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Accelerating the exploration of Li/Na-ion battery materials via enlarged crystal structure databases

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Material informatics is a new initiative which has attracted a lot of attention in recent scientific research. The basic strategy is to construct comprehensive data sets and use machine learning to solve a wide variety of problems in material design and discovery. In pursuit of this goal, a key element is the quality and completeness of the databases used. Recent advance in the development of crystal structure prediction algorithms has made it a complementary and more efficient approach to explore the structure/phase space in materials using computers. In this talk, we discuss the importance of the structural motifs and motif-networks in crystal structure predictions. Correspondingly, powerful methods are developed to improve the sampling of the low-energy structure landscape. Applications to the Li/Na-ion battery cathode materials, in particular $A_n\text{FeSiO}_4$ ($n=1$ and 2 ; $A=\text{Li}$ and Na) and LiFePO_4 , will be presented.

References

- 1.X Zhao, et al. (2015) Exploration of tetrahedral structures in silicate cathodes using a motif-network scheme. *Sci. Rep.*; 5: 15555.
- 2.S Li, et al. (2016) Zero-Strain $\text{Na}_2\text{FeSiO}_4$ as Novel Cathode Material for Sodium-Ion Batteries *ACS Appl. Mater. Interfaces*; 8(27): 17233-8.
- 3.P Wu, et al. (2016) Fe-Si networks in $\text{Na}_2\text{FeSiO}_4$ cathode materials. *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.*; 18: 23916-22.

Biography

Kai-Ming Ho has completed his PhD from University of California, Berkeley. He is currently a Distinguished Professor in Liberal Arts and Sciences at Iowa State University and a Fellow of American Physical Society.

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