

Lecture #3: Data in materials science

Previously on

- What is materials informatics
 - Solving materials science problems with **data** science tools
 - HW0 announcement
- Python for materials modeling
 - Automation vs. Manual
 - Intro to ASE and Pymatgen

Goals

- Understand the role of data in materials science
- Provide sources of data
- Introduce the Materials Project database and its API

Agenda

- Experimental data
- Computational data
- Why use someone else's data?
- FAIR principles
- The Materials Project

What is data?

"Data is a representation of information stored in a systematic way for the purpose of inference, argument or decision making"

From [An Introduction to Data Analysis](#) by Michael Franke

As materials science researchers, we generate a lot of experimental and computational data

2-3D Images:

- Electron microscopy images (exp)
- Electron density (exp/comp)

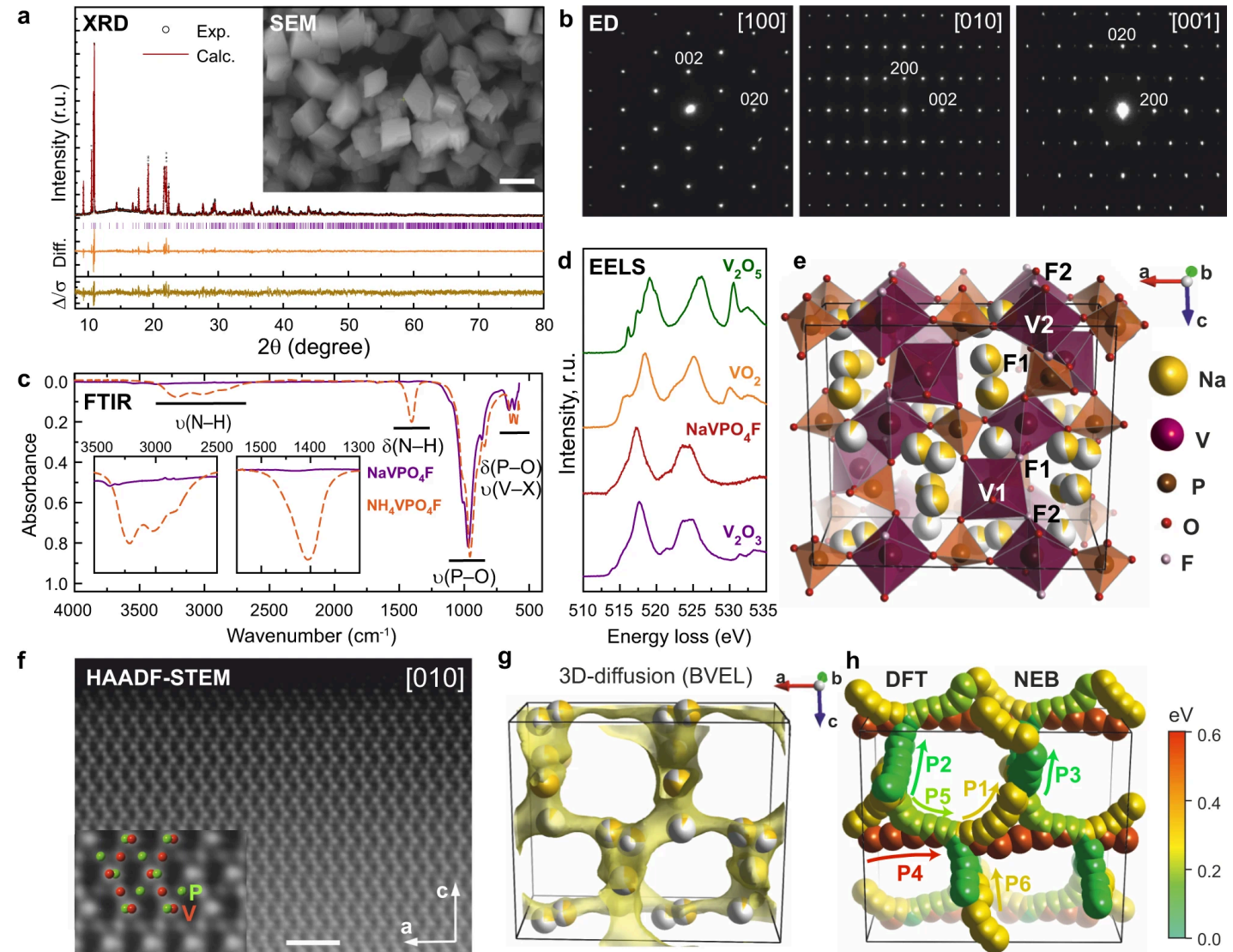
Tabular data

- Eg vs. composition (the last seminar)
- X-ray diffraction pattern (exp/comp)
- Particle size distribution (exp)
- Density of states (comp/exp)
- Energy profile (comp/exp)

Text

- Structure files (exp/comp)

Development of vanadium-based polyanion positive electrode active materials for high-voltage [sodium-based batteries](#)



There is a huge amount of materials science data

... scattered across various papers, datasets, databases and websites

Github:

- <https://github.com/blaiszik/Materials-Databases>

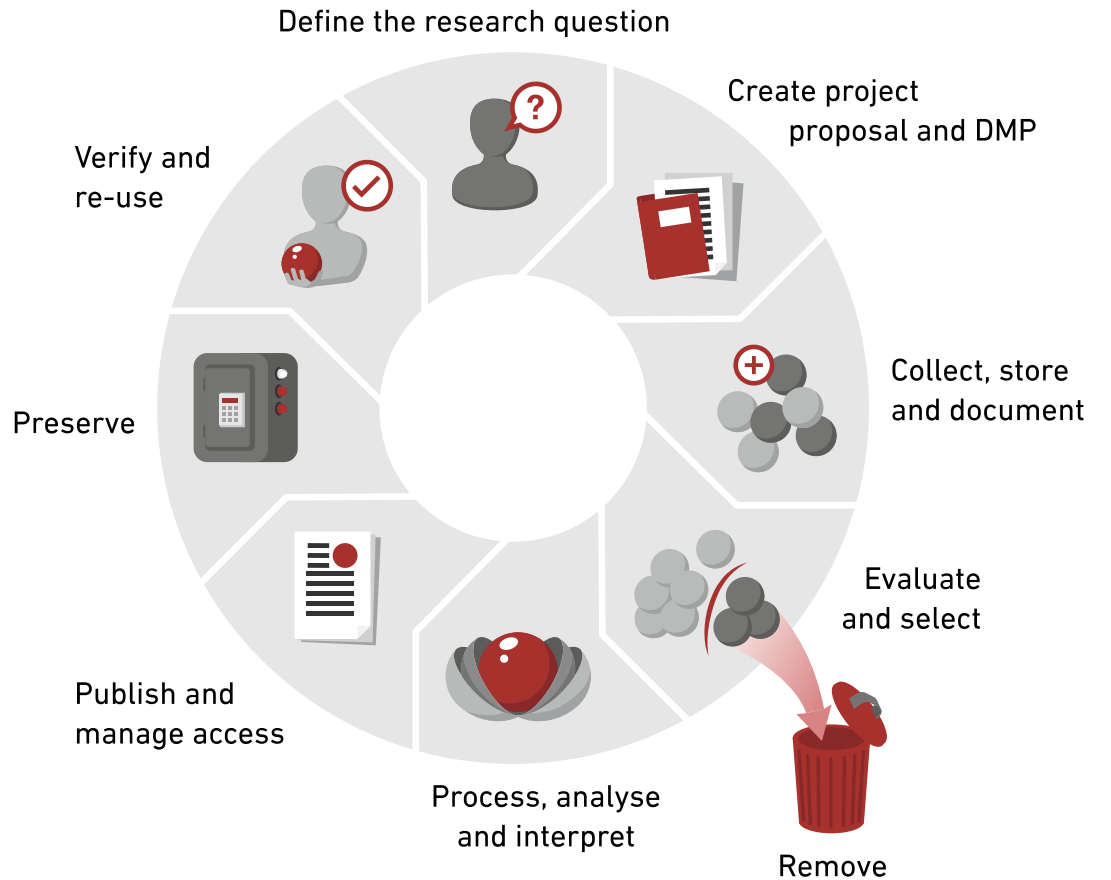
Curated databases

- ICSD: <https://icsd.products.fiz-karlsruhe.de/>
- COD: <https://www.crystallography.net/cod/>
- CCDC: <https://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/>
- Materials project: <https://next-gen.materialsproject.org/>
- The Open Quantum Materials Database: <http://oqmd.org/>
- AFLOW: <http://www.aflowlib.org/>
- matbench: <https://matbench.materialsproject.org/>

...and more

Why use someone else's data?

- guide to your research objective
- reference
- baseline
- insight
- explanation
- enrichment
- time



What do we expect from the data source?

The FAIR Guiding principles

... for [scientific data management](#)
and [stewardship](#)



Findable



Accessible



Interoperable

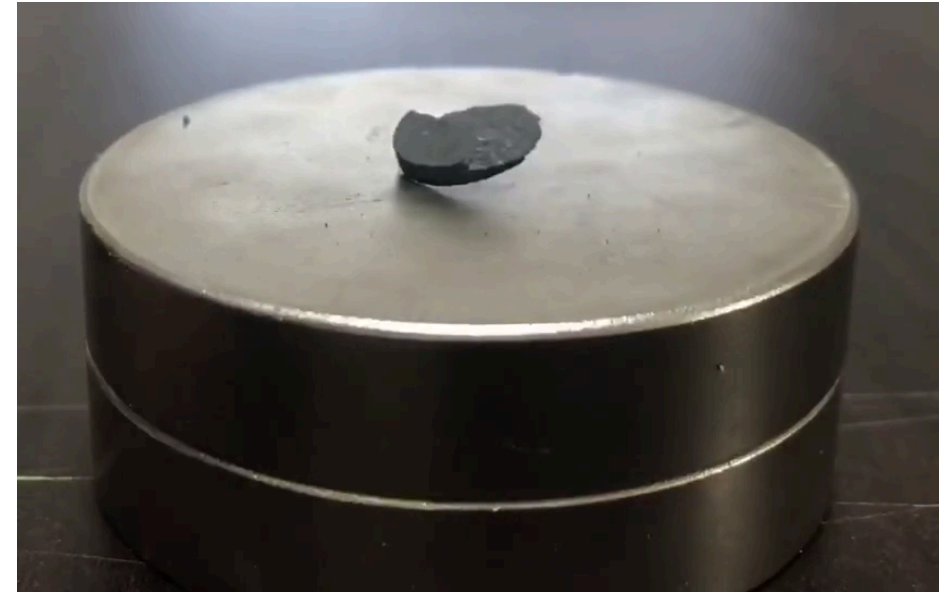


Reusable

Bad (toy) example - SuperDuperConductorsDB

- a dataset of superconductivity temperatures of 5,000,000 novel stable crystal structures
- with only transition temperatures and chemical compositions shared
- no crystal structures, no methods provided

website: <https://idontsharemydata.com/>



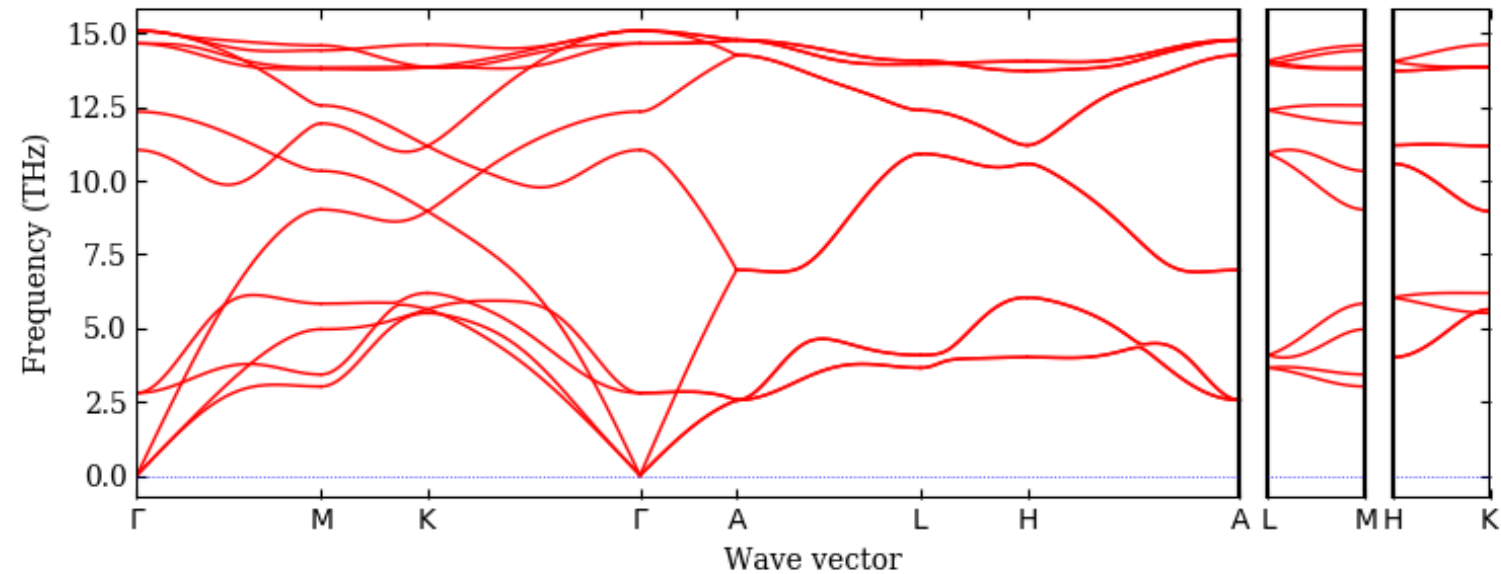
These principles should guide your projects (and future research)

Ok example - phonondb

- phonon dispersion curves calculated for ~10,000 crystal structures
- methods, metadata, structure files provided
- hard to handle the data

website:

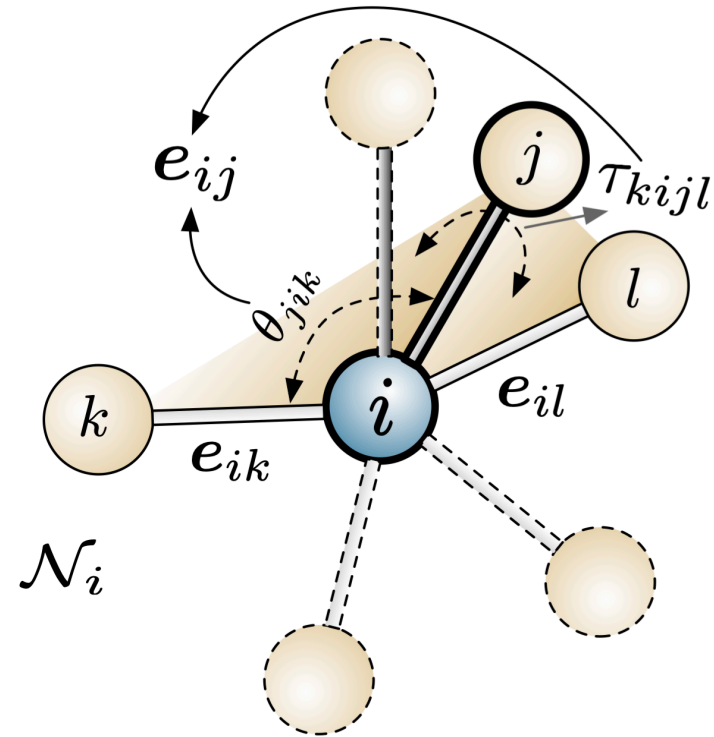
<https://github.com/atztogo/phonondb>



Good example - matterverse

- ~30,000,000 crystal structures optimized with deep learning potential
- methods, metadata, structure files provided
- has the platform
- REST API is not that good

website: <https://matterverse.ai/about>

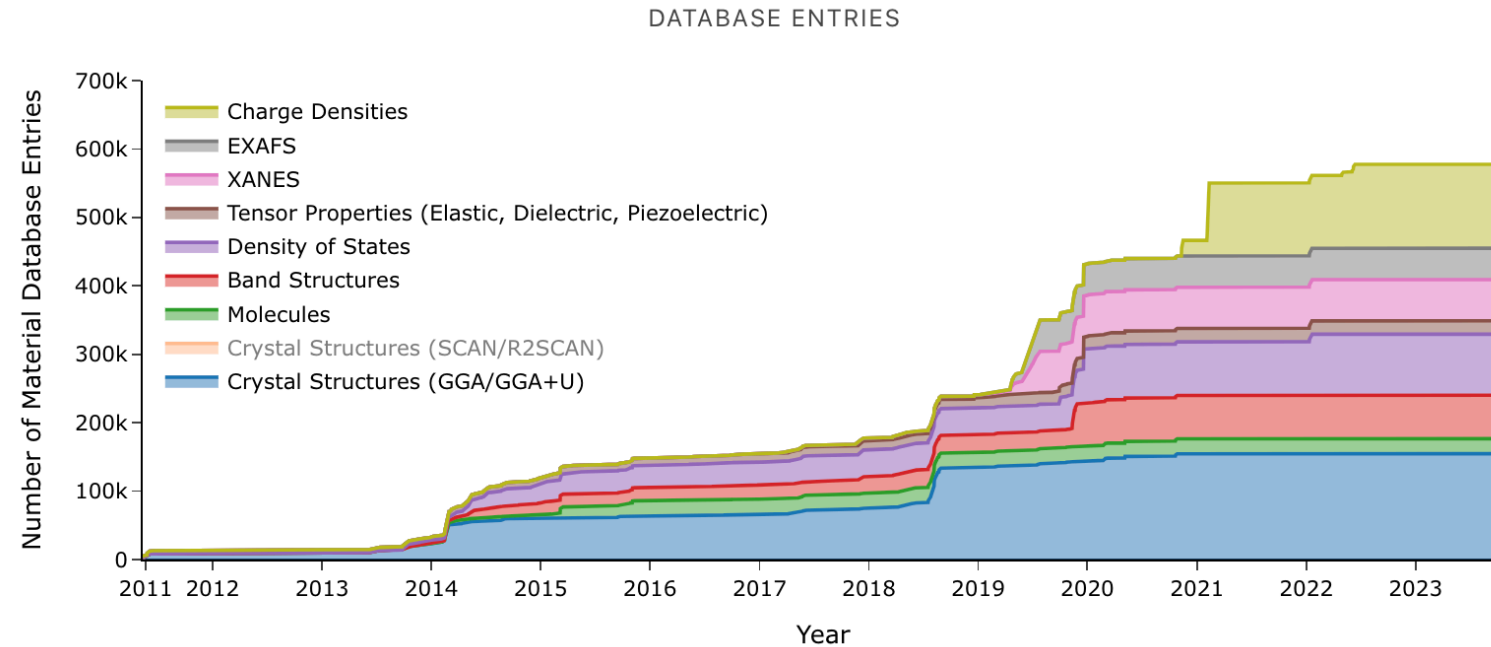


Brilliant example - The Materials Project (MP) database

- ~150,000 crystal structures
- high quality density functional theory calculations
- "provides one of the largest publicly available data set of computed materials properties"
- methods, metadata, structure files provided
- handy platform
- good REST API

We will learn how to use it during today's seminar

website: <https://next-gen.materialsproject.org/>



The MP data access - simple

- you need your API key
- and python

Each material in the database has an identifier (mp_id).

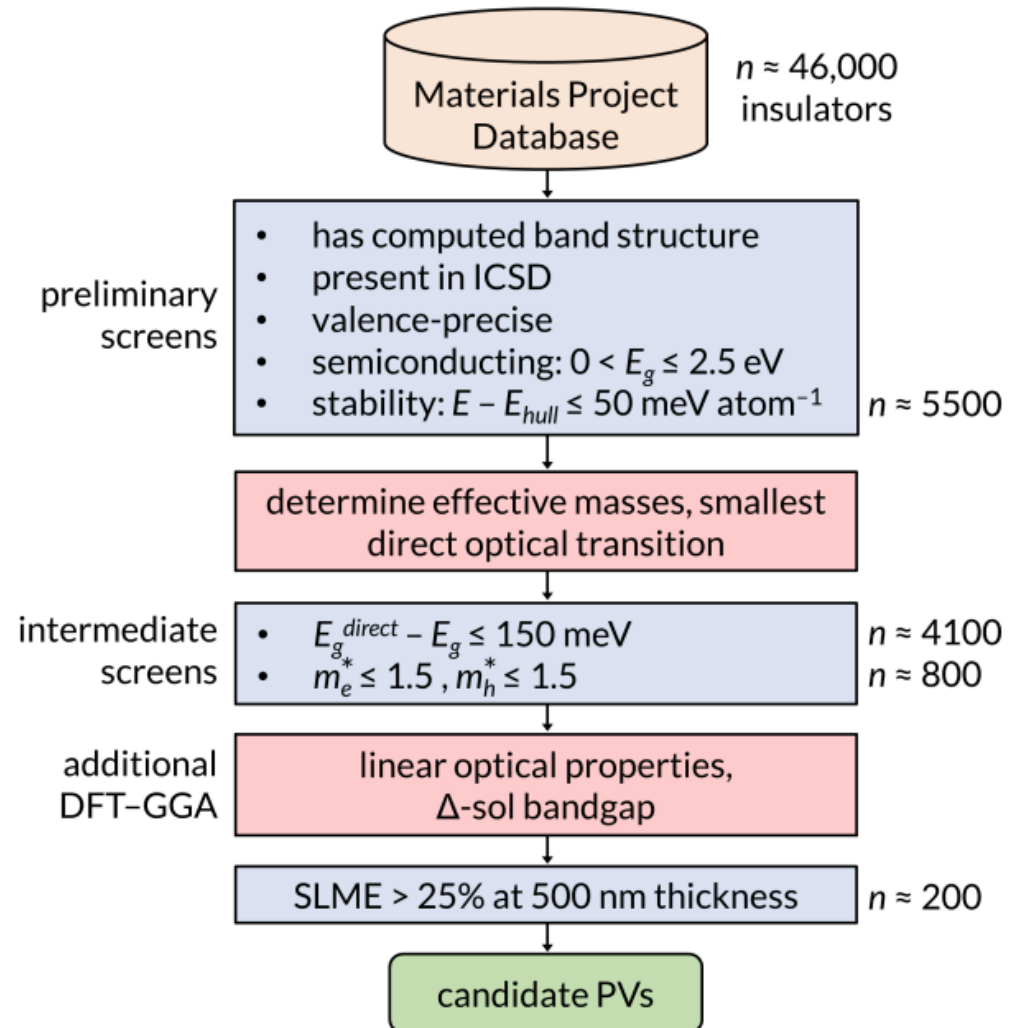
```
from mp_api.client import MPRester

with MPRester(api_key="your_api_key_here") as mpr:
    # retrieve SummaryDocs for a list of materials
    docs = mpr.summary.search(material_ids=["mp-149", "mp-13"])
```


The MP's data usage example

Screening inorganic PVs

- Screened database
- Identified candidates
- Calculated properties of interest for ~800 compounds
- Shared the data



A few words about Density Functional Theory (DFT) before the MP database seminar

- Quantum-Mechanical approach to calculate the electronic structure (ground state electron density) of materials
- The most popular method in materials modelling
- Has high predictive power, but:
 - scales as $O(N^3)$, N - number of electrons in a system
 - requires a lot of compute
- Out of the scope of this course
- Consider Computational Chemistry and Materials Modeling course (MA060008) for learning fundamentals of DFT

Take home message

- There are many (open) sources of materials data
- Using someone else's data can help guide or improve your research
- Consider the FAIR principles for sharing your own data

Resources

<https://github.com/sedaoturak/data-resources-for-materials-science?tab=readme-ov-file>

[https://github.com/sp8rks/MaterialsInformatics/blob/main/course_notes/5. Materials Data Repositories.pdf](https://github.com/sp8rks/MaterialsInformatics/blob/main/course_notes/5.Materials%20Data%20Repositories.pdf)

<https://matbench.materialsproject.org/>