

# Formal representation of the repertoire of IgM antibody specificities

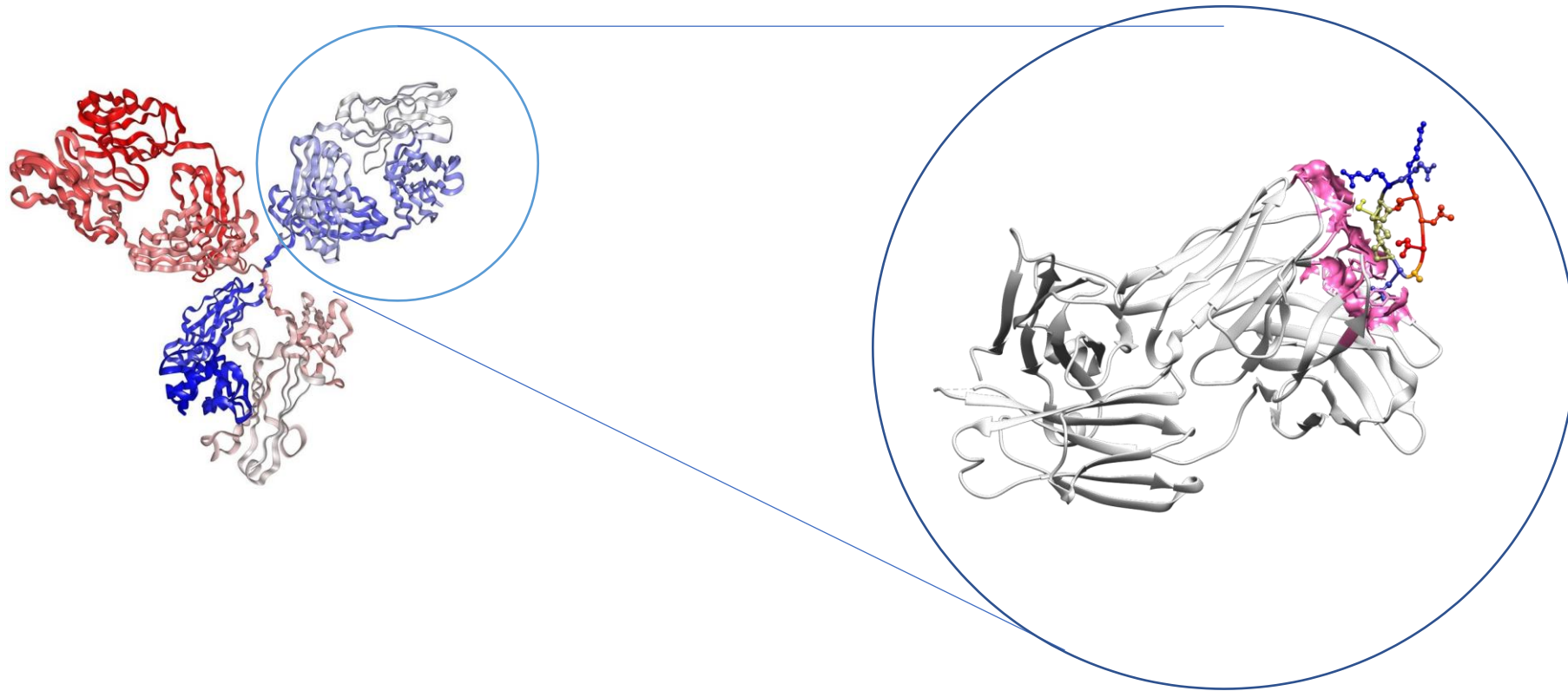
Anastas Pashov<sup>1</sup>, Shina Pashova<sup>2</sup>, Peter Petrov<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute of Microbiology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

<sup>2</sup>Institute of Biology and Immunology of Reproduction, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

<sup>3</sup>Institute of Mathematics and Informatics, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

*Mathematics of Life, September 13-16, 2021, Hisarya, Bulgaria*



# WHY IgM?

Routine practice:

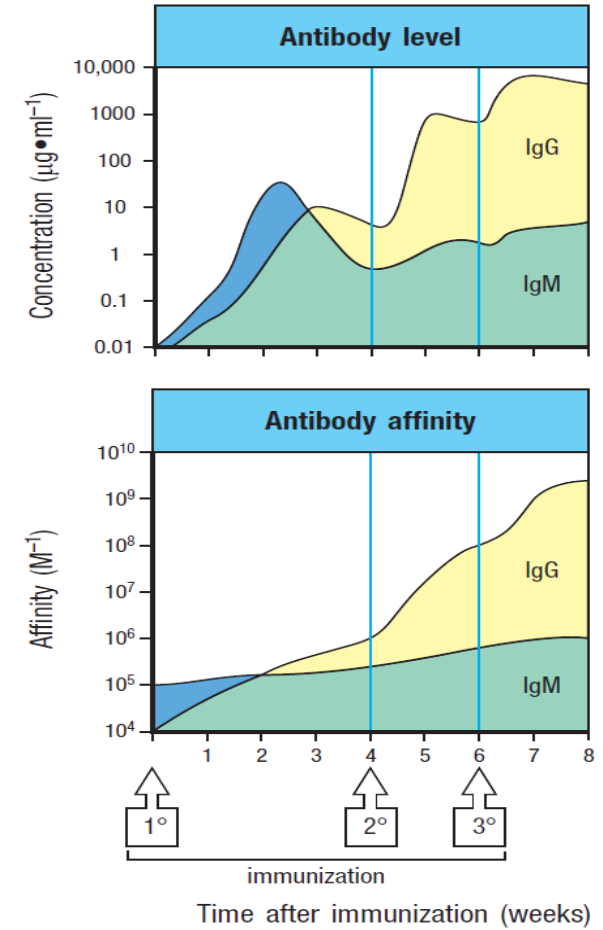
- Do I have antibodies to ...  
(SARS-Co-V2, HBV, HIV, etc) ?



VS

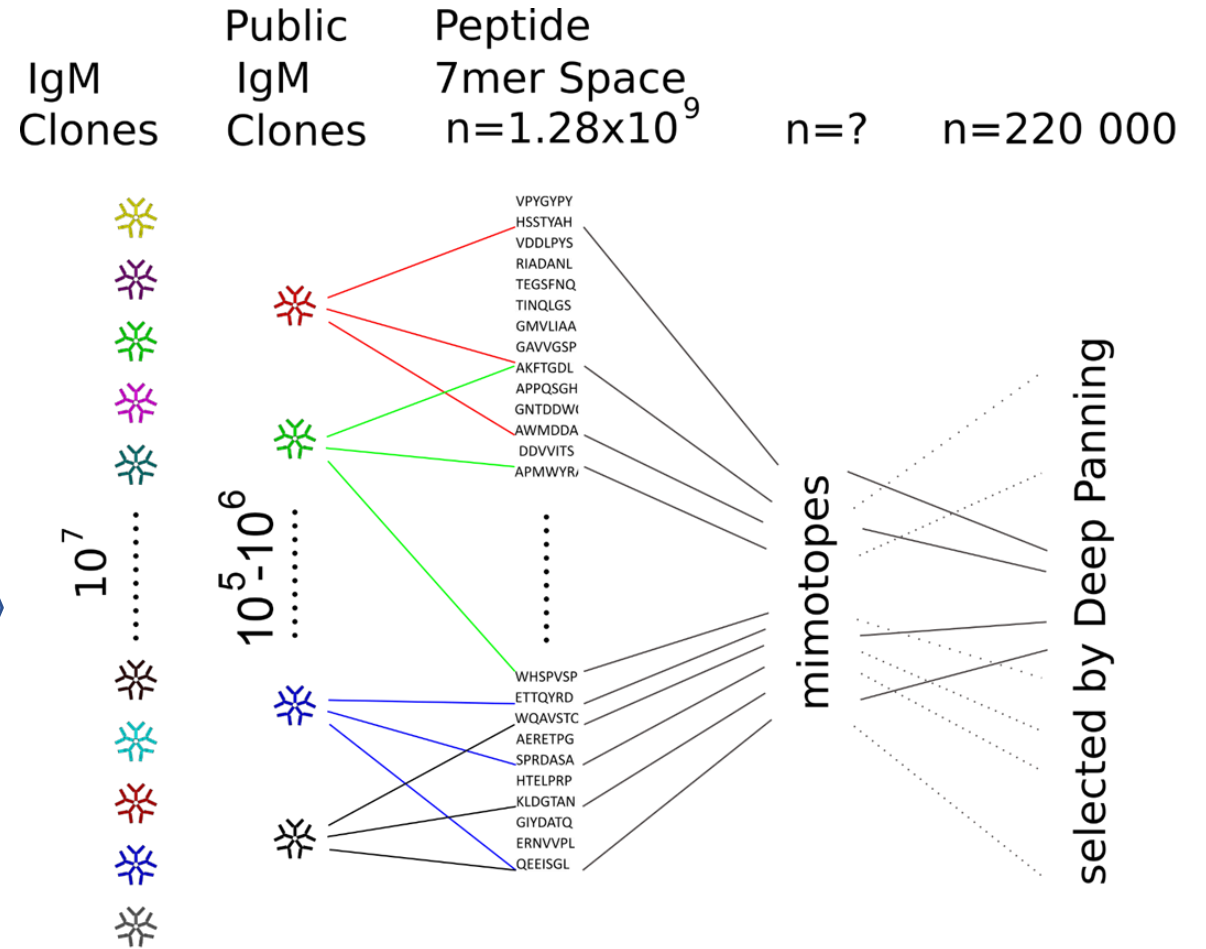
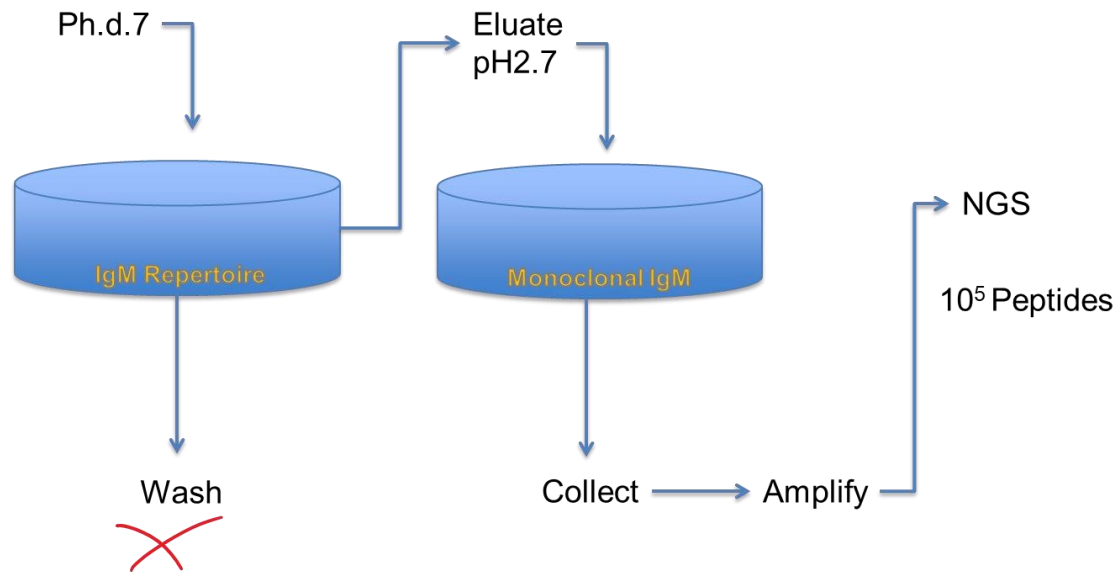
The “omics” view:

- What is the global map of my repertoire?



## Experimental Setting – “Wet Part”

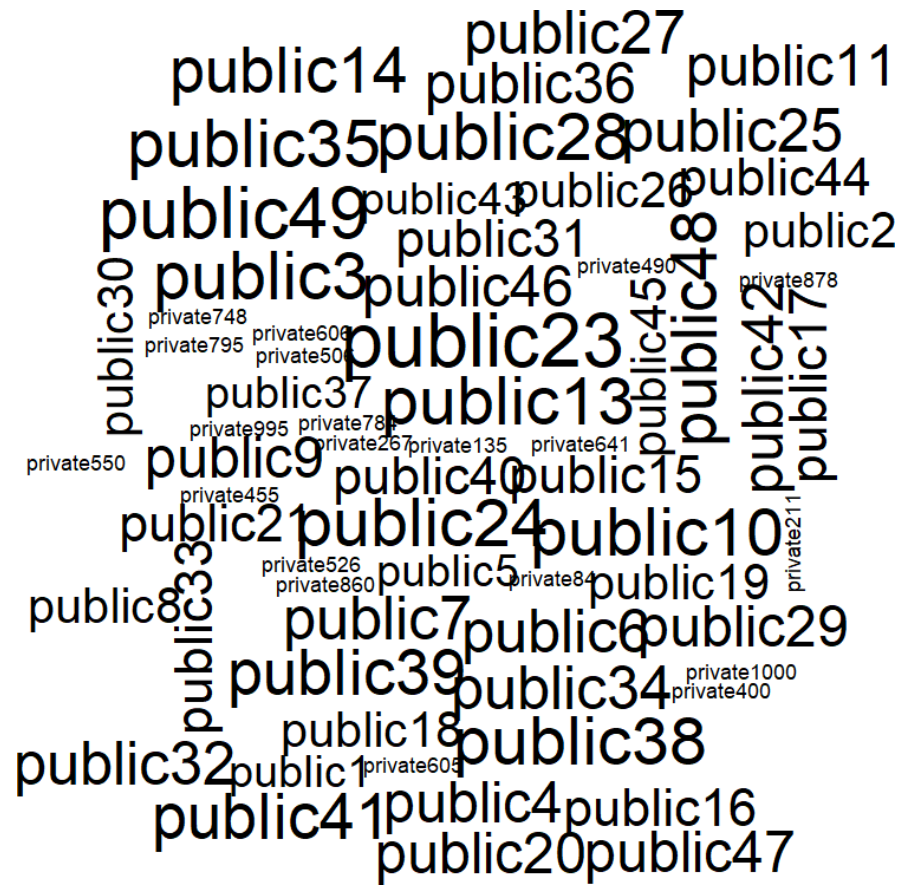
## The Phage Display Library Selection



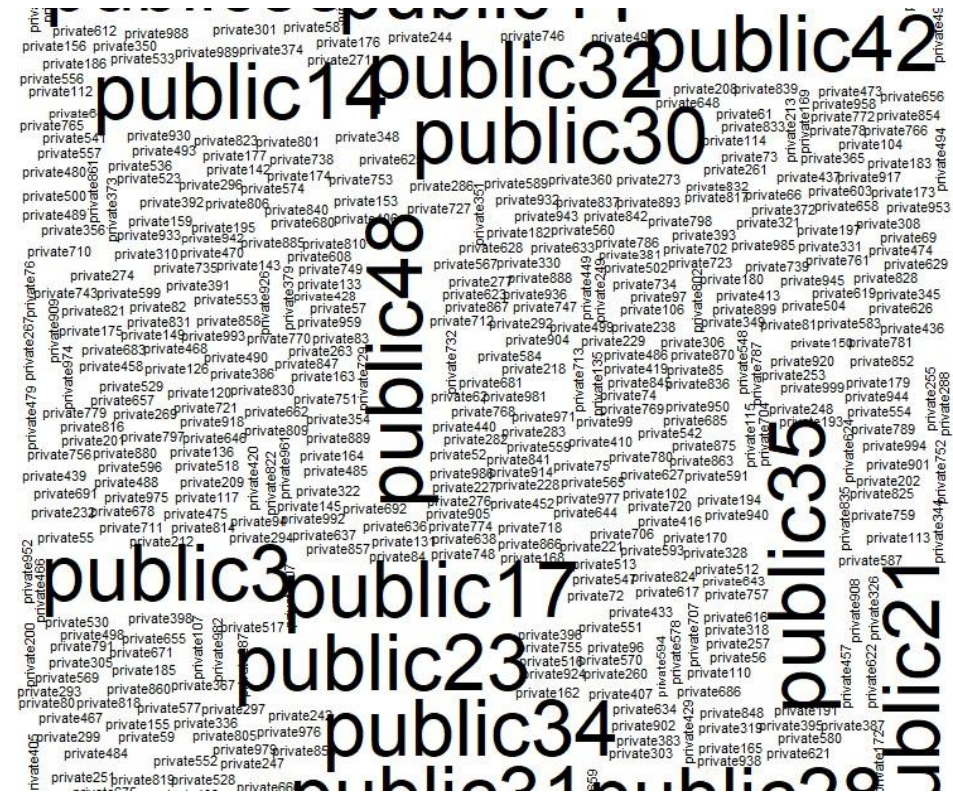
Each antigen can be represented approximately by a set of k-mers (7mers?) like a word by syllables

# Large Pools of Antibodies Emphasize Public Reactivities

## Mixture of Serum form 20 Individuals



## Mixture of Serum from 10000 Individuals

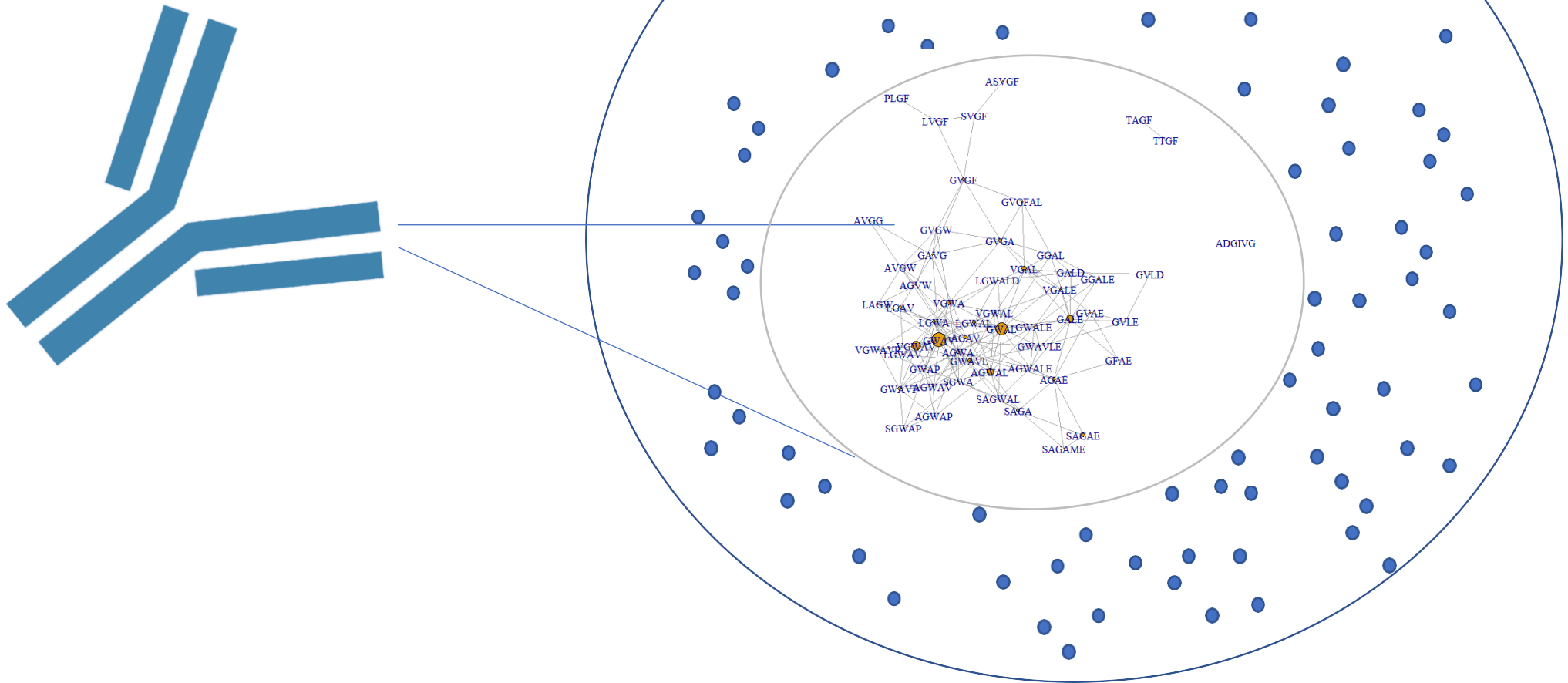


**HLAB** **BDE**  
BIOPANNING DATA BANK

[illegible]



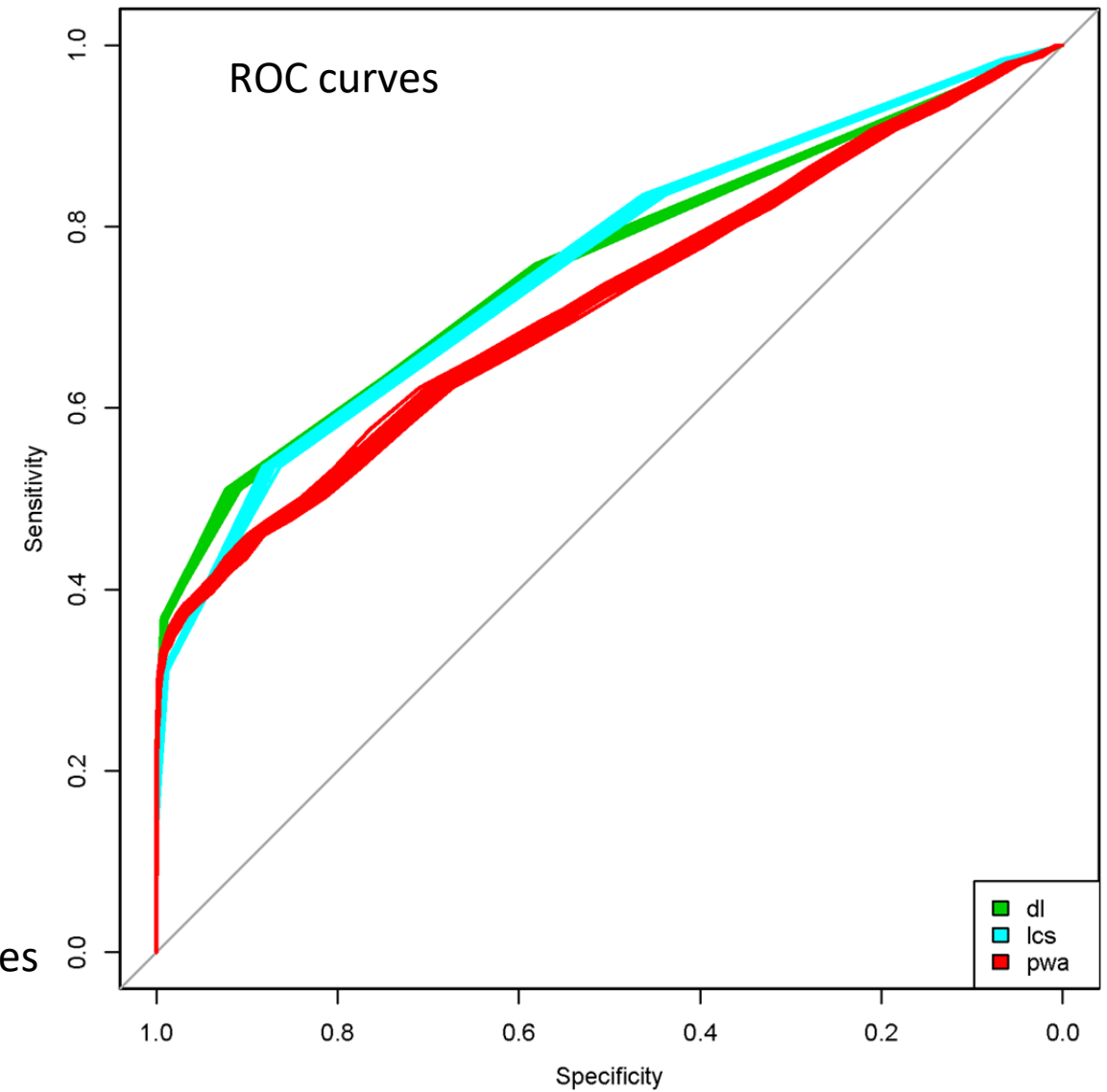
Hypothetical image of an antibody's reactivity space in the mimotope space



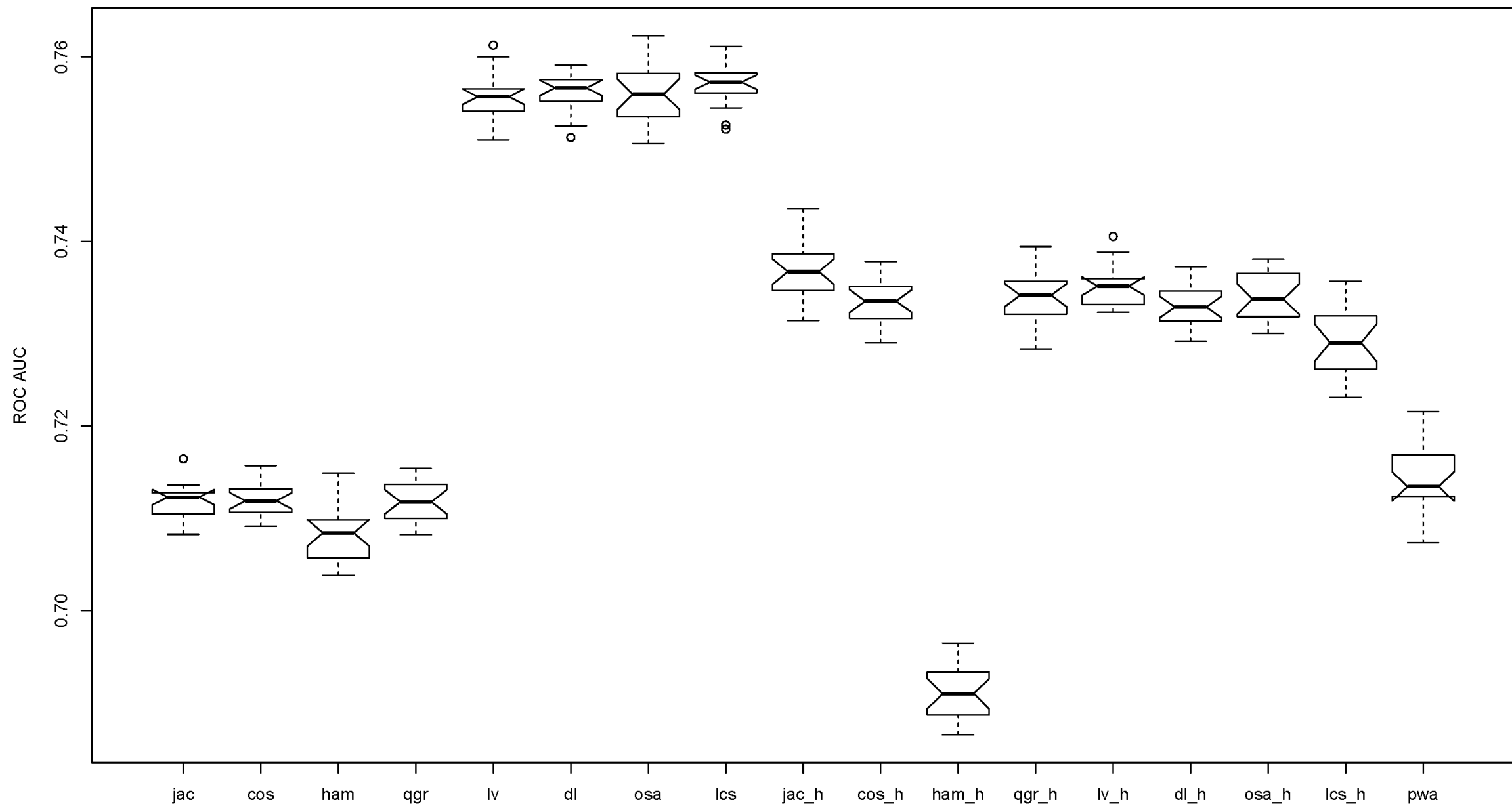
## Selecting the right string metric

Classification of known “isospecific” mimotope pairs compared to random peptide pairs using different metrics:

- ham Hamming distance,
- lcs Longest common substring distance.
- lv Levenshtein distance,
- dl Damerau-Levenshtein distance,
- osa Optimal string alignment,
- qgr q-gram distance,
- cos Cosine distance between q-gram profiles,
- jac Jaccard distance between q-gram profiles,
- pwa Pair-wise alignment (AA substitutin matrix based),
- ...\_h Versions of editing distances with recoded AA based on the Phys\Chem properties







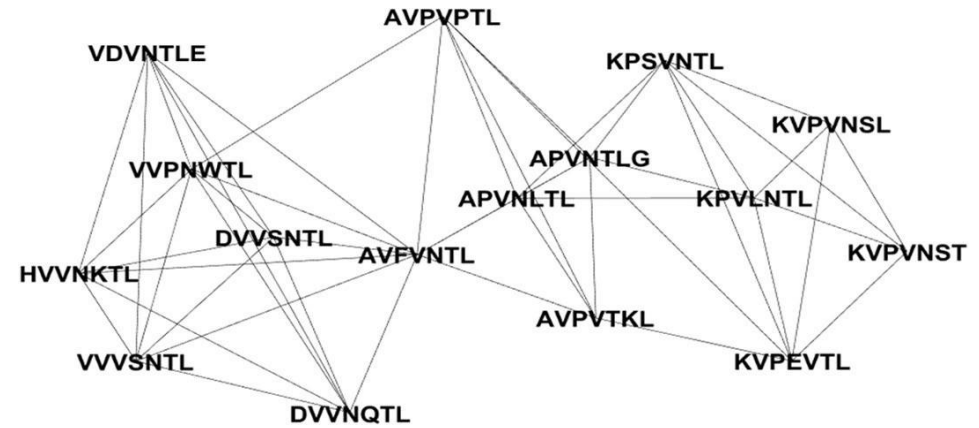
# Building the Graph

## Longest common subsequence

A	P	V	N	T	L	G
A	P	V	N	L	T	L
A	V	F	V	N	T	L

**Conservative threshold -  $d < 5$**   
(2 differences) - high specificity but  
lower sensitivity

## Example

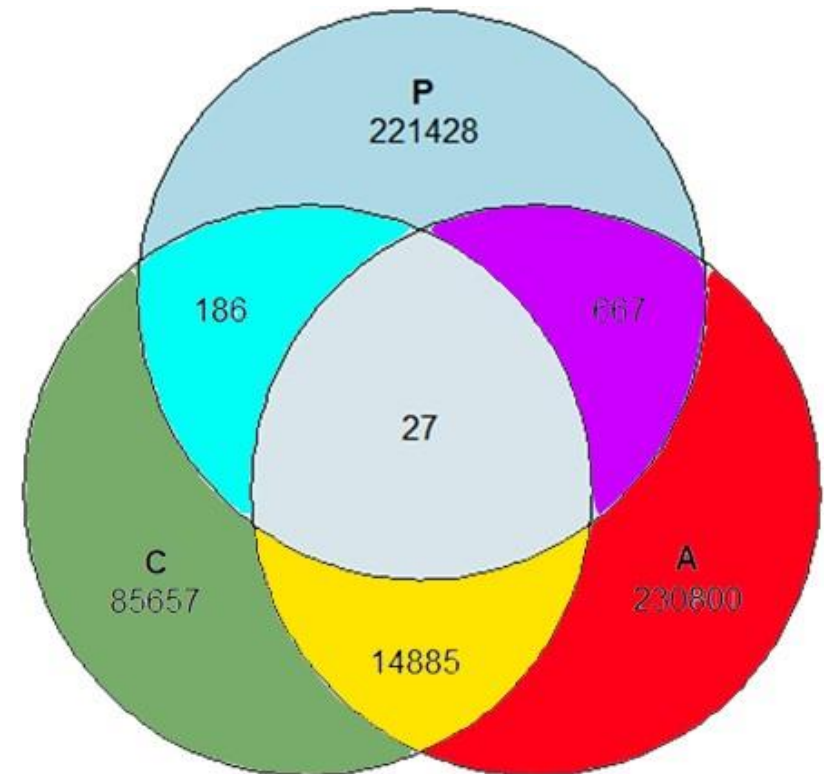


## The Data - APLS Study

Sera from:

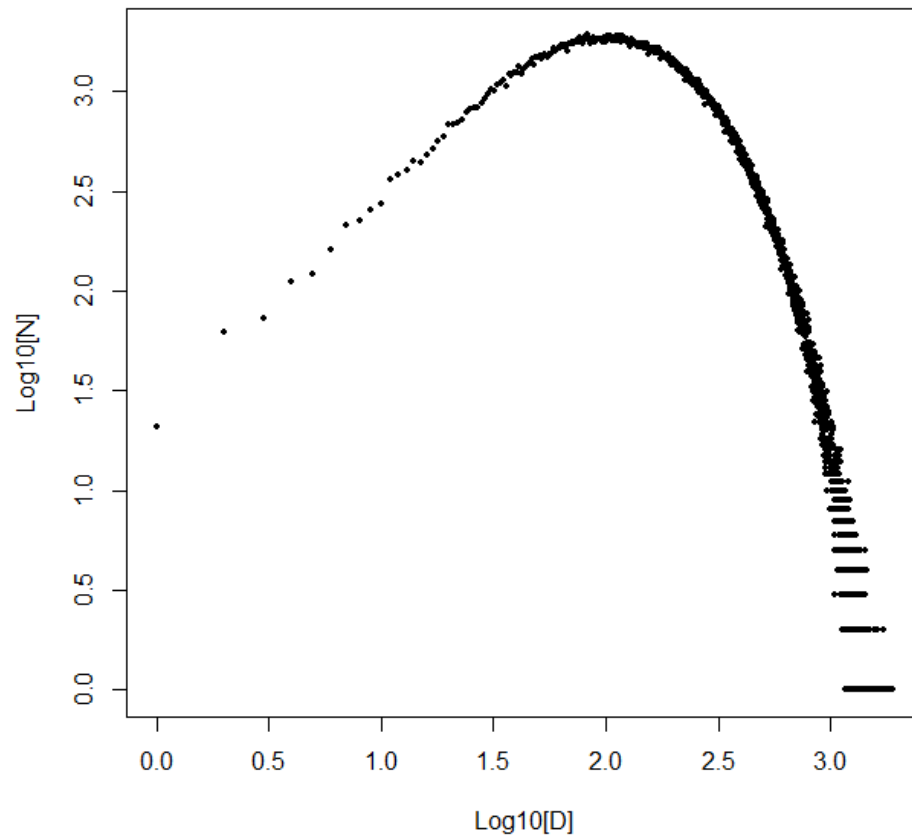
C(ontrol) – Healthy women, age matched (n=20),  
A(PLS) – Women with antiphospholipid autoantibodies  
and habitual abortions (n=24),  
P(ublic) – IgM from IVIgM (Biotest, Dreireich) –  
global repertoire of 10000 healthy donors.

The composition of the  
mimotope libraries



## The Graph

553 634 vertices and 65 873 585 edges



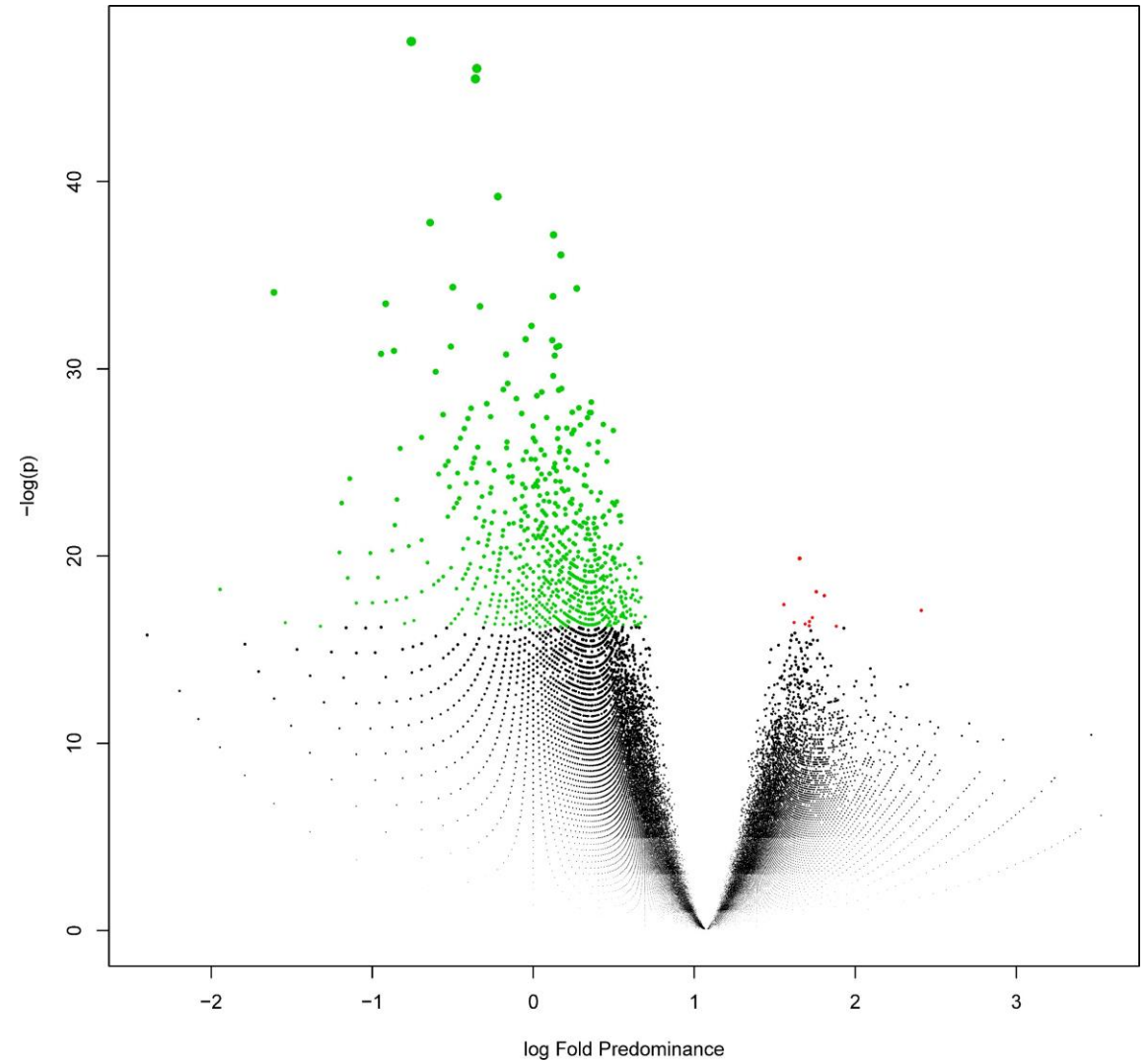
Distribution of mimotope classes  
in the neighborhood of each vertex

Sequence	C	A	C+A	P	P+C	P+A	C+A+P
AAHPAPK	29	155	9	76	0	0	0
AAHPRQT	38	163	11	114	0	0	0
AAHQLRL	47	184	16	121	0	1	0
AAHSLRL	74	303	24	189	0	4	0
AAHSRIL	29	190	17	139	0	2	0
AAHSTSD	40	180	13	120	0	3	0
AAHSYPA	34	188	15	115	1	0	0
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

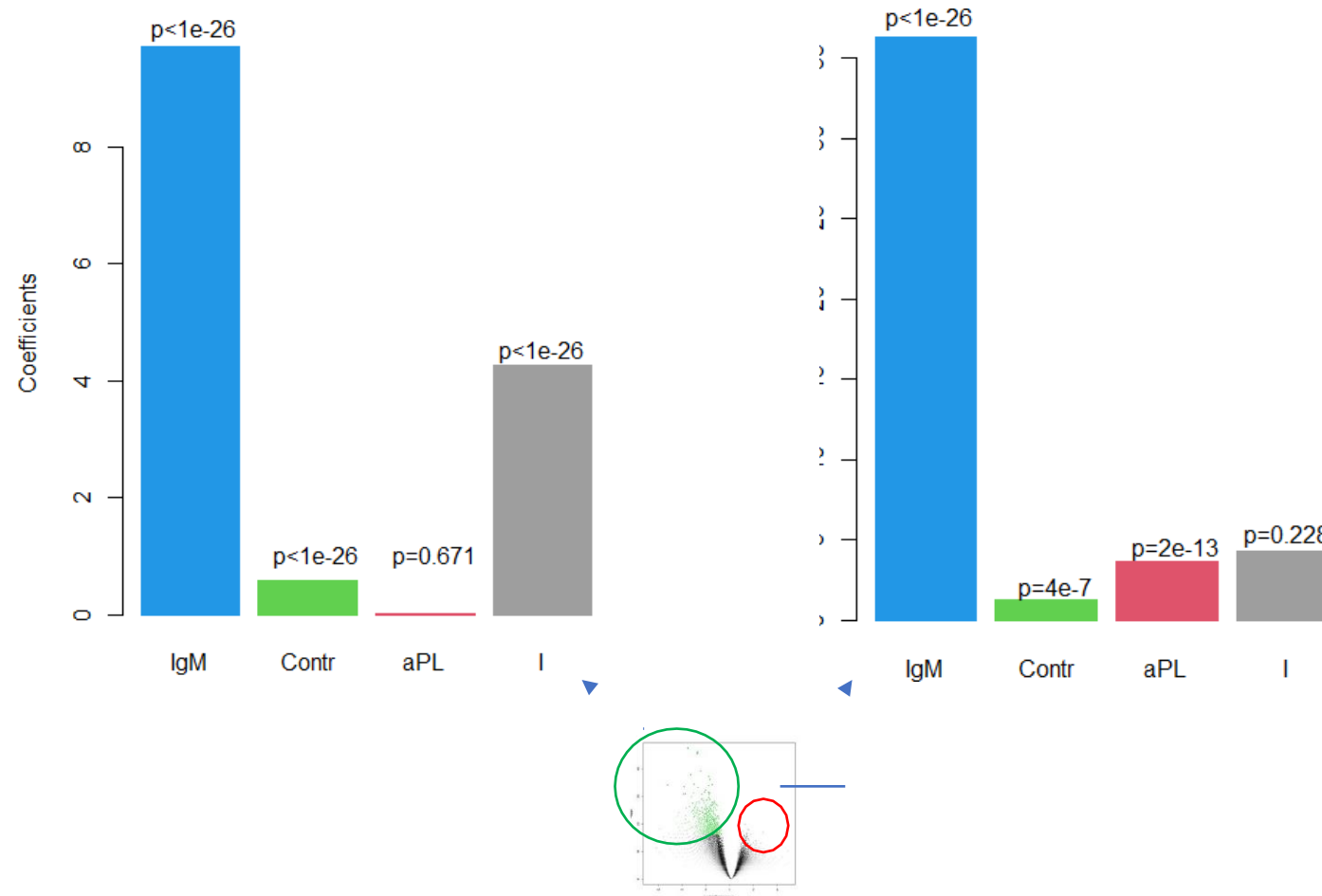
+ mapping of  
 $4 \times 10^6$  IgJ  
region 7-mers

## The Volcano Plot

Comparing mimotopes selected by the **IgM repertoires of APLS and healthy women**, the neighborhoods in the graph populated predominantly by **mimotopes of the healthy** far exceeded those dominated by **mimotopes of the APLS** repertoire.



## Profiles of the calls

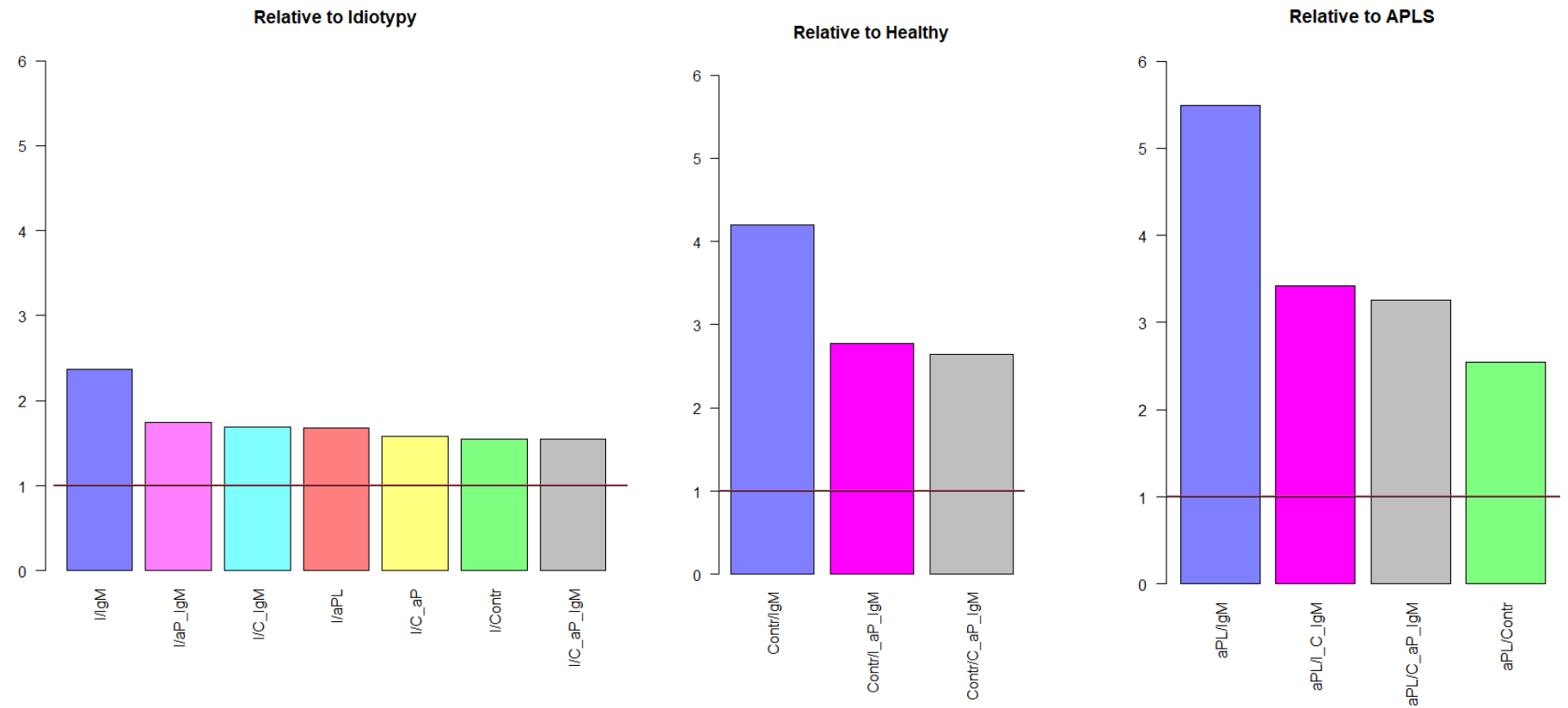




# Colocalization between reactivities in different repertoires

The neighborhood distributions were dichotomized at the medians of each class and 2x2 tables were constructed for each two-way comparison. The 2x2 tables were used to calculate odds ratios.

## Odds Ratios



## CONCLUSION

Autoimmune antiphospholipid syndrome is characterized by pathological IgG auto-antibodies but the main change in the IgM repertoire is

**loss of specificities which are public and idiotypically connected.**

Thanks to:

Lubomir Balabansky, Doctor Malinov Clinic, Ltd, Sofia

Gabriel Elmadjiyan, IBIR, BAS

Dr. Velizar Shivarov, Sofiamed Hospital, Sofia

... and the funding from the National Science Fund, Bulgaria  
(grant #: KP-06 –N 21/14.2018 and KP-06 –N 37/24.2019)