International Summer School on Computational Quantum Materials 2024 Ab initio description of strongly correlated materials: combining density functional theory plus and dynamical mean-field theory



Strongly correlated materials - next generation electronics?





- sensitive to small changes in external parameters:
 - temperature
 - pressure
 - doping
 -
- emerging phenomena:
 - high T_C superconductivity
 - colossal magnetoresistance
 - Mott physics
 - • • •

Y. Tokura, M. Kawasaki, and N. Nagaosa, Nat. Phys. 13, 1056 (2017)

Correlated d-/f-shells





https://ptable.com

sbeck@flatironinstitute.org

Weak versus strong correlation



weakly correlated systems

- effective single-particle picture
- density functional theory

$$egin{aligned} \Psi(\mathbf{x}_1,\mathbf{x}_2) &= rac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \{\chi_1(\mathbf{x}_1)\chi_2(\mathbf{x}_2) - \chi_1(\mathbf{x}_2)\chi_2(\mathbf{x}_1)\} \ &= rac{1}{\sqrt{2}} igg| egin{aligned} \chi_1(\mathbf{x}_1) & \chi_2(\mathbf{x}_1) \ \chi_1(\mathbf{x}_2) & \chi_2(\mathbf{x}_2) \ \end{aligned}
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strongly correlated systems

- breakdown of single-particle picture
- large local Coulomb interaction \boldsymbol{U}
- between ionic localization and itinerant behavior



Spectral function $A(\mathbf{k}, \omega)$



A. Damascelli, Z. Hussain, and Z.-X. Shen, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 473 (2003)

Spectral function $A({\bf k},\omega)$ - non-interacting





$$G(\mathbf{k},\omega) = \frac{1}{\omega - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} + \mathrm{i}\eta}$$

$$A(\mathbf{k},\omega) = -\frac{1}{\pi}\delta(\omega - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}})$$

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Spectral function $A({\bf k},\omega)$ - interacting





$$G(\mathbf{k},\omega) = \frac{1}{\omega - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} - \Sigma(\omega)}$$

$$\Sigma(\omega) = \Sigma'(\omega) + i\Sigma''(\omega)$$

$$A(\mathbf{k},\omega) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\Sigma''(\omega)}{(\omega - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}} - \Sigma'(\omega))^2 + \Sigma''(\omega)^2}$$

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Case study: Fermi surface of Sr_2RuO_4











- octahedral crystal field
- key action in t_{2g} subspace

Y. Maeno et al., Nature 372, 532 (1994)

Low-energy physics dominated by $t_{\rm 2g}$ orbitals





Ru d.

M. W. Haverkort et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 101, 026406 (2008)



• correlated metal (U = 2.3 eV)



A. W. Tyler et al., Phys. Rev. B 58, R10107 (1998)

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- correlated metal (U = 2.3 eV)
- Fermi liquid ($T_{\rm FL} \approx 25$ K)



Y. Maeno et al., J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. 66, 1405 (1997)





- correlated metal (U = 2.3 eV)
- Fermi liquid ($T_{\mathsf{FL}} \approx 25 \text{ K}$)



D. Stricker et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 113, 087404 (2014)

- self-energy
$$\Sigma^{\prime\prime}(\omega,T)\sim\omega^2+(\pi T)^2$$



- correlated metal (U = 2.3 eV)
- Fermi liquid ($T_{\mathsf{FL}} \approx 25 \text{ K}$)
- Hund physics (J = 0.4 eV)







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F. Kugler et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 124, 016401 (2020)

- non-FL excess of spectral weight
- e.g. quantum oscillation, NMR spectroscopy, …



- correlated metal (U = 2.3 eV)
- Fermi liquid ($T_{\rm FL} \approx 25$ K)
- Hund physics (J = 0.4 eV)
- Van Hove singularity close to E_{F}



drives orbital differentiation



- correlated metal (U = 2.3 eV)
- Fermi liquid ($T_{\rm FL} \approx 25$ K)
- Hund physics (J = 0.4 eV)
- Van Hove singularity close to E_{F}
- spin-orbit coupling ($\lambda \approx 0.2$ eV)



strong effect of SOC on Fermi surface

- correlated metal (U = 2.3 eV)
- Fermi liquid ($T_{\rm FL} \approx 25$ K)
- Hund physics (J = 0.4 eV)
- $\scriptstyle \bullet$ Van Hove singularity close to $E_{\rm F}$
- spin-orbit coupling ($\lambda\approx 0.2$ eV)





M. W. Haverkort et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 101, 026406 (2008)

strong effect of SOC on Fermi surface



- correlated metal (U = 2.3 eV)
- Fermi liquid ($T_{\mathsf{FL}} \approx 25 \text{ K}$)
- Hund physics (J = 0.4 eV)
- $\:\,{\ensuremath{\,{\rm \bullet}}}$ Van Hove singularity close to $E_{\rm F}$
- spin-orbit coupling ($\lambda\approx 0.2$ eV)
- superconductivity ($T_{\mathsf{C}} \approx 1.5 \text{ K}$)



Y. Maeno et al., Nature 372, 532 (1994)





Where DFT may be insufficient



Fermi surface



M. W. Haverkort et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 101, 026406 (2008)

Seebeck



- also: mass enhancement, orbital occupations, optics, SOC, ...
- more obvious: local-moment paramagnet (Mott insulator) versus (anti-)ferromagnet or non-magnetic metal in DFT

J. Mravlje, A. Georges, Phys. Rev. Lett. 117, 036401 (2016)

$\mathsf{DFT}+\mathsf{DMFT}$



- situation: complex physics arising from strong local Coulomb interaction in partially filled orbitals in strongly correlated materials
- **goal:** ab-initio, material-realistic description
- challenge: combining localized, atomic-like and itinerant electronic behavior
- ansatz: DFT+DMFT, downfolding & embedding
- example: Fermi surface of Sr₂RuO₄

















recap: Dynamical Mean Field Theory





- map lattice to effective impurity model (AIM) embedded in bath
- impurity-bath coupling $\Delta(\omega)$ determined self-consistently
- basic ingredients: t, U

W. Metzner and D. Vollhardt, Phys. Rev. Lett. 62, 3 (1989)

A. Georges and G. Kotliar, Phys. Rev. B 45, 12 (1992)

DMFT self-consistency - example: Bethe lattice







DMFT self-consistency - ab initio electronic structure





• basic ingredients: t, U, and P

DMFT from first principles





DFT+DMFT ingredients:

- $\hfill \hfill \hfill$
- projector functions ${\cal P}$
- interaction Hamiltonian H_{int}
- (energy window, double counting, how to determine $H_{\rm int}$, ...)
- impurity solver
- charge self-consistency
- • •

Jülich, Autumn School on Correlated Electrons www.cond-mat.de/events/correl.html

DFT+DMFT ingredients: target bands t



- partitioning of the system
- maximally localized Wannier functions $|\mathbf{R}j\rangle$ from Kohn-Sham states $|\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}\rangle$:

$$\begin{split} |\psi_{j\mathbf{k}}^{\mathrm{W}}\rangle &= \sum_{n} V_{\mathbf{k},nj} |\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}\rangle \\ |\mathbf{R}j\rangle &= \frac{V}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{\mathrm{BZ}} d\mathbf{k} \,\mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{i}\mathbf{k}\mathbf{R}} |\psi_{j\mathbf{k}}^{\mathrm{W}}\rangle \end{split}$$

hopping elements:

$$H^{\mathrm{W}}_{\mathbf{k},ij} = \langle \psi^{\mathrm{W}}_{i\mathbf{k}} | \hat{H} | \psi^{\mathrm{W}}_{j\mathbf{k}} \rangle \quad \rightarrow \quad t_{ij}(\mathbf{R}) = \langle \mathbf{0}i | \hat{H} | \mathbf{R}j \rangle$$



N. Marzari, and D. Vanderbilt, Phys. Rev. B 56, 20 (1997)



DFT+DMFT ingredients: projector functions P

lattice Green's function:

$$\hat{G}(\mathbf{k}, \mathrm{i}\omega_n) = \left[(\mathrm{i}\omega_n + \mu) \mathbb{1} - \hat{H}_{\mathbf{k}} - \Delta \hat{\Sigma}(\mathbf{k}, \mathrm{i}\omega_n) \right]^{-1}$$

downfolding:

$$G_{ij,\mathcal{R}}^{\text{loc}}(\mathrm{i}\omega_n) = \sum_{\mathbf{k},mn} P_{im}^{\mathcal{R}}(\mathbf{k}) G_{mn}(\mathbf{k},\mathrm{i}\omega_n) P_{nj}^{\mathcal{R}*}(\mathbf{k})$$

with projector onto orbital j at atomic site \mathcal{R} :

$$P_{jn}^{\mathcal{R}}(\mathbf{k}) = \langle \psi_{\mathcal{R}_j \mathbf{k}}^{\mathrm{W}} | \psi_{n \mathbf{k}} \rangle$$

upfolding:

$$\Delta \Sigma_{mn}(\mathbf{k}, \mathrm{i}\omega_n) = \sum_{\mathcal{R}, ij} P_{mi}^{\mathcal{R}*}(\mathbf{k}) \Delta \Sigma_{ij}^{\mathcal{R}}(\mathrm{i}\omega_n) P_{jn}^{\mathcal{R}}(\mathbf{k})$$



- basis transformation
- entanglement
- local symmetries



Double counting

- E_U is a functional of the orbital occupations, but E_{XC} is a non-linear functional of the total electron density
- ill-posed problem due to the formally incompatible footing: diagrammatic vs. non-perturbative
- different analytic, *phenomenological* expressions have been proposed: FLL, AMF, ANI, Kunes, nominal...
- remedy: GW+DMFT

$$\Delta \Sigma_{ij}^{\mathcal{R}}(\mathrm{i}\omega_n) = \Sigma_{ij}^{\mathcal{R}}(\mathrm{i}\omega_n) - \Sigma_{\mathrm{DC}}$$

$$E_{\text{DFT}+U}[\rho] = E_{\text{DFT}}[\rho] + E_U[n_{ij}^{\sigma}] - E_{\text{DC}}$$

$$E_{\rm XC} \approx E_{\rm XC}^{\rm LDA}[\rho] = \int d\mathbf{r} \, \epsilon_{\rm XC}^{\rm hom}[\rho(\mathbf{r})]\rho(\mathbf{r})$$

 $E_{\mathrm{XC}}[n_{ij}^{\sigma}]$?

DFT+DMFT ingredients: interaction Hamiltonian \boldsymbol{U}



$$\hat{H}_{\text{int}} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ijkl}^{\text{at }\mathcal{R}} U_{ijkl} c_i^{\dagger} c_j^{\dagger} c_l c_k$$

$$V_{ijkl} = \int \mathrm{d}^3 \mathbf{r} \, \mathrm{d}^3 \mathbf{r}' w_{i\mathbf{0}}^*(\mathbf{r}) w_{j\mathbf{0}}^*(\mathbf{r}') \frac{e^2}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} w_{l\mathbf{0}}(\mathbf{r}') w_{k\mathbf{0}}(\mathbf{r})$$

- complicated 4-rank tensor
- use symmetries to reduce complexity
- for cubic systems: Hubbard-Kanamori parametrization
- for spherical systems: Slater parametrization



J. Kanamori, Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 30 (1963)

DFT+DMFT ingredients: interaction Hamiltonian U





$$\begin{aligned} \hat{H}_{U} &= U \sum_{i} n_{i\uparrow} n_{i\downarrow} + U' \sum_{i \neq j} n_{i\uparrow} n_{j\downarrow} + (U' - J) \sum_{i < j,\sigma} n_{i\sigma} n_{j\sigma} \\ &- J \sum_{i \neq j} c^{\dagger}_{i\uparrow} c_{i\downarrow} c^{\dagger}_{j\downarrow} c_{j\uparrow} + J \sum_{i \neq j} c^{\dagger}_{i\uparrow} c^{\dagger}_{i\downarrow} c_{j\downarrow} c_{j\uparrow} \end{aligned}$$

J. Kanamori, Prog. Theor. Exp. Phys. 30 (1963)

DFT+DMFT ingredients: energy window



pros:

- no DC
- nominal occupations
- less work for impurity solver

cons:

- smaller U, more frequency-dependent
- larger spread $\Omega,$ oxygen tails \rightarrow less localized
- no information on e_g states...

DFT+DMFT ingredients: energy window





 $dp \, \operatorname{\mathsf{model}}$

pros:

- more localized, DMFT more valid
- larger U and more atomic-like, less frequency-dependent
- renormalizes all states

cons:

- DC, in principle U_{dp} , U_p
- fractional occupations
- heavy for impurity solver

How to determine Coulomb interaction

- V of the order of 11 eV for t_{2g} , i.e. \gg bandwidth ≈ 3.4 eV
- effective Coulomb interaction screened by surrounding electrons
- screened interaction $U(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}')$ in practice:
 - cRPA: screening channels, frequency dependence, Hund *J*
 - cLDA: only full d shell, static, no Hund J

•
$$d - dp$$
: $F^0 = 3.23 \text{ eV}$, $\bar{U}_{mm} = 4.1 \text{ eV}$,
 $t_{2g} - t_{2g}$: $\mathcal{U} = 2.56 \text{ eV}$







L. Vaugier, H. Jiang, S. Biermann, Phys. Rev. B 86, 165105 (2012)

Multi-site DMFT







Multi-site DMFT





self-energy approximated as block-diagonal in orbital basis

Multi-site DMFT





- self-energy approximated as block-diagonal in orbital basis
- map self-energy to symmetry-equivalent sites
- use spin channel for AFM solutions

















Impurity solvers





approximate solvers:

- Hartree(-Fock)
- Hubbard-I

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- Iterated perturbation theory (IPT)
- Slave boson technique

 $G_{\sigma}^{\mathsf{imp}}(\tau) = \left\langle \mathcal{T}c_{\sigma}(\tau)c_{\sigma}^{\dagger}(0) \right\rangle_{\mathcal{G}_{0}}$



numerically exact solvers:

- Quantum Monte Carlo (QMC)
- exact diagonalization (ED)
- numerical renormalization group (NRG)
- density matrix renormalization group (DMRG)
- tensor-network based approaches (MPS/TTN)
- → see other lectures in this school



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Method	Physical quantity	Constraining field
Baym-Kadanoff	$G_{lphaeta}({f k},i\omega)$	$\Sigma_{\mathrm{int},\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{k},i\omega)$
DMFT (BL)	$G_{\mathrm{loc},lphaeta}(i\omega)$	$\mathcal{M}_{\mathrm{int},lphaeta}(i\omega)$
DMFT (AL)	$G_{\mathrm{loc},lphaeta}(i\omega)$	$\Delta_{lphaeta}(i\omega)$
LDA+DMFT (BL)	$\rho(r), G_{\mathrm{loc},ab}(i\omega)$	$V_{\rm int}(r), \ \mathcal{M}_{{\rm int},ab}(i\omega)$
LDA+DMFT (AL)	$\rho(r), G_{\mathrm{loc},ab}(i\omega)$	$V_{\rm int}(r), \ \Delta_{ab}(i\omega)$
LDA + U	$\rho(r), n_{ab}$	$V_{\rm int}(r), \ \lambda_{ab}$
LDA	ho(r)	$V_{\rm int}(r)$

G. Kotliar et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. 78, 865 (2006)

Quasiparticle mass renormalization in Sr_2RuO_4





- CT-HYB solver, $\beta = 232 \text{ eV}^{-1}$
- minimal effect of charge self-consistency



A. Hampel, SB, and C. Ederer, Phys. Rev. Res. 2, 033088 (2020)

Orbital polarization in CaVO₃ (tensile strain)





- CT-HYB solver, $\beta=40~{\rm eV}^{-1}$
- charge self-consistency strongly reduces the orbital polarization found in one-shot calculations



A. Hampel, SB, and C. Ederer, Phys. Rev. Res. 2, 033088 (2020)

Post-processing



What we can compute:

spectral properties



E. Cappelli et al., Phys. Rev. Mater. 6, 075002 (2022)

A. Marrazzo, SB et al., arxiv:2312.10769 (2023)

${\tt sbeck@flatironinstitute.org}$

Post-processing



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E. Cappelli et al., Phys. Rev. Mater. 6, 075002 (2022)

- A. Marrazzo, SB et al., arxiv:2312.10769 (2023)
- sbeck@flatironinstitute.org

- optical and thermal conductivity
- Hall and Seebeck coefficient
- two-particle correlation function (susceptibilities)
- x-ray photoemission and absorption spectroscopy
- resonant inelastic x-ray scattering
- phonon spectra
- electronic Raman spectroscopy

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Back to the experiment



$$E_{\rm kin} = h\nu - \phi - |E_{\rm B}|$$
$$\hbar \mathbf{k}_{\parallel} = \sqrt{2mE_{\rm kin}} \cdot \sin\theta$$



Photoemission geometry

M. W. Haverkort *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. 101, 026406 (2008) A. Damascelli *et al.*, Rev. Mod. Phys. 75, 473 (2003)





A. Damascelli et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 85, 5194 (2000)

A. Tamai et al., Phys. Rev. X 9, 021048 (2019)

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Is DMFT a good method for this application?





$$\omega - \epsilon_{\nu}(\mathbf{k}_{\max}^{\nu}(\omega)) - \Sigma_{\nu\nu'}^{\prime}(\omega, \mathbf{k}_{\max}^{\nu}(\omega)) = 0$$





A. Tamai et al., Phys. Rev. X 9, 021048 (2019)

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$$\omega - \epsilon_{\nu}(\mathbf{k}_{\max}^{\nu}(\omega)) - \Sigma_{\nu\nu'}^{\prime}(\omega, \mathbf{k}_{\max}^{\nu}(\omega)) = 0$$







→ self-energy is local in the orbital basis!

A. Tamai et al., Phys. Rev. X 9, 021048 (2019)

Spin-orbit coupling in Sr_2RuO_4





- correlation-induced enhancement of crystal-field splitting
- correlation-induced enhancement of effective spin-orbit coupling

Back to the experiment

- novel tree tensor-network impurity solver:
 - real-time/frequency axis
 - T = 0 K
 - energy-independent resolution
 - including spin-orbit coupling for the first time
- other quantities: mass enhancement, orbital occupations, optics, thermopower, Hall coefficient, magnetic susceptibility, RIXS, Raman scattering, ...



X. Cao et al., Phys. Rev. B 104, 115119 (2021)

More problems - more literature





- double counting
- more orbitals, more complex systems
- screening
- (real-frequency) impurity solvers and analytic continuation
- superconductivity
- out of equilibrium
- low-T, exotic states

Jülich, Autumn School on Correlated Electrons www.cond-mat.de/events/correl.html