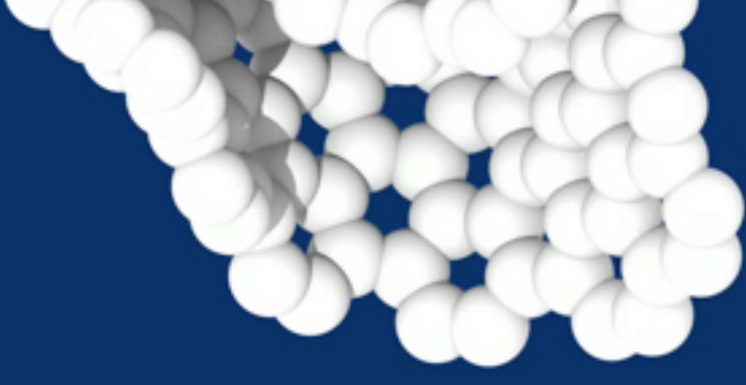
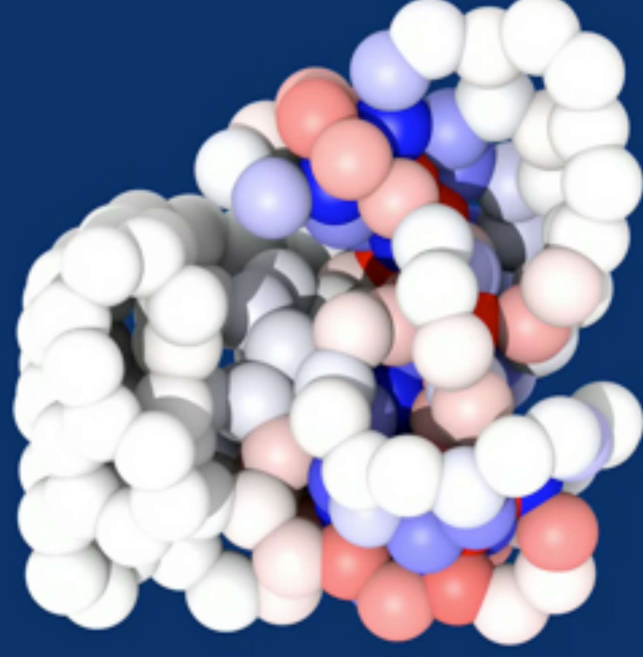
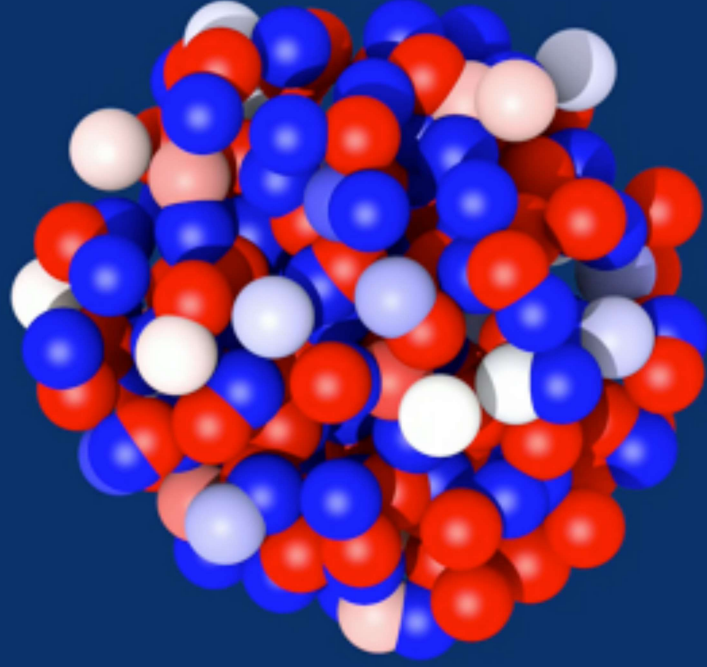


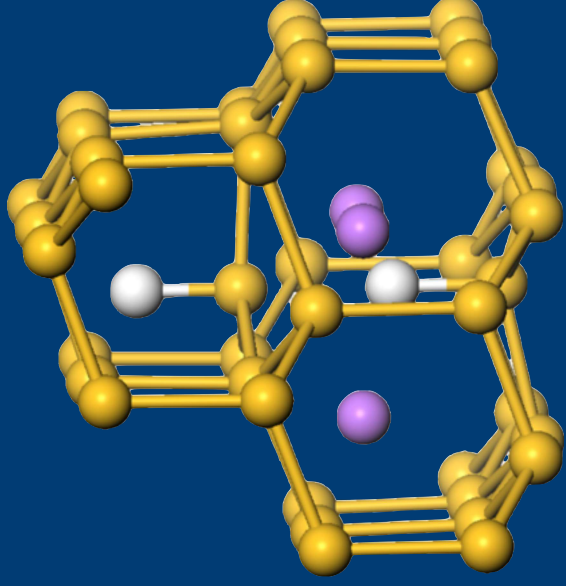
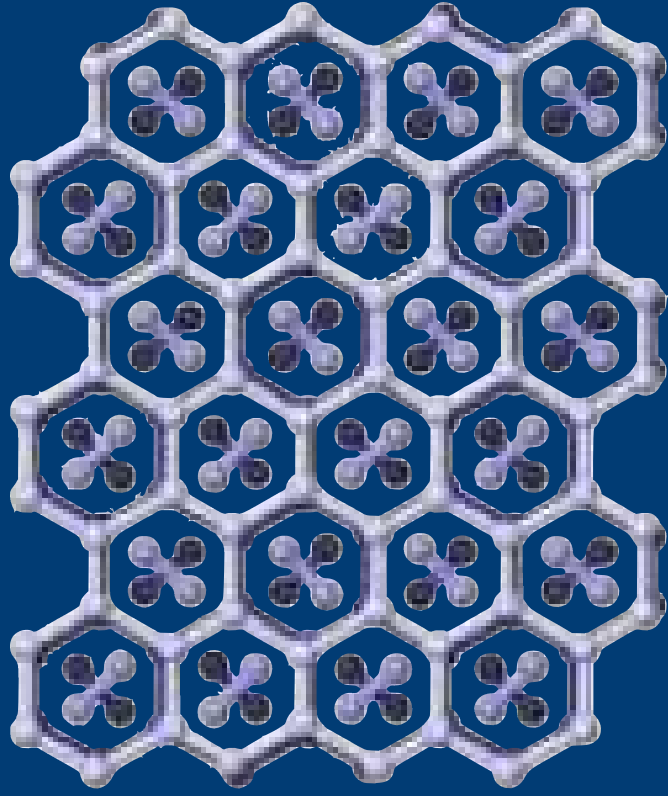
# Stochastic sampling dense matter



Chris J Pickard

# Structure Prediction

What structure will a collection of atoms adopt?



Crystal

Point Defect

Int

# Energy

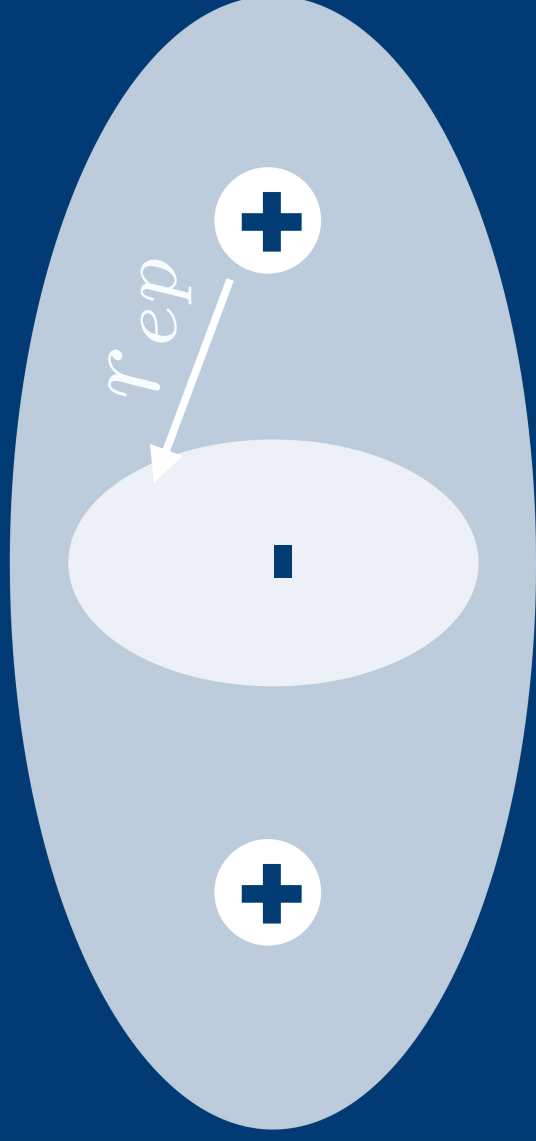
## Interpolative

*Empirical or data driven*

## Extrapolative and predictive

*First principles or theory driven*

# Smooth interaction



$$E_{ep} = -$$

Could

$$E_{ep} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots$$

# Smooth Landsca

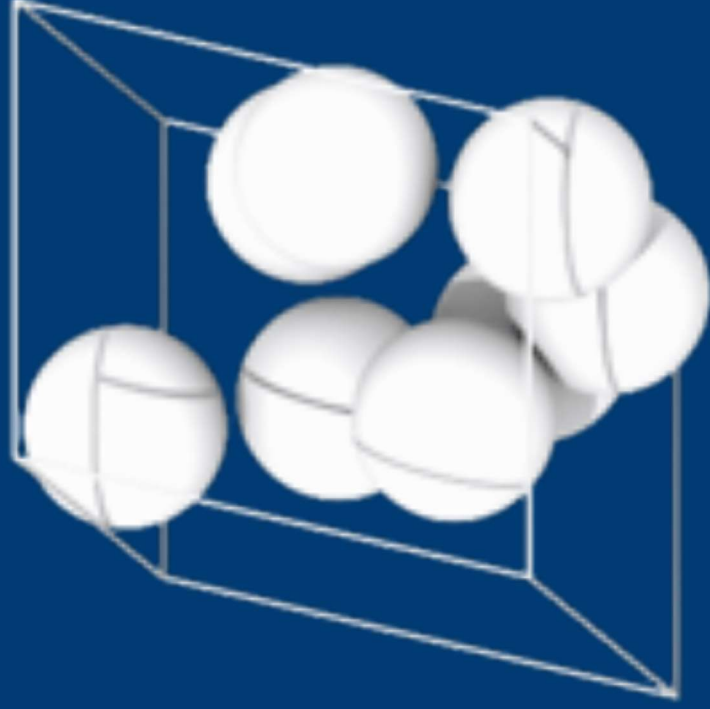


# Smooth Landscape



# Ab Initio Random Structure Search

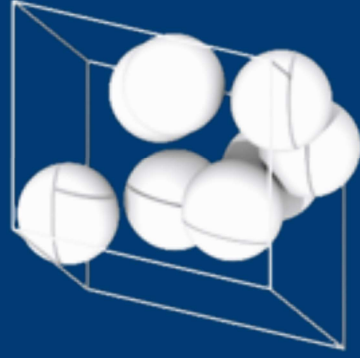
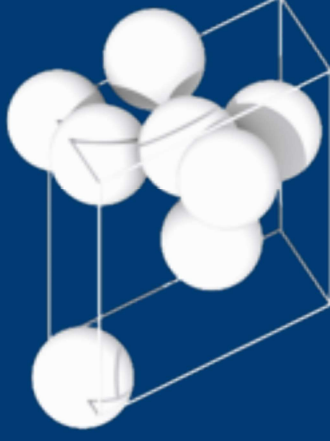
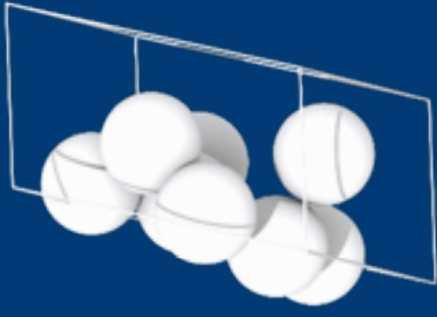
Pickard & Needs, *PRL* 2006 and *JPCM* 20



Local  
optimisation

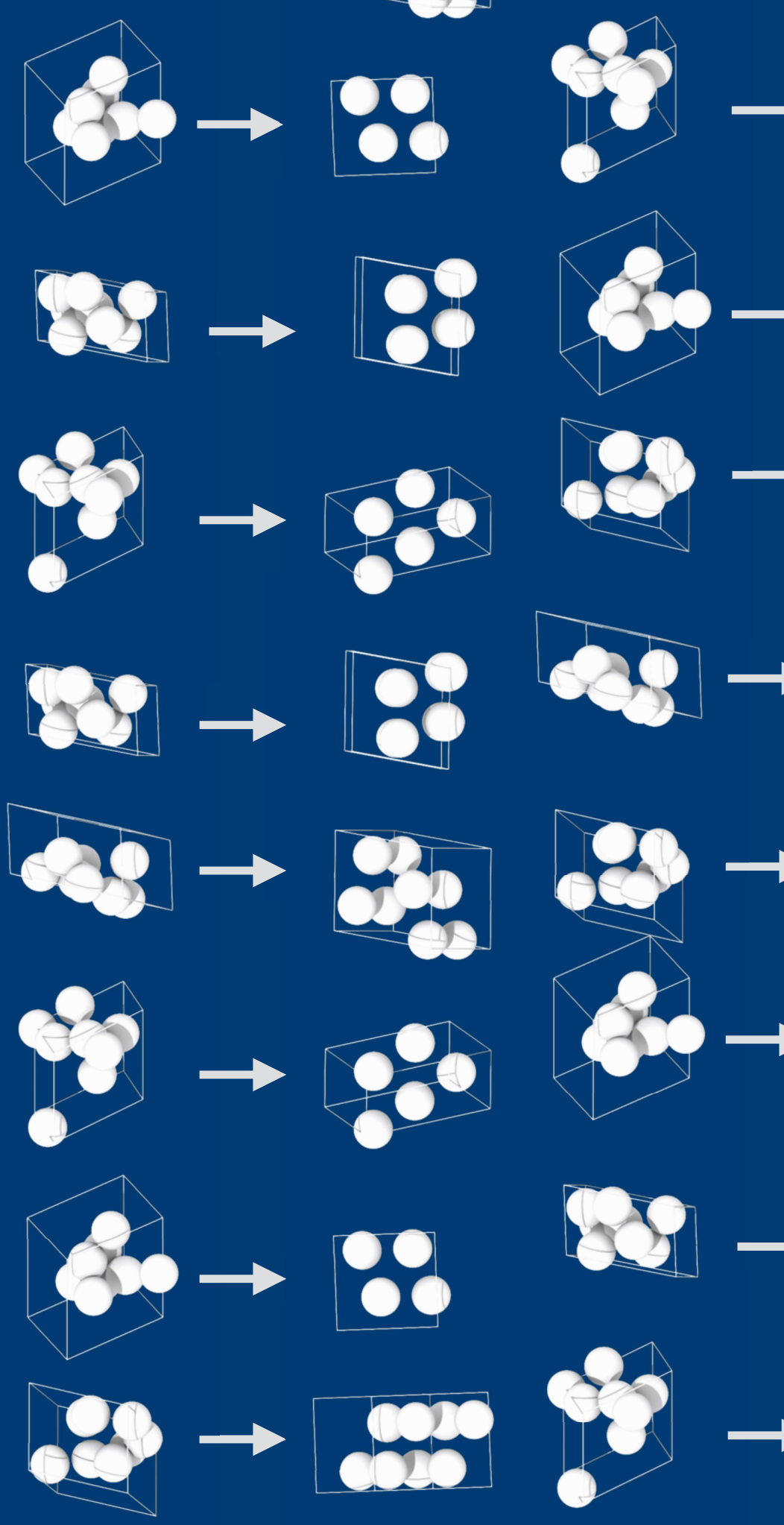


# Ab Initio Random Structure Search

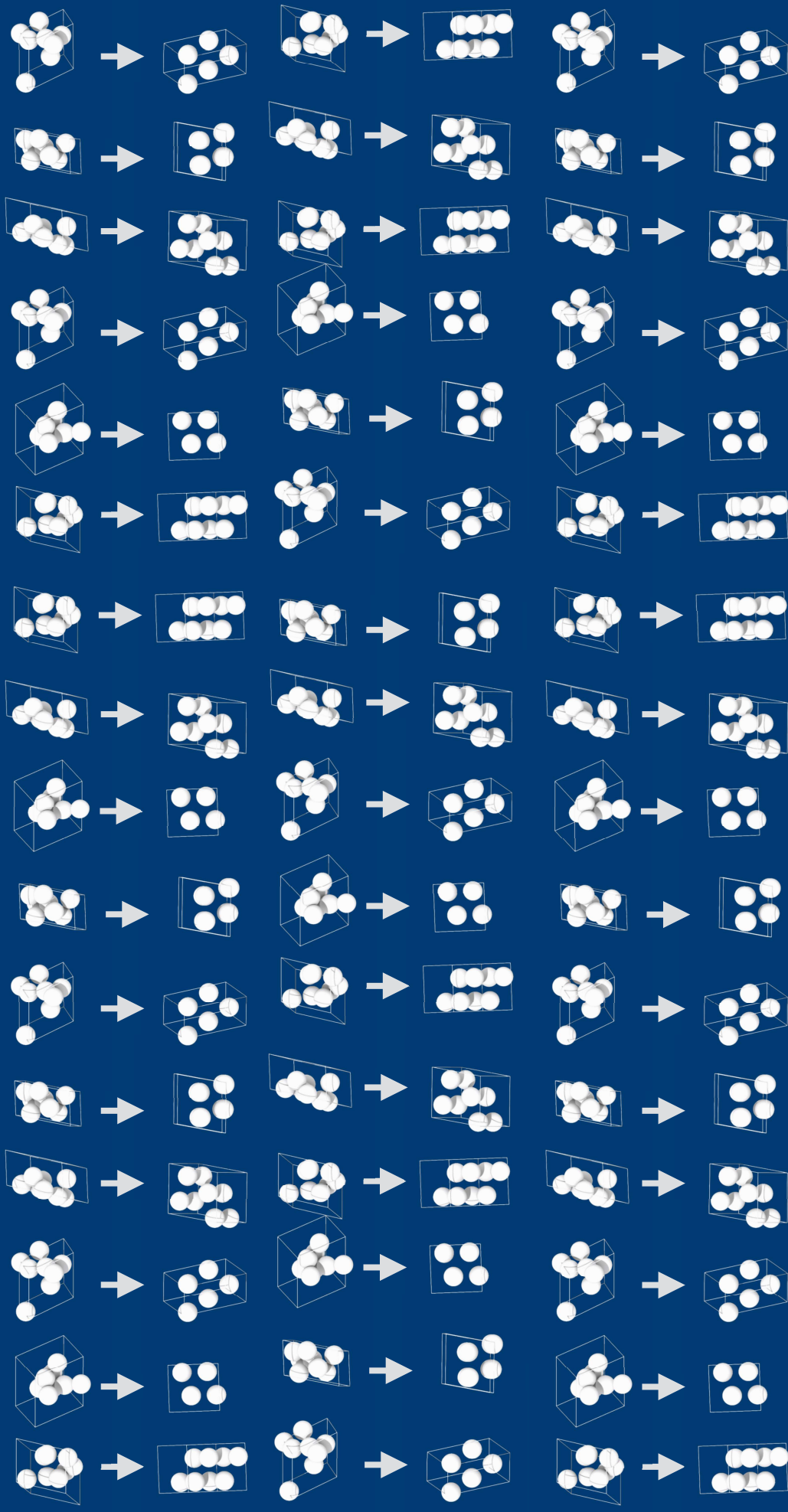




# Ab Initio Random Structure Search



# Ab Initio Random Structure Search



# Gamma Boron



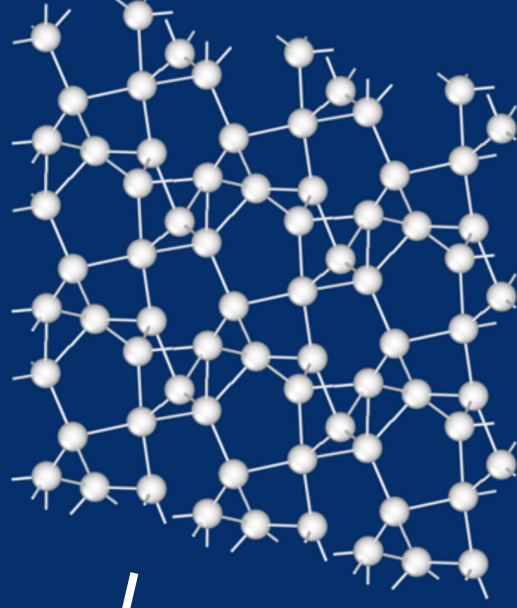
# Gamma Boron



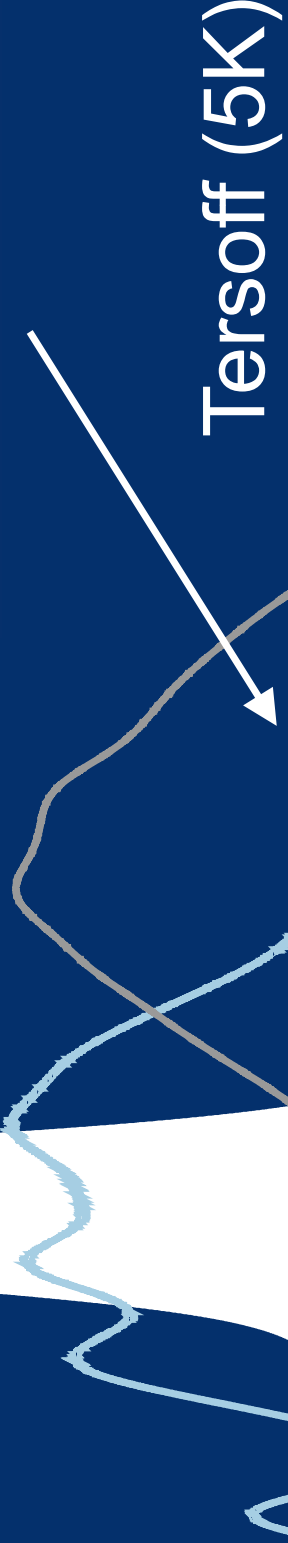
# Data Driven or First Principles

Eight atoms of Silicon

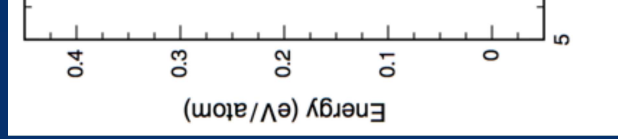
DFT (2.5K)



REAXFF (5K)



Data  
of  
Ener



De  
Cs:

# Random Structure Search

Uniform distribution  
(*exploration, no exploitation*)

Intrinsically parallel

Uncorrelated

Clear when (not) to stop

# Being Sensible

When you don't know anything

rough volume, avoid overlap - Poisson Disk

Impose chemical ideas

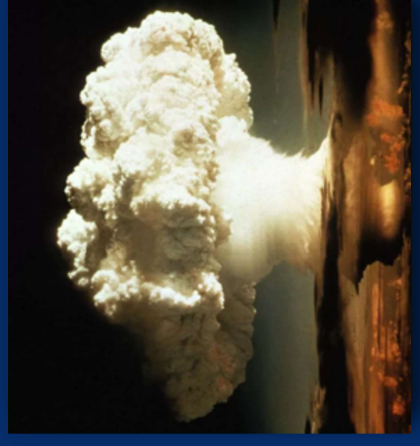
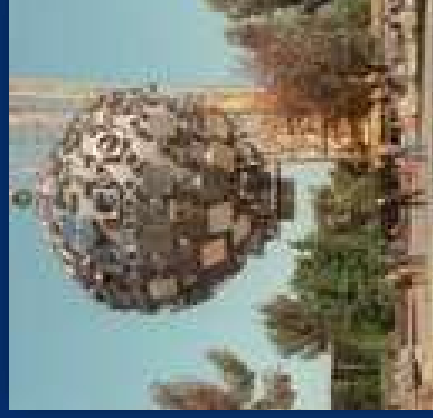
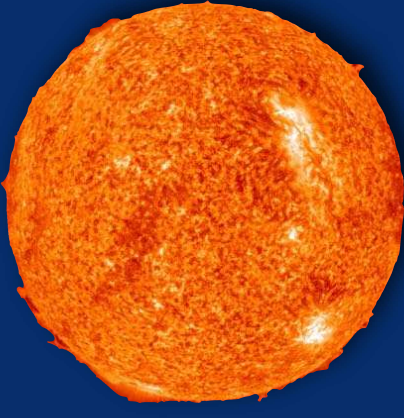
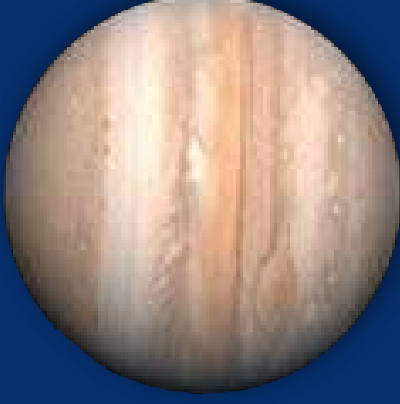
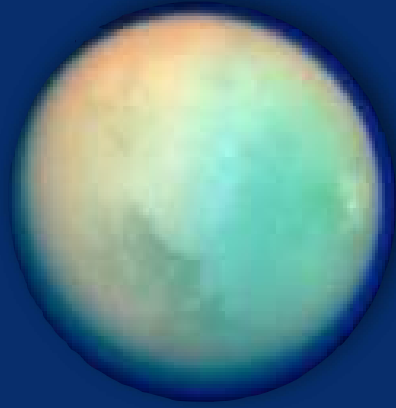
molecules, fragments, distances, connectivity

Impose symmetry

space, wallpaper, point group

# Condensed matter

$$H = U + pV$$







# Potentials

Reference point: **WEN2k13.1** with basis LAPW/APW+lo and potential all-electron

Code: **CASTEP9.0** with basis plane waves and potential OTFG CASTEP 9.0

Maximum at Mn. Minimum at V

All values are in eV

H	0.06				
Li	0.08	Be	0.26		
Na	0.44	Mg	0.27		
K	0.12	Ca	0.07		
Rb	0.21	Sr	1.23		
Cs	0.13	Ba	0.11		
Fr		Ra			

```
#VARVOL=2
```

```
#SPECIES=C
```

```
#NATOM=4
```

```
#MINSEP=0.5
```

```
KPOINTS_MP_SPACING 0.05
```

```
%BLOCK SPECIES_POT
```

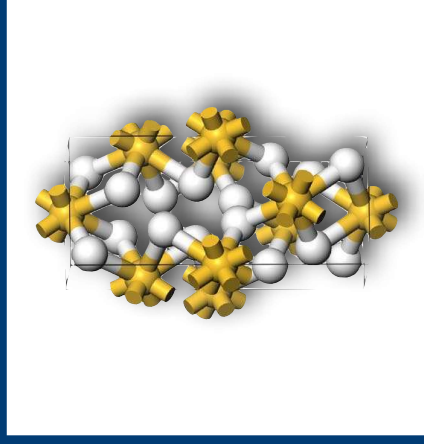
```
C 2|0.75|30|34|39|10U:20:21 (qc=1
```

```
%ENDBLOCK SPECIES_POT
```

# Discoveries in dense matter

Superconducting  
hydrides?

Physical Review Letters,  
2006



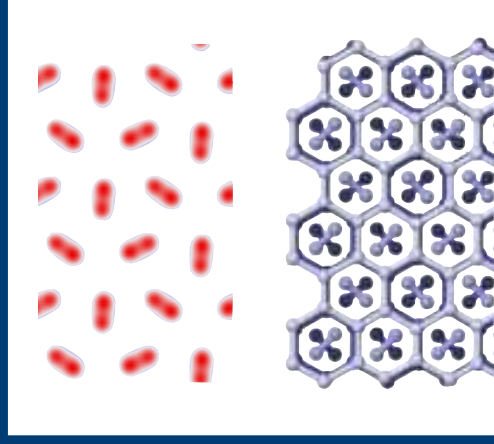
The end of water

Physical Review Letter  
2013

+ Martinez-Canales

Hydrogen is  
polar and  
“graphene”

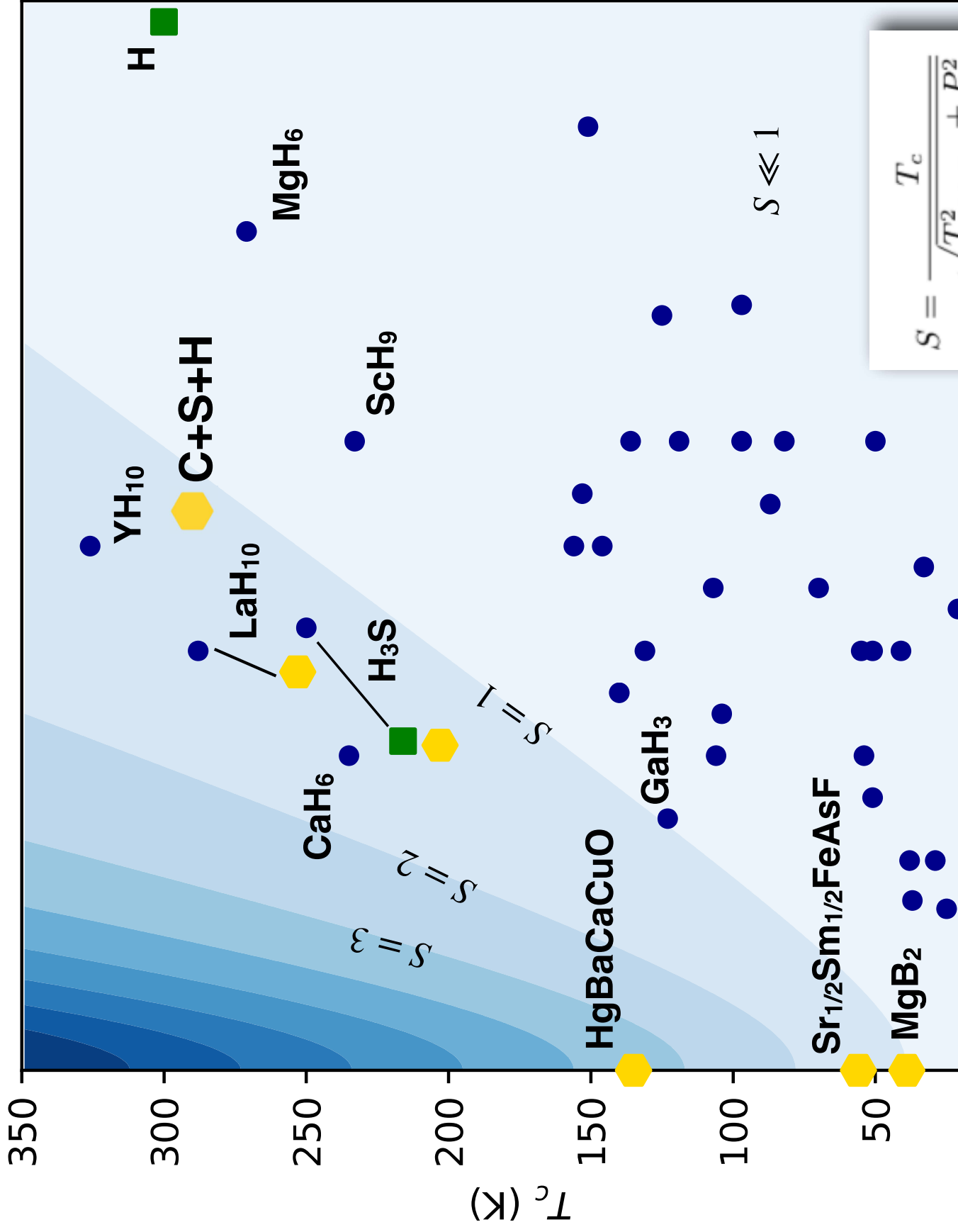
Nature Physics,



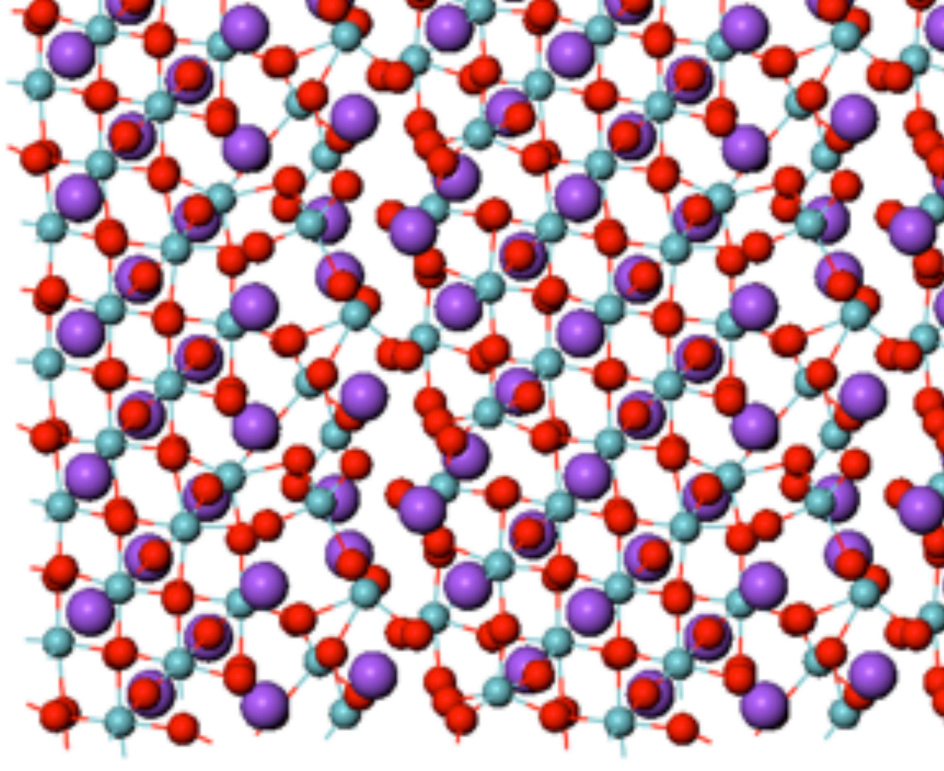
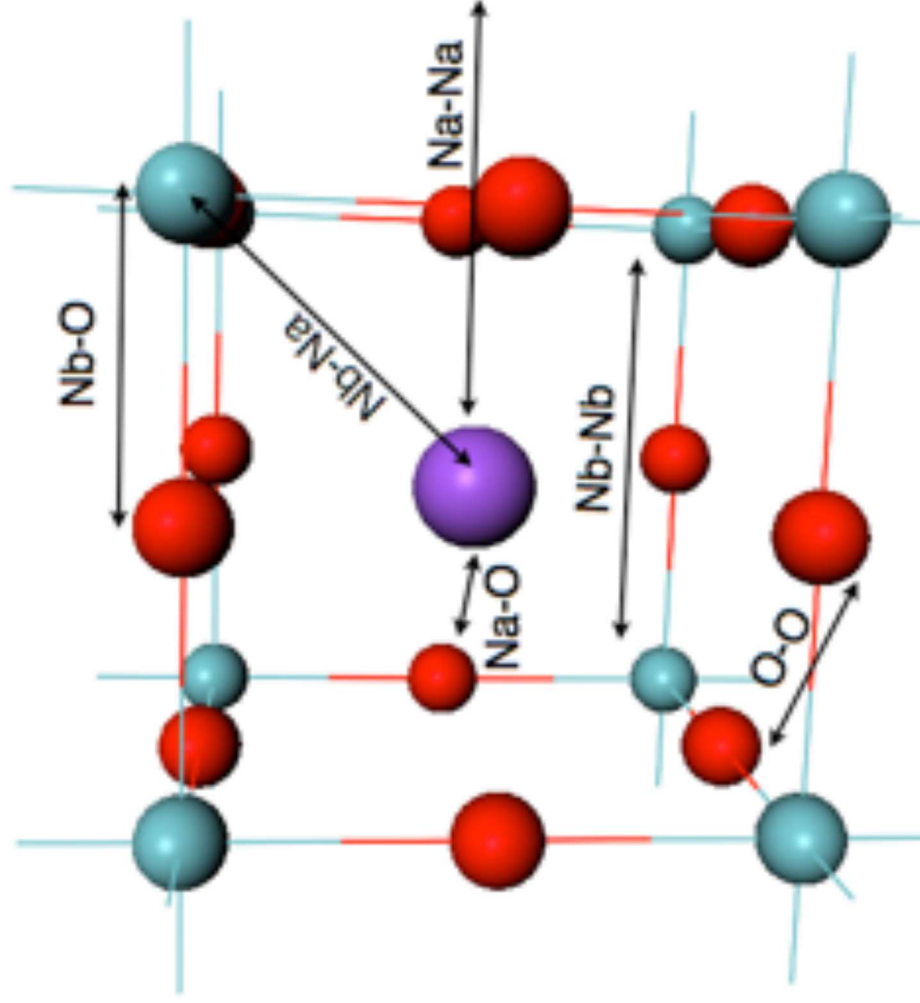
Aluminium is  
complicated

Nature Materials,

# Superconducting Hydrides



# Increasingly sensitive structures



# New directions

*Allow the particles making up a structure to explore a higher dimensional physical space*

$$d = d_0 + d_+$$

Hyperspace

Normal space

Extra dimensions

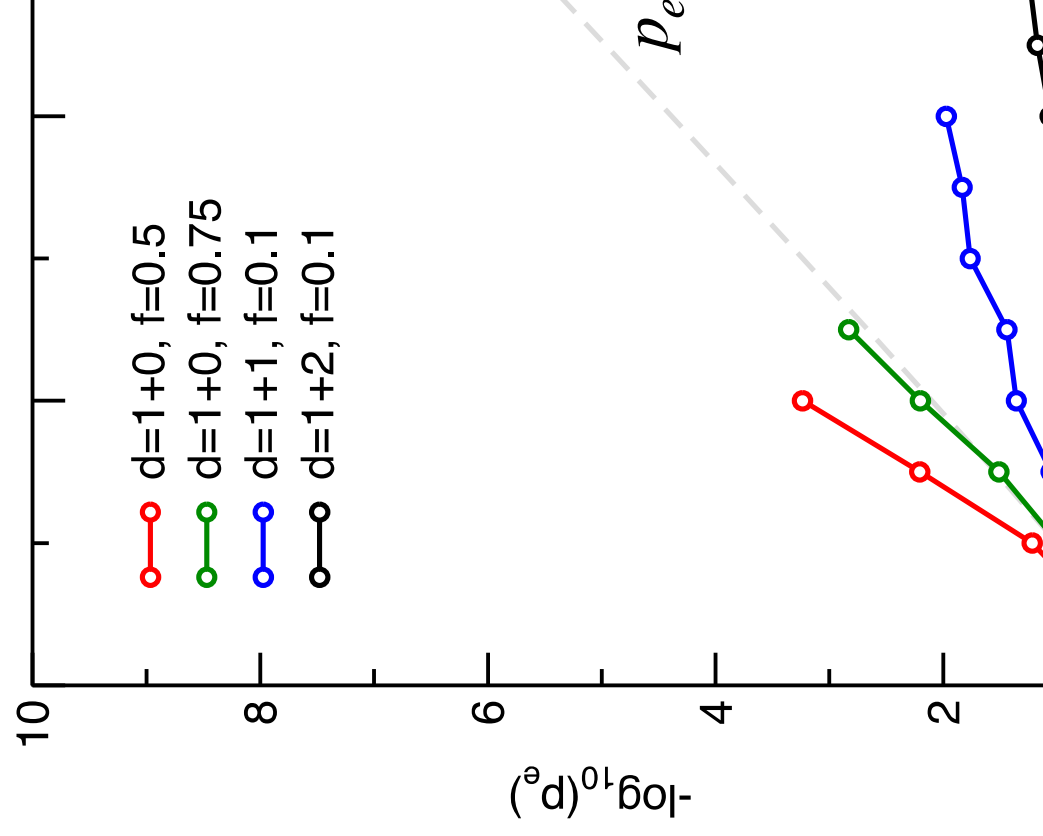
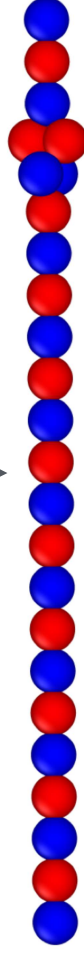
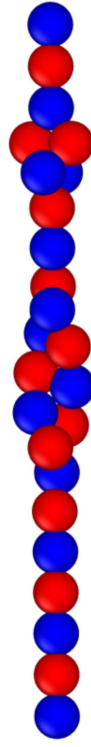
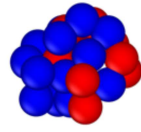
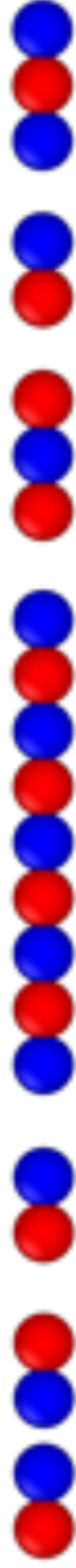
$$\bar{E}(\{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i\}) = \tilde{E}(\{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i\}) + \frac{1}{2}\mu \sum_i l_i^2$$

Energy extended to

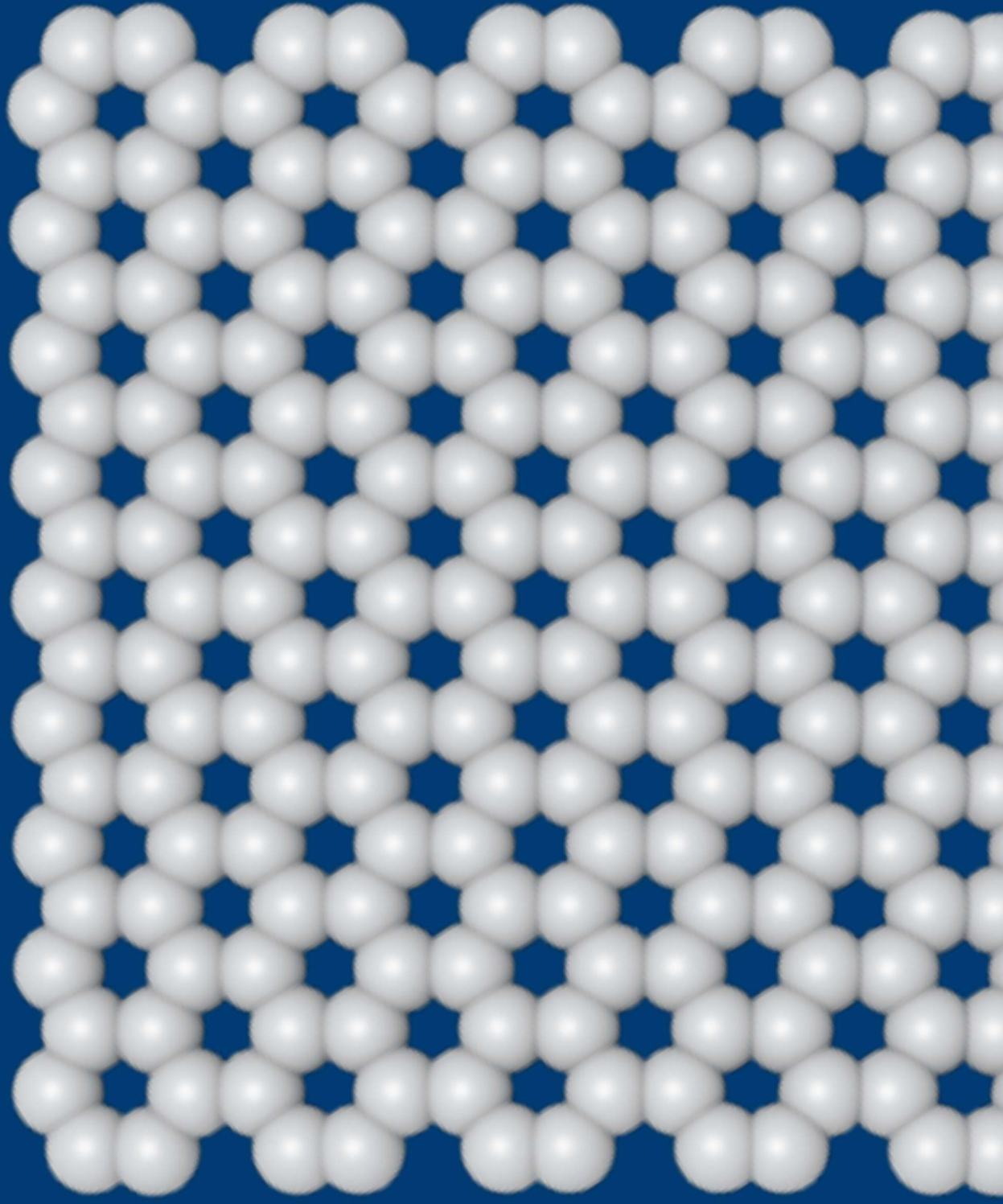
Increasing



# Binary chain

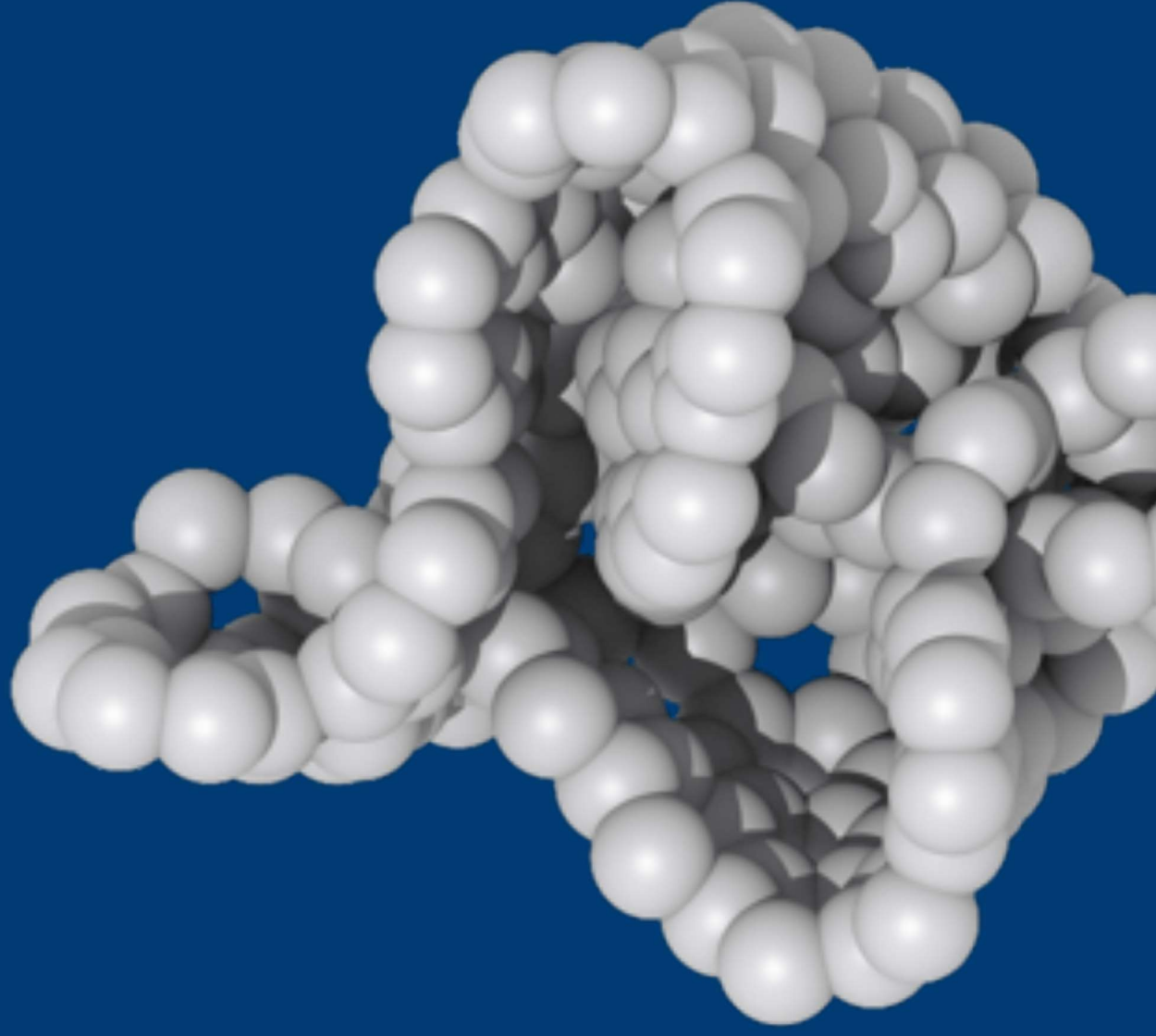


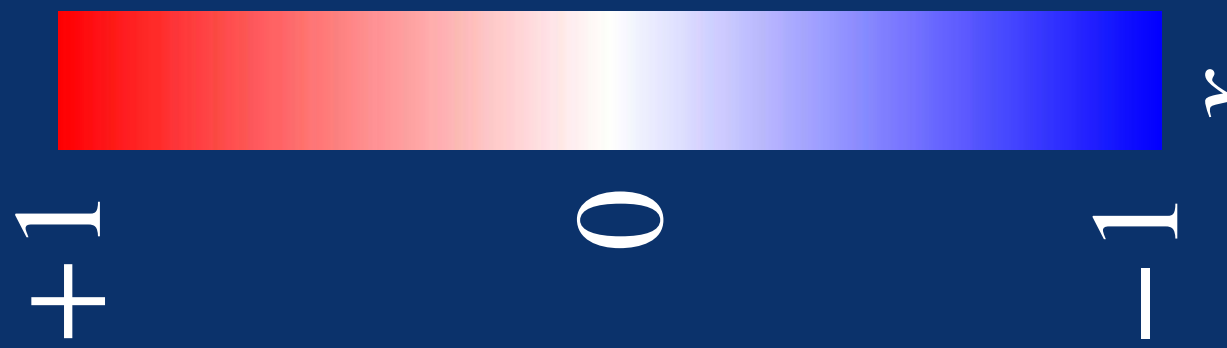
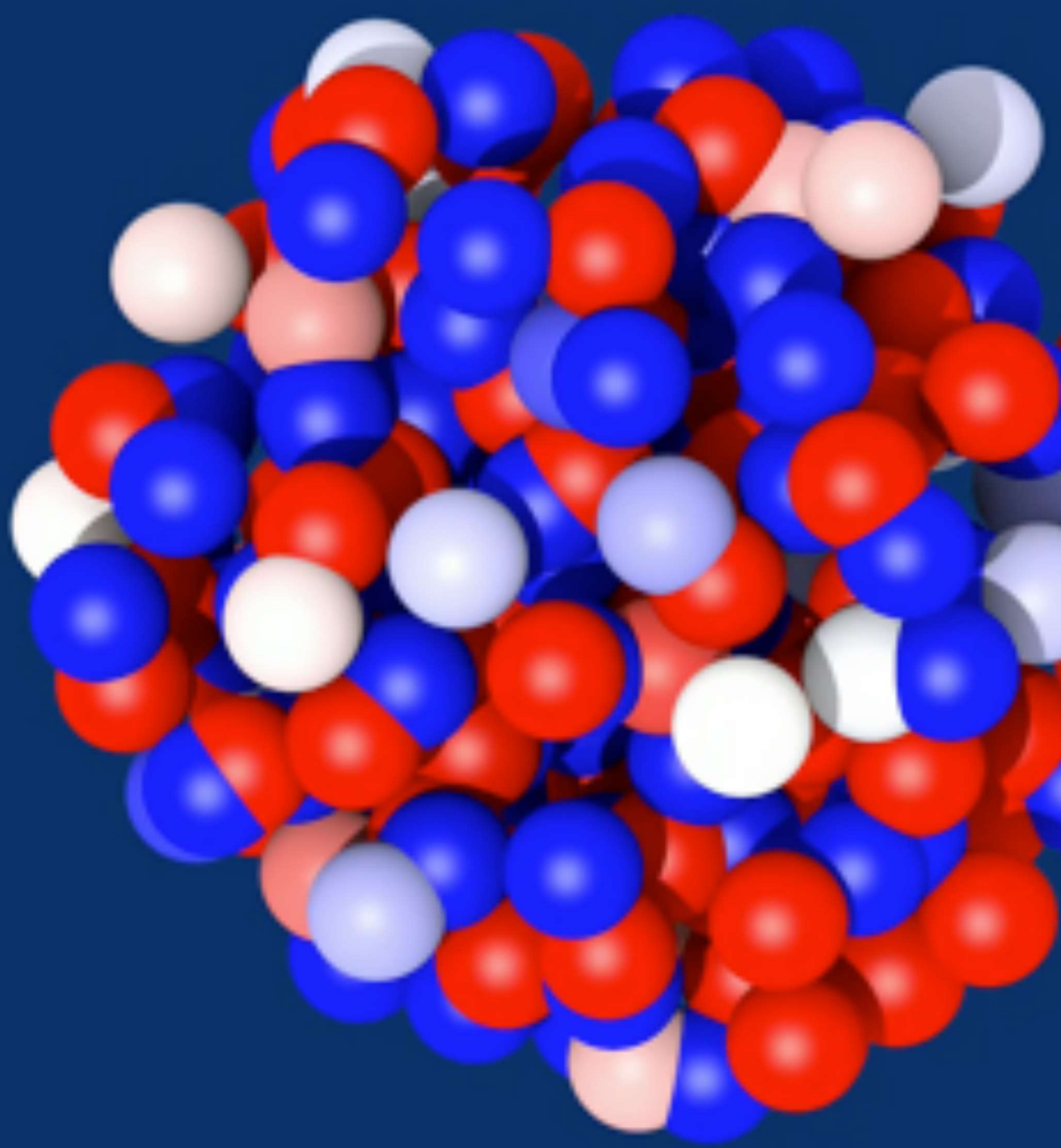
# Covalent bonds





# Covalent bonds



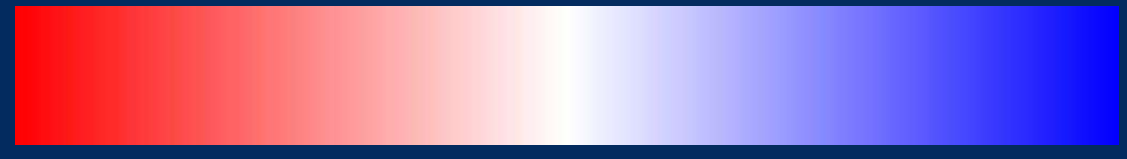




+1

0

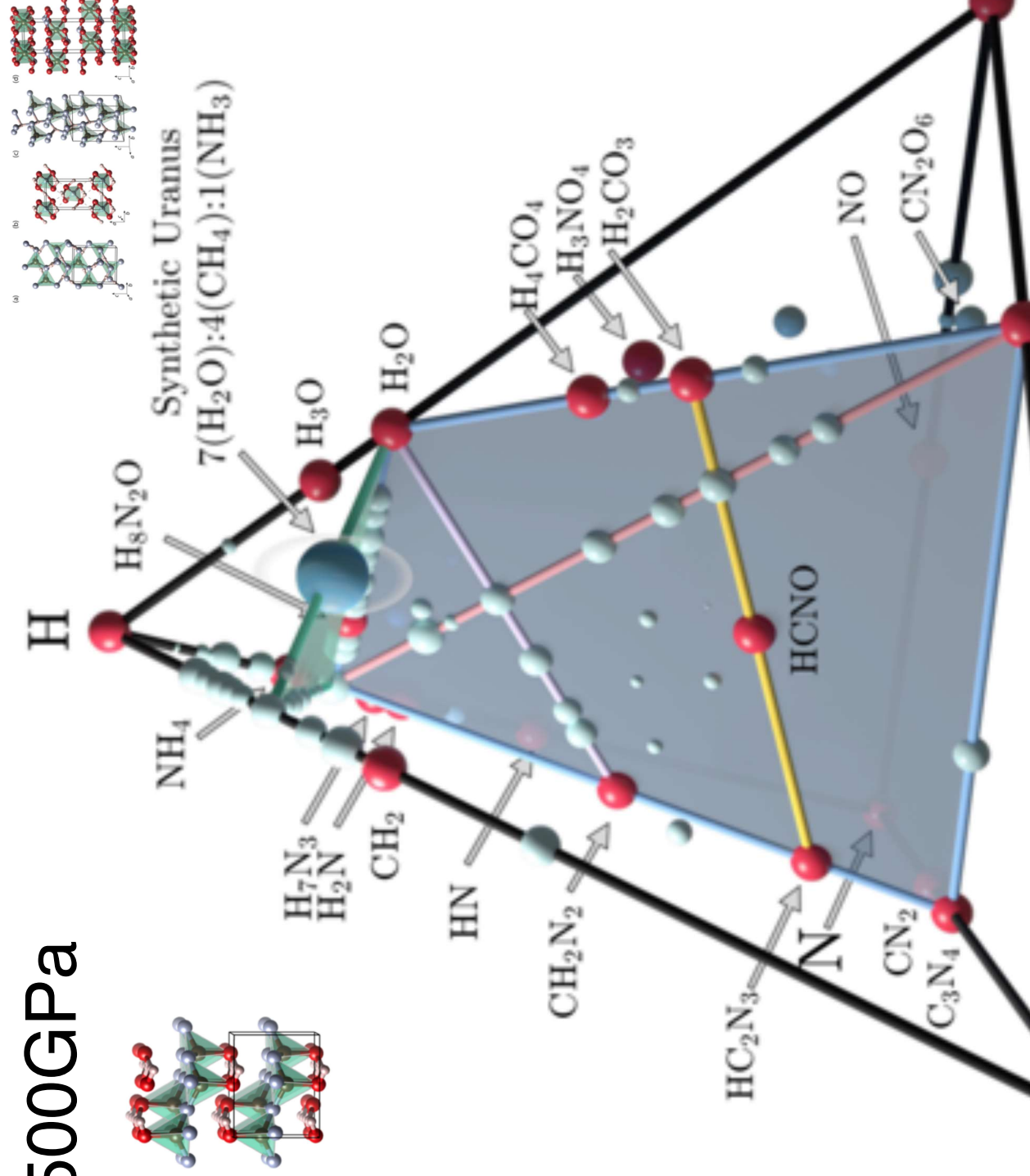
-1



$\nu$

# H-C-N-O

500GPa



1. The C rules - di

HC

2. S

comp

relatively

p

3. Realist

don't

decom

# Conclusion

Stochastic search and first principle approaches can *discover*

They can be used as *virtual experiments* in dense matter

**CASTEP** now available cost free for academic research globally



**AIRSS** package available from: