Materials Design: Perspectives, Challenges, **Selected Case Studies Mostly from Correlated Materials** 

MagLab Winter **Theory School** January 2017

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Science









Acknowledgments:

- Y. Quan, Beijing Normal University
- V. Pardo, Santiago de Compostela
- K-H Ahn, K-W Lee, Korea University
- R. Pentcheva, Univ. of Duisburg-Essen



Supported by U.S. NSF/DMREF

# THE U.S. MATERIALS GENOME INITIATIVE

"...to discover, develop, and deploy new materials twice as fast, we're launching what we call the Materials Genome Initiative" - President Obama, 2011



#### Strongly Correlated Electron Systems



#### Oxide Nanostructures: The Attraction

Emergent Phenomena at Oxide Interfaces Hwang, Iwasa, Kawasaki, Keimer, Nagaosa, Tokura, Nature Materials 2012

#### Areas of interest

- Charge/spin transport
- Spontaneous order
- Symmetry breaking
- Thermal anomalies
- External field probes
- Competing phases
- Coexisting phases

... ... ...

• Topological character

Spin-Orbit Coupling, Strong Interactions, and Topological Character: By Design & By Serendipity

#### "Serendipity" Horace Walpole (1754)

"This discovery I made by a talisman ... by which I find everything I want ... wherever I dip for it. This discovery, indeed, is almost of that kind which I call Serendipity, a very expressive word."

Walpole formed the word on an old name for Sri Lanka, Serendip. He explained that this name was part of the title of "a silly fairy tale, called The Three Princes of Serendip: as their highnesses traveled, they were always making discoveries, by accidents and sagacity, of things which they were not in quest of...."

Talisman: object thought to have magical powers

Edisonian Discovery and Invention; *not* trial and error. ref. historian Thomas Hughes, 1977



- In formulating problem-solving ideas, he was inventing;

   in developing inventions, his approach was akin to engineering;
   in looking after financing and manufacturing and other post-invention and development activities, he was innovating.
- Edison "adroitly chose" problems that made use of what he already knew.
- Edison's method was to invent **systems** rather than components of systems. Edison did not just invent a light bulb, he invented an economically viable system of lighting including its generators, cables, metering and so on.
- Edison invented by repeatedly trying devices in more complex environments to progressively approximate their final use conditions.
- Edison blended invention with economics. His electric lighting system was designed to be an economic competitor with gas lighting.

Edison was much cleverer than "trial and error."

Edison on *Reading the Literature, Performing and Executing a Plan* 



"When I want to discover something, I begin by reading up everything that has been done along that line in the past – that's what all these books in the library are for. I see what has been accomplished at great labor and expense in the past. I gather data of many thousands of experiments as a starting point, and then I make thousands more."

Edison created/consulted databases (of known results) performed data mining (such as was possible) extended to high throughput (in his manner)

#### When did identifiable materials design begin?

Rocksalt MoN as a high temperature superconductor: T<sub>c</sub> = 30K. Papaconstantopoulos, Klein, Boyer, WEP, Nature 1982 Unfortunately, a few years later was shown to have a negative elastic constant.

 (Ba,K)BiO<sub>3</sub>: should be better superconductor than Ba(PbBi)O<sub>3</sub> [T<sub>c</sub>=13K] Len Mattheiss and experimental coworkers (1988)
 Huge success: BKBO has T<sub>c</sub>=34K. The pairing mechanism is still unclear.

There must be many examples of such predictions. But what about design in the modern (MGI) sense? Modern Design & Discovery: Selected Examples

#### Predicting Crystal Structures with Data Mining of Quantum Calculations

Stefano Curtarolo,<sup>1</sup> Dane Morgan,<sup>1</sup> Kristin Persson,<sup>1</sup> John Rodgers,<sup>2</sup> and Gerbrand Ceder<sup>1,\*</sup> 2003

Predicting and characterizing the crystal structure of materials is a key problem in materials research and development. It is typically addressed with highly accurate quantum mechanical computations on a small set of candidate structures, or with empirical rules that have been extracted from a large amount of experimental information, but have limited predictive power. In this Letter, we transfer the concept of heuristic rule extraction to a large library of *ab initio* calculated information, and we demonstrate that this can be developed into a tool for crystal structure prediction.

DMQC approach: data mining of quantum calculations

They used a principal component analysis (PCA) on over 6000 ab initio energy calculations

Used 114 different crystal structures in each of 55 binary metallic alloys.



PRL

# Uncovering Compounds by Synergy of Cluster Expansion and High-Throughput Methods

C. Levy. G. W. L. Hart, and S. Curtarolo, JACS 2010

Evolutionary algorithms have been recently introduced to search for stable off-lattice structures at fixed mixture compositions. We present an integrated approach of CE and high-throughput ab initio calculations (HT) applicable to the full range of compositions in binary systems where the constituent elements or the intermediate ordered structures have different lattice types. The HT methodreplaces the search algorithms by direct calculation of a moderate number of naturally occurring prototypes



Predicting from first-principles calculations whether mixed metallic elements phase-separate or form ordered structures is a major challenge of current materials research.

Possible high-temperature superconductors predicted from electronic structure and data-filtering algorithms M. Klintenberg, O. Eriksson, Comp. Matl. Sci. 2013

...(calculation) of the electronic structure of the majority of the known stoichiometric inorganic compounds, as listed in the Inorganic Crystal Structure Data-base (ICSD). We make a detailed comparison of the electronic structure, crystal geometry and chemical bonding of cuprate high temperature superconductors, with the *calculated over 60,000 electronic structures*.

- Data-base
- Data-filtering
- Accelerated DFT calculations







Pre-Modern Design & Discovery: Selected Examples



#### Principles and Applications of Complementary Computing

Eric Horvitz , Microsoft Research

I will describe several examples of collaborative problem-solving between people and computing systems that demonstrate how we can leverage the complementarity of humans and machines in tackling challenging problems. Pre-Modern Design & Discovery: Selected Examples

#### Materials Design of Half Metallic Antiferromagnets: 1998 style

Half metallic FM: metallic in one spin channel, gapped in the other Spin magnetic moment must be an integer K (filled bands)Compensated: K=0. FM symmetry but no macroscopic moment



Ferromagnetic symmetry: up is different from down spin

No net moment, no macroscipic magnetic field.

Yet fully spin-polaried carriers

Provides a platform for a novel type of single spin superconductor

#### Spin-density-functional-based search for half-metallic antiferromagnets



WEP, PRB 1998

#### Combinatorics of A'A"M'M"O<sub>6</sub>

Double perovskite crystal structure

 $25 \times 2^2 \times \frac{18 \times 17}{2} \approx 15000$  candidates A'=A" 9 d<sup>n</sup> configurations, 3d and 4d elements

with ~2 charge states each. Cation A chosen from ~25 2+ and 3+ ions

With distinct A', A" ions, **2x10<sup>5</sup> candidates** 



Perovskite structure

A-site ordered double perovskite structure

A Case Study of an early Materials Design

#### Design of a half metallic antiferromagnet? First: what is a half metallic antiferromagnet?

HM AFM: a half metallic magnetic materialwith opposing & cancelling magnetic moments.It is "ferromagnetic" but with no macroscopic B field.

1st: magnetic with ferromagnetic spin symmetry (but NOT FM) 2<sup>nd</sup>: half metallic: gap in one spin channel, metallic in other 3<sup>rd</sup>: up and down magnetic moments must cancel each other 4<sup>th</sup>: FM alignment must be favorable compared to AFM 5<sup>th</sup>: must be ground state structure, and (meta)stable

6<sup>th</sup>: magnetic ordering temperature should be high
7<sup>th</sup>: the desired phase must be synthesizable
8<sup>th</sup>: the material must be integratable into an existing system
9<sup>th</sup>: (there will be more, don't doubt it)



# Spin-density-functional-based search for half-metallic antiferromagnets Single Spin Superconductivity WEP, PRB 1998



#### Preselection before computation

Narrowing the candidates:

- valence counting  $\rightarrow$  d<sup>n</sup> configurations
- choose size of moments wanted
- spin of d<sup>n</sup> ion in octahedral field
- antiligned spins: check energy differences
- is it half metallic??



TABLE I. Nominal charge states, Hund's rule magnetic moments  $m(\mu_B)$ , and crystal field moments  $m(\mu_B)$ , for AMO<sub>3</sub> compounds. Ions in parentheses are uncommon. As discussed in the text, Hund's rule will not be followed if the crystal field splitting is comparable to the intra-atomic exchange splitting. "cf" and "no cf" indicates atomic moments with a normal crystal field for the perovskite structure, or negligible crystal field (Hund's rule), respectively (see text).

Compound	Ion	$d^1$	$d^2$	$d^3$	$d^4$	$d^5$	<i>d</i> <sup>6</sup>	$d^7$	$d^8$	$d^9$
A <sup>4+</sup> M <sup>2+</sup> O <sub>3</sub>	M <sup>2+</sup>	(Sc)	Ti	v	Сг	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu
	m (no cf)	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	1
	m (cf)	1	2	3	4	5	0	1	2	1
A <sup>3+</sup> M <sup>3+</sup> O <sub>3</sub>	M <sup>3+</sup>	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	(Cu)	
	$m \pmod{\text{cf}}$	1	2	3	4	5	4	3	2	
	m (cf)	1	2	3	4	3	0	1	2	
A <sup>2+</sup> M <sup>4+</sup> O <sub>3</sub>	M <sup>4+</sup>	v	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	(Ni)			
	$m \pmod{\text{cf}}$	1	2	3	4	5	4			
	m (cf)	1	2	3	4	3	0			





Likely candidates amongst La<sub>2</sub>BB'O<sub>6</sub>:

S=1/2: La<sub>2</sub>V<sup>4+</sup>Cu<sup>2+</sup>O<sub>6</sub>.

Experimental attempts obtained disordered V, Cu

S=2:  $La_2Mn^{3+}Co^{3+}O_6$  (actually, a close call) Not aware of experimental work

This should be considered a preliminary, unfinished design study.

Electronic Structure Methods: an overview of past, present, (future)





#### DFT Citation History



Can simply note the incredible total numbers: 14,300 in 2009 on this chart

#### Robust, Supported DFT Crystal Codes

- Wien2k LAPW Austria
- CRYSTAL LO Italy/UK
- Abinit PWpp Belgium
- pwSCF/Quantum Espresso PWpp Italy
- VASP PAWAustria
- SIESTA LO Spain
- FPLO LO Germany
- MindLab
   LMTO
   US / Germany
- FLEUR LAPW Germany
- EXCITING/ELK LAPW Austria
- Aims LO Germany
- etc., etc.

For a longer list, see http://dft.sandia.gov/codes\_list.html

Electronic Structure and Density Functional Theory (DFT) W. Kohn & colleagues; many others

Hamiltonian for electrons interacting with nuclei (huge many-problem):

$$\hat{H}\Psi = \left[\hat{T} + \hat{V} + \hat{U}\right]\Psi = \left[\sum_{i}^{N} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m}\nabla_i^2 + \sum_{i}^{N}V(\vec{r}_i) + \sum_{i< j}^{N}U(\vec{r}_i, \vec{r}_j)\right]\Psi = E\Psi$$

Density functional viewpoint: consider energy as functional of electron density

$$E[\rho] = T_s[\rho] + \int d\mathbf{r} \ v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})\rho(\mathbf{r}) + V_H[\rho] + E_{\text{xc}}[\rho], \qquad \rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i^N |\phi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2.$$

Kinetic energy functional: 
$$T_s[\rho] = \sum_{i=1}^N \int d\mathbf{r} \ \phi_i^*(\mathbf{r}) \left(-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2\right) \phi_i(\mathbf{r}),$$

Hartree Exchange & correlation effects Exchange & correlation effects Exchange V\_H = 
$$\frac{e^2}{2} \int d\mathbf{r} \int d\mathbf{r}' \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r})\rho(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$
, Exchange & correlation effects  $v_{\rm xc}(\mathbf{r}) \equiv \frac{\delta E_{\rm xc}[\rho]}{\delta \rho(\mathbf{r})}$   
Total energy in terms of Kohn-Sham eigenvalues (band structure)  $E = \sum_{i}^{N} \varepsilon_i - V_H[\rho] + E_{\rm xc}[\rho] - \int \frac{\delta E_{\rm xc}[\rho]}{\delta \rho(\mathbf{r})} \rho(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}$ 

#### Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian for electron states

$$h_{KS} = p^2/2m + V; \quad h_{KS} \phi_k = \varepsilon_k \phi_{k,} \qquad \phi_k = e^{ik^*r} u_k$$

With V from DFT, this is the "band structure problem."

e<sup>ik\*r</sup> factor is known and can be eliminated:

$$e^{ik*r} h_{KS} e^{-ik*r} = h_{k,} \qquad h_k u_k = \varepsilon_k u_k$$
$$h_k = (p+k)^2/2m + V$$

## Exchange-correlation functional: the rub [connections to kinetic energy functional]

- LDA (local density approximation)
- GGA (generalized gradient approximation)
- meta-GGA: dependence on orbital kinetic energy
- normal density+pairing density for superconductors
- density-polarization functional for ferroelectrics
- hybrid functional: x LDA exchange, 1-x Hartree-Fock
- LDA+U: (atomic) orbital-dependent functionals for strongly correlated insulators
- non-local functionals to treat van der Waals systems
- etc. etc.

Pretty impressive. Still, we have no single great functional for everything. There is plenty of work to do.

# Many, many impressive successes of the local density approxiamtion



[NRL-LANL-ANL collaboration in mid-80s already had obtained very surprising agreement]

UPt<sub>3</sub> is a heavy fermion metal, is superconducting below 0.5K, is a very strongly correlated matal

> Heavy fermion UPt<sub>3</sub> metal: very impressive elucidation of a very complex Fermi surface by LDA calculation



#### Band Theory of Strong Correlated Electrons

Approximate DFT with correlation corrections for strong intra-atomic repuslsion "LDA+U"

Generically referred to also as DFT+U

# $\begin{array}{ll} \text{LSDA+U} & \text{On top of LDA/GGA:} & \Delta E = E_I - E_{\text{dc}} \\ \text{Double Counting} & \text{Correction Functionals} \\ \text{[Ylvisaker, Koepernik, Pickett PRB 2008]} & E_I = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m\sigma \neq m'\sigma'} W^{\sigma\sigma'}_{mm'} n_{m\sigma} n_{m'\sigma'} \\ W^{\sigma\sigma'}_{mm'} = (U_{mm'} - J_{mm'} \delta_{\sigma,\sigma'}). \end{array}$

DFT XC LDA+U Edc Edc = Functional (rewritten) Functional  $\frac{-\frac{U+2lJ}{2l+1}\frac{1}{4}N^2}{\frac{U+2lJ}{2l+1}\frac{1}{2}\sum_{\sigma}N}$  $\frac{1}{2}UN^2$  $\frac{1}{2}UN$ Fl-nS LDA =  $\sum_{\sigma} N_{\sigma}^2$ Fl-S (AMF) LSDA = FLL  $\frac{1}{2}UN$  $\frac{1}{2}J\sum_{\sigma}N_{\sigma}(N_{\sigma}-1)$  $\frac{1}{2}UN(N -$ LSDA  $-N_{\sigma}$ = FLL-nS  $\frac{1}{2}UN$  $\frac{1}{2}UN$ LDA 2)  $N_{\sigma}$ =

> "Fluctuation forms" of the functional (Anisimov, Zaanen, Andersen, ca. 1992)

$$\Delta E^{Fl-nS} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m\sigma \neq m'\sigma'} W^{\sigma\sigma'}_{mm'} (n_{m\sigma} - \bar{n}) (n_{m'\sigma'} - \bar{n}),$$
  
$$\Delta E^{Fl-S} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m\sigma \neq m'\sigma'} W^{\sigma\sigma'}_{mm} (n_{m\sigma} - \bar{n}_{\sigma}) (n_{m'\sigma'} - \bar{n}_{\sigma'})$$



#### Aspects of the LDA+U Method

#### LDA+U for diagonal $\{n_{m\sigma}\}$ : Energetics

Site Occupations  $\{n_{m\sigma}\}; N_{\sigma} = \sum_{m} n_{m\sigma}, N = \sum_{\sigma} N_{\sigma}$ 

$$E_{U} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m\sigma \neq m'\sigma'} (U - J\delta_{\sigma\sigma'}) n_{m\sigma} n_{m'\sigma'} - E_{U}^{dc}$$
  
$$= \frac{1}{2} U N^{2} \quad \text{inhibits charge order}$$
  
$$-\frac{1}{2} J \sum_{\sigma} N_{\sigma}^{2} \quad \text{promotes exchange splitting}$$
  
$$-\frac{1}{2} (U - J) \sum_{m\sigma} n_{m\sigma}^{2} \quad \text{promotes orbital polarization}$$

"Orbital polarization" means  $n_{m\sigma} = 0$  or  $n_{m\sigma} = 1$ .

"Fully Localized" Orbital-dependent Potential  $\Delta v_{m\sigma} = -(U - J) \left( n_{m\sigma} - \frac{1}{2} \right)$ 

Appropriate values of U and J? Constrained DFT. (not discussed today)

Open shell in spherical environment: f<sup>2</sup> as an example: 7 orbitals x 2 spins

f<sup>2</sup> configuration: 91 states (configuration = one specific occupation of available states)

Result: each one of the 7 energies <sup>1</sup>S<sub>0</sub>, ..... can be expressed in terms of only 4 constants E<sub>0</sub>, E<sub>1</sub>, E<sub>2</sub>, E<sub>3</sub>

[Also, four Slater integrals F<sub>0</sub>,F<sub>1</sub>,F<sub>2</sub>,F<sub>3</sub>]

- # of configurations: 14!/(14-N)!N!
- N=7: 3432 configurations

• G. Racah, PR 76, 1352 (1949)

In LDA/GGA one never thinks about these details, because the occupation numbers are not evident LSDA+U Hund's rules: including spin-orbti coupling 1. Maximize S.

AMF

2. Maximize L, subject to #1.

3. J=|S-L|, less than half filled;

J=S+L, more than half filled

FLL

Prediction of the lowest energy configuration  $\Delta E = E_{I}[\{n_{ms}\}] - E_{dc}[N,M] + \lambda L_{z}S_{z}$ 



- FLL gets Hund's rules
- FLL encourages high spin states
- z-projections only





 $\Delta E = E_{I}[\{n_{ms}\}] - E_{dc}[N,M] + \lambda L_{z}S_{z}$ 

U=8 J=1 I=1

- AMF state ordering from left to right
- FLL state ordering from bottom to top
- AMF opposes magnetism



FIG. 2. (Color online) Shown here is  $\Delta E^{\text{FLL}}$  plotted vs  $\Delta E^{\text{Fl-S}}$  for each of the 3432 configurations of N=7 electrons using U = 8, J=1, I=0.75, all in eV. The ordering of states is shown for Fl-S by counting from left to right and for FLL by counting from bottom to top. Open squares show values for U=7 and J=0.

#### Scatter plot of LSDA+U energies (all configurations)



AMF (FI-S)

FFL

Fl-nS

Fpr AMF, low-spin states (black&red)

#### Issues to Recognize about LSDA+U

Results depend on which functional you choose.

Results depend on values of U, J you choose. Values of U depend on the number of bands/states kept in calculating it..

Results depend on the **method/code** you use. *n<sub>ms</sub>* is specified differently depending on code. {recall, LSDA+U drives *n<sub>ms</sub>* --> 0 or 1. may need to compensate by choice of U, J

**Don't** use  $U_{eff} = U-J$ ,  $J_{eff} = 0$ . Results are different in general, and if they are, then they are wrong.

Examples of the effects of including U in open d shells

#### Na<sub>x</sub>CoO<sub>2</sub>, the Dehydrated Superconductor Just add water!



J.D. Jorgensen et al. (ANL) Phys. Rev. B <u>68</u>, 214517 (2003) K. Takada et al. (Japan), Nature <u>422</u>, 53 (2003);

Adv. Mater. 16, 1901 (2004)



#### d Charge on Co ions



FIG. 2: Change with U of d charge for the two Co ions. Upper panel: change of total 3d charge (the charge is transferred to O ions). Lower panel: changes of the majority and minority separately.



FIG. 3: Change of the occupancy  $n_{ag}$  of the  $a_g$  state versus U, which reveals the strong  $a_g$  charge disproportionation at the transition. Majority orbitals of both Co ions are fully occupied regardless of U. At  $U = U_c$ , the occupancy of the minority decreases for Co2 and increases for Co1 by 0.23 e.

#### Gap, Moment vs. U in LDA+U : FM (x=1/3)



#### LDA+U (aka DFT+U)

LDA(GGA)+U is beyond LDA(GGA) as it can describe -Mott insulating states (open d shell, yet insulating) -charge disproportionation, separate spin states -orbital ordering: breaking of real space symmetry

Typically a 1<sup>st</sup> order transition as U is varied

LDA+U+SOC + crystal fields, especially for lanthaide compounds, results in very "interesting" behavior.

#### A change of topic

Why the great emphasis on acceleration of design and discovery?

Seems like a silly question, but an example can be illuminating. A history of (topological) nodal ring semimetals



Everyone in the field knows that the topic of NLSs began with the PRB 2011 paper of **Burkov, Hook, Balents** 

That is not quite the whole story...

#### Periodicity: in r space and in k space



### Direct space to reciprocal space



Periodicity: in r space and in k space  
Bloch's Theorem (1928)  

$$\psi_k(r) = e^{ik \cdot r} u_k(r)$$
  
1  $u_k(r + R_{mnp}) = u_k(r)$   
2  $u_{k+G_{mnp}}(r) = u_k(r)$   
3  $E_{k+G_{mnp}} = E_k$ 



YBa2Cu3O7

# Bloch Hamiltonian for $u_k$ $H_k u_k = \left[\frac{(p+\hbar k)^2}{2m} + V(r)\right] u_k = E_k u_k$ $H_k = H(k_x, k_y.k_z)$

A Hamiltonian with three 'parameters' that can wander around periodic k-space.

Adiabatic changes of  $\vec{k} \rightarrow$  what implications for the crystal?

$$\left[\nabla_k H_k - \nabla_k E_k\right] u_k + \left[H_k - E_k\right] \nabla_k u_k = 0$$

Matrix elements will involve a "vector potential-like" Berry connection:

$$\vec{A}_{kn} = -i < u_{kn} |\nabla_k| u_{kn} >$$
$$u_{kn} = |u_{kn}| e^{i\theta_{kn}}$$
$$Z_n = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint d\vec{\ell} \cdot A_{kn} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \oint d\vec{\ell} \cdot \nabla_k \theta_{kn}$$

The integral over certain closed contours gives a quantized topological invariant Z.

Z is a "winding number" equal to 0 or 1, Z=0: simple (trivial); Z=1: topological.



The first modern publication on a topic...

#### Topological Nodal Semimetals (Weyl and nodal loop semimetals)

A closed loop of degeneracies in BZ before consideration of spin-orbit coupling



Intersection of energy surfaces, without SOC Burkov, Hook, Balents PRB 2011 Murakami NJP 2007

• Loops need not lie in a plane, maybe not even close

- Loops need not cut at the Fermi energy; if they do span E<sub>F</sub> there are two Fermi points (w/o SOC), or an even number
- SOC may open up a Fermi surface something like that at left, with compensating el & hole surfaces
- In bulk, slightly unusual semimetals (with special cases)
- they are topological, and produce Fermi arcs.

Including SOC



First: a comment on degeneracies in band structures



Figure from book "Gapless Semiconductors" I M Tsidilkovski, 1988

Eigensystem becomes non-analytic at a degeneracy.

Non-analyticity is the source of topological character.

Types of degeneracies in Band Structures

POINTS: Dirac; semi-Dirac; Weyl; quadratic band touching LINES: "nodal loops" are closed lines of degeneracies in the BZ SURFACES: no way



semiDirac Pardo & WEP PRL 2009

#### On the Behavior of Eigenvalues in Adiabatic Processes



J. von Neumann and E. Wigner Physikalische Zeitschrift, **30**, 467-470 (1929)

Requirement for degeneracy to occur: Hermitian matrix: 3 parameters Real Hamiltonian: 2 parameters



Translated and reprinted in:





Theory of Brillouin Zones and Symmetry Properties of Wave Functions in Crystals L. P. Bouckaert, R. Smoluchowski, and E. Wigner, Phys. Rev. 50, 58 (1936)

**Symmetry-determined** degeneracies in electronic structures from the viewpoint of group theory



Symmetry labeling of band points and lines





Band structure of Bi<sub>3</sub>Sr Papaconstantopoulos, Klein, Boyer, Connolly PRB 1982

#### "Conyers: go learn what sorts of accidental degeneracies can occur in crystalline energy bands." Eugene Wigner, ca. 1935

AUGUST 15, 1937

PHYSICAL REVIEW

VOLUME 52

Accidental Degeneracy in the Energy Bands of Crystals

CONYERS HERRING Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey

 $u_n(\vec{k}, \vec{r}) = \exp(-i\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r})\psi_n(\vec{k}, \vec{r})$  $\mathcal{H}(\vec{k}) = (\vec{p} + \hbar \vec{k})^2/2m + V(\vec{r}).$ 





For crystals with an inversion center, contacts of equivalent manifolds  $M^i(\mathbf{k})$ ,  $M^j(\mathbf{k})$  may occur at all points  $\mathbf{k}$  of an endless curve, or of a number of such curves, in  $\mathbf{k}$ -space. These contact curves cannot be destroyed or broken by any infinitesimal change in the potential V which preserves the inversional symmetry. It is vanishingly improbable for such curves to lie in planes of symmetry in the B-Z; however a contact curve may pass through a symmetry axis at a point where necessary degeneracy or contact of inequivalent manifolds occurs.

...refer to my thesis...

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#### ASPECTS OF DEGENERACY



Fig.1. Geometry and notation near a diabolical point.



The diabolical point in parameter space (degeneracy) M. V. Berry, 1984

Evolution of H(X,Y,Z) under adiabatic variation of X,Y,Z



Fig.4 Circuit C near degeneracy R\* in R=(X,Y,Z) parameter space

G. Volovik, several papers

#### Diabolo $\rightarrow$ diabolical point



Large diablo





Diablo juggling

Three Diablo shuffle



Close up view



What happens to geometric phase when spin-orbit interactions lift band degeneracy?



$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{eff}} = \begin{pmatrix} \hbar \vec{k} \cdot \vec{v}_a \hat{1} & \hbar \vec{k} \cdot \vec{v}_b \hat{1} - i \vec{\xi} \cdot \vec{\sigma} \\ \hbar \vec{k} \cdot \vec{v}_b \hat{1} + i \vec{\xi} \cdot \vec{\sigma} & -\hbar \vec{k} \cdot \vec{v}_a \hat{1} \end{pmatrix}$$

P. B. Allen, arXiv:0709.1457, Sept 2007 (unpublished, probably never cited)

Spin-orbit coupling destroys the degeneracy of the loop, but does not destroy the singularity associated with the loop.



FIG. 1: Energy versus  $|\vec{k}|$  near the degeneracy point, for (a) no magnetic field, (b) field parallel to  $\vec{\xi}$ , and (c) field perpendicular to  $\vec{\xi}$ . The dashed lines are for  $\xi = 0$  and b = 0; solid lines in panel (a) are  $\pm \lambda$ , which becomes  $\pm \xi$  at the degeneracy point  $\vec{k} = 0$ .

His acknowledgment:

I thank A. G. Abanov and M. S. Hybertsen for help. I thank the students of Phy556 who were subjected to preliminary versions of this work. This work was supported in part by NSF grant no. NIRT-0304122. The first modern publication on a ...

Topological nodal semimetals (Weyl and nodal loop/line semimetals)

A closed loop of degeneracies in BZ before consideration of spin-orbit coupling



Burkov, Hook, Balents PRB 2011 Murakami NJP 2007





#### Accumulated Facts

- Inversion symmetry alone is sufficient for a nodal loop
- Loops will not lie in a plane, maybe not even close
- Loops need not cut at the Fermi energy; if they do span E<sub>F</sub> there are two Fermi points (w/o SOC), (or an even number; see figure at left)
- SOC will split the nodal degeneracy (subj. to symmetry)
- In bulk, may be somewhat unusual semimetals
- they are topological, and produce boundary
   Fermi lines and Fermi arcs

A nodal loop discovered computationally in SrVO<sub>3</sub> nanolayers, 2009



STO/mSrVO<sub>3</sub>/STO(001) system

Pardo & Pickett, PRB 2009

Bulk SVO: correlated metal

No polar discontinuity

Insulator-metal transition at m=4-5, in agreement with Kim et al (2000)

Insulator-metal transition through unusual semimetal phase

Unexpected c(2x2) orbital ordering

d<sup>1</sup> orbital moment: 0.75  $\mu_B$ , strong cancellation of M=M<sub>orb</sub>+M<sub>spin</sub>



#### m=5 layers of SrVO<sub>3</sub>(001) encased in SrTiO<sub>3</sub>

Pardo & Pickett, PRB 2009

FM half semimetal. AOO within each layer. Upper majority band overlaps conduction band, producing inverted bands at  $\Gamma$ .



Most of the zone is gapped. (Neglect tiny pocket at M)

Apparent Dirac points at  $E_F$  along  $\Gamma$ -X and along  $\Gamma$ -M, pinning the Fermi energy.

In fact: there are two "degenerate" Fermi circles surrounding  $\Gamma$ : Identical electron & hole FSs, Because  $n_e == n_h$ .

Upon doping, an annulus around  $\Gamma$  containing the carriers.

#### 5 layers of SrVO<sub>3</sub>(001) encased in SrTiO<sub>3</sub>



Pardo & Pickett, PRB 2009

A ferromagnetic (!) 2D(!) nodal loop semimetal

$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_k = \pm v(|\vec{k}| - k_F)$$



First nodal loop that I know of.

End of the History of Degeneracies in Crystals A very short overview of a remarkable discovery: the new and current highest  $T_c$  superconductor



A ground-breaking discovery in the MGI spirit

#### Cubic $H_3S$ around 200 GPa, $T_c \sim 200$ K: an atomic hydrogen superconductor stabilized by sulfur





Simple bcc structure of  $H_3S$ : interleaved  $ReO_3$  sublattices

D. A. Papaconstantopoulos, B. M. Klein, M. J. Mehl, W. E. Pickett, PRB 2015

#### The metallization and superconductivity of dense hydrogen sulfide

Yinwei Li,<sup>1,a)</sup> Jian Hao,<sup>1</sup> Hanyu Liu,<sup>2</sup> Yanling Li,<sup>1</sup> and Yanming Ma<sup>3,b)</sup>

J. Chem. Phys., May 2014



# Pressure-induced metallization of dense (H<sub>2</sub>S)<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> with high-T<sub>c</sub> superconductivity

Defang Duan<sup>1,2</sup>, Yunxian Liu<sup>1</sup>, Fubo Tian<sup>1</sup>, Da Li<sup>1</sup>, Xiaoli Huang<sup>1</sup>, Zhonglong Zhao<sup>1</sup>, Hongyu Yu<sup>1</sup>, Bingbing Liu<sup>1</sup>, Wenjing Tian<sup>2</sup> & Tian Cui<sup>1</sup>

Sci. Rep., Nov. 2014



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Experimental breakthrough, announced in December 2014

# Conventional superconductivity at 190 K at high pressures A.P. Drozdov, M. I. Eremets\*, I. A. Troyan

Max-Planck Institut fur Chemie, Chemistry and Physics at High Pressures Group



#### DFT studies of stable high P phases

Li et al. 2014 Duan et al. 2014 Berstein et al. 2015 Papaconstantopoulos et al. 2015 Flores-Livas et al 2015 Errea et al. 2015 ... more theory ...

The experimental discovery paper cited 7 theory papaers explaining rhe origin of pairing and size of Tc

Theory predicted an amazing property, experiment discovered & verified, stimulating further theory.

Primitive type of DMREF llop.



#### Summary: superconducting H<sub>3</sub>S

MGI-like: Theory led experiment, predicted much higher T<sub>c</sub>

- $H_2$ S predicted to have high  $T_c \sim 90$ K at high pressure (Ma group)
- experimental group began high pressure efforts (Eremets group)
- $H_3$ S predicted to have high  $T_c^2 200$ K at high pressure (Cui group)
- experimental discovery of T<sub>c</sub>~200 K in H3S (Eremets group)

Theory  $\rightarrow$  experiment ; theory  $\rightarrow$  theory; experiment  $\rightarrow$  theory. A crude example of the DMREF design & discover loop.