Kohn–Sham density-functional theory

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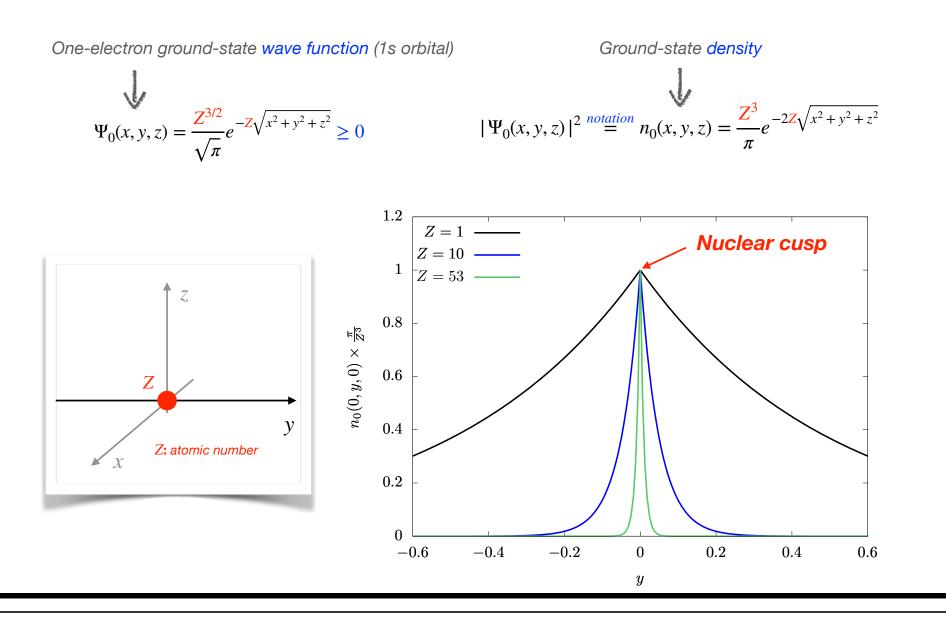




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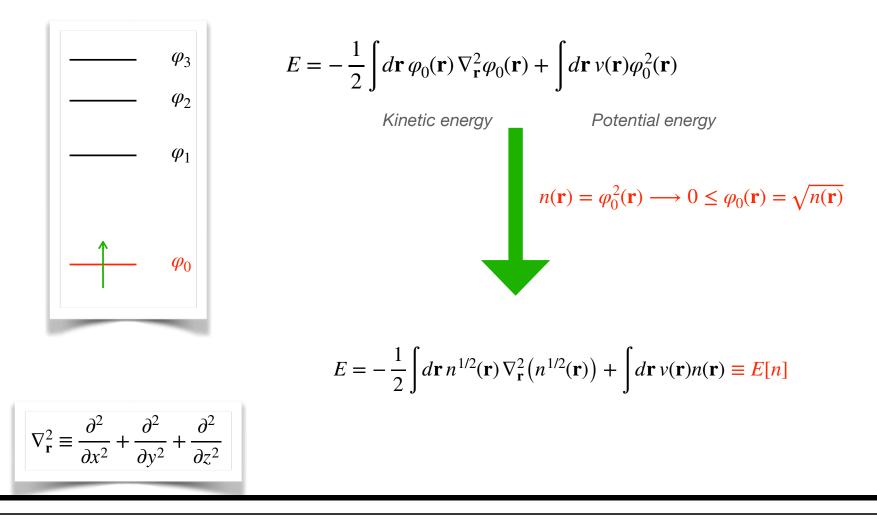
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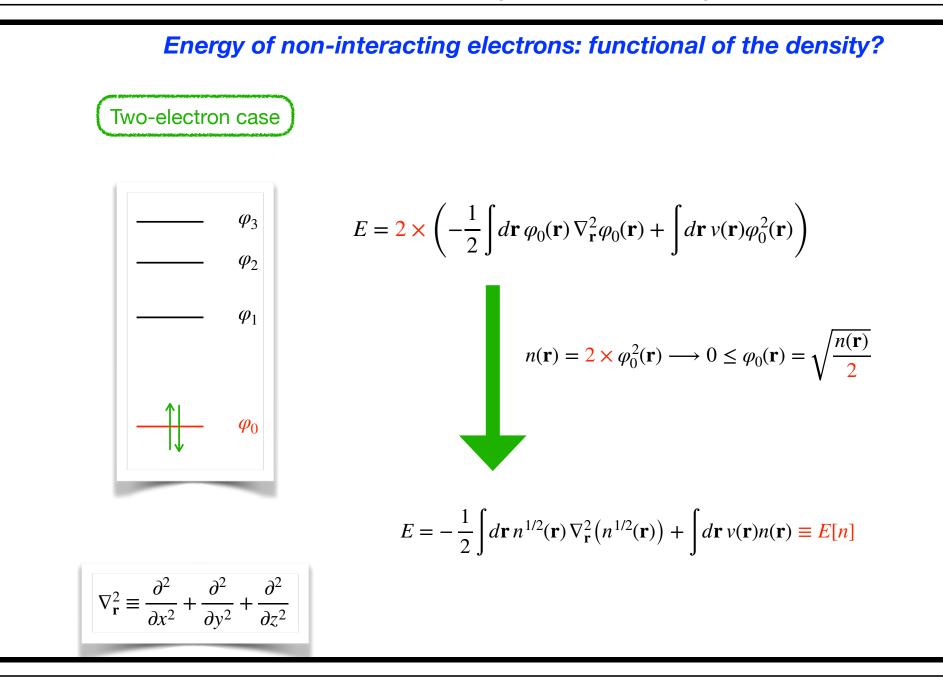
Ground-state densities of hydrogen-like atoms

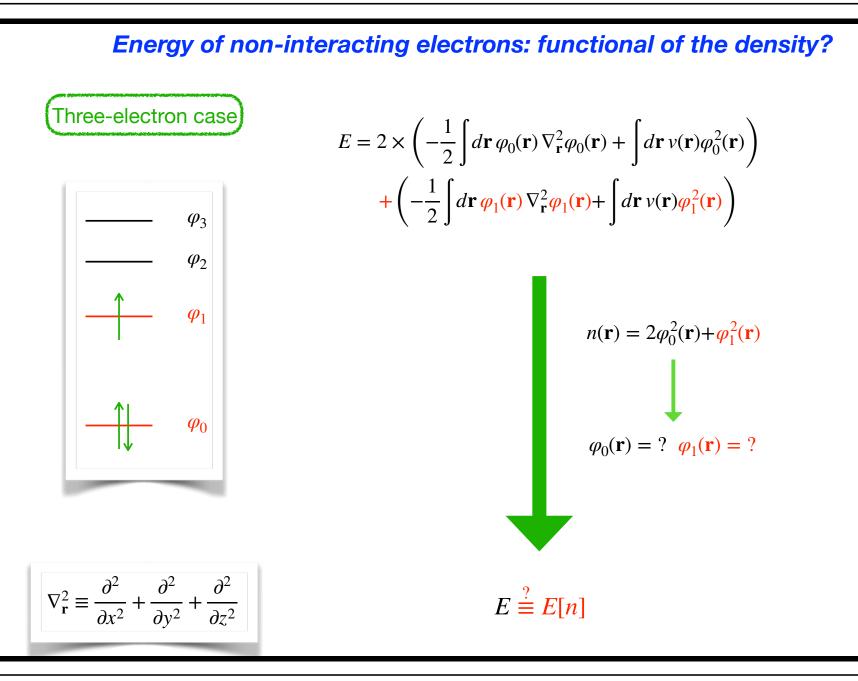


Energy of non-interacting electrons: functional of the density?

One-electron case (and real algebra)

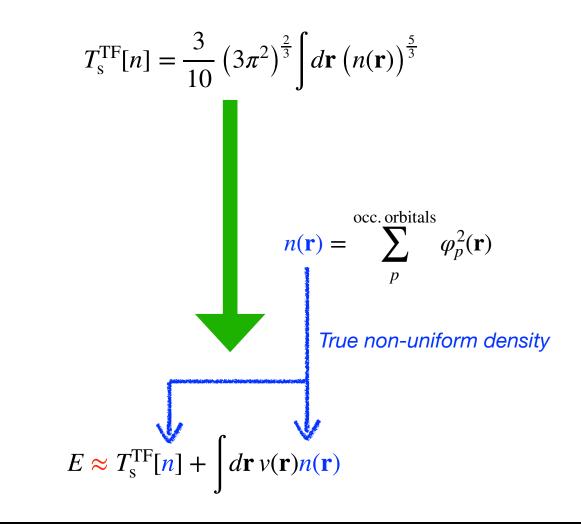






Learning from another system: Thomas-Fermi (TF) model

Kinetic energy of non-interacting electrons in a *uniform* electron gas:



N-electron Schrödinger equation for the *ground* state $\hat{H}\Psi_0 = E_0\Psi_0$ $\Psi_0 \equiv \Psi_0(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N), \quad \mathbf{x}_i \equiv (\mathbf{r}_i, \sigma_i) \equiv (x_i, y_i, z_i, \sigma_i = \pm \frac{1}{2}) \quad \text{for} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N,$ where $\hat{H} = \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} + \hat{V}.$ and $\hat{T} \equiv -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_{i}}^{2} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x_{i}^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial y_{i}^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial z_{i}^{2}} \right)$ \rightarrow *universal* kinetic energy operator $\hat{W}_{\rm ee} \equiv \sum_{i < j}^{N} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \times$ universal two-electron repulsion operator $\hat{V} \equiv \sum_{i=1}^{N} v(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \quad \text{where} \quad v(\mathbf{r}) = -\sum_{i=1}^{nuclei} \frac{Z_{A}}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{A}|} \quad \longrightarrow$ local *nuclear* potential operator

(Fictitious) non-interacting electrons

- Solving the Schrödinger equation for non-interacting electrons is *easy*.
- You "just" have to solve the Schrödinger equation for a *single electron*.

$$\left(\hat{T} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} v(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \right) \Phi_{0} = \mathcal{E}_{0} \Phi_{0} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \left[-\frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^{2} + v(\mathbf{r}) \times \right] \varphi_{i}(\mathbf{x}) = \varepsilon_{i} \varphi_{i}(\mathbf{x}), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N.$$

<u>Proof</u>: a *simple solution* to the *N*-electron non-interacting Schrödinger equation is

$$\Phi_0 \equiv \varphi_1(\mathbf{x}_1) \times \varphi_2(\mathbf{x}_2) \times \ldots \times \varphi_N(\mathbf{x}_N) = \prod_{j=1}^N \varphi_j(\mathbf{x}_j) \qquad \leftarrow \text{Hartree product!}$$

since
$$\left(\hat{T} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} v(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \right) \Phi_{0} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \prod_{j \neq i}^{N} \varphi_{j}(\mathbf{x}_{j}) \times \left[-\frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\mathbf{r}_{i}}^{2} + v(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \right] \varphi_{i}(\mathbf{x}_{i}) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} \varepsilon_{i} \right) \Phi_{0}.$$

(Real) interacting many-electron problem

- Before addressing the true (interacting) problem we should keep in mind that electrons are *fermions*.
- Consequently, they should be described by *Slater determinants* instead of Hartree products.
- Therefore, in the particular case of *two electrons*, we have

$$\varphi_1(\mathbf{x}_1)\varphi_2(\mathbf{x}_2) \longrightarrow \Phi_0 \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{vmatrix} \varphi_1(\mathbf{x}_1) & \varphi_1(\mathbf{x}_2) \\ \varphi_2(\mathbf{x}_1) & \varphi_2(\mathbf{x}_2) \end{vmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \Big[\varphi_1(\mathbf{x}_1)\varphi_2(\mathbf{x}_2) - \varphi_1(\mathbf{x}_2)\varphi_2(\mathbf{x}_1) \Big].$$

- When computing the two-electron repulsion energy $\langle \Phi_0 | \hat{W}_{ee} | \Phi_0 \rangle$ we describe the so-called *Hartree* (i.e. electrostatic) and *exchange* energies.
- Finally, Φ₀ *cannot* be the exact solution to the interacting Schrödinger equation [whatever choice is made for the spin-orbitals {φ_i(**x**)}_{i=1,2,...}].
- The energy contribution that is missing is referred to as *correlation* energy.

Mapping the interacting problem onto a non-interacting one

- Is it possible to *extract* the exact (interacting) ground-state energy *from a non-interacting system*?
- If yes, then it would lead to a huge *simplification* of the problem.
- Nevertheless, the question sounds a bit weird since the two-electron repulsion is completely ignored in a non-interacting system.
- One way to establish a *connection* between interacting and non-interacting worlds is to use the *electron density* as basic variable (instead of the wavefunction).

• Electron density for a *non-interacting* system:
$$n_{\Phi_0}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\sigma=\pm\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} |\varphi_i(\mathbf{r}, \sigma)|^2$$

• Electron density for an *interacting* system:

$$n_{\Psi_0}(\mathbf{r}) = N \sum_{\sigma = \pm \frac{1}{2}} \int d\mathbf{x}_2 \dots \int d\mathbf{x}_N |\Psi_0(\mathbf{r}, \sigma, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N)|^2$$

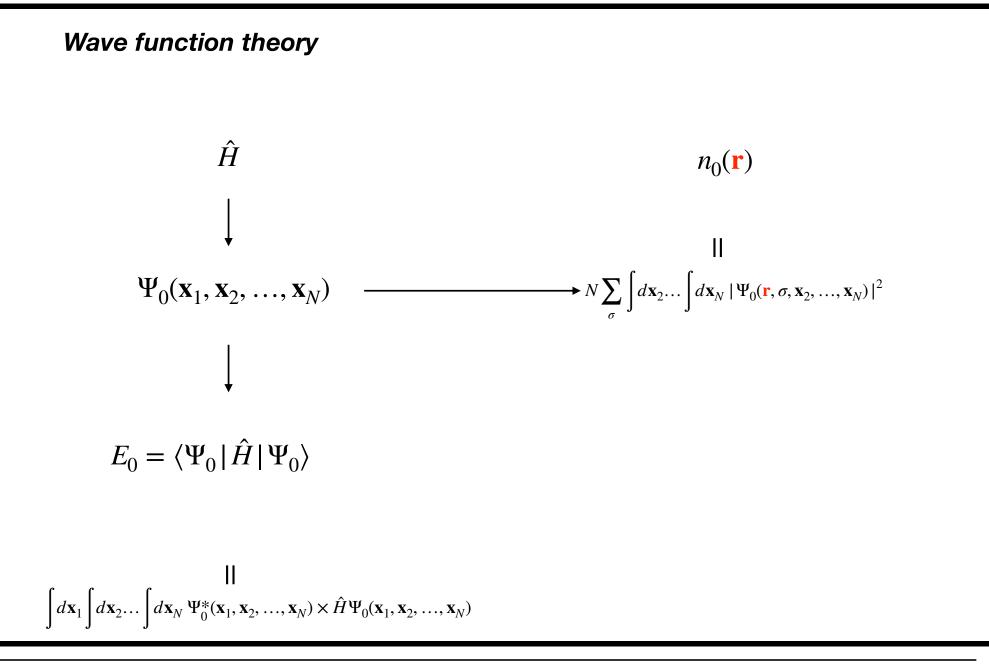
Mapping the interacting problem onto a non-interacting one

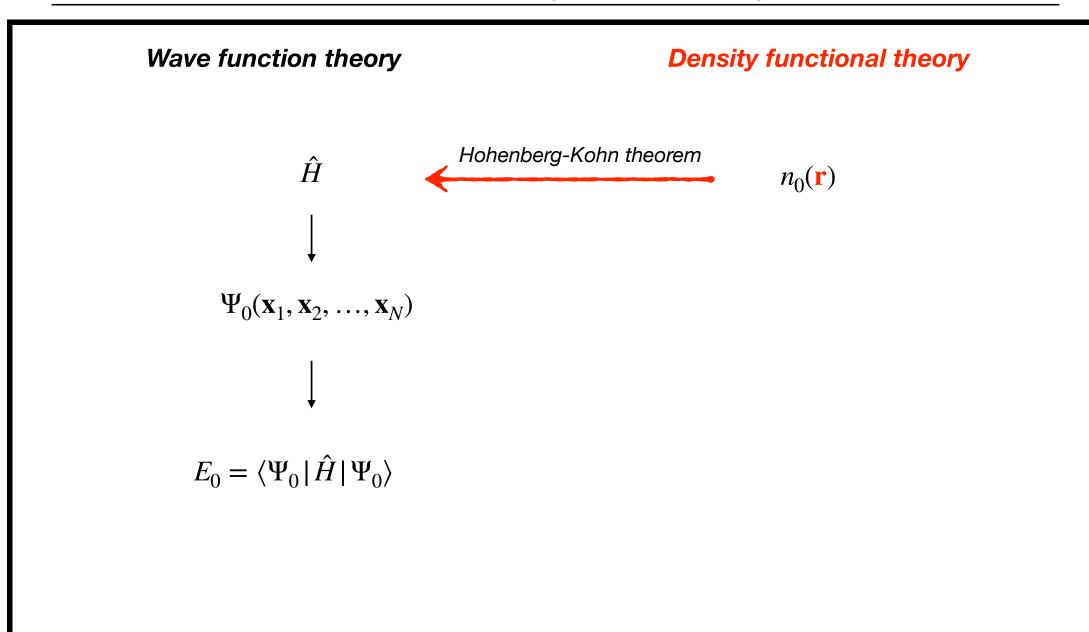
- There is of course no reason to believe that these two densities are equal.
- However, we may assume that it is possible to *adjust* the local potential in the non-interacting system *such that the two densities become equal*.
- This "magical" potential is known as the *Kohn–Sham* (KS) potential.
- In summary:

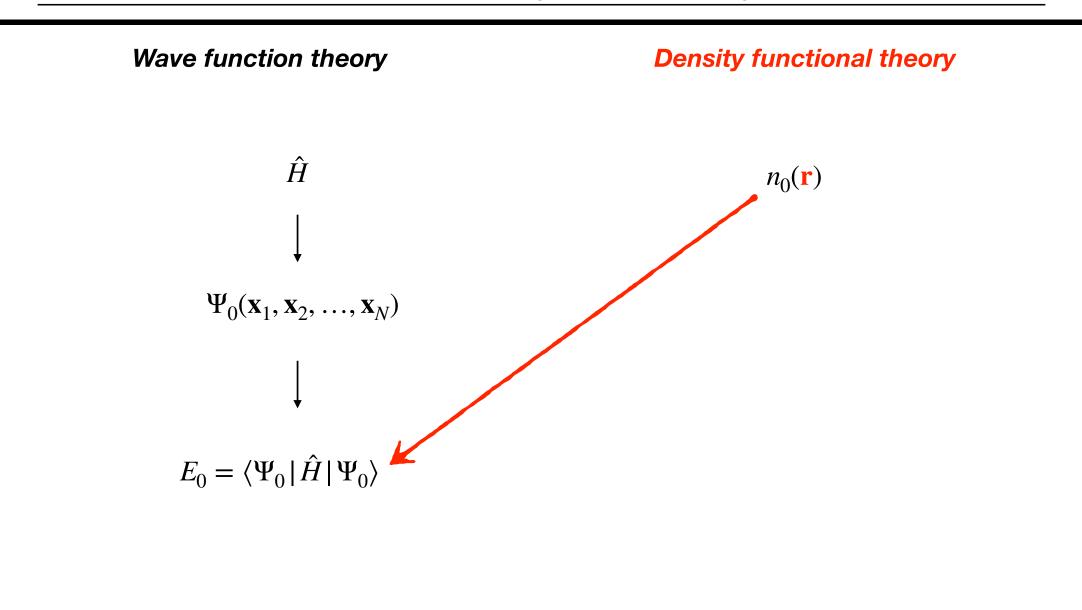
• Questions to be answered:

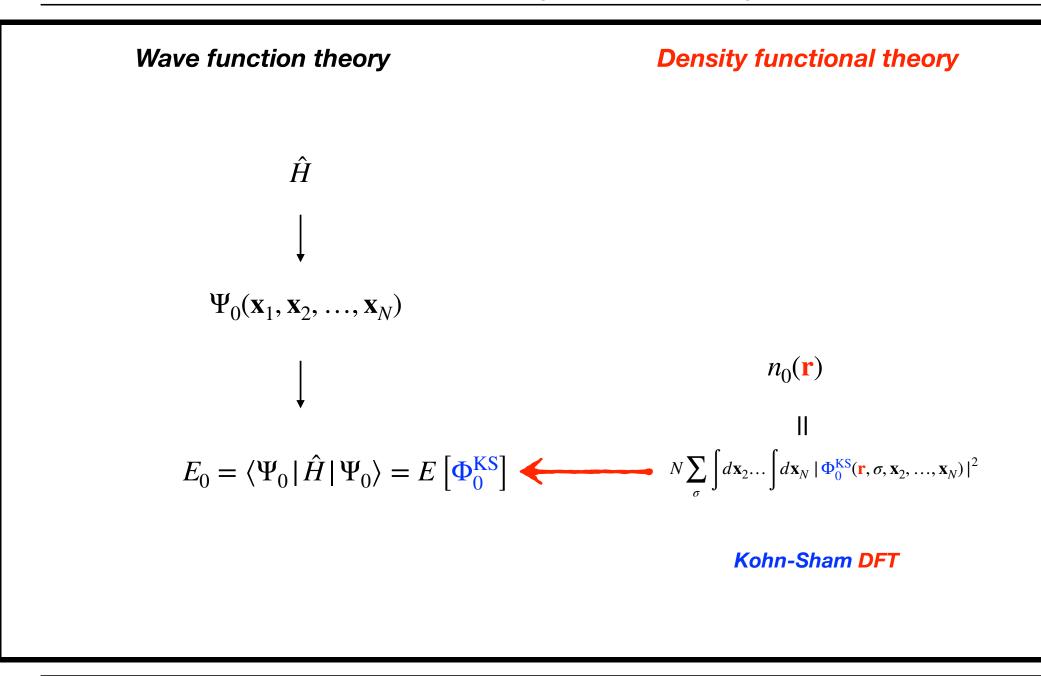
(1) If $v^{\text{KS}}(\mathbf{r})$ exists, is it unique? *yes!*

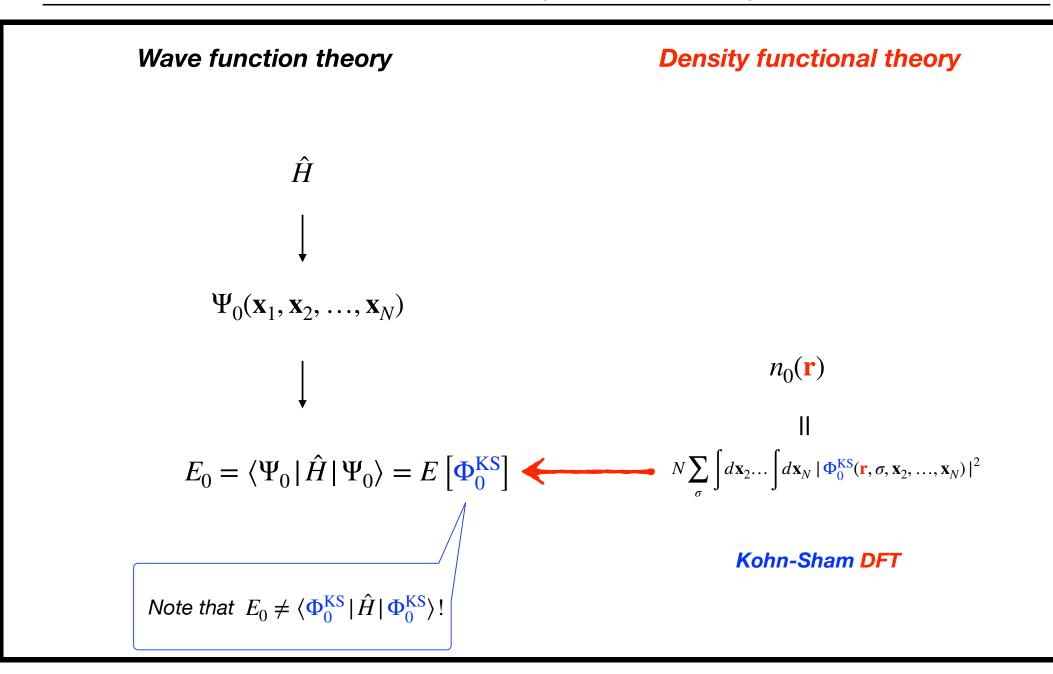
(2) Does the knowledge of $n_{\Psi_0}(\mathbf{r})$ gives access (in principle) to E_0 ? *yes!*











The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1998 Walter Kohn - Facts



Walter Kohn

Born: 9 March 1923, Vienna, Austria

Died: 19 April 2016, Santa Barbara, CA, USA

Affiliation at the time of the award: University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, USA

Prize motivation: "for his development of the density-functional theory"

Field: theoretical chemistry

Prize share: 1/2

Three things to *remember* before we start ...

• The following expression for the expectation value of the *one-electron potential energy* in terms of the electron density will be used intensively in the rest of this lecture:

$$\left\langle \Psi \left| \sum_{i=1}^{N} v(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \right| \Psi \right\rangle = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{3}} \mathrm{d}\mathbf{r} \; v(\mathbf{r}) n_{\Psi}(\mathbf{r}) \stackrel{notation}{\equiv} (v|n_{\Psi})$$

• Note that a *constant* shift $v(\mathbf{r}) \rightarrow v(\mathbf{r}) - \mu$ in the local potential does *not* affect the ground-state wavefunction (and therefore it does not affect the ground-state density):

$$\left(\hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(\boldsymbol{v}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right) \times \right) \Psi_{0} = \left(\hat{H}\Psi_{0}\right) - N\boldsymbol{\mu} \times \Psi_{0} = \left(E_{0} - N\boldsymbol{\mu}\right) \Psi_{0}.$$

Three things to *remember* before we start ...

Rayleigh–Ritz variational principle: the exact ground-state energy is a lower bound for the expectation value of the energy. The minimum is reached when the trial quantum state |Ψ⟩ equals the ground state |Ψ₀⟩:

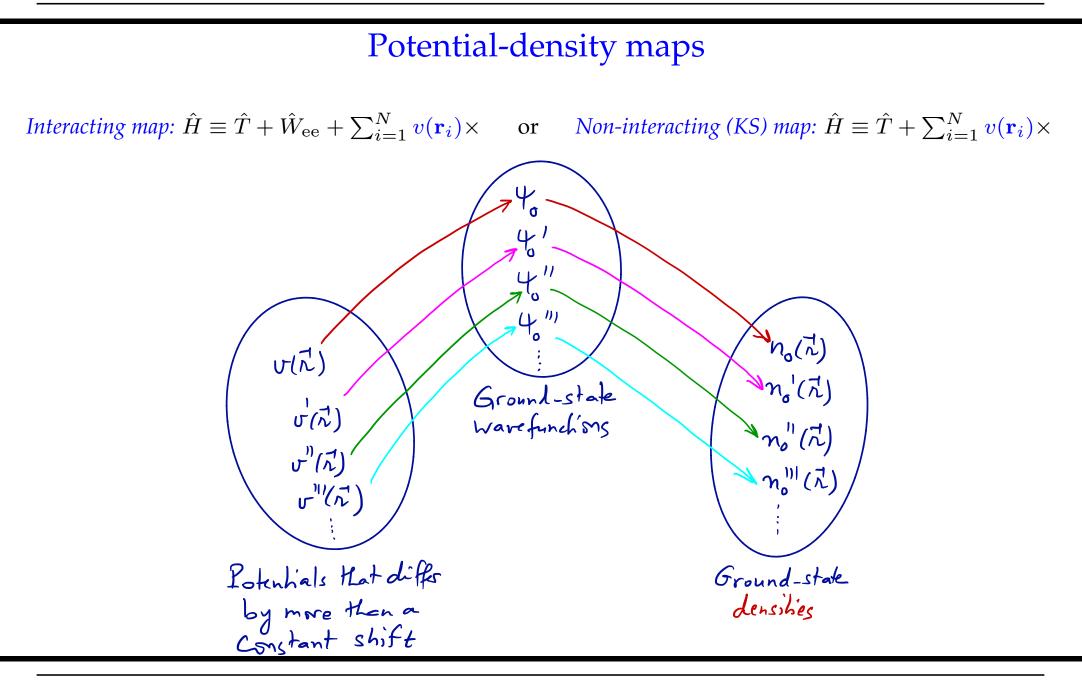
$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi} \frac{\langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle}{\langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle} = \frac{\langle \Psi_0 | \hat{H} | \Psi_0 \rangle}{\langle \Psi_0 | \Psi_0 \rangle}.$$

Proof:
$$\forall \Psi$$
, $|\Psi\rangle = \sum_{I \ge 0} C_I |\Psi_I\rangle$ and $\langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle - E_0 \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle = \sum_{I > 0} |C_I|^2 (E_I - E_0) \ge 0.$

• The ground state is usually normalized $(\langle \Psi_0 | \Psi_0 \rangle = 1)$ so that the variational principle can be rewritten as follows,

$$E_0 = \min_{\Psi, \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle = 1} \langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle = \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{H} | \Psi_0 \rangle$$

• <u>Comment</u>: If $|\Psi_0\rangle$ is not degenerate, any normalized state $|\Psi\rangle$ that is not equal to $|\Psi_0\rangle$ is such that $\langle \Psi | \hat{H} | \Psi \rangle > E_0$.



First Hohenberg–Kohn theorem

• Note that $v \to \Psi_0 \to E_0$

 $\rightarrow n_0 = n_{\Psi_0}$

• **HK1:** Hohenberg and Kohn* have shown that, in fact, the ground-state electron density fully determines (up to a constant) the local potential *v*. Therefore

 $n_0 \to v \to \Psi_0 \to E_0$

• In other words, the ground-state energy is a *functional* of the ground-state density: $E_0 = E[n_0]$.

Proof (part 1):

Let us consider two potentials v and v' that differ by more than a constant, which means that $v(\mathbf{r}) - v'(\mathbf{r})$ varies with \mathbf{r} . In the following, we denote Ψ_0 and Ψ'_0 the associated ground-state wavefunctions with energies E_0 and E'_0 , respectively.

* P. Hohenberg and W. Kohn, Phys. Rev. 136, B864 (1964).

First Hohenberg–Kohn theorem

If $\Psi_0 = \Psi'_0$ then

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(v(\mathbf{r}_{i}) - v'(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \right) \times \Psi_{0} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} v(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \Psi_{0} - v'(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \Psi'_{0}$$
$$= \left(\hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} v(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \right) \Psi_{0} - \left(\hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} v'(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \right) \Psi'_{0}$$
$$= E_{0} \Psi_{0} - E'_{0} \Psi'_{0}$$

$$= (E_0 - E'_0) \times \Psi_0$$

so that, in the particular case $\mathbf{r}_1 = \mathbf{r}_2 = \ldots = \mathbf{r}_N = \mathbf{r}$, we obtain

$$v(\mathbf{r}) - v'(\mathbf{r}) = (E_0 - E'_0)/N \longrightarrow \text{constant (absurd!)}$$

Therefore Ψ_0 and Ψ'_0 cannot be equal.

First Hohenberg–Kohn theorem

<u>Proof</u> (part 2): Let us now assume that Ψ_0 and Ψ'_0 have the same electron density n_0 .

According to the Rayleigh–Ritz variational principle

$$E_{0} < \underbrace{\left\langle \Psi_{0}^{\prime} \middle| \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} v(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \middle| \Psi_{0}^{\prime} \right\rangle}_{E_{0}^{\prime} + (v - v^{\prime} | \mathbf{n}_{0})} \quad \text{and} \quad E_{0}^{\prime} < \underbrace{\left\langle \Psi_{0} \middle| \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} v^{\prime}(\mathbf{r}_{i}) \times \middle| \Psi_{0} \right\rangle}_{E_{0} - (v - v^{\prime} | \mathbf{n}_{0})}$$

thus leading to

$$0 < E_0 - E'_0 - (v - v'|n_0) < 0$$
 absurd!

* P. Hohenberg and W. Kohn, Phys. Rev. 136, B864 (1964).

Second Hohenberg–Kohn theorem

HK2: The exact ground-state density $n_0(\mathbf{r})$ of the electronic Hamiltonian

$$\hat{H}[v_{\rm ne}] \equiv \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{\rm ee} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} v_{\rm ne}(\mathbf{r}_i) \times$$

minimizes the energy density functional $E[n] = F[n] + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} d\mathbf{r} v_{ne}(\mathbf{r}) n(\mathbf{r}),$

where the Hohenberg–Kohn universal functional F[n] is defined as

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

and the minimum equals the exact ground-state energy E_0 :

$$\min_{n} E[n] = E[n_0] = E_0$$

Comment: we know from HK1 that

$$n(\mathbf{r}) \rightarrow v[n](\mathbf{r}) \rightarrow \Psi[v[n]] = \Psi[n]$$

ground-state wavefunction with density n.

Second Hohenberg and Kohn theorem

Proof:

• for any density $n(\mathbf{r})$, $\Psi[n]$ is well defined according to **HK1** and

 $\langle \Psi[n] | \hat{H}[v_{\rm ne}] | \Psi[n] \rangle \ge E_0$

$$\underbrace{\langle \Psi[n] | \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi[n] \rangle}_{F[n]} + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} d\mathbf{r} \ v_{ne}(\mathbf{r}) \underbrace{n_{\Psi[n]}(\mathbf{r})}_{n(\mathbf{r})} \ge E_0$$

thus leading to $E[n] \ge E_0$

• When $n(\mathbf{r})$ equals the exact ground-state density $n_0(\mathbf{r})$:

$$n_0(\mathbf{r}) \rightarrow v_{\mathrm{ne}}(\mathbf{r}) \rightarrow \Psi[n_0] = \Psi[v_{\mathrm{ne}}] = \Psi_0$$

$$E[n_0] = \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} | \Psi_0 \rangle + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} d\mathbf{r} \ v_{ne}(\mathbf{r}) n_0(\mathbf{r}) = \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{T} + \hat{W}_{ee} + \hat{V}_{ne} | \Psi_0 \rangle = E_0$$

Kohn–Sham DFT (KS-DFT)

• The HK theorems apply to non-interacting electrons:

interacting problem \rightarrow *non-interacting* KS problem

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{W}_{ee} &\to 0 \\
v[n](\mathbf{r}) &\to v^{KS}[n](\mathbf{r}) \\
\Psi[n] &\to \Phi^{KS}[n] \\
F[n] &\to T_{s}[n] = \left\langle \Phi^{KS}[n] \middle| \hat{T} \middle| \Phi^{KS}[n] \right\rangle
\end{aligned}$$

$$n_{\Psi[n]}(\mathbf{r}) = n_{\Phi^{\mathrm{KS}}[n]}(\mathbf{r}) = n(\mathbf{r})$$

• *KS decomposition* of the universal HK functional:

$$F[n] = T_{s}[n] + E_{Hxc}[n] \qquad \text{with} \qquad E_{Hxc}[n] = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{3}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{3}} \mathrm{d}\mathbf{r} \mathrm{d}\mathbf{r}' \frac{n(\mathbf{r})n(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} + E_{xc}[n].$$

W. Kohn and L. J. Sham, Phys. Rev. A 140, 1133 (1965).

How can we determine the KS potential? *Two mathematical interludes*

Mathematical interlude 1: functional derivative

• Let $f: x \mapsto f(x)$ be a function of x. The derivative of f at $x = x_0$ is obtained from the Taylor expansion [δx is a small variation of x around x_0]

$$f(x_0 + \delta x) = f(x_0) + \delta x \left. \frac{\mathrm{d}f(x)}{\mathrm{d}x} \right|_{x=x_0} + \frac{(\delta x)^2}{2} \left. \frac{\mathrm{d}^2 f(x)}{\mathrm{d}x^2} \right|_{x=x_0} + \dots$$

• Let $S: n \mapsto S[n]$ be a functional of the density n. The *functional derivative* of S at $n = n_0$ is by definition a *function of* \mathbf{r} that is denoted $\left[\frac{\delta S[n_0]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})} \equiv \frac{\delta S[n]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})}\right]_{n=n_0}$. The latter is obtained from the

following Taylor expansion [$\delta n(\mathbf{r})$ is a small deviation from $n_0(\mathbf{r})$ of the density at the position **r**]:

$$S[n_0 + \delta n] = S[n_0] + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} d\mathbf{r} \, \frac{\delta S[n_0]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})} \times \delta n(\mathbf{r}) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' \, \frac{\delta^2 S[n_0]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r}) \delta n(\mathbf{r}')} \times \delta n(\mathbf{r}) \delta n(\mathbf{r}') + \dots$$

• <u>Example</u>: $S[n] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \mathrm{d}\mathbf{r} \, n^2(\mathbf{r}) \longrightarrow \frac{\delta S[n_0]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})} = 2n_0(\mathbf{r})$

Mathematical interlude 2: Lieb maximization

• Let us introduce the *partially-interacting* universal HK functional:

$$F^{\lambda}[n] = \left\langle \Psi^{\lambda}[n] \middle| \hat{T} + \lambda \hat{W}_{ee} \middle| \Psi^{\lambda}[n] \right\rangle,$$

where $0 \le \lambda \le 1$ and $\Psi^{\lambda}[n]$ is the ground-state wavefunction of $\hat{T} + \lambda \hat{W}_{ee} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} v^{\lambda}[n](\mathbf{r}_i) \times$ with density n, i.e. $n_{\Psi^{\lambda}[n]}(\mathbf{r}) = n(\mathbf{r})$.

- Note that $F^{\lambda=1}[n] = F[n]$ and $F^{\lambda=0}[n] = T_s[n]$.
- Introducing $F^{\lambda}[n]$ is convenient for treating both interacting $\lambda = 1$ and non-interacting $\lambda = 0$ problems simultaneously (and for *connecting* them ...).

Lieb maximization

 Variational HK theorem for a partially-interacting system with *any* local potential v and ground-state energy E^λ[v]:

$$\begin{array}{c} \forall v, \quad E^{\lambda}[v] = \min_{n} \left\{ F^{\lambda}[n] + \int d\mathbf{r} \, v(\mathbf{r})n(\mathbf{r}) \right\} \\ \Leftrightarrow \quad \forall v, \forall n, \quad E^{\lambda}[v] \leq F^{\lambda}[n] + \int d\mathbf{r} \, v(\mathbf{r})n(\mathbf{r}) \\ \Leftrightarrow \quad \forall v, \forall n, \quad F^{\lambda}[n] \geq E^{\lambda}[v] - \int d\mathbf{r} \, v(\mathbf{r})n(\mathbf{r}) \\ \Leftrightarrow \quad \forall n, \quad F^{\lambda}[n] = \max_{v} \left\{ E^{\lambda}[v] - \int d\mathbf{r} \, v(\mathbf{r})n(\mathbf{r}) \right\} \end{array}$$

- The maximizing potential is $v^{\lambda}[n]!$
- If v and n were just numbers (not functions of \mathbf{r}): $F^{\lambda}(n) = \max_{v} \left\{ \mathcal{F}^{\lambda}(v,n) \right\} = \mathcal{F}^{\lambda}(v^{\lambda}(n),n)$ where $\mathcal{F}^{\lambda}(v,n) = E^{\lambda}(v) - vn$.
- Stationarity condition: $\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}^{\lambda}(v,n)}{\partial v}\Big|_{v=v^{\lambda}(n)} = 0 \implies \frac{\partial F^{\lambda}(n)}{\partial n} = -v^{\lambda}(n).$

• We deduce from the stationarity condition of the *maximizing* potential $v^{\lambda}[n]$ that

$$\frac{\delta F^{\lambda}[n]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})} = -v^{\lambda}[n](\mathbf{r}).$$

- Let us return to the real system we are interested in with nuclear potential v_{ne} and ground-state density n_0 .
- Since $v_{ne} = v^{\lambda=1}[n_0]$, the KS potential we are looking for is

$$v^{\text{KS}}[n_0](\mathbf{r}) = v^{\lambda=0}[n_0](\mathbf{r})$$

$$= v^{\lambda=1}[n_0](\mathbf{r}) + \left(v^{\lambda=0}[n_0](\mathbf{r}) - v^{\lambda=1}[n_0](\mathbf{r})\right)$$

$$= v_{\text{ne}}(\mathbf{r}) + \left(\frac{\delta F^{\lambda=1}[n_0]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})} - \frac{\delta F^{\lambda=0}[n_0]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})}\right)$$

$$= v_{\text{ne}}(\mathbf{r}) + \left(\frac{\delta F[n_0]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})} - \frac{\delta T_{\text{s}}[n_0]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})}\right)$$

$$\boxed{v^{\text{KS}}[n_0](\mathbf{r}) = v_{\text{ne}}(\mathbf{r}) + \frac{\delta E_{\text{Hxc}}[n_0]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})}}$$

Self-consistent KS equations

$$\left(-\frac{1}{2}\nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^{2}+v_{\mathrm{ne}}(\mathbf{r})+\frac{\delta E_{\mathrm{Hxc}}\left[n_{0}\right]}{\delta n(\mathbf{r})}\right)\varphi_{i}^{\mathrm{KS}}(\mathbf{x})=\varepsilon_{i}^{\mathrm{KS}}\varphi_{i}^{\mathrm{KS}}(\mathbf{x})$$

where

$$n_0(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\sigma=\pm\frac{1}{2}} \sum_{i=1}^N \left| \varphi_i^{\mathrm{KS}}(\mathbf{r},\sigma) \right|^2.$$

Important conclusion: if we know the *xc functional* $E_{xc}[n]$, we can determine the ground-state density *self-consistently* (and therefore the ground-state energy), in principle *exactly*.

In KS-DFT, the physical ground-state *energy* reads

$$E_0 = T_{\rm s}[n_0] + E_{\rm Hxc}[n_0] + \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \mathrm{d}\mathbf{r} \, v_{\rm ne}(\mathbf{r}) n_0(\mathbf{r}),$$

where
$$T_{\rm s}[n_0] = \left\langle \Phi_0^{\rm KS} \middle| \hat{T} \middle| \Phi_0^{\rm KS} \right\rangle = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \int \mathrm{d}\mathbf{x} \; \varphi_i^*(\mathbf{x}) \nabla_{\mathbf{r}}^2 \varphi_i(\mathbf{x}).$$