

Martin Uhrin

I have a mixed physics/computer science background and steer my research to topics that can benefit from a fusion of explainable, physics inspired, models, and advanced methods from computer science and mathematics such as deep learning and equivariant representations. A big driver of my research is a desire to understand the interplay between energy and geometry which is at the heart of explaining why nature prefers certain atomic arrangements over others.

Personal Information

Date of Birth	1 st May, 1985	Citizenship	British and Slovak	
Languages	English - native French - C1	Slovak - native German - basic	Work Permit	Swiss “B” permit

Professional Experience

2021 - present **Scientist**, EPFL, Switzerland - Nicola Marzari.

Hosted in the group of Prof. Nicola Marzari I am responsible for EPFL’s contribution to pan-European ‘**DOME 4.0: Digital Marketplaces Ecosystem**’ project. In addition to leading a work package my main contribution centres around developing and making accessible supervised and unsupervised machine learning methods.

2019 - 2021 **Postdoctoral researcher**, DTU, Denmark - Jin Chang and Tejs Vegge.

My work focused on the computational discovery of metal-air batteries cathodes and electrolytes. Using results from high-throughput quantum chemistry simulations we develop a machine learning model to predict the conductivity of ionic liquids.

2015 - 2019 **Postdoctoral researcher**, EPFL, Switzerland - Nicola Marzari.

I was the lead author of the AiiDA workflow engine, a widely used materials informatics platform for reliably carrying out tens of thousands of materials simulations. My research centred around high-throughput materials discovery and was part of an effort to determine the basic properties of all the known, and yet unknown, binary compounds.

2007 - 2008 **Software Engineer - Microsoft Game Studios (Rare)**, UK.

Software engineer on the Xbox 360 game ‘**Banjo-Kazooie: Nuts & Bolts**’; tasked with writing high-performance C++ gameplay and physics code as part of large team.

Education

2010 - 2014 **PhD, Computational Condensed Matter - University College London.**

Supervisor Prof. Chris J. Pickard

Thesis Understanding the Structure of Materials at the Intersection of Rationalisation, Prediction and Big Data

2003 - 2009 **M.Phys Hons Computational Physics - University of Edinburgh,**

1st class, class medal.

Five year integrated masters program plus self organised year in industry (2007/8)

Thesis Initial Stages of Planetary Formation: Simulation of Dust Cluster Growth and Collision

Awards and Grants

- 2020 ○ Contributed to the successful “Battery Interface Genome - Materials Acceleration Platform” proposal (3 years, €20M, 34 partners)

- 2017
 - PRACE Tier-0 allocation of 1M node hours for high-throughput simulation of all binary phases
 - Contributed to the successful “MARKETPLACE - Materials Modelling Marketplace for Increased Industrial Innovation” proposal (€9.2M total)
- 2014
 - Thomas Young Centre Student Day best thesis talk
- 2010
 - Wingate Scholarship for independent research
- 2009
 - M.Phys thesis awarded 90% - highest grade ever given by department
 - Edinburgh University class medal 2009
 - Marian A. S. Ross Prize for excellent performance
 - Department nomination for UK Science, Engineering and Technology awards
 - Royal Society of Edinburgh Cormack Vacation Research Scholarship

Collegial

PhD Students

2021 - present Austin Zadoks (Co-advising with Nicola Marzari)

Project Students

Summer 2018 Austin Zadoks (Materials Science)

Summer 2016 Yuntong Zhu (Materials Science)

Summer 2015 Vojislav Dukic (CS)

Teaching

2020 Virtual ASE tutorial to 50+ BIG-MAP members.

2018 Co-developed and lectured **two week course** on molecular dynamics simulations for 16-17 year old students.

2015 - 2018 Co-developed and delivered numerous **AiiDA tutorials** (~4 per year, 25-50 students each).

2012 - 2014 Created 3-day “**Introduction to Scientific Computing with C++**” taken by incoming PhD students at UCL. Taught over 65 students in 4 sessions.

Other Professional Activities

Author of over seven **community codes** and contributor to many more, currently totalling **~18k downloads/month**.

2015 - present Referee to APS journals PRL and PRB.

Outreach

Created ‘**CrystalExplorer**’ Android app bringing crystal structure prediction to the public.

Participated in ‘**A matter of substance**’ art exhibition displaying 3D printed crystal structures.

Computational Skills

I have many years of professional experience using several programming languages and expert knowledge of algorithm and data structures as well as best coding practices.

Programming Python, C/C++, Java, PHP, Fortran, C#, Perl

Machine learning PyTorch, TensorFlow and TFLearn, **e3nn**

Parallelisation CUDA, OpenMP, MPI, Co-array Fortran, Unified Parallel C, pthreads

Web/Data RabbitMQ (AMQP), MongoDB, SQL, REST, HTML, CSS, JavaScript

Codes CASTEP, Quantum ESPRESSO, MOLDY, Amsterdam Density Functional, VASP

Publications

- 2021 C. W. Andersen et al., “OPTIMADE: an API for exchanging materials data”, *Submitted to Scientific Data*, 1–11 2021, [arXiv:2103.02068](#).
- M. Uhrin, “Through the eyes of a descriptor: Constructing complete, invertible, descriptions of atomic environments”, *Submitted to Physical Review B*. 2021, [arXiv:2104.09319](#).
- M. Uhrin et al., “Workflows in AiiDA: Engineering a high-throughput, event-based engine for robust and modular computational workflows”, *Computational Materials Science* **187**, 110086 2021, eprint: [2007.10312](#).
- 2020 S. P. Huber et al., “AiiDA 1.0, a scalable computational infrastructure for automated reproducible workflows and data provenance”, *Scientific Data* **7**, 300 2020, eprint: [2003.12476](#).
- L. Talirz et al., “Materials Cloud, a platform for open computational science”, *Scientific Data* **7**, 299 2020, eprint: [2003.12510](#).
- M. Uhrin and S. Huber, “kiwiPy: Robust, high-volume, messaging for big-data and computational science workflows”, *Journal of Open Source Software* **5**, 2351 2020.
- 2019 M. Uhrin et al., “A High-Throughput Computational Study Driven by the AiiDA Materials Informatics Framework and the PAULING FILE as Reference Database”, in *Materials informatics* (Wiley), pp. 149–170.
- 2016 G. Schusteritsch, M. Uhrin, and C. Pickard, “Single-Layered Hittorf’s Phosphorus: A Wide-Bandgap High Mobility 2D Material”, *Nano Letters* **16**, 2975–2980 2016, [arXiv:1604.04115](#).
- 2015 M. Uhrin, “Understanding the Structure of Materials at the Intersection of Rationalisation, Prediction and Big Data”, PhD thesis (University College London).
- 2014 G. A T Pender and M. Uhrin, “Predicting non-square 2D dice probabilities”, *European Journal of Physics* **35**, 045028 2014.
- 2011 G. Ackland et al., “The MOLDY short-range molecular dynamics package”, *Computer Physics Communications* **182**, 2587–2604 2011.

In preparation

- S. P. Huber et al., “Common workflows for computing material properties using different quantum engines”,
- M. Uhrin and C. Pickard, “Structure prediction beyond the periodic table using the Lennard-Jones potential”,
- M. Uhrin and C. Pickard, “The phases of Lennard-Jones crystals from high-throughput structure prediction”,

References

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