

# In silico prediction for potential non-phospholipidosis-inducing inhibitors against in vitro replication of SARS-CoV-2

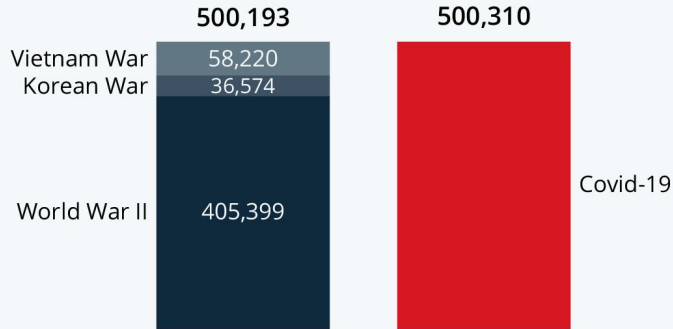
Junqi Lu, Anish Karpurapu

# Background

# Drug repurposing to mitigate COVID19 emergency

## U.S. Deaths From Covid-19 Match Toll Of Three Major Wars

U.S. Covid-19 deaths compared to the number of Americans who died in selected wars\*



\* As of Feb 23, 2021.

Sources: U.S. Department for Veteran Affairs, Johns Hopkins University



statista

**Using biology to fight COVID-19**

Social restrictions are and will continue to be essential to controlling COVID-19, saving lives, and restoring economic growth. At the same time, researchers are using their knowledge of biology to develop new means to control the pandemic. Three large focus areas are:

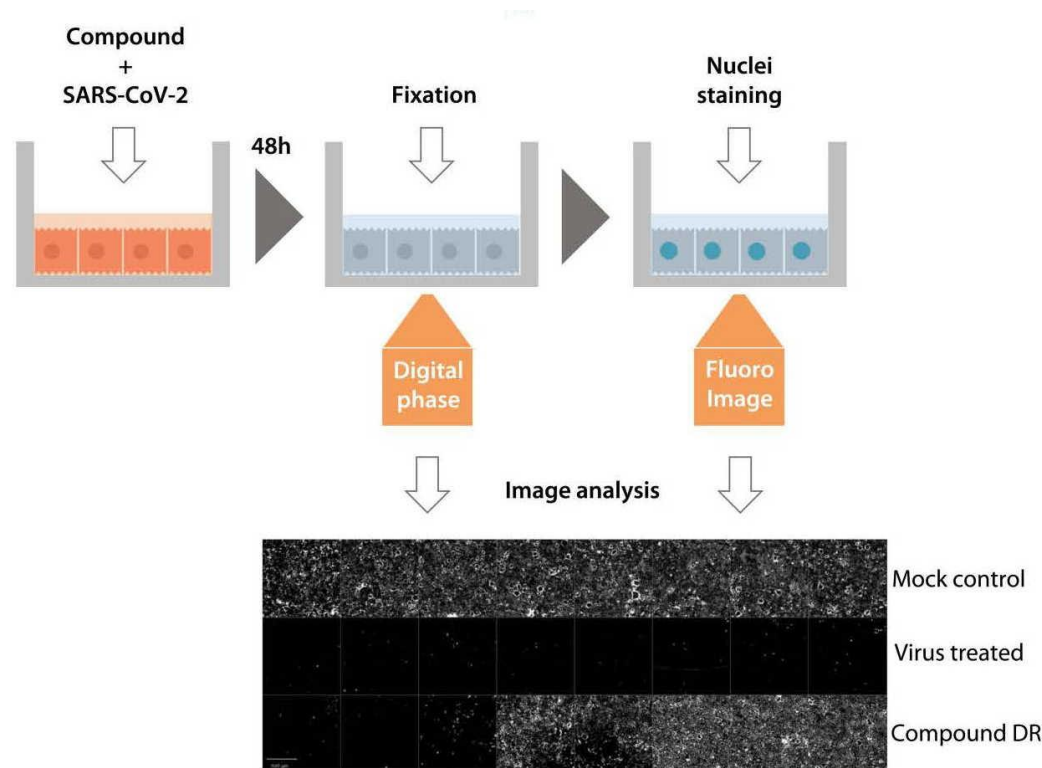
- Small molecules**  
  
Inhibit viral and human process that enable infection. Activate human processes that fight infection.
- Antibodies**  
  
Bind to the virus to prevent infection and activate immune responses.
- Vaccines**  
  
Elicit long term immunity to SARS-CoV-2 in healthy people. Prevent further spread of the virus.

Learn more at [mammoth.bio/blog](https://mammoth.bio/blog)

MammothBiosciences

# In vitro screening is standard for drug repurposing

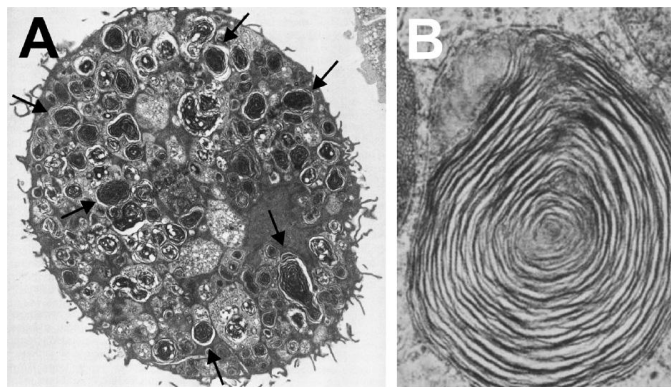
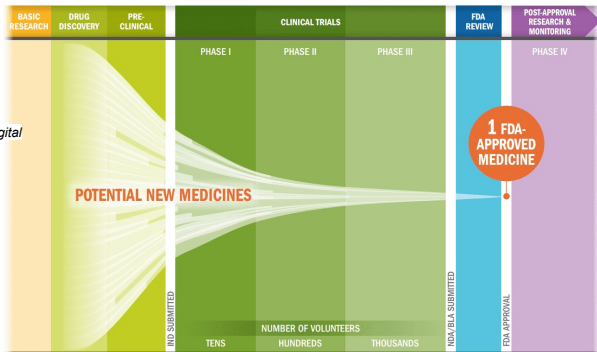
- Ellinger et al screened 5632 compounds for their inhibition of SARS-CoV-2-induced cytotoxicity in Caco-2 cells
- Compounds tested at 10  $\mu\text{M}$  (0.1% in DMSO)
- Inhibition of 75% as the potency cut-off
- 271 hits



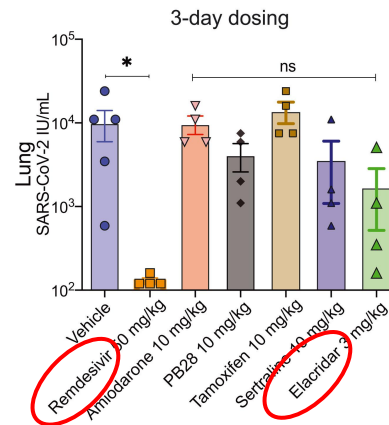
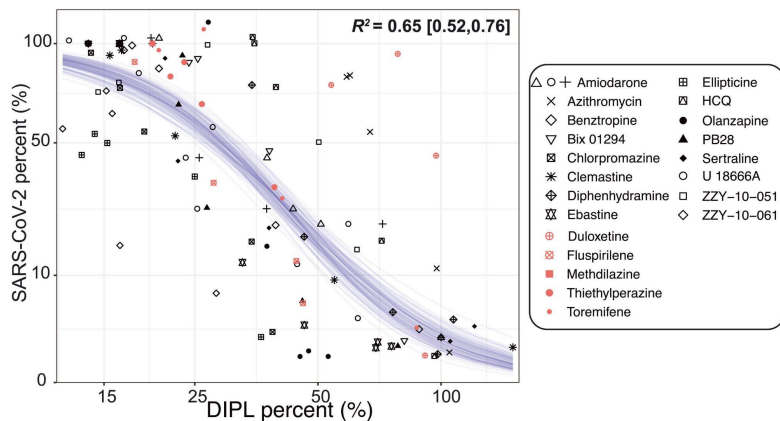
# Phospholipidosis: major confounding factor for in vivo translation

Drug Development and Intellectual Property Theft. *Digital Guardian* 2021.

## THE BIOPHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



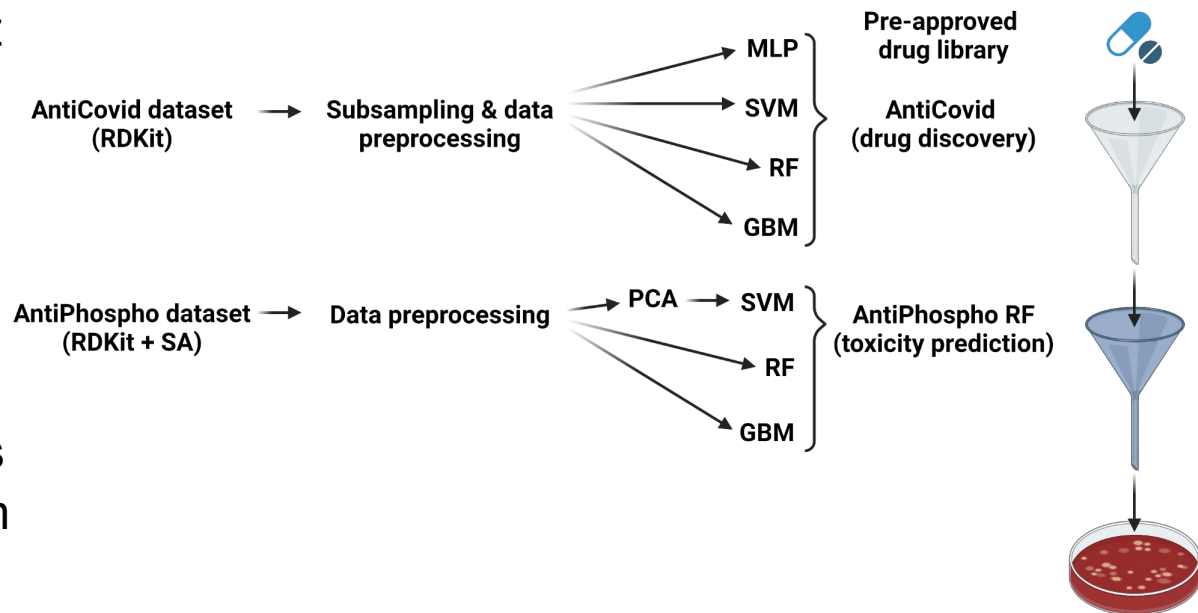
Breiden, Bernadette and Sandhoff, Konrad. "Emerging mechanisms of drug-induced phospholipidosis" *Biological Chemistry*, vol. 401, no. 1, 2020, pp. 31-46.  
<https://doi.org/10.1515/hsz-2019-0270>



Tummino, T., Rezelj, V., Fischer, B., Fischer, A. et al., Drug-induced phospholipidosis confounds drug repurposing for SARS-CoV-2. *Science* 2021, 373, 541-547.

# Methodology

- 20% hold-out testing set
- 10× cross-validation
- Challenges
  - Small datasets
  - Class imbalance
- Baseline success:
  - Hold-out testing set
  - Adversarial controls
  - Compare to random model



# COVID-19 Antiviral Model Training

## The joys of small datasets...

- Typical for wet lab data
- Urgent COVID19 situation

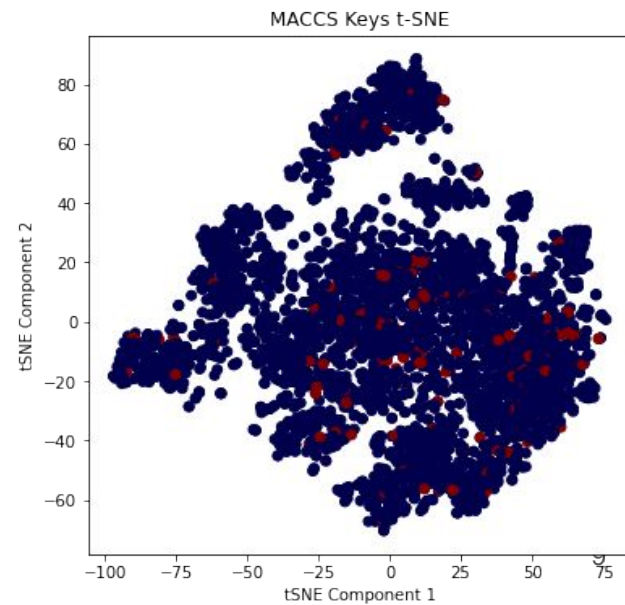
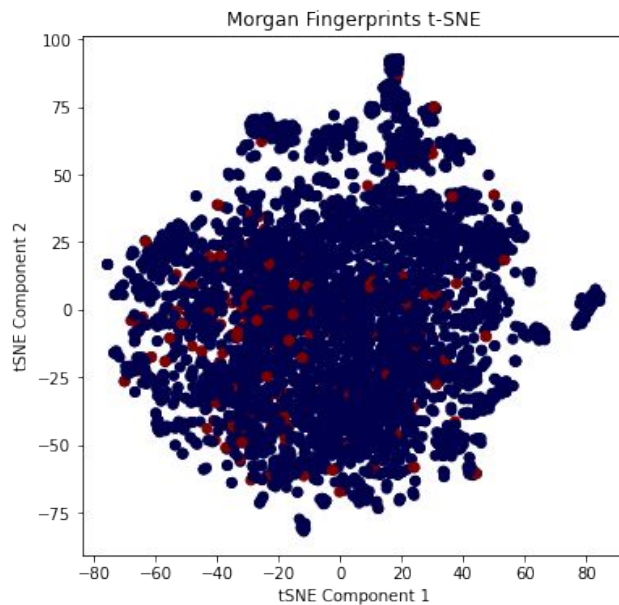
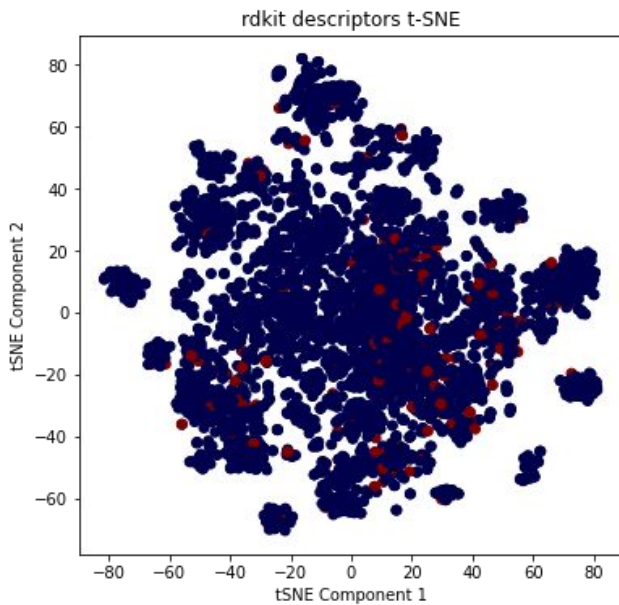




# AntiCOVID - exploratory data analysis

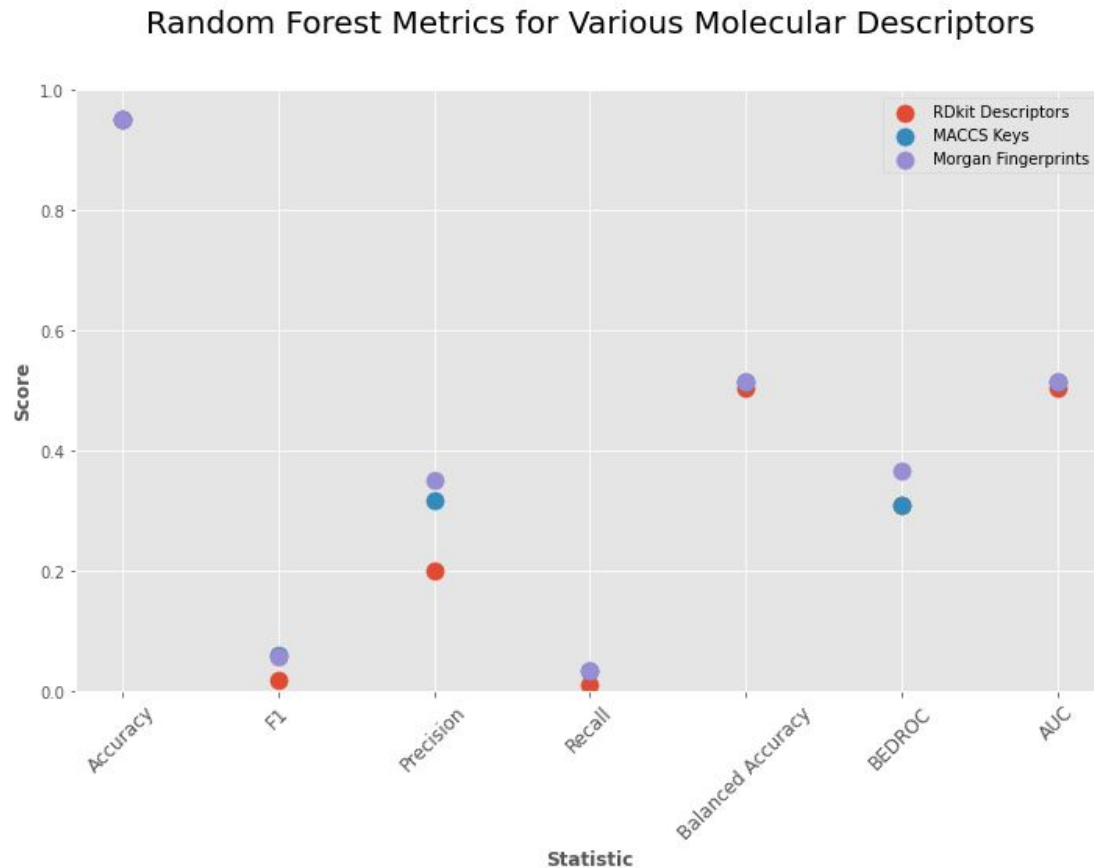
- 5632 compounds with 271 hits

**Positives**  
**Negatives**

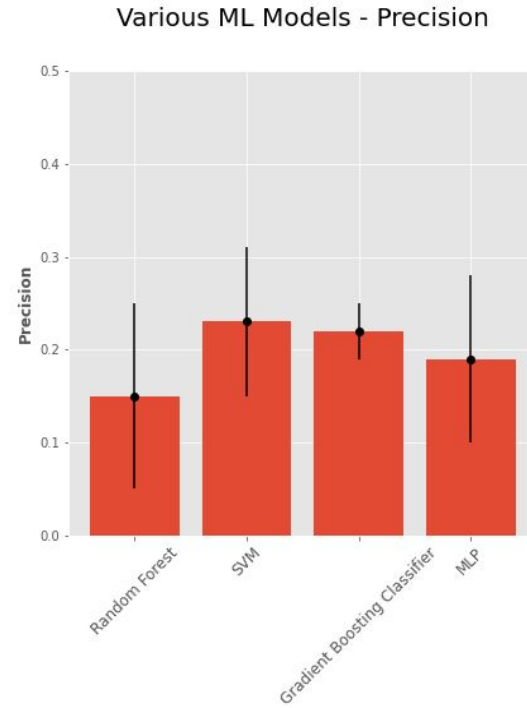
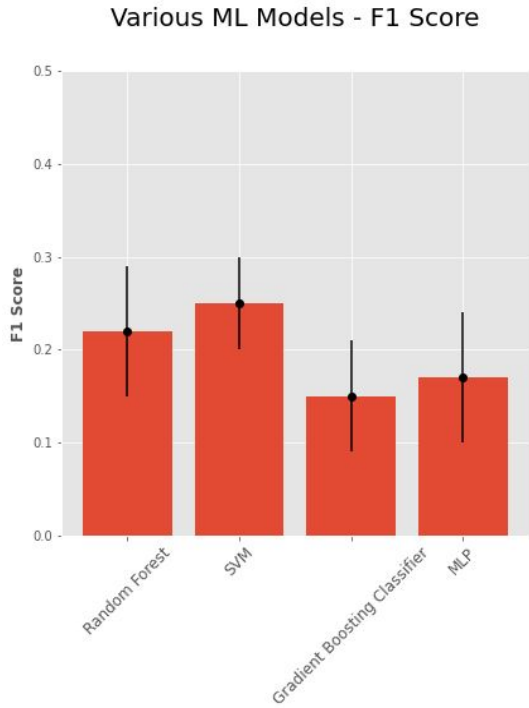


# AntiCOVID - descriptors used

- Baseline Random Forest
- Focus on F1 score and Precision



# AntiCOVID - models performances with 95% CI

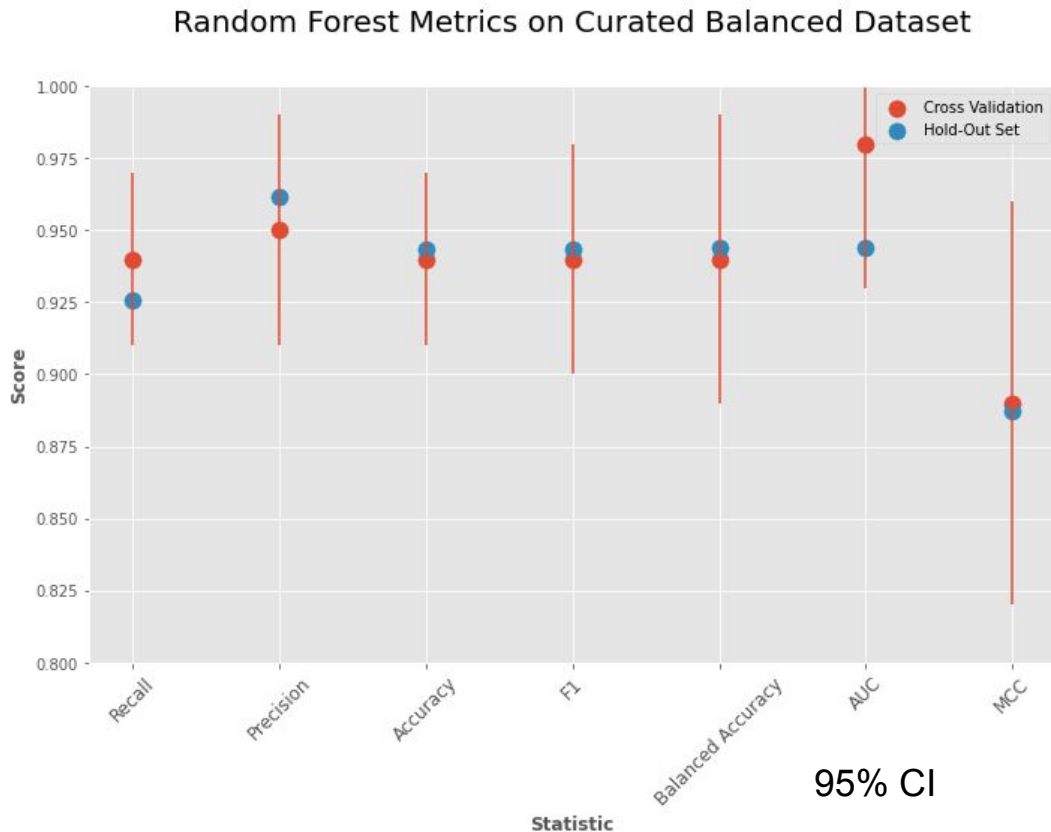


# AntiCOVID - balanced subsampled dataset

- Problem: imbalance dataset
- Our Solution: subsample the dataset
  - 271/5632 hits → 271/542 hits
  - 5% → 50%
- Keep hits and “randomly” sample 271 non-hits
  - “Random” → k-medoid on negatives where  $k = 271$
  - Create new dataset

# AntiCOVID - balanced subsampled dataset

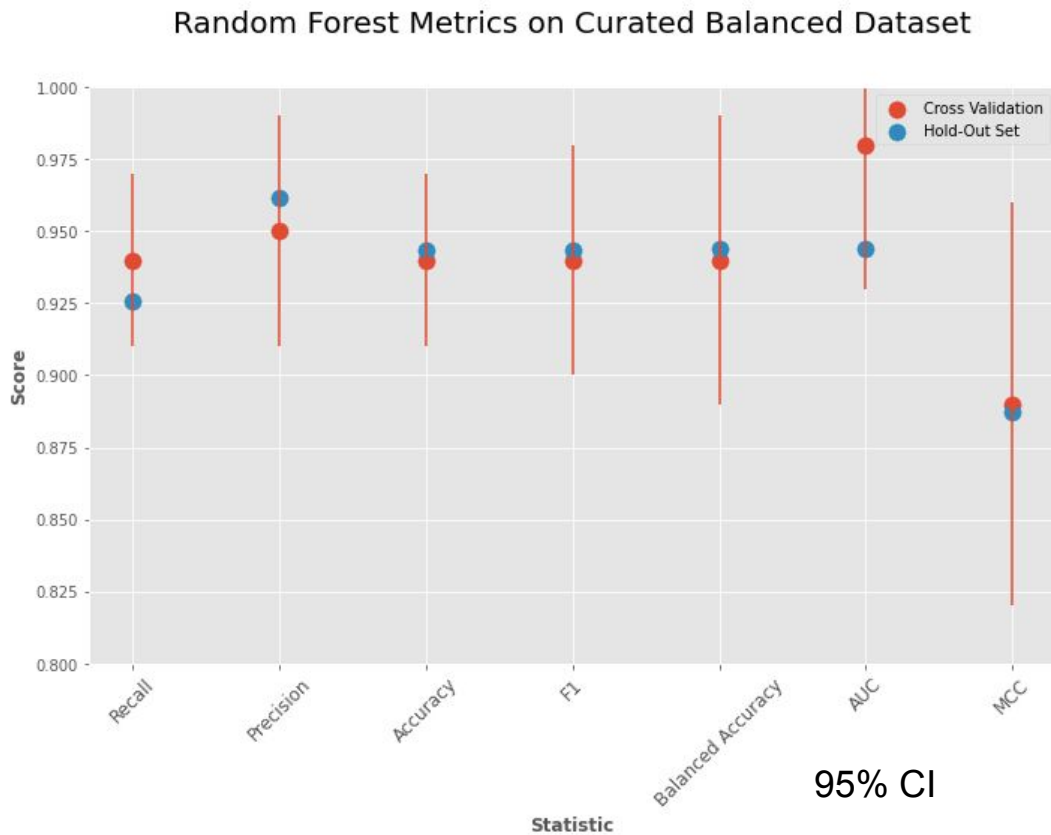
- RDKit descriptors
- Random Forest Grid Search
- Good results on cross validation and hold-out set



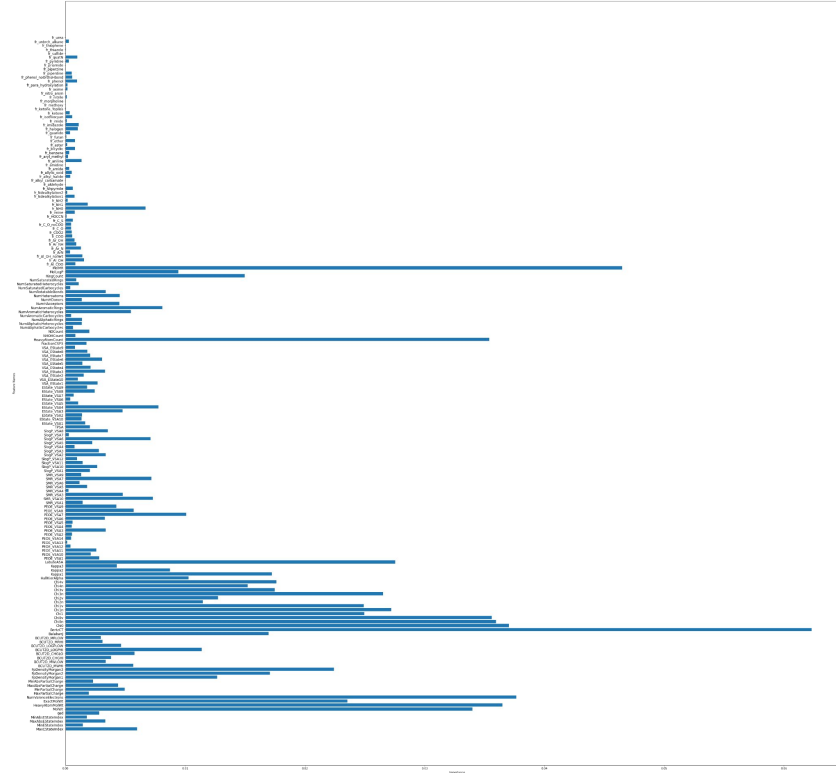
# AntiCOVID - adversarial control

- y-shuffling

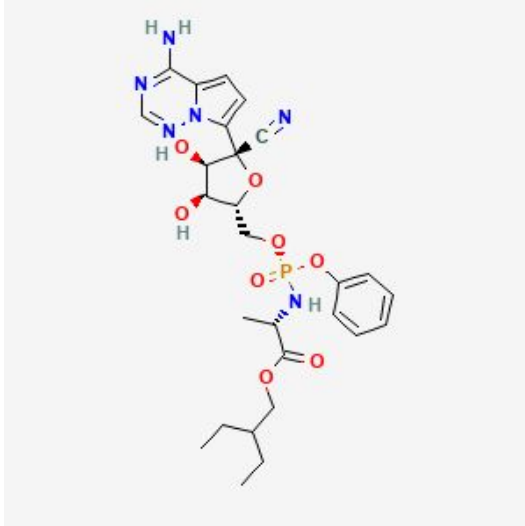
Accuracy: 0.5471698113207547  
F1Score: 0.5471698113207548  
Precision: 0.5576923076923077  
Recall: 0.5370370370370371  
Balanced Accuracy Score: 0.5473646723646725  
Matthews: 0.09472934472934473  
AUC: 0.5473646723646725  
BEDROC: 0.5924550000647925



## AntiCOVID - final RF model's feature importances

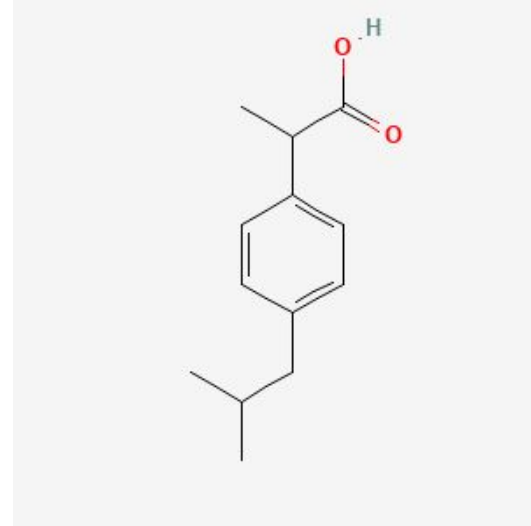


# AntiCOVID - test out compounds



Remdesivir

- FDA-approved anti-COVID-19
- predicted anti-COVID-19



Ibuprofen

- exacerbate COVID-19 symptoms
- predicted NOT anti-COVID-19



# AntiCOVID - sanity check

- Run model on whole dataset as well

## Results on new balanced hold-out set

Accuracy: 0.9433962264150944  
F1Score: 0.9433962264150944  
Precision: 0.9615384615384616  
Recall: 0.9259259259259259  
Balanced Accuracy Score: 0.9437321937321937  
Matthews: 0.8874643874643875  
AUC: 0.9437321937321939  
BEDROC: 0.999903717534156

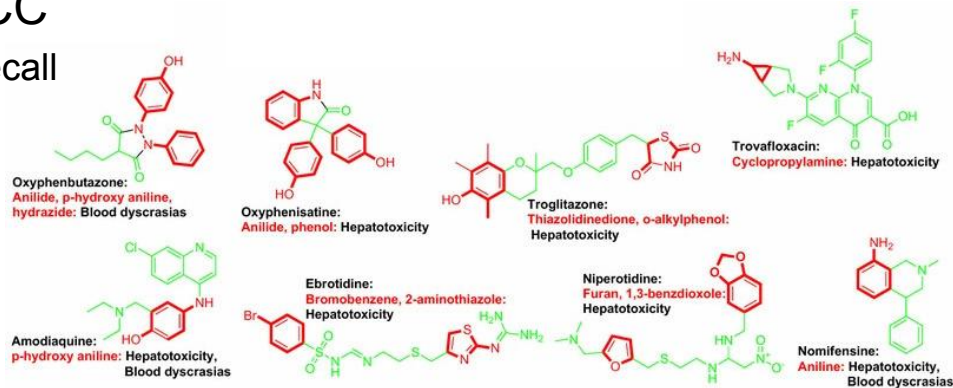
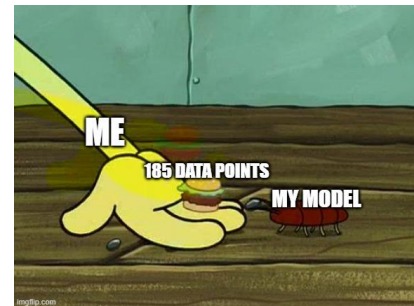
## Results on whole dataset

Accuracy: 0.27438687073575513  
F1Score: 0.1187010078387458  
Precision: 0.06315538608198284  
Recall: 0.9851301115241635  
Balanced Accuracy Score: 0.6112107678303783  
Matthews: 0.11542108722760078  
AUC: 0.6112107678303783  
BEDROC: 0.252245062588847

# Phospholipidosis Model Training

# AntiPhospho model training

- Challenges: extremely tiny dataset (185 data points)
  - Tree-based models & SVM
  - RF, GBM, SVM (PCs explain 0.95 variances) → RF
- Descriptors: RDKit + Structural Alert (toxicophores)
- Metrics used: recall, ROC-AUC, MCC
  - Toxicity prediction model prefers high recall
- Additional success
  - Cherry picking unknown molecule test
  - Prediction on AntiCovid's dataset



# AntiPhospho model performances

## On 20% hold-out testing set

	Recall	AUC	MCC
svm	0.90	0.832353	0.674702
rf	0.90	0.832353	0.674702
gbm	0.85	0.836765	0.673529
meta rf	0.85	0.866176	0.730208

## On shuffled features

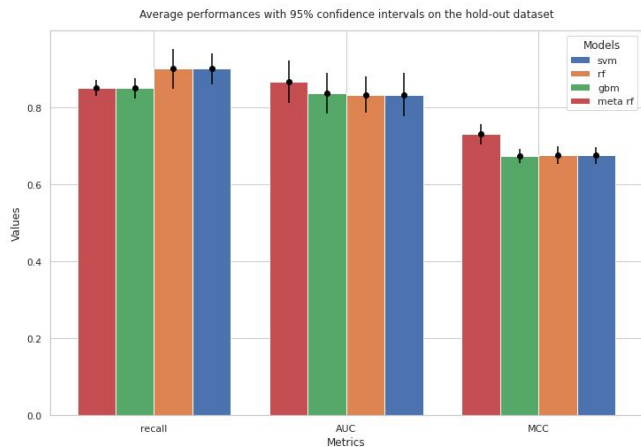
	Recall	AUC	MCC
svm	0.25	0.360294	-0.287115
rf	0.60	0.447059	-0.110531
gbm	0.80	0.547059	0.109323
meta rf	0.45	0.430882	-0.137831

## Meta RF is kept as AntiPhospho

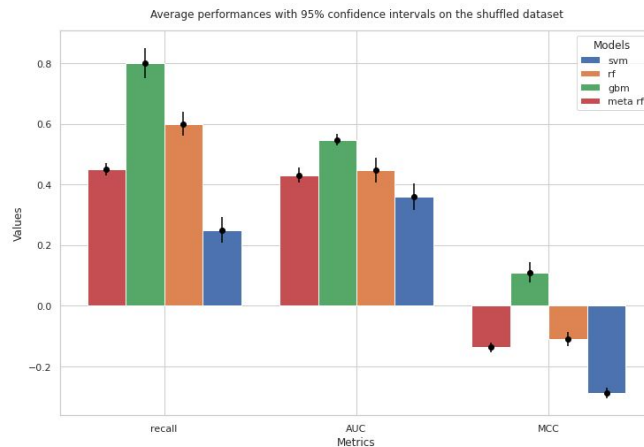
In literature: Meta Learner –RF, Base Learners (Best models +Second best models of GBM, RF, DLNNWOD, DLNNWD) has **Recall as 0.86, AUC as 0.89, and MCC as 0.77**

# AntiPhospho model performances

## On 20% hold-out testing set



## On shuffled features



## Meta RF is kept as AntiPhospho

In literature: Meta Learner –RF, Base Learners (Best models +Second best models of GBM, RF, DLNNWOD, DLNNWD) has **Recall as 0.86, AUC as 0.89, and MCC as 0.77**

## AntiPhospho base RF's feature importances

- Chi4n is the most important feature



# Cherry picking test set of 3 new compounds

- Remdesivir: the only FDA-approved anti-SARS-CoV-2 drug; non-phospholipidosis-reducing
- Elacridar: an antiviral compound; non-phospholipidosis-reducing
- DLAD: my tested drug (next slide)

	0	1
<b>Remdesivir</b>	0.980198	0.019802
<b>Elacridar</b>	0.722772	0.277228
<b>DLAD</b>	0.831683	0.168317

# Potential Utility of Synthetic D-Lactate Polymers in Skin Cancer

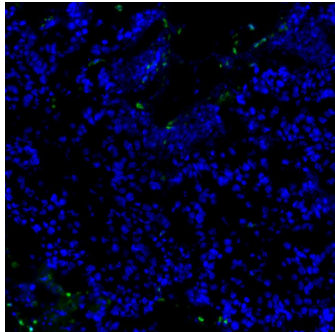
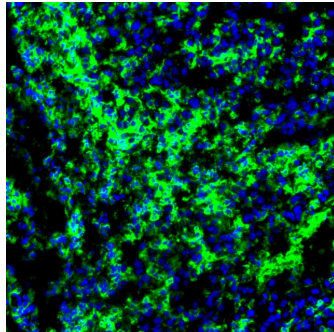
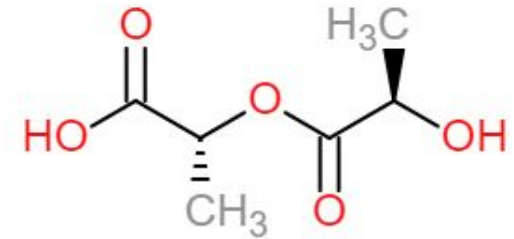
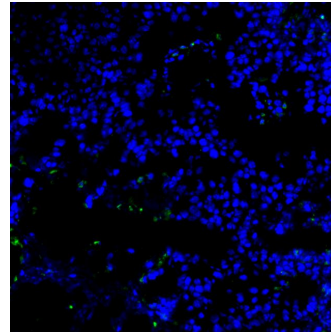
Anushka Dikshit • Junqi Lu • Amy E. Ford • ... Georgia Beasley • David Gooden • Jennifer Y. Zhang

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## DIY in vitro drug-test

- Cherry-picking rationale:
  - 2-(2-hydroxy-1-oxopropoxy)propionic acid (DLAD) prohibits skin cancer progression by pushing cellular metabolism profile from anaerobic to aerobic respiration
  - Normal cells prefer aerobic [generate more energy per glucose], while cancer cells and virus-infected cells prefer anaerobic [generate energy faster]
- 83% sure non-phospholipidosis-inducing
- In vitro results: non-phospholipidosis-inducing

DMSO

Sertraline (10  $\mu$ M)DLAD (10  $\mu$ M)

DAPI

LAMP-2



# 34% SARS-CoV-2 positives are phospholipidosis-inducing

- AntiPhosho predicted 34% of the active anti-SARS-CoV-2 molecules from the in vitro screening to be phospholipidosis-inducing

Classes		Counts
0	0	178
1	1	92

Science

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 **RESEARCH ARTICLE** | CORONAVIRUS

## Drug-induced phospholipidosis confounds drug repurposing for SARS-CoV-2

[TIA A. TUMMINO](#) , [VERONICA V. REZELI](#) , [BENOIT FISCHER](#) , [AUDREY FISCHER](#) , [MATTHEW J. O'MEARA](#) , [BLANDINE MONEL](#) , [THOMAS VALLET](#) 

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**SCIENCE** • 30 Jul 2021 • Vol 373, Issue 6554 • pp. 541-547 • [DOI: 10.1126/science.abc4708](#)

# 37% AntiCovid's predictions are phospholipidosis-inducing

- AntiPhosho predicted 37% of the AntiCovid's positive predictions to be phospholipidosis-inducing

Classes		Counts
0	0	34
1	1	20

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# Summary

- AntiCOVID has great performance on the subsampled dataset, but not overall
- AntiPhospho has great performance overall with way simpler structure
- K-medoids strategy to undersample imbalanced dataset
- Meta learner with simple base learners to boost performance
- Performance validated by hold-out testing set, adversarial control, orthogonal data, and biological mechanism logics
- Limitation of machine learning: correlation  $\neq$  causation

# Thank you!

- Instructor: Daniel Reker, PhD
- TAs: Roujia Wang, Zilu Zhang

