

Day 3:  
YALE PATHWAYS TO  
SCIENCE SUMMER  
WORKSHOP 2021

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# Introduction to Materials Science: Hands-on

DESIGN OF NEW MATERIALS USING SUPERCOMPUTERS

# LEARNING GOALS

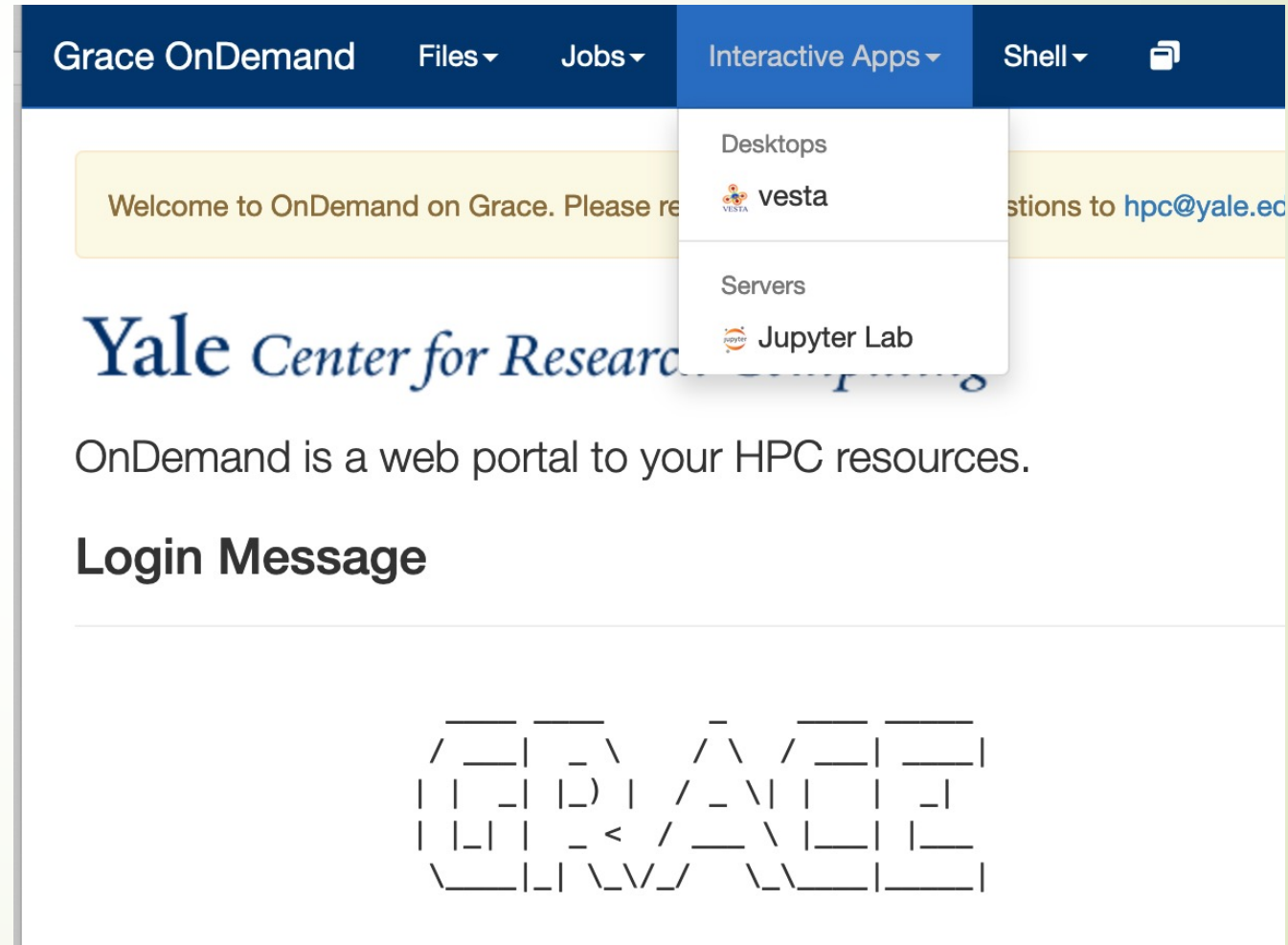
- Use VESTA to load structures of Au, Fe and NaCl
- Measure lattice parameters, nearest-neighbor distances
- Create new structures files that contain defects (vacancies, interstitials, antisites)

# VESTA TO VIEW STRUCTURES

- We will use VESTA to visualize the structures!

Go to:

- <https://pathways.ycrc.yale.edu>
- Click on **vesta** under interactive Apps
- Go to **Day 3** directory inside the **Pathways\_workshop** directory

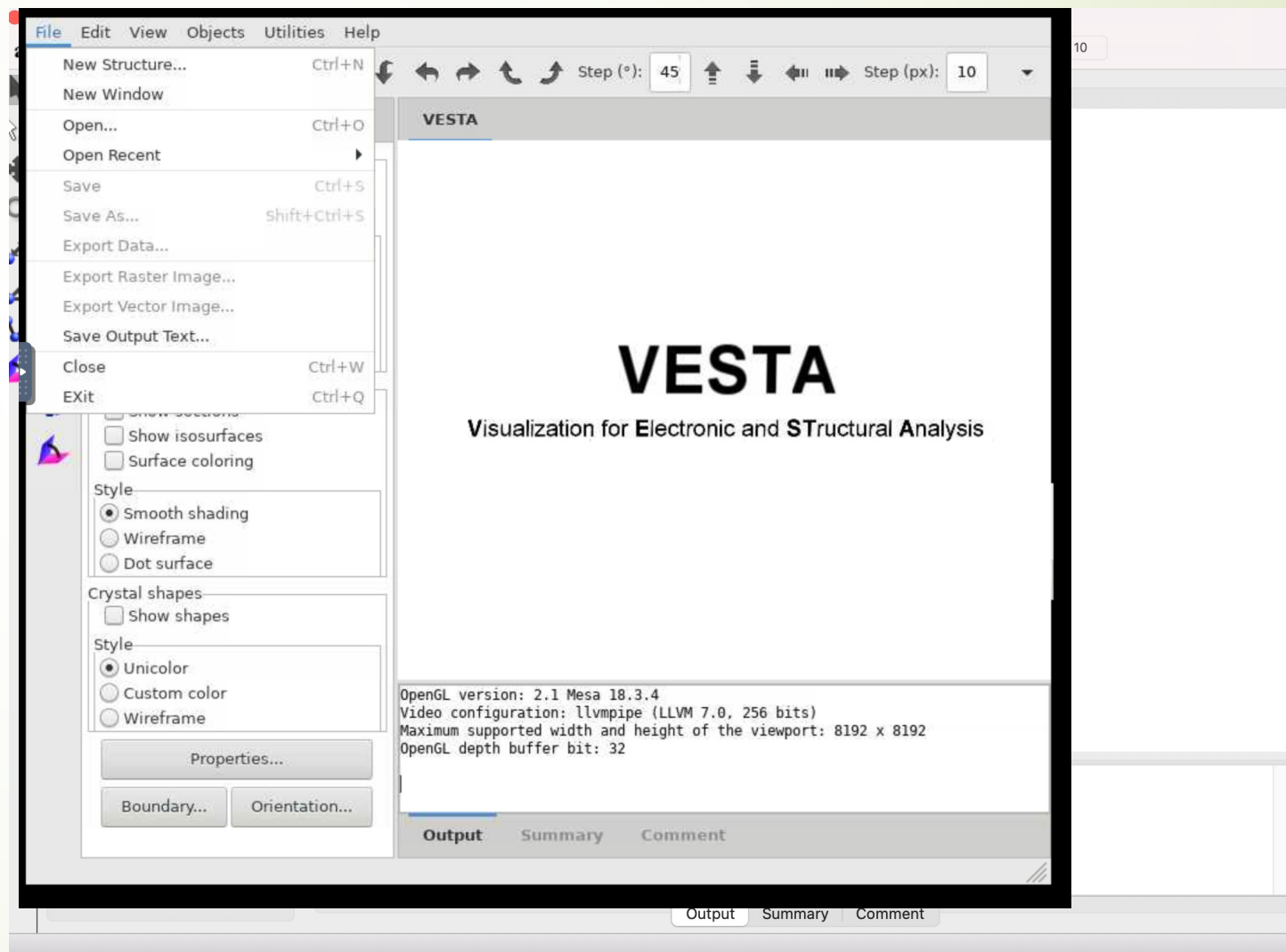


# VESTA TO VIEW STRUCTURES

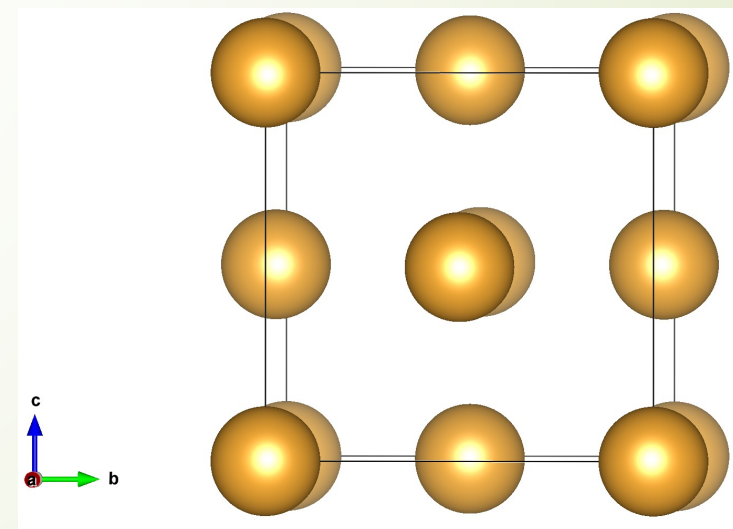
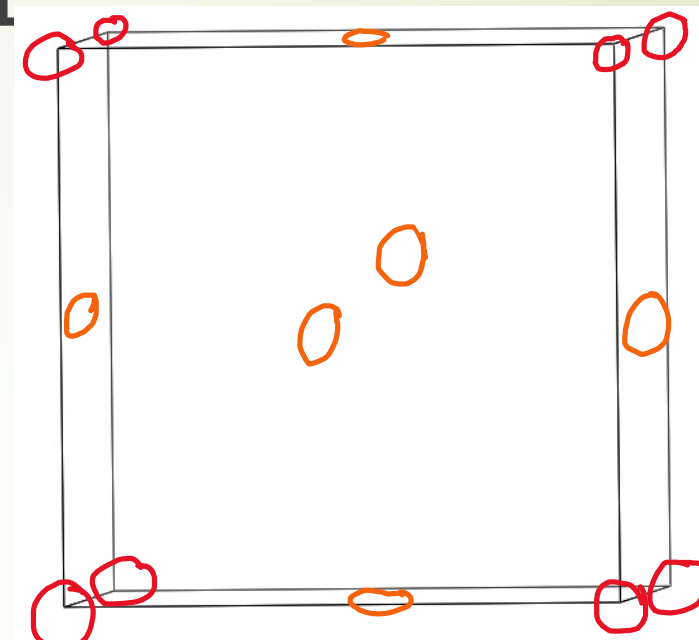
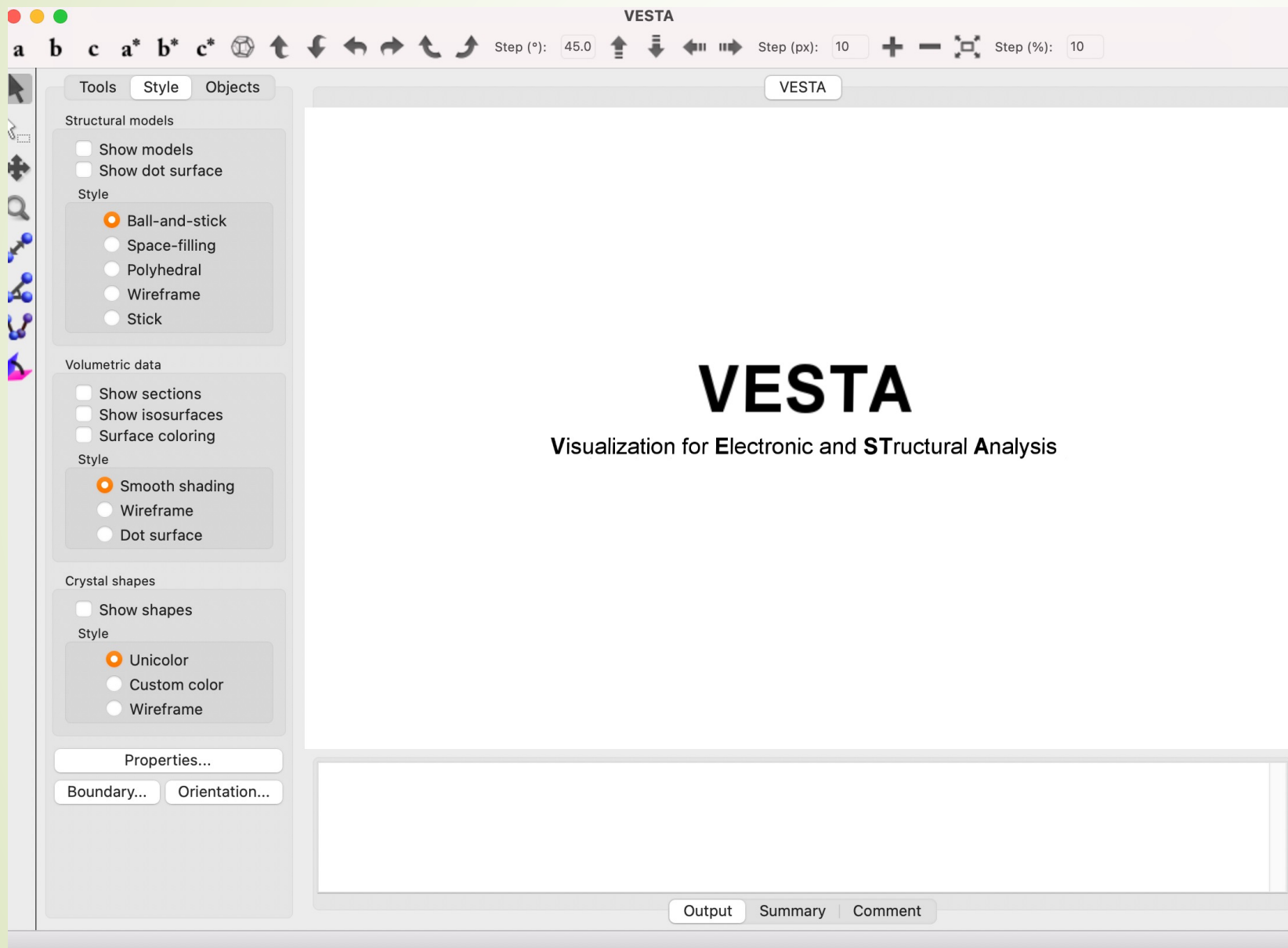
- We will use VESTA to visualize the structures!

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# Au CRYSTAL STRUCTURE

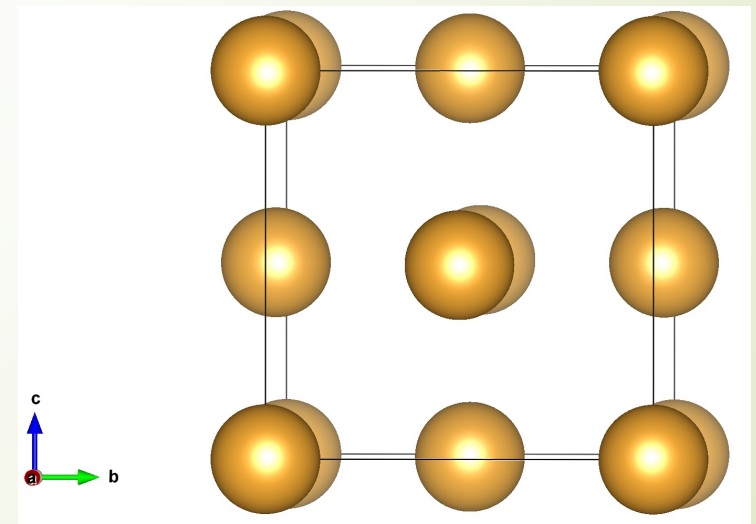
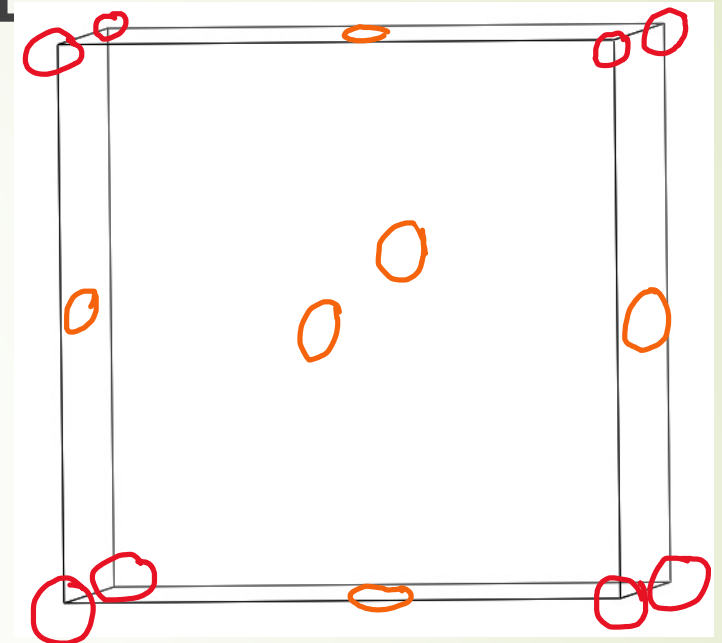


# Au CRYSTAL STRUCTURE

- ➡ Open the POSCAR\_Au.vasp in Jupyterlab editor.
- ➡ POSCAR file contains the structure

```
Au      Name
1.0     Scaling Factor - leave it as 1
4.078200 0.000000 0.000000  a crystal lattice vector -> x axis
0.000000 4.078200 0.000000  b crystal lattice vector -> y axis
0.000000 0.000000 4.078200  c crystal lattice vector -> z axis
Au      Chemical Symbol(s) in the same order as their count below
4       Number of atoms of each type
direct  positions with respect to a cell of length 1
0.000000 0.000000 0.000000 Au  x, y and z
0.500000 0.500000 0.000000 Au  coordinates
0.000000 0.500000 0.500000 Au  of each atom
0.500000 0.000000 0.500000 Au
```

- ➡ Let's go to zoom whiteboard!



# NaCl Crystal Structure

- ➔ Open the POSCAR\_NaCl.vasp in Jupyterlab editor.

Na4 Cl4

1.0

5.691694 0.000000 0.000000

0.000000 5.691694 0.000000

0.000000 0.000000 5.691694

Na Cl Chemical Symbol(s) in the same order as their count below

4 4 Number of atoms of each type

direct positions with respect to a cell of length 1

0.000000 0.000000 0.000000 Na

0.000000 0.500000 0.500000 Na

0.500000 0.000000 0.500000 Na

0.500000 0.500000 0.000000 Na

0.500000 0.000000 0.000000 Cl

0.500000 0.500000 0.500000 Cl

0.000000 0.000000 0.500000 Cl

0.000000 0.500000 0.000000 Cl

x, y and z  
coordinates  
of each atom

Recall the Au FCC

|          |          |          |    |
|----------|----------|----------|----|
| 0.000000 | 0.000000 | 0.000000 | Na |
| 0.000000 | 0.500000 | 0.500000 | Na |
| 0.500000 | 0.000000 | 0.500000 | Na |
| 0.500000 | 0.500000 | 0.000000 | Na |

Fe BCC

|          |          |          |    |
|----------|----------|----------|----|
| 0.500000 | 0.500000 | 0.500000 | Cl |
|----------|----------|----------|----|

Cl on each  
axis

|          |          |          |    |
|----------|----------|----------|----|
| 0.500000 | 0.000000 | 0.000000 | Cl |
| 0.000000 | 0.000000 | 0.500000 | Cl |
| 0.000000 | 0.500000 | 0.000000 | Cl |

# EXERCISE 1

- Fill out the following table after measuring the distances in VESTA

|      | Measured lattice parameter $a(\text{\AA})$ | Measured d-1NN ( $\text{\AA}$ ) | Experimental $a(A)^*$ |
|------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Au   |                                            |                                 |                       |
| Fe   |                                            |                                 |                       |
| NaCl |                                            |                                 |                       |

- Compare with the known value in literature from experiments.

\* Google search lattice parameter of gold/Fe/NaCl and fill in the value

# EXERCISE 2

- Copy `POSCAR_Au.vasp` to a new file `POSCAR_Au_vacancy.vasp`
- `cp POSCAR_Au.vasp POSCAR_AU_vacancy.vasp`
- Delete on Au atom and save it
- Open it in VESTA. Can you see the vacancy?
  
- Repeat the same for `POSCAR_Fe.vasp` (copy to `POSCAR_Fe_vacancy.vasp`)
- Delete the Fe atom at 0.5, 0.5, 0.5 and save the file
- Open in VESTA. Notice the vacancy!
  
- Copy `POSCAR_Fe.vasp` to `POSCAR_Fe_Au_defect.vasp`
- Change the atom type of 0.5, 0.5, 0.5 to Au
- What kind of defect did we create?

# EXERCISE 3

- Copy POSCAR\_Fe.vasp to POSCAR\_Fe\_Au\_defect.vasp
  - Change the atom type of 0.5, 0.5, 0.5 to Au
  - What kind of defect did we create?
- 
- Copy POSCAR\_Fe.vasp to POSCAR\_Fe\_interstitial.vasp
  - Add an additional **Fe** atom at 0.0, 0.0, 0.5
  - Can you see the interstitial defect we created?

# EXERCISE 4

- Create an antistite defect in NaCl
- Copy POSCAR\_NaCl.vasp to POSCAR\_NaCl\_antisite.vasp
- Do you see the Na and Cl atoms swapping positions?

