An interdisciplinary perspective on robust materials simulations

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Slides: https://michael-herbst.com/talks/2023.05.08_cis_gtn.pdf



Task: Develop a new metallic catalyst for a surface reaction



- Combinatorial design space: $\simeq 10^5 10^6$ possibilities
- Systematic experiments: Time and cost intensive
- \Rightarrow Computational screening to complement and accelerate
 - Harvest curated data bases
 - Data-driven methods and statistical learning
- \Rightarrow Regular need of millions of first-principle calculations
 - Noteworthy share of world's supercomputing resources
 - $\bullet\,$ Growing list of data / workflow management tools





Sketch of high-throughput workflows



Design funnel for photovoltaic materials

Workflow for computing elasticity tensors

- Many parameters to choose (algorithms, tolerances, models)
 - $\bullet\,$ Elaborate heuristics: Failure rate $\simeq 1\%$
 - Still: Thousands of failed calculations
 - \Rightarrow Wasted resources & increased human attention (limits througput)
- Goal: Self-adapting black-box algorithms
 - Transform empirical wisdom to built-in convergence guarantees
 - Requires: Uncertainty quantification & error estimation
 - \Rightarrow Understand where and how to spend efforts best

G. Hautier Comput. Mater. Sci. 164, 108 (2019); L. Himanen et. al. Adv. Science 6, 1900808 (2019).

Broader vision: Robust & error-controlled simulations

- Error control = Track simulation uncertainties:
 - Self-adapting simulations with mathematical guarantees
 - Integrate with error propagation efforts for surrogates¹
 - ⇒ Byproducts: Data quality control, accelerated design
- Error control = Learn missing physics:
 - Data-enhanced models, active learning
 - Integration with experiment (autonomous discovery)
 - \Rightarrow Exploit high-fidelity experimental, beyond-DFT data
- Error control = Leverage inexactness:
 - Error balancing: Optimal adaptive parameter selection
 - Randomised methods, selective precision (16-bit, FPGA)
 - Multi-fidelity approaches (reduced basis, surrogates)
- \Rightarrow Understand where and how to spend efforts best
- ⇒ Realm of mathematical research

¹F. Musil, A. Grisafi et. al. J. Chem. Theo. Comput. 15, 2 (2019).

Opportunities for mathematical research

- Gap: Mathematical understanding & simulation practice
- Broad range of concerned mathematical fields:
 - Optimisation, numerical linear algebra, analysis of PDEs, uncertainty quantification, model order reduction, ...
- Application domain: Source for research problems
 - Large-scale eigenvalue problems (L. Lin, Y. Saad, C. Yang, ...)
 - Acceleration, fixed-point methods (T. Kelly, A. Miedlar, Y. Saad, R. Schneider, H. vd. Vorst, H. Walker, ...)
 - Non-linear PDEs

(Z. Bai, E. Cancès, G. Friesecke, M. Lewin, I. Sigal, ...)

- Application domain: Source for new methods
 - Davidson diagonalisation (H. vd. Vorst, ...)
 - Thorough exploration of Anderson-type acceleration (see above)
- 17 minisymposia at SIAM in 2021/22 (-CSE, -LA, -MS, -PP, -UQ) with contributions related to electronic-structure theory

(Exaggerative) state of codes in this field

Mathematical research

- Goal: Numerical experiments
- Scope: Reduced models
- High-level **language**: Matlab, python, ...
- Lifetime: 1 paper
- Size: < 1k lines
- Does not care about performance

Application research

- Goal: Modelling physics
- Scope: All relevant systems
- Mix of languages: C, FORTRAN, python, ...
- Lifetime: 100 manyears
- Size: 100k 1M lines
- Obliged to write performant code
- Working with these codes requires different skillsets
 - ⇒ Orthogonal developer & user communities
- Obstacle for knowledge transfer:
 - Mathematical methods never tried in practical setting (and may well not work well in the real world)
 - Some issues cannot be studied with mathematical codes (and mathematicians may never get to know of them)
- What about emerging hardware, accelerators, performance?
 - Should be the regime of Computer Science (yet another community)

Difficulties of interdisciplinary research



- A social problem ...
 - Community conventions (e.g. publication culture)
 - Language barriers and context-sensitive terms
 - Speed of research (development of model vs. its analysis)
- ... cemented in software:
 - $\bullet~$ Priorities differ \Rightarrow What is considered a "good code" differs
 - Insurmountable obstacles for code integration
 - Collaborations can stop before they begin ...
- Hypothesis: People compose if software composes
 - **DFTK**, the Density-Functional ToolKit
 - Allows restriction to relevant model problems,
 - and scale-up to application regime (1000 electrons)
 - Sizeable feature set in 7500 lines of code
 - MPI, self-adapting methods, algorithmic differentiation
 - Integrated in multi-scale pipeline (potential fitting, molecular dynamics)

An interdisciplinary perspective on robust materials simulations



- Density-functional theory
- Local density of states preconditioner
- Adaptive damping

- Errors in DFT
- Fusing model predictions
- 😽 DFTK overview

Density-functional theory (insulators)

• Energy minimisation problem:

$$\min_{D \in \mathcal{P}} \mathcal{E}(D) = \min_{D \in \mathcal{P}} \left[\operatorname{tr}(H_0 D) + E_{\mathsf{Hxc}}(\operatorname{diag} D) \right]$$

with $\mathcal{P} = \left\{ D \in \mathfrak{S}_1(L^2) \mid 0 \le D \le 1, \operatorname{tr}(D) = N, \operatorname{tr}(-\Delta D) < \infty \right\}$, $[\operatorname{diag} D](\underline{r}) = D(\underline{r}, \underline{r})$

• DFT approximation: Effective single-particle model

$$\begin{cases} \forall i \in 1 \dots N : \left(-\frac{1}{2} \Delta + V(\rho_{\Phi}) \right) \psi_{i} = \varepsilon_{i} \psi_{i}, \\ V(\rho) = V_{\text{nuc}} + v_{C} \rho + V_{\text{XC}}(\rho), \\ \rho_{\Phi} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} |\psi_{i}|^{2}, \\ \Phi = (\psi_{1}, \dots, \psi_{N}) \in \left(L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{3}, \mathbb{C}) \right)^{N} \text{orthogonal} \end{cases}$$

nuclear attraction $V_{\rm nuc},$ exchange-correlation $V_{\rm XC},$ Hartree potential $-\Delta\left(v_C\rho\right)=4\pi\rho$

 \Rightarrow Self-consistent field (SCF) problem: $V(\rho(V)) = V$ with

$$\rho(V) = \operatorname{diag}\left[\mathbbm{1}_{(-\infty,\varepsilon_F]}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\Delta + V\right)\right] \quad \text{and } \varepsilon_F \text{ s. t. } \int \rho(V) = N$$

Self-consistent field problem

- Potential-mixing SCF procedure (preconditioner P, damping α) $V_{n+1} = V_n + \alpha P^{-1} [V(\rho(V_n)) - V_n]$
- In practice: Combined with acceleration (e.g. Anderson)
 - Dropped to simplify analysis
 - Re-introduced for numerical experiments
- Near a fixed-point the error goes as

$$e_{n+1} \simeq \left[1 - \boldsymbol{\alpha} P^{-1} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}\right] e_n$$

with dielectric matrix $\varepsilon = (1 - K\chi_0)$, $K(\rho) = V'(\rho)$, $\chi_0(V) = \rho'(V)$

- Convergence iff $-1 < \left[1 \alpha P^{-1}\varepsilon\right] < 1$
 - Dielectric matrix ε: Depends on physics (conduction, screening)
 - By second-order conditions: $\varepsilon \geq 0$ (near fixed point)

\Rightarrow Need $P^{-1} \simeq \varepsilon^{-1}$ (matching preconditioner) or small α

Drawback of established approaches

- 1. Preconditioner P is system-dependent and chosen a priori
 - Standard preconditioners: Derived from bulk materials
 - Misses important applications (e.g. inhomogeneous systems)
 - E.g. clusters, passivated surfaces, heterogeneous catalysis, ...
- 2. If no good preconditioner P known: Trial and error
 - $\bullet\,$ Employ standard heuristics: E.g. decrease damping α
 - But: Can fail for interesting cases (the tough 1% ?)
- ⇒ Wasted computational resources
- \Rightarrow Goal: Black-box and self-adapting P and α

Illustration: Guessing a suitable damping ${m lpha}$ can be hard



- Inefficient standard damping (0.6 0.8)
- Surprisingly small damping for smooth convergence



- Heusler alloy: Design space of interest
- Convergence difficulties found in high-throughput studies
- Irregular behaviour: α versus convergence
- Heuristics breaks: Larger damping is better

Black-box α : Adaptive damping¹



- Theorem: SCF convergence guaranteed if α small enough (see paper)
- α adapted in each step using line search & quadratic model
- Novelty: Reuse of expensive quantities in next SCF step
 ⇒ No overhead if line search immediately successful
- For tricky systems: Adaptive damping has an overhead
 - But: Avoids trial and error
 - Mathematically motivated safeguard mechanism

¹MFH, A. Levitt. J. Comput. Phys. **459**, 111127 (2022).

Black-box P: Local density of states (LDOS) mixing¹

- $\bullet\,$ Bulk preconditioning models approximate inverse $P^{-1}\simeq \varepsilon^{-1}$
- Use $\varepsilon = (1 K\chi_0)$ with $K(\rho) = V'(\rho), \chi_0(V) = \rho'(V)$
- $\chi_0(r,r')$ unit-cell internal fluctuations, diagonal dominant:



- Tackle charge sloshing: Consider large-scale variations of χ_0 : $\chi_0(r, r') \simeq -LDOS(r)\delta(r, r')$ (homogenisation $LDOS(r) \approx \int \chi_0(r, r') dr'$)
- Apply preconditioner iteratively: $P^{-1}V_n = [1 - K\widetilde{\chi_0})]^{-1}V_n, \qquad \widetilde{\chi_0}(r, r') = -LDOS(r)\delta(r, r')$

¹MFH, A. Levitt. J. Phys. Condens. Matter 33, 085503 (2021).

LDOS preconditioning (examples)¹



- Inhomogeneous material: Aluminium metal + Insulator
- TFW: local Thomas-Fermi-von Weizsäcker mixing² (Ad hoc modification of metallic screening model)
- LDOS automatically interpolates between Kerker mixing (suitable for metals) and no mixing (suitable for insulators)
 - ⇒ Based on mathematical understanding of screening
 - ⇒ Parameter-free and black-box

¹MFH, A. Levitt. J. Phys. Condens. Matter **33**, 085503 (2021).

²D. Raczkowski, A. Canning, L. W. Wang, Phys. Rev. B. 64, 121101 (2001).

An interdisciplinary perspective on robust materials simulations



DFT algorithms



- Density-functional theory
- Local density of states preconditioner
- Adaptive damping

- Errors in DFT
- Fusing model predictions



Error sources in DFT simulations

- Model error: Selection of DFT model
- Computational approach:
 - Discretisation error: Basis size, k-point mesh
 - Algorithm error: Convergence thresholds (SCF, eigensolver)
 - Floating-point error: Floating-point arithmetic
- Additionally: Programming error, hardware error
- Discretisation error: Promising recent progress¹
- Work on combined bounds with floating-point error²
- Recent work discussed here:
 - Dealing with the model error using multi-tasking surrogates

¹E. Cancès, G. Dusson et. al. arxiv 2111.01470v1.

²MFH, A. Levitt, E. Cancès. Faraday Discus. 223, 227 (2020).

DFT model classes

- DFT model hierarchy: Jacob's ladder
 - LDA, GGA, meta-GGA, Hybrid, RPA-like, Double Hybrid, ...
 - Each rung defines (parametrised) model class
 - Parameters found by fitting and/or from physics
 - Additional correction terms (+U, dispersion, counterpoise, ...)
- Higher rungs:
 - Generally more expensive
 - Generally more accurate
 - But: DFT is a non-variational approximation to exact physics
 - \Rightarrow No guaranteed accuracy order
- Guiding idea: Can we combine information from different functionals to balance accuracy / cost / deviating predictions?
- Important: We should not impose an order!

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Test problem: Ionisation potentials of organic molecules

- Dataset: $\simeq 3000$ small organic molecules¹
 - ANI-1 subset (2-5 heavy atoms, a few with 6 heavies)
- Targeted quantity: Ionisation potential
 - Note: A challenging quantity for DFT
- Considered models:

	densi	density-functional theory (DFT) coupled clust		
model	PBE	PBE0	PBE0_DH	CCSD(T)
cost	1	1	10	1000
rung	2nd (GGA)	4th (Hybrid)	6th (double Hybrid)	Reference

• Goal: Surrogate for CCSD(T) but mostly use DFT data

• Work in progress report ...

¹C. Duan, F. Fang, A. Nandy, H. Kulik. J. Chem. Theo. Comput. 16, 4373 (2020).

Delta learning: Learning to correct the error

- Idea: Construct surrogate for *difference* between high-fidelity and low-fidelity
- Gaussian Process (GP) ansatz:

$$I^{\text{CCSD}(\mathsf{T})} - I^{\text{DFT}} = f(\xi) + \varepsilon$$

 $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I)$ (Gaussian noise)
 $f(\xi) \sim \mathcal{GP}(\mu, K_{\theta})$ (GP prior)

 ξ : vector of molecular descriptors, I^x : vector of simulated data, K_{θ} : Kernel (e.g. polynomial, squared exponential), σ , μ , θ hyperparameters

- Training: Need DFT & CCSD(T) data
- Prediction: Add DFT simulation to predicted mean of GP
- Apply recursively: Multiple levels

Delta learning: Discussion



• Conventional: PBE \rightarrow PBE0 \rightarrow PBE0 DH \rightarrow CCSD(T)

• Scrambled:

 $PBE0_DH \rightarrow PBE0 \rightarrow PBE \rightarrow CCSD(T)$

• Error bars from three draws (unit: eV)

- Data of all lower levels required
- Ordering matters, but the physical one does not always shine

Multitasking: All DFT models are equal

• Asymmetric multitasking^a with DFT models $\alpha \in \{PBE, PBE0, \ldots\}$

$$\begin{split} I^{\mathsf{CCSD}(\mathsf{T})} &= f^{\mathsf{CCSD}(\mathsf{T})}(\xi) + \varepsilon^{\mathsf{CCSD}(\mathsf{T})} \\ I^{\alpha} &= f^{\alpha}(\xi) + \varepsilon^{\alpha} \\ f^{\alpha}(\xi) &= \rho^{\alpha} f^{\mathsf{CCSD}(\mathsf{T})}(\xi) + \delta^{\alpha}(\xi) \qquad \text{(assumed shared structure)} \\ \varepsilon^{x} &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_{x}^{2}I) \qquad \text{(Gaussian iid noise)} \\ f^{\mathsf{CCSD}(\mathsf{T})}(\xi) &\sim \mathcal{GP}\left(\mu^{\mathsf{CCSD}(\mathsf{T})}, K^{\mathsf{CCSD}(\mathsf{T})}\right) \\ \delta^{\alpha}(\xi) &\sim \mathcal{GP}\left(\mu^{\alpha}, K^{\alpha}\right) \\ \mathsf{Hyperparameters:} \ \mu^{x}, \ \sigma_{x}, \ \rho^{x} \ \& \text{ kernel params} \end{split}$$

• Rationale of α -specific correlation ρ^{α} & δ^{α} :

- Avoid negative transfer learning on $f^{\text{CCSD}(T)}$
- Assume δ^{α} independent, independent from $f^{\rm CCSD(T)}$
 - Simplified observation covariance matrix
 - Analytical inference feasible

^aG. Leen, J. Peltonen, S. Kaski. Mach. Learn. 89, 157 (2012)

Multitasking: IP results (1)

	С	S	Т
CCSD(T)			
PBE			

- Core, Supplementary and Target data sets
- T never available at CCSD(T) level
- Cost model: CCSD(T) is 1000-fold PBE

(CCSD(T) scales $\mathcal{O}(N^7)$ and DFT $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$ with N number of electrons)



• Accuracy improved for PBE0 \rightarrow CCSD(T); error in eV

Multitasking: IP results (2)

	С	S	Т
CCSD(T)			
PBE0_DH		1111	
PBE0		1111	
PBE		100	
BLYP			



- Cost model: CCSD(T) is 50-fold DFT (extremely conservative)
- 500 target data points, average over 3 runs

• Lessons learned:

- Given a CCSD(T) budget: Add DFT helps
- To target accuracy: Save CCSD(T) by using (many) DFT

Multitasking outlook: Transfer learning between datasets

	Monomer		Dimer		
	С	S	С	S	Т
CCSD(T)			11111		
PBE0			11111		
PBE					



- Water monomer and water dimer
- Target: Dimer interaction energy
- $\simeq 6000$ monomer, max. 1000 DFT dimer datapoints
- 200 target points, average over 3 runs

Cost model:

	DFT	CCSD(T)
monomer	1	10
dimer	10	1000

An interdisciplinary perspective on robust materials simulations



Self-adapting black-box DFT algorithms



Model error in DFT simulations



- Density-functional theory
- Local density of states preconditioner
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Adaptive damping

Density-functional toolkit¹ — https://dftk.org



- julia code for plane-wave DFT, started in 2019
- Fully composable with julia ecosystem:
 - Arbitrary precision (32bit, >64bit, ...)
 - Algorithmic differentiation (AD)
 - HPC tools: GPU acceleration, MPI parallelisation
- Key tool in all presented research:
 - Allows restriction to relevant model problems,
 - and scale-up to application regime (1000 electrons)
 - Sizeable feature set in 7500 lines of code
 - Including some unique features (Self-adapting algorithms)
- \Rightarrow Build to enable multidisciplinary synergies
- Accessible high-productivity framework across domains:
 - Key code contributions by undegrads / PhD students
 - Initial AD support in 10 weeks (CS Bachelor)
 - Initial GPU support in 10 weeks (Physics Bachelor)
 - Relevant contributions from outside collab. circle

New features from generic code: Sensitivity analysis



```
a_* = \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{a} \mathcal{E}(a, \theta)
sensitivities = \frac{da_*}{d\theta}
```

- Arbitrary, user-desired derivatives in one line of code
 - Three nested layers of iterative solvers
 - Almost a byproduct of our generic julia implementation (main addendum: Stable response solver)
 - Breaks "one PhD student per derivative" paradigm
 - ⇒ New properties/derivatives by non-DFT experts!
- Avoids combinatorial explosion
 - Future models automatically supported
 - ... so are unusual derivatives
- \Rightarrow Setting the scene for new approaches:
 - Sensitivity analysis & UQ, data-enhanced models

🔁 DFTK design: Keeping code concise & accessible



- Stress computation (Definition vs. julia code)¹
- Post-processing step \Rightarrow Not performance critical
- Comparison of implementation complexity:
 - **FTK**: 20 lines¹ (using forward-mode AD)
 - Quantum-Espresso: 1700 lines²
- Note: julia allows seamless composition of
 - Floating-point agnostic code for AD (slightly slower)
 - Fast code integrating with MPI, CUDA, ...

\Rightarrow No performance impact & accessible code

²https://github.com/QEF/q-e/blob/develop/PW/src

 $^{{}^{1} \}tt https://github.com/JuliaMolSim/DFTK.jl/blob/master/src/postprocess/stresses.jl$

Preliminary GPU support in 🐳 DFTK

Q JuliaMolSim / DFTK.jl (1998) Q Sat Pre -	© Unwatch 15 + ¥ Fox 58 + ☆ 50x 285 +
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Make LOBPCG GPU-compatible #	711 Eat: ↔ Code v wype Loterca, Key @ 12 days ago
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- 10-week GSoC project
- \bullet < 500 lines changed
- Use julia's HPC abstractions to target all of CUDA, ROCm, oneAPI
- Painless installation and setup
- Collaboration with **julia** lab: CS, physics & maths

🔁 DFTK : Bringing mathematical research to the applications

- Mathematical works with Vertical
 - Self-adapting black-box DFT methods^{a, b}
 - Numerical analysis of DFT^{c,d}
 - Practical error bounds^{e, f}
- Exploring algorithmic differentiation:
 - "Automatic response": Phonons & higher-order properties
 - Data-enhanced DFT models
 - Full AD-able simulation pipeline: DFT, potentials, MD
 - \Rightarrow Uncertainty quantification all the way
- Part of growing julia materials modelling community
 - Common interfaces and data structures (e.g. AtomsBase)
- Outreach and teaching: 😯 DFTK summer school in 2022
 - United CS, maths, physics, chemistry, materials

- ^bMFH, A. Levitt. J. Comput. Phys. 459, 111127 (2022).
- ^cE. Cancès, G. Kemlin, A. Levitt. J. Matrix Anal. Appl., 42, 243 (2021).
- ^dE. Cancès, MFH, G. Kemlin, et. al. Lett. Math. Phys. 113, 21 (2023).
- ^eMFH, A. Levitt, E. Cancès. Faraday Discus. 223, 227 (2020).

Growing user base:



Carnegie Mellon University











^aMFH, A. Levitt. J. Phys. Condens. Matter 33, 085503 (2021).

^fE. Cancès, G. Dusson, G. Kemlin et. al. SIAM J. Sci. Comp., 44, B1312 (2022).

Summary

- High-throughput screening
 - Main obstacle: Large number of parameters
 - Chosen empirically \Rightarrow Reliability limited
- Black-box strategies for damping & preconditioning
 - Build on combining mathematical and physical insight
 - Safeguard mechanism: Increase robustness for hard cases
 - Readily available in I DFTK
- Multi-tasking surrogate models
 - $\bullet~$ No need to impose model ordering $\Rightarrow~$ Well-suited for DFT setting
 - Can use cheap model data to compensate for expensive simulations
 - Promising to exploit existing data sets (highly heterogeneous!)
- **W**DFTK : Multidisciplinary software development
 - julia-based framework for new DFT algorithms
 - In one code: Reduced problems and scale-up to realistic applications
 - High-productivity research framework
 - Overcome disciplinary barriers: People compose if software composes

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- All 😽 DFTK contributors



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Opportunities to learn more

LauzHack event (with G. Dalle, C. Dufour, J. Grainger, F. Wechsler): "Introduction to Julia"

- 10 May 2023 18:15 BC410, EPFL & zoom
- Get a tour of the julia programming language ...
- ... and some free pizza

https://memento.epfl.ch/event/introduction-to-julia/

Upcoming seminar:

"Julia for Materials Modelling"

- 24 May 2023 15:00 MED 2 1124 & zoom
- Status of julia for materials science
- Overview of existing tools & ecosystems
- Hands-on showcases and perspectives
- > https://memento.epfl.ch/event/julia-for-materials-modelling-2/

Questions?

mfherbst

- ♦ https://matmat.org
- ≥ michael.herbst@epfl.ch

DFTK https://dftk.org **julia** https://go.epfl.ch/julia