

## *Quantum embedding in electronic structure theory*

### *Part 1: The electronic structure problem in Chemistry*

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# Outline

The two main approaches to the *electronic structure problem* in Quantum Chemistry will be reviewed.

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**Limitations of DFT** in the description of **strong electron correlation** will be highlighted.

This first part of the course aims at **motivating** the exploration of **quantum embedding** approaches based on DFT and/or WFT .

## *Electronic Schrödinger equation*

$$\hat{H}\Psi_I = E_I\Psi_I$$

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*Electronic Hamiltonian  
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***known!***




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*Ground* ( $I = 0$ ) *and excited* ( $I > 0$ )  
*electronic energies*

## Electronic Schrödinger equation

$$\hat{H}\Psi_I = E_I\Psi_I$$


*Ground* ( $I = 0$ ) *and excited* ( $I > 0$ )  
*electronic energies*

***unknown!***

## *Electronic Schrödinger equation*

$$\hat{H}\Psi_0 = E_0\Psi_0$$

*In this lecture we will focus on the **ground-state problem***

## *Electronic Schrödinger equation*

$$\hat{H}\Psi_0 = E_0\Psi_0$$

*Ground-state electronic  
wave function*

## *Electronic Schrödinger equation*

$$\hat{H}\Psi_0 = E_0\Psi_0$$

*Ground-state electronic  
wave function*

***unknown!***

## *N*-electron wave function

$$\Psi_0 \equiv \Psi_0(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N)$$

*electronic coordinates*

## *N*-electron wave function

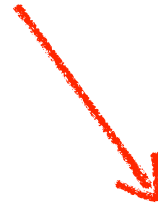
$$\Psi_0 \equiv \Psi_0(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N)$$

*electronic coordinates*

$$\mathbf{x}_i \equiv (\mathbf{r}_i, \sigma_i)$$



*Cartesian space  
coordinates*



*Spin coordinate*

$$\mathbf{r}_i \equiv (x_i, y_i, z_i)$$

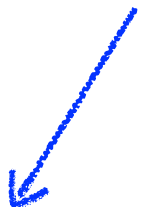
$$\sigma_i = \uparrow \text{ or } \downarrow$$

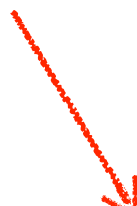
## ***$N$ -electron Hamiltonian operator (in atomic units)***

$$\hat{H} \equiv \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{h}(i) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j}^N \hat{g}(i, j)$$

**One-electron part**

**Two-electron part**


$$\hat{h}(i) \equiv -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_i}^2 + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \times$$


$$\hat{g}(i, j) \equiv \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \times$$

*Kinetic energy+nuclear attraction*

*Electronic repulsion*



## ***$N$ -electron Hamiltonian (in atomic units)***

$$\hat{H} \equiv \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{h}(i) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j}^N \hat{g}(i, j)$$

One-electron part

Two-electron part

Universal one-electron  
differential operator

$$\hat{h}(i) \equiv -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_i}^2 + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \times$$

**Kinetic energy** + nuclear attraction

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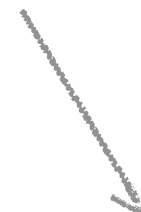
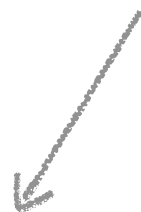
Electronic repulsion

## ***N-electron Hamiltonian (in atomic units)***

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$$\hat{g}(i, j) \equiv \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \times$$

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{r}_i}^2 \equiv \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y_i^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z_i^2}$$

*Electronic repulsion*

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One-electron part

Two-electron part

**One-electron  
local (multiplicative)  
operator**

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*Kinetic energy + **nuclear attraction***

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One-electron part

Two-electron part

*not universal!*

$$\hat{h}(i) \equiv -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_i}^2 + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \times$$

$$\hat{g}(i, j) \equiv \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \times$$

$$v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_i) = - \sum_A^{\text{nuclei}} \frac{Z_A}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{R}_A|}$$

*Electronic repulsion*

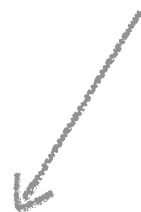
**“external” potential energy**

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*Atomic number*

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*Electronic repulsion*

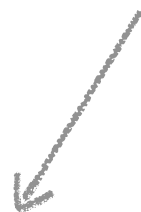
*Electron-nucleus distance*

## *N*-electron Hamiltonian (in atomic units)

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We solve the electronic problem  
for **fixed nuclei positions**  $\mathbf{R}_A \equiv (x_A, y_A, z_A)$

$$\hat{g}(i, j) \equiv \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \times$$

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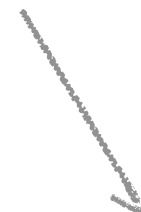
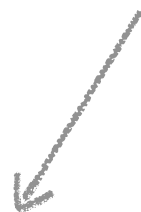
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**Born-Oppenheimer  
approximation**

$$\hat{g}(i, j) \equiv \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \times$$

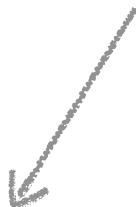
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*Kinetic energy+nuclear attraction*


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***Electronic repulsion***

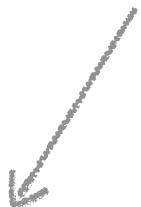


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***Electronic repulsion***

## ***N-electron ground-state Schrödinger equation***

In summary, we have to solve the following *differential equation* ...

$$\begin{aligned} & -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_i}^2 \Psi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \sigma_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_i, \sigma_i, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N, \sigma_N) \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^N v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \times \Psi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \sigma_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_i, \sigma_i, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N, \sigma_N) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j}^N \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \times \Psi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \sigma_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_i, \sigma_i, \dots, \mathbf{r}_j, \sigma_j, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N, \sigma_N) \\ & = E_0 \times \Psi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \sigma_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N, \sigma_N) \end{aligned}$$

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$$+ \sum_{i=1}^N v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \times \Psi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \sigma_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_i, \sigma_i, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N, \sigma_N)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j}^N \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \times \Psi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \sigma_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_i, \sigma_i, \dots, \mathbf{r}_j, \sigma_j, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N, \sigma_N)$$

... and we have to find the *lowest energy* (!)

$$= E_0 \times \Psi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \sigma_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N, \sigma_N)$$

## *Rayleigh-Ritz variational principle*

$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle = \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{H} | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

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*Minimisation over  
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Minimisation over  
trial **normalised** wave functions  $\Psi$

$$\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle = \int d\mathbf{x}_1 \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_i \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_N |\Psi(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N)|^2 = 1$$

## Rayleigh-Ritz variational principle

$$\int d\mathbf{x}_i \equiv \int d\mathbf{r}_i \sum_{\sigma_i=\uparrow,\downarrow} \equiv \sum_{\sigma_i=\uparrow,\downarrow} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx_i \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dy_i \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dz_i$$

$$\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle = \int d\mathbf{x}_1 \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_i \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_N |\Psi(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N)|^2 = 1$$




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*Energy expectation value  
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*Energy expectation value  
for the trial wave function  $\Psi$*

**Expectation value** for an observable  $\hat{O}$  described by the **quantum operator**  $\hat{O}$

$$\langle \Psi | \hat{O} | \Psi \rangle = \int d\mathbf{x}_1 \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_i \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_N \Psi(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) \times \hat{O} \Psi(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N)$$

notation  
 $\equiv \langle \hat{O} \rangle_{\Psi}$

## Density-functional theory (DFT)

### The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1998

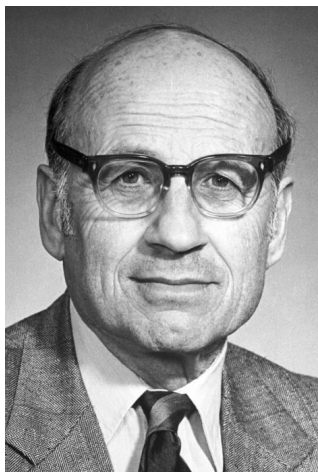


Photo from the Nobel  
Foundation archive.

Walter Kohn

Prize share: 1/2

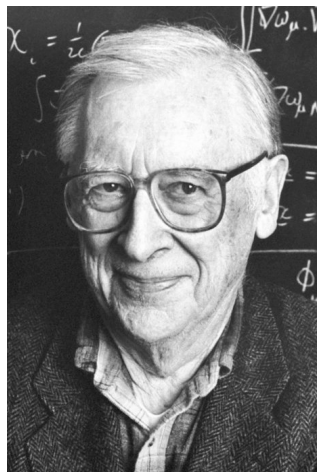


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John A. Pople

Prize share: 1/2

It is *in principle unnecessary to know*  
the ground-state many-electron *wave function*  $\Psi_0$   
for evaluating the exact ground-state energy  $E_0$ .

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1998 was divided equally between Walter Kohn "for his development of the density-functional theory" and John A. Pople "for his development of computational methods in quantum chemistry."

## Density-functional theory (DFT)

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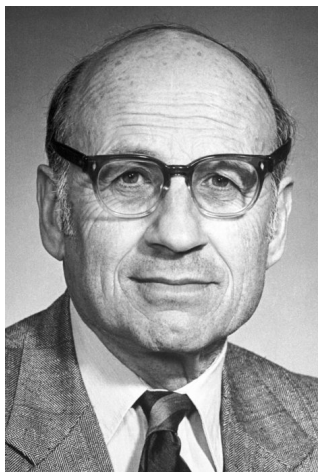


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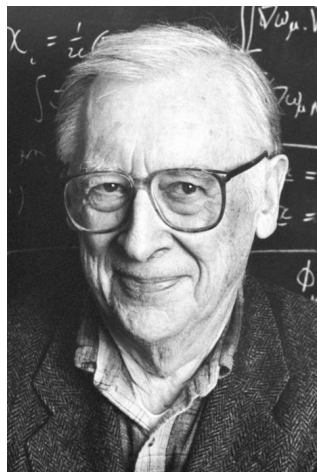


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It is *in principle unnecessary to know* the ground-state many-electron *wave function*  $\Psi_0$  for evaluating the exact ground-state energy  $E_0$ .

The ground-state *density*  $n_0$  is *sufficient*.

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## Electron density

$$n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{r}) \stackrel{\text{definition}}{=} N \sum_{\sigma_1=\uparrow,\downarrow} \int d\mathbf{x}_2 \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_i \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_N \left| \Psi(\mathbf{r}, \sigma_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) \right|^2$$



*Density of the many-electron wave function*  $\Psi$

## Electron density

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**Density** of the many-electron wave function  $\Psi$



Function of the **three** cartesian space coordinates  $\mathbf{r} \equiv (x, y, z)$

## Electron density

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$$\int d\mathbf{r} n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{r}) = N \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle = N \quad \leftarrow \text{Number of electrons}$$

## Electron density

$$n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{r}) \stackrel{\text{definition}}{=} N \sum_{\sigma_1=\uparrow,\downarrow} \int d\mathbf{x}_2 \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_i \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_N \left| \Psi(\mathbf{r}, \sigma_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) \right|^2$$

$$n_{\Psi_0}(\mathbf{r}) = n_0(\mathbf{r}) \quad \leftarrow \text{Exact ground-state density}$$



## Electron density

$$n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{r}) \stackrel{\text{definition}}{=} N \sum_{\sigma_1=\uparrow,\downarrow} \int d\mathbf{x}_2 \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_i \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_N \left| \Psi(\mathbf{r}, \sigma_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) \right|^2$$

Note that the **external potential energy** is an **explicit functional of the density**

Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^N v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \times \right\rangle_{\Psi} &= \int d\mathbf{x}_1 \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_N \sum_{i=1}^N v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \times \left| \Psi(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) \right|^2 \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int d\mathbf{x}_1 \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_i \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_N v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \times \left| \Psi(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) \right|^2 \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int d\mathbf{x}_1 \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_i \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_N v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \times \left| \Psi(\mathbf{x}_i, \dots, \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) \right|^2 \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \int d\mathbf{x}_1 \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_N v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_1) \times \left| \Psi(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) \right|^2 \right) \\
 &= N \int d\mathbf{x}_1 \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_N v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_1) \times \left| \Psi(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) \right|^2 \\
 &= \int d\mathbf{r}_1 v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_1) \times N \sum_{\sigma_1=\uparrow,\downarrow} \int d\mathbf{x}_2 \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_N \left| \Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \sigma_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) \right|^2 \\
 &= \int d\mathbf{r}_1 v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_1) \times n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{r}_1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$\mathbf{x}_1 \leftrightarrow \mathbf{x}_i$

Change of variables  
in the integrals  
 $\mathbf{x}_i \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_1$   
 $\mathbf{x}_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_i$

## Exact external potential energy

$$\left\langle \sum_{i=1}^N v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \right\rangle_{\Psi_0} = \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) n_{\Psi_0}(\mathbf{r}) = \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) n_0(\mathbf{r})$$



*We do not need to know  $\Psi_0$*

## Exact external potential energy

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*We do not need to know  $\Psi_0$*

*We just need to know  $n_0$*

## Exact external potential energy

$$\left\langle \sum_{i=1}^N v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \right\rangle_{\Psi_0} = \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) n_{\Psi_0}(\mathbf{r}) = \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) n_0(\mathbf{r})$$



*We do not need to know  $\Psi_0$*

*We just need to know  $n_0$*

*The exact **kinetic** and two-electron **repulsion** energies are **implicit** functionals of  $n_0$ .*

## *Levy's constrained search formalism*

$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle$$

## Levy's constrained search formalism

$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle$$

$$= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \right\}$$



*Pre-minimisation* over wave functions  $\Psi$   
that have the *same density*  $n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{r}) = n(\mathbf{r})$

## Levy's constrained search formalism

$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle$$
$$= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \right\}$$

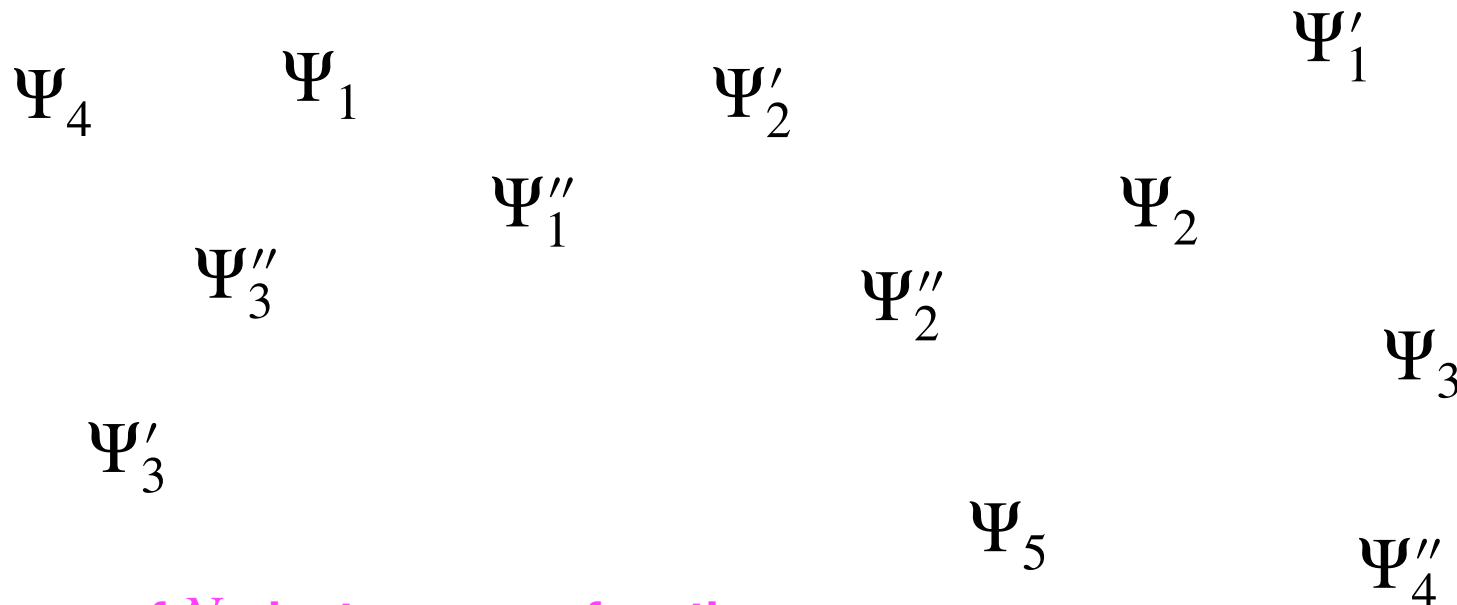


*Minimisation over densities  $n$*



## Levy's constrained search formalism

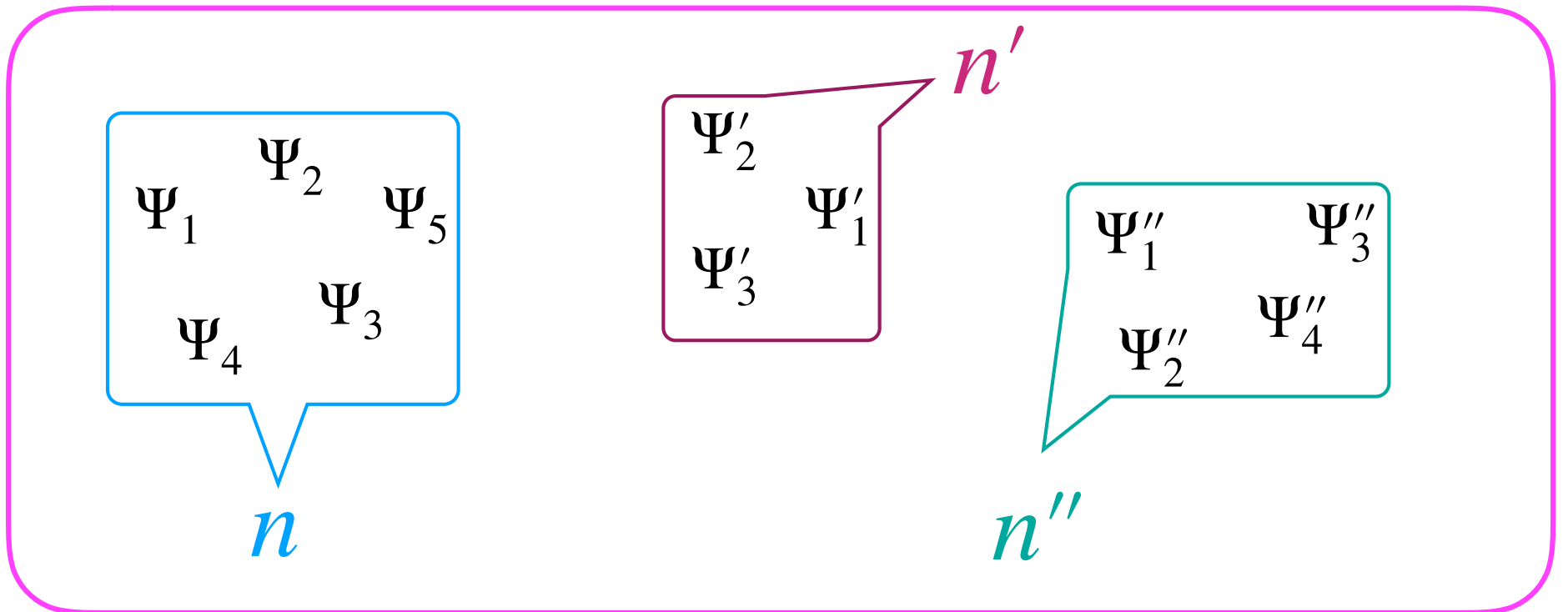
$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle$$
$$= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \right\}$$



Space of  $N$ -electron wave functions

## Levy's constrained search formalism

$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle$$
$$= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \right\}$$



## Levy's constrained search formalism

$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle$$

$$= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \right\}$$

$$\hat{H} = \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} + \sum_{i=1}^N v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \times$$

$$= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle + \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{r}) \right\} \right\}$$

$$\hat{T} \equiv \sum_{i=1}^N -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_i}^2$$

$$\hat{W}_{ee} \equiv \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j}^N \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \times$$

## Levy's constrained search formalism

$$\begin{aligned} E_0 &= \min_{\Psi} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \\ &= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \right\} \\ &= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle + \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{r}) \right\} \right\} \\ &= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle \right\} + \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) n(\mathbf{r}) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

## Levy's constrained search formalism

$$\begin{aligned} E_0 &= \min_{\Psi} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \\ &= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \right\} \\ &= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle + \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{r}) \right\} \right\} \\ &= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle \right\} + \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) n(\mathbf{r}) \right\} \\ &= \min_n \left\{ F[n] + \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) n(\mathbf{r}) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

## Levy's constrained search formalism

$$E_0 = \min_n \left\{ F[n] + \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})n(\mathbf{r}) \right\}$$

We recover the **Hohenberg-Kohn variational principle of DFT!**

## Kohn-Sham DFT formalism

$$F[n] = \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \langle \Psi | \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle$$

**Interacting** universal functional

*Kohn-Sham*



$$T_s[n] = \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \langle \Psi | \hat{T} | \Psi \rangle$$

**Non-interacting**  
(kinetic energy) functional

## Kohn-Sham DFT formalism

$$F[n] = \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \langle \Psi | \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{Kohn-Sham}} T_s[n] = \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \langle \Psi | \hat{T} | \Psi \rangle$$

**Interacting** universal functional

**Non-interacting**  
(kinetic energy) functional

$$F[n] - T_s[n] = E_{\text{Hxc}}[n]$$



## Kohn-Sham DFT formalism

$$F[n] = \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \langle \Psi | \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle \xrightarrow{\text{Kohn-Sham}} T_s[n] = \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \langle \Psi | \hat{T} | \Psi \rangle$$

**Interacting** universal functional

**Non-interacting**  
(kinetic energy) functional

$$\begin{aligned} F[n] - T_s[n] &= E_{\text{Hxc}}[n] \\ &= E_{\text{H}}[n] + E_{\text{xc}}[n] \end{aligned}$$

# Kohn-Sham DFT formalism

## Hartree density functional

$$E_{\text{H}}[n] = \frac{1}{2} \int d\mathbf{r}_1 \int d\mathbf{r}_2 \frac{n(\mathbf{r}_1)n(\mathbf{r}_2)}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|}$$



**Electrostatics**  
(evaluated with quantum  
electron densities)

# Kohn-Sham DFT formalism

## Hartree density functional

$$E_{\text{H}}[n] = \frac{1}{2} \int d\mathbf{r}_1 \int d\mathbf{r}_2 \frac{n(\mathbf{r}_1)n(\mathbf{r}_2)}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|}$$



**Electrostatics**  
(evaluated with quantum  
electron densities)

## Exchange-correlation (xc) density functional

$$E_{\text{xc}}[n] = F[n] - T_{\text{s}}[n] - E_{\text{H}}[n]$$



**Quantum**  
many-electron effects

# Kohn-Sham DFT formalism

## Hartree density functional

$$E_{\text{H}}[n] = \frac{1}{2} \int d\mathbf{r}_1 \int d\mathbf{r}_2 \frac{n(\mathbf{r}_1)n(\mathbf{r}_2)}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|}$$



**Electrostatics**  
(evaluated with quantum  
electron densities)

## Exchange-correlation (xc) density functional

$$E_{\text{xc}}[n] = ???$$



**Quantum**  
many-electron effects

The **exact** xc functional is **uniquely defined** but  
**many (many) approximations**  
can be found in the literature (LDA, PBE, B3LYP, SCAN, ...).

*Variational principle  
in Kohn-Sham DFT*

$$E_0 = \min_n \left\{ F[n] + \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})n(\mathbf{r}) \right\}$$

$$= \min_n \left\{ T_s[n] + E_{\text{Hxc}}[n] + \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})n(\mathbf{r}) \right\}$$

$$= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{T} | \Psi \rangle \right\} + E_{\text{Hxc}}[n] + \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})n(\mathbf{r}) \right\}$$

$$= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{T} | \Psi \rangle + E_{\text{Hxc}}[n_\Psi] + \int d\mathbf{r} v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r})n_\Psi(\mathbf{r}) \right\} \right\}$$

$$= \min_n \left\{ \min_{\Psi \rightarrow n} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} - \hat{W}_{\text{ee}} | \Psi \rangle + E_{\text{Hxc}}[n_\Psi] \right\} \right\}$$

$$= \min_{\Psi} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} - \hat{W}_{\text{ee}} | \Psi \rangle + E_{\text{Hxc}}[n_\Psi] \right\}$$

## Comparing variational principles

$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \right\} = \min_{\Psi} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} - \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle + E_{\text{Hxc}}[n_{\Psi}] \right\}$$

## Comparing variational principles

$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \right\} = \min_{\Psi} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} - \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle + E_{\text{Hxc}}[n_{\Psi}] \right\}$$



*Pure wave function theory (WFT)*

## Comparing variational principles

$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \right\} = \min_{\Psi} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} - \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle + E_{\text{Hxc}}[n_{\Psi}] \right\}$$



*Kohn-Sham DFT*



## Comparing variational principles

$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \right\} = \min_{\Psi} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} - \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle + E_{\text{Hxc}}[n_{\Psi}] \right\}$$



*Explicit two-electron repulsions  
are removed from the Hamiltonian...*

## Comparing variational principles

$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \right\} = \min_{\Psi} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} - \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle + E_{\text{Hxc}}[n_{\Psi}] \right\}$$



*Explicit two-electron repulsions  
are **removed** from the Hamiltonian...*

*... and treated **implicitly** as functionals  
of the density.*

## Comparing variational principles

$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle \right\} = \min_{\Psi} \left\{ \langle \Psi | \hat{H} - \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi \rangle + E_{\text{Hxc}}[n_{\Psi}] \right\}$$

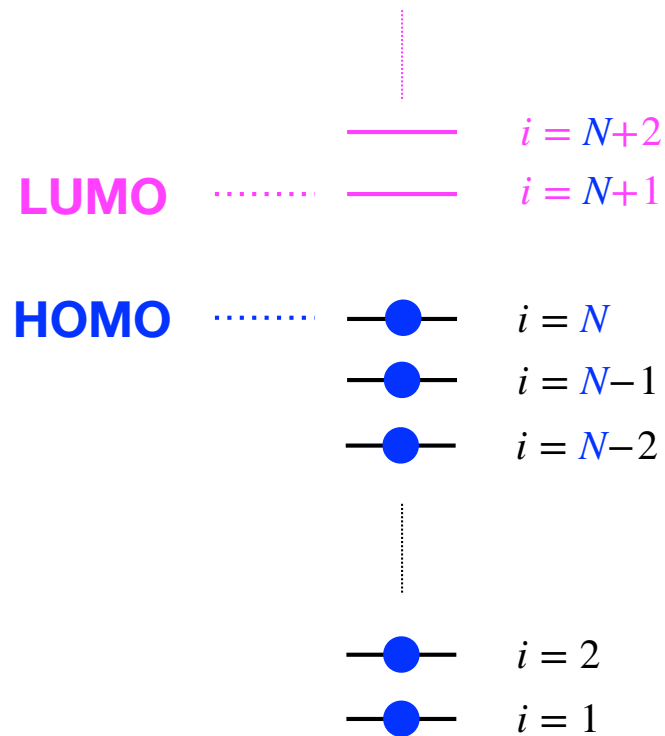


*Explicit two-electron repulsions  
are removed from the Hamiltonian...*

*The one-electron picture is made exact in KS-DFT!*

# DFT for $N$ -electron ground states

$$\left[ -\frac{\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2}{2} + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{Hxc}}(\mathbf{r}) \right] \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon_i \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

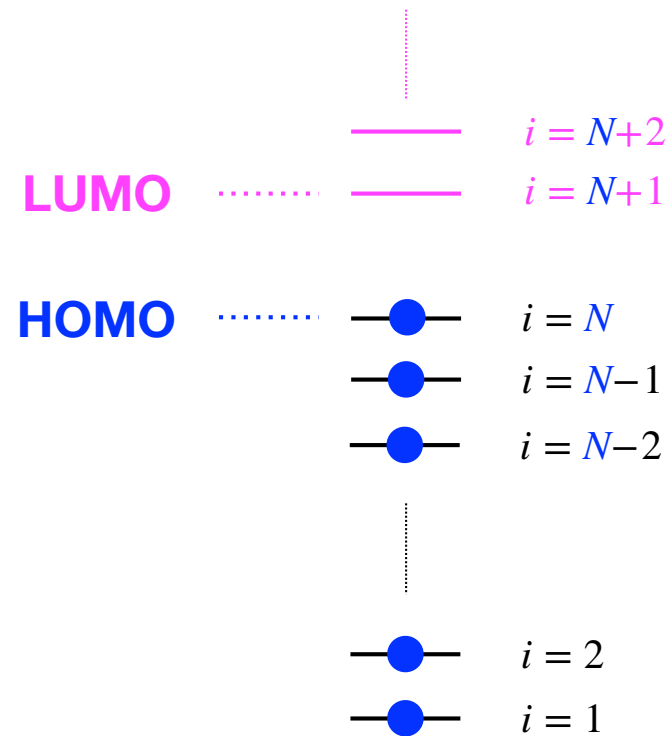


# DFT for $N$ -electron ground states

$$\left[ -\frac{\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2}{2} + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{Hxc}}(\mathbf{r}) \right] \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon_i \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

$$n_0(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i=1}^N |\varphi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2$$

*exact ground-state  
density*



## DFT for $N$ -electron ground states

$$\left[ -\frac{\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2}{2} + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{Hxc}}(\mathbf{r}) \right] \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon_i \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

$$n_0(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{i=1}^N |\varphi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2$$

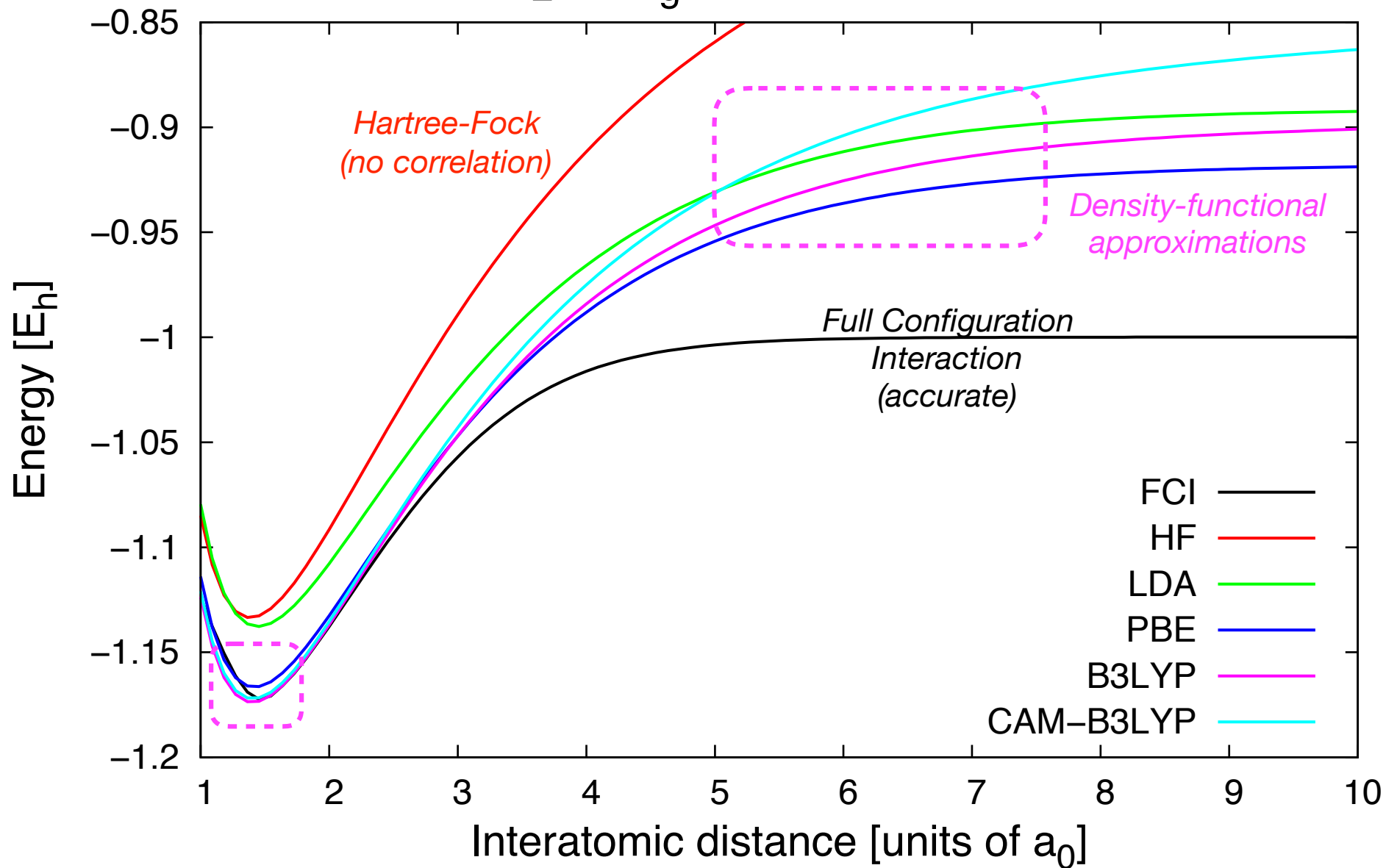
*exact ground-state  
density*

$$v_{\text{Hxc}}(\mathbf{r}) = \left. \frac{\delta E_{\text{Hxc}}[n]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})} \right|_{n=n_0}$$

*Hartree-exchange-correlation  
local (multiplicative) potential*

# Success and failures of density-functional approximations

$\text{H}_2 [1^1\Sigma_g^+, \text{aug-cc-pVQZ}]$

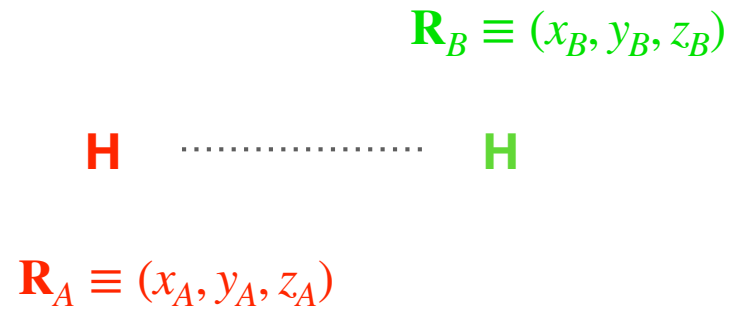
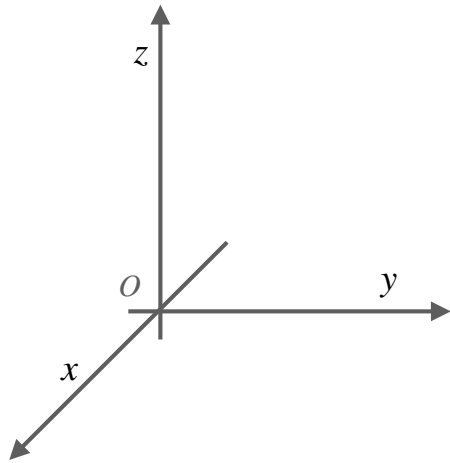


## *Prototypical hydrogen molecule*

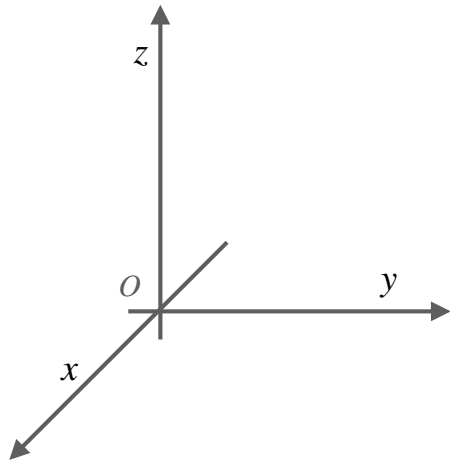




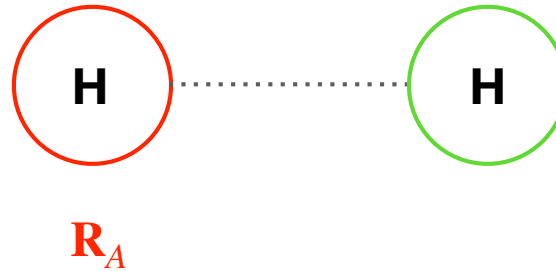
# Prototypical hydrogen molecule



## Prototypical hydrogen molecule

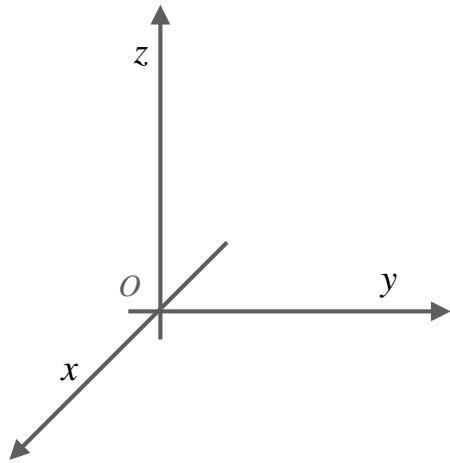


$$\chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_A|}$$

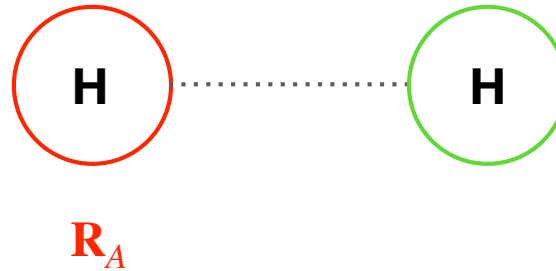


$$\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_B|}$$

## Prototypical hydrogen molecule



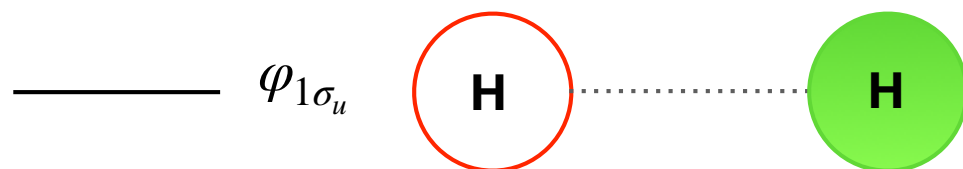
$$\chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_A|}$$



$$\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} e^{-|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_B|}$$

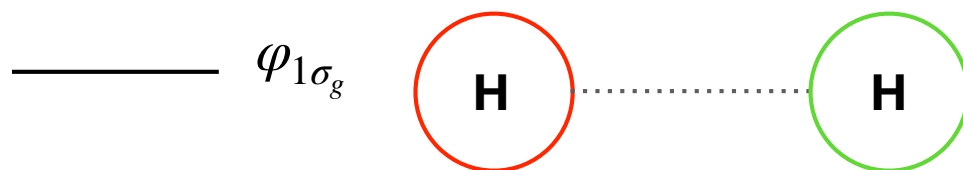
$\chi_{s_A}$  and  $\chi_{s_B}$  are localised orbitals

## Prototypical hydrogen molecule



$$\varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}) - \chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}) \right)$$

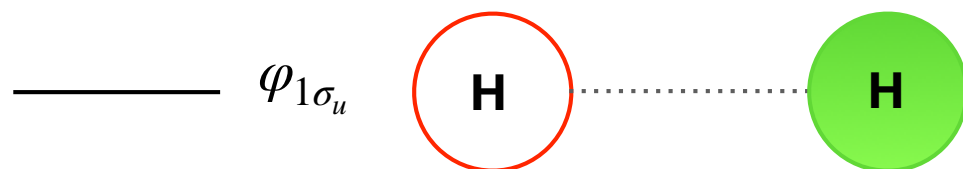
*Anti-bonding orbital*



$$\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}) + \chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}) \right)$$

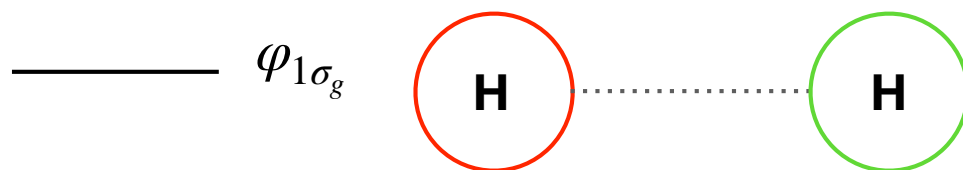
*Bonding orbital*

## Prototypical hydrogen molecule



$$\varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}) - \chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}) \right)$$

*Anti-bonding orbital*



$$\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}) + \chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}) \right)$$

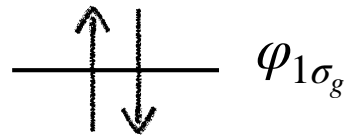
*Bonding orbital*

$\varphi_{1\sigma_g}$  and  $\varphi_{1\sigma_u}$  are delocalised orbitals

## Single-configuration ground-state two-electron wave function



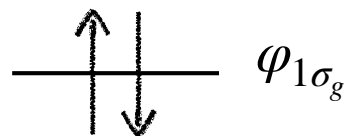
# Single-configuration ground-state two-electron wave function



$$\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_2)$$

$$\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}) + \chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}) \right)$$

# Single-configuration ground-state two-electron wave function



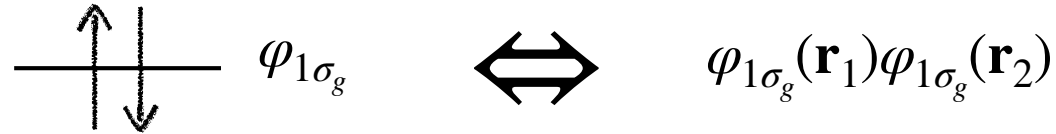
$$\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_2)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_2)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_1) + \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) \right)$$





# Single-configuration ground-state two-electron wave function



$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_2)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_1) + \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) \right)$$

H.....H

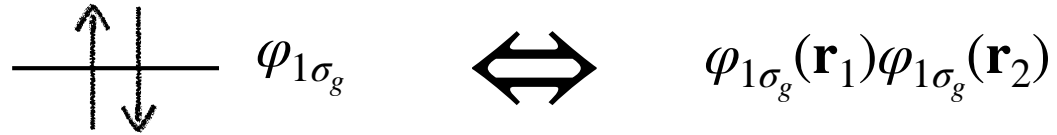
H.....H

H<sup>-</sup>.....H<sup>+</sup>

H<sup>+</sup>.....H<sup>-</sup>

*Ionic configurations*

# Single-configuration ground-state two-electron wave function



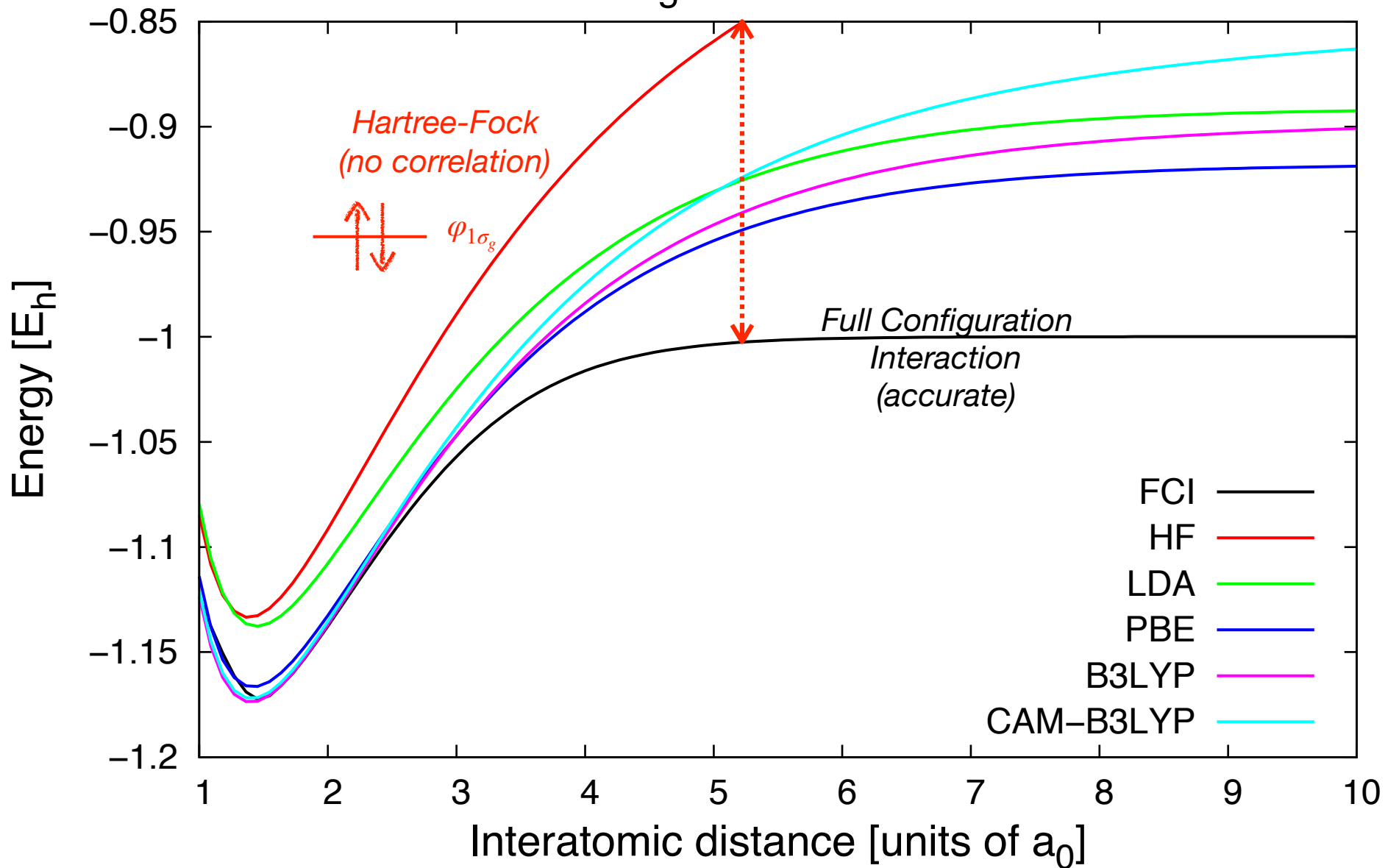
$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_2)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_1) + \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) \right)$$



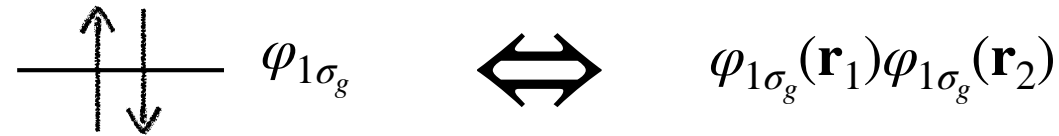
*Ionic configurations*

*Unphysical in the dissociation limit!*

# H<sub>2</sub> [ $1^1\Sigma_g^+$ , aug-cc-pVQZ]



## Single-configuration ground-state two-electron wave function



$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_2)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_1) + \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) \right)$$

**H.....H**

**H.....H**

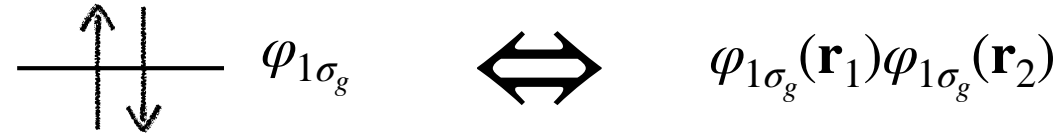
**H<sup>-</sup>.....H<sup>+</sup>**

**H<sup>+</sup>.....H<sup>-</sup>**

*Electron density in the dissociation limit*

$$2 \left| \varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}) \right|^2 = 2\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r})\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}) = \left| \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}) \right|^2 + \left| \chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}) \right|^2 + 2\chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r})\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r})$$

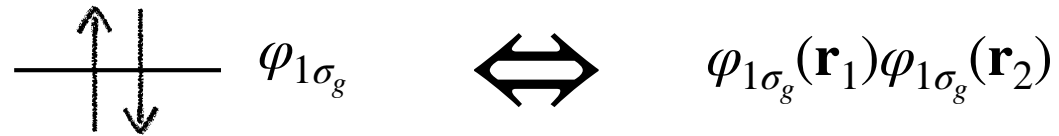
# Single-configuration ground-state two-electron wave function



Electron density in the **dissociation limit**

$$2 \left| \varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}) \right|^2 = 2\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r})\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}) = \left| \chi_{S_A}(\mathbf{r}) \right|^2 + \left| \chi_{S_B}(\mathbf{r}) \right|^2 + 2 \overbrace{\chi_{S_A}(\mathbf{r})\chi_{S_B}(\mathbf{r})}^{\approx 0}$$

# Single-configuration ground-state two-electron wave function

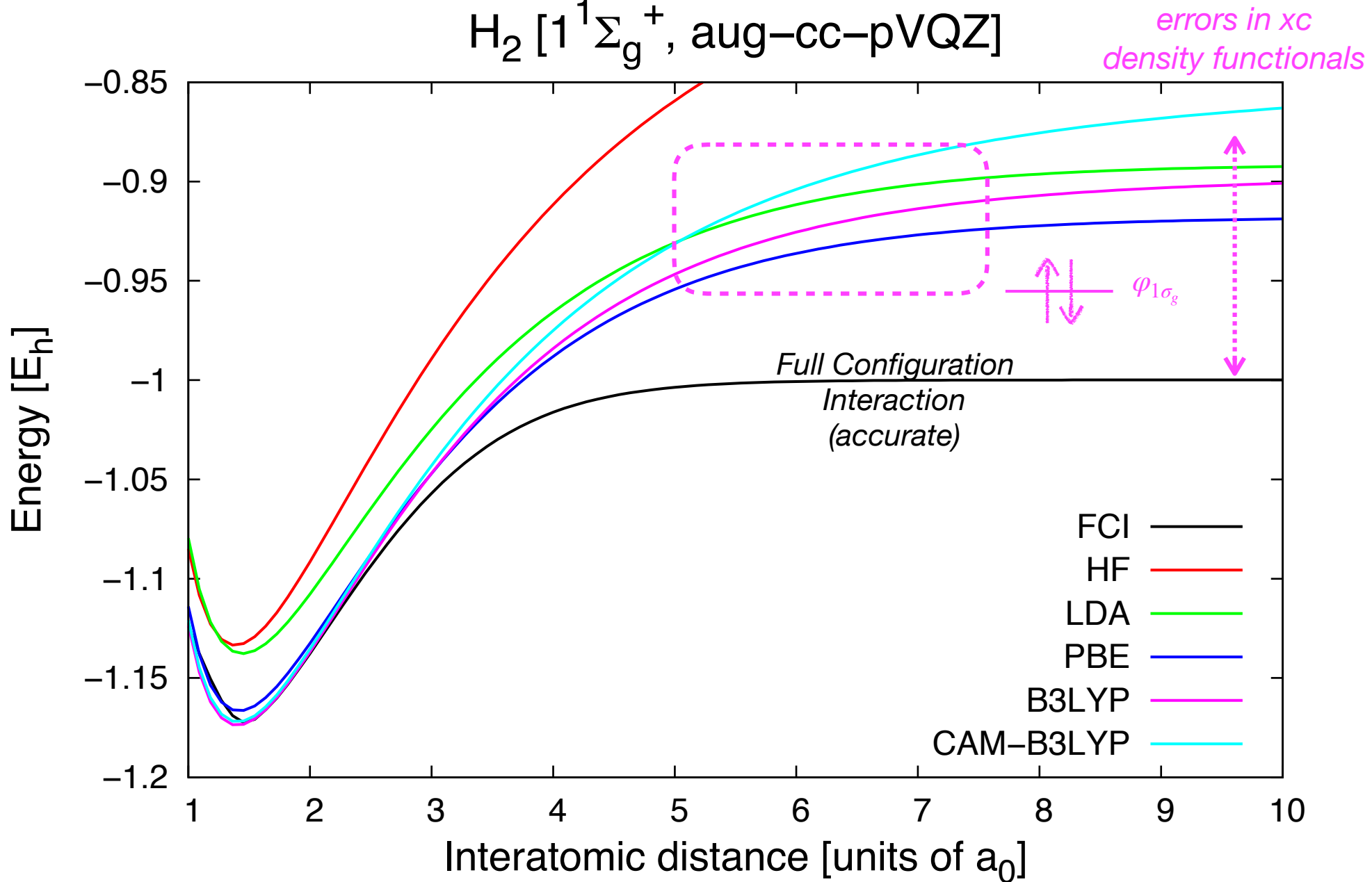


$$2 \left| \varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}) \right|^2 = 2\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r})\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}) \approx \left| \chi_{S_A}(\mathbf{r}) \right|^2 + \left| \chi_{S_B}(\mathbf{r}) \right|^2$$

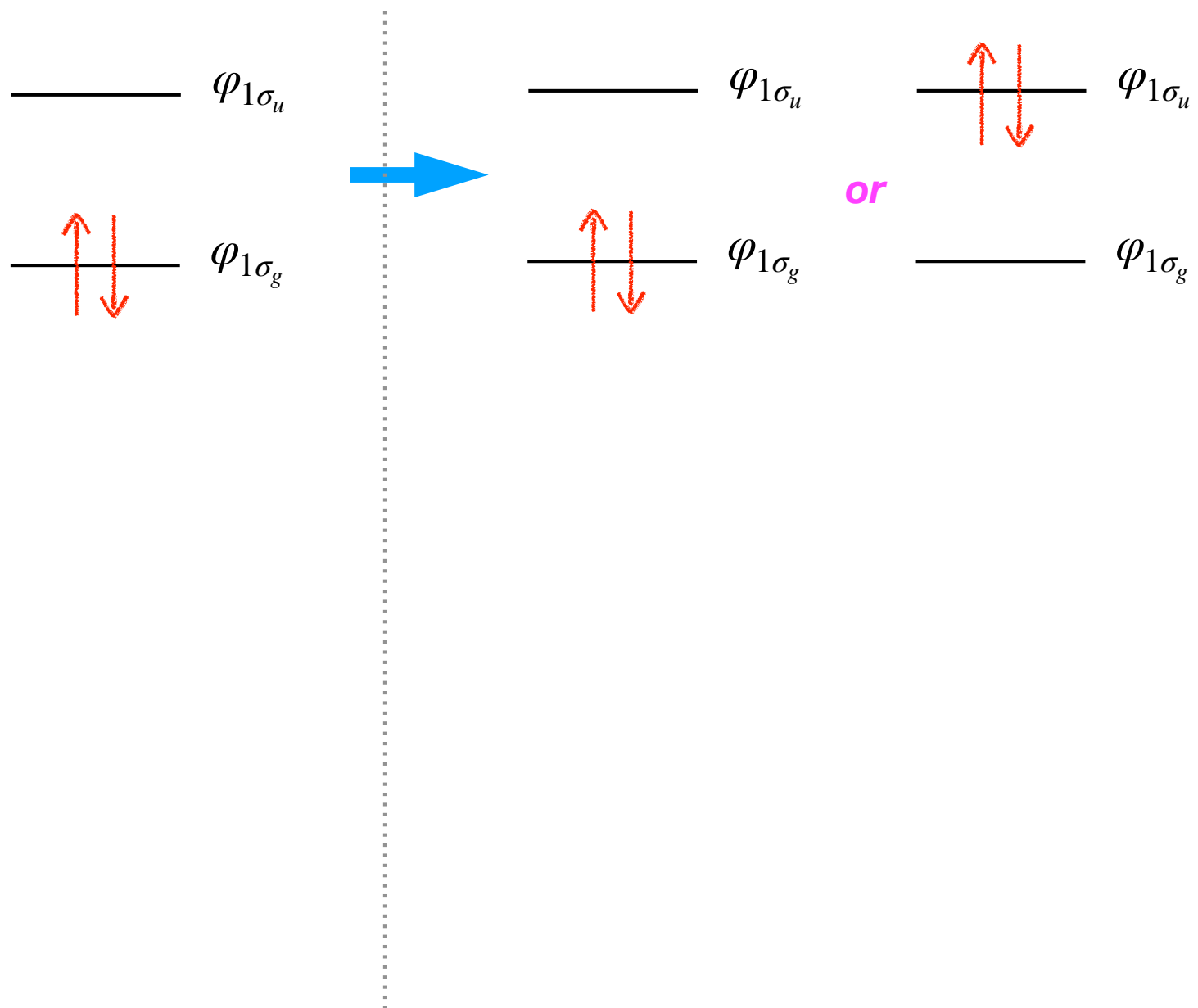
*density of the first hydrogen atom*      *density of the second hydrogen atom*



# H<sub>2</sub> [ $1^1\Sigma_g^+$ , aug-cc-pVQZ]

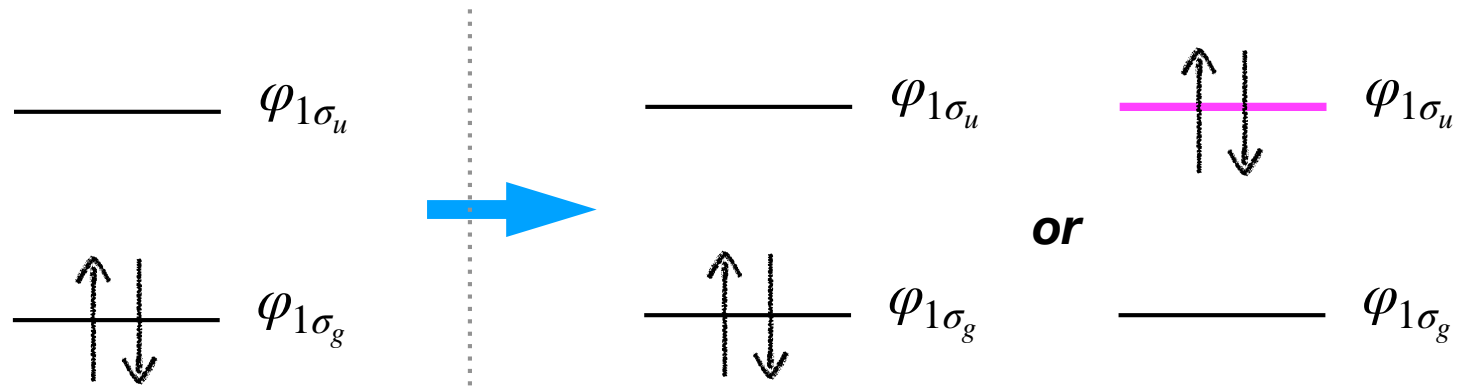


# Multi-configurational wave function



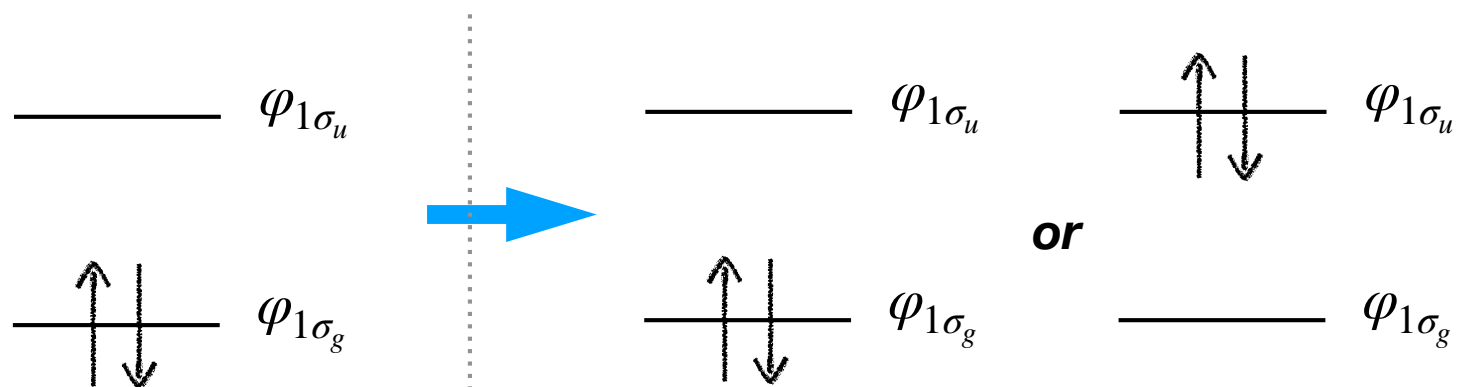


## Multi-configurational wave function



$$\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_2) - \varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_2) \right)$$

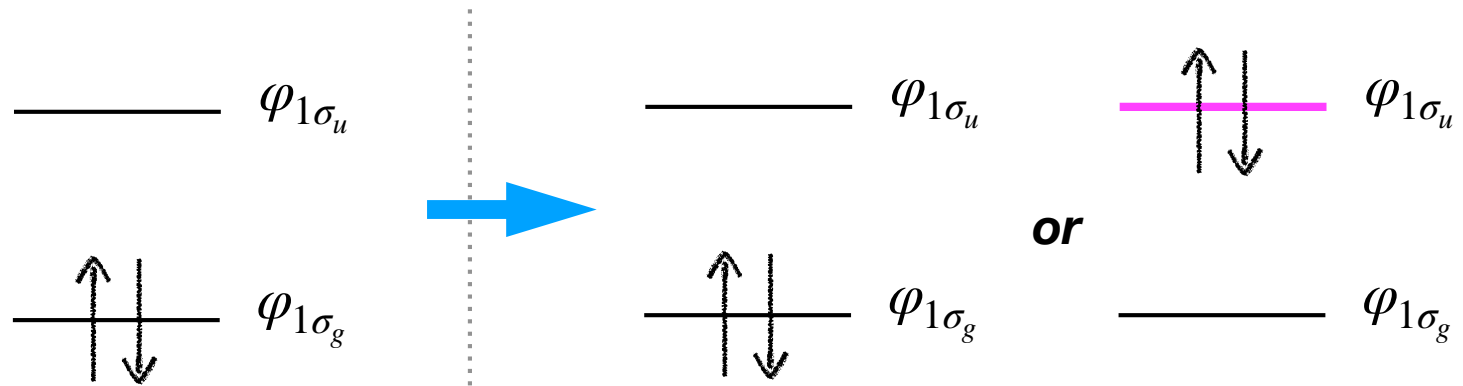
## Multi-configurational wave function



*minus combination*

$$\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_2) - \varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_2) \right)$$

# Multi-configurational wave function

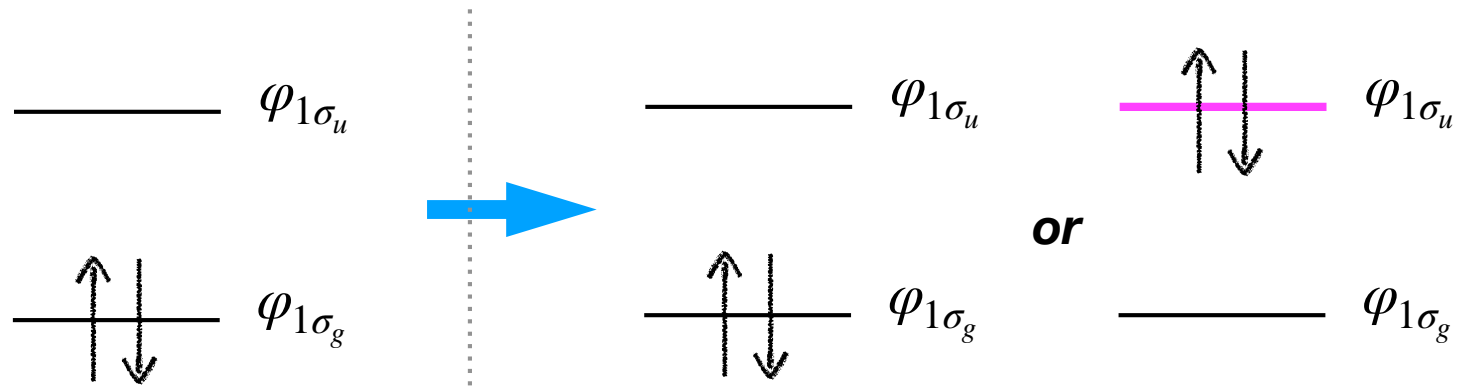


$$\varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}) - \chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}) \right)$$

$$\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_2) - \varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_2) \right)$$

$$\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}) + \chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}) \right)$$

# Multi-configurational wave function



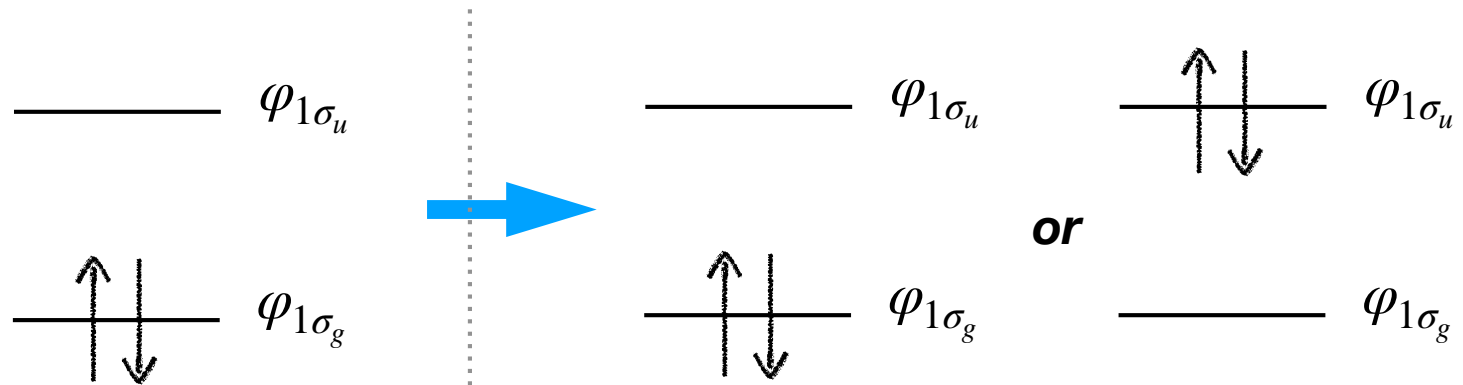
$$\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_2) - \varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_2) \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{s_A}(\mathbf{r}_2)\chi_{s_B}(\mathbf{r}_1) \right)$$

H ..... H

H ..... H

# Multi-configurational wave function



$$\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_2) - \varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_2) \right)$$

Localised picture

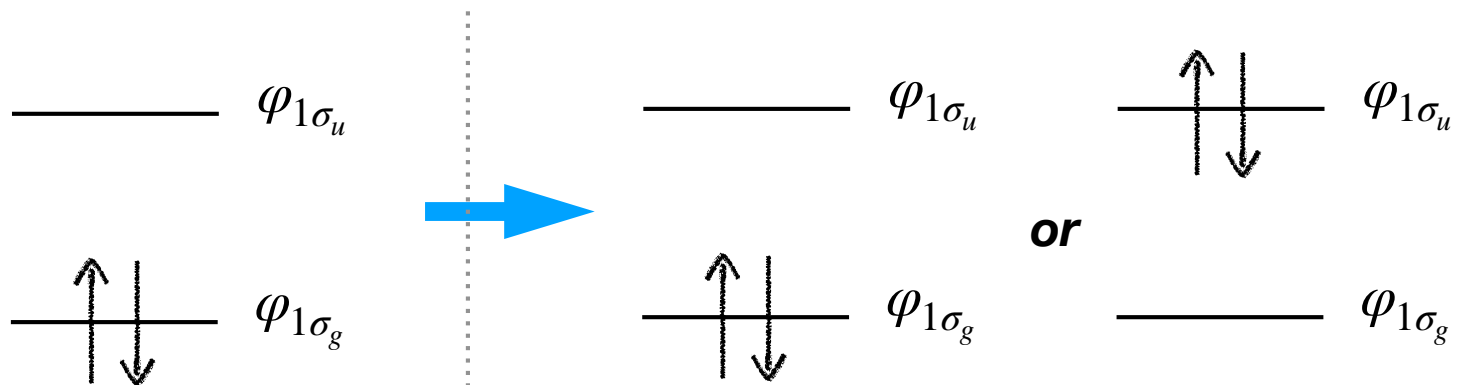


$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \chi_{S_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{S_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{S_A}(\mathbf{r}_2)\chi_{S_B}(\mathbf{r}_1) \right)$$

H ..... H

H ..... H

# Multi-configurational wave function



$$\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_2) - \varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_2) \right)$$

Localised picture



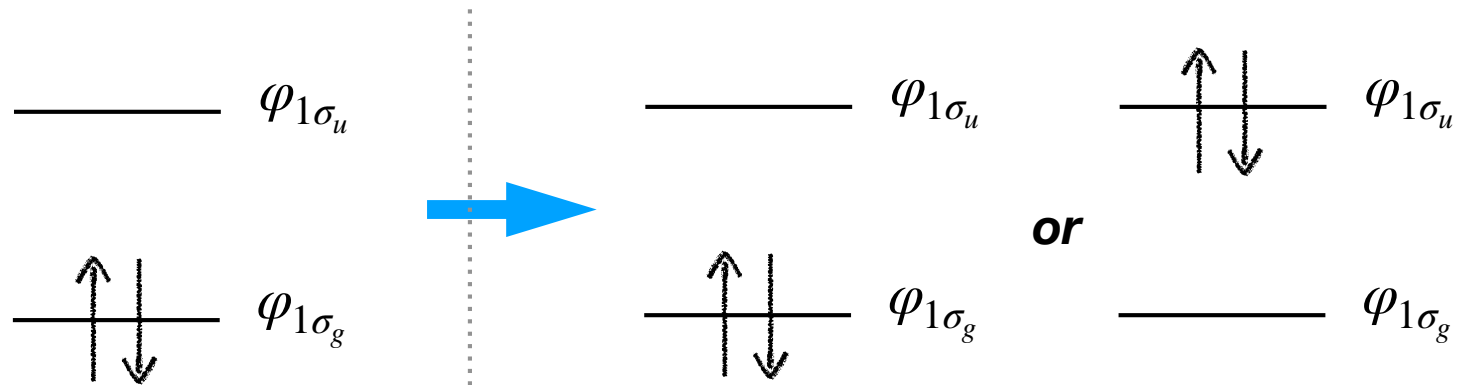
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \chi_{S_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{S_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{S_A}(\mathbf{r}_2)\chi_{S_B}(\mathbf{r}_1) \right)$$

H ..... H

H ..... H

Strong electron correlation

# Multi-configurational wave function



Delocalised picture



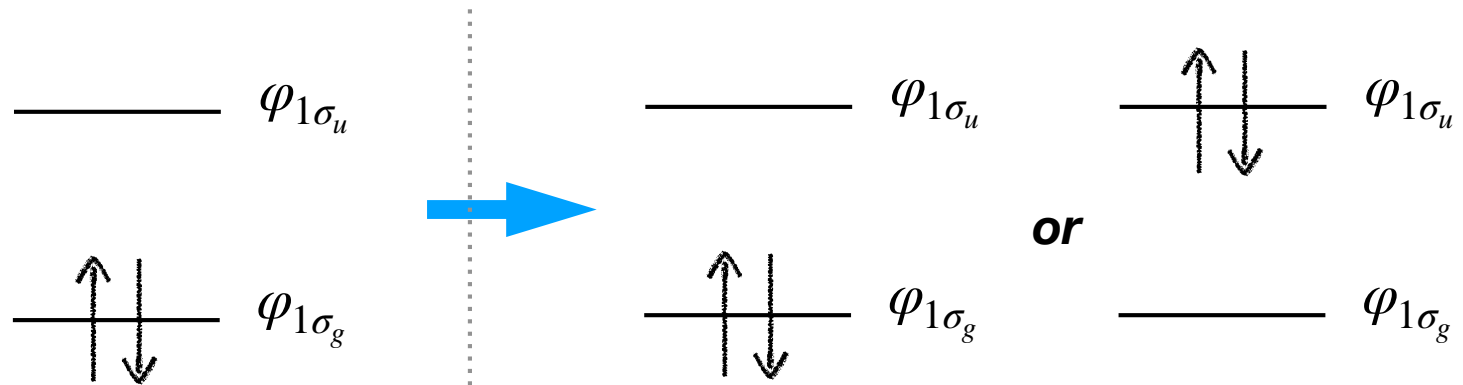
$$\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_2) - \varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_2) \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \chi_{S_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{S_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{S_A}(\mathbf{r}_2)\chi_{S_B}(\mathbf{r}_1) \right)$$

H ..... H

H ..... H

# Multi-configurational wave function



*Delocalised picture*

*Strong multi-configurational character of the electronic structure*

$$\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_2) - \varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_2) \right)$$

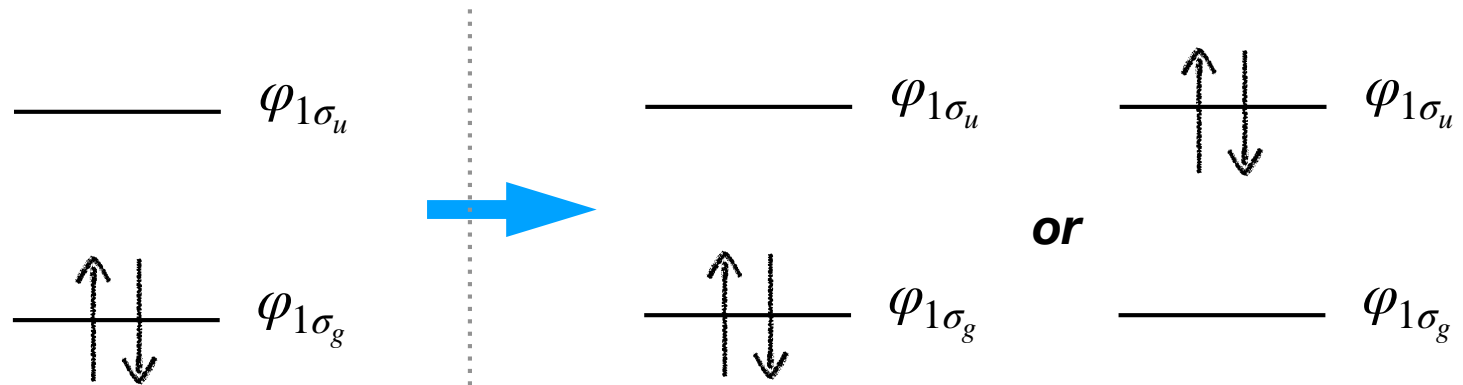
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \chi_{S_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{S_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{S_A}(\mathbf{r}_2)\chi_{S_B}(\mathbf{r}_1) \right)$$

**H..... H**

**H..... H**



# Multi-configurational wave function



*Delocalised picture*

*Strong multi-configurational character of the electronic structure*

**correlation effect**

$$\equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_g}(\mathbf{r}_2) - \varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_1)\varphi_{1\sigma_u}(\mathbf{r}_2) \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \chi_{S_A}(\mathbf{r}_1)\chi_{S_B}(\mathbf{r}_2) + \chi_{S_A}(\mathbf{r}_2)\chi_{S_B}(\mathbf{r}_1) \right)$$

**H..... H**

**H..... H**

# H<sub>2</sub> [ $1^1\Sigma_g^+$ , aug-cc-pVQZ]

