

A route beyond Ehrenfest: Correlated Electron-Ion Dynamics

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Outline

- Some previous extensions to Ehrenfest:
 - Mixed quantum-classical dynamics
 - ‘Frozen gaussians’ and ‘ab initio quantum molecular dynamics’
- The CEID approach (Coherent Electron-Ion Dynamics):
 - Focusing on correlations
 - Moment CEID
 - polyCEID (motivation and introduction)
 - **Details and applications: following talk by Lorenzo Stella**
- Outlook and conclusions

Mixed quantum-classical dynamics (1)

Consider Wigner transform of a nuclear density operator ρ

$$\rho_W(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P}) = h^{-3N} \int d\mathbf{z} e^{i\mathbf{P}\cdot\mathbf{z}/\hbar} \langle \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{z}/2 | \hat{\rho} | \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{z}/2 \rangle$$

and of a nuclear operator O

$$O_W(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P}) = h^{-3N} \int d\mathbf{z} e^{-i\mathbf{P}\cdot\mathbf{z}/\hbar} \langle \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{z}/2 | \hat{O} | \mathbf{R} - \mathbf{z}/2 \rangle$$

So expectation value is

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle = \text{Tr}[\hat{\rho}\hat{O}] = \int d\mathbf{R}d\mathbf{P} O_W(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P}) \rho_W(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P})$$

and evolution (Schrödinger picture) is

Moyal product

$$\partial_t \rho_W(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P}) = -\frac{1}{i\hbar} (\overrightarrow{H}_\Lambda \rho_W - \rho_W \overleftarrow{H}_\Lambda) \equiv -\frac{1}{i\hbar} H_W * \rho_W$$

$$\overrightarrow{H}_\Lambda = H_W e^{\hbar\Lambda/2i} \quad \overleftarrow{H}_\Lambda = e^{\hbar\Lambda/2i} H_W \quad \Lambda = \overleftarrow{\nabla}_\mathbf{R} \overrightarrow{\nabla}_\mathbf{P} - \overleftarrow{\nabla}_\mathbf{P} \overrightarrow{\nabla}_\mathbf{R}$$

Mixed quantum-classical dynamics (2)

Key idea: make Wigner transform only with respect to nuclear variables. Keep full quantum equation of motion for ‘light’ variables \mathbf{r} and \mathbf{p} , but for ‘heavy’ variables \mathbf{R} and \mathbf{P} truncate to lowest order in \hbar :

$$\overrightarrow{H}_\Lambda \approx H_W \left(1 + \frac{\hbar\Lambda}{2i}\right) \qquad \overleftarrow{H}_\Lambda \approx \left(1 + \frac{\hbar\Lambda}{2i}\right) H_W$$

$$\partial_t \rho_W(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{P}) \approx \frac{1}{i\hbar} [H_W, \rho_W] + \frac{1}{2} (\{H_W, \rho_W\} - \{\rho_W, H_W\})$$

Quantum commutator Classical Poisson bracket

$$[H_W, \rho_W] = H_W \rho_W - \rho_W H_W \qquad \{H_W, \rho_W\} = -H_W \Lambda \rho_W$$

Nielsen, Kapral and Ciccotti *J Chem Phys* **112** 6543 (2000)

Kapral *Ann Rev Phys Chem* **57** 129 (2006)

Mixed quantum-classical dynamics (3)

In a basis of adiabatic states, equation of motion becomes

$$\partial_t \rho_{nn'} = -i \sum_{mm'} \mathcal{L}_{nn',mm'} \rho_{mm'}$$

with the Liouvillian super-operator represented as

$$i\mathcal{L}_{nn',mm'} = (i\omega_{nn'} + iL_{nn'})\delta_{nm}\delta_{n'm'} - J_{nn',mm'}$$

$$iL_{nn'} = \sum_I \left[\frac{\mathbf{P}_I}{M_I} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{R}_I} + \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{F}_{I,n} + \mathbf{F}_{I,n'}) \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{P}_I} \right]$$

Classical evolution
with average force of
n and n'

$$J_{nn',mm'} = -\frac{\mathbf{P}_I}{M} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{nm} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} S_{nm} \nabla_{\mathbf{P}} \right) \delta_{n'm'} - \frac{\mathbf{P}_I}{M} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{n'm'}^* \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} S_{n'm'}^* \nabla_{\mathbf{P}} \right) \delta_{nm}$$

Effect of transitions between quantum states

Commonly implemented by surface hopping (again): evolve forward through Δt using L and consider transitions $n \rightarrow m$ or $n' \rightarrow m'$ with probability

$$\pi_{n \rightarrow m} = \left| \frac{\mathbf{P}}{M} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{nm} \right| \Delta t \left(1 + \left| \frac{\mathbf{P}}{M} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{nm} \right| \Delta t \right)^{-1}$$

Advantages and disadvantages

- Advantages
 - Makes contact with surface hopping approach
 - Natural recovery of separate quantum and classical evolution
- Disadvantages
 - Systematic improvement difficult
 - Representation of coupled electron-ion system not available
 - Large number of trajectories required

Wavefunction propagation: ab initio multiple spawning (AIMS) technique

Represent full wavefunction as

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \sum_n \psi_n(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R}) \chi_n(\mathbf{R}, t)$$

with each χ expanded as a sum of Gaussians: Expansion coefficients Phases Exponents (fixed)

$$\chi_n(\mathbf{R}, t) = \sum_{j=1}^{N_n(t)} C_{nj}(t) \chi_{nj}(\mathbf{R}; \bar{\mathbf{R}}_{nj}, \bar{\mathbf{P}}_{nj}, \gamma_{nj}, \alpha_{nj})$$

$$\chi_{nj}(\mathbf{R}; \bar{\mathbf{R}}_{nj}, \bar{\mathbf{P}}_{nj}, \gamma_{nj}, \alpha_{nj}) \sim e^{i\gamma_{nj}} \exp[-\alpha_{nj}(\mathbf{R} - \bar{\mathbf{R}}_{nj})^2 + i\bar{\mathbf{P}}_{nj} \cdot (\mathbf{R} - \bar{\mathbf{R}}_{nj})/\hbar]$$

Basis function position centres and momenta initially chosen from Wigner distribution and then propagated classically along with phases:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \bar{\mathbf{R}}_{nj,I} &= \frac{\bar{\mathbf{P}}_{nj,I}}{M_I} \\ \partial_t \bar{\mathbf{P}}_{nj,I} &= \langle \psi_n(\mathbf{R}) | \hat{\mathbf{F}}_{I,e} | \psi_n(\mathbf{R}) \rangle + \mathbf{F}_{\text{nuc},I} \\ \partial_t \gamma_{nj} &= \sum_I \frac{\mathbf{P}_I^2}{2M_I} - [E_n(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_{nj}) + V_{\text{ion}}(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_{nj})] \end{aligned}$$

AIMS (2)

Propagate nuclear wavefunction expansion coefficients quantum mechanically from the Schrödinger equation:

$$\partial_t \mathbf{C}_n = -i(S_n)^{-1} [(H_n - i\dot{S}_n)\mathbf{C}_n + \sum_{m \neq n} H_{nm} \mathbf{C}_m]$$

$$S_{n,ij} = \langle \chi_{ni} | \chi_{nj} \rangle$$

$$\dot{S}_{n,ij} = \langle \chi_{ni} | \partial_t \chi_{nj} \rangle$$

$$H_{nm,ij} = \langle \chi_{ni} | \langle \psi_n | \hat{H} | \psi_m \rangle | \chi_{mj} \rangle$$

‘Spawn’ additional nuclear basis functions in order to represent new branches of the total wavefunction whenever

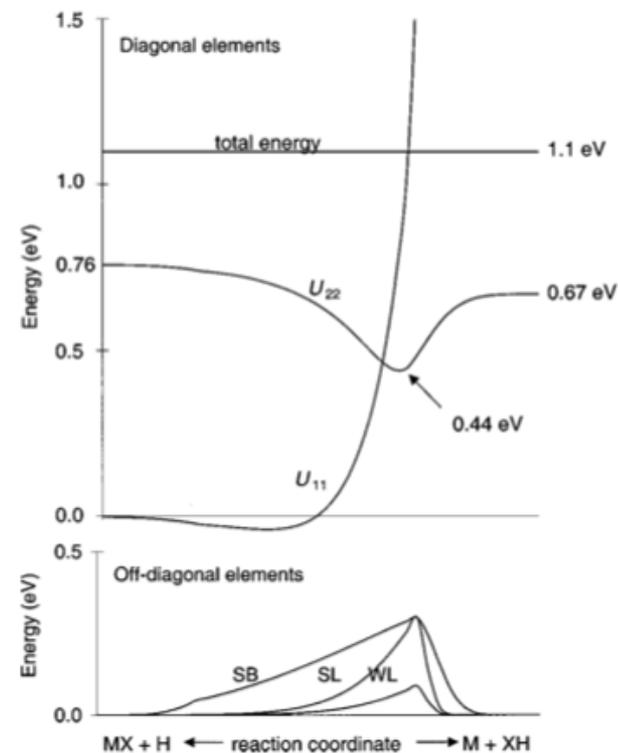
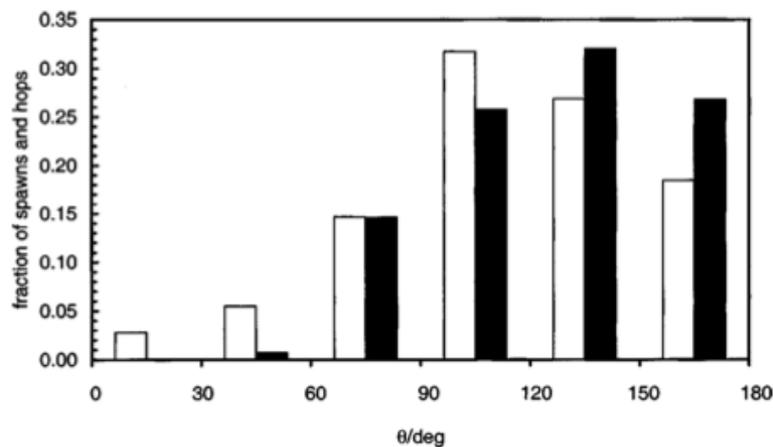
$$|\dot{\mathbf{R}} \cdot \mathbf{d}_{nm}|$$

exceeds a chosen critical value

Ben-Nun and Martinez *Adv Chem Phys* **121** 439 (2002)

Example

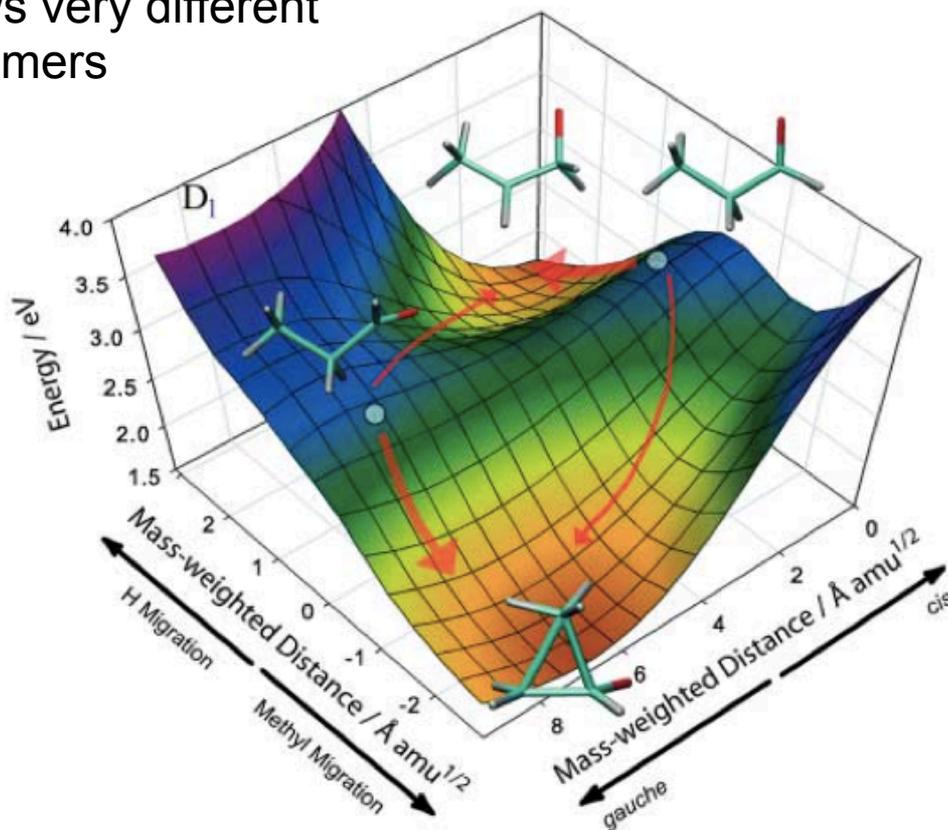
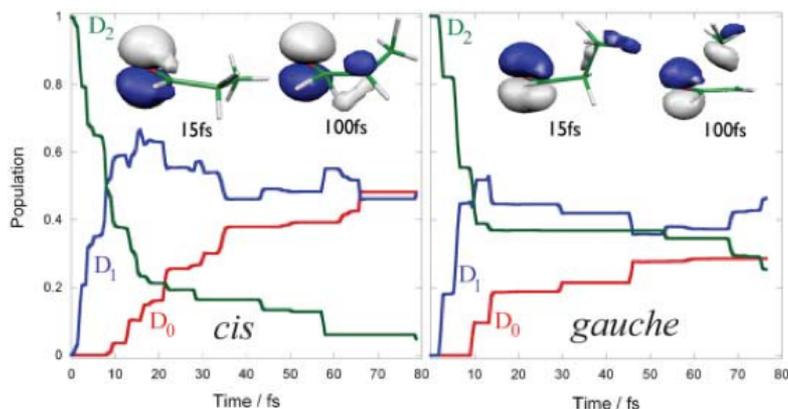
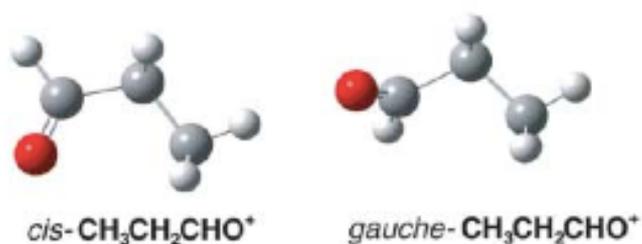
Six-dimensional (three-atom, excluding COM) test calculation with two electronic states



Trajectory spawnings occur in same region as surface hops

Example (2)

Propanal cation $\text{CH}_3\text{-CH}_2\text{-CHO}^+$ shows very different dissociation dynamics for different isomers



Kim *et al.* Science **315** 1561 (2007)

Advantages and disadvantages

- Advantages
 - Explicit treatment of electron/nuclear correlations
 - Spawning focuses computational effort in regions of large non-adiabatic coupling
- Disadvantages
 - Large number of nonorthogonal nuclear basis functions required, separate solution of electronic problem along each trajectory
 - Many parameters to tune/set

Beyond Ehrenfest? Two classes of method

- Methods based on Born-Oppenheimer surfaces
 - Surface hopping
 - ‘Frozen gaussians’ and ‘ab initio quantum molecular dynamics’
- Methods based on semiclassical expansions for equations of motion or correlation functions
 - Mixed quantum-classical dynamics
 - (Ring polymer dynamics)

Aims of method – the CEID idea

- Retain
 - Correlations between electrons and nuclei
 - The idea of making expansion about the Ehrenfest trajectory
- Avoid
 - Giving preferred role to adiabatic (Born-Oppenheimer) states
 - Making assumptions about loss of phase coherence with time

Aside – two types of decoherence

A superposition such as

$$|\Psi\rangle = \sum_n c_n(t) |\psi_n(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_n)\rangle \otimes |\chi(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_n)\rangle$$

does not correspond to a pure state of either ions or electrons; e.g. if different χ states are orthogonal,

$$\hat{\rho}_e = \text{Tr}_e |\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi| = \sum_n |c_n(t)|^2 |\psi_n(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_n)\rangle\langle\psi_n(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_n)|$$

Decoherence of electron system through its interaction with the ions

In addition the entire density operator

$$|\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi| = \left[\sum_n c_n(t) |\psi_n(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_n)\rangle \otimes |\chi(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_n)\rangle \right] \left[\sum_m c_m^*(t) \langle\psi_m(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_m)| \otimes \langle\chi(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_m)| \right]$$

will tend to decay as a result of interactions with the wider environment:

$$|\Psi\rangle\langle\Psi| \rightarrow \sum_n |c_n(t)|^2 |\psi_n(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_n)\rangle\langle\psi_n(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_n)| \otimes |\chi(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_n)\rangle\langle\chi(\bar{\mathbf{R}}_n)|$$

Decoherence of entire simulation system through interactions with the rest of the world

CEID moments – concepts and equations

Expand the full Hamiltonian to second order in the nuclear displacements about the instantaneous \mathbf{R} and \mathbf{P} :

$$\hat{H} \approx \hat{H}_{e,\text{eff}}(\bar{\mathbf{R}}) + \sum_I \frac{1}{2M_I} \left[\bar{\mathbf{P}}_I^2 + 2\bar{\mathbf{P}}_I \cdot \Delta\hat{\mathbf{P}}_I + (\Delta\hat{\mathbf{P}}_I)^2 \right] - \sum_I \hat{\mathbf{F}}_I(\bar{\mathbf{R}}) \cdot \Delta\hat{\mathbf{R}}_I + \sum_{IJ} \hat{K}_{IJ}(\bar{\mathbf{R}}) \Delta\hat{\mathbf{R}}_I \Delta\hat{\mathbf{R}}_J$$

NOT a usual harmonic approximation because \mathbf{F} and \mathbf{K} depend on \mathbf{R} and \mathbf{P}

Retain correlations between electrons and ions by evolving moments of the fluctuations $\Delta\mathbf{R}$ and $\Delta\mathbf{P}$ along the Ehrenfest trajectory:

$$\bar{F} = \text{Tr}_e \left[\hat{\rho}_e \hat{F}_{el}(\bar{R}) \right] - \sum_J \text{Tr}_e \left[\hat{K}_{IJ} \hat{\mu}_J \right]$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \hat{\rho}_e}{\partial t} = \left[\hat{H}_e(\bar{R}), \hat{\rho}_e \right] - \sum_I \left[\hat{F}_{el}(\bar{R}), \hat{\mu}_I \right]$$

$$i\hbar \frac{d\hat{\mu}_I}{dt} = \left[\hat{H}_e(\bar{R}), \hat{\mu}_I \right] + i\hbar \frac{\hat{\lambda}_I}{M_I}$$

$$i\hbar \frac{d\hat{\lambda}_I}{dt} = \left[\hat{H}_e(\bar{R}), \hat{\lambda}_I \right] + \frac{i\hbar}{2} \left\{ \Delta\hat{F}, \hat{\rho}_e \right\} - \frac{i\hbar}{2} \sum_J \left\{ \hat{K}_{IJ}, \hat{\mu}_J \right\}$$

with $\hat{\rho}_e \equiv \text{Tr}_I \left[\hat{\rho}(t) \right]$ and

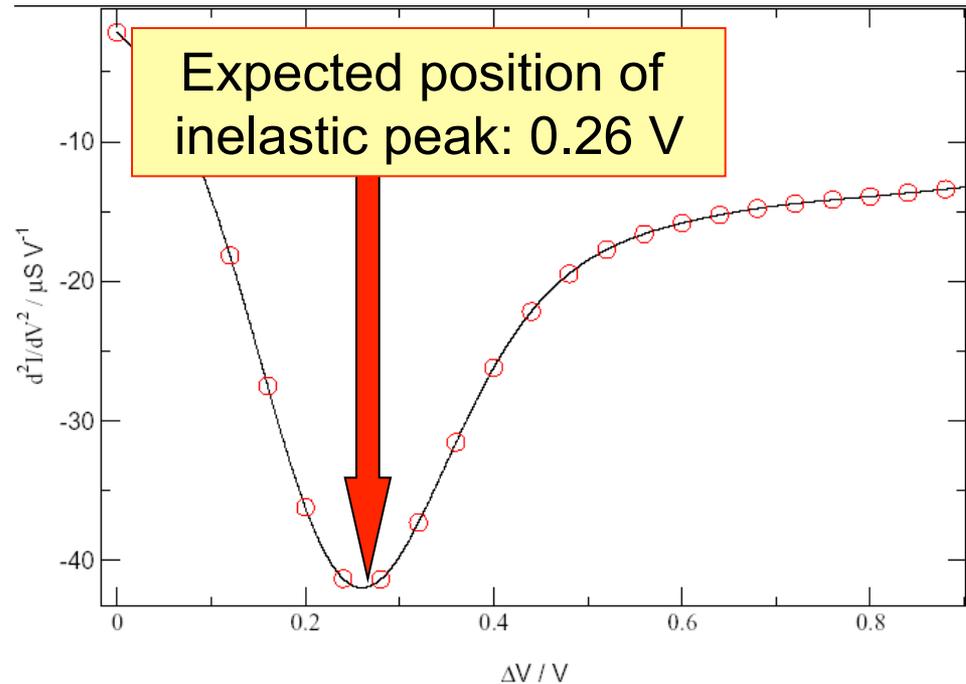
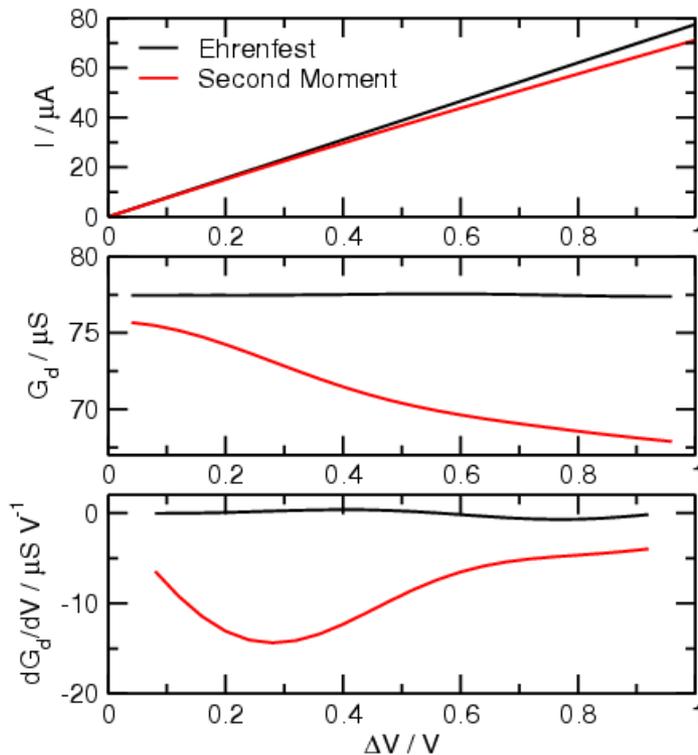
$$\hat{\mu}_I \equiv \text{Tr}_I \left[\hat{X}_I \hat{\rho} \right]$$

$$\hat{\lambda}_I \equiv \text{Tr}_I \left[\hat{P}_I \hat{\rho} \right]$$

$$\Delta\hat{F}_I \equiv \hat{F}_I - \bar{F}$$

Example – inelastic Spectroscopy

Even though it starts from a *classical* path, CEID (at first moment level) already contains the standard selection rules for electron-phonon scattering and hence enough information to describe IETS



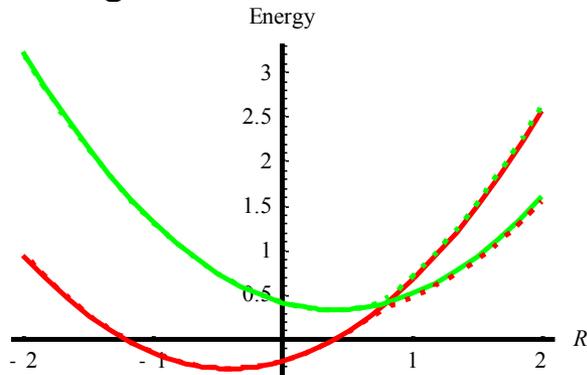
Sanchez, Todorov,
Horsfield

When moments are not enough

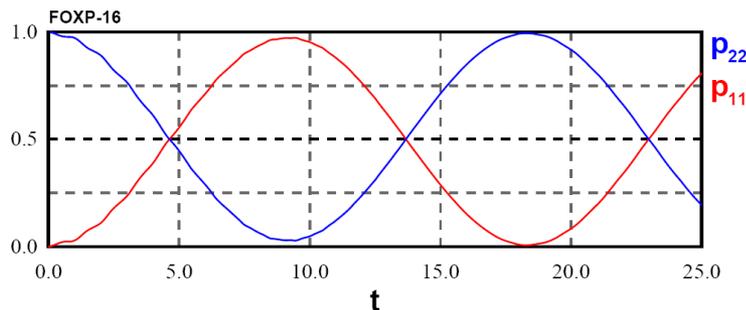
- Problem: difficult to describe situations in which electron state is strongly coupled to a small number of vibrational degrees of freedom
 - Manifests itself in poor convergence
- Reason: a broad probability distribution is not necessarily well described by its moments:

A simple strongly coupled system - example

Occupation probabilities for ground and excited states in case where potential surfaces have an avoided crossing:

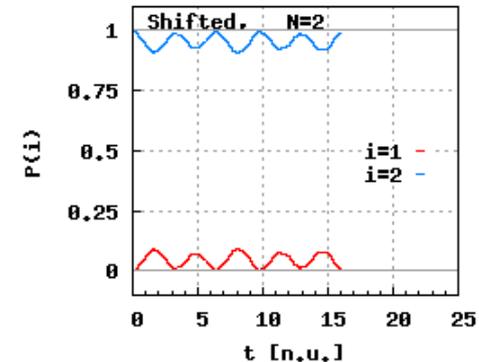


Exact results for occupation probabilities:

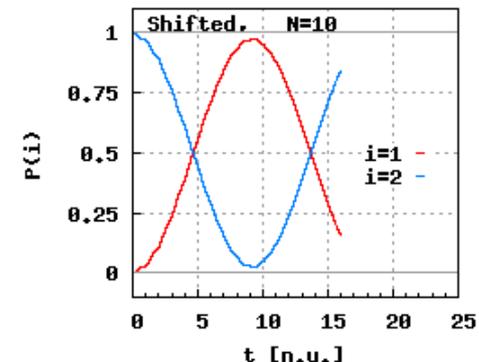


CEID results:

$N=2$



$N=10$



CEID with a basis

Alternative idea: construct an explicit representation of the full density operator in an orthonormal nuclear basis

$$\hat{\rho} = \sum_{m,n} |m\rangle \hat{\rho}_{mn} \langle n|$$

where

$$\hat{\rho}_{mn} = \langle m | \hat{\rho} | n \rangle$$

is still an operator on the electronic degrees of freedom

Similarly for operators:

$$\hat{O} = \sum_{m,n} |m\rangle \hat{O}_{mn} \langle n|$$

For electronic operators:

$$\hat{O}_{mn} = \hat{O}_e \delta_{mn}$$

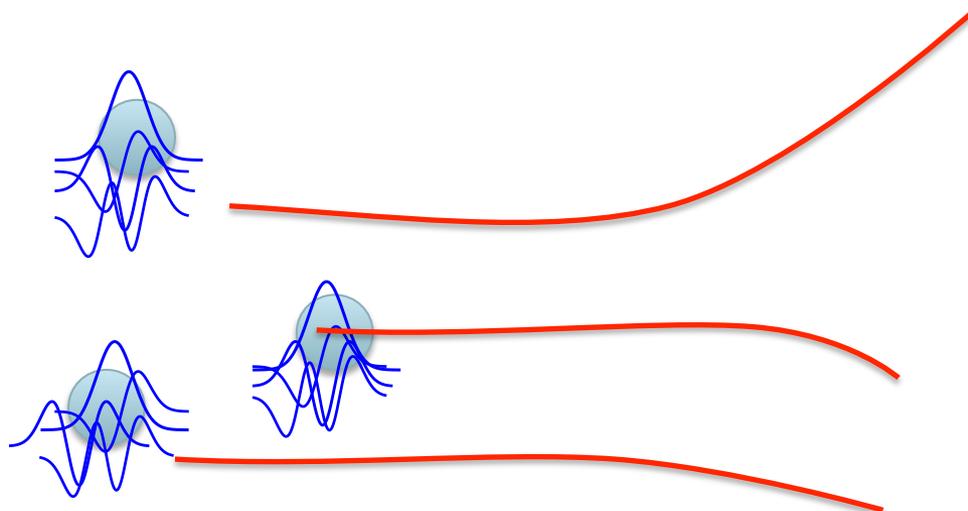
For nuclear operators: $\hat{O}_{mn} \propto \hat{1}_e$

Choosing the basis set

In the full basis-set limit corresponds to an exact solution of the coupled electron-nuclear problem, and is therefore exponentially hard.

Q: How can we avoid exponential scaling and make use of the semi-classical nature of the nuclei?

A: Move the basis with the Ehrenfest trajectory, in order to represent the fluctuations about it



$$|n\rangle = |n(\bar{\mathbf{R}})\rangle$$

$$\hat{\rho}_{mn} = \hat{\rho}_{mn}(\bar{\mathbf{R}})$$

Transforming to the co-moving frame

Corresponds to transformation to an effective Lagrangian coordinate system

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\hat{\mathbf{R}}(t) &= \hat{\mathbf{R}} - \bar{\mathbf{R}}(t) \\ \Delta\hat{\mathbf{P}}(t) &= \hat{\mathbf{P}} - \bar{\mathbf{P}}(t)\end{aligned}$$

Transformation defined by the unitary operation

$$\hat{U}(\bar{\mathbf{R}}, \bar{\mathbf{P}}) = \exp[(\bar{\mathbf{R}}\hat{\mathbf{P}} - \bar{\mathbf{P}}\hat{\mathbf{R}})/i\hbar]$$

So for a general operator

$$\hat{O}_L(\bar{\mathbf{R}}, \bar{\mathbf{P}}) = \hat{U}^\dagger(\bar{\mathbf{R}}, \bar{\mathbf{P}})\hat{O}\hat{U}(\bar{\mathbf{R}}, \bar{\mathbf{P}})$$

Position and spatial components commute, so a classical transformation

Constructing the basis

Begin with a Gaussian wavepacket of width α centered at each atomic site:

$$|0\rangle = C \prod_{i=1}^{3N} \exp \left[-\alpha_i^2 (R_i - \bar{R}_i)^2 / 4 \right]$$

Define a set of modes (in principle arbitrary but in practice normal modes of a reference geometry are often the best choice)

$$\Delta \hat{\eta}_\alpha(t) = \sum_{\beta} U_{\alpha\beta} \Delta \hat{R}_\beta(t) \qquad \Delta \hat{\zeta}_\alpha(t) = \sum_{\beta} U_{\alpha\beta}^* \Delta \hat{P}_\beta(t)$$

and define annihilation and creation operator algebra

$$\Delta \hat{\eta}_\alpha(t) = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} b_\alpha (\hat{a}_\alpha - \hat{a}_\alpha^\dagger) \qquad \Delta \hat{\zeta}_\alpha(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} a_\alpha (\hat{a}_\alpha + \hat{a}_\alpha^\dagger)$$

Length and momentum scales obeying

$$a_\alpha b_\alpha = \hbar$$

Constructing the basis (2)

Then construct the CEID basis as

$$|n_1, n_2, \dots, n_{3N}\rangle = \prod_{i=1}^{3N} \frac{(\hat{a}_{\alpha_i}^\dagger)^{n_i}}{\sqrt{n_i!}} |0\rangle$$

truncating at a maximum number of excitations

$$\sum_i n_i = N_{\text{CEID}}$$

Exact in the limit $N_{\text{CEID}} \rightarrow \infty$

In practice optimize by choosing a and b to minimize the quadratic energy and choosing a finite N

Equations of motion

Nuclear kinetic energy ($\Delta n, \Delta m=0$ or 2)

Ehrenfest Hamiltonian

$$\dot{\rho}_{n,m} = -\frac{1}{4M_0 i \hbar} \sum_{\alpha} b_{\alpha}^2 \left[\sqrt{(n_{\alpha} + 2)(n_{\alpha} + 1)} \rho_{n+2_{\alpha},m} - (2n_{\alpha} + 1) \rho_{n,m} + \sqrt{n_{\alpha}(n_{\alpha} - 1)} \rho_{n-2_{\alpha},m} \right. \\ \left. - \sqrt{m_{\alpha}(m_{\alpha} - 1)} \rho_{n,m-2_{\alpha}} + (2m_{\alpha} + 1) \rho_{n,m} - \sqrt{(m_{\alpha} + 2)(m_{\alpha} + 1)} \rho_{n,m+2_{\alpha}} \right] + \frac{1}{i \hbar} [H_e(\bar{\zeta}), \rho_{n,m}] \\ - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2} i \hbar} \sum_{\alpha} a_{\alpha} [\Delta \tilde{F}_{\alpha}(\bar{\zeta}) (\sqrt{n_{\alpha} + 1} \rho_{n+1_{\alpha},m} + \sqrt{n_{\alpha}} \rho_{n-1_{\alpha},m}) - (\sqrt{m_{\alpha}} \rho_{n,m-1_{\alpha}} + \sqrt{m_{\alpha} + 1} \rho_{n,m+1_{\alpha}}) \Delta \tilde{F}_{\alpha}(\bar{\zeta})]$$

Fluctuations producing nuclear forces (gradient of Hamiltonian)

$$\rho_{n,m} + (2n_{\alpha} + 1) \rho_{n,m} + \sqrt{n_{\alpha}(n_{\alpha} - 1)} \rho_{n-2_{\alpha},m}$$

Note presence of *electronic* operators (i.e. changing the electronic evolution) arising from coupling to the dynamics of the *nuclei*

Quadratic fluctuation mode

$$+ \sqrt{n_{\alpha}(n_{\beta} + 1)} \rho_{n-1_{\alpha}+1_{\beta},m} + \sqrt{n_{\alpha} n_{\beta}} \rho_{n-1_{\alpha}-1_{\beta},m} - (\sqrt{m_{\alpha} m_{\beta}} \rho_{n,m-1_{\alpha}-1_{\beta}} + \sqrt{m_{\alpha}(m_{\beta} + 1)} \rho_{n,m-1_{\alpha}+1_{\beta}} \\ + \sqrt{(m_{\alpha} + 1) m_{\beta}} \rho_{n,m+1_{\alpha}-1_{\beta}} + \sqrt{(m_{\alpha} + 1)(m_{\beta} + 1)} \rho_{n,m+1_{\alpha}+1_{\beta}}) \tilde{K}_{\alpha,\beta}(\bar{\zeta})],$$

Quadratic fluctuations in different modes

Notes

(a) In the limit $N_{\text{CEID}} \rightarrow \infty$

get an exact solution of the coupled electron-nuclear problem

(b) In the case $N_{\text{CEID}} = 0$

recover an Ehrenfest-like calculation

Relation to moment expansion

Can recover a simple relation to the previous (moment expansion) version of CEID:

$$\hat{\mu}_{n,m}(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int d\mathbf{P}d\mathbf{R} \Delta R^n \Delta P^m \hat{\rho}_W(R, P) = \sum_{kl} A_{kl}^{n,m} \hat{\rho}_{kl}$$

where

$$A_{kl}^{n,m} \equiv \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} \langle k | (\Delta \hat{R})^r (\Delta \hat{P})^m \Delta \hat{R}^{(n-r)} | l \rangle$$

These quantities can be simply evaluated via recurrence relations to give, for example

$$\hat{\mu}_{1,0} = a_0 \sum_n \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}} [\hat{\rho}_{n,n-1} + \hat{\rho}_{n-1,n}]$$

$$\hat{\mu}_{0,1} = -ib_0 \sum_n \sqrt{\frac{n}{2}} [\hat{\rho}_{n,n-1} + \hat{\rho}_{n-1,n}]$$

Scaling of CEID

Dimension of the Hilbert space needed to describe the ions:

$$D_I = \sum_{i=0}^{N_{\text{CEID}}} \binom{i + N_C - 1}{i} = \binom{N_C + N_{\text{CEID}}}{N_C}$$

In the highly quantum limit for all modes $N_{\text{CEID}} \gg N_C$

Effort is $\frac{1}{N_C} \left(\frac{N_{\text{CEID}}}{N_C} \right)^{2N_C}$ Exponential scaling

For a minority of highly quantum modes $N_C \gg N_{\text{CEID}}$

Effort is $\frac{1}{N_{\text{CEID}}} \left(\frac{N_C}{N_{\text{CEID}}} \right)^{2N_{\text{CEID}}}$ Polynomial scaling of degree $2N_{\text{CEID}}$

Advantages and disadvantages

- Advantages

- Representation of full coupled electron-nuclear state
- No special status to B-O states
- Systematically improvable
- Does not rely on decoherence from outside
- Possible to treat different degrees of freedom to different accuracy

- Disadvantages

- Not compatible with TDDFT in its present form
- No thermostat yet
- Scaling becomes worse as accuracy increased

Thanks to...

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