Green Function DFT for alloys



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Green Functions and Scattering Theory

e.g. H.Ebert et al. Reports on Progress in Physics, 74, 096501, (2011)

- DFT needs to solve the Kohn-Sham equation $\left(\frac{-\hbar^2 \nabla^2}{2m} + V(\mathbf{r}; [n])\right)\phi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon_i \phi_i(\mathbf{r})$ where $V(\mathbf{r}; [n])$ is the effective potential.
- This can be framed in terms of the single electron Green function G(r, r'; ε).
- Defined by $(\varepsilon + \frac{\hbar^2 \nabla^2}{2m} V(\mathbf{r}; [n]))G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \varepsilon) = \delta(\mathbf{r} \mathbf{r}').$
- Observables can be calculated from *G*, e.g. the electron density $n(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{1}{\pi} Im \int^{\varepsilon_F} G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}; \varepsilon) d\varepsilon$.
- In terms of electron states

$$G(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\varepsilon) = \sum_{i} \frac{\phi_{i}(\mathbf{r})\phi_{i}^{*}(\mathbf{r}')}{(\varepsilon - \varepsilon_{i})}$$



Potentials and Scattering

• Effective Kohn-Sham DFT potentials in a solid, nuclear Coulombic and electronic screening contribution.



• Muffin-tin approximation





Kohn-Sham Eqs. of DFT in terms of operators

- Begin with $(\varepsilon \hat{H})|\phi >= 0$ where $\hat{H} = \frac{-\hbar^2 \nabla^2}{2m} + V(\mathbf{r})$. The Green function operator corresponding to \hat{H} is $\hat{G}(\varepsilon) = (\varepsilon \hat{H})^{-1}$ where ε has a small imaginary part.
- With no potential and so for the free electron $(\varepsilon \hat{H}_0)|\psi \rangle = 0$, $\hat{G}_0 = (\varepsilon \hat{H}_0)^{-1}$.
- Get a Dyson equation (dropping hats) $G = G_0 + G_0 V G = G_0 + G_0 V G_0 + G_0 V G_0 + \cdots$
- In terms of the transition operator T such that $T G_0 = V G$, $G = G_0 + G_0 T G_0$.
- T describes all possible scattering in the system as it relates the free-electron G_0 to the full scattering G. See $|\phi\rangle = |\psi\rangle + G_0 V |\phi\rangle$ or $|\phi\rangle = |\psi\rangle + G_0 T |\psi\rangle$, (Lippmann-Schwinger Eq. which relates outgoing scattered wave to the incoming wave).



Single site scattering

•
$$\phi(\mathbf{r}) = A\left(e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} + f(\theta,\phi)\frac{e^{ikr}}{r}\right)$$

- $\phi(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{L=l,m} a_L(\varepsilon) R_l(\varepsilon, r) Y_L(\hat{r})$ where $R_l(\varepsilon, r)$ is the solution of the radial Schrödinger equation and $Y_L(\hat{r})$ is a spherical harmonic $(Y_L(\hat{r}) = Y_{l,m}(\theta, \phi))$.
- For $r \to \infty$, $R_l(\varepsilon, r) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\varepsilon}r} \sin[\sqrt{\varepsilon}r \frac{l\pi}{2} + \delta_l(\varepsilon)]$ where $\delta_l(\varepsilon)$ is a scattering phase shift and leads to t^i .



 Localised electronic states are characterised by phase shifts with very sharp resonances, whereas band-like states have more slowly varying phase shifts.



Multiple scattering and KKR formalism

- Multiple scattering theory describes a problem in terms of scattering properties of the individual sites.
- Some rearranging:

$$T = V + V G_0 T = \sum_i (V_i + V_i G_0 T) = \sum_i T^i \text{ with} T^i = V_i + V_i G_0 T = V_i + V_i G_0^{ii} T^i + \sum_{j \neq i} V_i G_0^{ij} T^j.$$

• For a single potential, the transition operator $t^{i} = V_{i} + V_{i} G_{0}^{ii} t^{i}$ and we can write T^{i} in terms of t_{i} 's i.e. $T^{i} = t^{i} + \sum_{j \neq i} t^{i} G_{0}^{ij} T^{j}$.

• If we write
$$T = \sum_{i} T^{i} = \sum_{i} \sum_{j} \tau^{ij}$$
 we get
 $\tau^{ij} = t^{i} \delta_{ij} + \sum_{k \neq i} t^{i} G_{0}^{ik} \tau^{kj} =$
 $t^{i} \delta_{ij} + \sum_{k \neq i} t^{i} G_{0}^{ik} t^{k} \delta_{kj} + \sum_{k \neq i} \sum_{l \neq k} t^{i} G_{0}^{ik} t^{k} G_{0}^{kl} t^{l} \delta_{lj} + \cdots$

• τ^{ij} is the scattering path operator. It gives the scattered wave from site *j* owing to a wave incident on site *i*, taking into account all possible scatterings in between.



Calculating properties from the KKR

- Inside the muffin-tin sphere the radial equation is solved numerically. At the muffin-tin boundary the solution matches to a combination of free-electron solutions and fixes the phase shifts and single site t-operator. Between sites electron propagates freely.
- Green function for DFT, spectra, response functions etc. $G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}', \varepsilon) = Z^{i}(\mathbf{r}_{i}, \varepsilon)\tau^{ij}(\varepsilon)Z^{j}(\mathbf{r}'_{j}, \varepsilon) - \delta_{ij}Z^{i}(\mathbf{r}_{<}, \varepsilon)J^{i}(\mathbf{r}_{>}, \varepsilon)$ where Z^{n} and J^{n} are solutions to the Schrödinger equation for a single site potential V_{n} . $(\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_{i} + \mathbf{R}_{i}, \mathbf{r}' = \mathbf{r}'_{i} + \mathbf{R}_{j})$.
- Density for DFT: $n(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int^{\varepsilon_F} \operatorname{Im} G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}, \varepsilon) d\varepsilon.$
- Density of states: $n(\varepsilon) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \int \text{Im} G(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}, \varepsilon) d\mathbf{r}$.
- Spectral function: $A_B(\mathbf{k},\varepsilon) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} \sum_{nm} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot(\mathbf{R}_n-\mathbf{R}_m)} \int d\mathbf{r} G(\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{R}_n,\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{R}_m,\varepsilon).$ $\rightsquigarrow A_B(\mathbf{k},\varepsilon) = \sum_n \delta(\varepsilon - \varepsilon_n(\mathbf{k})).$ In disordered systems peaks broaden but their positions give an effective band structure, with their width in energy interpreted as an inverse lifetime.



Electronic structure of a paramagnetic transition metal oxide

The electronic structure for MnO in its paramagnetic (DLM) state. The loci of the peaks of the Bloch spectral function with the shading showing the spin fluctuation disorder broadening of these quasi-particle peaks.



DOS for MnO on Mn and O sites (dashed). The left (right) panel shows the DOS associated with electrons with spins parallel (anti-parallel) to the local moment on the site. Note the sizeable gap of the paramagnetic state.

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I.D.Hughes et al., New .J.Phys.10, 063010, (2008)

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Alloy Solid Solutions and Intermetallics



• Mixing of 2 metals (Hume Rothery Rules)

- band filling (av. no. of electrons/atom).
- atomic size difference.
- electronegativity -arrangement of charge around a nucleus.
- Solid solution each site with x(1-x) chance of A (B) atom.
- Ordered arrangement intermetallic. Affects

mechanical, electrical, thermal properties etc.

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• $< G^{ij} >= G_0^{ij} + \sum_{kl} G_0^{ik} \Xi^{kl} < G^{lj} >$ • $\bar{G}(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_j < G^{ij} > e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j)} = (G_0^{-1}(\mathbf{k}) - \Xi(\mathbf{k}))^{-1}$ • $\Xi(\mathbf{k})$ is a self energy.



Cluster Approximation



•
$$G_{IJ}^{\eta} = [\underline{G}^{0,-1} + \underline{\Xi} - \underline{V}^{\eta}]_{IJ}^{-1}$$

• $\sum_{\eta} P(\eta) G_{IJ}^{\eta} = \hat{G}_{IJ} \approx \langle G_{IJ} \rangle$
• $\hat{G}_{IJ} = \frac{1}{\Omega_{BZ}} \sum_{\mathbf{K}_n} \int [G^0(\mathbf{k}) - \Xi(\mathbf{K}_n)^{-1} e^{i\mathbf{K}_n \cdot (\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J)} d\mathbf{k}_n.$



Electronic structure of disordered alloys - examples

• Copper-Zinc alloy: pure Cu and Zn, B2-Cu-Zn, Cu₅₀ Zn₅₀.



• Ferromagnetic b.c.c. Fe and Fe₈₀Cr₂₀ alloy: spin-polarised DOS.





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Atom-atom interactions



- Atom swapping using V_{i,j}'s, and more complex cluster interactions. Effect of magnetism. Temperature dependence.
- Simulate alloy ordering, both long and short-ranged. Also defect energetics, elastic properties.

