

List of RGJ advisors 2023/2024

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Keywords: DFT-based machine learning, Machine Learning Force Field, predicting material properties.

Summary of research: Machine learning force fields (MLFF) that incorporate density functional theory (DFT) data can significantly reduce the computing time, making it more feasible to explore a wider range of materials and properties. By training on DFT-based data, MLFF can capture complex quantum mechanical interactions that are essential for accurately predicting material properties. Several of the material properties that can be suitable in prediction using MLFFs, for example, structural properties, elastic properties, thermodynamic properties, thermal properties, phonon dispersion, molecular adsorption, and catalytic activity. The predicting material properties by machine learning is beneficial to guide experimentalists in reducing the trial-and-error aspect of materials development.

**แบบเสนอโครงการวิจัย (Research Project)**  
**ประกอบการเสนอขอทุนอุดหนุนการวิจัยของสำนักงานการวิจัยแห่งชาติ (วช.)**  
**โครงการปริญญาเอกกาญจนาภิเษก (คปก.) ภายใต้ความร่วมมือไตรภาคีไทย-สวีเดน**  
**ประจำปีงบประมาณ ๒๕๖๗**

**๑. ชื่อโครงการวิจัย**

DFT-based machine learning force field for materials informatics

**๒. ชื่อ-สกุล อาจารย์ที่ปรึกษา**

Assoc. Prof. Adisak Boonchun, Ph.D. (รศ.ดร.อดิศักดิ์ บุญชื่น)

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**๓. กลุ่มสาขาวิทยาศาสตร์พื้นฐานที่สมัคร (เลือกเพียง ๑ กลุ่ม)**

ชีววิทยา (Biology)     เคมี (Chemistry)

ฟิสิกส์ (Physics)     คณิตศาสตร์ (Mathematics)

**๔. ผู้ใช้ประโยชน์ (Research stakeholders) (กรณีมีความร่วมมือ) เช่น ความร่วมมือของหน่วยงานภาครัฐ (เช่น กระทรวง กรม)/เอกชนที่ร่วมสนับสนุนทุนวิจัย เช่น MOU เป็นต้น**

มี.....(โปรดระบุชื่อความร่วมมือ และหน่วยงาน).....

ไม่มี

**๕. คำสำคัญ (Keyword) ของโครงการ**

DFT-based machine learning, Machine Learning Force Field, predicting material properties.

**๖. ความสำคัญและที่มาของปัญหาที่ทำการวิจัย (Problem statement and significance of research)**

Density Functional Theory (DFT) is a widely used quantum mechanical method to study materials at the atomic scale. However, DFT calculations can be computationally expensive, especially for large and complex systems. Machine learning force fields (MLFF) that incorporate DFT data can significantly reduce the computational cost, making it more feasible to explore a wider range of materials and properties. By training on DFT-based data, MLFF can capture complex quantum mechanical interactions that are essential for accurately predicting material properties. This level of accuracy is crucial for guiding experimental efforts and reducing the trial-and-error aspect of materials development.

#### ๗. ทฤษฎี/สมมุติฐานของโครงการ (Hypothesis)

The theory of DFT-based machine learning force fields combines concepts from DFT and machine learning algorithms to develop efficient and accurate models for predicting the potential energy surface of materials. The main idea is to learn the potential energy surface (PES) of a material from a limited set of DFT data and then use this learned information to predict the energy and other properties of the material at new, unexplored configurations.

The potential energy surface of a material in DFT is given by the electronic energy, which depends on the positions of all atoms in the system. In a machine learning force field, the potential energy surface is typically represented as a sum of atomic contributions:

$$E(\mathbf{R}) = \sum_i E_{atom}(\mathbf{R}_i)$$

where  $E(\mathbf{R})$  is the total potential energy of the system with atomic positions  $\mathbf{R}$ , and  $\sum_{\{i\}} E_{atom}(\mathbf{R}_i)$  is the energy contribution from atom  $i$  at position  $\mathbf{R}_i$ .

The key idea behind the machine learning component is to approximate these atomic energy contributions using a machine learning model, such as neural networks, kernel ridge regression, or Gaussian processes. The model is trained on a dataset of DFT-calculated energies and corresponding atomic configurations.

Once the machine learning force field is trained, it can be used to predict the energy and other properties of materials for a wide range of atomic configurations, even ones that are computationally infeasible to calculate using DFT directly.

#### ๘. วัตถุประสงค์ของโครงการ (Objectives)

The objective of this research is to use DFT-based on-the-fly machine learning force fields predict material properties efficiently and accurately.

#### ๙. การทบทวนวรรณกรรม/ผลงานวิจัยที่เกี่ยวข้อง (Literature Review)

The concept of "DFT-based on-the-fly machine learning force fields" using the VASP (Vienna Ab Initio Simulation Package) code was introduced in 2020. Below are some literature reviews of relevant papers that discuss and application on active machine learning force field:

1. Jinnouchi, R., Karsai, F., & Kresse, G. (2019). *On-the-fly machine learning force field generation: Application to melting points*. Physical Review B, 100(1), 014105. This paper

present an efficient on-the-fly machine learning force field that can be applied to liquid-solid phase transitions of Al, Si, Ge, Sn and MgO.

2. Jinnouchi, R., Lahnsteiner, J., Karsai, F., Kresse, G., & Bokdam, M. (2019). *Phase transitions of hybrid perovskites simulated by machine-learning force fields trained on the fly with Bayesian inference*. Physical review letters, 122(22), 225701.
3. Jinnouchi, R., Miwa, K., Karsai, F., Kresse, G., & Asahi, R. (2020). *On-the-fly active learning of interatomic potentials for large-scale atomistic simulations*. The Journal of Physical Chemistry Letters, 11(17), 6946. The authors present three applications: catalytic activity of alloyed nanoparticles (NPs), entropy-driven phase transitions of hybrid perovskites, and nuclear quantum effects on thermodynamics and kinetics of an AB<sub>2</sub>-type Laves hydride.

#### ๑๐. ระเบียบวิธีวิจัย (Methodology)

Here's a outline of the on-the-fly MLFF methodology steps:

##### 1. Data Generation and Feature Engineering

- Perform MD simulation to obtain a dataset of atomic configurations ( $\mathbf{R}$ ) and perform DFT at a dataset of  $\mathbf{R}$  to obtain the corresponding potential energies ( $\mathbf{E}$ ).
- Convert atomic configurations ( $\mathbf{R}$ ) into feature vectors ( $\mathbf{X}$ ) by using descriptors.

##### 3. Model Training:

- Use the feature vectors ( $\mathbf{X}$ ) and corresponding potential energies ( $\mathbf{E}$ ) to train a machine learning model.

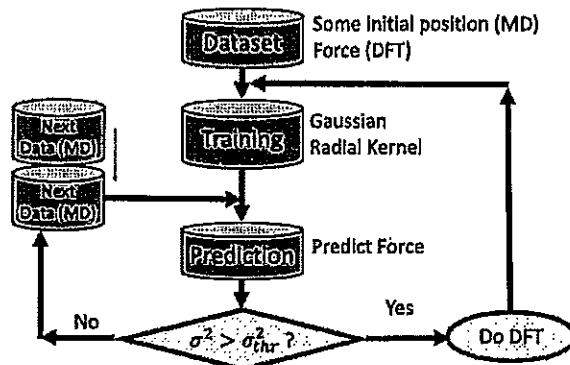
##### 4. On-the-Fly Prediction:

- During molecular simulations, use the trained machine learning model to predict potential energies on-the-fly for each new atomic configuration encountered.

##### 5. Accuracy Assessment and Iterative:

- Calculate the Bayesian error. If the error is high, DFT calculations will be performed. If the error is low, the new atomic configuration from the next step of molecular dynamics will be used as reiterate input.

Here's a flowchart of the on-the-fly MLFF steps:



๑๑. ขอบเขตของการวิจัย (Scope of the study)

The scope of the study of this proposal is to use DFT-based on-the-fly machine learning force fields, implemented in VASP code, develop for predicting material properties. Some of the material properties that we are interested in prediction using MLFFs include: structural properties, elastic properties, phonon dispersion, molecular adsorption and thermal properties.

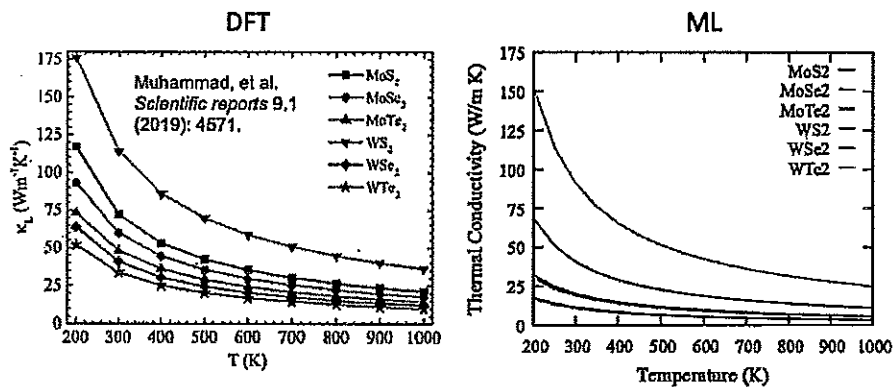
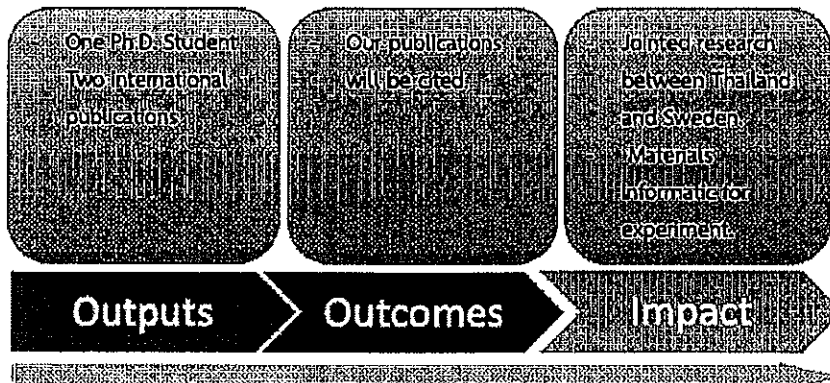


Fig. 1 An example: Thermal conductivity of Transition-Metal Dichalcogenides (TMDs) by using (a) DFT and (b) on-the-fly MLFF method (Fig.1(b) is our unpublished work)

๑๒. ผลผลิต (Output) ผลลัพธ์ (Outcome) และ ผลกระทบ (Impact) ที่คาดว่าจะได้จากการวิจัย



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## ABOUT ME

Adisak Boonchun received his Ph.D. degree at Case Western Reserve University at Department of Physics in 2011. A. Boonchun was conducting his research under supervision of Prof. Walter Lambrecht focus on optical transitions, vibrations, cohesive and elastic properties in wide-band gap semiconductor. In 2011, he had a first taste of a postdoc in National Institute for materials science (NIMS) in Japan. In 2013, he joined the department of physics, Kasetsart University and was promoted to assistant professor in 2016. His research interests focus on electronic and mechanic properties of 2D materials and intercalation voltage in novel Li-ion battery.

## EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor in Physics

Kasetsart University

📅 Dec 2019 – Ongoing

📍 Bangkok, TH

Assistant Professor in Physics

Kasetsart University

📅 Dec 2016 – Dec 2019

📍 Bangkok, TH

Lecturer in Physics

Kasetsart University

📅 Sep 2013 – Dec 2016

📍 Bangkok, TH

Postdoctoral Fellows

National Institute for materials science (NIMS), Japan

📅 Oct 2011 – Sep 2013

📍 Tsukuba, JP

Research Assistant

CWRU

📅 2007 – 2011

📍 Cleveland, Ohio, US

## LICENSES & CERTIFICATIONS

Complete Tensorflow 2 and Keras Deep Learning Bootcamp

📅 Jan 2021

📍 Udemy

Programming Numerical Methods in Python

📅 Jan 2021

📍 Udemy

Data Visualization with Python for Beginners

📅 Jan 2021

📍 Udemy

## EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Physics

Case Western Reserve University

📅 Sept Aug 2006 – Aug 2011

M.S. in Physics

Kasetsart University

📅 June 2002 – May 2005

B.S. in Physics

Kasetsart University

📅 June 1998 – May 2002

## MOST PROUD OF



Award

Second prize of Thailand's Outstanding Thesis Award from Office of National Research Council of Thailand



Scholarship

Higher Educational Strategic Scholarships for Frontier Research Network of Thailand



Scholarship

Development and Promotion of Science and Technology Talents project (DPST) Full Scholarship, Thailand

## STRENGTHS

VASP

Abinit & Quantum Espresso

Python & Linux

## LANGUAGES

Thai  
English



## LIFE PHILOSOPHY

*"I don't think inside the box,  
I don't think outside the box...  
I don't even know where the box is."*

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Book Chapter

- Boonchun, Adisak (2011). *First-Principles Calculation of Defect Energies in ZnO and Related Materials*.

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### Journal Articles

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- Worakajit, Pimpisut et al. (2023). "Origin of Hole-Trapping States in Solution-Processed Copper (I) Thiocyanate and Defect-Healing by I<sub>2</sub> Doping". In: *Advanced Functional Materials*, p. 2209504.
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- – (2022b). "N<sub>2</sub>, NO, and O<sub>2</sub> molecules in LiGaO<sub>2</sub> in both Ga and Li sites and their relation to the vacancies". In: *Journal of Applied Physics* 131.14, p. 145705.
- Dabsamut, Klichchupong et al. (2022a). "Electric field- and strain-induced bandgap modulation in bilayer C<sub>2</sub>N". In: *Applied Physics Letters* 120.20, p. 203101.
- Dabsamut, Klichchupong et al. (2022b). "Two-Dimensional Penta-NiPS Sheets: Two Stable Polymorphs". In: *The Journal of Physical Chemistry C* 126.45, pp. 19455–19461.
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- Palakawong, Nirawith et al. (2021). "Hybrid-Functional Study of Native Point Defects and Ti/Fe Impurities in  $\alpha$ -Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>". In: *physica status solidi (b)* 258.4, p. 2000498.
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## REFEREES

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- Thanasarnsurapong, Thanasee et al. (2021). "Piezoelectric and electronic properties of hydrogenated penta-BCN: A computational study". In: *Journal of Applied Physics* 129.9, p. 095101.
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## Conference Proceedings

- Boonchun, Adisak and Walter RL Lambrecht (2011b). "Electronic structure, doping, and lattice dynamics of  $LiGaO_2$ ". In: *Oxide-based Materials and Devices II*. vol. 7940. International Society for Optics and Photonics, 79400N.