

# Effects of Oxygen Vacancies on the Thermoelasticity of Al-bearing Bridgmanite

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## Introduction

### • Mantle transition zone (MTZ)

A key region to understand mass and heat transport in Earth's mantle



### • Seismic velocity discrepancy

experimental results

↑ discrepancy

seismic observations

temperature effect?  
compositional effect?

### • Bridgmanite

A main mineral of the lower mantle  
Account for high volume ratio (>70%)  
Predicted to have point defects through Al substitution

### • Limitation of previous computational researches

1. Concentration of **point defects** is too high 2. No **OV's** seismic velocity data with thermal effect



Investigating **thermoelasticity with Larger systems** is needed



More **efficient** calculation

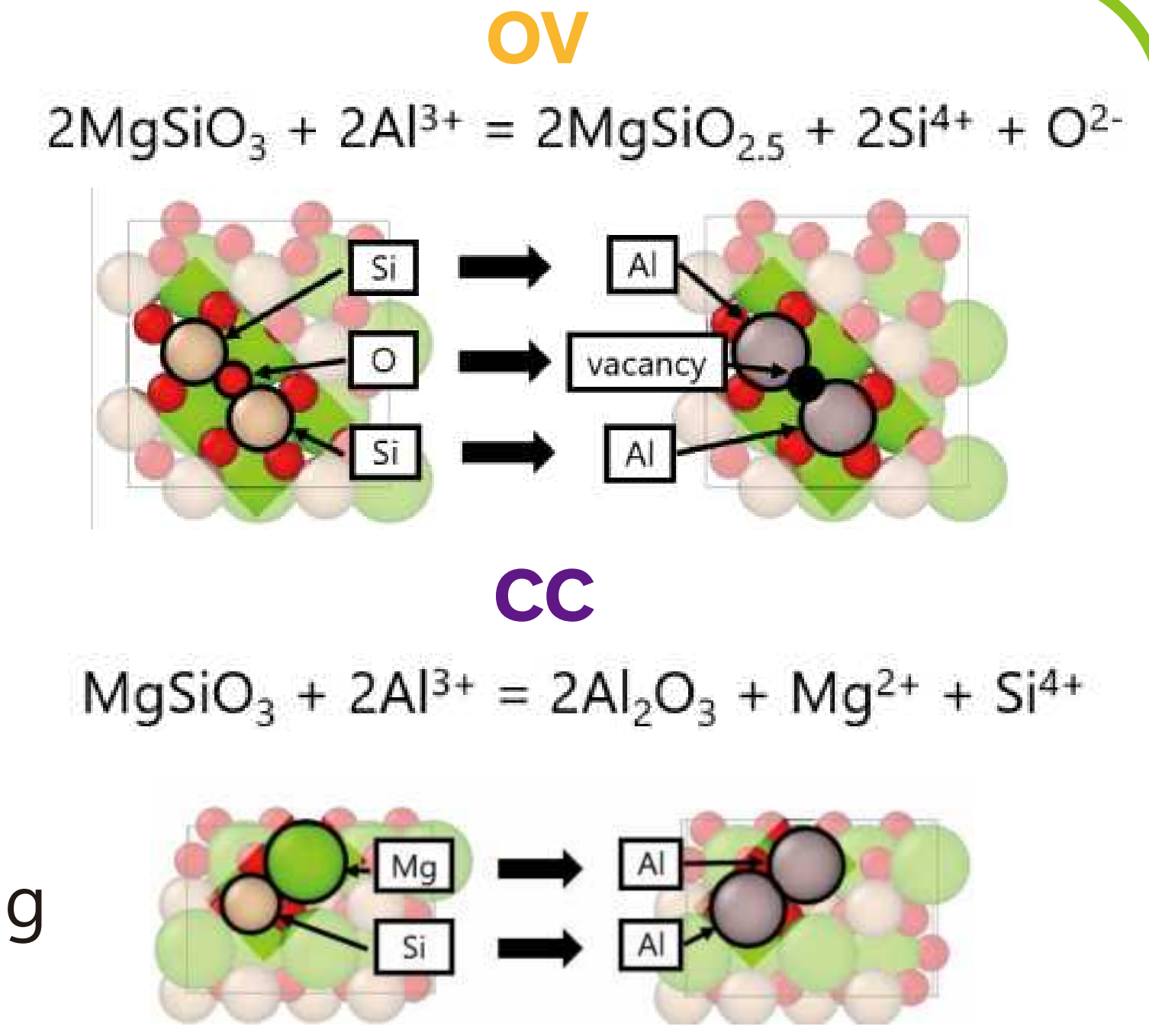
### • Point defects in bridgmanite

**OV** (oxygen vacancy)  
abundant at 700-900 km depth  
**CC** (charge coupling)  
abundant at 900- km depth

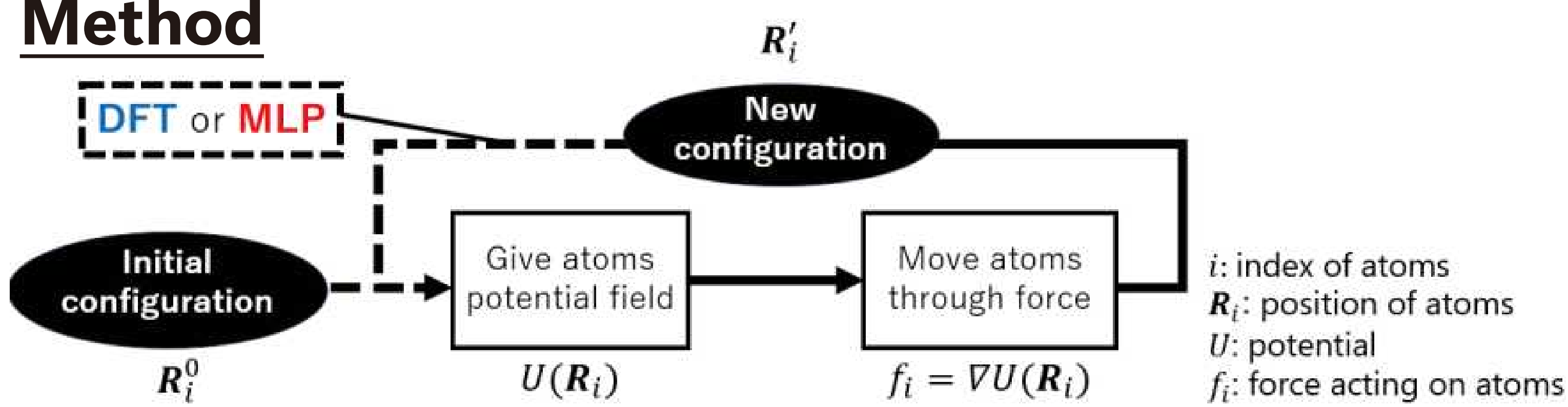
**OV** is predicted to **reduce seismic velocities**

Not quantified

→ **new factor** for considering the discrepancy



## Method

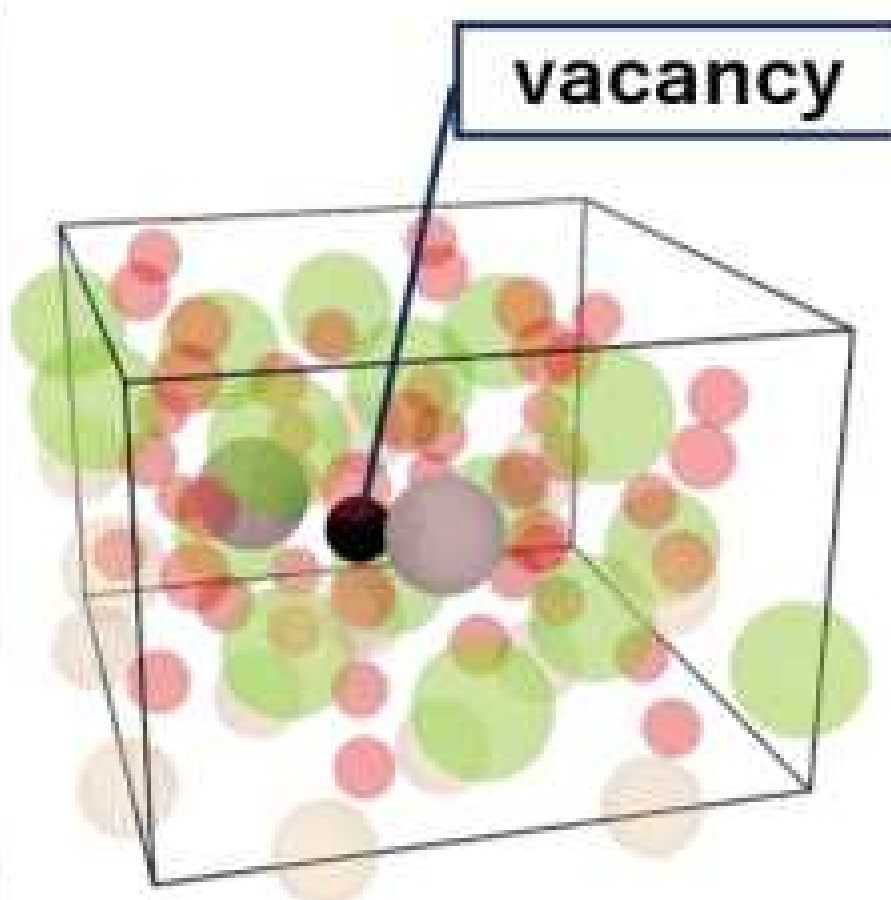


### • MD (molecular dynamics)

Simulation of moving atoms through equation of motion  
Various physical properties with thermal effect are obtained

#### DFTMD data sampling

- System: **OV (79 atoms)**, pure  $\text{MgSiO}_3$  (80 atoms)
- Pressure: 0-50 GPa, Temperature: 300-2000 K
- Software: Quantum ESPRESSO (Giannozzi+, 2009)
- Pseudopotential: PAW, Xc-potential: PBEsol (GGA)
- Wave cutoff: 80 Ry, Rho cutoff: 400 Ry, K-point: 1\*1\*1
- Thermostat: Nosé-Hoover (Nosé, 1984)



**OV (79 atoms)**  
 $14(\text{MgSiO}_3)2(\text{MgAlO}_{2.5})$

#### MLP training

- Pretrained potential : MatterSim-v1.0.0-1M (Yang+, 2024)
- Additional training dataset : DFT data
- Train : Validation : Test = 8:1:1

### DFT

(density functional theory)

- High accuracy
- High computational cost

- structure
- energy
- force
- stress

### MLP

(machine learning potential)

- Generated via DFT data
- High accuracy
- Low computational cost

### • Setting of MLPMD

Pressure : 25, 35, 45 GPa (700-1150 km)  
Temperature : 2000 K

| System (atoms) | Mg Si O Al vacancy |          |          |          |
|----------------|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|
|                | pure(360)          | OV (359) | OV (159) | CC (360) |
| concentration  | 0%                 | 2.78%    | 6.25%    | 2.78%    |

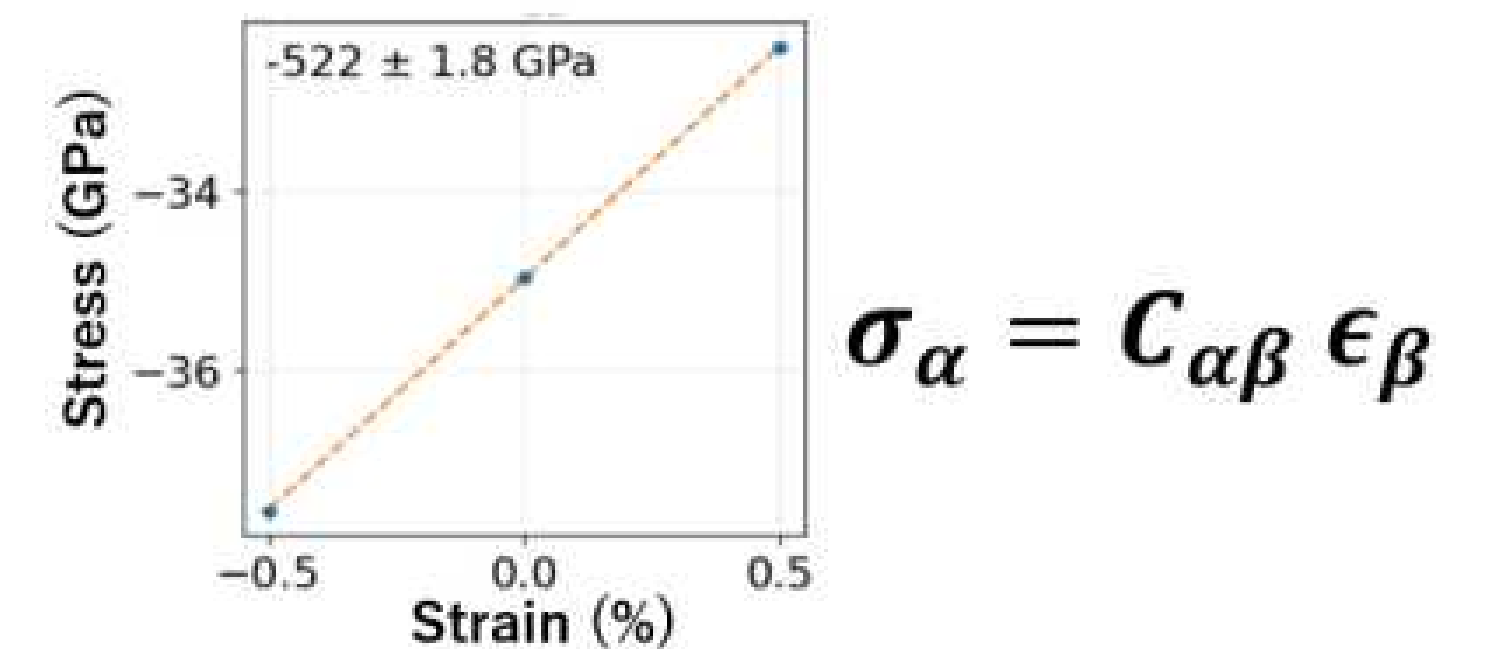
### • Determination of elastic constants

#### First step MD

Determination of stable structure at each (P, T)

#### Second step MD

Estimation of the **stress** of strained and unstrained cells



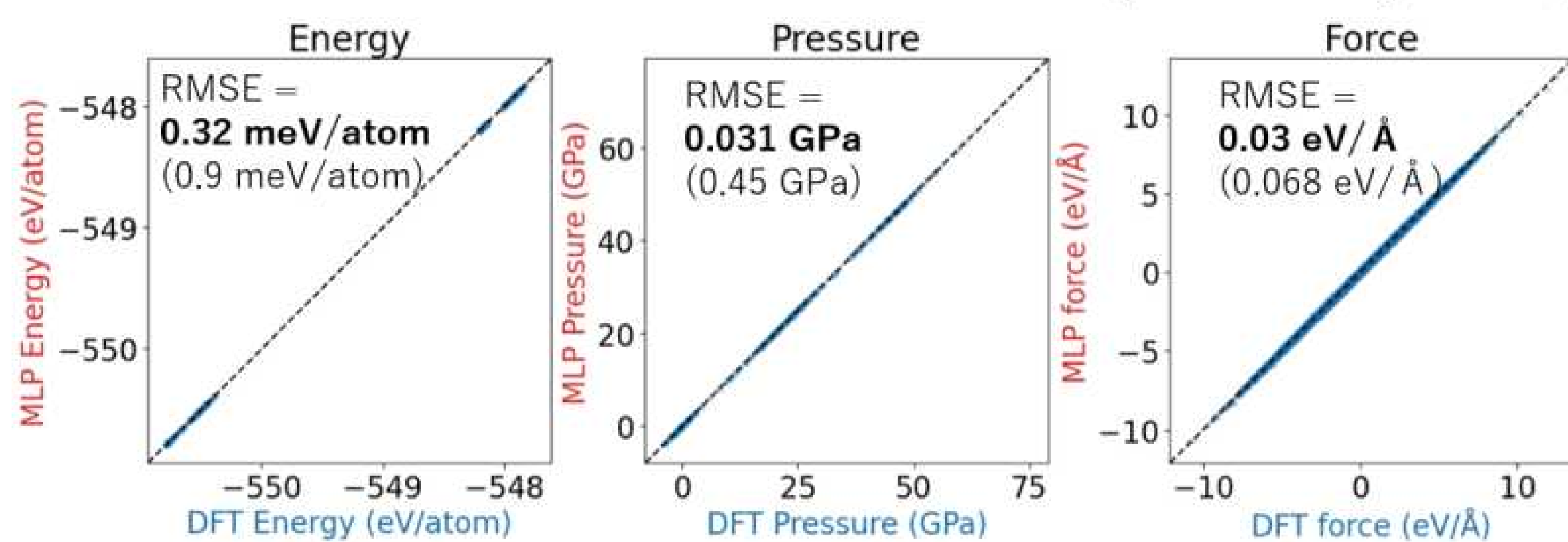
Elastic constants are calculated using **stress** and **strain** from MD

## Results

### • Accuracy of MLP

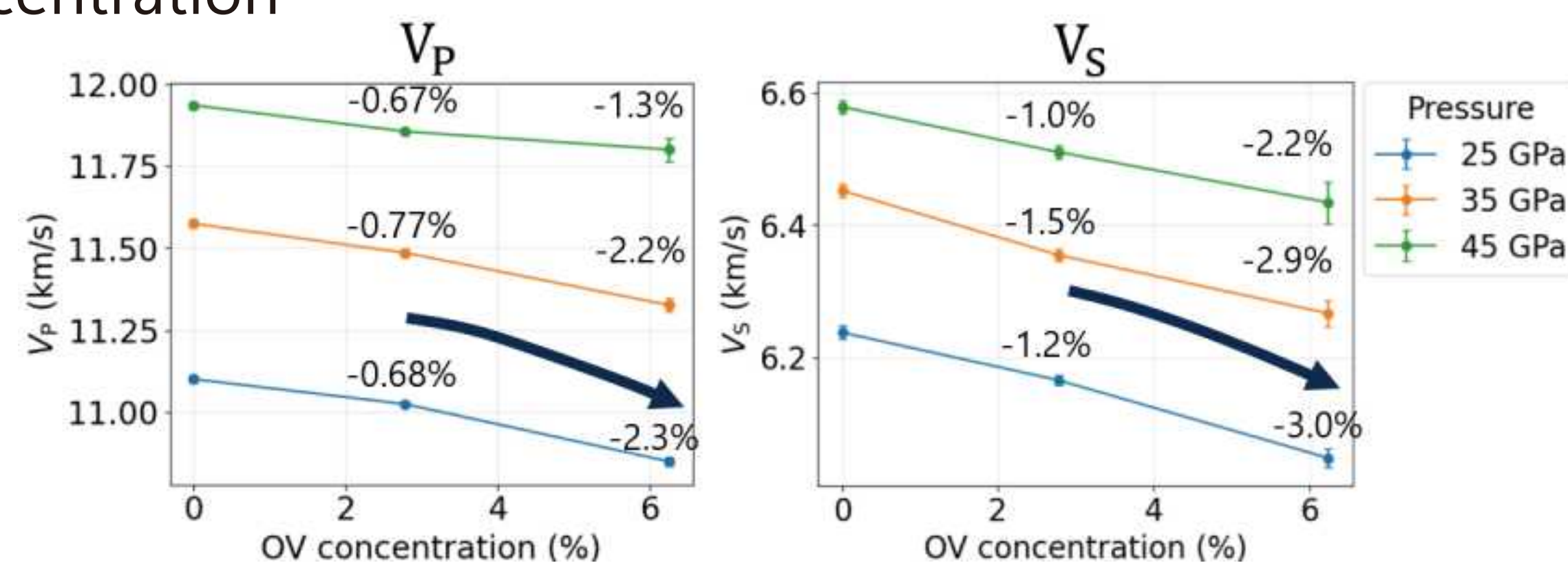
Sufficient to reproduce physical properties

RMSE = **this study**  
(previous study Wan+ (2024))



### • Reduction in seismic velocities

Seismic velocities decrease nonlinearly with increasing **OV** concentration



## Discussion

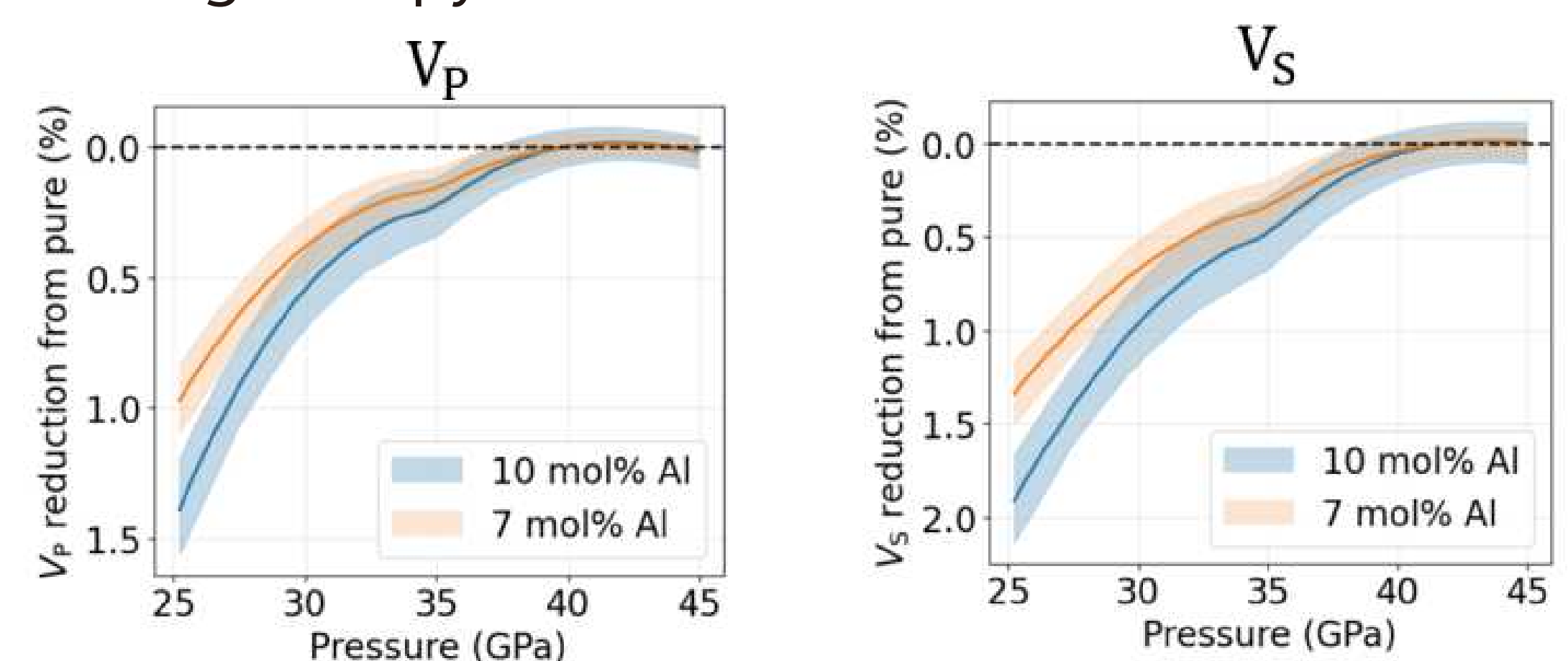
### • Comparison with CC component

|               | OV at 25 GPa, 2000 K | CC at 25 GPa, 2000 K |
|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| concentration | 2.78%                | 2.78%                |
| $V_p$         | $-0.68 \pm 0.12\%$   | $+0.01 \pm 0.16\%$   |
| $V_s$         | $-1.15 \pm 0.19\%$   | $-0.35 \pm 0.25\%$   |

The **OV's** effect on seismic reduction is significant  
**OV** can be dominant factor rather than **CC**

### • The effect of OV on the seismic velocity profile

We use **OV** concentration depth profile of Criniti+ (2024) scaling with pyrolite model



**OV** showed significant reduction of  $V_p$  (0.6-1.0%) and  $V_s$  (1.0-1.5%) at 25-27 GPa

This effect is comparative to thermal and compositional effects.

## Reference

- Criniti, G., Boffa Ballaran, T., Kurnosov, A., Liu, Z., Glazyrin, K., Merlini, M., et al. (2024). Thermal equation of state and structural evolution of Al-bearing bridgmanite. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth*, 129(1), e2023JB026879. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2023JB026879>
- Wan, T., C. Luo, Y. Sun, & R. M. Wentzcovitch (2024). Thermoelastic properties of bridgmanite using deep-potential molecular dynamics. *Physical Review B*, 109, 094101. <https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevB.109.094101>
- Yang, H., C. Hu, Y. Zhou, X. Liu, Y. Shi, J. Li, et al. (2024). MatterSim: A deep learning atomistic model across elements, temperatures and pressures. *arXiv e-prints*, arXiv:2405.04967. <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2405.04967>