The Centre for Theoretical and Computational Chemistry



Density-functional theory, with and without a magnetic field

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Quantum chemistry

Molecules are difficult but well understood many-body systems:

"The underlying physical laws necessary for the mathematical theory of a large part of physics and the whole of chemistry are thus completely known, and the difficulty is only that the exact application of these laws leads to equations much too complicated to be soluble." P. A. M. Dirac



Today, quantum-chemical calculations are routinely carried out by nonspecialists:

About 40% of all articles in the Journal of Americal Chemical Society are supported by computation, many of electronic structure:

- molecular structure
- spectroscopic constants
- interaction with electromagnetic fields
- reactivity, reaction rates, and dynamics



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History of quantum chemistry

- Ab initio molecular electronic-structure theory has developed since the 1960s:
 - Hartree–Fock (HF) self-consistent field (SCF) theory (1960s)
 - configuration-interaction (CI) theory (1970s)
 - multiconfigurational SCF (MCSCF) theory (early 1980s)
 - many-body perturbation theory (1980s)
 - coupled-cluster theory (late 1980s)
 - density-functional theory (1990s)
- Coupled-cluster theory is the most successful wave-function theory
 - introduced from nuclear physics (Bartlett)
 - size extensive treatment of dynamical correlation, unlike truncated CI theory
 - high cost, near-degeneracy (strong correlation) problems
 - the exact solution can be approached in systematic manner (AE errors, kJ/mol)



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Energy contributions to atomization energies (kJ/mol)

Contributions of each CC excitation level (left) and AO basis-set shell (right)



color code: HF , N₂ , F₂ , and CO

- The excitation-level convergence is approximately linear (log-linear plot)
 - each new excitation level reduces the error by about an order of magnitude
 - the contributions from quintuples are negligible (about 0.1 kJ/mol)
- The basis-set convergence is much slower (log-log plot)
 - each shell contributes an energy proportional to X^{-4} where X is the cardinal number
 - a similarly small error (0.1 kJ/mol) requires X > 10
 - clearly, we must choose our orbitals in the best possible manner

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Bond distances (pm)												
		RHF	SD	Т	Q	5	rel.	theory	exp.	err.		
	HF	89.70	1.67	0.29	0.02	0.00	0.01	91.69	91.69	0.00		
	N_2	106.54	2.40	0.67	0.14	0.03	0.00	109.78	109.77	0.01		
	F_2	132.64	6.04	2.02	0.44	0.03	0.05	141.22	141.27	-0.05		
	CO	110.18	1.87	0.75	0.04	0.00	0.00	112.84	112.84	0.00		

Harmonic vibrational constants ω_{e} (cm⁻¹)

	KHF	SD	Т	Q	5	rel.	theory	exp.	err.
HF	4473.8	-277.4	-50.2	-4.1	-0.1	-3.5	4138.5	4138.3	0.2
N ₂	2730.3	-275.8	-72.4	-18.8	-3.9	-1.4	2358.0	2358.6	-0.6
F ₂	1266.9	-236.1	-95.3	-15.3	-0.8	-0.5	918.9	916.6	2.3
CO	2426.7	-177.4	-71.7	-7.2	0.0	-1.3	2169.1	2169.8	0.7

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The emergence of density-functional theory (DFT)

- The traditional methods of quantum chemistry are capable of high accuracy
 - nevertheless, most calculations are performed using density-functional theory (DFT)
- What is the reason for the poularity of DFT?
 - the standard methods are (at least for high accuracy) very expensive



Density-functional theory (DFT)

The ground-state electronic energy E[v] is a functional of the external potential:

$$v(\mathbf{r}) = -\sum_{K} \frac{Z_{K}}{r_{K}}$$
 Coulomb potential

The ground-state energy with external potential v:

 $E[v] = \inf_{\Psi \to N} \langle \Psi | H[v] | \Psi \rangle$ $H[v] = T + W + \sum_{i} v(\mathbf{r}_{i}), \quad W = \sum_{i > j} r_{ij}^{-1}$

It is possible to perform the Rayleigh–Ritz minimization in two nested steps:

$$E[\mathbf{v}] = \inf_{\rho \mapsto N} \inf_{\Psi \mapsto \rho} \left\langle \Psi \left| \mathcal{T} + W + \sum_{i} v(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \right| \Psi \right\rangle$$
$$= \inf_{\rho \mapsto N} \left[\inf_{\Psi \mapsto \rho} \left\langle \Psi \left| \mathcal{T} + W \right| \Psi \right\rangle + (\rho | \mathbf{v}) \right]$$

In the Hohenberg–Kohn variation principle, we minimize over all densities ρ:

$$\begin{split} E[v] &= \inf_{\rho \to N} \left(F[\rho] + (v|\rho) \right) & \text{Hohenberg-Kohn variation principle} \\ F[\rho] &= \inf_{\Psi \to \rho} \left\langle \Psi \right| T + W |\Psi \rangle & \text{Levy constrained-search functional} \end{split}$$

• The universal density functional $F[\rho]$ depends only on the density

- the density depends only on three spatial coordinates
- it contains all information needed to calculated the ground-state energy

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The Hohenberg–Kohn and Lieb variation principles

Lieb showed that the energy and density functional are symmetrically related:

 $E[v] = \inf_{\rho} (F[\rho] + (v|\rho)) \quad \text{the Hohenberg-Kohn variation principle (1964)}$

 $F[
ho] = \sup(E[v] - (v|
ho))$ the Lieb variation principle (1983)

These are alternative attempts at sharpening the same inequality into an equality

 $F[
ho] \geq E[v] - (v|
ho) \iff E[v] \leq F[
ho] + (v|
ho)$ Fenchel's inequality

- *E* and *F* are conjugate functions: $E(\text{concave}) \leftrightarrow F(\text{convex})$
 - convex/concave conjugates, Fenchel conjugates, Legendre–Fenchel transforms...
 - they contain same information, expressed as functions of v and ρ , respectively
 - the extrinsic and intrinsic energies, respectively
- The possibility of expressing E in terms of F follows from the convexity of -E[v] in v:



What characterizes a convex function?

A function $f : \mathbb{R} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ is convex if and only if it can be written in the form

 $f(x) = \sup_{y} [xy - g(y)] \leftarrow$ pointwise supremum of all supporting lines

• The plots below illustrate this construction for x^2 , $x + x^4$, $|x| + x^2$ and exp(x)



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Conjugate functions $E \leftrightarrow F$

- The ground-state energy E[v] is concave in v by the Rayleigh–Ritz variation principle
 - it can therefore be exactly represented by its convex conjugate $F[\rho]$: $E[v] \leftrightarrow F[\rho]$



Mathematical characterization of E and F:

- E is continuous and concave (not everywhere differentiable) on $L^{3/2} + L^{\infty}$
- F is lower semicontinuous and convex (nowhere continuous and nowhere differentiable) on $L^3 \cap L^1$

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Stationary conditions and subgradients

- Concavity of E and convexity of F imply great simplicity
 - ▶ all minima and maxima in the Hohenberg–Kohn and Lieb variation principles are global
 - methods of convex optimization theory can be used
- However, convex functions are not necessarily differentiable
 - minima are not characterized by derivatives but by subgradients
- The subgradients y_0 of f at x_0 are the slopes of the supporting lines to f at x_0 :

 $f(x) \geq f(x_0) + y_0(x - x_0), \quad \forall x$

The set of all subgradients of f at x_0 is the subdifferential $\partial f(x_0)$ of f at x_0

 $\partial f_1(0) = [-1, 1], \quad \partial f_2(0) = \{0\}$

- a minimum occurs if and only if the subdifferential contains zero (horizontal supporting line)
- differentiability follows when \(\partial f\) is a singleton and f is continuous

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DFT stationary conditions: the Hohenberg-Kohn theorem

The DFT variation principles are convex optimization problems:

$$E[v] = \inf_{\rho} (F[\rho] + (v|\rho))$$
$$F[\rho] = \sup_{\omega} (E[v] - (v|\rho))$$

▶ The condition of zero subgradient gives the following reciprocal stationary relations:

 $E[v] = F[\rho] + (v|\rho) \iff -v \in \partial F[\rho] \iff \rho \in \partial E[v]$

- ρ and v are conjugate variables and $\partial F[\rho]$ and $\partial E[v]$ are inverse functions
- note: F and E are not differentiable
- The subdifferential ∂F[ρ] contains the associated potentials:

 $\partial F[\rho] = \{-v_{\rho} - c\}, \quad \rho \text{ is a ground-state density of some potential } v_{\rho}$ $\partial F[\rho] = \emptyset, \qquad \rho \text{ is not a ground-state density of any potential}$

- Hohenberg-Kohn theorem: the ground-state density determines the potential to within a constant
- not all densities are ground-state densities of any potential
- the set of ground-state densities is dense in the set of all N-electron densities
- The subdifferential $\partial E[v]$ contains the associated (degenerate) ground-state densities:

 $\partial E[v] = co\{\rho_1, \rho_2, \dots, \rho_n\}, \quad v \text{ supports a ground state}$ $\partial E[v] = \emptyset, \quad v \text{ does not support a ground state}$

- not all potentials support a ground state
- ► the set of potentials with a ground state is dense in the set of all potentials

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v-representability densities and ρ -representable potentials

• E[v] and $F[\rho]$ are functions whose subdifferentials are inverse functions

 $E[v] = F[\rho] + (v|\rho) \iff -v \in \partial F[\rho] \iff \rho \in \partial E[v]$

• $\partial E[v]$ gives the ground-state densities (if any) associated with v

• $\partial F[\rho]$ gives the ground-state potential (if any) associated with ρ (uniquely)



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Kohn–Sham theory

• We may set up DFT at arbitrary interaction strenghts λ :

$$\begin{split} E_{\lambda}[v] &= \inf_{\rho \to N} \left(F_{\lambda}[\rho] + (v|\rho) \right) \quad \text{Hohenberg-Kohn variation principle} \\ F_{\lambda}[\rho] &= \inf_{\Psi \to \rho} \langle \Psi | \, T + \lambda W | \Psi \rangle \quad \text{universal density functional} \end{split}$$

In Kohn–Sham theory, we relate the complicated $F_1[\rho]$ to the much simpler $F_0[\rho]$:

$$F_1[\rho] = T_s[\rho] + J[\rho] + E_{xc}[\rho]$$

where

$$\begin{split} T_{\rm s}[\rho] &= F_0[\rho] = \inf_{\Psi \to \rho} \langle \Psi | T | \Psi \rangle & \text{noninteracting kinetic energy} \\ J[\rho] &= \iint_{\rho} \rho(\mathbf{r}_1) \rho(\mathbf{r}_2) r_{12}^{-1} \mathrm{d} \mathbf{r}_1 \mathrm{d} \mathbf{r}_2 & \text{Coulomb energy} \\ E_{\rm xc}[\rho] &= F[\rho] - F_0[\rho] - J[\rho] & \text{exchange-correlation energy} \end{split}$$

• The noninteracting kinetic energy $T_{s}[\rho]$ can be calculated exactly by introducing orbitals

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i} \phi_{i}(\mathbf{r})^{*} \phi_{i}(\mathbf{r})$$

the Kohn–Sham orbitals are eigenfunctions of an effective Kohn–Sham potential:

$$\left[-\frac{1}{2}\nabla^2 + v_{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r})\right]\phi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon_i\phi_i(\mathbf{r}), \quad v_{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}) = v(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{J}}(\mathbf{r}) + \frac{\delta E_{\text{xc}}[\rho]}{\delta\rho(\mathbf{r})}$$

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The exchange-correlation functional

- The exact exchange–correlation functional is unknown
 - we must rely on approximations
- Local-density approximation (LDA)
 - XC functional modeled after the uniform electron gas (which is known exactly)

$$E_{xc}^{LDA}[\rho] = \int f(\rho(\mathbf{r})) d\mathbf{r}$$
 local dependence on density

- widely applied in condensed-matter physics
- not sufficiently accurate to compete with traditional methods of quantum chemistry
- Generalized-gradient approximation (GGA)
 - introduce a dependence also on the density gradient

 $E_{xc}^{GGA}[\rho] = \int f(\rho(\mathbf{r}, \nabla \rho(\mathbf{r})) d\mathbf{r}$ local dependence on density and its gradient

- Becke's gradient correction to exchange (1988) changed the situation
- the accuracy became sufficient to compete in chemistry
- indeed, surprisingly high accuracy for energetics
- A bewildering variety of functionals has been developed
 - sometimes chosen to satisfy exact conditions, other times fitted to data

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Method	$\Delta H_{\rm f}$	IP	EA	PA	H-Ne, E_{tot}	TM ΔE	He_2 , $\Delta E(R_e)$	Ne_2 , $\Delta E(R_e)$	$(H_2O)_2, D_e(R_{OO})$	
HF	6.47	1.036	1.158	0.15	4.49	1.09	Unbound	Unbound	0.161 (3.048)	
G2 or best ab initio	0.07ª	0.053 ^b	0.057 ^b	0.05 ^b	1.59°	0.19 ^d	0.0011 (2.993)°	0.0043 (3.125)e	0.218 (2.912) ^f	
LDA (SVWN)	3.94ª	0.665	0.749	0.27	6.67	0.54g	0.0109 (2.377)	0.0231 (2.595)	0.391 (2.710)	
GGA										
BP86	0.88ª	0.175	0.212	0.05	0.19	0.46	Unbound	Unbound	0.194 (2.889)	
BLYP	0.31ª	0.187	0.106	0.08	0.19	0.379	Unbound	Unbound	0.181 (2.952)	
BPW91	0.34ª	0.163	0.094	0.05	0.16	0.60	Unbound	Unbound	0.156 (2.946)	
PW91PW91	0.77	0.164	0.141	0.06	0.35	0.52	0.0100 (2.645)	0.0137 (3.016)	0.235 (2.886)	
mPWPW ^h	0.65	0.161	0.122	0.05	0.16	0.38	0.0052 (2.823)	0.0076 (3.178)	0.194 (2.911)	
PBEPBE ⁱ	0.74 ⁱ	0.156	0.101	0.06	1.25	0.34	0.0032 (2.752)	0.0048 (3.097)	0.222 (2.899)	
XLYPj	0.33	0.186	0.117	0.09	0.95	0.24	0.0010 (2.805)	0.0030 (3.126)	0.192 (2.953)	
Hybrid methods										
BH & HLYP ^k	0.94	0.207	0.247	0.07	0.08	0.72	Unbound	Unbound	0.214 (2.905)	
B3P86 ^I	0.78ª	0.636	0.593	0.03	2.80	0.34	Unbound	Unbound	0.206 (2.878)	
B3LYP ^m	0.13ª	0.168	0.103	0.06	0.38	0.259	Unbound	Unbound	0.198 (2.926)	
B3PW91 ⁿ	0.15 ^a	0.161	0.100	0.03	0.24	0.38	Unbound	Unbound	0.175 (2.923)	
PW1PW°	0.23	0.160	0.114	0.04	0.30	0.30	0.0066 (2.660)	0.0095 (3.003)	0.227 (2.884)	
mPW1PW ^p	0.17	0.160	0.118	0.04	0.16	0.31	0.0020 (3.052)	0.0023 (3.254)	0.199 (2.898)	
PBE1PBE9	0.21 ⁱ	0.162	0.126	0.04	1.09	0.30	0.0018 (2.818)	0.0026 (3.118)	0.216 (2.896)	
O3LYP	0.18	0.139	0.107	0.05	0.06	0.49	0.0031 (2.860)	0.0047 (3.225)	0.139 (3.095)	
X3LYP ^s	0.12	0.154	0.087	0.07	0.11	0.22	0.0010 (2.726)	0.0028 (2.904)	0.216 (2.908)	
Experimental	_	_	_	_	-	_	0.0010 (2.970) ^t	0.0036 (3.091) ^t	0.236 ^u (2.948) ^v	

Table 1. MADs (all energies in eV) for various level of theory for the extended G2 set

C2(040D)

ΔH₆, heat of formation at 298 K; PA, proton affinity; E_{top} total energies (H-Ne); TM ΔE, s to d excitation energy of nine first-row transition metal atoms and nine positive ions. Bonding properties [ΔE or D₆ in eV and (R₆) in Å] are given for He₂, Ne₂, and (H₂O)₂. The best DFT results are in boldface, as are the most accurate answers [experiment except for (H₂O)₂].

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	B3L	YP	CCSD(T)		exp.
$CH_2 + H_2 \rightarrow CH_4$	-543	1	-543	1	-544(2)
$C_2H_2+H_2\toC_2H_4$	-208	-5	-206	-3	-203(2)
$C_2H_2 + 3H_2 \to 2CH_4$	-450	-4	-447	-1	-446(2)
$CO + H_2 \to CH_2O$	-34	-13	-23	-2	-21(1)
$N_2 + 3H_2 \to 2NH_2$	-166	-2	-165	-1	-164(1)
$F_2 + H_2 \rightarrow 2HF$	-540	23	-564	-1	-563(1)
${\rm O}_3+3{\rm H}_2\rightarrow 3{\rm H}_2{\rm O}$	-909	24	-946	-13	-933(2)
$CH_2O + 2H_2 \to CH_4 + H_2O$	-234	17	-250	1	-251(1)
$\rm H_2O_2+H_2\rightarrow 2H_2O$	-346	19	-362	3	-365(2)
$CO + 3H_2 \to CH_4 + H_2O$	-268	4	-273	-1	-272(1)
$HCN + 3H_2 \rightarrow CH_4 + NH_2$	-320	0	-321	-1	-320(3)
$HNO + 2H_2 \to H_2O + NH_2$	-429	15	-446	-2	-444(1)
$CO_2 + 4H_2 \rightarrow CH_4 + 2H_2O$	-211	33	-244	0	-244(1)
$2CH_2 \to C_2H_4$	-845	-1	-845	$^{-1}$	-844(3)

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The Kohn–Sham adiabatic connection

Consider again the Levy constrained-search formula

$$F_{\lambda}[
ho] = \min_{\Psi o
ho} \langle \Psi | T + \lambda W | \Psi
angle = \left\langle \Psi^{\lambda}_{
ho} | T + \lambda W | \Psi^{\lambda}_{
ho}
ight
angle$$

- λ is the coupling-strength parameter
- We may now connect the interacting and noninteracting systems

 $F_{\lambda}[\rho] = F_0[\rho] + \int_0^{\lambda} F'_{\mu}[\rho] \,\mathrm{d}\mu, \quad F'_{\lambda}[\rho] = \left\langle \Psi^{\lambda}_{\rho} | W | \Psi^{\lambda}_{\rho} \right\rangle \ \leftarrow \ \text{Hellmann-Feynman theorem}$

- at λ = 0, we have the noninteracting system
- at $\lambda = 1$, we have the fully interacting system
- We next perform the Kohn–Sham decomposition by introducing $F_0[\rho]$ and $F'_0[\rho]$:
 - $$\begin{split} F_{0}[\rho] &= \left\langle \Psi_{\rho}^{0} | T | \Psi_{\rho}^{0} \right\rangle = T_{s}[\rho] & \leftarrow \text{ noninteracting kinetic energy} \\ F_{0}'[\rho] &= \left\langle \Psi_{\rho}^{0} | W | \Psi_{\rho}^{0} \right\rangle = J[\rho] + E_{s}[\rho] & \leftarrow \text{ Coulomb and exchange energies} \\ F_{\lambda}[\rho] &= T_{s}[\rho] + \lambda J[\rho] + \lambda E_{s}[\rho] + E_{c,\lambda}[\rho] & \leftarrow \text{ correlation energy} \end{split}$$
- We can thus extract the correlation energy by coupling-strength integration

$$E_{\mathsf{c},\lambda}[\rho] = \int_0^\lambda \langle \Psi_\rho^\mu | W | \Psi_\rho^\mu \rangle \,\mathrm{d}\mu - \lambda J[\rho] - \lambda E_\mathsf{x}[\rho]$$

 \blacktriangleright in the adiabatic approximation, the integrand is assumed to change smoothly with λ

The adiabatic connection: the correlation energy

In KS theory, the correlation energy is the only term that depends nontrivially on λ :

$${\sf E}_{{\sf c},\lambda}[
ho] = \int_0^\lambda \bigl(ig\langle \Psi^\mu_
ho|W|\Psi^\mu_
hoig
angle - ig\langle \Psi^0_
ho|W|\Psi^0_
hoig
angle) \,\,{
m d}\mu$$

 \blacktriangleright as λ increases, the wave function relaxes under the constraint of a fixed density

Adiabatic-connection curve for the CCSD(T) correlation energy of the neon atom

- calculated by the Lieb variation principle
- Teale et al. JCP 130, 104111 (2009); ibid 132, 164115 (2010)



H_2 dissociation: from dynamical to static correlation

- Near equilibrium, correlation is predominantly dynamic
 - nearly linear curve since correlation is dominated by doubles (λ² in PT)
- Towards dissociation, static correlation becomes important
 - increased curvature form higher-order contributions in PT
- At dissociation, correlation is fully static
 - wave function adjusts immediately for $\lambda \neq 0$ (degenerate PT)
 - first-order degenerate PT yields constant curve for $\lambda > 0$



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The adiabatic connection: the dissociation of H_2

- ▶ To study static and dynamic correlation, we consider H₂ dissociation
 - ▶ RHF, BLYP, and FCI levels of theory in the aug-cc-pVQZ basis



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Adiabatic connection: XC curves for H₂



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Molecular magnetism

A magnetic field B modifies the kinetic-energy operator:

$$H(B) = T(B) + W + \sum_{i} v(\mathbf{r}_{i}), \quad T(B) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i} (\boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot \boldsymbol{\pi}_{i})^{2}$$

where σ are the Pauli spin matrices and π_i the kinetic-momentum operator:

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}_i = -\mathrm{i} \boldsymbol{\nabla}_i + \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}_i), \quad \mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{r}_i$$

We have recently developed the LONDON code for molecular calculations in strong fields

- complex wave functions and London atomic orbitals
- Hartree–Fock, CASSCF, CCSD, FCI and Kohn–Sham models
- Molecules in magnetic fields exhibit many interesting features:
 - molecular bonding of triplet H₂ and singlet He₂ in strong fields
 - Lange et al. Science 337, 327 (2012)



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Helium clusters in strong magnetic fields

RHF/u-aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory

- all structures are planar and consist of equilateral triangles
- suggestive of hexagonal 2D crystal lattice



Tellgren et al. PCCP 14, 9492 (2012) ►

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Ground-state energy in a magnetic field

• The Hamiltonian in a magnetic field (without the Zeeman term):

$$H[\mathbf{v},\mathbf{A}] = \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i}\pi_{i}^{2} + \sum_{i}\mathbf{v}(r_{i}) + W, \quad \pi_{i} = -\mathrm{i}\nabla_{i} + \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{r}_{i}), \quad \mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{B}\times\mathbf{r}$$

The Hamiltonian has a linear and quadratic dependence on the vector potential:

$$H[v, \mathbf{A}] = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i} p_i^2 + \sum_{i} \mathbf{A}(r_i) \cdot \mathbf{p}_i + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i} A(r_i)^2 + \sum_{i} v(r_i) + W$$

▶ The ground-state energy in a magnetic field from Rayleigh-Ritz variation principle:

$$E[v,\mathbf{A}] = \inf_{\Psi} \langle \Psi | H[v,\mathbf{A}] | \Psi \rangle$$

- The energy is not necessarily concave in the vector potential:
 - diamagetic benzene (convex) to the left and paramagnetic BH (concave) to the right



Diamagnetism and paramagnetism

- > The complicated field dependence results from an interplay of linear and quadratic terms
- C₂₀ in a perpendicular magnetic field:



- All molecules become diamagnetic at a critical field strength B_c
- Tellgren et al. PCCP 11, 5489 (2009)

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Current densities in magnetic fields

- In an external magnetic field, currents are induced in the electronic system
- Below, we have plotted induced currents in benzene in a perpendicular field
 - current density in the π system (above the molecular plane) to the left
 - current density in the σ system (in the molecular plane) to the right



Nuclear magnetic shielding constants

- The most important use of magnetism in chemistry is NMR spectroscopy
 - nuclear spin transitions in an externally applied field shielded by the electrons
 - the shielding is determined by the response of the electronic system to the external field
 - shielding constants give important information about molecular structure
- Kohn–Sham calculations of shielding constants are of uneven quality
 - these calculations neglect the field/current dependence of the exchange-correlation functional



Mean absolute errors (in ppm) for NMR shielding constants relative to experimental (blue) and empirical equilibrium values (red). Teale *et al.* JCP **138**, 024111 (2013)

DFT in magnetic fields

The electronic energy and Hamiltonian now depends on the scalar and vector potentials':

 $E[v, \mathbf{A}] = \inf_{\Psi} \langle \Psi | H[v, \mathbf{A}] | \Psi \rangle$

how can DFT be adapted to magnetic fields?

CDFT: current-density-functional theory

▶ We perform convex conjugation with respect to both *v* and **A**:

 $E[v, \mathbf{A}] \leftrightarrow F_{CDFT}[\rho, \kappa]$

- Fraction P and the (nonobservable) paramagnetic current density κ
- note: only the total current $\mathbf{j} = \boldsymbol{\kappa} + \rho \mathbf{A}$ is gauge invariant and observable
- Vignale and Rasolt (1987,1988)

BDFT: magnetic-field density-functional theory

We perform convex conjugation with respect to v only

 $E[v, \mathbf{A}] \leftrightarrow F_{\mathsf{BDFT}}[\rho, \mathbf{A}]$

- F_{BDFT} depends on p and the vector potential (magnetic field) A
- Grayce and Harris (1994)

CDFT: the basic variables

The ground-state energy E[v, A] is not concave in (v, A):



A simple reparametrization yields a Hamiltonian that is linear in the potentials:

$$\overline{\mathcal{H}}[u,\mathbf{A}] = \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i}p_{i}^{2} + W + \sum_{i}u(r_{i}) + \sum_{i}\mathbf{A}(r_{i}) \cdot \mathbf{p}_{i}, \quad u = v + \frac{1}{2}A^{2}$$

From the variation principle and this linearity, concavity of the ground-state energy follows:

 $\bar{E}[u,\mathbf{A}] = \inf_{\Psi} \langle \Psi | \bar{H}[u,\mathbf{A}] | \Psi \rangle = E[u - \frac{1}{2}A^2, A]$

Convex conjugation gives the associated convex CDFT universal density functional:

$$F[\rho, \kappa] = \sup_{u, \mathbf{A}} \left(\bar{E}[u, \mathbf{A}] - (u|\rho) - (\mathbf{A}|\kappa) \right)$$
$$\bar{E}[u, \mathbf{A}] = \inf_{\rho, \kappa} \left(F[\rho, \kappa] + (u|\rho) + (\mathbf{A}|\kappa) \right)$$

- Tellgren et al. PRA 86, 062506 (2012)
- The variables conjugate to (u, A) are the density and paramagnetic current density (ρ, κ) :

$$\begin{split} \rho(\mathbf{r}) &= \Psi^*(\mathbf{r})\Psi(\mathbf{r}) \\ \kappa(\mathbf{r}) &= \operatorname{Re}\Psi^*(\mathbf{r})\mathbf{p}\Psi(\mathbf{r}) \neq \operatorname{Re}\Psi^*(\mathbf{r})(\mathbf{p} + \mathbf{A})\Psi(\mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}) \end{split}$$

unlike the physical current, the paramagnetic current is uniquely determined by the wave function

CDFT: the Hohenberg-Kohn theorem

- Consider the field-free system with Hamiltonian $\overline{H}[u, \mathbf{0}]$
- Adding a uniform magnetic field along the z axis with vector potential

 $\mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{2}B\mathbf{e}_z \times \mathbf{r}$

we obtain the new Hamiltonian

$$\bar{H}[u,\mathbf{A}] = \bar{H}[u,\mathbf{0}] + \frac{1}{2}BL_z + BS_z$$

If u is spherical, then the two Hamiltonians commute and have the same eigenstates:

 $\left[\bar{H}[u,\mathbf{0}],\bar{H}[u,\mathbf{A}]\right]=0$

Since (ρ, κ) are determined by the eigenstates, they are the same in the two cases:

$$(u,\mathbf{0}) \rightarrow (\rho,\kappa) \leftarrow (u,\mathbf{A})$$

- there can be no Hohenberg–Kohn theorem for the paramagnetic current density
- Eschrig (2001), Capelle and Vignale (2001,2002)

observe also:

$$u = v + c \Leftrightarrow [H[u], H[v]] = 0$$

• On the other hand, the physical current densities $\mathbf{j} = \boldsymbol{\kappa} + \rho \mathbf{A}$ of the two systems differ:

$$(u, \mathbf{0}) \rightarrow (\rho, \kappa + \mathbf{0}) \neq (\rho, \kappa + \rho \mathbf{A}) \leftarrow (u, \mathbf{A})$$

► a Hohenberg–Kohn theorem for j is not excluded but the purported proofs are wrong

CDFT: Kohn–Sham theory

A Kohn–Sham decomposition of the CDFT functional yields (Vignale and Rasolt):

 $F[\rho,\kappa] = T_{s}[\rho,\kappa] + J[\rho] + E_{xc}[\rho,\nu], \quad \nu(\mathbf{r}) = \nabla \times \frac{\kappa(\mathbf{r})}{\rho(\mathbf{r})} \leftarrow \text{ vorticity}$

the exchange-correlation functional depends on the density and vorticity



The Vignale–Rasolt–Geldart (VRG) local vorticity exchange–correlation functional

$$E_{\mathrm{VRG}}[\boldsymbol{\nu}] = \int \frac{k_{\mathrm{F}}(r_{\mathrm{s}})}{24\pi^2} \left[g(r_{\mathrm{s}}) - 1 \right] \, |\boldsymbol{\nu}(\mathbf{r})|^2 \, \mathrm{d}\mathbf{r},$$

- local approximation expressed in terms of the gauge-invariant vorticity
- based on the response of a uniform electron gas to a uniform magnetic field
- the parametrization is numerically difficult, with arbitrary cutoffs
- it gives too negative contributions to the molecular electronic energy
- shielding errors typically increase by 20%–30%
- CDFT Kohn–Sham representability problem
 - \blacktriangleright a noninteracting Slater determinant may not be able to represent simultaneously ho and u

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CDFT: noninteracting representability

- Closed-shell two-electron systems are not representable by a single determinant in a field
 - consider the H₂ molecule in a strong magnetic field (normal to image plane)
 - density ρ (top), physical current j^2 (middle), and vorticity ν (bottom) of H₂



BDFT: the adiabatic connection

We may describe magnetic phenomena by setting up a separate DFT for each B:

 $E_0[\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{B}] = \inf_{\rho} \left(F[\rho, \mathbf{B}] + (\mathbf{v}|\rho) \right)$

The density functional now depends on the density and on the field strength

 $F[\rho,\mathbf{B}] = \min_{\Psi \mapsto \rho} \langle \Psi | T_{\pi}(\mathbf{B}) + W | \Psi \rangle = T_{\mathsf{s}}[\rho,\mathbf{B}] + J[\rho] + \mathcal{E}_{\mathsf{xc}}[\rho,\mathbf{B}]$

- the noninteracting magnetic response is exactly taken care of by $T_s[\rho, B]$
- AC correlation curves of H₂ in a perpendicular magnetic field
 - $E_{xc}[\rho, \mathbf{B}]$ differs strongly from $E_{xc}[\rho]$ only at stretched geometries
 - an earlier onset of static correlation in strong magnetic fields



BDFT: AC curve for LiH



Increased magnetic field has a definite effect on the AC curve.

- less dynamical correlation energy, slightly more "static" correlation at fixed bond length
- consistent with shortening of bond lengths in the field

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Dynamical correlation in magnetic fields

- ▶ The FCI occupation numbers of He approach 2 and 0 strong fields
 - diminishing importance of dynamical correlation in magnetic fields
 - the two electrons rotate in the same direction about the field direction



He/aug-cc-pVTZ