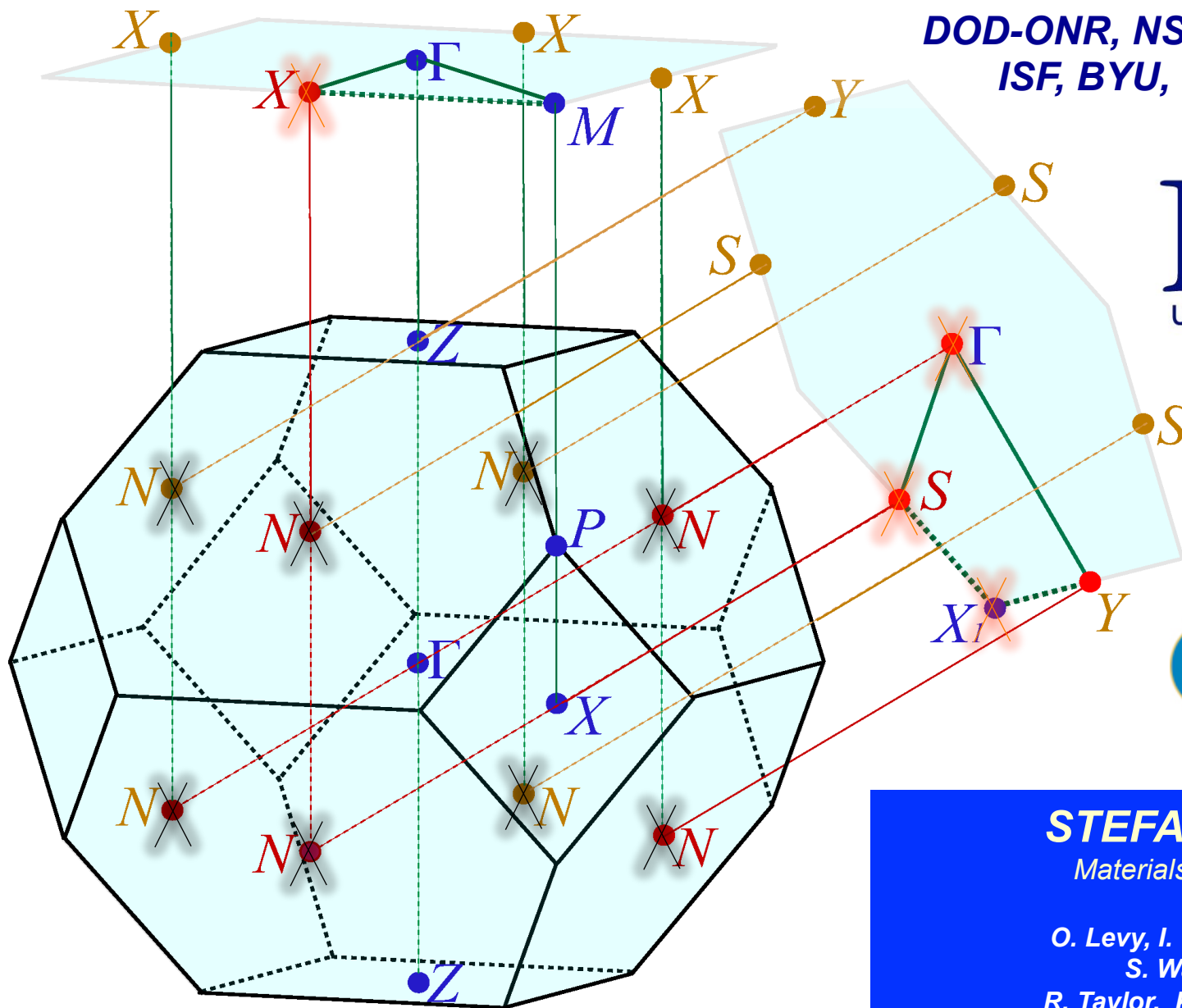


# High-throughput descriptors in materials development



*DOD-ONR, NSF, DOE, DHS, NIST,  
ISF, BYU, DOD-MURI, Boeing*

**Duke**  
UNIVERSITY  
CENTER for  
MATERIALS GENOMICS



**STEFANO CURTAROLO**

*Materials Science - Duke University*

*O. Levy, I. Takeuchi, G. Hart, J. Carrete,  
S. Wang, M. Buongiorno Nardelli,  
R. Taylor, K. Yang, N. Mingo, S. Sanvito*

procedures of synthesis. Is there another way? Indeed, this is the burgeoning area of computational materials science called ‘high-throughput’ (HT) computational materials design. It is based on

the marriage between computational quantum-mechanical-thermodynamic approaches<sup>1,2</sup> and a multitude of techniques rooted in database construction and intelligent data mining<sup>3</sup>. The concept

is simple yet powerful: create a large database containing the calculated thermodynamic and electronic properties of existing and hypothetical materials, and then intelligently interrogate the database in the search of materials with the desired properties. Clearly, the entire construct should be validated by reality, namely the existing materials must be predicted correctly and the hypothetical ones should eventually be made. Such a reality check feeds back to the

## The high-throughput highway to computational materials design

The practical implementation of computational HT is highly non-trivial. The method is employed in three strictly connected steps: (i) **virtual materials growth**: thermodynamic and electronic structure calculations of materials<sup>3,23</sup>; (ii) **rational materials storage**: systematic storage of the information in database repositories<sup>24,25</sup>; (iii) **materials characterization and selection: data analysis** aimed at selecting novel materials or gaining new physical insights<sup>15,19,26</sup>.

# MATERIALS GENOME: genes+descriptors



**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 Phase stability in off-lattice alloys <a href="#">PRL 91, 135503 (2003)</a>	Formation enthalpy ( $H_f$ ) as a function of concentration ( $x$ ) and the enthalpies ( $H$ ) of $A$ and $B$ . Spectral decomposition of alloy vector-energies ( $E_{n,p}$ , $n$ -rows = species, $p$ -columns = configurations) with principal-component-analysis coefficients ( $\alpha_i$ )	$H_f(x) = H(A_{1-x}B_x) - (1-x)H(A) - xH(B)$ $E_{n,p} \approx \alpha_1 E_{n,1} + \dots + \alpha_{p-1} E_{n,p-1} + \epsilon(d)$
Nanostructure stability <a href="#">PRB 76, 045408 (2007)</a>	Ratio of the average energy per atom (ref.15).	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 20px; text-align: center;"> <h2>quantitative picture</h2> </div>
Topological materials <a href="#">Nat Phys 8, 273 (2012)</a>	Variational ratio of the derivative strain tensor ( $k, a_0$ lattice) <sup>16</sup> .	
Power conversion efficiency (spectral response) <a href="#">PRL 108, 068701 (2012)</a>	Ratio of the maximum energy density versus bandgap energy ( $E_g$ ) <sup>62</sup> .	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 20px; text-align: center;"> <h2>the "problem"</h2> </div>
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> .	
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> .	$\hat{\chi}_{np} = \max\left(\frac{m_e}{m_h}, \frac{m_h}{m_e}\right)$  $\Delta E_p \leq 0.5 \text{ eV}$ $\alpha_{AB} \approx 45^\circ$

# The automatism is all about creating a big picture from too many small details



Lycurgus cup (290~325 AD) AgAu NP~10nm  
dichroism by resonant surface plasmon 5

# *NEED fast standards*



*Calculate electronic structure of all reported compounds*

- *ICSD ~150,000 (well defined ~50%)*
- *Work out all the prototype definitions/symmetries:*
- *Define standards in reciprocal space (on-line):*  
*a highly complex solution to an apparently simple problem*
- *Obtain LDAU parameters when required*
- *Adiabatic U*  $E[U] = \int_0^{\{U\}} \delta E / \delta U_i \cdot dU_i$
- *Automatic switch to LS coupling when required*
- *Calculate stability, if necessary*
- *Discover properties through correlations*
- *Make ONLINE Tools*
- *Use results as **STARTING POINTS***
- *Works for VASP and QE*

## Algorithm has 25 self consistent points

$$(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3)_{BL}^{n+1} = \text{Dual} [\text{Minkowski}_{BL^*} [\text{Dual} [(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3)_{BL}^n]]]$$

**14 Bravais Lattices → 25 Brillouin Zones → 25 Bravais Definitions**

**CUBIC: cub, bcc, fcc**

**TETRAGONAL: tet, bct<sub>1</sub>, bct<sub>2</sub>**

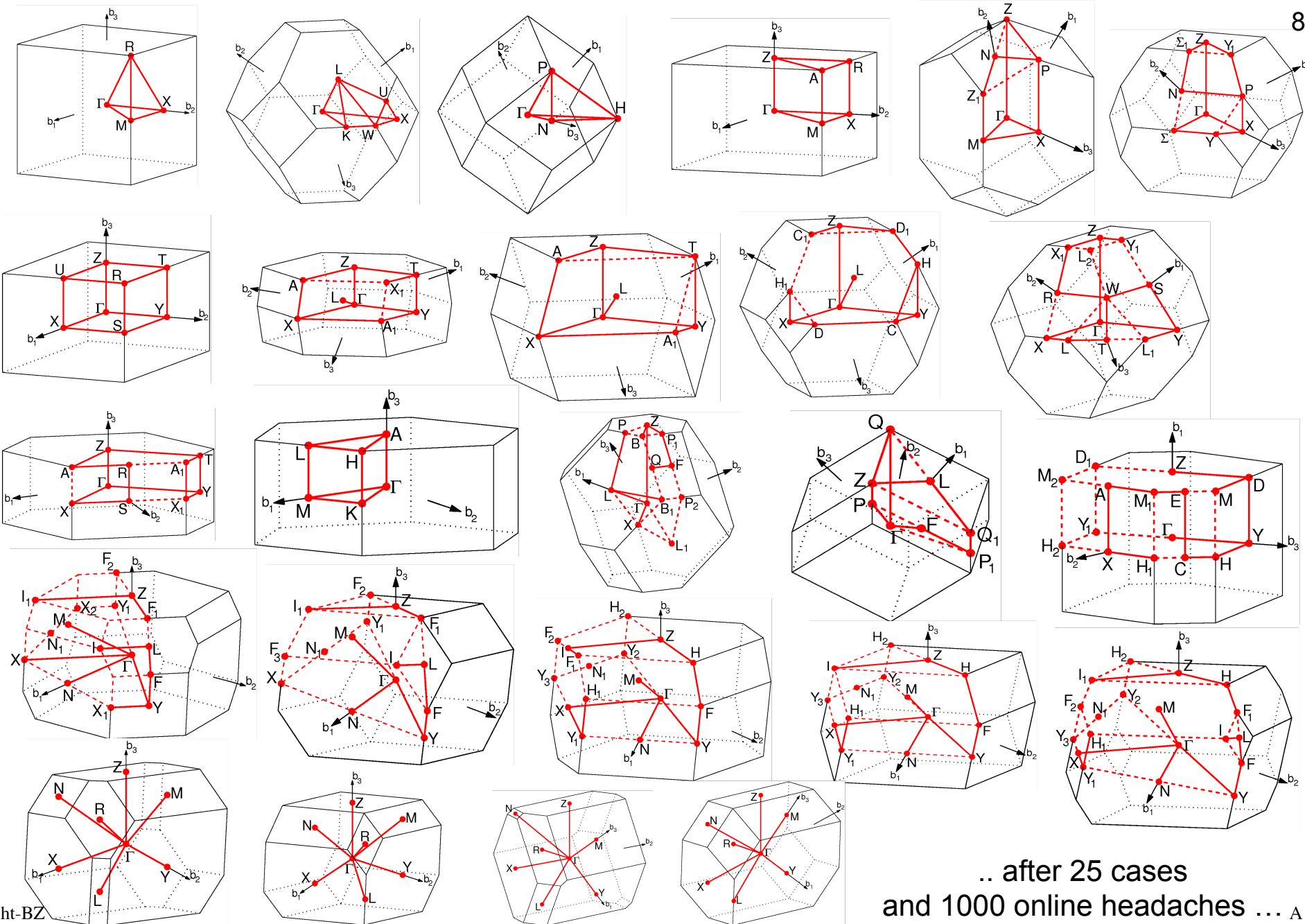
**ORTHORHOMBIC: orc, orcf<sub>1</sub>, orcf<sub>2</sub>, orcf<sub>2</sub>, orci, orcc**

**HEXAGONAL/TRIGONAL: hex, rhl<sub>1</sub>, rhl<sub>2</sub>**

**MONOCLINIC: mcl, mclc<sub>1</sub>, mclc<sub>2</sub>, mclc<sub>3</sub>, mclc<sub>4</sub>, mclc<sub>5</sub>**

**TRICLINIC: tri<sub>1a</sub>, tri<sub>2a</sub>, tri<sub>1b</sub>, tri<sub>2b</sub>**

# STANDARD in Real Space and Reciprocal Space



.. after 25 cases  
and 1000 online headaches ... A



# Repository of quantum mechanics calculations

AFLOW framework libraries: [www.aflowlib.org](http://www.aflowlib.org)

Online/socket commands for the SQL database interrogation.

Distributed platform will work on Linux/UNIX platforms



**Duke** UNIVERSITY  
**CENTER for MATERIALS GENOMICS**

## (a) AFLOWLIB.ORG

### CHOOSE DATABASES

AFLOWLib  Structure Properties  Electronic Properties  Thermoelectric Properties  Scintillator Database  Magnetic Properties  Job Status

### 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: having Al but not Si*

Species number

Material Type

Lattice System

Space Group Number

Minimum band gap =  eV

Band Gap Type

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

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

Minimum magnetic moment =   $\mu_B/\text{atom}$

Minimum  $\Delta S(E_F) =$

AFLOW version from  to

Prototype

Bravais Lattice  (structure properties)

Pearson Symbol

Maximum band gap =  eV (electronic properties)

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

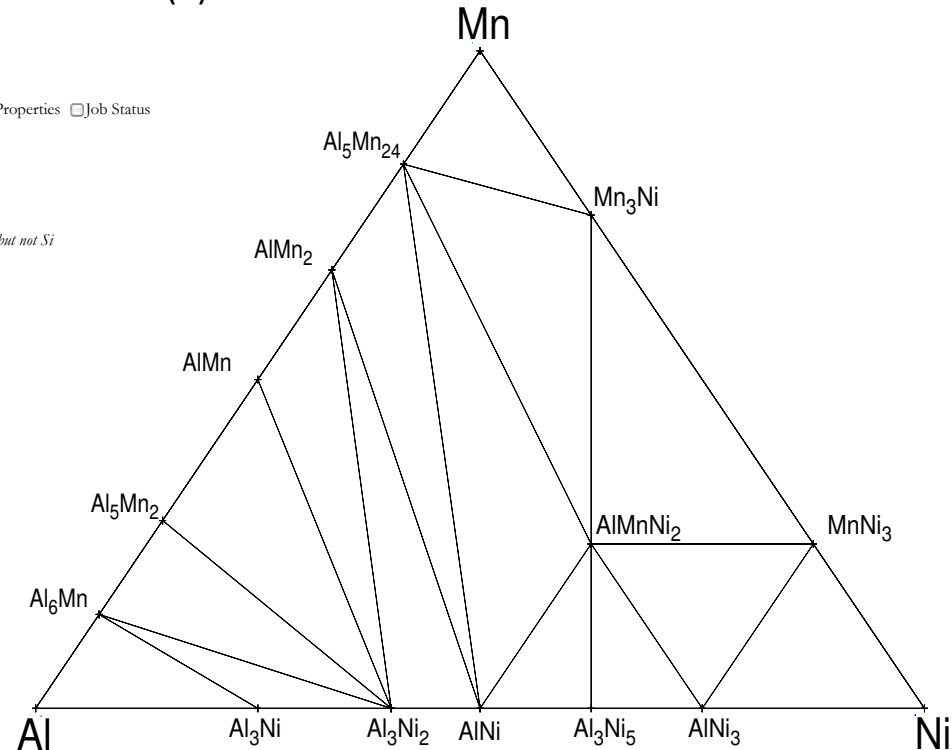
Maximum  $\langle P_p \rangle / L =$    $\mu\text{W}/\text{cmK}^2\text{nm}$  (thermoelectric properties)

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

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

Calculated date from  to  (job status)

## (b)



# Al<sub>1</sub>Ca<sub>1</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Ta<sub>1</sub> (ICSD# 99001)

## REAL SPACE LATTICES

**Lattices:** a = 7.40 Å b = 7.97 Å c = 7.71 Å  
 $\alpha = 68.69^\circ \beta = 90.00^\circ \gamma = 90.00^\circ$

**Volume:** 423.76 Å<sup>3</sup>

**Unit Cell Atom Number:** 32

**Space Group Number:** 14  
**Pearson Symbol:** mP32  
**Lattice Primitive:** MCL Al1Ca1O5Ta1 #14.0 - (Al1Ca1O5Ta1\_ICSD\_99)  
**Lattice Variation:** MCL  
**Crystal Family:** Monoclinic  
**Crystal System:** Monoclinic  
**Crystal Class:** Monoclinic-prismatic

**Point Group (Hermann Mauguin):** 2/m PGXTAL  
**Point Group (Schoenflies):** C<sub>2h</sub>  
**Point Group Orbifold:** 2\*  
**Point Group Type:** centrosymmetric  
**Point Group Order:** 4  
**Point Group Structure:** 2 X Cyclic

**Superlattice Primitive unit cell:** MCL  
**Superlattice Variation:** MCL  
**Pearson Symbol Superlattice:** mP32

## RECIPROCAL SPACE LATTICES

**Reciprocal Lattices:** a = 0.85 Å<sup>-1</sup> b = 0.85 Å<sup>-1</sup> c = 0.87 Å<sup>-1</sup>  
 $\alpha = 111.31^\circ \beta = 90.00^\circ \gamma = 90.00^\circ$

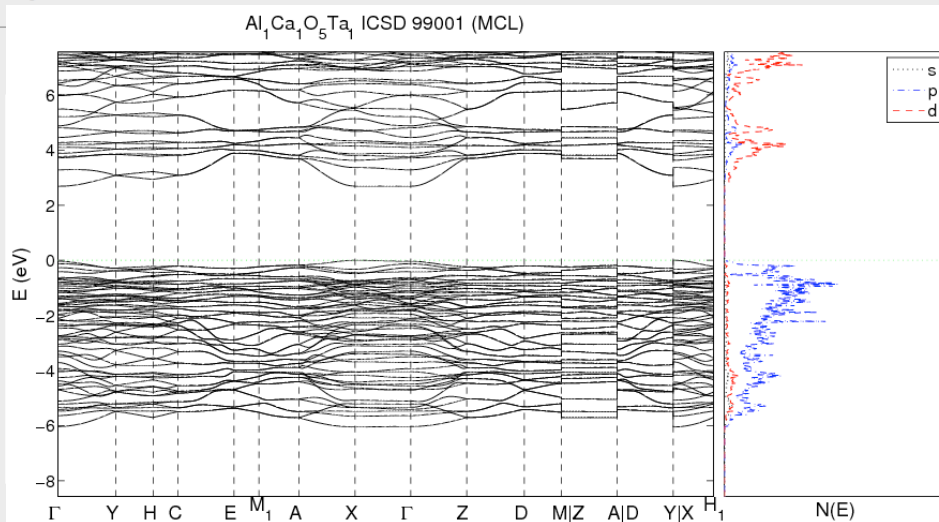
**Volume:** 0.59 Å<sup>-3</sup>

**Lattice Primitive:** MCL  
**Lattice Variation:** MCL

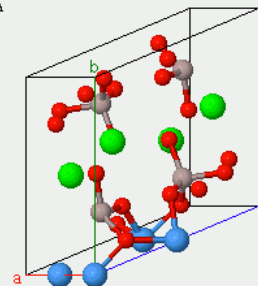
<b>Density:</b>	5.45 g/cm <sup>3</sup>
<b>Band Gap:</b>	2.68 eV
<b>Fit Band Gap:</b>	4.53 eV
<b>Band Gap Type:</b>	Indirect
<b>Electron Mass:</b>	6.66 (m <sub>0</sub> )
<b>Hole Mass:</b>	2.85 (m <sub>0</sub> )

## ELECTRONIC PROPERTIES

### Band Structure



P 1 [P 1]  
a = 7.399 Å  
b = 7.971 Å  
c = 7.713 Å  
 $\alpha = 68.7^\circ$   
 $\beta = 90.0^\circ$   
 $\gamma = 90.0^\circ$

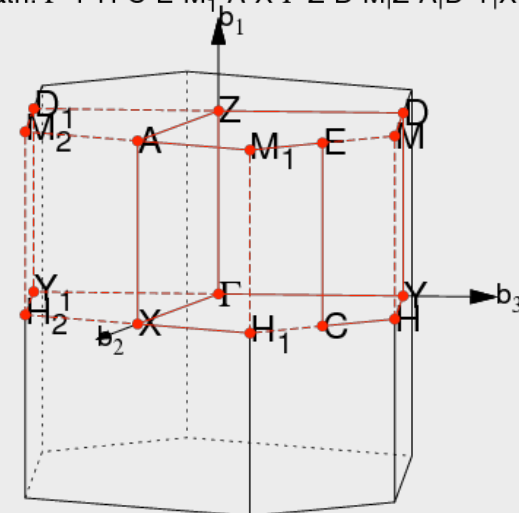


Turn spin off

Show atom labels

ball and stick

MCL path:  $\Gamma$ -Y-H-C-E-M<sub>1</sub>-A-X- $\Gamma$ -Z-D-M|Z-A|D-Y|X-H<sub>1</sub>



Comp. Mat. Sci. 49, 299-312 (2010)

# Repository of quantum mechanics calculations

geometric/thermodynamic data (with formulae etc.) ☺

▲Name [1]	ICSD Number [1]	Bravais Lattice	Number of Atoms	<P <sub>n</sub> >/L (μW/cmK <sup>2</sup> nm) [4]	<P <sub>n1</sub> >/L (μW/cmK <sup>2</sup> nm) [4]	<P <sub>n2</sub> >/L (μW/cmK <sup>2</sup> nm) [4]	<P <sub>n3</sub> >/L (μW/cmK <sup>2</sup> nm) [4]	<P <sub>p</sub> >/L (μW/cmK <sup>2</sup> nm) [4]	<P <sub>p1</sub> >/L (μW/cmK <sup>2</sup> nm) [4]	<P <sub>p2</sub> >/L (μW/cmK <sup>2</sup> nm) [4]	<P <sub>p3</sub> >/L (μW/cmK <sup>2</sup> nm) [4]	S <sub>n</sub> (μV/K) [4]	S <sub>p</sub> (μV/K) [4]
F <sub>3</sub> Fe <sub>1</sub> K <sub>1</sub>	15424	CUB (Cubic)	5	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	2.17	2.17	2.17	2.17	-116.36	91.29
F <sub>3</sub> Fe <sub>1</sub> Rb <sub>1</sub>	49586	CUB (Cubic)	5	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	1.50	1.48	1.51	1.51	-91.73	91.04
Fe <sub>1</sub> La <sub>1</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	29118	CUB (Cubic)	5	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	-139.02	92.92
Ag <sub>2</sub> Fe <sub>1</sub> S <sub>4</sub> Sn <sub>1</sub>	42534	BCT (Tetragonal)		8		121 (I-42m)		tI16		4.77			

magnetic properties (if you want rare earth free magnets/spintronics)  
scintillation properties/search

▲Name [1]	ICSD Number [1]	Bravais Lattice	Number of Atoms	Magnetic Moment (μ <sub>B</sub> /atom) [5]	Spin Polarization (1/atom) [5]	Spin Decomposition (μ <sub>B</sub> )							
Ag <sub>1</sub> Fe <sub>1</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	2786	HEX (Hexagonal)	8	1.25	0.00	{0.039,0.039,4.303,4.303,0.258,0.258,0.258,0.258}							
Ag <sub>1</sub> Fe <sub>1</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	31919	RHL (Rhombohedral)	4	1.25	0.00	{0.039,4.303,0.258,0.258}							
Ag <sub>2</sub> Fe <sub>1</sub> S <sub>4</sub> Sn <sub>1</sub>	42534	BCT (Tetragonal)	8	0.50	0.00	{0.016,0.016,3.631,0.024,0.024,0.024,0.024,0.016}							
F <sub>2</sub> Fe <sub>1</sub>	9166	TET (Tetragonal)	6	2.63 (I)	4.46	0.49	0.48	190.80	5.47	388.39	7.15	15.23	2.86700

# Automatic Generation of Databases

**Creating “*aflow.in*” input files:**

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

***HT Computational  
Tools (AFLOW)***



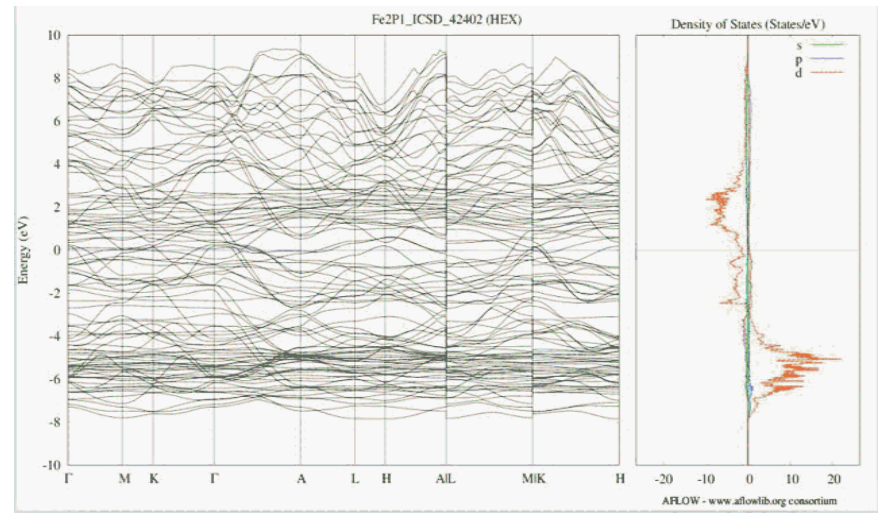
**VASP**

***Materials Database (AFLOWLIB)***

# Automatic data/visualization analysis

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

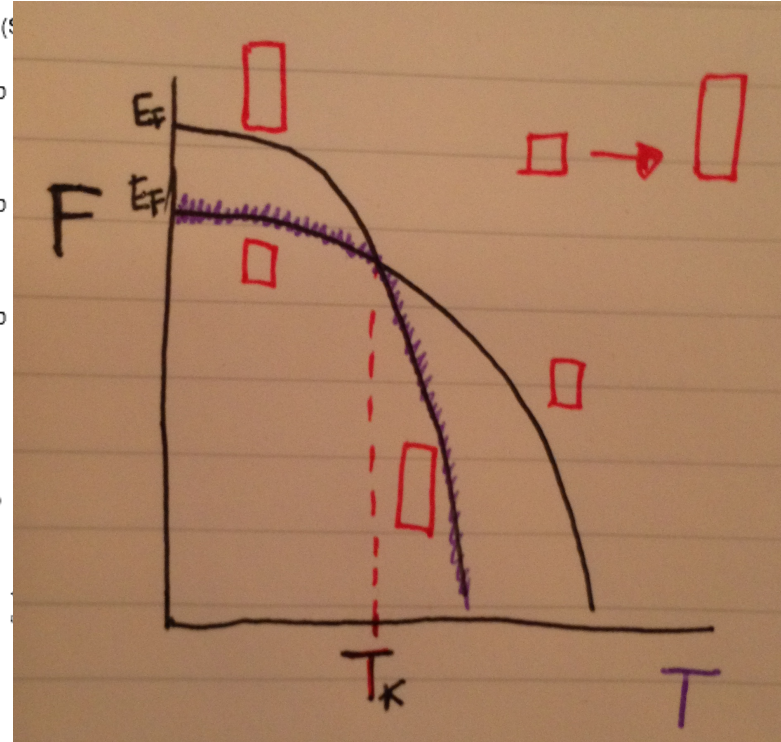
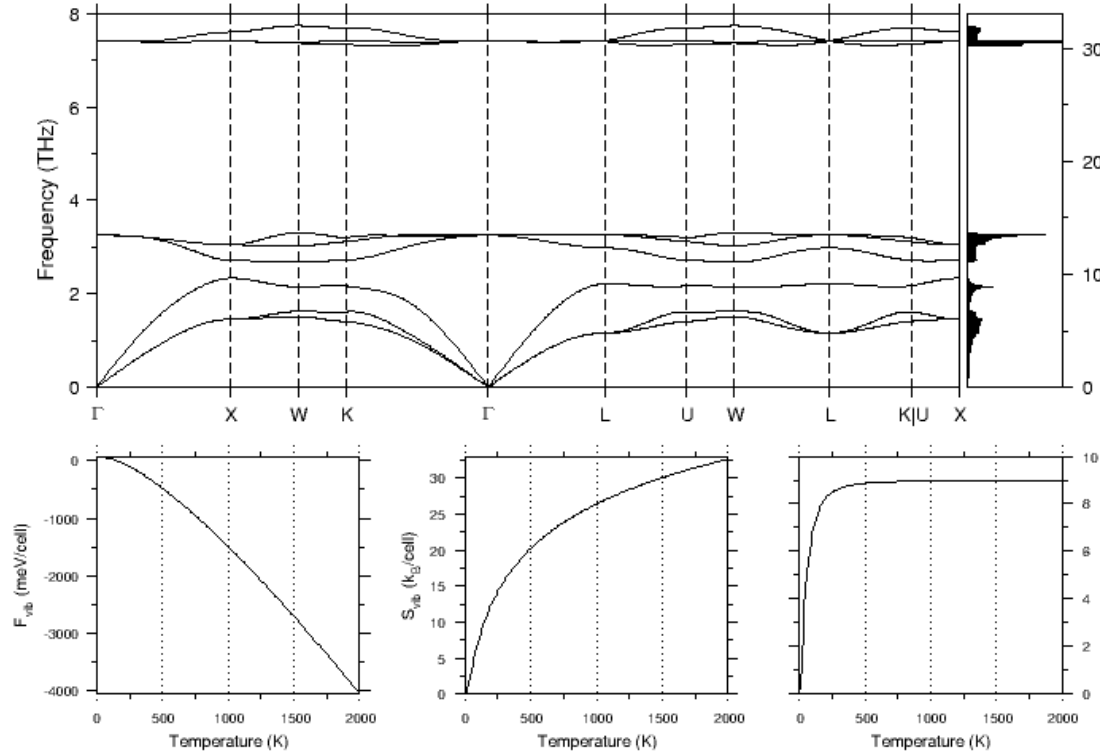
```
kesong@nietzsche:~/Example/Fe2P1_ICSD_42402$
```



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

# Vibrational Free energy

FCC,cF12] (STD\_PRIM doi:10.1016/j.commatsci.2010.05.010) [Standard\_Primitive Unit Cell Form] [FCC, FDO, F12] (S



# EXAMPLE: Topological Insulators

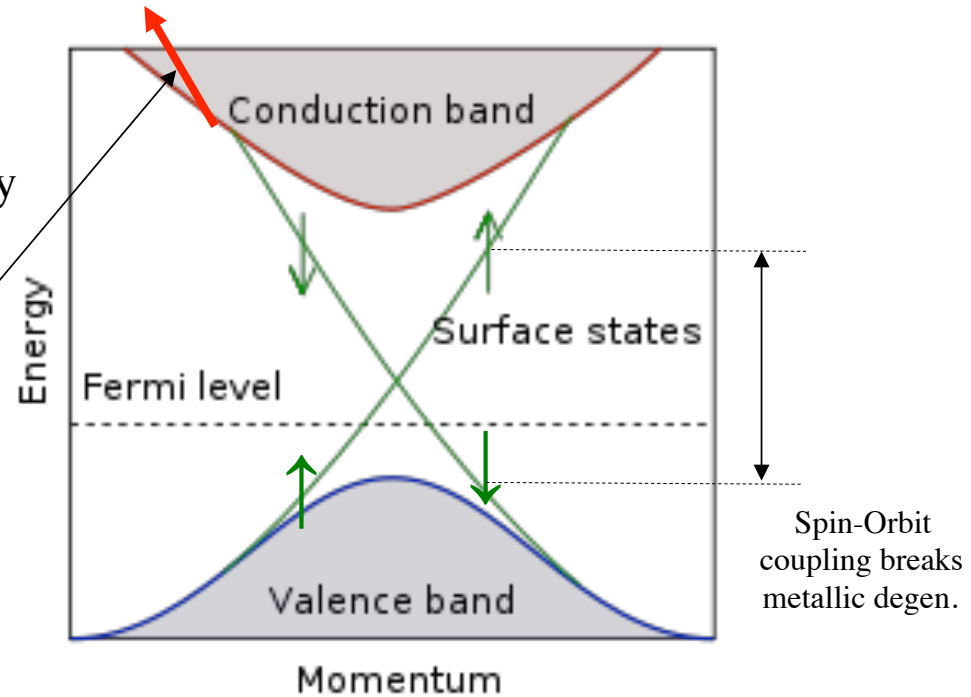
**Table 1 | Examples of descriptors introduced in the literature.** [Nature Mater. 12, 191 \(2013\)](#)

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).	$E_{n,p} \approx \alpha_1 E_{n,1} + \dots + \alpha_{p-1} E_{n,p-1} + \epsilon(d)$
Nanosintered thermoelectrics <a href="#">PRX 1, 021012 (2011)</a>	Ratio of the average power factor ( $\langle P \rangle$ ) to the grain size ( $L$ ) (ref. 15).	$\hat{\chi}_{\text{thermo}} \equiv \frac{\langle P \rangle}{L}$
Topological insulators (epitaxial growth) <a href="#">Nature Mater. 11, 614 (2012)</a>	Variational ratio of spin-orbit distortion versus non-spin-orbit derivative strain ( $E_k^{\text{SOC}}, E_k^{\text{noSOC}}$ , spin/no spin-orbit bandgaps at $k, a_0$ lattice) <sup>16</sup> .	$\hat{\chi}_{\text{TI}} \equiv - \frac{E_k^{\text{SOC}}(a_0)/a_0}{\delta E_k^{\text{noSOC}}(a_0)/\delta a_0 _{a_0}}$
Power conversion efficiency of a solar cell (spectroscopic limited maximum efficiency) <a href="#">PRL 108, 068701 (2012)</a>	Ratio of the maximum output power density ( $P_m$ ) to the incident solar energy density ( $P_{\text{in}}$ ) — a function ( $\eta$ ) of the radiative electron-hole recombination current ( $f_r$ ) and the photon absorptivity ( $\alpha(E)$ ) — versus bandgap energy ( $E_g$ ) <sup>62</sup> .	$\eta(\alpha(E), f_r) = P_m/P_{\text{in}}; E_g$
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>72</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> .	$\Delta E_p \leq 0.5 \text{ eV}$ $\alpha_{AB} \approx 45^\circ$

# EXAMPLE: Topological Insulators

TI: insulator inside and conductor in the surface. The conducting state is protected by the symmetry of the system (inversion and time reversal).

Fu, Kane, Mele, PRL **98**, 106803 (2007).  
 Hasan, Kane, Rev. Mod. Phys. **82**, 3045 (2010).  
 Haldane, PRL **61**, 2015 (1988).  
 Nielsen, Ninomiya, Phys. Lett. 130B, 389 (1983).



$$\hat{h}(\mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{k}) / |\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{k})|$$

$$n = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int d^2\mathbf{k} (\partial_{k_x} \hat{h} \times \partial_{k_y} \hat{h}) \cdot \hat{h} \quad (\text{Berry Phase})$$

number of times  $\hat{h}(\mathbf{k})$  wraps around the unit sphere

each Dirac point contributes  $\pm e^2/2h$  to  $\sigma_{xy}$

Cones come in doubles (even).

Insulating state = cancellation  $\Rightarrow \sigma_{xy} = 0$

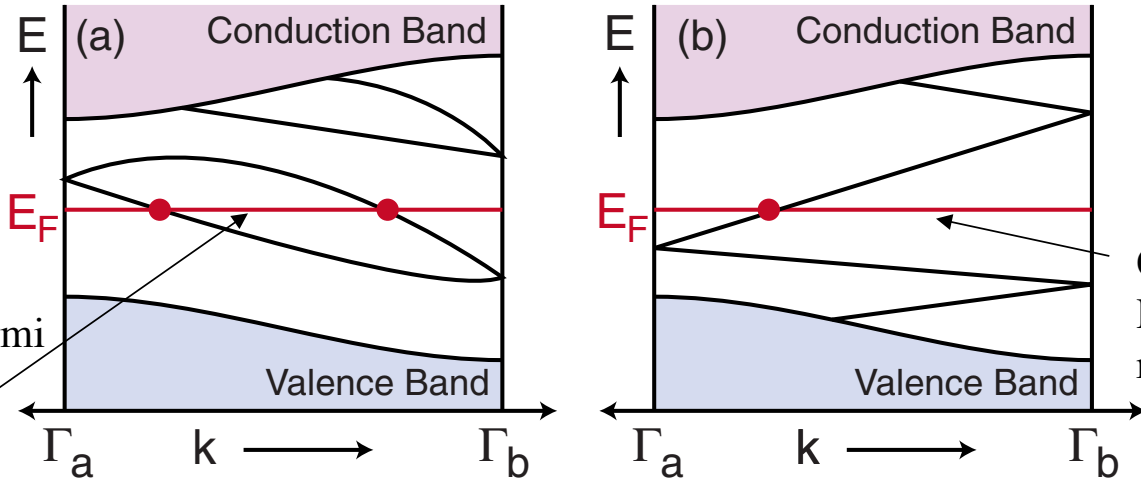
Quantum Hall State = summation  $\Rightarrow \sigma_{xy} \neq 0$



# EXAMPLES: going alloys and going surfaces

17

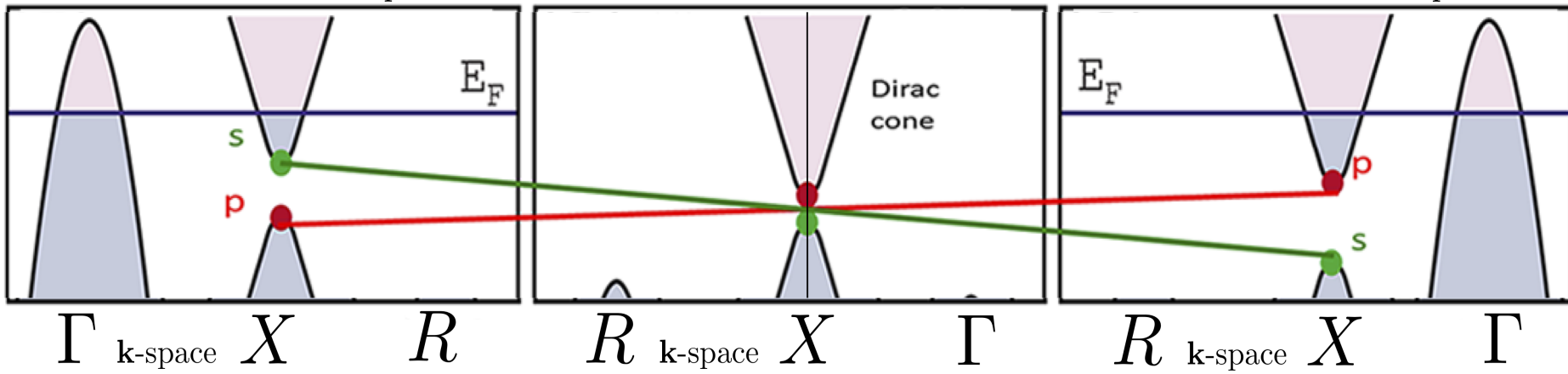
Surface 2D BZ  
Surface states



## Time Reversal Invariant Momenta (TRIMs)

$$\Gamma_{i=(n_1 n_2 n_3)} = (n_1 \mathbf{b}_1 + n_2 \mathbf{b}_2 + n_3 \mathbf{b}_3)/2, \text{ with } n_j = 0, 1.$$

- (a) Bulk:** Roto-translational invariant (Noether's theorem)  $\rightarrow E^{SOC} < 0 \rightarrow E_p < E_s$
- (c) Surface:** TRIM points (eigenpoints solid-solution disorder operator)
- (b) Interface:** Roto-translational variant (Noether's theorem)  $\rightarrow E^{SOC} \sim 0 \rightarrow E_p > E_s$



# EXAMPLE: plain of action

18

- *Scan the aflowlib.org library*
- *Need of a **DESCRIPTOR** (need to grow... epixially).*
- *search for combination of heavy metals (potential strong spin-orbit coupling)*
- *search for ideal band structures with appropriate gaps*
- *calculate band structure with LS (thousand of compounds)*
- *calculate the bands for surfaces to see localized conducting surface states*
- *usually they contain Bi and/or Sb, Te, Pb.*

nature  
materials

ARTICLES

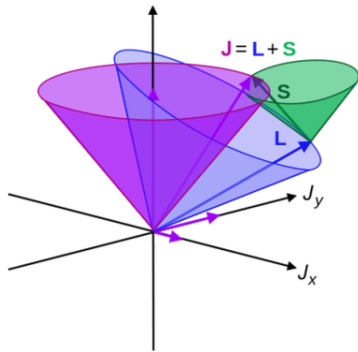
PUBLISHED ONLINE: XX MONTH XXXX | DOI: 10.1038/NMAT3332

## A search model for topological insulators with high-throughput robustness descriptors

Kesong Yang<sup>1</sup>, Wahyu Setyawan<sup>2</sup>, Shidong Wang<sup>1</sup>, Marco Buongiorno Nardelli<sup>3,4</sup>  
and Stefano Curtarolo<sup>1,4,5★</sup>

*Nature Materials*, **11**(7), 614-619 (2012) DOI: 10.1038/nmat3332

# Let`s precess, epitaxially !



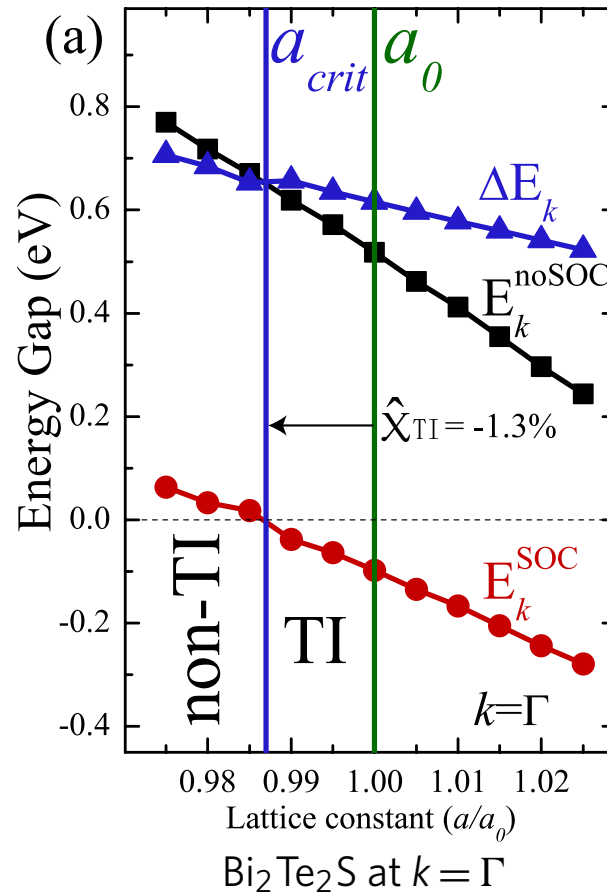
$\alpha$ ) SPIN orbit calculations  
are expensive

$\beta$ ) LS due to electrons  
precessing near cores

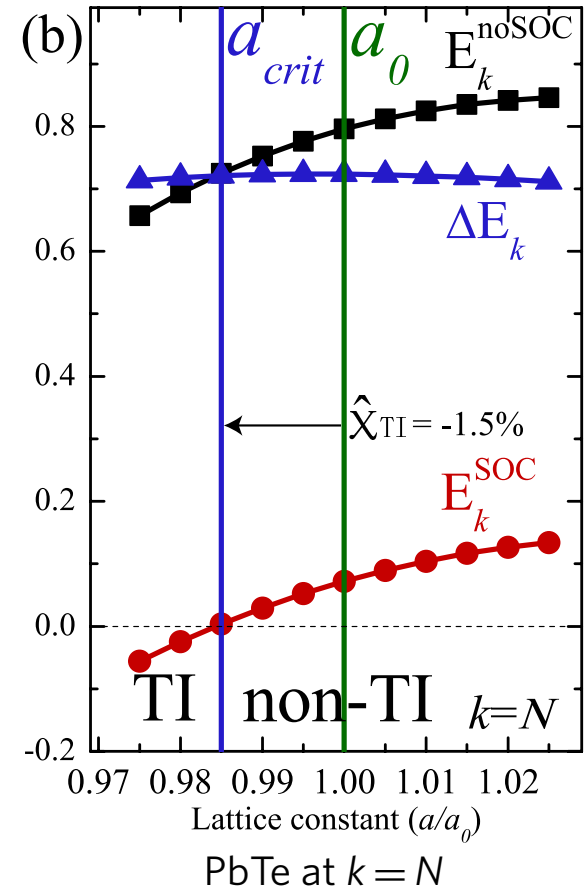
$\gamma$ )  $E^{soc} - E^{noSOC} \sim const$

$\delta$ ) simulated epitaxial strain  
with  $E^{noSOC}$

**robustness descriptor varitional**  
**(“quasi-meaningful” quantity)**

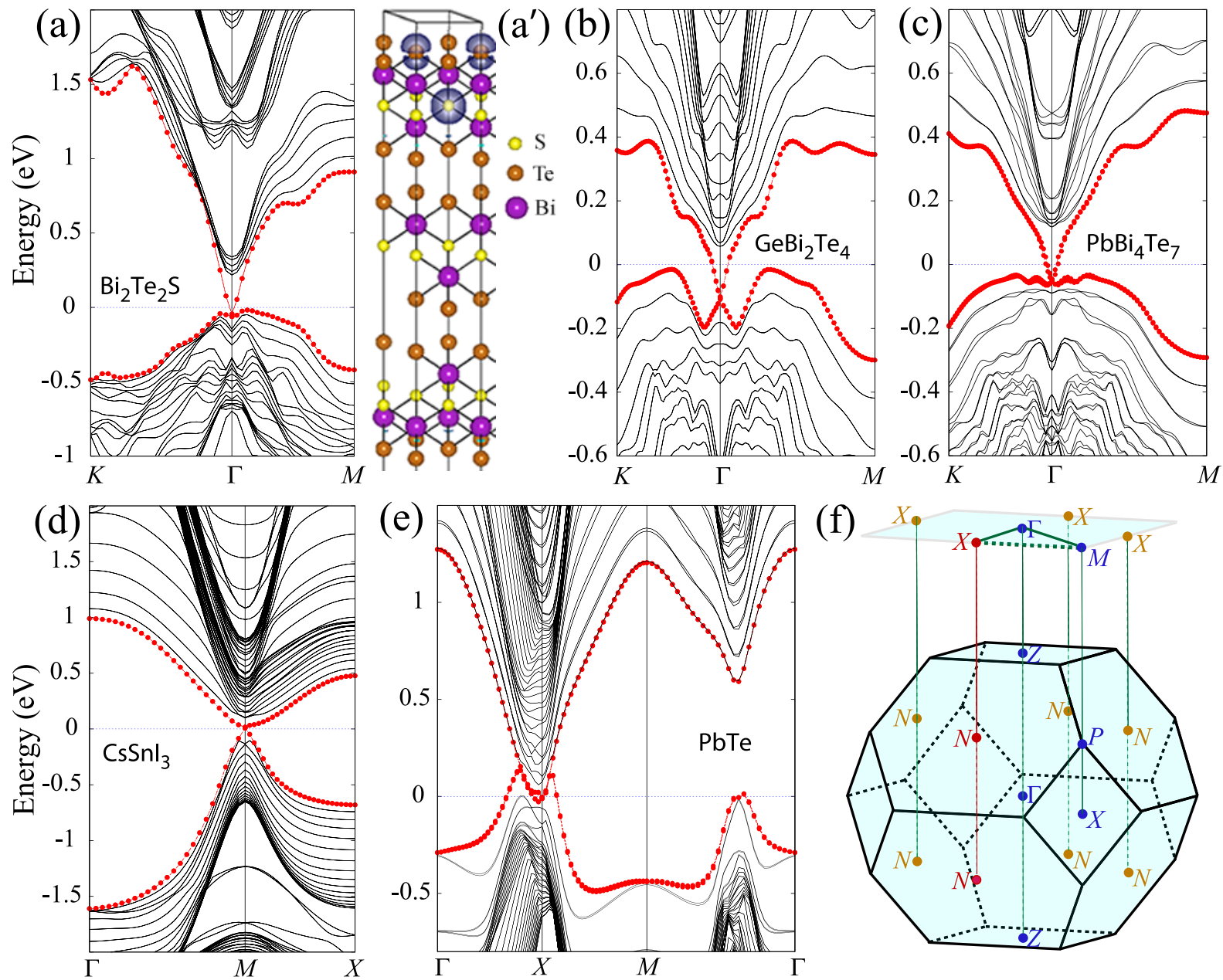


covalent systems



ionic compounds

$$\hat{\chi}_{\text{TI}} \equiv - \frac{E_k^{\text{SOC}}(a_0)/a_0}{\delta E_k^{\text{noSOC}}(a)/\delta(a) \Big|_{a_0}}$$



# New compounds: tern. halides: Cs{Sn,Pb,Ge}{Cl,Br,I}<sub>3</sub>

21

**Table 1 | Properties of bulk and simulated epitaxial structures.**

		Bulk					Simulated epitaxial growth ( <i>a</i> optimized, <i>c/a</i> free)									
Compound	Space group	ICSD # ref. 31	Pearson symbol	Latt. ref. 39	Exp. <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> , <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	DFT <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> , <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	Pearson symbol	Latt. cleav.	<i>a</i> <sub>crit</sub> (Å)	<i>E</i> <sub>k</sub> <sup>SOC</sup> 'ref'	Ref. lattice	<i>E</i> <sub>k</sub> <sup>SOC</sup> 'ref'	TRIM (mult.)	Δ <i>E</i> <sub>k</sub> @ ( <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> , <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub> )	<i>E</i> <sub>k</sub> <sup>SOC</sup> @ ( <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> , <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub> )	$\hat{\chi}_{\text{TI}}$ (%)
Sb <sub>2</sub> Te <sub>2</sub> S	<i>R</i> $\bar{3}m$	-	hR5	rhl <sub>1</sub>	-	4.192 31.001	hR5	rhl <sub>1</sub> (0001)	1.006 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 0.993 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	-0.106	1.019 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 0.975 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	0.106 (D)	Γ (1)	0.21	0.043	0.6 PF
Bi <sub>2</sub> Te <sub>2</sub> S Fig. 2a	<i>R</i> $\bar{3}m$	617050	hR5	rhl <sub>1</sub>	4.33 30.07	4.297 31.513	hR5	rhl <sub>1</sub> (0001)	0.987 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.013 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	-0.089	<i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	0.089 (D)	Γ (1)	0.62	-0.089	-1.3 R
SnSb <sub>2</sub> Te <sub>4</sub>	<i>R</i> $\bar{3}m$	30392	hR7	rhl <sub>1</sub>	4.312 41.72	4.389 42.347	hR7	rhl <sub>1</sub> (0001)	0.999 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 0.998 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	-0.065	1.011 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 0.984 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	0.065 (D)	Z(1)	0.22	0.013	-0.1 PF
PbSb <sub>2</sub> Te <sub>4</sub>	<i>R</i> $\bar{3}m$	250250	hR7	rhl <sub>1</sub>	4.35 41.712	4.413 42.792	hR7	rhl <sub>1</sub> (0001)	0.988 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.011 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	-0.017	<i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	0.017 (D)	Z(1)	0.35	-0.017	-1.2 R
PbBi <sub>4</sub> Se <sub>7</sub>	<i>P</i> $\bar{3}m1$	ref. 49	hP12	hex	4.25 22.68	4.216 23.839	hP12	hex (0001)	1.018 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 0.971 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	-0.016	1.023 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 0.966 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	0.016 (D)	A(1)	0.41	0.128	2.3 PF
CsSnCl <sub>3</sub>	<i>Pm</i> $\bar{3}m$	28082	cP5	cub	5.504 5.504	5.618 5.618	tP5	tet (001)	0.951 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.022 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	-0.281	0.936 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.209 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	0.111 (I)	A(1)	0.34	0.646	-4.9 HF
CsPbCl <sub>3</sub>	<i>Pm</i> $\bar{3}m$	29072	cP5	cub	5.605 5.605	5.733 5.733	tP5	tet (001)	0.914 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.037 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	-0.450	0.890 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.050 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	0.354 (I)	A(1)	1.11	1.073	-8.6 HF
CsGeBr <sub>3</sub>	<i>Pm</i> $\bar{3}m$	80320	cP5	cub	5.36 5.36	5.603 5.603	tP5	tet (001)	0.955 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.022 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	-0.055	0.952 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.023 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	0.026 (I)	A(1)	0.16	0.591	-4.5 HF
CsSnBr <sub>3</sub>	<i>Pm</i> $\bar{3}m$	4071	cP5	cub	5.795 5.795	5.884 5.884	tP5	tet (001)	0.972 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.010 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	-0.099	0.965 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.013 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	0.099 (D)	A(1)	0.34	0.288	-2.8 PF
CsPbBr <sub>3</sub>	<i>Pm</i> $\bar{3}m$	29073	cP5	cub	5.874 5.874	5.993 5.993	tP5	tet (001)	0.934 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.024 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	-0.120	0.926 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.027 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	0.120 (D)	A(1)	1.11	0.641	-6.6 HF
CsSnI <sub>3</sub> Fig. 2d	<i>Pm</i> $\bar{3}m$	69997	cP5	cub	6.219 6.219	6.272 6.272	tP5	tet (001)	0.993 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.002 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	-0.335	0.960 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 1.013 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	0.169 (I)	A(1)	0.39	0.070	-0.7 PF
SnTe	<i>Fm</i> $\bar{3}m$	52489	cF8	fcc	4.471 6.323	4.528 6.404	tI4	bct <sub>2</sub> (001)	1.027 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 0.998 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	-0.058	1.010 <i>a</i> <sub>0</sub> 0.999 <i>c</i> <sub>0</sub>	0.058 (D)	N (4)	0.15	-0.107	2.7 VR

Properties of bulk structure: compound (\* indicates experimental validation), space group, ICSD number<sup>31</sup>, Pearson symbol, Bravais lattice<sup>39</sup>, experimental and DFT equilibrium lattices *a*, *c* in (Å). Properties under the simulated epitaxial growth condition: Pearson symbol, Bravais lattice with conventional cleavage Miller indices, critical value for band inversion (*a*<sub>crit</sub>), SOC band energy difference (*E*<sub>k</sub><sup>SOC</sup>(ref.)) at the TRIM with the reference lattice, reference lattice, SOC band-gap at the reference lattice (direct/indirect) (*E*<sub>k</sub><sup>SOC</sup>(ref.)), TRIMs having band inversion with multiplicity<sup>39</sup>, SOC energy-gap discrepancy (Δ*E*<sub>k</sub>) at the *ab initio* equilibrium lattice, SOC band energy difference (*E*<sub>k</sub><sup>SOC</sup>(*a*<sub>0</sub>)) at the TRIM with the *ab initio* equilibrium lattice, HT-descriptor ( $\hat{\chi}_{\text{TI}}$ ). The labels below  $\hat{\chi}_{\text{TI}}$  indicate: F(fragile), R(robust), VR(very robust), PF(potentially feasible), and HF(hardly feasible) (structural and electronic data is available by following the links listed in the Supplementary Information Extended Table).

novel  
ternary  
halides

if  $E_k^{\text{SOC}}(a_0) \leq 0$ , robustness:

$|\hat{\chi}_{\text{TI}}| \leq 1\% \Rightarrow$  fragile,

$1\% < |\hat{\chi}_{\text{TI}}| \leq 2\% \Rightarrow$  robust,

$2\% < |\hat{\chi}_{\text{TI}}| \Rightarrow$  very-robust.

if  $E_k^{\text{SOC}}(a_0) > 0$ , feasibility:

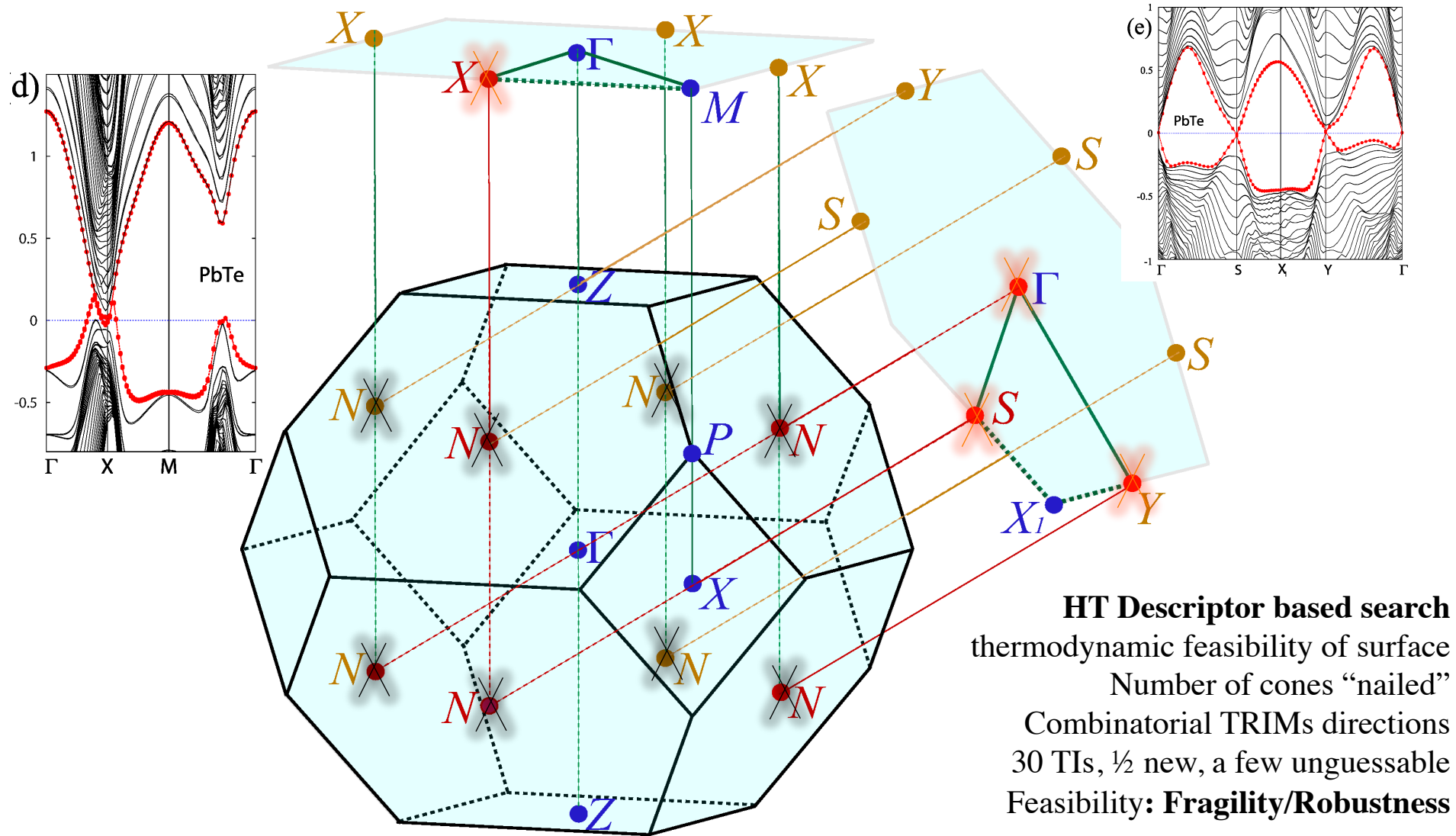
$|\hat{\chi}_{\text{TI}}| \leq 3\% \Rightarrow$  potentially-feasible,

$3\% < |\hat{\chi}_{\text{TI}}| \Rightarrow$  hardly-feasible.

# EXAMPLE: Topological Insulators

22

Projects on surfaces by aligning semicones and checking thermodynamics of planes



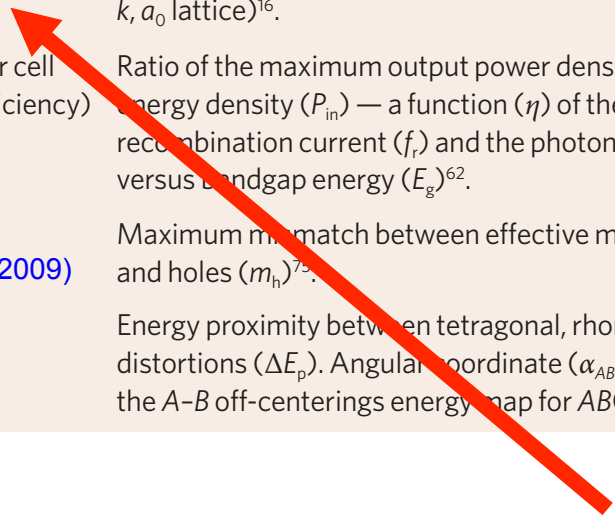
Yang, Setyawan, Buongiorno Nardelli, **Curtarolo**: *High-Throughput Descriptor for Novel Topological Insulators*, *Nature Materials*, **11**(7), 614-619 (2012) DOI: 10.1038/nmat3332

# EXAMPLE: Thermoelectrics

without the constant relaxation time approximation

**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).	$E_{n,p} \approx \alpha_1 E_{n,1} + \dots + \alpha_{p-1} E_{n,p-1} + \epsilon(d)$
Nanosintered thermoelectrics <a href="#">PRX 1, 021012 (2011)</a>	Ratio of the average power factor ( $\langle P \rangle$ ) to the grain size ( $L$ ) (ref. 15).	$\hat{\chi}_{\text{thermo}} \equiv \frac{\langle P \rangle}{L}$
Topological insulators (epitaxial growth) <a href="#">Nature Mater. 11, 614 (2012)</a>	Variational ratio of spin-orbit distortion versus non-spin-orbit derivative strain ( $E_k^{\text{SOC}}, E_k^{\text{noSOC}}$ , spin/no spin-orbit bandgaps at $k, a_0$ lattice) <sup>16</sup> .	$\hat{\chi}_{\text{TI}} \equiv - \frac{E_k^{\text{SOC}}(a_0)/a_0}{\delta E_k^{\text{noSOC}}(a_0)/\delta a_0 _{a_0}}$
Power conversion efficiency of a solar cell (spectroscopic limited maximum efficiency) <a href="#">PRL 108, 068701 (2012)</a>	Ratio of the maximum output power density ( $P_m$ ) to the incident solar energy density ( $P_{\text{in}}$ ) — a function ( $\eta$ ) of the radiative electron-hole recombination current ( $f_r$ ) and the photon absorptivity ( $\alpha(E)$ ) — versus bandgap energy ( $E_g$ ) <sup>62</sup> .	$\eta(\alpha(E), f_r) = P_m/P_{\text{in}}; E_g$
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>72</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> .	$\Delta E_p \leq 0.5 \text{ eV}$ $\alpha_{AB} \approx 45^\circ$



# EXAMPLE: Thermoelectricity

Thermoelectrics: convert flow of electronic entropy in electronic current

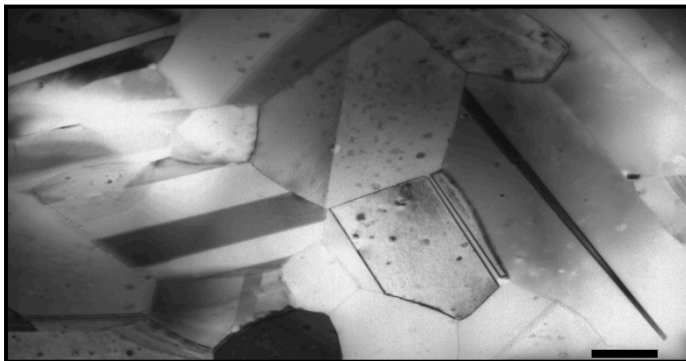
$$ZT = \frac{\sigma S^2 T}{\kappa}$$
$$P = \sigma S^2$$

$$ZT > 1 \Rightarrow S > 156 \mu\text{V}/\text{K}$$

from Wiedemann-Franz law (room T)

$$ZT = \frac{\sigma S^2 T}{\kappa}$$

constant ~~must increase~~ less than  $\kappa$



sintering  
polycrystalline

$\text{Bi}_2\text{Te}_3$

must decrease

Courtesy: G. Bernard-Granger, LITEN, CEA-Grenoble.



# EXAMPLE: Thermoelectricity

25

$$ZT = \frac{\sigma S^2 T}{\kappa} \quad P = \sigma S^2$$

*Sintered compounds have diffusive scattering for carriers (similar diffusive model of phonon transport [1])*

*Then mean free path is of the order of the grain:  $\lambda \simeq L$  (so we can play with  $L$ )*

From the **C**onstant **R**elaxation **T**ime **A**pproximation (**CRTA**) to **C**onstant **M**ean **F**ree **P**ath **A**pproximation (**CMFPA**) [2,3]

[1] PRB **67**, 054302 (2003), JAP **93**, 793 (2003), RMP **61**, 605 (1989), PRB **48**, 16373 (1993)

[2] JAP **108**, 124306 (2010)

[3] PRX **1**, 021012 (2011)

# Constant Mean Free Path Approximation

PRX 1, 021012 (2011)

$$ZT = \frac{\sigma S^2 T}{\kappa} \quad P = \sigma S^2$$

for materials usually:  $\lambda_e^{\text{bulk}} < \lambda_{ph}^{\text{bulk}}$

## THREE SCENARIOS versus $L$

### 1. BIG GRAINS

$$\lambda_e^{\text{bulk}} < \lambda_{ph}^{\text{bulk}} < L \Rightarrow \{\sigma, \kappa\} \text{ need } \tau \text{ \& phons} \Rightarrow ZT$$

### 2. MEDIUM GRAINS

$$\lambda_e^{\text{bulk}} < L < \lambda_{ph}^{\text{bulk}} \Rightarrow \kappa \propto L \Rightarrow ZT \propto 1/L$$

### 3. TINY GRAINS

$$L < \lambda_e^{\text{bulk}} \Rightarrow \sigma, \kappa \propto L \Rightarrow ZT \sim \text{const} \Rightarrow P \propto L$$

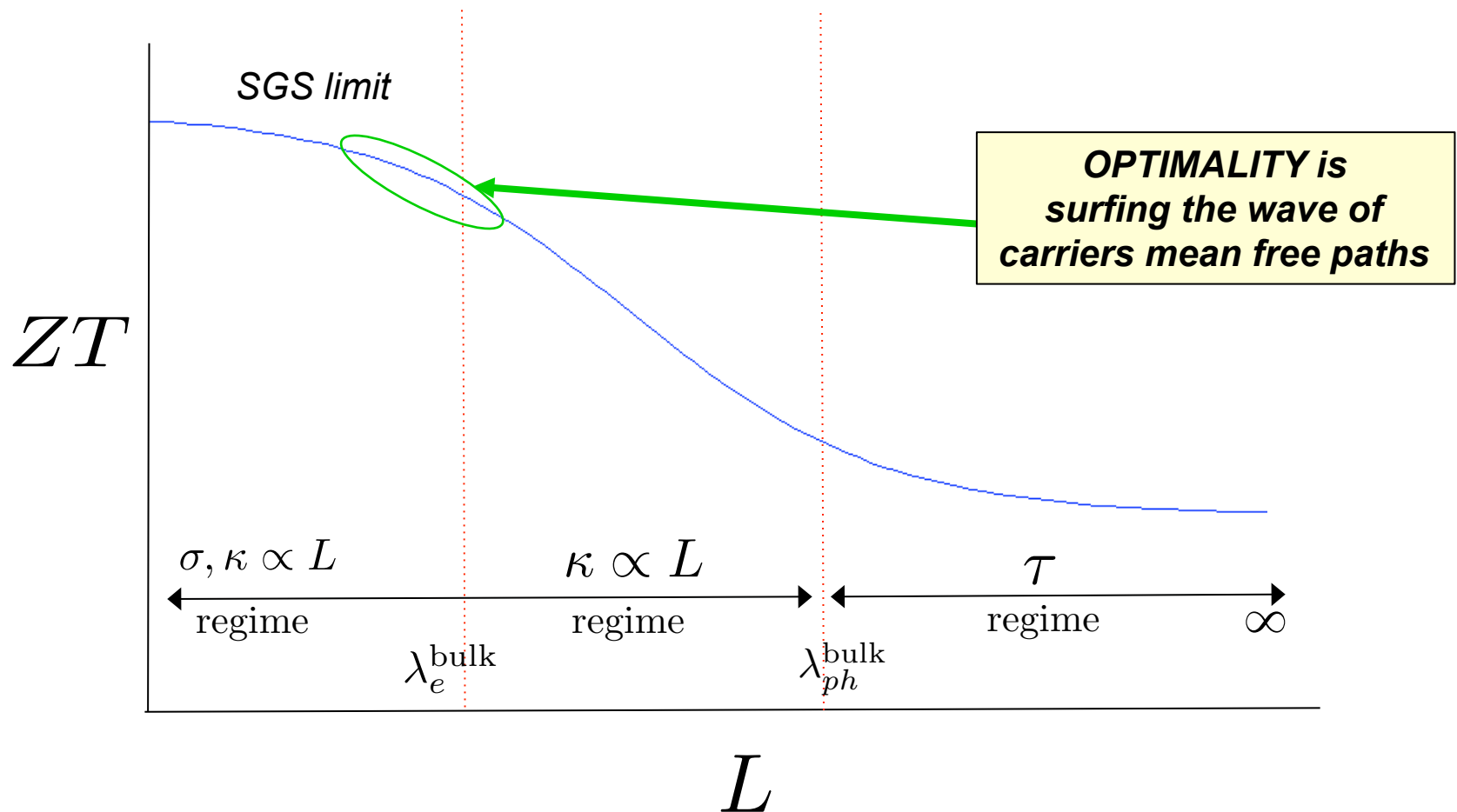
*Small grain size (SGS) limit*

# Constant Mean Free Path Approximation

PRX 1, 021012 (2011)

$$ZT = \frac{\sigma S^2 T}{\kappa} \quad P = \sigma S^2$$

for materials usually:  $\lambda_e^{\text{bulk}} < \lambda_{ph}^{\text{bulk}}$

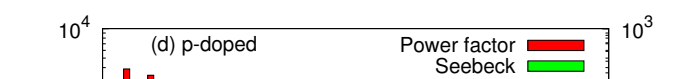
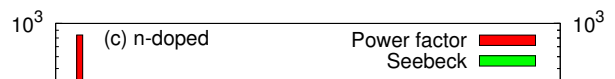
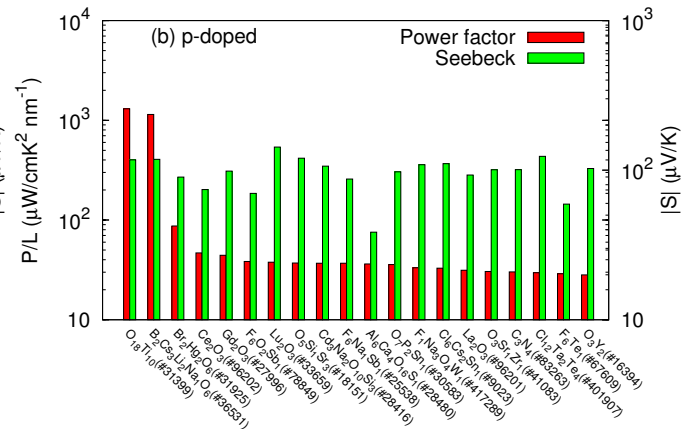
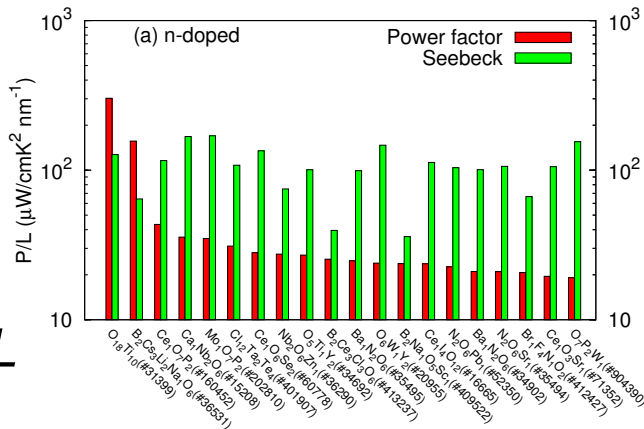




# power factor

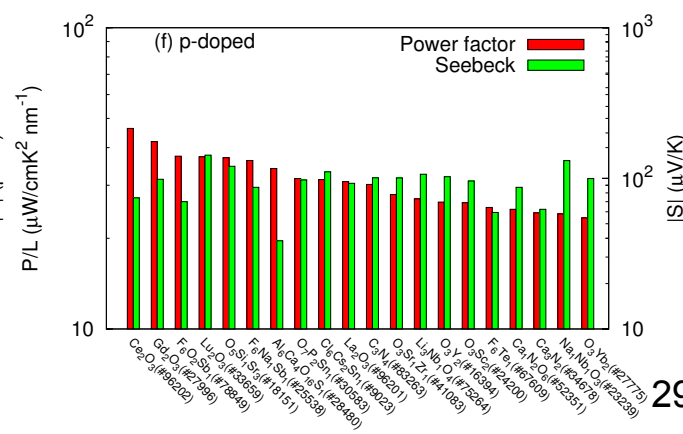
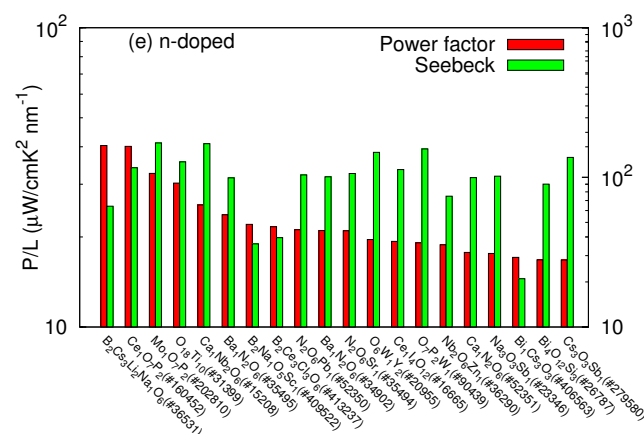
For sintered, depends on directions, project on principal axes

$$X_{thermo} = \langle P \rangle / L$$



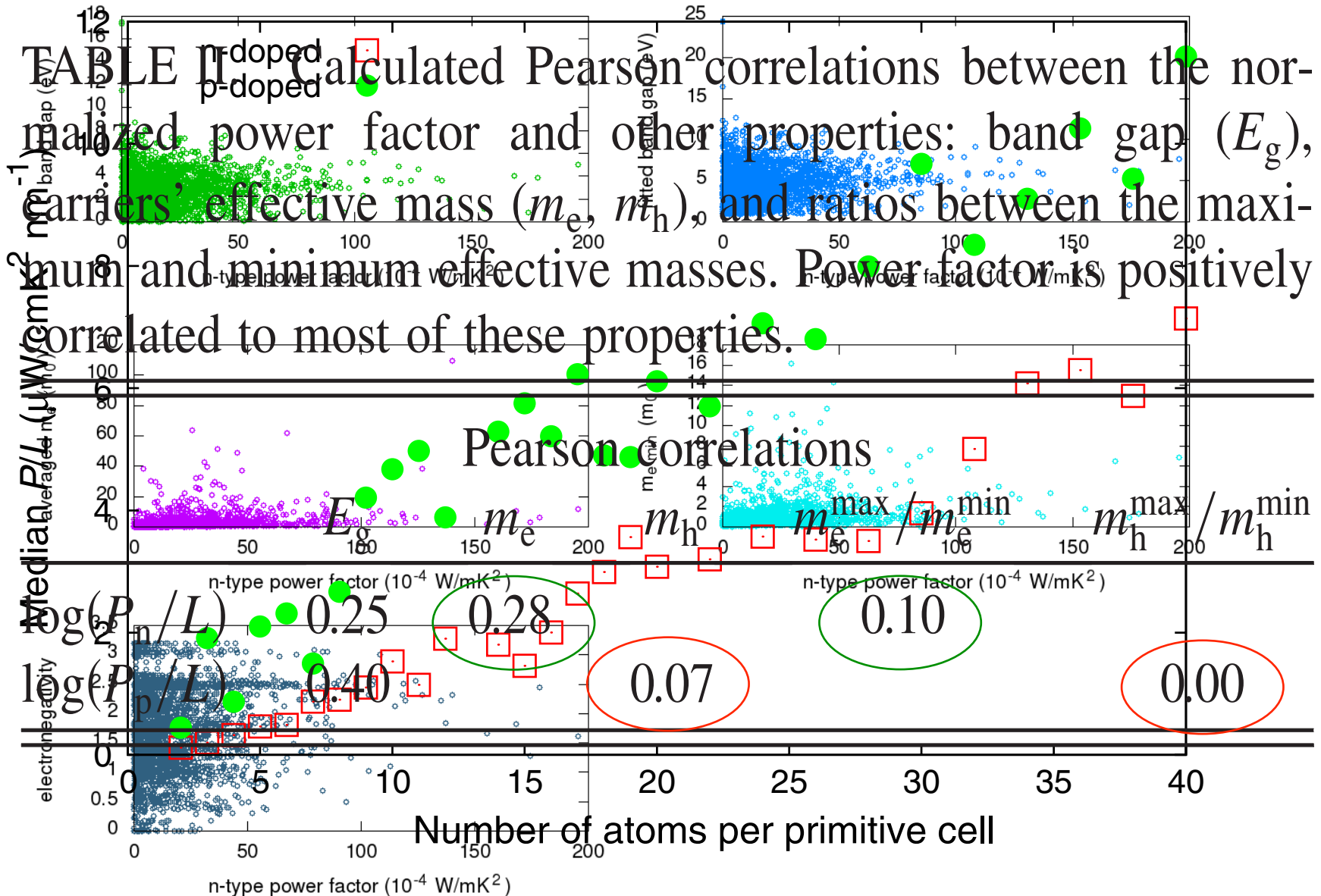
▲Name [1]	ICSD Number [1]	Bravais Lattice	Number of Atoms	<Pn>/L (μW/cmK²nm) [4]	<Pn1>/L (μW/cmK²nm) [4]	<Pn2>/L (μW/cmK²nm) [4]	<Pn3>/L (μW/cmK²nm) [4]	<Pp>/L (μW/cmK²nm) [4]	<Pp1>/L (μW/cmK²nm) [4]	<Pp2>/L (μW/cmK²nm) [4]	<Pp3>/L (μW/cmK²nm) [4]	Sn (μV/K) [4]	Sp (μV/K) [4]
F <sub>3</sub> Fe <sub>1</sub> K <sub>1</sub>	15424	CUB (Cubic)	5	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	2.17	2.17	2.17	2.17	-116.36	91.29
F <sub>3</sub> Fe <sub>1</sub> Rb <sub>1</sub>	49586	CUB (Cubic)	5	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	1.50	1.48	1.51	1.51	-91.73	91.04
Fe <sub>1</sub> La <sub>1</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	29118	CUB (Cubic)	5	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	-139.02	92.92

$$\max P_i / L$$



# EXAMPLE 2: thermoelectricity: correlations

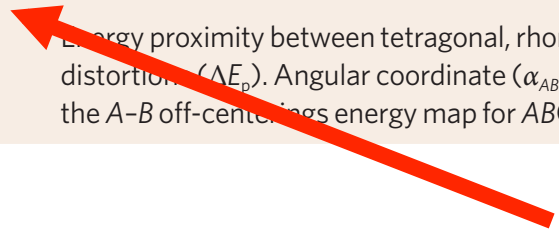
Correlations between n-type Power factor and other parameters



# EXAMPLE Scintillator Materials

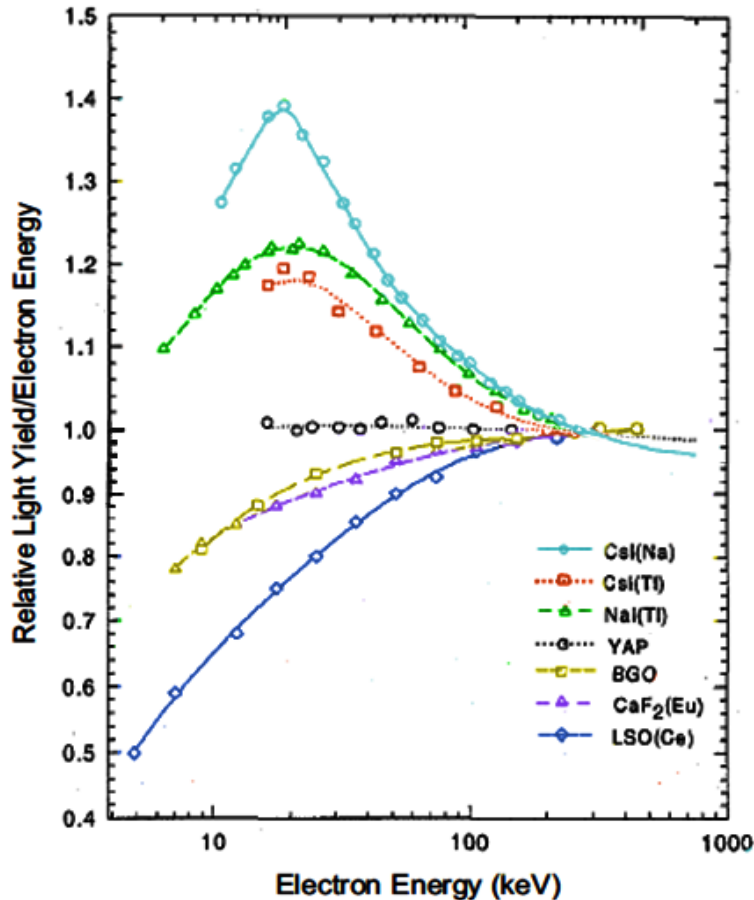
**Table 1 | Examples of descriptors introduced in the literature.** [Nature Mater. 12, 191 \(2013\)](#)

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Nanosintered thermoelectrics <a href="#">PRX 1, 021012 (2011)</a>	Ratio of the average power factor ( $\langle P \rangle$ ) to the grain size ( $L$ ) (ref. 15).	$\hat{\chi}_{\text{thermo}} \equiv \frac{\langle P \rangle}{L}$
Topological insulators (epitaxial growth) <a href="#">Nature Mater. 11, 614 (2012)</a>	Variational ratio of spin-orbit distortion versus non-spin-orbit derivative strain ( $E_k^{\text{SOC}}, E_k^{\text{noSOC}}$ , spin/no spin-orbit bandgaps at $k, a_0$ lattice) <sup>16</sup> .	$\hat{\chi}_{\text{TI}} \equiv - \frac{E_k^{\text{SOC}}(a_0)/a_0}{\delta E_k^{\text{noSOC}}(a_0)/\delta a_0 _{a_0}}$
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# Introduction: Nonproportionality

*Previous studies revealed variations in nonproportionality for compounds with:*



*the same crystal-structure*

*Ce: YAlO<sub>3</sub> vs. Ce:LuAlO<sub>3</sub>*

*cation substitutions*

*Ce: (Gd<sub>1-x</sub>Lu<sub>x</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>5</sub>*

*dopants*

*NaI vs Tl:NaI*

*crystal quality*

*defects and inhomogeneities*

*cation valence in multi-cation compounds*

*isovalent cations (ex. Ce:Y<sup>3+</sup>Al<sup>3+</sup>O<sub>3</sub>) have better linearity than aliovalent cations*

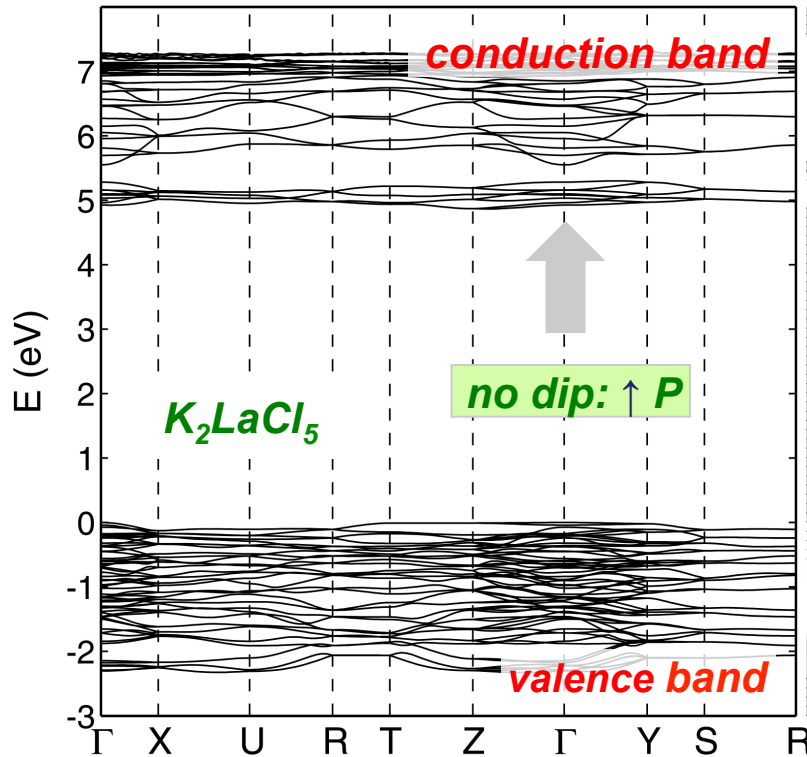
*(Ce:Y<sup>3+</sup><sub>2</sub>Si<sup>4+</sup>O<sub>5</sub>)*

*temperature*

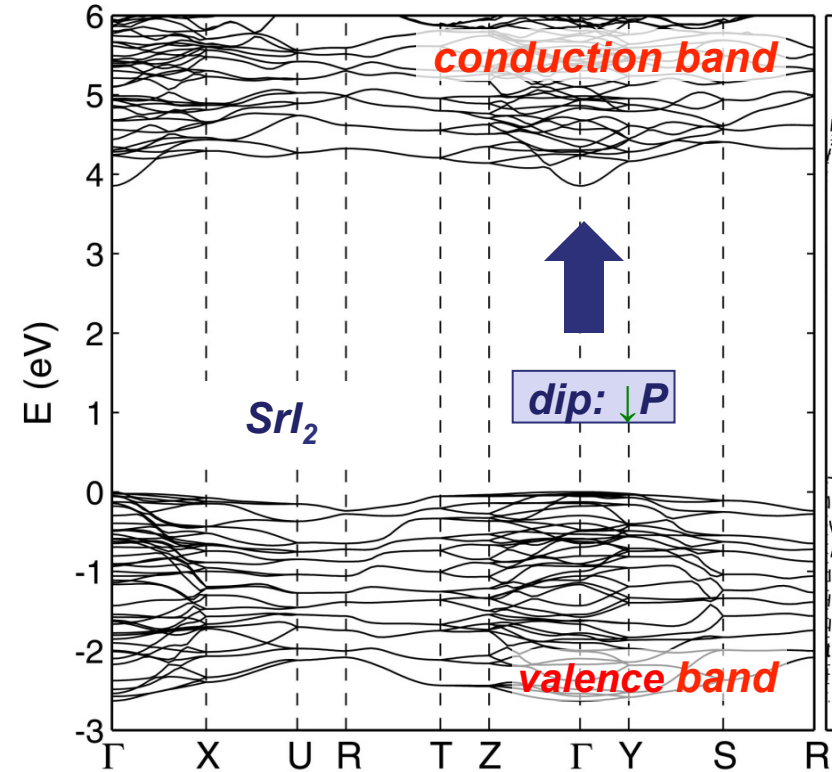


# Modeling: Nonproportionality & Band structure

## Small Nonproportionality



## Large Nonproportionality



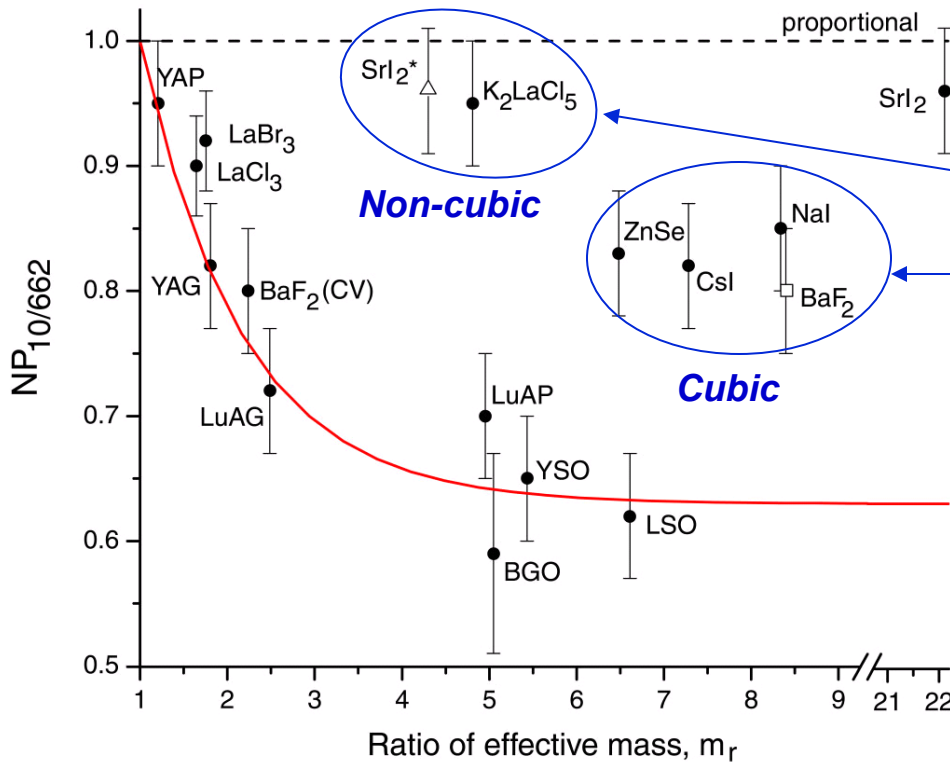
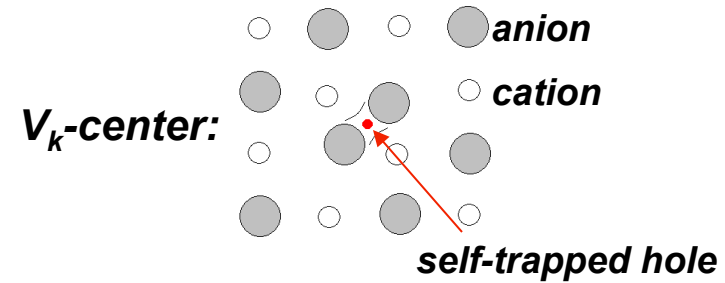
➡ Presence of dip:  $\downarrow m_e \rightarrow P \downarrow$

# EXAMPLE: Modeling: NP vs. Effective ratio

$$NP_{10/662} = \frac{LY_{10keV}}{LY_{662keV}}$$

versus

$$m_r = \max\left(\frac{m_e^*}{m_h^*}, \frac{m_h^*}{m_e^*}\right)$$



**Free carriers in V<sub>k</sub> compounds**

- Cubic (P ↓), ↓ non-cubic (P ↑)
- V<sub>k</sub>-centers act as additional traps.
- Effective trapping in isotropic media → P ↓

**Free carriers in non-V<sub>k</sub> compounds**

- P ↑ as m<sub>r</sub> → 1
- Spatial distribution of free e/h depends on mass ratio.
- When free e/h are near luminescent centers, loss decreases → P ↑

➡ **m<sub>r</sub> ratios are pressure dependent**

**cub:** Bi<sub>4</sub>Ge<sub>3</sub>O<sub>12</sub>(BGO), Y<sub>3</sub>Al<sub>5</sub>O<sub>12</sub>(YAG), Lu<sub>3</sub>Al<sub>5</sub>O<sub>12</sub>(LuAG), BaF<sub>2</sub>, ZnSe, CsI, NaI, BaHfO<sub>3</sub>, SrHfO<sub>3</sub>, LiBaF<sub>3</sub>.  
**hex:** LaBr<sub>3</sub>, LaCl<sub>3</sub> **ort:** SrI<sub>2</sub>, YAlO<sub>3</sub>(YAP), LuAlO<sub>3</sub>(LuAP), K<sub>2</sub>LaCl<sub>5</sub>(KLC) **mcl:** Y<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>5</sub>(YSO), Lu<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>5</sub>(LSO)

# Host material selection

1A

hydrogen 1 <b>H</b> 1.0079	2A																3A					4A	5A	6A	7A	helium 2							
lithium 3 <b>Li</b> 6.941	beryllium 4 <b>Be</b> 9.0122	* Activators: short $\lambda_{em}$ (PMT), short lifetime and high emission cross section (resolution)																boron 5 <b>B</b> 10.811	carbon 6 <b>C</b> 12.011	nitrogen 7 <b>N</b> 14.007	oxygen 8 <b>O</b> 15.999	fluorine 9 <b>F</b> 18.998											
sodium 11 <b>Na</b> 22.990	magnesium 12 <b>Mg</b> 24.305	3B	4B	5B	6B	7B	8 <sub>1</sub>	8 <sub>2</sub>	8 <sub>3</sub>	1B	2B	aluminum 13 <b>Al</b> 26.982	silicon 14 <b>Si</b> 28.086	phosphorus 15 <b>P</b> 30.974	sulfur 16 <b>S</b> 32.065	chlorine 17 <b>Cl</b> 35.453																	
potassium 19 <b>K</b> 39.098	calcium 20 <b>Ca</b> 40.078	scandium 21 <b>Sc</b> 44.956	titanium 22 <b>Ti</b> 47.867	vanadium 23 <b>V</b> 50.942	chromium 24 <b>Cr</b> 51.996	manganese 25 <b>Mn</b> 54.938	iron 26 <b>Fe</b> 55.845	cobalt 27 <b>Co</b> 58.933	nickel 28 <b>Ni</b> 58.693	copper 29 <b>Cu</b> 63.546	zinc 30 <b>Zn</b> 65.39	gallium 31 <b>Ga</b> 69.723	germanium 32 <b>Ge</b> 72.61	arsenic 33 <b>As</b> 74.922	selenium 34 <b>Se</b> 78.96	bromine 35 <b>Br</b> 79.904																	
rubidium 37 <b>Rb</b> 85.468	strontium 38 <b>Sr</b> 87.62	yttrium 39 <b>Y</b> 88.906	zirconium 40 <b>Zr</b> 91.224	niobium 41 <b>Nb</b> 92.906	molybdenum 42 <b>Mo</b> 95.94	technetium 43 <b>Tc</b> [98]	ruthenium 44 <b>Ru</b> 101.07	rhodium 45 <b>Rh</b> 102.91	palladium 46 <b>Pd</b> 106.42	silver 47 <b>Ag</b> 107.87	cadmium 48 <b>Cd</b> 112.41	indium 49 <b>In</b> 114.82	tin 50 <b>Sn</b> 118.71	antimony 51 <b>Sb</b> 121.76	tellurium 52 <b>Te</b> 127.60	iodine 53 <b>I</b> 126.90																	
caesium 55 <b>Cs</b> 132.91	barium 56 <b>Ba</b> 137.33	57-70 *	lutetium 71 <b>Lu</b> 174.97	hafnium 72 <b>Hf</b> 178.49	tantalum 73 <b>Ta</b> 180.95	tungsten 74 <b>W</b> 183.84	rhenium 75 <b>Re</b> 186.21	osmium 76 <b>Os</b> 190.23	iridium 77 <b>Ir</b> 192.22	platinum 78 <b>Pt</b> 195.08	gold 79 <b>Au</b> 196.97	mercury 80 <b>Hg</b> 200.59	* thallium 81 <b>Tl</b> 204.38	lead 82 <b>Pb</b> 207.2	* bismuth 83 <b>Bi</b> 208.98	polonium 84 <b>Po</b> [209]	astatine 85 <b>At</b> [210]	radon 86 <b>Rn</b> [222]															
francium 87 <b>Fr</b> [223]	radium 88 <b>Ra</b> [226]	89-102 * *	lawrencium 103 <b>Lr</b> [262]	rutherfordium 104 <b>Rf</b> [261]	dubnium 105 <b>Db</b> [262]	seaborgium 106 <b>Sg</b> [263]	bohrium 107 <b>Bh</b> [264]	hassium 108 <b>Hs</b> [265]	meitnerium 109 <b>Mt</b> [266]	unnilium 110 <b>Uun</b> [271]	ununium 111 <b>Uuu</b> [272]	unbibium 112 <b>Uub</b> [273]																					
																		radioactive					no compound										

2A

\* Lanthanide series

\*\* Actinide series

lanthanum 57 <b>La</b> 138.91	* cerium 58 <b>Ce</b> 140.12	praseodymium 59 <b>Pr</b> 140.91	neodymium 60 <b>Nd</b> 144.24	promethium 61 <b>Pm</b> [145]	samarium 62 <b>Sm</b> 150.36	* europium 63 <b>Eu</b> 151.96	* gadolinium 64 <b>Gd</b> 157.25	terbium 65 <b>Tb</b> 158.93	dysprosium 66 <b>Dy</b> 162.50	holmium 67 <b>Ho</b> 164.93	erbium 68 <b>Er</b> 167.26	thulium 69 <b>Tm</b> 168.93	* ytterbium 70 <b>Yb</b> 173.04
actinium 89 <b>Ac</b> [227]	thorium 90 <b>Th</b> 232.04	protactinium 91 <b>Pa</b> 231.04	uranium 92 <b>U</b> 238.03	neptunium 93 <b>Np</b> [237]	plutonium 94 <b>Pu</b> [244]	americium 95 <b>Am</b> [243]	curium 96 <b>Cm</b> [247]	berkelium 97 <b>Bk</b> [247]	californium 98 <b>Cf</b> [251]	einsteinium 99 <b>Es</b> [252]	fermium 100 <b>Fm</b> [257]	mendeleevium 101 <b>Md</b> [258]	nobelium 102 <b>No</b> [259]

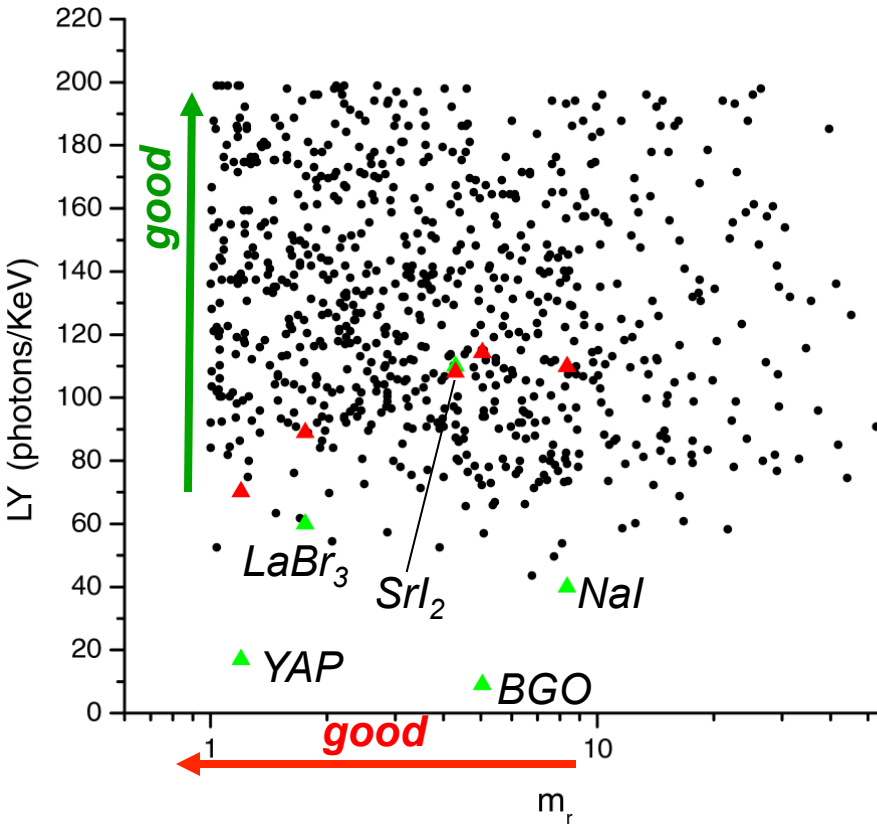
# Combinatorial optimization

Theoretical light yield

$$LY = E_\gamma / 2.5 E_g$$

Dorenbos, NIM **486**, 208 (2002)

LY vs ratio effective mass



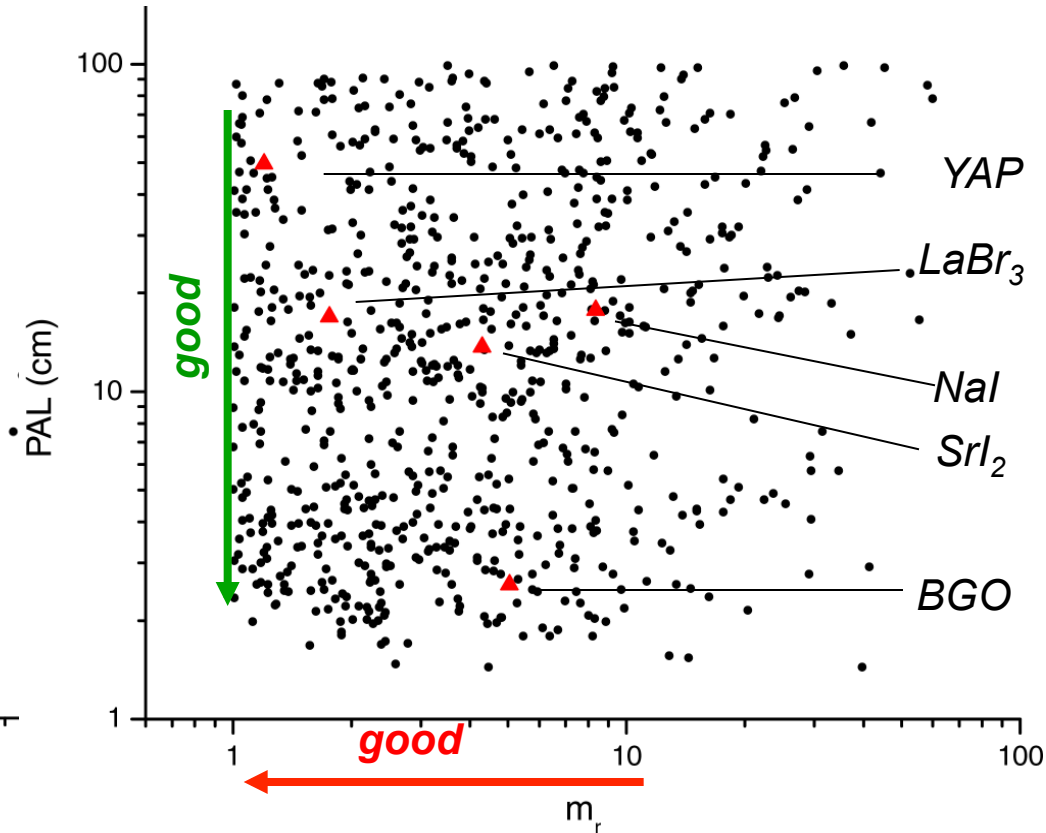
red (theoretical), green (experimental)

Photoelectric attenuation length

$$PAL = FM / \rho \sigma_{pe}$$

Ortiz et al., Comp. Mat. Sci. **44**, 1042 (2009).

PAL vs ratio effective mass



IEEE Trans. Nucl. Sci. **56**, 2989 (2009).

# the Future is online

taking the bull from the horns

- Thermodynamics analysis
- Electronic structure analysis



## POSTDOC OPENINGS [~many]

- Transparent Cond.
- HT Corrosion
- Applied Math. & Information theory



### SPONSORS:

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