

Applications of deep learning models in biology

projects week 3

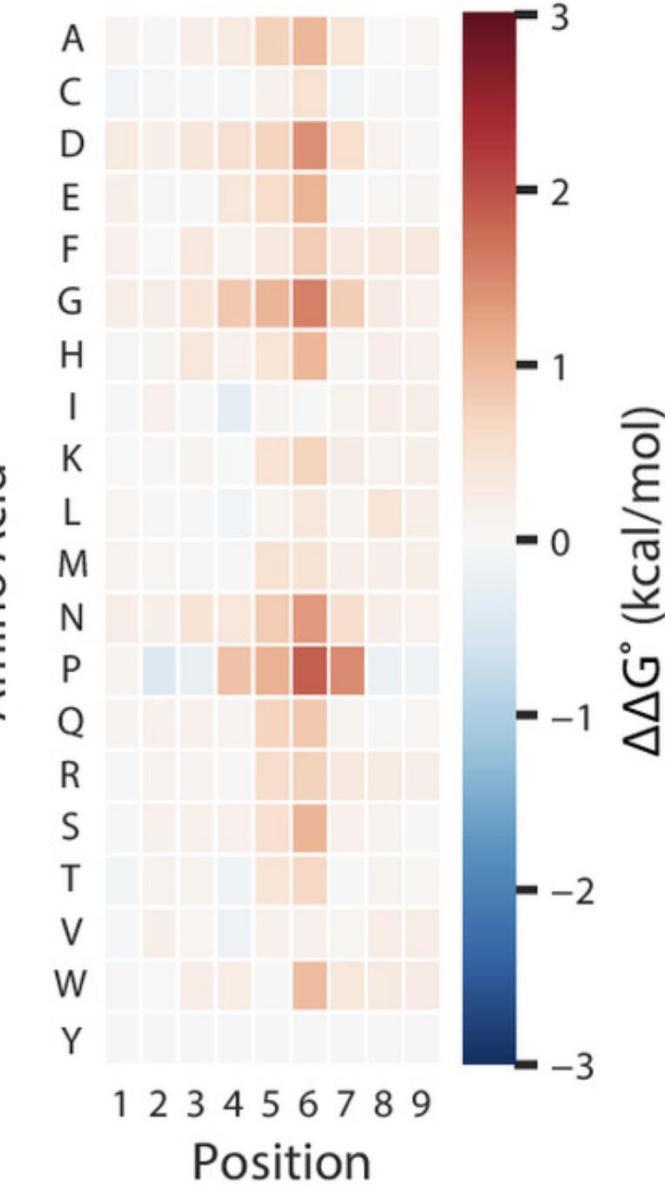
Overview week 2

- Designed a deep learning model to predict protein stability change for mutations
- Optimized the model's architecture
- For your presentations:
 - Explain architecture and design rationale
 - Compare with a minimal model following same architecture
 - Performance
 - Number of parameters
- Put **results** for validation set on the board – **this is not for your grade**
 - Performance (architecture, pearson correlation, number of parameters)

Biological application

Next – apply the model for biology

- Use the predictions in a biological setting
 - What biological problem can the model address
 - How can you validate the outcome?



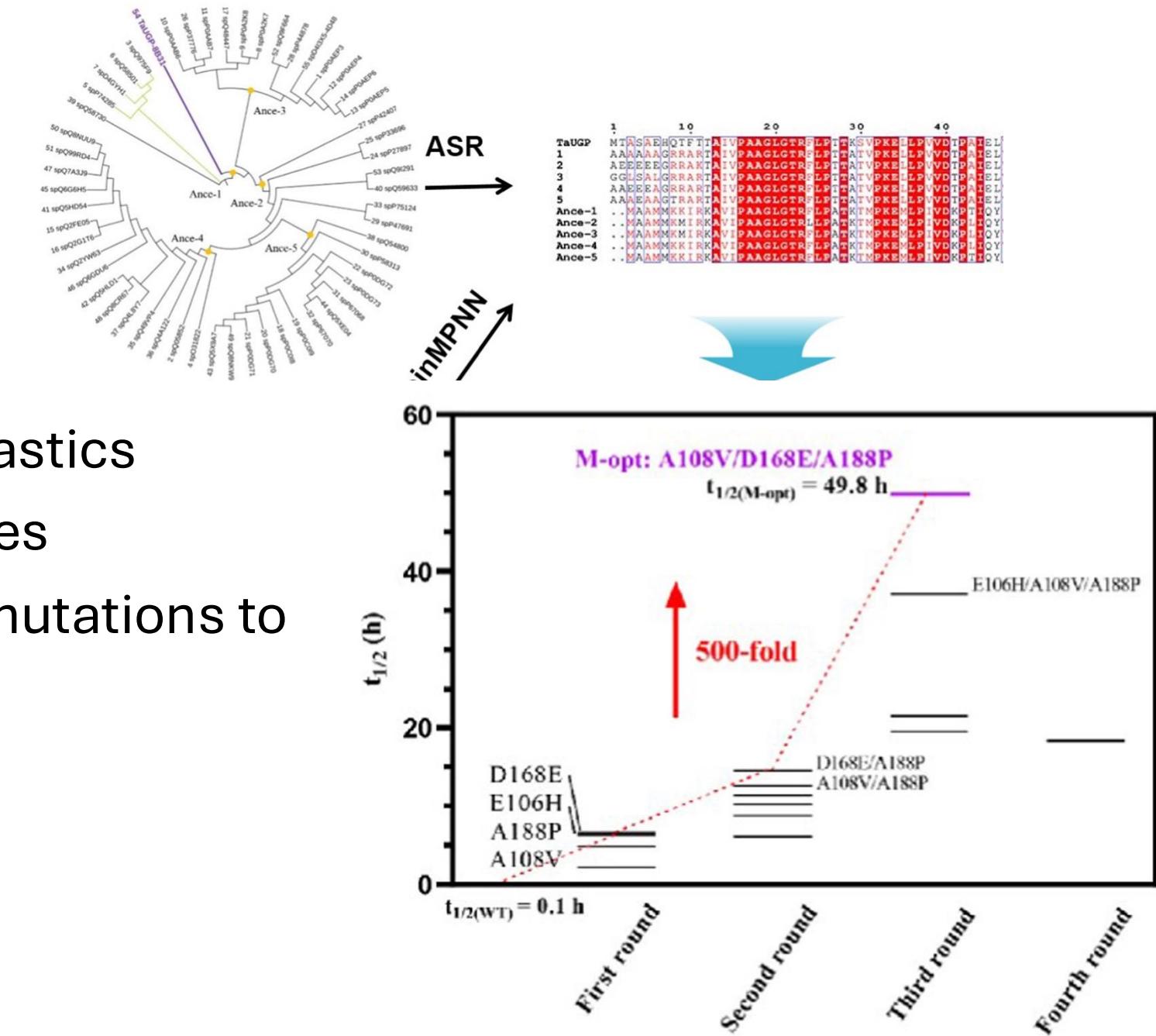
Example: protein engineering

- Industrial applications - improved stability can improve:
 - Efficiency/yield
 - Resistance to temperature (thermostability)
- Sequentially mutate sequence and experimentally measure result
- Idea:

**Apply predictions of model
for engineering a more stable protein**

Example: PETase

- Enzyme for degrading plastics
- Favor higher temperatures
- Compound/sequential mutations to improve thermostability
- **Stability != function**

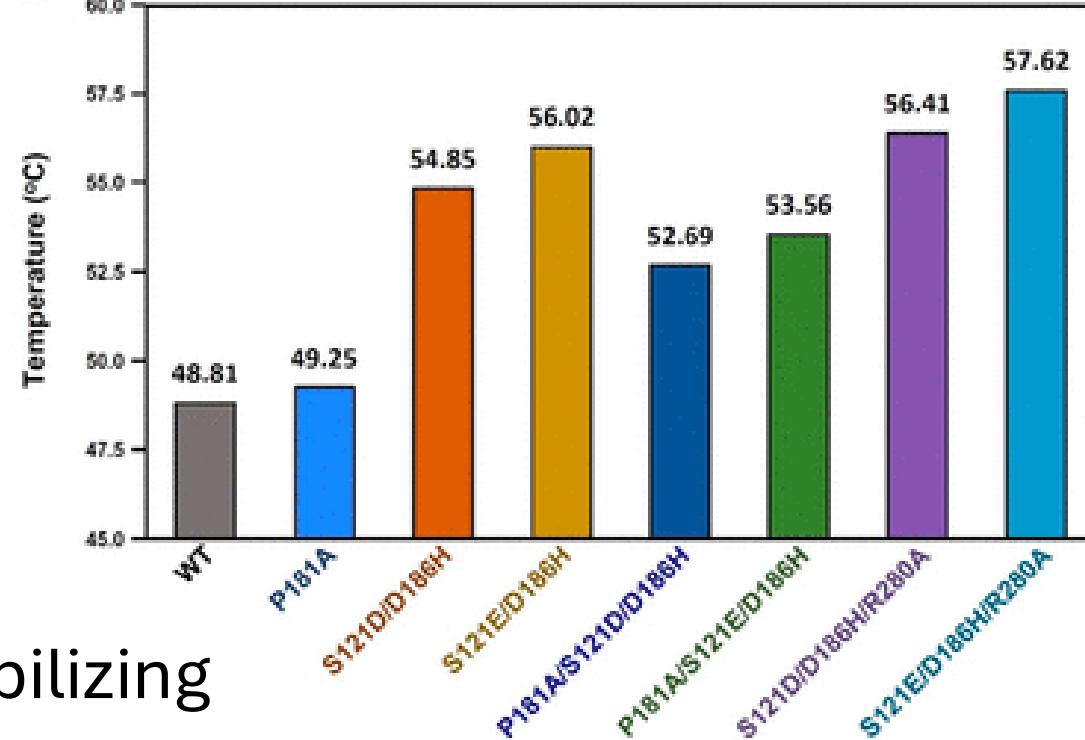


<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bidere.2025.100005>

<https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acscatal.9b00568>

Example: PETase

- Predict stabilizing mutations
- Check with experimentally known stabilizing mutations
- e.g. S121E -> D186H -> R280A
- Questions to address:
 - Is each step predicted to be stable?
 - More stable than other mutations at the same sites?
 - Does compounding mutations work with the model?



<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bidere.2025.100005>

<https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acscatal.9b00568>

Biological application of models

- Think of your own ideas, e.g.,
 - Genetic variants for (rare) disease
 - Protein engineering
 - Identifying functional regions
 - Structural effects
 - etc
- Discuss with us

**If the idea does not work its fine,
we care about the idea, approach,
implementation and takeaways**