



One million core simulation of PFAS chemistry

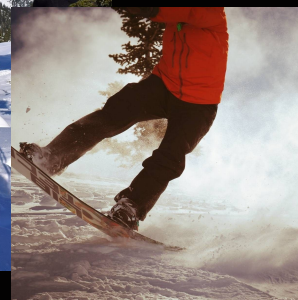
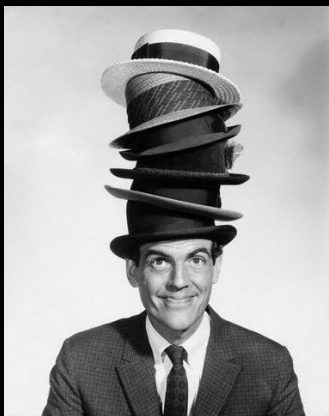
David Walker



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About Me

A brief history...





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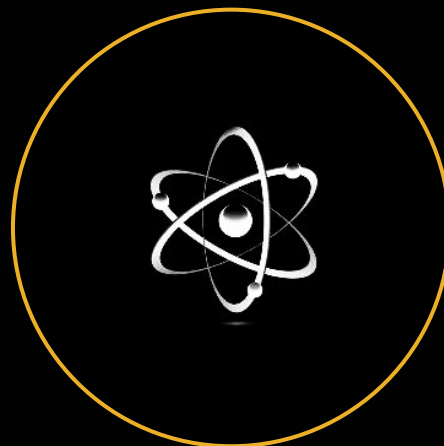
SandboxAQ

We solve large-scale enterprise challenges using the best of today's physics & AI platforms



Artificial Intelligence, World of bits

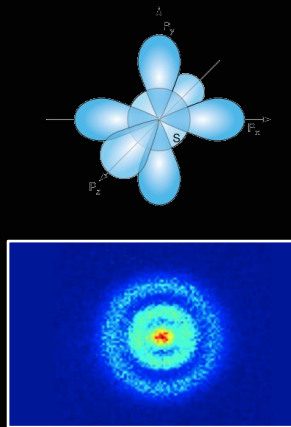
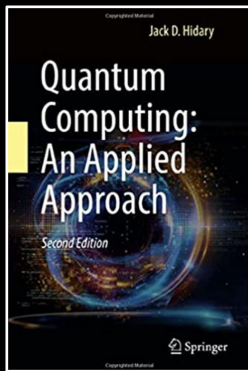
AI is powerful when there is
enough training data



Quantum Physics, World of atoms

Physics tools create new data
about the world around us

SandboxAQ Timeline



2016

Sandbox founded inside Alphabet

2019

Seminal AI papers and quantum book published

2020

1st customers
Eric Schmidt joins
Quantum papers published

2021

Largest DFT computation to date - 100,000+ electrons

2022

Spin-out of Alphabet
Papers in Nature, PNAS, etc.

We deliver market-ready AI & quantum solutions

No need to wait for Quantum Computers



Simulation & Optimization

Reduce the time and cost to discover and develop new molecules

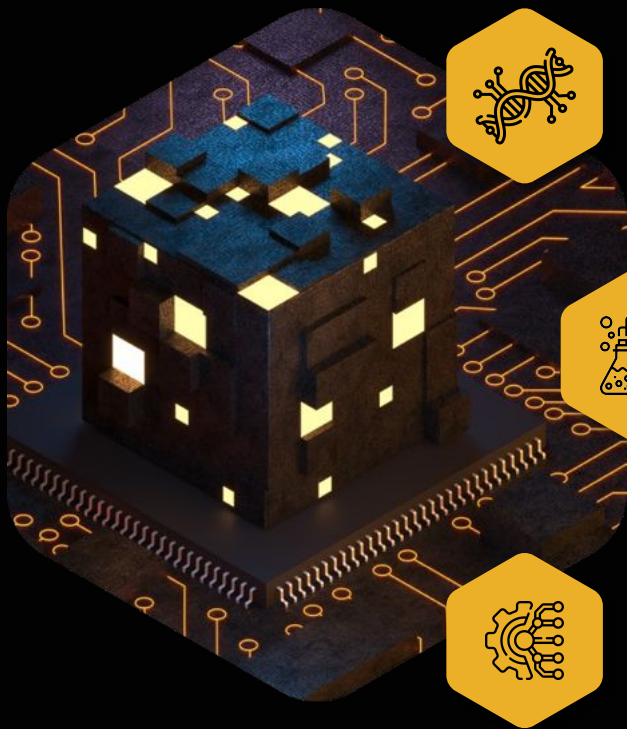
CyberSecurity & Communications

Protect sensitive IP & data against near- and long-term threats

Quantum Sensing

Generate new insights with AQ medical imaging hardware and software

Simulation & Optimization



Life Sciences

Unlocking complex biological systems and expediting novel therapeutic development

Chemicals & Materials

Advancing the discovery and design of innovative chemicals and materials

Finance & Logistics

Enabling unparalleled optimization, predictive analytics, and streamlined operations

A decorative graphic in the top-left corner consisting of several hexagons in yellow, grey, and white, along with a series of curved yellow lines.

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Good Chemistry

Our Mission

To make the world
cleaner, healthier,
and more
sustainable
by accelerating
materials design



The world needs more **GOOD CHEMISTRY**

Solutions to many urgent global challenges

Climate change
Access to clean water
Renewable sources of energy
Effective energy storage
Carbon capture
Diseases

are bottlenecked by our ability to design
and synthesize better materials faster

Traditional virtual screening forced to neglect almost all of the chemical space

Known
synthesizable
molecules

> 10^{20} compounds

The size of a typical starting
data set for drug discovery

~1 billion compounds



GOOD CHEMISTRY
COMPANY

Making the intractable tractable
in materials innovation using

Artificial Intelligence
Trained on high-accuracy
quantum chemistry data



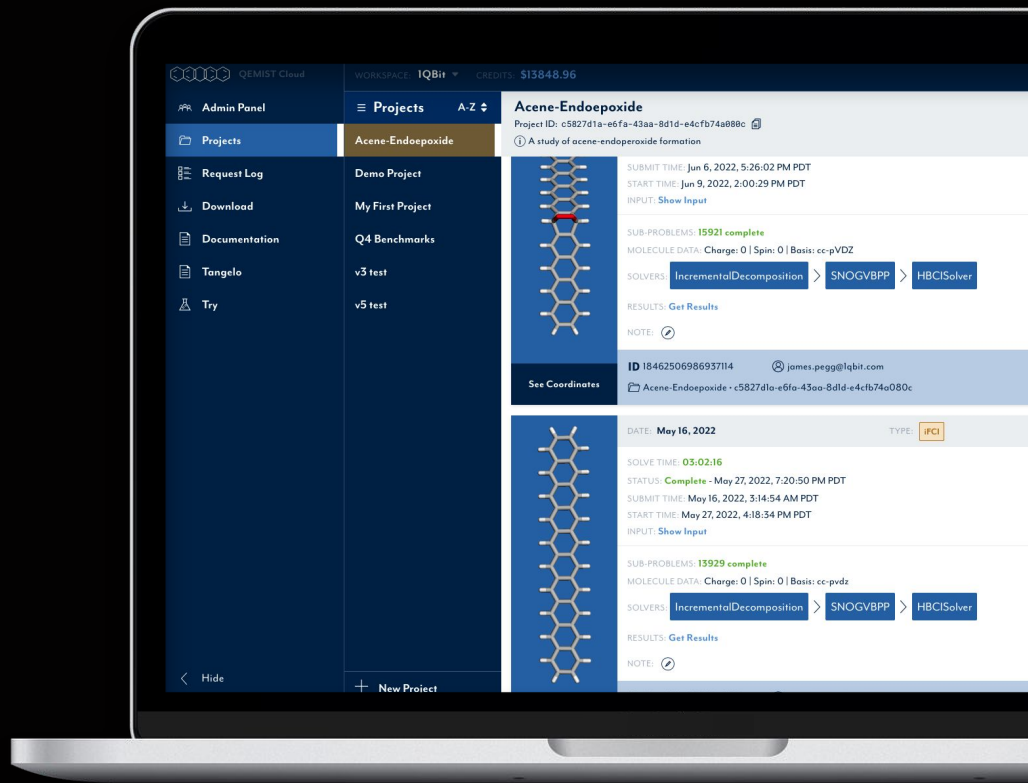
AI-generated image by Dall-E-2

QEMIST Cloud

A collaborative virtual chemistry lab on the cloud for exploring the chemical space that was previously out of reach



Qualified AWS Partner
QEMIST Cloud is AWS FTR reviewed



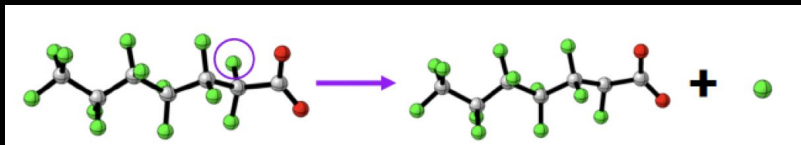


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The Task

One Million Core Simulation of PFAS Molecules

- PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) are hazardous “forever chemicals”. they can bioaccumulate and cause adverse health (e.g. cancer) and environmental issues.
- Chemical degradation pathways for PFAS mainly involve breaking carbon-fluorine bonds.



Defluorination of PFOA molecule

- Identifying the best pathways, catalysts, and engineering solutions to the degradation/defluorination of PFAS compounds requires accurate simulations of PFAS molecules.



In collaboration with



accenture

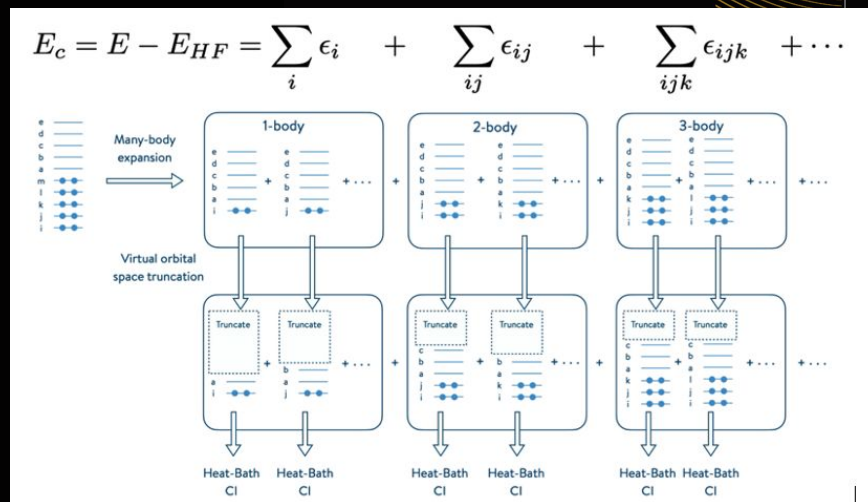


An Intractable Problem

Exact solution requires
the diagonalization of a
 $10^{151} \times 10^{151}$ matrix

Computational Chemistry 101

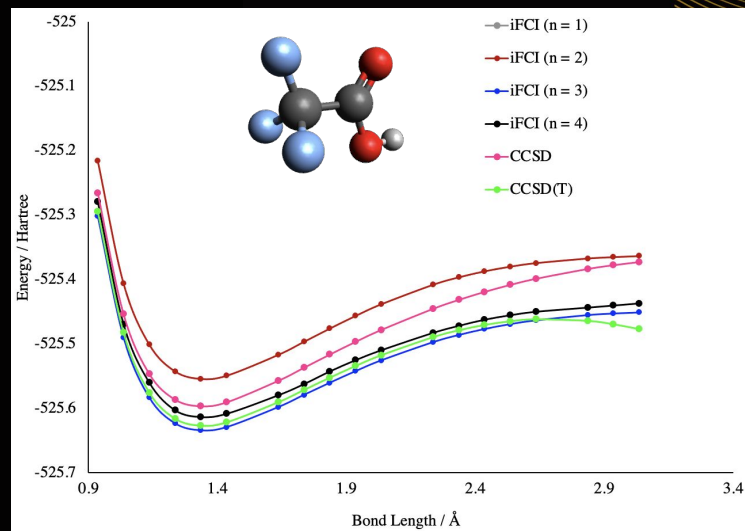
- Full Configuration Interaction (FCI) represents the formally exact solution to the electronic Schrödinger equation in a given basis set. However, it is intractable even for the smallest PFAS molecule, TFA (trifluoroacetic acid)
- The cloud native implementation of iFCI in QEMIST cloud offers a polynomial scaling approximation to FCI and provides the most accurate treatment of the PFAS bond breaking by taking advantage of cloud computing.



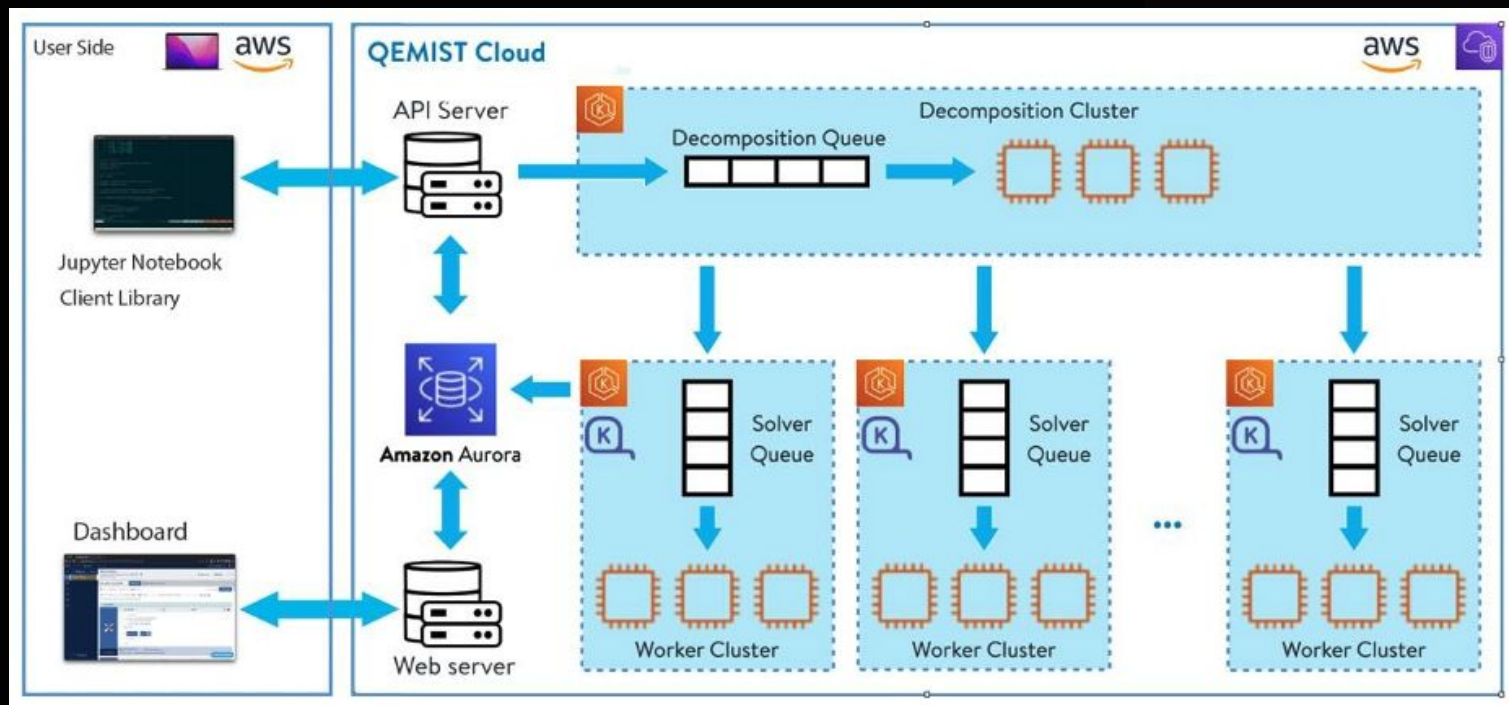
Computational Chemistry 101

Want to calculate the Potential Energy Surface. A mathematical function that gives the energy of a molecule as a function of its geometry

The energetics of the C-F bond breaking process are currently being investigated for several PFAS compounds in collaboration with Accenture, AWS and Intel.



General Architecture





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Journey

Prerequisites



Cost Mitigation

Spot instances, VPC Endpoints



Monitoring

AWS Cloudwatch dashboards,
Container logs



Stability

Terraform, CI/CD, Static Code
Analysis, Error handling



Logging

AWS CloudWatch Log Insights
instead of ELK,



Scalability

Karpenter, KEDA, AWS Aurora
Serverless, AWS RDS Proxy



Heartbeat

Race conditions



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Experiment

D Day



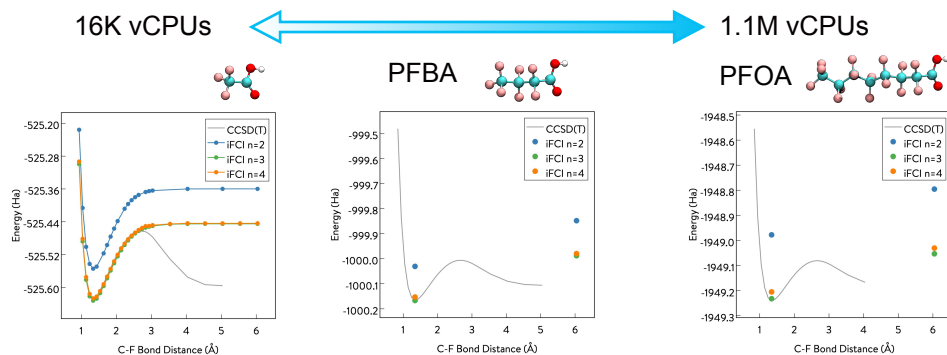


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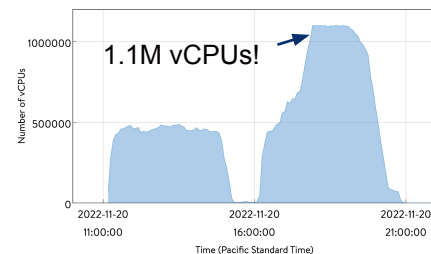
Results

Record-breaking one million core simulation of PFAS chemistry

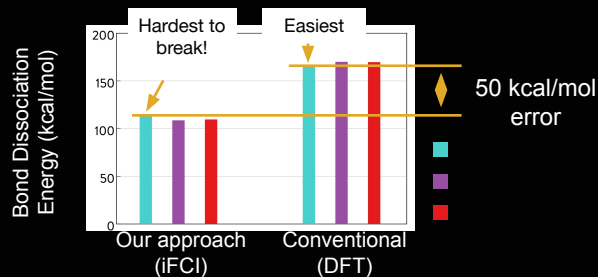
First quantum chemistry calculation using more than one million vCPUs on the cloud.



Scaling of QEMIST Cloud during the PFOA run

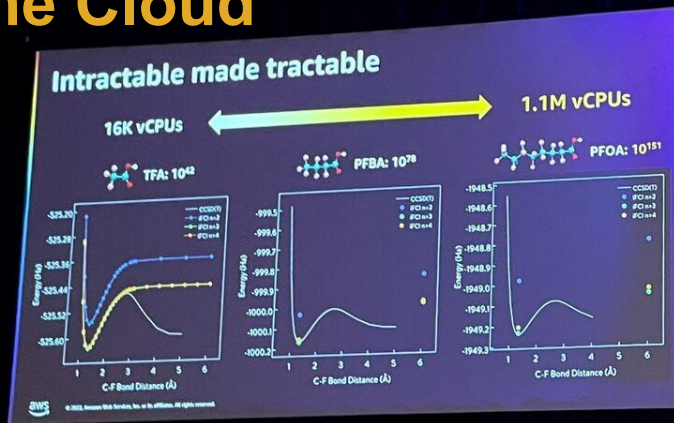


Most accurate quantum chemistry calculation of PFAS bond-breaking energy to date



Uncovered the bond breaking behaviour that differs quantitatively and qualitatively from the conventional methods.

One Million Core Simulation of Forever Chemicals (PFAS) on the Cloud



Landmark demonstration of cloud-based HPC using Good Chemistry's QEMIST Cloud platform | [Presented at AWS re:Invent 2022 \(Link included\)](#)



A Path to Breaking Up Forever Chemicals

Good Chemistry uses high performance computing in the cloud to accelerate research on removing hazards from the environment



PFAS Related Resources

- [Scientific Manuscript](#)
- [AWS HPC blogpost](#)
- [AWS re:Invent talk](#)
- [HPC Wire article](#)
- [Wired Article](#)



AWS
re:Invent



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Lessons

Technical Challenges & Lessons Learned

- **Kubernetes:**
13 clusters is too much!
Hard to reroute problems
- **Database:**
Connection limitations
Race conditions
Network traffic
- **Data Modelling:**
Static vs Non Static data
Nested JSON is the enemy
- **Services:**
Decoupling needed
- **Error Handling:**
Duplicate logs made monitoring tougher
Handling transient errors using retries
- **Memory issues:**
Problem rerouting
- **Heartbeat:**
Bottleneck when scaling
LIFO vs FIFO
- **“Bursty” Traffic:**
Slow startup time
KEDA descaling



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Future

What's Next?

Lots more work to do!

Multi-Cloud

Features, availability, pricing



Serverless

"Bursty" traffic

Polyglot compute

CPU, GPU, QPU



Data Contracts

Enables for a robust
microservice architecture

Events

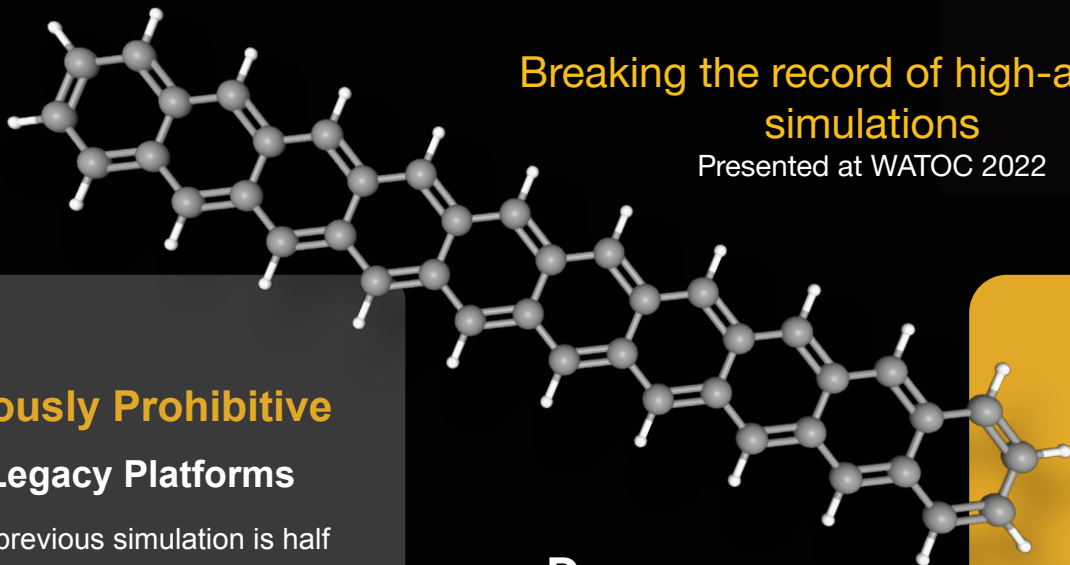
Tell the world I did a thing!



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Success Stories

Largest molecular simulation with near-exact accuracy



Previously Prohibitive

On Legacy Platforms

Largest previous simulation is half the size, exponentially less complex

Decacene

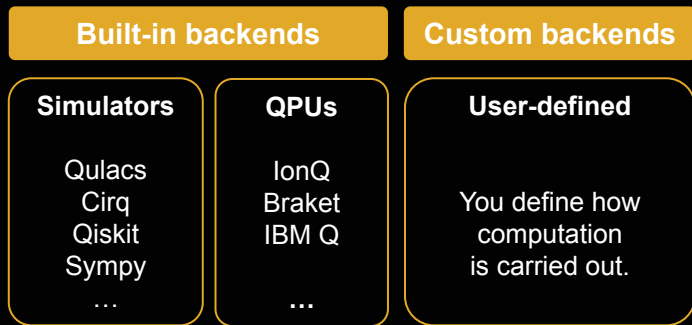
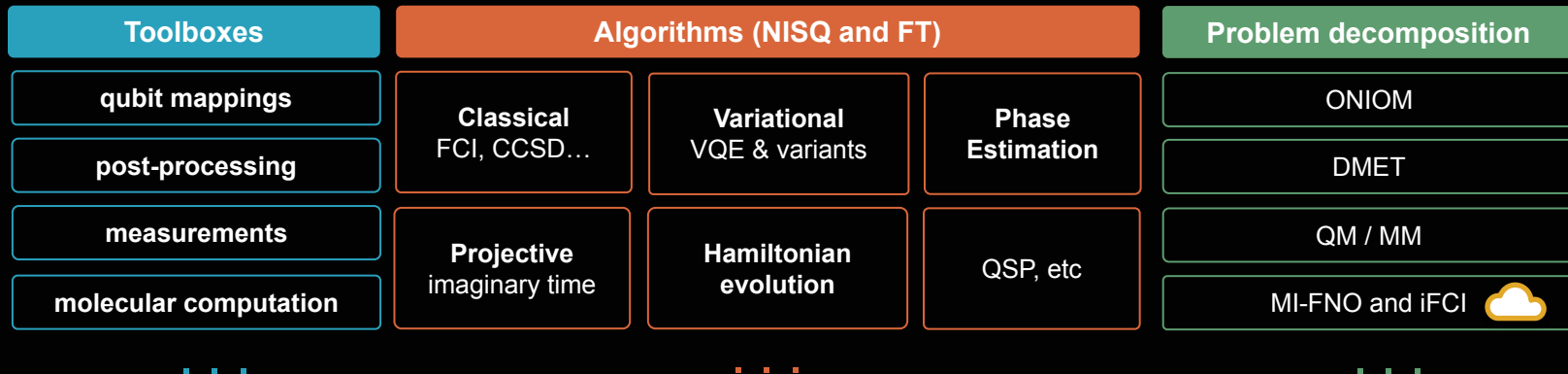


Made Possible on
QEMIST Cloud

Only
11 hours, ~\$2K

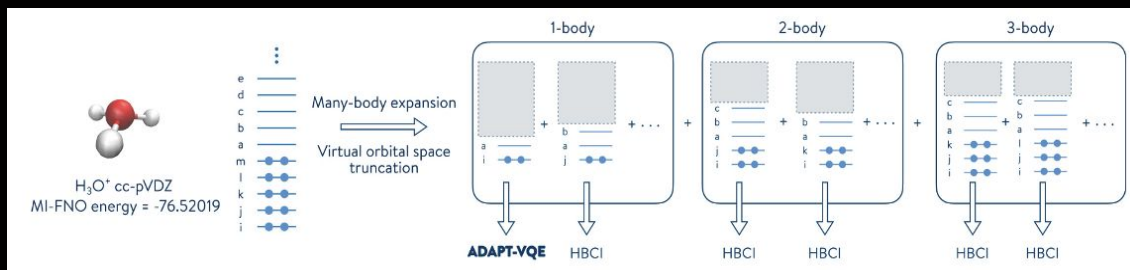
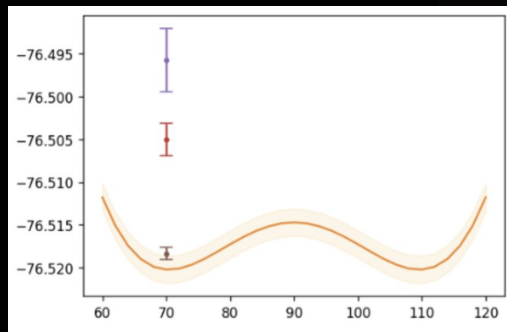
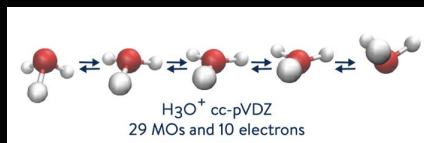
On commodity hardware, enabled by massive on-demand parallelization

Take your chemistry to any quantum platform



Combining QEMIST Cloud, Tangelo and Amazon Braket

- Quantum chemistry with Tangelo and QEMIST Cloud





Alex MacCaw ✓
@maccaw · [Follow](#)



Always worth remembering.



You are here building a SAAS app

10:06 PM · Feb 1, 2024



**We are but a small
piece of the bigger
puzzle...**

Additional Resources

- [SandboxAQ YouTube Channel](#)

Dozens of fascinating videos about AQ

- [Jack Hidary @ Abundance360](#)

Our CEO describes in detail how AQ is changing the way we see the world.



THANK YOU!

- david.walker@sandboxaq.com
- <https://ca.linkedin.com/in/daithi-walker>