

COMPUTATIONAL
CHEMISTRY
DAY 2025

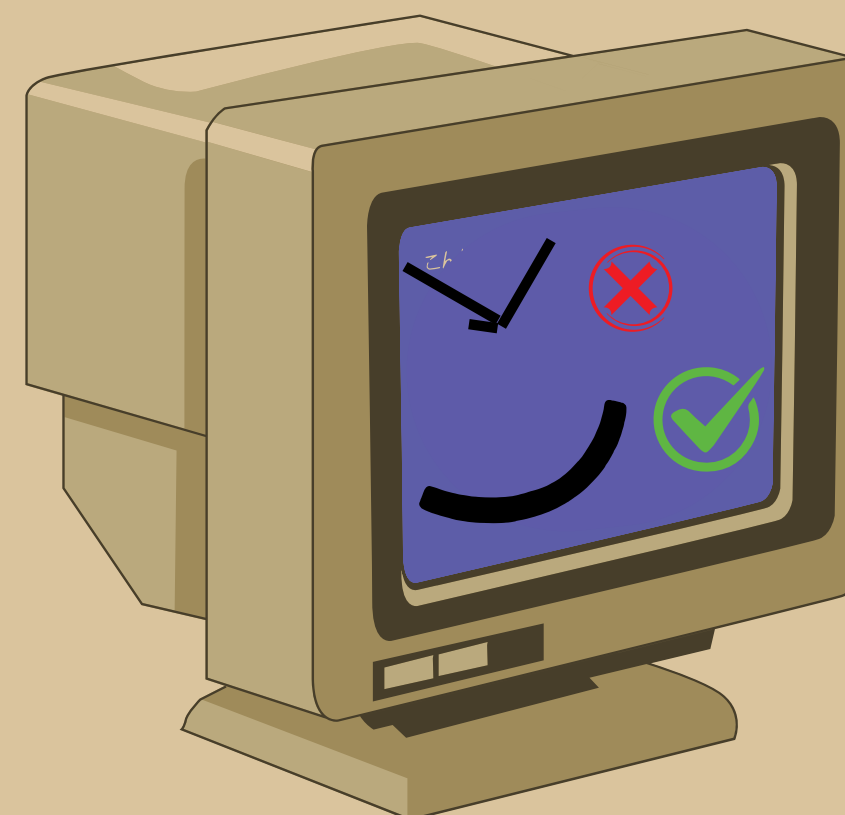
UNIVERSITY OF ZAGREB FACULTY OF SCIENCE, DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY



COMPUTATIONAL INVESTIGATION OF MECHANICAL PROPERTIES OF ORGANIC MOLECULAR CRYSTALS



TEA FREY, IVAN KODRIN





Optoelectronic

Biomimetics

Artificial
mechanosensors

Pharmaceuticals

**Functional
crystalline
materials**

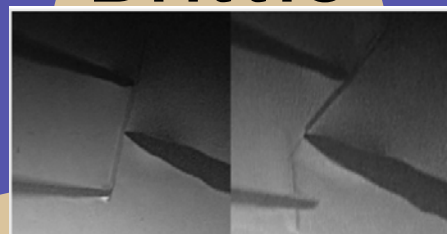




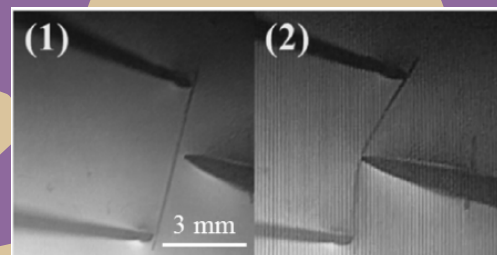
Plastic



Brittle



Elastic



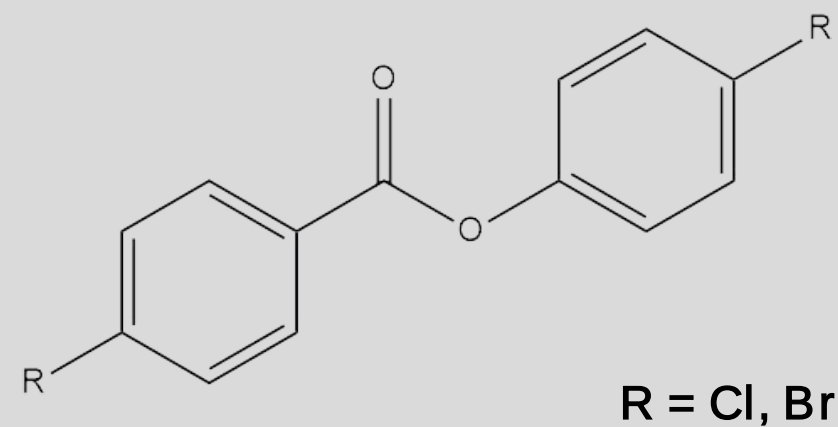
Molecular crystals

- Chemical structure
- Intermolecular interactions
- Crystal Packing

Periodic DFT

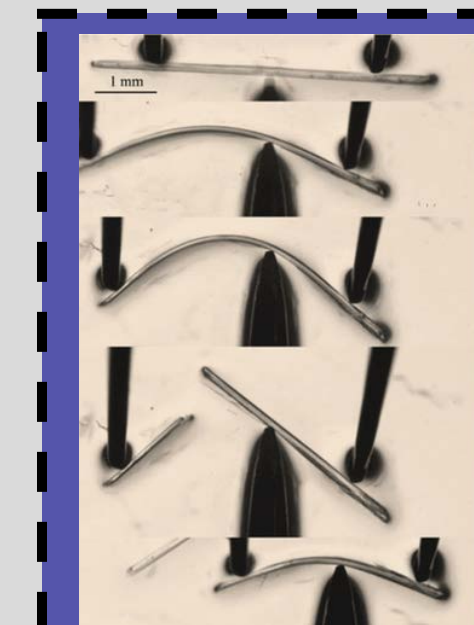
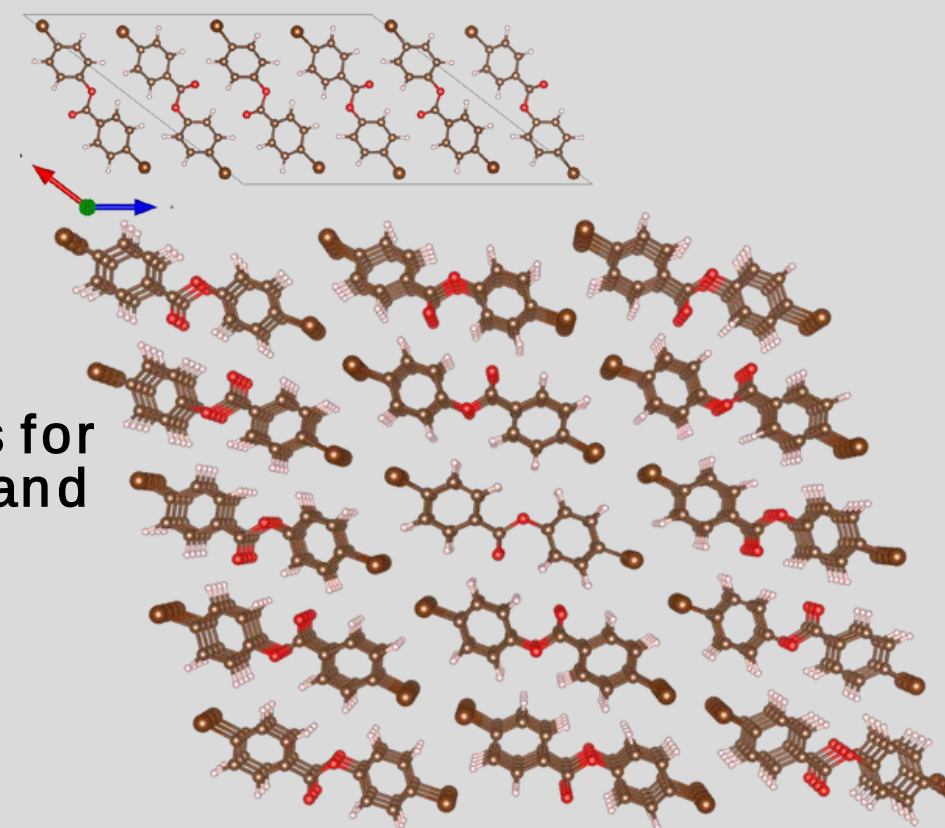


Model Systems



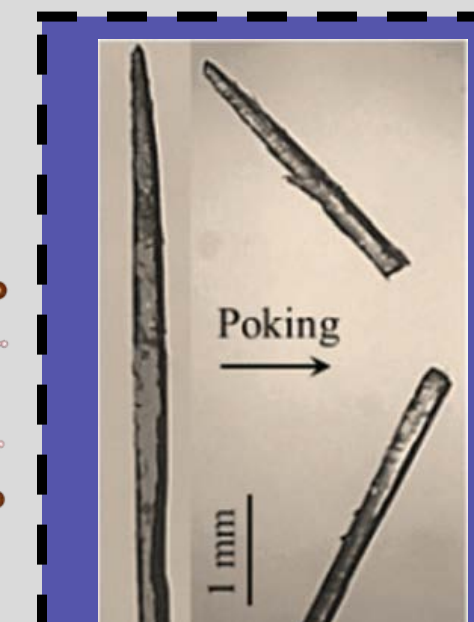
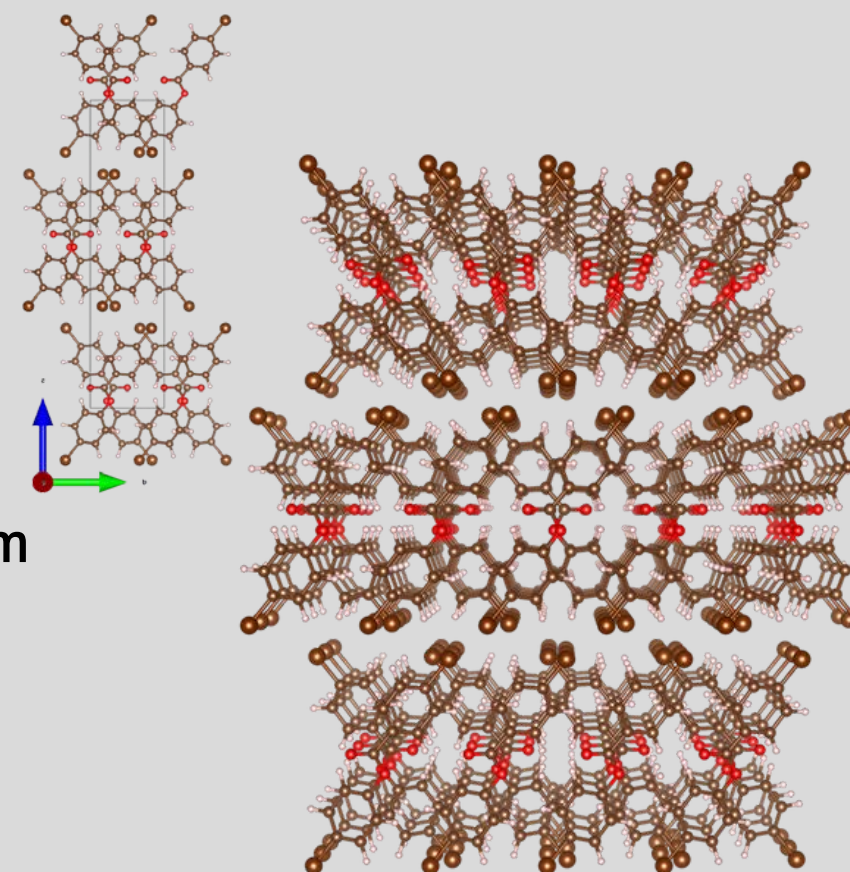
Form I

- Elastic
- Analog forms for bromine (1a) and chlorine (2)



Form II

- Brittle
- Second polymorph form of bromine (1b)





How to quantify mechanical properties?

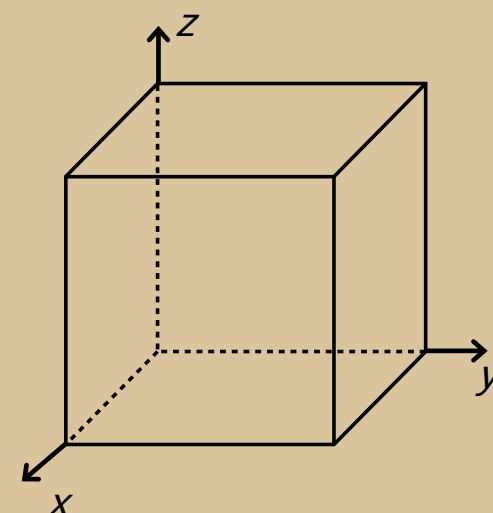
Hooke's law:

Young modulus

$$E = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon}$$

Tensile stress

Tensile strain



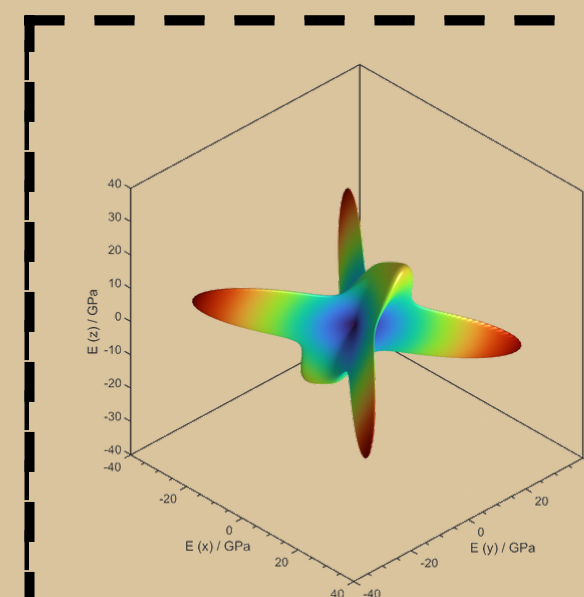
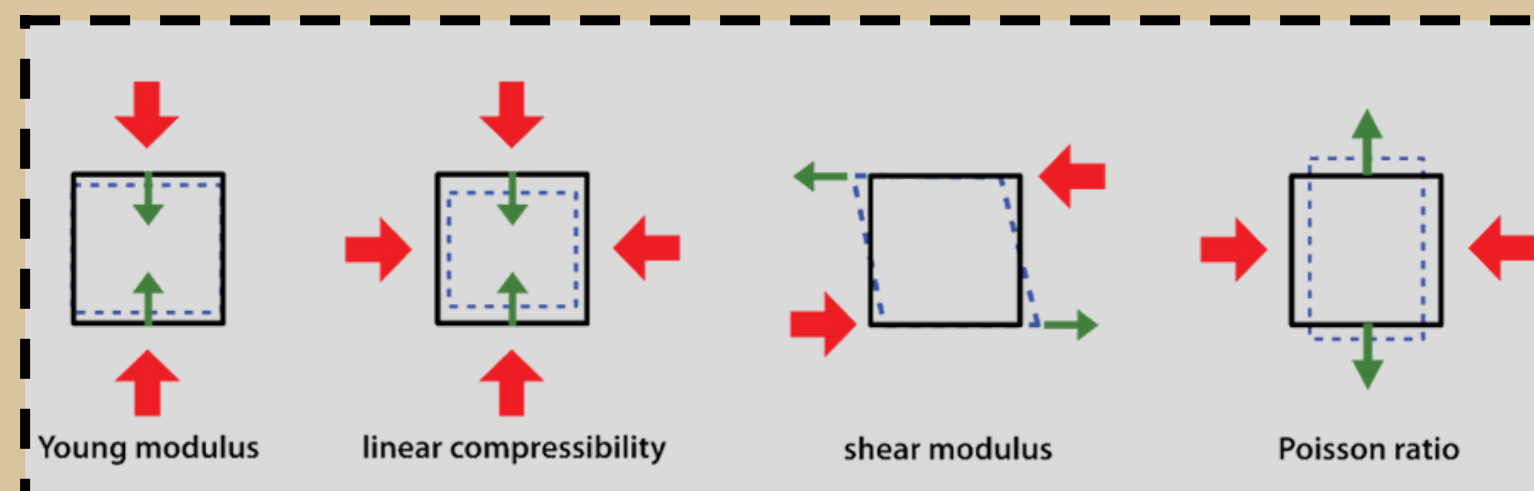
Crystal anisotropy

Elastic tensors

$$\sigma_{ij} = \sum_{kl} C_{ijkl} \epsilon_{kl}, i, j, k, l = x, y, z$$

Second Order Elastic Constants (SOEC)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1 \\ \sigma_2 \\ \sigma_3 \\ \sigma_4 \\ \sigma_5 \\ \sigma_6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & c_{13} & c_{14} & c_{15} & c_{16} \\ c_{21} & c_{22} & c_{23} & c_{24} & c_{25} & c_{26} \\ c_{31} & c_{32} & c_{33} & c_{34} & c_{35} & c_{36} \\ c_{41} & c_{42} & c_{43} & c_{44} & c_{45} & c_{46} \\ c_{51} & c_{52} & c_{53} & c_{54} & c_{55} & c_{56} \\ c_{61} & c_{62} & c_{63} & c_{64} & c_{65} & c_{66} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_1 \\ \epsilon_2 \\ \epsilon_3 \\ 2\epsilon_4 \\ 2\epsilon_5 \\ 2\epsilon_6 \end{bmatrix}$$



Complete 3D
overview of
mechanical
properties of a
crystal!



Periodic DFT methods



Optimization of known crystal structures:

- DFT method
- PBE-D3 functional
- pob-TZVP-rev2 basis set
- Default convergence criteria

Reoptimization
with stronger
convergence
criteria

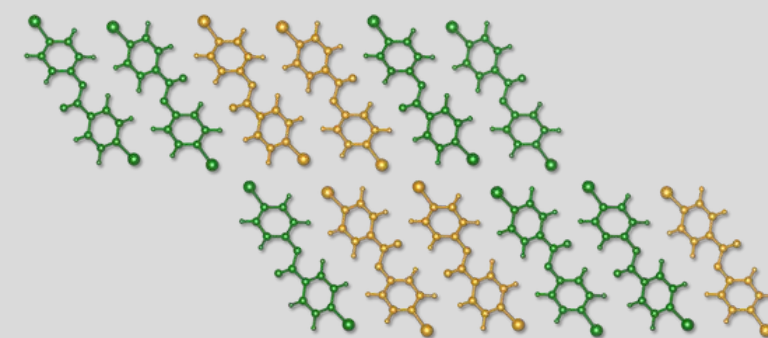
1

Calculating SOEC
using a fully
automated procedure

- keyword ELASTCON

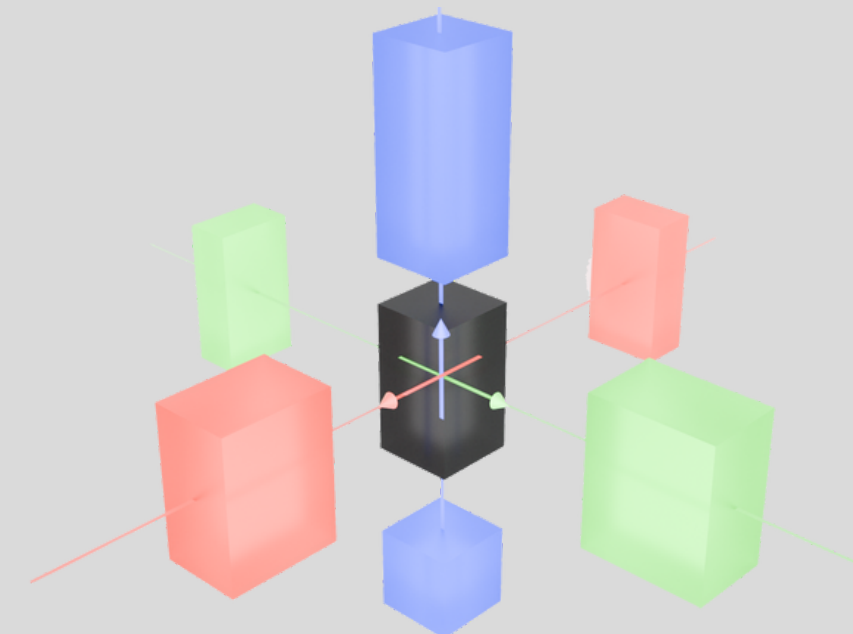
2

Calculating Interaction
energies between
fragments within unit
cell



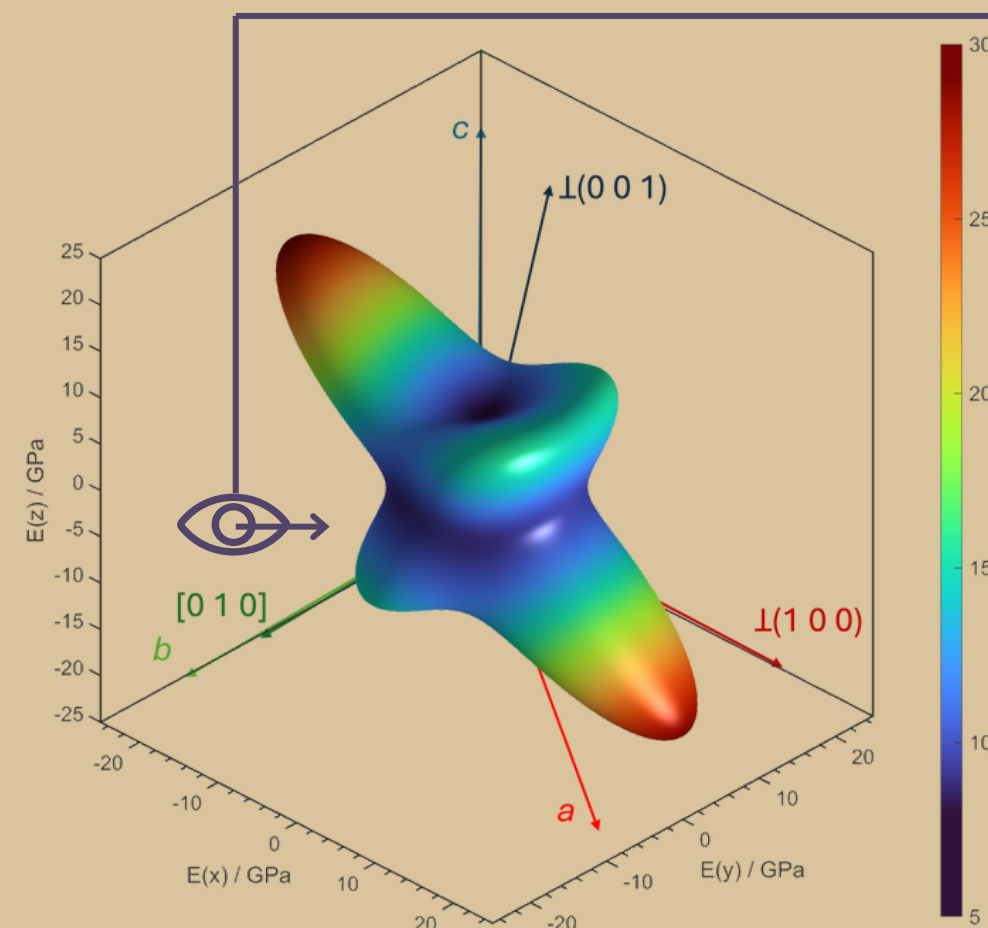
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Virtual Tensile tests



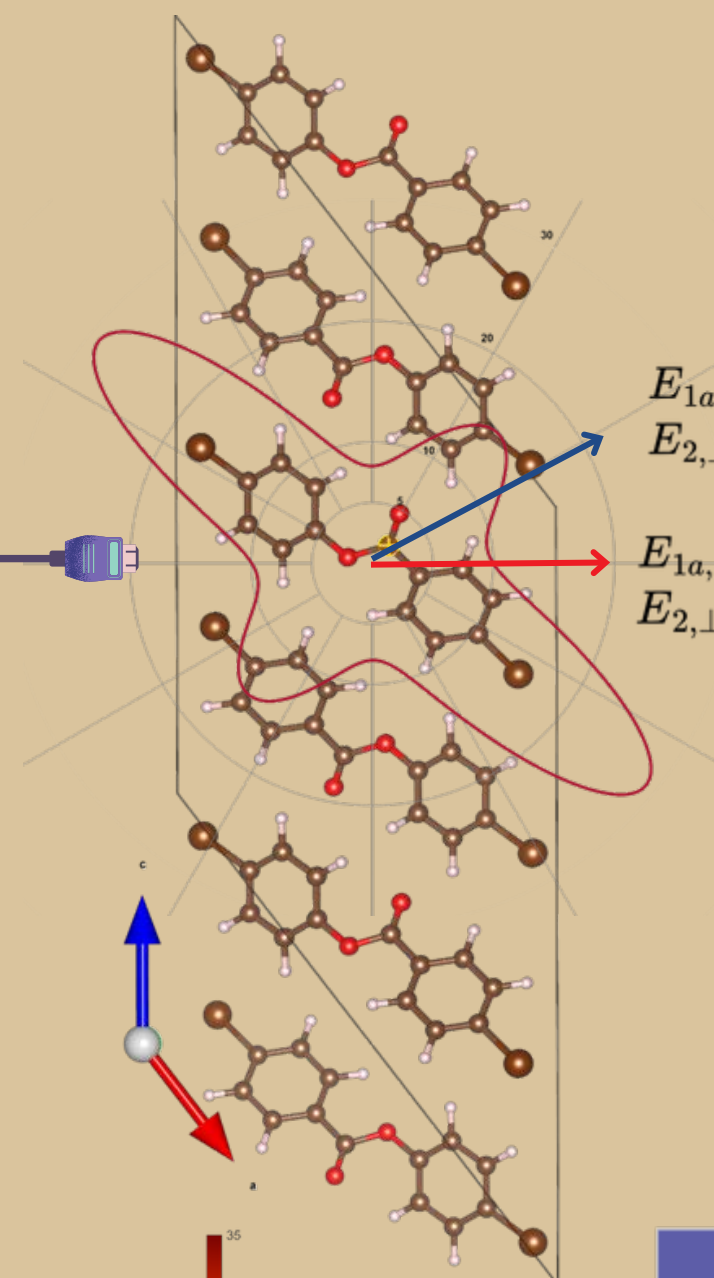
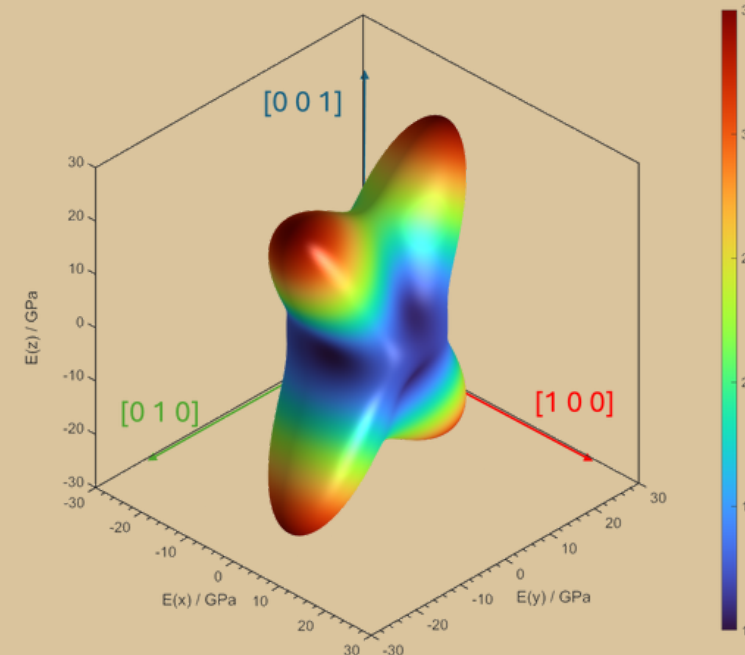


Results and analysis



Form I
Elastic
R = Cl, Br

Form II
Brittle
R = Br



$$E_{1a,\perp(001)} = 13.94 \text{ GPa}$$
$$E_{2,\perp(001)} = 16.26 \text{ GPa}$$

$$E_{1a,\perp(100)} = 9.98 \text{ GPa}$$
$$E_{2,\perp(100)} = 9.92 \text{ GPa}$$

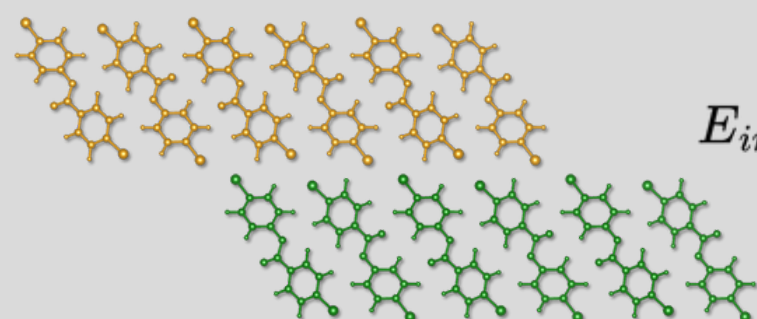
Spoj	Young modulus (E) / GPa
1a (Form I , R = Br)	13.10
1b (Form II , R = Br)	16.99
2 (Form I , R = Cl)	15.09



Results and analysis

Interaction energies

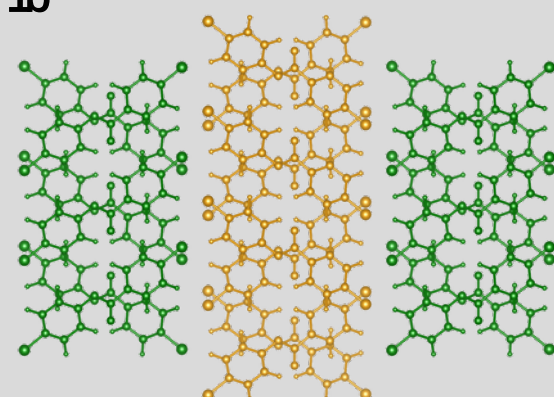
1a



$$E_{int} = -111 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

C-H...Br
C-Br...Br

1b

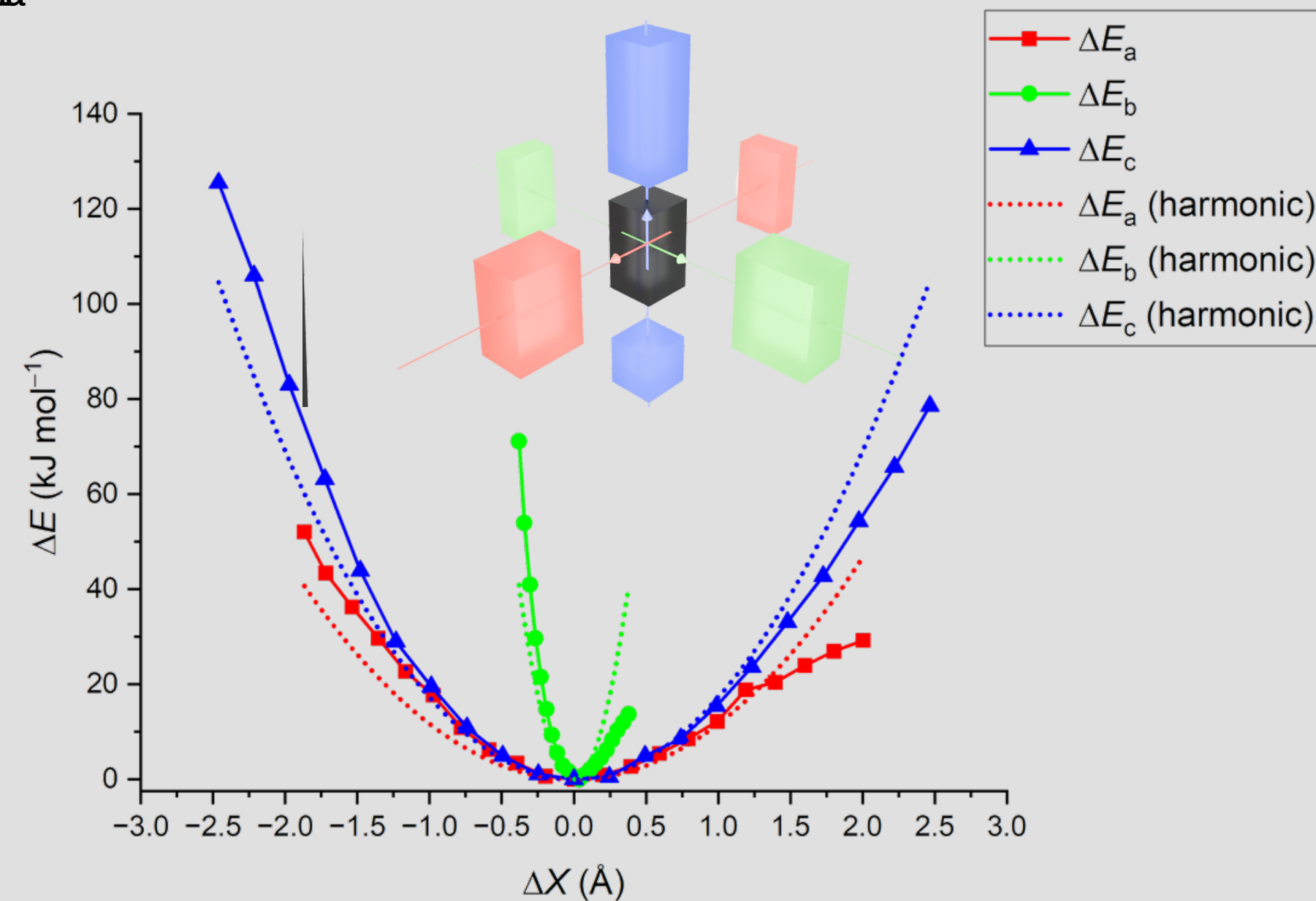


$$E_{int} = -124 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$$

C-H...Br
C-Br...Br

Virtual tensile tests

1a



Direction	form I - elastic	form II - brittle
	$k / \text{kJ mol}^{-1} \text{\AA}^{-2}$	$k / \text{kJ mol}^{-1} \text{\AA}^{-2}$
a	23.3	172.5
b	567.3	173.9
c	34.5	17.4

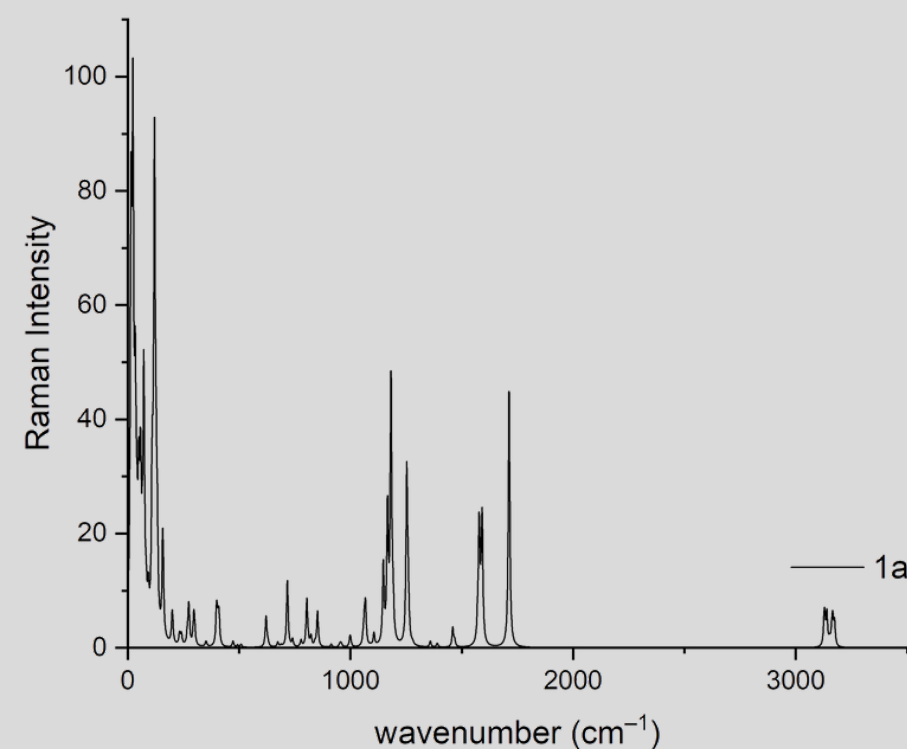


IGOR KERŠ

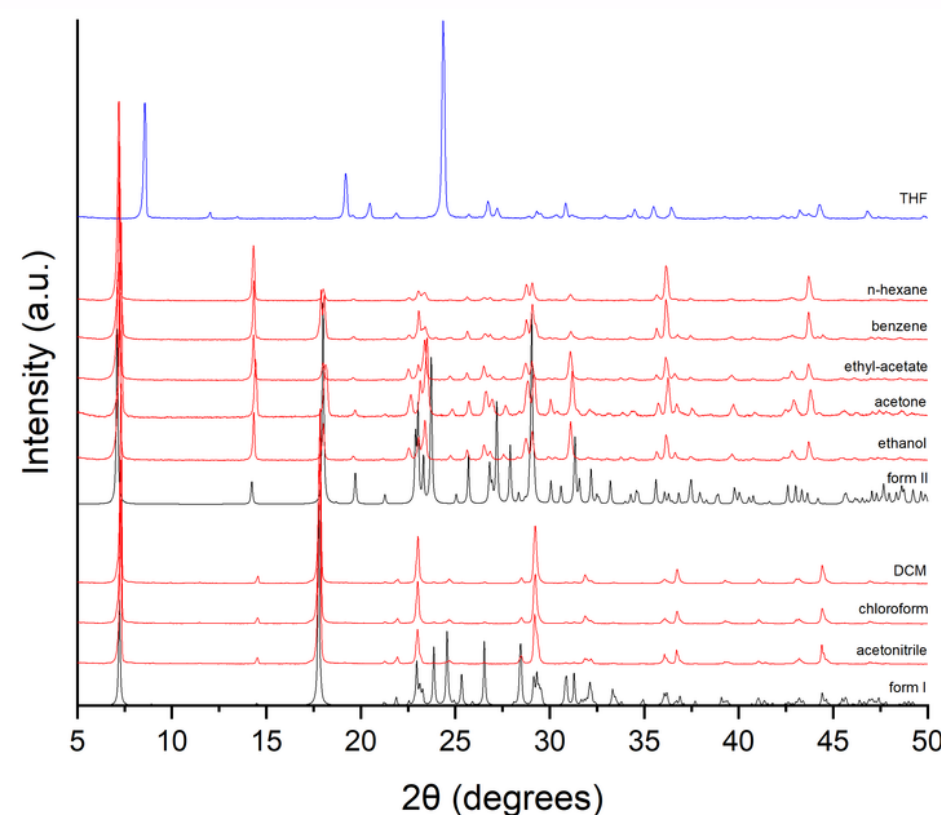


On the next episode...

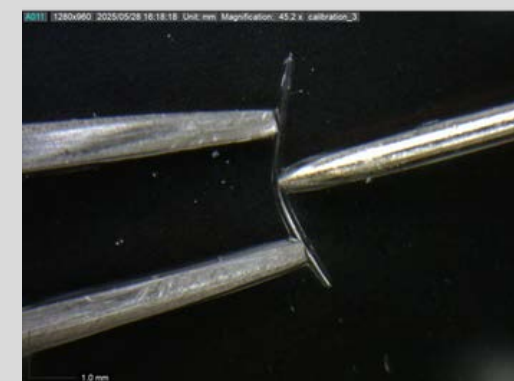
- Calculating Raman spectra at different points of deformation



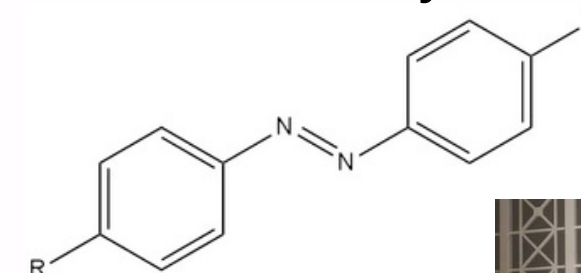
- Discovery and analysis of new polymorphs



- Experimental tests



- New model systems



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**THANK YOU FOR
LISTENING!**

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- izv. prof. dr. sc. Ivan Kodrin
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- Igor Kerš, bacc. chem.

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