Reverse engineering metadata for the Materials Project

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What is Materials Project



- Free and open source database of computed materials properties
- Applications to explore data set in "material science" means
- Design computational workflows based on experimental ground truth
- Focus on property diversity over number of structures
- All the software bells and whistles that go with a large web data project

The good old days



What is metadata?

A set of data that describes and gives information about other data.



What is metadata?



Some metadata are constructed implicitly



Some metadata are constructed explicitly



How do you determine the intent of a calculation?

- The purpose of the workflow
- The purpose of the database it was in
- The purpose of the computer it ran on

Why not determine the intent as the need arises?



Metadata is technical debt



Decoupling metadata makes it declarative





Declarative metadata gives us connectivity



Reverse Engineering Provenance



Define process metadata in one spot

Equivalent Structures



Define process metadata in one spot

Equivalent Structures



Codify human processes



Can we generalize this to more than computation?

Propnet – Connecting Materials Models



Too many models, now what?



Metadata lets us augment properties





Reverse engineering metadata for experiments



Questions?