# QMC dissociation energy of the water dimer: Time step errors and backflow calculations

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## Introduction

#### Water

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- Results. Monomer
- Results. Dimer
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Physical and chemical properties: strong polar hydrogen bonds



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Physical and chemical properties: strong polar hydrogen bonds





Binding energy of only a few kcal/mol

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Physical and chemical properties: strong polar hydrogen bonds

 $\blacksquare \text{ Monomer } \longrightarrow \text{ Dimer } \longrightarrow \text{ Trimer } \longrightarrow \cdots \longrightarrow \text{ Bulk water}$ 



Binding energy of only a few kcal/mol

DIMER: prototype of all hydrogen-bonded systems

# **Previous calculations on H\_2O and (H\_2O)\_2**

### MP2, CCSD(T), CI

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- + correlation effects quite accurate
- basis set truncation errors
- basis set superposition errors
- $N^5$ ,  $N^7$

# **Previous calculations on H\_2O and (H\_2O)\_2**

### MP2, CCSD(T), CI

- + correlation effects quite accurate
  - basis set truncation errors
  - basis set superposition errors
  - $N^5$ ,  $N^7$
- Density functional theory (DFT)
  - + More favorable scaling
  - Strong dependence on the XC functional

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# This work on $H_2O$ and $(H_2O)_2$

Quantum Monte Carlo

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- + electronic correlation explicitly
- + Scales as  $N^3$

# This work on $H_2O$ and $(H_2O)_2$

Quantum Monte Carlo

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- + electronic correlation explicitly
- + Scales as  $N^3$

#### THIS WORK

- $\implies$  VMC and DMC Energies of H<sub>2</sub>O and (H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>
  - All-electron (AE) and Pseudopotential (PP) calculations
  - Slater-Jastrow (SJ) and Slater-Jastrow-Backflow (BF) wave functions
- $\implies$  Electronic dissociation energy of (H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>

# VMC, DMC

#### VMC

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#### Accuracy determined by the trial wave function

- biased energy differences
- for optmizing parameters of the wave function

#### DMC

- Project out the ground state component of the trial wave function
- Fermionic symmetry: fixed node approximation

#### CASINO code

## **Trial wave function**

Slater-Jastrow (SJ) wave function

$$\Psi^{\rm SJ}(\mathbf{R}) = e^{J(\mathbf{R})} \Psi_{\rm S}(\mathbf{R})$$

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- $R=\{r_i\}$
- Jastrow factor:  $e^{J(\mathbf{R})}$
- Slater determinant:  $\Psi_{\rm S} = D_{\uparrow} D_{\downarrow}$

# **Trial wave function**

Slater-Jastrow (SJ) wave function

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- $R=\{r_i\}$
- Jastrow factor:  $e^{J(\mathbf{R})}$
- Slater determinant:  $\Psi_{\rm S} = D_{\uparrow} D_{\downarrow}$

Slater-Jastrow-Backflow (BF) wave function

$$\Psi^{\rm BF}(\mathbf{X}) = e^{J(\mathbf{R})} \Psi_{\rm S}(\mathbf{X})$$

$$\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{r}_i + \xi_i(\mathbf{R})$$

• Backflow displacement:  $\xi_i(\mathbf{R})$  [PLR: 24/07, 9:30am]

# Single particle orbitals

CRYSTAL98 code

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- Basis set: Roos augmented double zeta ANO (s, p, d)
- B3LYP orbitals seem to give better nodes than Hartree-Fock orbitals

   → use parameters in XC functional to optimise orbitals

CRYSTAL98 code

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Basis set: Roos augmented double zeta ANO (s, p, d)

B3LYP orbitals seem to give better nodes than Hartree-Fock orbitals
 → use parameters in XC functional to optimise orbitals

 $E_{\rm xc} = (1-A)(E_x^{\rm LDA} + B E_{\rm x}^{\rm Becke}) + A E_{\rm x}^{\rm HF} + (1-C) E_{\rm c}^{\rm VWN} + C E_{\rm c}^{\rm LYP}$ 

- *A* : Fock exchange
- *B* : non-local exchange
- C : non-local correlation

True B3LYP  $\rightarrow A = 0.2$ , B = 0.9 and C = 0.81

## **B3LYP** orbitals

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$$E_{\rm xc} = (1 - A)(E_x^{\rm LDA} + B E_{\rm x}^{\rm Becke}) + A E_{\rm x}^{\rm HF} + (1 - C) E_{\rm c}^{\rm VWN} + C E_{\rm c}^{\rm LYP}$$

$$A = 1 \implies \mathsf{E}_{\mathrm{DMC}} = -76.4218(1) \text{ Ha}$$
  
HF  $\implies \mathsf{E}_{\mathrm{DMC}} = -76.42205(8) \text{ Ha}$ 

Exchange is the most important contribution

 $\implies$  Use A as optimisable parameter keeping B and C constant

# **B3LYP-25 orbitals**

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# **Summary of details**

SJ and BF trial wave functions

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- J/BF parameters: minimize variance of local energy
- B3LYP-25 single-particle orbitals
- AE: single-particle orbitals corrected → obey cusp conditions
- PP: From Hartree-Fock theory
  - work well with QMC
  - avoid short-range variations of the wavefunction near the nuclei
     larger time steps
- Various time steps + extrapolation to zero time

### **Geometries**

Monomer: experimental equilibrium geometry

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 $r_{OH} = r_{OH'} = 0.9572$  Å ∠ = 104.52°

### **Geometries**



#### $r_{\rm OH} = r_{\rm OH'} = 0.9572$ Å $\angle = 104.52^{\circ}$

#### Dimer: CCSD(T) geometry (Klopper et. al)



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### Geometries



Monomer: experimental equilibrium geometry

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## $H_2O$ , extrapolation to zero time

-76.4230 -76.4235 € • 🔁 • -76.4240 -76.4245 \* 🔁. -76.4250 (Ha) -76.4255 SJ -76.4260 O -76.4265 -76.4265 -76.4270 -76.4275 -76.4280 -76.4285 П BF -76.4290 -76.4295 -76.4300 -76.4305 -76.4310 0.002 0.004 0.012 0.008 0.01 0.006 () Time step (au)

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## **Pseudopotential calculations**



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## **Pseudopotential calculations**

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## **All-electron calculations**

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## **All-electron calculations**

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# **Dissociation energy** $(D_e)$



5.7 5.6 5.5 5.4 5.3 h (kcal/mol) **PP-BF** `⊈<sub>` AE-SJ</sub>  ${}^{_{e}}D$ 5 4.9 **PP-SJ** 4.8 0.01 0.02 0.03 0.04 0 0.05 Time step (au)

Method	$D_e$ (kcal/mol)
AE-SJ	5.23(11)
PP-SJ	5.03(7)
PP-BF	5.43(10)

# **Dissociation energy** $(D_e)$



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## Conclusions

• AE and PP total energies of  $H_2O$  and  $(H_2O)_2$ 

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SJ and BF wave functions with B3LYP-like single-particle orbitals

## Conclusions

- AE and PP total energies of  $H_2O$  and  $(H_2O)_2$
- SJ and BF wave functions with B3LYP-like single-particle orbitals
- Water monomer
  - B3LYP-like orbitals lower the H<sub>2</sub>O DMC energy ~1.5 mHa compared to HF orbitals
    - $\rightarrow$  better nodal surface
  - BF correlations reduce the DMC energy by an additional 4-5 mHa
  - E = -76.42792(15) Ha (10 mHa above exact value)

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## Conclusions

- AE and PP total energies of  $H_2O$  and  $(H_2O)_2$
- SJ and BF wave functions with B3LYP-like single-particle orbitals
- Water monomer
  - B3LYP-like orbitals lower the H<sub>2</sub>O DMC energy ~1.5 mHa compared to HF orbitals
    - $\rightarrow$  better nodal surface
  - BF correlations reduce the DMC energy by an additional 4-5 mHa
  - E = -76.42792(15) Ha (10 mHa above exact value)
- $D_e$  of water dimer
  - Time step errors cancel
  - Extrapolated D<sub>e</sub> for AE and PP with SJ and BF wave functions within error bars of "exact" value

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## Acknowledgments...

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