#### Electronic structure theory, *quickly*

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#### I have a molecule.



It's water. It has  $n = 10$  electrons.

#### Where are the electrons going to go?



Knowing this is helpful for making medicines, fuels, materials, etc.

According to theory I will describe, electrons occupy **molecular orbitals**, and nature tends to assign electrons to orbitals with the **lowest energy**.



These numbers, though plausible, aren't experimentally observed…

…they were computed in about 3 seconds on my desktop PC.

Given:

$$
\boldsymbol{\phi} = (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_m)
$$

Precompute:

$$
\mathbf{h} = \int \boldsymbol{\phi}^T h \boldsymbol{\phi} \, do_1 \cdots do_m
$$
  

$$
\mathbf{S} = \int \boldsymbol{\phi}^T \boldsymbol{\phi} \, do_1 \cdots do_m
$$
  

$$
\mathbf{R}(r, s, t, u) = \int \int \frac{\phi_r(o_1) \phi_s(o_1) \phi_t(o_2) \phi_u(o_2)}{|o_1 - o_2|} \, do_1 do_2
$$

Let:

$$
G_{r,s} = \sum_{t,u=1}^{m} (CC^T)_{t,u}(2R(r,s,t,u) - R(r,u,t,s))
$$

$$
h^F=h+G
$$

Solve for  $C$ ,  $\epsilon$  in:

$$
h^F C = SC \epsilon
$$

closed-shell matrix Hartree-Fock equation

## Today's goal: implement water.

Physically motivate aforementioned equation.

"Fill in the blanks" for water.

Use a simple iterative algorithm.

### *model maths*



closed-shell matrix Hartree-Fock equation

First we'll simplify the model without worrying about approximation quality.



Each of the  $n$  electrons has:

- position ( $o_i \in \mathbb{R}^3$ ) and spin (which we'll gloss over; watch for  $\sigma$ )
- low mass, so we can ignore relativistic effects
- high velocity, so we can pretend the nuclei are stationary

Pair these simplifications with Schrödinger's mechanics to get…

$$
H(\Psi(\sigma_1, ..., \sigma_n)) = E \cdot \Psi(\sigma_1, ..., \sigma_n)
$$

electronic Schrödinger equation

 $E: \mathbb{R}$  is an energy (eigenvalue)

 $\int_R \Psi^*\Psi d\overline{x}_1\cdots d\overline{x}_n$  is the probability that the electrons are in  $R.$  $\Psi: (\mathbb{R}^3 \to \dots \to \mathbb{R}^3) \to \mathbb{C}$  is a wavefunction (eigenfunction)

H: wavefunction  $\rightarrow$  wavefunction is a Hamiltonian, a known operator representing observable aspects of the molecular setup.

$$
H(o_1, ..., o_n) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} h(o_1) + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j < i} \frac{1}{|o_i - o_j|}
$$

kinetic energy of electron electron-electron repulsion nuclei-electron attraction

The electrons are also unlabeled, so for any permutation operator  $\pi$ :

$$
|\pi(\Psi)(\sigma_1,\ldots,\sigma_n)|^2=|\Psi(\sigma_1,\ldots,\sigma_n)|^2
$$

We want to solve for  $\Psi$  so there are two possibilities:

$$
\pi(\Psi) = \Psi \text{ and } \pi(\Psi) = -\Psi
$$

A permutation is just a sequence of transpositions, so consider:

$$
\pi(\Psi)(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n) = s\Psi(\sigma_2, \sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n)
$$

Asserting (with physical motivation) that  $s = -1$ , we get:

$$
\pi(\Psi) = (-1)^{\text{parity}(\pi)} \Psi
$$

That is, the wave function needs to be **antisymmetric**.

We'd like to factorize (without yet making approximations) the  $n$ -electron  $\Psi$ into a product of 1-electron  $\chi_i'$ s. But simple products aren't antisymmetric.

Completeness yields a product expansion which is antisymmetric, but the coefficients are redundant.

$$
\Psi(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n) = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n=1}^{\infty} c_{i_1, \dots, i_n} \chi_{i_1}(\sigma_1) \cdots \chi_{i_n}(\sigma_n)
$$

$$
\Psi(\cdot) = \sum_{K=1}^{\infty} D_K \Phi_K(\cdot) \quad \text{where} \quad \Phi_K(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n) = \begin{vmatrix} \chi_{i_1}(\sigma_1) & \dots & \chi_{i_1}(\sigma_n) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \chi_{i_n}(\sigma_1) & \dots & \chi_{i_n}(\sigma_n) \end{vmatrix}
$$

is a determinant, and the  $\chi_i$  are taken to be orthonormal WLOG.

Explicitly enforce antisymmetry upon product with operator:

$$
\Phi_K = \text{antisym } ((\chi_{i_1}(\cdot_1) \cdots \chi_{i_n}(\cdot_n))(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n) \text{ where antisym}(\cdot) = \sum_{\text{all } \pi} (-1)^{\text{parity}(\pi)} \pi(\cdot)
$$

We will phrase a significant approximation as a truncation of Ψ's expansion.

$$
\Psi(\sigma) \approx \Phi(\sigma)
$$
  
= single determinant approximation

Another way to phrase it is as a simplification of  $H$ : each electron no longer individually interacts with the others; it feels only the *mean* of the others. (This is why product factorizations are sometimes called "mean-field" approximations.)



We've lost completeness; now is a good time to define approximation quality. As previously mentioned, we seek solutions  $\widetilde{\Psi}$  (defined by  $\Phi$  and in turn by the  $\chi_{i}$ ) corresponding to low energy  $\widetilde{E}$ .

$$
\widetilde{E} = \int \Phi^* H(\Phi) d\sigma_1 ... d\sigma_n \bigg/ \int \Phi^* \Phi d\sigma_1 ... d\sigma_n \qquad \text{ a normalized mean}
$$

 $=$   $\sum \int \chi_i^*(\sigma)h(\sigma)\chi_i(\sigma)d\sigma$  $\boldsymbol{n}$  $i=1$ 

energy of electron  $i$  in presence of nuclei but in absence of other electrons

$$
+\frac{1}{2}\sum_{i,j=1}^n\int\int\frac{\chi_i^*(\sigma_1)\chi_j^*(\sigma_2)\chi_i(\sigma_1)\chi_j(\sigma_2)}{|o_1-o_2|}d\sigma_1d\sigma_2
$$

mean repulsions between electrons occupying  $\chi_i$  and  $\chi_j$ 

$$
-\frac{1}{2}\sum_{i,j=1}^n\int\int\frac{{\chi_i}^*(\sigma_1){\chi_j}^*(\sigma_2)\chi_j(\sigma_1)\chi_i(\sigma_2)}{|o_1-o_2|}d\sigma_1d\sigma_2\qquad\text{``exchange terms'' from determinant}
$$

It is easy to show that for all  $\widetilde{\Psi}$ :

#### $\widetilde{E} \geq E_1$

where  $E_1$  is the true 'ground state' energy. Since the solution can be expressed using minimization, we can't get in trouble by performing it.

Take that expression for  $\widetilde{E}$  and treat it as objective. Enforce orthonormality of  $\chi_i$  with Lagrange multipliers. Use variational method (not just "take derivative, set to zero") to find stationary points. This shows that the optimal  $\chi_i$  must satisfy:

$$
h^F \chi_i = \epsilon_i \chi_i
$$

differential Hartree-Fock equation

where  $h^F$  is similarly split up into three terms.

Now we will make a finite computational approximation which will yield matrix equations.

$$
\chi_i(o) \approx \sum_{k=1}^m C_{k,i} \phi_k(o)
$$

We will handcraft the basis from sums

$$
\phi_k(o) = \sum_{j=1}^{b_k} d_{j,k} \eta_j(o)
$$

of primitives which are Gaussians multiplied by some 'angular momentum' terms:

$$
\eta_j(o) = N(o_1 - \gamma_1)^{a_1} (o_2 - \gamma_2)^{a_2} (o_3 - \gamma_3)^{a_3} \exp(-\alpha ||o - \gamma||^2)
$$

 $N: \mathbb{R}^+$  is normalization.  $\gamma$ :  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is position of nucleus  $a_i$ :  $\mathbb{Z}^+$  describe angular momentum  $\alpha$ : ℝ contracts as usual

We'll assume electrons occupy orbitals in pairs, which effectively halves the basis size.

#### This is a basis set called 6-31G.

It encodes physical intuition, computational expedience, and deprecated ideas.



Given:  
\n
$$
\boldsymbol{\phi} = (\phi_1, ..., \phi_m)
$$
\nPrecompute:  
\n
$$
\boldsymbol{h} = \int \boldsymbol{\phi}^T h \boldsymbol{\phi} d\rho_1 \cdots d\rho_m
$$
\n
$$
\boldsymbol{S} = \int \boldsymbol{\phi}^T \boldsymbol{\phi} d\rho_1 \cdots d\rho_m
$$
\n
$$
\boldsymbol{R}(r, s, t, u) = \int \int \frac{\phi_r(o_1) \phi_s(o_1) \phi_t(o_2) \phi_u(o_2)}{|o_1 - o_2|} d\rho_1 d\rho_2
$$
\nGuess  $\boldsymbol{C}$ .  
\nLet:  
\n
$$
\boldsymbol{G}_{r,s} = \sum_{t, u=1}^m (\boldsymbol{C}\boldsymbol{C}^T)_{t, u} (2\boldsymbol{R}(r, s, t, u) - \boldsymbol{R}(r, u, t, s))
$$
\n
$$
\boldsymbol{h}^F = \boldsymbol{h} + \boldsymbol{G}
$$
\nSolve for  $\boldsymbol{C}$ ,  $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$  in:  
\n
$$
\boldsymbol{h}^F \boldsymbol{C} = \boldsymbol{S} \boldsymbol{C} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}
$$
\n
$$
\boldsymbol{S} = \begin{bmatrix}\n\boldsymbol{S} & \text{independent, but we need to get rid of } \\ \text{S} & \text{independent, but we need to get rid of } \\ \text{the outer because we don't want to change the basis of } \boldsymbol{R}.\n\end{bmatrix}
$$
\n(unless converge)  
\nclosed-shell matrix Hartree-Fock equation

- Modeling (local) interactions
- Choosing basis sets
- Evaluating integrals
- Iteratively solving matrix equations
- Oh, and the industry-standard software (used in this presentation) originated from CMU

# It's a small world.