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Investigating allosteric mechanisms of SARS-CoV-2 MPro

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The family of the beta coronaviruses has caused multiple sever outbreaks like SARS, MERS and recently COVID. Due to their high mutation rates, it is likely that they cause further outbreaks in the future. They share a conserved 3C-like main protease (MPro) which is vital for its replication, making it an interesting drug target. To better understand this crucial enzyme, my project is about resolving the mechanism of SARS-CoV-2 MPro. I am trying to utilizing the time-resolved serial beamline P14-2 (TREXX) and the Spitrobot, a cryotrapping device, to trap intermediates along the reaction pathway.

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Session Classification: Chiquitita, tell me what's wrong - Early career edition