



# **Machine Learning for Chemistry**

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# Outline

- Introduction
- Methods
- An example application
- Acknowledgements

# Introduction

What is Machine Learning (ML)?

## The “Machine” part

1. Automated algorithms
2. Reproducible results
3. Handling large datasets

## The “Learning” part

1. Statistical models of the process
2. Inferring the parameters
3. Validating the results

Why use Machine Learning?

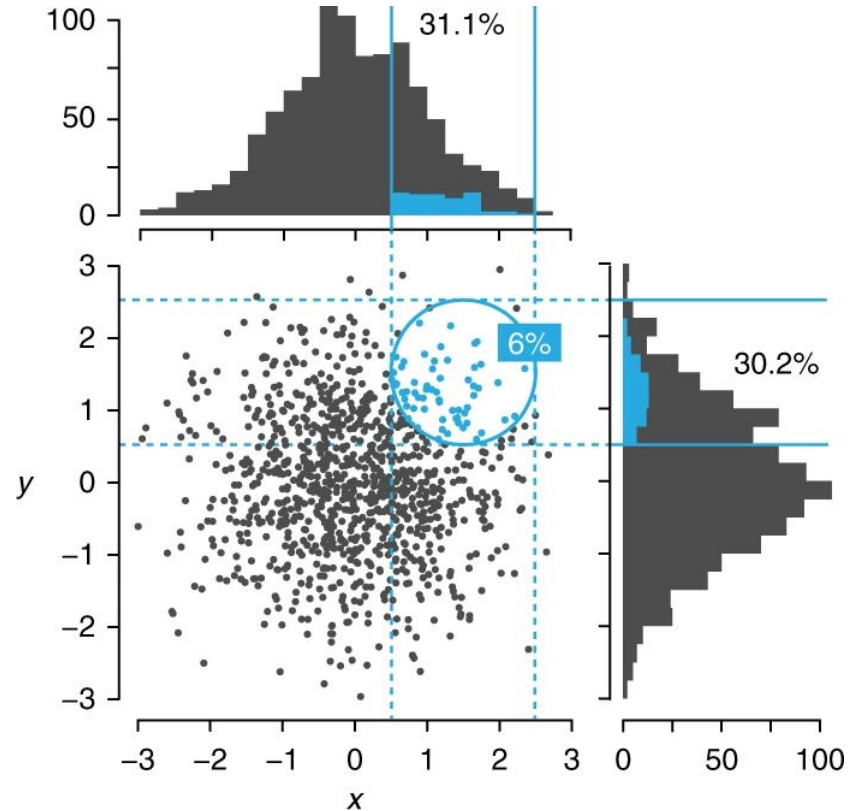
Or

The Many Problems of Drawing  
Statistical Inference in High  
Dimensionality

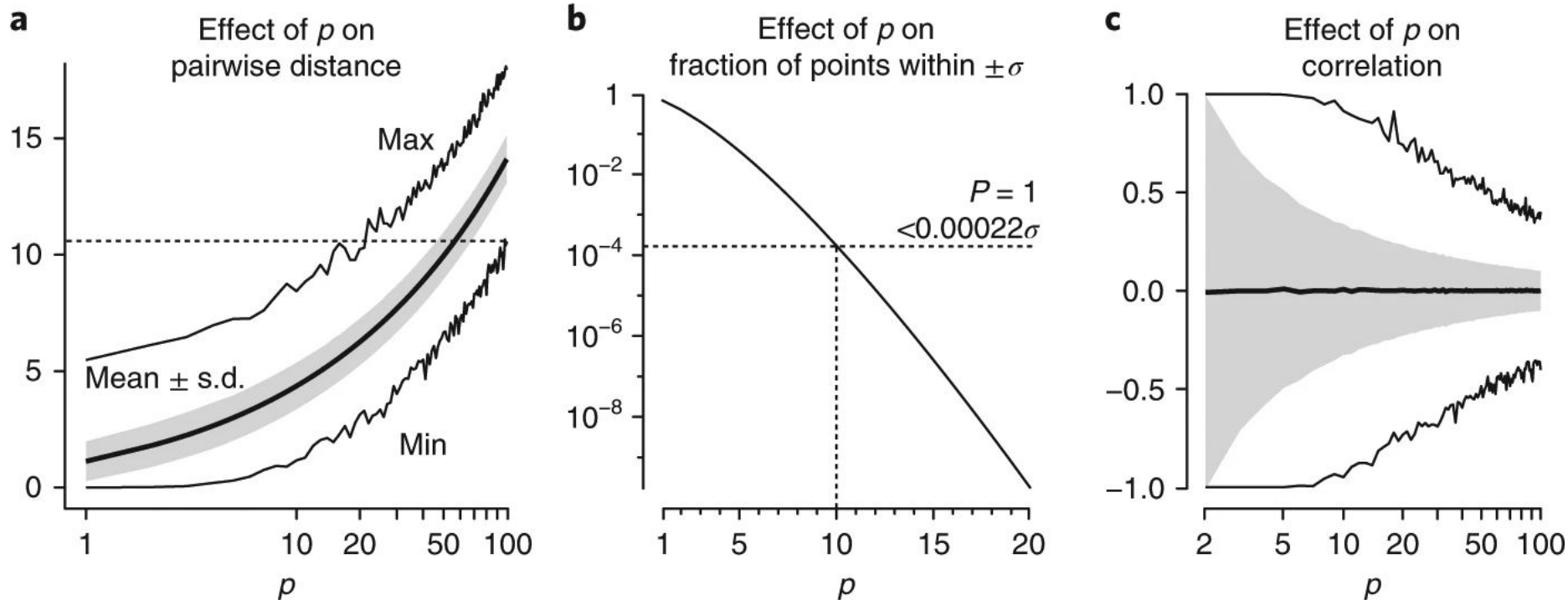
# The many curses of dimensionality...

**Data tend to be sparse  
in higher dimensions.**

Altman, N., Krzywinski, M. The curse(s) of dimensionality. *Nat Methods* 15, 399–400 (2018).  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41592-018-0019-x>



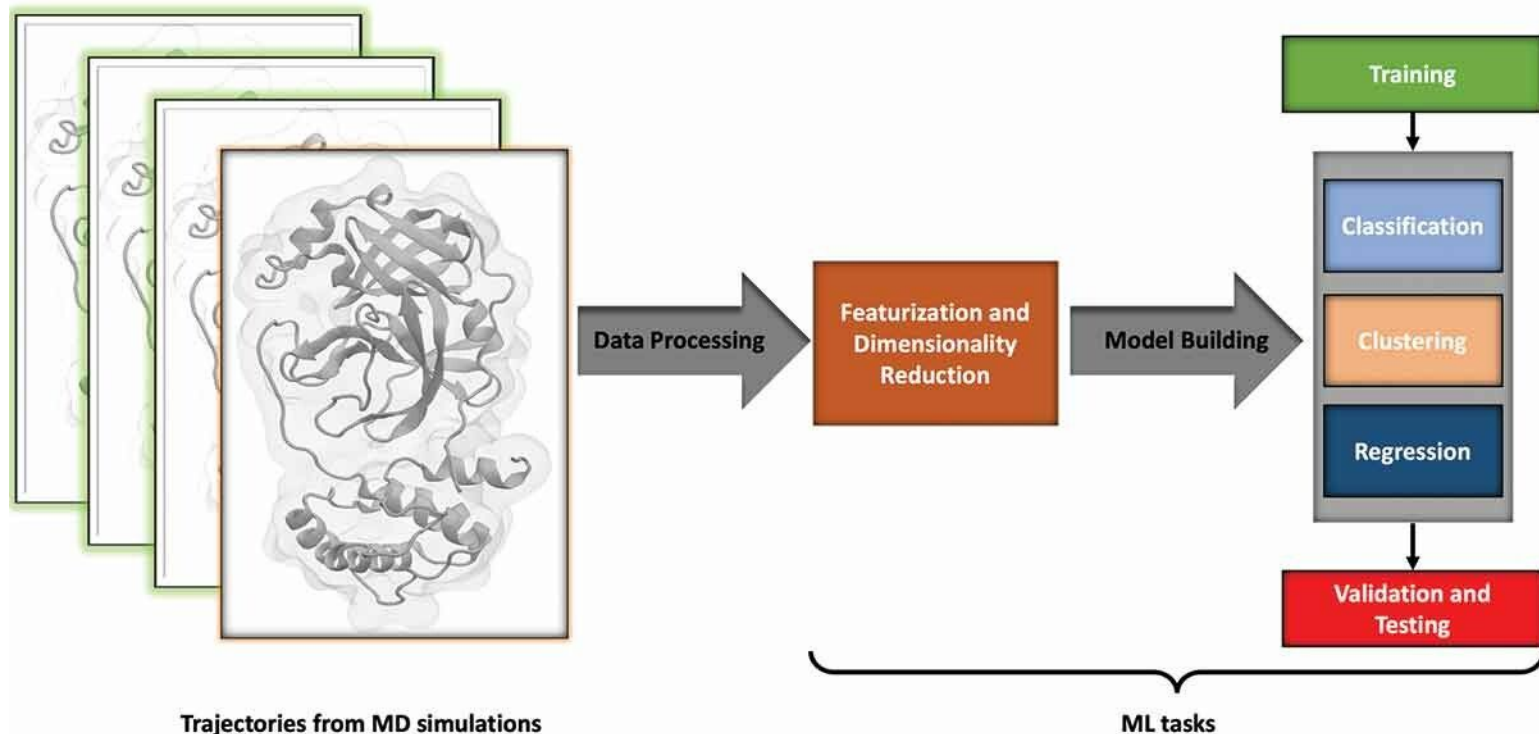
# The many curses of dimensionality...



**As the number of variables  $p$  increases, distances between points grow rapidly and correlations decrease.**



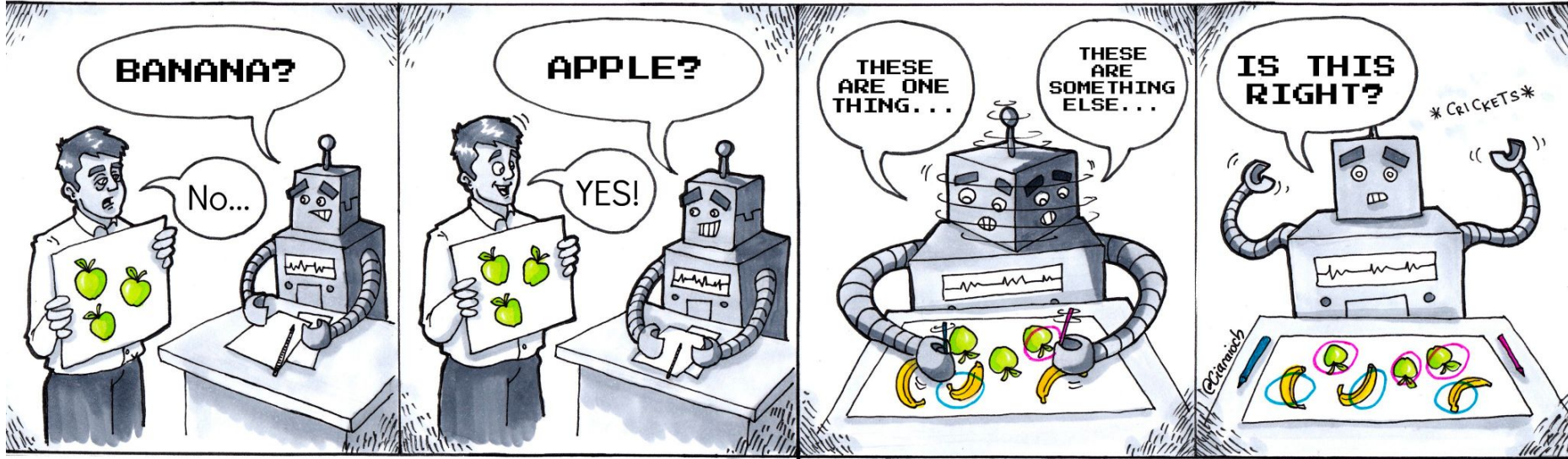
# So.. How do we address this problem?



# Vocabulary

1. **Features:** Variables present in your raw data
2. **Feature selection:** Choosing a subset of the Features or their functions for further analysis
3. **Training:** Learning the statistical parameters associated with a ML model
4. **Validation:** Testing the learnt models on a previously unseen and uncorrelated data to prevent overfitting

Generically, there are two kinds of ML tasks...



**Supervised Learning**

**Unsupervised Learning**

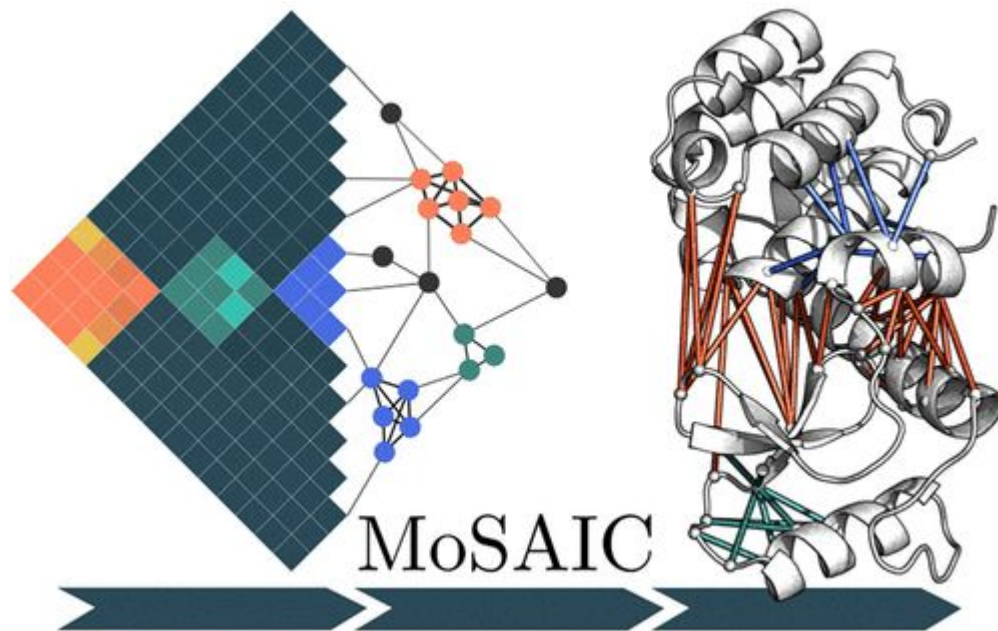
Comic by Ciaráíoch

# Methods

Problem #0: I want to choose which part  
of my data I should use...

# Feature selection tasks

1. Discarding variables with low variance
2. Testing for significance of individual features e.g. through significance tests (works for supervised tasks)
3. Chemical Insight (e.g. C-alpha atoms; heavy atoms, dihedrals etc)



**Correlation-Based Feature Selection to Identify Functional Dynamics in Proteins**

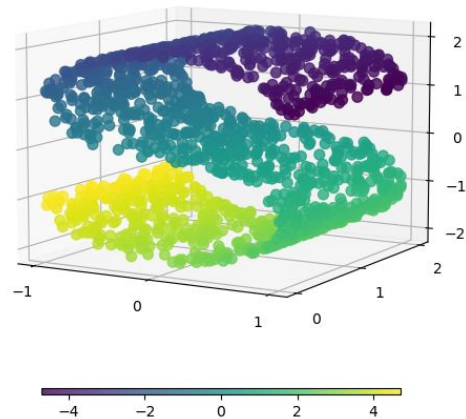
Georg Diez, et al (2022)

Problem #1: I want to find structure in my  
data...

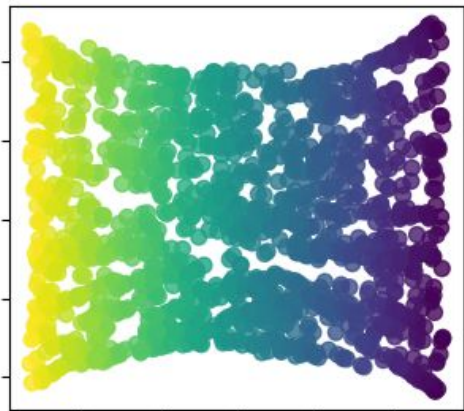
# Dimensionality reduction tasks

1. You believe that the data in your possession can be mapped to a lower dimensional embedding
2. Need to preserve certain properties
  - a. Total variance (PCA)
  - b. Total Autocorrelation (tICA)
  - c. Pairwise distances between points (Multidimensional Scaling (MDS))
  - d. Geodesic distances (Diffusion maps / Isomaps)
  - e. Reconstruction (Autoencoders)

Original S-curve samples



Isomap Embedding



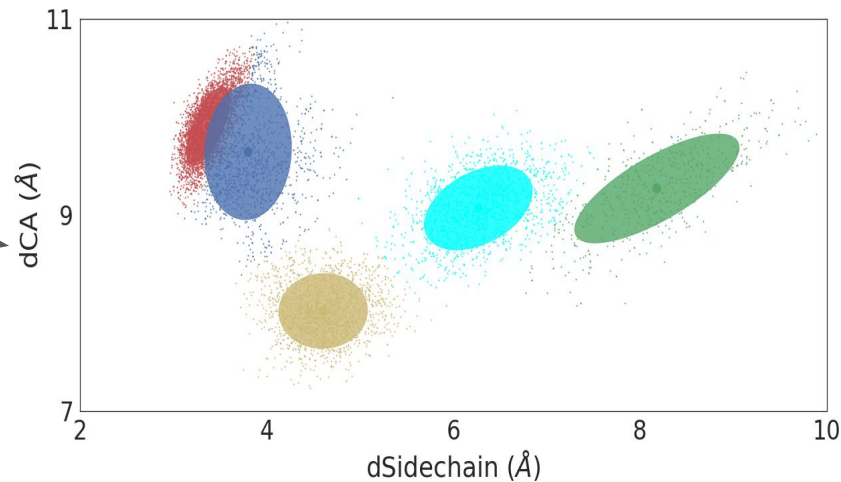
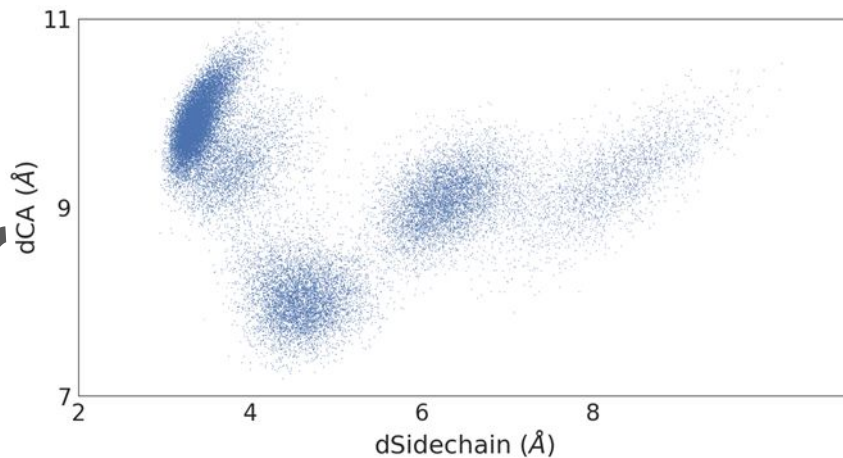
\*scikit-learn



Problem #2: I want to find distinct groups  
in my data / “segmentation”...

# Clustering tasks

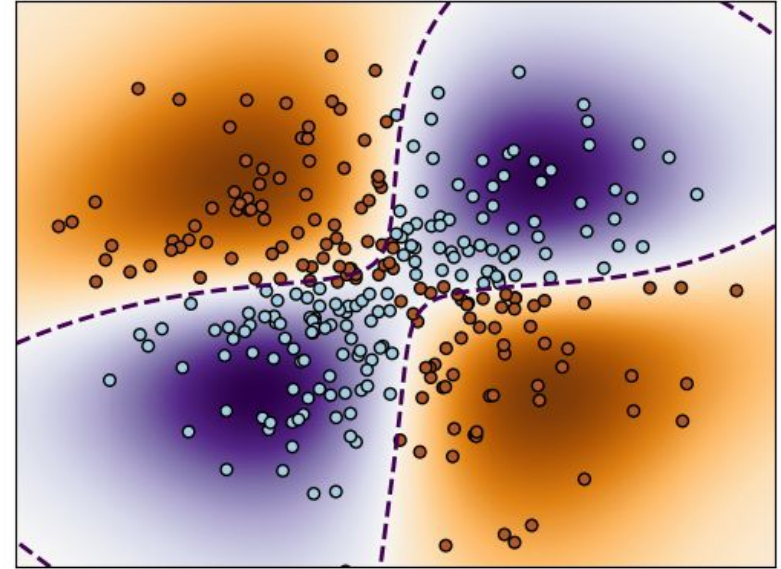
1. When you observe separate groups in your data distribution with similar properties
2. Methods:
  - a. K-means clustering and cousins
  - b. Gaussian Mixture models (GMMs)
  - c. Density based methods (DBSCAN, OPTICS, HDBSCAN)



Problem #3: I know there are categories  
in my data, but I want to find what  
separates them...

# Classification tasks

1. Class labels for the data are known and the goal is to find a 'decision boundary' i.e. a function that separates the labels from each other.
2. Methods:
  - a. Naive Bayes classifier
  - b. Support vector machines
  - c. Neural Nets based classification

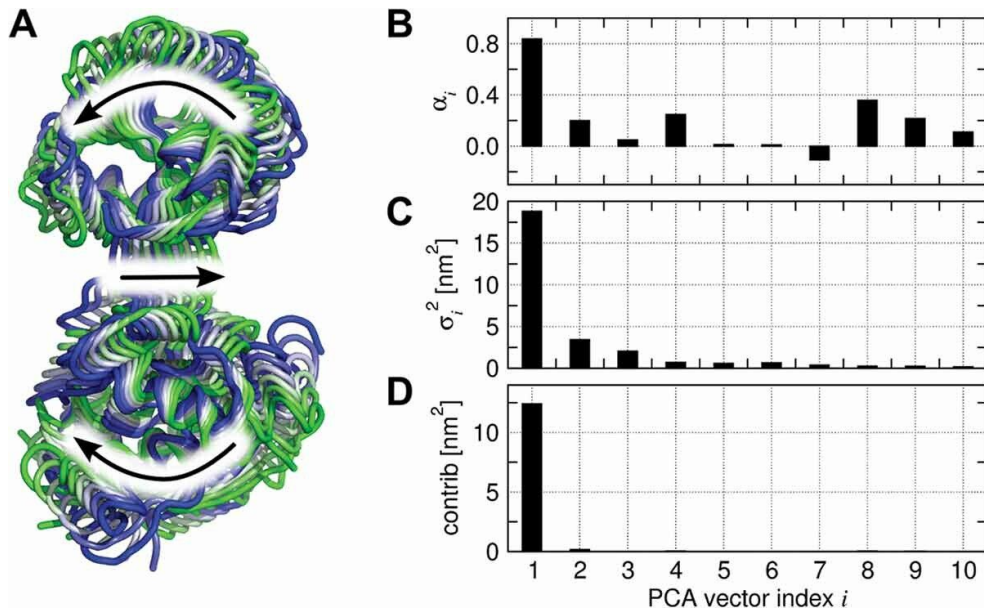


Classification with Support Vector machines \*scikit-learn

Problem #4: I want to know how my data connects to another variable...

# Regression tasks

1. For each member of the data a continuous label is known
2. Methods:
  - a. Multilinear regression (MLR)
  - b. Principal Component Regression (PCR)
  - c. Partial Least Squares regression (PLS)
  - d. Neural Nets based regression etc



**Principal Component Regression (PCR).** **A.** PCR-based ensemble-weighted mode for the Leucine Binding Protein. **B.** Coefficient  $\alpha_i$  of the contribution to the PCR model from the largest PCA eigenvectors. **C.** Eigenvalues of the PCs used to construct the PCR model. **D.** Contribution of the variance of the PCs to the variance of the collective mode.

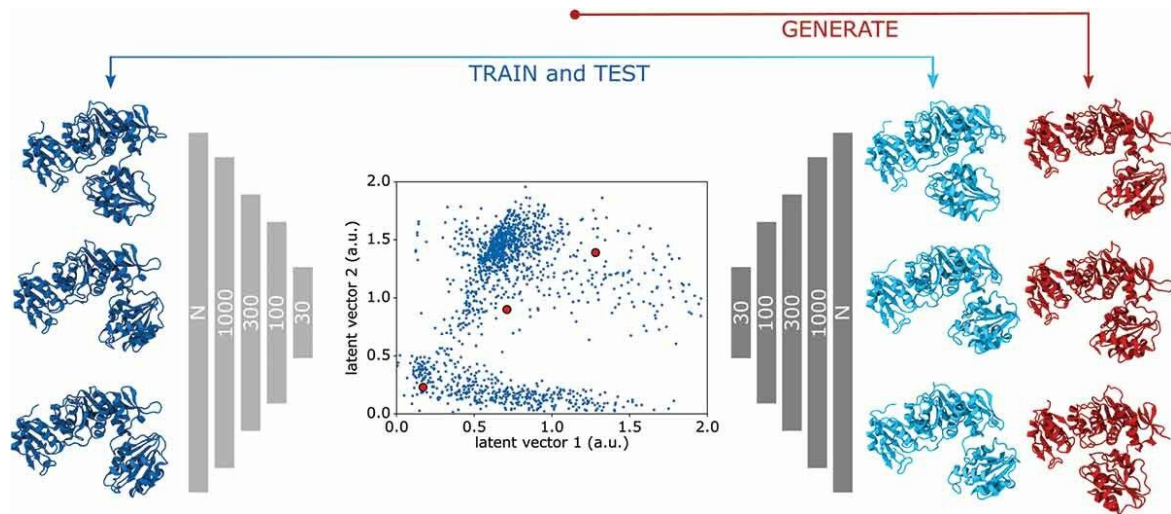
\* Hub, Jochen S et al "Detection of functional modes in protein dynamics." (2009)

Deep Learning based methods

# Artificial Neural Nets

1. Extremely powerful prediction engines
2. Model relations as a non-linear function
3. Fantastic generative powers
4. Caveat: Might be hard or even impossible to interpret

Degiacomi M.,  
“Coupling Molecular Dynamics and Deep Learning to Mine Protein Conformational Space,” (2019)



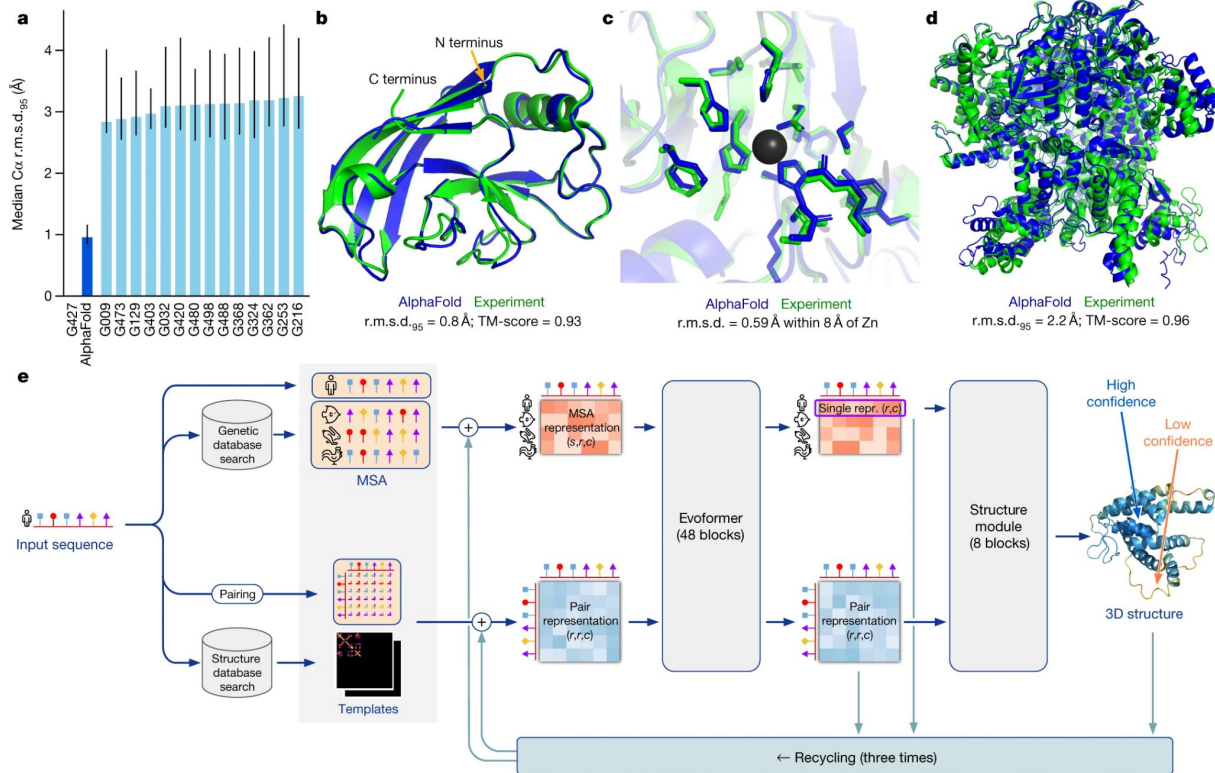
**ANNs for Dimensionality Reduction.** Autoencoder networks (shown in gray) are used for training a lower-dimensional representation of the simulation data by reconstructing sampled structures (deep blue) with decoded structures (light blue). A trained autoencoder can be used to generate a latent space representation of the data set (blue points), which can be used to generate unseen latent space data (red points) to mine unsampled structures (red structures).



# AlphaFold (2)

Based on a Transformer architecture, AlphaFold2 can predict structures and oligomeric interfaces with very high confidence starting only from the sequence/s.

Jumper, J., Evans, R., Pritzel, A. *et al.* Highly accurate protein structure prediction with AlphaFold. *Nature* 596, 583–589 (2021).  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03819-2>



An example application

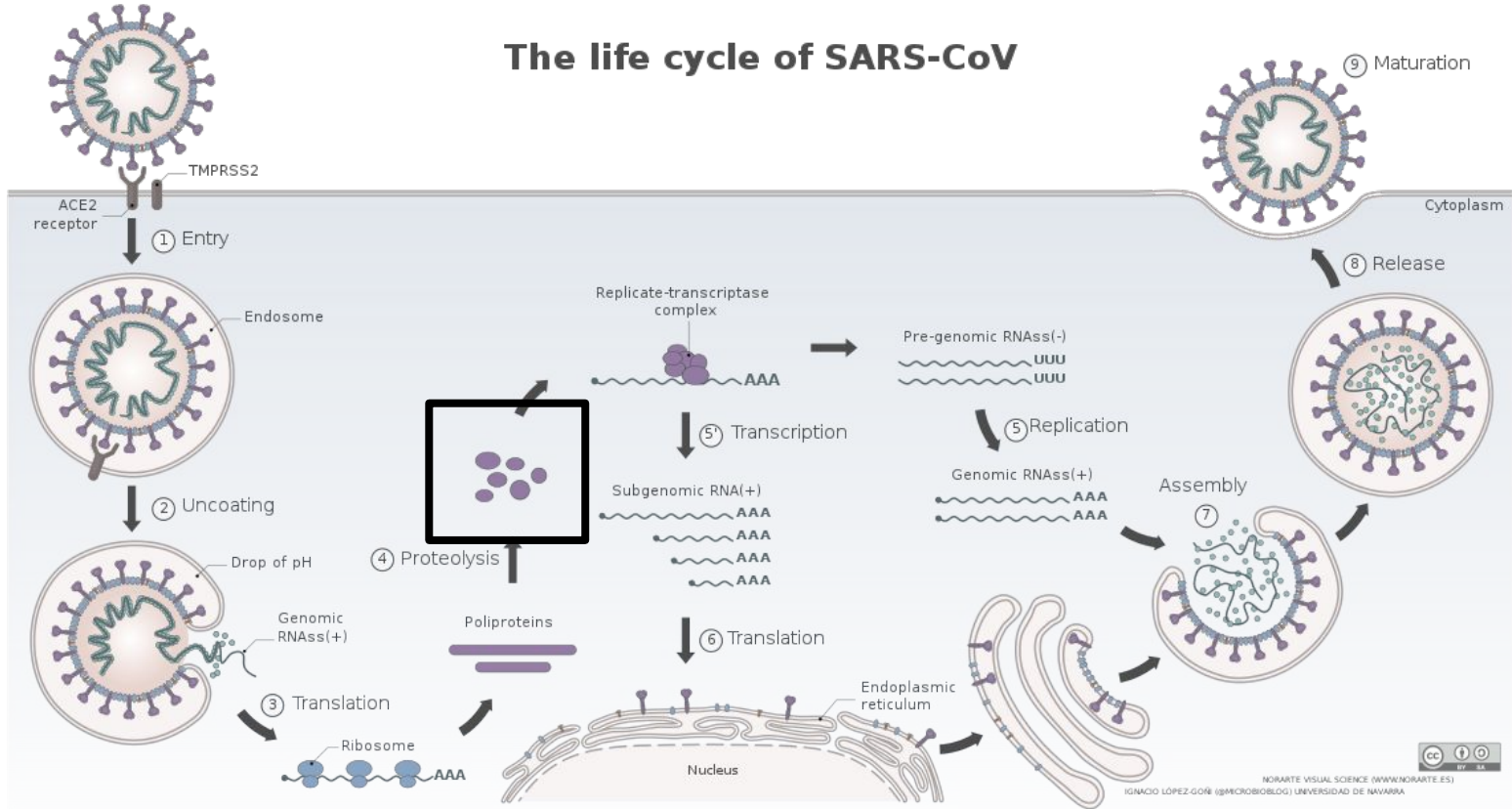
# How to stop the Main Protease of the Covid from working?

Kaptan, Shreyas et al. "Maturation of the SARS-CoV-2 virus is regulated by dimerization of its main protease." *Computational and structural biotechnology journal* vol. 20 (2022): 3336-3346. doi:10.1016/j.csbj.2022.06.023

# How does Covid infect the cell?

\*  
W  
I  
K  
I  
P  
E  
D  
I  
A

## The life cycle of SARS-CoV

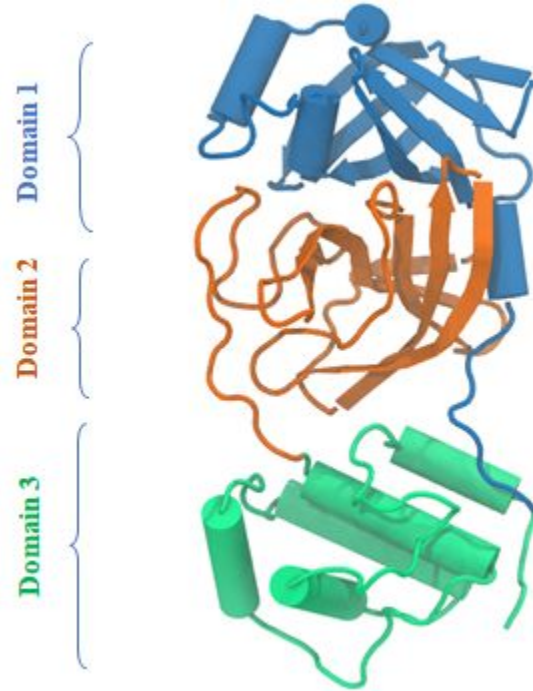


# Introduction: Why M<sup>pro</sup>?

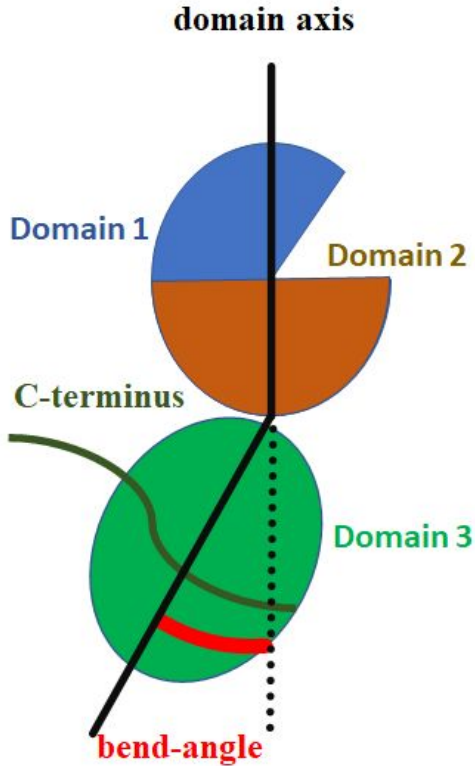
1. Unique sequence identity of the substrate. It is not present in humans.
2. Virus can not mature if the enzyme is disabled.
3. Similar enzymes have pre-existing drugs that can be repurposed

# What does Mpro look like?

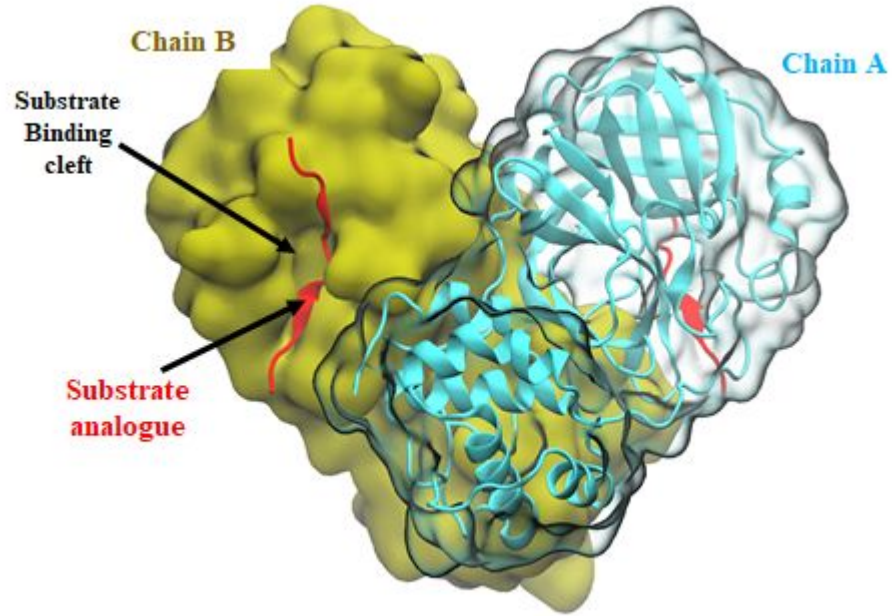
Three domain monomeric structure



# What does Mpro look like?



It forms a dimer...

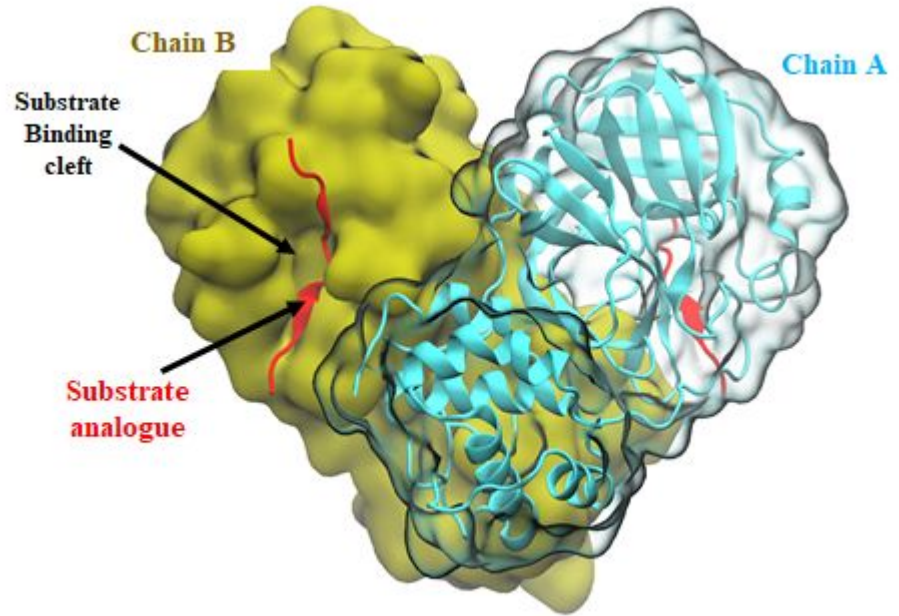




# Questions! How do we estimate enzyme activity?

Can the substrate bind tightly?

Are the catalytic residues in the right orientation?

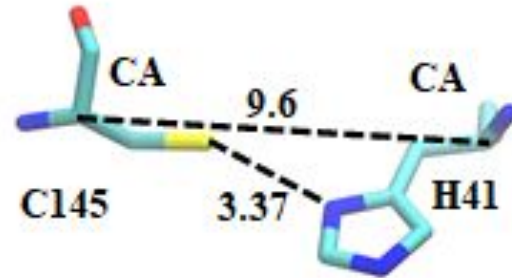


# Featurization: catalytic residues

Distance between the catalytic residue-mainchain  
(C-alpha atoms)

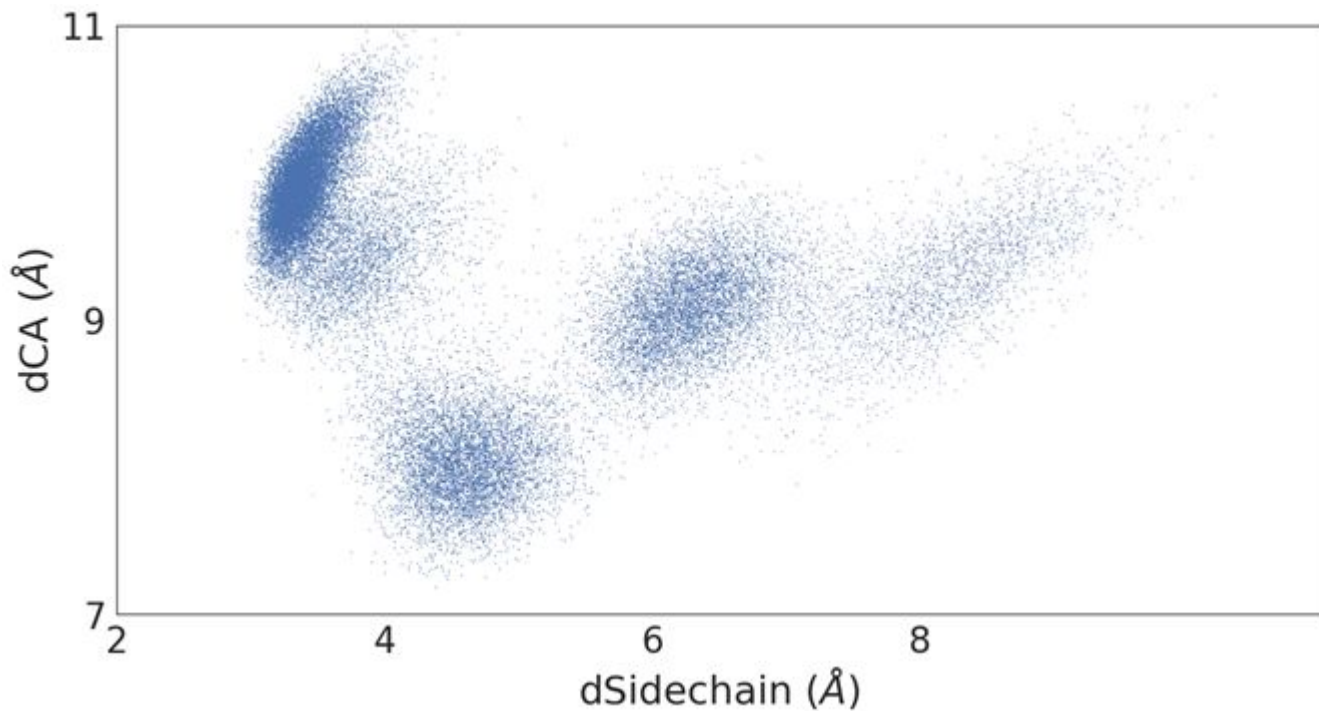
Distance between the catalytic  
residue-sidechains

Detects the orientation space in a  
simple yet sufficient description

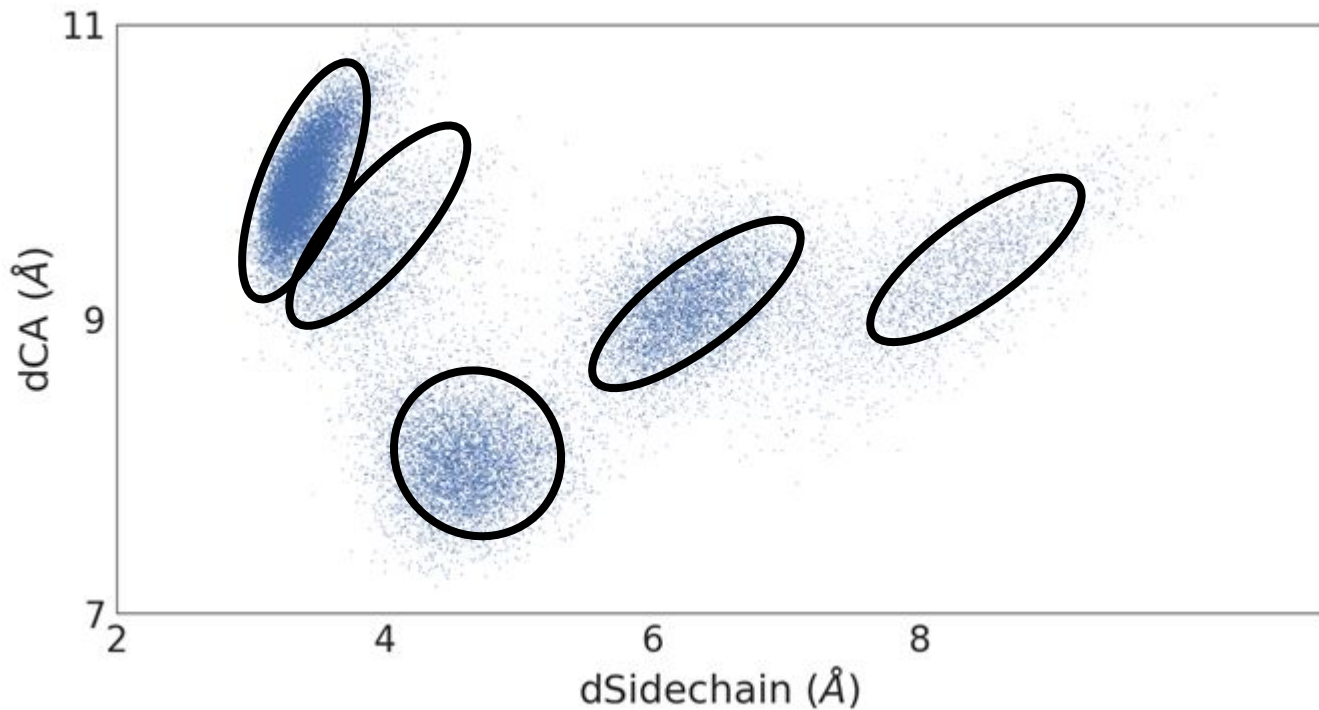


After a lot of simulations...

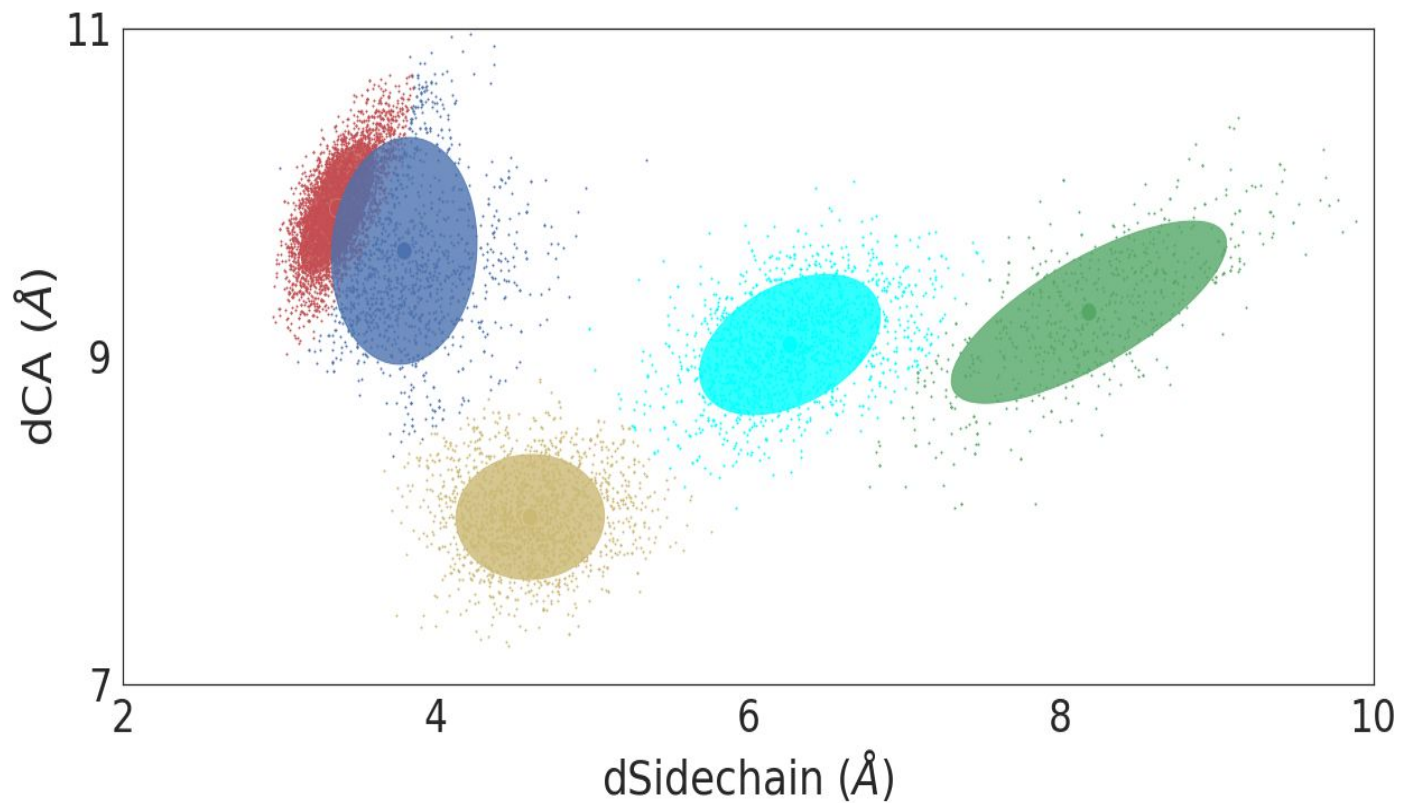
A random sample of above features in 2D



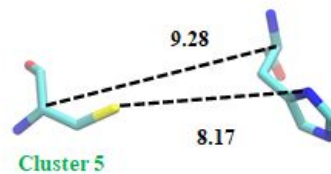
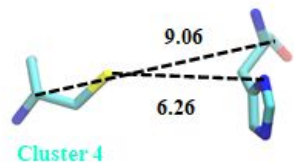
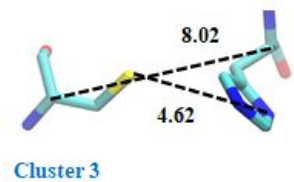
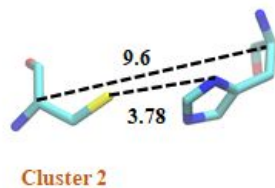
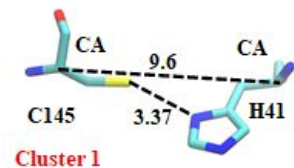
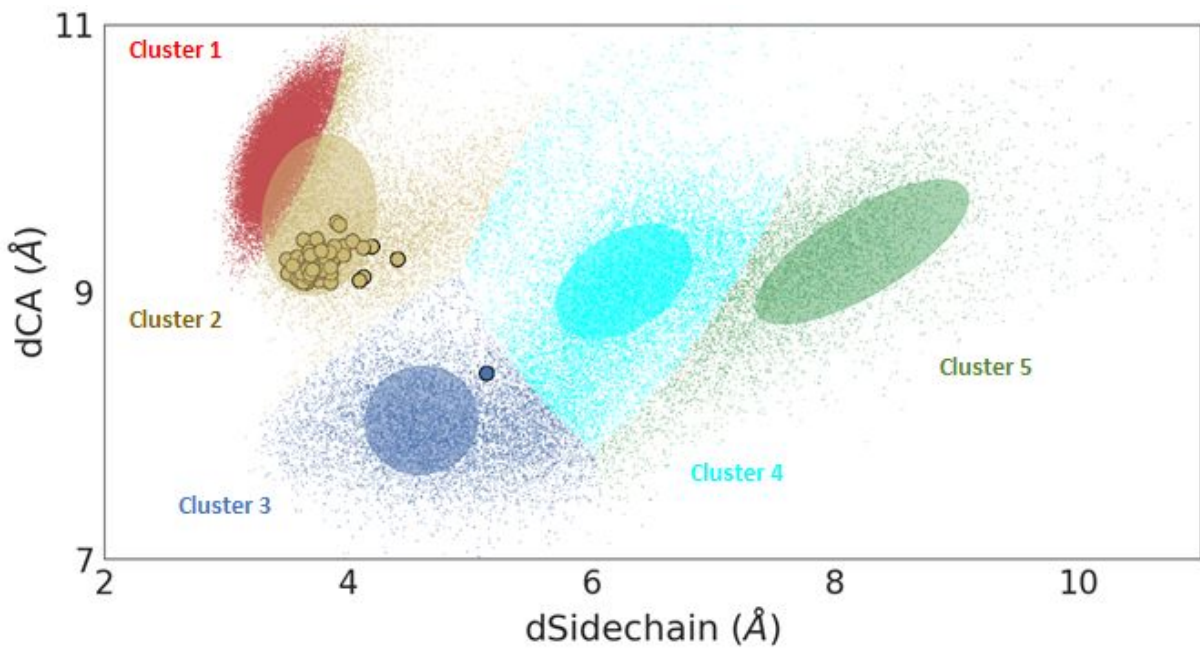
# Gaussian mixture model: Clusters?



# Gaussian mixture model: Clusters?



# GMM interpretation



# Functional Mode Analysis



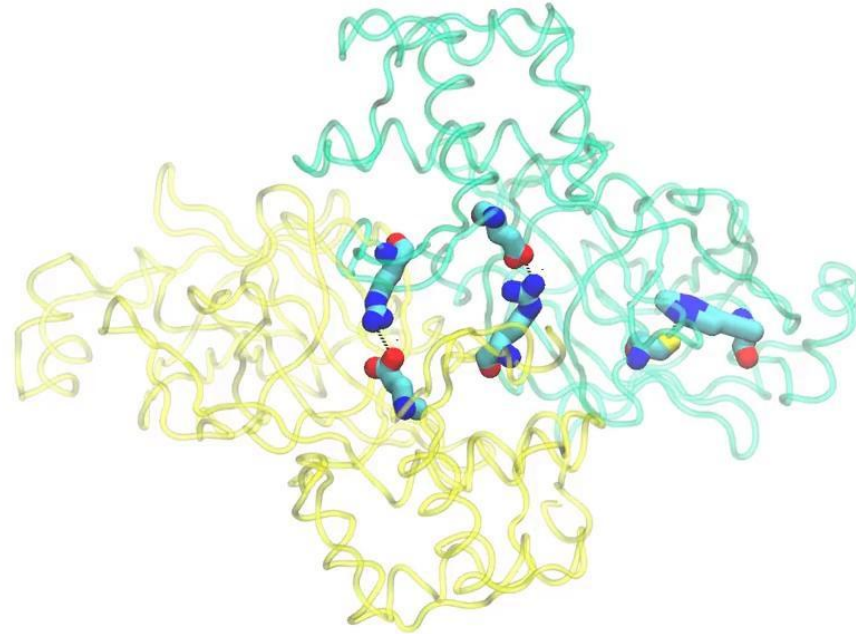
# Partial Least Squares based Functional Mode Analysis (PLS-FMA)

**Goal:** Build a linear model ( $f = X\beta + \epsilon$ ) to express a function ( $f$ ) in terms of the Coordinates  $X$  with linear coefficients  $\beta$  and error/residuals  $\epsilon$ .

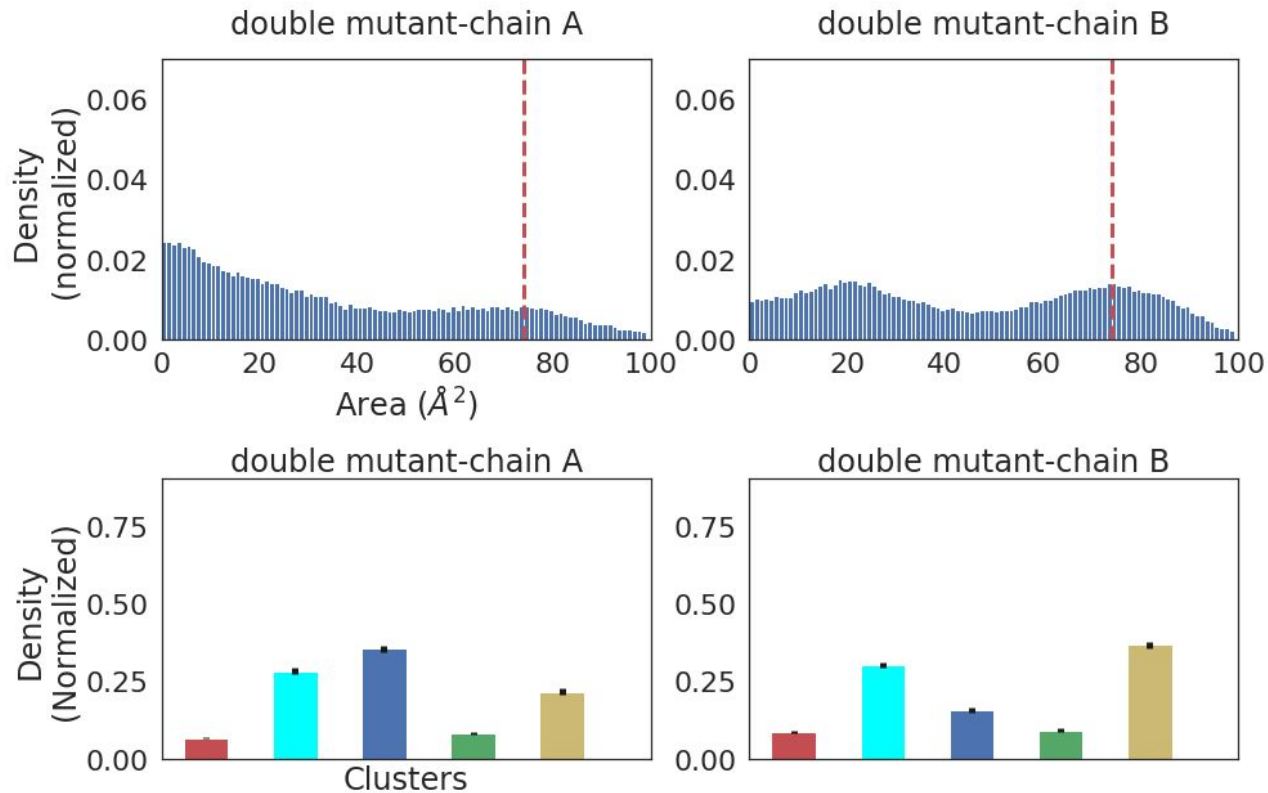
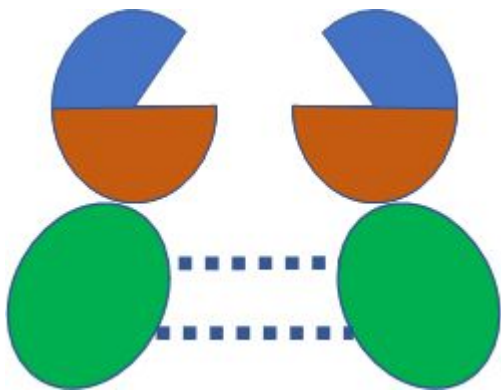
In PLS,  $k$  new regressors  $T_k$  are defined iteratively such that each coordinate is a linear combination of the original coordinates,  $X$  ( $T_k = XW_k$ ) with maximal covariance with  $f$ , while being uncorrelated to each previous coordinate in  $T_k$ . Subsequently, the regression problem  $f = XW_k\alpha_k + \epsilon$  is solved using  $XW_k$  as basis.

Krivobokova, Tatyana, Rodolfo Briones, Jochen S Hub, Axel Munk, and Bert L de Groot. 2012. "Partial Least-Squares Functional Mode Analysis: Application to the Membrane Proteins {AQP}1, Aqy1, and {CLC}-Ec1." *Biophysical Journal* 103 (4): 786–96.

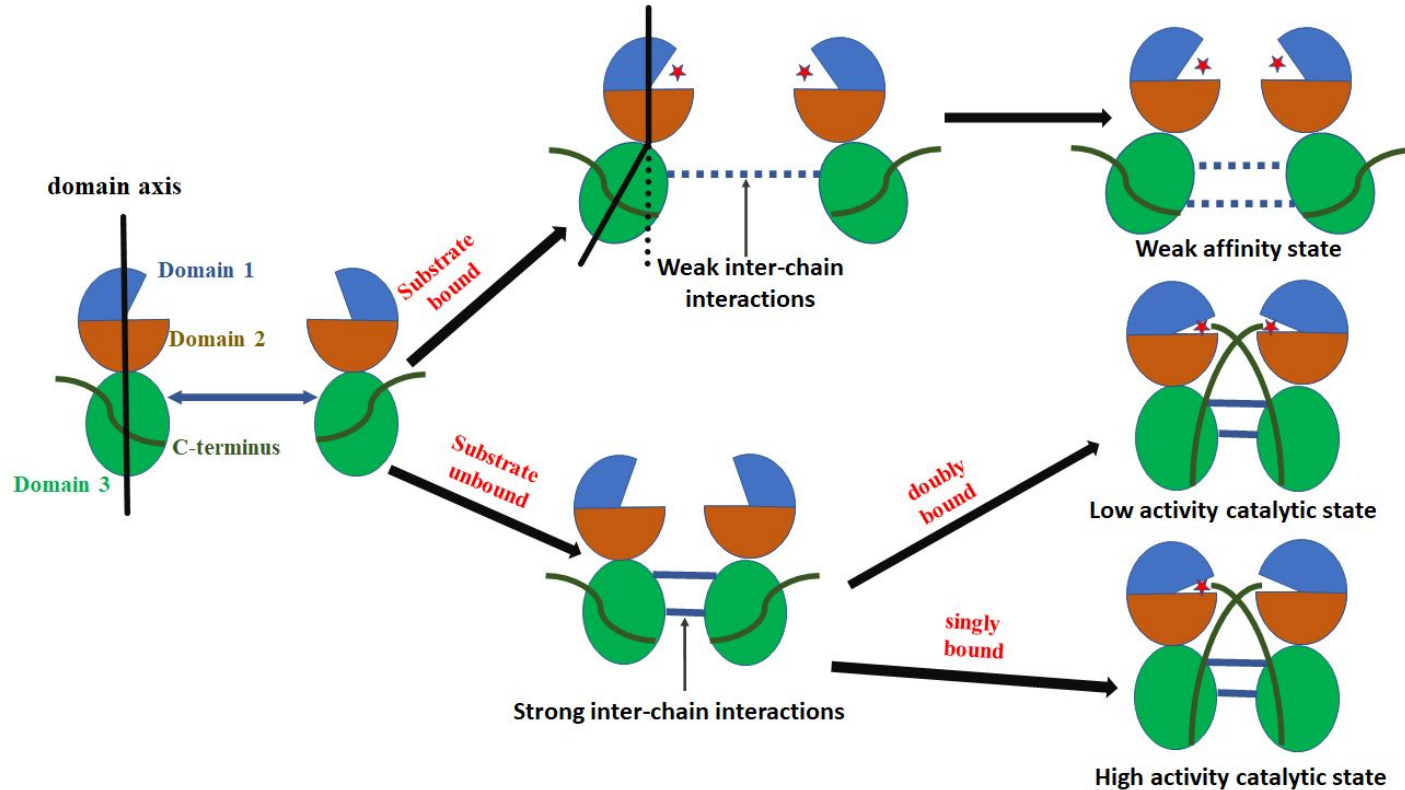
# Machine model based on dSidechain



# Are machine-model results causative?



# Schema for the mechanism of the dimerization



# Conclusions

1.  $M^{\text{pro}}$  monomer is catalytically active and yet has low affinity for the ligand
2. Dimerization makes the enzyme obtain high substrate affinity
3. The singly bound state of the dimer has both high substrate affinity and catalytic activity
4. The buried salt-bridge pair between the dimers regulates the activation of the enzyme

# Final Conclusions for the choosing ML models

1. Understand the data generation process really well. It will give you crucial insights into choice of techniques / feature selection.
2. Don't use ML models as a Black Box. It might easily lead to GIGO issues.
3. Always cross-validate to test for overfitting
4. ML methods are \*data driven\*. If the model is not "captured" by your data, it can not be extracted from the data. I.e. ML methods are not a substitute for good sampling!

# Acknowledgements

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Mikhailo Gyrich for running the simulations

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For listening intently...

**You!**