

# Solving the Hartree-Fock equations using the finite element method

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- 1 A new basis to solve an old problem
  - Why consider finite elements at all?
- 2 The finite element method (FEM)
  - Finite elements and shape functions
  - The weak formulation
  - Outline of a FE calculation
- 3 Building the matrices
  - Building the mass matrix  $\mathbf{M}$
  - Building the stiffness matrix  $\mathbf{A}$
- 4 Summary



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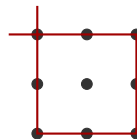
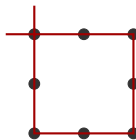
Why consider finite elements at all?

## Connecting dots



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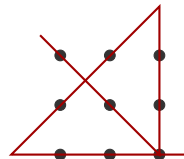
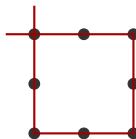
## Connecting dots



?

Why consider finite elements at all?

## Connecting dots



# Problems with atom-centered bases

- Confined molecules
- Excited states:
  - Rydberg states
  - Resonance phenomena
- Not a free choice of boundary conditions
- Untested bias regarding electron position

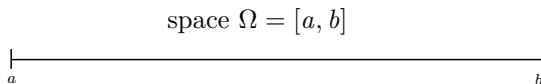
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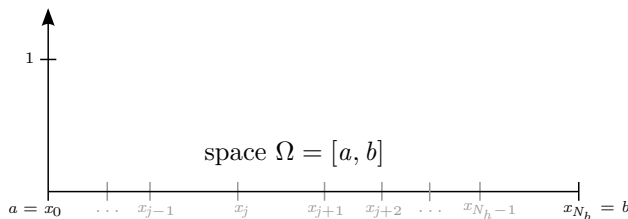


# Finite elements (FEs) as basis functions



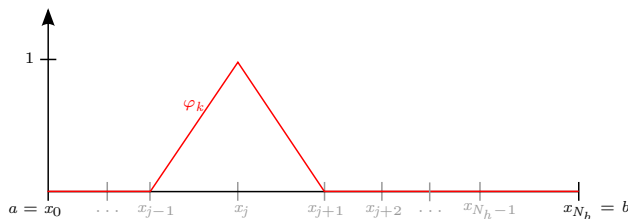
- Discretise open set  $\Omega$  into grid of  $N_h$  cells.
- Non-differentiable only at cell boundaries  $x_j$
- Support on just a few neighbouring cells
- At *nodal points*:  $\varphi_i(n_j) = \delta_{ij}$
- $N_{\text{FE}}$ -dim. basis for discretised Hilbert space  $H_0^1$ .

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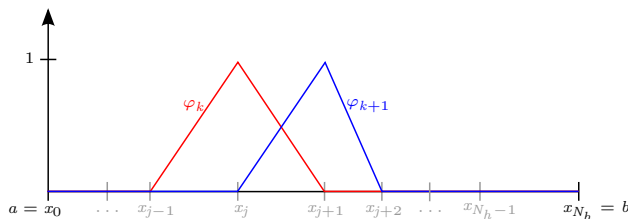
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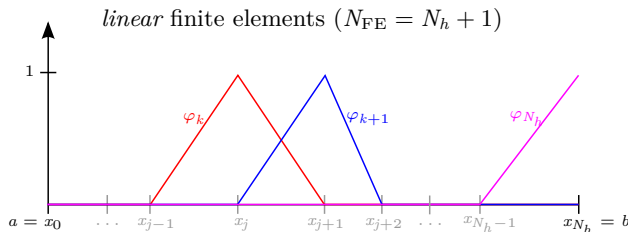
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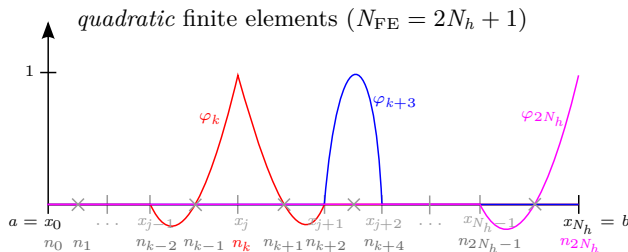
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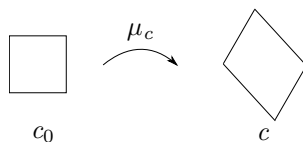
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# Reference cell and shape functions



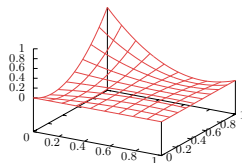
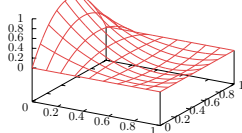
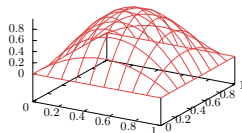
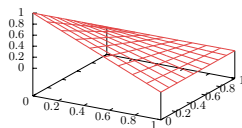
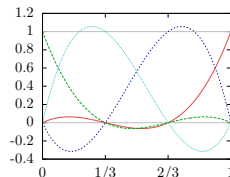
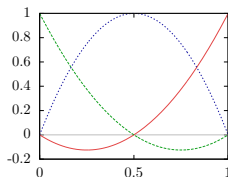
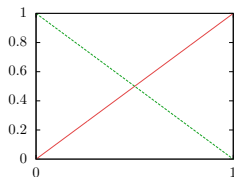
- Reference cell  $c_0 = [0, 1]^3$
- Affine map  $\mu_c$  for each cell to construct  $c$  from  $c_0$
- Can construct FEs  $\varphi_k$  from *shape functions*  $\{e_\alpha\}_{0 \leq \alpha < n_{\text{sh}}}$ :

$$\varphi_k|_c(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) = e_\alpha(\mu_c^{-1}(\underline{\mathbf{r}})) \quad \text{for some } \alpha$$

⇒ Computation on the grid:

- Compute on reference cell once
- Transform result onto all grid cells

# Examples of shape functions





# The Hartree-Fock equations in strong form

- The well-known canonical Hartree-Fock equations may be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \left( -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + \hat{\mathcal{V}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \right) \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) &= \varepsilon_i \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) & \underline{\mathbf{r}} \in \Omega \\ \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) &= 0 & \underline{\mathbf{r}} \in \partial\Omega \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\hat{\mathcal{V}} = \hat{\mathcal{V}}_0 + \hat{\mathcal{V}}_H + \hat{\mathcal{V}}_x$$

with

- the electron-nuclear interaction  $\hat{\mathcal{V}}_0$
- the Hartree potential  $\hat{\mathcal{V}}_H$
- the exchange potential  $\hat{\mathcal{V}}_x$
- This is the *strong form* of the problem

## Getting the weak form (1)

- Expand orbital  $\psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$  in FE basis:

$$\psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) = \sum_k z_k^{(i)} \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$$

- Multiply strong form by arbitrary basis function  $\varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$

$$\left( -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + \hat{\mathcal{V}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \right) \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) = \varepsilon_i \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$$

- Insert basis expansion and integrate

$$\int_{\Omega} \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \left( -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + \hat{\mathcal{V}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \right) \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} = \int_{\Omega} \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varepsilon_i \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

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$$\sum_k z_k^{(i)} \int_{\Omega} \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \left( -\frac{1}{2} \Delta + \hat{\mathcal{V}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \right) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} = \sum_k z_k^{(i)} \int_{\Omega} \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varepsilon_i \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

## Getting the weak form (2)

- Apply partial integration

$$\begin{aligned}
 - \int_{\Omega} \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \frac{1}{2} \Delta \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} &= - \int_{\partial\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \nabla \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}_s \, ds \\
 &\quad + \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \nabla \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \cdot \nabla \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}
 \end{aligned}$$

- *Weak formulation* of the Hartree-Fock problem:  
For all basis functions  $\varphi_j$  it holds:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_k z_k^{(i)} \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \nabla \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \cdot \nabla \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) + \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \\
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# Introducing matrices

- Mass matrix

$$M_{jk} = \int_{\Omega} \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

- Stiffness matrix

$$A_{jk} = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \nabla \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \cdot \nabla \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) + \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

- Generalised eigenvalue problem:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_k z_k^{(i)} \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \nabla \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \cdot \nabla \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) + \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \\ = \varepsilon_i \sum_k z_k^{(i)} \int_{\Omega} \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \end{aligned}$$



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$$\sum_k z_k^{(i)} A_{jk} = \varepsilon_i \sum_k z_k^{(i)} M_{jk}$$

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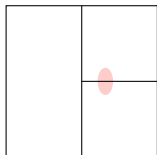
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- Generalised eigenvalue problem:

$$\mathbf{A} \underline{\mathbf{z}}^{(i)} = \varepsilon_i \mathbf{M} \underline{\mathbf{z}}^{(i)}$$

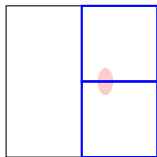
# Adaptive mesh refinement

- For good results need about  $10^4$  to  $10^7$  basis functions
  - Grid can be refined adaptively
- ⇒ Usually hierarchy of meshes used
- *A posteriori* error estimation
  - Can scale error by importance (multi-scale methods)



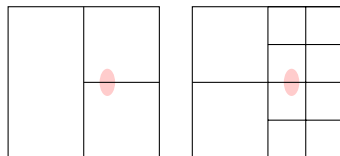
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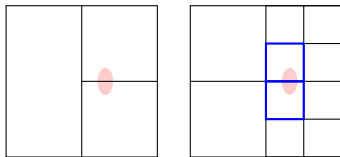
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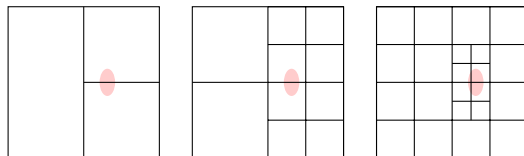
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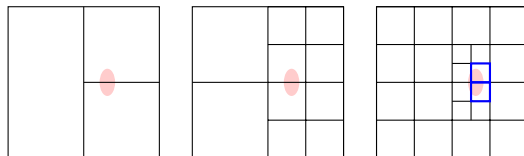
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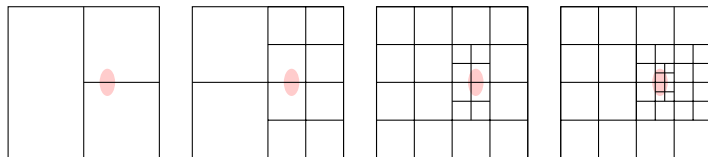
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# Overview of a calculation

- Need an SCF procedure:  $\hat{V}_H$  and  $\hat{V}_x$  depend on  $\{\psi_i\}_i$
- Build a sufficiently good grid
  - Start from coarse grid
  - Adaptive refinement
- Run SCF calculation:
  - Calculate  $\mathbf{M}$  and  $\mathbf{A}$  for current  $\{\psi_i\}_i$
  - Solve generalised eigenvalue problem to get new  $\{\psi_i\}_i$
- Refine grid and rerun SCF

## Remarks

- $\mathbf{M}$  and  $\mathbf{A}$  are large, but sparse
- Expensive step is building  $\mathbf{A}$ , especially term containing  $\hat{V}_x$
- For initial grid refinement use simplified potential  $\hat{V}(\underline{r})$



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## Splitting into cell contributions

- Calculate as sum of cell-wise contributions:  $M_{ij} = \sum_c M_{ij}^c$

$$M_{ij}^c = \int_c \varphi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

- $M_{ij}^c$  only non-zero if  $\varphi_i$  and  $\varphi_j$  have common support on  $c$
- Let  $\alpha, \beta$  such that

$$\varphi_i|_c(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) = e_\alpha(\mu_c^{-1}(\underline{\mathbf{r}})) \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi_j|_c(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) = e_\beta(\mu_c^{-1}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}))$$

- Let  $J_c(\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}})$  be the Jacobian of the mapping  $\underline{\mathbf{r}} = \mu_c(\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}})$ , i.e.

$$\left(J_c(\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}})\right)_{ij} = \left(\nabla_{\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}}} \mu_c(\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}})\right)_{ij} = \frac{\partial \left(\mu_c(\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}})\right)_i}{\partial \xi_j}$$

# Transformation to unit cell and quadrature

$$M_{ij}^c = \int_c \varphi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

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$$(J_c(\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}}))_{ij} = \frac{\partial (\mu_c(\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}}))_i}{\partial \xi_j}$$

# Transformation to unit cell and quadrature

$$\begin{aligned}
 M_{ij}^c &= \int_c \varphi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \\
 &= \int_c e_\alpha(\mu_c^{-1}(\underline{\mathbf{r}})) e_\beta(\mu_c^{-1}(\underline{\mathbf{r}})) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \\
 &= \int_{c_0} e_\alpha(\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}}) e_\beta(\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}}) \det(J_c(\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}})) \, d\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}} \\
 &= \sum_{q=1}^{N_q} e_\alpha(\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}}_q) e_\beta(\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}}_q) \det(J_c(\underline{\boldsymbol{\xi}}_q)) w_q
 \end{aligned}$$

- Gaussian quadrature of order  $N_q$  with quad. weights  $w_q$
- Only need to know  $\det J_c$ ,  $e_\alpha$  at quadrature points of  $c_0$
- Only  $\det J_c$  changes from cell to cell

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# Contributions to **A**

$$A_{jk} = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \nabla \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \cdot \nabla \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) + \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \left( \hat{\mathcal{V}}_0(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) + \hat{\mathcal{V}}_H(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) + \hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \right) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} T_{jk}^c &= \int_c \frac{1}{2} \nabla \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \cdot \nabla \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \\ (V_0)_{jk}^c &= \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_0(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \\ (V_H)_{jk}^c &= \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_H(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \\ (V_x)_{jk}^c &= \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \end{aligned}$$

# Contributions to **A**

$$A_{jk} = \sum_c \int_c \frac{1}{2} \nabla \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \cdot \nabla \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \\ + \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \left( \hat{\mathcal{V}}_0(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) + \hat{\mathcal{V}}_H(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) + \hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \right) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

where

$$T_{jk}^c = \int_c \frac{1}{2} \nabla \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \cdot \nabla \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \\ (V_0)_{jk}^c = \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_0(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \\ (V_H)_{jk}^c = \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_H(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \\ (V_x)_{jk}^c = \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

# Contributions to **A**

$$A_{jk} = \sum_c T_{jk}^c + (V_0)_{jk}^c + (V_H)_{jk}^c + (V_x)_{jk}^c$$

where

$$T_{jk}^c = \int_c \frac{1}{2} \nabla \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \cdot \nabla \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

$$(V_0)_{jk}^c = \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_0(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

$$(V_H)_{jk}^c = \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_H(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

$$(V_x)_{jk}^c = \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

Coulomb term  $(V_H)^c_{jk}$ 

$$(V_H)^c_{jk} = \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_H(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

$$\hat{\mathcal{V}}_H(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) = \sum_i \int_{\Omega} \frac{|\psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2)|^2}{r_{12}} \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2$$

- $\hat{\mathcal{V}}_H(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$  is local potential



# Coulomb term $(V_H)^c_{jk}$

$$(V_H)^c_{jk} = \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_H(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}$$

- $\hat{\mathcal{V}}_H(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$  is local potential
- Obtained by solving Poisson eq.<sup>n</sup>:

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta \hat{\mathcal{V}}_H(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) &= 4\pi\rho(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) & \underline{\mathbf{r}} \in \Omega \\ \alpha(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_H(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) &= \partial_n \hat{\mathcal{V}}_H(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) & \underline{\mathbf{r}} \in \partial\Omega \end{aligned}$$

- The function  $\alpha(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$  is determined by

$$\alpha(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \frac{N_{\text{elec}} - 1}{r} = \partial_n \frac{N_{\text{elec}} - 1}{r}$$

- Need a large enough grid (ca. 200 Å)

# Exchange term $(V_x)_{jk}^c$

$$(V_x)_{jk}^c = \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1$$

- $\hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$  is non-local
- Quadratic scaling in  $N_{FE}$
- Integration again by quadrature in unit cell
- Problem:  $r_{12}^{-1}$  singularity

# Exchange term $(V_x)_{jk}^c$

$$\begin{aligned}(V_x)_{jk}^c &= \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1 \\ &= \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \int_{\Omega} \frac{\sum_i \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2)}{r_{12}} \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2 d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1\end{aligned}$$

- $\hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$  is non-local
- Quadratic scaling in  $N_{FE}$
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# Exchange term $(V_x)_{jk}^c$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (V_x)_{jk}^c &= \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1 \\
 &= \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \int_{\Omega} \frac{\sum_i \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2)}{r_{12}} \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2 d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1 \\
 &= \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \int_{\Omega} \frac{\rho(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1, \underline{\mathbf{r}}_2)}{r_{12}} \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2 d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$  is non-local
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# Exchange term $(V_x)_{jk}^c$

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 &= \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \int_{\Omega} \frac{\sum_i \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2)}{r_{12}} \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2 d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1 \\
 &= \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \int_{\Omega} \frac{\rho(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1, \underline{\mathbf{r}}_2)}{r_{12}} \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2 d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1 \\
 &= \sum_{c'} \int_c \int_{c'} \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \frac{\rho(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1, \underline{\mathbf{r}}_2)}{r_{12}} \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2 d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1
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- $\hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$  is non-local
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# Exchange term $(V_x)_{jk}^c$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (V_x)_{jk}^c &= \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1 \\
 &= \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \int_{\Omega} \frac{\sum_i \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \psi_i(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2)}{r_{12}} \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2 d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1 \\
 &= \int_c \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \int_{\Omega} \frac{\rho(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1, \underline{\mathbf{r}}_2)}{r_{12}} \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2 d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1 \\
 &= \sum_{c'} \int_c \int_{c'} \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \frac{\rho(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1, \underline{\mathbf{r}}_2)}{r_{12}} \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2 d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\hat{\mathcal{V}}_x(\underline{\mathbf{r}})$  is non-local
- Quadratic scaling in  $N_{FE}$
- Integration again by quadrature in unit cell
- Problem:  $r_{12}^{-1}$  singularity

# Ideas for approximate exchange

$$(V_x)_{jk}^c = \sum_{c'} \int_c \int_{c'} \varphi_j(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1) \frac{\rho(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1, \underline{\mathbf{r}}_2)}{r_{12}} \varphi_k(\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_2 d\underline{\mathbf{r}}_1$$

- Use local approx.<sup>n</sup> like X- $\alpha$ <sup>1</sup>
- Cell pair distance cutoff
- Only consider interior grid region

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<sup>1</sup>R. Alizadegan, K. J. Hsia, and T. J. Martinez, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **132** (2010), 034101.

# Contents

- 1 A new basis to solve an old problem
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  - Finite elements and shape functions
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  - Outline of a FE calculation
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  - Building the mass matrix  $\mathbf{M}$
  - Building the stiffness matrix  $\mathbf{A}$
- 4 Summary





# Summary

- FEs are non-orthogonal polynomials
- Adaptive grid refinement possible
- Local potentials give automatic linear scaling
- Non-local potentials problematic
- Matrices are large, but sparse
- Flexible choice of HF boundary conditions



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