Coupled Electron-Ion Monte Carlo Method

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Collaborations

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CECAM for his hospitality NCSA (USA) and CINECA (Italy) for computer time.

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 - Molecular phase: preliminary results
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 - Future developments

motivations: beyond DFT

- Modern AB-INITIO simulation methods are largely based on Density Functional Theory (DFT), in principle exact but in practice it invokes the Local Density Approximation (LDA and various improvements GGA).
- DFT+LDA(GGA) is in general a good compromise between accuracy and efficiency to perform dynamical studies of several hundreds atoms for times of the order of 100 psec (Car-Parrinello and BO Molecular Dynamics).
- There are cases in which DFT is not accurate enough (Van-der-Waals bonding systems, sp-bonded materials, calculation of excitation energies and energy gaps)
- Can we do better than DFT? Quantum Monte Carlo (QMC) provides in general better electronic energies for given ionic positions.

Carbon cluster C₂₀





FIG. 15. Relative energies of C_{20} isomers from the HF, LDA, BLYP, and DMC methods. The energies are given relative to the lowest-energy isomer within the given theory. From Grossman, Mitas, and Raghavachari, 1995.

FIG. 14. Geometries and charge densities of C_{20} isomers calculated using the HF method. From Grossman, Mitas, and Raghavachari, 1995 [Color].

- J.C.Grossman et al. PRL, **75**, 3870 (1995).
- BLYP=Becke-Lee-Yang-Parr GGA
- Highly accurate chemical methods calculations confirms QMC data (R.B.Murphy, R.A.Friesner, Chem.Phys.Lett. 288, 403 (1998))

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- Previous attempts
 - Diffusion Monte Carlo for electrons and nuclei (DMC) (Ceperley-Alder 1987)
 - temperature effects are absent
 - time scale separation problem (even for hydrogen!)
 - Restricted Path Integral Monte Carlo (RPIMC)
 (Pierleoni, Ceperley et al, 1994, Militzer and Ceperley 1999)
 - electrons and nuclei are at finite temperature
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- Coupled Electron-Ion Monte Carlo (CEIMC)
 - Born-Oppenheimer separation of time scales: ground state electrons, finite T nuclei

High pressure hydrogen

- The most abundant element in the universe : giant planets (>90%)
- The simplest element in the periodic table: good theoretical playground
- Still so much unknown!! The high pressure phases are still largely out of the experimental reach.

Hydrogen: phase diagram



Hydrogen phase diagram. Continuous transition lines are experimental results, dashed lines are theoretical prediction from various methods. Blue squares and red right-triangle are ab-initio MD predictions of molecular melting (Bonev et al, Nature '04) and molecular dissociation in the liquid phase (Scandolo, PNAS '03). The diamonds are shock-waves experimental data through the liquid metalization (Weir et al. PRB '96). The green triangles are early CEIMC data for the insulating molecular state while the green domain on the extreme right indicates the CEIMC prediction for the melting (Pierleoni et al _ PRL '04). Red lines are model adiabats for the interior of the giant planets of the solar system.

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- Molecular-atomic (insulating-metallic) transition in the liquid at higher temperature (T=1500K) has been recently predicted by CPMD (Scandolo, PNAS 2003) but not yet confirmed by experiments. At higher T (~5000K) PIMC exhibits a continuous *Electronic Group Discussion Meeting; Cambridge 26 October 2005 – p.9/62*

CEIMC

CEIMC: Metropolis Monte Carlo for the finite T ions. The BO energy in the Boltzmann distribution is obtained by a QMC calculation for the gound state electrons.

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- Ground state electrons:
 - VMC & RQMC
 - Moving the electrons: the bounce algorithm
 - Energy difference methods
 - Trial wave functions for hydrogen
 - Finite size effects: Twist Average Boundary Conditions (TABC) within CEIMC
- Pre-rejecting protonic moves: multilevel Metropolis
- Strategy for Protonic PIMC within CEIMC

Moving the ions

- In Metropolis MC we generate a Markov chain of ionic states ${\cal S}$ distributed according to Boltzmann

 $P(S) \propto \exp(-\beta E_{BO}(S))$

 $E_{BO}(S) =$ Born-Oppenheimer energy for the configuration S.

- Given an initial state S we propose a trial state S^\prime with probability

$$T(S \to S') = T(S' \to S)$$

and we accept the move with probability

$$A(S \to S') = \min\left[1, \exp\left\{-\beta [E_{BO}(S') - E_{BO}(S)]\right\}\right]$$

- After a finite number of moves the Markov chain is distributed with Boltzmann (if ergodicity holds).

- But $E_{BO}(S)$ from QMC is noisy \Rightarrow use the penalty method

Assume mean value and variance of the energy difference over the noise distribution exist

$$\beta[E_{BO}(S') - E_{BO}(S)] = \langle \delta(S, S') \rangle = \Delta(S, S')$$

$$\langle (\delta - \Delta)^2 \rangle = \sigma^2(S, S')$$

We want to find the new acceptance probability $a(S \rightarrow S')$ such that we satisfy detailed balance on average:

$$T(S \to S') < a(S \to S') >= T(S' \to S) < a(S' \to S) > \exp[-\beta \Delta(S, S')]$$

where

$$\langle a(S \to S') \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\delta \underbrace{P(\delta|S,S')}_{a(\delta|S,S')} a(\delta|S,S')$$

noise distribution

D.M.Ceperley and M.Dewing, J. Chem. Phys., 110, 9812 (1999)

Assume:

$$a(\delta|S, S') = a(\delta)$$
$$P(\delta|S, S') = P(-\delta|S', S)$$

Detailed Balance is

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\delta P(\delta|S, S') \left[a(\delta) - e^{-\Gamma} a(-\delta) \right] = 0 \tag{1}$$

where

$$\Gamma(S \to S') = \Delta(S, S') - \log\left[T(S' \to S)/T(S \to S')\right]$$

If $a(\delta)$ satisfies eq. (1), after a finite number of moves the Markov chain is distributed with Boltzmann (if ergodicity holds).

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If we assume $P(\delta|S,S')$ to be gaussian with known σ^2

$$P(\delta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left[\frac{-(\delta - \Delta)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right] \Longrightarrow a(\delta|\sigma) = \min\left[1, \frac{T(S' \to S)}{T(S \to S')} \exp\left(-\delta - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)\right]$$

But noise must be extracted from the data:

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{k} \delta_{k} \approx \Delta \qquad \qquad s^{2} = \frac{1}{M-1} \left[\frac{1}{M} \sum_{k} (\delta_{k} - \gamma)^{2} \right] \approx \sigma^{2}$$
$$P(\delta) \rightarrow P(\gamma, s^{2}) = \underbrace{G(\gamma - \Delta, \sigma^{2})}_{\text{normal distribution}} \underbrace{P_{n-1}(s^{2}, \sigma^{2})}_{\chi^{2} \text{ distribution}}$$

Detailed balance is now a 2 parameter integral equation and the solution is a Bessel function. Using its asymptotic expansion one gets:

$$a(\gamma, s^2, M) = \min\left[1, \frac{T(S' \to S)}{T(S \to S')}e^{-\left(\delta + \frac{s^2}{2} + \frac{s^4}{4(M+1)} + \frac{s^6}{3(M+1)(M+3)} + \dots\right)}\right]$$

valid for $s^2 < 4M$ and very good for $s^2 < 0.1M.$

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The noise always causes extra rejection !

EFFICIENCY: which level of noise is optimal?
 For a generic observable we ask which level of noise minimizes its statistical error ε² at fixed computer time T: T = m[nt + t₀]
 m=total number of ionic steps attempted
 n=number of electronic calculations before the acceptance test
 t=CPU time for a single electronic calculation
 t₀=time in the noiseless part of the code per total step
 In general ε = c(s)m^{-(1/2)} and s = dn^{-(1/2)}. (c(s) and d are unknown).
 A measure of the inefficiency of our calculation is:

$$T\epsilon^2 = c^2(s)t_0 \left[1 + \frac{f}{s^2}\right] \qquad \qquad f = d^2 \frac{t}{t_0}$$

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In few simple examples the optimal noise level was found to be $s^2 \approx 1$. In CEIMC other constraints imposes the noise level but as a rule of thumb we always try to stay around 1.

The electronic problem

System of N_p ions and N_e electrons. We need to compute the BO energy

 $E_{BO}(S) = \langle \Phi_0(S) | \hat{H} | \Phi_0(S) \rangle$

 $|\Phi_0(S)\rangle =$ electronic ground state w.f. for ionic state $S = \{\vec{s}_1, \dots, \vec{s}_{N_p}\}$. In configurational space $X = (R, \Sigma) = (\{r_1, \dots, r_{N_e}\}, \{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{N_e}\})$

$$E_{BO}(S) = \int dX \, |\Phi_0(X|S)|^2 \, E_L(X|S); \qquad E_L(X|S) = \frac{\hat{H}(R,S)\Phi_0(X|S)}{\Phi_0(X|S)}$$

$$\sigma^2(S) = \int dX \, |\Phi_0(X|S)|^2 \left[(E_L(X|S) - E_{BO}(S))^2 \right]^2$$

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If $|\Phi_0(S) >$ is an eigenfunction of \hat{H}

$$\begin{cases} E_L(X|S) &= E_{BO}(S) \\ \sigma^2(S) &= 0 \end{cases}$$
 zero variance principle

Variational Monte Carlo - VMC 1

The "Variational Theorem": assume a trial wave function for the electrons in the external field of the ions $\Psi_T(X|S)$ and compute the total energy as the average of the local energy $E_L = \Psi_T^{-1} H \Psi_T$

$$E_0 \le E_T = \frac{\langle \Psi_T | \hat{H} | \Psi_T \rangle}{\langle \Psi_T | \Psi_T \rangle} = \frac{\int dX | \Psi_T(X; S) |^2 \Psi_T^{-1}(X; S) \hat{H} \Psi_T(X; S)}{\int dX | \Psi_T(X; S) |^2}$$

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 - continuous
 - of proper symmetry
 - normalizable
 - with finite variance (for MC only)
- Parametrized: for a given functional form Ψ_T depends on a number of parameters $\vec{\alpha} = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$

$$\Psi_T(X|S,\vec{\alpha}) \Longrightarrow E_T(S,\vec{\alpha}) = \langle E_L(X|S,\vec{\alpha}) \rangle$$

- 1. Since $|\Psi_T|^2 \ge 0$ use Metropolis MC to sample $P(X|S,\alpha) = |\Psi_T|^2 / \int dr |\Psi_T|^2$.
- 2. take averages of the local energy and the variance
- 3. optimize over $\{\alpha_i\}$ by minimizing energy and/or variance
- 4. repeat until convergence is reached

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- learn directly what works in wave functions
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 - an automatic optimization method is preferable

Projection Monte Carlo

Project $|\Psi_T >$ onto the true ground state $|\Phi_0 >$ by applying some projection operator \hat{P} .

- Diffusion MC (DMC) and Reptation Quantum MC (RQMC) / (VPI) : $\hat{P} = e^{-t\hat{H}}$
- Green Function MC (GFMC) : $\hat{P} = [\hat{1} + t\hat{H}]^{-1}$
- Power MC : $\hat{P} = \hat{1} t\hat{H}$ (lattice models)

 $|\Psi_T>=\sum_i c_i \ |\Phi_i>$ -eigenstates of \hat{H}

$$|\Psi_T \rangle = \sum_i c_i |\Phi_i \rangle$$
 -eigenstates of \hat{H}

$$|\Psi(t)\rangle \equiv e^{-t\hat{H}} |\Psi_T\rangle = \sum_i c_i e^{-tE_i} |\Phi_i\rangle \Longrightarrow \lim_{t \to \infty} |\Psi(t)\rangle \propto |\Phi_0\rangle$$

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Define the generating function of the moments

$$Z(t) = \langle \Psi_T | e^{-t\hat{H}} | \Psi_T \rangle \Longrightarrow \begin{cases} E(t) = -\partial_t \log Z(t) = \langle E_L \rangle_t & \longrightarrow E_0 \\ t \to \infty \\ \sigma^2(t) = \partial_t^2 \log Z(t) = -\partial_t E(t) > 0 & \longrightarrow 0 \end{cases}$$

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Define the generating function of the moments

$$Z(t) = \langle \Psi_T | e^{-t\hat{H}} | \Psi_T \rangle \Longrightarrow \begin{cases} E(t) = -\partial_t \log Z(t) = \langle E_L \rangle_t & \longrightarrow E_0 \\ t \to \infty \\ \sigma^2(t) = \partial_t^2 \log Z(t) = -\partial_t E(t) > 0 & \longrightarrow 0 \end{cases}$$

- The energy converges monotonously from above ($\partial_t E(t) \leqslant 0$)

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 -eigenstates of \hat{H}

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- The energy converges monotonously from above ($\partial_t E(t) \leq 0$)

- At any finite time t, E(t) is a variational upper bound to E_0 : $E(t) \ge E_0$

In configuration space

$$Z(t) = \int dR dR' < \Psi_T | R > \rho(R, R', t) < R' | \Psi_T >$$

 $\rho(R, R', t) = \langle R | e^{-t\hat{H}} | R' \rangle$ is the thermal density matrix at inverse temperature t.

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1 - Factorization ($t = M\tau$)

$$\rho(R, R', t) = < R | (e^{-\tau \hat{H}})^M | R' > = \int dR_1 \cdots dR_{M-1} \prod_{k=1}^{M-1} \rho(R_{k-1}, R_k, \tau)$$

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2 - Importance Sampling break-up: $\hat{H} = \hat{\mathcal{H}} + E_L(R)$

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \lambda \left[-\nabla^2 + \frac{\nabla^2 \Psi_T}{\Psi_T} \right]$$
$$E_L(R) = V(R) - \lambda \frac{\nabla^2 \Psi_T}{\Psi_T}$$

$$\rho(R_{k-1}, R_k, \tau) \simeq \langle R_{k-1} | e^{-\tau \hat{\mathcal{H}}} | R_k \rangle^s e^{-\frac{\tau}{2} \left[E_L(R_k) + E_L(R_{k-1}) \right]}$$

$$\langle R_{k-1} | e^{-\tau \hat{\mathcal{H}}} | R_k \rangle^s = (4\pi\lambda\tau)^{-\frac{3N}{2}} e^{-L_s(R_{k-1}, R_k, \tau)}$$

$$L_s(R_{k-1}, R_k, \tau) = \frac{(R_k - R_{k-1})^2}{4\lambda\tau} + \frac{\lambda\tau}{2} (F_k^2 + F_{k-1}^2) + \frac{(R_k - R_{k-1}) \cdot (F_k - F_{k-1})}{2}$$

Putting all pieces together

$$\rho(R, R', t) = \int \prod_{k=1}^{M-1} dR_k \left[\prod_{k=1}^{M} \frac{e^{-L_s(R_{k-1}, R_k, \tau)}}{(4\pi\lambda\tau)^{3N/2}} \right] e^{-\tau \left[\frac{E_L(R_0)}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{M-1} E_L(R_k) + \frac{E_L(R_M)}{2} \right]} Z(t) = \int dR dR' < \Psi_T | R > \rho(R, R', t) < R' | \Psi_T >$$

Summary of FN-RQMC

- Build a path $Q = (R_0, ..., R_M)$ for the system of N_e electrons at fixed ionic configuration S.
- Sample the path space according to the distribution

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{\Pi}(\mathbf{Q}|\mathbf{S}) &= \exp\left[-U(R_0|S) - U(R_M|S) - A(Q|S)\right] \\ U(R|S) &= \Re[\ln \Psi_T(R|S)] \\ A(Q|S) &= \sum_{k=1}^M L_s(R_{k-1}, R_k, \tau|S) + \tau\left[\frac{E_L(R_0|S)}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{M-1} E_L(R_k|S) + \frac{E_L(R_M|S)}{2}\right] \end{aligned}$$

- **FN:** check $\Psi_T(R_{k-1})\Psi_T(R_k) > 0$ along the path. Otherwise reject the new path.
- Compute the local energy and the variance at path ends, other properties at the middle:

$$O(t) = \frac{1}{Z(t)} \int dR_1 dR_2 dR_3 \Psi_T^*(R_1) \rho(R_1, R_2 | \frac{t}{2}) < R_2 |\hat{O}| R_2 > \rho(R_2, R_3 | \frac{t}{2}) \Psi_T(R_3)$$

no mixed estimators bias!!!

ensure convergence to the continuum limit (au
ightarrow 0) and to the ground state ($t
ightarrow \infty$)

Sampling the electrons

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RQMC: classical algorithm

- One end of the many-body polymer is sampled with probability 1/2 to be the growth end R_g

$$d = \begin{cases} +1 \quad \Rightarrow R_g = R_M \\ -1 \quad \Rightarrow R_g = R_0 \end{cases}$$

- A link is added to the growth end and removed from the opposite end in order to keep the polymer length constant. The transition probability is factorized as

$$P_d(Q \to Q') = T_d(Q \to Q')a_d(Q \to Q')$$

The choice

$$a_d(Q \to Q') = min\left[1, \frac{\Pi(Q')T_{-d}(Q' \to Q)}{\Pi(Q)T_d(Q \to Q')}\right]$$

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Problems: a) the memory of this algorithm in MC step scales as $(\#beads)^2$ /acceptance.

b) persistent configurations can appear

Bounce algorithm: choose at random one end of the chain at the beginning of the Markov chain and reverse the growth direction upon rejection only. Minimal modification of the algorithm and solve both problems

Proof of the Bounce algorithm:

- enlarge the configurational space $\{Q, d\}$ and define $P(Q, d \rightarrow Q', d')$.

- assuming ergodicity, the Markov chain converges to a unique stationary state, $\Upsilon(Q, d)$ solution of the eigenvalue equation:

$$\sum_{Q,d} \Upsilon(Q,d) P(Q,d \to Q',d') = \Upsilon(Q',d').$$

- allowed transitions

$$P(Q, d \to Q', d') \neq 0 \iff \begin{cases} d = d' & , Q \neq Q' & \text{accepted move} \\ d' = -d & , Q = Q' & \text{rejected move.} \end{cases}$$

- assume d' = +1. Since $\Pi(Q)$ does not depend on d

$$\Pi(Q')P(Q', -1 \to Q', 1) + \sum_{Q \neq Q'} \Pi(Q)P(Q, 1 \to Q', 1) = \Pi(Q').$$

- DB $(\Pi(Q)P(Q, 1 \to Q', 1) = \Pi(Q')P(Q', -1 \to Q, -1))$ provides

$$\Pi(Q')\left[P(Q', -1 \to Q', 1) + \sum_{Q} P(Q', -1 \to Q, -1)\right] = \Pi(Q')$$

The term in the bracket exhausts all possibilities for a move from the state (Q', -1), thus it adds to one. Hence $\Pi(Q)$ is a solution and by the theory of Markov chains, it is the unique probability distribution of the stationary state.



–Probability distribution of the correlation time of the energy difference between two fixed protonic configurations (S, S')





Electronic Group Discussion Meeting; Cambridge 26 October 2005 - p.29/6

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 - sample regions of both configuration spaces (S and S')
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- compute properties for the system S by reweighting technique (RQMC easier than DMC).



Efficiency versus importance function on a system with $N_e = N_p = 16$ and $r_s = 1.31$. In one system the protons are taken in a simple cubic lattice and in the other they are displaced randomly, with an average displacement of Δ . The diffusion constant is defined as Δ^2/T_{CPU} where T_{CPU} is the computer time needed to calculate the energy difference to an accuracy of $1000 \ K$.

In the metallic systems finite size effects coming from the discrete structure of the Fermi surface are dominant and must be carefully treated.
The finite size effects can be reduced to the classical 1/N behavior averaging over the

undetermined phase of the wave function (Li et al. PRE 2001). For periodic systems we have

$$\Psi(\vec{r}_1 + L\hat{\vec{x}}, \vec{r}_2, \cdots) = e^{i\theta_x}\Psi(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \cdots) \qquad \theta \in [-\pi, \pi)$$

TABC:

$$A = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} d^3\theta < \Psi_{\theta} |A| \Psi_{\theta} >$$

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- or one can sample the twist angle at random and run different calculations.
- No extra cost for TABC in CEIMC since we sum over twist angles to reduce the noise.



FIG. 1. Momentum distibution for 13 spinless fermions in a 2D square with side $L = 2\pi$. The top panel shows the occupied states (closed symbols) and empty states (open symbols) with zero twist (circles, PBC) and a twist equal to $2\pi(0.3, 0.15)$ (triangles). The circle shows the infinite system fermi surface. The bottom panel shows the occupied states with TABC. The colored regions show the occupied region for the lowest level (middle square), the third level, up to the outermost 13^{th} level.

Lin, Zong, Ceperley PRE 64, 016702 (2001)



FIG. 2. Relative error of the energy versus number of particles with PBC (\triangle) and TABC (\Box) in 2D and 3D. The points shown are only those where the relative error has a local maximum. Curves are shown only for N < 100.
$$\Psi_T(R|S) = \exp\left[-U(R|S)\right] \operatorname{Det}\left(\Sigma^{\uparrow}\right) \operatorname{Det}\left(\Sigma^{\downarrow}\right)$$

Slater-Jastrow form

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 - transition region: band structure or LDA self-consistent orbitals.
- It is possible, in principle, to systematically improve any trial function within the Feynman-Kac formalism [Holzmann et al. PRE 68, 046707 (2003)].

Backflow-3body trial functions

$$\Psi_T(\vec{R}|S) = det(e^{i\vec{k}_i \cdot \vec{x}_j})exp\left(-\sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \left[\frac{1}{2}\sum_{j\neq i}^{N_e} \tilde{u}_{ee}(r_{ij}) - \sum_{j=1}^{N_p} \tilde{u}_{ep}(r_{ij}) - \frac{1}{2}\vec{G}(i) \cdot \vec{G}(i)\right]\right)$$

backflow:

3body:

$$\begin{split} \vec{x}_{i} &= \vec{r}_{i} + \sum_{j \neq i}^{N_{e}} \eta_{ee}(r_{ij})(\vec{r}_{i} - \vec{r}_{j}) + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{p}} \eta_{ep}(r_{ij})(\vec{r}_{i} - \vec{r}_{j}) \\ \eta_{\alpha}(r) &= \lambda_{b}^{\alpha} exp[-(r/w_{b}^{\alpha})^{2}] \\ \mathbf{G}(i) &= \sum_{j \neq i}^{N_{e}} \xi_{ee}(r_{ij})(\vec{r}_{l} - \vec{r}_{j}) + \sum_{j=1}^{N_{p}} \xi_{ep}(r_{ij})(\vec{r}_{i} - \vec{r}_{j}) \\ \tilde{u}_{ee}(r) &= u_{ee}(r) - \xi_{ee}^{2}(r)r^{2} \\ \tilde{u}_{ep}(r) &= u_{ep}(r) - \xi_{ep}^{2}(r)r^{2} \\ \xi(r) &= \lambda_{T}^{\alpha} exp[-(r/w_{T}^{\alpha})^{2}] \end{split}$$

Dependence of energy on wavefunction

3d Electron fluid at a density $r_s = 10$

Kwon, Ceperley, Martin, Phys. Rev. **B58**,6800, 1998



Optimization

- The optimization step in VMC can be tedious and difficult if one needs to use complex wave functions (multideterminantal, with many adjustable parameters).
- It is a non-linear optimization process: it is possible to get stuck in local minima.
- Correlated sampling improves the efficiency with respect to independent runs:
 - Set the initial condition for the parameters: $\vec{\alpha} = \vec{\alpha}_0$. Generate and store N_c statistically uncorrelated configurations (several thousands) distributed according to $|\Psi_T(R|\vec{\alpha}_0)|^2 / \int |\Psi_T(R|\vec{\alpha}_0)|^2$
 - Use your favorite minimizer for energy or the variance (or better a linear combination of them). Use reweighting to estimate the new averages

$$E_T(\vec{\alpha}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_c} \left[\frac{\hat{H}\Psi(R_i | \vec{\alpha})}{\Psi(R_i | \vec{\alpha})} \right] w_i(\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\alpha}_0)$$
$$w_i(\vec{\alpha}, \vec{\alpha}_0) = \left| \frac{\Psi_T(R_i | \vec{\alpha})}{\Psi_T(R_i | \vec{\alpha}_0)} \right|^2 / \sum_{j=1}^{N_c} \left| \frac{\Psi_T(R_j | \vec{\alpha})}{\Psi_T(R_j | \vec{\alpha}_0)} \right|^2$$

• Check the number of effective configurations $N_{eff} = \left(\sum_j w_j\right)^2 / \sum_j w_j^2$ remains large. Otherwise stop and regenerate the configurations with the last value of $\vec{\alpha}$.

Metallic hydrogen trial function

Metallic hydrogen: We derived analytic expressions for the backflow and 3body functions which provides as good as the trial wf with LDA orbitals but are much faster to use (Holzmann et al. PRE 68, 046707 (2003)).

No variational parameters to adjust!!

at least 5 times faster than with band orbitals

extremely useful in CEIMC

N_p		E_{VMC} (h/at)	σ^2	E_{DMC}
16	LDA	-0.4870(10)		-0.4890(5)
	BF3-O ep	-0.4857(1)	0.0317 (5)	-0.4900 (1)
	BF-A	-0.4850(1)	0.0232(1)	-0.4905(1)
54	LDA	-0.5365(5)		-0.5390(5)
	BF3-O ep	-0.5331 (6)	0.033 (1)	-0.5381 (1)
	BF-A	-0.5323(1)	0.0222(2)	-0.5382(1)
128	LDA	-0.4962(2)		-0.4978(2)
	BF3-O ep	-0.4934 (2)	0.035 (2)	-0.4958 (3)
	BF-A	-0.4928(2)	0.030(1)	-0.4978(4)

r_s=1.31, T=0K, BCC proton crystal, zero phase. (LDA=Natoli et al PRL 1993)

Two level sampling

Since the electronic part is much more expensive than computing any classical effective potential, in CEIMC we can use two level Metropolis sampling to improve the efficiency. Suppose $V_{cl}(S)$ is a reasonable proton-proton potential. The equilibrium distribution can be written as:

$$P(S) \propto e^{-\beta [E_{BO}(S) - V_{cl}(S)]} e^{-\beta V_{cl}(S)} = P_2(S) P_1(S)$$

A trial move is proposed and accepted or rejected based on a classical potential

$$A_1 = \min\left[1, \frac{T(S \to S')}{T(S' \to S)} \exp(-\beta [V_{cl}(S') - V_{cl}(S)])\right]$$

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Since the electronic part is much more expensive than computing any classical effective potential, in CEIMC we can use two level Metropolis sampling to improve the efficiency. Suppose $V_{cl}(S)$ is a reasonable proton-proton potential. The equilibrium distribution can be written as:

$$P(S) \propto e^{-\beta [E_{BO}(S) - V_{cl}(S)]} e^{-\beta V_{cl}(S)} = P_2(S) P_1(S)$$

A trial move is proposed and accepted or rejected based on a classical potential

$$A_1 = \min\left[1, \frac{T(S \to S')}{T(S' \to S)} \exp(-\beta [V_{cl}(S') - V_{cl}(S)])\right]$$

If we accept at the first level, the QMC energy difference is computed and the move accepted with probability

$$A_2 = \min\left[1, \exp(-\beta \Delta E_{BO} - u_B) \exp(\beta [V_{cl}(S') - V_{cl}(S)]\right]$$

where u_B is the noise penalty.

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$$\rho_P(S,S'|\beta) = < S|e^{-\beta(K_p + E_{BO})}|S' >$$

The same formalism as in RQMC applies. However

- 1 β is the physical inverse temperature now.
- 2 to compute averages of diagonal operators we map quantum protons over ring polymers
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Factorization $\beta = P \tau_p$ and Trotter break-up

For efficiency introduce an effective proton-proton potential $\hat{H}_{eff} = \hat{K}_P + \hat{V}_{eff}$

$$\hat{\rho}_{P}(\tau_{p}) = e^{-\tau_{p}[\hat{H}_{eff} + (\hat{E}_{BO} - \hat{V}_{eff})]} \approx e^{-\tau_{p}\hat{H}_{eff}} e^{-\tau_{p}[\hat{E}_{BO} - \hat{V}_{eff}]}$$

We compute numerically the matrix elements of the effective pair density matrix $\hat{\rho}_{eff}^{(2)}(\tau_p)$ (see lecture notes). The effective N-body density matrix is approximated by

$$< S|\hat{\rho}_{eff}^{(N)}(\tau_p)|S'> \approx \prod_{ij} < s_i, s_j|\hat{\rho}_{eff}^{(2)}(\tau_p)|s_i, s_j> + O(n^3)$$

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- We add the remaining term of the original Hamiltonian $(E_{BO} V_{eff})$ at the level of the primitive approximation.
- Solution With this Trotter break-up we found convergence to the continuum limit ($\tau_p \rightarrow 0$) for $1/\tau_p \ge 3000K$ which allows to simulate systems at room temperature with only $M \approx 10$ proton slices (for metallic hydrogen at $r_s = 1$).

In CEIMC quantum protons are almost for free !

Suppose we run classical ions with a given level of noise $(\beta \sigma_{cl})^2$. Consider now representing the ions by *P* time slices. To have a comparable extra-rejection due to the noise we need a noise level per slice given by: $(\tau_p \sigma_k)^2 \approx (\beta \sigma_{cl})^2 / P$ which provides $\sigma_k^2 \approx P \sigma_{cl}^2$. We can allow a noise per time slice P times larger which means considering P times less independent estimates of the energy difference per slice. However we need to run P different calculations, one for each different time slice, so that the amount of computing for a fixed global noise level is the same as for classical ions.

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- When using TABC, for any proton time slice we should in principle perform a separate evaluation of the BO energy difference averaging over all phases. We have checked that, at each proton step, we can randomly assign a subset of phases at each time slice and get the same results.
- We need to move all slices of all protons together. This limits the length of proton paths, therefore the temperature we can achieve. It is essential to use the best possible Trotter factorization!!

Given an initial configuration of the electronic path Q and the protonic path P, propose a trial protonic move P' with a suitable transition probability (depending on the particular system).

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- Performe the Metropolis test with the penalty method
- \checkmark Compute average quantities for the old protonic configuration P using reweighting.

High pressure hydrogen

- Analytical backflow-3body trial wavefunctions
- Systems of up to 54 quantum protons and 54 unpolarized electrons
- VCM vs RQMC
- CEIMC vs Restricted PIMC
- CEIMC vs LDA-CPMD (Kohanoff 1995).
- Proton quantum effects
- Data for the Equation of State and for correlation functions.
- Melting of the proton crystal with temperature by the dynamical transition and Lindemann criterium.
- Molecular phase: CEIMC vs experimental data
- Molecular dissociation in liquid state: preliminary results

VMC vs RQMC

 $r_s = 1.31, N_p = N_e = 16, \theta = 2\pi (0.4, 0.5, 0.6)$

fixed pair of protonic configurations, 1000 blocks of 40000 esteps



Metallic Hydrogen: VMC vs RQMC

 r_s =1.2, T=5000K, N_p=54, zero phase.

RQMC gives total energy lower by 7.6(2)mH/at=2400(60)K/at

RQMC pressure is 0.03Mbars lower than VMC (0.5%)

	$ au_e$	$E_{tot}(h/at)$	σ^2	E_{kin}	E_{pot}	P (Mbars)
	vmc	-0.4694(2)	0.0472(4)	0.8812(4)	-1.3508(4)	5.55(1)
	0.01	-0.4768(4)		0.8850(6)	-1.3618(6)	5.50(1)
	0.00	-0.47696		0.89112	-1.36808	5.581

P CPU time for RQMC \simeq 10 \times (CPU time for VMC)

Metallic Hydrogen: VMC vs RQMC



Metallic Hydrogen: VMC vs RQMC



Electronic Group Discussion Meeting; Cambridge 26 October 2005 - p.48/62

CEIMC vs Restricted PIMC



CEIMC vs RPIMC for electron-proton and proton-proton correlation function at $r_s = 1, T = 5000K, N_p = N_e = 16, \Gamma$ point. RPIMC has ground state free particle nodes.

CEIMC vs LDA-CPMD



LDA predicts less structure than observed in CEIMC.

Proton melting:

- $T_m(LDA) \simeq 350K$ (Lindemann ratio) (Kohanoff 1995)
- $1000K \leq T_m(CEIMC) < 1500K$ (dynamical criterium)
QMC vs LDA

	$E_{\rm LDA}$ (Ry)	$E_{\rm VMC}$ (Ry)	$E_{\rm DMC}$ (Ry)
			Static
bcc Simple cubic Simple hexagonal Diamond β-Sn	-1.01392 -1.01898 -1.02406 -1.02413 -1.02711	-1.0062(3) -1.0144(4) -1.0275(4) -1.0204(4) -1.022(1)	-1.0101(3) -1.0185(3) -1.032(1) -1.0235(2) -1.0256(7)
			Dynamic
bcc Simple cubic Simple hexagonal Diamond β-Sn		-0.9716(1) -0.9747(1) -0.9828(2) -0.9821(2) -0.981(1)	-0.9810(7) -0.9873(3) -0.988(1) -0.993(1) -0.992(2)

TABLE I. The static and dynamic LDA, VMC, and DMC energies, for the dizero point energy, virial pressure, and Lindemann's ratio.

Ground state energies for several crystal structures of atomic hydrogen. Comaprison between QMC and LDA. From Natoli, Martin and Ceperley, PRL **70**, 1952 (1993).

QMC energy differences are about twice the corresponding LDA ones.

QMC vs LDA



Electronic energy for several configurations computed by various methods. The energy is relative to an isolated H₂ molecule (from Mark Dewing).

QMC energy differences are about 1.5 times larger than LDA ones.

Atomic Metallic Hydrogen: EOS

- r_s =1.2: 5.90 ≤ P ≤ 7.69 Mbars
- **9** $r_s = 1.0: 20.68 \le P \le 23.53$ Mbars
- **9** $r_s = 0.8$: 81.95 $\leq P \leq$ 86.66 Mbars



Effects of ZPM on the melting line are small.

Proton quantum effects

R_s=1, T=500K



Proton quantum effects



 $N_e = N_p = 54$ spin unpolarized. Proton kinetic energy per particle at various densities versus temperature. The red line is the estimated melting line for the bcc crystal from the Lindemann ratios.

Proton quantum effects



Main conclusions

- we have developed an efficient method for treating electron-nuclei systems with QMC accuracy within the Born-Oppenheimer approximation
- LDA seems to fail not only in predicting gaps (metalization) but even in predicting the correct liquid state and the melting line at least in the metallic phase (known problems also in other systems).

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- we have developed an efficient method for treating electron-nuclei systems with QMC accuracy within the Born-Oppenheimer approximation
- LDA seems to fail not only in predicting gaps (metalization) but even in predicting the correct liquid state and the melting line at least in the metallic phase (known problems also in other systems).

In progress

- Insulating molecular hydrogen: comparison with experiments and prediction of the EOS, including the melting line.
- molecular-atomic transition in liquid phase (LLPT)

Insulating Molecular Hydrogen





LCAO: one guassian center on each proton of the molecule. A single variational parameter P_{VMC} =0.149(2)Mbars, P_{RQMC} =0.224(5)Mbars, $P_{qas-qun}$ =0.234Mbars

We still don't have quantum protons here ! sorry

Molecular Hydrogen: Liquid-Liquid PT



Fig. 1. Calculated volumes for liquid hydrogen at 1,500 K (bars; their size gives the error). The anomalous error bar at 125 GPa is discussed in the text. The dashed line indicates the experimental volume at 300 K (23).



Fig. 2. (*A*) Pair correlation functions of hydrogen at 1,500 K and the pressures indicated. (*B*) Sketch of the hydrogen phase diagram. Circles indicate points where simulations were performed; \bigcirc correspond to points where the system was found to be molecular (nonmolecular points are indicated by \blacksquare). Triangles indicate shock-wave points from ref. 2. A continuous transition from insulating (\triangle) to metal (\blacktriangle) behavior was observed. The dashed line is an extrapolation of the melting line (7). The dash-dotted line is an extrapolation of the first-order transition line predicted by quantum Monte Carlo simulations with free-particle nodes for the electronic wave function (24). Gray lines indicate suggested phase boundaries.

Liquid-Liquid PT: CEIMC



Future developments

- Constant-pressure algorithm to directly investigate structural phase transitions (level crossing problem).
- Study the melting of the molecular solid in the insulating phase (recent experiments and theoretical prediction of a maximum in T vs P transition line, Bonev, Nature 2004).
- Investigate the possibility of a high pressure-low temperature liquid phase before the appearance of the atomic crystal
- Introduce the use of pseudopotentials to extend the method to heavier elements.

Related publications

- D.M. Ceperley, M. Dewing and C. Pierleoni "The coupled Electronic-Ionic Monte Carlo simulation method", Lecture Notes in Physics, vol 605, pp 473-499, Springer Verlag (2002), physics/0207006.
- 2. M. Holzmann., D.M.Ceperley, **C. Pierleoni** and K. Esler "Backflow correlation in the electron gas and metallic hydrogen" *Phys. Rev. E* **68**, 046707 (2003, USA).
- 3. **C. Pierleoni**, D.M. Ceperley and M. Holzmann "Coupled Electron-Ion Monte Carlo Calculations of Dense Metallic Hydrogen", *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **93**, 146402 (2004), physics/0405056.
- M. Holzmann, C. Pierleoni and D.M. Ceperley, "Zero-point energy of atomic hydrogen by Coupled Electron-Ion Monte Carlo Method", *Computer Physics Communications* 169, 421 (2005).
- 5. **C. Pierleoni** and D.M. Ceperley: "Computational Methods in Coupled Electron-Ion Monte Carlo", *CHEMPHYSCHEM* **6**, 1872-1878 (2005).
- 6. **C. Pierleoni** and D.M. Ceperley: "The coupled Electron-Ion Monte Carlo method", to appear in *Lecture Notes in Physics* (2006).