

Do deep neural networks improve functional annotation of alpha-cyanobacteria?

Juliana SILVA BERNARDES

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=a-ZYwhEAAAAJ&hl=en>

<https://www.lcqb.upmc.fr/julianab/>

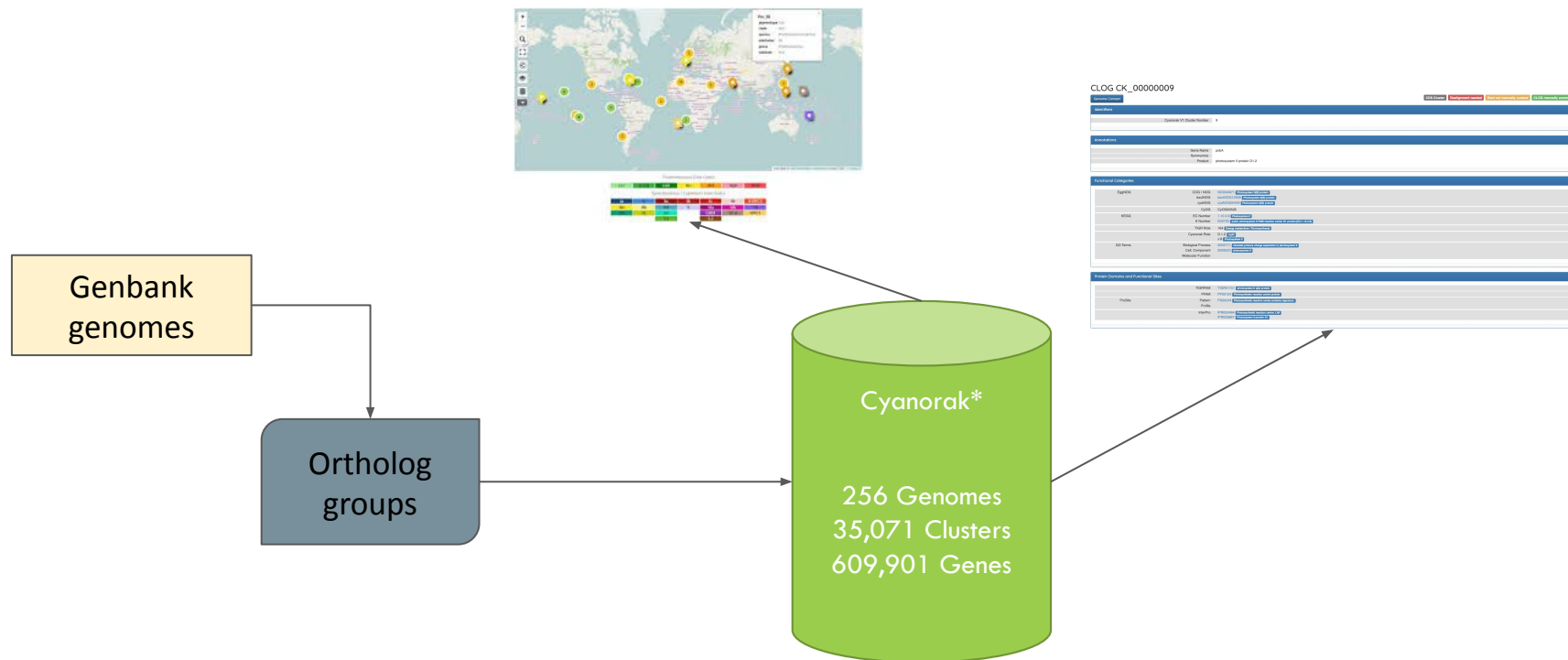
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CNRS • SORBONNE UNIVERSITÉ
**Station Biologique
de Roscoff**

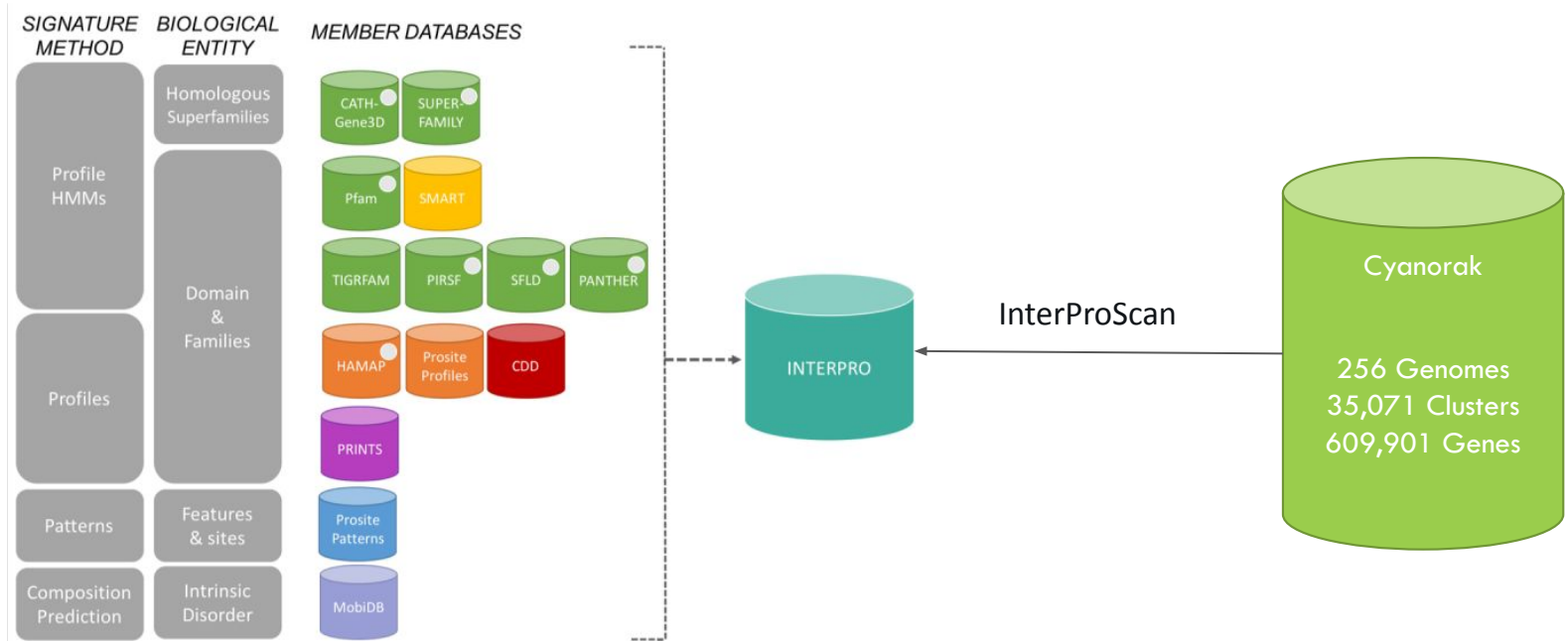
Why α -Cyanobacteria ?

- Phototrophic **microorganisms**, appeared **3.5 billion** years ago
- **Responsible** for the apparition of **Oxygen** on Earth
- One of the **most diverse/widely distributed** prokaryotic phyla
- Colonize both **terrestrial** and **aquatic environments**
- Origin of land **plants /marine algae** over the next millions of years
- They are **most abundant photosynthetic organisms** in the ocean and large lakes.

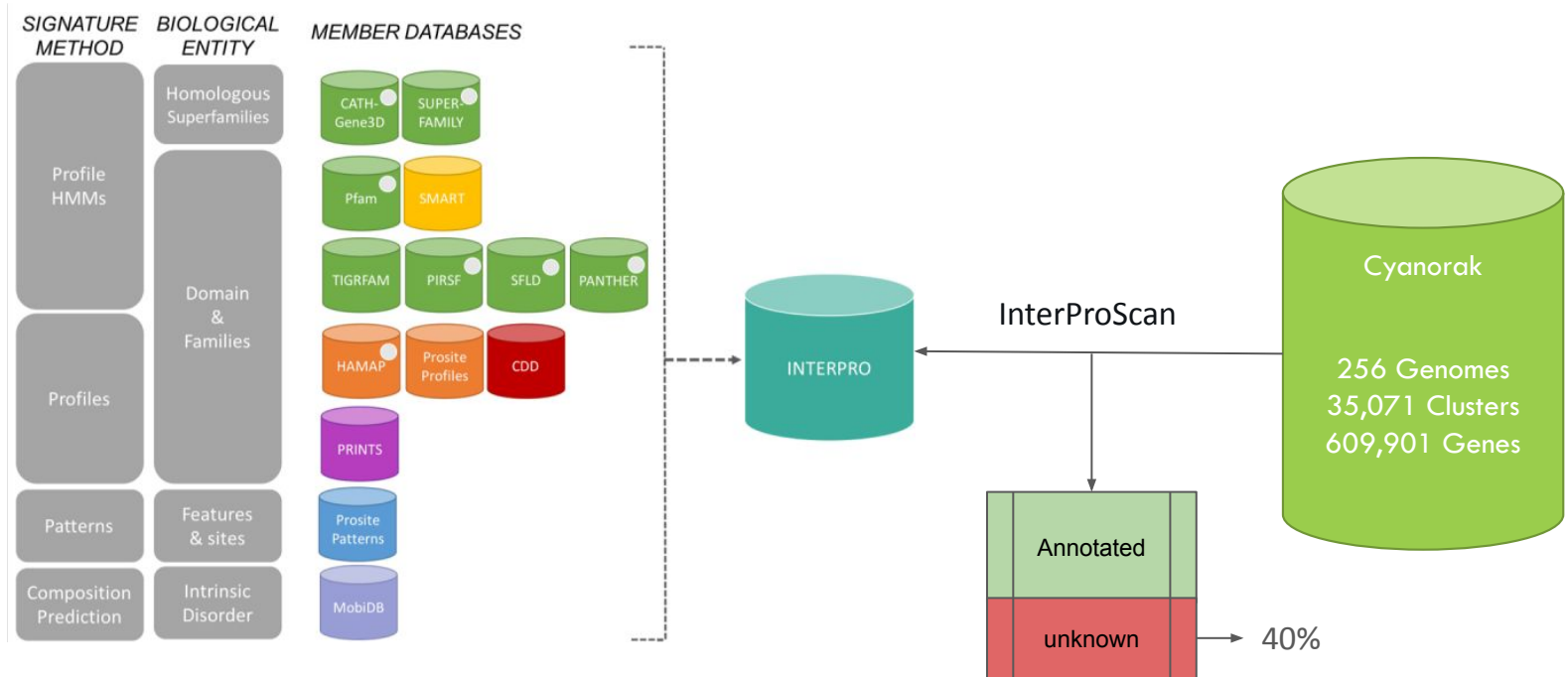


*<https://academic.oup.com/nar/article/49/D1/D667/5943826>

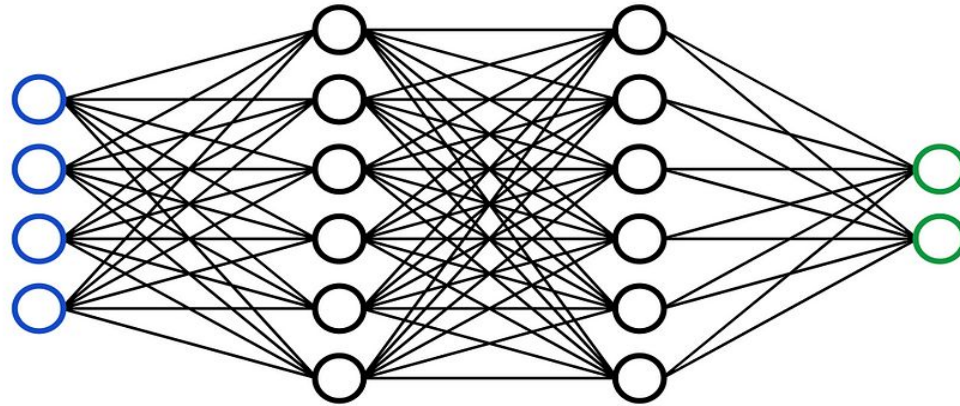
- Functional annotation of α -Cyanobacteria is based on Interpro database



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- Deep neural networks have already reached impressive results in protein three-dimensional structure prediction.
- Here, we investigated if a such methodology could improve function annotation in α -Cyanobacteria



Large language models



Large corpus
(unlabeled text)

"Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?"
"That depends a good deal on where you want to get to," said the Cat.
"I don't much care where—" said Alice.
"Then it doesn't matter which way you go," said the Cat.
"—so long as I get *somewhere*," Alice added as an explanation.
"Oh, you're sure to do that," said the Cat, "if you only walk long enough."

Original text

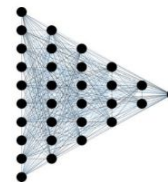
Masking



"Would you tell me, [REDACTED], which way I [REDACTED] to go from here?"
"That [REDACTED] a [REDACTED] deal on where you want to get to," said the Cat.
"I [REDACTED] much care where—" [REDACTED] Alice.
"Then it doesn't matter [REDACTED] [REDACTED] you go," said the Cat.
"—so long as I get *somewhere*," Alice [REDACTED] as an explanation.
"Oh, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to do that," said the Cat, "if [REDACTED] only [REDACTED] long enough."

Masked text

Language model



"Would you tell me, *sir*, which way I *need* to go from here?"
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Predicted text

Loss

Protein large language models



Large corpus
(unlabeled text)

Protein sequences

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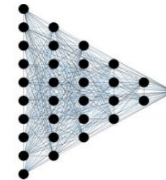
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Masked text

Language model

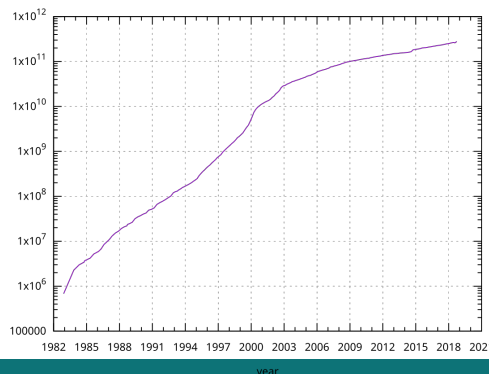


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Predicted text

Loss

Growth of GenBank



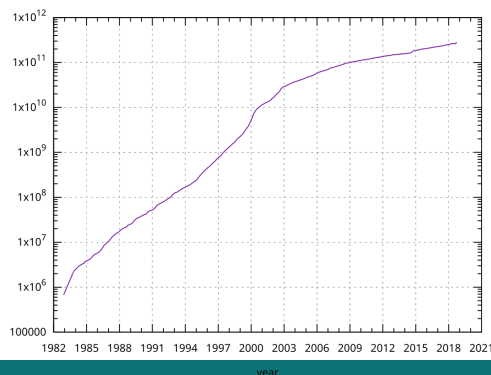
Protein language models



Large corpus
(unlabeled text)

Protein sequences

Growth of GenBank



Masking



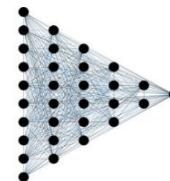
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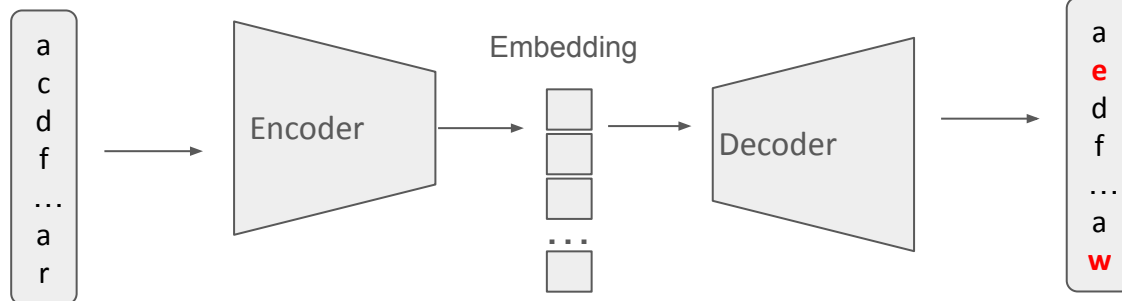
Language model



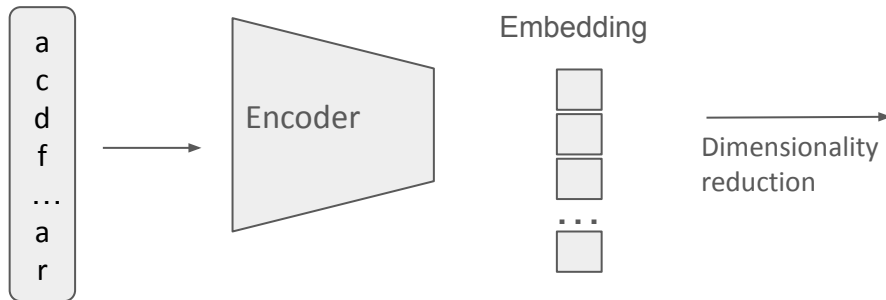
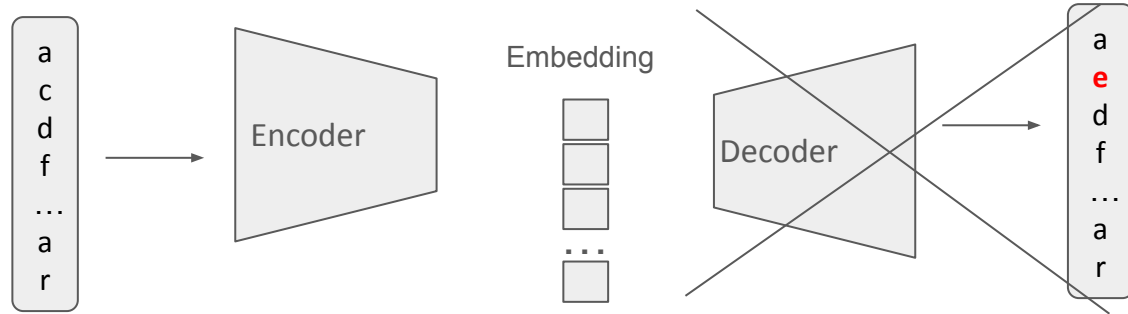
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Predicted text

Loss

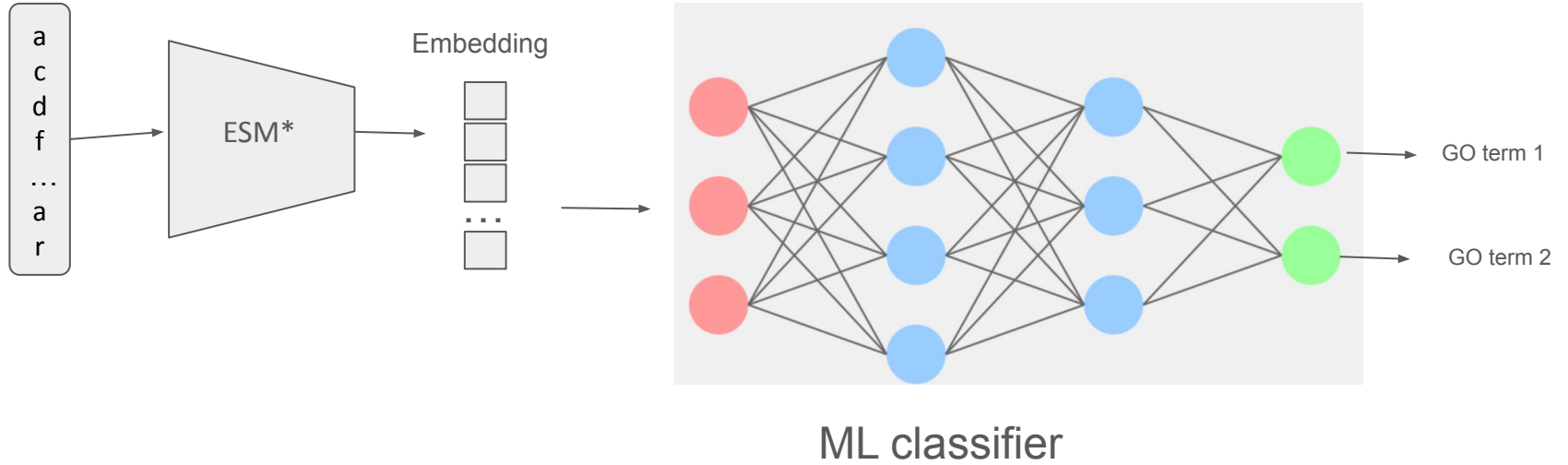


Protein language models



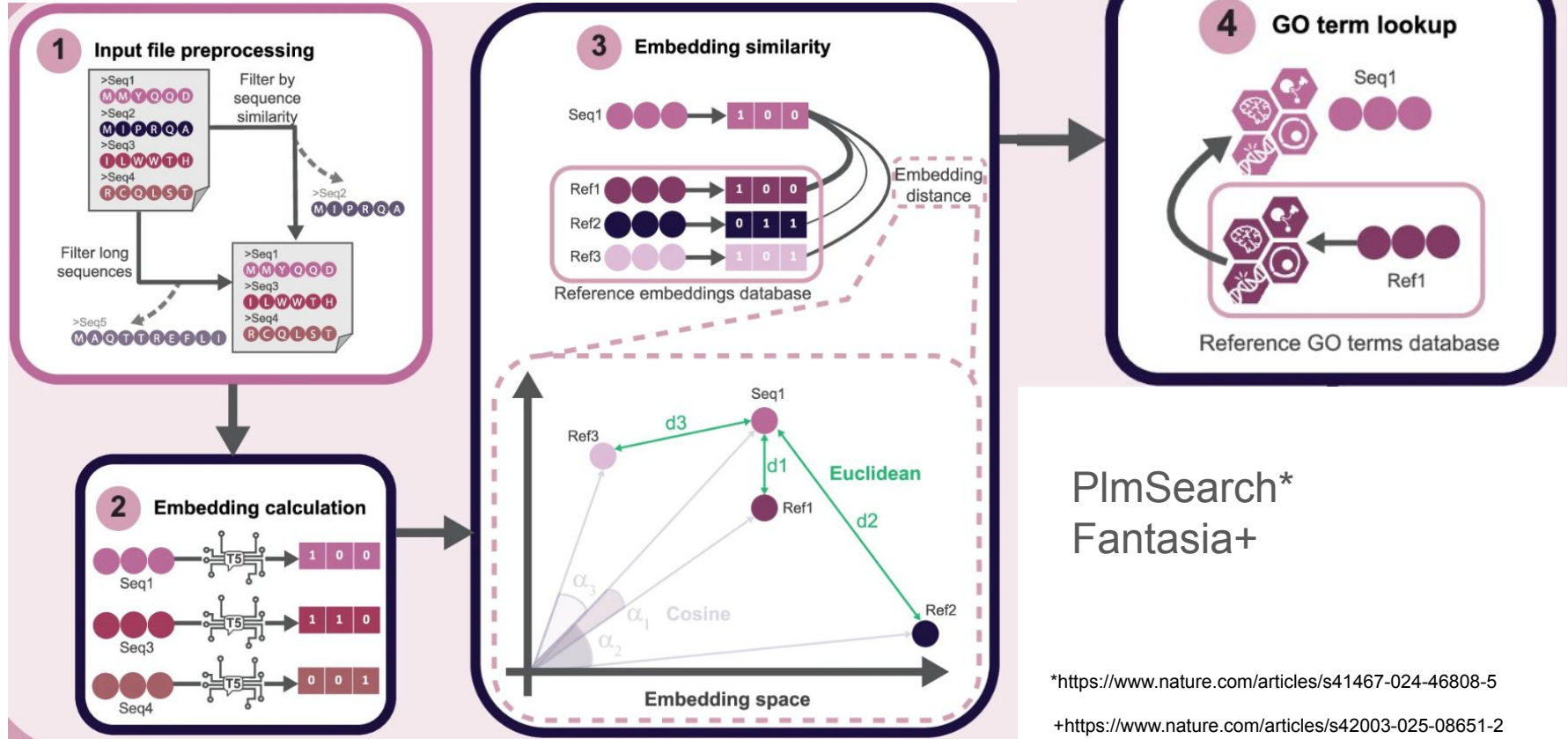
- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| ● Nucleus | ● Endoplasmic reticulum |
| ● Cytoplasm | ● Plastid |
| ● Mitochondrion | ● Golgi apparatus |
| ● Extracellular | ● Lysosome/Vacuole |
| ● Cell membrane | ● Peroxisome |

Functional Annotation with Deep-learning



*<https://www.pnas.org/doi/abs/10.1073/pnas.2016239118>

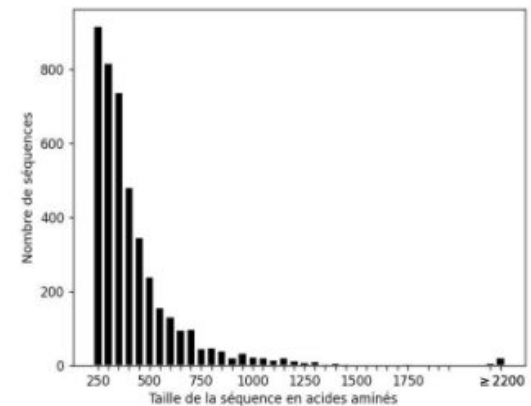
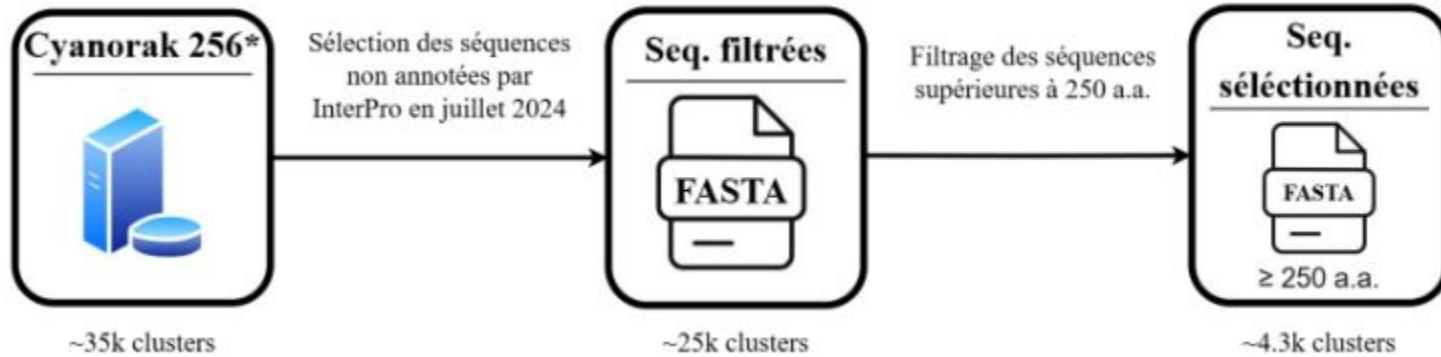
Functional Annotation with Deep-learning



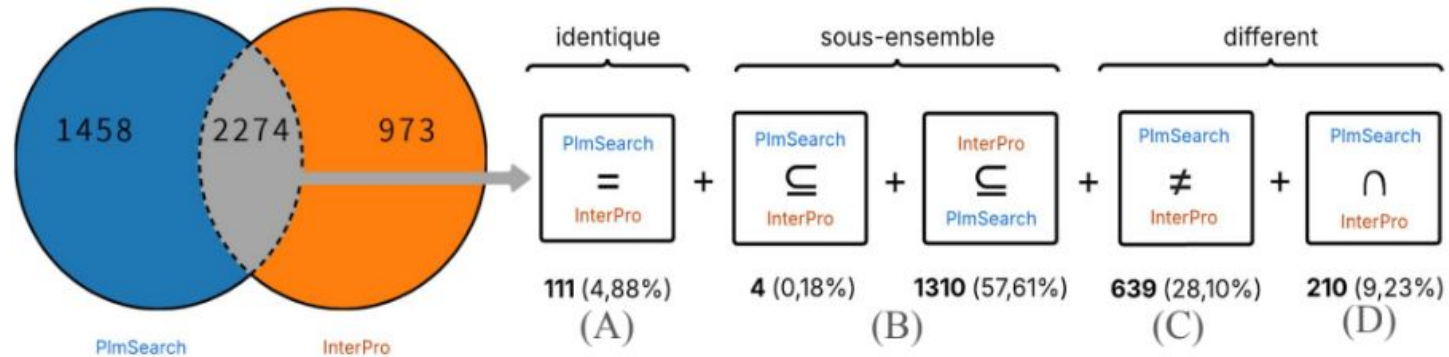
*<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-024-46808-5>

+<https://www.nature.com/articles/s42003-025-08651-2>

Data preparation



Results : comparing predictions



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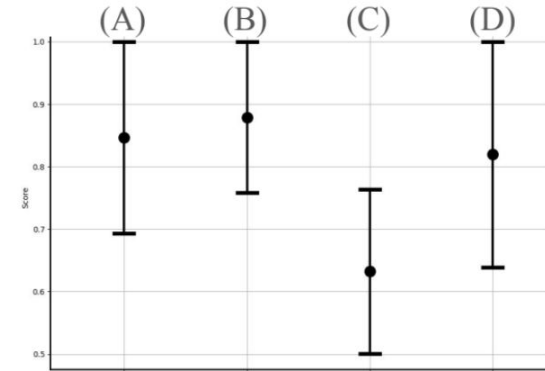
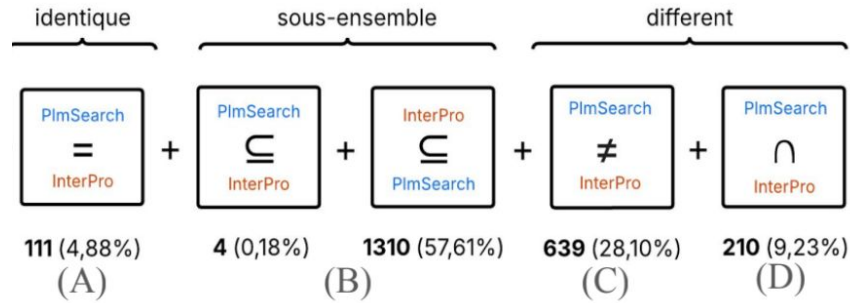
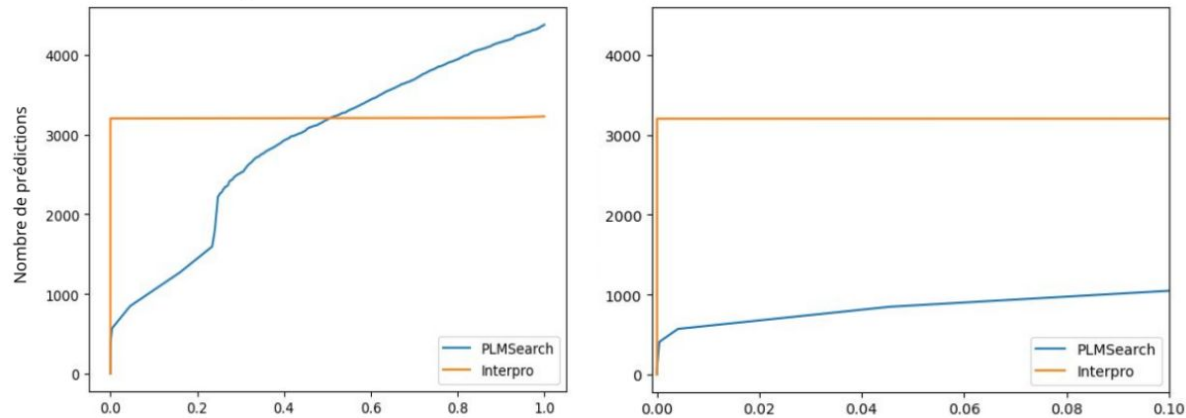


Tableau récapitulatif des tests statistiques de Mann-Whitney
(ns : non significatif ; *** : < au risque $\alpha = 1\%$)

| TEST | P-VALUE | SIGNIFICATIVITÉ |
|-------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| A & B | 0.556 | ns |
| A & C | 2.16×10^{-27} | *** |
| A & D | 4.28×10^{-4} | *** |
| B & C | 4.95×10^{-140} | *** |
| B & D | 1.78×10^{-11} | *** |
| C & D | 3.69×10^{-27} | *** |

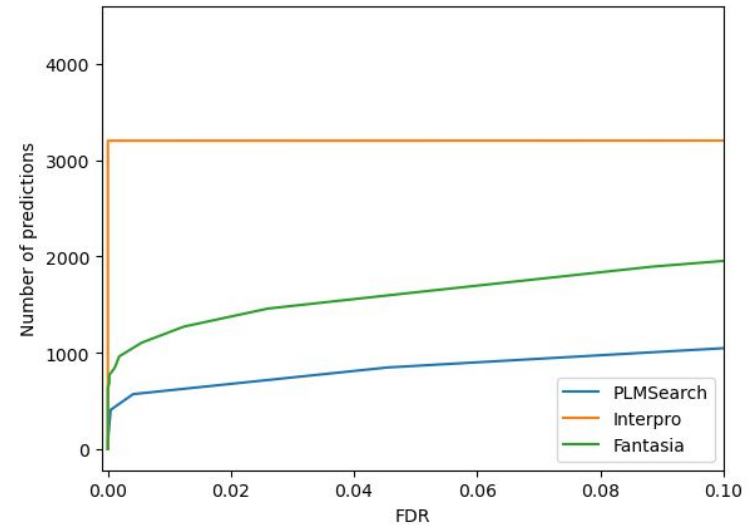
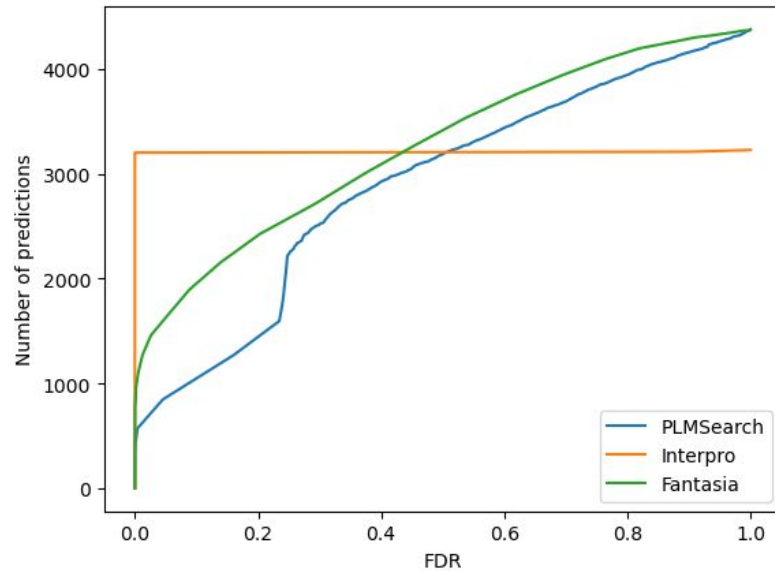
Results : False discovery rates

- We shuffled the amino acid order of each sequence with original dataset (D) to create an artificial database (R)
- FDR for a given score S is :
$$\frac{\text{number of predictions in R}}{\text{number of predictions in R} + \text{number of predictions in D}}$$



Results : False discovery rates

- We also tested Fantasia and measured FDR



- PLMSearch seems to complete/enrich the InterPro annotations.
- However, when it finds completely different annotations, the scores are significantly lower, indicating low accuracy.
- For a given FDR PLMSearch annotated less proteins than Interpro, the difference is even more evident for an FDR bounded to 10%.
- Higher FDR were also observed in Fantasia results.

- Emile Hembert - L2 student - Sorbonne Université
- Dorian Le Roux - L2 student - Sorbonne Université
- Fabio RJ Vieira - IR - Sorbonne Université
- Laurence Garczarek - CNRS-DR
- Frédéric Partensky, CNRS-DR

Thanks for your attention !