Automated Two Step Structure Prediction within GPAW



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Why We Need Automated Methods



J. Wang and B. Hammer, Top. Catal. 44, 49 (2007)

H. Häkkinen, S. Abbet, A. Sanchez, U. Heiz, and U. Landman, Angew. Chem. 42, 1297 (2003).

A. Sanchez et al., J. Phys. Chem. A 103, 9573 (1999).





- A method for finding global minima
- Follows a Darwinian evolution scheme
- Based on physical intuition and no formal convergence criteria









Generate random start population



























Encountered Au₈ structures









Au₈ Structures



LB Vilhelmsen and Bjørk Hammer, PRL 108, 126101 (2012)





Two Step Optimization Technique



Two Step Optimization Technique











Au, Pd and Au/Pd in MOF-74





































The Challenge of Testing

A GA run includes many random factors

Only multiple runs can test the performance







The System To Test With

Density Functional Tight Binding calculations (DFTB)

Ti₆O₁₂ cluster

10.000 random configurations only come within 0.66 eV of the best configuration





Distribution of Attempts







Importance of Population Size





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Should We Use Mutations?





Conclucions

- Energies and forces correlate well between the LCAO and FD bases
- The GA is highly successful in predicting structures across many different system types

Using fast methods one can investigate
the GA performance





Acknowledgements







Successes





Vilhelmsen, L.B. et al. JACS, 2012 Vilhelmsen, L.B. et al. JPCL, 2012





Bechstein, R. et al., PRL 2012 Martinez, U., et al., PRB 2011



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Similiarity Criteria



 $\Delta E_i = 0.7 \text{meV}$ $d_{\text{max,i}} = 1.026 \text{\AA}$

 $d_{rel,i} = 0.002$



Energy criteria:

$$d_i = |E_j - E_i| > \Delta E$$
 for all E_j

Structural criteria: $d_{rel,i} = \frac{\sum_{k} |D_i(k) - D_j(k)|}{\sum_{k} D_i(k)} < d_{rel}$ and $d_{max,i} = max(|D_i - D_j|) < d_{max}$



