

Mass Spectra Prediction and Analysis: Machine Learning and Quantum Computing Perspectives

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ISGC 20205



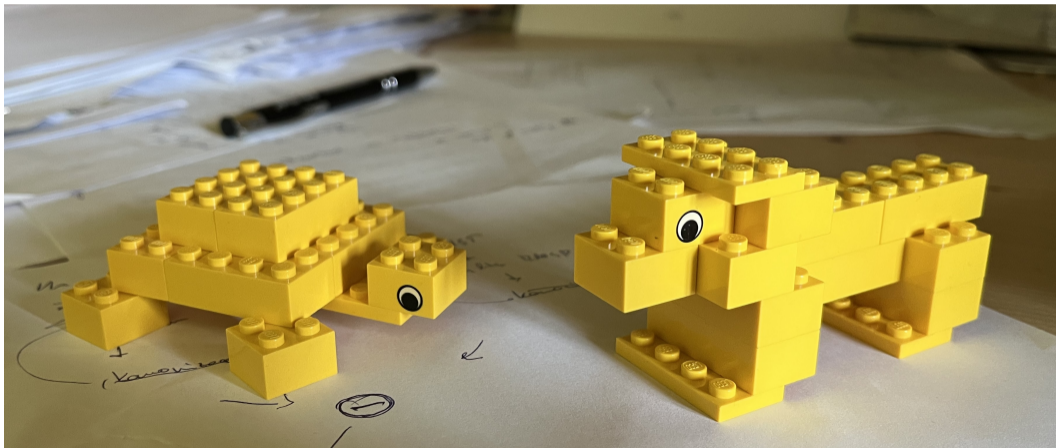
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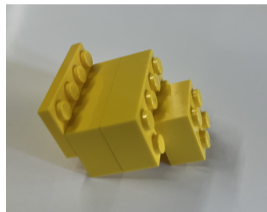
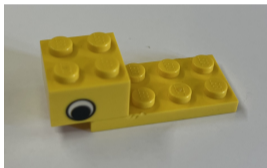
Overview

1. Mass spectrometry brief insights
2. Spectra simulation with quantum computers (targeted analysis)
3. Unknown spectra annotation with LLM-like models (untargeted analysis)

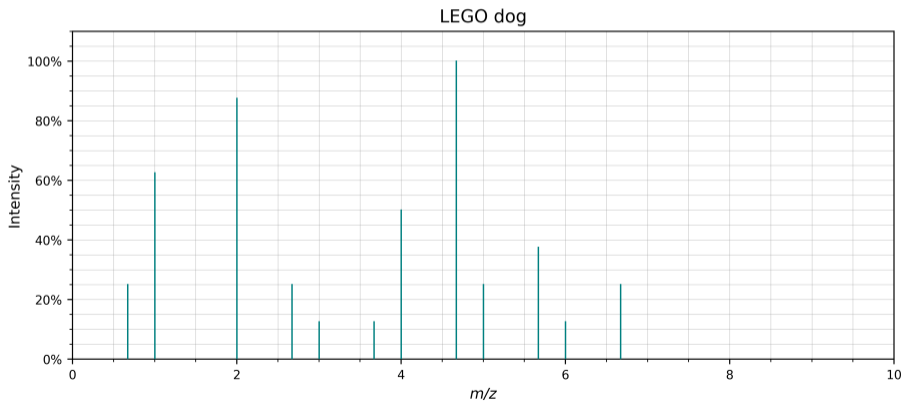
Mass spectrometry LEGO game



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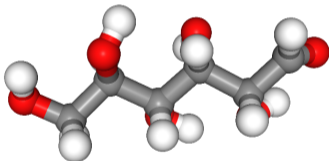


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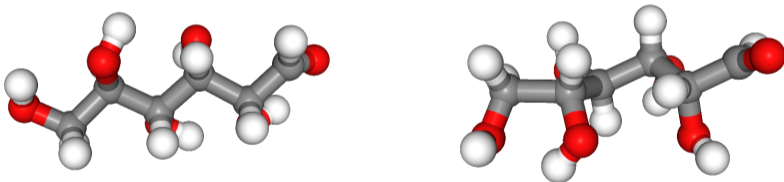
Real example

- Glucose molecule $C_6H_{12}O_6$



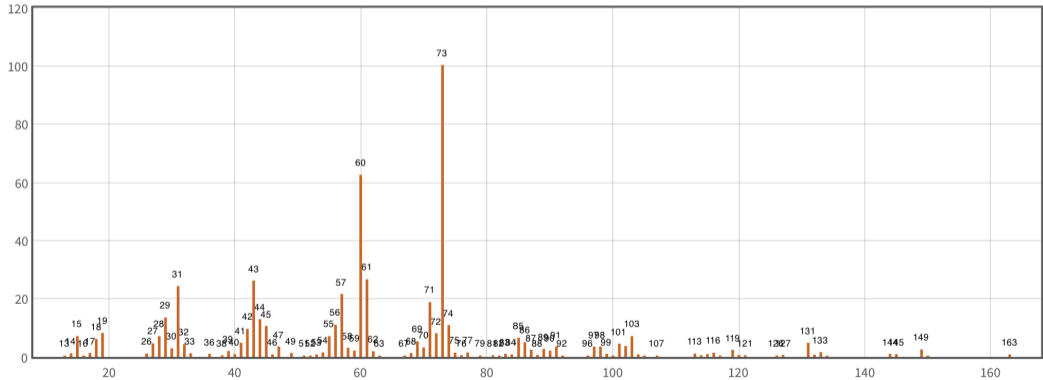
Real example

- Glucose molecule $C_6H_{12}O_6$
- Hit by electron beam of 70 eV (energy between UV and X-ray)



https://www.youtube.com/embed/tEk_asS54Xg?autoplay=1&loop=1&playlist=tEk_asS54Xg

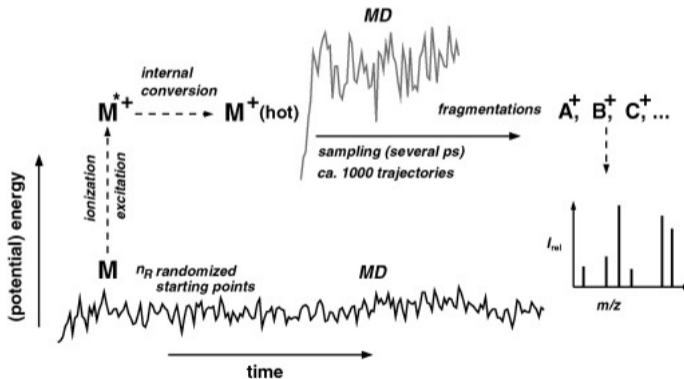
Real example



Targeted analysis

- There are “suspect(s)” to be present in the sample
- Their mass spectra are not known
- Accurate simulation is required

Spectra simulation



QCxMS (<https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.201300158>)

Ab-initio molecular dynamics

- Newtonian physics in a loop

$$x_{i+1} = x_i + v_i dt \quad F = \partial E / \partial x \quad v_{i+1} = v_i + F/m dt$$

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$$\hat{H} \Psi = E \Psi$$

- Only the smallest eigenvalue E_0 (ground state energy) is required
- Write down \hat{H} and just solve the equation ...

O(N!) complexity of classical approaches

- Pauli exclusion for fermions:

$$\Psi(r_1, r_2) = -\Psi(r_2, r_1)$$

yields more complex combinations of per-particle wave functions:

$$\Psi(r_1, r_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{vmatrix} \chi_1(r_1) & \chi_2(r_1) \\ \chi_1(r_2) & \chi_2(r_2) \end{vmatrix}$$

- In general, $N!$ terms for N particles
- 96 electrons in glucose, $96! \doteq 10^{150}$

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- Occupancy number Fock space basis $|n_1, n_2, \dots, n_M\rangle$ (where $n_i = 0$ or 1)
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- Creation \hat{a}^\dagger and annihilation \hat{a} operators map to QC gates
- Hamiltonian in the 2nd quantization form

$$\hat{H} = \sum_{ij} h_{ij} \hat{a}_i^\dagger \hat{a}_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ijkl} h_{ijkl} \hat{a}_i^\dagger \hat{a}_j^\dagger \hat{a}_l \hat{a}_k$$

where h_{ij} and h_{ijkl} can be computed classically

Variational Quantum Eigensolver

- Choose initial parameters θ (classical)
- Prepare trial wavefunction $|\psi(\theta)\rangle$ (quantum)
- Evaluate $E(\theta) = \langle \Psi(\theta) | H | \Psi(\theta) \rangle$ (quantum)
- Change θ slightly and repeat (classical)
- Arriving at $E_0 \approx E(\theta^*)$ eventually

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- Issues with $\partial E/\partial x$ gradients ??
- Still on simulator, reaching quantum hardware is the next step !!

Untargeted analysis

- Acquired data from real-world sample
- No particular idea what the chemicals can be
- Transform the set of spectra to formulae

Database search

- Traditional approach
- Spectral databases built over decades
 - 12k in 1970, ..., 900k in 2023

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- Extended methods to retrieve “something similar”

Machine language translation analogy

- (27.0, 103.91), (28.0, 84.92), (29.0, 120.89), (30.0, 79.93), (31.0, 745.33), (32.0, 86.92), (41.0, 149.86), (42.0, 162.85), (43.0, 572.48), (44.0, 275.75), (45.0, 190.83), (49.0, 75.93), (55.0, 180.84), (56.0, 188.83), (57.0, 945.15), (58.0, 116.89), (60.0, 527.52), (61.0, 366.67), (68.0, 56.95), (69.0, 146.87), (71.0, 226.8), (72.0, 121.89), (73.0, 999.0), (74.0, 140.87), (77.0, 158.86), (85.0, 156.86), (86.0, 211.81), (97.0, 50.95), (101.0, 51.95), (102.0, 61.94), (103.0, 106.9), (113.0, 34.97), (115.0, 27.97), (119.0, 19.98), (126.0, 19.98), (127.0, 21.98), (131.0, 43.96), (132.0, 34.97), (133.0, 35.97), (144.0, 12.99), (145.0, 18.98), (149.0, 23.98), (163.0, 9.99)
- O1[C@H](CO)[C@@H](O)[C@H](O)[C@@H](O)[C@H]1O[C@@]2(O[C@@H]([C@@H](O) [C@@H]2O)CO)CO

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- Good language models can generalize to not-seen-before “sentences”

Naïve approach

- Pick a suitable language model
 - BART encoder-decoder transformer, 354M trainable parameters
- Elaborate on spectra and SMILES tokenization
- Further minor technicalities
 - e.g. use the orthogonal “position” input channel for intensities

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 - cf. extended database search 0% accuracy, 0.45/0.57 similarity

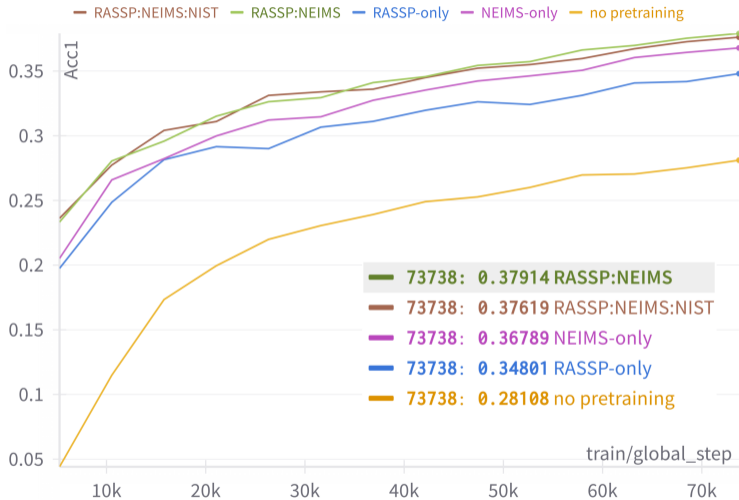
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- Not so bad but starting to overfit
 - cf. 354M parameters vs. 225k training spectra à 100 peaks

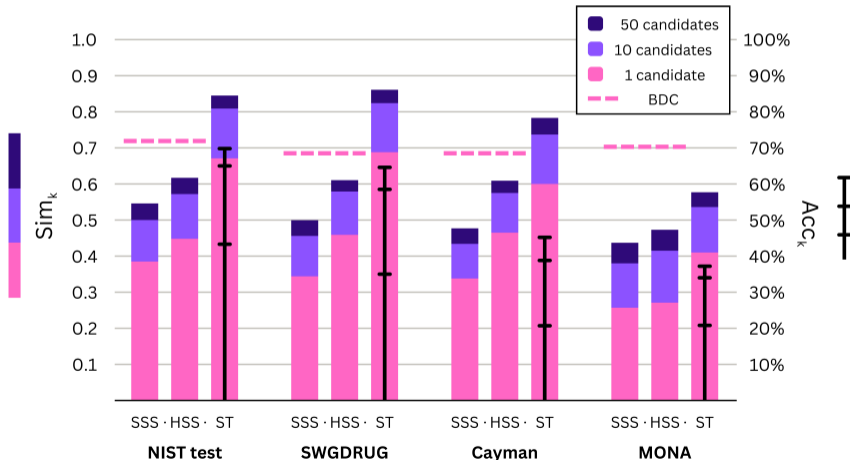
Pretraining with synthetic data

- Large-scale experimental data are not available
- Formula \rightarrow spectrum “translation” is easier
 - several models are available, we pick NEIMS and RASSP
 - use the same training set to avoid information leak
- Harvested 30M random “standard-annotated-druglike” formulae from ZINC
- Filter to 9.5M according to RASSP restrictions
- Generate 2×9.5 spectra to pretrain the main model

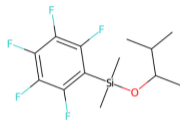
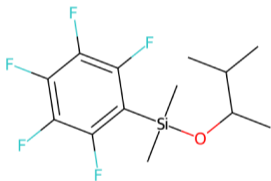
Experiment: Pretraining dataset mixing



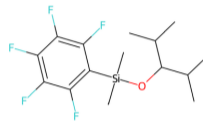
Main results



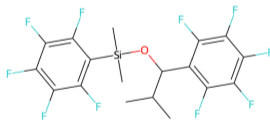
Prediction example



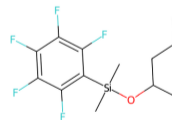
1.0



0.72



0.62



0.55

Availability

- Preprint <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2502.05114>
- Blog <https://blog.cerit.io/blog/spectus/>
- Demo Binder notebook <https://github.com/ljocha/spectus-demo>

Summary

- Mass spectra prediction/analysis seen from two perspectives
- Accurate spectra prediction of non-toy molecules
 - (nearly) unfeasible with classical computing
 - quantum computers could go further
- Identification of unknown spectra
 - gap between database sizes and chemical space
 - LLM-based models are promising
 - superior accuracy over previous models