



Advanced modeling techniques: Particle-swarm optimization

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OUTLINE

- An overview of inverse/hybrid approaches
 - Reverse Monte Carlo (RMC) simulations
 - Beyond RMC: Hybrid approaches (ECMR, FEAR, INDIA, etc.)
 - Population-based swarm intelligence
- Optimization of finite systems
 - Lennard-Jones clusters
 - Finnis-Sinclair and Sutton-Chen (Fe/Cu clusters)
- Bulk materials
 - Amorphous graphene
 - Amorphous silicon

Amorphous: *without a clearly defined shape or form*

- Where are the atoms/molecules?
- No translational symmetry (solids sans k -space)
- Structural determination
- Atomistic materials design \equiv a constrained optimization program

“If you want to understand function, study structure” -Francis Crick

Reverse Monte Carlo simulations

$$\mathbb{E} = \sum_i \left[\frac{S^{\text{exp}}(Q_i) - S(Q_i)}{\sigma_i} \right]^2 + \sum_j \gamma_j f_j^c(X)$$

Key idea and some observations

- Inversion of experimental structure factors or pair-correlation data
- Use few constraints to include additional (e.g. topological) information
- Avoid too many competing constraints (pareto-optimality)
- Difficult to produce *necessary* higher-order correlations functions (beyond pair correlations).

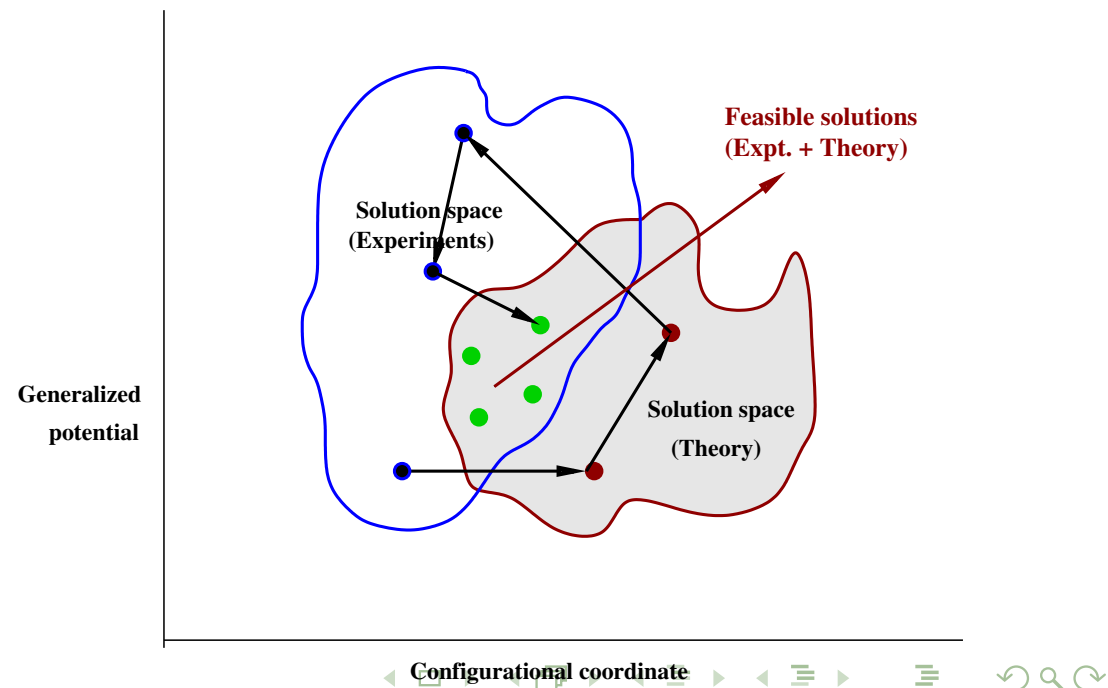
McGreevy, R. L. JPCM 2001

Biswas + Atta-Fynn + Drabold, PRB 2004

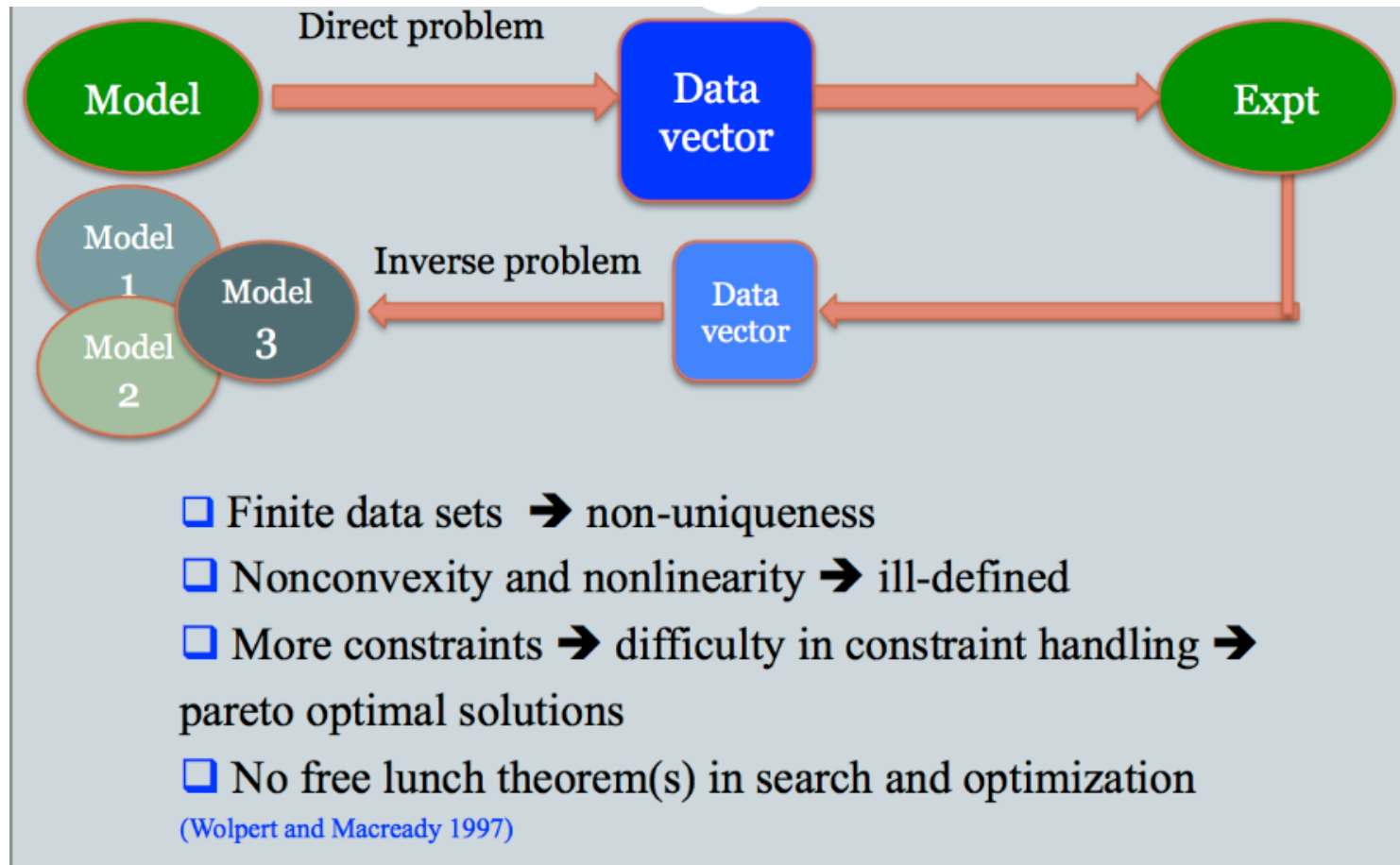
Hybrid approaches: Merging theory with experiments

- ‘Melt-quench’ MD: highly successful but has limitations (e.g. *a*-Si, *a*-Ge, etc).
- Hybrid philosophy: combine experimental data with simulations – form an *augmented* solution space
- Choose from *experimentally-feasible* solutions – obtain self-consistency between force-fields and experimental data. Several schemes are possible, e.g., ECMR, FEAR, INDIA

Biswas + Tafen + Drabold, PRB 2005
Biswas + Atta-Fynn + Drabold, PRB 2007
Atta-Fynn + Biswas, JPCM 2009
Pandey + Biswas + Drabold, PRB 2015
Prasai + Biswas + Drabold, Sci. Rep 2015



Inverse/hybrid approaches: curse of high dimensionality

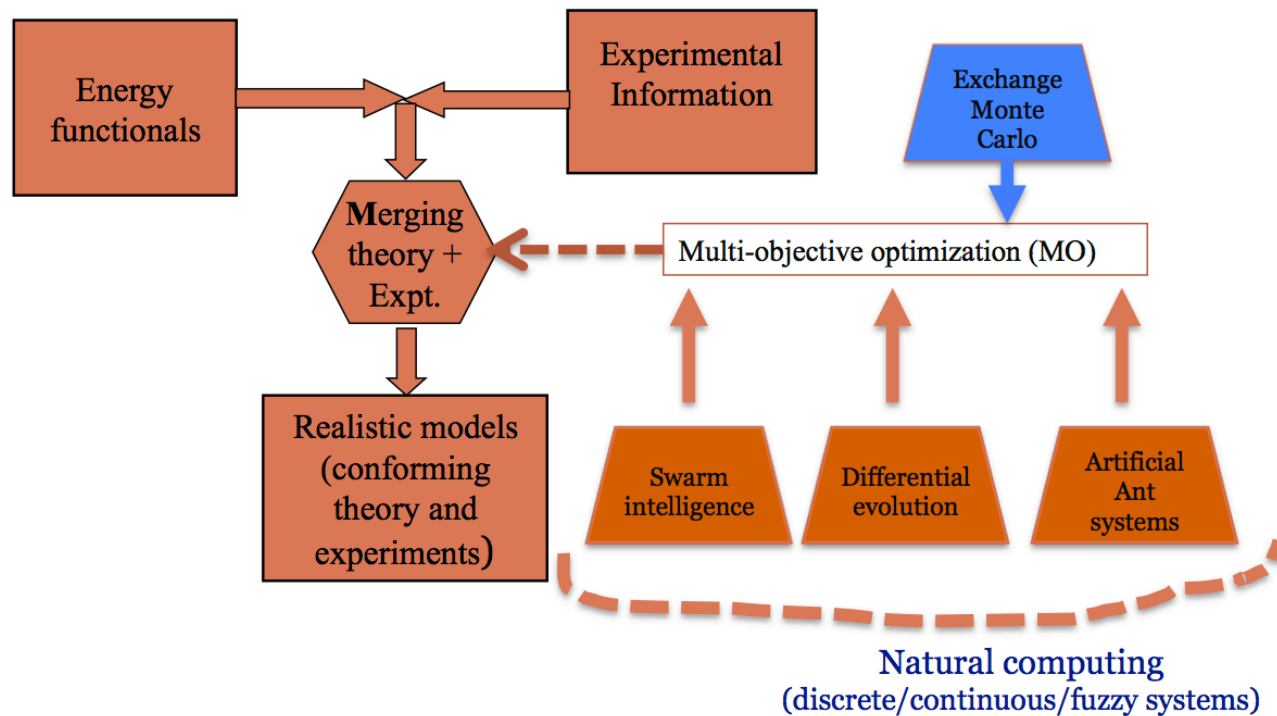


Observation: Glass-structure determination is a difficult optimization problem, associated with computational complexity theory.

Is $P = NP$?

(a Clay Institute millennium problem; Status: unsolved)

Information-driven approach to materials design



Biswas + Timilsina JPCM 2011
Timilsina + Biswas JPCM 2013
Biswas + Drabold + Atta-Fynn JAP 2014
Biswas + Elliott JPCM 2015
Atta-Fynn + Biswas JCP 2018
Limbu et al. PRB 2018

Particle Swarm Optimization

- 1 Introduced by Kennedy and Eberhart (IEEE 1995) to understand the social behavior (e.g., graceful but unpredictable 'choreography') of a flock of birds
- 2 Flock dynamics have a cognitive component and a social component to attain optimal formation
- 3 Adopted for optimization problems in high dimension

Key ideas

- A population-based stochastic search algorithm
- Motivated by the foraging behavior of a school of fish or a flock of birds
- Mimics socio-psychological behaviors to emulate the success of others!

Implementation

- Swarm size (10–20)
- An ansatz for 'time' evolution
- Ability to simulate socio-psychological behaviors
- Knowledge-sharing networks
- A symbiotic cooperative algorithm

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Bees bring nectar, pollen, and information to their hives (Von Frisch 1927)

Particle Swarm Optimization

A basic algorithm

$$\mathbf{x}_{i+1}(t) = \mathbf{x}_i(t) + \mathbf{v}_i(t+1)$$

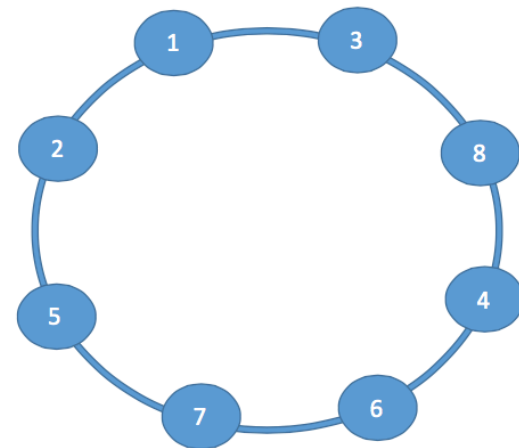
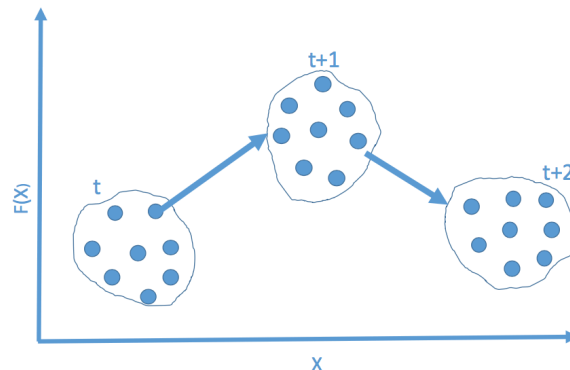
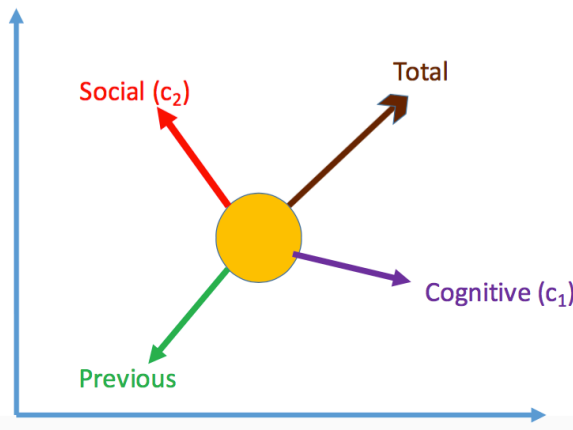
$$v_{ij}(t+1) = v_{ij}(t) + c_1 r_{1j}(t)[y_{ij}^{pbest}(t) - x_{ij}(t)] + c_2 r_{2j}(t)[y_{ij}^{gbest}(t) - x_{ij}(t)]$$

i = particle index, j = dimension

y^{pbest} cognitive component (personal best)

$y^{g/lbest}$ social component (global/local best)

$r_i \in U(0, 1)$ c_1 and c_2 PSO parameters



Ring topology for knowledge sharing



PSO: A simple algorithm

Global-best PSO

Create a population “solutions” of size n_p of dimension n_d

repeat

for each particle $i = 1, \dots, n_p$

do:

// find personal best

if ($f(x_i) < f(y_i)$) then

$y_i = x_i$

end

// find global best (among all personal best)

if ($f(y_i) < f(y^{gbest})$) then

$y^{gbest} = y_i$

end

end do:

for each particle $i = 1, \dots, n_p$

do:

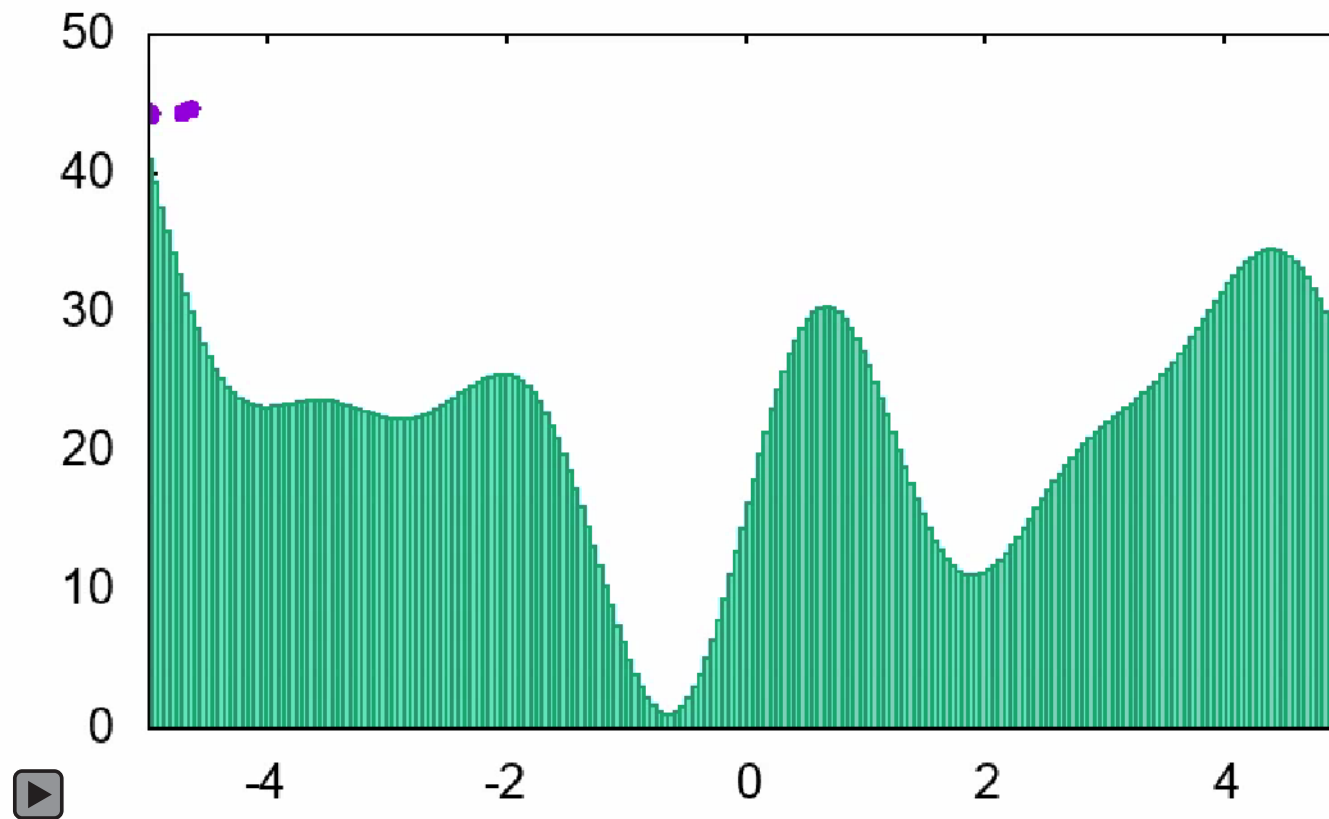
update the velocity

update the position

end do

until convergence criteria are met

PSO: A simple illustration



Evolution in a multi-modal potential

A modified PSO algorithm

- ① Local best PSO algorithm
- ② Star network geometry for knowledge sharing
- ③ Population size: 6-20
- ④ No gradient information
- ⑤ Local trapping is avoided by adding several modifications (e.g. rotation and translation in hyperspace)

Compare structures with those from the CCD at
<http://www-wales.ch.cam.ac.uk/CCD.html>

LJ clusters: PSO versus CCD

N	PSO (eV)	CCD (eV)	ΔE
9	-24.113	-24.113	0.0
10	-28.423	-28.423	0.0
20	-77.177	-77.177	0.0
28	-117.822	-117.823	0.001
30	-128.071	-128.286	0.215
38	-173.156	-173.928	0.772 (*)
40	-185.220	-185.249	0.009
50	-244.492	-244.549	0.057
75	-396.117	-397.492	1.375 (*)

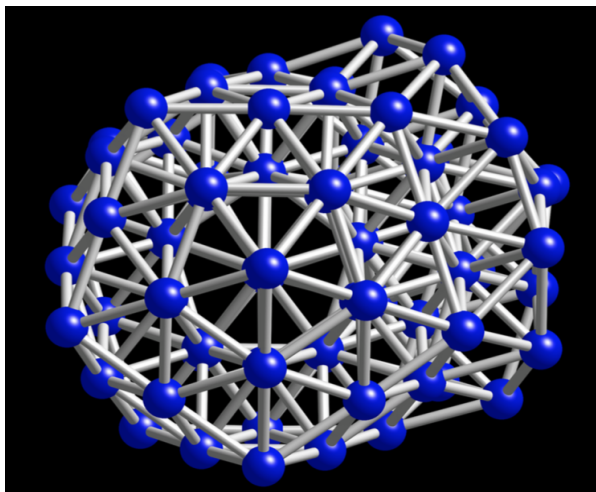
Caution: LJ₃₈ and LJ₇₅ are the two most difficult cases

Wales and Doye, J.Phys. Chem. A 1997

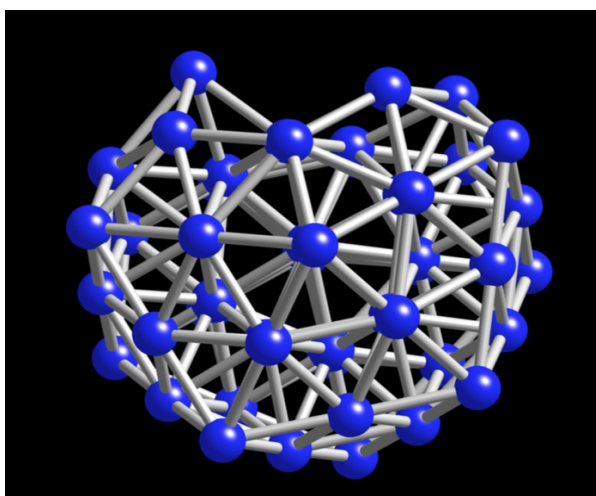
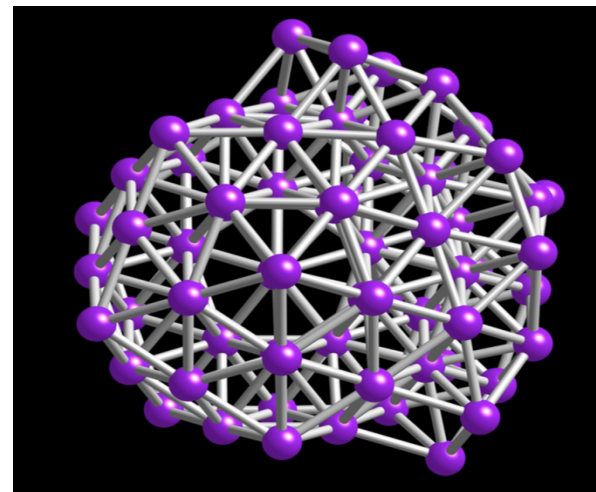
Biswas and Elliott 2019 (In prepration)

LJ clusters: PSO versus CCD

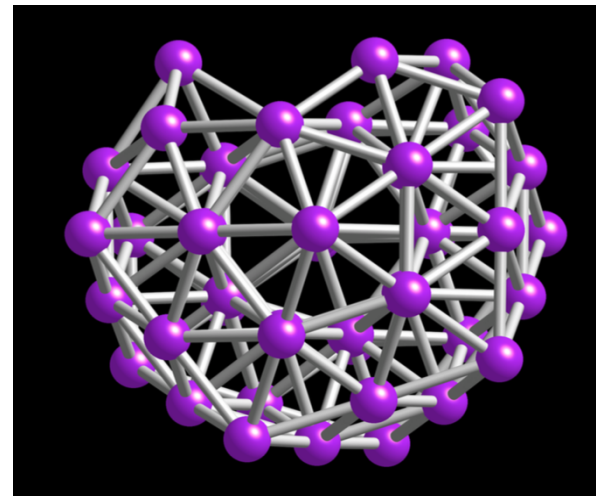
CCD-LJ75 (-396.282 eV)



PSO-LJ75 (-396.117 eV)



CCD-LJ50 (-244.492 eV)



PSO-LJ50 (-244.549 eV)

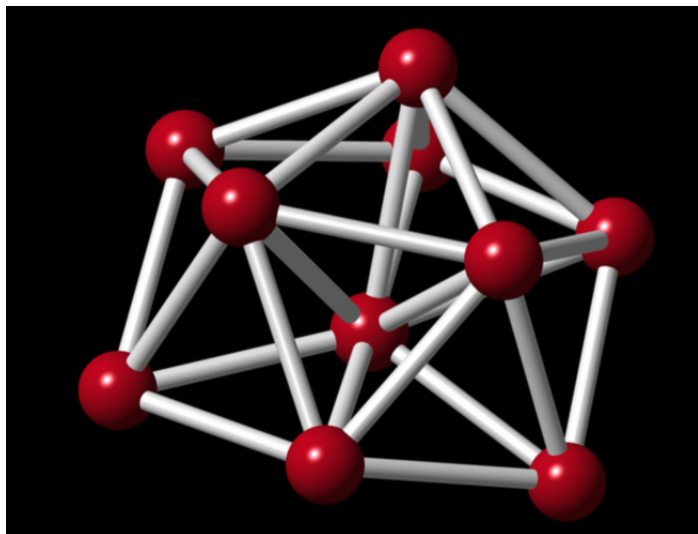
Fe clusters: PSO versus CCD

N	PSO (eV)	CCD (eV)	ΔE
10	-28.535	-28.535	0.0
15	-46.636	-46.637	0.001
20	-64.837	-64.838	0.001
25	-82.938	82.940	0.002
30	-101.448	-101.451	0.003
35	-119.592	-119.597	0.005
55	-194.358	-194.686	0.328

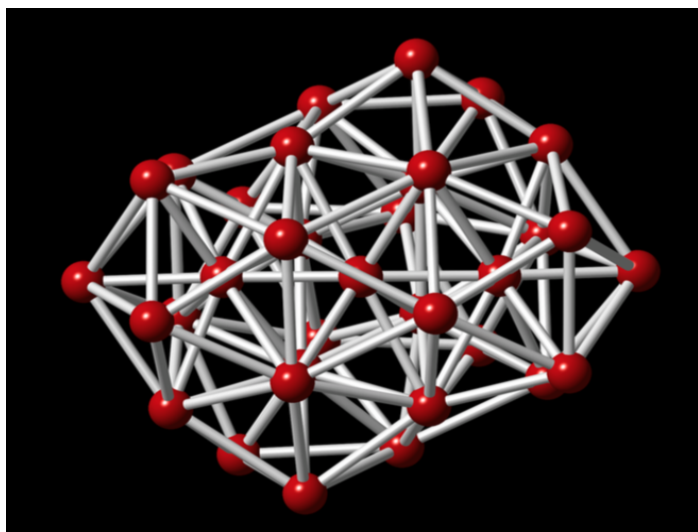
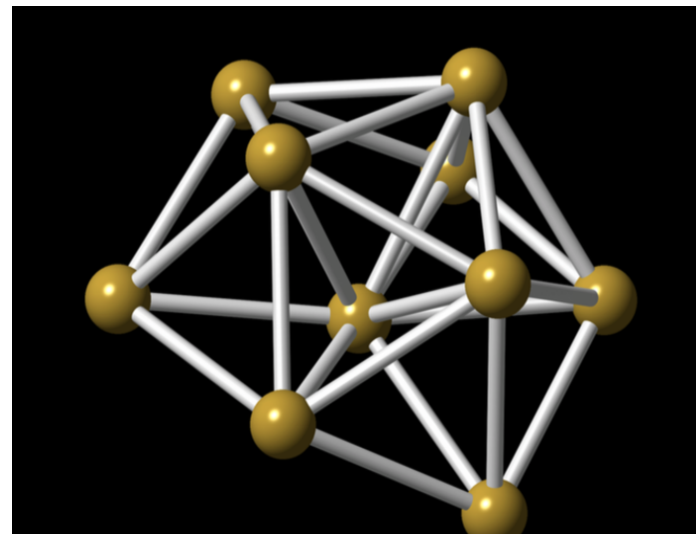
Elliott, Shibuta and Wales, Phil. Mag. 2009

Fe clusters: PSO versus CCD

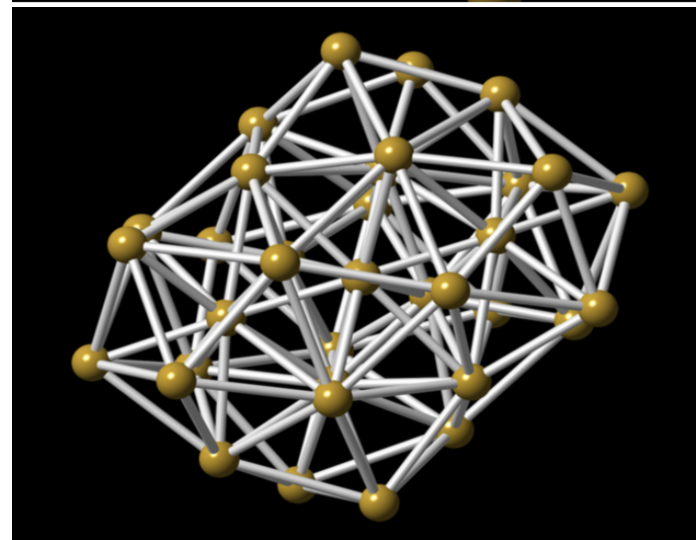
CCD-FE10 (-28.535 eV)



PSO-FE10 (-28.534 eV)



CCD-FE35 (-119.597 eV)

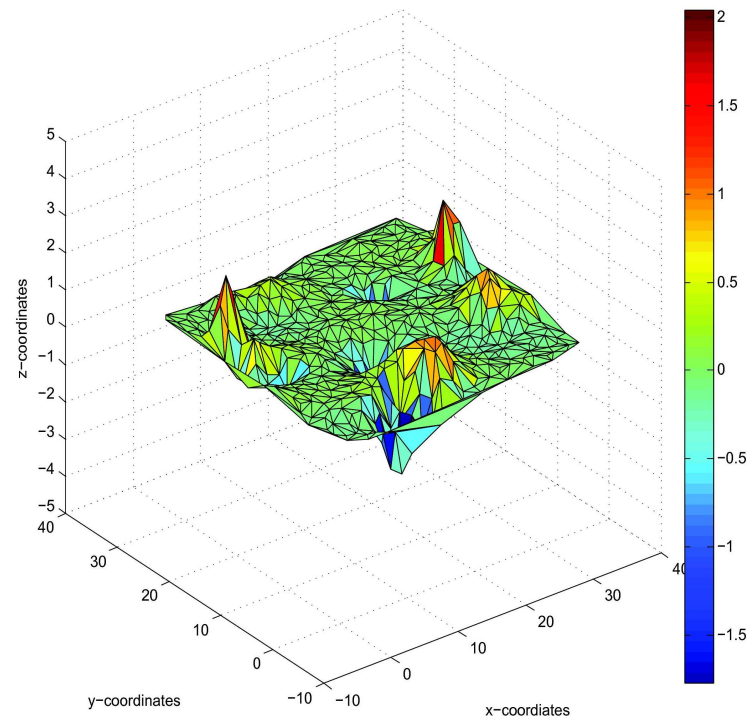
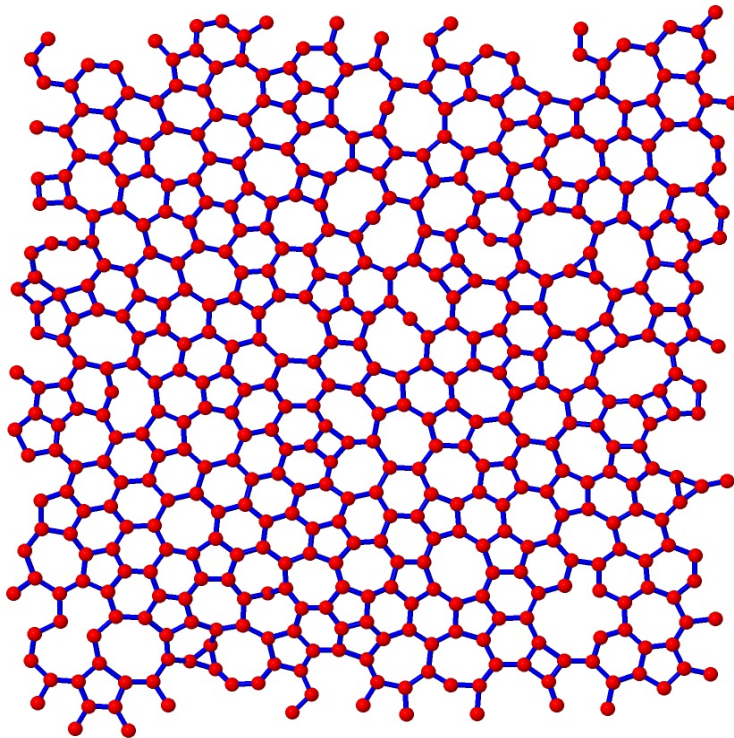


PSO-FE35 (-119.593 eV)

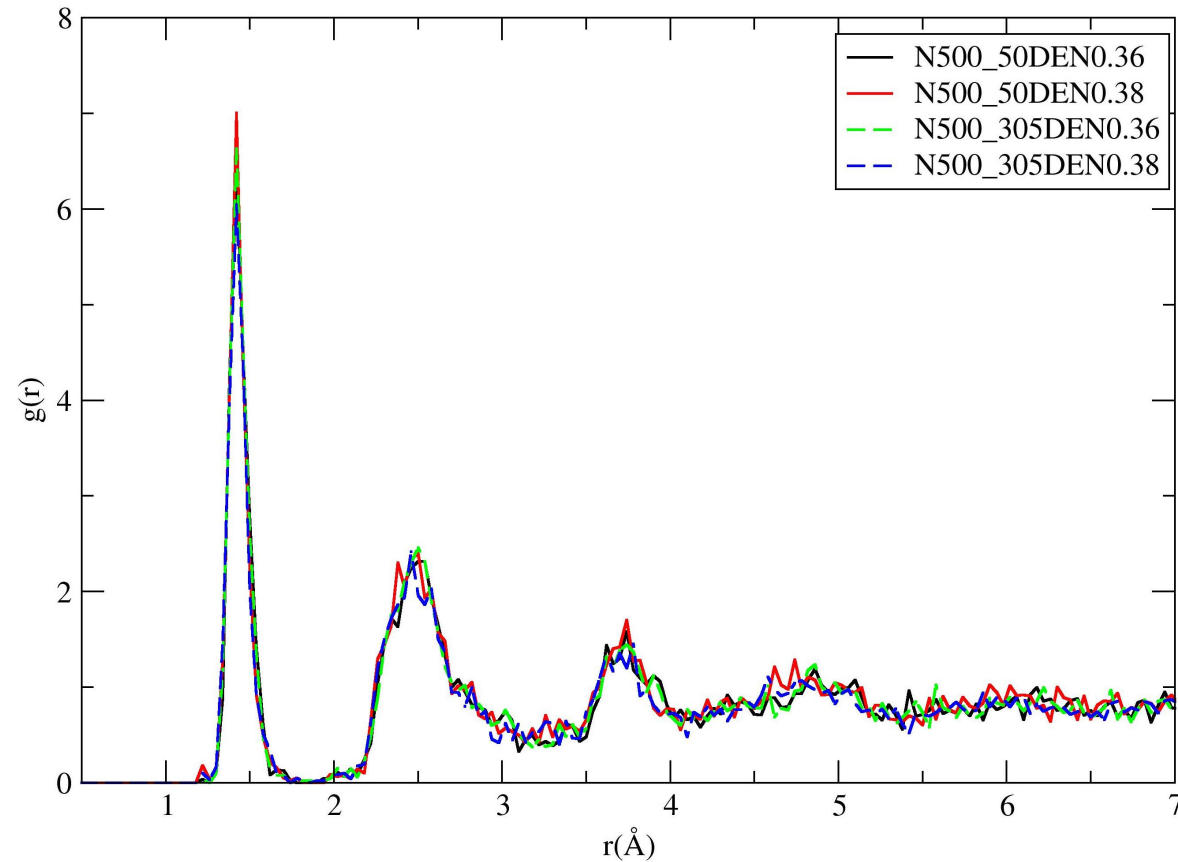
Amorphous or disordered graphene

Simulation details

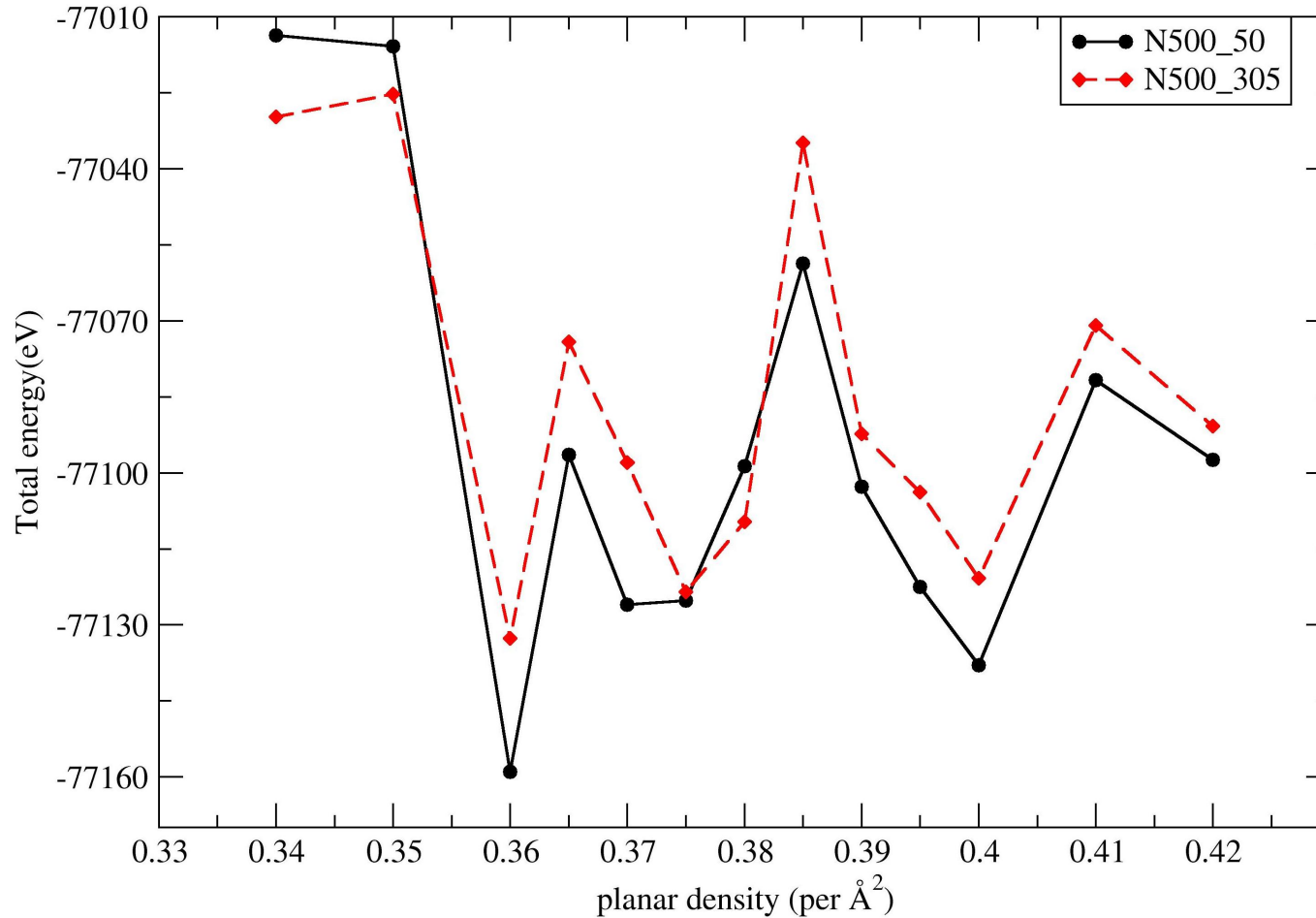
- Size 500 atoms; density 0.36–0.4 atoms/Å² (cf. 0.38 for Graphene)
- Bond-order potential followed by *ab initio* relaxations
- Global-best PSO with a swarm size of 8–12



Amorphous graphene: Pair-correlation functions



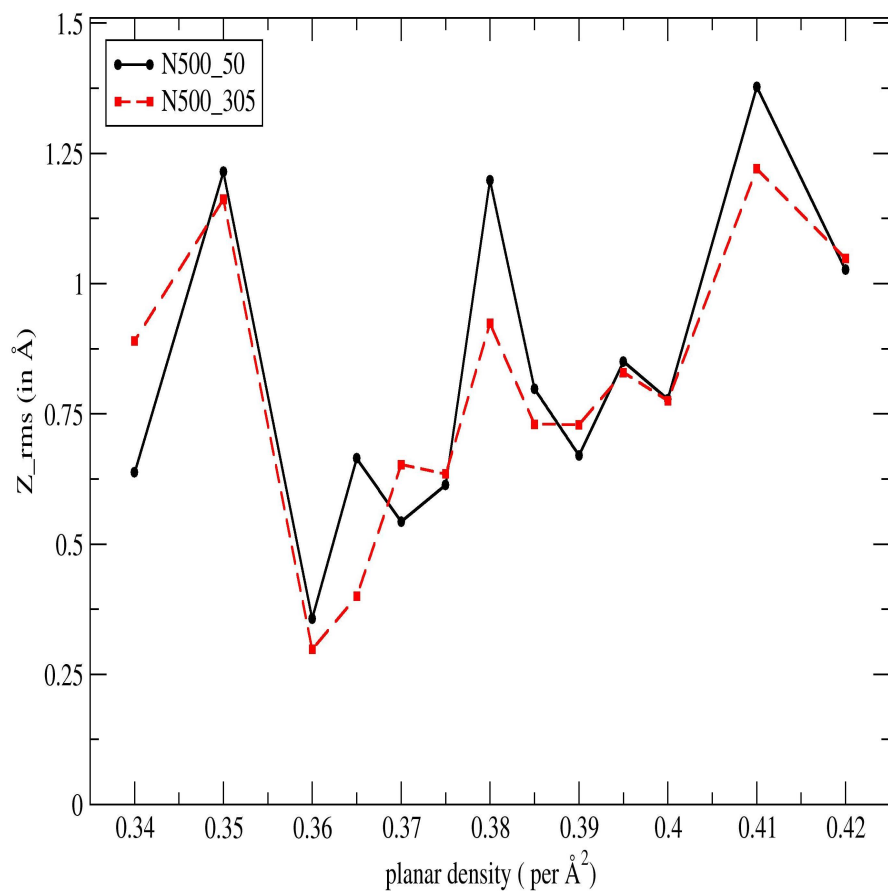
Amorphous graphene: Total-energy vs. planar density



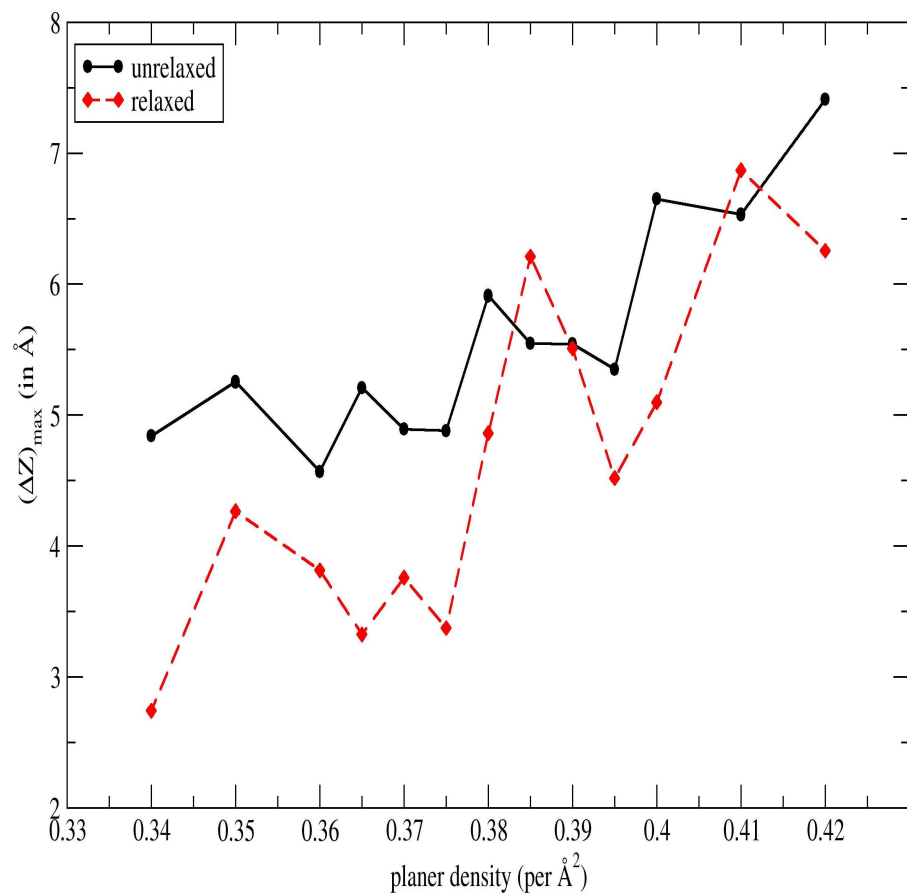
Relaxation: SIESTA with conjugate gradient method

Amorphous graphene: Surface roughness

RMS ΔZ

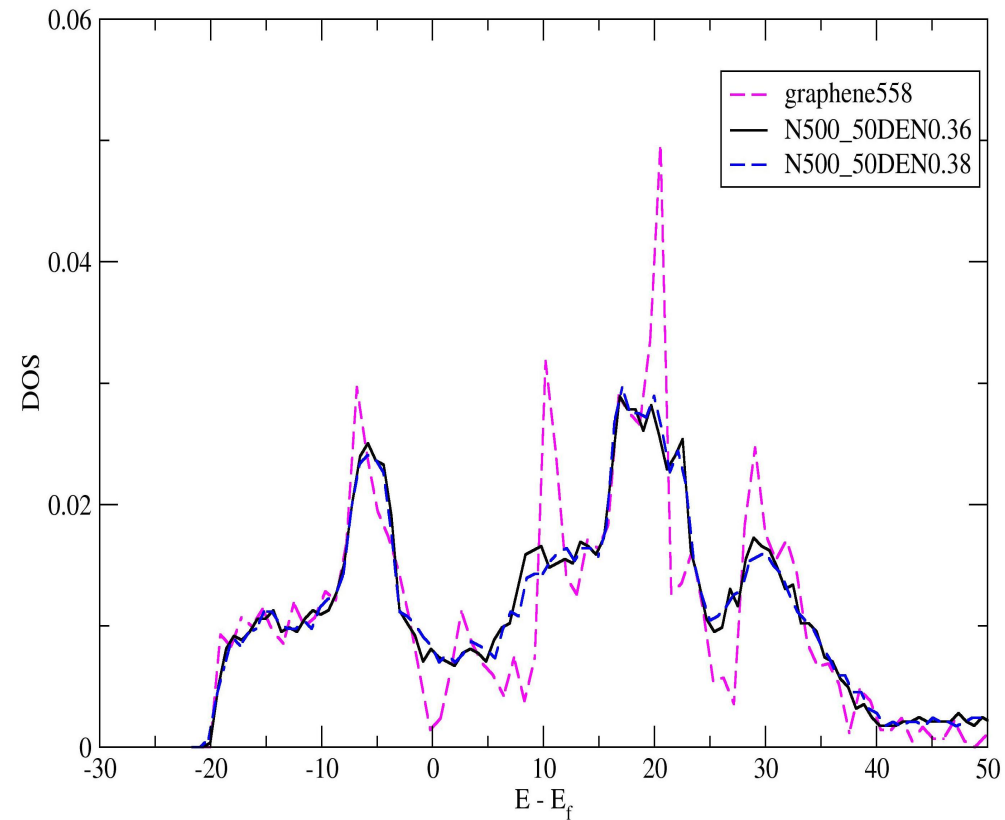


Max ΔZ



Planar density ($\text{atoms}/\text{\AA}^2$)

Amorphous graphene: Electronic density of states



X axis: $E - E_f$ (in eV); Y axis: DOS (states/eV)

Moot point: metal, semimetal or insulator?

Acknowledgments

- Basudev Oli (Former student, Temple University)
- NSF-Lehigh Materials Research Fellowship (on new functionality of glasses)
- Trinity College, Cambridge (UK)

Thank you!