

# Applications of machine learning to materials science

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# Acknowledgments



Group picture, May 2023

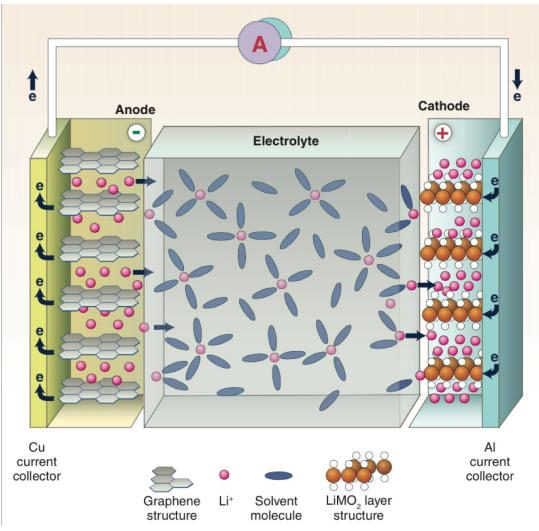
Dereje

Aqshat

Reshma

# Why bother about materials science?

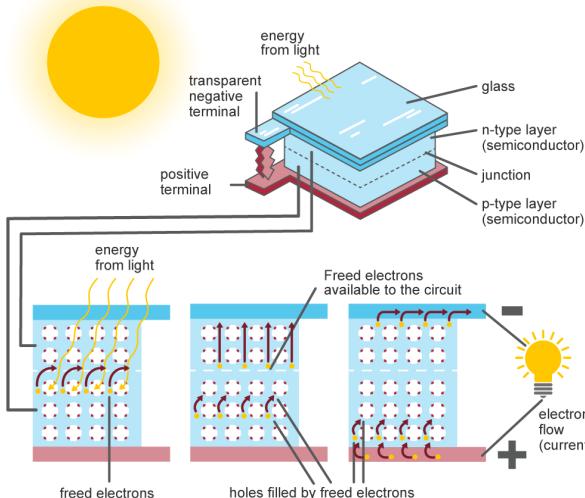
Key performance bottlenecks in key applications: governed by materials used



Energy and power density of a battery: limited by materials used as electrodes (and at times, electrolytes)

Key material properties: stability, ionic mobility, reaction energies

Usage of better materials → better performance

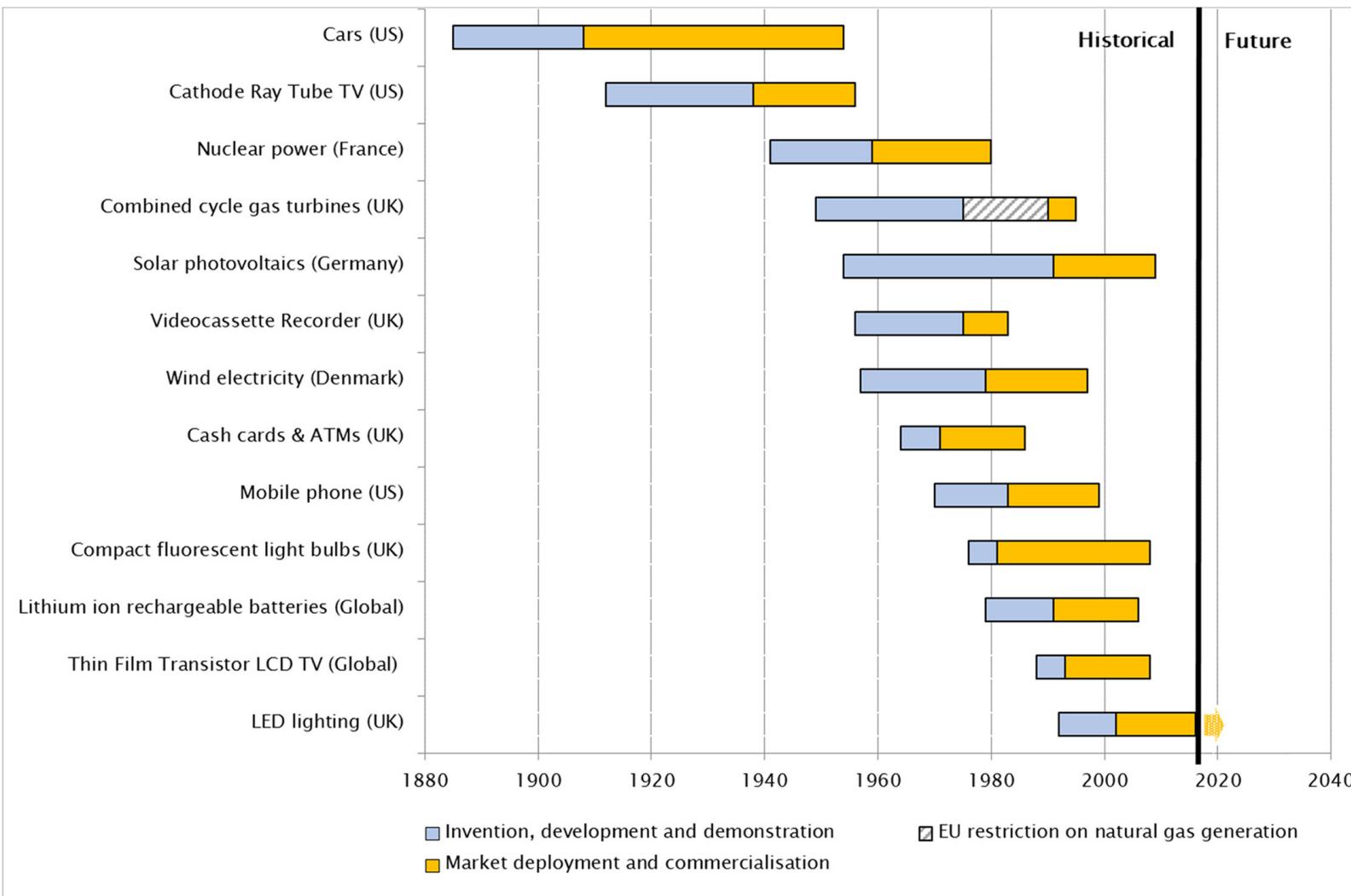


Efficiency of a photovoltaic: choice of semiconductor used as the light absorber

Key material properties: band gap, stability, resistance to point defects

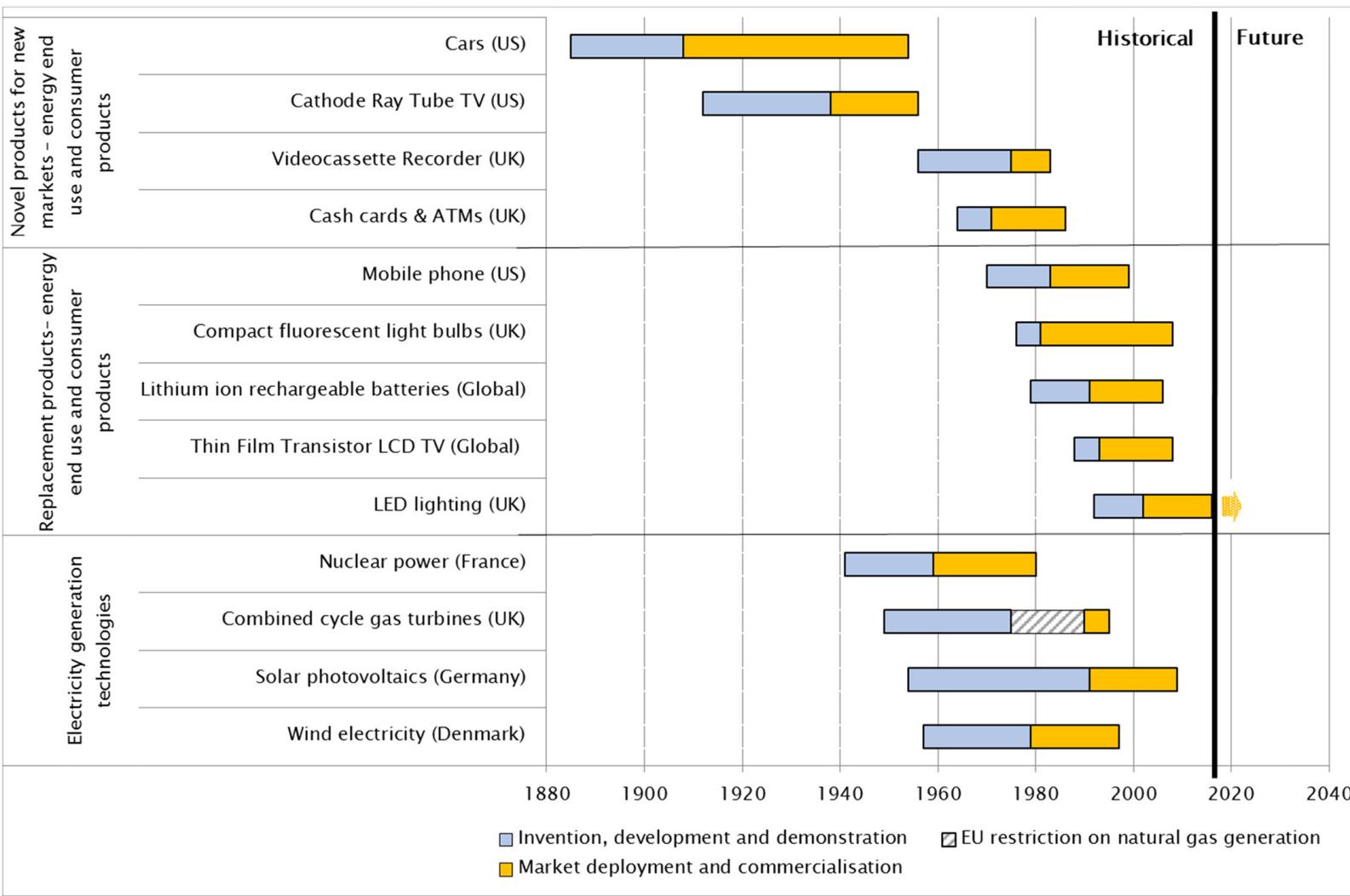
# Why use machine learning (ML) in materials science?

Technological innovation and deployment is a ‘slow’ process: often limited by materials



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Technological innovation and deployment is a ‘slow’ process: often limited by materials



Innovation is particularly slow in energy generation sector!

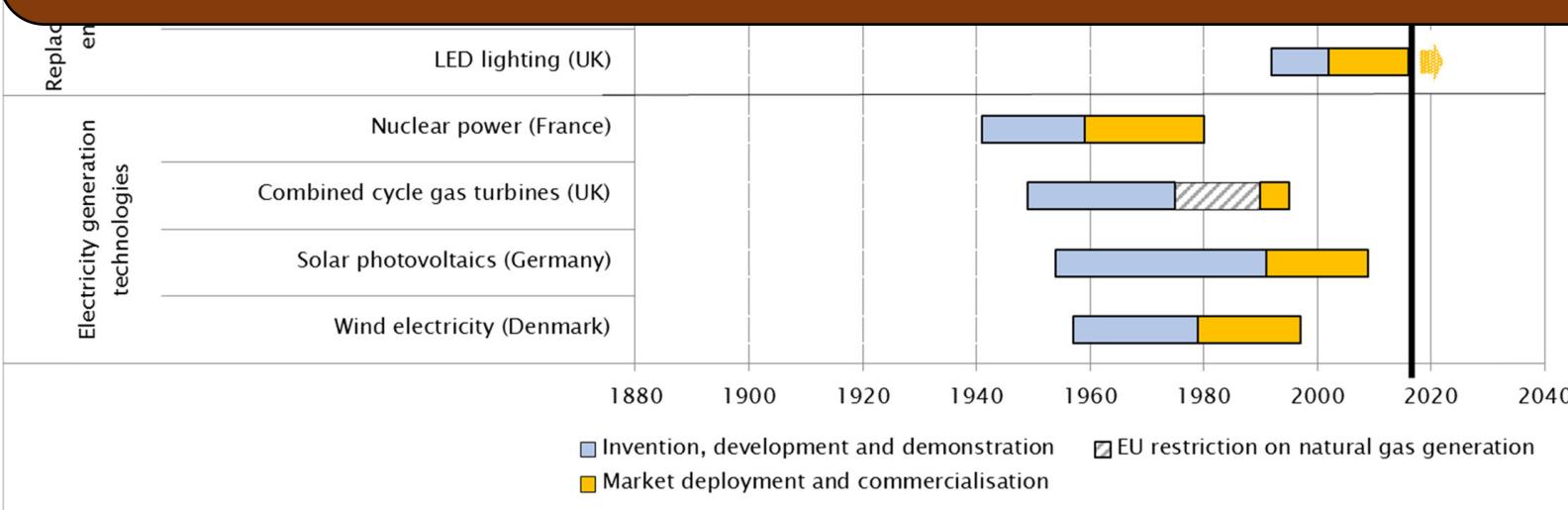
# Why use machine learning (ML) in materials science?

Technological innovation and deployment is a ‘slow’ process: often limited by materials



Faster ways of discovering new/better materials → faster innovation cycles

Machine learning → “model” materials/“predict” properties faster



Innovation is particularly slow in energy generation sector!

# Materials Genome (2011-present)

## THE U.S. MATERIALS GENOME INITIATIVE

*“...to discover, develop, and deploy new materials twice as fast, we’re launching what we call the Materials Genome Initiative”*

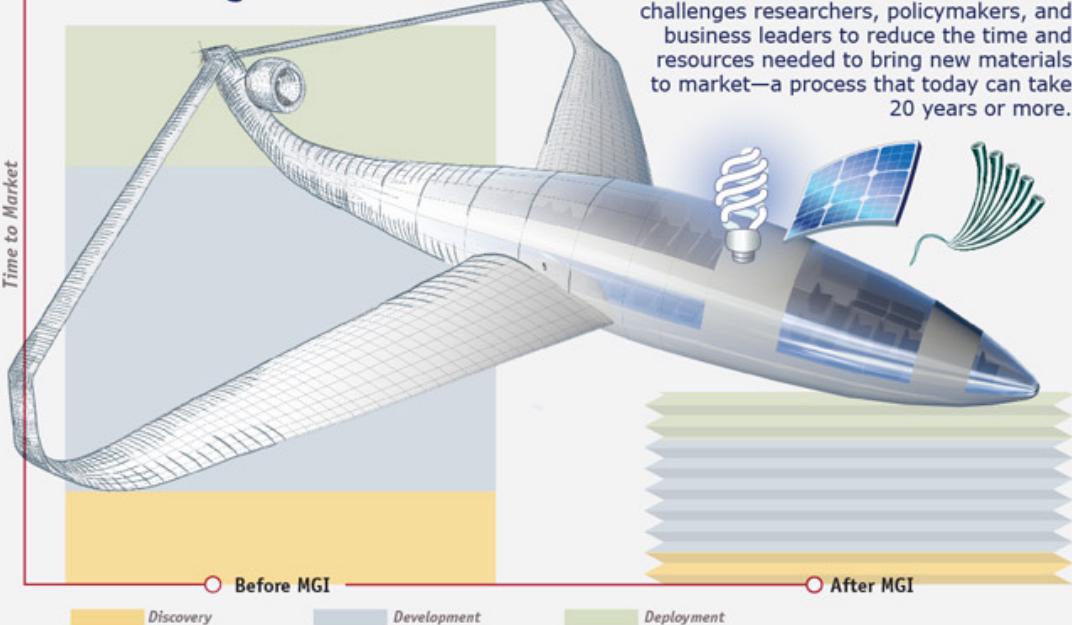
—President Obama, 2011

### Meeting Societal Needs

Advanced materials are at the heart of innovation, economic opportunities, and global competitiveness. They are the foundation for new capabilities, tools, and technologies that meet urgent societal needs including clean energy, human welfare, and national security.

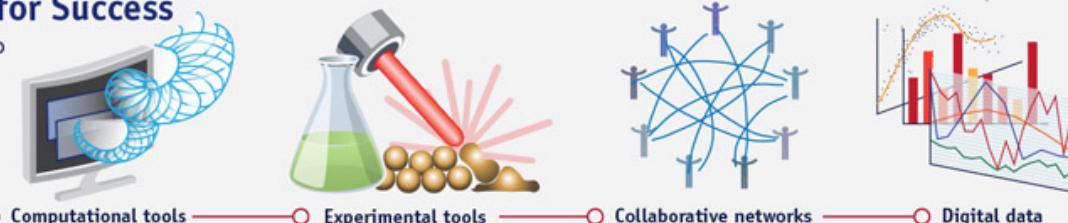


### Accelerating Our Pace



### Building Infrastructure for Success

The MGI is a multi-agency initiative to renew investments in infrastructure designed for performance, and to foster a more open, collaborative approach to developing advanced materials, helping U.S. Institutions accelerate their time-to-market.



# Evolution of ‘modelling’ in materials science

On the determination of molecular fields.  
— II. From the equation of state of a gas

J. E. Jones

Published: 01 October 1924 | <https://doi.org/10.1098/rspa.1924.0082>

1924

Inhomogeneous Electron Gas

P. Hohenberg and W. Kohn  
Phys. Rev. **136**, B864 – Published 9 November 1964

1964

Computer simulation of local order in condensed phases of silicon

Frank H. Stillinger and Thomas A. Weber  
Phys. Rev. B **31**, 5262 – Published 15 April 1985; Erratum Phys. Rev. B **33**, 1451 (1986)

1986

From ultrasoft pseudopotentials to the projector augmented-wave method

G. Kresse and D. Joubert  
Phys. Rev. B **59**, 1758 – Published 15 January 1999

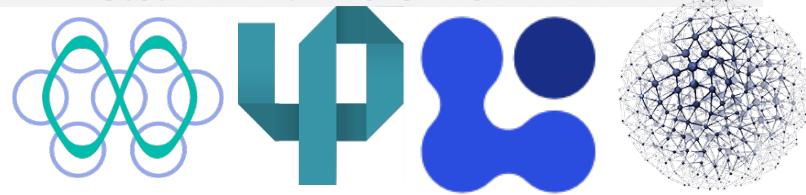
1999

Generalized Neural-Network Representation of High-Dimensional Potential-Energy Surfaces

Jörg Behler and Michele Parrinello  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **98**, 146401 – Published 2 April 2007

2007

THE U.S. MATERIALS GENOME INITIATIVE



2011–  
2018

2018–  
present

RESEARCH ARTICLE | AUGUST 13 2004

Phase Transition for a Hard Sphere System

Special Collection: JCP 90 for 90 Anniversary Collection

B. J. Alder; T. E. Wainwright

Check for updates

J. Chem. Phys. 27, 1208–1209 (1957)

<https://doi.org/10.1063/1.1743957> Article history

Clustering and ordering in solid solutions

D. de Fontaine

Generalized Gradient Approximation Made Simple

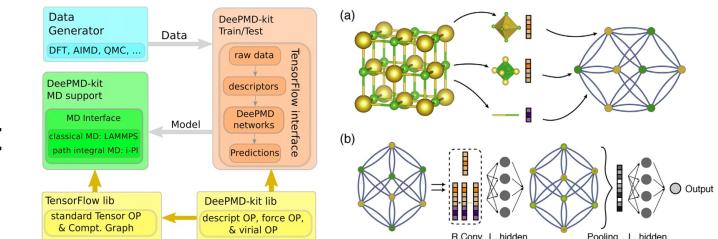
John P. Perdew, Kieron Burke, and Matthias Ernzerhof  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **77**, 3865 – Published 28 October 1996; Erratum

Shock Waves in High-Energy Materials: The Initial Chemical Events in Nitramine RDX

Alejandro Strachan, Adri C. T. van Duin, Debasish Chakraborty, Siddharth Dasgupta, and William A. Goddard, III  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **91**, 098301 – Published 28 August 2003

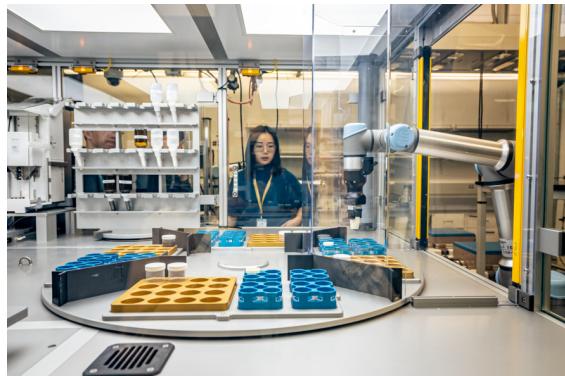
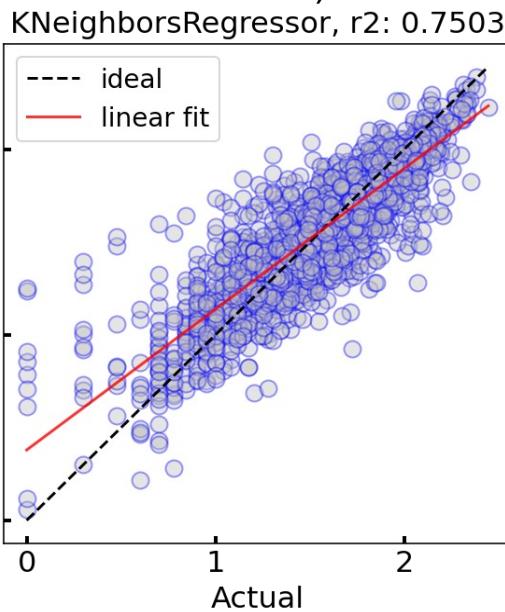
Predicting Crystal Structures with Data Mining of Quantum Calculations

Stefano Curtarolo, Dane Morgan, Kristin Persson, John Rodgers, and Gerbrand Ceder  
Phys. Rev. Lett. **91**, 135503 – Published 24 September 2003

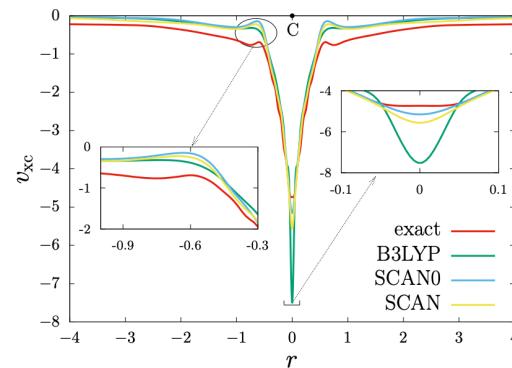
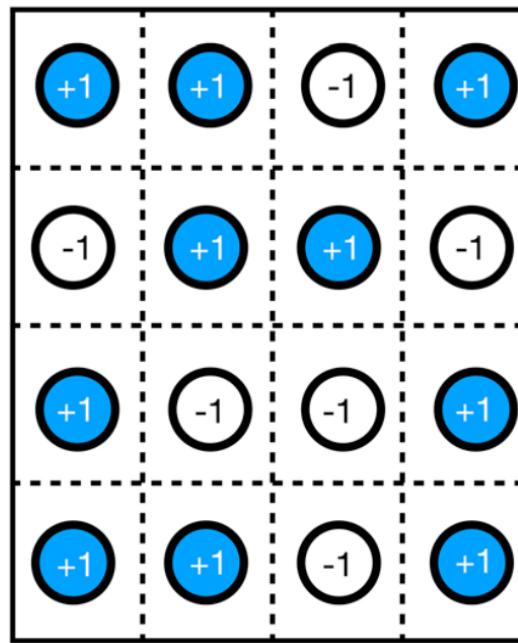


# Types of ML in materials science

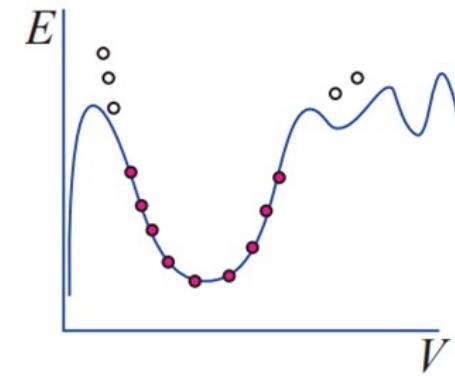
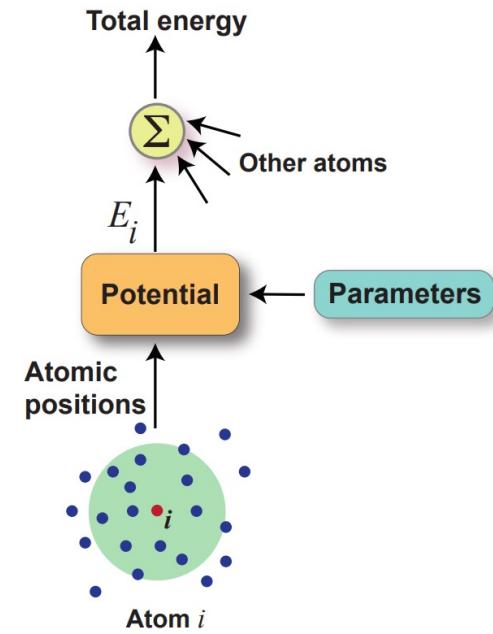
**Regressions:** make property predictions better with ‘simple’ inputs  
(also classifications)



**Coarse graining:** create ‘simple’ models to mimic properties of larger lattice(s)



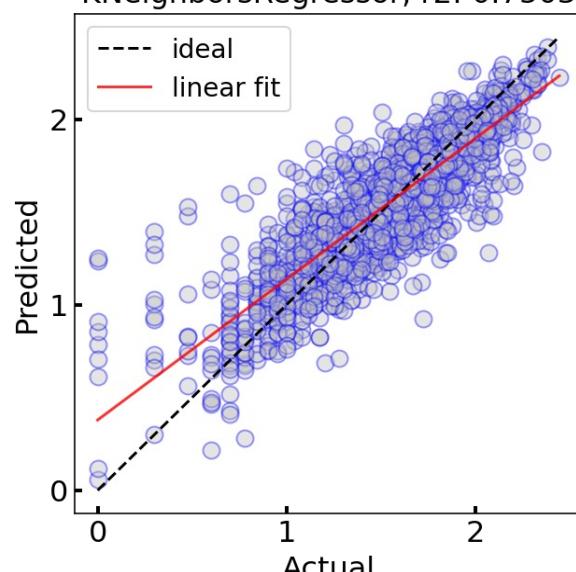
**Interatomic potentials:** describe potential energy surface accurately



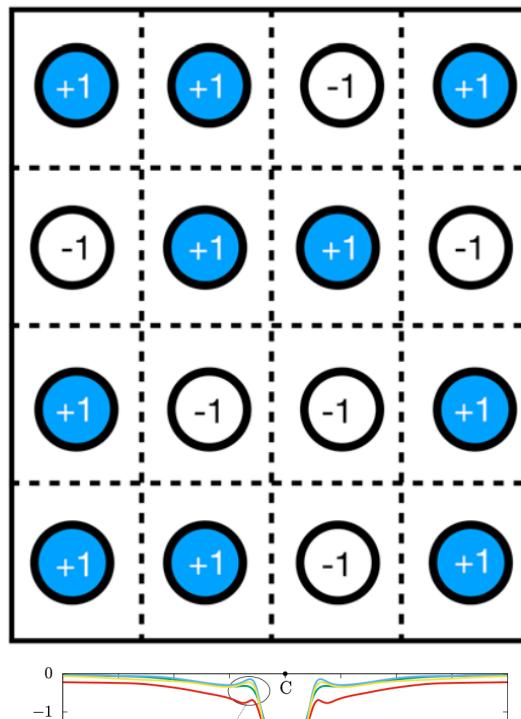
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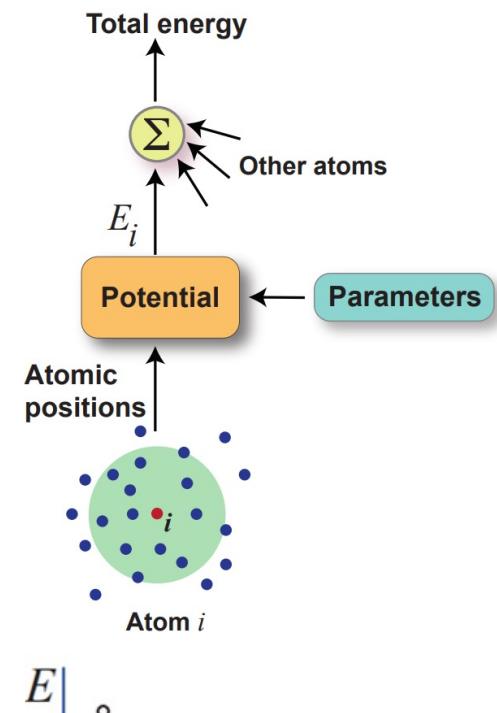
KNeighborsRegressor,  $r^2: 0.7503$



**Coarse graining:** create 'simple' models to mimic properties of larger lattice(s)

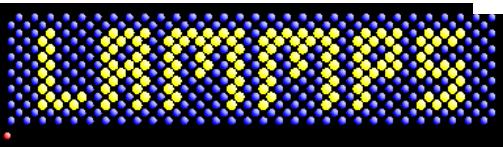


**Interatomic potentials:** describe potential energy surface accurately



This is not the complete classification: language models, transfer- or reinforcement-learned models, artificial intelligence (AI) models, etc.

# Where does the data come from?



Data organization: python/API

ML: python

Home

Home Benchmark Info Full Benchmark Data How To Use Leaderboards Per Task Reference

Home Leaderboard-Property: General Purpose Algorithms on matbench\_v0.1

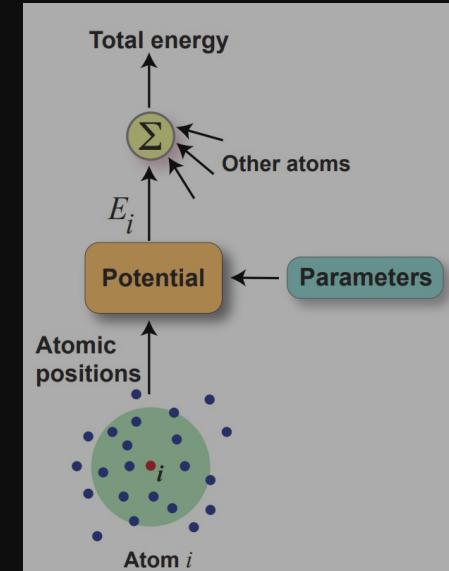
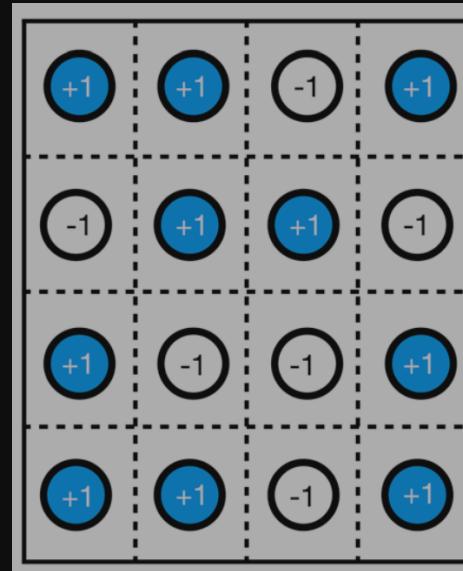
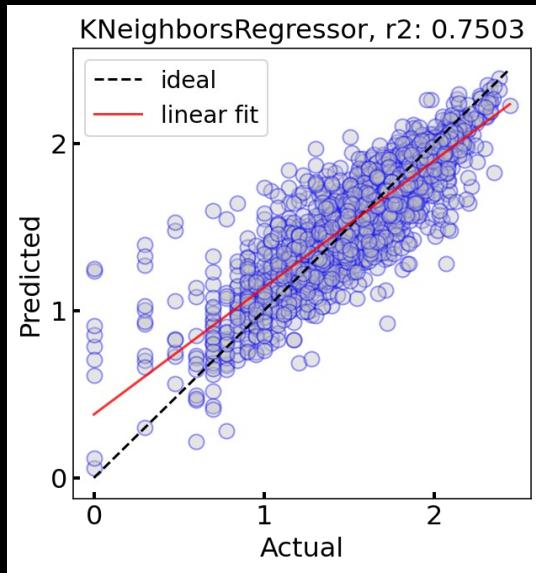
Find more information about this benchmark on [the benchmark info page](#)

Task name	Samples	Algorithm	Verified MAE (unit) or ROCAUC	Notes
matbench_steels	312	MODNet (v0.1.12)	87.7627 (MPa)	
matbench_jdft2d	636	MODNet (v0.1.12)	33.1918 (meV/atom)	
matbench_phonons	1,265	MegNet (kgcnn v2.1.0)	28.7606 (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	structure required
matbench_expt_gap	4,604	MODNet (v0.1.12)	0.3327 (eV)	
matbench_dielectric	4,764	MODNet (v0.1.12)	0.2711 (unitless)	
matbench_expt_is_metal	4,921	AMMExpress v2020	0.9209	
matbench_glass	5,680	MODNet (v0.1.12)	0.9603	
matbench_log_gvrh	10,987	coGN	0.0670 (log10(GPa))	structure required
matbench_log_kvrh	10,987	coGN	0.0491 (log10(GPa))	structure required
matbench_perovskites	18,928	coGN	0.0269 (eV/unit cell)	structure required
matbench_mp_gap	106,113	coGN	0.1559 (eV)	structure required
matbench_mp_is_metal	106,113	CGCNN v2019	0.9520	structure required
matbench_mp_e_form	132,752	coGN	0.0170 (eV/atom)	structure required

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



# Overview



Regression models:  
examples and utility

Coarse graining models:  
the example of cluster  
expansion

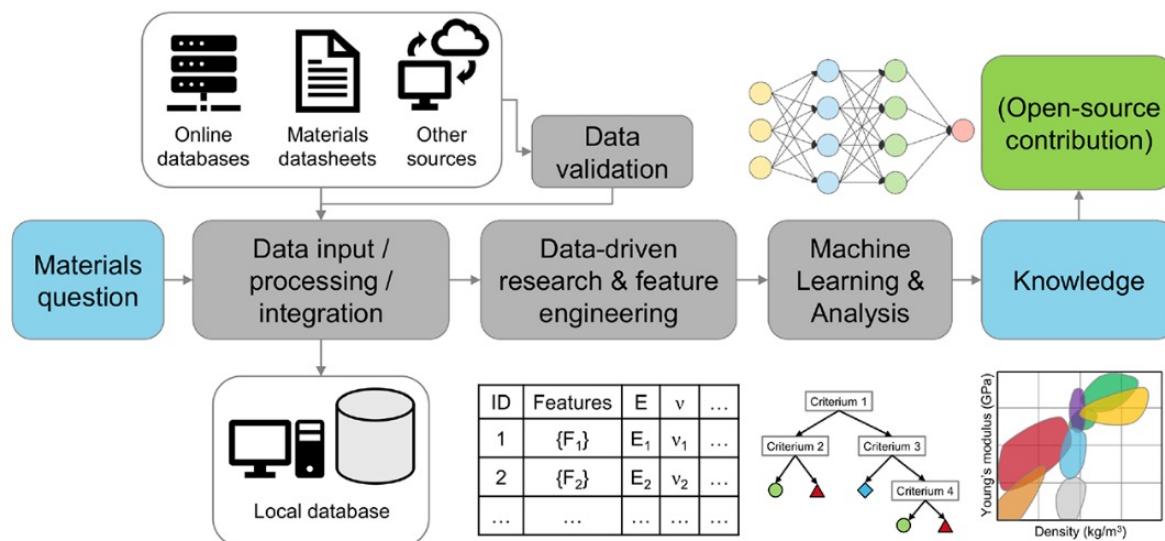
Machine learned  
interatomic potentials:  
construction and usage

Reshma Devi

Dereje Bekele Tekliye

Aqshat Seth

# Regression models: things to note



Wang et al., Chem. Mater., 32, 4954-4965 (2020)

Important considerations

How large is your data?

How and with what ease can your model be used by the research community?

Model interpretability vs. predictive power trade off (e.g., complex neural networks vs. simple regression models)

Screen materials from a database for a given application or property

Process data to gain new insights

Conceptualize new modelling approaches

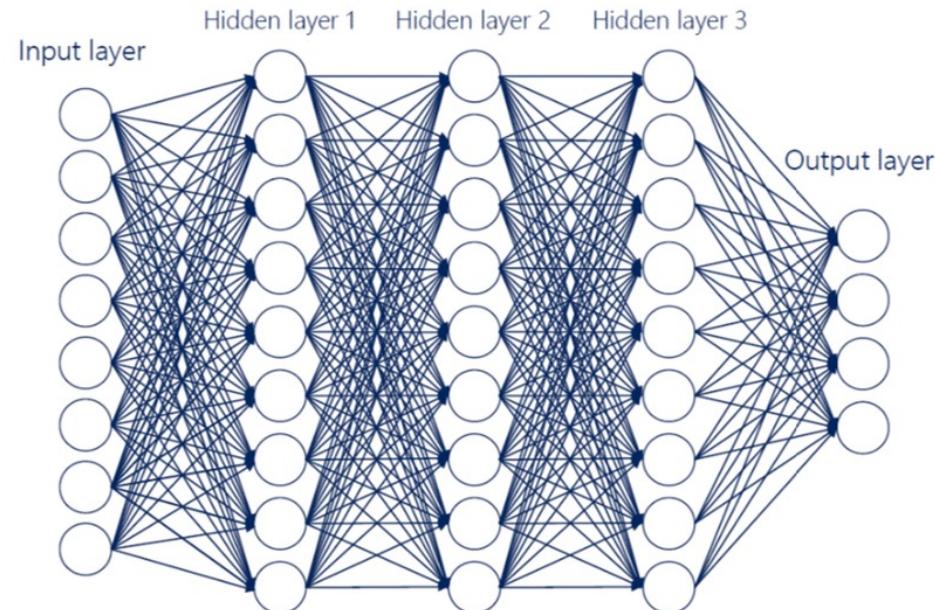
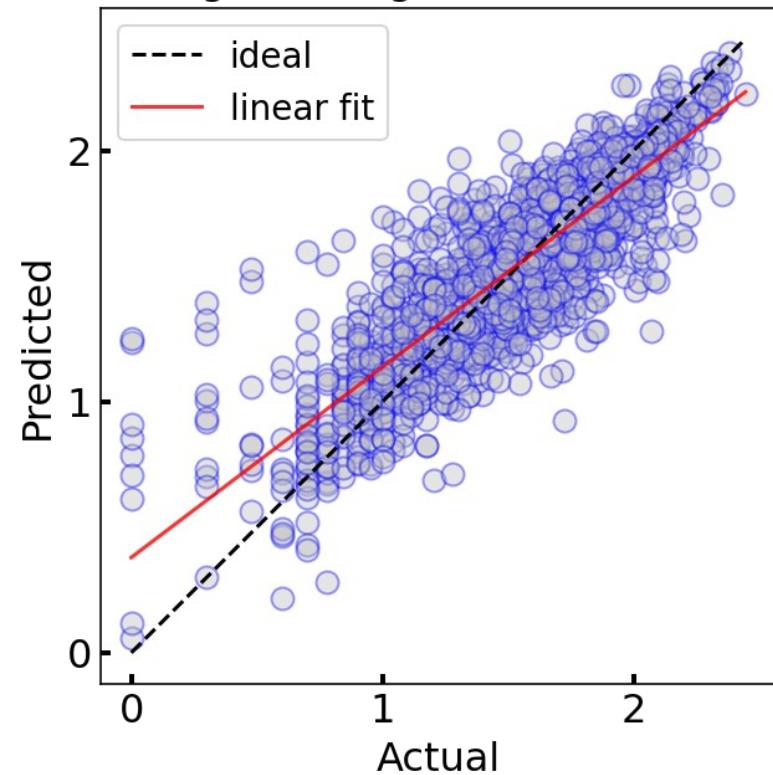
Objectives of a ML model

# What model to choose?

Simpler models are interpretable but less accurate, typically

- “Smaller” data sets - simpler models
  - Ridge/Lasso regression
  - K-nearest neighbours
  - Random forest
  - Support vector machines
- “Larger” data sets - complex models
  - Neural networks (NNs)
  - Graph neural networks (GNN)
  - Crystal graph convolutional neural network (CGCNN)
  - Atomistic line graph neural network (ALIGNN)

KNeighborsRegressor, r2: 0.7503

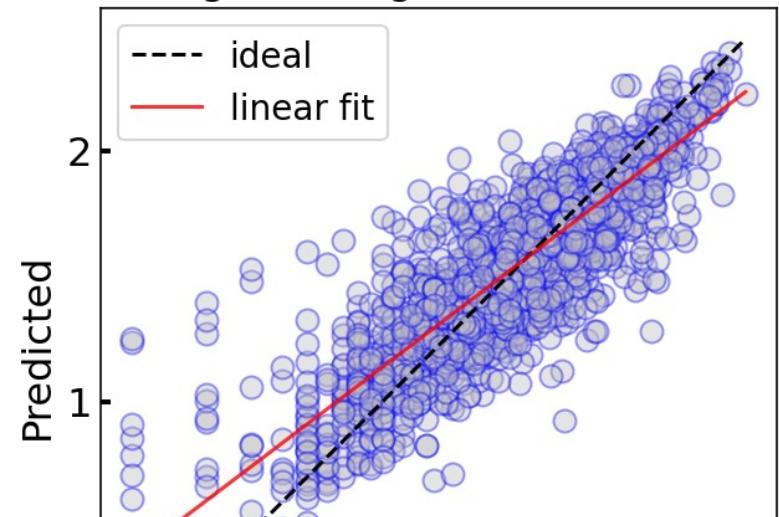


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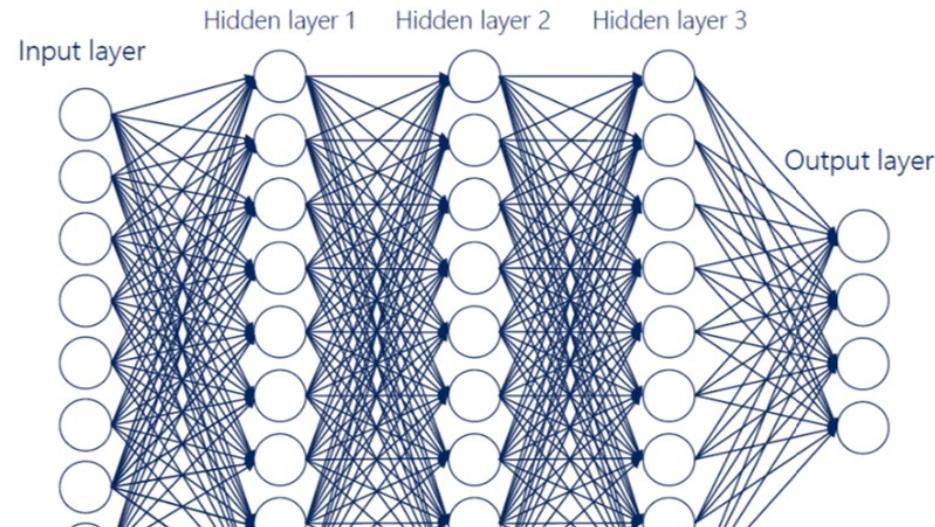
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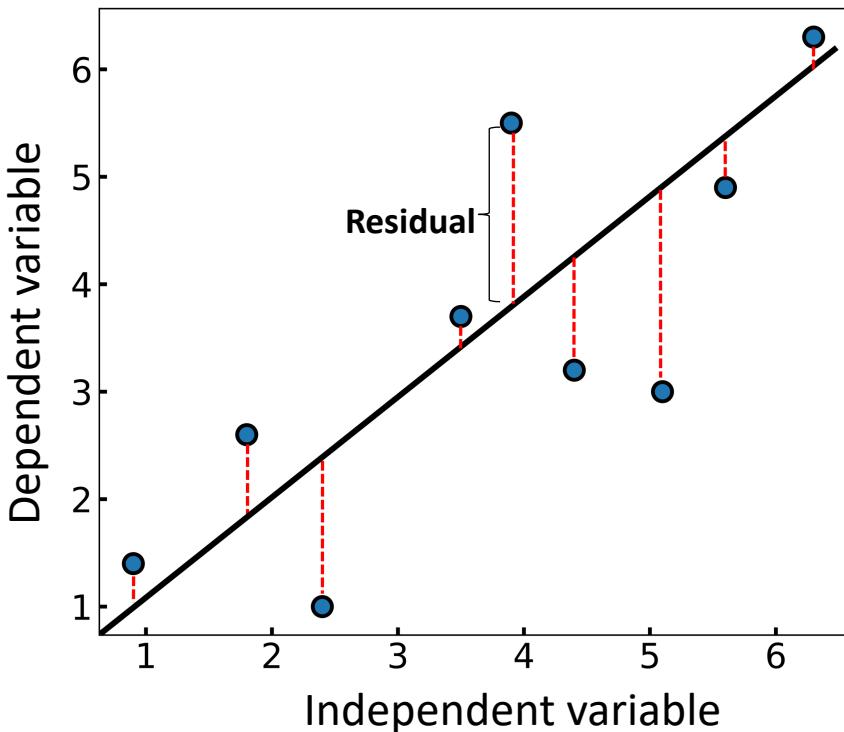


- Human interpretable
- Provides chemical and physical insights
- Low accuracy



- "Black Box"
- Does not provide chemical/physical insights
- High accuracy

# How to quantify model accuracy?



Higher accuracy → smaller squared sum of residuals (SSR)

Regression models (continuous target)

- $r^2$
- Mean absolute error (MAE)
- Root mean square error (RMSE)

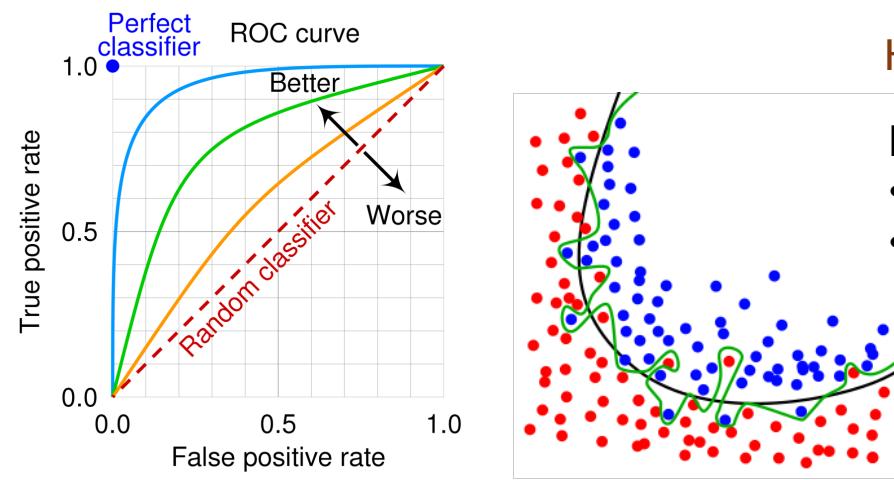
Classification models (binary target)

- Accuracy: fraction of correct predictions
- Precision: fraction of correct 'positives' among all positives
- Recall: actual fraction of correct 'positives'
- Receiver operator characteristic (ROC) curve

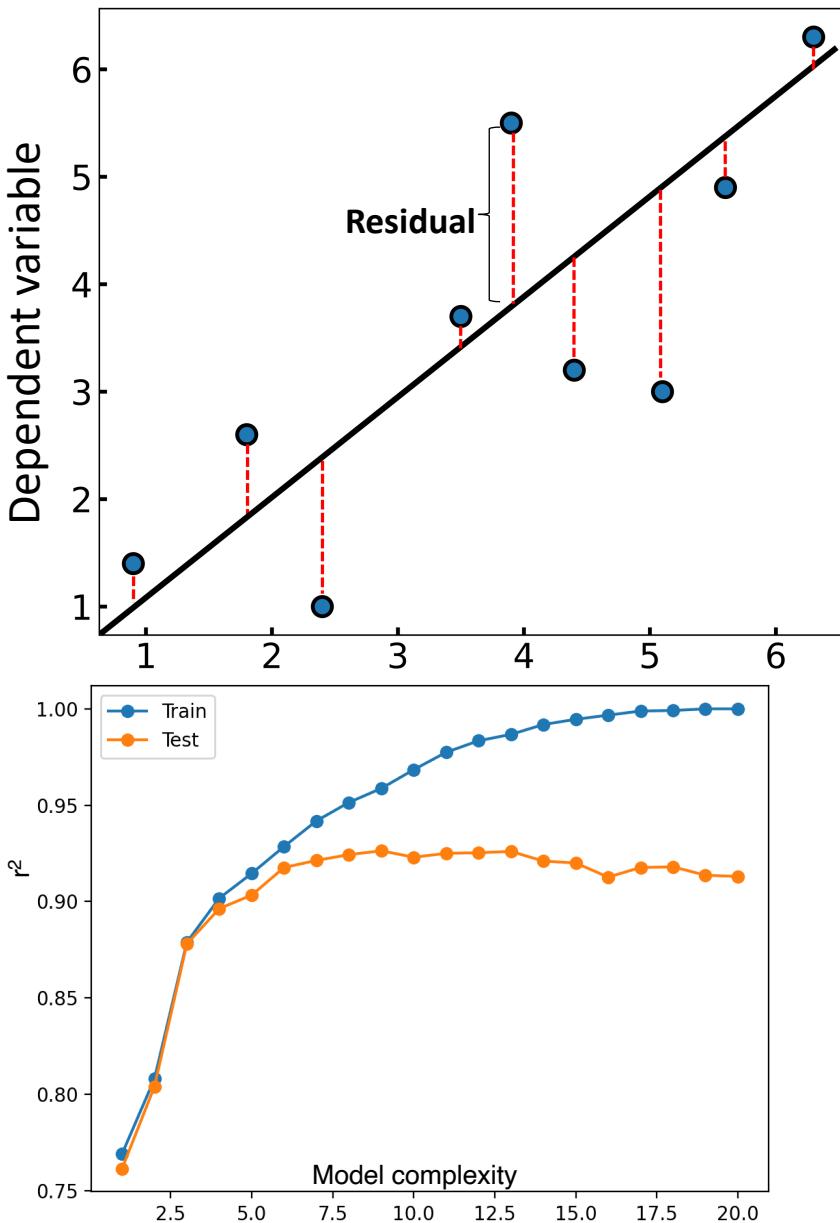
How do we know our model isn't overfit on data?

Need to test our model on 'unseen' data

- k-fold cross-validation (CV) score (simple models)
- Error on test dataset (complex models)



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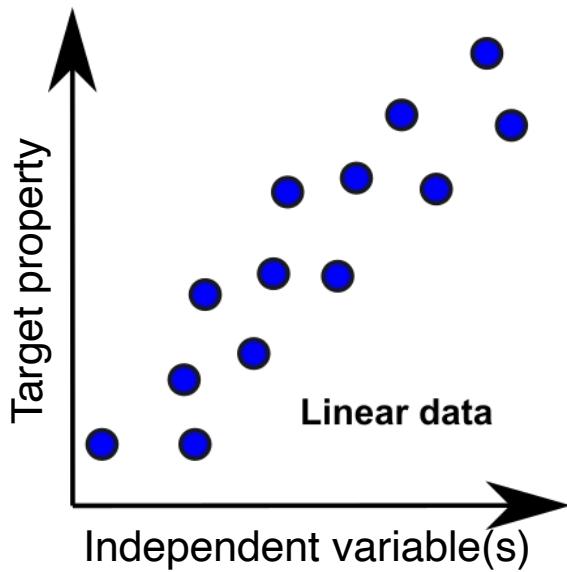
Need to test our model on ‘unseen’ data

- k-fold cross-validation (CV) score (simple models)
- Error on test dataset (complex models)

Significant deviation between training and test errors → overfit model

# Linear and non-linear models

Relationship of target data can be linear/non-linear with underlying independent variables (descriptors)

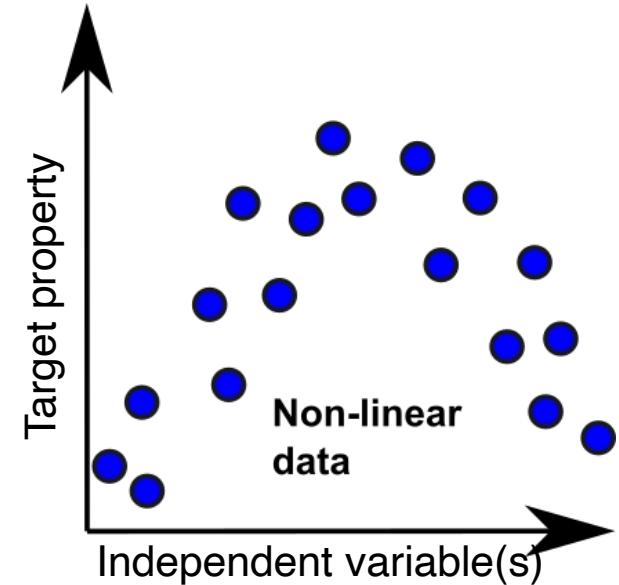


Linear regression/linear model works best

$$y = b + \sum_i a_i x_i$$

Popular models:

- Linear regression (RMSE reduction)
- LASSO regression ( $L_1$  norm)
- Ridge regression ( $L_2$  norm)



Non-linear regression/non-linear model works best

$$y = b + \sum_i f(a_i, x_i)$$

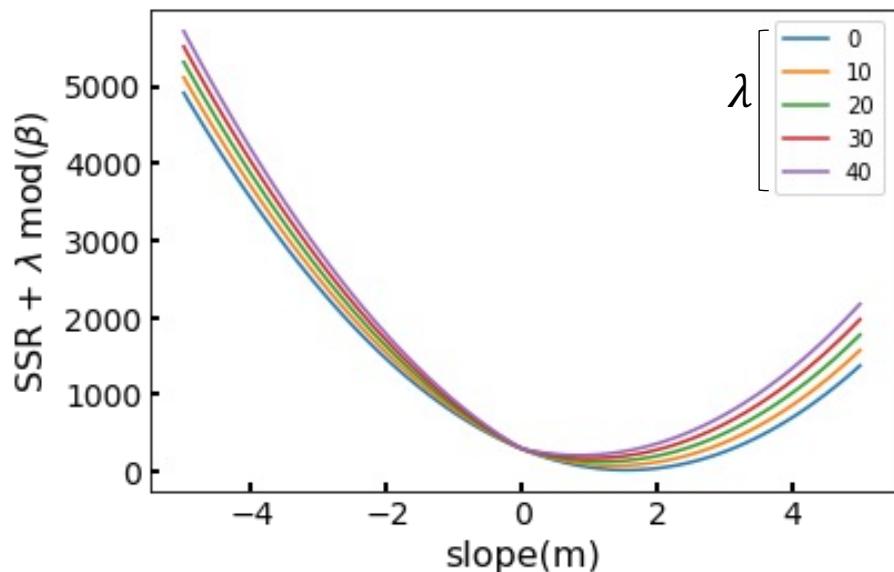
Popular models:

- Random forest
- Support vector machine (SVM)
- K-nearest neighbors (KNN)
- Neural networks

# Overview of linear models

LASSO (L<sub>1</sub> norm)

$$L_1 = \min(SSR + \lambda \|\beta\|_1)$$

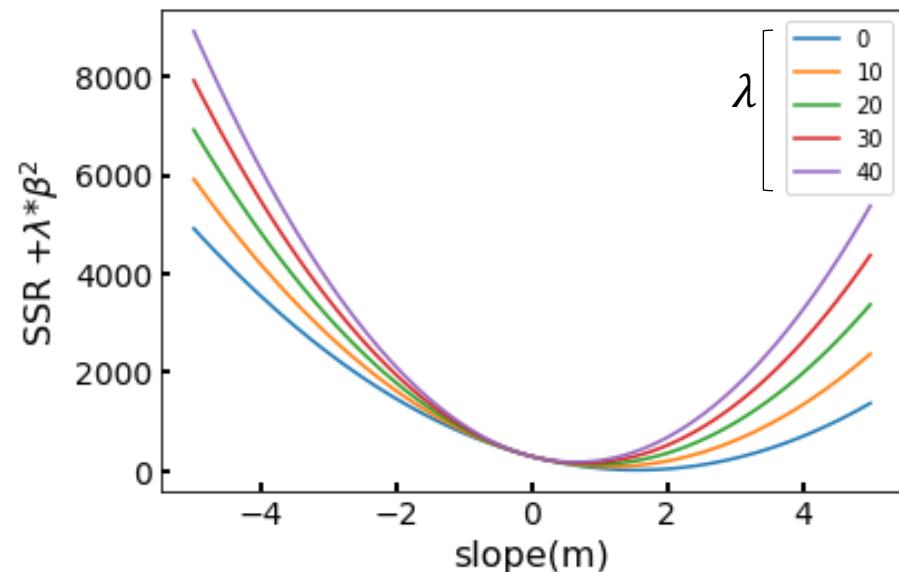


Decreases coefficients of non-important descriptors to 0

Can be difficult to get best model

Ridge (L<sub>2</sub> norm)

$$L_1 = \min(SSR + \lambda \|\beta\|_2^2)$$



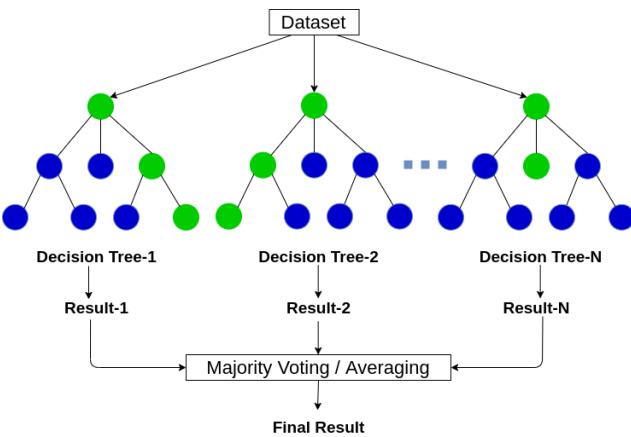
Does not necessarily decrease coefficients of non-important descriptors to 0

Usually easier to get best model compared to LASSO

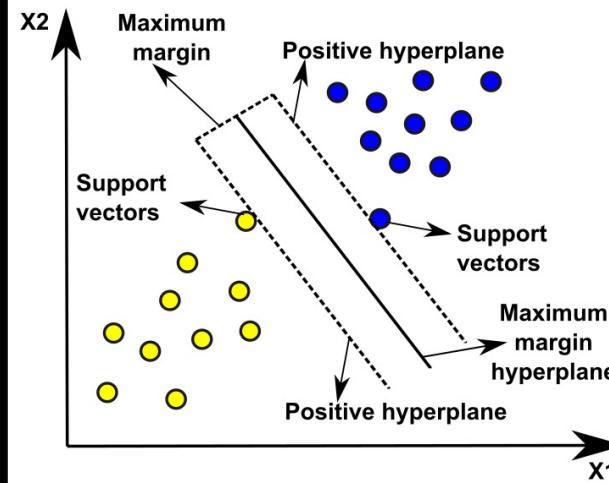
# Overview of non-linear (simple) models

Most non-linear models can be used both for regression and classification

## Random forest

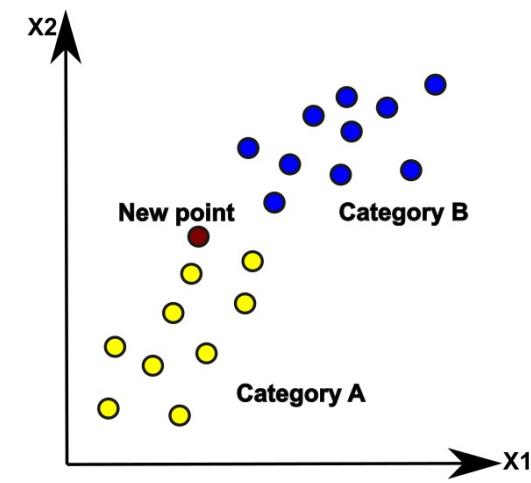


## Support vector machine



Identify hyperplanes that separate data into clusters

## K-nearest neighbors



Uses feature similarity (i.e., 'distance' from other points) to make predictions about unseen data

Ensemble model: final decision is an average of several trees

Each tree: if-else decisions

- Handle noisy and 'large' data
- Resistant to overfitting
- Less sensitive to training data

- May not be interpretable
- Computationally slow for 'large' datasets

- Efficient at identifying key descriptors in high-dimensional space
- Memory efficient

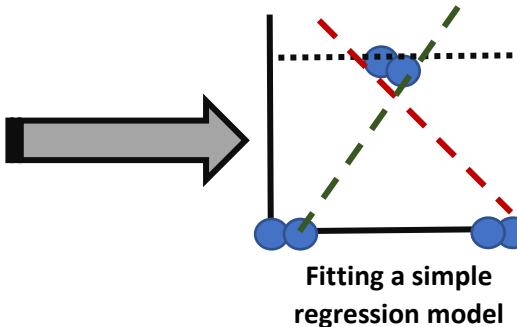
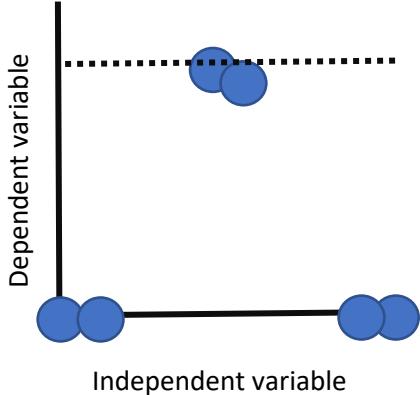
- Sensitive to noise in data

- Easy to implement
- Resistant to noisy data

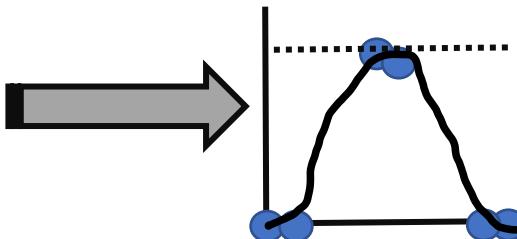
- Memory inefficient (needs to store entire training data)

# Non-linear complex model: neural network

Suppose we want to fit the following data

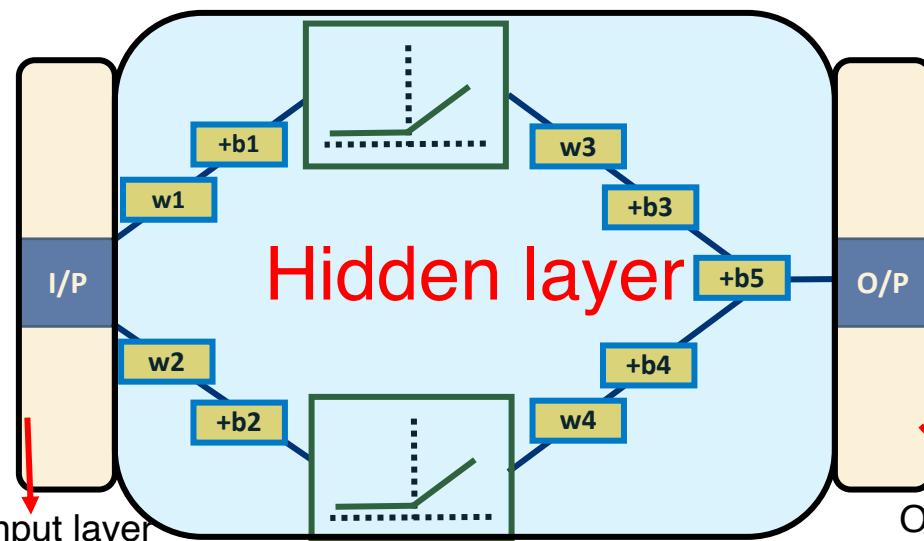


- Pros
- Robust and accurate
  - Parallel processing



- Cons
- Minimal interpretability
  - Tendency to overfit

Single layer neural network



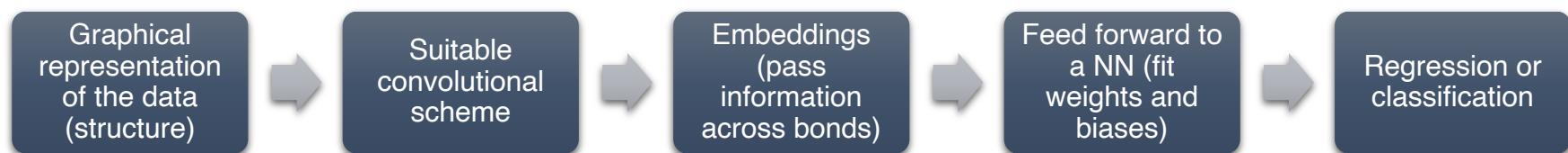
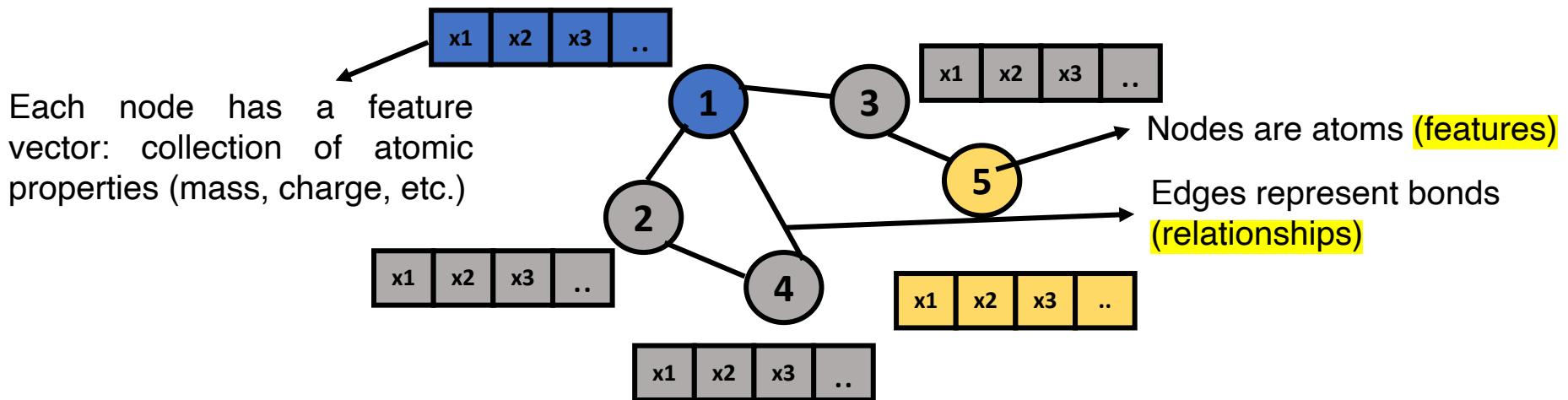
Neural networks can fit a squiggle

Optimized biases and weights are obtained via back propagation

Weights and biases determine the part of the activation function that will contribute to the squiggle

Several types of NNs exist  
Graph NNs particularly relevant for materials

# Graphs are an intuitive way to model atoms and bonds



Graph neural networks can make predictions at three levels

- Graph level (overall structure)
- Edge level (for a given bond)
- Node level (for a given atom)

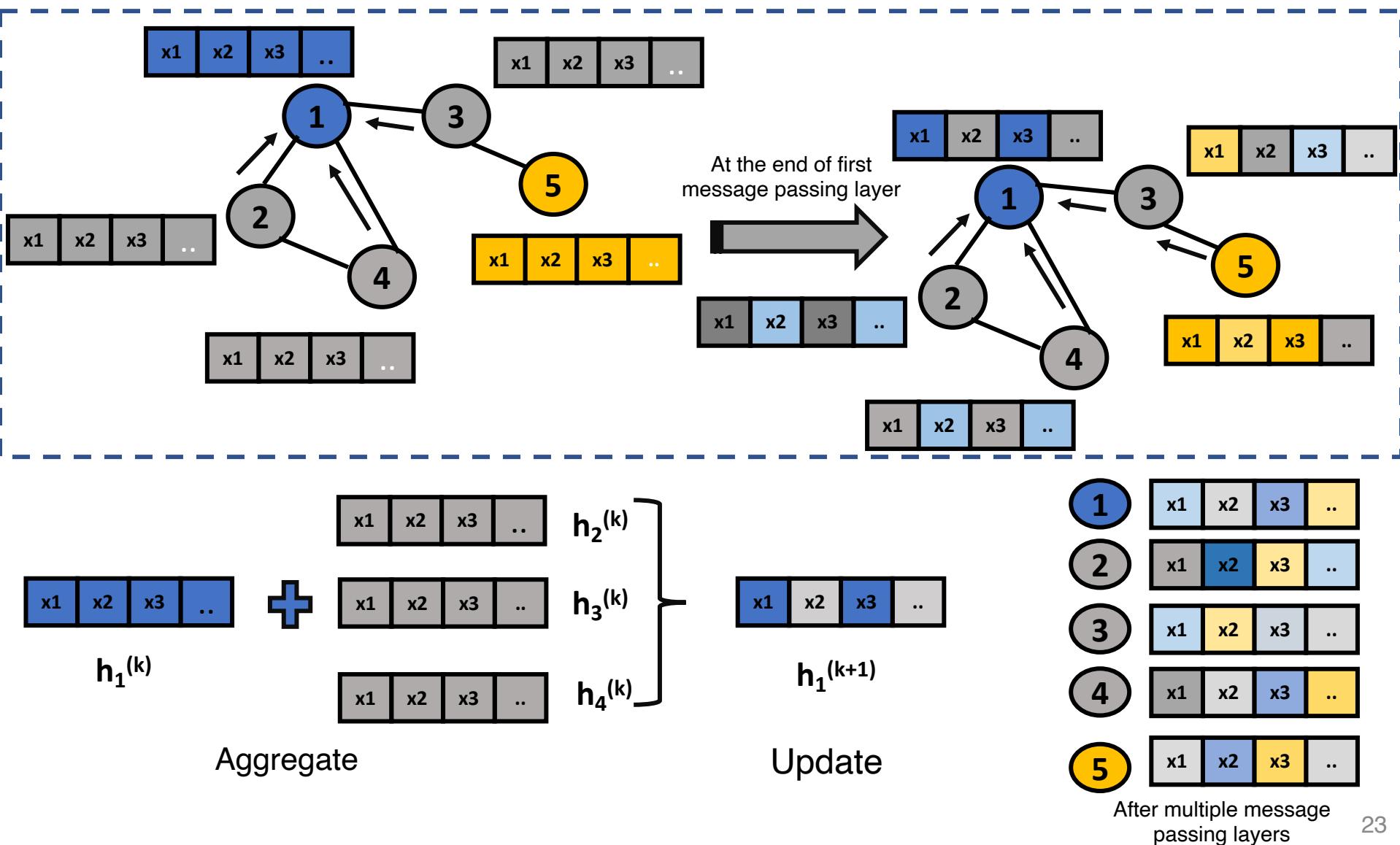
## Pros

- Highly accurate
- Message passing: use information from neighbors
- Can take into account underlying symmetry

## Cons

- Storage/input graph size
- Inability to distinguish multiple types of bonds
- Need to ensure permutational invariance and equivariance

# Message passing: learn from neighbors



# Examples of regressions in action

# Predicting material properties: Oxygen vacancy formation energy in $\text{ABO}_3$ perovskites



pubs.acs.org/JACS

Article

## Factors Governing Oxygen Vacancy Formation in Oxide Perovskites

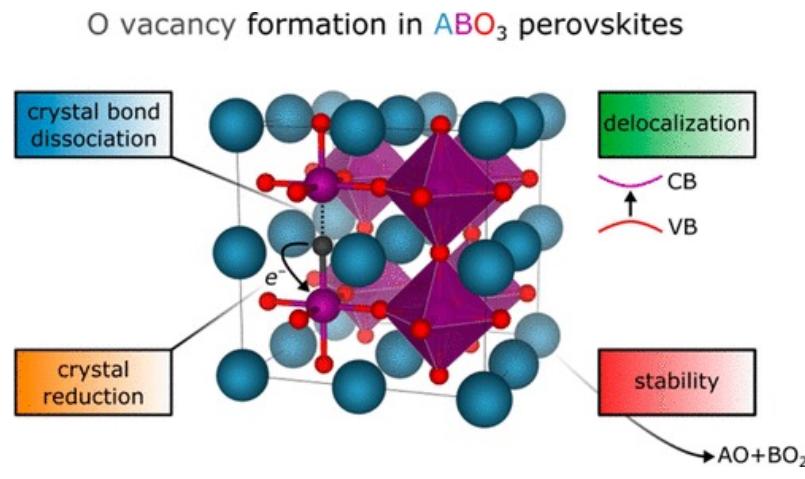
Robert B. Wexler, Gopalakrishnan Sai Gautam, Ellen B. Stechel, and Emily A. Carter\*

Cite This: *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2021, 143, 13212–13227

Read Online

- $\text{ABO}_3$  perovskites
  - A= Ca, Sr, Ba, La, or Ce
  - B= Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, or Ni
- **Database:** 341 Datapoints obtained from density functional theory (DFT) calculations

- **Model:** A simple linear model with physically intuitive descriptors
  - Crystal bond dissociation energy
  - Crystal reduction potential
  - Band gaps
  - Energy above hull
- **Performance:**
  - Mean absolute error (MAE) - 0.45 eV
  - $\text{BiFeO}_3$  and  $\text{BiCoO}_3$  identified as viable candidates for solar thermochemical water splitting



# Predicting material properties: Elastic moduli of inorganic compounds



Cite This: *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2018, 140, 9844–9853

Article

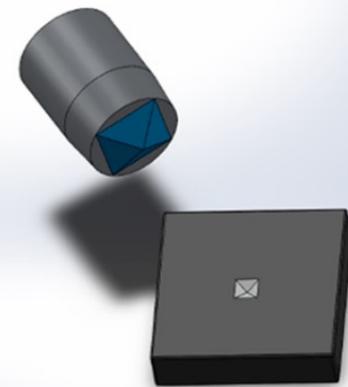
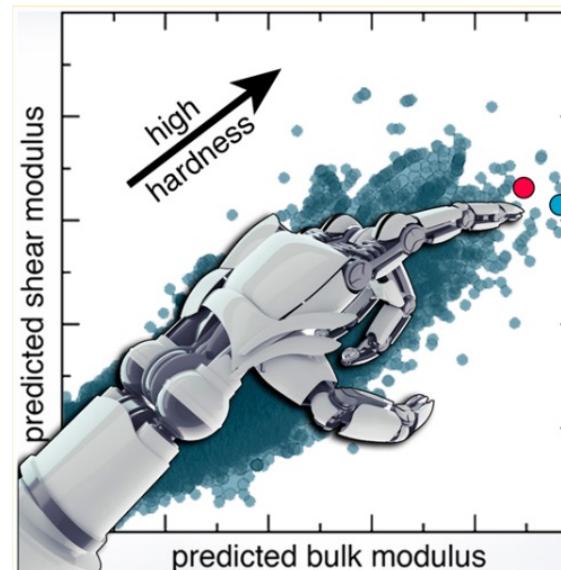
[pubs.acs.org/JACS](https://pubs.acs.org/JACS)

## Machine Learning Directed Search for Ultraincompressible, Superhard Materials

Aria Mansouri Tehrani,<sup>†,‡,§</sup> Anton O. Oliynyk,<sup>†,‡,§</sup> Marcus Parry,<sup>‡</sup> Zeshan Rizvi,<sup>†</sup> Samantha Couper,<sup>§</sup> Feng Lin,<sup>§</sup> Lowell Miyagi,<sup>§</sup> Taylor D. Sparks,<sup>‡,§</sup> and Jakoah Brgoch<sup>\*,†,§</sup>

**Database:** 3248 Bulk ( $B$ ) and shear modulus ( $G$ ) data obtained from the Materials Project (MP) database

- **Model:** Support vector machine regression using 150 composition and structural descriptors
- **Performance:**
  - $r^2$  score = 0.94
  - Identified incompressible – high hardness metal ReWC<sub>0.8</sub> and Mo<sub>0.9</sub>W<sub>1.1</sub>BC with  $B$  = 380 and 370 GPa, respectively
  - Experimentally verified



# Predicting material properties: Diverse material properties with graph neural network

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 120, 145301 (2018)

## Crystal Graph Convolutional Neural Networks for an Accurate and Interpretable Prediction of Material Properties

Tian Xie and Jeffrey C. Grossman

Department of Materials Science and Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology,  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, USA

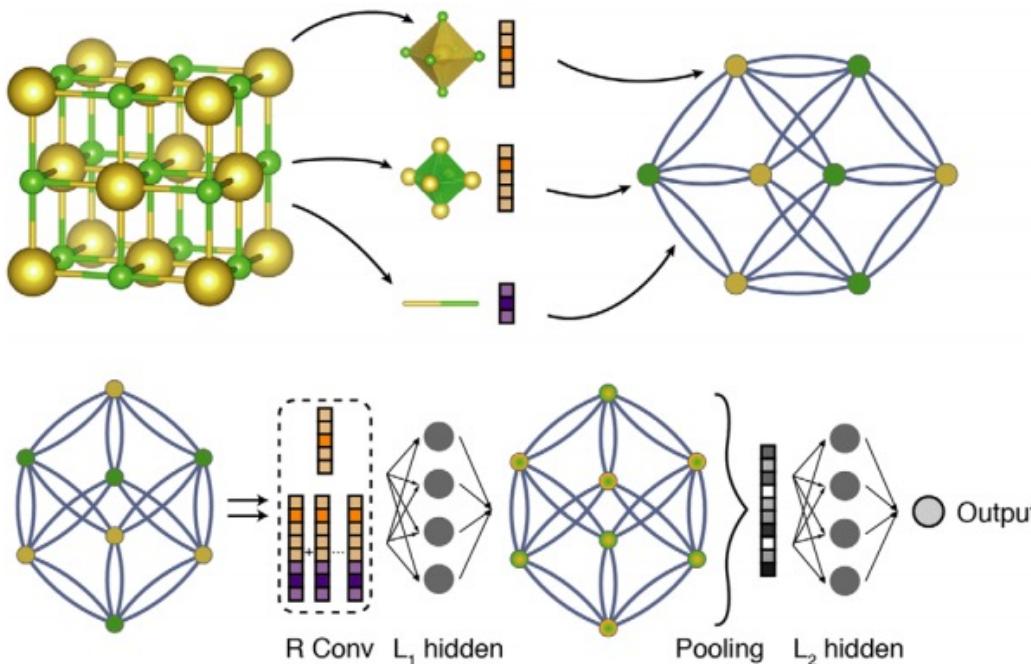
**Properties** : Formation energy, band gap, Fermi energy, bulk and shear moduli, and Poisson's ratio

**Database:**  $10^4$  DFT-calculated datapoints from MP

**Model:** Crystal Graph convolutional neural network (CGCNN)

### Performance:

- Formation energy: 0.039 eV/atom
- Band gap: 0.388 eV
- Fermi energy: 0.363 eV
- Elastic moduli: ~1-2 GPa
- Poisson's ratio: 0.03
- Identified 228 'synthesizable' perovskites out of 18928 in the training database



# Predicting material properties: Mechanical properties for energy storage



Cite This: ACS Cent. Sci. 2018, 4, 996–1006

ACS AuthorChoice

Research Article

<http://pubs.acs.org/journal/acscii>

## Machine Learning Enabled Computational Screening of Inorganic Solid Electrolytes for Suppression of Dendrite Formation in Lithium Metal Anodes

Zeeshan Ahmad,<sup>†</sup> Tian Xie,<sup>‡</sup> Chinmay Maheshwari,<sup>†</sup> Jeffrey C. Grossman,<sup>‡</sup> and Venkatasubramanian Viswanathan<sup>\*,§,¶</sup>

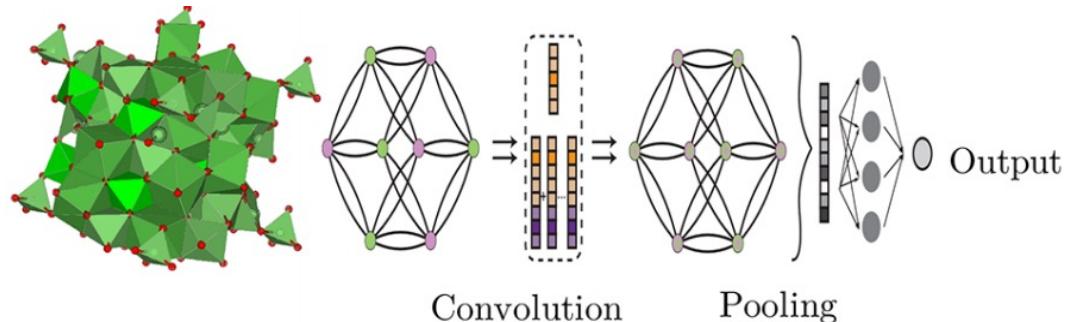
Mechanically anisotropic interfaces suppress dendrite growth

- Dependent on  $G$ ,  $B$ , and elastic constants.

**Database:** Subset of MP containing 12,000 compounds with Li

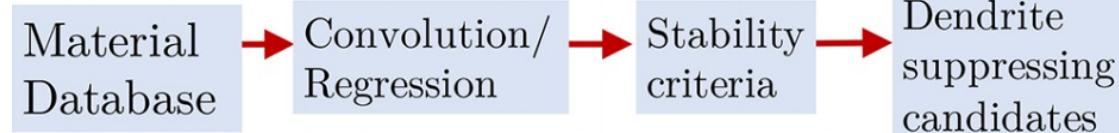
### Model:

- Graph neural network for  $G$  and  $B$  prediction
- Gradient boost and Kernel-ridge regression for elastic constant predictions



### Performance:

- RMSE in log(GPa): 0.1268 ( $G$ ) and 0.1013 ( $B$ )
- 20 interfaces with six solid electrolytes predicted to be stable against dendrite initiation



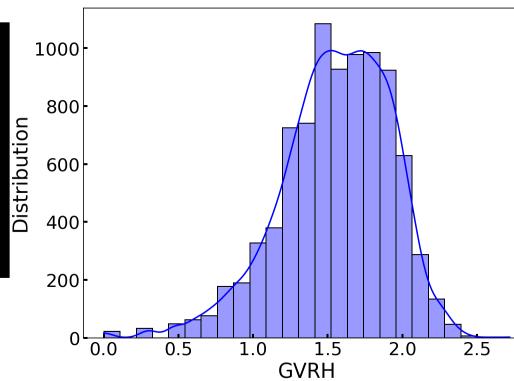
# Hands—on session?

# Perform ‘simple’ regressions

Data: Shear modulus, band gap, and formation energy from matbench database

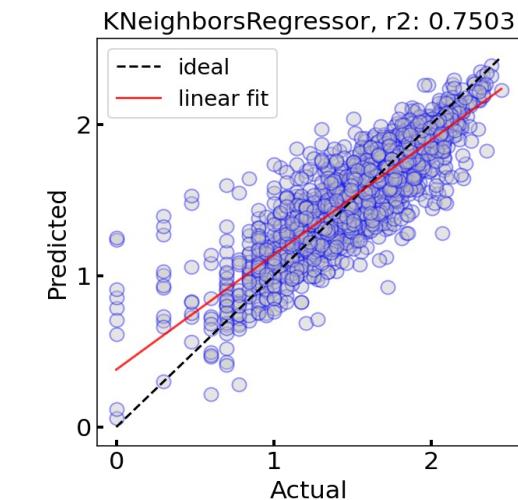
1

Extract and Clean-up the downloaded datasets



2

Train classical ML models and optimize the hyperparameters

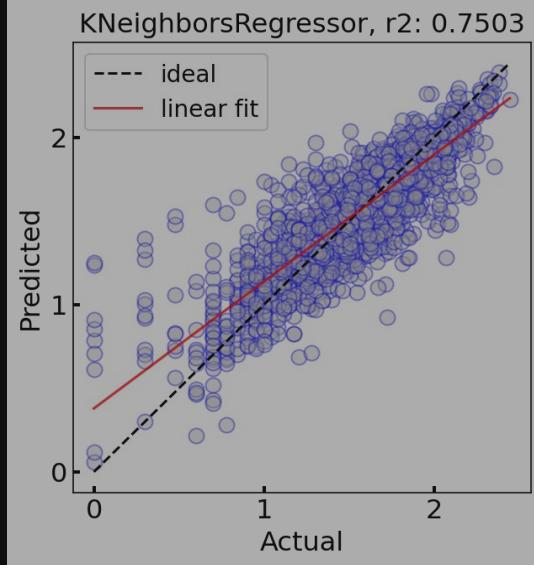


3

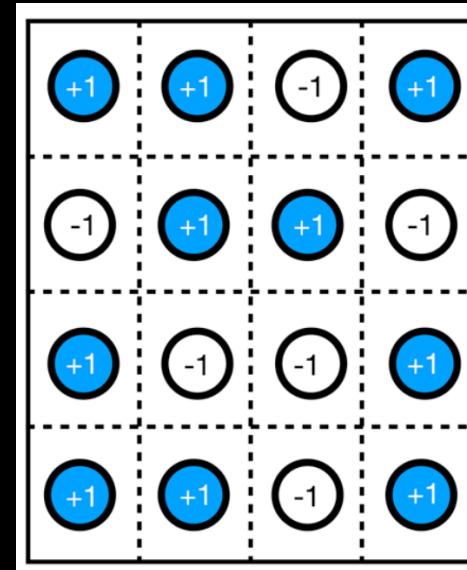
Observe the correlation among the features

1	0.81	0.92	0.94	0.92	0.0034	-0.8	-0.79	-0.54	-0.78	-0.056
0.81	1	0.87	0.8	0.88	0.19	-0.7	-0.7	-0.41	-0.61	-0.35
0.92	0.87	1	0.87	0.97	0.16	-0.75	-0.75	-0.51	-0.72	-0.25
0.94	0.8	0.87	1	0.88	0.059	-0.73	-0.74	-0.46	-0.71	-0.078
0.92	0.88	0.97	0.88	1	0.12	-0.81	-0.8	-0.58	-0.78	-0.25
0.0034	0.19	0.16	0.059	0.12	1	0.3	0.21	0.47	0.32	-0.5
-0.8	-0.7	-0.75	-0.73	-0.81	0.3	1	0.93	0.81	0.94	0.011
-0.79	-0.7	-0.75	-0.74	-0.8	0.21	0.93	1	0.71	0.88	0.077
-0.54	-0.41	-0.51	-0.46	-0.58	0.47	0.81	0.71	1	0.83	-0.1
-0.78	-0.61	-0.72	-0.71	-0.78	0.32	0.94	0.88	0.83	1	-0.097
-0.056	-0.35	-0.25	-0.078	-0.25	-0.5	0.011	0.077	-0.1	-0.097	1

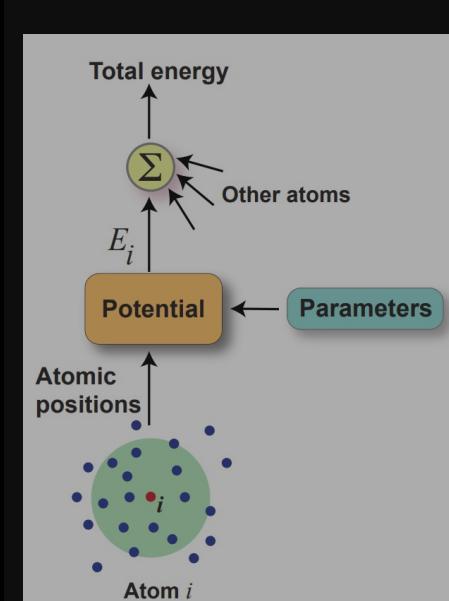
# Overview



Regression models:  
examples and utility



Coarse graining models:  
the example of cluster  
expansion



Machine learned  
interatomic potentials:  
construction and usage

Reshma Devi

Dereje Bekele Tekliye

Aqshat Seth

# Why lattice models?

- Quantum mechanics (e.g., DFT) provides accurate predictions at 0 K
  - High temperature properties?
- DFT calculations become prohibitively expensive beyond ~1000 atoms
  - Simple binary system has  $2^N$  possible configurations ( $N$  = number of sites)
    - 16 sites → 65,536 configurations!
  - DFT is not practical for estimating configurational entropy through sampling
- Predicting phase transitions using molecular dynamics is difficult
  - Requires ‘long’ timescales and ‘large’ supercells
  - Using principles of statistical mechanics may be better
- Lattice models approximate (or abstract) the energetic interactions within a given structure to ‘smaller’ entities
  - Helps capture entropic contributions → high temperature properties
  - Predicts order-disorder transition temperatures
  - Calculate phase diagrams

# Why lattice models?

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Why bother about lattice models when considering ML?

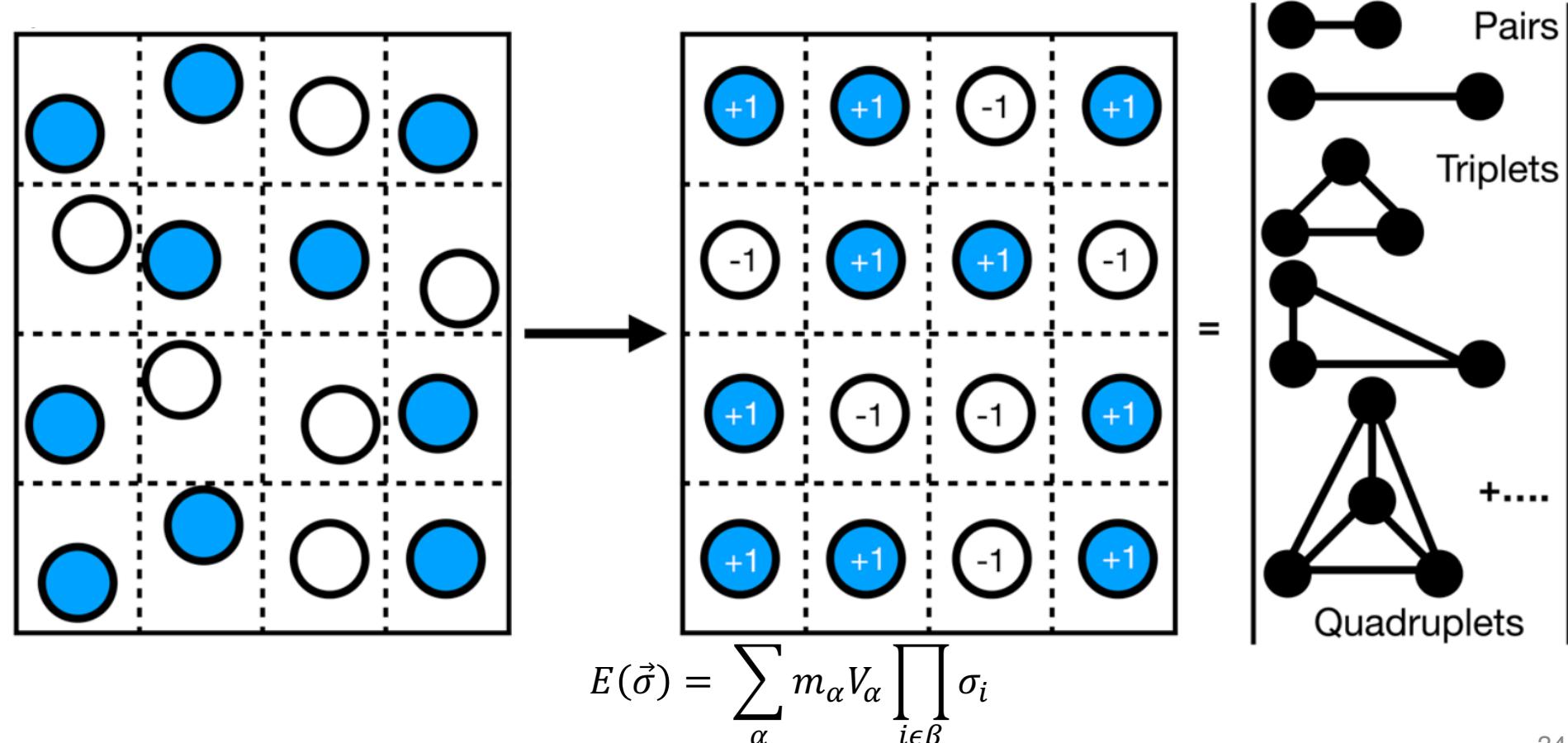
- Lattice models: simple ML models
- Provide physical intuition
- Do NOT require large datasets!

- Lattice models approximate (or abstract) the energetic interactions within a given structure to ‘smaller’ entities
  - Helps capture entropic contributions → high temperature properties
  - Predicts order-disorder transition temperatures
  - Calculate phase diagrams

# What is a cluster expansion?

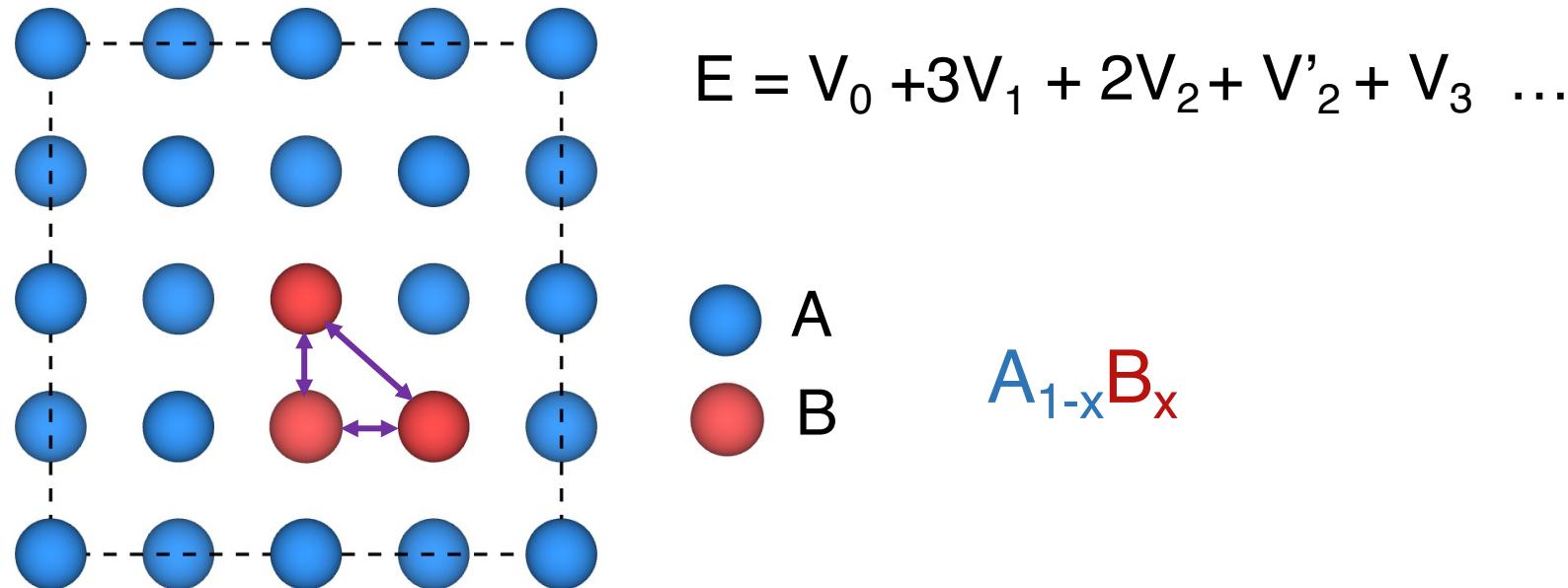
Lattice model, specifically a generalized Ising model, to abstract energies of a given structure based on the underlying atomic configuration

- Energy decomposed to clusters, each cluster expanded on a cluster basis (orthonormal)
- Coarse-grains any ‘small’ atomic displacements from ‘ideal’ sites
- Each lattice site obtains an integer value based on atom occupying it (e.g., -1 and +1)



# Simplistic exercise for binary alloy A-B

Defining energy as a function of configuration

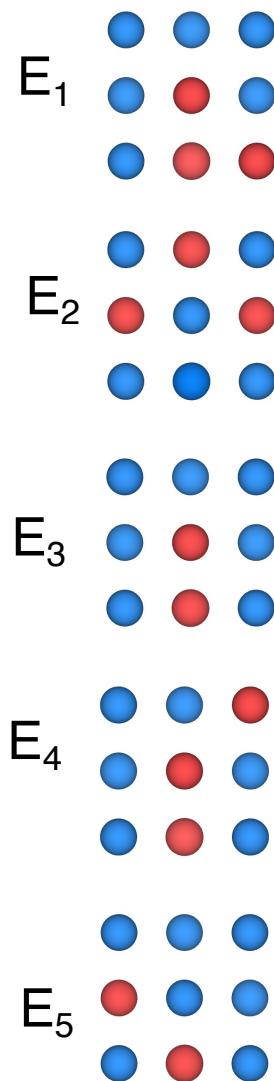


But can be done in a more systematic way: cluster expansion formalism

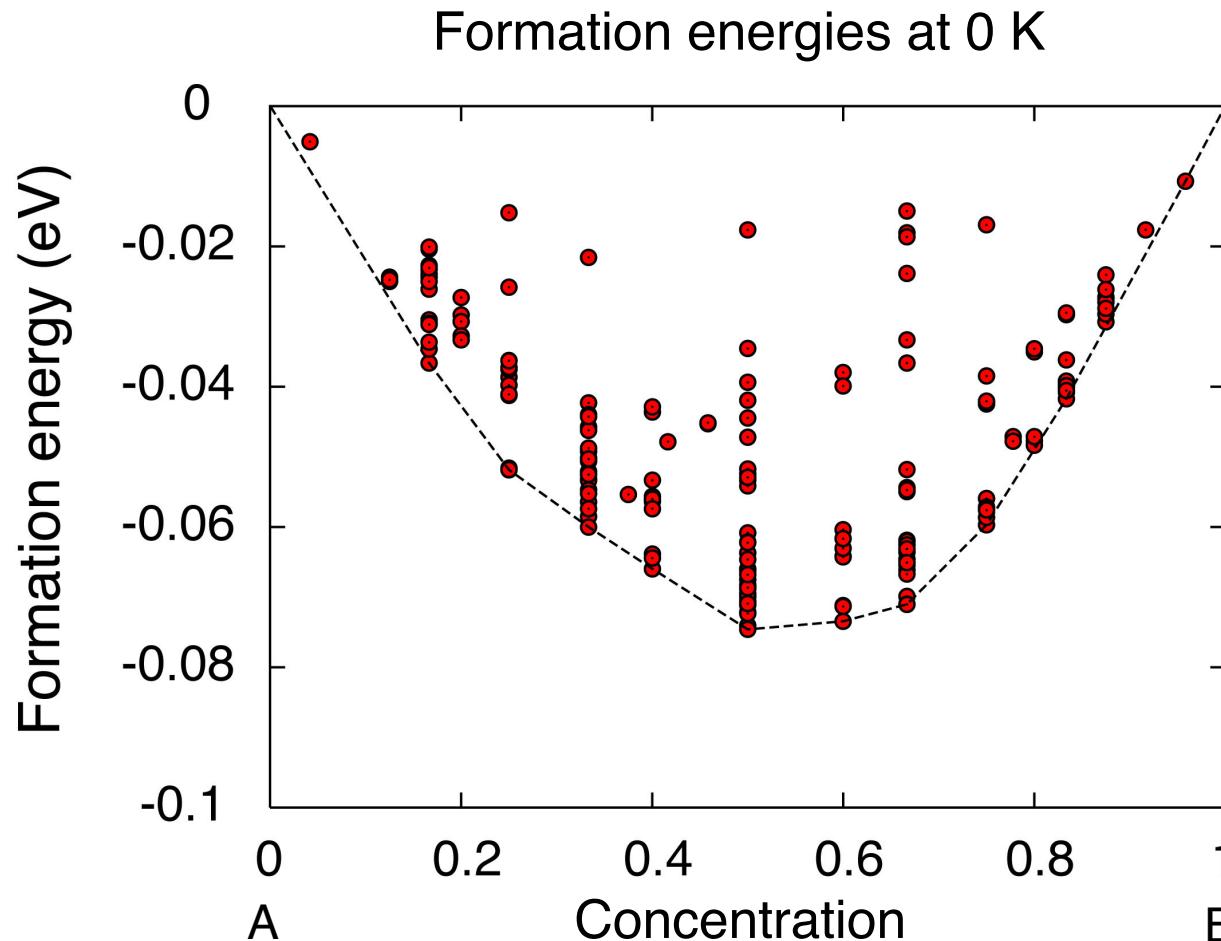
$$E(\vec{\sigma}) = V_o + \sum_i V_i \sigma_i + \sum_{i,j} V_{i,j} \sigma_i \sigma_j + \sum_{i,j,k} V_{i,j,k} \sigma_i \sigma_j \sigma_k + \sum_{i,j,k,l} V_{i,j,k,l} \sigma_i \sigma_j \sigma_k \sigma_l$$

# Inputs for building a cluster expansion

DFT training data

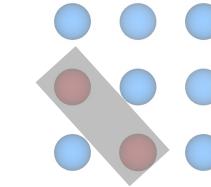
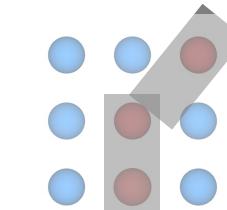
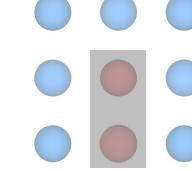
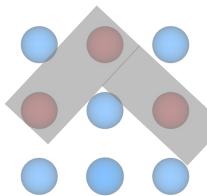
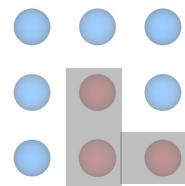


The possible configuration of a crystal is obtained by enumerating over symmetrically distinct configuration(s) across the composition(s) of interest



# Building a cluster expansion

Sets of clusters  
(within a given  
'radius')



Calculated DFT data  
(Target)

Correlation matrix  
(Set of features)

Effective cluster interactions  
(Weights)

$$\begin{pmatrix} e(\vec{\sigma}_1) \\ \vdots \\ e(\vec{\sigma}_L) \\ \vdots \\ e(\vec{\sigma}_M) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \Gamma_\alpha(\vec{\sigma}_1) & \Gamma_\beta(\vec{\sigma}_1) & \Gamma_\gamma(\vec{\sigma}_1) & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & \Gamma_\alpha(\vec{\sigma}_L) & \Gamma_\beta(\vec{\sigma}_L) & \Gamma_\gamma(\vec{\sigma}_L) & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & \Gamma_\alpha(\vec{\sigma}_M) & \Gamma_\beta(\vec{\sigma}_M) & \Gamma_\gamma(\vec{\sigma}_M) & \vdots & \vdots \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_o \\ v_\alpha \\ v_\beta \\ v_\gamma \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

Cluster expansions are usually an under-determined system: fewer energies than ECIs available

- Both linear and non-linear optimization/regression techniques can work
  - Popular: LASSO and Genetic Algorithm
- Accuracy of fit: RMSE
- Transferability of fit: CV (Leave one-out or k-fold)

# Cluster expansion+Statistical mechanics

## First-Principles Calculation: DFT

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \left( -\nabla_i^2 + V_{nuc}(\mathbf{r}_i) \right) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} + E_{nuc}(\{\mathbf{R}\})$$

Energies of a “few” configurations (ground + excited states)

## Cluster expansion Hamiltonian

$$E(\vec{\sigma}) = \sum_{\alpha} m_{\alpha} V_{\alpha} \prod_{i \in \beta} \sigma_i$$

$V_{\alpha}$ : effective cluster interactions (ECIs) fitted to DFT energies

## Statistical Mechanics Approach

$$F = -k_B T \ln Z, \quad Z = \sum_{\vec{\sigma}} \exp \left( -\frac{E(\vec{\sigma})}{k_B T} \right)$$

### Monte Carlo Simulation

Sample configurations over larger length scales to get statistical averages

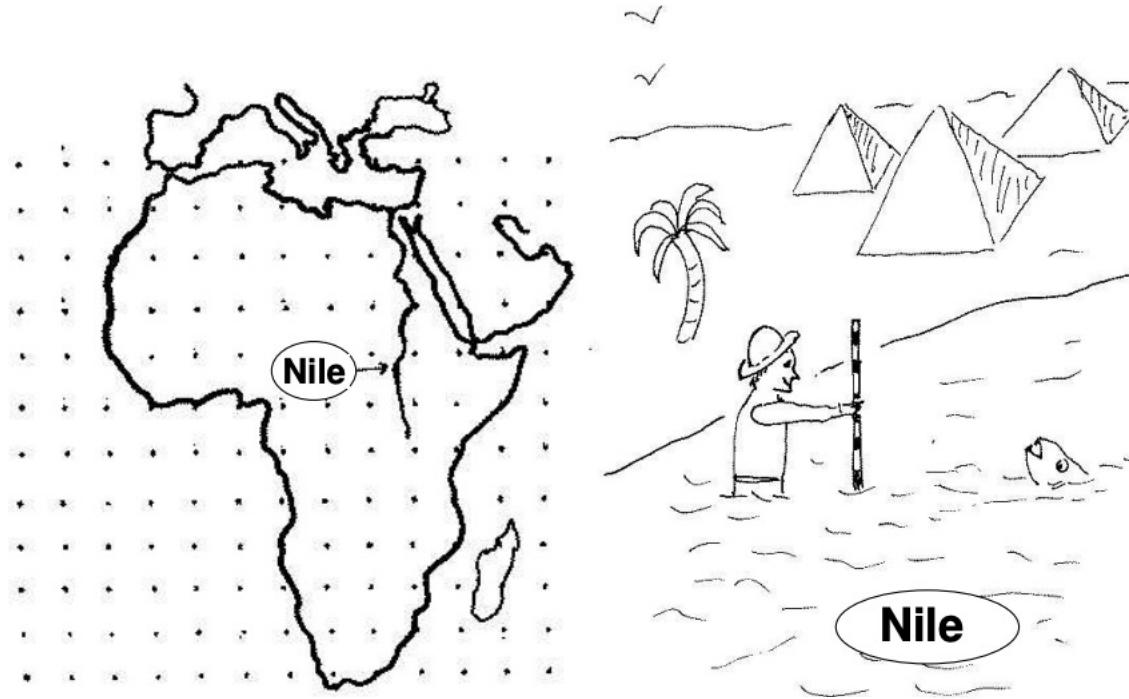
Thermodynamic quantities

Phase diagram, diffusivity ...

# Monte Carlo: Metropolis or kinetic

Monte-Carlo is a general, random sampling algorithm → can be modified to do importance sampling

Low energy configurations → important samples in materials



1. Select a particle at random, and calculate its energy  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{r}^N)$ .
2. Give the particle a random displacement;  $\mathbf{r}' = \mathbf{r} + \Delta$ , and calculate its new energy  $\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{r}'^N)$ .
3. Accept the move from  $\mathbf{r}^N$  to  $\mathbf{r}'^N$  with probability

$$\text{acc}(o \rightarrow n) = \min \left( 1, \exp\{-\beta[\mathcal{U}(\mathbf{r}'^N) - \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{r}^N)]\} \right).$$

One implementation of  
Metropolis, satisfying  
'detailed balance'

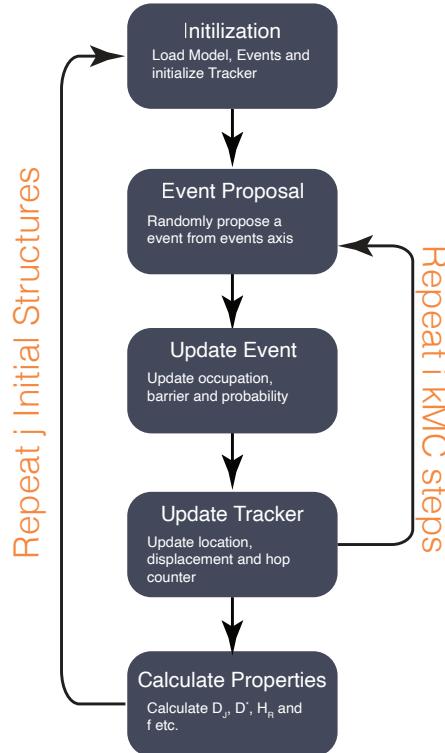
Provides statistical averages  
of equilibrium quantities →  
phase diagrams, transitions

# Monte Carlo: Metropolis or kinetic

Monte-Carlo is a general, random sampling algorithm → can be modified to do importance sampling

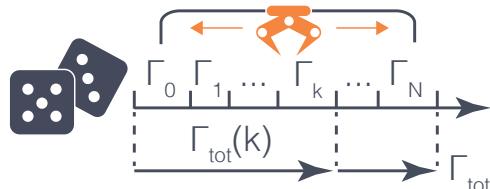
Low energy configurations → important samples in materials

## Rejection-free Kinetic Monte Carlo



Kinetic Monte Carlo: dynamic properties (e.g., diffusivities)

## Event Proposal

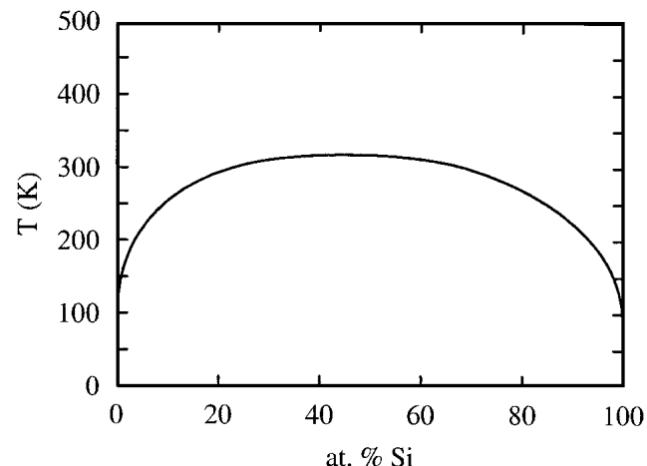
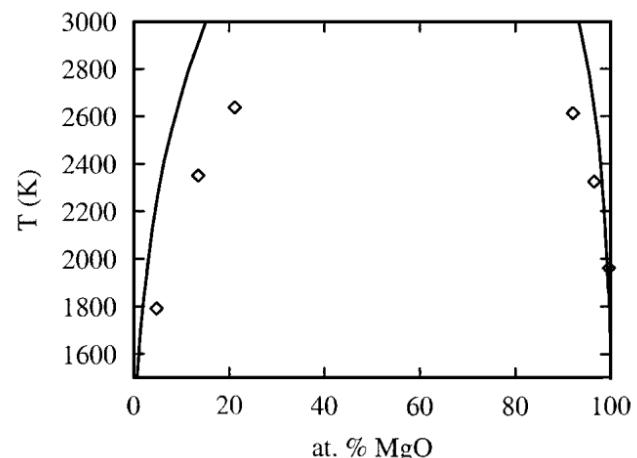
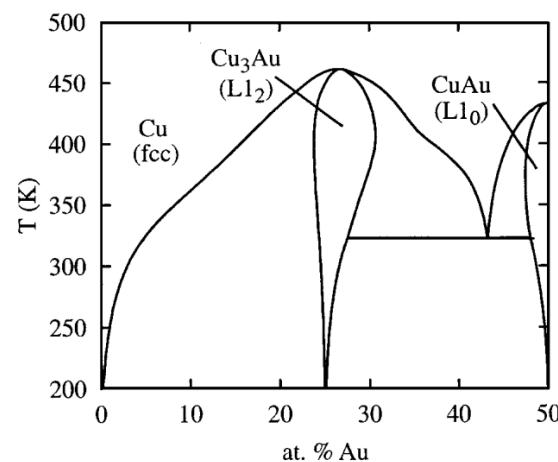
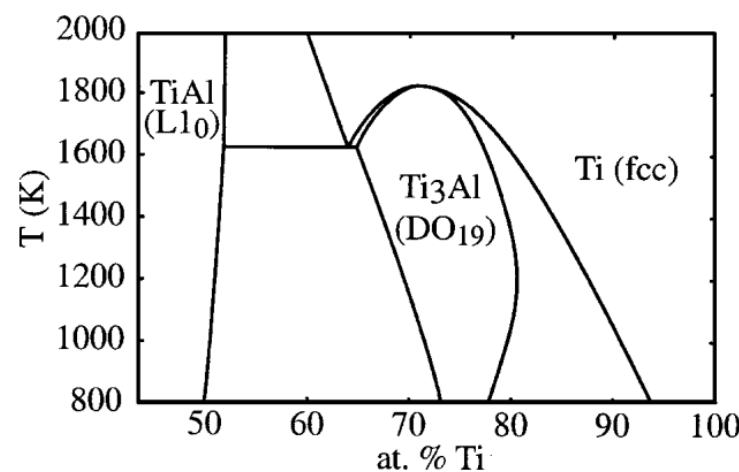


# Examples of cluster expansions in action

# Examples of cluster expansions

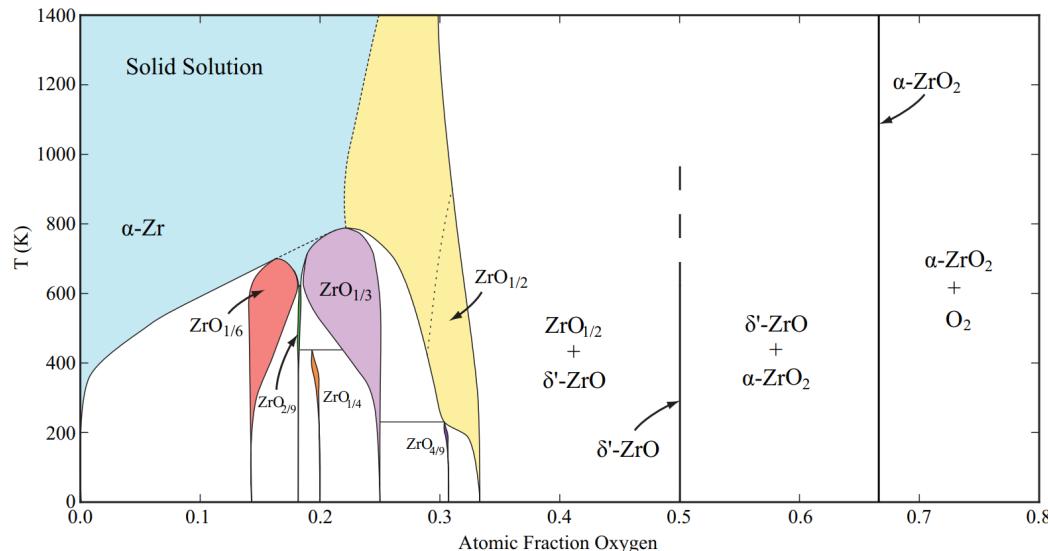
Characteristic	Si-Ge	CaO-MgO	Ti-Al hcp	Ti-Al fcc	CuAu
Number of structures	27	20	55	23	33
Number of clusters	$2 + 8 + 3$	$2 + 3 + 7 + 1$	$2 + 11 + 6$	$2 + 3 + 2$	$2 + 6$
CV score, meV/atom	1	18	35	49	23

The number of clusters is given as the number of each type of multiplet: empty and point clusters + pairs + triplets + quadruplets

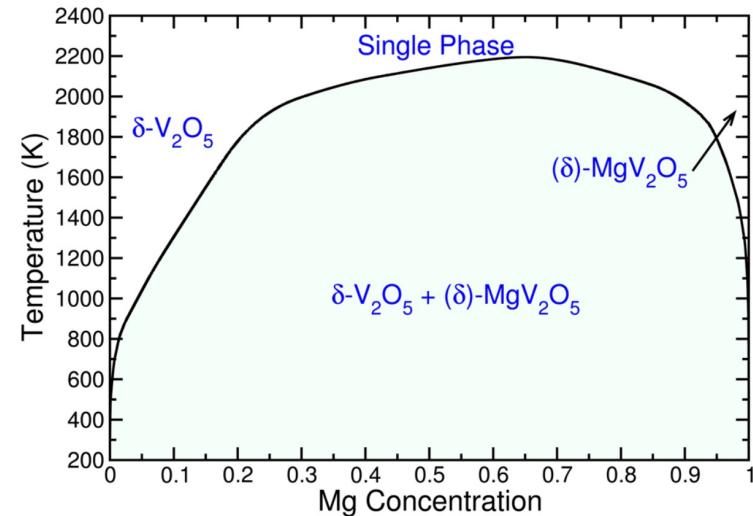


# Examples of cluster expansions

## Phase diagram construction



B. Puchala and A. Van der Ven, Phys. Rev. B, 094108 (2013)

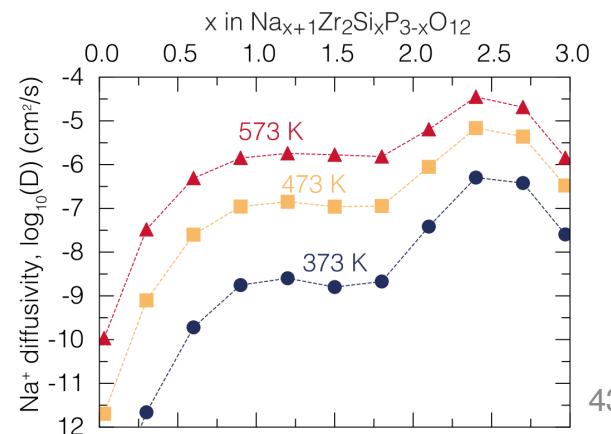
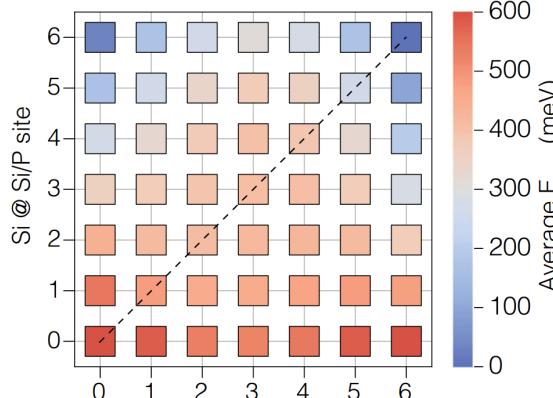


G. Sai Gautam et al., Chem. Mater. 27, 3733-3742 (2015)

## Diffusivity calculations

Local cluster expansion  
coupled with kinetic Monte  
Carlo simulation

Z. Deng and G. Sai Gautam et al.,  
Nat. Commun. 13, 4470 (2022)



# Hands—on session?

# Build a ‘simple’ cluster expansion

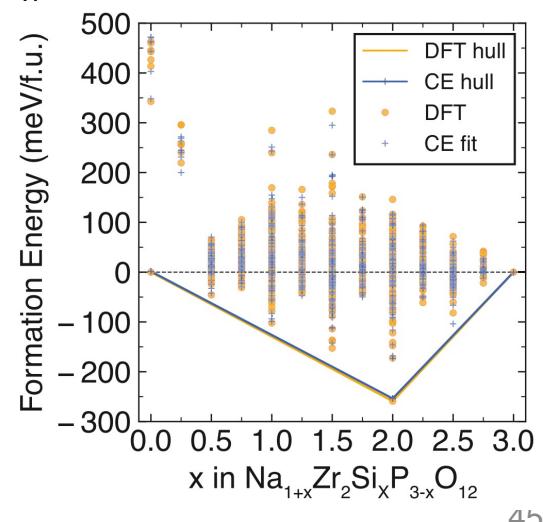
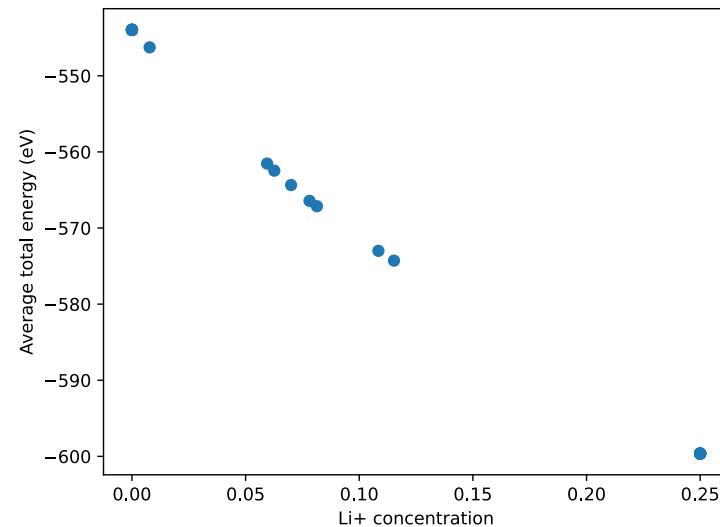
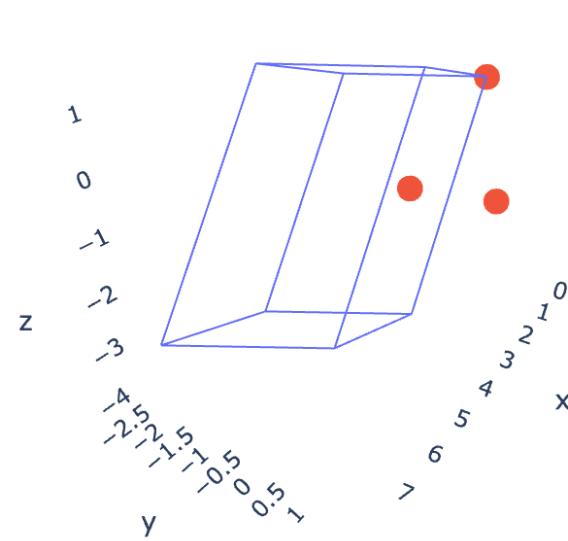


The Alloy-Theoretic Automated Toolkit (ATAT): A User Guide

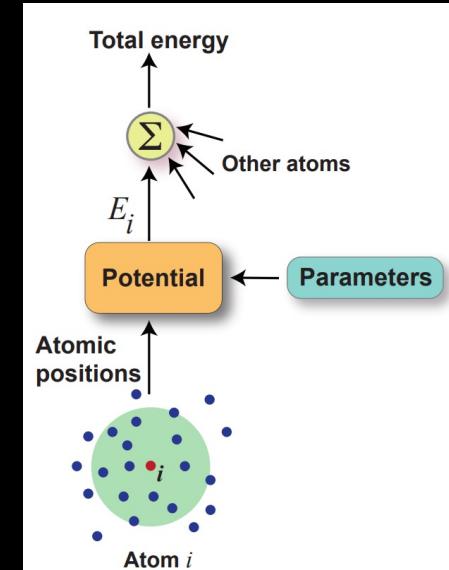
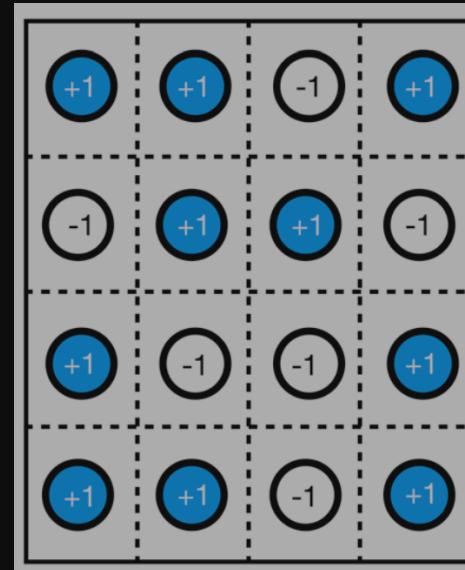
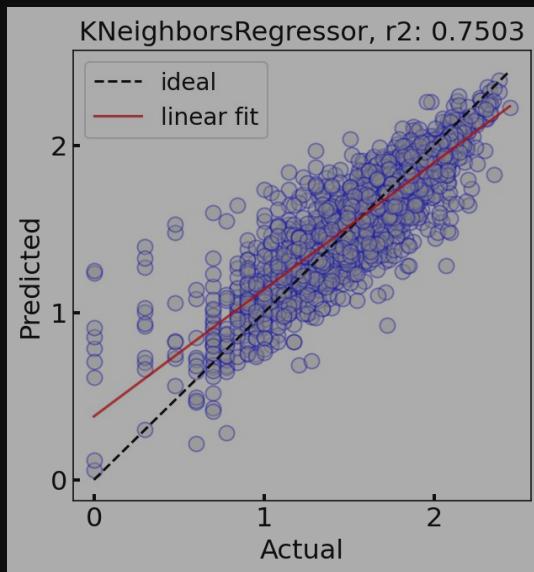
Axel van de Walle



And run a sample Monte-Carlo!



# Overview



Regression models:  
examples and utility

Coarse graining models:  
the example of cluster  
expansion

Machine learned  
interatomic potentials:  
construction and usage

Reshma Devi

Dereje Bekele Tekliye

Aqshat Seth

# Why interatomic potentials?

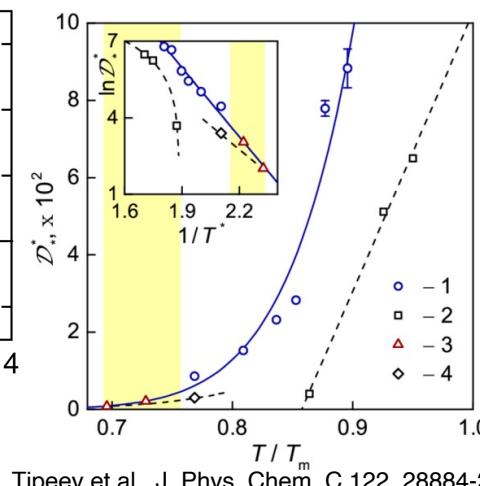
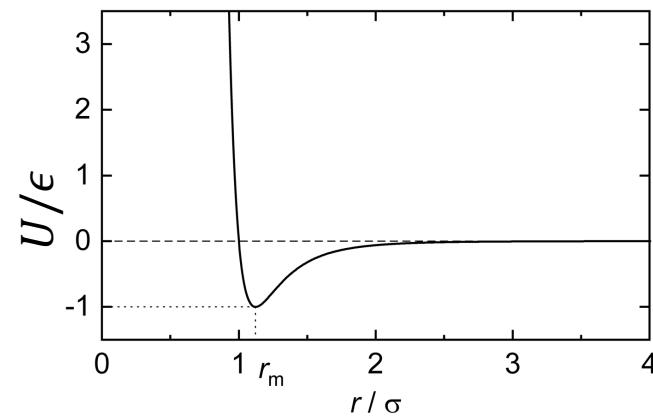
Interatomic potentials: simulate ‘large’ length-scale or ‘long’ time-scale phenomena

- Classical force-fields
- Length: ~nm, Time: ~ns (with molecular dynamics)
- Interfaces, diffusivities, rapid phase transitions ( $\rightarrow$ phase diagrams)
- Underlying structure can change (vs. lattice models)
- Computational cost-accuracy trade-off

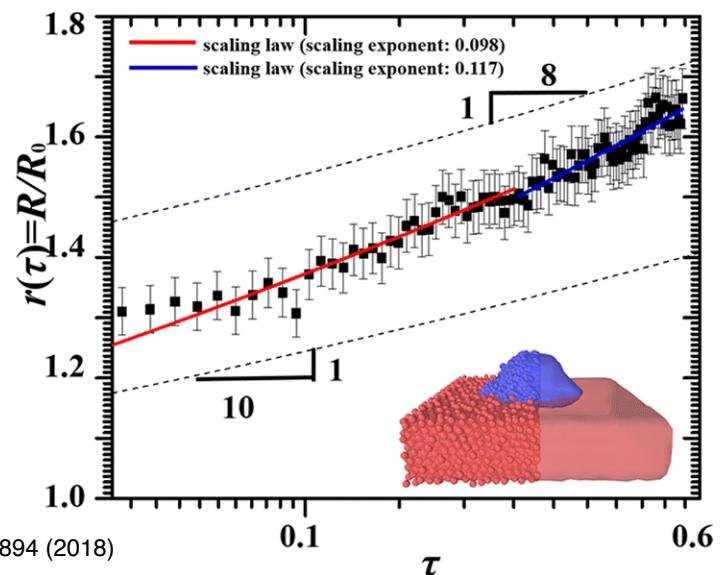
Interatomic potentials model the potential energy surface of a given material

Lennard-Jones:

$$U(r) = 4\epsilon \left[ \left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^6 \right]$$



Tipeev et al., J. Phys. Chem. C 122, 28884-28894 (2018)

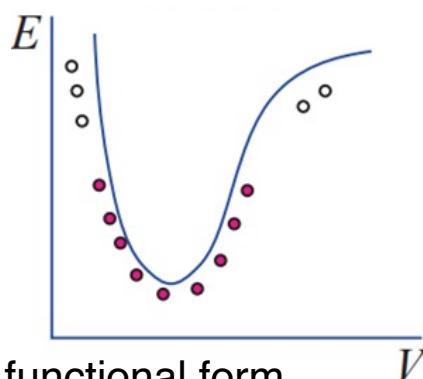


Miao and Yuan, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 25, 7487-7495 (2023)

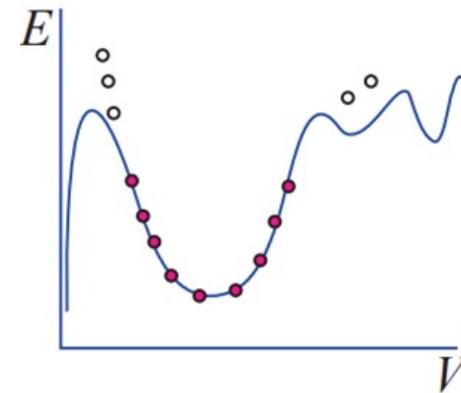
# Why machine learned interatomic potentials (MLIPs)?

Classical force-fields have difficulties in modelling ‘complex’ potential energy surfaces

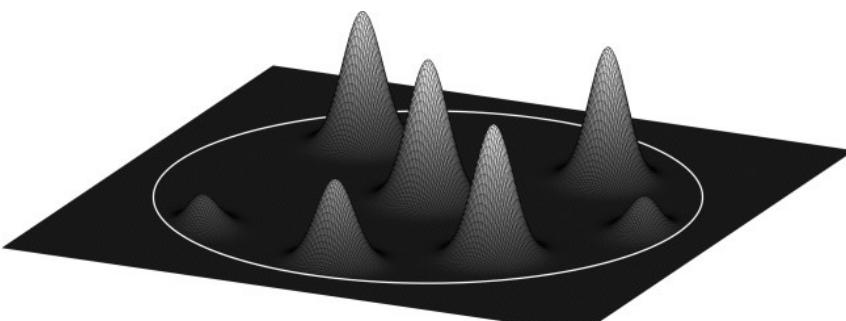
- Diversity of species and bonding environments
- Limited accuracy vs. DFT



MLIPs: Flexible functional form

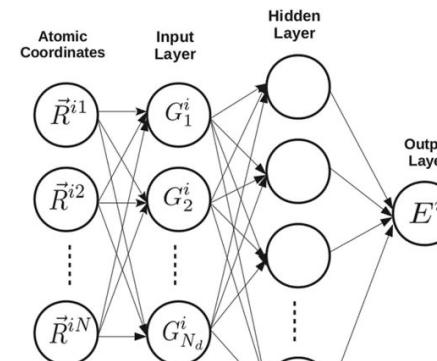


- Can handle diversity of species and bonding environments
- Introduce permutation, rotation invariance
- Improved accuracy vs. DFT compared to classical force-fields



Bartók and Csányi, Int. J. Quantum Chem. 116, 1049 (2016)

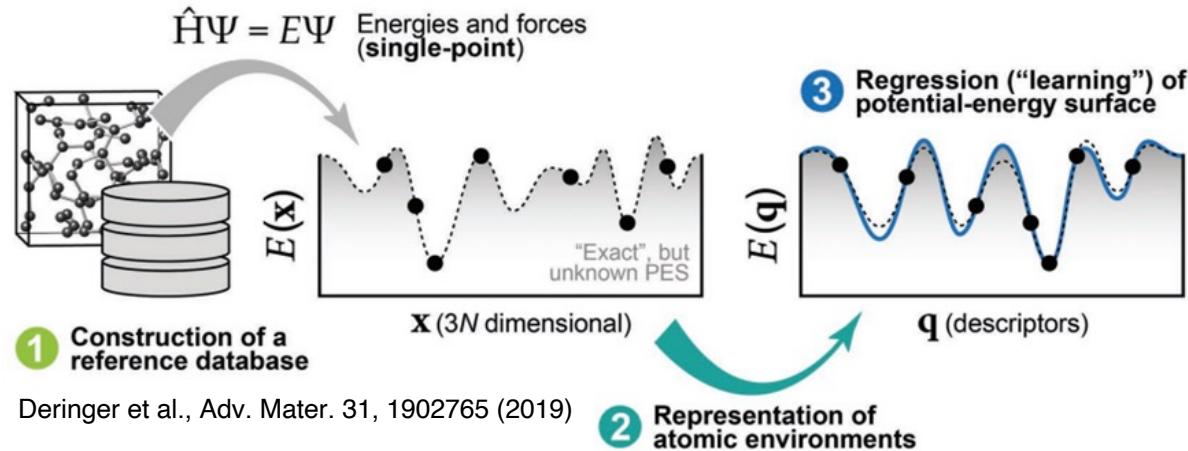
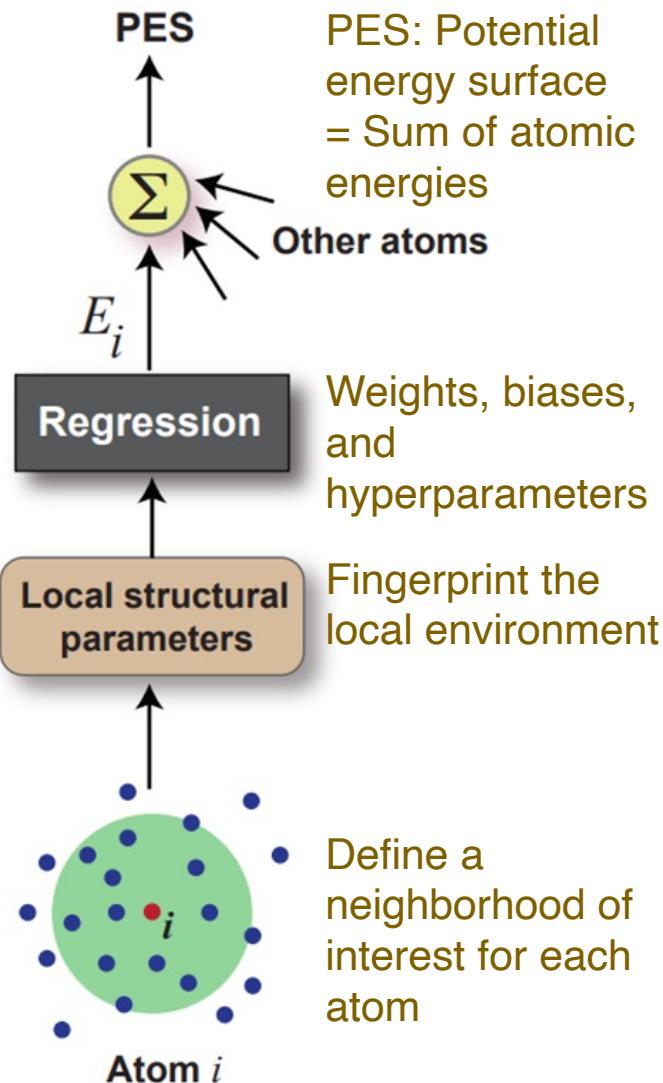
Mishin, Acta Mater. 214, 116980 (2014)



Kocer et al., J. Chem. Phys. 150, 154102 (2019)

Fingerprint a local environment around a reference atom + machine-learning model = MLIP

# How do MLIPs work?



Typically MLIPs are trained on total energies, atomic forces, and lattice stresses of several different structures in a chemical space

- Popular MLIPs:
- Artificial neural network potential (ANNP)
  - Gaussian approximation potential (GAP)
  - **Moment tensor potential (MTP)**
  - Spectral neighbor analysis potential (SNAP)
  - **Neural equivariant interatomic potential (NequIP)**

# Moment tensor potential: ‘classic’

$$E^{\text{mtp}}(\text{cfg}) = \sum_{i=1}^n V(\mathfrak{n}_i)$$

$n_i$  - atomic environment (within a cut-off radius) comprising of a reference atom, its neighbours, and their relative positions

$V$ : function invariant to permutations, rotations, and reflections

- Smooth with respect to exchange of atoms from neighborhood

$$V(\mathfrak{n}_i) = \sum_{\alpha} \xi_{\alpha} B_{\alpha}(\mathfrak{n}_i)$$

Basis functions: written up to a maximum ‘level’ of  
‘contracted’ moment tensors

## Moment tensor:

$$M_{\mu,\nu}(\mathfrak{n}_i) = \sum_j f_\mu(|r_{ij}|, z_i, z_j) \underbrace{\mathbf{r}_{ij} \otimes \dots \otimes \mathbf{r}_{ij}}_{\nu \text{ times}}$$

## Radial component

## Angular component

$$\text{lev}M_{\mu,v} = 2 + 4\mu + v$$

$$\text{lev}(M_{1,2}:M_{0,2}) = (2 + 4 + 2) + (2 + 0 + 2) = 12$$

Expanded via radial basis functions: pair-wise

$$f_\mu(|r_{ij}|, z_i, z_j) = \sum_{\beta=1}^{N_Q} c_{\mu, z_i, z_j}^{(\beta)} Q^{(\beta)}(|r_{ij}|)$$

## Weights to be fit

## Chebychev polynomials × smooth cut-off function

Expanded via tensors: many-body

$\nu = 0 \rightarrow$  Scalar

$v = 1 \rightarrow \text{Vector}; \mathbf{r}_{ij} = (x_{ij}, y_{ij}, z_{ij})$

$$v = 2 \rightarrow \text{Tensor}; \mathbf{r}_{ij} \otimes \mathbf{r}_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} x_{ij}^2 & x_{ij}y_{ij} & x_{ij}z_{ij} \\ y_{ij}x_{ij} & y_{ij}^2 & y_{ij}z_{ij} \\ z_{ij}x_{ij} & z_{ij}y_{ij} & z_{ij}^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Moment tensor potential: fitting

$$\sum_{k=1}^K \left[ w_e (E^{\text{mtp}}(\text{cfg}_k; \theta) - E^{\text{qm}}(\text{cfg}_k))^2 + w_f \sum_{i=1}^{N_k} |\mathbf{f}_i^{\text{mtp}}(\text{cfg}_k; \theta) - \mathbf{f}_i^{\text{qm}}(\text{cfg}_k)|^2 + w_s |\sigma^{\text{mtp}}(\text{cfg}_k; \theta) - \sigma^{\text{qm}}(\text{cfg}_k)|^2 \right] \rightarrow \min_{\theta},$$

Set of  $k$  configurations in the training set

$\theta$ : parameters to be fit ( $\xi, c$ )

qm: DFT or other quantum mechanical tools

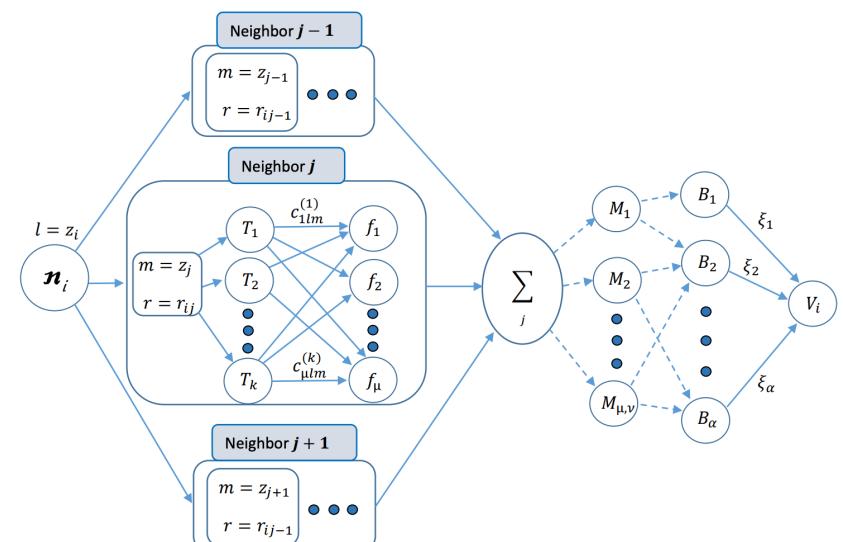
Energies, forces, and stresses considered within loss function

$$\text{RMSE}(E)^2 = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \left( \frac{E^{\text{mtp}}(\text{cfg}_k; \theta)}{N^{(k)}} - \frac{E^{\text{qm}}(\text{cfg}_k)}{N^{(k)}} \right)^2,$$

$$\text{RMSE}(\mathbf{f})^2 = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{1}{3 N^{(k)}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_k} |\mathbf{f}_i^{\text{mtp}}(\text{cfg}_k; \theta) - \mathbf{f}_i^{\text{qm}}(\text{cfg}_k)|^2$$

$$\text{RMSE}(\sigma)^2 = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{1}{9} |\sigma^{\text{mtp}}(\text{cfg}_k; \theta) - \sigma^{\text{qm}}(\text{cfg}_k)|^2.$$

Hyperparameters



# Moment tensor potential: fitting

$$\sum_{k=1}^K \left[ w_e (E^{\text{mtp}}(\text{cfg}_k; \theta) - E^{\text{qm}}(\text{cfg}_k))^2 + w_f \sum_{i=1}^{N_k} |\mathbf{f}_i^{\text{mtp}}(\text{cfg}_k; \theta) - \mathbf{f}_i^{\text{qm}}(\text{cfg}_k)|^2 + w_s \|\sigma^{\text{mtp}}(\text{cfg}_k; \theta) - \sigma^{\text{qm}}(\text{cfg}_k)\|^2 \right] \rightarrow \min_{\theta},$$

Set of  $k$  configurations in the training set

$\theta$ : parameters to be fit ( $\xi, c$ )

qm: DFT or other quantum mechanical tools

Energies, forces, and stresses considered within loss function

Hyperparameters

Once MTP is fit, can be used for both static and dynamic runs

- Using ‘LAMMPS’ for example

Also has ability to perform active learning during predictions

- Using an ‘extrapolation grade’
- Structures outside a confidence interval can be calculated with DFT and the potential retrained

# Neural equivariant interatomic potential: 'recent'

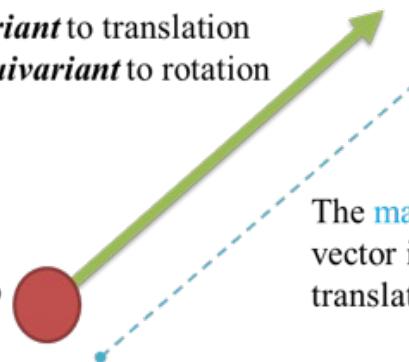
Based on using deep, graph neural networks to construct interatomic potentials

Every atom has a feature vector of different orders (scalars, vectors, and tensors)

$$E_{pot} = \sum_{i \in N_{atoms}} E_{i,atomic}$$

$$\vec{F}_i = -\nabla_i E_{pot}$$

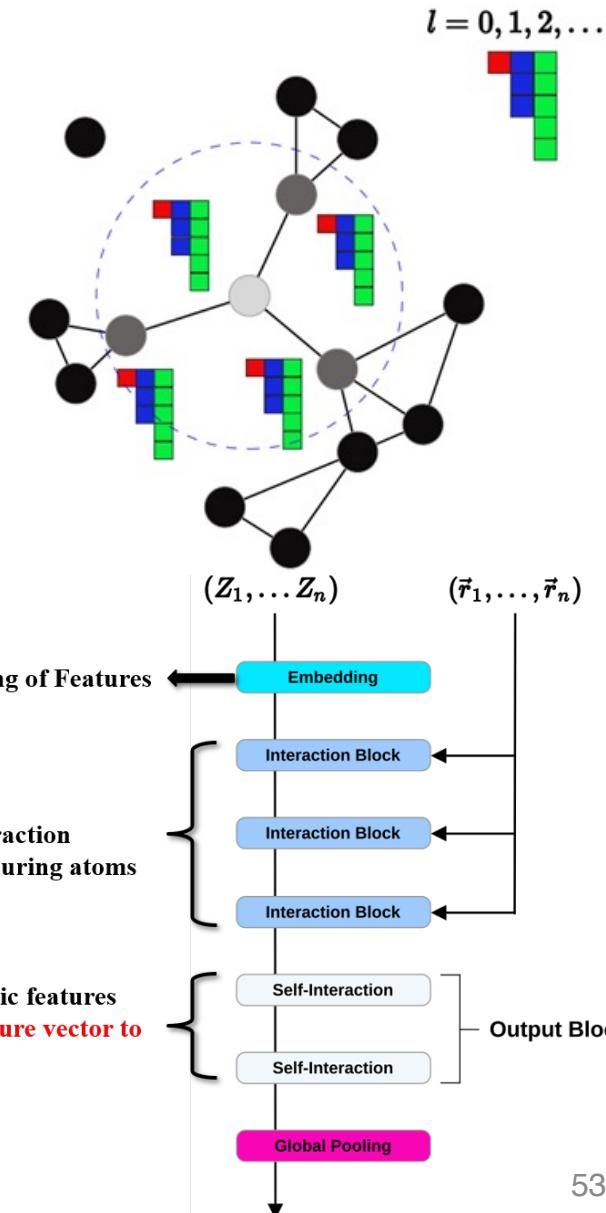
The **direction** of the vector is **invariant** to translation and **equivariant** to rotation



The **magnitude** of the vector is **invariant** to translation and rotation

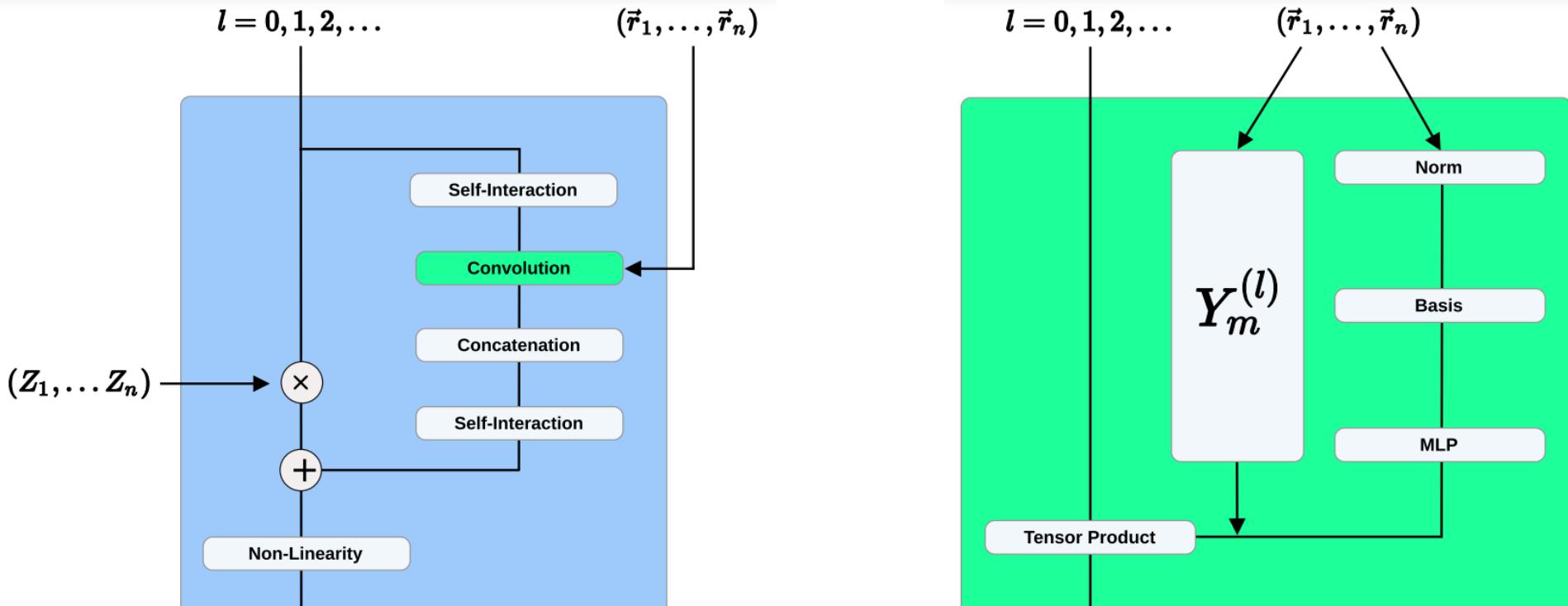
The **location (position)** of the vector is **equivariant** to translation and rotation

$$\mathcal{L} = \lambda_E \|\hat{E} - E\|^2 + \lambda_F \frac{1}{3N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{\alpha=1}^3 \left\| -\frac{\partial \hat{E}}{\partial r_{i,\alpha}} - F_{i,\alpha} \right\|^2$$



Update the atomic features  
**(reduces the feature vector to a single scalar)**

# NequIP: code blocks



**Self-Interaction Layer:** Mix atomic features having same order and mirror parity, reduces dimensionality

**Convolution Layer:** Rotational equivariance

**Concatenation:** Recombines feature vectors to form new feature vectors

$$B(r_{ij}) = \frac{2}{r_c} \frac{\sin(\frac{b\pi}{r_c} r_{ij})}{r_{ij}} f_{env}(r_{ij}, r_c)$$

$$S_m^{(l)}(\vec{r}_{ij}) = R(r_{ij}) Y_m^{(l)}(\hat{r}_{ij})$$

Angular component: spherical harmonics

# Examples of MLIPs in action

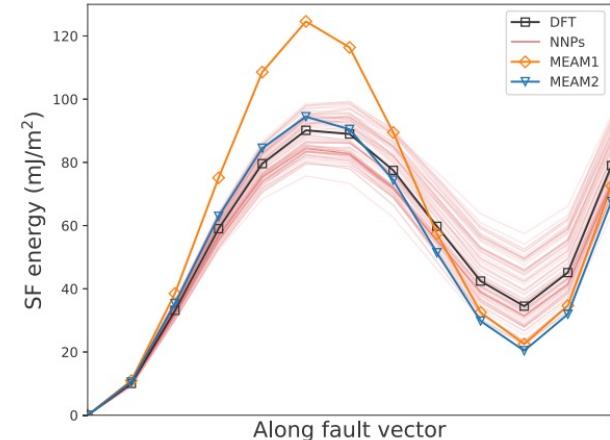
# Sample usage of MLIPs so far

Predicting Li migration energies for cathode coating materials (**MTP**)

Composition	MTP $E_a$ (eV)	Experimental $E_a$ (eV)
$\text{Li}_3\text{Sc}_2(\text{PO}_4)_3$	$0.62 \pm 0.04$	0.65
$\text{Li}_2\text{B}_6\text{O}_9\text{F}_2$	$0.79 \pm 0.10$	0.92
$\text{LiCl}$	$1.11 \pm 0.13$	0.83

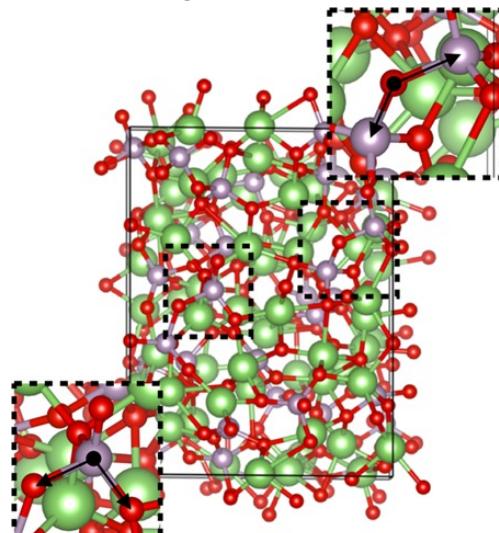
Wang et al., Chem. Mater. 32, 3741–52 (2020)

Effect of defects on deformation and failure in Mg (**ANNP**)



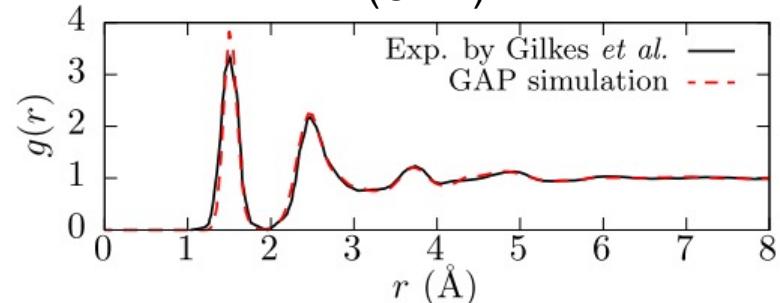
Stricker et al., Phys Rev Mater 4, 103602 (2020)

Simulations of glassy  $\text{Li}_4\text{P}_2\text{O}_7$  (**NequiP**)



Batzner et al., Nat. Commun. 13, 2453 (2022)

Growth mechanism in amorphous carbon (**GAP**)



Caro et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 166101 (2018)

# Hands—on session?

# Build MTP and Nequip

<https://gitlab.com/ashapeev/mlip-2>

```
Errors report
Energy:
    Errors checked for 83 configurations
    Maximal absolute difference = 0.937032
    Average absolute difference = 0.0810972
    RMS      absolute difference = 0.140761

Energy per atom:
    Errors checked for 83 configurations
    Maximal absolute difference = 0.0669308
    Average absolute difference = 0.00579266
    RMS      absolute difference = 0.0100543

Forces:
    Errors checked for 1162 atoms
    Maximal absolute difference = 1.06028
    Average absolute difference = 0.0441032
    RMS      absolute difference = 0.0917132
    Max(ForceDiff) / Max(Force) = 0.189541
    RMS(ForceDiff) / RMS(Force) = 0.321722
```

<https://github.com/mir-group/nequip.git>

```
--- Final result: ---
    f_mae = 2.358706
    f_rmse = 3.224275
    H_f_mae = 1.773994
    C_f_mae = 3.026947
    psavg_f_mae = 2.400471
    H_f_rmse = 2.496266
    C_f_rmse = 3.893006
    psavg_f_rmse = 3.194636
    e_mae = 1.038272
    e/N_mae = 0.069218
    f_mae = 2.358706
    f_rmse = 3.224275
    H_f_mae = 1.773994
    C_f_mae = 3.026947
    psavg_f_mae = 2.400471
    H_f_rmse = 2.496266
    C_f_rmse = 3.893006
    psavg_f_rmse = 3.194636
    e_mae = 1.038272
```

# Conclusions and some thoughts to chew

- Designing better materials critical for performance improvement in several applications
  - Computations + ML can significantly accelerate materials design
- Different ways to use ML (or precursors to ML)
  - Regressions (or classifications): predict properties using experimental/calculated properties
  - Coarse graining: model larger/longer phenomena on a fixed lattice
  - Interatomic potentials: model larger/longer phenomena on a dynamic lattice
- Materials science is a data-limited domain
  - Garbage in = Garbage out; data normalization
  - What model to choose? Simple models are usually better
  - Choose features carefully: physically intuitive?
  - Don't do ML just because you can (hammer doesn't beget a nail)
  - Construct models with care: overfitting, lack of transferability

