



# StARs and constellations in chemical space:

## A visual representation of Structure-Activity Relationships

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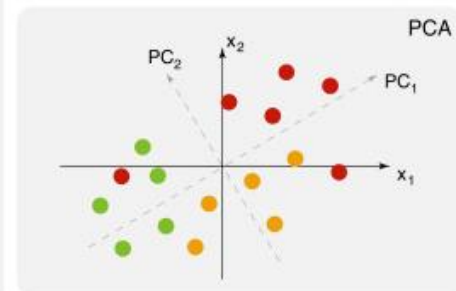
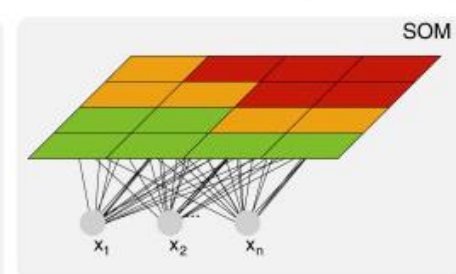
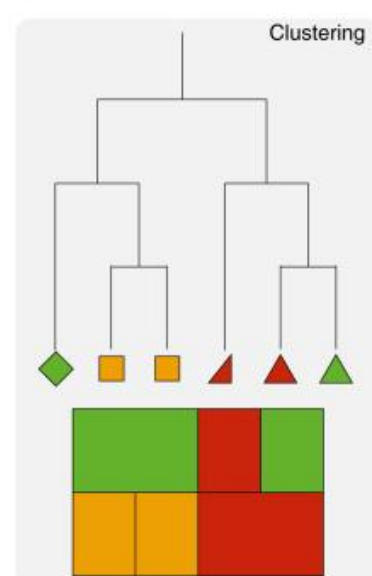
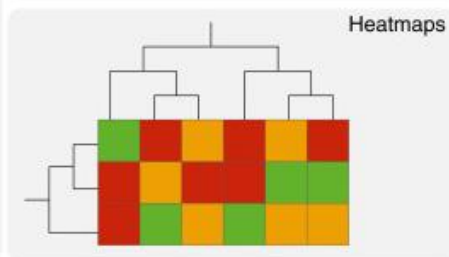
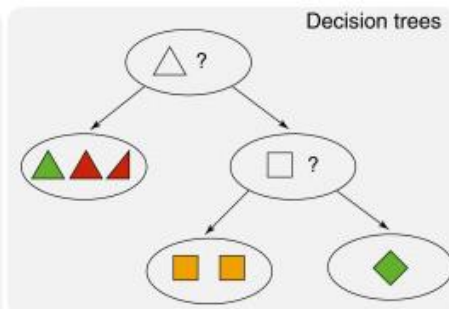
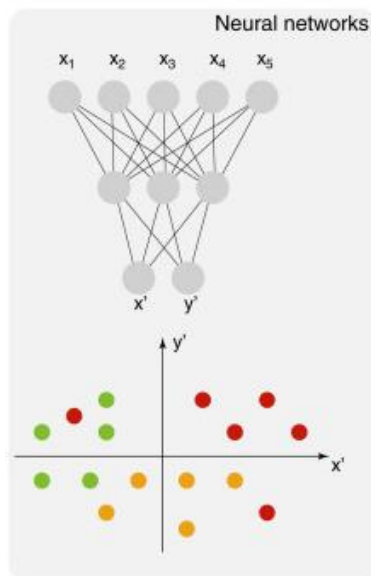
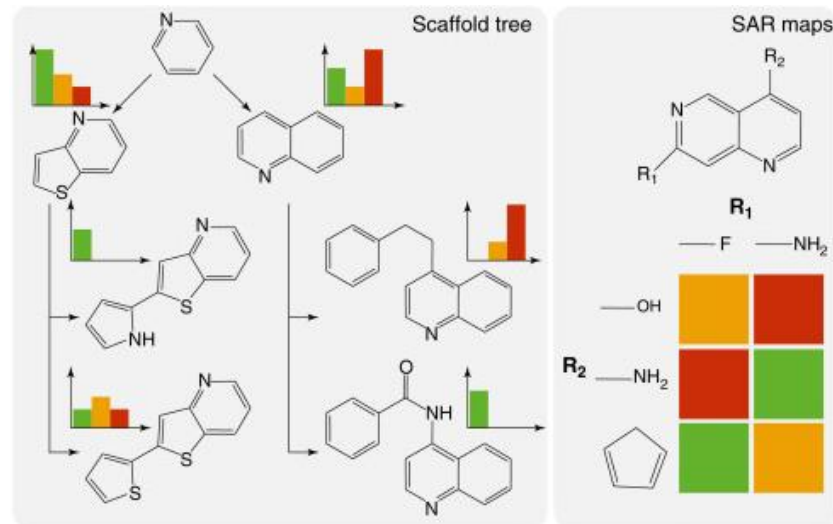
Chemoinformatics Strasbourg Summer School  
University of Strasbourg, 29 June - 3 July 2020

# Outline

- Background
  - Methods for SAR analysis and visualization
  - Chemical space and activity landscape modeling
- Motivation
- Activity Landscape Plotter
- Constellation Plots
- Concluding remarks and perspectives

# General approaches for SAR analysis

- Dimension reduction.
- Clustering and partitioning.
- Organization and annotation of substructures.
- Structural vs. activity similarity.



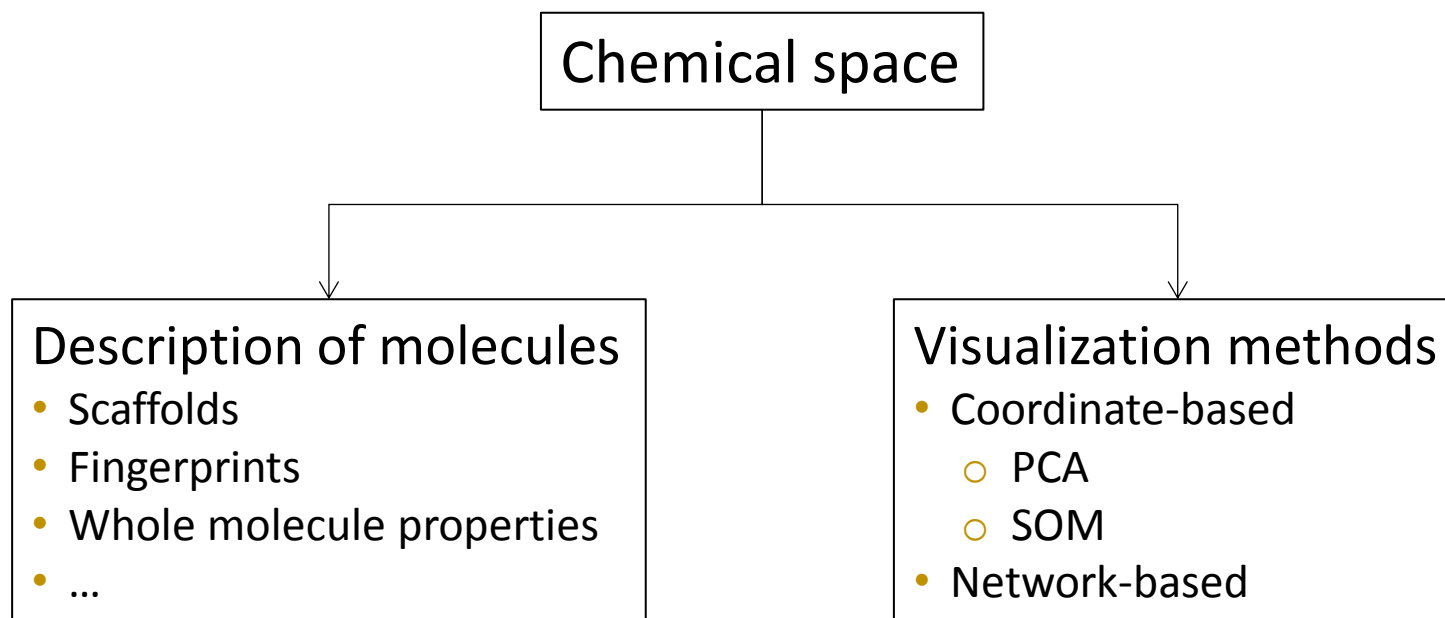
# Implementations of methods for SAR

Method	Ref.
SAR matrices (SARMs)	ACS Omega 4:7061
SAR maps and Enhanced SAR maps	J Med Chem 50:5926
SAR Analyzer	J Cheminform 5:31
Consensus Diversity Plots	J Cheminform. 8:63
Chem Maps	JCC 3:157
Shinyheatmap	PLoS ONE. 12:e0176334

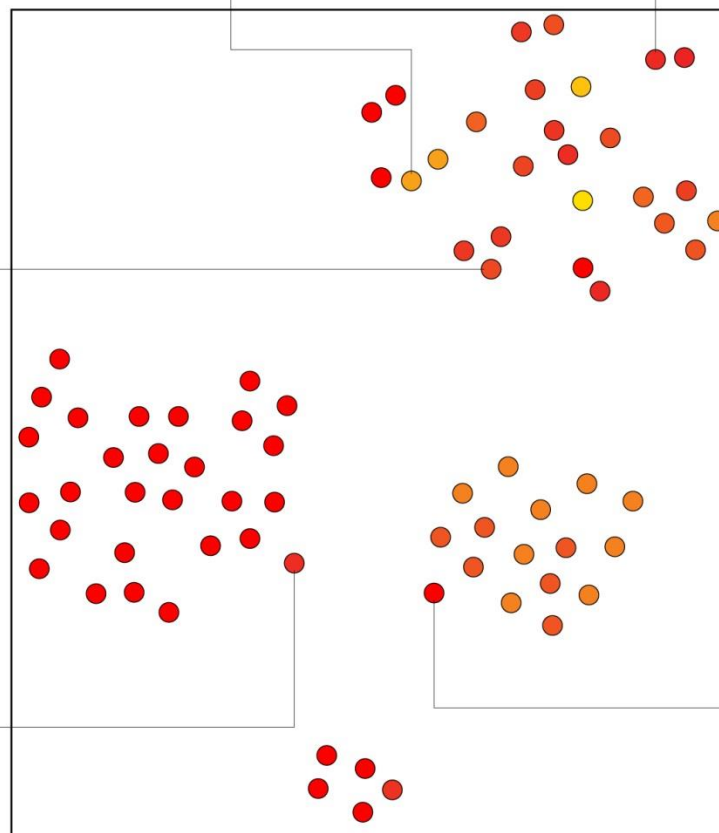
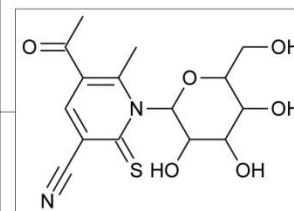
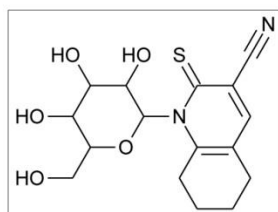
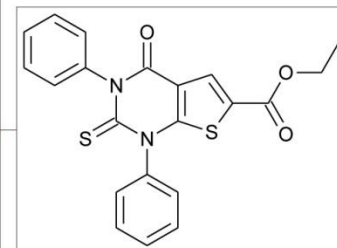
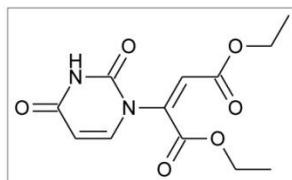
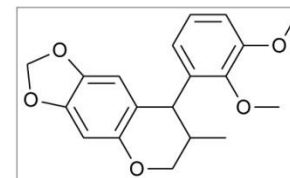
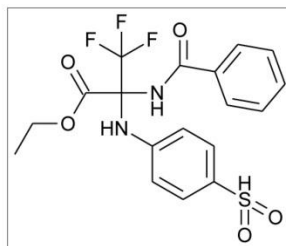
Software	Ref.
DataWarrior	Exp Op on Drug Disc 14:335
Tableau	Tableau Soft. WA, USA
SARANEA	JCIM 50:16
Scaffold Hunter	J Cheminf 9 28
Spotfire	TIBCO Soft. CA, USA
Molecular Property eXplorer	JCIM 45: 523
LeadScope	JCICS 40:6
StarDrop	Optibrium. CA,UK
Miner3D	Addinsoft. PA, FR
SAR Report	MOE Soft. MO, CAN
<b>Web-based applications</b>	
VisualiSAR	JMGM 17:85
MOESaic	MOE Soft. MO, CAN

# Chemical space

One of many definitions: 'an M-dimensional Cartesian space in which compounds are located by a set of M physicochemical and/or chemoinformatic descriptors'.



# Visualization of SAR in chemical space

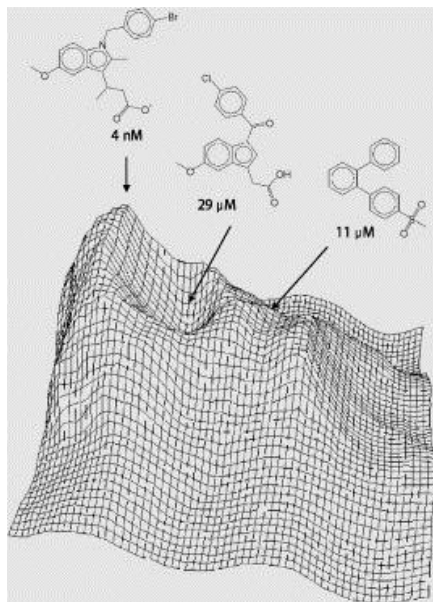


- Typical chemical space representation based on coordinates (t-SNE / Morgan fingerprints).
- Single molecules as dots.

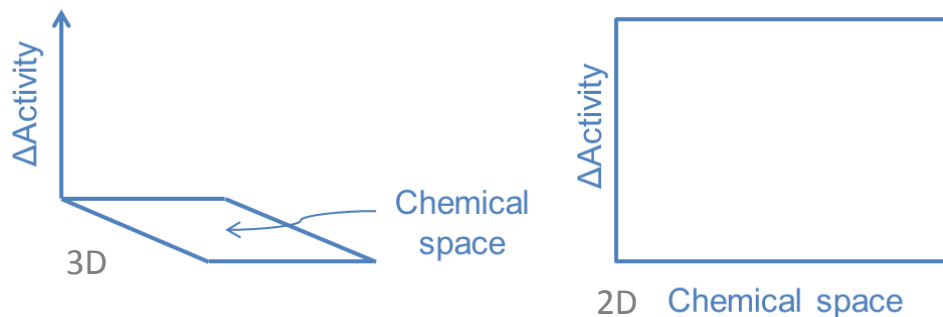
Property (activity)



# Activity landscape modeling



“Any representation that integrates the analysis of the structure similarity and potency differences between compounds sharing the same biological activity.”



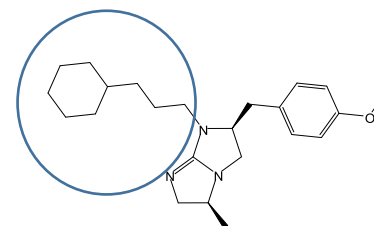
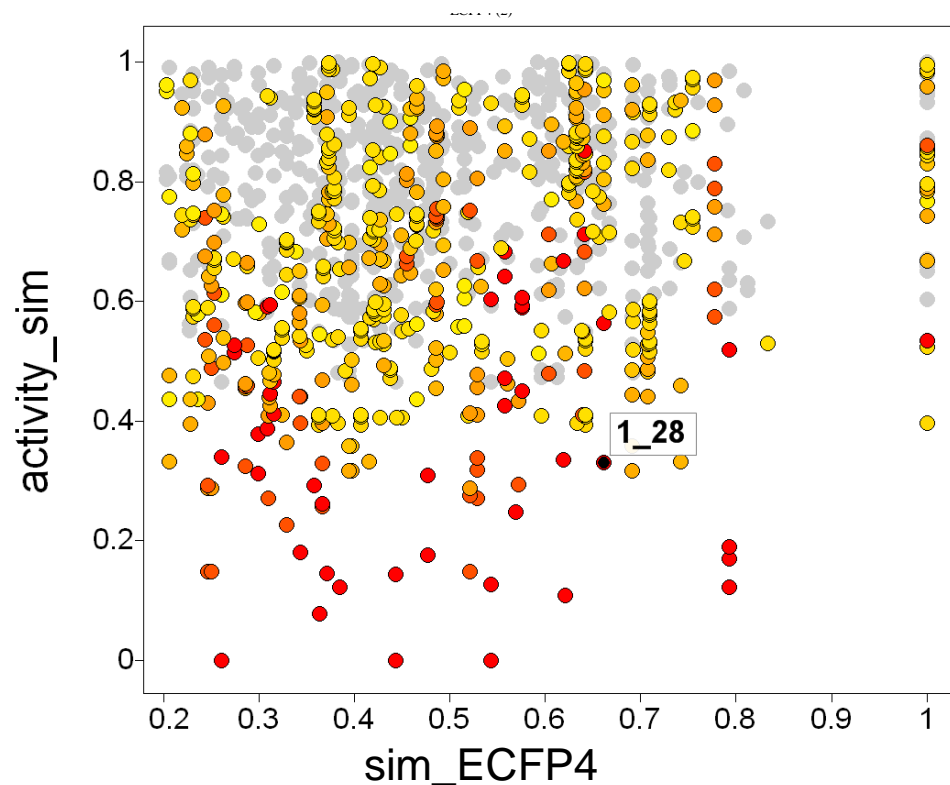
Several methods available:\*

- SALI: Structure-Activity Selectivity Index
- SAS: Structure-Activity Similarity maps
- SARANEA ...

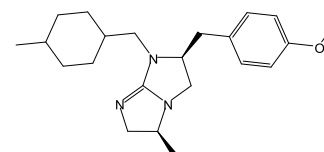
\*Stumpfe D. Bajorath J *J Med Chem* 2014 57:18

\*Iqbal J. Vogt M, Bajorath J. *J. Cheminformatics* 2020 12:34

# Structure-Activity Similarity (SAS) Map

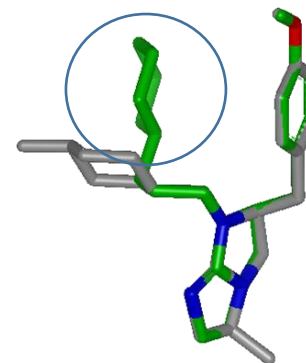


**1: 37 nM**



**28: 1,568 nM**

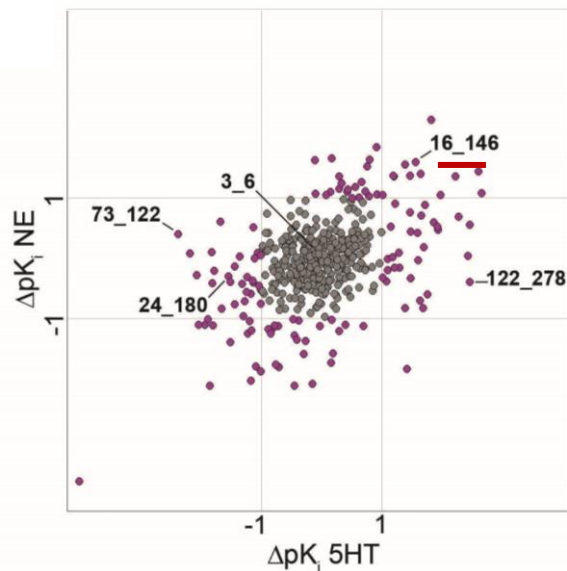
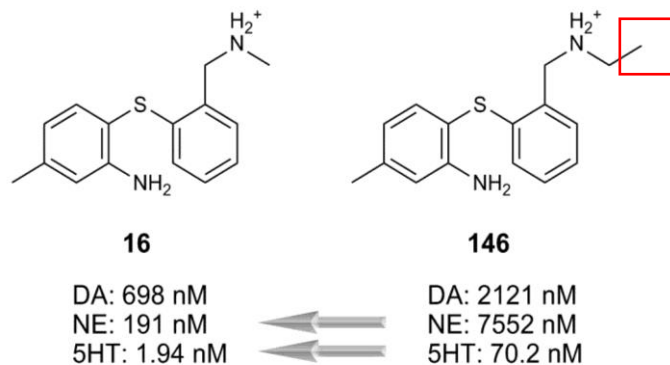
**Activity cliff:** Similar structures,  
very different activity





# Dual Activity Difference (DAD) Map

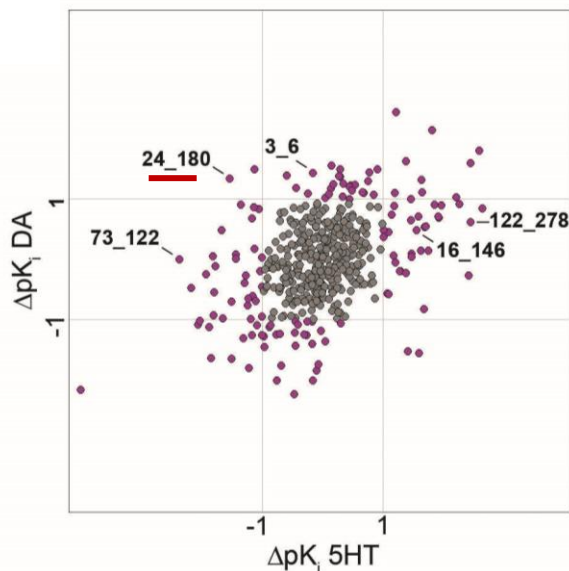
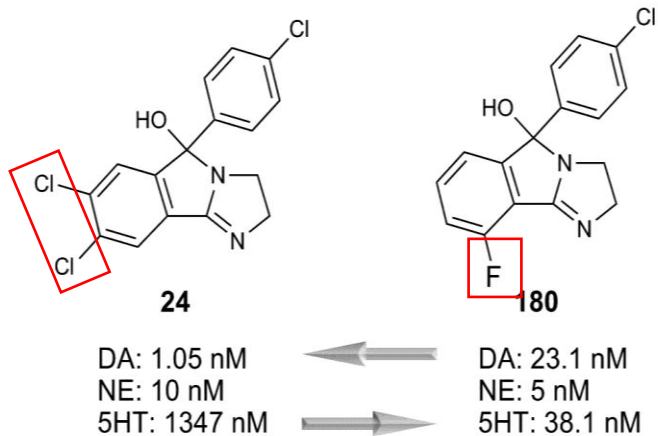
Dual activity cliff with similar SAR



Activity cliffs  
Continuous SAR

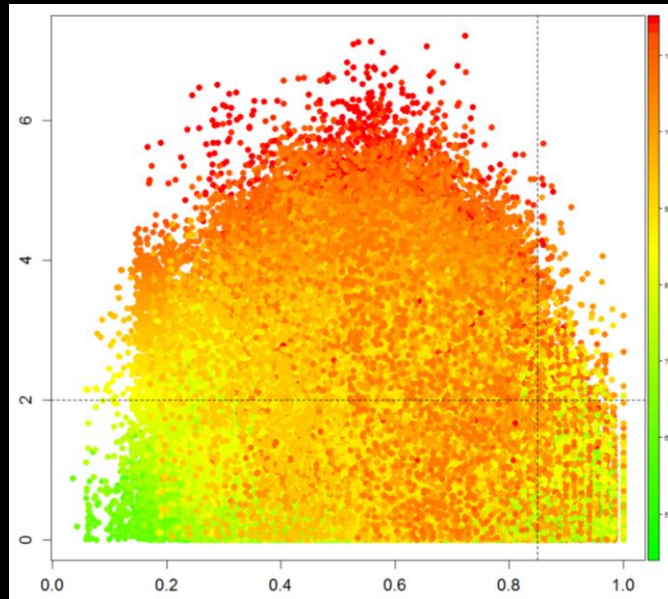
Dual cliff with opposite SAR

*Selectivity switch*



# Motivation

- SPR/SAR is a fundamental practice in chemistry.
- Data visualization enhance interpretation and pattern recognition.
  - Not necessarily prediction.
- Increase web-based services.
- Combine scaffold- with coordinate-based chemical representations.



# Activity Landscape Plotter

A web-based implementation of SAS and DAD maps for SAR analysis and rapid detection of activity cliffs

# Activity Landscape Plotter

## Activity Landscape Plotter V.1

[www.difacquim.com/d-tools/](http://www.difacquim.com/d-tools/)

[About](#) [Instructions](#) [Template](#) [SAS map](#) [DAD map](#) [Contact](#) [Acknowledgements](#) [D-Tools](#)

### DIFACQUIM

Welcome to this first online Activity Landscape Plotter. Here you will be able to perform analyses of activity landscape using Structure-Activity Similarity (SAS) maps, Dual Activity-Difference (DAD) maps and other metrics.

If you use this app please cite this reference:

Gonzalez-Medina M, Mendez-Lucio O, Medina-Franco JL. Activity Landscape Plotter: A Web-based Application for the Analysis of Structure-Activity Relationships. *J Chem Inf Model* (2017) 57(3), 397-402.

This App was developed by Mariana Gonzalez-Medina Oscar Mendez-Lucio and Jose L. Medina-Franco members of DIFACQUIM The group is based in the Pharmacy Department of the School of Chemistry in Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico.



### What are they for?

#### Structure-Activity Similarity (SAS) maps.

SAS maps were introduced to find a relationship between structure and activity, based on a systematic pairwise comparison of all the compounds in a data set. You can find more information [here](#).

With this App you can automatically obtain all the information required to generate and analyze SAS maps using your own activity data for one or more biological targets. You can customize the SAS maps and download the raw data as described in the Instructions.

#### Dual Activity-Difference (DAD) maps.

DAD maps depict pairwise activity differences for each possible pair of compounds in a data set against two targets. These maps are helpful to differentiate when a structural modification increases or decreases the activity for one target or the other. You can find more information [here](#).

With this App you can automatically obtain all the information required to plot and analyze DAD maps, using the biological activities in your input file. You can customize the DAD maps and download the raw data as described in the Instructions.

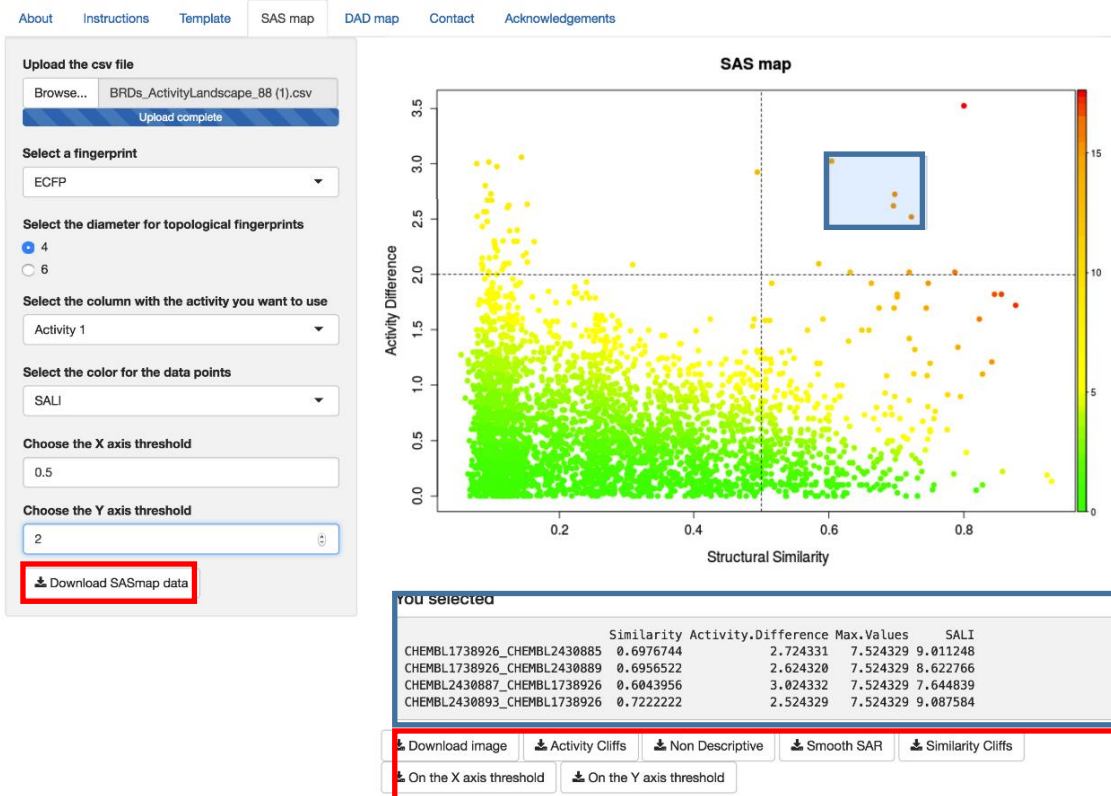
Shiny → User interface  
Rcdk → Chemoinformatics



Mariana González

# Activity Landscape Plotter SAS maps

## Activity Landscape Plotter V.1



The user can choose between:

Three molecular fingerprints:

- ECFP4 and ECFP6
- MACCS keys 166 bits
- PubChem 881 bits

Different activities from their input file

Set the x and y thresholds

Download raw data

# Activity Landscape Plotter

## DAD maps

### DAD map user interface

#### Activity Landscape Plotter V.1

[About](#)
[Instructions](#)
[Template](#)
[SAS map](#)
[DAD map](#)
[Contact](#)
[Acknowledgements](#)

**Upload the csv file**

Browse... HDACs\_Example.csv

Upload complete

Select a fingerprint to compute the similarity and add color to the DAD map

ECFP

Select the diameter for topological fingerprints

4  6

Select the column with the activity you want to use

Activity 1

Select the column with the activity you want to use

Activity 4

Select the color for the data points

Selectivity

Choose the lowest X axis threshold

-2

Choose the highest X axis threshold

2

Choose the lowest Y axis threshold

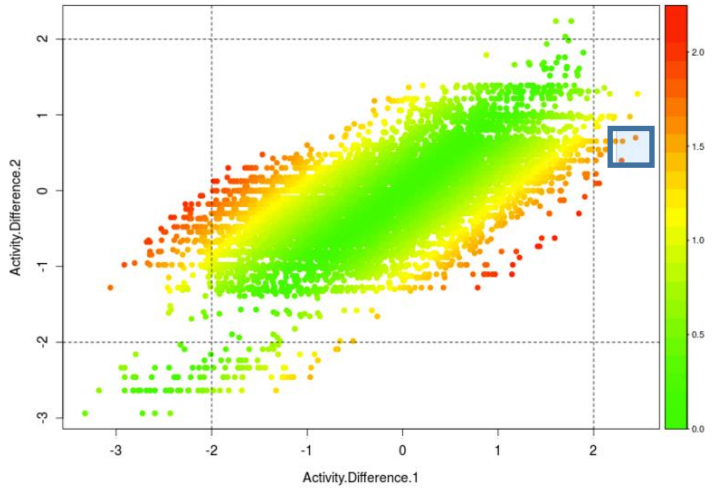
-2

Choose the highest Y axis threshold

2

**Download DADmap data**

**DAD map**



**You selected**

	Similarity	Activity.Difference.1	Activity.Difference.2	Selectivity
C109_C139	0.4925373	2.438384	0.6989700	1.739414
C111_C139	0.4533333	2.292256	0.3979400	1.894316
C75_C93	0.5072464	2.301844	0.6532125	1.648631

[Download image](#)
[Z1u](#)
[Z2d](#)
[Z2u](#)
[Z1d](#)
[Z3u](#)
[Z3d](#)
[Z4l](#)
[Z4r](#)
[Z5](#)

The user can choose between:

Different activities from their input file

Set the x and y thresholds

Download raw data

# Other free web services



DIFACQUIM Tools for  
Cheminformatics



## D-Peptide Builder

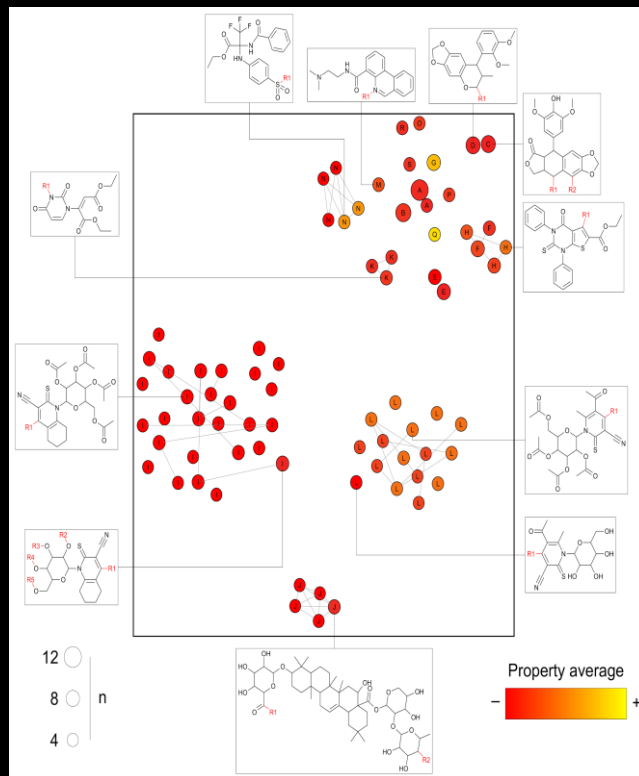
A chemoinformatic tool to enumerate combinatorial libraries

Díaz-Eufracio BI, Palomino-Hernández O, Arredondo-Sánchez A, Medina-Franco JL. D-Peptide Builder: A Web Service to Enumerate, Analyze, and Visualize the Chemical Space of Combinatorial Peptide Libraries. *Molecular Informatics* 2020, in press, doi: 10.1002/minf.202000035



## Platform for Unified Molecular Analysis: PUMA

Mariana González-Medina\*  and José L. Medina-Franco\* 



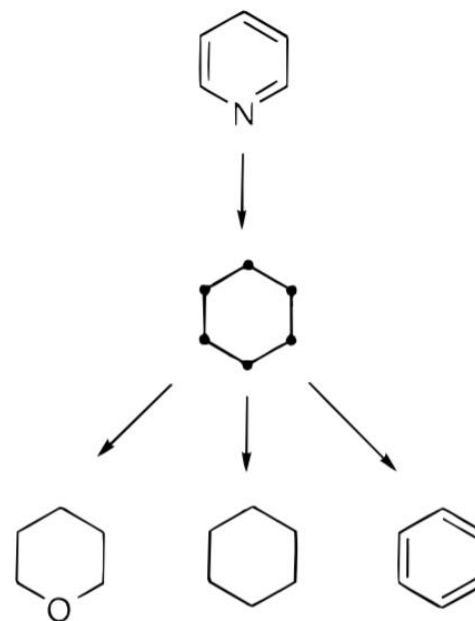
# Constellation Plots

A combination of scaffold-based and coordinate-based representation of chemical space for SAR analysis



# Scaffold: A simple concept

- Bemis and Murcko's: simple and useful representation for scaffolds based on ring identification.
- Concept broadly applied in multiple diversity and SAR analyses.



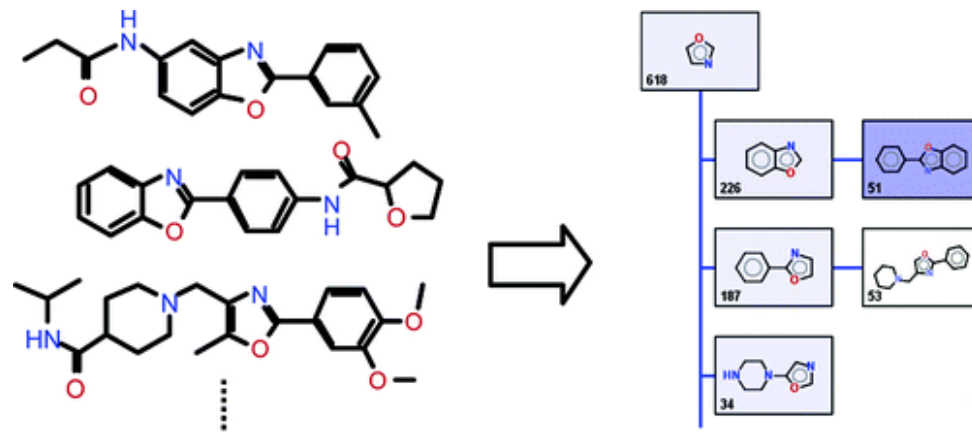
Graph representation of molecules

# Scaffold: A simple concept?

## Scaffold trees

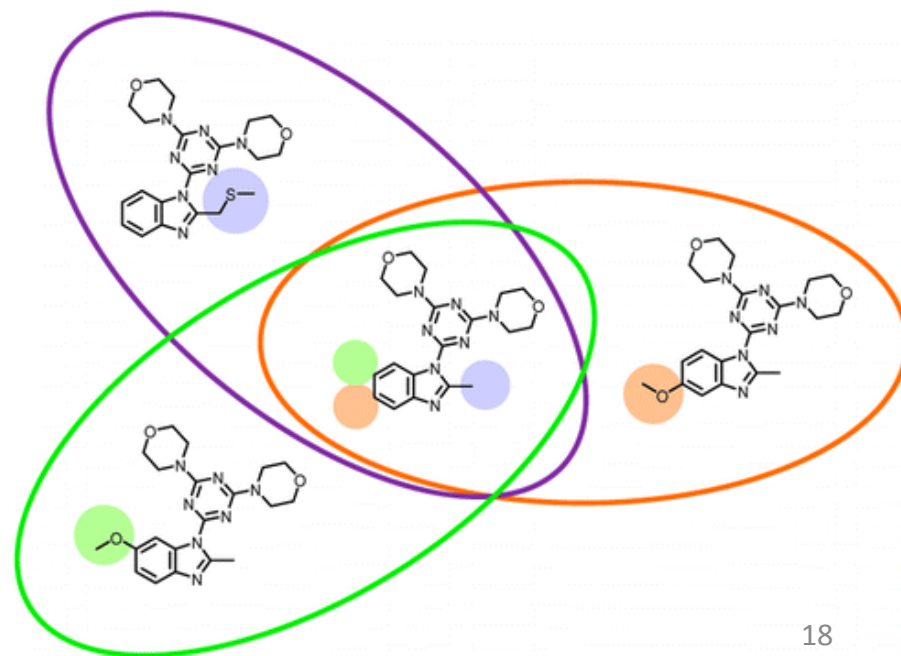
A hierarchical scaffold classification

Schuffenhauer et al. *J. Chem. Inf. Model.* 2007:47 47



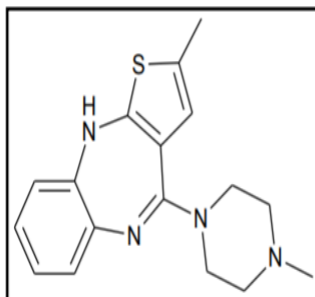
## Analog series based scaffolds

Stumpfe et al. *J. Med. Chem.* 2016:59 7667

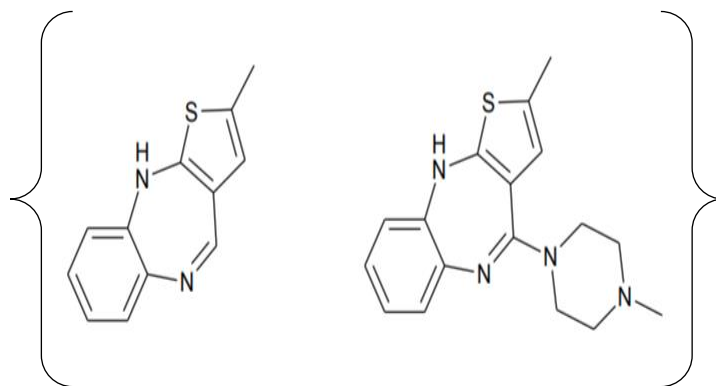


# Finding putative cores for a single molecule

Initial molecule



Putative cores



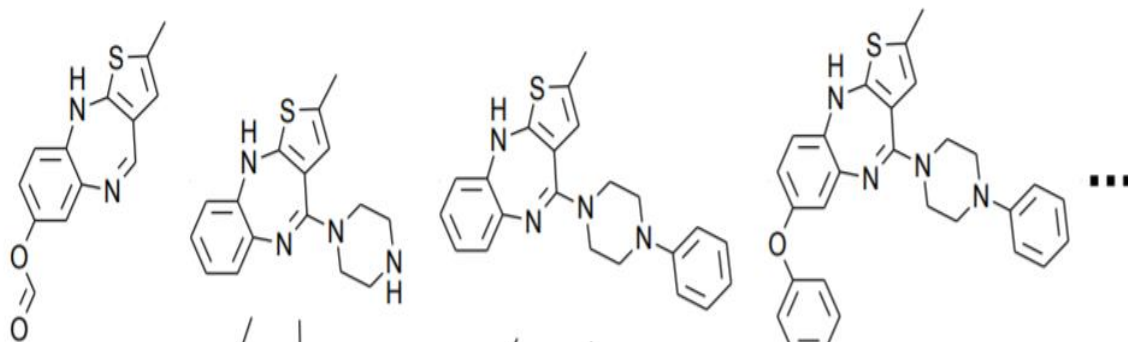
**Definition:**

Retrosynthesis fragments with at least 2/3 of the size of the initial molecule.

# Finding putative cores for a library

## Molecule space

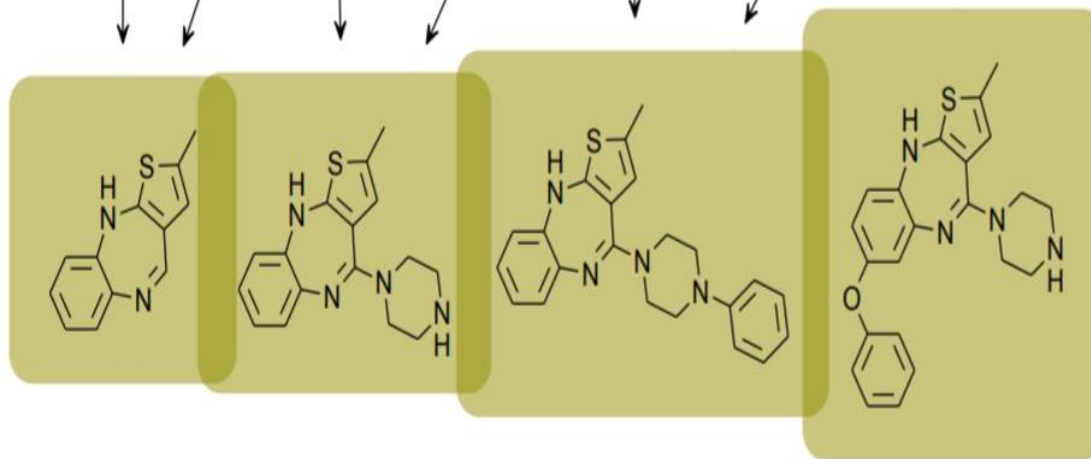
example of analogue series



Each compound is independently processed to find its putative cores.

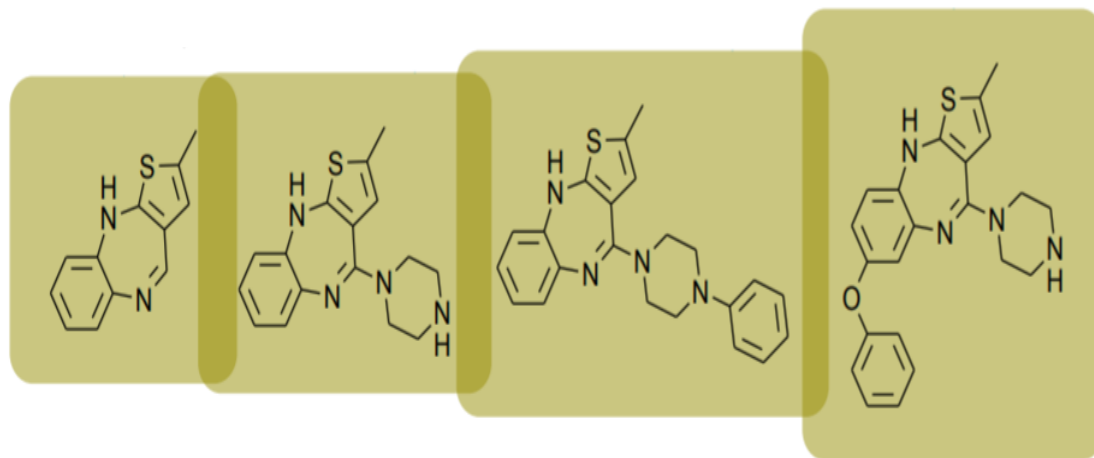
**Analogs:** molecules mapping to the same core.

## Core space



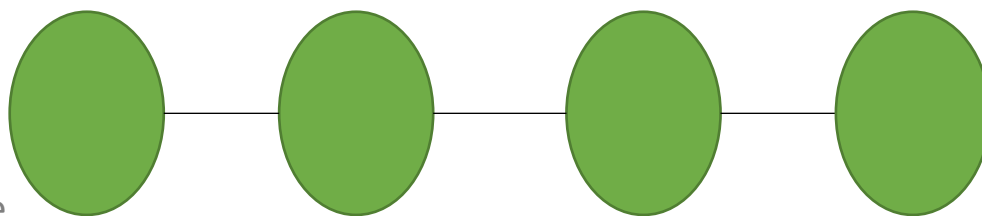
**Analog series:** a collection of molecules directly or indirectly connected through cores.

# Cores as a summary of a series



An **analog series** can be summarized as their cores

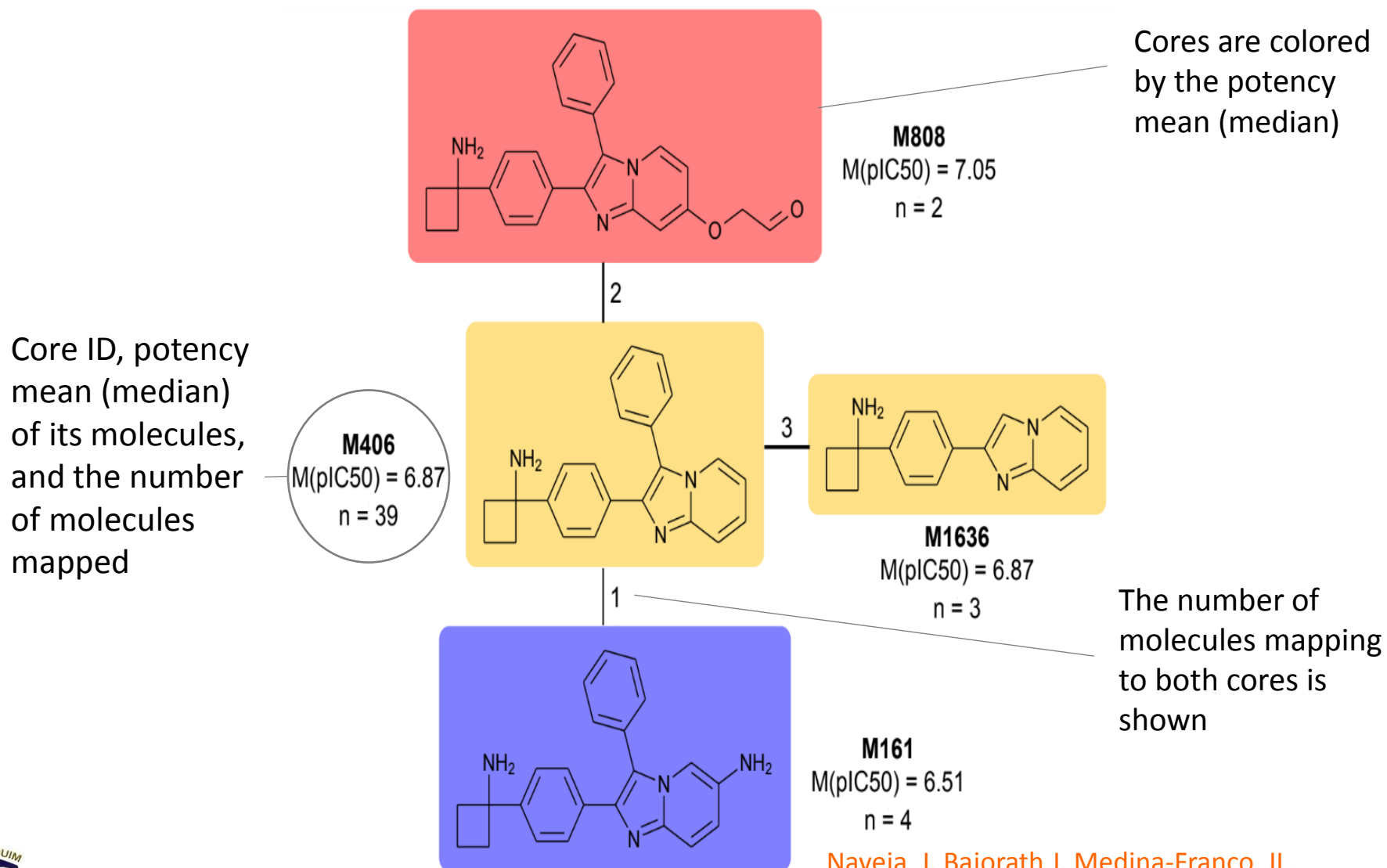
Only cores mapping to more than one molecule are considered



Every core represents a collection of compounds

It is a substructure summary of them

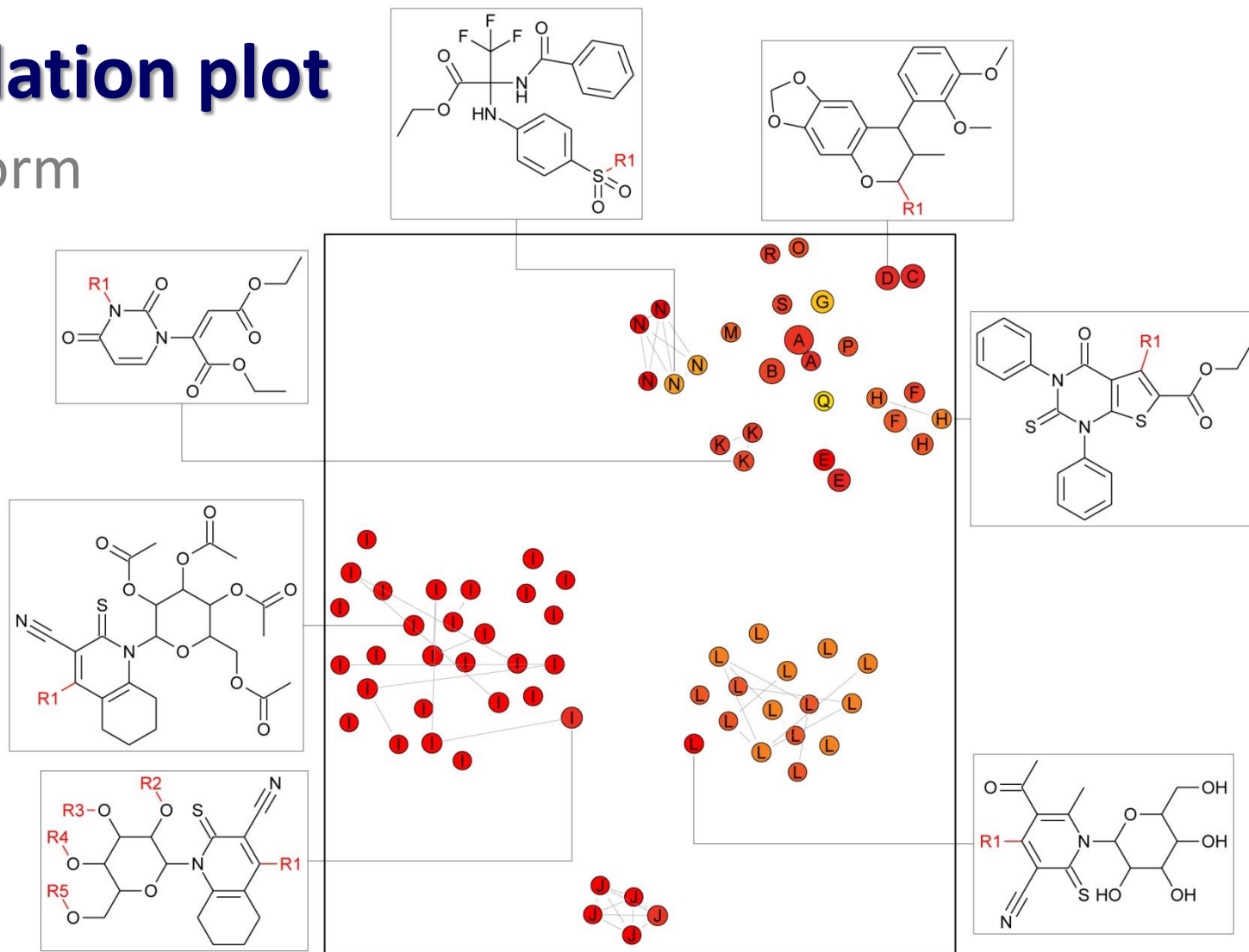
# Core SAR (CSAR) An analog series of AKT1 inhibitors



Naveja J, Bajorath J, Medina-Franco, JL.  
*J. Cheminformatics* 2019 11:61

# Constellation plot

General form



12 ○  
8 ○ n  
4 ○

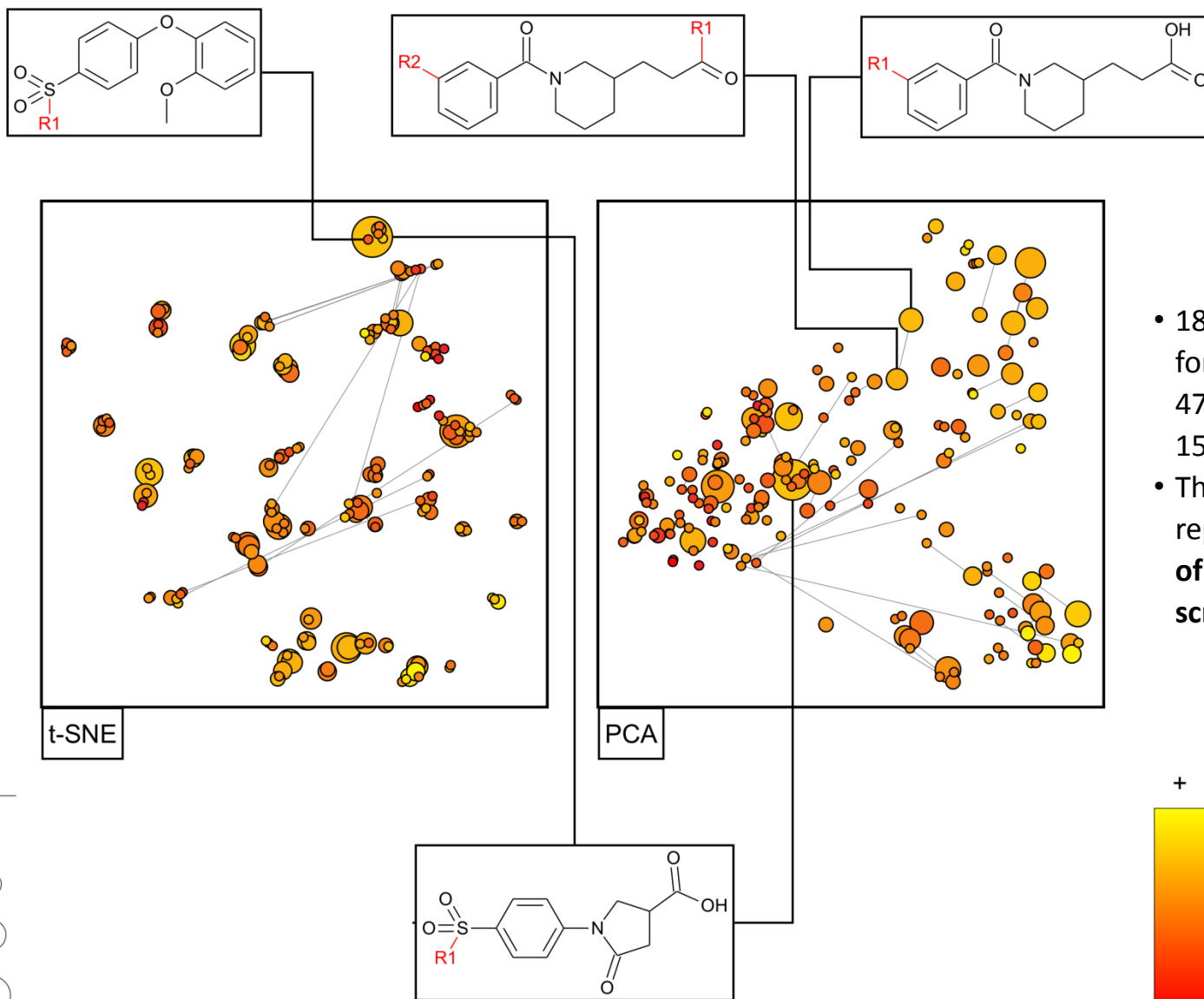
- t-SNE / Morgan fingerprints.
- Cores as dots.

Property average

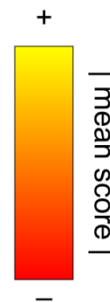


+

# Constellation plot using t-SNE and PCA

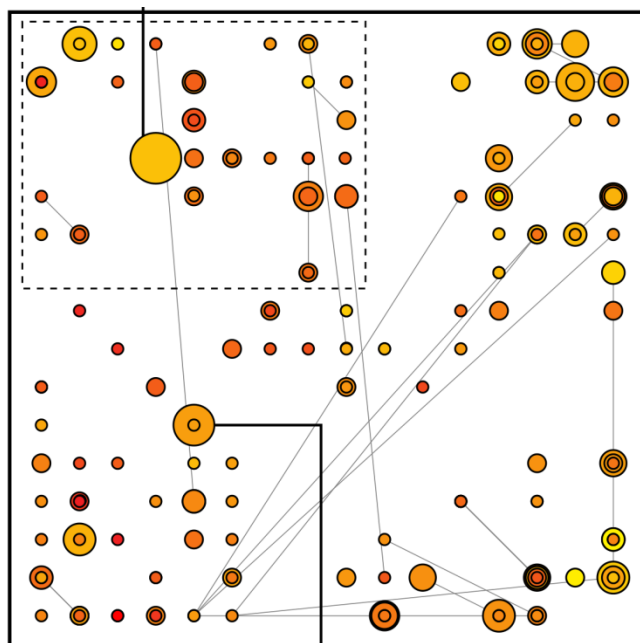


- 188 cores found for a data set of 472 molecules in 153 analog series.
- The color represent scores of a virtual screening.

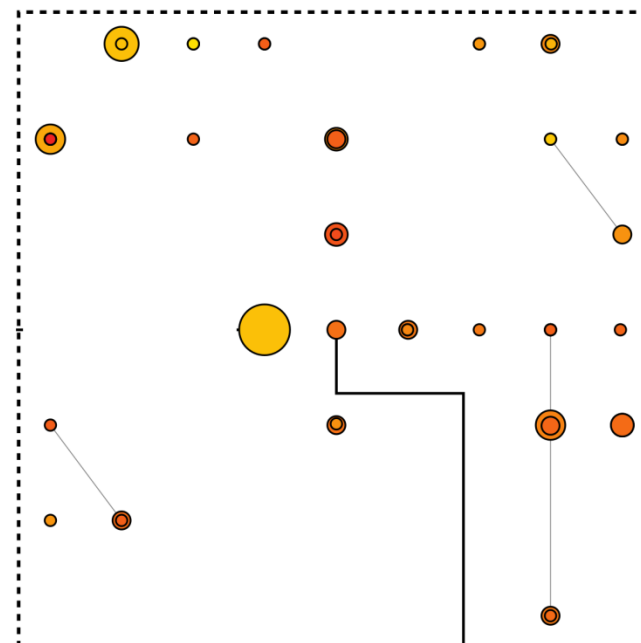




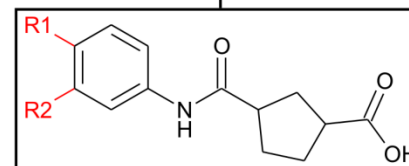
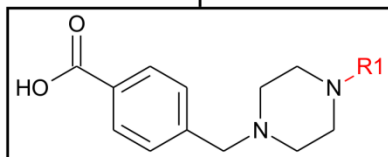
# Constellation plot using GTM



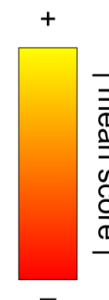
GTM



GTM zoom



- 188 cores found for a data set of 472 molecules in 153 analog series.
- The color represent **scores of a virtual screening.**





# Reaching for the bright StARs in chemical space

**José L. Medina-Franco<sup>1</sup>, J. Jesús Naveja<sup>1,2</sup> and Edgar López-López<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Department of Pharmacy, School of Chemistry, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Avenida Universidad 3000, Mexico City 04510, Mexico

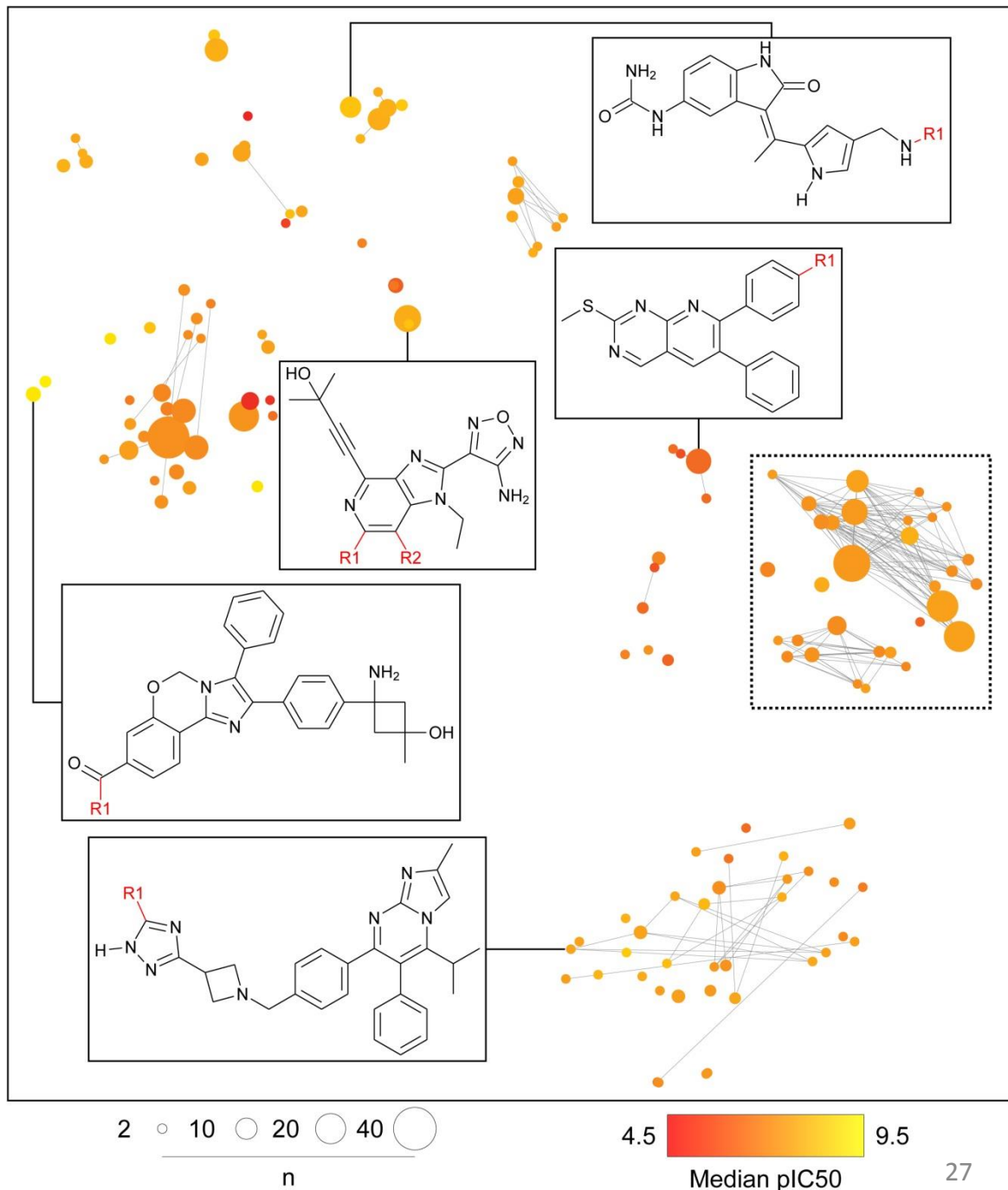
<sup>2</sup> PECEM, School of Medicine, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City 04510, Mexico



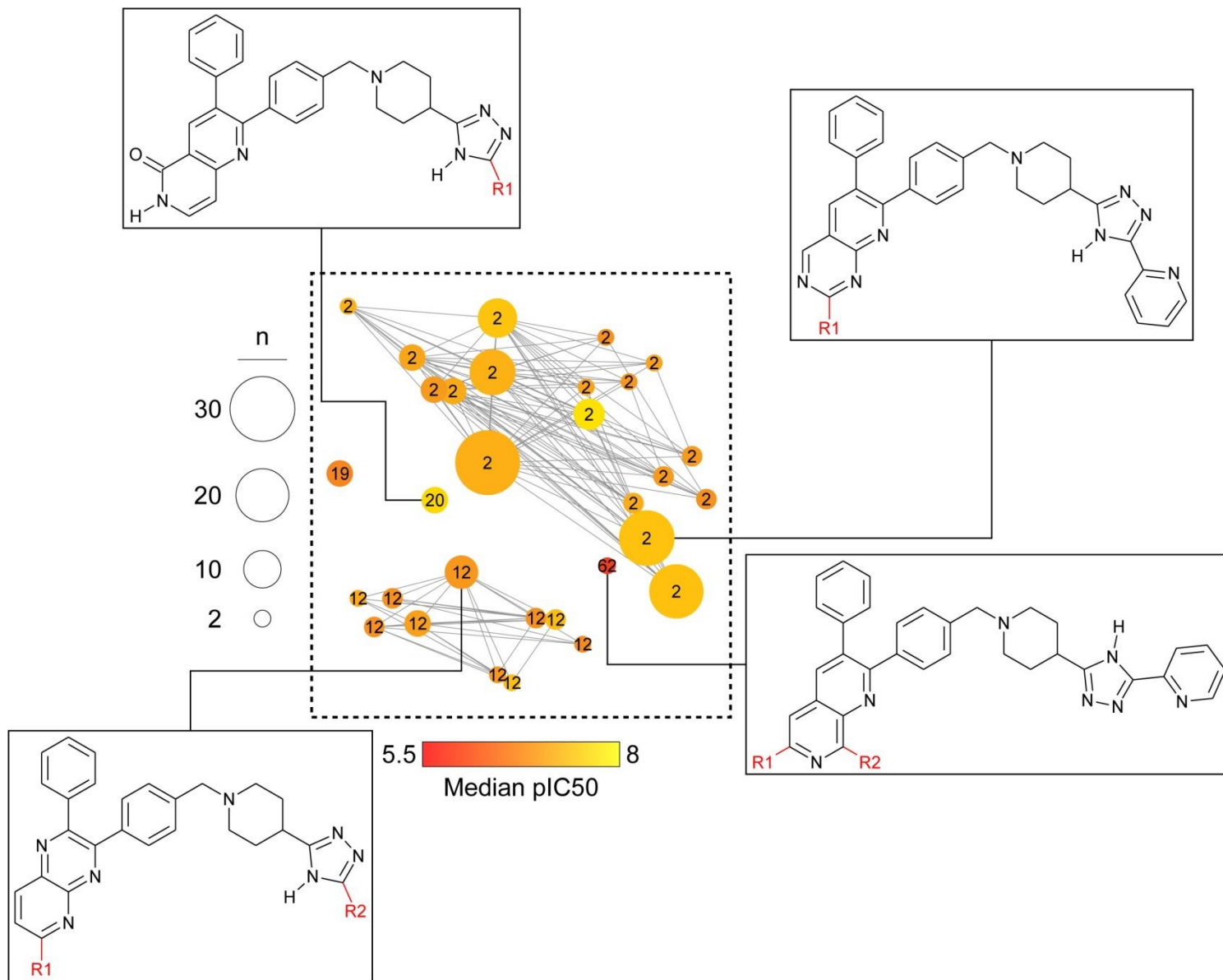
# Constellation plot AKT1 inhibitors

Cores can be mapped to  
the chemical space

- Comparison of analog series.



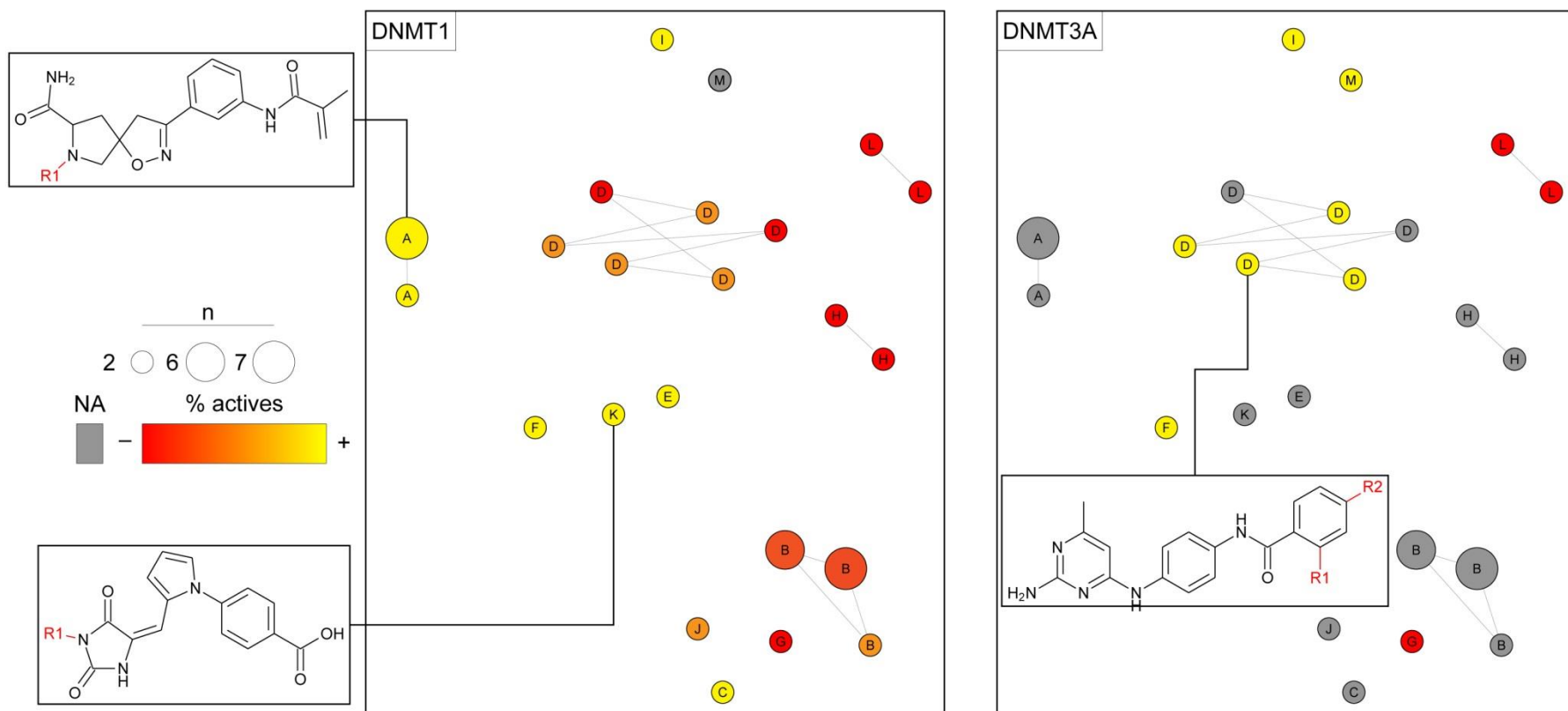
# Constellation of AKT1 inhibitors



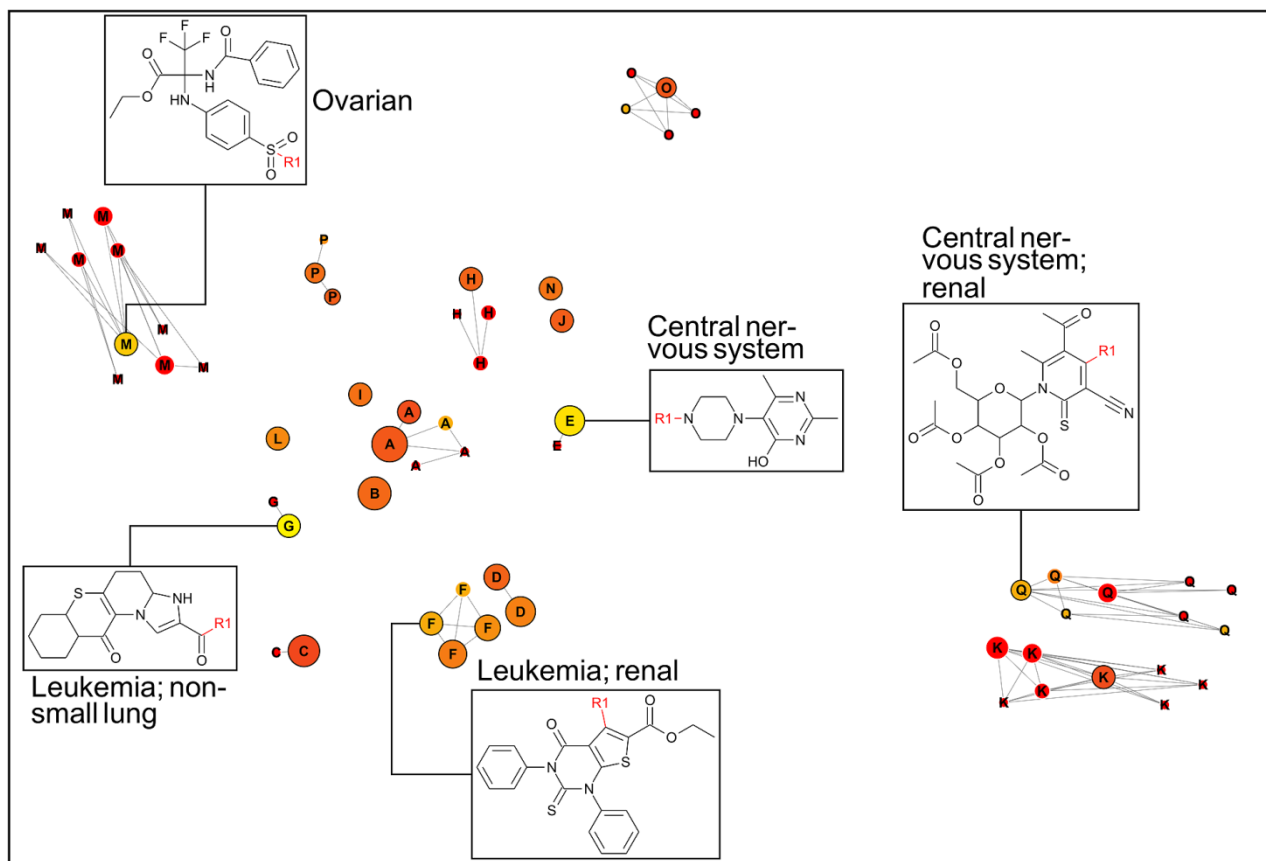
# Multi-target constellations

## Inhibitors of DNA methyltransferases (DNMTs)

Multi-target data can be visualized by changing the coloring scheme.

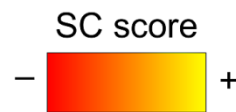
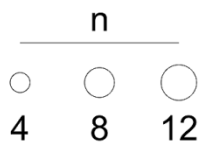


# SAR of compounds consistently tested against the same panel of cell lines



- NCI-60 data
- “active” or “inactive”
- 41,821 compounds
- 73 cell lines.

**Constellation plot**  
of 60 cores with  
high selectivity and  
consistency scores



# Contribution to special issue of *Molecular Informatics*

Chemoinformatics Strasbourg Summer School - 2020

**Full Paper**

[www.molinf.com](http://www.molinf.com)



DOI: 10.1002/minf.202000061

## Consistent Cell-selective Analog Series as Constellation Luminaries in Chemical Space

J. Jesús Naveja\*<sup>[a]</sup> and José L. Medina-Franco\*<sup>[b]</sup>

*This manuscript is dedicated to all people affected directly or indirectly by the COVID-19 pandemic.*



Jesús Naveja

# Concluding remarks and perspectives

- Activity Landscape Plotter
  - Free on-line resource based on fingerprints.
- Constellation Plots
  - Scaffold- and coordinate-based representation of chemical space.
  - **Constellation in chemical space**: region formed by core scaffolds with similar structure (as defined by a coordinate-based projection).
  - Enable exploring SARs/SPRs and analyze virtual screening results.
  - Identifies *bright* or *dark* regions.
  - Explore **StARs**: **St**tructure-**A**ctivity **R**elationships in chemical space

## Perspectives

- Develop web-based form of Constellation Plots.
- Apply the plots to different types of screening.



# Acknowledgments

## DIFACQUIM: Computer-Aided Drug Design at the School of Chemistry

### Dr. Jesús Naveja

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Bárbara Díaz

Fernando Prieto

Norberto Sánchez

Ana Chávez

Emma Andrade

Master

Alejandro Gómez

Edgar López

B.Sc.

Eurídice Juárez

Yesenia Cruz

### Collaborations

Univ. -Prof. Dr. Jürgen Bajorath  
University of Bonn, Germany

Dr. Gerald M. Maggiora  
University of Arizona, USA

Dr. Ulf Norinder  
Stockholm University, Sweden

### Grants

- CONACyT Basic Science 282785
- PAPIIT IA203718
- PAPIME PE200118, PAIP 5000-9163
- Miztli - Supercomputer (UNAM)
- Program NUATEI



January 2020

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