MAR14-2013-020143

Abstract for an Invited Paper for the MAR14 Meeting of the American Physical Society

Hybrid Density Functionals Tuned towards Fulfillment of Fundamental DFT Conditions

MATTHIAS SCHEFFLER¹, Fritz-Haber-Institut der Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, Berlin-Dahlem, Germany

Hybrid exchange-correlation functionals (XC), e.g. PBE0 and HSE, have significantly improved the theoretical description of molecules and solids. Their degree of exact-exchange admixture (α) is in principle a functional of the electron density, but the functional form is not known. In this talk, I will discuss *fundamental conditions* of exact density-functional theory (DFT) that enable us to find the optimal choice of α for ground-state calculations. In particular, I will discuss the fact that the highest occupied Kohn-Sham level of an *N*-electron system ($\varepsilon_{HOMO}(N)$) should be constant for fractional particle numbers between *N* and *N*-1 [1,2] and equals the ionization potential (IP) [3, 4], as given by the total-energy difference. In practice, we realize this in three different ways. XC(α) will be optimized (opt-XC) until it (*i*) fulfills the condition: $\varepsilon_{HOMO}(N) = \varepsilon_{HOMO}(N-1/2)$ or the Kohn-Sham HOMO agrees with the ionization potential computed in a more sophisticated approach $\varepsilon_{HOMO}(N) = IP$ such as (*ii*) the G_0W_0 @opt-XC method [5,6] or (*iii*) CCSD(T) or full CI [6]. Using such an opt-XC is essential for describing electron transfer between (organic) molecules, as exemplified by the TTF/TCNQ dimer [5]. It also yields vertical ionization energies of the G2 test set of quantum chemistry with a mean absolute percentage error of only $\approx 3\%$. Furthermore, our approach removes the starting-point uncertainty of *GW* calculations [5] and thus bears some resemblance to the consistent starting point scheme [7] and quasiparticle self-consistent *GW* [8]. While our opt-XC approach yields large α values for small molecules in the gas phase [5], we find that α needs to be 0.25 or less for organic molecules adsorbed on metals [9].

- [1] J. P. Perdew et al., PRL 1982.
- [2] P. Mori-Sanchez et al., JCP 2006.
- [3] M. Levy et al., PRA 1984.
- [4] T. Stein et al., PRL 2010.
- [5] V. Atalla et al., PRB 2013.
- [6] N. A. Richter, et al., PRL 2013.
- [7] T. Körzdörfer, N. Marom, PRB 2012.
- [8] M. van Schilfgaarde et al., PRL 2006.
- [9] O. T. Hofmann et al., NJP 2013.

¹Work performed in collaboration with V. Atalla, N.A. Richter, S.V. Levchenko, and P. Rinke