



**Density-Functional Theory  
and Beyond:**  
Computational Materials  
Science for Real Materials  
**A Hands-on Workshop  
and Tutorial**  
Trieste, 6 – 15 August 2013



Be cautious when crossing the street

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Let's start  
**Electronic-Structure  
Theory**

## Modeling Materials Properties and Functions: The Many-Body Schrödinger Equation

$$(\hat{T}^e + \hat{T}^{ion} + \hat{V}^{e-e} + \hat{V}^{e-ion} + \hat{V}^{ion-ion})\Psi = E\Psi$$

With:  $\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N; \mathbf{R}_1, \dots, \mathbf{R}_M)$

$$\hat{T}^e = \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{\mathbf{p}_k^2}{2m} \quad \hat{T}^{ion} = \sum_{I=1}^M \frac{\mathbf{p}_I^2}{2M_I}$$

$$\hat{V}^{e-e} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{k \neq k'}^{N,N} \frac{e^2}{|\mathbf{r}_k - \mathbf{r}_{k'}|}$$

$$\hat{V}^{ion-ion} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_{I \neq I'}^{M,M} \frac{Z_I Z_{I'}}{|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_{I'}|}$$

$$\hat{V}^{e-ion}(\mathbf{r}_k, \mathbf{R}_I) = \sum_{k=1}^N \sum_{I=1}^M v_I^{ion}(|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{r}_k|)$$

## Modeling Materials Properties and Functions: The Many-Body Schrödinger Equation

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$$\hat{V}^{e-ion}(\mathbf{r}_k, \mathbf{R}_I) = \sum_{k=1}^N \sum_{I=1}^M v_I^{ion}(|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{r}_k|)$$

We know the operators and the interactions. We can write them down.

***No open question here!***

## Born-Oppenheimer Approximation

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N; \mathbf{R}_1, \dots, \mathbf{R}_M) = \sum_{\nu} \Lambda_{\nu}(\{\mathbf{R}_I\}) \Phi_{\nu, \{\mathbf{R}_I\}}(\{\mathbf{r}_k\})$$

Where  $\Phi_{\nu}$  are solutions of the “electronic Hamiltonian”:

$$H_{\{\mathbf{R}_I\}}^e \Phi_{\nu, \{\mathbf{R}_I\}}(\{\mathbf{r}_k\}) = E_{\nu, \{\mathbf{R}_I\}}^e \Phi_{\nu, \{\mathbf{R}_I\}}(\{\mathbf{r}_k\})$$

$$H^e = T^e + V^{e-e} + V^{e-ion}$$

frequently (commonly) applied approximations:

- neglect non-adiabatic coupling (terms of order  $m/M_I$ )
- keep only  $\Lambda_0$

➡ the dynamics of electrons and nuclei decouple

## Some Limits of the Born-Oppenheimer Approximation

It does not account for correlated dynamics of ions and electrons. For example:

- polaron-induced superconductivity
- dynamical Jahn-Teller effect at defects in crystals
- some phenomena of diffusion in solids
- non-adiabaticity in molecule-surface scattering and chemical reactions
- relaxation and transport of charge carriers ( $\theta$  or  $\hbar$ )
- etc.

## Some Limits of the Born-Oppenheimer Approximation

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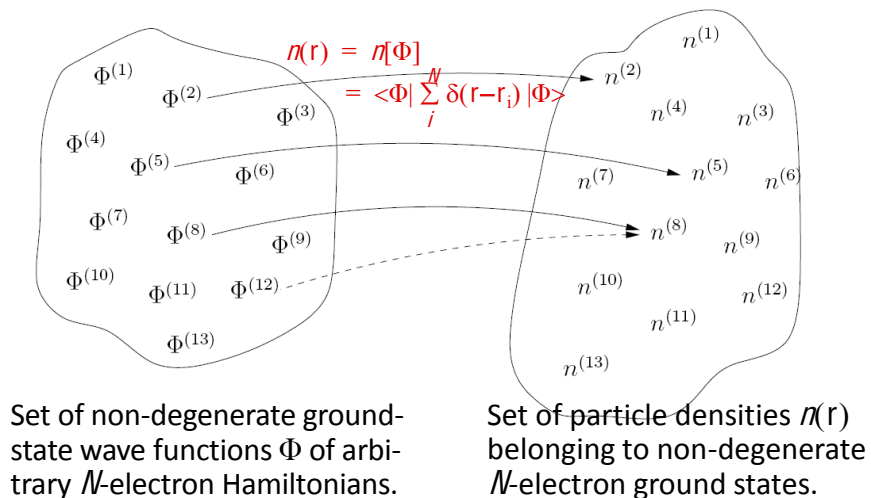
These limits can be severe.  
Nevertheless, we will use the BO approximation in the following.

How can we solve:

$$H_{\{\mathbf{R}_I\}}^e \Phi_{\nu, \{\mathbf{R}_I\}}(\mathbf{r}_k) = E_{\nu, \{\mathbf{R}_I\}}^e \Phi_{\nu, \{\mathbf{R}_I\}}(\mathbf{r}_k) \quad \hbar$$

$$H^e = T^e + V^{e-e} + V^{e-ion}$$

## The Hohenberg-Kohn Theorem (1964)



**The dashed arrow is not possible. Thus, here is a one-to-one correspondence between  $\Phi$  and  $n(r)$ .**

## Density Functional Theory

The energy of the ground state of a many-electron system :

$$E_0(\{\mathbf{R}_I\}) = \text{Min}_{\Phi} \langle \Phi | H^e | \Phi \rangle$$

Hohenberg and Kohn (1964): The functional

$$n(\mathbf{r}) = n[\Phi] = \langle \Phi | \sum_i \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_i) | \Phi \rangle$$

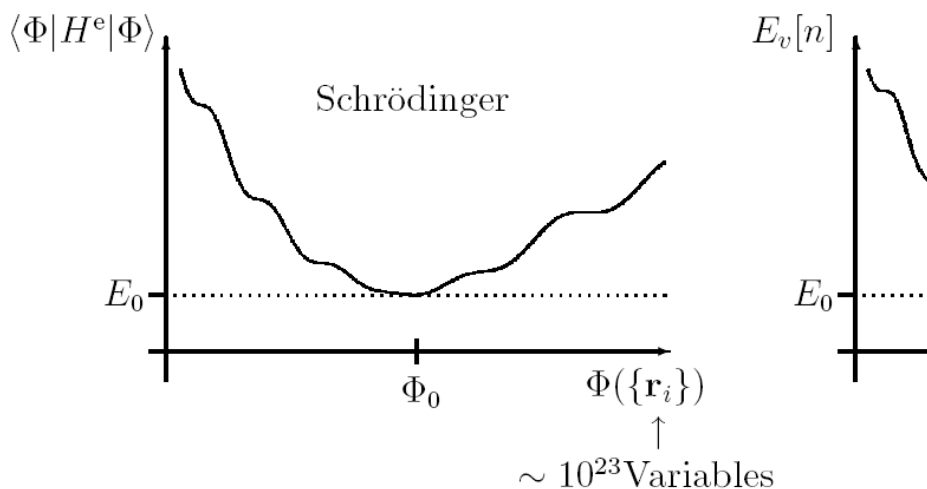
can be inverted, *i.e.*,

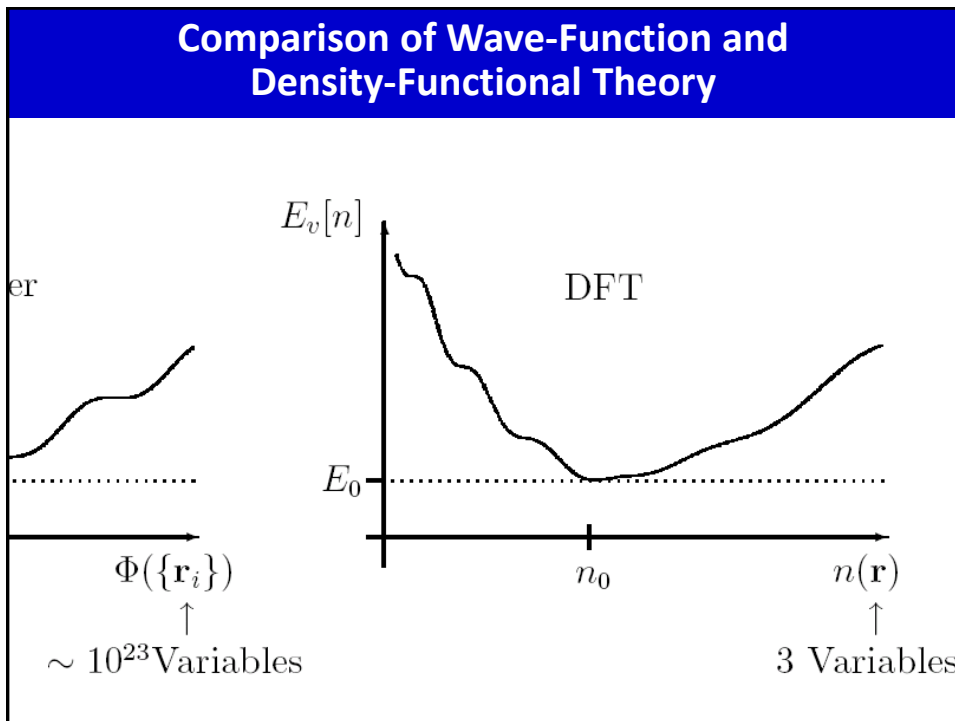
$$\Phi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N) = \Phi[n(\mathbf{r})] .$$

This implies:

$$E_0(\{\mathbf{R}_I\}) = \text{Min}_{n(\mathbf{r})} E_{\{\mathbf{R}\}}[n]$$

## Comparison of Wave-Function and Density-Functional Theory





- ### Summary of Hohenberg-Kohn Density-Functional Theory (DFT) -- 1964
- The many-body Hamiltonian determines everything.  
(standard quantum mechanics)
  - There is a one-to-one correspondence between the ground-state wave function and the many-body Hamiltonian [or the nuclear (or ionic) potential,  $v(r)$  ].  
(standard quantum mechanics)
  - There is a one-to-one correspondence between the ground-state electron-density and the ground-state wave function. (Hohenberg and Kohn)

Kohn and Sham (1965):

$$E_v[n] = T_s[n] + \int v(\mathbf{r})n(\mathbf{r})d^3\mathbf{r} + E^{\text{Hartree}}[n] + E^{\text{xc}}[n]$$

with 
$$E^{\text{Hartree}}[n] = \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \iint \frac{n(\mathbf{r})n(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d^3\mathbf{r} d^3\mathbf{r}'$$

And  $T_s[n]$  the functional of the kinetic energy of **non-interacting** electrons.  $E^{\text{xc}}[n]$  contains all the unknowns.

At fixed electron number  $N$  the variational principle gives

$$\delta \left\{ E_v[n] - \mu \left( \int n(\mathbf{r})d^3\mathbf{r} - N \right) \right\} = 0$$

or 
$$\frac{\delta E_v^{[n]}}{\delta n} = \mu = \frac{\delta T_s[n]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})} + v^{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r})$$
 **Kohn-Sham equation**

Kohn and Sham (1965):

$$v^{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}) = v(\mathbf{r}) + \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{n(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d^3\mathbf{r}' + \frac{\delta E^{\text{xc}}[n]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})}$$

Because  $T_s[n]$  is the functional of non-interacting particles we effectively restrict the allowed densities to those that can be written as

This implies: 
$$n(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i=1}^N |\varphi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2$$
 **Kohn-Sham equation**

$$\left\{ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + v^{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}) \right\} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_i \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$


$v^{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r})$  depends on the density that we are seeking.


$$\begin{aligned} T_s[n] &= \sum_{k=1}^N \langle \varphi_k | -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 | \varphi_k \rangle, \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^N \epsilon_k - \int v^{\text{eff}}[n^{\text{in}}](\mathbf{r})n(\mathbf{r})d^3\mathbf{r}. \end{aligned}$$





## The Kohn-Sham Ansatz of Density-Functional Theory



Bohr:  electron (light, orbiting)  
proton (heavy, fixed)  
Electron = particle

Schrodinger:  Electron = wave  
 $\psi(r)$

DFT  
Walter Kohn  Electron is a density distribution on cloud  $n(r)$   
electron cloud



## The Kohn-Sham Ansatz of Density-Functional Theory

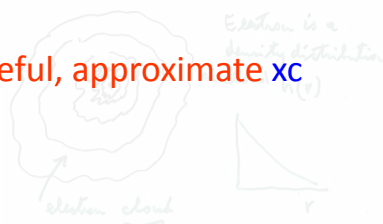


- **Kohn-Sham (1965):** Replace the original many-body problem by an **independent electron problem that can be solved!**

$$E_v[n] = T_s[n] + \int v(r) n(r) d^3r + E^{\text{Hartree}}[n] + E^{\text{xc}}[n]$$

- With  $T_s[n]$  the kinetic energy functional of independent electrons, and  $E^{\text{xc}}[n]$  the unknown functional.
- The challenge is to find **useful, approximate xc functionals.**

Walter Kohn





## The Kohn-Sham Ansatz of Density-Functional Theory



Approximate xc functionals have been very successful **but there are problems**

- for certain bonding situations (vdW, hydrogen bonding, certain covalent bonds)
  - for highly correlated situations, and
  - for excited states.
- The challenge is to find **useful, approximate xc functionals**.

Walter Kohn



## Certainties about Density Functional Theory

1. **DFT in principle:** It is exact; a universal  $E^{\text{xc}}[n]$  functional “exists”.
2. **DFT in practice:** It is probably not possible to write down  $E^{\text{xc}}[n]$  as a closed mathematical expression. We need approximations.

The success of DFT proves that “simple” approximations to the exchange-correlation functional **can** provide good results – if one knows what one is doing.

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The success of DFT shows that “simple” approximations to the exchange-correlation functional can provide good results – if you know what one is doing.

The search (research) for new xc functionals goes on.

## Perdew's Dream: Jacob's Ladder in Density-Function Theory




The exchange-correlation functional	
5	our favorite
4	EX + cRPA, as given by ACFD
3	hybrids (B3LYP, PBE0, HSE, ...)
2	meta-GGA (e.g., TPSS)
1	Generalized Gradient Approximation
	Local-Density Approximation

$\tau(\mathbf{r})$ : Kohn-Sham kinetic-energy density  
 EX: exact exchange:  $E_x = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{occ} \iint d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' \frac{\psi_n^*(\mathbf{r})\psi_m(\mathbf{r})\psi_m^*(\mathbf{r}')\psi_n(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$   
 cRPA: random-phase approximation for correlation

ACFD: adiabatic connection fluctuation dissipation theorem

Bohm, Pines (1953); Gell-Mann, Brueckner (1957);  
 Gunnarsson, Lundqvist (1975, 1976); Langreth, Perdew (1977);  
 X. Ren, P. Rinke, C. Joas, and M. S., *Invited Review, Mater. Sci.* 47, 21 (2012)

# Perdew's Dream: Jacob's Ladder in Density-Functional Theory



**The exchange-correlation functional**

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5	unoccupied $\psi(r)$ ,	EX + cRPA, as given by ACFD
4	occupied $\psi(r)$ ,	hybrids (B3LYP, PBE0, HSE, ...)
3	$\tau(r)$ ,	meta-GGA (e.g., TPSS)
2	$\nabla n(r)$ ,	Generalized Gradient Approximation
1	$n(r)$ ,	Local-Density Approximation

accuracy ↑

$\tau(r)$ : Kohn-Sham kinetic-energy density

EX: exact exchange:  $E_x = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{occ} \int \dots$


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Bohm, Pines (1953); Gell-Mann, Brueckner (1957); Gunnarsson, Lundqvist (1975, 1976); Langreth, Perde  
X. Ren, P. Rinke, C. Joas, and M. S., *Invited Review, Ma*

Berlin, July 2013

Perdew Becke Kohn Gross



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Berlin, July 2013

Perdew Becke Kohn Gross



Functionals of level 1 and 2 suffer from severe self-interaction errors.

Functionals of level 1, 2, 3, & 4 are lacking the long-range vdW tails.

With "Level 5 plus" validation (error estimation) is becoming possible.

## “Level 5 plus” Viewed in the Many-Body Framework

### Perturbation theory:

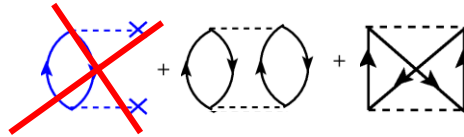
$H = H^0 + H'$  with  $H^0|\phi_n\rangle = E_n^{(0)}|\phi_n\rangle$  and  $|\phi_n\rangle = \text{Slater det.}$   
 $|\phi_0\rangle = \text{ground state}$ ,  $|\phi_{i,a}\rangle = \text{single excitations}$ ,  $|\phi_{ij,ab}\rangle = \text{double exci.}$

$$E_0^{(0)} = \langle \phi_0 | H^0 | \phi_0 \rangle, \quad E_0^{(1)} = \langle \phi_0 | H' | \phi_0 \rangle$$

$$E_0^{(2)} = \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{|\langle \phi_0 | H' | \phi_n \rangle|^2}{E_0^{(0)} - E_n^{(0)}} = \sum_{i,a} \frac{|\langle \phi_0 | H' | \phi_{i,a} \rangle|^2}{E_0^{(0)} - E_{i,a}^{(0)}} + \sum_{ij,ab} \frac{|\langle \phi_0 | H' | \phi_{ij,ab} \rangle|^2}{E_0^{(0)} - E_{ij,ab}^{(0)}}$$

single excitations      double excitations

**Using HF input, this is  
Møller-Plesset pertur-  
bation theory, MP2**



*X. Ren, P. Rinke, C. Joas, and M. S., Invited Review, Mater. Sci. 47, 21 (2012)*  
*X. Ren, P. Rinke, G.E. Scuseria, and M. Scheffler, Phys. Rev. B, in print (2013)*

## “Level 5 plus” Viewed in the Many-Body Framework

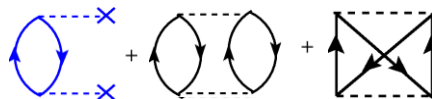
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$$E_0^{(2)} = \sum_{n \neq 0} \frac{|\langle \phi_0 | H' | \phi_n \rangle|^2}{E_0^{(0)} - E_n^{(0)}} = \sum_{i,a} \frac{|\langle \phi_0 | H' | \phi_{i,a} \rangle|^2}{E_0^{(0)} - E_{i,a}^{(0)}} + \sum_{ij,ab} \frac{|\langle \phi_0 | H' | \phi_{ij,ab} \rangle|^2}{E_0^{(0)} - E_{ij,ab}^{(0)}}$$

single excitations      double excitations

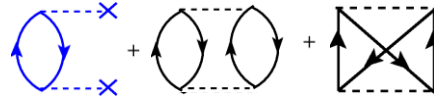


**Adding all ring diagrams from higher order perturbations:**

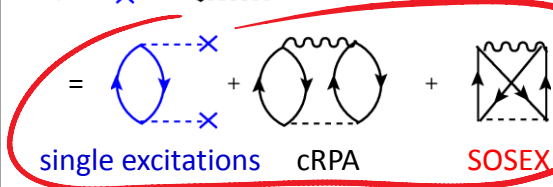
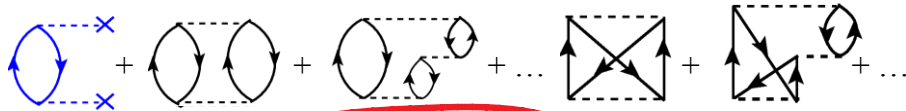
*X. Ren, P. Rinke, C. Joas, and M. S., Invited Review, Mater. Sci. 47, 21 (2012)*  
*X. Ren, P. Rinke, G.E. Scuseria, and M. Scheffler, Phys. Rev. B, in print (2013)*

## “Level 5 plus” Viewed in the Many-Body Framework

single excitations      double excitations



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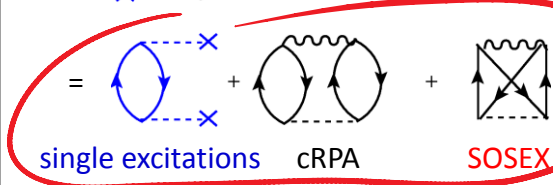
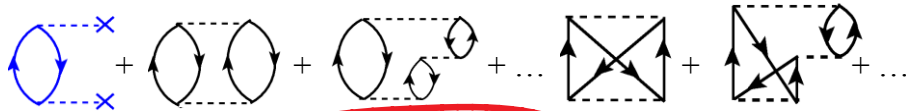


*X. Ren, A. Tkatchenko, P. Rinke, and M.S., PRL **106**, (2011).  
J. Paier, X. Ren, P. Rinke, A. Grüneis, G. Kresse, G. E. Scuseria, M.S., NJP (2012).*

*X. Ren, P. Rinke, C. Joas, and M. S., Invited Review, Mater. Sci. 47, 21 (2012)  
X. Ren, P. Rinke, G.E. Scuseria, and M. Scheffler, Phys. Rev. B, in print (2013)*

Renormalized second order perturbation theory  
sets the reference for materials.

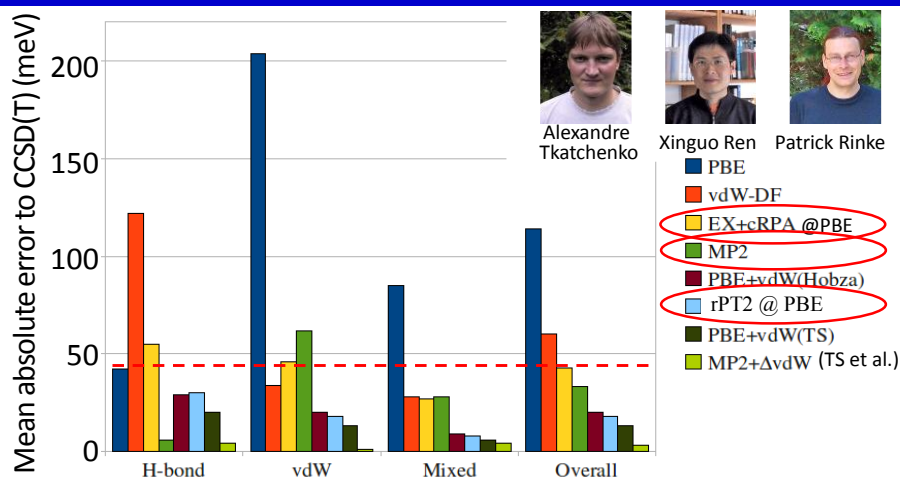
- better than LDA, PBE, MP2
- comparable to CCSD
- not as accurate as CCSD(T)



*X. Ren, A. Tkatchenko, P. Rinke, and M.S., PRL **106**, (2011).  
J. Paier, X. Ren, P. Rinke, A. Grüneis, G. Kresse, G. E. Scuseria, M.S., NJP (2012).*

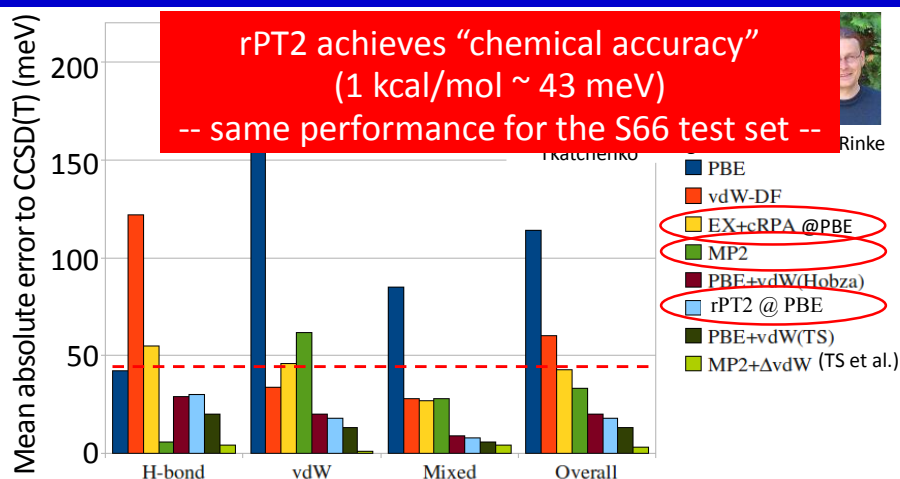
*X. Ren, P. Rinke, C. Joas, and M. S., Invited Review, Mater. Sci. 47, 21 (2012)  
X. Ren, P. Rinke, G.E. Scuseria, and M. Scheffler, Phys. Rev. B, in print (2013)*

## Performance of rPT2 for Weak Intermolecular Interactions: S22 Test Set



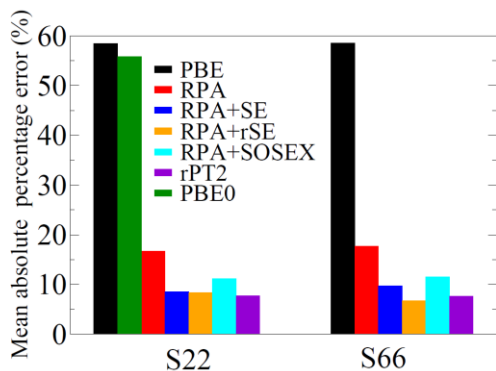
**CCSD(T):** Jurecka, Sponer, Cerny, Hobza, *PCCP* (2006). **Langreth-Lundqvist:** Gulans, Puska, Nieminen, *PRB* (2009); **rPT2:** X. Ren et al. *PRL* (2011) and to be published.  
**TS:** A. Tkatchenko and M.S., *PRL* (2009); A. Tkatchenko et al., *JCP* (2009).

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**CCSD(T):** Jurecka, Sponer, Cerny, Hobza, *PCCP* (2006). **Langreth-Lundqvist:** Gulans, Puska, Nieminen, *PRB* (2009); **rPT2:** X. Ren et al. *PRL* (2011) and to be published.  
**TS:** A. Tkatchenko and M.S., *PRL* (2009); A. Tkatchenko et al., *JCP* (2009).

## Performance of rPT2 for Weak Intermolecular Interactions: S22 and S66 Test Sets



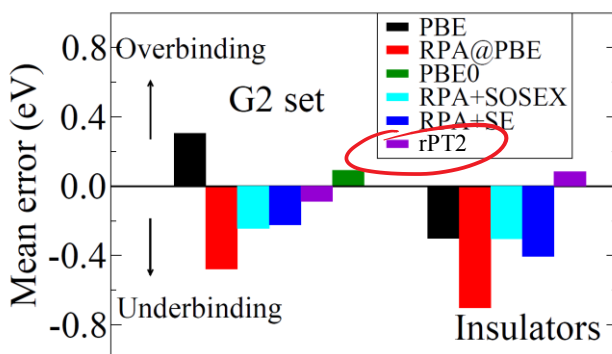
X. Ren, P. Rinke,  
G. Scuseria, and M.S.  
PEB, July 19 (2013)

Bonding type	hydrogen	dispersion	mixed
S22 [1]	7	8	7
S66 [2]	23	23	20

[1] Jurečka, Šponer, Černý, and Hobza, PCCP **8**, 1985 (2006).

[2] Rezac, Riley, and Hobza, J. Chem. Theo. Comp. **7** 2427 (2011).

## Atomization Energies with rPT2



**solids:**  
C, Si, SiC,  
BN, BP,  
AlN, AlP,  
LiH, LiF,  
LiC, MgO.

J. Paier, X. Ren, P. Rinke, G. Scuseria, A. Grueneis, G. Kresse,  
and M.S., New J. Phys. **14**, 043001 (2012).



# Get Real! Consider Temperature, Pressure, and Doping; *Ab Initio* Atomistic Thermodynamics

$$\mu_{\text{O}_2}(T, p)$$

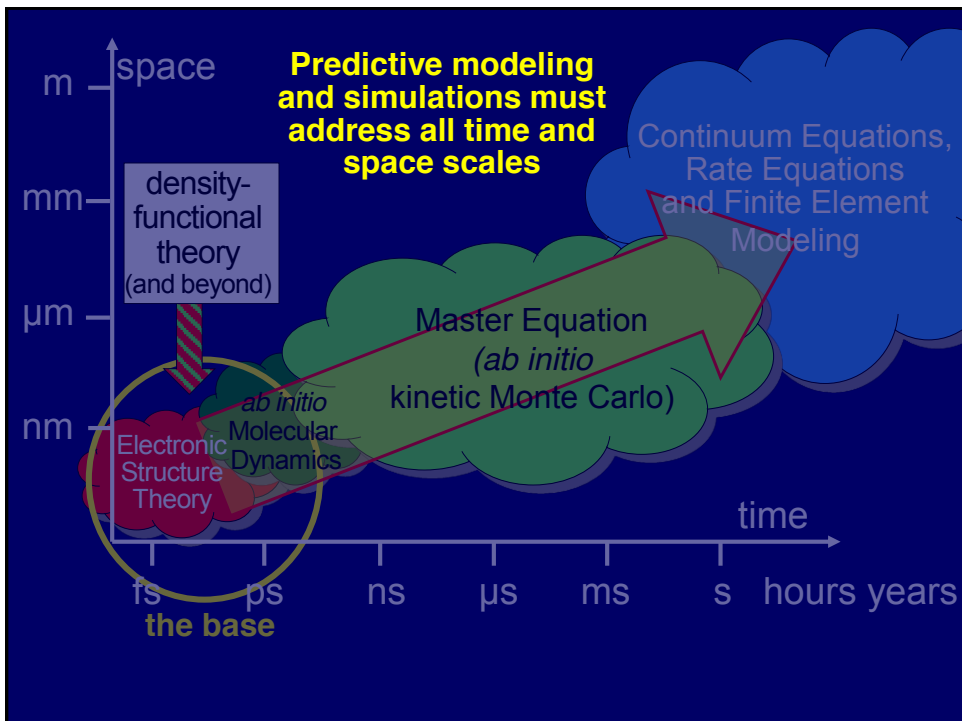


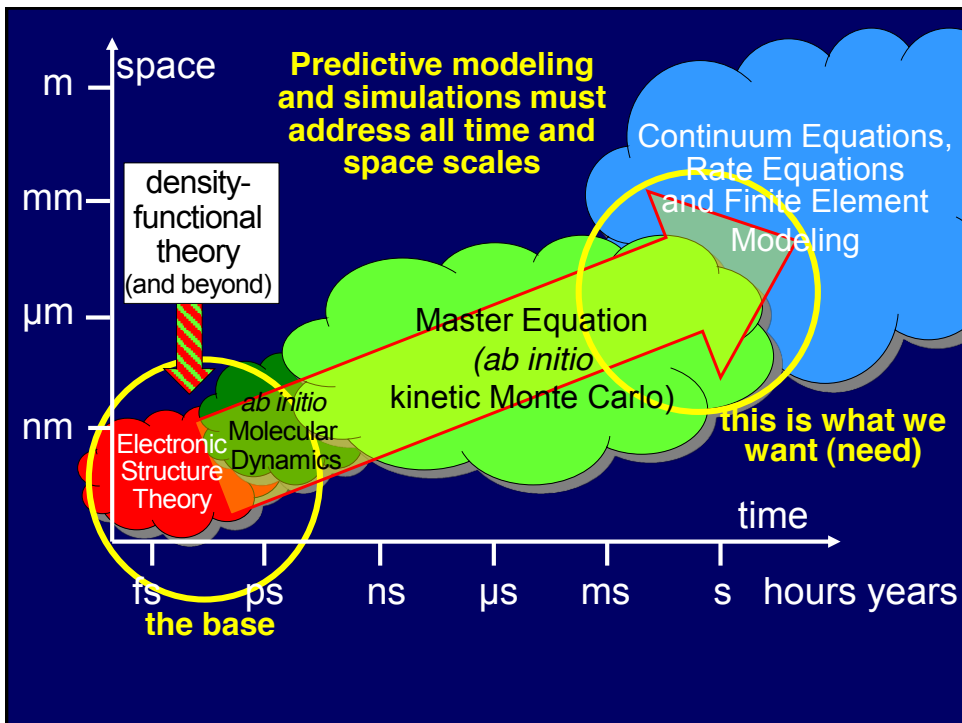
$$G(T, p) = E^{\text{tot}} + F^{\text{vib}} - TS^{\text{conf}} + pV + N\mu_{\text{O}}(T, p) + n\epsilon_{\text{F}}$$

DFT

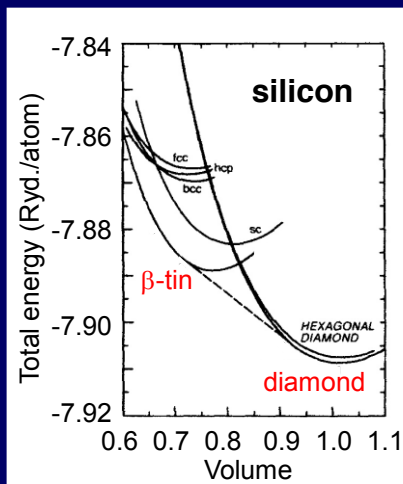
$$\mu_{\text{O}}(T, p) = \frac{1}{2} \mu_{\text{O}_2}(T, p^0) + \frac{1}{2} kT \ln(p/p^0)$$

C.M. Weinert and M.S.,  
Mat. Sci. Forum 10-12,  
25 (1986).  
K. Reuter, C. Stampfl, and  
M.S., in: Handbook of Mate-  
rials Modeling, Vol. 1. (Ed.  
Sid Yip), Springer 2005.





## The first (convincing) DFT calculations: Stability of crystals and crystal phase transitions

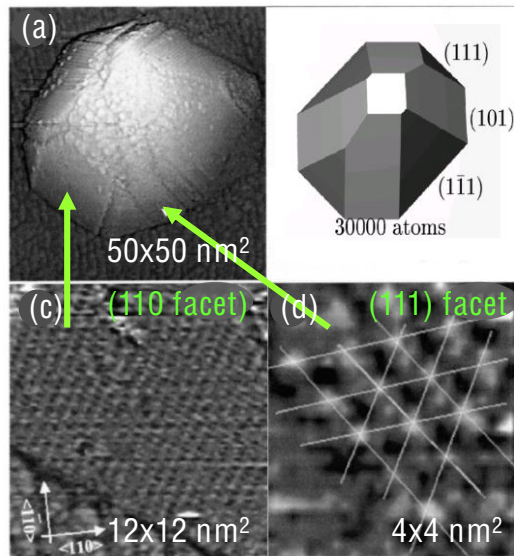


*M. T. Yin and  
M. L. Cohen  
PRB 26 (1982)  
< and PRL 1980 >*

*see also:  
V.L. Moruzzi, J.F. Janak,  
and A. R. Williams  
Calculated Electronic  
Properties of Metals  
Pergamon Press (1978)*

## InAs/GaAs(001) quantum dots close to thermodynamic equilibrium

*G. Costantini et al. APL 82 (2003)*



a) STM topography of a large island.

b) Equilibrium shape (theory: *E. Pehlke, N. Moll, M.S., Proc. 23rd ICPS (1996)*; *Q. Liu, et al., PRB 60 (1999)*).

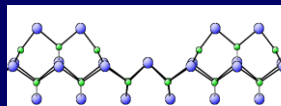
c), d) High-resolution views of the (110) and (111) side facets.

Also:

*J. Marquez et al., APL 78 (2001)*;  
*Y. Temko et al., APL 83 (2003)*.

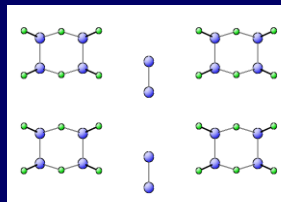
## Adsorption, diffusion, island nucleation, and growth of GaAs, studied by *ab initio* kinetic Monte Carlo

side view

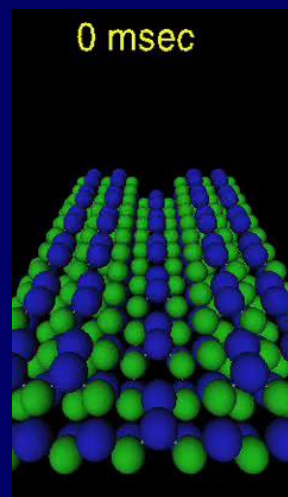


Ga  
As

top view

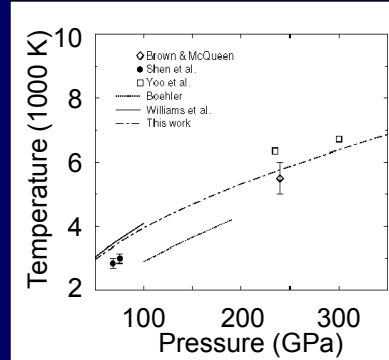
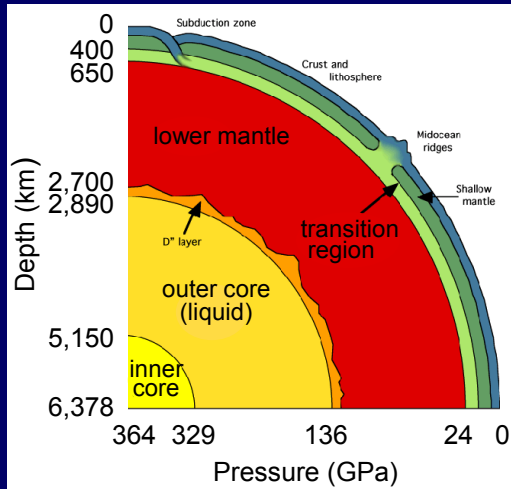


1/60 of the full simulation cell  
As<sub>2</sub> pressure  $1.33 \times 10^{-8}$  bar  
Ga deposition rate = 0.1 ML/s  
 $T = 700$  K



*P. Kratzer & M. S., PRL 88, 036102 (2002)*

## *Ab initio* melting curve of Fe as function of pressure



*D. Alfe, M. J. Gillan,  
and G. D Price  
NATURE 401 (1999)*

Some remarks about excited states

## What About the Kohn-Sham Eigenvalues?

The **only** quantities that are supposed to be correct in the Kohn-Sham approach are electron **density, total energy, highest Kohn-Sham level, forces, force constants, ...**

What about the individual  $\phi_i(r)$  and  $\epsilon_i$ ?

The Kohn-Sham  $\phi_i(r)$  and  $\epsilon_i$  give an approximate description of quasi-particles, a **(good) starting point** for many-body calculations.

### Windows

An exception 06 has occurred at 0028:C11B3ADC in VxD DiskTSD(03) + 00001660. This was called from 0028:C11B40C8 in VxD voltrack(04) + 00000000. It may be possible to continue normally.

- \* Press any key to attempt to continue.
- \* Press CTRL+ALT+RESET to restart your computer. You will lose any unsaved information in all applications.

Press any key to continue

### Windows

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- \* Press any key to attempt to continue.
- \* Press CTRL+ALT+RESET to restart your computer. You will lose any unsaved information in all applications.

Press any key to continue

### Kohn-Sham eigenvalues are not excitation energies.

However,  $\varphi_i(r)$  and  $\epsilon_i$  give an approximate description of quasi-particles, a (good) **starting point** for many-body calculations.

## What About Kohn-Sham Eigenvalues?

The ionization energy is:

$$I_k = E_k^{N-1} - E^N$$

$$n(r) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} f_i |\varphi_i(r)|^2$$

$f_i$  are occupation numbers

(Well defined for the highest occupied state. Otherwise, “only” in terms of constrained DFT)

$$= - \int_0^1 \frac{\partial E_v[n]}{\partial f_k} df_k$$

$$= - \int_0^1 \epsilon_k(f_k) df_k$$

Here we assume that the positions of the atoms don't change upon ionization, or that they change with some delay (Franck-Condon principle). Using the mean-value theorem of integral algebra gives:

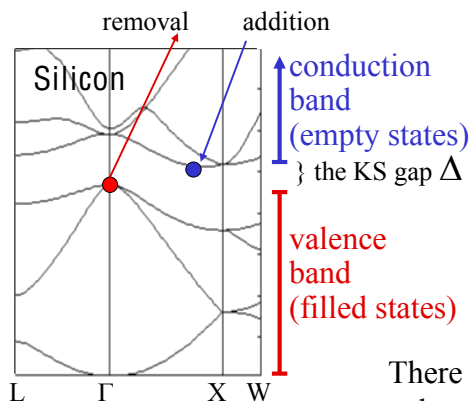
$$I_k = -\epsilon_k(0.5)$$

This is the Slater-Janak “transition state”. It is the DFT analog of Koopmans' theorem.

## Kohn-Sham Electron Bands

Kohn-Sham band gap:  $\Delta^{\text{KS}} = \epsilon_{\text{CB}} - \epsilon_{\text{VB}}$  of the  $N$ -particle system

The measured (optical) band gap is something else:



$$E_{\text{gap}} = I - A$$

$$A = E^N - E^{N+1}$$

$$I = E^{N-1} - E^N$$

$$E_{\text{gap}} = E^{N-1} + E^{N+1} - 2E^N$$

$$= \Delta^{\text{KS}} + \Delta_{\text{xc}}$$

$$V_{\text{xc}}([n_{N+1}]; \mathbf{r}) = V_{\text{xc}}([n_N]; \mathbf{r}) + \Delta_{\text{xc}}$$

There is a discontinuity in  $V_{\text{xc}}$  at integer values of occupation numbers.

We don't know how to determine  $\Delta_{\text{xc}}$  for crystals with DFT.

## Summary and Outlook: Interacting Electrons Determine the Properties and Function of Real Materials

### Important arenas for future theoretical work:

- Non-adiabatic effects, dissipation
- Transport (electrons, ions, heat)
- Thermodynamic phase transitions, e.g. melting
- Surfaces, nanostructures – in realistic environments
- Modeling the kinetics, e.g. of catalysts or crystal growth (self-assembly and self-organization)
- Molecules and clusters in solvents, electrochemistry, fuel cells, external fields
- Correlated systems, e.g.  $f$ -electron chemistry
- Biological problems

### The challenges:

- Find ways to control the xc approximation
- Develop methods for bridging length and time scales