**1. Basis sets, energy, superpositions, and transformations**

, (1.1)

Where the coefficients and are the amplitudes. They represent the (time- or representation-dependent) “populations”.

In the following derivations, we assume a vector-matrix notation, so that . Likewise, the amplitudes are the column-vectors: , so that is essentially a scalar product: .

Let us also assume that the diabatic basis is not orthonormal, so:

. (1.2)

Denote the transformation between the two basis sets by the transformation matrix (not necessarily a unitary one):

(1.3)

To satisfy Eq. 1.1, the amplitudes should relate to each other correspondingly:

. (1.4)

We also assume that the adiabatic basis is orthonormal:

(1.5)

The total electronic energy (Ehrenfest) of the system is given by the Hamiltonian expectation value on the superposition Eq. 1.1. In the adiabatic basis, it will be:

, (1.6)

Here, we introduced the matrix elements of the electronic Hamiltonian operator in the two bases:

. (1.7)

. (1.8)

Using, Eqs. 1.3, 1.7, and 1.8, we can see that:

. (1.9)

Here, the tilde-notation is used to represent a similarity transformation:

. (1.10)

**2. The stationary (time-independent) variational principle and stationary Schrodinger equation**

To determine the adiabatic eigenfunctions, one minimizes the total energy with respect to the variations of the diabatic-to-adiabatic transformation matrix:

(2.1)

Which leads to:

. (2.2)

Or, equivalently, to:

. (2.3)

Indeed, projecting Eq. 2.3 onto the diabatic basis yields:

. (2.4a)

. (2.4b)

. (2.4c)

**3. Adiabatic and diabatic derivative couplings**

Define the derivative couplings:

, (3.1)

(3.2)

The two are related by:

. (3.3a)

Or using the transformation Eq. 1.10:

. (3.3b)

Note the symmetries:

(3.4)

which comes from the orthogonality of the adiabatic states, Eq. 1.5.

. (3.5)

Which originates, analogously, from Eq. 1.2

**4. General relationship between the derivatives of the adiabatic and diabatic properties**

Lets differentiate Eqs. 2.2:

, (4.1)

Multiply both sides by :

, (4.2a)

Using Eq. 1.5:, (4.2b)

Using Eq. 2.4c:

, (4.2c)

Or

, (4.3d)

Using Eq. 3.3b:

, (4.4a)

Rearranging terms:

. (4.4b)

Using the condition, Eq. 3.5, we can simplify a part of the left-hand side:

. (4.5)

Then, keeping in mind the property Eq. 3.4 and the transformation Eq. 1.10, we arrive at:

. (4.6)

This equation can be written in a more compact and symmetric form:

. (4.7)

It makes much sense, because if the two bases are the same (the eigenvectors are trivial: ), Eq. 4.7 becomes an identity.

These equations can be derived in another way. Lets differentiate Eq. 1.7:

, (4.8a)

Using Eq. 2.3 and the definition Eq. 3.1:

, (4.8b)

In other words, the right-hand side of Eq. 4.7 is nothing but:

. (4.9)

Likewise, lets differentiate Eq. 1.8:

, (4.10)

Lets apply the transformation Eq. 1.10 to both sides of Eq. 4.9a:

, (4.11)

By Eq. 1.3:

, (4.12a)

So:

, (4.12b)

, (4.12c)

, (4.12e)

By Eq. 1.9 and 1.10:

, (4.12f)

Thus, the left-hand side of Eq. 4.7 is nothing but:

. (4.13)

Comparing Eqs. 4.12f and 4.9, one arrives at Eqs. 4.6 and 4.7

**5. Derivatives of the total electronic energy**

Lets’ compute the derivatives of the expectation value of the Hamiltonian on the arbitrary (not necessarily normalized) wavefunction, Eq. 1.1:

(5.1)

To proceed further, we’ll need to make an assumption regarding the nature of the amplitudes that enter the basis-set expansion Eq. 1.1. In section 1, we have stated that these coefficients depend on time. But, they may also depend on the spatial coordinate. In fact, since the basis transformation matrix, , generally depends on coordinates, Eq. 1.4 forces one of the sets of coefficients to be position-dependent. In practice, one may assume that once the representation (basis) is chosen, the corresponding wavefunction amplitudes of each basis function depend on time only. Indeed, this appear quite reasonable. However, such a construction makes sense only until one is not concerned with representation-invariance of the results.

Lets see how the difference in the dynamics arises from a (postulative) choice of whether to treat one of the coefficients position-dependent on position-independent. In both cases, we will assume the adiabatic coefficients (amplitudes) depend on time only (although, this is already one of the points of postulative formulation of the dynamics). Then, the force in the adiabatic basis is given by:

. (5.2a)

. (5.2b)

where:

. (5.3a)

. (5.3b)

In the above derivations, we have assumed that the amplitudes are position-independent. However, because they are related by a position-dependent basis transformation matrix, Eq. 1.4, at least one of the coefficient sets should also depend on coordinates.

Case 1: Diabatic coefficients are position-dependent

The dependence is introduced via the transformation matrix , according to Eq. 1.4.

So Eq. 5.2 becomes:

, (5.4)

Using Eq. 1.4:

, (5.5a)

, (5.5b)

, (5.5c)

Where:

. (5.6)

Consider :

, (5.7a)

, (5.7b)

, (5.7c)

, (5.7d)

, (5.7e)

, (5.7f)

The last result originates from Eq. 4.6, 4.7. Thus, Eq. 5.11 holds and the dynamics is invariant with respect to the choice of representation.

So:

. (5.8)

Case 2: Adiabatic coefficients are position-dependent

, (5.9)

Using Eq. 1.4:

, (5.10)

, (5.11a)

, (5.11b)

. (5.12a)

. (5.12b)

Using Eq. 3.3b:

. (5.12c)

From Eq. 4.6, we get:

. (5.13)

**6. Ehrenfest dynamics in adiabatic representation**

Consider a quantum-classical Hamiltonian:

. (6.1)

The evolution of the electronic degrees of freedom is given by the TD-SE:

. (6.2)

The TD-SE in the adiabatic basis will be:

, (6.3)

Which means:

, (6.4a)

. (6.4b)

Now, consider the time-derivative of the quantum-classical Hamiltonian, Eq. 6.1:

, (6.5a)

, (6.5b)

, (6.5c)

, (6.5d)

. (6.6a)

. (6.6b)

. (6.7)

**7. Ehrenfest in diabatic basis**

The TD-SE in the diabatic basis will be:

, (7.1)

Which means:

, (7.2a)

. (7.2b)

Now, consider the time-derivative of the quantum-classical Hamiltonian, Eq. 6.1:

, (7.3a)

, (7.3b)

, (7.3c)

, (7.3d)

. (7.4a)

. (7.4b)

. (7.4c)

. (7.5)

Consider

, (7.6a)

Using Eq. 2.2, we obtain:

, (7.6b)

, (7.6c)

, (7.6d)

According, Eq. 4.12f,

. (7.7)

Than is:

. (7.8)

**8. Relationship between Ehrenfest forces in diabatic and adiabatic bases**

Using, Eq. 4.13, and the definitions Eqs. 6.7 and 7.8, we arrive at

. (8.1)

If we assume the same norm in the two bases, , then the momentum time-derivatives in the two representations are equivalent:

. (8.2a)

. (8.2b)

That is, the nuclear dynamics in the two representations should be the same.