

**Marco Fornari**, Department of Physics, Central Michigan University

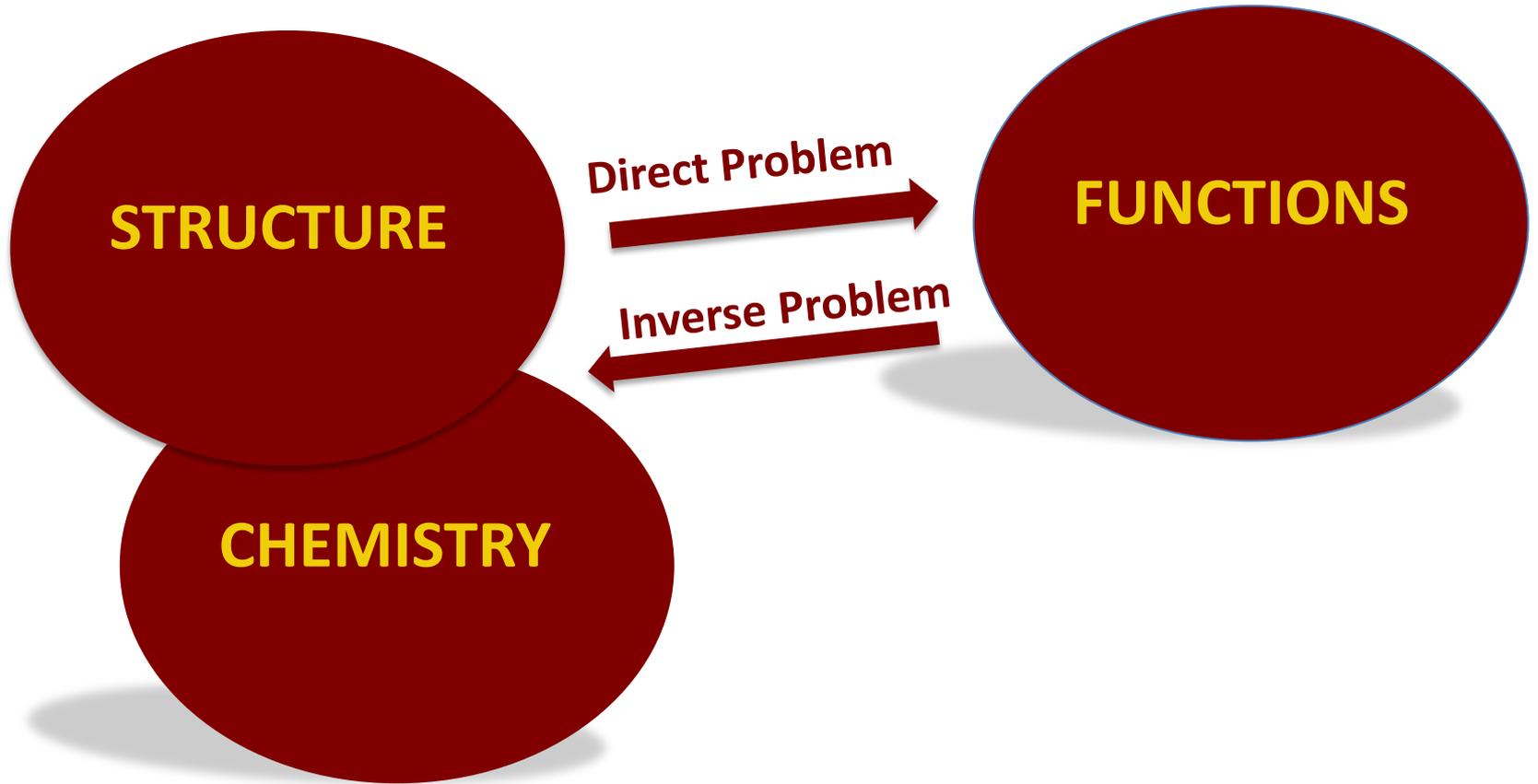
Collaborators:

**S. Curtarolo** (Duke), **M. Buongiorno Nardelli** (U. North Texas), **R. Armiento** (Linkoping), **N. Marzari** (EPFL), **G. Ceder** (MIT), **B. Kozinsky** (Bosch), **G. Hart** (Brigham Young), **I. Takeuchi** (UMD), **L. Lyanage** (CMich), **P. Gopal** (CMich)

*...the process of  
engineering matter into  
new useful forms\**



\* G. Ceder and K. Persson, Scientific American, Dec 2013



### Direct problem:

**(D1)** Development of methodologies to compute (measure) directly the property of interest. Application of such methodologies to selected cases.

e.g. optimized exchange-correlation functionals, non-adiabatic processes, theoretical spectroscopies, faster algorithms, improved hardware, etc.

**(D2)** Search for design-rules/**descriptors** for the property of interest in selected cases to provide structure (hopefully quantitatively) to the intuition.

### Descriptors discovery

- Thinking
- High-throughput methodologies + Data-mining tools

### Inverse problem:

(I1) Exploration of a large configuration space by determining the property of interest and screening for optimal materials. **2**

e.g. Stability of Pt-group alloys by Hart et al., Physical Review **X** (2013)

(I2) Exploration of a restricted configuration space in which property descriptors are expected to be reliable. Validation.

*The real test of understanding is prediction\** **3**

e.g. Pb-free piezoceramics by Armiento et al., Physical Review **B** (2011/3)

**1**  
Infrastructures

☐ AFLOW <http://afwlib.org>

\* R. Hoffmann, Solids and surfaces (VHC, 1988)

# Infrastructures: AFLOWLIB Repository

- ❑ Database of DFT calculations
- ❑ > 500,000 compounds
- ❑ Online/socket commands for the SQL database interrogation.
- ❑ Distributed platform will work on Linux/UNIX platforms



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## CHOOSE DATABASES

AFLOWLib  Structure Properties  Electronic Properties  Thermoelectric Properties  Scintillator Database  Magr

## SEARCH AFLOWLIB (379,310 Compounds)

(188,768 Heusler Alloys; 173,324 Binary Alloys; 17,218 ICSD Compounds)

Element(s)  Usage: &(and), |(or), ~(not), ^(xor), m(metal) e.g. ~Si and Al: basis

Species number

Material Type

Lattice System

Space Group Number

Minimum band gap =  eV

Band Gap Type

Minimum  $\langle P_n \rangle / L =$    $! W / \text{cmK}^2 \text{nm}$

Minimum  $\langle P_p \rangle / L =$    $! W / \text{cmK}^2 \text{nm}$

Minimum magnetic moment =   $! B / \text{atom}$

Minimum  $S(E_F) =$

AFLOW version from  to

Prototype

Bravais Lattice  (structure properties)

Pearson Symbol  (structure properties)

Maximum band gap =  eV (electronic properties)

Maximum  $\langle P_n \rangle / L =$    $! W / \text{cmK}^2 \text{nm}$  (thermoelectric properties)

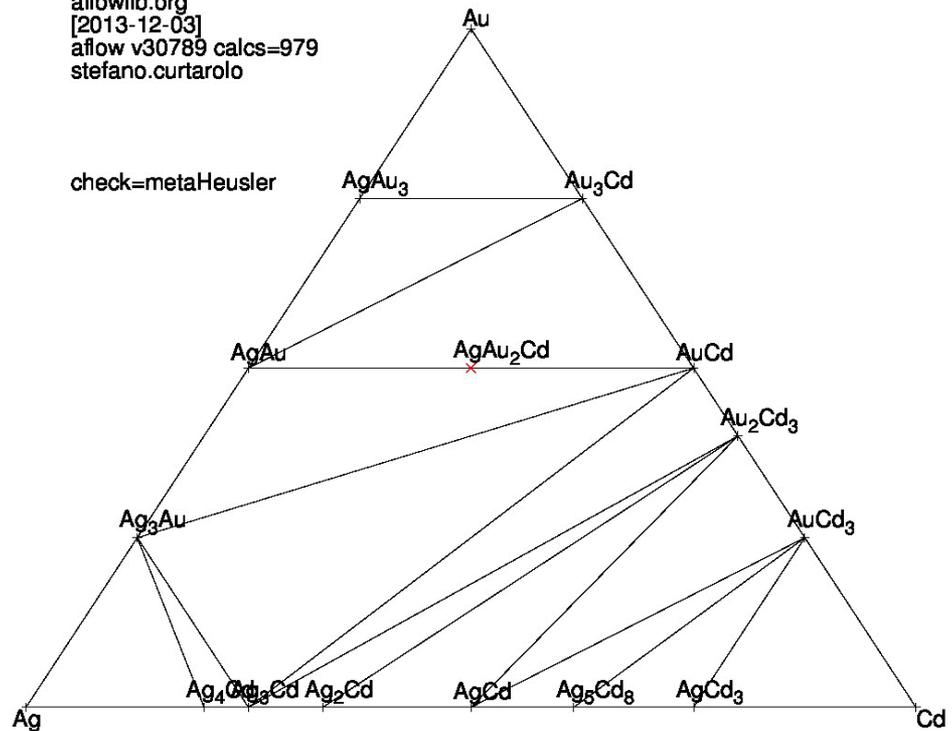
Maximum  $\langle P_p \rangle / L =$    $! W / \text{cmK}^2 \text{nm}$  (thermoelectric properties)

Maximum magnetic moment =   $! B / \text{atom}$  (magnetic properties)

Maximum  $S(E_F) =$   (magnetic properties)

Calculated date from  to  (job status)

aflowlib.org  
[2013-12-03]  
aflow v30789 calcs=979  
stefano.curtarolo



# Automatic Generation of Databases

Creating "aflow.in" input files:

```
kesong@beta: /tmp$
```

HT Computational  
Tools (AFLOW)



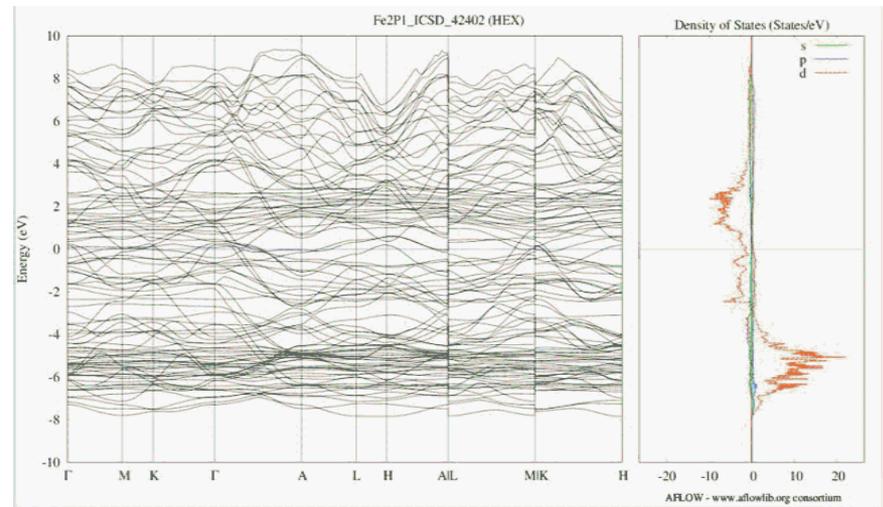
VASP/QE

Materials Database (AFLOWLIB)

# Automatic data/visualization analysis

Extract general materials properties: structural, electronic, magnetic properties...

```
kesong@nietzsche:~/Example/Fe2P1_ICSD_42402$
```



Develop new high-throughput programs based on the desired materials properties

# Pt-group alloys

Selected for a **Viewpoint** in *Physics*  
PHYSICAL REVIEW X **00**, ()

## Comprehensive Search for New Phases and Compounds in Binary Alloy Systems Based on Platinum-Group Metals, Using a Computational First-Principles Approach

Gus L. W. Hart,<sup>1</sup> Stefano Curtarolo,<sup>2,\*</sup> Thaddeus B. Massalski,<sup>3</sup> and Ohad Levy<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Physics and Astronomy, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah 84602, USA*

<sup>2</sup>*Center for Materials Genomics and Department of Mechanical Engineering and Materials Science, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina 27708, USA*

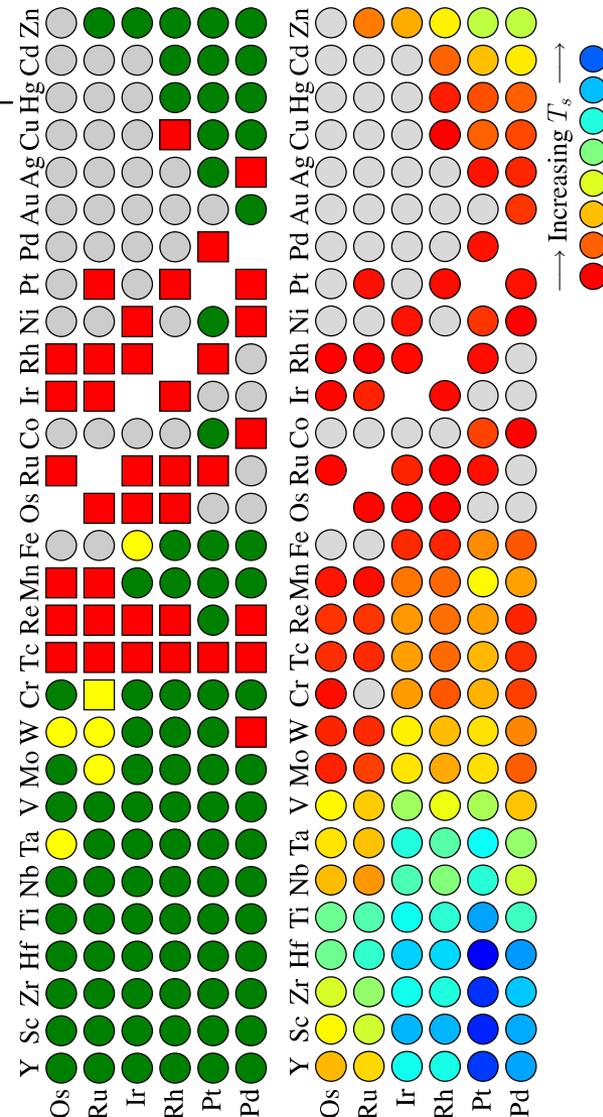
<sup>3</sup>*Materials Science, Engineering and Physics, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213, USA*  
(Received 25 August 2013)

We report a comprehensive study of the binary systems of the platinum-group metals with the transition metals, using high-throughput first-principles calculations. These computations predict stability of new compounds in 37 binary systems where no compounds have been reported in the literature experimentally and for a few dozen of as-yet unreported compounds in additional systems. Our calculations also identify stable structures at compound compositions that have been previously reported without detailed structural data and indicate that some experimentally reported compounds may actually be unstable at low temperatures. With these results, we construct enhanced structure maps for the binary alloys of platinum-group metals. These maps are much more complete, systematic, and predictive than those based on empirical results alone.

DOI:

Subject Areas: Computational Physics, Materials Science

- ❑ 153 binaries: prototypes+hypothetical
- ❑ Formation enthalpy: convex hull
- ❑ Competition with disorder:  $T_s$
- ❑ 37 new phases (@nanoscale?)



# Descriptors discovery

Table 1 | Examples of descriptors introduced in the literature. [Nature Mater. 12, 191 \(2013\)](#)

Problem	Combination of materials properties (gene)	Descriptor
Structure stability: convex hull of an alloy system	Formation enthalpy ( $H_f$ ) as a function of concentration ( $x$ ) and the enthalpies ( $H$ ) of $A$ and $B$	$H_f(x) = H(A_{1-x}B_x) - (1-x)H(A) - xH(B)$
Phase stability in off-lattice alloys <a href="#">PRL 91, 135503 (2003)</a>	Spectral decomposition of alloy vector-energies ( $E_{n,p}$ , $n$ -rows= species, $p$ -columns= configurations) with principal-component-analysis coefficients ( $\alpha_i$ ) and truncation error ( $\epsilon(d)$ ) (ref. 3).	$E_{n,p} \approx \alpha_1 E_{n,1} + \dots + \alpha_{p-1} E_{n,p-1} + \epsilon(d)$
Nano <a href="#">PR</a>	Ratio of the av (ref. 15).	
Topol <a href="#">Natu</a>	Variational rat derivative stra $k, a_0$ lattice) <sup>16</sup> .	
Power (spec <a href="#">PRL</a>	Ratio of the m energy density recombination versus bandgap energy ( $E_g$ ) <sup>62</sup> .	
Non-proportionality in scintillators <a href="#">IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci. 56, 2989 (2009)</a>	Maximum mismatch between effective masses of electrons ( $m_e$ ) and holes ( $m_h$ ) <sup>75</sup> .	$\hat{\chi}_{np} \equiv \max\left(\frac{m_e}{m_h}, \frac{m_h}{m_e}\right)$
Morphotropic phase boundary piezoelectrics <a href="#">PRB 84, 014103 (2011)</a>	Energy proximity between tetragonal, rhombohedra and rotational distortions ( $\Delta E_p$ ). Angular coordinate ( $\alpha_{AB}$ ) of the energy minimum in the $A$ - $B$ -off-centerings energy map for $ABO_3$ systems <sup>79</sup> .	$\Delta E_p \leq 0.5$ eV $\alpha_{AB} \approx 45^\circ$

the  
property

qualitative  
descriptor

quantitative  
descriptor

nature  
materials

REVIEW ARTICLE

PUBLISHED ONLINE: 20 FEBRUARY 2013 | DOI: 10.1038/NMAT3568

The high-throughput highway to computational materials design

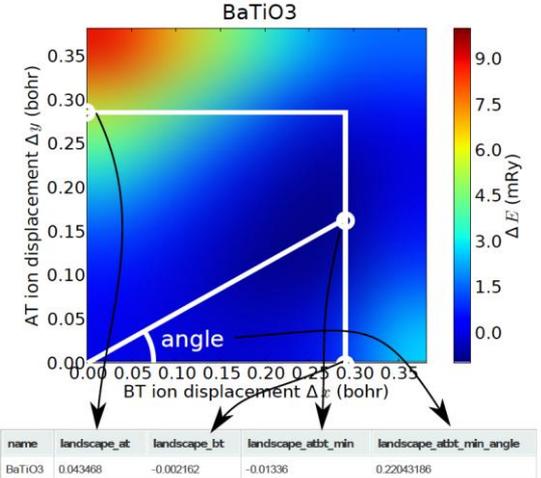
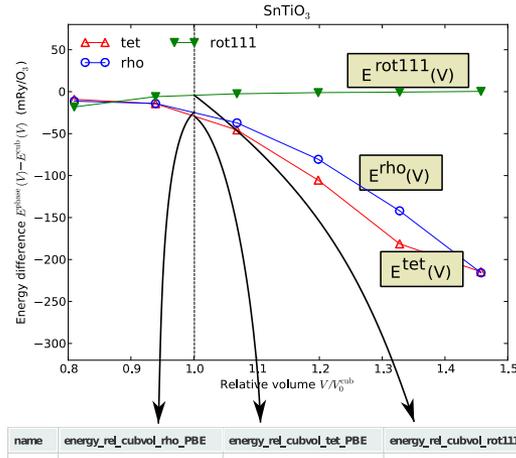
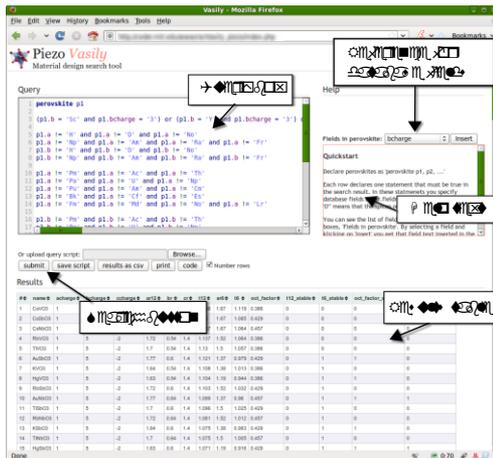
Curtarolo\*, Hart, Buongiorno Nardelli, Mingo, Sanvito, Levy

DOI: 10.1038/NMAT3568 (March 2013)

# Descriptors discovery: piezoceramics

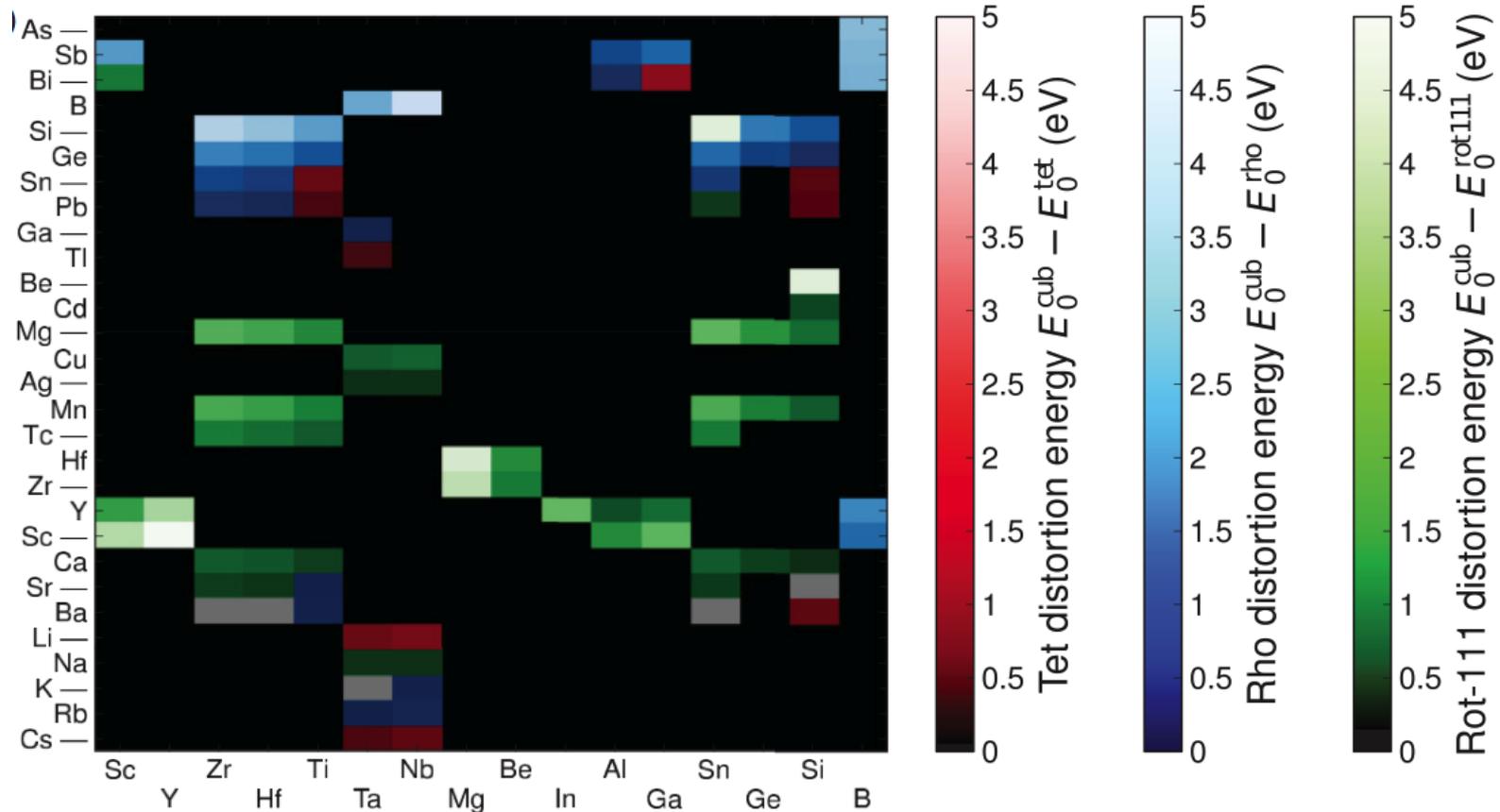
- ❑ Prototype:  $\text{Pb}(\text{Zr,Ti})\text{O}_3$  (PZT)
- ❑  $\text{ABO}_3$  ceramics with perovskite-like structure: 3669 compositions (up to Bi)
- ❑ Tetragonal Pb-free perovskite (to replace  $\text{PbTiO}_3$ )
- ❑ MPB forming alloys

C0: Electronic structure (insulating with d-p hybridization)  
 C1: Coexistence of several polar phases (RHO, TET)  
 C2: Competition with octahedral rotations/tiltings  
 C3: Large A-/B-site interplay



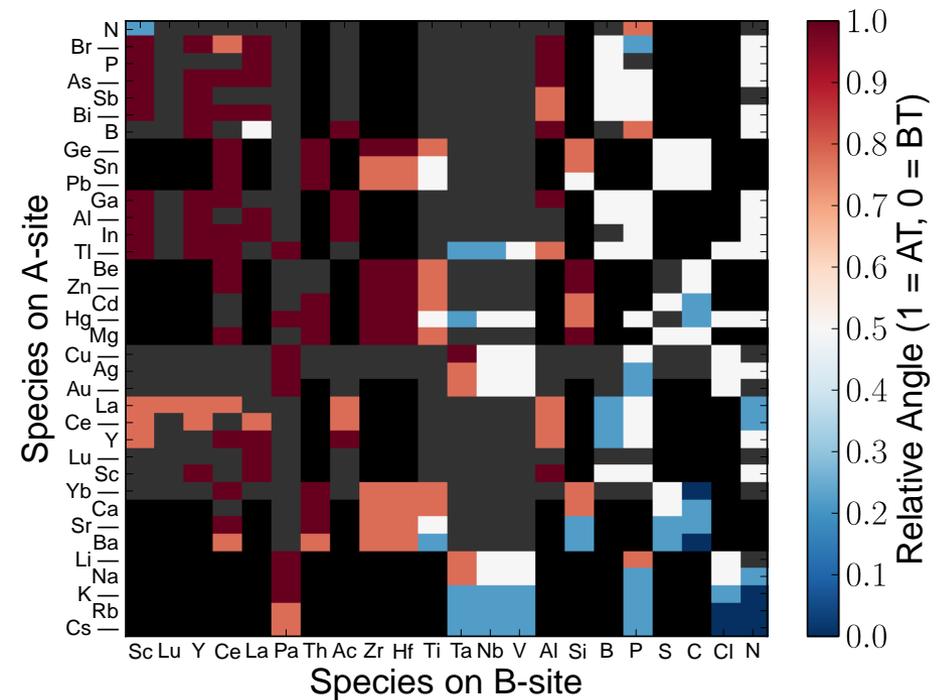
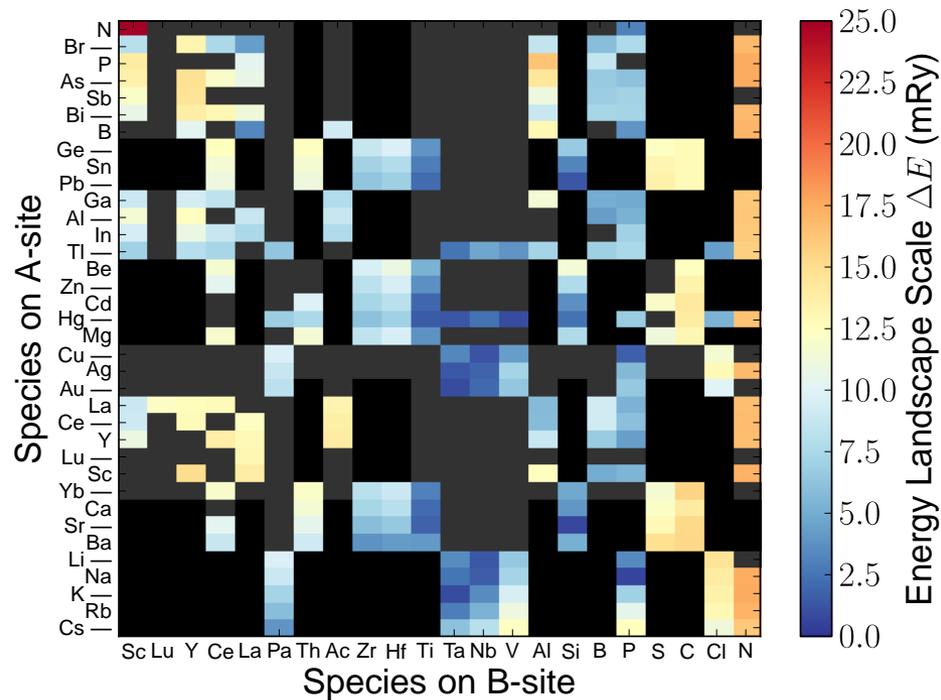
# Descriptors application: piezoceramics

- C0: Electronic structure (insulating with d-p hybridization)
- C1: Coexistence of several polar phases (RHO, TET)
- C2: Competition with octahedral rotations/tiltings
- C3: Large A-/B-site interplay



# Descriptors application: piezoceramics

C0: Electronic structure (insulating with d-p hybridization)  
C1: Coexistence of several polar phases (RHO, TET)  
C2: Competition with octahedral rotations/tiltings  
C3: Large A-/B-site interplay



# Descriptors application: piezoceramics

- ❖  $63^2 \rightarrow C0: 99 \rightarrow C1-3: 49$
- ❖ Three main families:
  - ❖  $(Sn, Pb)(Zr, Ti, Hf)O_3$
  - ❖  $(Ba, Sr, Ca)(Zr, Ti, Hf)O_3$
  - ❖  $(Li, Na, K, Cs)(Nb, Ta)O_3$
- ❖ **Descriptors interpolation:**
  - ❖  $x E_1(V(x)) + (1-x) E_2(V(x))$
- ❖ **Stability vs. concentration**
  - ❖ convex hull



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AUGUST 15, 2013 PTAS

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ASSIGNOR:  
FORNARI, MARCO DOC DATE: 07/26/2013

ASSIGNEE:  
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251 FOUST HALL  
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APPLICATION NUMBER: 61846685 FILING DATE: 07/16/2013  
PATENT NUMBER: ISSUE DATE:  
TITLE: SCREENING AND CHARACTERIZATION OF LEAD-FREE PIEZOELECTRIC AND ELECTRORESTRICOR MATERIALS USING FIRST PRINCIPLES HIGH THROUGHPUT SERVICES

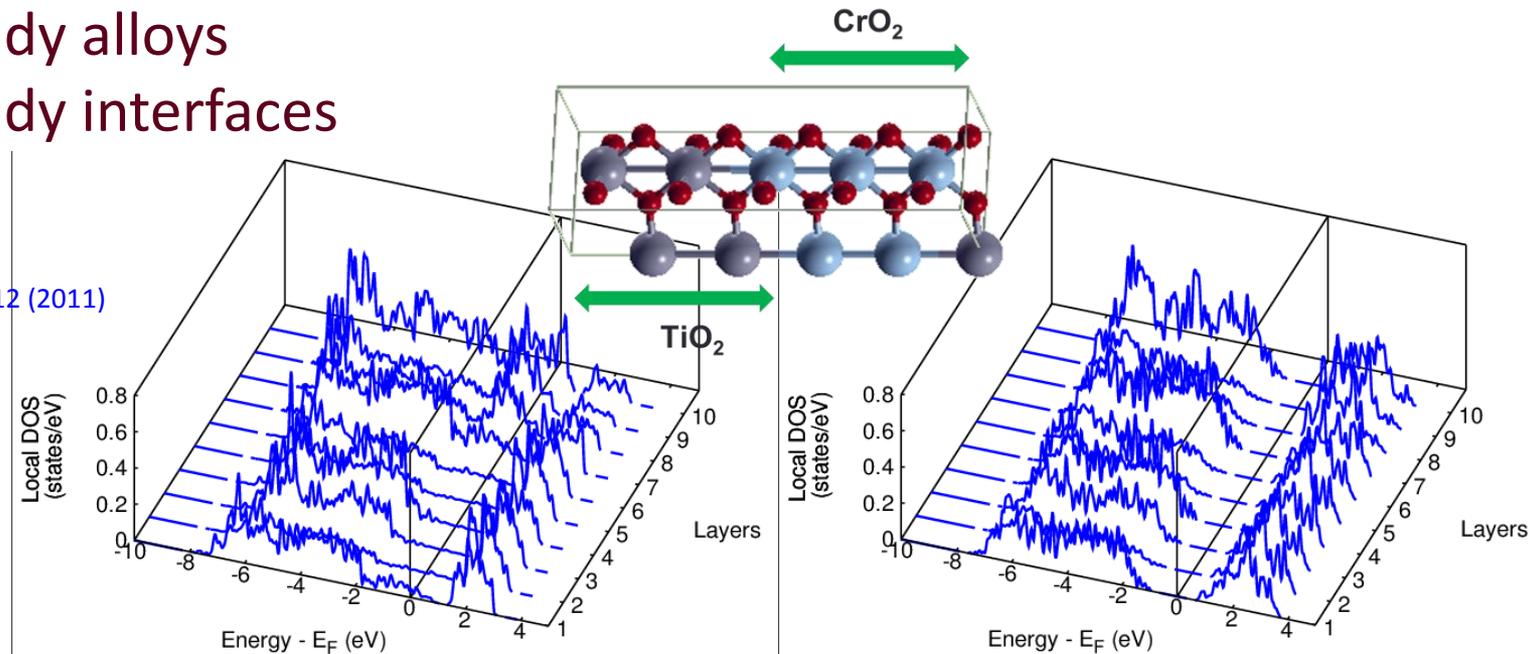
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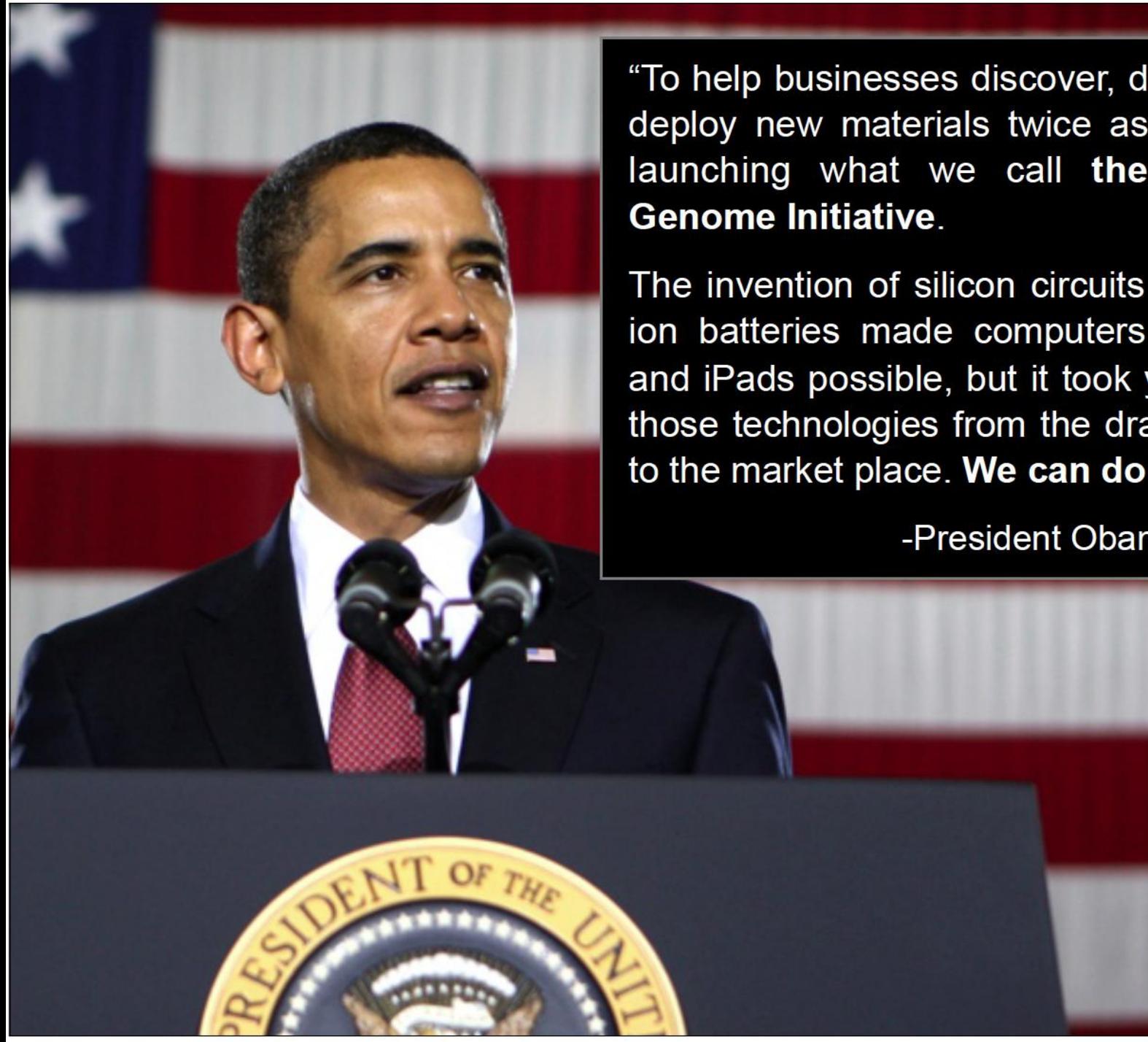
# High-throughput calculations

- ✓ Accelerate the discovery of new chemical compositions/structures
- ✓ Study alloys
- ✓ Study interfaces

PRX 1, 021012 (2011)



- ❖ Study nanostructuring effects ... more to do
- ❖ Automatic search for descriptors ... more to do
- ❖ Temperature dependent properties ... more to do
- ❖ Morphological replacement ... more to do
- ❖ Synthesis ... more to do



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

The invention of silicon circuits and lithium ion batteries made computers and iPods and iPads possible, but it took years to get those technologies from the drawing board to the market place. **We can do it faster.**”

-President Obama (6/11)





Courtesy of Samsung Electronics

# Fundamental Questions

- To which extent nano is real?
- Do we always need to think at structure-property relationships?
- What control is achievable in large scale nano manufacturing?
- What is the role of theory/calculations in nano manufacturing?

# Fundamental Barriers

- Synergy between theory and ... theory
- Synergy between theory and experiments
- Realistic goals that can be achieved
- Long term vs. short term research

