

## Accelerated Materials Design

through High-throughput First-Principles Calculations and Data Mining

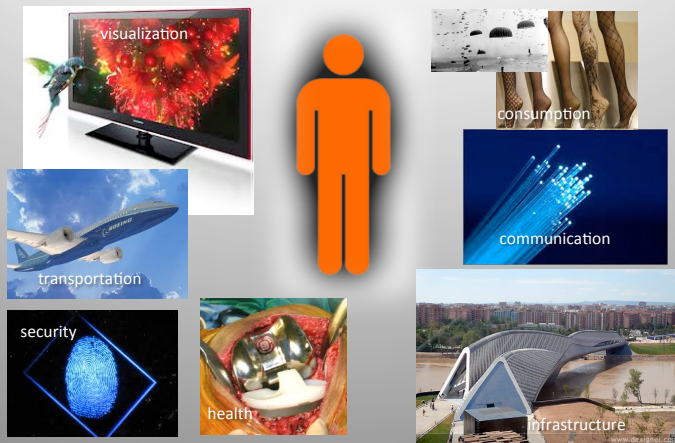
Kristin Persson

Environmental and Energy Technology Division (LBNL)

## Outline

- Materials Science – to the rescue for a sustainable energy future
- A crash course on density functional theory
- Not a exascale poster child
- We solved the computing (kinda) – does data-driven materials design work???
- The Materials Project - Towards a Materials Genome

## Engineered Materials Enable Society

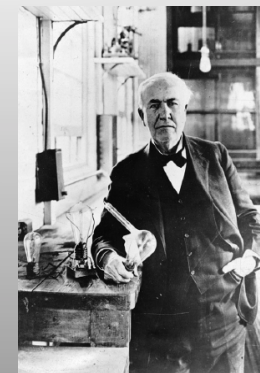


## How are New Materials Invented?

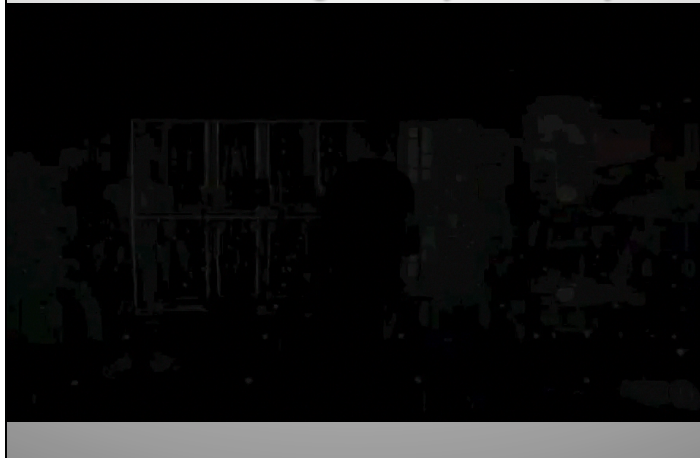
### “Edison Style”

When looking for a light bulb filament, Edison tried about 3,000 materials

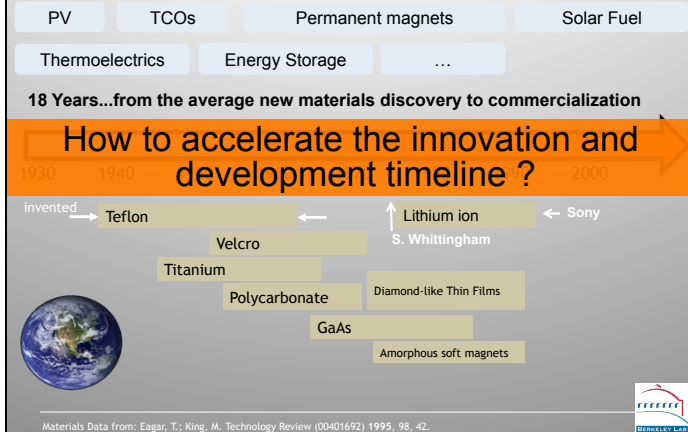
...  
And he didn't find the best one ...!



## Materials Design: Hollywood Style

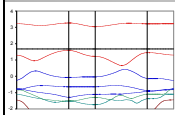
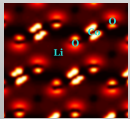


## Materials Innovation Timeline



## How to compute real world materials properties?

### Quantum Mechanics



"E = 325.67 kJ"

Optimize

$$\langle \Psi | \text{better battery} | \Psi^* \rangle$$

### Engineering Properties



Corrosion,  
strength, energy  
density, ...

## Computational Materials Science and First-Principles Calculations

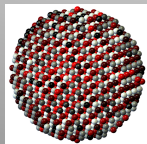
## Aim of *ab initio* calculations

Periodic Table of the Elements

Atomic Numbers

Solve quantum mechanics  
for the material

$$\hat{T}\Psi_{\text{MB}} + \hat{V}\Psi_{\text{MB}} = -i\hbar \frac{d\Psi_{\text{MB}}}{dt},$$



Predict physical and chemical  
properties of systems

## Standard DFT – steady state

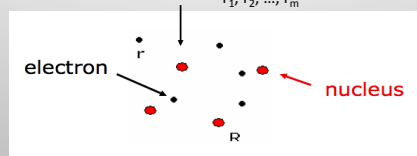
$$\hat{H}\underline{\Psi} = E\underline{\Psi}$$

As you can see, quantum mechanics is “simply” an eigenvalue problem

## Summary of problem to solve

Assume that the nuclei (Mass  $M_i$ ) are at:  
 $R_1, R_2, \dots, R_N$

Assume that the electrons (mass  $m_e$ ) are at:  
 $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m$



$$\hat{H}_{N,e} \Psi_{N,e}(\{R_i\}, \{r_i\}) = E_{N,e} \Psi_{N,e}(\{R_i\}, \{r_i\})$$

nucleus – nucleus  
interaction

interaction  
between  
electrons

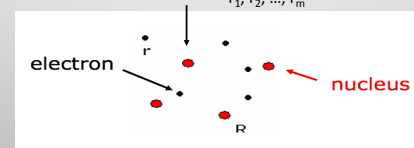
where

$$\hat{H}_{N,e} = \underbrace{\hat{T}_N + \hat{T}_e}_{\text{kinetic energy}} + \underbrace{\hat{V}_{N-N}}_{\text{nucleus - nucleus interaction}} + \underbrace{\hat{V}_{N-e}}_{\text{nucleus - electron interaction}} + \underbrace{\hat{V}_{e-e}}_{\text{interaction between electrons}}$$

## Summary of problem to solve

Assume that the nuclei (Mass  $M_i$ ) are at:  
 $R_1, R_2, \dots, R_N$

Assume that the electrons (mass  $m_e$ ) are at:  
 $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m$



$$\hat{H}_{N,e} \Psi_{N,e}(\{R_i\}, \{r_i\}) = E_{N,e} \Psi_{N,e}(\{R_i\}, \{r_i\})$$

nucleus – nucleus  
interaction

interaction  
between  
electrons

where

$$\hat{H}_{N,e} = \underbrace{\hat{T}_N + \hat{T}_e}_{\text{kinetic energy}} + \underbrace{\hat{V}_{N-N}}_{\text{separable nucleus - nucleus interaction}} + \underbrace{\hat{V}_{N-e}}_{\text{nucleus - electron interaction}} + \underbrace{\hat{V}_{e-e}}_{\text{Non-separable interaction between electrons}}$$

## Electrons are difficult!

- The mathematical difficulty of solving the Schrodinger equation increases rapidly with  $N$
- The number of computations scales as  $e^N$
- With modern supercomputers we can solve this directly for a very small number of electrons (maybe 4 or 5 electrons)

Materials contain of the order of  $10^{26}$  electrons

## Quantum power: Density Functional Theory

Kinetic Energy      Interaction with nucleus      Interaction between electrons

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \nabla_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{N_e} V_{\text{nuclear}}(r_i) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \sum_{j \neq i}^{N_e} \frac{1}{|r_i - r_j|}$$

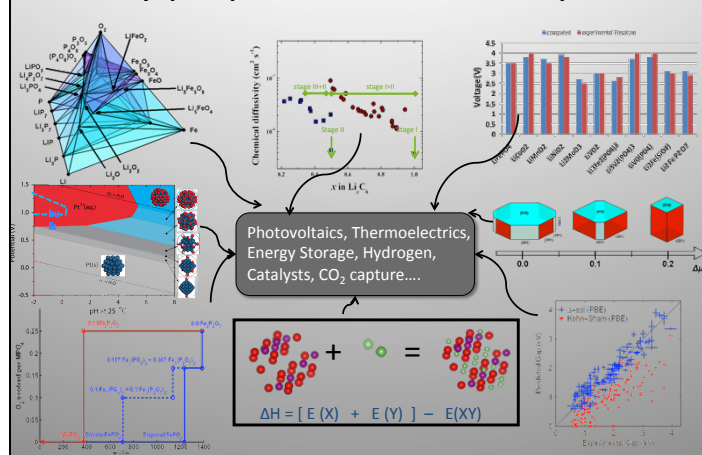
Replace e-e interaction by average potential

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \nabla_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{N_e} V_{\text{nuclear}}(r_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{N_e} V_{\text{effective}}(r_i)$$

Approximated in the Local Density Approximation (LDA) or Generalized Gradient Approximation (GGA) to Density Functional Theory (DFT)

$V_{\text{eff}}$  = average electrostatic potential from other electrons + exchange effect (Pauli principle) + correlation effects

## Many properties can be computed



## Computations are scalable (or are they?)

$$\hat{H}\psi = E\psi$$

Total energy  
Optimized structure  
Magnetic ground state  
Charge density  
Band structure / DOS  
... etc

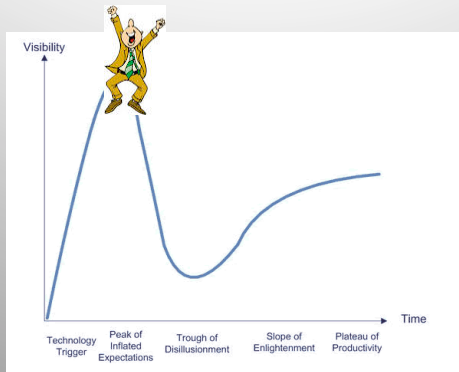


## High Throughput Scientific Computing

37



So you have access to 150K cores, now what?



Gartner Hype Cycle: graphic representation of the maturity and adoption of technologies and applications

Bummer – ‘exascale’ not working for DFT... ☹

DFT codes are trivially parallelizable over k-points

BUT after every reciprocal k point calculation – all the energies (information) have to be assembled to calculate charge density and total energy... happens hundreds of times per calculation.

too much communication between nodes!

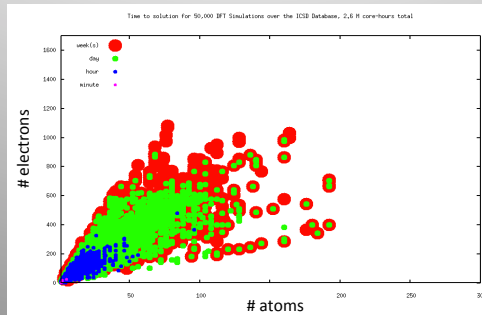
More sophisticated parallelization schemes exist, but fact remains – **no DFT code scales better than 30-40 nodes**

**So what do we do? We run one material per node...no intercommunication needed and large # nodes can be requested**

38

## non-predictable walltimes...

- Our computations have rather unpredictable runtimes
- Think swarms of workers – one is very slow, another one terrible efficient...

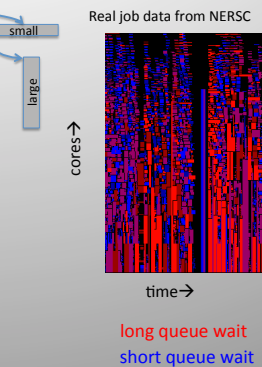


## High-Throughput Materials Computing

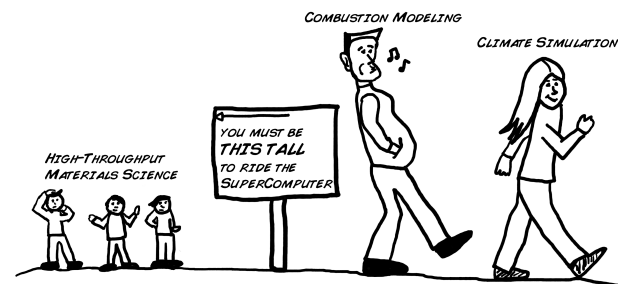
- Requires scheduler or run-time tools to facilitate **running large numbers of jobs with variable duration time**
- **Inverse** of typical large-scale simulations of inter-connected tasks (climate, astronomy, ...)

## Shared Resources: Some Challenges are Unavoidable

- Long “small” jobs and short “large” jobs are natural enemies, hard to co-schedule
- Don’t get mad, get even (or get things done)
- Get the throughput you want
- Read the queue policies



## Example of challenge overcome: HPC vs HT barrier



## Why does this matter?

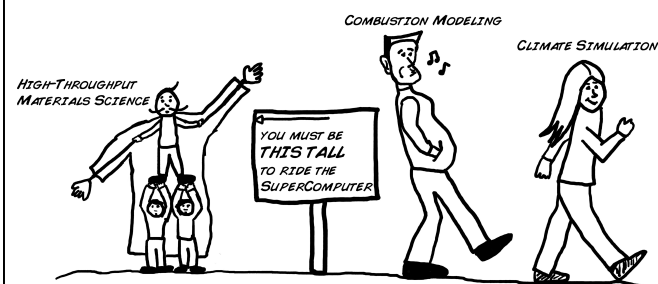
- NERSC offers us 40 million CPU-hours / year
  - A 16-core workstation would take 285 years to produce that data...
- But we can only leverage that time if we follow their policies
- We will never get close with small jobs
  - queued job limit
  - walltime limit
- Need to play by their rules, which are designed for massive single simulations



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25

## Automatic job packing



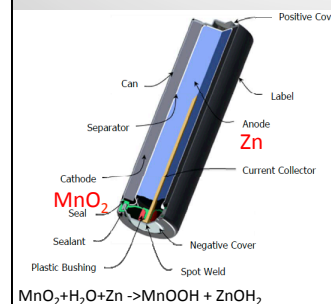
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26

Ok – we fixed the computing – what about new materials???

High-throughput Materials Design:  
Alkaline batteries

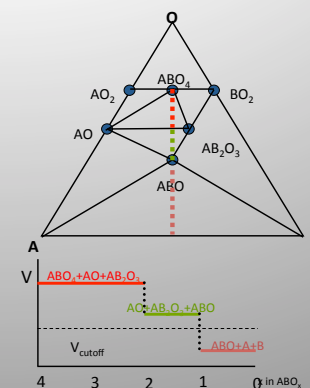
## Finding higher energy density cathode



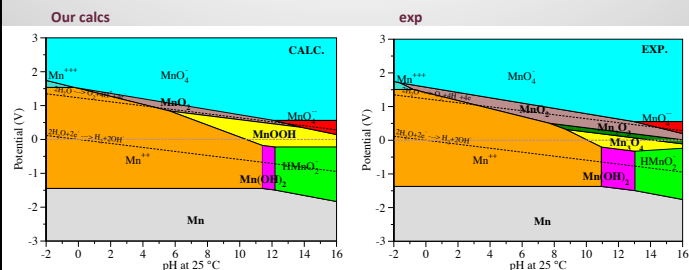
### SPECS:

Higher energy density

Both reactants and products stable in high molar KOH



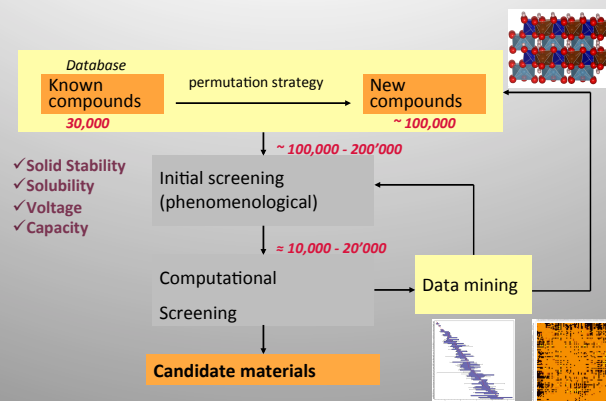
## Need to model reactions at pH = 15



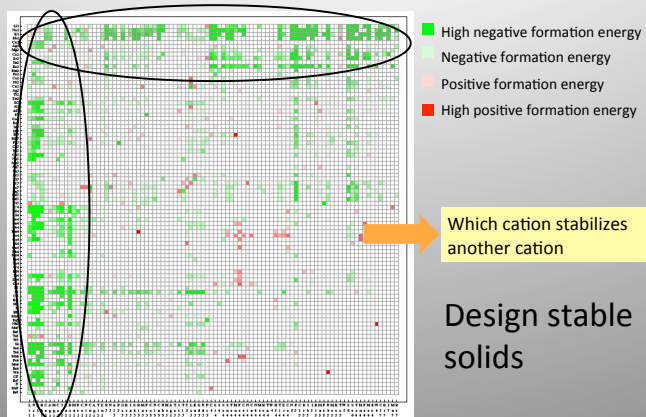
**Alkaline cell reaction**  
 $2\text{MnO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{Zn} \rightarrow 2\text{MnOOH} + \text{ZnO}$

M. Pourbaix, "Atlas of Electrochemical Equilibria in Aqueous Solution", Pergamon Press, Paris (1966).

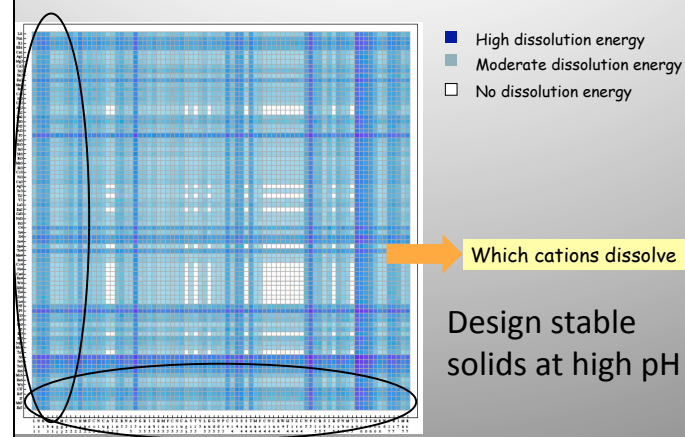
## The Screening Strategy



## Materials Design: Solid Stability Patterns



## Materials Design: KOH Instability



## Candidate Compounds and Design Rules

> 130,000 compounds considered  
 • 30,000 known from ICSD  
 • > 100,000 new generated

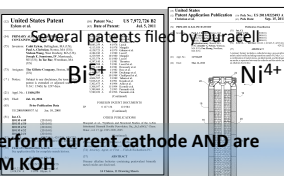
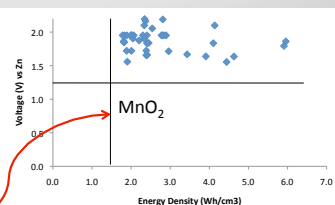
Tier 1

> 1500 compounds  
 ✓ Capacity > 1 Ah/cc  
 ✓ 1.1 V < Ave voltage < 2.2 V  
 ✓ Energy density > 1.7 Wh/cc

Tier 2

~ 200 compounds  
 ✓ Reactant stable in air  
 ✓ Reactant stable in 9N KOH  
 ✓ Product stable in 9N KOH

Predicted alkaline cathode material performance



End result – 200 compounds predicted to outperform current cathode AND are predicted stable (through entire reaction) in 9 M KOH

## Lithium-ion batteries for electric vehicles

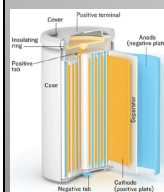
1989



2012



Doc: "No, no, no, no, this sucker's electrical, but I need a nuclear reaction to generate the 1.21 gigawatts of electricity!"

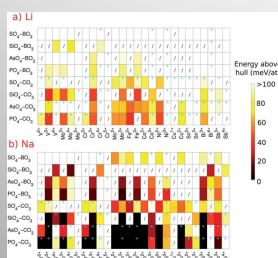


70%-80% of cell cost is materials

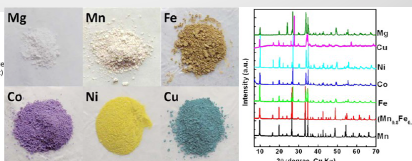
Small car: 4 miles/kWh; 100 miles = \$10,000 battery

Higher kWh/volume reduces cost per kWh of stored energy

## Novel Materials for Li-ion Batteries

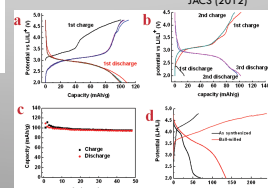


Hautier, Jain, Chen, Moore, Ong, Ceder  
 J. Materials Chemistry  
 (2011)



Chen, Hautier, Ceder

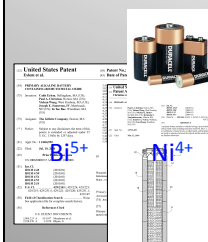
JACS (2012)



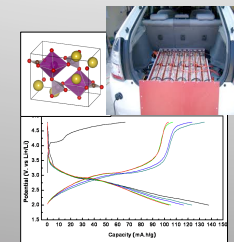
Chen, Hautier, Jain, Moore, Kang, Doe et al.  
 Chemistry of Materials  
 (2012)

## It's just the beginning...

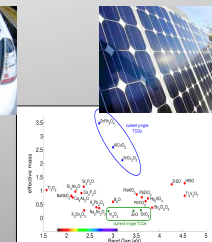
Completely new materials predicted and synthesized based on computational predictions



2005:  
 Novel stable alkaline batteries



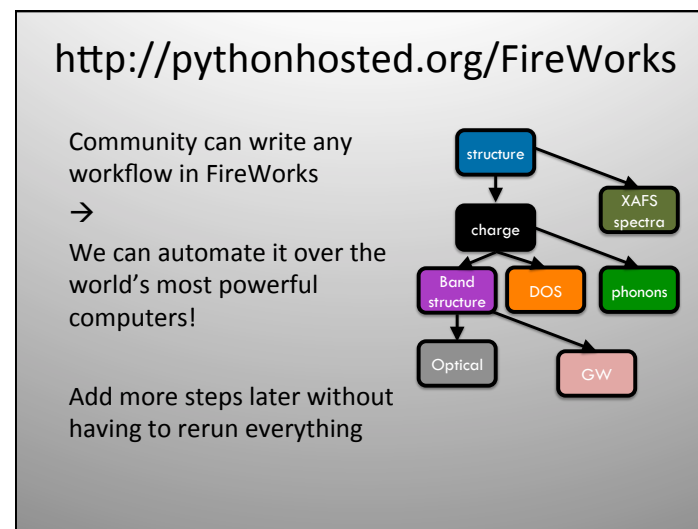
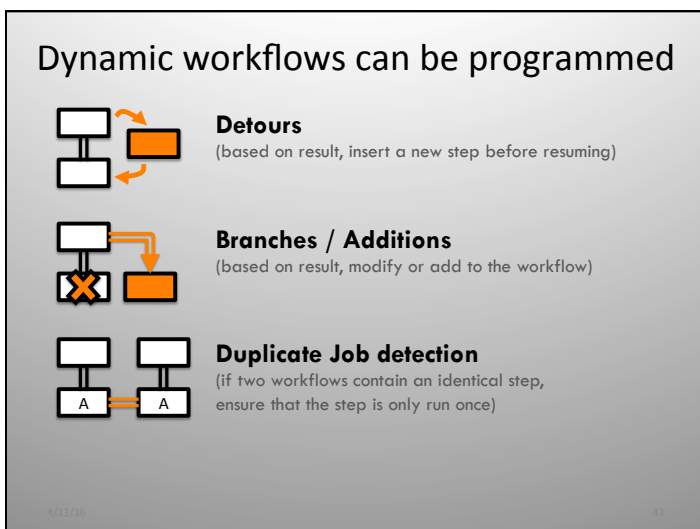
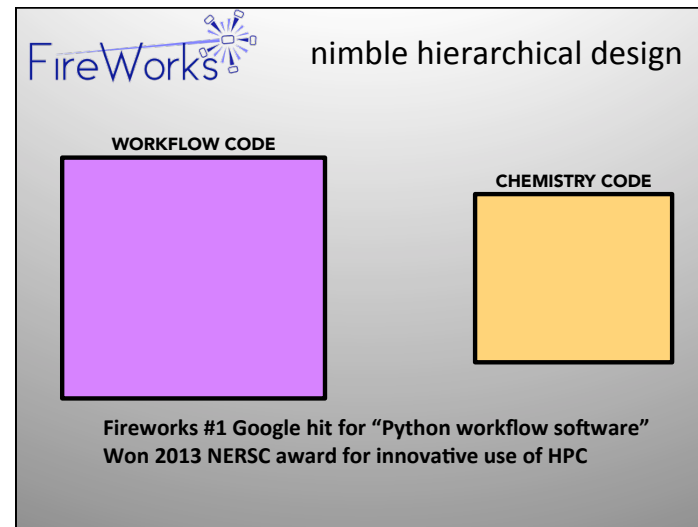
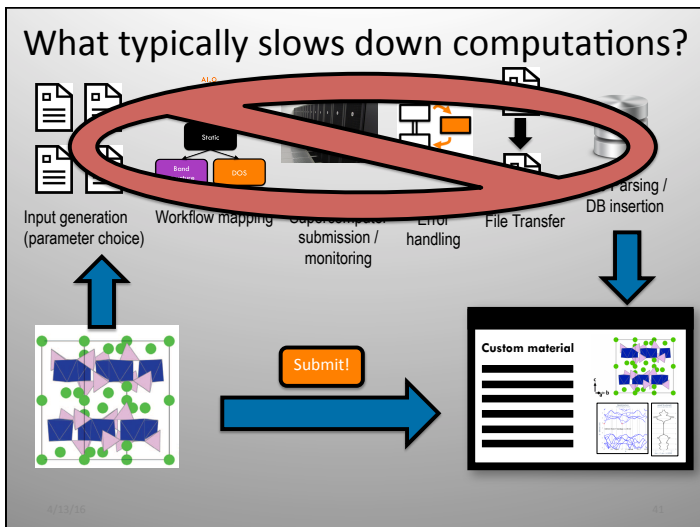
2011:  
 Novel class of Li ion electrodes

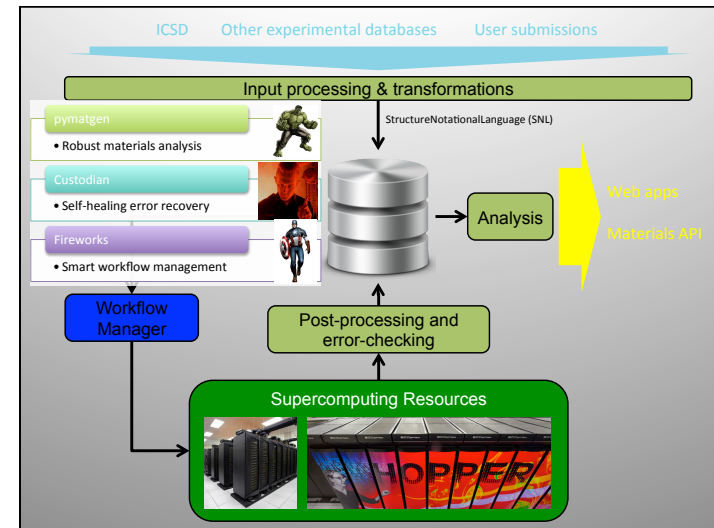
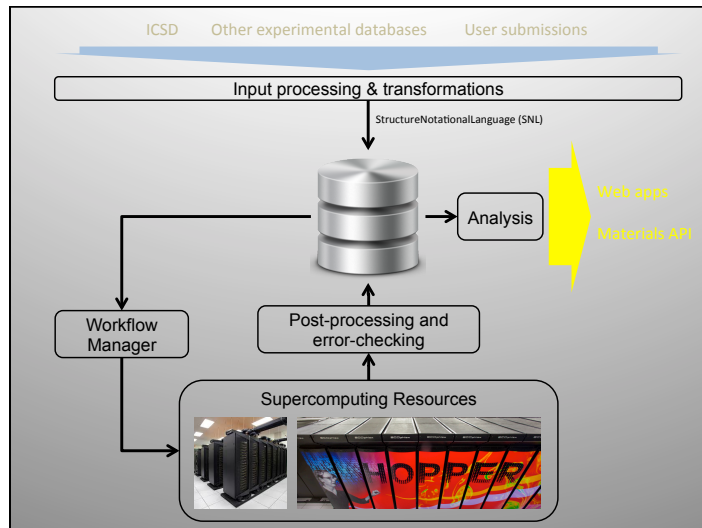


2013:  
 Improved transparent conductors

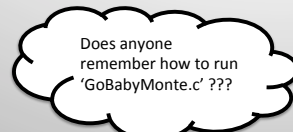








## How to Build Robust Software that Lasts?



Does anyone remember how to run 'GoBabyMonte.c' ???



Nah – Bob left in 1996...

## Software Management Philosophies

- Open-source
  - More eyes => robustness
  - Contributions from all over the world

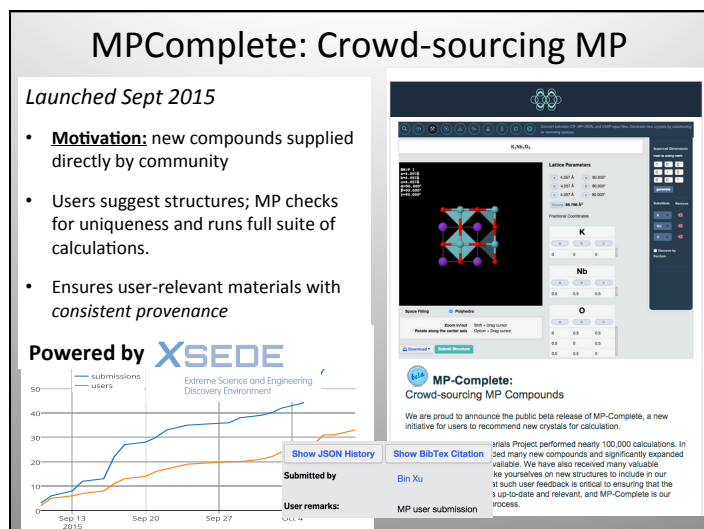
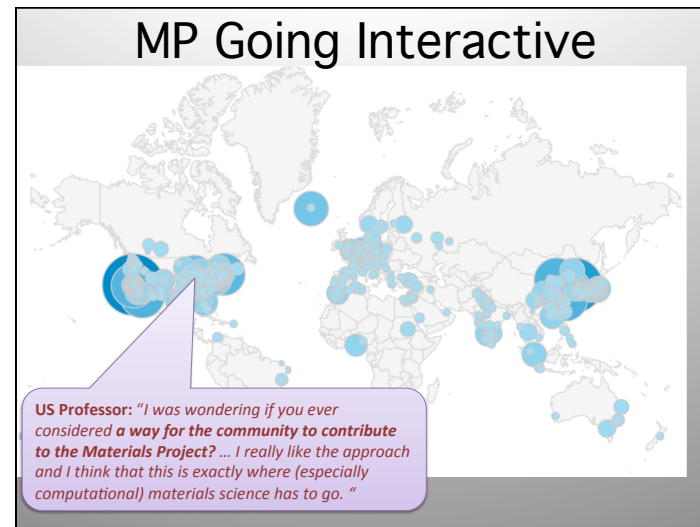
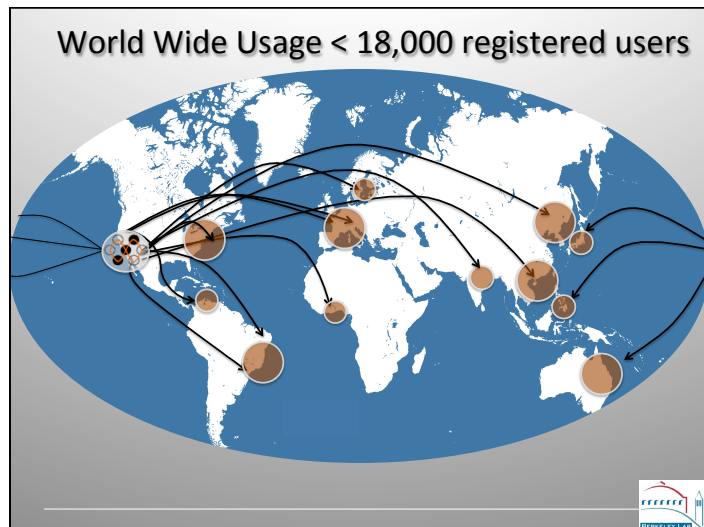
- Benevolent dictatorship

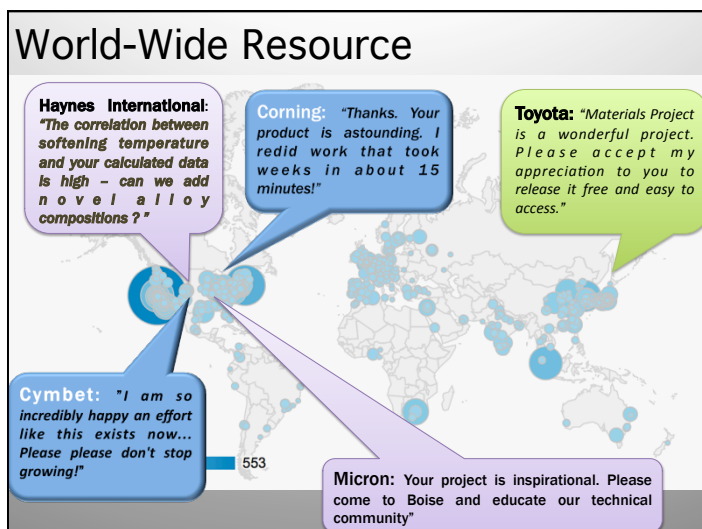
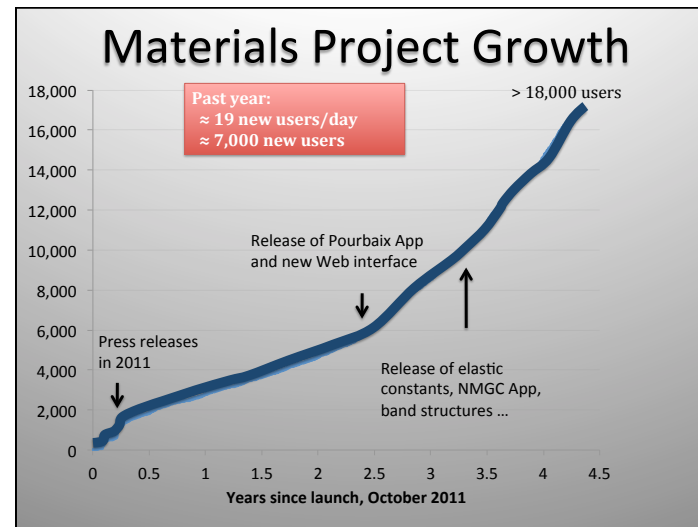
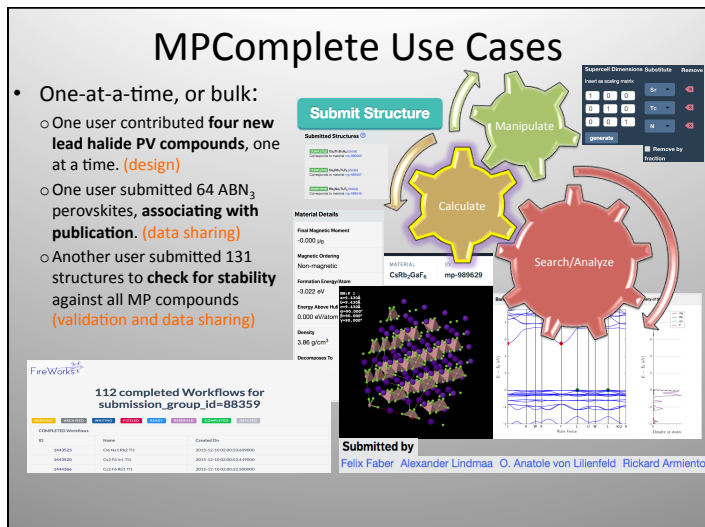
- Clean

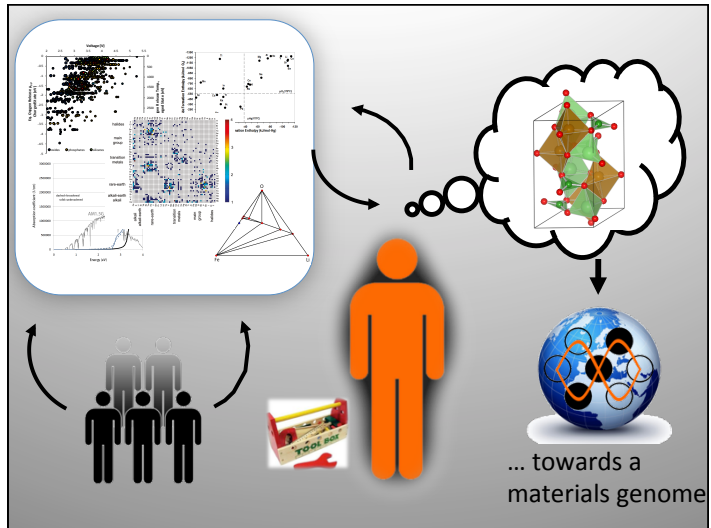
- Test, test, test

- Continuous integration to ensure code is **always** working

The block contains two screenshots. The top one is the 'pymatgen' documentation page, showing the 'Introduction' section. The bottom one is a 'CircleCI' build status page for the 'pymatgen' project, showing a table of builds with columns for Build, Revision, Author, Log, Started at, Length, and Status. The table shows several builds, some with 'SUCCESS' status and others with 'FAILURE'.







Thanks for your attention!