



Multi-objective optimization and Coevolutionary search for materials with optimal properties

Zahed Allahyari

**19th USPEX workshop on crystal structure
prediction with USPEX code.**

November 11, 2020

This work is supported by the **Russian Scientific Foundation grant No. 19072-30043** “Computational materials design laboratory”.

And is based on the following papers:

- Z. Allahyari, A. R. Oganov. Nonempirical Definition of the Mendeleev Numbers: Organizing the Chemical Space. *J. Phys. Chem. C*, 124, 43, 23867–23878 (2020).
- Z. Allahyari, A. R. Oganov. Coevolutionary search for optimal materials in the space of all possible compounds. *NPJ Comput Mater*, 6, 55 (2020).
- Z. Allahyari, A. R. Oganov. Multi-objective Optimization as a Tool for Material Design. In: Andreoni W., Yip S. (eds) *Handbook of Materials Modeling*. Springer, Cham (2020).



Objectives

1. To solve the challenging and the main problem of material science: predicting optimal materials in any desired properties, let's say in the space of all binary systems.
2. To make sure, that the predicted materials have a high chance to be synthesized. We don't need unrealistic materials which are only perfect in computers.
3. Such searches are huge. To reduce the time and computational cost of the searches, without significant loss in the results.
4. To have an automatic and unbiased search for hard/superhard materials. Is diamond the hardest material in nature? Are there any new super(hard) materials?

Outline

Search for materials with optimal target properties:

Mendelevian Search-MendS (algorithm, method)[1][2].

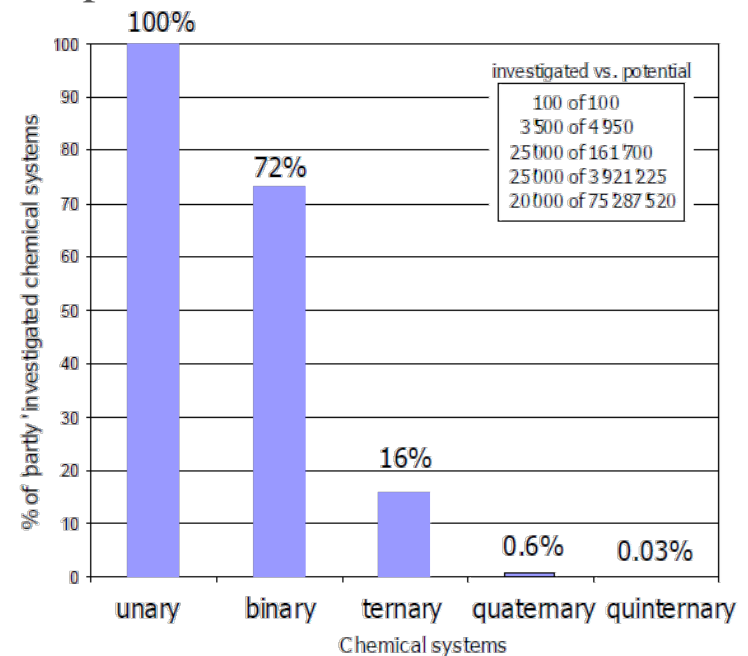
Defining a good chemical space.

Multi-objective Pareto technique.

Results on searching (using MendS) for hard/superhard and low energy binary materials under zero pressure in the entire chemical space.

[1] Patent No: WO2018009090A1

[2] *NPJ Comput. Mater.* **6**, 55 (2020).



Desired
properties

Most optimal Materials

MendS

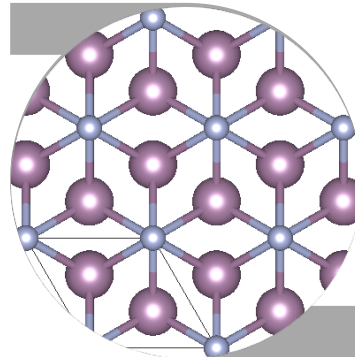
Most optimal phases
and structures of X

USPEX

Which
Materials
? (i.e. X),
&
propertie
s?

Structure search methods

Search for the most
optimal phases of a
specific material.



Calculation of **Energy**
and **Properties**. (i.e.
magnetic, electronic,
mechanical etc).

Ab initio codes

Energy and Properties

What is coevolution and the difference of evolutionary algorithm and coevolutionary algorithm?

EA- Giraffe(one species only)

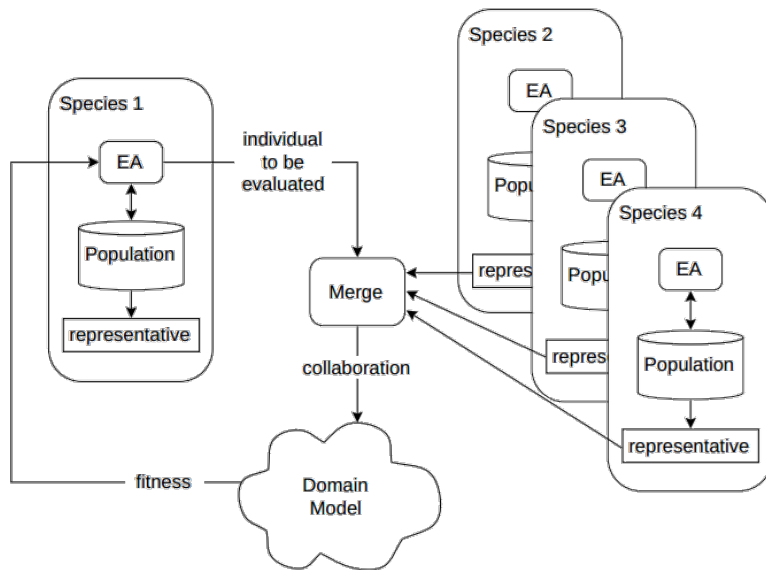
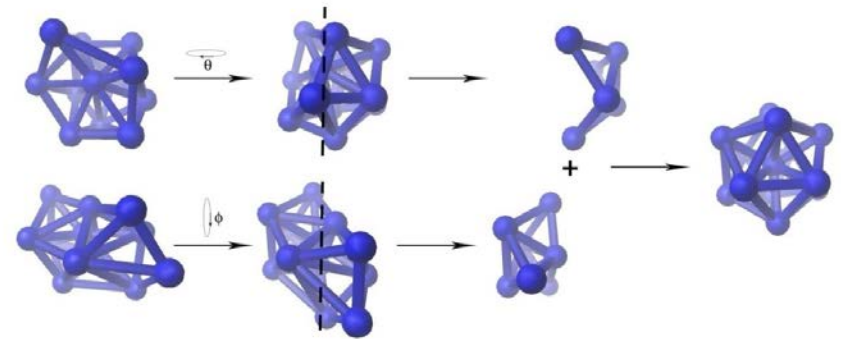
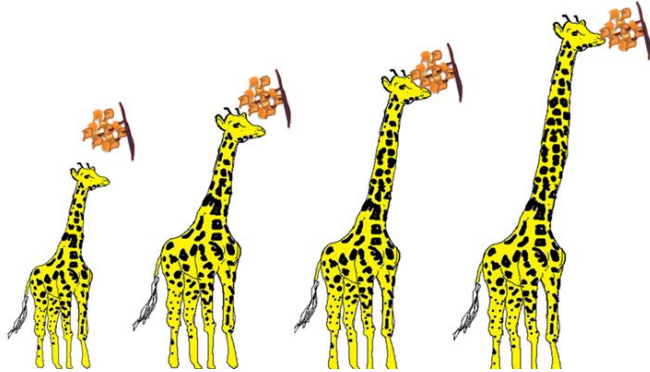


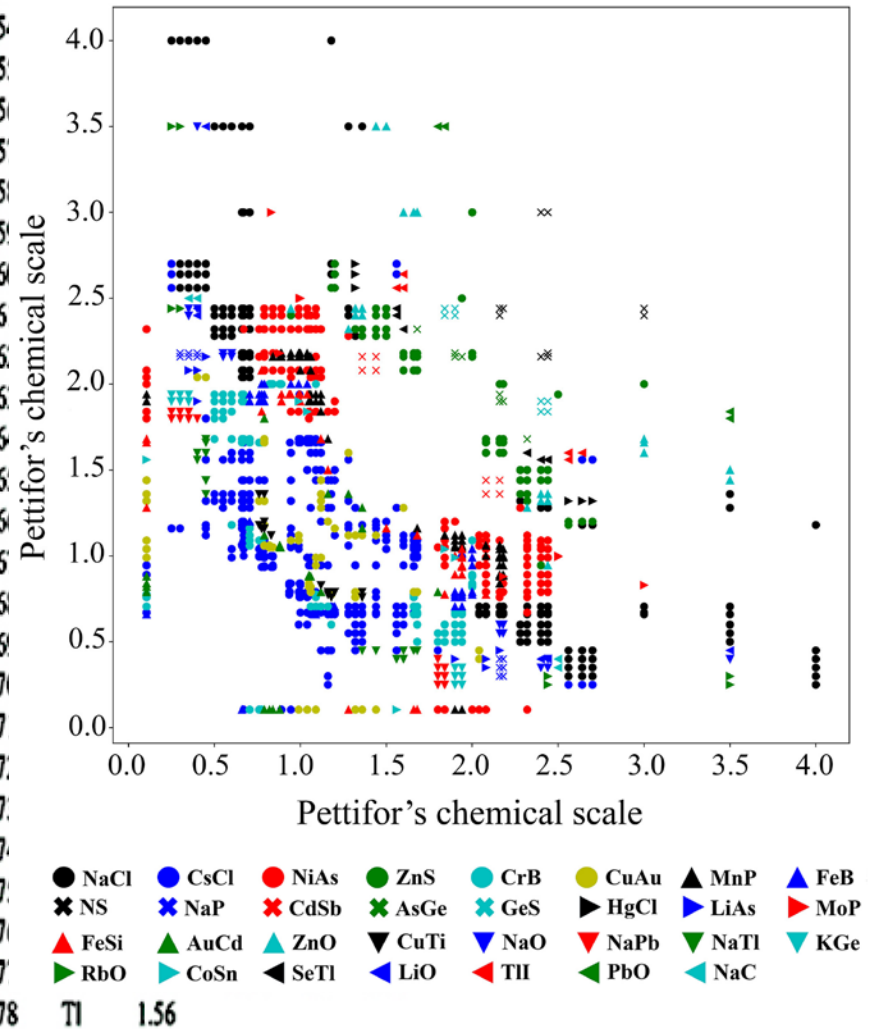
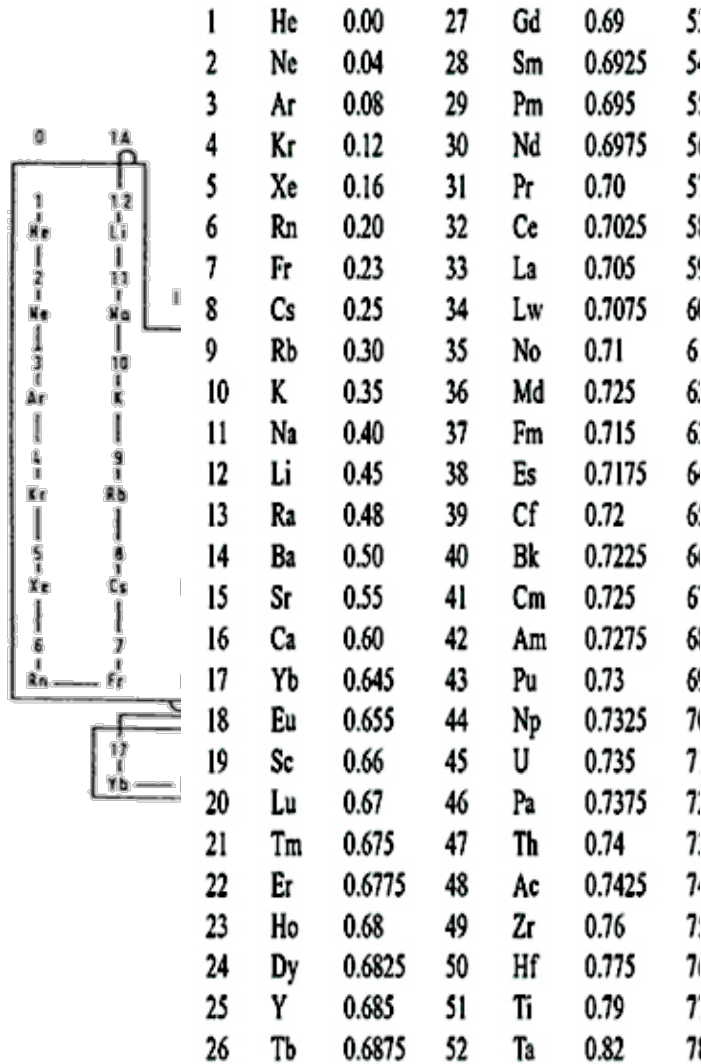
Figure 1: Cooperative coevolutionary architecture from the perspective of species number one.

Child making in evolutionary algorithm is so obvious, but what about coevolutionary algorithm?



What is the child of
C-Fe & P-W
?

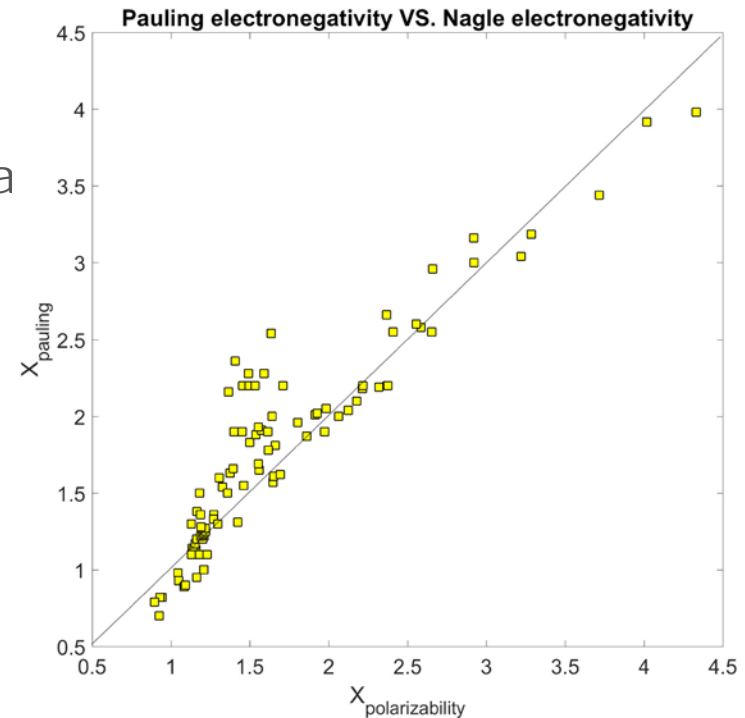
Chemical scale suggested by Pettifor (1984)



- 1929 - Goldschmidt's law of crystal chemistry: the crystal structure is determined by stoichiometry, **atomic size**, and **polarizability** of atoms/ions [1].
- 1932 - Linus Pauling introduced the concept of **electronegativity** [2].
- 1955 - Ringwood modification: **electronegativity** is as another important parameter for determining the crystal structure [3].
- 1990 - Nagle: **electronegativity** and **polarizability** are strongly correlated [4].

$$\chi_{\alpha} = 1.66(n/\alpha)^{1/3} + 0.37$$

χ_{α} = electronegativity, α = polarizability & n = valence.



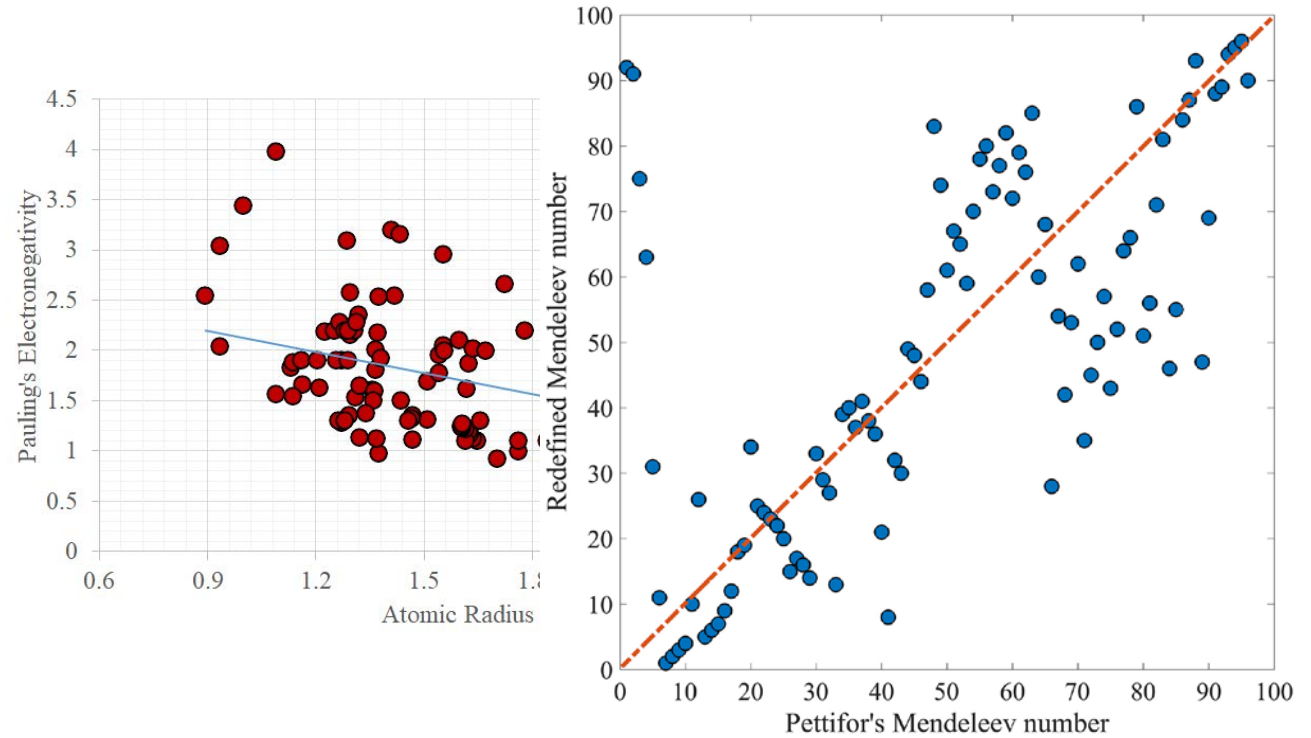
[1] Trans. Faraday Soc. 25, 253 (1929).

[2] J. Am. Chem. Soc. 54, 3570–3582 (1932)

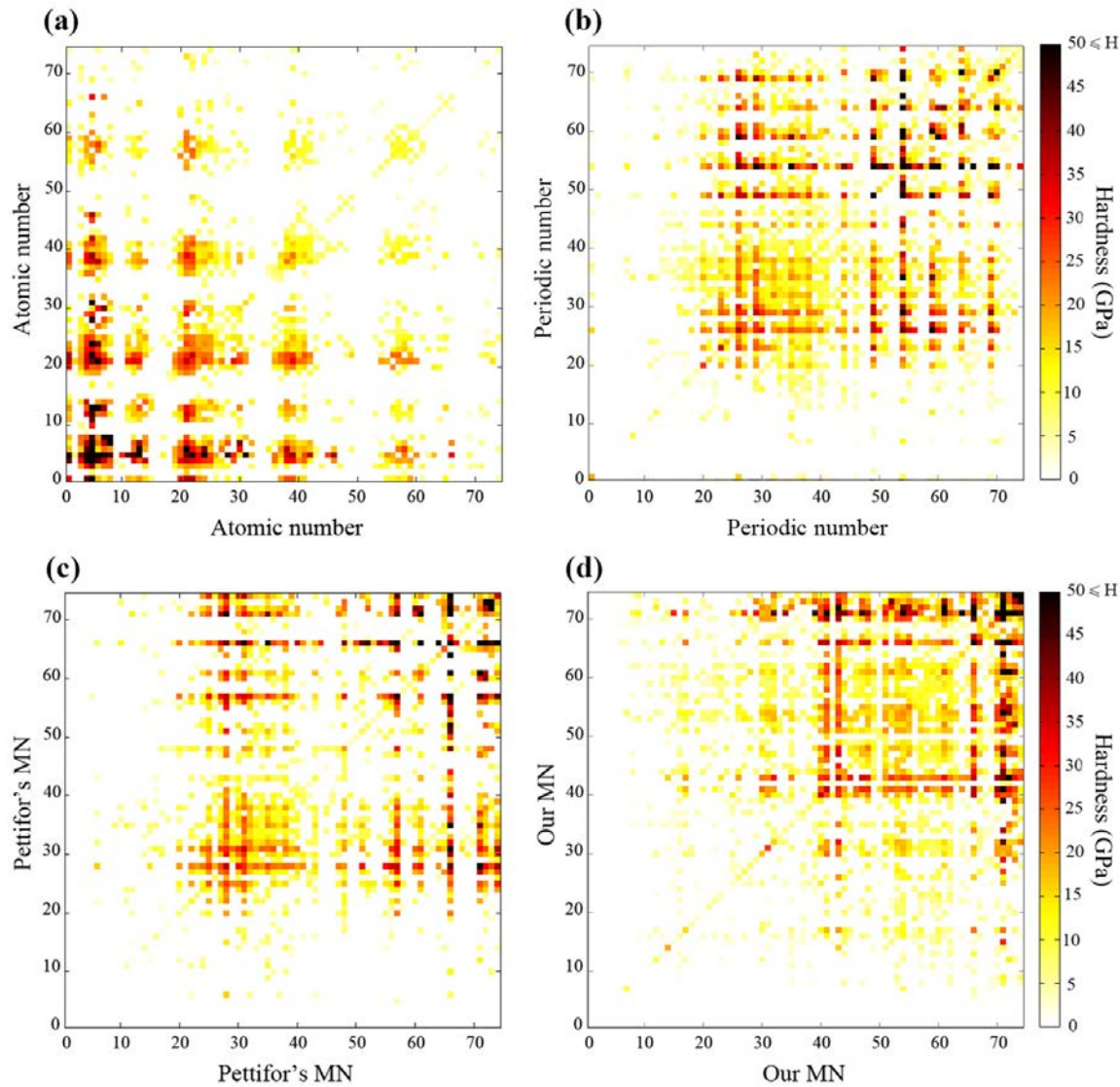
[3] Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta 7, 189–202 (1955).

[4] Solid State Commun. 51, 31–34 (1984).

Our redefined MN, and it's comparison with the Pettifor's MN.

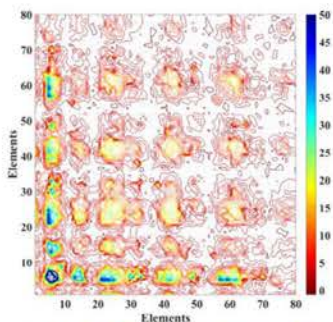


Pettifor maps of Lyakhov-Oganov model of hardness for different MNs

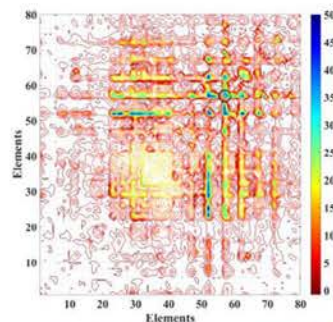


Hardness

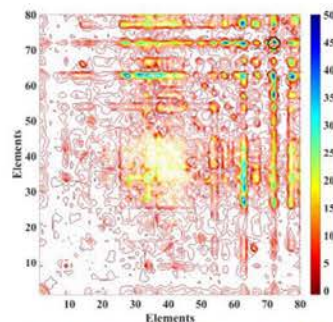
Atomic number



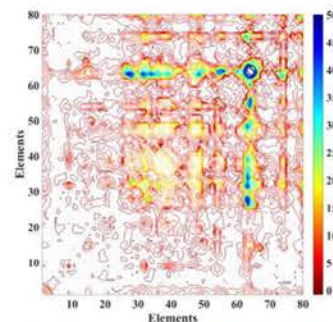
Periodic number [1]



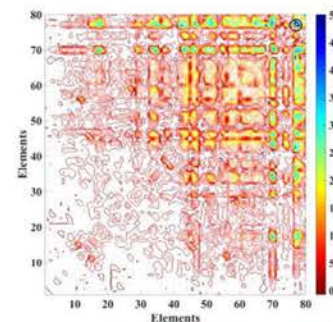
Pettifor's MN [2]



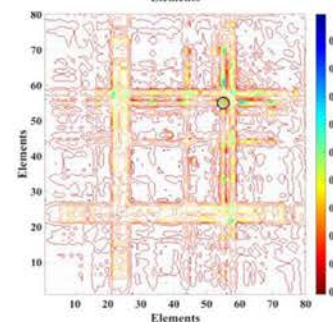
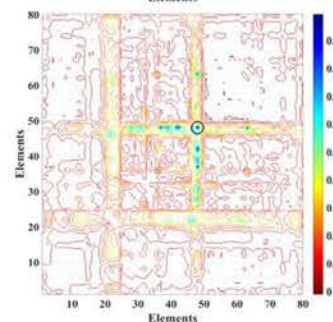
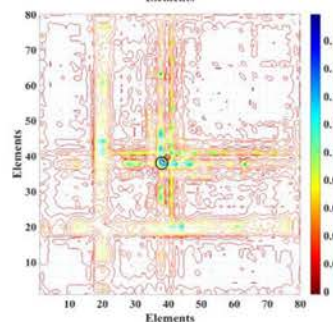
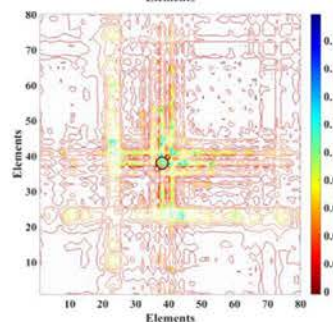
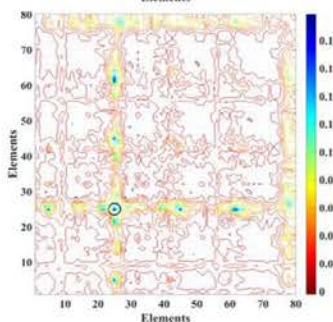
Modified MN [3]



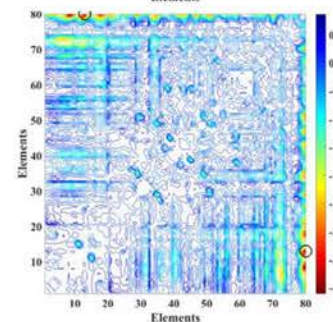
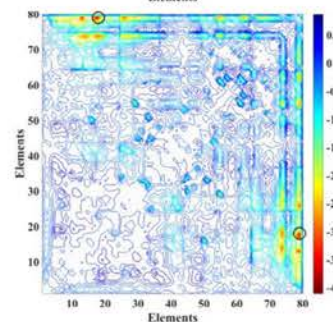
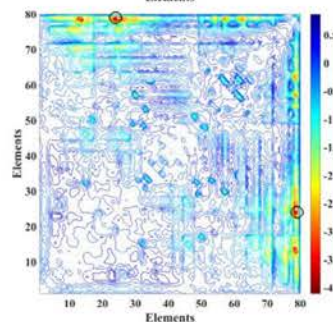
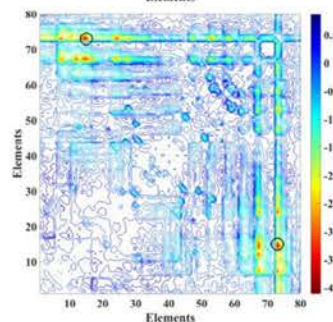
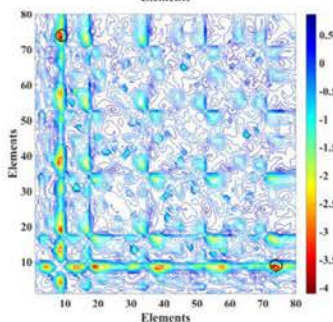
USE (our MN) [4]



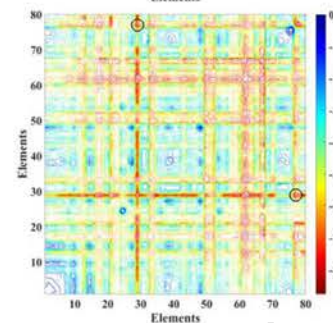
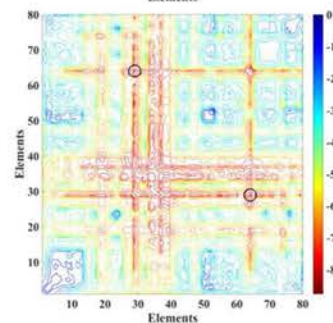
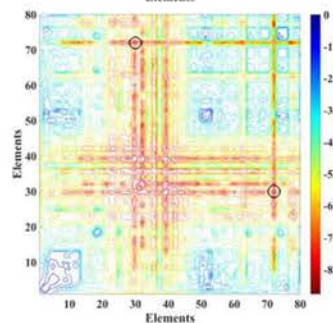
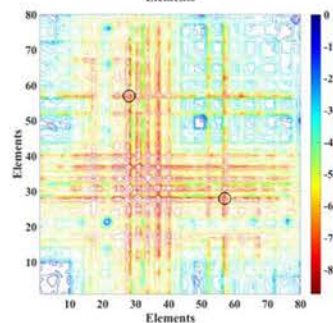
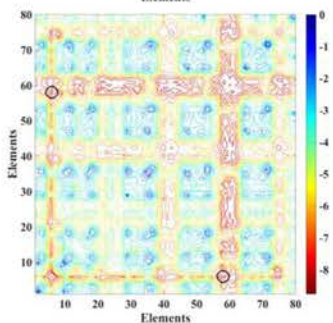
Magnetization



Enthalpy of formation



Atomization Energy



[1] *Chem. Met. Alloy.* **1**, 1-23 (2008).

[2] *J. Phys. C Solid State Phys.* **19**, 285 – 313 (1986).

[3] *New J. Phys.* **18**, 093011 (2016).

[4] *J. Phys. Chem. C*, **124**, 43, 23867–23878 (2020).

Clustering using density peaks

Science, 344, 1492 – 1496 (2014).

$$\text{Local density}(\rho_i) \quad \rho_i = \sum_j \chi(d_{ij} - d_c)$$

$$d_c = \text{cutoff distance}$$

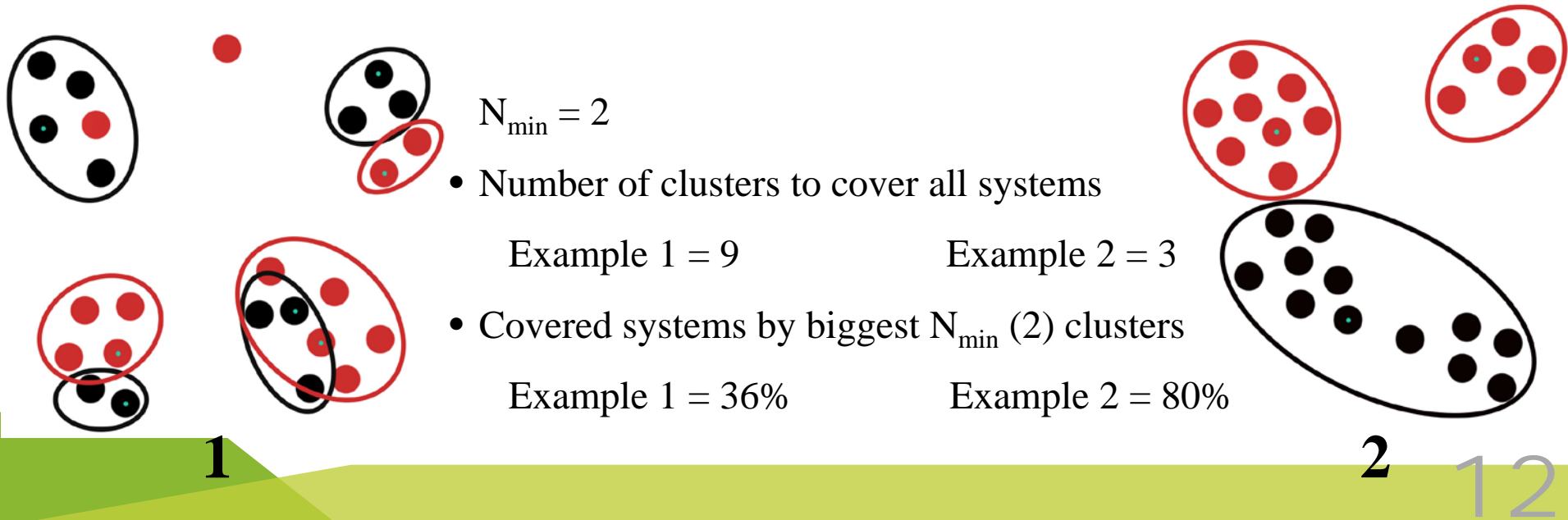
$$\chi(x) = 0 \text{ if } x < 0$$

$$\chi(x) = 1 \text{ if } x > 0$$

Cluster centers are points with highest local density.

d_p = property difference cutoff between a cluster member and the cluster center.

Ideal MN = an imaginary MN, that covers all systems in minimum number of clusters (N_{\min}).



$$N_{\min} = 2$$

- Number of clusters to cover all systems

Example 1 = 9

Example 2 = 3

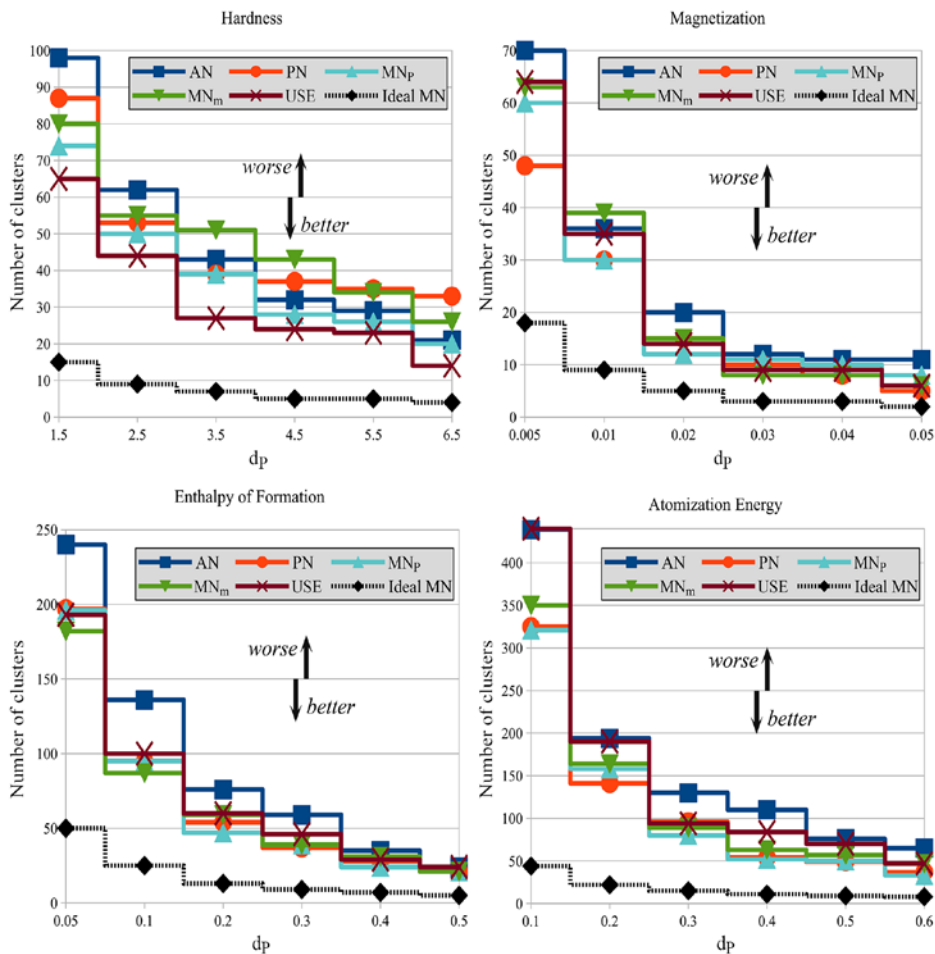
- Covered systems by biggest N_{\min} (2) clusters

Example 1 = 36%

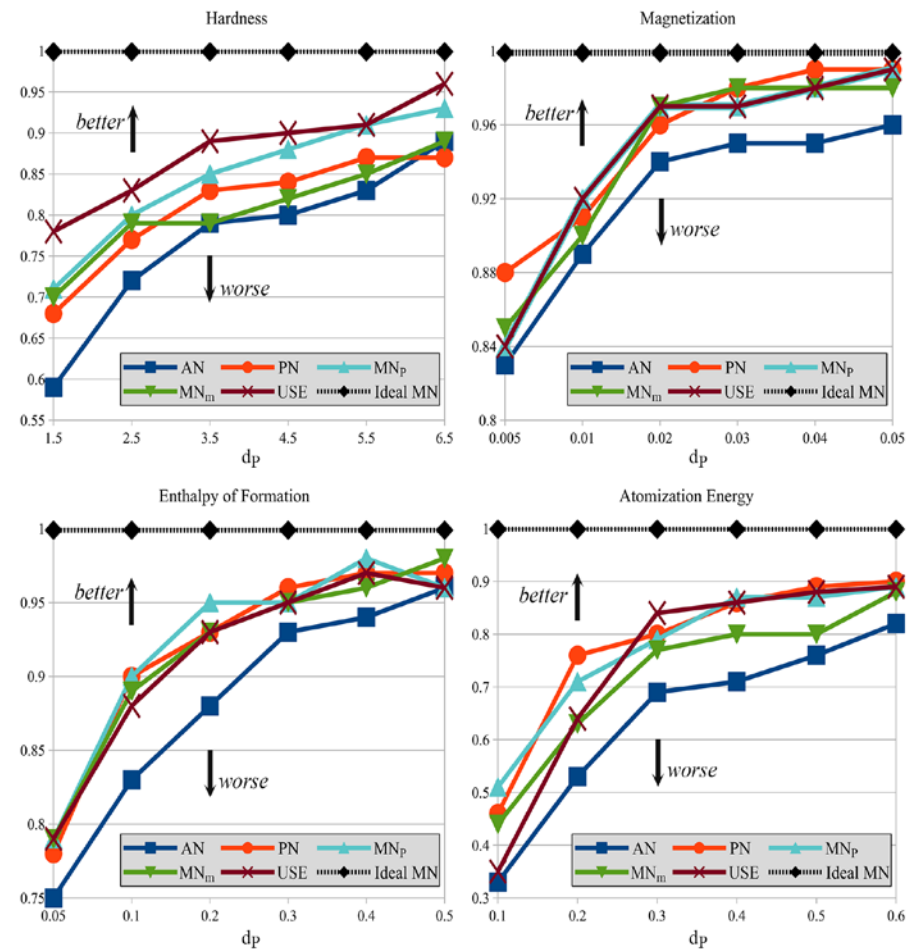
Example 2 = 80%

Evaluation of the MNs using clustering method

Number of clusters

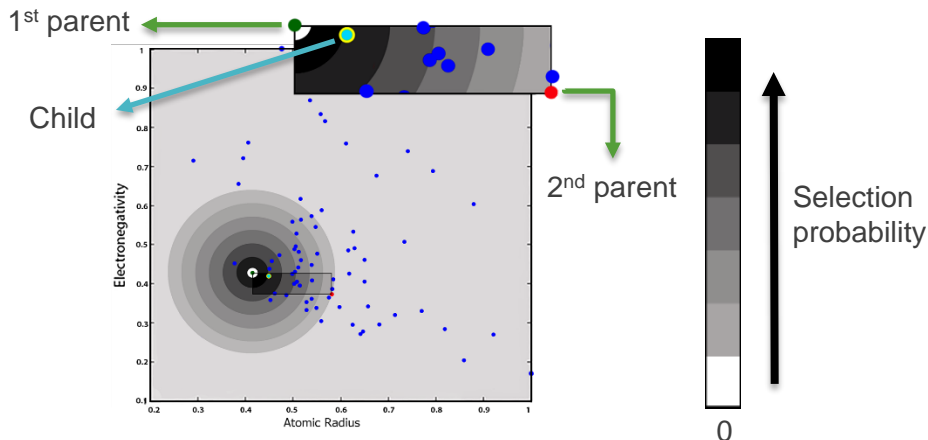


Fraction of systems that are covered by N_{min} number of clusters

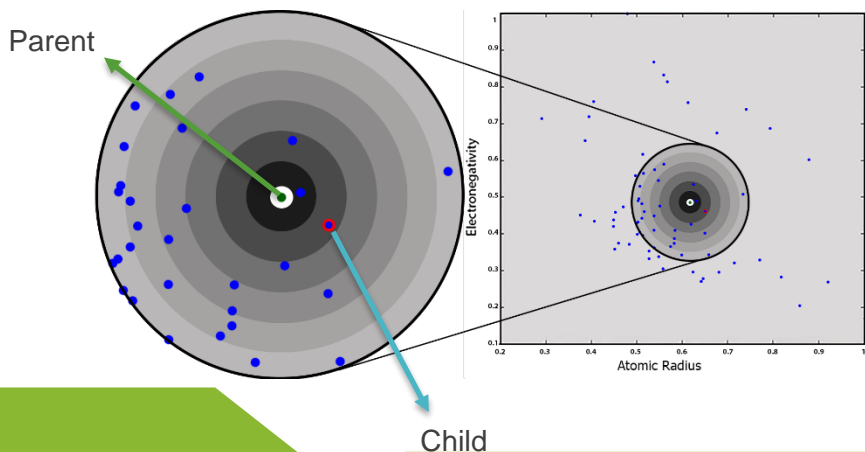


MendS algorithm and its important Variation operators

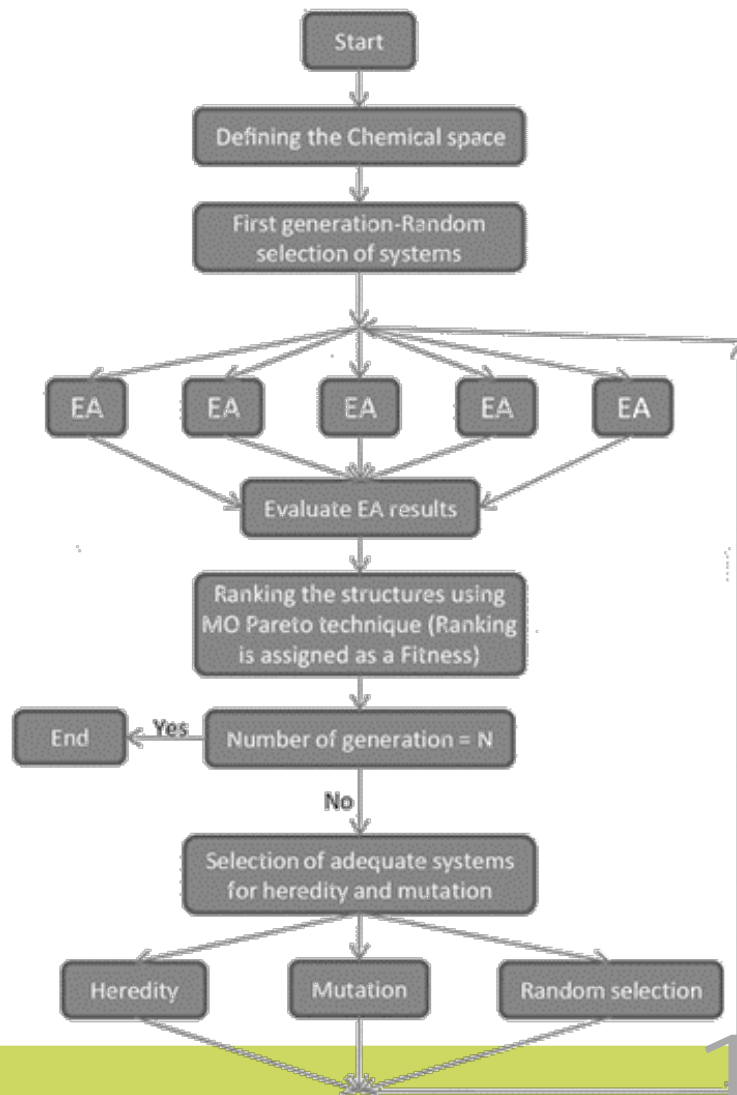
Finding the child of two parent red and green using **chemical heredity operator**.



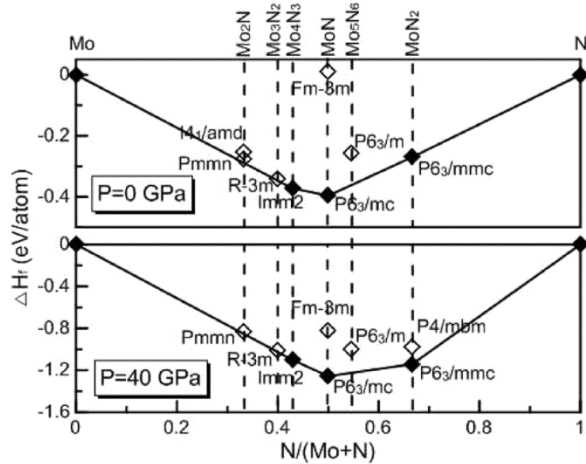
Using **chemical mutation operator** we mutate an atom to find



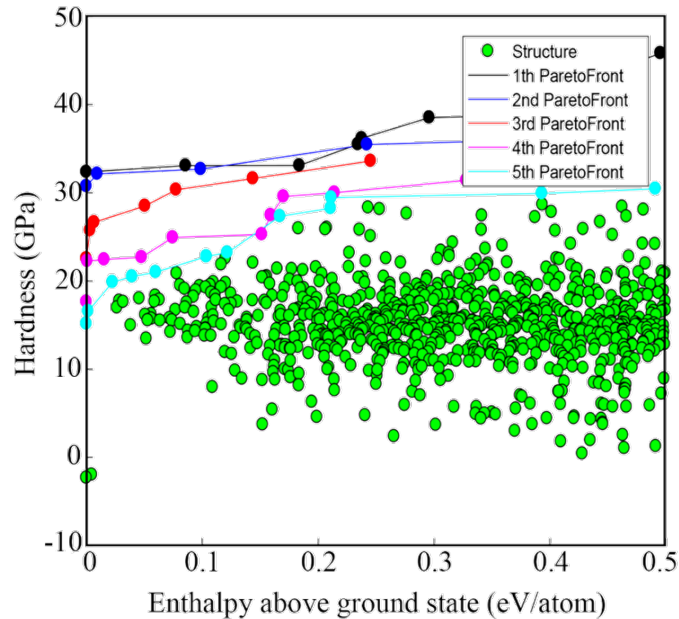
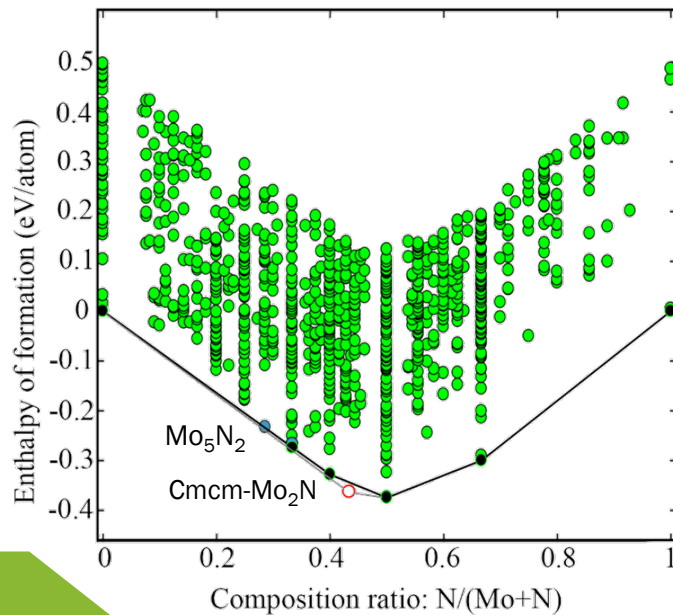
Reactive heredity operator:
A-B & C-D → A-C , A-D, B-C or B-D

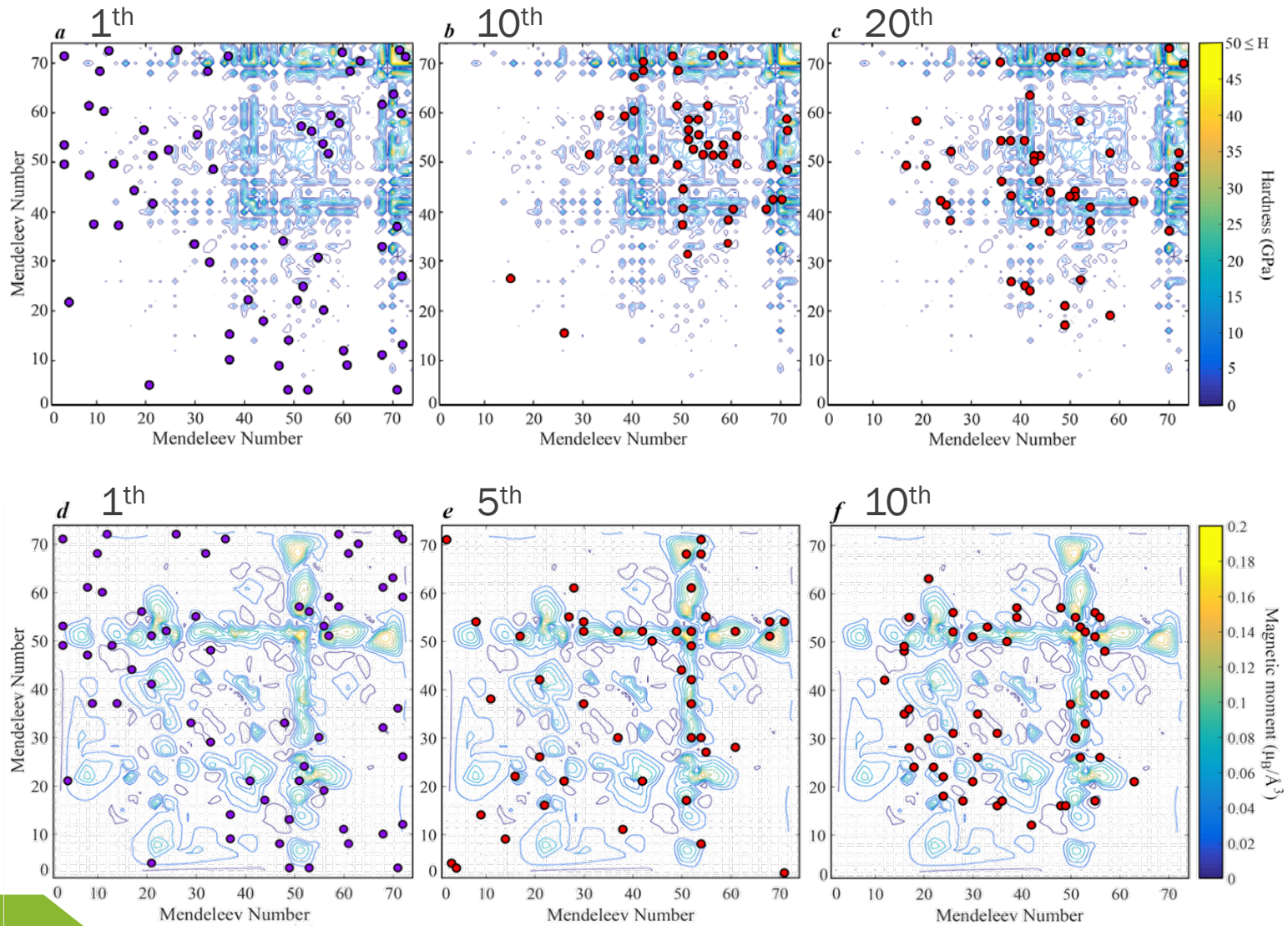


Implementation of multi-objective Pareto method and its test on Mo_xN_y

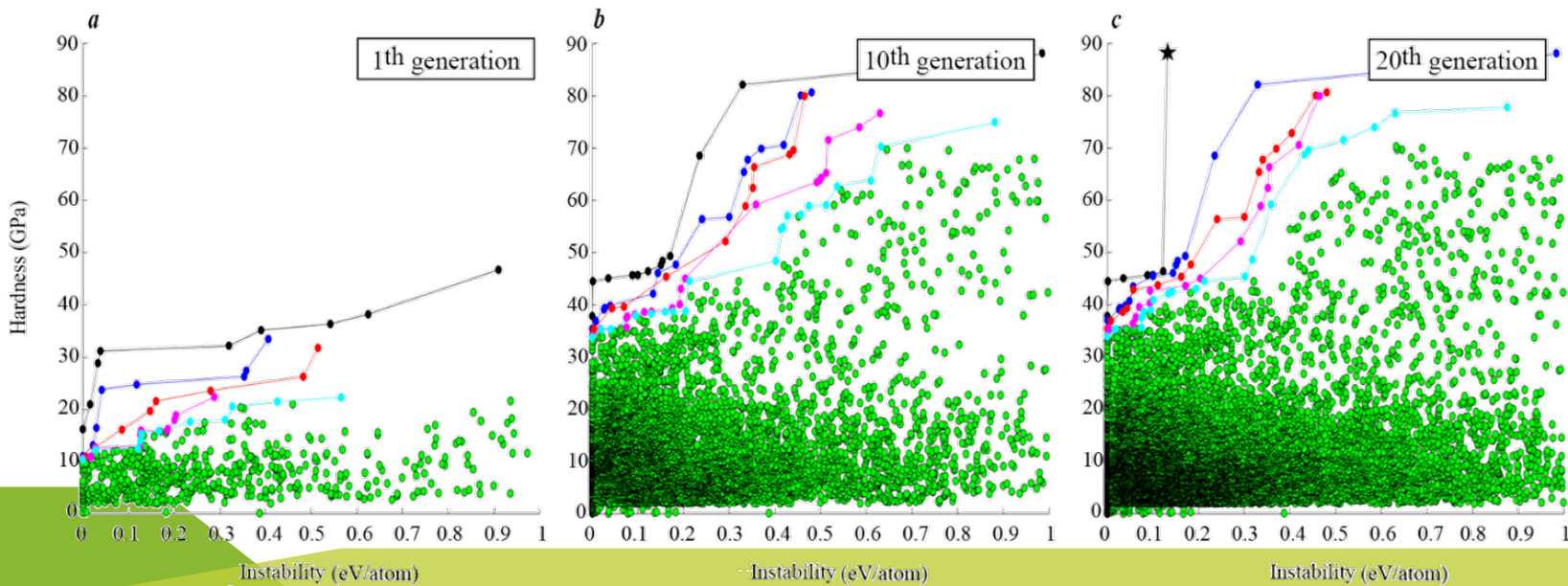
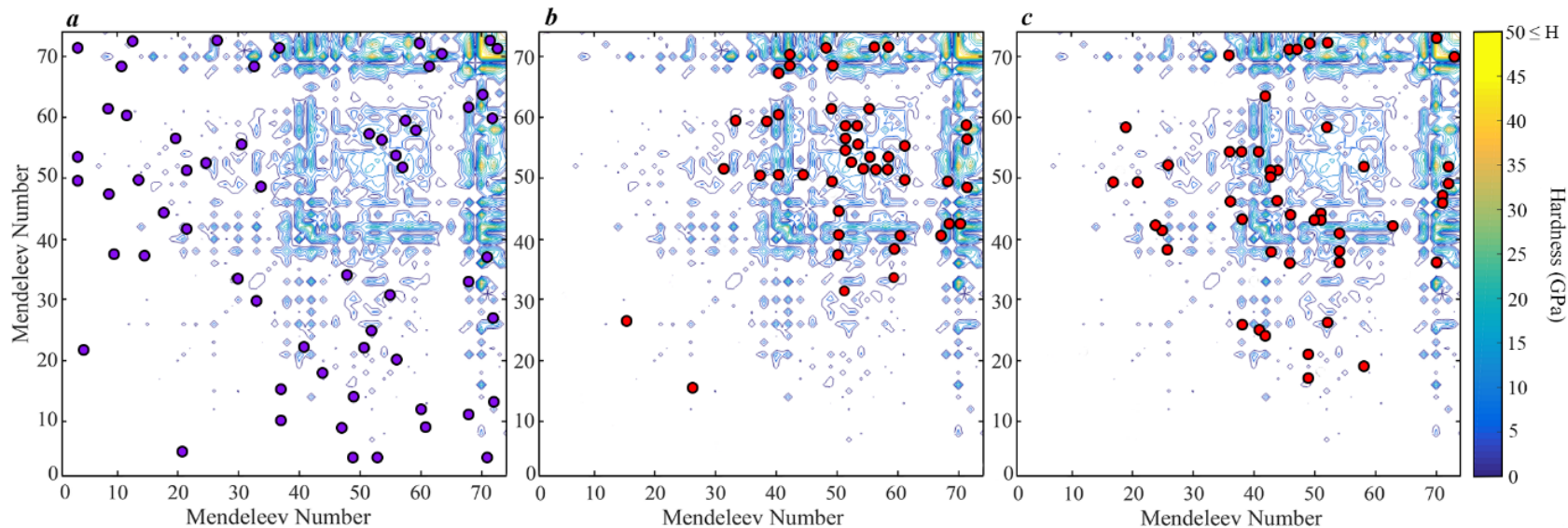


J. Phys. Chem. C, 120 (20), pp 11060–11067 (2016).





Efficiency of the algorithm in the system selection – improving the Pareto front



	Compounds	H_v (GPa)	K_{1C} (MPa.m ^{1/2})	Instability (eV/atom)	Space group	Compounds	H_v (GPa)	K_{1C} (MPa.m ^{1/2})	Instability (eV/atom)	Space group	
Carbon	<i>C</i>	92.7	6.33	0.13	$Fd\bar{3}m$	Boron	<i>B</i>	38.9	2.87	0	$R\bar{3}m$
	<i>C</i>	93.6	6.36	0.139	$P6_3/mmc$		<i>B</i>	44.8	3.29	0.136	$Cmc2_1$
B-S	B_4S_3	30.5	1.83	0.102	$Cmcm$	B-N	<i>BN</i>	63.4,(62.8)²⁵[46-80]²⁰	5.1	0.075	$F\bar{4}3m$
Mo-B	<i>MoB₂</i>	28.5,(33.1) ⁴⁴ ,[24.2] ⁵³	3.76	0	$R\bar{3}m$	Tc-B	<i>TcB</i>	31,(30.3) ⁵⁴	3.83	0.013	$P\bar{3}m1$
	<i>MoB₃</i>	35.3	3.74	0.035	$P\bar{3}m1$		<i>TcB₃</i>	27.2,(29) ⁵⁵	3.6	0	$P\bar{6}m2$
	<i>MoB₃</i>	32.2	3.63	0.077	$A2/m$		<i>TcB₃</i>	33.1	3.79	0.003	$P\bar{3}m1$
		35.3,(37.3) ⁴⁴	3.63	0.017	$P6_3/mmc$		<i>TcB₄</i>	31.8	3.56	0.069	$P2_1/m$
		33.1,(31.8) ⁴³	3.57	0.011	$R\bar{3}m$		<i>TcB₄</i>	30.2	3.54	0.069	$R\bar{3}m$
	<i>MoB₄</i>	35.4	3.57	0.099	$Pnmm$			30,(32) ⁵⁵	3.57	0.027	$P6_3/mmc$
	<i>MoB₅</i>	35.7	3.62	0.054	$P\bar{6}m2$		<i>TcB₇</i>	35.9	3.35	0.084	$R3m$
	<i>MoB₈</i>	36.6	3.24	0.118	$R3m$		<i>TcB₈</i>	33.9	3.3	0.113	$R3m$
	<i>Mo₂B₃</i>	32.2	3.95	0.029	$Immm$		<i>Tc₃B₅</i>	30.6	3.87	0	$P\bar{6}m2$
	<i>Mo₂B₃</i>	30.4	3.87	0.043	$Cmcm$						
Si-C	<i>SiC</i>	33.3,(33.1) ³¹ ,[28] ³¹	2.94	0	$F\bar{4}3m$	B-P	<i>BP</i>	37.2,(29.3) ³¹ ,[33] ³¹	2.46	0	$F\bar{4}3m$
	<i>SiC</i>	33.1	2.94	0.001	$R3m$		<i>B₆P</i>	41.1	2.87	0	$R\bar{3}m$
V-B	<i>VB</i>	39.1,(38.3) ⁴⁹	3.66	0	$Cmcm$	Mn-H	<i>MnH</i>	29.5	3.2	0	$P6_3/mmc$
	<i>VB₂</i>	37.3,(39.5) ⁴⁹ ,[27.2] ⁵⁰	3.75	0	$P6/mmm$		<i>MnH</i>	27.9	3.14	0.013	$R\bar{3}m$
	<i>VB₅</i>	40	3.36	0.158	$P\bar{6}m2$		<i>MnH</i>	26.3	3.07	0.044	$Fm\bar{3}m$
	<i>VB₇</i>	39.7	3.19	0.143	$P3m1$		Mn_3H_2	26.8	3.22	0.017	$R32$
	<i>VB₁₂</i>	44.5	3.34	0.125	$I4/mmm$		Mn_3H_2	27	3.26	0.019	$P6_3/mcm$
	<i>V₃B₄</i>	37.8	3.74	0	$P\bar{4}m2$		Mn_4H_3	27.6	3.23	0.002	$P2_1/m$
	<i>V₃B₄</i>	35.9,(38.2) ⁴⁹	3.7	0.006	$Immm$		Mn_6H_5	27.3	3.17	0.011	$A2/m$
Mn-B	<i>MnB₃</i>	32.2	3.5	0.029	$P\bar{6}m2$	Fe-B	<i>FeB₃</i>	30.2	3.32	0	$P2_1/m$
	<i>MnB₄†</i>	40.7	3.65	0.009	$Pnmm$		<i>FeB₄</i>	35.7	3.06	0.021	$Immm$
	<i>MnB₄</i>	38.2	3.56	0.1	$R\bar{3}m$		<i>FeB₄†</i>	32	3.31	0.039	$R\bar{3}m$
		38.1,(40.5) ⁵¹ ,[37.4] ⁵²	3.76	0	$P2_1/c$		<i>FeB₄</i>	42.7	3.31	0.063	$A2/m$
	<i>MnB₅</i>	32.7	3.38	0.097	$P\bar{6}m2$			28.6,(24.4) ⁶¹ [62] ⁵⁹	3.32	0.002	$Pnmm$
	<i>MnB₁₃</i>	40.4	2.9	0.181	Pm		<i>Fe₂B₁₁</i>	33.8	3.37	0.081	Pm

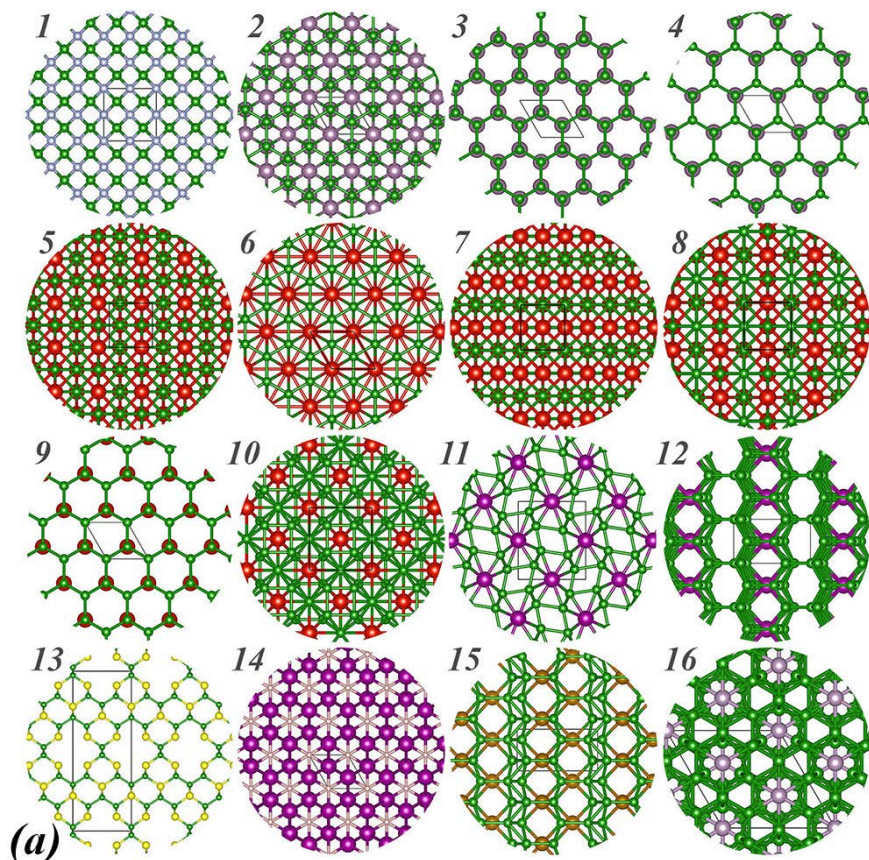
Ashby plot of hardness vs. toughness for predicted phases

 *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.*, 8 (4), pp 755–764 (2017). Cr-N, Cr-B

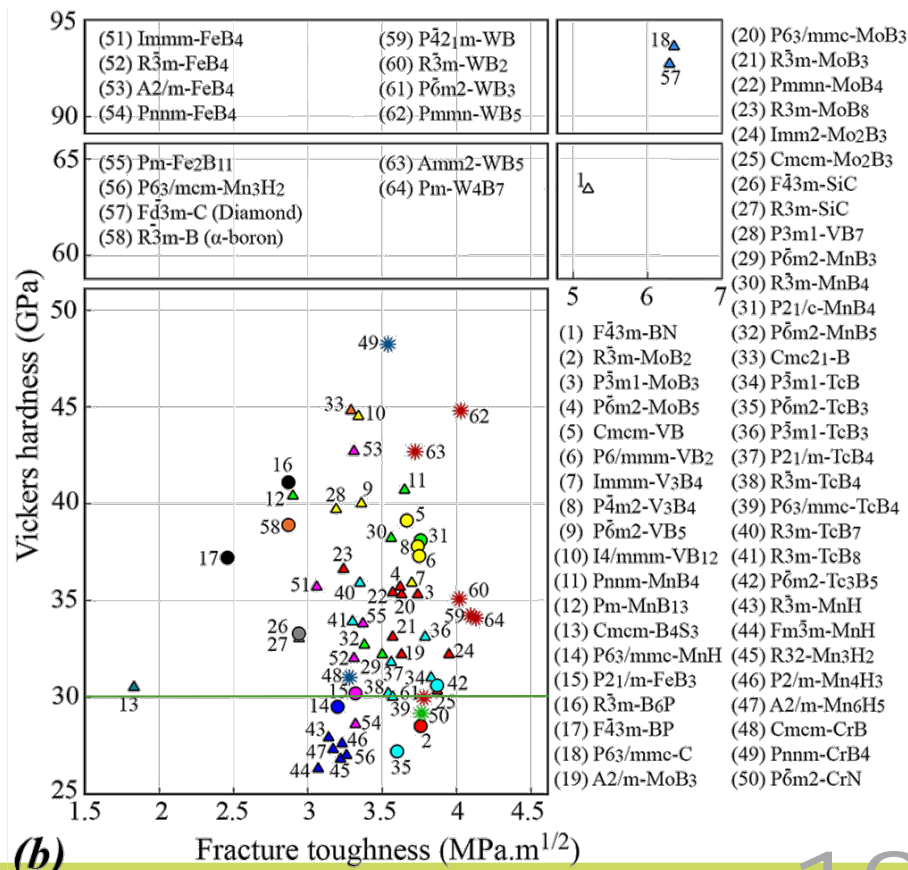
 *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.*, 9 (12), pp 3470–3477 (2018). W-B



Tungsten carbide WC
Hardness 30 GPa



(a)



Conclusion

- A well-defined chemical space can be obtained using the most significant properties of elements (electronegativity and atomic size and binary systems with similar properties are nearby in this space).
- Multi-objective Pareto technique makes it possible to search for materials optimal in more than one property, and works efficiently at least for two properties.
- Combination of coevolutionary algorithm, MO Pareto technique and well-structured chemical space - MendS – works efficiently in searching for materials optimal in multiple target properties.
- Our Mendevian search suggests that diamond is the hardest material (among binaries) in nature – harder cannot be found.
- MendS works at arbitrary pressure and for binary, ternary systems.

Thank you for your attention!

Any questions?

