

# Tensor Networks as a tool to improve LAMMPS simulation potentials

Daniel Castillo Castro

Núcleo de Física, Matemática y Estadística (U. Mayor)

QUDIT, Facultad de Física (UC Chile)

[dacastillo@uc.cl](mailto:dacastillo@uc.cl)

# Tensors: Generalization of scalars and vectors

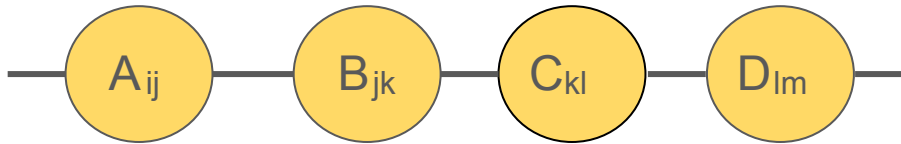


- Can simplify some concepts definition.
- Can be coded using C++ (ITensor), Python (TenPy), Julia (TensorOperations)...

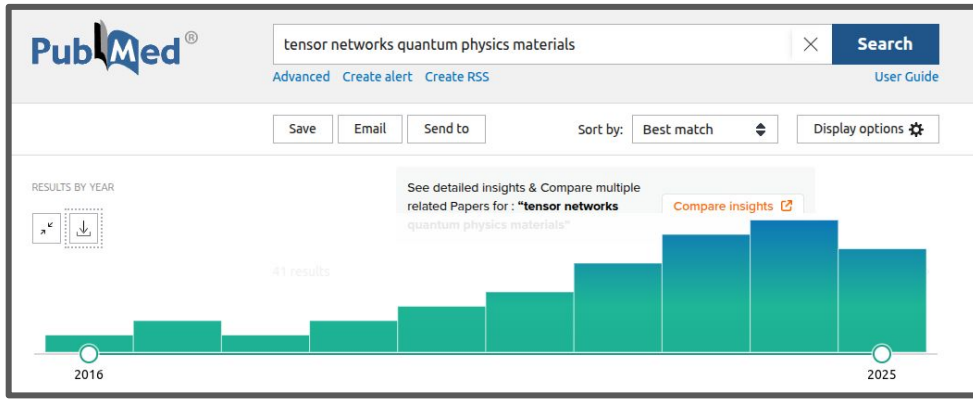
- <https://www.tensors.net/>
- <http://quattro.phys.sci.kobe-u.ac.jp/dmrg.html>
- Orús, R. (2014). A practical introduction to tensor networks: Matrix product states and projected entangled pair states. *Annals of physics*, 349, 117-158.

## Where can be applied tensors in Physics

- Succinct representation of physical quantities (ex: [Stress Tensor](#), [Moment of Inertia](#), [Stress/energy tensor](#)).
- Representation of frameworks of space and time (ex: General Relativity)

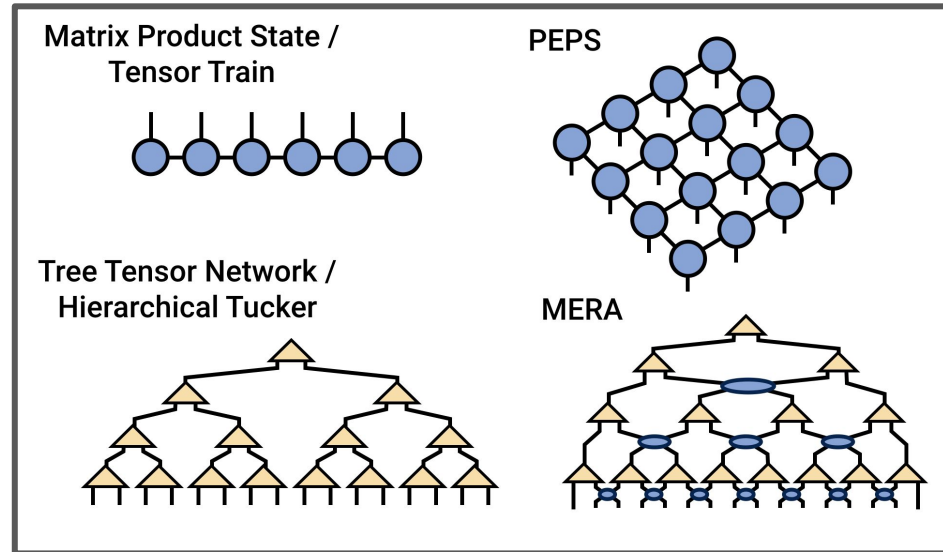
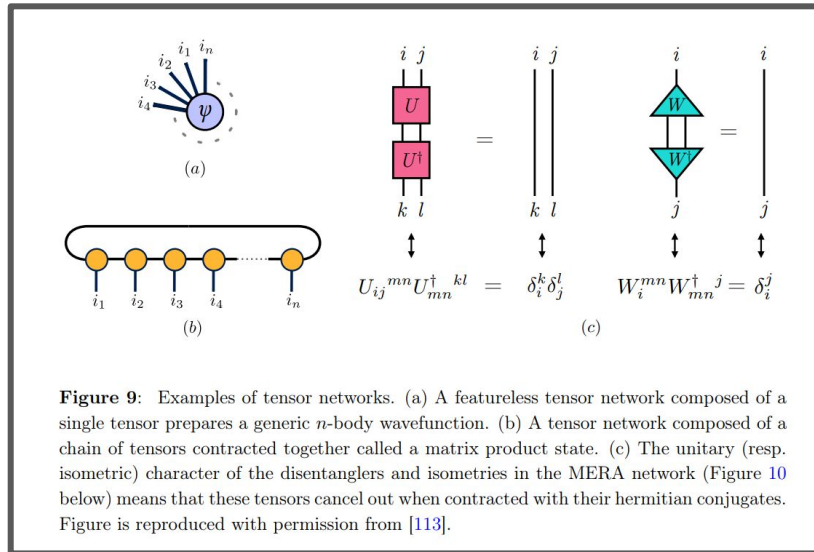


Tensor networks: Simplification of matrix products.



Recent interest of the use of tensor networks for studying materials.

# Example: Visualization and methods for Quantum Mechanics

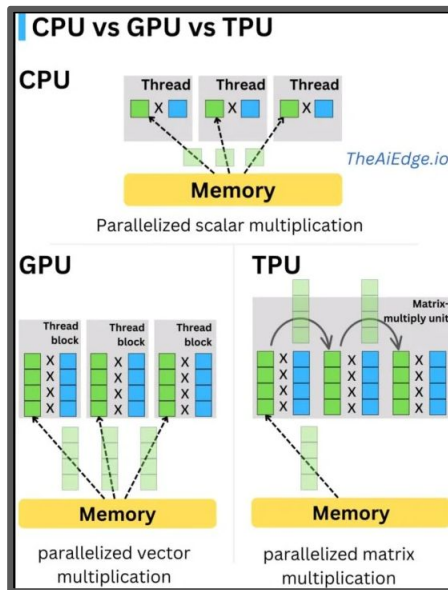
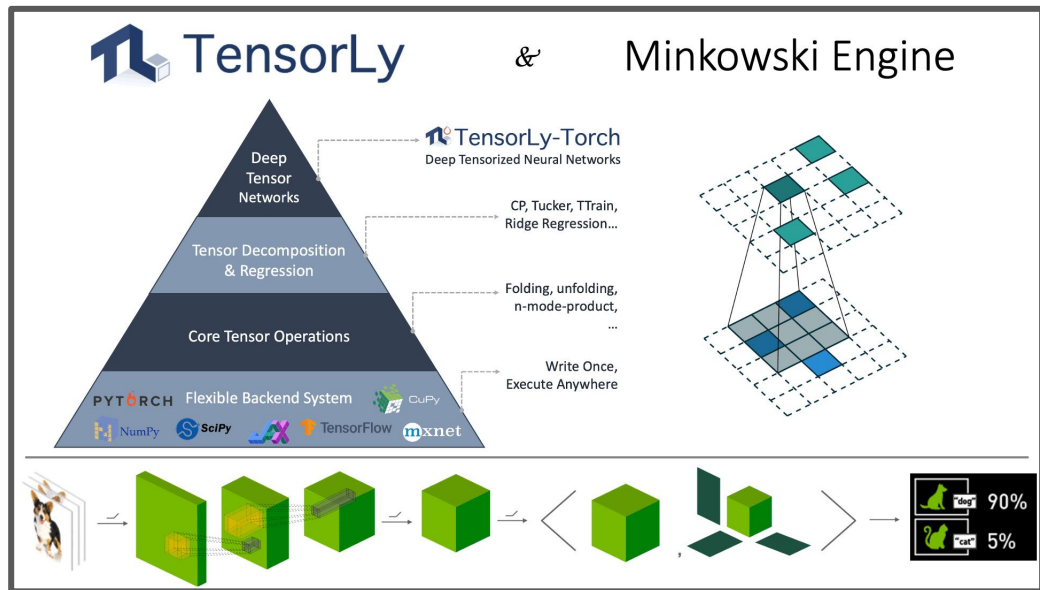


Can these tools be an adequate tool to improve molecular simulations?

- Bowen, Chen et al (2022). Quantum Information in Holographic Duality *Rep. Prog. Phys.* 85 046001
- Berezutskii, A., Liu, M., Acharya, A., Ellerbrock, R., Gray, J., Haghshenas, R. & Alexeev, Y. (2025). Tensor networks for quantum computing. *Nature Reviews Physics*, 1-13.

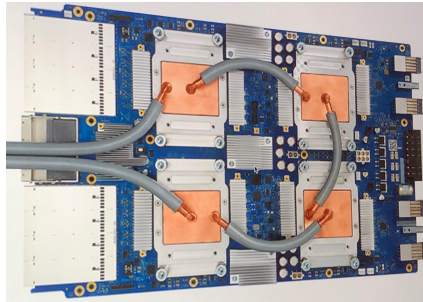
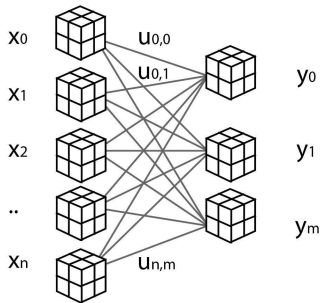
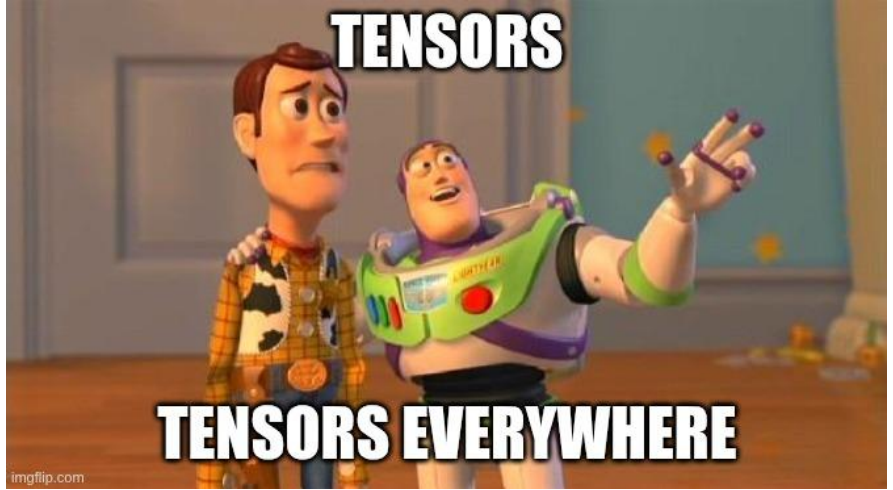
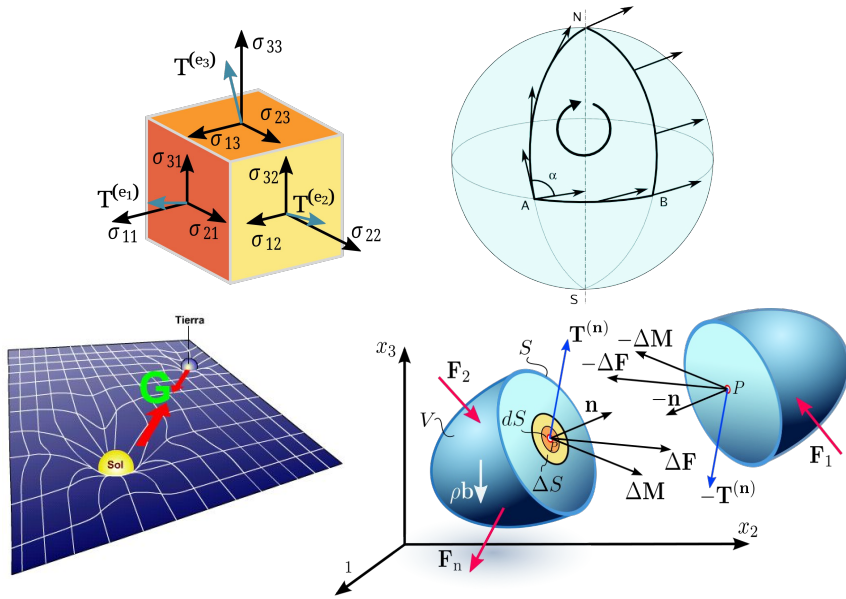
# Tensors are useful as computing framework too!

- Codes could be optimized by TN: faster and cheaper calculations.



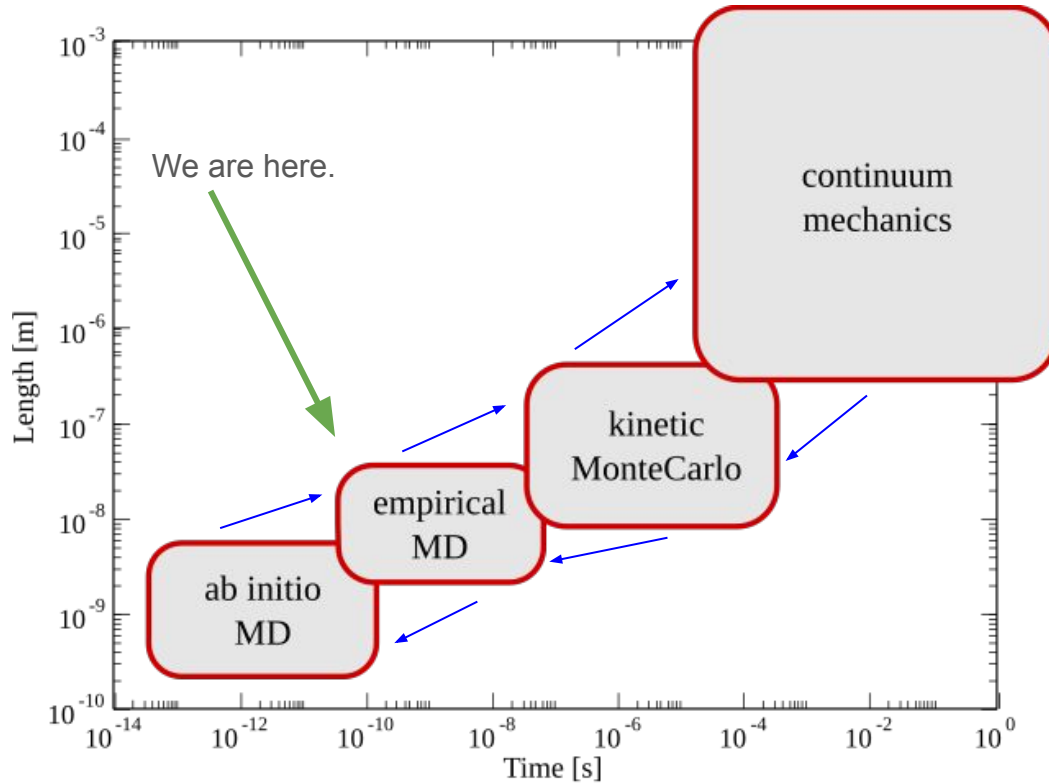
- Kolda, T. G., & Bader, B. W. (2009). Tensor decompositions and applications. *SIAM review*, 51(3), 455-500.
- Zhao-Yu Han, Jun Wang, Heng Fan, Lei Wang, Pan Zhang (2018) *Unsupervised Generative Modeling Using Matrix Product States*, *Phys. Rev. X* **8**, 031012
- <https://developer.nvidia.com/blog/nvidia-research-tensors-are-the-future-of-deep-learning/>

# Tensor Networks (TN): An **ultrapowerful** tool.



- Tensors in different branches of physics.
- Tensors in machine learning
- **Tensors for Quantum Simulation?**

# Quantum simulation of materials: scaling as a challenge.



Phonon-induced non-equilibrium dynamics in a single solid-state spin  
A Norambuena, D Tancari, VF Chromali Castro, D Castillo-Castro  
Quantum Science and Technology

2025

Plasticity in diamond nanoparticles: dislocations and amorphization during loading and dislocation multiplication during unloading  
F Aguistapace, D Castillo-Castro, Rl González, N Amigo, ...  
Journal of Materials Science 59 (12), 4788-4809

14

2024

Nanoporous amorphous carbon with exceptional ultra-high strength  
D Castillo-Castro, F Correa, E Aparicio, N Amigo, A Prada, J Figueroa, ...  
Nanomaterials 13 (8), 1429

9

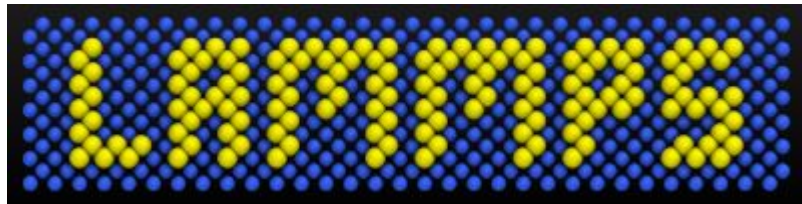
2023

After 5 years approx. in MD for different materials:

- How to scale from one formalism to another?
- Can Tensors contribute to the results exchange?

# Proposal: Tensor Networks+Empirical potentials

block2



- DMRG for few atoms ( $< 100$ )
- Ground state energy calculations
- Use of results for build potential
- Application of machine learning
- Testing of result for more atoms
- Testing:  $E(r)$ , RDF, stress/strain...



# block2

## DMRG Calculations

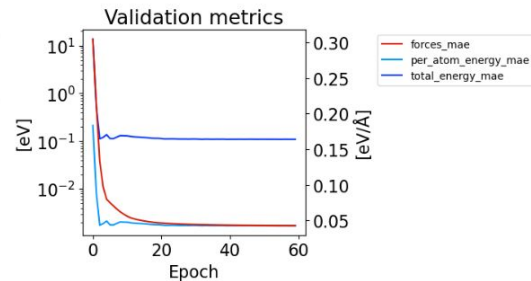
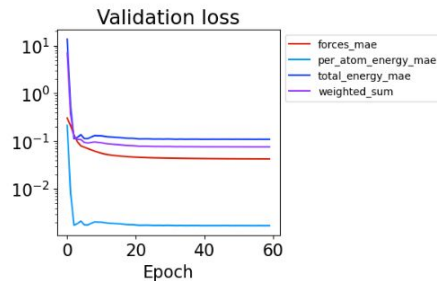
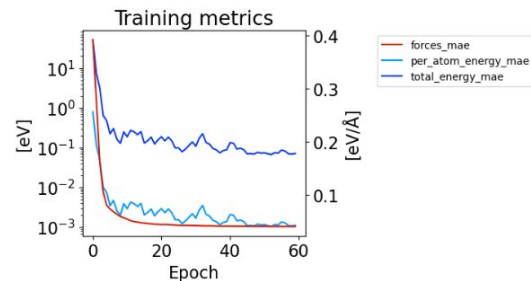
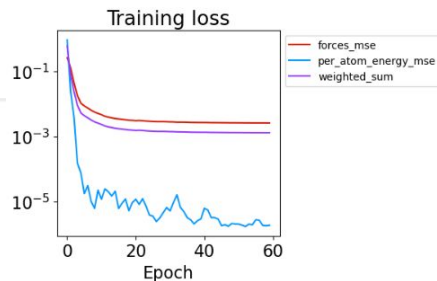
```
!rm sitraj.xyz
atoms_Si=""
#file_object = open('sitraj_new.xyz', 'w')
with open('sitraj.xyz', 'w') as file_object:
    for n1 in range(len(X)):
        fcc_atoms = generate_fcc_lattice(X[n1], 1, 1, 1)
        atoms_Si=""
        for j in range(len(fcc_atoms)):
            atoms_Si +=f" Si {fcc_atoms[j][0]} {fcc_atoms[j][1]} {fcc_atoms[j][2]}"
        # Define the molecular system
        mol = gto.M(atom=atoms_Si, basis='ccpvtz')
        mf = scf.RHF(mol).run(conv_tol=1E-14)
        # Get the necessary integrals for DMRG
        ncas, n_elec, spin, ecore, h1e, g2e, orb_sym = itg.get_rhf_integrals(mf,ncore=2, ncas=26, g2e_symm=8)
        driver = DMRGDriver(scratch=". /Si_tmp")
        driver.initialize_system(n_sites=ncas, n_elec=n_elec, spin=spin, orb_sym=orb_sym)
        mpo = driver.get_qc_mpo(h1e=h1e, g2e=g2e, ecore=ecore, iprint=0)
        ket = driver.get_random_mps(tag="KET", bond_dim=100, nroots=1)
        bond_dims = [100] * 4 + [200] * 4 + [300] * 4 + [400] * 4
        noises = [1e-2] * 4 + [1e-3] * 12 + [0]
        thrds = [1e-6] * 10
        energy = driver.dmrp(mpo, ket, n_sweeps=28, bond_dims=bond_dims, noises=noises,
            thrds=thrds, iprint=1, twosite_to_onsite=20)
        #print('DMRG energy (variational) = %20.15f' % energy)
        print(len(fcc_atoms), file=file_object)
        the_array = 'Lattice="12 0.0 0.0 0.0 12 0.0 0.0 0.0 12" Properties=species:S:1:pos:R:3:forces:R:3 energy='+str(energy)
        print(the_array, file=file_object)
        for j in range(len(fcc_atoms)):
            print(f"Si {fcc_atoms[j][0]} {fcc_atoms[j][1]} {fcc_atoms[j][2]} {fx} {fy} {fz} ", file=file_object)
```

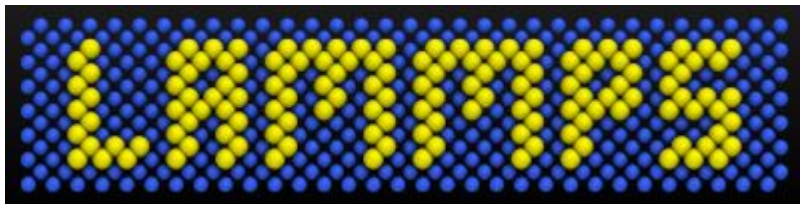


## Potential building

```
## TRAIN NEQUIP ##
!rm -rf ./results
!mkdir ./results
!nequip-train -cn config.yaml
```

```
1 # =====
2 # RUN
3 # =====
4 run: [train, test] #Define train and test subsets
5 cutoff_radius: 5.0
6 chemical_symbols: [Si]
7 model_type_names: ${chemical_symbols}
8
9
10 # =====
11 # DATA
12 # =====
13 data:
14   _target: nequip.data.datamodule.ASEDataModule
15   seed: 456 # dataset seed for reproducibility
16   split_dataset:
17     file_path: ./sitraj.xyz
18     train: 0.8
19     val: 0.1
20     test: 0.1
21   transforms:
22     # data doesn't usually come with a neighborlist -- this transforms prepares the neighborlist
23     - _target: nequip.data.transforms.NeighborListTransform
24       r_max: ${cutoff_radius}
25     - _target: nequip.data.transforms.ChemicalSpeciesToAtomTypeMapper
26       chemical_symbols: ${chemical_symbols}
27   train_data_loader:
28     _target: torch.utils.data.DataLoader
29     batch_size: 5
30     num_workers: 5
31     shuffle: true
32   val_data_loader:
33     _target: torch.utils.data.DataLoader
34     batch_size: 10
35     num_workers: ${data.train_data_loader.num_workers} # we want to use the same num_workers -- variable interpolation helps
36   test_data_loader: ${data.val_data_loader} # variable interpolation comes in handy again
37
```





## DM testing of potentials

```
# @title Prepare files and run LAMMPS
from ase.io import read, write
example_atoms = read('./sitraj_old.xyz', index=0)
write('./si.data', example_atoms, format='lammps-data')
```

```
lammps_input = """
units      metal
atom_style atomic
dimension 3
```

```
# set newton on for pair_allegro (off for pair_nequip)
newton off
boundary p p p
read_data ../si.data

# if you want to run a larger system, simply replicate the system in space
#replicate 2 2 2
```

```
# allegro pair style
pair_style nequip
pair_coeff * * ../deployed.nequip.pth Si
```

```
mass 1 28.0855
```

```
velocity all create 300.0 1234567 loop geom
```

```
neighbor 1.0 bin
neigh_modify delay 5 every 1
```

```
timestep 0.001
thermo 10
```

```
dump dump_pos all custom 200 dump.xyz id type x y z
```

```
# nose-hoover thermostat, 300K
fix 1 all nvt temp 300 300 $(100*dt)
```

```
# compute rdf and average after some equilibration
comm_modify cutoff 7.0
compute rdfall all rdf 1000 cutoff 5.0
fix 2 all ave/time 1 2500 5000 c_rdfall[*] file si.rdf mode vector
```

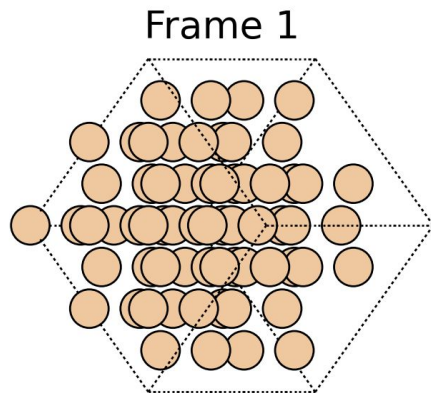
```
# run 5ps
run 5000
"""
```

```
!rm -rf ./lammps_run
!mkdir lammps_run
with open("lammps_run/si_rdf.in", "w") as f:
    f.write(lammps_input)
```

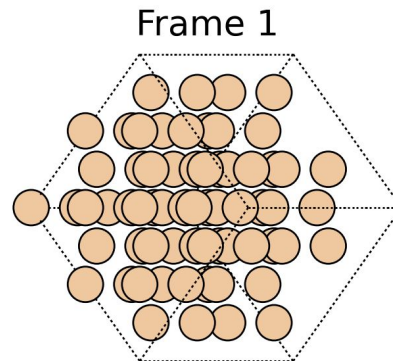
```
!cd lammps_run/ && lammps_nequip -in si_rdf.in
```

## Results:

- The results for Si atoms are not satisfactory... yet.
- It will be needed improvements on the DMRG algorithm, add new algorithms for forces calculations and considering geometry simplifications.



NequIP



NequIP+DMRG

# Conclusion

- New methods could be used to make improvements on LAMMPS simulations, contributing with the connection with other languages (Quantum Chemistry, Tensor Networks...)
- To reach better results, it will be needed to explore another TN methods to calculate forces per atom and elaborate the code to favor scalability.
- My main project: Make these improvements to convert this work in a library related with LAMMPS package.

# Thank You