

# East African Institute for Fundamental Research (EAIFR)



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



ICTP - East African Institute  
for Fundamental Research  
under the auspices of UNESCO

**Republic of Rwanda**



**Ministry of Education**



The Abdus Salam  
**International Centre  
for Theoretical Physics**



*...Research and Discoveries for African Development and Advancement  
(RADADA)*

# Science for African Development and Advancement

Omololu AKIN-OJO



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# Physics for African Development

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# Many Problems in the World

- \* Food security
- \* Defense
- \* Health
- \* Education
- \* Energy
- \* Clean Water
- \* Mechanization/Automation
- \* Etc



**Pick Some and Tackle them**

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# Addressing Problems [in Africa]

## Tackling Cancer by “Delivering CISPLATIN”

Cases

17 million



New cases of cancer  
worldwide, 2018

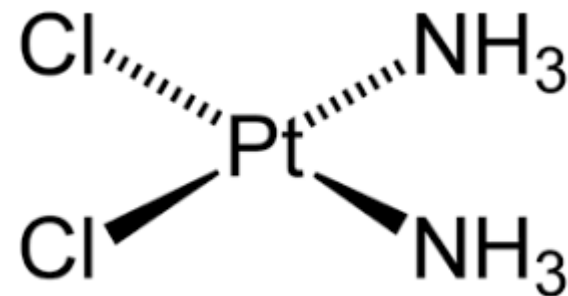
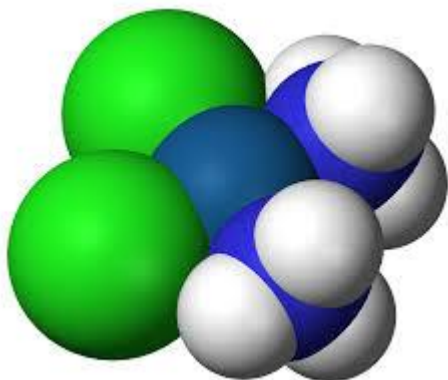
Deaths

9.6 million



Deaths from cancer  
worldwide, 2018

<https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/worldwide-cancer>



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# Addressing Problems [in Africa]

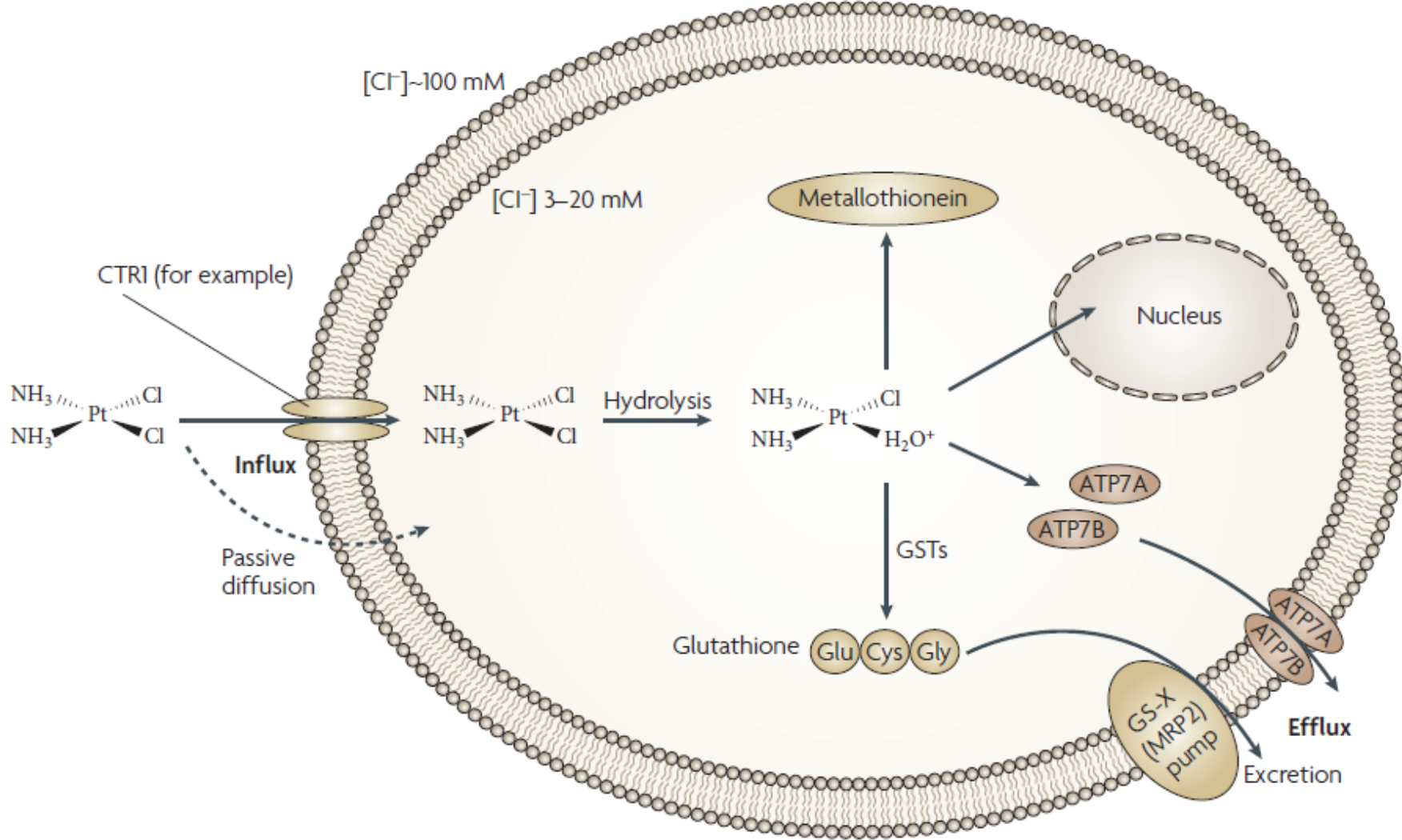


Figure 1 | Tumour resistance to cisplatin and carboplatin mediated by inadequate levels of platinum reaching target DNA. Platinum might enter cells using either transporters — a significant one being the copper transporter CTR1

(Image from: Nature Reviews Cancer: L. Kelland (2007))

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# Addressing Problems [in Africa]

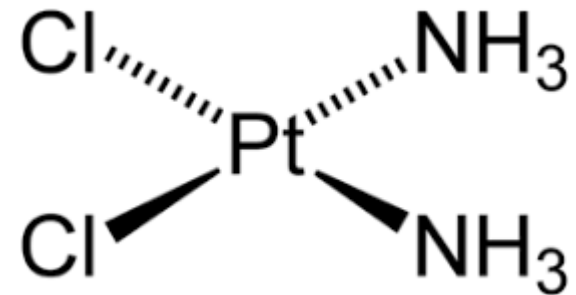
Tackling Cancer by “Delivering CISPLATIN”

MOLECULAR DYNAMICS SIMULATION OF TRANSPORT OF  
ENCAPSULATED DRUG THROUGH A LIPID BILAYER

MASTERS DEGREE IN THEORETICAL PHYSICS

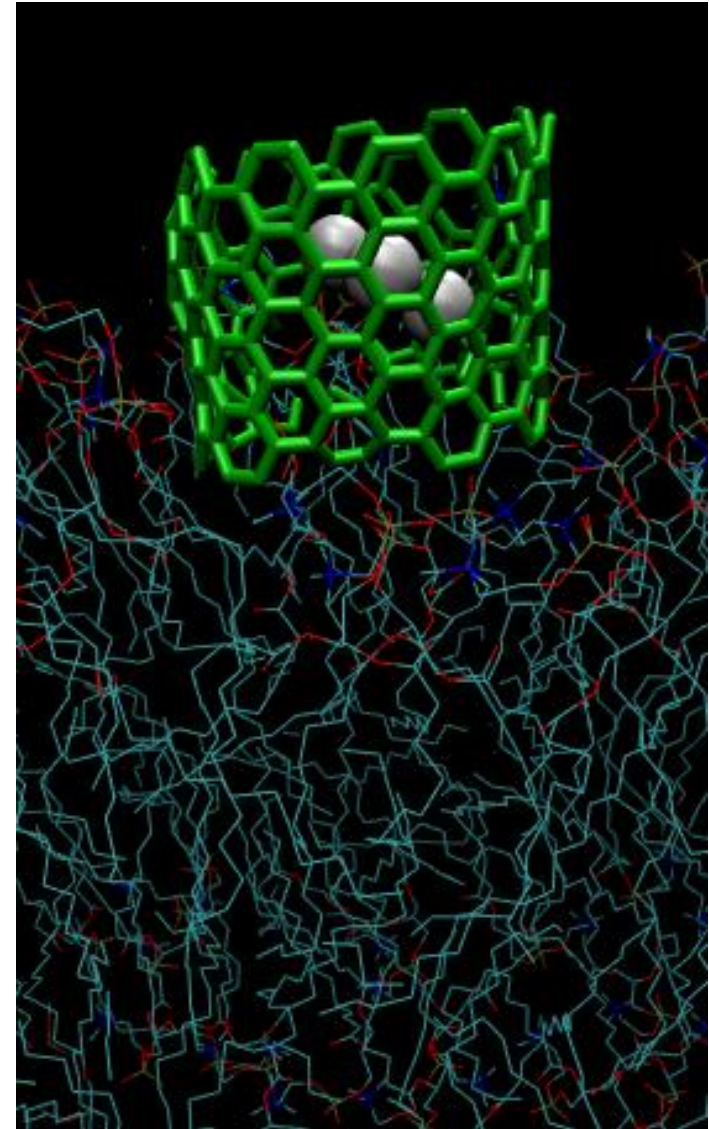
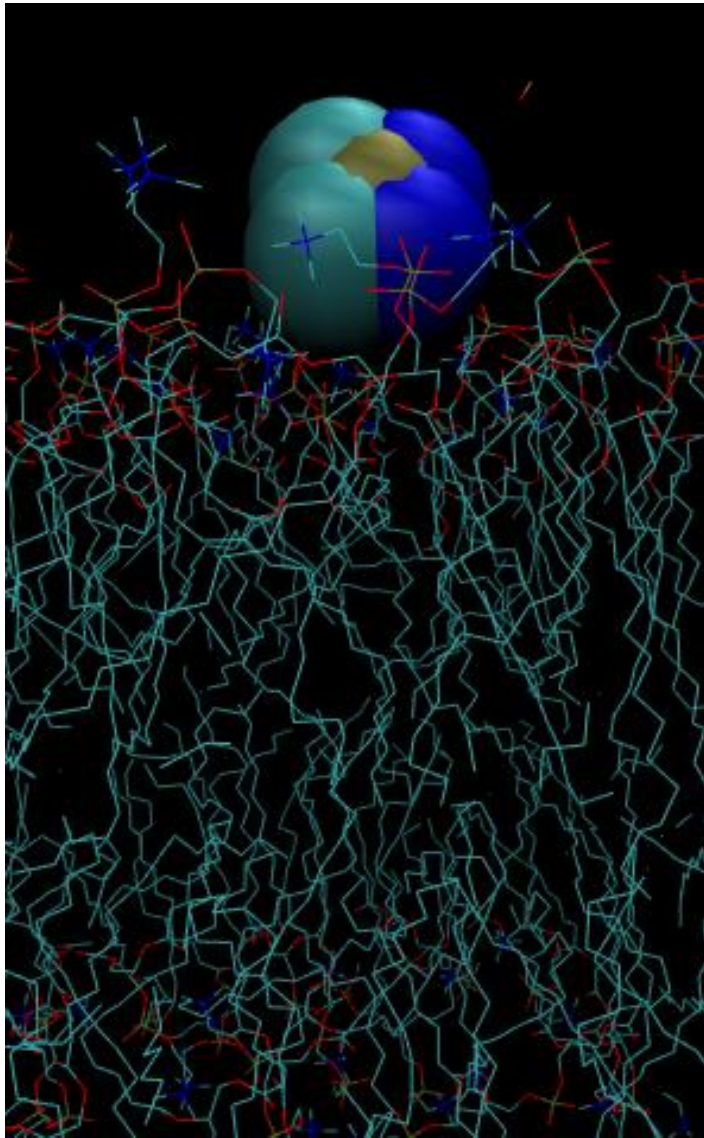
By

Ibrahim Buba Garba



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# Addressing Problems [in Africa]



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# Molecular Dynamics (MD) simulations

$$\vec{F} = m\vec{a} \qquad m\vec{a} = \vec{F}$$

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = -\nabla E$$

$$m_i \frac{d^2 \vec{r}_i}{dt^2} = -\nabla_i E(\vec{r}_1, \dots, \vec{r}_N)$$

$$m_1 \frac{d^2 x_1}{dt^2} = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial x_1}$$

$$m_N \frac{d^2 x_N}{dt^2} = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial x_N}$$

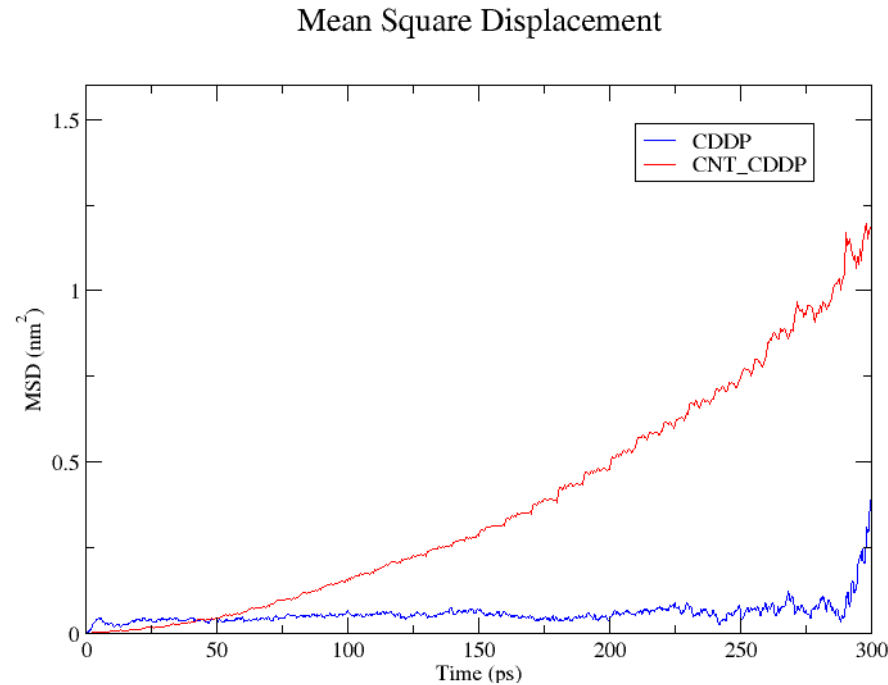
$$m_1 \frac{d^2 y_1}{dt^2} = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial y_1}$$

$$m_N \frac{d^2 y_N}{dt^2} = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial y_N}$$

$$m_1 \frac{d^2 z_1}{dt^2} = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial z_1}$$

$$m_N \frac{d^2 z_N}{dt^2} = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial z_N}$$

# Addressing Problems [in Africa]

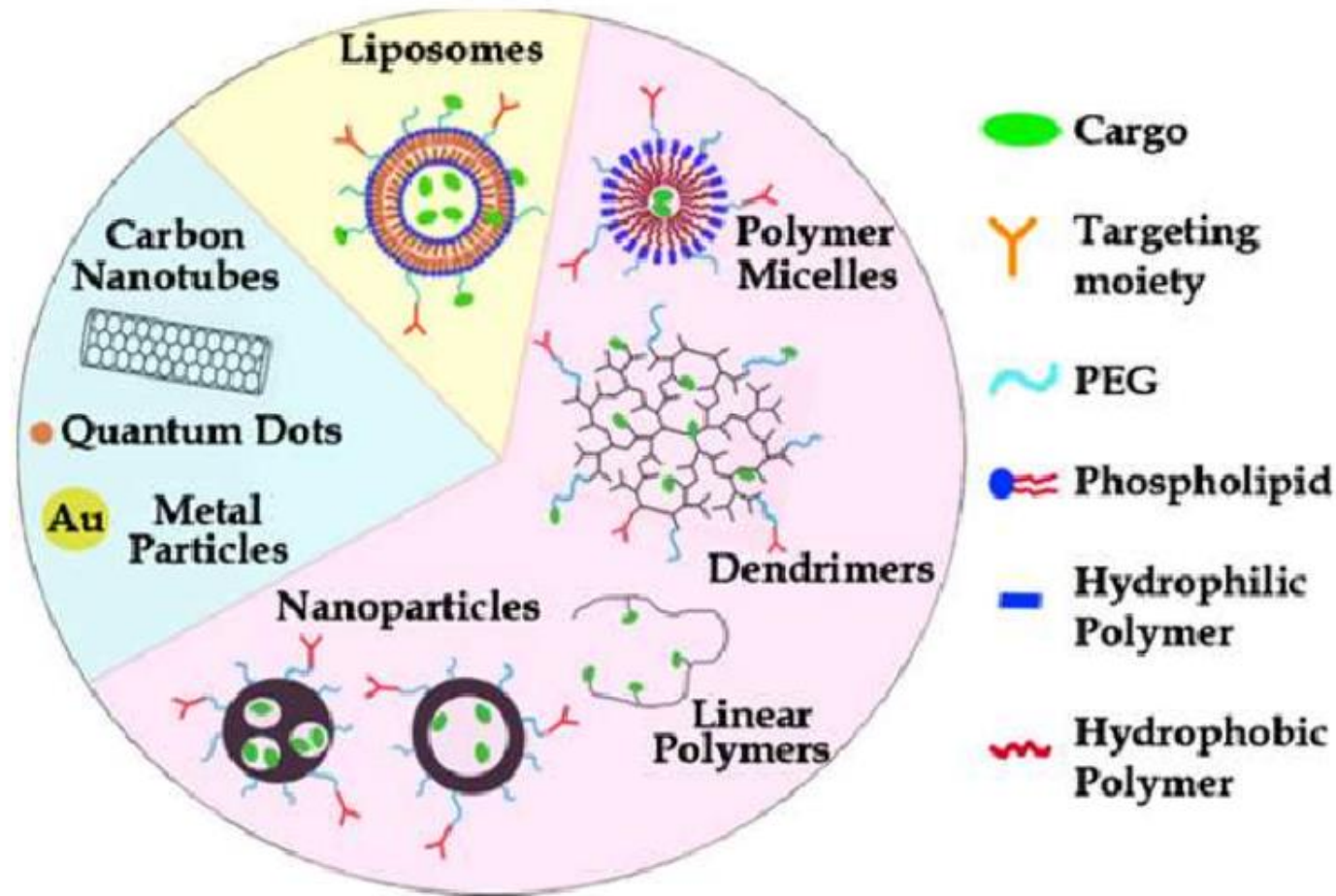


$$D_A = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2td} \langle |\mathbf{r}_i(t) - \mathbf{r}_i(0)|^2 \rangle_{i \in A}$$

System	$D_s (10^{-5} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1})$	Error Estimate
CDDP	0.2196	0.2591
CNT-CDDP	0.6149	0.1336

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# Nanotech for Drug Delivery. Cancer.



Hsu, Janet and S. Muro. "Nanomedicine and Drug Delivery Strategies for Treatment of Genetic Diseases." (2011).

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# Nanotech for Drug Delivery. Cancer.

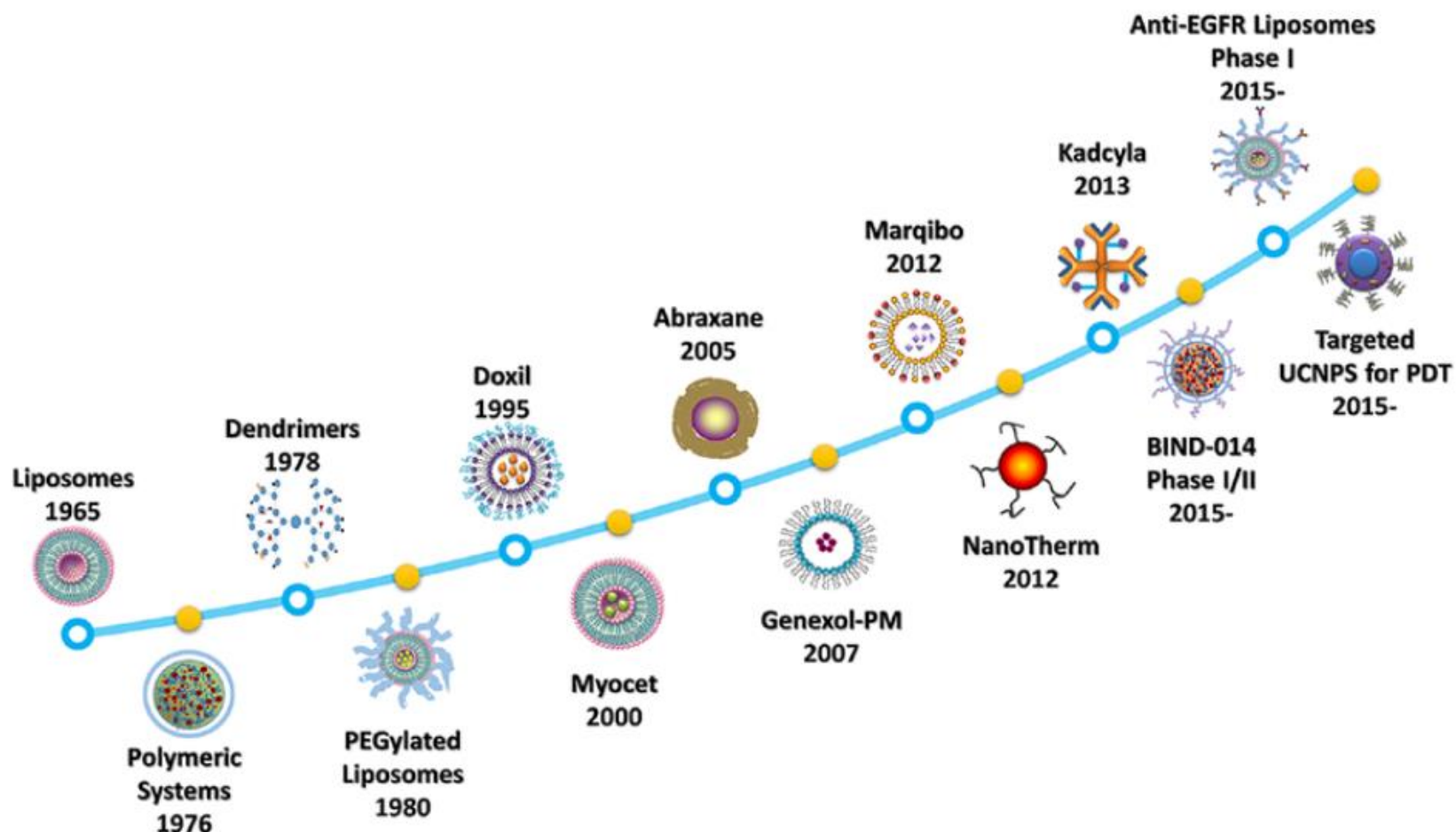
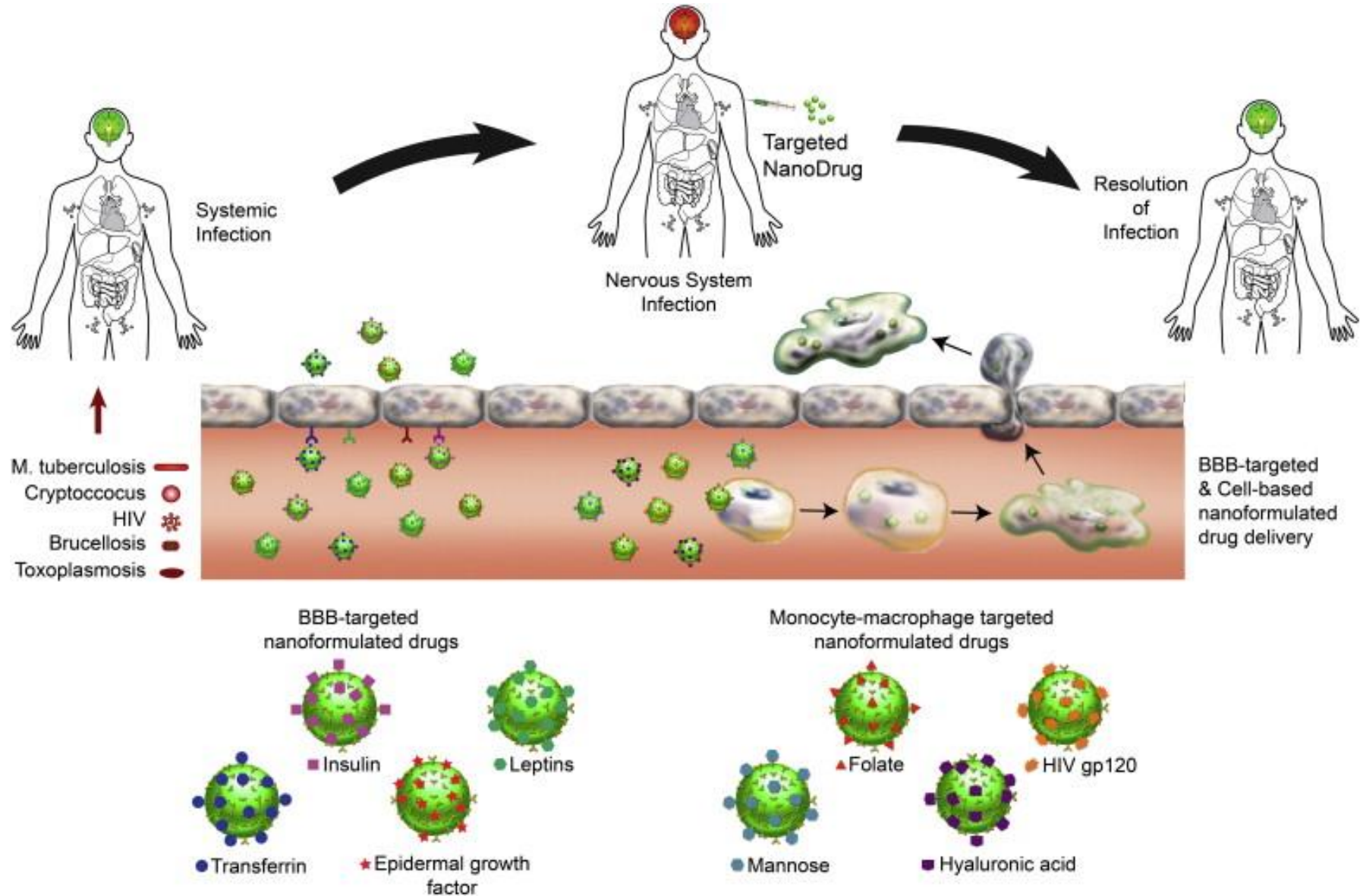


Figure 1. Timeline of the development of nanomedicines. Liposomes (5), polymeric systems (151), dendrimers (152), and PEGylated liposomes (153) were developed as nanodrug carriers in the early phase of discovery (before 1995). Doxil (doxorubicin) was the first FDA-approved liposome for use in cancer (154).





# Nanotech for Drug Delivery. IDs.



Gendelman HE, et al, Nanoneuromedicines for degenerative, inflammatory, and infectious nervous system diseases. *Nanomedicine*:

NBM 2015;11:751-767, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.nano.2014.12.014>

# Addressing Problems [in Africa]

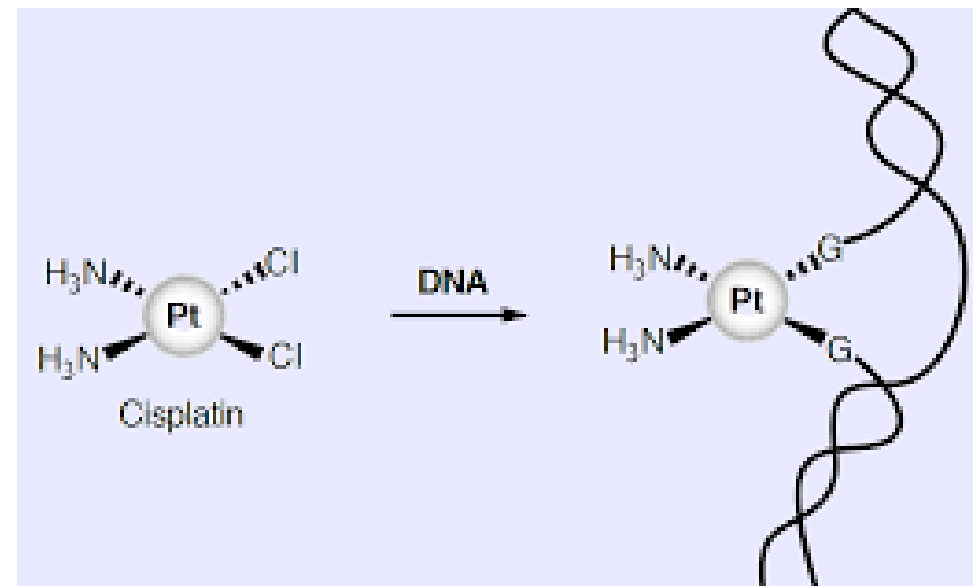
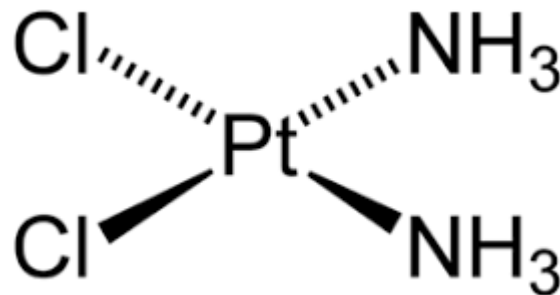
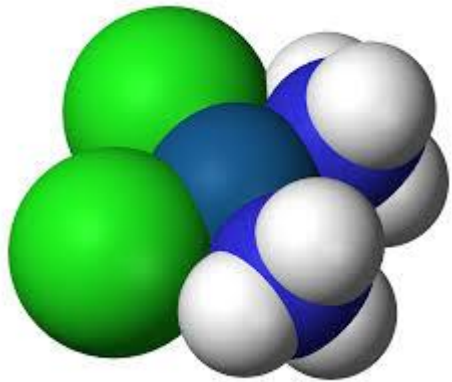
## Molecular Dynamics Simulations of the Interaction of Cisplatin with DNA, RNA and Proteins

Adebayo Oluseun ADENIYI<sup>1</sup>, Omololu AKIN-OJO<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Department of Theoretical and Applied Physics, African University of Science and Technology, Abuja, Nigeria*

<sup>2</sup> *East African Institute for Fundamental Research, Rwanda*

“CISPLATIN”



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# Many Problems in the World

- \* **Food security**
- \* **Defense**
- \* **Health**
- \* **Education**
- \* **Energy**
- \* **Clean Water**
- \* **Mechanization/Automation**
- \* **Etc**

**Pick Some and Tackle them**



# Addressing Problems in Africa (Hydrogen gas → Cooking Fuel?)



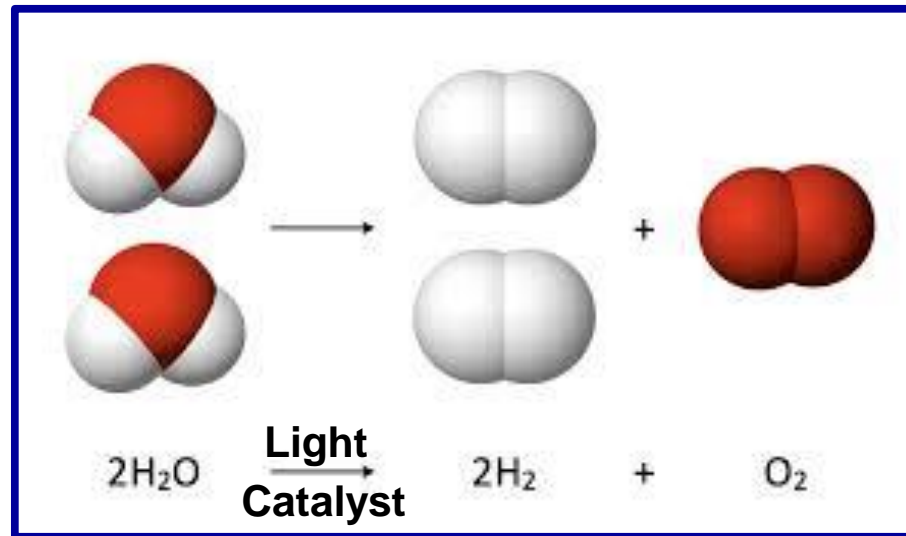
## Cooking with biomass

- \* 3B people worldwide
- \* > 3.8 m deaths yearly – health related problems
- \* Robs girls of school time
- \* Potential solution: Clean Hydrogen from Water

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# Addressing Problems in Africa (Hydrogen: Water Splitting)



**Design Cheap Catalysts!  
Solve Energy [and Water] Problems!**

*...Research and Discoveries for African Development and Advancement*



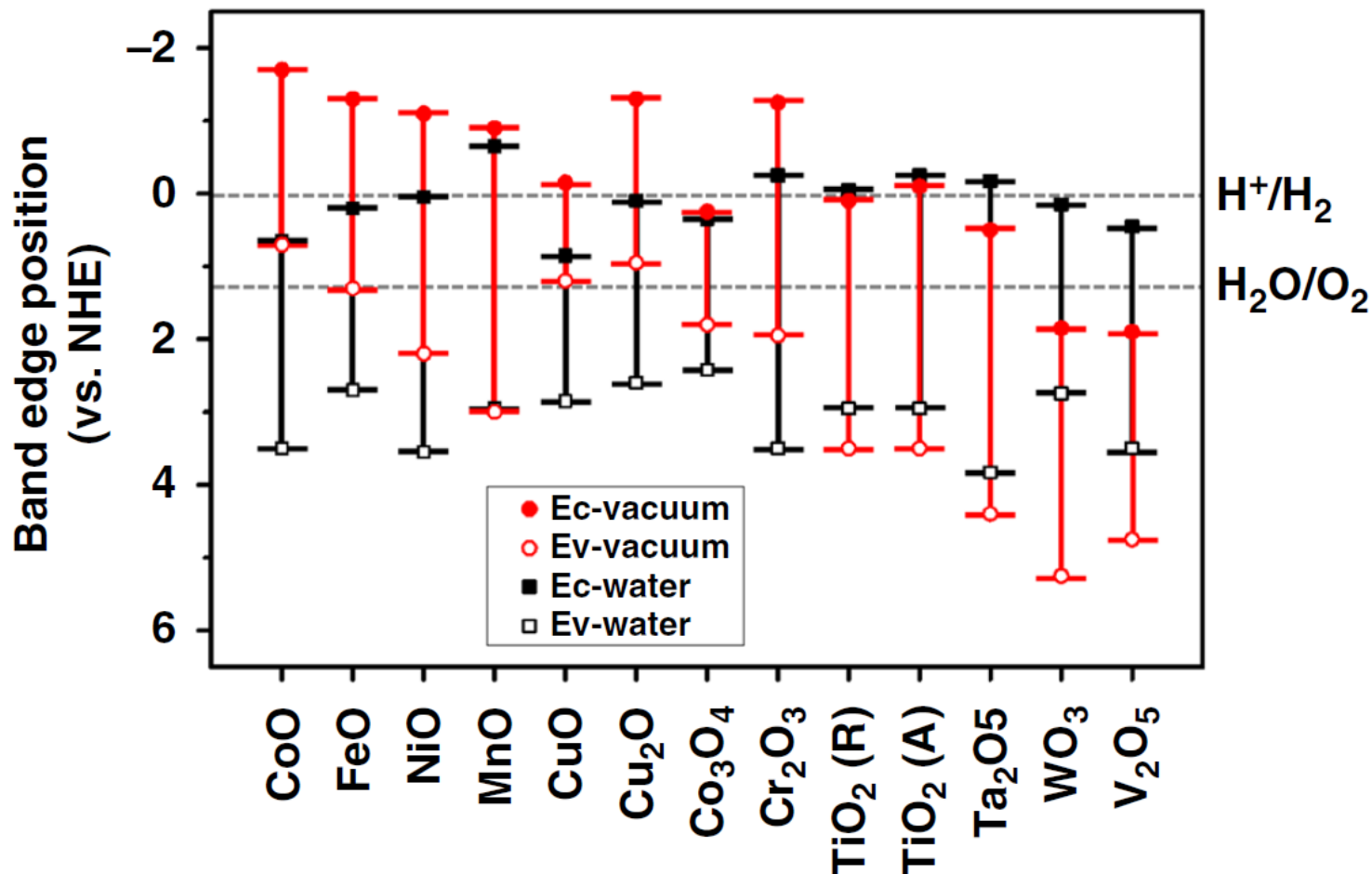
# Addressing Problems in Africa

## (Water Splitting: Design Catalyst)

1. From Data Base Choose Direct Band Gap Materials with  $1.23 < \text{BG} < 1.8 - 2.2 \text{ eV}$
2. Use Empirical Model(s) or Machine Learning to Determine Absolute Band Edge Positions of Catalysts in Water
3. Corrosion Effects?
4. STH Efficiency =?

*E.g., See the paper by Dabo et. al.:*  
***Energy Environ. Sci.***, 2021, **14**, 2335-2348

# Addressing Problems in Africa (Hydrogen: Water Splitting)



Park, KW., Kolpak, A.M. Optimal methodology for explicit solvation prediction of band edges of transition metal oxide photocatalysts. *Commun Chem* **2**, 79 (2019).  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/s42004-019-0179-3>

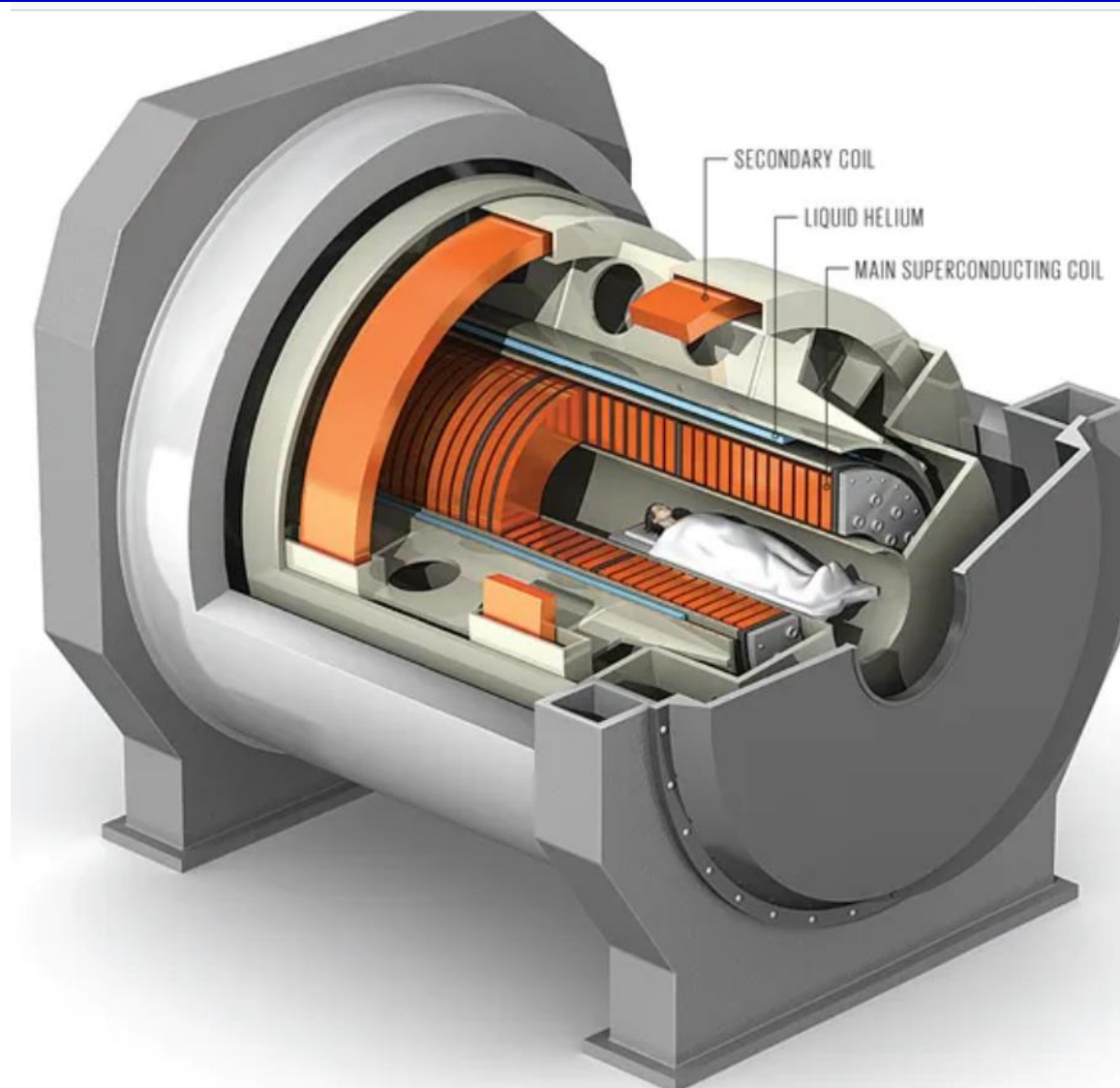
# Many Problems in the World

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- \* **Etc**

**Pick Some and Tackle them**



# Addressing Problems [in Africa] (Room Temp Superconductors for MRI)



<https://spectrum.ieee.org/the-worlds-most-powerful-mri-takes-shape>

Picture Credit: Emily Cooper

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# Addressing Problems [in Africa] (Room Temp Superconductors)

Machine Learning the Superconducting Critical  
Temperatures of Metals

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Omololu AKIN-OJO

ICTP-EAIFR

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# SUPERCONDUCTIVITY

Zero Resistivity (K. Onnes, 1911)

Perfect Diamagnetism (Meissner-Ochsenfeld, 1933)

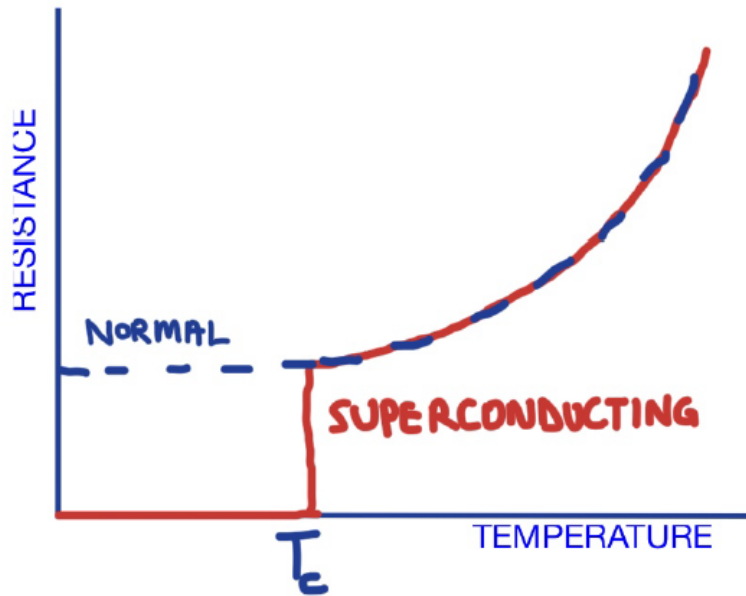


Figure : Zero Resistance

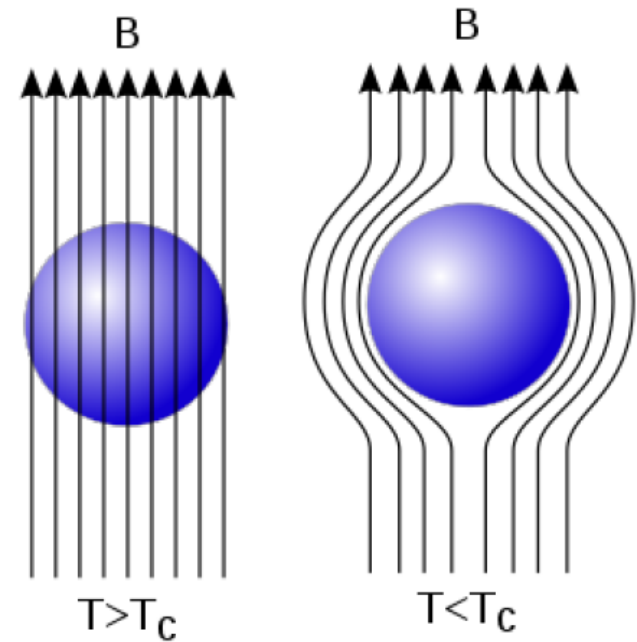


Figure : Perfect Diamagnetism

- Apply **ML to predict**  $T_c$   
( Focus on el-phonon superconductors).
  - Use data from the AFLOW database  
<http://aflow.org/search/thermal-lib.php>.
  - Use data from the SuperCond database.
  
- Apply the best model to **search** for potential new superconductors in the Inorganic Crystallographic Structure Database (**ICSD**).

# A Main Question

Which atomistic **properties/descriptors** make a material superconducting?

$$\text{BCS: } T_c = 1.14\theta_D \exp[-1/\lambda]$$

$$\lambda = 2 \int \alpha^2 F(w) \frac{dw}{w} \simeq N(0) V \quad (1)$$

$$\theta_D = \frac{3nhN_A\rho^{1/3}}{4\pi k_B M} v_m \quad (2)$$

Where:

$F(w) \equiv$  phonon DOS.

$M \equiv$  Atomic weight.

$n \equiv$  Number of atoms per primitive unit cell.

$v_m \equiv$  Averaged wave velocity.  $\rho \equiv$  Mass density So:

- Electronic band structure:  $N(0)$
- Features of phonon spectrum e.g Debye temperature  $\theta_D$ .
- El-phonon coupling constant  $\lambda$ .

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# Methodology

- Targets:
  - $\theta_D$  from **AFLOW** database  $\simeq 5200$ .
  - $N(0)$  from calculated DOS in **AFLOW**  $\simeq 13600$ .
  - $T_c$  for metals ( $N(0) \neq 0$ ) from **SuperCond** database  $\simeq 4000$ .
- Descriptors
  - Obtained from the chemical formula of the compound using (Materials Agnostic Platform for Informatics and Exploration) **MAGPIE**.
- ML Models Used (in Scikitlearn)
  - Linear Regression LR.
  - Ridge Regression RR.
  - Random forest RF.



# Descriptors (from MAGPIE)

$$\theta_D = \theta_D(\text{desc}_1, \text{desc}_2, \dots)$$

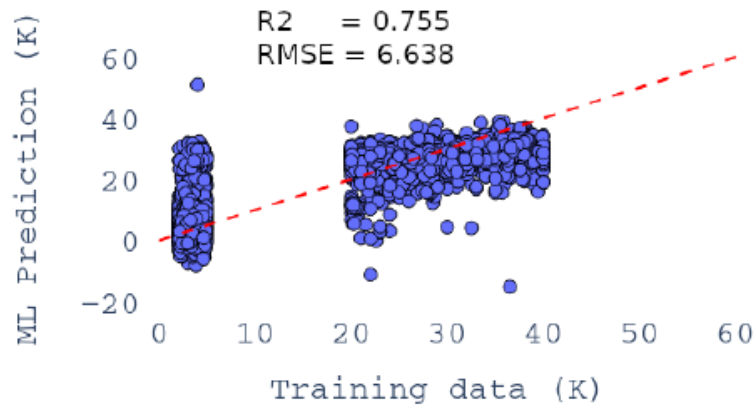
## Chemical Formula

- Min, Max, Mode, Mean, Avg\_Dev, of atomic weights.
- Min, Max, Mode, Mean, Avg\_Dev, of electronegativities.
- Estimated melting temperature.
- $\vdots$
- etc

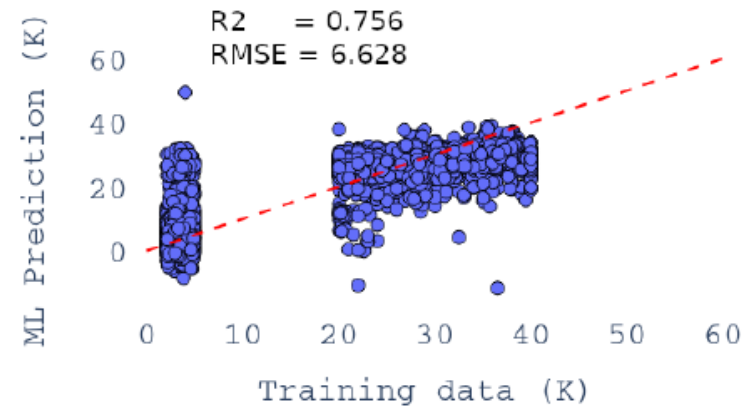
132 descriptors in all.

# Result: Training $T_c$ (with cross-validation)

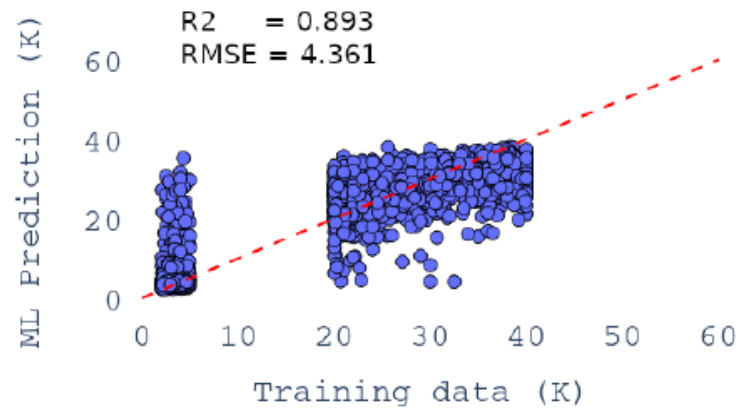
LR with cross-validation



RR with cross-validation



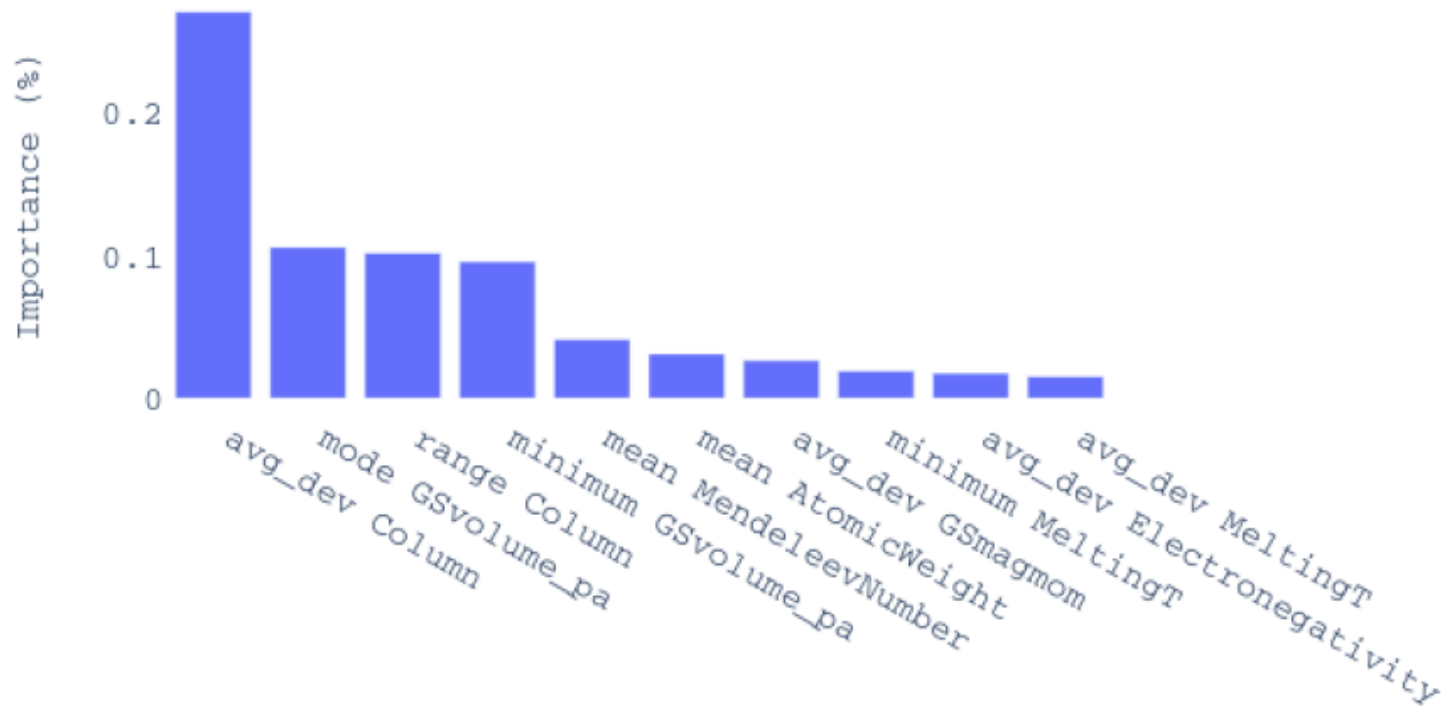
RF with cross-validation



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# Result: The most important features used by RF model for $T_c$

Feature by importances



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Compare the RF prediction of  $T_c$  to the experimental value for top ten compounds.

Training data top ten $T_c$ List		
Compound Name	$T_c$	Predict $T_c$
La <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>0.965</sub> V <sub>0.035</sub> O <sub>4.045</sub>	40	39.564
La <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>0.975</sub> V <sub>0.025</sub> O <sub>4.032</sub>	40	39.366
La <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>0.955</sub> V <sub>0.045</sub> O <sub>4.056</sub>	40	39.197
La <sub>1.98</sub> Sr <sub>0.02</sub> Cu <sub>1</sub> O <sub>4.09</sub>	40	39.074
La <sub>0.5</sub> Y <sub>0.5</sub> Fe <sub>1</sub> As <sub>1</sub> O <sub>0.6</sub>	39.3	38.345
La <sub>1.828</sub> Sr <sub>0.172</sub> Cu <sub>1</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	39.35	38.173
Mg <sub>0.9</sub> Zn <sub>0.1</sub> B <sub>2</sub>	38.4	38.139
Mg <sub>0.996</sub> Cu <sub>0.004</sub> B <sub>2</sub>	38.11	37.918
Y <sub>1</sub> Ba <sub>2</sub> Cu <sub>3.94</sub> Zn <sub>0.06</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	39.6	36.323
Eu <sub>1.3</sub> Ba <sub>1.7</sub> Cu <sub>3</sub> O <sub>7.15</sub>	39.5	36.098

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# Search for potential new superconductors in the Inorganic Crystallographic Structure Database (ICSD)

Based on the experience from previous data:

ICSD top ten $T_c$ List			
Compound Name	$\theta_D$	$N(0)$	$T_c$
B2Mg1	623.464	1.759	38.072
Ba2Cu4O8Y1	193.339	2.053	34.953
Cu1O2Sr1	203.814	1.353	34.527
Ba2Cu3Eu1O7	175.297	3.339	34.514
Cu2Gd1O8Ru1Sr2	182.628	5.058	34.328
Ba6Ca6Cu9O29Tl5	165.822	8.015	34.107
Ba2Cu4Ho1O8	179.893	11.999	33.869
Ba2Cu4Er1O8	181.338	3.493	33.505
Ba2Cu1O5Tl1	144.462	5.354	32.753
Ca1Cu1O2	231.596	1.225	32.629

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