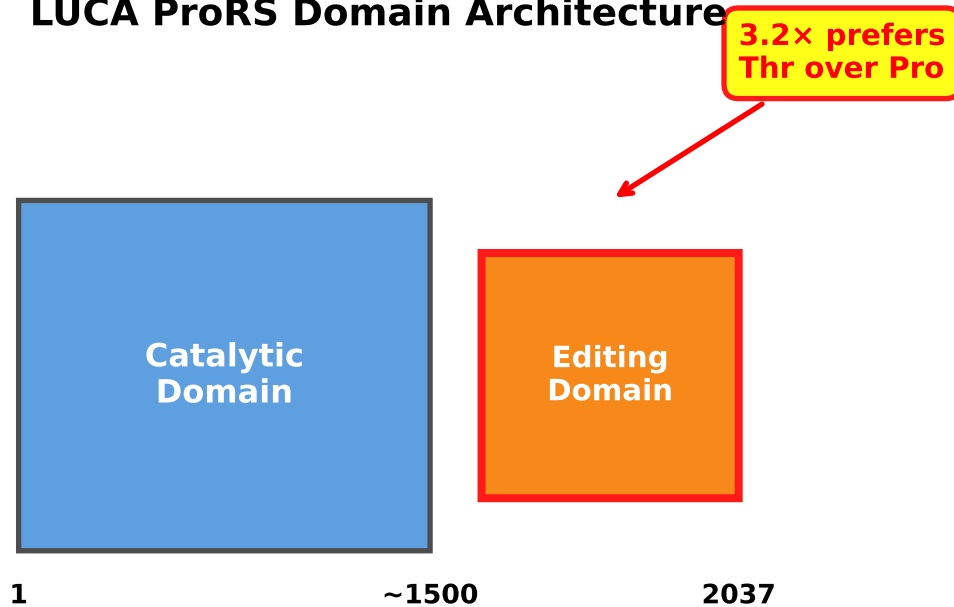


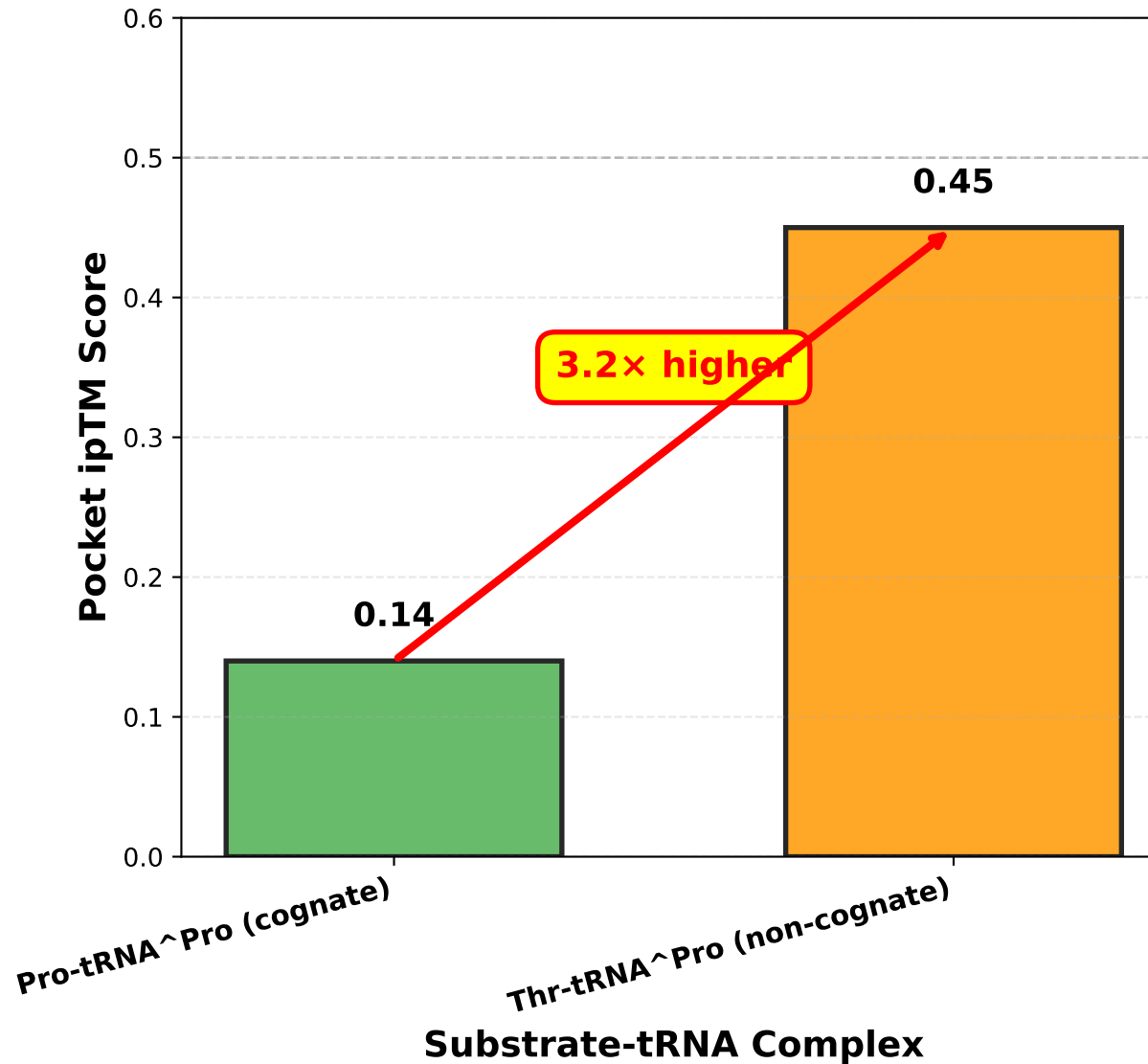
Figure 3: Ancestral Editing Domain Displays Inverted Substrate Preference

A. Domain Architecture

LUCA ProRS Domain Architecture



B. Editing Domain Shows 3.2× Preference for Non-Cognate Substrate



INVERTED PREFERENCE:

Editing domain PREFERS the WRONG substrate (Thr-tRNA^{Pro}) over the correct one (Pro-tRNA^{Pro}).

This is OPPOSITE to the catalytic domain, which binds both equally (promiscuity).

BIOLOGICAL FUNCTION:

The editing domain's job is to HYDROLYZE mis-acylated tRNA (Thr-tRNA^{Pro}), so it SHOULD preferentially bind the error product, not the correct product.

This inverted preference validates the editing domain's proofreading function in ancestral ProRS.