

# 2016 Basic Research Needs for Synthesis Science for Energy Relevant Technology Workshop

## CHAIRS:

JIM DE YOREO<sup>1,2</sup>, LYNNE SODERHOLM<sup>3</sup>, AND DAVID MANDRUS<sup>4</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>Pacific Northwest National Laboratory; <sup>2</sup>University of Washington; <sup>3</sup>Argonne National Laboratory; <sup>4</sup>University of Tennessee*

## BES TEAM:

LINDA HORTON, ARVIND KINI, RAUL MIRANDA, AND GEORGE MARACAS  
*DOE Office of Basic Energy Sciences*

# BESAC reports highlight the challenges and opportunities of synthesis science



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The image shows the cover of a report. The top half is a yellow-to-orange gradient with a faint, abstract pattern of lines and shapes. The bottom half is a dark blue/black background with a grid of small, colorful squares (red, green, blue) and a larger, faint grid pattern. The text is white and centered.

## CHALLENGES AT THE FRONTIERS OF MATTER AND ENERGY:

Transformative Opportunities  
for Discovery Science

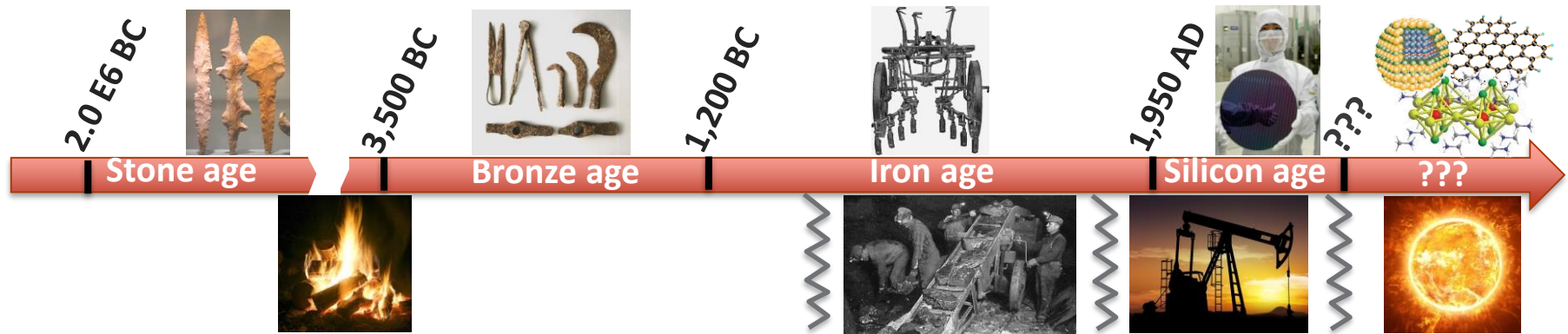
A Report from the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee

Directing M  
Five Challe

A Report from the Basic Energy Sciences Advisory Committee

- *“Mastering Hierarchical Architectures and Beyond-Equilibrium Matter”*
- *“Beyond Ideal Materials and Systems: Understanding the Critical Roles of Heterogeneity, Interfaces, and Disorder”*
  - **Challenges at the Frontiers of Matter and Energy: Transformative Opportunities for Discovery Science**
- *“How do we design and perfect atom- and energy-efficient synthesis of revolutionary new forms of matter with tailored properties”*
  - **Directing Matter and Energy: Five Challenges for Science and the Imagination**

# Importance of synthesis science reflects historical link between new materials and new technologies



## Major recent discoveries

- Conducting polymers (1982)\*
- High T superconductors (1986)\*
- Buckyballs, C<sub>60</sub> (1985)\*
- Dye-sensitized solar cells (1990)#
- Carbon nanotubes (1991)\$
- Quantum dots (1992)\$
- GaN semiconductors (1993)\*,#
- Magnetoresistive materials (1995)#
- Graphene (2004)\*

\* Nobel Prize    \$ Kavli Prize    #Millenium Prize

## Unsung heroes

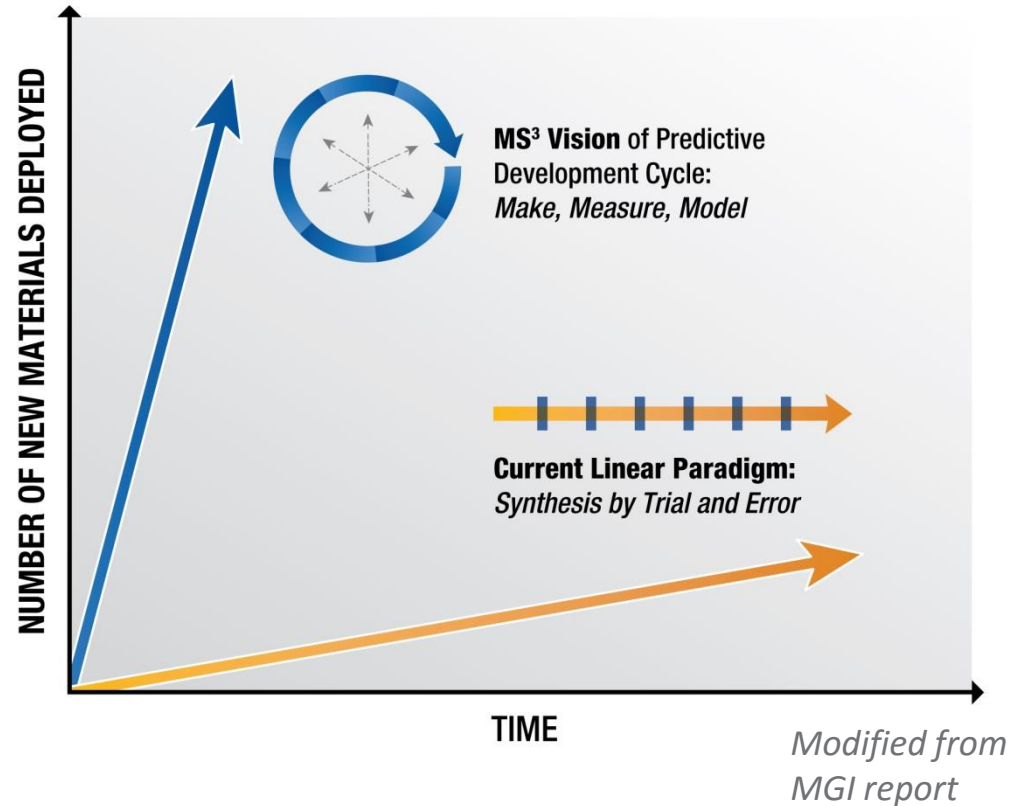
- Carbon fiber composites (1960s)
- High Si alumino-Si zeolites (1980s)
- Pt-group catalysts (1980s)
- Transparent conducting oxides(1980s)
- Rare earth phosphors (1980s)
- Lithium ion conductors (1984)
- Metal organic frameworks (1995)
- Bismuth chalcogenides (1997)
- Hybrid perovskites (2009)

*Adapted from T. Cheetham's Plenary talk*

# Advancing synthesis science is also critical to realizing the vision of MGI

“Accelerating the pace of discovery and deployment of advanced material systems will ... be crucial to achieving global competitiveness in the 21st century.”

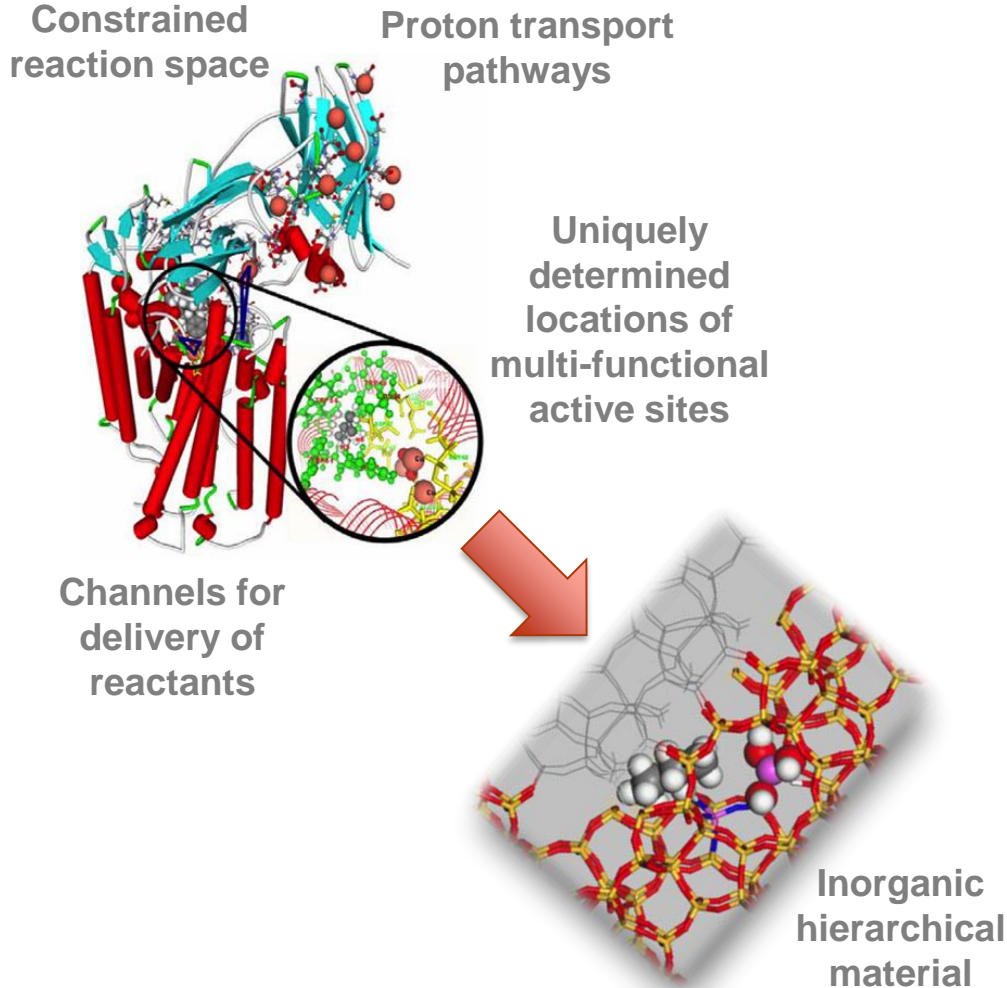
- *Materials Genome Initiative (MGI) for Global Competitiveness, 2012 OSTP report*



**Discovery alone no longer ensures leadership**

# Focus is on developing a predictive science of synthesis

## Bioinspired catalyst



***The science of design:***  
*Knowing where to put the atoms to achieve a targeted function*

***The science of synthesis:***  
*Knowing how to get the atoms where they need to go to obtain a targeted structure*

# Charge to the Workshop

**“Identify basic research needs and priority research directions in synthesis science with a focus on new, emerging areas with the potential to leapfrog current capabilities and impact future energy technologies. The workshop will identify the scientific opportunities and new frontiers associated with both existing and novel synthetic processes that will enable predictive synthesis of energy relevant matter via assembly of atoms, molecules, clusters, nanoparticles, and other constituents.** This research is essential to realizing the opportunities identified in the recent BES Advisory Committee report on Challenges at the Frontiers of Matter and Energy: Transformative Opportunities for Discovery Science. This report concluded that further progress towards the transformative opportunities will require specific, targeted investments in synthesis science, specifically the ability to make the materials and architectures that are envisioned.”

# 85 researchers participated in five topical and two crosscutting panels

## **Panel 1: Mechanisms of synthesis under kinetic and thermodynamic controls**

Tori Forbes (University of Iowa)

Mercouri Kanatzidis (Northwestern University)

## **Panel 2: Establishing the design rules for supramolecular and hybrid assemblies**

Uli Wiesner (Cornell University)

Ting Xu (University of California, Berkeley)

## **Panel 3: Interface-defined matter**

Sarah Tolbert (University of California, Los Angeles)

Michael Zaworotko (University of Limerick)

## **Panel 4: Crystalline matter: Challenges in discovery and directed synthesis**

Julia Chan (University of Texas, Dallas)

John Mitchell (ANL)

## **Panel 5: Emerging approaches to synthesis at all length scales**

Jonah Erlebacher (Johns Hopkins University)

Julia Laskin (PNNL)

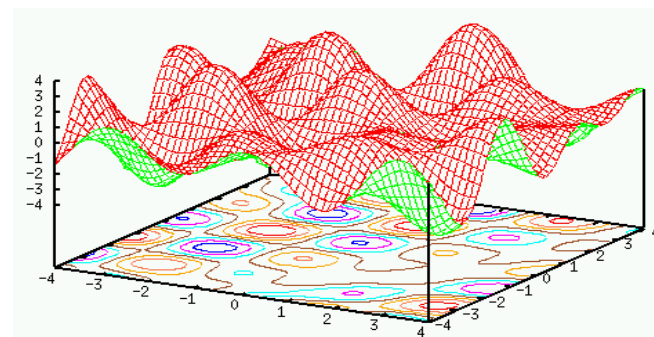
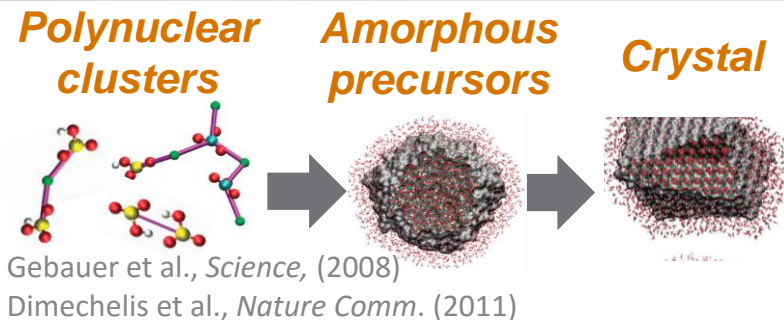
## **Cross cutting Panels:**

***In situ* characterization** - Simon Billinge (Columbia University)

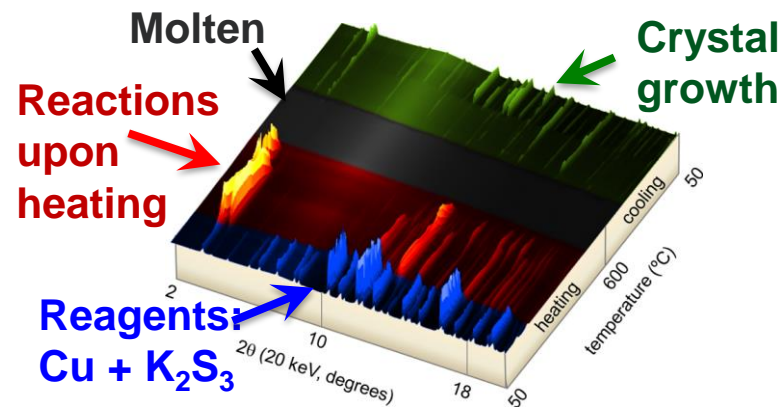
**Theory and simulation** - Giulia Galli (University of Chicago)

# Panel 1: Mechanisms of synthesis under kinetic and thermodynamic controls

- Elucidate, model, and classify fundamental pathways of materials formation
- Advance thermodynamic characterization of energy landscapes and multi-variable phase diagrams, including both stable and kinetically stabilized materials
- Integrate *in-situ* characterization and theoretical approaches to understand reaction dynamics at multiple length and time scales



<http://fourier.eng.hmc.edu/e161/lectures/NeuralNetworks/node5>



Shoemaker et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A.* (2014)



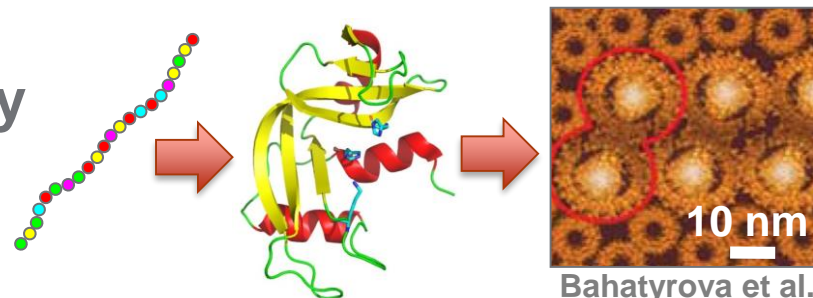
# Panel 2: Establishing the design rules for supramolecular and hybrid assemblies



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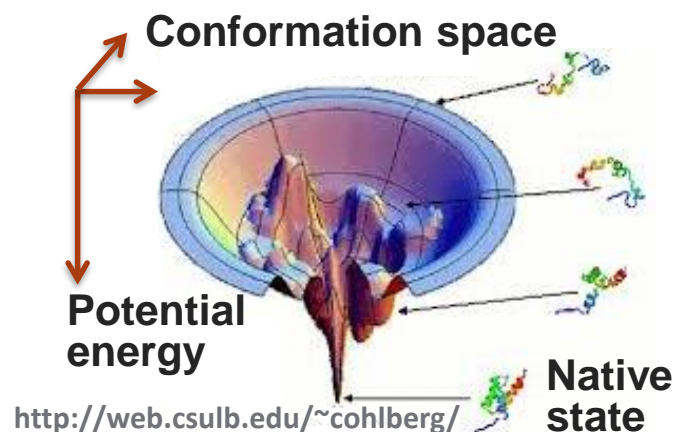
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- Enable programmable assembly via synthesis of information-encoded building blocks



Bahatyrova et al.,  
*Nature* (2004)

- Identify and navigate energy landscapes to achieve functional hierarchical assemblies



- Develop robust synthetic strategies based on *sustainable* energy relevant materials and processes

Periodic Table of Elements																	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1 H	2 He	Metals										Nonmetals					
3 Li	4 Be	Lanthanoids										Actinoids					
5 B	6 C	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
7 N	8 O	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
9 F	10 Ne	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
11 Na	12 Mg	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
13 Al	14 Si	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
15 P	16 S	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
17 Cl	18 Ar	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
19 K	20 Ca	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
21 Sc	22 Ti	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
23 V	24 Cr	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
25 Mn	26 Fe	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
27 Co	28 Ni	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
29 Cu	30 Zn	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
31 Ga	32 Ge	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
33 As	34 Se	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
35 Br	36 Kr	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
37 Rb	38 Sr	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
39 Y	40 Zr	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
41 Nb	42 Mo	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
43 Tc	44 Ru	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
45 Rh	46 Pd	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
47 Ag	48 Cd	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
49 In	50 Sn	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
51 Sb	52 Te	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
53 I	54 Xe	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
55 Cs	56 Ba	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
57 La	58 Ce	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
59 Pr	60 Nd	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
61 Pm	62 Sm	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
63 Eu	64 Gd	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
65 Tb	66 Dy	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
67 Ho	68 Er	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
69 Tm	70 Yb	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
71 Lu	72 Hf	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
73 Ta	74 W	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
75 Re	76 Os	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
77 Ir	78 Pt	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
79 Au	80 Hg	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
81 Tl	82 Pb	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
83 Bi	84 Po	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
85 At	86 Rn	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
87 Fr	88 Ra	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
89 Ac	90 Th	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
91 Pa	92 U	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
93 Np	94 Pu	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
95 Am	96 Cm	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
97 Bk	98 Cf	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
99 Es	100 Fm	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
101 Md	102 No	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
103 Lr	104 Rf	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
105 Db	106 Sg	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
107 Bh	108 Hs	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
109 Mt	110 Ds	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
111 Rg	112 Cn	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
113 Nh	114 Fl	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
115 Mc	116 Lv	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					
117 Ts	118 Og	Transition metals										Post-transition metals					



<http://www.ptable.com>

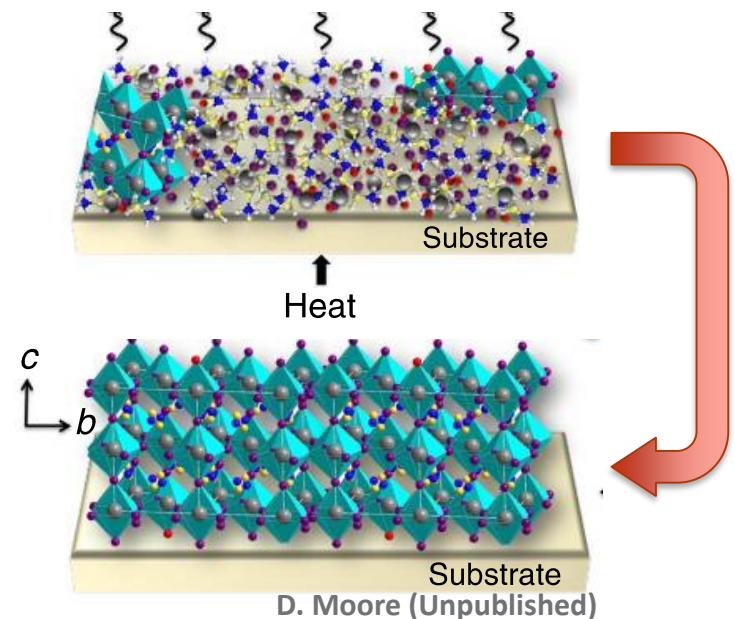
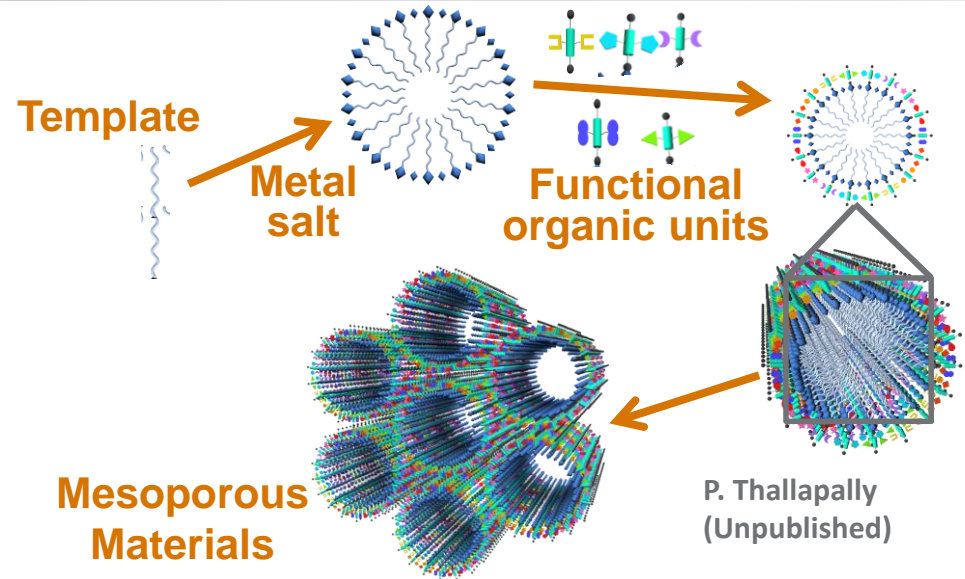
# Panel 3: : Interface-defined matter



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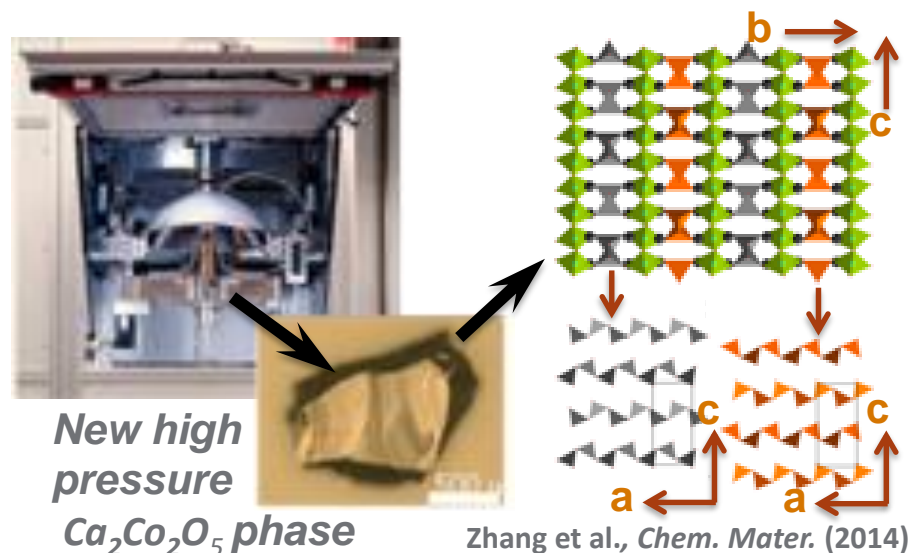
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- Achieve synthesis of multifunctional hierarchical materials by design with precise controlled over interfacial structure and composition across all scales
- Understand and accurately predict pathways and barriers to exploit interfaces as drivers of synthesis for both stable and metastable materials

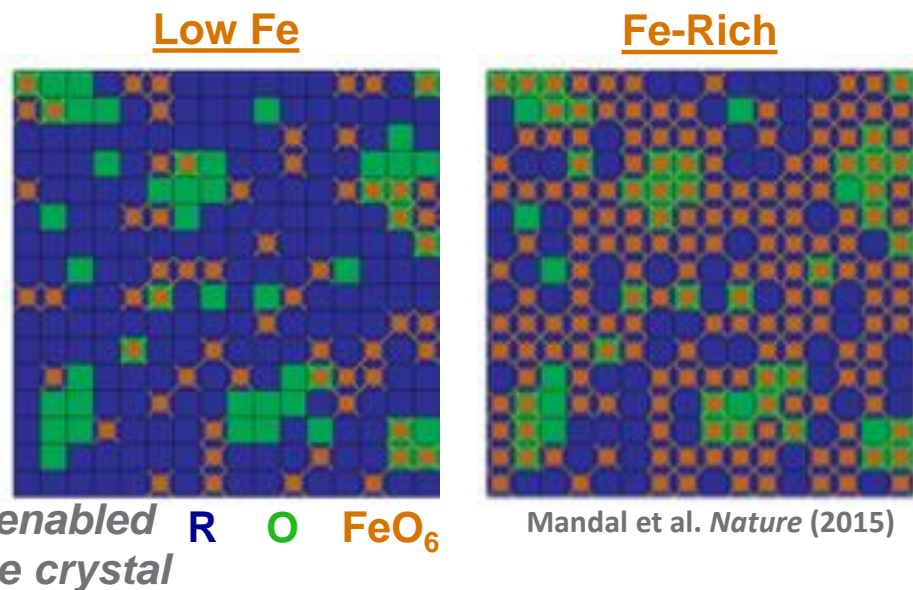


# Panel 4: Crystalline matter: Challenges in discovery and directed synthesis

- Mastering the science of crystal synthesis
  - Development and understanding of new properties-directed synthetic routes and growth techniques, emphasizing extreme regimes

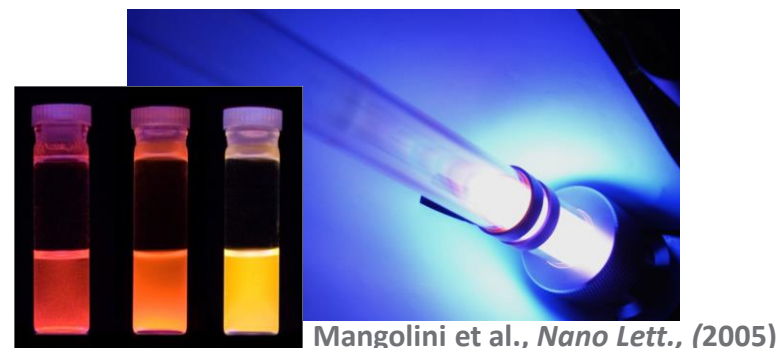


- Exploring Hierarchies of Crystalline Complexity
  - Exposing new properties of materials by moving beyond average structures to materials with defects and disorder by design across scales

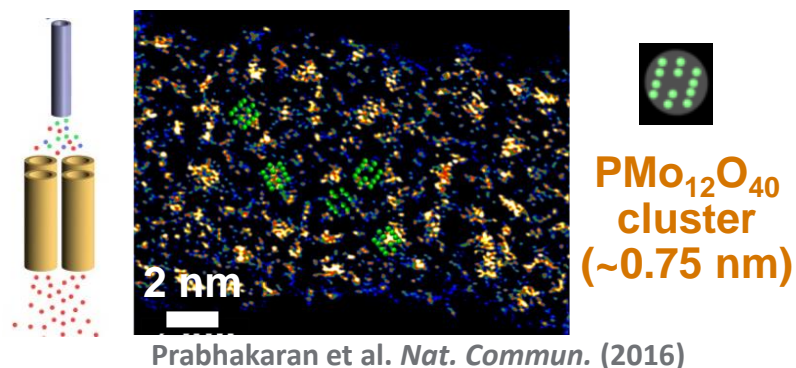


# Panel 5: Emerging approaches to synthesis at all length scales

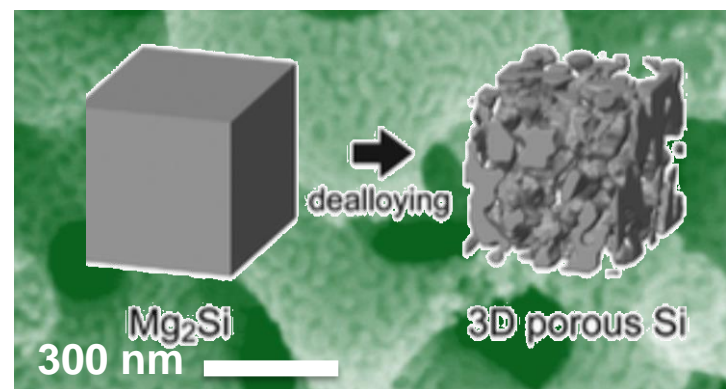
- **Far From Equilibrium Synthesis**
  - Navigate kinetic pathways in systems driven far from equilibrium
  - Understand and predict interface and defect dynamics in systems under high thermodynamic gradients



- **Complex Hybrid Materials**
  - Synthesis of composite nanoscale materials by creating interfaces between dissimilar components (phases, structures, molecules)



- **Hierarchical Control During Materials Synthesis and Processing**
  - Simultaneous control of structure at nano, meso- & macroscale
  - Enable kinetic or thermodynamic trapping of intermediates



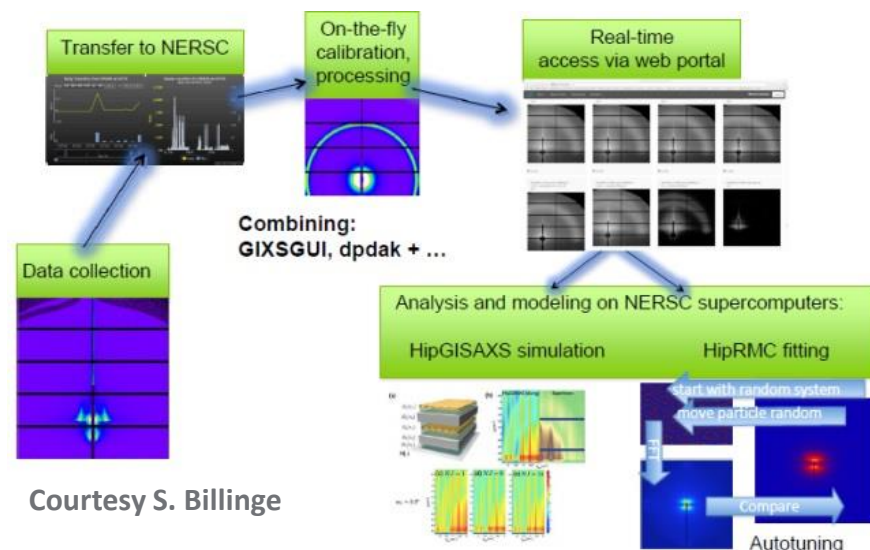
# Crosscutting panels: 1) *In situ* characterization and 2) Theory and simulations



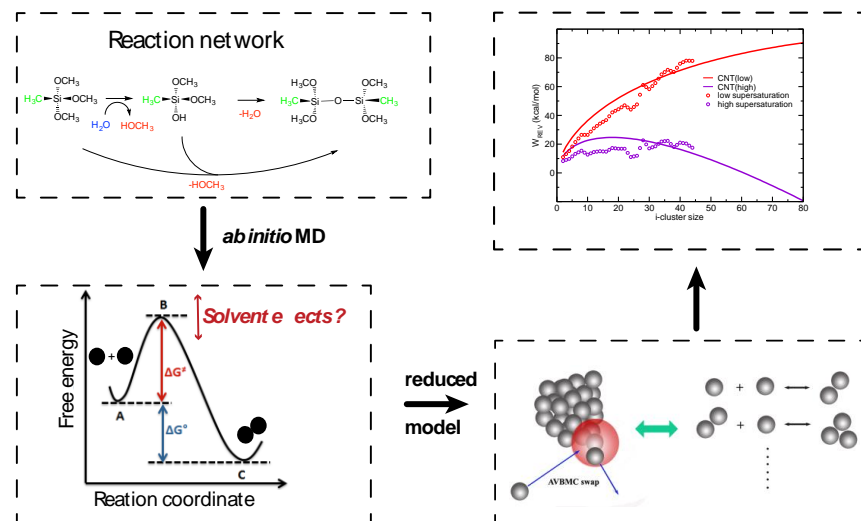
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- Enable identification and control of synthetic pathways
  - Develop *in situ* characterization tools that match length/time-scales and sensitivities required to understand synthesis mechanisms
  - Make *in situ* tools straightforward to use and widely available.



- Enable prediction of pathways and ensemble outcomes of synthesis that can direct processes on the fly
  - Develop sampling methods to simulate atomistic phenomena
  - Develop coarse-grain approaches to link atomistic results to long length/time scale outcomes
  - Achieve accurate description of heterogeneous reactive interfaces



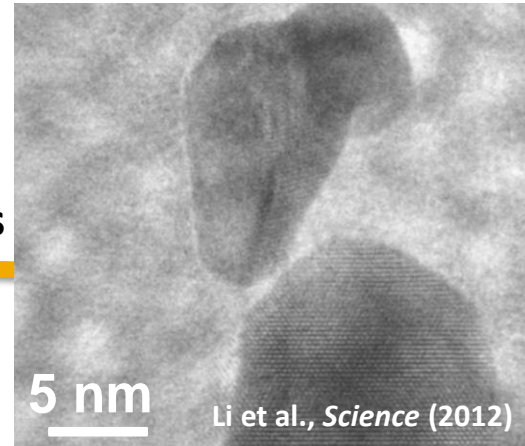
# Broad agreement time is right due to opportunities for fundamental understanding created by recent advances in characterization and simulation



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- Electron microscopy
- X-rays and neutrons
- Scanned probes
- Laser spectroscopy
- On-the fly data analytics

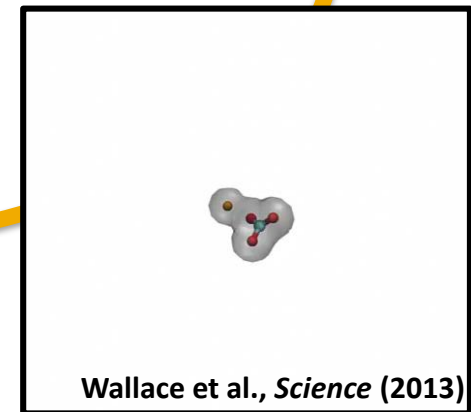


*Understand  
reaction dynamics  
at multiple length  
and time scales*



- Generalizable systems
- Defined P, T,  $\mu_i$
- Extreme fields and fluxes
- Robotics

- Connecting length scales
- High-throughput sampling
- Theory development
- Towards exascale



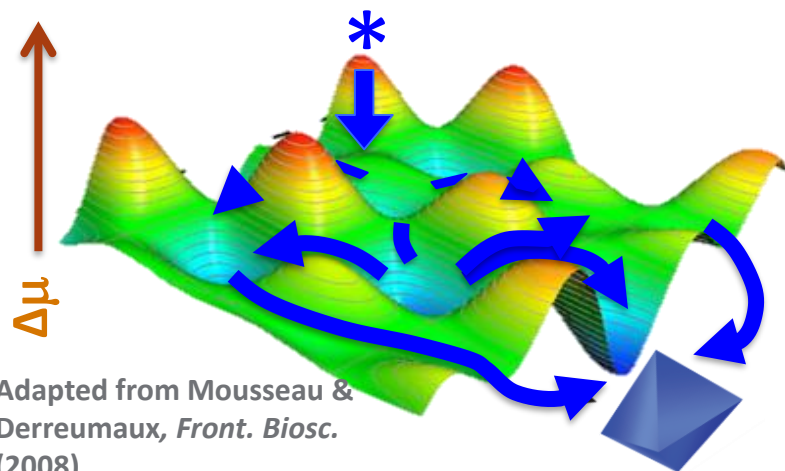
# Theme 1: Understanding mechanisms, pathways and intermediates seen as key to achieving control



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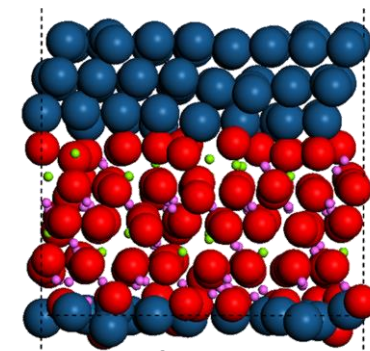
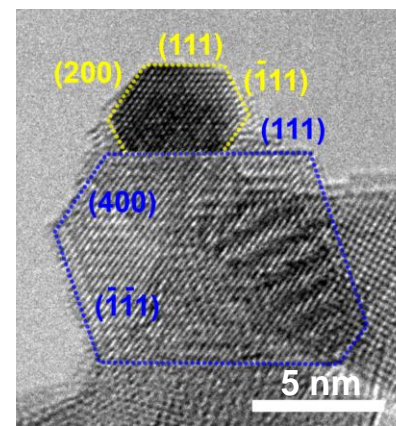
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## Complex landscapes; far from equilibrium



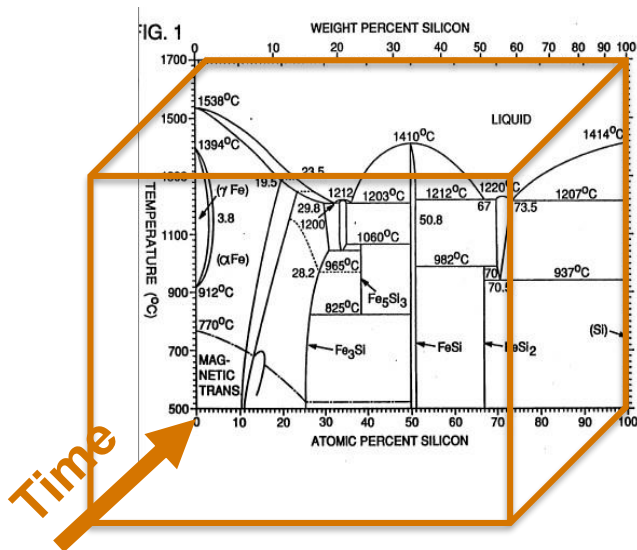
Adapted from Mousseau & Derreumaux, *Front. Biosc.* (2008)

## Interface-directed synthesis

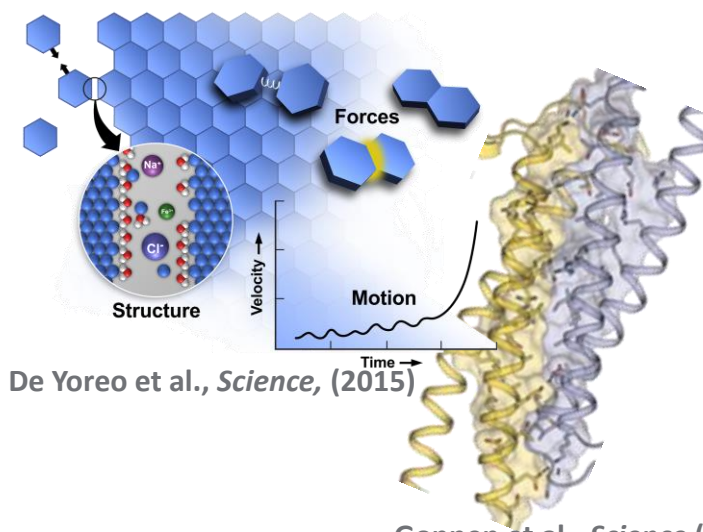


Li et al. *Nature Comm.* (2013)

## Complex and evolving chemistry



## Assembly of higher-order species



De Yoreo et al., *Science*, (2015)

Gonnen et al., *Science* (2015)

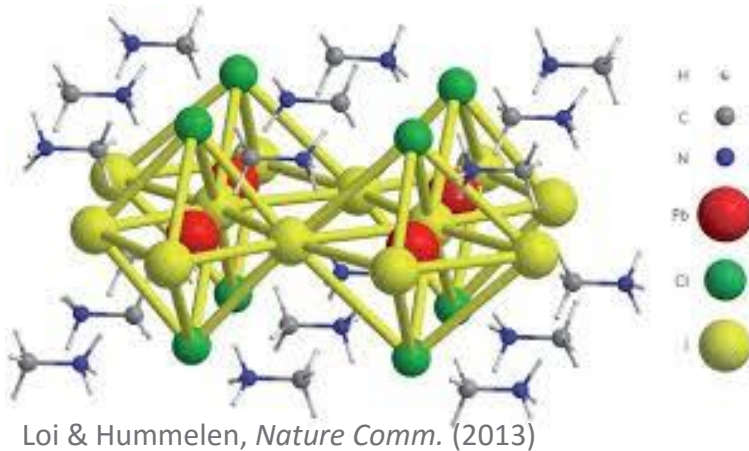
# Theme 2: Hierarchical materials comprise a key opportunity space in all areas of synthesis



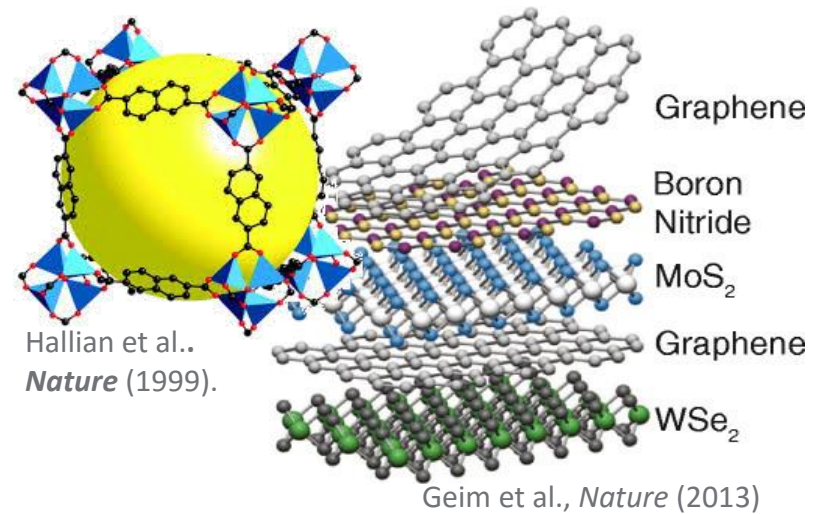
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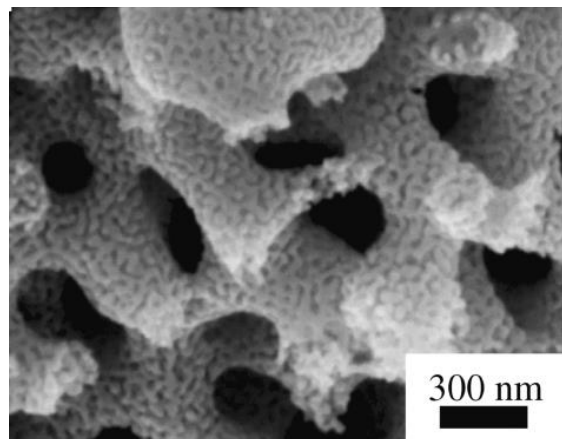
## Hybrid crystal systems



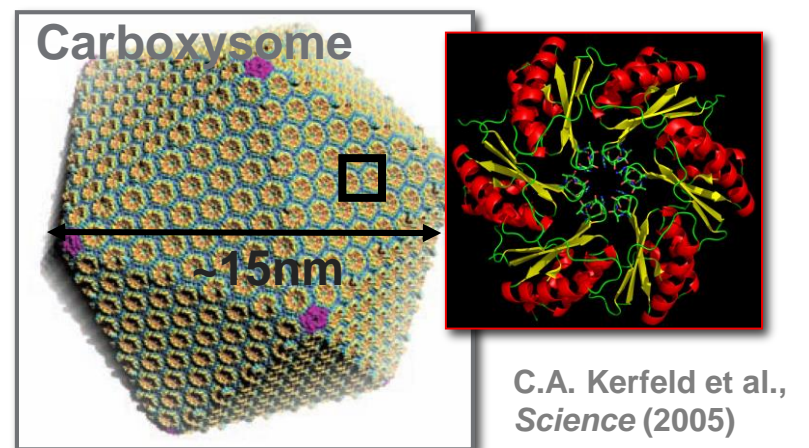
## Interface engineering



## Additive/subtractive processes



## Self-assembled systems





# Theme 3: Synthesis of new materials will always remain a voyage of discovery



- Current opportunities are consequence of exploring new materials spaces
- Theory and simulation will not be able to predict *a priori* how to make new materials with novel properties for many years to come
- Opportunities for transformational discoveries lie in extreme conditions, complex chemistries, information-rich molecules, and interfacial systems