Alessandro Genoni CNRS & Université de Lorraine, Laboratoire LPCT, Metz, France

About the Connections and Possible Contaminations between Quantum Chemistry and Quantum Crystallography



3rd Quantum International Frontier - QIF3 Łódź, Poland - June 24, 2023

Showing (and possibly inspiring) possible connections between Quantum Chemistry and Crystallography (and particularly between Quantum Chemistry and Quantum Crystallography)

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which were contemporary of the transformation from the old to the modern crystallography

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Arthur Holly Compton (1915):

"It is hoped that it will be possible in this manner [through X-ray diffraction] to obtain more definite information concerning the distribution of electrons in the atoms"

P. Debye, Ann. Phys. 351, 809 (1915)

A. H. Compton, *Nature* **95**, 343 (1915)

Previous words by Debye and Compton ------> Starting point of Quantum Crystallography

Today an ultimate definition is not available yet, but Quantum Crystallography can be at least seen as...

Field of science that aims at investigating properties and phenomena that are relevant for or occur in the crystalline state and that can be explained only through methods based on quantum mechanics

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Different methods proposed to accomplish this task over the years:

- multipole model techniques for the determination of experimental charge and spin densities (e.g., Hansen & Coppens model)
- *ab initio* periodic methods (popular software as CRYSTAL, Quantum Espresso or Wien2K)
- quantum chemical topological strategies (QTAIM, NCI, IQA, ELF, ELI, etc.)
- approaches characterized by a strong interplay between quantum chemistry and X-ray diffraction measurements

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Fictitious Non-Interacting Crystal



Real Interacting Crystal



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- 2. A fictitious crystal is considered:
 - a. each crystal-unit does not interact with the other ones
 - b. the electron density of the fictitious system is identical to the electron density of the real crystal
- 3. Each crystal-unit wavefunction has a well-defined form according to the chosen ansatz (e.g., single Slater determinant)





The unit-cell electron density for the fictitious crystal can be written as

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Electron density of the reference crystal-unit







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X-ray Restrained Wavefunction Method: the Eigenvalue Equation

Equivalent to finding those MOs that minimize this functional:

 $J[\Psi] = \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle + \lambda \ \chi^2$

D. Jayatilaka, Phys. Rev. Lett. 80, 798 (1998) D. Jayatilaka, D. J. Grimwood, Acta Cryst. A 57, 76 (2001)

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$$\chi^{2} \left[\Psi \right] = \frac{1}{N_{r} - N_{p}} \sum_{\mathbf{h}} \frac{\left(\eta \left| F_{\mathbf{h}}^{calc} \right| - \left| F_{\mathbf{h}}^{exp} \right| \right)^{2}}{\sigma_{\mathbf{h}}^{2}}$$



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THE NEW EIGENVALUE EQUATION:

Introducing the scattering operator

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It is possible to show that the desired "X-ray restrained" MOs are the ones that satisfy the following eigenvalue equation (modified Hartree-Fock equation):

$$\rightarrow \hat{F}^{xrw} \phi_i^{xrw}(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_i^{xrw} \phi_i^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})$$





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with $K_{\mathbf{h}} = \frac{2\eta}{2\eta} \frac{\eta |F_{\mathbf{h}}^{calc}| - |F_{\mathbf{h}}^{exp}|}{\eta |F_{\mathbf{h}}^{calc}| - |F_{\mathbf{h}}^{exp}|}$

 $\mathbf{W_{h}} = \overline{N_r} - N_p \qquad \sigma_{\mathbf{h}}^2 \left| F_{\mathbf{h}}^{calc} \right|$ D. Jayatilaka, Phys. Rev. Lett. 80, 798 (1998) D. Jayatilaka, D. J. Grimwood, Acta Cryst. A 57, 76 (2001)

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- L-alanine crystal structure determined at 23 K.
- Single-point calculations (crystal geometry) at Hartree-Fock, B3LYP and XR-Hartree-Fock levels with basis sets of increasing size and flexibility:
 - * 3-21G
 - * 6-31G(d)
 - * cc-pVDZ
 - * 6-311G(d,p)
 - * aug-cc-pVDZ
 - * 6-311++G(2d,2p)
- X-ray restrained wavefunction calculations with unit-cell parameters, thermal parameters and structure factor amplitudes deposited with the crystal structure.



R. Destro et al., J. Phys. Chem. 92, 966 (1988)

Basis-Set	RHF	B3LYP	XR-RHF (λ _{max})
3-21G	5.66	3.70	1.71 (0.58)
6-31G(d)	2.94	2.18	1.26 (0.32)
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VALUES OF THE STATISTICAL AGREEMENTS (χ^2)

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IF GOOD-QUALITY CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC DATA ARE AVAILABLE AND SUFFICIENTLY FLEXIBLE BASIS-SETS ARE USED, THE IDEAL STATISTICAL AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED QUITE EASILY



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- 4. X-ray structure factors from single-molecule X-ray diffraction experiments (e.g., X-ray free electron laser experiments) Second the second se

XRW Method: a Tool to Extract Exchange-Correlation Potentials ?

IUCrJ ISSN 2052-2525	Can X-ray constrained Hartree—Fock wavefun retrieve electron correlation?		
MATERIALS COMPUTATION	Alessandro Genoni, ^{a,b} * Leonardo H. R. D Macchi ^c *	os Santos, ^c	Benjamin Meyer ^{a,b}
Received 6 September 2016 Accepted 2 December 2016	^a CNRS, Laboratoire SRSMC, UMR 7565, Boulevard des Aigu ^b Université de Lorraine, Laboratoire SRSMC, UMR 7565, Bo F-54506, France, and ^c Department of Chemistry and Bioche Switzerland. *Correspondence e-mail: alessandro.genoni@u	illettes, BP 70239 oulevard des Aigu emistry, Universi ıniv-lorraine.fr, p	9, Vandoeuvre-lès-Nancy, F- uillettes, BP 70239, Vandoeu ty of Bern, Freiestrasse 3, Be iero.macchi@dcb.unibe.ch
136 https://doi.org/10.1107/S20522525	516019217		IUCrJ (2017)
The Journal of Chemical Physics		ARTICLE	scitation.org/journa

The effects of experimentally obtained electron correlation and polarization on electron densities and exchange-correlation potentials

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54506, France, vre-lès-Nancy, ern 3012,

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(using both theoretically generated and experimental X-ray structure factors as restraints)

XRW Method: a Tool to Extract Exchange-Correlation Potentials ?

IUCrJ ISSN 2052-2525	Can X-ray constrained Hartree—Fock wavefun retrieve electron correlation?		
MATERIALS COMPUTATION	Alessandro Genoni, ^{a,b} * Leonardo H. R. D Macchi ^c *	os Santos, ^c	Benjamin Meyer ^{a,b}
Received 6 September 2016 Accepted 2 December 2016	^a CNRS, Laboratoire SRSMC, UMR 7565, Boulevard des Aigu ^b Université de Lorraine, Laboratoire SRSMC, UMR 7565, Bo F-54506, France, and ^c Department of Chemistry and Bioche Switzerland. *Correspondence e-mail: alessandro.genoni@u	illettes, BP 70239 oulevard des Aigu emistry, Universi ıniv-lorraine.fr, p	9, Vandoeuvre-lès-Nancy, F- uillettes, BP 70239, Vandoeu ty of Bern, Freiestrasse 3, Be iero.macchi@dcb.unibe.ch
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Can we use the XRW approach to extract exchange-correlation potentials associated with X-ray diffraction data?

Let us see a preliminary attempt...

Let us rewrite the XRW equations for a 2N-electron closed-shell system as follows:

$$\hat{F}^{xrw} \phi_i^{xrw}(\mathbf{r}) = \left[-\frac{1}{2}\nabla^2 + v(\mathbf{r}) + 2\,\hat{G} + \hat{K} + \hat{v}^{xrw}\right]\,\phi_i^{xrw}$$

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- $v(\mathbf{r})$ as the external potential

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- $v(\mathbf{r})$ as the external potential
- \hat{G} and \hat{K} as the Coulomb and Exchange operators
- \hat{v}^{xrw} as the Jayatilaka operator due to the perturbation of the X-ray data used as restraints

$$\rightarrow \hat{v}^{xrw} = \lambda \sum_{\mathbf{h}} K_{\mathbf{h}} \operatorname{Re}\{F_{\mathbf{h}}^{calc}\} \hat{I}_{\mathbf{h},R} + \lambda \sum_{\mathbf{h}} K_{\mathbf{h}} \operatorname{Im}\{F_{\mathbf{h}}^{calc}\} \hat{I}_{\mathbf{h},C} \quad \text{with} \quad K_{\mathbf{h}} = \frac{2\eta}{N_r - N_p} \frac{\eta \left|F_{\mathbf{h}}^{calc}\right| - \left|F_{\mathbf{h}}^{exp}\right|}{\sigma_{\mathbf{h}}^2 \left|F_{\mathbf{h}}^{calc}\right|}$$

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The XRW equations can be rewritten in the form of generalized Kohn-Sham equations (with exact exchange):

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}\nabla^2 + v(\mathbf{r}) + v_H(\mathbf{r}) + \hat{u}_{xc}^{xrw} \end{bmatrix} \phi_i^{xrw}(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_i^{xrw} \ \phi_i^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})$$
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$$\hat{u}_{xc}^{xrw} = \hat{K} + \hat{v}^{xrw}$$

These generalized Kohn-Sham equations can be inverted to obtain the corresponding XRW exchange-correlation potentials (associated with the X-ray diffraction data)

 $\left[-\frac{1}{2}\nabla^2 + v(\mathbf{r}) + v_H(\mathbf{r}) + \hat{u}_{xc}^{xrw}\right] \phi_i^{xrw}(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_i^{xrw} \phi_i^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})$

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- multiplying the equation by $2\phi_i^{xrw^*}(\mathbf{r})$ (to be done for each occupied molecular orbital)

- summing the results of the previous multiplications, over *i* from 1 to N
- dividing by the XRW electron density $\rho^{XRW}(\mathbf{r})$

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XRW inversion formula (analogous to the Kohn-Sham inversion formula)

$$\overline{v_{xc}^{xrw}}(\mathbf{r}) = \overline{\epsilon^{xrw}}(\mathbf{r}) - \frac{\tau^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})}{\rho^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{\nabla^2 \rho^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})}{\rho^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})} - v(\mathbf{r}) - v_H(\mathbf{r})$$

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where:

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ital-averaged XRW exchange-correlation potential

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$$\overline{\epsilon^{xrw}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{2}{\rho^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \epsilon_i^{xrw} \ |\phi_i^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})|^2 \longrightarrow \text{average local XRW orbital energy}$$

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$$\tau^{xrw}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left| \nabla \phi_i^{xrw}(\mathbf{r}) \right|^2 \longrightarrow \text{positive-definite form of}$$

ital-averaged XRW exchange-correlation potential

cal XRW orbital energy

the XRW kinetic energy density
$$\overline{v_{xc}^{xrw}}(\mathbf{r}) = \overline{\epsilon^{xrw}}(\mathbf{r}) - \frac{\tau^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})}{\rho^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{\nabla^2 \rho^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})}{\rho^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})} - v(\mathbf{r}) - v_H(\mathbf{r})$$

An orbital-averaged XRW exchange-correlation potential can be simply obtained from an external potential $v(\mathbf{r})$, a given set of occupied X-ray restrained molecular orbitals $\{\phi_i^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})\}$, and a given set of X-ray restrained orbital energies $\{\epsilon_i^{xrw}\}$

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Possibility of determining orbital-averaged XRW "correlation" potentials:

$$\overline{v_c^{xrw}}(\mathbf{r}) = \overline{v_{xc}^{xrw}}(\mathbf{r}) - \overline{v_x^{xrw}}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\overline{v_{xc}^{xrw}}(\mathbf{r}) = \overline{\epsilon^{xrw}}(\mathbf{r}) - \frac{\tau^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})}{\rho^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{\nabla^2 \rho^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})}{\rho^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})} - v(\mathbf{r}) - v_H(\mathbf{r})$$

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In particular:

 $\overline{v_{xc}^{xrw}}(\mathbf{r}) \longrightarrow$ orbital-averaged XRW exchange-correlation potential (seen above)

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 $\overline{v_x^{xrw}}(\mathbf{r}) \longrightarrow$ obtained by exploiting the inversion formula with molecular orbitals and orbital energies resulting from the simple diagonalization of the exchange-only Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian constructed with the self-consistent XRW molecular orbitals

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The presented strategy is a density-to-potential mapping

Fitting of the exchange-correlation potential to the target density

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Proving that the capture of correlation and crystal effects on the electron density by the XRW method reflects onto the extracted orbital-averaged potentials

Extraction of $v_{xc}^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})$ and $v_{c}^{xrw}(\mathbf{r})$ potentials from X-ray data by going beyond the inversion of the XRW equations (e.g., by exploiting the modified Ryabinkin-Kohut-Staroverov approach)

density becomes ambiguous



Type of X-ray structure factors: gas-phase theoretically generated **Level of theory / basis set:** CCSD / UGBS **Size of the fictitious cubic unit-cell:** 10.0 Å

Limit of structure factor resolution: 2.0 \AA^{-1} (namely, 0.25 \AA)

λ_J	$\int \Delta \rho(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} (e)$
0.0	0.1194
10.0	0.0044
40.0	0.0015
80.0	0.0010
120.0	0.0008



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λ_J	$\int \Delta \rho(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} (e)$
0.0	0.0700
2.5	0.0145
5.0	0.0126
10.0	0.0116
20.0	0.0111
26.7	0.0110



λ_J	$\int \Delta \rho(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} (e)$
0.0	0.0700
2.5	0.0145
5.0	0.0126
10.0	0.0116
20.0	0.0111
26.7	0.0110

Type of X-ray structure factors: gas-phase theoretically generated Level of theory / basis set: CCSD / u6-311G* Size of the fictitious cubic unit-cell: 7.5 Å Limit of structure factor resolution: 4.0 Å⁻¹ (namely, 0.125 Å)



λ_J	$\int \left \Delta \rho(\mathbf{r}) \right d\mathbf{r} (e)$
0.0	0.0700
2.5	0.0145
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10.0	0.0116
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Differences between CCSD and XRW structure factor amplitudes (λ_J =26.7)





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0.3 4.0 0.2 \mathbf{O} 2.0 0.1 0.0 С 0.0 <mark>[a</mark>0] н H. -0.1 Ν -2.0 -0.2 н Η -0.3 -4.0 -0.4 -6.0 0.0 4.0 -6.0 -2.0 2.0 6.0 -4.0

y [a₀]

-0.5

 $v_{c,XRW}$ [E_h] / λ_J = 0.025

 $v_{xc,XRW}$ [E_h] / $\lambda_J = 0.0$





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0.3

0.2

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 $v_{c,XRW}$ [E_h] / $\lambda_J = 0.075$



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 $v_{c,XRW}$ [E_h] / $\lambda_J = 0.100$



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 $v_{c,XRW}$ [E_h] / $\lambda_J = 0.121$



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xc-Potentials from X-ray Data: First Conclusions and Outlooks

The capture of correlation and crystal effects on the electron density through the XRW method reflects onto the exchange-correlation potentials obtained by inverting the XRW equations

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potentials from experimental or theoretical X-ray structure factors

Exchange-correlation functionals fully compatible with experimental or high-level theoretical electron densities

Quantum Chemistry & X-ray Diffraction Measurements



X-ray structure factors to obtain improved electron densities and wavefunctions usually resulting from quantum chemistry calculations

X-ray restrained wavefunction (XRW) approach

Quantum mechanical calculations are integrated into crystal structure determinations to obtain

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Hirshfeld atom refinement (HAR)

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Aspherical atom models, where the deformations due to chemical bonding are implicitly considered

- Chemical bonds and lone pairs are taken into account
- Improvement of E-H bond lengths compared to the IAM values

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Obtaining accurate and reliable E-H bond lengths from standard X-ray diffraction measurements (with standard laboratory diffractometers) is now possible

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Hirshfeld atomic density for atom A

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Molecular electron densities are subdivided into atomic contributions proportional to the contributions of the corresponding spherical atomic densities in a *promolecule* consisting of non-interacting spherical atoms $\rho_A(\mathbf{r}) = w_A(\mathbf{r}) \, \rho_M(\mathbf{r})$ Hirshfeld atomic density for atom A $\rightarrow w_A(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\rho_A^0(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_A)}{\sum_B \rho_B^0(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_B)}$ Spherical electron density of atom A in the *promolecule* Promolecular electron density





From M. Woińska et al., *Sci. Adv.* **2**, e1600192 (2016)







The deformations of the atomic densities

The deformations of the atomic densities due the presence of bonds are well captured by the ASPHERICAL SHAPE OF THE HIRSHFELD ATOMS



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Although quite small, the aspherical deformations are probably the reasons why HAR is so successful in determining the positions of hydrogen atoms from X-ray data
















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We need QM methods that provide almost instantaneously wavefunctions and electron densities of very large systems

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Canonical Hartree-Fock Molecular Orbitals

(completely delocalized orbitals)

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Traditional Localized Molecular Orbitals

(localized orbitals but with "tails")



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Preliminary investigations on ELMOs transferability

B. Meyer, B. Guillot, M. F. Ruiz-Lopez, A. Genoni, J. Chem. Theory Comput. 12, 1052 (2016) B. Meyer, B. Guillot, M. F. Ruiz-Lopez, C. Jelsch, A. Genoni, J. Chem. Theory Comput. 12, 1068 (2016)



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Assembling ELMO-libraries to reconstruct approximate wavefunctions and electron densities of large molecules (polypeptides and proteins)

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- ELMO-libraries available for different standard basis sets of quantum chemistry

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Global CPU time with 6-311G** basis-set: ~2.5 minutes Vs. ~ 10 days for Hartree-Fock calculation

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Quantum Mechanics/Extremely Localized Molecular Orbital (QM/ELMO) technique



- Chemically active region treated at fully quantum chemical level (QM region)
- Environment described through transferred and frozen extremely localized molecular orbitals (ELMO region)
- Initially developed in the framework of the restricted Hartree-Fock formalism
- Extended to other ground state methods: DFT, post-Hartree-Fock techniques (MP2, Coupled Cluster, etc.)
- Combined with strategies for excited states: Time-Dependent DFT, Equation-of-Motion Coupled Cluster and IMOM
- More recently generalized to QM/ELMO/MM (outermost layer treated at molecular mechanics level)
- G. Macetti, A. Genoni, J. Phys. Chem. A 123, 9420 (2019)
- G. Macetti, E. K. Wieduwilt, X. Assfeld, A. Genoni, J. Chem. Theory Comput. 16, 3578 (2020)
- G. Macetti, A. Genoni, J. Chem. Theory Comput. 16, 7490 (2020)



- G. Macetti, E. K. Wieduwilt, A. Genoni, J. Phys. Chem. A 125, 2709 (2021)
- G. Macetti, A. Genoni, J. Chem. Theory Comput. 17, 4169 (2021)
- G. Macetti, A. Genoni, J. Phys. Chem. A 125, 6013 (2021)

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Coupling of HAR with ELMO libraries and QM/ELMO approach

HAR-ELMO: Validation Tests on Gly-L-Ala



L. A. Malaspina, E. K. Wieduwilt,..., S. Grabowsky, A. Genoni, J. Phys. Chem. Lett. 10, 6973 (2019)

HAR-ELMO: Application to Polypeptides

General statistics for E-H bond-lengths



Neutron reference values = Allen & Bruno average values

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HAR-ELMO: Computational Cost

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Fibril-forming segment	1:7:00:00	0:0:22:56	
Crambin (0.54 Å)	IMPOSSIBLE	9:23:47:53	
Crambin (0.73 Å)	IMPOSSIBLE	6:0:15:16	

HAR-ELMO: Computational Cost

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Significant reduction in terms of CPU time by applying the HAR-ELMO method to systems for which the original HAR-HF refinement is still feasible

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HAR-ELMO ALLOWS QUANTUM CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC REFINEMENTS WHEN THE APPLICATION **OF THE TRADITIONAL HAR-HF METHOD IS IMPOSSIBLE/IMPRACTICAL**

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The HAR-QM/ELMO Method

HAR-QM/ELMO method to refine crystal structures characterized by strong intermolecular interactions (traditional strategy of using surrounding point charges and dipoles is not enough)



QM/ELMO strategy for the quantum chemical calculations of HAR with:

- the chosen **reference crystal unit** corresponding to the **QM region**
- the crystal environment described by means of transferred and frozen ELMOs

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Application to the refinement of the xylitol crystal structure (network of strong hydrogen bonds)



B3LYP/cc-pVDZ

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neutron no embedding Å cluster charges cluster charges ELMOs Å ELMOs 📕 4 Å ELMOs + MM (4 Å - 8 Å)



Methods with a strong interplay between quantum chemistry and X-ray diffraction measurements

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Quantum Chemistry and (Quantum) Crystallography are strongly related and may "contaminate" each other to obtain better results and to develop more and more advanced methods in both fields

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Acknowledgments

Funding:





AU SERVICE DE LA SCIENCE



Acknowledgments

Funding:





... and thanks for your attention !



Alessandro Genoni CNRS & Université de Lorraine, Laboratoire LPCT, Metz, France

About the Connections and Possible Contaminations between Quantum Chemistry and Quantum Crystallography



3rd Quantum International Frontier - QIF3 Łódź, Poland - June 24, 2023