2019 Spring @ https://qdata.github.io/deep2Read/

# Attentive cross-modal paratope prediction

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# Background

- Antibodies are easier to create than small molecules
  - Created via phage display, 'evolution in the lab'
  - More variable
- Antibodies as drugs are becoming more popular
- The challenge becomes creating binding site sequences in Antibody



Kaplon and Reichert. mAbs. 2019 Feb-Mar; 11(2): 219-238.

# Antibody structure



The Cell, Alberts; Biochemistry, Lehninger

# Definitions



- **Paratope:** Binding site on antibody
  - On average 40–50 residues, while only around 18–19 residues are in contact with antigen
- **Epitope:** Binding site on antigen
- **Antigen:** Target protein (E.g. from parasite)

#### **Problem Statement**

Goal: Given a CDR and antigen sequence, predict if it will bind an antigen



### **Previous Approaches**

- Template-based: sequence or structural homology from alignments of to one side of interface with Ab-Ab structures
- Residue propensities of known Ab-Ag complexes
  - Probability distributions based on a Kolmogorov-Smirnov test (Ab-i-Patch)

#### Parapred



1-hot residue features

#### **Fast-ParaPred**



Figure 1. The Fast-Parapred architecture.



- Substitute RNN with:
  - Dilated Convolutions
    - 3 layers 64,128,256
      feats with rates 1,2,4
  - Self-attention layer
- **ab** is AntiBody CDR sequence
- **p** is classification of binding site or not

#### **AG-Fast-Parapred**



Figure 4. The AG-Fast-Parapred architecture.



- Include <u>all</u> residues from AntiGen
- Same Dilated Convolutions as with **ab**
- Update attention weights where ab is the query and ag as key/value:

$$\alpha_{ij} = \frac{\exp\left(\operatorname{LeakyReLU}\left(\vec{\mathbf{a}}^{T}[\mathbf{W}_{1}\vec{b}_{i}\|\mathbf{W}_{2}\vec{g}_{j}]\right)\right)}{\sum_{k\in\nu_{i}}\exp\left(\operatorname{LeakyReLU}\left(\vec{\mathbf{a}}^{T}[\mathbf{W}_{1}\vec{b}_{i}\|\mathbf{W}_{2}\vec{g}_{k}]\right)\right)}$$
(5)

#### **Experiments**

- Data collected from Structural Antibody Database (SAbDB)
  - All: 3522 pdb structures
  - Filtered: ~304 structures
- Results after 10 rounds of 10-fold Cross Validation:

Method	ROC AUC	MCC	Epoch time
proABC (Olimpieri et al., 2013)	0.851	0.522	
Parapred (Liberis et al., 2018)	$0.880 \pm 0.002$	$0.564 \pm 0.007$	$0.190\pm0.019\mathrm{s}$
Fast-Parapred (ours)	$0.883 \pm 0.001$	$0.572 \pm 0.004$	$0.085 \pm 0.015 \mathrm{s}$
AG-Fast-Parapred (ours)	$0.899 \pm 0.004$	$0.598 \pm 0.012$	$0.178\pm0.020\mathrm{s}$

#### Results



#### Results



Left: Ab-Ag complex.

Right: Normalized Ag attention weights

Warmer closers indicate higher probabilities and coefficients

# Conclusion

- Fast-Parapred outperforms current state of the art method and does not use any antigen sequence
- AG-Fast-Parapred outperfoms Fast-Parapred since it uses knowlege of antigen sequences, which maybe at the binding site.
- No 3D coordinates used

#### Drawbacks:

- A CDR sequence is needed, not a generative model
- Trained on a small dataset

# Relation to our project

- 1. Predict binding sites on target protein and potential superfamilies it my bind to using GraphNN
- 2. Only include those residues in AG-Fast-ParaPred

or

- 3. Find partner bind site with complimentary shape and charge
  - a. Search through examples of target superfamily with interacting superfamily
- 4. Given structure of antibody without variable regions, design new variable region with similar geometry and charge to the partner binding site or
  - a. Denoising Autoencoder/GAN