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Intellegens



# Imputing Compound Activities Based on Sparse and Noisy Data

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# The Challenges of Applying Deep Learning to Drug Discovery Data

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- Application of conventional deep learning to traditional QSAR modelling offers little advantage
  - Robert Sheridan (Merck) reported an average improvement in  $R^2$  of 0.04 over random forests across 30 representative QSAR data sets\*
- Challenges
  - Compound bioactivity/property data is very sparse
  - ‘Big data’ in pharma is not very big!  $O(10^6)$  compounds and  $O(10^7)$  experimental data points
  - Biological data is noisy.  $\sim 0.3$ - $0.5$  log unit experimental variability
- How can we learn from these experimental data to make better predictions for compound bioactivities and properties?

\*AI in Chemical Research, Switzerland, Sept.9 2018



# Unique deep learning algorithm

Utilise chemical descriptors, assay bioactivities, and simulations **in combination**

Understand and exploit **uncertainties** and noise to improve confidence in predictions

**Broadly applicable** algorithm with **proven** applications in drug design, materials discovery, patient analytics, ...

# Deep learning

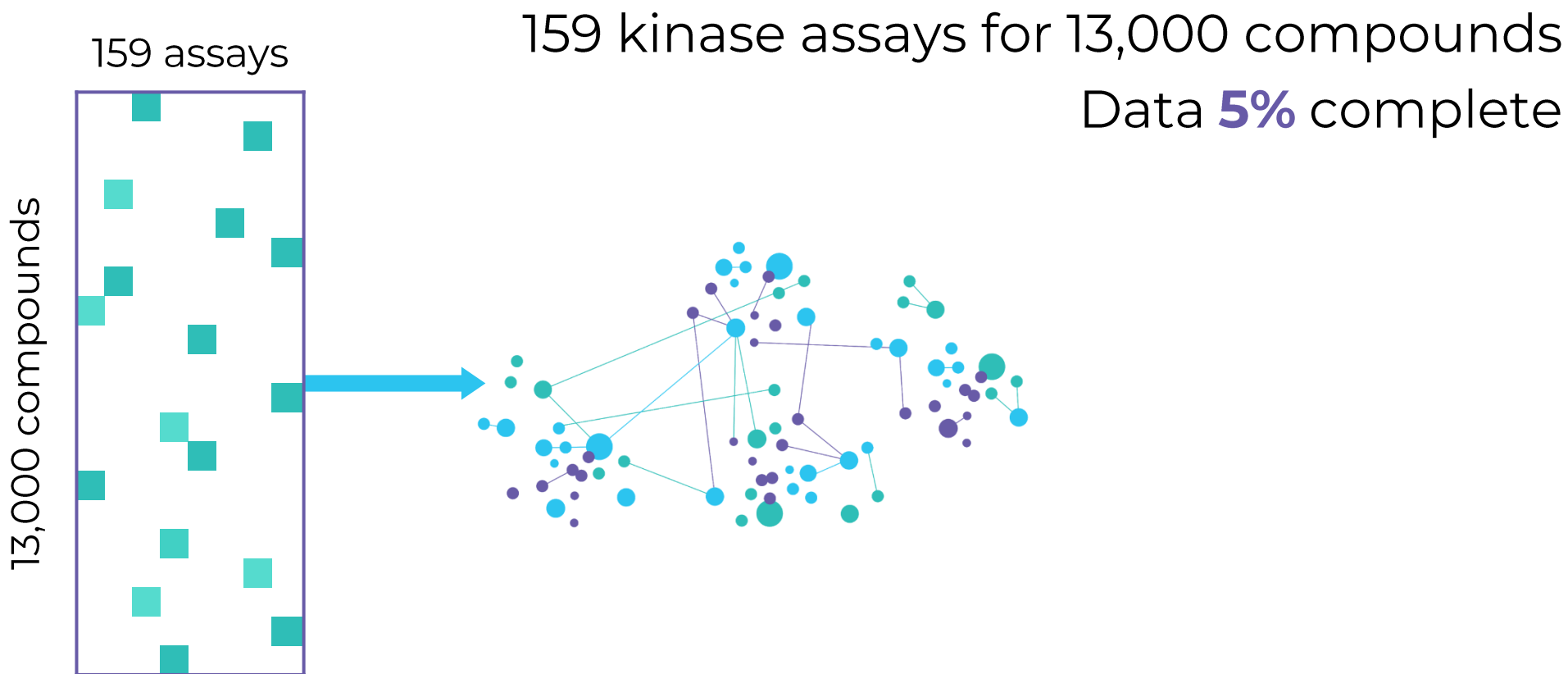


# Alchemite™ deep learning





# Novartis dataset to benchmark machine learning

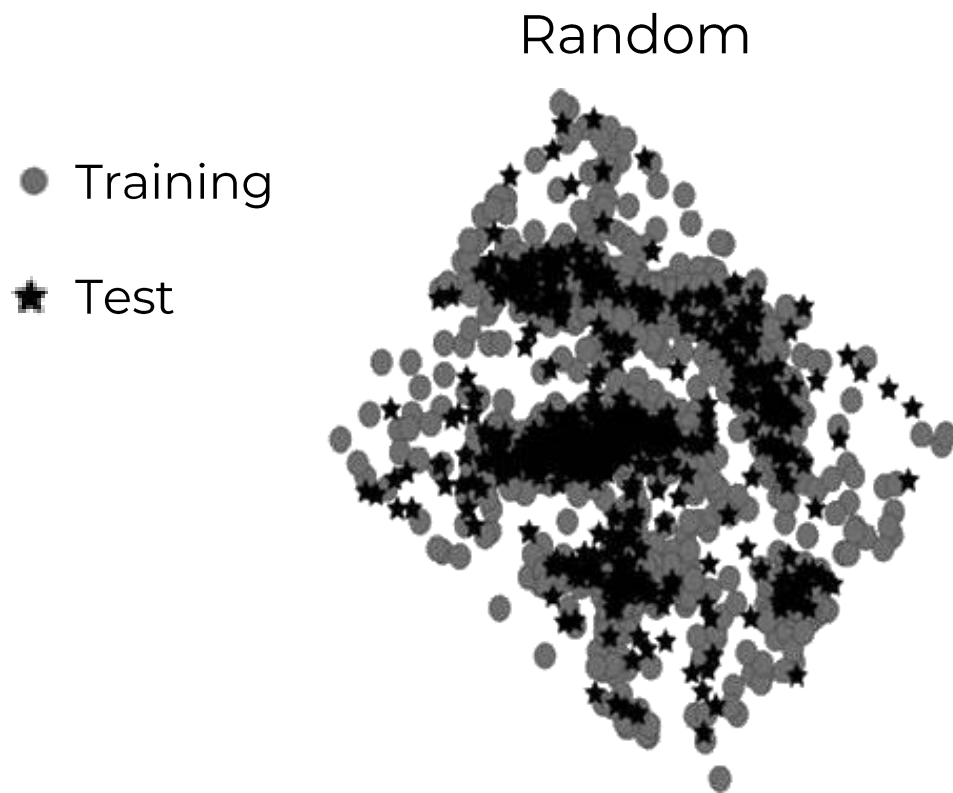


Data from ChEMBL

Martin, Polyakov, Tian, and Perez, J. Chem. Inf. Model. 57, 2077 (2017)



# Novartis dataset distribution

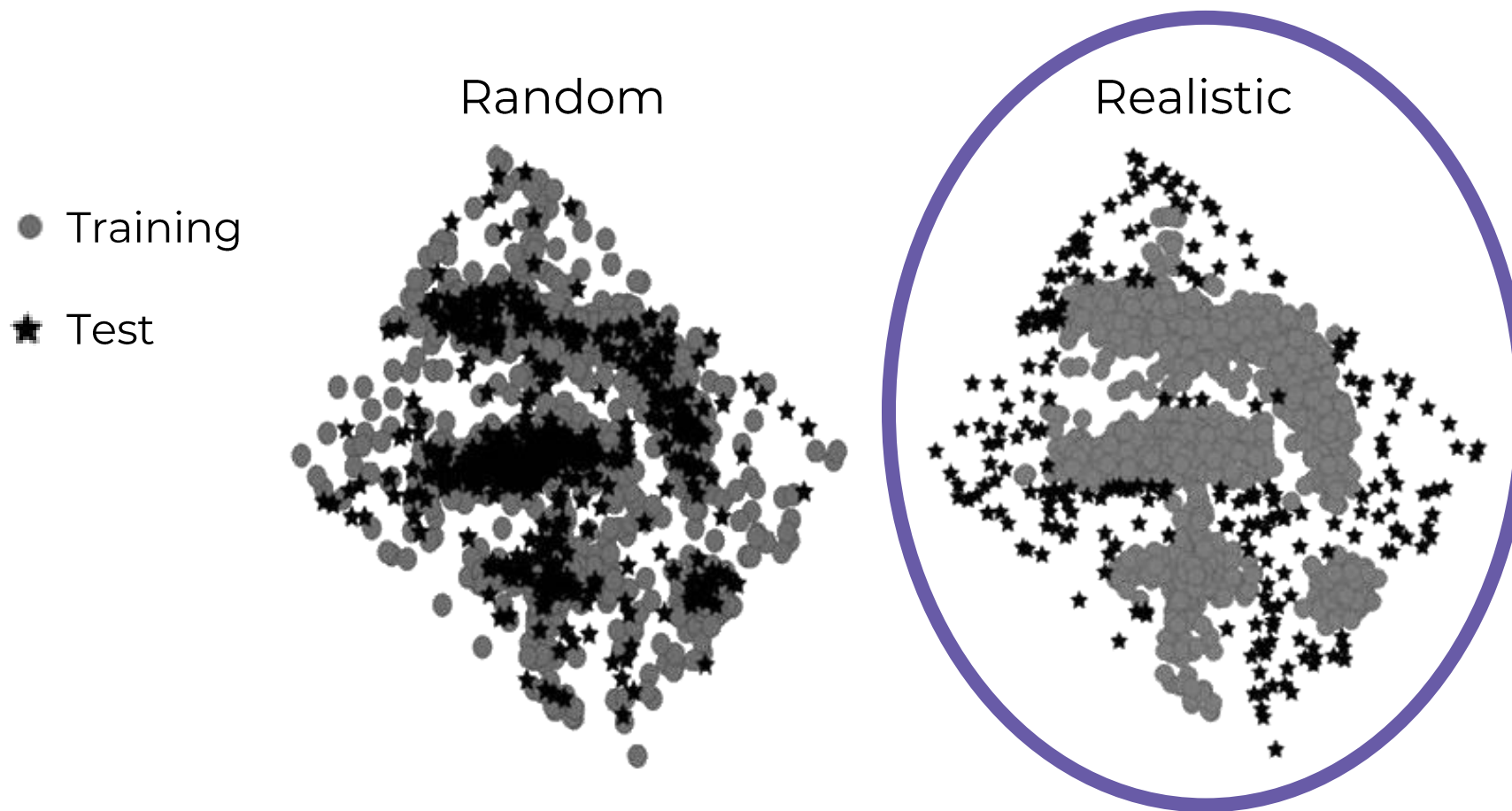


Data from ChEMBL

Martin, Polyakov, Tian, and Perez, J. Chem. Inf. Model. 57, 2077 (2017)



# Novartis dataset is realistically distributed



Data from ChEMBL

Martin, Polyakov, Tian, and Perez, J. Chem. Inf. Model. 57, 2077 (2017)



# Accuracy metrics

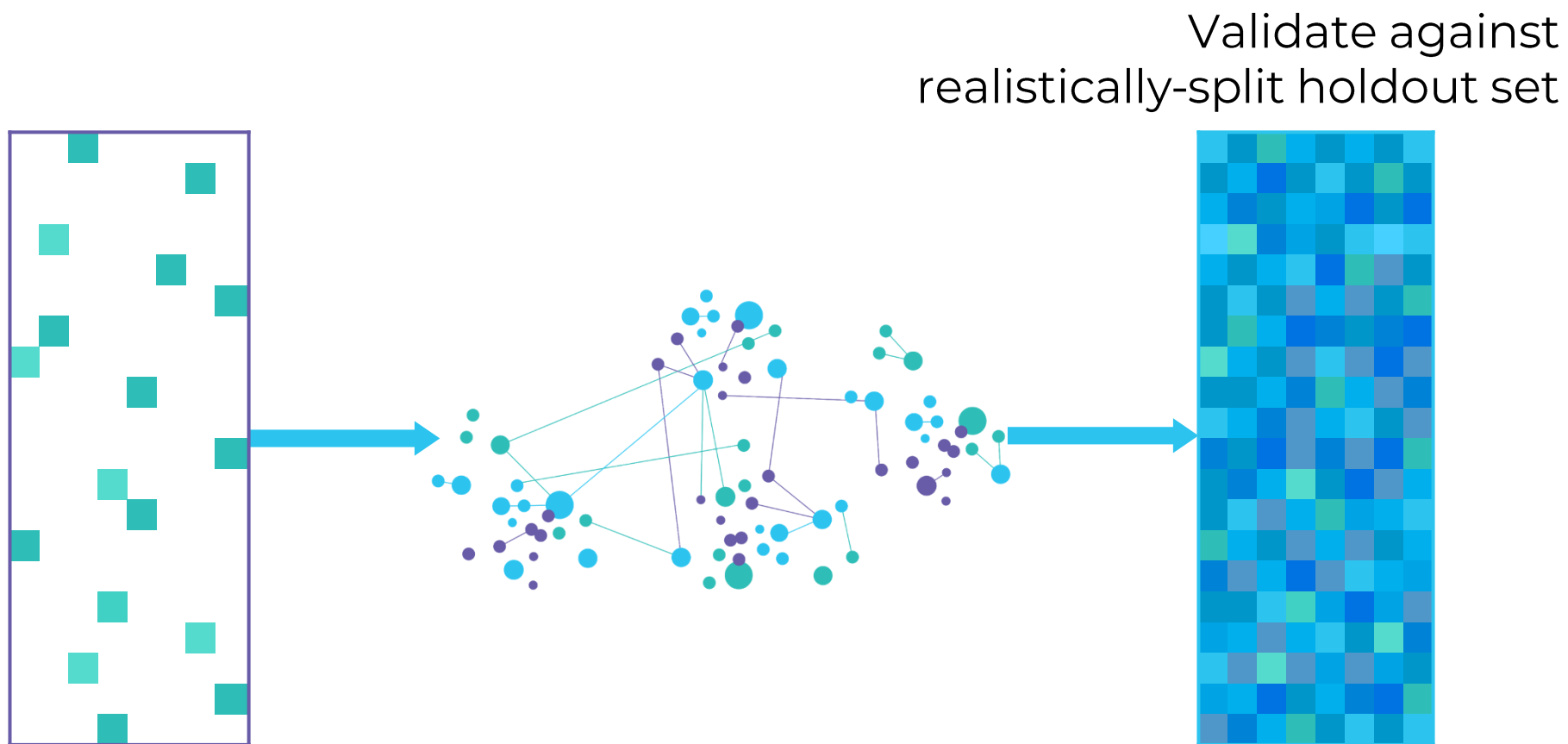


Coefficient of determination,  $R^2$

Root Mean Square Error, RMSE

Measure per assay against realistic test set,  
then report mean across assays

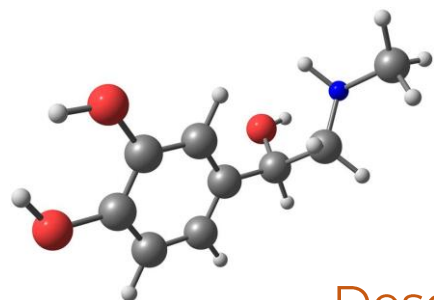
# Aim: impute missing assay values



Data from ChEMBL

Martin, Polyakov, Tian, and Perez, J. Chem. Inf. Model. 57, 2077 (2017)

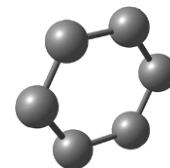
# Random forest regression



x3



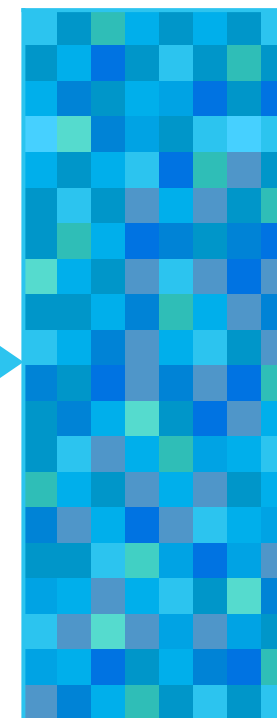
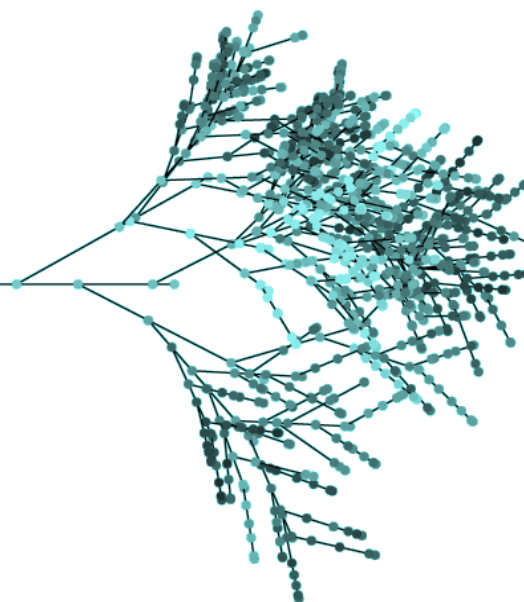
x1



x1

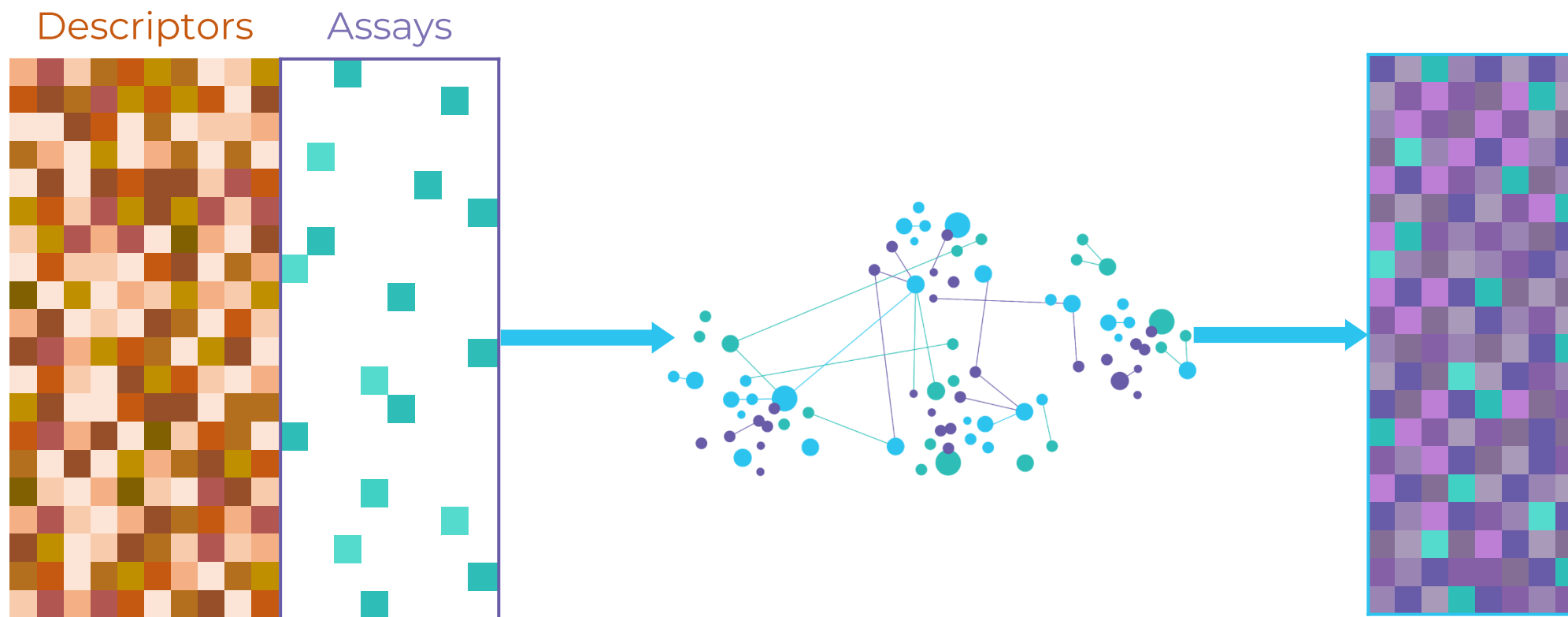
Molecular weight = 183 Da

Descriptors



$R^2 = -0.19$

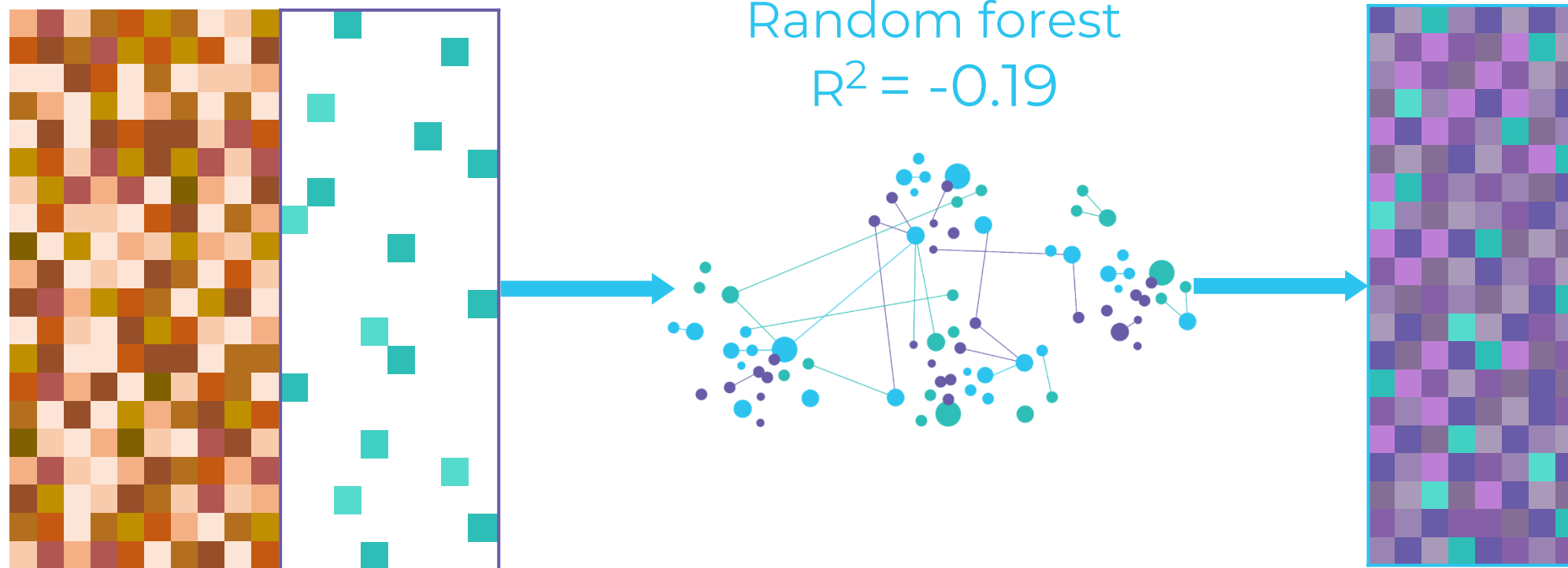
# Descriptors and bioactivity values





# Deep learning predictions

$$R^2 = 0.46$$





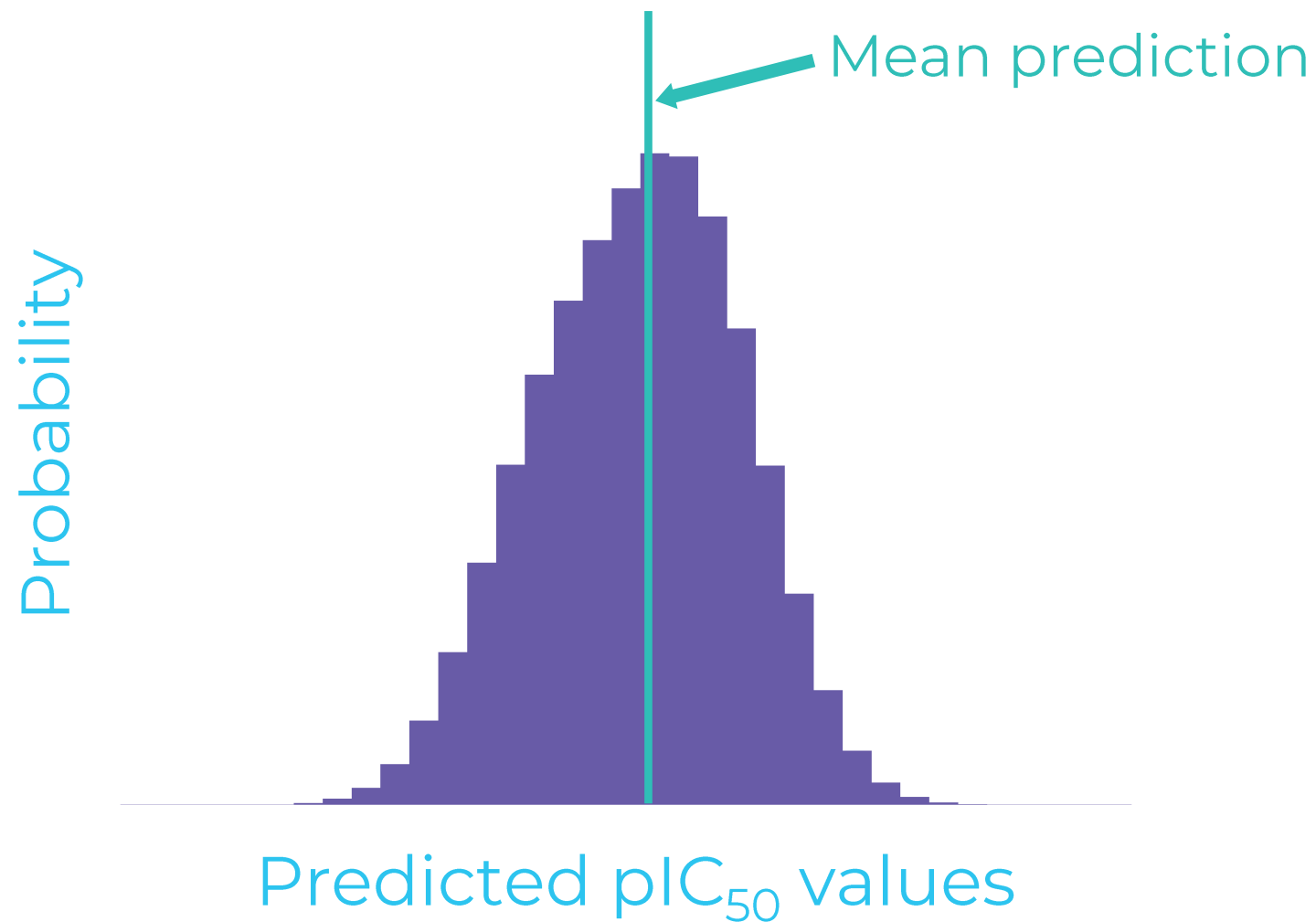
# Comparison with other methods

Method	R <sup>2</sup>	RMSE
<b>Alchemite</b>	<b>0.46*</b>	<b>0.59</b>
Profile QSAR 2.0	0.43	0.61
Multi-target deep neural network (tensor-flow)	0.11	0.77
Collective matrix factorisation	-0.11	0.87
Random forest	-0.19	0.89

\* N.B. Improved over published results (R<sup>2</sup>=0.44). Also 1000× faster to build model!

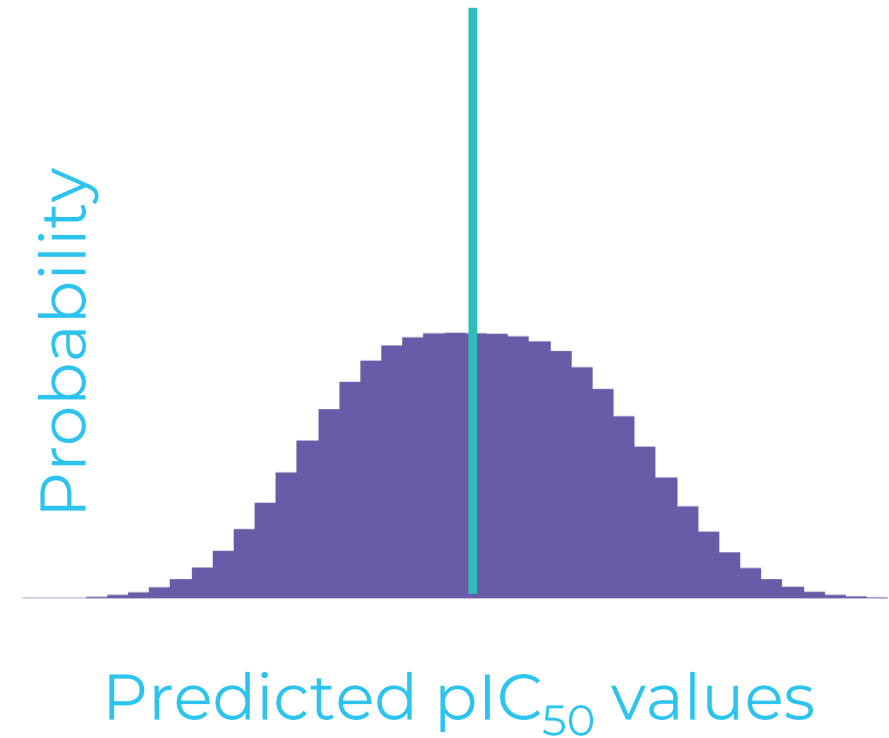
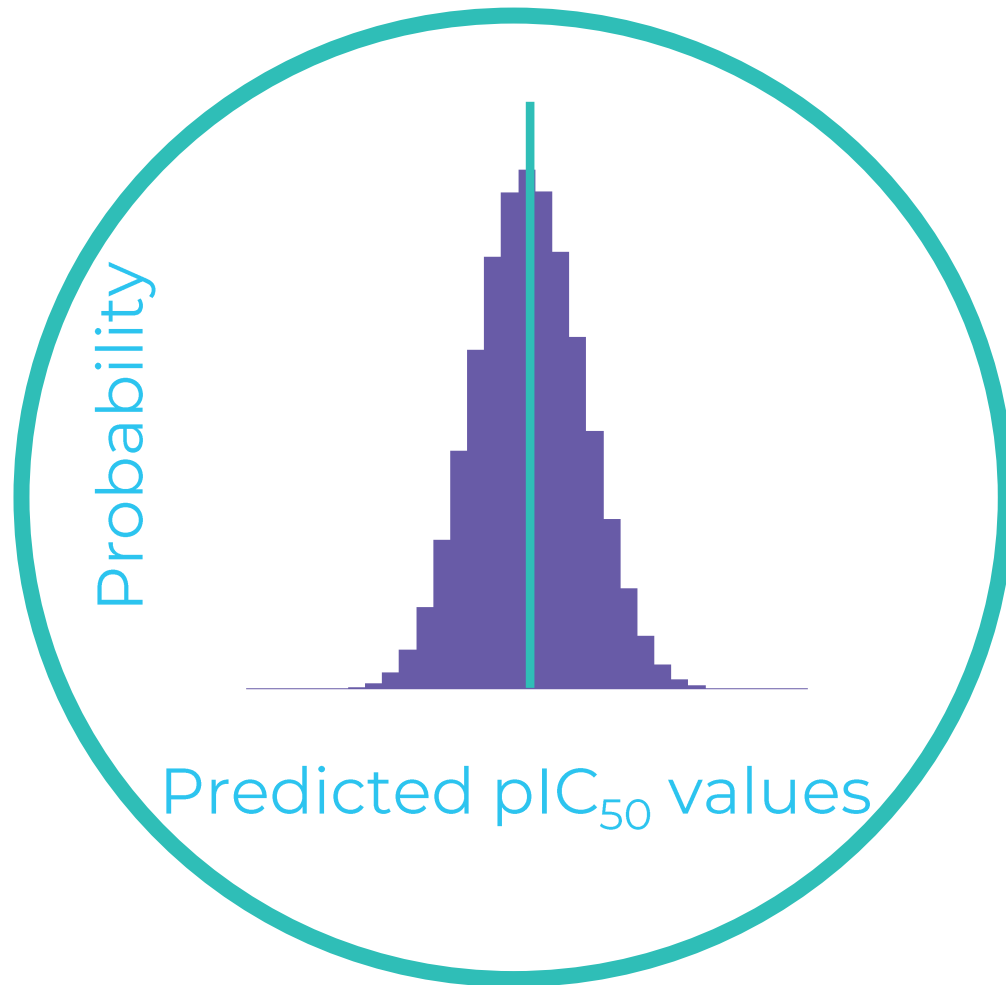


# Calculate probability distribution





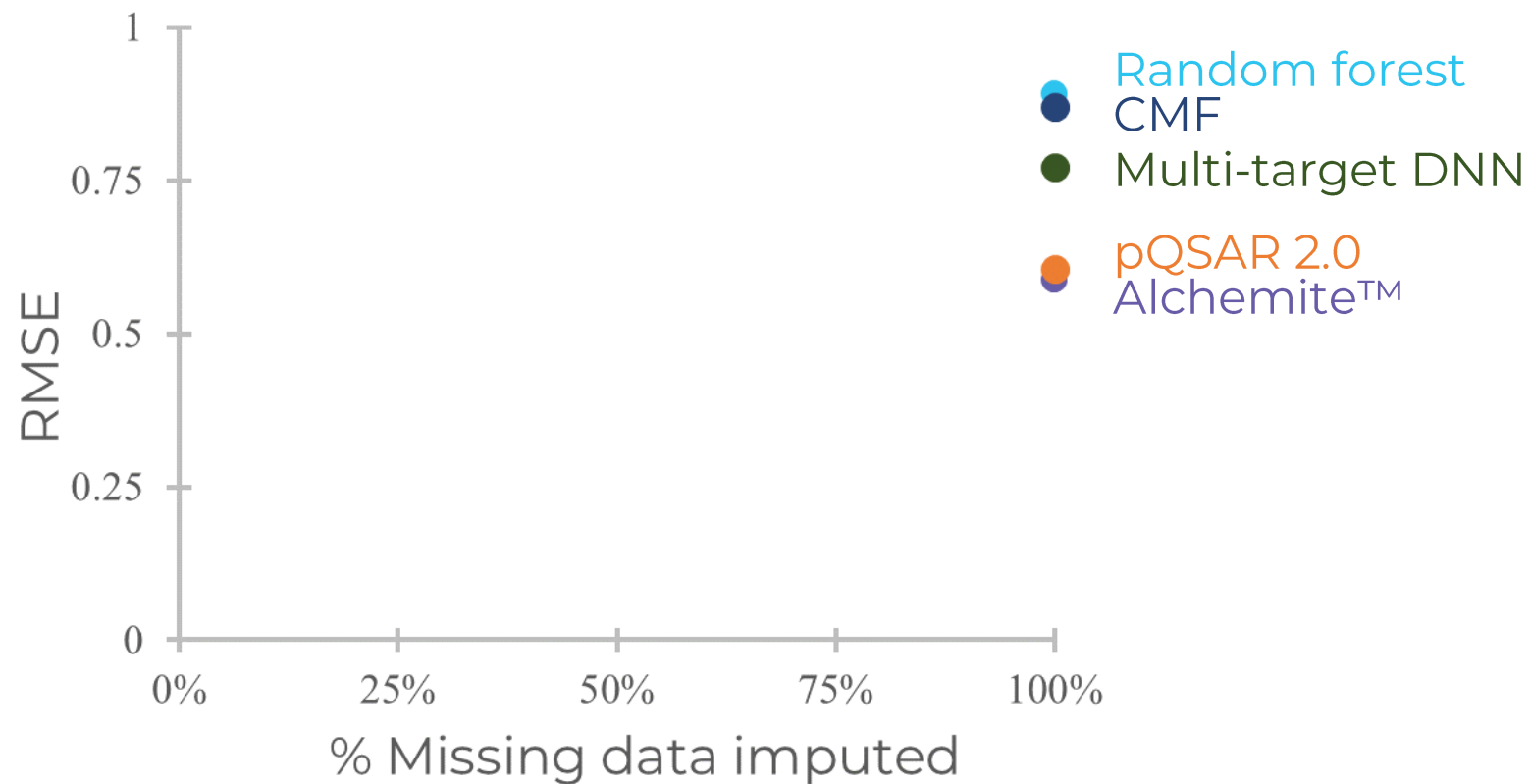
# Focus on most confident predictions







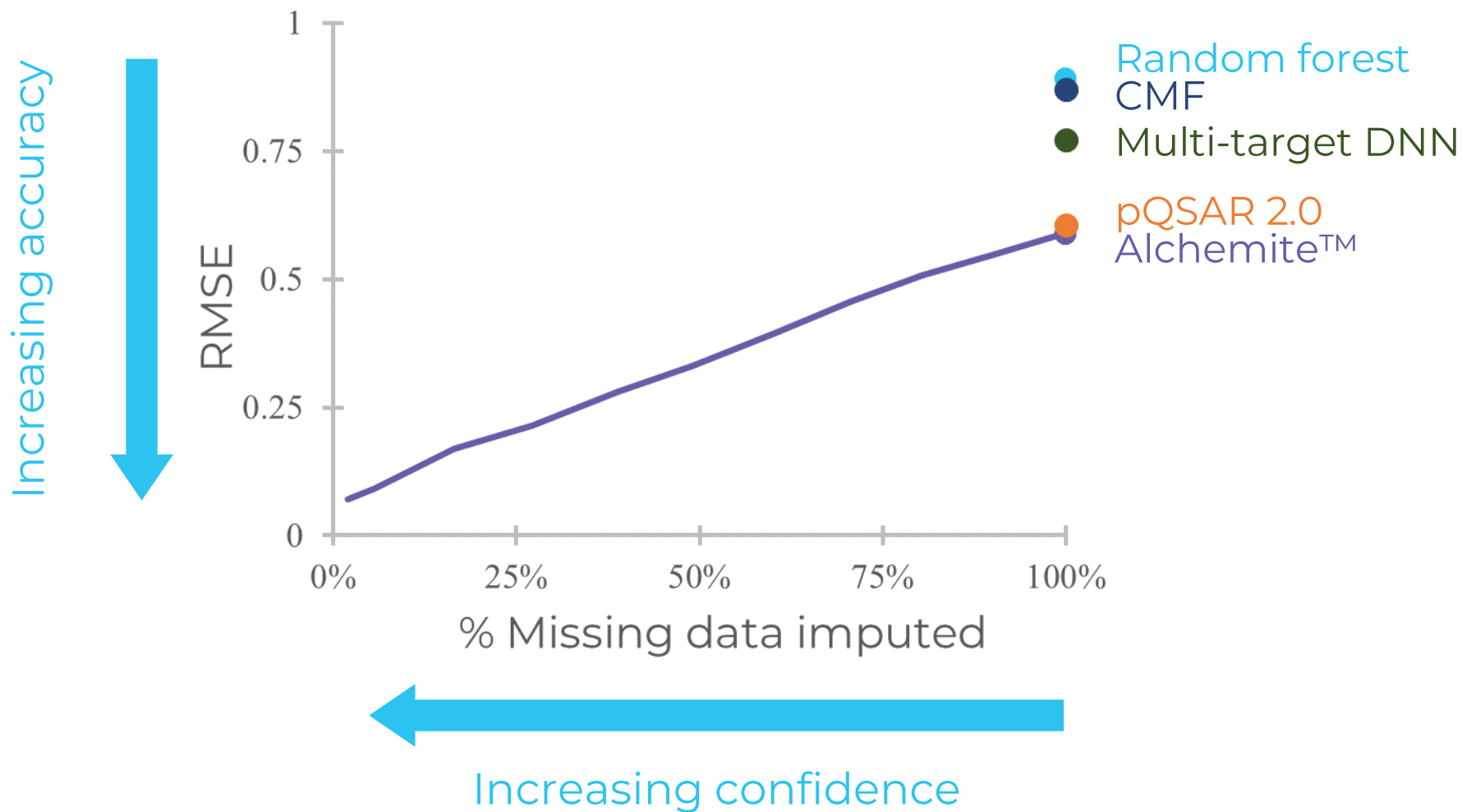
# Reporting only most confident predictions



Increasing confidence



# Reporting only most confident predictions



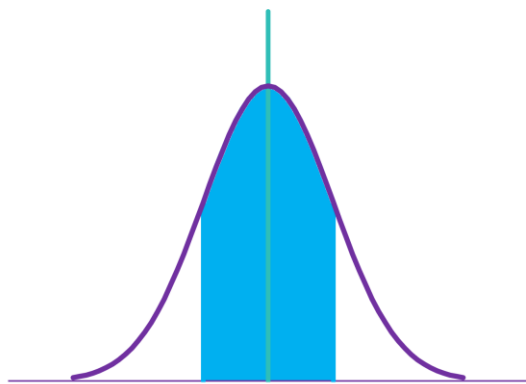
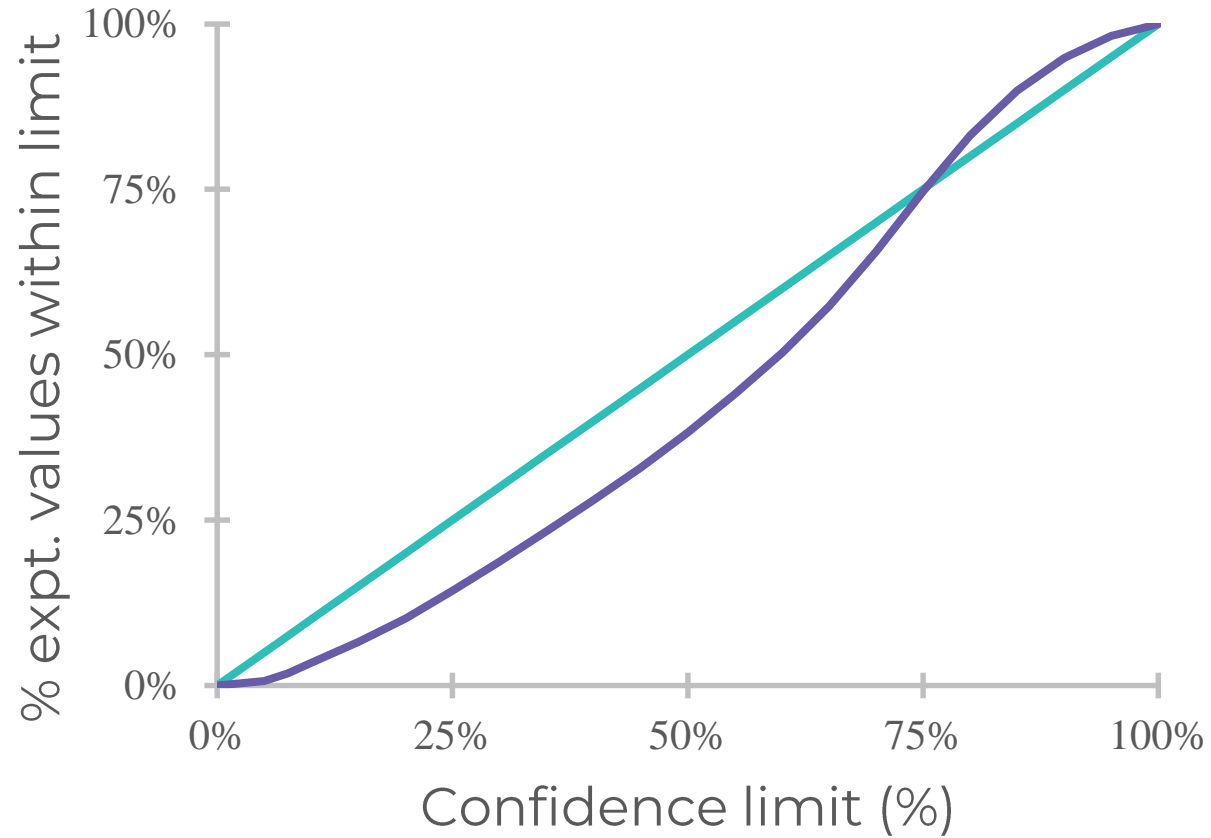


# Reporting only most confident predictions



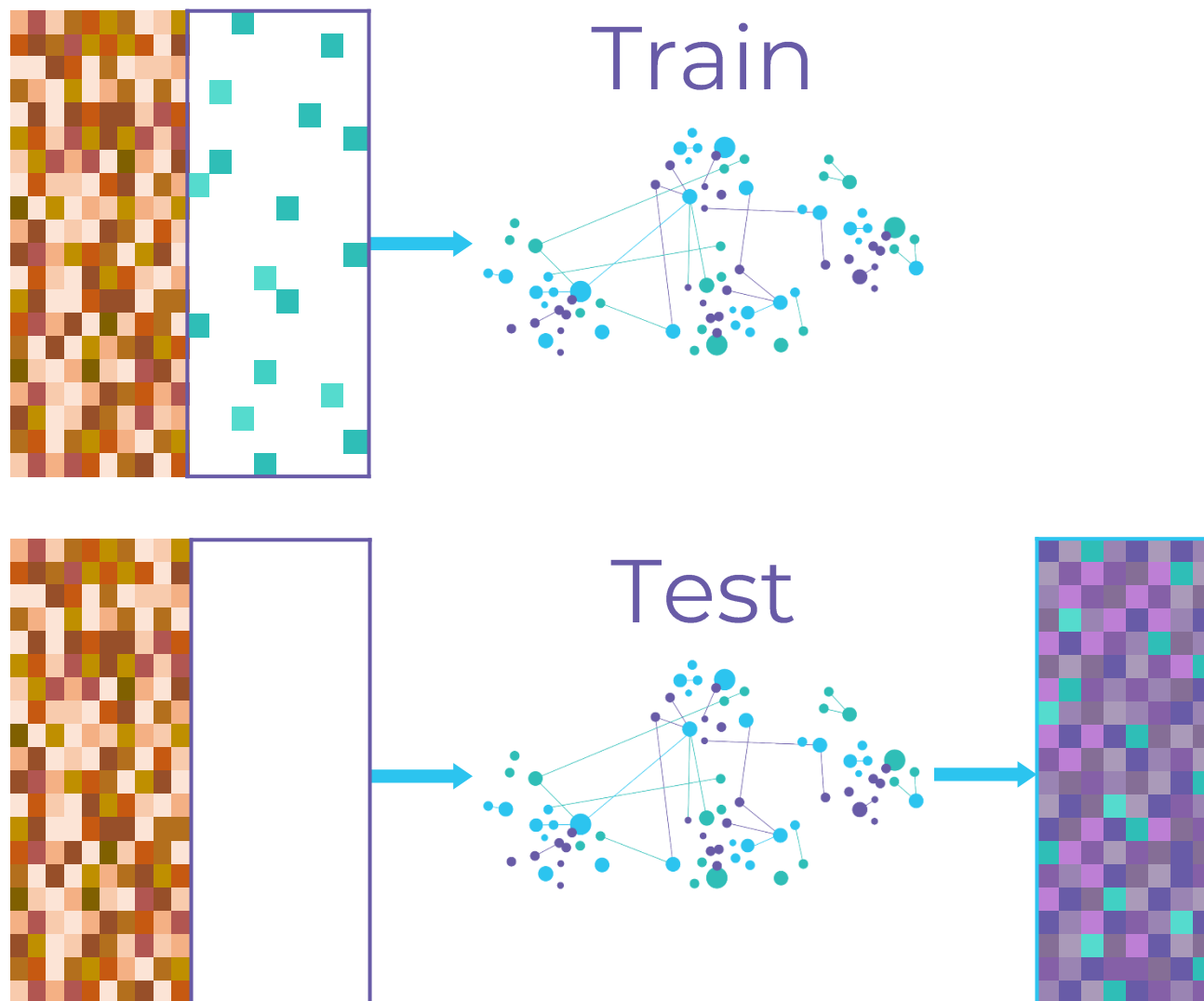


# Absolute accuracy of uncertainties

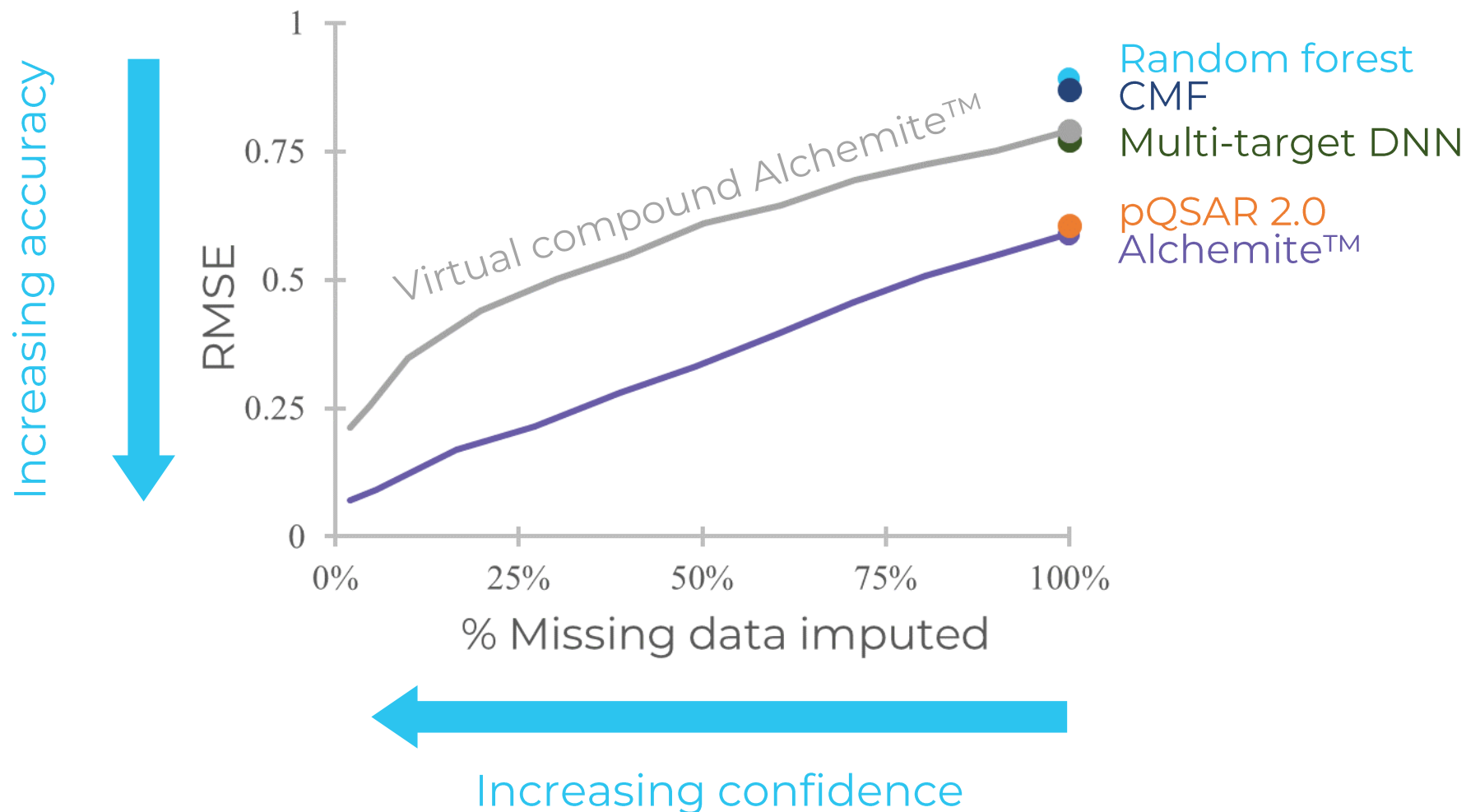


N.B. Assumes normally distributed errors e.g. 62% of results within 1 SD

# Application to virtual compounds



# Application to virtual compounds





# Random forest confidence predictions



# Conclusions

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- Train across all endpoints simultaneously to capture **activity-activity** correlations using sparse data as **input**
- Understand and exploit **probability distribution** to focus on most confident results
- Impute results of missing assays to **high accuracy**
- **Broadly applicable** to other endpoints, e.g. physicochemical, ADME, tox...
- **Applicable** to pharma-scale data sets
- For more details: **Whitehead *et al.* J. Chem. Inf. Model (2019) 59(3), pp 1197–1204**
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