

# Joseph MONTOKA

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## EDUCATION

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- 2015 Ph.D. CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, **Stanford University**, Stanford, CA  
Thesis: "Theoretical electrocatalysis for renewable fuels and chemicals"
- 2014 M.S. CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, **Stanford University**, Stanford, CA
- 2010 B.S. CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, **University of South Carolina**, Columbia, SC
- 2010 B.S. MATHEMATICS, **University of South Carolina**, Columbia, SC
- 2010 Certificate, PIANO PERFORMANCE, **University of South Carolina**, Columbia SC

## PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

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- 2015-Current | Postdoctoral Researcher, **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory**  
*Advisor: Kristin PERSSON, Energy Environmental Technologies Division*  
Part of the core development team for the Materials Project. Projects include performing high-throughput calculations of elastic tensors, developing workflows for surface science, refining approaches to electrochemical stability analysis, and determining trends in complex oxide reactivity for solar water splitting and CO<sub>2</sub> reduction
- 2010-2015 | Graduate Student Researcher, **Stanford University**  
*Advisor: Jens NØRSKOV, Dept. of Chemical Engineering*  
Performed DFT simulations of the electrocatalysis of nitrogen electroreduction, total water splitting on perovskite oxides, and C-C coupling in CO<sub>2</sub> electroreduction. Constructed linear scaling relations to identify trends and structure sensitivity of various catalytic surfaces. Used and developed electrochemical kinetics in CatMAP software to model steady-state turnover and selectivity. Created tools for managing data corresponding to over 5000 bulk compounds, 500 surfaces, and 10000 adsorbate configurations.
- 2006-2010 | Undergraduate Researcher, **University of South Carolina**  
*Advisors: John MONNIER, Chris WILLIAMS, Dept. of Chemical Engineering*  
Conducted experimental synthesis and characterization of bimetallic catalysts for the selective hydrogenation of acetylene and epoxybutene. Used electroless deposition (ED) technique to prepare [Cu,Ag,Au][Pd,Pt]/SiO<sub>2</sub> bimetallic catalysts. Characterized catalyst surface area and activity.
- 2008 | IREU, **King Mongkut University of Technology, Thonburi, Thailand**  
*Advisors: Preecha TERMSUKSAWAD, Dept. of Materials Science*  
Studied extraction of Ni-Co alloys from spent nickel metal-hydride (Ni-MH) batteries via electrochemical characterization with cyclic voltammetry (CV) and chronoamperometry.

## SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

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- 2014 Outstanding Chemical Engineering TA Award, **Stanford University**
- 2013 Richard J. Kokes Award, **North American Catalysis Society**
- 2010 Graduate Research Fellowship, **National Science Foundation**
- 2010 Finalist, **Rhodes Scholarship**
- 2008 **Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship**

## PUBLICATIONS

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- [1] Cave, E. R., **Montoya, J. H.**, Kuhl, K. P., Abram, D. N., Hatsukade, T., Shi, C., Hahn, C., Nørskov, J. K., Jaramillo, T. F., “Electrochemical CO <sub>2</sub> reduction on Au surfaces: mechanistic aspects regarding the formation of major and minor products”. *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* 19.24 (2017), pp. 15856–15863.
- [2] Dagdelen, J., **Montoya, J.**, Jong, M., Persson, K., “Computational prediction of new auxetic materials”. *Nature Communications* 8.1 (Dec. 2017), p. 323.
- [3] Mathew, K., **Montoya, J. H.**, Faghaninia, A., Dwarakanath, S., Aykol, M., Tang, H., Chu, I., Smidt, T., Bocklund, B., Horton, M., Dagdelen, J., Wood, B., Liu, Z. K., Neaton, J., Ong, S. P., Persson, K., Jain, A., “Atomate: A high-level interface to generate, execute, and analyze computational materials science workflows”. *Computational Materials Science* 139 (Nov. 2017), pp. 140–152.
- [4] **Montoya, J. H.**, Persson, K. A., “A high-throughput framework for determining adsorption energies on solid surfaces”. *npj Computational Materials* 3.1 (2017), p. 14.
- [5] **Montoya, J. H.**, Seitz, L. C., Chakthranont, P., Vojvodic, A., Jaramillo, T. F., Nørskov, J. K., “Materials for solar fuels and chemicals”. *Nature Materials* 16 (2017).
- [6] Bertheussen, E., Verdaguer-Casadevall, A., Ravasio, D., **Montoya, J. H.**, Trimarco, D. B., Roy, C., Meier, S., Wendland, J., Nørskov, J. K., Stephens, I. E. L., Chorkendorff, I., “Acetaldehyde as an Intermediate in the Electroreduction of Carbon Monoxide to Ethanol on Oxide-Derived Copper”. *Angewandte Chemie* 128.4 (Jan. 2016), pp. 1472–1476.
- [7] Latimer, A. A., Kulkarni, A. R., Aljama, H., **Montoya, J. H.**, Yoo, J. S., Tsai, C., Abild-Pedersen, F., Studt, F., Nørskov, J. K., “Understanding trends in C–H bond activation in heterogeneous catalysis”. *Nature Materials* (Oct. 2016).
- [8] Sandberg, R. B., **Montoya, J. H.**, Chan, K., Nørskov, J. K., “CO–CO coupling on Cu facets: Coverage, strain and field effects”. *Surface Science* 654 (2016), pp. 56–62.
- [9] Seitz, L. C., Dickens, C. F., Nishio, K., Hikita, Y., **Montoya, J.**, Doyle, A., Kirk, C., Vojvodic, A., Hwang, H. Y., Nørskov, J. K., Jaramillo, T. F., “A highly active and stable IrO<sub>x</sub>/SrIrO<sub>3</sub> catalyst for the oxygen evolution reaction”. *Science* 353.6303 (2016), pp. 1011–1014.
- [10] Tsai, C., Lee, K., Yoo, J. S., Liu, X., Aljama, H., Chen, L. D., Dickens, C. F., Geisler, T. S., Guido, C. J., Joseph, T. M., Kirk, C. S., Latimer, A. A., Loong, B., McCarty, R. J., **Montoya, J. H.**, Power, L., Singh, A. R., Willis, J. J., Winterkorn, M. M., Yuan, M., Zhao, Z.-J., Wilcox, J., Nørskov, J. K., “Direct Water Decomposition on Transition Metal Surfaces: Structural Dependence and Catalytic Screening”. *Catalysis Letters* 146.4 (Feb. 2016), pp. 718–724.
- [11] Doyle, A. D., **Montoya, J. H.**, Vojvodic, A., “Improving Oxygen Electrochemistry through Nanoscopic Confinement”. *ChemCatChem* 7.5 (Mar. 2015), pp. 738–742.
- [12] **Montoya, J. H.**, Shi, C., Chan, K., Nørskov, J. K., “Theoretical Insights into a CO Dimerization Mechanism in CO<sub>2</sub> Electroreduction”. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry Letters* 6.11 (2015), pp. 2032–2037.
- [13] **Montoya, J. H.**, Tsai, C., Vojvodic, A., Nørskov, J. K., “The Challenge of Electrochemical Ammonia Synthesis: A New Perspective on the Role of Nitrogen Scaling Relations.” *ChemSusChem* 8.13 (2015), pp. 2180–6.
- [14] Wang, Y., **Montoya, J. H.**, Tsai, C., Ahlquist, M. S. G., Nørskov, J. K., Studt, F., “Scaling Relationships for Binding Energies of Transition Metal Complexes”. *Catalysis Letters* (Dec. 2015).
- [15] **Montoya, J. H.**, Garcia-Mota, M., Nørskov, J. K., Vojvodic, A., “Theoretical evaluation of the surface electrochemistry of perovskites with promising photon absorption properties for solar water splitting”. *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* (2014), pp. 2634–2640.
- [16] Hansen, H. A., **Montoya, J. H.**, Zhang, Y. J., Shi, C., Peterson, A. a., Nørskov, J. K., “Electroreduction of methanediol on copper”. *Catalysis Letters* 143.7 (2013), pp. 631–635.

- [17] **Montoya, J. H.**, Peterson, A. a., Nørskov, J. K., “Insights into C-C Coupling in CO<sub>2</sub> Electroreduction on Copper Electrodes”. *ChemCatChem* 5.3 (2013), pp. 737–742.
- [18] Schaal, M. T., Metcalf, A. Y., **Montoya, J. H.**, Wilkinson, J. P., Stork, C. C., Williams, C. T., Monnier, J. R., “Hydrogenation of 3,4-epoxy-1-butene over Cu-Pd/SiO<sub>2</sub> catalysts prepared by electroless deposition”. *Catalysis Today* 123.1-4 (2007), pp. 142–150.

## FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

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- [1] **Montoya, J. H.**, Doyle, A. D., Vojvodic, A., Nørskov, J. K., “Trends in adsorption of electrocatalytic water splitting intermediates on cubic ABO<sub>3</sub> oxides”. *Submitted* (2017).
- [2] **Montoya, J.**, Winter, I. S., Dwaraknath, S., Dagdalen, J., Mathew, K., Jong, M., Asta, M., Chrzan, D., Persson, K. A., “New methodologies and applications of elastic tensors from density functional theory”. *In preparation* (2017).
- [3] Singh, A. R., **Montoya, J. H.**, Rohr, B., Tsai, C., Vojvodic, A., Nørskov, J. K., “Computational Design of Active Site Structures with Improved Transition-State Scaling for Ammonia Synthesis”. *Submitted* (2017).
- [4] Singh, A. K., Zhou, L., Shinde, A., Suram, S. K., **Montoya, J. H.**, Gregoire, J. M., Persson, K. A., “Electrochemical stability of metastable materials”. *Submitted* (2017).

## SELECTED RECENT AND UPCOMING TALKS

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| November 2017  | A HIGH-THROUGHPUT COMPUTATIONAL SCREENING APPROACH FOR SOLAR FUELS PHOTOELECTROCATALYSIS<br>NEW MILESTONES AND CHALLENGES TO HIGH-THROUGHPUT COMPUTATION OF ELASTIC PROPERTIES ON THE MATERIALS PROJECT<br>CLIMBING THE VOLCANO: ACTIVE-SITE ENGINEERING AT THE ATOMIC SCALE<br><b>AIChE Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN</b> |
| September 2017 | THE MATERIALS PROJECT: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN HIGH-THROUGHPUT COMPUTATIONAL MATERIALS SCIENCE<br><b>E-CAM Industry Workshop, "From Atom to Material", Cambridge, UK</b>   |
| August 2017    | TOWARDS A SOLAR FUELS FUTURE: THEORETICAL METRICS FOR PHOTOELECTROCATALYST SCREENING<br>HIGH-THROUGHPUT WORKFLOWS FOR DETERMINING ADSORPTION ENERGIES ON SOLID SURFACES<br><b>ACS Fall Meeting, Washington, DC</b>   |
| June 2017      | THE MATERIALS PROJECT: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN HIGH-THROUGHPUT COMPUTATIONAL MATERIALS SCIENCE<br><b>ECS Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA</b>   |
| May 2017       | ELECTROCATALYSIS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY VIA ACTIVE-SITE ENGINEERING AT THE ATOMIC SCALE<br><b>Seminar, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC</b>  |

## SKILLS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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TEACHING	<p>Certified Software Carpentry instructor for workshops on introductory and advanced python for scientific computing. Served as lead or co-instructor in six eight-hour workshops, served as secondary instructor/helper in five additional workshops. Developed workshop material for “<a href="#">Python as a Second Language</a>” and “<a href="#">Introduction to Python with Gapminder Data</a>”</p> <p>Twice served as instructor and course designer in the annual <a href="#">Materials Project Workshop</a>.</p> <p>Served twice as TA to Prof. Eric Shaqfeh (Stanford ChemE) in “Applied Mathematics for the Chemical and Biological Sciences,” an introductory graduate course for chemical engineers. Won outstanding TA award.</p>
HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING	<p>Extensive experience in python software development for scientific applications. See <a href="#">my github profile</a>. Experience using NERSC, Oak Ridge (OLCF), Argonne (ALCF), and SLAC supercomputing Resources. Extensive experience in automated workflow management. Contributor to <a href="#">pymatgen</a>, <a href="#">FireWorks</a>, <a href="#">atomate</a>, and <a href="#">CatMAP</a> open source projects</p>
DATA SCIENCE	<p>Extensive experience in MongoDB infrastructure for materials data management at the <a href="#">materials project</a>. Experience using tensorflow, scikit-learn, pandas, jupyter and numerous other python libraries for data science.</p>
DFT SIMULATIONS	<p>Extensive experience using density functional theory software, including VASP, Quantum Espresso, GPAW, and Dacapo</p>
TECHNICAL WRITING AND REVIEWING	<p>Experience in preparation of scientific manuscripts, research proposals, <math>\LaTeX</math>, and data visualization</p> <p>Reviewed articles in ACS Catalysis (5), J. Phys. Chem. (1), Chem. Mater. (3), and Catalysis Today (1)</p>

## HOBBIES AND OTHER INTERESTS

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MUSIC	<p>Advanced proficiency in jazz vibraphone, completed coursework in jazz improvisation, jazz standards for gigs, and current member of <i>Music of the Masters</i> ensemble at California Jazz Conservatory’s Community Jazz School.</p> <p>Collegiate proficiency in classical piano. Earned a performance certificate from two recitals given while at University of South Carolina in the studio of Prof. Joseph Rackers.</p> <p>Intermediate proficiency in steel drumming, 3 years experience in Palmetto Pans Steel Drum ensemble.</p>
QUIZ BOWL	<p>Experienced moderator, player, and question writer for ACF and NAQT format team academic buzzer-based competitions, formerly for University of South Carolina and Stanford, currently serves as a volunteer.</p>