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Developing software calculating quantum systems' wave functions

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Contents

Chapter 1

Introduction

1.1 Scientific background

In quantum mechanics, apart from classical characteristics, particles can be described by waves too. The specific location and momentum of particles, like the electrons in a molecule, cannot be determined simultaneously at a given time (Heisenberg's uncertainty principle). Only the probability of possible locations can be given. Instead of the classical model of electrons revolving around the nucleus of a given atom, in this probabilistic representation electrons are desribed by wave functions. The most likely locations for electrons are described by the concept of atomic orbitals, spherical distributions around the nucleus of an atom. The various atomic orbitals can have different energy levels depending on the type of the atom, the orbitals distance from the nucleus and its symmetry.

To determine the energy levels of complex molecules (for example when considering proteins inside the human body) one needs to take into account all the nuclei and all the electrons. Electrons are not allocated to individual atoms anymore, rather they are shared by many atoms and can be described by molecular orbitals. A molecular orbital can be represented as the combination of atomic orbitals from each atom making up the molecule. In theory atomic and molecular orbitals can be calculated by solving the Schrödinger equation, which can be written as a large linear algebra problem, essentially finding eigenvectors and eigenvalues of the Hamiltonian matrix. Unfortunately except for very simple cases no analytic solution is known and for large molecules like proteins even the numerical solution cannot be carried out by current technologies. For this reason, approximations are required.

Hückel method uses the linear combinations of atomic orbitals in determining the energies of certain molecular orbitals inside of a molecule. Originally it only considered electrons with specific bonds that are those which were in pi orbitals. In

1963, Roald Hoffmann extended this theory by also taking into account the other outermost electrons of the molecular models, thus including all valence electrons. With this extension this is the so called extended Hückel method, the subject of this thesis work. Considering the mathematics behind the theory, the overlappings of atomic orbitals inside a molecule are described by so called overlap matrices. The overlap matrix and a Hamiltonian matrix (both are special kind of complex matrices) are used during the calculations.

To initilalize the calculations, the matrices and the atomic orbitals can be relatively easily calculated from the 3D positions of the atoms and the time consuming part of the program is the solution of the linear algebraic equations. The 3D positions can be obtained from certain model considerations, or more often from various physical measurements (X-ray crystallography or NMR) of the molecules. These structures are deposited into public databases, like Protein Data Bank (PDB) as will be described later. In a typical scenario, researchers take 3D structures from PDB and after some preparatory steps use this data as input for the extended Hückel calculations which outputs energy levels (eigenvalues) and molecular wave functions (eigenvectors).

The goal of this thesis work is to create an improved extended Hückel code, that is able - to consume standard PDB input format, - to handle large molecules with thousands of atoms, - to utilize parallelized calculations on multi-core machines, - to output large matrices in sparse format for later processing.

Chapter 2

User Documentation

Open Babel

I used the Openbabel's 2.4.1 version during my work, this package can be acquired by downloading it using the following link:
https://sourceforge.net/projects/openbabel/files/openbabel/2.4.1/openbabel-2.4.1.tar.gz/downloa

As the package is compressed to use up less storage, users will need to have a tool that can carry out decompression for the .tar.gz gzip format. I used Ubuntu's standard tool, the Archive Manager (File Roller) for these purposes. Another alternative is to open a terminal in the folder that contains the compressed package and run the following command:

```
tar -xvzf openbabel-2.4.1.tar.gz
```

After this, setting up the Openbabel software can be done by following the installation instructions contained in the Install file found in the Openbabel-2.4.1 folder that has just been decompressed. These instructions include creating a build directory as well as using cmake (CMake 2.4.8 or later required) and then the makefile to compile and install the package.

One important thing to notice is the possibility of specifying options before using cmake. An example for that is that users may determine the directory, where OpenBabel will be installed. If not specified, the /usr/local/ directory will be the default. This, however, means that it might require superuser privileges for one to use the package or as described later on in this document, to integrate the API of the software as a package. Thus the following command with the aforementioned option is advisable to be used (users may choose a target that is in their home folder):

```
cmake -DCMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX=/home/username/openbabel ..
```

Having successfully installed the package, environmental variables may need to be set up in order for it to be used (as described in the Install file):
BABEL_LIBDIR - the location of Open Babel format plugins
BABEL_DATADIR - the location of the data files

For my personal configuration I had to set the BABEL_LIBDIR environmental variable. Generally, the following command can be used to set it ($PATH stands for the absolute link of your lib folder inside your extracted openbabel folder):

```
export BABEL_LIBDIR=$BABEL_LIBDIR:$PATH
```

Thus, I executed the following command containing the path for my configuration:

```
export BABEL_LIBDIR=$BABEL_LIBDIR:/home/toncsi/ClionProjects
    /openbabel-2.4.1/lib
```

Finally, I executed the following command for the sample input of a folded titin molecule, to convert between formats. Beware, that superuser rights may be needed for the output file to be written, if no user specified install locations were given.

```
sudo obabel Titin-folded-monomer.sdf -O Titin-folded-monomer
    .pdb
```

For further information please refer to the following User Documentation: `https://openbabel.org/wiki/Tutorial:Basic_Usage`

2.1 Input

The input needs two separate files as opposed to the original tightbind library of the YAEHMOP software. These two files are:

1. A molecule file of the supported formats
2. A configuration file containing the printing options ...

Chapter 3

Developer Documentation

3.1 Input

3.1.1 PDB format

A Protein Data Bank formatted file describes molecules with a three-dimensional structure, using various keywords of standardized order. With this description method protein and nucleic acid structures can be specified. Coordinates of atoms, connections between them, ligands and sidechain rotamers are characteristics that these files may contain and thus uniquely determine a molecule. The file format was named after a database of proteins, the Protein Data Bank `http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/static.do?p=file_formats/pdb/index.html`.

Certain keywords (HEADER, TITLE and AUTHOR) are used for the description of main aspects of the file, namely the protein's name, the scientists having put together this structure into the file and further information.

Each PDB file may contain several models for proteins. These models start with the MODEL keyword and continue with a serial number for the model. The ENDMDL word indicates the end of such a section.

Coordinates may be described with two different keywords: ATOM or HETATM. The key to their difference is that ATOM records are used for standard chemicals whereas for those amino acids and nucleotides that are non-polymer, the HETATM keyword is to be included in the beginning of each line. These coordinate lists are ended with the TER keyword.

Connectivity among the atoms may be described using the CONECT keyword.

Example PDB file for the deoxyribonucleic acid (B-DNA DODECAMER):

```
HEADER    DNA                                                    26-JAN-81
1BNA
TITLE     STRUCTURE OF A B-DNA DODECAMER. CONFORMATION AND DYNAMICS
...
AUTHOR    H.R.DREW,R.M.WING,T.TAKANO,C.BROKA,S.TANAKA,K.ITAKURA,
AUTHOR   2 R.E.DICKERSON
...
ATOM      1  O5' DC A   1       18.935  34.195  25.617  1.00 64.35
O
ATOM      2  C5' DC A   1       19.130  33.921  24.219  1.00 44.69
C
ATOM      3  C4' DC A   1       19.961  32.668  24.100  1.00 31.28
C
ATOM      4  O4' DC A   1       19.360  31.583  24.852  1.00 37.45
O
ATOM      5  C3' DC A   1       20.172  32.122  22.694  1.00 46.72
C
...
ATOM    487  C4  DG B  24       17.231  22.893  27.570  1.00 13.89
C
TER     488      DG B  24
HETATM 489  O   HOH A  25       19.736  30.706  18.656  1.00 51.86
O
...
HETATM 568  O   HOH B 104       18.692  31.584   4.596  1.00 72.98
O
MASTER 355    0    0    0    0    0    0    6  566    2    0
2
END
```

3.2 64 bit architecture

3.3 Parallelism

3.4 Output

3.4.1 Market Matrix format

One of the main purposes of using the Matrix Market (MM) file format is to describe sparse matrices, matrices that have almost only zero elements. When carrying out computations with matrices, we are representing their elements using arrays or multidimensional arrays depending on the dimensions of the original matrices. This way however, in case of a sparse matrix, it might happen that in most cases we are allocating memory to store zero elements. Thus it can be concluded, that this technique is not affordable in terms of memory management. Consequently, using the characteristics of sparse matrices, it serves as a better representational model to only store the coordinates of the elements that are non-zero and their respective values.

The previously described concept is the general idea giving the basis for the Matrix Market format as well. When representing a matrix in the MM format the user needs to give the format of the matrix in the first line of the file: either coordinate or array. This decision depends on whether the matrix to be represented is sparse or dense, the coordinate format is to be used for sparse matrices. The next property to be given after a non-breaking space delimiter is the matrix qualifier describing the type of the elements in the matrix. Alternatives include Real and Complex, names denoting the types of matrices represented Integer for those with only integer elements. Users can also choose a Pattern qualifier for cases when a pattern determines the nonzero elements. Then shall one disclose information regarding the symmetry of the matrix: general, symmetric and hermitian or skew-symmetric.

This is followed by the structured comments part, a section extending previous versions of this format. Useful for providing more information regarding the file, this section may also contain customized comments regarding the matrix.

The final part of a Matrix Market formatted file is the description of coordinates. The first line of this section refers to the dimensions of the matrix followed by the number of nonzero elements in the matrix. Then come the nonzero elements in each line with the standard structure of rownumber, columnumber, value of matrix

element.

Example for the Matrix Market format (taken from The Matrix Market Exchange Formats: Initial Design paper): Example sparse matrix of 5 dimensions:

```
1     0       0       6       0
0    10.5     0       0       0
0     0      .015     0       0
0   250.5     0      -280    33.32
0     0       0       0       12
```

Market Matrix file for the matrix:

```
%%MatrixMarket matrix coordinate real general
%=================================================================
%
% This ASCII file represents a sparse MxN matrix with L
% nonzeros in the following Matrix Market format:
%
% +----------------------------------------------+
% |%%MatrixMarket matrix coordinate real general |
% |%                                             |
% |% comments                                    |
% |%                                             |
% |    M  N  L                                   |
% |    I1  J1  A(I1, J1)                         |
% |    I2  J2  A(I2, J2)                         |
% |    I3  J3  A(I3, J3)                         |
% |        . . .                                 |
% |    IL JL  A(IL, JL)                          |
% +----------------------------------------------+
%
% Indices are 1-based, i.e. A(1,1) is the first element.
%
%=================================================================
  5  5  8
    1     1   1.000e+00
    2     2   1.050e+01
    3     3   1.500e-02
    1     4   6.000e+00
```

4	2	2.505e+02
4	4	−2.800e+02
4	5	3.332e+01
5	5	1.200e+01

Chapter 4

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