



Neural Thermal Scattering (NeTS) Modules for Graphite & Beryllium

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Overview

A. Motivations

- Compact formulation for TSL data
 - Extend AI knowledge
 - Advanced reactor simulation framework

B. Accounting for Beryllium and Graphite Complexity: Atomistic, Dynamical and Neural

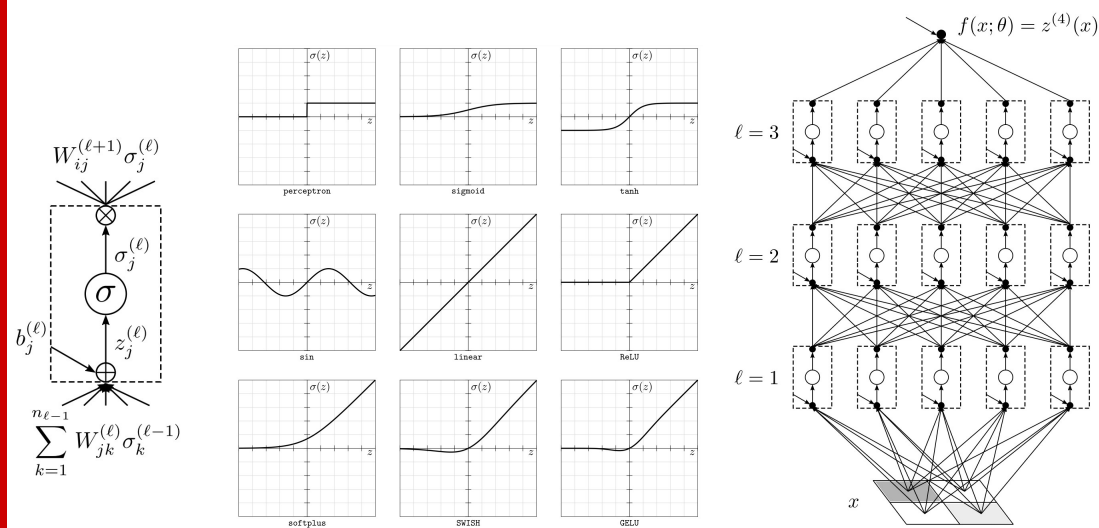
C. New Material-informed Neural Thermal Scattering (NeTS) Modules

D. Implications and Conclusions



Deep Learning and Artificial Neural Networks

A mathematical abstraction inspired by biological neurons



$$S_s(\alpha, \beta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{i\beta t} e^{-\gamma(t)} dt$$

$$\gamma(t) = \alpha \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\rho(\beta)}{2\beta \sinh\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)} [1 - e^{-i\beta t}] e^{-\frac{\beta}{2}} d\beta$$

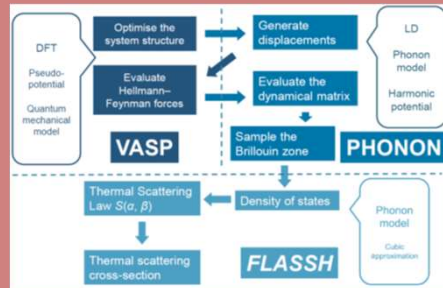
$$\alpha = \frac{E' - E - 2\mu\sqrt{E'E}}{AkT}$$

$$\beta = \frac{E' - E}{kT}$$

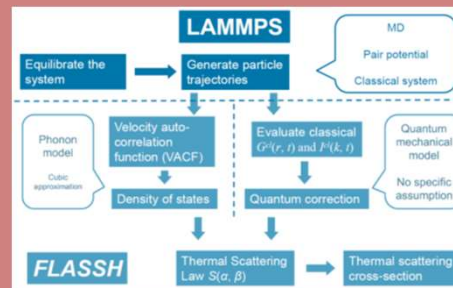
ENDF/B-VIII Material	File 7	Temps
Crystalline Graphite	9 MB	10
Beryllium Metal	3.7 MB	8
NeTS	< 200 KB	Continuous

Existing and Emerging Frameworks

Density Functional Theory



Molecular Dynamics



```

1.480000+2 2.360058+2 -1 0 0 0 0 48 1451
0.000000+0 0.000000+0 0 0 0 0 6 48 1451
1.000000+0 5.000000+0 0 0 12 8 48 1451
0.000000+0 0.000000+0 0 0 33 3 48 1451
U in UC LEIP LAB EVAL-Jun21 J.P.W. Crozier, A.I. Hawari 48 1451
DIST- 48 1451
----ENDF/B-VIII MATERIAL 48 48 1451
----THERMAL NEUTRON SCATTERING 48 1451
----ENDF-6 FORMAT 48 1451

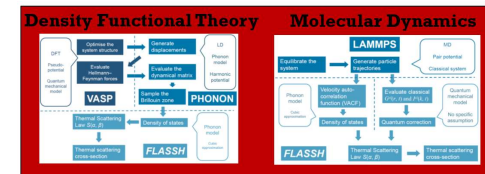
Temperatures = 296 400 500 600 700 800 1000 1200 1600 2000 K 48 1451
HISTORY 48 1451
----- 48 1451
This library was produced by the Low Energy Interaction Physics 48 1451
(LAIP) group at North Carolina State University, USA. The 48 1451
thermal scattering law data for Uranium in Uranium Carbide was 48 1451
developed using ab initio lattice dynamics (AILD)[1,2]. Ten 48 1451
temperatures are available in this library. The Full Law 48 1451
Analysis Scattering System Hub (FLASSH) system was used to 48 1451
produce File 7 MT = 2, 4 data for Uranium in UC [3]. MAT=48 and 48 1451
ZA=148 are used for U in UC. 48 1451
REFERENCES 48 1451
----- 48 1451

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ENDF File 7

Current TSL Evaluation Methodology

1. TSL Calculation



2. TSL Preprocessing → Train/Val/Test Data

3. Neural Network + Data → Trained W_{ij} / b_j

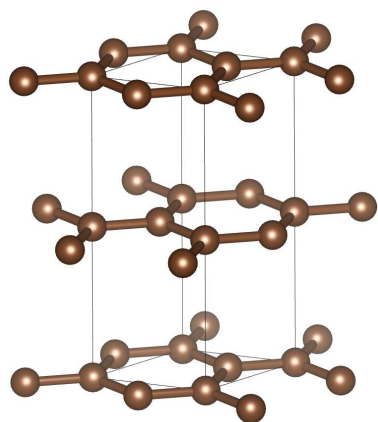
4. Network / Data Evaluation

5. A Priori $S(\alpha, \beta, T)$

Architecture, Weights, Biases

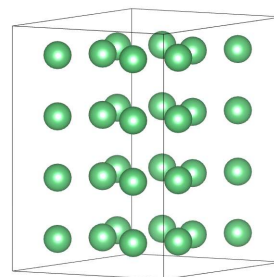
Emerging TSL Framework

Ab Initio Simulations and Lattice Dynamics



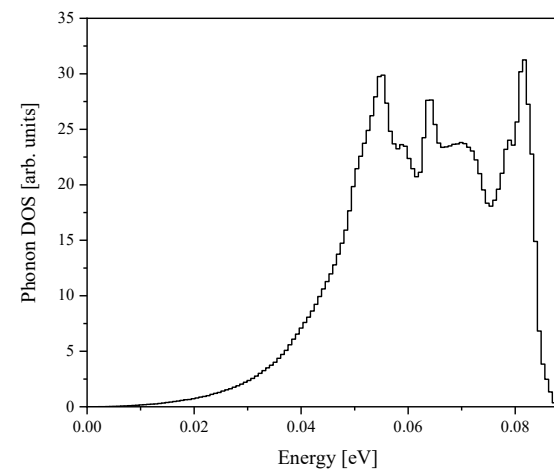
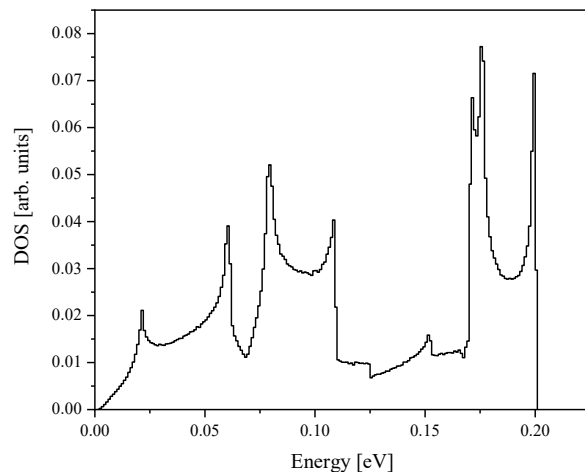
Crystalline Graphite

- Trigonal Planar, s.g. 186
- $1s^2 2s^2 2p^2$
- VASP: GGA-PBE
- 4x4x4 Supercell
- VDW radius parametrization
- Highly asymmetric, anharmonic forces between layers

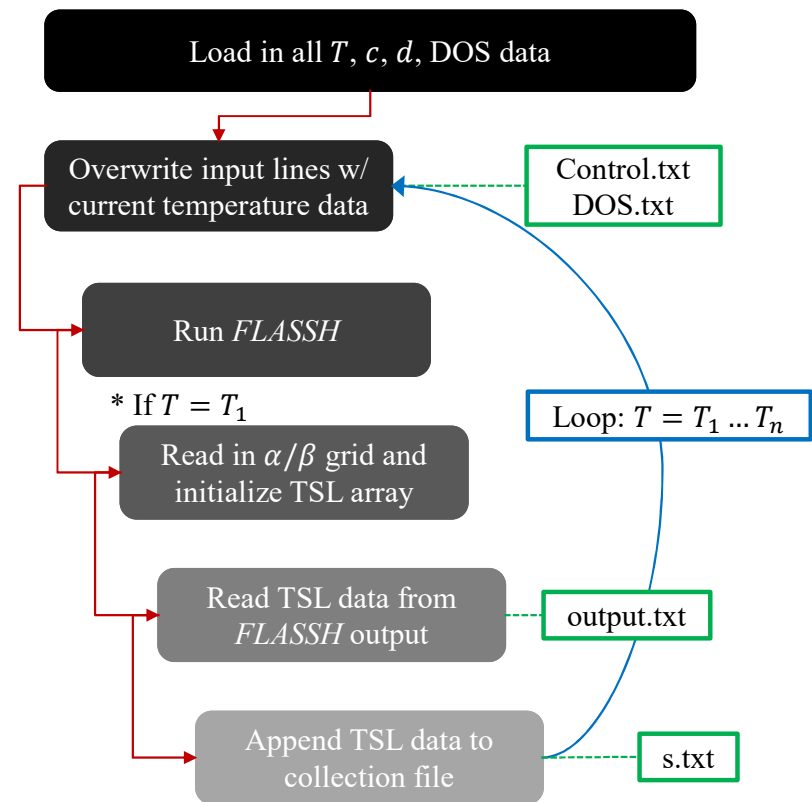
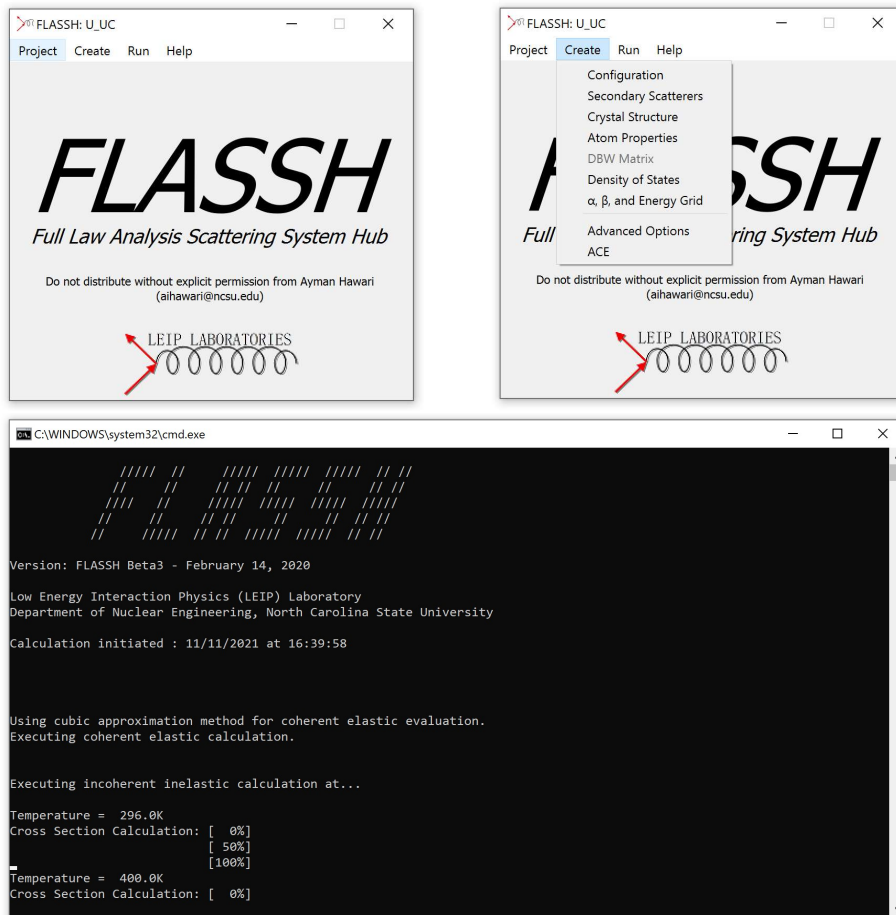


Beryllium Metal

- HCP, s.g. 192
- $1s^2 2s^2$
- VASP: PAW-GGA
- 5x5x5 Supercell
- High symmetry

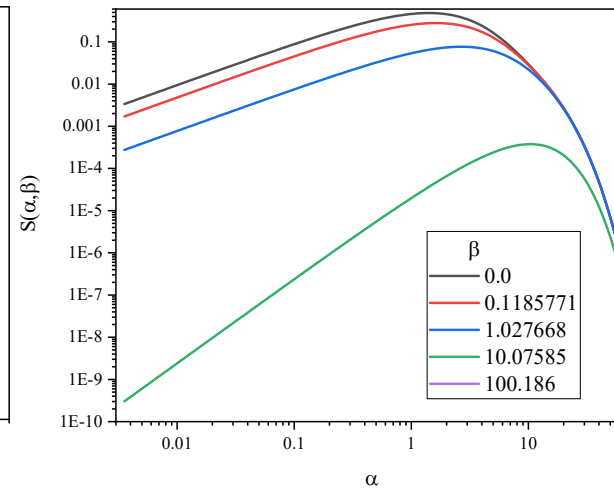
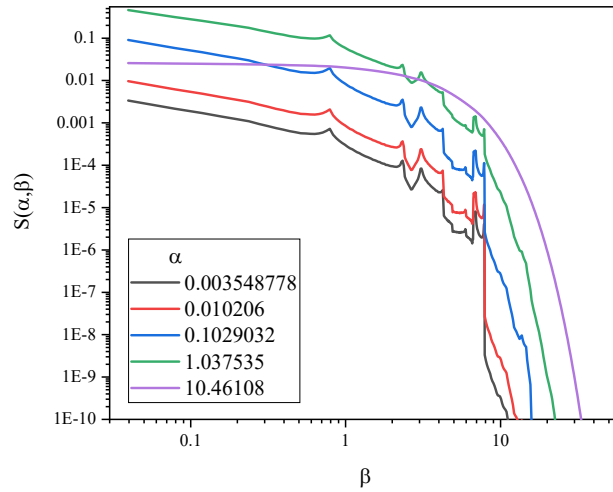


TSL Datasets via *FLASSH* Loop

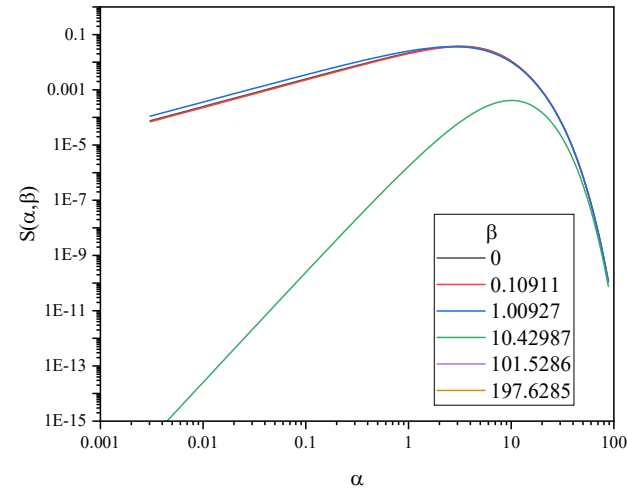
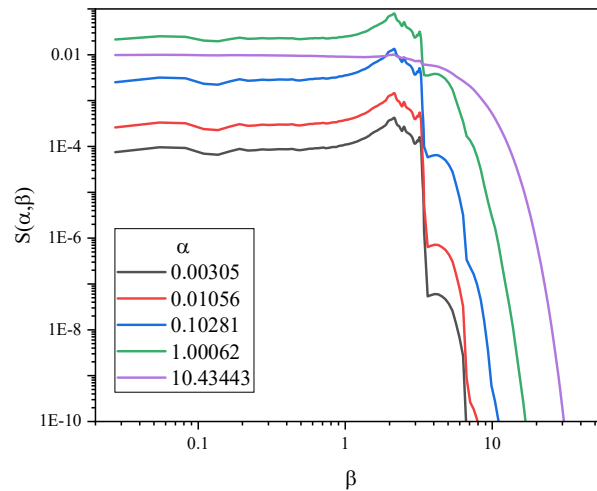


Thermal Scattering Law Data

Graphite



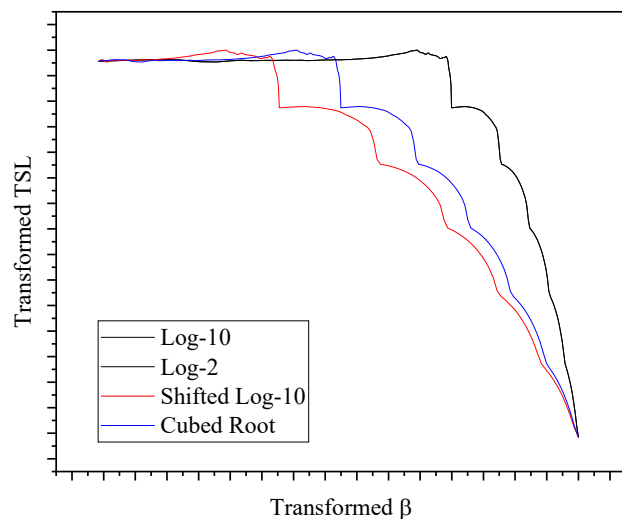
Beryllium



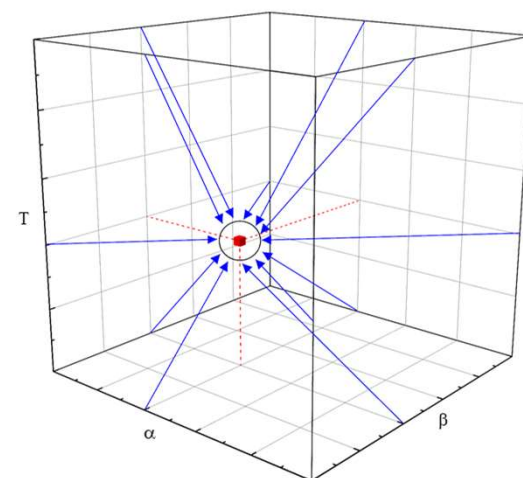
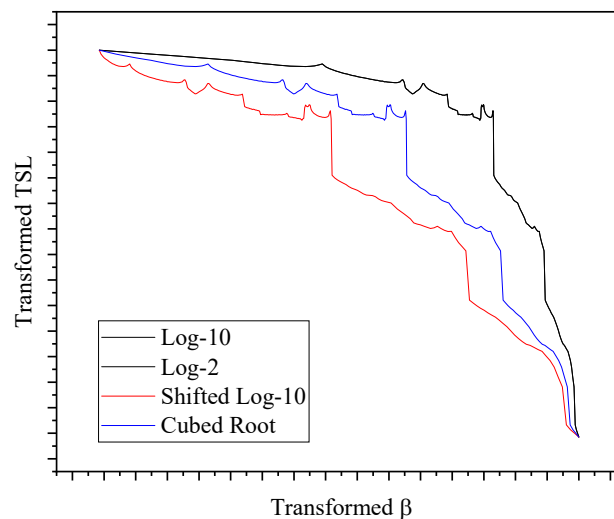
FLASSH Data Preprocessing

1. Transform alpha, beta, temperature, and TSL
2. Generate input “edges” and identify important beta features (peaks / troughs)
3. Dataset split into training, validation, test (99%,.5%,.5%)

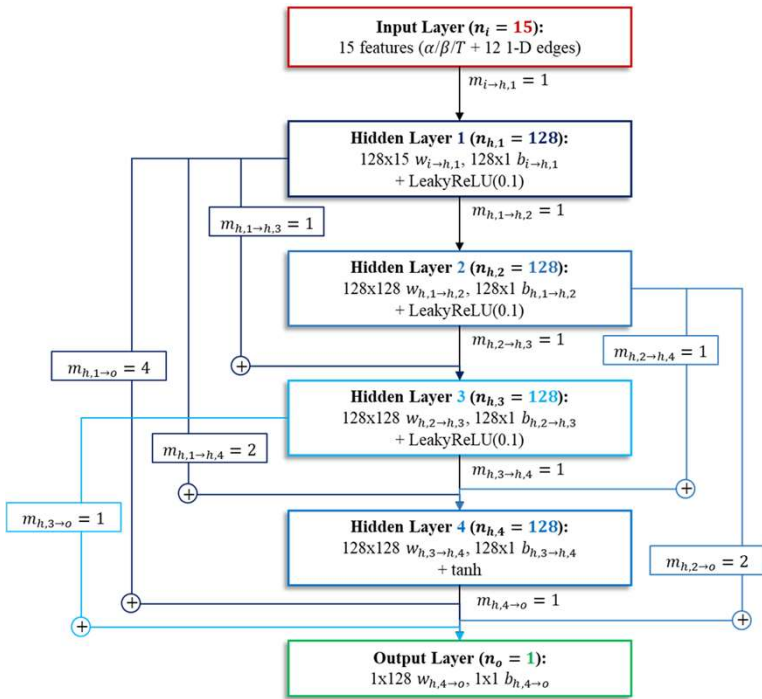
Beryllium Metal *ALTL*



Crystalline Graphite NeTS *ALTL*



Original NeTS Architecture



Setting	Selection
n_{hidden_layers}	4
n_h	128
cascading	none
skip connections	dense, weighted
skip weight scheme	multiplicative, 1:2:4
activation function	LeakyReLU(0.1) in hidden layers 1-3, tanh in hidden layer 4
weight initialization	Xavier uniform
optimizer	AdamW
regularization (explicit)	Weight decay ($\lambda \rightarrow 1e-6$, as implemented in AdamW)
batch size	1024
training epochs	400
learning rate schedule	triangular, cyclic, w/ exponentially decaying amplitude (see parameters in Table 4.3)
loss function	MSE

C.A. Manring, A.I. Hawari, “Design of a Neural Thermal Scattering (NeTS) Module for Hydrogen in Light Water”, PHYSOR 2022

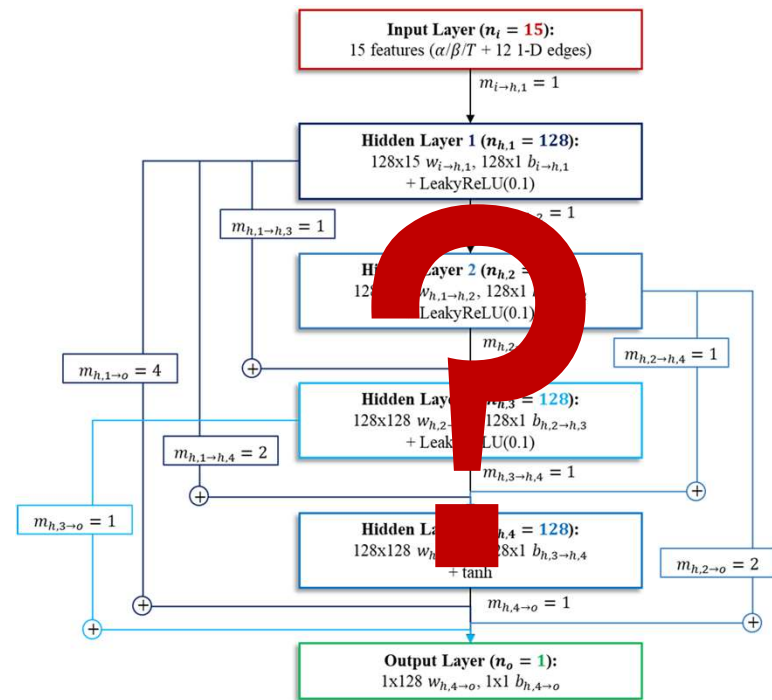
Is this architecture excessive? Computationally unfeasible for many systems? Prohibits fast network usage?

Optimizing NeTS Architecture

Potential areas for reduction / improvement:

- Number of hidden layers
- Neurons per hidden layer
- Cascading neural configuration
- Skip connections
- Activation functions
- Weight initialization
- Weight decay regularization
- Batch size / Learning Rate

Iterative tests done with 2D TSL data at 296 K



Objectives: reduce network size, training time, and computational footprint

Initial NeTS Search Space

Dataset Preparation:						
Materials (TSL dataset)	Beryllium Metal	Crystalline Graphite				
Input Transformations (for β)	$\text{Log}_{10}(\beta)$	$\text{Log}_2(\beta)$	$\text{Log}_2(\beta + \beta_{\text{Max DOS}})$	$\beta^{1/3}$	$\beta^{1/2}$	

Architecture:						
Width (Neurons / hidden layer)	512	256	128	64	32	16
Depth (Number of layers)	2	4	6	8	12	16
Skip Connections (Skip Weights)	None	Uniform	Cascading			
Hidden/final layer Activation	Tanh	ReLU	LeakyReLU(.1)	LeakyReLU(.2)		

Training Parameters:						
Learning Rate	1e-6	1e-5	1e-4	1e-3	1e-2	
Batch-size	4096	2048	1024	512	256	128
Epochs	100	400	800	1600		

Total Possibilities:

518,400

Engineering best judgement → identify plausible combinations to train with 2D data at 296 K



Initial Architecture Search Highlights

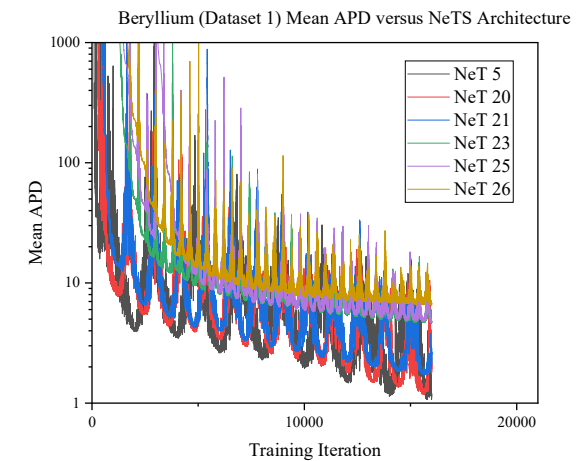
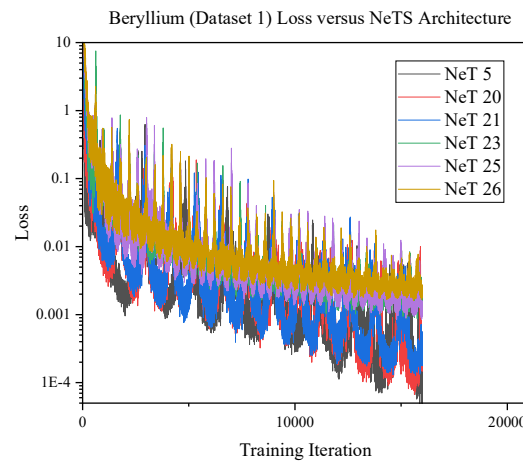
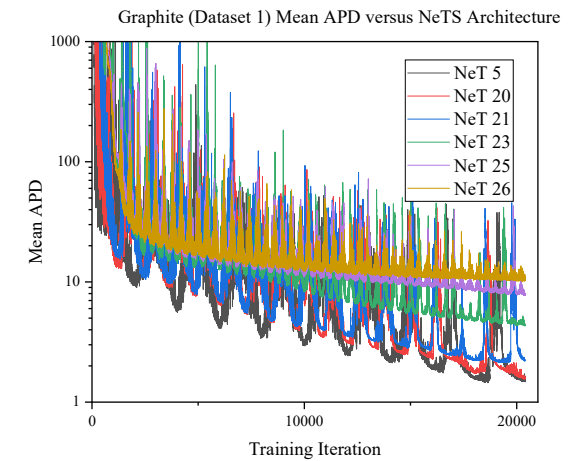
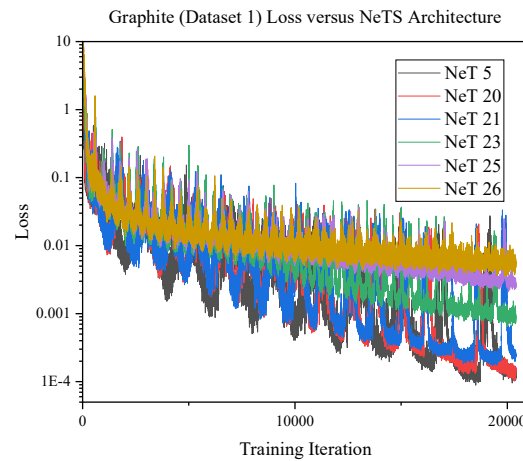
NeTS :	5	20	21	23	25	26
W_{ij} / b_i [KB]	1296	462	190	75	47	28
Input Dimensions :	7	7	7	7	7	7
neurons / layer 1 :	256	128	64	32	24	16
neurons / layer 2 :	256	128	64	32	24	16
neurons / layer 3 :	256	128	64	32	24	16
neurons / layer 4 :	256	128	64	32	24	16
neurons / layer 5 :	256	128	64	32	24	16
neurons / layer 6 :	256	128	64	32	24	16
neurons / layer 7 :		128	64	32	24	16
neurons / layer 8 :		128	64	32	24	16
neurons / layer 9 :			64	32	24	16
neurons / layer 10 :			64	32	24	16
neurons / layer 11 :			64	32	24	16
neurons / layer 12 :			64	32	24	16
neurons / layer 13:				32	24	16
neurons / layer 14 :				32	24	16
neurons / layer 15 :				32	24	16
neurons / layer 16 :				32	24	16
Output :	1	1	1	1	1	1

Initial Architecture Search

$$Loss_{MSE}(z(x_{\delta}, \theta), y_{\delta}) = \frac{1}{2} [z(x_{\delta}, \theta) - y_{\delta}]^2$$

	5	20	21	23	25	26
	1296	462	190	75	47	28
	7	7	7	7	7	7
	256	128	64	32	24	16
	256	128	64	32	24	16
	256	128	64	32	24	16
	256	128	64	32	24	16
	256	128	64	32	24	16
	256	128	64	32	24	16
		128	64	32	24	16
		128	64	32	24	16
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			64	32	24	16
			64	32	24	16
				32	24	16
				32	24	16
				32	24	16
				32	24	16
	1	1	1	1	1	1

$$APD = \frac{|y_{\delta} - \hat{y}|}{y_{\delta}} * 100$$



Further Architecture Search

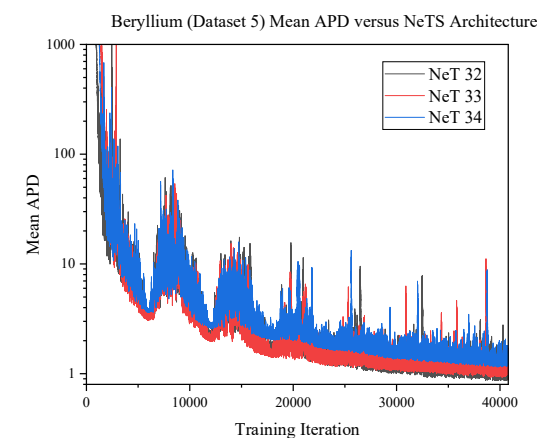
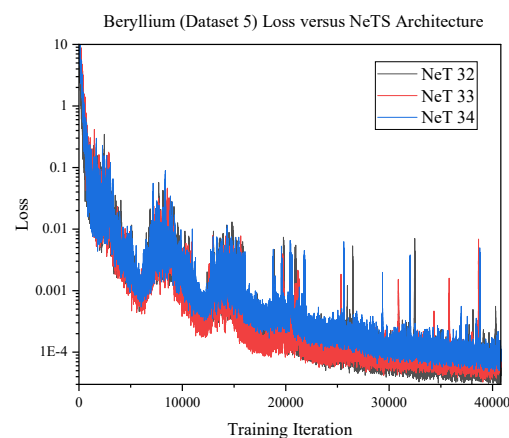
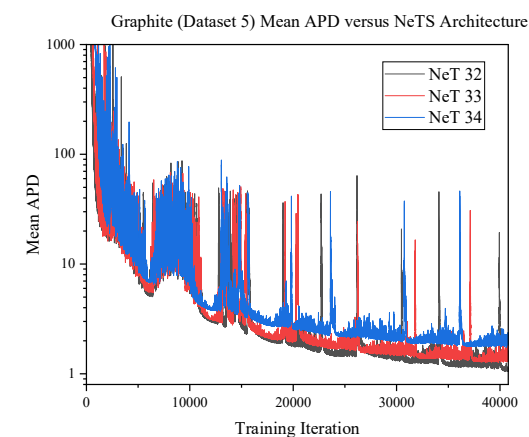
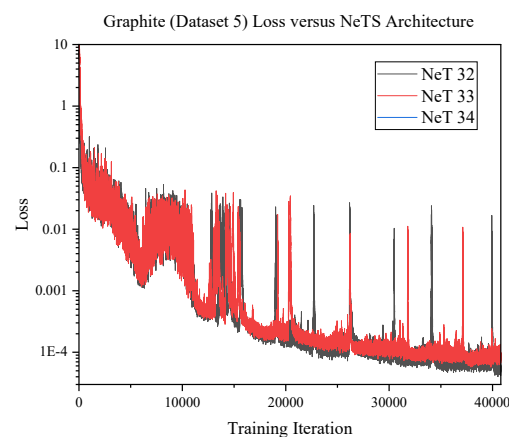
NeTS :	32	33	34
W_{ij} / b_i [KB]	190	147	111
Input Dimensions :	7	7	7
neurons / layer 1 :	64	56	48
neurons / layer 2 :	64	56	48
neurons / layer 3 ...	64	56	48
neurons / layer 11 :	64	56	48
neurons / layer 12 :	64	56	48
Output :	1	1	1

NeTS-2D '32' (64 x 12, 190 kb) → GRAPHITE

	Mean APD	Median APD
train	1.0950	0.7154
valid	1.1620	0.7714
test	1.1882	0.7773

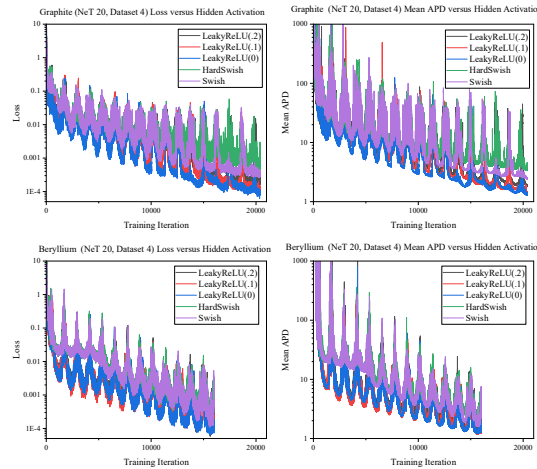
NeTS-2D '33' (56 x 12, 147 kb) → BERYLLIUM

	Mean APD	Median APD
train	1.1574	0.7735
valid	1.2405	0.7926
test	1.4313	0.8506

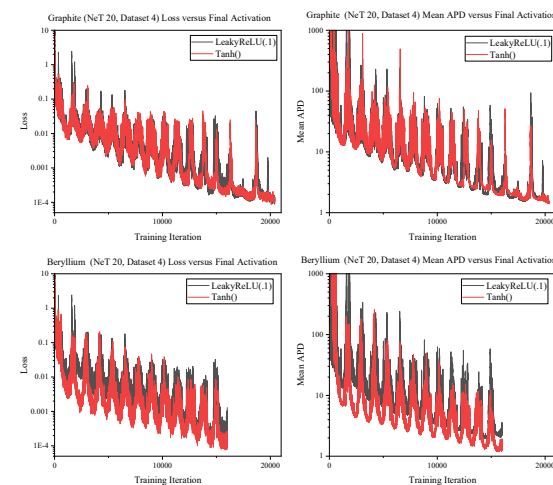


Hyper-parameter Search

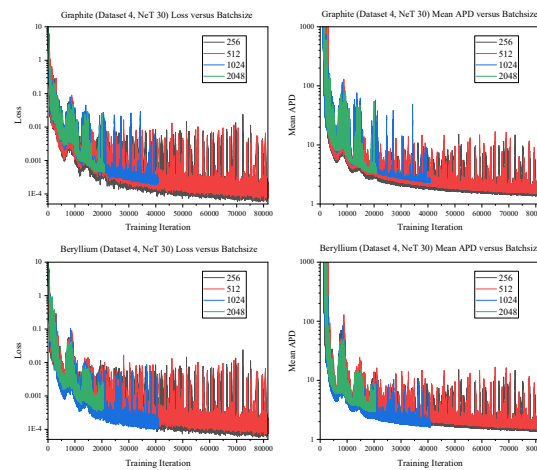
Hidden Layer
Activation Function



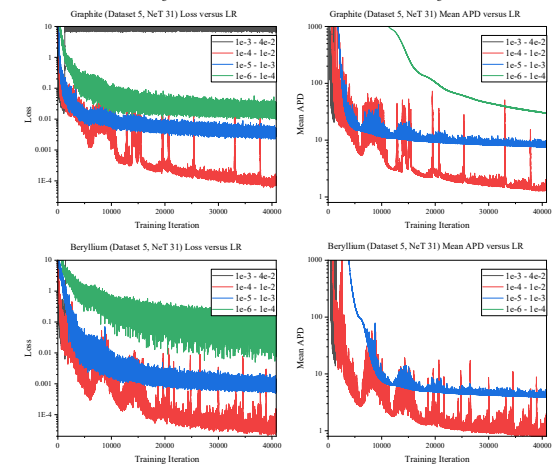
Final Layer
Activation Function



Batch size

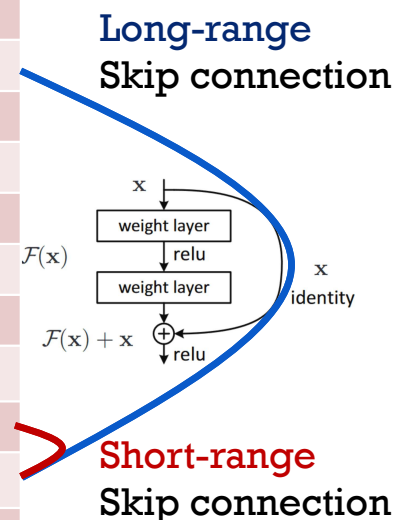


Learning Rate



Final Architecture Search Results

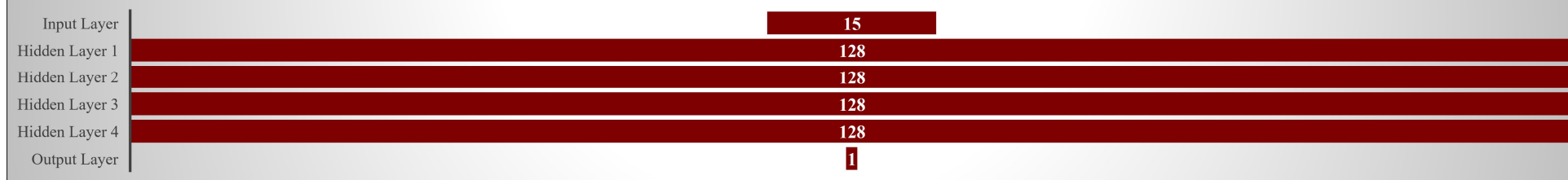
NeTS :	70 – NeTS-Graphite	71 – NeTS-Beryllium
W_{ij} / b_i [KB]	178	143
Input Dimensions :	7	7
neurons / layer 1 :	96	96
neurons / layer 2 :	64	56
neurons / layer 3 :	64	56
neurons / layer 4 :	64	56
neurons / layer 5 :	64	56
neurons / layer 6 :	64	56
neurons / layer 7 :	64	56
neurons / layer 8 :	64	56
neurons / layer 9 :	64	56
neurons / layer 10 :	64	56
neurons / layer 11 :	32	32
neurons / layer 12 :	32	32
Output :	1	1



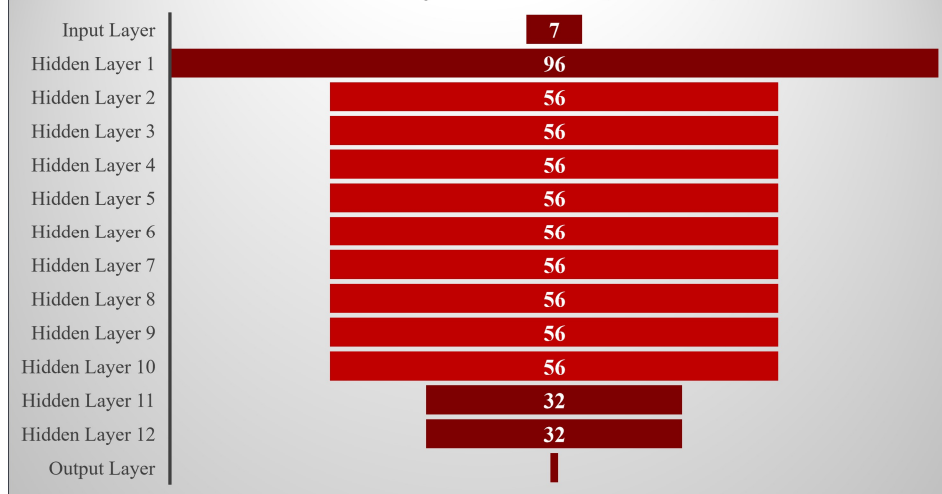
ResNet Original Paper: He K et al., Deep Residual Learning for Image Recognition, 2015

Architecture Visualization / Comparison

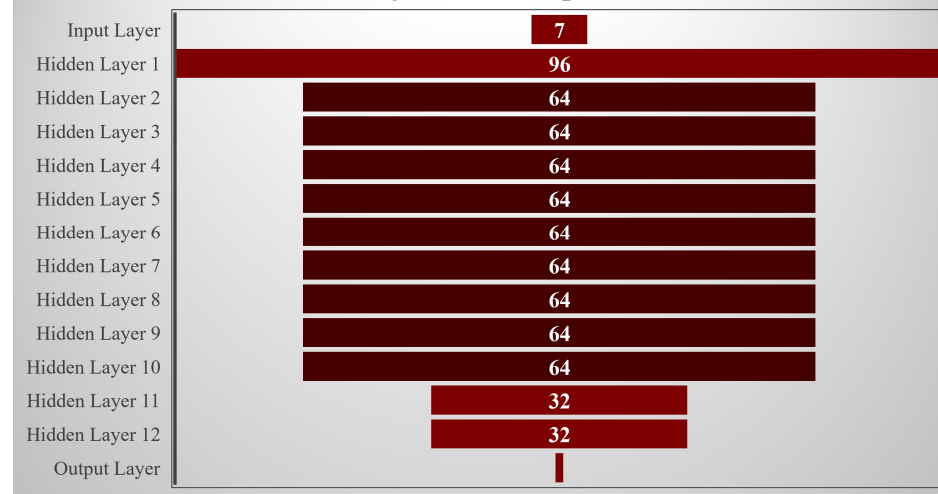
3D NeTS- Water (201 kb)



3D NeTS- Beryllium Metal (143 kb)

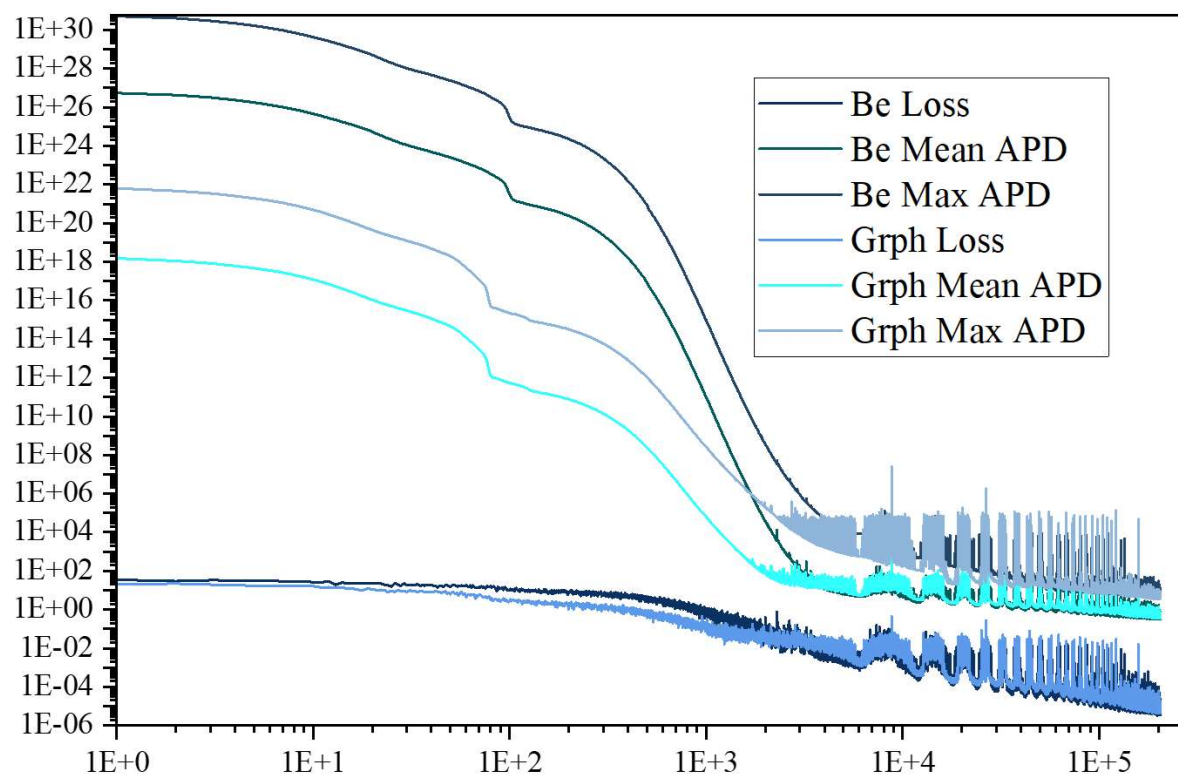


3D NeTS- Crystalline Graphite (178 kb)



2D NeTS Training

NeTS-Graphite (NeT 70) vs. NeTS-Beryllium (NeT 71) 2D Performance



2D NeTS Performance Statistics !

Crystalline Graphite, res(.4)NeTS-70 [96-64-32 x 12], 178 kb

Dataset	Mean APD [%]	Med. APD [%]	Max APD [%]	< 2%	< 1%
Train	0.3700	0.2603	3.1055	.9948	.9351
Validation	0.4229	0.3015	4.1002	.9908	.9160
Test	0.4214	0.3098	3.0302	.9941	.9160

Beryllium Metal, res(.4)NeTS-71 [96-56-32 x 12], 143 kb

Dataset	Mean APD [%]	Med. APD [%]	Max APD [%]	< 2%	< 1%
Train	0.3066	0.2086	2.5763	.9984	.9566
Validation	0.4130	0.2756	3.8964	.9849	.9129
Test	0.4062	0.2577	2.9965	.9892	.9118

3D NeTS Performance Statistics !

Crystalline Graphite, res(.4)NeTS-70 [96-64-32 x 12], 178 kb

Dataset	Mean APD [%]	Med. APD [%]	Max APD [%]	< 2% [%]	< 1% [%]
Train	0.1878	0.1464	2.9173	99.9979	99.5816
Validation	0.1792	0.1461	1.4321	1.00000	99.9695
Test	0.1818	0.1433	1.4687	1.00000	99.9085

Beryllium Metal, res(.4)NeTS-71 [96-56-32 x 12], 143 kb

Dataset	Mean APD [%]	Med. APD [%]	Max APD [%]	< 2% [%]	< 1% [%]
Train					
Validation					
Test					

New NeTS and Future Work

Feature	New NeTS-Beryllium	New NeTS-Graphite	Old NeTS	Improvement
β input scaling	$\beta^{\frac{1}{3}}$	$\beta^{\frac{1}{2}}$	$\log_{10} \beta$	DOS linearization, include $\beta = 0$
$S(\alpha, \beta, T)$ features	4 (altl,ahtl,btl,bhtl)	4 (altl,ahtl,btl,bhtl)	12 (all)	Reduced input redundancy
Network Architecture	[96,56,32] x 12, 143 kb Cascading	[96,64,32] x 12, 178 kb Cascading	128 x 4, 201 kb Uniform	Smaller, material-specific 10-30% size reduction
Total training time			~4-6 days	Comparable
Mean / Max APD			.1-.2 / 2-3 %	Comparable

1. Include one-phonon correction and train highly structured $S(a,b,T)$ surface
2. Extend dimensionality: additional properties (i.e., porosity, burnup, pressure), new materials, extreme temperatures (cryogenic, advanced reactor conditions)
3. Couple NeTS to reactor physics framework



Thank You!

