



# Optimization of atomic data for improved kilonova modelling

Ricardo F. Silva

The Radiative Transfer and Atomic Physics of Kilonovae



Ciências  
ULisboa



# STATUS OF CALCULATIONS FOR KILONOVA

Many recent published calculations:

Kasen+13, Kasen+17 [AUTOSTRUCTURE - Lanthanides](#)

Fontes+ 20, Fontes+ 22 [Los Alamos Atomic Physics and Plasma Code - Lanthanides and Actinides \(I-IV\)](#)

Tanaka +20 , Domoto+22, Banerjee+23 [HULLAC - Multiple r-process elements \(I - IX\)](#)

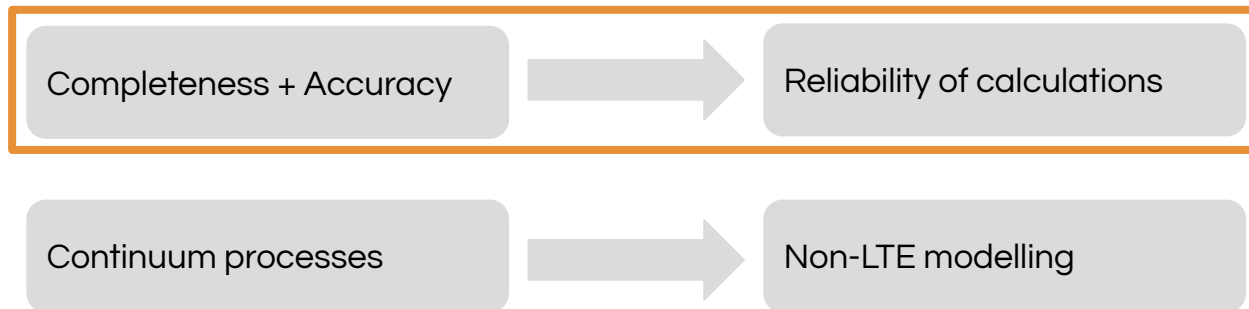
Gaigalas+19, Gaigalas+20, Radžiūtė +21 [GRASP2K - Multiple lanthanides](#)

Carvajal +22, Deprince+22 [HFR - Multiple Lanthanides and Actinides,](#)

F. Silva +22, Flörs+23, GSI + LIP [FAC - Ln and Ac \(II-IV\) + Pt + Au-](#) (optimized potential where exp. data is available)

...

What is missing:



# ATOMIC CODES

## General use codes - multiple atomic processes

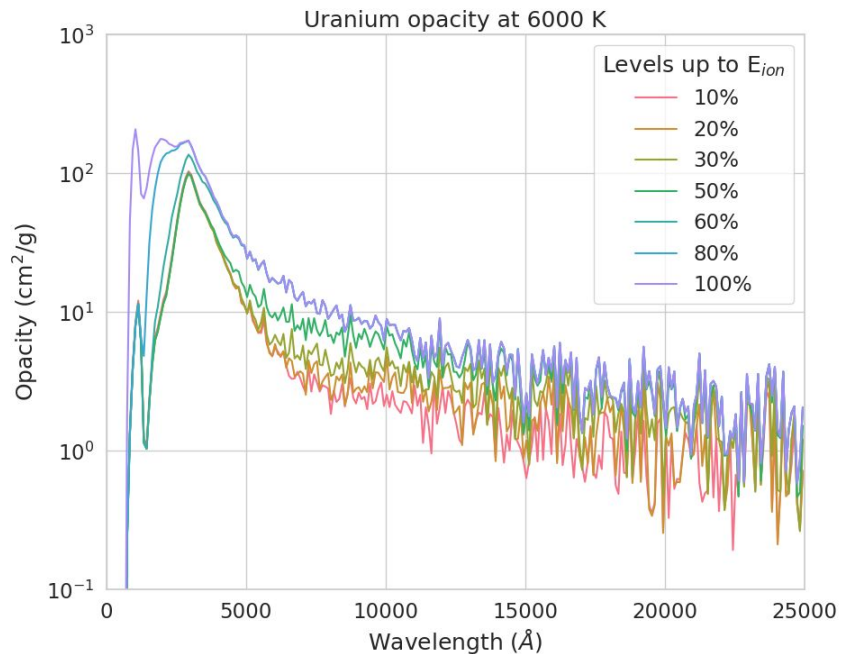
- Usually user-input dependent **parameters**
- Able to calculate a large number of processes
- **Limited accuracy**
- **Fast and efficient**
  - 100 000+ levels and transitions in hours/days
- E.g. - FAC, Hullac, Autostructure, Los Alamos Suite, JAC ...

## High accuracy structure codes

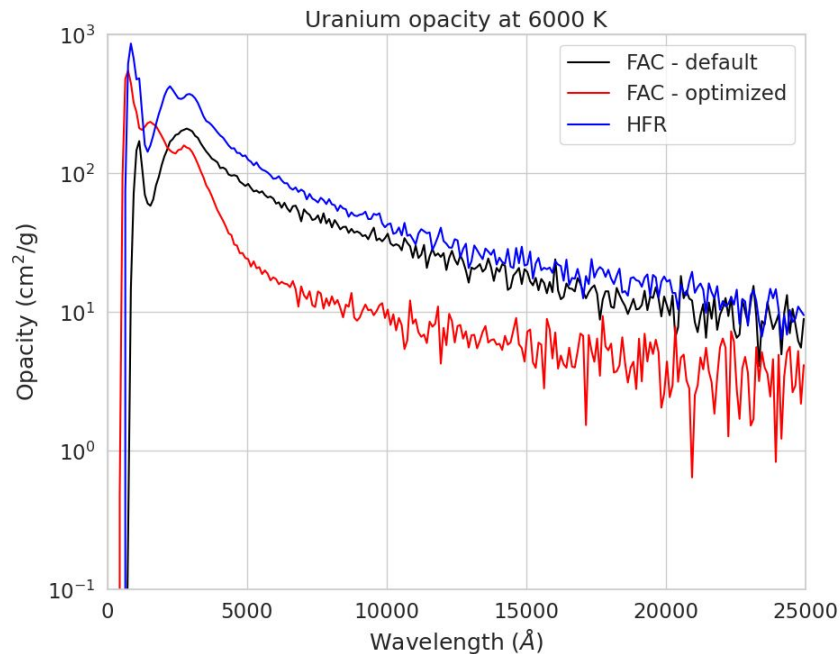
- Fully *ab-initio* using MC(D)HF or MBPT approaches
- Focused on structure and some radiative properties
- **High accuracy**
- Computationally demanding
  - Months for large scale calculations depending on the code of one ion
- E.g. - GRASP\*, ATSP\*, MCDFGME\*, AMBiT, CI-MBPT...

\*Can be (usually) coupled to R-matrix codes for computation of other properties

# COMPLETENESS/ACCURACY DUALITY



- Necessary to ensure convergence



- Differences in atomic data can have significant effect in opacity

# METHOD - FAC

For the atomic data calculations we make extensive use of the FAC software package:

- Allows for a **complete** set of data for plasma modelling with speed and utility in mind
  - Structure, radiative and collisional processes
- Uses a Dirac-Fock-Slater Hamiltonian with a **local central potential**, computed for a **fictitious mean configuration** (FMC) with fractional occupation numbers
  - Orthogonality is ensured automatically → **Speed increase**
  - Potential not optimized for a single configuration → **Accuracy issues**
  - Choice of FMC is mostly arbitrary and usually constructed by hand → **Major source of uncertainty**

# METHOD - FAC

Set of configurations  $(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)$



Set of weights  $(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n)$

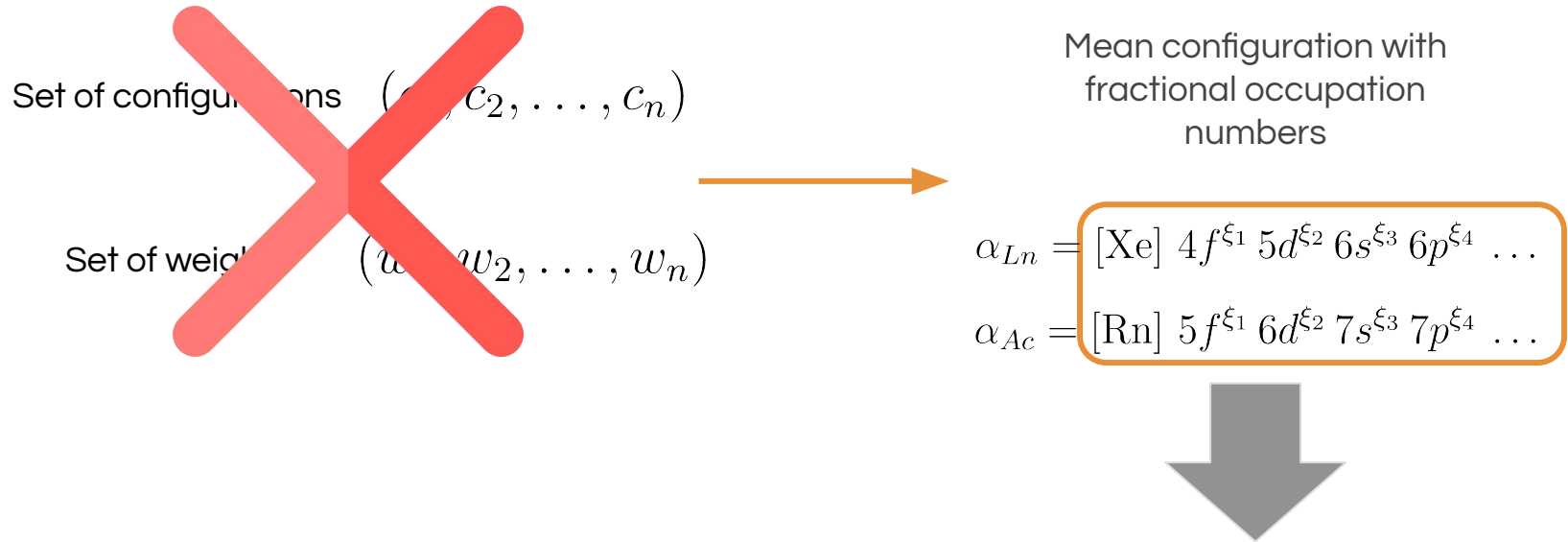


Mean configuration with  
fractional occupation  
numbers

$$\alpha_{Ln} = [\text{Xe}] 4f^{\xi_1} 5d^{\xi_2} 6s^{\xi_3} 6p^{\xi_4} \dots$$

$$\alpha_{Ac} = [\text{Rn}] 5f^{\xi_1} 6d^{\xi_2} 7s^{\xi_3} 7p^{\xi_4} \dots$$

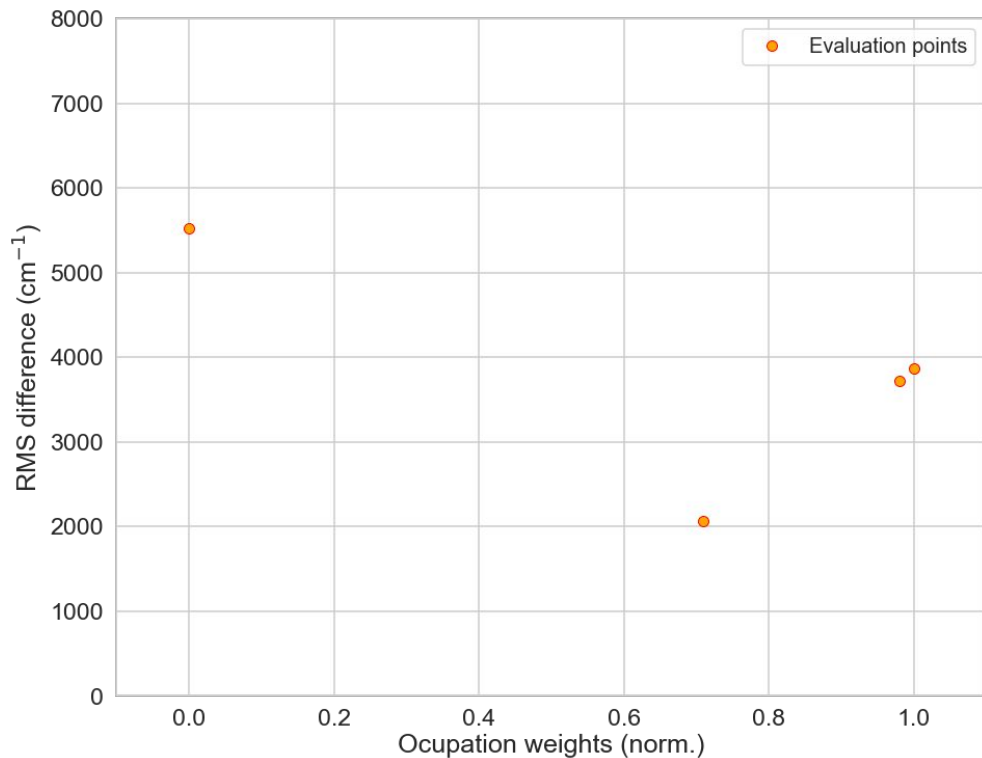
# METHOD - FAC



Find the set of **weights** that provide best match available experimental data  
**fractional occupation numbers**

# OPTIMIZATION PROCEDURE

- Choice of fractional occupation numbers (weights) are usually done by hand
  - Choice on how to evaluate data
    - (weighted) RMS difference,
    - (weighted) average deviation,
    - level density, transition probabilities, convergence...
- After gathering a few points can we learn something?

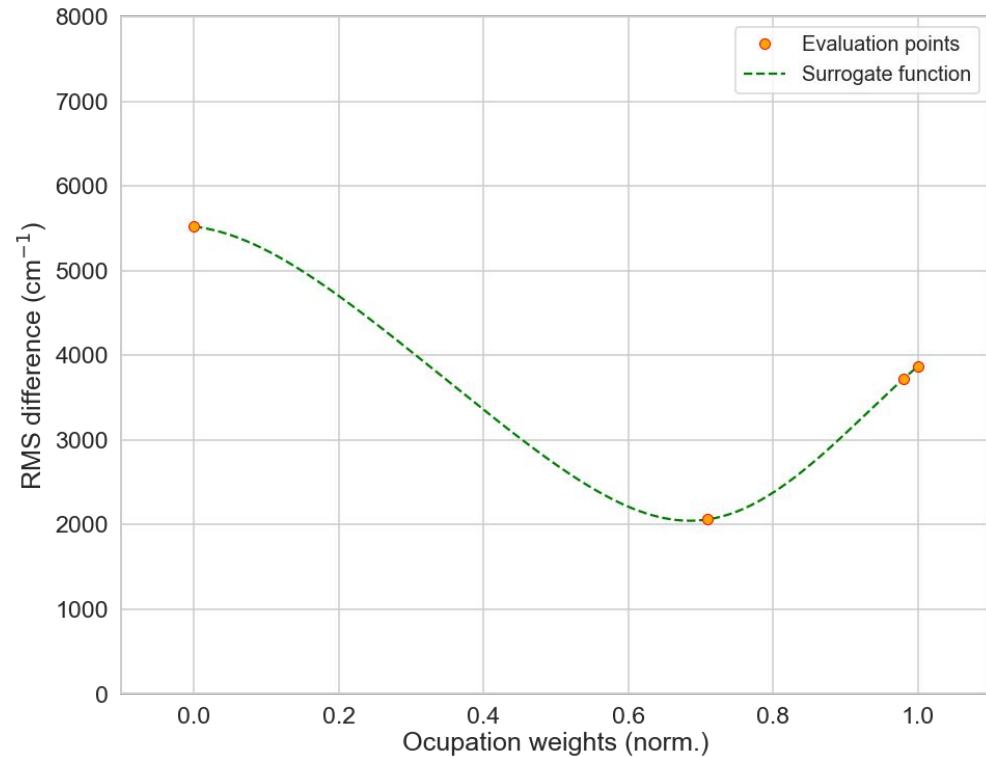


Example optimization for 1 parameter (4f)  
(5d, 6s, 6p) fixed at (0.357,0.0714,0.0714)



# OPTIMIZATION PROCEDURE

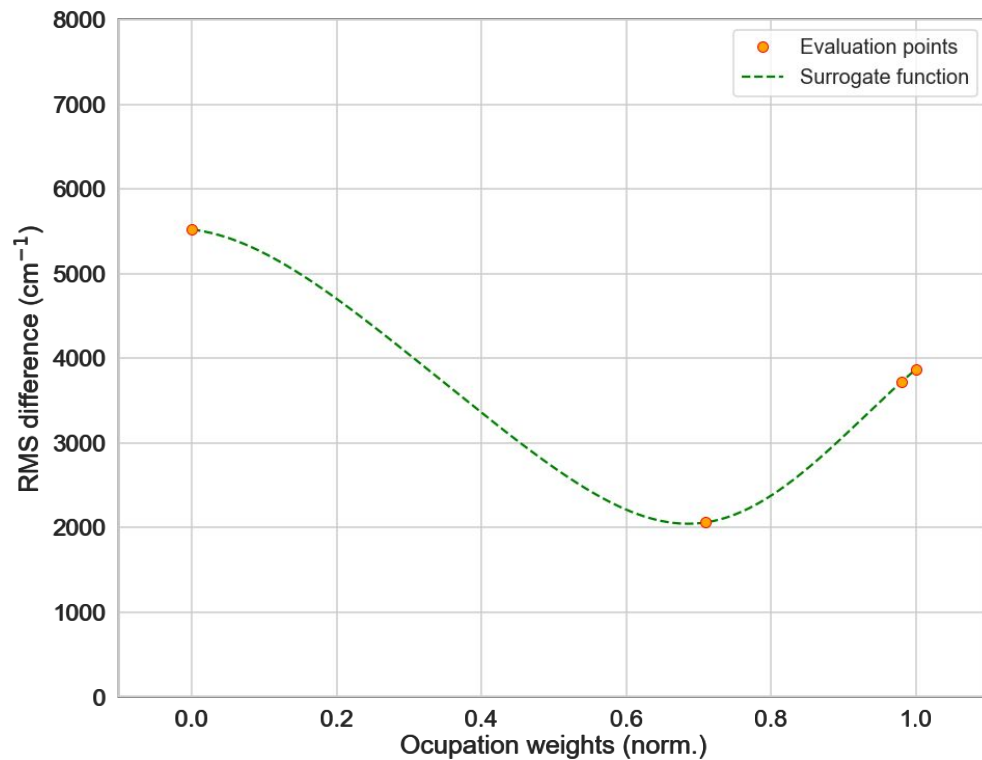
- Choice of fractional occupation numbers (weights) are usually done by hand
  - Choice on how to evaluate data
    - (weighted) RMS difference, (weighted) average deviation, level density, transition probabilities, convergence...
- After gathering a few points can we learn something?
  - Fit a model
    - Different models: Gaussian process, random forest...



Example optimization for 1 parameter (4f)  
(5d, 6s, 6p) fixed at (0.357,0.0714,0.0714)

# OPTIMIZATION PROCEDURE

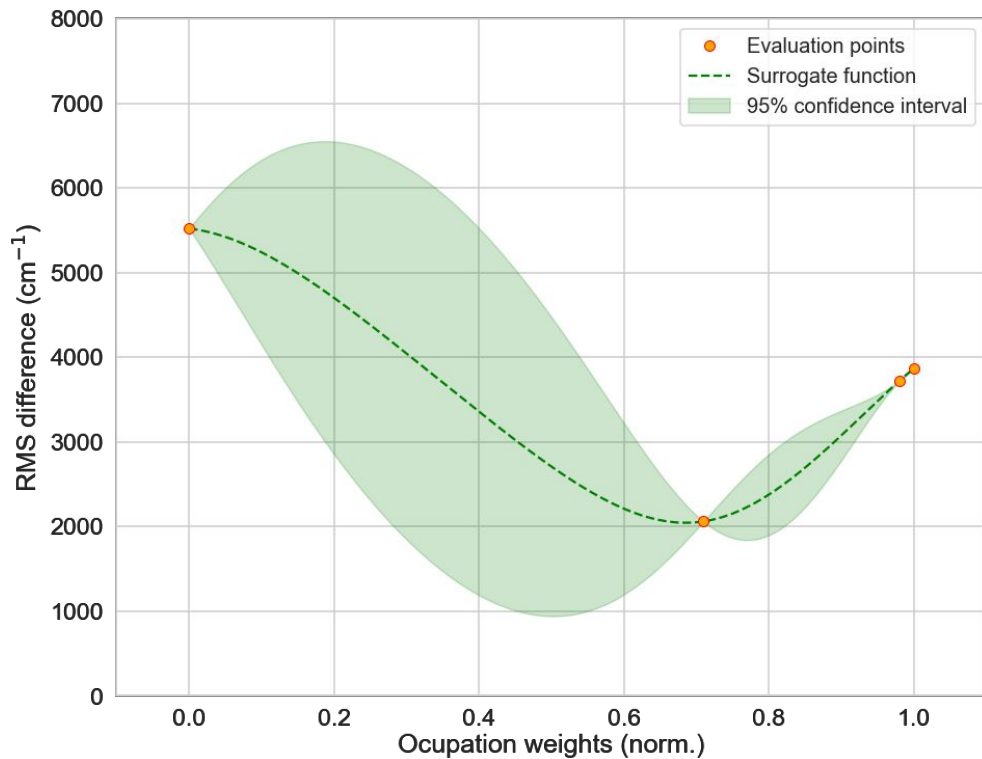
- Which point to evaluate next?



Example optimization for 1 parameter (4f)  
(5d, 6s, 6p) fixed at (0.357, 0.0714, 0.0714)

# OPTIMIZATION PROCEDURE

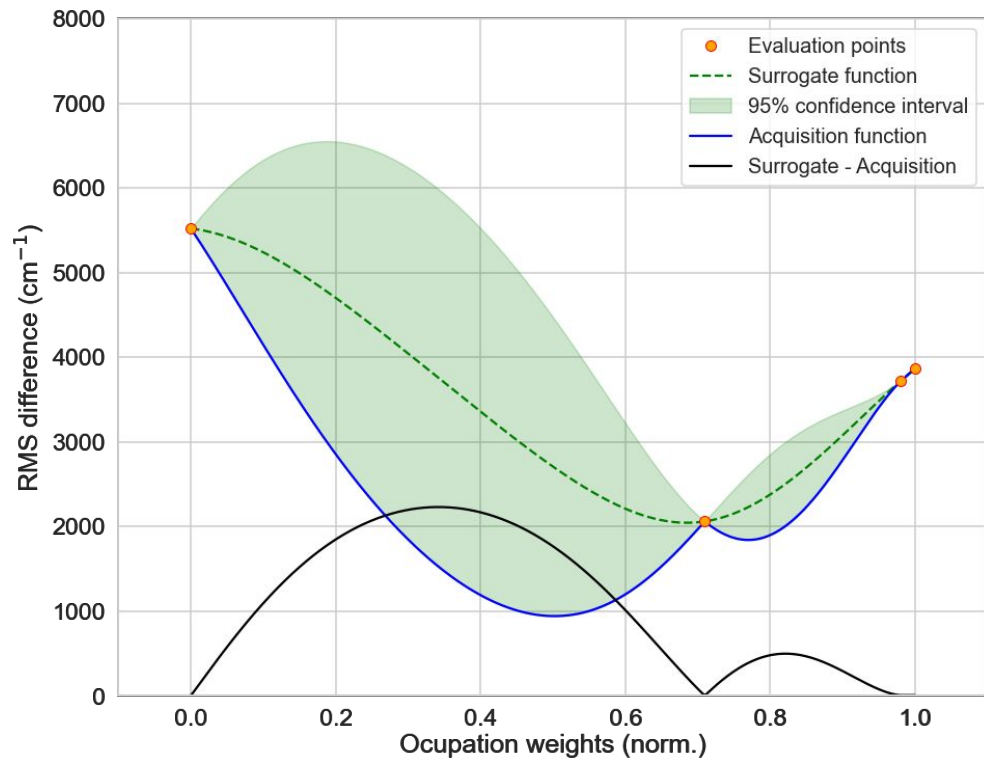
- Which point to evaluate next?



Example optimization for 1 parameter (4f)  
(5d, 6s, 6p) fixed at (0.357,0.0714,0.0714)

# OPTIMIZATION PROCEDURE

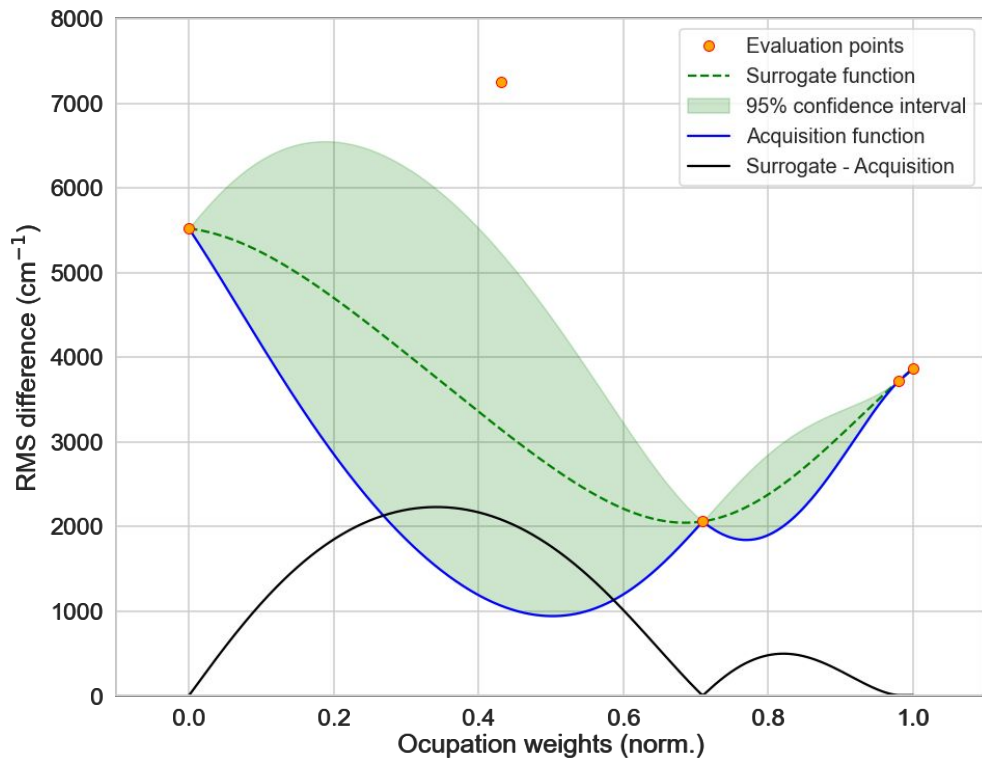
- Which point to evaluate next?
  - Compute acquisition function
    - Choice between exploration and exploitation
    - Choice between different methods: **Gaussian process LCB**, Expected Improvement, Probability of Improvement...



Example optimization for 1 parameter (4f)  
(5d, 6s, 6p) fixed at (0.357, 0.0714, 0.0714)

# OPTIMIZATION PROCEDURE

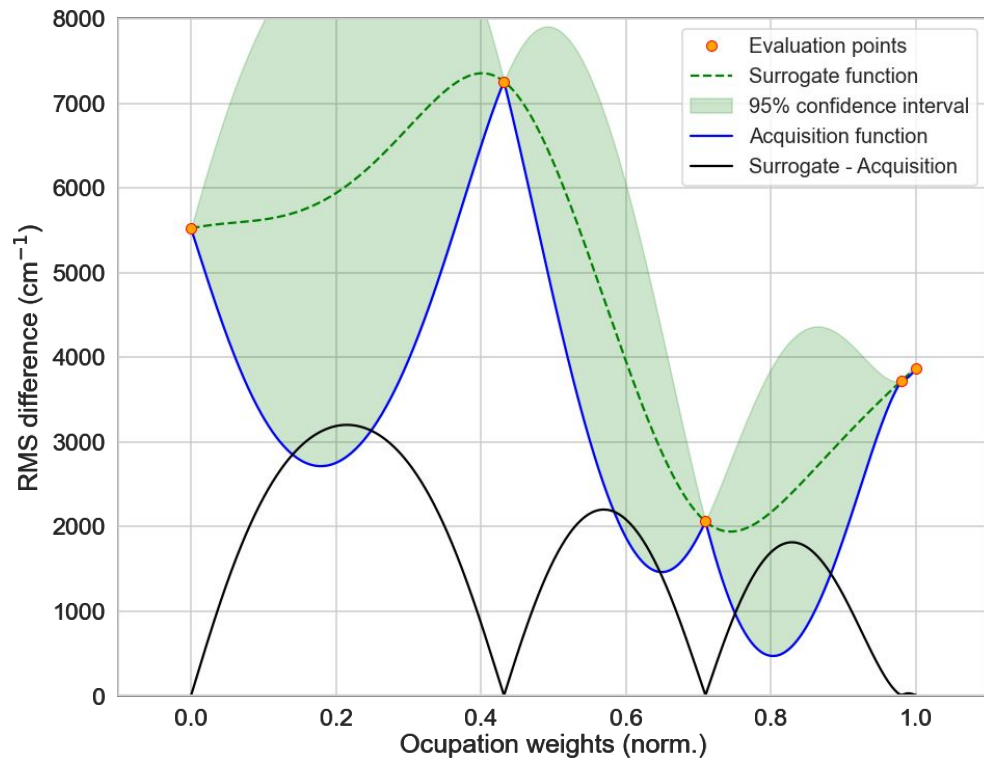
- Which point to evaluate next?
  - Compute acquisition function
    - Choice between exploration and exploitation
    - Choice between different methods: **Gaussian process LCB**, Expected Improvement, Probability of Improvement...



Example optimization for 1 parameter (4f)  
(5d, 6s, 6p) fixed at (0.357, 0.0714, 0.0714)

# OPTIMIZATION PROCEDURE

- Which point to evaluate next?
  - Compute acquisition function
    - Choice between exploration and exploitation
    - Choice between different methods: **Gaussian process LCB**, Expected Improvement, Probability of Improvement...



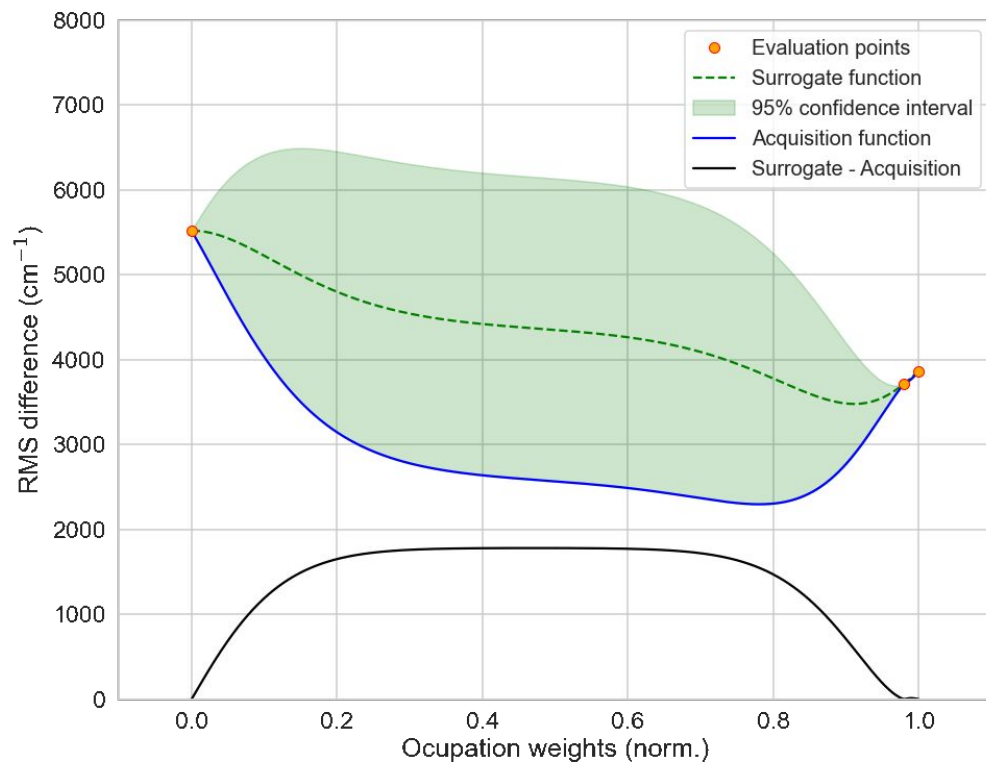
Example optimization for 1 parameter (4f)  
(5d, 6s, 6p) fixed at (0.357, 0.0714, 0.0714)

# OPTIMIZATION PROCEDURE

1. Get a set of initial points
2. **Fit** a surrogate model for a specific loss function
3. Compute **acquisition function** - dynamically chosen between EI, PI and GP-UCB
4. Evaluate new point
5. Repeat 2. - 4. until convergence of loss function evaluation (exploitation) or chosen number of iterations (exploration)
6. **Make recommendation**



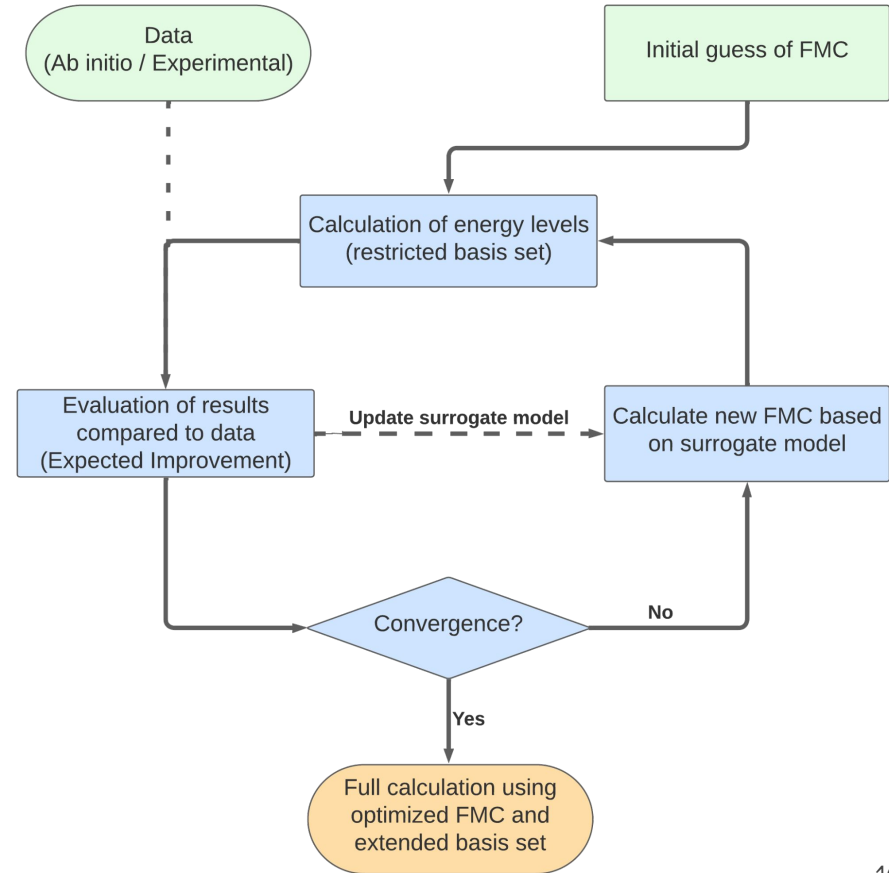
Sequential Model-Based Optimization  
(SMBO)



Example optimization for 1 parameter (4f)  
(5d, 6s, 6p) fixed at (0.357, 0.0714, 0.0714)

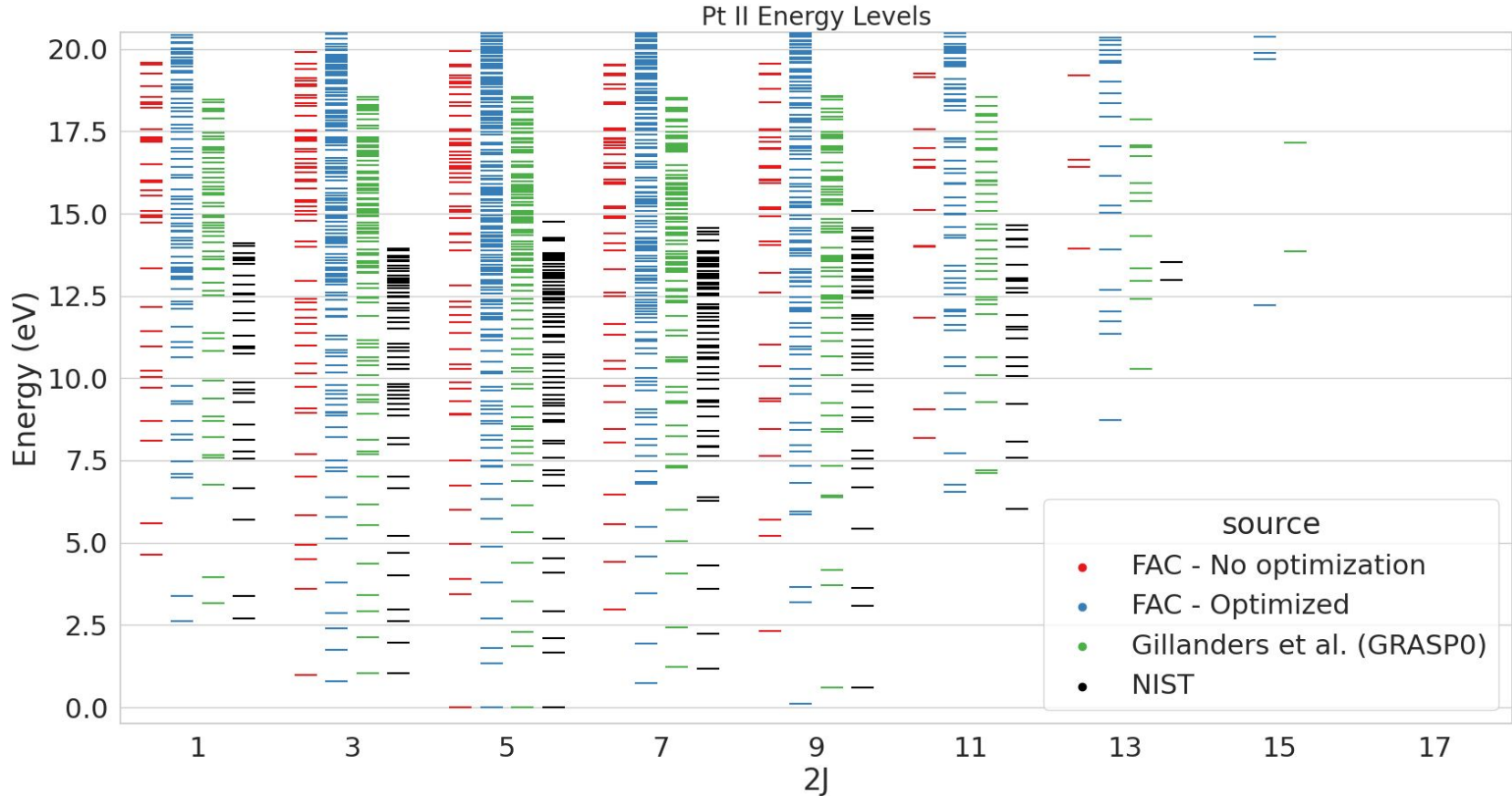
# FAC – POTENTIAL OPTIMIZATION

- **General** optimization that can be applied to other codes and/or structure methods
- **Flexible** loss function - can be adapted to optimized for different needs
- **Systematic** improvement possible with the use experimental data or *ab initio* calculations of few low lying levels
- **Sensitivity** of atomic data predicted with (optimized) mean local potential can be estimated





# RESULTS - PT AND AU



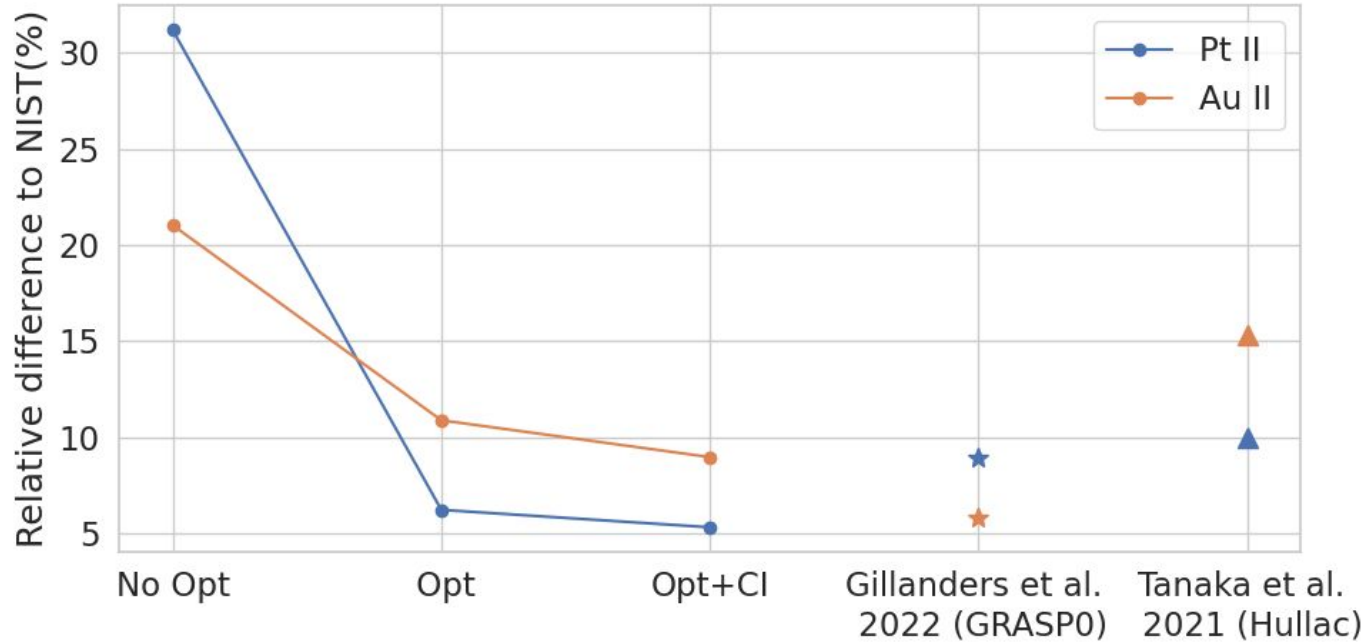
# RESULTS

Sample of transition rates for Au II

Transition	A-value (s <sup>-1</sup> )				
levels	Configuration	GRASP0*	FAC2*	Rosberg & Wyart	This Work (FAC - Optimized)
1 → 18	5d10 <sup>1</sup> S <sub>0</sub> → 5d9 6p <sup>3</sup> P <sub>1</sub>	8.96E+07	1.07E+08	3.59E+08	9.71E+07
1 → 21	5d10 <sup>1</sup> S <sub>0</sub> → 5d9 6p <sup>3</sup> D <sub>1</sub>	2.12E+08	5.18E+08	3.70E+09	3.41E+08
1 → 24	5d10 <sup>1</sup> S <sub>0</sub> → 5d9 6p <sup>1</sup> P <sub>1</sub>	1.65E+09	1.00E+09	2.14E+09	8.46E+08
2 → 13	5d9 <sup>3</sup> D <sub>3</sub> → 5d9 6p <sup>3</sup> P <sub>2</sub>	4.08E+08	1.37E+08	2.27E+09	5.26E+08
2 → 16	5d9 <sup>3</sup> D <sub>3</sub> → 5d9 6p <sup>3</sup> F <sub>4</sub>	7.27E+08	6.13E+08	7.81E+09	4.34E+08
2 → 17	5d9 <sup>3</sup> D <sub>3</sub> → 5d9 6p <sup>1</sup> D <sub>2</sub>	1.05E+07	1.22E+07	2.31E+08	1.30E+07

\*As from McCann et al. 2022, <https://doi.org/10.1093/mnras/stab3285>

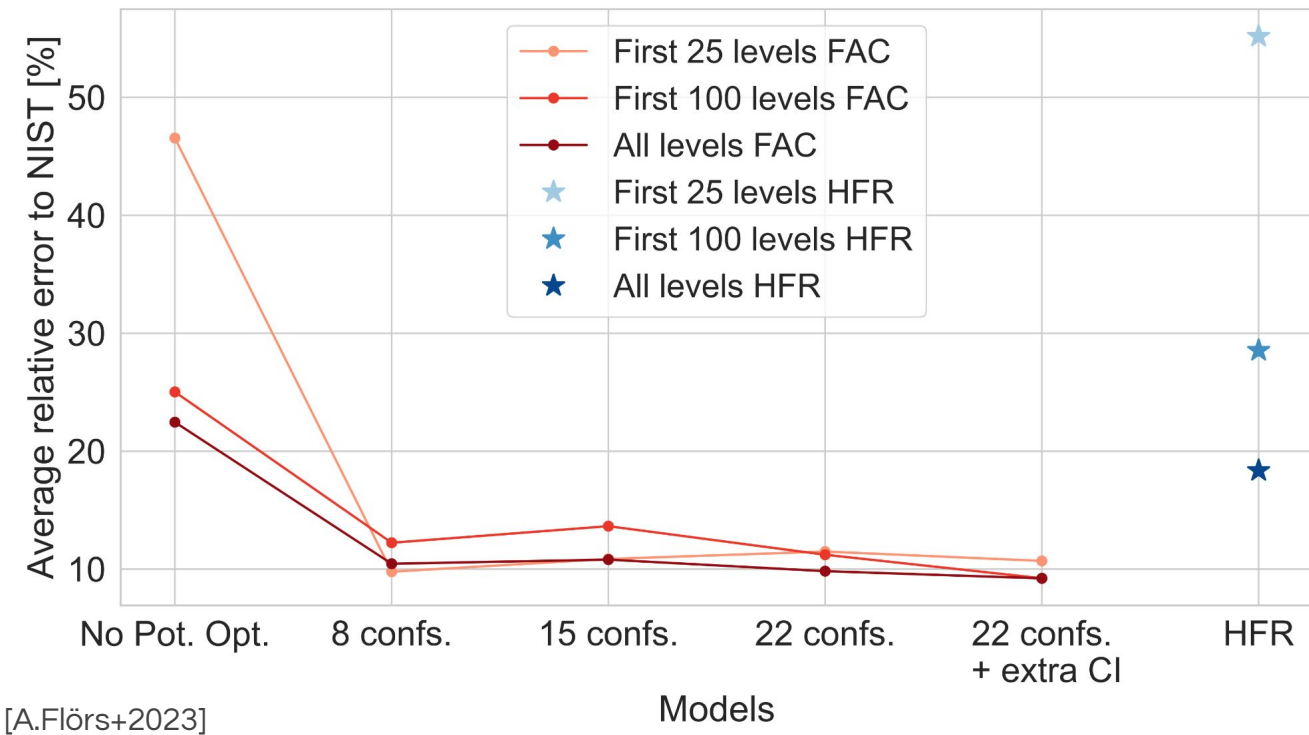
# RESULTS



- Optimization has the biggest impact on the energy levels

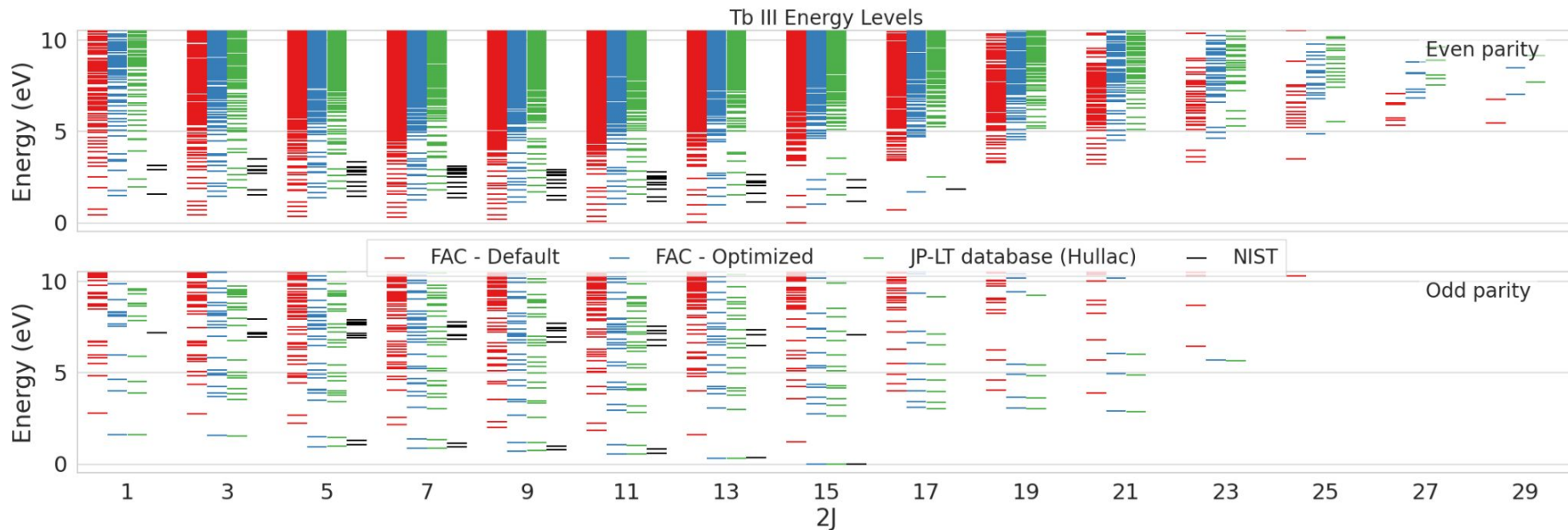
# RESULTS

Average error of energy levels to NIST for Nd II



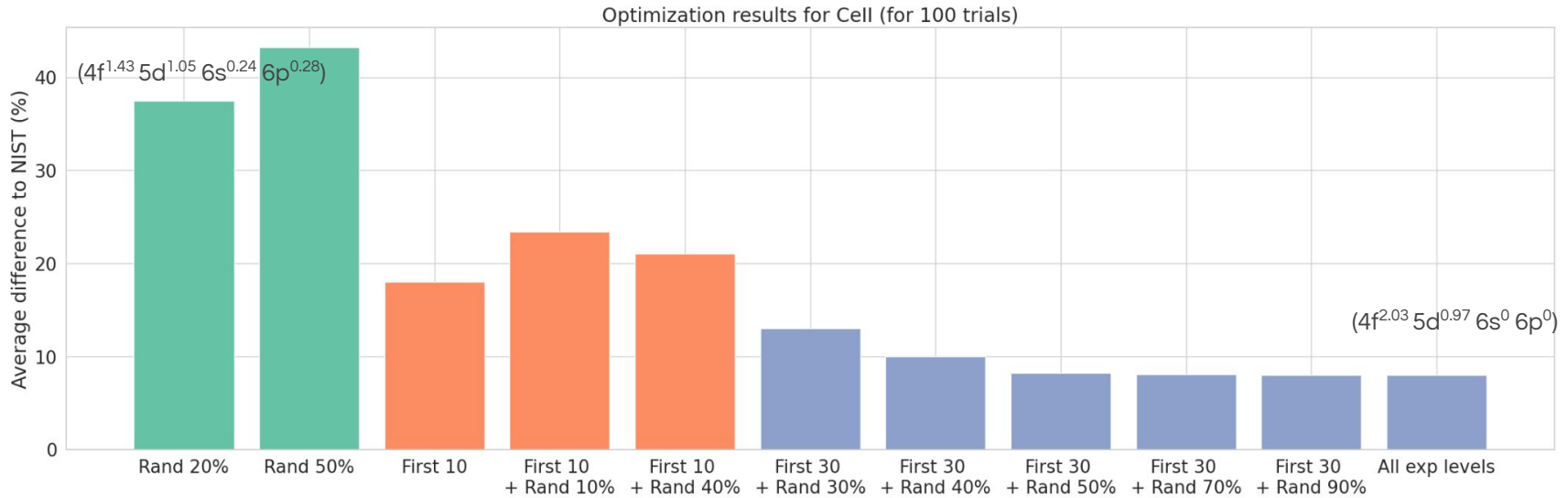
[A.Flörs+2023]

# RESULTS



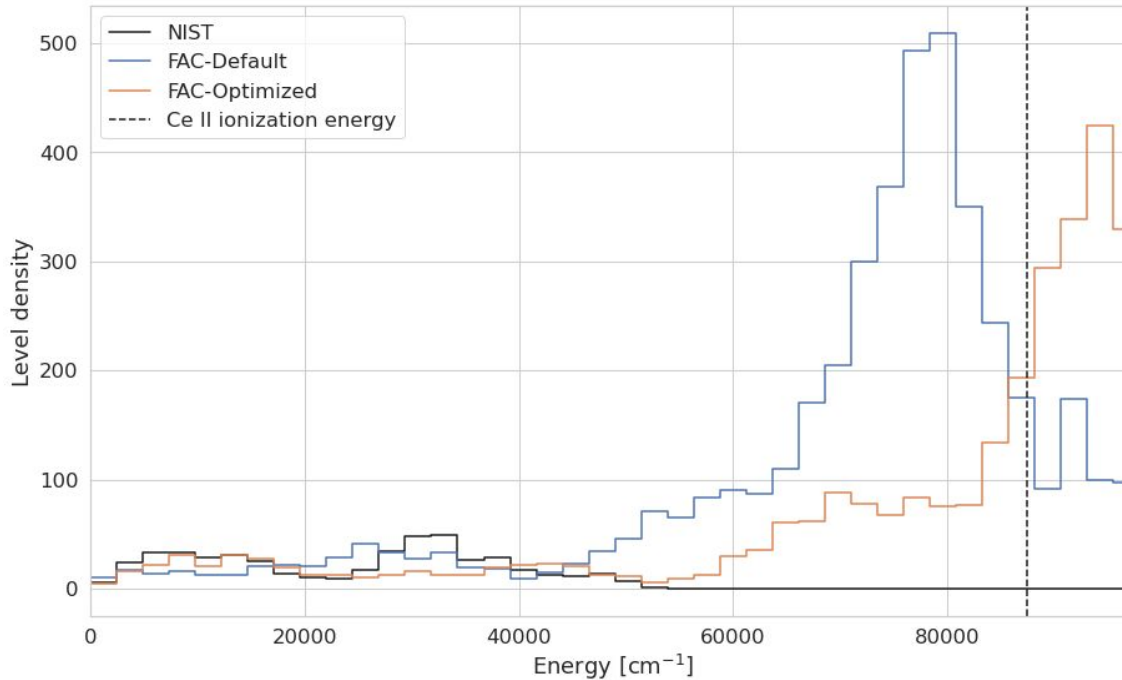
- Level identification (mainly) done by using level  $J^\pi$  position
  - Wavefunction composition can be studied for high lying levels
- Used reference set may be tweaked to **avoid parity bias**
  - Ignoring high lying or unreliably identified levels

# RESULTS – SENSITIVITY OF THE OPTIMIZATION



- Only very small changes to FMC after including more than 50% of the available data for Ce II - maintaining a relative accuracy of ~8%
- Close to ground state levels have the most impact (~10-30 levels)
- Provides confidence on its predictive value for non-measured levels and robust to low amounts of data

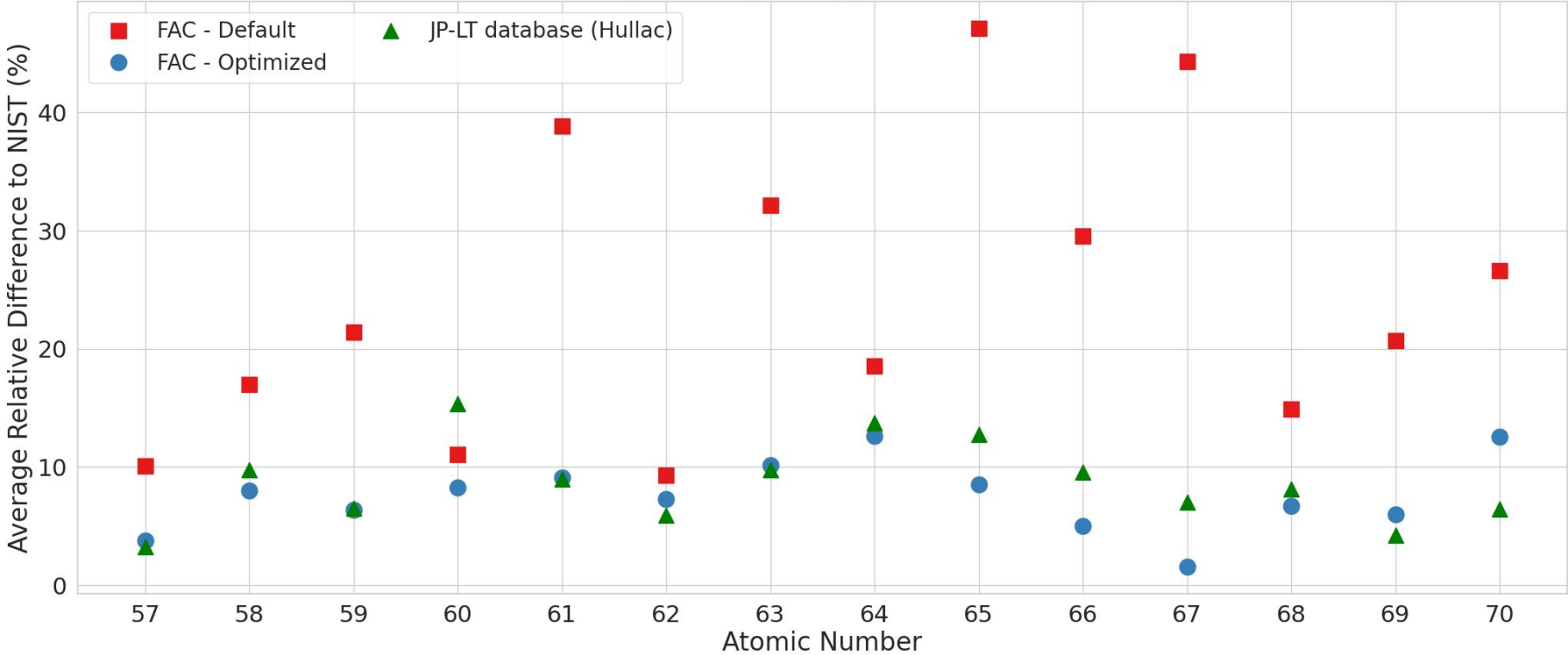
# RESULTS – EFFECTS ON LEVEL DENSITY



- Contrary to calibration of individual levels optimization of the central potential impacts the full spectrum
- Optimized levels typically closer to exponential expected behavior (up to ionization energy)

# RESULTS - ENERGY LEVELS

Average accuracy for singly-ionized lanthanides





# SUMMARY AND FUTURE WORK

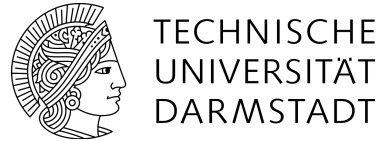
- A combination of high accuracy codes (benchmarking) with less computationally demanding ones (systematic calculations) is needed for reliable atomic data
- Our goal is to provide a **complete set of atomic data** to be used in the characterization of kilonova light curves and spectra
  - Benchmarking of *ab-initio* for when no experimental data is available - FAC-MBPT, MCDFGME, GRASP
  - We will make our data publicly available after publication (Zenodo)
- Optimisation of the mean local potential leads to very good agreement with NIST data and other structure codes (e.g. GRASP)
  - Calibration still necessary -> next talk
- Radiative transfer calculations to test the impact of different atomic datasets - next talk
  - Calculation of electron-ion cross sections, photoionization cross sections, recombination coefficients required for **non-LTE modelling** (Nebular evolution)

# COLLABORATION

Luis Leitão  
Ricardo Ferreira da Silva  
Jorge Miguel Sampaio  
José Pires Marques  
Pedro Amaro



Gabriel Martínez-Pinedo  
Andreas Flörs  
Gerrit Leck  
Luke Shingles



Helena Carvajal  
Patrick Palmeri  
Pascal Quinet



Jérôme Deprince  
Michel Godefroid  
Stephane Goriely



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

ATOMIK Project: 2022.06730.PTDC.  
PhD research grant: 2022.10009.BD



THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION!