



# Self Supervised Learning

## The next challenge for industrial AI

Robert J. Piechocki

26<sup>th</sup> May 2021

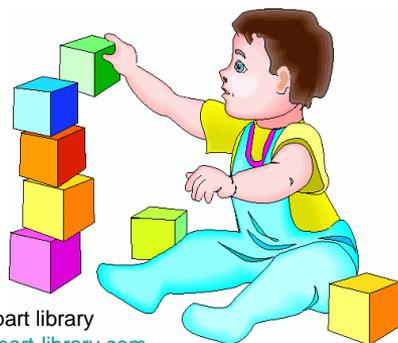


## 🔥 Outline

### Stage 1: Learn your World (auxiliary tasks)

### Stage 2: Solve tasks of interests

Approach evangelised by  
e.g: Y LeCun, Y Bengio,  
G Hinton  
“Unsupervised Learning”

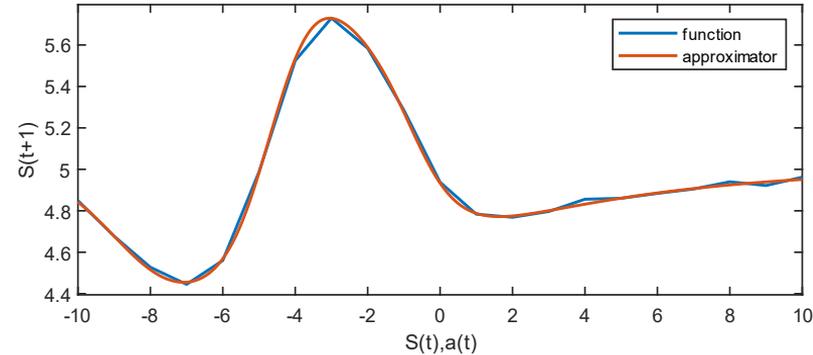
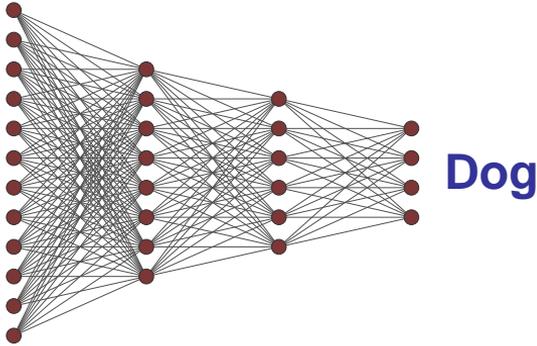


Free clipart library  
<http://clipart-library.com>

- Supervised Learning
- Self Supervised: representation learning
- Self Supervised: compute into data via Self Play
- Examples: NLP, Vision, AlphaGo Zero, Protein Folding, Open-RAN, Wireless Networks

- *Human brain has 125 trillion synapses*
- *Life expectancy is 2.5 billion seconds*
- *Ergo: 50000 synapses per second (200 Kpbs)*
- *Ergo: unsupervised learning (G Hinton)*

## 🔥 Supervised Learning – the only success so far



Universal function approximation (theorem).  
Any piecewise continuous function can be approximated by NN: classification / regression etc

### Examples of success:

- TESLA's Autopilot, speech recognition, image classification (medical etc), many more!
- Digital networks / spectrum: spectrum occupancy, channel estimation, traffic prediction, link evaluation, *anomaly detection*.

***The problem: we need labels / examples / ground truth – very expensive!!***

## 🔥 Self-Supervised Learning – the messy data problem

- Data deluge. We have abundance of data.
- Real world data is messy, not curated, unlabelled.
- Data labelling is very costly / impossible.
- Data distribution shift (drift).
- Self-supervised Learning to the rescue.



Image credit: unsplash.com

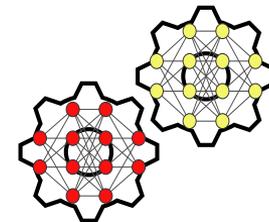
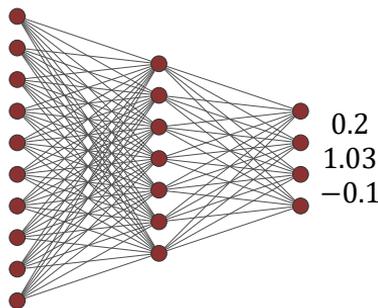
# 🔥 Representation Learning



Image/video, sound wave, text, network state

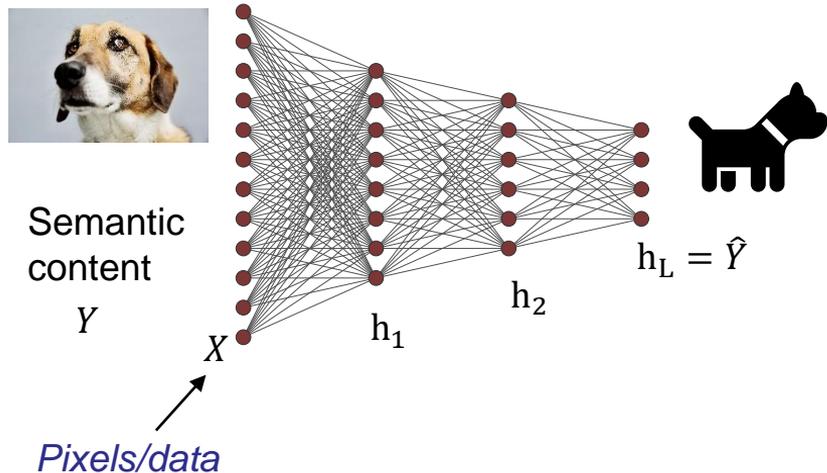


*“Through this Prosperity Partnership..”*



- Representation: a mapping from raw input data (specific for modality) to feature vector or tensor.
- Abstraction and invariance: capture salient information, remove all redundancy, be invariant to inconsequential changes (scale, rotation, translation etc).
- Disentanglement: each element should have an independent factor

# 🌟 (Latent) Representation Learning



$$I(Y; X) \geq I(Y; h_1) \geq I(Y; h_2) \geq I(Y; \hat{Y})$$

## Mutual information

$$I(X; Y) = \text{KL}(p(x, y) \| p(x), p(y)) = \int p(x, y) \log \frac{p(x, y)}{p(x)p(y)} dx dy$$

$$I(X; Y) = H(Y) - H(Y|X)$$

Data processing inequality:

*For Markov chains*  $X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z$

$$I(X; Y) \geq I(X; Z)$$

*However, we cannot train the network in a supervised way as we have no access to the semantic content  $Y$*

Aiming at:

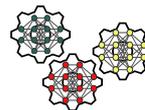
$$\inf[I(X; \hat{Y})]$$

$$\text{st. } I(\hat{Y}; Y) > \alpha$$

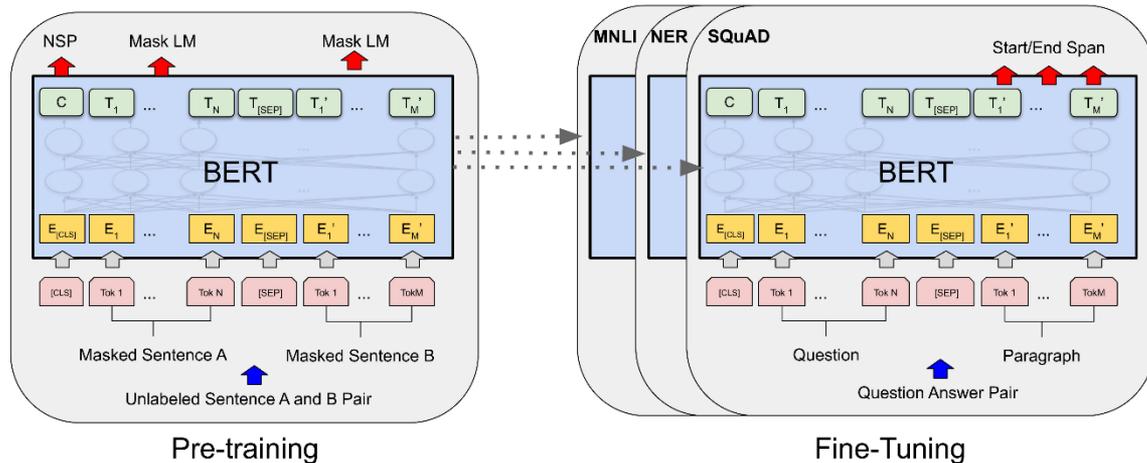
*Connections with Rate Distortion Theory*

R. Shwartz-Ziv, N. Tishby "Opening the Black Box of Deep Neural Networks via Information" 2017, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1703.00810>

# 🌟 Natural Language Models - BERT



## Self-Supervised training



Stage 1:  
Pre-train the NLP model

Stage 2:  
Fine tuning for NLP tasks

- machine translation
- Q&A
- text summarisation
- etc

The **masked** language model **randomly** masks some of the tokens from the input, and the objective is to predict the original vocabulary id of the masked word **based** only on its context.

+ guess the sequence order given two sentences

Devlin et al. BERT: Pre-training of Deep Bidirectional Transformers for Language Understanding, 2019.

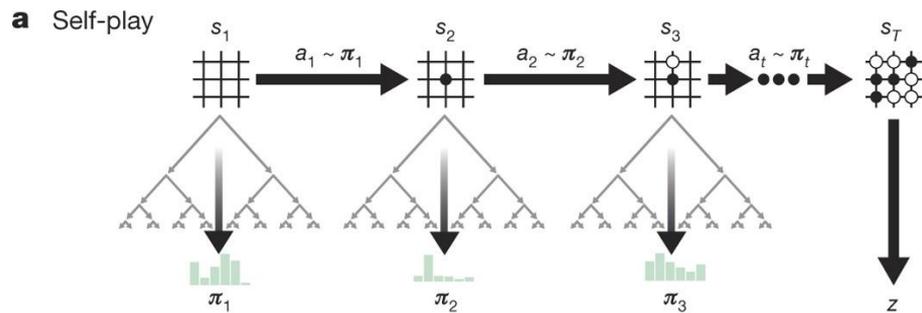


# AlphaGo Zero, Self-play

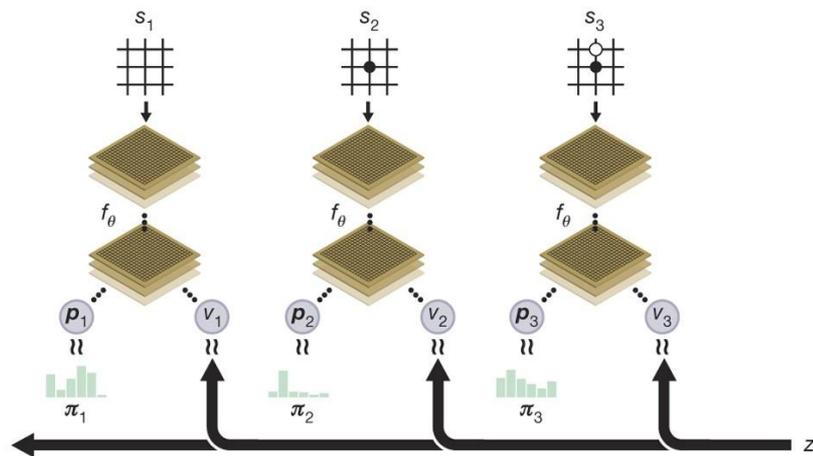


Image credit: DeepMind & Nature

- The original AlphaGo (version that beat Lee Sedol) used expert data to pretrain neural networks.
- AlphaGo Zero trains without data!! Self-Play. And comfortably beats AlphaGo
- MuZero (latest) learns all representations



**b Neural network training**

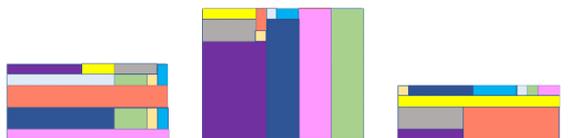


Images credit: DeepMind & Nature

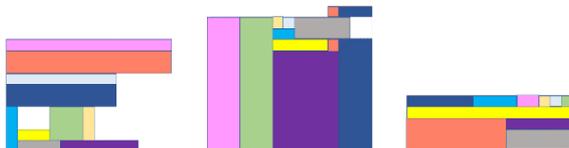
Silver, D., Schrittwieser, J., Simonyan, K. et al. Mastering the game of Go without human knowledge. Nature 550, 354–359 (2017)

# Self-play Learning for Resource Assignment in Open-RAN

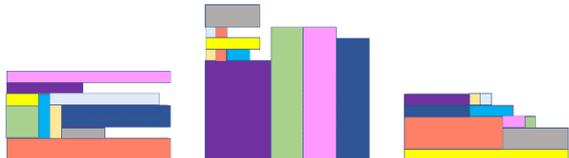
- Neural-MCTS (AlphaGo Zero) for “bin-packing” problem
- Curriculum Learning via Ranked Reward Self-play.



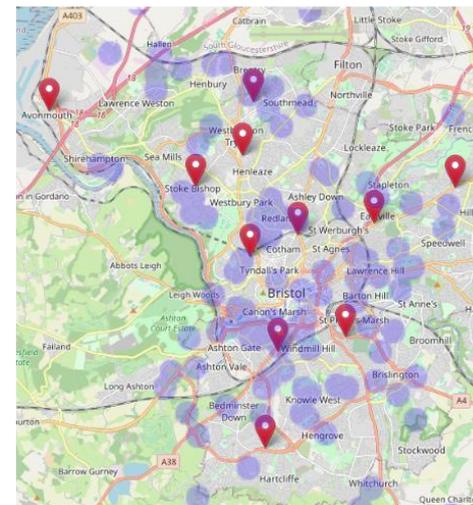
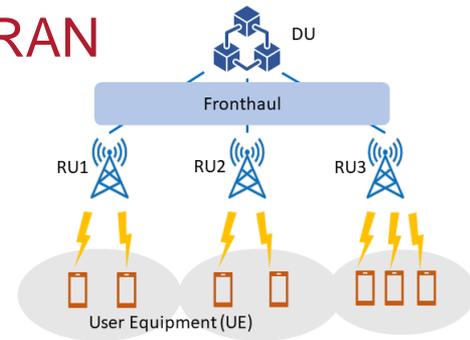
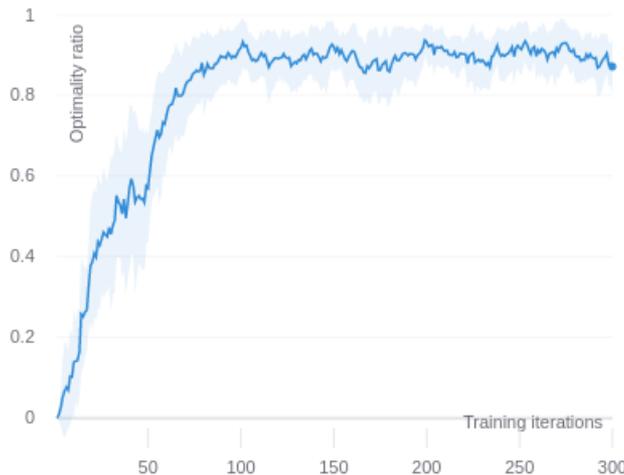
Self-play Neural-MCTS



HVRAA



LEGO heuristics

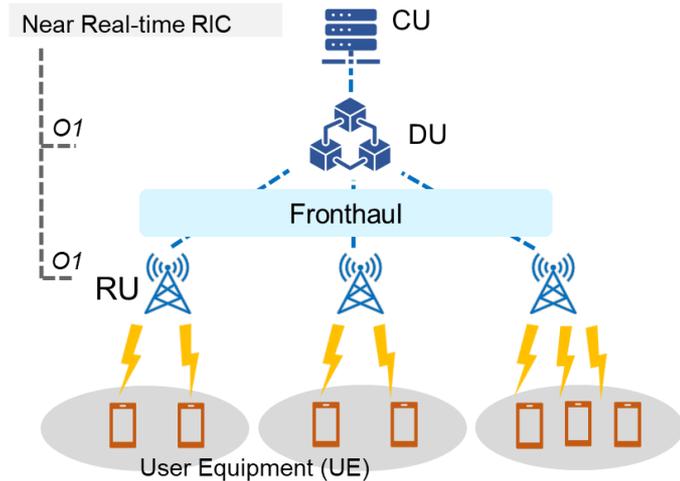


Self-play Learning Strategies for Resource Assignment in Open-RAN Networks  
X Wang, J Thomas, RJ Piechocki, S Kapoor, R Santos-Rodriguez, A Parekh, 2021 <https://arxiv.org/abs/2103.02649>



## Where can we use SSL?

- Smart Interference Management for QoS/QoE Optimisation
- Broadcast Beam Optimisation for Coverage Enhancements
- Massive MIMO Channel Estimation and Detection
- Massive MIMO Precoding and Scheduling
- Distributed and Cell-less Massive MIMO
- Disaggregated and Open Massive MIMO
- RAN Energy Efficiency Optimisation
- Intelligent Reflecting Surfaces & Holographic Beamforming



# AI for Massive MIMO (AIMM) project

## AIMM Project Key Information

**Title:** AIMM (AI-enabled Massive MIMO)

**Project Coordinator:** Arman Shojaeifard

**Project Status:** Running

**Clusters:** UK, Germany, France, Canada

**Duration:** 2 years

**Start Date:** Oct 2020

**End Date:** Sep 2022

**Budget (total):** 4,732 K€

**Effort:** 44.83 PY

**# Partners:** 10

**# Work-Packages:** 6

**Project-ID:** C2019/2-5

**Website:** <https://www.celticnext.eu/project-aimm/>





## Next Generation Converged Digital Infrastructure

*NG-CDI's ambition is to develop a transformational approach to managing the next generation of digital infrastructure for the UK. This requires foundational research in a diverse range of areas from networking and communications, AI, industrial automation and organisational behaviour.*



<https://www.ng-cdi.org/>

### AGILE:

A completely new architecture for digital infrastructures, composed of highly dynamic network functions based on a micro-NFV approach that are collectively able to adapt to the real-time requirements of future digital services.

### AUTONOMIC:

Creating a new autonomic framework for digital infrastructure to equip the nodes of the infrastructure network with the ability to understand their state, detect and diagnose disruptions to service, and take autonomous actions.

### AUTONOMOUS:

Implementing approaches for the successful integration of these technologies within the business functions with an aim to improve service assurance and organisational value.



Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council



## ✦ Wrap up: What's next for Self Supervised Learning?

- The case for Self-Supervised Learning is very strong for natural signals.
- In Digital Comms we use “human/machine” made signals. This makes the problem somewhat different than NLP, Image/Video etc.
- Decades of research into classical Signal Processing / detection / estimation etc. It makes no sense to replace it wholesale with AI/SSL.
- Many classical techniques require good hardware and will not work with non-linear distortions.
- Algorithms' approximation (Universal Function Approximation). Take advantage of HW accelerators (TPUs).
- Reinforcement Learning – beyond reward only guided learning.



Thank you!



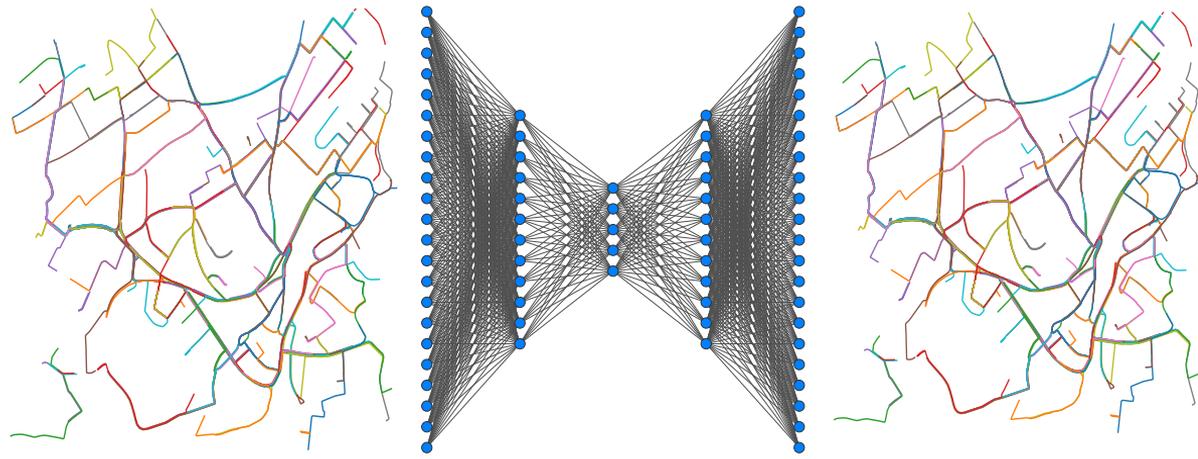
@BristolCSN  
@bristol\_smart

**Special thanks to:**

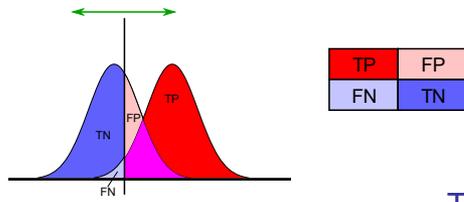
X Wang, J Thomas, A Khalil, R Santos-Rodriguez, R McConville,  
T Yamagata, J Bocus, A Parekh, S Kapoor, N Race, A  
Shojaeifard, S Cassidy, M Beach, N Lane, K Chetty

# 🔥 Anomaly Detection unsupervised learning

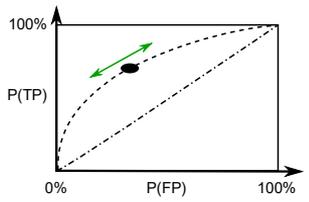
- Intrusion Detection Systems
- Anomaly Detection
- Outlier Detection



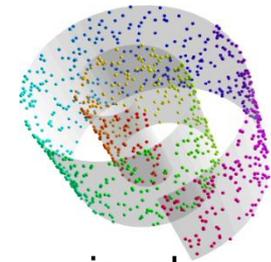
Deep Autoencoder Network



TP	FP
FN	TN



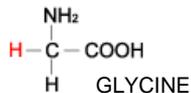
TP - True Positive  
FP - False Positive  
TN - True Negative  
FN - False Negative



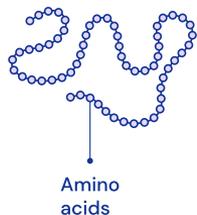
Low dimensional representation  
(manifold)

# AlphaFold

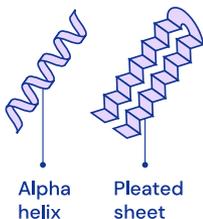
- Proteins are large, complex molecules essential to all of life.
- What any given protein can do depends on its unique 3D structure.
- There are 20 amino acids that make up proteins and all have the same basic structure, differing only in the side chain they have.



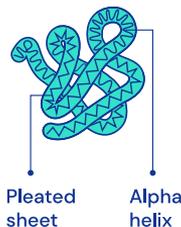
Every protein is made up of a sequence of amino acids bonded together



These amino acids interact locally to form shapes like helices and sheets



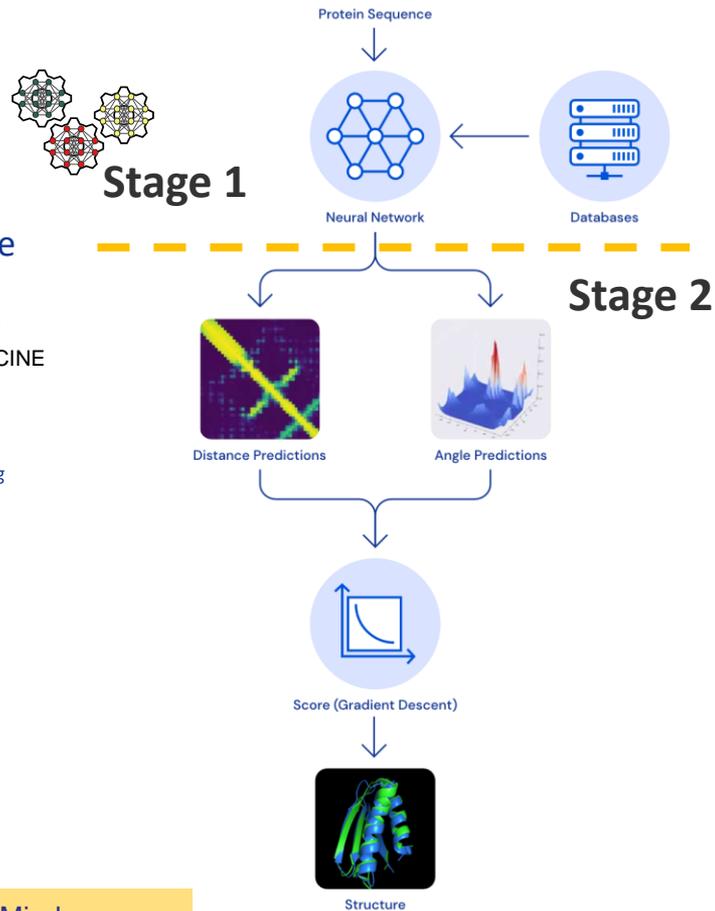
These shapes fold up on larger scales to form the full three-dimensional protein structure



Proteins can interact with other proteins, performing functions such as signalling and transcribing DNA



SQETRRKKCTEMKKFKNCEVRCDESNHCVVRCSDTKYTLG



<https://deepmind.com/blog/article/AlphaFold-Using-AI-for-scientific-discovery>, images: DeepMind