

Computational Physics II

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Gullik Vetvik Killie
Håkon S.B. Mørk
Jose Emeilio Ruiz Navarro

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Abstract

Fill in abstract

1 Introduction

2 Methods

2.1 Monte Carlo of the Helium Atom

In a quantum mechanical system the energy is given by the expectation value of the Hamiltonian, let Ψ_T be a proposal for a wavefunction that can describe the system.

$$E[\hat{H}] = \langle \Psi_T | \hat{H} | \Psi_T \rangle = \frac{\int d\mathbf{R} \Psi_T^*(\mathbf{R}) \hat{H} \Psi_T(\mathbf{R})}{\int d\mathbf{R} \Psi_T^*(\mathbf{R}) \Psi_T(\mathbf{R})} \quad (1)$$

Let us introduce a local energy:

$$E_L(\hat{H}) = \frac{1}{\Psi_T(\mathbf{R})} \hat{H} \Psi_T(\mathbf{R}) \quad (2)$$

$$E[\hat{H}] = \frac{\int d\mathbf{R} \Psi_T^*(\mathbf{R}) \Psi_T(\mathbf{R}) E_L(\mathbf{R})}{\int d\mathbf{R} \Psi_T^*(\mathbf{R}) \Psi_T(\mathbf{R})} \quad (3)$$

Since the denominator is a scalar constant after integrating it we can put it inside the integral in the numerator

$$E[\hat{H}] = \int d\mathbf{R} \frac{\Psi_T^*(\mathbf{R}) \Psi_T(\mathbf{R})}{\int d\mathbf{R}' \Psi_T^*(\mathbf{R}') \Psi_T(\mathbf{R}')} E_L(\mathbf{R}) \quad (4)$$

$$E[\hat{H}] = \int d\mathbf{R} P(\mathbf{R}) E_L(\mathbf{R}) \quad (5)$$

This probability function with $P(\mathbf{R})$ as the pdf, and we can use monte carlo integration to solve the integral.

1. Initialise system. Give particles a random position and decide how many Monte Carlo Cycles to run.
2. Start Monte Carlo Calculations
 - (a) Propose a move of the particles according to an algorithm, for example $\mathbf{R}_{\text{new}} = \mathbf{R}_{\text{old}} + \delta * r$, where r is a random number in $[0, 1]$
 - (b) Accept or reject move according to $P(\mathbf{R}_{\text{new}})/P(\mathbf{R}_{\text{old}}) \geq r$, where r is a new number. Update position values if accepted.
 - (c) Calculate energy for this cycle.

2.2 Helium atom

The dimensionless hamiltonian consists of a kinetic energy part and a potential energy part and is given by

$$\hat{H} = -\frac{\nabla_1^2}{2} - \frac{\nabla_2^2}{2} - \frac{Z}{r_1} - \frac{Z}{r_2} + \frac{1}{r_{12}} \quad (6)$$

2.3 Derivation of local energies

The local energy of is dependant on the Hamiltonian and the wavefunction describing the system, the Hamiltonian incorporates both a kinetic energy part given by $\frac{\nabla_i^2}{2}$ for each particle and a potential energy part given by $\frac{Z}{r_i}$ and $\frac{1}{r_{ij}}$, where Z is the charge of the center, r_i is the distance for electron i to the atom center and r_{ij} is the distance between electron l and m . Then the local energy is given by the following:

$$E_L = \sum_{i,i < j} \frac{1}{\Psi_T(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_{ij})} \hat{H} \Psi_T(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_{ij}) \quad (7)$$

$$= \sum_{i,i < j} \frac{1}{\Psi_T(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_{ij})} \left(-\frac{\nabla_i^2}{2} - \frac{Z}{r_i} - \frac{Z}{r_j} + \frac{1}{r_{ij}} \right) \Psi_T(\mathbf{r}_i, \mathbf{r}_{ij}) \quad (8)$$

$$= \sum_{i,i < j} -\frac{1}{2\Psi_T} (\nabla_i^2 \Psi_T) - \frac{Z}{r_i} - \frac{Z}{r_j} + \frac{1}{r_{ij}} \quad (9)$$

Let us change derivation variables:

$$-\frac{1}{2\Psi_T} (\nabla_i^2 \Psi_T) = \sum_{m=1}^3 -\frac{1}{2\Psi_T} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \Psi_T}{\partial x_m^2} \right)_i \quad (10)$$

$$= \sum_{m=1}^3 -\frac{1}{2\Psi_T} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_m} \left(\frac{\partial \Psi_T}{\partial r_i} \frac{\partial r_i}{\partial x_m} \right) \right)_i \quad (11)$$

Since $r_i = (x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2)^{1/2}$ then $\frac{\partial r_i}{\partial x_m} = \frac{\partial (x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2)^{1/2}}{\partial x_m} = \frac{x_m}{r_i}$

$$= \sum_{m=1}^3 -\frac{1}{2\Psi_T} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_m} \left(\frac{\partial \Psi_T}{\partial r_i} \frac{x_m}{r_i} \right) \right)_i \quad (12)$$

$$= \sum_{m=1}^3 -\frac{1}{2\Psi_T} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \Psi_T}{\partial x_m \partial r_i} \frac{x_m}{r_i} + \frac{\partial \Psi_T}{\partial r_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_m} \left(\frac{x_m}{r_i} \right) \right)_i \quad (13)$$

The term $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_m} \left(\frac{x_m}{r_i} \right)$ becomes for the different values for m , $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left(\frac{x_1}{(x_1^2+x_2^2+x_3^2)^{1/2}} \right) = \frac{x_2^2+x_3^2}{r_i^3}$ so all the values for m term it should sum up to $\frac{2(x_1^2+x_2^2+x_3^2)}{r_i^3}$

$$= -\frac{1}{2\Psi_T} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \Psi_T}{\partial r_i^2} \frac{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2}{r_i^2} + \frac{\partial \Psi_T}{\partial r_i} \frac{2(x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2)}{r_i^3} \right)_i \quad (14)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2\Psi_T} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \Psi_T}{\partial r_i^2} + \frac{\partial \Psi_T}{\partial r_i} \frac{2}{r_i} \right) \quad (15)$$

Then the local energy becomes:

$$E_L = \sum_{i,i < j} -\frac{1}{2\Psi_T} \left(\frac{\partial^2 \Psi_T}{\partial r_i^2} + \frac{\partial \Psi_T}{\partial r_i} \frac{2}{r_i} \right) - \frac{Z}{r_i} - \frac{Z}{r_j} + \frac{1}{r_{ij}} \quad (16)$$

2.3.1 Helium: Simple trialfunction

The simple version of the trial function is only dependant on one parameter α and does not take into account interaction between the two electrons, it is of the form

$$\Psi_T(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = \exp\{-\alpha(r_1 + r_2)\}$$

Let us set this trialfunction into the equation for the local energy (16).

$$E_L = \sum_{i,i < j} -\frac{1}{2\Psi_T} \left(\frac{\partial^2 e^{-\alpha(r_i+r_j)}}{\partial r_i^2} + \frac{\partial e^{-\alpha(r_i+r_j)}}{\partial r_i} \frac{2}{r_i} \right) - \frac{Z}{r_i} - \frac{Z}{r_j} + \frac{1}{r_{ij}} \quad (17)$$

$$E_L = -\frac{1}{2\Psi_T} \sum_{i=1}^2 \left(\alpha^2 - \alpha \frac{2}{r_i} \right) \Psi_T - \frac{Z}{r_i} + \frac{1}{r_{ij}} \quad (18)$$

$$E_L = -\alpha^2 + (\alpha - Z) \left(\frac{1}{r_1} + \frac{1}{r_2} \right) + \frac{1}{r_{12}} \quad (19)$$

3 Results and discussion

4 Conclusions and perspectives

The local energy for the simple trialfunct

$$Z \left(-\frac{1}{r_2} - \frac{1}{r_1} \right) - \alpha^2 + \alpha \left(\frac{1}{r_2} + \frac{1}{r_1} \right) + \frac{1}{r_{12}}$$