Amy Wang

CONTACT Information

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Professional Summary Computational scientist with expertise in combining biophysical frameworks with advanced AI/ML approaches. Extensive experience in wet-lab techniques including protein biochemistry, high-resolution biophysical protein characterization, mouse models, device fabrication, and nanoparticle synthesis. Unique dual background bridges computational methods and applications in therapeutic development.

EDUCATION

Stanford University, Stanford, CA

2018-2023

Ph.D., Chemical Engineering

The sis: Mechanisms governing the force-dependent interactions between αE -catenin and F-actin Advisors:

William Weis (Depts. Structural Biology, Molecular and Cellular Physiology) Alexander Dunn (Dept. Chemical Engineering, Biophysics program)

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA

Senior ML Scientist, Large Molecule Drug Discovery

2014-2018

Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering, Minor in Polymers and Soft Matter

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Genentech, Prescient Design

South San Francisco, CA $\,$

March 2023-Present

- Design training datasets that underlie ML method development, strategically shaping project directions and computational approaches
- Develop and implement novel AI/ML frameworks on a wide range of practical problems, from data efficiency in optimization settings to property prediction relevant to the rapeutic developability
- Collaborate cross-functionally with protein engineers, structural biologists, and computational scientists on active drug discovery portfolio projects

Stanford University

Stanford, CA

Graduate Student Researcher

Apr 2019-March 2023

Advisors: William Weis & Alexander Dunn

- Characterized key structural determinants of force-dependent cell adhesion mechanisms using single molecule force spectroscopy (SMFS) and quantitative biochemical assays
- Developed theoretical framework explaining how cooperative molecular interactions generate catch bonds, advancing understanding of adhesion biology mechanics in physiological shear conditions
- Devised an pipeline which increased data collection and analysis throughput by 10x
- Built a custom single-channel epi-fluorescent microscope

Microsoft Research New England

Cambridge, MA (Virtual)

Jun-Sept 2022

BioML Research Intern

Advisors: Kevin Yang, Ava Amini & Alex Lu

- Conceptualized and implemented integration of biophysical features into graph neural networks for protein property prediction
- Presented findings at NeurIPS Machine Learning for Structural Biology Workshop showing Rosetta computed features improve out-of-distribution prediction on two benchmark tasks

Stanford University

Rotation Student

Stanford, CA Jan-Apr 2019

Advisor: Ron Dror

• Conducted molecular dynamics simulations of membrane protein ion transport, contributing to findings published in Nature

Preprints

- Publications and N.C. Frey, I. Hötzel, S.D. Stanton, R. Kelly, R.G. Alberstein, ..., A. Wang, ..., A. Regev, Y. Wu, K. Cho, R. Bonneau, V. Gligorijević. Lab-in-the-loop therapeutic antibody design with deep learning. bioRxiv 2025.
 - A.A. Ismail, T. Oikarinen, A. Wang, J. Adebayo, S.D. Stanton, H.C. Bravo, K. Cho, N.C. Frey. Concept Bottleneck Language Models For Protein Design. International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2025.
 - C. Wang, M. Uehara, Y. He, A. Wang, A. Lal, T. Jaakola, S. Levine, A. Regev, H. Wang, T. Biancalani. Fine-tuning discrete diffusion models via reward optimization with applications to DNA and protein design. International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2025.
 - NA Bax*, A Wang*, DL Huang, S Pokutta, AR Dunn, WI Weis. Multi-level force-dependent allosteric enhancement of α E-catenin binding to F-actin by vinculin. Journal of Molecular Biology 2023. [Link]
 - A Wang, AR Dunn, WI Weis. Mechanism of the cadherin-catenin F-actin catch bond interaction. $\overline{eLife\ 2022}$. [Link]
 - S Bose, LR Volpatti*, D Thiono*, V Yesilyurt, C McGladrigan, Y Tang, A Facklam, A Wang, S Jhunjhunwala, O Veiseh, J Hollister-Lock, C Bhattacharya, GC Weir, DL Greiner, R Langer, DG Anderson. A retrievable implant for the long-term encapsulation and survival of therapeutic xenogeneic cells. Nat. Biomed. Eng. 2020. [Link]
 - TA Chew*, BJ Orlando*, J Zhang*, NR Latorraca, A Wang, SA Hollingsworth, DH Chen, RO Dror, M Liao, L Feng. Structure and mechanism of the cation-chloride cotransporter NKCC1. Nature 2019 572:488–492. [Link]
 - A Huang, JM Paloni, A Wang, AC Obermeyer, HV Sureka, H Yao, BD Olsen. Predicting protein-polymer block copolymer self-assembly from protein properties. Biomacromolecules 2019, 20, 10, 3713-3723. [Link]
 - S Chopra, N Bertrand, J Lim, A Wang, O Farokhzad, R Karnik. Design of insulin-loaded nanoparticles enabled by multistep control of nanoprecipitation and zinc chelation. ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces 2017 9 (13), 11440-11450. [Link]
- Workshop Papers A Wang, Z. Sang, S.D. Stanton, J.L. Hofmann, S. Izadi, E. Park, J. Ludwiczak, M. Kirchmeyer, D. Davidson, A. Maier, T. Pritsky, N.C. Frey, A.M. Watkins, F. Seeger. A guided design framework for the optimization of therapeutic-like antibodies. Generative and Experimental Perspectives for Biomolecular Design, ICLR 2025.
 - Z. Ma, D. Davidson, A Wang, N. Frey, F. Seeger. The effects of structural conditioning on antibody inverse Folding. Women in ML Workshop, NeurIPS 2023.

A Wang, AP Amini, AX Lu, KK Yang. Learning from physics-based features improves protein property prediction. Machine Learning in Structural Biology Workshop, NeurIPS 2022. [Link]

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Stanford Office of Technology Licensing

Stanford, CA

Oct 2021-Oct 2022

• Evaluated invention disclosures, analyzed patent landscape, and prepared marketing abstracts

Merck Research Labs

West Point, PA

Discovery Pharmaceutical Sciences Research Intern

Jun-Sept 2017

Advisor: Lauren Austin

- Synthesized and characterized nanoparticles for RNA-based vaccine technologies
- Quantified kinetics of peptide and nucleic acid degradation in-vitro

Goldman Sachs New York, NY

 $Structured\ Credit\ Trading\ Analyst\ Intern$

Jan 2016

• Performed credit risk analyses and built financial valuation models

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cambridge, MA

Jan 2016-Jun 2018

Undergraduate Researcher Advisor: Bradley Olsen

• Synthesized protein-polymer materials and quantified kinetics of functionalized proteins

Koch Institute of Integrative Cancer Research

Cambridge, MA 2014-2016

 $Undergraduate\ Researcher$

Advisors: Robert Langer & Rohit Karnik

- Synthesized and characterized nanoparticles to improve insulin encapsulation
- Mentored an undergraduate researcher in biological lab techniques

Honors and AWARDS

University Nominee for the Schmidt Science Fellows

2022

8 Stanford students nominated Valuation of Public Companies in the Life Sciences Pitch Competition - First Place

| Valuation of Public Companies in the Life Sciences Pitch Competition - First Place | 2020 |
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| Stanford Graduate Fellowship in Science & Engineering | 2018-2023 |
| NSF Graduate Research Fellowship | 2018-2023 |
| ChemH Chemistry/Biology Interface Predoctoral Training Program | 2018-2023 |
| Tau Beta Pi Honors Society | 2017 |
| MIT Chemical Engineering Departmental BP Academic Achievement Award | 2016 |

INVITED TALKS

| Bay Area Cytoskeleton Symposium - Full Talk | Oct 2022 |
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| Centre for Mechanochemical Cell Biology – Motors in Quarantine Talk | Oct 2022 |
| Stanford Chemical Engineering Convocation – Distinguished Graduate Speaker | Sept 2022 |
| Stanford Chemistry/Biology Interface Training Program Retreat | June 2021 |
| Stanford Molecular & Cellular Physiology – Science Friday Seminar Series | March 2021 |

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

| Stanford Graduate Life Office, Head Community Associate | 2021-2023 |
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| Stanford Molecular & Cellular Physiology DEI Committee Liaison | 2020-2022 |
| Stanford Graduate Life Office, Community Associate | 2019-2021 |
| Bay Area Graduate Pathways to STEM Mentor & Panel Speaker | 2018-2020 |
| MIT AIChE Vice President, External Relations | 2016-2018 |
| MIT Undergraduate Advising & Academic Programming Steering Committee | 2015-2017 |

Skills Machine Learning

Bayesian optimization, generative modeling, parameter estimation, Monte Carlo simulation

Biophysical Modeling

PyMOL, PyRosetta, AMBER molecular dynamics

Experimental

Biophysical: Optical tweezers, SPR

Molecular biology: Mammalian and bacterial cell culture, FPLC, cloning, western blots, actin

pelleting assays