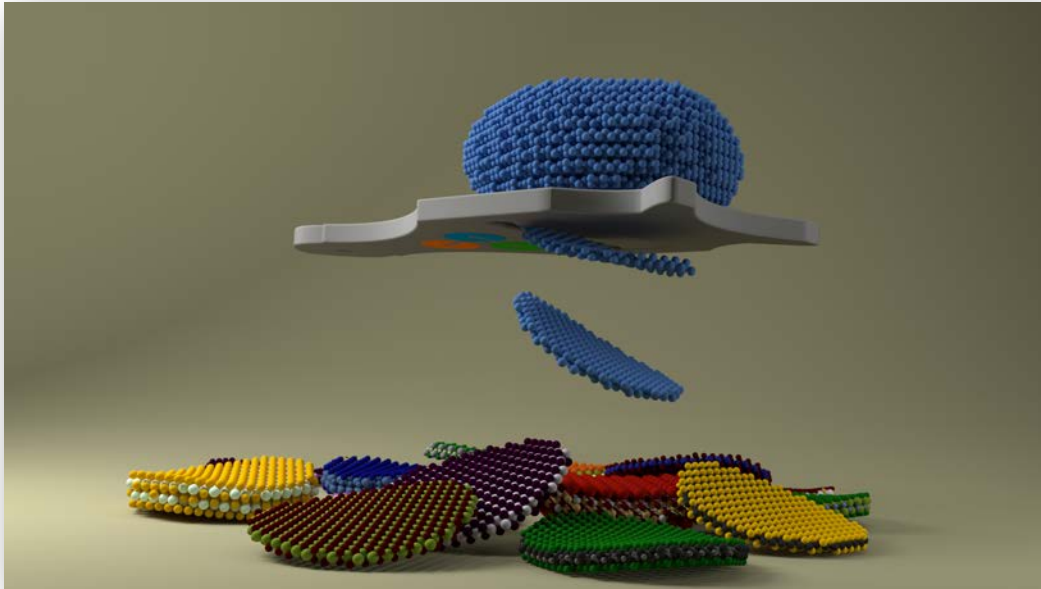


MSE-468 Lectures 9-10

DFT in action



Points to discuss from lab 1

- Grades > ~60/100 are sufficient to pass the exam. The final grade will be considering all labs.
- Please read the comments in the PDF, they are there to help you improve!
- Both functionals are fitted to reproduce certain properties → lattice constant can be very accurate with both (small differences don't have a strong meaning)
 - *For properties that are not fitted, they might be quite off with LJ as it has only 2 parameters (e.g. bulk modulus, if it's not fitted)*
- Potential energies are in general not comparable, especially between methods
 - *Only differences such as formation energies matter*

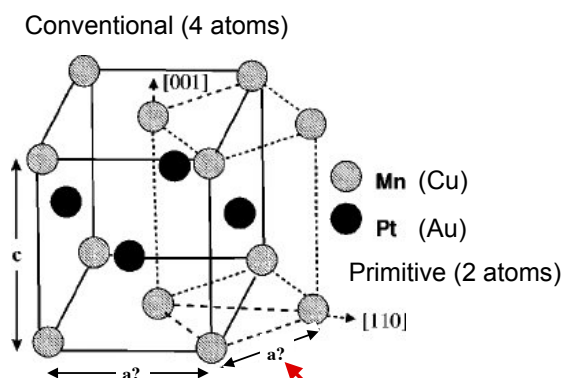
Points to discuss from lab 1

- You define a threshold before you do your calculations (not the other way around)
 - You want to have convergence up to XYZ and see how large your supercell etc. has to be to satisfy this condition*
- Be careful on how to define the structure. If it is the primitive or the conventional cell, the sites and lattice can change, e.g.
 - AuCu I (L10) is bcc (https://aflowlib.org/p/AB_tP2_123_a_d-001/)
 - AuCu II (L10) is FCC (<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/BF01106562>)
 - Always check whether your results make sense, for example, if your cell increases the volume many orders of magnitude, your results are probably wrong*

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Points to discuss from lab 1

CuAu L1₀



Conventional:

- Au: [0, 0, 0]
- Au: [0.5, 0.5, 0]
- Cu: [0.5, 0, 0.5]
- Cu: [0, 0.5, 0.5]

Primitive:

- Au: [0, 0, 0]
- Cu: [0.5, 0.5, 0.5]

Always check carefully in your source which one is defined as a : the side of the primitive cell or of the conventional cell?

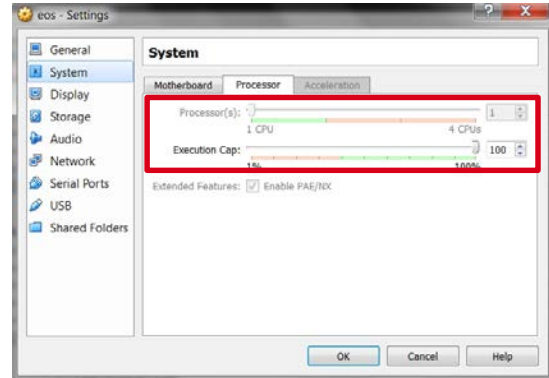
Remember also the discussion on "no face-centered tetragonal exists" a few lectures ago!

Figure adapted from <http://dx.doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevB.63.144409>

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Points to discuss for lab 2

- Some of you find a converged k-mesh $> 4 \times 4 \times 4$.
- This, together with the clusters being down, makes calculations very slow!
- **Once you do the convergence tests on k-points, for the next steps you can just use a $4 \times 4 \times 4$ mesh to keep running time under control. However, explain what you are doing, and comment on the error you expect on the results (based on your convergence tests)**
- **You can also try to run with more MPI threads: `mpirun -np XXX`: but at most the number of cores you have in the laptop, and ensure to update your VM limits).**
- In this case, you can also use `pw.x -nk YYY` (with $YYY = XXX$, or $XXX/2$, or $XXX/4$, ...) to use YYY k-pools (requires more memory though!)



MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Notes on supercells and band folding

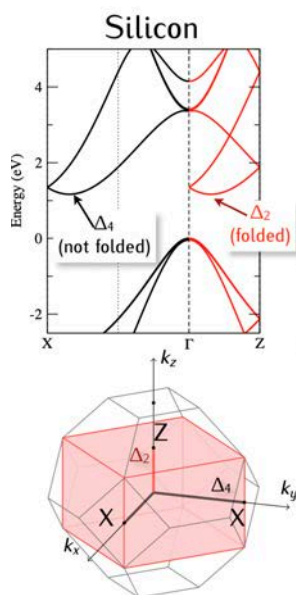


Figure 1.13 – Unit cell (green shaded parallelepiped) having one atom on each plane orthogonal to τ_1 and containing a total of four atoms. The coordinates of the basis vectors are: $\tau_1 = a_1/2(-1, 1, 0)$, $\tau_2 = a_1/2(1, 1, 0)$, $\tau_3 = a_1/2(0, 0, 2)$.

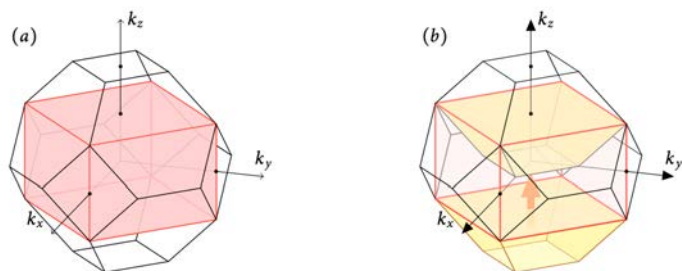
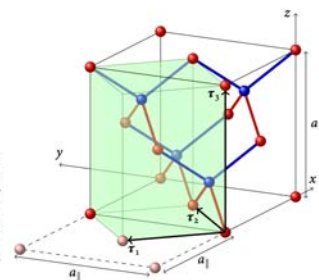
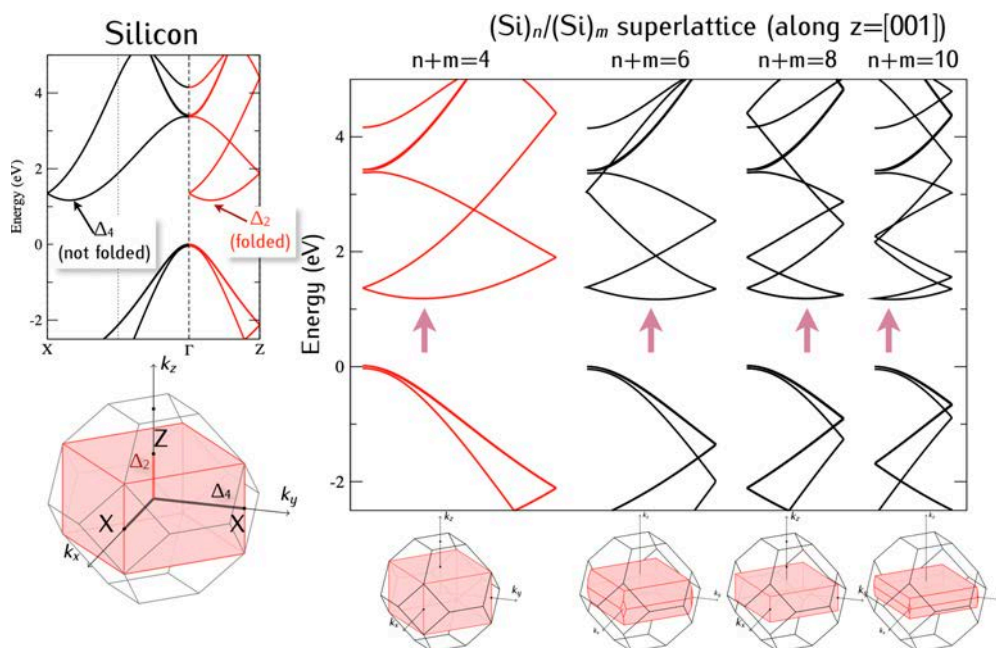


Figure 1.14 – (a) Folded Brillouin zone (red parallelepiped) corresponding to a FCC Bravais lattice with a basis vector chosen along $[001]$ and four atoms in the unit cell. The red parallelepiped can be obtained folding the truncated octahedron as shown in panel (b).

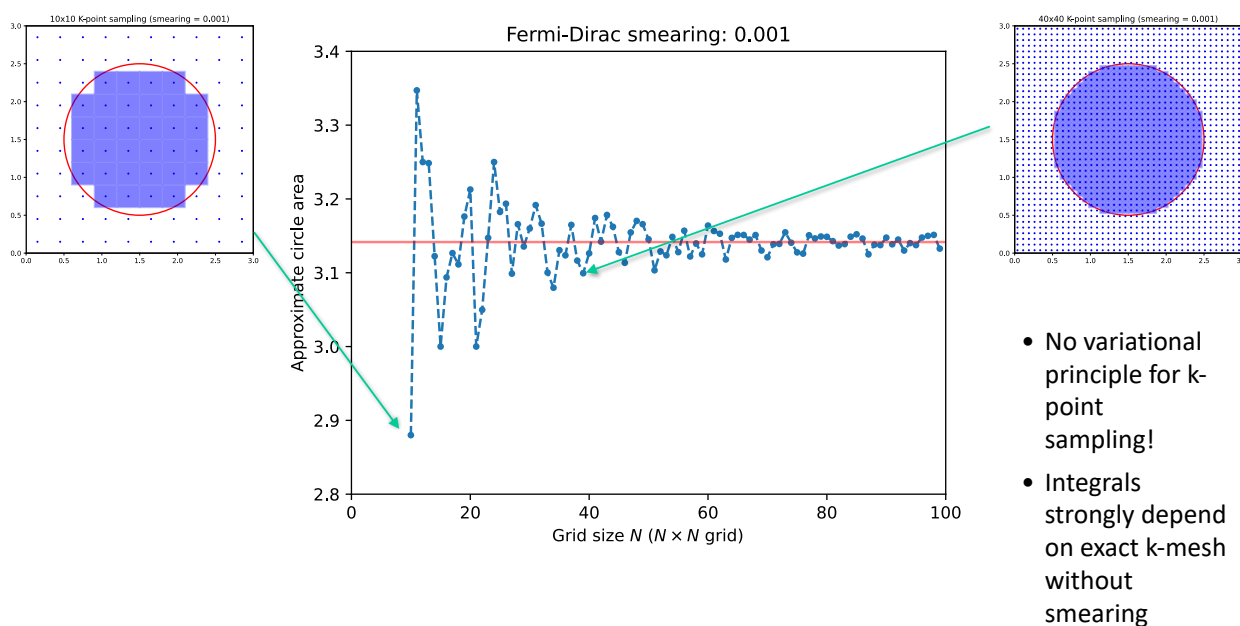
MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Notes on supercells and band folding



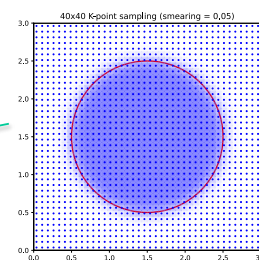
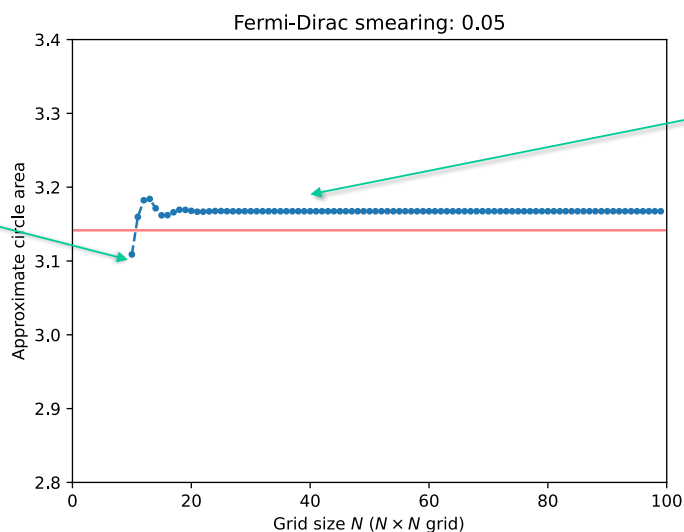
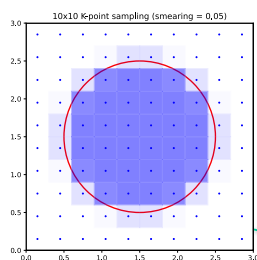
MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Note on k-point sampling: Analogy in 2D



MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Note on k-point sampling: Analogy in 2D

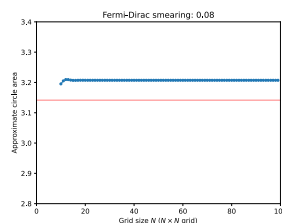
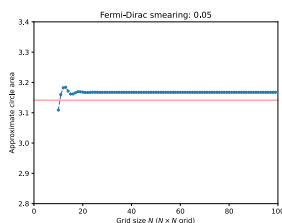
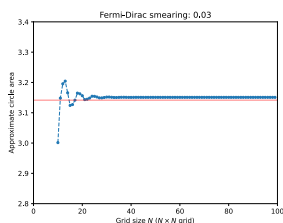
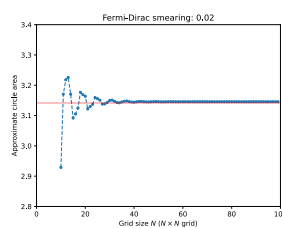
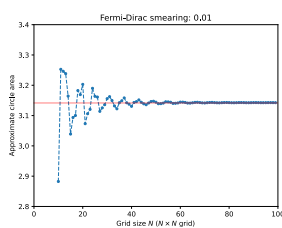
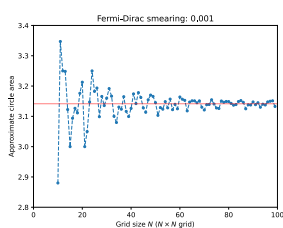


- With smearing: much smoother convergence, but... **systematic error** for large smearing (entropy contribution)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Note on k-point sampling: Analogy in 2D

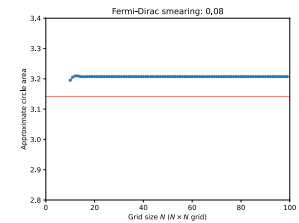
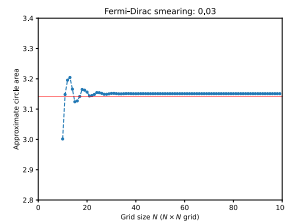
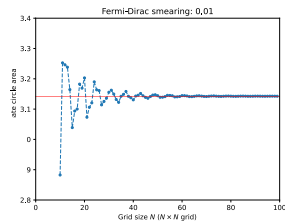
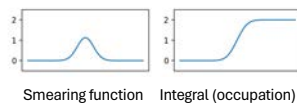
- Balance between uncontrollable errors and systematic errors



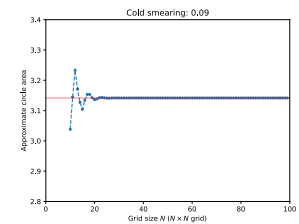
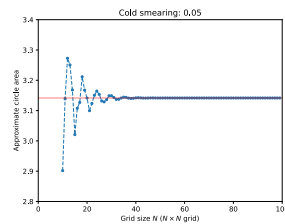
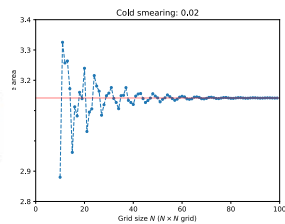
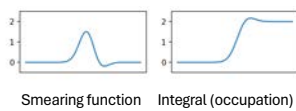
MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Cold smearing: larger smearing with small systematic errors

Fermi-Dirac smearing



Cold smearing

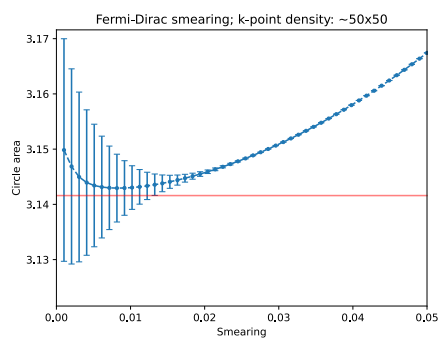


MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Cold smearing: larger smearing with small systematic errors

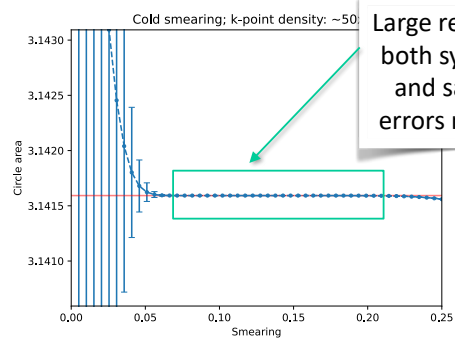
Example: 50^2 sampling points

Fermi-Dirac smearing



Note: much smaller y scale

Cold smearing

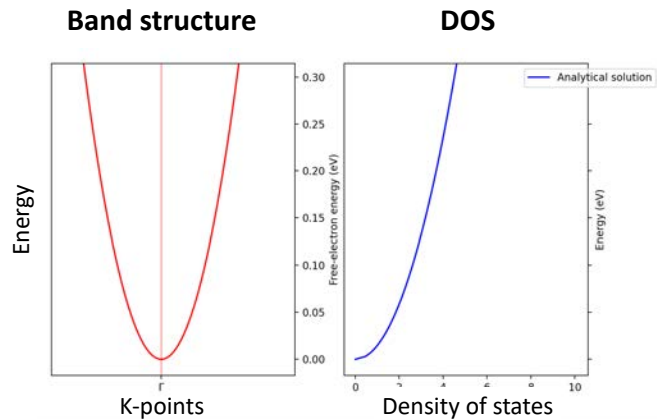


Large region with both systematic and sampling errors negligible

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Notes on smearing and tetrahedron method for the density of states

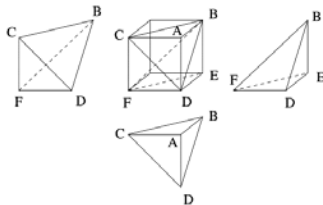
- **Density of states (DOS):** number of available states at a specific energy level. Units: number of states per unit volume per unit energy.
- **Integral of the DOS (over energy):** electrons/volume (e.g. integer number of electrons per unit cell)



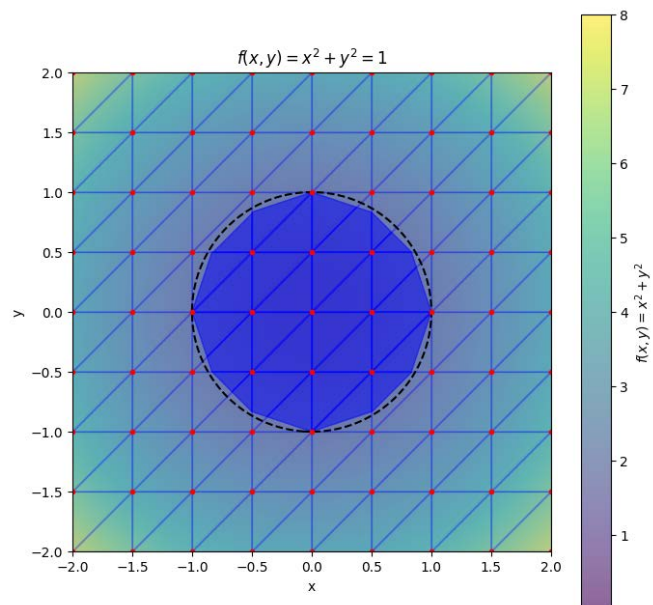
MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Tetrahedron method (in 2D)

- **Regular grid of k-points** used to divide space in cubes (squares) and tetrahedra (triangles)



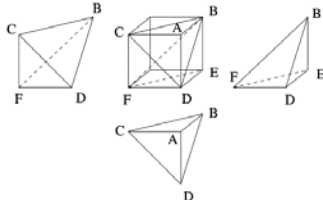
- **Compute function values on grid** (triangle/tetrahedron **vertices**); if some vertices are inside and others outside, **linearly interpolate values on the edges/faces**, and approximate area



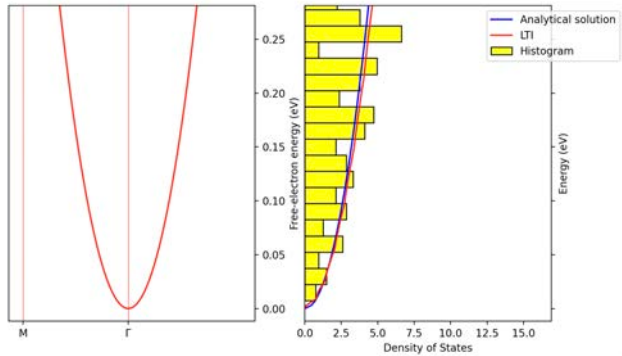
MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Tetrahedron method

- **Regular grid of k-points** used to divide space in cubes (squares) and tetrahedra (triangles)



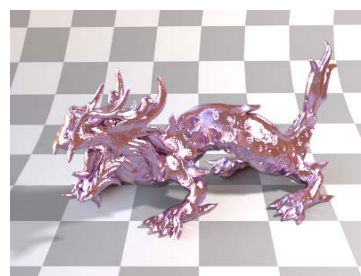
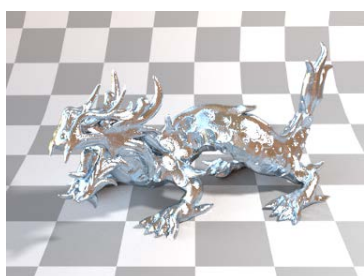
- **Compute function values on grid** (triangle/tetrahedron **vertices**); if some vertices are inside and others outside, **linearly interpolate values on the edges/faces**, and approximate area



Example for a free-electron gas, comparing histogram with linear tetrahedron method

Some results from DFT

Multi-scale/physics: color and reflectivity

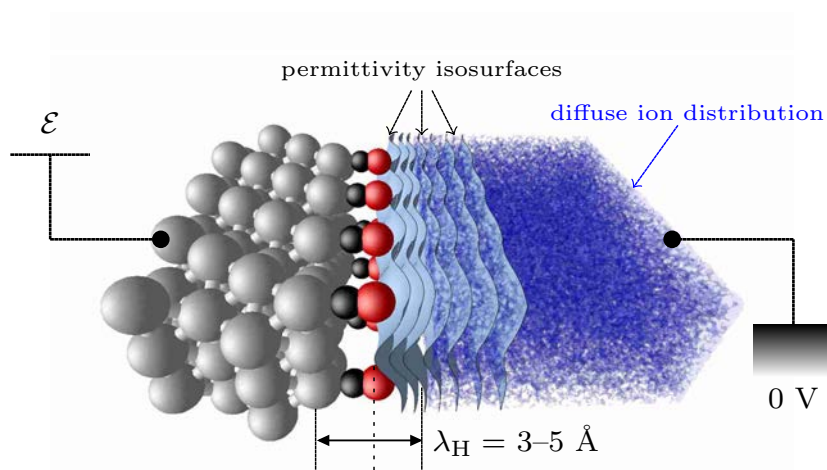


G. Prandini, G.M. Rignanese, and N. Marzari,
npj Computational Materials 5, 129 (2019)

Need the "true" band structure (not the Kohn-Sham, with wrong gap):
many-body perturbation theory (GW approximation)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Multi-scale/physics: electrochemistry



Dabo, Bonnet, Li and Marzari, "Ab-initio Electrochemical Properties of Electrode Surfaces", in Fuel Cell Science: Theory, Fundamentals and Bio-Catalysis, A. Wiecowski and J. Nørskov (2011).

O. Andreussi, I. Dabo and N. Marzari, "Revised self-consistent continuum solvation in electronic structure calculations", J. Chem. Phys. 136, 064102 (2012). www.quantum-environment.org

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Magnetic spectroscopies: NMR Chemical Shifts

- **NMR:** Nuclear Magnetic Resonance
- Nuclear magnetic levels are affected by the local chemical neighbourhood
- *Resonance frequencies (or their shift) are a fingerprint of local environment*

C. Pickard et al., PRB 63, 245101 (2001)

F. Mauri et al., PRL 87, 085506 (2001)

Chemical shift: $\mathbf{B}_{\text{in}}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}) = -\vec{\sigma}(\mathbf{r})\mathbf{B}$.

TABLE I. ^{11}B NMR chemical shifts δ_{BTE} and ^{13}C NMR chemical shifts δ_{TMS} in the closo-borane molecules. By ortho, meta, and antipodal we indicate the B atoms which are 1st, 2nd, and 3rd nearest neighbors of the C atom, respectively.

Molecule	Atomic site	Experiment	Theory
$(\text{B}_{12}\text{H}_{12})^{2-}$ $(\text{B}_{11}\text{CH}_{12})^{-}$		B δ_{BTE}	B δ_{BTE}
		-14.9 ^a	(-14.9)
	Ortho	-16.3 ^b	-16.2
	Meta	-13.3 ^b	-11.7
$(\text{B}_{11}\text{CH}_{12})^{-}$	Antipodal	-6.9 ^b	-5.4
		C δ_{TMS}	C δ_{TMS}
		54.6 ^c	(54.6)

^aIn CD_3CN solvent, Ref. [18].

^bIn hexadeuterioacetone, Ref. [19].

^cRef. [20].

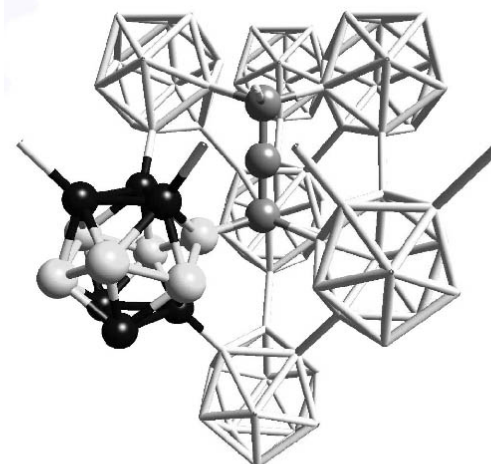
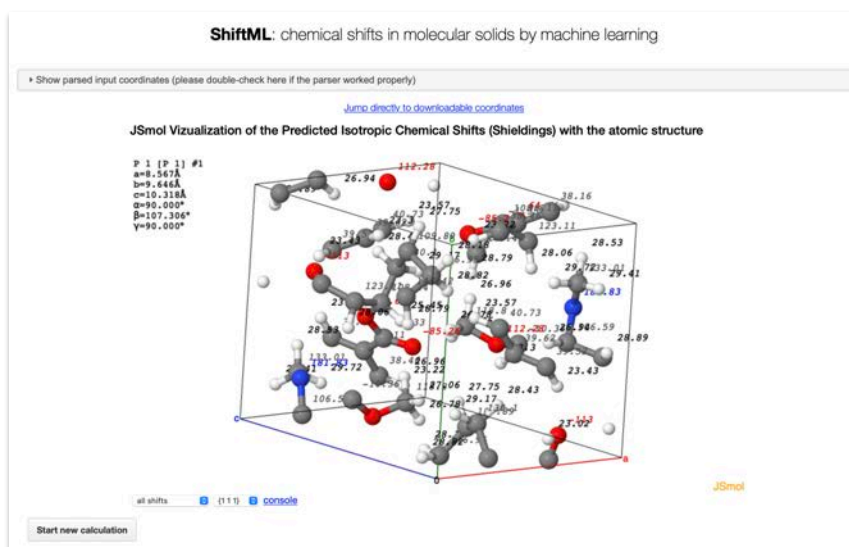


FIG. 1. Atomic structure of B_4C . The black atoms are on the so-called polar sites, bonded to neighboring icosahedra. The white atoms form a puckered hexagon and are in equatorial sites. The grey atoms form the chain, to which the equatorial atoms are bonded.

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Chemical shifts using Machine Learning



<https://www.materialscloud.org/work/tools/shiftml>

M. Ceriotti's group:

- [1] F. M. Paruzzo et al., Nature Communications, 9, 4501 (2018)
- [2] F. Musil et al., JCTC, 15 906 (2019)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Article

Quantum crystal structure in the 250-kelvin superconducting lanthanum hydride

Nature 578, 66 (2020)

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-020-1955-z>

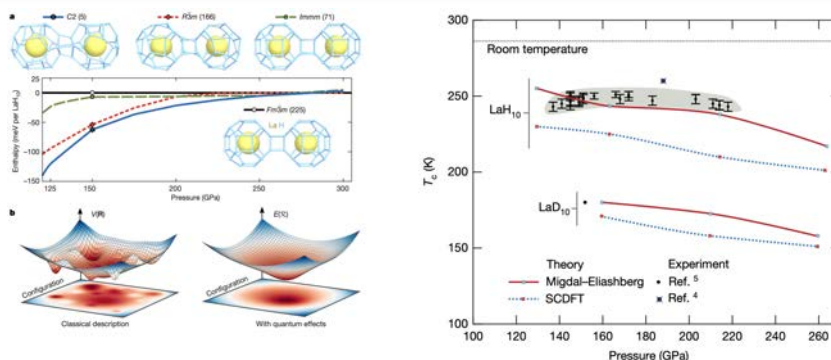
Received: 24 July 2019

Accepted: 14 November 2019

Published online: 5 February 2020

Ion Errea^{1,2,3}, Francesco Belli^{1,2}, Lorenzo Monacelli⁴, Antonio Sanna⁵, Takashi Koretsune⁶, Terumasa Tadano⁷, Raffaello Bianco², Matteo Calandra⁸, Ryotaro Arita^{9,10}, Francesco Mauri^{4,11} & José A. Flores-Livas^{4*}

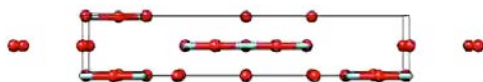
The discovery of superconductivity at 200 kelvin in the hydrogen sulfide system at



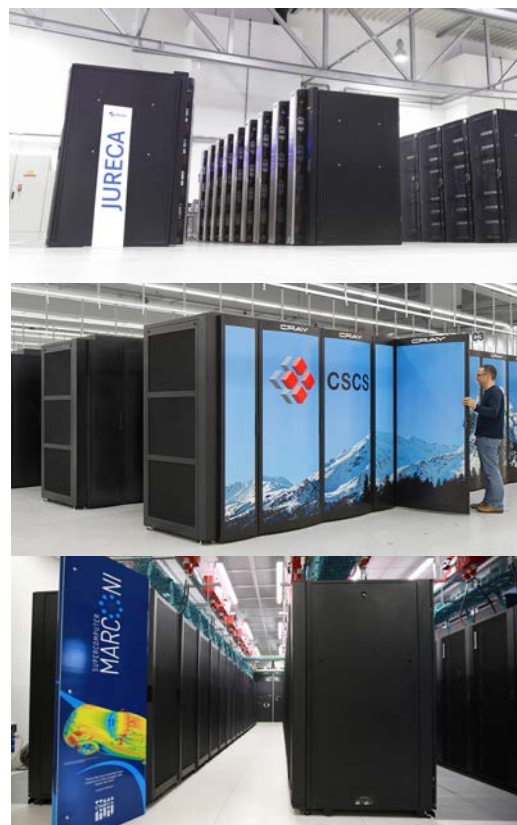
Quantum atomic fluctuations crucial to stabilize crystal structure (classical approach not enough!)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

High-throughput simulations

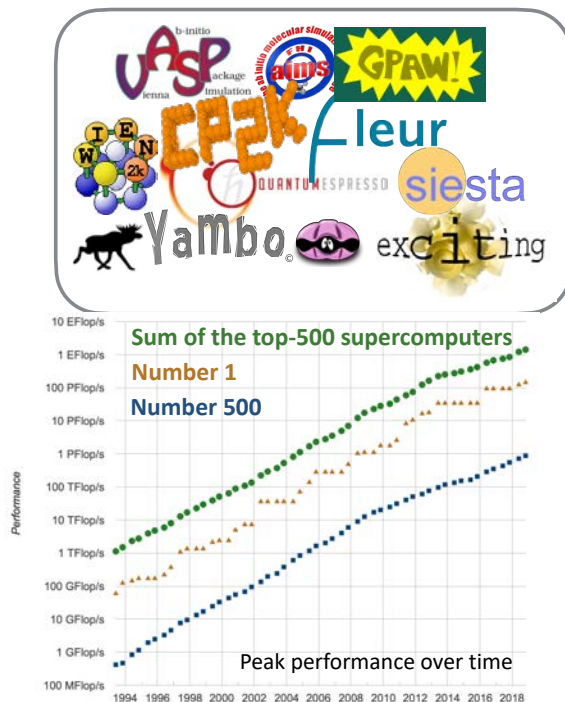


Aim: Run simulations on
tens of thousands of materials to
discover novel functional materials



MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

The high-throughput era



Accuracy and
predictive
power of
quantum
engines

**150,000x increase
in the past 20 years**

1 month (2005)



10 seconds (2025)

*Result: materials design and discovery via **high-throughput computations***

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Challenges in high-throughput HPC

- **Workflow automation**

- Need tools to define complex workflows with advanced error handling
- An automated, robust and scalable engine to run the workflows

- **Data management**

- Data should be stored reliably and efficiently
- Stored data should be interoperable and queryable

- **Reproducibility**

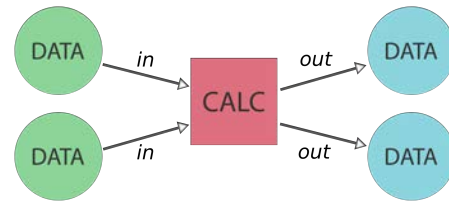
- All produced data should be reproducible by storing the full provenance

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Data provenance

Simple recipe

- Store data transformations or '**calculations**'
- Store its **inputs** and their metadata
- Store its **outputs** and their metadata
- Most **crucially** store the **inter-connections**

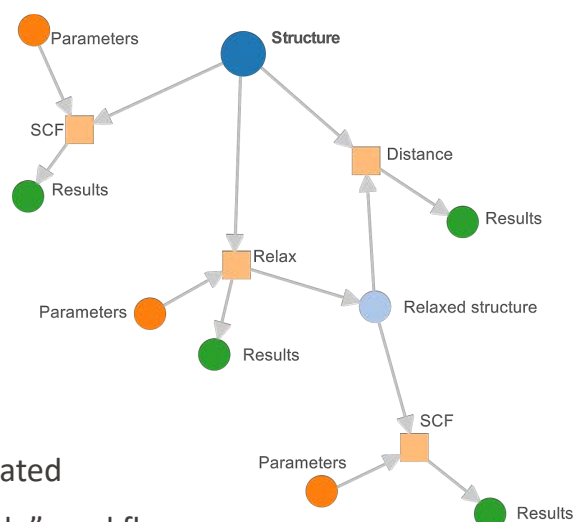


MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Data provenance

Simple recipe

- Store data transformations or '**calculations**'
- Store its **inputs** and their metadata
- Store its **outputs** and their metadata
- Most **crucially** store the **inter-connections**

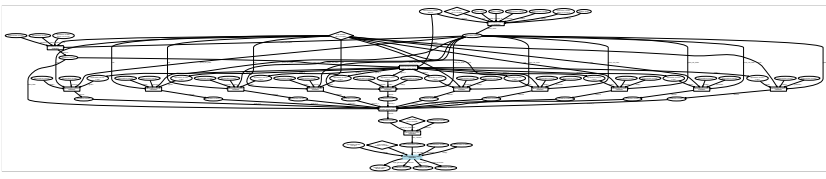


Provenance graphs

- When data gets reused, a directed graph is created
- That quickly grow in complexity even for "simple" workflows

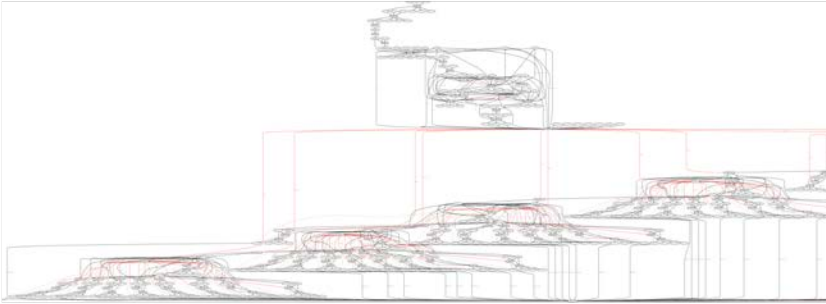
MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

"Simple" graphs of workflows for a single material



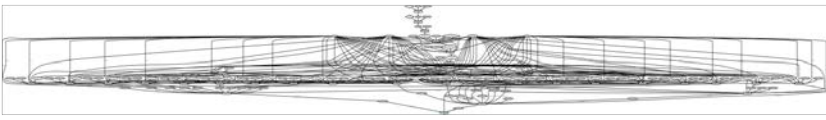
Phonon dispersion

(atom oscillations around equilibrium positions:
thermal transport,
electronic mobility, ...)



Molecular dynamics of Lithium in a solid electrolyte

(Discover novel, safe and
efficient electrolytes for Li-
batteries)



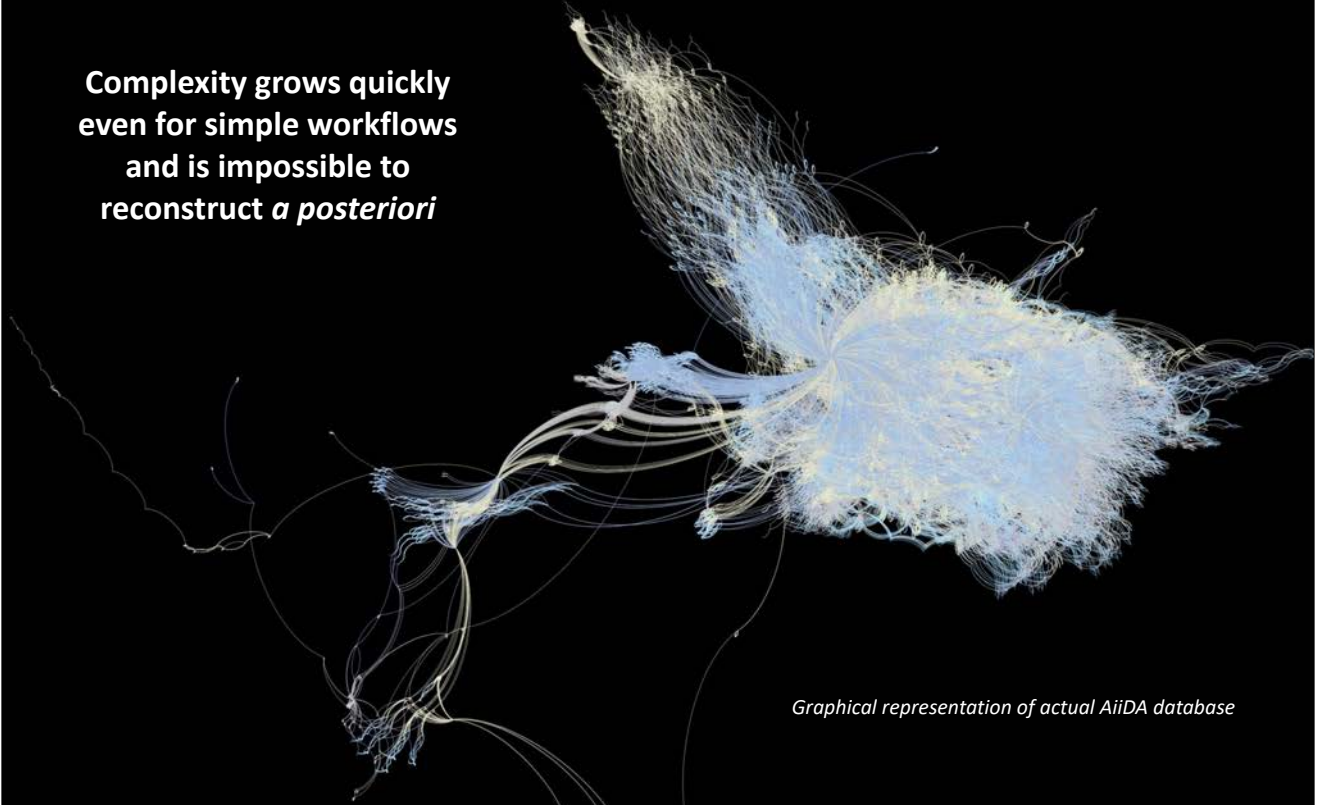
Elastic constants

(response of materials to
stresses and deformations)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring

Data provenance

Complexity grows quickly
even for simple workflows
and is impossible to
reconstruct *a posteriori*



Graphical representation of actual AiiDA database

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL



- COMPUTATIONAL SCIENCE INFRASTRUCTURE
- FOR HIGH THROUGHPUT WORKFLOWS
- WITH FULL DATA PROVENANCE



Language: implemented and API in python

License: MIT open source <http://www.aiida.net/>

Source: <https://github.com/aiidateam/aiida-core>



MIT LICENSED



Scalable workflow engine

Automated full data provenance



Built-in support for HPC

Flexible plugin system



G. Pizzi et al., Comp. Mat. Sci. 111, 218-230 (2016)

S.P. Huber et al., Scientific Data 7, 300 (2020)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

AiiDA support: plugins and workflows



Calculation



Data



Parsers



Transport and scheduler



Workflows



Importers & exporters

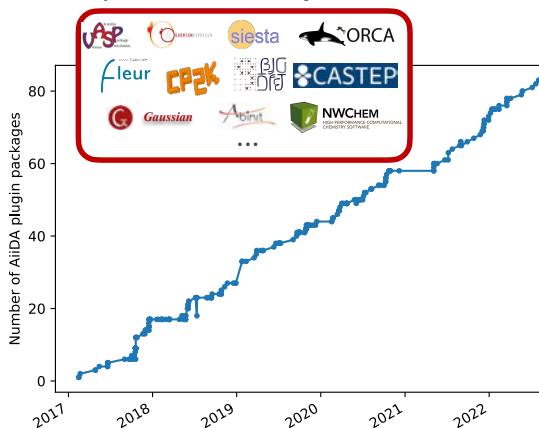


Registered plugin packages: 87

Calculations	123 plugins in 53 packages
Parsers	104 plugins in 54 packages
Data	96 plugins in 29 packages
Workflows	128 plugins in 37 packages
Console scripts	26 plugins in 16 packages
Other	98 plugins in 26 packages

<https://aiidateam.github.io/aiida-registry/>

- Almost **100 codes** currently supported, >90 workflows
- Many are **community-contributed**



MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

The need for turn-key solutions



- Like in a car: drive without need to know how the engine works
 - ▶ Engines are "robust"
 - ▶ Just turn the key and drive
 - ▶ I need a driving license, but I don't need to learn again if I change the brand of my car

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Accessible and interoperable workflows: AiiDA common workflow interfaces (ACWF)

- As a non-expert, be able to ask

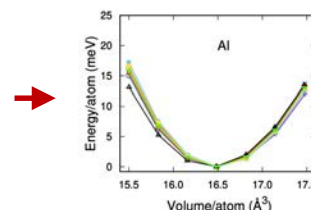
"Please run an **equation of state** with code [Quantum ESPRESSO|SIESTA|VASP...] on the XXX supercomputer, using YY nodes, and **automatically choose numerical parameters** to get converged results."



S. P. Huber et al., npj Comput. Mater. 7, 136 (2021)

- As an expert:
 - adapt the automatic parameters, if needed
 - check details of already-run simulations (by someone else): via provenance tracking

`$ aiiida-common-workflows launch eos siesta --structure=Al --protocol=precise`

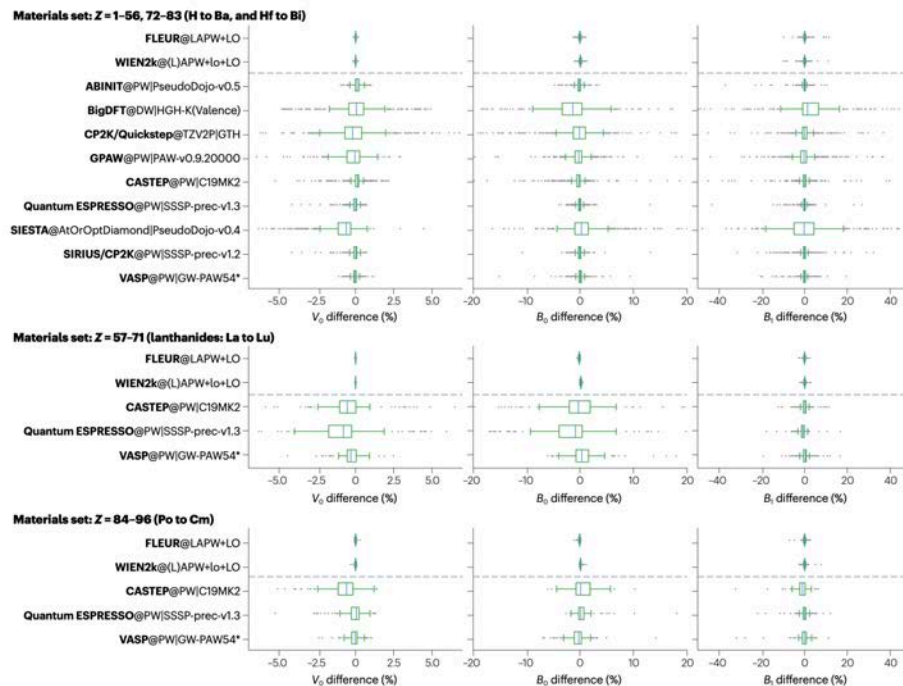


<https://github.com/aiida-team/aiida-common-workflows/>

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Common-workflows for verification

- Common workflows used for the verification effort discussed last time

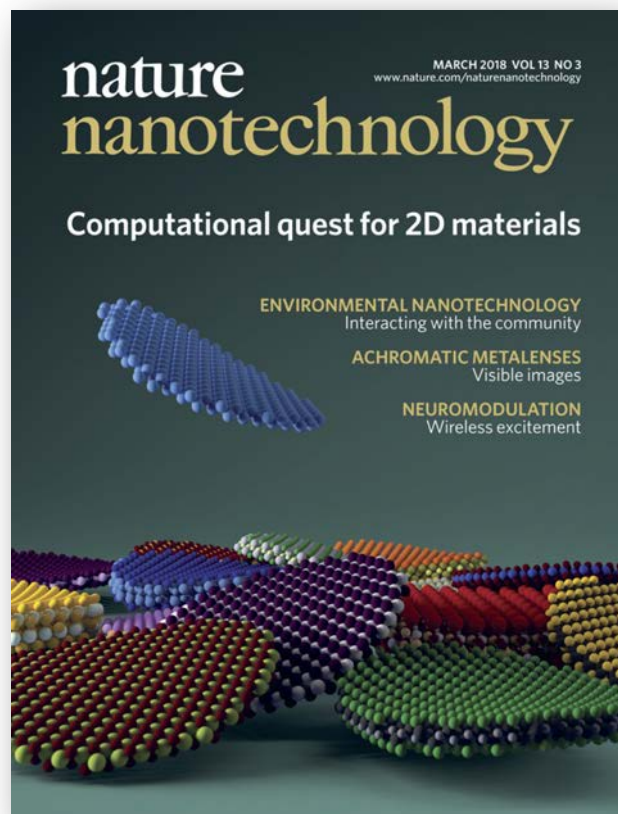


E. Bosoni et al., Nat. Rev. Phys. 6, 45 (2024)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

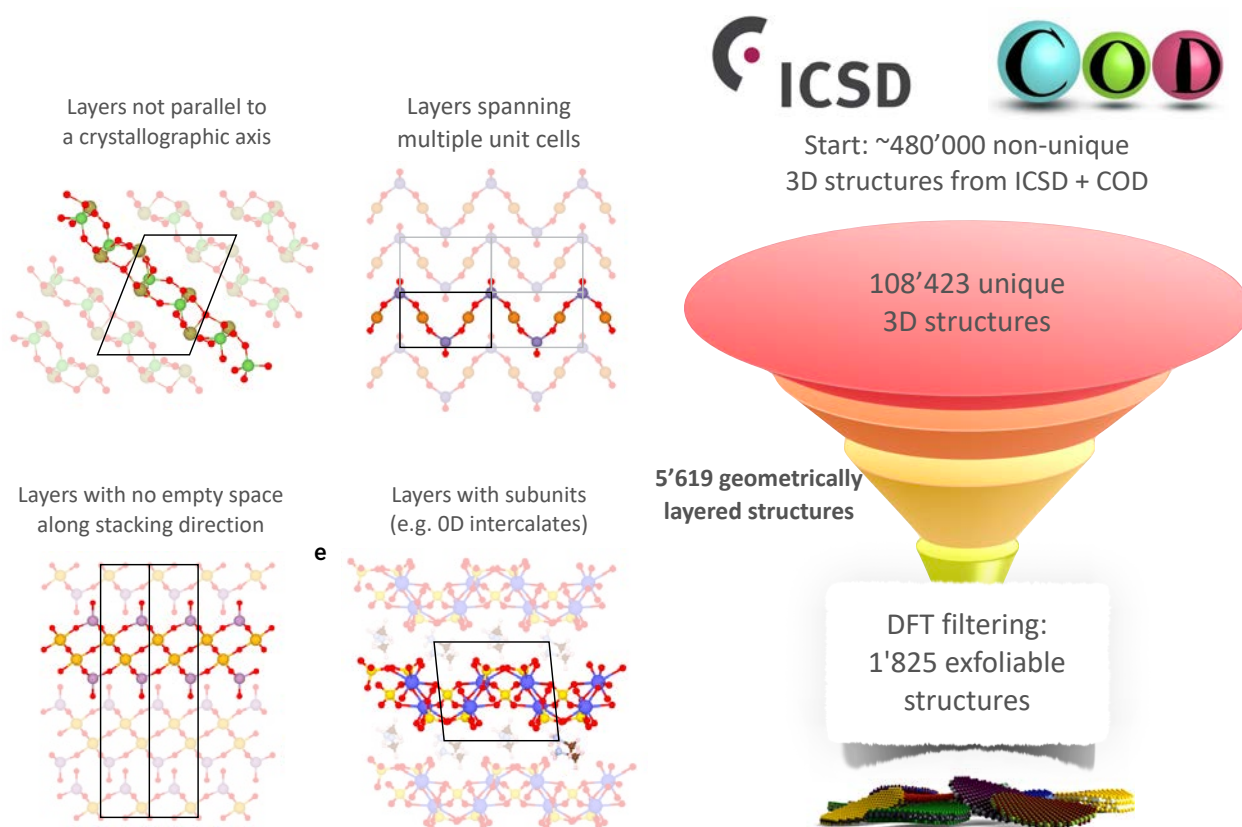
COMPUTATIONAL EXFOLIATION OF ALL KNOWN INORGANIC MATERIALS

N. Mounet et al., Nature Nanotech 13, 246–252 (2018)



MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

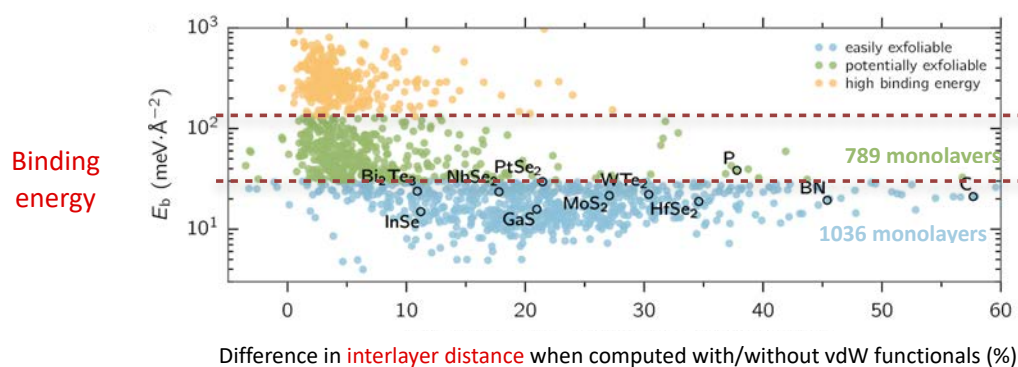
Robust algorithm to identify layers, but also 1D or 0D clusters



MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Filtering exfoliable structure with simulations: binding energy

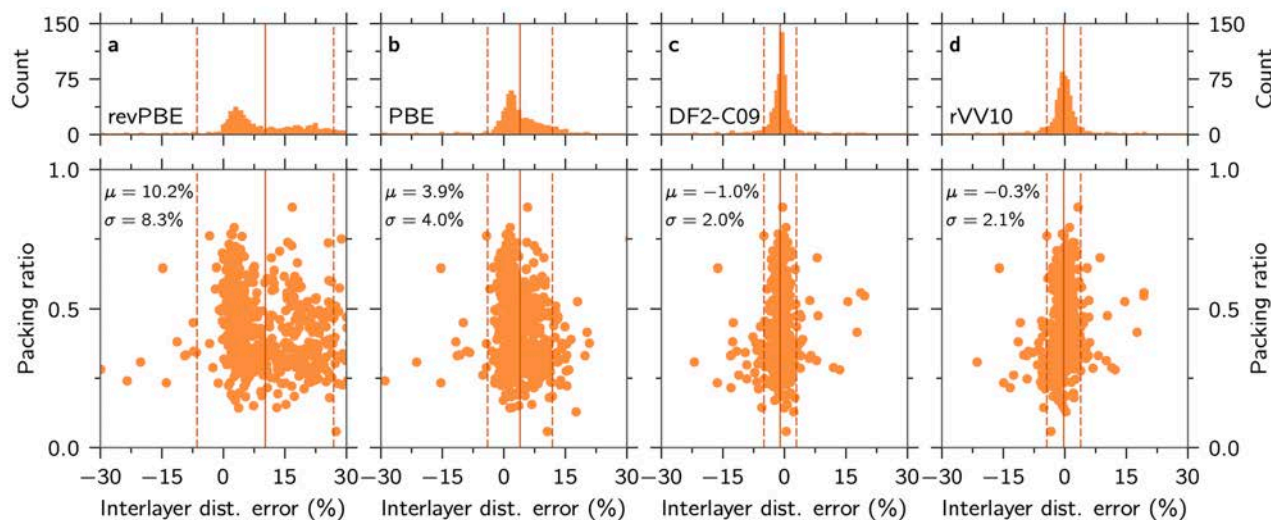
- Large portfolio of ~1800 exfoliable layered materials from experimentally-known compounds
- 500'000+ DFT calculations



N. Mounet et al., Nature Nanotech 13, 246–252 (2018)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

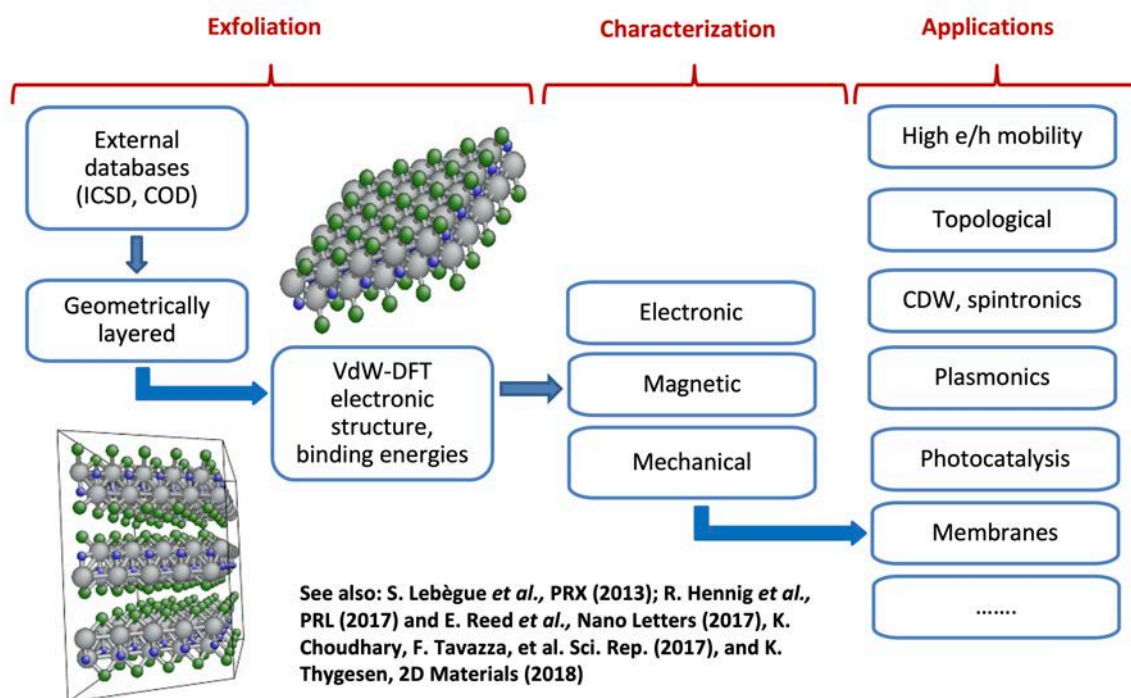
van-der-Waals functionals: benchmark



N. Mounet et al., Nature Nanotech 13, 246–252 (2018)

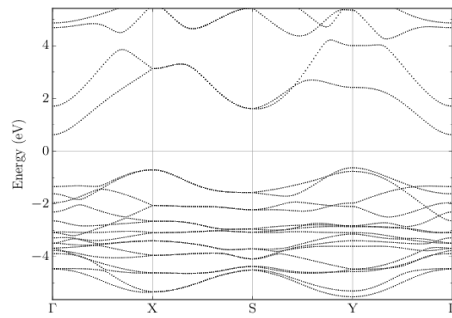
MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

HIGH-THROUGHPUT COMPUTATIONAL EXFOLIATION

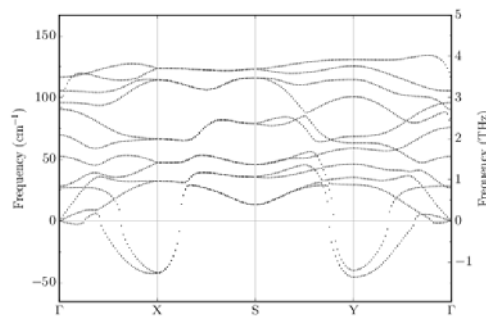


MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

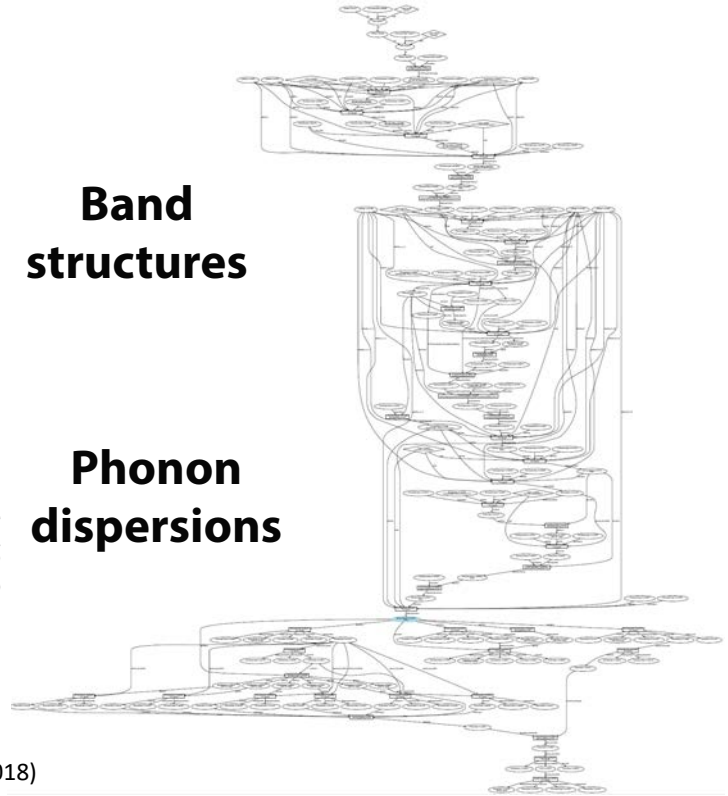
ALL AUTOMATED WITH AiiDA (<http://aiida.net>)



Band structures



Phonon dispersions



N. Mounet et al., Nature Nanotech 13, 246–252 (2018)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

THE DISCOVERY OF JACUTINGAITE

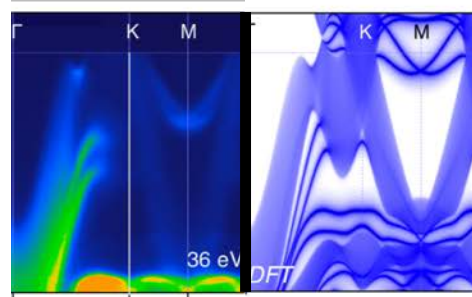
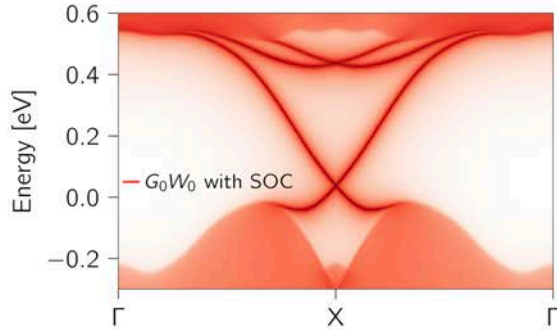


MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

THE DISCOVERY OF JACUTINGAITE

Monolayer: room-temperature Kane-Mele quantum spin Hall insulator – G_0W_0 with S.O.C.

Bulk: topologically-protected 001-surface states, exp vs DFT



A. Marrazzo et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 117701 (2018)

C. Cucchi et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 106402 (2020)

A. Marrazzo et al., Phys. Rev. Research 2, 012063(R) (2020)

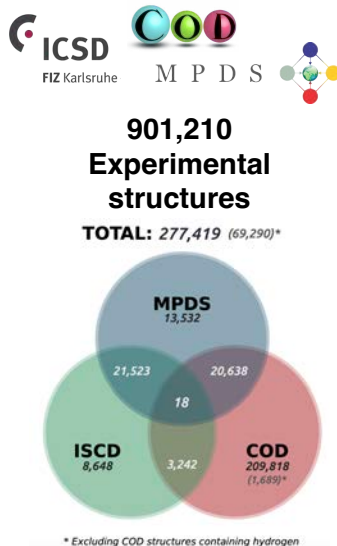
$$H = t \underbrace{\sum_{\langle ij \rangle \alpha} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha}}_{1^{st} NN} + it_2 \underbrace{\sum_{\langle\langle ij \rangle\rangle \alpha\beta} v_{ij} s_{\alpha\beta}^z c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\beta}}_{KM SOC} + t'_2 \underbrace{\sum_{\langle\langle ij \rangle\rangle \alpha} c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\alpha}}_{2^{nd} NN} + it'_2 \underbrace{\sum_{\langle\langle ij \rangle\rangle \alpha\beta} u_{ij} (\mathbf{s} \times \mathbf{d}_{ij}^0)_{\alpha\beta}^z c_{i\alpha}^\dagger c_{j\beta}}_{in-plane SOC}$$

$$H_{J3KM} = H_{KM} + \lambda \tilde{H}_{2nd NL}$$

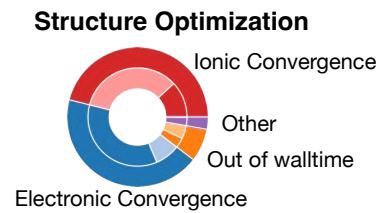
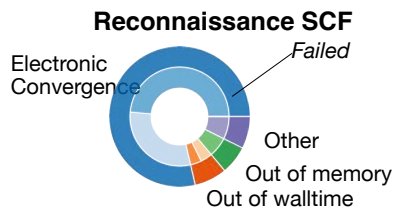
MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

MC3D database

Michail Minotakis, Marnik Bercx, Sebastiaan Huber, Timo Reents, Nicola Marzari, GP et al.



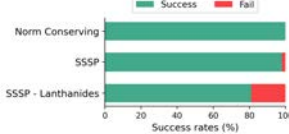
- Robust workflows to reduce failure rate



- New ensemble-DFT implementation

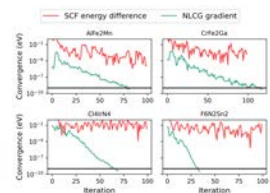
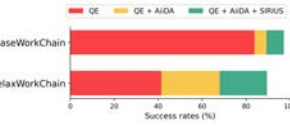
SIRIUS

NLCG success rate



CSCS

Workchain success rates

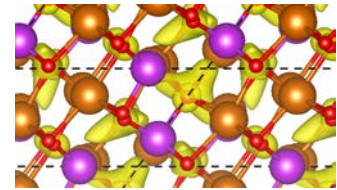
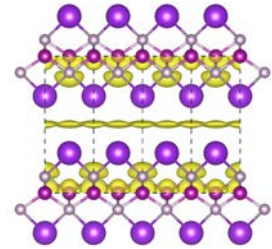


MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Electrides

Francisco F. Ramirez,
Marnik Bercx, Nicola Marzari, GP

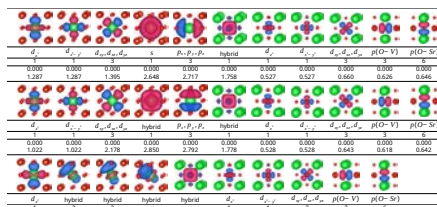
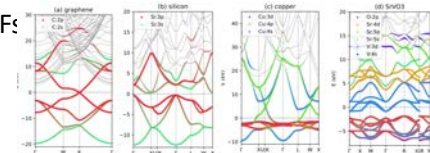
- **Electrides:**
 - materials with some of the electrons occupying interstitial spaces
 - low workfunction: excellent electron emitters; high catalytic activity
- **Goal:** Identify **novel electrides** in the MC3D
- **Result:** 352 new electrides identified, including:
 - *non-metallic candidates* (electride behaviour under doping)
 - *electrides with predominance of one spin channel* (interesting for spintronic applications)



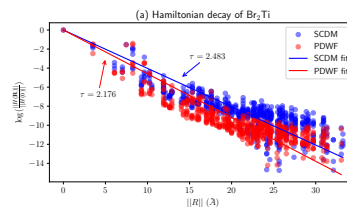
MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Automated Wannier functions

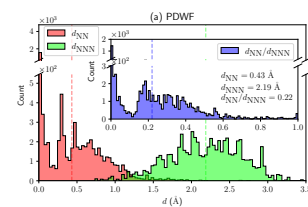
- New approach based on "projectability disentanglement"
- Automated Wannierization of 17,744 materials (1,155,049 MLWFs)
- **Average band-distance error of 1.7 meV w.r.t. DFT**
- Extract information on:



Shape



Hamiltonian hoppings decay



Position of WF centres

...

- Starting point to generate ML models to predict Hamiltonian and materials properties
- Currently extended also to spin-orbit and magnetic systems, paper to be published soon (Y. Jiang et al.): also brings Wannierization success rate to 100%!

J. Qiao *et al.*, npj comput. Mater 9, 206 (2023)
J. Qiao *et al.*, npj comput. Mater 9, 208 (2023)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Training ML models - ferroelectrics

ARTICLE OPEN

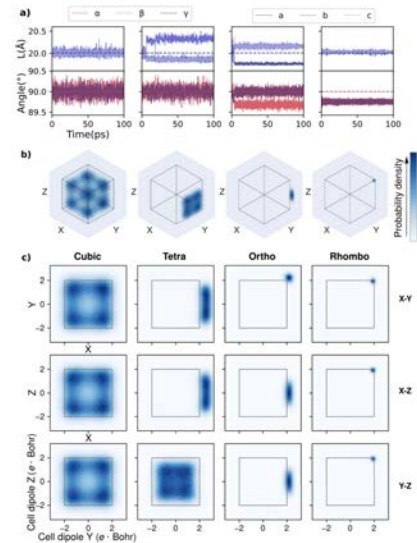
Thermodynamics and dielectric response of BaTiO₃ by data-driven modeling

Lorenzo Gigli¹, Max Veit¹, Michele Kotiuga², Giovanni Pizzi², Nicola Marzari² and Michele Ceriotti¹

L. Gigli et al. npj Comput. Mater. 8, 209 (2022)

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41524-022-00845-0>

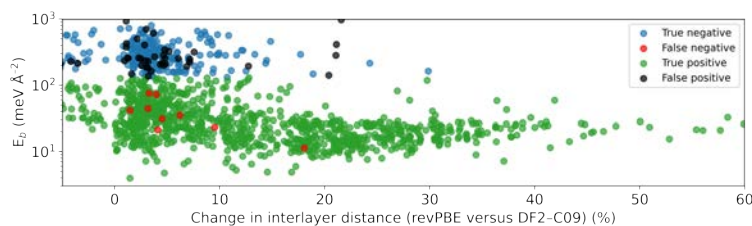
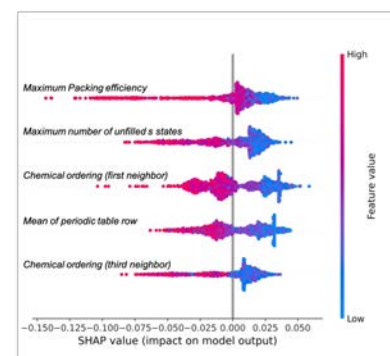
- DFT training data generated automatically with AiiDA
- Easy to check numerical settings and select those to use for ML training



MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Training ML models - 2D materials

- Predict if 2D systems can be exfoliated from a bulk material
- Train **excellent ML model (98% recall rate)** using DFT binding-energy results from Mounet *et al.*, Nat. Nanotech. (2018)
- Understand the 5 most important variables in the model

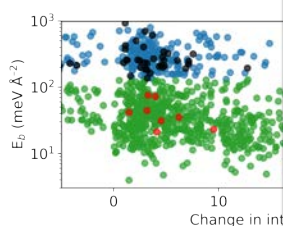


Vahdat, Agrawal, GP, Mach. Learn.: Sci. Technol. 3 (2022) 045014

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

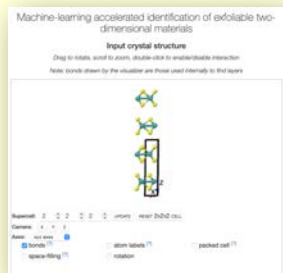
Training ML models - 2D materials

- Predict if 2D systems can be exfoliated from a bulk material
- Train **excellent** ML models using DFT binding energy data
- Nat. Nanotech.
- Understand the model



Also: **free online tool** to perform the prediction "live"!

<https://ml-layer-finder.materialscloud.io/>



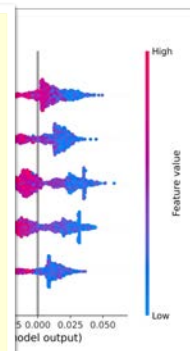
Prediction based on the machine-learning model

The machine-learning model predicts that the structure has a **low binding energy**, and thus it might be exfoliated.

Feature importance

The following table shows the results of a Shapley additive decomposition (SHAP) analysis obtained using the Shap library, that helps to understand the model's internal logic. It shows the absolute value of the SHAP value for the first 20 features, as well as the sign of the contribution to the model output. The most important features are listed in bold. The model is trained on a dataset of 1000 structures, and the results are shown for a specific structure.

Feature name	Absolute value
Chemical ordering (first neighbors)	0.0000
Number of unfilled valence orbitals (first)	0.0000
Chemical ordering (second)	0.0000
Spacegroup (number)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (first)	0.0000
Chemical ordering (third)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (second)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (third)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (fourth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (fifth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (sixth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (seventh)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (eighth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (ninth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (tenth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (eleventh)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (twelfth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (thirteenth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (fourteenth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (fifteenth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (sixteenth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (seventeenth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (eighteenth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (nineteenth)	0.0000
Atomic layer volume (twentieth)	0.0000



each. Learn.:
15014

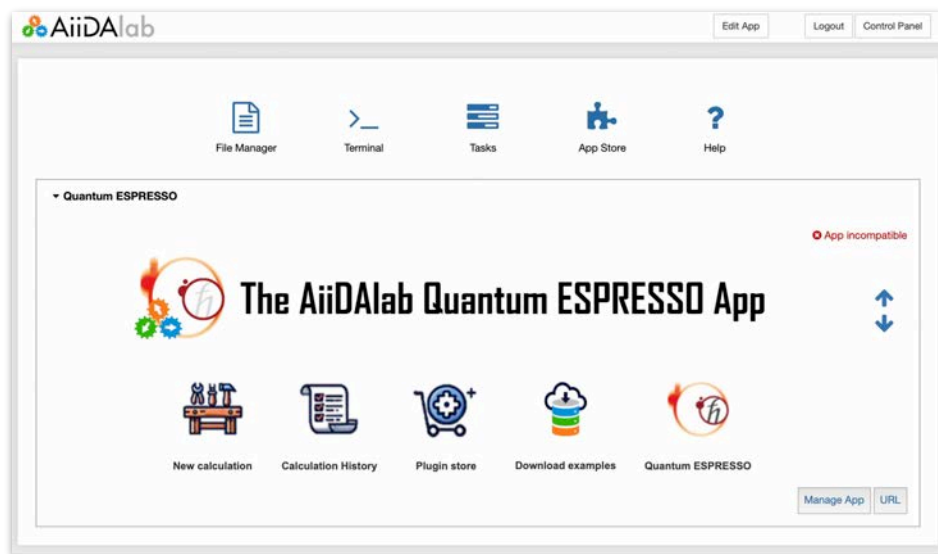
MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Making simulations accessible with AiiDALab (and the AiiDALab Quantum ESPRESSO app)

- **Goal: make simulations easy to use via robust protocols and workflows** (not only for single Quantum ESPRESSO pw.x executions, but also for more complex workflows)
 - Protocols for automatic input generation: k-points, smearing, cutoffs, pseudos, ...
 - Robust workflows to fix common issues (wall time limit, non convergence, ...)
 - Robust workflows for property calculation
 - GUI to facilitate use from a browser (via AiiDALab: www.aiidalab.net)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

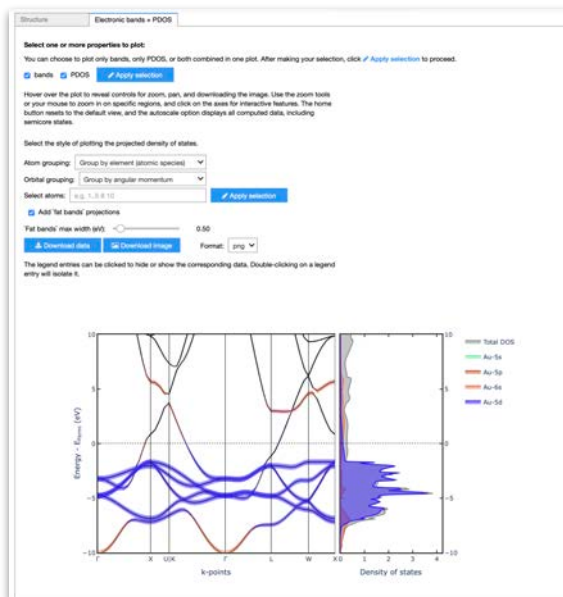
Making simulations accessible with AiiDALab (and the AiiDALab Quantum ESPRESSO app)



Try on demo.aiidalab.io (no storage! Everything deleted after 12 hours)
or install locally (<https://aiidalab.readthedocs.io/en/latest/usage/access/local.html>)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Making simulations accessible with AiiDALab (and the AiiDALab Quantum ESPRESSO app)



Try on demo.aiidalab.io (no storage! Everything deleted after 12 hours)
or install locally (<https://aiidalab.readthedocs.io/en/latest/usage/access/local.html>)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Making simulations accessible with AiiDALab (and the AiiDALab Quantum ESPRESSO app)

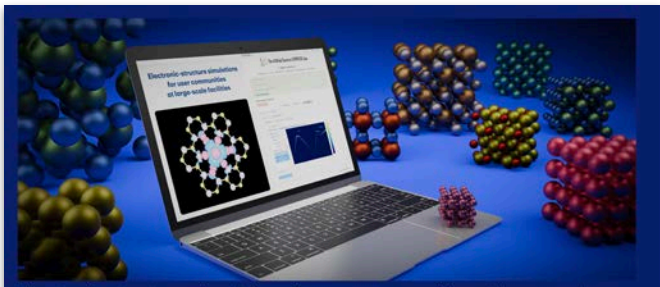
- Supported workflows (via plugins):
 - Relaxation (with magnetism, spin-orbit, ...)
 - Band structure (with fat bands), DOS and PDOS
 - Bader charge analysis
 - Phonons, inelastic neutron scattering, Raman and IR
 - Muon stopping sites
 - Core-level spectroscopy (XPS, XAS)
 - Automatic determination of U and V for DFT+U+V
 - Automatic Wannier functions, Fermi surfaces, ...
 - ...

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Discussed in a school at PSI this week

- Demo of several AiiDALab Quantum ESPRESSO app plugins, with video recordings and slides available: check especially module 3 and 4

<https://indico.psi.ch/event/17436/>



Electronic-structure simulations for user communities at large-scale facilities (2025 course)

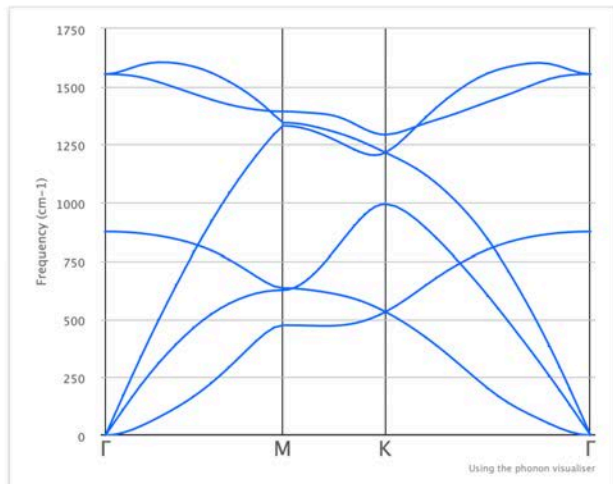
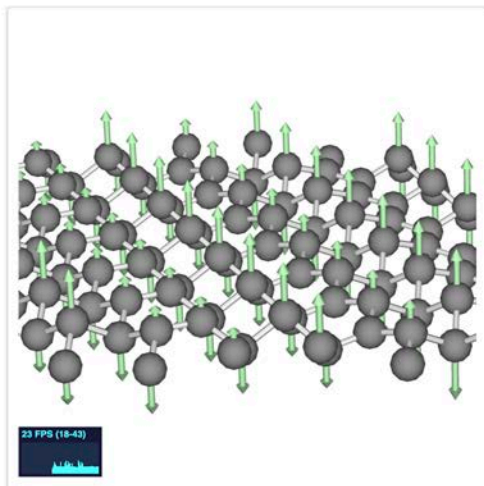
3-9 Apr 2025
Continued from 2024

Enter your search term

Module 1: Thu 3rd April	Electronic-structure simulations for user communities at large-scale facilities The Laboratory for Materials Simulations (LMS), part of the PSI Center for Scientific Computing, Theory, and Data (CSD), is organizing a 4-day focused course on: "Electronic-structure simulations for user communities at large-scale facilities". The objective of the course is to provide a gentle introduction to the current capabilities in electronic-structure simulations for materials, having as key target audience experimentalists working at large-scale facilities.
Module 2: Fri 4th April	
Module 3: Mon 7th April	
Module 4: Wed 9th April	
Registration	
School poster (printable)	
Acknowledgements	

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Atom oscillations: phonons



MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Think beyond the energy

FORCES AND STRESSES IN MOLECULES

$$\frac{dE}{d\lambda} = \int n_{\lambda}(\mathbf{r}) \frac{\partial V(\mathbf{r})}{\partial \lambda} d\mathbf{r}$$

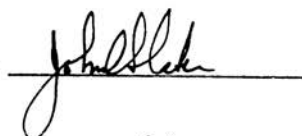
R. P. Feynman

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Bachelor of Science in Physics, course VIII,
of the
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

1939

Acceptance:

Instructor in charge of thesis



May 22, 1939
(Date)

Hellmann-Feynman theorem

$$\frac{dE_\lambda}{d\lambda} = \frac{d}{d\lambda} \langle \Psi | \hat{H}_\lambda | \Psi \rangle = \langle \Psi | d\hat{H}_\lambda / d\lambda | \Psi \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{d\lambda} \langle \Psi | \hat{H}_\lambda | \Psi \rangle &= \langle d\Psi/d\lambda | \hat{H}_\lambda | \Psi \rangle + \langle \Psi | d\hat{H}_\lambda/d\lambda | \Psi \rangle + \langle \Psi | \hat{H}_\lambda | d\Psi/d\lambda \rangle = \\ &= E(\langle d\Psi/d\lambda | \Psi \rangle + \langle \Psi | d\Psi/d\lambda \rangle) + \langle \Psi | d\hat{H}_\lambda/d\lambda | \Psi \rangle = \langle \Psi | d\hat{H}_\lambda/d\lambda | \Psi \rangle \\ &\quad \underbrace{\frac{d}{d\lambda} \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle}_{\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{d}{d\lambda} \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle = 0} \end{aligned}$$

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Linear-response theory

Perturbation (external potential):

$$V_0 \Rightarrow V_0 + \lambda \Delta V$$

Response (charge density):

$$n_0 \Rightarrow n_\lambda = n_0 + \lambda n_1 + \dots$$

Hellmann-Feynman Theorem:

$$\frac{dE}{d\lambda} = \int n_\lambda(\mathbf{r}) \frac{\partial V(\mathbf{r})}{\partial \lambda} d\mathbf{r}$$

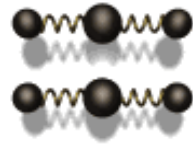
Total energy:

$$E_\lambda = E_0 + \lambda \underbrace{\int n_0(\mathbf{r}) \Delta V(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}}_{1^{\text{st}} \text{ order}} + \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \underbrace{\int n_1(\mathbf{r}) \Delta V(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}}_{2^{\text{nd}} \text{ order}} + \dots$$

S. Baroni *et al.*,
Phys. Rev. Lett. ('87),
Rev. Mod. Phys. ('01)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Phonons



REVIEWS OF MODERN PHYSICS, VOLUME 73, APRIL 2001

Phonons and related crystal properties from density-functional perturbation theory

Stefano Baroni, Stefano de Gironcoli, and Andrea Dal Corso

SISSA–Scuola Internazionale Superiore di Studi Avanzati and INFN–Istituto Nazionale di Fisica della Materia, I-34014 Trieste, Italy

Paolo Giannozzi*

Chemistry Department and Princeton Materials Institute, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey 08544

$$\mathbf{F}_I \equiv -\frac{\partial E(\mathbf{R})}{\partial \mathbf{R}_I} = 0, \quad \det \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{M_I M_J}} \frac{\partial^2 E(\mathbf{R})}{\partial \mathbf{R}_I \partial \mathbf{R}_J} - \omega^2 \right| = 0$$

Response to different wavelengths in DFPT are decoupled:
work in reciprocal space ($\mathbf{q}$) [with Fourier transforms]

$$C_{st}^{\alpha\beta}(l,m) \equiv \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial u_s^\alpha(l) \partial u_t^\beta(m)} = C_{st}^{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{R}_l - \mathbf{R}_m), \quad \longrightarrow \quad \tilde{C}_{st}^{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{q}) \equiv \sum_{\mathbf{R}} e^{-i\mathbf{q} \cdot \mathbf{R}} C_{st}^{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{R}) = \frac{1}{N_c} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial u_s^{*\alpha}(\mathbf{q}) \partial u_t^\beta(\mathbf{q})}$$

$$\det \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{M_s M_t}} \tilde{C}_{st}^{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{q}) - \omega^2(\mathbf{q}) \right| = 0.$$

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

OSSCAR: molecules

https://osscar-quantum-mechanics.materialscloud.io/voila/render/lattice-vibration/Molecule_Vibration.ipynb

OSSCAR

Molecule NH₃

Temperature [K] 300.00

Vibrational mode 1/6

Extended list ☐

Energy [meV]	Frequency [cm ⁻¹]
0.0256	207

N.B.: Energies and frequencies are computed using the EMT potential and do not provide accurate values.

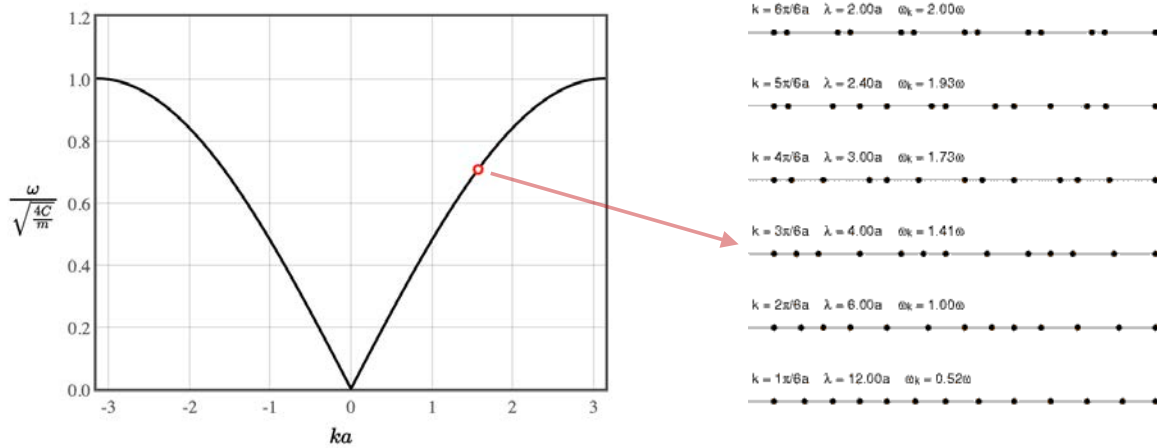
Camera axis: x y z

Hover to play animation Left click to rotate
 Scroll to zoom Right click to translate

*Note: atom displacements
hugely exaggerated!*

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Bands, and wavevectors

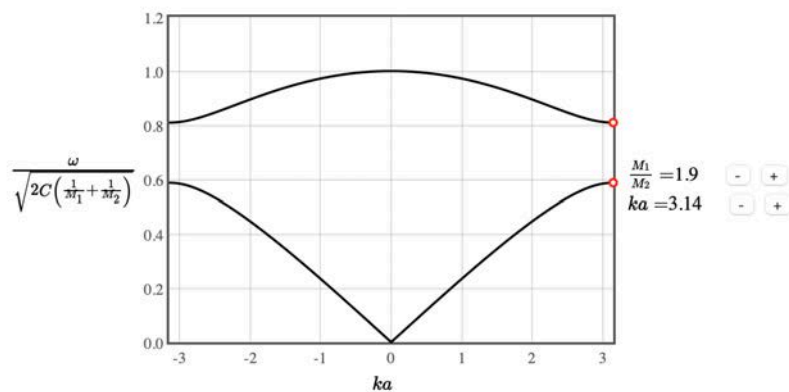


<http://lampx.tugraz.at/~hadley/ss1/phonons/1d/1dphonons.php>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phonon>

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Bands, and wavevectors



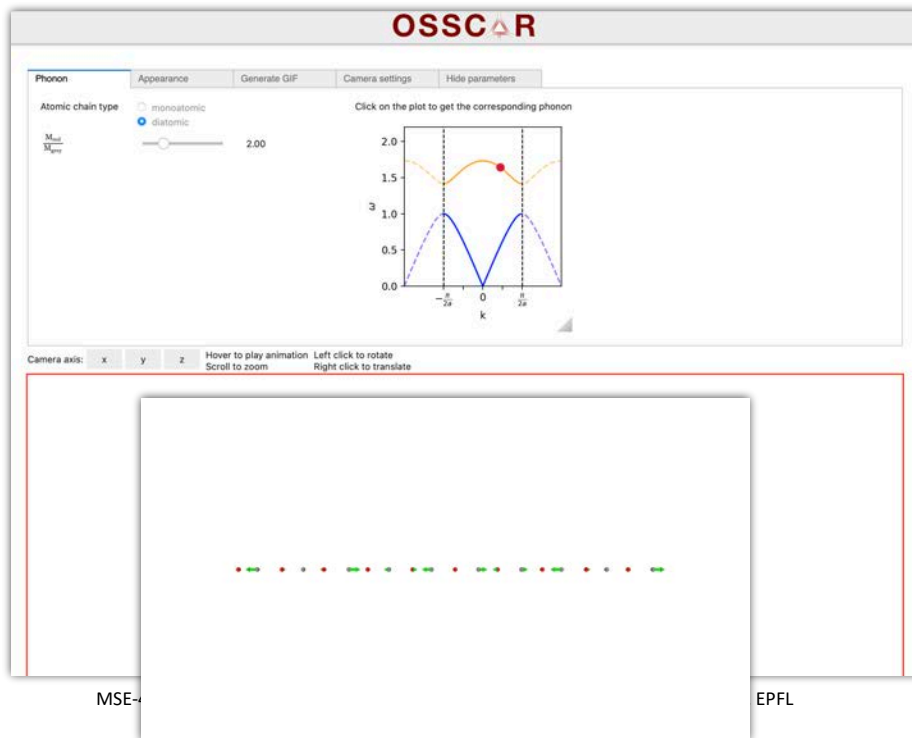
<http://lampx.tugraz.at/~hadley/ss1/phonons/1d/1d2m.php>

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

OSSCAR: 1D phonons

https://osscar-quantum-mechanics.materialscloud.io/voila/render/lattice-vibration/Phonon_1D.ipynb

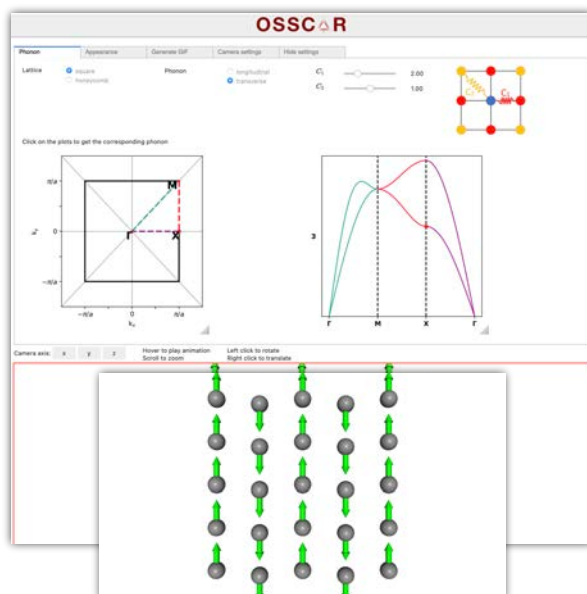
Suggested task: investigate gap opening for different masses of the 2 atoms



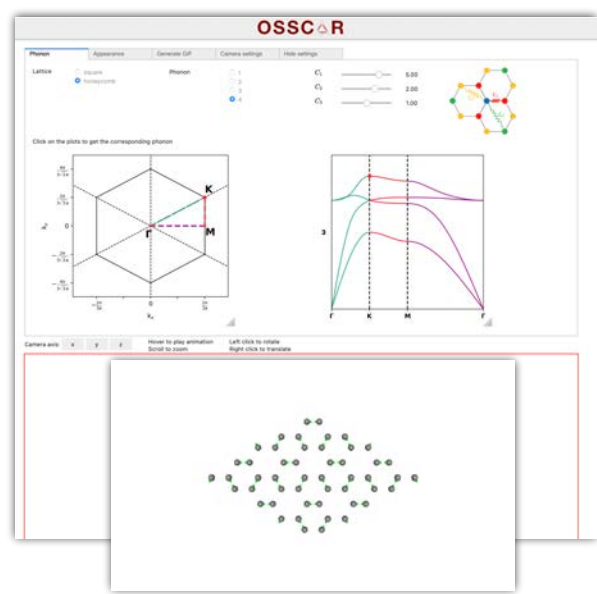
OSSCAR: 2D phonons

https://osscar-quantum-mechanics.materialscloud.io/voila/render/lattice-vibration/Phonon_2D.ipynb

Suggested task: investigate transverse vs. longitudinal waves. Inspect optical vs. acoustic waves (hexagonal case, 2 atoms in the unit cell)



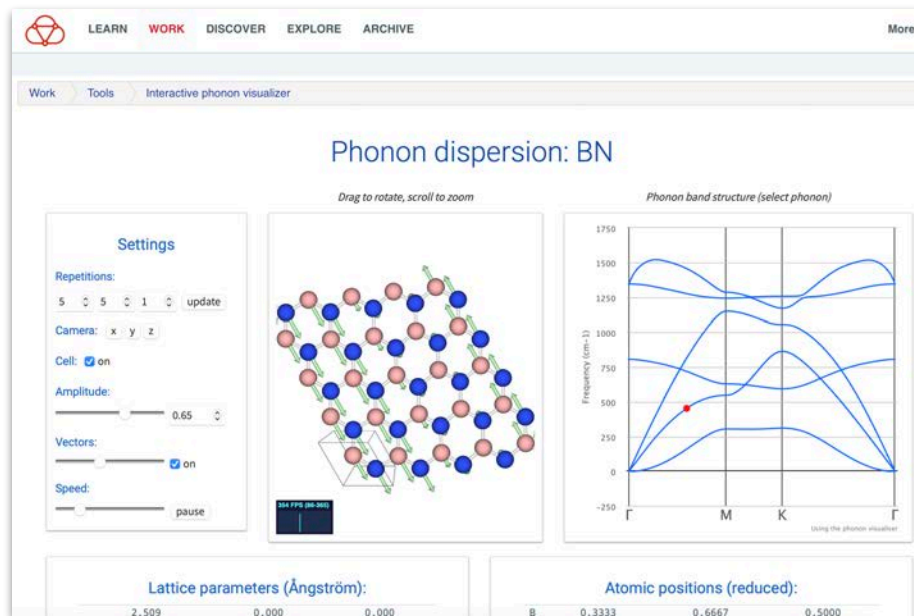
Square lattice



Hexagonal lattice

Phonon visualizer (for DFT calculations from QE)

Suggested tasks: Inspect/investigate transverse vs. longitudinal modes, out-of-plane modes for 2D materials

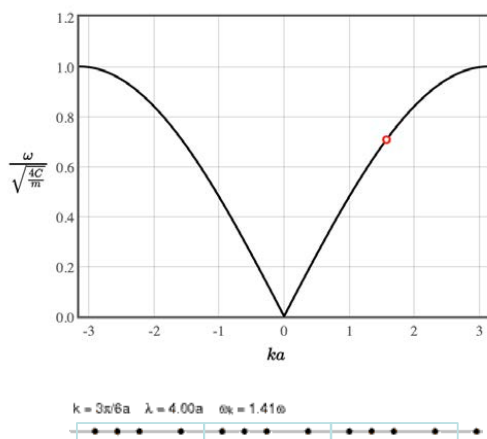


<https://interactivephonon.materialscloud.io/>

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Finite-differences vs. DFPT (density-functional perturbation theory)

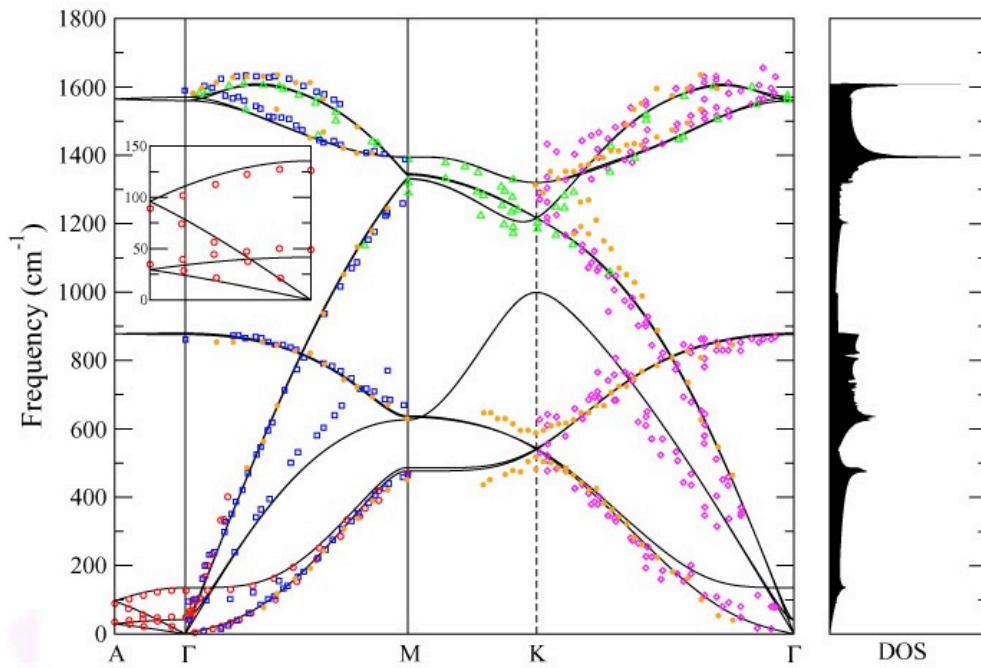
- Another way to compute phonons: move one atom at a time (by a little amount), compute forces.



- No new theory/algorithm needed, just forces from positions
- <https://phonopy.github.io/phonopy/> can compute them (interfaces to many DFT codes)
- **HOWEVER:** given a q vector, an appropriate supercell must be used (expensive!). E.g. $4 \times 4 \times 4$ q -grid $\Rightarrow$ $4 \times 4 \times 4$ supercell
- With DFPT instead: compute phonons in primitive cell at *any* q ! (efficient to implement with plane waves)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

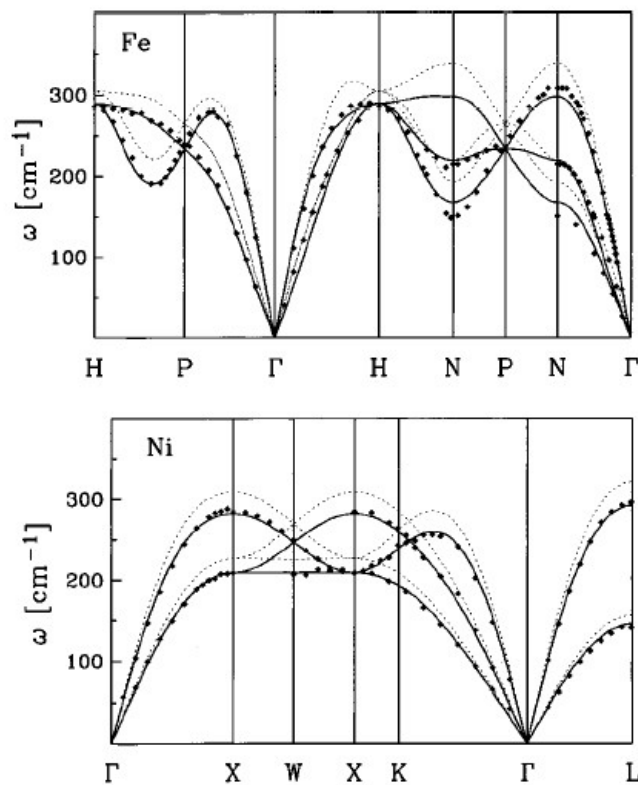
Graphite



N. Mounet and N. Marzari, Phys. Rev. B (2005)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Iron and Nickel – LDA and GGA



Dal Corso and
de Gironcoli (2000)

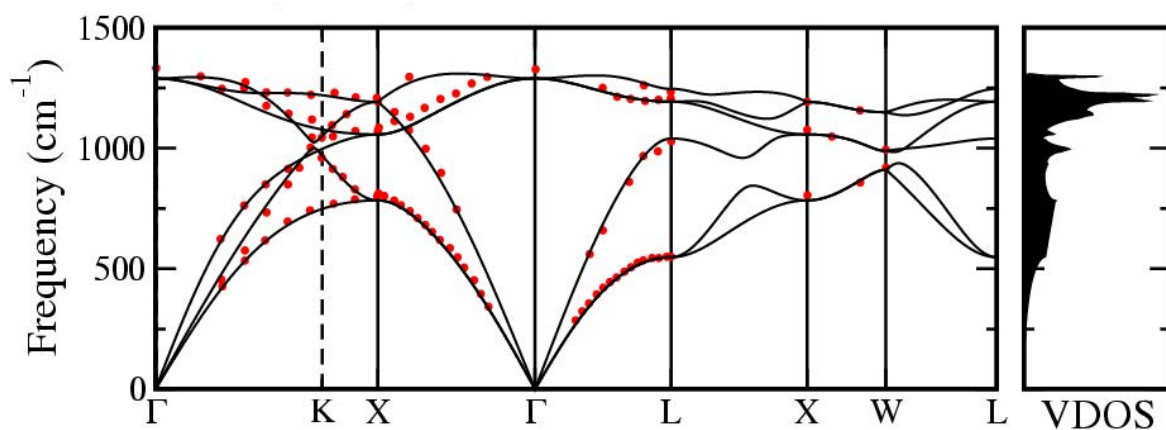
MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Phonons, temperature and free-energies

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Phonons and temperature

- A harmonic crystal is exactly equivalent to a Bose-Einstein gas of independent, harmonic oscillators.



MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Phonons and conductivity

- For a harmonic crystal, the second quantization Hamiltonian commutes with the number operator $\implies$ eternal life, and infinite thermal conductivity.
- Third-order anharmonicity $\equiv$ three-body interactions $\implies$ finite lifetimes/conductivity.

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Anharmonicity = finite lifetimes

Third-order anharmonic interactions



The anharmonic linewidth of a zone center phonon is given by

$$\Gamma_{0\nu} = \frac{\pi \hbar}{8 N_q \omega_\nu(\mathbf{0})} \sum_{q, \mu, \eta} \left| \frac{\partial^3 E}{\partial u_\nu(\mathbf{0}) \partial u_\mu(\mathbf{q}) \partial u_\eta(-\mathbf{q})} \right|^2 \frac{I_{q\nu\mu\eta}^D + I_{q\nu\mu\eta}^A}{\omega_\mu(\mathbf{q}) \omega_\eta(-\mathbf{q})},$$

$$I_{q\nu\mu\eta}^D = [n_\mu(\mathbf{q}) + n_\eta(-\mathbf{q}) + 1] \delta(\omega_\nu(\mathbf{0}) - \omega_\mu(\mathbf{q}) - \omega_\eta(-\mathbf{q})) \quad (\text{decay})$$

$$I_{q\nu\mu\eta}^A = 2[n_\mu(\mathbf{q}) - n_\eta(-\mathbf{q})] \delta(\omega_\nu(\mathbf{0}) - \omega_\mu(\mathbf{q}) + \omega_\eta(-\mathbf{q})) \quad (\text{adsorption})$$

$$\frac{\partial^3 E}{\partial u_\nu(\mathbf{0}) \partial u_\mu(\mathbf{q}) \partial u_\eta(-\mathbf{q})}$$

calculated using DFPT and the $2n+1$ theorem

Note: 2n+1 theorem

- Correction to **energy** of order $2n$ and $(2n+1)$: can be evaluated from knowledge of **wavefunction** only up to order n

- *Examples:*

- First correction to energy

$E^{(1)}$ can be computed from uncorrected $\psi^{(0)}$ only

- Both second $E^{(2)}$ and third $E^{(3)}$ corrections to energy can be computed from first-order correction $\psi^{(1)}$

$$\Delta\psi = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \psi^{(n)} \lambda^n$$

$$E_{\min} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E^{(n)} \lambda^n$$

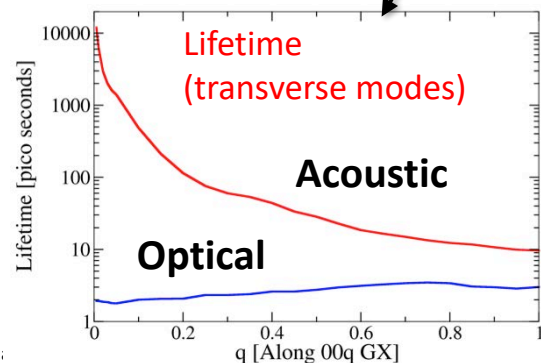
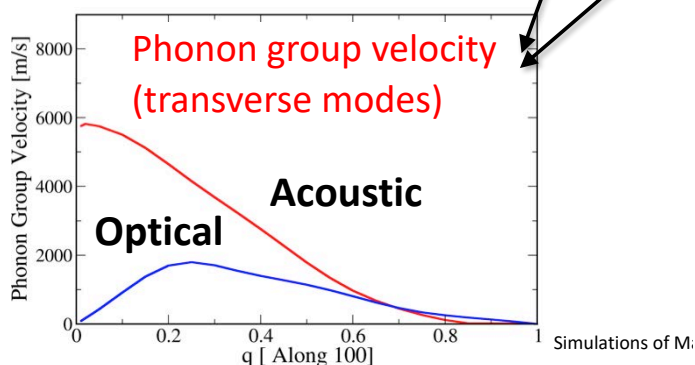
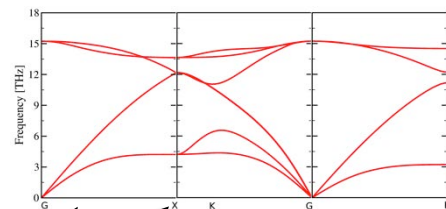
MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Thermal conductivity

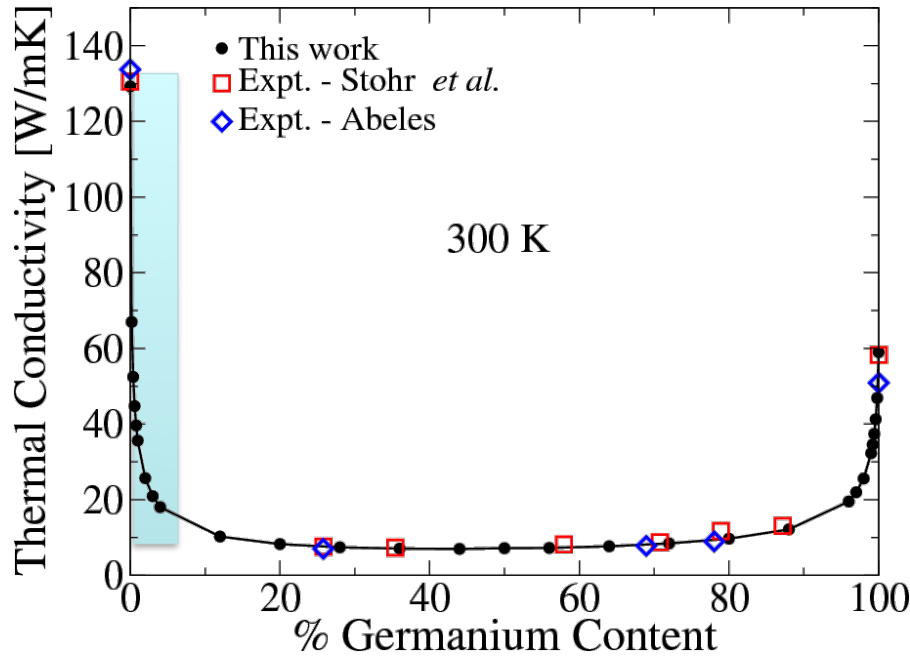
Heat current in the α direction for a temperature gradient in the β direction

$\lambda = (\mathbf{q}, j)$ [$\mathbf{q}$ vector and branch index]

$$k_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{\hbar^2}{N\Omega k_B T^2} \sum_{\lambda} c_{\alpha\lambda} c_{\beta\lambda} \omega_{\lambda}^2 n_{\lambda} (n_{\lambda} + 1) \tau_{\lambda}$$



Composition dependence in SiGe alloys

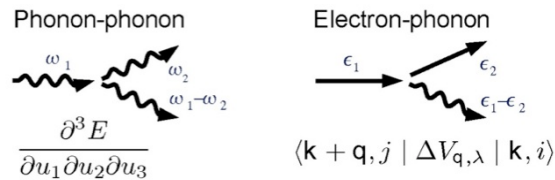


J. Garg, N. Bonini, B. Kozinsky and N. Marzari, Phys. Rev. Lett. (2011)

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Semiclassical transport: electrical resistivity

1. Vibrational properties from density-functional theory, electrons from many-body perturbation theory
2. Carriers' scattering rates from density-functional perturbation theory



3. Wannier interpolations for electrons
4. Transport properties from Boltzmann's equation

$$\begin{cases} \left. \frac{\partial n_\lambda}{\partial t} \right|_{scatt} = \frac{\partial \omega_\lambda}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \cdot \nabla T \left(\frac{\partial n_\lambda}{\partial T} \right) & \text{(phonons)} \\ \left. \frac{\partial f_\mu}{\partial t} \right|_{scatt} = \frac{1}{\hbar} \frac{\partial \epsilon_\mu}{\partial \mathbf{k}} \cdot \nabla T \left(\frac{\partial f_\mu}{\partial T} \right) + \frac{e}{\hbar} \mathbf{E} \cdot \frac{\partial f_\mu}{\partial \mathbf{k}} & \text{(electrons)} \end{cases}$$

MSE-468 Atomistic and Quantum Simulations of Materials - G. Pizzi, Spring 2025, EPFL

Resistivity in doped graphene

FIRST-PRINCIPLES

EXPTS (Efetov and Kim)

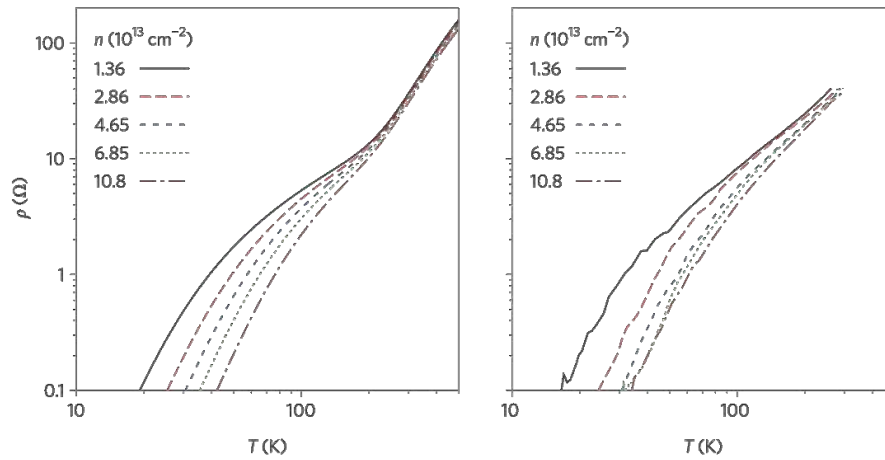


Figure 1 | Electrical resistivity of graphene as a function of temperature and doping (ρ , electrical resistivity; T , temperature; n , carrier density). Left panel: first-principles results obtained using a combination of density-functional perturbation theory, many-body perturbation theory and Wannier interpolations to solve the Boltzmann transport equation. Right panel: experimental data. Adapted from ref. 4, American Chemical Society.

C.-H. Park et al., Nano Letters (2014)

T. Y. Kim, et al., Nano Letters (2016)