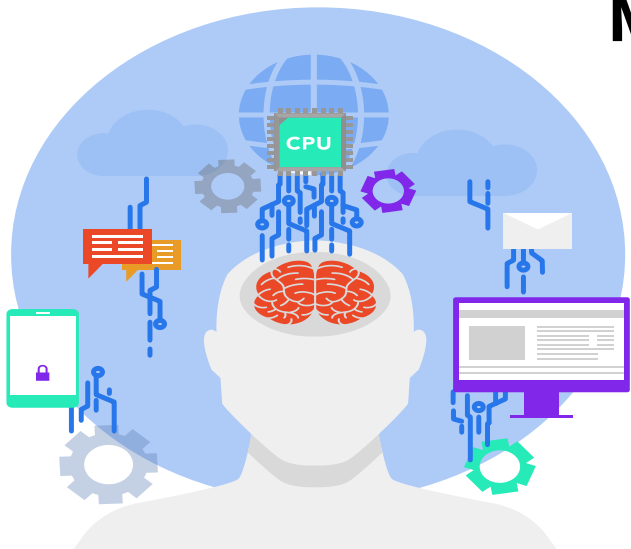


Machine Learning-Enhanced Computational Modeling of Metal-Protein Interactions

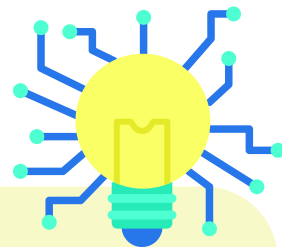
Charlie Klawitter

Mentor: Dr. Mengdi Huai

July 11, 2025



Project Role



Train and Refine a Machine Learning Model to Enhance the Modeling of Metal-Protein Interactions

Summary of Work to Date

- Develop a program to extract necessary data from EFP .log files
- Create baseline ML model to predict the Final EFP Energies
- Program a neural network model to predict key energies from a range of molecule features on synthetic data

Future Plans

- Introduce real, up to date data for metal systems into the baseline neural network model
- Record discoveries and refine model to increase accuracy and efficiency
- Generate future ambition for the project

Learning Outcomes

Learning Points

Machine Learning

How to develop a machine learning model in PyTorch

Git , Linux, and Python

Git flow, version control, Linux operations, and python skills

Effective Fragment Potential

Basic understanding of EFP and key features

Research Methodology

The proper flow of developing a strong research project

Progress (EFP Energies Model)



Data Extraction Python Script

- Extracted data to obtain key energies from molecules
- Converted from Hartree to Kcal/Mol
- Electrostatic, Penetration, Polarization, Final EFP, etc.

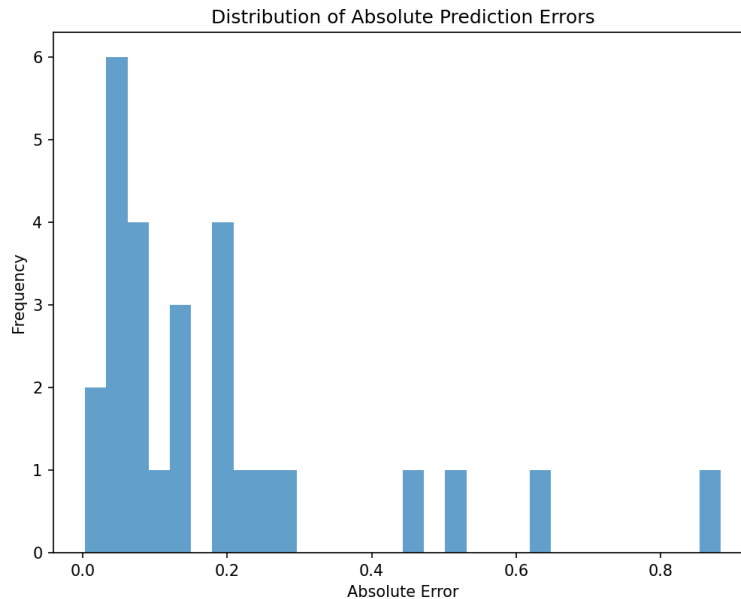
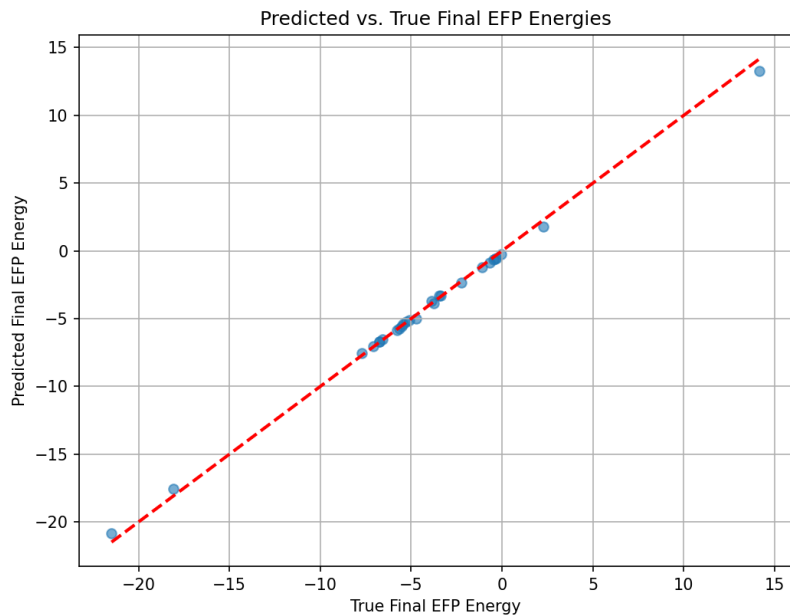
and



Basic Neural Network to Predict Final EFP Energy

- 80/20 Train/Test split
- Test Mean Squared Error: 0.0781

Progress (EFP Energies Model)



Progress (Synthetic Data Neural Network)

01 Input Features

Charge of fragments, distance between fragments, dipole moment of fragments, etc.

02 Target Outputs

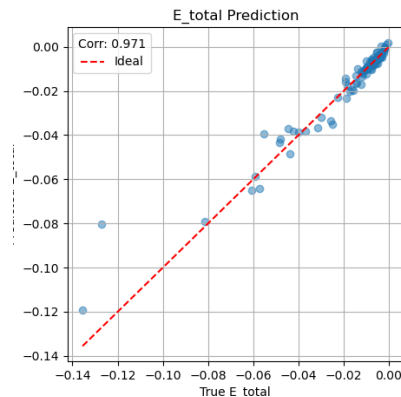
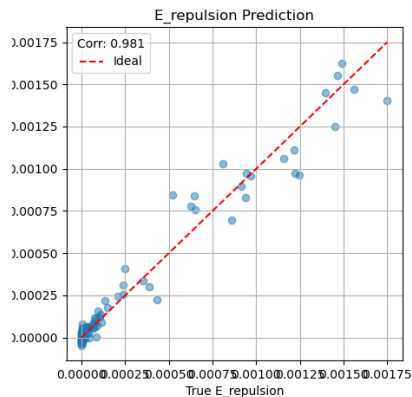
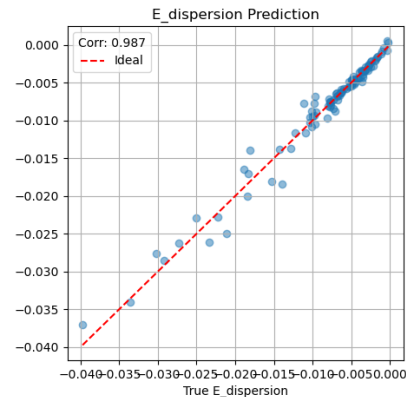
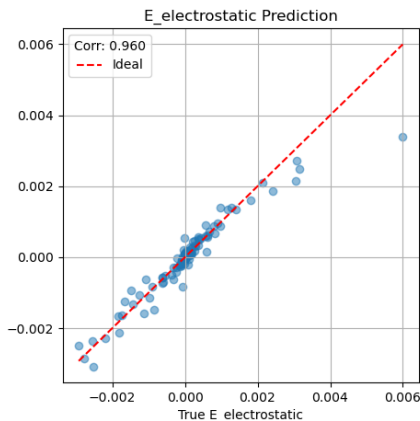
Electrostatic energy, Polarization energy, Dispersion energy, etc.

03 Model Specifications

200 epochs, 80/20 split, 3 layers for NN, and 500 data points

04 Results

Test MSE: 0.1037



Progress (S_{ij}/R_{ij}/undamped electrostatic energy)

$$E_{e-e}^{pen} = -2\left(\frac{1}{-2\ln|S_{ij}|}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{S_{ij}^2}{R_{ij}}$$

S_{ij} : Intermolecular overlap integral between LMOs i and j

R_{ij} : The distance between centroids of LMOs i and j

- Extracted S_{ij} and R_{ij} values along with Undamped Electrostatic Energy
- These features were used as input data for a neural network model with 1 hidden layer (simple at first)
- The goal is to predict the damped electrostatic energy, therefore solving the problem of creating a more accurate and efficient dampening function

Progress (Sij/Rij/undamped electrostatic energy)

01 Input Features

SIJ/RIJ Values and
Undamped Electrostatic
Energy

02 Target Outputs

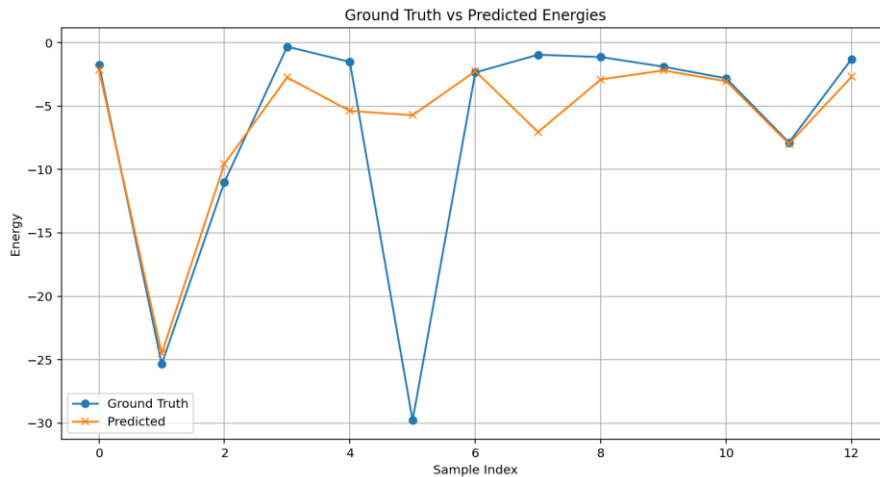
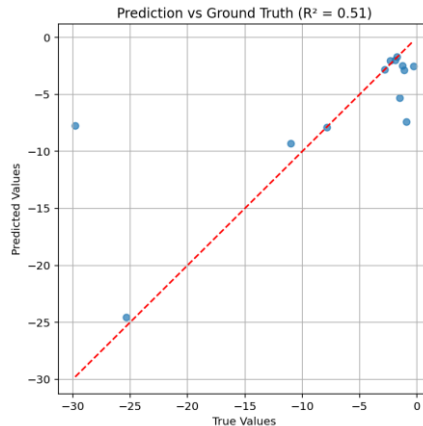
Damped Electrostatic Energy

03 Model Specifications

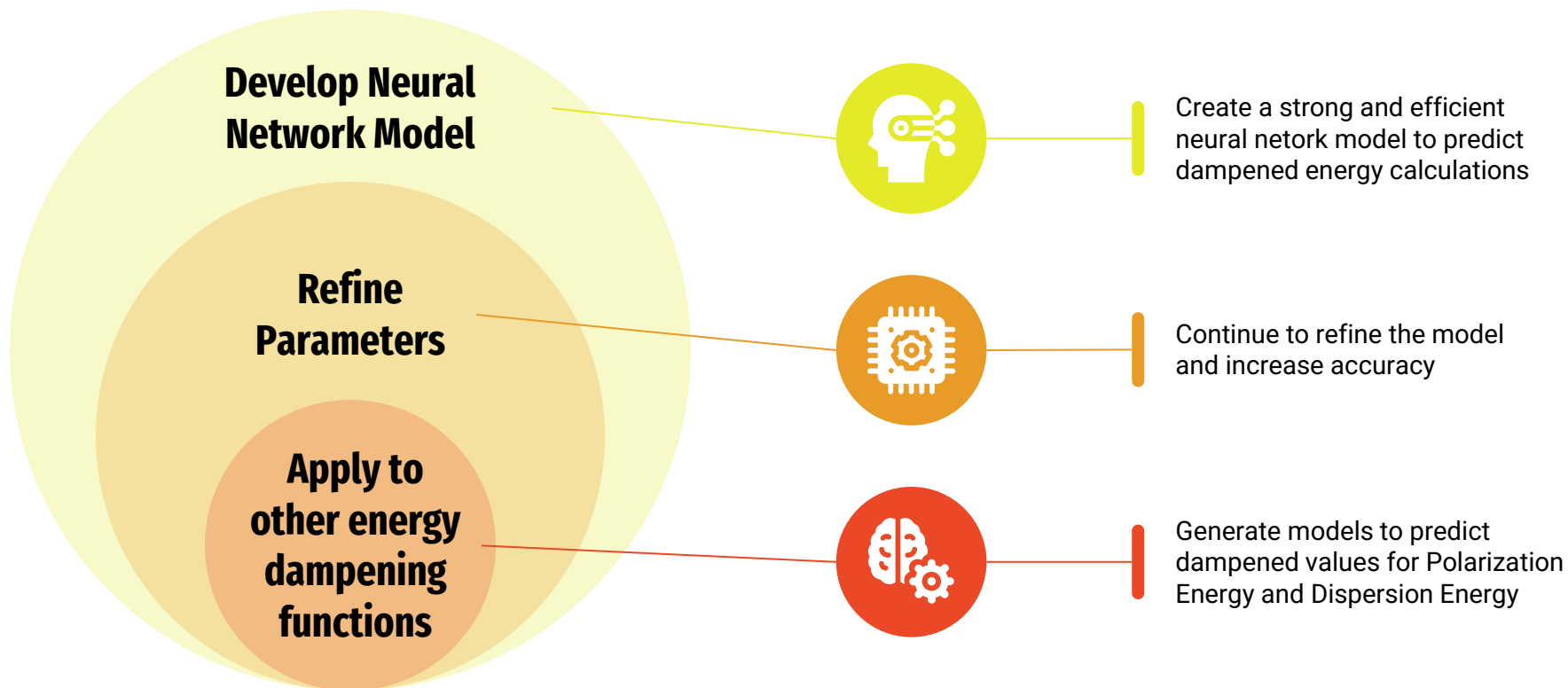
65 samples, 100 epochs,
80/20, 3 layers

04 Results

R^2 : 0.5143



Future Goals



Greatest Difficulty



Challenges (Chemistry)

01 Quantum Chemistry

Understanding the Quantum Chemistry aspect of the project

02 Chemistry Knowledge

Lack the intuition behind the input data (Rij/Sij values and energies)

Acknowledgements

- NSF for funding SIMCODES
- SIMCODES and ISU for mentorship

The logo for Iowa State University, featuring the text "IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY" in white, serif, all-caps font centered on a red rectangular background. A thin yellow horizontal bar is positioned at the bottom of the red rectangle.

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