Quantum-accurate Force Fields from Machine Learning of Large Materials Data

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8/29/19

Albuquerque 2019

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Scale Challenge in Computational Materials Science



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General procedure



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A many-body atomic environment descriptor: bispectrum coefficients





A many-body atomic environment descriptor: bispectrum coefficients



Extending the SNAP formalism



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Optimization unit





¹ Tran et al. Acta Mater. 2016, 117, 91–99 DOI: 10.1016/j.actamat.2016.07.005.
² Tran et al. Sci. Data 2016, 3, 160080 DOI: 10.1038/sdata.2016.80.
³ Jain, A.; Ong, S. P.; et al. APL Mater. 2013, 1 (1), 11002 DOI: 10.1063/1.4812323.

$$\alpha = (R_{cut}^{atom}, w^{atom})$$

Li, X.; Hu, C.; Chen, C.; Deng, Z.; Luo, J.; Ong, S. P. Phys. Rev. B. 2018, 98, 094104.

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Workflow - alloy system



Li, X.; Hu, C.; Chen, C.; Deng, Z.; Luo, J.; Ong, S. P. Phys. Rev. B. 2018, 98, 094104.



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Ni-Mo alloy: SNAP model performance

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SNAP significantly outperforms in binary and bcc Mo for energy.



Ni-Mo alloy: property matching



EAM fails in binary bulk systems for elastic constants.

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Ni-Mo alloy: Equation of State



The EAM potential completely fails in the equation of state prediction for binary compounds.



Ni-Mo alloy: Phone Spectra



The EAM potential completely fails in the phonon spectra prediction for binary compounds.



Ni-Mo phase diagram

Solid-liquid equilibrium



EAM completely fails to reproduce Ni-Mo phase diagram





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Application: Investigating Hall-Petch strengthening in Ni-Mo



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- □ ~20,000 to ~455,000 atoms
- \Box Uniaxially strained with a strain rate of 5×10^8 s⁻¹
- □ SNAP reproduces the (inverse) Hall-Petch relationship, consistent with experiment^[1].

[1] Hu et al. Nature, **2017**, 355, 1292



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Extending the SNAP formalism



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Electrostatic SNAP (eSNAP) for ionic systems

Local environment local environment $E_{\rm SNAP} = \beta_0 N + \beta \sum B_i$ electrostatic interaction **Electrostatic interaction** nuclei repulsion $E_{el} = \frac{q_j q_k}{r}$ • Formal charge • Ewald summation Rii Interatomic distance 🛛 eSNAP γ - screening parameter $E_p = \gamma E_{el} + E_{\text{SNAP}}$ $\mathbf{F}_{i} = -\nabla_{i} E_{p} = -\gamma \nabla_{j} E_{el} - F_{j,\text{SNAP}}$

Nuclear repulsion - Ziegler-Biersack-Littmark (ZBL)

Deng et al. npj Comp Mat. 2019, 5, 75



Generation of training data for Li₃N

Initial configuration pool

- Unit cells with different lattice constant *a* and *c*
- Unit cells with lattice distortions under different strains
- ■Snapshots (3x3x3 supercells) taken from AIMD simulated below 1.27_m (400 ~ 1200 K)

Static DFT to calculate reference energy and force



 α -Li₃N

	Distorted unit cells	AIMD snapshots
N _{atoms}	4	108
N _{configs}	109	1000
w _E	10 ³	l.
W _F	0	10 ⁻³

Grid search for hyperparameters of SNAP

$$\rho_i(\mathbf{r}) = \delta(\mathbf{r}) + \sum_{ii'} f_c(r_{ii'}) w_{i'} \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{ii'})$$
$$r_{ii'} < R_{ii'}$$

	w	R (Å)
Li	0.1	2.0
Ν	-0.1	2.8



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Training/test iteration

- Systematically improves the predictions on energy and force for MD simulations
- Leverages the benefit gained by adding more training instances and the associated costs for performing more DFT calculations





Energy and force prediction from eSNAP

- The iteration terminates with the training data expanded for once.
- eSNAP model has successfully captured the fundamental relationship between atomic environment and energy/force.



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Structural property calculations using eSNAP

	DFT	e SNAP	Coul- Buck	Exp.
a (Å)	3.641	3.641	3.528	3.648
c (Å)	3.874	3.872	3.628	3.875
c ₁₁ (GPa)	123	116	165	114
c ₃₃ (GPa)	137	144	193	118
c ₄₄ (GPa)	17	17	19	17
c ₆₆ (GPa)	48	39	53	38
$E_{f,V2}$ (eV)	0.60	0.64	0.44	
E _{f,VI} (eV)	0.5 I	0.63	0.46	

Coul-Buck: Walker et al. *Philos. Mag.A* **1981**, *43* (2), 265–272. Exp:

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Rabenau et al. J. Less-Common Met. 1976, 50 (1), 155–159. Kress et al. Phys. Rev. B 1980, 22 (10), 4620–4625.





Deng et al. npj Comp Mat. **2019**, 5, 75 Albuquerque 2019

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Bulk diffusion

- Simulation box contains 4000 atoms (10x10x10 supercell)
- MD simulations performed from 600 to 1000 K in an NVT ensemble for 1ns



	Ε _a (eV)			σ _{RT} (mS/cm)		
	ab	С	total	ab	С	total
eSNAP	0.255	0.327	0.269	29.6	2.32	17.3
Exp.	0.290	0.490		1.20	0.01	

Exp.:Alpen et al. Appl. Phys. Lett. 1977, 30 (12), 621–623.



Grain boundary diffusion







The presence of GB facilitates Li diffusion

D* at 300 K

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- GB: 7.09 × 10⁻⁸ cm²/s
- Bulk (extrapolated):
 2.24 × 10⁻⁸ cm²/s

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Conclusions

- ML potentials have the potential to achieve near-quantum accuracy at a much lower cost than DFT with linear scaling => Enables science that is hitherto inaccessible!
- Choice of local environment description is critical.
- Multi-component present complications, but not insurmountable.
- X 10-100x more expensive than MEAM (can we do better?)

Transferability

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Machine learning the potential energy surface





Standardized workflow for ML-IAP construction and evaluation



Test systems:

- Fcc Ni
- Fcc Cu
- Bcc Li
- Bcc Mo
- Diamond Ge
- Diamond Si

Available open source on Github: https://github.com/materialsvirtuallab/mlearn



ML-IAP: Accuracy vs Cost



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ML-IAP:Training Data Requirements



- Data quality is more important than data quantity -~O(100) structures sufficient to converge
- NNP and qSNAP require much more training data than other models.

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- The greater the ML complexity (e.g., NNP and GAP), the greater the issues with extrapolation.
- Linear SNAP performs surprisingly well on EOS and polymorph energy differences.

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Acknowledgements

- Shyue Ping Ong
- Zhi Deng
- Yunxing Zuo
- Chi Chen

Where to get the potentials?



https://github.com/materialsvirtuallab/snap

- Xiang-Guo Li. et al. Phys. Rev. B, 98, 094104 (2018)
- Zhi Deng. et al. npj Comp Mat, 5, 75 (2019)
- Yunxing Zuo, et al. "A Performance and Cost Assessment of Machine Learning Interatomic Potentials", arXiv:1906.08888 (2019)





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