



## DeepChrome:

# Interpretable Deep Learning for Sequential Data Analysis in Biomedicine

Dr. Yanjun Qi

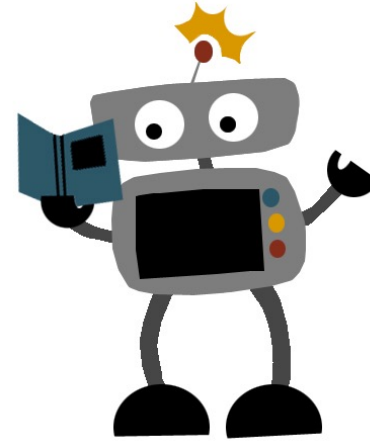
DATA Scholar 2021 @ NIA

Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science @

University of Virginia

# Basics of Machine Learning

Training Stage



Testing Stage

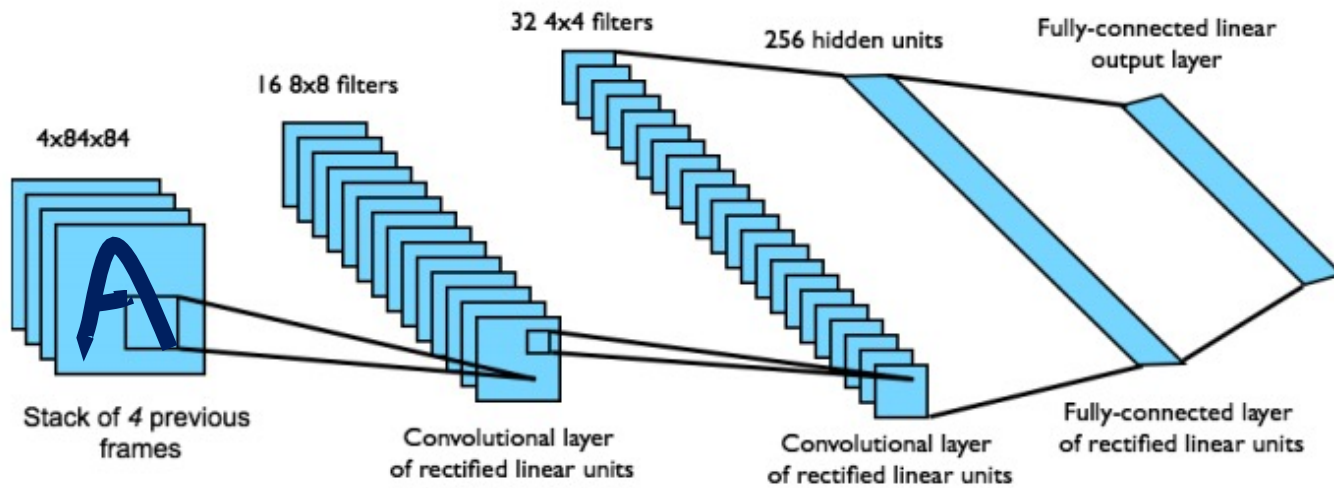
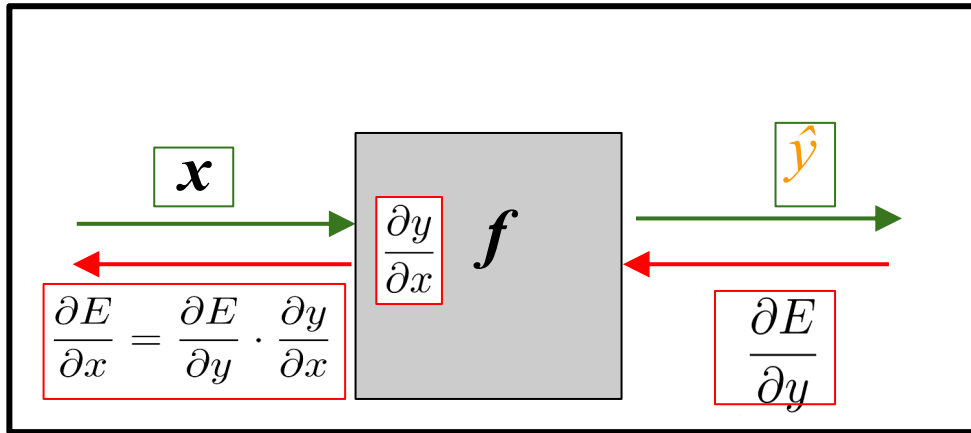


**Learn  $f(x)$  to  
Generalize to  
Unseen  $X'$**

Supervised  
Learning

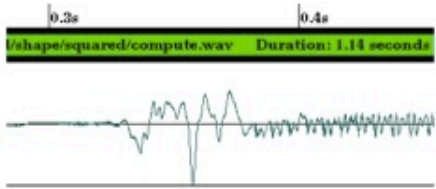
Generalisation:  
learn model  $f(x)$   
from **past data** in  
order to  
“explain”,  
“predict”,  
“model” or  
“control” **new**  
data examples

# Building Deep Neural Nets



# Deep Learning is Changing the World

# How may I help you, human?



Speech Recognition



Control learning

Text analysis

**Peter H. van Oppen**, **Chairman of the Board & Chief Executive Officer** of ADIC. Mr. van Oppen has served as **Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer** of ADIC since its acquisition by Interpoint in 1994 and a **director of ADIC** since 1996. Until its acquisition by Crane Co. in October 1996, Mr. van Oppen served as **Chairman of the Board of Directors, President and Chief Executive Officer** of Interpoint. Prior to 1995, Mr. van Oppen worked as a **consulting manager** at **Price Waterhouse LLP** and at **Bain & Company** in Boston and London. He has additional experience in medical electronics and venture capital. Mr. van Oppen also serves as a **Director of Seattle Children's Hospital** and **Spacelabs Medical, Inc.**. He holds a B.A. from Whitman College and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School, where he was a **Baker Scholar**.

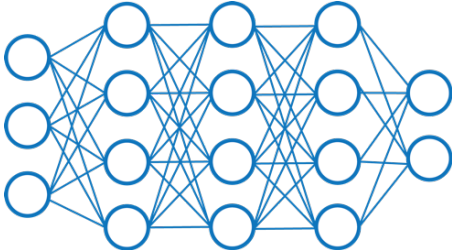


Object recognition

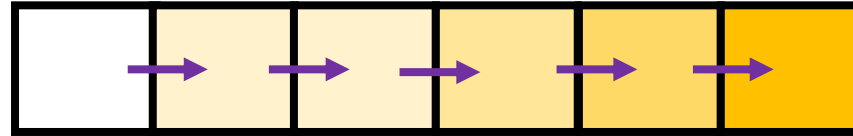
Many more !

# Deep Learning Excellence on Sequential Data

The Book is Great!



# Sequential Data



**Strings, signals etc.**

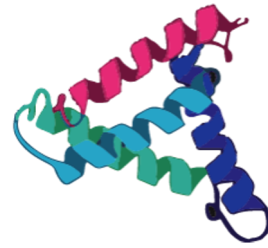
This food is not good.



**TAGATGTAGACTGTGATC**



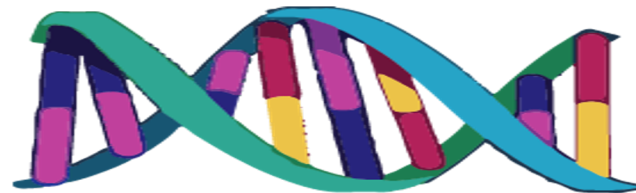
***PROTEIN***



***RNA***



***DNA***



***PROTEIN***

**TGKHQFTVKE**

***RNA***

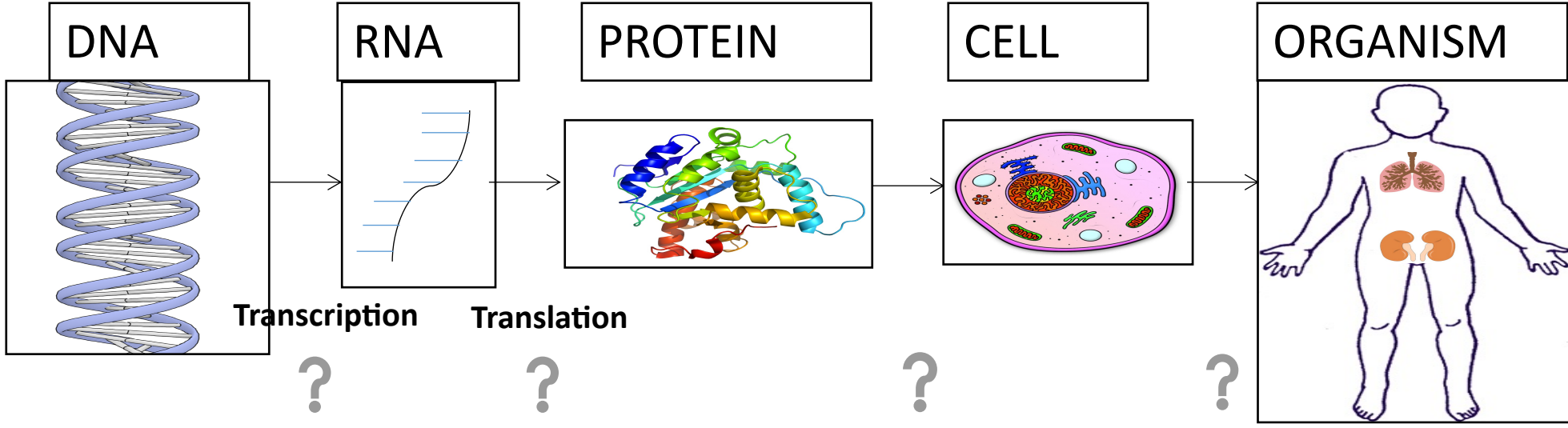
**UAGACUGUAGACUGUGAC**

***DNA***

**TAGATGTAGACTGTGATC**



Biological Modules

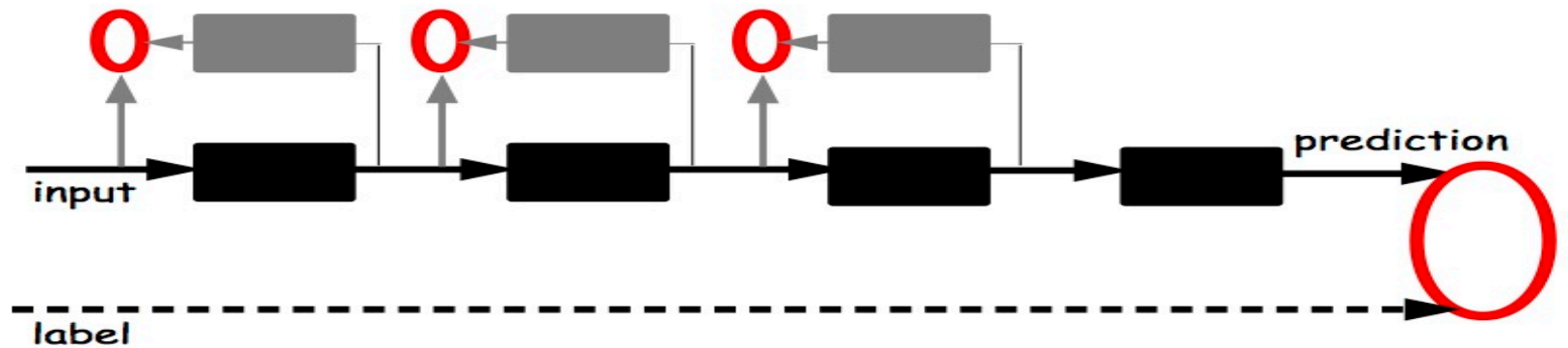


CATGACTG  
 CATG**C**CTG

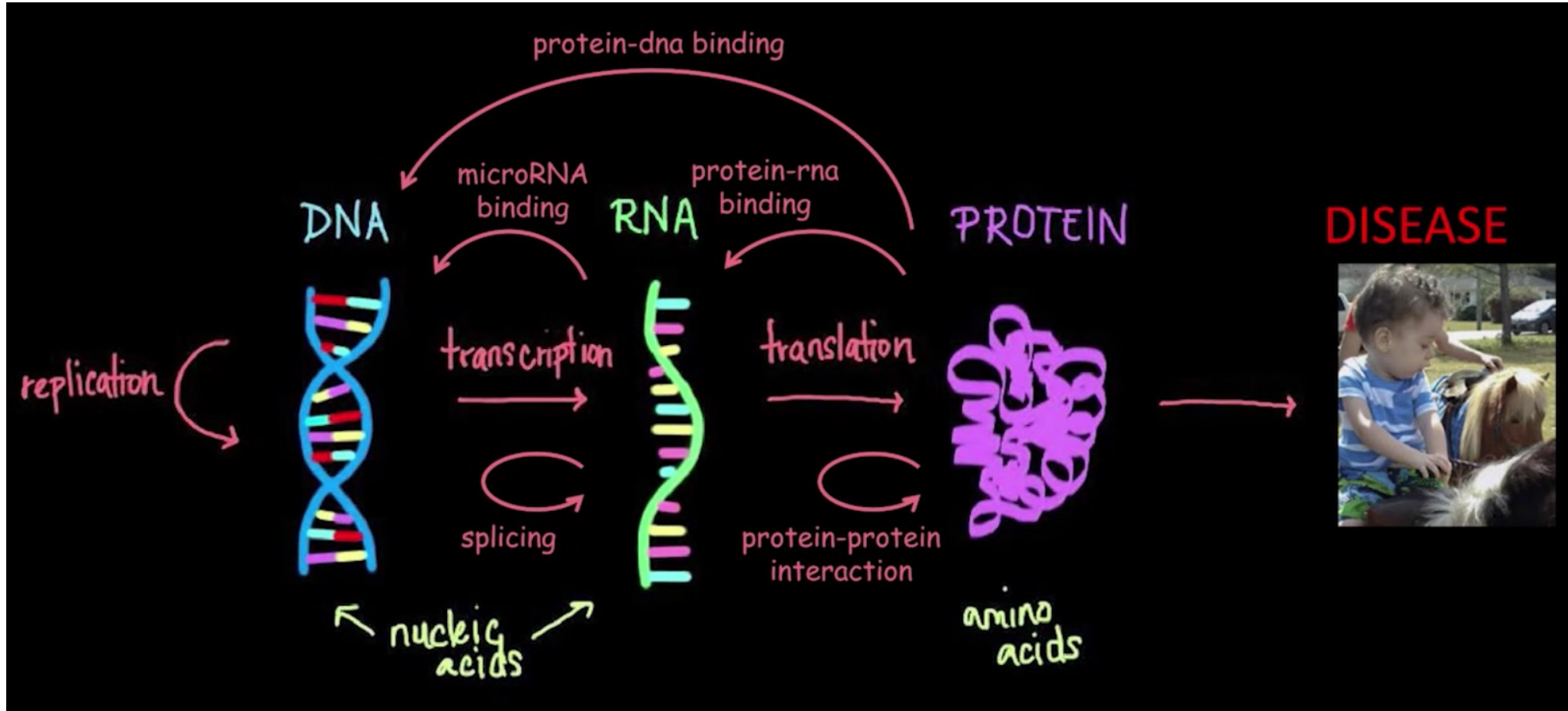
Genetic Variant



Deep Learning Modules (composable)

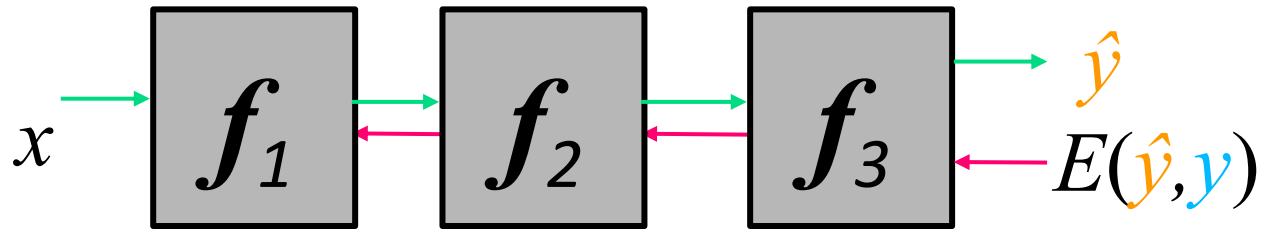
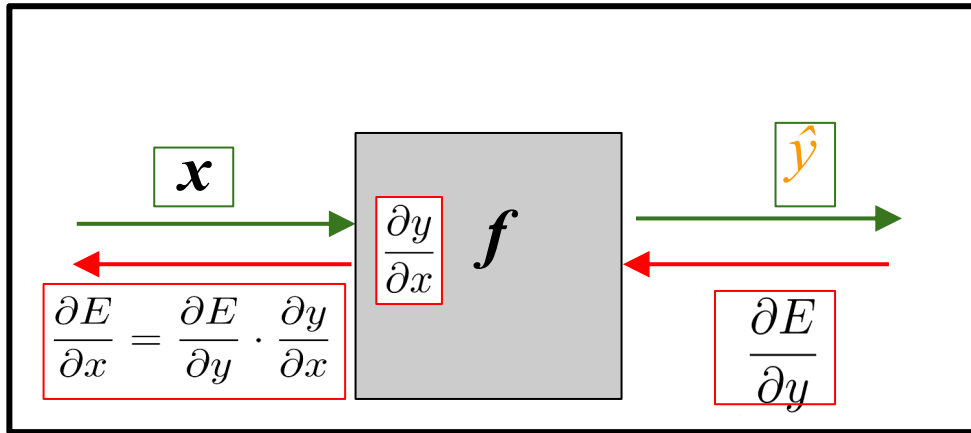


# Biology is super complex

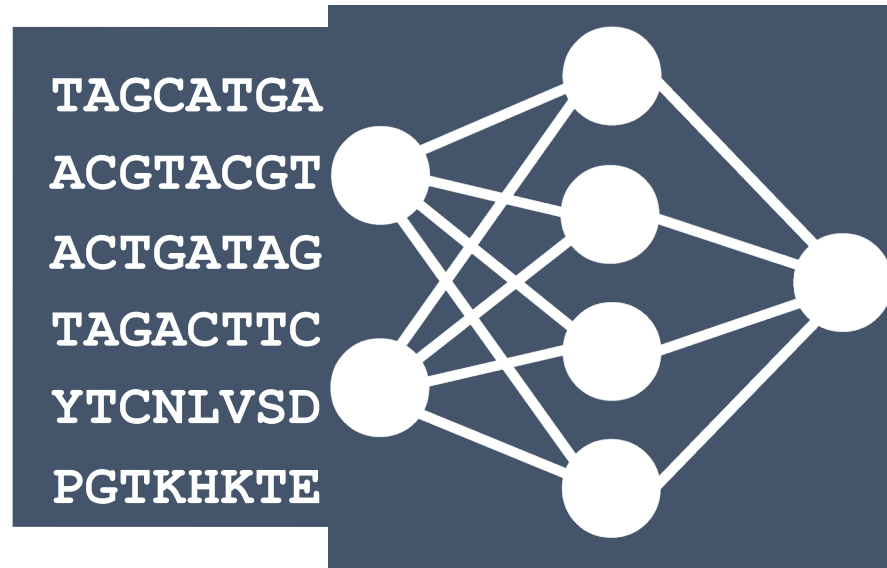


alternative splicing, reverse transcriptase, introns, junk DNA, epigenetics, RNA viruses, trans-splicing, transposons, prions, epigenetics, gene rearrangements and many more .....

# Building Deep Neural Nets



# This Talk: Using Deep Representation Learning to **Read** and **Understand** the Human Genome and Proteome

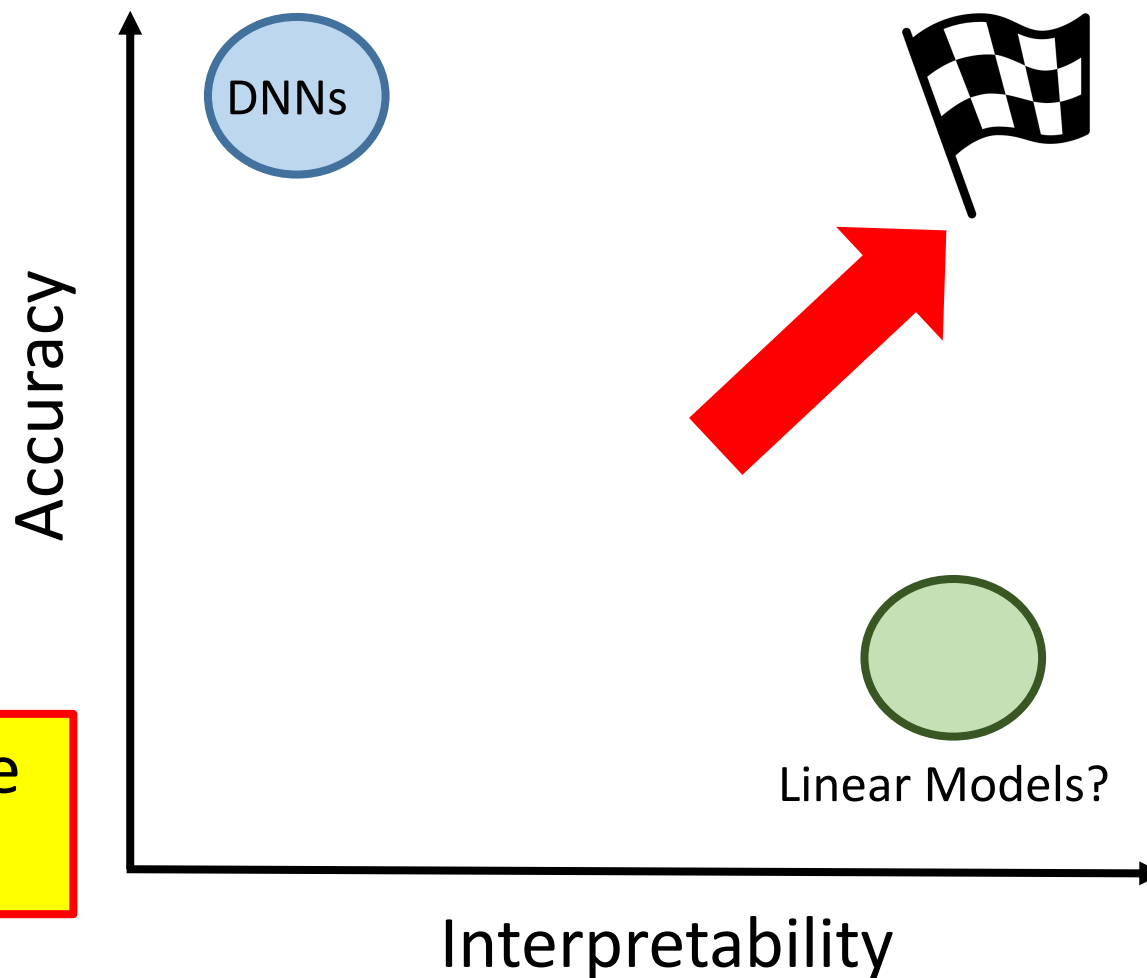


1. Predict

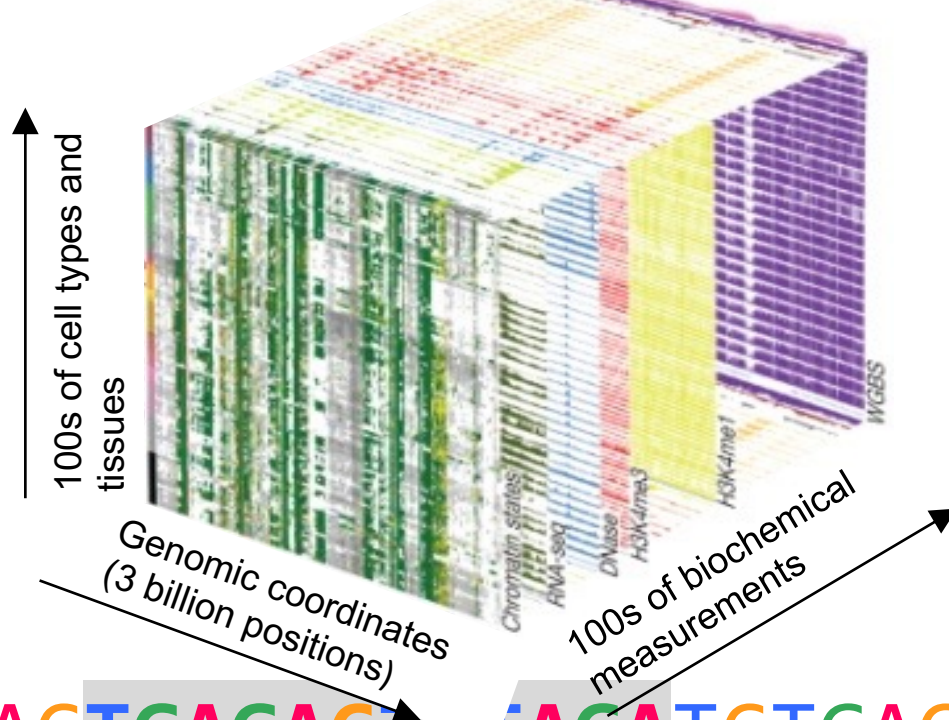


2. Interpret

# Our Goal: Interpretable Deep Learning Models



Challenge : DNNs are hard to Interpret



ATGCTCGATACTGAGACTACTGAGACTTGAGACTCTAGATCTGACTACTCACG



Gene Expressed

ATGCTCGATACTGAGACTACTGAGACTTGAGACTCTAGATCTGACTACTCACG



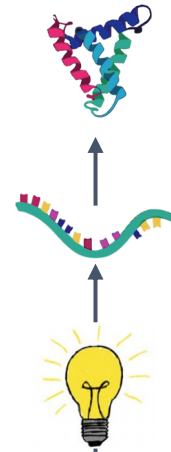
Gene Expressed

ATGCTCGATACTGAGACTACTGAGACTTGAGACTCTAGATCTGACTACTCACG

what causes a gene to be expressed?



# To understand gene regulation



gene expressed

ATGCTCGATGCTAATACGACTTGAGATTACTGAGACTGAGACTCTAGAT

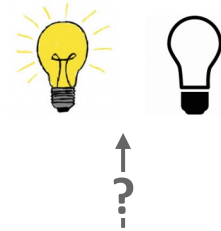
# To understand gene regulation



gene repressed

ATGCTCGATGCTAATACGACTTGAGATTACTGAGACTGAGACTCTAGAT

# What controls Gene Regulation? How?



ATGCTCGATGCTAATACGACTTGAGATTACTGAGACTGAGACTCTAGAT



*“Genome. Bought the book. Hard to read.”*

-Eric Lander, Principal Leader of the Human Genome Project



# Chromatin Profile



## Chromatin Profile Attributes



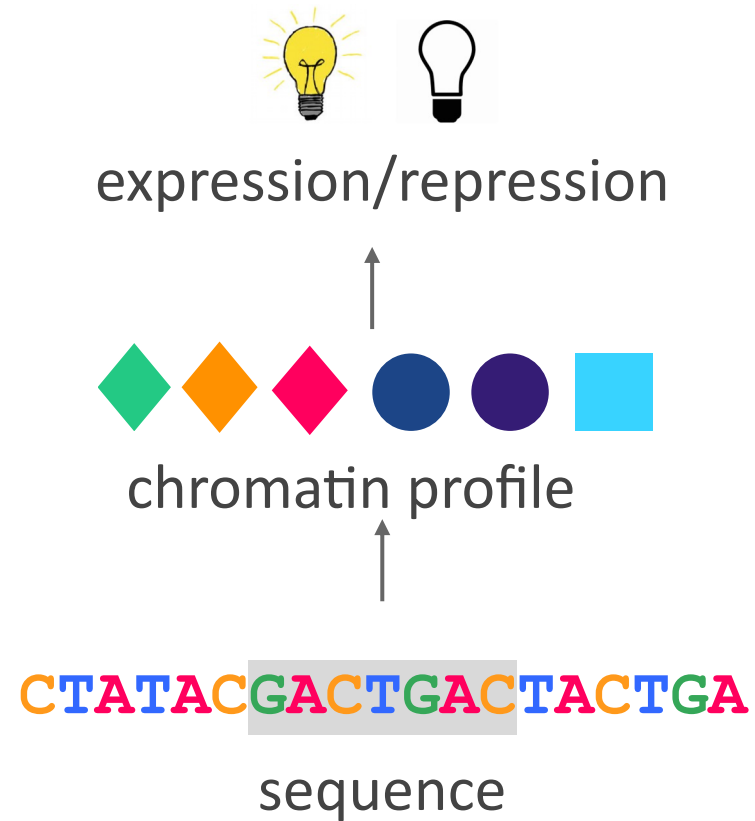
# Chromatin Profile



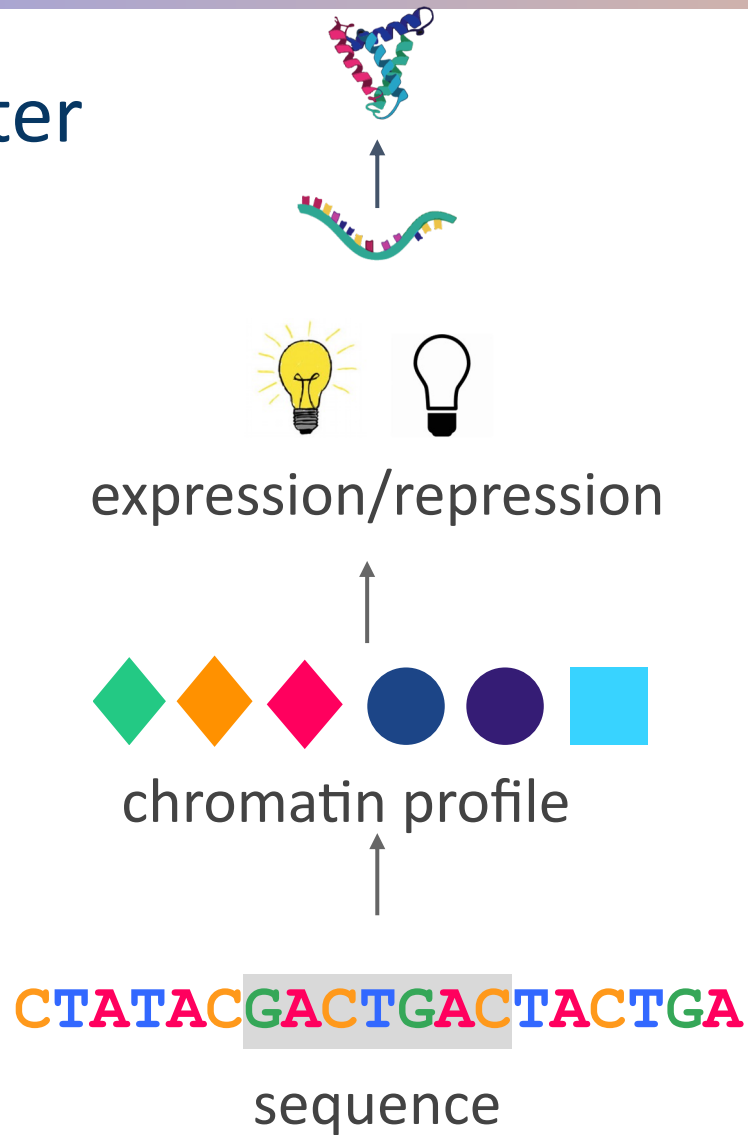
## Chromatin Profile Attributes



# Gene Regulation

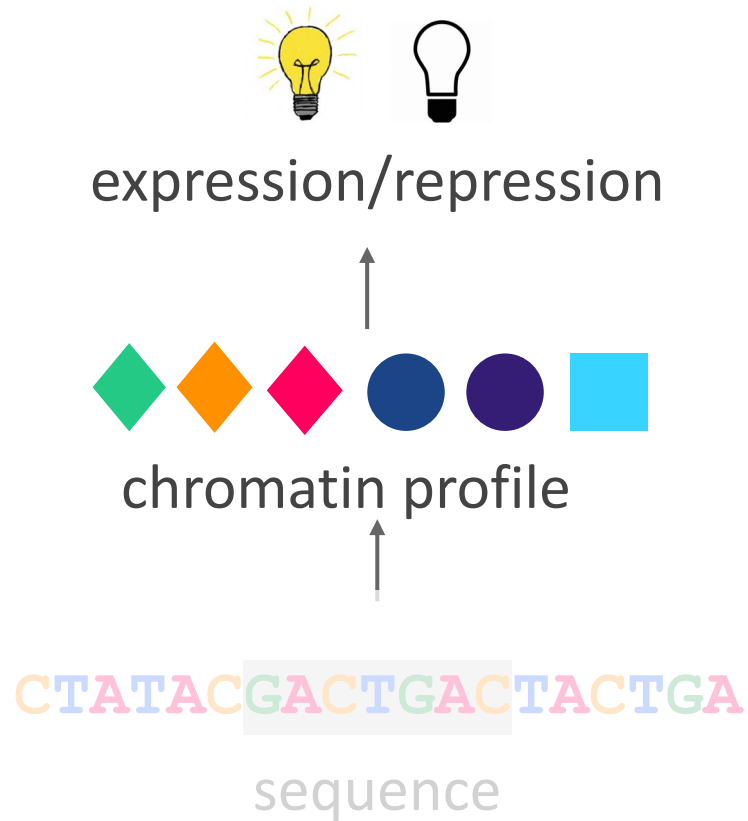


# Gene Regulation and after

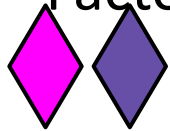




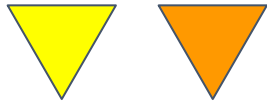
# First Task:



Transcription  
Factors



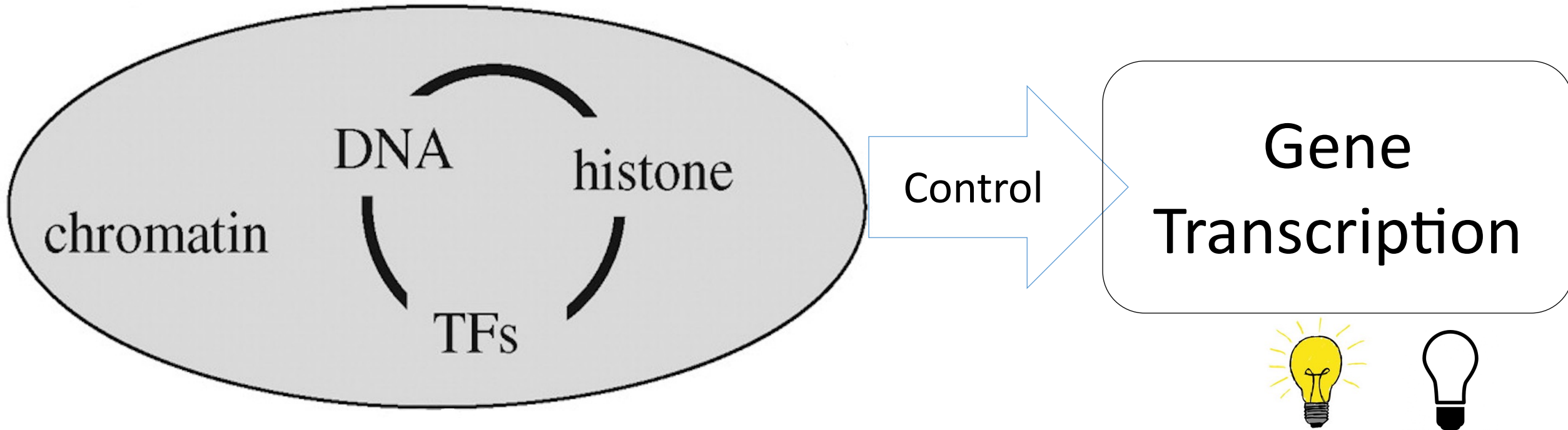
Histone  
Modifications



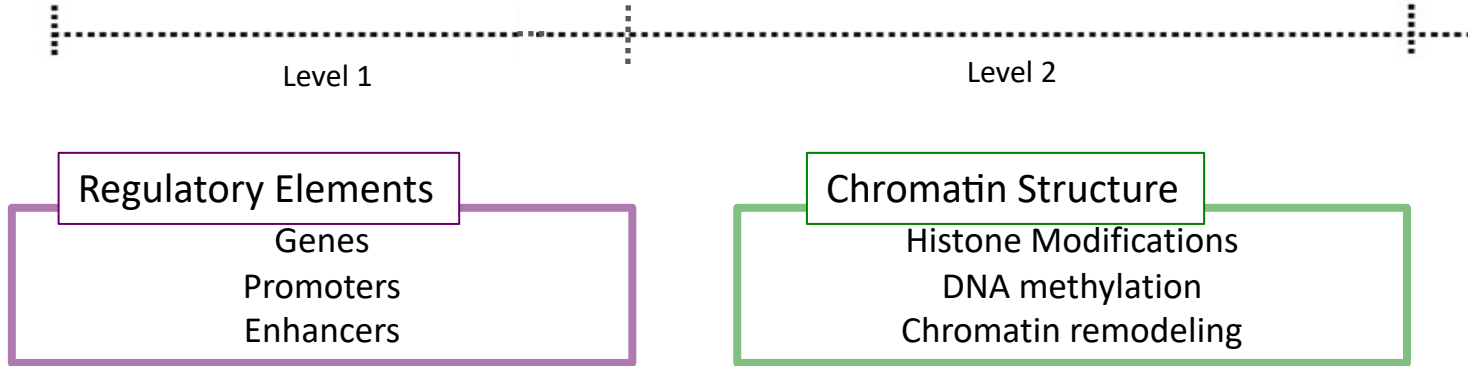
Gene

ATGCTCGATACTGAGACTACTGAGACTTGAGACTCTAGATCTGACTACTCACG

# Chromatin Profile as Evidence



**Epigenetics**  
“Environment  
of the DNA”



## ENCODE Project (2003-)

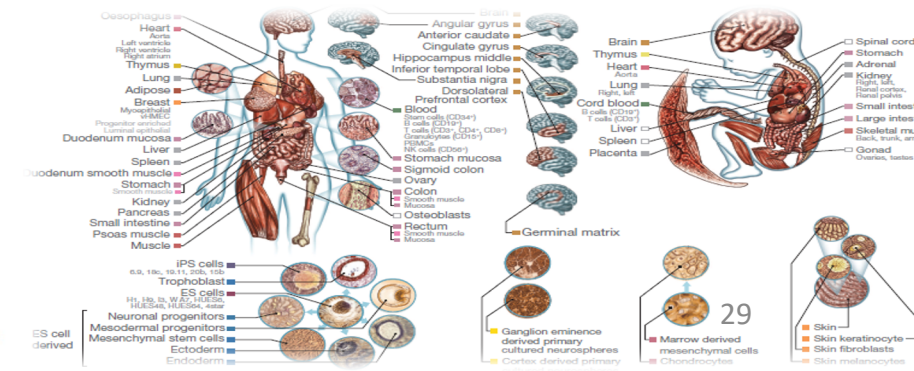
Describe the functional elements encoded in human DNA

## Roadmap Epigenetics Project (REMC, 2008-)

To produce a public resource of epigenomic maps for stem cells and primary ex vivo tissues selected to represent the normal counterparts of tissues and organ systems frequently involved in human disease.



Integrative analysis of 111 reference human epigenomes (Abstract)



# Why Study Epigenomics → Gene Expression?

- **Epigenomics:** study of chemical changes in DNA and histones (without altering DNA sequence)
- **Epigenome is dynamic:** can be altered by environmental conditions.

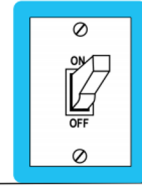
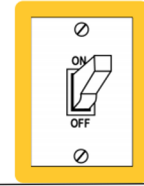
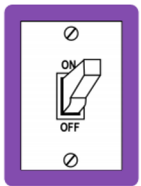
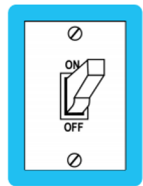
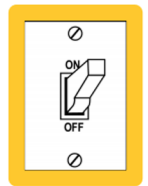
Unlike genetic mutations, epigenomic changes such as histone modifications are potentially reversible → Epigenome drug for cancer cells?

# What HMs affect which genes in what cells?

Gene A



Gene B



HM1 HM2 HM3

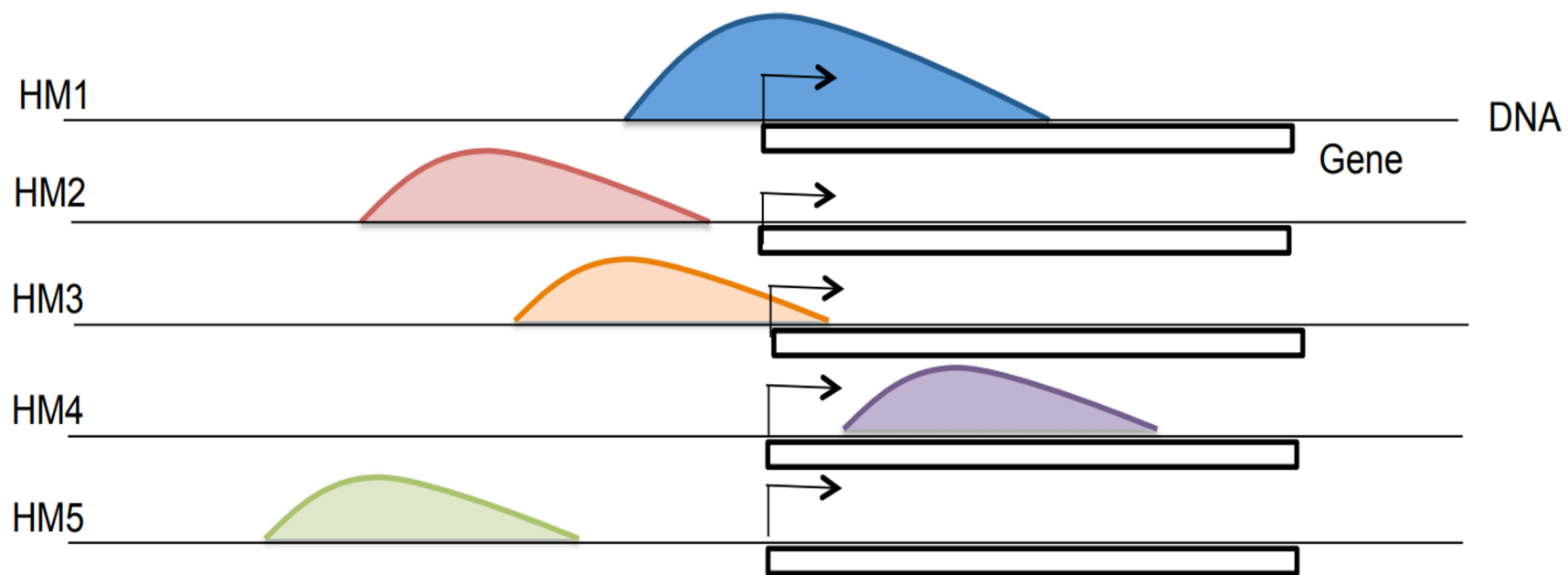
HM1 HM2 HM3

DNA

# Gene Transcription Prediction Task

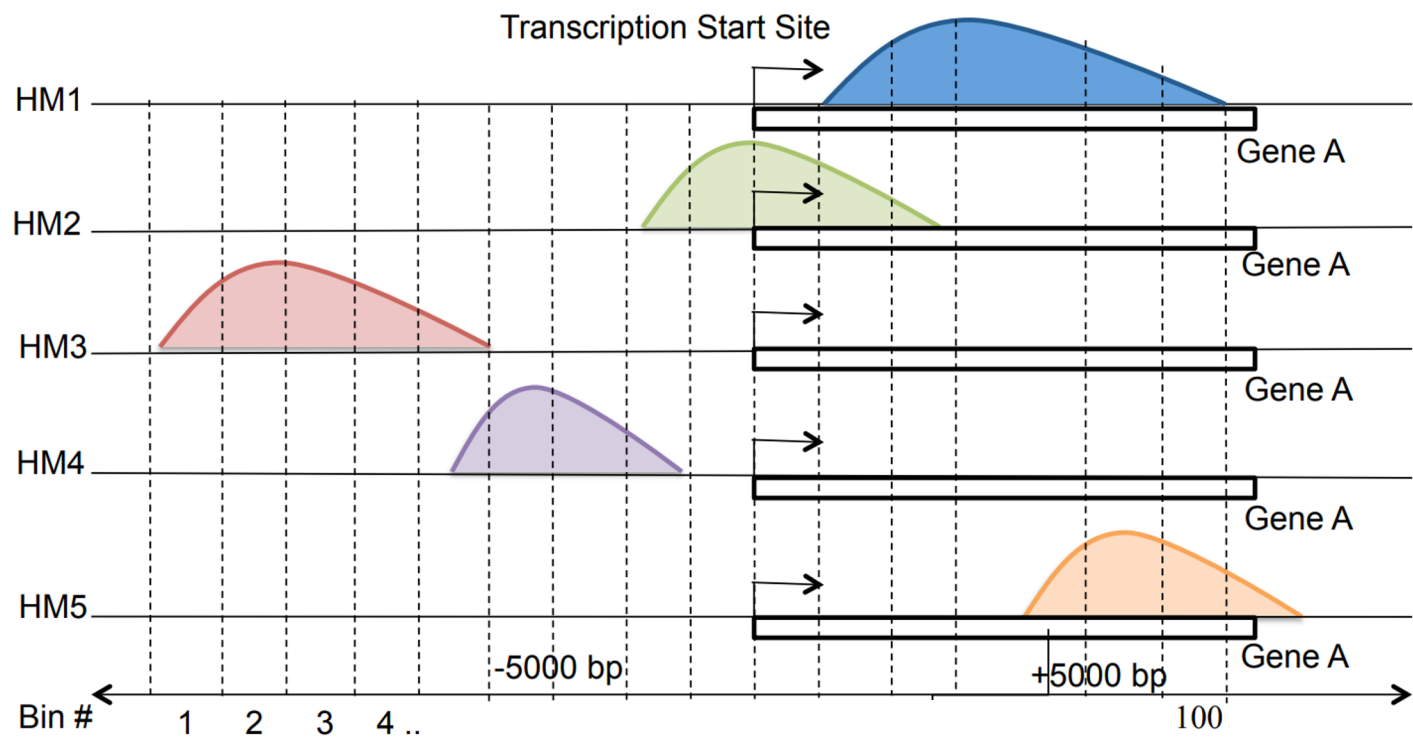


# Histone Modification Input Data

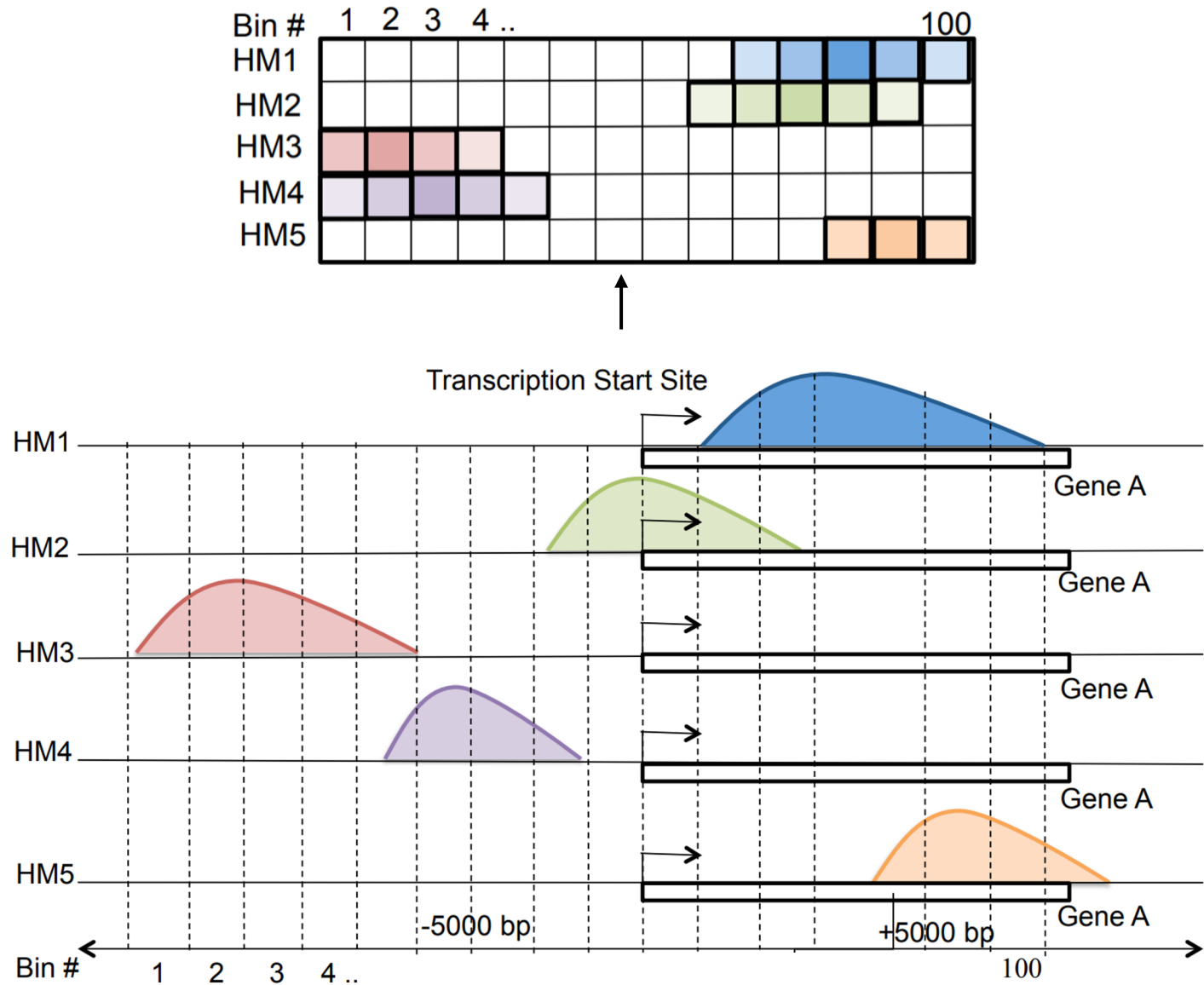




# Histone Modification Input Data

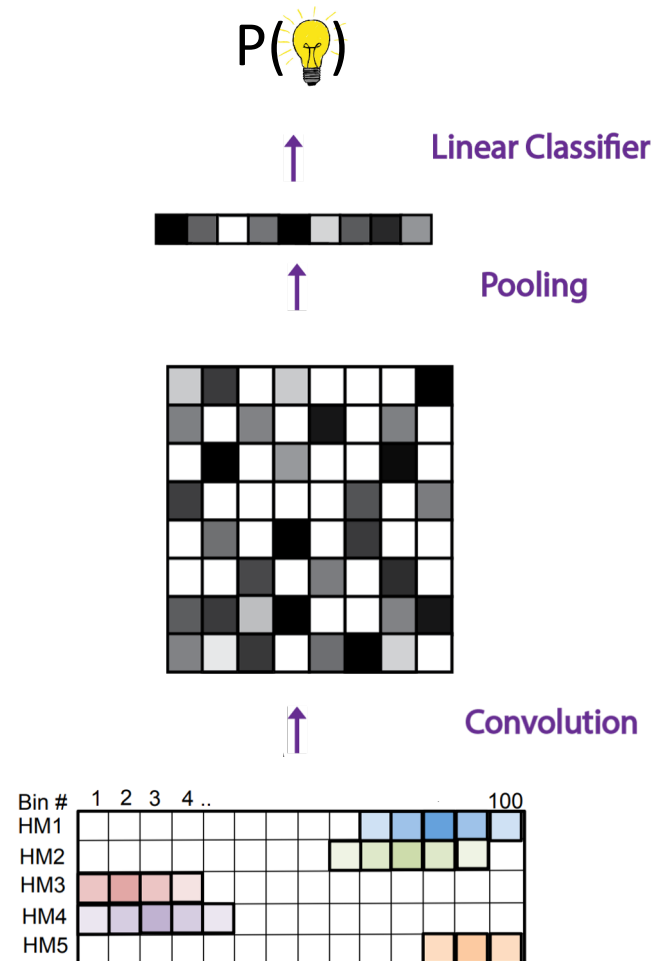


# Histone Modification Input Data



# DeepChrome

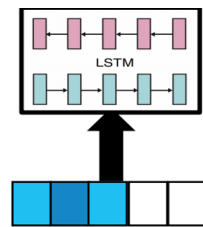
Singh, Lanchantin, Robins & Qi- Bioinformatics 2016



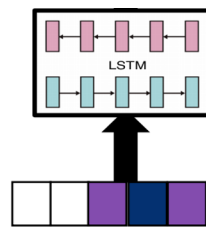
# Attentive Chrome

Singh, Lanchantin, Sekhon, & Qi - NeurIPS 2017

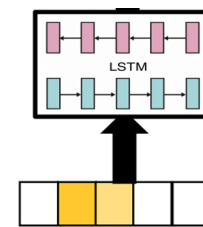
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HM1



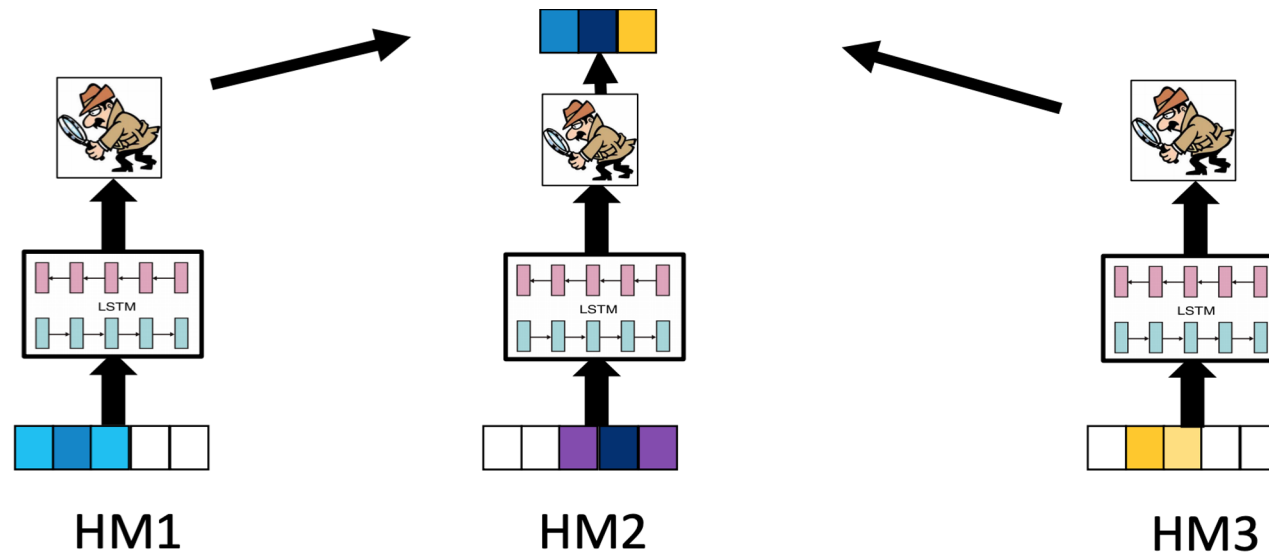
HM2



HM3

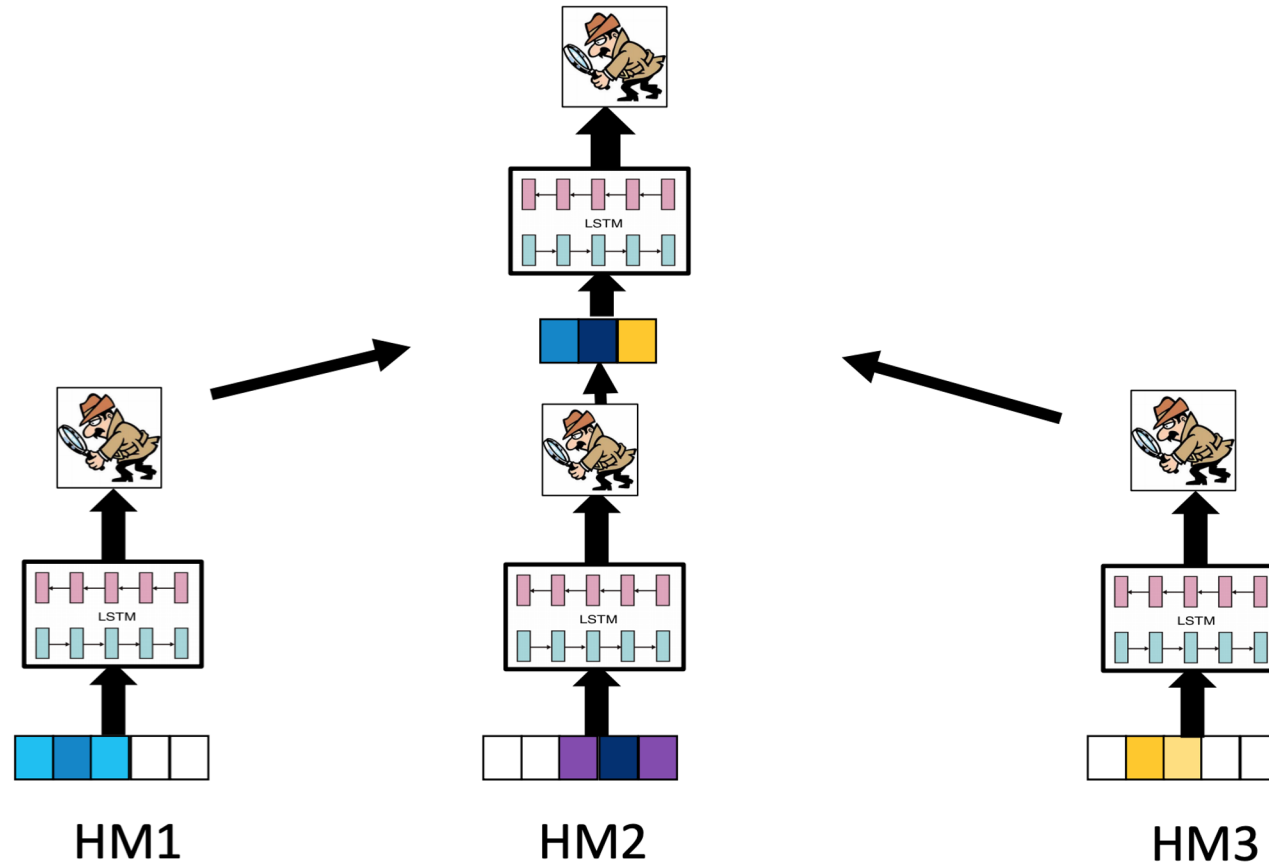
# Attentive Chrome

Singh, Lanchantin, Sekhon, & Qi - NeurIPS 2017



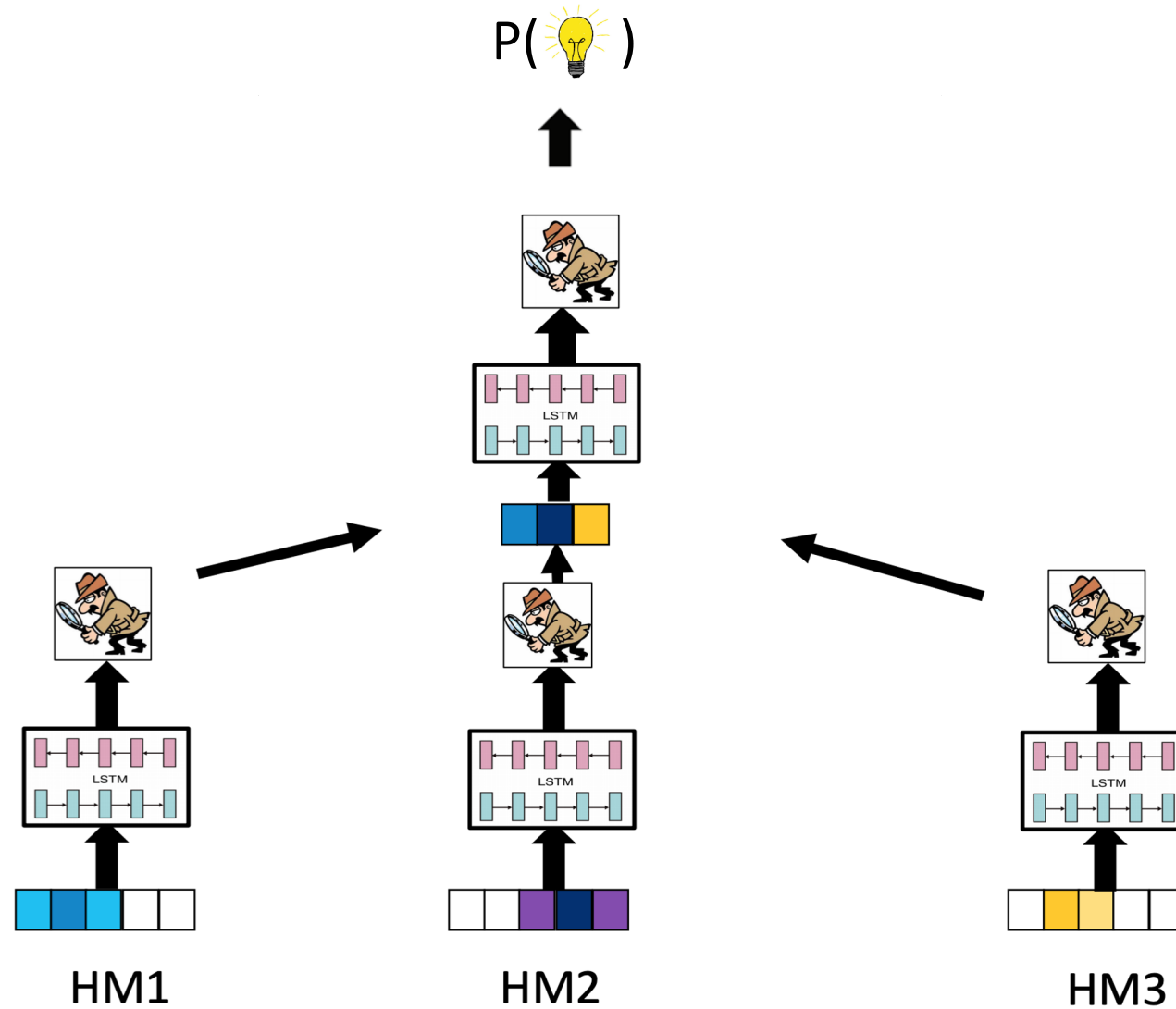
# Attentive Chrome

Singh, Lanchantin, Sekhon, & Qi- NeurIPS 2017



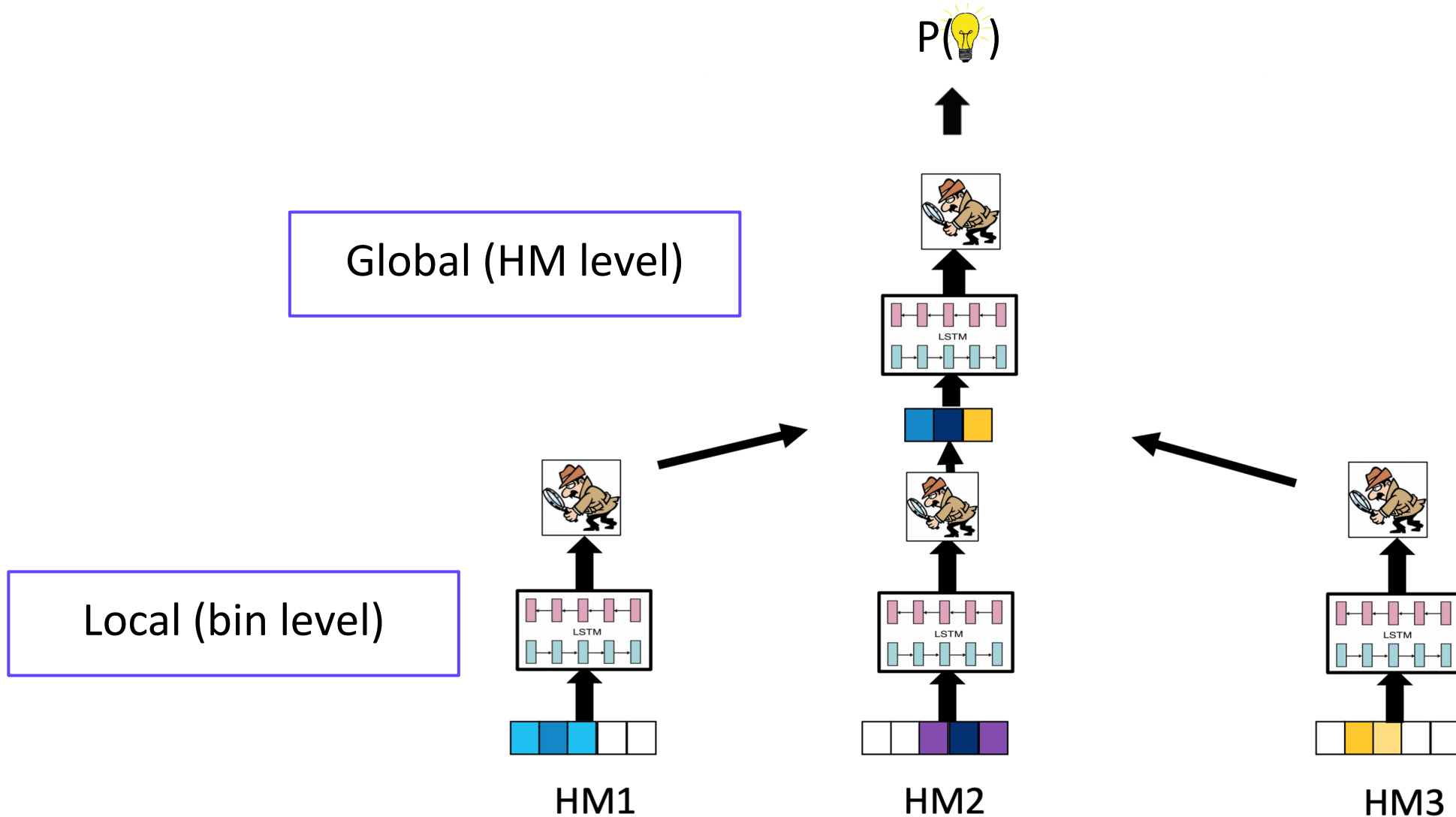
# Attentive Chrome

Singh, Lanchantin, Sekhon, & Qi- NeurIPS 2017



# Attentive Chrome

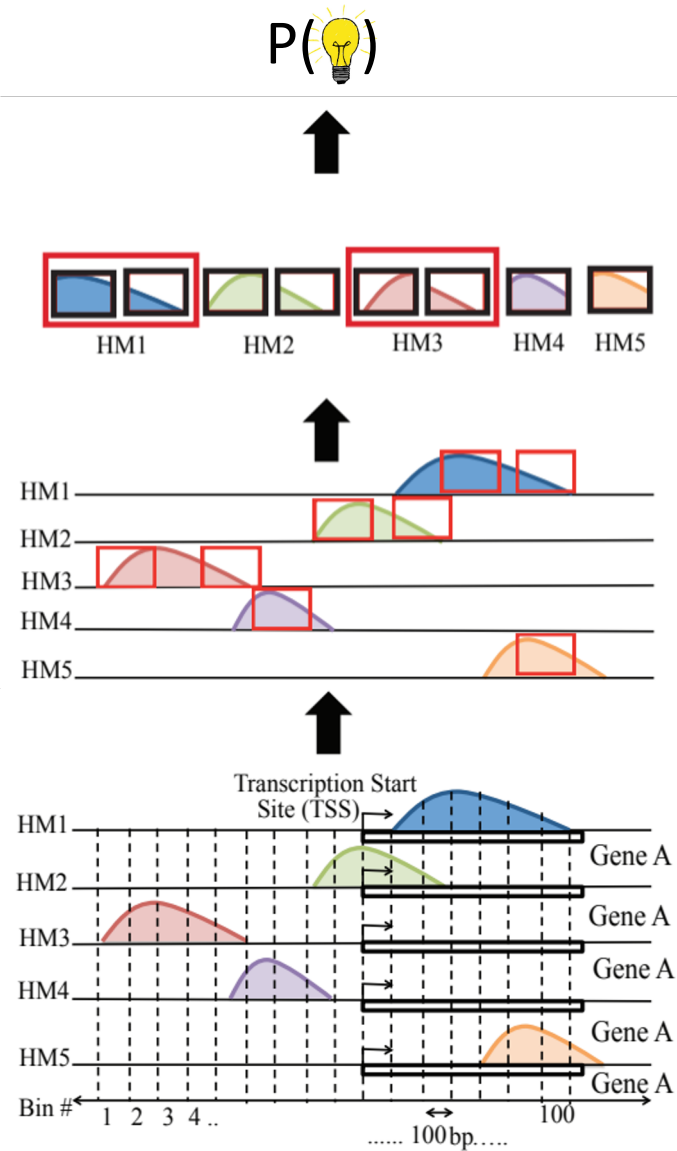
Singh, Lanchantin, Sekhon, & Qi - NeurIPS 2017





# Attentive Chrome

Singh, Lanchantin, Sekhon, & Qi- NeurIPS 2017



# Interpretability by Hierarchical Attention

Input

Output



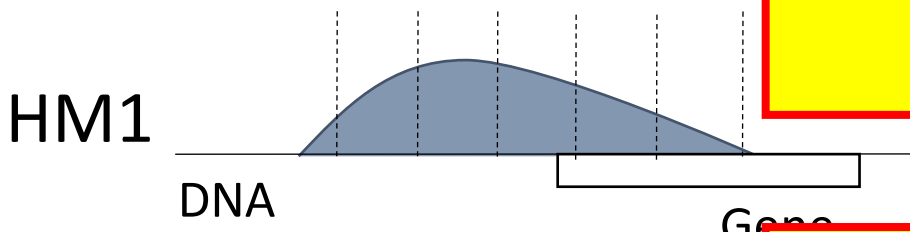
Attention Mechanism



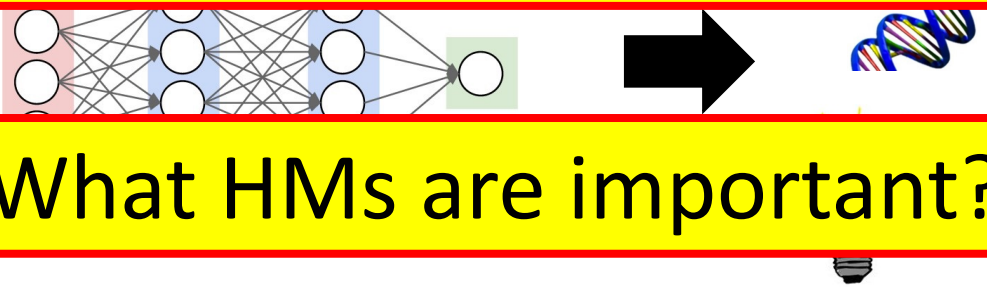
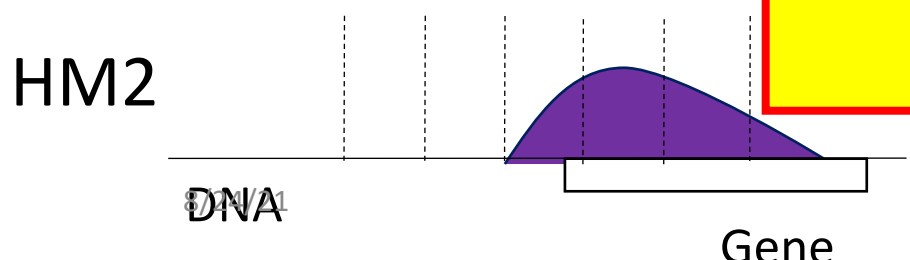
Park

Gene

(1) What positions are important?

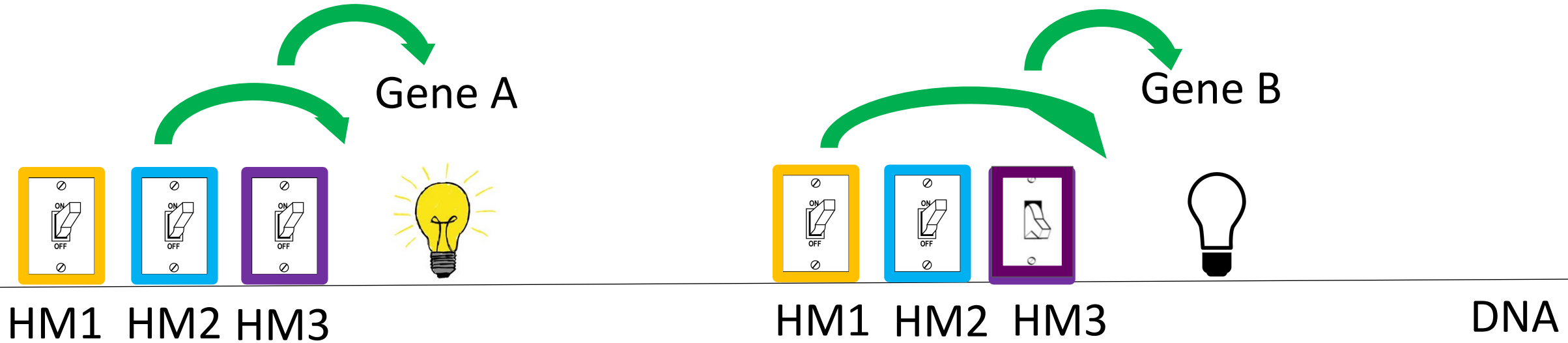


(2) What HMs are important?



# Data Sets

~56 Cell Types



K ~ 20 HMs  
G ~ 30,000 Genes

# Experimental Setup

- Roadmap Epigenetics Project (REMC)
- **Cell-types:** 56
- **Input (HM):** ChIP-Seq Maps / 5 Tier-1 HMs

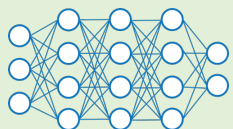
Histone Mark	Functional Category
H3K27me3	Repressor
H3K36me3	Structural Promoter
H3K4me1	Distal Promoter
H3K4me3	Promoter
H3K9me3	Repressor

- **Output (Gene Expression):** Discretized RNA-Seq
- **Baselines:** Support Vector Classifier (SVC) and Random Forest Classifier (RFC)

Training Set  
6601 Genes

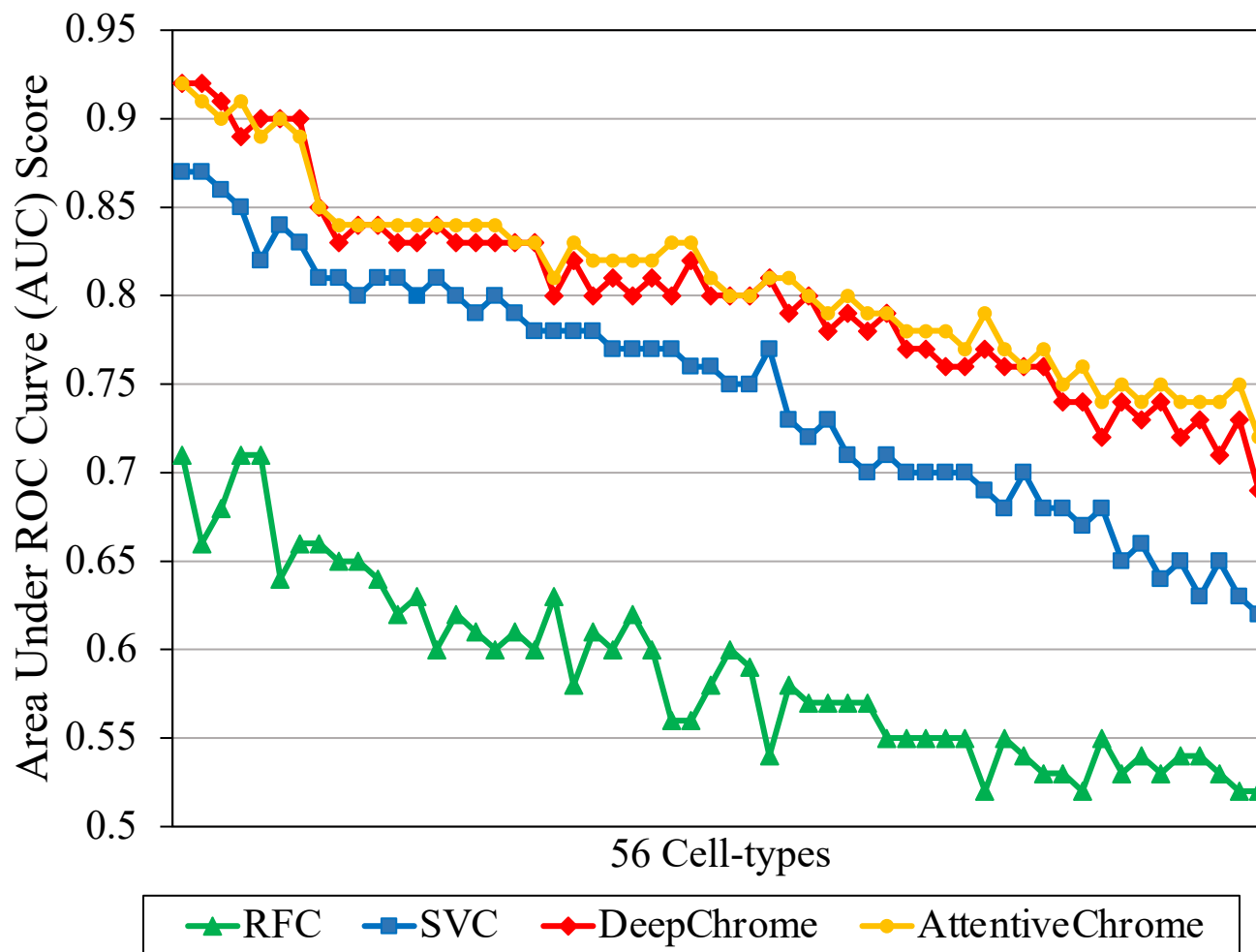
Validation Set  
6601 Genes

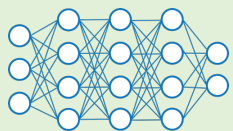
Test Set  
6600 Genes



# Prediction

Improvement  
for 49/56  
Cell-types

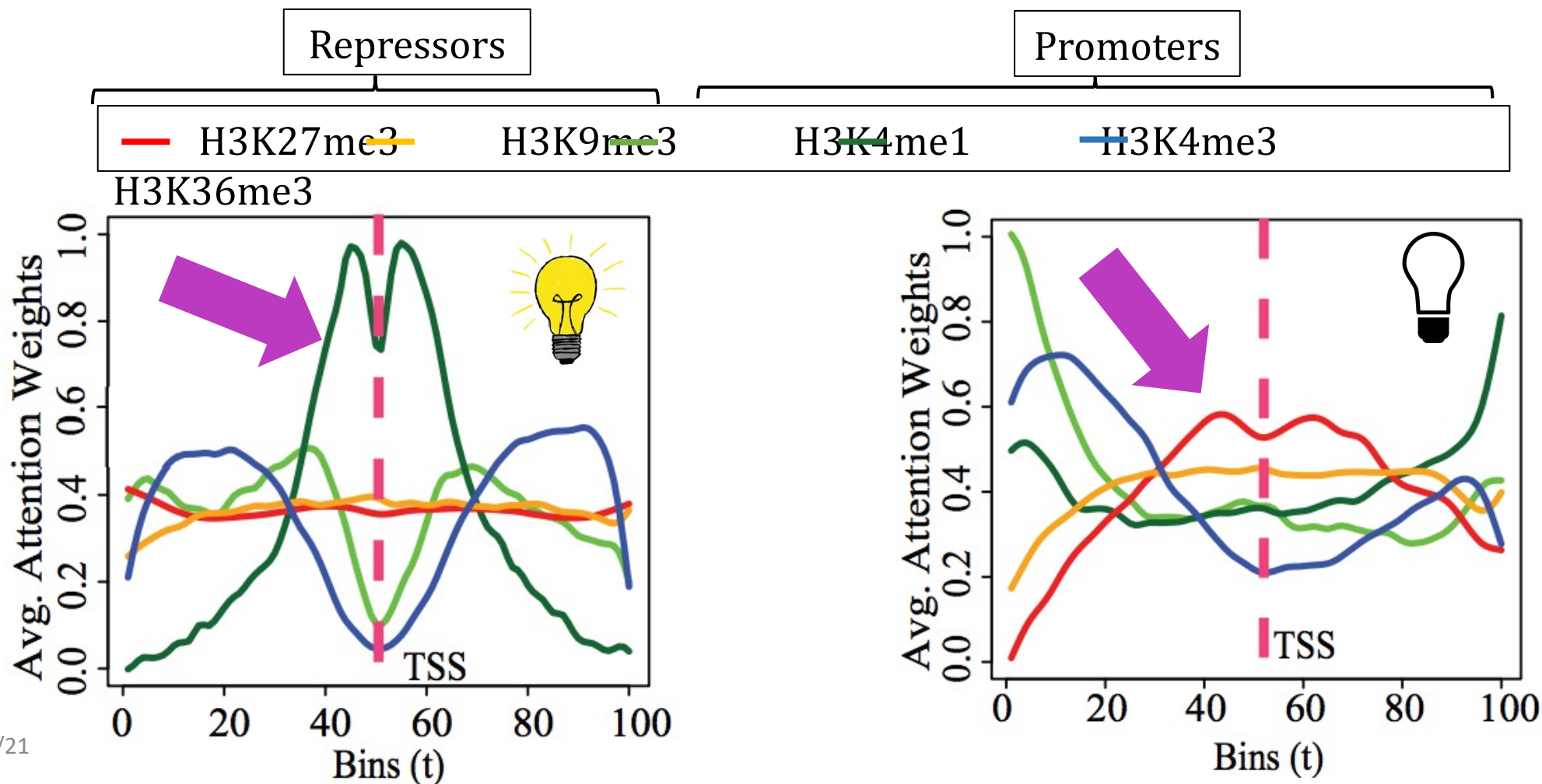




# Bin-Level Visualization

(1) What positions are important?

CELL TYPE: GM12878 (Blood Cell)

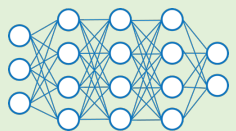


# Validation of Attention Weights (using one extra HM signals )

Table 3: Pearson Correlation values between weights assigned for  $H_{prom}$  (active HM) by different visualization techniques and  $H_{active}$  read coverage (indicating actual activity near "ON" genes) for predicted "ON" genes across three major cell types.

Viz. Methods	H1-hESC	GM12878	K562
$\alpha$ Map (LSTM- $\alpha$ )	0.8523	<b>0.8827</b>	<b>0.9147</b>
$\alpha$ Map (LSTM- $\alpha, \beta$ )	<b>0.8995</b>	0.8456	0.9027
Class-based Optimization (CNN)	0.0562	0.1741	0.1116
Saliency Map (CNN)	0.1822	-0.1421	0.2238

- Additional signal - H3K27ac (H-Active) from REMC
- Average local attention weights of gene=ON correspond well with H-active
- Indicating AttentiveChrome is focusing on the correct bin positions



# HM-Level Visualization

## (2) What HMs are important?

Cell Types:

Gene: PAX5

H1-Hesc  
(Stem Cell)

GM12878  
(Blood Cell)

K562  
(Leukemia)

Color Scale



H3K27me3

H3K36me3

H3K4me1

H3K4me3

H3K9me3

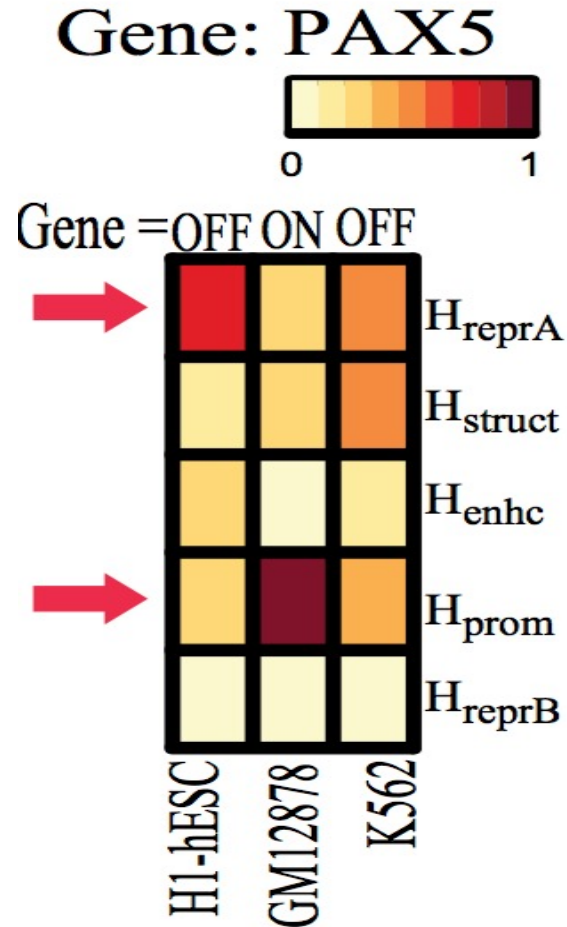
PROMOTER  
DISTAL PROMOTER  
REPRESSOR





# Results: HM level attention

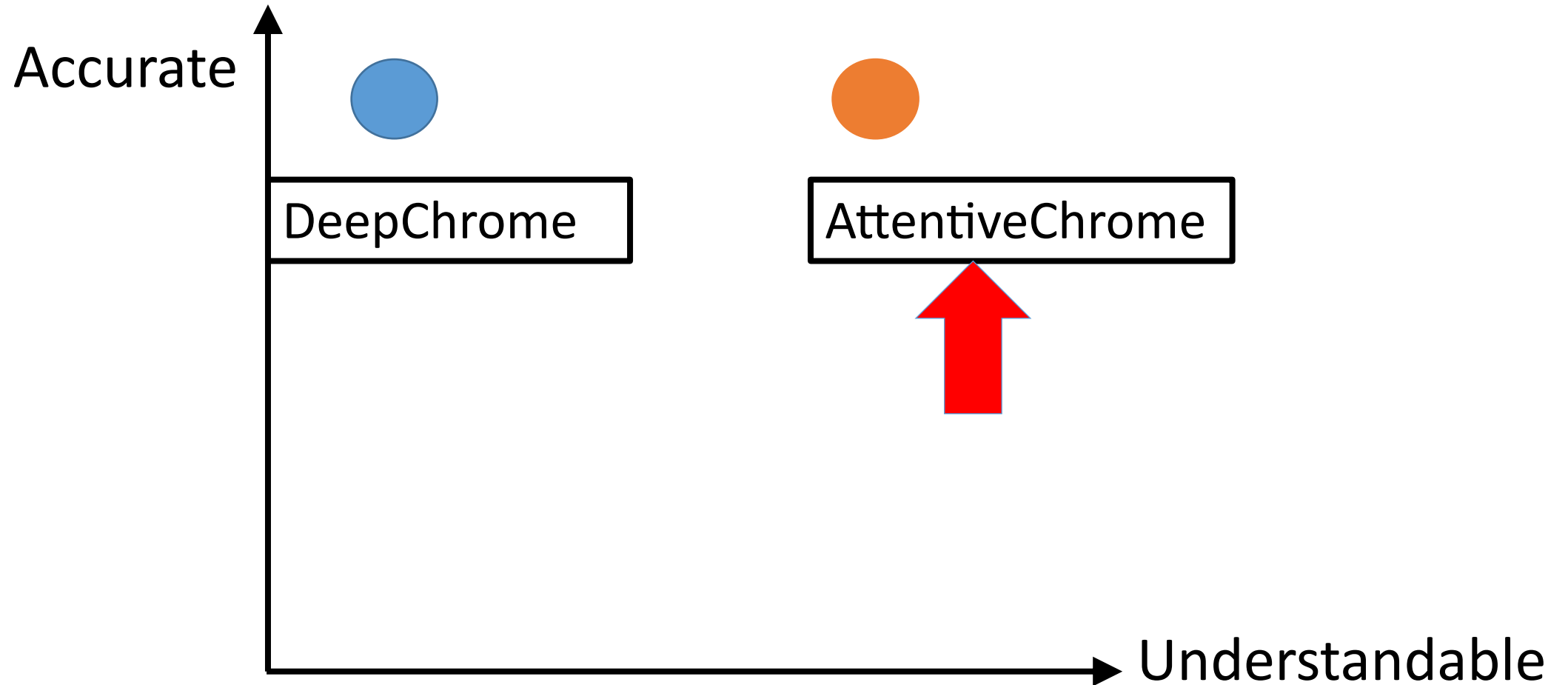
## (2) What HMs are important?

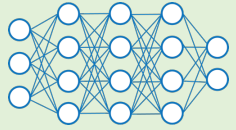


$\beta$  Maps

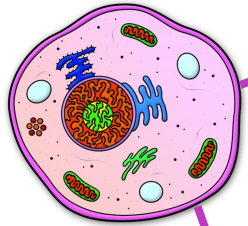
- An important differentially regulated gene (PAX5) across three blood lineage cell types:
  - H1-hESC (stem cell),
  - GM12878 (blood cell),
  - K562 (leukemia cell).
- Trend of its global weights (beta) Verified through the literature.

# Summary of tools

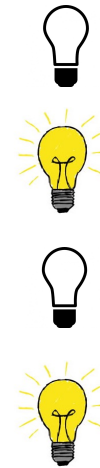




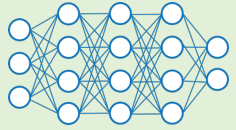
# Output (Y) Labels



Genes	Gene Expression (RPKM)	Y Labels
RUNX1	1.296	0
SMAD2	14.902	1
MYC	3.805	0
PAX5	15.066	1
.....	.....	.....

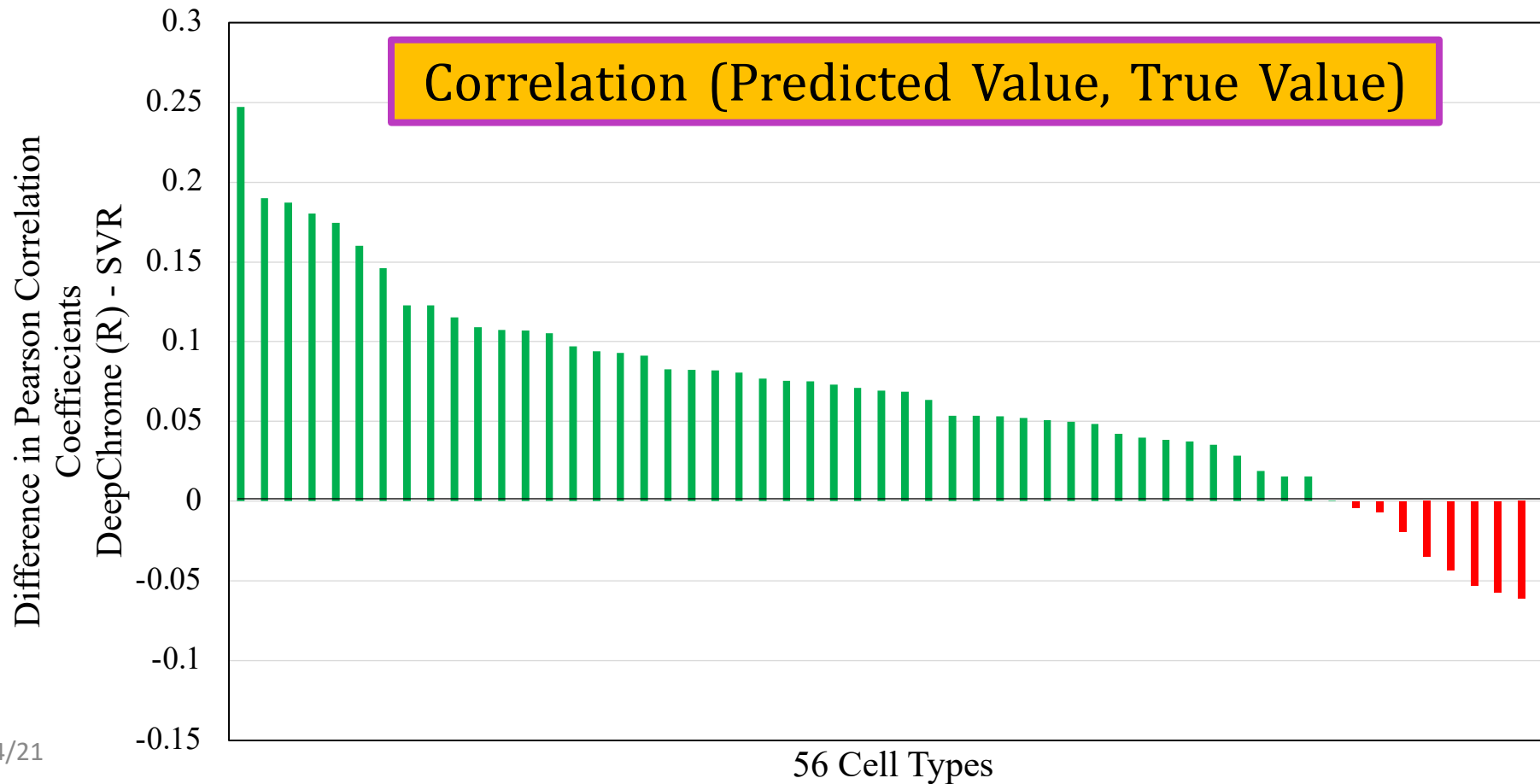


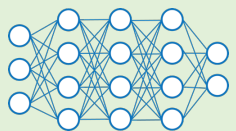
**Threshold = 10.245 (Median)**



# Where we further tried?

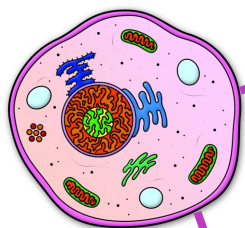
Changing Task : Classification  $\rightarrow$  Regression





# Where we further tried?

Changing Task : Classification  $\rightarrow$  Regression

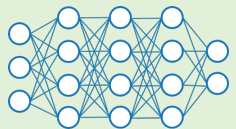


Genes	Gene Expression (RPKM)	Y log(RPKM)
RUNX1	1.296	0.1126
SMAD2	14.902	1.1737
MYC	3.805	0.5803
PAX5	15.066	1.779
.....	.....	.....

1.770  
Gene  
Expression

Mean Square  
Error Loss

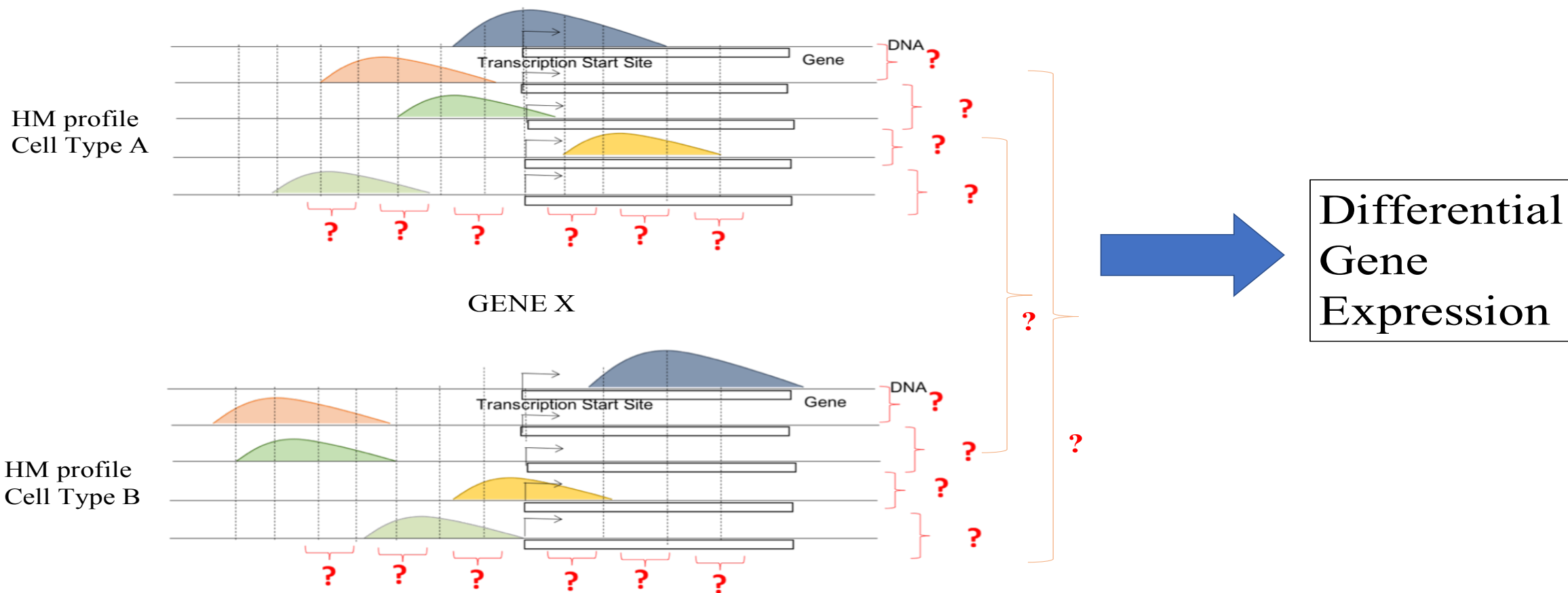
$$(Y - f(X))^2$$

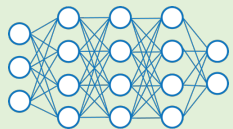


# Where we further tried?

A. Sekon, R. Singh, Y. QiDeepDiff: Deep-learning for predicting Differential gene expression from histone modifications, Bioinformatics 2018

Changing Task : Cell-Specific  $\rightarrow$  Cross Cell

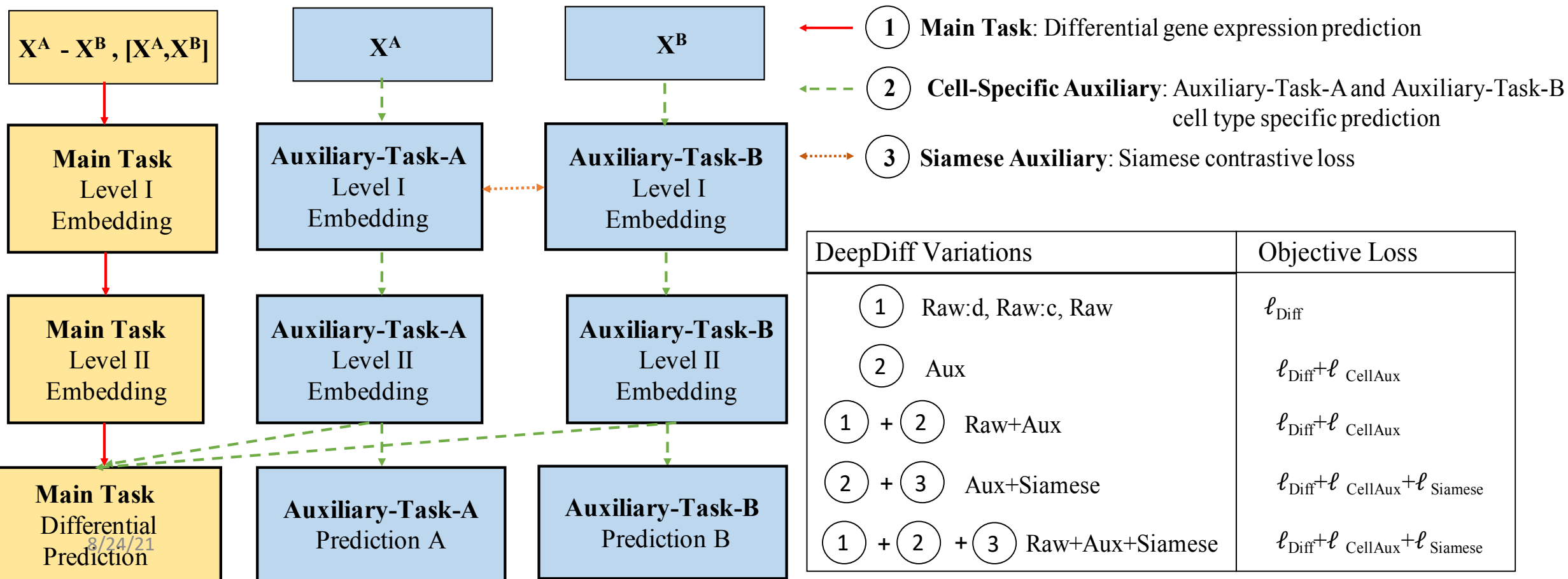




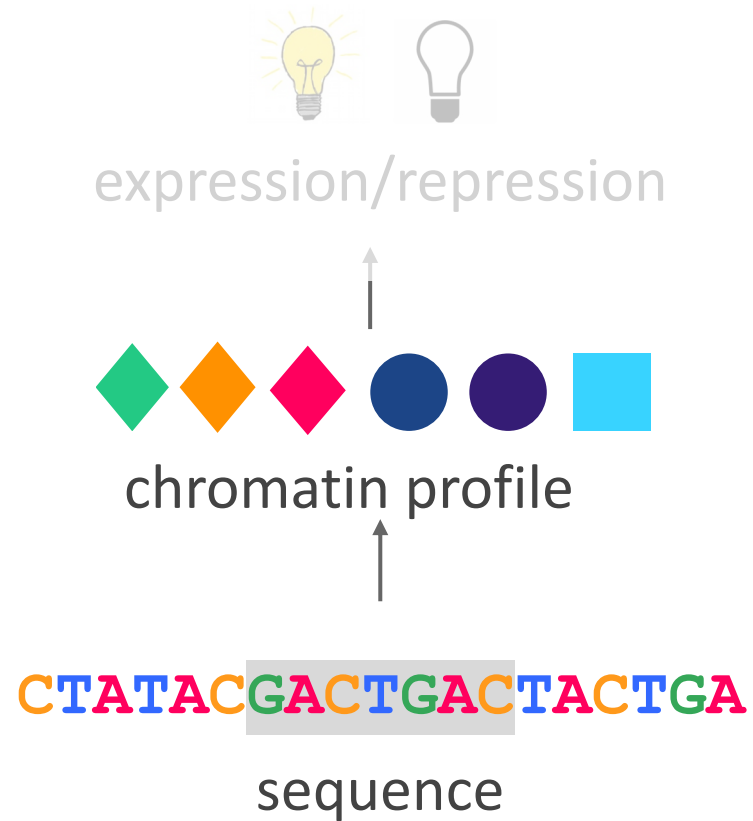
# Where we further tried?

DeepDiff: Deep-learning for predicting Differential gene expression from histone modifications

## Changing Task : Cell-Specific $\rightarrow$ Cross Cell

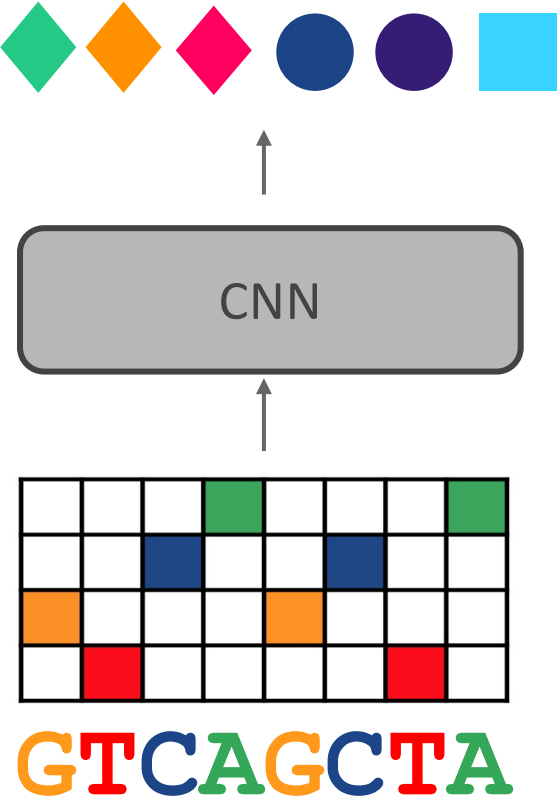


# Second Task:

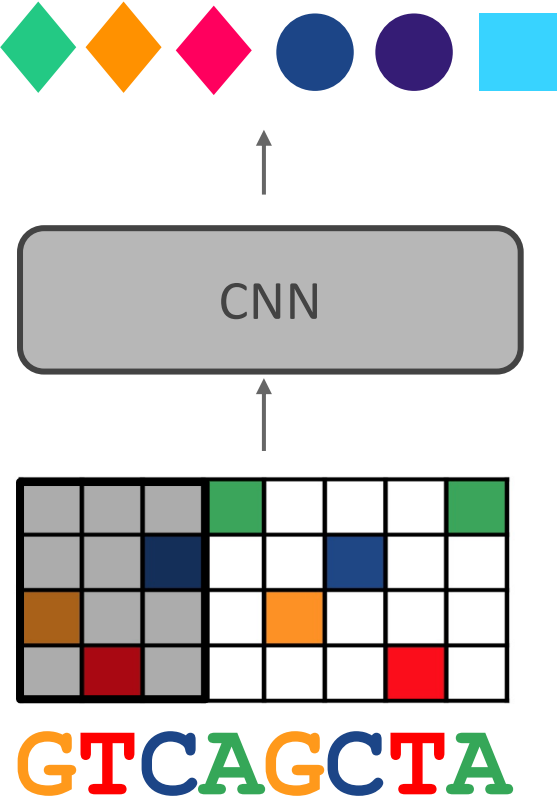




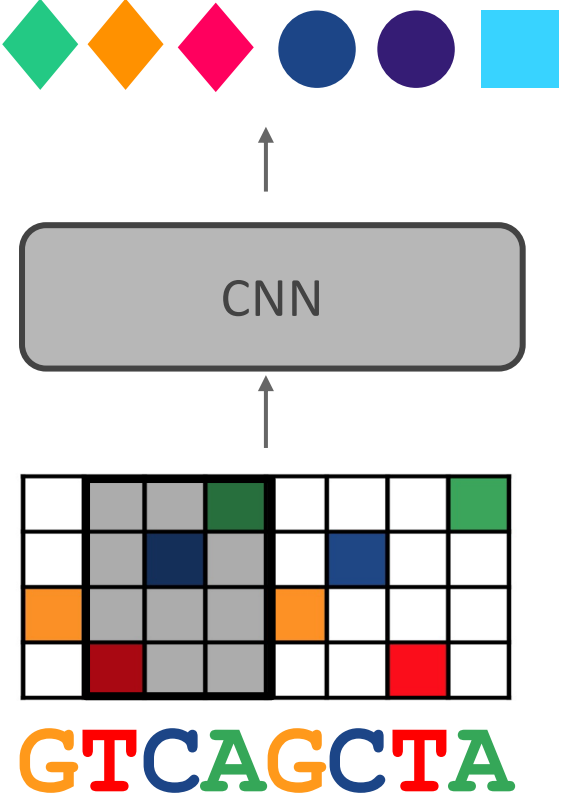
# Local Sequence Chromatin Profile Prediction



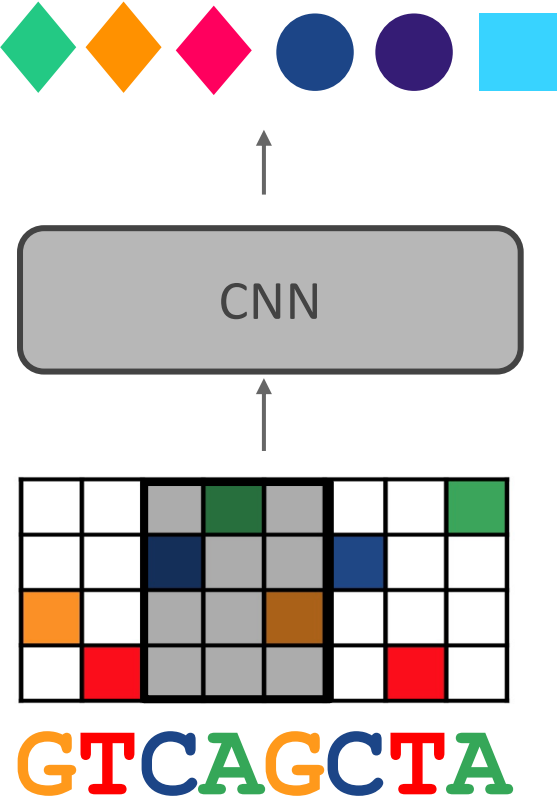
# Local Sequence Chromatin Profile Prediction



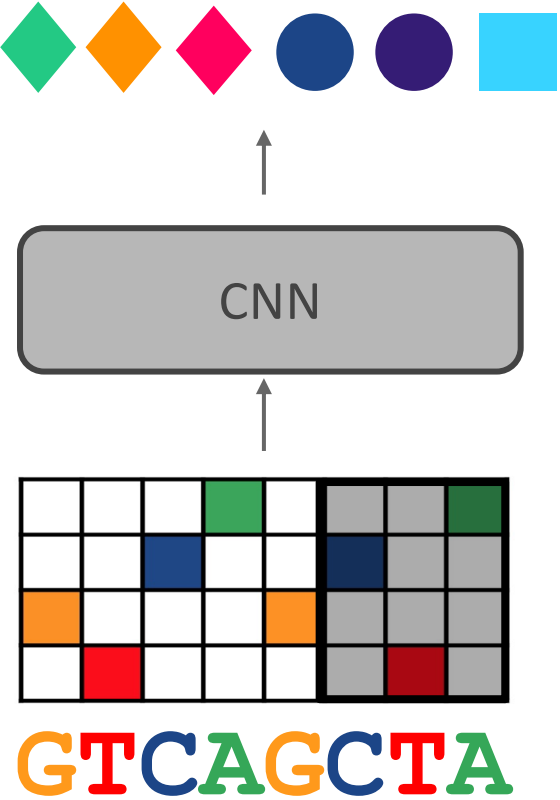
# Local Sequence Chromatin Profile Prediction



# Local Sequence Chromatin Profile Prediction



# Local Sequence Chromatin Profile Prediction



# Local Sequence Chromatin Profile Prediction

**ACTGCTACCTATGACGTGATGCATCGTAGCT**  
**A**

# Local Sequence Chromatin Profile Prediction

**ACTGCTAC**

$x_1$

**CTATGACG**

$x_2$

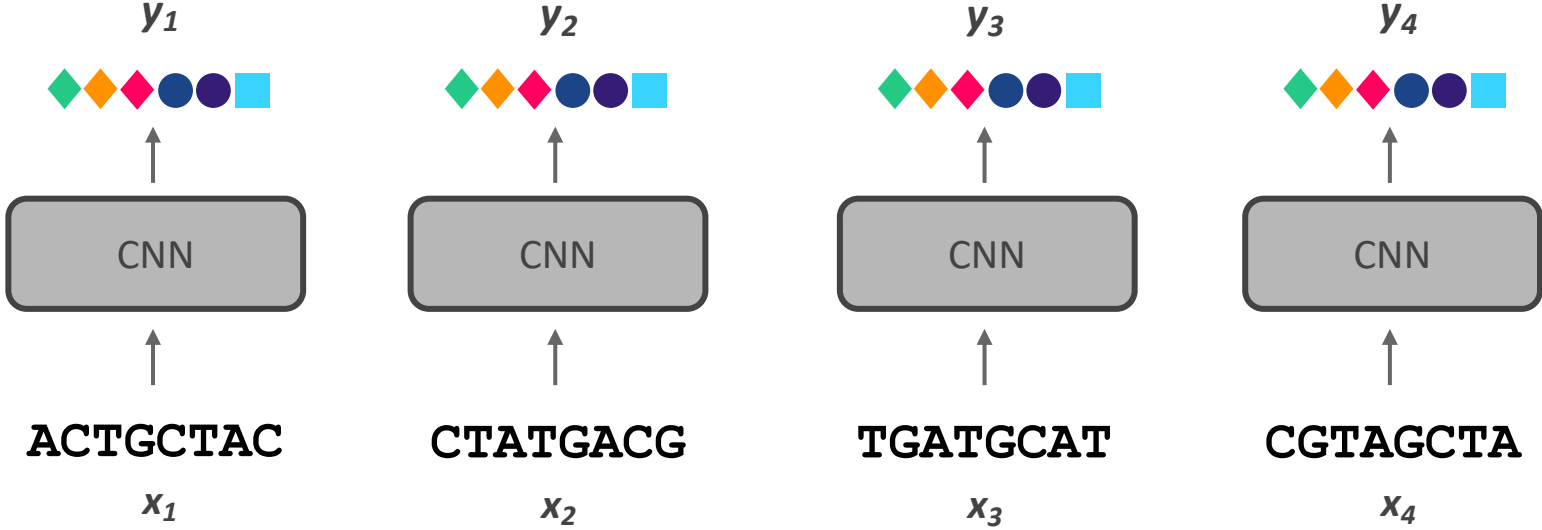
**TGATGCAT**

$x_3$

**CGTAGCTA**

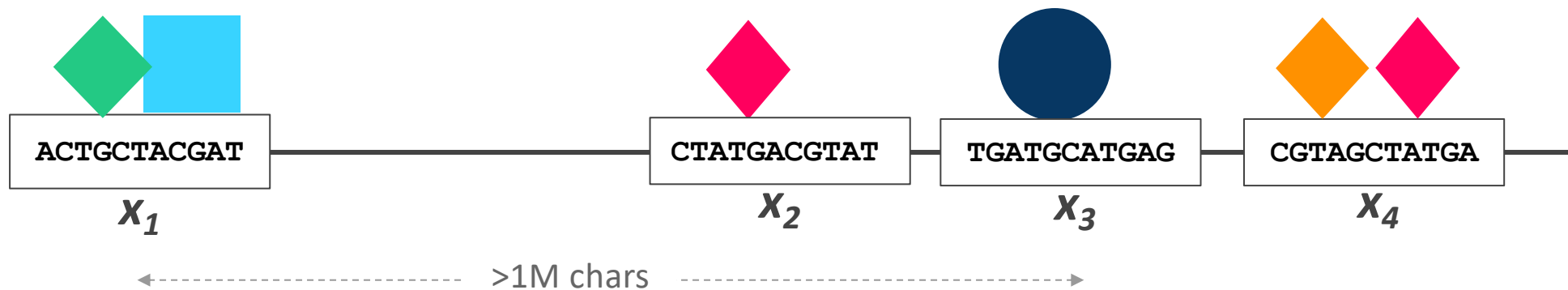
$x_4$

# Local Sequence Chromatin Profile Prediction

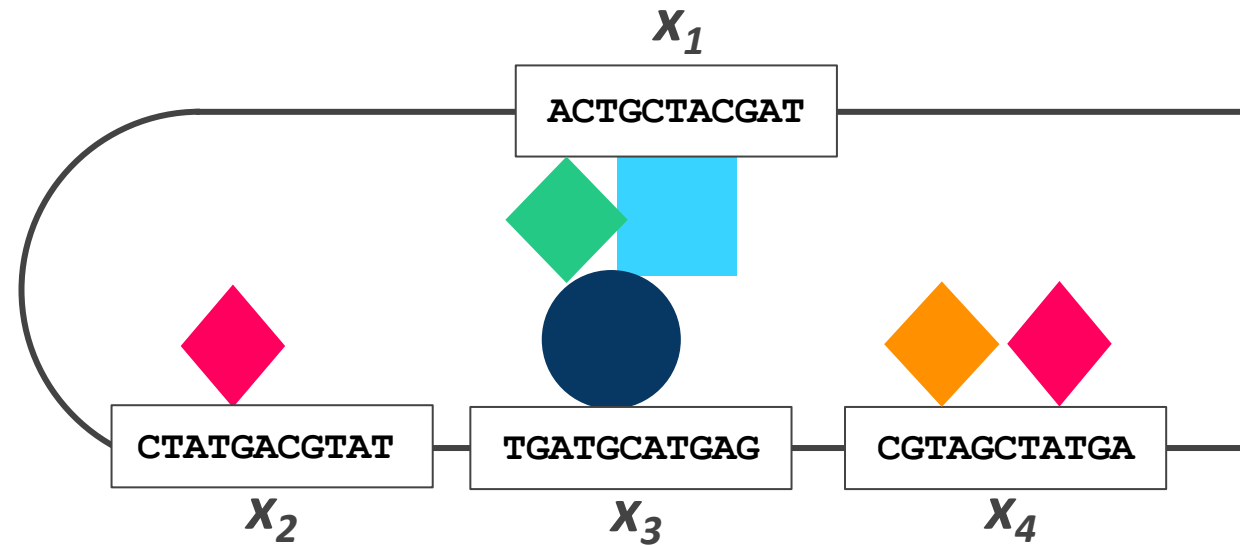




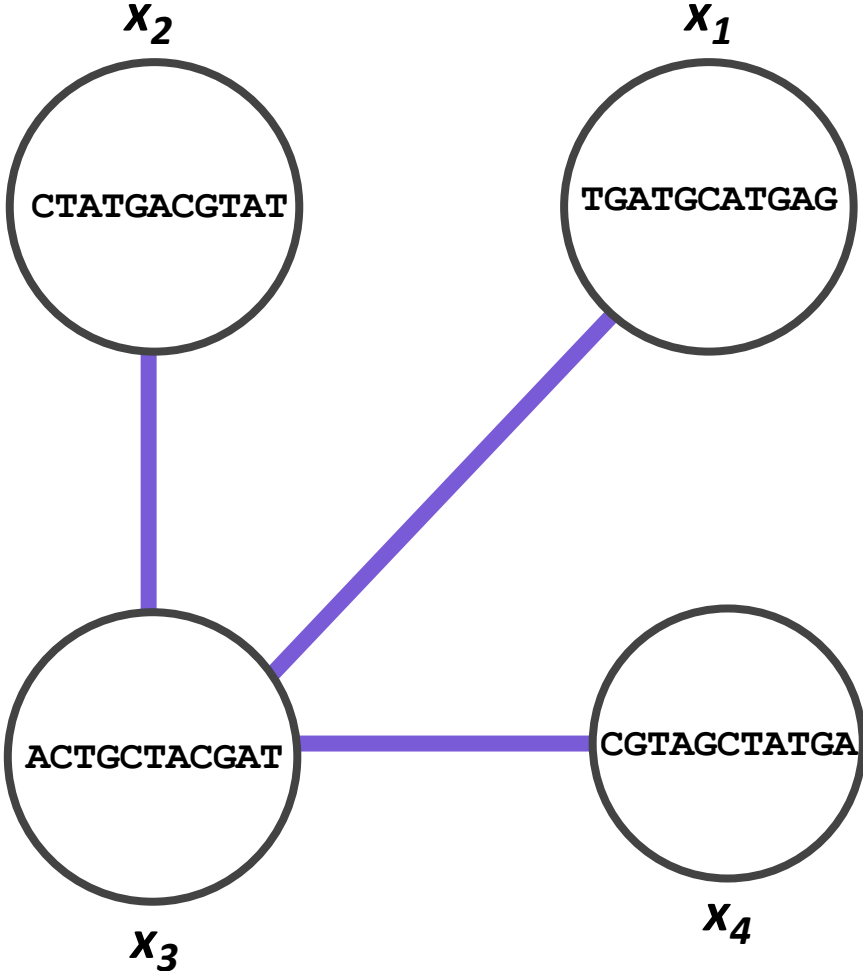
# Influence of Long-Range Interactions on Chromatin Profile



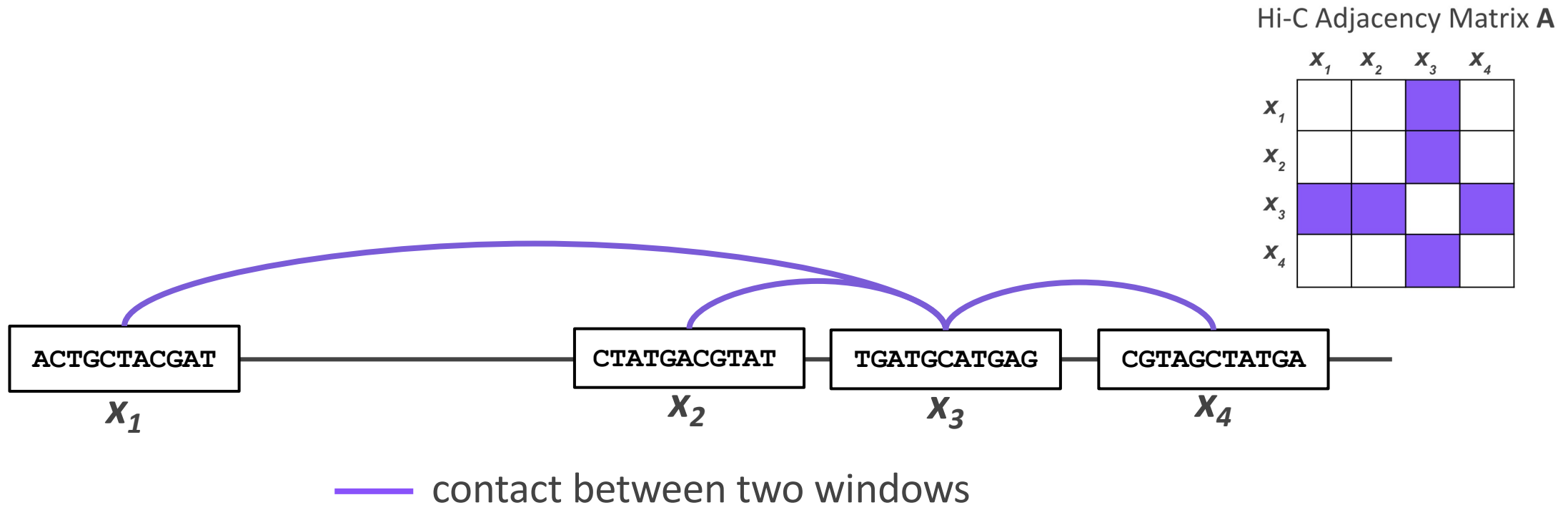
# Influence of Long-Range Interactions on Chromatin Profile



# Genome: Locally a Sequence, Globally a Graph

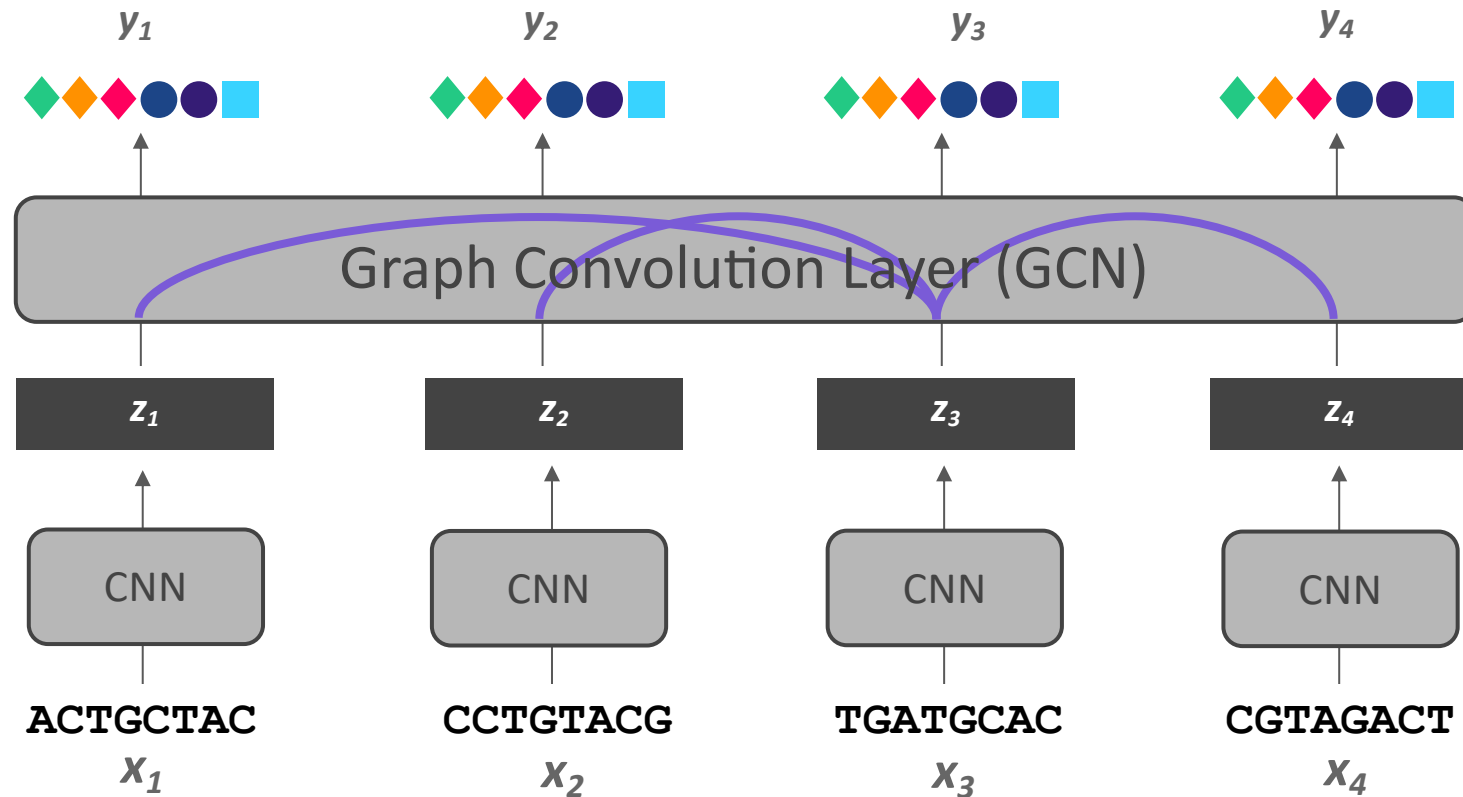


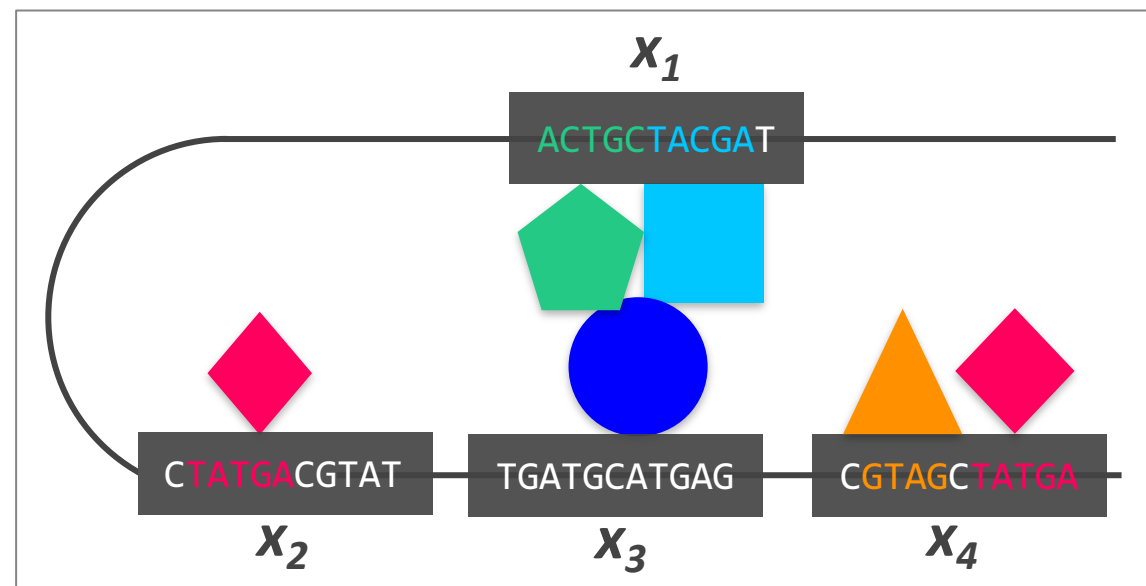
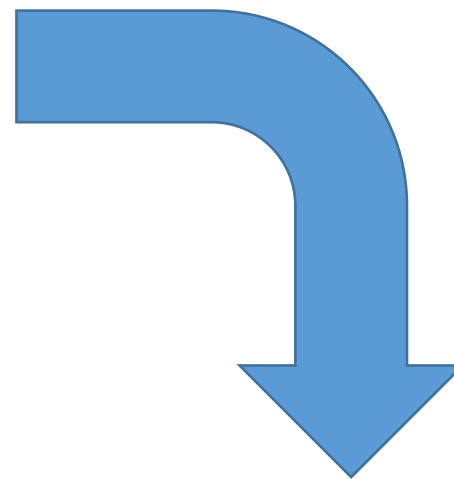
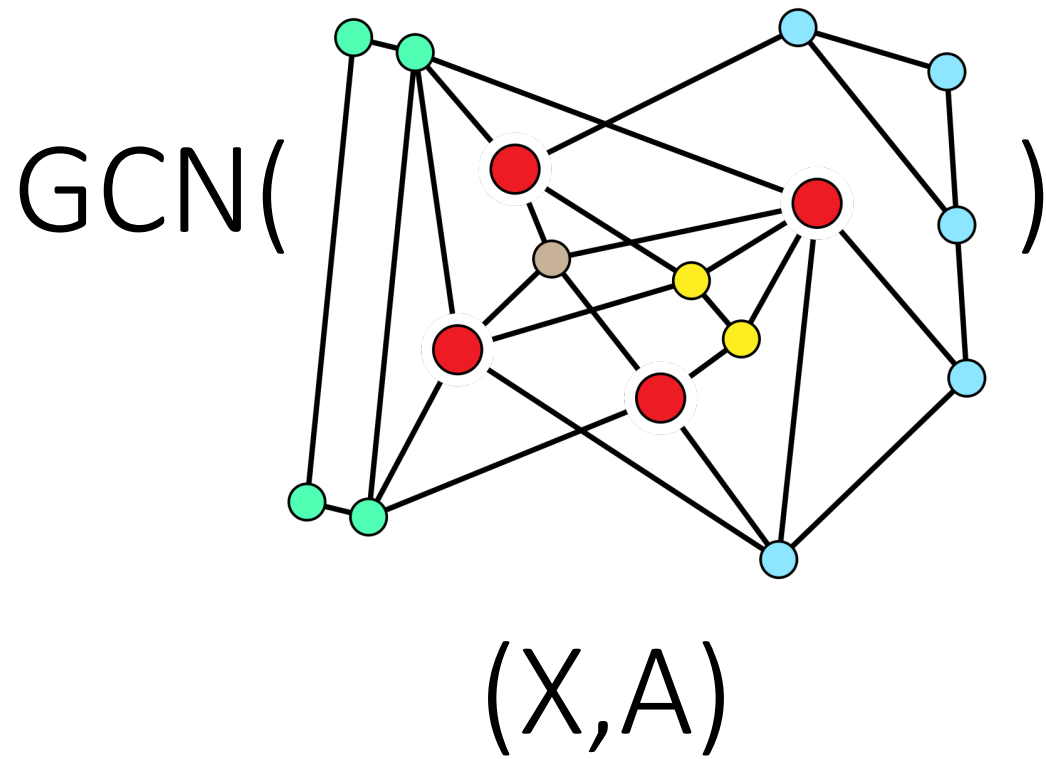
# High-throughput Chromosome Conformation Capture (Hi-C)



“structural blueprint” indicating interactions that may matter for regulation

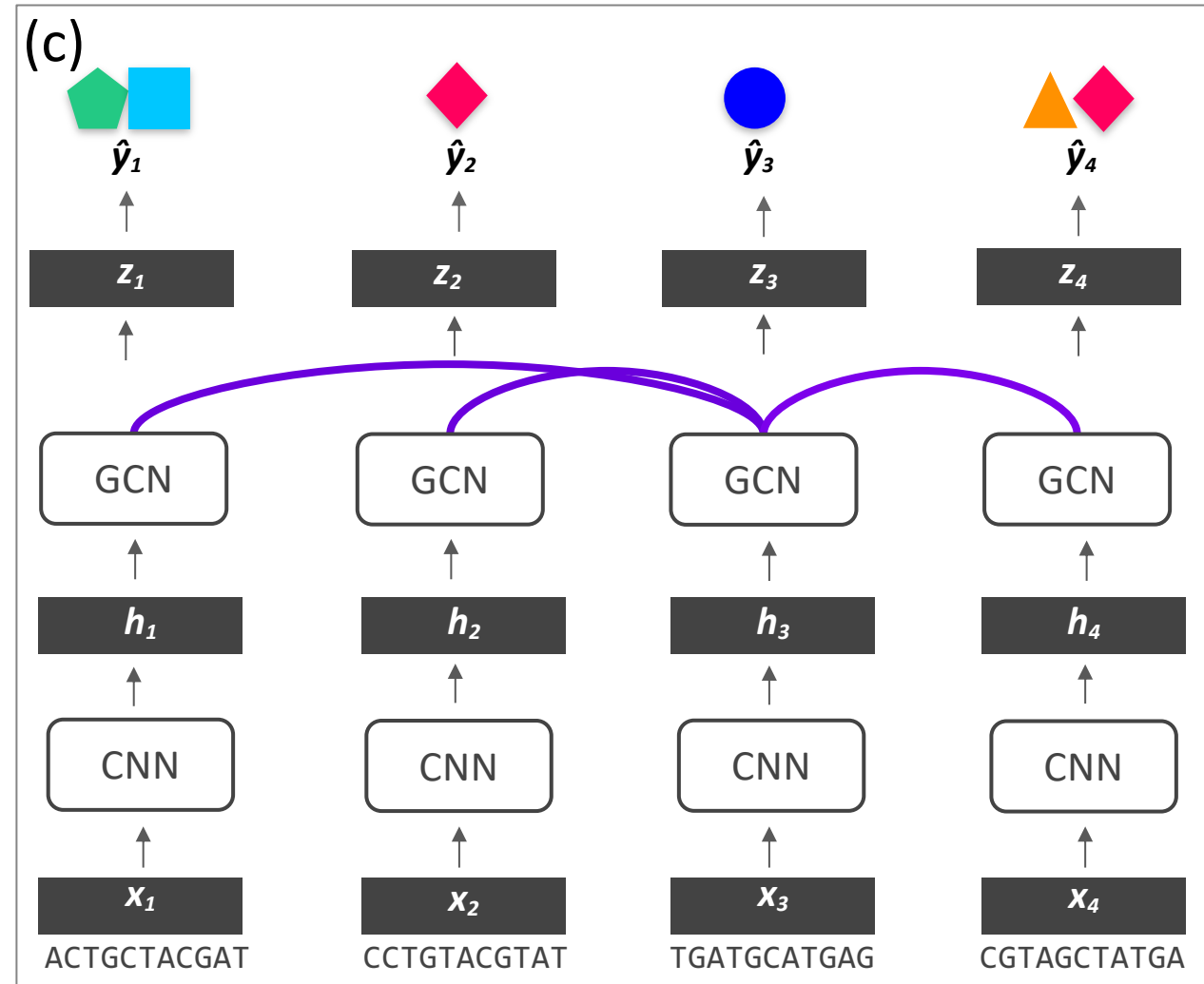
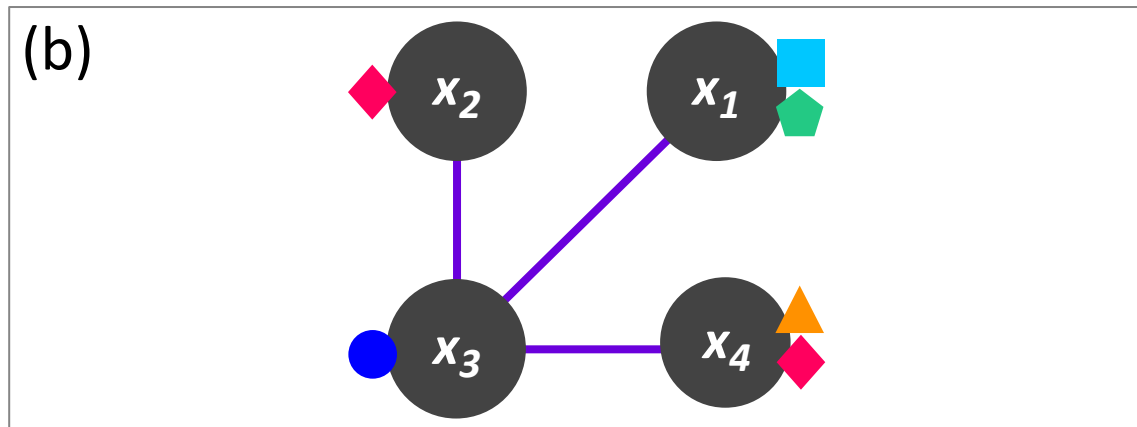
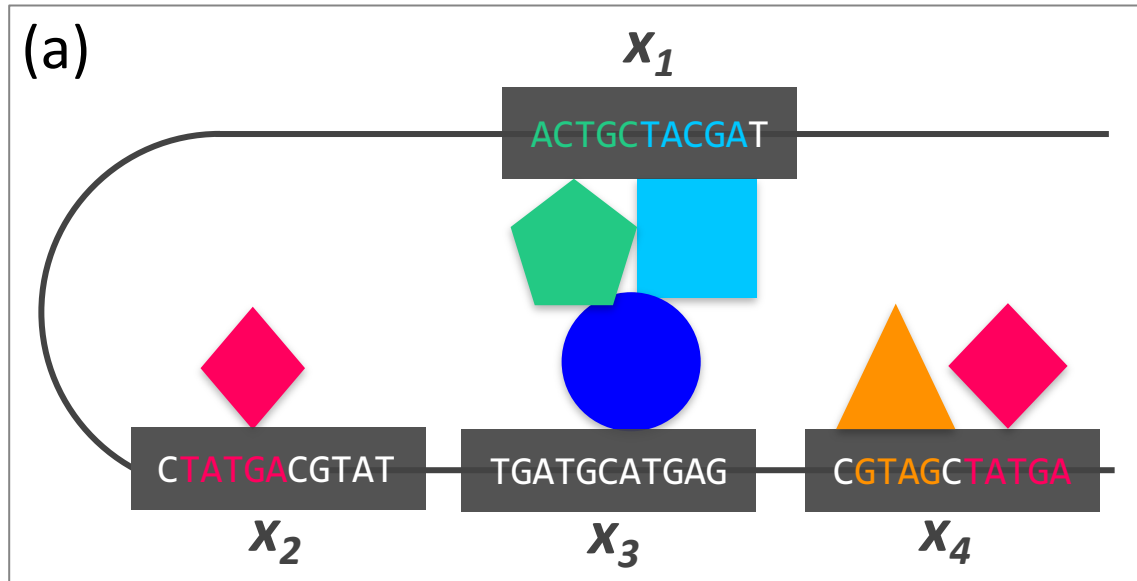
# ChromeGCN: Combining Sequence and Graph Learning for Chromatin Profile Prediction



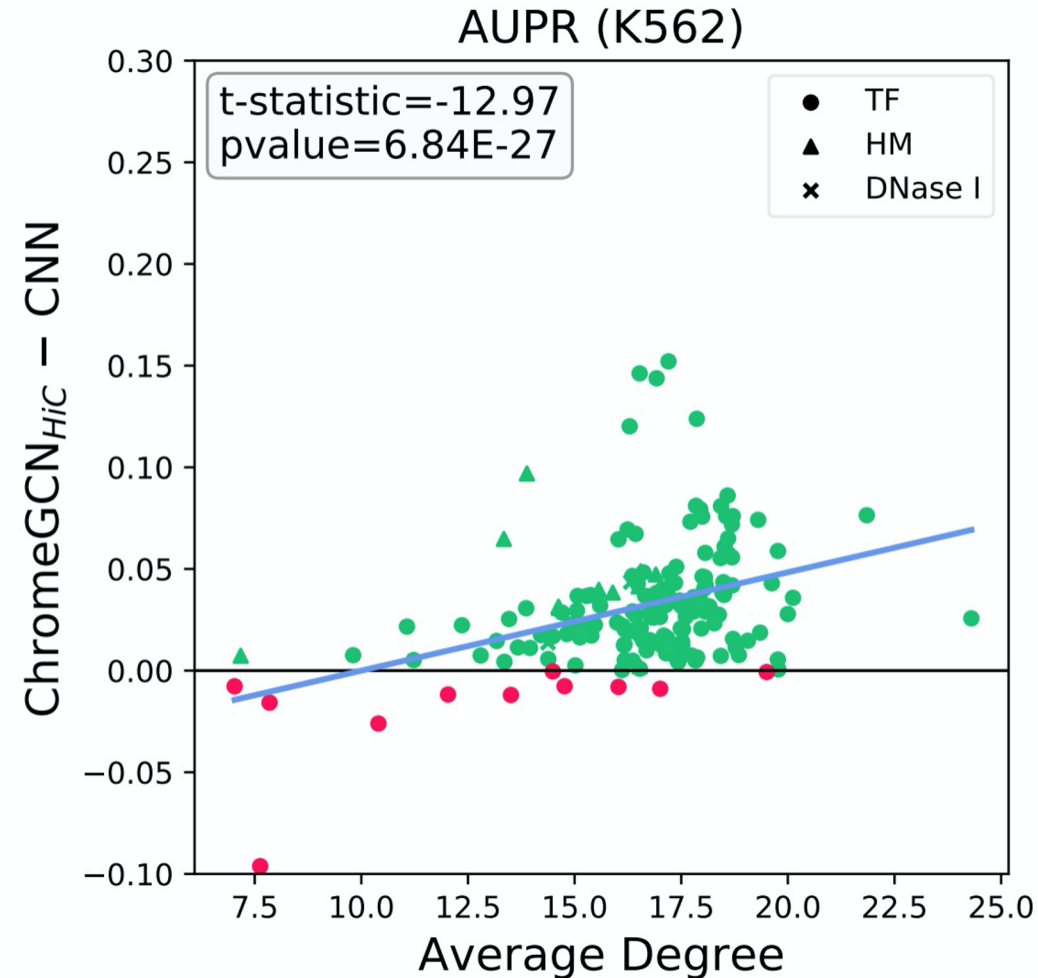


# ChromeGCN: Combining Sequence and Graph Learning for Chromatin Profile Prediction

Graph Convolutional Networks for Epigenetic Activity Prediction Using Both Sequence and 3D Genome



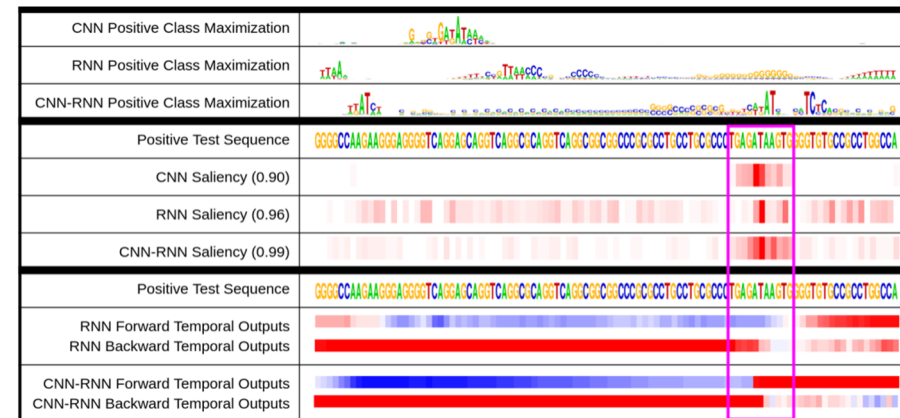
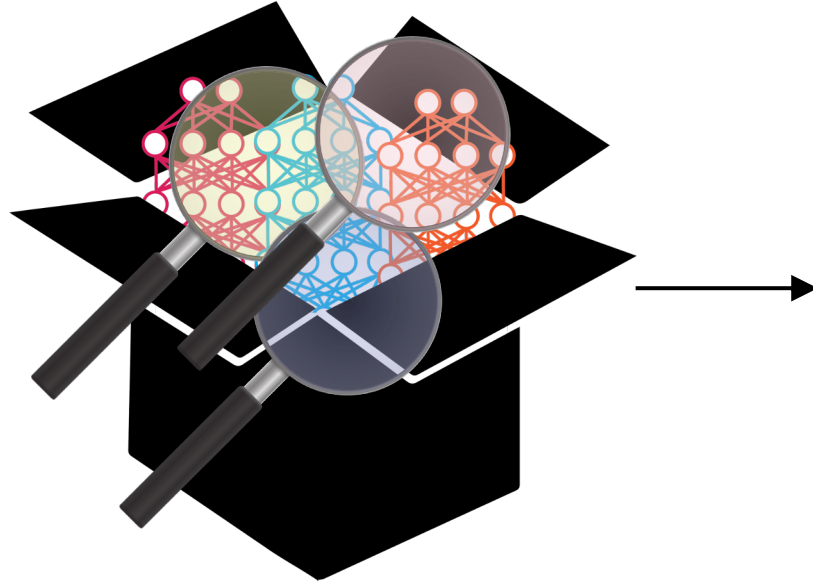
# ChromeGCN: Combining Sequence and Graph Learning for Chromatin Profile Prediction





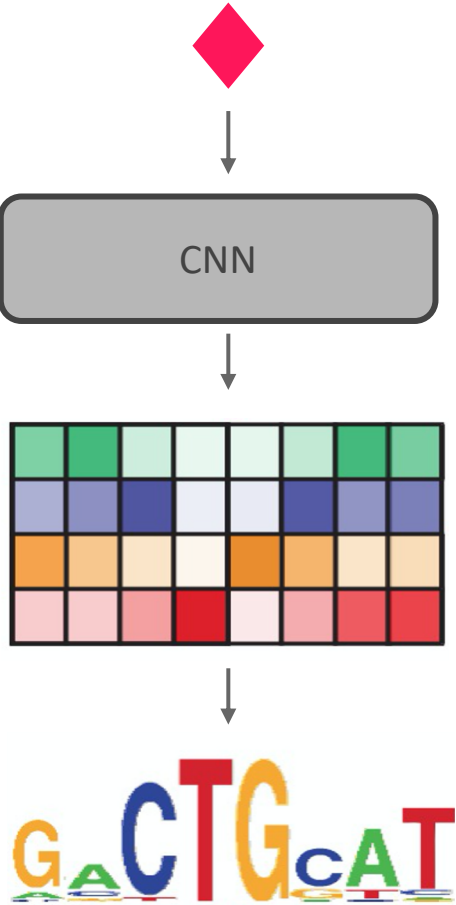
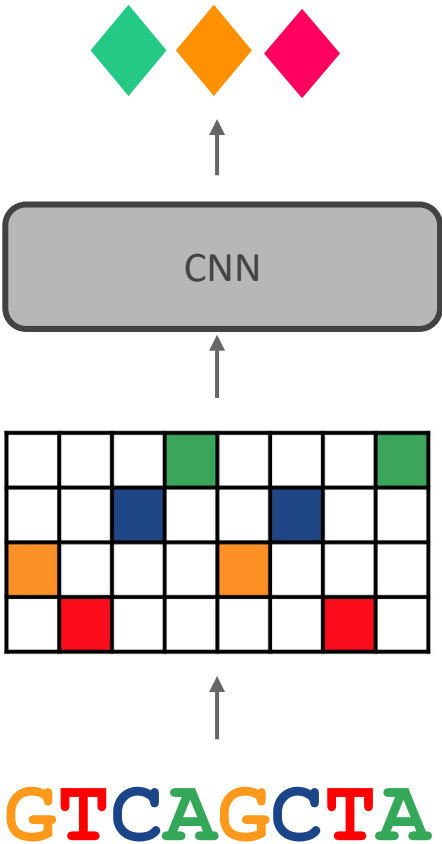
# Understanding by Post Analysis

Lanchantin, Singh, Wang & Qi - Pacific Symposium on Biocomputing, 2017

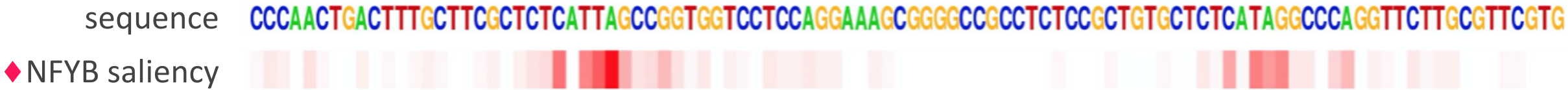


1. Saliency Maps - recommending on CNN kind
2. Class Optimization - recommending on CNN kind
3. Temporal Output Values - recommending on RNN kind

# Interpreting Sequence Syntax with Class Optimization

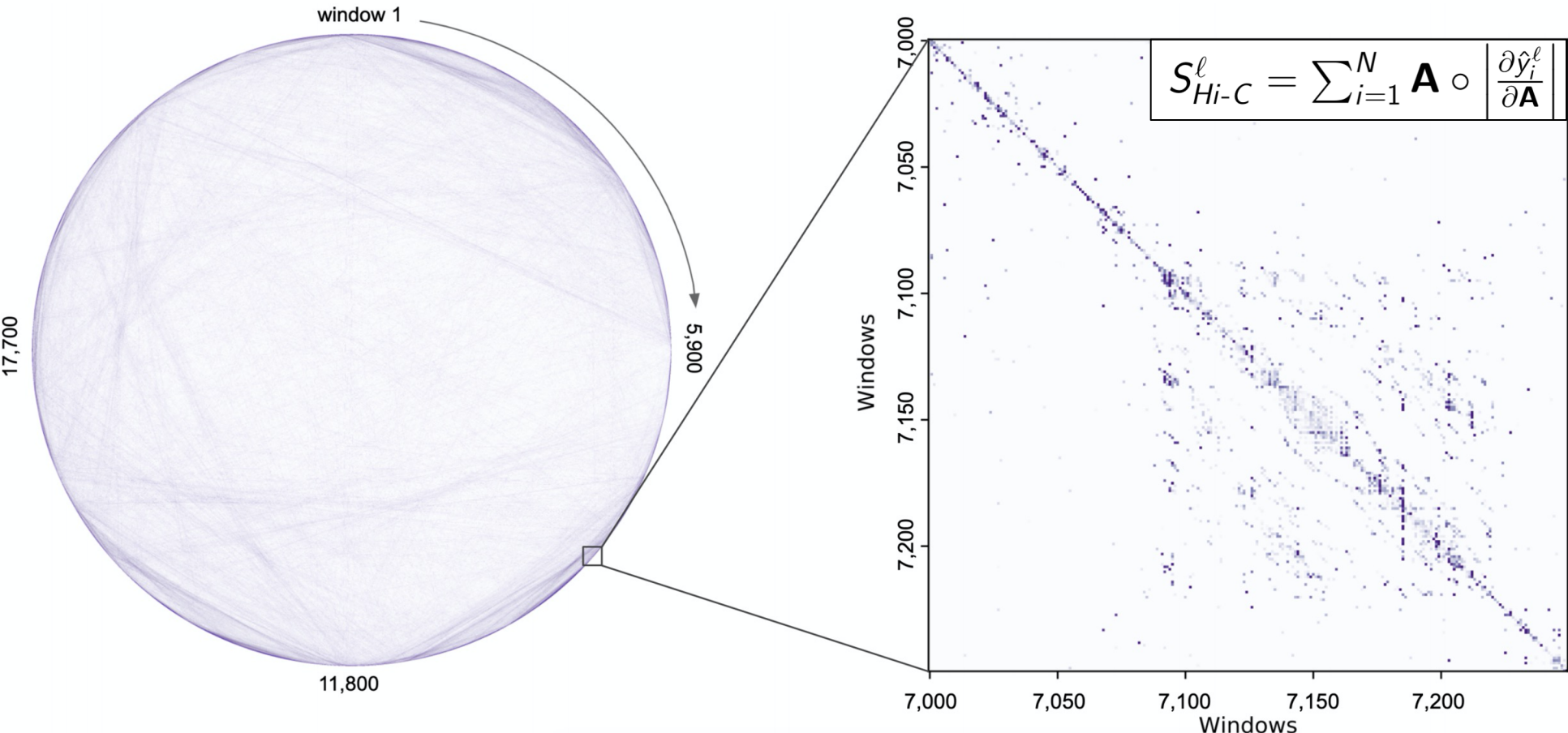


# Interpreting Sequence Syntax with Saliency Maps



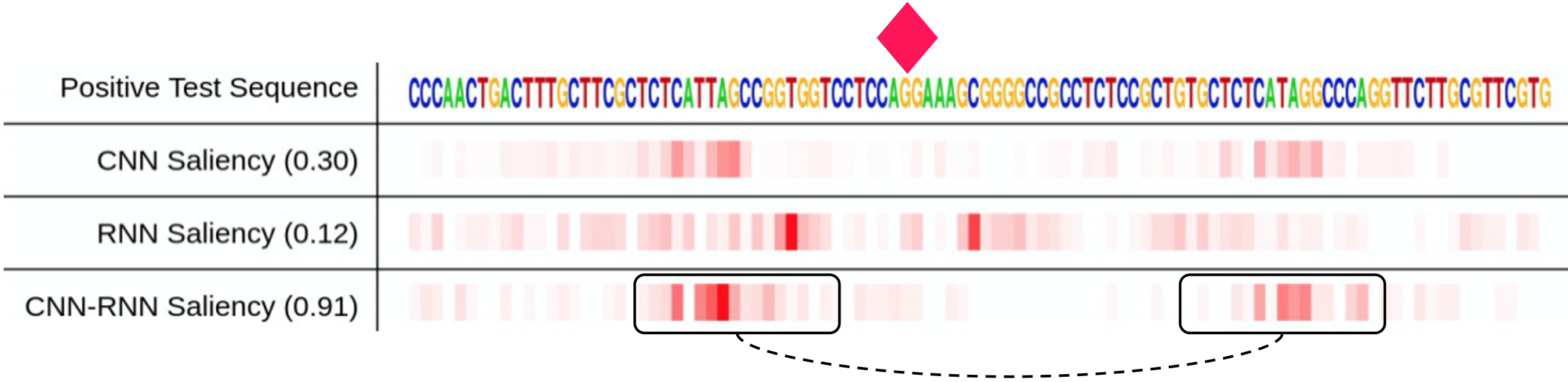
**|** = important nucleotide for prediction

# Interpreting Long Range Interactions with Hi-C Saliency Maps

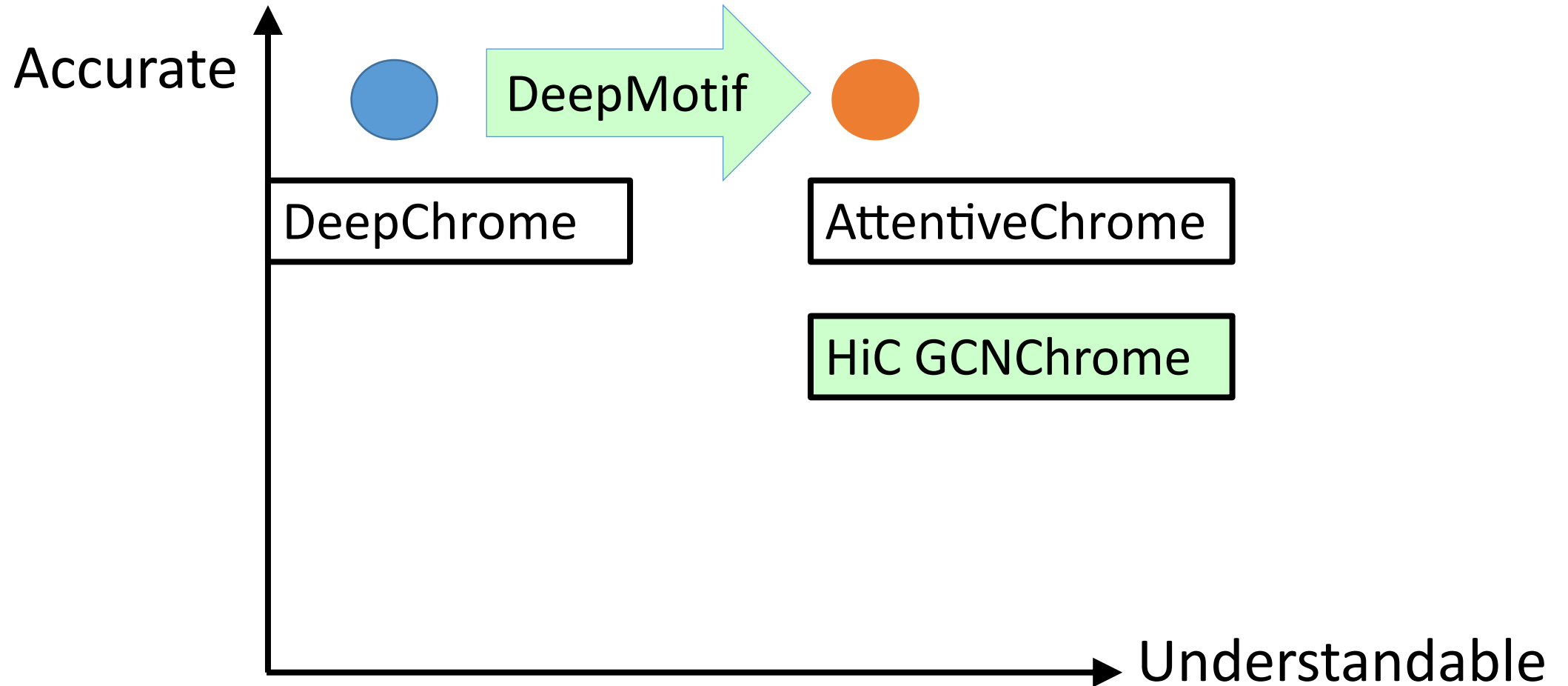


YY1 Hi-C saliency map for all 500k edges in  $\mathbf{A}$

# Local sequence interactions

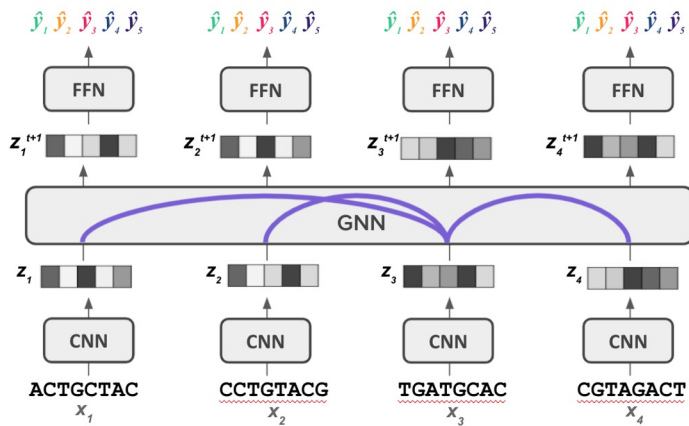


# Summary of tools

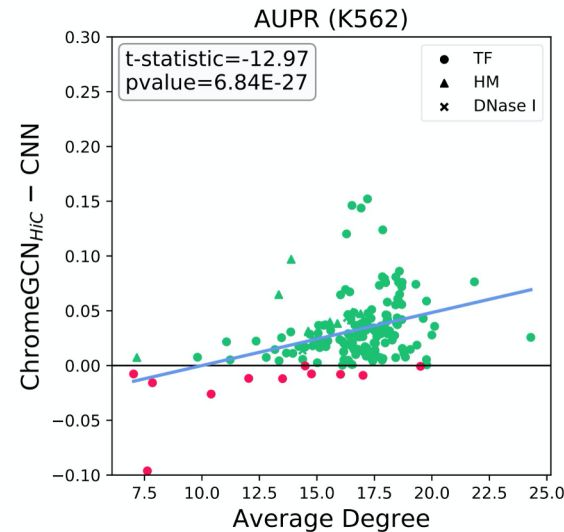


# Contributions

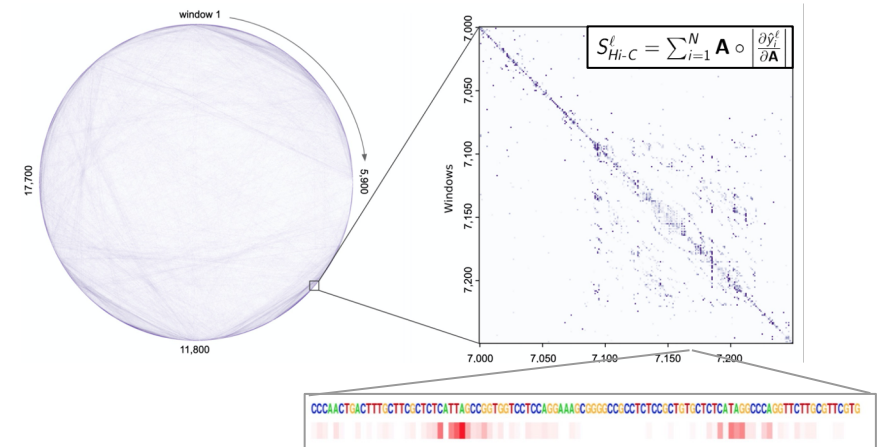
**1. Cohesive framework:** we fuse local sequence features and long range interactions for chromatin profile prediction



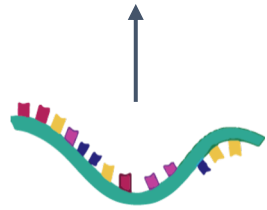
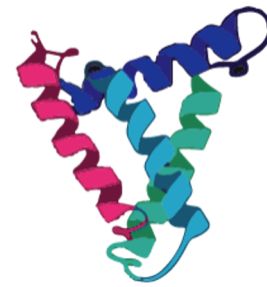
**2. Accurate:** incorporating long range interactions outperforms the baselines



**3. Interpretable:** we introduce Hi-C saliency maps to find important interactions, and deep motif dashboard to interpret local features



# Third Task:

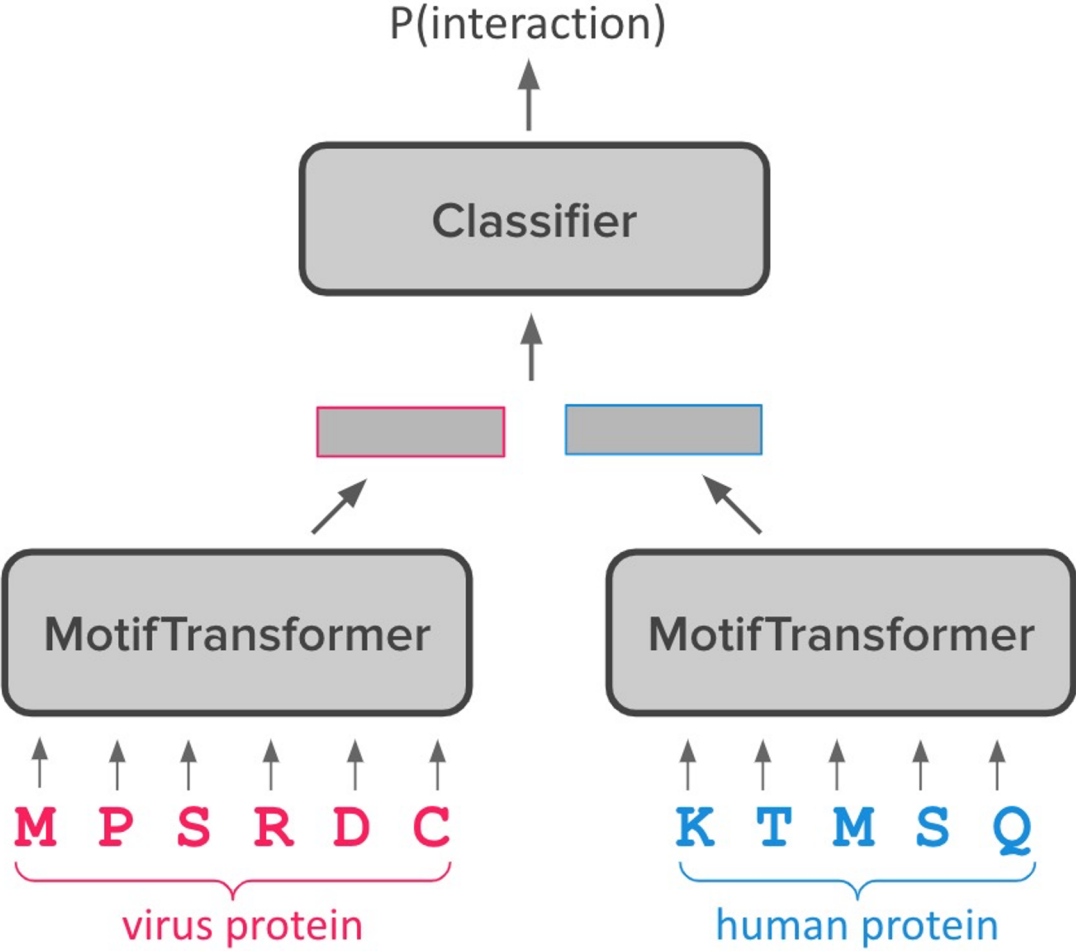
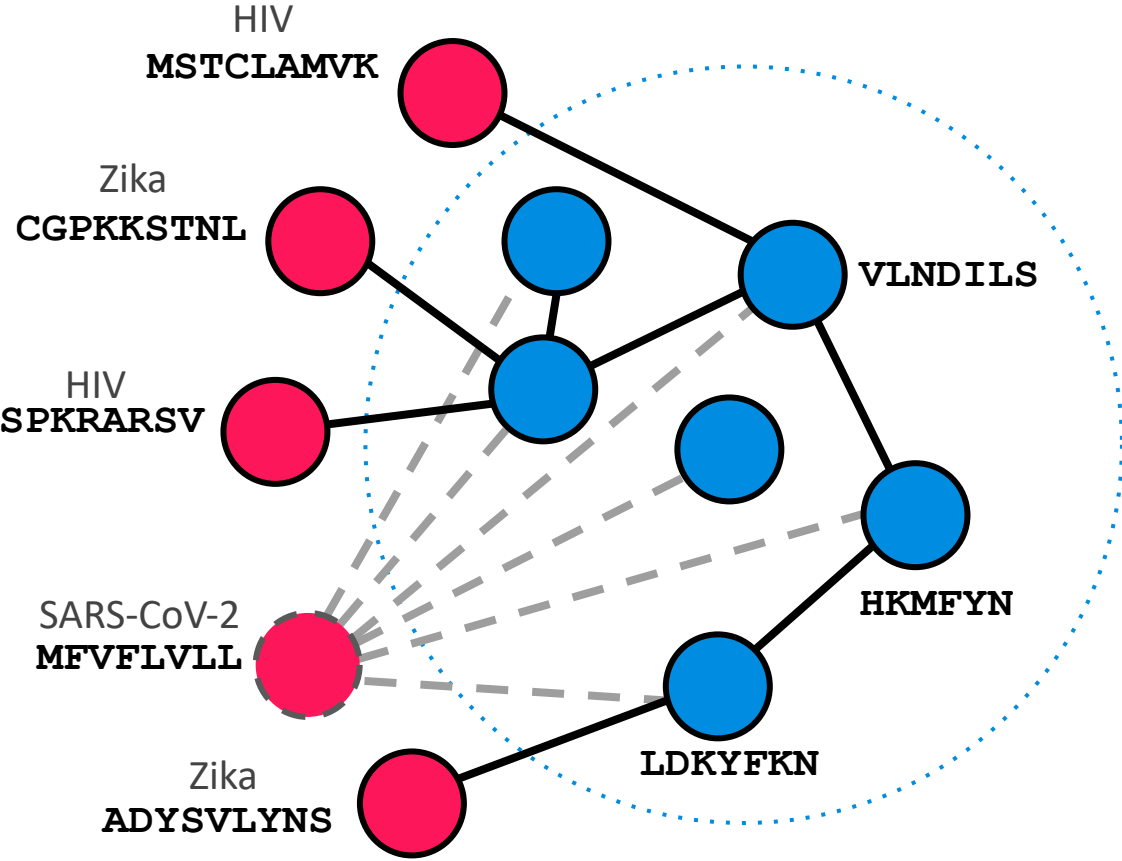


gene expressed

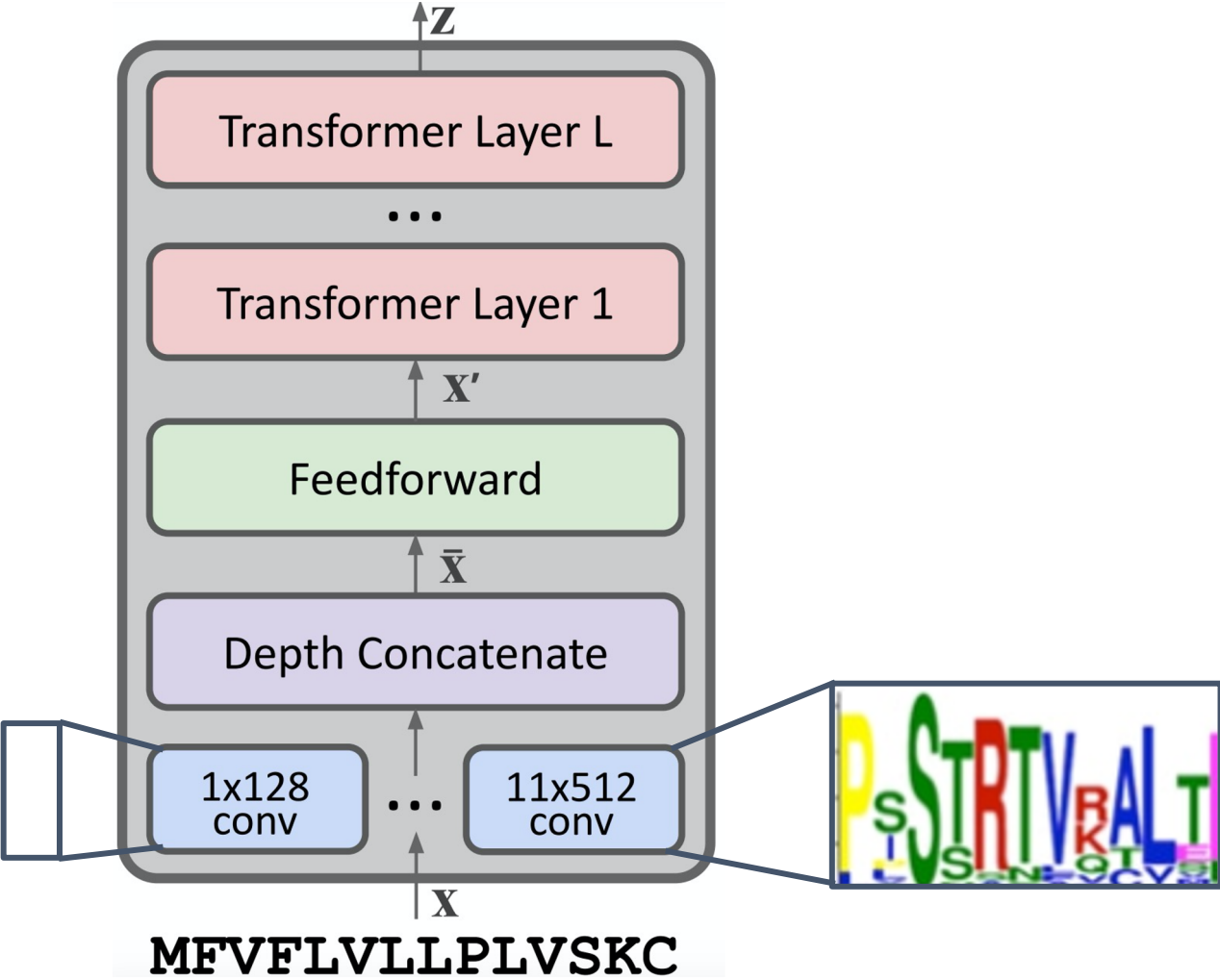
ATGCTCGATGCTAATACGACTTGAGATTACTGAGACTGAGACTCTAGAT



# Interaction Prediction



# Motif Transformer



# What we have tried: *Using Deep Learning to Read the Genome, Epigenome and Proteome*

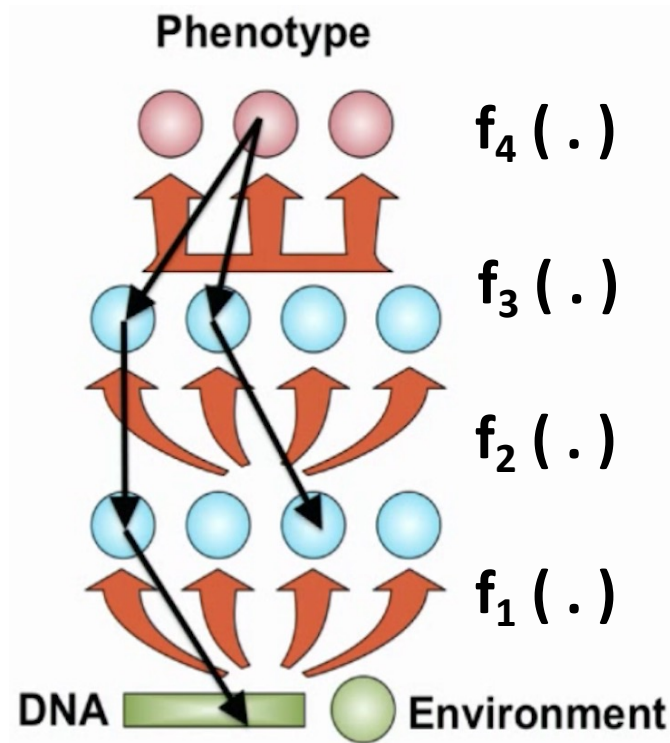
1. Deep Learning module to reflect biological modules

2. Compose modules to reflect biology

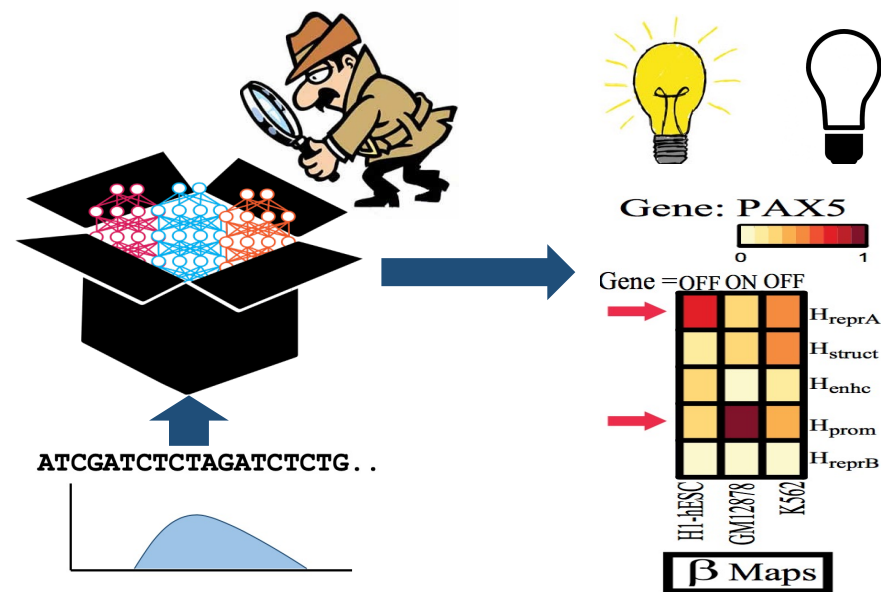
3. Open DNN black-box and provide domain explanations



X	Y
DNA	RNA / Func
Epigenetic	RNA
DNA	Interaction to Protein (TF)
Protein	Funcs
Protein	Interaction to DNA/RNA
...	...



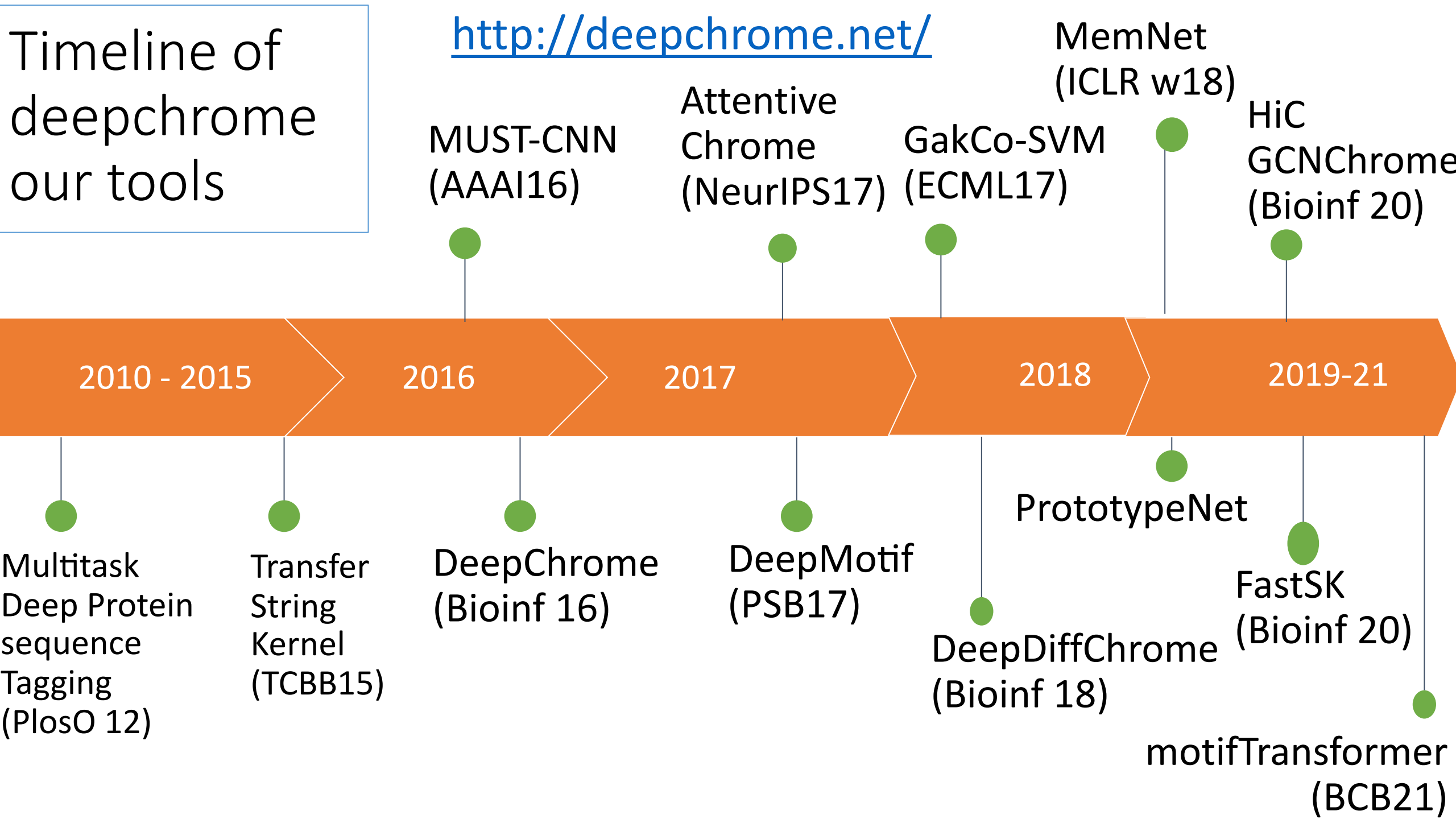
<http://deepchrome.net>



CNN Positive Class Maximization	
RNN Positive Class Maximization	
CNN-RNN Positive Class Maximization	
Positive Test Sequence	GGGCCCCAAGAGGGGTCAGGACAGGTCAGGCACAGGTCAGGCAGCCGCCCCCGCCCTCCTCCCTCCCTCAGCATAACTGGGTGTCCCTGCCA
CNN Saliency (0.90)	
RNN Saliency (0.96)	
CNN-RNN Saliency (0.99)	
Positive Test Sequence	GGGCCCCAAGAGGGGTCAGGACAGGTCAGGCACAGGTCAGGCAGCCGCCCCCGCCCTCCTCCCTCCCTCAGCATAACTGGGTGTCCCTGCCA
RNN Forward Temporal Outputs	
RNN Backward Temporal Outputs	
CNN-RNN Forward Temporal Outputs	
CNN-RNN Backward Temporal Outputs	

# Timeline of deepchrome our tools

<http://deepchrome.net/>



2010 - 2015

2016

2017

2018

2019-21

Multitask  
Deep Protein  
sequence  
Tagging  
(PlosO 12)

Transfer  
String  
Kernel  
(TCBB15)

DeepChrome  
(Bioinf 16)

MUST-CNN  
(AAAI16)

DeepMotif  
(PSB17)

Attentive  
Chrome  
(NeurIPS17)

DeepDiffChrome  
(Bioinf 18)

GakCo-SVM  
(ECML17)

PrototypeNet

MemNet  
(ICLR w18)

FastSK  
(Bioinf 20)

HiC  
GCNChrome  
(Bioinf 20)

motifTransformer  
(BCB21)

# Acknowledgements



Ritambhara Singh  
Now Assistant  
Professor @Brown



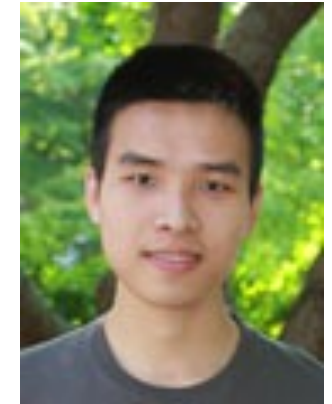
Jack Lanchantin  
Now @ Facebook  
Research



Arshdeep Sekhon



Beilun Wang  
Now Associate  
Professor @  
Southeastern Univ.

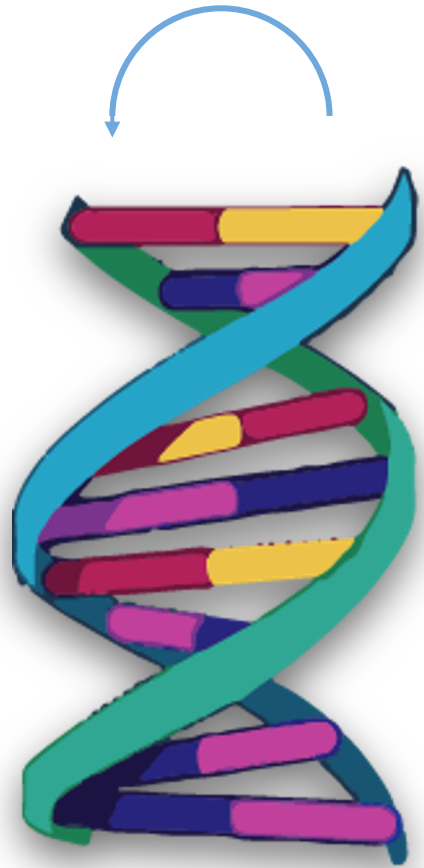


Weilin Xu, Now  
Research Staff @  
Intel Labs

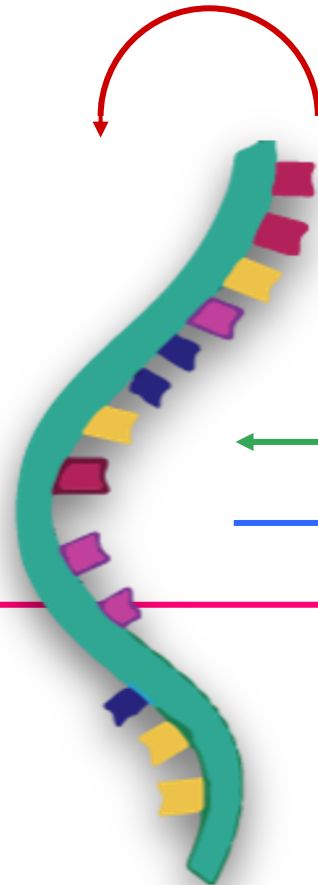
**UVA Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics: Dr. Mazhar Adli**

Thank you

# What we have tried: *Using Deep Learning to Read the Genome, Epigenome and Proteome*



**DNA**



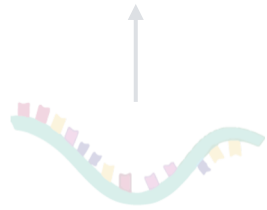
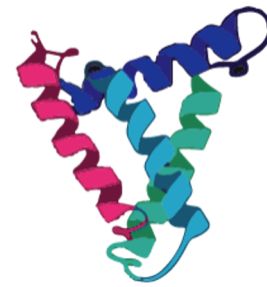
**RNA**



**PROTEIN**



# Third Task:

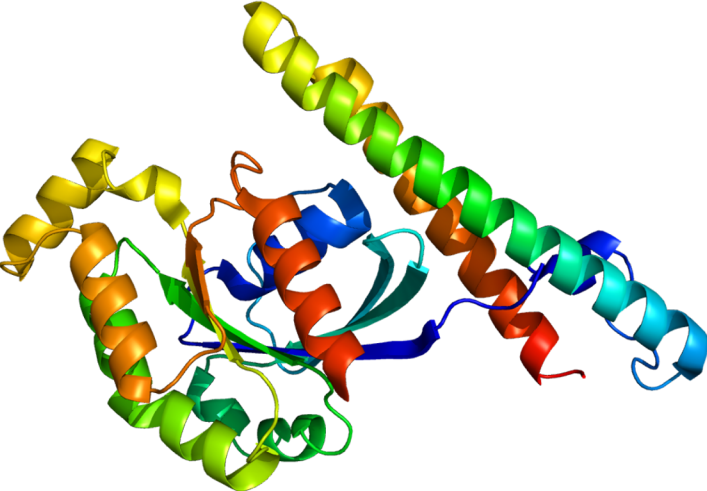


gene expressed

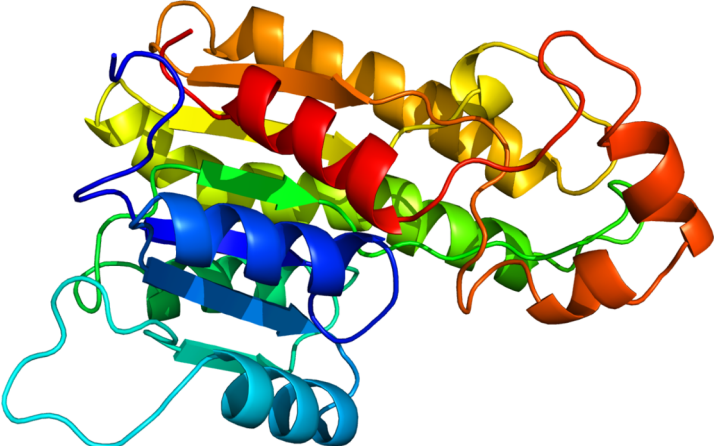
ATGCTCGATGCTAATACGACTTGAGATTACTTGAGACTGAGACTCTAGAT



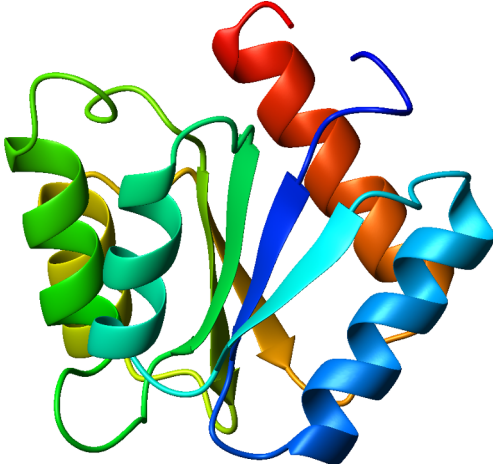
# Proteins: the building blocks of life



oxygen transportation



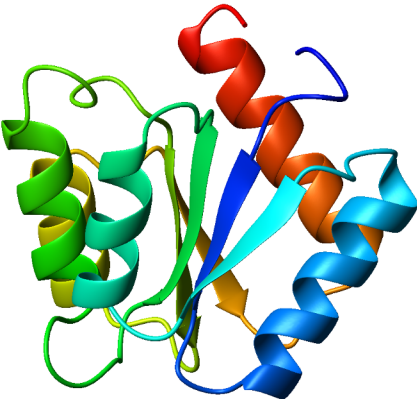
antibodies



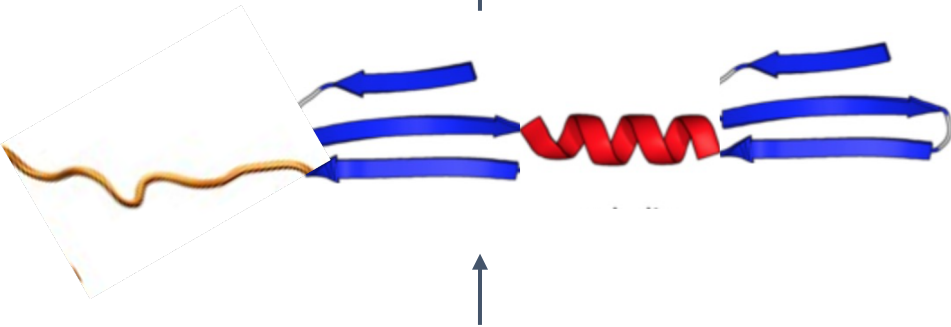
digestive enzymes

# Protein Structures

*Tertiary Structure*



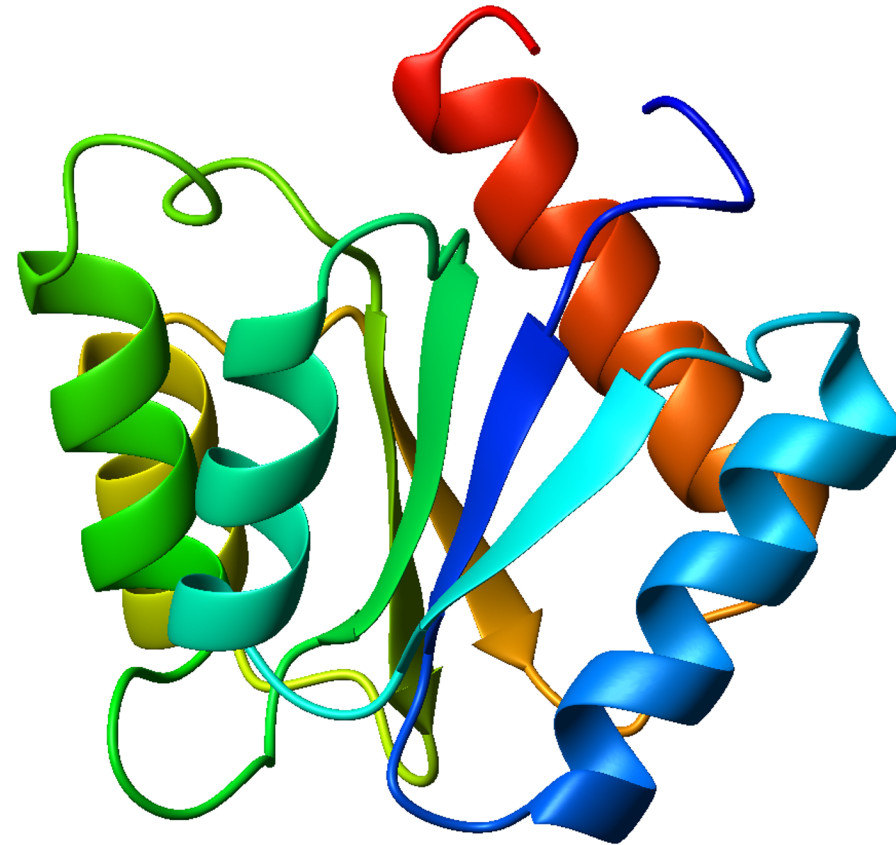
*Secondary Structure*



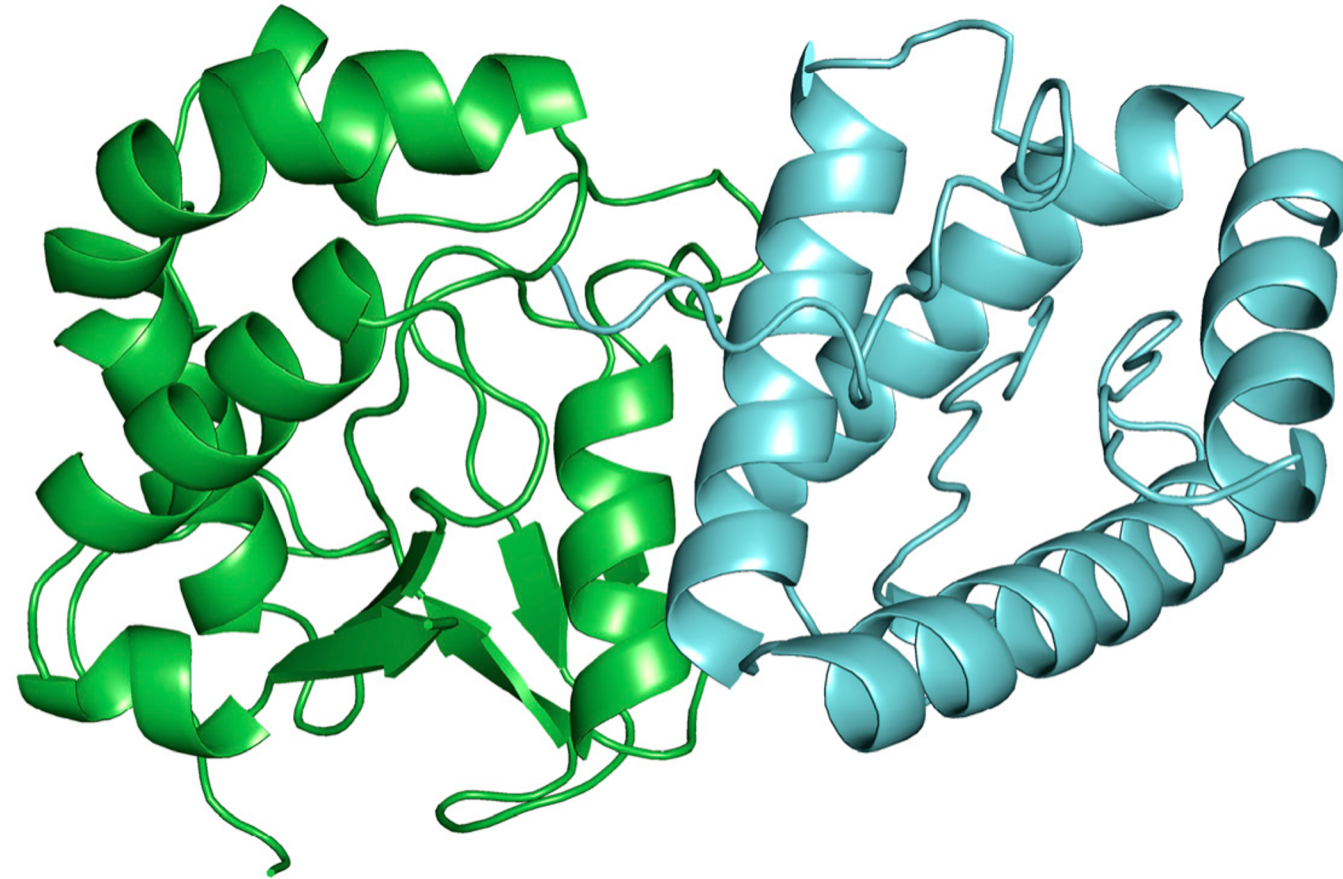
*Primary Sequence*

**MHFTEDKATILWGKVNVEGETLGRVYPWQ**

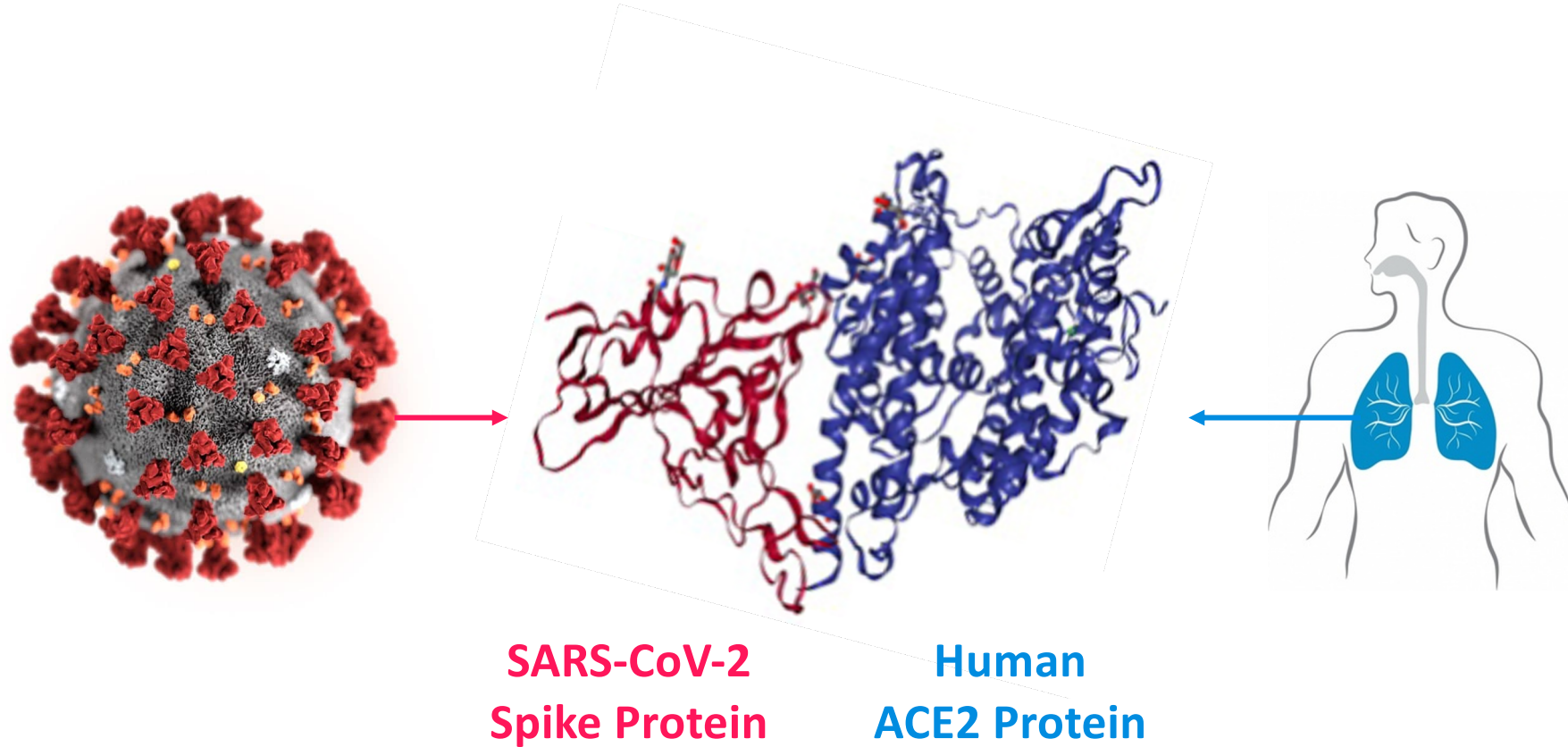
# Structure Determines Function



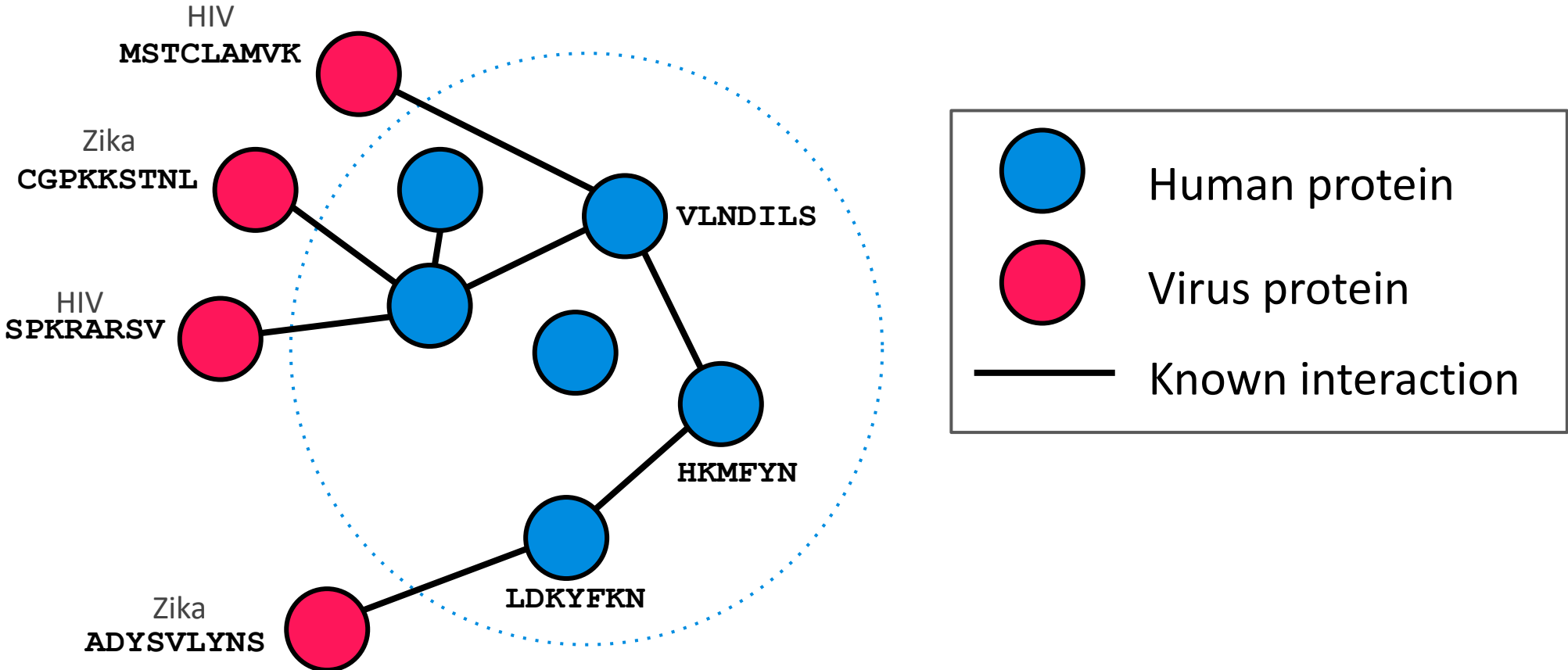
# One primary function: Protein-Protein Interactions (PPIs)



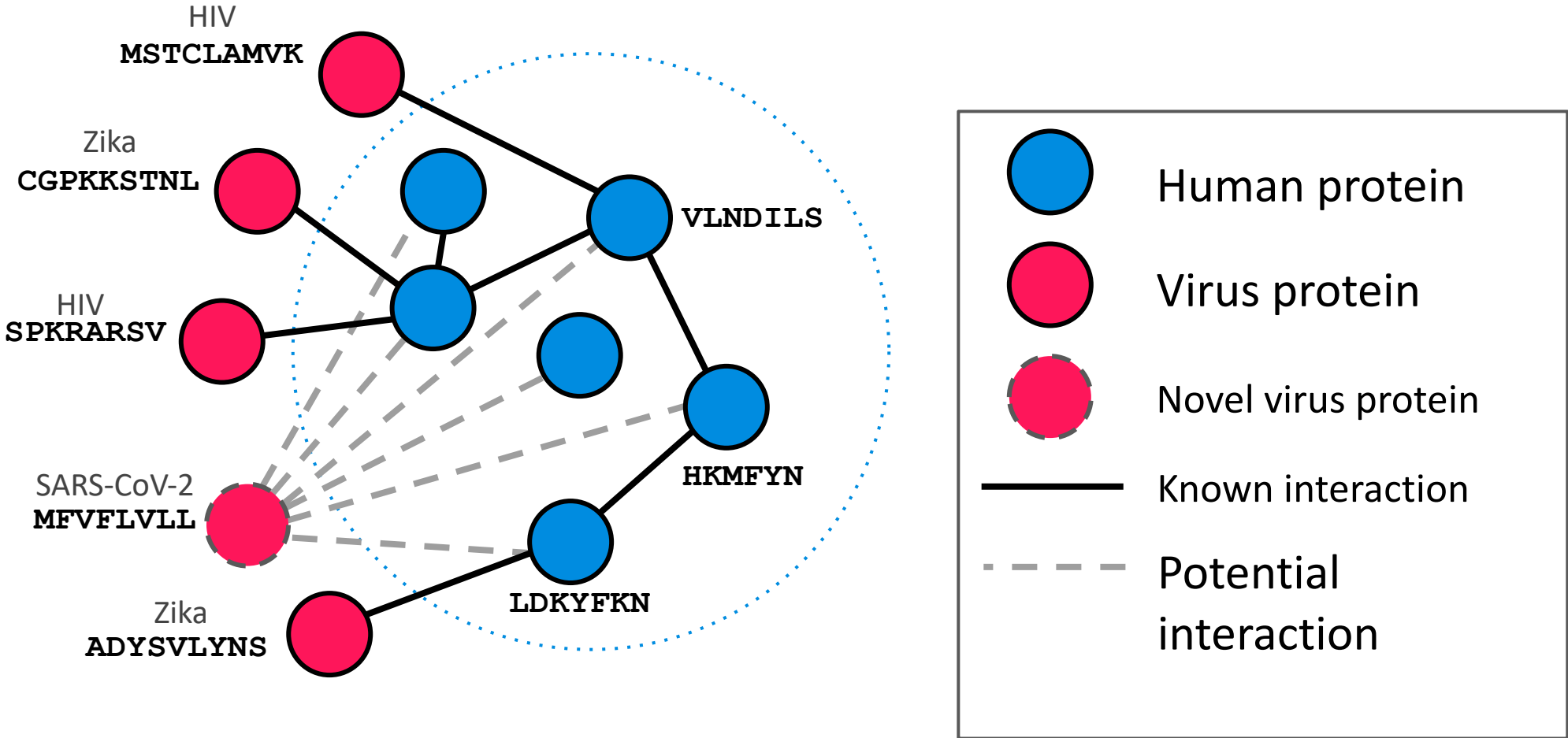
# Our Task: To Discover Human-Virus Protein-Protein Interactions



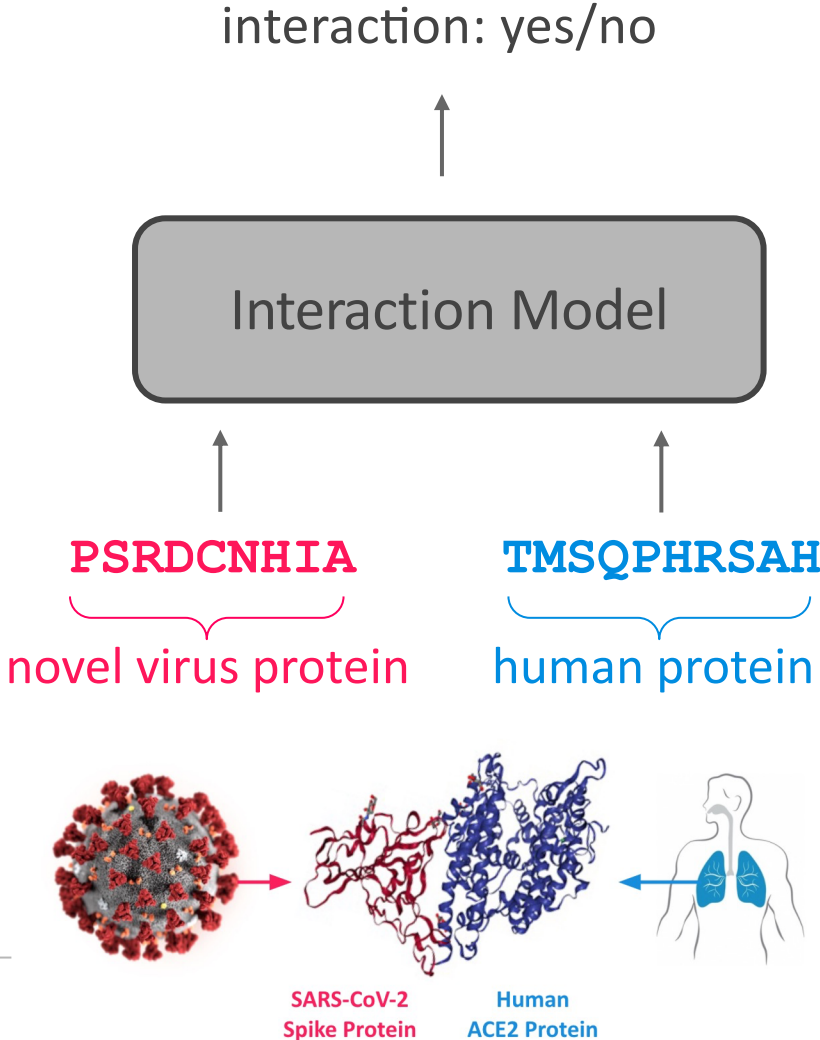
# Human-Virus Protein-Protein Interactions



# Human-Virus Protein-Protein Interactions

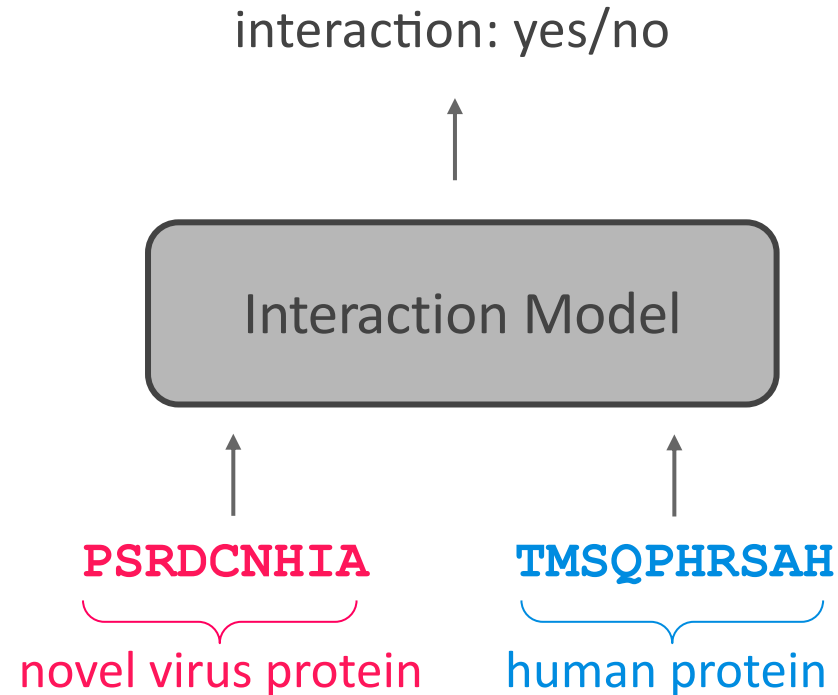


# Novel Virus-Human Protein Interaction Prediction from Sequence



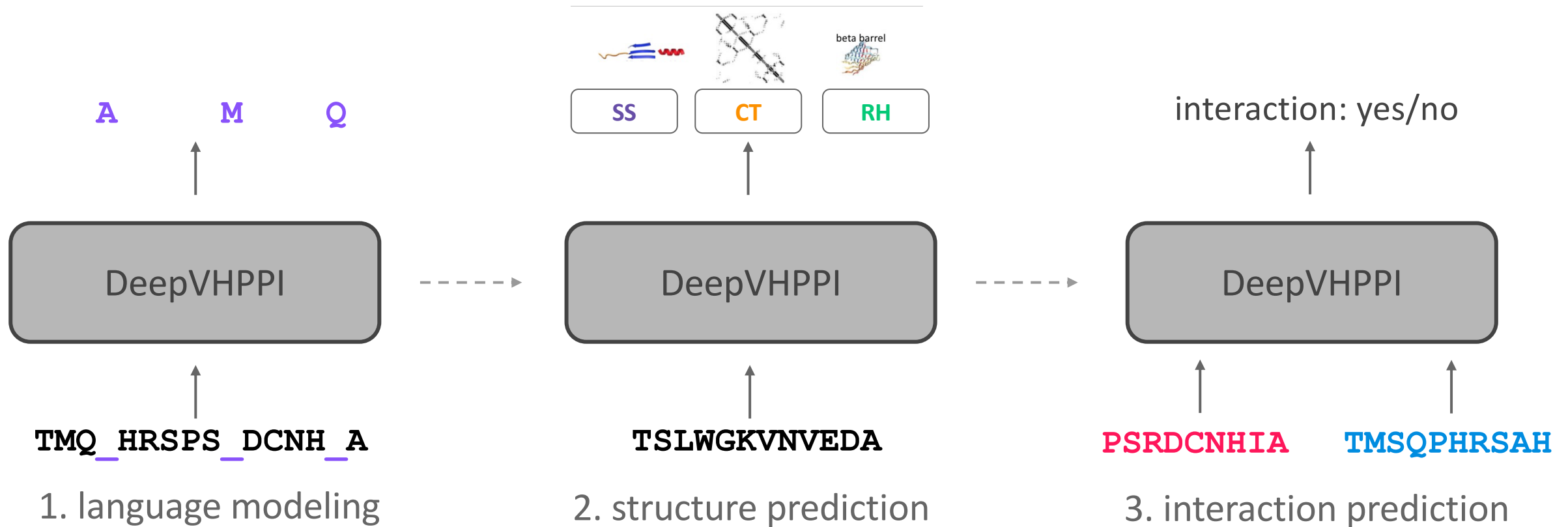


# Novel Virus-Human Protein Interaction Prediction from Sequence

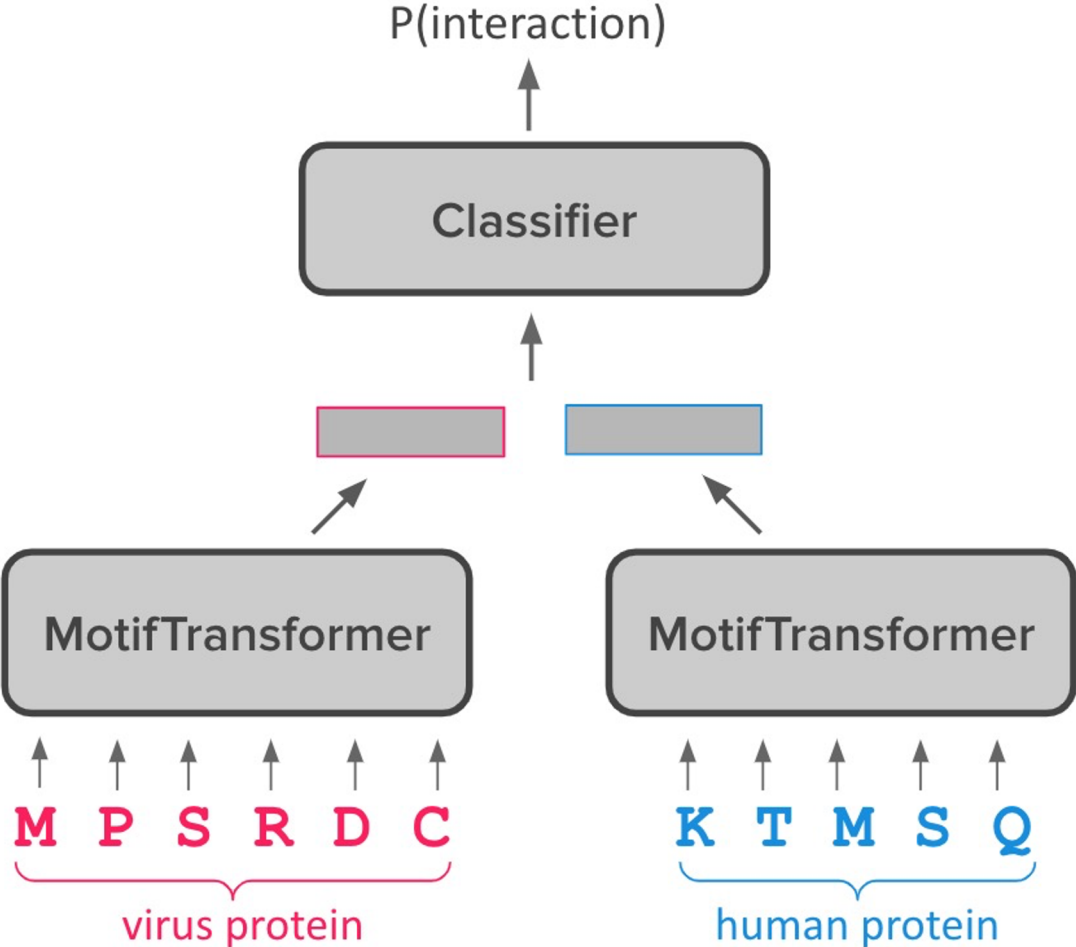
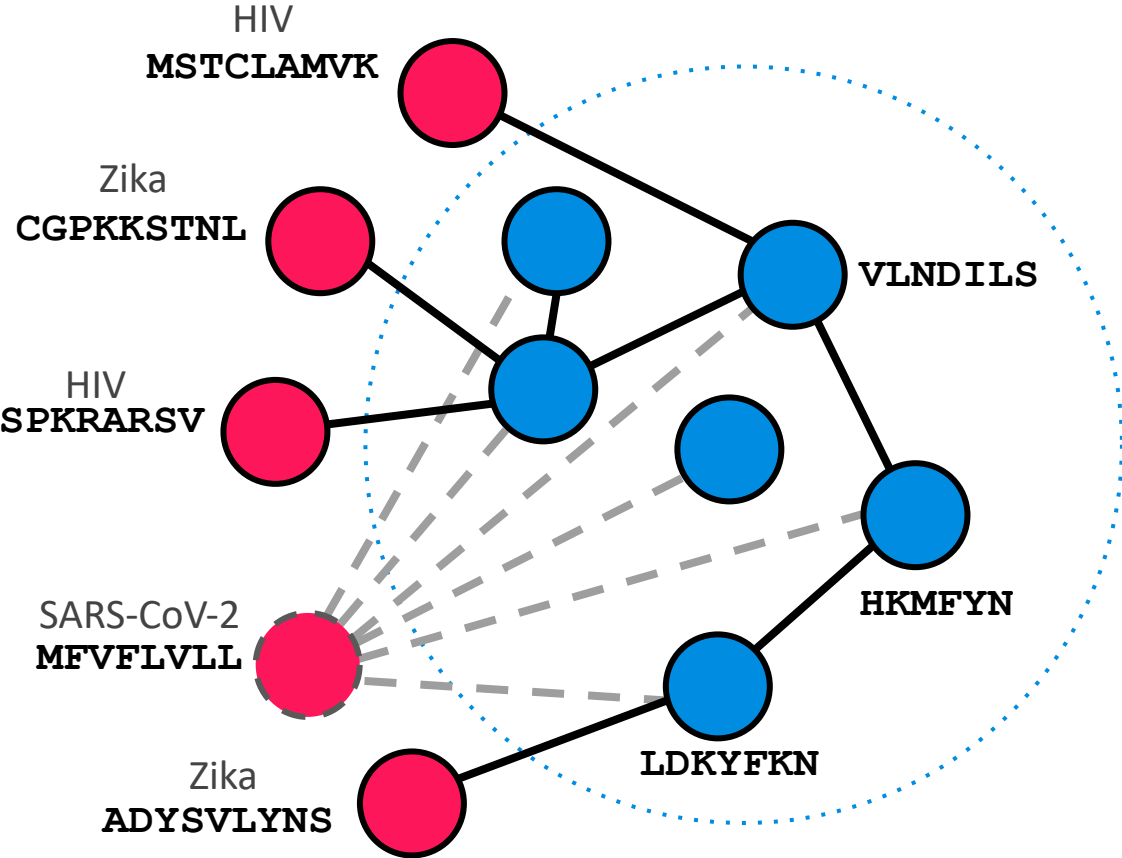


1. Limited interaction data available
2. Interactions are largely determined by structure

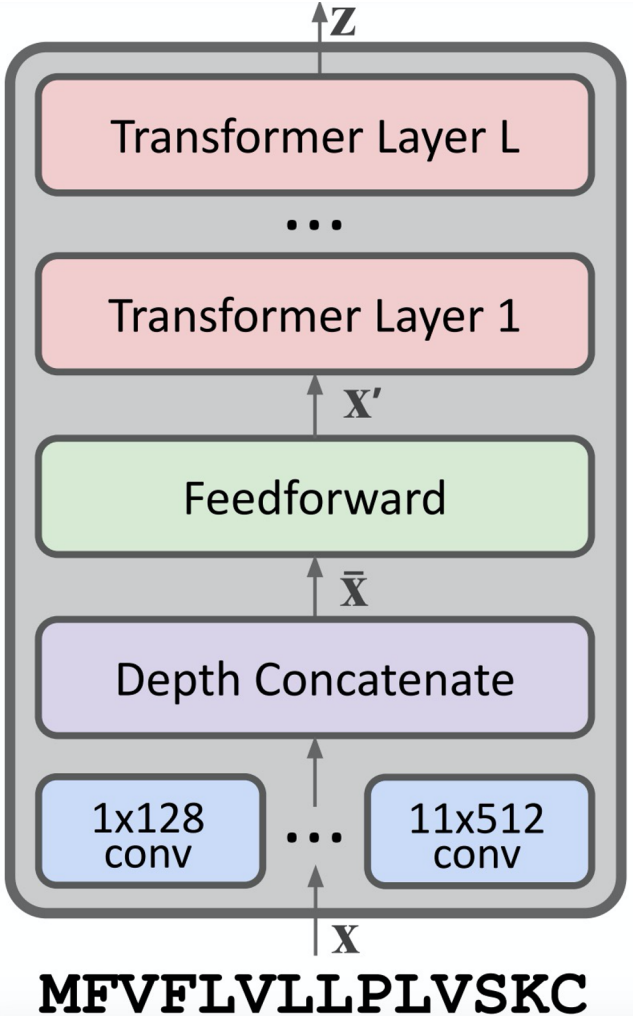
# Transfer Learning for Sequence-Based Interaction Prediction



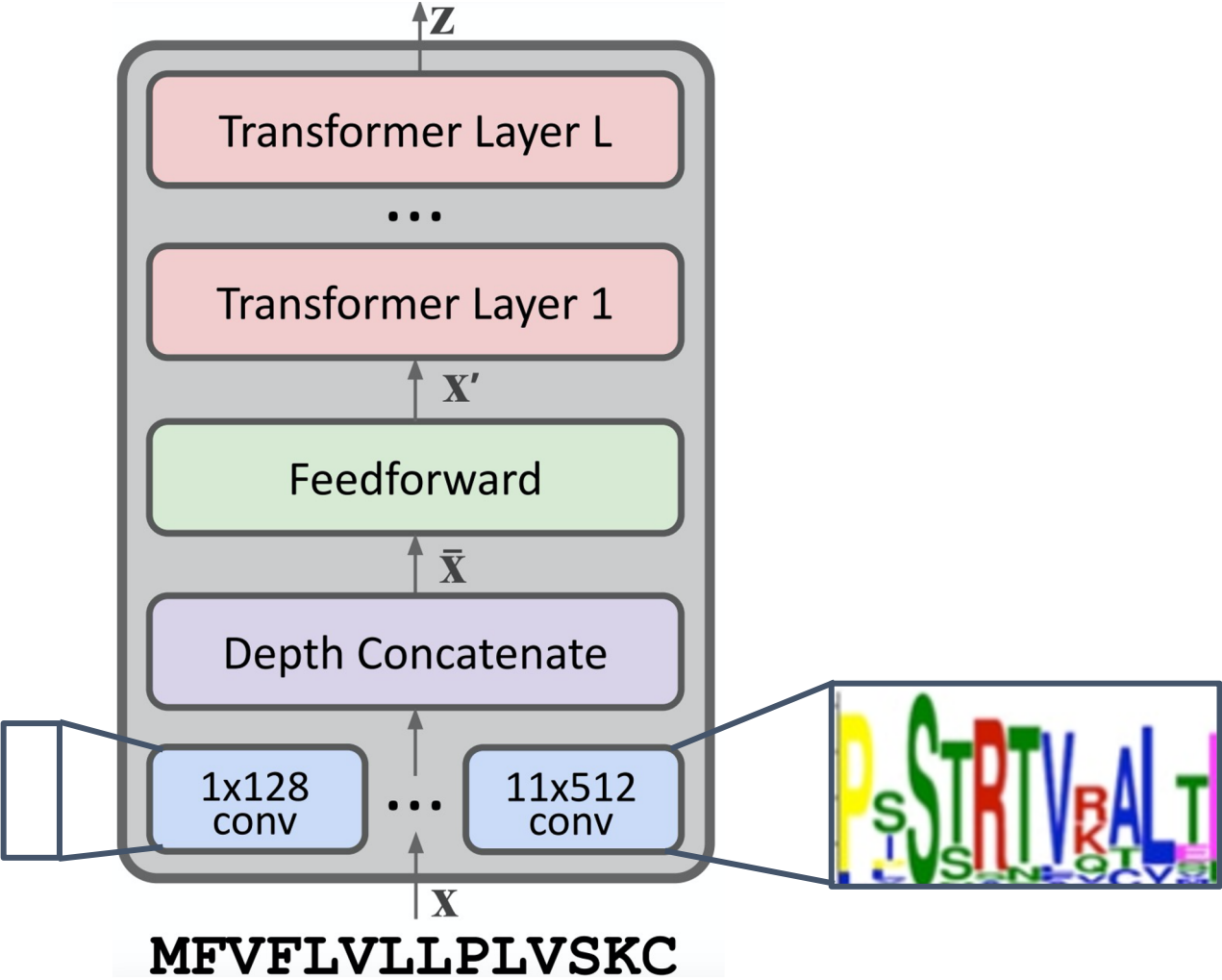
# Interaction Prediction



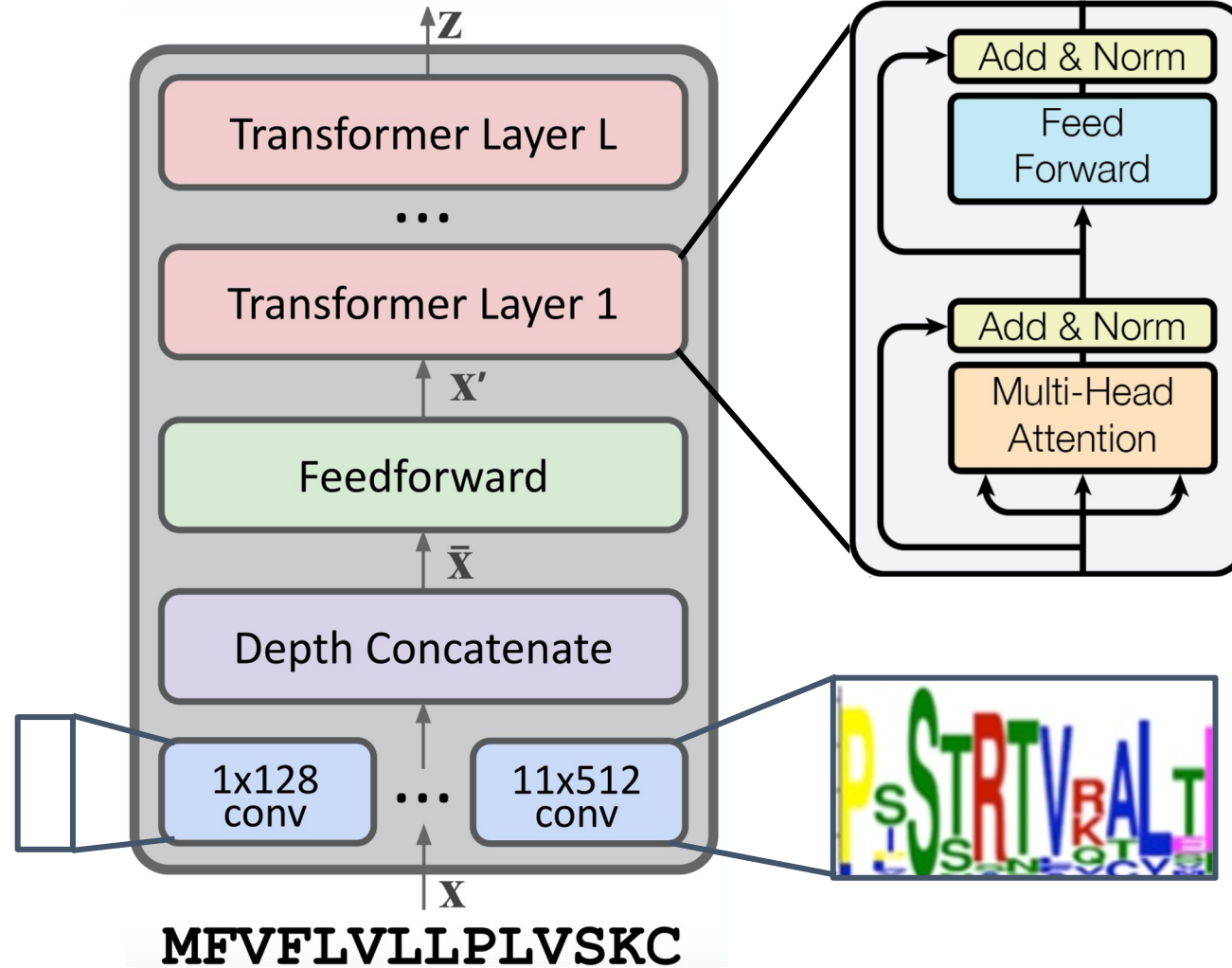
# Motif Transformer



# Motif Transformer



# Motif Transformer



# Experimental Setup

- **Training Data: HPIDB 3.0 Dataset**
  - 22,000 positive interactions, 226,000 negative interactions
  - 1,100k virus proteins, 20,000 host (human) proteins
- **Testing Data:**
  - HIV, Ebola interactions from Zhou et al.
  - Our own curated SARS-CoV-2 interactions collected from BioGrid

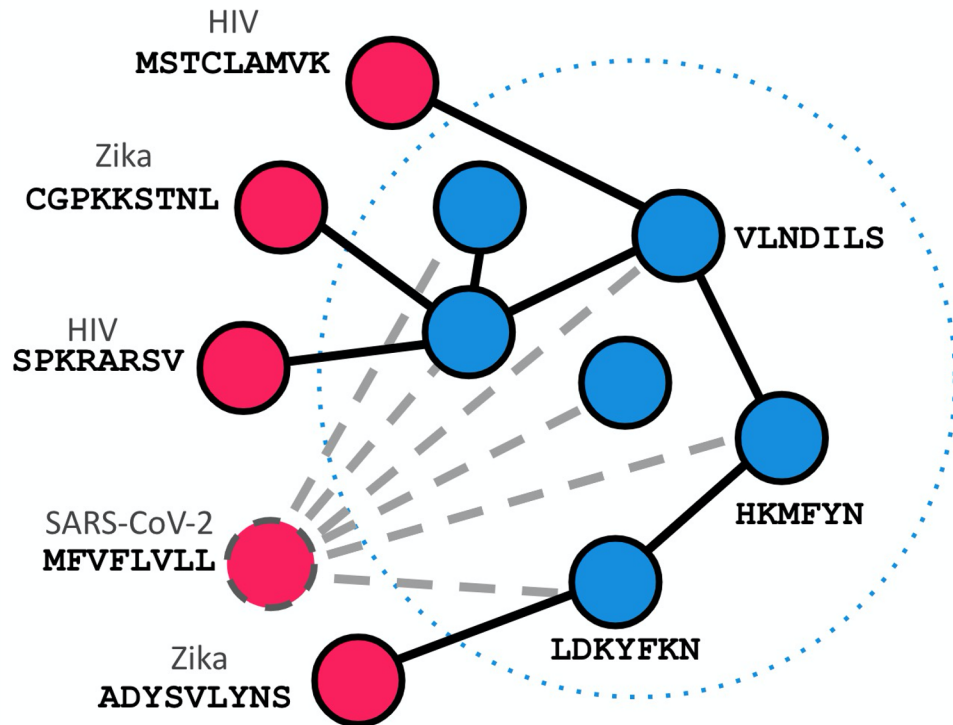
# Protein-Protein Interaction Prediction Results

Method	H1N1		Ebola		SARS-CoV-2	
	AUROC	F1	AUROC	F1	AUROC	F1
SVM (Zhou et al.)	0.886	0.762	0.867	0.760	-	-
Embedding + RF (Yang et al)	-	-	-	-	0.748	<b>0.115</b>
MotifTransformer	0.894	0.819	0.927	0.836	0.726	0.089
MotifTransformer + LM	0.910	0.837	0.943	0.867	0.735	0.095
MotifTransformer + LM + SP	<b>0.926</b>	<b>0.848</b>	<b>0.979</b>	<b>0.895</b>	<b>0.767</b>	0.105

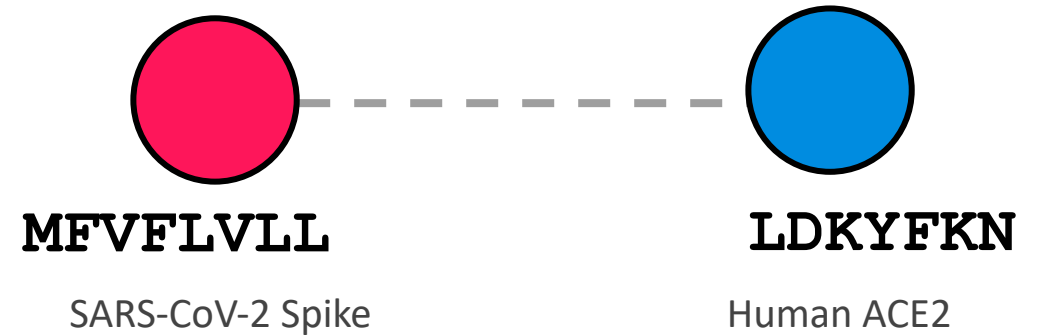


# Use Cases of Sequence Based Interaction Predictors

## 1. predict novel virus interactions



## 2. analyze how mutations affect interactions



# Perturbation Analysis: Investigating Mutations

Short Article

## D614G Spike Mutation Increases SARS CoV-2 Susceptibility to Neutralization

Drew Weiss  
Hornsby<sup>2</sup>,  
<sup>7</sup>, Katayoun  
Lin<sup>9</sup>, Ying

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS OF BASIC RESEARCH

Elizabeth G. Phimister, Ph.D., Editor

## Emergence of a Highly Fit SARS-CoV-2 Variant

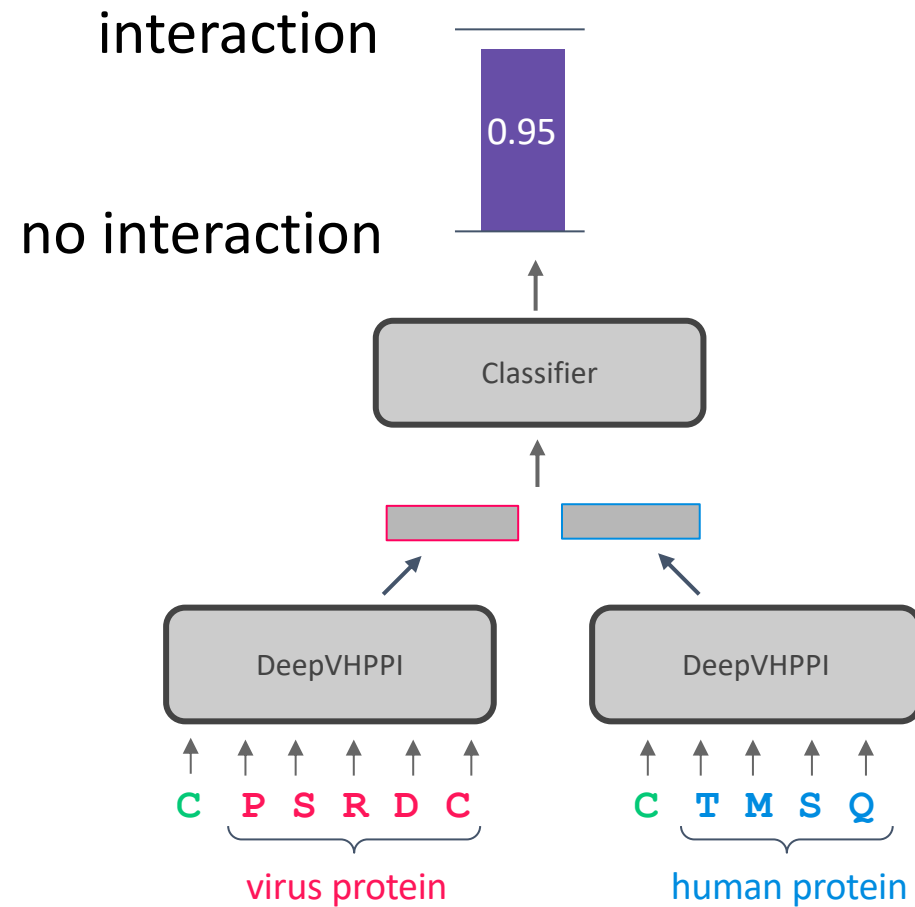
RESEARCH

CORONAVIRUS

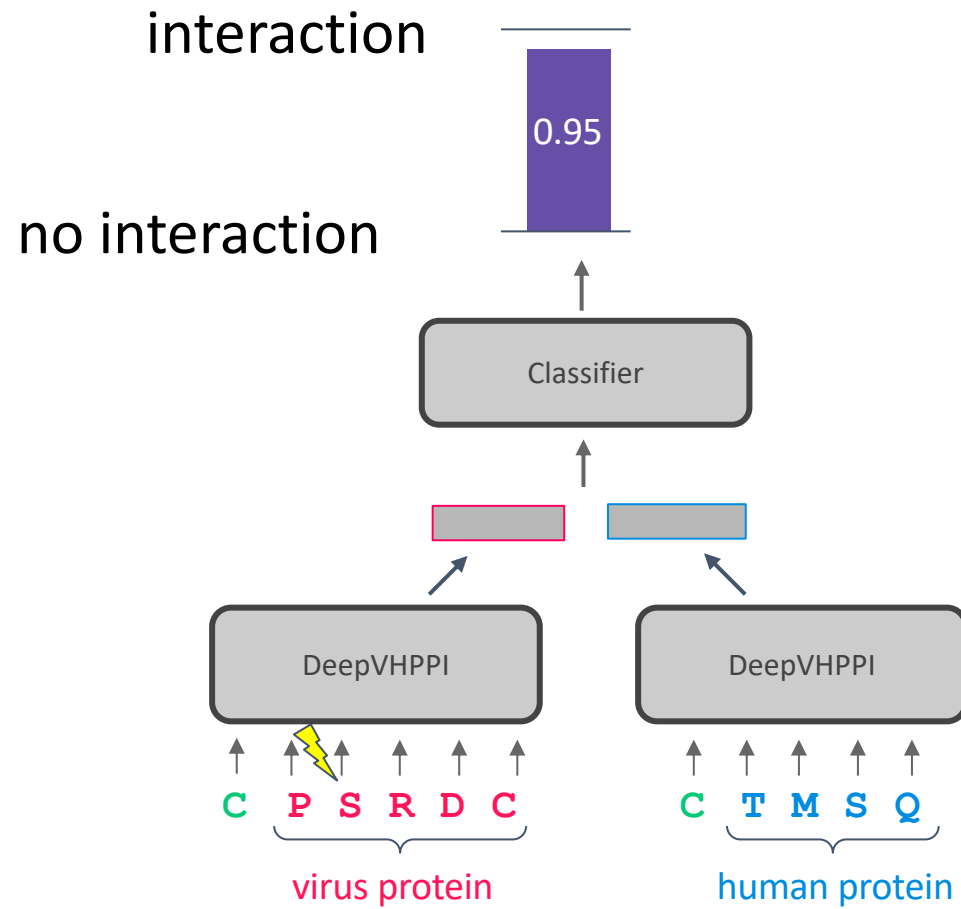
## SARS-CoV-2 D614G variant exhibits efficient replication ex vivo and transmission in vivo

Yixuan J. Hou<sup>1\*</sup>, Shiho Chiba<sup>2\*</sup>, Peter Halfmann<sup>2</sup>, Camille Ehre<sup>3</sup>, Makoto Kuroda<sup>2</sup>,  
Kenneth H. Dinnon III<sup>4</sup>, Sarah R. Leist<sup>1</sup>, Alexandra Schäfer<sup>1</sup>, Noriko Nakajima<sup>5</sup>, Kenta Takahashi<sup>5</sup>,  
Rhianna E. Lee<sup>3</sup>, Teresa M. Mascenik<sup>3</sup>, Rachel Graham<sup>1</sup>, Caitlin E. Edwards<sup>1</sup>, Longping V. Tse<sup>1</sup>,

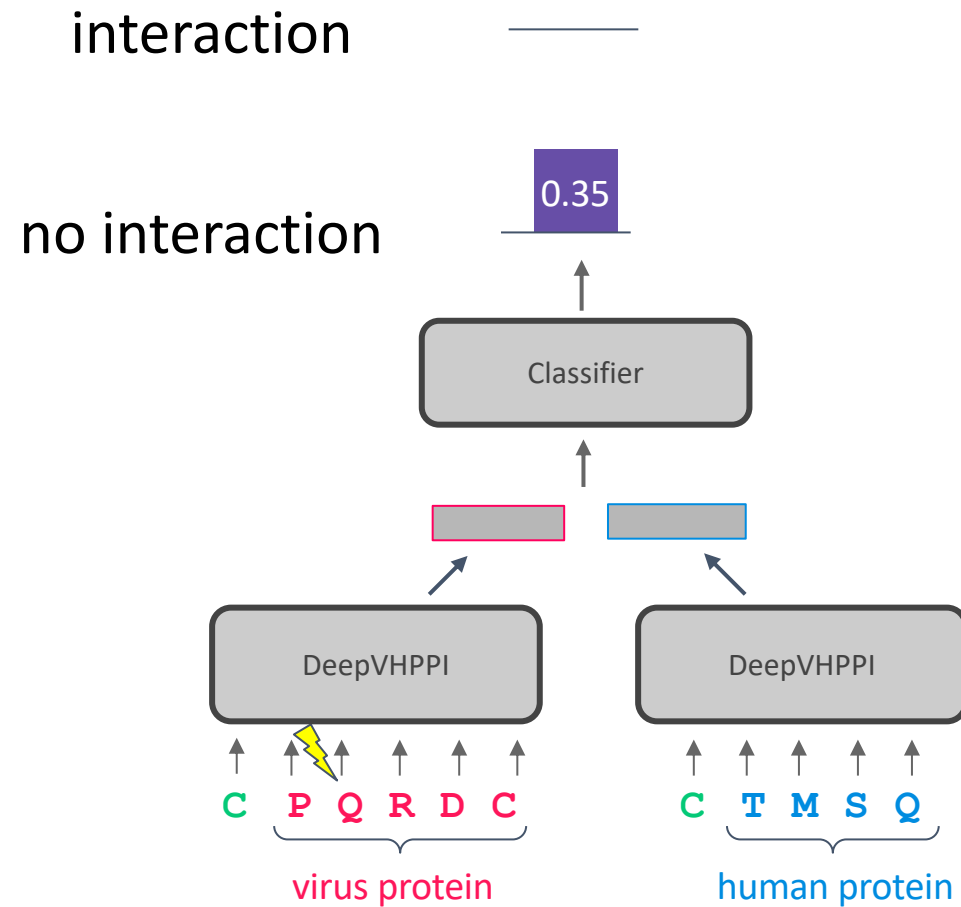
# Perturbation Analysis



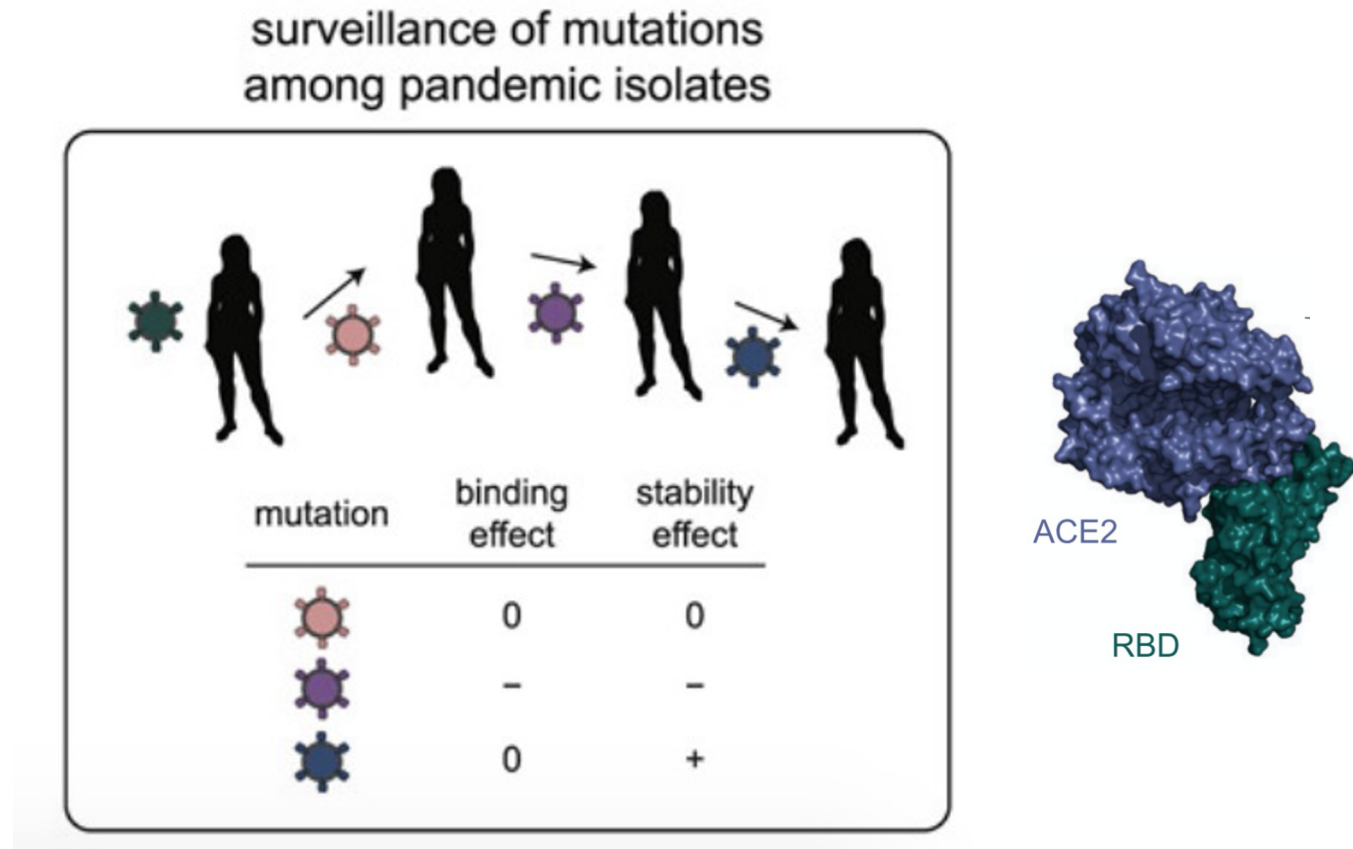
# Perturbation Analysis



# Perturbation Analysis

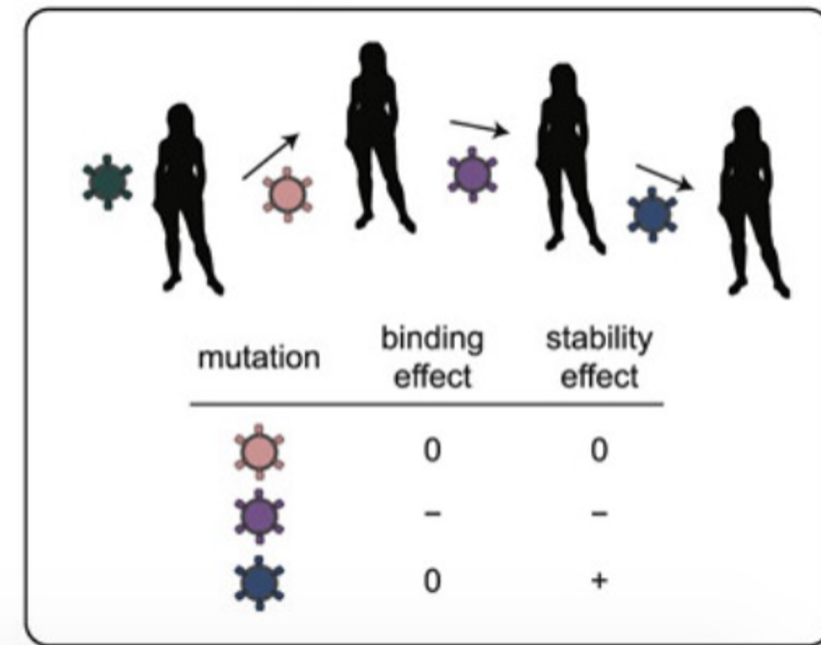


# Perturbation Analysis: Investigating Mutations



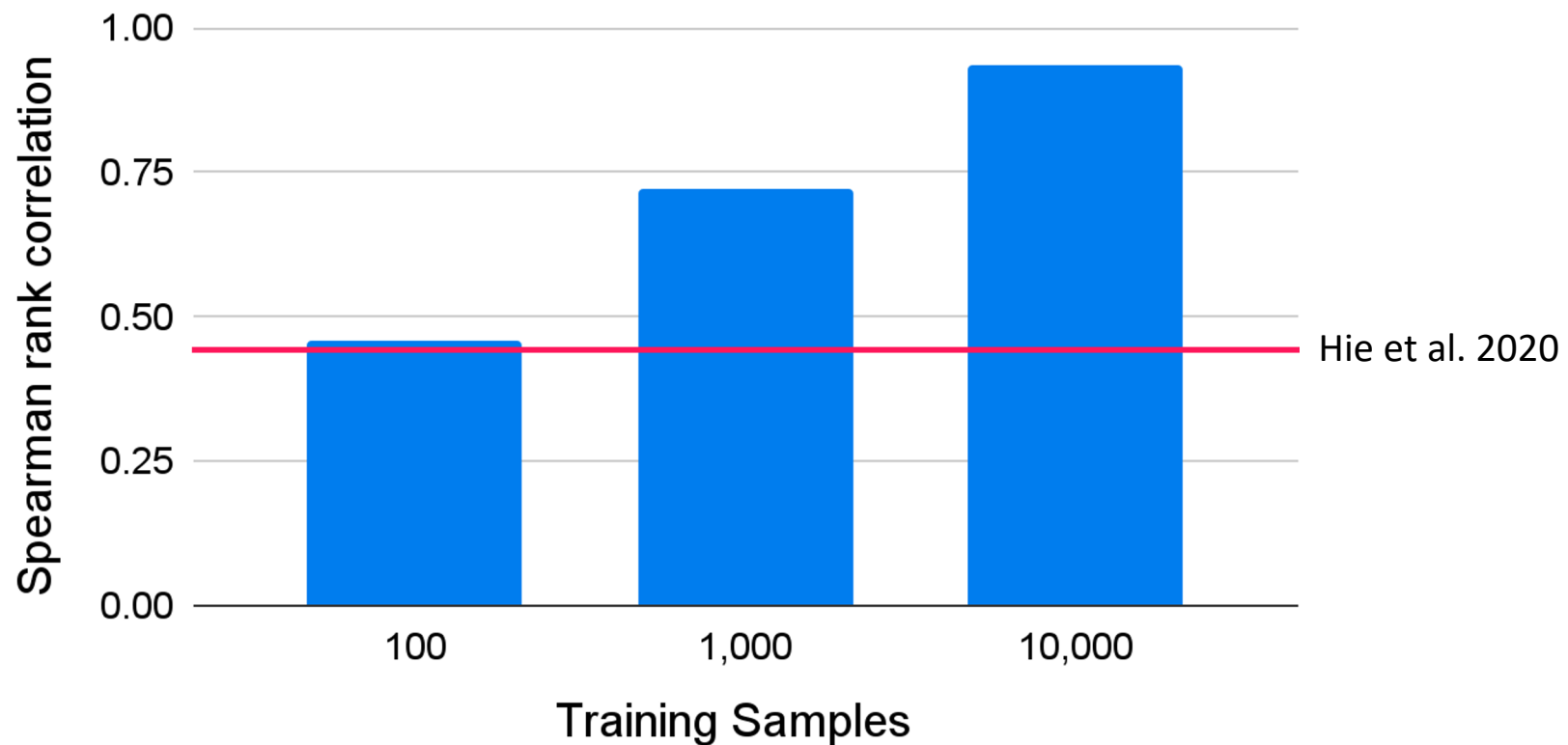
# Experimental Setup

- 105,528 mutated Spike sequences and their corresponding ACE2 binding affinities from Starr et al. 2020
- **Training / Test splits**
  - 100 training, 105,428 testing
  - 1,000 training, 104,528 testing
  - 10,000 training, 95,528 testing



# Perturbation Analysis: Mutated Spike and ACE2 Interactions

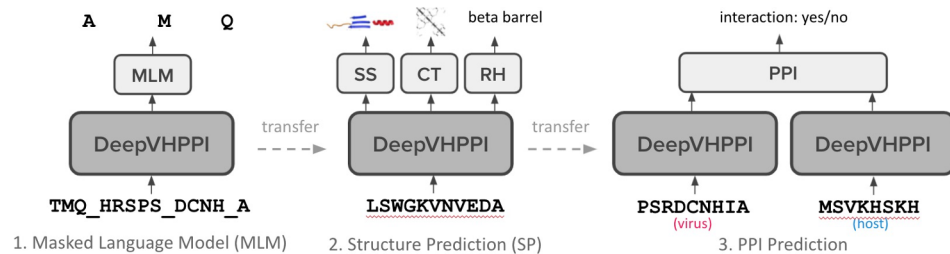
Spearman rank correlation between DeepVHPPI binding prediction and dissociation constant



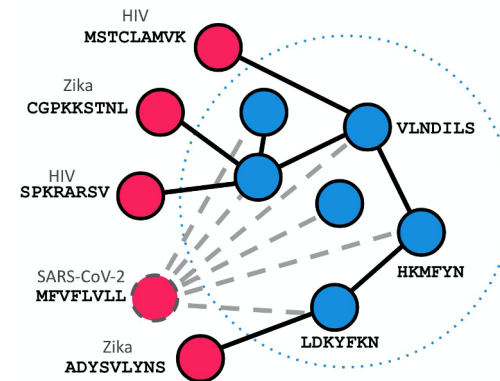


# Contributions

**1. Flexible** transfer learning framework for protein-protein interaction prediction



**2. Accurate** novel virus interaction predictions



**3. Interpretable and interactive** mutation perturbation analysis



# Journey Ahead

- Deeply interested in analyzing this group of amazingly complicated and large-scale datasets
- Realized that finding mutual interests is hard
  - Computational impacts
  - Biomedical impacts

- Need help in biology
- Need help in medicine
- Need help in figuring out NIH grant applications