Post-Hartree-Fock Wave Function Theory

Electron Correlation and Configuration Interaction

Video IV.ii

Electron Correlation How Important is It?

The fundamental approximation of the Hartree-Fock method: interactions between electrons are treated in an *average* way, not an instantaneous way

$$
f_i = -\frac{1}{2}\nabla_i^2 - \sum_k^{\text{nuclei}} \frac{Z_k}{r_{ik}} + V_i^{\text{HF}}\{j\}
$$

Infinite basis set results

H

One electron E_{HF} = -0.500 00 a.u. $E_{\text{exact}} = -0.500\,00\,\text{a.u.}$

Two electrons E_{HF} = -2.861 68 a.u. $E_{\text{exact}} = -2.903$ 72 a.u. $Error \sim 26$ kcal mol⁻¹ !

Correlated Methods. I. Configuration Interaction

A Hartree-Fock one-electron orbital is expressed as a linear combination of basis functions with expansion coefficients optimized according to a variational principle

N

$$
|\mathbf{F} - E\mathbf{S}| = \mathbf{0} \qquad \qquad \phi = \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i \phi_i
$$

The HF many-electron wave function is the Slater determinant formed by occupation of lowest possible energy orbitals, *but, the HF orbitals are not "perfect" because of the HF approximation*

So, one way to improve things would be to treat the different Slater determinants that can be formed from *any occupation of HF orbitals* to *themselves* be a basis set to be used to create an improved many-electron wave function

$$
\|\mathbf{H} - \mathbf{ES}\| = \mathbf{0} \quad \qquad \mathbf{\Psi} = a_0 \mathbf{\Psi}_{\text{HF}} + \sum_{i}^{\text{occ. vir.}} \sum_{r}^{\text{virt.}} a_i^r \mathbf{\Psi}_i^r + \sum_{i < j}^{\text{occ. vir.}} \sum_{r < s}^{\text{vir.}} a_{ij}^{rs} \mathbf{\Psi}_{ij}^{rs} + \cdots
$$

CI in a Nutshell

The bigger the CI matrix, the more electron correlation can be captured.

The CI matrix can be made bigger either by increasing basis-set size (each block is then bigger) or by adding more highly excited configurations (more blocks).

CI calculations generally more sensitive to basis-set incompleteness than HF.

Most common compromise is to include only single and double excitations (CISD) not size extensive.

What is Size-extensivity?

Consider two non-interacting H₂ molecules in minimal basis:

$$
\Psi_{CI} = A\Psi_{CI(a)}\Psi_{CI(b)}
$$

\n
$$
= A\left(a_0|\sigma^2\right)_a + a_2|\sigma^{*2}\right)_a \left(a_0|\sigma^2\right)_b + a_2|\sigma^{*2}\rangle_b
$$

\n
$$
= A\left(a_0^2|\sigma^2\right)_a|\sigma^2\rangle_b + a_0a_2|\sigma^{*2}\rangle_a|\sigma^2\rangle_b + a_0a_2|\sigma^2\rangle_a|\sigma^{*2}\rangle_a|\sigma^{*2}\rangle_b + a_2^2|\sigma^{*2}\rangle_a|\sigma^{*2}\rangle_b
$$

CI: Thème et Variation

If one chooses not to include *all* excited configurations (full CI) perhaps one should reoptimize the basis-function coefficients of the most important orbitals instead of using their HF values

restricted active space

Maybe *more* excitations into lower-energy orbitals is a better option than *any* excitations into higherenergy orbitals

The general term for this class of calculations is multiconfiguration selfconsistent field (MCSCF)—special cases are CASSCF and RASSCF

A final option is to do a CI *after* reoptimizing the MCSCF orbitals: multireference CI (MRCI)

Conceptual Test

If you compare the geometry of a molecule computed at the Hartree-Fock level compared to the same molecule computed at the CI level, in general, do you expect the bond lengths at the CI level to be longer or shorter than those at the HF level?

Explain your reasoning.

Post-Hartree-Fock Wave Function Theory

Perturbation Theory and Coupled-Cluster Theory

Video IV.iii

Correlated Methods. II. Many-body Perturbation Theory

Rayleigh-Schrödinger perturbation theory maps an inexact operator with known eigenfunctions to an exact operator with increasing orders of accuracy

$$
\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}^{(0)} + \lambda \mathbf{V} \qquad \mathbf{A}^{(0)} \Psi_0^{(0)} = a^{(0)} \Psi_0^{(0)} \qquad \Psi_0^{(1)} = \sum_j c_j \Psi_j^{(0)}
$$
\n
$$
a_0^{(1)} = \left\langle \Psi_0^{(0)} \middle| \mathbf{V} \middle| \Psi_0^{(0)} \right\rangle
$$
\n
$$
a_0^{(2)} = \sum_{j>0} \frac{\left| \left\langle \Psi_j^{(0)} \middle| \mathbf{V} \middle| \Psi_0^{(0)} \right\rangle \right|^2}{a_0^{(0)} - a_j^{(0)}}
$$
\n
$$
c_j = \frac{\left\langle \Psi_j^{(0)} \middle| \mathbf{V} \middle| \Psi_0^{(0)} \right\rangle}{a_0^{(0)} - a_j^{(0)}}
$$
\n
$$
a_0^{(3)} = \sum_{j>0, k>0} \frac{\left\langle \Psi_0^{(0)} \middle| \mathbf{V} \middle| \Psi_j^{(0)} \right\rangle \left[\left\langle \Psi_j^{(0)} \middle| \mathbf{V} \middle| \Psi_k^{(0)} \right\rangle - \delta_{jk} \left\langle \Psi_0^{(0)} \middle| \mathbf{V} \middle| \Psi_0^{(0)} \right\rangle \right] \left\langle \Psi_k^{(0)} \middle| \mathbf{V} \middle| \Psi_0^{(0)} \right\rangle}{\left(a_0^{(0)} - a_j^{(0)} \right) \left(a_0^{(0)} - a_k^{(0)} \right)}
$$

Møller-Plesset (MP) Perturbation Theory

Møller and Plesset (MP) first suggested mapping from the zeroth-order Fock operator (a sum of one-electron mean-field operators) to the correct Hamiltonian (the "perturbation" is the entire electron repulsion energy, which is double counted in the sum of HF occupied eigenvalues)

$$
H = F^{(0)} + \lambda \left[\sum_{i}^{\text{occ.occ.}} \sum_{j>i}^{1} \frac{1}{r_{ij}} - \sum_{i}^{\text{occ.occ.}} \sum_{j}^{1} \left(J_{ij} - \frac{1}{2} K_{ij} \right) \right] \qquad F^{(0)} \Psi_0^{(HF)} = \sum_{i}^{\text{occ.}} \varepsilon_i \Psi_0^{(HF)}
$$

 $a_0^{(1)} = \left\langle \Psi_0^{(0)} \middle| \mathbf{V} \middle| \Psi_0^{(0)} \right\rangle$ By construction,

$$
a_0^{(2)} = \sum_{i}^{\text{occ.occ. vir.}} \sum_{j>i}^{\text{vir.}} \sum_{a}^{\text{vir.}} \sum_{b>a}^{\text{vir.}} \frac{\left[(ij|ab) - (ia|jb) \right]^2}{\varepsilon_i + \varepsilon_j - \varepsilon_a - \varepsilon_b}
$$

$$
a^{(0)} + a^{(1)} = E_{\text{HF}}
$$

Eigenvalues already available; requires computation of electronrepulsion integrals over MOs; favorable scaling; size extensive; higher orders well defined but not necessarily convergent.

Correlated Methods. II. Many-body Perturbation Theory

- Rayleigh-Schrödinger perturbation theory maps an inexact operator with known eigenfunctions to an exact operator with increasing orders of accuracy
- Møller and Plesset (MP) first suggested mapping from the zeroth-order Fock operator to the correct Hamiltonian (the "perturbation" is the entire electron repulsion energy…)
- MP0 double-counts electron repulsion, MP1 = HF, MP2 captures a "good" amount of correlation energy at low cost, higher orders available (up to about MP6 in modern codes—becomes expensive rapidly)
- Multireference options available: CASPT2, RASPT2, and analogs
- No guarantee of convergent behavior—pathological cases occur with unpleasant frequency

Correlated Methods. III. Coupled Cluster

CI adopts a linear ansatz to improve upon the HF reference

$$
\Psi = a_0 \Psi_{\text{HF}} + \sum_{i}^{\text{occ. vir.}} \sum_{r}^{\text{vir.}} a_i^r \Psi_i^r + \sum_{i < j}^{\text{occ. vir.}} \sum_{r < s}^{\text{vir.}} a_{ij}^{rs} \Psi_{ij}^{rs} + \cdots
$$

Coupled cluster proceeds from the idea that accouting for the interaction of one electron with more than a single other electron is unlikely to be important. Thus, to the extent that "many-electron" interactions are important, it will be through simultaneous pair interactions, or so-called "disconnected clusters"

An exponential ansatz can accomplish this in an elegant way. If we define excitation operators, e.g., the double excitation operator as

$$
\mathbf{T}_2 \Psi_{\mathrm{HF}} = \sum_{i < j}^{\mathrm{occ. \, vir.}} \sum_{a < b} t_{ij}^{ab} \Psi_{ij}^{ab}
$$

Then the full CI wave function for n electrons can be generated from the action of $1 + T = 1 + T_1 + T_2 + \cdots + T_n$ on the HF reference

Correlated Methods. III. Coupled Cluster (cont.)

More importantly, if we consider the action of e^T on the HF reference, restricting ourselves for the moment to just $T = T_2$

$$
\Psi_{\text{CCD}} = e^{\mathbf{T}_2} \Psi_{\text{HF}}
$$

= $\left(1 + \mathbf{T}_2 + \frac{\mathbf{T}_2^2}{2!} + \frac{\mathbf{T}_2^3}{3!} + \cdots \right) \Psi_{\text{HF}}$

Note that repeated applications of T_2 (which is what is implied in squared, cubed, etc. terms) generates the desired "disconnected clusters"

Like CID, an iterative solution to coupled equations can be undertaken €

$$
\langle \Psi_{\text{HF}} | \mathbf{H} | e^{\mathbf{T}_2} \Psi_{\text{HF}} \rangle = E_{\text{corr}} \langle \Psi_{\text{HF}} | \left(\Psi_{\text{HF}} + \sum_{A < B, I < J} t_{ab}^{ij} \Psi_{ab}^{ij} \right) \rangle = E_{\text{corr}}
$$

$$
\left\langle \Psi_{ab}^{ij} \left| H \right| e^{\mathbf{T}_2} \Psi_{\mathrm{HF}} \right\rangle = \left\langle \Psi_{ab}^{ij} \left| H \right| \left(1 + \mathbf{T}_2 + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{T}_2^2 \right) \Psi_{\mathrm{HF}} \right\rangle = t_{ab}^{ij} E_{\mathrm{corr}}
$$

Correlated Methods. III. Coupled Cluster (cont.)

The math is somewhat tedious, but the CC equations can be shown to be sizeextensive for any level of excitation

CCSD (single and double excitations) is convenient but addition of disconnected triples (CCSDT) is very expensive. A perturbative estimate of the effect of triple excitations defines the CCSD(T) method, sometimes called the "gold standard" of modern single-reference WFT

Post-HF levels: Price/Performance

$HF < MP2 \sim MP3 \sim CCD < CISD$

$\langle \text{MP4SDQ} \rangle \sim \text{QCISD} \sim \text{CCSD} \langle \text{MP4} \rangle \langle \text{QCISD}(T) \rangle \sim \text{CCSD}(T) \langle \text{...} \rangle$

From Electronic Energies to **Thermodynamics**

The Triumph of Statistical Mechanics (*The Ideal-Gas, Rigid-Rotator, Quantum-Mechanical-Harmonic-Oscillator Approximation*)

Video IV.iv

How Does an Electronic Energy Relate to a Thermodynamic Quantity?

- Electronic energies are unspeakably tiny energies referring to the *potential* energy of a single molecule at 0 K characterized by classical nuclei (only the electrons are treated quantum mechanically)
- Chemistry involves an unspeakably *large* number of molecules whose distribution is governed by Boltzmann statistics at equilibrium
- Thermodynamic quantities describe the *ensemble* properties of large numbers of molecules
- One molecule at 0 K is like a ball on a PES, one *mole* of molecules at non-zero *T* is like a dense flock of birds, thinning in all directions from a central point, hovering above that surface and in constant motion with individual birds going up, down, back, and forth…

Fundamental Equations of Thermodynamics

The partition
function
function

$$
Q(N, V, T) = \sum_{i} e^{-E_i (N, V) / k_B T}
$$

Internal energy

$$
U = k_B T^2 \left(\frac{\partial \ln Q}{\partial T}\right)_{N, V}
$$

 $H = U + PV$ *Enthalpy*

Entropy
$$
S = k_B \ln Q + k_B T \left(\frac{\partial \ln Q}{\partial T}\right)_{N,V}
$$

Note how in thermodynamics the partition function has essentially the same status as the wave function has in quantum mechanics

Gibbs Free Energy (Free Enthalpy)

$$
G = H - TS
$$

A Convenient Partition Function

The partition
function
$$
Q(N, V, T) = \sum_{i} e^{-E_i (N, V)/k_B T}
$$

Identifying all possible energy states available to an arbitrary system is a brobdingnagian task. A simplification is to take the system to be an ideal gas. By definition, the individual molecules of the ideal gas do not *interact with one another, so the total energy is the sum of their individual energies:*

$$
Q(N, V, T) = \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{i} e^{-\left[\epsilon_1(V) + \epsilon_2(V) + \cdots + \epsilon_N(V)\right]_i / k_B T}
$$

\n
$$
= \frac{1}{N!} \left[\sum_{j(1)} e^{-\epsilon_j(1)(V) / k_B T} \right] \left[\sum_{j(2)} e^{-\epsilon_j(2)(V) / k_B T} \right] \cdots \left[\sum_{j(N)} e^{-\epsilon_j(N)(V) / k_B T} \right]
$$

\n
$$
= \frac{1}{N!} \left[\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} g_k e^{-\epsilon_k(V) / k_B T} \right]^N
$$

\n
$$
= \frac{1}{N!} \left[\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} g_k e^{-\epsilon_k(V) / k_B T} \right]^N
$$

\n
$$
= \frac{[q(V, T)]^N}{N!}
$$

\n
$$
= \frac{q(V, T)^N}{N!}
$$

\n
$$
= \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{q(K, T)^N}{N!}
$$

\n
$$
= \frac{1}{N!} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{q(K
$$

What Contributes to the Total Energy of a Molecule?

Electronic energy: (from Schrödinger or Kohn-Sham eqs)

Translational kinetic energy: (dense levels, like classical system; depends only on molecular weight, *choice of standardstate volume*, and temperature; 0 at 0 K)

Rotational kinetic energy: (if rigid rotator: dense levels, like classical system; depends only on principal moments of inertia and temperature; 0 at 0 K)

Vibrational kinetic energy: (if harmonic oscillator: *not* dense levels, but convergent sum; depends only on molecular vibrational frequencies (normal modes) and temperature; *not* 0 at 0 K for QMHO)

Zero-point vibrational energy (ZPVE)

Practical thermodynamic calculations require only that a geometry and vibrational frequencies be available

How to Reconcile Experimental and Theoretical Standard-State Conventions?

Elemental Standard States

Conceptual Test

Calculations at semiempirical levels of theory report heats of formation without ever doing frequency calculations. Explain how the predicted heat of formation is computed and what is involved in foregoing a frequency calculation.

How 'bout Those Post-HF WFTs?

Benchmarking the Models

Video IV.v

Post-HF levels: Price/Performance

$HF < MP2 \sim MP3 \sim CCD < CISD$

$\langle \text{MP4SDQ} \rangle \sim \text{QCISD} \sim \text{CCSD} \langle \text{MP4} \rangle \langle \text{QCISD}(T) \rangle \sim \text{CCSD}(T) \langle \text{...} \rangle$

How Do Post-HF Theories Do? *Various Atomization Energy Test Sets*

- HF/6-311+G(3df,2p): MUE, 211.5 kcal mol⁻¹; Max, 582.2 kcal mol–1
- TPSSh/6-311++G(3df,3pd): MUE, 3.9 kcal mol⁻¹; Max, 16.2 kcal mol -1
- MP2/6-311+G(3df,2p): MUE, 9.7 kcal mol⁻¹; Max, \sim 25 kcal mol⁻¹
- QCISD/6-31G(d): MUE, 51.7 kcal mol⁻¹ (109 molecules)
- $CCSD(T)/6-311G(2df,p)$: MUE, 11.5 kcal mol⁻¹ (32 molecules)

Great theories, maybe, but disastrous thermochemistry

Correlated Methods. IV. Multilevel Protocols

Use of an incomplete (i.e., non-infinite basis set) leads to errors—for some levels of theory, one knows the manner in which the infinite limit is approached, so one can extrapolate to the infinite basis result. E.g., for HF:

$$
E_{\text{HF},\infty} = \frac{x^5 E_{\text{HF},x} - y^5 E_{\text{HF},y}}{x^5 - y^5}
$$

where *x* and *y* are the highest angular momentum quantum numbers in the basis sets (e.g., $d = 2$, $f = 3$, etc.)

€ Similar scaling for some correlation-energy schemes

$$
E_{\text{corr},\infty} = \frac{x^3 E_{\text{corr},x} - y^3 E_{\text{corr},y}}{x^3 - y^3}
$$

Multilevel Protocols: Tema y Variación

Rather than estimating limits in a rigorous fashion, consider total energy to be a linear combination of components with empirically optimized coefficients

$$
E_{\text{multilevel}} = \sum_{i}^{\text{components}} c_i \varepsilon_i
$$

may also include scaled thermochemical contributions, of course

How Do Multilevel Protocols Do? *Various Atomization Energy Test Sets*

- HF/6-311+G(3df,2p): MUE, 211.5 kcal mol⁻¹; Max, 582.2 kcal mol–1
- MP2/6-311+G(3df,2p): MUE, 9.7 kcal mol⁻¹; Max, \sim 25 kcal mol⁻¹
- CBS-Q: MUE, 1.2 kcal mol⁻¹; Max, 8.1 kcal mol⁻¹
- G3: MUE, 1.1 kcal mol⁻¹; Max, 7.1 kcal mol⁻¹
- W2: MUE, 0.5 kcal mol⁻¹; Max, 1.9 kcal mol⁻¹ (55 molecules—wildly expensive)

What's the Right Way to Do a Calculation?

- Solve the Schrödinger equation exactly (full CI, infinite basis)—rarely practical…
- Use a multilevel approach to get as close as you can to the exact solution
- Use an isodesmic protocol to foster error cancellation
- Assume error transferability between related known and unknown systems at an affordable level
- Assume that good results for a known property of the system will ensure good results for an unknown
- Indulge in optimism and hope

Density Functional Theory—No Panacea

In its Kohn-Sham implementation, DFT also employs a one-electron-operator formalism to compute densities/ energies

$$
h_i^{\text{KS}} = -\frac{1}{2}\nabla_i^2 - \sum_k^{\text{nuclei}} \frac{Z_k}{\mathbf{r}_k} + \int \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}'|} d\mathbf{r}' + V_{\text{xc}}
$$

€ and the correct form for $V_{\rm xc}$ is known only for very simple model systems (e.g., the uniform electron gas)

PBE/cc-pV5Z

H

One electron E_{DFT} = -0.499 97 a.u. $E_{\text{exact}} = -0.500\,00\,\text{a.u.}$

Two electrons E_{DFT} = -2.892 83 a.u. $E_{\text{exact}} = -2.903$ 72 a.u. $Error \sim 7$ kcal mol⁻¹

What the Hell is Density Functional Theory?

Hohenberg and Kohn proved that the total energy can be determined exclusively from the electron density

 $E[\rho(\mathbf{r})] = T[\rho(\mathbf{r})] + V[\rho(\mathbf{r})]$

In practice one employs conceptually simple but operationally challenging!

$$
E[\rho(\mathbf{r})] = T[\rho^*(\mathbf{r})] - \sum_{k}^{\text{nuclei}} \int \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r})Z_k}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_k|} d\mathbf{r} + \frac{1}{2} \iint \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r})\rho(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' + V_{\text{xc}}[\rho(\mathbf{r})]
$$

where ρ* is the correct density but for *non-interacting* electrons and V_{xc} corrects for this approximation and using the classical repulsion energy

How Do One-electron Theories Do? *G3/99 Test Set (223 Molecules)*

- HF/6-311+G(3df,2p): MUE, 211.5 kcal mol⁻¹; Max, 582.2 kcal mol–1
- LDA/6-311+G(2df,p): MUE, 121.9 kcal mol⁻¹; Max, 347.5 kcal mol–1
- BPW91/6-311++G(3df,3pd): MUE, 9.0 kcal mol⁻¹; Max, 28.0 kcal mol⁻¹
- TPSS/6-311++G(3df,3pd): MUE, 5.8 kcal mol⁻¹; Max, 22.9 kcal mol–1
- TPSSh/6-311++G(3df,3pd): MUE, 3.9 kcal mol-1; Max, 16.2 kcal mol -1

Hybrid DFT not bad, but still not really acceptable