

1 **INeo-Epp: T-cell HLA class I immunogenic or neoantigenic**
2 **epitope prediction via random forest algorithm based on sequence**
3 **related amino acid features**

4 Guangzhi Wang^{1,2¶}, Huihui Wan^{2,3¶}, Xingxing Jian^{2,4}, Jian Ouyang², Yuyu Li¹, Xiaoxiu
5 Tan³, Yong Xu³, Yong Zhao^{1*}, Yong Lin^{3*}, Lu Xie^{1,2*}

6 ¹College of Food Science and Technology, Shanghai Ocean University, Shanghai, China

7 ²Shanghai Center for Bioinformation Technology, Shanghai Academy of Science and Technology, Shanghai, China

8 ³School of Medical Instrument and Food Engineering, University of Shanghai for Science and Technology, Shanghai, China

9 ⁴Key Laboratory of Carcinogenesis and Cancer Invasion, Ministry of Education; Key Laboratory of Carcinogenesis, National Health and
10 Family Planning Commission, Xiangya Hospital, Central South University, Changsha, China.

11

12 * Corresponding author

13 E-mail: yzhao@shou.edu.cn (YZ)

14 E-mail: yong_lynn@163.com (YL)

15 E-mail: luxiex2017@outlook.com (LX)

16 ¶These authors contributed equally to this work.

17 **Abstract**

18 In silico T-cell epitope prediction plays a key role in immunization experiments
19 design and vaccine preparation. In this study, classification models based on random
20 forests algorithm were trained by use of experimental human leukocyte antigen class I
21 (HLA-I) presenting T-cell peptides data, in which several characteristics were
22 constructed as immunogenicity features, including amino acid sequence characteristics,
23 peptide entropy, eluted ligand likelihood percentile rank (EL %Rank) score and score
24 of immunogenic peptide. The classification result for the antigen epitopes outperformed
25 the previous research (AUC=0.81, external validation data set AUC=0.77). As
26 mutational epitopes generated by the coding region contain only the alterations of one
27 or two amino acids, we assume that these characteristics might also be applied to the
28 classification of the endogenic mutational epitopes named ‘neoantigens’. Based on

29 mutation information and sequence related amino acid characteristics, a prediction
30 model of neoantigen was established as well (AUC=0.78). Further, a web-based tool
31 was developed for the prediction of either human antigen epitope or neoantigen epitope
32 (<http://www.biostatistics.online/INeo-Epp/antigen.php>). Overall, by analyzing amino
33 acid distribution in T-cell receptor (TCR) contact sites, we found that TCR prefers to
34 recognize the hydrophobic amino acids. This work may provide a new insight for T-
35 cell recognition of antigen peptides.

36

37 **Author summary**

38 Currently, most epitope prediction researches focus on peptides processing and
39 presenting, such as proteasomal cleavage, transporter associated with antigen
40 processing (TAP) and major histocompatibility complex (MHC) combination. To date,
41 however, the immunogenicity mechanism of epitopes remains unclear. It is generally
42 agreed upon that T-cell immunogenicity may be influenced by foreignness,
43 accessibility, molecular weight, molecular structure, molecular conformation, chemical
44 properties and physical properties of target peptides in different degrees. Here, we first
45 collected quite an amount of experimental HLA-I T-cell peptides data, as well as the
46 potential immunogenic amino acid features. Subsequently, based on the random forest
47 algorithm, we successfully constructed the separate prediction models for T cell
48 immunogenic HLA-I presenting antigen and neoantigen epitopes. Furthermore, we
49 built a web-based tool to facilitate the prediction of HLA-I T-cell immunogenic
50 epitopes.

51

52 **Introduction**

53 An antigen is consisted of several epitopes, which can be recognized either by B-

54 or T-cells and/or molecules of the host immune system. However, usually, a few amino
55 acid residues that comprise an epitope are sufficient to elicit an immune response [1].
56 MHC-I (HLA-I in human) antigen peptides are processed and presented as follows: (1)
57 cytosolic and nuclear proteins are cleaved to short peptides by intracellular proteinases;
58 (2) some are selectively transferred to endoplasmic reticulum (ER) by TAP transporter,
59 and subsequently are treated by endoplasmic reticulum aminopeptidase; (3) antigen
60 presenting cells (APCs) present peptides possessed to 8-11 AA (amino acid) residues
61 on MHC class I molecules to CD8+ T cells [2]. So far, several software have been
62 developed to predict the antigen processing and presentation, including NetChop [3],
63 NetCTL [4], NetMHCpan [5], MHCflurry [6]. However, statistically, approximately
64 only 1% of the predicted binding peptide-MHC complexes (p-MHC) can eventually
65 cause immunogenicity [7]. Although the recognition and amplification of T-cells may
66 benefit from the development of T-cell receptor (TCR) sequencing, the cycle of vaccine
67 development and immunization research is extended. Thus, an effective identification
68 method follow-up the above software is urgently needed to shorten the whole cycle.

69 Nowadays, many experimental human epitopes may be acquired from the immune
70 epitope database (IEDB) [8], which makes it feasible to mathematically predict human
71 epitopes. Even if IEDB provides us a wide range of information on T cell epitopes, a
72 high degree of MHC polymorphism brings forward a severe challenge for T-cell
73 epitope prediction. HLA molecules have hundreds of different variants [9].

74 Experimentally, many infrequent HLA subtypes peptides (*e.g.* B55, B63) with
75 uneven positive and negative distributions are not conducive to analyze the potential
76 deviation existed in TCR recognition owing to various HLA presented peptides. A
77 general analysis of all HLA presented peptides, ignoring the pattern of TCR recognition
78 of specific HLA, may result in a lower prediction.

79 Due to the intensive study on HLA, HLA supertype has been proposed. Sette *et al.*
80 [10] classified, for the first time, overlapping peptide binding repertoires into nine
81 major functional HLA supertypes (A1, A2, A3, A24, B7, B27, B44, B58, B62). In 2008,
82 John Sidney *et al* [11] made a further supplement, in which over 80% of the 945
83 different HLA-A and -B alleles can be assigned to the original nine supertypes. It has
84 not been reported whether peptides presented by different HLA alleles influence TCR
85 recognition. Hence, we collected experimental epitopes according to HLA alleles for
86 analyzing.

87 Screening of mutant and abnormally expressed epitopes are crucial in tumor
88 immunotherapy. In 2017, Ott PA *et al.* [12] and Sahin *et al* [13]. confirmed that peptides
89 and RNA vaccines made up of neoantigens in melanoma can stimulate and proliferate
90 CD8+ and CD4+ T cells. Neoantigen vaccination not only can expand the existing
91 specific T cells, but also induce a wide range of novel T-cell specificity in cancer
92 patients and enhance tumor suppression [14]. Meanwhile, a tumor can be better
93 controlled by the combination therapy of neoantigen vaccine and programmed cell
94 death protein 1 (PD-1)/PD1 ligand 1(PDL-1) therapy [15-16]. However, a considerable
95 amount of identified candidate neoantigens in the process of sequencing recognition of
96 somatic cell mutations were false positive, which would fail to stimulate TCR
97 recognition and immune response. This is undoubtedly a disadvantage for designing
98 vaccines against neoantigens.

99 In this study, based on the collection of the validated HLA-I T-cell peptides,
100 including antigens and neoantigens, we discovered several effective classification
101 features and successfully constructed the classification models for antigens and
102 neoantigens, respectively. Furthermore, a web-based tool, INeo-Epp (immunogenic and
103 neoangtigenic epitope prediction), was built for separate prediction of human antigen

104 and neoantigen epitopes.

105

106 **Results**

107 **Immunogenic and non-immunogenic epitopes**

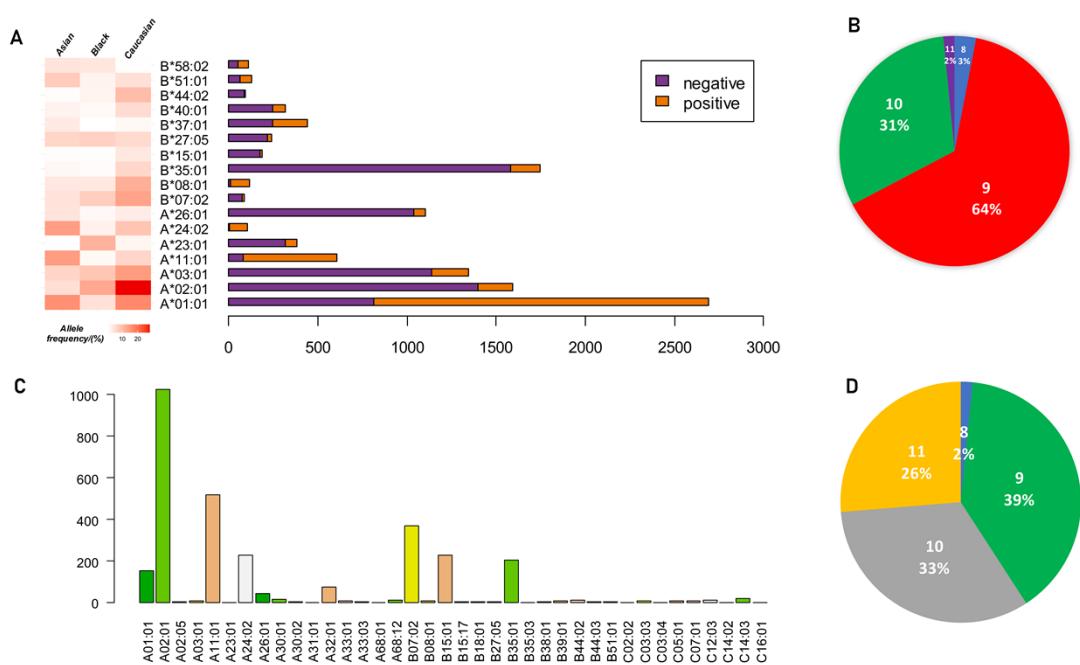
108 Peptides that can promote cytokines proliferation are considered as immunogenic
109 epitopes. However, non-immunogenic epitopes may result from the following reasons:
110 a) p-MHC truly unrecognized by TCR; b) peptides unpresented by MHC (quantitatively
111 expressed as %rank>2); c) negative selection/clonal presentation induced by excessive
112 similarity with autologous peptides [17]. In this work, to further study the recognition
113 preferences of T cells, >2 %rank and 100% matching human GRCh38 peptide
114 sequences were removed from the definition of non-immunogenic peptides.

115

116 **Data statistics**

117 In this study, 11,297 validated epitopes and non-epitopes with the length of 8-11
118 amino acids were collected from IEDB. T-cell responses include activation,
119 cytotoxicity, proliferation, IFN- γ release, TNF release, granzyme B release, IL-2
120 release, IL-10 release. Seventeen different HLA alleles were collected (Fig 1A), and
121 the detailed antigen lengths distribution are shown in (Fig 1B). Besides, we also
122 collected the neoantigen data from 12 publications, including 2837 non-epitopes and
123 164 epitopes (Fig 1C), and the detailed neoantigen lengths distribution are shown in
124 (Fig 1D).

125



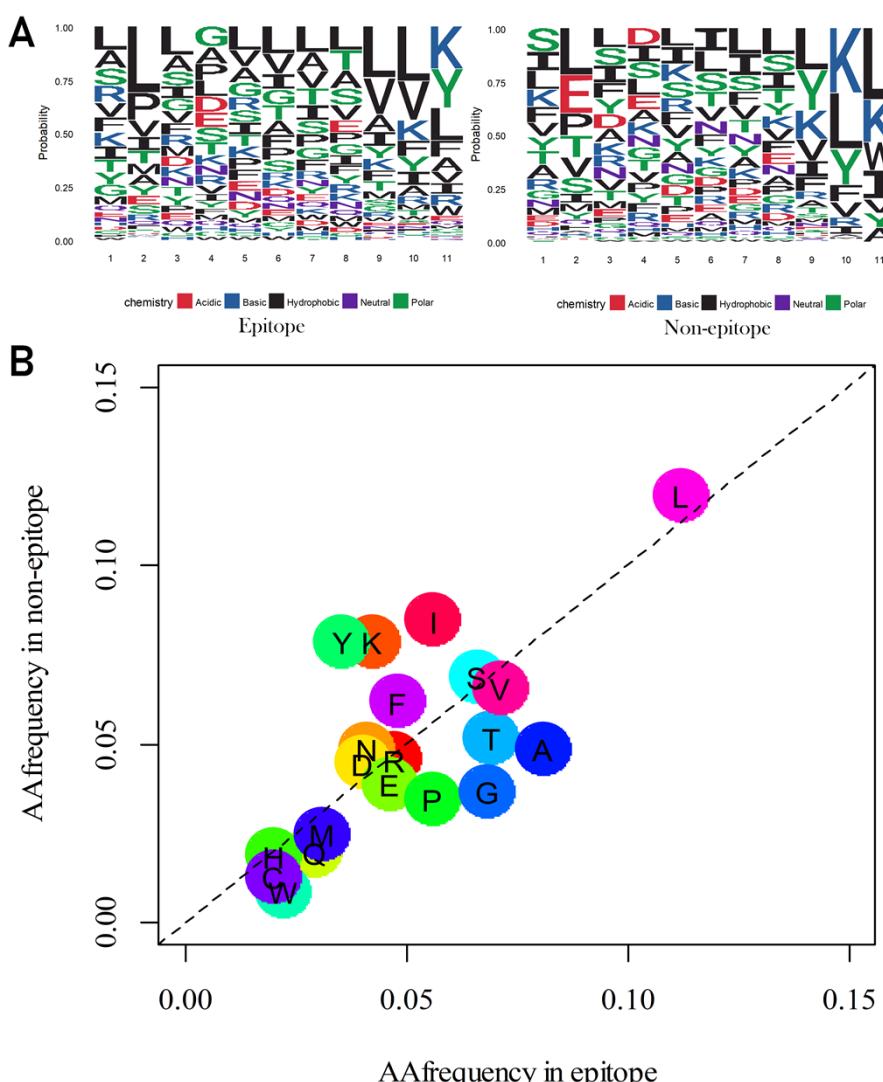
126

127 **Figure1: Epitope peptides composition and amino acid lengths distribution.**

128 (A) Detailed seventeen HLA alleles of antigen peptides data distribution and each HLA
129 allele positive and negative data proportion and the corresponding HLA frequency in
130 Asian, Black, Caucasian. (B) Antigen peptides proportion of 8-11 AA lengths. (C)
131 Distribution of HLA alleles of neoantigen peptides. (D) Neoantigen peptides proportion
132 of 8-11 AA lengths.

133 Furthermore, we analyzed the position-related amino acid arrangement in antigen
134 epitopes. The result showed that leucine was strongly preferred in all the positions of
135 antigen epitope, however, tryptophan, histidine, cysteine were the least preferred (Fig2
136 A). TCR contact position plays a crucial role in the analysis of immunogenicity. As
137 TCRs might be more sensitive to some amino acids, the amino acids preference in
138 antigen epitope peptide and antigen non-epitope peptide was further analyzed after

139 excluding anchor sites. We found that a TCR tends to identify the hydrophobic amino
140 acids (Fig 2B). For example, 70% of amino acids that occur more frequently in
141 immunogenicity epitopes are hydrophobic (W, P, A, V, L). Charged amino acids (*e.g.*
142 D, K) are enriched in non-epitopes, and amino acids with more complex R group
143 structure frequently occur in non-epitopes. Based on the above, the amino acid
144 distribution difference at the TCR contact sites was regarded by us as one of the
145 immunogenicity features (*i.e.* score for immunogenic peptide (C22)).



146
147
148 **Figure 2: Antigen epitope amino acid distribution difference in P1-P11, and amino**
149 **acid distribution frequency in TCR contact site of antigen epitope and non-epitope.**

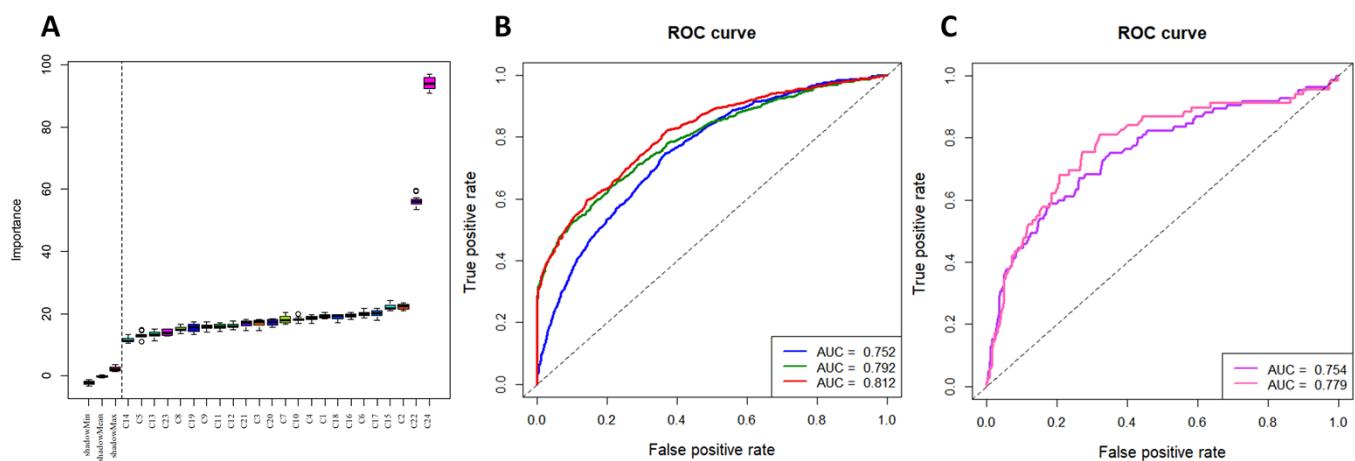
150 (A) The proportion of amino acids at each position of epitope and non-epitope peptides
151 in antigen peptides, and the higher position the more frequency. (B) Frequency
152 distribution of amino acids at solvent-exposed positions in antigen epitope and non-
153 epitope peptides, and the amino acids below the dotted line are preferred by the epitope.

154

155 **Classification prediction model for antigen epitopes**

156 We constructed the features of peptides on the basis of the characteristics of amino
157 acids (see Materials and Methods section: Characteristics Calculation of peptides based
158 on amino acids). All amino acid characteristics were selected from Protscale [18] in
159 ExPASy (SIB bioinformatics resource portal). The 21 involved features are as follows:
160 Kyte–Doolittle numeric hydrophobicity scale (C1) [19], molecular weight (C2),
161 bulkiness (C3) [20], polarity (C4) [21], recognition factors (C5) [22], hydrophobicity
162 (C6) [23], retention coefficient in HPLC (C7) [24], ratio hetero end/side (C8) [21],
163 average flexibility (C9) [25], beta-sheet (C10) [26], alpha-helix (C11) [27], beta-turn
164 (C12) [27], relative mutability (C13) [28], number of codon(s) (C14), refractivity
165 (C15) [29], transmembrane tendency (C16) [30], %accessible residues (C17) [31],
166 average area buried (C18) [32], conformational parameter for coil (C19) [27], total
167 beta-strand (C20) [33], parallel beta-strand (C21) [33] (see Table S4 in detail). Also,
168 score for immunogenic peptide (C22), peptide entropy (C23) [34] and %rank (C24)
169 were also taken into consideration. Together, 24 immunogenic features were collected,
170 and all features were retained for antigen epitopes prediction after screening using R
171 package Buroat [35]. Compared to other characteristics, score for immunogenic peptide
172 and %rank have higher impacts, suggesting they have more significant power on
173 antigen epitopes classification (Firure3 A).

174 The receiver operator characteristic (ROC) curve of models are shown in Fig 4.
175 The five-fold cross validation AUC was 0.81 in the prediction model for antigen epitope
176 (line in red Fig3 B) and the externally validated AUC was 0.75 (line in purple Fig4 C).
177 Here, we tried to remove HLA supertypes (not included in training set) data from the
178 externally validated antigen data and, the AUC, specificity, and sensitivity were
179 increased to 0.78, 0.71, and 0.72, respectively. (line in pink Fig4 C). This, to some
180 extent, verifies our conjecture about TCR specific recognition of different HLA alleles
181 presenting peptides.



182

183 **Figure 3: Feature selection in antigen epitopes and ROC curves of antigen epitopes**

184 **classification.** (A) Twenty four features were screened and retained, the features on the

185 right of the dotted line are effective. (B) The line in blue represents antigen epitopes

186 without screening; the line in green represents selection with the deletion of $\%rank > 2$

187 non-epitope; and the line in red represents selection with the deletion of the non-

188 epitopes 100% matching human GRCh38 peptides sequence. (C) The ROC curves of

189 external verification set, line in purple represents modeling using antigen epitopes

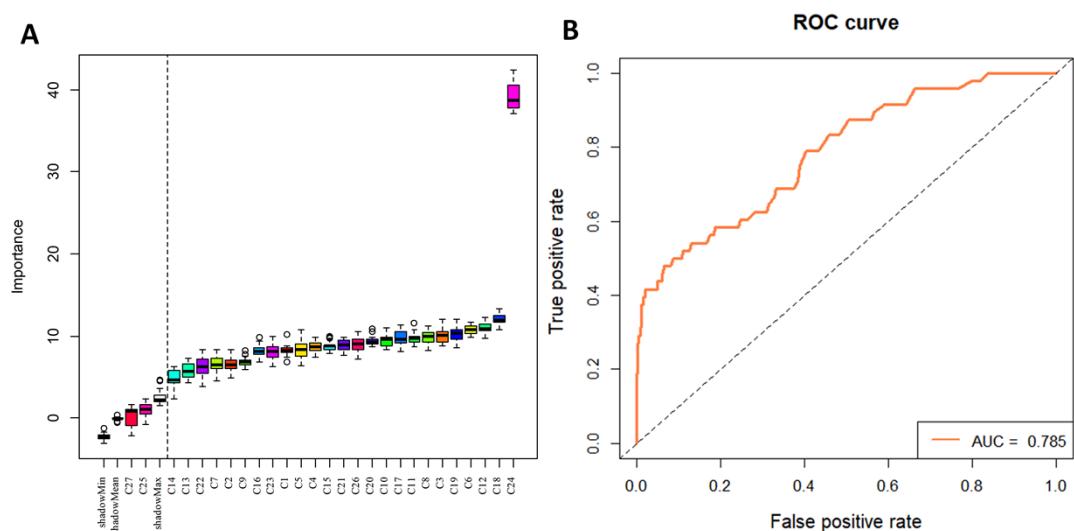
190 without filtering, the line in pink represents using antigen epitopes removing non-

191 epitopes %rank>2 and HLA supertypes (not encountered in training set).

192

193 Classification prediction model for neoantigen epitopes

194 Neoantigens derived from somatic mutations are different from the wild peptide
195 sequences. Therefore, some mutation-related characteristics were also taken into
196 account. For instance, hydrophobic difference before and after mutation (C25),
197 differential agretopicity index (DAI, C26) [36] and whether the mutation position was
198 anchored (C27). Finally, 27 features were selected for the neoantigen model. However,
199 only 25 neoantigen related features were retained after running Buroat, because C25
200 and C27 were removed. Also, %rank showed a marked effect (Fig 4A). in the five-fold
201 cross-validation of the prediction model for neoantigen epitopes, AUC was 0.78 (Fig
202 4B).



203

204

205 **Figure 4: Feature selection in neoantigen epitopes and ROC curves of neoantigen
206 epitopes classification.** (A) Twenty seven features were screened and the 25 features
207 on the right of the dotted line were reserved for modeling in random forest algorithm.

208 (B) ROC curves of neoantigen epitopes classification.

209

210 **Web server for TCR epitope prediction**

211 Based on these above-mentioned validated features, we established a web server
212 for TCR epitope prediction, named INeo-Epp. This tool can be used to predict both
213 immunogenic antigen and neoantigen epitopes. For antigen, the nine main HLA
214 supertypes can be used. We recommend the peptides with the lengths of 8-12 residues,
215 but not less than 8. N-terminal, position 2, C-terminal were treated as anchored sites by
216 default. A predictive value greater than 0.5 is considered as positive immunogenicity
217 (P). Please make sure that HLA-subtype must match your peptides. When HLA-
218 subtype mismatches, the different %rank value may strongly influence the results.
219 Additionally, the neoantigen model requires providing wild and mutated sequences at
220 the same time to extract mutation associated characteristics, and currently only
221 immunogenicity prediction for neoantigens of single amino acid mutations are
222 supported. You can use example option to test the INeo-Epp
223 (<http://www.biostatistics.online/INeo-Epp/antigen.php>).

224

225 **Discussion**

226 Because of the complexity of antigen presenting and TCR binding, the mechanism
227 of TCR recognition has not been clearly revealed. In 2013, J. A. Calis [37] developed
228 a tool for epitope identification of mice and humans (AUC = 0.68). Although mice and
229 human beings are highly homologous, the murine epitopes may very likely cause
230 deviation in identifying human epitopes. Inspired by J. A. Calis, our research focused
231 on human beings' epitopes and were conducted in a larger data set. In our study, the
232 TCR recognized immunogenic epitope prediction AUC is increased to 0.81.

233 By analyzing epitope immunogenicity from the perspective of amino acid

234 molecular composition, we observed that TCRs do have a preference for hydrophobic
235 amino acid recognition. For short peptides presented by different HLA supertypes,
236 TCRs may have different identification patterns. The immunogenicity prediction based
237 on all HLA-presenting peptides may affect the accuracy of the prediction results. That
238 is, the prediction results of specified HLA-presenting peptides may be better. Recently,
239 Céline M. Laumont [38] demonstrated that noncoding regions aberrantly expressed
240 tumor-specific antigens (aeTSAs) may represent ideal targets for cancer
241 immunotherapy. These epitopes can also be studied in the future.

242 However, for neoantigens prediction, the positive prediction rate is not as good
243 (AUC is 0.78 and no external validation), because relevant and available experimental
244 data of TCR recognized neoepitopes are limited. The immunogenic neoantigen
245 prediction model remains to be improved as more data will be gathered. Besides, a TCR
246 sequencing database would be needed to study the relationship between TCRs and
247 epitopes from a deeper structure. More relevant amino acid properties and structural
248 features may remain to be discovered for further mathematical analysis. We believe
249 that in the age of biological systems data explosion, mathematical calculation is a good
250 way to derive biological significance. With the development of machine learning and
251 deep learning, we expect the prediction of neoantigen immunogenicity will be
252 continually improved.

253 Neoantigen prediction is the most important step in the preparation of neoantigen
254 vaccine. Bioinformatics methods can be used to extract tumor mutant peptides and
255 predict neoantigens. Most current strategies end in presenting peptides predictions and
256 among the results of these predictions, in the end, less than 10 neoantigens might be
257 discovered, but it is time-consuming and costly to experimentally eliminate the false
258 positively predicted peptides. Our methods in this study and the INeo-Epp tool may

259 help eliminate a large number of false positive antigen/neoantigen peptides, and greatly
260 reduce the amount of candidates to be verified by experiments.

261 In summary, this study provides an inference from the immunogenicity
262 classification prediction of antigens to neoantigens, and the INeo-Epp can be applied
263 not only to identify putative antigens, but also to identify putative neoantigens.

264

265 **Materials and Methods**

266 **Generation of data sets**

267 Antigen epitope data were collected from IEDB (Linear epitope, Humans, T cell
268 assays, MHC class I, any disease were chosen). Data collection criteria: each HLA
269 subtype quantity >50 and HLA frequency >0.5% (refer to allele frequency database
270 [39]) (Table 1, check Table S1 for detailed information).

271

272 TABLE 1| Summary of IEDB epitope data

HLA supertype	IEDB HLA data	Number	HLA allele frequency	Motif view
		Negative	Positive	Asian / Black / Caucasian
A1	A01:01	811	103	0.154 / 0.046 / 0.164
	A26:01	83	19	0.041 / 0.014 / 0.030
A2	A02:01	1883	1580	0.049 / 0.123 / 0.275
A3	A11:01	196	174	0.139 / 0.014 / 0.060
	A03:01	1400	169	0.063 / 0.083 / 0.139
A24	A24:02	207	219	0.136 / 0.024 / 0.084
	A23:01	1138	12	0.006 / 0.109 / 0.019
B7	B35:01	63	248	0.062 / 0.068 / 0.055
	B07:02	523	244	0.034 / 0.005 / 0.0143
	B51:01	13	51	0.074 / 0.021 / 0.047
B8	B08:01	317	195	0.036 / 0.037 / 0.114
B27	B27:05	100	86	0.008 / 0.008 / 0.037
B44	B37:01	1036	10	0.034 / 0.005 / 0.014
	B40:01	67	65	0.022 / 0.012 / 0.052
	B44:02	73	66	0.008 / 0.020 / 0.095
B58	B58:01	11	62	0.041 / 0.037 / 0.007
B62	B15:01	3	70	0.016 / 0.010 / 0.060
Total		7924	3373	
Remove negative %rank>2		5123	3373	
Remove negative human 100% similar		4943	3373	

273

274 The validation dataset was collected from seven published independent human
275 antigen studies [40-46], consisting of 577 non-immunogenic epitopes and 85
276 immunogenic epitopes (Table 2, S2 Table)

277

278 **TABLE2** | validated peptides data included in this study

Publication time	PMID	Author	non-epitopes	epitopes
2013	23580623	Weiskopf et al	477	42
2018	29397015	Hendrik Luxenburger et al	100	26
2018	30260541	Youchen Xia et al	-	1
2018	30487281	Hawa Vahed et al	-	4
2018	30518652	Atefah Khakpoor et al	-	2
2018	30587531	Alina Huth et al	-	4
2018	30815394	Solomon Owusu Sekyere et al	-	6
Total			577	85
Remove negative %rank >2 and HLA supertypes (not in training set)			321	69

279

280 The neoantigen data were collected from 11 publications [15,48-57] and IEDB
281 mutational epitopes, and 13 published data sets collected by Anne-Mette B in one
282 publication [47] in 2017, see Table 3, S3 Table for details.

283

284 **TABLE 3| Neoantigen data included in this study**

Publication time	PMID	Author	Tumor Type	Non-immunogenic neo-epitopes	Immunogenic neo-epitopes	T-cell assay
2013-12	24323902	Darin A. W et al.	Ovarian Cancer	—	1	ELISPOT
2015-9	26359337	Eliezer M et al.	Melanoma	—	18	Clinical benefit
2015-11	26752676	Takahiro K et al.	Lung adenocarcinoma	—	4	—
2016-1	26901407	Alena Gros et al.	Melanoma	12	14	ELISPOT
2016-5	27198675	Erlend Strønen et al.	Melanoma	1134	16	CTL clone
2016-12	28405493	Annika Nelde et al.	Lymphoma	—	2	ELISPOT
2017-6	28619968	Xiuli Zhang et al.	Breast cancer	—	4	Flow cytometry
2017-10	29104575	Markus M et al.	Melanoma	10	16	—
2017-11	29187854	Anne-Mette B et al.	Polytype	1874	42	ELISPOT et al.
2017-11	29132146	Vinod P. B et al.	pancreatic	—	10	Flow Cytometry
2018-5	29720506	Tatsuo Matsuda et al.	Ovarian Cancer	—	3	ELISPOT
2018-12	29409514	Sonntag et al.	pancreatic ductal carcinoma	—	3	Flow Cytometry
2018-10	30357391	Randi Vita et al.	—	6	35	—
Total				3030	168	
Remove duplication				2837	164	
Remove negative %rank>2 and human 100% similar				1697	164	

285

286 **Feature calculation**

287 **Characteristics calculation of peptides based on amino acid sequences.** The formula
288 for calculating peptide characteristics is shown in (1). P_N , P_2 , P_C are considered to be
289 embedded in HLA molecules and no contact with TCRs, so they're not evaluated.

290
$$\mathbf{P}_c = \left\{ \sum_{\substack{x \notin (N, 2, C) \\ x \in Pos(\mathbf{P})}} \mathbf{P}_{A_c} \right\} / (\mathbf{len}(\mathbf{P}) - 3) \quad (1)$$

291 \mathbf{P} , peptide. c , characteristic. Where \mathbf{P}_c represents characteristics of peptides. A , amino
292 acid. N , N-terminal in a peptide. C , C-terminal in a peptide. Pos, amino acid position in
293 peptide. Where \mathbf{P}_{A_c} represents characteristics of amino acids in peptides.

294 **Score for immunogenic peptide (C22).** Amino acid distribution frequency differences
295 between immunogenicity and non-immunogenic peptides at TCR contact sites were
296 considered as a feature (2).

297
$$\mathbf{P}_{score} = \sum_{\substack{x \notin (N, 2, C) \\ x \in Pos(\mathbf{P})}} \{ \mathbf{P}_{ie^+}(\mathbf{f}_A) - \mathbf{P}_{ie^-}(\mathbf{f}_A) \} \quad (2)$$

298 \mathbf{P}_{ie^+} , immunogenic peptides. \mathbf{P}_{ie^-} , non-immunogenic peptides. \mathbf{f}_A , amino acid frequency
299 in TCR contact position. Where $\mathbf{P}_{ie^+}(\mathbf{f}_A)$ represents frequency of amino acids in
300 immunogenic peptides at TCR contact sites.

301 **Calculating peptide entropy (C23).** peptide entropy [58] was used as a feature (3).

302
$$\mathbf{P}_H = \left\{ - \sum_{\substack{x \notin (N, 2, C) \\ x \in Pos(\mathbf{P})}} \mathbf{P}_{f_A} * \log_2(\mathbf{P}_{f_A}) \right\} / (\mathbf{len}(\mathbf{P}) - 3) \quad (3)$$

303 \mathbf{P}_H , peptide entropy. \mathbf{f}_A , amino acid frequency in human GRCh38 peptides. Where \mathbf{P}_{f_A}
304 represents the frequency in human GRCh38 peptides of amino acids in epitope peptides.

305 **%rank score (C24).** HLA binding prediction were run by netMHCpan4.0 in
306 which %rank was recommended as evaluation standard, %rank<0.5 as strong binders,
307 0.5<%rank<2 as weak binders, %rank>2 as no binders.

308

309 **Cross-validation, feature selection, random forests and ROC generation.**

310 The cross-validation were generated in R using the package caret [59] (method =
311 "repeatedcv", number = 5, repeats = 3). The feature screening result were generated in
312 R using the package Buroat (a feature selection method). R package randomForest [60]
313 was used for training data (mtry=14 for antigen epitope, mtry=15 for neoantigen, the
314 remaining parameter use default values). R package ROC was used [61] for drawing
315 ROC.

316

317 **Analysis and statistics**

318 A python script was used for calculating peptide characteristics and extracting mutation
319 information. Models were built using R.

320

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326

327 **Author Contributions**

328 **Conceptualization:** Lu Xie, Guangzhi Wang

329 **Funding acquisition:** Lu Xie

330 **Formal Analysis:** Guangzhi Wang

331 **Investigation:** Guangzhi Wang

332 **Methodology:** Guangzhi Wang

333 **Software:** Huihui Wan, Ouyang Jan, Guangzhi Wang

334 **Supervision:** Yuyu Li, Xiaoxiu Tan, Yong Xu, Yong Zhao, Yong Lin

335 **Writing – original draft:** Guangzhi Wang.

336 **Writing – review & editing:** Lu Xie, Xingxing Jian.

337

338 **Competing interests**

339 The authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

340

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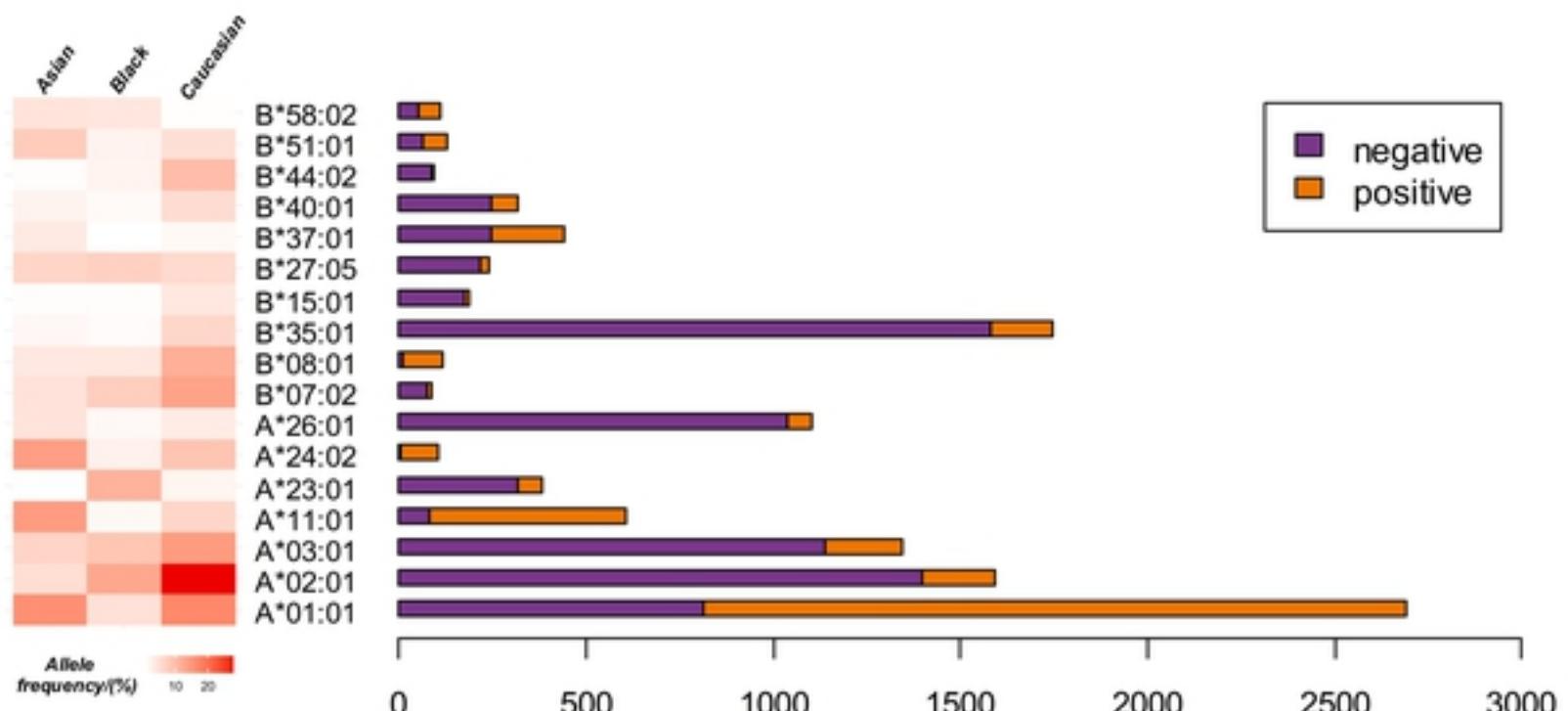
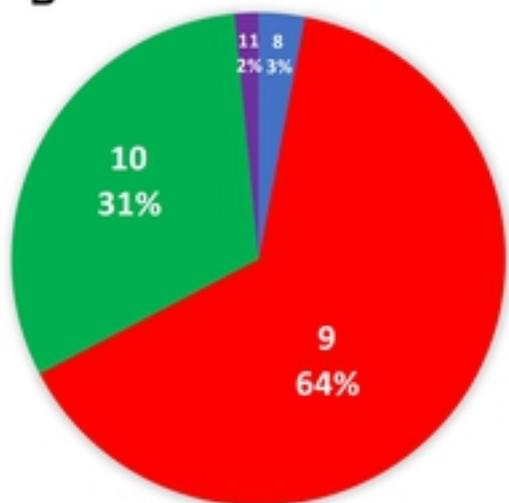
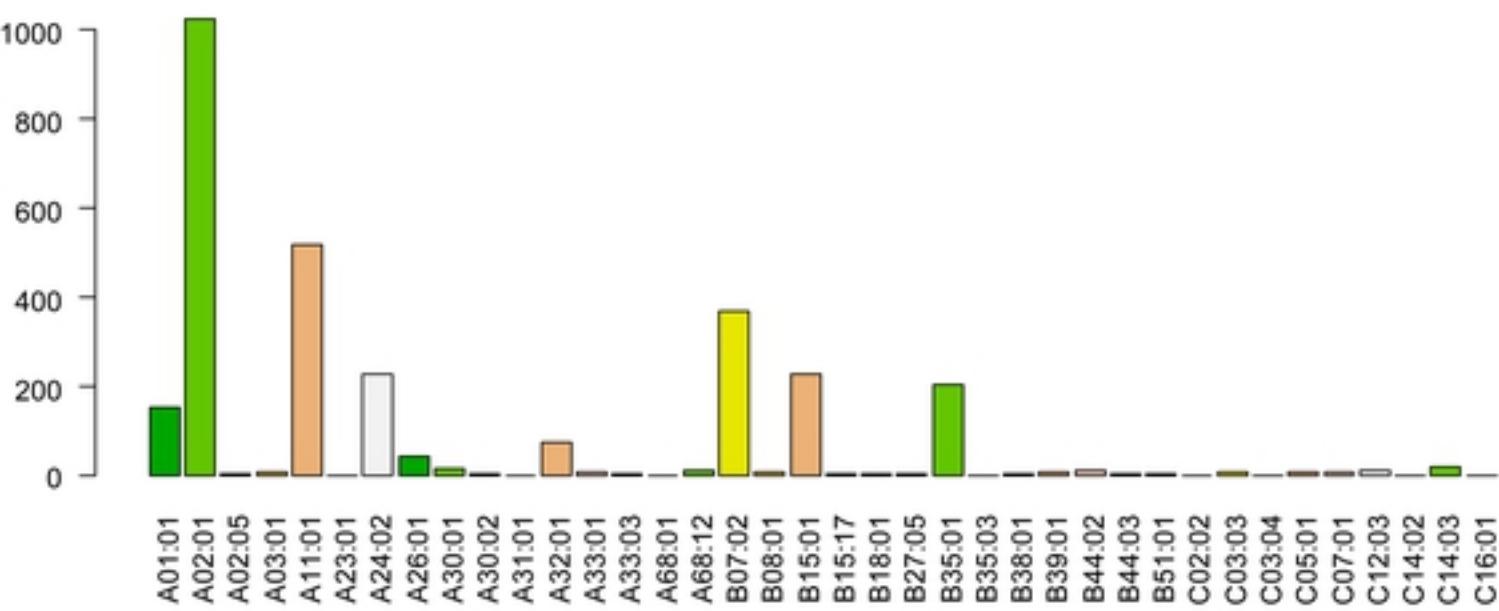
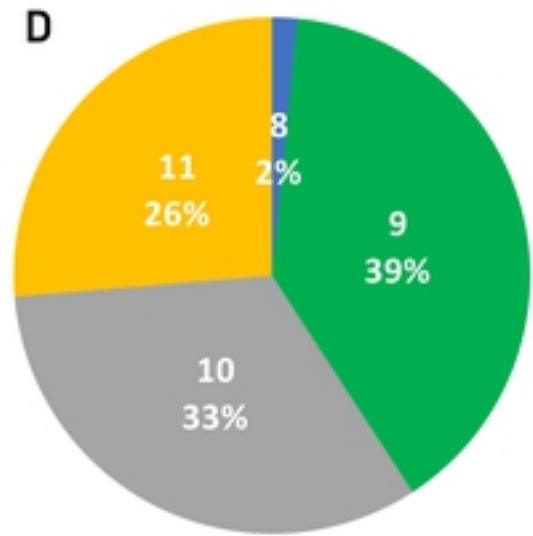
508 **Supporting information captions**

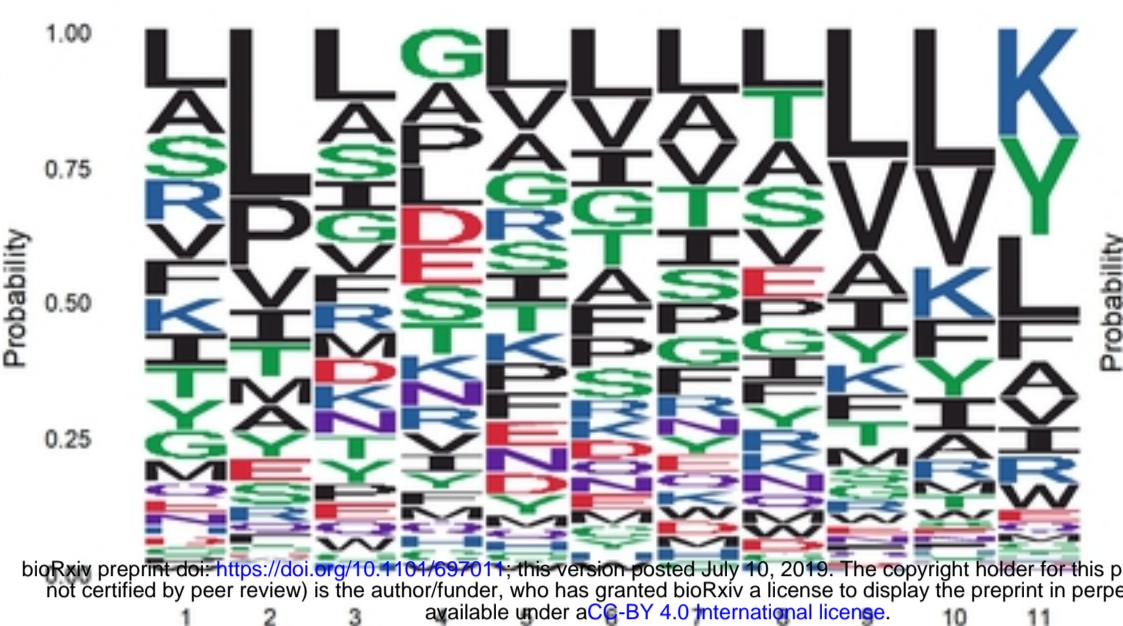
509 **S1 Table IEDB antigen epitopes summary.** Detailed description of 17 HLA molecules
510 which collected from IEDB. (XLSX)

511 **S2 Table External validation antigen epitopes summary.** Epitope details of 7
512 publications. (XLSX)

513 **S3 Table Neoantigen epitopes summary.** Epitope details of 13 publications. (XLSX)

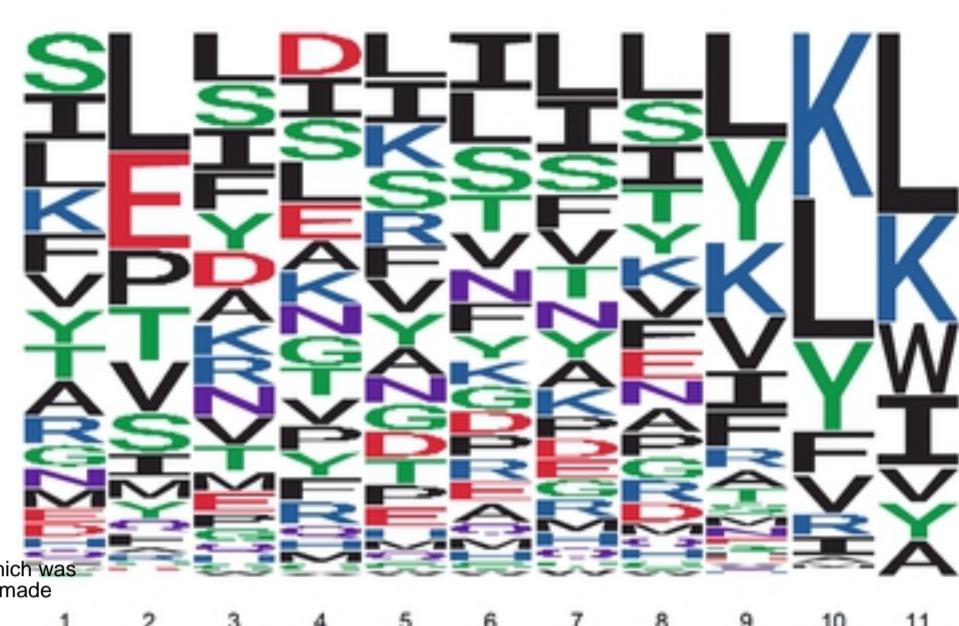
514 **S4 Table Summary of amino acid characteristics.** For all amino acid characteristics
515 (n=21) that are described in the ExPASy. (XLSX)

A**B****C****D**

A

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Probability

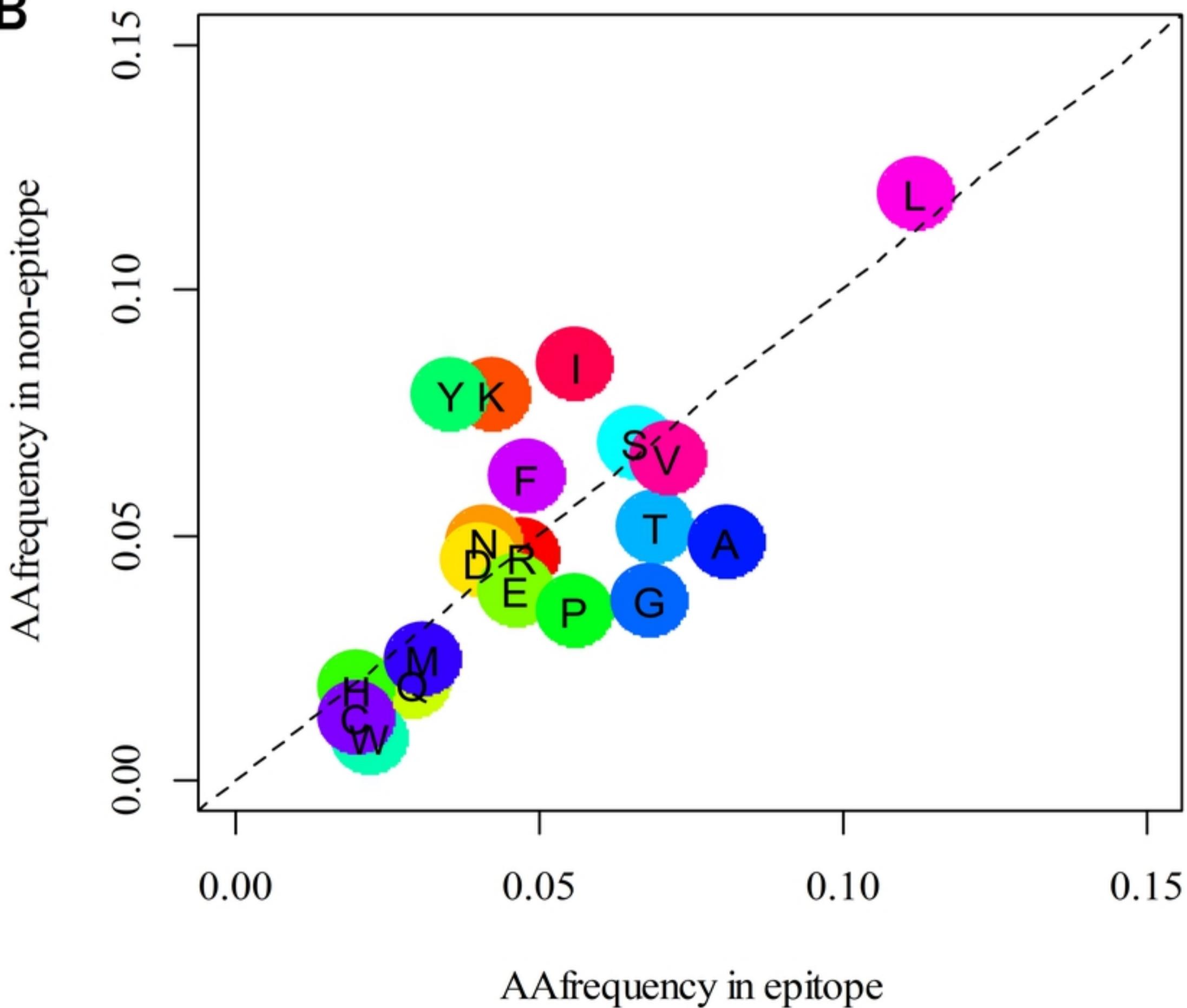


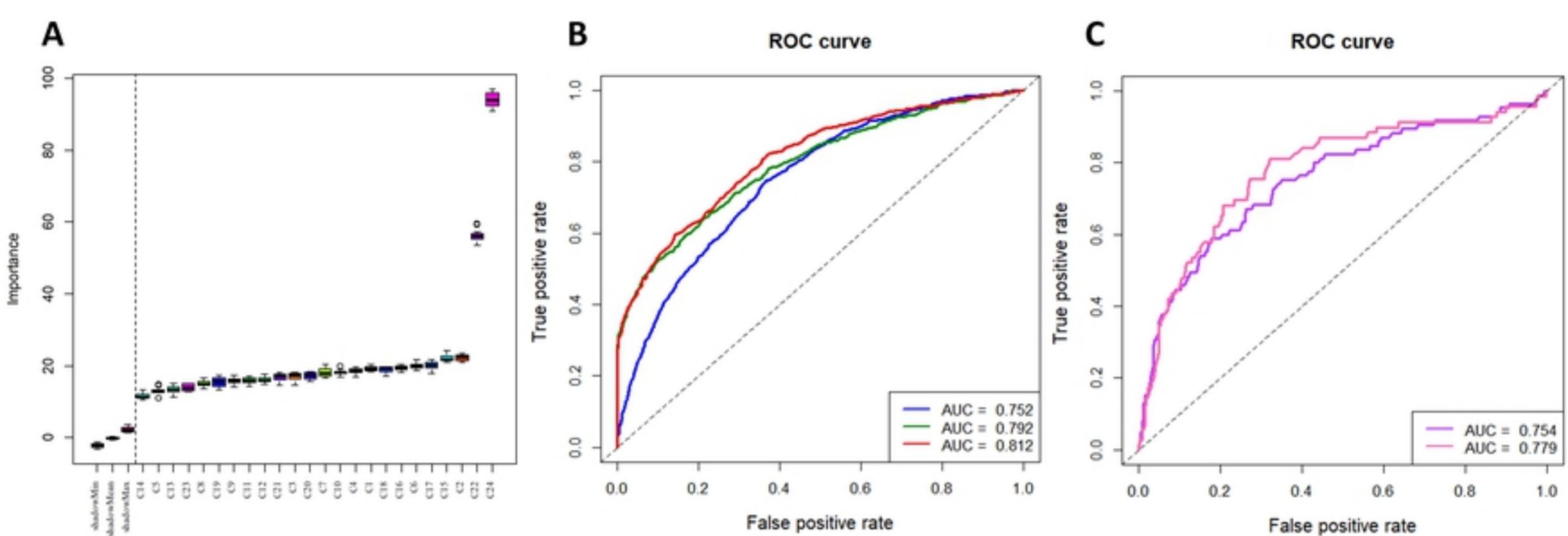
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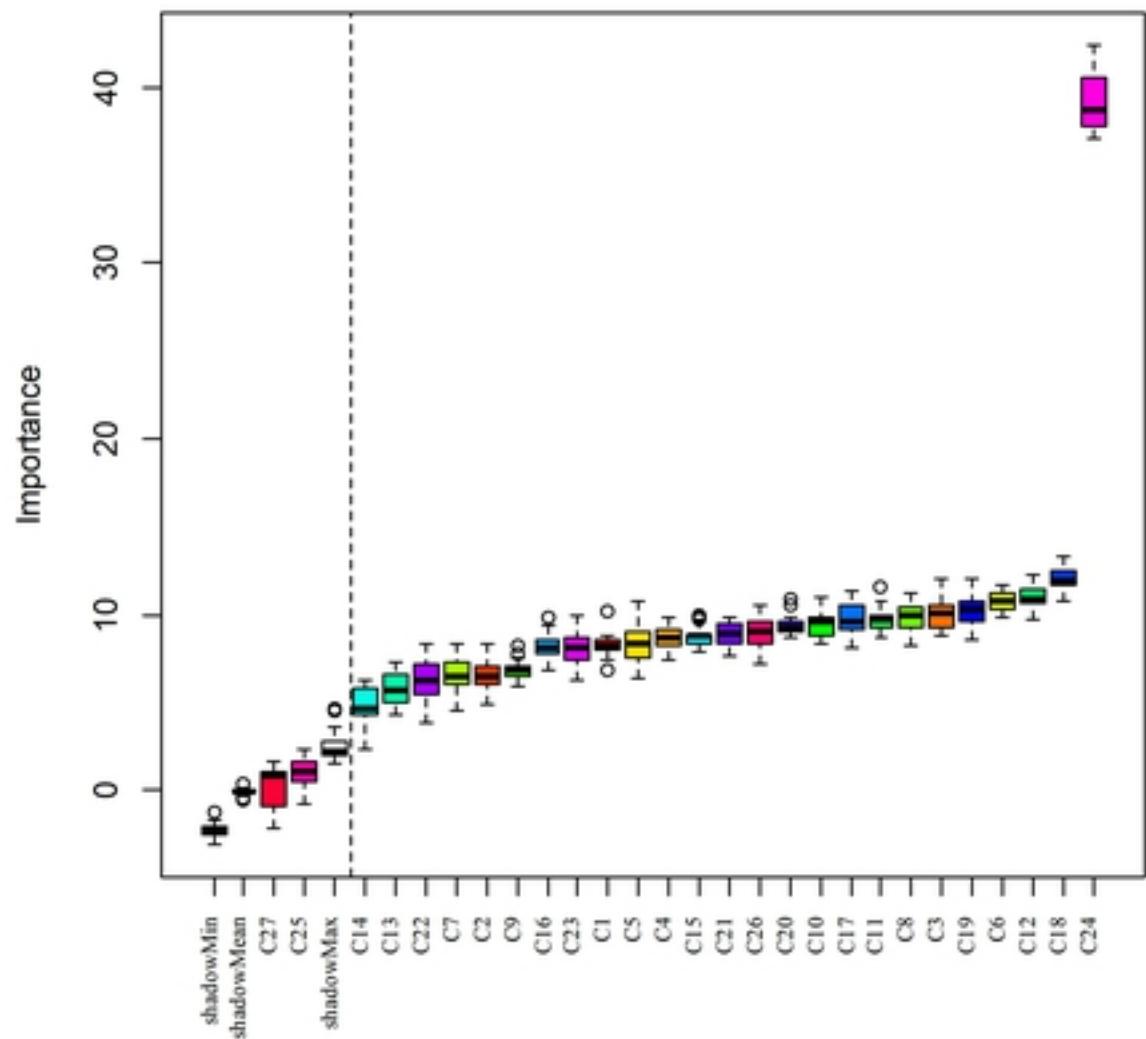
chemistry Acidic Basic Hydrophobic Neutral Polar

Epitope

chemistry Acidic Basic Hydrophobic Neutral Polar

Non-epitope**B**



A**B**