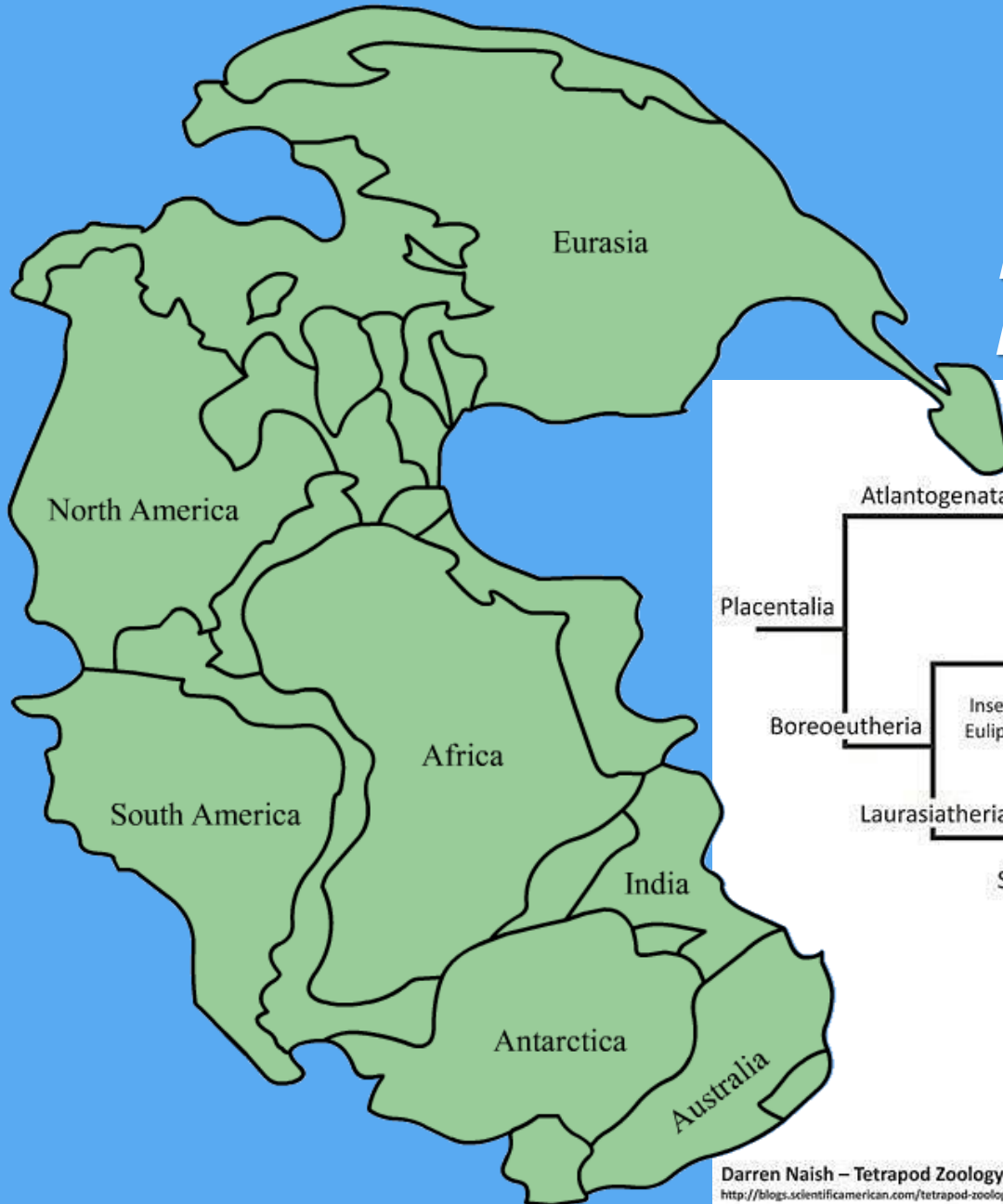
Vladimir Perović



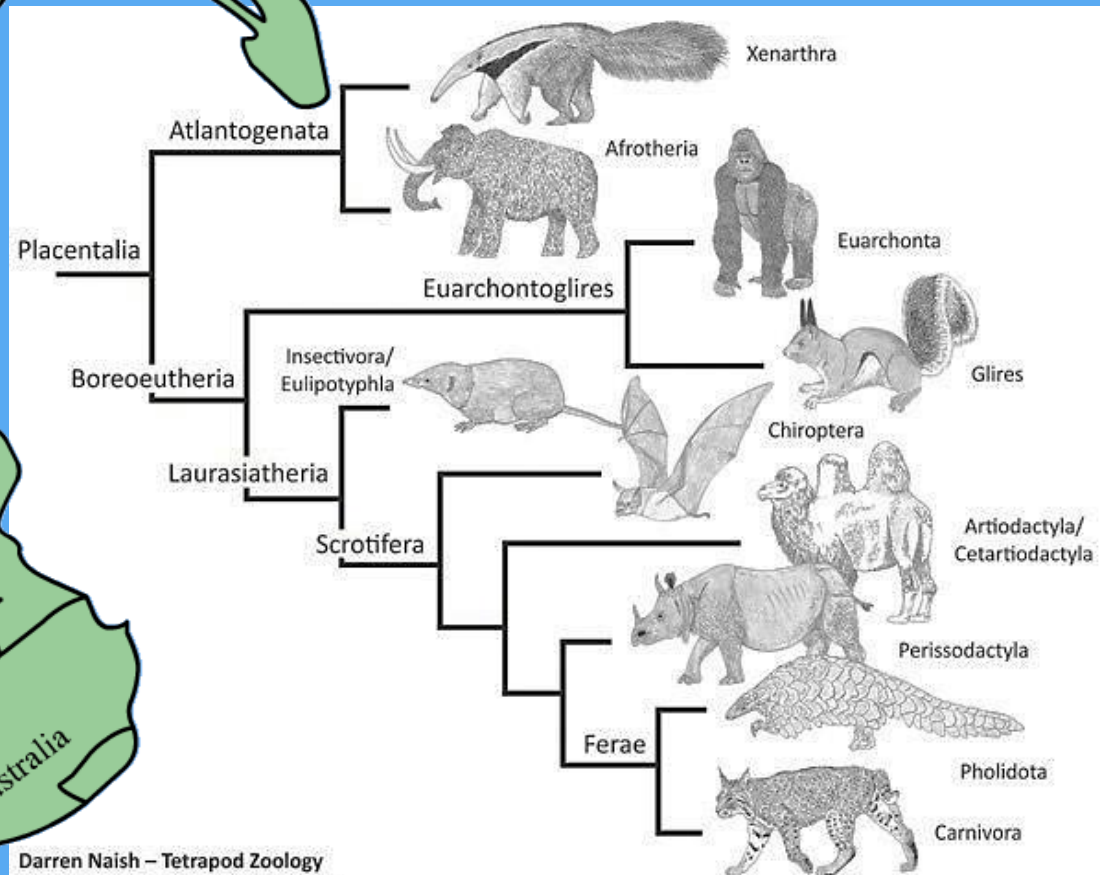
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1873

PANGAEA supercontinent



Molecular phylogenetic placental tree





Home

Research

Tools and Data

ISTREE

H5N1

H1N1

AQVN/EIIP Calculator

TRI_tool

EPIMUTNC

IDPpi_tool

Publications

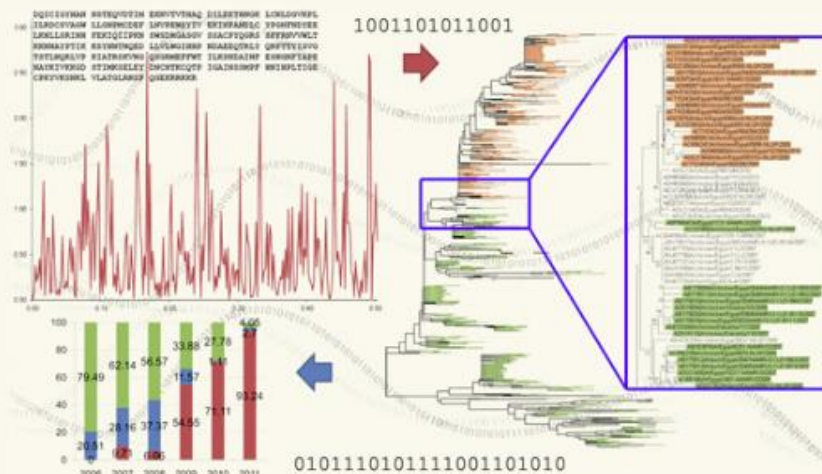
People

Contact

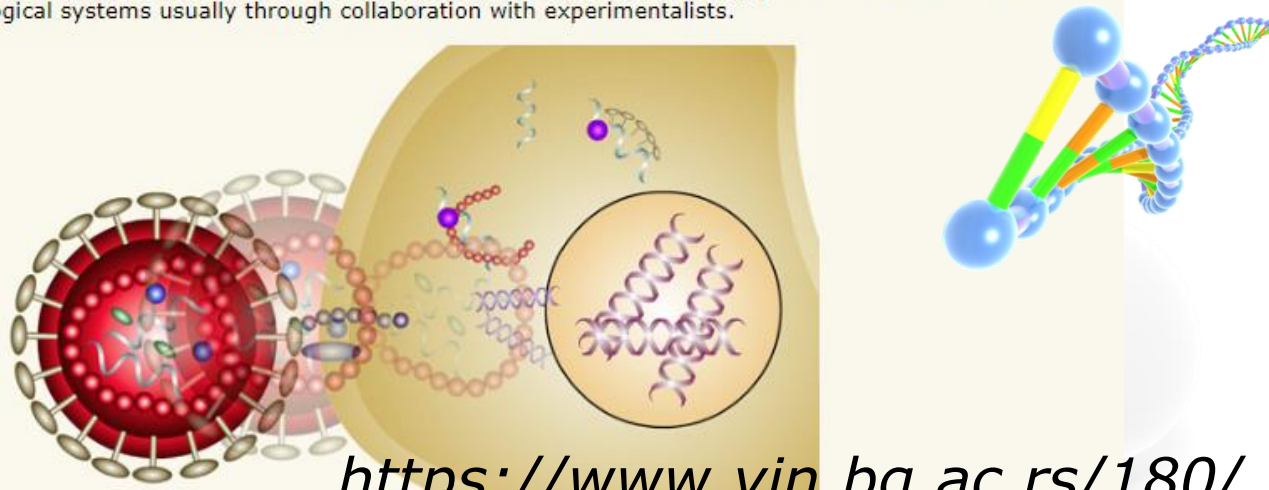
News

- JAN 2019
Bioinformatics training:
Analysis of genomic data
with Galaxy platform
- NOV 2018
Rajko's invited talk at the
Hbioinfo2018
- OCT 2018
Branka at the GREEKC
meeting in EMBL-EBI
- SEP 2018
Milica Aleksić defended her
graduation thesis
- SEP 2018
Milan in Estonia

Computational Biology and Bioinformatics, being an interface between modern biology and informatics encompass discovery, development and implementation of computational algorithms and software tools with aim to increase understanding of the biological processes. In the pharmaceutical sector, these disciplines are used to reduce the time and costs of drug discovery process and to identify drug targets.

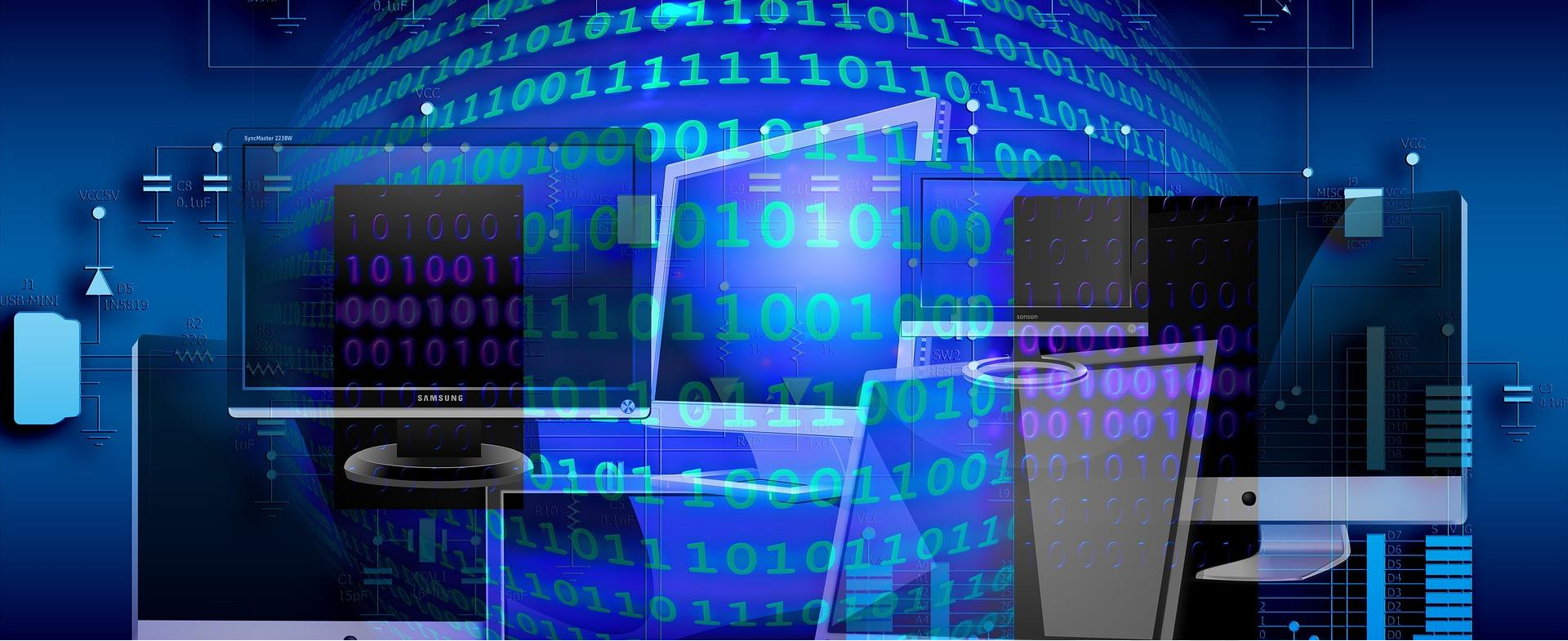


We, at **Laboratory for Bioinformatics and Computational Chemistry**, Institute of Nuclear Sciences VINCA, discover and implement algorithms to **improve the understanding of biological systems**. We often apply our methods and other techniques to specific biological systems usually through collaboration with experimentalists.





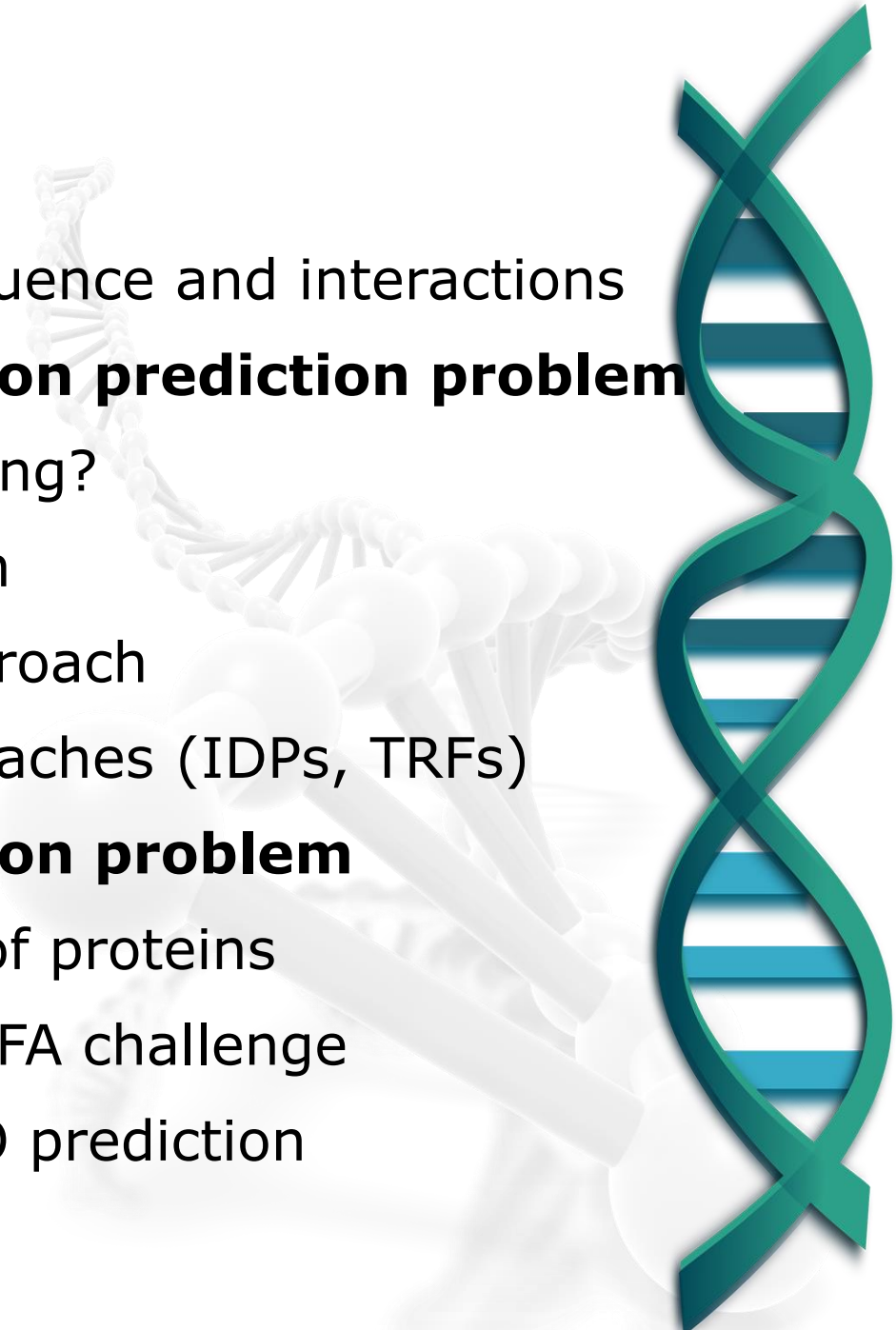
We're going from an information age to a knowledge age



Prediction of protein functions and interactions using machine learning algorithms

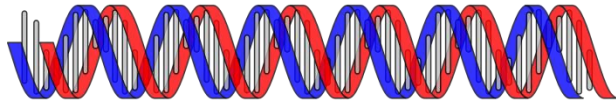
Outline

- **What are proteins?**
 - Structure, function, sequence and interactions
- **Protein-protein interaction prediction problem**
 - Important and challenging?
 - PPI algorithm evaluation
 - Our proteome-wide approach
 - Our class-specific approaches (IDPs, TRFs)
- **Protein function prediction problem**
 - Ontological annotation of proteins
 - Gene ontologies and CAFA challenge
 - Our proteome-wide HPO prediction



What are Proteins?

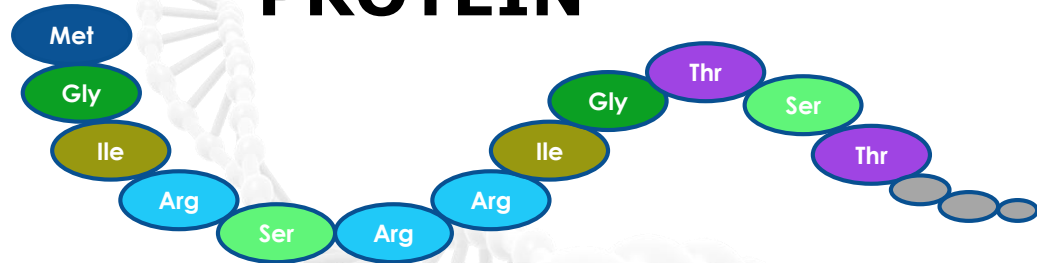
DNA



Translation



PROTEIN



Protein
sequence

```
>INS_HUMAN Insulin OS=Homo sapiens  
MALWMRLLPLLALLALWGPDPAAAFVNQHLCGSH  
LVEALYLVCGERGFFYTPKTRREAEDLQVGVVEL  
GGPGAGSLQPLALEGSLQKRGIVEQCCTSICSL  
YQLENYCN
```

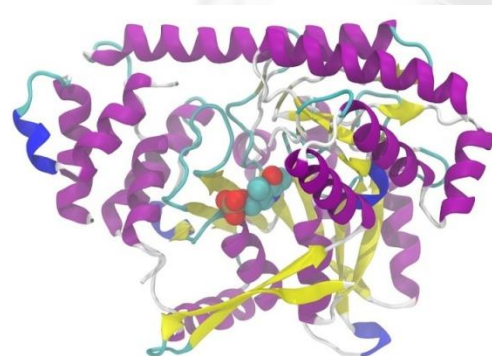
Function



Carries



Folds



3D structure

Protein Sequence

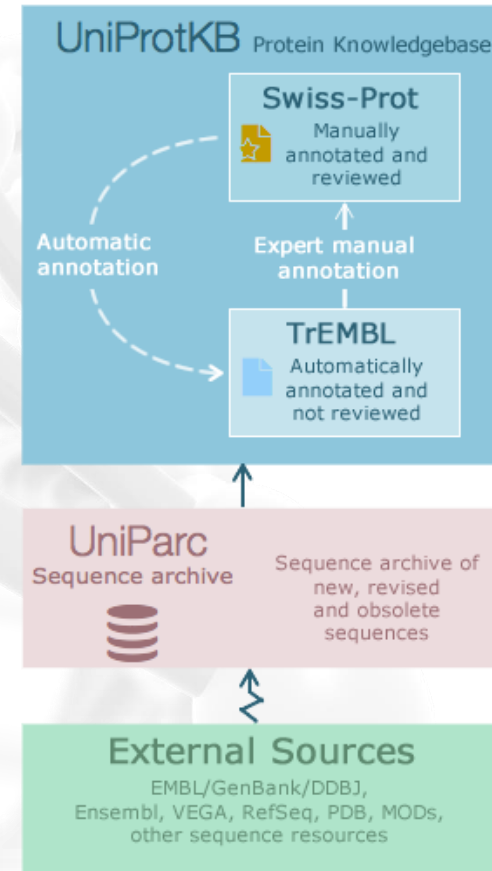
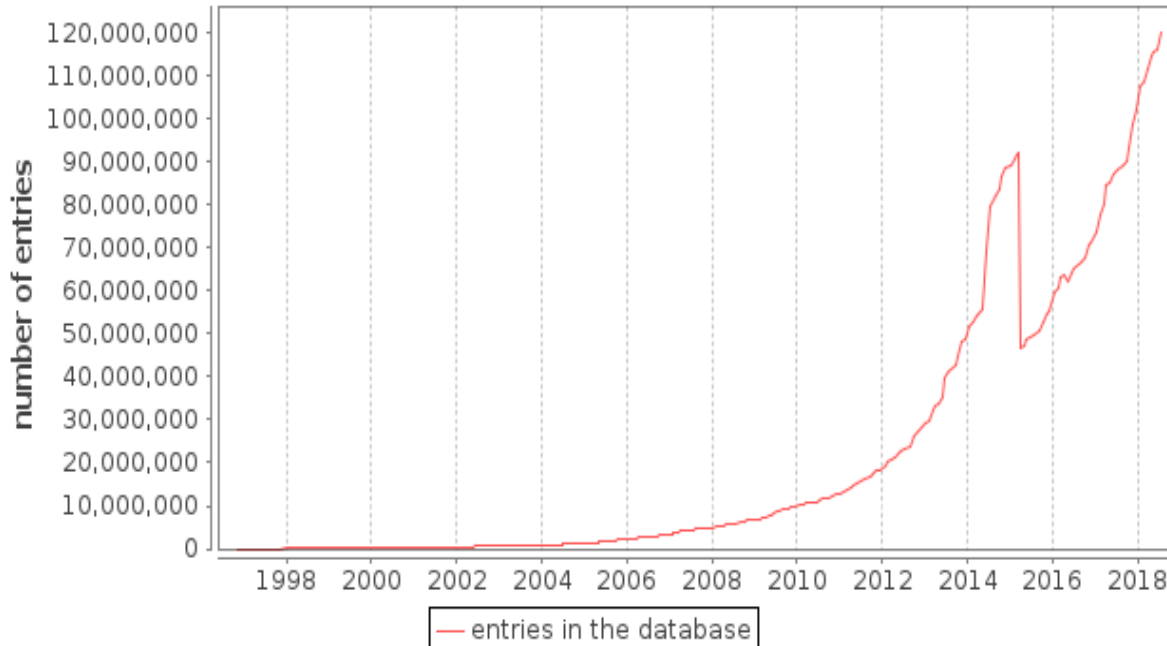
Sequence = String

- 20 amino acids; 20 symbols
{A,C,D,E,F,G,H,I,K,L,M,N,P,Q,R,S,T,V,W,Y}

```
MATAERRALGIGFQWLSLATLVLICAGQGRRREDGGPACYGGFDLY  
FILDKSGSVLHHWNEIYYFVEQLAHKFISPQLRMSFIVFSTRGTTL  
MKLTEDREQIRQGLEELQKVLPGGDTYMHEGFERASEQIYYENRQG  
YRTASVIIALTDGELHEDLFFYSEREANRSRDLGAIYVCVGVKDFN  
ETQLARIADSKDHVFPVNDGFQALQGI IHSILKKSCIEILAAEPST  
ICAGESFQVVVRGNGFRHARNVDRVLCSEKINDSVTLNEKPFVSVE  
TYLLCPAPILKEVGMKAALQVSMNDGLSFISSSVITTTTHCSGSI  
LAIALLILFLLLALALLWWFWPLCCTV I I KEVPPPPAE
```

UniProt Universal Protein resource, a central repository of protein data
120,243,849 sequence entries

Number of entries in UniProtKB/TrEMBL over time



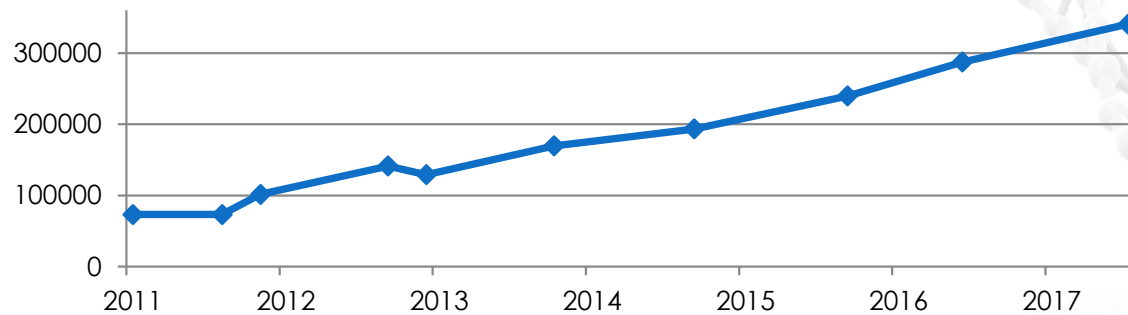
Molecular Interactions

Protein protein interaction (PPI) network = Graph

- Node = Protein
- Link = Bind or carry out same function



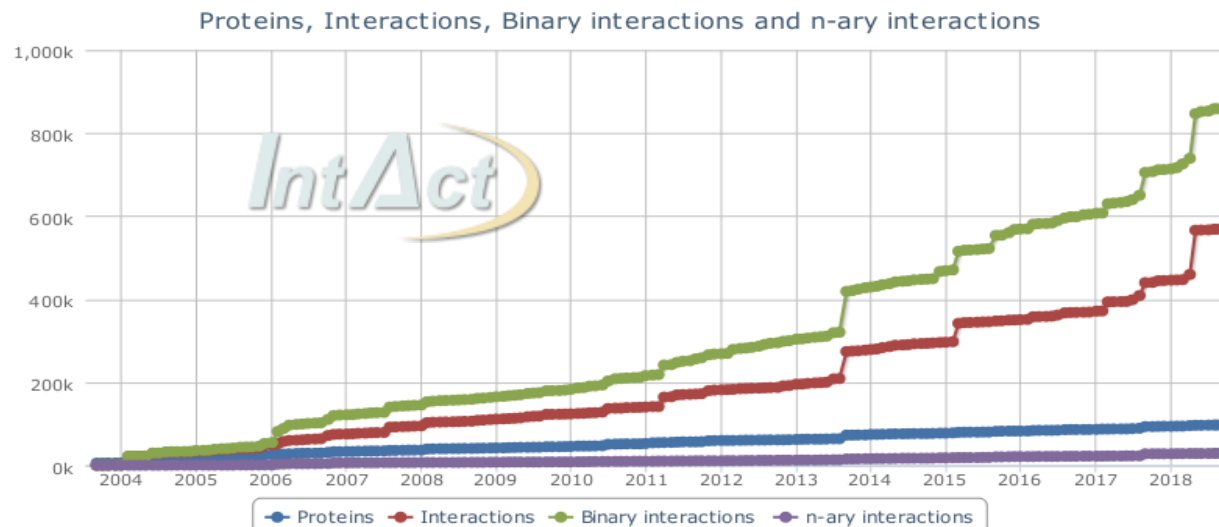
HIPPIE - Human Integrated Protein-Protein Interaction rEference



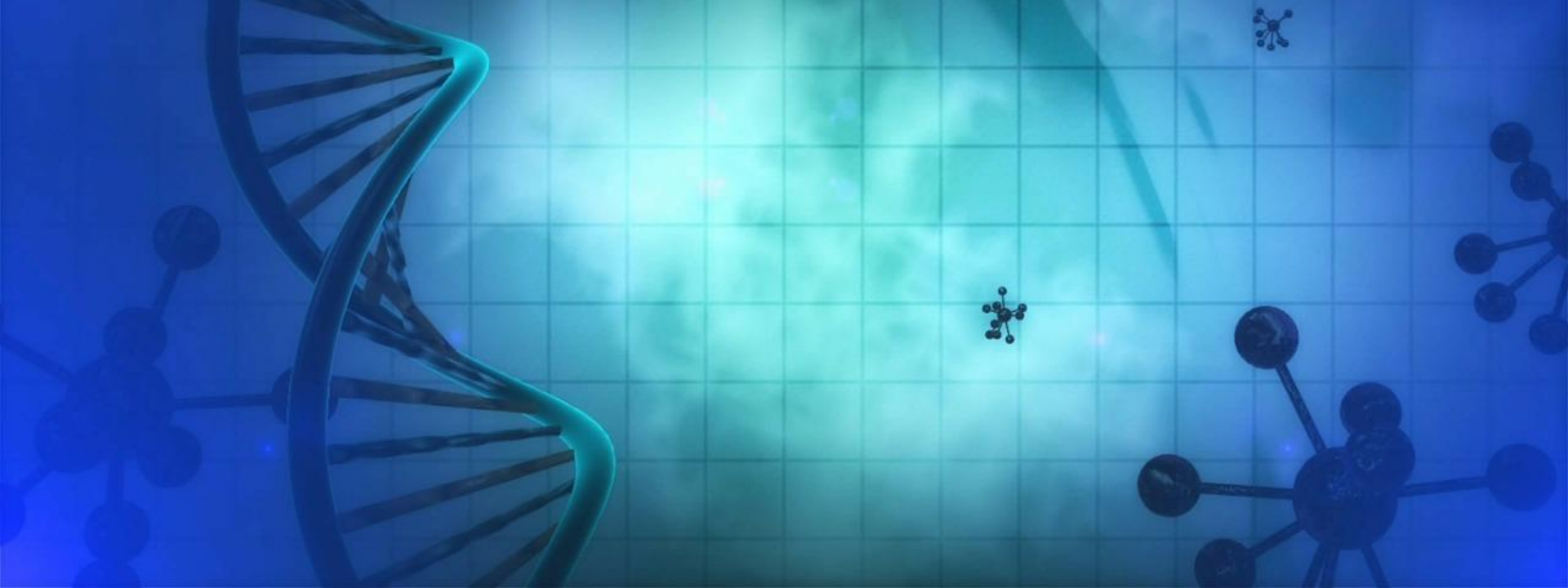
340,630 human PPIs



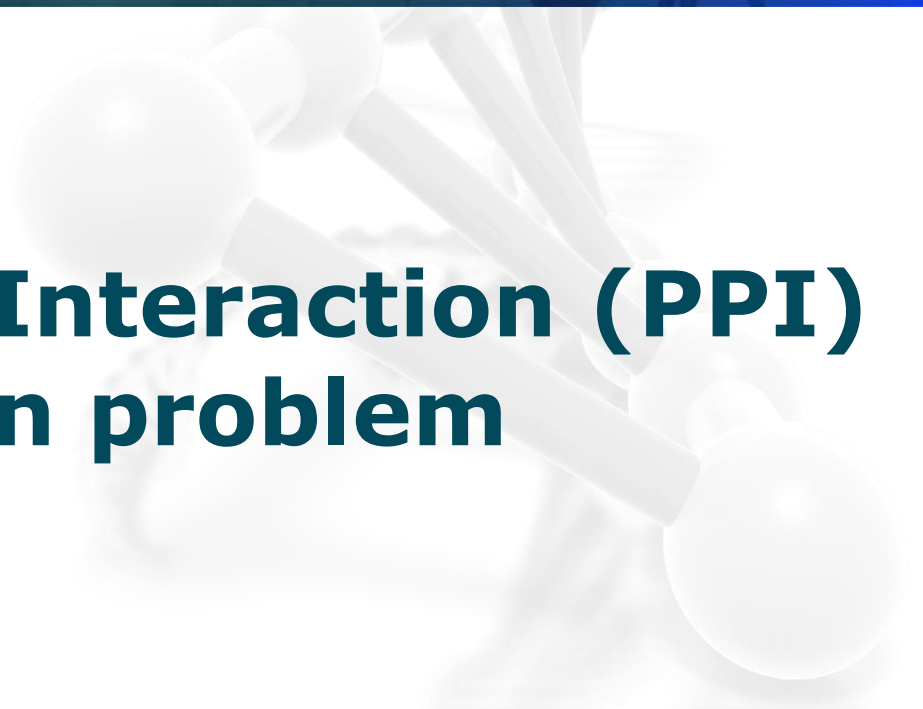
IntAct - database system and analysis tools for molecular interactions



107374	Interactors
571056	Interactions
857825	Binary interaction evidences Evidence=Binary interaction observed in one publication by one experiment; n-ary interactions expanded according to the "spoke" model
66874	Experiments
20292	Publications
4007	Controlled vocabulary terms
	Interaction detection methods
	Interaction types
	Species



Protein Protein Interaction (PPI) prediction problem



Importance of PPI prediction

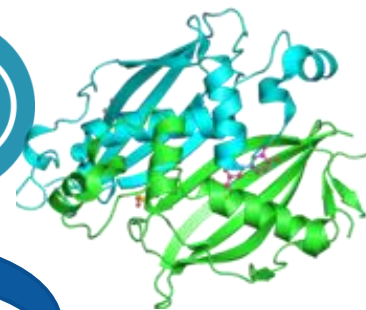
Proteins perform their functions by interacting with other proteins

Studies:

1. ***In silico*** - in computer chips

2. ***In vitro*** (in glass) - in cells, controlled env.

3. ***In vivo*** - in living organisms

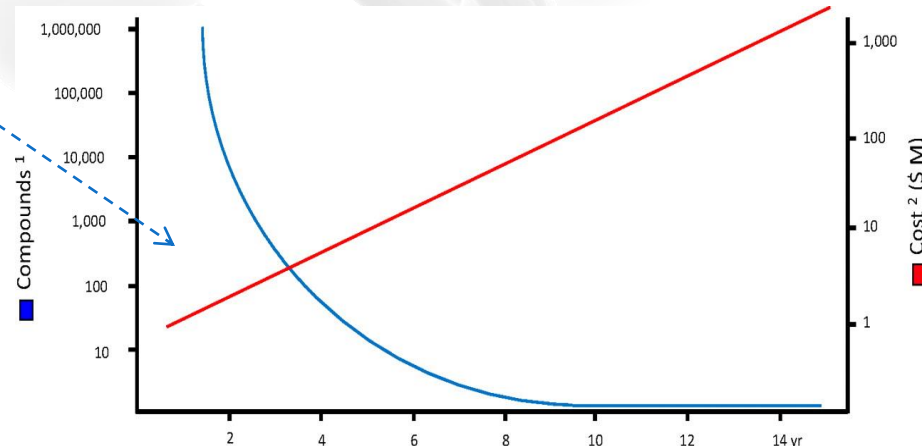


Candidates

Wet lab experiments:

- Costly and labor-intensive
- Biases and limited coverage
- Limitations of equipment resolution
- Incomplete findings

Computer Aided Drug Discovery



Challenge of PPI prediction

>650,000 estimated Human PPIs

~340,000 human PPIs in HIPPIE DB

21,946 protein-coding human genes

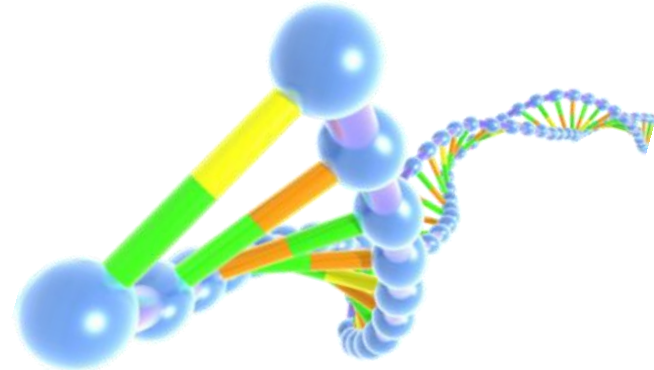
240,802,485 possible human protein pairs

Complex data: PPI, co-expression, co-occurrence, GOs, Literature, Disease variants, etc.

- Heterogeneous
- Incomplete

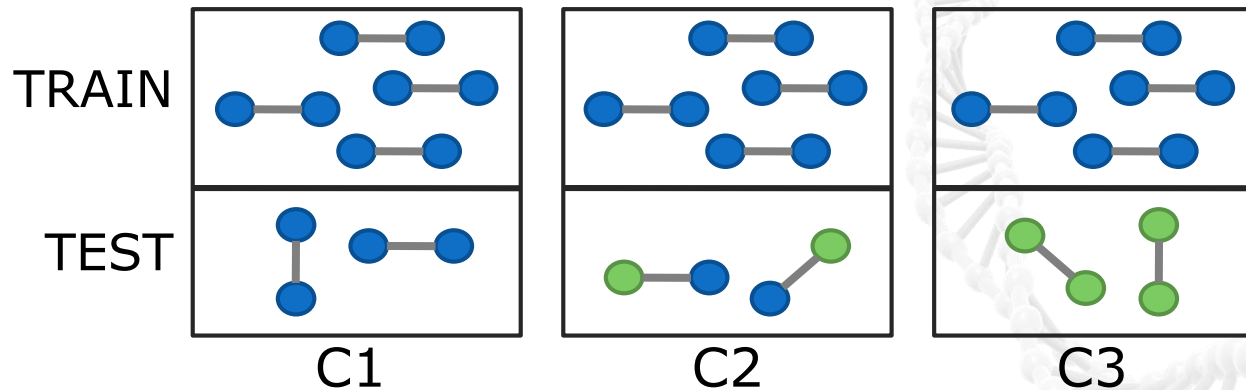
Methods based on domain knowledge => challenge

Sequence representation is
universal and proteome
wide available



Evaluation of PPI prediction algorithm

Three test classes of difficulties



Accuracy



Benchmark sets *Human_Park* [Park and Marcotte, 2012]

- <40% sequence similarity
- 40 human train sets ~ **28,000** pairs
- 40 C1 test sets ~ **3,000** pairs
- 40 C2 test sets ~ **2,000** pairs
- 40 C3 test sets ~ **2,000** pairs
- Negative protein pairs were randomly sampled
- Balanced sets

Evaluation

- C1 test
- C2 test
- C3 test

Symmetric prediction

$$p(AB) = p(BA)$$

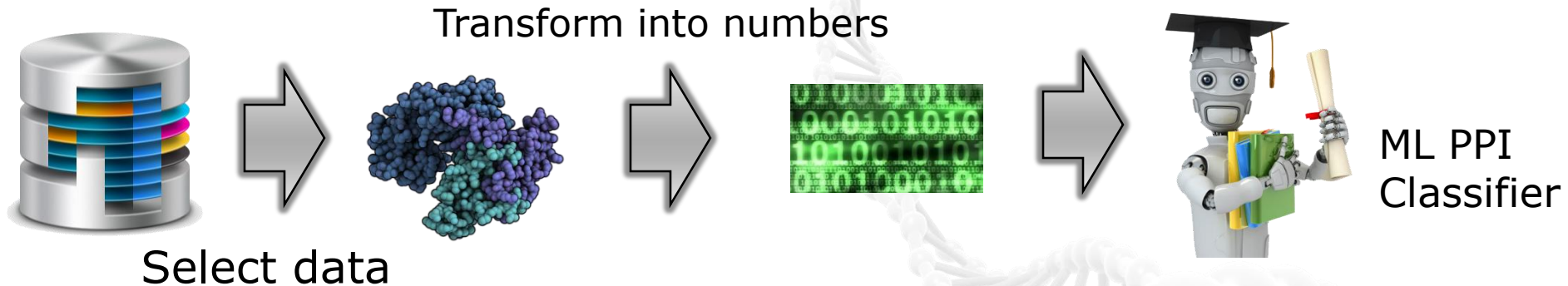
A,B proteins



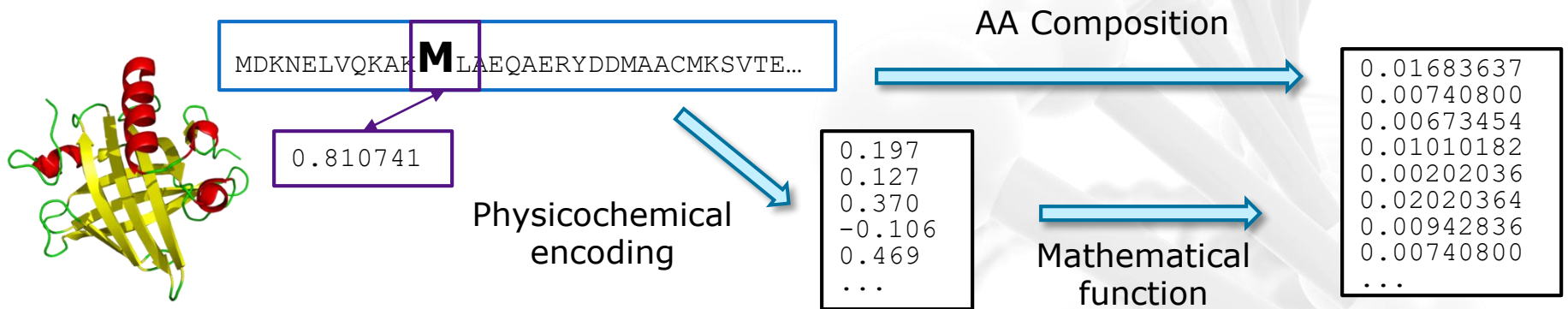
Human PPI prediction **Proteome-wide approach**

PPI modeling

PPI modeling process



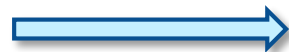
Coding of proteins into feature vectors



Coding of PPs into feature vectors

SOS1_HUMAN	GRB2_HUMAN
GRB2_HUMAN	CBL_HUMAN
MYC_HUMAN	MAX_HUMAN
JUN_HUMAN	FOS_HUMAN
RFA2_HUMAN	RFA1_HUMAN

Concatenation



0.017657	0.007270	0.006751	0.006751
0.013877	0.013106	0.003084	0.008866
0.007802	0.008173	0.008916	0.008916
0.012708	0.011230	0.006206	0.009161
0.012578	0.005296	0.007944	0.011916

$(A,B) \in T_s$
 $(B,A) \in T_s$

PCAACC Protein Encoding

Based on

- protein sequences
- amino acid physicochemical properties

Defining 2 new amino acid (AA) features

Principal component analysis (PCA) of the all 531 features from AAIndex database

Extract first two components as a new AA features

Calculating PCAACC feature vector for the protein pair

For each protein from interaction pair

Transform sequence into 2-dim vector using new AA features

Generate 40-dim vectors using **autocrosscorrelation** function with a lag=10:

$$ACC_{j,k,l} = \frac{1}{L-l} \sum_{i=1}^{L-l} z_{j,i} z_{k,i+l} \quad j,k=1..2, l=1..10$$

Calculate 20-dim amino acid composition (AAC) vector and combine it with ACF vector:

$$AAC_i = \frac{n_i}{L}, \quad i = 1..20$$

Concatenate both vectors to obtain final **120-dim** feature vector

PSSMC Protein Encoding

Position specific scoring matrix (PSSM)

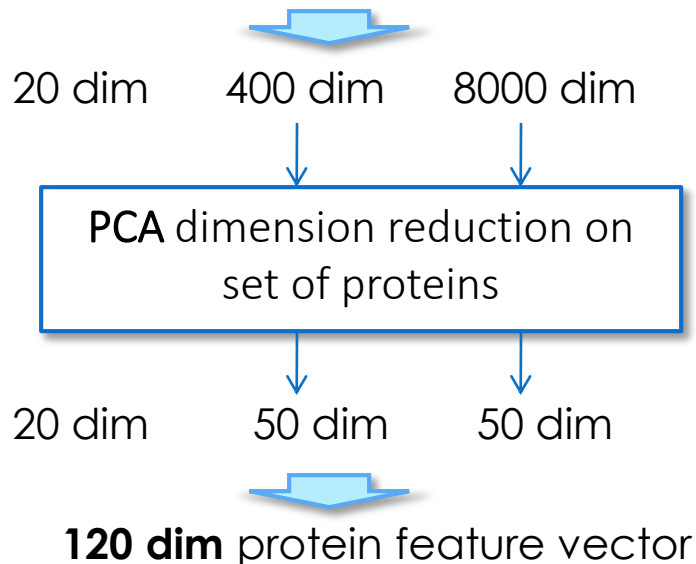
- representation of evolutionary profiles using multiple sequence alignments of protein families
- determines the frequency of substitution of each amino acid at specific position in protein family - composition

MSVNI STAGSFTES → 

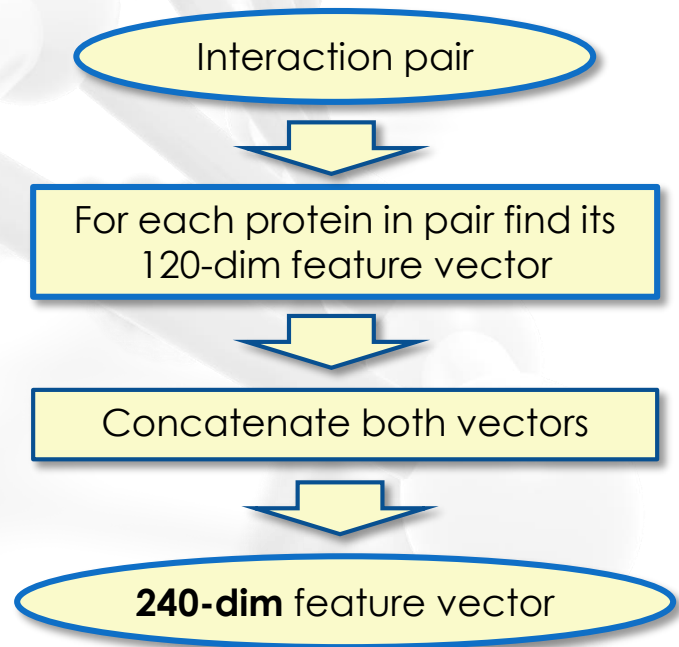
PSSM features

$$PSSM^{AAC^k}_i = \frac{n_i^k}{N * M}, i = 1..20^k, k = 1..3$$

n_i^k is number of occurrences of i-th amino acid K-tuple in N x M dimensional PSSM matrix



Generating PSSMC feature vector for protein pair



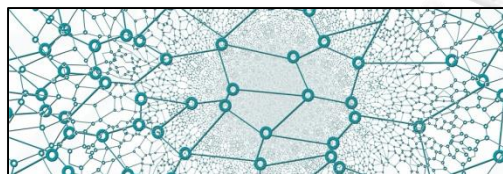
GraphM Protein Encoding

Calculating GraphM protein features

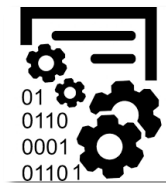
Training set of interactions



protein = vertex



20-dim feature vector



Construct undirected graph from positive interactions

Calculate graph metrics for each vertex/protein

Graph metrics used to encode the proteins

- Alpha centrality
- Authority score
- Betweenness
- Centrality score
- Closeness
- Cluster_fast_greedy
- Cluster_walktrap

- Components
- Constraint
- Coreness
- Count_triangles
- Degree
- Eccentricity
- Ego
- Eigen centrality
- Knn
- Local_scan
- Max_cardinality
- Page_rank
- Strength

Generating GraphM feature vector for protein pair (C1 class)

Interaction pair



For each protein in pair find its 20-dim feature vector



Concatenate both vectors

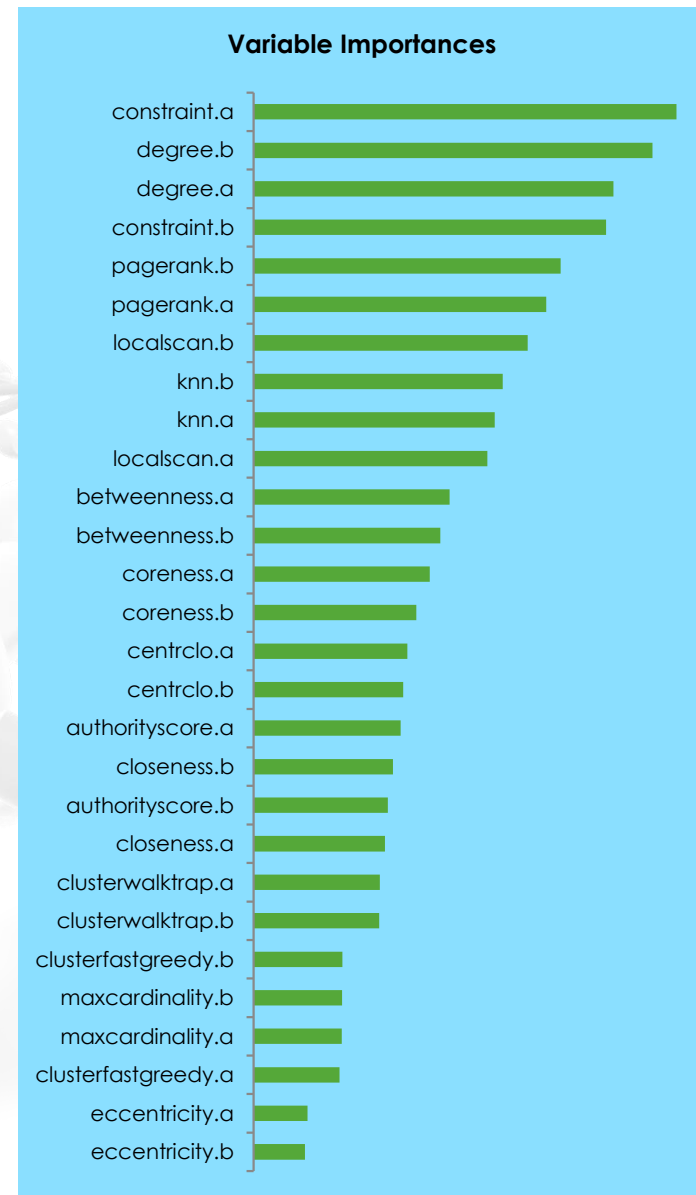
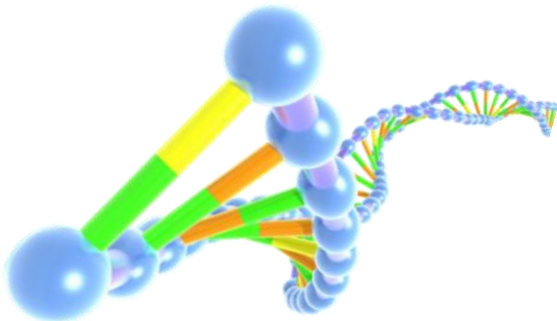


40-dim feature vector

GraphM Protein Encoding

PPI graph measures/metrics are used to encode the proteins

- **Authorityscore** Kleinberg's authority centrality scores
- **Betweenness** Vertex betweenness centrality
- **Centrclo** Centrality score
- **Closeness** Closeness centrality of vertices
- **Clusterfastgreedy** Community structure via greedy optimization of modularity
- **Clusterwalktrap** Community structure via short random walks
- **Constraint** Burt's constraint
- **Coreness** K-core decomposition of graphs
- **Degree** Degree distribution of the vertices
- **Eccentricity** Eccentricity of the vertices in a graph
- **Knn** Average nearest neighbor degree
- **Localscan** Local scan statistics
- **Maxcardinality** Maximum cardinality search
- **Pagerank** The Page Rank algorithm



Machine Learning

- Backward distributed feature selection driven by genetic algorithm
- Hyper parameter optimization by random/grid search
- Model selection

Algorithm

ML models

Feature group

	Distributed Random Forest	Gradient Boosted Machine	Generalized Linear Model	Deep Learning
PCAACC	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4
GraphM	Model 5	Model 6	Model 7	Model 8
PSSMC	Model 9	Model 10	Model 11	Model 12
ALL	Model 13	Model 14	Model 15	Model 16



MuFEnsPPI final model = Ensemble of $N < 16$ models
(**M**ulti-**F**eature **E**nsemble PPI model)

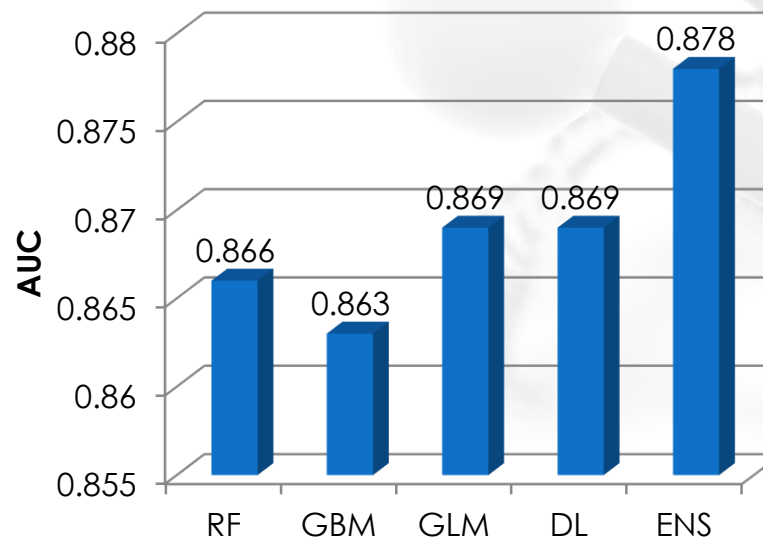
Comparison to other methods

Six state-of-the-art methods based on sequence and evolutionary profiles for PPI prediction:

- M1 [Martin et al., 2005]
- M2 [Guo et al., 2008]
- M3 [Pitre et al., 2008]
- M4 [Shen et al., 2007]
- M5 [Park & Markotte, 2012]
- M6 [Hamp & Rost, 2015]

Performance statistics on 40 YEAST C1 class and 40 HUMAN C1, C2, C3 classes test benchmark *Human_Park* sets; AUC - Area under the receiver operating characteristic curve

Method	AUC (HUMAN C1)	AUC (YEAST C1)	AUC (HUMAN C2)	AUC (HUMAN C3)
M1	0.81 ± 0.01	0.82 ± 0.01	0.61 ± 0.01	0.58 ± 0.03
M2	0.77 ± 0.01	0.76 ± 0.02	0.57 ± 0.02	0.53 ± 0.02
M3	0.77 ± 0.01	0.75 ± 0.02	0.64 ± 0.01	0.59 ± 0.02
M4	0.64 ± 0.01	0.61 ± 0.01	0.55 ± 0.01	0.50 ± 0.00
M5	0.85 ± 0.01	0.84 ± 0.01	0.60 ± 0.01	0.58 ± 0.02
M6	0.87 ± 0.01	0.87 ± 0.02	0.69 ± 0.01	0.67 ± 0.02
MuFEns	0.88 ± 0.01	0.90 ± 0.01	0.69 ± 0.01	0.67 ± 0.01

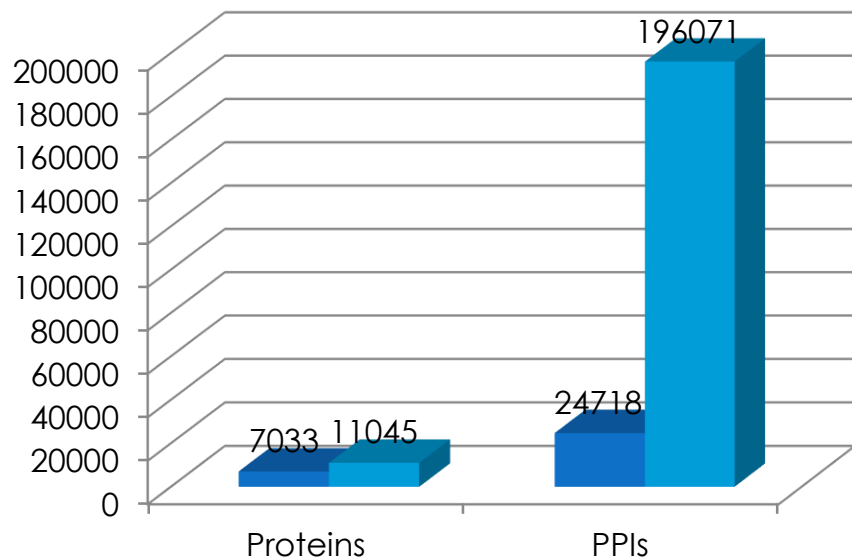


Comparison of prediction efficacy between different ML algorithms on HUMAN C1 test set using *MuFEns* model

Human_MuFEns Learning Set

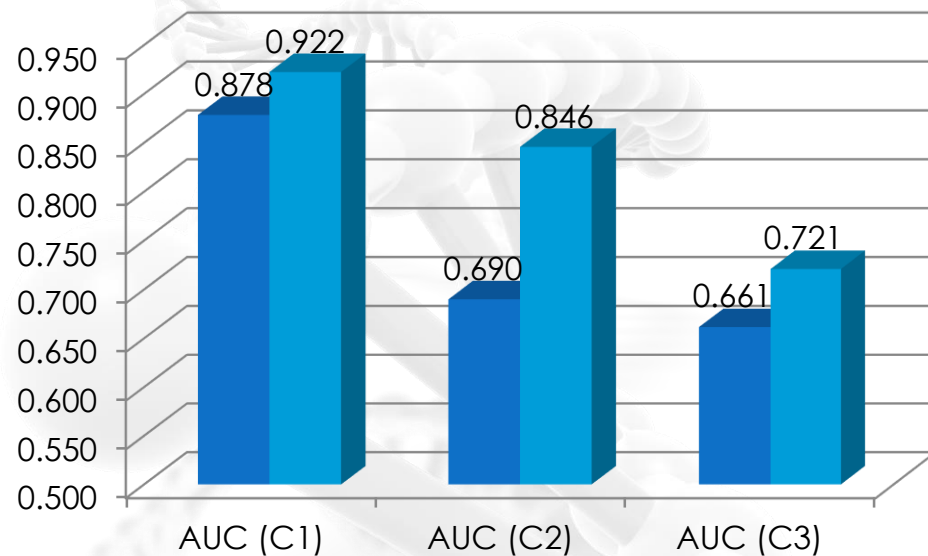
Human PPIs set *Human_MuFEns*: 196,000 PPIs; 11045 Proteins

- Exclusion of >40% similar sequences and low-trust
- Negative protein pairs were randomly sampled
- Balanced sets
- 10 random splits to Train sets and C1/C2/C3 with ratio **10:1**



■ Human_Park ■ Human_MuFEns

Increase of numbers of proteins and PPIs from *Human_Park* to *Human_MuFEns* set



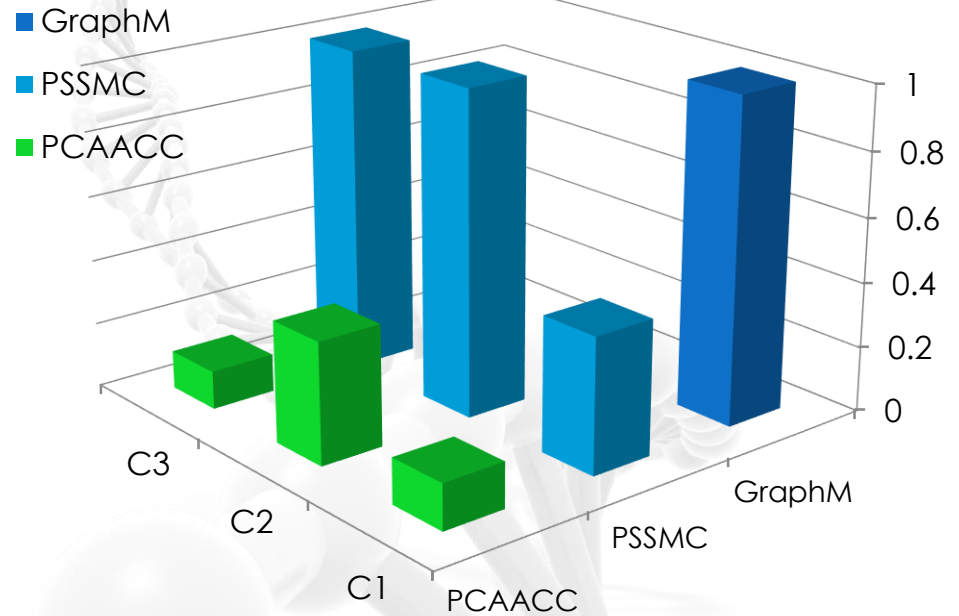
■ Human_Park ■ Human_MuFEns

Increase of *MuFEnsPPI* model prediction performances (AUC) on new PPI test sets

Human_MuFEns Model

	C1	C2	C3
AUROC	0.922 ± 0.008	0.846 ± 0.006	0.721 ± 0.005
AUPR	0.920 ± 0.009	0.845 ± 0.007	0.643 ± 0.007
ACC	0.846 ± 0.010	0.763 ± 0.007	0.679 ± 0.006
F	0.846 ± 0.010	0.752 ± 0.008	0.716 ± 0.008
Precision	0.845 ± 0.013	0.788 ± 0.012	0.642 ± 0.011
Specificity	0.844 ± 0.018	0.807 ± 0.018	0.547 ± 0.015
Recall	0.848 ± 0.024	0.719 ± 0.020	0.810 ± 0.018
MCC	0.692 ± 0.016	0.528 ± 0.013	0.371 ± 0.012

Prediction performances of *MuFEnsPPI* model on new PPI datasets



Feature groups importances for each class

Feature calculation	
GraphM	14 min
PSSMC	4 h 20 min
PCAACC	4 min
ML training	
RF	11 min
GBM	1 h 14 min
GLM	2 min
DL	1 h 23 min

Computing times for feature calculation and ML training
Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E3-1230
@ 3.40GHz. 8 CPUs. 64GB RAM



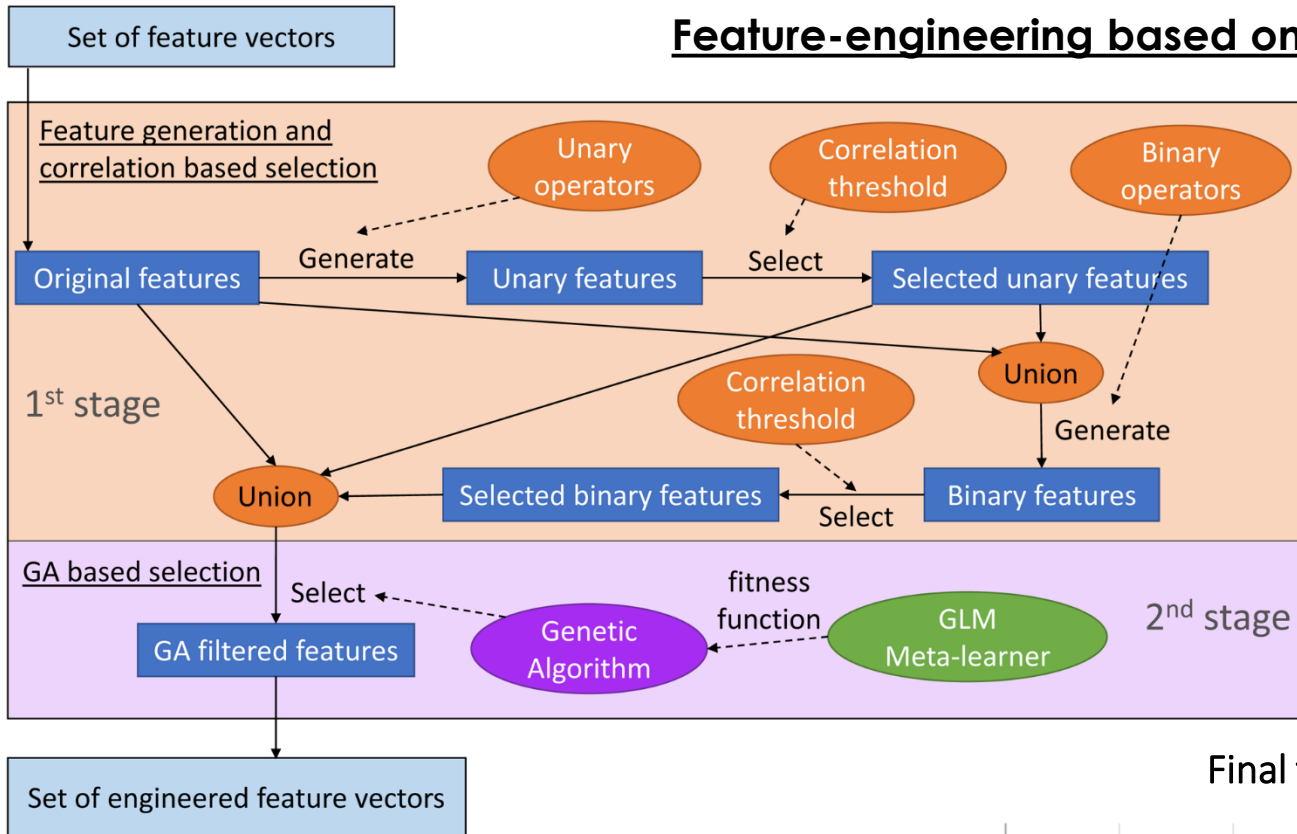
HP-GAS
software

Further improvement



HP-GAS Model

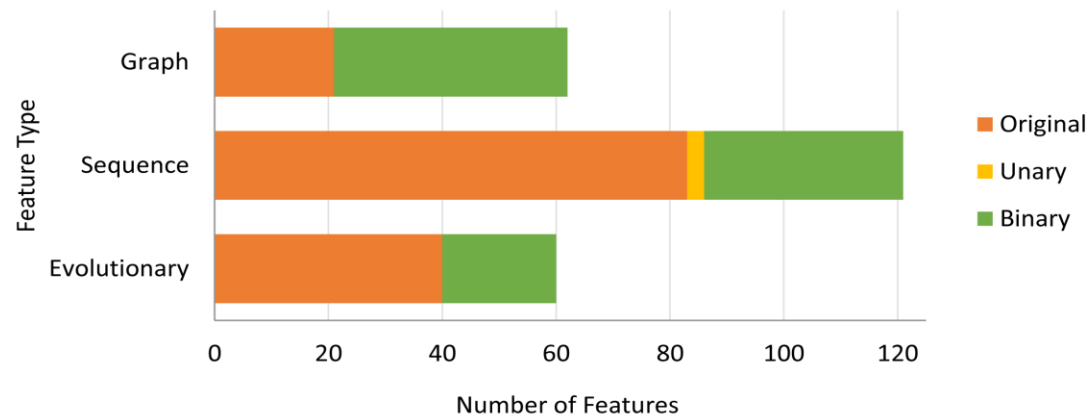
Feature-engineering based on Genetic Algorithm



Operators:
 $B = \{\sin(x), \exp(x), 1/x, \log(x), x^2, \sqrt{x}\}$
 $U = \{+, \times, /\}$



Final feature space constitution



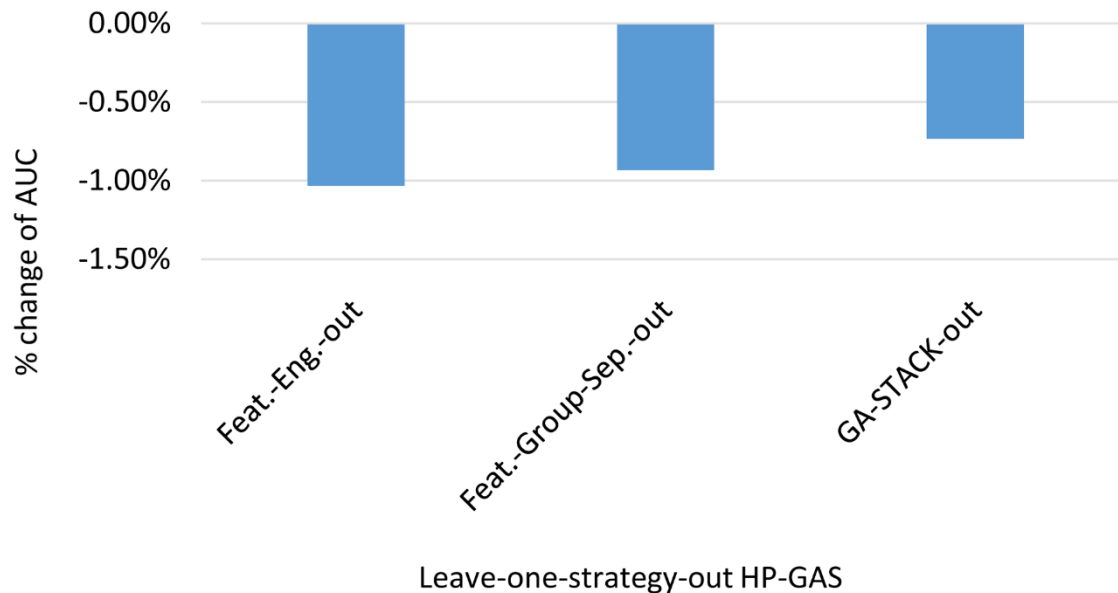
Features	Sequence	Evolutionary	Graph
Original	120	40	42
Unary	720	240	252
Selected Unary	6	54	17
Binary	23625	13113	5133
Selected Binary	67	81	110
GA input	193	175	169
GA filtered	121	60	62

HP-GAS Model

GA-STACK ensembling algorithm based on Genetic Algorithm

- Set of base classifiers: random hyper-parameter combinations for every ML algorithm
- The fitness function of **GA** is **AUC** on the test set using training by the **GLM** supervised meta-learning algorithm which uses the predictions from models represented in individual as the features
- Crossover and mutation are bitwise operations on the 'presence' of the models in the individual

Performances of HP-GAS in leave-one step-out experiments



- Automatic feature generation and selection
- Feature group separation
- Meta-learner GA-STACK

Performances of HP-GAS on Human_MuFEns data sets

AUC	0.928 ± 0.001
AUPRC	0.927 ± 0.002
ACC	0.853 ± 0.002
F score	0.853 ± 0.001
MCC	0.707 ± 0.004



HP-GAS: prediction of Human Protein protein interactions based on automatic feature engineering and Genetic Algorithm driven Stacking method

HP-GAS is a software for prediction of human protein protein interactions based on graph, evolutionary and sequence features, engineering which utilizes genetic algorithm (GA) and automatic correlation based selection. HP-GAS uses the ensemble of machine learning (ML) algorithms as a method for PPI prediction, where automatic ensembling of ML algorithms was driven by supervised correlation filtering.

HP-GAS software was written in JAVA language and is available as standalone application, which can be executed on any operating Virtual Machine. Minimum system requirements for HP-GAS are: RAM 1 GB; Disk space 1 GB.

In order to run the HP-GAS program it is necessary to install Java Runtime Environment on Solaris systems at: [Java SE Runtime Environment 8 - Downloads](#)

Please read the documentation for detailed information about the HP-GAS software and

HP-GAS is a free software released under Apache License, Version 2.0.

HP-GAS application with required files and documentation is provided below.

Type	Filename	Size	Downloads	Location
Binaries	HP-GAS_Binaries.zip	697 MB	165	Argentina Canada China Europe Germany Russian Federation Serbia Ukraine United States
Documentation	HP-GAS_Manual.pdf	297 KB	314	
Sequences	HP-GAS_Sequences.zip	5.74 MB	94	
Datasets	HP-GAS_Datasets.zip	76.75 MB	116	
Supplementary data	HP-GAS_Supplements.zip	2.24 MB	132	

The HP-GAS_Sequences.zip file contains 15,650 human sequences, with UniProt identifiers and entrynames in FASTA format, for which the interaction probabilities have been calculated.

If using HP-GAS, please cite:

Sumonja N, Gemovic B, Veljkovic N, Perovic V. (2019) **Automated feature engineering improves prediction of protein-protein interactions**. Amino Acids. DOI:10.1007/s00726-019-02756-9.

- **Standalone software** tool for human PPI prediction
- Based on the HP-GAS model
- Implemented in **JAVA** language
- Human_MuFEns set was used as the training set
- Input: protein pairs given with the UniProt identifiers or entry names
- Output: **probabilities** as the predicting values of interactions
- Time efficient tool! Prediction time for a set of **1.000.000** protein pairs is **~10 min**

Sumonja N, Gemovic B, Veljkovic N, Perovic V. Automated feature engineering improves prediction of protein-protein interactions. Amino Acids. 2019; doi:10.1007/s00726-019-02756-9. (IF=2.5)



Human PPI prediction
Class-specific approach

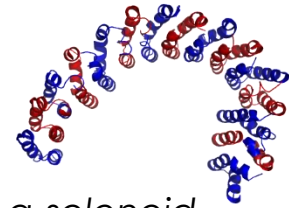




Human Intrinsically Disordered Protein Interactions prediction

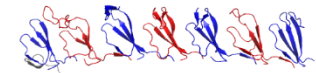
Tandem Repeat Proteins

collagen triple-helix

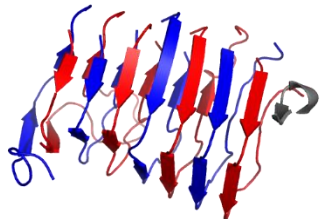


α -solenoid

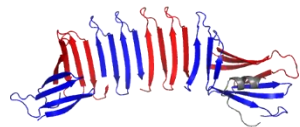
α helical coiled coil



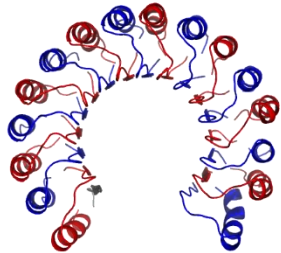
β trefoil / β hairpins



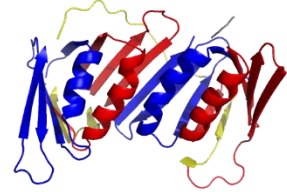
β -solenoid



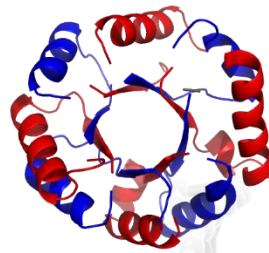
anti-parallel β layer



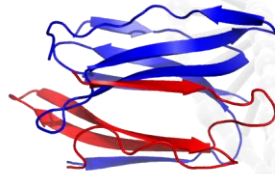
α/β solenoid



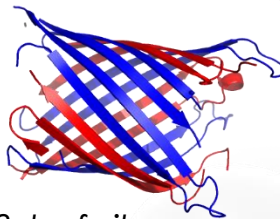
box



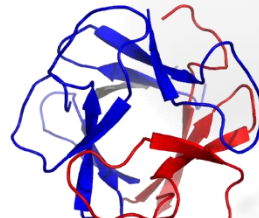
TIM-barrel



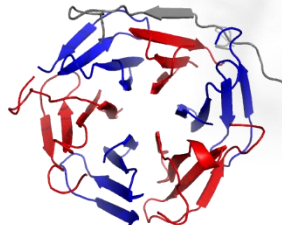
β -barrel / β hairpins



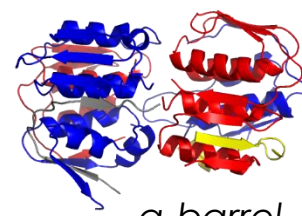
β -trefoil



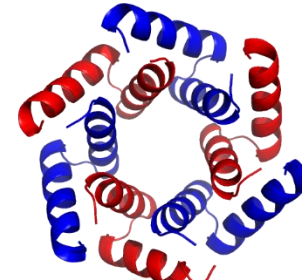
β -propeller



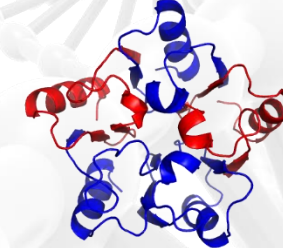
α/β prism



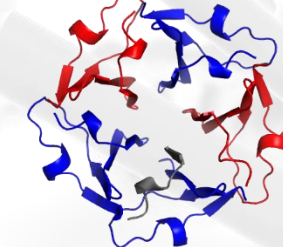
α -barrel



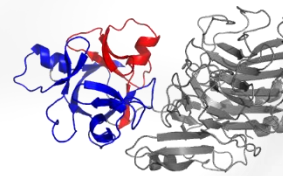
α/β barrel



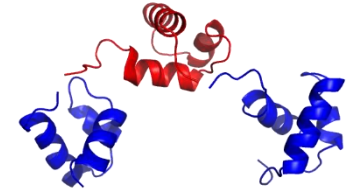
α/β propeller



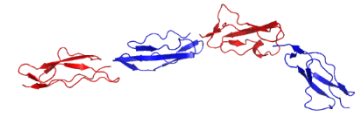
α/β trefoil



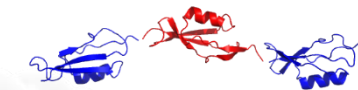
aligned prism



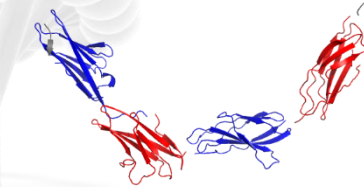
α -beads



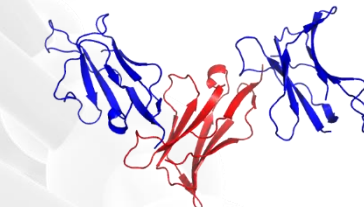
β -beads



α/β -beads



β sandwich beads



α/β sandwich beads



RepeatsDB

Paladin et al, Nucleic Acids Res. 2016

IDPpi_tool - Human Intrinsically Disordered Protein Interactions



Intrinsically Disordered Proteins

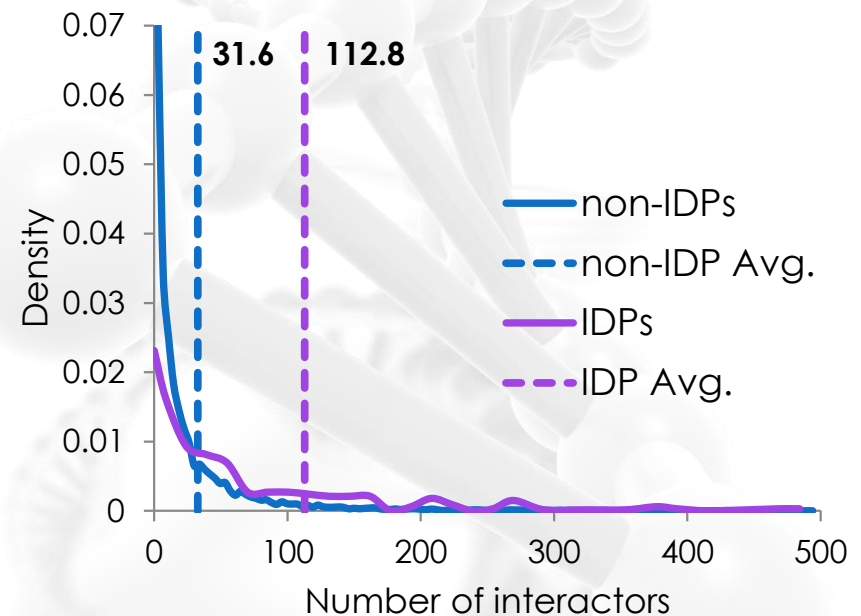
- The lack of a fixed tertiary structure
- ~33% IDPs biologically functional in Eukaryota
- Biased amino acid composition and low sequence complexity
 - low proportions of bulky hydrophobic amino acids
 - high proportions of charged and hydrophilic amino acids
- Functionally important: involved in the regulation of key biological processes via binding to significantly augmented protein partners.

DisProt 7.0 (2018): database of manually curated intrinsically disordered regions:

- 803 IDP proteins
- 2167 regions
- 245 human IDPs



Piovesan et al., Nucleic Acids Res, 2017



Density curves for the interactions in the HIPPIE database

Perovic et al., Sci Rep. 2018

IDPpi_tool - Human Intrinsically Disordered Protein Interactions

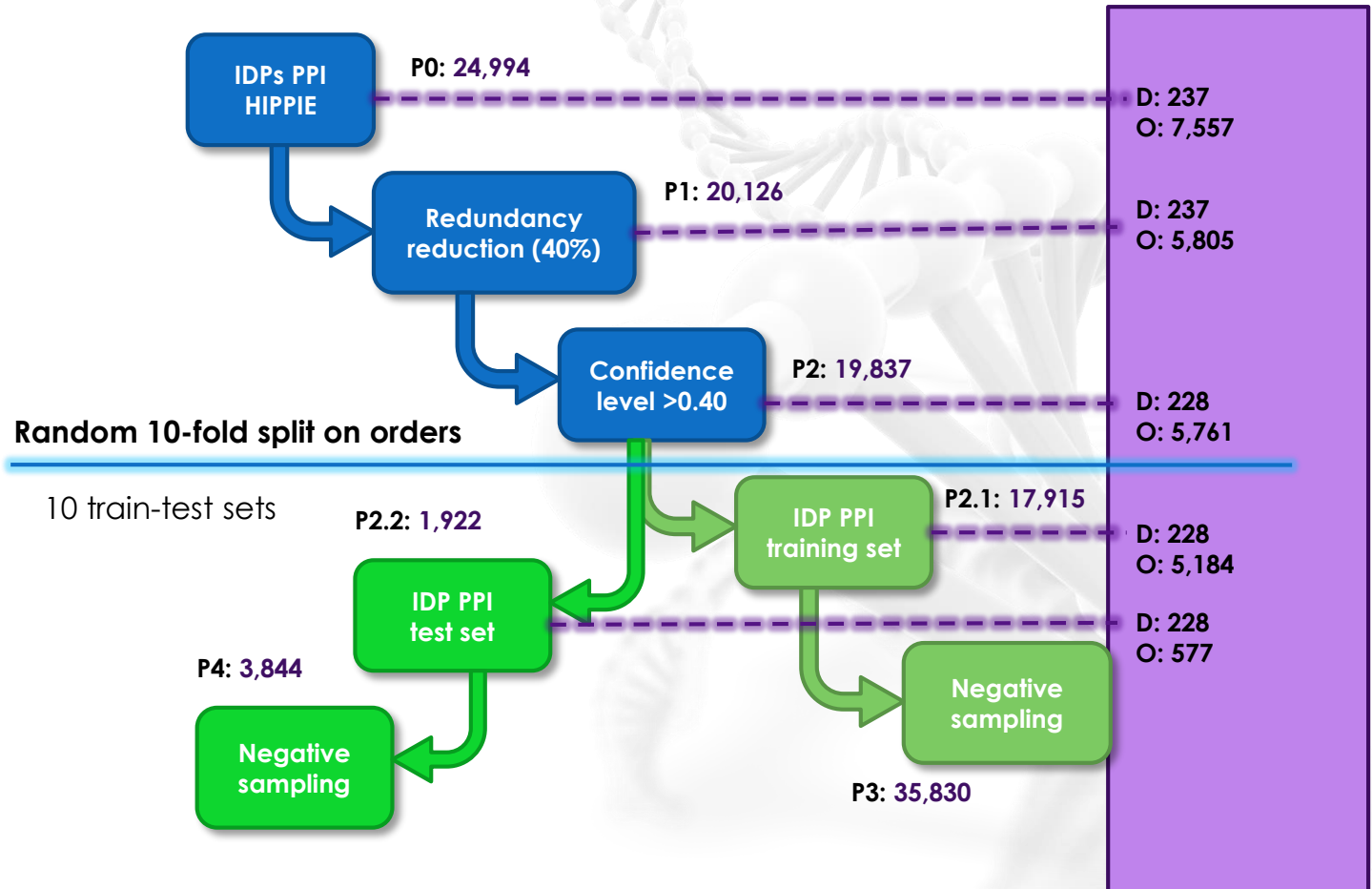
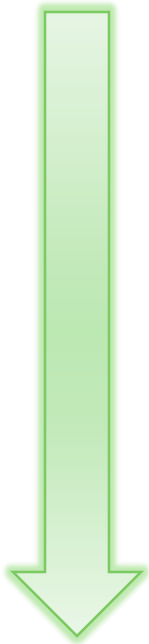
PPIs

Train (**disorder** x **order**₁), $order_1 \in O_1$

Test (**disorder** x **order**₂), $order_2 \in O_2$

$$O_1 \cap O_2 = \emptyset$$

Process of building data sets: train and **class C2** test



Pseudo amino acid composition - PseAAC

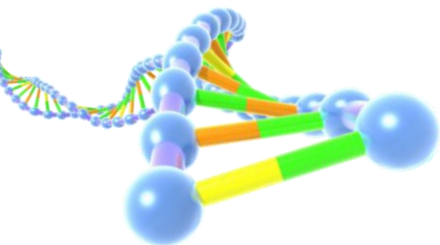
Protein: $[R_1R_2R_3\dots R_L]$ \rightarrow PseAAC vector: $(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{20}, p_{20+1}, \dots, p_{20+\lambda})$

f_1, \dots, f_{20} - amino acid frequencies
 $\tau_1, \dots, \tau_\lambda$ - correlation coefficients $\lambda < L$

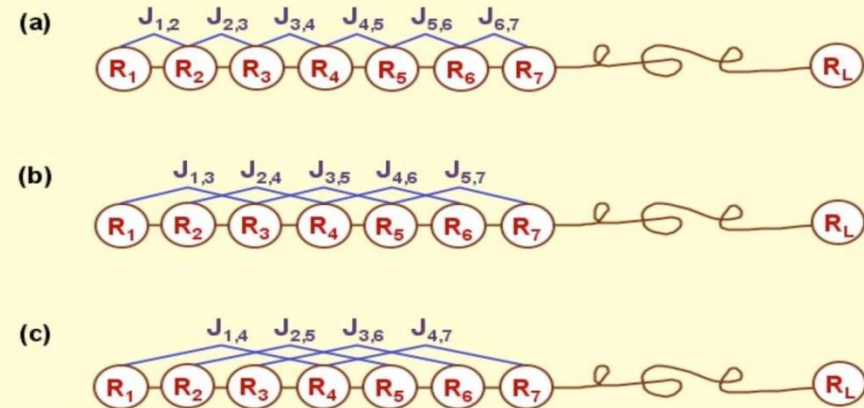
$$\tau_k = \frac{1}{L-k} \sum_{i=1}^{L-k} J_{i,i+k}, \quad (k < L)$$

$$J_{i,i+k} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{q=1}^n [\phi_q(R_{i+k}) - \phi_q(R_i)]^2$$

ϕ_1, \dots, ϕ_n - amino acid physico-chemical properties

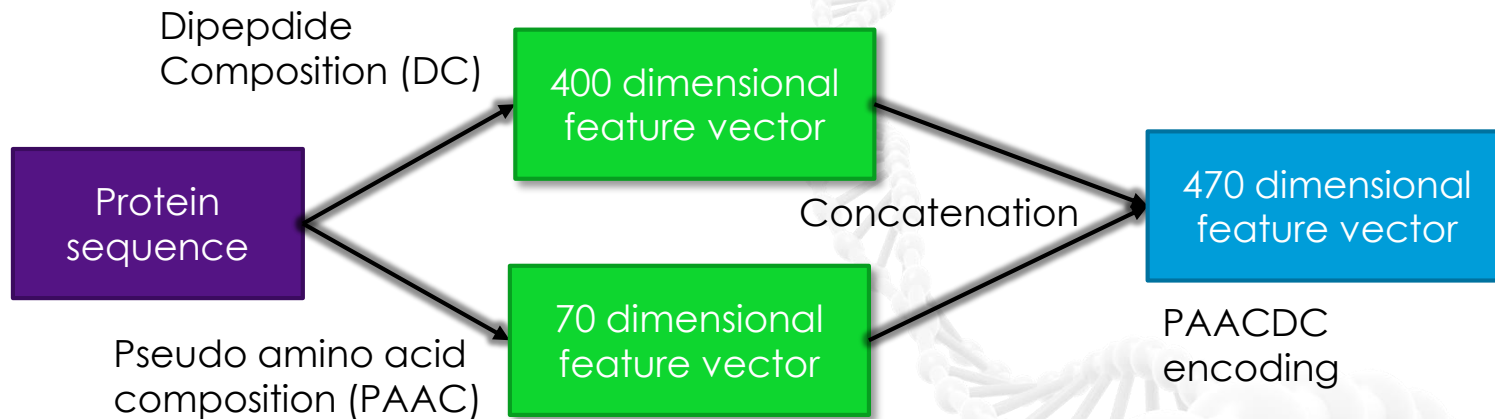


$$p_u = \begin{cases} \frac{f_u}{\sum_{i=1}^{20} f_i + w \sum_{i=1}^{\lambda} \tau_i}, & (1 \leq u \leq 20) \\ \frac{w \tau_{u-20}}{\sum_{i=1}^{20} f_i + w \sum_{i=1}^{\lambda} \tau_i}, & (20+1 \leq u \leq 20+\lambda) \end{cases}$$



Chou K.C.(2001). Prediction of protein cellular attributes using pseudo-amino-acid-composition. *PROTEINS: Structure, Function, and Genetics* 43, 246255.

IDPs representation – PAACDC features



PAAC is using five disorder characteristic propensity scales:

- **TOP-IDP** scale (ranks residues by their propensity to endorse order or disorder)
- **B-values** (flexibility parameters for each residue surrounded by two inflexible neighbours)
- **FoldUnfold** scale (capacity of amino acid residues to form a sufficient number of contacts in a globular state)
- **DisProt** scale (statistical difference in the residue compositions of ordered proteins and IDPs)
- **Net charge** scale

Method	AUC	AUPRC	ACC	F	MCC
IDPI	0.746 ± 0.017	0.734 ± 0.020	0.670 ± 0.015	0.633 ± 0.021	0.348 ± 0.028
M1	0.688 ± 0.017	0.697 ± 0.018	0.638 ± 0.013	0.590 ± 0.022	0.285 ± 0.025
M2	0.637 ± 0.014	0.613 ± 0.012	0.593 ± 0.010	0.553 ± 0.019	0.190 ± 0.021
M3	0.627 ± 0.011	0.643 ± 0.014	0.599 ± 0.008	0.518 ± 0.013	0.211 ± 0.017

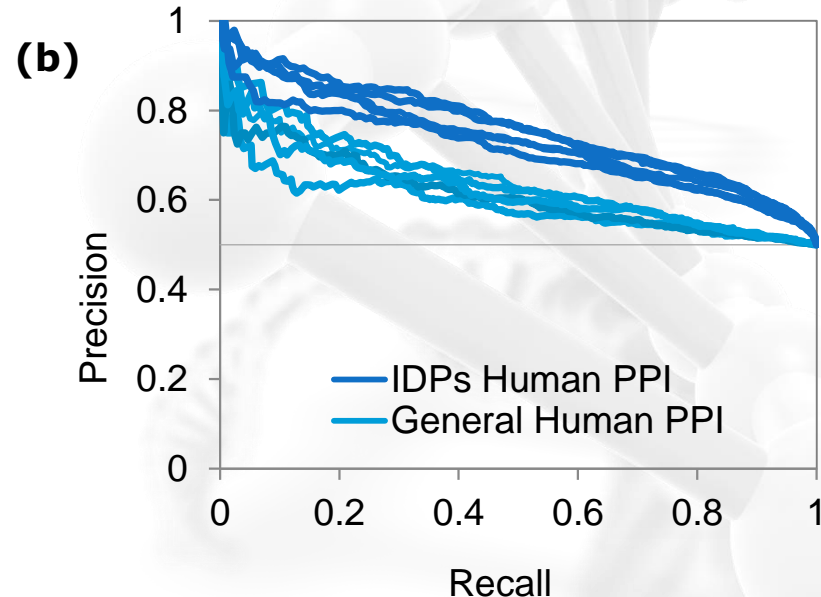
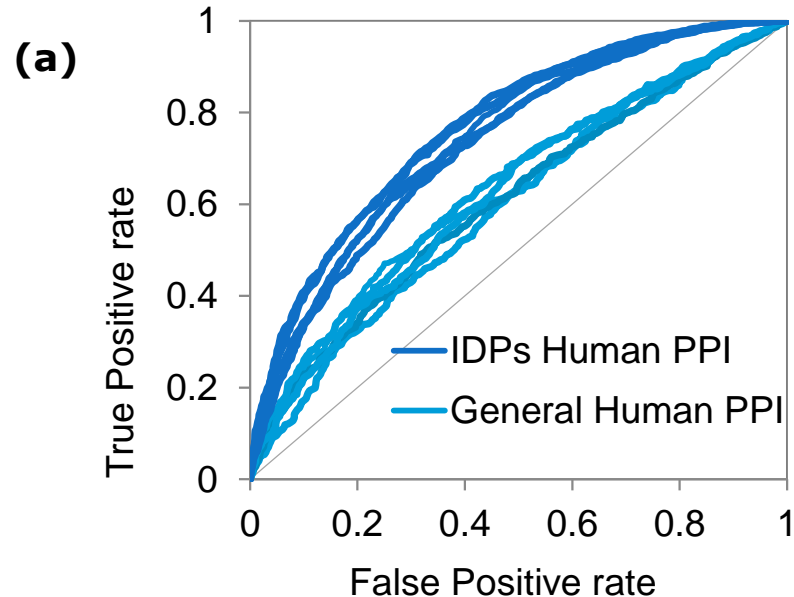
Comparison of the prediction performances between our proposed method, IDPI and other state-of-the-art sequence based methods

IDPpi_tool performances

	10N			100N		
	AUC	AUPRC	ACC	AUC	AUPRC	ACC
IDP-PPI	0.745	0.237	0.74	0.748	0.05	0.757
M1	0.691	0.217	0.724	0.692	0.048	0.737
M2	0.645	0.14	0.648	0.646	0.025	0.657
M3	0.624	0.163	0.74	0.624	0.032	0.763

Evaluation using a negative subsets randomly chosen from the negative set, where N is the size of the positive set

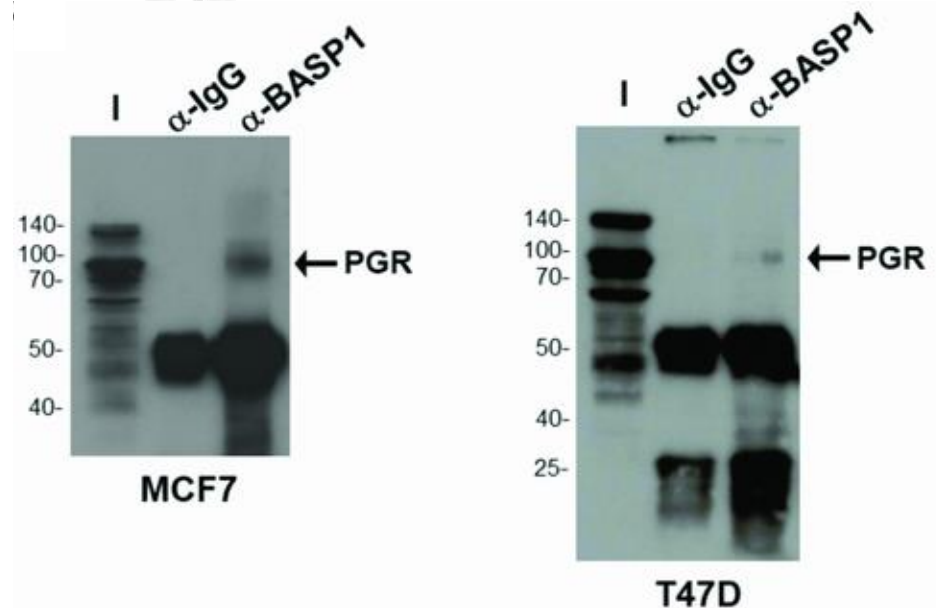
Comparison of predictive performances through (a) ROC curves and (b) precision/recall plots, across 5 IDP C2 test sets using corresponding 5 IDPs and 5 general human PPI train sets.



IDPpi_tool – new interactor identification

Example: Interactome map of Brain acid-soluble protein-1 (BASP1)

- Transcriptional cofactor
- Intrinsically disordered structure
- Silenced in several tumor types



Predicted interaction between BASP1 and progesterone receptor, PRGR: In vivo binding confirmation

(a)

(b)

ID1	ID2	Predicted interaction	Probability
BASP1_HUMAN	HDAC1_HUMAN	YES	0.5424
BASP1_HUMAN	ACTB_HUMAN	YES	0.5276
BASP1_HUMAN	CASP3_HUMAN	YES	0.5214
BASP1_HUMAN	NPM_HUMAN	YES	0.5148
BASP1_HUMAN	PRGR_HUMAN	YES	0.5098
BASP1_HUMAN	PHB_HUMAN	YES	0.5063
BASP1_HUMAN	SMCA4_HUMAN	YES	0.5010
BASP1_HUMAN	ESR1_HUMAN	YES	0.5008
BASP1_HUMAN	GELS_HUMAN	NO	0.4902
BASP1_HUMAN	FLI1_HUMAN	NO	0.4866
BASP1_HUMAN	NEUM_HUMAN	NO	0.4653
BASP1_HUMAN	WT1_HUMAN	NO	0.4517

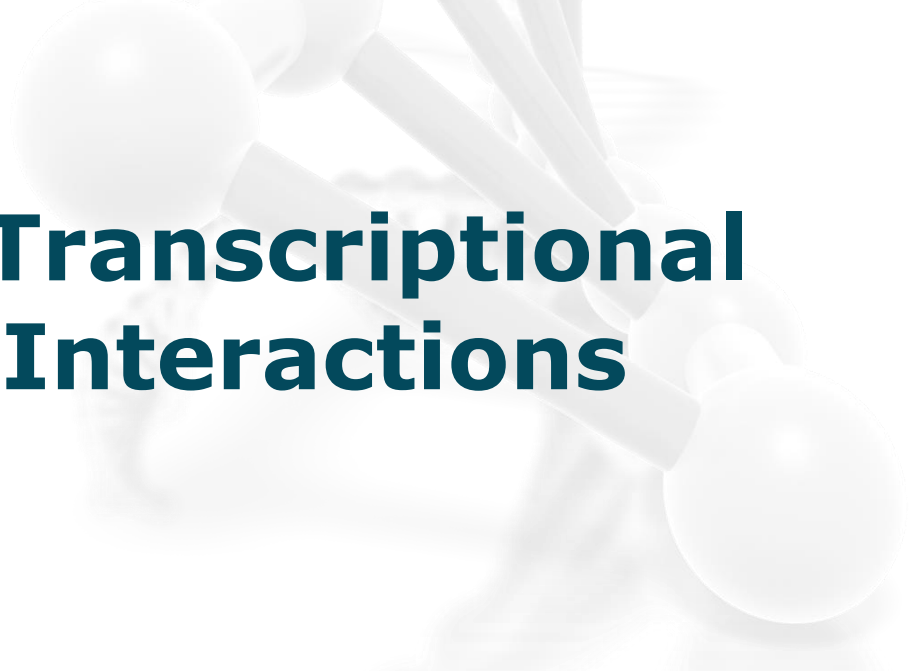
Make another prediction

Time efficient tool!
Prediction time for 100 protein pairs is less than a second

IDPpi_tool Web Interface (a) Front page of IDPpi_tool web application where users can input the protein sequences in a FASTA format and to choose either automatic combination in pairs or to add protein pairs of interest to the input information. (b) IDPpi_tool results page.



Prediction of Transcriptional Regulation Interactions



TRI tool Prediction of Transcriptional Regulation Interactions

Transcriptional regulation (TR) is a complex process which controls the cellular gene expression and among the key processes in all serious human diseases, including cancer.

It is important to identify pharmacologically relevant PPIs.

Datasets and models

1515 proteins involved in human transcriptional regulation (UniProt)

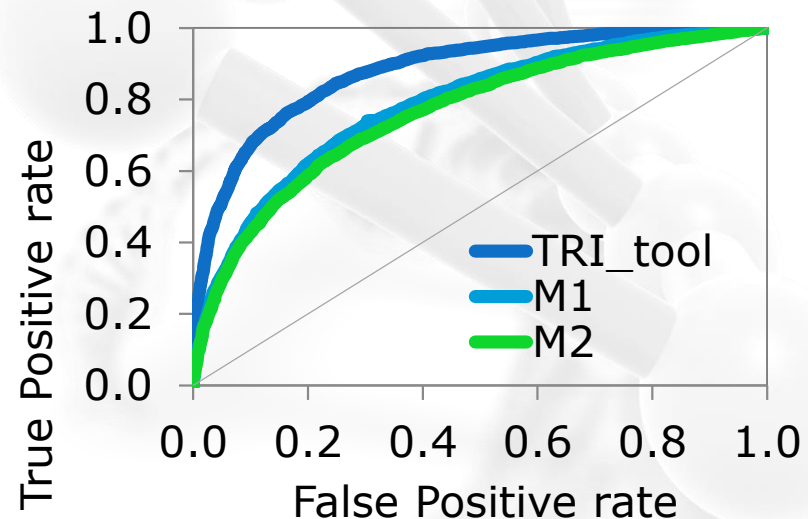
12244 mutual interactions (HIPPIE - Human Integrated Protein-Protein Interaction rEference)

Performances in prediction efficiency

Comparison between TRI_tool and two state-of-the-art sequence-based methods:

M1 (Guo et al., 2008)

M2 (Pitre et al., 2008)



Prediction of Transcriptional Regulation Interactions

TRI_tool – web service

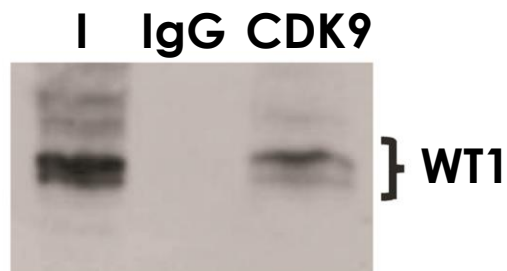
<http://www.vin.bg.ac.rs/180/tools/ffpred.php>

Effective in dealing with **large number of sequences** and outperforms some of the mostly used sequence-based methods in terms of computational efficacy and prediction potential.

- 100 interactions in less than a second!

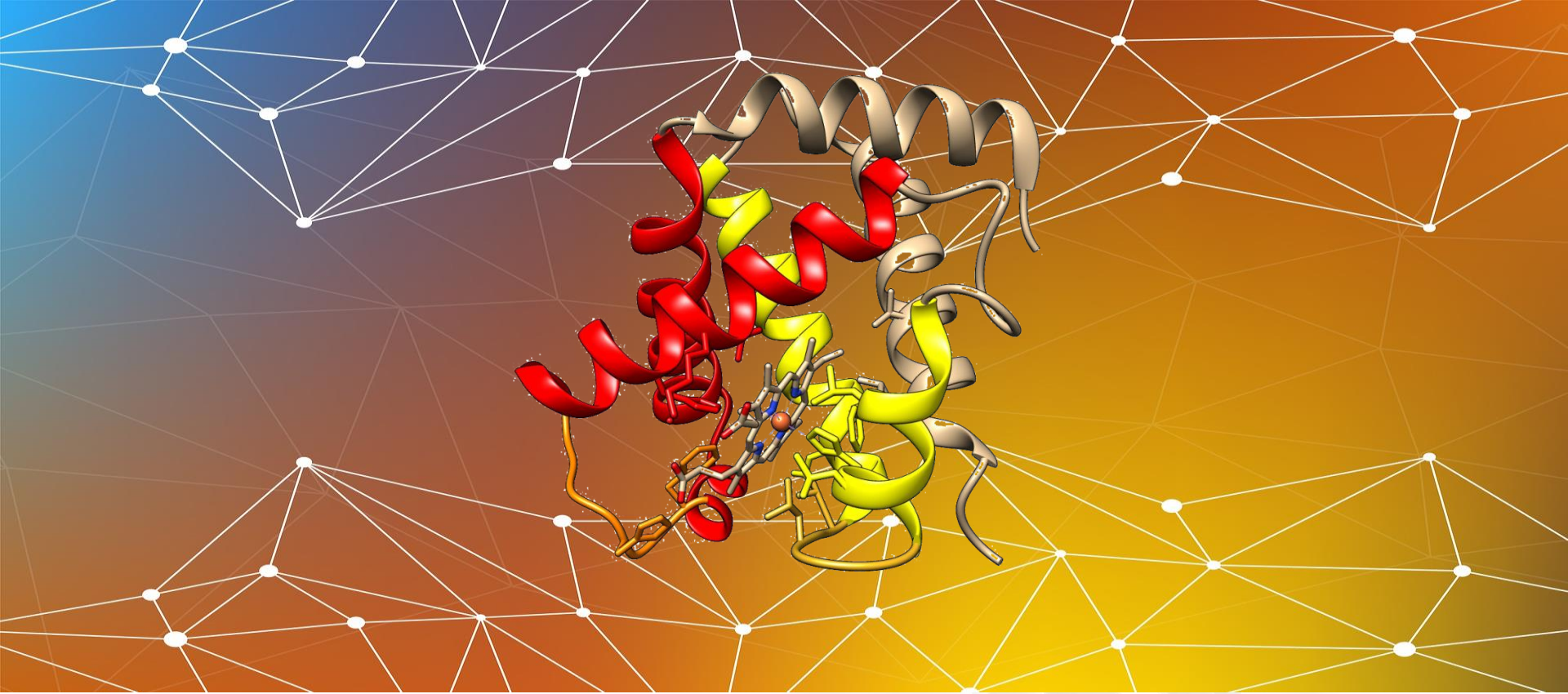
TRI_tool predicted **WT1-CDK9** interaction

Identification of a new interacting partner for Wilm's tumor protein (**WT1**):
Anti-cancer target cyclin-dependent kinase (**CDK9**)

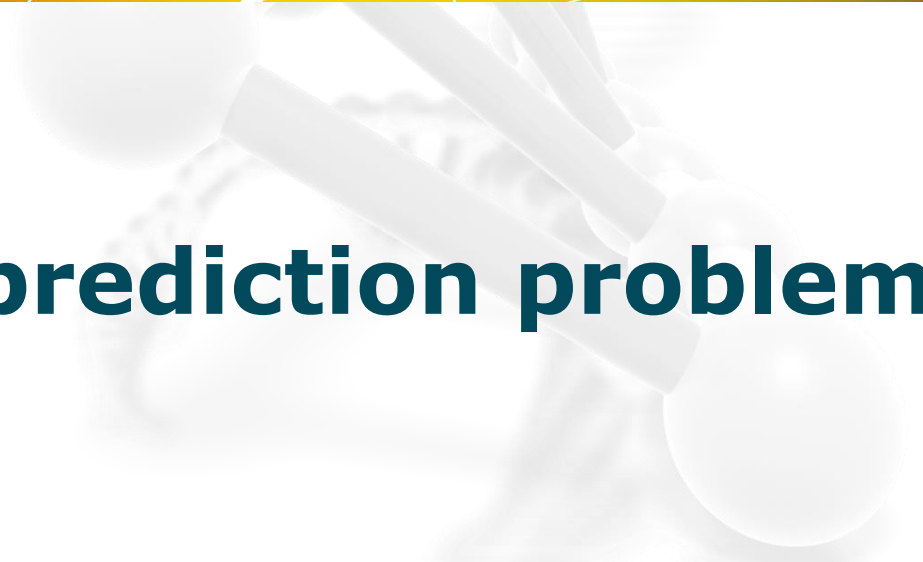


In vivo binding confirmation.

Co-immunoprecipitation of WT1 and CDK9 in human leukemia cell line K562

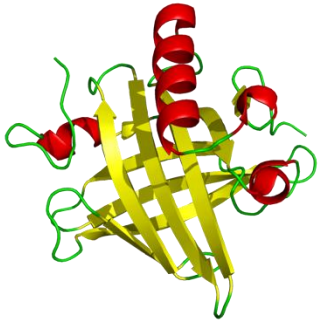


Protein function prediction problem



Ontological annotation of proteins

Protein

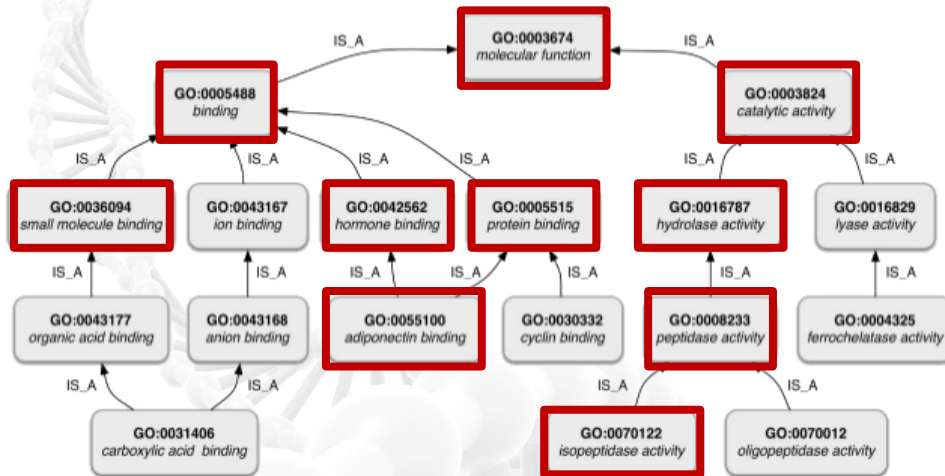


Assign/predict subgraph



Direct acyclic graph (DAG) of annotations

Example from Molecular Function ontology



Multi-label classification problem

Challenges

- Inconsistent experiments – in vitro, in vivo
- Biased and incomplete biological data

Why this matters

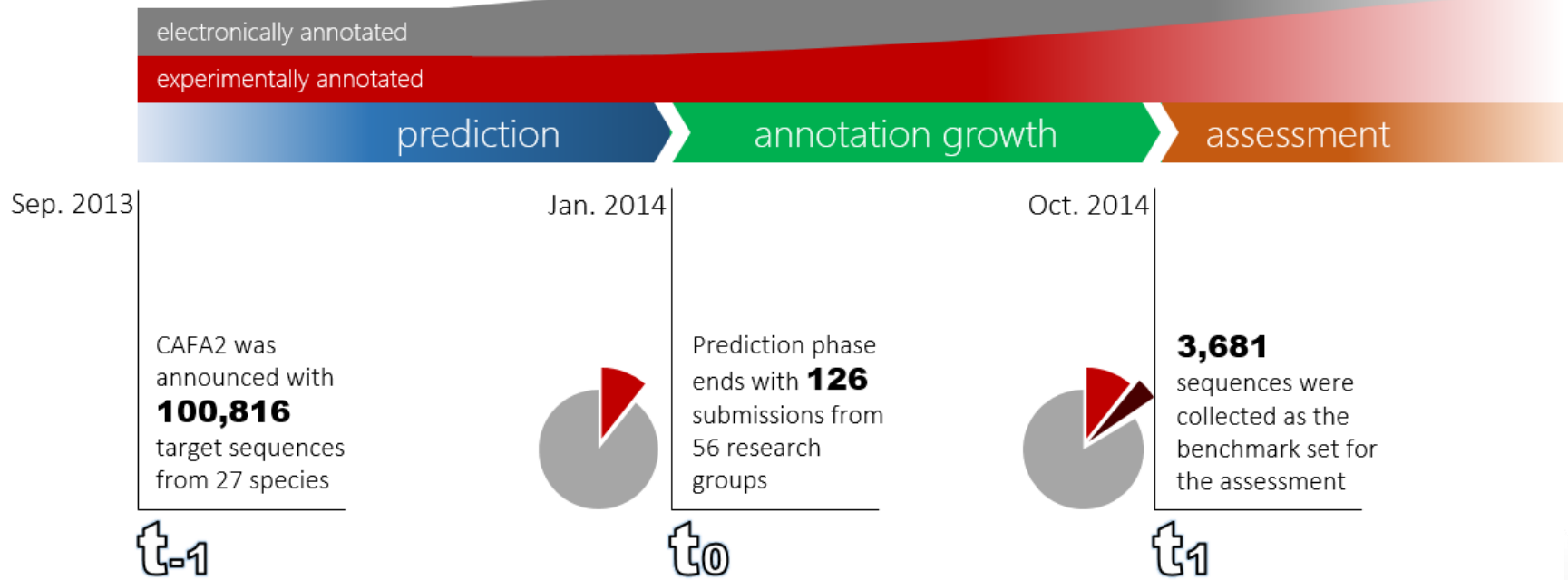
- Understand molecular mechanisms and cellular processes
- Mutation assessment, drug design...



The CAFA Challenge

Critical Assessment of protein Function Annotation algorithms (CAFA) is an experiment designed to provide a large-scale assessment of computational methods dedicated to predicting protein function, using a time challenge.

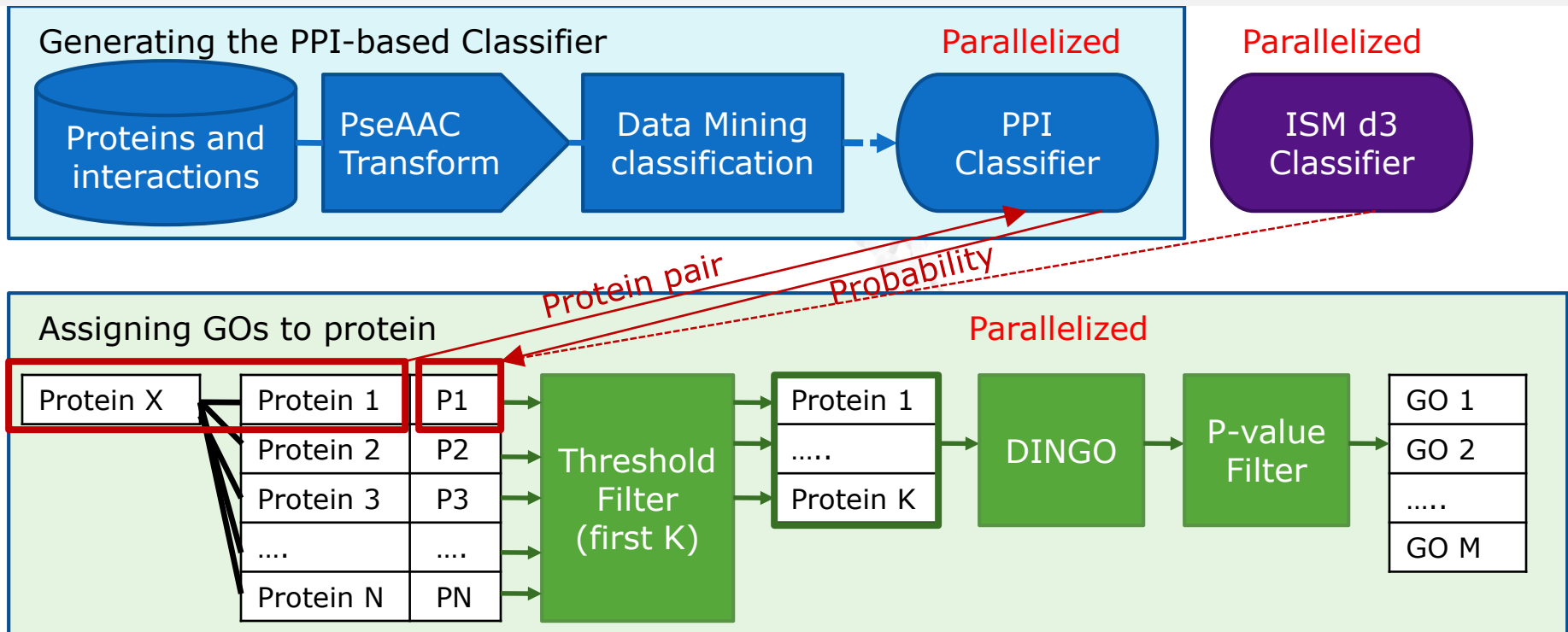
Proteins are grouped by species.



Jiang Y., Oron T., Clarck W.T. et al. An expanded evaluation of protein function prediction methods shows an improvement in accuracy. Genome Biol. 2016;17(1):184. (IF=13.2)

The CAFA Challenge - Prediction model

Algorithm



Davidovic R, Perovic V, Gemovic B and Veljkovic N. (2019) **DiNGO**: standalone application for Gene Ontology and Human Phenotype Ontology term enrichment analysis. *Bioinformatics*. In submission.

DiNGO software page: <https://www.vin.bg.ac.rs/180/tools/DiNGO.php>

Big Data in 'Assigning GOs' step

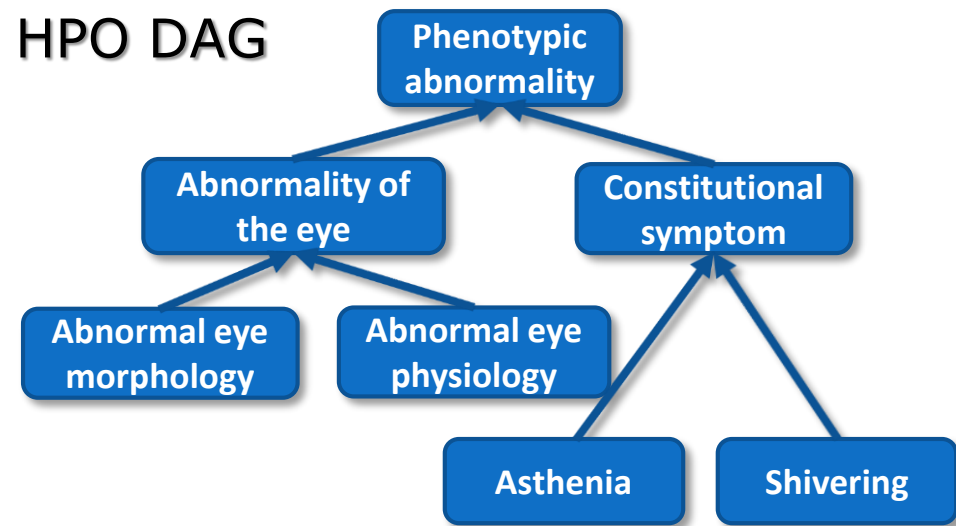
Human organism: 20K proteins → 400M pairs: PPI based model → (x140) 56B numbers ~ 0.45TB
20 species, total ~550K proteins
ISM d3 based → (x8000) 3.2T numbers ~ 25TB

Zhou N., Jiang Y., Nguyen H., Hamid M. et al. The CAFA challenge reports improved protein function prediction and new functional annotations for hundreds of genes through experimental screens. *Genome Biol.* 2019; Accepted. (**IF=13.2**)

The Human Phenotype Ontology (HPO)

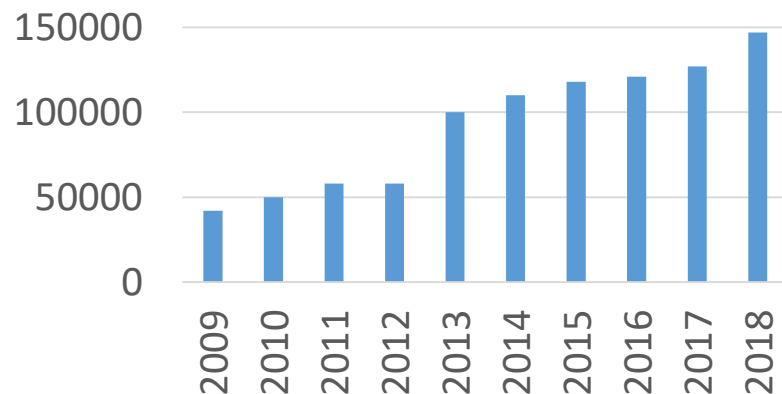
Database of phenotypic abnormalities in human diseases

HPO DAG



- Difficult to analyze a patient information by computerized approaches.
- Phenotypic information - unstructured clinical notes (traditionally)
- HPO standardizes clinical feature descriptions, in a way that is consistent and computer-readable

Total number of Annotations



HPO Mar-2018

Subontology	Terms	Proteins
Phenotypic abnormality	6953	3645
Mode of Inheritance	21	3333
Clinical modifier	22	1263
Aging/Mortality	6	226

Not many tools for HPO annotation prediction

PHENOstruct – M1

- Based on structured support vector machine (SSVM)
- Features:
 - Network data (PPI, co-expression, co-occurrence, etc.) from BioGRID, STRING and GeneMANIA
 - Gene Ontology (GO)
 - Literature
 - Disease variants (UniProt)

Kahanda et al., F1000Research, 2015

HEMDAG – M2

- Hierarchical top down (HTD) and True path rule (TPR) propagation algorithms
- SVM and RANKS ML methods
- Features:
 - Network data (PPI, co-expression, co-occurrence, etc.) from BioGRID and STRING
 - Gene Ontology (GO)
 - OMIM annotations

Notaro et al., BMC Bioinformatics, 2017

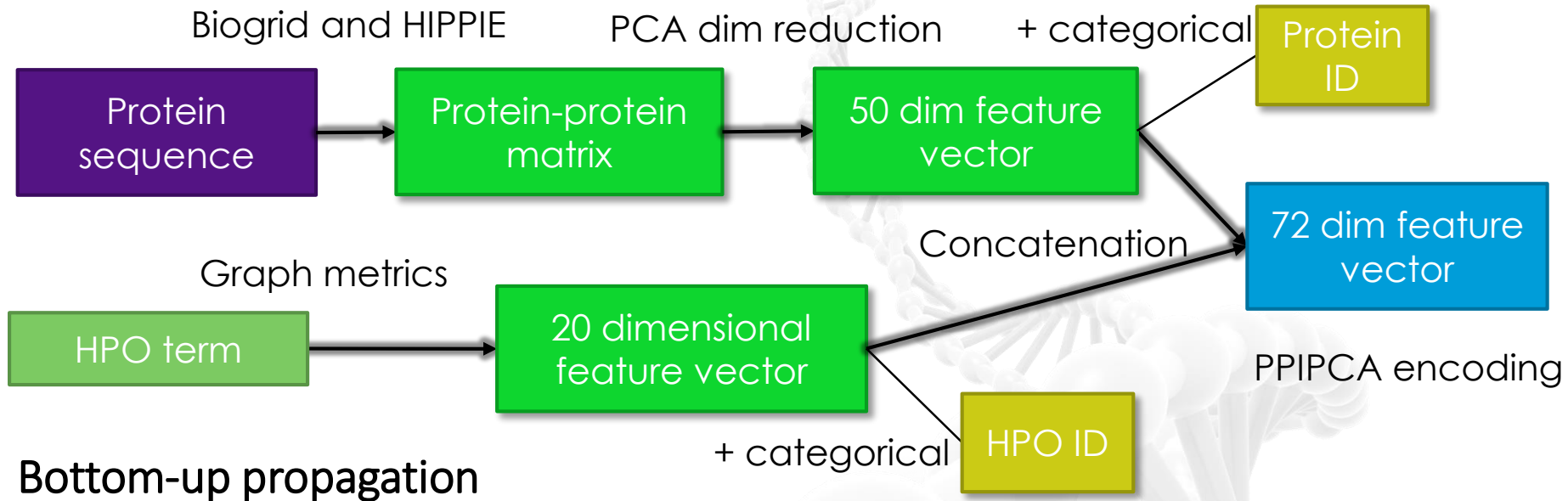
A network diagram with white nodes and lines on a dark blue background, representing a complex system or data network.

HPO prediction

Proteome-wide approach

A 3D molecular model of a protein structure, rendered in white and light blue, showing a complex fold with various domains and loops.

MuFEnsHPO model for HPO prediction



Bottom-up propagation

Binary classifier

Negative examples = annotations complement

Ensemble model

- Random forest
- Gradient boosted machine
- Generalized linear model

Evaluation

5-fold CV protein centric

Dataset size

Phenotypic abnormality: ~25M ex

Mode of Inheritance: ~28K ex

Clinical modifier: 70K ex

Aging/Mortality: 1.4K ex

Performances of *GraPPI* model

Mode of Inheritance (v2014)

Method	max F	Precision	Recall
M1	0.74	0.68	0.81
M2	0.69	0.59	0.82
MuFEnsHPO	0.75	0.69	0.82

Clinical modifier (v2014)

Method	max F	Precision	Recall
M1	0.39	0.31	0.52
M2	0.48	0.38	0.66
MuFEnsHPO	0.52	0.48	0.56

Phenotypic abnormality (v2014)

Method	max F	Precision	Recall
M1	0.42	0.35	0.56
M2	0.44	0.38	0.51
MuFEnsHPO	0.37	0.34	0.40

Aging/Mortality (v2018)

Method	max F	Precision	Recall
MuFEnsHPO	0.61	0.57	0.62

Evaluation of predictions on HPO updated release

Data sets

Dataset	Term-protein pairs	Terms	Proteins
Train HPO jan-2014	6,841,110	2,445	2,797
Test apr-2016	1,484,115	2,445	608

- all annotations -

Notaro et al. Prediction of Human Phenotype Ontology terms by means of hierarchical ensemble methods. BMC Bioinformatics (2017) 18:449

Performance

Method	max F	Precision	Recall	Training time
M1	0.3635	0.3040	0.4519	18 hours
M2	0.3826	0.3512	0.4202	3 hours
MuFEnsHPO	0.3775	0.3484	0.4119	21 min
M2 + MuFEnsHPO	0.3946	0.3530	0.4474	



SUMMARY

Summary

Sequence is universal and reliable protein representation, suitable for automatic predictions



Protein-protein interaction (PPI) prediction

- Improved performance with amino acid **physico-chemical characteristics**
- with **protein profile** data
- with **graph features**

Multi feature **ensemble** of different ML algorithms significantly improved the PPI predictive performances



Human Phenotype Ontology (HPO) prediction models based on sequence, Graph metrics and PPI data have **satisfactory** predictive performance

All MuFEns methods are **time efficient**



IDPs, are currently largely missing from HPO, but since they are involved in many disease, they will be in the future more present and curated in HPO



Home

Research

Tools and Data

[MethSpec](#)

[TRI_tool](#)

[IDPpi_tool](#)

[HP-GAS](#)

[DiNGO](#)

[EpiMut](#)

Publications

People

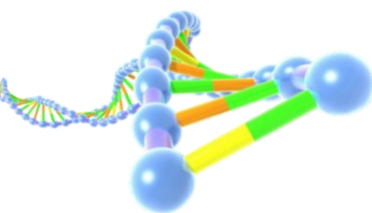
Contact

News

- AUG 2019
Professor Milivoj Dopsaj
and Dr Edelmiro Moman
visited our Lab
- JUL 2019
Tamara at the GCC2019 in
Freiburg
- JUN 2019
Tamara, Branka i Rajko at
the Ensembl workshops
- MAY 2019
Nevena teaches Genomics
at the Faculty of Biology
- MAY 2019
Katarina – Teenager of the
Year 2019 at the
Innovation Week

Tools and Data

- [MethSpec: a simple and efficient tool for evaluation of MSP primer specificity](#)
MethSpec is a simple tool that carries out evaluation of MSP primer specificity based on primer pair's sequences and parameters such as: primer concentration, ion concentration and annealing temperature.
- [TRI_tool - Transcriptional Regulation Interactions](#)
Transcriptional Regulation Interactions tool TRI_tool is an open-accessed web service for finding transcriptional regulation interactors.
- [IDPpi_tool - Human Intrinsically Disordered Protein Interactions](#)
IDPpi_tool is an open-access web service for finding proteins, interactors of human intrinsically disordered protein.
- [HP-GAS - Prediction of Human Protein protein interactions based on Genetic Algorithm driven Stacking method](#)
HP-GAS is a software for prediction of human protein protein interactions based on graph, evolutionary and sequence features. It uses the ensemble of models generated by machine learning (ML) algorithms, where automatic ensembling of ML algorithms is driven by genetic algorithm.
- [DiNGO: standalone application for Gene Ontology and Human Phenotype Ontology term enrichment analysis](#)
DiNGO is a standalone application based on open source code from BINGO a Java based tool aimed to determine which Gene Ontology (GO) categories are overrepresented in a set of genes.
- [EpiMut: Alignment-independent tool for functional annotation of amino acid substitutions in epigenetic factors](#)
EpiMut is software for functional annotation of AASs in epigenetic factors that is independent from sequence alignments and homology search. It is based on the biochemical and physicochemical characteristics of amino acids and digital signal processing approach in protein sequence analysis.



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THANK YOU

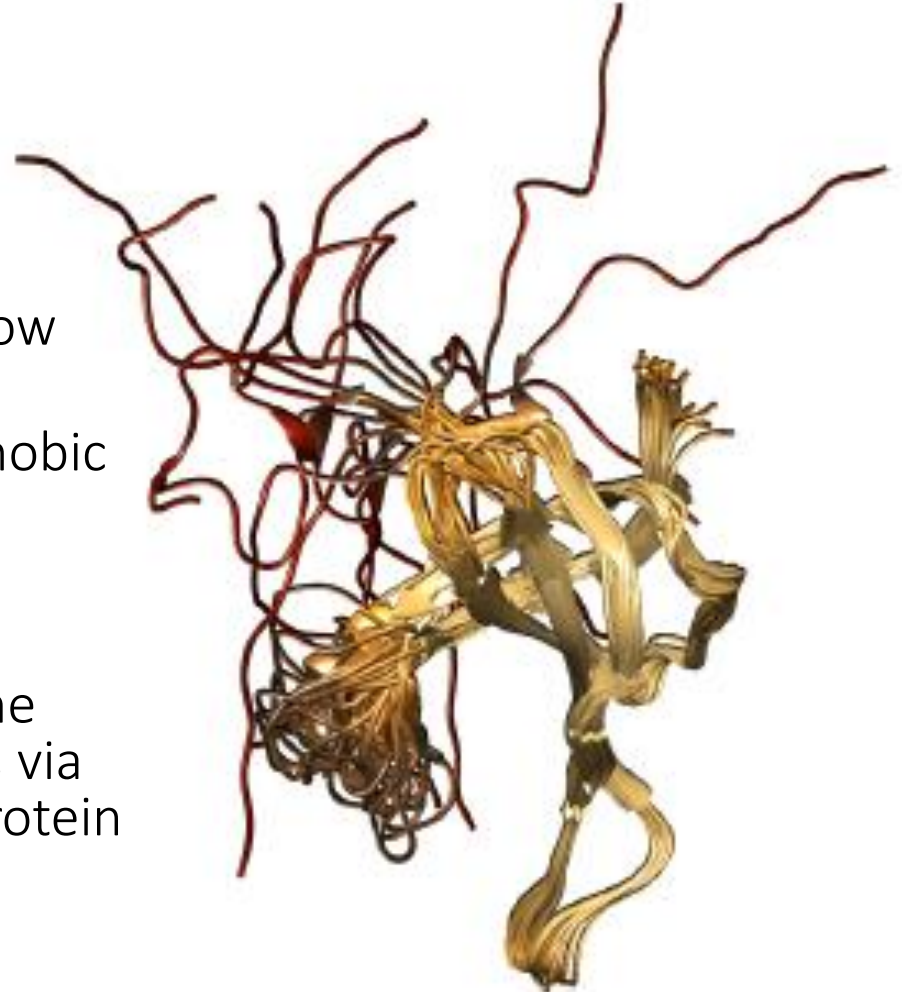


APPENDIX



Intrinsically disordered proteins (IDPs)

- The lack of a fixed tertiary structure
- ~33% IDPs biologically functional in Eukaryota
- Biased amino acid composition and low sequence complexity
 - low proportions of bulky hydrophobic amino acids
 - high proportions of charged and hydrophilic amino acids
- Functionally important: involved in the regulation of key biological processes via binding to significantly augmented protein partners.



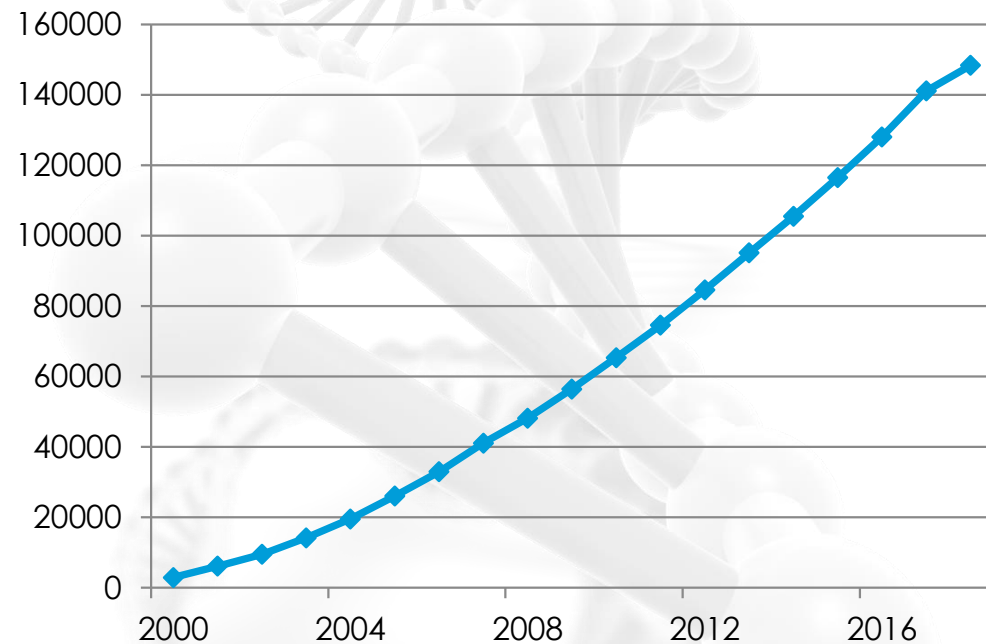
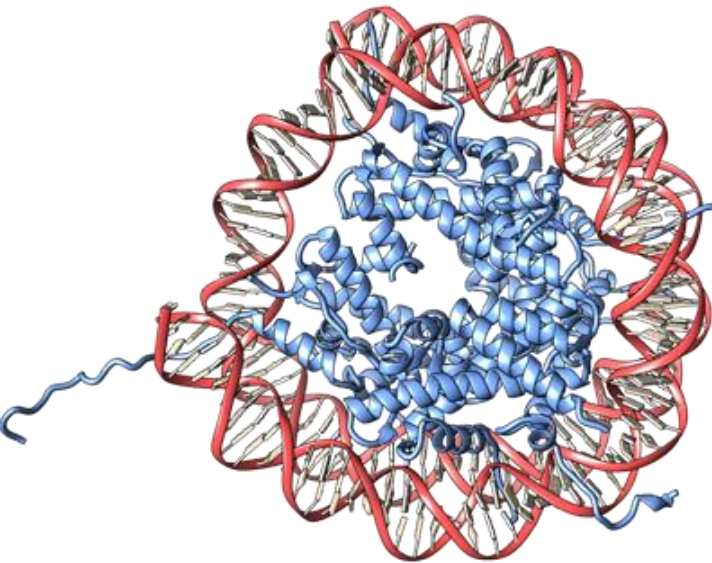
Protein Structures Database

wwPDB – worldwide Protein Data Bank

<https://www.wwpdb.org>

- The single repository of information about the 3D structures of proteins, nucleic acids, and complex assemblies
- Established in 1971 in Uptown, New York, US

148,626 structures



Statistics for PDB structures that are deposited and processed by year

The top half of the image features a green background with a network of white lines and dots, resembling a molecular or data network. The dots are of varying sizes and are connected by thin white lines, creating a complex, interconnected pattern.

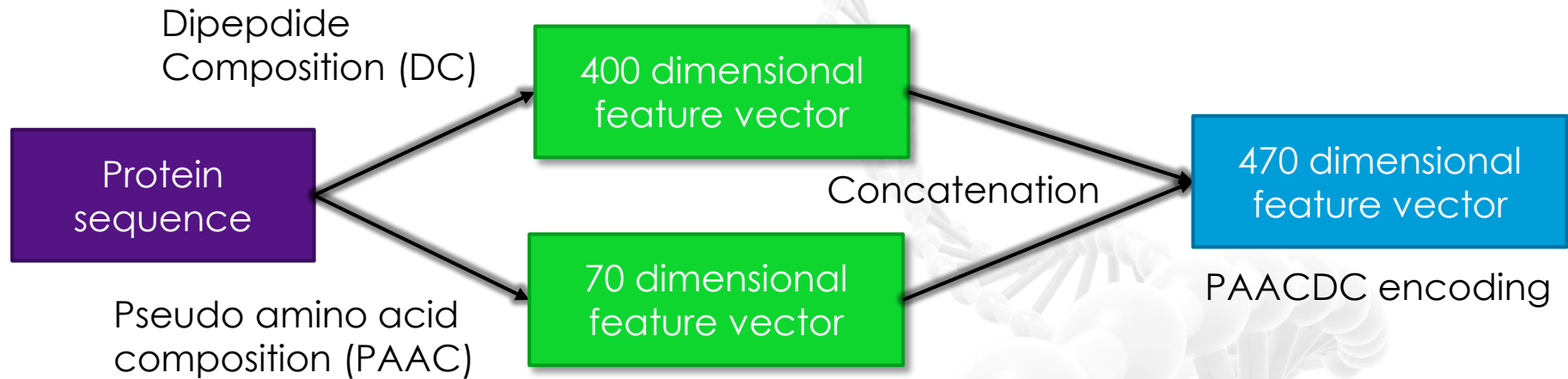
HPO prediction

Class-specific approach

A faded, white, 3D-rendered robotic hand is visible in the lower right quadrant of the image. The hand is positioned as if it is holding or interacting with a small object, though the object is not clearly defined. The hand's joints and fingers are visible, and it has a clean, futuristic appearance.

HPO prediction for Intrinsically Disorder Proteins

IDPs representation – PAACDC features



PAAC is using five disorder characteristic propensity scales:

- **TOP-IDP** scale (ranks residues by their propensity to endorse order or disorder)
- **B-values** (flexibility parameters for each residue surrounded by two inflexible neighbours)
- **FoldUnfold** scale (capacity of amino acid residues to form a sufficient number of contacts in a globular state)
- **DisProt** scale (statistical difference in the residue compositions of ordered proteins and IDPs)
- **Net charge** scale

Performance of annotation predictions on IDPs

PHENOstruct with PAACDC features

Clinical modifier

Method	max F	Precision	Recall
M1	0.4776	0.3429	0.7866
M1+ PAACDC	0.5220	0.4503	0.6208

Mode of Inheritance

Method	max F	Precision	Recall
M1	0.7682	0.6939	0.8605
M1+ PAACDC	0.7750	0.7648	0.7852

Performance of PAACDC model

Clinical modifier

Method	max F	Precision	Recall
M1	0.4776	0.3429	0.7866
PAACDC	0.5729	0.6750	0.4975

Mode of Inheritance

Method	max F	Precision	Recall
M1	0.7682	0.6939	0.8605
PAACDC	0.7122	0.6370	0.8075