

# Supporting Information

## Explainable Deep Relational Networks for Predicting Compound-Protein Affinities and Contacts

Mostafa Karimi<sup>1,=</sup>, Di Wu<sup>1,=</sup>, Zhangyang Wang<sup>2</sup>, and Yang Shen<sup>1\*</sup>

1: Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Texas A&M University

College Station, Texas 77843-3128, United States

2: Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
The University of Texas at Austin  
Austin, Texas 78712, United States

=: Co-First Authors

\*: Correspondence: yshen@tamu.edu

## 1 Data

### 1.1 Data curation and splitting

During our training and testing, we used two groups of data sets. The first group is for benchmarking affinity prediction only. It includes three established benchmark datasets: Davis, KIBA and PDBbind. Then based on PDBbind and BindingDB dataset, we curated the second group with intermolecular contacts data for benchmarking both affinity and contact prediction (our current definition of accuracy and interpretability). In general, our data is composed of four portions: protein sequence, compound SMILES, affinity labels and intermolecular interaction/contact data (only used for assessing interpretability). To embed protein sequences, we used SPS formats in RNNs and FASTA sequences from UniProt in HRNNs or CNNs. To embed compounds, we used the canonical SMILES from Pubchem in RNNs and RDKit-converted graphs in GCNs or GINs. Cases are removed when multiple ligands simultaneously interact with one protein or protein/compound identities are unclear.

All of our interaction data are curated from the LigPlot service of PDBsum(Laskowski *et al.*, 2018). PDBsum provides an overview of each 3D macromolecular structure deposited in the Protein Data Bank. Based on the HET ID of the compound and the PDB ID of the protein (complex), we downloaded corresponding interaction data from PDBsum for the compound-protein pair. PDBsum only provides the interaction list. So we mapped each residue of the protein (each atom of the compound) between FASTA sequences (SMILES and graphs) to that in the list file derived from PDB files. After this, we converted the list to a native contact matrix with indexed protein residues and compound atoms. During this process, we removed cases which can't be mapped because of incomplete information in PDB files.

**Davis:** The Davis dataset (He *et al.*, 2017) contains all 30,056 K<sub>d</sub>-labeled pairs between 68 kinase inhibitors (including FDA-approved drugs) and 442 kinases, randomly split into 25,046 for training and 5,010 for testing.

**KIBA:** The Kinase Inhibitor BioActivity (KIBA) dataset (Tang *et al.*, 2014) contains 118,254 pairs between 2,111 kinase inhibitors and 229 kinases, including 98,545 for training and 19,709 for testing.

**PDBbind:** We downloaded the v2019 of PDBBIND database (Liu *et al.*, 2015). PDBbind database contains 17,679 protein-ligand complexes which are referred to as the "general set". A "refined set" has been compiled which includes better quality samples in comparison to the "general set". The refined set consists of 4,852 protein-ligand complexes with K<sub>i</sub>/K<sub>d</sub> affinity labels. We utilized the UniProt (Consortium, 2015) Retrieving API (<https://www.uniprot.org/uploadlists/>) to retrieve the UniProt FASTA sequences (canonical) and

GO terms for proteins involved. Some cases are with the same pair of UniProt ID and compound but with different labels, which could be due to protein mutations and removed here. In addition, we set 1,000 and 100 as the length-cutoffs for protein sequence and compound SMILES, respectively, to remove extremely long sequences/strings.

After filtering, we have 3,505 pairs between 1149 proteins and 2870 compounds. The pairs include 62 cases involving nuclear receptors (6 of them are estrogen receptors [ER]), 33 involving G protein-coupled receptor(GPCR), 106 involving ion channels and 2,157 involving enzymes (EC1: 77, EC2: 557, EC3: 1,014, EC4: 400, EC5: 78, EC6: 49, EC7: 2 overlapping; 72 kinases). They are randomly split into 2,921 pairs for training and 584 for testing affinity alone.

**BindingDB:** BindingDB(Liu *et al.*, 2006) is a public, web-accessible database of measured binding affinities. We used part of data whose  $K_i$  or  $K_d$  label is available from the previously-curated BindingDB dataset(Karimi *et al.*, 2019). In our previous  $K_d$ -labeled set, there were 8,778 pairs for the training set, 3,811 for testing, 4 for ER, 2554 for GPCR, 366 for ion channels and 2306 for kinases, only 721 among which is found to have interaction data. In our previously curated  $K_i$ -labeled set, there were 101,135 pairs for the training set, 43,392 for testing, 516 for ER, 77,994 for GPCR, 8,101 for ion channels and 3,354 for kinases, only 1,627 of which is now found to have interaction data.

**Curated dataset for affinity and contact prediction:** Firstly, we merged PDBbind dataset and BindingDB dataset and applied 1,000 and 100 as the length-cutoffs for protein sequences and compound SMILES again. After generating their interaction data from PDBsum, we filtered out cases which didn't have corresponding contact information. In the end, we reached 4,446 pairs, with both affinity ( $K_i$  or  $K_d$ ) and contacts (as in crystal structures of protein-ligand complexes) available, between 1,287 proteins and 3,672 compounds. The pairs include 105 interactions with nuclear receptors (21 of which are with ER), 89 with G protein-coupled receptor(GPCR), 111 with ion channels and 2,913 with enzymes (including 114 with kinases). In particular, those pairs involving enzymes can be split (with overlaps) into EC classes: 222 (EC1), 865 (EC2), 1,218 (EC3), 500 (EC4), 92 (EC5), 52 (EC6) and 2 (EC7).

The set is randomly split into four folds where fold 1 do not overlap with fold 2 in compounds, do not do so with fold 3 in proteins, and do not do so with fold 4 in either compounds or proteins. Folds 2, 3, and 4 are referred to as new-compound, new-protein, and both-new sets for generalizability tests; and they contain 521, 795 and 205 pairs, respectively. Then we randomly split fold 1 into training (2,334) and test (591) sets. During this process, we followed the algorithm in 1. Ideally, we expect to split 70% cases into training + test sets and at least 5% into both-new. In addition, we aim to balance the compound and protein unique set. In this case, the ideal percentage of new-compound and new-protein sets would be 10% - 15%.

## 1.2 Compound preprocessing

At first we used open babel software (O'Boyle *et al.*, 2011) for ionization of compounds. Then, We used "chem.SanitizeMol()" from RDKit open source software (Landrum *et al.*, 2006) for compound sanitization, which includes converting certain neutral atoms to Zwitterionic forms or aromatic atoms to Kekulized forms where applicable. Citing the RDKit book ([https://www.rdkit.org/docs/RDKit\\_Book.html#molecular-sanitization](https://www.rdkit.org/docs/RDKit_Book.html#molecular-sanitization)), the detailed steps are:

- "Standardizes a small number of non-standard valence states which include ionization.
- Calculates the explicit and implicit valences on all atoms.
- Symmetrized based on smallest set of smallest rings algorithm
- Converts aromatic rings to their Kekule form.
- Determines the number of radical electrons
- Identifies the aromatic rings and ring systems
- Identifies which bonds are conjugated
- Calculates the hybridization state of each atom
- Removes chiral tags from atoms that are not sp3 hybridized.

---

**Algorithm 1** Data Splitting

---

```
1: Input: Data from PDBbind and BindingDB with Ki+Kd labels
2: Output: Five folds data sets: training set, test set and three generalization sets
3: Initialize: ProteinPercentage and CompoundPercentage as 15%,
4: Initialize: Result as Empty
5: Initialize: Iter = 0
6: while Result is Empty do
7:   while Iter < 5 do
8:     Shuffle Data
9:     Randomly Initialize ProteinPercentage protein from Protein List to UniqueProteinList
10:    Randomly Initialize CompoundPercentage proteins from Compound List to UniqueCompoundList
11:    for Each case in Data do
12:      if Protein in UniqueProteinList and Compound in UniqueCompoundList then
13:        Store case in DoubleUniqueSet
14:      else if Protein in UniqueProteinList then
15:        Store case in ProteinUniqueSet
16:      else if Compound in UniqueCompoundList then
17:        Store case in CompoundUniqueSet
18:      else
19:        Store case in Rest
20:      end if
21:    end for
22:    Randomly split 20% of Rest to TestSet and 80% to TrainingSet
23:    if Percentage of Rest  $\in$  [65%, 70%] and Percentage of DoubleUniqueSet  $\in$  [5%, 10%] then
24:      Store splitting result to Result
25:    end if
26:    Iter = Iter + 1
27:  end while
28:  if Percentage of ProteinUnique > 15% then
29:    ProteinPercentage = ProteinPercentage - 1%
30:  else if Percentage of ProteinUnique < 10% then
31:    ProteinPercentage = ProteinPercentage + 1%
32:  end if
33:  if Percentage of CompoundUnique > 15% then
34:    CompoundPercentage = CompoundPercentage - 1%
35:  else if Percentage of CompoundUnique < 10% then
36:    CompoundPercentage = CompoundPercentage + 1%
37:  end if
38:  Iter = 0
39: end while
40: return Splitting result with most cases in DoubleUniqueSet among Result
```

---

- Adds explicit Hs where necessary to preserve the chemistry. This is typically needed for heteroatoms in aromatic rings.”

### 1.3 Predicting protein residue-residue contact maps

We used the standalone software RaptorX-contact for contact map prediction that is eventually for distance-based protein structure prediction (Xu, 2019). The software was provided at the following link: <https://github.com/j3xugit/RaptorX-Contact>. RaptorX-contact utilized various 1D and 2D sequence information as features for their deep learning model. In the following, the feature generation for RaptorX-contact is explained in details:

- Protein sequence: primary sequence represented as a string of letters (upper case).
- Multiple sequence alignment (MSA): For each protein, we generated four MSAs by running HHblits (Remmert *et al.*, 2012) with 3 iterations and E-value set to 0.001 and 1 for UniClust30 library (Mirdita *et al.*, 2017) created in October 2017 and the UniRef sequence database (Suzek *et al.*, 2015) created in early 2018. For each MSA, we calculate the position-specific frequency matrix (PSFM) and position-specific scoring matrix (PSSM).
- Protein property prediction: For each of the protein sequences, we predict its disorder (Wang *et al.*, 2016a) its secondary structure (SS3 and SS8) through DeepCNF (Wang *et al.*, 2016b), and its solvent accessibility through AccnPred (Ma and Wang, 2015).
- CCMpred: For each of the MSA, we predict its normalized contact map through CCMpred (Ekeberg *et al.*, 2013).
- MetaPSICOV: For each of the MSA, we calculate three matrices of pairwise relationship generated by alnstats in MetaPSICOV (Jones *et al.*, 2015).

In summary, 1 protein has 4 sets of input features and accordingly 4 predicted distance matrices, which are then averaged to obtain the final prediction.

## 1.4 Compound similarity calculation

Molecular fingerprints provide a mathematical representation of compounds which is very useful for compound similarity calculation (Cereto-Massagué *et al.*, 2015). For virtual screening (and protein-ligand interactions), circular (that is topological) fingerprints are better (Hert *et al.*, 2004) such as Extended-connectivity fingerprints (ECFPs) (Rogers and Hahn, 2010). We have used the open source software RDkit (Landrum *et al.*, 2006) for implementation of ECFP4 with 1024 bits. We used Morgan fingerprint with radius 2 which is roughly equivalent to ECFP4 (Rogers and Hahn, 2010). To assess the similarity between molecular fingerprints, we used the standard Tanimoto/Jaccard coefficient (Cereto-Massagué *et al.*, 2015). Tanimoto score considers the common number of 1 bits divided by the total number of 1 bits. Tanimoto scores range between 0 (no similarity) and 1 (highly similar). 0.85 has been chosen as the Tanimoto coefficient threshold above which molecules will be considered similar enough (Martin *et al.*, 2002; Patterson *et al.*, 1996).

## 1.5 Compound’s property and label distribution

Training set compare to	Test	New Protein	New Compound	Both New
LogP	0.1707	0.1781	0.2350	0.3077
Exact_MW	0.1350	0.2304	0.2146	0.2906
Label (Affinity)	0.1721	0.2118	0.1581	0.3065

Table S1: Jensen-Shannon distances between the training and the other sets in various property distributions.

## 1.6 Features used for compounds in graph-based representation

The following table describes the features used for the vertex (atoms) in graph representation (GCN/GIN) for DeepAffinity+ and DeepRelations:

Feature name	type	length
Atom being inside aromatic ring	binary	1
Polarity (based on Gasteiger partial Charges)	continuous	1
Charge (based on formal Charges)	integer	1
Type of atoms (C,N ,O ,S ,F ,Si ,Cl ,P ,Br ,I ,B or unknown)	one hot encoding	12
Hydrogen bonding (F, N, O or not)	binary	1
Halogen bonding (F, Cl, I, Br or not)	binary	1
Degree of atom (adopted from (Tang <i>et al.</i> , 2020))	one hot encoding	6
Number of hydrogen attached (adopted from (Tang <i>et al.</i> , 2020))	one hot encoding	5
Implicit valence (adopted from (Tang <i>et al.</i> , 2020))	one hot encoding	6
Radical electrons (adopted from (Tang <i>et al.</i> , 2020))	integer	1
Hybridization (adopted from (Tang <i>et al.</i> , 2020))	one hot encoding	6

Table S2: Features used for compounds in graph-based representation of DeepAffinity versions

## 2 Results

### 2.1 Attentions alone are inadequate for interpreting compound-protein affinity prediction.

Model (Prot.-Comp.)	Assessment		Training	Test	New-Prot.	New-Comp.	Both-New
RNN-RNN	affinity	RMSE	0.53	1.57	1.66	1.40	1.66
		Pearson’s $r$	0.97	0.65	0.39	0.70	0.49
	contact	AUPRC	0.0065	0.0067	0.0060	0.0061	0.0057
		AUROC	0.5108	0.5078	0.5182	0.5053	0.5122
RNN-GCN	affinity	RMSE	0.49	<b>1.40</b>	1.68	<b>1.28</b>	1.82
		Pearson’s $r$	0.98	<b>0.72</b>	0.35	<b>0.74</b>	0.36
	contact	AUPRC	0.0068	0.0069	0.0063	0.0063	0.0064
		AUROC	0.5061	0.5031	0.5023	0.5021	0.5047
CNN-GCN	affinity	RMSE	1.02	1.49	1.72	1.33	1.71
		Pearson’s $r$	0.85	0.67	0.38	0.72	0.45
	contact	AUPRC	0.0060	0.0064	0.0038	0.0060	0.0045
		AUROC	0.5059	0.5049	0.4862	0.5004	0.4848
HRNN-RNN	affinity	RMSE	0.40	1.47	1.49	<b>1.28</b>	1.60
		Pearson’s $r$	0.98	0.69	0.57	<b>0.74</b>	0.55
	contact	AUPRC	0.0067	0.0069	0.0049	0.0065	0.0052
		AUROC	0.5025	0.5047	0.4946	0.5009	0.4934
HRNN-GCN	affinity	RMSE	0.69	1.47	<b>1.46</b>	1.34	<b>1.49</b>
		Pearson’s $r$	0.93	0.70	<b>0.56</b>	0.73	<b>0.61</b>
	contact	AUPRC	0.0071	0.0069	0.0061	0.0065	0.0067
		AUROC	0.5174	0.5143	0.5269	0.5085	0.5272
HRNN-GIN	affinity	RMSE	1.22	1.53	1.67	1.43	1.68
		Pearson’s $r$	0.80	0.66	0.49	0.67	0.53
	contact	AUPRC	0.0067	0.0071	0.0048	0.0074	0.0051
		AUROC	0.4936	0.4969	0.4693	0.4948	0.4688
Gao et al.	affinity	RMSE	1.79	1.87	1.72	1.75	1.79
		Pearson’s $r$	0.73	0.58	0.42	0.51	0.42
	contact	AUPRC	0.0062	0.0060	0.0048	0.0057	0.0048
		AUROC	0.5150	0.5157	0.5165	0.5150	0.5155

Table S3: Comparing accuracy and interpretability among various versions of DeepAffinity with (unsupervised) joint attention mechanisms as well as a state-of-the-art interpretable method (Gao et al., adapted from binding classification to affinity regression). Best affinity predictions in each set are highlighted in boldface.

## 2.2 Supervising attentions significantly improves interpretability

Model	Assessment		Training	Test	New-Prot.	New-Comp.	Both-New
HRNN-GCN _cstr	affinity	RMSE	0.44	<b>1.42</b>	1.61	1.34	1.72
		Pearson's $r$	0.95	<b>0.71</b>	0.40	0.73	0.32
	contact	AUPRC	0.0067	0.0065	0.0052	0.0064	0.0065
		AUROC	0.5041	0.5036	0.5087	0.4996	0.5060
HRNN-GCN _cstr_sup (Best DeepAffinity+)	affinity	RMSE	0.64	1.49	1.57	1.34	1.61
		Pearson's $r$	0.95	0.68	0.45	0.73	0.51
	contact	AUPRC	0.3614	<b>0.1974</b>	0.0477	<b>0.1998</b>	0.0411
		AUROC	0.8184	0.7378	0.6001	0.7380	0.5909
HRNN-GIN _cstr	affinity	RMSE	0.73	1.46	1.69	<b>1.31</b>	1.80
		Pearson's $r$	0.93	0.69	0.47	<b>0.74</b>	0.43
	contact	AUPRC	0.0084	0.0083	0.0064	0.0087	0.0066
		AUROC	0.5187	0.5214	0.5109	0.5297	0.5186
HRNN-GIN _cstr_sup	affinity	RMSE	1.13	1.53	1.54	1.37	<b>1.59</b>
		Pearson's $r$	0.81	0.65	<b>0.55</b>	0.70	<b>0.57</b>
	contact	AUPRC	0.0698	0.0457	0.0113	0.0482	0.0135
		AUROC	0.5999	0.5847	0.5066	0.5803	0.5157
DeepRelations _cstr	affinity	RMSE	0.43	1.51	<b>1.52</b>	1.41	1.67
		Pearson's $r$	0.97	0.67	0.52	0.69	0.47
	contact	AUPRC	0.0083	0.0091	0.0100	0.0086	0.0089
		AUROC	0.528	0.533	0.558	0.533	0.552
DeepRelations _cstr_sup (Best DeepRelations)	affinity	RMSE	0.47	1.45	1.57	1.35	1.63
		Pearson's $r$	0.96	0.69	0.47	0.71	0.52
	contact	AUPRC	0.367	0.187	<b>0.052</b>	0.191	<b>0.047</b>
		AUROC	0.845	<b>0.760</b>	<b>0.669</b>	<b>0.764</b>	<b>0.659</b>
Gao et al.	affinity	RMSE	1.79	1.87	1.72	1.75	1.79
		Pearson's $r$	0.73	0.58	0.42	0.51	0.42
	contact	AUPRC	0.0062	0.0060	0.0048	0.0057	0.0048
		AUROC	0.5150	0.5157	0.5165	0.5150	0.5155

Table S4: Comparing accuracy and interpretability among various versions of DeepAffinity+ (DeepAffinity with regularized and supervised attentions) and DeepRelations. “cstr” indicates physical constraints imposed on attentions through regularization term  $R_2(\cdot)$ , whereas “sup” indicates supervised attentions through regularization term  $R_3(\cdot)$ . Best performances in each set are highlighted in boldface.

## 2.3 Ablation study for DeepRelations

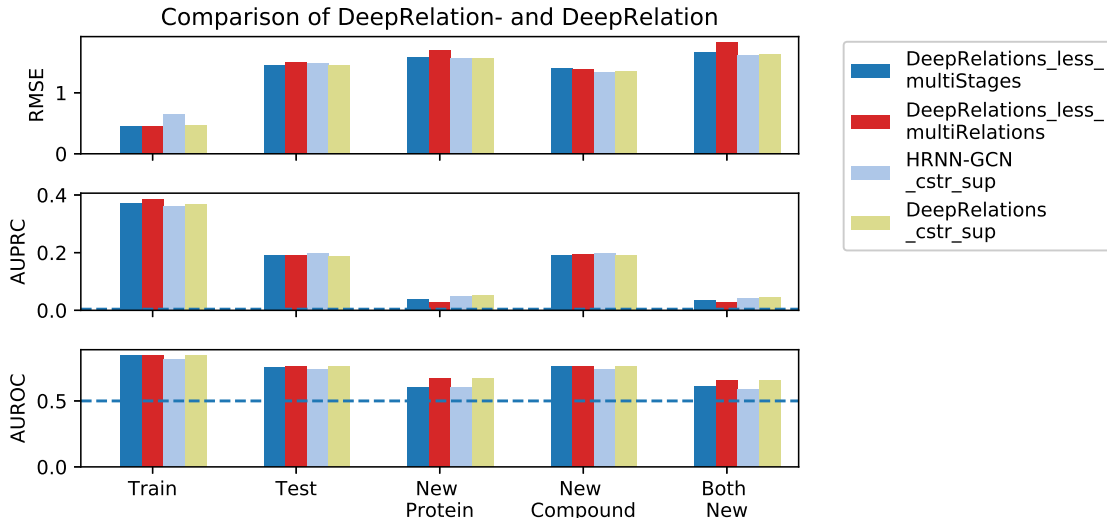


Figure S1: Comparing interpretability between DeepRelations and DeepRelations- (DeepRelations without multi-stage focusing, explicitly-modeled relations, or both).

## 2.4 Randomization tests for affinity prediction

		Training	Test	New-Comp.	New-Prot.	Both-New
Random sampling training set	RMSE	$2.77 \pm 0.03$	$2.82 \pm 0.06$	$2.74 \pm 0.07$	$2.72 \pm 0.06$	$2.79 \pm 0.11$
	Pearson's $r$	$0.004 \pm 0.019$	$-0.002 \pm 0.037$	$-0.001 \pm 0.041$	$0.006 \pm 0.036$	$0.006 \pm 0.068$
Random sampling each set	RMSE	$2.78 \pm 0.03$	$2.85 \pm 0.06$	$2.71 \pm 0.07$	$2.51 \pm 0.06$	$2.67 \pm 0.13$
	Pearson's $r$	$-0.004 \pm 0.021$	$0.003 \pm 0.037$	$-0.005 \pm 0.043$	$0.004 \pm 0.033$	$0.003 \pm 0.081$
Mean of training	RMSE	1.95	2.02	1.91	1.85	1.95
Mean of each set	RMSE	1.95	2.02	1.91	1.77	1.90
Mean of all data	RMSE	1.96	2.02	1.91	1.82	1.93

Table S5: Affinity prediction based on several random schemes.

		Permuted Training	Test	New-Comp.	New-Prot.	Both-New
HRNN Y randomization	RMSE	$0.56 \pm 0.02$	$2.45 \pm 0.06$	$2.39 \pm 0.07$	$2.20 \pm 0.15$	$2.25 \pm 0.16$
	Pearson's $r$	$0.960 \pm 0.003$	$0.001 \pm 0.054$	$0.001 \pm 0.043$	$-0.028 \pm 0.084$	$-0.10 \pm 0.112$
DeepRelations Y randomization	RMSE	$1.03 \pm 0.15$	$2.38 \pm 0.16$	$2.29 \pm 0.17$	$2.16 \pm 0.13$	$2.24 \pm 0.14$
	Pearson's $r$	$0.817 \pm 0.169$	$-0.007 \pm 0.063$	$-0.006 \pm 0.069$	$-0.16 \pm 0.078$	$-0.031 \pm 0.095$

Table S6: Y randomization test for DeepAffinity+ and DeepRelations to validate their affinity prediction.

		Permuted Training	Test	New-Comp.	New-Prot.	Both-New
HRNN comp. randomization	RMSE	$0.55 \pm 0.04$	$2.03 \pm 0.04$	$1.95 \pm 0.06$	$2.15 \pm 0.15$	$2.22 \pm 0.13$
	Pearson's $r$	$0.962 \pm 0.007$	$0.154 \pm 0.032$	$0.243 \pm 0.027$	$0.028 \pm 0.097$	$0.017 \pm 0.105$
DeepRelations comp. randomization	RMSE	$0.86 \pm 0.17$	$2.06 \pm 0.03$	$1.94 \pm 0.12$	$2.20 \pm 0.17$	$2.23 \pm 0.16$
	Pearson's $r$	$0.877 \pm 0.128$	$0.135 \pm 0.041$	$0.219 \pm 0.039$	$0.012 \pm 0.095$	$0.012 \pm 0.113$

Table S7: Compound randomization test for DeepAffinity+ and DeepRelations to validate their affinity prediction.

## 2.5 Ensemble approach further improves affinity prediction

To further improve the accuracy of affinity prediction for DeepAffinity+ and DeepRelations, we have pursued an ensemble-learning approach and trained 50 models with different hyper-parameters for either DeepAffinity+ and DeepRelations (100 in total). Specifically, for either model, we used 5 different dropout ratios ( $\{0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9\}$ ), 2 different  $\lambda_{bind}$  ( $\{100, 1000\}$ ) and 5 different amount of neurons for the 2 last fully connected layers ( $\{(300, 300), (600, 300), (600, 600), (800, 800), (1000, 1000)\}$ ). In the end, we consider the ensemble of  $5 \times 2 \times 5 = 50$  combinations for either DeepAffinity+ or DeepRelations as well as the ensemble of  $50 + 50 = 100$  combinations. We report the results in Table S8 based on three metrics: RMSE, Pearson’s  $r$  and  $R^2_{pred}$ .

		Training	Test	New-Comp.	New-Prot.	Both-New
HRNN-GCN single	RMSE	0.64	1.49	1.34	1.57	1.61
	Pearson’s $r$	0.95	0.68	0.73	0.45	0.51
	$R^2_{pred}$	0.89	0.45	0.51	0.27	0.32
DeepRelations single	RMSE	0.47	1.45	1.35	1.57	1.63
	Pearson’s $r$	0.96	0.69	0.71	0.47	0.52
	$R^2_{pred}$	0.92	0.48	0.50	0.27	0.30
HRNN-GCN ensemble	RMSE	0.19	<b>1.29</b>	<b>1.20</b>	<b>1.50</b>	<b>1.60</b>
	Pearson’s $r$	0.99	<b>0.77</b>	<b>0.78</b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>0.58</b>
	$R^2_{pred}$	0.99	<b>0.59</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>0.34</b>
DeepRelations ensemble	RMSE	0.29	1.35	1.27	1.59	1.65
	Pearson’s $r$	0.99	0.75	0.75	0.53	0.54
	$R^2_{pred}$	0.98	0.55	0.56	0.26	0.28
HRNN-GCN + DeepRelations ensemble	RMSE	0.23	1.30	1.21	1.53	<b>1.60</b>
	Pearson’s $r$	0.99	0.76	0.77	0.56	0.57
	$R^2_{pred}$	0.99	0.58	<b>0.60</b>	0.31	0.32

Table S8: Affinity prediction through ensembles of DeepAffinity+ or/and DeepRelations.



## 2.6 Model Generalizability

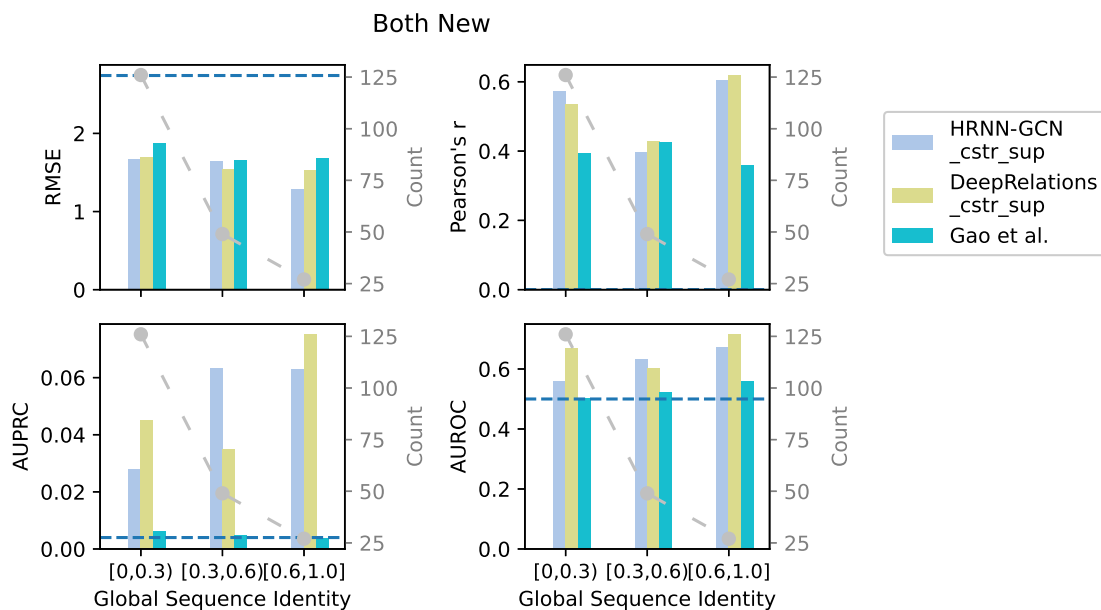


Figure S2: Comparing DeepAffinity+, DeepRelations, and Gao's method in the global protein generalizability of affinity prediction (RMSE and Pearson's  $r$ ) and contact prediction (AUPRC and AUROC) in global sequence identity perspective for the both-new set. Cyan dashed lines indicate the performances of random predictors.

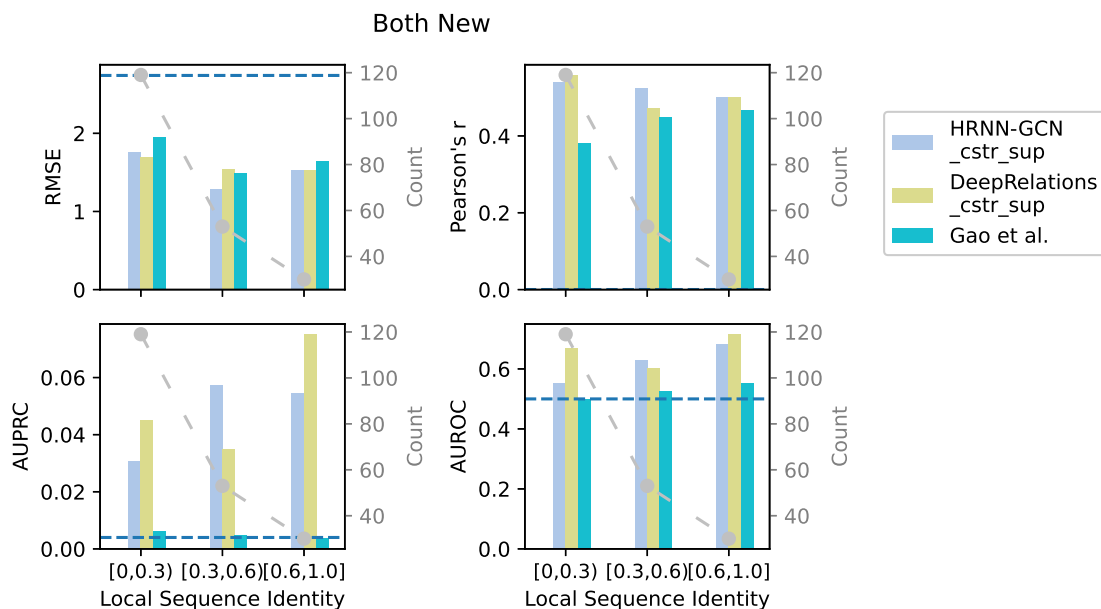


Figure S3: Comparing DeepAffinity+, DeepRelations, and Gao's method in the local protein (binding  $k$ -mer) generalizability of affinity prediction (RMSE and Pearson's  $r$ ) and contact prediction (AUPRC and AUROC) in local sequence identity perspective for the both-new set.

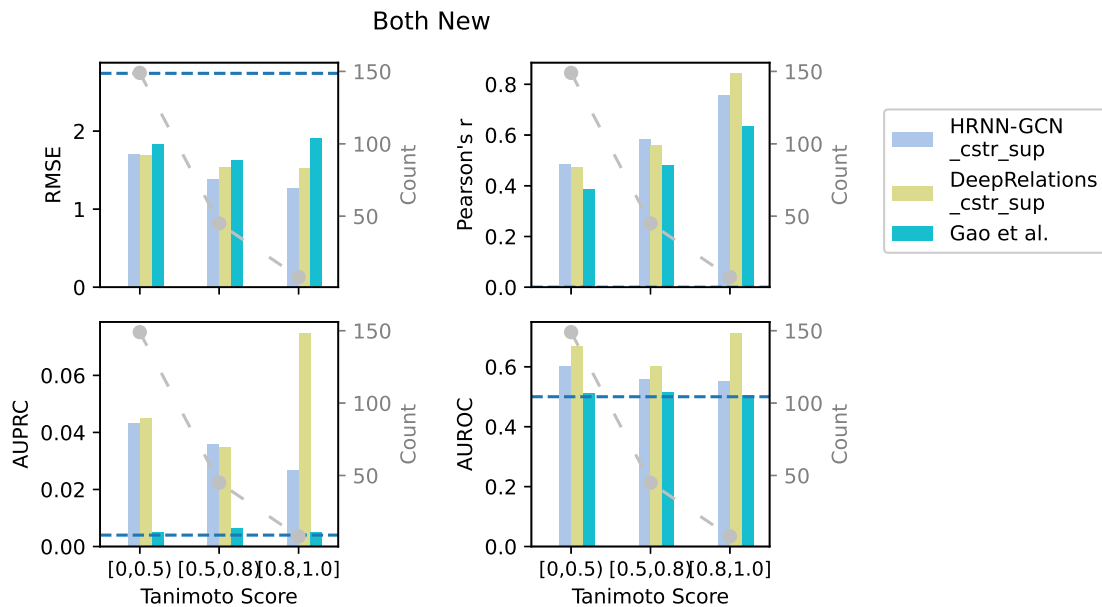


Figure S4: Comparing DeepAffinity+, DeepRelations, and Gao's method in the compound generalizability of affinity prediction (RMSE and Pearson's  $r$ ) and contact prediction (AUPRC and AUROC) in Tanimoto score perspective for the both-new set.

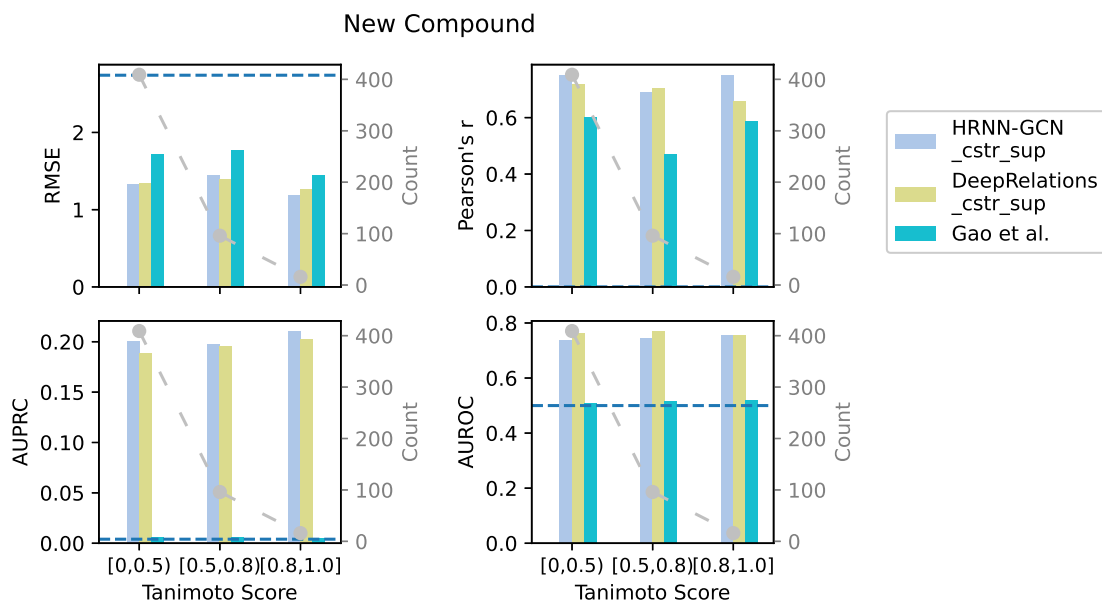


Figure S5: Comparing DeepAffinity+, DeepRelations, and Gao's method in the compound generalizability of affinity prediction (RMSE and Pearson's  $r$ ) and contact prediction (AUPRC and AUROC) in Tanimoto score perspective for the new compound set.

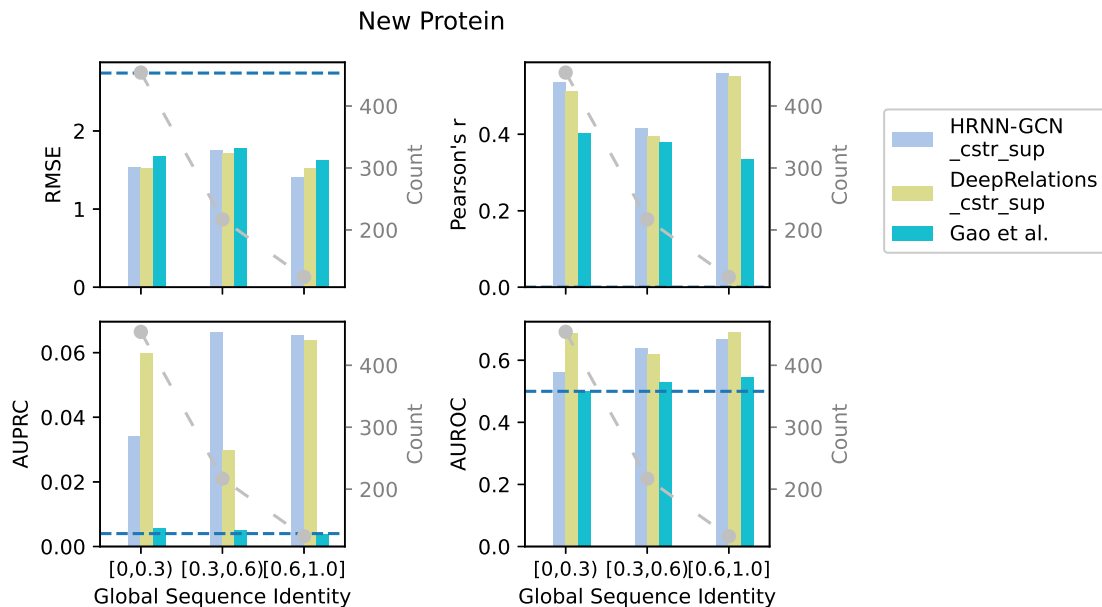


Figure S6: Comparing DeepAffinity+, DeepRelations, and Gao's method in the global protein generalizability of affinity prediction (RMSE and Pearson's  $r$ ) and contact prediction (AUPRC and AUROC) in global sequence identity perspective for the new protein set.

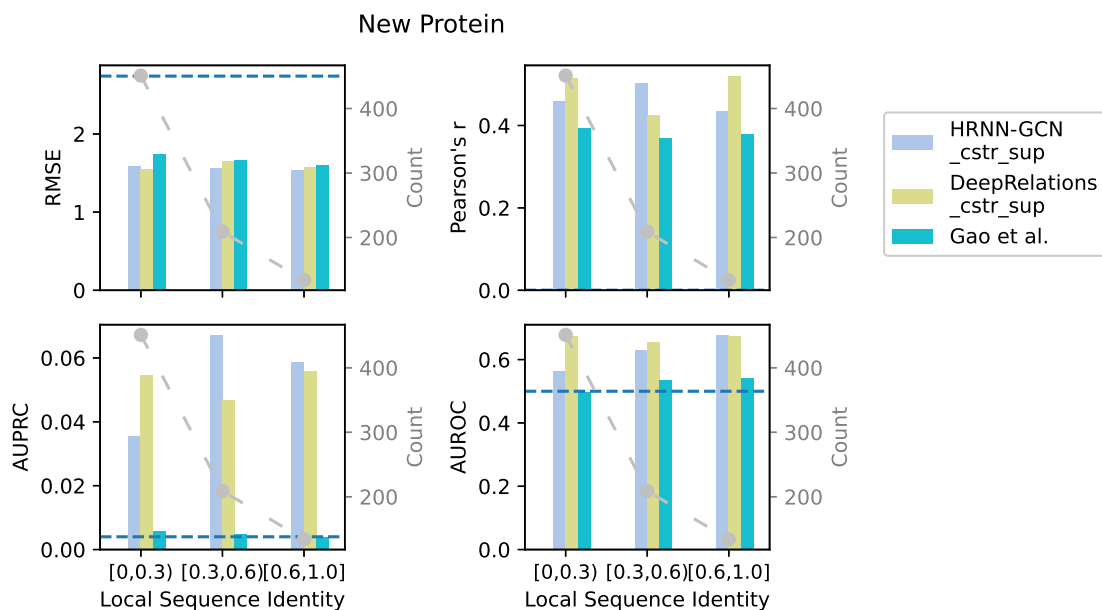


Figure S7: Comparing DeepAffinity+, DeepRelations, and Gao's method in the local protein (binding  $k$ -mer) generalizability of affinity prediction (RMSE and Pearson's  $r$ ) and contact prediction (AUPRC and AUROC) for the new protein set.

			Both New (seq identity)	Both New (k-mer identity)	Both New (Tanimoto)
HRNN-GCN _cstr_sup	affinity	RMSE Pearson's $r$	1.66, 1.64, 1.28 0.57, 0.39, 0.60	1.76, 1.28, 1.53 0.54, 0.52, 0.50	1.69, 1.37, 1.26 0.48, 0.58, 0.75
	contact	AUPRC AUROC	0.0278, 0.0631, 0.0630 0.5576, 0.6326, 0.6707	0.0306, 0.0571, 0.0545 0.5520, 0.6269, 0.6814	0.0434, 0.0359, 0.0269 0.6024, 0.5597, 0.5526
DeepRelations _cstr_sup	affinity	RMSE Pearson's $r$	1.69, 1.54, 1.53 0.53, 0.42, 0.61	1.73, 1.37, 1.68 0.56, 0.47, 0.50	1.71, 1.44, 1.23 0.47, 0.56, 0.84
	contact	AUPRC AUROC	0.045, 0.035, 0.075 0.669, 0.603, 0.714	0.043, 0.046, 0.065 0.654, 0.672, 0.660	0.050, 0.037, 0.041 0.658, 0.668, 0.630
Gao et al.	affinity	RMSE Pearson's $r$	1.87, 1.65, 1.68 0.39, 0.42, 0.36	1.95, 1.49, 1.64 0.38, 0.44, 0.46	1.83, 1.62, 1.91 0.38, 0.48, 0.63
	contact	AUPRC AUROC	0.0060, 0.0045, 0.0037 0.5016, 0.5224, 0.5568	0.0061, 0.0046, 0.0037 0.4998, 0.5242, 0.5525	0.0050, 0.0066, 0.0050 0.5137, 0.5168, 0.5041

			New Prot. (seq identity)	New Prot. (k-mer identity)	New Compound (Tanimoto)
HRNN-GCN _cstr_sup	affinity	RMSE Pearson's $r$	1.53, 1.75, 1.40 0.53, 0.41, 0.56	1.59, 1.56, 1.53 0.46, 0.50, 0.43	1.32, 1.44, 1.18 0.74, 0.69, 0.75
	contact	AUPRC AUROC	0.0340, 0.0662, 0.0654 0.5627, 0.6388, 0.6695	0.0355, 0.0671, 0.0588 0.5642, 0.6290, 0.6764	0.2001, 0.1972, 0.2101 0.7361, 0.7435, 0.7539
DeepRelations _cstr_sup	affinity	RMSE Pearson's $r$	1.52, 1.71, 1.52 0.51, 0.39, 0.55	1.54, 1.65, 1.57 0.51, 0.42, 0.52	1.34, 1.39, 1.26 0.71, 0.70, 0.65
	contact	AUPRC AUROC	0.060, 0.030, 0.064 0.688, 0.619, 0.69	0.054, 0.046, 0.055 0.675, 0.656, 0.673	0.189, 0.196, 0.202 0.763, 0.769, 0.757
Gao et al.	affinity	RMSE Pearson's $r$	1.67, 1.77, 1.62 0.40, 0.37, 0.33	1.73, 1.66, 1.59 0.39, 0.36, 0.37	1.72, 1.76, 1.44 0.60, 0.46, 0.58
	contact	AUPRC AUROC	0.0058, 0.0050, 0.0038 0.5002, 0.5309, 0.5469	0.0059, 0.0048, 0.0038 0.4987, 0.5356, 0.5431	0.0060, 0.0061, 0.0052 0.5097, 0.5145, 0.5192

Table S9: Comparing DeepAffinity+, DeepRelations, and Gao’s method in the generalizability of affinity prediction (RMSE and Pearson’s  $r$ ) and contact prediction (AUPRC and AUROC) to molecules unlike training data. Each cell includes three numbers for increasingly similar proteins or compounds to training data (global sequence or binding  $k$ -mer identity below 30%, between 30% and 60%, and above 60%; Tanimoto score below 0.5, between 0.5 and 0.8, and above 0.8).

The global and local sequence identities are defined as follows. We denote the  $i$ -th reference sequence in the training set as  $S_i^r$  and the test sequence in the new-protein or both-new set as  $S^t$ . Then the global sequence identity for a test sequence  $S^t$  is defined as

$$\text{ID}_{\text{global}}(S^t) = \max_{i \in \text{trainingSet}} \text{SeqID}(S^t, S_i^r),$$

in which  $\text{SeqID}(S^t, S_i^r)$  denotes the sequence identity.

Similarly, the local identity means the sequence identity at the binding  $k$ -mer level. Here we only consider binding  $k$ -mers with at least two binding residues. Only around 4 binding-site residues (less than 10%) are present in an average  $k$ -mer ( $k=40$ ) and around 3 binding  $k$ -mers are found in an average protein. The local, binding  $k$ -mer sequence identity for a given test sequence is simply the maximum binding  $k$ -mer level sequence identity averaged over all binding  $k$ -mers of the sequence.

## 2.7 Distance patterns of top-10 predicted residue-atom contacts

	Test	New Protein
HRNN-GCN_cstr_sup	0.3986, 0.1862, 0.0729, 0.0556	0.1768, 0.2245, 0.0608, 0.0416
HRNN-GIN_cstr_sup	0.1170, 0.1049, 0.0776, 0.0783	0.0476, 0.0793, 0.0420, 0.0534
DeepRelations_cstr_sup	0.3734, 0.1935, 0.0840, 0.0637	0.1746, 0.2367, 0.0958, 0.0794
Gao et al.	0.0055, 0.0179, 0.0269, 0.0446	0.0050, 0.0134, 0.0275, 0.0671
	New Compound	Both New
HRNN-GCN_cstr_sup	0.4030, 0.2099, 0.0823, 0.0612	0.1559, 0.1920, 0.0539, 0.0539
HRNN-GIN_cstr_sup	0.1201, 0.1186, 0.0852, 0.0654	0.0534, 0.0782, 0.0475, 0.0594
DeepRelations_cstr_sup	0.3738, 0.2115, 0.0902, 0.0545	0.1551, 0.2131, 0.0770, 0.0853
Gao et al.	0.0051, 0.0149, 0.0239, 0.0395	0.0039, 0.0193, 0.0282, 0.0504

Table S10: Distributions of top-10 binding sites predicted by DeepAffinity+, DeepRelations, and Gao et al.. Four fractions in each cell correspond to various distance ranges in the order of (0, 4), [4, 6), [6, 8), and [8, 10) (unit: Å).

## 2.8 Binding site prediction

		Training	Test	New Protein	New Compound	Both New
HRNN-GCN_cstr_sup	AUPRC	0.5830	0.4216	0.1698	0.4314	0.1565
	AUROC	0.8576	0.7633	0.6493	0.7822	0.6518
HRNN-GIN_cstr_sup	AUPRC	0.1536	0.1252	0.0611	0.1296	0.0676
	AUROC	0.5728	0.5648	0.4865	0.5615	0.4930
DeepRelations_cstr_sup	AUPRC	0.594	0.431	0.208	0.440	0.195
	AUROC	0.865	0.769	0.726	0.789	0.720
Gao et al.	AUPRC	0.0545	0.0543	0.0495	0.0538	0.0496
	AUROC	0.5012	0.4979	0.4821	0.5051	0.4874

Table S11: Binding site prediction results for DeepAffinity+, DeepRelations, and Gao et al.’s method (adapted to affinity prediction).

## 2.9 Case study: Affinity prediction for CA2 compounds against non-CA2 proteins

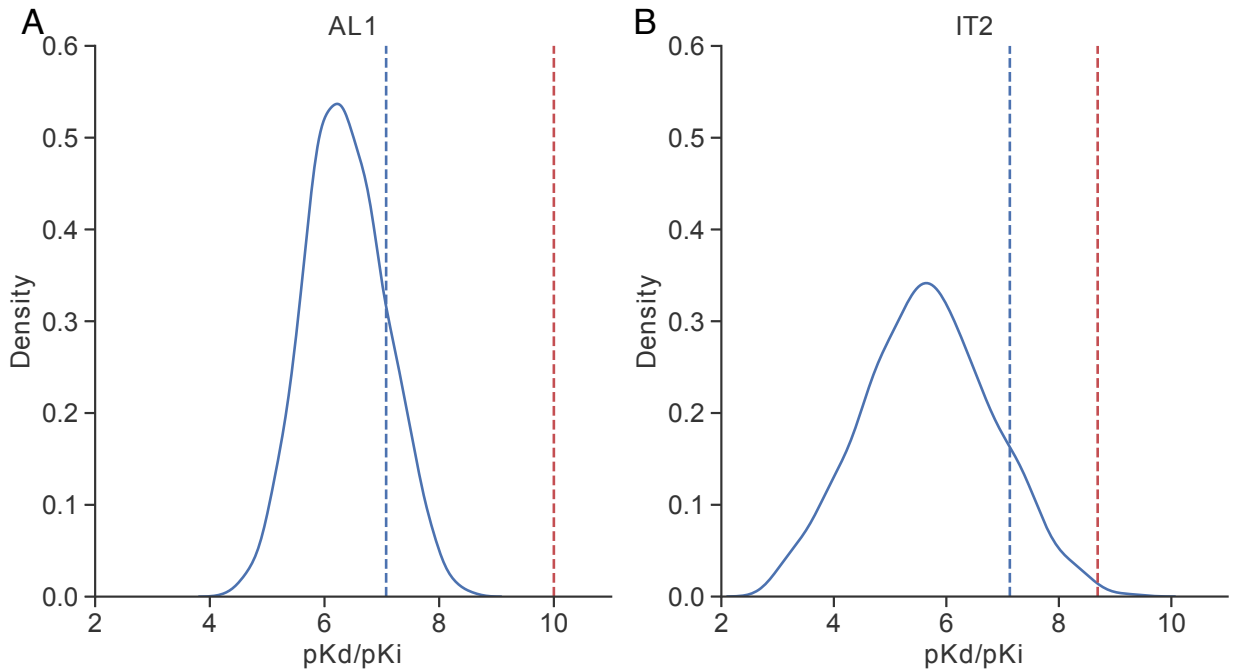


Figure S8: Probability distributions of DeepAffinity+ affinity predictions for AL1 and IT2 compounds against non-CA2 proteins. Red and blue dashed lines indicate actual and predicted affinity to the known target CA2.

## 2.10 Affinity and contact prediction of DeepRelations with actual protein residue-residue contact maps

For the true residue-contact maps, we used 8Å-cutoff for  $C_{\beta}$ - $C_{\beta}$  distances in known structures (bound for now). The maps can be incomplete due to missing residues in PDB.

			Training	Test	New Comp	New Prot	Both New
DeepRelations with predicted residue-contact maps	affinity	RMSE	0.47	<b>1.45</b>	<b>1.35</b>	<b>1.57</b>	<b>1.63</b>
		Pearson's $r$	0.96	0.69	<b>0.71</b>	<b>0.47</b>	<b>0.52</b>
	contact	AUPRC	0.367	0.187	0.191	<b>0.052</b>	<b>0.047</b>
		AUROC	0.845	<b>0.760</b>	0.764	<b>0.669</b>	<b>0.659</b>
DeepRelations with true residue-contact maps	affinity	RMSE	0.46	1.49	1.45	1.64	1.72
		Pearson's $r$	0.97	<b>0.70</b>	0.69	0.44	0.47
	contact	AUPRC	0.432	<b>0.204</b>	<b>0.206</b>	0.026	0.028
		AUROC	0.858	0.754	<b>0.766</b>	0.652	0.63

Table S12: Comparing DeepRelations performances with predicted or actual protein residue-contact maps.

The performances with predicted and actual residue-contact maps are somewhat close. We conjecture that contact map prediction might be quite accurate for our dataset that contains proteins of known structures.

## 2.11 SAR

Method	Kendall's $\tau$	Spearman's $\rho$
87mci	0.71	0.86
7bi2k	0.6	0.75
yghq5	0.56	0.74
5rtw4	0.31	0.42
a6kw3	0.16	0.25
vshma	0.13	0.32
5jfzy	0.05	0.05
5ywmk	0.02	0.00
ngsyu	0.02	0.07
kqhj5	0.02	0.04
tdvzq	-0.02	0.02
ispmq	-0.09	-0.08
8xf7u	-0.16	-0.30
ukjcf	-0.20	-0.27
a8eqr	-0.20	-0.26
yqoad	-0.31	-0.50
ha84u	-0.31	-0.40
gvzji	-0.56	-0.7
Gao et al.	-0.42	-0.54
HRNN-GCN (ours)	-0.36	-0.47
DeepRelations (ours)	0.15	0.21

Table S13: Comparison of our structure-free methods and Gao et al. with structure-based models (marked in receipt IDs) that participated in D3R grand challenge 3 for JAK2.

Method	Kendall's $\tau$	Spearman's $\rho$
uuuhe	0.57	0.76
y7q xv	0.57	0.74
xpmn7	0.50	0.67
h6qgu	0.36	0.55
7d5vc	0.29	0.38
mey8v	0.21	0.33
h jy28	0.21	0.19
jkqbh	0.07	0.14
0dnju	0.07	0.17
bu5xc	0	0.05
pox3b	0.00	-0.05
fn2qt	-0.07	-0.05
km744	-0.07	-0.17
th0hn	-0.07	0.00
0fdt7	-0.29	-0.33
6685v	-0.43	-0.60
yfg86	-0.5	-0.67
wg3ed	-0.57	-0.69
Gao et al.	0.60	0.74
HRNN-GCN (ours)	0.65	0.79
DeepRelations (ours)	0.61	0.72

Table S14: Comparison of our structure-free methods and Gao et al. with structure-based models (marked in receipt IDs) that participated in D3R grand challenge 3 for TIE2.

Receipt ID	Kendall's $\tau$	Spearman's $\rho$	Pearson's $r$	$R^2$
7bi2k	0.41	0.59	0.57	0.32
87mci	0.36	0.52	0.49	0.24
yghq5	0.28	0.41	0.36	0.13
5rtw4	0.21	0.32	0.27	0.07
vshma	0.1	0.18	0.16	0.03
5ywmk	0.07	0.1	0.08	0.01
kqhj5	0.07	0.09	0.09	0.01
5jfy	0.06	0.1	0.11	0.01
a6kw3	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.0
ngsyu	-0.02	-0.03	-0.1	0.01
ukjcf	-0.04	-0.06	-0.03	0.0
tdvzq	-0.05	-0.05	-0.09	0.01
ispmq	-0.06	-0.08	-0.07	0.0
a8eqr	-0.09	-0.13	-0.14	0.02
ha84u	-0.13	-0.19	-0.18	0.03
yqoad	-0.2	-0.33	-0.23	0.05
8xf7u	-0.21	-0.32	-0.31	0.09
gvzji	-0.25	-0.36	-0.39	0.15
Gao et al.	0.05	0.08	0.1	0.01
HRNN-GCN (ours)	-0.24	-0.3	-0.29	0.08
DeepRelations (ours) $\Delta p\hat{K}_d$	0.16	0.26	0.22	0.05
DeepRelations (ours) $\Delta p\hat{K}_d^R$	0.26	0.41	0.36	0.13

Table S15: Comparison of our models with structure-based models participated in D3R grand challenge 3 for JAK2 for  $\Delta pK_d$  prediction

JAK2 (Subchallenge 3): $\Delta pK_d$ prediction					
Ranking <sup>a</sup>	Method(s)	$\tau$	$\rho$	$r$	$R^2$
1-3	3 structure-based methods in D3R	0.28 ~ 0.41	0.41 ~ 0.59	0.36 ~ 0.57	0.13 ~ 0.32
4	Structure-free DeepRelations (ours) $\Delta p\hat{K}_d^R$	0.26	0.41	0.36	0.13
5	1 structure-based method in D3R	0.21	0.32	0.27	0.07
6	Structure-free DeepRelations (ours) $\Delta p\hat{K}_d$	0.16	0.26	0.22	0.05
7-10	4 structure-based methods in D3R	0.06 ~ 0.1	0.1 ~ 0.18	0.11 ~ 0.16	0.01 ~ 0.03
11	Structure-free Gao et al.	0.05	0.08	0.1	0.01
12-20	9 structure-based methods in D3R	-0.21 ~ 0.02	-0.33 ~ 0.04	-0.31 ~ 0.04	0.00 ~ 0.09
21	Structure-free DeepAffinity+	-0.24	-0.3	-0.29	0.08
22	1 structure-based method in D3R	-0.25	-0.36	-0.39	0.13

<sup>a</sup> The 18 structure-based methods participated in the D3R subchallenges and were assessed officially. The 4 structure-free methods were assessed *post hoc*.

Table S16: Summary of  $\Delta pK_d$  scoring performances among three structure-free methods (including our DeepAffinity+ and two versions of DeepRelations and eighteen structure-based methods.



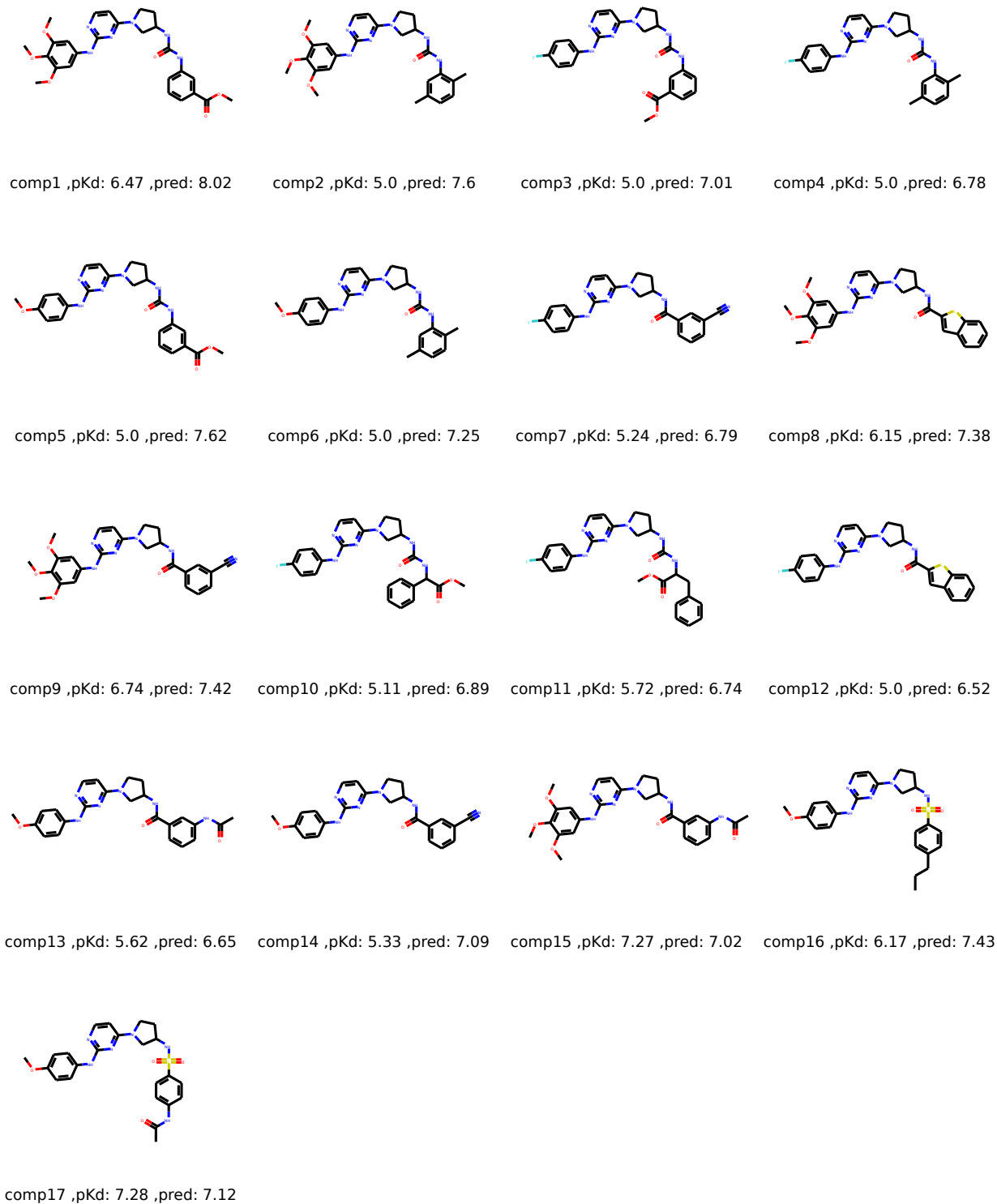


Figure S9: Compounds in JAK2's SAR with actual and DeepRelations-predicted affinities.

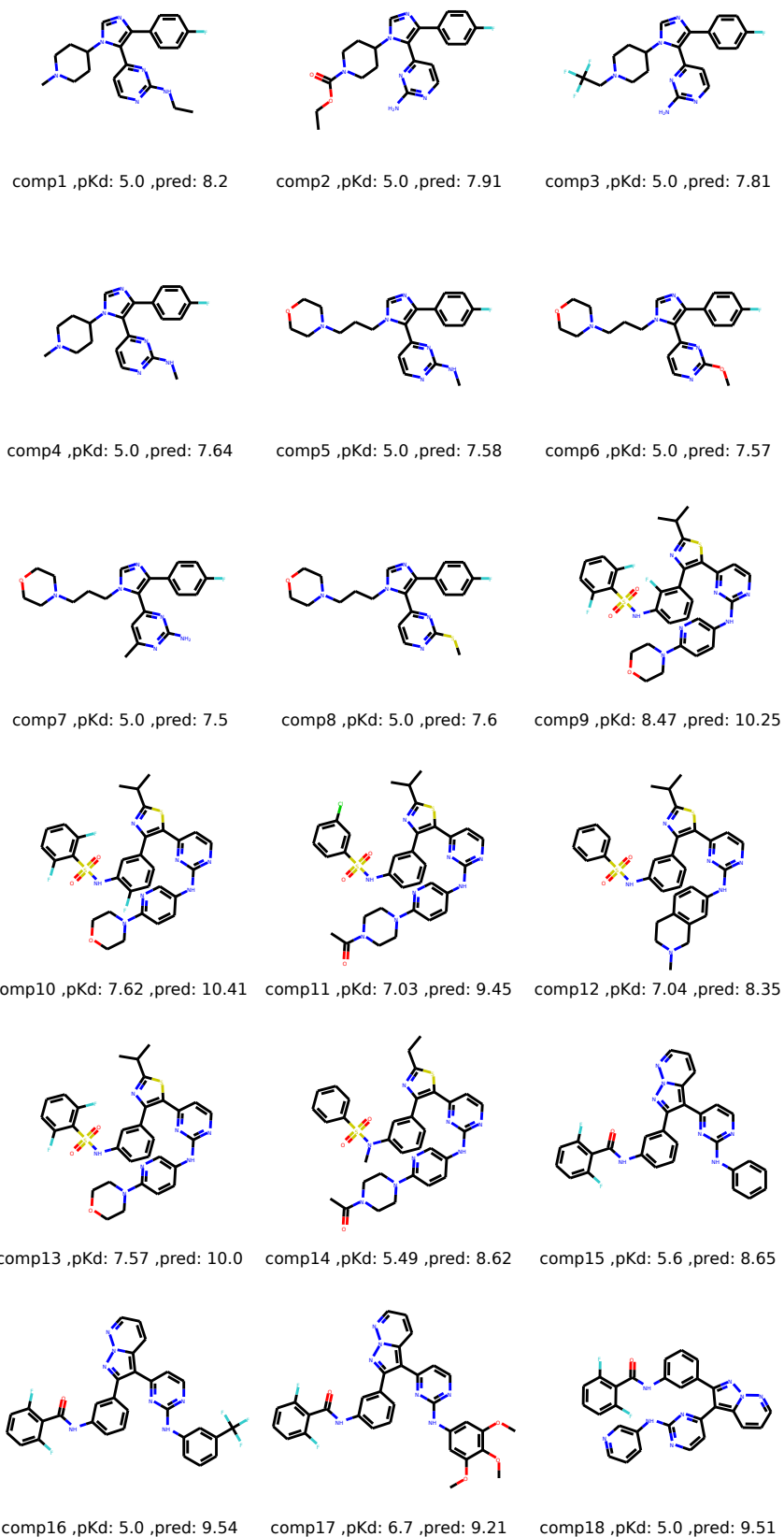


Figure S10: Compounds in TIE2's SAR with actual and DeepRelations-predicted affinities.

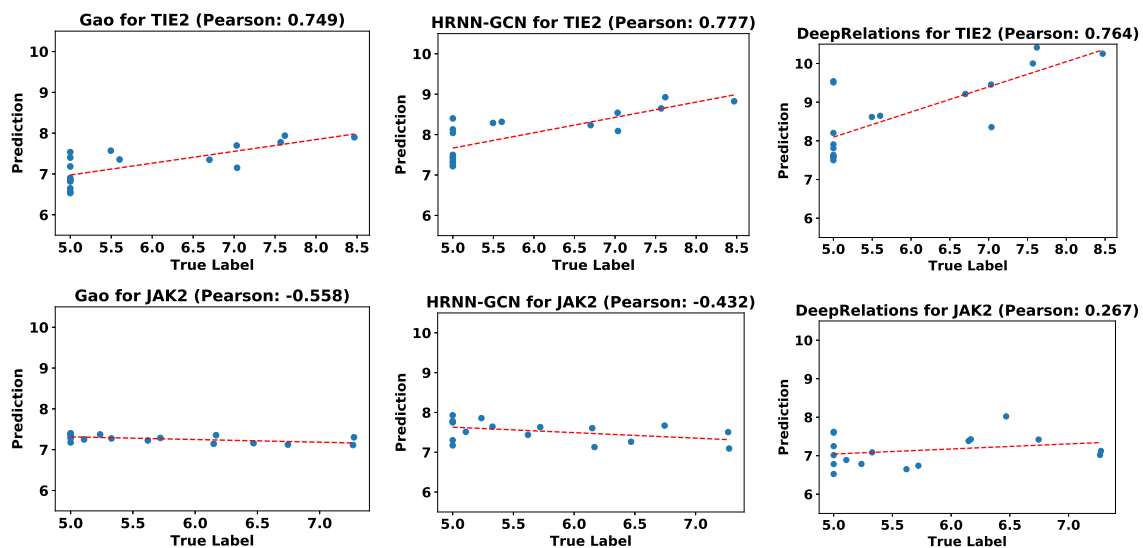


Figure S11: Comparison of predicted affinity versus true affinity for different methods for SAR cases.

## 2.12 Combinatorial lead optimization

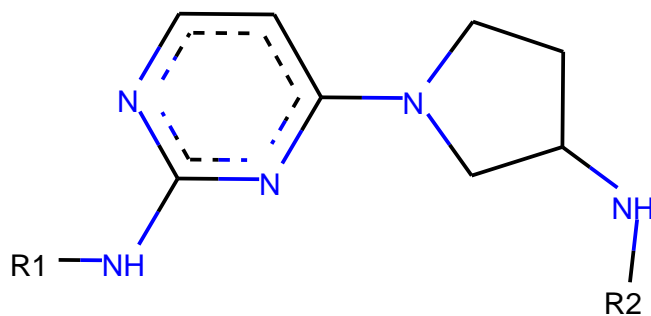


Figure S12: Diagram for the scaffold and two functional groups of the JAK2 compounds.

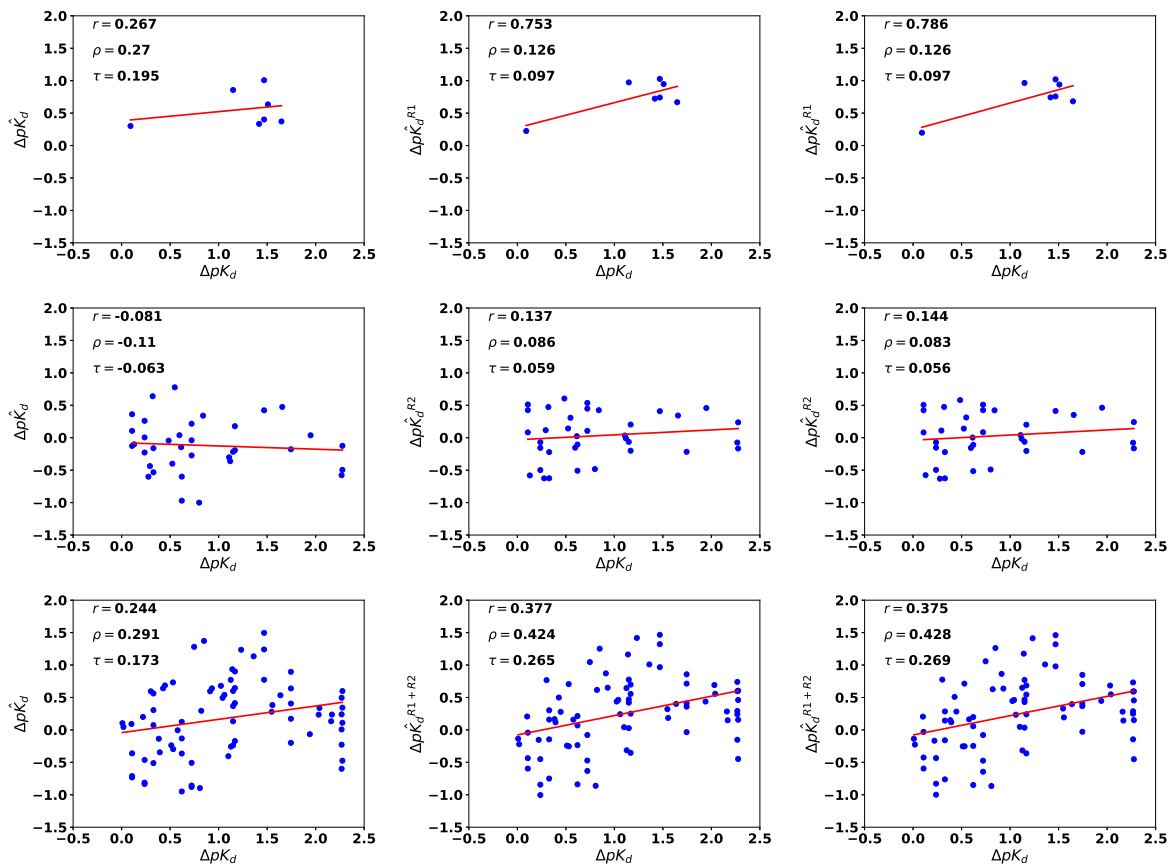


Figure S13: Comparison of true affinity changes versus various DeepRelations-based predictions, when JAK2 compounds are changed by substituting functional groups. The first row is for R1 substitution only, second for R2 substitution only and third for both substitutions. The first column is for prediction based on predicted affinity only, the second is based on decomposition (substituent group for the compound and all residues for the protein), and the third column is based on decomposition (substituent group for the compound and binding-site residues for the protein).

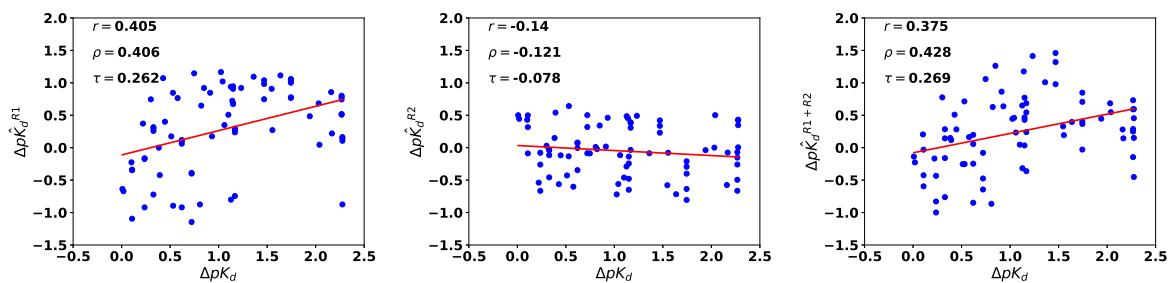


Figure S14: For both R1+R2 substitutions, we compare the contribution of R1 (left), R2 (middle) and R1+R2 (right).

## References

- Cereto-Massagué, A. *et al.* (2015). Molecular fingerprint similarity search in virtual screening. *Methods*, **71**, 58–63.
- Consortium, U. (2015). Uniprot: a hub for protein information. *Nucleic Acids Res.*, **43**(D1), D204–D212.
- Ekeberg, M. *et al.* (2013). Improved contact prediction in proteins: using pseudolikelihoods to infer potts models. *Phys. Rev. E*, **87**(1), 012707.
- He, T. *et al.* (2017). Simboost: a read-across approach for predicting drug–target binding affinities using gradient boosting machines. *J. Cheminf.*, **9**(1), 1–14.
- Hert, J. *et al.* (2004). Comparison of topological descriptors for similarity-based virtual screening using multiple bioactive reference structures. *Org. Biomol. Chem.*, **2**(22), 3256–3266.
- Jones, D. T. *et al.* (2015). Metapsicov: combining coevolution methods for accurate prediction of contacts and long range hydrogen bonding in proteins. *Bioinformatics*, **31**(7), 999–1006.
- Karimi, M. *et al.* (2019). Deepaffinity: interpretable deep learning of compound–protein affinity through unified recurrent and convolutional neural networks. *Bioinformatics*, **35**(18), 3329–3338.
- Landrum, G. *et al.* (2006). Rdkit: Open-source cheminformatics.
- Laskowski, R. A. *et al.* (2018). Pdbsum: Structural summaries of pdb entries. *Protein Sci.*, **27**(1), 129–134.
- Liu, T. *et al.* (2006). Bindingdb: a web-accessible database of experimentally determined protein–ligand binding affinities. *Nucleic Acids Res.*, **35**(suppl\_1), D198–D201.
- Liu, Z. *et al.* (2015). Pdb-wide collection of binding data: current status of the pddb database. *Bioinformatics*, **31**(3), 405–412.
- Ma, J. and Wang, S. (2015). Acconpred: Predicting solvent accessibility and contact number simultaneously by a multitask learning framework under the conditional neural fields model. *BioMed Res. Int.*, **2015**.
- Martin, Y. C. *et al.* (2002). Do structurally similar molecules have similar biological activity? *J. Med. Chem.*, **45**(19), 4350–4358.
- Mirdita, M. *et al.* (2017). Uniclust databases of clustered and deeply annotated protein sequences and alignments. *Nucleic Acids Res.*, **45**(D1), D170–D176.
- O’Boyle, N. M. *et al.* (2011). Open babel: An open chemical toolbox. *J. Cheminf.*, **3**(1), 33.
- Patterson, D. E. *et al.* (1996). Neighborhood behavior: a useful concept for validation of “molecular diversity” descriptors. *J. Med. Chem.*, **39**(16), 3049–3059.
- Remmert, M. *et al.* (2012). Hhblits: lightning-fast iterative protein sequence searching by hmm-hmm alignment. *Nat. Methods*, **9**(2), 173.
- Rogers, D. and Hahn, M. (2010). Extended-connectivity fingerprints. *J. Chem. Inf. Model.*, **50**(5), 742–754.
- Suzek, B. E. *et al.* (2015). Uniref clusters: a comprehensive and scalable alternative for improving sequence similarity searches. *Bioinformatics*, **31**(6), 926–932.
- Tang, B. *et al.* (2020). A self-attention based message passing neural network for predicting molecular lipophilicity and aqueous solubility. *J. Cheminf.*, **12**(1), 1–9.
- Tang, J. *et al.* (2014). Making sense of large-scale kinase inhibitor bioactivity data sets: a comparative and integrative analysis. *J. Chem. Inf. Model.*, **54**(3), 735–743.
- Wang, S. *et al.* (2016a). Aucpred: proteome-level protein disorder prediction by auc-maximized deep convolutional neural fields. *Bioinformatics*, **32**(17), i672–i679.

Wang, S. *et al.* (2016b). Protein secondary structure prediction using deep convolutional neural fields. *Sci. Rep.*, **6**(1), 1–11.

Xu, J. (2019). Distance-based protein folding powered by deep learning. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, **116**(34), 16856–16865.