

# Molecular Dynamics

Ergodicity: time average = ensemble average

$$\frac{\mathbf{F}}{m} = \mathbf{a} = \frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{v} = \frac{d^2}{dt^2}\mathbf{r}$$

Stepwise integration

- Long steps
- Reversible = conservation of energy
- No high derivatives
- Access to instantaneous velocities
- Metric: global error: long term error from integration

- Two Taylor expansions, one forward, one backward

$$\mathbf{x}(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{v}(t)\Delta t + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}(t)\Delta t^2 + \frac{1}{6}\mathbf{j}(t)\Delta t^3 + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^4)$$

$$\mathbf{x}(t - \Delta t) = \mathbf{x}(t) - \mathbf{v}(t)\Delta t + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}(t)\Delta t^2 - \frac{1}{6}\mathbf{j}(t)\Delta t^3 + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^4)$$

- Add them up

$$\mathbf{x}(t + \Delta t) + \mathbf{x}(t - \Delta t) = 2\mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{a}(t)\Delta t^2 + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^4)$$

$$\mathbf{x}(t + \Delta t) + \mathbf{x}(t - \Delta t) = 2\mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{a}(t)\Delta t^2 + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^4)$$

- No instantaneous velocities: finite differences required
- Needs two past positions and initial boundary conditions

$$\mathbf{x}(t_0 + \Delta t) = \mathbf{x}(t_0) + \mathbf{v}(t_0)\Delta t + \mathbf{a}(t_0)\Delta t^2$$

- Global error  $\mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2)$
- Time reversible

- Like Verlet, explicitly calculate velocities via a half-step

$$\mathbf{x}(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{x}(t) + \mathbf{v}(t)\Delta t + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}(t)\Delta t^2$$

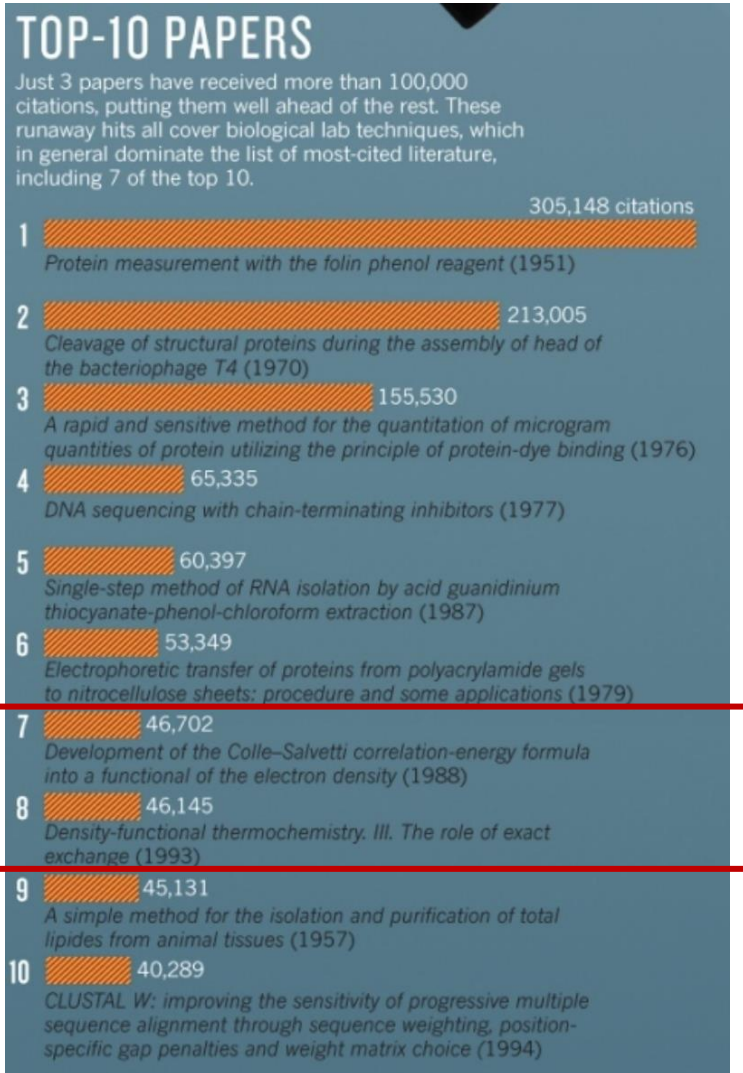
$$\mathbf{v}(t + \frac{1}{2}\Delta t) = \mathbf{v}(t) + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}(t)\Delta t$$

$$\mathbf{v}(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{v}(t + \frac{1}{2}\Delta t) + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a}(t + \Delta t)\Delta t$$

$$\mathbf{v}(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{v}(t) + \frac{1}{2} [\mathbf{a}(t + \Delta t) + \mathbf{a}(t)] \Delta t$$

- Initial velocities: flying ice cube
- Interfaces: thermalisation
- Ensembles
  - NVT, NPT, NVE, ...
- Periodic boundary conditions and minimum image convention

# Density Functional Theory



Density Functional Theory extremely influential

1926: Schrödinger's equation

1927: Thomas-Fermi

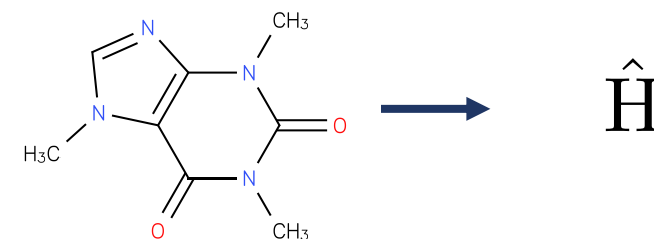
1965: Kohn-Sham



Known: Obtaining observables from quantum mechanics (Born-Oppenheimer)

1. System defines Hamiltonian  $\hat{H} = \hat{H}(Z_i, \mathbf{R}_i, N_e, \sigma)$

$$\hat{H} = \hat{T} + \hat{V}$$



2. Solving Schrödinger's equation yields wave function  $\Psi$

$$\hat{H} \Psi = E \Psi$$



3. Operator yields observable  $\hat{A}$

$$\langle \hat{A} \rangle = \langle \Psi | \hat{A} | \Psi \rangle$$

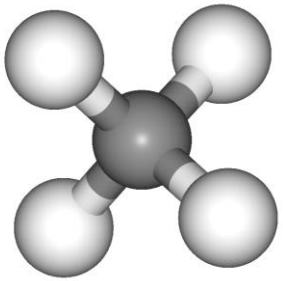


System defines Hamilton operator  $\hat{H}$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{H} &= \hat{T} + \hat{V} = \hat{T}_e + \hat{V}_{en} + \hat{V}_{ee} + \hat{V}_{nn} \\ &= -\sum_i \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_i}^2 && \text{Kinetic energy of the electrons} \\ &\quad -\sum_{i,j} \frac{Z_i e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 |\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} && \text{Coulomb nuclei-electrons} \\ &\quad +\sum_{i,j>i} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 |\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} && \text{Coulomb electrons-electrons} \\ &\quad +\sum_{i,j>i} \frac{Z_i Z_j e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 |\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j|} && \text{Coulomb nuclei-nuclei}\end{aligned}$$

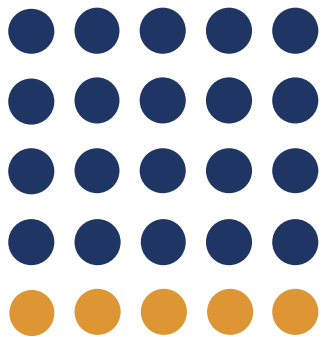
Resulting wave function  $\Psi = \Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n)$

Impractical: 3N-dimensional!



$$\Psi = \Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n)$$

Methane: 10 electrons  
Grid with 5 points along each dimension



Wave function:  $5^3 \times 10$  grid points

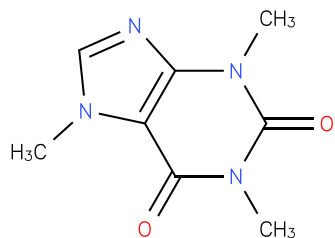
6 ZB

7 times ALL data

Replace 3N-dimensional wave function  $\Psi$  by a 3-dimensional electron density  $\rho$

$$\Psi = \Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n) \longrightarrow \rho = \rho(\mathbf{r})$$

E.B. Wilson: Same information!



$$\longrightarrow \hat{H} = \hat{H}(Z_i, \mathbf{R}_i, N_e, \sigma)$$

$$\longrightarrow \Psi$$

$\mathbf{R}_i$  Nuclear coordinates from local maxima

$Z_i$  Nuclear charges: Kato's Theorem

$N_e, \sigma$  Number electrons:  $N_e = \int d\mathbf{r} \rho(\mathbf{r})$

$$\rho \longrightarrow Z_i, \mathbf{R}_i, N_e, \sigma \longrightarrow \hat{H} \longrightarrow \Psi$$

The ground state electron density uniquely defines the electrostatic potential.

Proof: Let's assume, one density would be valid for two external potentials.

$$E_1 = \langle \Psi_1 | \hat{H}_1 | \Psi_1 \rangle = \int V_1(\mathbf{r}) \rho(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} + \langle \Psi_1 | \hat{T} + \hat{U} | \Psi_1 \rangle$$

Variationsprinzip: Für andere Wellenfunktionen ist die Energie strikt größer

$$E_1 < \langle \Psi_2 | \hat{H}_1 | \Psi_2 \rangle = \langle \Psi_2 | \hat{H}_2 | \Psi_2 \rangle + \langle \Psi_2 | \hat{H}_1 - \hat{H}_2 | \Psi_2 \rangle =$$

$$\underline{E_2} + \int [V_1(\mathbf{r}) - V_2(\mathbf{r})] \rho(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}$$

$$E_2 < E_1 + \int [V_2(\mathbf{r}) - V_1(\mathbf{r})] \rho(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}$$

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$$E_1 + E_2 < E_1 + E_2$$

Widerspruch!



W. Kohn  
Nobelpreis Chemie 1998

The ground state electron density has the lowest energy of all densities.

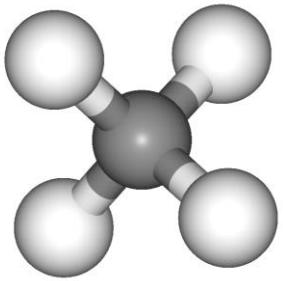
Proof: For other wave functions, the energy is strictly larger.

$$E_0 = \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{H} | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

$$E_0 < \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \quad \Psi \neq \Psi_0$$

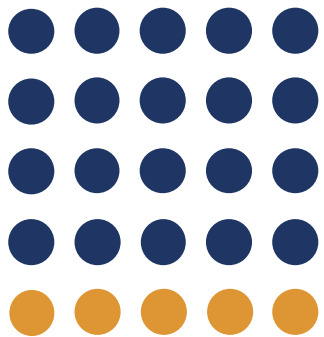
Since each wave function has exactly one energy.

$$E_0 = E[\rho_0] < E[\rho] \quad \rho \neq \rho_0$$



$$\Psi = \Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots, \mathbf{r}_n)$$

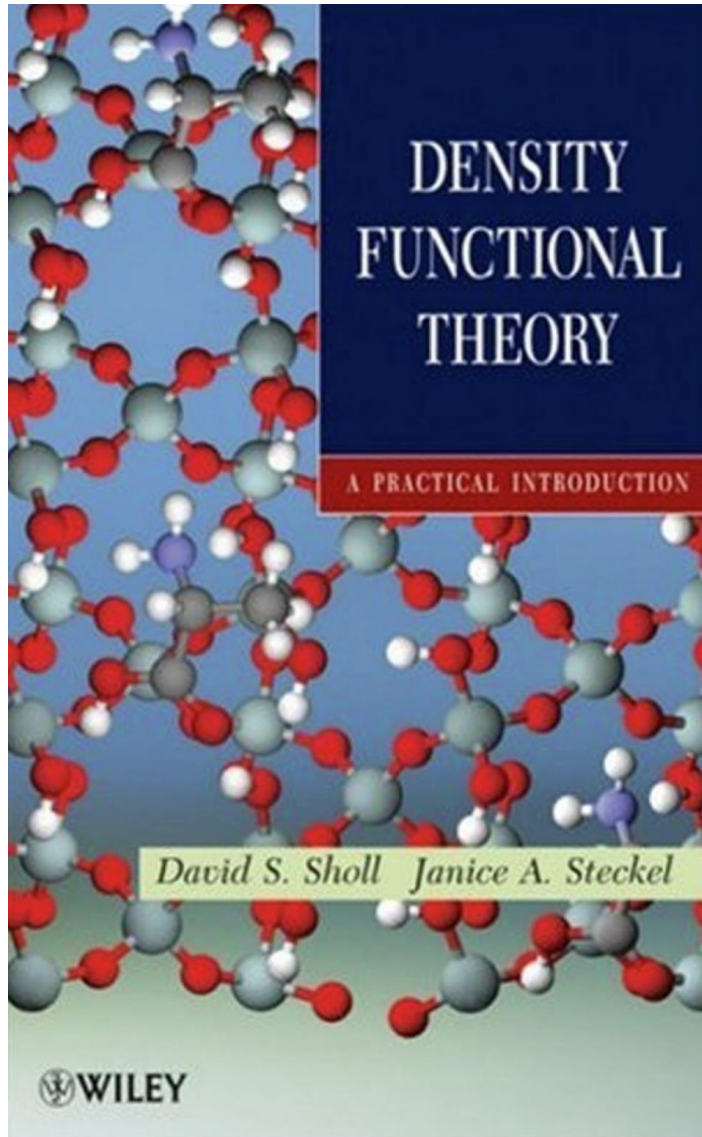
Methane: 10 electrons  
Grid with 5 points along each dimension



Wave function:	$5^3 \times 10$ grid points	6 ZB	7 times ALL data
Electron density:	$5^3$ points	1 KB	1/2 page of text

- Replace the 3N-dimensional wave function with 3D electron density.
- There is one functional (function of functions) yielding the energy, hence the name density functional theory.  $E[\rho]$
- This functional is...
  - Universal: Does not depend on the system!
  - Unknown: Topic of current research
- We can obtain the electron density by minimizing the energy.





- “How to”: examples of practical methods
- Easy to follow, high-level picture
- Enough details to obtain reliable setups
- A bit dated on choice of functionals (more on that later)