



Science and  
Technology  
Facilities Council

## Scientific Computing

Gilberto Teobaldi

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# **A (concise) overview of SCD's current capabilities/activities in *Modelling and Simulation* of Materials and Molecules**

on behalf of

Ilian Todorov, Silvia Chiacchiera, Michael Seaton, Vlad Sokhan, Chin Yong, Benjamin Speake, Noel Vizcaino

Thomas Keal, Andrey Brukhno, Andrew Duff, Thomas Durrant, Rajany KV, You Lu, John Purton, Kakali Sen, Joseph Thacker

Alin Elena, Federica Zanca, Elliott Kasoar

Leon Petit, Jerome Jackson, Martin Plummer, Manuel Dos Santos Dias, Peter Elliott, Ivan Scivetti, John Trail, Paolo Trevisanutto, Ian Bush, Christopher Marooney, Subindev Devadasan, Adam Jackson, Dominik Jochym, Leandro Liborio, Marcello Puligheddu, Sathya Sai Seetharaman, Barry Searle, Kane Shenton, Jacob Wilkins

# Let's start by trying to agree on the scope

Chemical composition  
characterization

Electronic\*/atomic structure  
characterization

Electron\*/atom dynamics  
characterization

\*includes electron-spin degrees of freedom

Micro/macrosopic property(-ies)

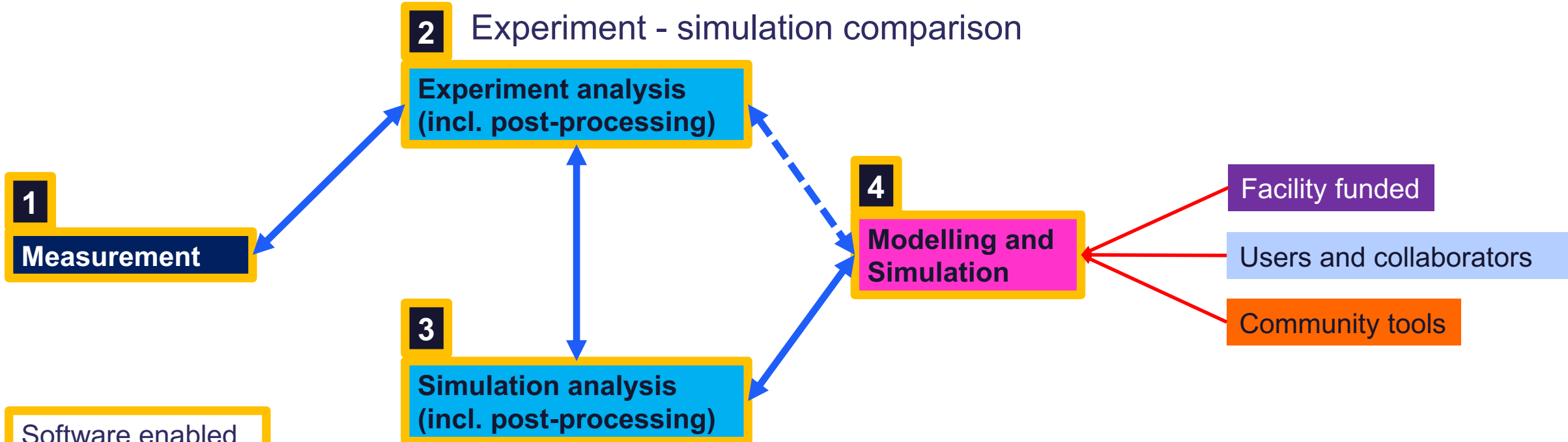
Materials Chemistry/Physics/Science at STFC Facilities

Laser targets  
Detector/Scintillator materials  
Materials for other beamline components  
[Materials for Green/Quantum Computing]

Engineering/device integration

Technological application

# A workflow across STFC facilities

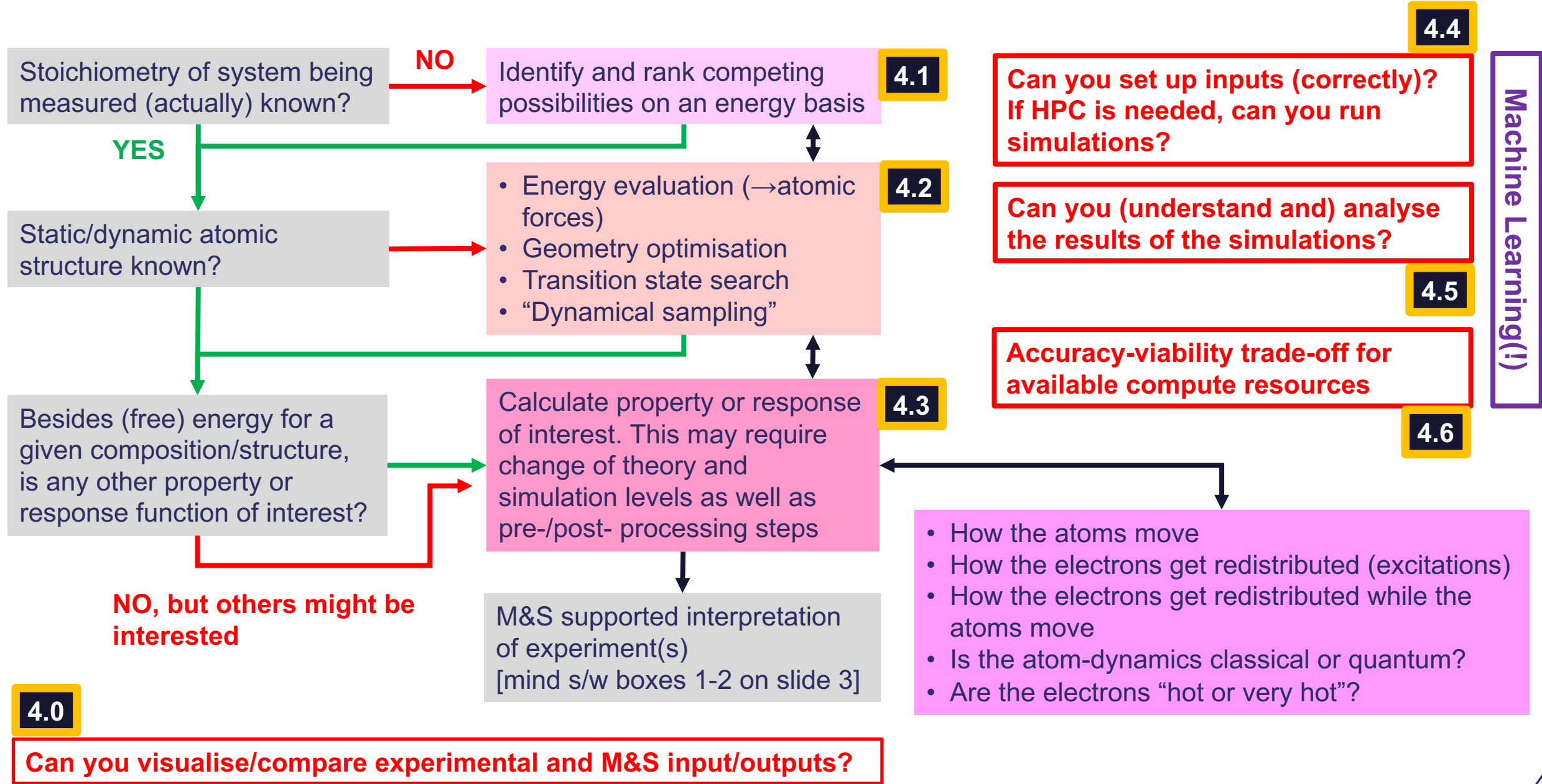


Software enabled

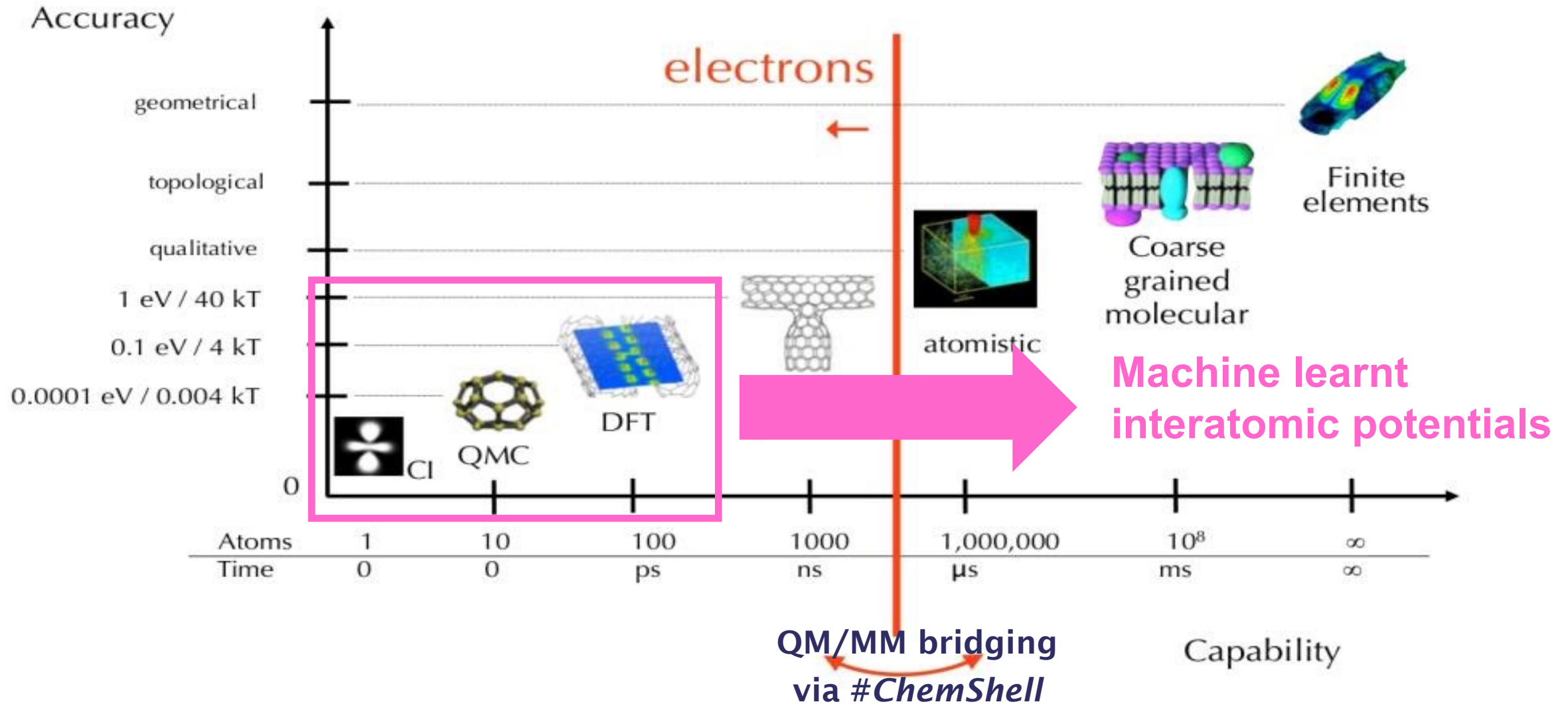
Software types

- Extraction of an observable or feature (which may not be directly measurable...) using theory
- Simulation-based bridging of different observables

# Let's expand (minimally) the "4:M&S" ...



# A multi-scale Modelling and Simulation platform



# Computational Materials and Molecular Science Theme

**Currently 4 groups: ~40 staff-members with expertise across 2, 3 and 4**

- **Classical Materials and Molecular Modelling** (Ilian Todorov)
- **Multiscale Materials Chemistry** (Thomas Keal)
- **Data-driven Materials and Molecular Science** (Alin-Marin Elena)
- **Theoretical and Computational Materials Physics** (Gilberto Teobaldi, interim)

# SCD-CMMS' software menu as of today (with working hyperlinks...)

- 2: experimental data postprocessing (EXAFS)
  - [DL\\_EXCURV](#)
- 2-3: experiment-simulation comparison (INS)
  - [Abins](#)
  - [Euphonic](#)
  - INTONE (not released yet)
- 2-3: experiment-simulation comparison ([QE]NS)
  - MDMC (not released yet)
- 2-3: experiment-simulation comparison ( $\mu$ SR)
  - [The Muon Spectroscopy Computational Project](#)
  - [Muon Galaxy](#)
- 2-3: experiment-simulation comparison (EQCM)
  - [ALC\\_EQCM](#)
- 4.0: Visualisation
  - [DL\\_Visualize](#)
- 4.1: Stoichiometric resolution
  - [ALC\\_EQCM](#)
- 4.2-4.3: Energy (forces) evaluation + responses/dynamics – first principles
  - [CASTEP](#)
  - [CP2K](#)
  - [CRYSTAL](#)
  - [ELK](#)
  - [ONETEP](#)
  - [QUESTAAL](#)
  - [W90](#)

# SCD-CMMS' software menu as of today (with working hyperlinks...)

- 4.2-4.3: Energy (forces) evaluation + responses/dynamics – parameterised Hamiltonians
  - [DL\\_FIELD](#)
  - [DL\\_POLY](#)
  - [DL\\_MONTE](#)
  - ACDC (not released yet)
- 4.2-4.3: Energy (forces) evaluation + responses/dynamics – Coarse-grained/mesoscale lattice models
  - [DL\\_MESO](#)
- 4.2-4.3-4.4: Energy (forces) evaluation + responses/dynamics – multi-scale (QM/MM)
  - [ChemShell](#)
  - [DL\\_FIND](#)
- 4.2-4.3: Energy (forces) evaluation + responses/dynamics – machine learned potentials
  - [APD](#)
  - [Janus](#)
- 4.4: Input set-up and workflow management
  - [Aida-MLIP](#)
  - [ALC\\_EQCM](#)
  - [ALC\\_SUTOR](#)
  - [DL\\_FIELD](#)
  - [DLPOLY-PY](#)
  - [Muon Galaxy](#)
  - [Shapespyer](#)
- 4.5: output analysis
  - [ALC\\_TRAJECTORY](#)
  - [DL\\_ANALYSER](#)
  - [Shapespyer](#)
- 4.6: viability-accuracy trade-offs
  - Extended pool of highly experienced people
  - Continuous algorithmic and parallelism improvements 8



# ps about software for 4.2-4.3:

The previous software lists have been limited to the software we develop/co-develop. However, quite a few of us know how to skilfully use (and are licensed to use) also other very popular simulation codes NOT included in the previous slides.

## **MORE EXPLICITLY:**

If you or your users really need to use LAMMPS, GROMACS, Quantum Espresso, VASP, Exciting, Yambo, Ocean, Molpro, NWChem, etc, bar licensing caveats and ALC funding strings, we would be open to it. As a matter of fact, we may have likely been using it already for benchmarking and validation...

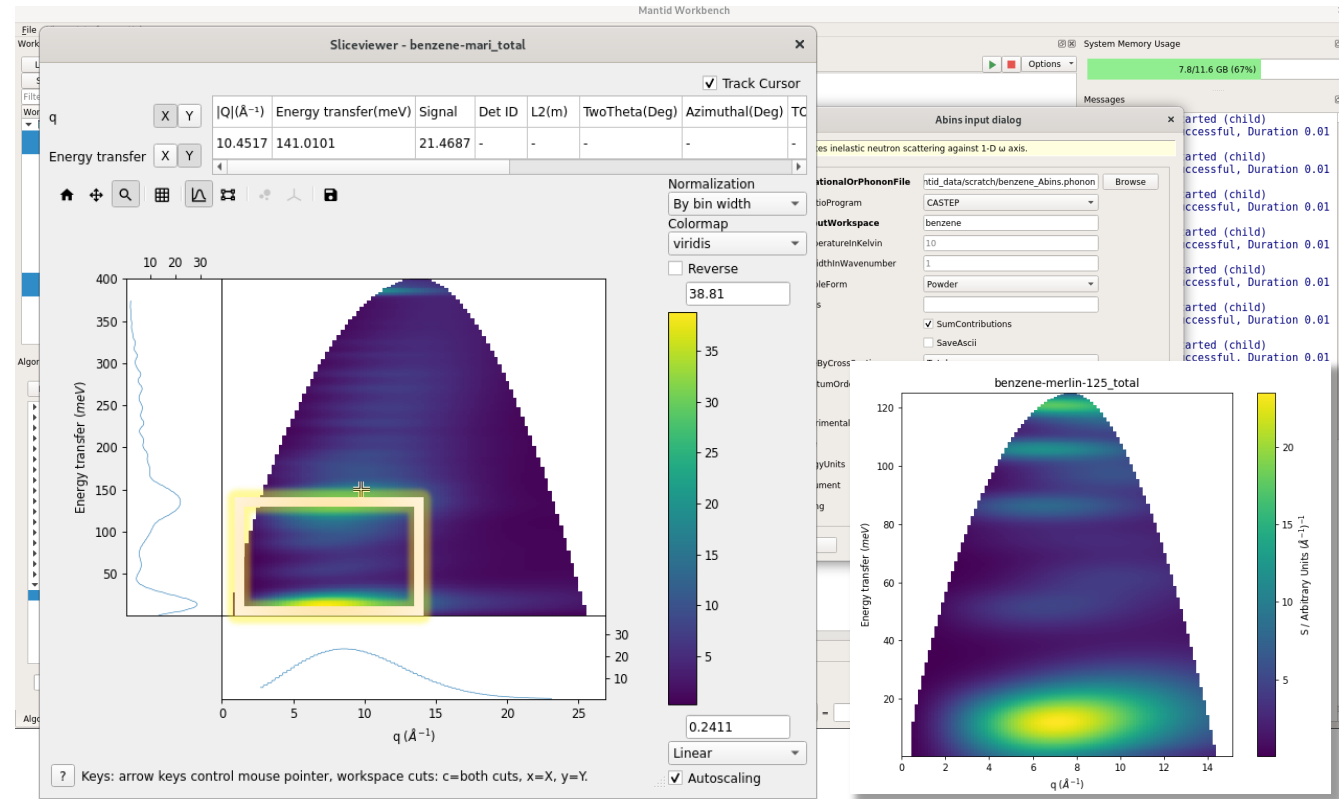
# Some considerations about balancing M&S demands

- Level of M&S accuracy vs **compute resources available** (SCARF or beyond SCARF? How to access it?)
- Setting discussion and possible work on *generative AI for training* aside, software documentation and continuous training as well as beamscientist(s) engagement is essential for **software uptake** to happen. This requires (£-)support beyond the code development, validation and release...
- Software improvements around software types #1 and #2 (slide-3) tend to show “**value at the beamline**” earlier than #3 and #4. However, interpretation and **cross-correlation** with other observables require #3 and #4. #4 may require additional external collaboration (*Theory development* has been left loose on purpose).
- Work at #3 and #4 can facilitate contact also with **laboratory or EPSRC-funded facility measurements**, which may add to the “users’ experience”.
- Interfaces with **ALC Data** and **Machine Learning** themes have been purposefully left loose/undefined.
- Balance between SCD’s “**software expertise provision**”, “**in silico added insights**”, and “**scientific collaboration/partnership**” is and will be Facility and user-dependent. **One size fits all is most likely not possible**. We are flexible and can respond to different inclinations/requests.

**An (incomplete) overview of  
previous/ongoing projects and/or untapped  
capabilities across 2-4.X (see slides 3&4)**

# 2-3: AbINS – *Ab initio inelastic neutron scattering*

- Simulated INS experiments with data from popular atomistic codes (e.g. *CASTEP*, *VASP*, *GAUSSIAN*...)
- Successor to CLIMAX, aCLIMAX codes used for ISIS TOSCA beamline (and predecessor TXFA...)
  - Model intended for molecular spectroscopy (incoherent scattering)
- Python code in Mantid: available on beamlines, VMs (IDAaaS), Win/Mac/Linux
- Has grown to support more beamlines at ISIS (MAPS/MARI/MERLIN) and elsewhere (ILL Lagrange, PANTHER)

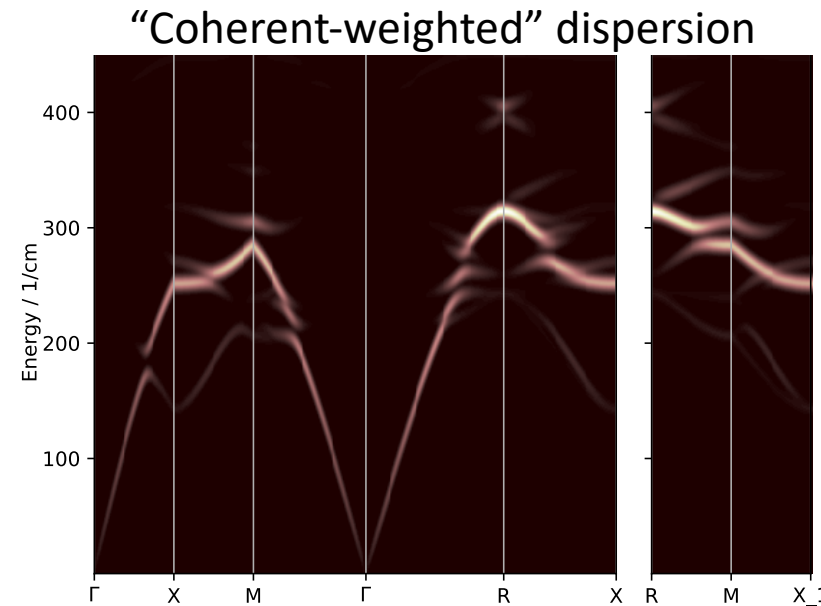


- Beamlines can be compared when planning experiments... this is not yet standard practice!

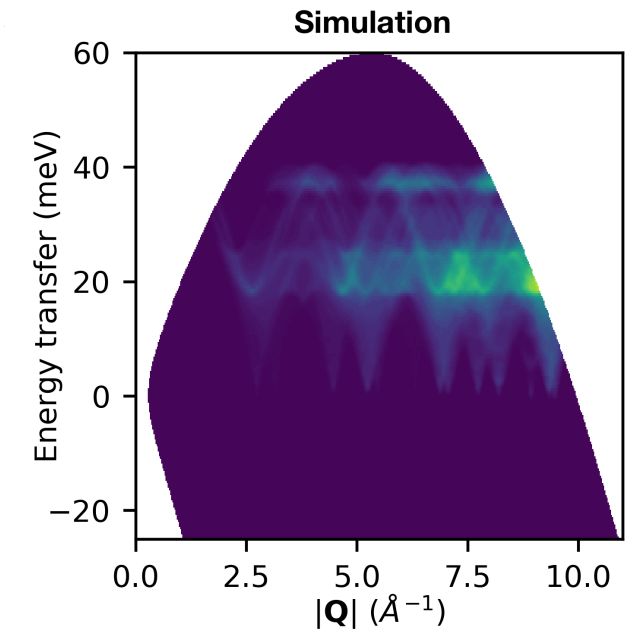
# 2(-3): Euphonic – $q$ -point sampling backend and more

- Created as part of “Proper analysis of Coherent Excitations” (PACE) project; modernisation of the Horace package
- Horace: 4-D analysis from time-of-flight data for ISIS MAPS/MARI/MERLIN/LET
- Euphonic provides simulation for Horace, decoupled into a “friendly” Python+C package
- Coherent scattering on fine  $q$ -mesh: generally suitable for inorganic crystals

<https://github.com/pace-neutrons/Euphonic>



Numerical powder-averaging



- OpenMP parallelism performs well on IDAaaS
- $q$ -point interpolation also used by AbINS for incoherent scattering
- *Mantid manages Euphonic as a Conda dependency*
- Command-line tools: intended as a demo of library, but have proven useful for quick simulation work

# 2-3: INTONE — *Ab initio dynamical structure factor for quantum materials*

Manuel dos Santos Dias  
Kiran Jonathan

First-principles  
materials properties



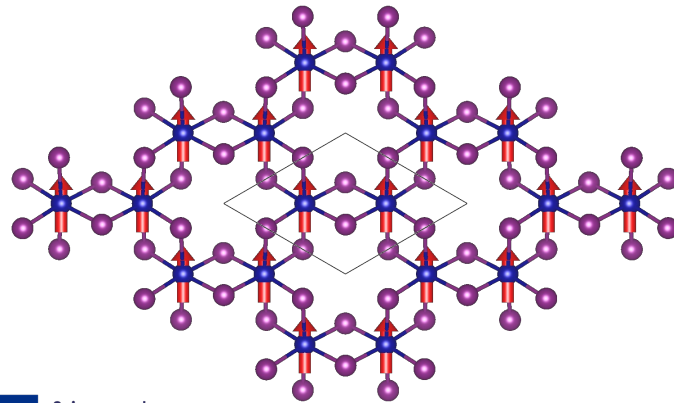
Model parameters  
Spin wave theory

Parameter-free  
susceptibilities

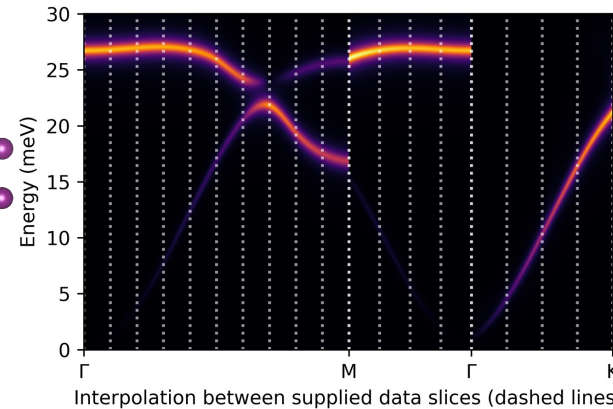
Theoretical spectroscopy

- ▶  $S(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$  from magnons, plasmons, ...
- ▶ Cuts from 4D  $S(\mathbf{q}, \omega)$  datasets
- ▶ Powder average, co-alignment effects
- ▶ Complementary to MD approaches
- ▶ Interpret and design experiments

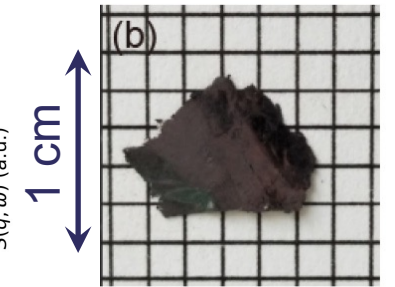
Case study:  
2D  $\text{CrI}_3$



Susceptibility data from  
turboMagnon (QE)



Next: effects from  
co-aligned crystals



20-30 crystals co-  
aligned for INS

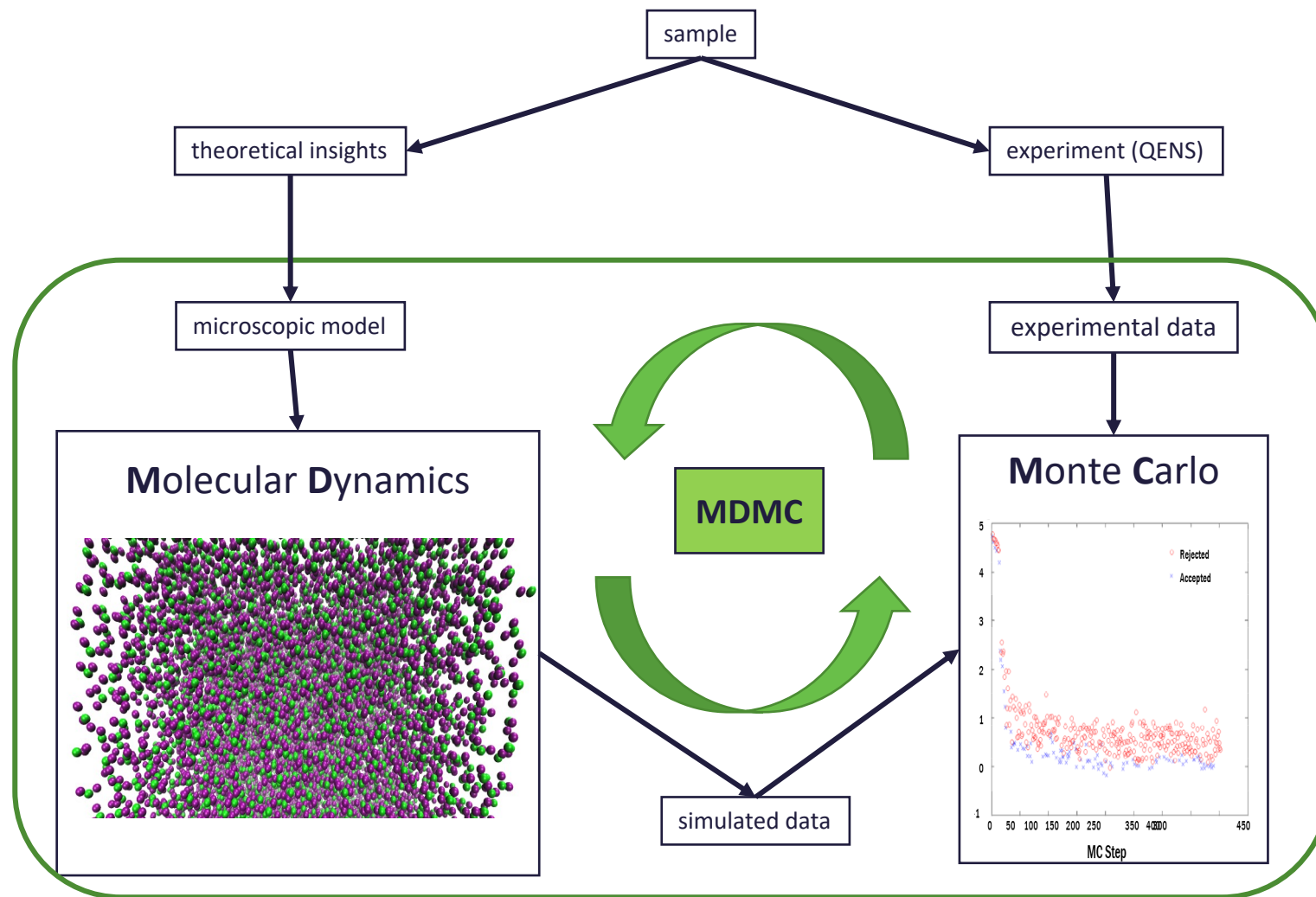


ISIS Neutron and  
Muon Source

Scientific Computing

PRX 8, 041028 (2018)

## 2-3: MDMC – optimising molecular dynamics potentials to dynamical structure factor data



- Simulations Engines:
  - Lammmps
  - DL\_POLY
  - Others
- Restructuring of the project to support more MD Engines and other simulators, MC, hMC
- Refining against other observables than structure factor, e.g. diffusion coefficients
- UX friendly for both simulators and experimentalists, MDANSE?

proof of concept: AJ Markvardsen, RL McGreevy, RAL-TR-2017-014

# 2(-3): Muon Spectroscopy Computational Project

**Sustainable, User-friendly and Reproducible** Software Tools for Interpreting Muon Experiments

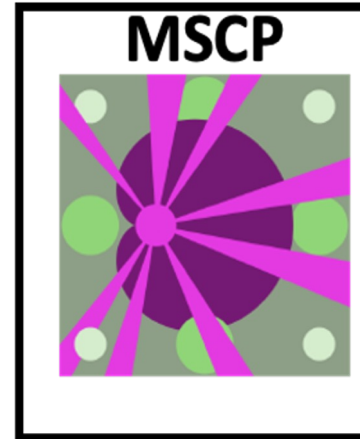
<https://muon-spectroscopy-computational-project.github.io/>

**MuDirac**

treat muonic atoms

**pymuon-suite**

muon stopping sites



**pm-nq**

muon quantum effects

**Muspinsim**

spin dynamics of systems of a muon  
plus other spins

Muon

**Galaxy**  
PROJECT



Scientific Computing

**Muon Galaxy** Open source, web-based GUI for MSCP's tools

<https://muongalaxy.stfc.ac.uk/>

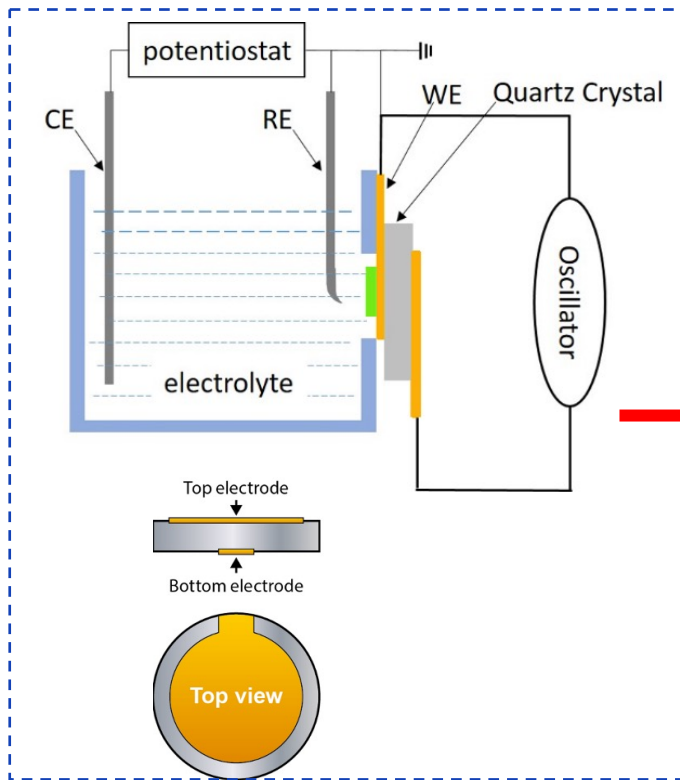


ISIS Neutron and  
Muon Source

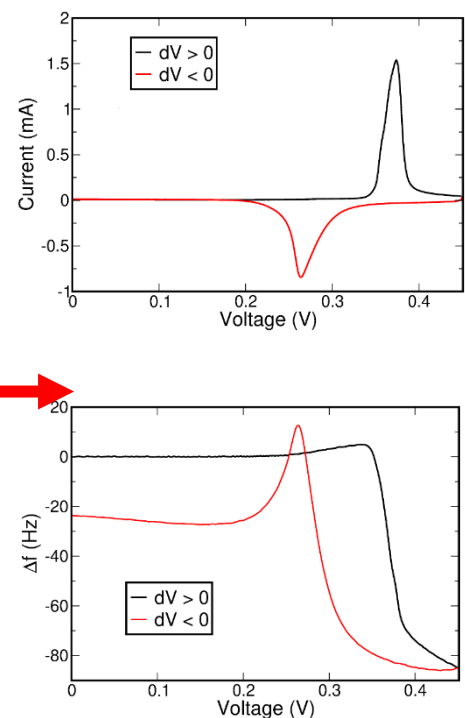


# 4.1: ALC\_EQCM: software for electrochemistry

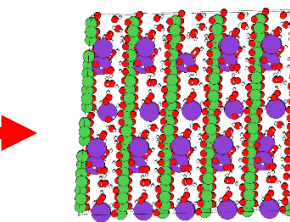
EQCM device



EQCM data



ALC\_EQCM



Atomistic models



HPC

## Motivation

Complex electrochemical reactions involve many species.  
Lack of quantitative stoichiometric resolution during cycling

## Strategy

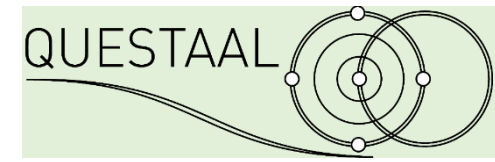
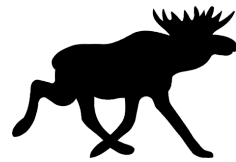
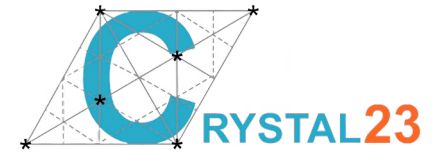
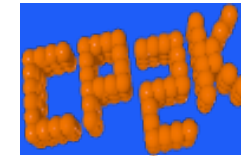
- Use EQCM values of mass and charge changes to obtain the set of multiple stoichiometric solutions
- Generate atomistic models compatible with EQCM data
- Compute structures to screen relative energies thanks to **automatically prepared, sanity checked input files for standard Density Functional Theory codes (CASTEP, ONETEP, CP2K, VASP, QE...)**

- 1) [ACS Appl. Energy Mater. 3, 3347 \(2020\)](#)
- 2) [Comput. Mater. Sci. 218, 111968 \(2023\)](#)
- 3) [https://github.com/stfc/alc\\_eqcm](https://github.com/stfc/alc_eqcm)

# 4.2-4.3 DFT and beyond-DFT methods and codes

- 4.2-4.3: Energy (forces) evaluation + responses/dynamics – first principles

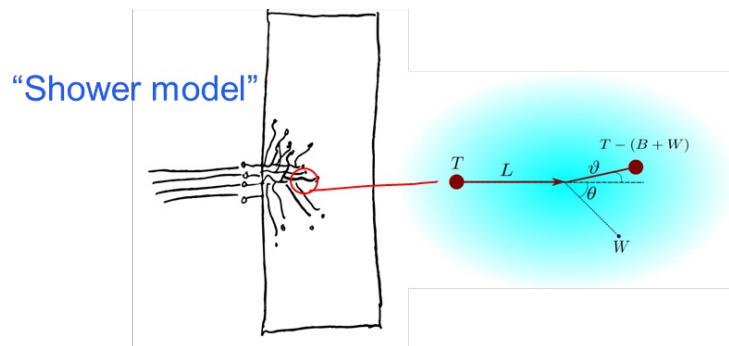
- [CASTEP](#)
- [CP2K](#)
- [CRYSTAL](#)
- [ELK](#)
- [ONETEP](#)
- [QUESTAAL](#)
- [W90](#)



- **Different** scaling (→ compute cost, speed) and (numerical) accuracy
- **Different** functionalities available
- **Different** stage of maturity (→ documentation and ease of use)
- “One size fits all does not exist” (→ “*what is the best code [for a given application]?*”)

# 4.4: ALC\_SUTOR

Python Suite for Monte-Carlo scattering calculations starting from the Energy Loss Function (ELF) generated by Linear Response TD-DFT calculations



## Elastic scattering

**ELSEPA code:** Determination of the cumulative elastic probabilities for different kinetic energies

## Inelastic scattering

LR –TDDFT calculations of the ELF up to 60-100 eV (**QE**, **Turboeels Lanczos algo**, **ELK**, **Questaal**, etc) ( $k \rightarrow 0$ )

**Sutor** ELF for energies from 60,100 eV to 300 keV are merged from the NIST scattering tables in ( $k \rightarrow 0$ )  
<https://physics.nist.gov/PhysRefData/FFast/html/form.html>

**Sutor:** TDDFT and NIST ELF are merged to provide the ELF up to 300 keV and extended at finite  $k$

**Sutor:** Extension of the ELF at finite  $k$ : (TD-DFT) or Drude model

**Sutor:** Integration in  $k$  and  $\omega$ . Determination of the Inelastic mean free path and the Cumulative Probabilities at different Kinetic energies.

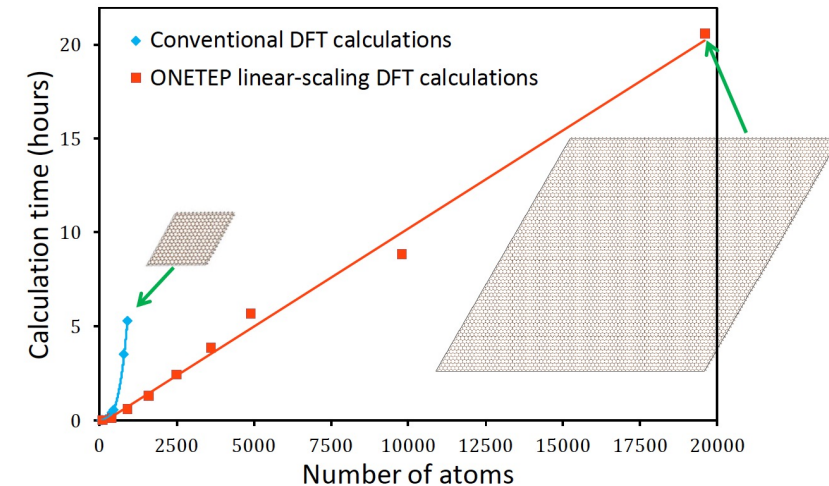
**Seed Montecarlo code:** determination of reflective electron energy loss and Transmission, dose deposition, and secondary electrons

# 4.2-4.3: beyond linear-response – Better-scaling RT-TD-DFT for electron (-ion) dynamics

$$i\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\psi_j(\mathbf{r}, t) = \left[ \frac{1}{2} \left( -i\nabla - \frac{1}{c}\mathbf{A}_{\text{ext}}(t) \right)^2 + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}, t) + v_{\text{HXC}}[n](\mathbf{r}, t) \right] \psi_j(\mathbf{r}, t)$$

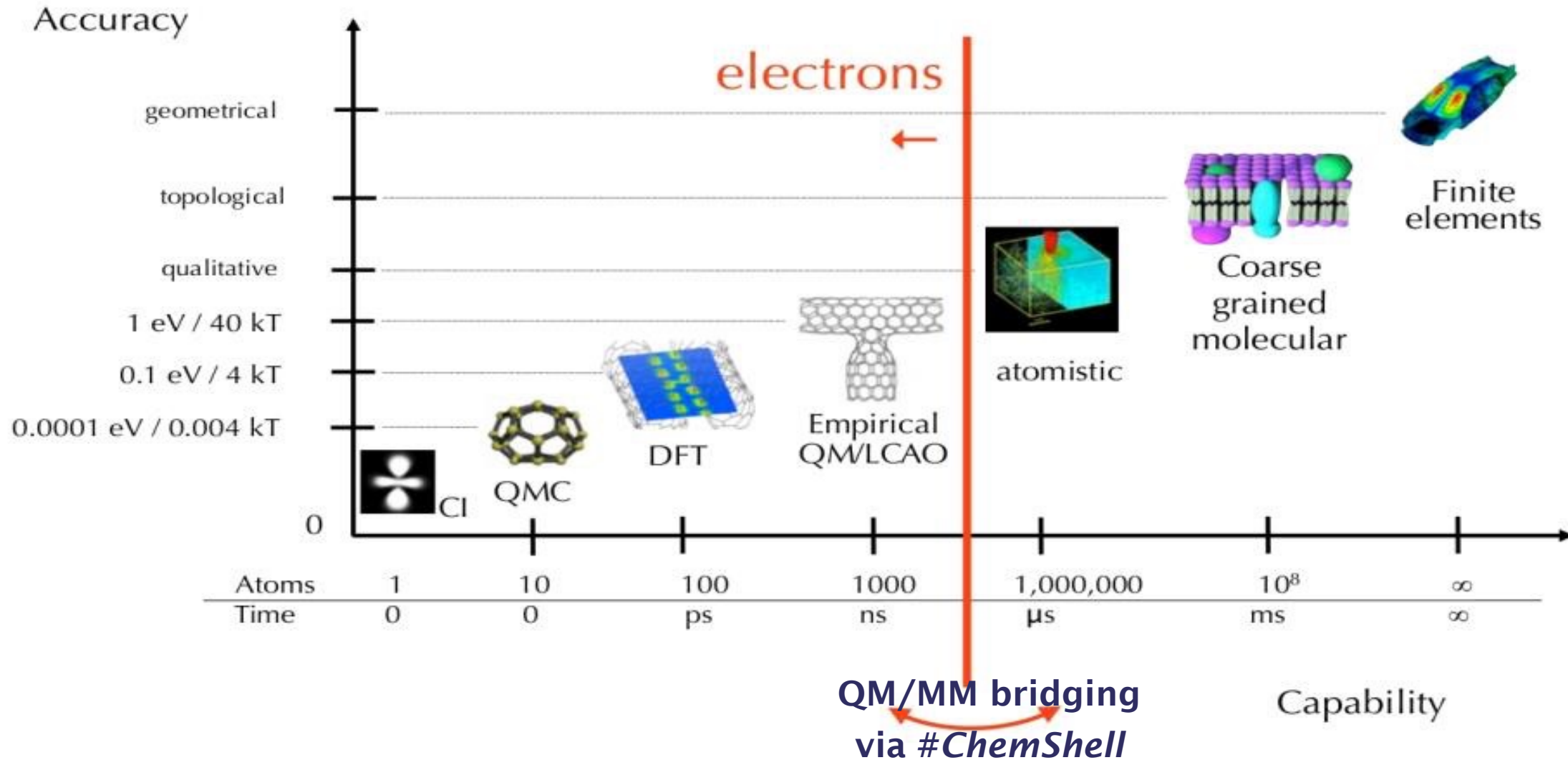
$$n(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sum_j |\psi_j(\mathbf{r}, t)|^2$$

- **Predictive** first principles method, parameter free, unbiased
- **Quantum Mechanical** → capture coherences
- Includes electronic structure
- **Non-linear effects** automatically captured. Pump-probe experiments and not so low laser power ones [ $\mathbf{A}_{\text{ext}}(t)$  term...]
- Good for first **~100fs** (with electron-ion coupling can go longer)

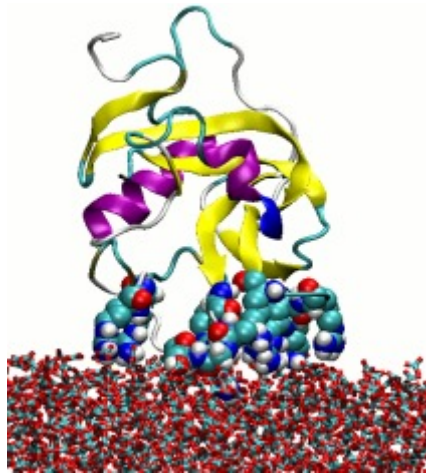


 [www.onetep.org](http://www.onetep.org)

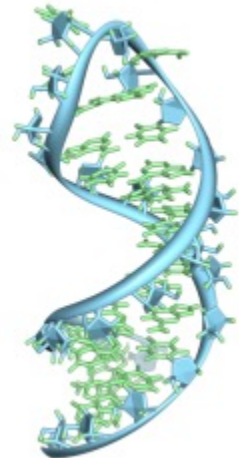
# 4.2-4.3: a multi-scale Modelling and Simulation platform



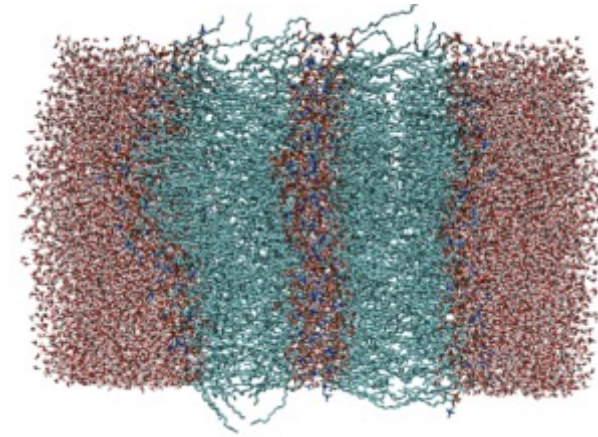
# 4.2-4.3: Molecular Dynamics with parameterised Hamiltonians – DL\_POLY



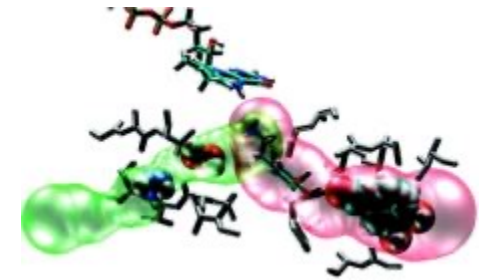
Proteins  
solvation & binding



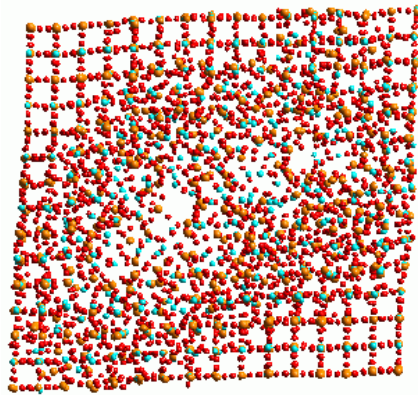
DNA strands  
dynamics



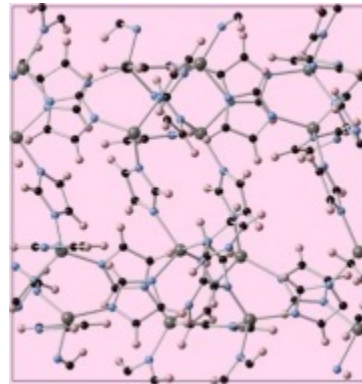
Membranes' processes



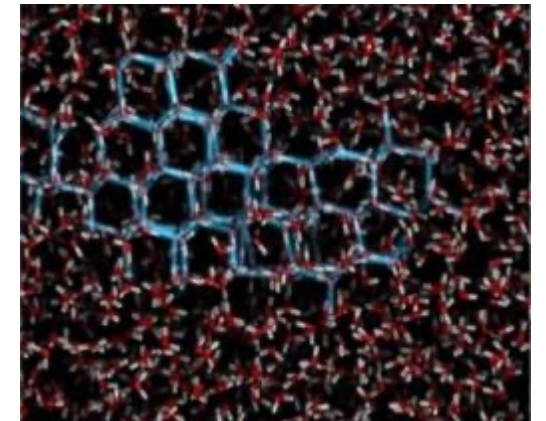
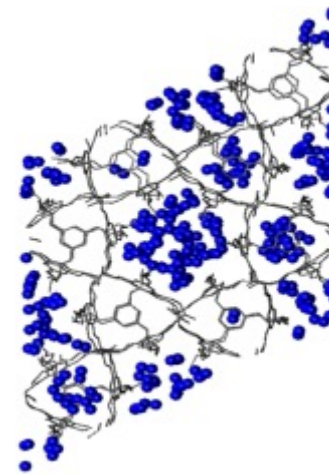
Drug polymorphs  
& discovery



Crystalline & Amorphous  
Solids – damage and recovery



Dynamic processes in  
Metal-Organic & Organic Frameworks

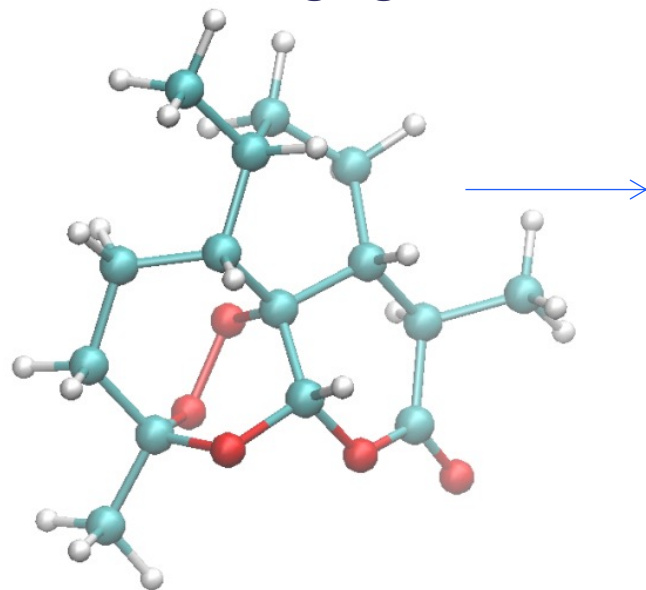


Dynamics at Interfaces &  
of Phase Transformations

# 4.4: DL\_FIELD

Capability to identify the exact chemical nature of every atom in the system and assign universal notation for a range of different force field schemes.

Artemisinin - drug against malaria



Molecular structure  
(starting structures)

|                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1 - O_acetal   | 15 - Ct_alkane  |
| 2 - Cq_alkane  | 16 - O_peroxide |
| 3 - HC_alkane  | 17 - C_acetal   |
| 4 - Cp_alkane  | 18 - OL_ester   |
| 5 - Cs_alkane  | 19 - HC_alkane  |
| 6 - HC_alkane  | 20 - HC_acetal  |
| 7 - Cs_alkane  | 21 - HC_alkane  |
| 8 - HC_alkane  | 22 - O_peroxide |
| 9 - Ct_alkane  | 23 - C_ester    |
| 10 - HC_alkane | 24 - OE_ester   |
| 11 - HC_alkane | 25 - Ct_alkane  |
| 12 - Ct_alkane | 26 - Cp_alkane  |
| 13 - Cq_alkane | 27 - HC_alkane  |
| 14 - HC_alkane | ...             |
|                | ...             |

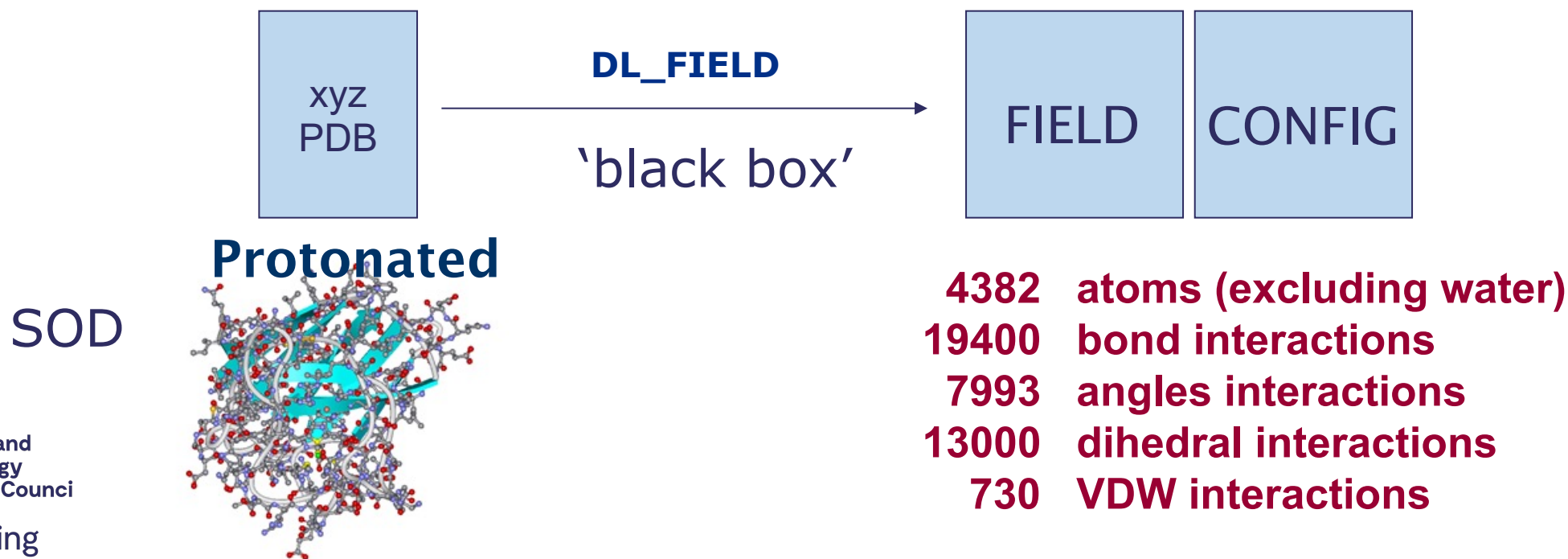
Atomistic chemical information  
(useful for analysis)

```
Generated by DL_FIELD v3.40
Units kcal/mol
Molecular types 1
Molecule name not_define
nummols 1
atoms 42
OS      15.99940  -0.40000  1  0
CT      12.01150   0.40000  1  0
HC       1.00797   0.06000  1  0
CT      12.01150  -0.18000  1  0
CT      12.01150  -0.12000  1  0
HC       1.00797   0.06000  1  0
CT      12.01150  -0.12000  1  0
HC       1.00797   0.06000  1  0
...
```

Force field model  
(MD simulations)

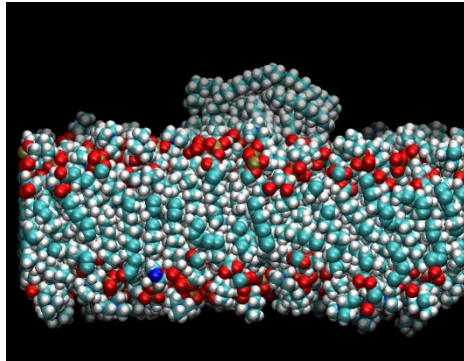
# 4.4: DL\_FIELD

- **Flesh on bone** – chemical typing and identification, via DL\_F notation, forming complete chemistry perspective
- **Organic Fields** – AMBER+Glycam, CHARM, OPLS-AA, PCFF, Drieding, CHARM19 (united atom) + many others
- **Inorganic Fields** – some access for organic/inorganic interfaces including core-shell polarisation, etc.
- **Solvation Features, Auto-CONNECT feature** for mapping complex random structures such as gels and random polymers
- Input units freedom and molecular rigidification

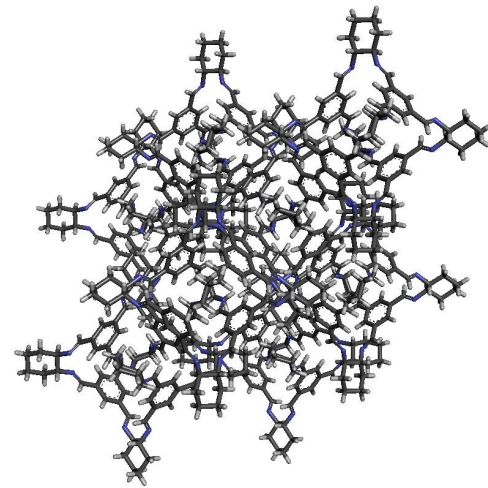




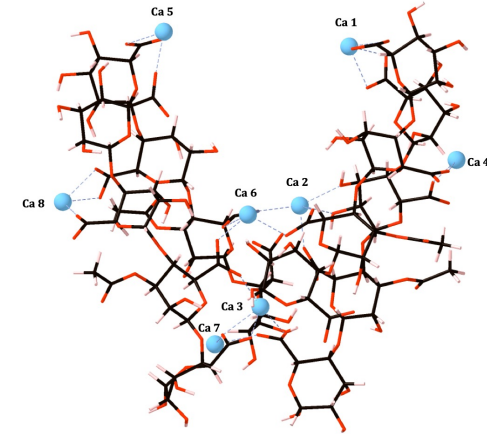
# 4.2-4.4: DL\_FIELD to DL\_POLY Studies



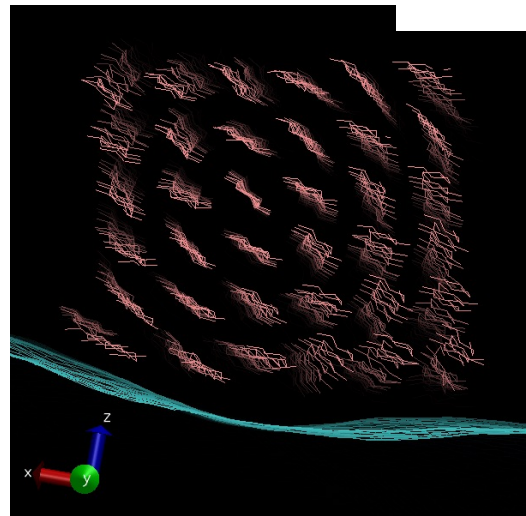
Polymer on lipid membrane



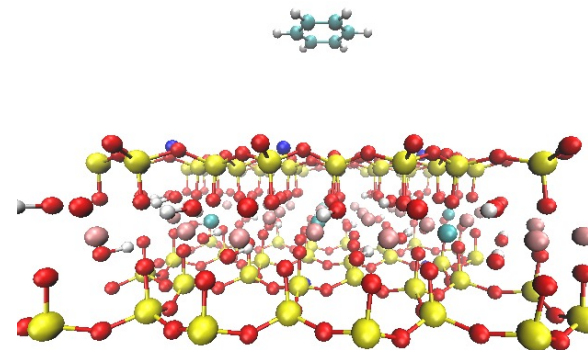
Molecular cages



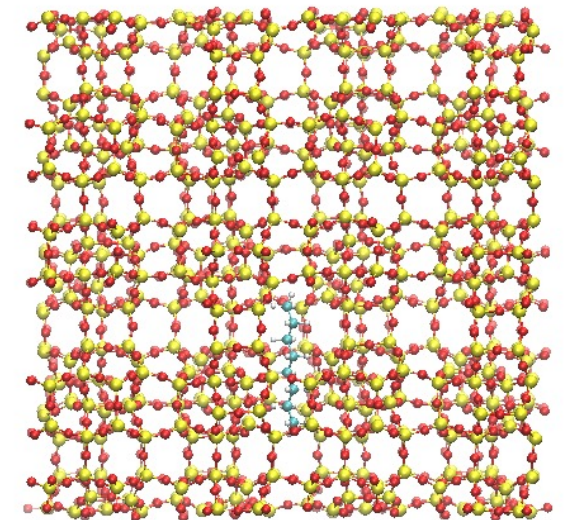
Biomolecules



Graphene-cellulose contact adhesion



Bio-inorganic systems  
(montmorillonite+organic)



Zeolite+ adsorbates (hydrocarbons,  
organic molecules, gas, etc)

 Science and  
Technology  
Facilities Council  
Central Laser Facility

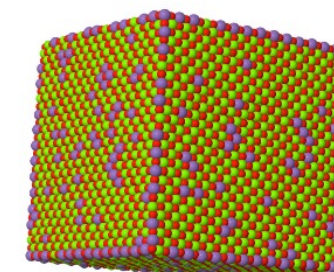
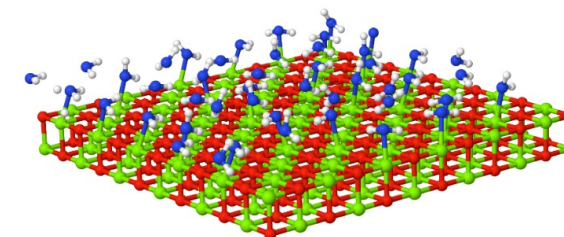
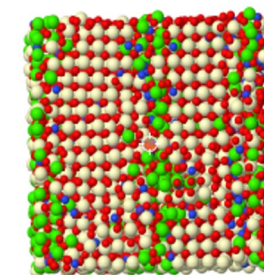
 Science and  
Technology  
Facilities Council  
ISIS Neutron and  
Muon Source

 diamond

 Science and  
Technology  
Facilities Council  
Scientific Computing

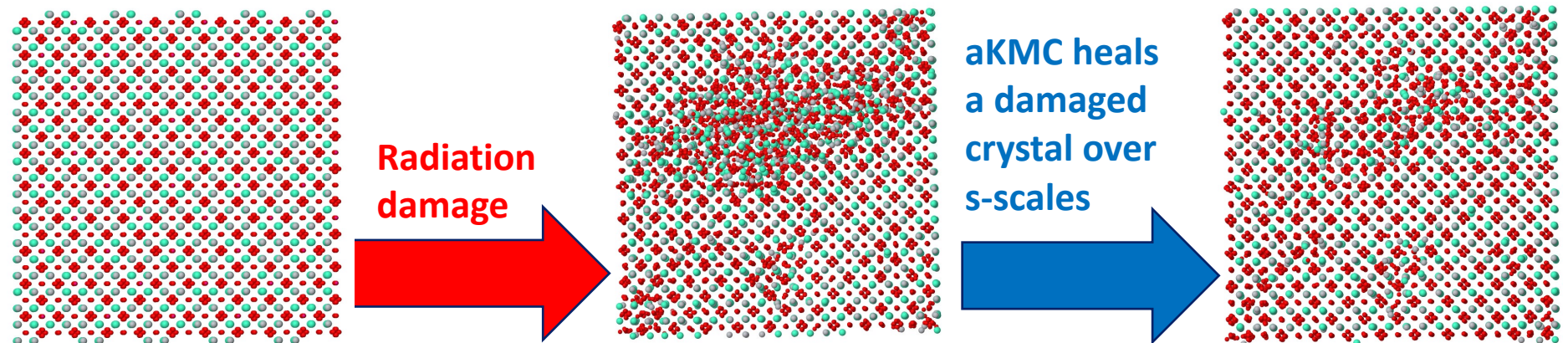
# 4.2-4.3: Monte Carlo with parameterised Hamiltonians – DL\_MONTE

- A stochastic method to study phase equilibria, (meta-) stability and coexistence – *getting cool science out of “dice throwing”*
- **Advantages of MC beyond MD**
  - atom/molecule insertions/deletions/mutations → **chemical equilibrium**
  - “artistic” moves and pathways to skip energy barriers → **metastability & coexistence**
  - efficient biased exploration of configuration space → **thermodynamic equilibrium**
  - powerful at riding on free-energy landscapes → **transition states & rare events**
- **Lack of time & forces**
  - no mapping onto real time scale -> **kinetic/transport properties inaccessible**
  - no momenta / real forces -> **slow motion in dense systems**
- **Broad application scope**
  - useful for calculation of **phase diagrams** and associated **thermodynamic properties** in bulk and at interfaces especially for materials and condensed matter systems
  - opportunities to develop enhancements and explore applications in biological systems



# 4.2-4.3: adaptive kinetic Monte Carlo (aKMC) with parameterised or first principles (or ML-derived) Hamiltonians – ACDC

- Kinetic Monte Carlo (**KMC**) - simulates **state-to-state kinetics of a rare event system**. Rare events correspond to the thermal activation of atoms from one energy basin to another on the potential energy surface. If the rates of these transitions are known, KMC can be used to simulate kinetics over long time scales.
- Adaptive Kinetic Monte Carlo (**aKMC**) is a method for determining all of the transitions from each state on the fly, **eliminating the need to use a pre-defined rate-list**.
- Molecular Dynamics timescales are inaccessible and insufficient for capturing the dynamics of rare events
- Many technological important processes and materials rely on **solid state diffusion!**
  - Growth of thin films: magnetic recording media, electronic semiconductor devices, LEDs, optical coatings.
  - Defect mobility and clustering: batteries and solid oxide fuel cells, nuclear materials



# 4.2-4.3 DPD and LBE – DL\_MESO

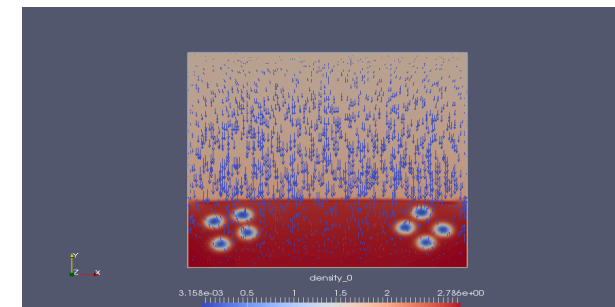
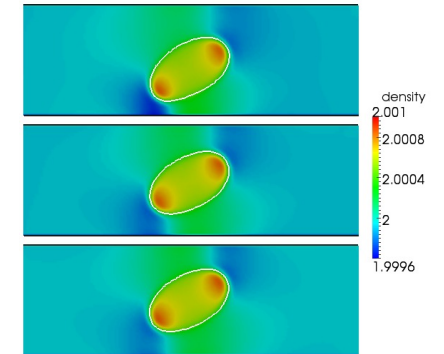
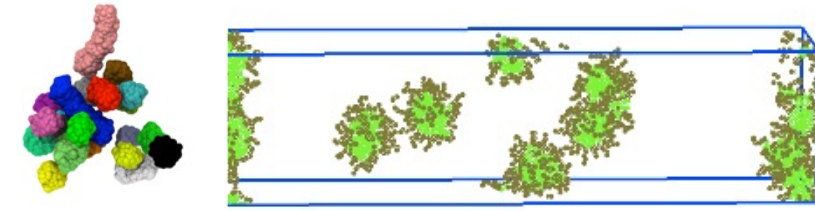
## Dissipative Particle Dynamics (DPD)

- Particle based method akin to Molecular Dynamics
- Bottom-up approach to describe **fluidic systems** at the engineering scale
- Used for simulation of **mesophases of colloids** (strong industrial application – Unilever, DOW, Syngenta, Infineum) and their **rheological behaviour** (mixing and dynamics of phases, including CMC, micellization, vesicle formation, condensation, shear flows LEBC)
- Novel DPD interaction (nDPD), capable to model true interfaces with **access to solid and vapour**

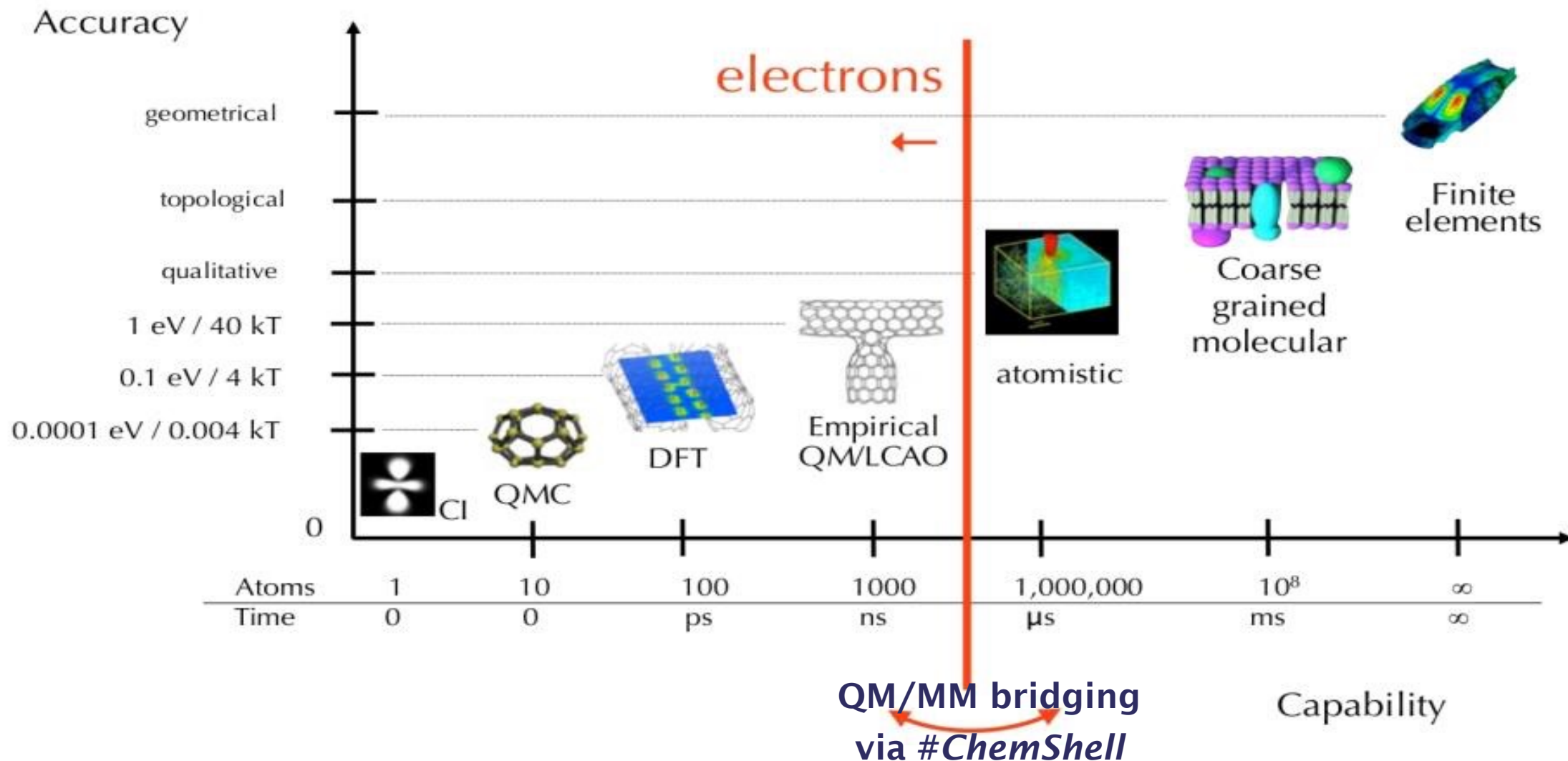
## Lattice Boltzmann Equation (LBE)

- Mesh based method akin to cellular automata
- Top-down, statistical mechanics approach to particle motion, governed by collisions and propagation
- Target engineering scale behaviour of **fluidic flows** and **interface dynamics**
- Examples: von Karman instability, convections, resonant acoustic mixing of suspensions

**Both methods operate at mesoscopic (phenomenological) length and time scales between those of atomistic and continuum methods**

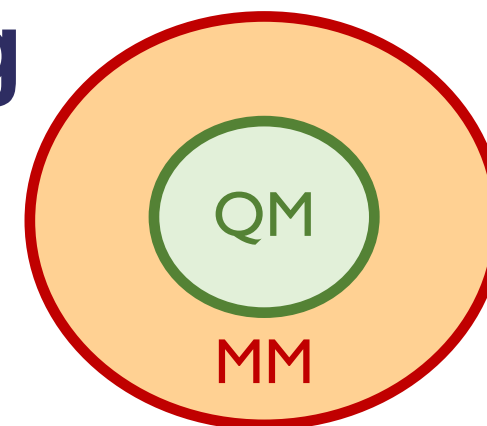


# 4.2-4.3: a multi-scale simulation and modelling platform



# 4.2-4.3-4.4: Multiscale QM/MM modelling

- Well established approach to overcoming size limit on electronic structure calculations
  - Combine quantum and classical methods:
    - QM where high accuracy is required (e.g. active site)
    - Efficient MM calculation for the environment



- Scriptable computational chemistry environment
- Particular focus on QM/MM calculations for complex chemical systems
- Flexible, modular design, integrating with a wide range of QM and MM packages

PCCP



PERSPECTIVE

## Multiscale QM/MM modelling of catalytic systems with ChemShell†

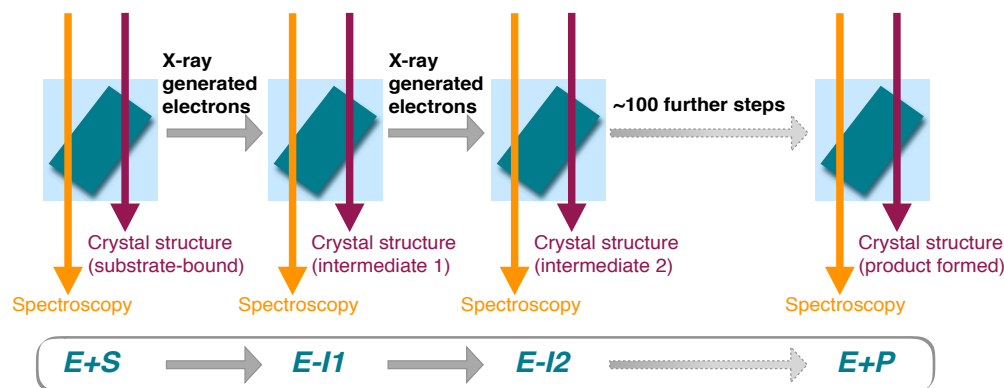
Cite this: DOI: 10.1039/d3cp00648d

You Lu,<sup>a</sup> Kakali Sen,<sup>a</sup> Chin Yong,<sup>id</sup><sup>a</sup> David S. D. Gunn,<sup>id</sup><sup>a</sup> John A. Purton,<sup>id</sup><sup>a</sup> Jingcheng Guan,<sup>b</sup> Alec Desmoutier,<sup>b</sup> Jamal Abdul Nasir,<sup>id</sup><sup>b</sup> Xingfan Zhang,<sup>id</sup><sup>b</sup> Lei Zhu,<sup>id</sup><sup>b</sup> Qing Hou,<sup>id</sup><sup>b</sup> Joe Jackson-Masters,<sup>c</sup> Sam Watts,<sup>c</sup> Rowan Hanson,<sup>c</sup> Harry N. Thomas,<sup>c</sup> Omal Jayawardena,<sup>c</sup> Andrew J. Logsdail,<sup>id</sup><sup>c</sup> Scott M. Woodley,<sup>id</sup><sup>b</sup> Hans M. Senn,<sup>id</sup><sup>d</sup> Paul Sherwood,<sup>e</sup> C. Richard A. Catlow,<sup>id</sup><sup>b,c</sup> Alexey A. Sokol<sup>id</sup><sup>b</sup> and Thomas W. Keal<sup>id</sup><sup>\*a</sup>

*Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*, 2023, **25**, 21816-21835

# QM/MM energy profiles

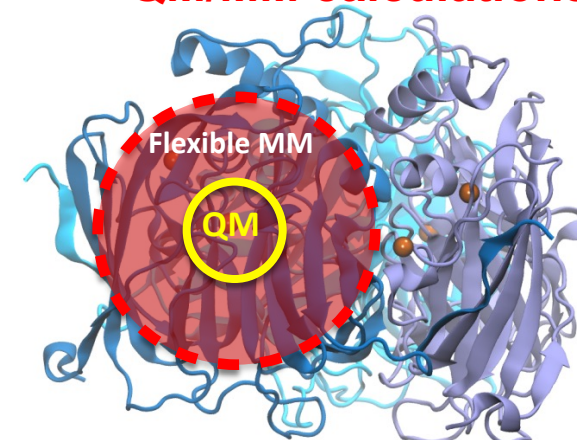
## Serial crystallography



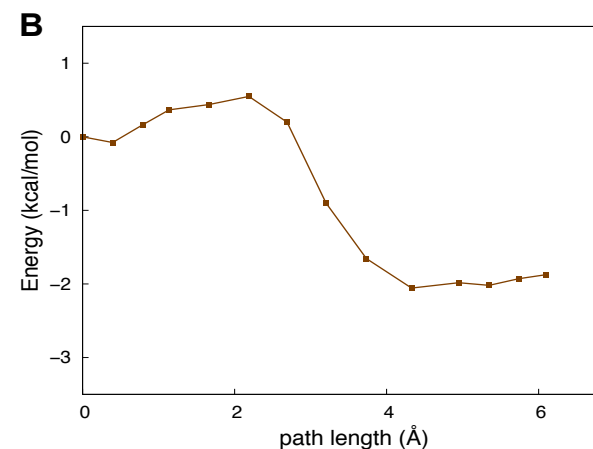
Catalytic “movie” of redox reaction in the crystal

- X-ray crystal structures are the starting point for setting up multiscale models
- Example is a BBSRC-funded collaboration with Prof. Mike Hough (Diamond) and researchers at Essex and Bristol
- ALC funding could be used to improve accuracy, accessibility, automation/throughput, and handling of ensembles of structures from time resolved experiments

## QM/MM calculations

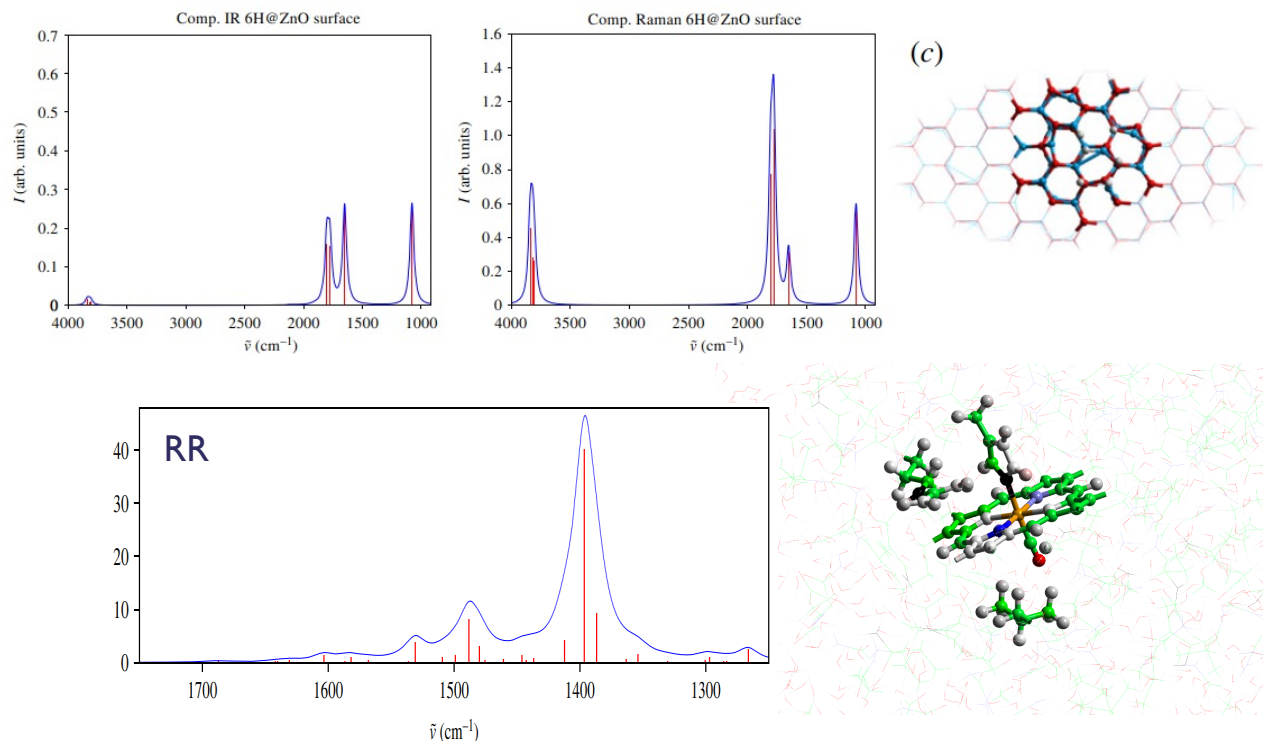


Complementary information on protonation and oxidation states and reaction mechanisms



QM/MM calculated reaction path following reduction of a nitrite-bound copper nitrite reductase

# QM/MM Vibrational spectroscopy



PHILOSOPHICAL  
TRANSACTIONS A

royalsocietypublishing.org/journal/rsta

Research



**Cite this article:** Guan J *et al.* 2023  
Computational infrared and Raman spectra by hybrid QM/MM techniques: a study on molecular and catalytic material systems. *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. A* 202220234.  
<https://doi.org/10.1098/rsta.2022.0234>

Received: 23 December 2022

Accepted: 4 April 2023

Computational infrared and Raman spectra by hybrid QM/MM techniques: a study on molecular and catalytic material systems

Jingcheng Guan<sup>1</sup>, You Lu<sup>2</sup>, Kakali Sen<sup>2</sup>, Jamal Abdul Nasir<sup>1</sup>, Alec W. Desmoutier<sup>1</sup>, Qing Hou<sup>1,9</sup>, Xingfan Zhang<sup>1</sup>, Andrew J. Logsdail<sup>3</sup>, Gargi Dutta<sup>1,5</sup>, Andrew M. Beale<sup>1,4</sup>, Richard W. Strange<sup>6</sup>, Chin Yong<sup>2</sup>, Paul Sherwood<sup>7</sup>, Hans M. Senn<sup>8</sup>, C. Richard A. Catlow<sup>1,3,4</sup>, Thomas W. Keal<sup>2</sup> and Alexey A. Sokol<sup>1</sup>

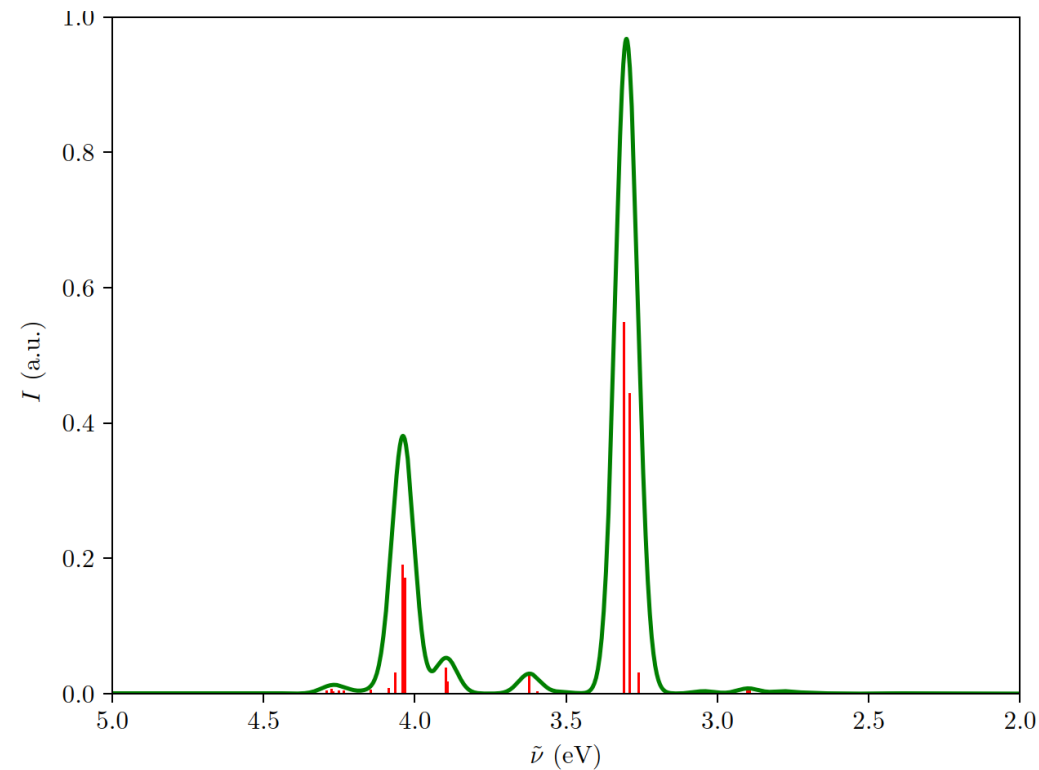
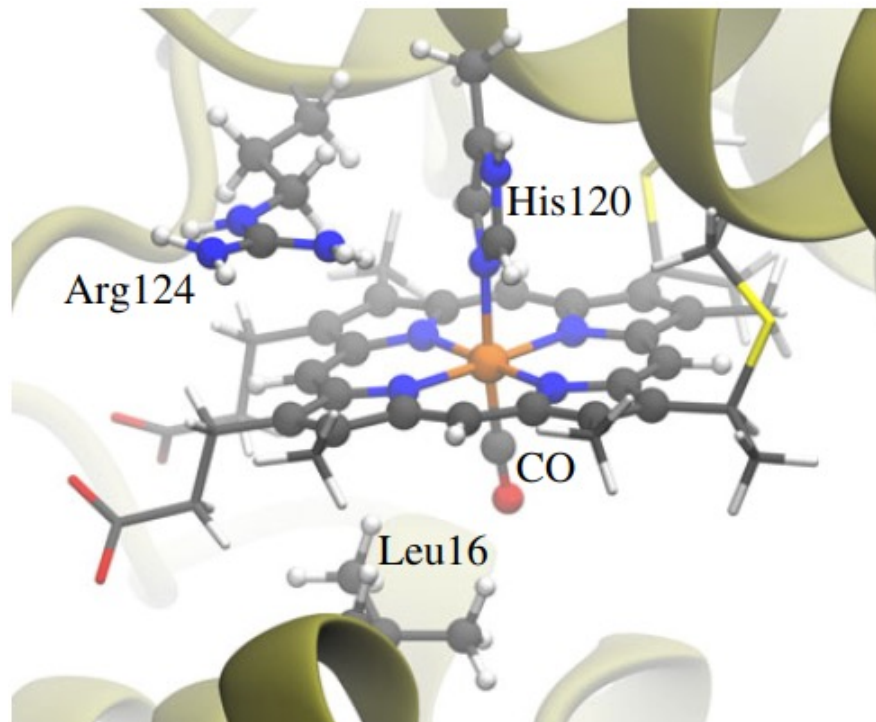
- QM/MM simulations of IR, Raman and Resonance Raman spectra can help interpret experimental data, e.g. by identifying transient species in catalytic cycles with a realistic model of the chemical environment
- ALC PhD studentship (with Prof. Richard Catlow, UCL, and project partners Prof. Stewart Parker, ISIS and Dr Paul Donaldson, CLF) started Oct 2023, to apply these EPSRC-funded developments to investigate high temperature superconductivity in cuprates

- Additional ALC funding would enable better integration with facilities software (e.g. AbINS for inelastic neutron scattering), accelerate progress on anharmonic corrections and address coupling of electronic and vibrational degrees of freedom

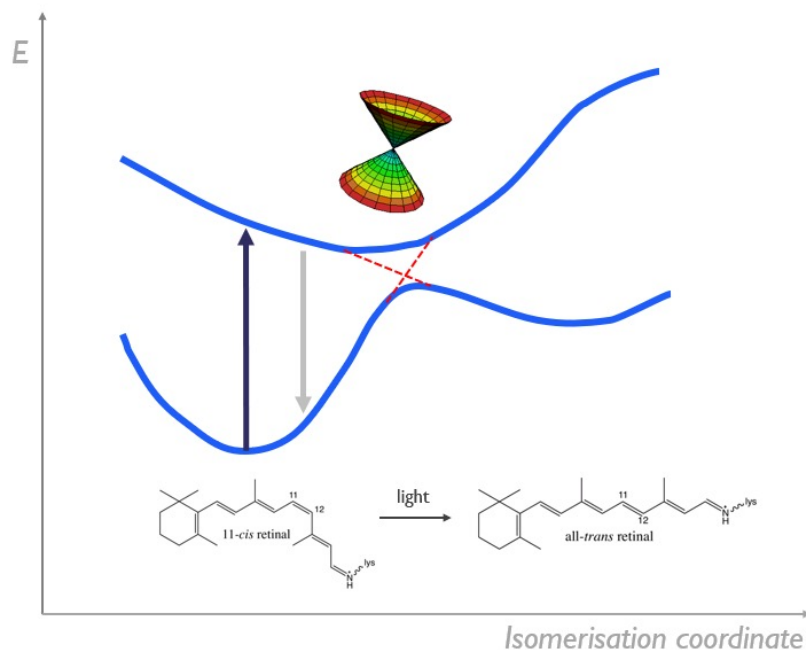


# QM/MM excited electronic states

- Straightforward to use e.g. TD-DFT (or higher theory level) in the context of hybrid QM/MM calculations to generate a UV-vis spectrum of a complex chemical system

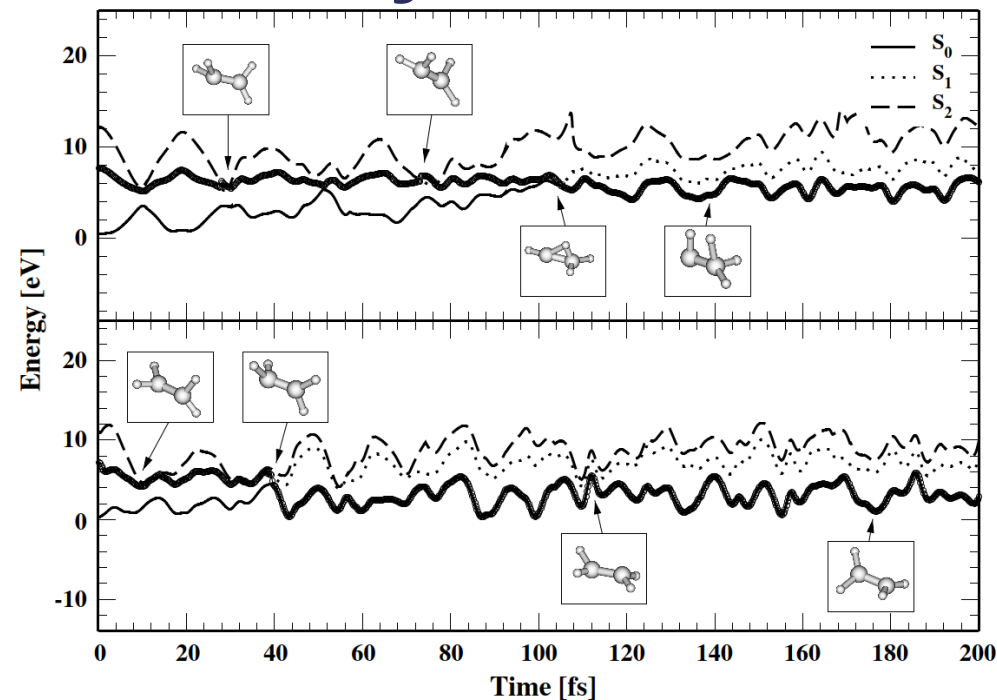


# Surface crossing optimization methods



- Explore photochemical reaction mechanisms

# Ultrafast electron dynamics



- Enables comparisons with time-resolved experiments

ALC funding will enable integration of these methods into the latest version of ChemShell and further development to support the work of e.g. CLF-ARTEMIS

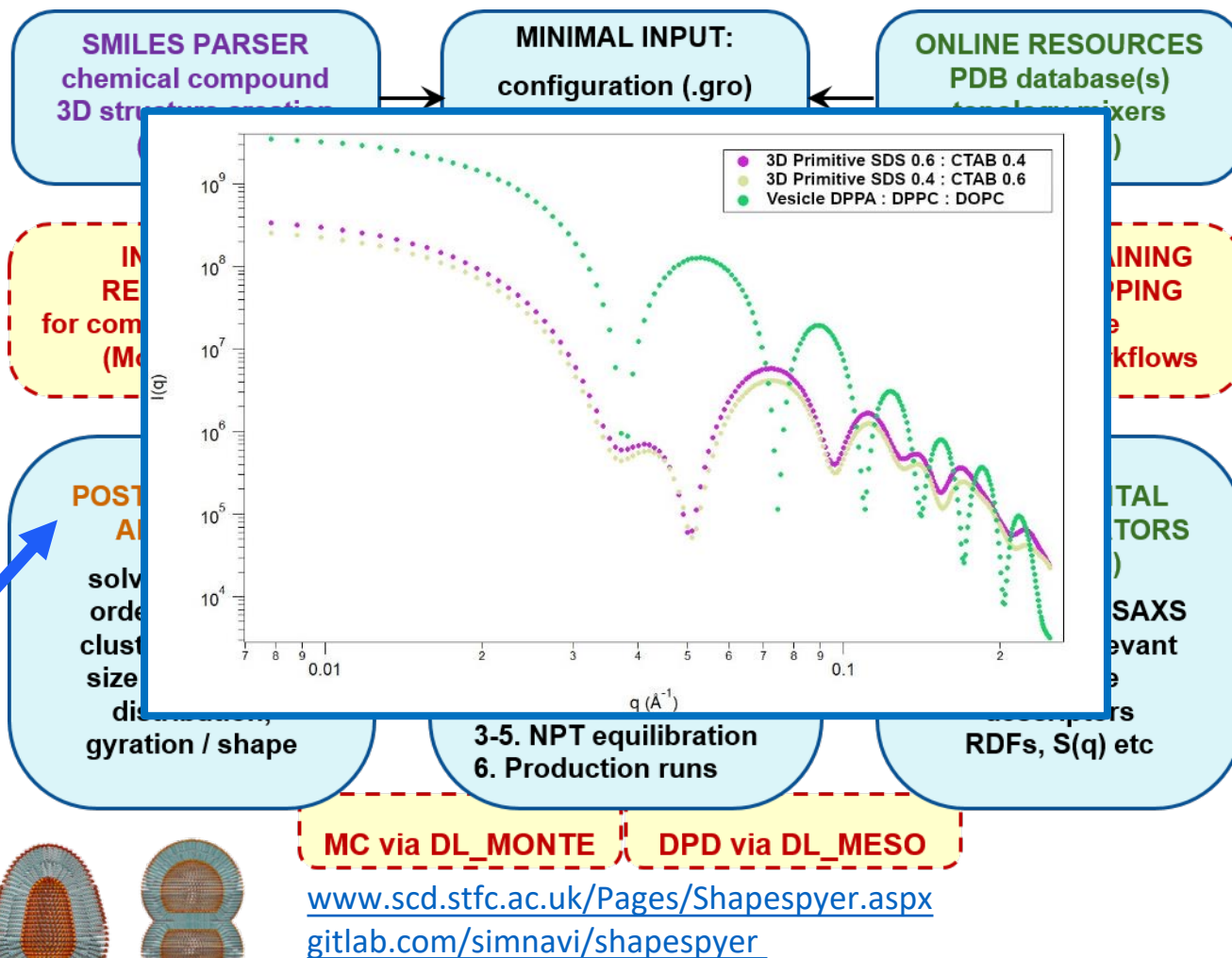
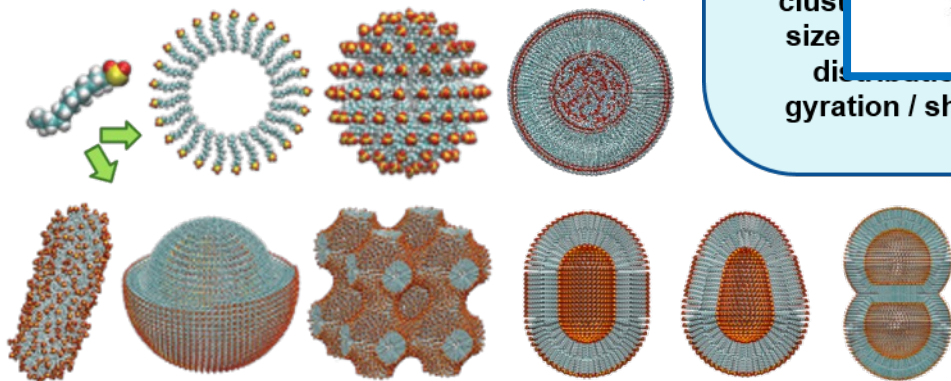
# SCD-CMMS' software menu as of today (with working hyperlinks...)

- 4.2-4.3: Energy (forces) evaluation + responses/dynamics – parameterised Hamiltonians
    - [DL\\_FIELD](#)
    - [DL\\_POLY](#)
    - [DL\\_MONTE](#)
    - ACDC (not released yet)
  - 4.2-4.3: Energy (forces) evaluation + responses/dynamics – Coarse-grained/mesoscale lattice models
    - [DL\\_MESO](#)
  - 4.2-4.3-4.4: Energy (forces) evaluation + responses/dynamics – multi-scale (QM/MM)
    - [ChemShell](#)
    - [DL\\_FIND](#)
  - 4.2-4.3: Energy (forces) evaluation + responses/dynamics – machine learned potentials
    - [APD](#)
    - [Janus](#)
- 4.4 Input set-up and workflow management:
    - [Aida-MLIP](#)
    - [ALC\\_EQCM](#)
    - [ALC\\_SUTOR](#)
    - [DLPOLY-PY](#)
    - [Muon Galaxy](#)
    - [Shapespyer](#)
  - 4.5 output analysis:
    - [ALC\\_TRAJECTORY](#)
    - [DL\\_ANALYSER](#)
    - [Shapespyer](#)
    - [DLPOLY-PY](#)

# 4.4-4.5: Shapespayer – a python framework for soft matter simulations

## Project overview

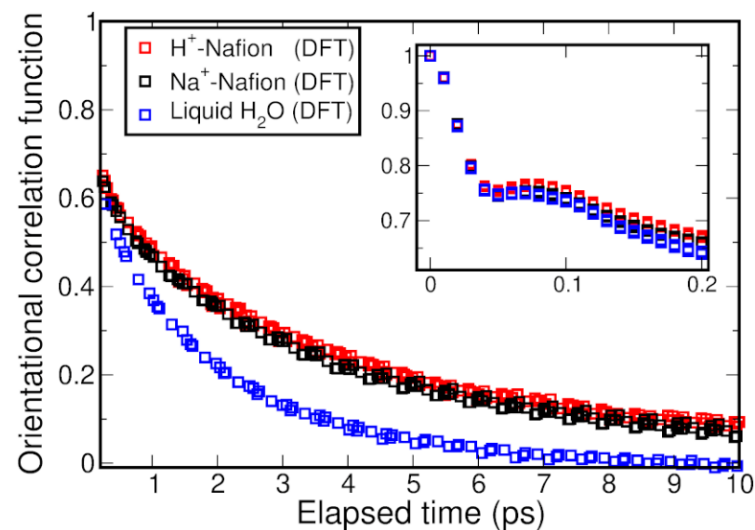
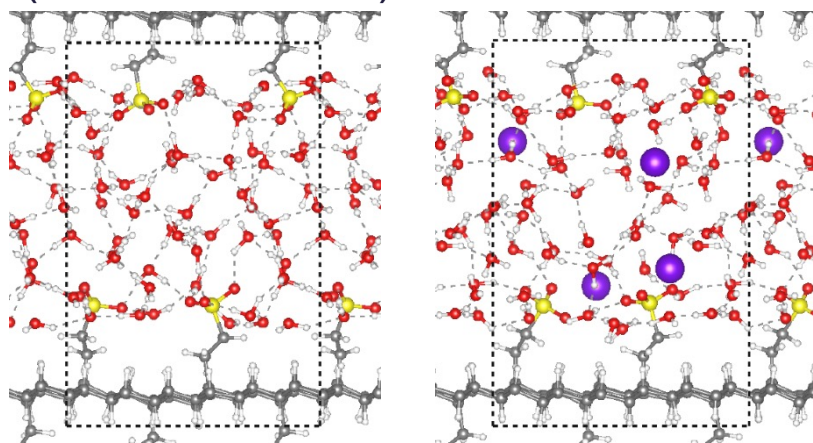
- **Generation, simulation & analyses** of pre-equilibrated molecular structures for functional soft matter research
- **Target structures / trajectories** for academic and industrial R&D; Linking with SANS, SAXS experiments
- **Provide automated workflows** Python library, APIs, Bash scripts
- **Partners / collaborators:**  
*Maggie Holme, Chalmers, Sweden*  
*Hanna Barriga, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden*  
*Tom Headen, ISIS, UK*  
*SasView Team, International*



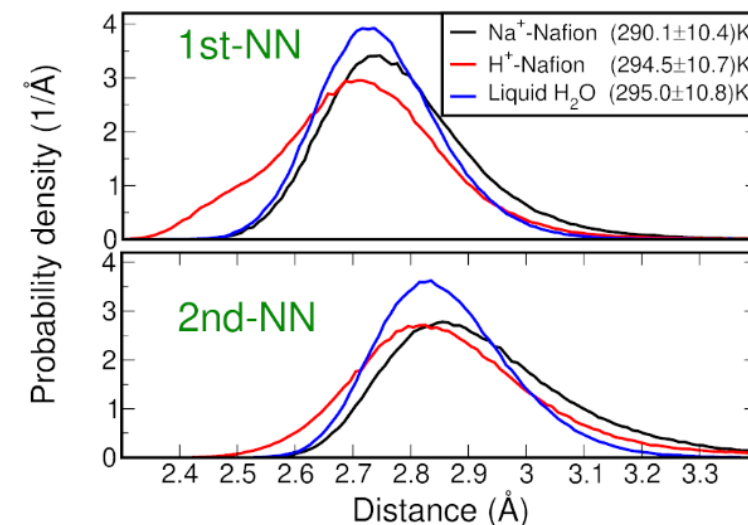
# 4.5: ALC\_TRAJECTORY

Fortran suite to compute **orientational** and **transfer correlation functions** from **reactive** Molecular Dynamics trajectories (generated at any level of theory)

Originally developed to interpret transient laser-spectroscopy experiments on proton-conducting Nafion membranes at CLF-ULTRA (Paul Donaldson)



The dynamical orientation of nano-confined H<sub>2</sub>O in H<sup>+</sup>- and Na<sup>+</sup>-Nafion is similar...

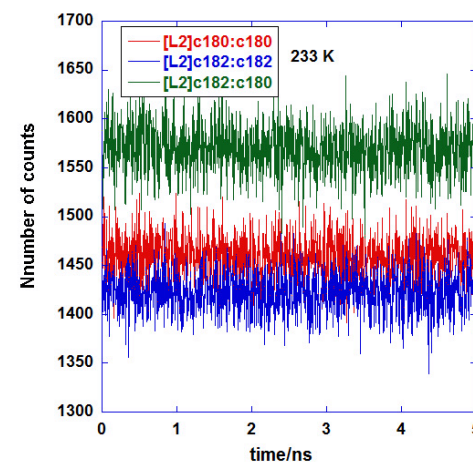
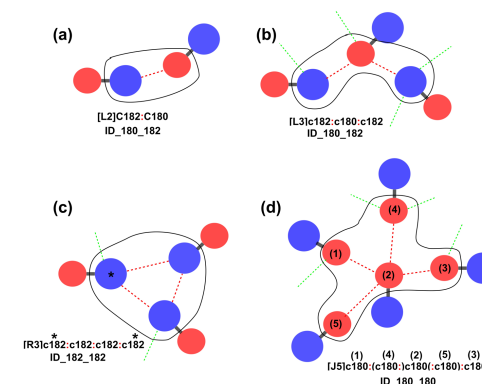
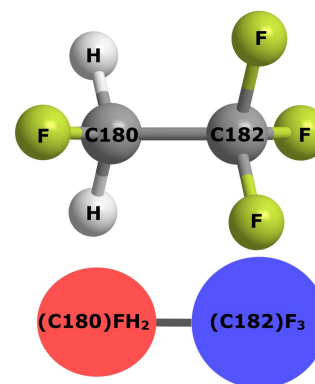
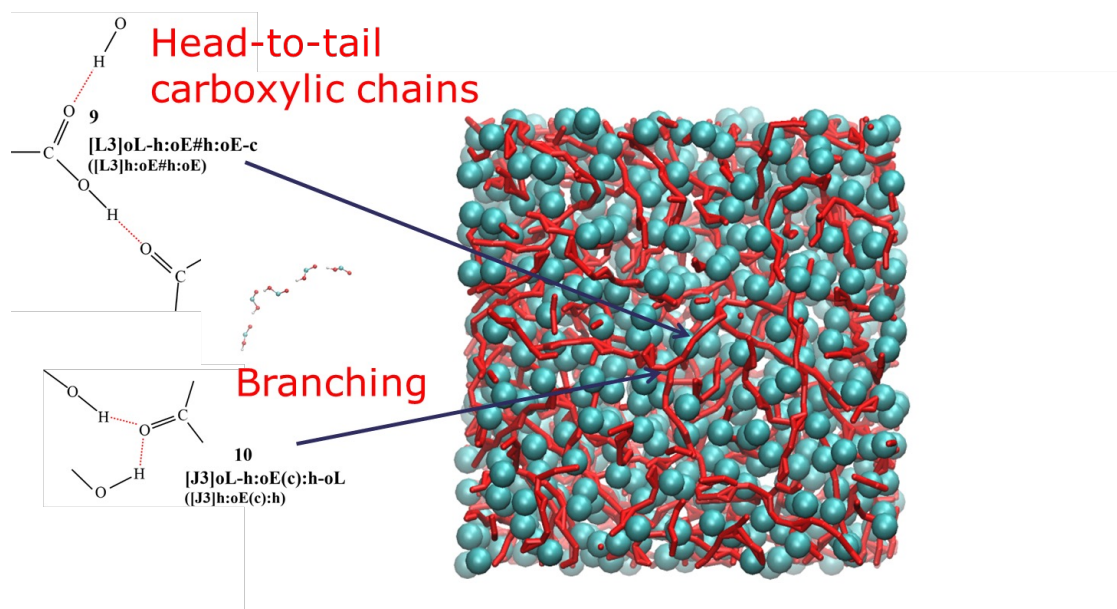


...but the intermolecular-interactions are stronger in H<sup>+</sup>-Nafion, in agreement with 2D-IR experiments

[https://github.com/STFC/ALC\\_TRAJECTORY](https://github.com/STFC/ALC_TRAJECTORY) (Ivan Scivetti)

# 4.5: DL\_ANALYSER

**Unique feature: DANAI** - a standard expression system to annotate specific atomic interactions. Useful for *automated* rationalisation of structured interactions in complex condensed phase systems



At low temperatures, the predominant interactions in liquid is the 'head-to-tail' interactions, [L2]c182:c180

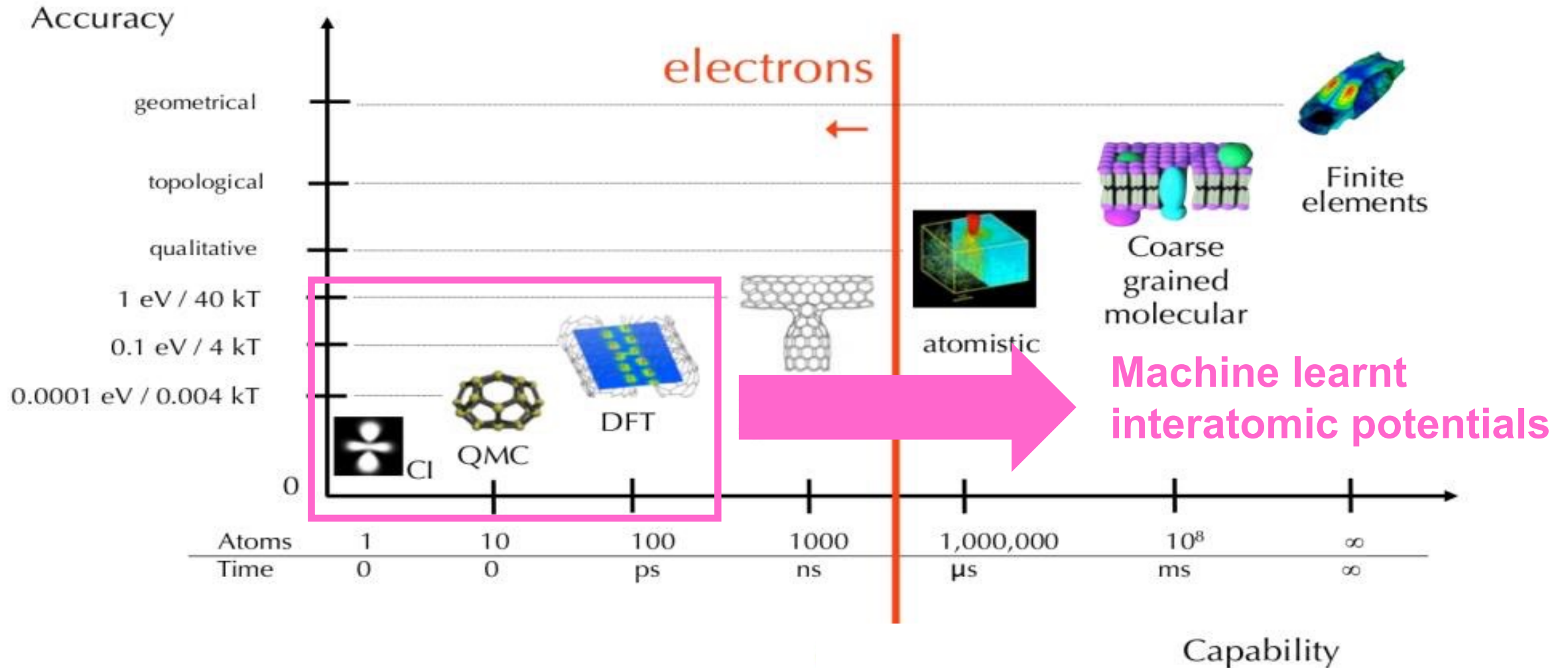
[Journal of Molecular Liquids](#) 383(1):121993  
[DOI: 10.1016/j.molliq.2023.121993](#)

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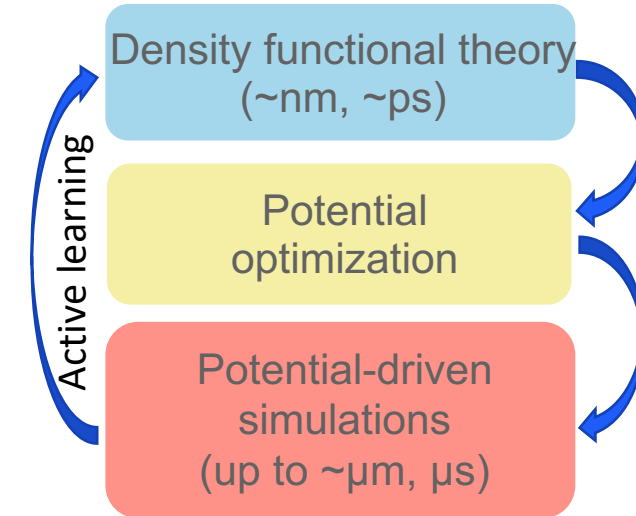
# 4.2-4.3: a multi-scale Modelling and Simulation platform





# 4.2-4.4: Automated ML-potential development (APD) workflow

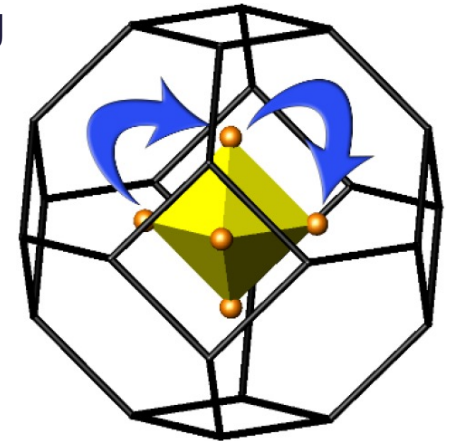
- Black box solution to automate interatomic potential development, including: density functional theory, potential optimization, molecular dynamics simulations, active learning and property calculations
- <https://gitlab.com/AndyDuff123/automated-potential-development>
- Funded by Ada Lovelace Centre, in collaboration with ISIS (David Voneshen, Russell Ewings, Helen Walker)
- Supports reference-free MEAM potentials, being extended to MTP ML potentials
- Methodology paper applied to BaZrO<sub>3</sub>: Comp. Phys. Comm. **293**, 108896 (2023)



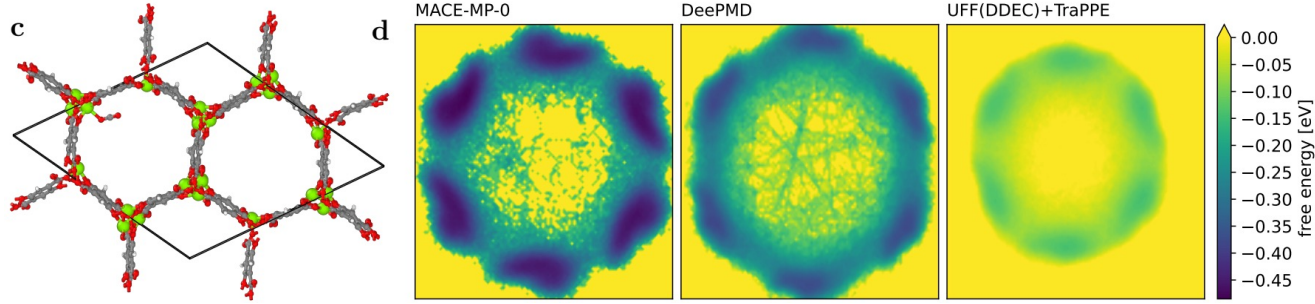
## Beyond Rattling: Tetrahedrites as Incipient Ionic Conductors

- First case study involving the APD workflow, in collaboration with University of Reading and ISIS
- Thermoelectrics allow waste heat conversion to useful energy
- New material class, 'incipient ionic conductors' discovered that can achieve this while mitigating material decomposition, often inherent with such materials
- High impact publication: Adv. Mat. **35**, 2306088 (2023)
- ISIS Science Highlight: <https://www.isis.stfc.ac.uk/Pages/Science-Highlights.aspx>

Potentials & properties

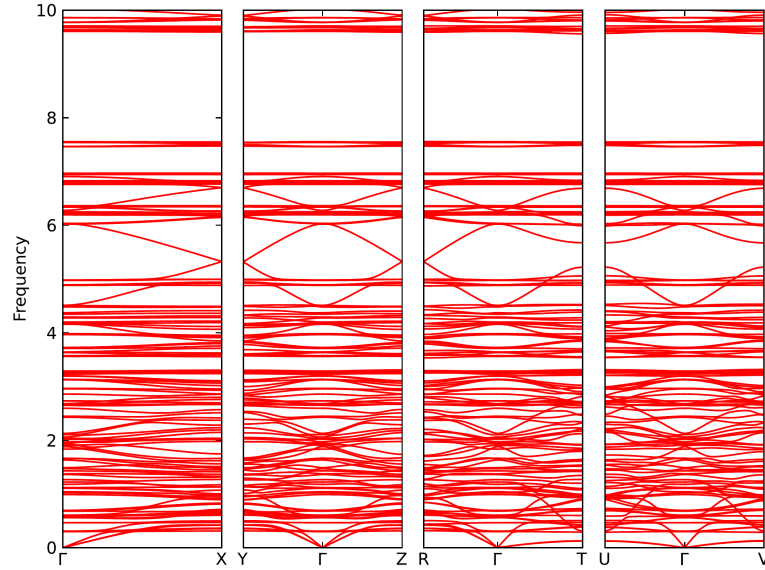


# 4.2-4.3: MACE machine learnt interatomic potentials



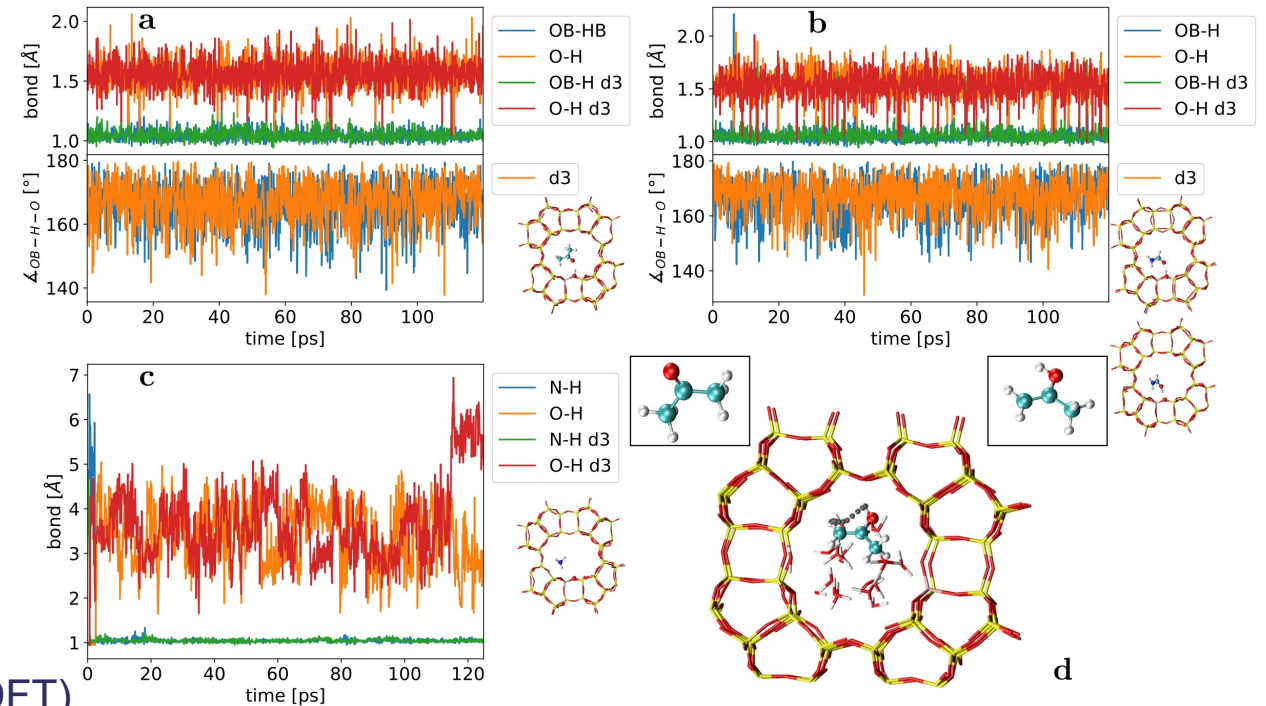
- condensed phases: cresol, water
- SrTiO3 – pimd
- Confined systems, endofulleranes
- Catalysis in MOFs

## Metal Organic Frameworks – CO2 adsorption in Mg-MOF-74\*



Phonon calculations – IRMOF 10, 1h(MACE) vs weeks (DFT)

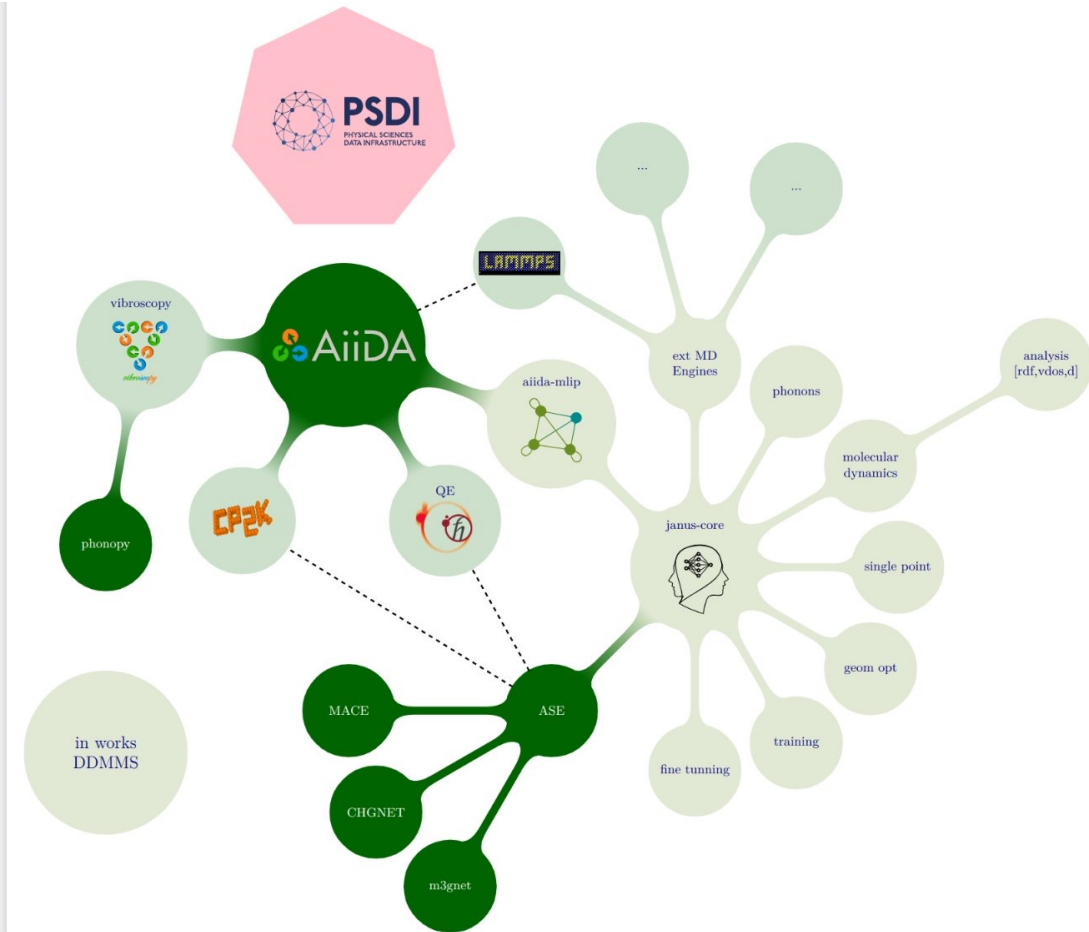
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2401.00096>



Deprotonation of small molecules (acetone a, formamide b, NH3 c) in zeolites at Bronstead acid sites\*, d) acetone enolization

# 4.2-4.5: machine learnt interatomic potentials software infrastructure

- Reproducible and reusable workflows for MLIPs **aiida-mlip**:
  - ▷ Geometry optimization
  - ▷ Single point calculations
  - ▷ Molecular Dynamics (MD)
- Different MLIPs: MACE, M3GNET, CHGNET
- Code based on **janus-core**
  - ▷ Additional features: training functionalities?
  - ▷ Integration with **ABCD** database
    - Unstructured data, stored via JSON/dictionary objects
    - Atomic positions, forces, energies, stresses, charges, dipoles...
    - (PSDI) Metadata?
      - ▷ User-defined properties
      - ▷ Integration with OpenSearch
      - ▷ Highly scalable
      - ▷ Complex and efficient queries



# Opportunities [1/2]

- Exploit existing tools to support user communities or experiments
- Connect users to experts to help their science
- Tools to simplify the use of simulation for users
  - Workflows and Web UI's
  - Generation of input files and optimization
  - Prepare a model to compare to data
- Support experiment design
- New Theory and Approaches

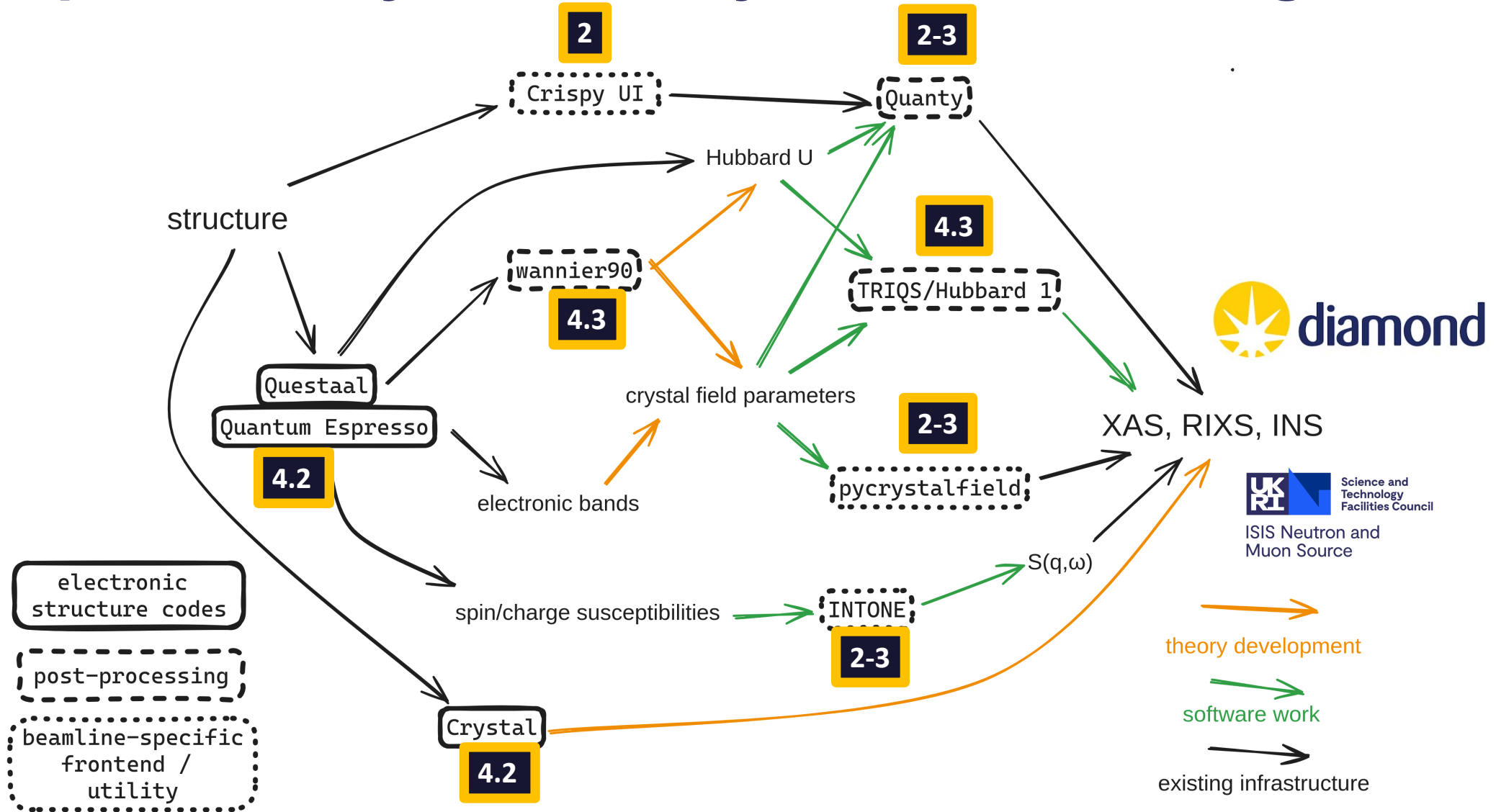
# Opportunities [2/2]

- How the atoms move
- How the electrons get redistributed (excitations)
- How the electrons get redistributed while the atoms move
- Is the atom-dynamics classical or quantum?
- Are the electrons “hot or very hot”?

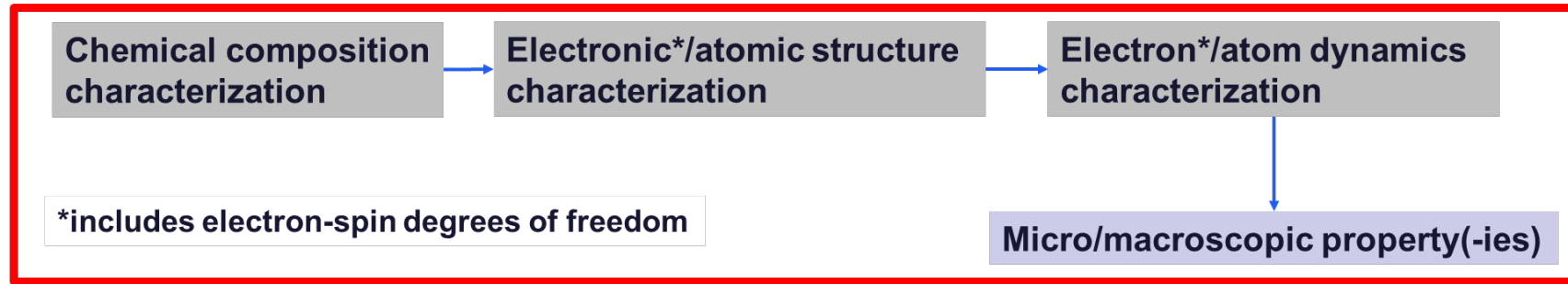
We can develop tools to:

- Bridge length and time scales
- Better treatment of solid materials vs isolated atom approaches
- Expand theory to match experimental observables

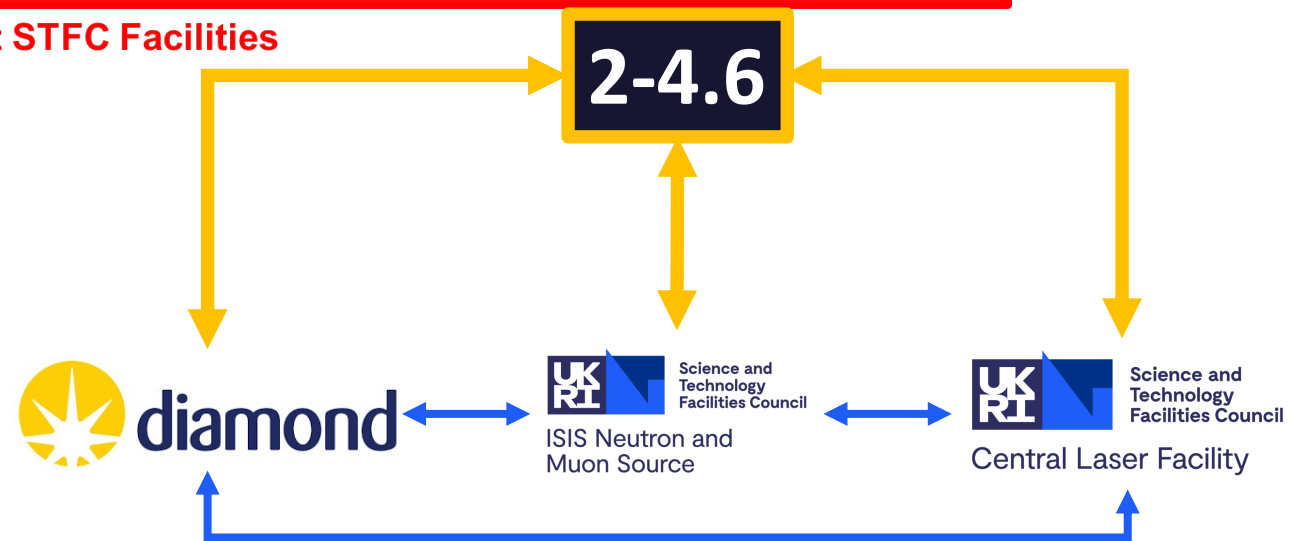
# Example: DFT/beyond-DFT crystal-field modelling workflow



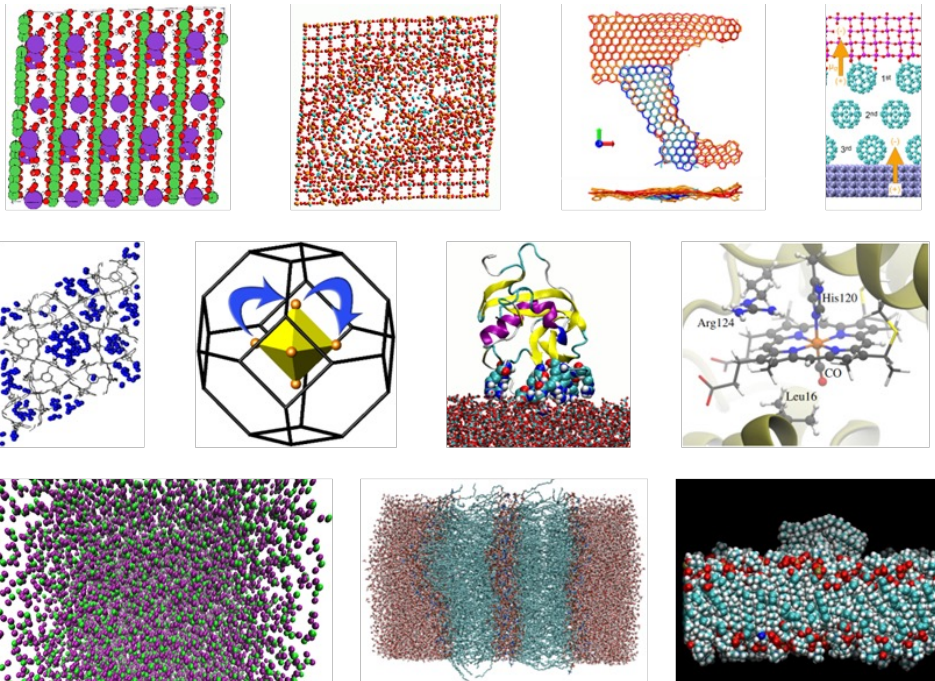
# Example: from static/dynamic atomic structures (stoichiometry) to electronic properties and response functions (across facilities)



Materials Chemistry/Physics/Science at STFC Facilities

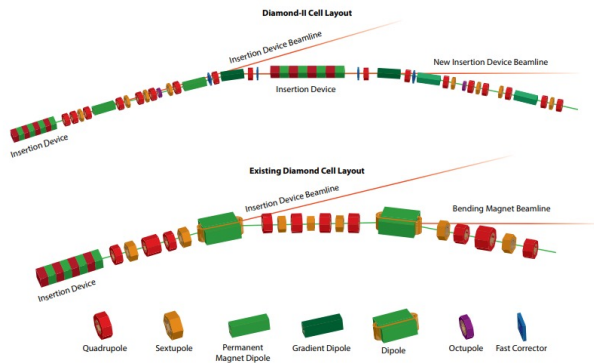


Disordered materials, "surface science", magnetism and bio-molecules may be presenting the "lowest" hanging fruits (neglects human factors)

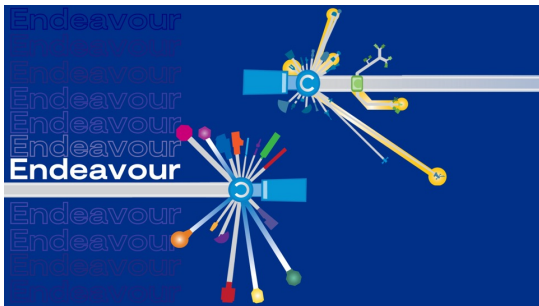


# Example: matter out of equilibrium and/or at the extreme...

CLF UK XFEL

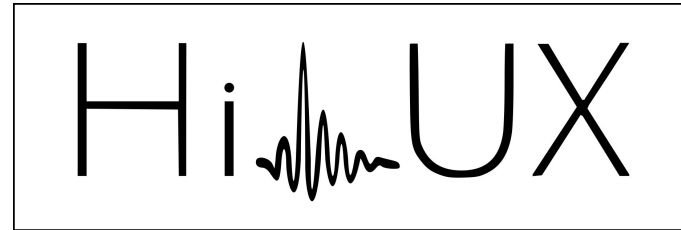


Diamond-II - - Diamond Light Source



ISIS The Endeavour Programme (stfc.ac.uk)

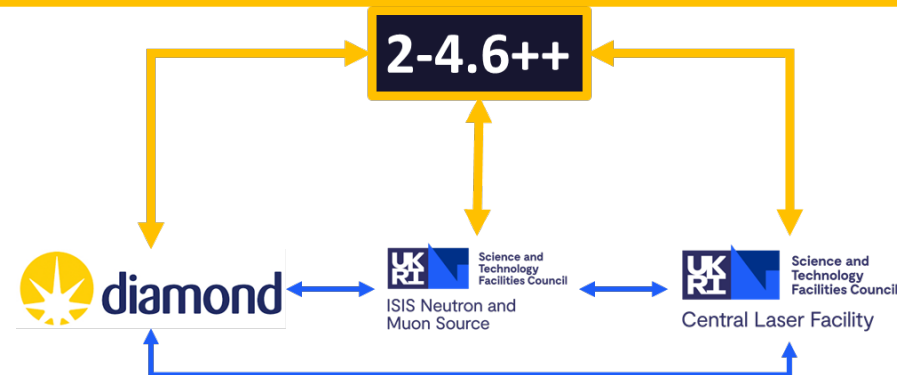
CLF HiLUX upgrades to Ultra and Artemis



CLF-EPAC



- (operando) Electrochemistry and Photo-Electrochemistry
  - Chemistry/Physics in open-boundary conditions
- Role of static/dynamic nano-structuring for
  - Bound and unbound electronic excitations
  - “beyond-linear/perturbative” responses
  - Warm Dense Matter (pre-plasma) regimes
  - Energy dissipation/damage pathways
  - [...]





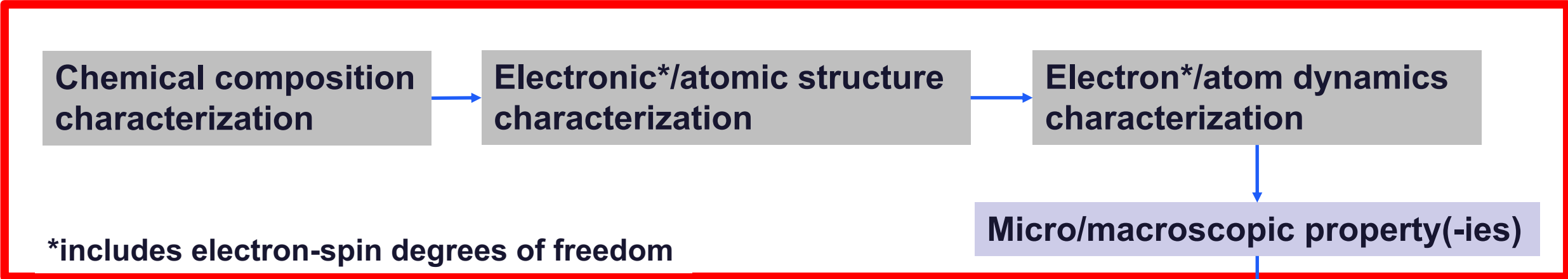
# Ada Lovelace Centre

**A scientific computing centre with the primary objective of enhancing the scientific impact of the STFC large-scale National Facilities**

**From isolated projects to a wider strategy**

- Objectives and vision aligned to facilities needs and support science impact
- Long-term and sustained delivery in strategic areas
- Coordinated delivery of cross-cutting activities and complex goals

# To close it how we started it + **questions for you**



\*includes electron-spin degrees of freedom

1. What are the Facility priorities for Modelling and Simulation? (**developments**)
2. What interaction models would have the biggest impact on your user community? (**ways of interacting with the theory theme**)
3. Happy to discuss or clarify



# Appendix 1 - Levels of theory and description of materials and molecules

- **First principles - materials and molecules**
  - Density Functional Theory (DFT)
  - Time-dependent DFT (TD-DFT)
  - Variational Multiple Scattering Theory (KKR)
  - Dynamic Mean Field Theory (DMFT)
  - (quasiparticle self-consistent) GW (QSGW)
  - DMFT-QSGW
  - Bethe Salpeter Equation (BSE)
- Quantum Monte Carlo (QMC)
- Post Hartree-Fock wavefunction methods
- **First principles - atoms**
  - R-matrix theory
  - Dirac equation
- **Parameterised atomistic Hamiltonians**
  - Density Functional Based Tight Binding (DFTB+)
  - Modified embedded atom method (MEAM)
  - Classical force fields (FFs)
  - Reactive FFs
- **Coarse-grained/mesoscale lattice models**
  - Dissipative Particle Dynamics (DPD)
  - Lattice Boltzmann Equation (LBE)
- **Multi-scale models**
  - QM/MM
  - [QC/QM/MM]
- **Machine Learning**
  - First principles derived interatomic potentials (MTP, MACE, CHGNET, M3GNET, NEQUIP,...)
  - Physics-Informed Neural Networks (PINNs) for Partial Differential Equations and iterative optimization problems

# Appendix 2 - algorithmic modelling expertise (a selection of)

- Iterative self-consistent field optimisations
- Geometry optimisation
- Vibrational analysis (analytical, finite-difference, perturbative, real-time)
- Molecular Dynamics
- Monte Carlo
- (adaptive) kinetic Monte Carlo
- Hybrid rare event sampling methods (hMC, metadynamics, temperature-accelerated MD, etc)
- Excited-state real-time and surface hopping dynamics
- [Path integrals molecular dynamics]
- Perturbative/real-time evaluation of response functions
- Integration of hybrid first principles/analytical approaches to approximate complex response functions
- Integration of hybrid first principles/experimental input to approximate complex response functions