



**open**  
forcefield

 @openforcefield

 [www.openforcefield.org](http://www.openforcefield.org)

# 5<sup>th</sup> open force field workshop

June 28, 2022 | Virtual meeting

# Speakers



David Mobley  
Jeff Wagner  
Lily Wang  
Diego Nolasco



# Feedback?



Feel free to use the Chat and Q&A features in Zoom to ask questions during the talks. Speakers will answer questions in the Q&A after they're done with their presentations.

We will host a brief open discussion after the conclusion of talks. Use the “raise hand” feature and a host will enable your mic when it's your turn.

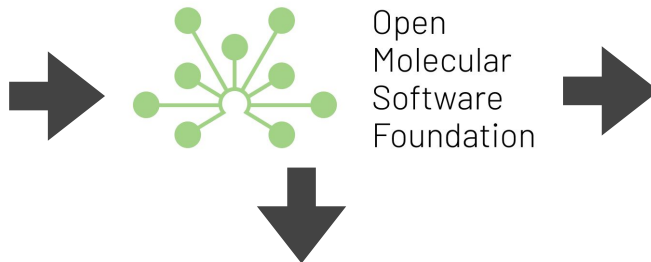
# We're here because of you – and because we share a common set of tractable problems



## INDUSTRY

AbbVie  
BASF  
Bayer  
Boehringer-Ingelheim  
Bristol Myers Squibb  
Cresset  
Janssen  
GlaxoSmithKline

Merck  
KGaA  
OpenEye  
Pfizer  
Roche  
Vertex  
Eli Lilly  
... and others



Open  
Molecular  
Software  
Foundation

## ACADEMIC



**John Chodera** (MSKCC)



**Michael Gilson** (UC San Diego)



**David Mobley** (UC Irvine)



**Michael Shirts** (CU Boulder)

## PROJECT STAFF



**Jeff Wagner**  
Technical Lead



**Lily Wang**  
Science Lead

...

Plus affiliates:

- **Danny Cole** (Newcastle)
- **Lee-Ping Wang** (UCD)
- **Dennis Della Corte** (BYU)
- **MoSSI** (Virginia Tech)



# Openness is central, because our problems are too big to tackle alone or in small groups



Open source Python Toolkit: modern infrastructure for building/using force fields



Open curated QM / physical property/binding datasets: data to build on



Open infrastructure: Extend our tools; run your own benchmarks

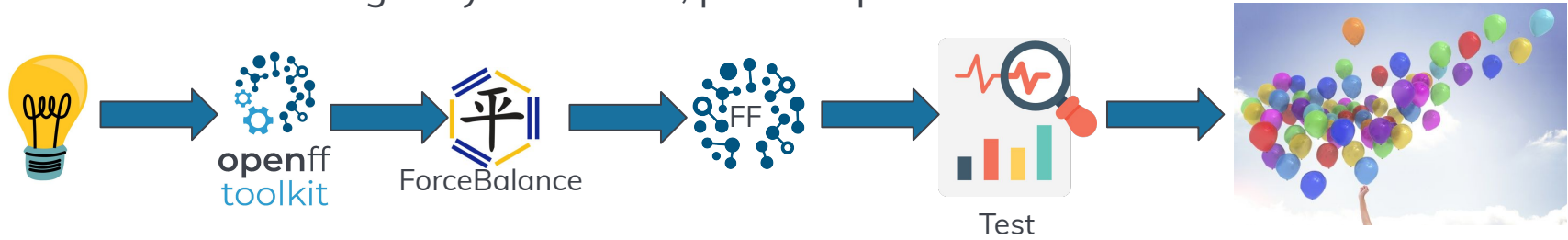


Open science: Everything done in the open; everyone can get involved

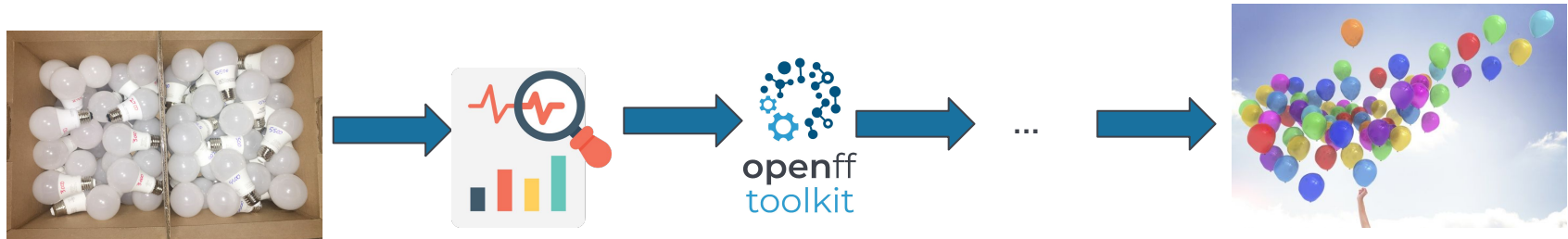
# We've moved to trying a variety of ideas in parallel, then rolling the best into our force fields



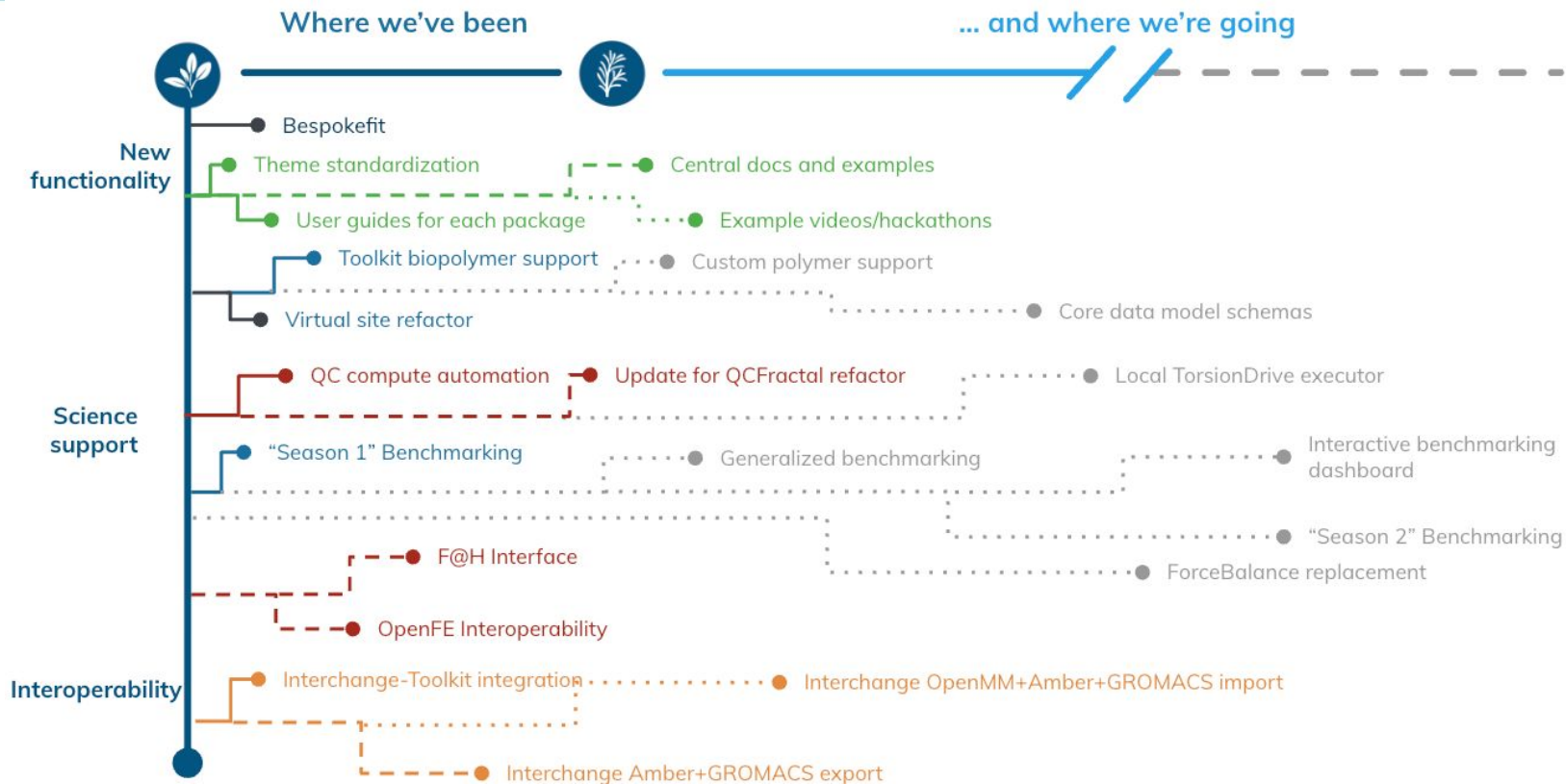
- We viewed this originally as a linear, planned process



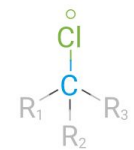
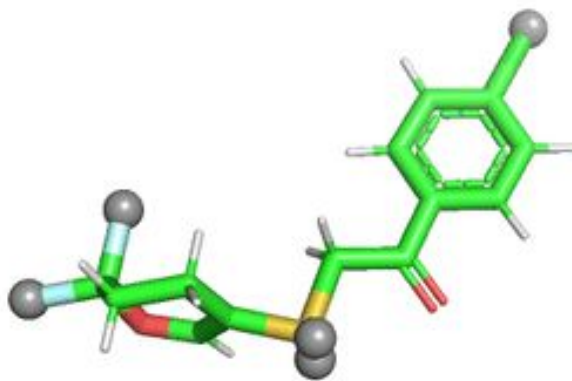
- We're learning it works better as a parallel process where the best ideas may be unexpected and apparent only later



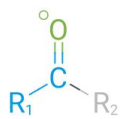
# Before we can do the science, we need infrastructure, so you'll hear about great infrastructure...



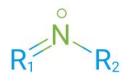
# ...including virtual site support for off-site charges



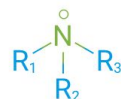
Bond Charge



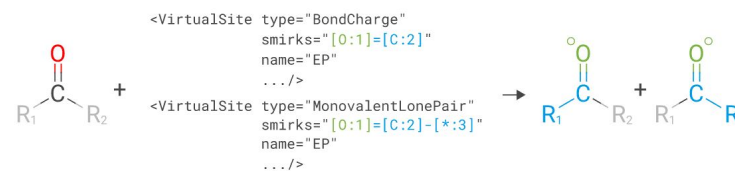
Monovalent Lone Pair



Divalent Lone Pair



Trivalent Lone Pair



Examples of each type of virtual site with 'orientation' atoms colored blue and 'parent' atoms colored green.

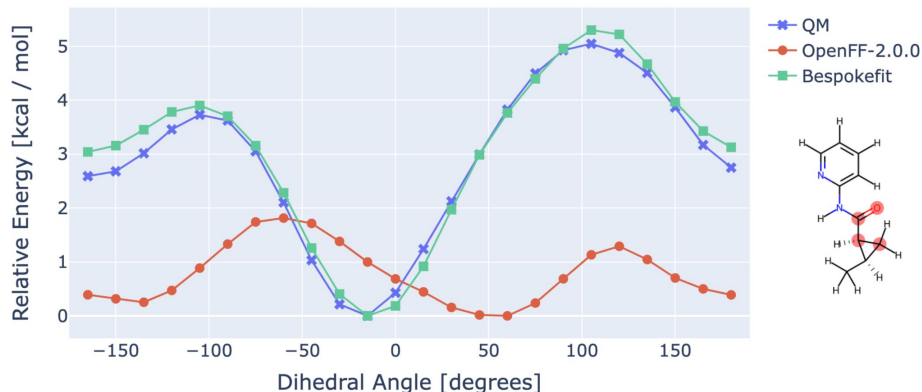
The last parameter to match a particular parent atom wins. Here the monovalent lone pair parameter would be assigned rather than the bond charge parameter as it appears later in the parameter list.



# As well as our BespokeFit release for custom, more accurate torsional parameters



- Can retrain torsion parameters to bespoke torsion scans generated for 'fragments' of original molecule
- Very fast with GFN-XTB or similar; also works with QM method of choice

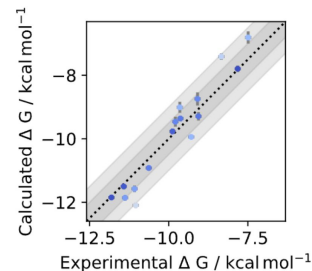
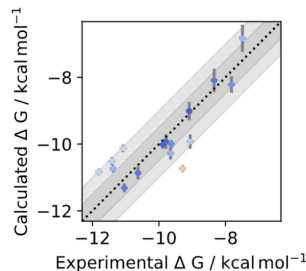


## Force Field Number of unique torsion parameters

OpenFF-1.0.0	157
OpenFF-1.2.0	163
OpenFF-1.3.0	167
OpenFF-2.0.0	167
OPLS3	48,142
OPLSe	146,669

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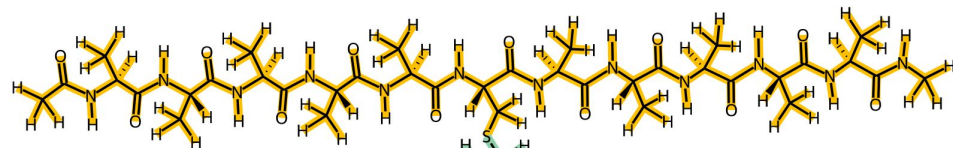
	OpenFF-1.3.0 tyk2 (N = 16)	Bespoke default-1.3.0 tyk2 (N = 16)
RMSE:	0.68 [95%: 0.49, 0.91]	0.51 [95%: 0.35, 0.69]
MUE:	0.56 [95%: 0.41, 0.80]	0.42 [95%: 0.28, 0.59]
R2:	0.72 [95%: 0.35, 0.88]	0.93 [95%: 0.84, 0.97]
rho:	0.85 [95%: 0.62, 0.94]	0.97 [95%: 0.92, 0.99]



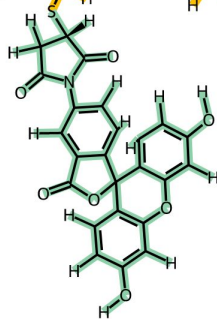
# And of course you'll hear about biopolymer support for our Rosemary release



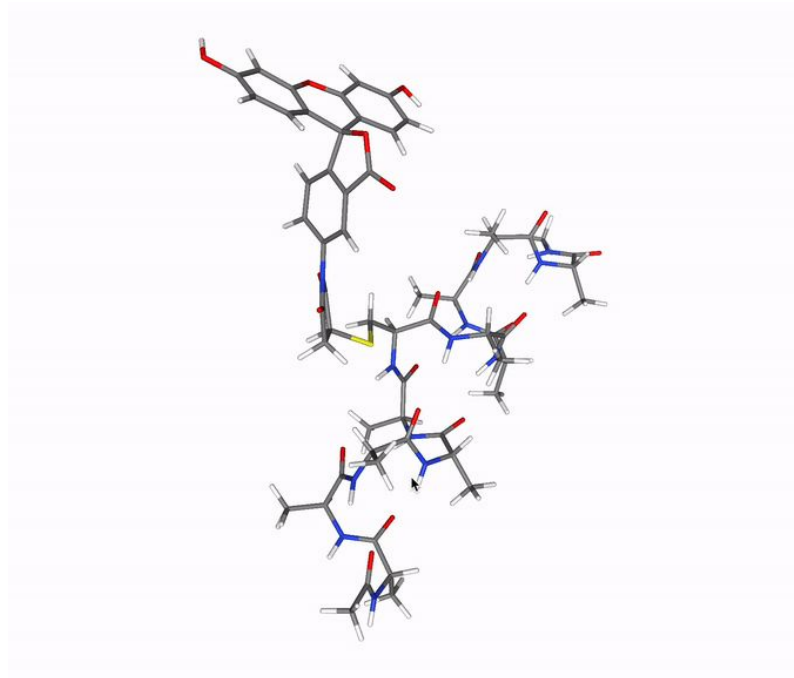
Handling post-translational modifications will no longer be terrible



Amber FF14SB  
(SMIRNOFF port)



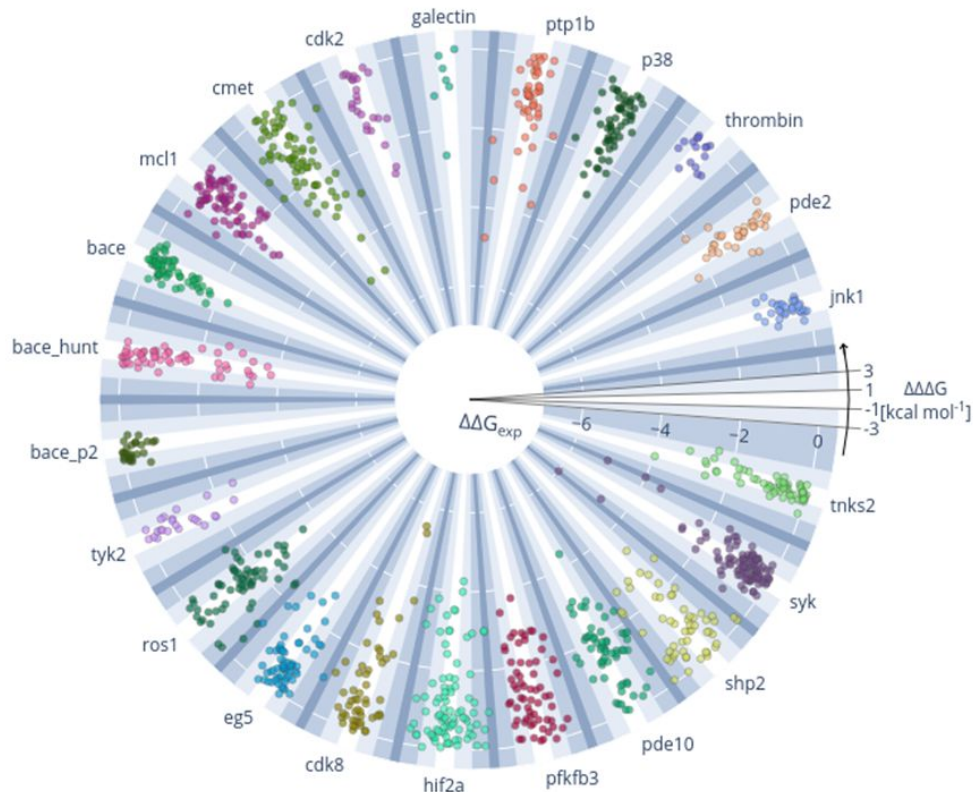
Sage



# We have an ongoing need to benchmark on binding free energies, leading to a push to use Folding@Home



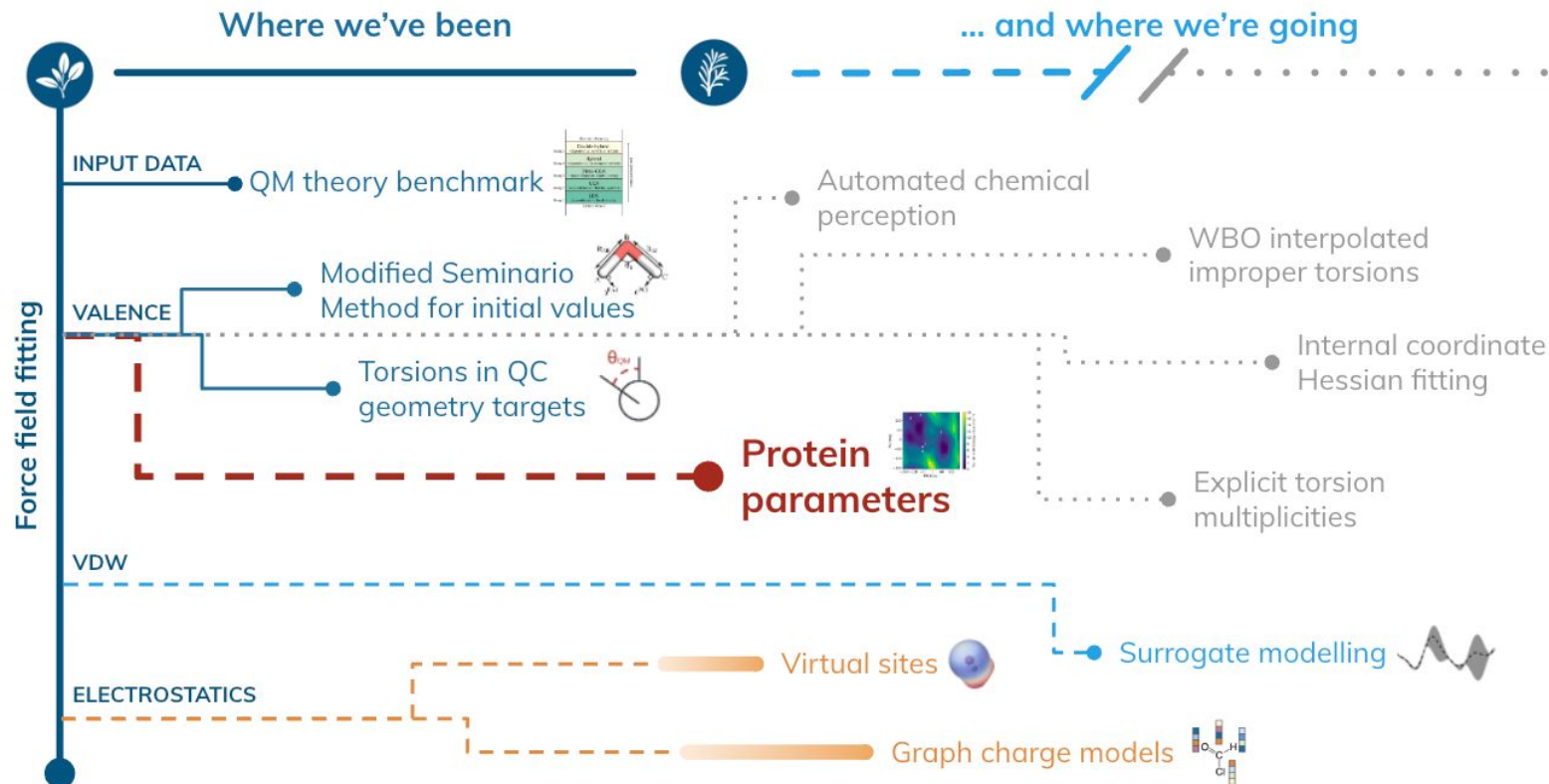
- Overview over all calculations performed
- Radial: exp.  $\Delta\Delta G$  in kcal/mol
- Polar: difference between calc. and exp.  $\Delta\Delta G$ ,  $\Delta\Delta\Delta G$  in kcal/mol



Protein ligand benchmark

<https://github.com/openforcefield/protein-ligand-benchmark>

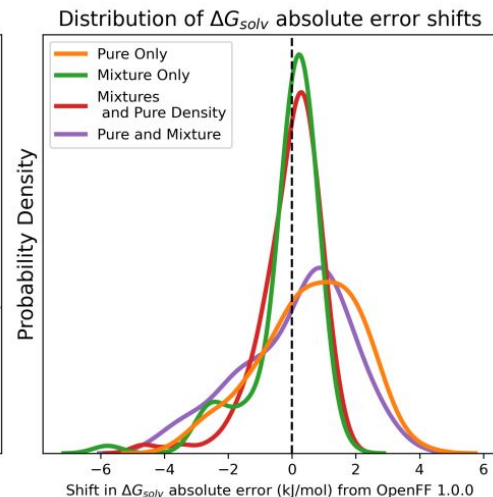
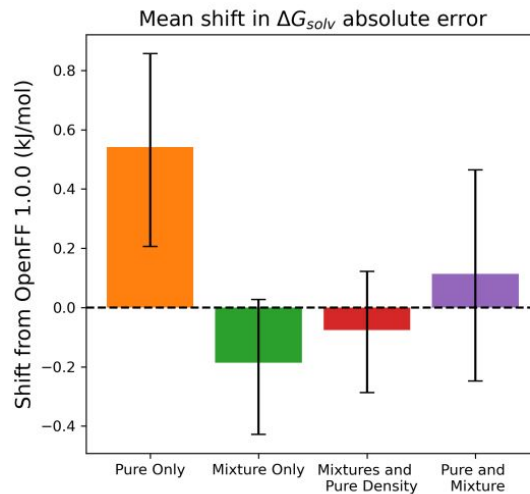
# Meanwhile, there's a ton of great science going on



# In Sage, fitting to mixture data substantially improved force field predictive power, a totally new result



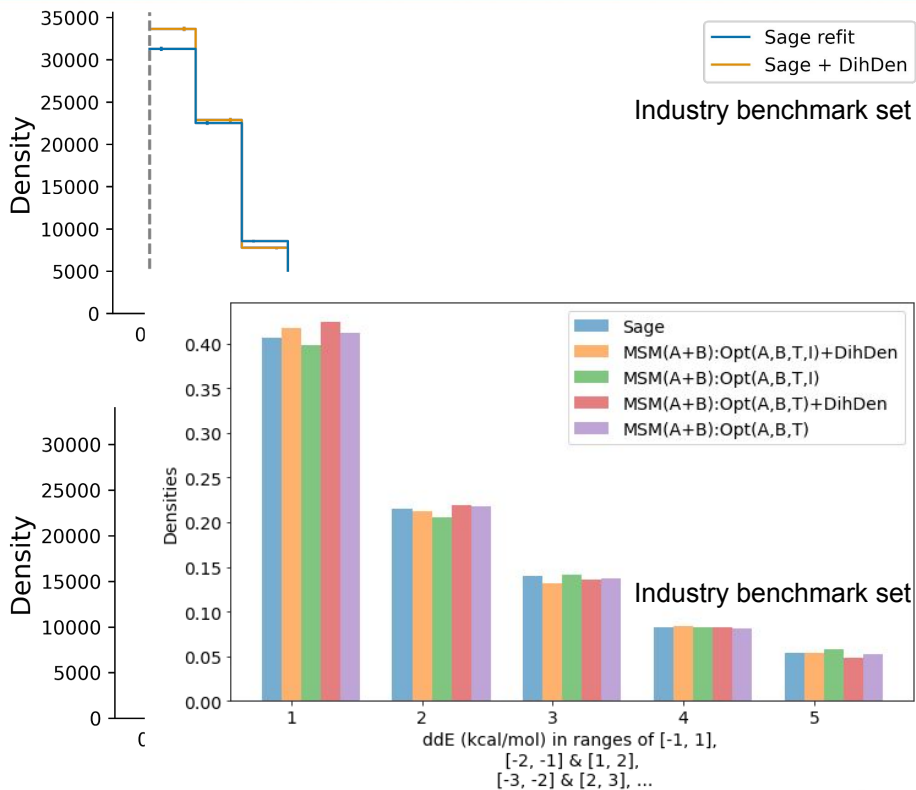
- Benchmarked refit vdW parameters against solvation free energies + transfer free energies
  - **Subset** of **FreeSolv** and **MNSol**
- Training to mixture data significantly improves performance relative to training to pure data only, or pure + mixture



# Simple improvements to the force field fitting process provide accuracy benefits - coming out soon



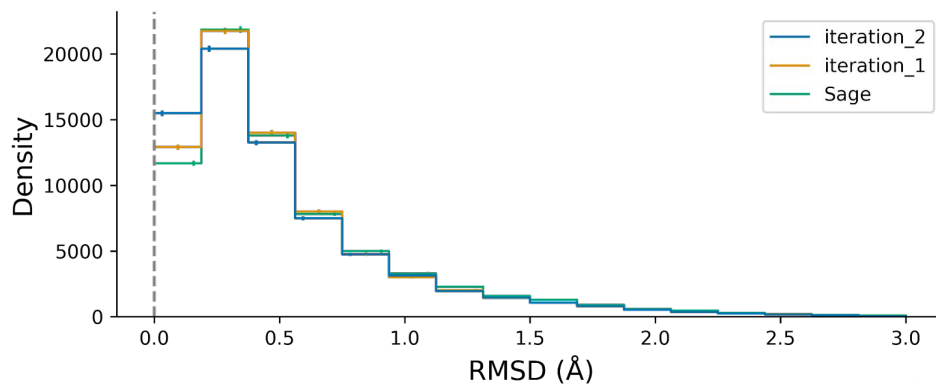
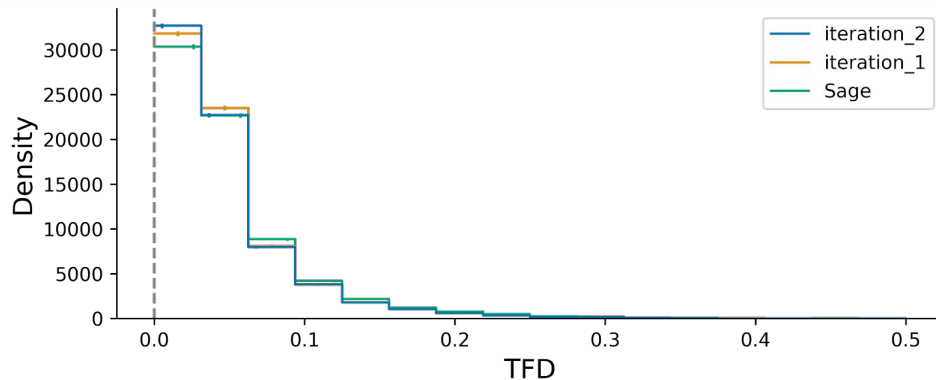
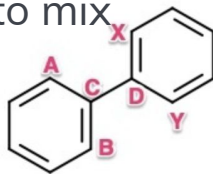
- Objective function ignored dihedral deviations in optimized geometries; updating provides better FFs
- New initial guesses from the modified Seminario method (MSM) improved accuracy, give more physical values
- Starting to fit improper improves RMSD and TFD, maintains good ddE
- Cumulatively these improve accuracy substantially



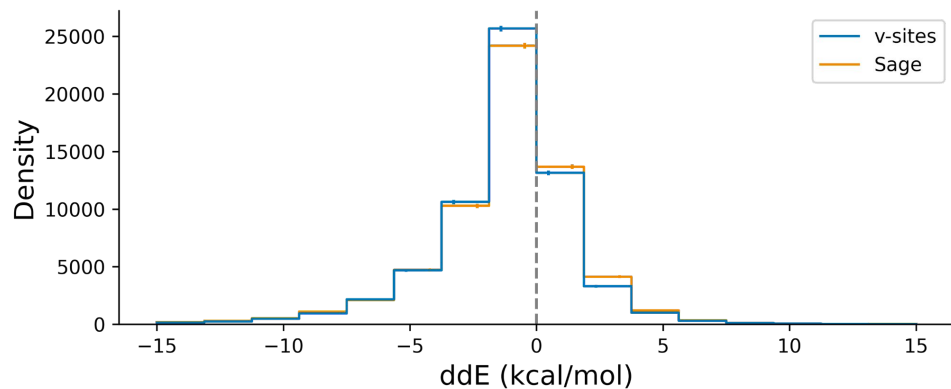
# We're finishing a fix to a problem with torsion multiplicities which will further improve accuracy



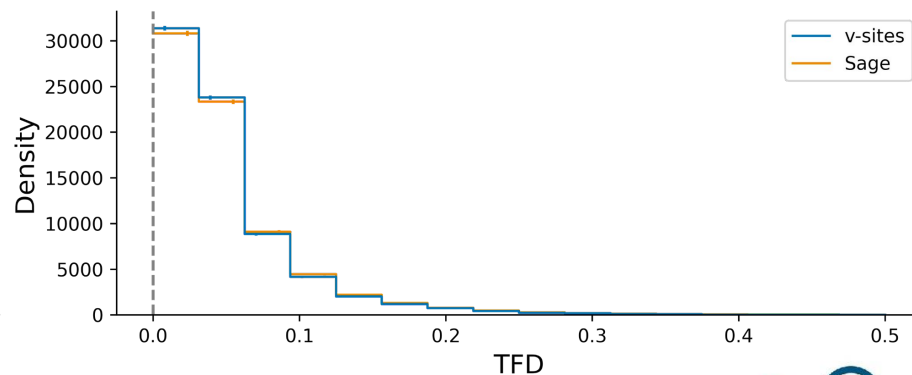
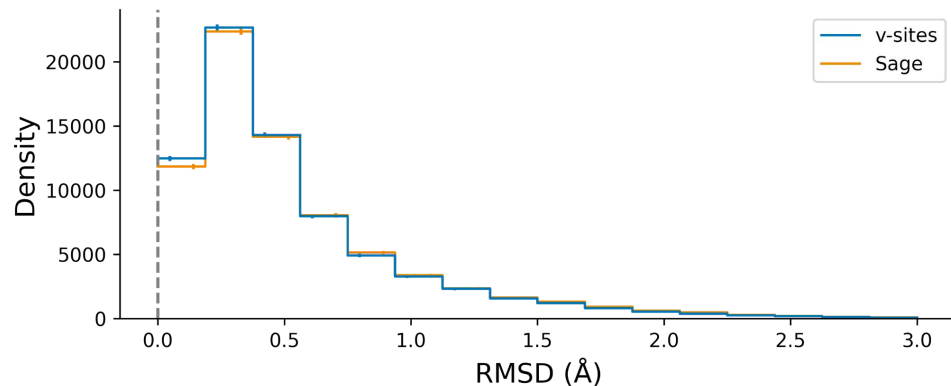
- Multiplicity: Number of torsion parameters applied to a central bond
- We realized it's incorrect to mix multiplicity for torsions
- e.g. t116:  
`[*:1]-[#16X2,#16X3+1:2]-[#6:3]-[#1:4]`
- Refits on optimization data are improved; TDs and full refit in progress



# Preliminary tests of virtual sites improve accuracy broadly, even for gas phase energetics



Benchmarks show modest improvements

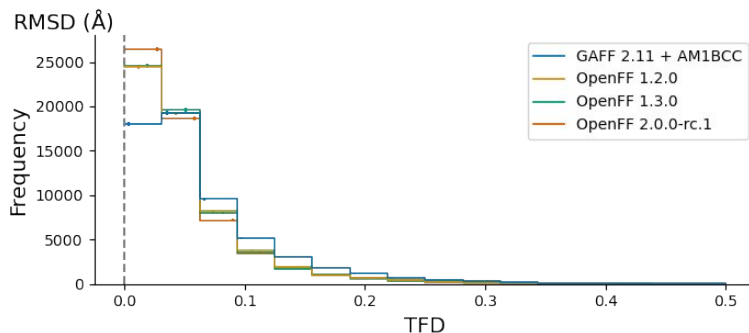
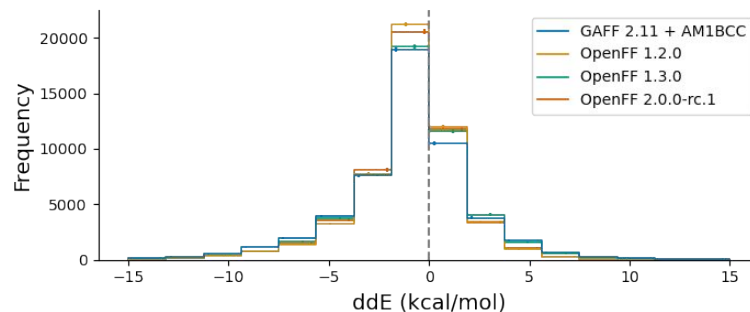
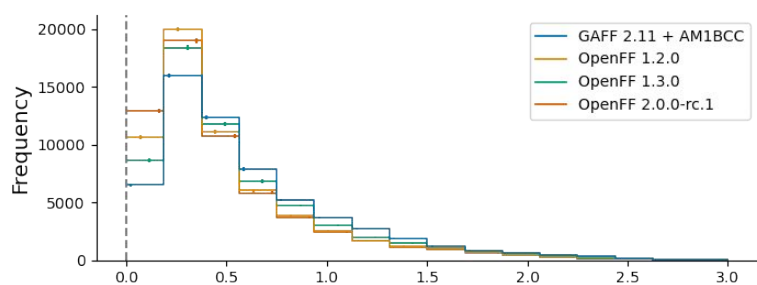




# Automated benchmarking with industry has been great, indicates progress relative to QM

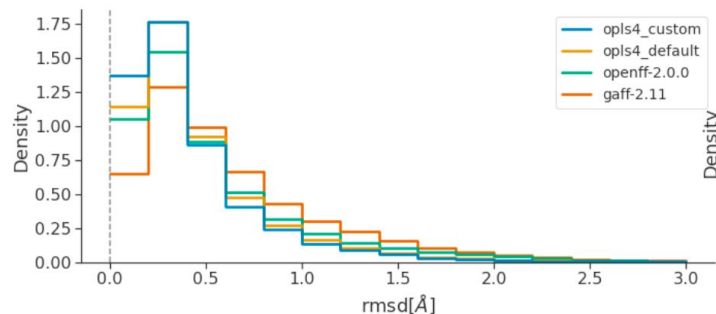


- **SAGE** showed excellent performance when benchmarked against the **Public** OpenFF Industry Benchmark Season 1 v1.0

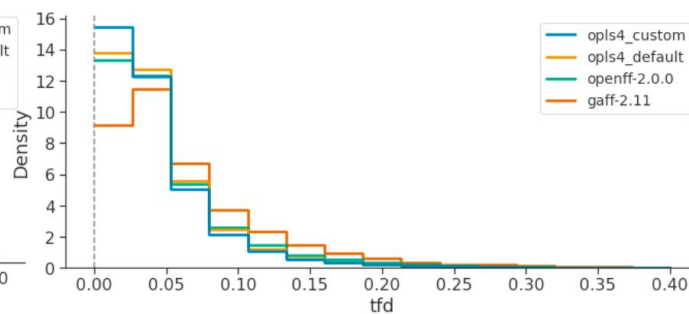


\* 95% bootstrapped confidence intervals

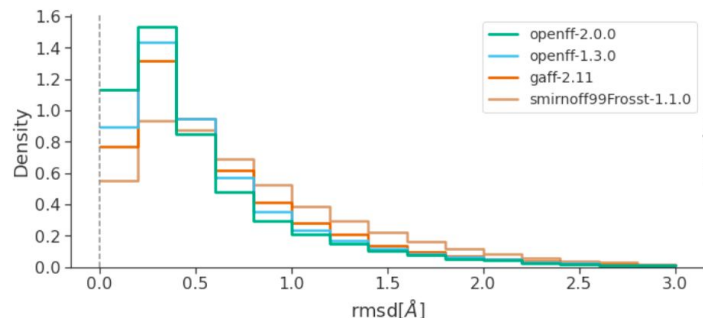
# Benchmarking on proprietary datasets shows similar performance, significant improvement



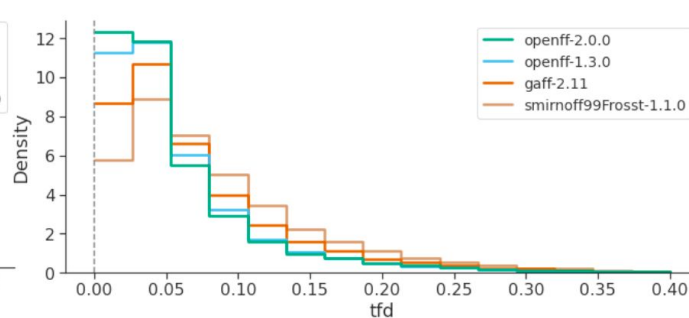
(a)



(b)

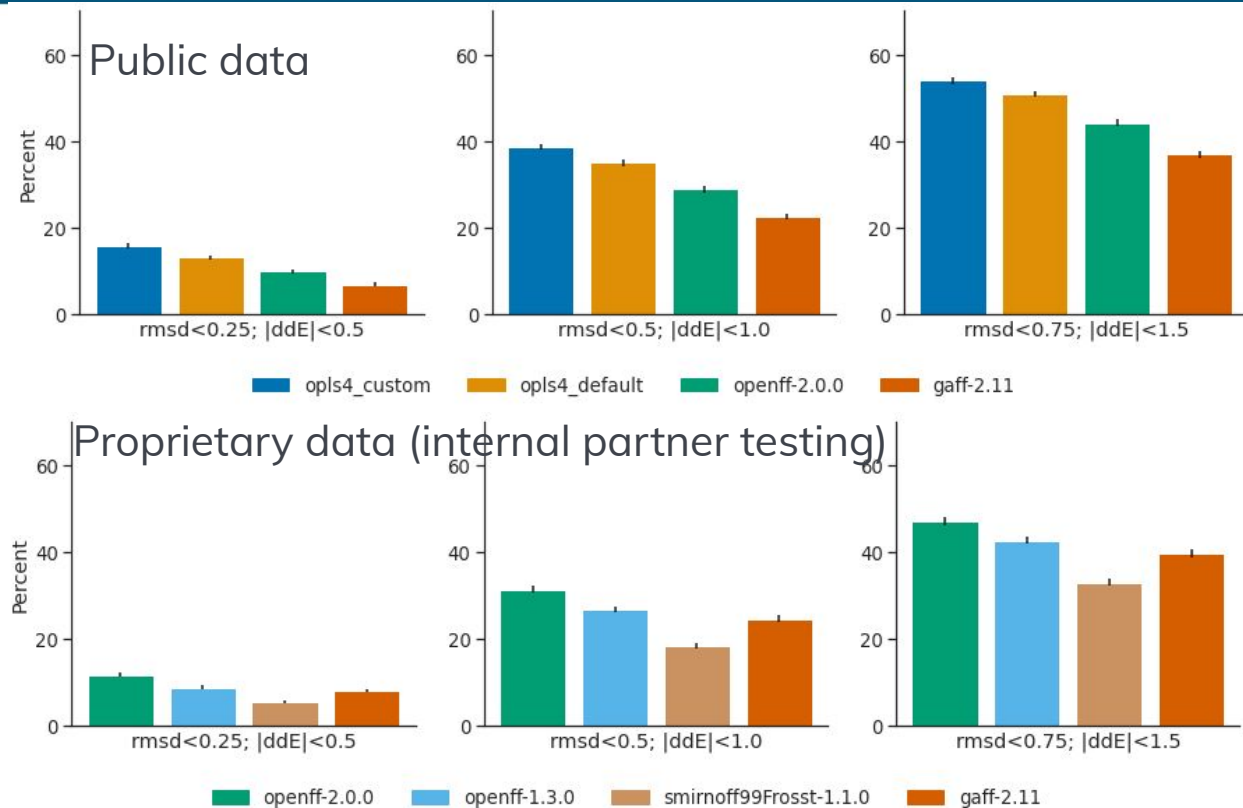


(c)



(d)


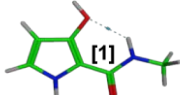
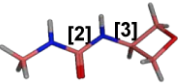
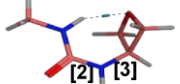
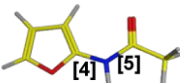
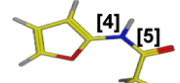
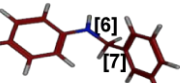
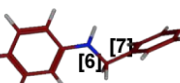
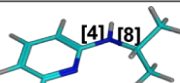
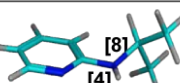
# We've made marked improvement in force field accuracy, at least based on gas phase conformers

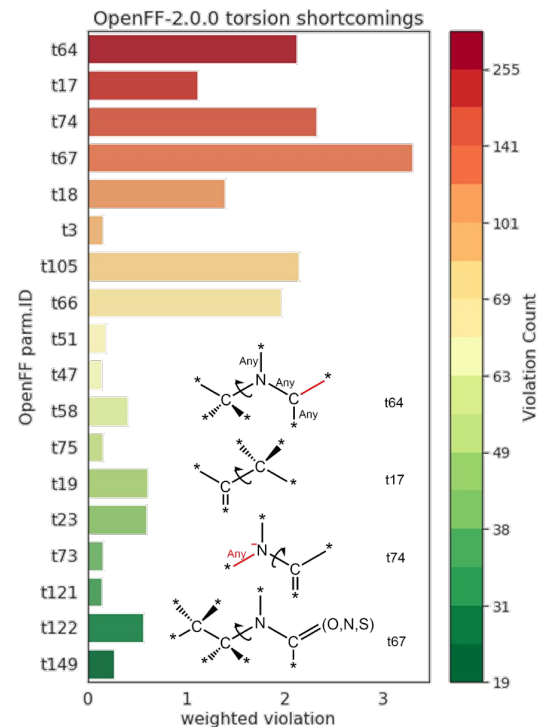


Percentages of conformations “correctly” predicted (RMSD and |ddE| within threshold)

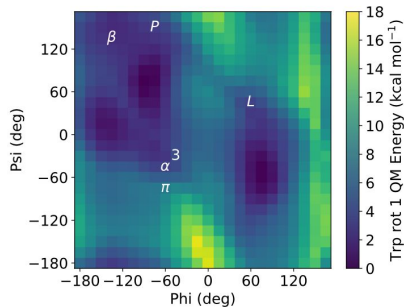
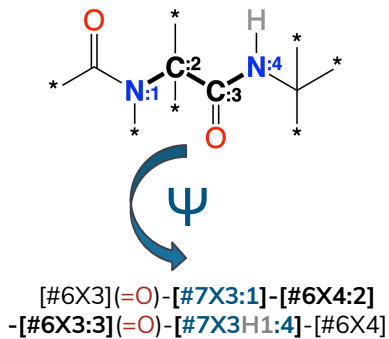
# We can use benchmark data to look for trouble spots



Mol ID	QM min.	MM min.	$dE_{\text{OpenFF-2.0.0}}$	Torsion Parm.	Fig. Label
RCH-00632			+5.7 kcal/mol	[1] t47, t48	(a)
RCH-00689			+3.0 kcal/mol	[2] t75, t79 [3] t64, t67	(b)
RCH-00697			+2.7 kcal/mol	[4] t74 [5] t75, t77, t78	(c)
RCH-00333			+2.1 kcal/mol	[6] t64, t66 [7] t17	(d)
RCH-00658			+2.3 kcal/mol	[4] t74 [8] t64	(e)



# And we'll give a quick update on status of the protein force field and its parameterization



Iván Pulido



Jeff Wagner



Chapin Cavender

## Software

Adding biopolymer support to OpenFF Toolkit

## Selecting parameters

Encoding protein-specific parameters with SMARTS

## QC Data

Systematic generation of torsion and optimization data for amino acids



## Our Organizational Values (in order of priority!)

1. Product leadership
  - Accurate force fields
  - Accessible infrastructure
  - Broad interoperability
2. Proximity with users
  - Custom solutions
  - Joint development
3. Operational excellence
  - Transparency
  - Predictability





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# Making major efforts predictable and transparent



## Project Plan: Adoption of Interchange backend as export machinery for ForceField.create\_openmm\_system



Created by Jeffrey Wagner

Last updated: Jun 06, 2022 · 4 min read · 16 people viewed

<b>Primary Driver</b>	@Matt Thompson
<b>Approver</b>	@Jeffrey Wagner
<b>Supporting Drivers</b>	@Jeffrey Wagner
<b>Stakeholders</b>	@Jeffry Setiadi @Lily Wang @Michael Shirts Richard Gowers @Joshua Horton Irfan Alibay, Hyesu Jang,
<b>Decision authority</b>	Milestone completion: Unanimity of Primary Driver and Approver  Significant spec changes: Unanimity of Primary Driver and Approver in upon consultation of stakeholders
<b>Discussion/ Notification venue</b>	The #developers slack channel, with a 3-day feedback period for any major decision, in which all stakeholders are tagged
<b>Objective</b>	Replace current Toolkit code that generates OpenMM systems with Interchange in a way that does not unduly affect users or FF developers

## Protein-Ligand Benchmarks Automation via Folding@Home



Created by David Dotson

Last updated: Mar 08, 2022 by Jeffrey Wagner · 2 min read · 18 people viewed

<b>Primary Driver</b>	@David Dotson
<b>Approvers</b>	@Jeffrey Wagner (OpenFF)  @John Chodera (Chodera Lab, and F@H, and COVID Moonshot)  @Richard Gowers (OpenFE)
<b>Supporting Drivers</b>	@Lorenzo D'Amore
<b>Stakeholders</b>	@Simon Boothroyd Irfan Alibay @Richard Gowers David Swenson @Jeffry Setiadi @Lorenzo D'Amore @Lily Wang Antonia Mey @David Mobley
<b>Project Manager</b>	@Diego Nolasco
<b>Decision authority</b>	Unanimity of Primary Driver and two Approvers (absences are vetos), only in synchronous meetings  Veto authority: Primary Driver, any Approver



# We have standards!



### OpenFF Standards

Home

Standards

[SMIRNOFF](#)

QC Data Submission

Enhancement Proposals

OFF-EP 0 - Purpose and Process

OFF-EP X - Template

OFF-EP 1 - Clarify that constraint distances override equilibrium bond distances

OFF-EP 5 - Resolve ambiguity over PME electrostatics for nonperiodic systems

OFF-EP 6 - Define virtual site exclusion policy

## The SMIRks Native Open Force Field (SMIRNOFF) specification

SMIRNOFF is a specification for encoding molecular mechanics force fields from the [Open Force Field Initiative](#) based on direct chemical perception using the broadly-supported [SMARTS](#) language, utilizing atom tagging extensions from [SMIRKS](#).

### Authors and acknowledgments

The SMIRNOFF specification was designed by the [Open Force Field Initiative](#).

Primary contributors include:

- Caitlin C. Bannan (University of California, Irvine) [<bannanc@uci.edu>](mailto:bannanc@uci.edu)
- Christopher I. Bayly (OpenEye Software) [<bayly@eyesopen.com>](mailto:bayly@eyesopen.com)

### Table of contents

Authors and acknowledgments

Representations and encodings

XML representation

Future representations: JSON, MessagePack, YAML, and TOML

Reference implementation

Support for molecular simulation packages

Basic structure

The enclosing `<SMIRNOFF>` tag

Versioning

Aromaticity model

Metadata

Physical constants



# We have standards!

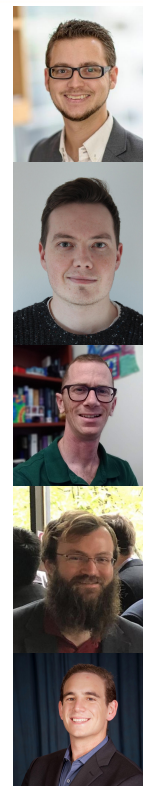


openforcefield / standards Public

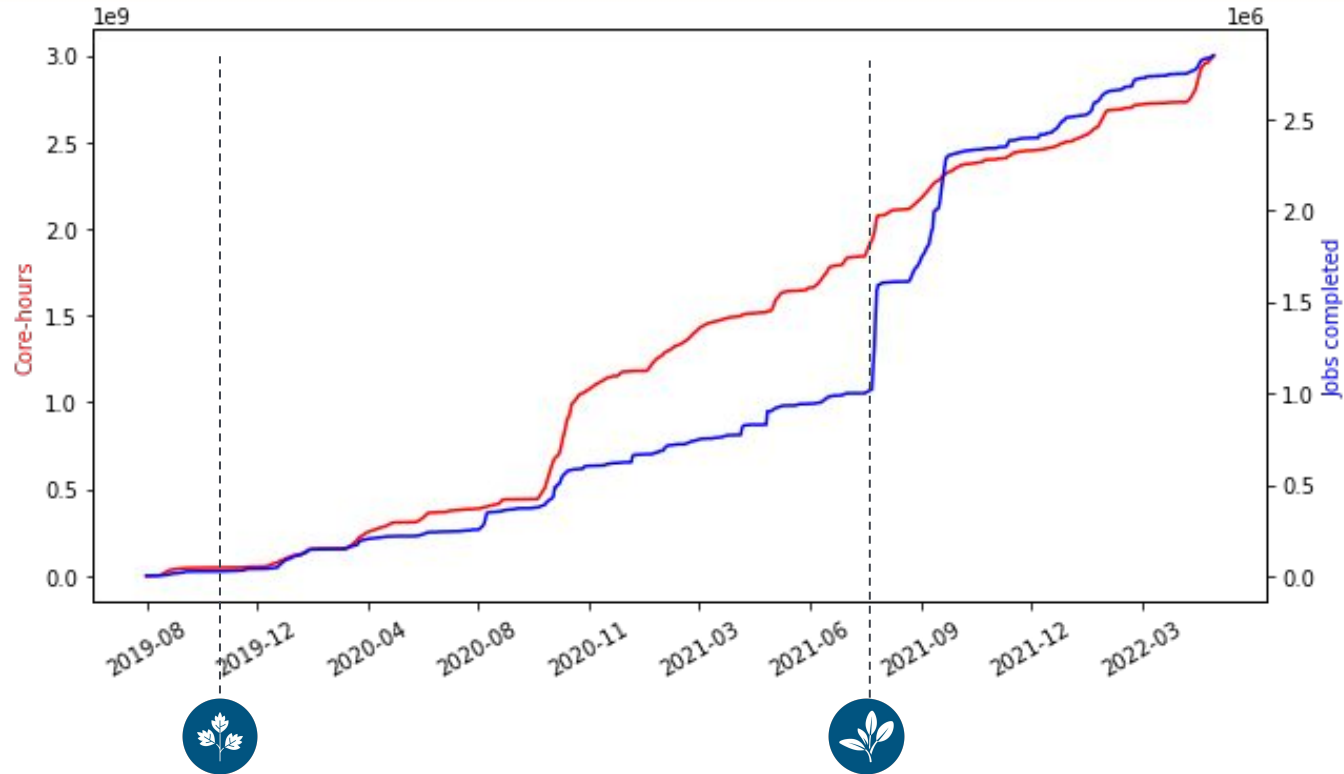
<input type="checkbox"/>	OFF-EP 0006 ✓		2
#35 by SimonBoothroyd was merged on Apr 11 • Approved			
<input type="checkbox"/>	OFF-EP 0005b ✓	1	62
#34 by jchodera was merged on Apr 20 • Approved			
<input type="checkbox"/>	OFF-EP 0005 ✓	1	13
#30 by mattwthompson was closed on Mar 31 • Approved			
<input type="checkbox"/>	OFF-EP 0004 ✓	1	7
#24 opened on Dec 1, 2021 by mattwthompson • Changes requested			
<input type="checkbox"/>	OFF-EP 0003 ✓	1	15
#23 opened on Nov 23, 2021 by mattwthompson • Approved			
<input type="checkbox"/>	OFF-EP 0002 ✓	1	24
#22 opened on Nov 23, 2021 by mattwthompson • Changes requested			
<input type="checkbox"/>	OFF-EP 0001 ✓	1	23
#21 by mattwthompson was merged on Dec 3, 2021 • Changes requested			
<input type="checkbox"/>	OFF-EP 0000		16
#1 by SimonBoothroyd was merged on May 26, 2021			
	• Changes requested	1 task done	

## OpenFF Standards

This repository aims to store and document the various standards employed across the Open Force Field Consortium. These standards encompass both the specification of core data models and formats, such as the SMIRNOFF specification, as well as standard operating procedures such as those detailing how OpenFF curated QC data sets are to be submitted to the QCArchive.

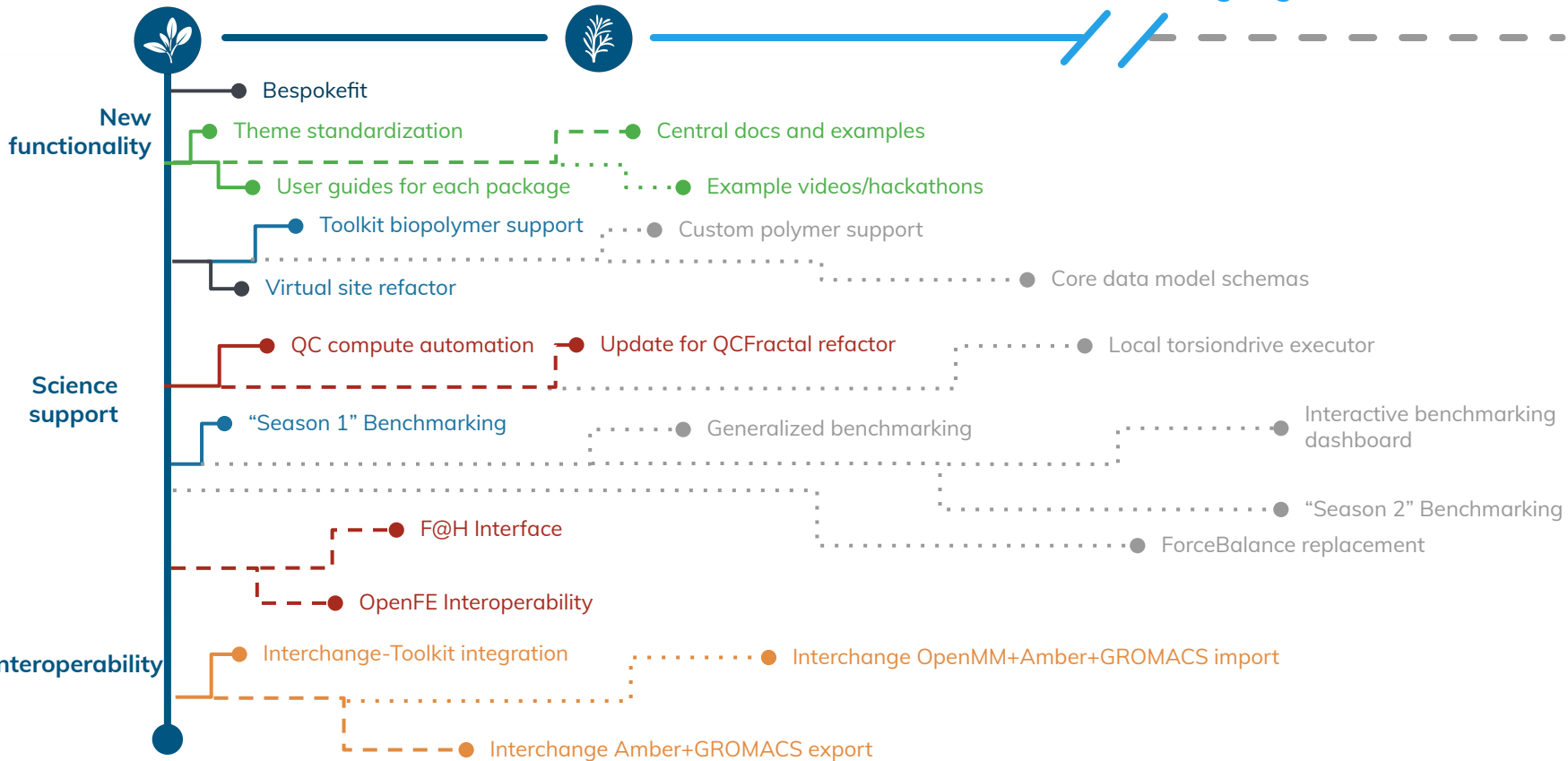


# QC compute has continued scaling



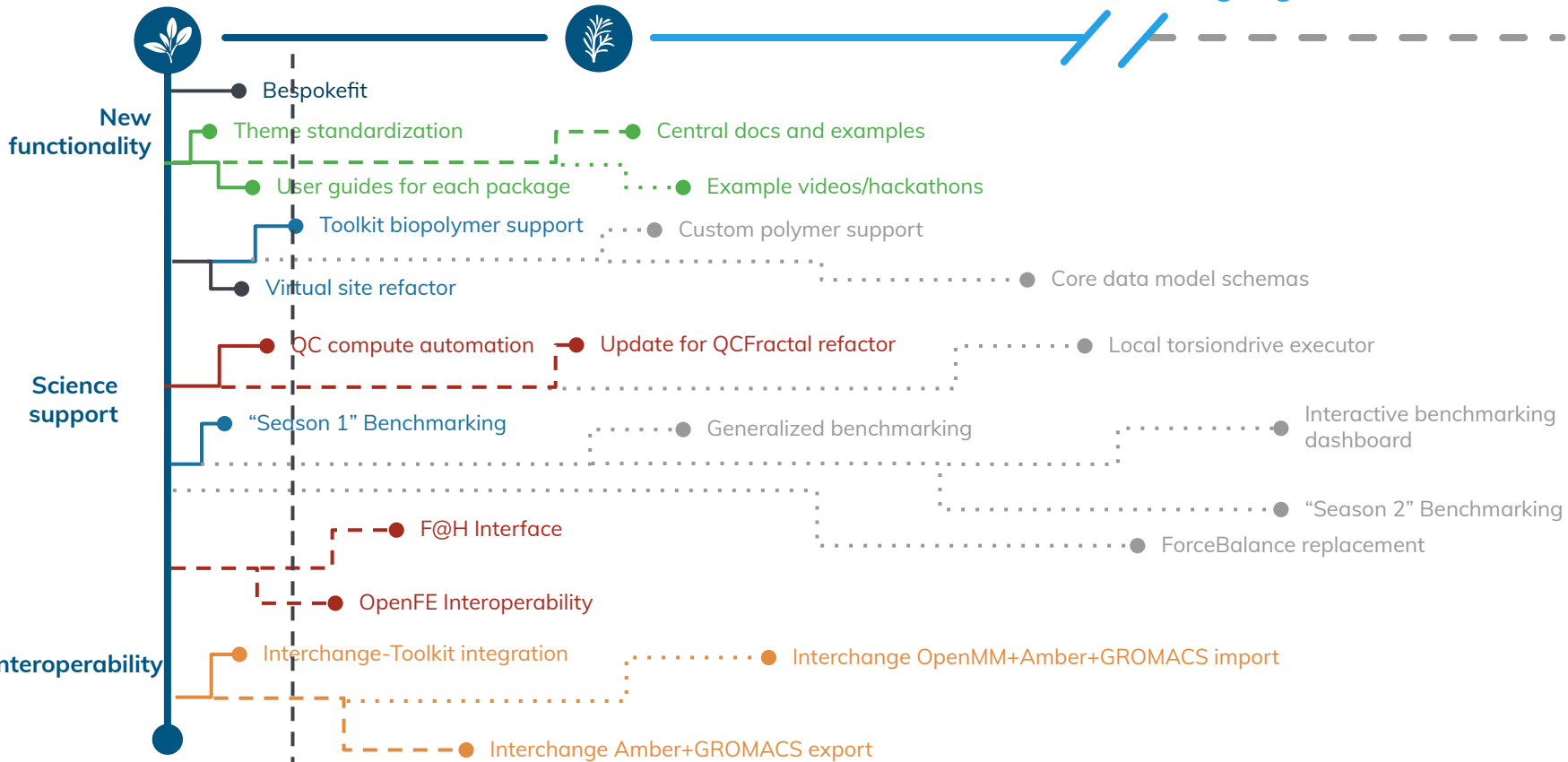
## Where we've been

## ... and where we're going



## Where we've been

## ... and where we're going





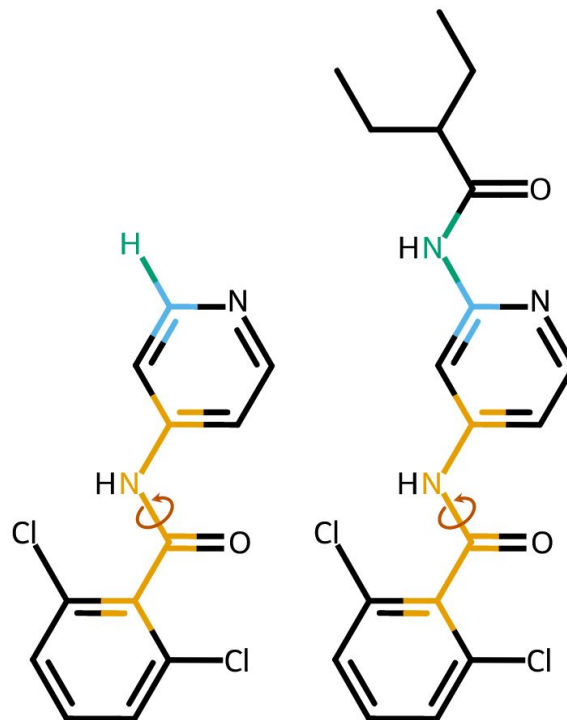
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# BespokeFit has been released



```
[#6H0X3x2r6+0a:1] (  
  ;@[#6H0X3x2r6+0a]  
  (-;!@[#17H0X1x0!r+0A])  
  ;@[#6H1X3x2r6+0a]  
  (-;!@[#1H0X1x0!r+0A])  
  ;@[#6H1X3x2r6+0a]  
  (-;!@[#1H0X1x0!r+0A])  
  ;@[#6H1X3x2r6+0a]  
  -;!@[#1H0X1x0!r+0A]  
)  
(  
  ;@[#6H0X3x2r6+0a]  
  -;!@[#17H0X1x0!r+0A]  
)  
-;!@[#6H0X3x0!r+0A:2]  
  (=;!@[#8H0X1x0!r+0A])  
-;!@[#7H1X3x0!r+0A:3]  
  (-;!@[#1H0X1x0!r+0A])  
-;!@[#6H0X3x2r6+0a:4] (  
  ;@[#6H1X3x2r6+0a]  
  (-;!@[#1H0X1x0!r+0A])  
  ;@[#6H1X3x2r6+0a]  
  (-;!@[#1H0X1x0!r+0A])  
  ;@[#7H0X2x2r6+0a]  
  ;@[#6H0X3x2r6+0a,#6H1X3x2r6+0a]  
  -;!@[#1H0X1x0!r+0A,#7H1X3x0!r+0A]  
)  
  ;@[#6H1X3x2r6+0a]  
  -;!@[#1H0X1x0!r+0A]
```

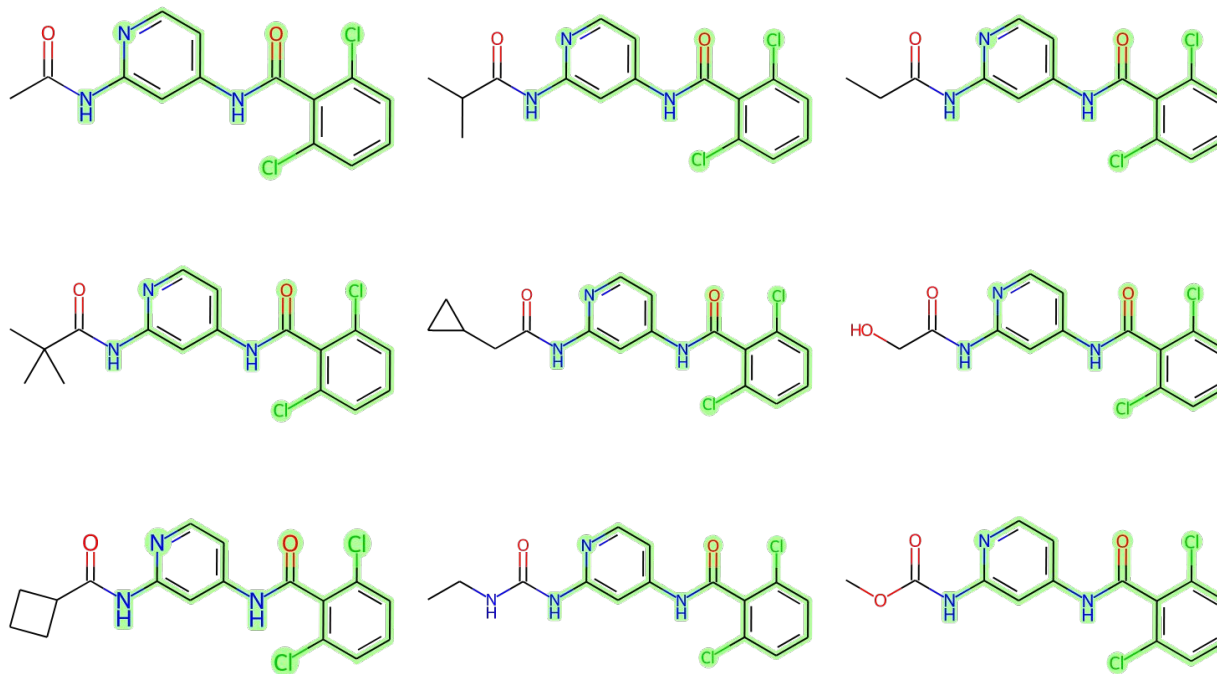


Fragment

Parent



# BespokeFit has been released







## GETTING STARTED

Installation

Quick start

Commands

## BESPOKE USER GUIDE

Theory

Fitting workflows

Bespoke executor

Retrieving results

## API REFERENCE

openff.bespokefit

## DEVELOPER GUIDE

## Quick start

### Warning

To reduce runtime, this “Quick start” guide uses a fast semiempirical model, “GFN2-xTB”, to generate training data, rather than the “default” method used to train mainline OpenFF force fields.

BespokeFit aims to provide an automated pipeline to augment a molecular mechanics force field with highly specific force field parameters trained to accurately capture the important features and phenomenology of an input set of molecules. It produces bespoke torsion parameters that have been trained to capture as closely as possible the torsion profiles of the rotatable bonds in the target molecule, which collectively have a large impact on conformational preferences.



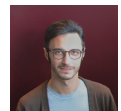
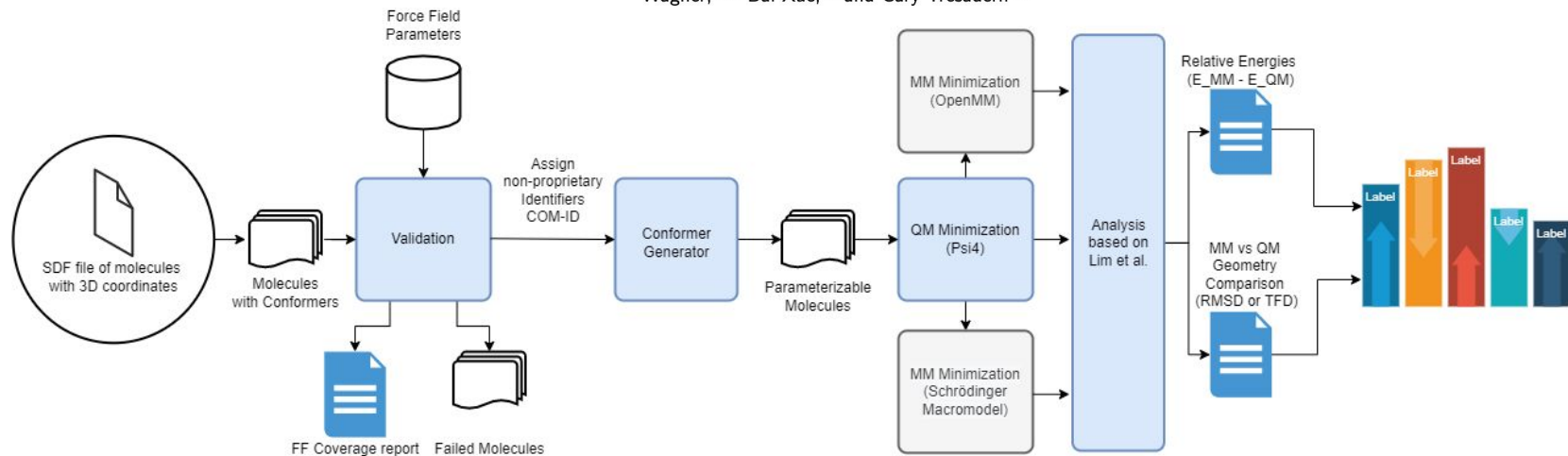
# Partner benchmarking manuscript headed for submission



## Collaborative assessment of molecular geometries and energies from the Open Force Field

Lorenzo D'Amore,<sup>†</sup> David F. Hahn,<sup>‡</sup> David L. Dotson,<sup>¶</sup> Joshua T. Horton,<sup>§</sup> Ian Craig,<sup>||</sup> Pieter J. in 't Veld,<sup>||</sup> Thomas Fox,<sup>⊥</sup> Alberto Gobbi,<sup>#</sup> Sirish Kaushik Lakkaraju,<sup>®</sup> Xavier Lucas,<sup>△</sup> Katharina Meier,<sup>▽</sup>  
David L. Mobley,<sup>††</sup> Arjun Narayanan,<sup>‡‡</sup> Christina E.M. Schindler,<sup>¶¶</sup> William Swope,<sup>#</sup> Jeffrey

Wagner,<sup>¶,§§</sup> Bai Xue,<sup>||||</sup> and Gary Tresadern\*,<sup>‡</sup>



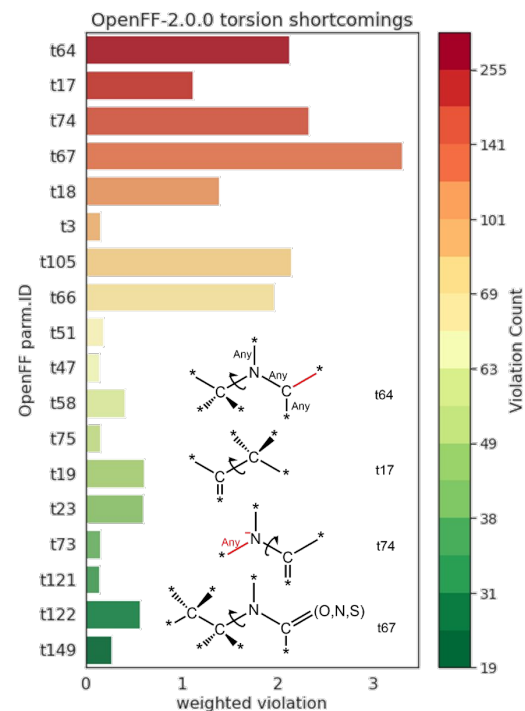
# Python toolkits help us find our weak spots



Mol ID	QM min.	MM min.	dE <sub>OpenFF-2.0.0</sub>	Torsion Parm.	Fig. Label
RCH-00632			+5.7 kcal/mol	[1] t47, t48	(a)
RCH-00689			+3.0 kcal/mol	[2] t75, t79 [3] t64, t67	(b)
RCH-00697			+2.7 kcal/mol	[4] t74 [5] t75, t77, t78	(c)
RCH-00333			+2.1 kcal/mol	[6] t64, t66 [7] t17	(d)
RCH-00658			+2.3 kcal/mol	[4] t74 [8] t64	(e)

Figure 5: Molecular fragments of the Roche dataset containing concerning torsions. Global minima conformers optimized with QM and MM are shown with the concerning torsion(s) marked in brackets. Relative (dE) energies calculated according to equation 1 and torsion parameter(s) associated with corresponding concerning torsion(s) are reported.

Figure 6: Analysis of torsion violations in the Public OpenFF Industry Dataset. Inset: 2D sketch chemistry match of selected torsion parameters. Elements in red color (bond, charge) may or may not exist, meaning that the corresponding atom can be either tri- or dicoordinated, respectively





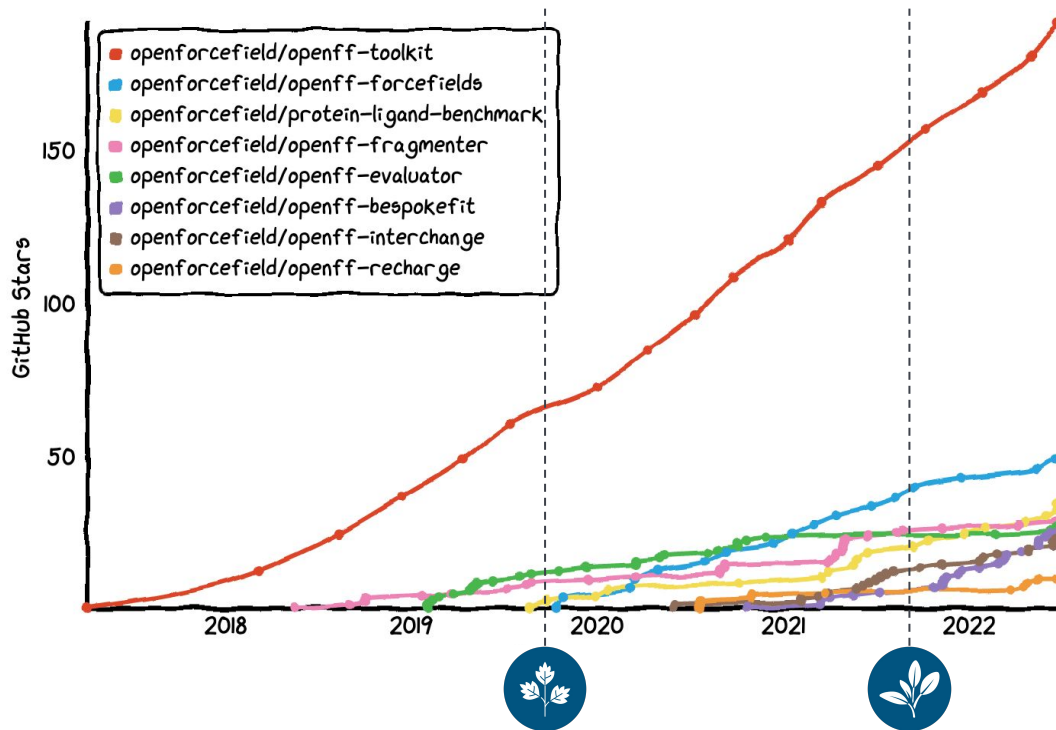
## Our Organizational Values

1. **Product leadership**
  - **Accurate force fields**
  - **Accessible infrastructure**
  - **Broad interoperability**
2. **Proximity with users**
  - Custom solutions
  - Joint development
3. **Operational excellence**
  - Transparency
  - Predictability

# Our projects are becoming widely-adopted



Star History



star-history.com

# Our projects are becoming widely-adopted



"from openff"



1,259 code results

Sort: Best match ▾



eduardocerqueira/seeker

[seeker/snippet/build\\_waterbox.py](#)

```
7 from openmm.app import Simulation
8 from openff.evaluator.protocols import coordinates
9 from openff.evaluator.utils import packmol
10 from openff.toolkit.typing.engines.smirnoff import ForceField
11 from openff.units import unit
12 from openff.toolkit.topology import Molecule, Topology
```

● Python Showing the top nine matches Last indexed 4 days ago

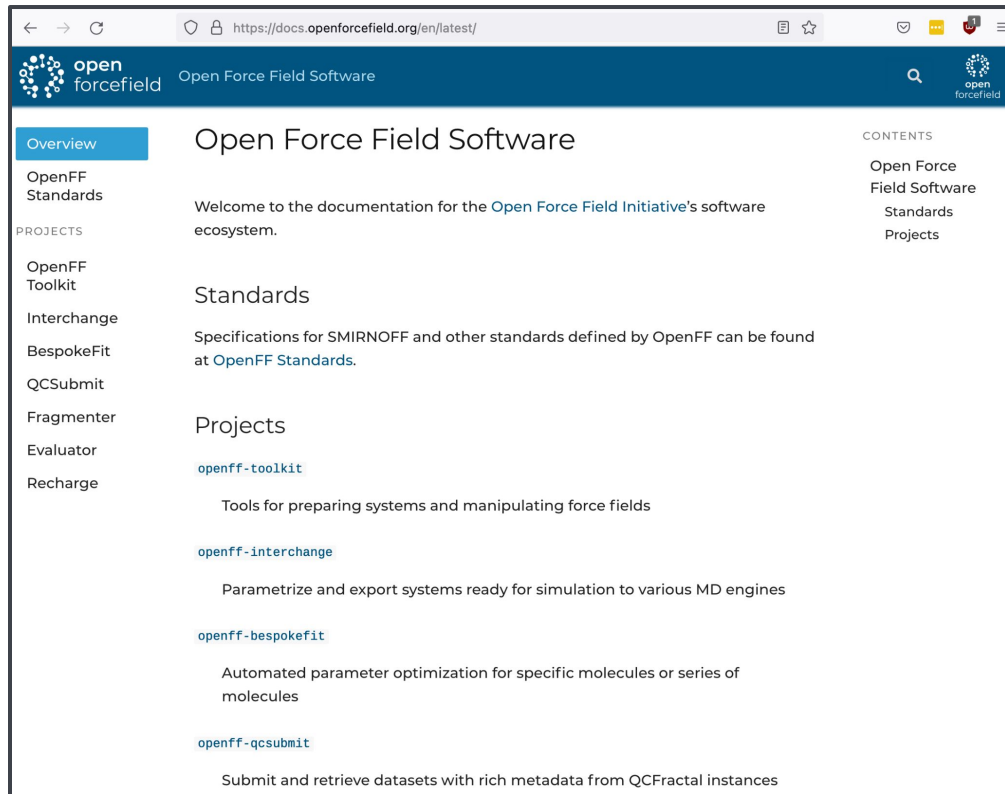


yoshiatsu163/myoff

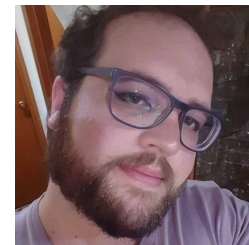
[/openff2Imp.py](#)

```
1 # Use the OpenFF Toolkit to generate a minimal chemical topology
2 from openff.toolkit.topology import Molecule
3 from openff.toolkit.utils.toolkits import ToolkitRegistry, AmberToolsToolkitWrapper
```

● Python Showing the top four matches Last indexed on Nov 3, 2021



The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the Open Force Field documentation website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <https://docs.openforcefield.org/en/latest/>. The website header includes the Open Force Field logo and the text "Open Force Field Software". A search icon and a smaller logo are also present in the header. The main content area is titled "Open Force Field Software" and contains a welcome message: "Welcome to the documentation for the Open Force Field Initiative's software ecosystem." Below this, there are sections for "Standards" and "Projects". The "Standards" section mentions "Specifications for SMIRNOFF and other standards defined by OpenFF can be found at OpenFF Standards." The "Projects" section lists several projects with brief descriptions: "openff-toolkit" (Tools for preparing systems and manipulating force fields), "openff-interchange" (Parametrize and export systems ready for simulation to various MD engines), "openff-bespokefit" (Automated parameter optimization for specific molecules or series of molecules), and "openff-qcsubmit" (Submit and retrieve datasets with rich metadata from QCFractal instances). A "CONTENTS" sidebar on the right lists "Open Force Field Software", "Standards", and "Projects". A left sidebar contains navigation links for "Overview", "OpenFF Standards", and "PROJECTS" (listing OpenFF Toolkit, Interchange, BespokeFit, QCSubmit, Fragmenter, Evaluator, and Recharge).



[docs.openforcefield.org](https://docs.openforcefield.org)



## Cookbook: Every way to make a Molecule

Every pathway through the OpenFF Toolkit boils down to four steps:

1. Using other tools, assemble a graph of a molecule, including all of its atoms, bonds, bond orders, formal charges, and stereochemistry[]]
2. Use that information to construct a `Molecule`
3. Combine a number of `Molecule` objects to construct a `Topology`
4. Call `ForceField.create_openmm_system(topology)` to create an OpenMM `System` (or, in the near future, an OpenFF `Interchange` for painless conversion to all sorts of MD formats)

So let's take a look at every way there is to construct a molecule! We'll use zwitterionic L-alanine as an example biomolecule with all the tricky bits - a stereocenter, non-zero formal charges, and bonds of different orders.

### From SMILES

SMILES is the classic way to create a `Molecule`. SMILES is a widely-used compact textual representation of arbitrary molecules. This lets us specify an exact molecule, including stereochemistry and bond orders, very easily — though they may not be the most human-readable format.

The `Molecule.from_smiles()` method is used to create a `Molecule` from a SMILES code.

### Implicit hydrogens SMILES

```
zw_l_alanine = Molecule.from_smiles("C[C@H]([NH3+])C(=O)[O-]")
zw_l_alanine.visualize()
ModuleNotFoundError: No module named 'constraint'
```

### CONTENTS

#### Cookbook: Every way to make a Molecule

##### From SMILES

- Implicit hydrogens SMILES

- Explicit hydrogens SMILES

- Mapped SMILES

- SMILES without stereochemistry

##### By hand

- From a dictionary

##### From a file

- From SDF file

- From SDF file object

- From PDB file

##### Other string identification formats

- From InChI

- From IUPAC name

##### Remapping an existing Molecule

##### Via Topology objects

- From an OpenMM Topology

- From an MDTraj Topology

##### From Toolkit objects

- From RDKit Mol

- From OpenEye OEMol

##### From QCArchive

- From a QCArchive molecule record

- From a QCArchive optimisation record





Open Force Field Toolkit 0.8.0 Open Force Field Initiative Open Force Field Toolkit Page Insta

Search

**Note**  
You are not reading the most recent version of this documentation. [0.10.6](#) is the latest version available.

## Open Force Field Toolkit

A modern, extensible library for molecular mechanics force field science from the [Open Force Field Initiative](#)

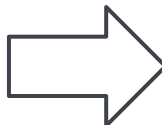
### User Guide

- [Installation](#)
- [Release History](#)
- [The SMIRks Native Open Force Field \(SMIRNOFF\) specification](#)
- [Examples using SMIRNOFF with the toolkit](#)
- [Developing for the toolkit](#)
- [Frequently asked questions \(FAQ\)](#)

### API documentation

- [Molecular topology representations](#)
- [Forcefield typing tools](#)
- [Utilities](#)

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openff toolkit Open Force Field Toolkit

GETTING STARTED

## Open Force Field Toolkit

A modern, extensible library for molecular mechanics force field science from the [Open Force Field Initiative](#)

### Getting started

- [Installation](#)
- [Examples using SMIRNOFF with the toolkit](#)
- [Release History](#)
- [Frequently asked questions \(FAQ\)](#)

### Using the toolkit

- [Core concepts](#)
- [Cookbook: Every way to make a Molecule](#)
- [SMIRNOFF \(SMIRks Native Open Force Field\)](#)
- [Virtual sites](#)



**generate\_conformers** (*toolkit\_registry=ToolkitRegistry containing The RDKit, AmberTools, Built-in Toolkit, n\_conformers=10, rms\_cutoff=None, clear\_existing=True*)

Generate conformers for this molecule using an underlying toolkit. If `n_conformers=0`, no toolkit wrapper will be called. If `n_conformers=0` and `clear_existing=True`, `molecule.conformers` will be set to `None`.

**Parameters:** `toolkit_registry` : *openforcefield.utils.toolkits.ToolkitRegistry* or *openforcefield.utils.toolkits.ToolkitWrapper*, optional, *default=None*

`ToolkitRegistry` or `ToolkitWrapper` to use for SMILES-to-molecule conversion

`n_conformers` : *int, default=1*

The maximum number of conformers to produce

`rms_cutoff` : *simtk.Quantity-wrapped float, in units of distance, optional, default=None*

The minimum RMS value at which two conformers are considered redundant and one is deleted. Precise implementation of this cutoff may be toolkit-dependent. If `None`, the cutoff is set to be the default value for each `ToolkitWrapper` (generally 1 Angstrom).

`clear_existing` : *bool, default=True*

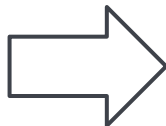
Whether to overwrite existing conformers for the molecule

**Raises:** `InvalidToolkitRegistryError`

If an invalid object is passed as the `toolkit_registry` parameter

## Examples

```
>>> molecule = Molecule.from_smiles('CCCCCC')
>>> molecule.generate_conformers()
```



```
generate_conformers(
    toolkit_registry = GLOBAL_TOOLKIT_REGISTRY,
    n_conformers = 10,
    rms_cutoff = None,
    clear_existing = True,
    make_carboxylic_acids_cis = True
)
```

Generate conformers for this molecule using an underlying toolkit.

If `n_conformers=0`, no toolkit wrapper will be called. If `n_conformers=0` and `clear_existing=True`, `molecule.conformers` will be set to `None`.

## Parameters

`toolkit_registry` (*openff.toolkit.utils.toolkits.ToolkitRegistry* or *openff.toolkit.utils.toolkits.ToolkitWrapper*, optional, *default=None*) – `ToolkitRegistry` or `ToolkitWrapper` to use for SMILES-to-molecule conversion

`n_conformers` (*int, default=1*) – The maximum number of conformers to produce

`rms_cutoff` (*openmm.unit.Quantity-wrapped float, in units of distance, optional, default=None*) – The minimum RMS value at which two conformers are considered redundant and one is deleted. Precise implementation of this cutoff may be toolkit-dependent. If `None`, the cutoff is set to be the default value for each `ToolkitWrapper` (generally 1 Angstrom).



 [openforcefield / openff-units](#) Public

This package provides a common unit registry for all OpenFF packages to use in order to ensure consistent unit definitions across the software ecosystem.

The unit definitions are currently sourced from the NIST 2018 [CODATA](#), but may be updated in future versions as new CODATA updates are made.

While this repository is based on [Pint](#), the main classes ( `Unit` , `Quantity` , and `Measurement` ) have been slightly modified in order to provide non-dynamic, more readily serialisable representations.

## OpenMM Interoperability

For compatibility with [OpenMM units](#), a submodule ( `openff.units.openmm` ) with conversion functions ( `to_openmm` , `from_openmm` ) is also provided.

```
>>> from openff.units import unit
>>> from openff.units.openmm import to_openmm, from_openmm
>>> distance = 24.0 * unit.meter
>>> converted = to_openmm(distance)
>>> converted
Quantity(value=24.0, unit=meter)
>>> type(converted)
<class 'openmm.unit.quantity.Quantity'>
>>> roundtripped = from_openmm(converted)
>>> roundtripped
<Quantity(24.0, 'meter')>
>>> type(roundtripped)
<class 'openff.units.units.Quantity'>
```



# OpenFF Toolkit-Interchange native interoperability



```
from openff.toolkit import ForceField
ff = ForceField('ff14sb_off_impropers_0.0.3.offxml')
```

```
# Make the topology periodic
from openff.units import unit
top.box_vectors = [10., 10., 10.] * unit.nanometer
```

```
interchange = ff.create_interchange(top)
```

```
interchange
```

Interchange with 6 potential handlers, periodic topology with 2667 atoms.

```
# Interchange contains the underlying parameters
[*interchange['Bonds'].potentials.values()][0]
```

```
Potential(parameters={'k': <Quantity(868.0, 'kilocalorie / angstrom ** 2 / mole')>, 'length': <Quantity(1.01, 'angstrom')>}, map_key=None)
```

```
# The Interchange can export to an OpenMM system, which is pretty much the
# same as you'd get by using ForceField.create_openmm_system. It also contains
# an OpenFF Topology object (a copy of the one that made it) that can be turned
# into an OpenMM Topology
(interchange.to_openmm(), interchange.topology.to_openmm())
```

```
(<openmm.openmm.System; proxy of <Swig Object of type 'OpenMM::System *' at 0x180346960> >,
 <Topology; 2 chains, 172 residues, 2667 atoms, 2686 bonds>)
```



# New code paths...



```
forcefield.create_openmm_system(topology)
```

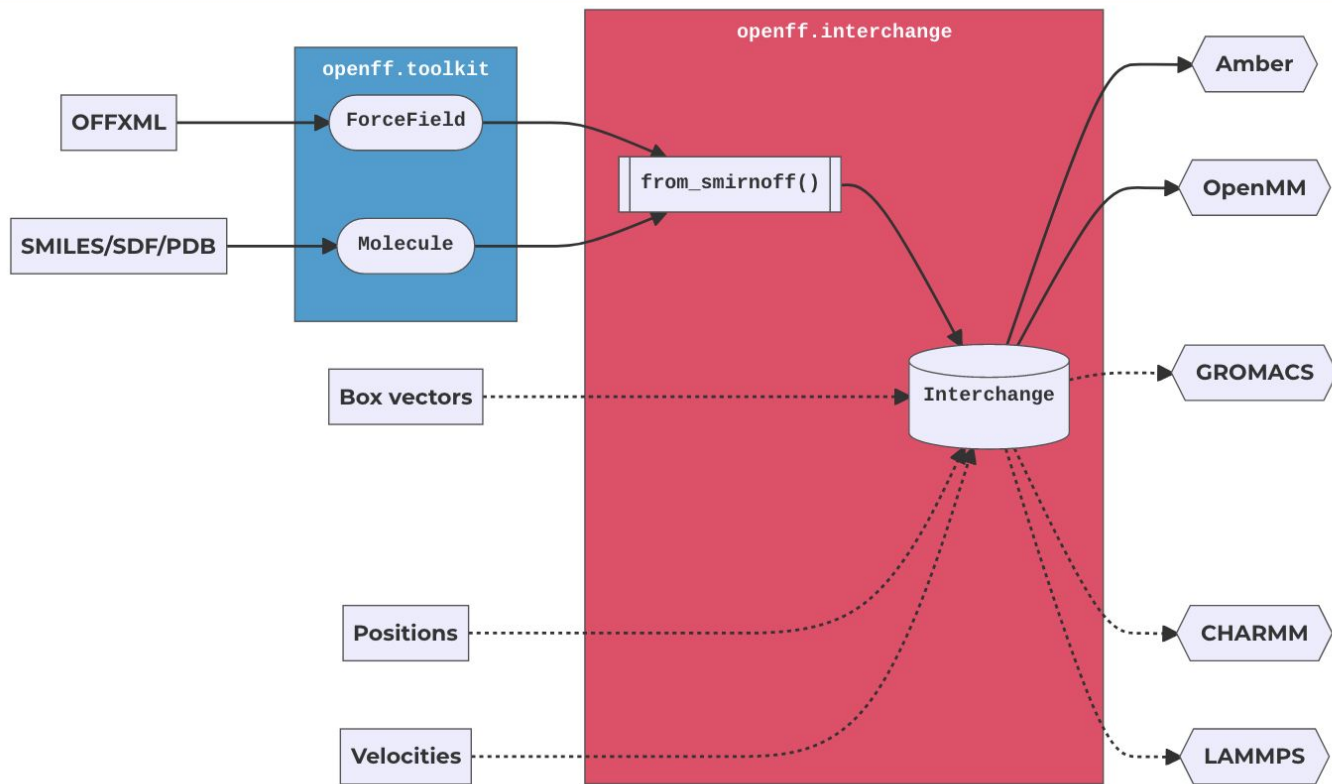
```
interchange = forcefield.create_interchange(topology)  
interchange.to_openmm()
```

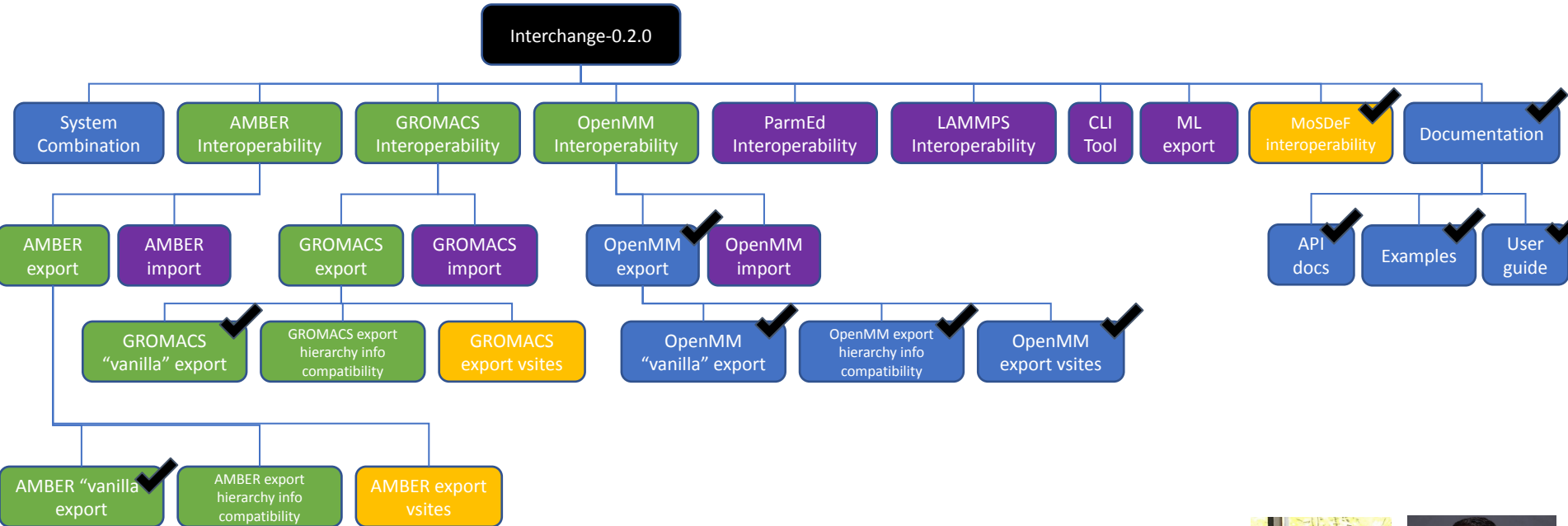
**Corporate needs you to find the difference  
between this picture and this picture**

# ...same old behavior



# Integrating Interchange into the OpenFF Toolkit



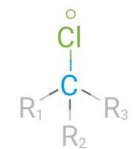
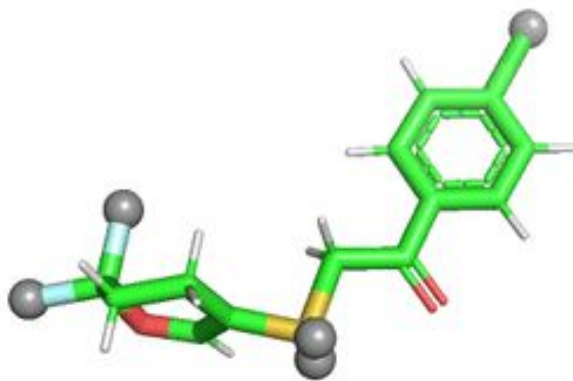


We will make exporters before importers

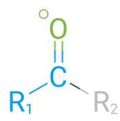




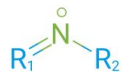
# Extensive virtual site refactor



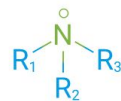
Bond Charge



Monovalent Lone Pair

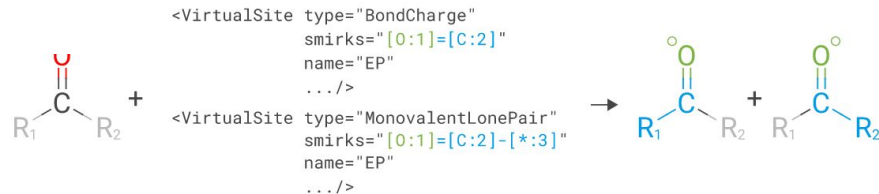


Divalent Lone Pair



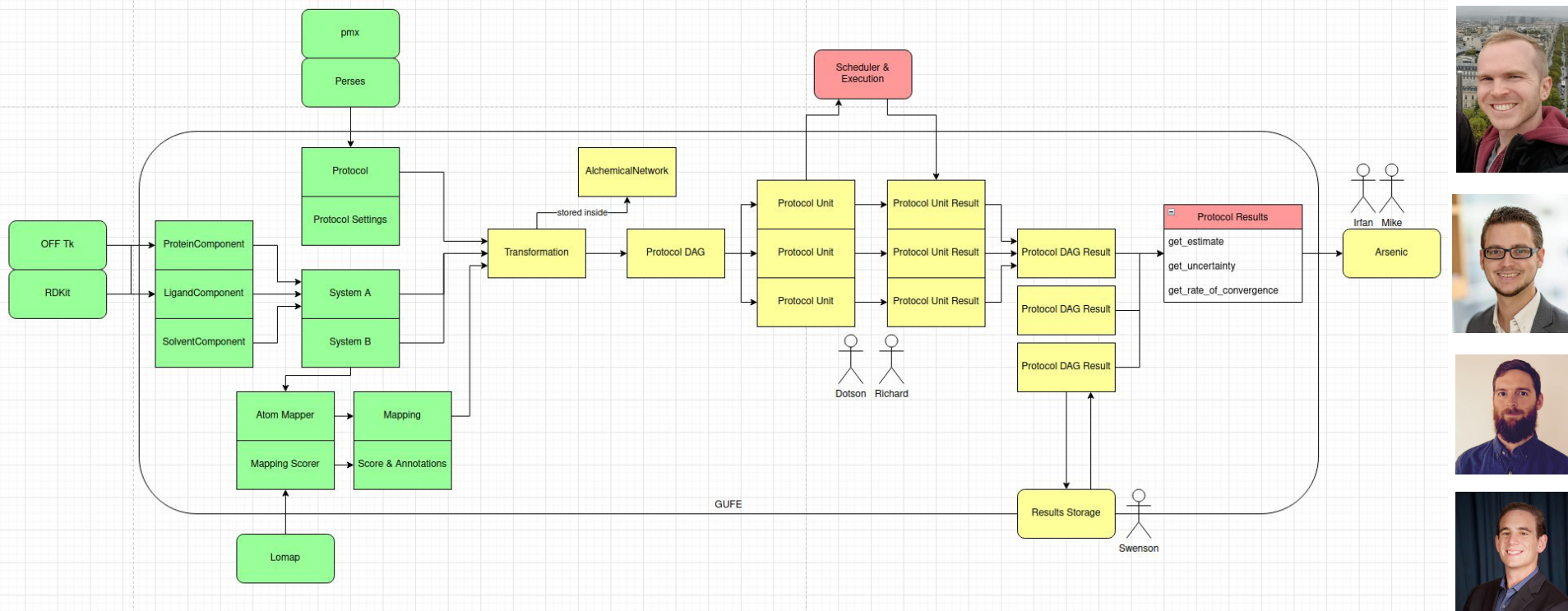
Trivalent Lone Pair

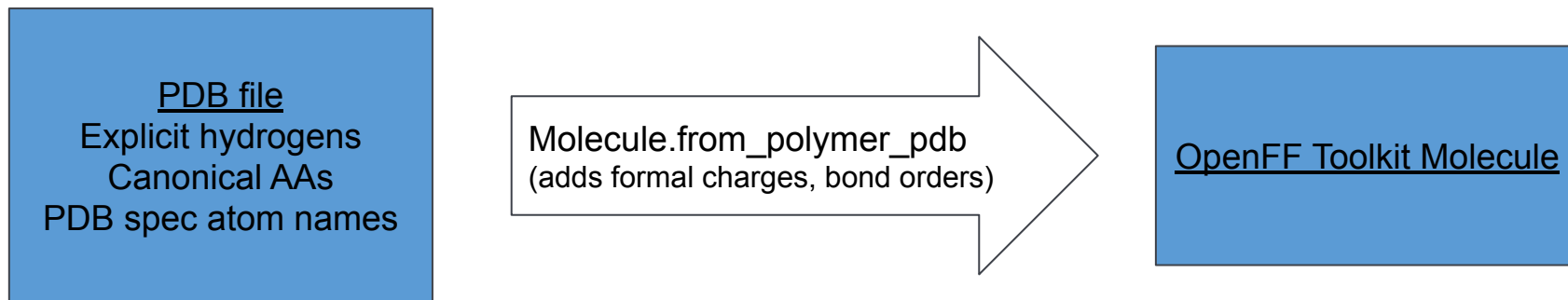
Examples of each type of virtual site with 'orientation' atoms colored blue and 'parent' atoms colored green.



The last parameter to match a particular parent atom wins. Here the monovalent lone pair parameter would be assigned rather than the bond charge parameter as it appears later in the parameter list.

# The F@H interface and OpenFE interoperability





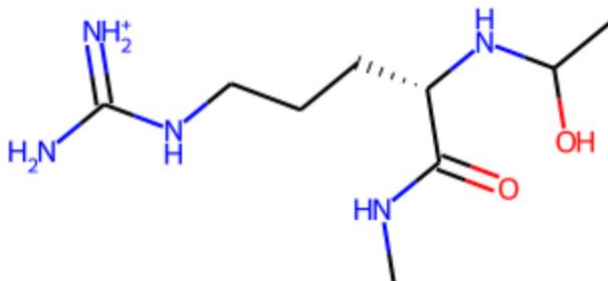
```
from openff.toolkit import Molecule, Topology
# Load structures and perceive info
# This PDB file must have explicit hydrogens
protein = Molecule.from_polymer_pdb('openff-toolkit/openff/toolkit/data/proteins/T4-protein.pdb')
```

# Sometimes a toolkit will just... do the right thing



```
mol = Chem.MolFromPDBFile('openff-toolkit/openff/toolkit/data/proteins/MainChain_ARG.pdb')  
mol.RemoveAllConformers()  
mol
```

RDKit

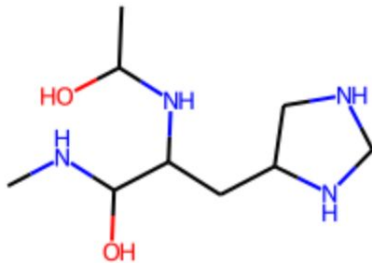


# But other times it won't



```
mol = Chem.MolFromPDBFile('openff-toolkit/openff/toolkit/data/proteins/MainChain_HID.pdb')  
mol.RemoveAllConformers()  
mol
```

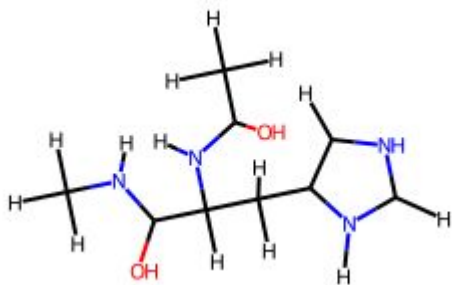
RDKit



PDB files don't contain complete chemical information!

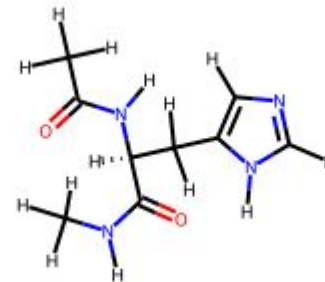


# CCD to the rescue!



Molecule.from\_polymer\_pdb  
(adds formal charges, bond orders)

**Chemical Component Dictionary**



The Chemical Component Dictionary is as an external reference file describing all residue and small molecule components found in PDB entries. This dictionary contains detailed chemical descriptions for standard and modified amino acids/nucleotides, small molecule ligands, and solvent molecules. Each chemical definition includes descriptions of chemical properties such as stereochemical assignments, chemical descriptors (SMILES & InChI), systematic chemical names, and idealized coordinates (generated using Molecular Networks' Corina, and if there are issues, OpenEye's OMEGA).

# OFFMols are getting a PDB hierarchy API



```
# We offer lightweight residue and chain iteration functionality
```

```
protein.residues[:5]
```

```
[HierarchyElement ('A', '0', 'MET') of iterator 'residues' containing 19 atom(s),  
HierarchyElement ('A', '1', 'ASN') of iterator 'residues' containing 14 atom(s),  
HierarchyElement ('A', '2', 'ILE') of iterator 'residues' containing 19 atom(s),  
HierarchyElement ('A', '3', 'PHE') of iterator 'residues' containing 20 atom(s),  
HierarchyElement ('A', '4', 'GLU') of iterator 'residues' containing 15 atom(s)]
```

```
# The underlying atoms can be accessed using the "particles" iterator
```

```
[*protein.residues[4].atoms]
```

```
[Atom(name=N, atomic number=7),  
Atom(name=H, atomic number=1),  
Atom(name=CA, atomic number=6),  
Atom(name=HA, atomic number=1),  
Atom(name=CB, atomic number=6),  
Atom(name=HB2, atomic number=1),  
Atom(name=HB3, atomic number=1),  
Atom(name=CG, atomic number=6),  
Atom(name=HG2, atomic number=1),  
Atom(name=HG3, atomic number=1),  
Atom(name=CD, atomic number=6),  
Atom(name=OE1, atomic number=8),  
Atom(name=OE2, atomic number=8),  
Atom(name=C, atomic number=6),  
Atom(name=O, atomic number=8)]
```



# PDB hierarchy info will be interoperable



```
# Here's an example of where hierarchy info goes when converting an OFFMol  
# to OpenMM
```

```
omm_top = protein.to_topology().to_openmm()  
omm_top.residues
```

```
<bound method Topology.residues of <Topology; 1 chains, 164 residues, 2634 atoms, 2654 bonds>>
```

```
[*omm_top.atoms()][100]
```

```
<Atom 100 (H51x) of chain 0 residue 5 (MET)>
```

```
# Here's where hierarchy info goes in RDKit
```

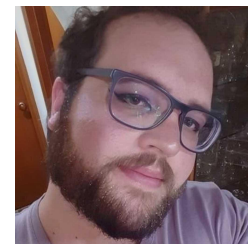
```
rd_protein = protein.to_rdkit()  
res_info = rd_protein.GetAtomWithIdx(100).GetPDBResidueInfo()  
print(res_info.GetResidueName(), res_info.GetResidueNumber(), res_info.GetChainId())
```

```
MET 5 A
```

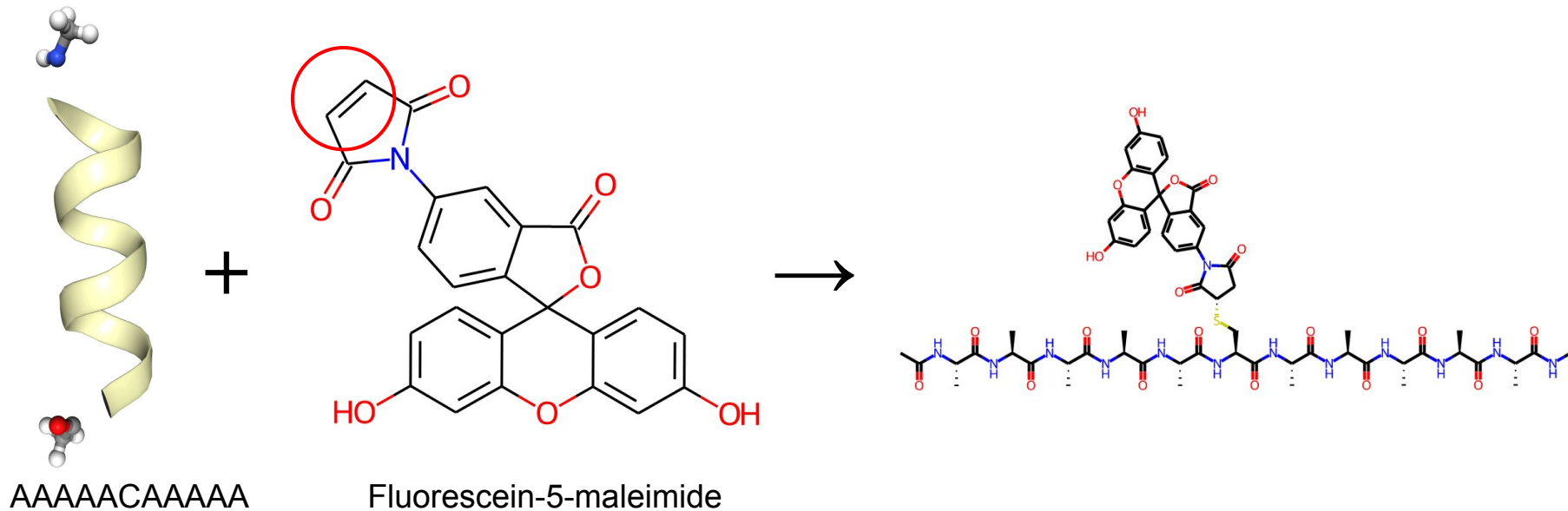


## ⚠️ This code is not production-ready

This code is a glimpse into the possibilities of the kinds of automated NCAA parametrization that future OpenFF force fields will provide. We present it as a preview, not as a recommended procedure. It uses unproven force fields and a lot of ad hoc code. We recommend waiting for OpenFF 3.0.0 Rosemary.



# The power of SMIRNOFF





## SMIRNOFF parameter specification is hierarchical

Parameters that appear later in a SMIRNOFF specification override those which come earlier if they match the same pattern... This hierarchical structure means that **a typical parameter file will tend to have generic parameters early in the section for each force type, with more specialized parameters assigned later.**

## Multiple SMIRNOFF representations can be processed in sequence

Multiple SMIRNOFF data sources (e.g. multiple OFFXML files) can be loaded in sequence. If these files each contain unique top-level tags (such as <Bonds>, <Angles>, etc.), the resulting force field will be independent of the order in which the files are loaded. **If, however, the same tag occurs in multiple files, the contents of the tags are merged, with the tags read later taking precedence over the parameters read earlier, provided the top-level tags have compatible attributes.** The resulting force field will therefore depend on the order in which parameters are read.

This behavior is intended for limited use in appending very specific parameters, such as parameters specifying solvent models, to override standard parameters.



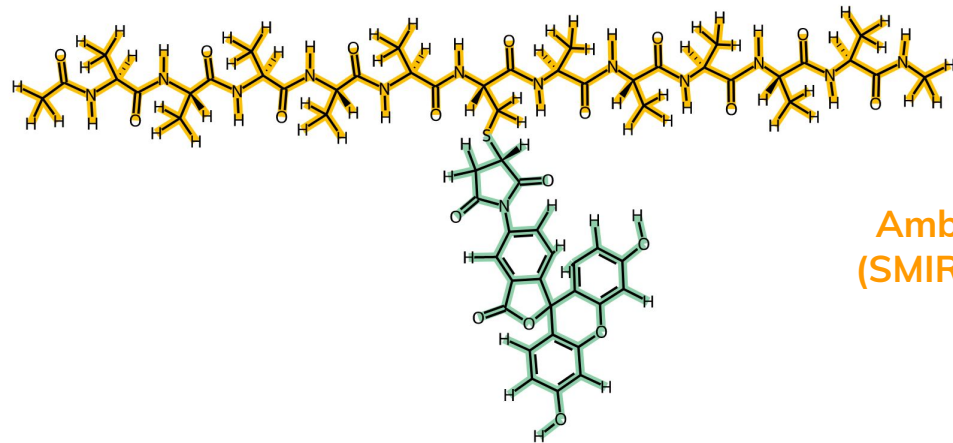
## This code is not production-ready

In this notebook, we use the SMIRNOFF port of the Amber ff14SB force field. This is currently the only mainstream protein force field that works with the OpenFF Toolkit, but it's slow and hasn't been rigorously checked against the original force field. The Open Force Field Initiative recommends waiting for OpenFF 3.0.0 "Rosemary", which will include protein parameters, before using this in production work.

```
sage_ff14sb = ForceField('openff-2.0.0.offxml', 'ff14sb_off_impropers_0.0.3.offxml')
```

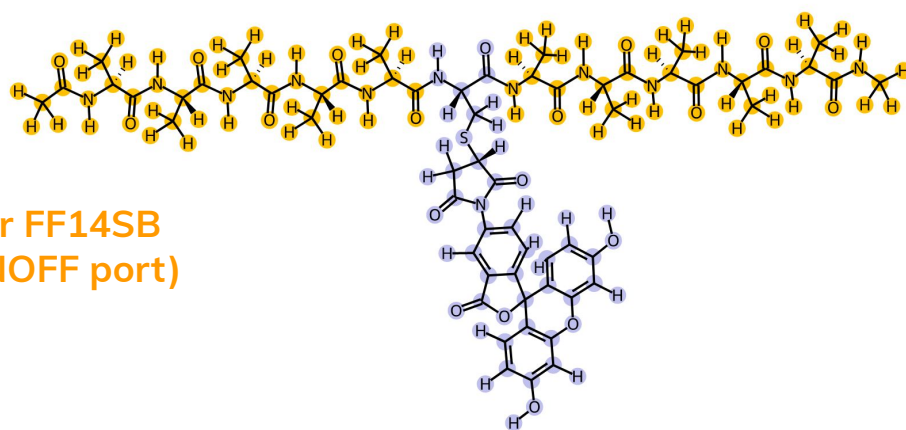


Bonds



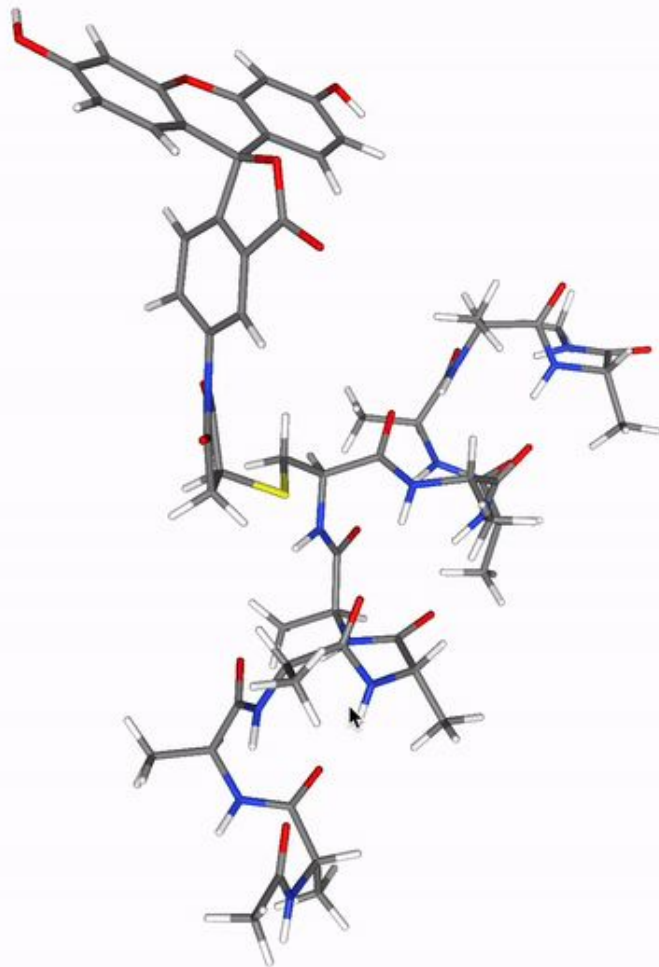
Sage

Partial charges



Amber FF14SB  
(SMIRNOFF port)

AM1BCC  
(some assembly required)



## Where we've been

## ... and where we're going



2016



2019



2021



202X

SMIRNOFF99Frosst

Parsley

Sage

Rosemary

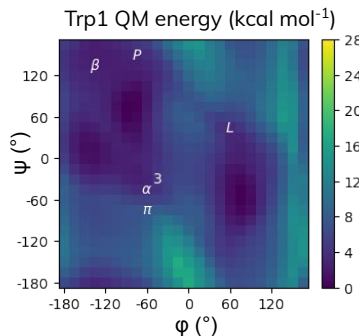
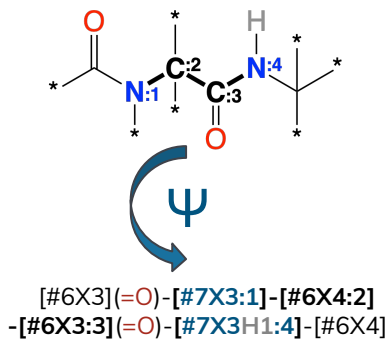
Initial SMIRNOFF port  
of the parm@Frosst  
force field

Retrained **valence**  
parameters against a  
**redesigned QC data**  
set

Retrained **vdW**  
parameters against  
physical property  
data + retrained  
**valence** parameters

Self consistent  
**biopolymer** + small  
molecule force field





Iván Pulido



Jeff Wagner



Chapin Cavender

## Software

Adding biopolymer support to OpenFF Toolkit

## Selecting parameters

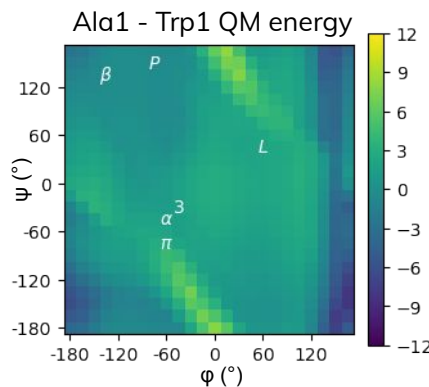
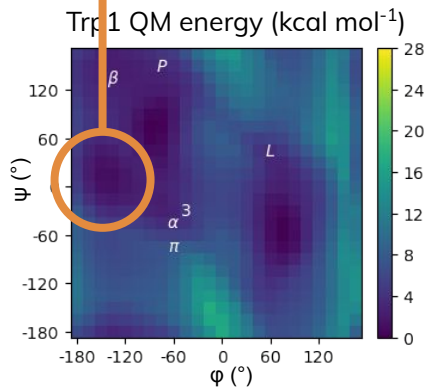
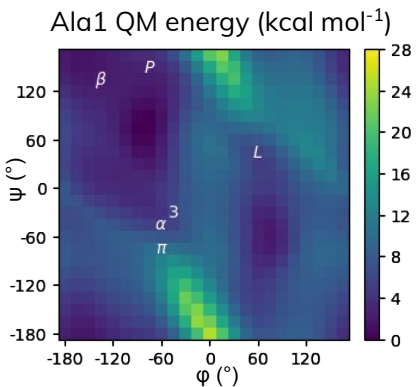
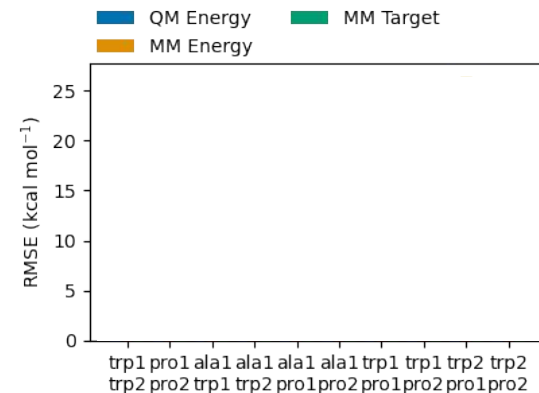
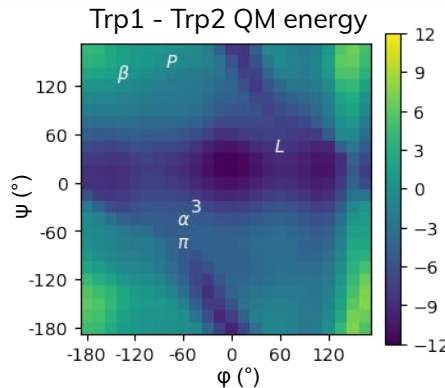
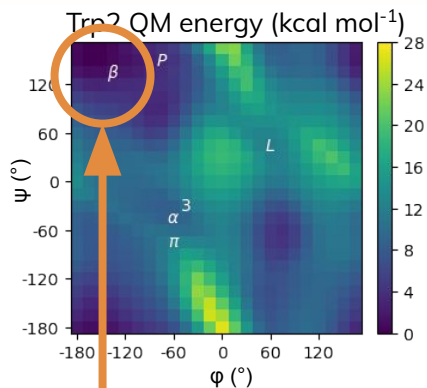
Encoding protein-specific parameters with SMARTS

## QC Data

Systematic generation of torsion and optimization data for amino acids

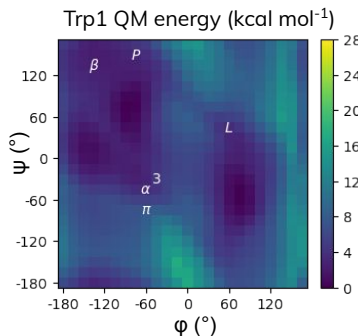
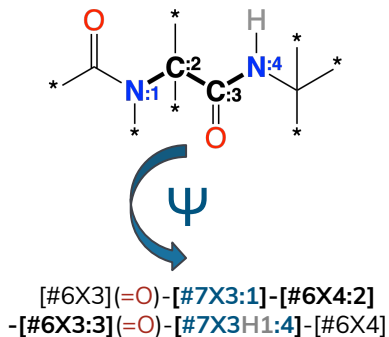


Do side-chains impact protein backbone torsions?



Yes → train individual torsions for each side-chain

Use different rotamers for validation



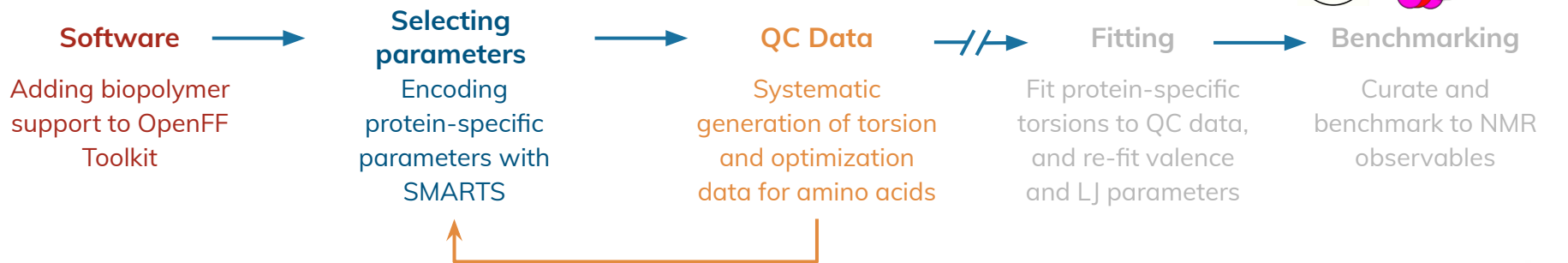
Iván Pulido



Jeff Wagner



Chapin Cavender



Where we've been

... and where we're going



Force field fitting

VALENCE

VDW

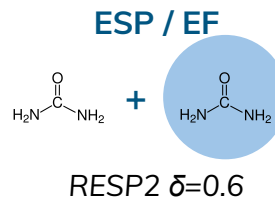
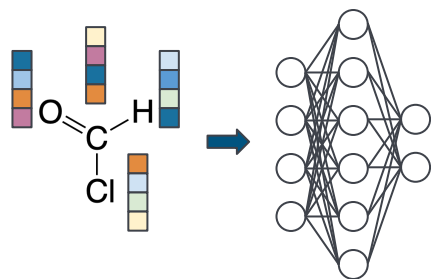
ELECTROSTATICS

Protein parameters



Graph charge models





Simon  
Boothroyd

### Hypothesis

A graph convolutional model can produce fast, conformer-independent, high quality charges

### Software

Support for graph models added to the OpenFF toolkit. Infrastructure for applying graph models to molecules created

### Training

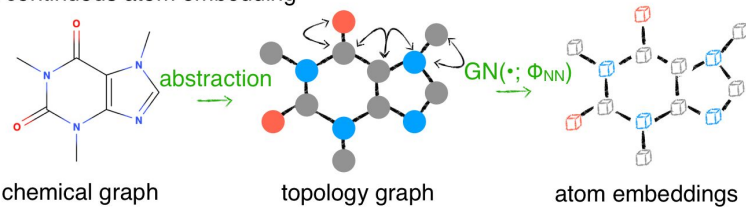
A GNN will be trained to similar quality as AM1BCC (ELF10)

### Testing

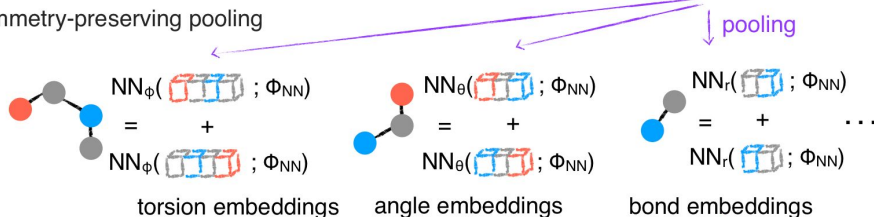
Trained parameters will be benchmarked against experimental and physical property data



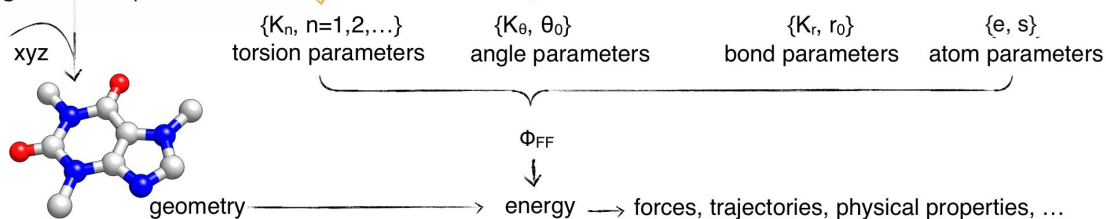
## Stage 1: graph net continuous atom embedding



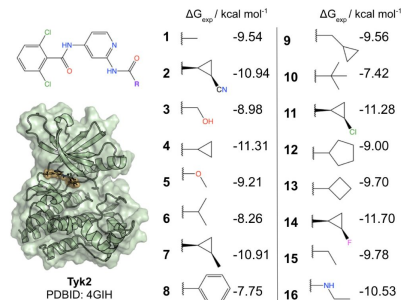
## Stage 2: symmetry-preserving pooling



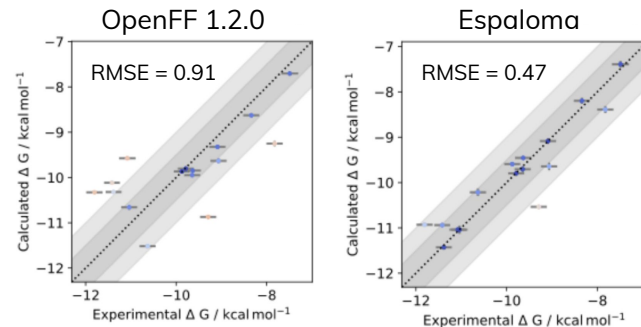
## Stage 3: neural parametrization



## Absolute binding free energy performance



Yuanqing Wang



Where we've been

... and where we're going



Force field fitting

VALENCE

VDW

ELECTROSTATICS

Protein parameters



Virtual sites



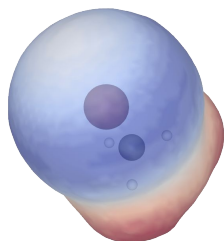
Graph charge models



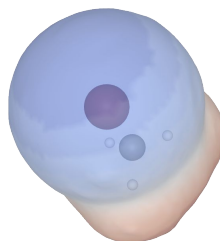


### ESP of C-Br has a sigma hole at HF/6-31G\*

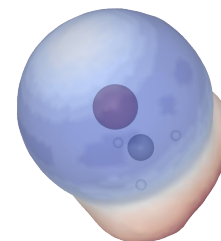
HF/6-31G\*



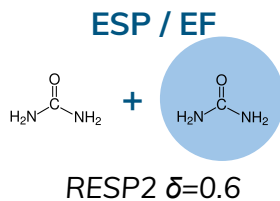
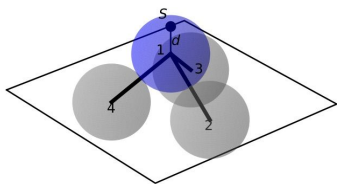
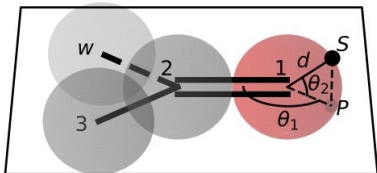
Sage



With virtual sites







RESP2  $\delta=0.6$



Simon  
Boothroyd



Owen  
Madin



Trevor  
Gokey

## Hypothesis

The inclusion of off-site charges should improve the accuracy of a force fields electrostatic interactions

## Software

Virtual site support added to the OpenFF toolkit. Support for training to QC ESP + EF data

## Training

Virtual sites will be trained against ESP / EF QC data, based on input from the Cole group

## Testing

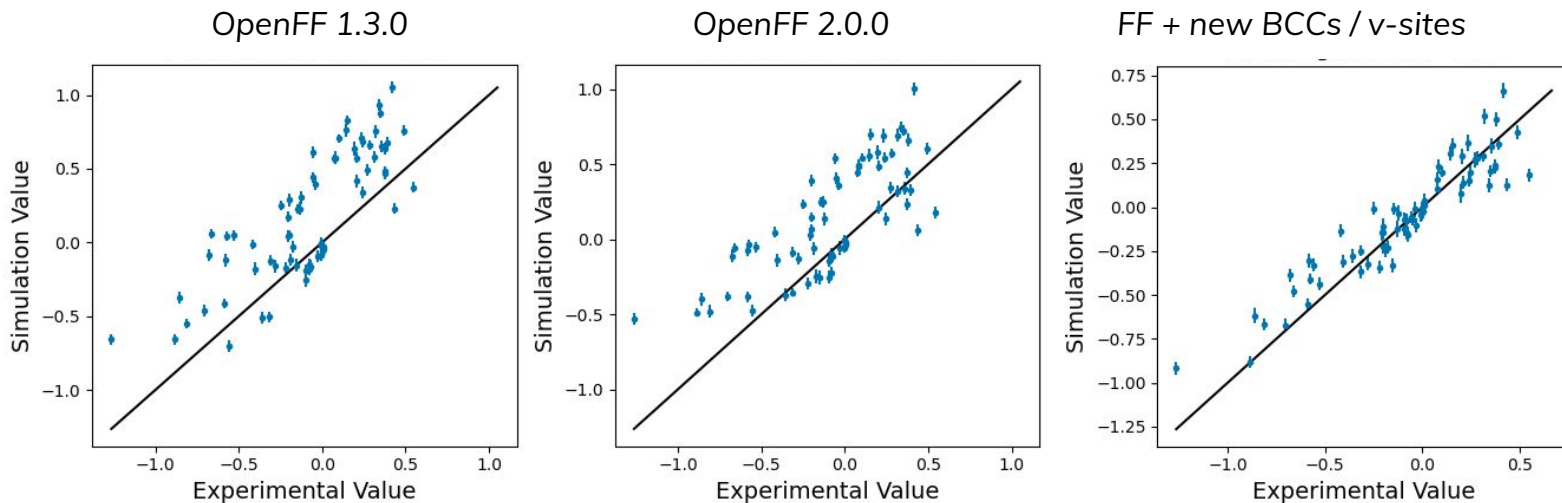
Trained parameters will be benchmarked against experimental and physical property data

## Interoperability

In order to include into mainline force field need major simulation packages to support proposed v-sites



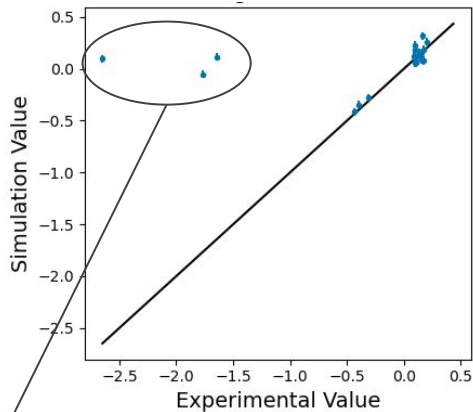
$\Delta H_{\text{mix}}(x)$  of mixtures containing Chlorine



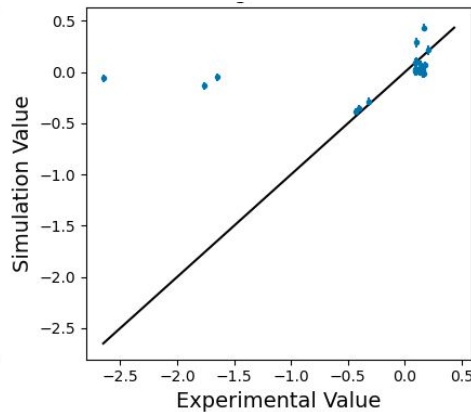


### $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}(x)$ of Heteroaromatics

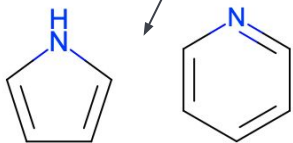
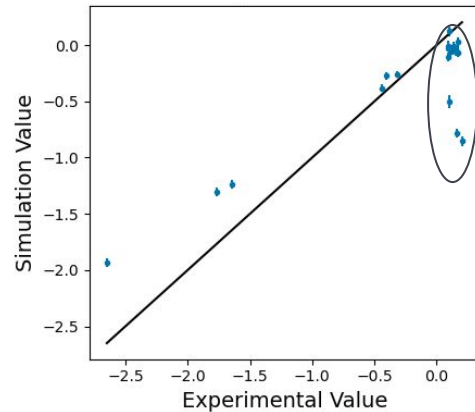
OpenFF 1.3.0

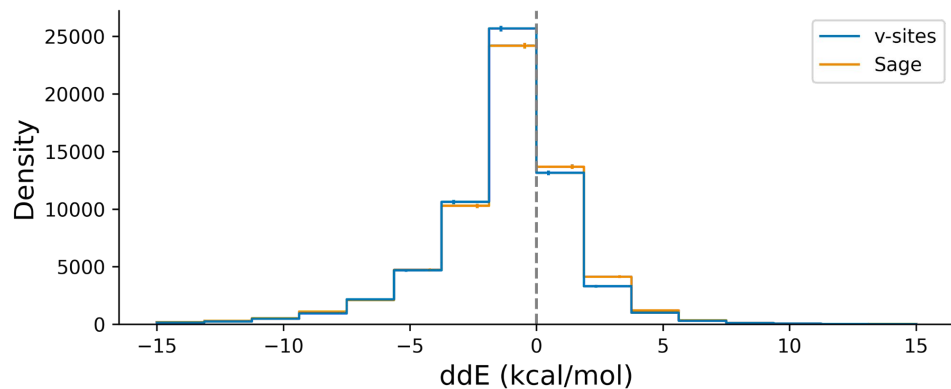


OpenFF 2.0.0

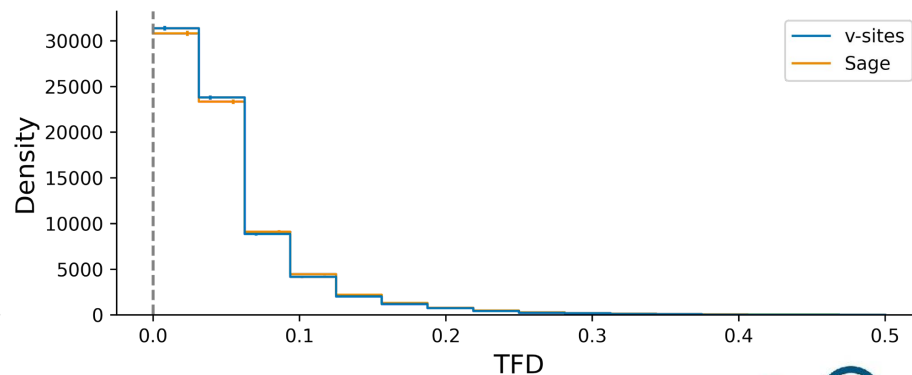
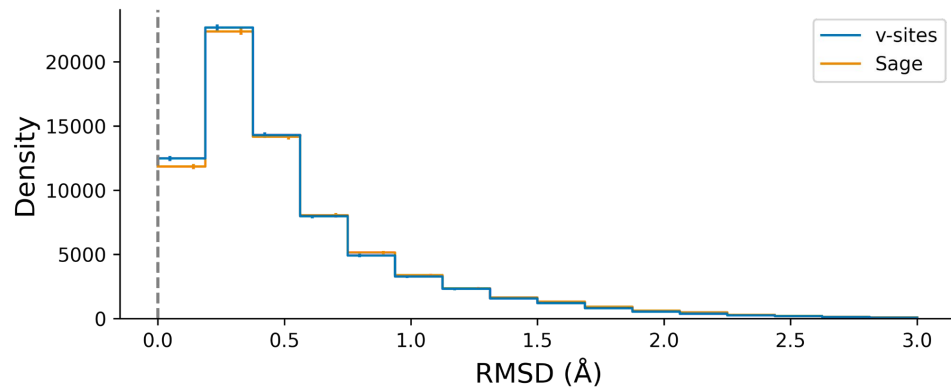


FF + new BCCs / v-sites





Benchmarks show modest improvements



## Where we've been

## ... and where we're going



INPUT DATA

● QM theory benchmark

Method	Reference
Double Hybrid	Chang et al. (2011)
Hybrid	Chang et al. (2011)
Meta-GGA	Chang et al. (2011)
GGA	Chang et al. (2011)
Disp	Chang et al. (2011)
Disp	Chang et al. (2011)

Force field fitting

VALENCE



Protein parameters



VDW

ELECTROSTATICS

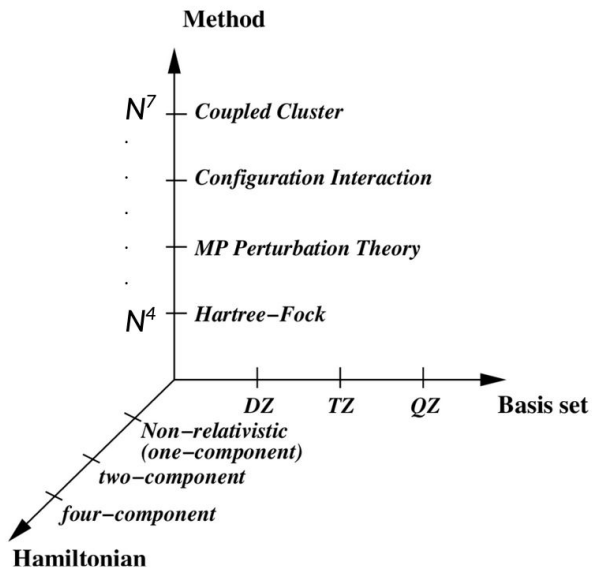


Virtual sites



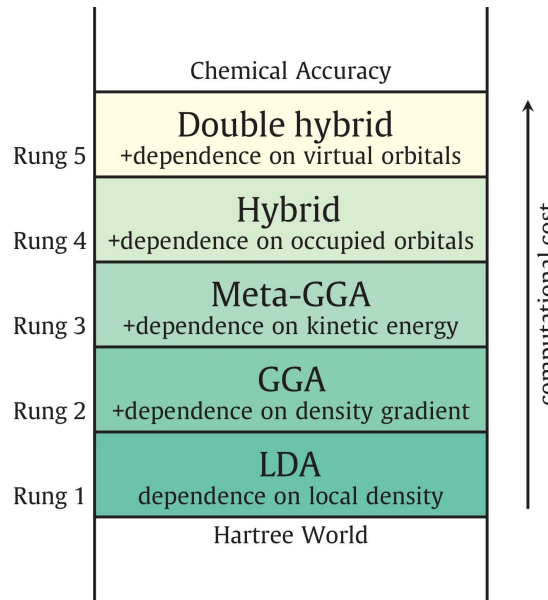
Graph charge models





The three axes along of WFT methods:  
**Basis set, Hamiltonian,** and the treatment of  
**electron correlation.**

Courtesy: Timo Fleig, urn:nbn:de:hbz:061-20070312-091913-8



Jacob's ladder of density functional approximation  
 for **exchange correlation** energy

Courtesy: 10.1016/j.ccr.2015.03.019



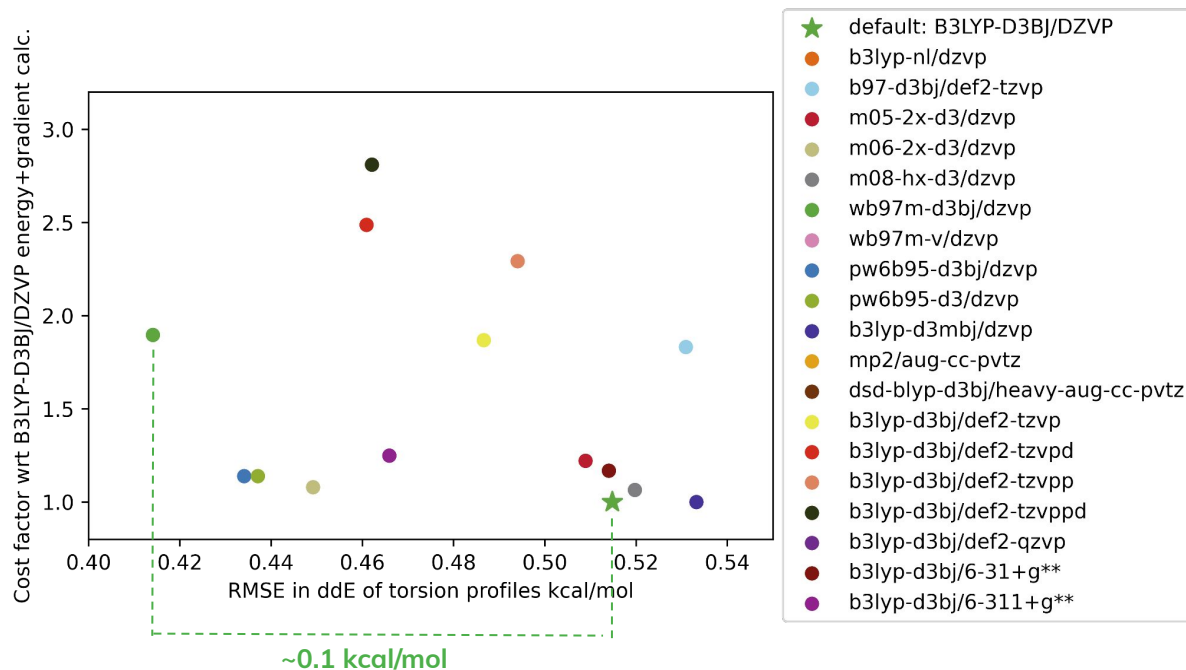
Pavan Behara



Hyesu Jang

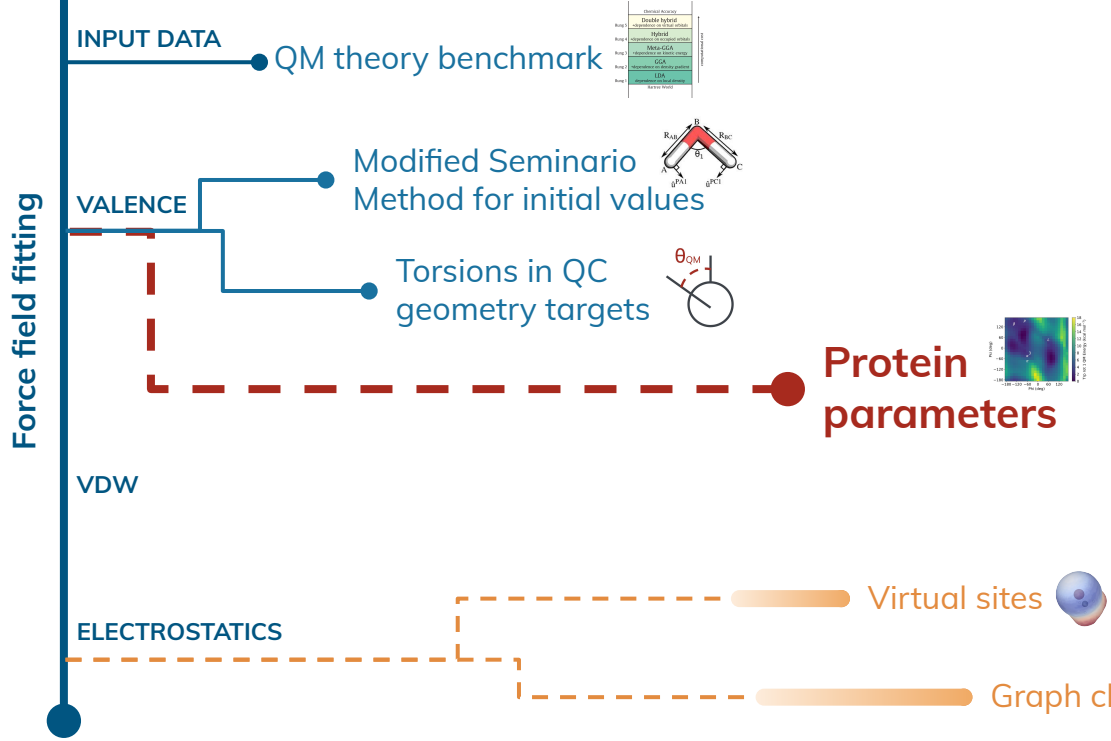


### B3LYP-D3BJ/DZVP best balance of quality and speed



# Where we've been

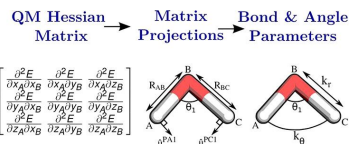
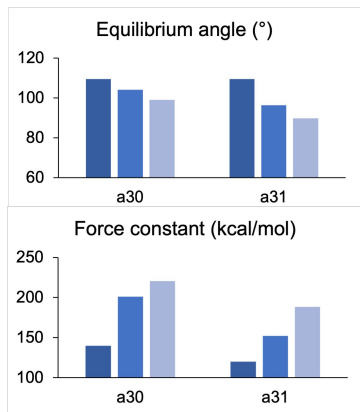
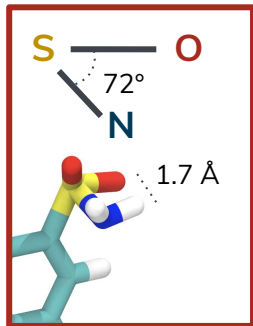
# ... and where we're going



Method	Reference
Double Hybrid	[1]
Hybrid	[2]
Meta-GGA	[3]
GGA	[4]
Disp	[5]







Josh Horton

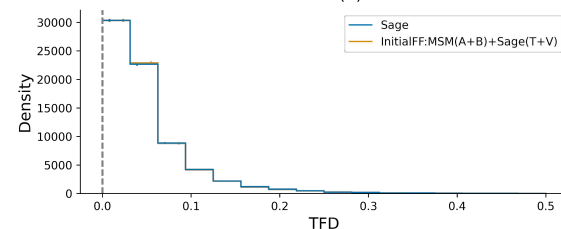
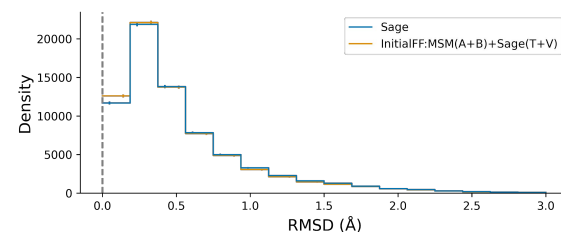


Pavan Behara

**Problem**  
incorrect  
sulfonamide  
valence angles  
in simulation

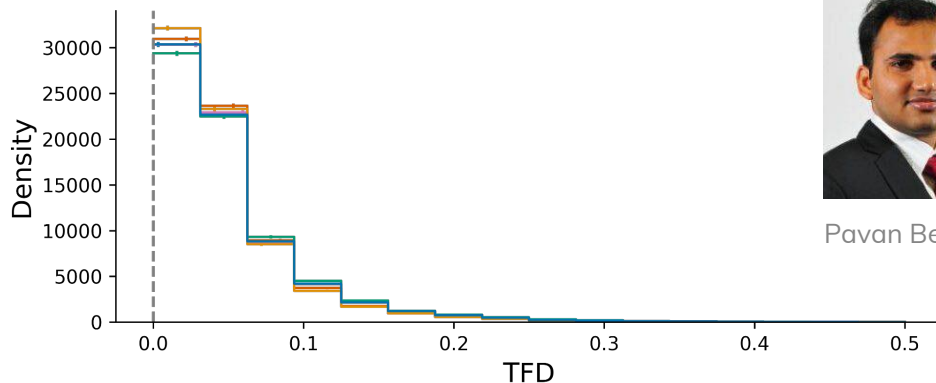
**Diagnosis**  
equilibrium valence  
angles decreased  
unphysically between  
releases

**Proposal**  
Use modified  
Seminario method to  
derive initial bond  
and angle values  
from QM Hessian  
matrix

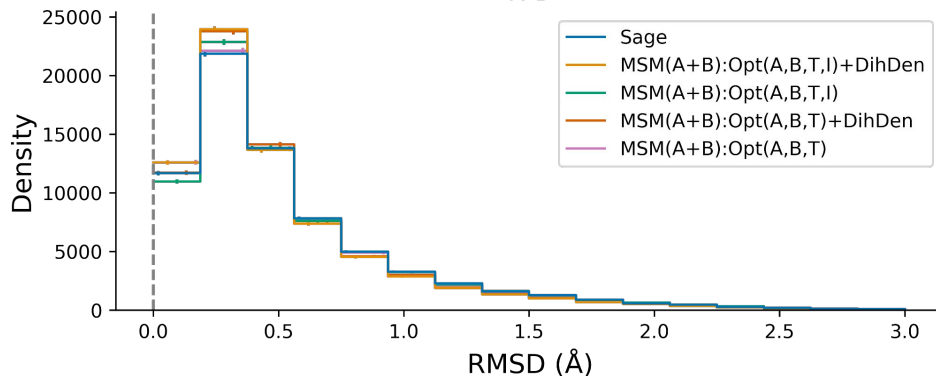




- **Fitting metrics:** including dihedral deviations fitting to QM geometries [**DihDen**]
- **Starting points:** Modified Seminario Method for angles and bonds [**MSM(A+B)**]
- Changing both and optimizing all valence parameters [**MSM(A+B):Opt(A, B, T, I)+DihDen**] shows improvements in **RMSD** and **TFD**

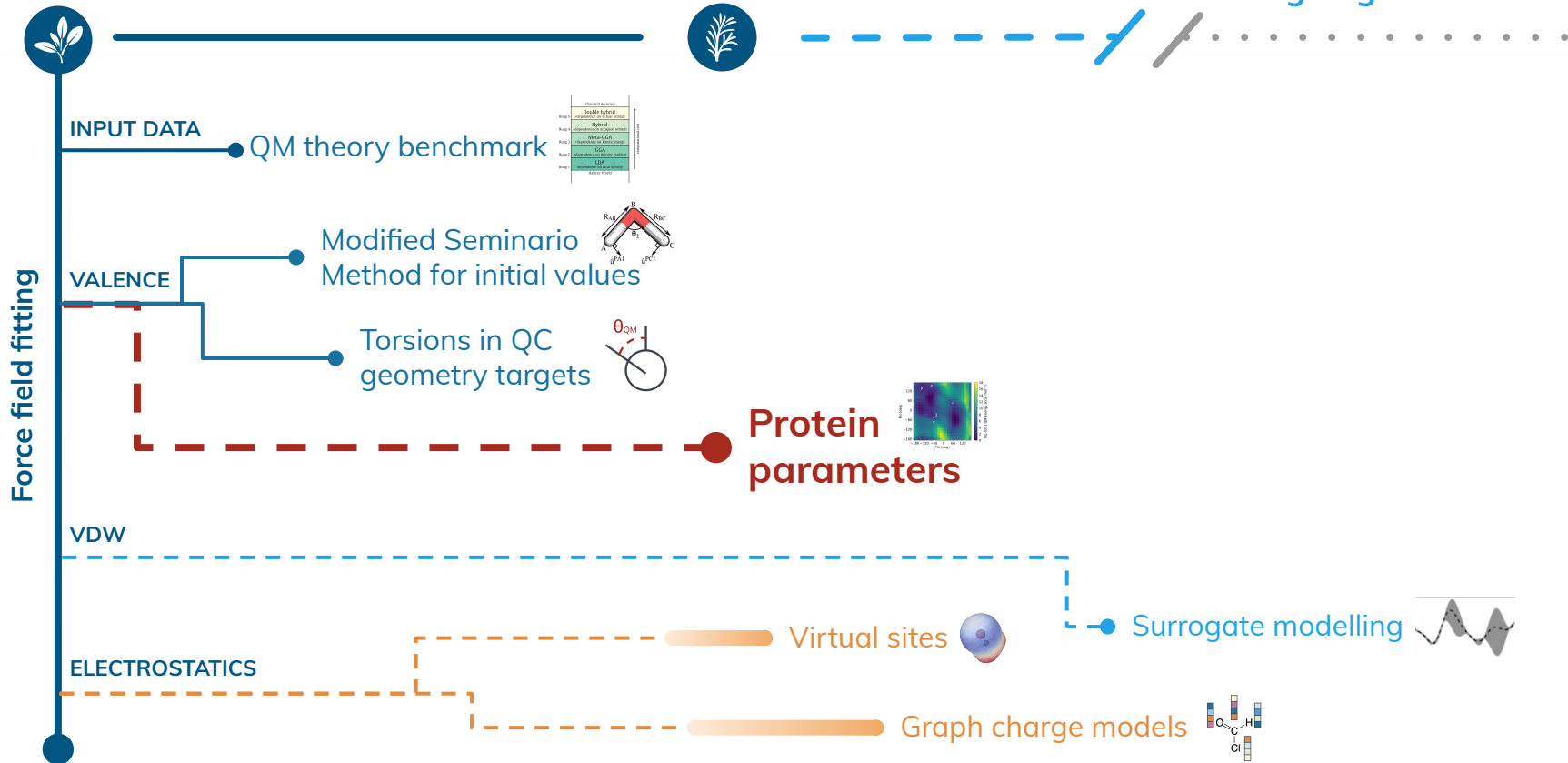


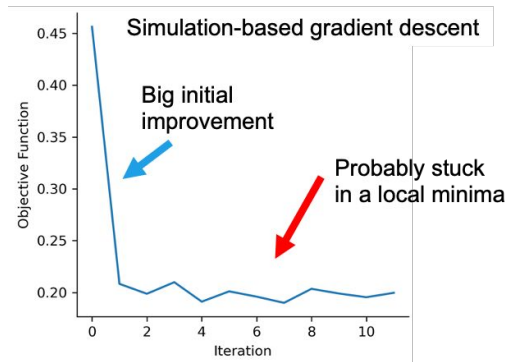
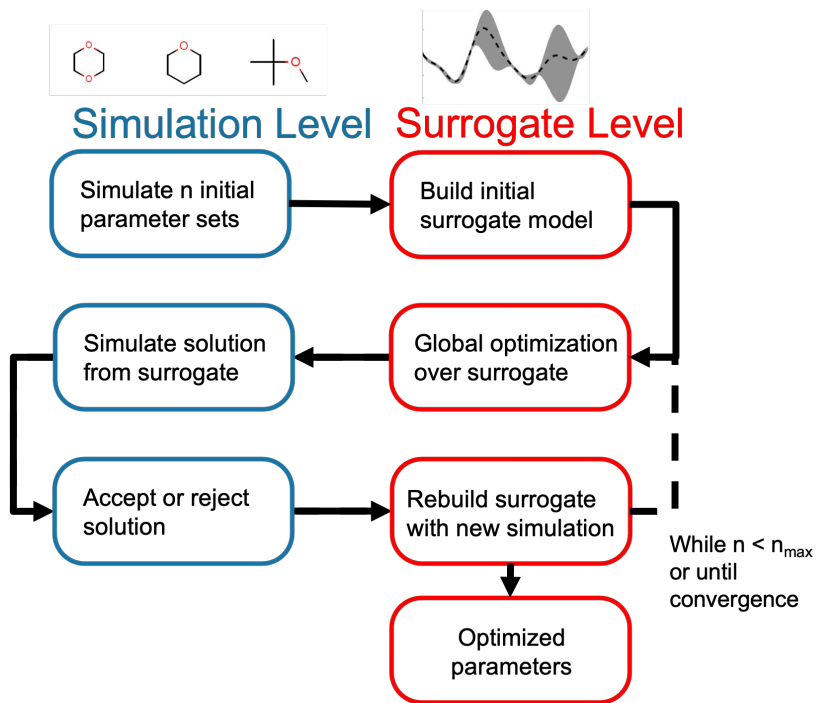
Pavan Behara



# Where we've been

# ... and where we're going

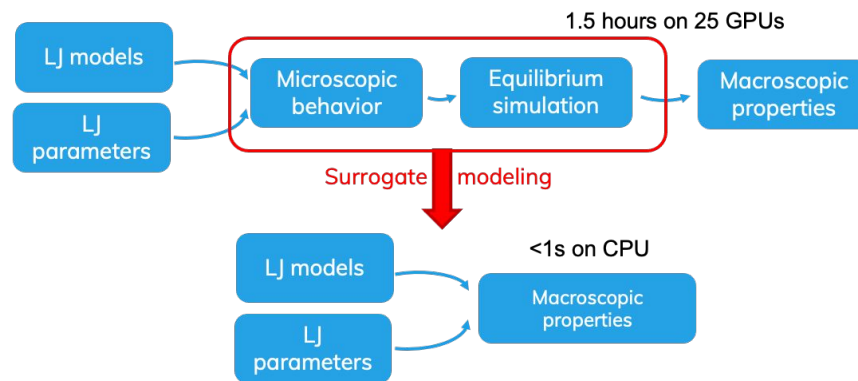


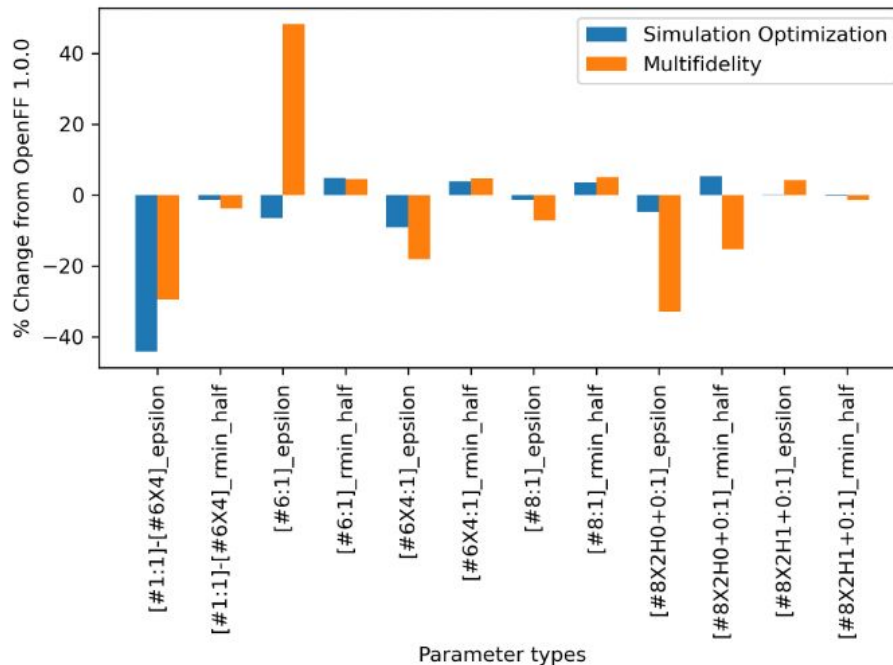
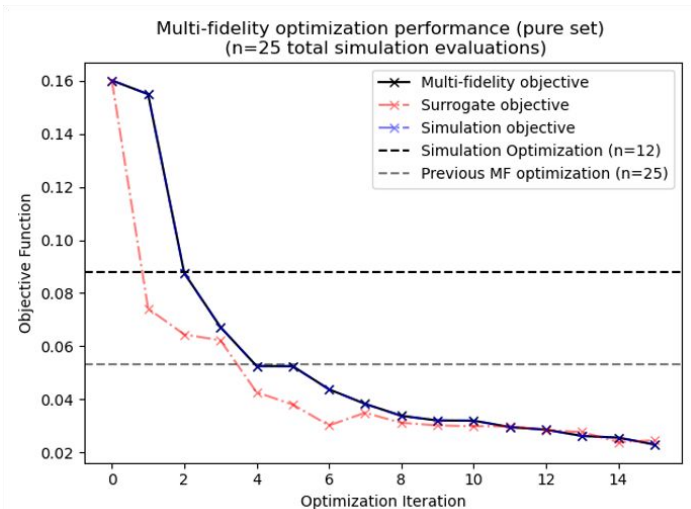


Simon Boothroyd



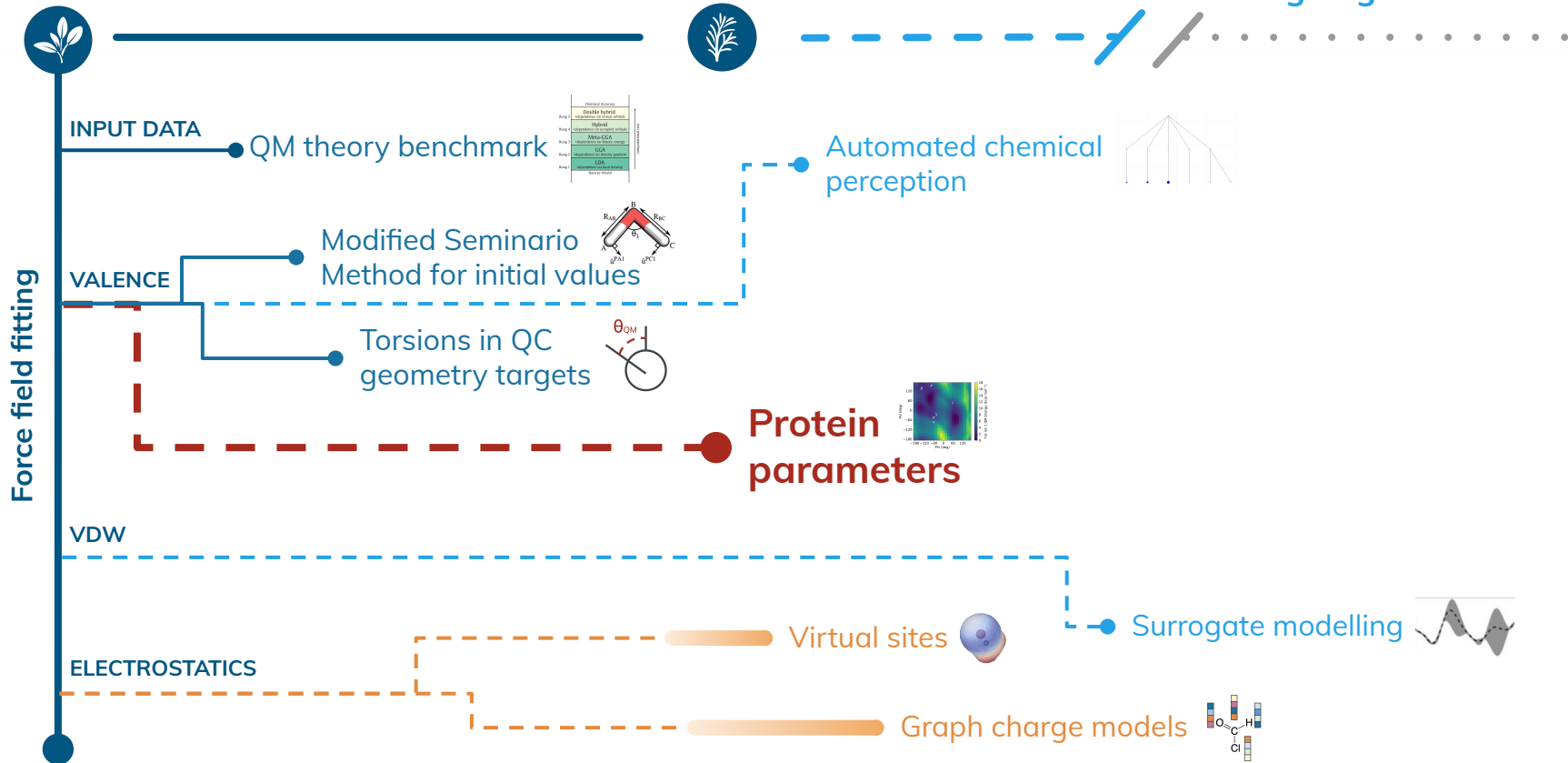
Owen Madin



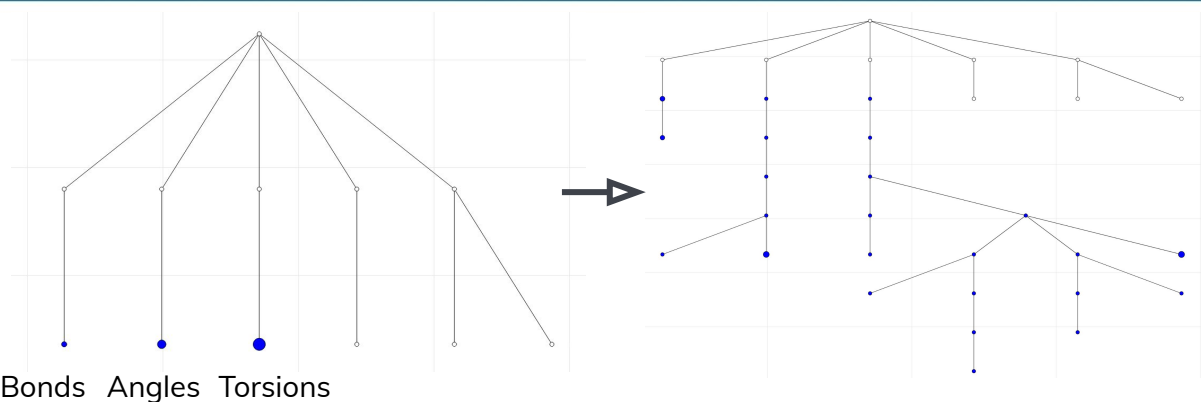


# Where we've been

# ... and where we're going

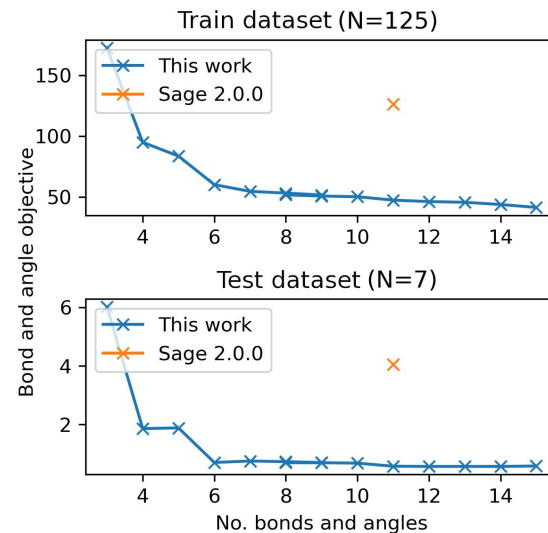


# Automated chemical perception



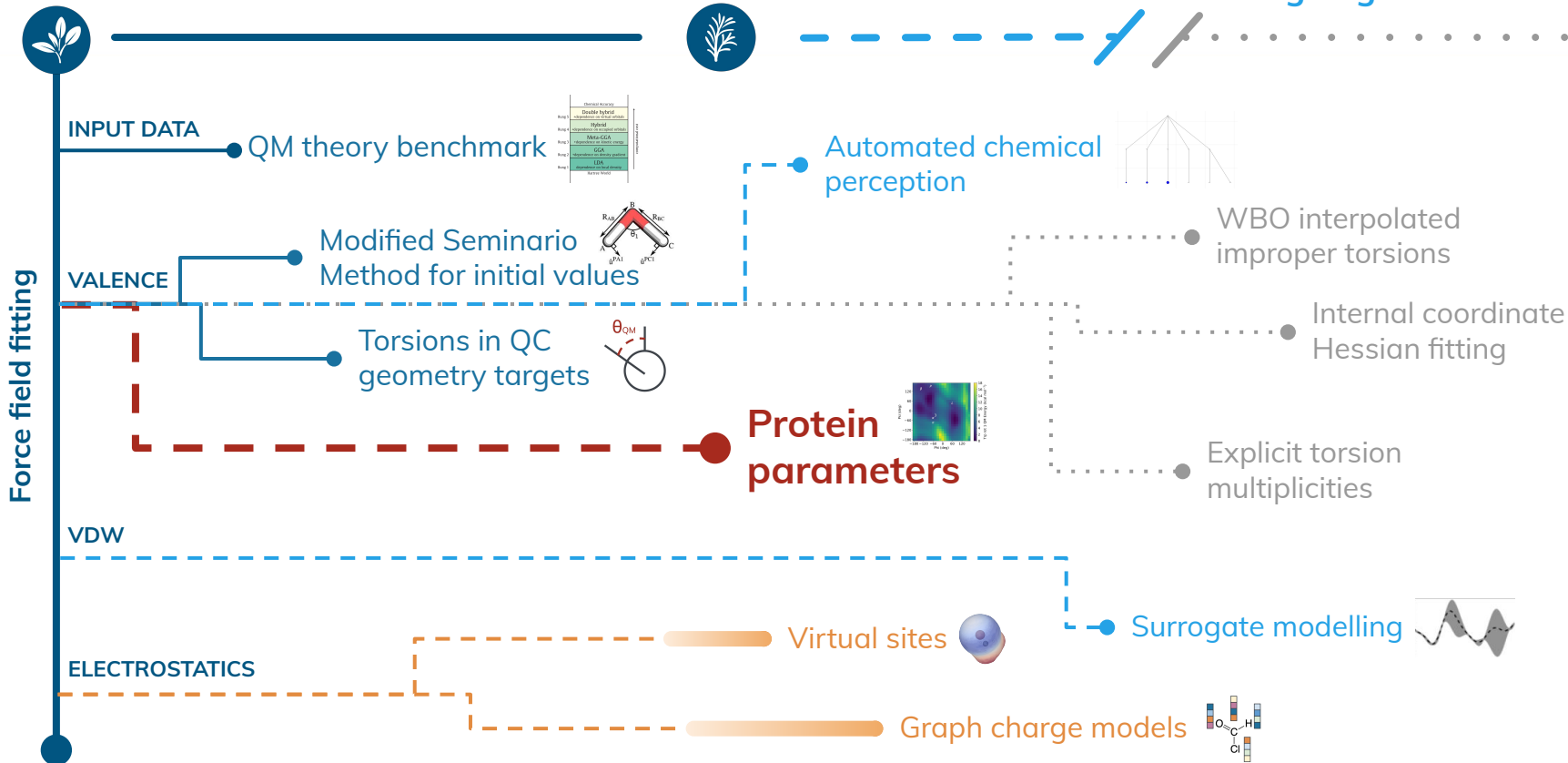
Trevor  
Gokey

Find new parameters based on QM  
geometry (bonds, angles, torsions)



# Where we've been

# ... and where we're going





Where we've been



... where we're going



... where we can go



SMIRNOFF99Frosst

Parsley

Sage

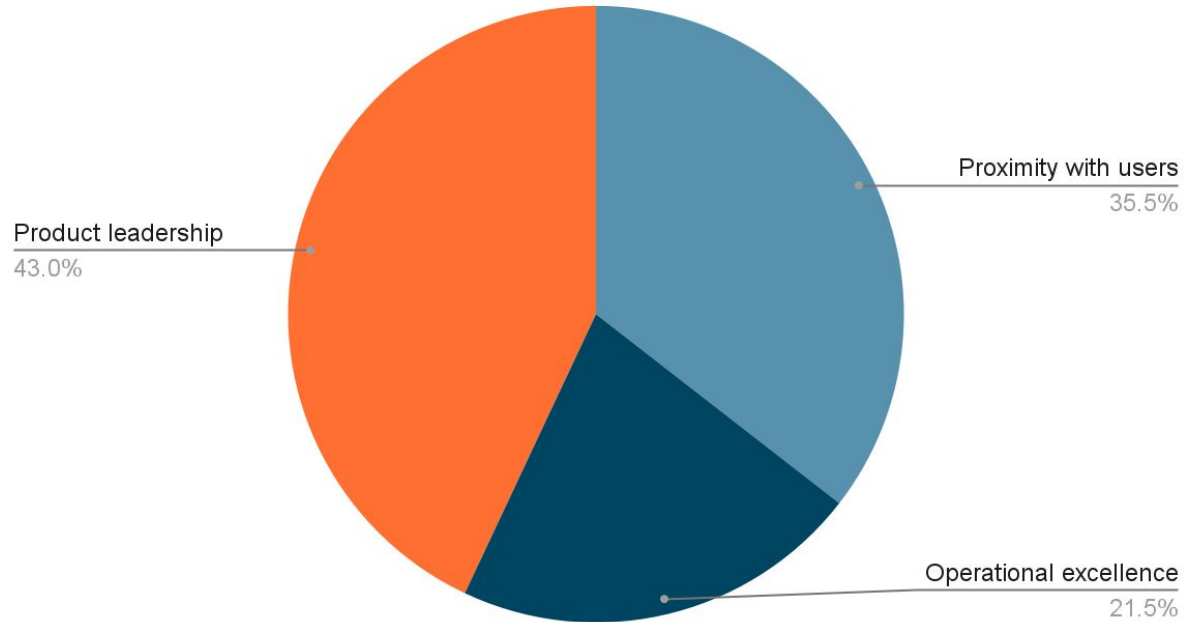
Rosemary

OpenFF

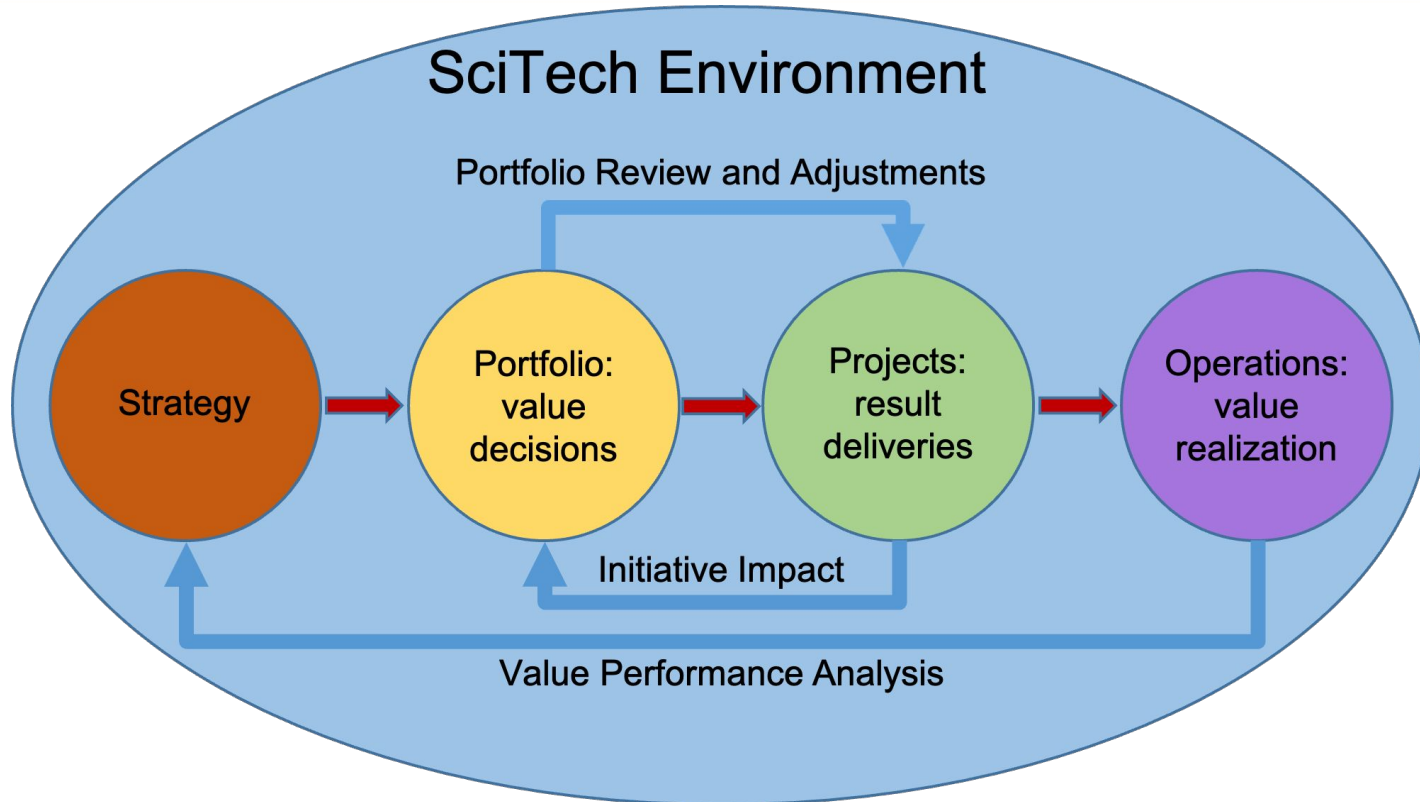
# What are our organizational value disciplines?



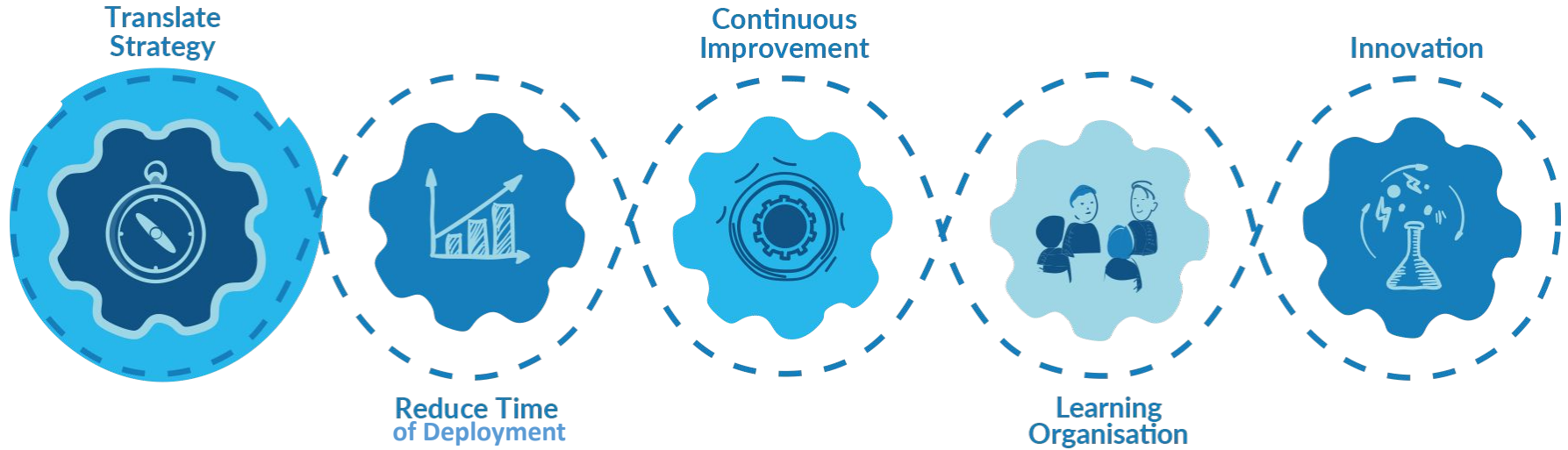
Where should we focus?



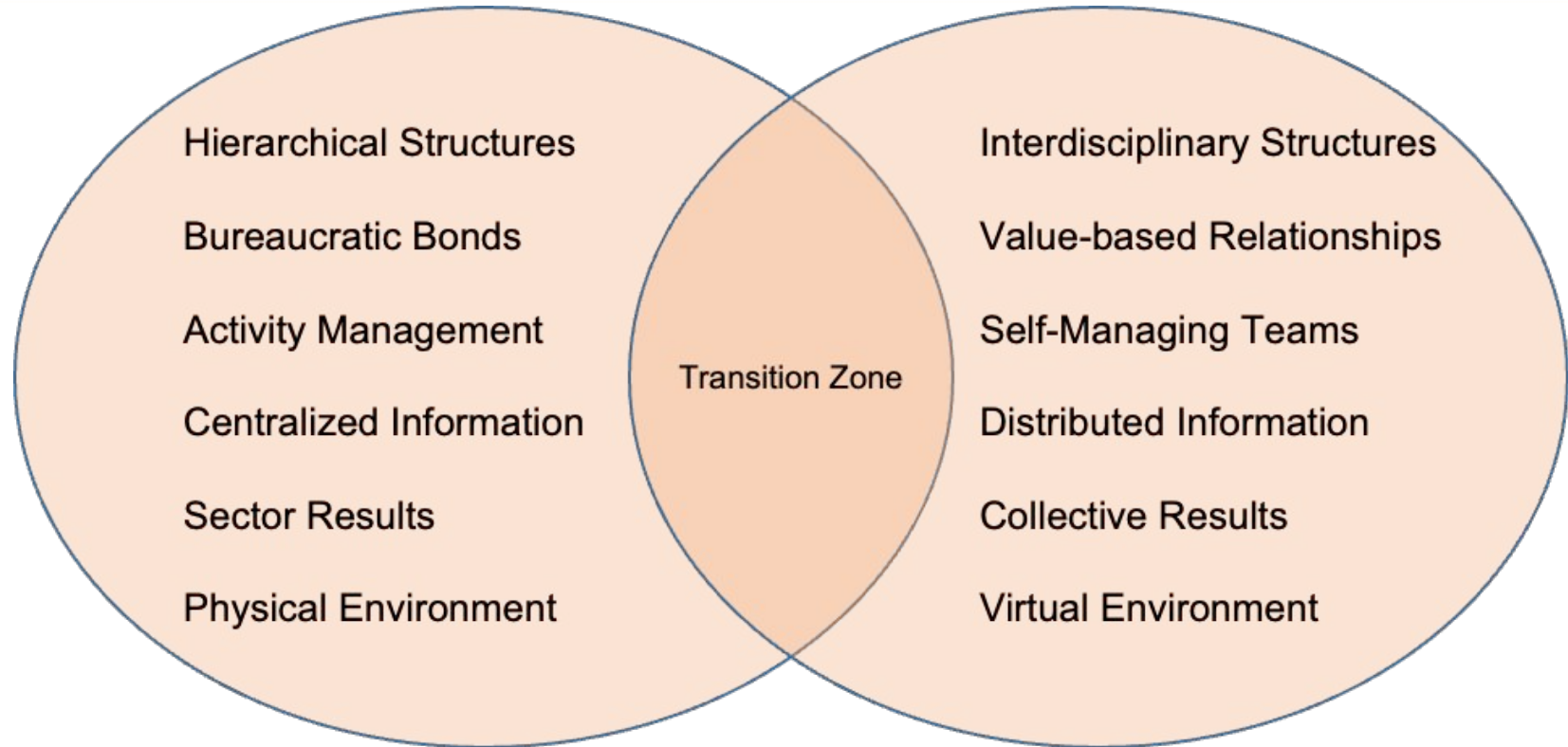
# Why should we have a strategy?



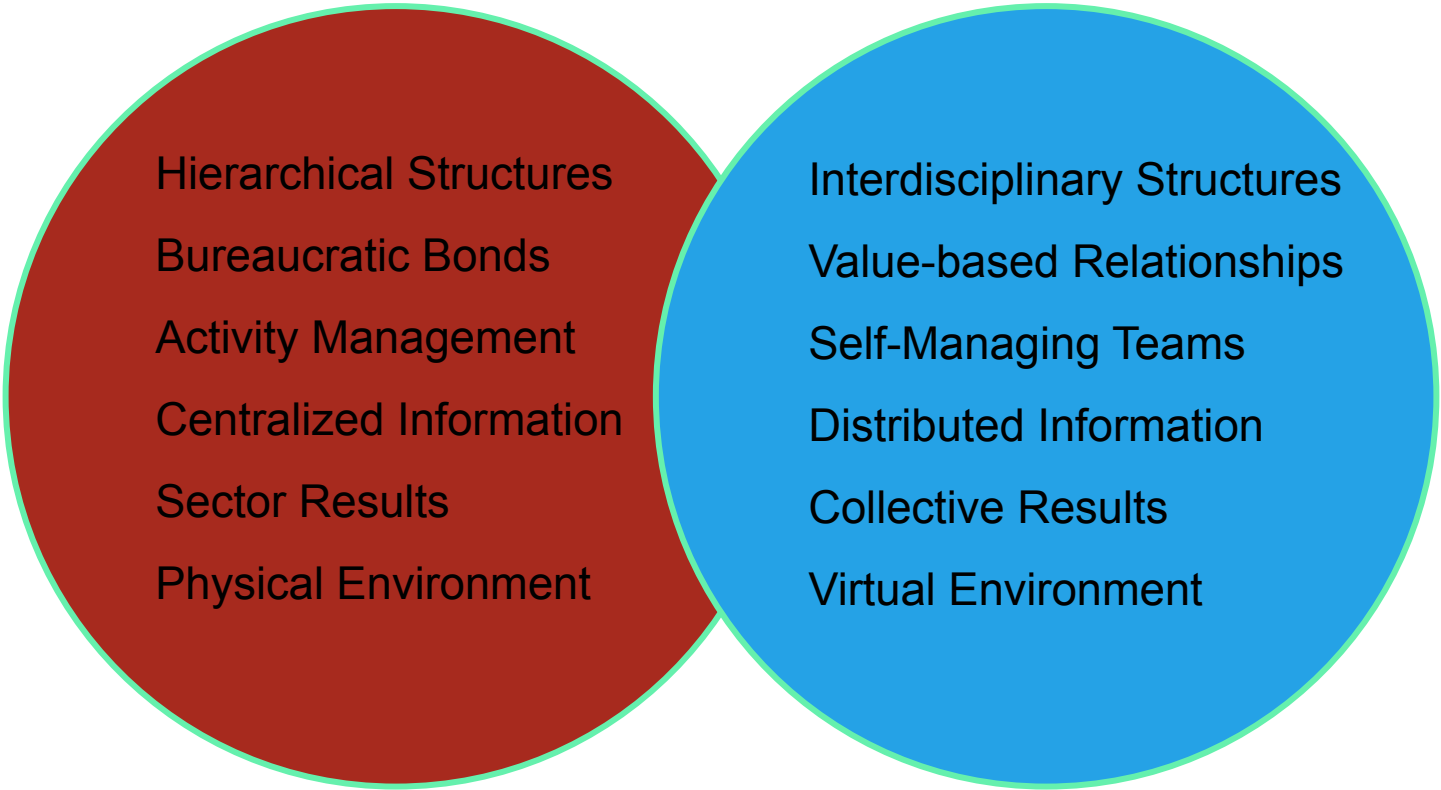
# What is a project for?



# How does strategy affect our daily lives?



# How does strategy affect our daily lives?



Where we've been



... where we're going



... where we can go together



SMIRNOFF99Frosst

Parsley

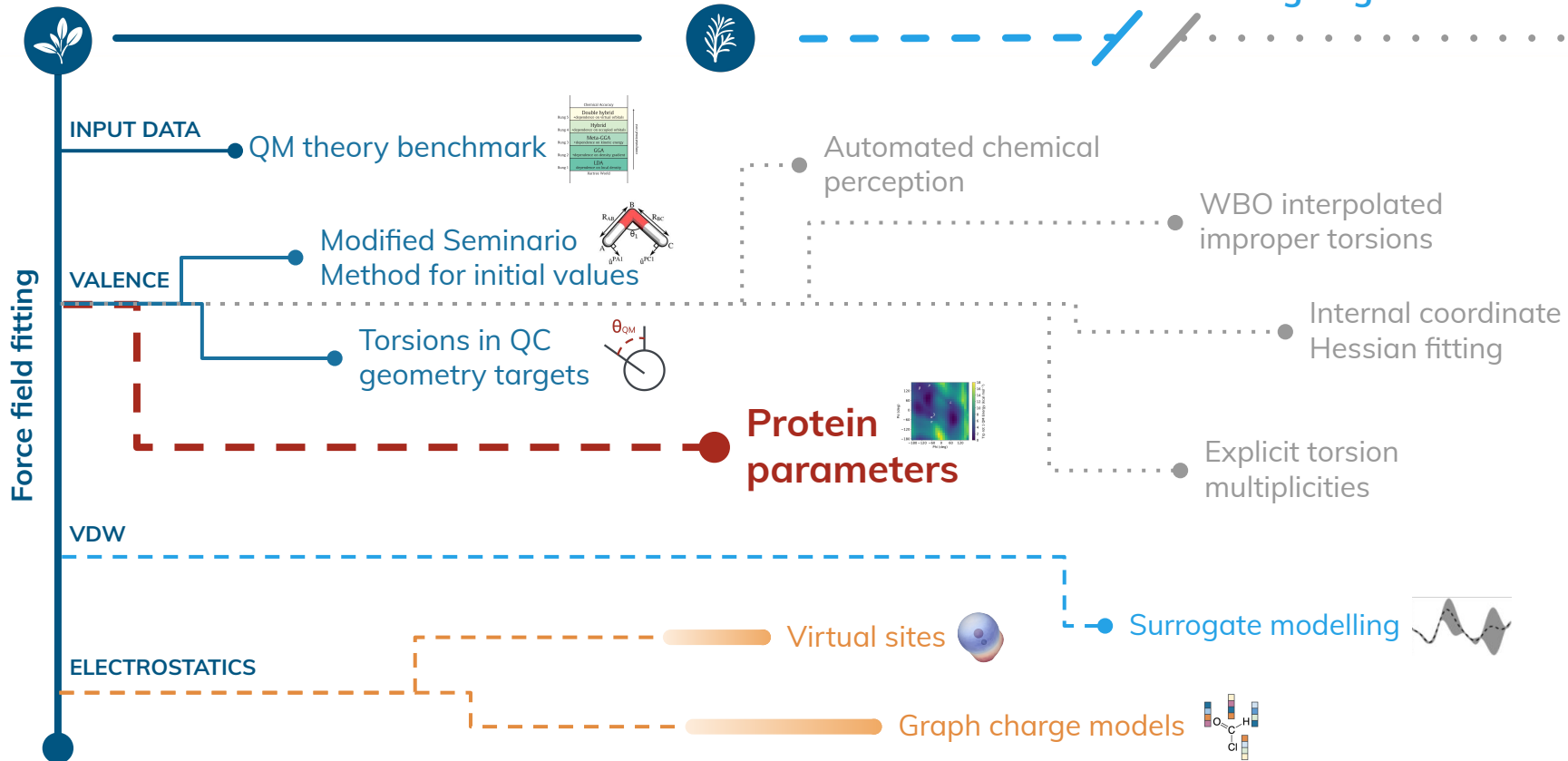
Sage

Rosemary

OpenFF

## Where we've been

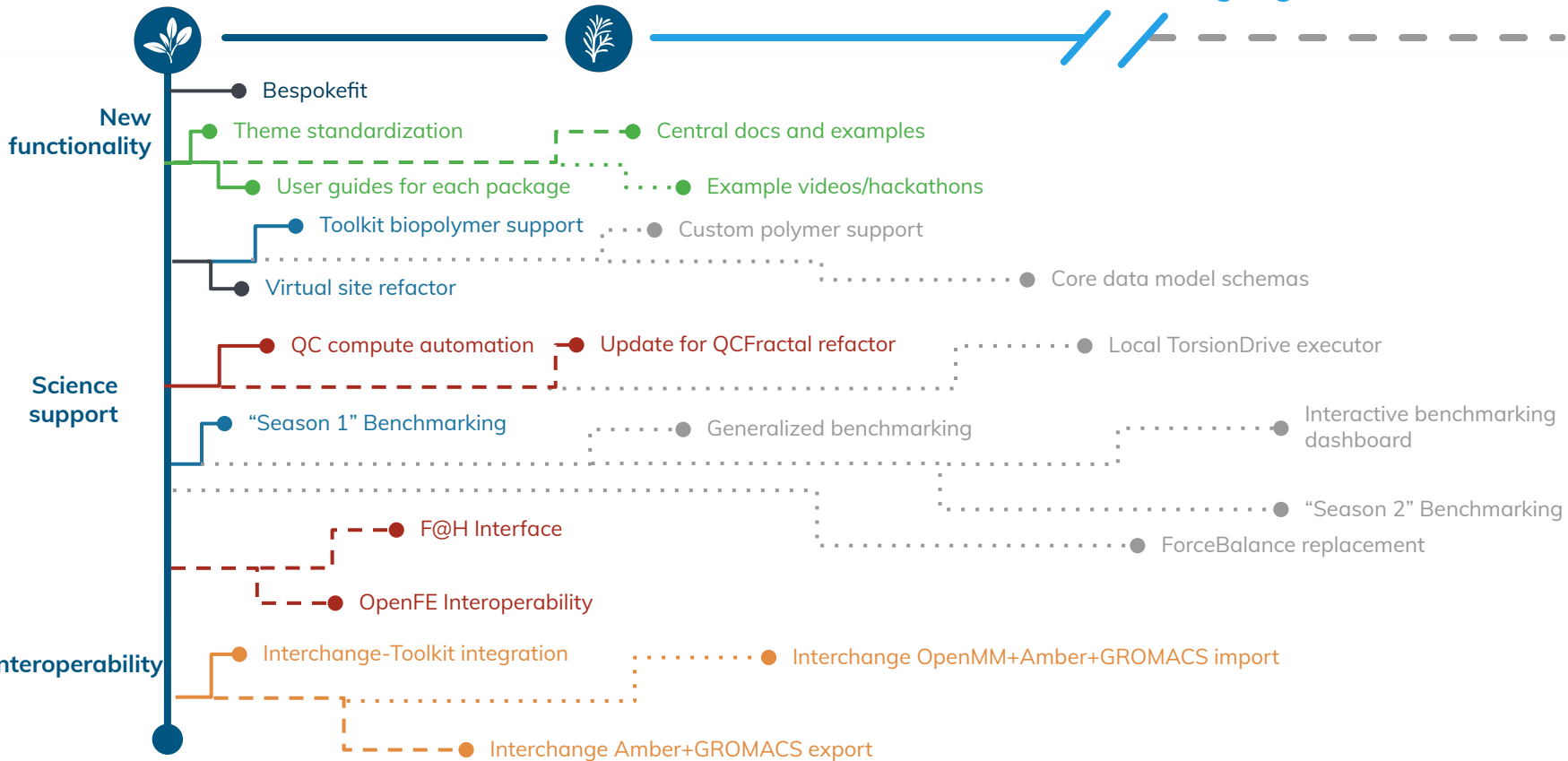
## ... and where we're going





## Where we've been

## ... and where we're going





## Discussion questions

- Who is interested in non-protein polymer support in force fields?
- What should be our best practice for combining parameterized components before Interchange can import from external formats? ParmEd or OpenMMForceFields?
- Where should we plan to go after graph charges and virtual sites?
- What should OpenFF look like in 3 years? How many people? Continued focus on core products or keep developing new products?