Mean Field Methods for Electron Pairs: Some New Twists on an Old Approach to Strong Electron Correlation

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It should always be borne in mind that when part is modified, so will be other parts, through certain dimly seen causes ... which lead to the many mysterious cases of correlation, which we do not in the least understand. Charles Darwin

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H[°]RT[°]N

What Are We Trying to Do?

 Try to solve the electronic Schrödinger equation (especially for cases where existing methods work poorly).

- More-or-less exact results are already available for systems with less than about 50 electrons.
- To routinely treat systems with hundreds of electrons, one needs a method that is
 mean-field.
 - \circ size-consistent
 - \circ no active spaces (black box)
- Example: Mn₁₂ molecular magnet
 ~10⁸ thermally accessible states.
 752 electrons



The Orbital Paradigm

- Conventional approaches are based on the orbital picture.
- Key concepts:
 - \odot Electron Cloud. Electrons do not interact directly; each electron feels the "average" effect of the cloud of the other electrons.
 - Mean-Field Hamiltonian. (Hartree-Fock, Kohn-Sham DFT, etc.)

• Slater determinant. Every orbital is either occupied or empty.

$$\left| \Psi_{\text{RHF}} \right\rangle = a_{1\uparrow}^{\dagger} a_{1\downarrow}^{\dagger} a_{2\uparrow}^{\dagger} a_{2\downarrow}^{\dagger} \cdots a_{P\uparrow}^{\dagger} a_{P\downarrow}^{\dagger} \left| \text{vacuum} \right\rangle \qquad P = \frac{1}{2} N = \# \text{ of el. pairs}$$
$$= a_{1\uparrow}^{\dagger} a_{1\uparrow}^{\dagger} a_{2\uparrow}^{\dagger} a_{2\uparrow}^{\dagger} \cdots a_{P\uparrow}^{\dagger} a_{P\downarrow}^{\dagger} \left| \theta \right\rangle$$

Use a Slater determinant as an initial guess; then correct from this starting point. Linear combinations of Slater determinants.

- Perturbation Theory (MP2, etc.)
- Random Phase Approximations (RPA)
- Configuration Interaction (Linear Combination of Sl. dets.)



One dominant electron configuration ⇒ the product of spinorbitals is a good starting point & standard methods work.
Many important electron configurations ⇒ the orbital picture is invalid...the problem of strong correlation...



...where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise. Thomas Gray

A single electron configuration dominates in most:

- ✓ stable structures of organic molecules (organic thermochemistry & chemical equilbria)
 - but not transition-metal compounds, lanthanides, etc.
 - but not transition states. (kinetics)
- ✓ closed-shell inorganic molecules
 - but not open shells.
- \checkmark for very weak electron interactions
- ✓ for very strong electron interactions (broken symmetry)
 - ➤ but not "intermediate" cases.
 - but not for attractive "effective" electron-electron interactions.

The orbital picture breaks down if:

- ...if there are many important electron configurations.
- ...if it impossible to assign "occupied" and "unoccupied" orbitals.
- ...if the electron-electron repulsion energy is similar to or greater than the splitting between frontier orbitals (orbitals near the Fermi level).
- Examples: superconductors; quantum phase transitions; large quantum dots; large conjugated organic molecules; Wigner crystal; spin-frustrated systems; heavy fermion materials; molecular magnets; model Hamiltonians (Hubbard, PPP, Heisenberg, Richardson); d-block and f-block chemistry (esp. with noninnocent ligands)



CASSCF (<20) DMRG (<50) <u>AP*G</u>



AP*G

"Lewis" Picture of Electron Pair Configurations





The wavefunction for an electron pair looks like

$$G_{p}^{\dagger} |\operatorname{vacuum}\rangle = \sum_{i,j=1}^{N_{\text{basis}}} c_{ij,p} a_{j}^{\dagger} a_{i}^{\dagger} |\operatorname{vacuum}\rangle = \sum_{i,j=1}^{N_{\text{basis}}} c_{ij,p} |\phi_{i}\phi_{j}\rangle$$

The Antisymmetric Product of Geminals (APG) $|\Psi_{APG}\rangle = G_1^{\dagger}G_2^{\dagger}\cdots G_P^{\dagger}|vacuum\rangle$

Hurley, Lennard-Jones, & Pople, Proc. R. Soc. London vA220, 446 (1953).
Parr, Ellison, & Lykos, J. Chem. Phys. v24, 1106 (1956).
Parks & Parr, J. Chem. Phys. v28, 335 (1958).
McWeeny (& Sutcliffe) Proc. Roy. Soc. London A253, 242 (1959); A273, 103 (1963).
Kutzelnigg J. Chem. Phys. v40, 3640 (1964).
Miller & Ruedenberg, J. Chem. Phys. v43, S88 (1965); v48, 3414 (1968).

Key advantage: Describes strong correlations.

Key <u>dis</u>advantage: *Very* expensive; *O*(*N*!) computational cost.

Hurley, Lennard-Jones, & Pople, <u>Proc. R. Soc. London</u> vA220, 446 (1953). Parr, Ellison, & Lykos, <u>J. Chem. Phys.</u> v24, 1106 (1956). Parks & Parr, <u>J. Chem. Phys.</u> v28, 335 (1958).

E. Kapuy, <u>Act. Phys. Hung</u>. v9, 237 (1958), v10, 125 (1959), v11, 97 (1960), v12, 85 (1960).

McWeeny (& Sutcliffe) Proc. Roy. Soc. London A253, 242 (1959); A273, 103 (1963).
Kutzelnigg J. Chem. Phys. v40, 3640 (1964).
Miller & Ruedenberg, J. Chem. Phys. v43, S88 (1965); v48, 3414 (1968).
Levy, Stevens, Shull, & Hagstrom J. Chem. Phys. v52, 5483 (1970).
Paldus, Cizek, & Sengupta, J. Chem. Phys. v55, 2452 (1971); v57, 638 (1972); v57, 652 (1972).

Silver, <u>J. Chem. Phys.</u> v50, 5108 (1969).

Surjan, in <u>Correlation and Localization</u>, ed. P. R. Surjan (1999) Vol 203. Surjan, Szabados, Jeszenszki, and Zoboki, <u>J. Math. Chem.</u> v50, 534 (2012).

Limacher, Ayers, Johnson, De Baerdemacker, Van Neck, and Bultinck, <u>J. Chem. Theory</u> <u>Comp.</u> v9, 1394 (2013). Johnson, Ayers, Limacher, De Baerdemacker, Van Neck, and Bultinck, <u>Comput. Theor.</u> <u>Chem.</u> v1003, 101 (2013). Use a unitary transformation to write the geminals in natural-orbital representation,

$$G_{p}^{\dagger} = \sum_{i,j}^{N_{\text{basis}}} c_{ij;p} a_{j}^{\dagger} a_{i}^{\dagger} \rightarrow \sum_{i}^{N_{\text{basis}}} \tilde{c}_{i;p} \tilde{a}_{2i}^{\dagger} \tilde{a}_{2i-1}^{\dagger} = \sum_{i}^{N_{\text{basis}}} \tilde{c}_{i;p} \tilde{a}_{i}^{\dagger} \tilde{a}_{\overline{i}}^{\dagger}$$

P-O. Lowdin, Phys. Rev. v97, 1474 (1955)

Antisymmetric Product of Interacting Geminals (APIG) $|\Psi_{APIG}\rangle = G_{1}^{\dagger}(\tilde{c}_{i;1})G_{2}^{\dagger}(\tilde{c}_{i;2})\cdots G_{P}^{\dagger}(\tilde{c}_{i;P})|vacuum\rangle$ $= \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{basis}}} \tilde{c}_{i;1}a_{i}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{i}}^{\dagger}\right)\left(\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{basis}}} \tilde{c}_{i;2}a_{i}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{i}}^{\dagger}\right)\cdots \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{basis}}} \tilde{c}_{i;1}a_{i}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{i}}^{\dagger}\right)|vacuum\rangle$

D. M. Silver, J. Chem. Phys. v50, 5108 (1969); v52, 299 (1970).

$$\left|\Psi_{\text{APIG}}\right\rangle = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{basis}}} \tilde{c}_{i;1} a_i^{\dagger} a_{\overline{i}}^{\dagger}\right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{basis}}} \tilde{c}_{i;2} a_i^{\dagger} a_{\overline{i}}^{\dagger}\right) \cdots \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{basis}}} \tilde{c}_{i;1} a_i^{\dagger} a_{\overline{i}}^{\dagger}\right) \left| \text{vacuum} \right\rangle$$

Consider the less abstract case of a polynomial

$$p(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n c_{i,1} x_i\right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^n c_{i,2} x_i\right) \cdots \left(\sum_{i=1}^n c_{i,P} x_i\right)$$

or, to be explicit, for example,

$$p(x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}, x_{4}) = (c_{1,1}x_{1} + c_{2,1}x_{2} + c_{3,1}x_{3} + c_{4,1}x_{4})$$

$$\times (c_{1,2}x_{1} + c_{2,2}x_{2} + c_{3,2}x_{3} + c_{4,2}x_{4})$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\times (c_{1,2}x_{1} + c_{2,2}x_{2} + c_{3,2}x_{3} + c_{4,2}x_{4})$$

4,0

 $\mathcal{I}_{\mathcal{O}}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_{1,1}x_1 + c_{2,1}x_2 \\ + c_{3,1}x_3 + c_{4,1}x_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{1,2}x_1 + c_{2,2}x_2 \\ + c_{3,2}x_3 + c_{4,2}x_4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{1,3}x_1 + c_{2,3}x_2 \\ + c_{3,3}x_3 + c_{4,4}x_4 \end{pmatrix} \cdots \begin{pmatrix} c_{1,6}x_1 + c_{2,6}x_2 \\ + c_{3,6}x_3 + c_{4,6}x_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

The coefficient of a term in the expansion is given as the permanent of a matrix. E.g., the coefficient of $x_1x_3^2x_4^3$ is

So the APIG wavefunction can be expanded in terms of (a factorial number of) Slater determinants,

$$\left| \Psi_{\text{APIG}} \right\rangle = \sum_{\left\{ m_i \in \{0,1\} \middle| \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{basis}}} m_k = \frac{N}{2} \right\}} \left| \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{m}) \right|^+ \left(a_1^{\dagger} a_{\overline{1}}^{\dagger} \right)^{m_1} \left(a_2^{\dagger} a_{\overline{2}}^{\dagger} \right)^{m_2} \cdots \left(a_{N_{\text{basis}}}^{\dagger} a_{\overline{N}_{\text{basis}}}^{\dagger} \right)^{m_{N_{\text{basis}}}} \left| \boldsymbol{\theta} \right\rangle$$

Hurley; Thesis (Trinity College, Cambridge, 1952)

Similar to all-pair (doubly-occupied) configuration interaction

$$\left|\Psi_{\text{DOCI}}\right\rangle = \sum_{\left\{m_{i} \in \left\{0,1\right\} \middle| \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{basis}}} m_{k} = \frac{N}{2}\right\}} \mathcal{C}_{m_{1}m_{2}\cdots m_{N_{\text{basis}}}}\left(a_{1}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{1}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{1}}\left(a_{2}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{2}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{2}}\cdots\left(a_{N_{\text{basis}}}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{N}_{\text{basis}}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{N_{\text{basis}}}}\left|\theta\right\rangle$$

Weinhold & Wilson, J. Chem. Phys. v46, 2752 (1967).

Problem: permanents are very difficult to evaluate (#P hard) Valiant, Theoretical Computer Science v8, 189 (1979).

Mathematics Trick

There are certain matrices whose permanents are easy to evaluate.

$$c_{i,p} = \frac{1}{w_i y_p - x_i z_p} \sim \frac{\zeta_i}{\varepsilon_i - \lambda_p}$$

then the permanent is a ratio of determinants,

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_{i,p} \end{bmatrix}^{+} = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} c_{i,p}^{2} \end{bmatrix}}{\begin{bmatrix} c_{i,p} \end{bmatrix}}$$

C.W. Borchardt, <u>Crelle's Journal</u>, 53, 193-198 (1855). Johnson, Ayers, Limacher, De Baerdemacker, Van Neck, and Bultinck, <u>Comput. Theor. Chem.</u> v1003, 101 (2013).

Physics Trick

Use the "weak" formulation of the eigenvalue problem; $\langle \Phi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle = E \langle \Phi | \Psi \rangle \qquad \forall \Phi$

We choose to project against just the pair excitations, $\left\langle \hat{H} \Phi_{\rm HF} \middle| \Psi \right\rangle = E \left\langle \Phi_{\rm HF} \middle| \Psi \right\rangle$ $\left\langle \hat{H} \Phi_{i\bar{i}}^{a\bar{a}} \middle| \Psi \right\rangle = E \left\langle \Phi_{i\bar{i}}^{a\bar{a}} \middle| \Psi \right\rangle$

With this choice, there are other efficient geminal forms that can be used too.

Limacher, Ayers, Johnson, De Baerdemacker, Van Neck, and Bultinck, <u>J. Chem. Theory</u> <u>Comp.</u> v9, 1394 ('13). Limacher et al. <u>Mol. Phys.</u> v112, 853 ('14); Boguslawski et al. <u>Phys. Rev. B</u> v89, 201106 ('14); Boguslawski et al. <u>J. Chem. Phys.</u> v140, 214114 ('14).

















Results for AP1roG

(Correlation energies in milliHartree)

System	Basis	R (a.u.)	DOCI	AP1roG	%E _c
Ne	6-31G		-43.382		37.4%
CH ₄	6-31G	2.05311	-75.953		63.0%
(H ₂) ₅	STO-6G	2.0/2.5	-162.208		86.7%
(H ₂) ₅	STO-6G	2.0/3.0	-182.020		94.4%
(H ₂) ₅	STO-6G	2.0/4.0	-195.507		98.9%

$$\left|\Psi_{\mathrm{AP*G}}\right\rangle = \sum_{\left\{m_{i} \in \left\{0,1\right\}\right\} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{\mathrm{basis}}} m_{k} = \frac{N}{2}\right\}} \left|\mathbf{C}\left(\mathbf{m}\right)\right|^{+} \left(a_{1}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{1}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{1}} \left(a_{2}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{2}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{2}} \cdots \left(a_{N_{\mathrm{basis}}}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{N}_{\mathrm{basis}}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{N_{\mathrm{basis}}}} \left|\theta\right\rangle$$

$$\left|\Psi_{\text{DOCI}}\right\rangle = \sum_{\left\{m_{i} \in \left\{0,1\right\}\right|\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{basis}}} m_{k} = \frac{N}{2}\right\}} \mathcal{C}_{m_{1}m_{2}\cdots m_{N_{\text{basis}}}}\left(a_{1}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{1}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{1}}\left(a_{2}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{2}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{2}}\cdots\left(a_{N_{\text{basis}}}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{N}_{\text{basis}}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{N_{\text{basis}}}}\left|\theta\right\rangle$$

$$21$$

Results for AP1roG

(Correlation energies in milliHartree)

System	Basis	R (a.u.)	DOCI	AP1roG	%E _c
Ne	6-31G		-43.382	-43.384	37.4%
CH ₄	6-31G	2.05311	-75.953	-75.9 <mark>46</mark>	63.0%
(H ₂) ₅	STO-6G	2.0/2.5	-162.208	-162.2 <mark>73</mark>	86.7%
(H ₂) ₅	STO-6G	2.0/3.0	-182.020	-182.0 <mark>83</mark>	94.4%
(H ₂) ₅	STO-6G	2.0/4.0	-195.507	-195.5 <mark>35</mark>	98.9%

$$\left|\Psi_{AP^{*}G}\right\rangle = \sum_{\left\{m_{i} \in \left\{0,1\right\}\right\}\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{basis}}} m_{k} = \frac{N}{2}\right\}} \left|\mathbb{C}\left(\mathbf{m}\right)\right|^{+} \left(a_{1}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{1}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{1}} \left(a_{2}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{2}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{2}} \cdots \left(a_{N_{\text{basis}}}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{N}_{\text{basis}}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{N_{\text{basis}}}} \left|\theta\right\rangle$$

$$\left|\Psi_{\text{DOCI}}\right\rangle = \sum_{\left\{m_{i} \in \left\{0,1\right\}\right|\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text{basis}}} m_{k} = \frac{N}{2}\right\}} \mathcal{C}_{m_{1}m_{2}\cdots m_{N_{\text{basis}}}}\left(a_{1}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{1}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{1}}\left(a_{2}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{2}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{2}}\cdots\left(a_{N_{\text{basis}}}^{\dagger}a_{\overline{N}_{\text{basis}}}^{\dagger}\right)^{m_{N_{\text{basis}}}}\left|\theta\right\rangle$$

$$22$$

Example: Carbon Dimer (C₂). Hard because *lots* of low-lying states. Wouters, Poelman, Ayers, Van Neck <u>Comp. Phys. Comm.</u> v185, 1501 (2014).









Orbital Optimization

Analogous to Orbital-Optimized Coupled Cluster (vOO-AP*G) (Minimize energy subject to the constraint that the projected-Schrödinger equation holds)

$$\underbrace{\min}_{\left\{U_{mn} \middle| \left\langle \Phi_{i\bar{i}}^{a\bar{a}} \middle| \hat{H} \middle| \Psi_{AP1roG}(c_{i,a}) \right\rangle = E \left\langle \Phi_{i\bar{i}}^{a\bar{a}} \middle| \Psi_{AP1roG}(c_{i,a}) \right\rangle \right\}}^{E_{AP1roG}(c_{i,a})}$$

Limacher, Kim, Ayers, Johnson, De Baerdemacker, Van Neck, Bultinck, Mol. Phys. v112, 853 (2014).

- Boguslawski, Tecmer, Ayers, Bultinck, De Baerdemacker, Van Neck, Phys. Rev. B v89, 201106 (2014).
- Stein, Henderson, Scuseria, J. Chem. Phys. v140, 214113 (2014).

Boguslawski, Tecmer, Limacher, Johnson, Ayers, Bultinck, De Baerdemacker, Van Neck,

D., J. Chem. Phys. v140, 214114 (2014).

100.0 95.0 90.0 85.0 80.0 N_{sites}=122 N_{sites}=50 N_{sites}=14 75.0 70.0 sites=10 sites=6 65.0 0.001 0.01 12 2030 50 100 200 0.1 810 4 U [t]

% of Correlation Energy in Hubbard Model (oo-AP1roG)

% К



H₅₀ Symmetric Stretch

Distance in Angstrom

Problem: Dynamical correlation is missing!

Multi-Configuration Perturbation Theory:

Kobayashi, Szabados, Nakai, Surjan, <u>J. Chem. Th. Comp.</u> v6, 2024 (2010). Limacher, Ayers, Johnson, De Baerdemacker, Van Neck, Bultinck, <u>PCCP</u> v16, 5061 (2014).

Linearized Coupled-Cluster (CEPA-like)

Zoboki, Szabados, Surjan, <u>J. Chem. Theory Comp.</u> v9, 2602 (2013). K. Boguslawski & P. W. Ayers, <u>J. Chem. Theory Comp.</u> (accepted). Pawel Tecmer poster IV-20.

Extended Random Phase Approximation Pastorczak, Pernal, <u>PCCP</u> v17, 8622 (2015).

frozen-pair CCSD

Henderson, Bulik, Stein, Scuseria, <u>J. Chem. Phys.</u> v141, 244104 (2014).

Write perturbation expansions; (2) project on $\ket{ ilde{\Psi}}$; (1)(3) Expand in Slater determinants. $\hat{H}^{(0)} = E^{(0)} + \frac{\left|\Psi^{(0)}\right\rangle \left\langle\tilde{\Psi}\right|}{\left\langle\tilde{\Psi}\right|\Psi^{(0)}\right\rangle} + \hat{P}\hat{V}\hat{P}$ $\hat{\boldsymbol{P}} = 1 - \frac{\left|\boldsymbol{\Psi}^{(0)}\right\rangle \left\langle \boldsymbol{\tilde{\Psi}} \right|}{\left\langle \boldsymbol{\tilde{\Psi}} \right| \boldsymbol{\Psi}^{(0)} \right\rangle}$ PTA: $\hat{V} = \hat{F}$ $|\tilde{\Psi}\rangle = |\Phi_0\rangle$ PTB: $\hat{V} = \frac{\hat{F}}{\langle \Psi^{(0)} | \Psi^{(0)} \rangle}$ $| \tilde{\Psi} \rangle = | \Psi^{(0)} \rangle$ 31





1.20 1.40 1.60 1.80 2.00 2.20 2.40 2.60 2.80 3.

Extensions

- Variational approaches
- Open Shells



Conclusions

- The geminal product form captures most strong correlation effects. It is a mean-field method for pairs, and thus very fast. (It is applicable for hundreds, even thousands, of electrons.)
- <u>Key Idea</u>: Build your wavefunction from electron pair quasiparticles (geminals), not quasi-independent electrons. Related to (extended) coupled-cluster pairs.
- <u>Limitation</u>: The method may not work well when the dominant strong-correlation effect is not based on electron-pairing.
- <u>Limitation</u>: The method does not approach full-CI in some limit.
- <u>Limitation</u>: We need to find better ways to include dynamic correlation.
- <u>Limitation</u>: We need to find extensions that effectively address openshell states (unpaired electrons).





http://theochem.github.io/horton
Helpful
Open-Source
Research
TOol for
N-fermion Systems



Toon Vestraelen