

# ***Protein Targeting Chimeras strategy in favour of the degradation of CK2.***

*A STRUCTURAL POINT OF VIEW.*



**SAPIENZA**  
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA



**CEU**

*Universidad  
San Pablo*

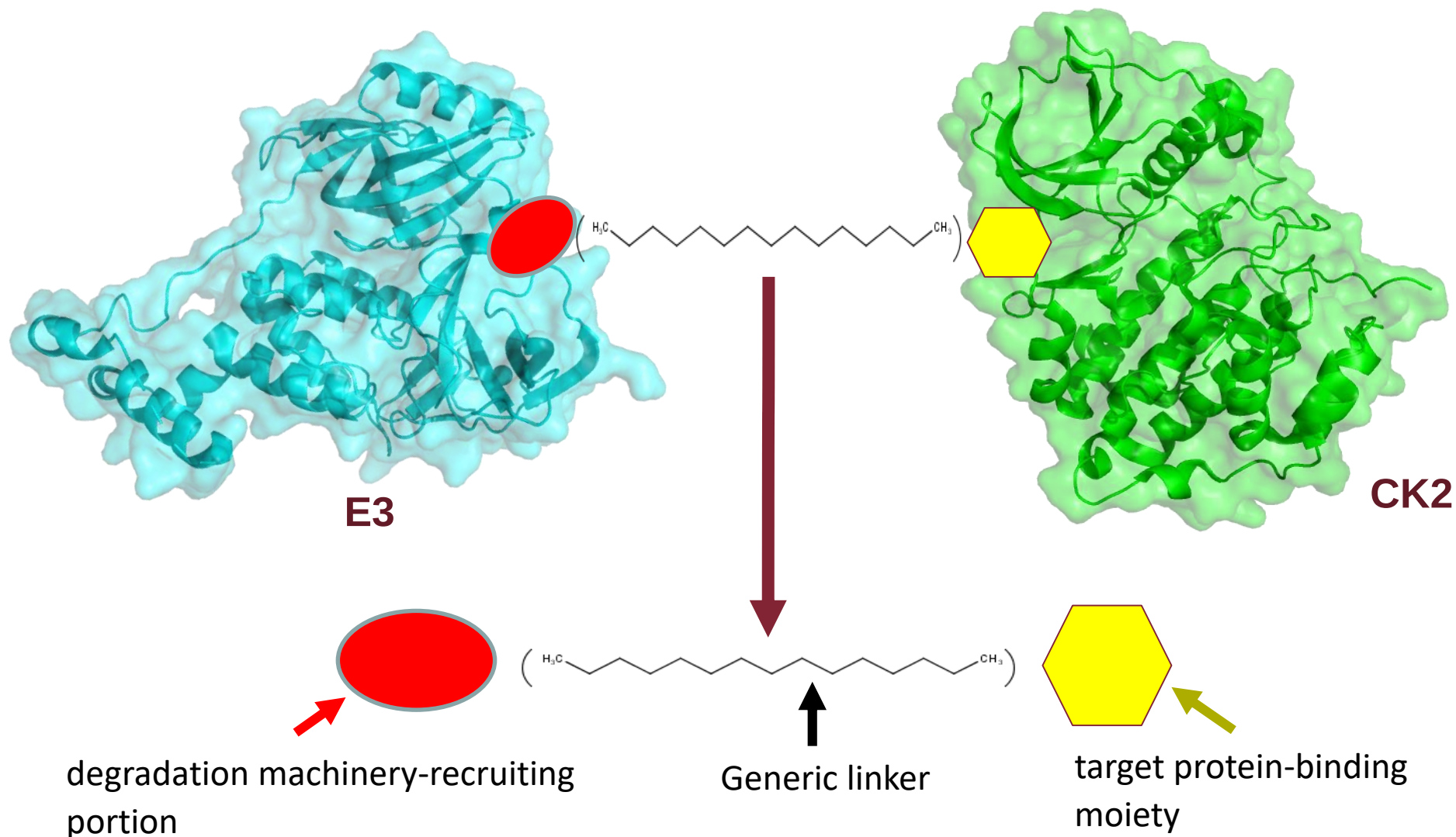
**Facoltà di Farmacia e Medicina  
Corso di Laurea in Biotecnologie Farmaceutiche  
Tesi Sperimentale in Chimica Farmaceutica  
a.a. 2018/2019**

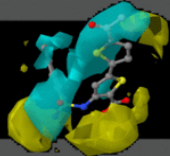
**Laureando: Viscovo Marco  
Matricola: 1601157**

**Relatore: Prof. Rino Ragno  
Correlatore: Claire Coderch Boué PhD**

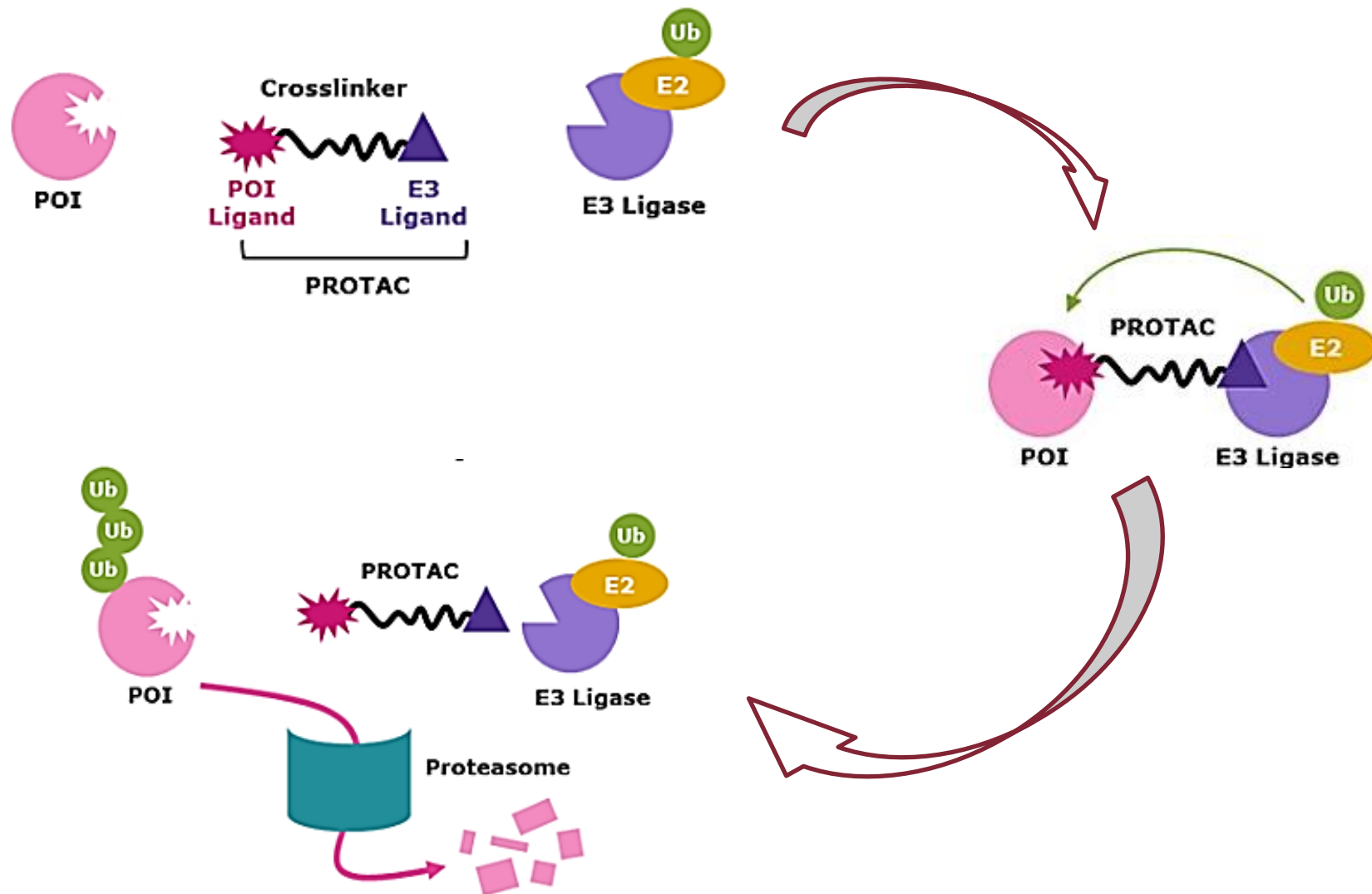


# 1. Aim of the study



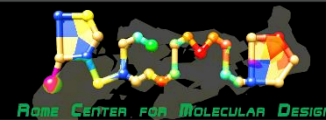


## 2. Introduction: PROTAC

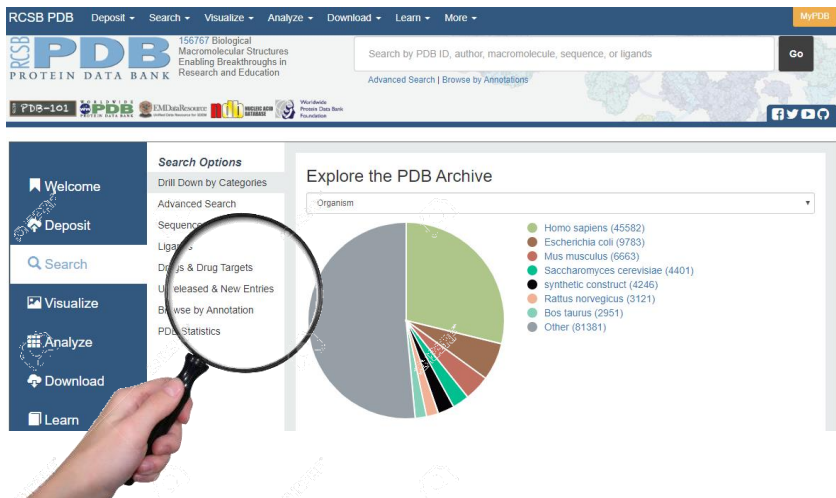




# 3. Workflow

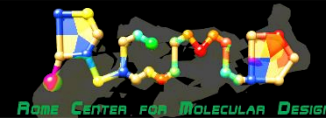


1.



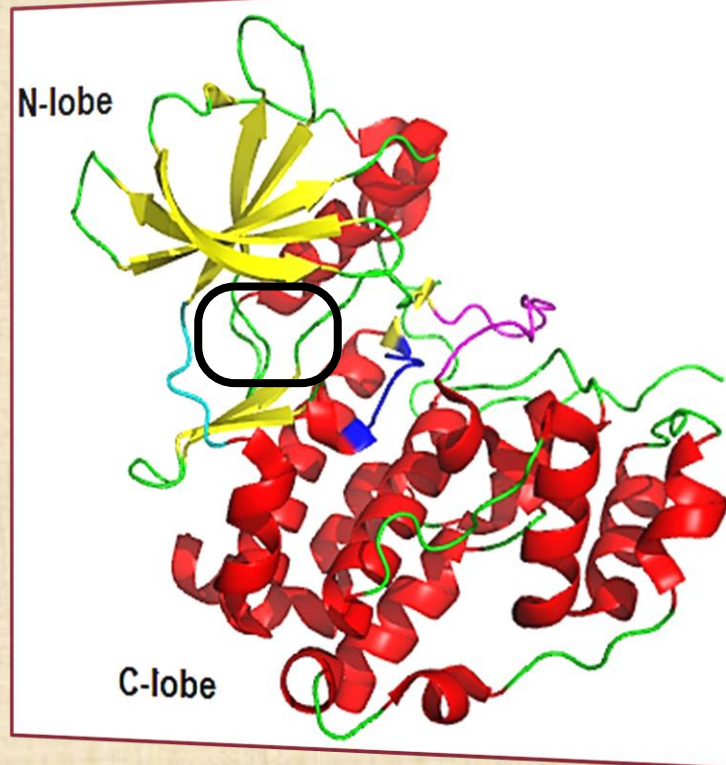


## 2. Introduction: CK2

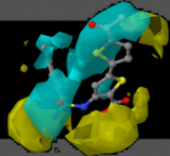


### About CK2

- ❖ Casein Kinase 2 (CK2) is a constitutively active non-specific serine/threonine kinase
- ❖ key regulator of many cellular processes, such as cellular proliferation, anti-apoptotic mechanisms and proangiogenic signalling
- ❖ Elevated CK2 expression and activity are related to blood tumours and solid tumours



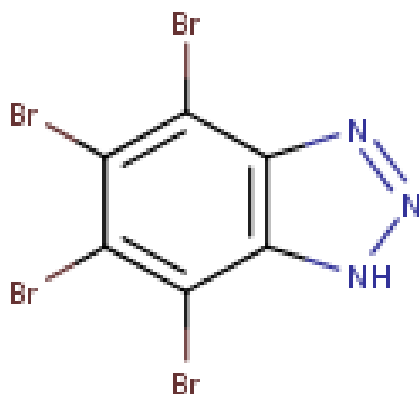
PDB code: 3NGA



## 2. Introduction: CK2

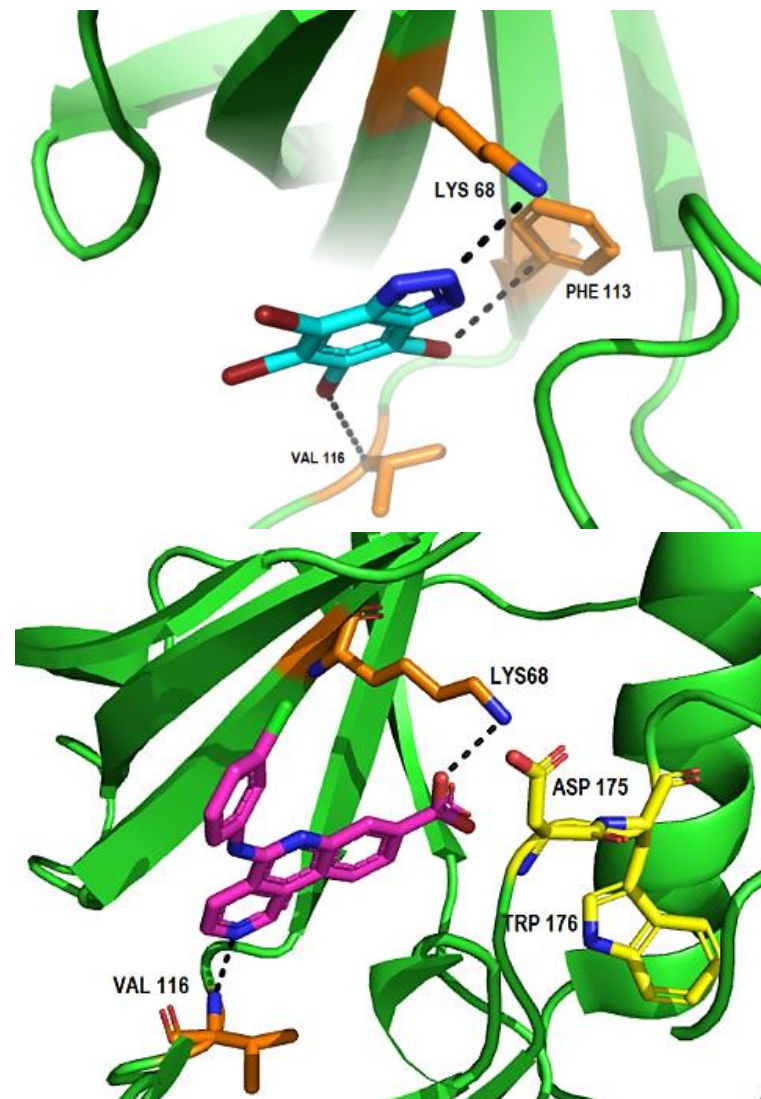
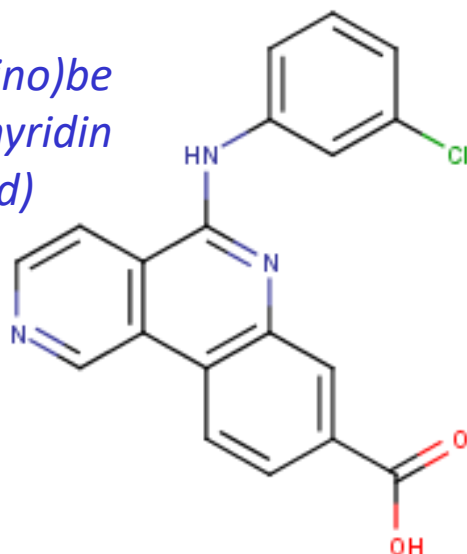
**TBB** (4,5,6,7-tetrabromobenzo triazole)

$IC_{50} = 0.35 \mu M$

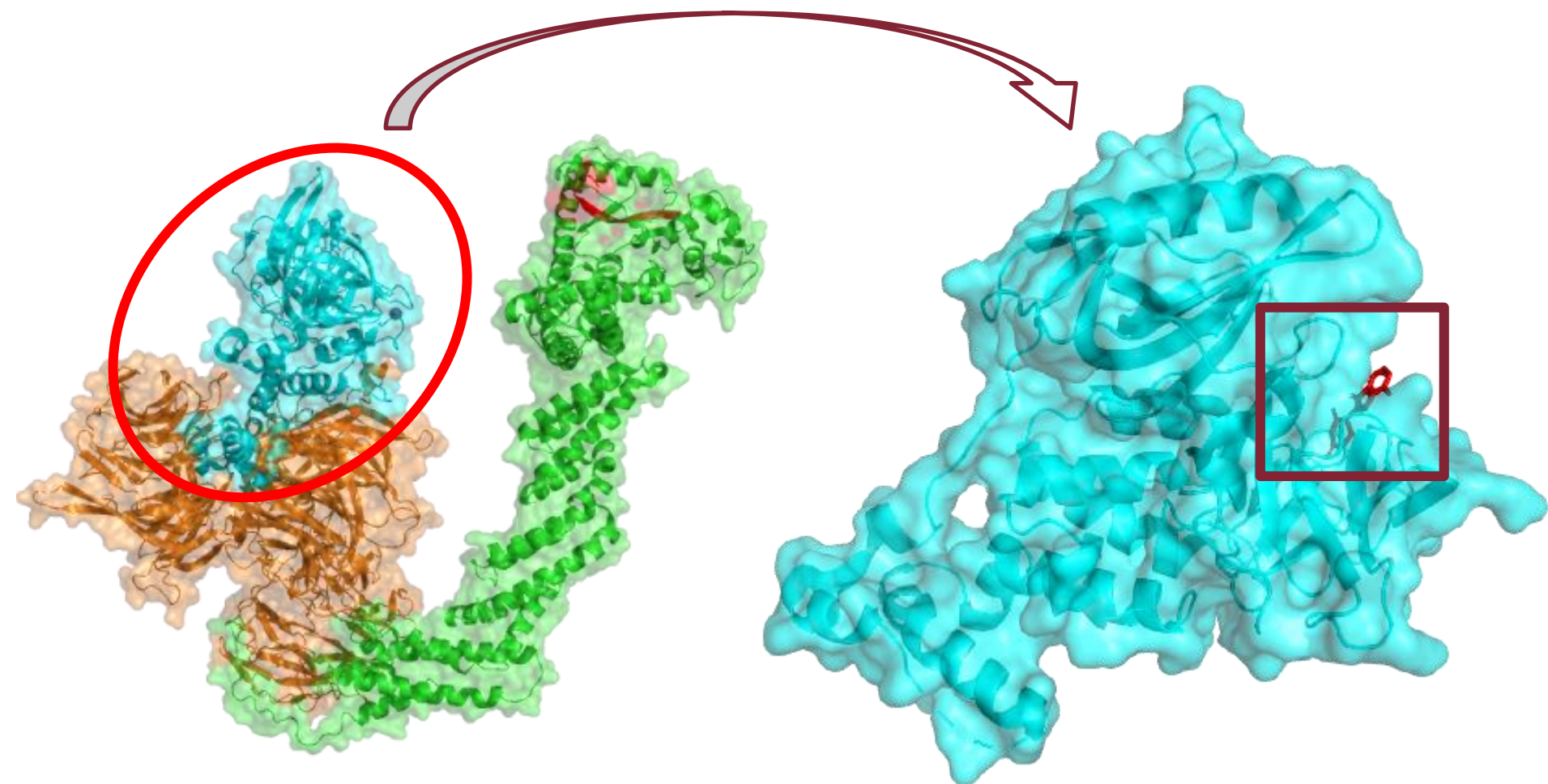


**CX-4945** (5-((3-Chlorophenyl)amino)benzo[c][2,6]naphthyridine-8-carboxylic acid)

$IC_{50} = 0.03 \mu M$

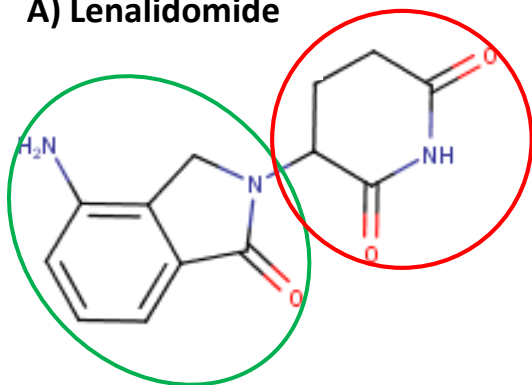


## 2. Introduction: E3-LIGASE CRL4<sup>CRBN</sup>



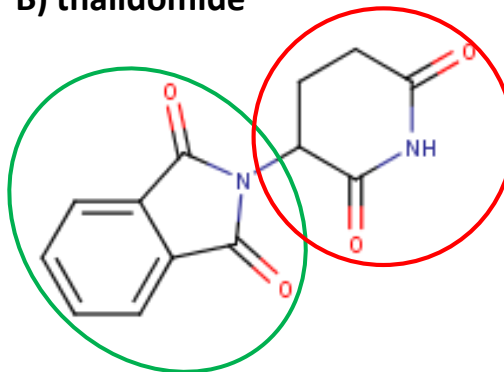
## 2. Introduction: E3-LIGASE CRL4<sup>CRBN</sup>

A) Lenalidomide



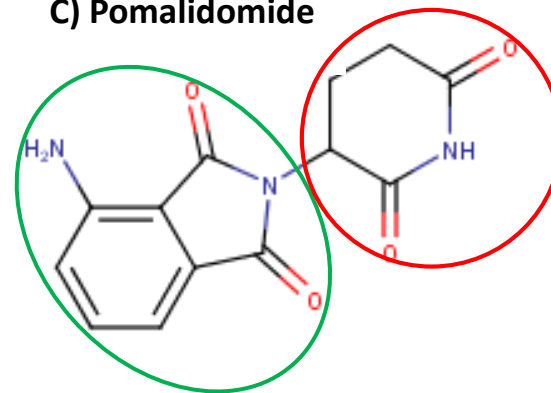
IC<sub>50</sub> da aggiungere

B) thalidomide

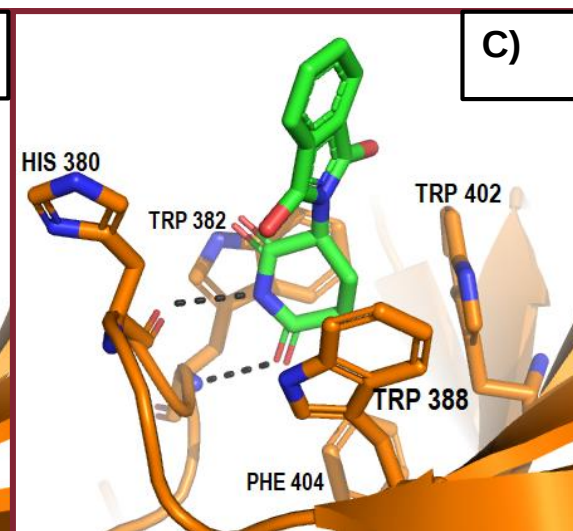
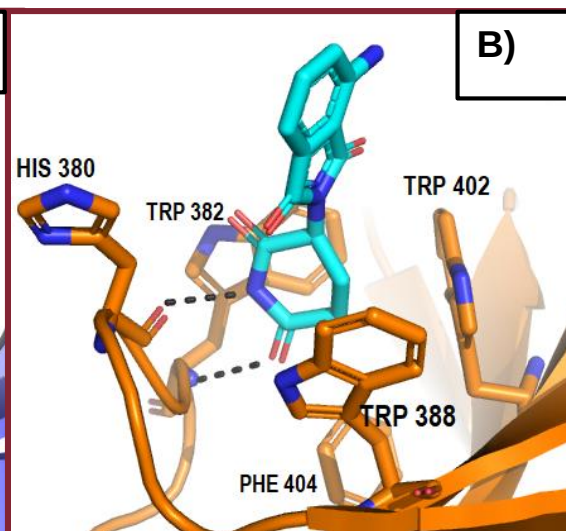
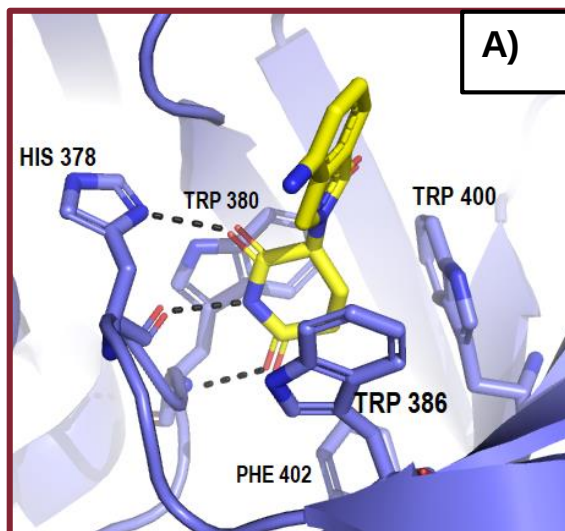


IC<sub>50</sub> = da aggiungere

C) Pomalidomide



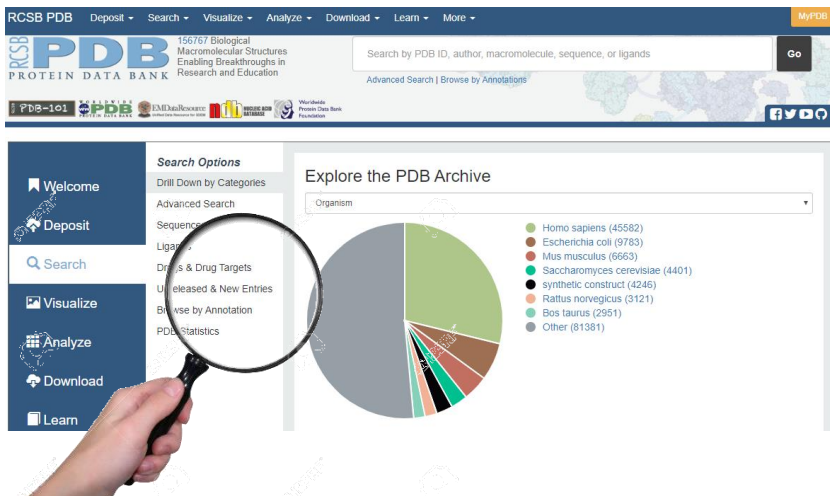
IC<sub>50</sub> = da aggiungere



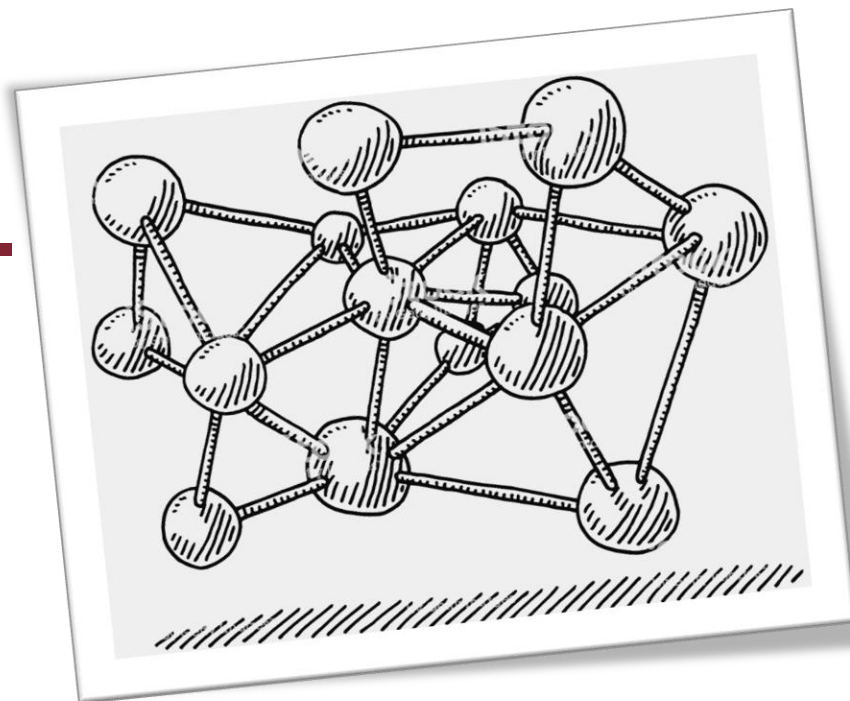


# 3. Workflow

1.



2.





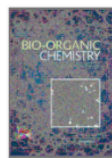
# 3. PROTACs: Compound 2



ELSEVIER

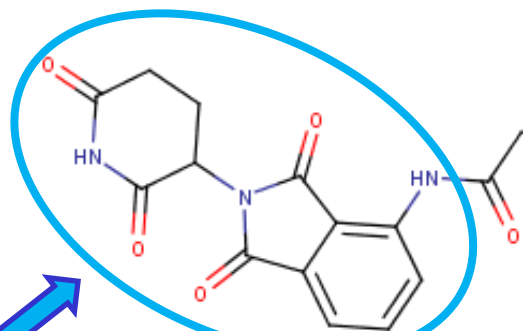
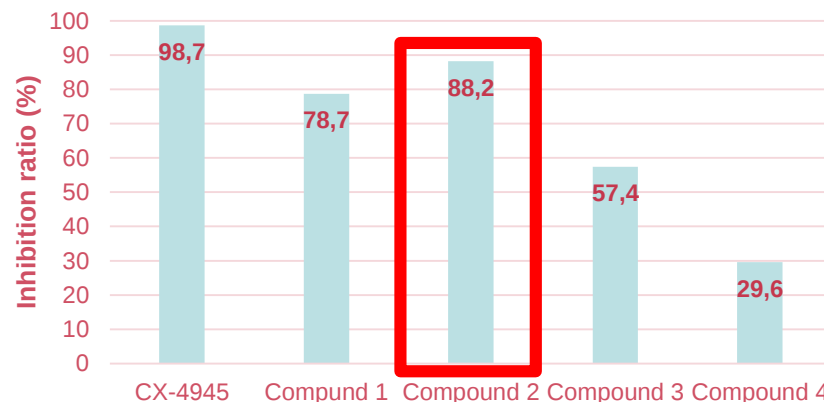
Bioorganic Chemistry

Volume 81, December 2018, Pages 536-544

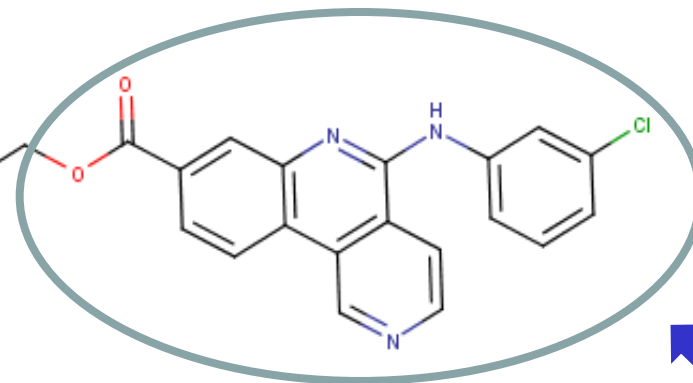


Chemically induced degradation of CK2 by proteolysis targeting chimeras based on a ubiquitin-proteasome pathway

Hong Chen<sup>1</sup>, Feihong Chen<sup>1</sup>, Nannan Liu, Xinyi Wang, Shaohua Gou<sup>✉</sup>



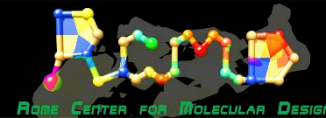
degradation machinery-recruiting portion



target protein-binding moiety



### 3. PROTACs: compound V-LRY715

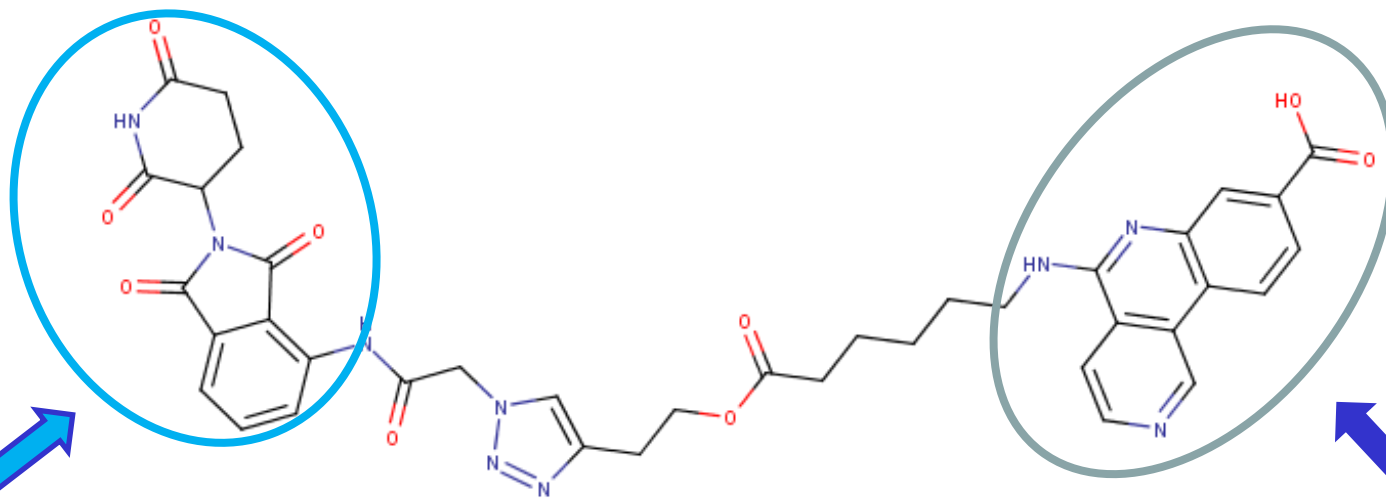


ROME CENTER FOR MOLECULAR DESIGN

❖ PROTAC V-LRY715 is structurally similar to that of *Chen, H. et al.*<sup>5</sup>



verify if there is a more stable interaction that can promise a greater activity.



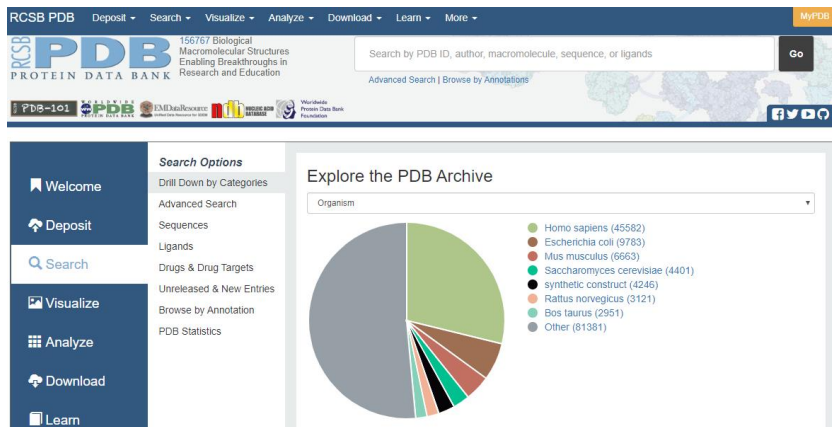
degradation machinery-recruiting  
portion

target protein-binding  
moiety

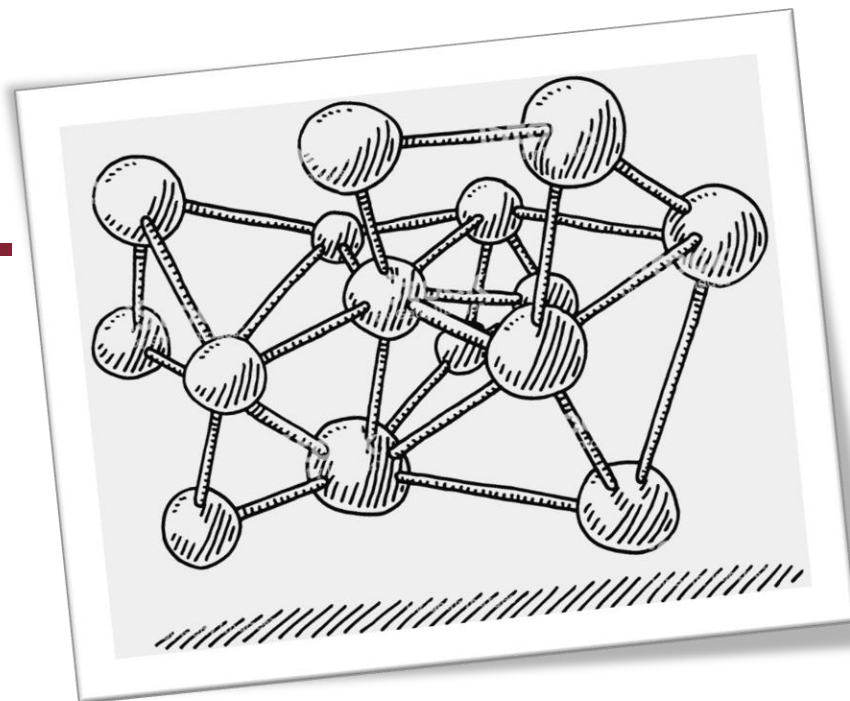


# 3. Workflow

1.



2.



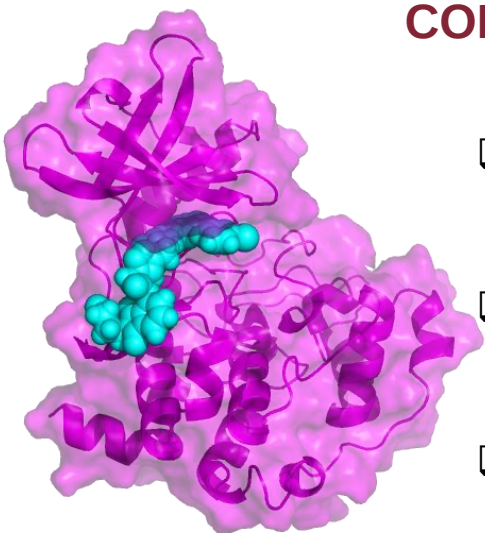
3.



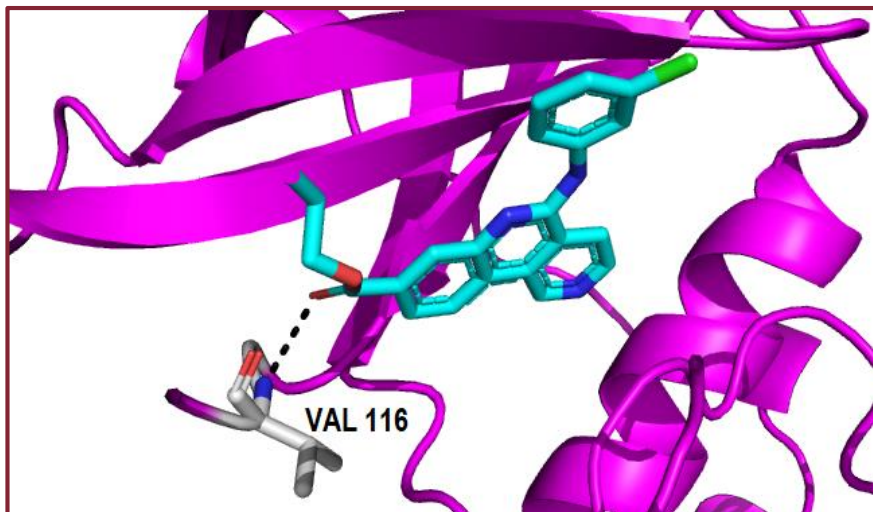


# STUDY OF COMPOUND 2: molecular docking

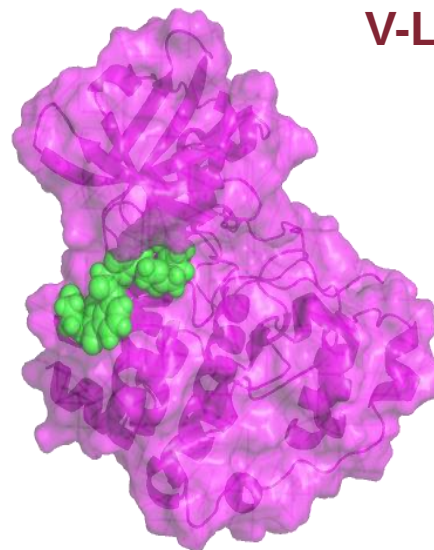
## COMPOUND 2



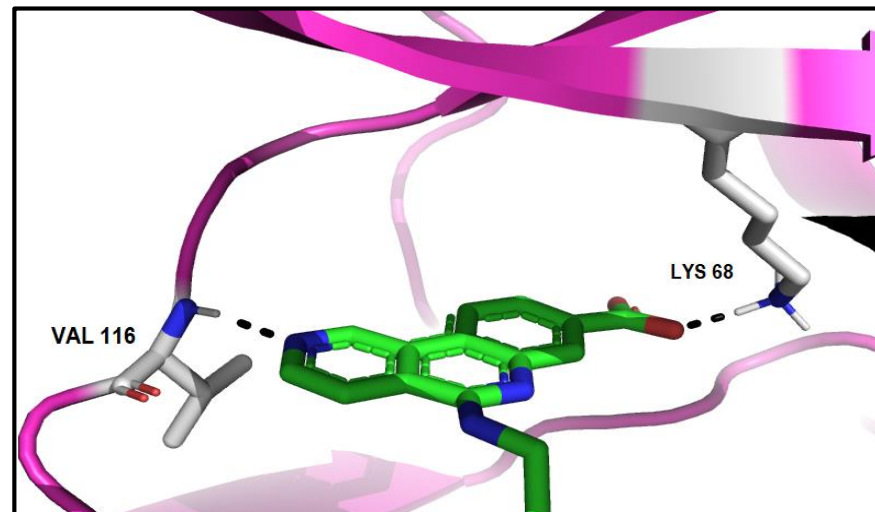
- ❑ docking score of - **11.504 kcal/mol.**
- ❑ Lack ionic interaction with Lys68.
- ❑ Respected interaction with hinge region

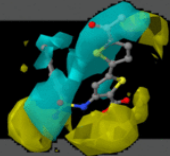


## V-LRY715



- ❑ docking score of - **14.393 kcal/mol.**
- ❑ Bonds both with Val116 of hinge region and side chain of Lys68





**Preparing  
ligand by  
Gaussian09**

**I. MD  
simulation of  
PROTAC**

**II. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC**

**III. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC-  
CK2**

**Final model**



Preparing  
ligand by  
Gaussian09

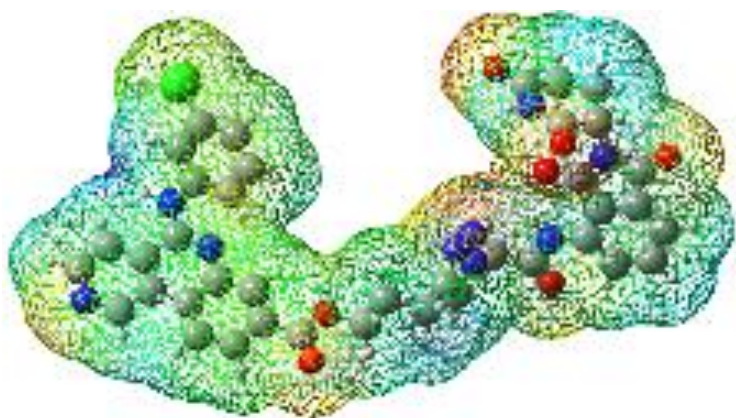
I. MD  
simulation of  
PROTAC

II. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC

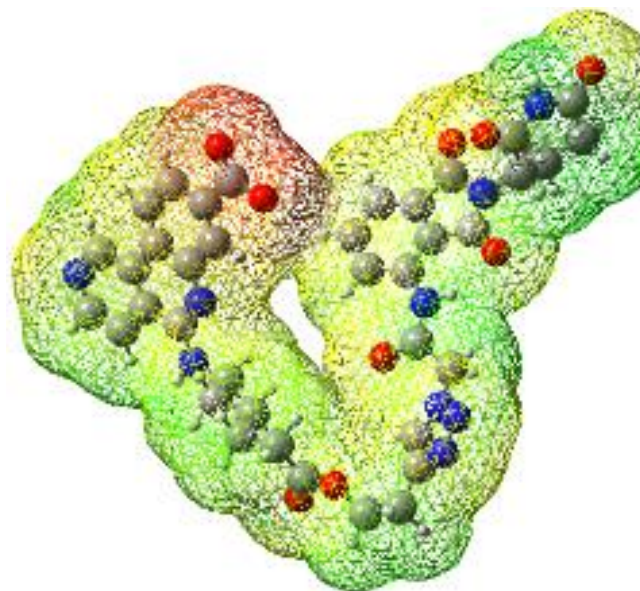
III. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC-  
CK2

Final model

COMPOUND 2



V-LRY715





Preparing  
ligand by  
Gaussian09

I. MD  
simulation of  
PROTAC

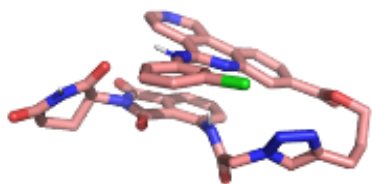
II. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC

III. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC-  
CK2

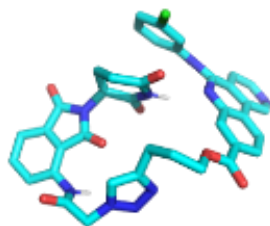
Final model

## COMPOUND 2

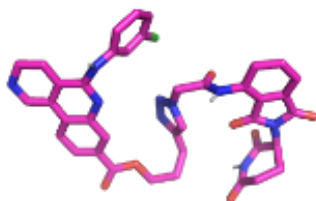
C0



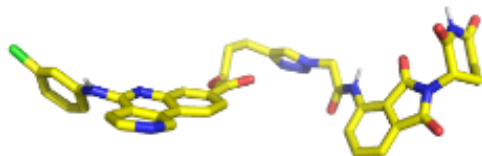
C1



C2

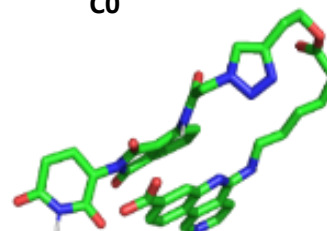


C3

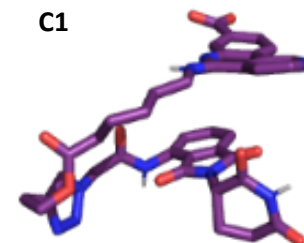


## V-LRY715

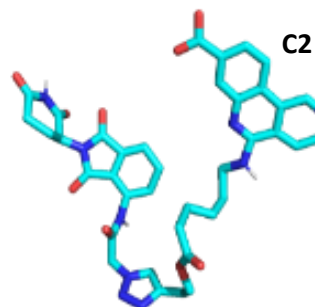
C0



C1

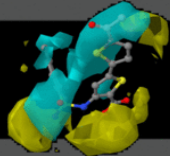


C2



C3





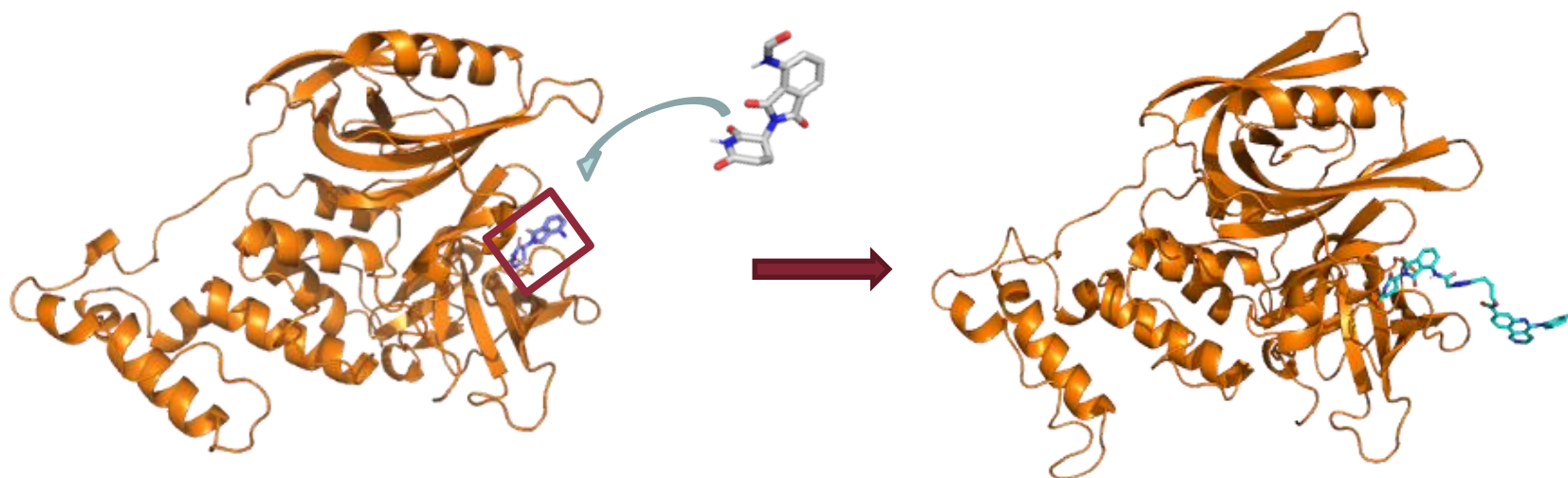
Preparing  
ligand by  
Gaussian09

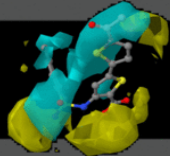
I. MD  
simulation of  
PROTAC

II. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC

III. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC-  
CK2

Final model





Preparing  
ligand by  
Gaussian09

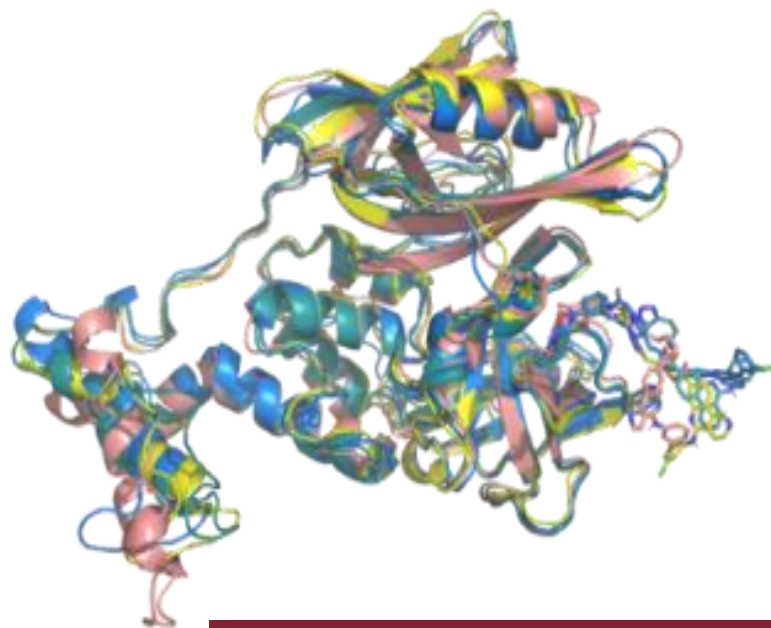
I. MD  
simulation of  
PROTAC

II. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC

III. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC-  
CK2

Final model

COMPOUND 2



V-LRY715





Preparing  
ligand by  
Gaussian09

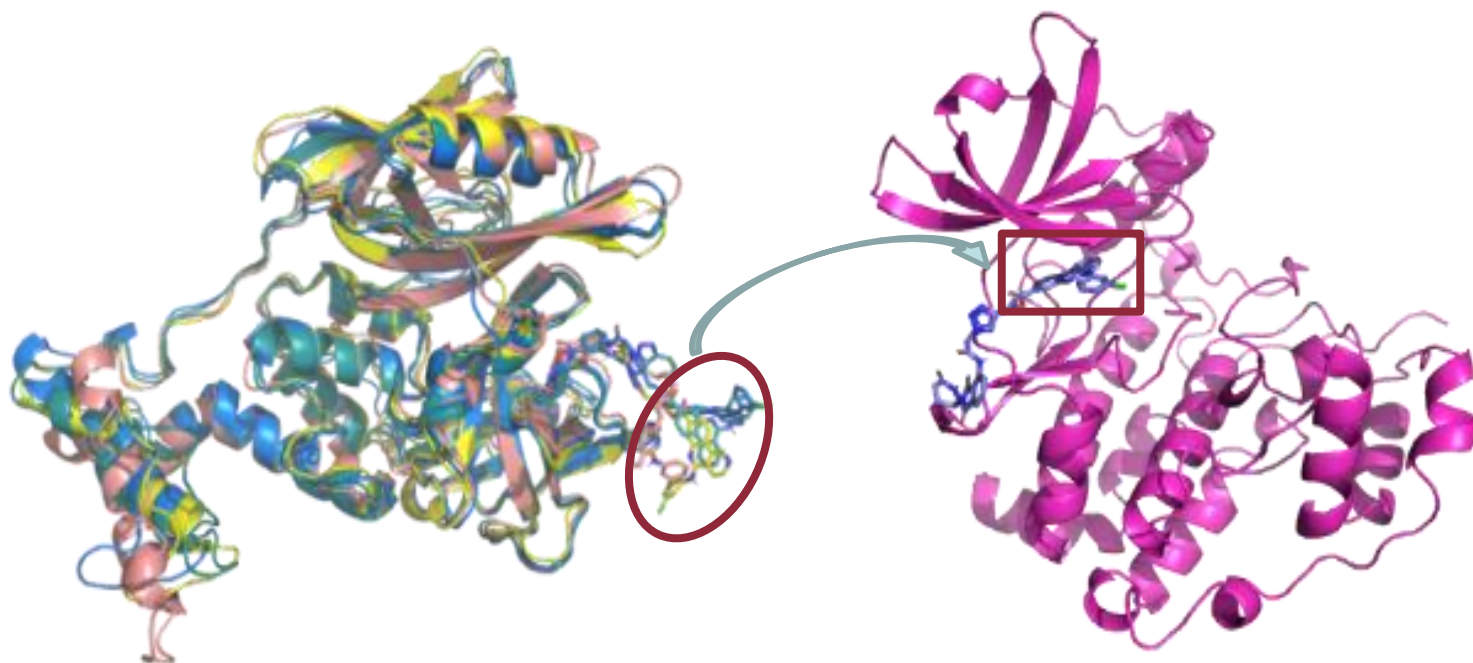
I. MD  
simulation of  
PROTAC

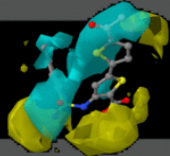
II. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC

III. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC-  
CK2

Final model

## COMPOUND 2





Preparing  
ligand by  
Gaussian09

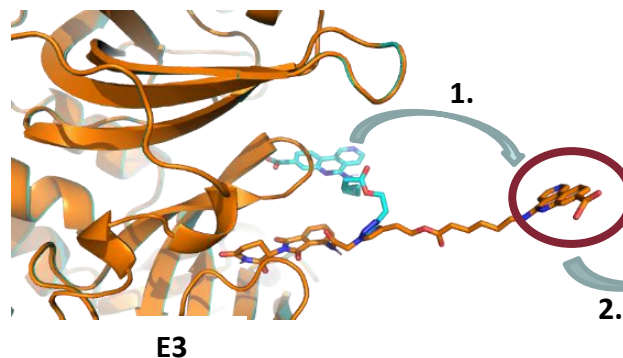
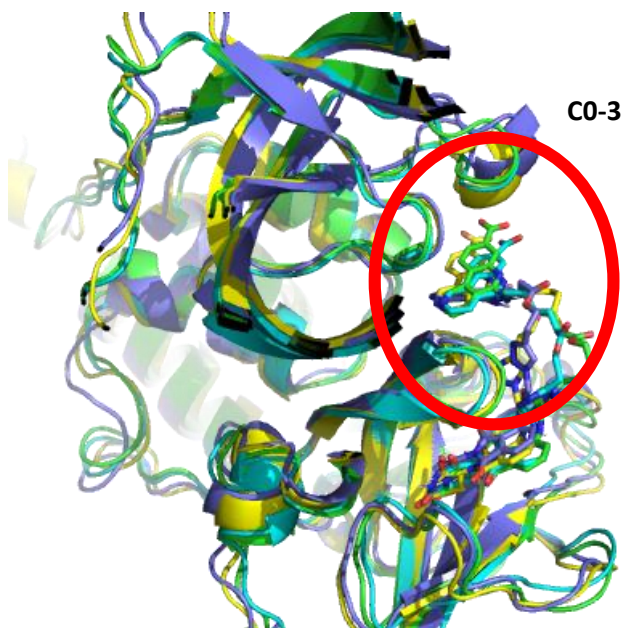
I. MD  
simulation of  
PROTAC

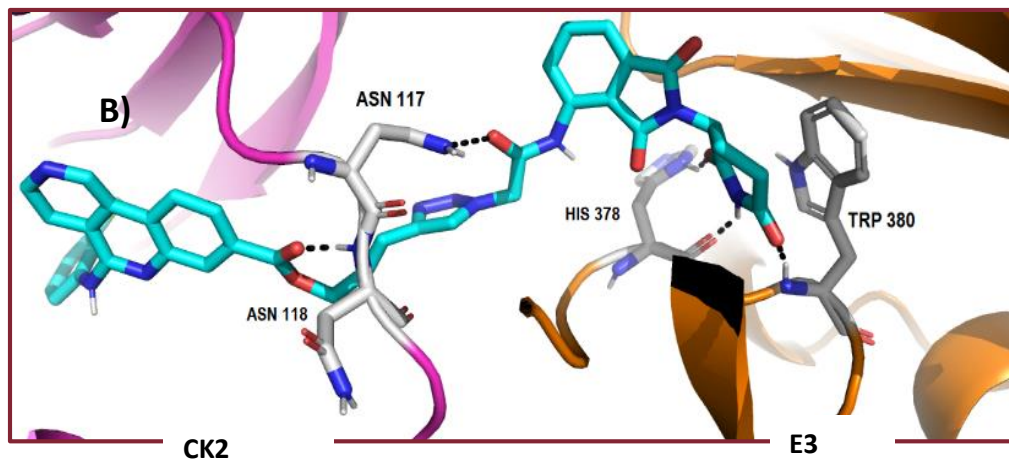
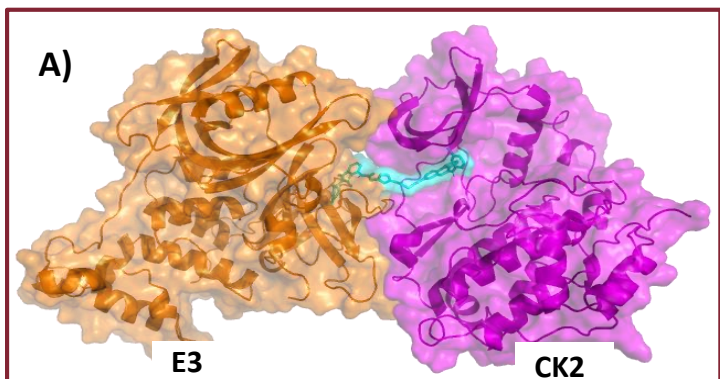
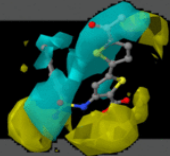
II. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC

III. MD  
simulation of  
E3-PROTAC-  
CK2

Final model

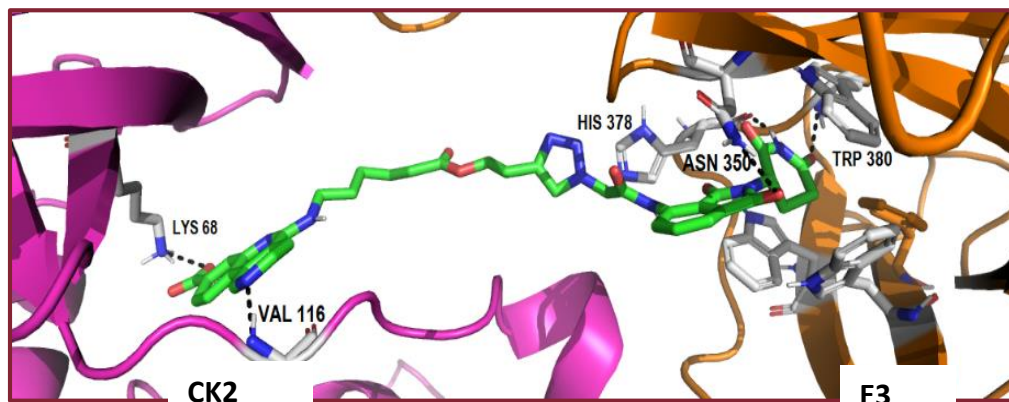
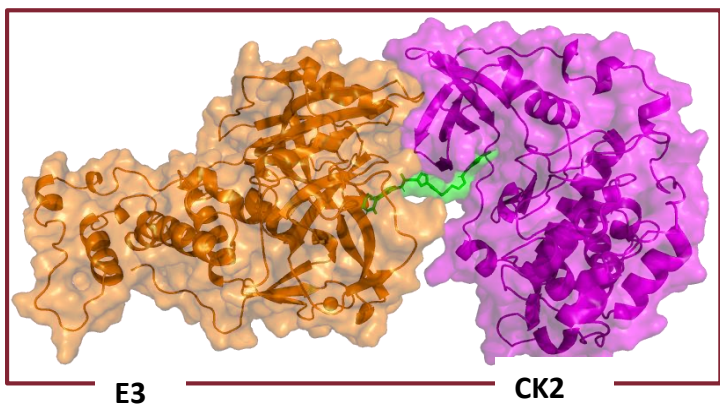
V-LRY715





## COMPOUND 2

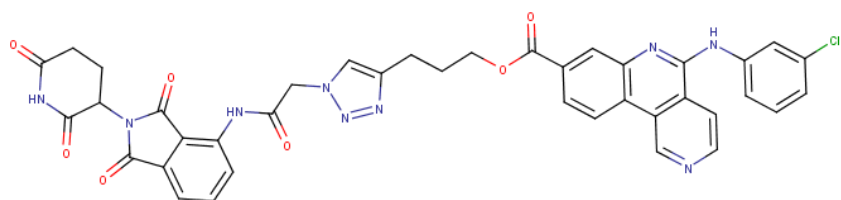
## V-LRY715



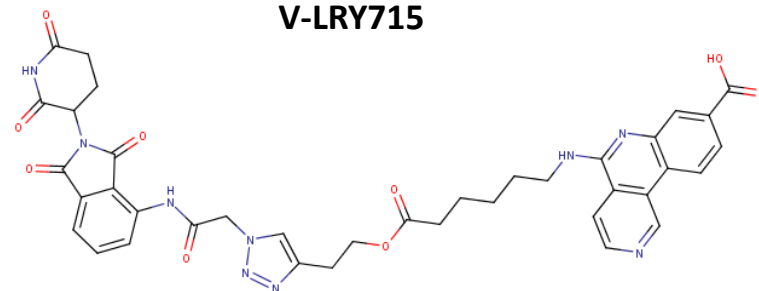


# COMPARATION: V-LRY715 vs compound2

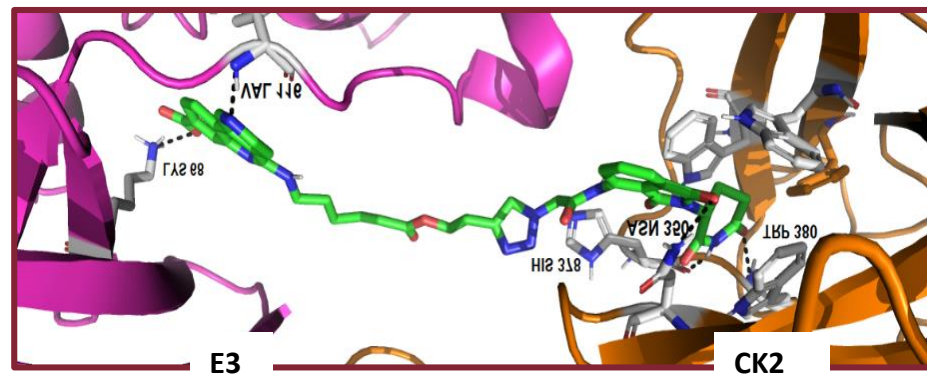
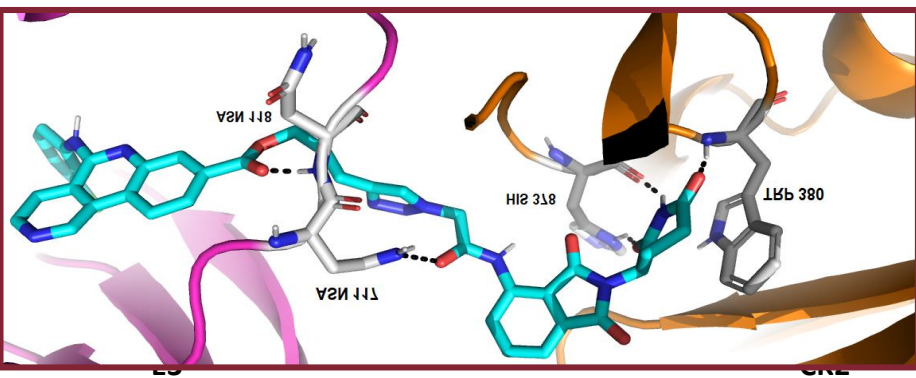
Compound 2



V-LRY715

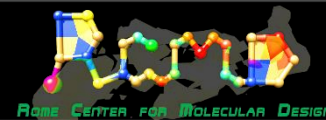


VS





# STUDY OF COMPOUND 2: results



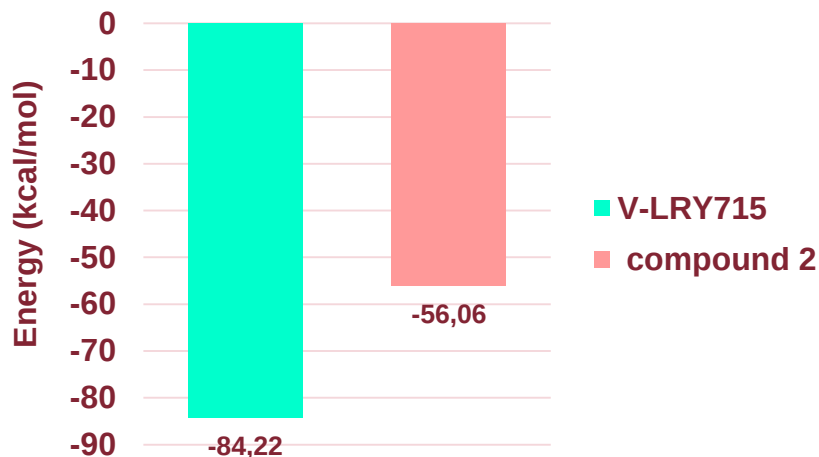
## COMPOUND 2

| INTERACTION | MEAN   |
|-------------|--------|
| ELE         | -5.71  |
| VDW         | -54.21 |
| SUR         | -2.86  |
| DESOL-REC   | 3.86   |
| DESOL-LIG   | 6.39   |
| H-BOND      | -3.53  |
| TOT         | -56.06 |

## V-LRY715

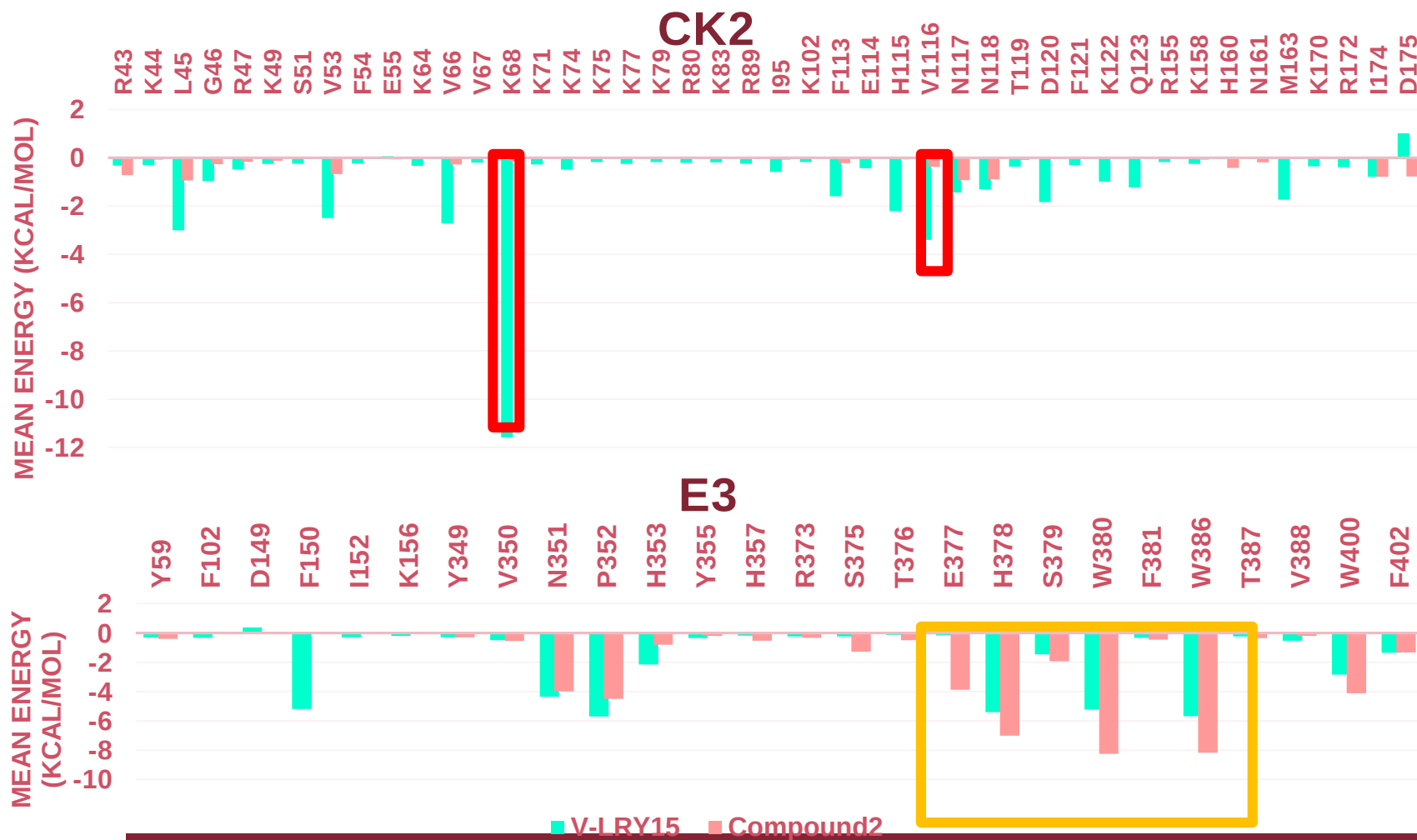
| INTERACTION | MEAN   |
|-------------|--------|
| ELE         | -18.48 |
| VDW         | -87.93 |
| SUR         | -5.63  |
| DESOL-REC   | 9.16   |
| DESOL-LIG   | 21.45  |
| H-BOND      | -2.79  |
| TOT         | -84.22 |

## Comparison of total energies



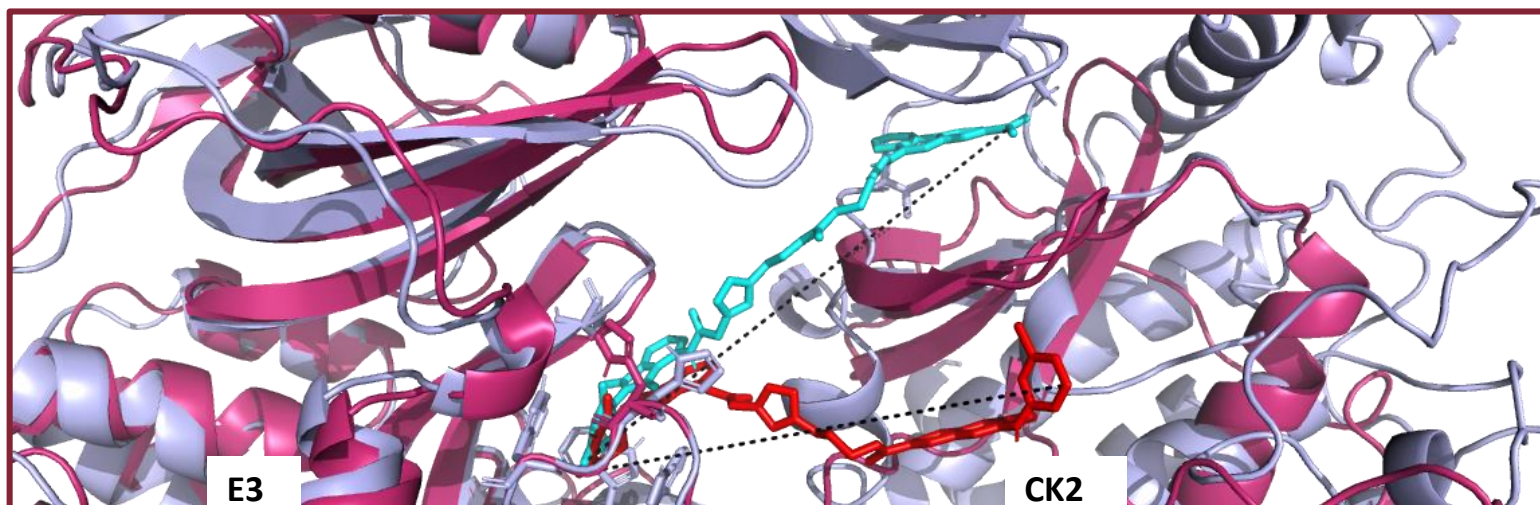
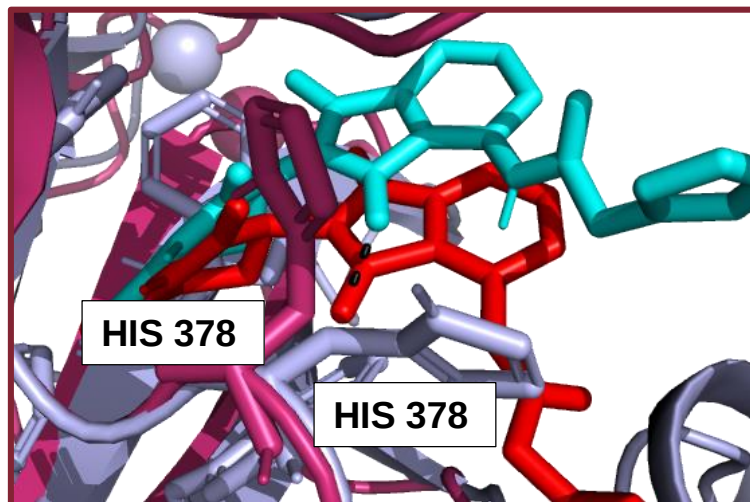


# COMPARISON: V-LRY715 vs compound2



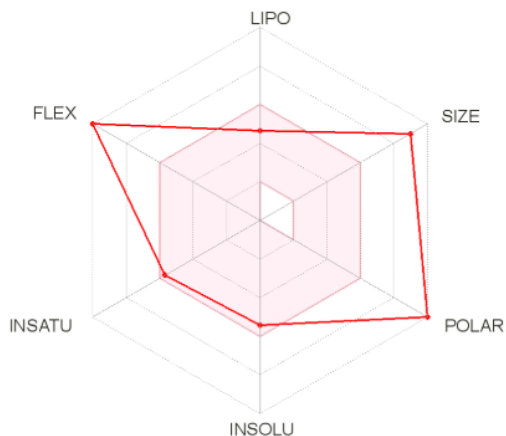
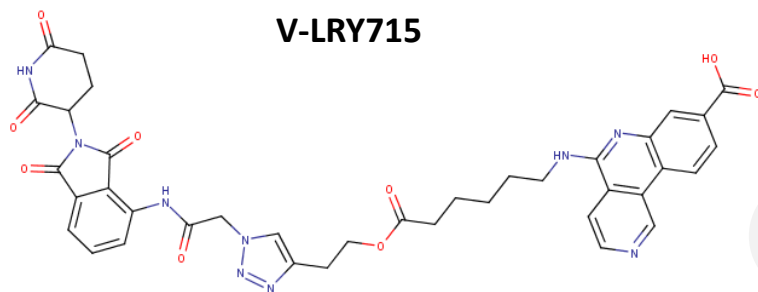


# COMPARISON: *V-LRY715 vs compound2*

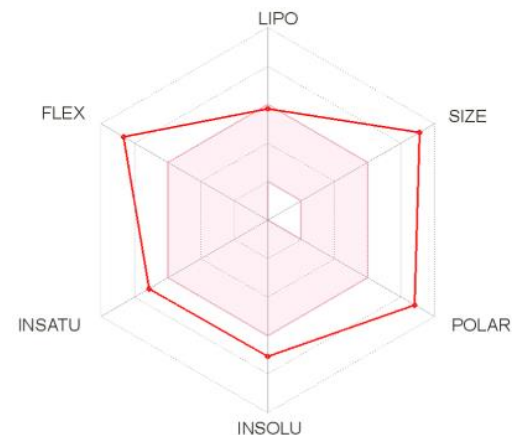
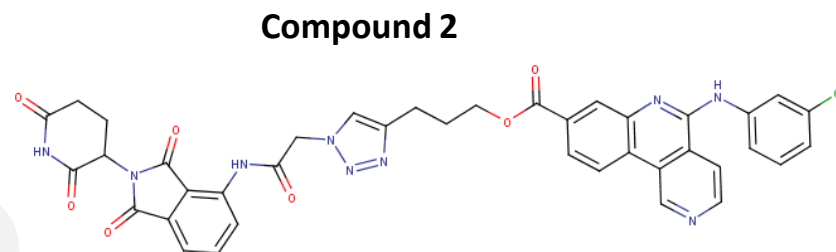




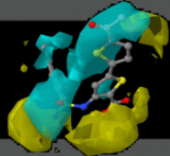
# COMPARISON: V-LRY715 vs compound2



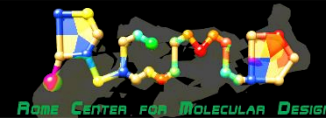
VS



| Molecule   | MW     | Fraction Csp3 | Rotatable bonds | TPSA   | XLOGP3 | ESOL Log S |
|------------|--------|---------------|-----------------|--------|--------|------------|
| V-LRY715   | 761.74 | 0.29          | 17              | 244.77 | 2.63   | -5.43      |
| Compound 2 | 772.16 | 0.18          | 13              | 207.47 | 4.6    | -7.08      |



# CONCLUSIONS



---

We have proposed a plausible binding-mode for the interaction of compound **2** reported by *Chen et al.* and the E3-ligase and CK2.

---

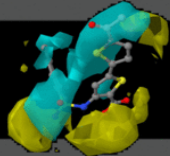
We have designed a new PROTAC that guarantees the fundamental interactions of the CX-4945 moiety with Val116 and Lys68.

---

We have carried out a comparative study of the binding energies and can state that the proposed V-LRY715 can be a better CK2-binding agent than compound **2**.

---

New PROTACs with a shorter linker both to simplify the synthesis and to reduce the flexibility of the molecule trying to reduce the number of rotatable bonds and finally with the intent of bringing the two proteins to favour a good protein interaction and make the complex more stable.



## NEW PROTACs PROPOSED

- Analogous to V-LRY175 with a shorter linker
- In order to both simplify the synthesis and to reduce the flexibility of the molecule trying to reduce the number of routable bonds.

**TBB is thought as new probable moiety to recruit CK2:**

**Although the TBB shows less enzyme activity compared to CX-4945TBB has a very simple synthetic process**

