
EDUCATION

Carnegie Mellon University
Master of Science in Chemical Engineering

Pittsburgh, PA
Dec 2020

University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering

Knoxville, TN
May 2019

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Carnegie Mellon University

Aug 2019 – Dec 2020

Graduate Research Assistant (Advisor: Dr. Zachary Ulissi)

- Performed in-depth statistical analysis of composition effects on catalyst surface performance with DFT (Density-Functional Theory) calculations to reduce the required search space for computational catalyst screening by 70%
- Designed a flexible framework for active learning with Deep Learning Neural-Network potentials leading to a reduction of 55% in the number of required DFT calculations while maintaining accurate results
- Collaborated in improvement of projects through implementation of continuous integration to improve code structure and reduce errors by 80%
- Manipulated large dataframes containing atomic structure information with MongoDB database in Python (PyMongo)

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

May 2017 – May 2019

Undergraduate Research Assistant (Advisor: Dr. Siris O. Laursen)

- Performed analysis of DFT calculations on atomic systems to gain additional insight into the relationship between surface Nickel concentration and Hydrogen selectivity
- Organized experimental datasets through Excel spreadsheets for data analysis and visualization.
- Presented findings at multiple conferences and received both an Award of Merit and Bronze Award
- Trained undergraduate students in gas flow reactor operations and catalyst performance analysis resulting in increased group research productivity

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE

Oak Ridge National Laboratory

June 2019 – Aug 2019

Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internship (Advisor: Dr. Stephan Irle)

- Constructed a unique framework through combining density functional tight binding with metadynamics which accelerated scanning of the free energy profile of a system by a factor of 1000
- Collected and analyzed data of particle size and temperature effects to further improve the understanding of nanoparticle formation in material development
- Implemented neural-network assisted molecular dynamics simulations to reduce the error against DFT below 10%.
- Ran Python Jupyter notebook experiments for neural network hyperparameter optimization.

ACADEMIC PROJECTS

For additional projects and source code, visit <https://mattaadams.github.io/>

Using Machine-Learning to Predict Adsorbate Binding Energies of Active Sites

Spring 2020

Data Science in Chemical Engineering – Carnegie Mellon University

- Developed a program capable of automatically generating atomistic structures using user-specified elements reducing required manual entry time by 90%
- Constructed and trained a model capable of predicting binding energies with an average error of less than 10%
- Analyzed and visualized data trends in active site binding energies through Python.

Using Machine-Learning Methods to Identify Twitter Bots

Fall 2019

Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for Engineers – Carnegie Mellon University

- Performed Exploratory Data Analysis and interpreted previous results from previous scientific publications focused on methods for bot detection.
- Utilized Twitter's API to extract and clean data into a readable format across thousands of individual accounts
- Investigated feature importance and implemented machine learning algorithms to obtain an overall accuracy of 85% for bot detection and classification.

SKILLS

Software: Excel, GitHub, Linux, MongoDB, Docker, CI/CD, Kubernetes

Programming: Python, PyTorch, Flask, OpenCV, JavaScript, C, Bash, SQL, Matlab