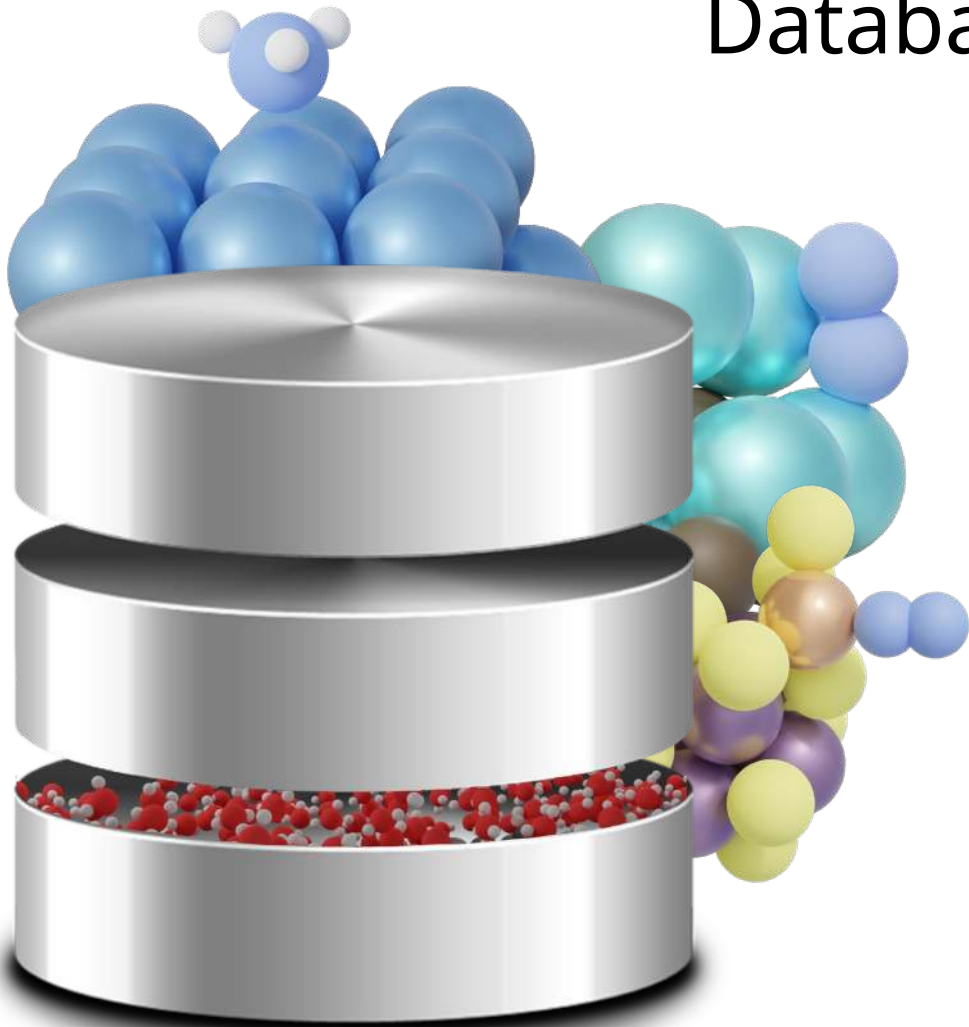


# BEAST Database: Ab-Initio Electrochemistry Database to Accelerate Electrocatalyst Development

ACS, August 22-23, 2024

Cooper Tezak

BEAST Workshop



University of Colorado **Boulder**

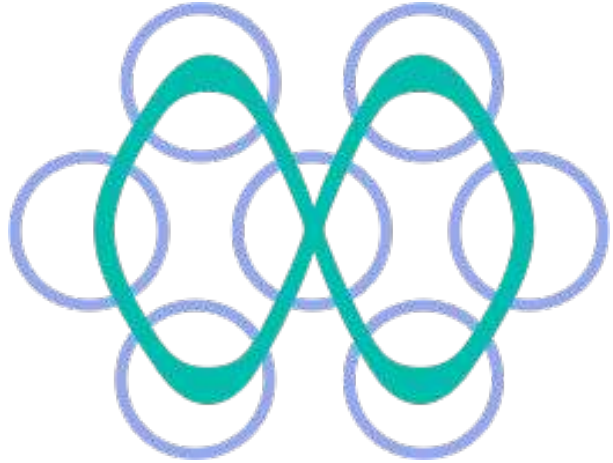


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
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Science



# Materials databases have accelerated materials science



## Materials Project

- Optoelectronic properties
- Stability analysis
- OC20 catalysis dataset
- XAFS data



## Catalysis-hub

- Adsorption energies
- Barriers
- Some electrocatalysis



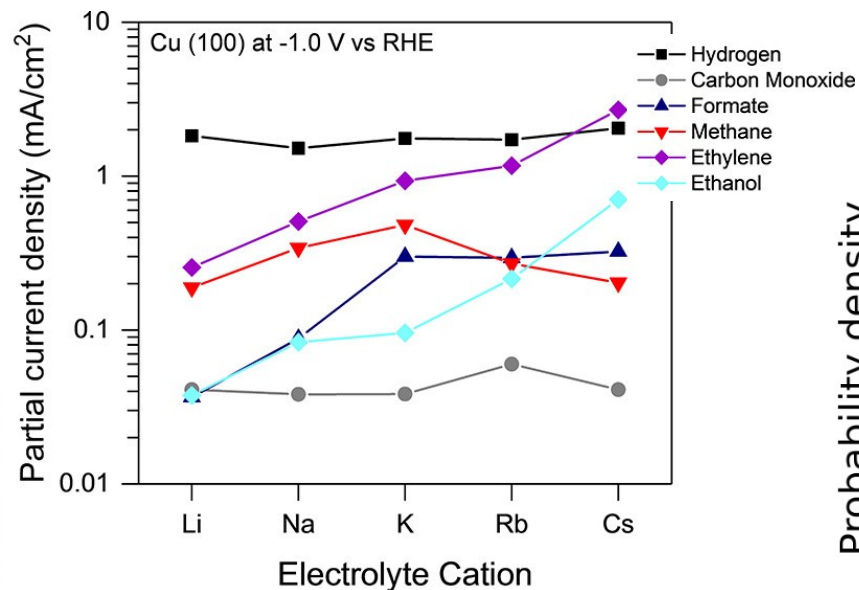
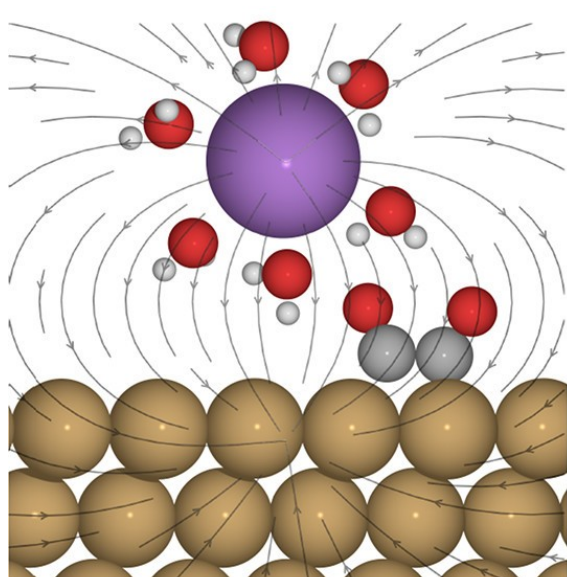
## MATERIALS CLOUD

## Materials Cloud

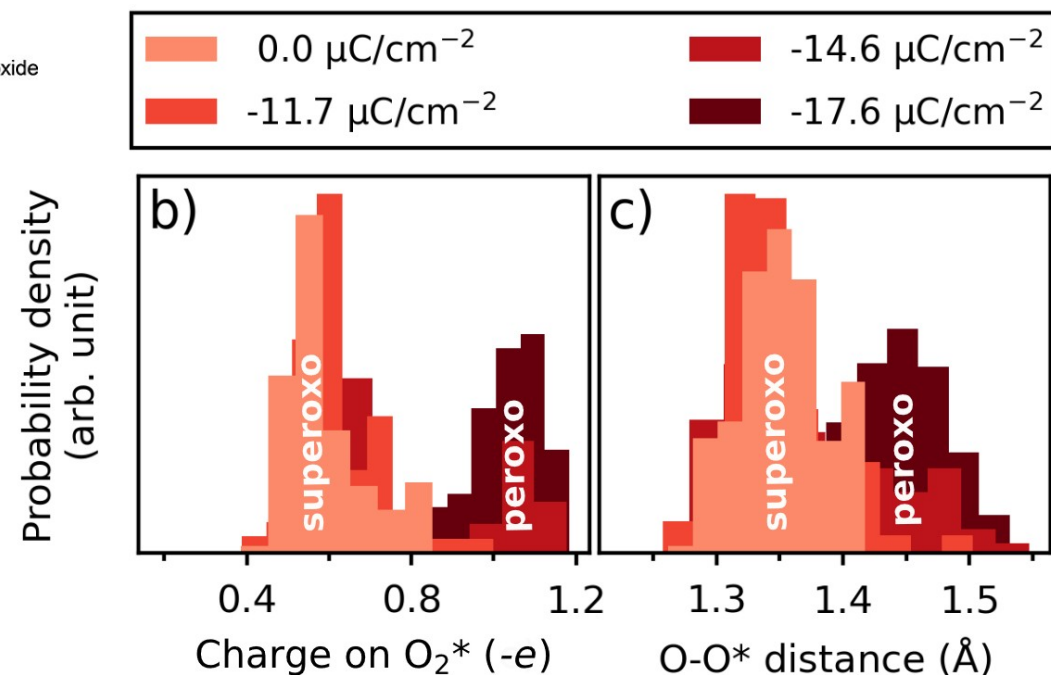
- Specific material space archives
- Standardized workflow codes
- Quantum code benchmarks

# Electrocatalysis has unique complexity

## Solvation environment



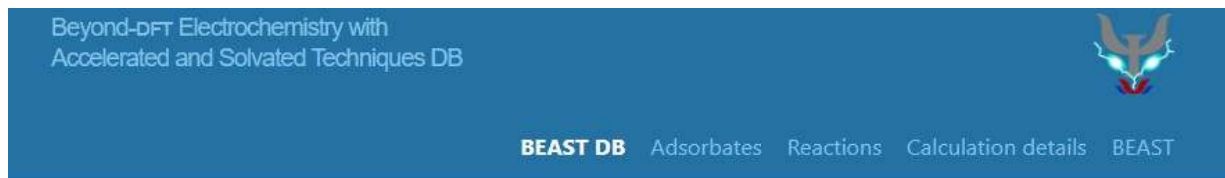
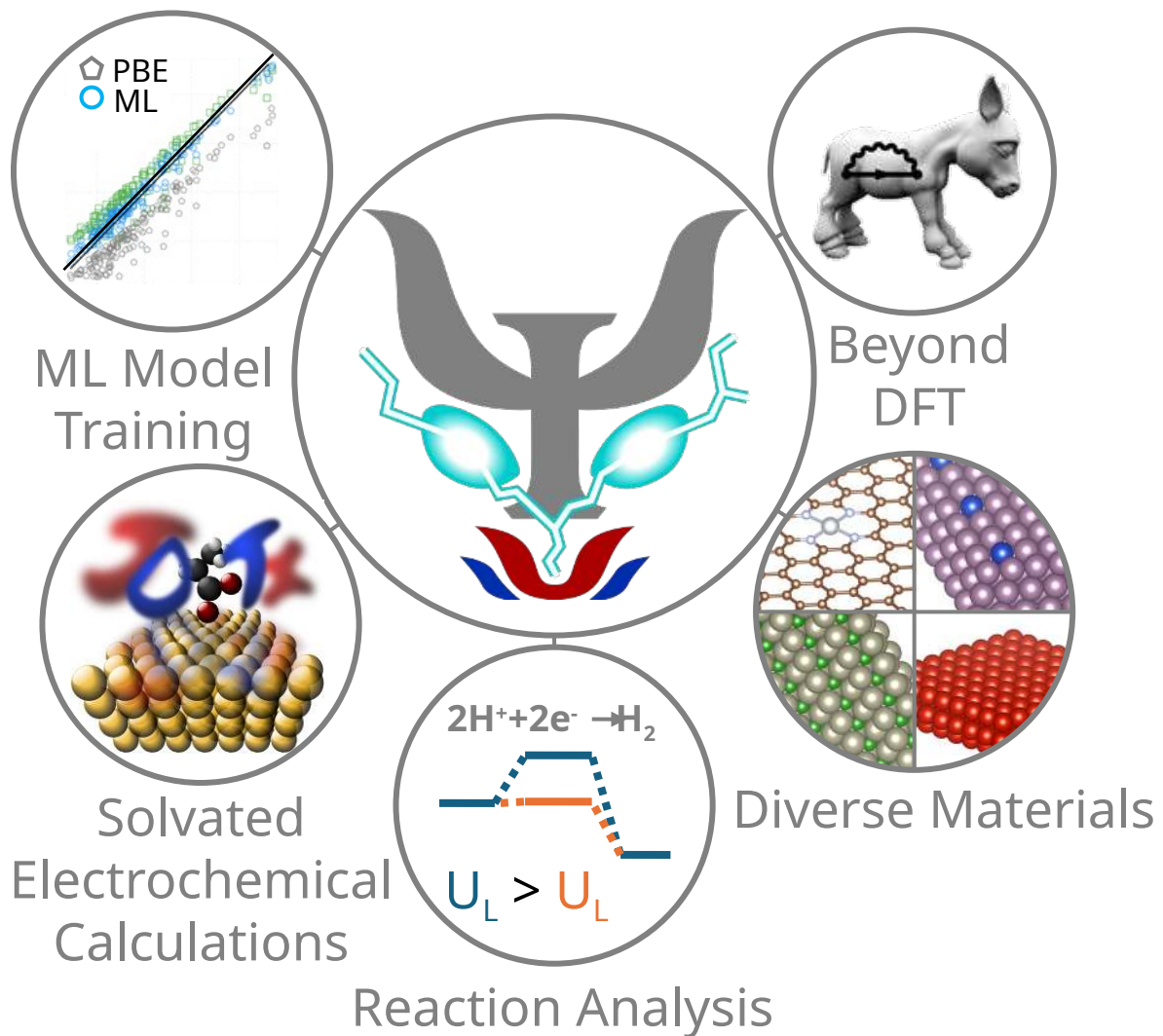
## Applied potential



**The computational community must embrace the complexities of electrocatalysis to accelerate development**

# Introducing BEAST DB

<https://beastdb.nrel.gov/>



## Welcome to BEAST DB!

*Enabling rational understanding and design of electrocatalysts through state-of-the-art theory*

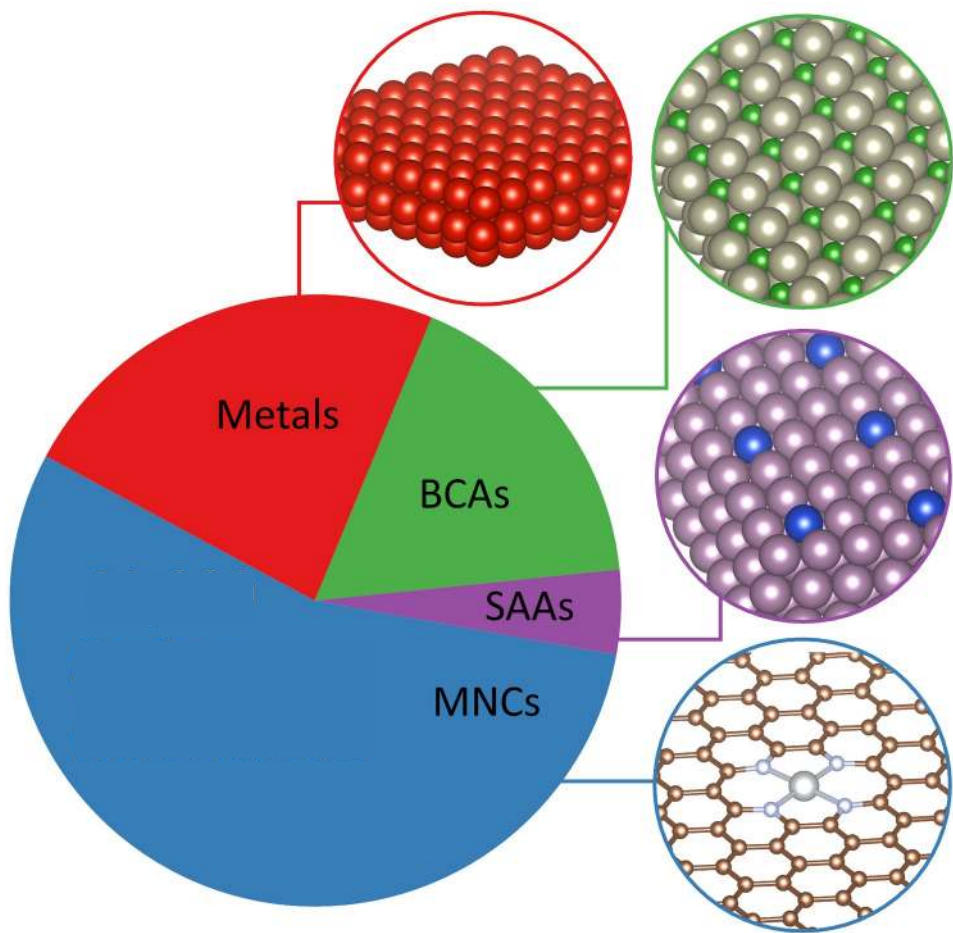


The **Beyond-DFT Electrochemistry with Accelerated and Solvated Techniques Database**, or BEAST DB, contains thousands of electrocatalysis calculations and visualizations of properties that help rationalize observed behavior and design more effective catalysts.

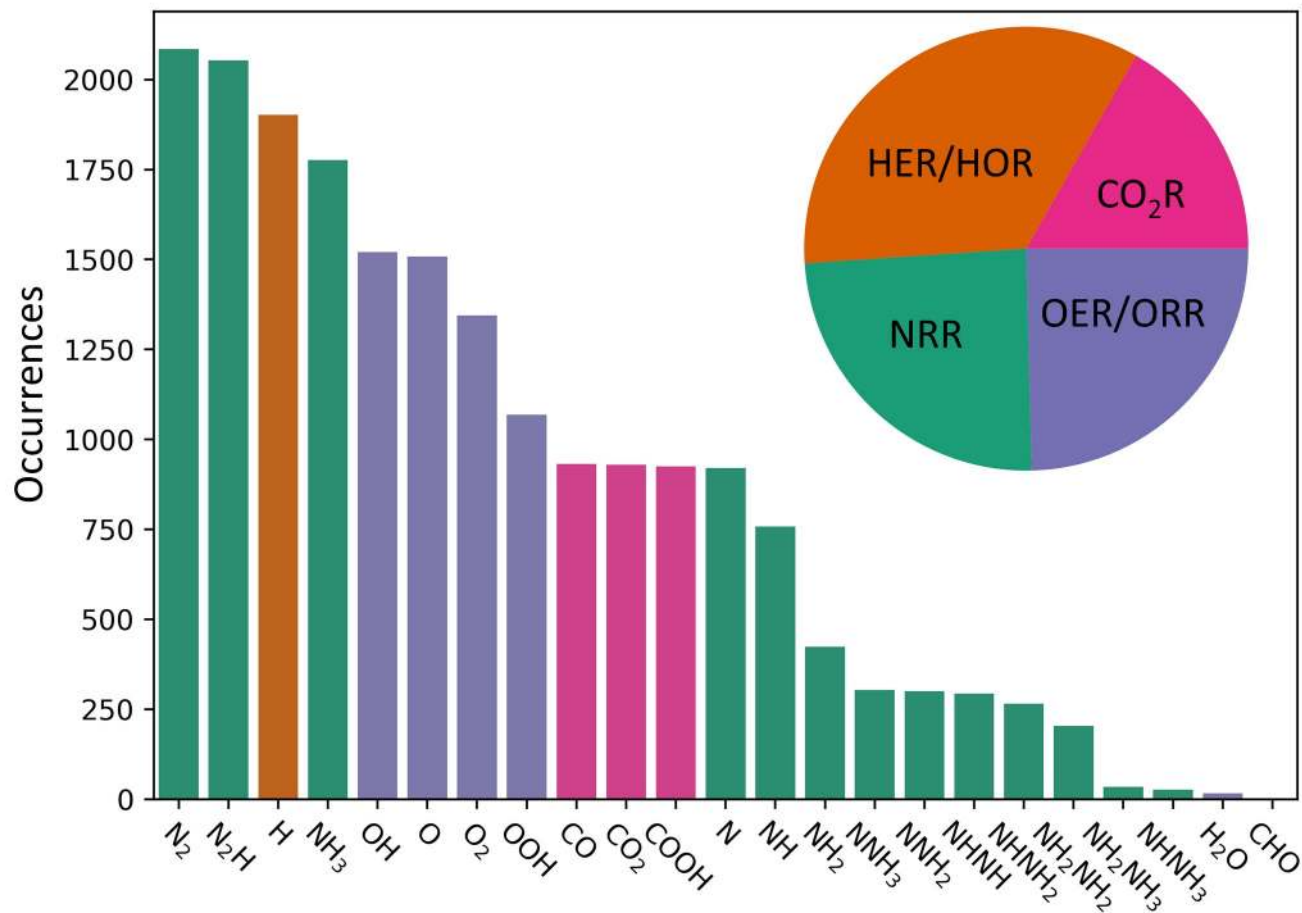
## Open access user interface



# Database overview



20,000 Surface Calculations

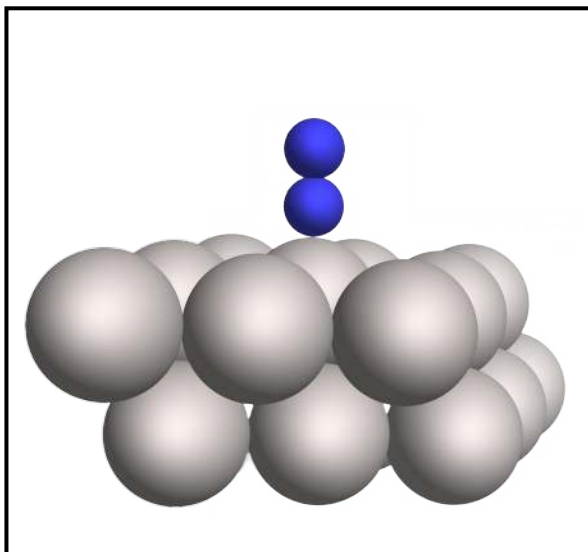


Common reactions coverage



# We use electrochemical methodology

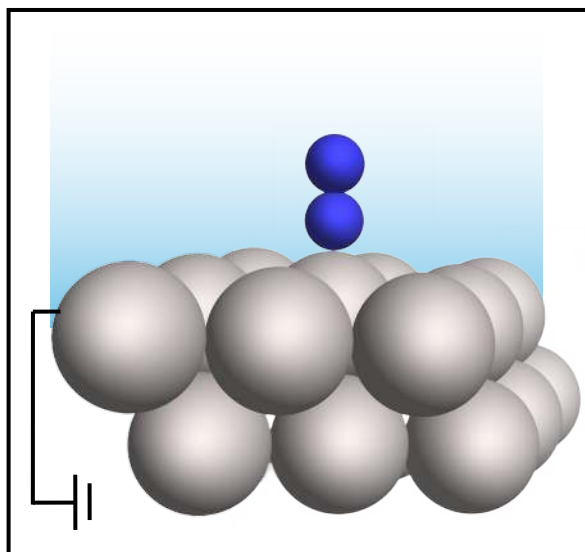
Canonical DFT



- Fixed charge
- Potential correction schemes

$$F_{DFT}$$

Grand Canonical DFT



- Fixed potential
- Self-consistent free energies

$$\Phi = F_{DFT} - \mu N_e$$

Accurate solvation models

| Solvation Model | pKw  |
|-----------------|------|
| CANDLE          | 17.2 |
| VaspSol         | 34.0 |

Consistent calculation parameters

| Parameter     | Value  |
|---------------|--------|
| Functional    | PBE    |
| Solvent       | Water  |
| Electrolyte   | 1M NaF |
| Cutoff energy | 20 Ha  |

# Our methodology facilitates electrocatalytic mechanisms

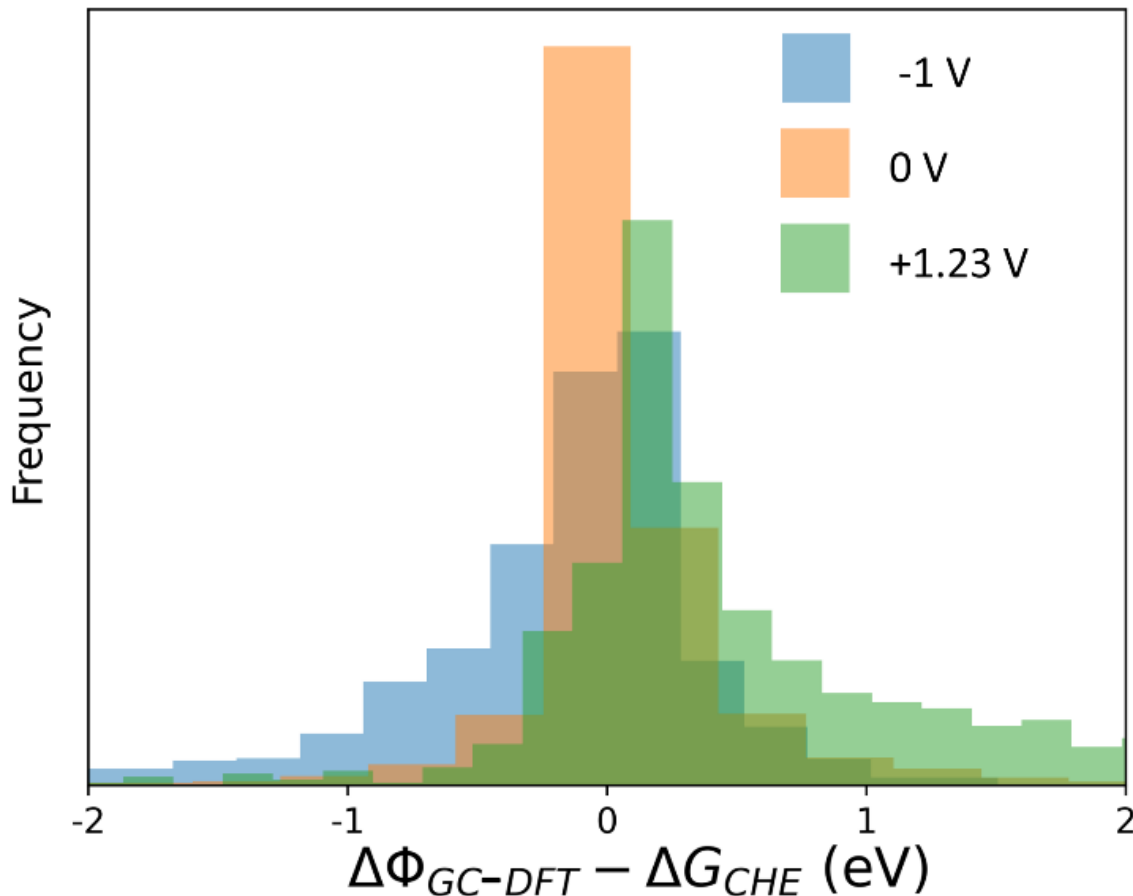
Canonical DFT relies on the computational hydrogen electrode (CHE)

$$G_{H^+ + e^-} = \frac{1}{2}G_{H_2} - U_{SHE}$$

Limitations:

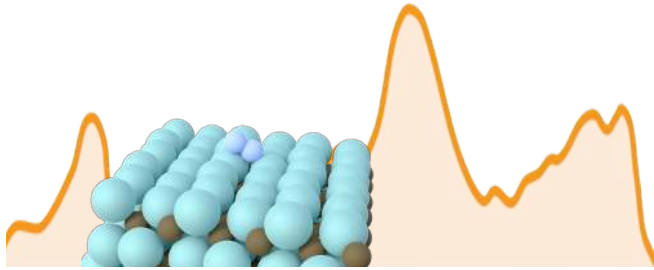
- Proton-coupled electron transfers only
- Linear potential dependence

GC-DFT places no step restrictions and makes no assumptions about potential dependence

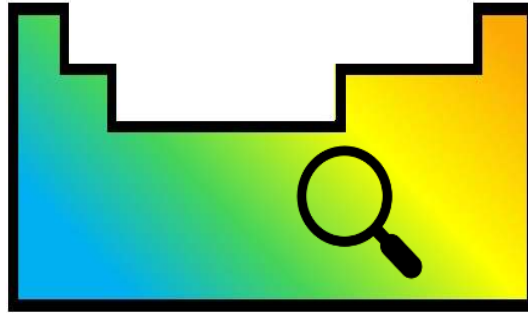


# Capabilities

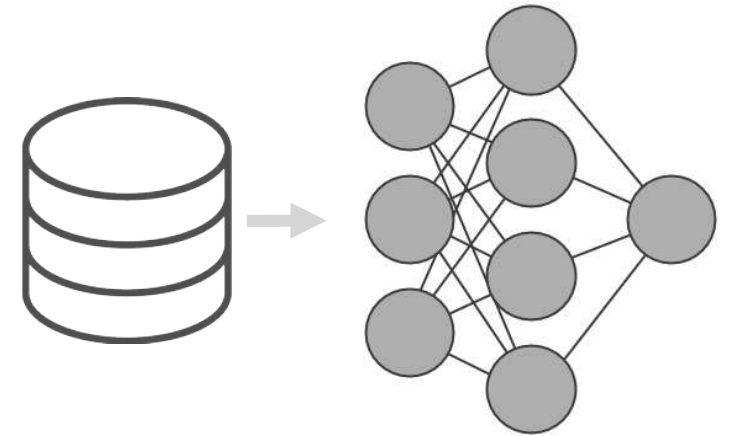
## 1. Individual system studies



## 2. Material space screening



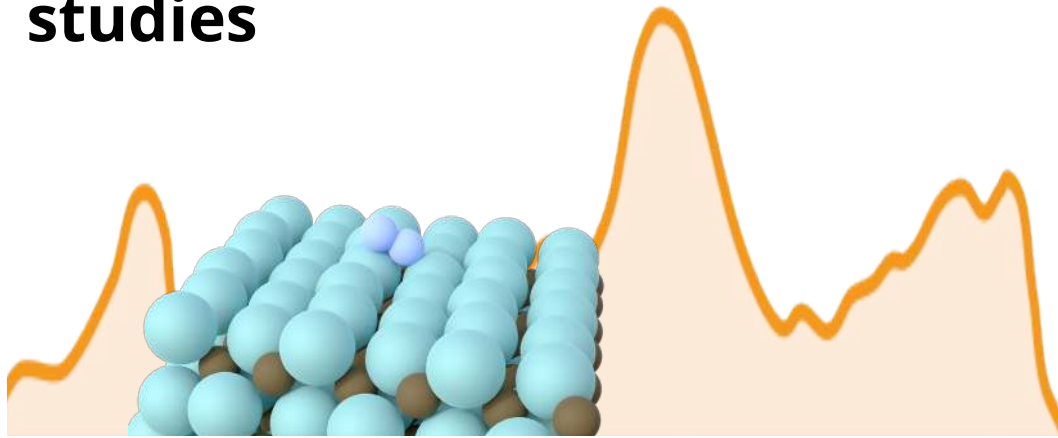
## 3. Statistical model training





# Capabilities

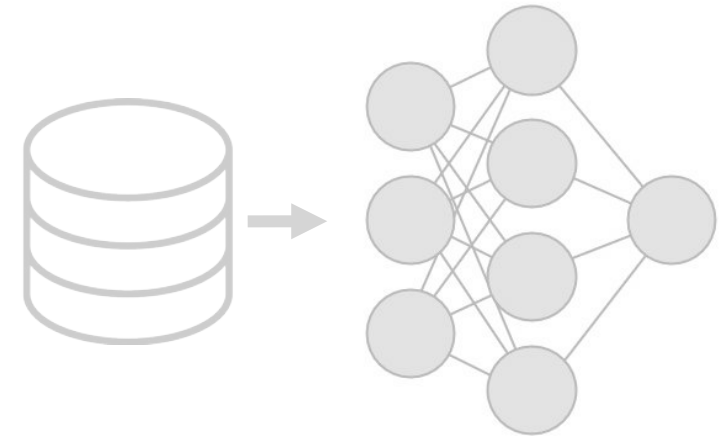
## 1. Individual system studies



## 2. Material space screening



## 3. Statistical model training



# UI facilitates granular system understanding

Beyond-DFT Electrochemistry with Accelerated and Solvated Techniques DB

BEAST DB **Adsorbates** Reactions Calculation details BEAST

## BEAST Database Adsorbed States

Select Search Criteria:

Adsorbate Formula

Catalyst Elements

Select Columns to Display:

| Catalyst Elements | Catalyst Facet | Adsorbate | Applied Potential (V vs SHE) | Adsorption Energy (eV) | Net Charge State |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| C N Fe            | FeN1-o         | C1O1      | No Bias                      | 1.872                  | 0                |
| C N Fe            | FeN1-o         | C1O1      | -0.5                         | 1.807                  | -1.274           |
| C N Fe            | FeN1-o         | C1O1      | 0                            | 1.863                  | -0.306           |
| C N Fe            | FeN1-o         | C1O1      | -1                           | 1.756                  | -1.792           |
| C N Fe            | FeN2-i         | C1O1      | No Bias                      | 1.864                  | 0                |
| C N Fe            | FeN2-i         | C1O1      | -0.5                         | 1.819                  | -0.471           |
| C N Fe            | FeN2-i         | C1O1      | 0                            | 2.046                  | 0.224            |
| C N Fe            | FeN2-i         | C1O1      | -1                           | 1.447                  | -1.806           |

Beyond-DFT Electrochemistry with Accelerated and Solvated Techniques DB

BEAST DB **Adsorbates** Reactions Calculation details BEAST

### Overview

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| Catalyst Elements    | C, N, Fe   |
| Catalyst Facet       | FeN1-o     |
| Adsorbate Formula    | C1O1       |
| Number Of Adsorbates | 1          |
| Applied Potential    | 0 V vs SHE |

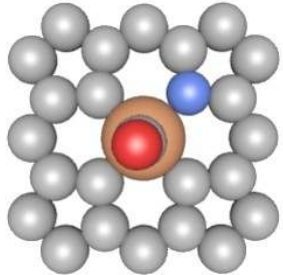
### DFT Results

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Adsorption Energy | 1.863 eV |
| Net Charge State  | -0.3065  |
| Net Spin Moment   | 0.7680   |

### DFT Settings

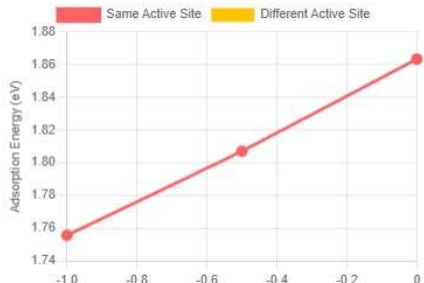
|                          |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| XC Functional            | gga-PBE   |
| vdW Correction           | D3        |
| Pseudopotential Class    | GBRV      |
| Implicit Solvation Model | LinearPCM |
| PCM Variant              | CANDLE    |

### DFT Structure

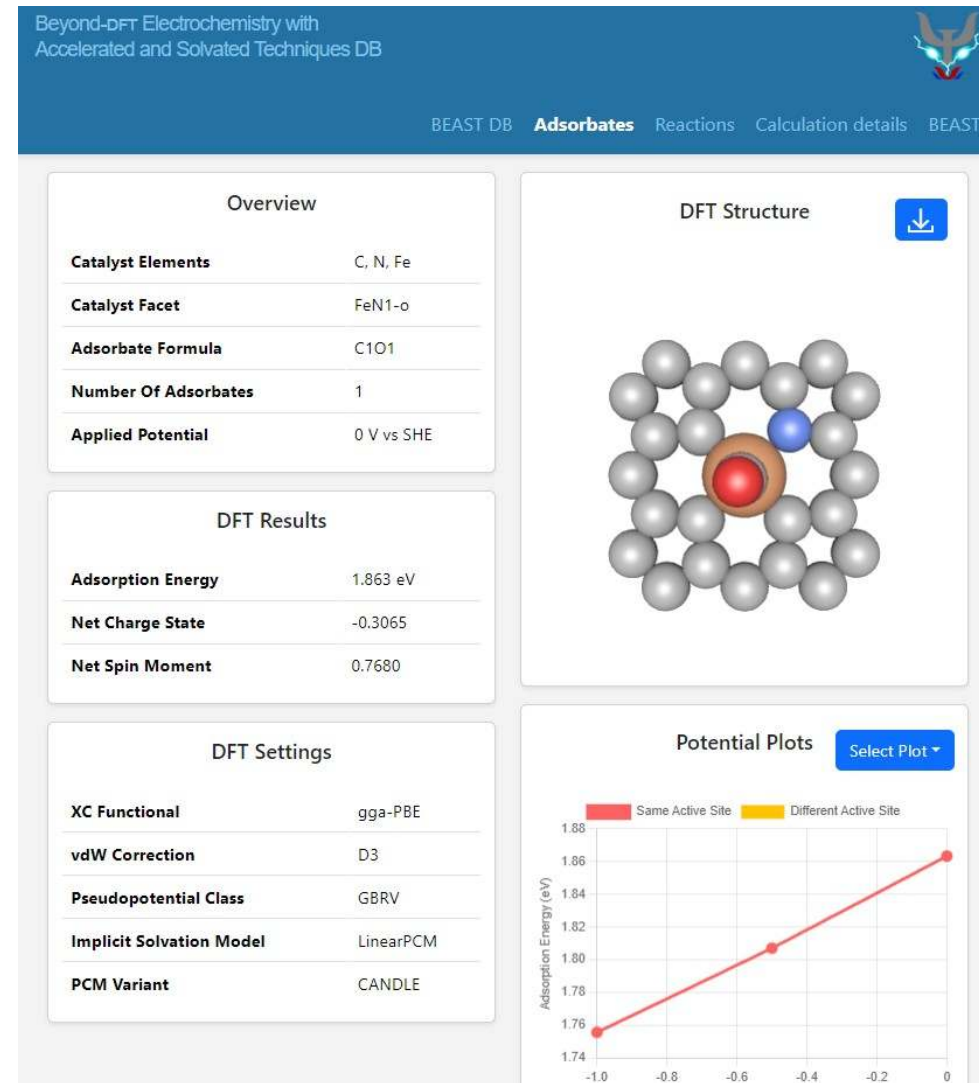


### Potential Plots

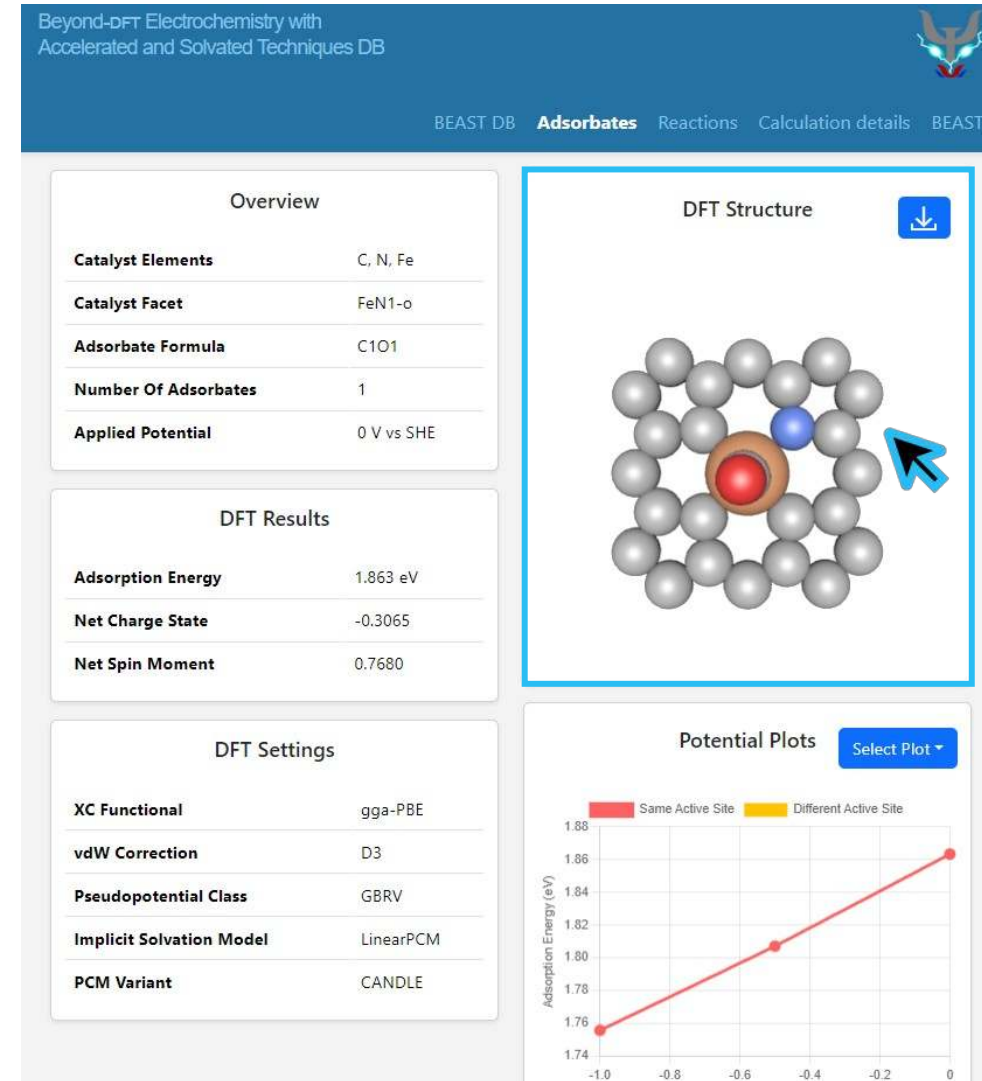
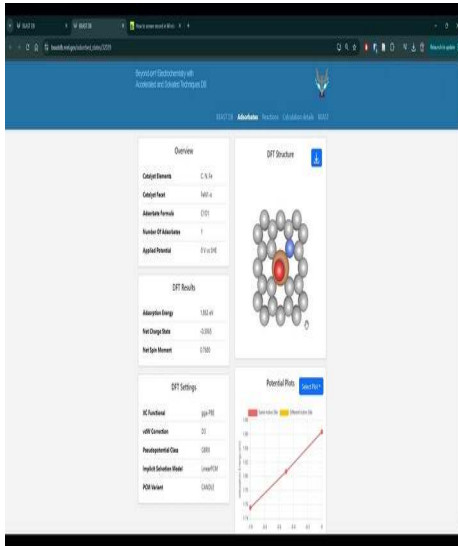
Select Plot



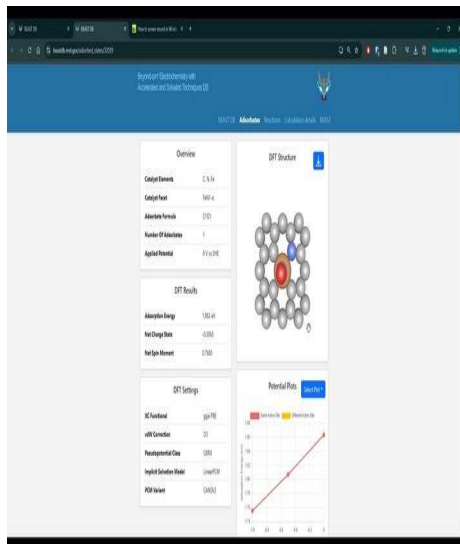
# UI facilitates granular system understanding



# UI facilitates granular system understanding



# UI facilitates granular system understanding



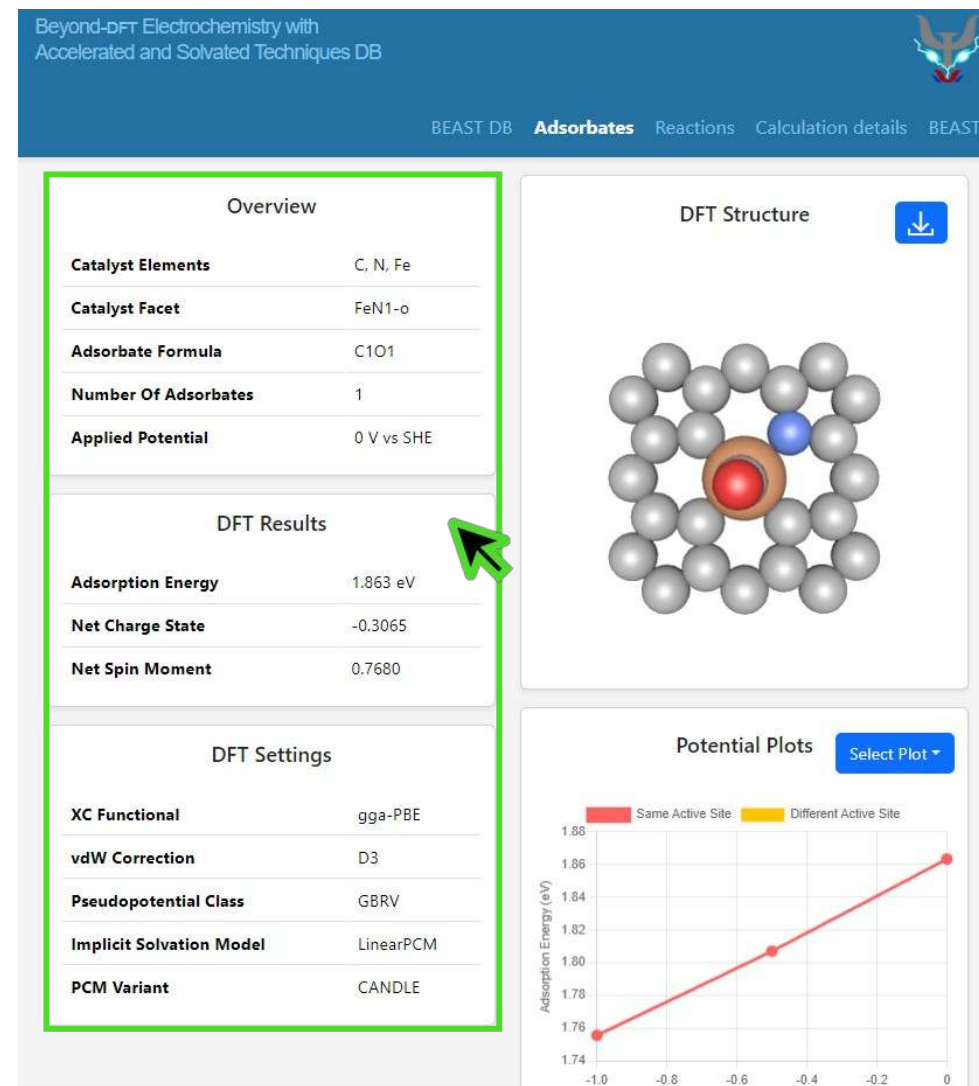
| Overview             |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| Catalyst Elements    | C, N, Fe   |
| Catalyst Facet       | FeN1-o     |
| Adsorbate Formula    | C1O1       |
| Number Of Adsorbates | 1          |
| Applied Potential    | 0 V vs SHE |

| DFT Results       |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Adsorption Energy | 1.863 eV |
| Net Charge State  | -0.3065  |
| Net Spin Moment   | 0.7680   |

| DFT Settings             |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| XC Functional            | gga-PBE   |
| vdW Correction           | D3        |
| Pseudopotential Class    | GBRV      |
| Implicit Solvation Model | LinearPCM |
| PCM Variant              | CANDLE    |



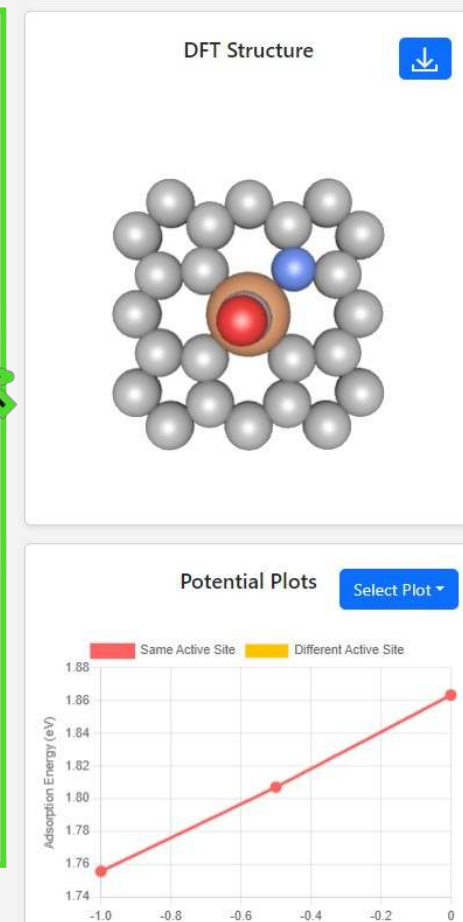
| Overview             |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| Catalyst Elements    | C, N, Fe   |
| Catalyst Facet       | FeN1-o     |
| Adsorbate Formula    | C1O1       |
| Number Of Adsorbates | 1          |
| Applied Potential    | 0 V vs SHE |

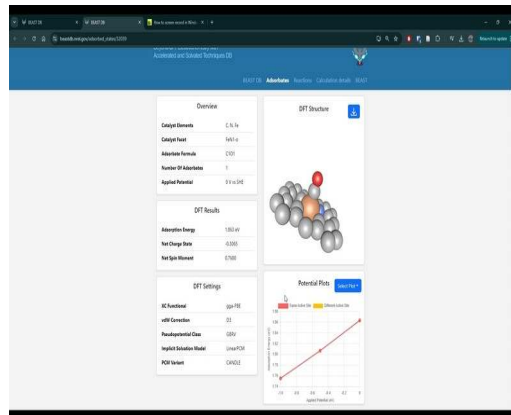
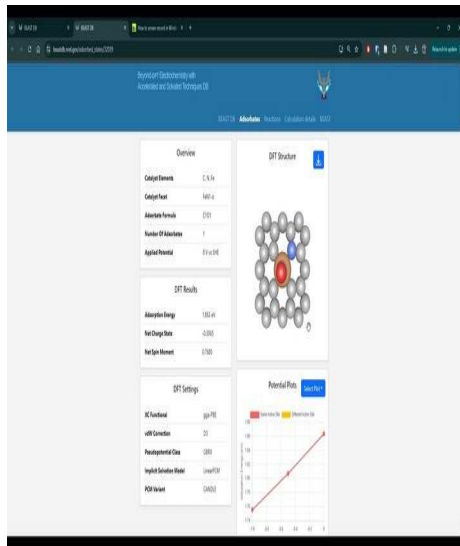
| DFT Results       |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| Adsorption Energy | 1.863 eV |
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| Net Spin Moment   | 0.7680   |

| DFT Settings             |           |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| XC Functional            | gga-PBE   |
| vdW Correction           | D3        |
| Pseudopotential Class    | GBRV      |
| Implicit Solvation Model | LinearPCM |
| PCM Variant              | CANDLE    |



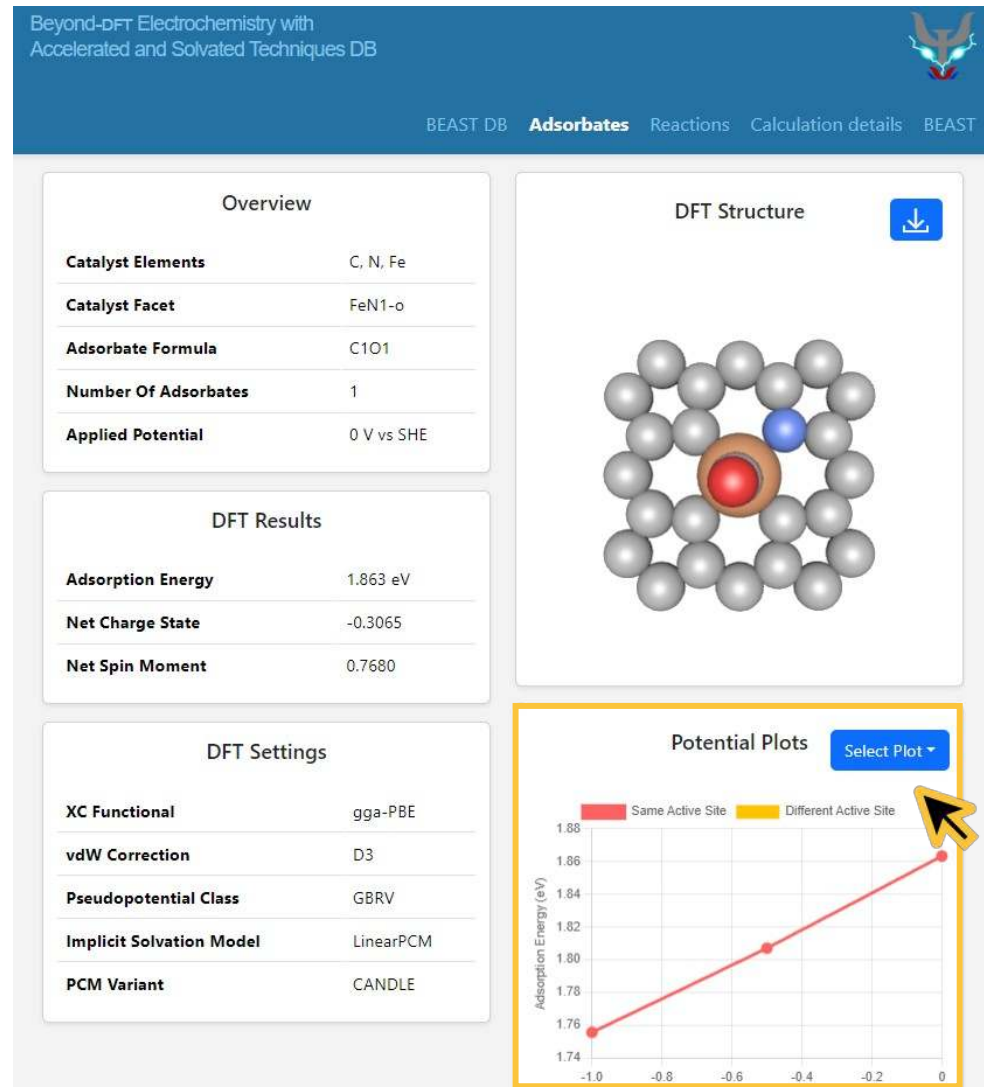
# UI facilitates granular system understanding



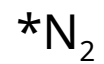
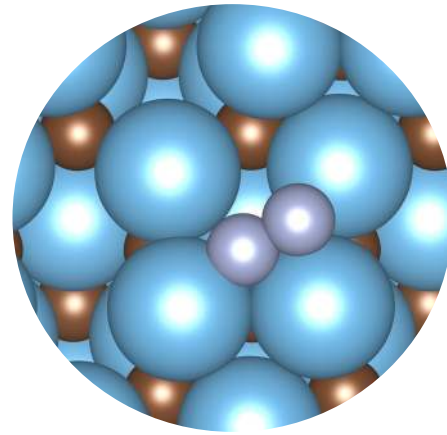
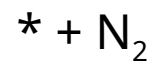
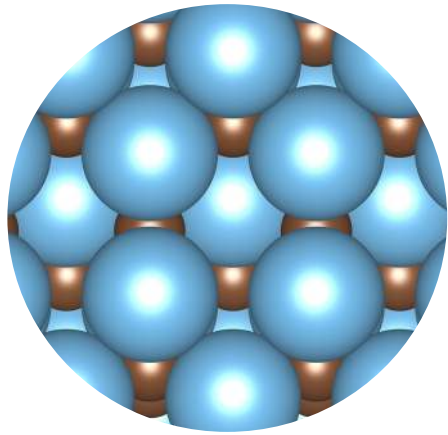
| Overview                    |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| <b>Catalyst Elements</b>    | C, N, Fe   |
| <b>Catalyst Facet</b>       | FeN1-o     |
| <b>Adsorbate Formula</b>    | C1O1       |
| <b>Number Of Adsorbates</b> | 1          |
| <b>Applied Potential</b>    | 0 V vs SHE |

| DFT Results              |          |
|--------------------------|----------|
| <b>Adsorption Energy</b> | 1.863 eV |
| <b>Net Charge State</b>  | -0.3065  |
| <b>Net Spin Moment</b>   | 0.7680   |

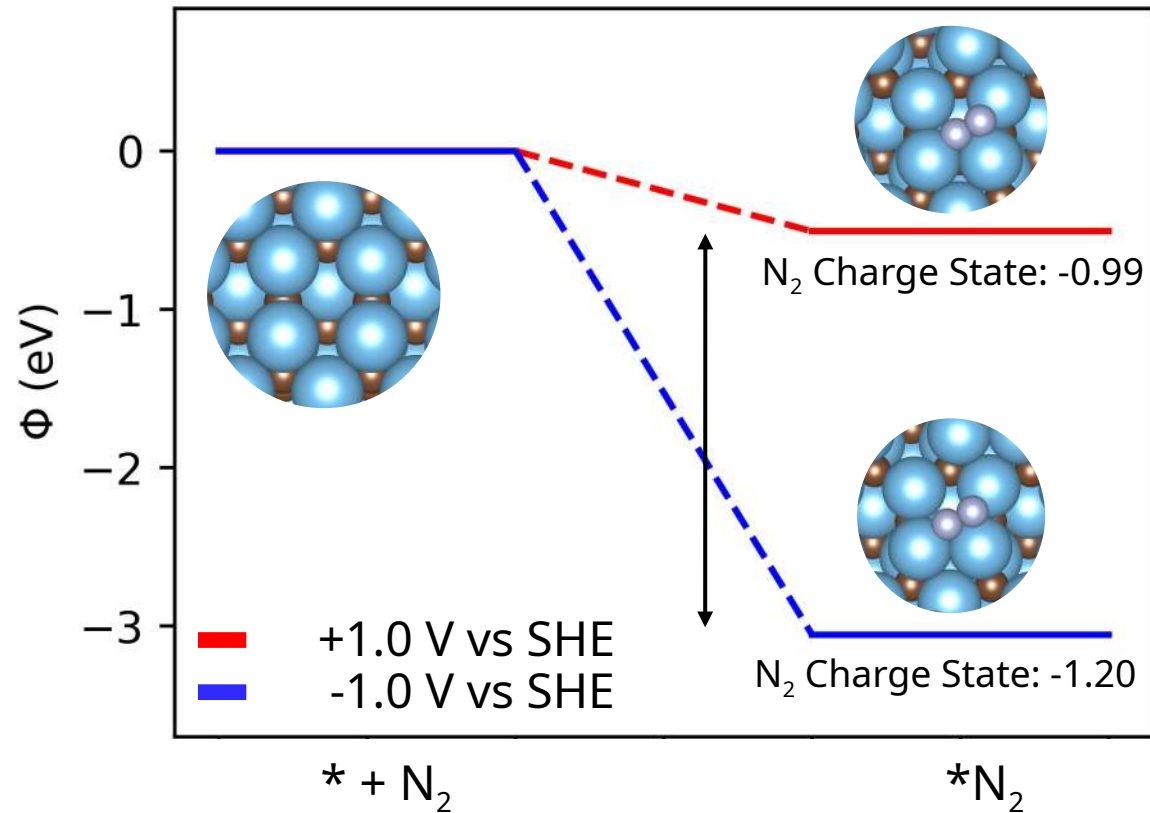
| DFT Settings                    |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>XC Functional</b>            | gga-PBE   |
| <b>vdW Correction</b>           | D3        |
| <b>Pseudopotential Class</b>    | GBRV      |
| <b>Implicit Solvation Model</b> | LinearPCM |
| <b>PCM Variant</b>              | CANDLE    |



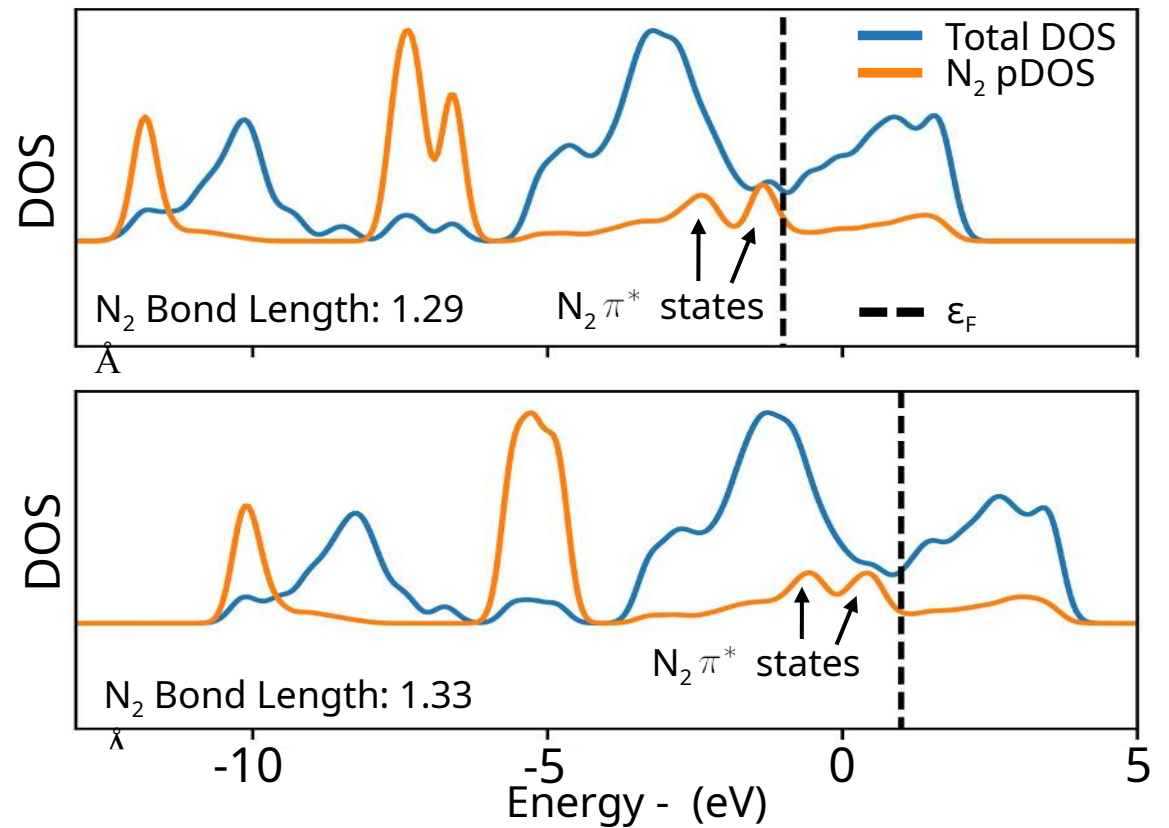
# Electronic structure shows potential-dependent N<sub>2</sub> adsorption



# Electronic structure shows potential-dependent N<sub>2</sub> adsorption



Our model predicts **potential-dependent N<sub>2</sub> adsorption** with partial charge transfer



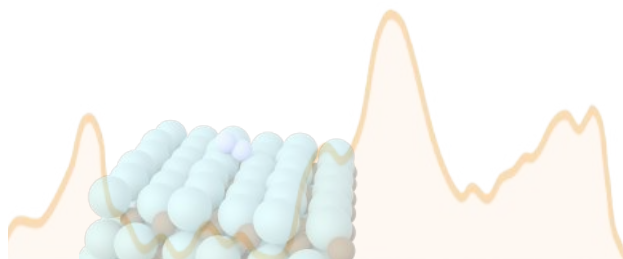
Database facilitates **rationalization** of fundamental **electrochemical processes**



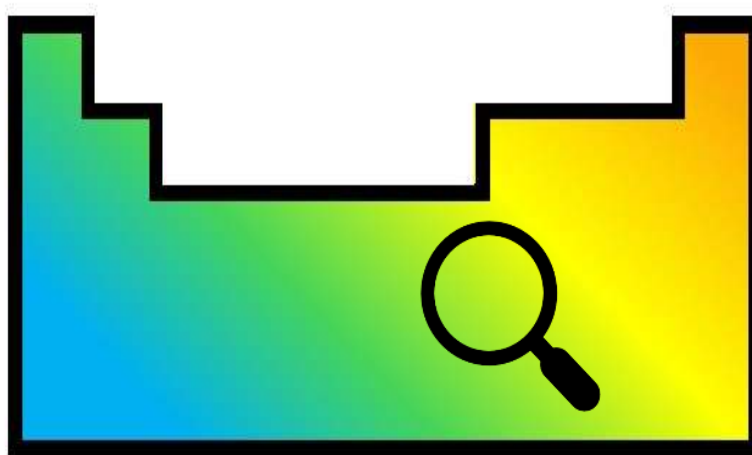


# Capabilities

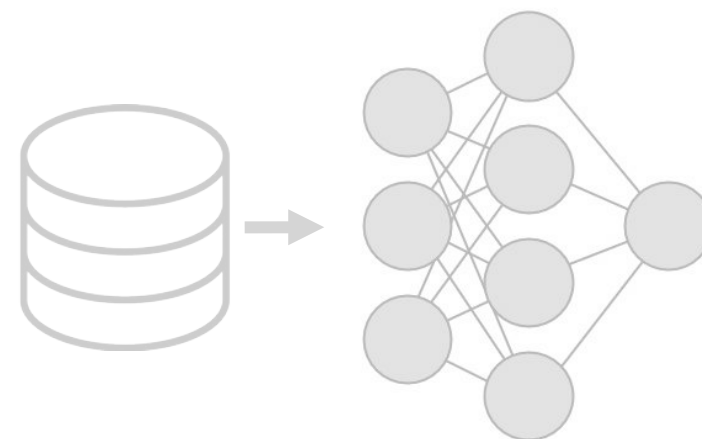
## 1. Individual system studies



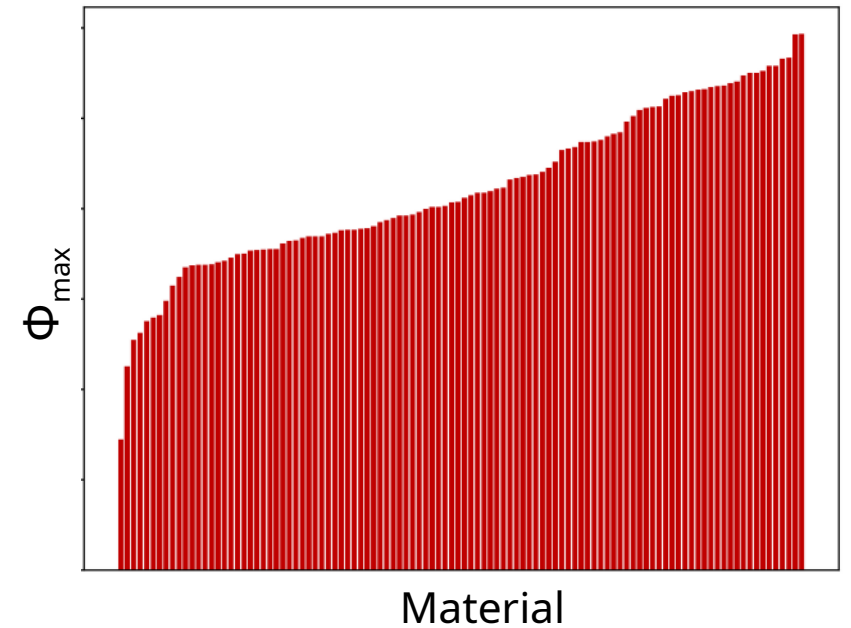
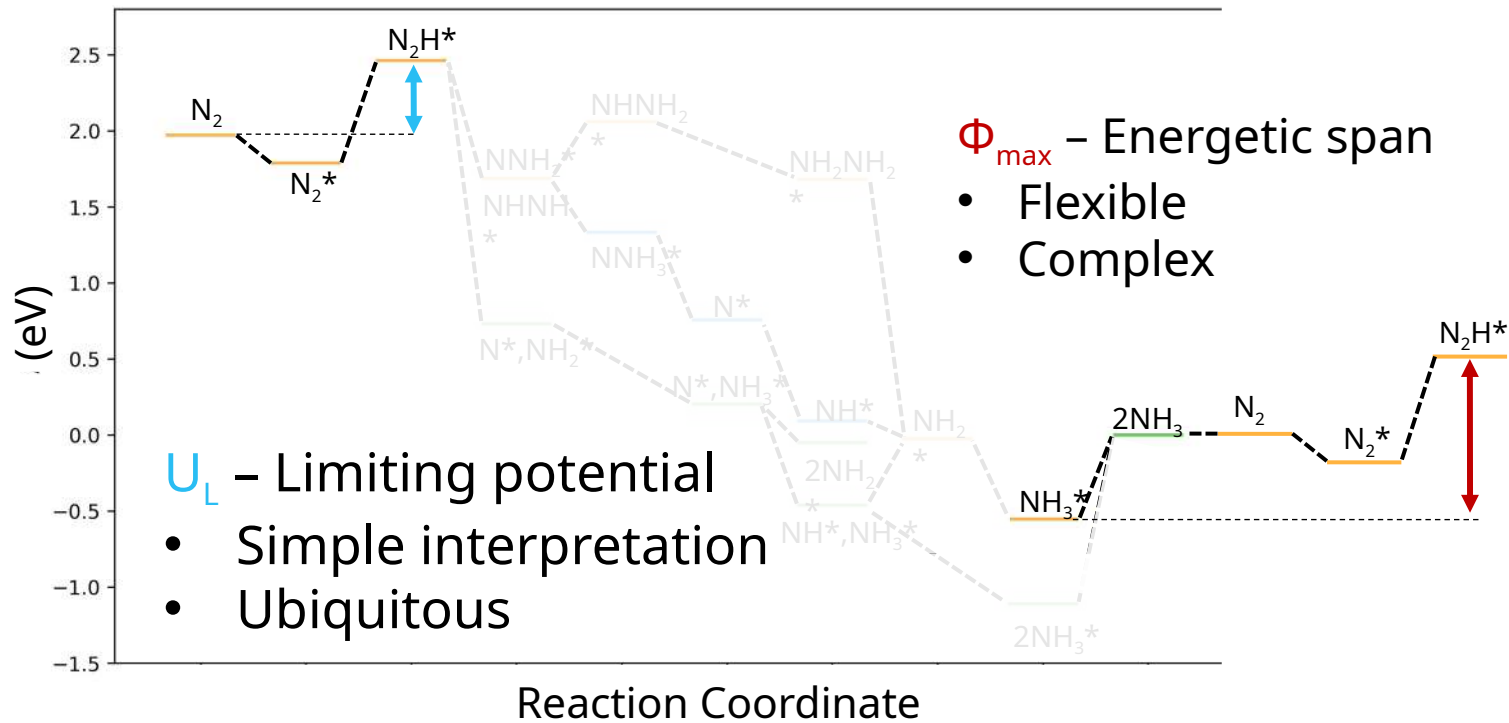
## 2. Material space screening



## 3. Statistical model training



# Thermodynamic activity descriptors



Complex mechanisms require cheap descriptors to sort large material spaces



# Reaction pathway visualization

Beyond-DFT Electrochemistry with  
Accelerated and Solvated Techniques DB



BEAST DB Adsorbates **Reactions** Calculation details BEAST

## BEAST Database Reactions

Select Search Criteria:

Catalyst Elements

Select Columns to Display:

Select...

| Catalyst Elements   | Catalyst Facet | Reaction Type | Potential | Limiting Potential | Energetic Span |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------|----------------|
| P Ru P Ru P Ru P Ru | 010            | HER           | 0         | 0                  | 0.269          |
| Ru                  | 211            | NRR           | -0.25     | 5.26               | 4.809          |
| Ru                  | 211            | NRR           | -0.5      | 8.044              | 6.246          |
| Ru                  | 211            | NRR           | 0         | 2.485              | 3.357          |
| Ru                  | 211            | HER           | -0.25     | 0.292              | 0.708          |
| Ru                  | 211            | HER           | -0.5      | 1.001              | 0.999          |
| Ru                  | 211            | HER           | 0         | 0                  | 0.419          |

Users can sort materials by descriptors



# Reaction pathway visualization

Beyond-DFT Electrochemistry with  
Accelerated and Solvated Techniques DB



BEAST DB Adsorbates **Reactions** Calculation details BEAST

## BEAST Database Reactions

Select Search Criteria:

Catalyst Elements

Search Text

Ru

REMOVE

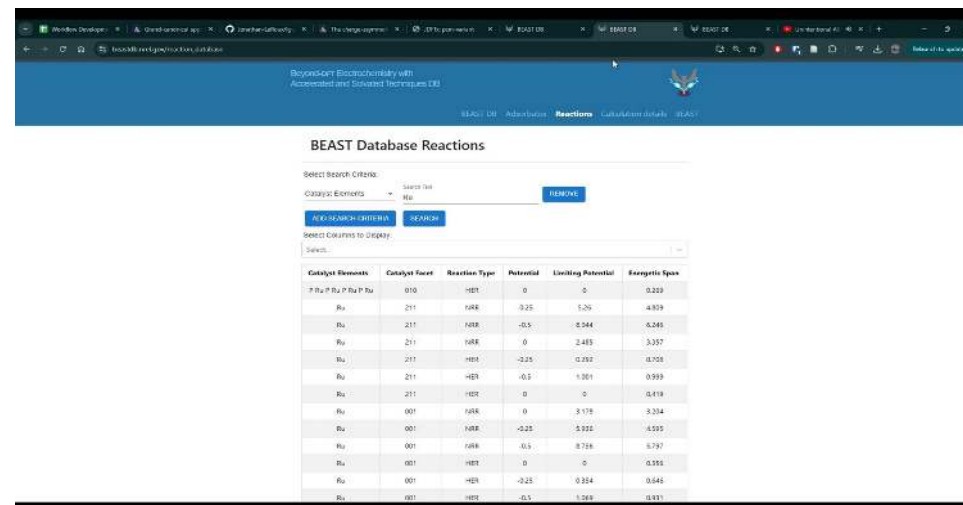
ADD SEARCH CRITERIA

SEARCH

Select Columns to Display:

Select...

| Catalyst Elements   | Catalyst Facet | Reaction Type | Potential | Limiting Potential | Energetic Span |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------|----------------|
| P Ru P Ru P Ru P Ru | 010            | HER           | 0         | 0                  | 0.269          |
| Ru                  | 211            | NRR           | -0.25     | 5.26               | 4.809          |
| Ru                  | 211            | NRR           | -0.5      | 8.044              | 6.246          |
| Ru                  | 211            | NRR           | 0         | 2.485              | 3.357          |
| Ru                  | 211            | HER           | -0.25     | 0.292              | 0.708          |
| Ru                  | 211            | HER           | -0.5      | 1.001              | 0.999          |
| Ru                  | 211            | HER           | 0         | 0                  | 0.419          |



# Reaction pathway visualization

Beyond-DFT Electrochemistry with  
Accelerated and Solvated Techniques DB



BEAST DB Adsorbates **Reactions** Calculation details BEAST

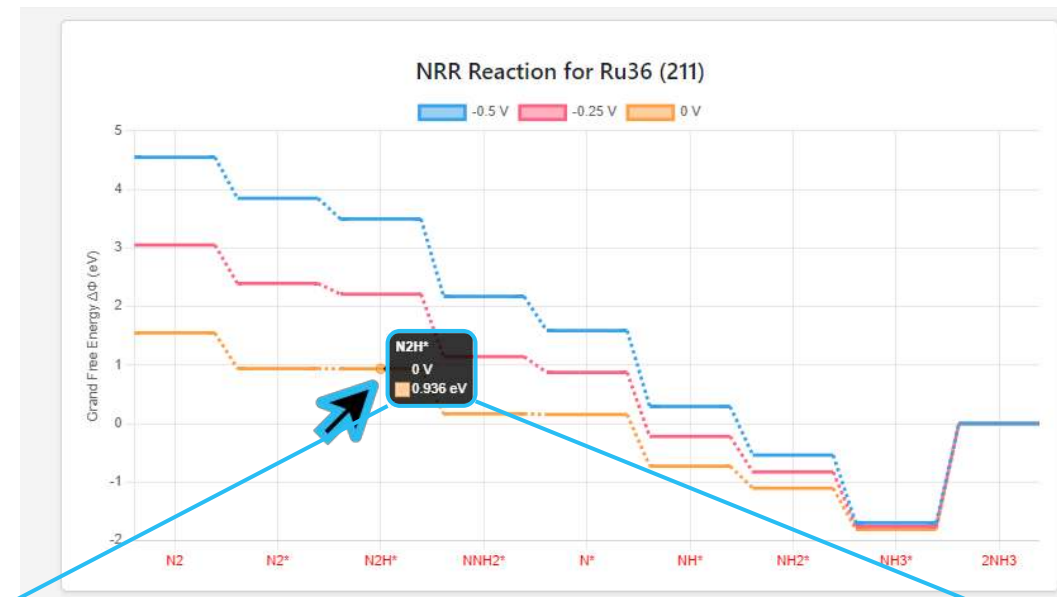
## BEAST Database Reactions

Select Search Criteria:

Catalyst Elements

Select Columns to Display:

| Catalyst Elements   | Catalyst Facet | Reaction Type | Potential | Limiting Potential | Energetic Span |
|---------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------|----------------|
| P Ru P Ru P Ru P Ru | 010            | HER           | 0         | 0                  | 0.269          |
| Ru                  | 211            | NRR           | -0.25     | 5.26               | 4.809          |
| Ru                  | 211            | NRR           | -0.5      | 8.044              | 6.246          |
| Ru                  | 211            | NRR           | 0         | 2.485              | 3.357          |
| Ru                  | 211            | HER           | -0.25     | 0.292              | 0.708          |
| Ru                  | 211            | HER           | -0.5      | 1.001              | 0.999          |
| Ru                  | 211            | HER           | 0         | 0                  | 0.419          |



**Overview**

- Catalyst Elements: Ru
- Catalyst Facet: 211
- Adsorbate Formula: N2H1
- Number Of Adsorbates: 1
- Applied Potential: 0 V vs SHE
- Related Reaction: [NRR](#)

**DFT Structure**

**Potential Plots**

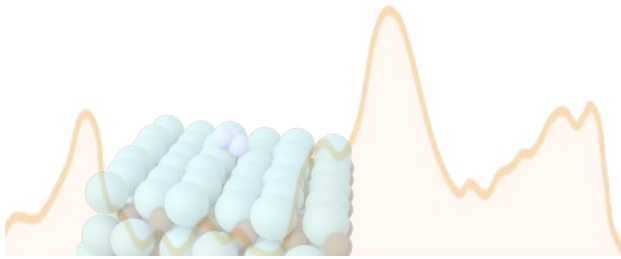
**DFT Results**

- Adsorption Energy: -0.6140 eV
- Net Charge State: 0.6587



# Capabilities

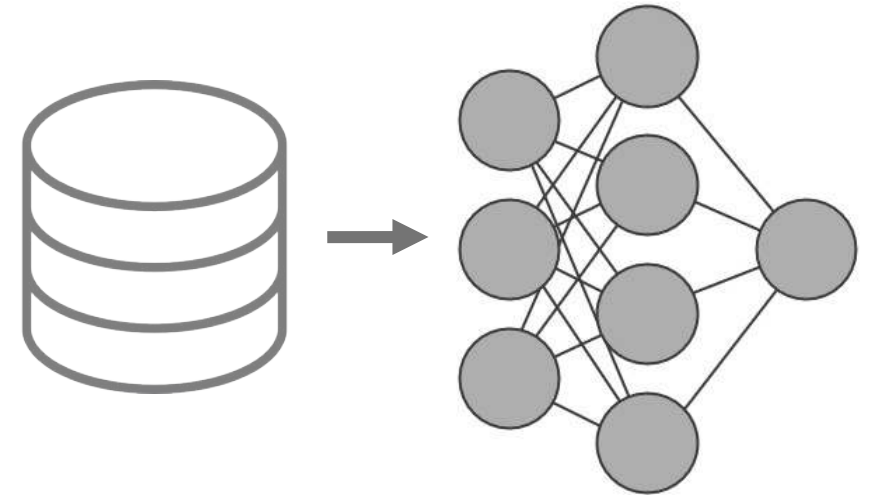
1. Individual system studies



2. Material space screening



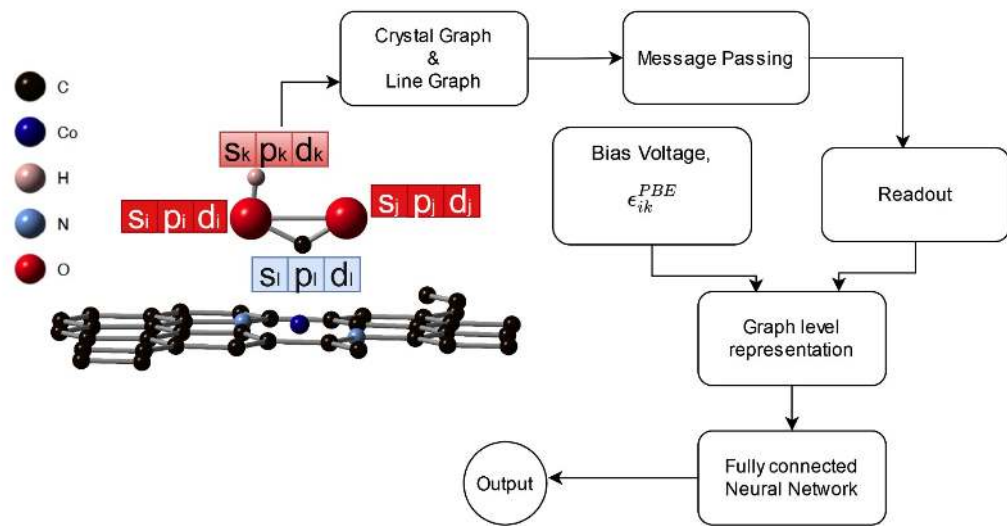
3. Statistical model training



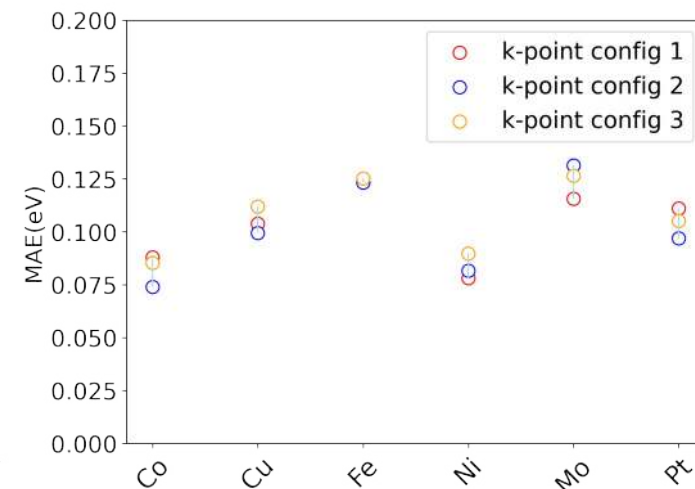
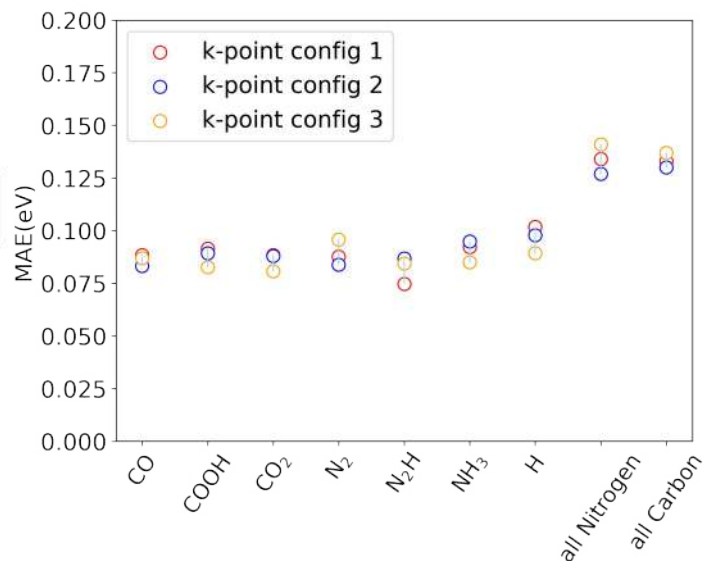
# Learned HSE eigenvalues with PBE data at constant voltage

## ALIGNN graph neural network architecture

- PBE atomic band projections are node features
- Voltage and PBE eigenvalues are global features
- Model output is HSE eigenvalues



|                  | Default ALIGNN | Only orbital projections | orbital projections, eigenvalues and voltage |
|------------------|----------------|--------------------------|--|
| Average MAE (eV) | 3.67           | 0.32                     | 0.09   |



Choudhary, K.; et al. Atomistic Line Graph Neural Network for Improved Materials Property Predictions.

Model generalizes well outside of adsorbates/metals seen in training set



# Future database developments

Adoption of pymatgen ecosystem of workflow code (immediate priority)

Jobflow pymatgen Custodian

User submission acceptance (1 year)



Greater material space and reactions coverage (ongoing)

Surface speciation data (immediate priority)

More complex mechanisms of existing data (1 year)





# Acknowledgements



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Office of  
Science



## **Database Developers:**

Joshua Quinton – RPI

Rachel Hurst – NREL

Struan Clark – NREL

Jacob Clary – NREL

## **Advisors:**

Charles Musgrave – CU Boulder

Derek Vigil-Fowler – NREL

Ravishankar Sundararaman – RPI

## **Colleagues:**

Sophie Gerits – CU Boulder

Benjamin Rich – CU Boulder

