

## 1 Energy-volume curves and EOS

Just like the equation of state for ideal gases is  $pV = nRT$ , there have also been several attempts to describe bulks with an EOS. Some examples can be found here:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equation\\_of\\_state](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equation_of_state)

ASE provides a simple interface for fitting such an EOS to calculated energy-volume data points:

<https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/ase/ase/eos.html>

In the following, we will find the equilibrium lattice constant for your system by performing a ground state calculation (= find total energy) for a set of different lattice constants that are slightly smaller or larger compared to the one listed in your CIF file.

1. Calculate the total energies while varying the lattice constant, i. e. while expanding and compressing the cell, within a range of -5% to +5% and 11 total configurations.
2. Calculate the DFT equilibrium lattice constant from the minimum volume  $V_0$ , while keeping in mind that we used the primitive cell for the DFT calculation whereas the lattice constant is always given with respect to the conventional cell! Use the `ase.eos` module to retrieve the minimal volume from the calculated data points.
3. Verify, that you can obtain the exact same result using the convenience function `ase.eos.calculate_eos(atoms, npoints=5, eps=0.04, trajectory=None, callback=None)`, where the entire code from task 1 is already implemented.
4. Compare the DFT lattice constant with the one from the CIF file. How large is the difference? Interpret the results.
5. Repeat your script but this time use the LDA approximation instead of the GGA functional (set `xc='LDA'` instead of `xc='PBE'`). What can you tell about the deviation of the lattice constant in this case?
6. Repeat the analysis graphically: `$ ase gui Si.traj` (Tools → Bulkmodulus)

More information on the `ase.eos` module:

<https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/ase/tutorials/eos/eos.html>

<https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/ase/ase/eos.html>

<https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/gpaw/tutorialsexercises/structureoptimization/aluminium/aluminium.html>

[https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/gpaw/tutorialsexercises/structureoptimization/lattice\\_constants/lattice\\_constants.html](https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/gpaw/tutorialsexercises/structureoptimization/lattice_constants/lattice_constants.html)

## 2 Relax calculation via BFGS algorithm

An often performed type of calculation is the so called “relaxation”. There, either the atomic positions or the cell parameters or even both simultaneously are optimized with respect to the forces acting on the atoms. For solids/bulks, periodic boundary conditions are usually assumed.

Since the approach of the previous tasks would be rather tedious, there is a simpler and quicker way to search for minima, namely using an optimizer algorithm like BFGS search:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shanno\\_algorithm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shanno_algorithm)

1. Perform a BFGS search for the equilibrium lattice constant with GPAW. Set the initial lattice constant to 6.0 Å. Use the `UnitCellFilter` function to ensure simultaneous optimization of cell parameters and atomic positions.

The algorithm will stop when the force on all individual atoms  $a$  is less than a given convergence parameter  $f_{\max}$ :

$$\max_a |\mathbf{F}_a| < f_{\max}$$

You can use the following script for the relaxation calculation:

```
1 # import necessary modules
2 from ase.build import bulk
3 from ase.optimize.bfgs import BFGS
4 from ase.optimize.bfgslinesearch import BFGSLineSearch
5 from ase.filters import UnitCellFilter
6 from gpaw import GPAW
7 from gpaw import PW
8
9 # create cell using non-equilibrium lattice constant
10 si = bulk("Si", "diamond", 6.0)
11 si.calc = GPAW(xc="PBE", mode="PW(400)", kpts=(8, 8, 8), txt=None)
12
13 # make sure atom positions and cell parameters will both be optimized
14 uf = UnitCellFilter(si)
15 # also try to replace BFGS by BFGSLineSearch
16 relax = BFGS(uf, trajectory="Si-BFGS.traj")
17
18 # set force convergence parameter and start search
19 relax.run(fmax=0.05) # unit of force is eV / Ang
20
21 # print cell information
22 print("\nCell parameters:")
23 print(si.get_cell().round(5))
24 print("\nCell volume: ", si.get_volume())
```

2. Compare your result with the ones from fitting the energy-volume-curve. Also try another optimizer like BFGSLineSearch. How large is the difference in volume and lattice constant in each case?

More information on optimization algorithms:

<https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/ase/ase/optimize.html>

<https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/gpaw/tutorialsexercises/structureoptimization/stress/stress.html>