

# **The Immune Epitope Database Analysis Resource:**

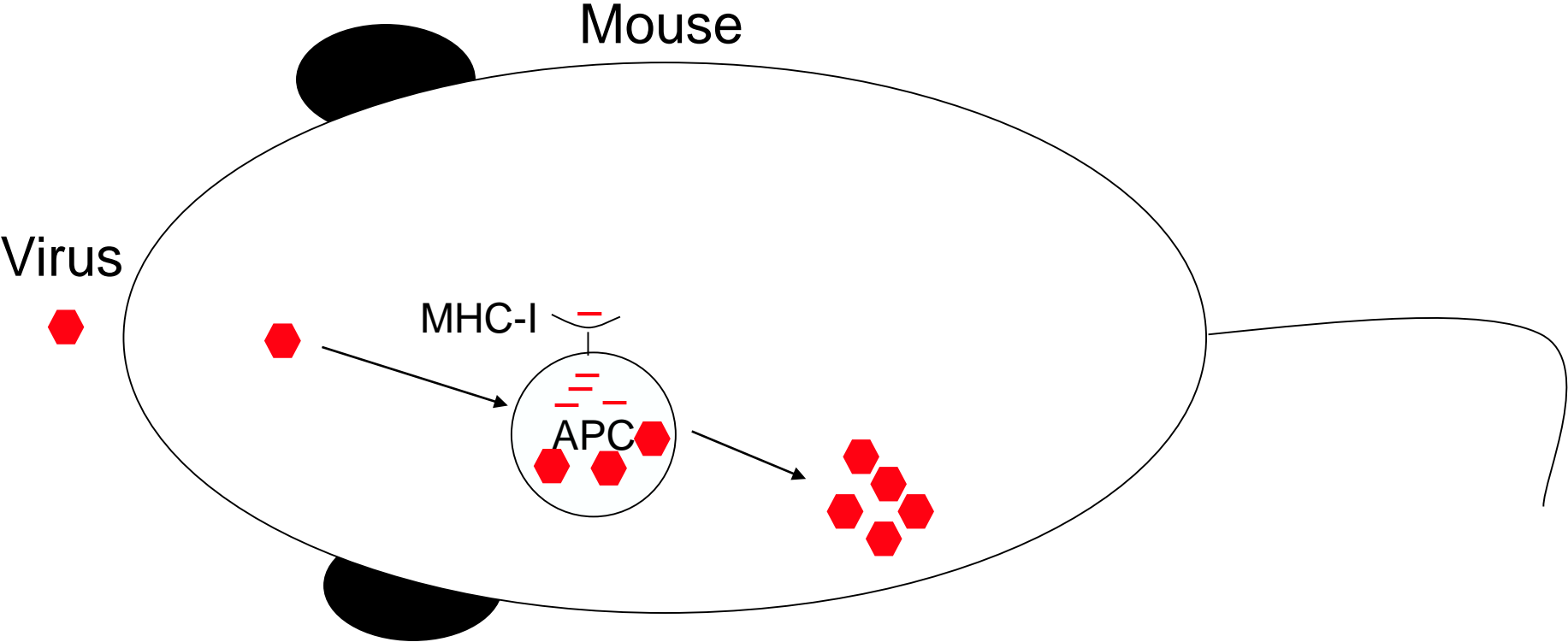
**MHC class I peptide processing and  
immunogenicity predictions**

**Bjoern Peters  
IEDB Workshop  
Oct 23, 2018**

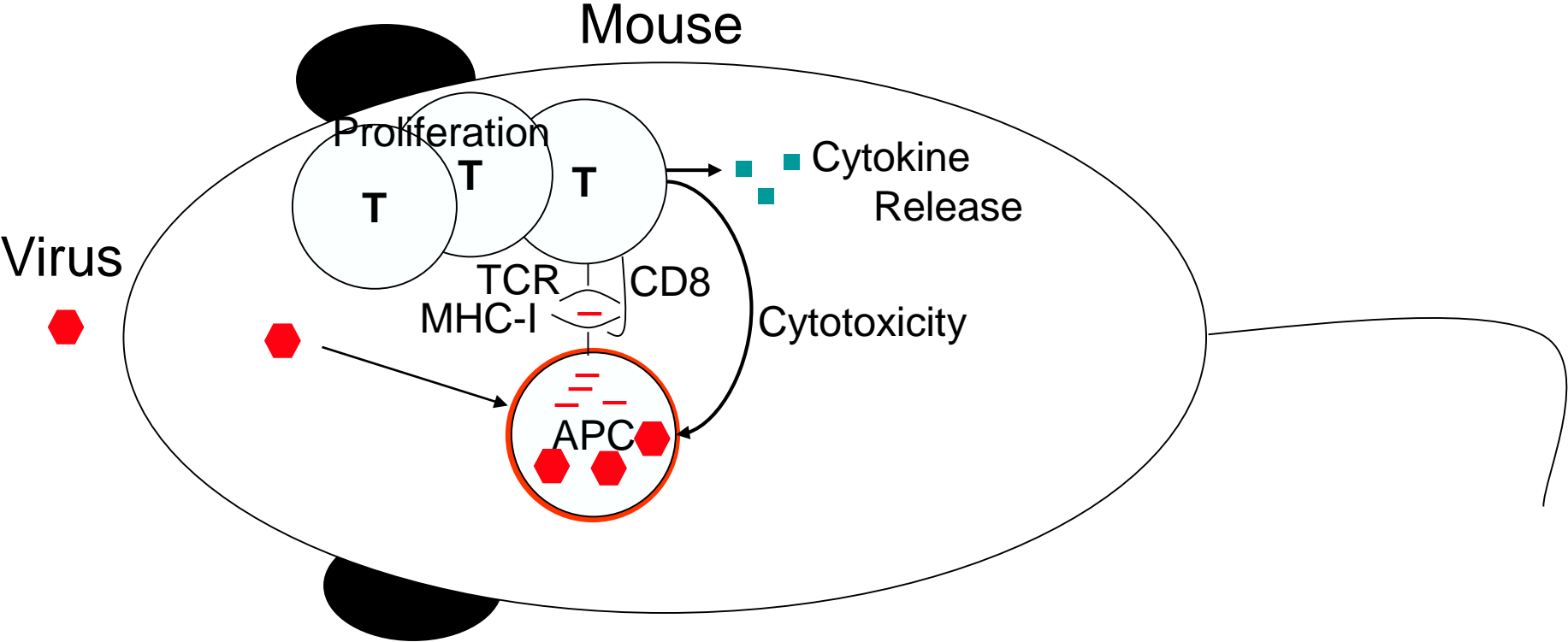
# Outline

- Motivation – Factors apart from MHC binding determine what peptides are T-cell epitopes
- Processing tools in the IEDB
  - Interfaces + Prediction output
  - Performance / Caveats
- Immunogenicity tool
  - Interface + Prediction output
  - Performance / Caveats

# CD8<sup>+</sup> T cell epitopes in viral infection



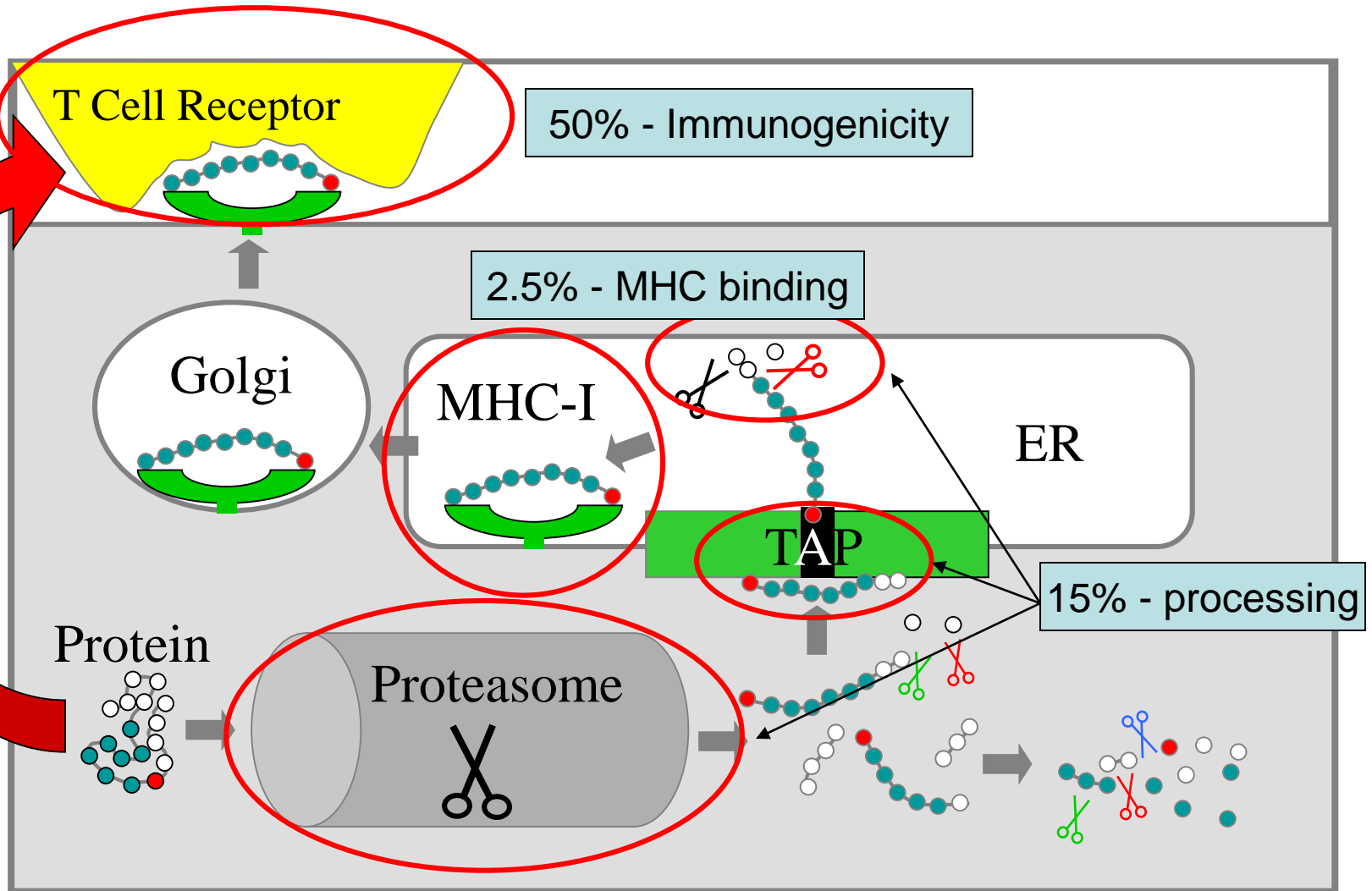
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T cell epitope mapping

ORF 1	M G Q I V T M F E A L P H I <b>I D E V I N I V I</b> I V L I V I T G I K A V Y N ...
ORF 2	M G L K G P D I Y K G V Y Q F K S V E F D M S H L N L T M P N A C S A N N ...
ORF 3	M H N F C N L T S A F N K K T F D H T L M S I V S S L H L S I D G N S N Y ...
ORF 4	M S A Q S Q C R T F R G R V L D M F R T A F G G K Y M R S G W G W T G S D ...
ORF 5	M H C T Y A G P F G M S R I L L S Q E K T K F F T R R L A G T F T W T L S ...
ORF 6	M K C F G N T A V A K C N V N H D A E F C D M L R L I D Y N K A A L S K F ...
ORF 7	M L M R N H L <b>L D L M G V P Y C N Y</b> S K F W Y L E H A K T G E T S V P K C ...
ORF 8	M N M T F M L R K R Y L K R Q C T F I A M D I M E C T C A Y I V C ...

# MHC I - Antigen processing and presentation pathway



# Processing + immunogenicity tools available in the IEDB

- ‘Combined predictor’ – Combines proteasomal cleavage and TAP transport predictions, trained on specific in vitro datasets 
- Neural Network based predictors (NetChop, NetCTL)
- MHC-NP: Prediction of peptides naturally processed by the MHC
- Immunogenicity predictor

## T Cell Epitope Prediction Tools

### T Cell Epitopes - MHC Binding Prediction

These tools predict IC50 values for peptides binding to specific MHC molecules. Note that binding to MHC is necessary but not sufficient for recognition by T cells.

#### [Peptide binding to MHC class I molecules](#)

This tool will take in an amino acid sequence, or set of sequences and determine each subsequence's ability to bind to a specific MHC class I molecule.

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#### [TepiTool:](#)

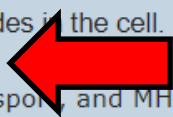
The Tepitool provides prediction of peptides binding to MHC class I and class II molecules. Tool is designed as a wizard with 6 steps as described below. Each field (except sequences and alleles) is filled with default recommended settings for prediction and selection of optimum peptides. The input parameters can be adjusted as per your specific needs. You can go back to previous steps to change your selection before submission of the job. Once you submit the job (at the end of step-6), you will not be able to make any more changes and will have to start the prediction all over again with updated input parameters.

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## MHC-I Processing Predictions

Prediction Method Version

2013-02-22 [\[Older versions\]](#)

### Specify Sequence(s)

Enter protein sequence(s) in FASTA format  
[\(Browse for sequences in NCBI\)](#)

Or select file containing sequence(s)

 No file chosen

Choose sequence format

auto detect format ▾

### Choose a Prediction Method

Prediction Method

IEDB recommended ▾ [Help on prediction method selections](#)

### Specify what to make binding predictions for

MHC source species

human ▾

Show only frequently occurring alleles:  [?](#)  
Select MHC allele(s)[Allele](#)[Length](#)[Upload allele file](#) [?](#)

### Proteasomal cleavage prediction

Specify proteasome type

immuno ▾

### TAP transport predictions

Maximum precursor extension

Alpha factor

### Specify Output

Output format

XHTML table ▾



# Proteasomal cleavage

Proteasomal cleavage prediction	
Specify proteasome type	<input type="text" value="immuno"/>
TAP transport predictions	
Maximum precursor extension	<input type="text" value="1"/>
Alpha factor	<input type="text" value="0.2"/>

- Proteasomes create the C-terminal end of peptides. The prediction looks for a sequence motive up and downstream of a potential cleavage site
- Cleavage sequence motif was determined based on in vitro protein digests by proteasomes
- Choice between two types of proteasomes with slightly different motif constitutive or immuno (should be default choice)

# TAP transport

Proteasomal cleavage prediction	
Specify proteasome type	<input type="text" value="immuno"/>
TAP transport predictions	
Maximum precursor extension	<input type="text" value="1"/>
Alpha factor	<input type="text" value="0.2"/>

- TAP transports peptides into the ER that can be further N-terminally trimmed before binding to MHC.
- The TAP transport efficiency of peptides is sequence dependent, and a motif was derived based on in vitro assays
- The overall TAP transport efficiency of a presented MHC ligand can be the result of a collection of precursors.
- The parameters shown describe that collection. Unless you read the paper and know something about the precursor length distribution, **keep parameters unchanged**

# Difference in prediction output

Allele	#	Start	End	PepLength	Sequence	Proteasome Score	TAP Score	MHC Score	Processing Score	Total Score	MHC IC50[nM]
H-2-Kb	1	1	10	10	MGQIVTMFEA	0.91	-0.29	-4.36	0.62	-3.74	22777.84
H-2-Kb	1	2	11	10	GQIVTMFEAL	1.51	0.42	-3.93	1.93	-2.00	8485.76
H-2-Kb	1	3	12	10	QIVTMFEALP	0.65	0.13	-4.49	0.77	-3.72	31246.67
H-2-Kb	1	4	13	10	IVTMFEALPH	0.65	-0.20	-4.11	0.45	-3.67	12949.50
H-2-Kb	1	5	14	10	VTMFEALPHI	1.24	0.28	-3.59	1.52	-2.06	3850.57
H-2-Kb	1	6	15	10	TMFEALPHII	1.06	0.34	-3.52	1.40	-2.11	3273.98
H-2-Kb	1	7	16	10	MFEALPHIID	1.13	-0.75	-4.23	0.37	-3.85	16798.51

- Higher scores = higher efficiency for MHC-I presentation
- MHC binding score =  $-\log_{10}(\text{IC}_{50})$  ( $\rightarrow$  sign change)
- Combined scores are additive
  - Processing = proteasome + TAP
  - Total = proteasome + TAP + MHC
- Different variance in scores reflects different selectivity
  - Proteasome (1.7) < TAP (2.8) < MHC (6.7)

# Caveats / performance of processing predictions

- Processing predictions beat MHC binding predictions when predicting **eluted peptides**
- So far, there is no clear evidence that processing predictions are better at predicting **epitopes**
- Issues are:
  - All data has been derived for *human* proteasome and TAP; most well defined epitopes are mapped in mice (which has different TAP specificity)
  - Eluted peptides may over represent ‘best possible’ ligands, and the difference in processing may not be relevant in practice
- Recommendation: Use MHC binding predictions alone by default. If resources require limiting the number of peptides considered, use total score of processing predictions as an additional filter.

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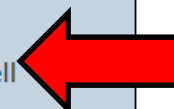
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# Additional processing predictions

- NetChop (proteasomal cleavage)
  - NetCTL (combines NetChop, TAP transport, NetMHC)
  - NetCTLpan ( combines NetChop, TAP transport, NetMHCpan)
- Key difference is the use of NetChop

# IEDB Analysis Resource

[Home](#) [Help](#) [Example](#) [Reference](#) [Contact](#)

## NetChop/NetCTL/NetCTLpan

### Choose a Prediction Method

Prediction Method

NetCHOP

### Specify Sequence(s)

Enter protein equence(s) in FASTA format

```
>BHB191648|gi:90572034|gb:CY010133|UniProtKB:Q1WPY8|Gene  
Symbol:M2|Protein Name:Matrix protein 2|Organism:Influenza A  
Virus A/Canterbury/100/2000|Segment:7|Subtype:H1N1|Host:Human  
MSLLTEVETPIRNEWGCRCNDSSDPLVVAASIIGIVHLILWIIDRLFSSKIYRIFKHGLK  
TEGVPEMREEYREEQQNAVDADDGHFVSIELE
```

```
>BHB191653|gi:90572040|gb:CY010136|UniProtKB:Q1WPY3|Gene  
Symbol:NS1|Protein Name:Nonstructural protein
```

Or select file containing sequence(s)

No file chosen

### Method Specific Options

Method

C term 3.0

Threshold

0.5

# NetChop 3.0

- Predicts C-terminal cleavage based on two approaches
  - *C-term 3.0*: C-terminal residues found for MHC ligands
  - *20S 3.0*: Cleavage sites based on in vitro protein digests
- *C-term 3.0* is not truly a proteasome predictor but performs better.
- NetCTL and NetCTLPan use *C-term 3.0* by default



# References

- Peters et al, JMB 2002 (proteasome)
- Peters et al, J Immunol 2003 (TAP)
- Tenzer et al, CMLS, 2005 (combined)
- Nielsen, Immunogenetics, 2005 (NetChop)
- Larsen, BMC Bioinformatics, 2007 (NetCTL)
- Stranzl, Immunogenetics, 2010 (NetCTLPan)

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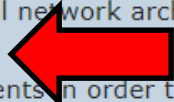
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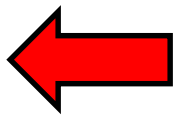
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# MHC-NP: Prediction of Peptides Naturally Processed by the MHC

Developed by: Sébastien Giguère Alexandre Drouin, Alexandre Lacoste, Mario Marchand, Jacques Corbeil and François Laviolette



**Specify Sequence(s)**

Enter protein sequence(s) in FASTA format  
[\(Browse for sequences in NCBI\)](#)

Or select file containing sequence(s)  No file chosen

Choose sequence format

**Specify what to make binding predictions for**

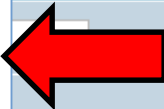
Allele	Length	
<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="text" value=""/>	<a href="#">Upload allele file</a>

**Specify Output**

Sort peptides by

Output format

- H-2-Db
- H-2-Kb
- HLA-A\*02:01
- HLA-B\*07:02
- HLA-B\*35:01
- HLA-B\*44:03
- HLA-B\*53:01
- HLA-B\*57:01

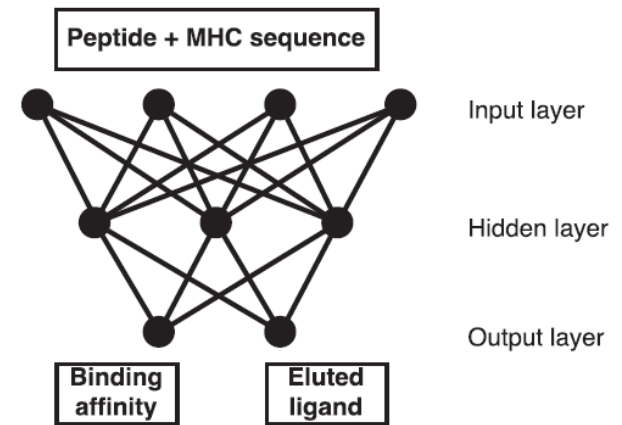


# Coming soon: Pan-predictions trained on both binding + eluted ligand data

## NetMHCpan-4.0: Improved Peptide–MHC Class I Interaction Predictions Integrating Eluted Ligand and Peptide Binding Affinity Data

Vanessa Jurtz, Sinu Paul, Massimo Andreatta, Paolo Marcatili, Bjoern Peters and Morten Nielsen

*J Immunol* 2017; 199:3360-3368; Prepublished online 4 October 2017;



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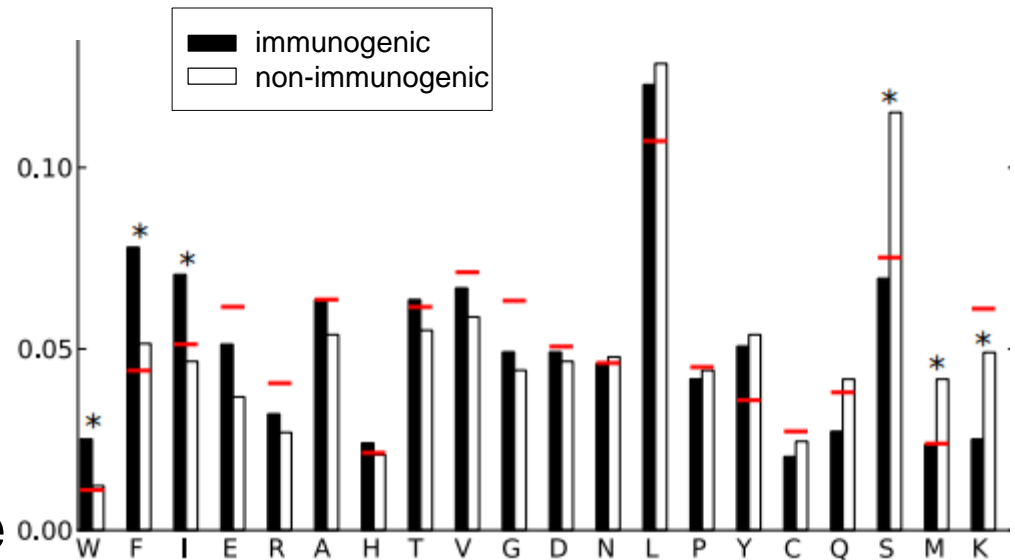


# Immunogenicity prediction

- Approach: Assemble two datasets of peptides with similar MHC binding affinity, that are
  - 1) recognized or
  - 2) not recognized by T cells

→ Enrichment of W,F,I and depletion of S,M,K in immunogenic peptide

→ Use enrichments to calculate propensity scores



*Calis et al, PLoS Comp Biol, 2013*

# Immunogenicity prediction - interface

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## Class I Immunogenicity

### Specify sequence(s) \*

Enter peptide sequence(s)  
([Browse for sequences in NCBI](#))

```
FIAGLIAIV  
LITGRLQSL  
RLNEVAKNL  
KAVYNFATC  
FQPQNGQFI
```

Or select file containing sequence(s)

No file chosen

### Choose which positions to mask

Specify which positions to mask

Default (1st, 2nd, and C-terminus amino acids)

Custom

(Comma separated numbers)

Peptide lengths must be equal when using custom masking.

\*The tool was only validated for 9-mer peptides. However, predictions can be made for peptides of any length.

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Supported by a contract from the [National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases](#), a component of the National Institutes of Health in the Department of Health and Human Services.

- Mask positions that are MHC anchors

# Immunogenicity prediction - output

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## Class I Immunogenicity

Masking: **default**

Masked variables: [1, 2, 'cterm']

Peptide	Length	Score
FIAGLIAIV	9	0.27206
KAVYNFATC	9	0.16928
RLNEVAKNL	9	-0.0101
LITGRLQSL	9	-0.10776
FQPQNGQFI	9	-0.12392

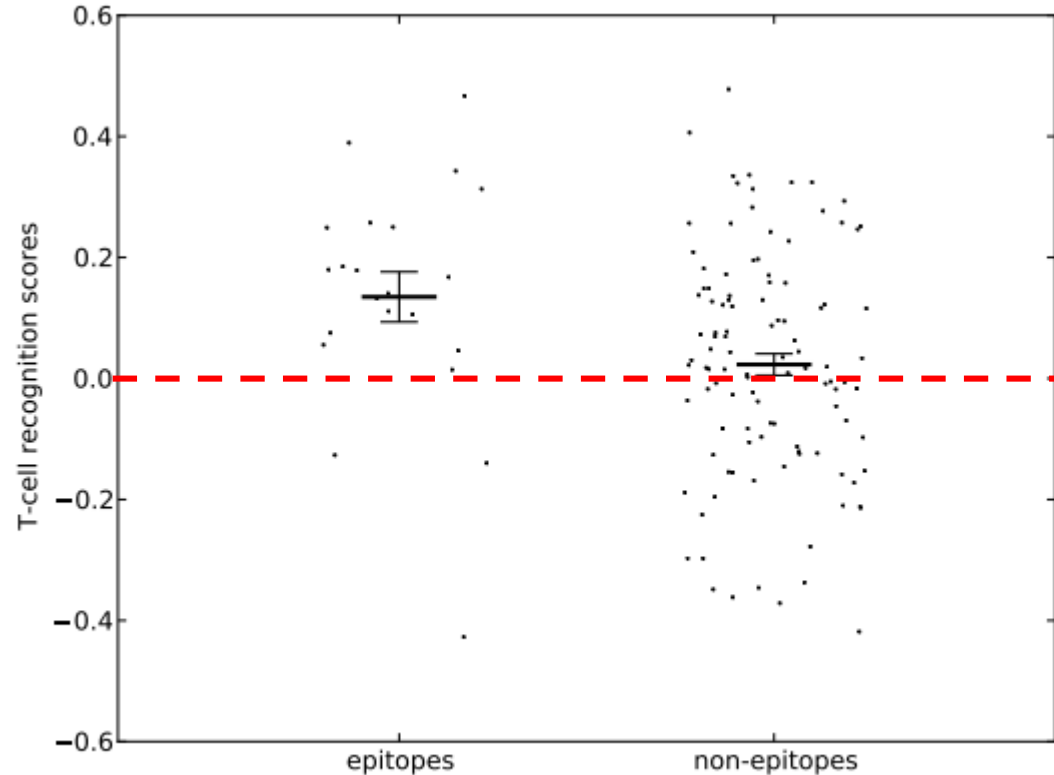
[Download result](#) 

- Scores are sums of propensity scores at all unmasked predictions
- High scores = peptide is more likely to be immunogenic



# Caveats / Prediction performance

- Experimentally, many MHC binding peptides can be immunogenic (~50%)
- Cross validation gave AUC values ~ 0.65. Test on independent blind set gave AUC = 0.69
- Recommendation: Use as filter (cutoff 0) if high specificity is desired. Suggested cutoff is 0.



# Questions?