

# SCF preconditioning for mixed systems: A DFTK case study

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→ [https://michael-herbst.com/talks/2020.06.26\\_dftk\\_scf\\_emc2.pdf](https://michael-herbst.com/talks/2020.06.26_dftk_scf_emc2.pdf)

# Contents

## 1 DFT and the Density-functional toolkit

## 2 Improving SCF convergence

# Applications of DFT

## Materials and semiconductors



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## Chemical and pharmaceutical industry



CC-by-1.0 [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Lab\\_bench.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Lab_bench.jpg)

- Interest in **high-throughput screening**
  - Drug design, catalysis, material science, ...
- As fast as possible, as accurate as necessary
- Reliable black-box workflows

## Existing codes

- <https://www.vasp.at>
- <https://www.abinit.org>
- <http://www.castep.org>
- <https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/gpaw>
- <https://www.quantum-espresso.org>
- <https://crd-legacy.lbl.gov/~chao/KSSOLV>
- ...

- Since last year:  **DFTK**

⇒ But why another?

# The essence of density-functional theory

$$\gamma_0 = \arg \min_{\gamma \in \mathcal{P}_N} \mathcal{E}_{\text{DFT}}(\gamma)$$

- Energy functional (in an LDA-type model)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_{\text{DFT}}(\gamma) = & \text{tr}_{L^2} \left( -\frac{1}{2} \Delta \gamma \right) + \int \rho_\gamma(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) V_{\text{Nuc}}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \int \rho_\gamma(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \left[ v_C(\underline{\mathbf{r}}, \underline{\mathbf{r}}') + f_{\text{xc}, \rho_\gamma}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}, \underline{\mathbf{r}}') \right] \rho_\gamma(\underline{\mathbf{r}}') \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}} \, d\underline{\mathbf{r}}' \end{aligned}$$

- Density matrix  $\gamma \in \mathcal{P}_N$
- Density  $\rho_\gamma(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) = \gamma(\underline{\mathbf{r}}, \underline{\mathbf{r}})$
- Coulomb kernel  $v_C(\underline{\mathbf{r}}, \underline{\mathbf{r}}') = 1 / \|\underline{\mathbf{r}} - \underline{\mathbf{r}}'\|$
- Exchange-correlation kernel  $f_{\text{xc}, \rho_\gamma}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}, \underline{\mathbf{r}}')$

# The self-consistent field procedure

- Euler-Lagrange equations (LDA):

$$\begin{cases} \gamma_0 = \mathbb{1}_{(-\infty, \varepsilon_F)} \left( -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + V_{\gamma_0} \right) & \text{with } \varepsilon_F \text{ s.t. } \gamma_0 \in \mathcal{P}_N \\ V_\gamma = V_{\text{Nuc}} + \int [v_C + f_{\text{xc}, \rho_\gamma}] \rho_\gamma, \\ \rho_\gamma(\underline{r}) = \gamma(\underline{r}, \underline{r}), \gamma \in \mathcal{P}_N \end{cases}$$

where

$$\mathbb{1}_{(-\infty, \varepsilon_F)}(\hat{\mathcal{F}}) = \sum_{\varepsilon_i < \varepsilon_F} |\psi_i\rangle\langle\psi_i| \quad \text{with} \quad \hat{\mathcal{F}}\psi_i = \varepsilon_i\psi_i$$

- Self-consistent field procedure:

- (1) Guess initial  $\rho_\gamma$
- (2) Build Kohn-Sham Hamiltonian  $-\frac{1}{2}\Delta + V_\gamma$
- (3) Diagonalise it to get new  $\{\psi_i\}_i$
- (4) Build new  $\rho_\gamma$ , go to (2).

# Plane-wave basis sets

- Periodic problems
- Eigenfunctions of Hamiltonian: **Bloch waves**  $e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}}u_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$
- Non-periodic part:  $\mathbf{k}$ -point mesh in Brillouin zone
- Plane-wave basis sets for  $u_{\mathbf{k}}$

$$\varphi_{\mathbf{G}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|\Omega|}} e^{i\mathbf{G}\cdot\mathbf{r}}$$

- For given **energy cutoff**  $E_{\text{cut}}$ :

$$\left\{ \varphi_{\mathbf{G}} \mid \mathbf{G} \in \mathcal{R}^*, \|\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{k}\|^2 \leq 2E_{\text{cut}} \right\}$$

- Notice: One cutoff, but different basis sets per  $\mathbf{k}$

# Questions related to accuracy and reliability


- Accuracy
  - Which  $E_{\text{cut}}$ ? A posteriori error estimates?
  - How to select  $\underline{k}$ -point mesh? Convergence?
  - Which floating-point type? The same everywhere?
  - Error balancing procedures?
- Reliable self-consistent field procedures
  - What about spin, unusual functionals, disordered systems ...?
  - Which damping, mixing, eigensolver procedures, ...?
  - Can we get something black-box?

⇒ Mathematically-motivated questions

⇒ Direct impact to application domain



## Demands for interdisciplinary software

- **Mathematicians:** Toy models and unphysical edge cases
- **Scientist:** Wants to focus on science, not numerics
- **High-performance person:** Exploit hardware specialities
- **Practitioner:** Reliable, black-box, high-level interface
-  **julia:** Our language of choice
  - *Walks like Python, talks like Lisp, runs like FORTRAN*
  - Rich ecosystem (Optimisation, PDEs, stochastic processes, GPUs, Machine-Learning, Statistics, Linear Algebra ...)
  - No two-language problem (high-level, compiled and hackable)

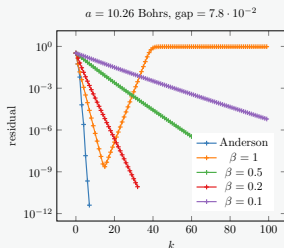
⇒ Write **code** once, **re-use** for many back ends / machines ...
- <https://michael-herbst.com/learn-julia>


## Our approach: **DFTK**, <https://dftk.org>

- 14 months of development,  $\approx 5000$  lines
- Sizeable feature list (see <https://docs.dftk.org>):
  - Ground state and a bit of response theory
  - Compose your model: Gross-Pitaevskii, analytic potentials ...
  - Multitude of SCF approaches
  - Multi-level threading
  - 1D / 2D / 3D systems
  - Arbitrary floating point type
  - Integration with materials-related python modules
- **Performance**: Within factor 2 of established codes
- Platform for **multidisciplinary** collaboration
- Documentation and examples: <https://docs.dftk.org>

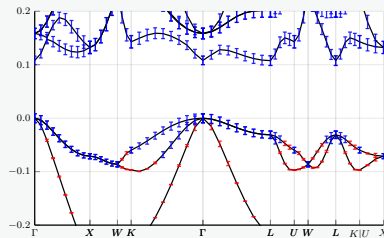
# A few recent DFTK projects

## Numerical analysis of SCF<sup>1</sup>



- SCF and direct minimisation
- Convergence wrt. spectral gap
- Numerical tests in  DFTK

## Error estimates for Kohn-Sham<sup>2</sup>



- A posteriori estimates for non-self-consistent Kohn-Sham
- Estimation of arithmetic error
- Elevated floating-point type
- Time to **publication**: 10 weeks

<sup>1</sup>E. Cancès, G. Kémlin, A. Levitt. arXiv 2004.09088 (2020)

<sup>2</sup>M. F. Herbst, A. Levitt and E. Cancès. Faraday Discuss. *In press.* (2020)

# DEMO

## DEMO

A few  **DFTK** examples



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# The SCF procedure as a fixed-point problem

- Recall the Euler-Lagrange equations

$$\begin{cases} \gamma_0 = \mathbb{1}_{(-\infty, \varepsilon_F)} \left( -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + V_{\gamma_0} \right) & \text{with } \varepsilon_F \text{ s.t. } \gamma_0 \in \mathcal{P}_N \\ V_\gamma = V_{\text{Nuc}} + \int [v_C + f_{\text{xc}, \rho_\gamma}] \rho_\gamma, \\ \rho_\gamma(\underline{r}) = \gamma(\underline{r}, \underline{r}), \gamma \in \mathcal{P}_N \end{cases}$$

- Define the potential-to-density map  $F$  by

$$F(V)(\underline{r}) = \left[ \mathbb{1}_{(-\infty, \varepsilon_F)} \left( -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + V \right) \right] (\underline{r}, \underline{r})$$

and the density-to-potential map by

$$\mathcal{V}(\rho) = V_{\text{Nuc}} + \int [v_C + f_{\text{xc}, \rho}] \rho$$

$\Rightarrow$  SCF solves  $\rho = F(\mathcal{V}(\rho))$

# The SCF Jacobian

- SCF solves  $\rho = F(\mathcal{V}(\rho))$
- Corresponding Jacobian

$$J = 1 - \chi_0(v_C + f_{xc,\rho})$$

$\chi_0$ : Independent-particle susceptibility (derivative of  $F$ )

- Physically: dielectric matrix  $\epsilon$

⇒ Convergence of SCF depends on dielectric properties

- **Mixing schemes**: Preconditioned quasi-Newton updates

$$\rho_{\text{next}} = \rho_{\text{in}} + P^{-1}(\rho_{\text{out}} - \rho_{\text{in}})$$

where  $P^{-1} \approx \epsilon^{-1}$  and  $\rho_{\text{out}} = F(\mathcal{V}(\rho_{\text{in}}))$ .

## Typical mixing schemes

$$\rho_{\text{next}} = \rho_{\text{in}} + C (\rho_{\text{out}} - \rho_{\text{in}})$$

- Insulators: **Simple mixing**  $P^{-1} = 0 < \alpha \ll 1$
- Metals: **Kerker mixing** ( $k_{\text{TF}} > 0$ )

$$P^{-1} = \frac{-\alpha\Delta}{\frac{k_{\text{TF}}}{4\pi} - \Delta}, \quad \hat{P}^{-1} = \frac{\alpha q^2}{q^2 + k_{\text{TF}}}$$

- Semiconductors: **Resta mixing** (relative permittivity  $\epsilon_r$ )

$$\hat{P}^{-1} = \alpha \frac{k_F^2 - (1 - \epsilon_r)q^2}{\epsilon_r k_F^2 - (1 - \epsilon_r)q^2}$$



# DEMO

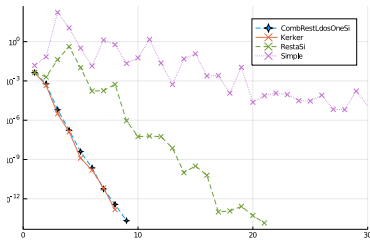
## DEMO

### SCF preconditioners in 1D

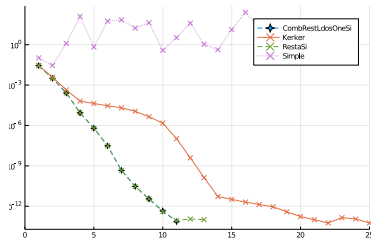


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# Bulk results in 3D



- Aluminium
- 10 randomised repeats
- $E_{\text{cut}} = 35$



- Silicon
- 10 randomised repeats
- $E_{\text{cut}} = 35$

## Hybrid mixing

- What to do in mixed systems?
- Give up closed-form approximations for  $\chi_0(\underline{\mathbf{r}}, \underline{\mathbf{r}}')$  in

$$\varepsilon^{-1} = \left(1 - \chi_0(v_C + K_{xc})\right)^{-1}$$

- Use *local* approximations and obtain  $\varepsilon^{-1}$  iteratively
- Based on a diagonal approximation of  $\chi_0$  one can argue ...

$$\begin{aligned} \int \chi_0(\underline{\mathbf{r}}, \underline{\mathbf{r}}') v(\underline{\mathbf{r}}') d\underline{\mathbf{r}}' &\approx -\text{LDOS}(\varepsilon_F, \underline{\mathbf{r}}) v(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) \\ &+ \frac{\text{LDOS}(\varepsilon_F, \underline{\mathbf{r}})}{\int \text{LDOS}(\varepsilon_F, \underline{\mathbf{r}}) d\underline{\mathbf{r}}} \int \text{LDOS}(\varepsilon_F, \underline{\mathbf{r}}') v(\underline{\mathbf{r}}') d\underline{\mathbf{r}}' \end{aligned}$$

with  $\text{LDOS}(\underline{\mathbf{r}}) = \sum_n f'(\varepsilon_n) |\psi_n(\underline{\mathbf{r}})|^2$

- ... and do some large-scale testing

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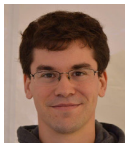
## Hybrid mixing (2)

- Unfortunately not quite as simple ...
  - For both insulators and semiconductors LDOS is basically zero
- ⇒ This scheme fails to distinguish them
- ... and we are not even talking about more involved cases
  - Current approach: Add localised version of Resta mixing
  - ... and that's where we are now.

# Summary and outlook

-  **DFTK**: Interdisciplinary software development
  - Feature-rich  toolkit
  - Integration with established python packages
  - Rapid prototyping and toy problems
  - Scale-up to full-scale applications
- Hybrid mixing strategies
  - First step to a black-box preconditioner
  - Design motivated by understanding simple systems
  - Verification by considering production-grade tests

# Acknowledgements



Antoine Levitt



Eric Cancès



# Questions?



**DFTK**: <https://dftk.org>



**julia**: <https://michael-herbst.com/learn-julia>



**mfherbst**



<https://michael-herbst.com/blog>



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