



2221-7

Hands-on Tutorial on Electronic Structure Computations

17 - 21 January 2011

X-ray absorption

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XSPECTRA

A tool for X-ray absorption spectra (XAS) calculations Matteo Calandra

/afs/ictp/public/shared/qetutorial/Matteo/References/Lectures_XAS.pdf

C. Gougoussis, M. Calandra, A. P. Seitsonen, and F. Mauri Phys. Rev. B **80**, 075102 (2009)

P. Giannozzi et al., J. Phys. Condens. Matter **21**, 395502 (2009).









XSPECTRA (General questions)

What is it?

XSPECTRA calculate K and L_1 X-ray absorption dipolar and quadrupolar cross sections in the pre-edge to near-edge region.

Where can I find XSPECTRA?

XSPECTRA is distributed in the QUANTUM-ESPRESSO package.

Can I use it?

XSPECTRA is distributed under the GNU licence, so you can use it for free. Please remember to cite the following papers to acknowledge people building the software:

P. Giannozzi et al., J. Phys. Condens. Matter **21**, 395502 (2009).

C. Gougoussis, M. Calandra, A. P. Seitsonen, and F. Mauri, Phys. Rev. B 80, 075102 (2009)

How does it work?

This is what we will learn today...

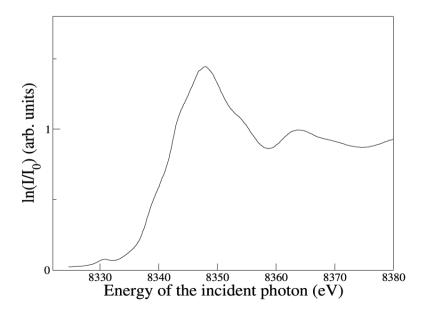
Outline

- XAS in a nutshell.
- XSPECTRA
- ➡ Theory (PAW)
- ➡ The Lanczos Method
- Running XSPECTRA
- Tutorials
- Diamond
- ⇒ SiO2

Conclusion

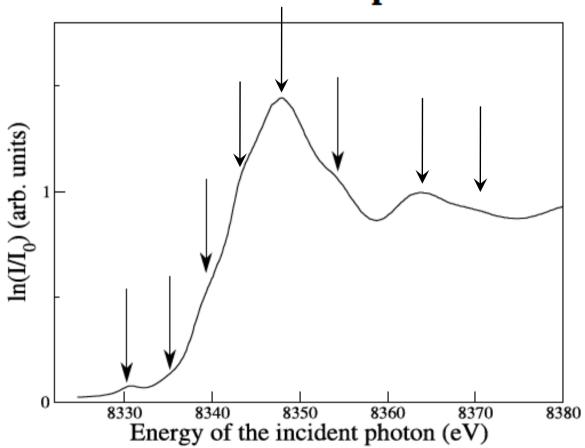
X-ray source (synchrotron) Incident X-ray beam Crystal I Transmitted X-ray Beam Detector

Result:

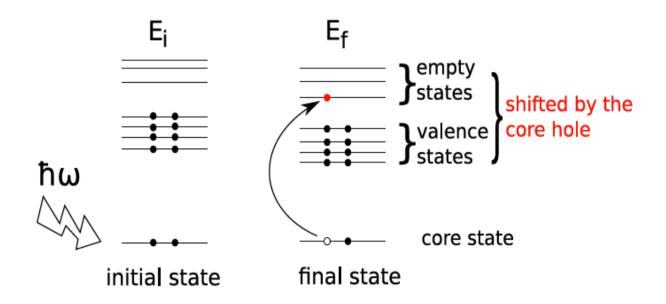


Ni K-edge XAS of NiO





XSPECTRA was built to answer this question.



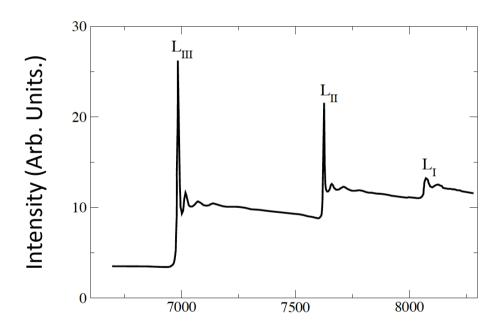
Challenge: describe core-hole attraction from first principles.

Chemical and Orbital selectivity

The choice of the incident photon energy selects the core electron excited. It permits to choose

- (i) the atom from which the electron is excited (absorbing atom).
- (ii) the atomic level from which the electron is excited.

Example: Eu L₁, L₂, L₃ edges



Core state	Luge Harrie
1s	K
$2\mathrm{s}$	L_1
$\begin{array}{c} 2p_{1/2} \\ 2p_{3/2} \\ 3s \end{array}$	L_2
$2p_{3/2}$	L_3
$\overline{3}_{\mathrm{S}}$	M_1

Core state

Edge name

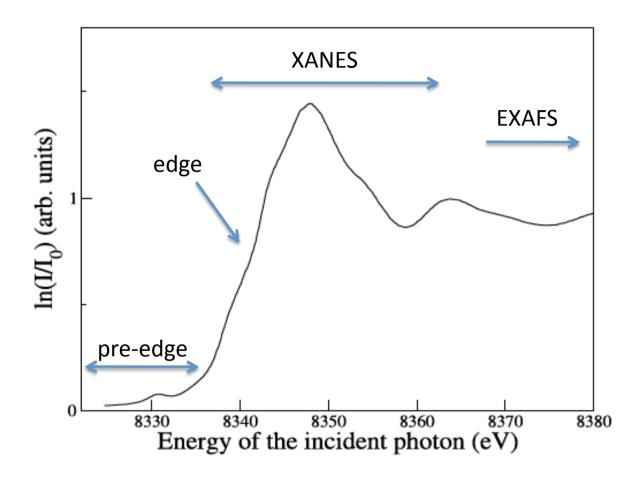
Chemical and Orbital selectivity

The choice of the incident photon energy selects which core electron is excited. Experimentalists are then free to choose:

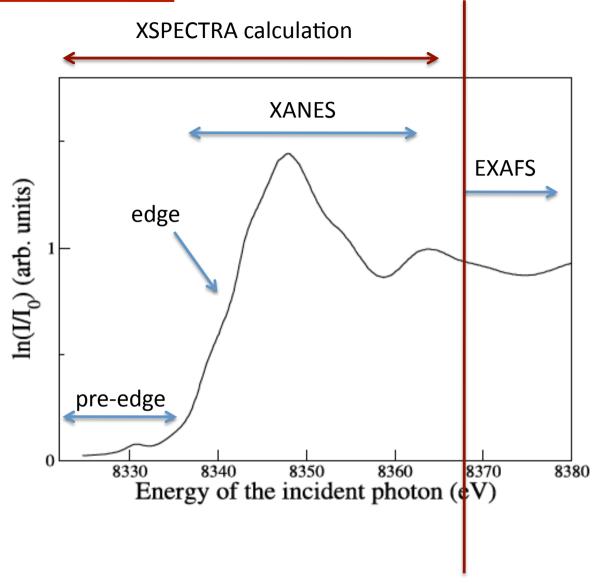
- (i) the atom from which the electron is excited (absorbing atom).
- (ii) the atomic level from which the electron is excited.

Note that core-sate binding energies of atoms are very different:

Element	K 1s	L ₁ 2s	L ₂ 2p _{1/2}	L ₃ 2p _{3/2}	M ₁ 3s	M ₂ 3p _{1/2}	M ₃ 3p _{3/2}
1 H	13.6						
2 He	24.6*						
3 Li	54.7*						
4 Be	111.5*						
5 B	188*						
6 C	284.2*						
7 N	409.9*	37.3*					
8 O	543.1*	41.6*					
9 F	696.7*						
10 Ne	870.2*	48.5*	21.7*	21.6*			
11 Na	1070.8†	63.5†	30.65	30.81			
12 Mg	1303.0†	88.7	49.78	49.50			
13 A1	1559.6	117.8	72.95	72.55			
14 Si	1839	149.7*b	99.82	99.42			
15 P	2145.5	189*	136*	135*			
16 S	2472	230.9	163.6*	162.5*			
17 C1	2822.4	270*	202*	200*			
18 Ar	3205.9*	326.3*	250.6†	248.4*	29.3*	15.9*	15.7*
19 K	3608.4*	378.6*	297.3*	294.6*	34.8*	18.3*	18.3*
20 Ca	4038.5*	438.4†	349.7†	346.2†	44.3 †	25.4†	25.4†
21 Sc	4492	498.0*	403.6*	398.7*	51.1*	28.3*	28.3*
22 Ti	4966	560.9†	460.2†	453.8†	58.7†	32.6†	32.6†



XANES=X-ray near edge structures. EXAFS=Extended X-Ray Absorption Fine Structure.



XANES=X-ray near edge structures. EXAFS=Extended X-Ray Absorption Fine Structure.

XAS cross section

From Fermi golden-rule:

$$\sigma(\hbar\omega) = 4\pi^2\alpha\hbar\omega\sum_f |\langle f|\mathcal{O}|i\rangle|^2\,\delta(E_f-E_i-\hbar\omega)$$
 Final state with a core-hole no core-hole no core-hole energy

The matrix element is:

$$\mathcal{O} = \epsilon_{\uparrow} \mathbf{r} + \frac{i}{2} (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}) (\epsilon \cdot \mathbf{r})$$
electric dipole electric quadrupole
1s \rightarrow p states 1s \rightarrow d states

See Ch. Brouder, J. Phys. Cond. Matt. 2, 701 (1990) for more details.

XAS cross section

In the absence of a magnetic field the cross section can be separated in dipolar and quadrupolar terms (cross terms are zero in this case):

$$\sigma = \sigma_D + \sigma_Q$$

with:

$$\sigma_{D} = 4\pi^{2}\alpha\hbar\omega \sum_{f} \left| \langle f | \sum_{j} \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{j} | i \rangle \right|^{2} \delta(E_{f} - E_{i} - \hbar\omega)$$

$$\sigma_{Q} = 4\pi^{2}\alpha\hbar\omega \sum_{f} \left| \langle f | \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j} (\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{j}) (\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{j}) | i \rangle \right|^{2} \delta(E_{f} - E_{i} - \hbar\omega)$$

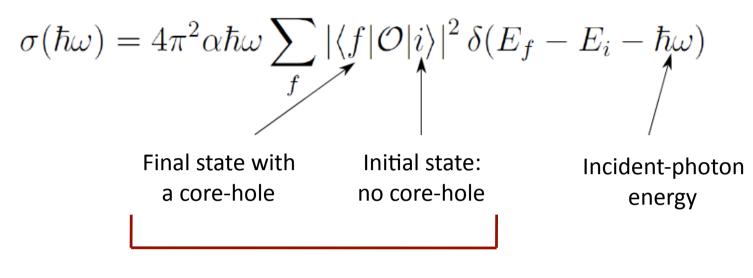
and the two terms can be calculated separately.

The quadrupolar part is in the pre-edge region.

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ALL ELECTRON STATES

However we have pseudopotentials and we do not have all-electron states!

How to solve this problem?

Use the projected augmented wave (PAW) method!

P. E. Blöchl, Phys. Rev. B **50**, 17953 (1994)

PAW for XAS – short explanation

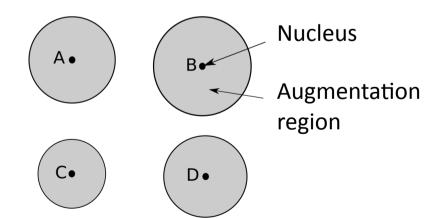
As we use pseudopotentials, the electron wavefunction that we obtain in our simulation is different from the all-electron wavefunction:



Assume that a linear mapping exists between the two wavefunctions:

$$|\psi\rangle = \mathcal{T}|\tilde{\psi}\rangle$$

As the pseudowavefunction differs from the AE one only in the augmentation region (core region) then the mapping operator is different from the identity only in the augmentation region.



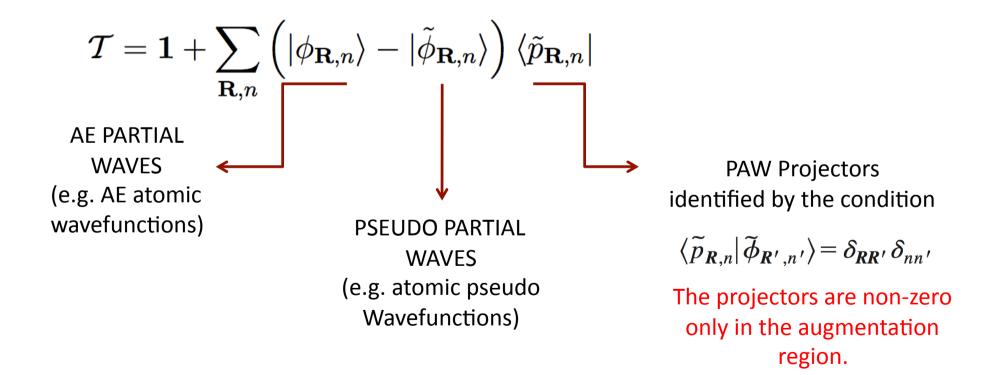
PAW for XAS – short explanation

The mapping is written as:

$$\mathcal{T} = 1 + \sum_{\mathbf{R}} \mathcal{T}_{\mathbf{R}}$$

R= coordinates of the nuclei

with



P. E. Blöchl, Phys. Rev. B **50**, 17953 (1994)

Replacing $|\psi_f\rangle = \mathcal{T}|\tilde{\psi}_f\rangle$ in the XAS cross section and using the localization of the core state we obtain

$$\sigma(\omega) = 4\pi^2 \alpha_0 \hbar \omega \sum_{f} \left| \left\langle \tilde{\psi}_f \left| \tilde{\varphi}_{\mathbf{R}_0} \right\rangle \right|^2 \delta(E_f - E_i - \hbar \omega) \right|$$

where

$$\left|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\varphi}}_{\mathbf{R}_{0}}\right\rangle = \sum_{n} \left|\tilde{p}_{\mathbf{R}_{0},n}\right\rangle \left\langle \boldsymbol{\phi}_{\mathbf{R}_{0},n} \left|O\right| \boldsymbol{\psi}_{i}\right\rangle$$
 and $O = \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \cdot \boldsymbol{r} + \frac{i}{2} (\boldsymbol{k} \cdot \boldsymbol{r}) (\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \cdot \boldsymbol{r})$

and \mathbf{R}_0 is the position of the absorbing atom.

Thus in order to calculate the matrix-element one needs:

- .1. ψ_i = The core wavefunction of the absorbing atom (e. g. 1s state for K-edge) WITHOUT A CORE-HOLE.
- .2. ϕ = The AE partial waves centered on the absorbing atom (e.g. AE atomic states)
- .3. PAW projectors.

M. Taillefumier et al. PRB 66, 195107 (2002)

WARNING: The sum

$$\left| \tilde{\varphi}_{\mathbf{R}_0} \right\rangle = \sum_{n} \left| \tilde{p}_{\mathbf{R}_0,n} \right\rangle \left\langle \phi_{\mathbf{R}_0,n} \left| O \right| \psi_i \right\rangle$$

is actually over a complete set (infinite number) of projector (unfeasible).

In practice we have to reduce the number of projectors to a finite number.

You need two projectors per channel (i.e. per angular momentum I) in order to have correct XAS intensity up to \sim 50 eV from the Fermi level.

Use of a single projector gives incorrect dipole/quadrupole ration and in most of the case gives wrong intensities.

Projectors have to be linearly indipendent, namely they must really span a dimension 2 subspace.

XSPECTRA (The lanczos method)

In the XAS cross-section you need to perform a sum over all empty states

$$\sigma(\omega) = 4\pi^2 \alpha_0 \hbar \omega \sum_{f} \left| \left\langle \tilde{\psi}_f \left| \tilde{\varphi}_{\mathbf{R}_0} \right\rangle \right|^2 \delta(E_f - E_i - \hbar \omega) \right|$$

This is of course very demanding if done in a brute-force way. XSPECTRA use the lanczos method. Rewriting:

$$\sigma(\omega) = 4\pi^{2}\alpha_{0}\hbar\omega\operatorname{Im}\left\langle \tilde{\varphi}_{\mathbf{R}_{0}} \left| \left(E_{i} + \hbar\omega - H + i\gamma \right)^{-1} \right| \tilde{\varphi}_{\mathbf{R}_{0}} \right\rangle$$

And this can be computed using the Lanczos method and the continous fraction. Thus in the XSPECTRA input we will have to specify:

xniter=Maximal number of iteration to be used in the lanczos method.

xerror=Convergence threashold for the Lanczos method (On the integral of the XAS cross section).

xcheck_conv=Number of iteration between two convergence checks. xgamma=Lorentzian broadening (core-hole linewidth)

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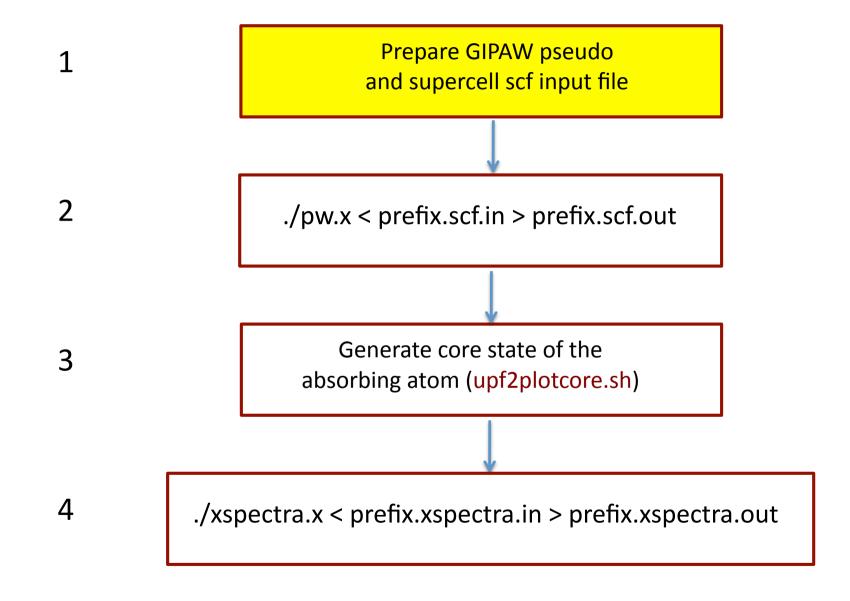
Before going on...

- 1. Login
- 2. cd /scratch/
- 3. Create a directory with your name: mkdir yourname
- 4. cp /afs/ictp/public/shared/qetutorial/Matteo//scratch/yourname/

Directory structure

```
Subdirectory ./Binaries/
        Here all the Binaries needed to run xspectra are included.
        PLEASE USE THESE BINARIES.
Subdirectory ./Gipaw_Pseudo_Generation/
        Here all the input files necessary to generate GIPAW pseudopotentials
        with and without a core-hole are included.
Subdirectory ./Diamond/
             /Diamond_nohole/
             /SiO2/
                          Examples and exercises.
Subdirectory ./References/
                Relevant papers with fully converged results
```

and these lectures.



(GI)PAW – what do we need?

- .1. ψ_i = The core wavefunction of the absorbing atom (e. g. 1s state for K-edge) WITHOUT A CORE-HOLE
- .2. ϕ = The AE partial waves centered on the absorbing atom (e.g. AE atomic states)
- .3. Blochl projectors.

All these quantities can be calculated from the atomic code as they involve only the solution for an isolated atom.

These informations are contained in (GI)PAW pseudopotentials.

A GIPAW pseudopotential is needed only for the absorbing atom, for the other atomic species use any other pseudopotential avialable

Now we see how to generate them in the case of Carbon.

Generation of (GI)PAW pseudopotentials

We generate a pseudopotential to study dipolar K-edge XAS transition in diamond,

$$1s \rightarrow p$$
 empty states

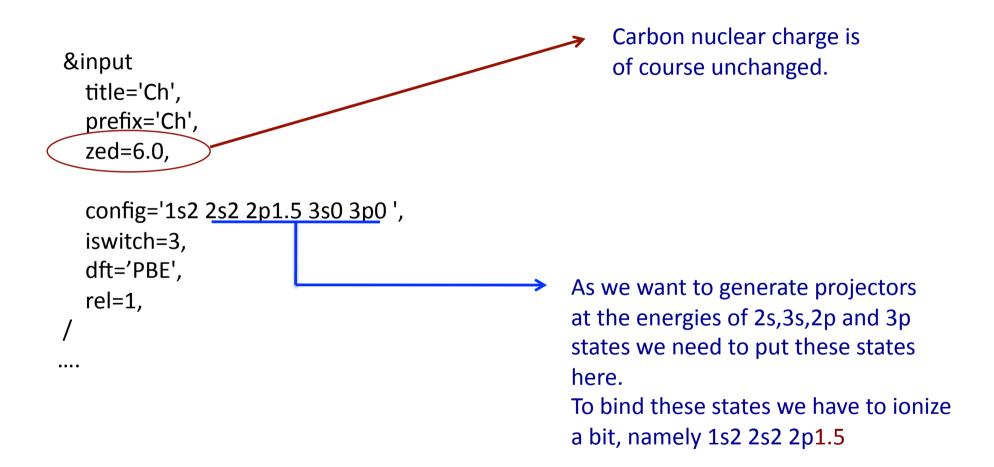
so we need to generate a pseudopotential with two p projectors. As an exercise (even if not needed) we also include two s projectors.

We choose to generate the projectors as follows:

Projector channel	Energy first projector	Energy second projector		
S	2s state	3s state		
р	2p state	3p state		

File ./Gipaw_Pseudo_Generation/C/C.ld1.in

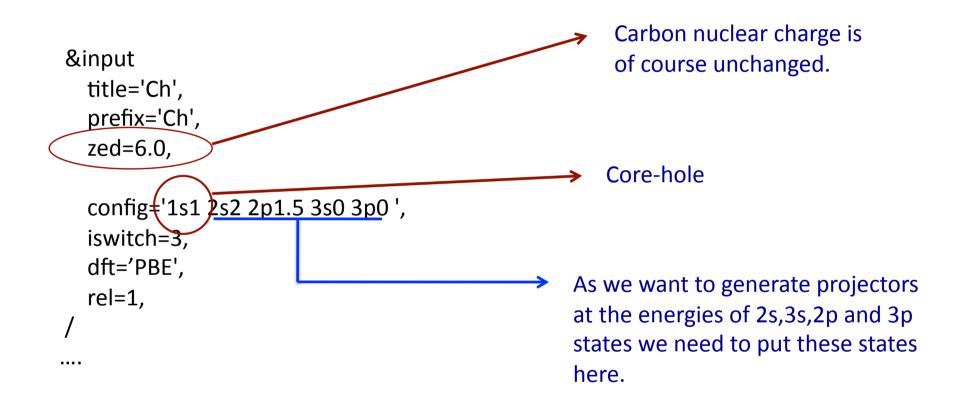
NO CORE-HOLE



iswitch=3, means: generation of a pseudopotential

File ./Gipaw_Pseudo_Generation/C_Hole/Ch.ld1.in

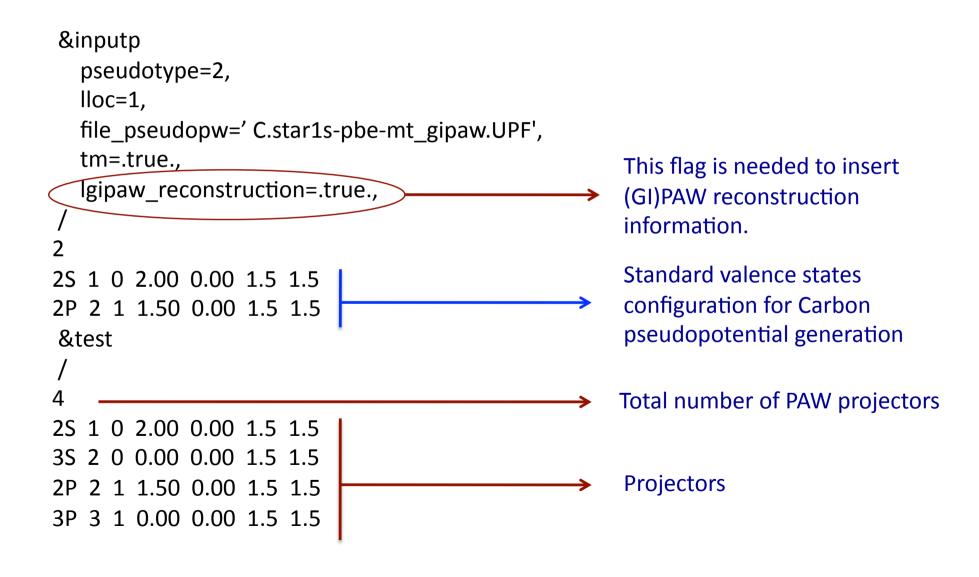
WITH CORE-HOLE



iswitch=3, means: generation of a pseudopotential

Generation of (GI)PAW pseudopotentials

File ./Gipaw_Pseudo_Generation/C_Hole/Ch.ld1.in



Generation of (GI)PAW pseudopotentials

Then performing

generate the pseudopotential

C.star1s-pbe-mt_gipaw.UPF

of the QE-XSPECTRA distribution.

Inside the pseudo all the informations needed to perform an XSPECTRA calculation are contained.

Pseudopotential name notation

Pseudopotentials including (GI)PAW informations are already available in the QUANTUM-ESPRESSO pseudopotential table, for example:

Ni.star1s-pbe-sp-mt_gipaw.UPF

starNs means a core-hole in the s state with principal quantum number N.

PBE is the exchange-correlation functional used

gipaw means that gipaw informations are included in the absorbing atom.

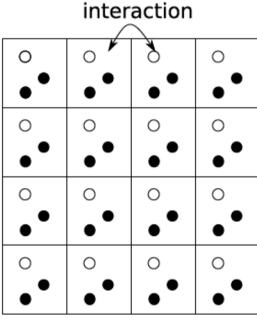
XSPECTRA (Modeling the core hole)

After generation of the core-hole pseudopotential, build your structure with your pseudopotential starNs gipaw in the absorbing atom position.

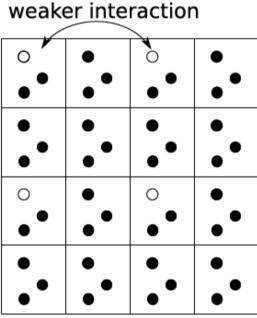
As we work with pbc we also need to build a supercell to minimize the interaction between the core-hole and its periodic image

Supercell calculations

- O atom with a core hole
- atom without core hole



simple cell with one core hole by cell



2x2 supercell with one core hole by supercell

XSPECTRA (Modeling the core hole)

After generation of the core-hole pseudopotential, build your structure with your pseudopotential starNs gipaw in the absorbing atom position.

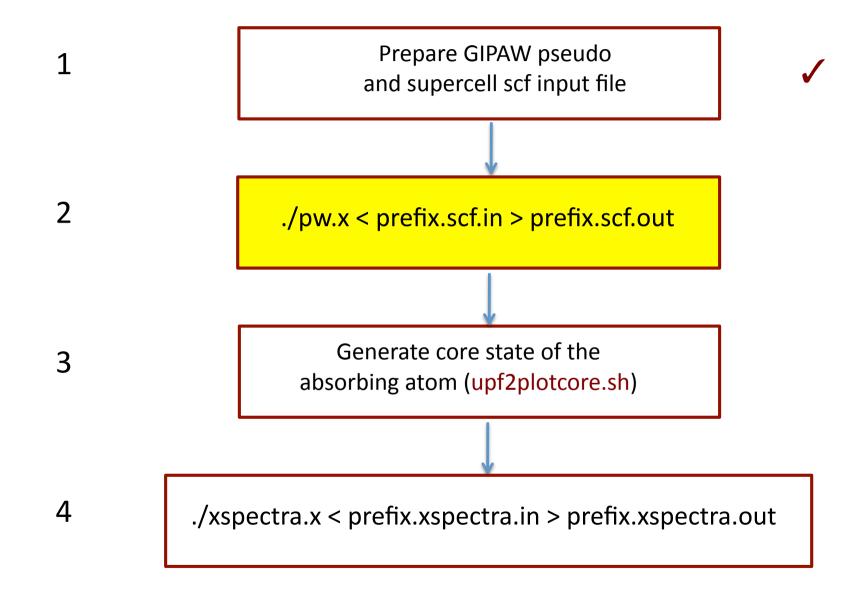
As we work with pbc we also need to build a supercell to minimize the interaction between the cote-hole and its periodic image

How big must the supercell be?

Perform different calculations for different supercells and see when the result converges.

Rule of thumb: usually you need at least 6-7 Angstrom distance between the core-hole and its periodic image.

Running XSPECTRA



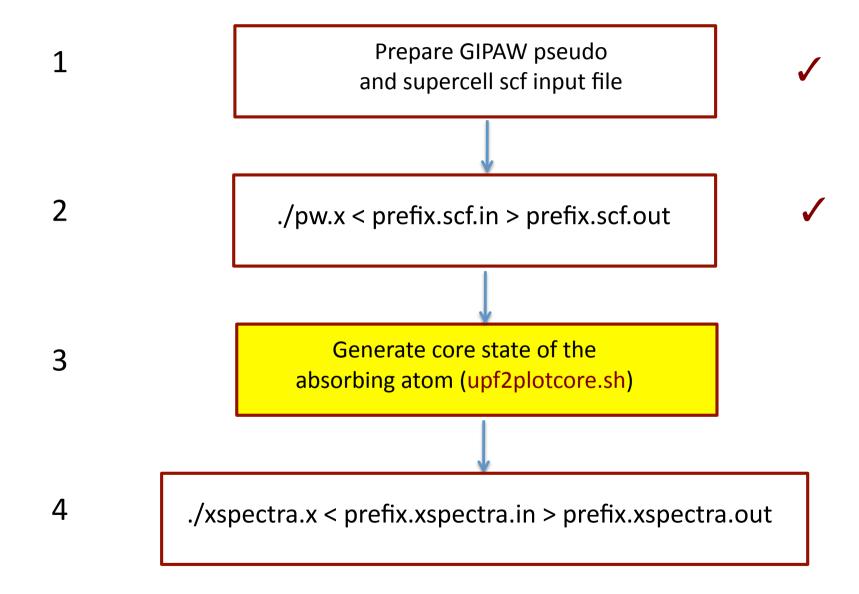
Step 2 – electronic density generation

```
Dir: ./Diamond/
file: diamond.scf.in
      &control
                                                         SCF calculation to obtain the
       calculation='scf',
                                                          electronic charge density
       pseudo_dir = '$PSEUDO_DIR/',
       outdir='$TMP DIR/',
        prefix='diamondh',
      &system
                                                         8 atoms supercell. Note ntyp=2
       ibrav = 1,
                                                          as the absorbing atom MUST
       celldm(1) = 6.740256,
                                                         is considered different from the
       nat=8,
                                                               other atomic types.
       ntyp=2,
       nbnd=16,
                                                             Needs to be specified when a
       tot_charge=+1.0,
                                                          core-hole is present tp compensate
       ecutwfc=40.0,
                                                             for the additional electron in
                                                                     empty states.
      &electrons
     ATOMIC_SPECIES
```

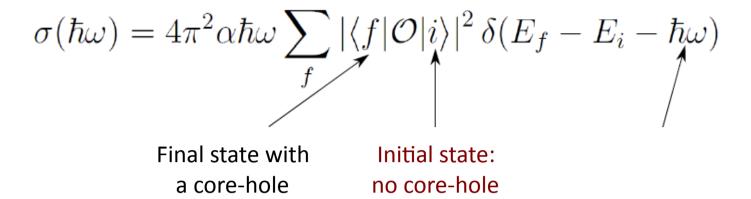
Step 2 – electronic density generation

```
Dir: ./Diamond/
file: diamond.scf.in
 &electrons
 ATOMIC_SPECIES
                                                 Pseudopotential for all atom types.
 Ch 12.0 Ch_PBE_TM_2pj.UPF
                                                    Ch = Carbon with core-hole.
 C 12.0 C_PBE_TM_2pj.UPF
 ATOMIC POSITIONS crystal
 Ch 0.0 0.0 0.0
 C 0.0 0.5 0.5
                                                          Atomic positions of the
 C 0.5 0.0 0.5
                                                           too small supercell.
 C 0.5 0.5 0.0
 C 0.75 0.75 0.25
 C 0.75 0.25 0.75
 C 0.25 0.75 0.75
 C 0.25 0.25 0.25
 K POINTS automatic
 444000
```

Running XSPECTRA (more details)



Extracting the core-wavefunction



The core wavefunction ψ_i IN THE ABSENCE OF A CORE-HOLE can be obtained using the ld1.x code and performing an all-electron calculation on the isolated atom.

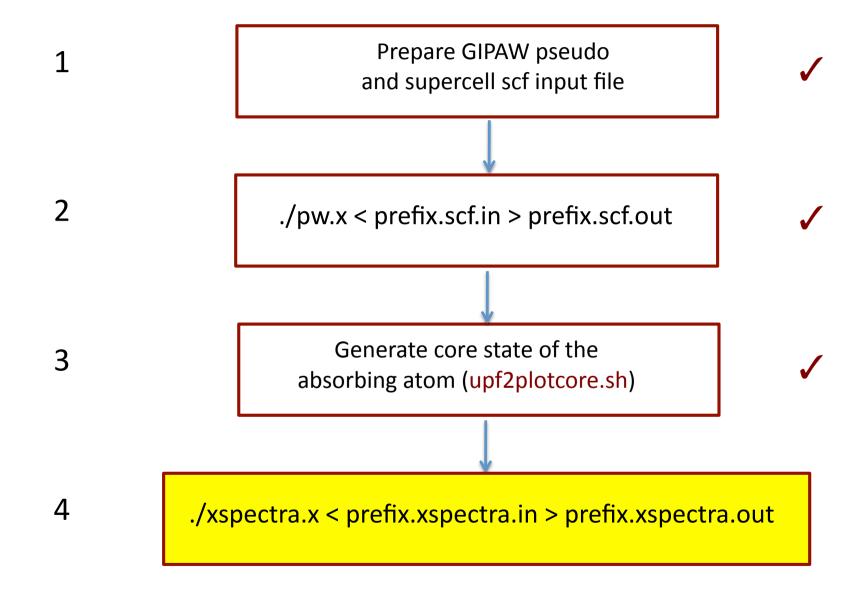
Alternatively, if you have a (GI)PAW pseudopotential without core-hole you can use the script upf2plotcore.sh

XSpectra/upf2plotcore.sh C.pbe-mt_gipaw.UPF > C.wfc

C.wfc is needed by the XSPECTRA program.

A copy of upf2plotcore.sh is saved in the directory with the C pseudopotential without core-hole.

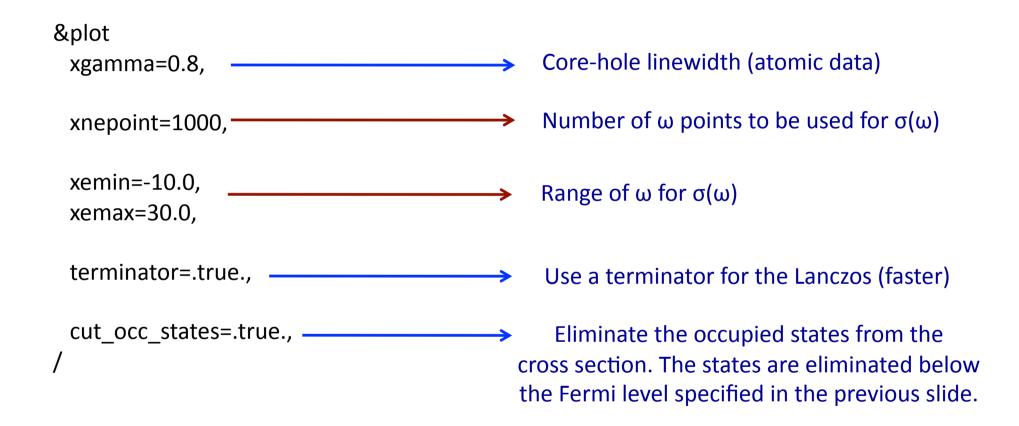
Running XSPECTRA (more details)



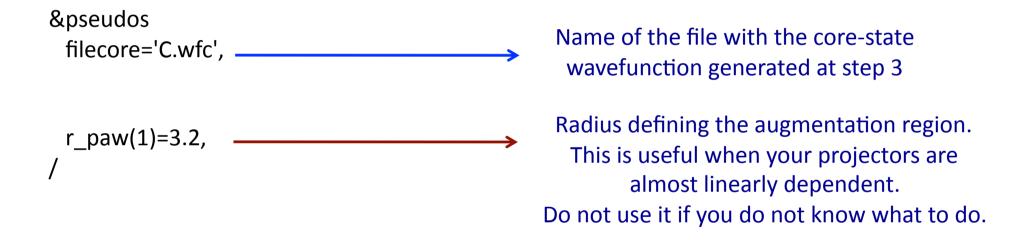
&input_xspectra namelist, here we specify the main information to control the job:

```
&input xspectra
 calculation='xanes_dipole', ______ xanes_dipole/xanes_quadrupole
 prefix='diamondh',
                                                 Perform a full continous fraction
 outdir='$TMP_DIR/',
                                                          calculation
 xonly plot=.false.,
 xniter=1000,
 xcheck_conv=50,
                    → These parameters control the Lanczos.
 xerror=0.001,
 x_save_file='diamondh.xspectra.sav', ______ File where the a and b coefficients of the
                                              Lanczos method are saved.
 ef r=${FERMI_LEVEL}, ______ In Rydberg:sets the energy zero in the
                                        final spectra. Read this from step 1 output.
 xiabs=1, —
                                   Type of the absorbing atom.
 xepsilon(1)=1.0,
                 Polarization vector of the incident beam
 xepsilon(2)=0.0,
 xepsilon(3)=0.0,
```

&plot namelist, is used to specify the plot of the cross-section



&pseudos namelist, is used to specify the initial state wavefunction and the pax radius



Generally a good choice for r_paw is r_paw=3 r_cut/2 or greater, and r_cut is the radius used in a norm conserving generation of the pseudo.

&cut_occ namelist specifies how to cut smoothly occupied states

```
&cut_occ
cut_desmooth=0.1,
cut_stepl=0.01,
```

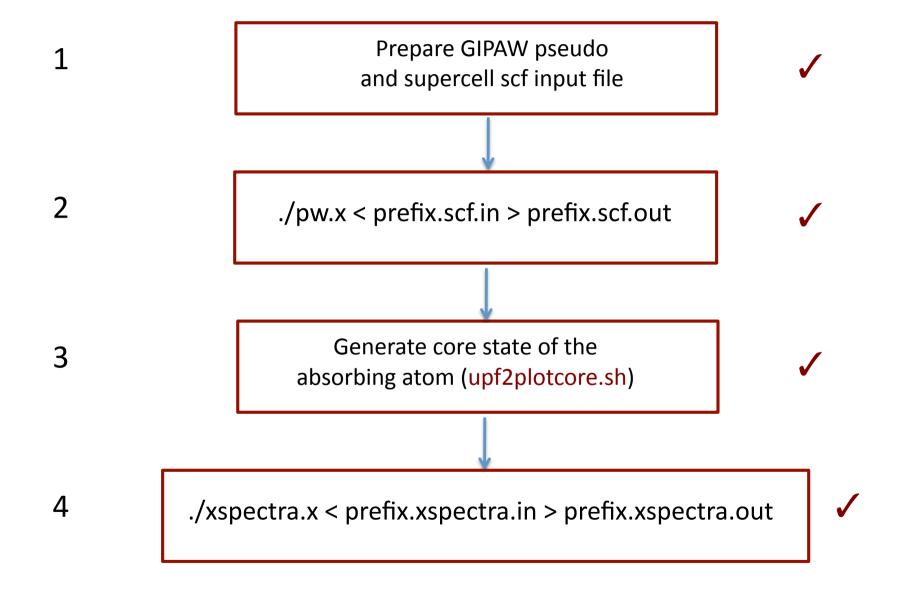
This is done using following ref.

Ch. Brouder, M. Alouani, K. H. Bennemann, Phys. Rev. B **54** (1996) p.7334-49.

Most of the times these parameters works. However they do not necessary represent the most efficient choice in term of CPU time.

These and other parameters control the smooth cut of occupied states. It is suggested that before modifying them you read the reference above.

Running XSPECTRA (more details)



Output files

Besides prefix.xspectra.out two other files are produced:

prefix.xspectra.dat

Contains the XANES cross section. It is a file of the kind:

```
# final state angular momentum: 1
# broadening parameter (in eV): 0.80000000000
# absorbing atom type: 1
# Energy (eV) sigma
-10.00000000 0.02722740
-9.86622074 0.02766810
-9.73244147 0.02789281
-9.59866221 0.02791267
```

The file can be visualized with xmgrace / gnuplot or similar.

prefix.xspectra.sav

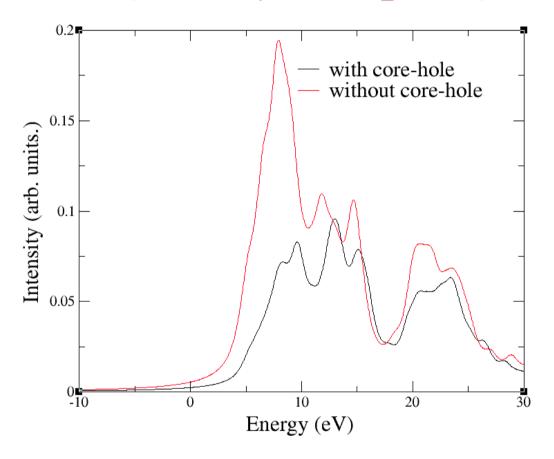
Contains all the informations of the Lanczos process (a and b ectors) and can be used to replot the cross section (different broadening/energy range) or to continue the Lanczos.

Always keep this file for replotting.

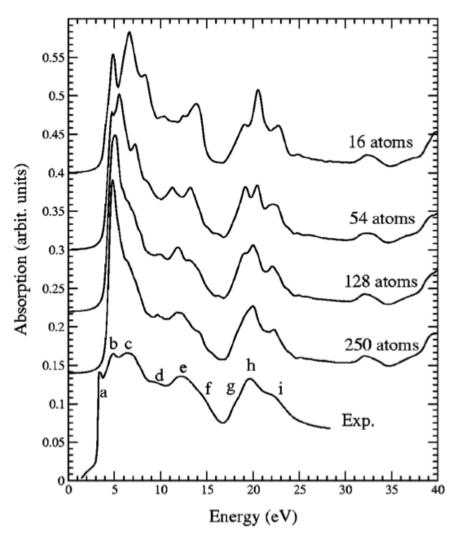
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Repeat steps 2,3,4 to obtain the XANES spectrum of Diamond without a core-hole in the final state (see directory ./Diamond_nohole/).

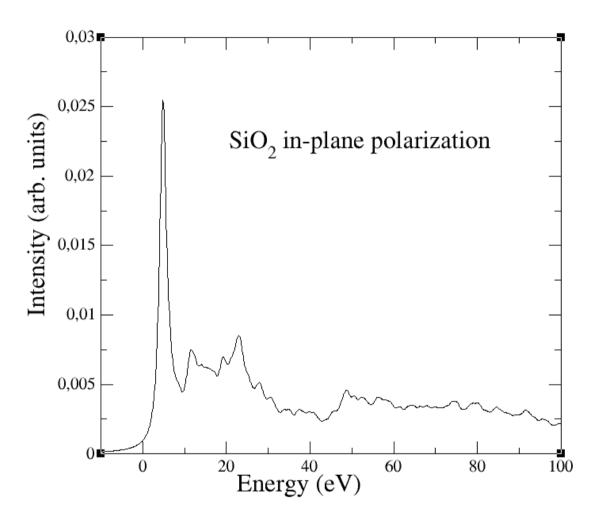


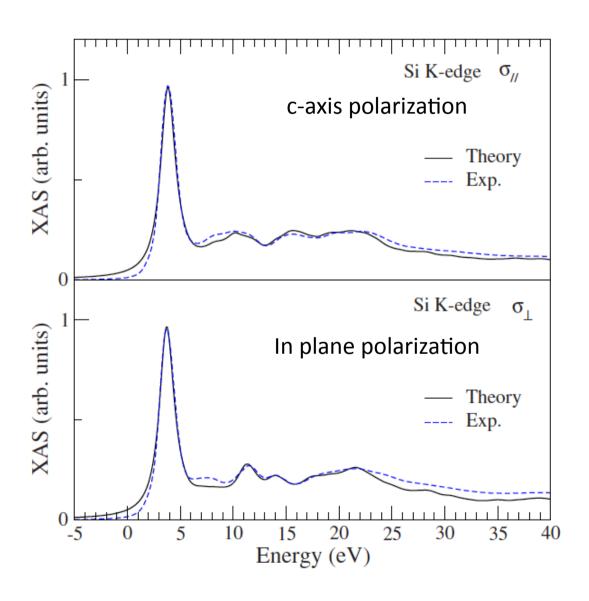
Note the huge core-hole effect!!!!
What happens increasing the supercell size?



Very big size-effects, the simulation converges with 250 atoms. Note that peak A is not well described in DFT. The is well known in literature.

M. Taillefumier et al. PRB 66, 195107 (2002)





XSPECTRA (Features)

- ★ XSPECTRA supports all standard DFT functionals available in QUANTUM-ESPRESSO, (PZ,PBE, DFT+U,...) however not yet exact-exchange, HSEO, HSE1 or similar.
- Ultrasoft and norm-conserving pseudopotentials are supported.
- → The pseudopotential of the absorbing atom MUST contain core-states information (GIPAW pseudopotential)
- ➡ All-electron reconstruction is performed using the GIPAW method.
- **⇒** Empty electronic states are calculated using the Lanczos method and the continous fraction approach.
- ➡ Dipolar and Quadrupolar XAS cross section at the K and L₁ edges.
- Core-hole is modeled in a supercell approach

Conclusions and history

The first version of XSPECTRA was written by M. Taillefumier *et al.* PRB 66, 195107 (2002) It was calculating the dipolar cross section in the norm conserving case.

XSPECTRA was ported to QUANTUM-ESPRESSO and generalized to the quadrupolar cross-section and the DFT+U approximation by

C. Gougoussis, M. Calandra, A. Seitsonen, Ch. Brouder, A. Shukla, and F. Mauri, Phys. Rev. B **79**, 045118 (2009)

Lanczos@XSPECTRA with ultrasoft pseudopotentials was developed in

C. Gougoussis, M. Calandra, A. P. Seitsonen, and F. Mauri, Phys. Rev. B 80, 075102 (2009)

Please cite these papers if you use XSPECTRA in your work!

and of course....



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