

Community Accessible Datastore of High-Throughput Calculations: Experiences from the Materials Project



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BACKGROUND

Our energy future relies on the rapid development of novel functional materials.



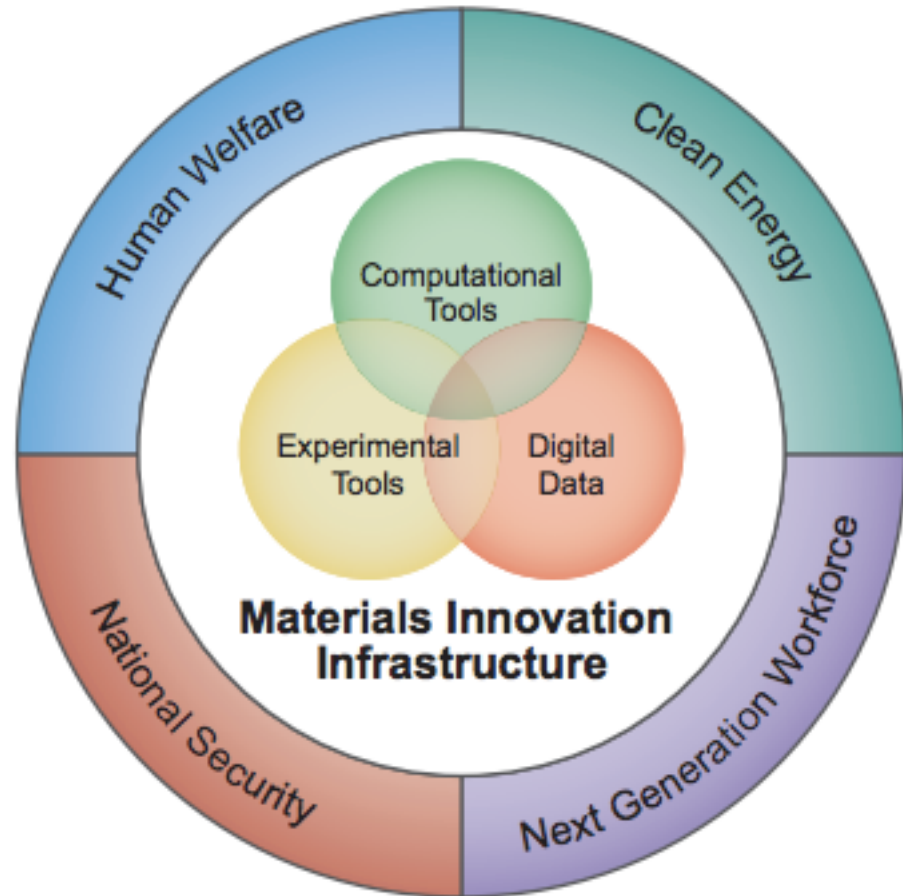
Solar cells, advanced batteries, TCOs, and fuel cells will all play a role in our energy future.

But it takes almost twenty years to develop new materials. **How can we do it *faster*?**

Materials Genome Initiative

Materials Genome Initiative: A Renaissance of American Manufacturing

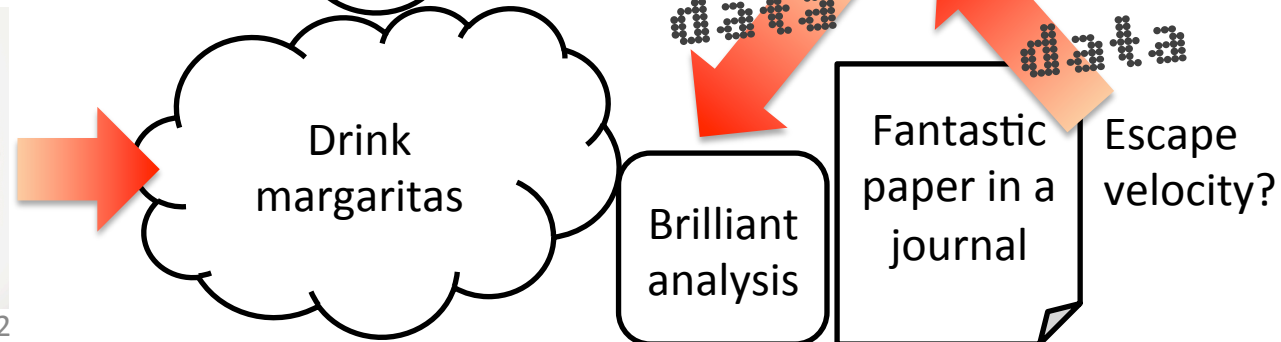
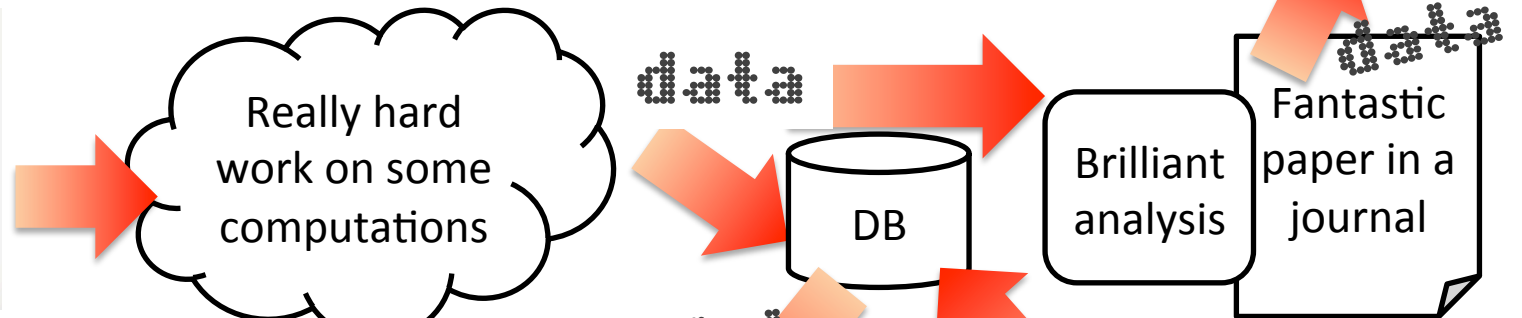
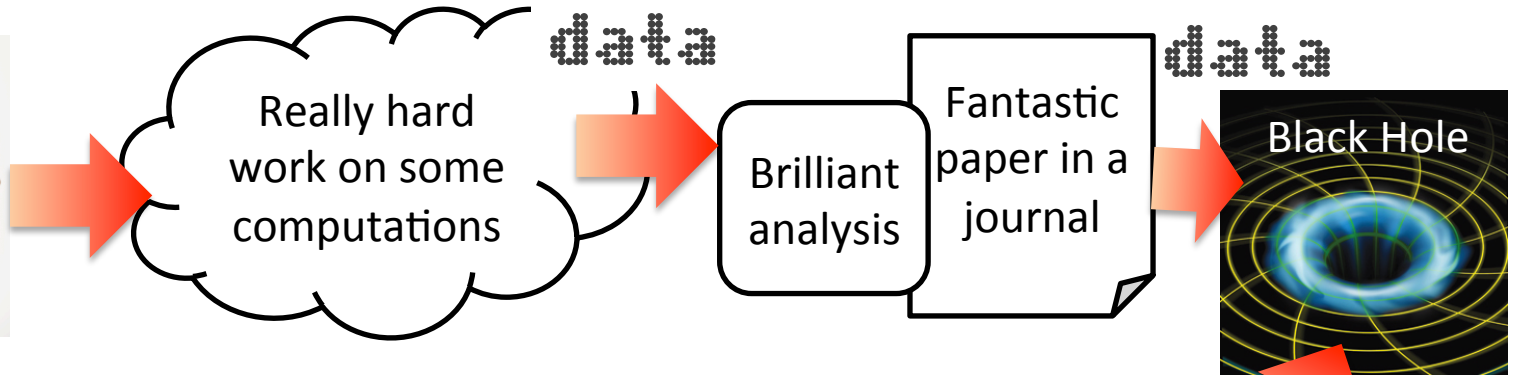
June 2011: **Materials Genome Initiative** which aims to “*fund **computational tools, software, new methods** for material characterization, and the development of open standards and databases that will make the process of **discovery and development of advanced materials faster, less expensive, and more predictable**”*”



Source: "Materials Genome Initiative for Global Competitiveness"

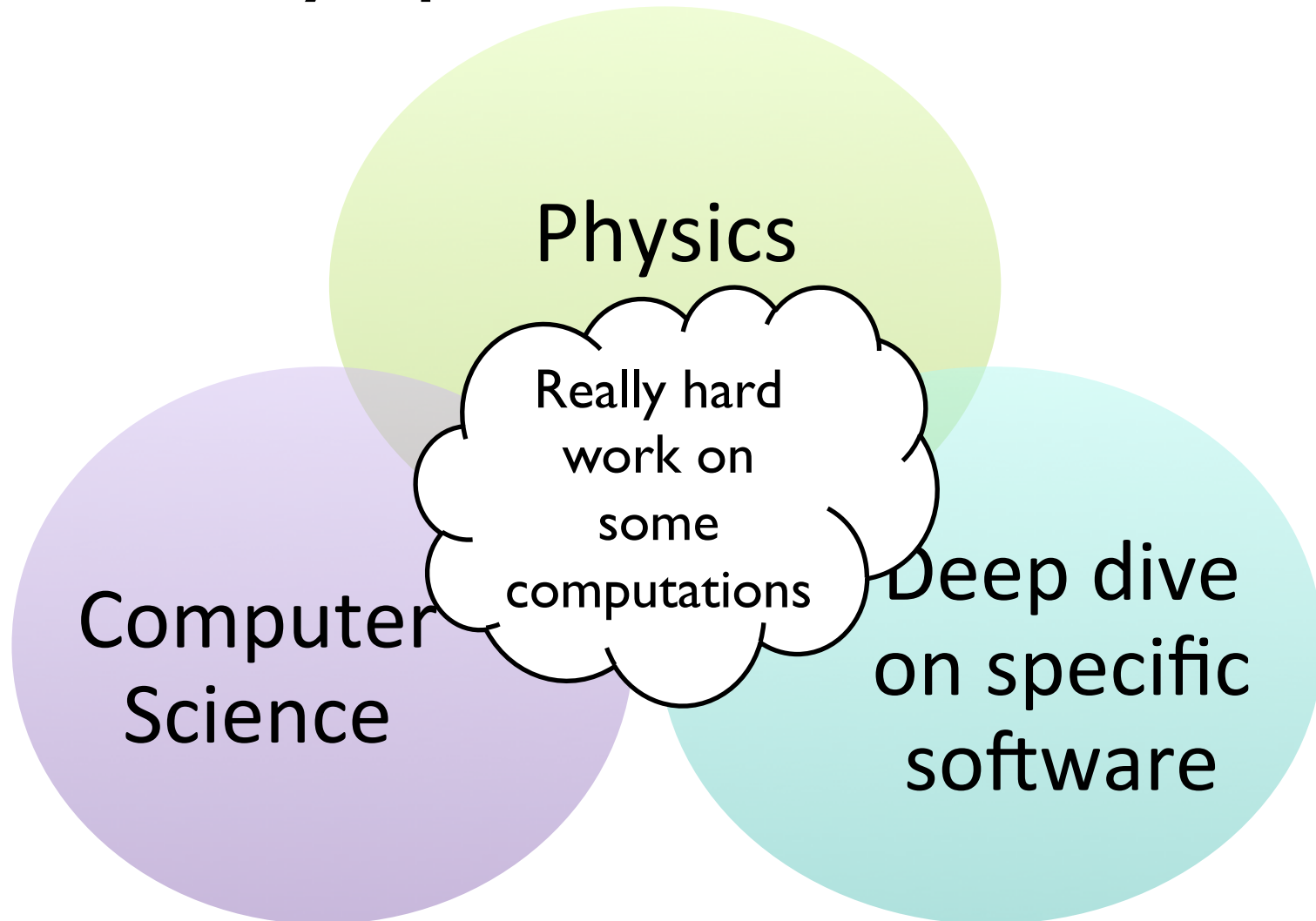
http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/materials_genome_initiative-final.pdf

It's the **data**, stupid!



November 12, 2012

Very specialized skill-set



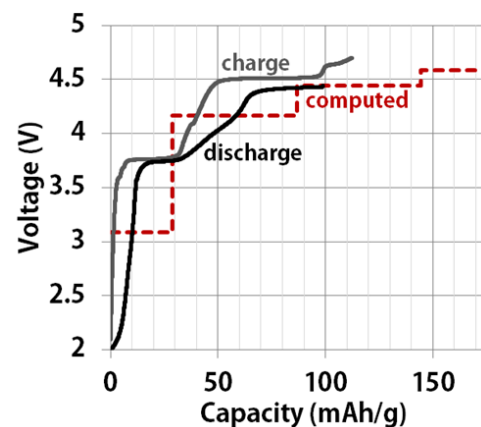
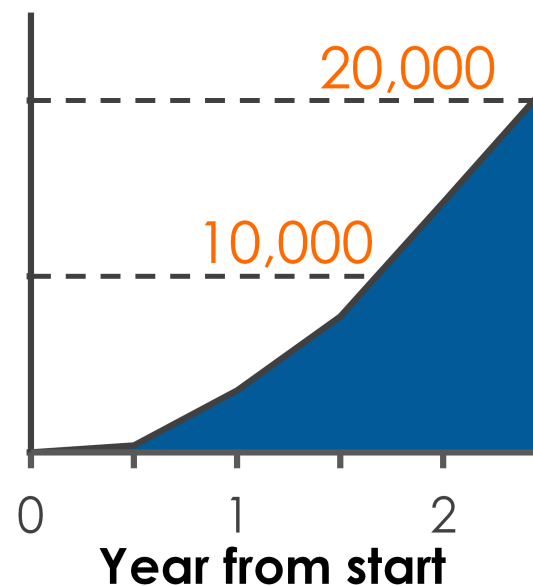
Example

The Materials Project used quantum chemistry calculations to screen over 20,000 materials as potential cathodes for Li ion batteries.

From the results, three new materials were identified, tested, and currently have patents pending.

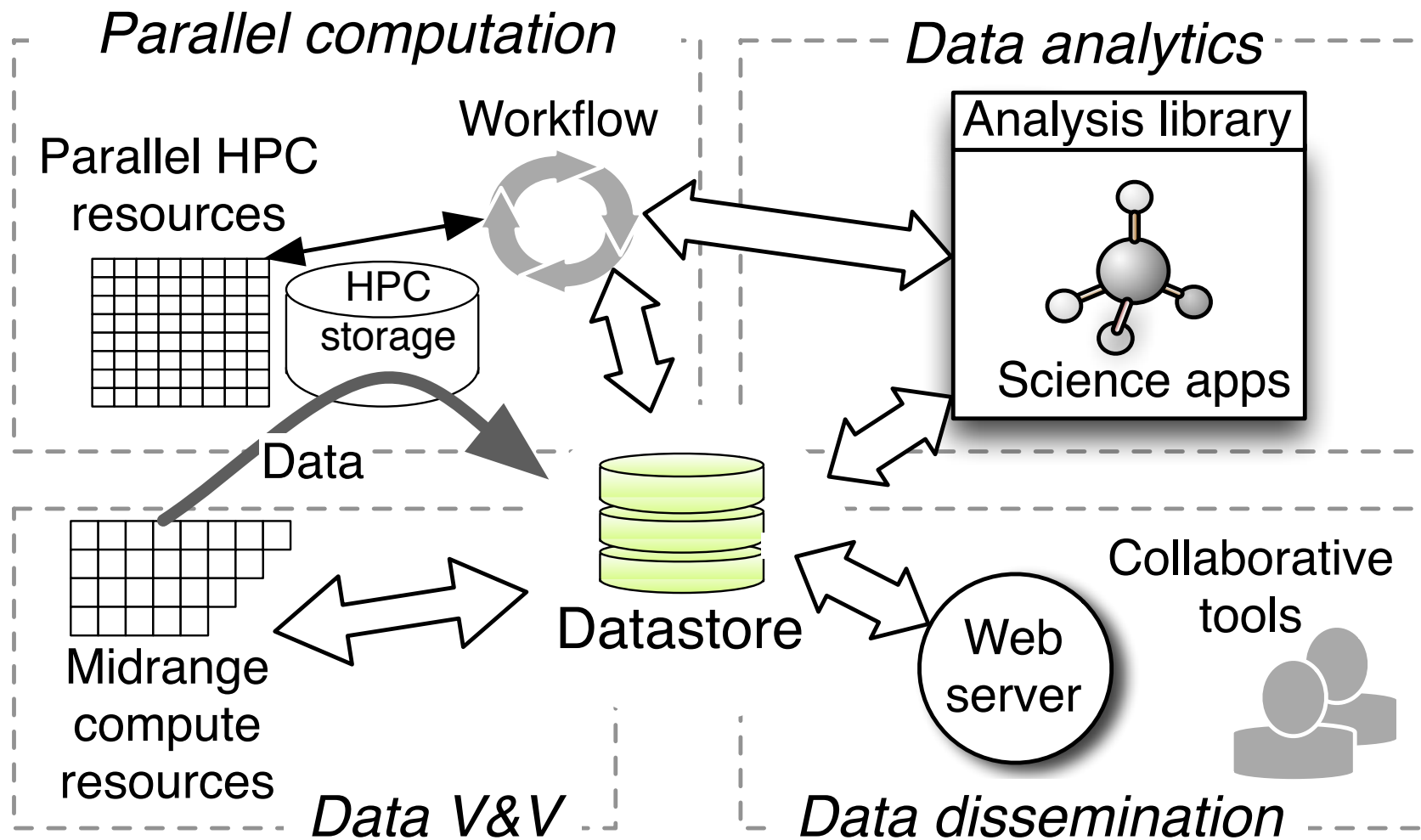
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Compounds Screened



Predicted and measured performance of $\text{Li}_9\text{V}_3(\text{P}_2\text{O}_7)_3(\text{PO}_4)_2$ during cell cycling.

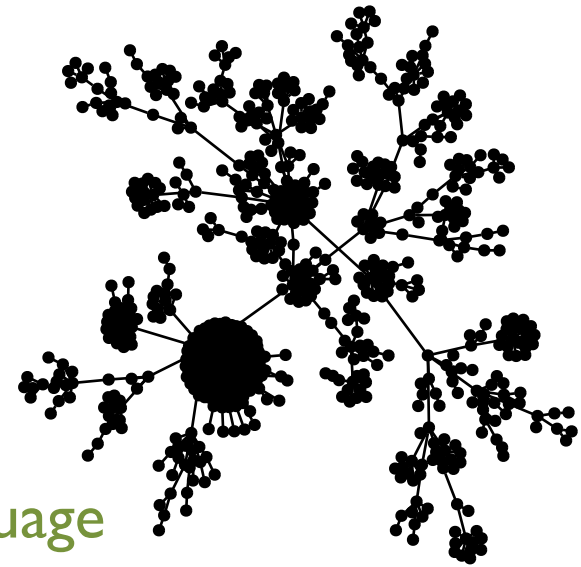
COMPONENTS



NoSQL Datastore



mongoDB



Powerful but simple query language

Ease of administration

Good performance on read-heavy workloads where most of the data can fit into memory.

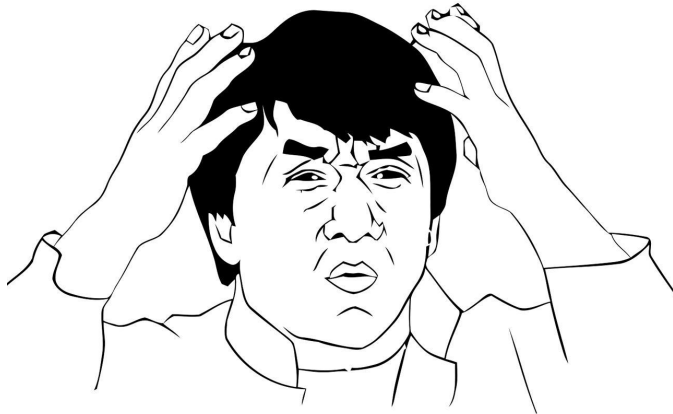


Poor performance at huge scale

Bad for write-heavy workloads

FireWorks workflow engine

nirad.com.br



Why?!

Programmability. Scripting, not GUIs and DSL's.

Administration overhead. No extra servers.

Flexibility. DB support, reconfiguring running workflows.

Re-runs

Detours

Duplicates

Iteration

Web UI

The screenshot shows the Materials Project website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Apps', 'Support', 'About', and 'References'. A search bar contains the text 'e.g. explore Fe2O3 or Li-Fe-O pd'. Below the search bar, the 'Database Statistics' section displays: 30270 materials, 3044 bandstructures, 405 intercalation batteries, and 14767 conversion batteries. There are two buttons: 'Register now for free, full access.' and 'Or try the apps in demo mode'. Below these are lists of benefits for each. A 'New!' banner promotes tutorials on YouTube. The main content area features six app tiles: 'Materials Explorer', 'Lithium Battery Explorer', 'Crystal Toolkit', 'Phase Diagram App', 'Reaction Calculator', and 'Structure Predictor'. At the bottom, there are sections for 'Press Highlights' and 'Latest News'.

The screenshot shows a detailed view of the LuAl₂ unit cell. At the top, there is a 'Final structure' section with a 3-D model of the unit cell. Below this is a table of 'Final structure' parameters, including 'Lattice Parameters' and 'Final structure' data. The 'Final structure' table is as follows:

Element	Fractional Coordinates	Concentration
Al	0.5000 0.5000 0.5000	10
Al	0.5000 0.5000 0.5000	10
Al	0.5000 0.5000 0.5000	10
Al	0.5000 0.5000 0.5000	10
Lu	0.8750 0.8750 0.8750	16
Lu	0.1250 0.1250 0.1250	16

Below the table is a 'Calculated X-ray Diffraction Pattern' plot showing intensity versus 2θ. Further down is the 'Electronic structure' section, which includes a bandstructure plot and a density of states plot. At the bottom, there is a 'Calculation Details' section with a table of parameters and an 'Iterative Steps in the Second Relaxation' plot. A 'Disqus' comment section is visible at the very bottom.

3-D model of unit cell

Disqus comment button

Detailed structure

X-ray diffraction pattern (interactive)

Bandstructure and Density of states (interactive)

Calculation iterations

Comments



**WE'RE DOING IT
WRONG?**

Running on HPC

- Batch queues and large numbers of jobs with unpredictable runtimes
- Talking to the database

Data analytics

- Scaling community contributions to code
- Scaling analytic functions

Data V&V

- Loading new data into a production resource
- Constant validation and verification

Data dissemination

- Security and privacy
- Query performance

FUTURE WORK

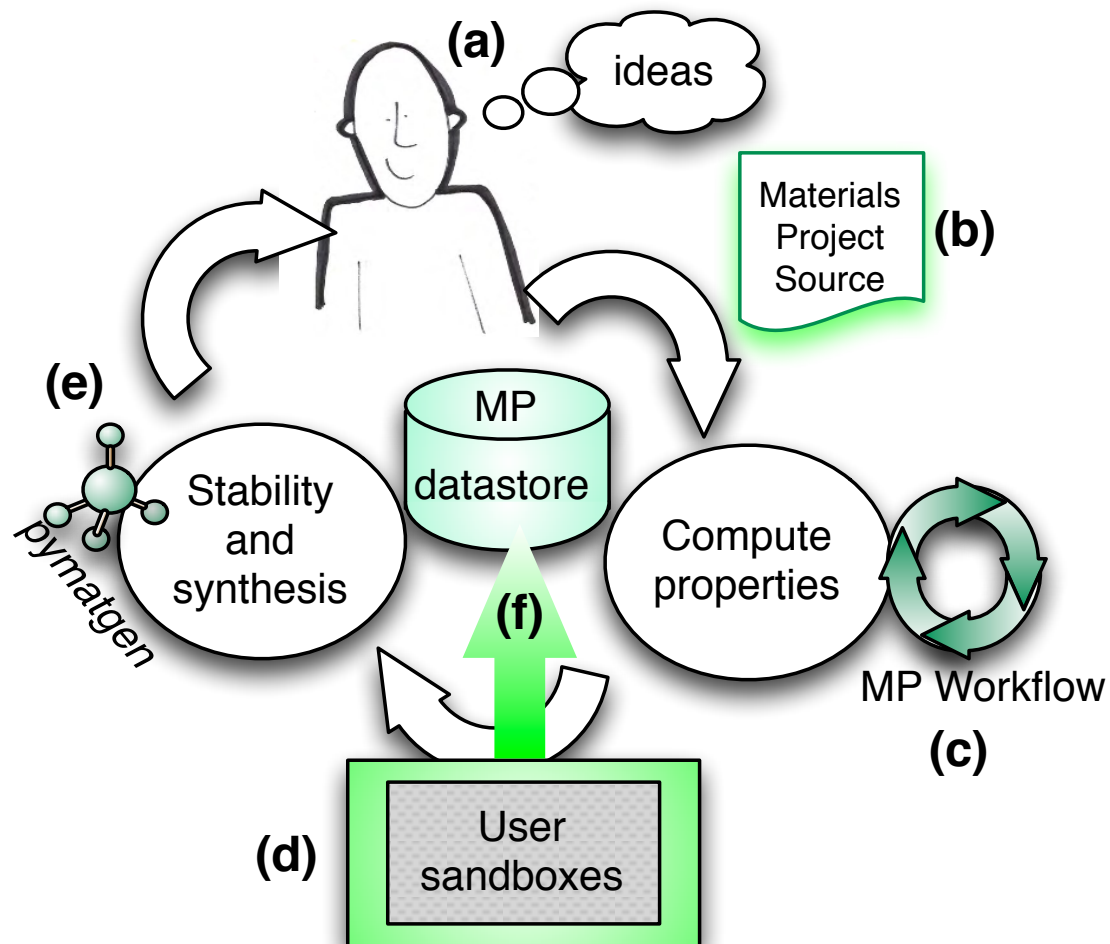
Opening up data access



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Towards materials *design*



Questions?