

# Recent Progress in Neural-Network-based Quantum Monte Carlo

Weiluo Ren

**ByteDance Research**

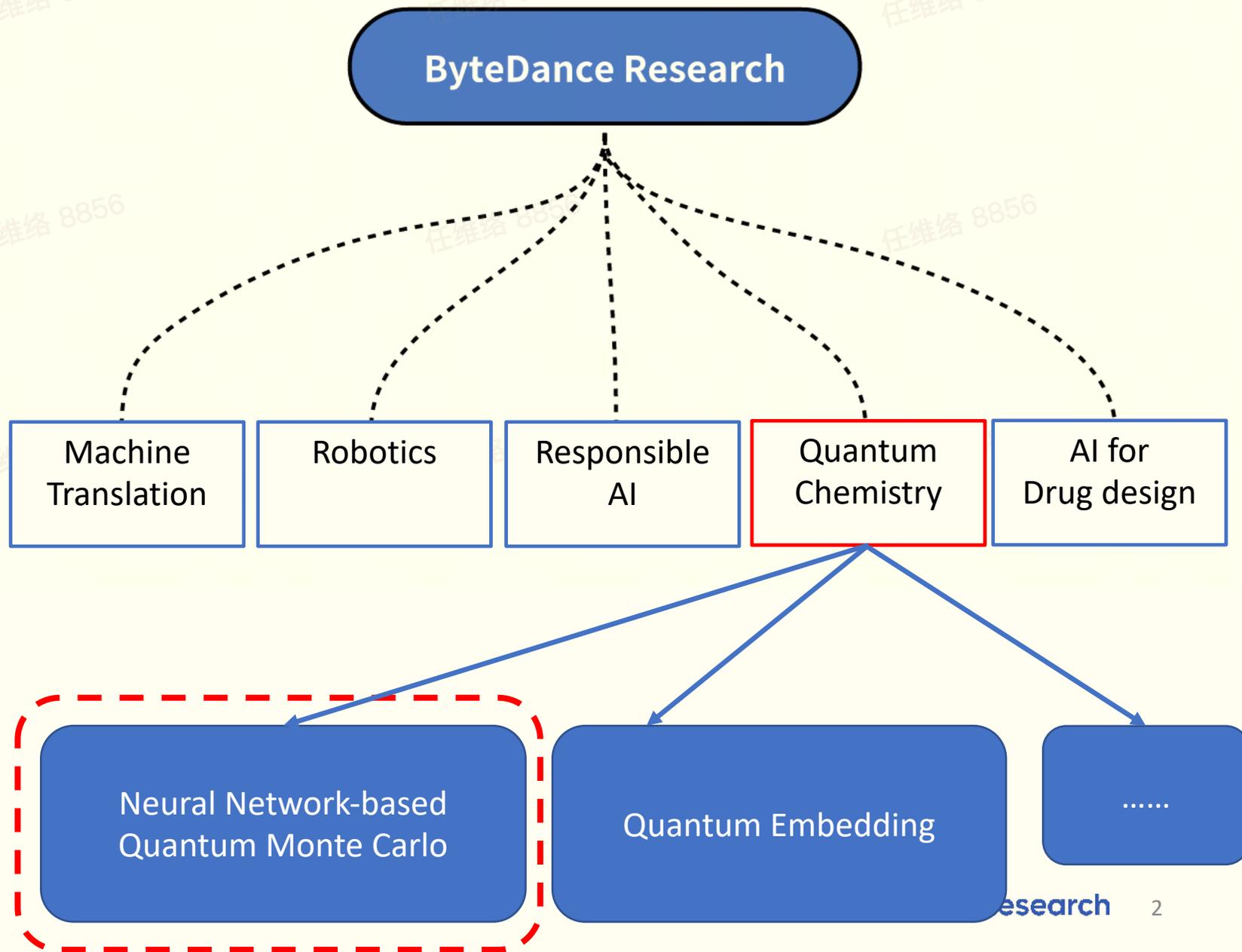
renweiluo@bytedance.com

*@International Workshop on  
Artificial Intelligence for  
Theoretical Sciences*





And  **TikTok!**



# Joint work with



Prof. Ji Chen

School of Physics



Prof. Liwei Wang

Department of Machine Intelligence



Prof. Di He

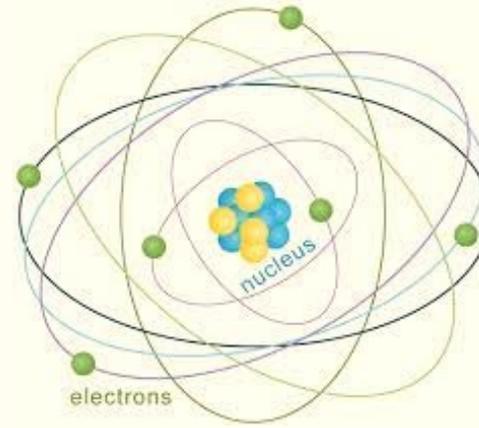
# Outline

**Introduction to NNQMC**

**Excited States with NNQMC**

**Novel Phase of Moire systems**

# Electronic Structure



Schrödinger Equation

$$\hat{H}\psi = E\psi$$

Electronic part

Nucleus-Electron part

$$\hat{H} = \boxed{-\frac{1}{2} \sum_i \nabla_i^2} + \boxed{\sum_{ij} \frac{1}{r_{ij}}} - \boxed{\sum_{ai} \frac{Z_a}{r_{ai}}}$$

Kinetic energy  
of electrons

Repulsion of  
electrons

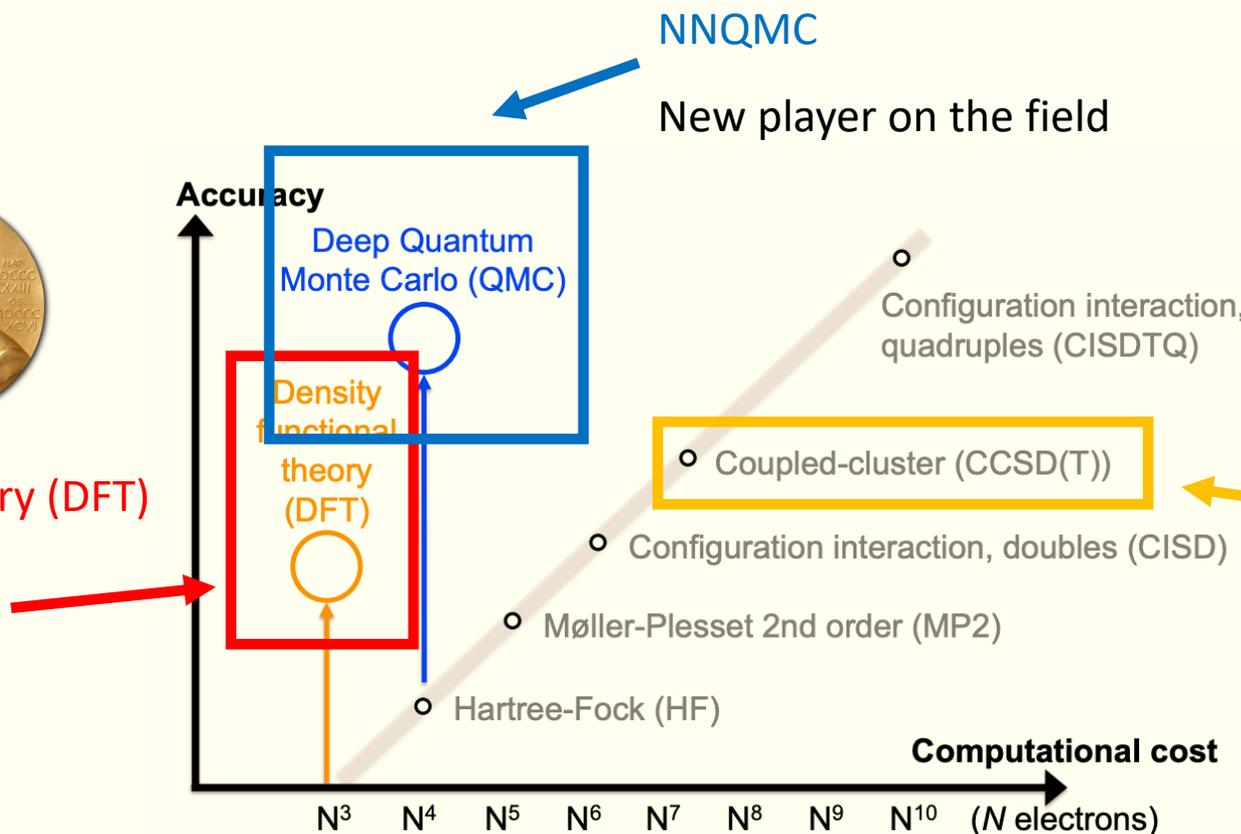
Attraction between  
nuclei and electrons

(Born–Oppenheimer Approximation)

# Ab initio methods in Quantum Chemistry



Density Functional Theory (DFT) is the Go-To method for Quantum Chemistry



NNQMC

New player on the field

We will focus on Variational Monte Carlo today

CCSD(T)

is Golden Standard method In Quantum Chemistry, accurate but expensive.

H J Kulik et al 2022 Electron. Struct. 4 023004

# Neural Quantum State (NQS)

Neural Network + QMC but for lattice models and/or fermionic systems with second quantization.

We will focus on the real-space QMC in this talk

The screenshot shows the Science journal website. At the top, the Science logo is on the left, and navigation links for 'Current Issue', 'First release papers', 'Archive', and 'About' are on the right. A 'Submit manuscript' button is also present. Below the logo, a breadcrumb trail reads 'HOME > SCIENCE > VOL. 355, NO. 6325 > SOLVING THE QUANTUM MANY-BODY PROBLEM WITH ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORKS'. The article is labeled as a 'RESEARCH ARTICLE'. The title is 'Solving the quantum many-body problem with artificial neural networks'. The authors are Giuseppe Carleo and Matthias Troyer, with a link to their 'Authors Info & Affiliations'. The publication details are 'SCIENCE · 10 Feb 2017 · Vol 355, Issue 6325 · pp. 602-606 · DOI: 10.1126/science.aag2302'. There are 25,458 downloads and 1,059 citations. A 'CHECK ACCESS' button is visible. A section titled 'Machine learning and quantum physics' contains a summary of the article's content, mentioning that elucidating quantum interacting systems is a challenge and that Carleo and Troyer used machine learning to develop a variational approach. A vertical sidebar on the right contains icons for information, a line graph, a lock, a link, a document, a calendar, and a share icon.

Science, this issue p. [602](#); see also p. [580](#)

Carleo, Giuseppe, and Matthias Troyer. *Science* 355.6325 (2017): 602-606.

# Real-space Quantum Monte Carlo

## Variational Monte Carlo

$$E_0 = \min \langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi \rangle$$

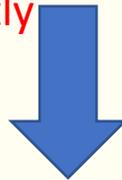
$\psi$  : quantum state

😞 Sub-optimal accuracy

😊 Have access to the wavefunction explicitly

😊 No sign-problem

Provide trial wavefunction



## Diffusion Monte Carlo

$$\psi \rightarrow e^{-\hat{H}\Delta t} \psi$$

# Schrödinger Equation

# Variational Principle

Convert PDE-solving to optimization

Ground State Energy  
(Smallest eigenvalue)

$$\hat{H}\psi = E\psi$$

$$E_0 = \min_{\psi : \text{quantum state}} \langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi \rangle$$

Energy of  $\psi$

# Variational Monte Carlo

$$\langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi \rangle = \int \psi(X) \hat{H} \psi(X) dX = E_{X \sim \psi^2} \frac{\hat{H} \psi(X)}{\psi(X)}$$

$\psi$ : Real-space wavefunction

$X$ : electron configuration in real-space

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$$

n: number of electrons

In practice, the energy is estimated by

1. Sampling a number of electron configurations  $X_1, \dots, X_N$  from distribution  $\Psi^2$
2. Calculating the function values  $\frac{\hat{H}\psi(X_i)}{\psi(X_i)}$  (called “local energy”)
3. Taking average  $E \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \frac{\hat{H}\psi(X_i)}{\psi(X_i)}$

# Variational

Optimize over a class  
of wavefunctions

$$E_0 = \min_{\psi} \langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi \rangle$$

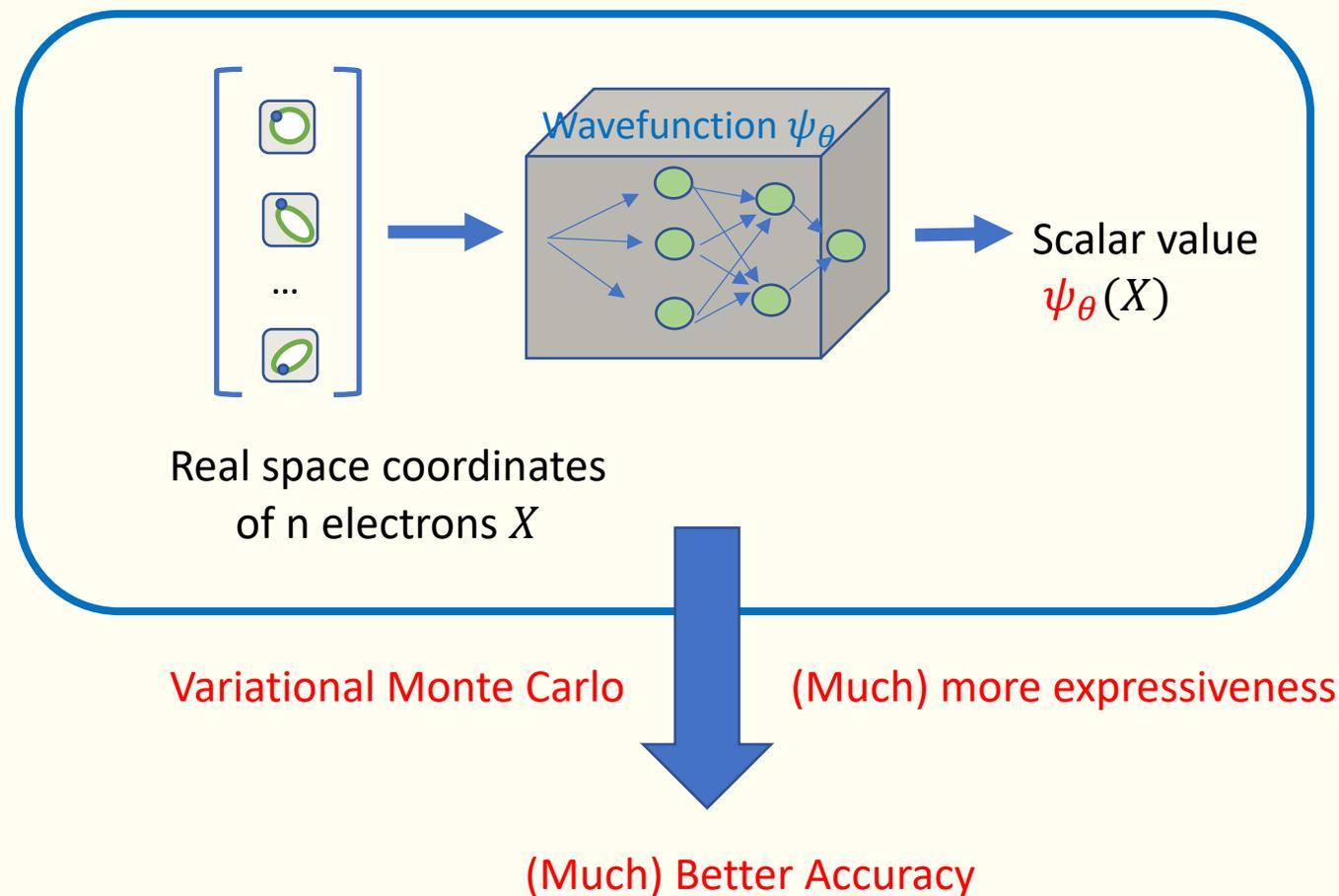
1. Parametrize a class of wavefunctions
2. Optimize the parameters to minimize energy

# Monte Carlo

Use Monte Carlo  
to calculate energy

# Neural Network as Wavefunction

$$E_0 = \min_{\psi} \langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi \rangle$$



# Physical constraints for electronic wavefunctions

## Permutation Anti-symmetry

$$F\left(\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \\ x_i \\ \dots \\ x_j \\ \dots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}\right) = -F\left(\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \\ x_j \\ \dots \\ x_i \\ \dots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

Electron position vector: dim-3

Ignore spin for now

## Boundary Condition

$$F\left(\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \dots \\ x_i \\ \dots \\ x_j \\ \dots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}\right) \rightarrow 0$$

# Explicit form of wavefunctions

## Slater Determinant

$$\psi(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \det \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1(x_1) & \cdots & \phi_n(x_1) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi_1(x_n) & \cdots & \phi_n(x_n) \end{bmatrix}$$

$\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n$  are one-electron orbitals

## With Backflow

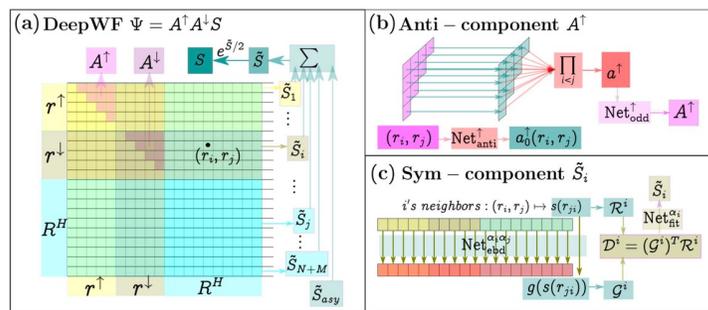
$$\begin{aligned} \psi(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ = \det \begin{bmatrix} \Phi_1(x_1; x_2, \dots, x_n) & \cdots & \Phi_n(x_1; x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \Phi_1(x_n; x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) & \cdots & \Phi_n(x_n; x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$\Phi_1, \dots, \Phi_n$  are “many-electron orbitals”,

Modeled with neural networks, carefully  
designed to satisfy anti-symmetry

# DeepWF

2018 Princeton University

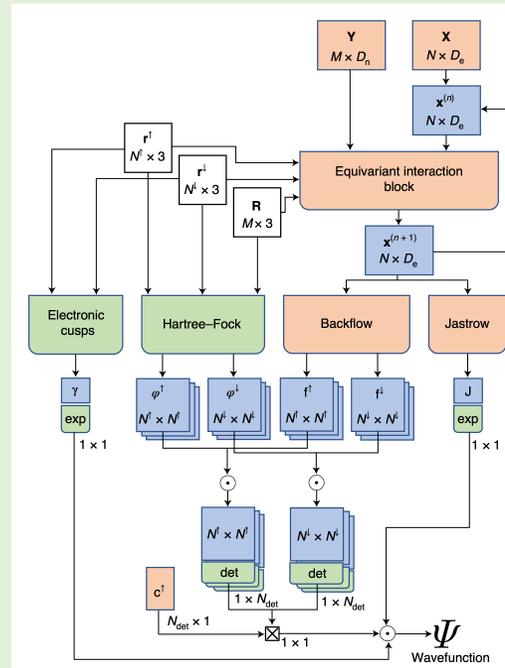


Han, J., Zhang, L., & Weinan, E. (2019). Solving many-electron Schrödinger equation using deep neural networks. *Journal of Computational Physics*, 399, 108929.

# PauliNet

2019 FU Berlin

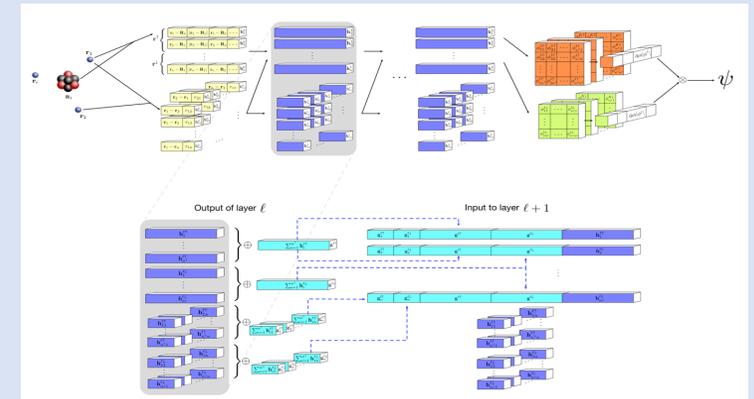
Authors are also in Microsoft now



Hermann, J., Schätzle, Z., & Noé, F. (2020). Deep-neural-network solution of the electronic Schrödinger equation. *Nature Chemistry*, 12(10), 891-897.

# FermiNet

2019 DeepMind & ICL



Pfau, D., Spencer, J. S., Matthews, A. G., & Foulkes, W. M. C. (2020). Ab initio solution of the many-electron Schrödinger equation with deep neural networks. *Physical Review Research*, 2(3), 033429.



# Train the neural network

- The wavefunction  $\psi$  is modelled by a (specially designed) neural network.

- **Loss Function:** Energy  $E = \langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi \rangle = E_{X \sim \psi^2} \frac{\hat{H}\psi(X)}{\psi(X)}$

- **Data:** The electronic configurations sampled from  $\psi^2$ .

- Procedure

1. Sampling a number of electron configurations  $X_1, \dots, X_N$  from distribution  $\psi^2$

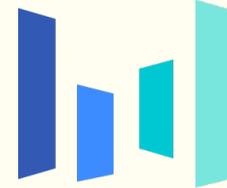
2. Calculating the function values  $\frac{\hat{H}\psi(X_i)}{\psi(X_i)}$

3. Taking average  $E \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \frac{\hat{H}\psi(X_i)}{\psi(X_i)}$

4. Gradient descent and update  $\psi$ , then loop over.

# Related Works from ByteDance Research & PKU

State of the Art  
(since 2021)

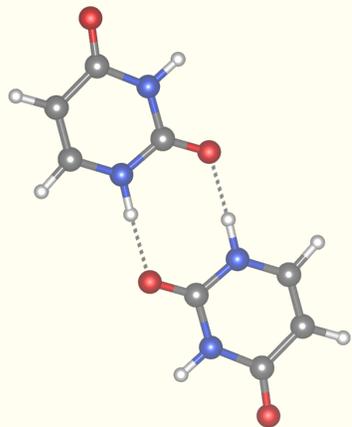


- Novel phases for Moire systems **arXiv:2406.11134**
- Spin symmetry enforcement **Nat. Comput. Sci. in press**
- Break through the computational bottleneck of Laplacian **Nat. Mach. Intell. 6, 209 (2024)**
- Electric polarization in solids **Phys. Rev. Lett. 132, 176401 (2024)**
- Better extrapolation scheme **Mach. Learn.: Sci. Technol. 015016 (2024)**
- From VMC to DMC **Nat. Commun. 14, 1860 (2023)**
- From molecules to solids **Nat. Commun. 13, 7895 (2022)**
- Incorporate effective core potential **Phys. Rev. Research, 4, 013021 (2022)**

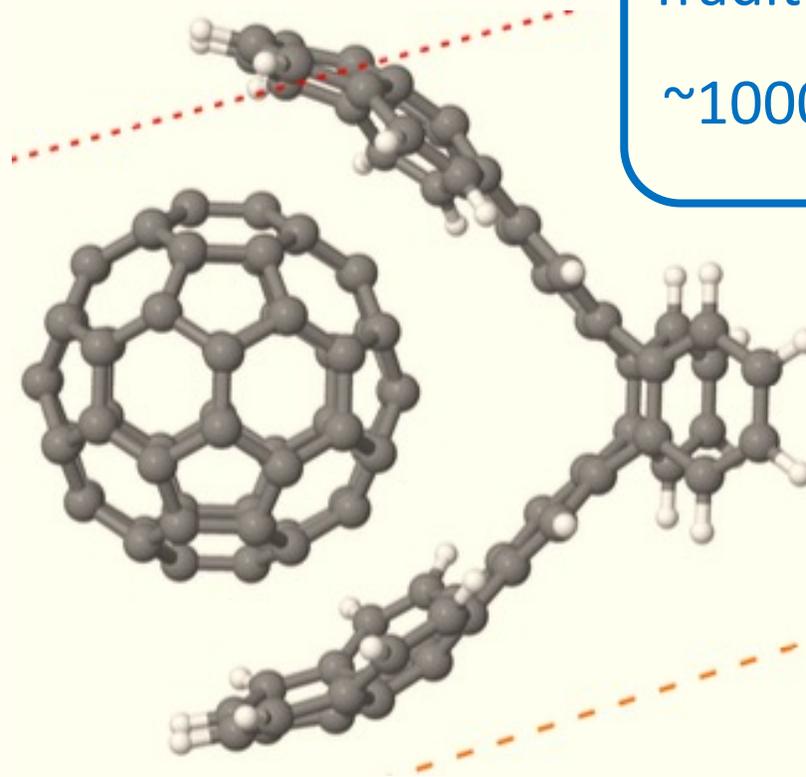
# Make NNQMC more practical

- NNQMC + Effective Core Potential
  - Less electrons in calculations.
    - *Li, Xiang, et al. Physical Review Research 4.1 (2022): 013021.*
- NN + Diffusion Monte Carlo
  - Less optimization steps
    - *Ren, Weiluo, et al. Nature Communications 14.1 (2023): 1860.*
- Forward Laplacian
  - Address computation bottleneck: Laplacian Operator
    - *Li, Ruichen, et al. Nature Machine Intelligence 6.2 (2024): 209-219.*

We can now handle:  
100~150 electrons



Traditional QMC can handle  
~1000 electrons

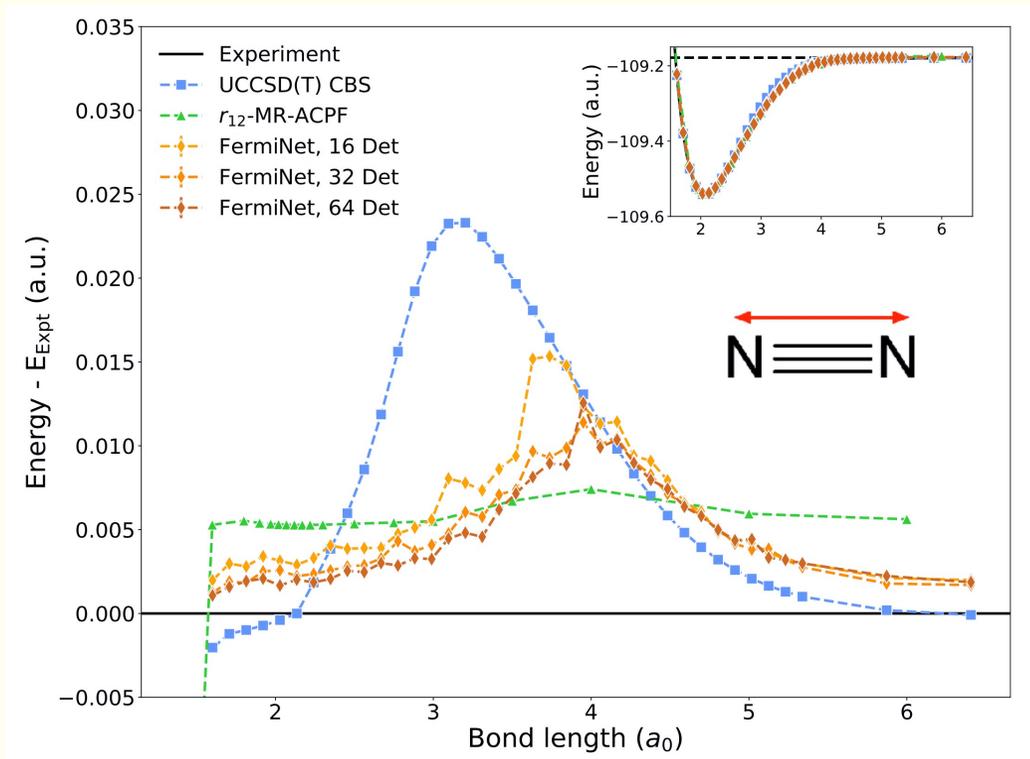


Al-Hamdani, Yasmine S., et al. "Interactions between large molecules pose a puzzle for reference quantum mechanical methods." *Nature Communications* 12.1 (2021): 3927.

# $N_2$ energy curve

FermiNet from Google DeepMind (2020)

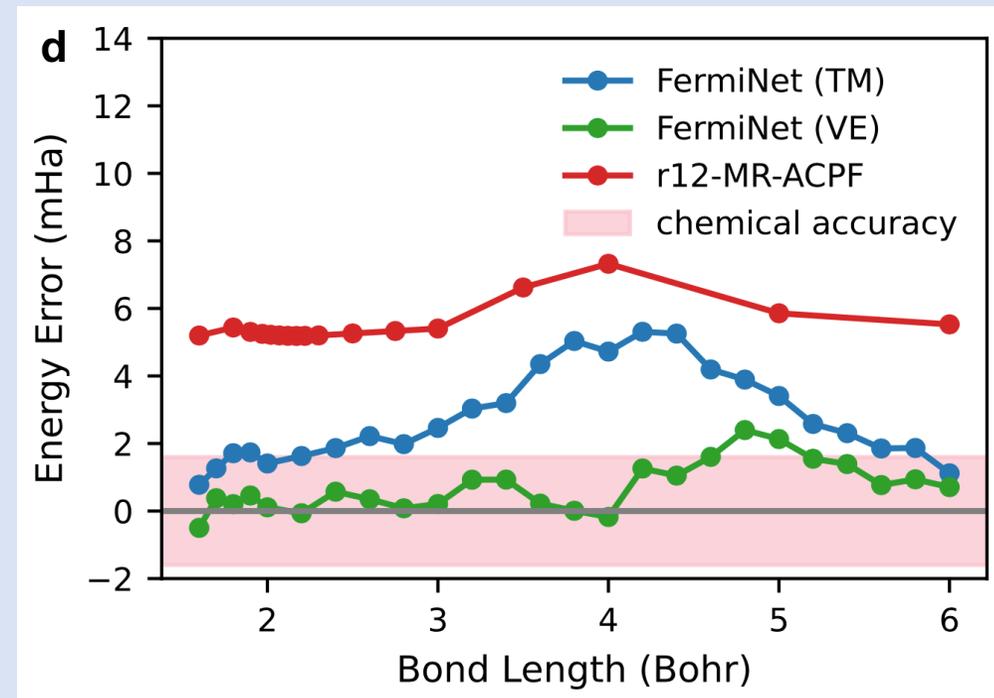
Beat Golden Standard Method



Pfau, David, et al. Physical Review Research 2.3 (2020): 033429.

Our work, better extrapolation scheme (2023)

Chemical Accuracy (almost)



Fu, Weizhong, et al. Machine Learning: Science and Technology 5.1 (2024): 015016.

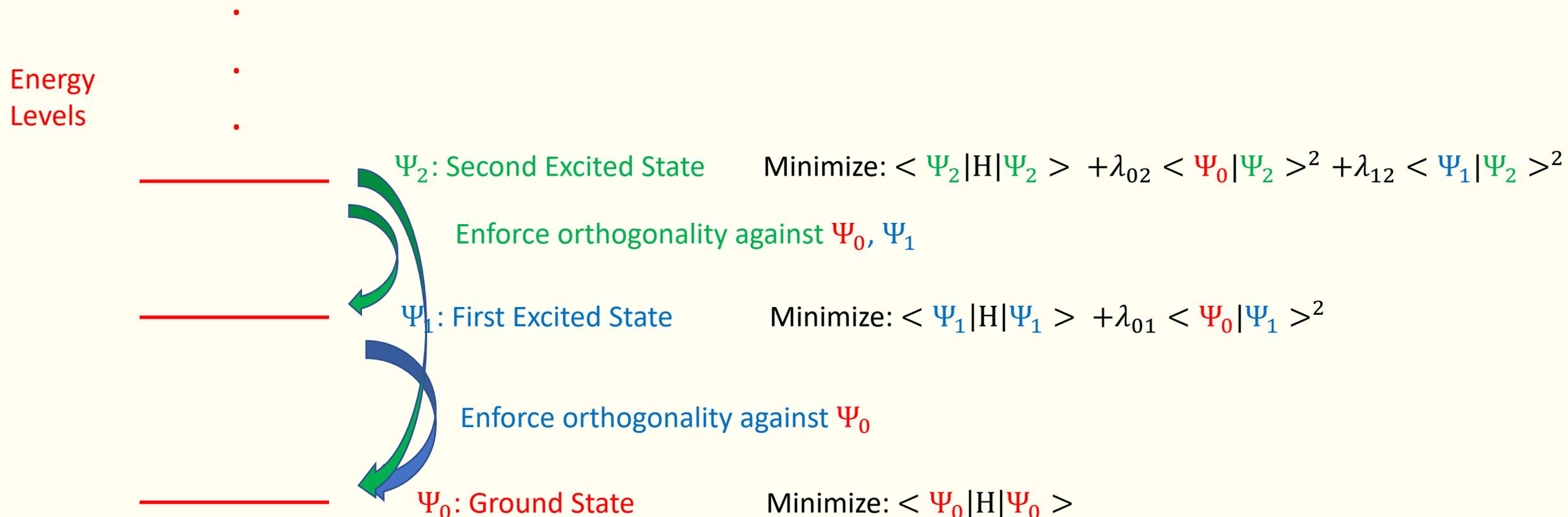
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**Excited States with NNQMC**

Novel Phase of Moire systems

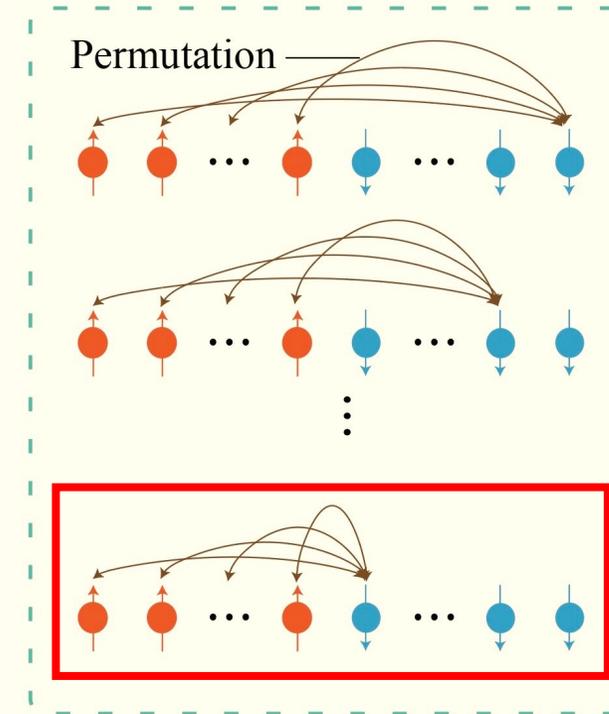
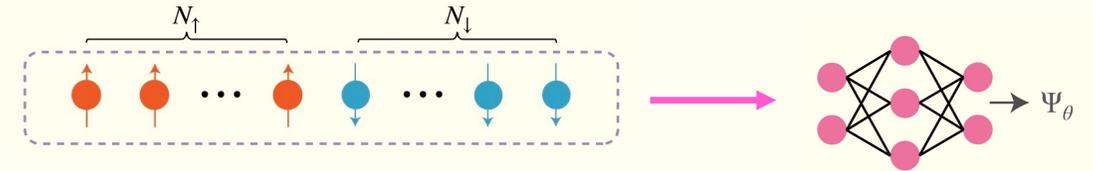
# Penalty to enforce orthogonality



# Enforce Spin-Symmetry in NNQMC

Li, Zhe, et, al. arXiv:2406.01222,  
Nature Computational Science in press

- Spin-pure state
  - Eigen-state of  $\hat{S}^2$  operator
- Add “deviation of  $\langle \hat{S}^2 \rangle$  to target value” to loss
  - Similar to the overlap for excited states
- $\langle \hat{S}^2 \rangle$  calculation is expensive
- Consider  $\hat{S}_+$  operator instead
  - One order cheaper
  - Still able to simulate eigenstate of  $\hat{S}^2$



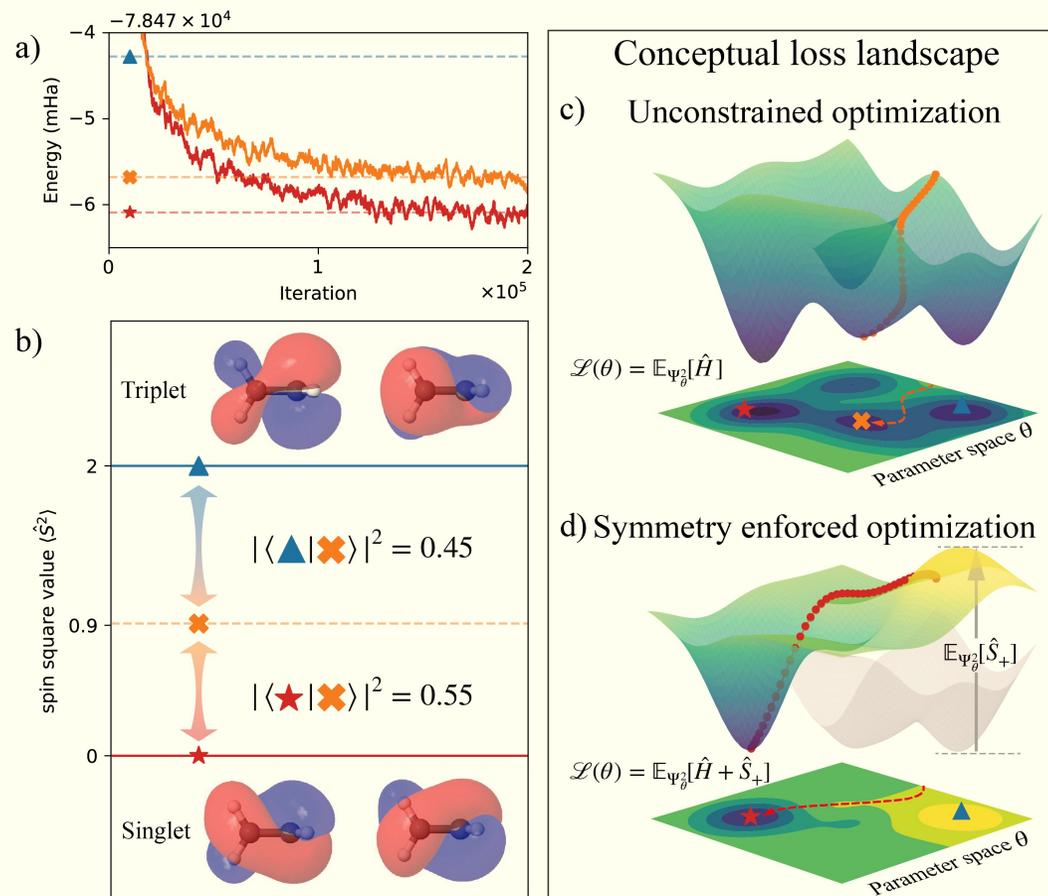
$\langle \hat{S}^2 \rangle$  calculation  
 $O(N^2)$  evaluation of NN  
Computation cost:  $O(N^5)$

Too slow!

$\langle \hat{S}_+ \rangle$  calculation,  
 $O(N)$  evaluation of NN  
Computation cost:  $O(N^4)$

dubbed as “ $\hat{S}_+$  penalty”

# Spin symmetry helps ground state calculation



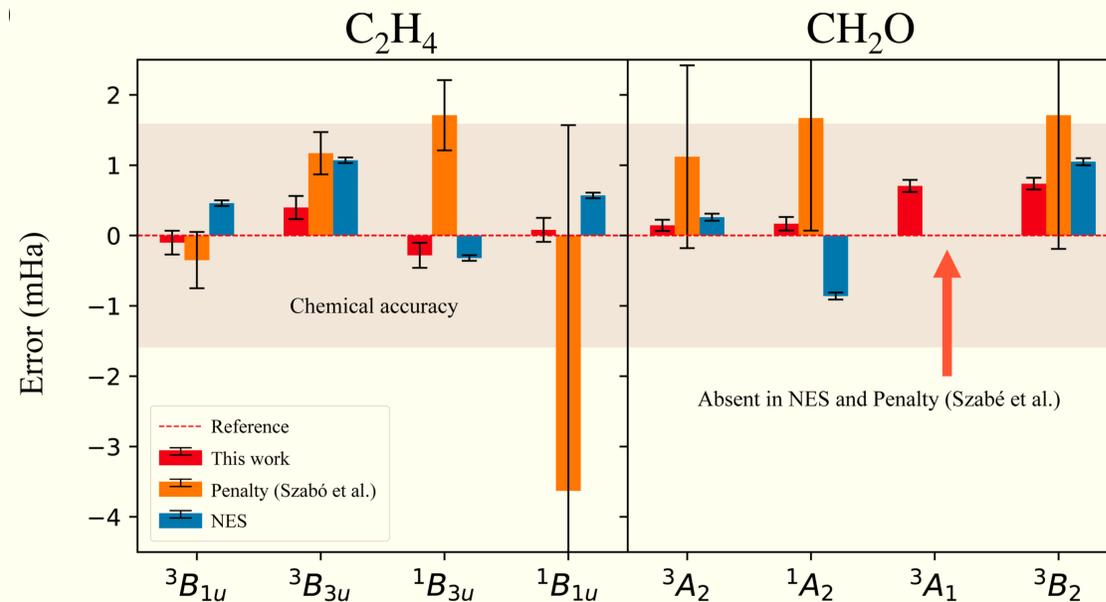
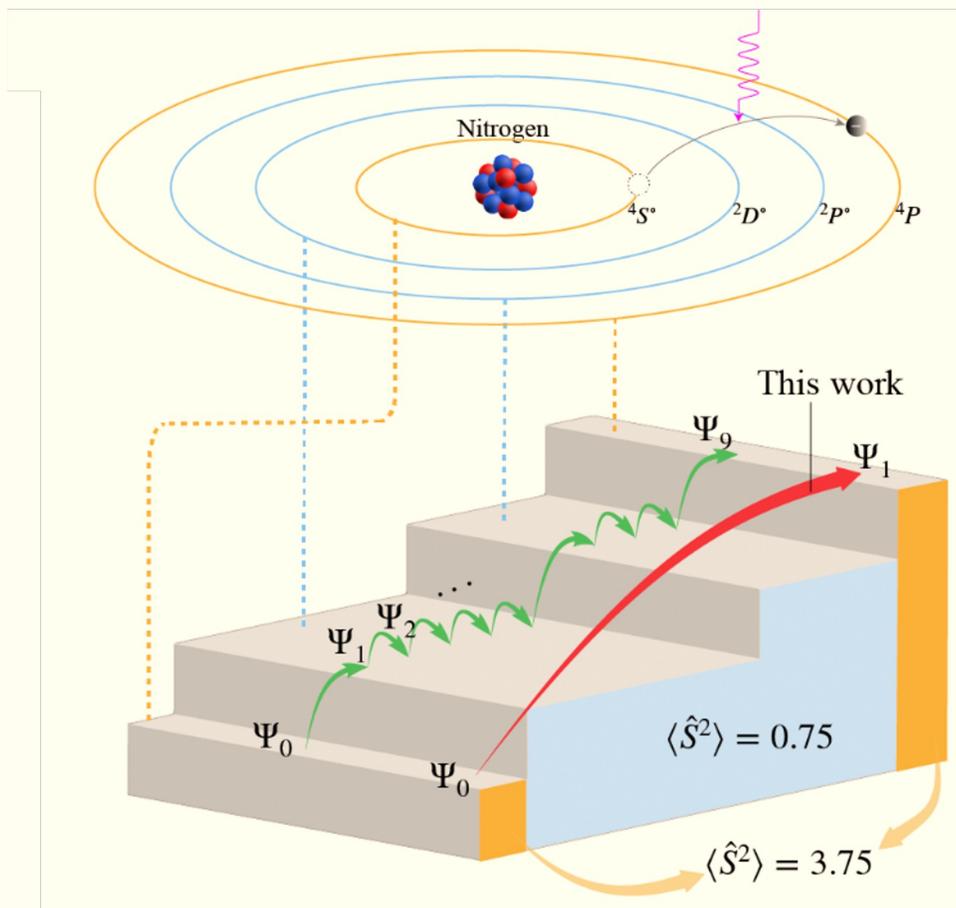
Ethylene  $C_2H_4$

- — — ★ singlet state: symmetry enforced
- — — ✕ singlet state: free of constraint (contaminated)
- — — ▲ triplet state

Li, Zhe, et al. *arXiv:2406.01222, Nature Computational Science in press*

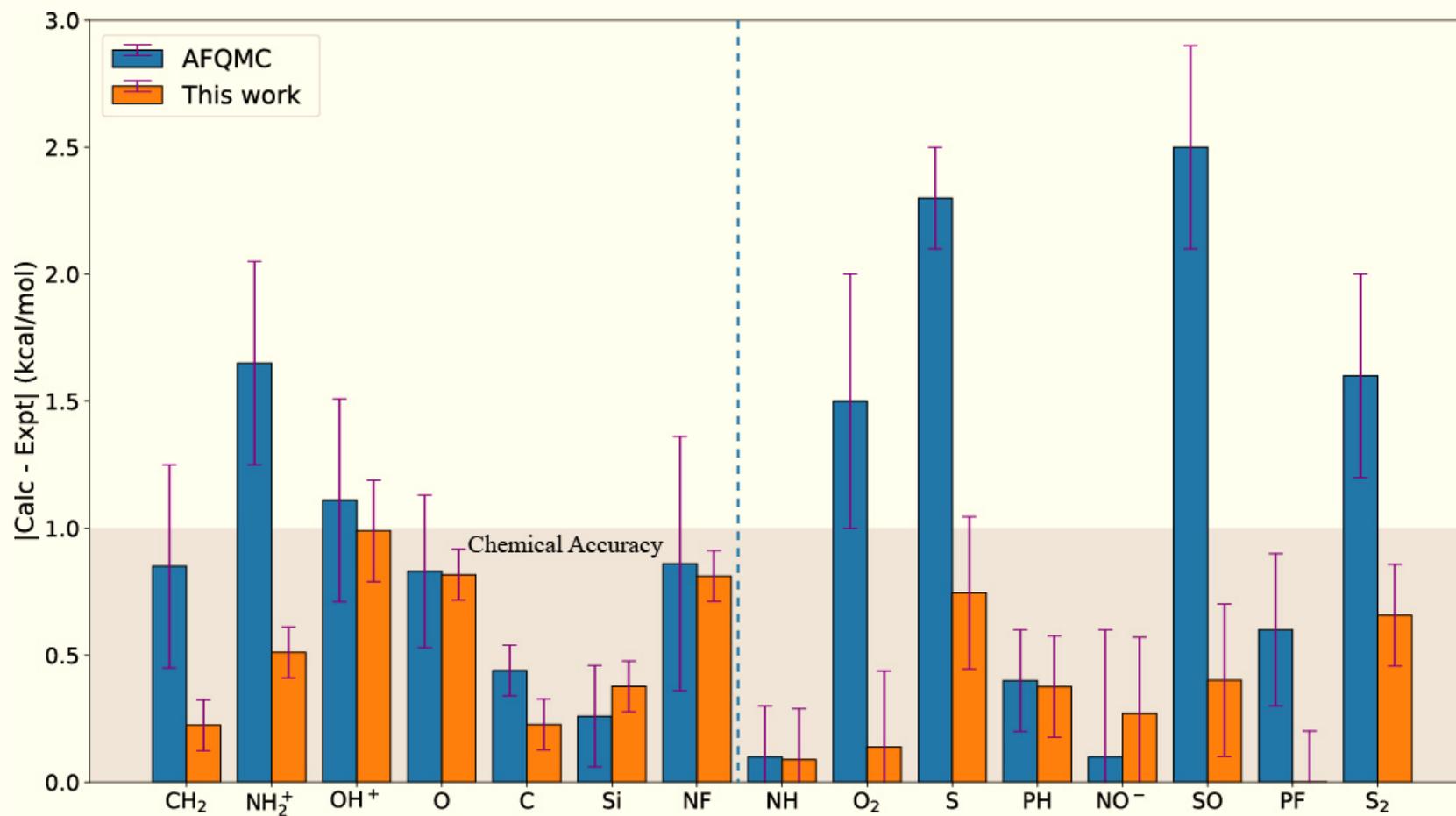
# Spin symmetry helps excited state calculation

High excited states



Li, Zhe, et al. arXiv:2406.01222, Nature Computational Science in press

# Singlet-triplet gap of biradicals



# Natural Excited State

Pfau, David, et al. *Science* 385.6711 (2024): eadn0137.

The screenshot shows the Science journal article page. At the top, the Science logo is on the left, and navigation links for 'Current Issue', 'First release papers', 'Archive', and 'About' are on the right. A 'Submit manu' button is also visible. Below the logo, a breadcrumb trail reads 'HOME > SCIENCE > VOL. 385, NO. 6711 > ACCURATE COMPUTATION OF QUANTUM EXCITED STATES WITH NEURAL NETWORKS'. The article is categorized as a 'RESEARCH ARTICLE' in 'QUANTUM CHEMISTRY'. The title is 'Accurate computation of quantum excited states with neural networks'. The authors listed are David Pfau, Simon Axelrod, Halvard Sutterud, Ingrid von Glehn, and James S. Spencer, with links to their 'Authors Info & Affiliations'. The article was published on August 23, 2024, in Volume 385, Issue 6711, with DOI 10.1126/science.adn0137. It has been downloaded 4,708 times. A 'CHECK ACCESS' button is present. The 'Editor's summary' section is highlighted, containing a paragraph about the importance of excited states and the new method. A vertical sidebar on the right contains icons for information, navigation, lock, link, image, calendar, and share. A table of contents on the left lists 'Editor's summary', 'Abstract', 'Supplementary Materials', 'References and Notes', and 'eLetters (0)'.

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HOME > SCIENCE > VOL. 385, NO. 6711 > ACCURATE COMPUTATION OF QUANTUM EXCITED STATES WITH NEURAL NETWORKS

RESEARCH ARTICLE | QUANTUM CHEMISTRY

Accurate computation of quantum excited states with neural networks

DAVID PFAU, SIMON AXELROD, HALVARD SUTTERUD, INGRID VON GLEHN, AND JAMES S. SPENCER [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

SCIENCE • 23 Aug 2024 • Vol 385, Issue 6711 • DOI:10.1126/science.adn0137

4,708

CHECK ACCESS

### Editor's summary

Excited states are important in many areas of physics and chemistry; however, scalable, accurate, and robust calculations of excited-state properties from first principles remain a critical theoretical challenge. Recent advances in computing the ground-state properties of molecular systems driven by deep learning demonstrate that this technique has the potential to address this problem. Pfau *et al.* present a parameter-free mathematical principle for computing excited states using deep neural networks by directly generalizing variational quantum Monte Carlo to ground states. The proposed method achieves accurate excited-state calculations on a number of atoms and molecules, far outperforms existing methods for computing excited-state properties with deep learning (especially on larger systems), and can be applied to various quantum systems. —Yury Suleymanov

Editor's summary |

Abstract

Abstract

Supplementary Materials

References and Notes

eLetters (0)

## Slater Determinant

$$\psi(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \det \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1(x_1) & \cdots & \phi_n(x_1) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \phi_1(x_n) & \cdots & \phi_n(x_n) \end{bmatrix}$$

## NNVMC (backflow)

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi(X) &= \Psi(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ &= \det \begin{bmatrix} \Phi_1(x_1; x_2, \dots, x_n) & \cdots & \Phi_n(x_1; x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \Phi_1(x_n; x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) & \cdots & \Phi_n(x_n; x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

## Natural Excited State

$$\Psi(\mathbf{X}^1, \dots, \mathbf{X}^k) = \det \begin{bmatrix} \Psi_1(\mathbf{X}^1) & \cdots & \Psi_k(\mathbf{X}^1) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \Psi_1(\mathbf{X}^k) & \cdots & \Psi_k(\mathbf{X}^k) \end{bmatrix}$$

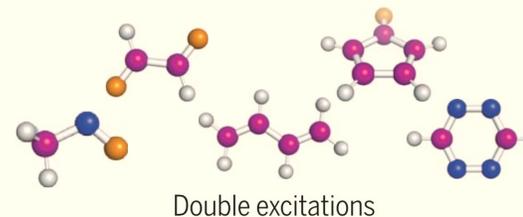
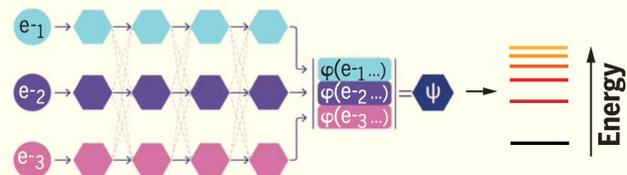
- $\Psi_1, \dots, \Psi_k$  are guaranteed to be non-collapsed.
- We minimize the sum of their energies.
- Optimize for the best **k-dim subspace**

Pfau, David, et al. *Science* 385.6711 (2024): eadn0137.

# Natural Excited State

## Neural network ansätze

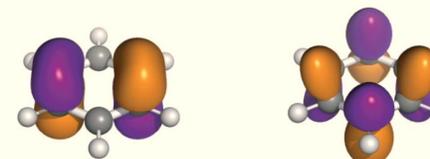
Flexible, compact wave function approximators



## Natural excited states

Novel variational principle for excited states

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \psi^2} [\psi^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) \hat{H} \psi(\mathbf{x})] \longrightarrow \text{Tr} [\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \Psi^2} [\Psi^{-1}(\mathbf{x}) \hat{H} \Psi(\mathbf{x})]]$$

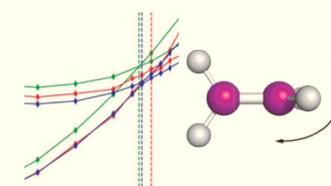
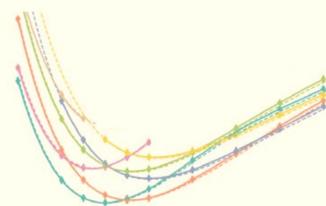


Benzene-scale molecules

## Enables accurate computation of...

$$f_{ij} = \frac{2}{3} \frac{m}{\hbar^2} (E_i - E_j) |\mathbf{d}_{ij}|^2$$

Oscillator strengths



**Natural excited states.** Combining neural networks with a mathematical insight enables accurate calculations of challenging excited states of molecules.

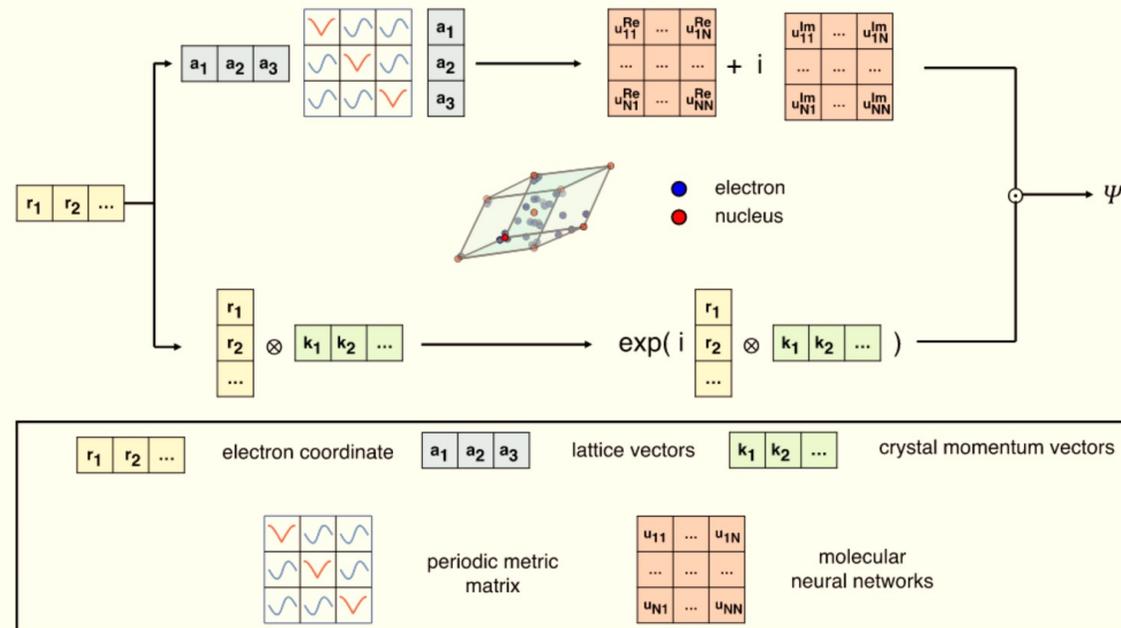
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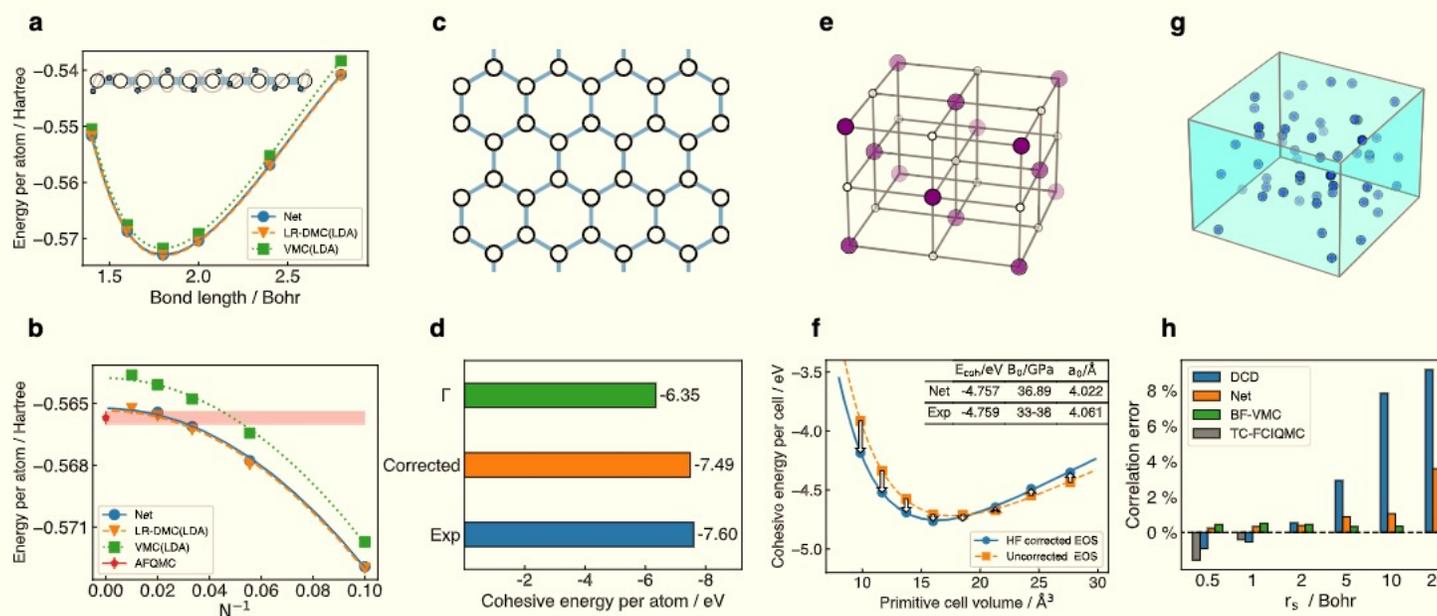
# Modeling Real Solids - DeepSolid



- Modify the input the feature with periodic functions
- Carefully deal with the smoothness near the boundary.

Li, X., Li, Z., & Chen, J. (2022). *Nature Communications*, 13(1), 7895.

# DeepSolid cont'd



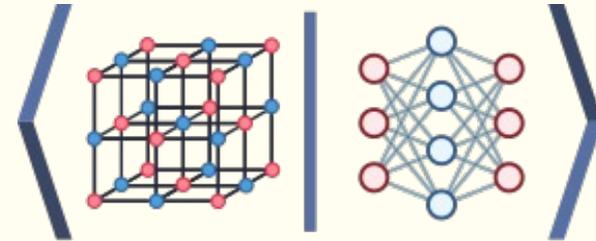
Li, X., Li, Z., & Chen, J. (2022). *Nature Communications*, 13(1), 7895.

# More on NNQMC for solids

Checkout our recent review

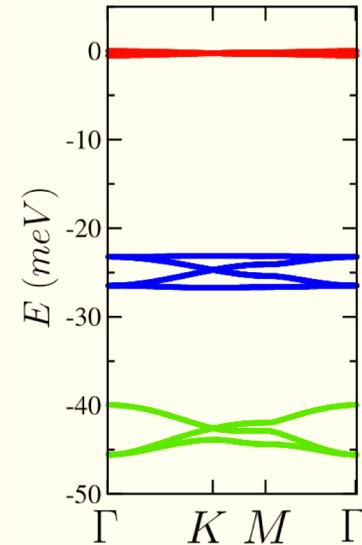
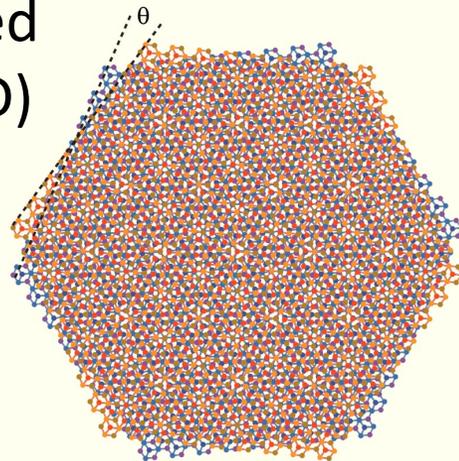
*Qian, Y., Li, X., Li, Z., Ren, W., & Chen, J. (2024).  
Deep learning quantum Monte Carlo for solids.*

*arXiv:2407.00707.*



# Moire Material

Twisted graphene or twisted metal dichalcogenide (TMD)



Flat band appears which signals strong correlation

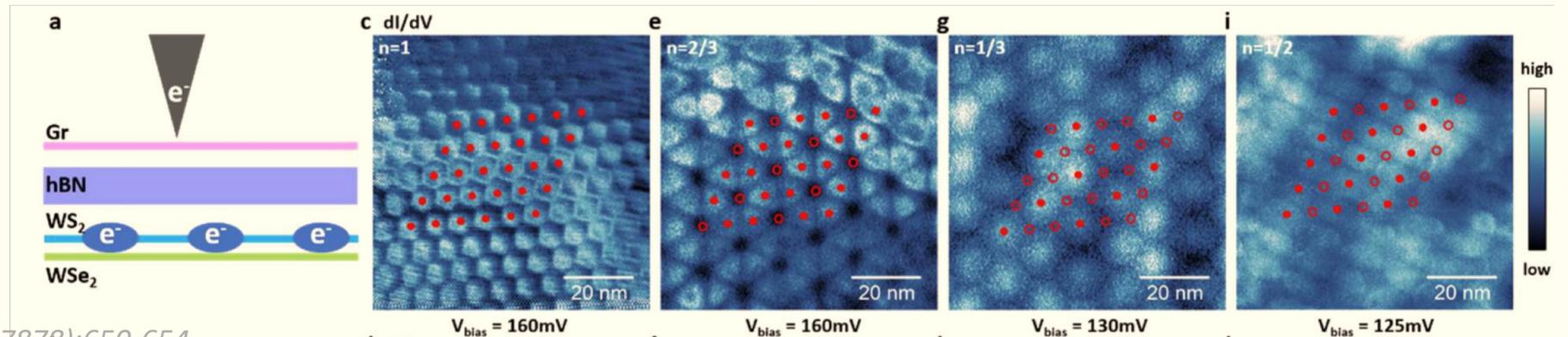
Spontaneous symmetry breaking,  
Mott insulator,  
Wigner crystal,  
Unconventional superconductivity,  
Anomalous Quantum hall.....

$$H = \sum_i -\frac{1}{2m^*} \Delta_i + V(\mathbf{r}_i) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{1}{\epsilon |\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|}$$

# Generalized Wigner Crystal

WSe<sub>2</sub>/WS<sub>2</sub>

STM  
observation  
of GWC

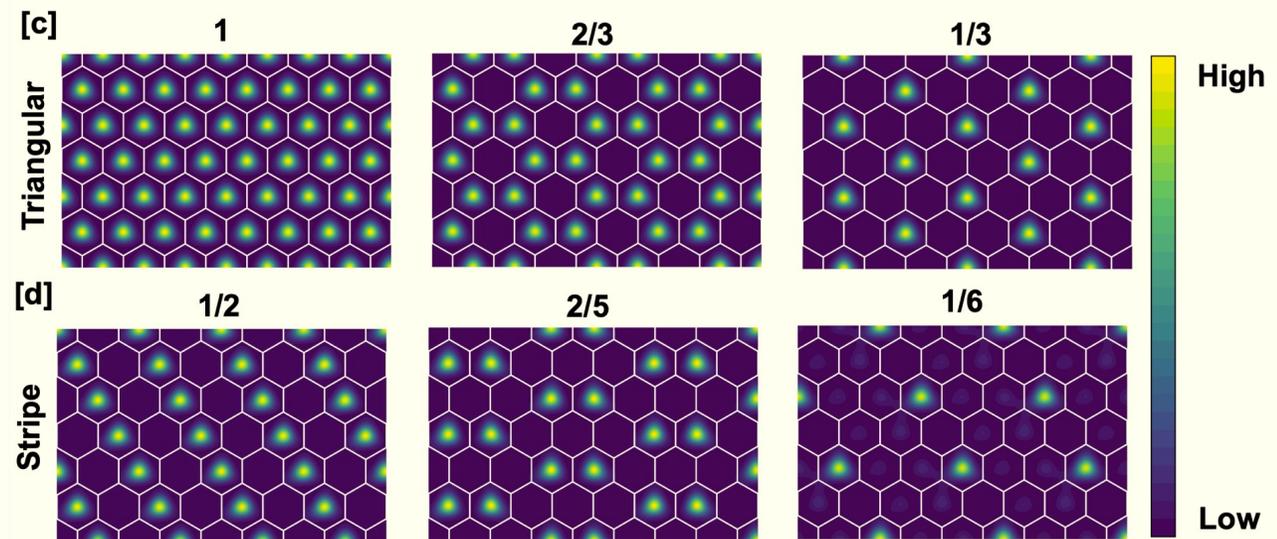


Li, Hongyuan, et al. Nature 597(7878):650-654

DeepSolid result

Our neural networks reproduced patterns  
in STM experiments!

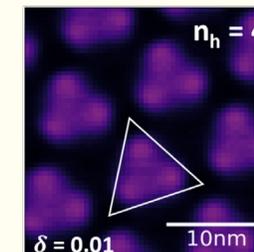
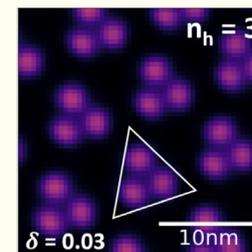
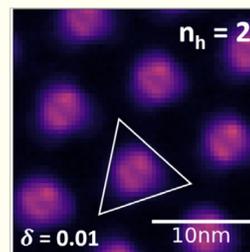
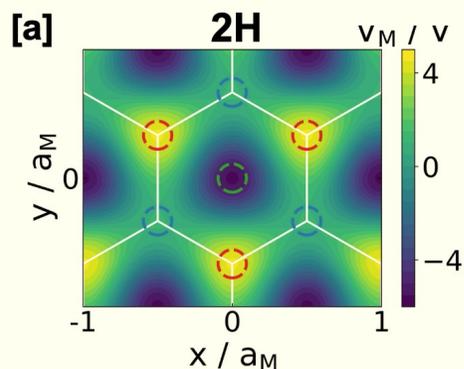
Li, Xiang, et, al. arXiv:2406.11134



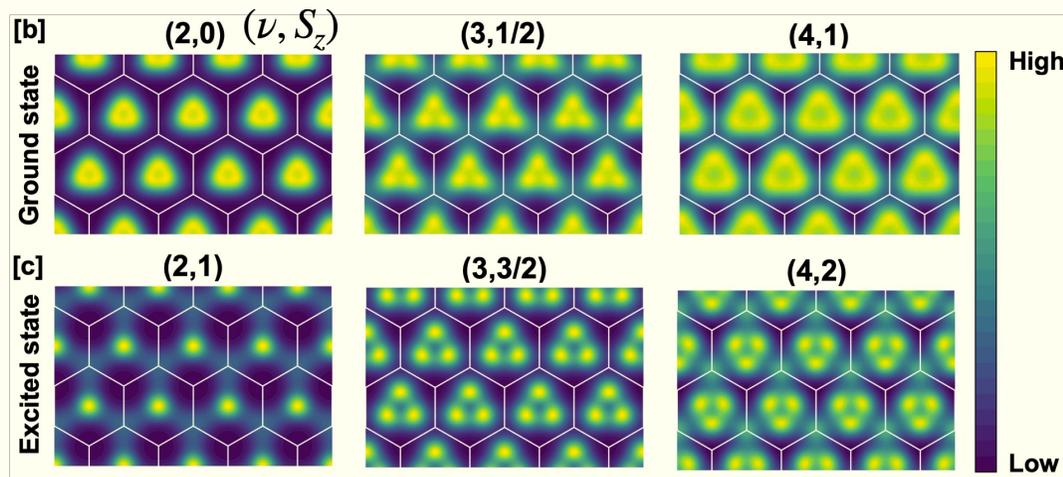
# More interesting phases

## Wigner Molecular Crystal

$WS_2$  homobilayer  
2H config

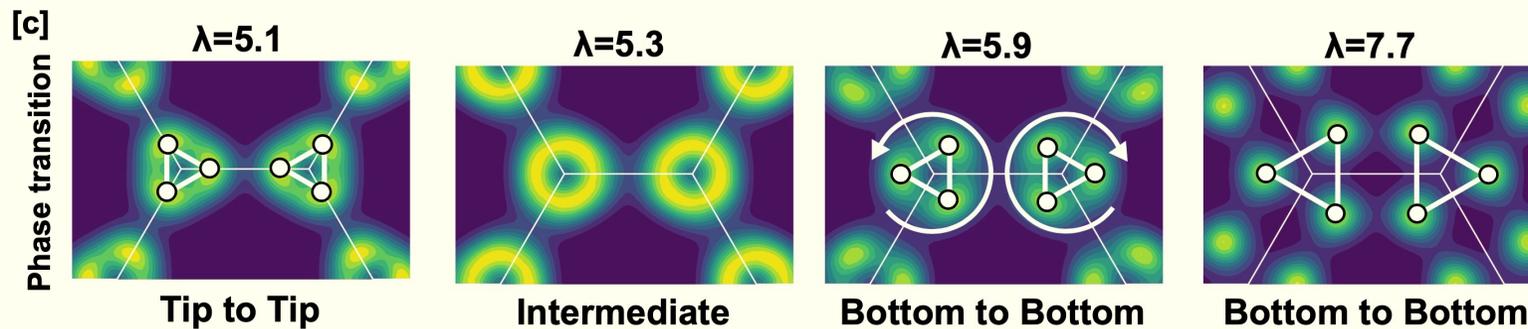
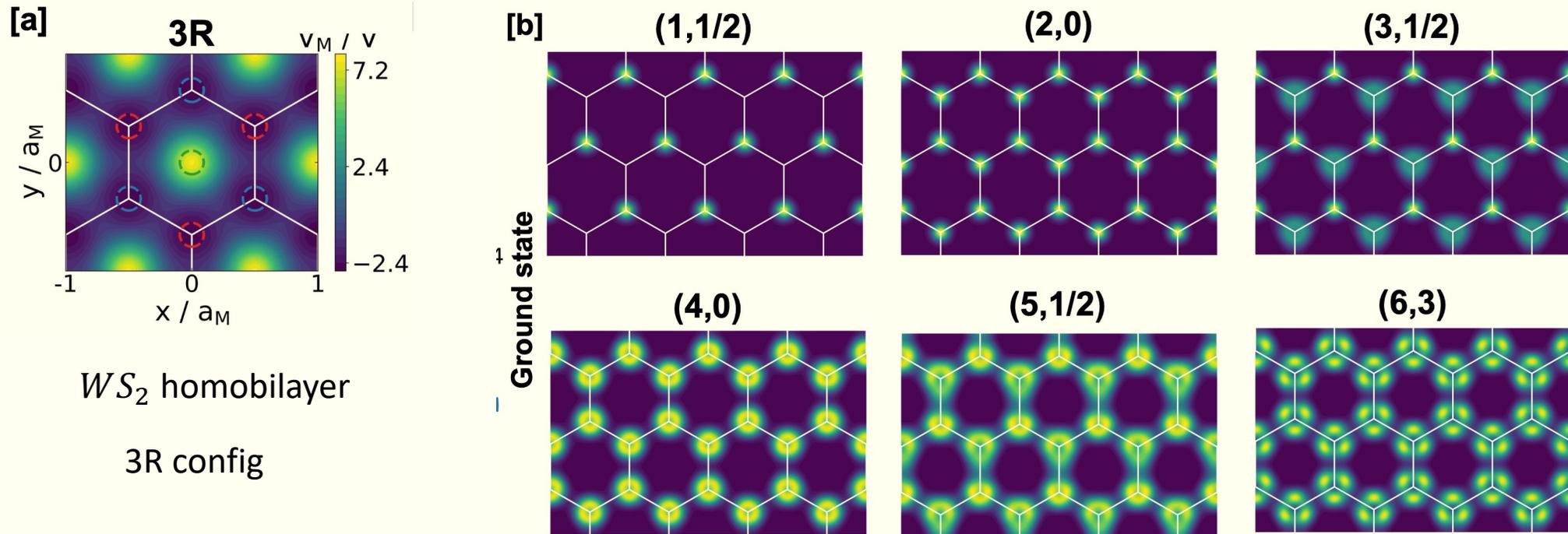


*Reddy, Aidan, et al. PRL, 2465016, 2023*  
*Li, Hongyuan, et al. Science 385 (6704), 86-91, 2024*



Reproduced patterns  
in STM experiments!

# Potential with $C_6$ symmetry

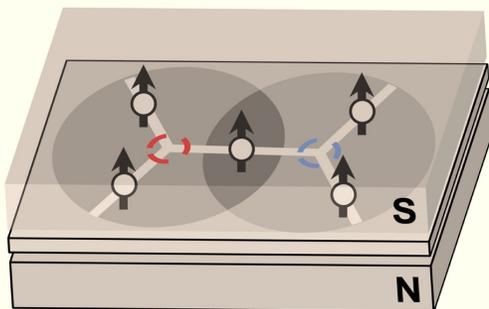


Larger  $\lambda$  means  
Coulomb dominates more

# Wigner Covalent Crystal

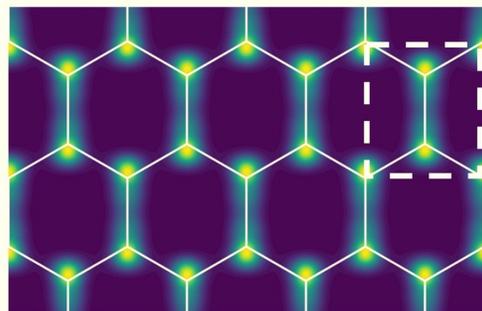
Yet to be confirmed  
in experiments !

[a] Covalent bond

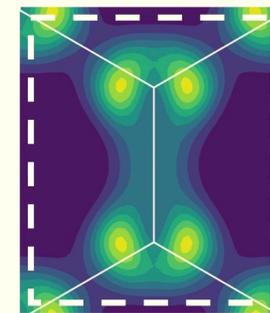
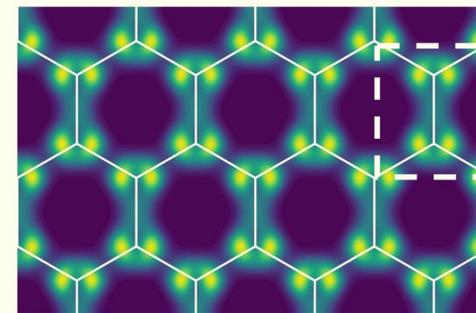
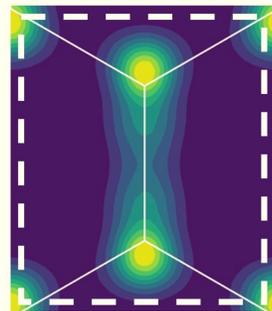


[b]

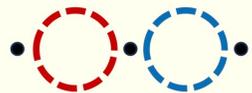
(3,3/2)



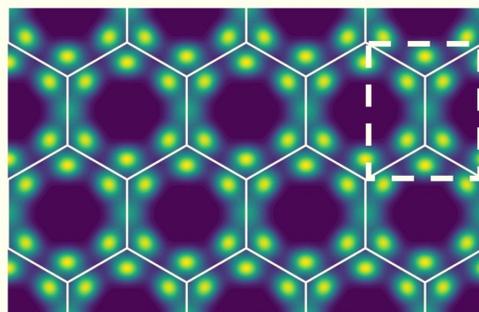
(5,5/2)



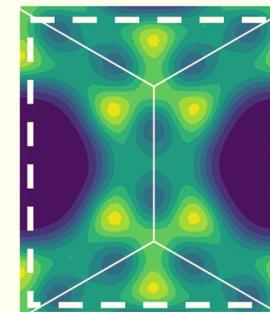
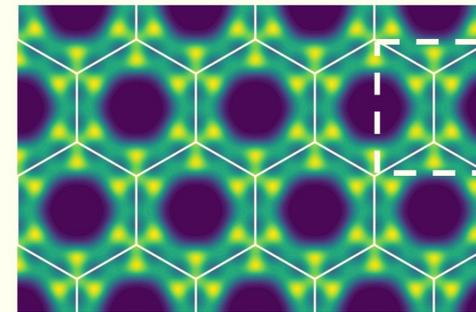
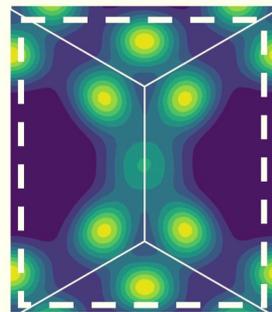
Monomer bond



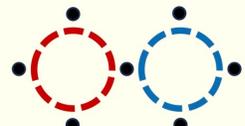
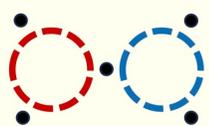
(7,7/2)



(9,9/2)



Dimer bond Trimer bond



# Other applicable systems

- Electron gas
- Positron
- Superfluid
- .....

# Outlook

- Better efficiency and accuracy.
- Expand the scope of application.
- Tackle challenging systems
  - Strong correlation
  - Multi-reference
  - .....

# Thank you!



- [https://github.com/bytedance/FermiNet\\_with\\_ECP](https://github.com/bytedance/FermiNet_with_ECP)
- <https://github.com/bytedance/deepsolid>
- <https://github.com/bytedance/jaqmc>
- <https://github.com/bytedance/lapnet>
- <https://github.com/bytedance/netobs>