



Machine learning for Materials Research

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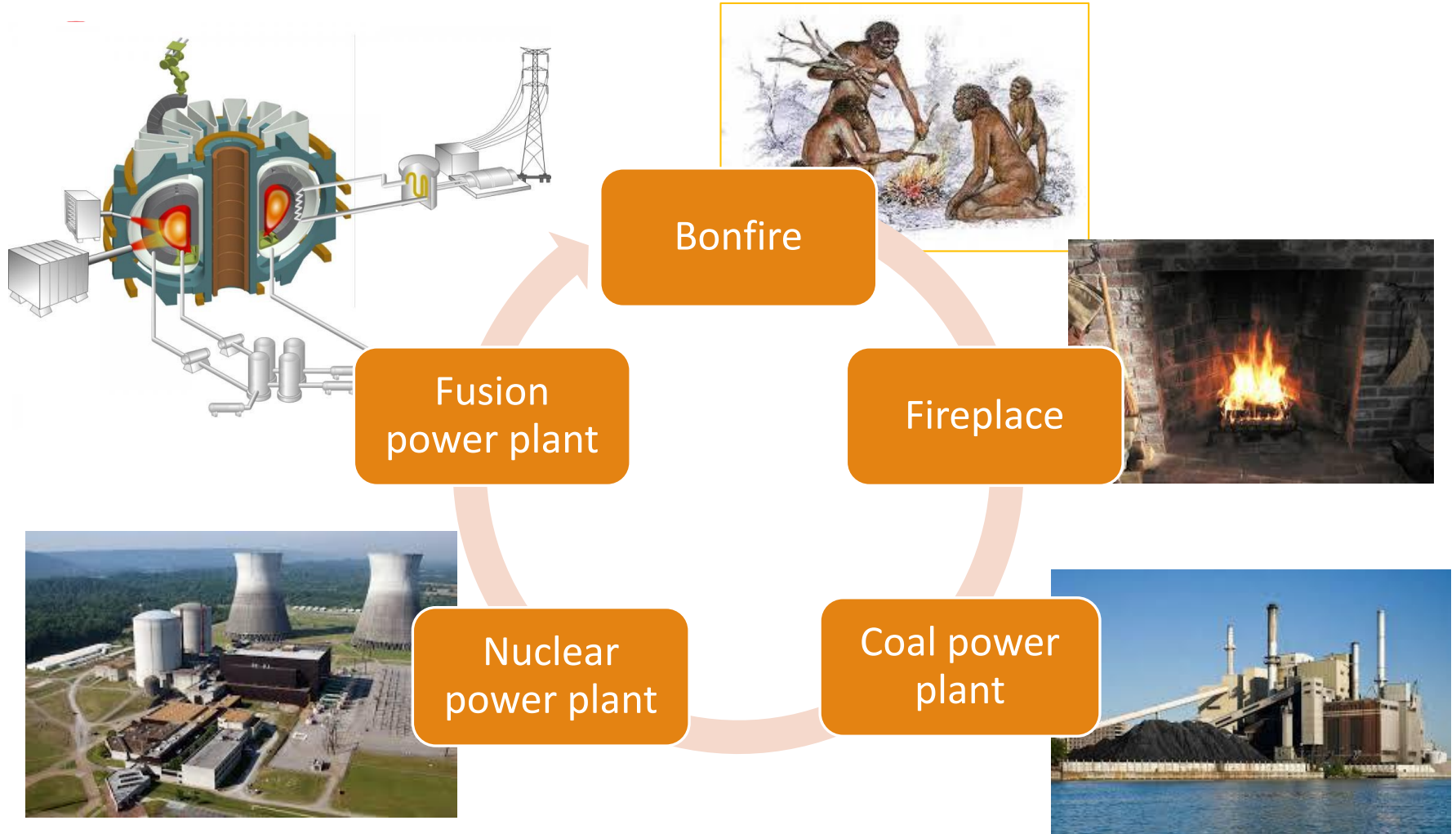
Kai Nordlund





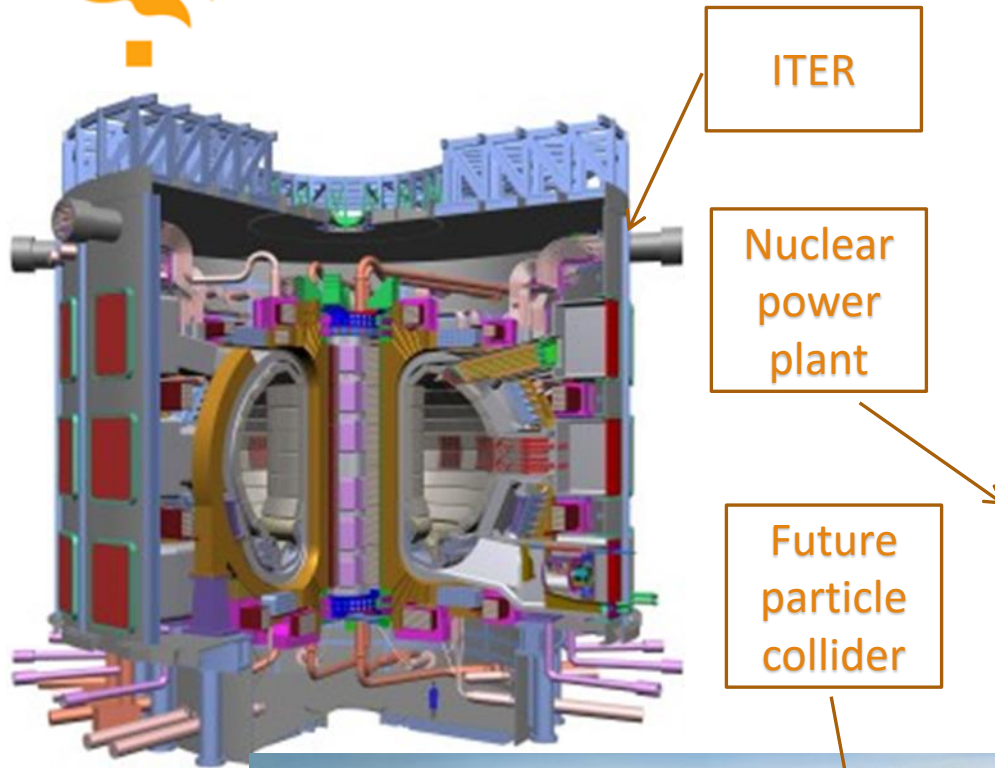
Source of energy = source for life

Humanity keeps searching for affordable sources of energy.





Efficient generation of energy requires new construction materials





Reactor pressure vessel

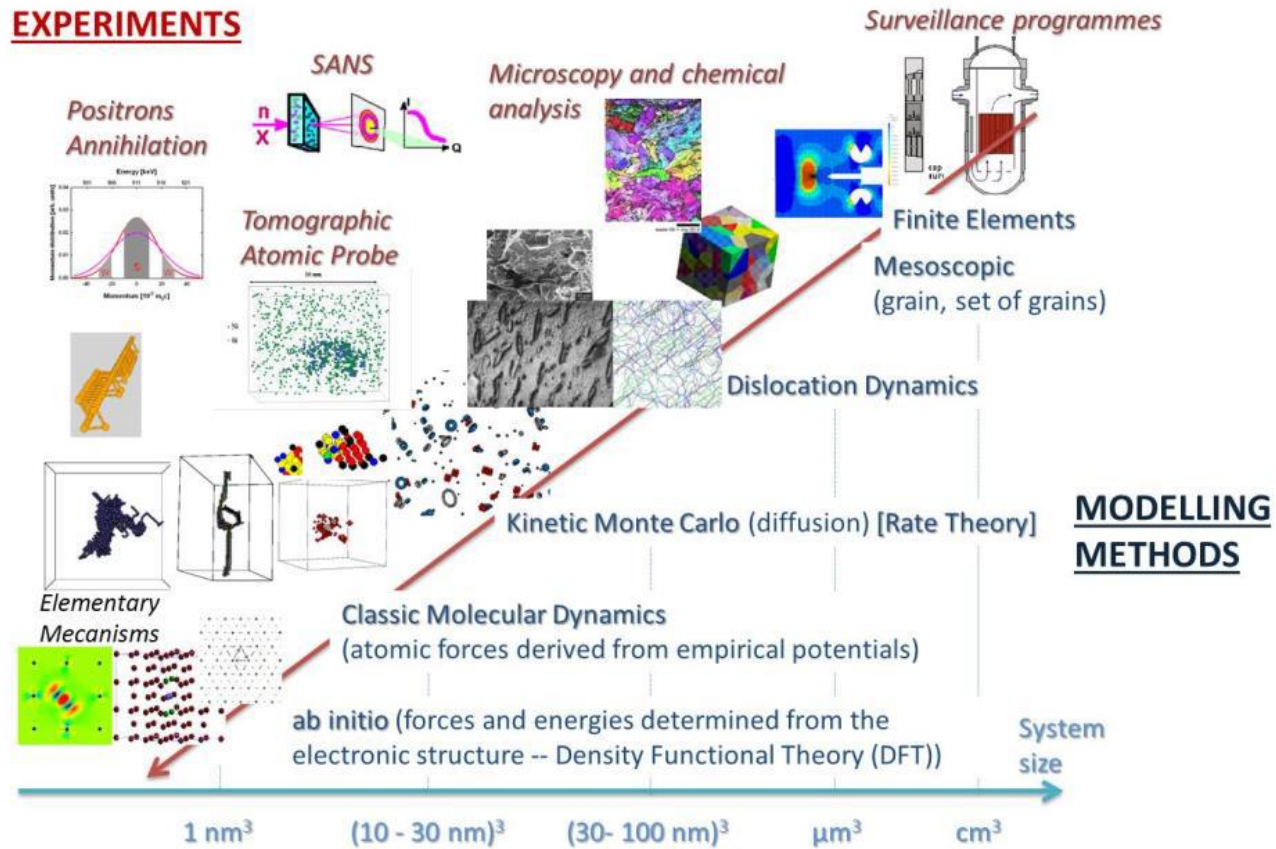
Many of the Generation II reactors were built in 1965–1980 and have now reached, or are approaching, the end of the designed life-time, which is normally 40 years.

Neutron irradiation during the operation of the nuclear power plant induces defects in the steels of the reactor and cause their hardening and embrittlement. Especially the reactor pressure vessel (RPV), that contains the fuel assemblies, is vulnerable to degradation, The life-time of the RPV determines the life-time of the whole power plant.





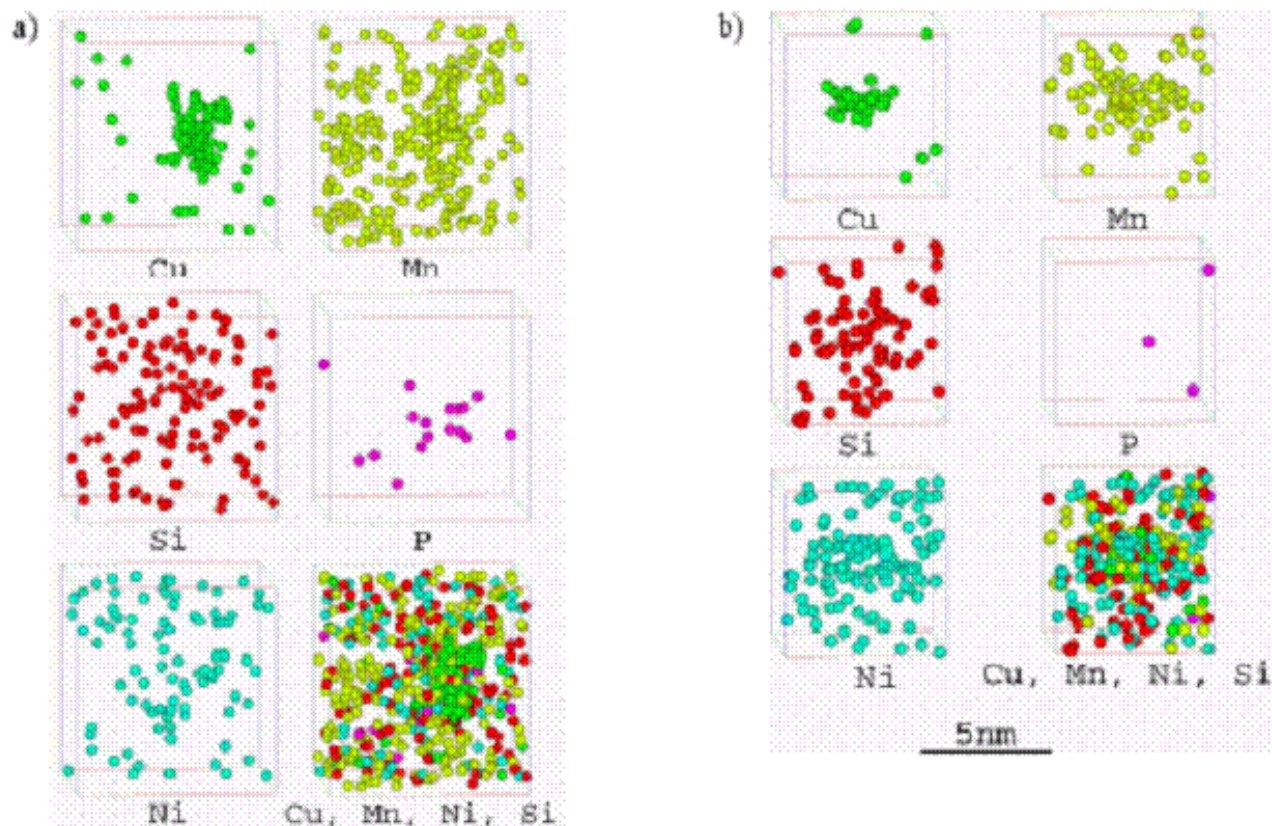
How we develop new materials



Multi-scale approach from nano- to macro-scales: strong link between the developed modelling tools and experimental characterization techniques



Main effects of irradiation in Reactor Pressure Vessel steels - Microstructure



Cu is the driving element for formation of complex, Ni & Mn-rich precipitates

These precipitates are likely to contain also vacancies, but 3DAP cannot detect them

Experimental determination of precipitate composition in industrial ferritic steels under irradiation (3-D Atom Probe) – See P. Auger et al. J. Nucl. Mater. 280 (2000) 331 for review



Multiscale Modelling in RPV steels

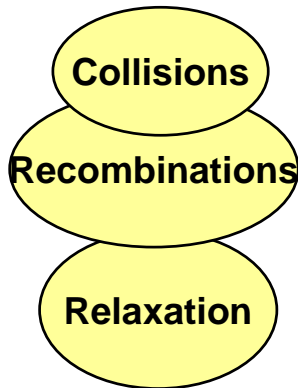
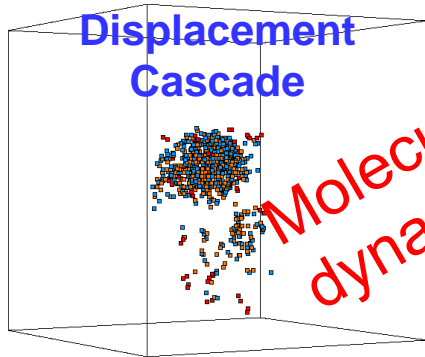
1 fs = 10^{-15} s

1-100 ps = 10^{-12} - 10^{-10} s

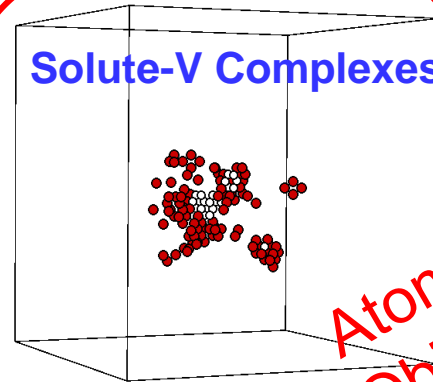
ns = 10^{-9} s ms = 10^{-3} s 1 s 10^3 s

Time scale

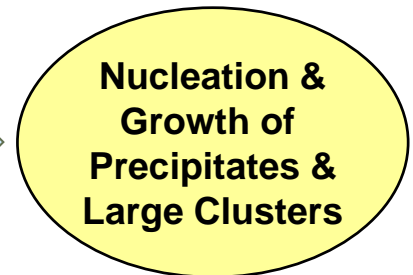
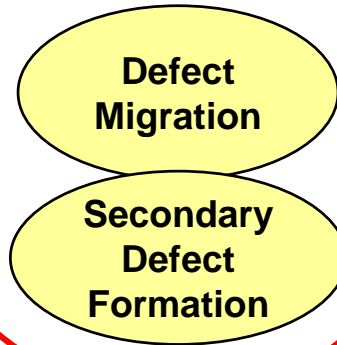
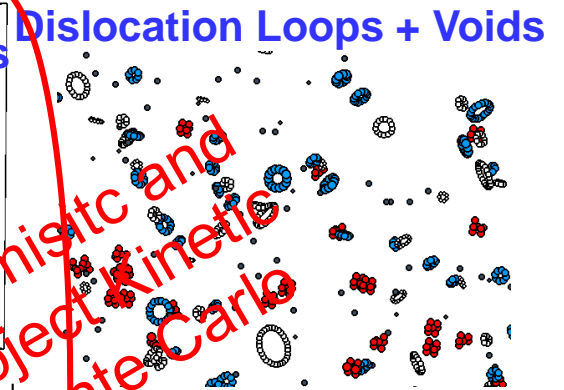
Neutron transport
From n spectrum to PKA & Displacement Cascade Spectrum



Molecular dynamics



Atomistic and Object Kinetic Monte Carlo



Length scale

10s of nm = 10^{-8} m

100s of nm = 10^{-7} m



Diffusion by computational Materials Science methods

The best way to know what happens in materials after long time of operation is to consider a diffusion process of atoms.



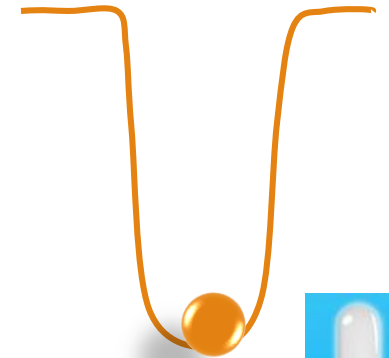
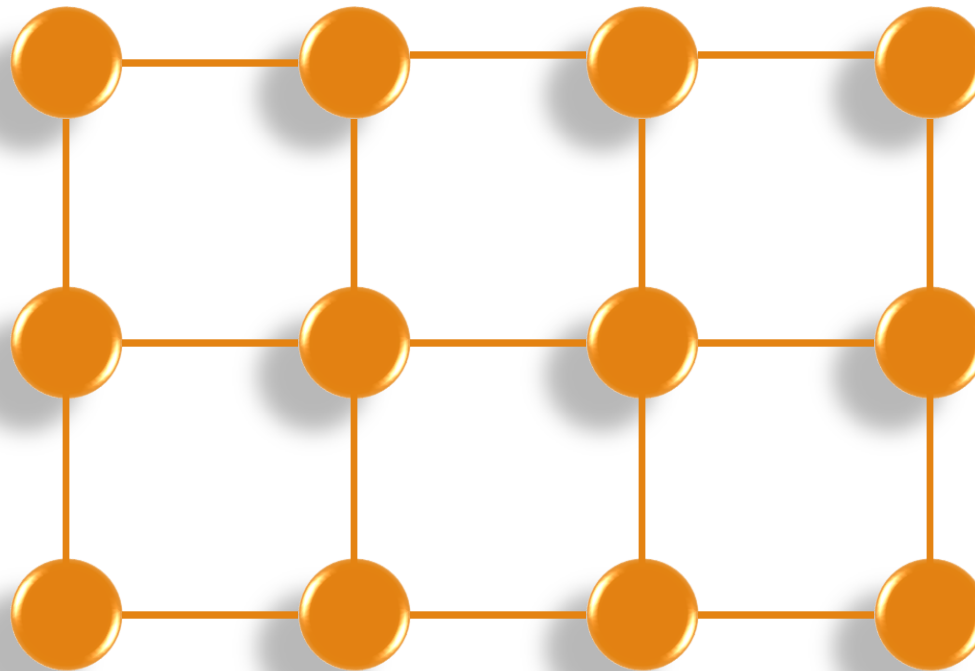
This is a very old and well known process and there numerous ways to approach this problem, for instance, solve differential equations for concentration of different species:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{dC_1}{dt} = K^{21} \cdot C_2 + K^{31} \cdot C_3 + K^{51} \cdot C_5 \\ \quad - (K^{12} + K^{13} + K^{15}) \cdot C_1 \\ \frac{dC_2}{dt} = K^{12} \cdot C_1 + K^{42} \cdot C_4 - (K^{21} + K^{24}) \cdot C_2 \\ \frac{dC_3}{dt} = K^{13} \cdot C_1 + K^{43} \cdot C_4 - (K^{31} + K^{34} + K^{3\infty}) \cdot C_3 \\ \frac{dC_4}{dt} = K^{24} \cdot C_2 + K^{34} \cdot C_3 + K^{54} \cdot C_5 \\ \quad - (K^{42} + K^{43} + K^{45} + K^{4\infty}) \cdot C_4 \\ \frac{dC_5}{dt} = K^{15} \cdot C_1 + K^{45} \cdot C_4 - (K^{51} + K^{54} + K^{5\infty}) \cdot C_5 \end{array} \right.$$

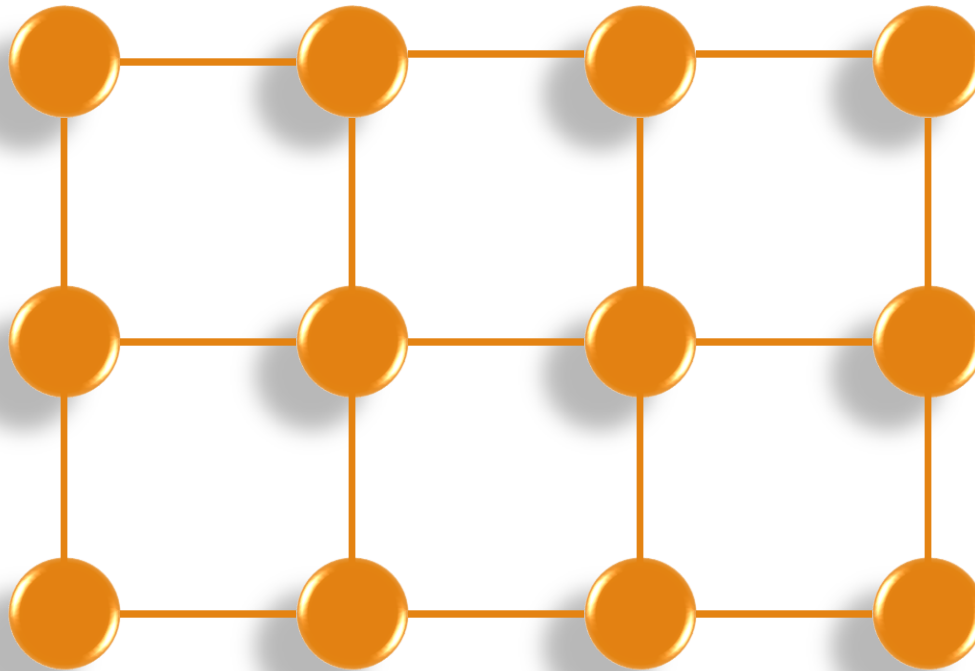
But, one can follow pretty accurately the whole kinetics of the process by setting up an algorithm of an atom jumping in the lattice



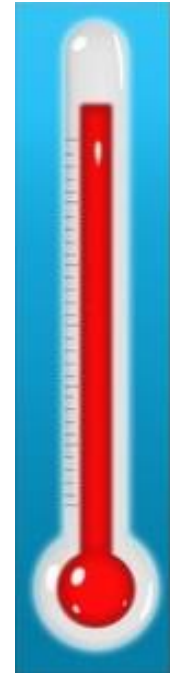
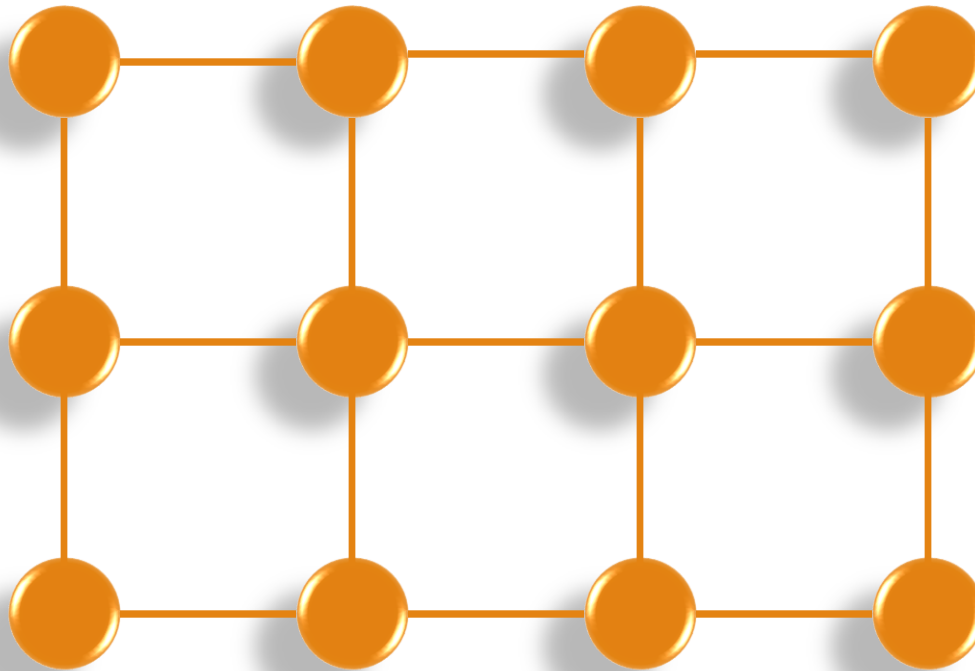
Perfect 2D metal lattice



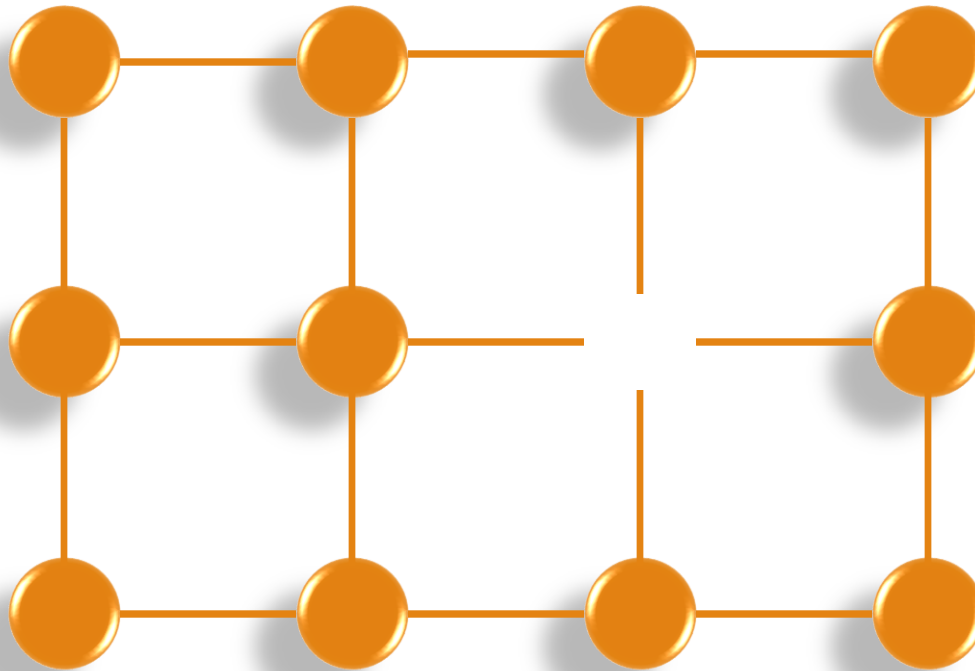
In a perfect metal crystal the atoms occupy the strictly defined positions in a lattice according to the potential of interatomic interactions.



Vacancies are elemental point defects which are always present in a crystal structure



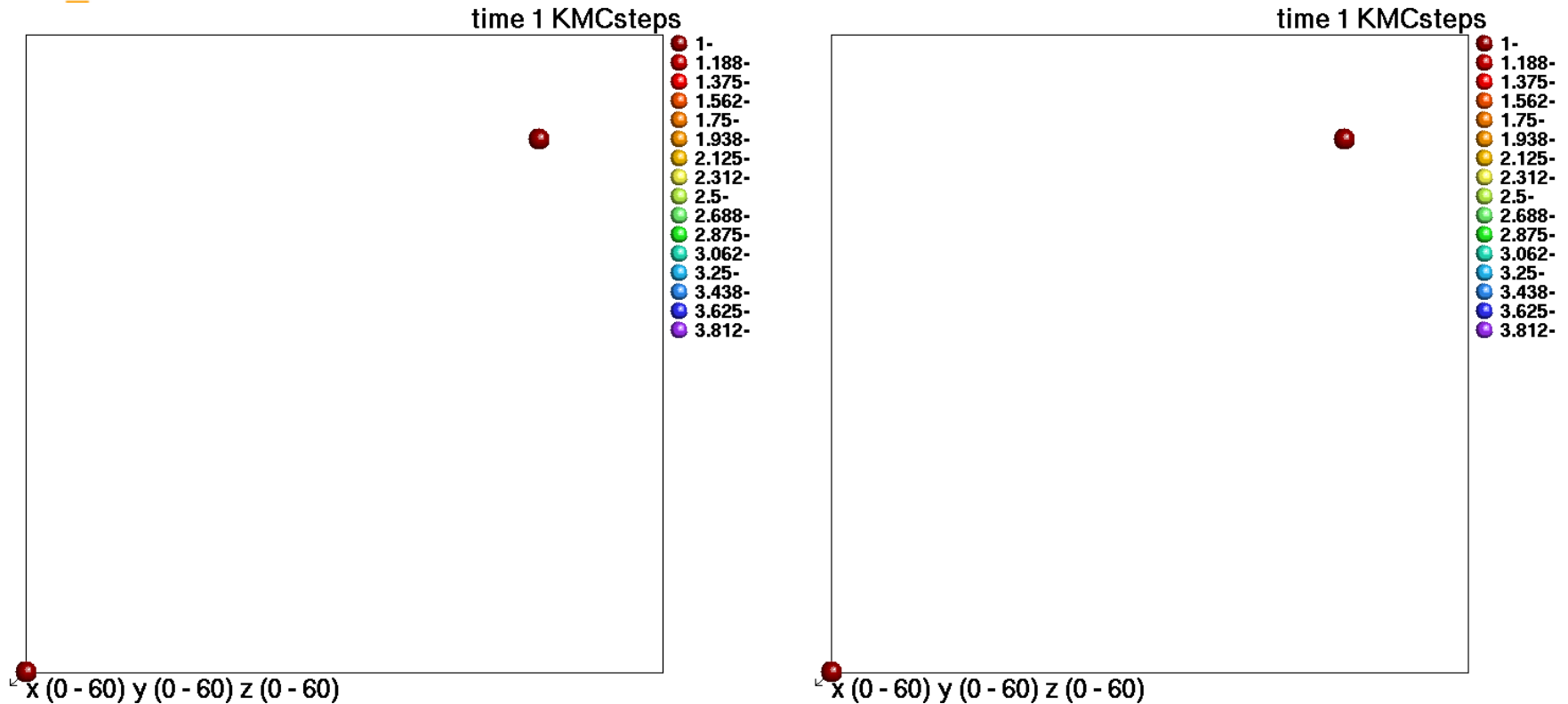
Vacancies are elemental point defects which are always present in a crystal structure



Vacancies are elemental point defects which are always present in a crystal structure



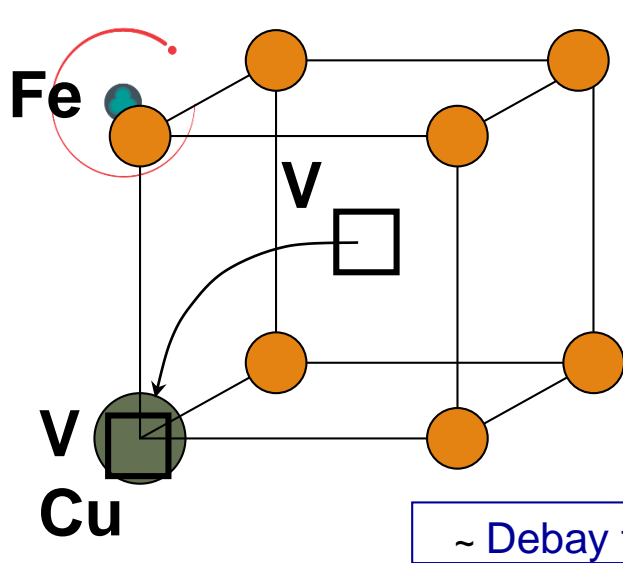
Example of 2 vacancies migrating in 3D structure



Here the red balls are vacancies, which exchange their positions with atoms (not shown in the movies)



Kinetic Monte Carlo can be used to simulate diffusion

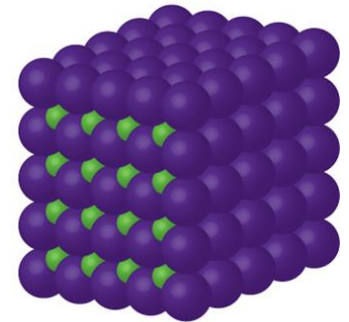


The system evolves via vacancy diffusion jumps.

The average frequency of the process, Γ , is

$$\Gamma_i = v_i \exp\left(-\frac{E_{a,i}}{kT}\right)$$

~ Debay frequency



Each jump has a probability; the jump to happen is chosen by extracting a random number

Associated time step

$$P_i = \frac{\Gamma_i}{\sum_{i=1}^N \Gamma_i}$$

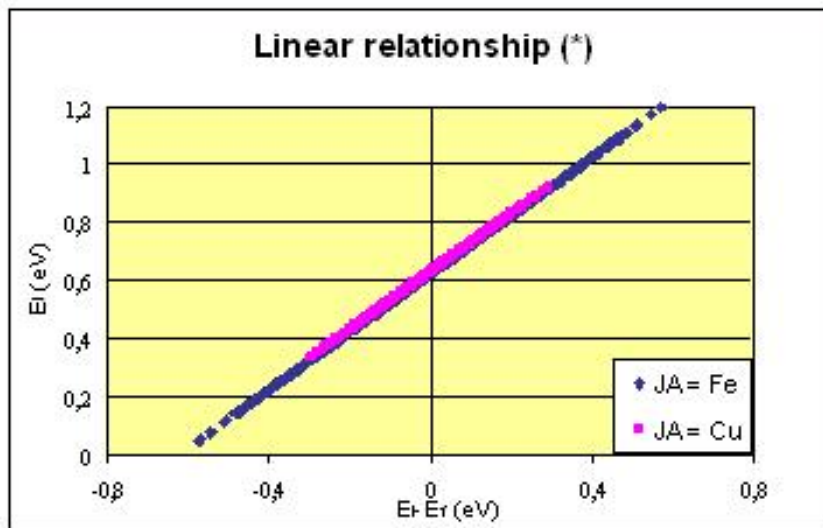
$$\sum_{i=1}^k P_i \leq r < \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} P_i$$

$$dt = \frac{-\ln(r)}{\sum_{i=1}^N \Gamma_i}$$

(residence time algorithm)



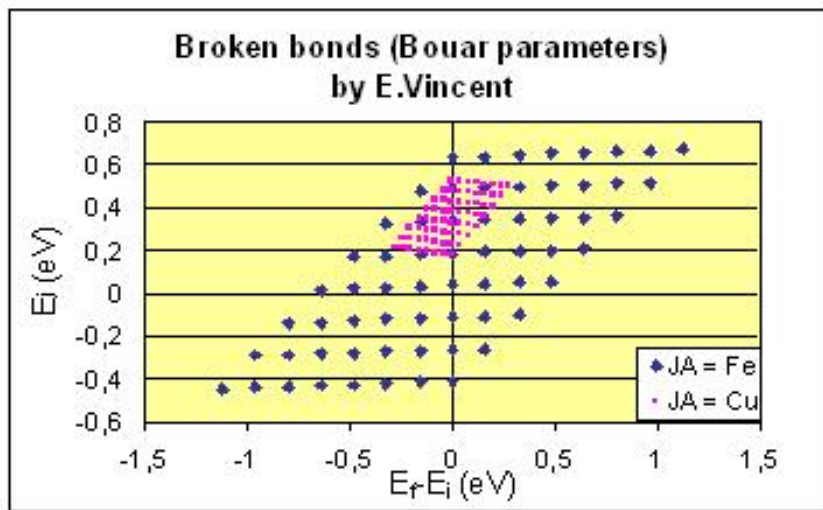
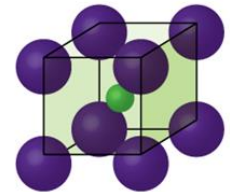
How to find these barriers?



Linear relationship with energy variation

$$E_a = E_0 + \frac{E_f - E_i}{2}$$

$$E_0 = \text{constant}$$



Broken bonds method

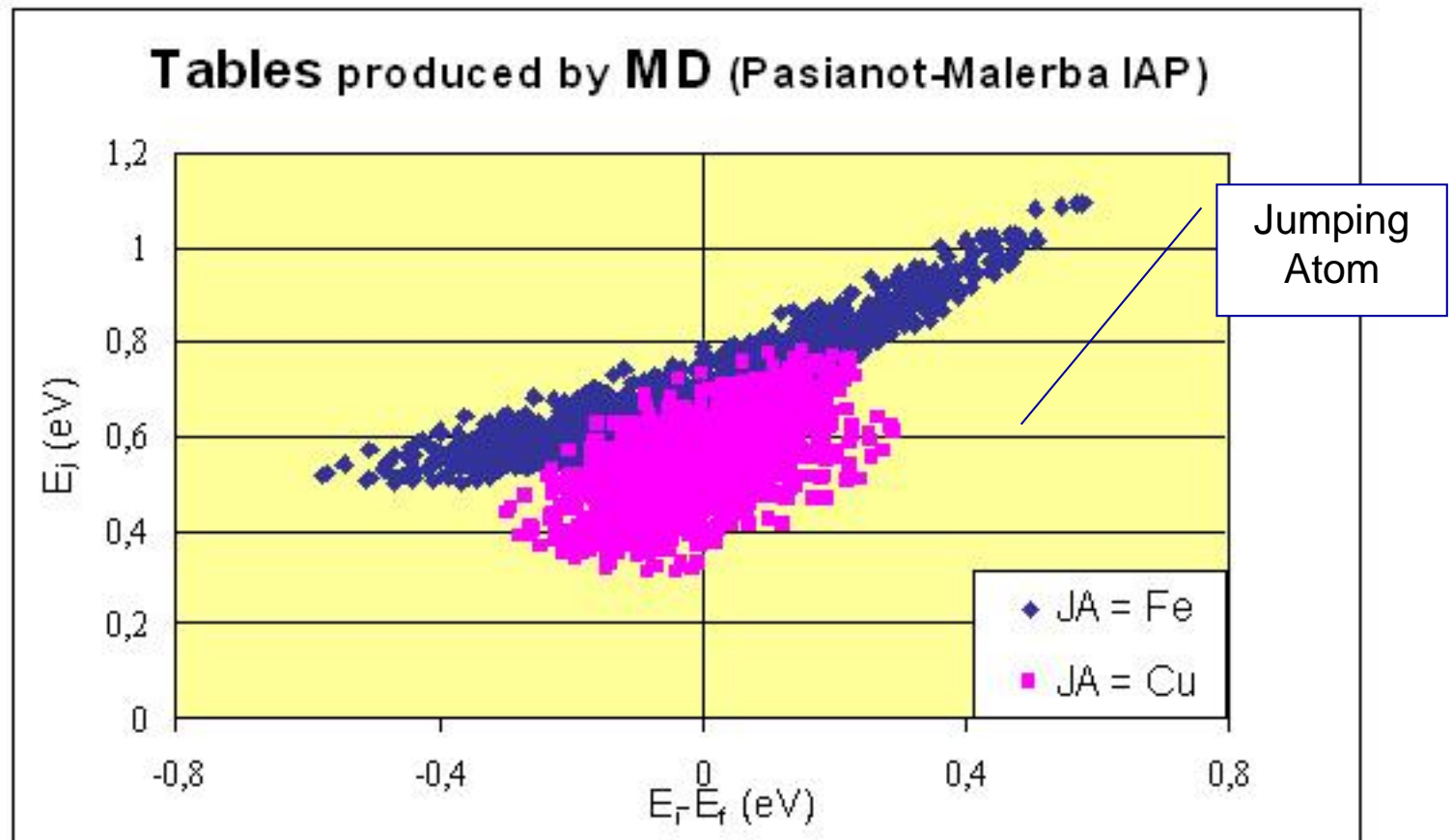
$$\Delta E_{i-V}^a = e_i^{sp} - \sum_j \epsilon_{ij} - \sum_{j \neq i} \epsilon_{Vj}$$

e_i^{sp} is the binding energy of atom i in the saddle point, summarizations correspond to the broken bonds



How these parameters look in reality

Mapping the barriers calculated by MD with an appropriate IAP versus the total energy variation shows the complexity of the relationship between the barrier and the corresponding Local Atomic Configuration (LAC)





Possible solutions

~~MD calculation at each KMC step~~

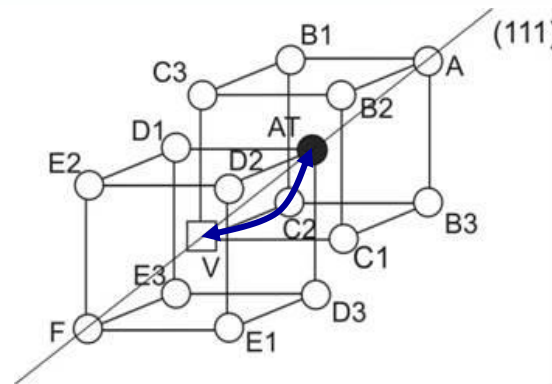
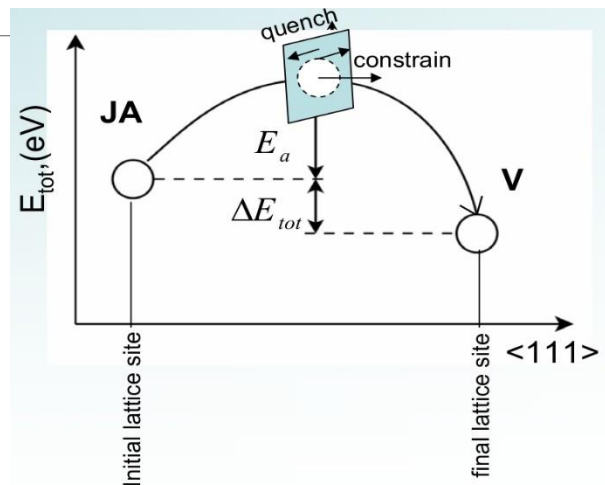
~~(takes enormous computing time)~~

Tabulate MD calculated E_j values versus local atomic configurations, defined assigning to each lattice site A, B1, B2 etc. an integer number

Feasibility: limited number of environments is encountered in the simulation (small clusters) or only nearest neighbors are considered

Artificial intelligence assistance:

- use tables to train AI system to produce the value of the energy barrier



Example of line in the table:

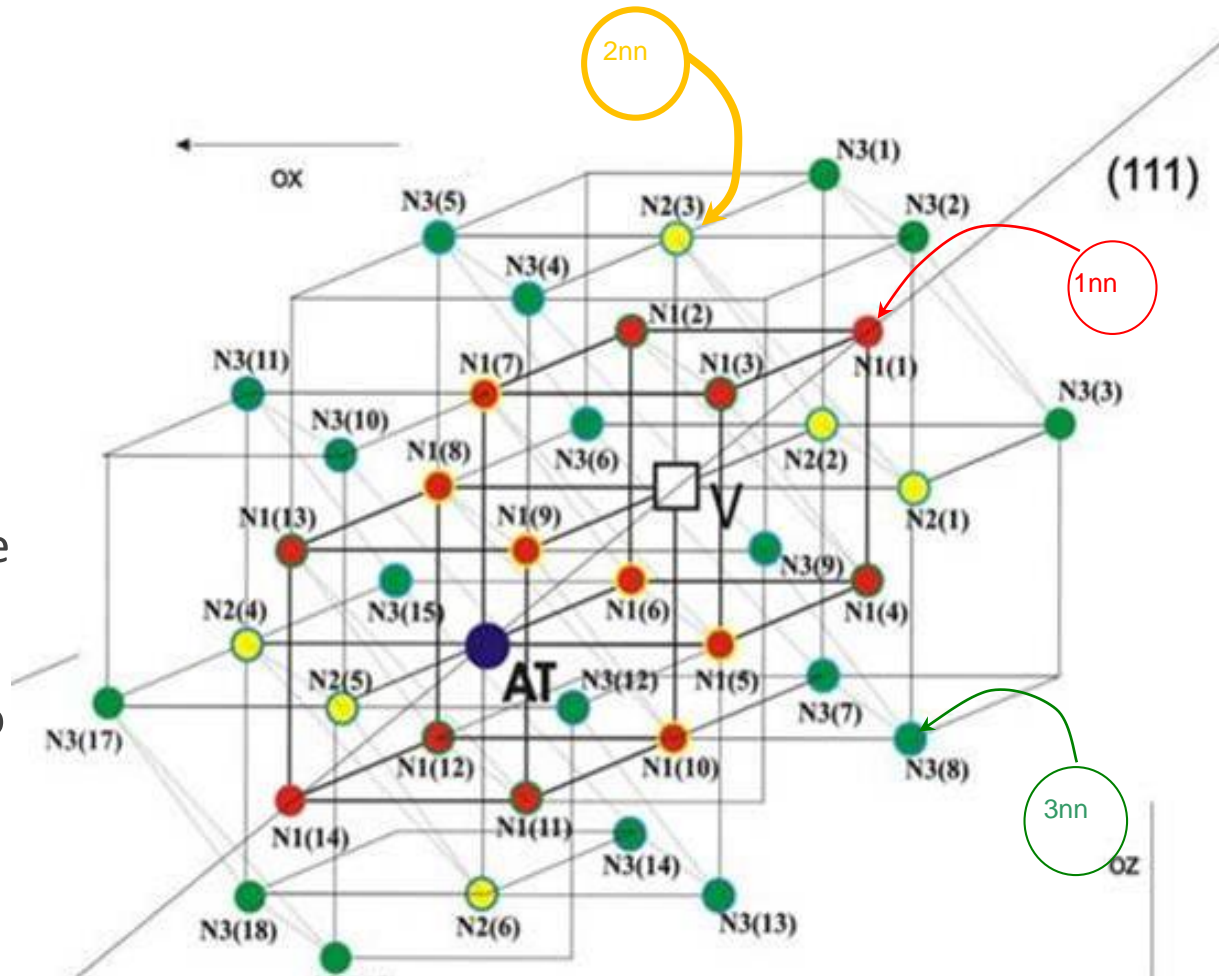
LAE	E_j
110011100202111	0.77

Local Atomic Environment

The real scale of the problem

1nn gives still manageable size of the table (2×3^{14} lines)

Considering all the lattice sites up to 3nn increases the number of lines to 2×3^{38} ! ($\sim 3 \times 10^{18}$)

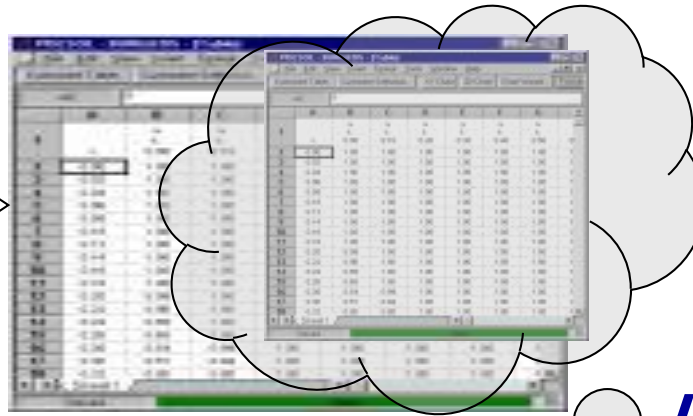
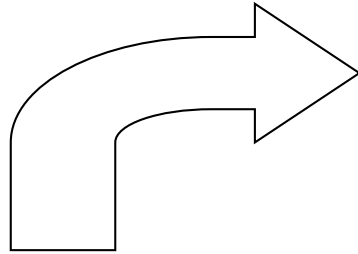


⇒ With tables it is impossible to go beyond 1nn approximation



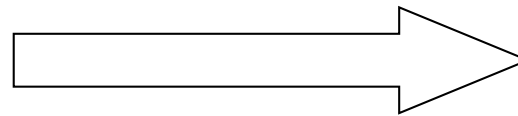
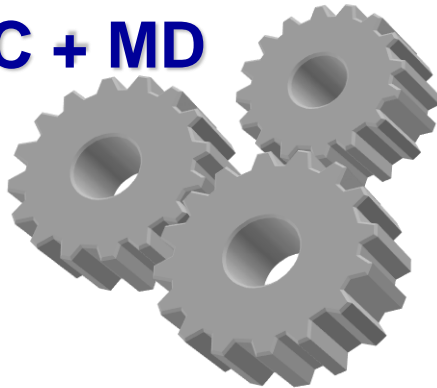
Where artificial intelligence comes into play

Huge table

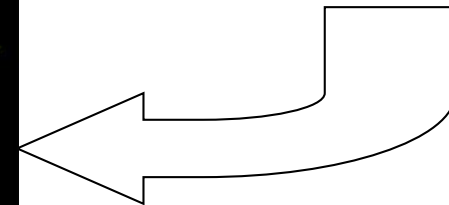
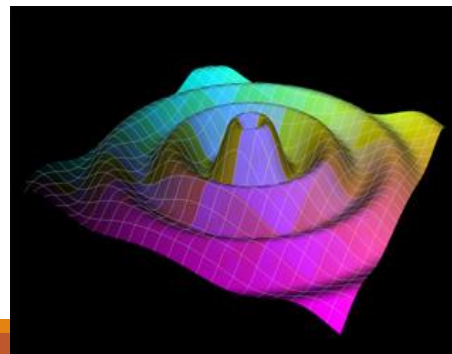
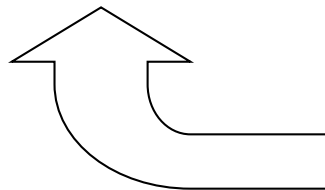
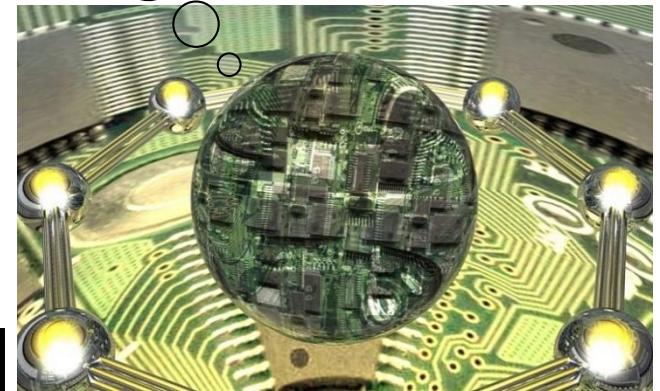


Artificial Intelligence

KMC + MD



Model





Artificial Neural Network (ANN)

Multilayer perceptron with one hidden layer based on *backpropagation* learning algorithm

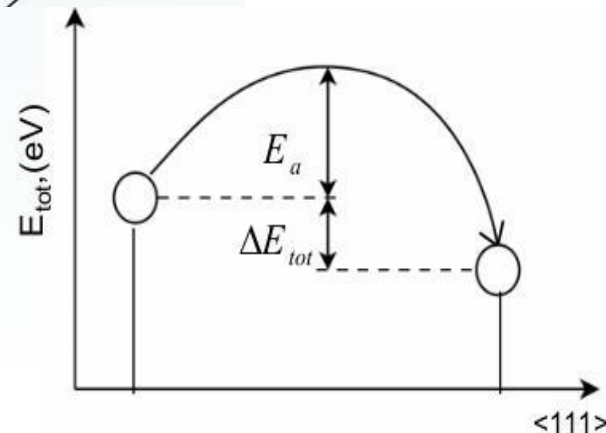
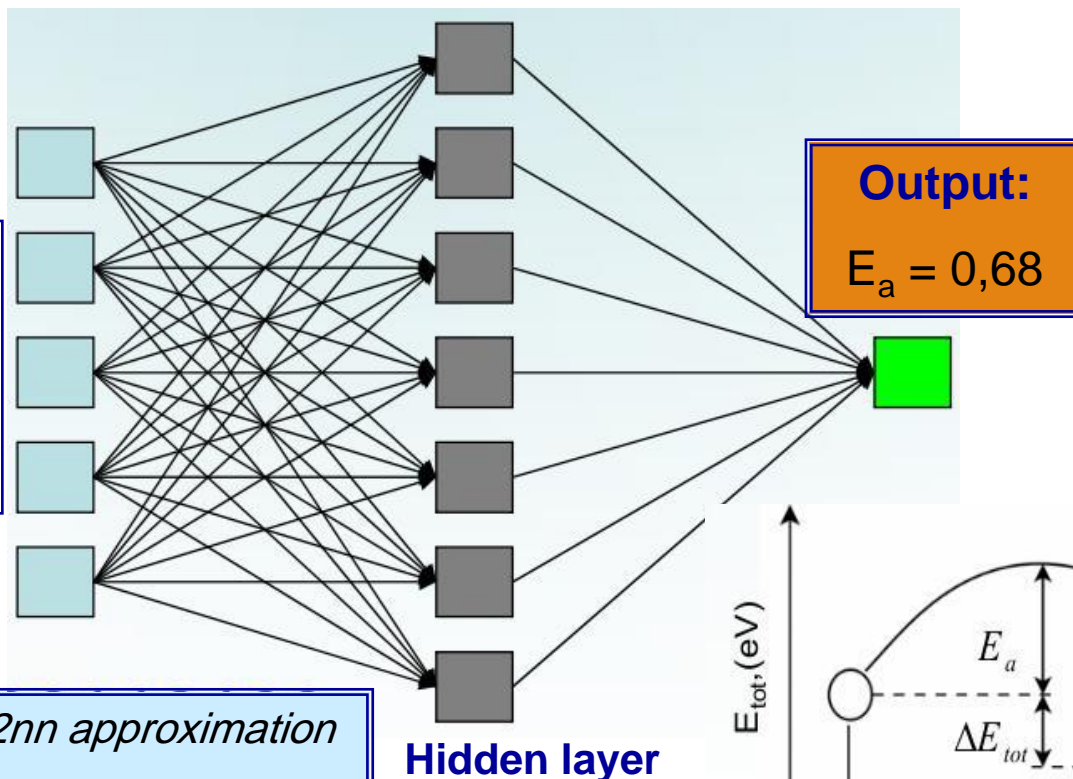
Input: LAE

Line of 15 ... 39 integers depending on approximation

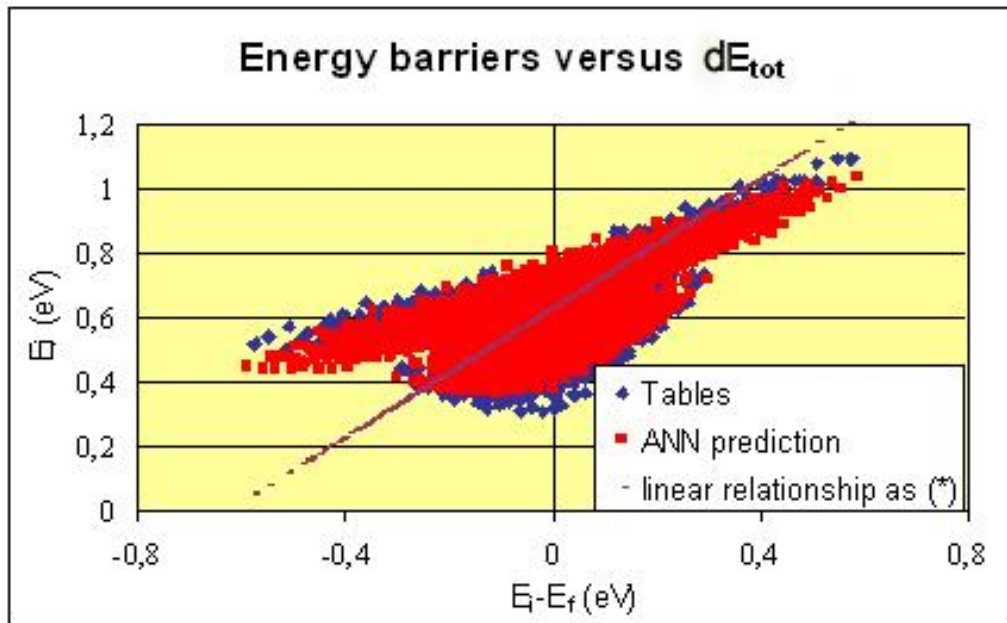
Example of LAE for $2nn$ approximation

(20 + 1 integers)

2 1 2 2 0 2 1 1 2 1 1 2 0 0 1 1 1 2 2 0 0

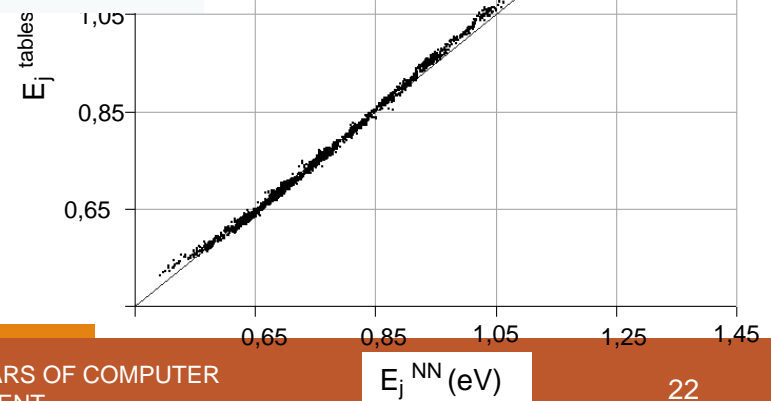


Validation of AI system prediction in the 1nn approximation



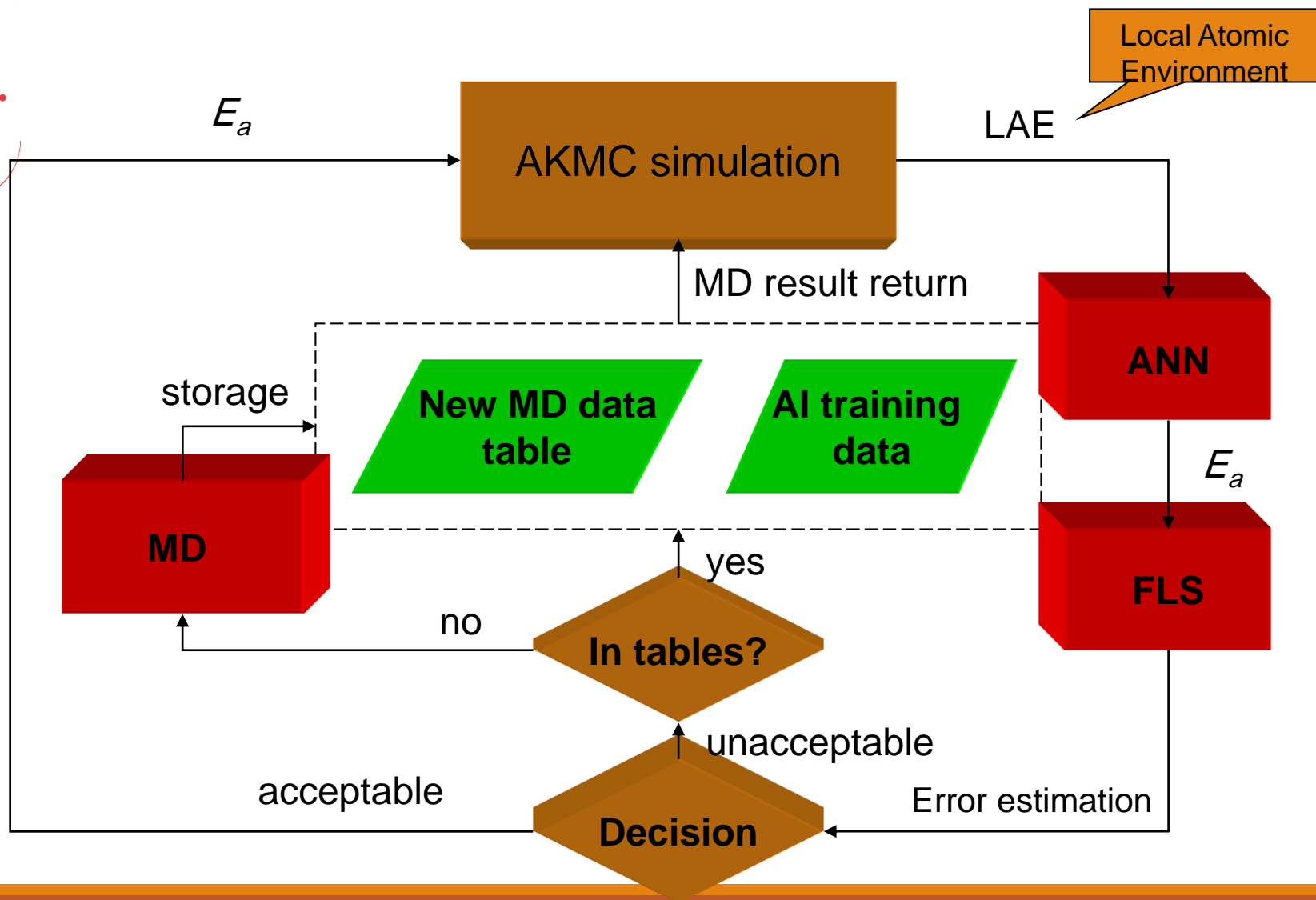
Energy barriers calculated by MD versus predicted by ANN for the same Local Atomic Environments

the maximum error committed by the ANN $\leq 8\%$,
the average error = 5% , (≈ 0.05 eV)





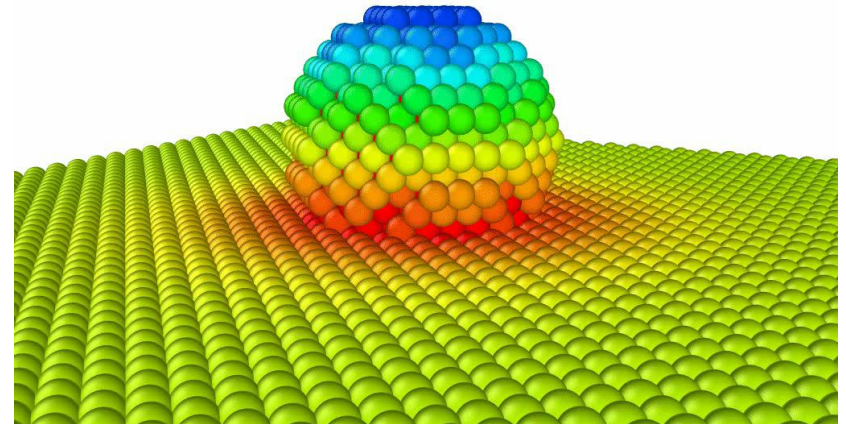
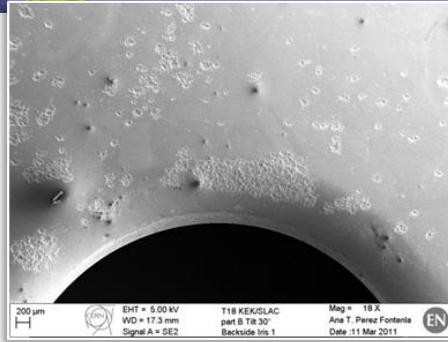
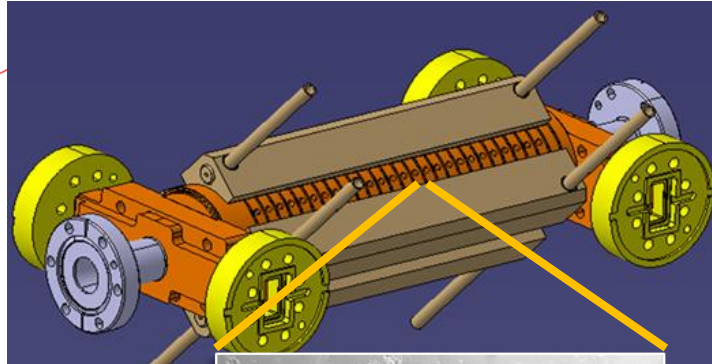
The structure of hybrid KMC code





Current interest: surface diffusion

We study self-roughening process on Cu surface in accelerating structures in CLIC:



To understand what happens on atomic level we have to model jumps of all atoms on Cu surface



Neural networks for Cu surface

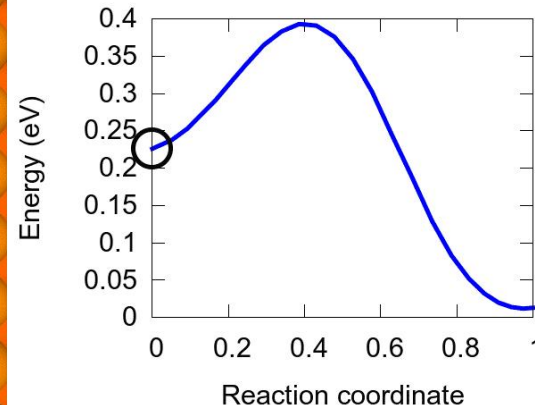
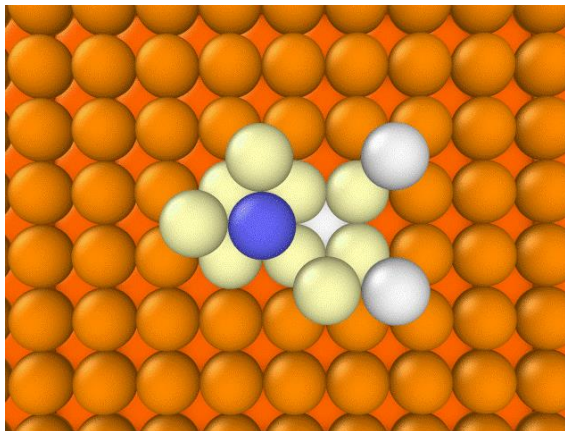
We calculate all barriers by nudged elastic band (NEB) method:

➤ Data from nudged elastic band (NEB) calculations:

```
...  
1 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0.331440022819  
1 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 1 1 0 0 0.660164224842  
1 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 0.480036427316  
1 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 1 0 0 0.765357261622  
1 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0.272985753556  
...
```

Input: 26-dimensional binary vector
corresponding to a local atomic environment

Output: migration
energy barrier



Jyri Lahitinen



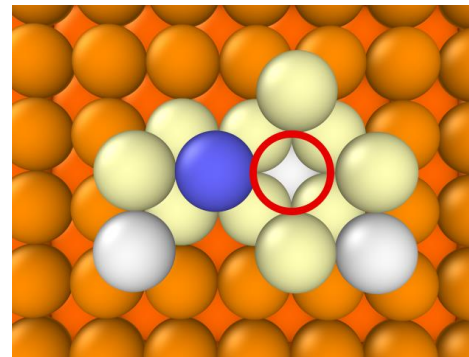
NN for Cu surface diffusion

Model: multilayer perceptron with a single hidden layer

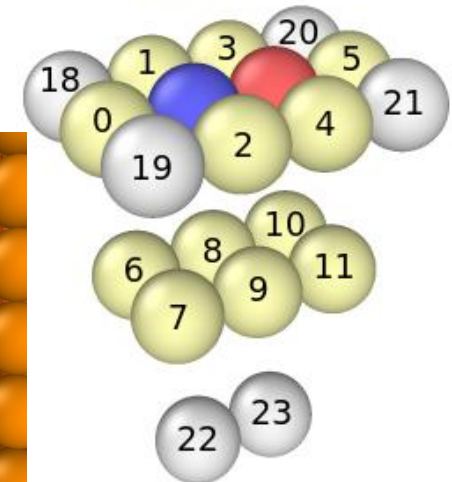
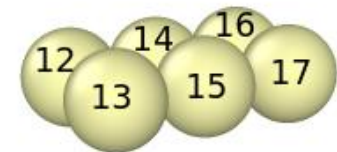
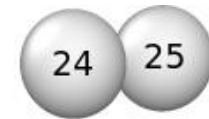
The initial set of 11.6 million data points is split into a training set and a validation set – early stopping

Additional tricks:

- Neural network ensembles
- Exclude symmetric cases
- Separate networks for different parts + classifier



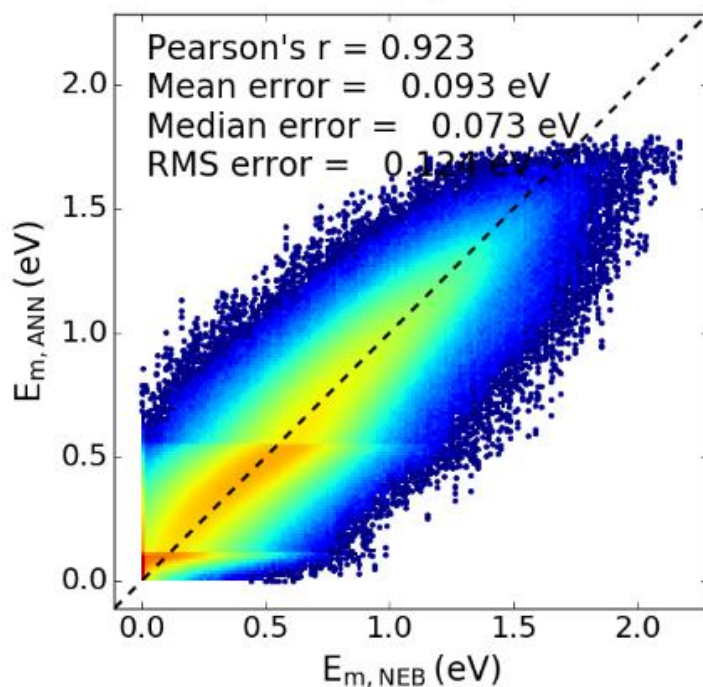
LAE



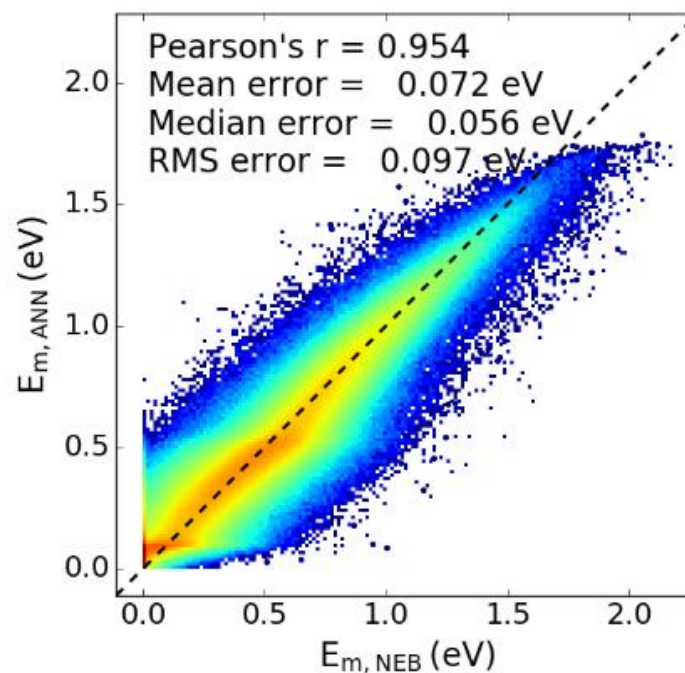
Results of neural network predictions

Using different tricks to help NN to recognize the pattern, we have achieved a somewhat improvement:

Full data set, no tricks



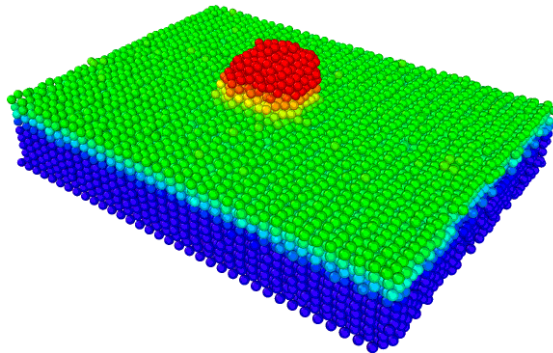
Using ensembles, symmetry, classifier



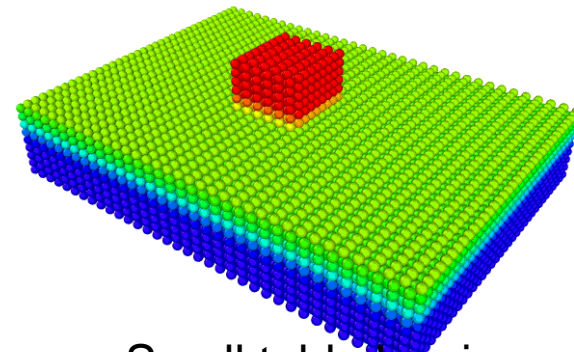


If the barriers are wrong

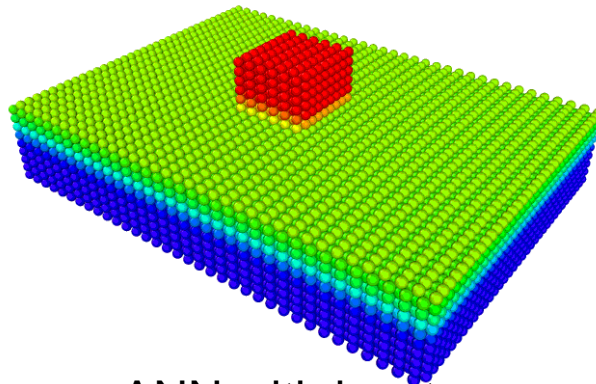
What will happen if the ANN predicts barriers inaccurately?



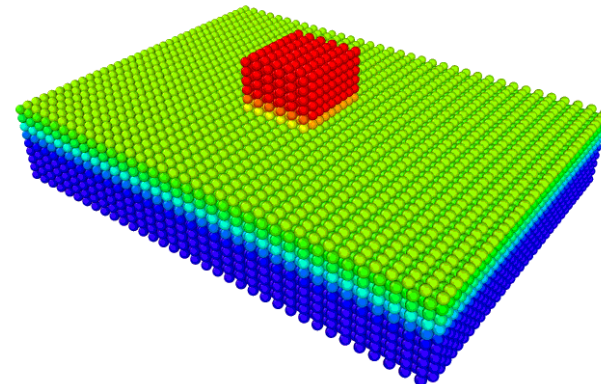
Molecular Dynamics



Small table barriers



ANN with least error



NN with best symmetry

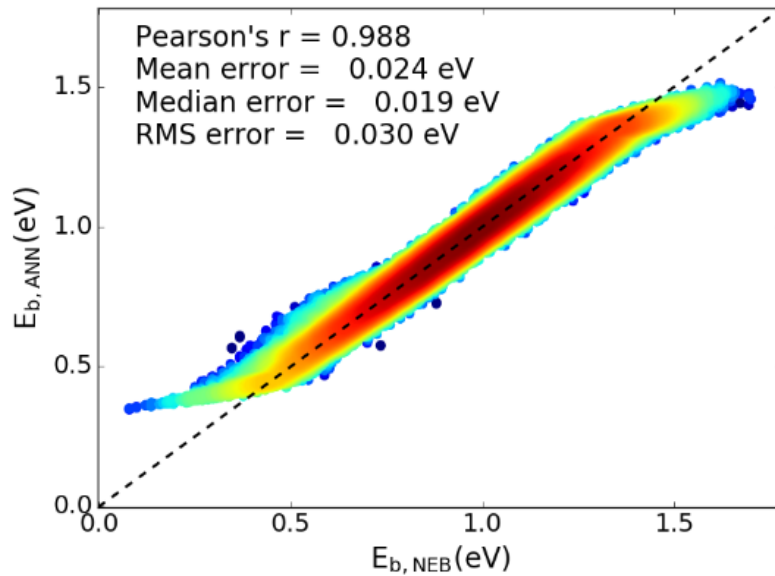


Back to bulk: ANN performance improves

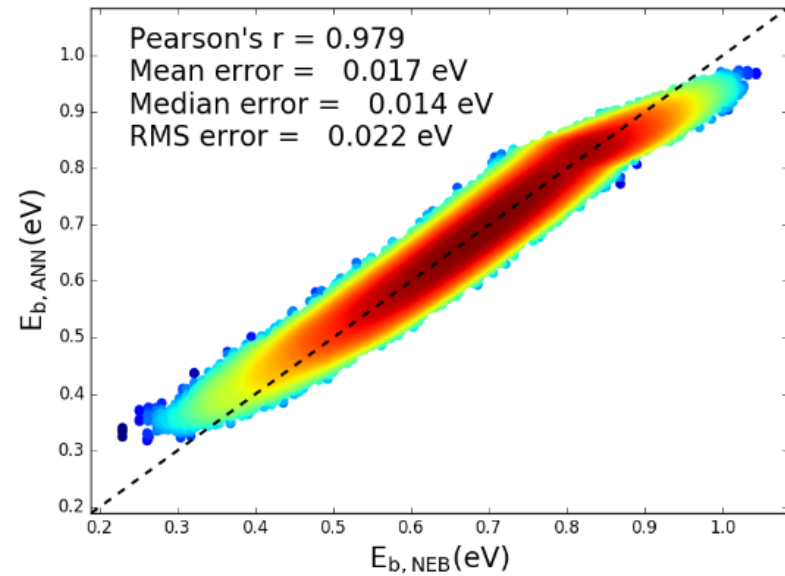
Ni-rich NiCr nanoparticles exhibit sharply dropping Curie temperature with increasing Cr concentration

This phenomenon can be used for cancer treatment by tuning Curie temperature to as low as 40-60 °C for e.g. magnetic hyperthermia?

Ni jumping



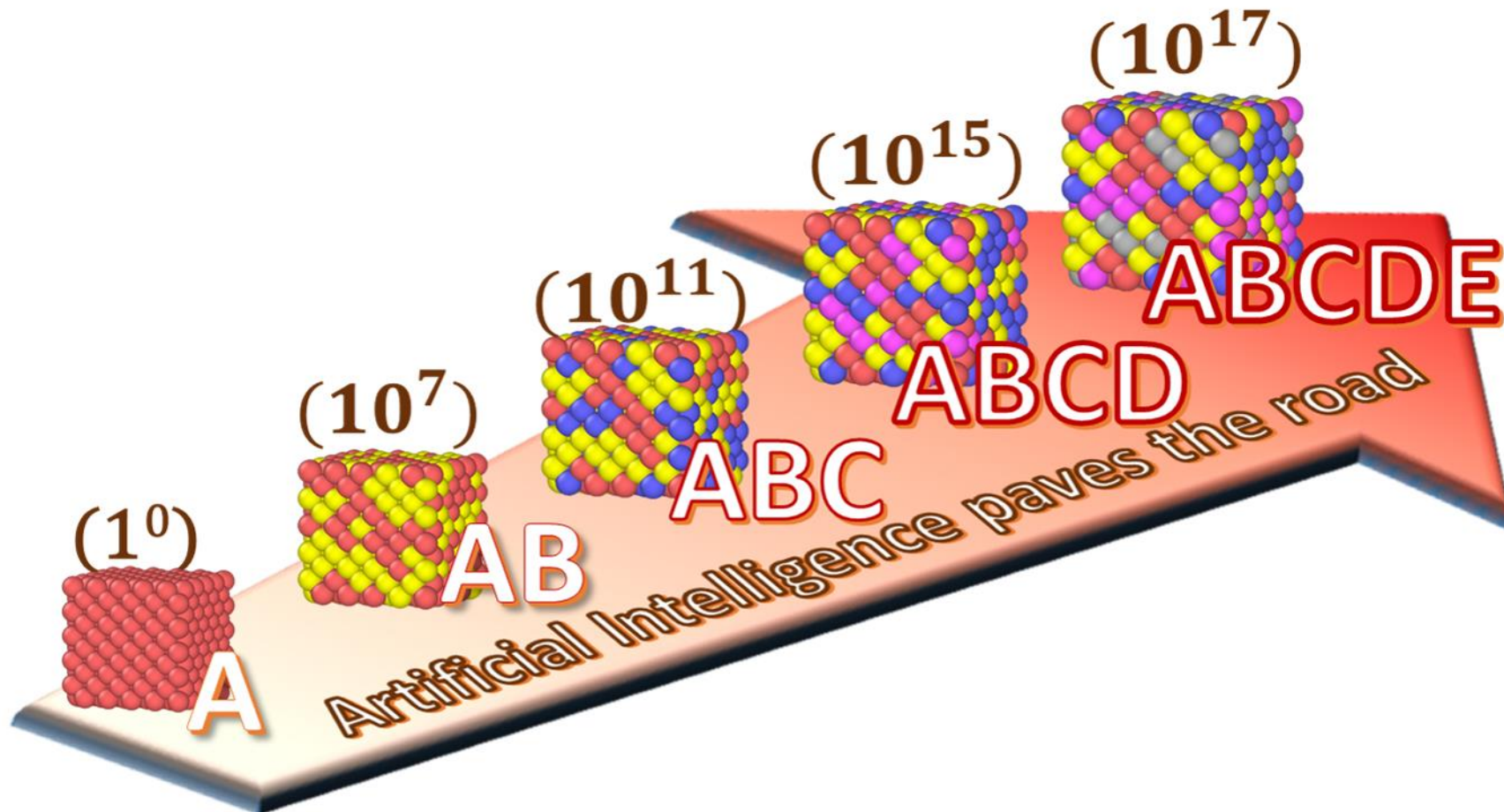
Cr jumping





Adding complexity

High Entropy alloys are materials with more than 5 elements:

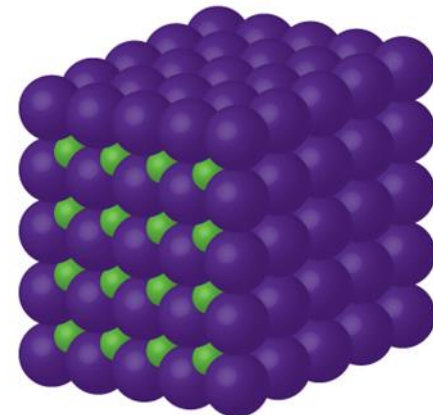
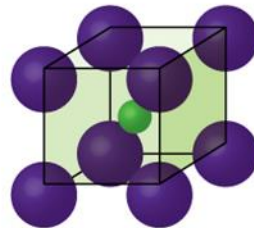
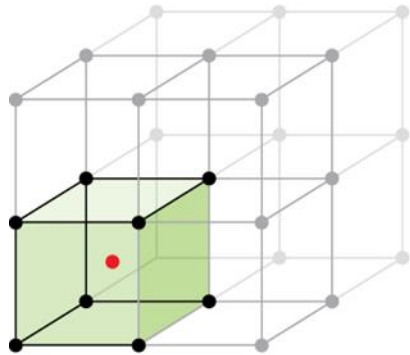




Summary

In Materials Research, we are collecting more and more data with or without help of computers

It is time to teach the computers the logic hidden in the data that we can learn more and faster about exciting new materials and start implementing them in the real life!



Body-centered simple cubic structure