## Exact DFT with DMRG





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#### Summary:

Using an exact numerical solver for 1d systems (known as DMRG), we can learn more about density functional theory (DFT) and find ways to make it better Density functional theory (DFT) is an efficient method that works extremely well for molecules and materials.... ...except when it doesn't



### Ideas for correcting these issues, but how to test them? S-DFA HSE DMFT+DFT GGA+U

To check if they work, and for the right reasons, must give something up:

- Continuum
- Long-range interactions
- Three Dimensions

Keeping the continuum and long-range interactions, we find 1d chemistry to be a good mimic of real 3d world → (see next talk by Lucas Wagner)

Working in 1d lets us use the powerful density matrix renormalization group (DMRG) method...

DMRG - a powerful numerical method:

Essentially exact solutions Linear scaling in 1d Access entire wavefunction Time dependence, finite T 1d and narrow 2d systems

# DMRG usually applied to lattice models (such as t-J or Hubbard)



White and Scalapino (2008)

Lattice sites  $\longleftrightarrow$  Discretized atoms

#### But can also describe the continuum:

 $T = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{x} c^{\dagger}(x) \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} c(x)$ 



 $\simeq -\frac{1}{2a^2} \sum_{j} (c_j^{\dagger} c_{j+1} + 2n_j + c_{j+1}^{\dagger} c_j)$ 

#### Grid sites $\longleftrightarrow$ Discretized space

Long Range Interactions? **Obstacle**: Including all pairwise interactions on the grid makes scaling  $N^3$ Solution: 1. No extra cost in DMRG for exponential long-range interactions

2. Fit Coulomb law to sum of exponentials

Pirvu, Murg, Cirac and Verstraete, NJP 12 025012, (2010)

+ . . .





Freeze out all but a small piece of wavefunction



Solve Schrodinger equation exactly for remaining piece

### $\tilde{H}|\tilde{\Psi} angle = \tilde{E}|\tilde{\Psi} angle$





the most important states in the basis

#### DMRG Demo - 1d "Helium" Atom



Three levels of application to DFT:

Level I: compare exact results to DFT approximations

Level II: study the exact Kohn-Sham system

Level III: self-consistent KS calculation with the exact functional





Easier



## Level I: compare exact results to DFT approximations

Model system: 1d matter

$$v_{\rm ee}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}$$

$$v_{\text{atom}}(x) = -Zv_{\text{ee}}(x)$$

 $\hat{V}_{\text{int}} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{x,x'} v_{\text{ee}}(|x - x'|) \hat{n}(x) \hat{n}(x')$ 

"soft Coulomb" interaction

# DMRG powerful enough to solve a chain of 100 stretched soft Hydrogen atoms



An exact solution exposes both successes and failures of DFT and lattice models...







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Nearly all essential physics relevant to e.g. strong correlation is present in 1d

#### Plan to benchmark many more DFT approximations

### Level II: study the exact Kohn-Sham system



Having the exact ground state density means we can "invert" it to find the exact KS potential.

### Hohenberg-Kohn theorem: KS potential is unique if it exists



# Inversion means finding this unique KS potential for the density n(x)

#### How to perform an inversion?

 $v_{\rm s}(x)$ 

n(x)

Trial potential  $\tilde{v}_{s}(x)$ (Non-Interacting) Solve Modify Resulting density  $\tilde{n}(x)$ Compare Matches n(x)? No Yes Done



# It's important to understand the KS wavefunction.

# In a transport calculation, is it ever ok to replace $G(k, \omega) \to G^{\text{KS}}(k, \omega)$ ?

### (See talk by Zhenfei Liu, today 3pm in 107B) Also: arxiv:1201.1310, Liu et al.

## Exact KS potential of He atom:



Umrigar and Gonze, PRA **50**, 3827 (1994) (figure adapted by Burke and Wagner)

In contrast to previous calculations, we can approach the thermodynamic limit and study matter

 $\rightarrow$  Kohn-Sham gap

### Level III: self-consistent KS calculation with the exact functional



#### What *is* the functional?

Given a density n(x), computes the ground state energy for a given type of interactions

 $E_0 = E[n]$ 

the functional

# Often spoken about as if it's some closed-form, analytic expression...



# ...but this can't be right - writing down the exact functional is QMA hard.\*

\*N. Schuch and F. Verstraete, Nature Phys. 5, 732 (2009).

In reality, the functional is not an expression but an algorithm.

Key ingredient: interacting inversion



### Similar to non-interacting inversion: Trial potential $\tilde{v}(x)$ v(x)Solve (DMRG) Modify Resulting density $\tilde{n}(x)$ Compare Matches n(x)? n(x)No Yes Done



## Finally, with v[n](x) $\psi[n](x)$

E[n] =

 $= \langle \psi[n] | \ \hat{H}_{v[n]} \ | \psi[n] \rangle$ 

$$= \langle \psi[n] | \hat{T} + \hat{V}_{ee} + \int_{x} v[n](x)\hat{n}(x) |\psi[n]\rangle$$

Can also do self-consistent Kohn-Sham with exact functional.

Given any n(x):

1. Invert (no interactions)  $\cdots v_s[n](x)$ 

2. Invert (with interactions) ---> v[n](x)

3. Compute

$$v_{\rm HXC}[n](x) = v_s(x) - v(x)$$

# Example Kohn-Sham Calculations













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 Exact Kohn-Sham can be embedded within approximate DFT calculation (partition DFT)

 Also explore fundamental DFT questions: V-representability Local minima of exact functional

#### Future plans:

- Apply 1d lessons to 3d approximate functionals
- Continuum DMRG for 1d cold atom experiments
- Answer questions about effective models (such as Hubbard)
   e.g. physics of screening

For more information, please see the following preprints:

arxiv:<u>1107.2394</u> arxiv:<u>1202.4788</u>