

# VASP: Basics

(DFT, PW, PAW, ... )

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# Outline

- Density functional theory
- Translational invariance and periodic boundary conditions
- Plane wave basis set
- The Projector-Augmented-Wave method
- Electronic minimization

# The Many-Body Schrödinger equation

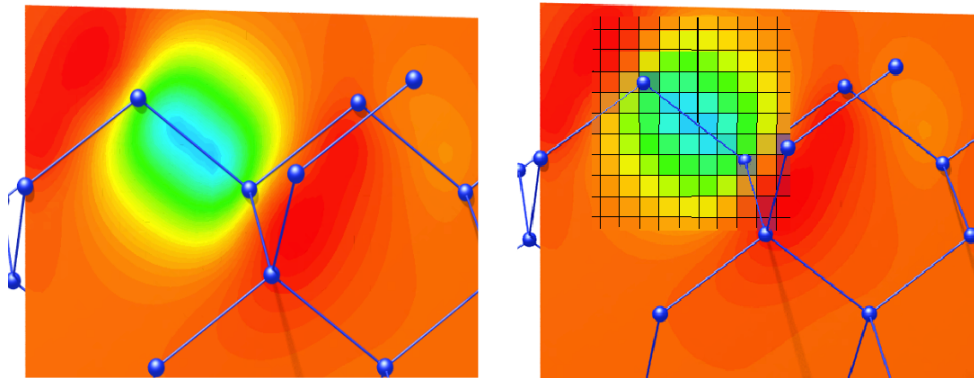
$$\hat{H}\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N) = E\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N)$$

$$\left( -\frac{1}{2} \sum_i \Delta_i + \sum_i V(\mathbf{r}_i) + \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} \right) \Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N) = E\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N)$$

For instance, many-body WF storage demands are prohibitive:

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N)$$

$$(\#\text{grid points})^N$$



5 electrons on a 10×10×10 grid ~ 10 PetaBytes !

A solution: map onto “one-electron” theory:

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N) \rightarrow \{\psi_1(\mathbf{r}), \psi_2(\mathbf{r}), \dots, \psi_N(\mathbf{r})\}$$



# Hohenberg-Kohn-Sham DFT

Map onto “one-electron” theory:

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N) \rightarrow \{\psi_1(\mathbf{r}), \psi_2(\mathbf{r}), \dots, \psi_N(\mathbf{r})\} \quad \Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N) = \prod_i^N \psi_i(\mathbf{r}_i)$$

Total energy is a functional of the density:

$$E[\rho] = T_s[\{\psi_i[\rho]\}] + E_H[\rho] + E_{xc}[\rho] + E_Z[\rho] + U[Z]$$

The density is computed using the one-electron orbitals:

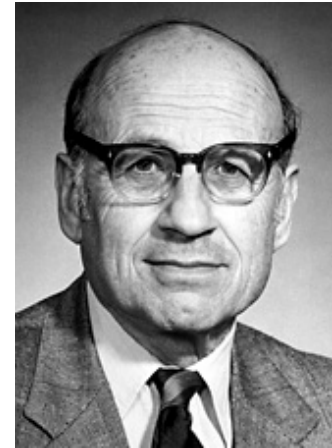
$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i^N |\psi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2$$

The one-electron orbitals are the solutions of the Kohn-Sham equation:

$$\left( -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + V_Z(\mathbf{r}) + V_H[\rho](\mathbf{r}) + V_{xc}[\rho](\mathbf{r}) \right) \psi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_i \psi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

BUT:

$$E_{xc}[\rho] = ??? \quad V_{xc}[\rho](\mathbf{r}) = ???$$



# Exchange-Correlation

$$E_{xc}[\rho] = ??? \quad V_{xc}[\rho](\mathbf{r}) = ???$$

- Exchange-Correlation functionals are modeled on the uniform-electron-gas (UEG): The correlation energy (and potential) has been calculated by means of Monte-Carlo methods for a wide range of densities, and has been parametrized to yield a density functional.
- LDA: we simply pretend that an inhomogeneous electronic density locally behaves like a homogeneous electron gas.
- Many, many, many different functionals available: LDA, GGA, meta-GGA, van-der-Waals functionals, etc etc

# An N-electron system: $N = O(10^{23})$

Hohenberg-Kohn-Sham DFT takes us a long way:

$$\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N) \rightarrow \{\psi_1(\mathbf{r}), \psi_2(\mathbf{r}), \dots, \psi_N(\mathbf{r})\}$$

$(\text{\#grid points})^N \quad N \times (\text{\#grid points})$

Nice for atoms and molecules, but in a realistic piece of solid state material  $N = O(10^{23})!$

# Translational invariance: Periodic Boundary Conditions

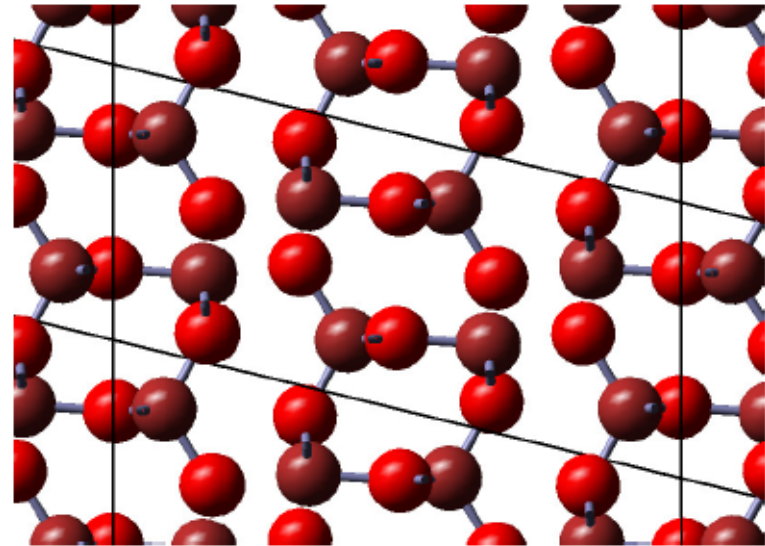
Translational invariance implies:

$$\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{R}) = \psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})e^{i\mathbf{k}\mathbf{R}}$$

and

$$\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = u_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})e^{i\mathbf{k}\mathbf{r}}$$

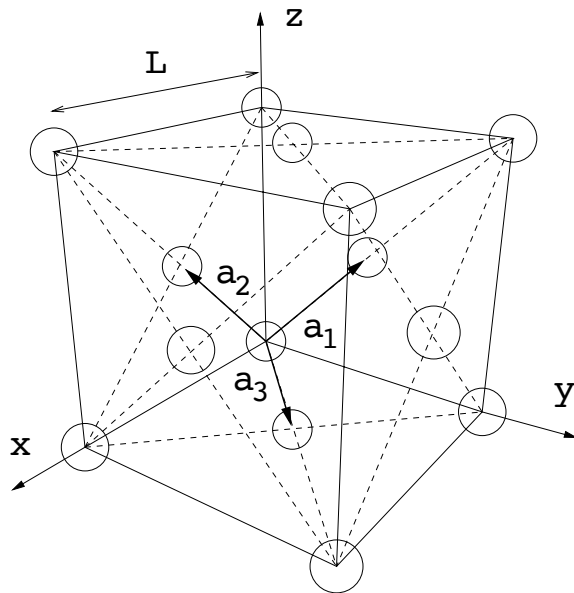
$$u_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{R}) = u_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$$



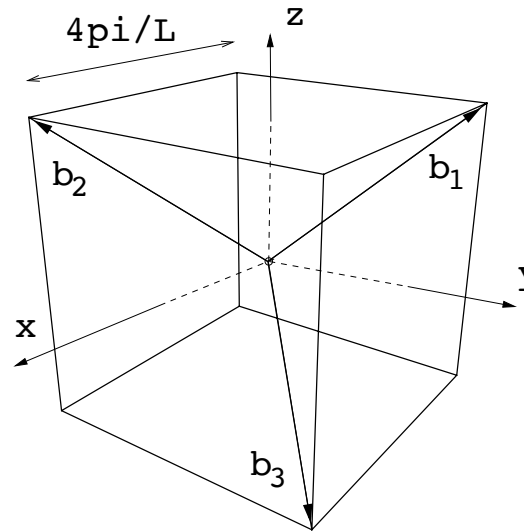
All states are labeled by *Bloch vector*  $\mathbf{k}$  and the *band index*  $n$ :

- The Bloch vector  $\mathbf{k}$  is usually constrained to lie within the first Brillouin zone of the reciprocal space lattice.
- The band index  $n$  is of the order of the number of electrons per unit cell.

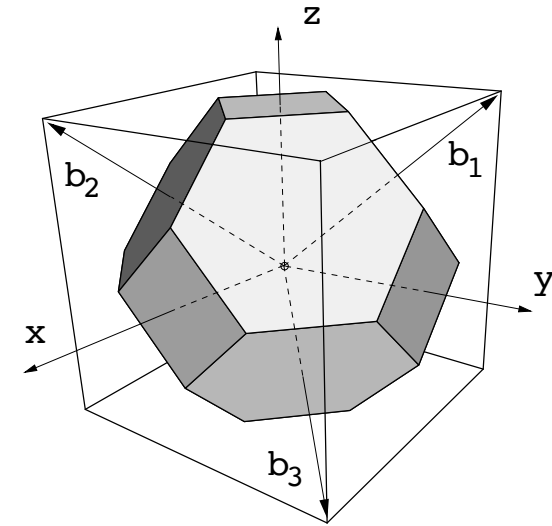
# Reciprocal space & the first Brillouin zone



A



B



C

$$\mathbf{b}_1 = \frac{2\pi}{\Omega} \mathbf{a}_2 \times \mathbf{a}_3 \quad \mathbf{b}_2 = \frac{2\pi}{\Omega} \mathbf{a}_3 \times \mathbf{a}_1 \quad \mathbf{b}_3 = \frac{2\pi}{\Omega} \mathbf{a}_1 \times \mathbf{a}_2$$

$$\Omega = \mathbf{a}_1 \cdot \mathbf{a}_2 \times \mathbf{a}_3 \quad \mathbf{a}_i \cdot \mathbf{b}_j = 2\pi \delta_{ij}$$



# Sampling the 1<sup>st</sup> BZ

The evaluation of many key quantities involves an integral over the 1<sup>st</sup> BZ.  
For instance the charge density:

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \sum_n \int_{\text{BZ}} f_{n\mathbf{k}} |\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})|^2 d\mathbf{k}$$

We exploit the fact that the orbitals at Bloch vectors  $\mathbf{k}$  that are close together are almost identical and approximate the integral over the 1<sup>st</sup> BZ by a weighted sum over a discrete set of  $\mathbf{k}$ -points:

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{n\mathbf{k}} w_{\mathbf{k}} f_{n\mathbf{k}} |\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})|^2 d\mathbf{k},$$

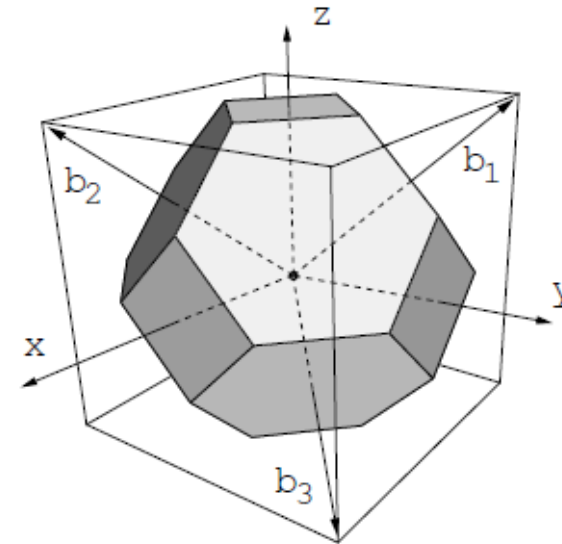
Fazit: the intractable task of determining  $\Psi(\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N)$  with  $N=10^{23}$ , has been reduced to calculating  $\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$  at a discrete set of  $\mathbf{k}$ -points in the 1<sup>st</sup> BZ, for a number of bands that is of the order of the number of electrons in the unit cell.

Idea: equally spaced mesh in the 1<sup>st</sup> Brillouin zone

$$\mathbf{k}_{prs} = u_p \mathbf{b}_1 + u_r \mathbf{b}_2 + u_s \mathbf{b}_3$$

$$u_r = \frac{2r - q_r - 1}{2q_r} r = 1, 2, \dots, q_r$$

$\mathbf{b}_i$  reciprocal lattice-vectors  
 $q_r$  determines number of k-points in r-direction



Example: a quadratic 2D lattice

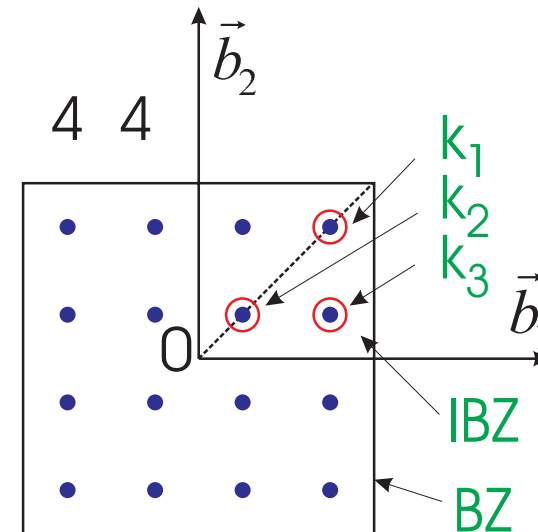
- $q_1 = q_2 = 4$ , i.e., 16 points in total
- Only 3 symmetry inequivalent points:

$$4 \times \mathbf{k}_1 = \left(\frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{8}\right) \Rightarrow \omega_1 = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$4 \times \mathbf{k}_2 = \left(\frac{3}{8}, \frac{3}{8}\right) \Rightarrow \omega_2 = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$8 \times \mathbf{k}_3 = \left(\frac{3}{8}, \frac{1}{8}\right) \Rightarrow \omega_3 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{\Omega_{\text{BZ}}} \int_{\text{BZ}} F(\mathbf{k}) d\mathbf{k} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{4} F(\mathbf{k}_1) + \frac{1}{4} F(\mathbf{k}_2) + \frac{1}{2} F(\mathbf{k}_3)$$

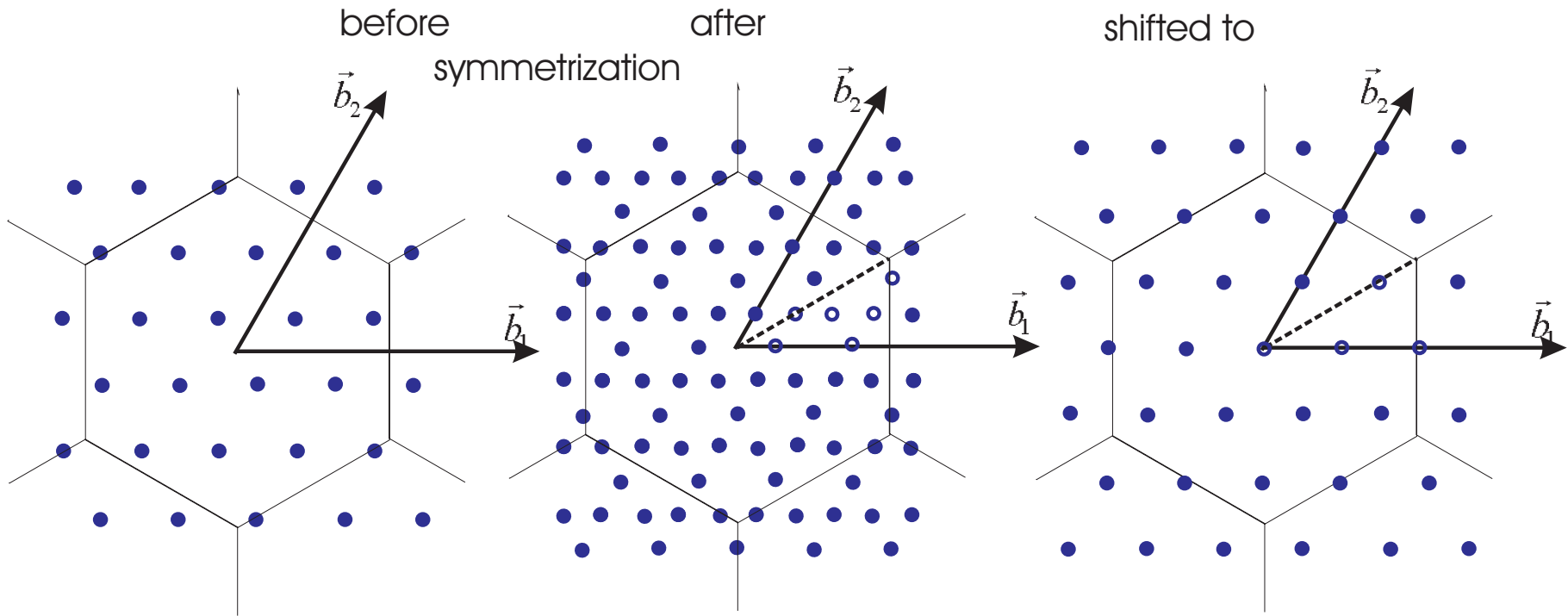


## Algorithm:

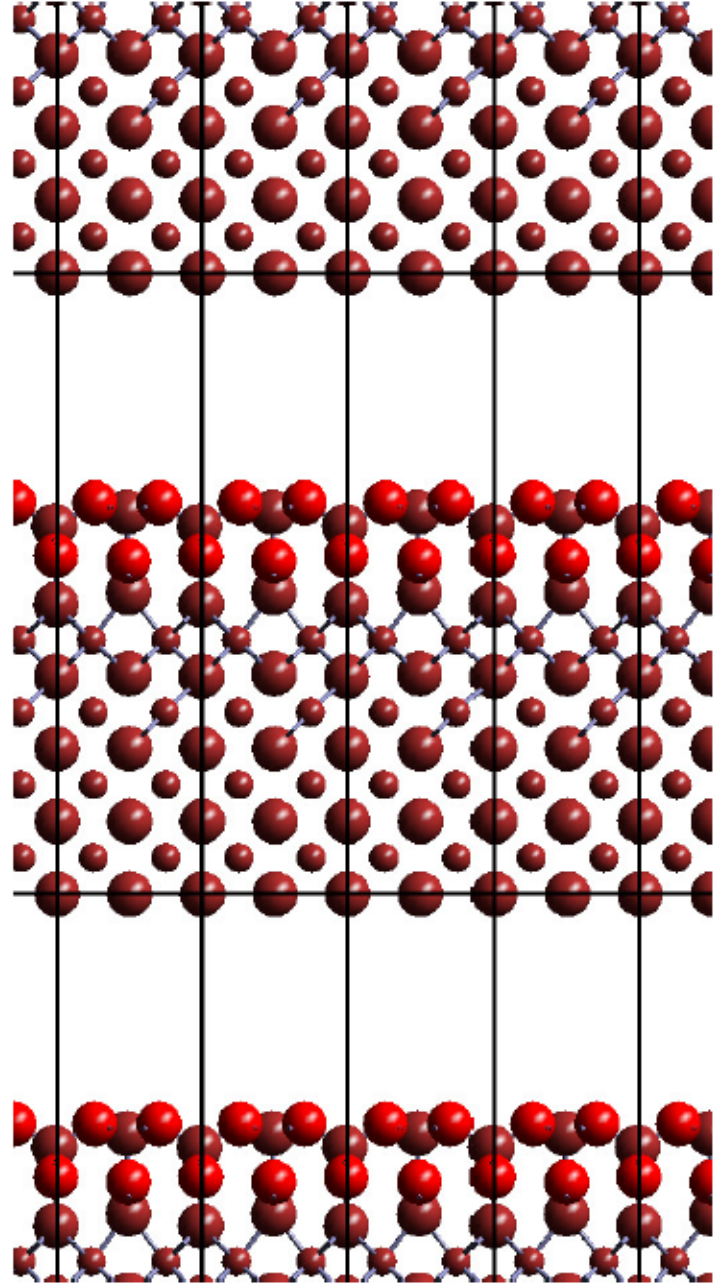
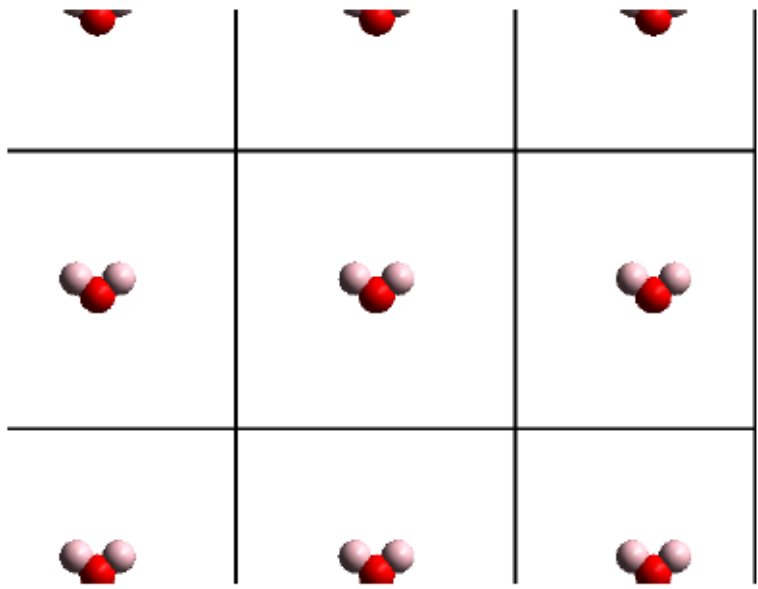
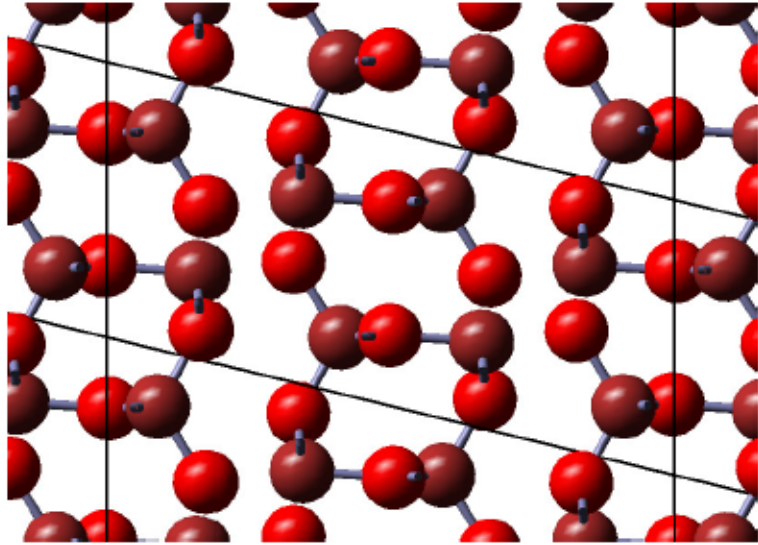
- Calculate equally spaced mesh.
- Shift the mesh if desired.
- Apply all symmetry operations of the Bravais lattice to all  $\mathbf{k}$ -points.
- Extract the irreducible  $\mathbf{k}$ -points (IBZ).
- Calculate the proper weighting.

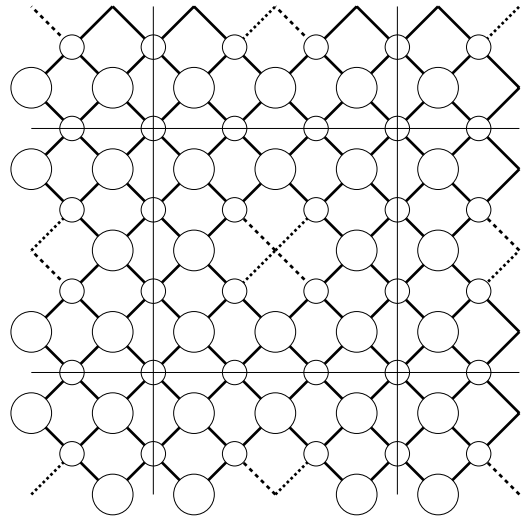
**Common meshes:** Two different choices for the center of the mesh.

- Centered on  $\Gamma$
- Centered around  $\Gamma$  (can break the symmetry!)

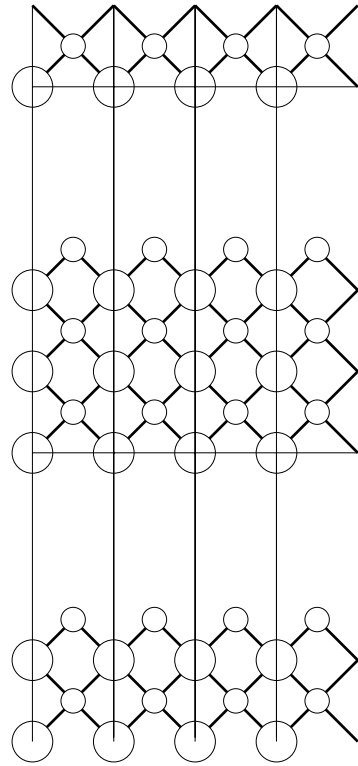


- In certain cell geometries (*e.g.* hexagonal cells) even meshes break the symmetry.
- Symmetrization results in non-uniform distributions of  $\mathbf{k}$ -points.
- $\Gamma$ -point centered meshes preserve the symmetry.

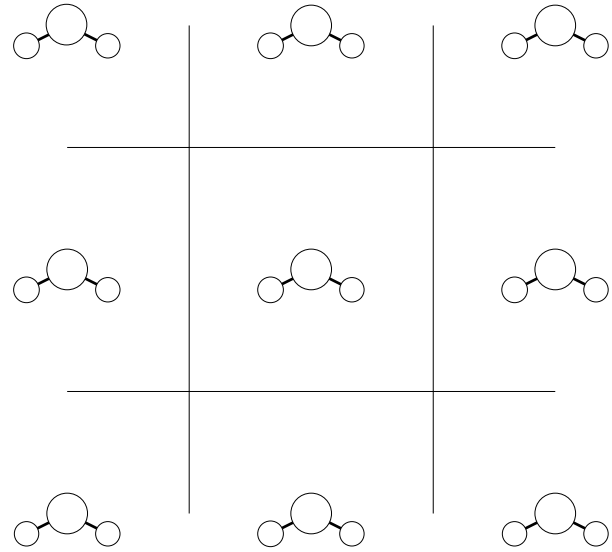




**A**



**B**



**C**

The total energy

$$E[\rho, \{\mathbf{R}, Z\}] = T_s[\{\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}[\rho]\}] + E_H[\rho, \{\mathbf{R}, Z\}] + E_{xc}[\rho] + U(\{\mathbf{R}, Z\})$$

The kinetic energy

$$T_s[\{\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}[\rho]\}] = \sum_{n\mathbf{k}} w_{\mathbf{k}} f_{n\mathbf{k}} \langle \psi_{n\mathbf{k}} | -\frac{1}{2}\Delta | \psi_{n\mathbf{k}} \rangle$$

The Hartree energy

$$E_H[\rho, \{\mathbf{R}, Z\}] = \frac{1}{2} \iint \frac{\rho_{eZ}(\mathbf{r})\rho_{eZ}(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d\mathbf{r}' d\mathbf{r}$$

where

$$\rho_{eZ}(\mathbf{r}) = \rho(\mathbf{r}) + \sum_i Z_i \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_i) \quad \rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{n\mathbf{k}} w_{\mathbf{k}} f_{n\mathbf{k}} |\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})|^2 d\mathbf{k}$$

The Kohn-Sham equations

$$\left( -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + V_H[\rho_{eZ}](\mathbf{r}) + V_{xc}[\rho](\mathbf{r}) \right) \psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} \psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$$

The Hartree potential

$$V_H[\rho_{eZ}](\mathbf{r}) = \int \frac{\rho_{eZ}(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d\mathbf{r}'$$

# A plane wave basis set

$$\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = u_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})e^{i\mathbf{k}\mathbf{r}} \quad u_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{R}) = u_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$$

All cell-periodic functions are expanded in plane waves (Fourier analysis):

$$u_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\Omega^{1/2}} \sum_{\mathbf{G}} C_{\mathbf{G}n\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}} \quad \psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\Omega^{1/2}} \sum_{\mathbf{G}} C_{\mathbf{G}n\mathbf{k}} e^{i(\mathbf{G}+\mathbf{k})\mathbf{r}}$$

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\mathbf{G}} \rho_{\mathbf{G}} e^{i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}} \quad V(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\mathbf{G}} V_{\mathbf{G}} e^{i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}}$$

The basis set includes all plane waves for which

$$\frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{k}|^2 < E_{\text{cutoff}}$$

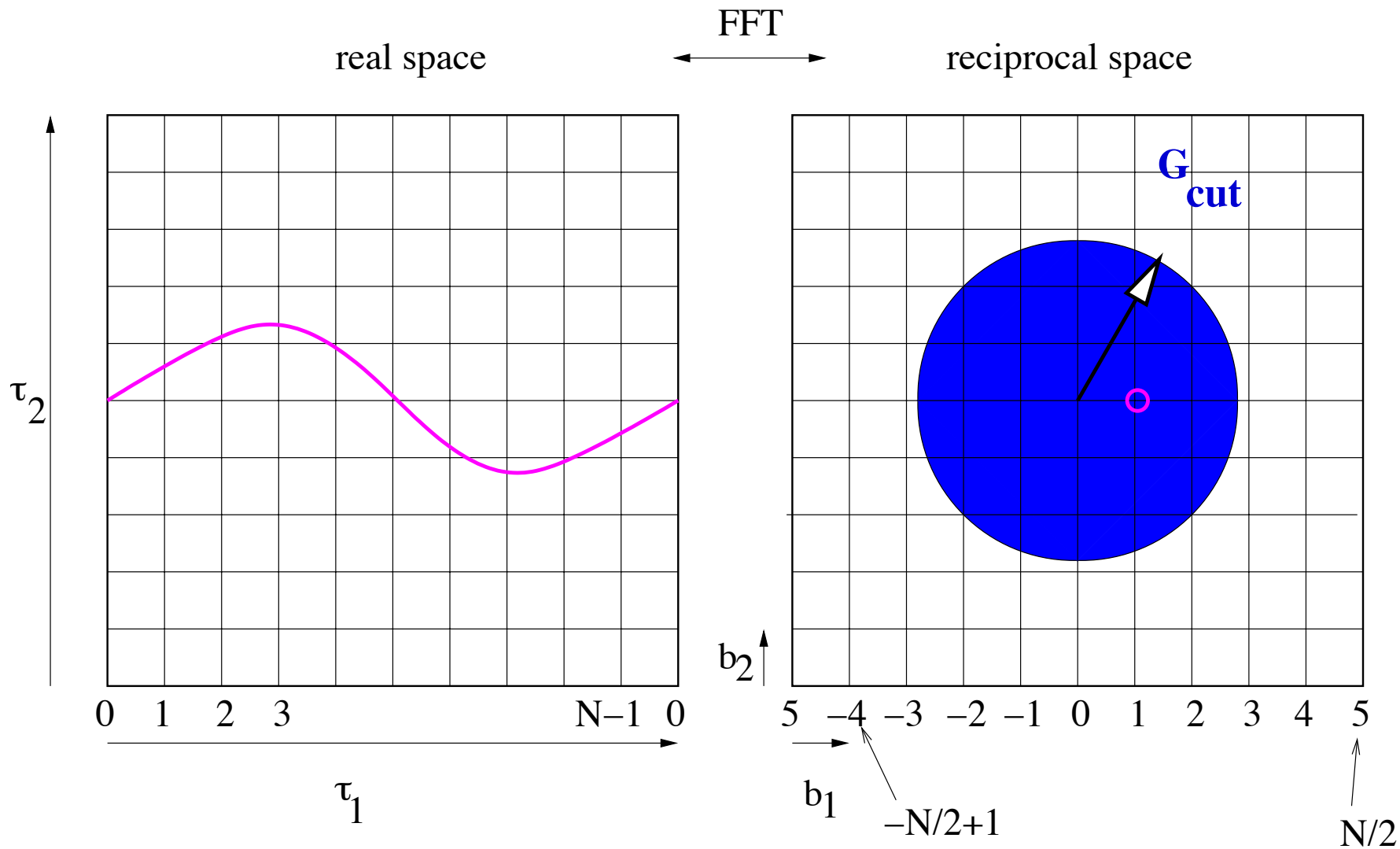
Transformation by means of FFT between “real” space and “reciprocal” space:

$$C_{r n \mathbf{k}} = \sum_{\mathbf{G}} C_{\mathbf{G} n \mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}} \xleftrightarrow{\text{FFT}} C_{\mathbf{G} n \mathbf{k}} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{FFT}}} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} C_{r n \mathbf{k}} e^{-i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}}$$



# Why use plane waves?

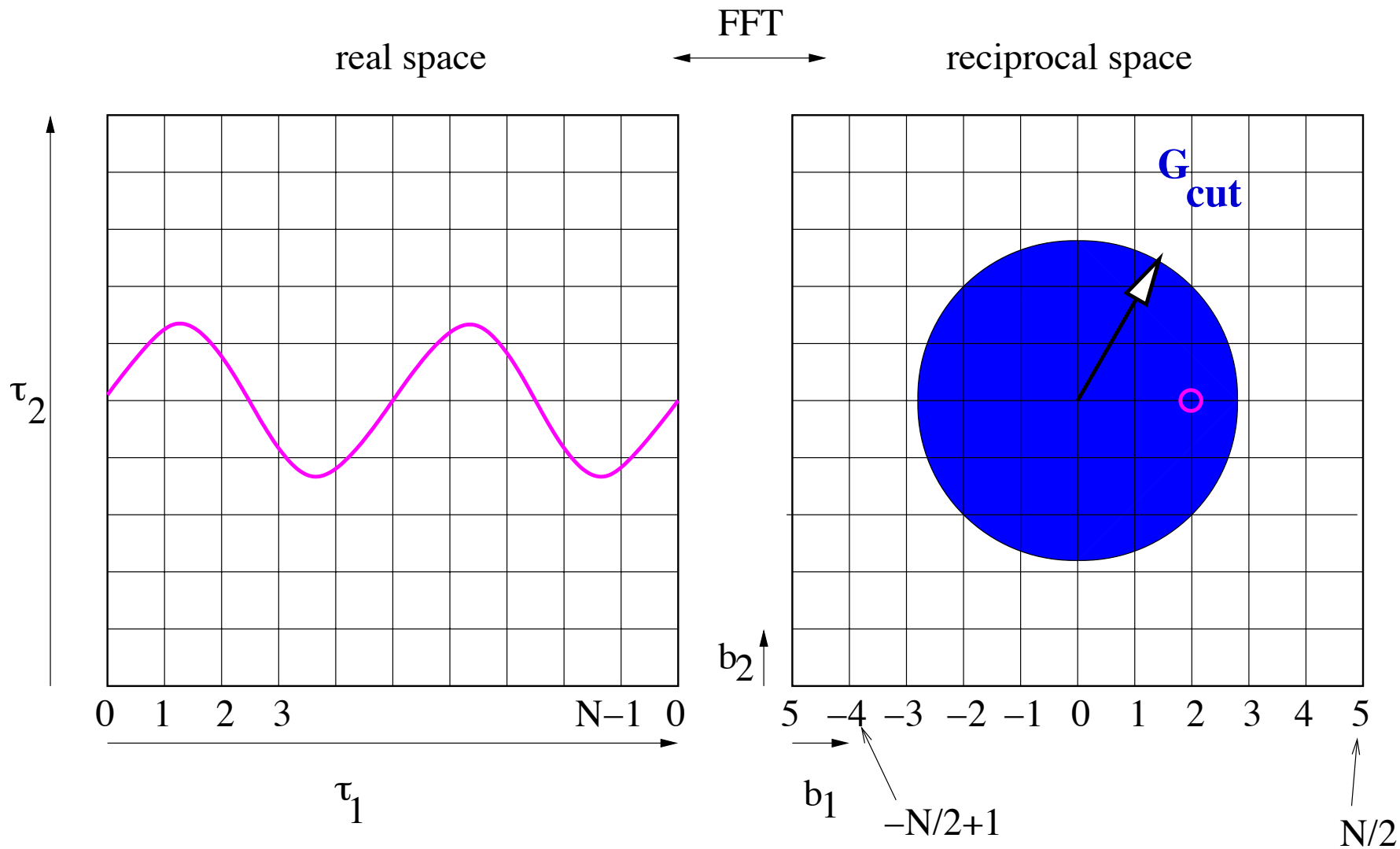
- Historical reason: Many elements exhibit a band-structure that can be interpreted in a free electron picture (metallic s and p elements). Pseudopotential theory was initially developed to cope with these elements (pseudopotential perturbation theory).
- Practical reason: The total energy expressions and the Hamiltonian are easy to implement.
- Computational reason: The action of the Hamiltonian on the orbitals can be efficiently evaluated using FFTs.



$$x_1 = n_1 / N \tau_1$$

$$g_1 = n_1 2\pi / \tau_1$$

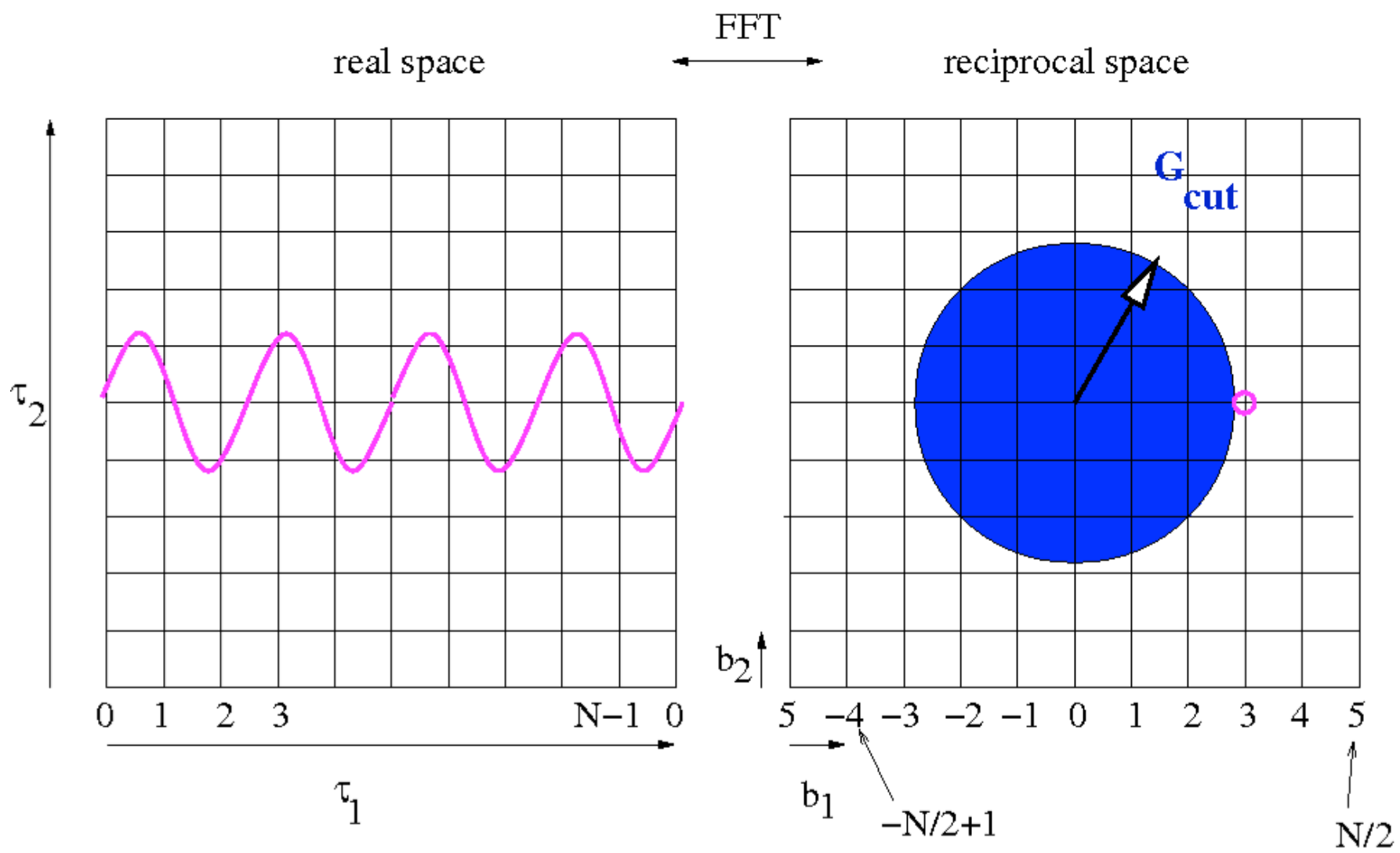
$$C_{\mathbf{r}n\mathbf{k}} = \sum_{\mathbf{G}} C_{\mathbf{G}n\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}} \xleftrightarrow{\text{FFT}} C_{\mathbf{G}n\mathbf{k}} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{FFT}}} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} C_{\mathbf{r}n\mathbf{k}} e^{-i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}}$$



$$x_1 = n_1 / N \tau_1$$

$$g_1 = n_1 2\pi / \tau_1$$

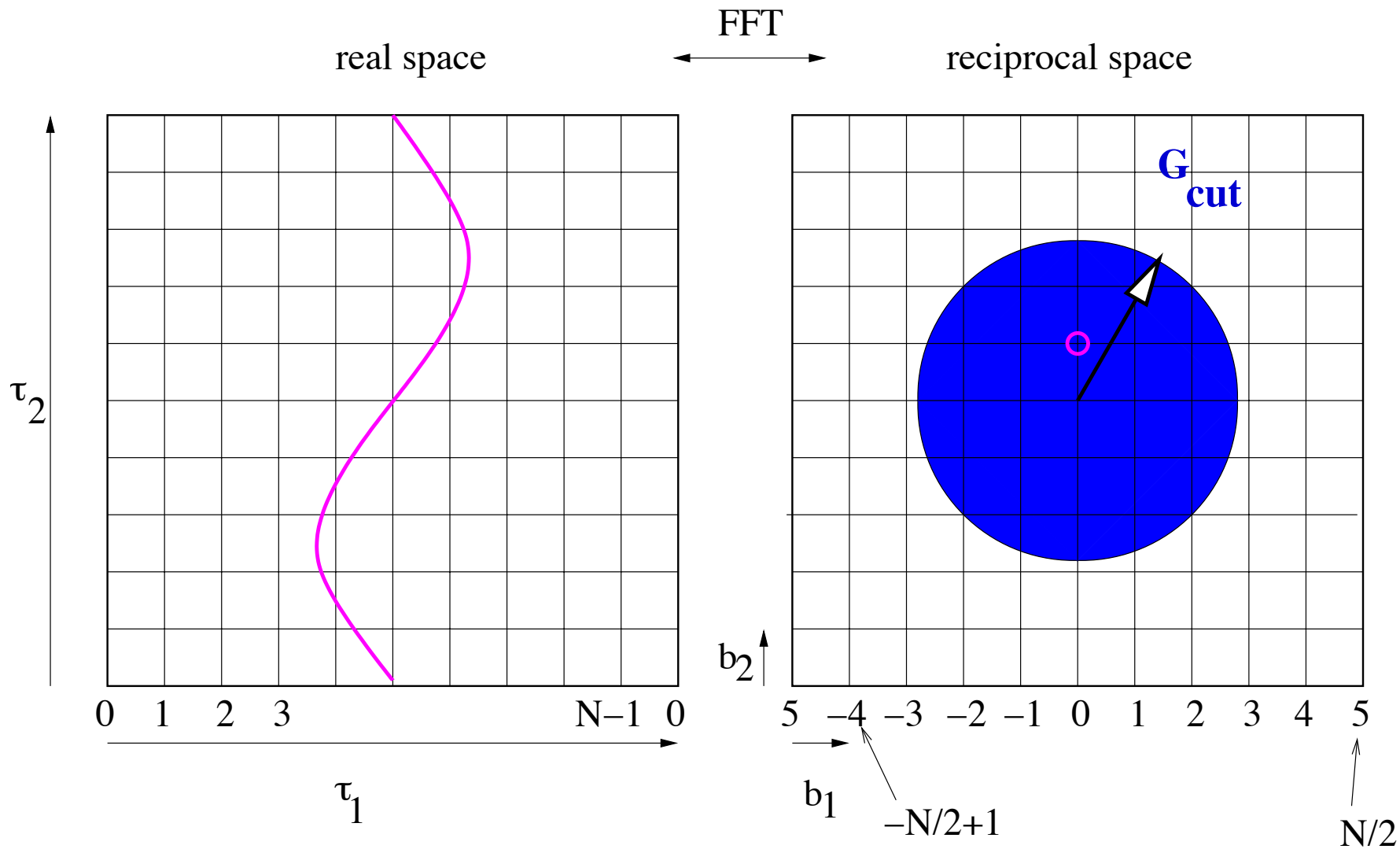
$$C_{\mathbf{r}n\mathbf{k}} = \sum_{\mathbf{G}} C_{\mathbf{G}n\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}} \xleftrightarrow{\text{FFT}} C_{\mathbf{G}n\mathbf{k}} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{FFT}}} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} C_{\mathbf{r}n\mathbf{k}} e^{-i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}}$$



$$x_1 = n_1 / N \tau_1$$

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$$C_{\mathbf{r}n\mathbf{k}} = \sum_{\mathbf{G}} C_{\mathbf{G}n\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}} \xleftrightarrow{\text{FFT}} C_{\mathbf{G}n\mathbf{k}} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{FFT}}} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} C_{\mathbf{r}n\mathbf{k}} e^{-i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}}$$

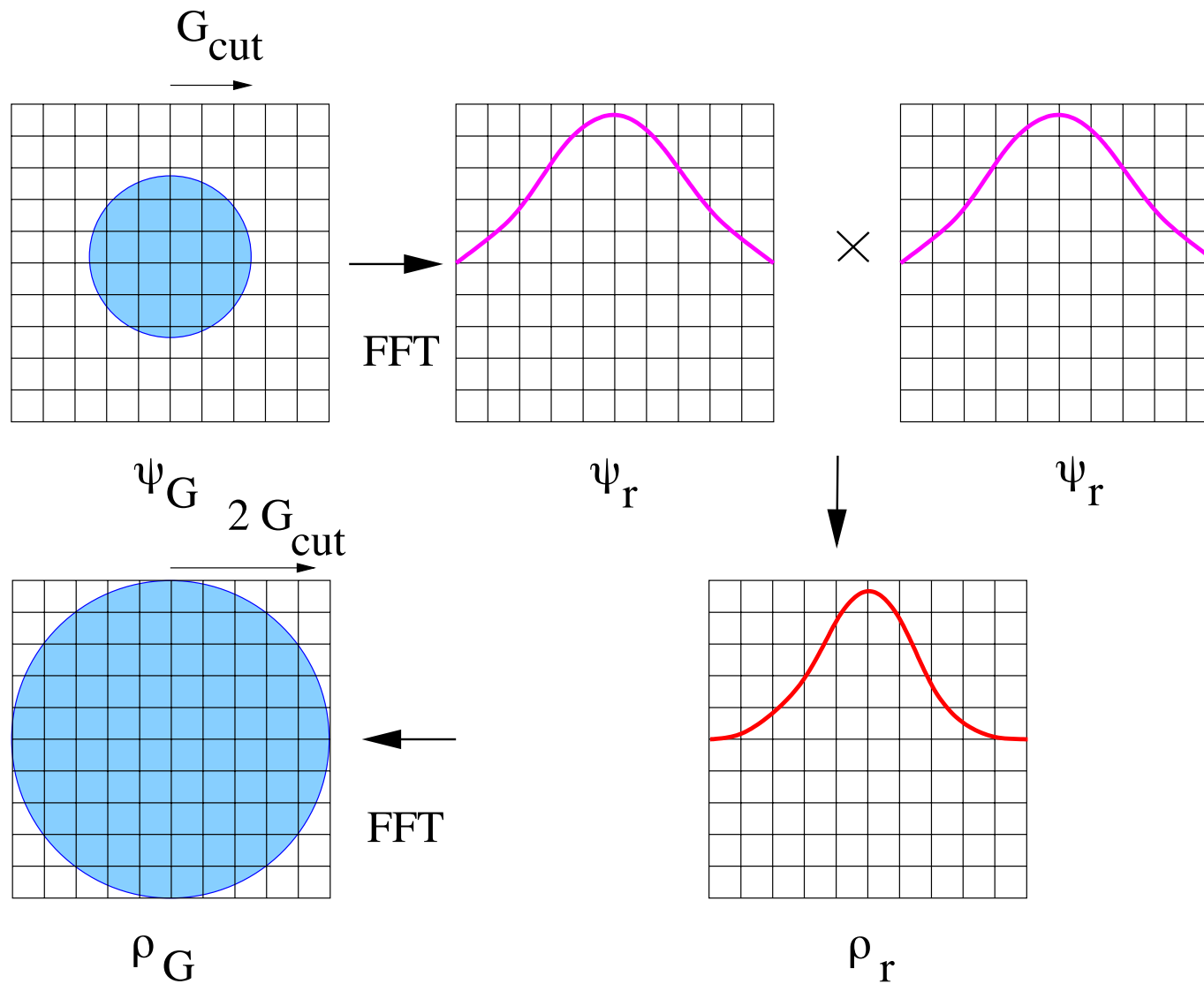


$$x_1 = n_1 / N \tau_1$$

$$g_1 = n_1 2\pi / \tau_1$$

$$C_{\mathbf{r}n\mathbf{k}} = \sum_{\mathbf{G}} C_{\mathbf{G}n\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}} \xleftrightarrow{\text{FFT}} C_{\mathbf{G}n\mathbf{k}} = \frac{1}{N_{\text{FFT}}} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} C_{\mathbf{r}n\mathbf{k}} e^{-i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}}$$

# The charge density



# The action of the Hamiltonian

The action  $\mathbf{H}|\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}\rangle$

$$\left(-\frac{1}{2}\Delta + V(\mathbf{r})\right)\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})$$

Using the convention

$$\langle\mathbf{r}|\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{k}\rangle = \frac{1}{\Omega^{1/2}}e^{i(\mathbf{G}+\mathbf{k})\mathbf{r}} \rightarrow \langle\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{k}|\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}\rangle = C_{\mathbf{G}n\mathbf{k}}$$

- Kinetic energy:

$$\langle\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{k}|\mathbf{H}|\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}\rangle = \frac{1}{2}|\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{k}|^2 C_{\mathbf{G}n\mathbf{k}} \quad N_{\text{NPLW}}$$

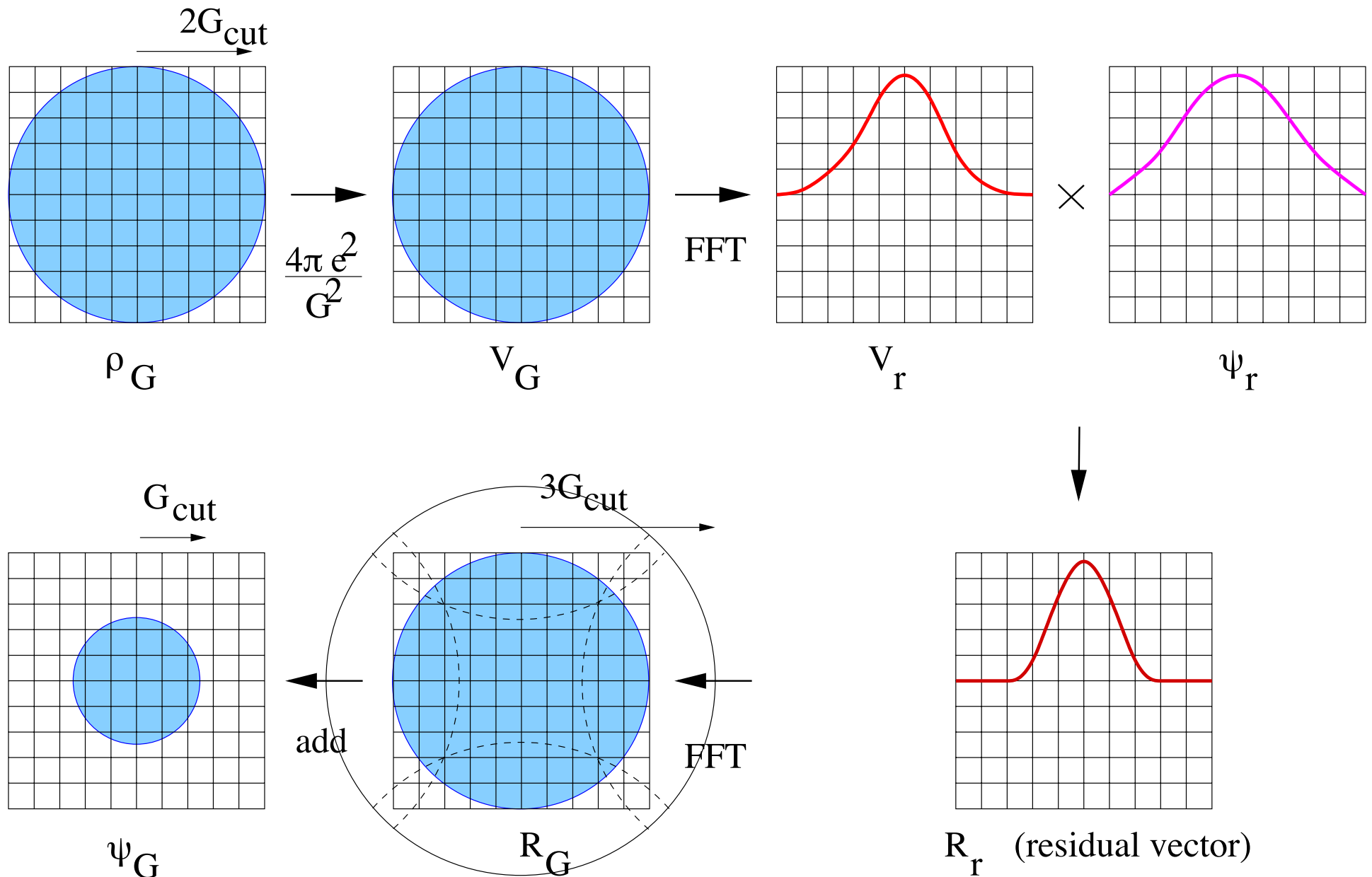
- Local potential:  $V = V_{\text{H}}[\rho] + V_{\text{xc}}[\rho] + V_{\text{ext}}$

- Exchange-correlation: easily obtained in real space  $V_{\text{xc},\mathbf{r}} = V_{\text{xc}}[\rho_{\mathbf{r}}]$
- FFT to reciprocal space  $\{V_{\text{xc},\mathbf{r}}\} \rightarrow \{V_{\text{xc},\mathbf{G}}\}$
- Hartree potential: solve Poisson eq. in reciprocal space  $V_{\text{H},\mathbf{G}} = \frac{4\pi}{|\mathbf{G}|^2}\rho_{\mathbf{G}}$
- Add all contributions  $V_{\mathbf{G}} = V_{\text{H},\mathbf{G}} + V_{\text{xc},\mathbf{G}} + V_{\text{ext},\mathbf{G}}$
- FFT to real space  $\{V_{\mathbf{G}}\} \rightarrow \{V_{\mathbf{r}}\}$

The action

$$\langle\mathbf{G} + \mathbf{k}|V|\psi_{n\mathbf{k}}\rangle = \frac{1}{N_{\text{FFT}}} \sum_{\mathbf{r}} V_{\mathbf{r}} C_{\mathbf{r}n\mathbf{k}} e^{-i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}} \quad N_{\text{FFT}} \log N_{\text{FFT}}$$

# The action of the local potential





# The Projector-Augmented-Wave method

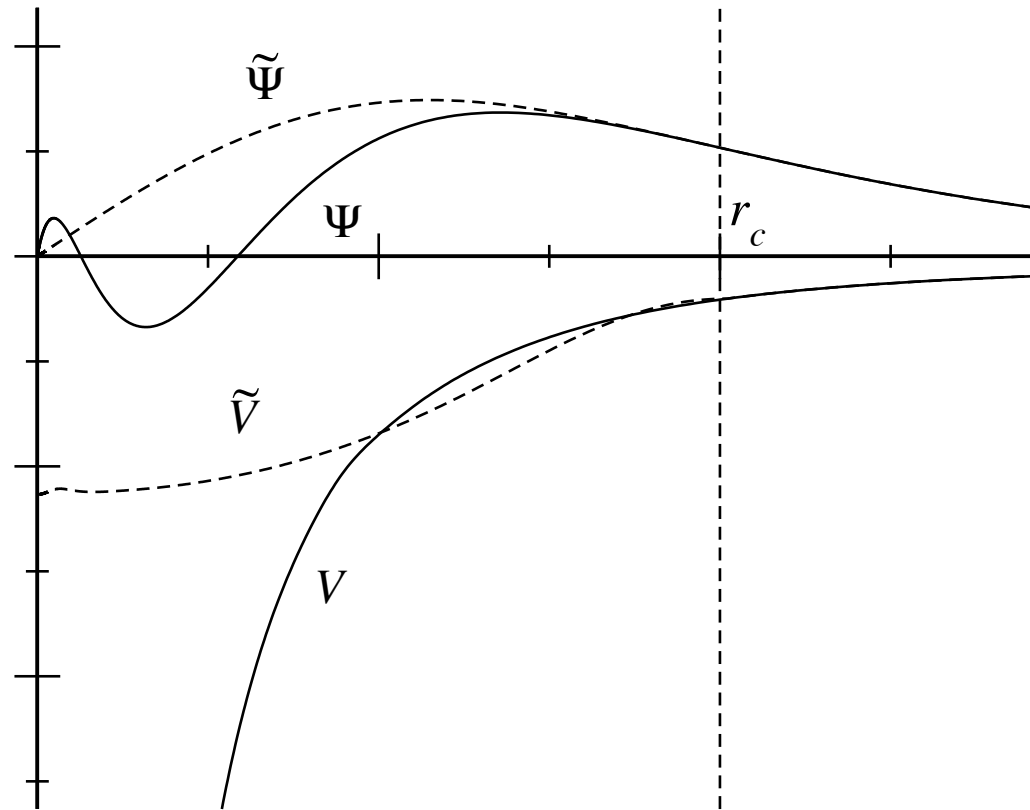
The number of plane waves needed to describe

- tightly bound (spatially strongly localized) states,
- and rapid oscillations (nodal features) of the orbitals near the nucleus exceeds any practical limit, except maybe for Li and H.

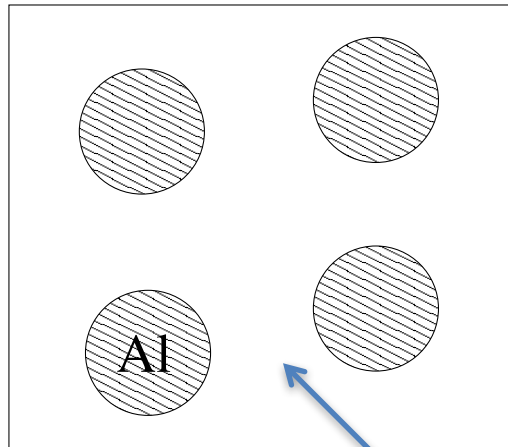
The common solution:

- Introduce the frozen core approximation:  
Core electrons are pre-calculated in an atomic environment and kept frozen in the course of the remaining calculations.
- Use of pseudopotentials instead of exact potentials:
  - Norm-conserving pseudopotentials
  - Ultra-soft pseudopotentials
  - The Projector-Augmented-Wave (PAW) method  
[P. E. Blöchl, Phys. Rev. **B** 50, 17953 (1994)]

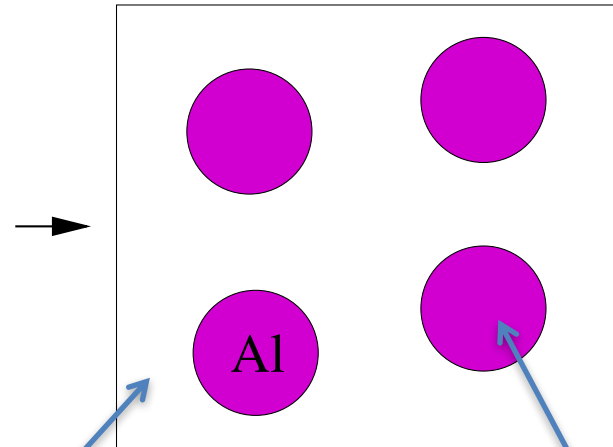
# Pseudopotentials: the general idea



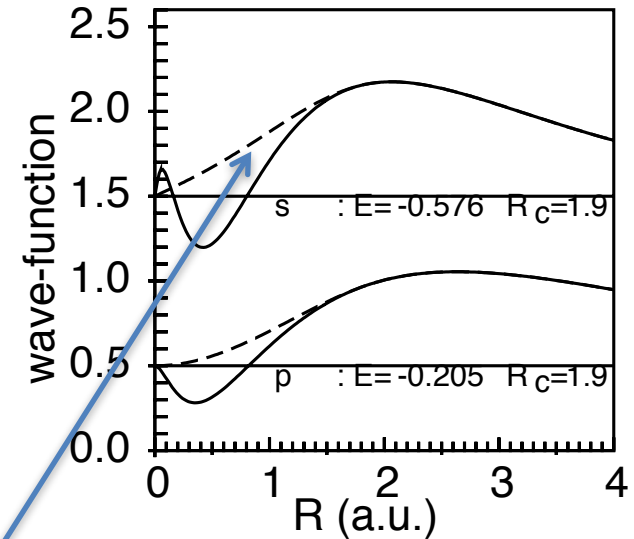
# Pseudopotentials: cont.



Exact potential (interstitial)



Pseudopotential



Al  
3p  
3s

~~2p  
2s  
1s~~

effective Al atom  
2p  
1s

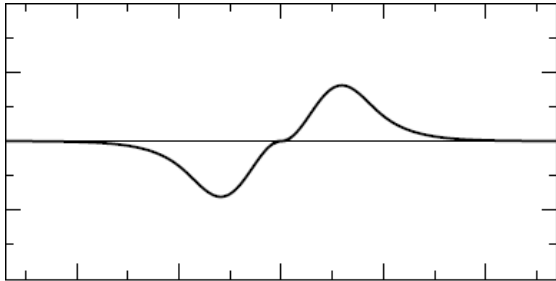
2p and 1s are nodeless

PAW Al atom  
3p  
3s

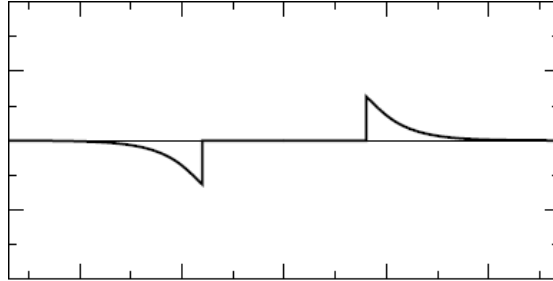
nodal structure retained

# The PAW orbitals

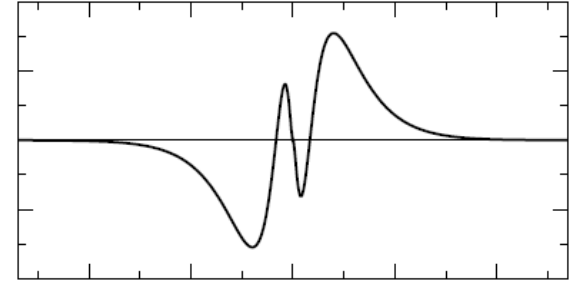
$$|\psi_n\rangle = |\tilde{\psi}_n\rangle + \sum_i (|\phi_i\rangle - |\tilde{\phi}_i\rangle) \langle \tilde{p}_i | \tilde{\psi}_n \rangle$$



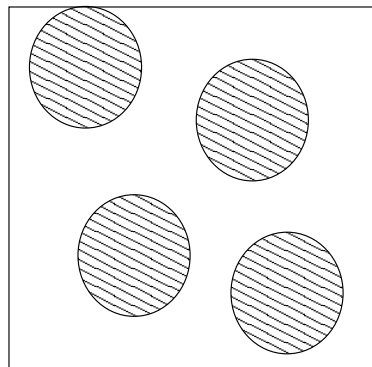
$|\tilde{\psi}_n\rangle$



$|\tilde{\psi}_n\rangle - \sum_i |\tilde{\phi}_i\rangle \langle \tilde{p}_i | \tilde{\psi}_n \rangle$

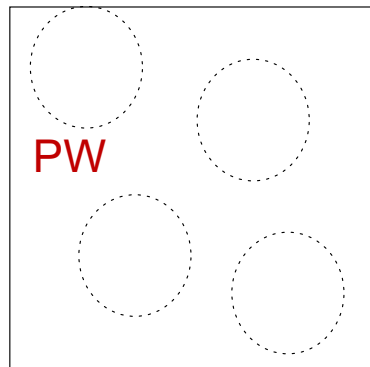


$|\tilde{\psi}_n\rangle - \sum_i |\tilde{\phi}_i\rangle \langle \tilde{p}_i | \tilde{\psi}_n \rangle + \sum_i |\phi_i\rangle \langle \tilde{p}_i | \tilde{\psi}_n \rangle$

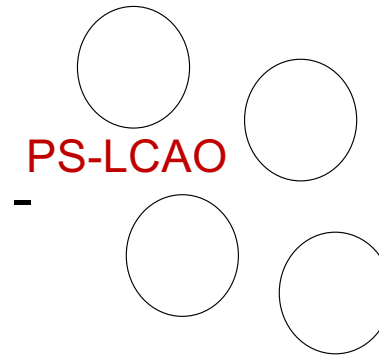


AE

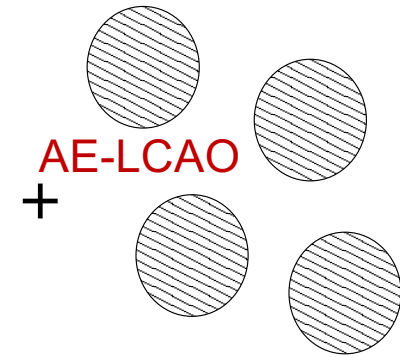
=



pseudo



pseudo-onsite



AE-onsite

# The PAW orbitals (cont.)

$$|\psi_n\rangle = |\tilde{\psi}_n\rangle + \sum_i (|\phi_i\rangle - |\tilde{\phi}_i\rangle) \langle \tilde{p}_i | \tilde{\psi}_n \rangle$$

- $|\tilde{\psi}_n\rangle$  is the pseudo (PS) orbital, expressed in a plane wave basis set
- $|\phi_i\rangle$ ,  $|\tilde{\phi}_i\rangle$ , and  $|\tilde{p}_i\rangle$  are atom-centered localized functions
- The all-electron partial waves are solutions to the radial scalar relativistic non-spinpolarized Schrödinger equation:

$$\left(-\frac{1}{2}\Delta + v_{\text{eff}}\right)|\phi_i\rangle = \epsilon_i|\phi_i\rangle$$

- A pseudization procedure yields:

$$|\phi_i\rangle \rightarrow |\tilde{\phi}_i\rangle \quad v_{\text{eff}} \rightarrow \tilde{v}_{\text{eff}} \quad \langle \tilde{p}_i | \tilde{\phi}_j \rangle = \delta_{ij}$$

# The PAW orbitals (cont.)

- The pseudo partial waves obey:

$$\left( -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + \tilde{v}_{\text{eff}} + \sum_{ij} |\tilde{p}_i\rangle D_{ij} \langle \tilde{p}_j| \right) |\tilde{\phi}_k\rangle = \epsilon_k \left( 1 + \sum_{ij} |\tilde{p}_i\rangle Q_{ij} \langle \tilde{p}_j| \right) |\tilde{\phi}_k\rangle$$

- with the so-called PAW strength parameters and augmentation charges:

$$D_{ij} = \langle \phi_i | -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + v_{\text{eff}} | \phi_j \rangle - \langle \tilde{\phi}_i | -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + \tilde{v}_{\text{eff}} | \tilde{\phi}_j \rangle$$

$$Q_{ij} = \langle \phi_i | \phi_j \rangle - \langle \tilde{\phi}_i | \tilde{\phi}_j \rangle$$

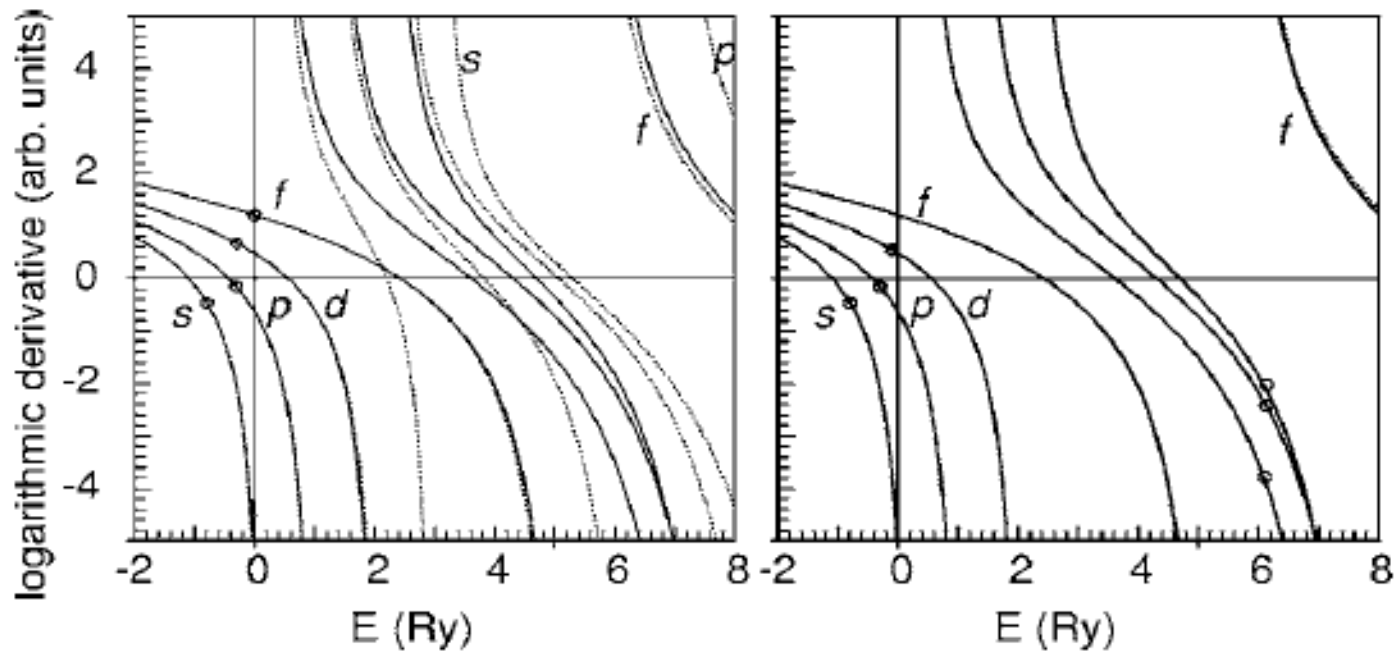
The all-electron and pseudo eigenvalue spectrum is identical!  
All-electron scattering properties are reproduced over a wide energy-range.

$$\left(-\frac{1}{2}\Delta + v_{\text{eff}}\right)|\phi_i\rangle = \epsilon_i|\phi_i\rangle$$

$$\left(-\frac{1}{2}\Delta + \tilde{v}_{\text{eff}} + \sum_{ij} |\tilde{p}_i\rangle D_{ij} \langle \tilde{p}_j|\right)|\tilde{\phi}_k\rangle = \epsilon_k \left(1 + \sum_{ij} |\tilde{p}_i\rangle Q_{ij} \langle \tilde{p}_j|\right)|\tilde{\phi}_k\rangle$$

Si: Troullier-Martins

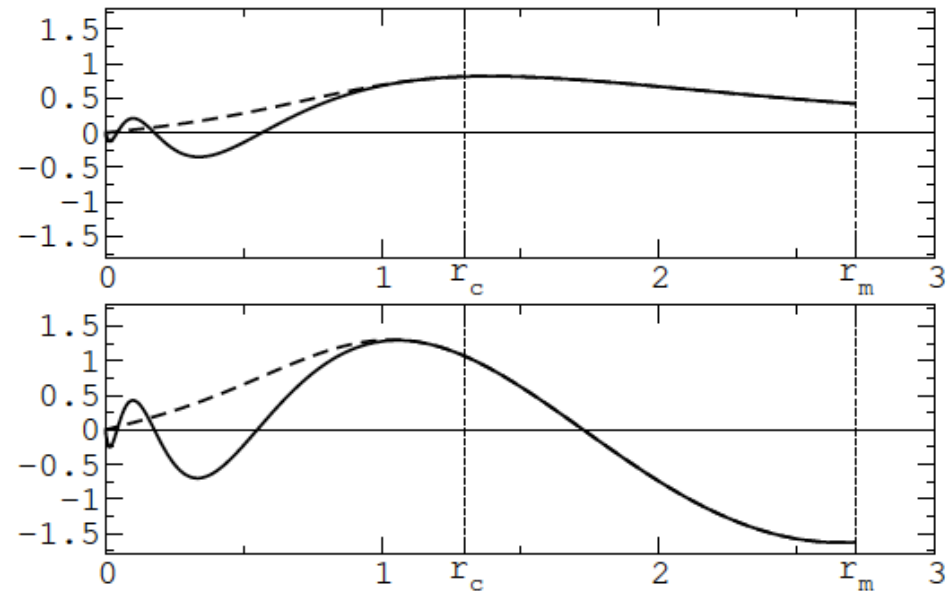
Si: PAW



$$\left. \frac{\partial \tilde{\phi}_l(r, \epsilon)}{\partial r} \frac{1}{\tilde{\phi}_l(r, \epsilon)} \right|_{r=r_c} \approx \left. \frac{\partial \phi_l(r, \epsilon)}{\partial r} \frac{1}{\phi_l(r, \epsilon)} \right|_{r=r_c}$$

- 1<sup>st</sup> s-channel in Mn:  $\epsilon_1$   
4s “bound” state

- 2<sup>nd</sup> s-channel in Mn:  $\epsilon_2$   
“non-bound” state



- And we use the frozen core approximation:

$$v_{\text{eff}}[\rho_v] = v_H[\rho_v] + v_H[\rho Z_c] + v_{xc}[\rho_v + \rho_c]$$

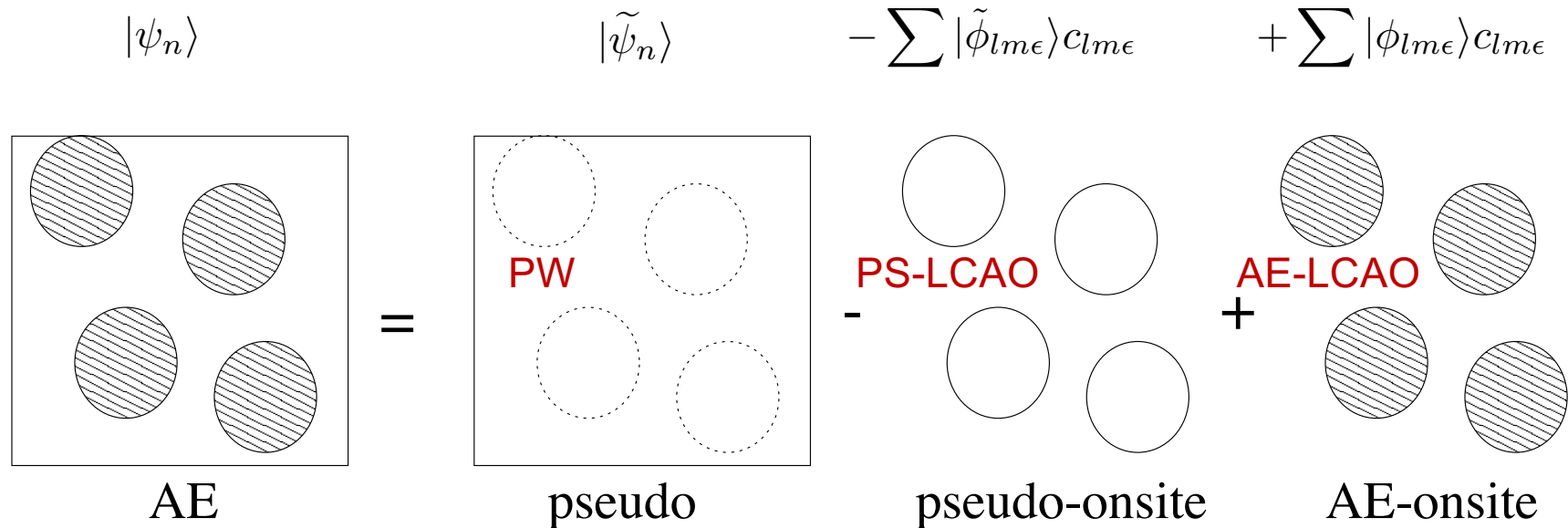
$$\rho_v(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i a_i |\phi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2$$

$$\tilde{v}_{\text{eff}}[\tilde{\rho}_v] = v_H[\tilde{\rho}_v] + v_H[\tilde{\rho} Z_c] + v_{xc}[\tilde{\rho}_v + \tilde{\rho}_c]$$

$$\tilde{\rho}_v(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i a_i |\tilde{\phi}_i(\mathbf{r})|^2$$



# The PAW orbitals (cont.)



where  $c_{lm\epsilon} = \langle \tilde{p}_{lm\epsilon} | \tilde{\psi}_n \rangle$

This decomposition in three contributions can be achieved for all relevant quantities, *e.g.* orbitals, densities, and energies.

# The kinetic energy

For instance the kinetic energy:

$$E_{\text{kin}} = \sum_n f_n \langle \psi_n | -\frac{1}{2} \Delta | \psi_n \rangle$$

Inserting the PAW transformation (where  $i=lm\epsilon$ ):

$$|\psi_n\rangle = |\tilde{\psi}_n\rangle + \sum_i (|\phi_i\rangle - |\tilde{\phi}_i\rangle) \langle \tilde{p}_i | \tilde{\psi}_n \rangle$$

and assuming completeness of the one-center basis, we have

$$E_{\text{kin}} = \tilde{E} - \tilde{E}^1 + E^1$$

$$\underbrace{\sum_n f_n \langle \tilde{\psi}_n | -\frac{1}{2} \Delta | \tilde{\psi}_n \rangle}_{\tilde{E}} - \underbrace{\sum_{\text{site } (i,j)} \sum \rho_{ij} \langle \tilde{\phi}_i | -\frac{1}{2} \Delta | \tilde{\phi}_j \rangle}_{\tilde{E}^1} + \underbrace{\sum_{\text{site } (i,j)} \sum \rho_{ij} \langle \phi_i | -\frac{1}{2} \Delta | \phi_j \rangle}_{E^1}$$

Where

$$\rho_{ij} = \sum_n f_n \langle \tilde{\psi}_n | \tilde{p}_i \rangle \langle \tilde{p}_j | \tilde{\psi}_n \rangle$$

are the one-center occupancies, or on-site density matrix.

# Local operators

To any (semi)-local operator  $A$ , that acts on the true all-electron orbital, the PAW method associates a pseudo operator:

$$\tilde{A} = A + \sum_{ij} |\tilde{p}_i\rangle \left( \langle \phi_i | A | \phi_j \rangle - \langle \tilde{\phi}_i | A | \tilde{\phi}_j \rangle \right) \langle \tilde{p}_j |$$

that acts on the pseudo-orbital, such that

$$\langle \psi | A | \psi \rangle = \langle \tilde{\psi} | \tilde{A} | \tilde{\psi} \rangle$$

For instance the PS operator associated with the density operator ( $|\mathbf{r}\rangle\langle\mathbf{r}|$ )

$$|\mathbf{r}\rangle\langle\mathbf{r}| + \sum_{ij} |\tilde{p}_i\rangle \left( \langle \phi_i | \mathbf{r} \rangle \langle \mathbf{r} | \phi_j \rangle - \langle \tilde{\phi}_i | \mathbf{r} \rangle \langle \mathbf{r} | \tilde{\phi}_j \rangle \right) \langle \tilde{p}_j |$$

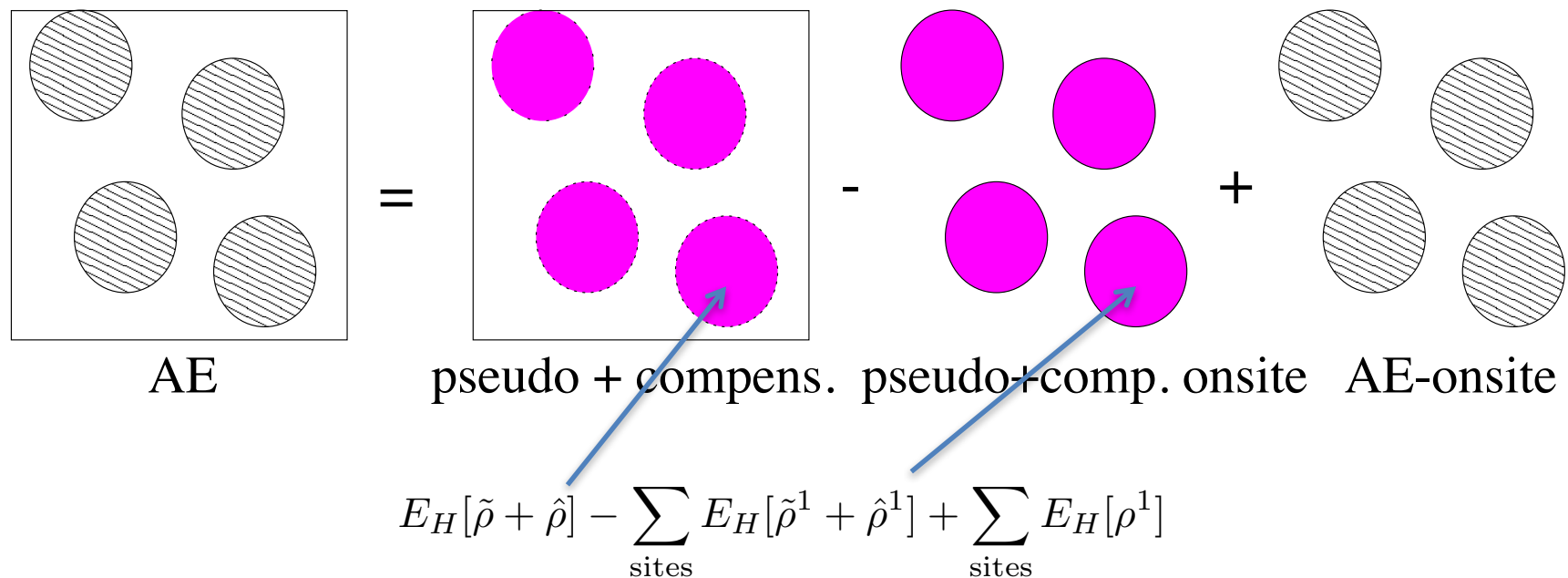
and the density

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \psi | \mathbf{r} \rangle \langle \mathbf{r} | \psi \rangle &= \langle \tilde{\psi} | \mathbf{r} \rangle \langle \mathbf{r} | \tilde{\psi} \rangle + \sum_{ij} \langle \tilde{\psi} | \tilde{p}_i \rangle \left( \langle \phi_i | \mathbf{r} \rangle \langle \mathbf{r} | \phi_j \rangle - \langle \tilde{\phi}_i | \mathbf{r} \rangle \langle \mathbf{r} | \tilde{\phi}_j \rangle \right) \langle \tilde{p}_j | \tilde{\psi} \rangle \\ &= \tilde{\rho}(\mathbf{r}) - \tilde{\rho}^1(\mathbf{r}) + \rho^1(\mathbf{r}) \end{aligned}$$

**Non-local operators are more complicated.**

# The Hartree energy

- The PS orbitals **do not have the same norm** as the AE orbitals inside of the PAW spheres.
- To correctly describe the long-range electrostatic interactions between the PAW spheres, a soft *compensation* charge is introduced in the spheres (like in the FLAPW method):



- This way the Hartree energy (a non-local operator!) decomposes in the same manner as a (semi)-local operator:

$$E_H = \tilde{E}_H - \tilde{E}_H^1 + E_H^1$$

# The PAW total energy

The same three-way decomposition holds for the total energy

$$E = \tilde{E} - \tilde{E}^1 + E^1$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{E} &= \sum_n f_n \langle \tilde{\psi}_n | -\frac{1}{2} \Delta | \tilde{\psi}_n \rangle + E_{xc}[\tilde{\rho} + \hat{\rho} + \tilde{\rho}_c] + \\ &E_H[\tilde{\rho} + \hat{\rho}] + \int v_H[\tilde{\rho}_{Zc}] (\tilde{\rho}(\mathbf{r}) + \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{r})) d^3\mathbf{r} + U(\mathbf{R}, Z_{\text{ion}}) \\ \tilde{E}^1 &= \sum_{\text{sites}} \left\{ \sum_{(i,j)} \rho_{ij} \langle \tilde{\phi}_i | -\frac{1}{2} \Delta | \tilde{\phi}_j \rangle + \overline{E_{xc}[\tilde{\rho}^1 + \hat{\rho} + \tilde{\rho}_c]} + \right. \\ &\left. \overline{E_H[\tilde{\rho}^1 + \hat{\rho}]} + \int_{\Omega_r} v_H[\tilde{\rho}_{Zc}] (\tilde{\rho}^1(\mathbf{r}) + \hat{\rho}(\mathbf{r})) d^3\mathbf{r} \right\} \\ E^1 &= \sum_{\text{sites}} \left\{ \sum_{(i,j)} \rho_{ij} \langle \phi_i | -\frac{1}{2} \Delta | \phi_j \rangle + \overline{E_{xc}[\rho^1 + \rho_c]} + \right. \\ &\left. \overline{E_H[\rho^1]} + \int_{\Omega_r} v_H[\rho_{Zc}] \rho^1(\mathbf{r}) d^3\mathbf{r} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

# The PAW total energy (cont.)

- $\tilde{E}$  is evaluated on a regular grid:

The Kohn-Sham functional evaluated in a plane wave basis set with additional compensation charge to account for the incorrect norm of the PS-orbitals and to correctly describe long-range electrostatics

$$\tilde{\rho} = \sum_n f_n \tilde{\psi}_n \tilde{\psi}_n^* \quad \text{PS charge density}$$

$$\hat{\rho} \quad \text{Compensation charges}$$

- $\tilde{E}^1$  and  $E^1$  are evaluated on atom-centered radial logarithmic grids:

The Kohn-Sham energies evaluated using localized basis sets

These terms correct for the difference in the shape of the all-electron and pseudo orbitals:

- ) AE nodal features near the core
- ) Orthogonality between core and valence states

The essence of the PAW method: there are no cross-terms between quantities on the regular grid (PW part) and the quantities on the radial grids (LCAO part)!

# The PAW total energy (cont.)

The PS orbitals (plane waves!) are the self-consistent solutions of

$$\left( -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + \tilde{V}_{\text{eff}} + \sum_{ij} |\tilde{p}_i\rangle (D_{ij} + \dots) \langle \tilde{p}_j| \right) |\tilde{\psi}_n\rangle = \epsilon_n \left( 1 + \sum_{ij} |\tilde{p}_i\rangle Q_{ij} \langle \tilde{p}_j| \right) |\tilde{\psi}_n\rangle$$

where

$$D_{ij} = \langle \phi_i | -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + v_{\text{eff}}^1[\rho_v^1] | \phi_j \rangle - \langle \tilde{\phi}_i | -\frac{1}{2}\Delta + \tilde{v}_{\text{eff}}^1[\tilde{\rho}_v^1] | \tilde{\phi}_j \rangle$$

$$Q_{ij} = \langle \phi_i | \phi_j \rangle - \langle \tilde{\phi}_i | \tilde{\phi}_j \rangle$$

and

$$\tilde{\rho}_v^1(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{ij} \rho_{ij} \langle \tilde{\phi}_i | \mathbf{r} \rangle \langle \mathbf{r} | \tilde{\phi}_j \rangle$$

$$\rho_v^1(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{ij} \rho_{ij} \langle \phi_i | \mathbf{r} \rangle \langle \mathbf{r} | \phi_j \rangle$$

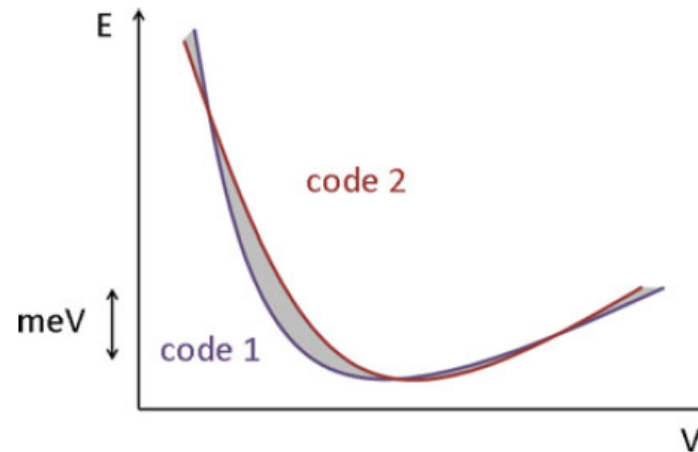
with

$$\rho_{ij} = \sum_n f_n \langle \tilde{\psi}_n | \tilde{p}_i \rangle \langle \tilde{p}_j | \tilde{\psi}_n \rangle$$

- The PS orbitals are the variational quantity of the PAW method!
- If the partial waves constitute a complete (enough) basis inside the PAW spheres, The all-electron orbitals will remain orthogonal to the core states.

# Accuracy of the PAW method

$$\Delta = \left\langle \sqrt{\frac{\int \Delta E^2(V) dV}{\Delta V}} \right\rangle$$



$\Delta(\text{PAW})_{(\text{VASP})} = 0.4 \text{ meV/atom}$

H																		He
0,0																		0,0
Li	Be																	Ne
0,1	0,5																	0,1
Na	Mg																	Ar
0,4	0,0																	0,1
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr	
0,1	0,4	0,3	0,3	0,1	0,8	0,1	0,1	0,2	0,8	0,5	0,6	0,8	0,7	0,8	0,4	0,2	0,1	
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe	
0,1	0,2	0,5	0,4	0,2	0,9	0,1	0,2	0,3	0,4	0,3	2,5	0,2	0,2	0,5	0,9	0,9	0,1	
Cs	Ba	Lu	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn	
0,1	0,3	3,5	1,7	0,8	1,2	0,9	0,5	0,8	0,3	0,1	1,0	0,2	0,1	0,5	0,6		0,0	

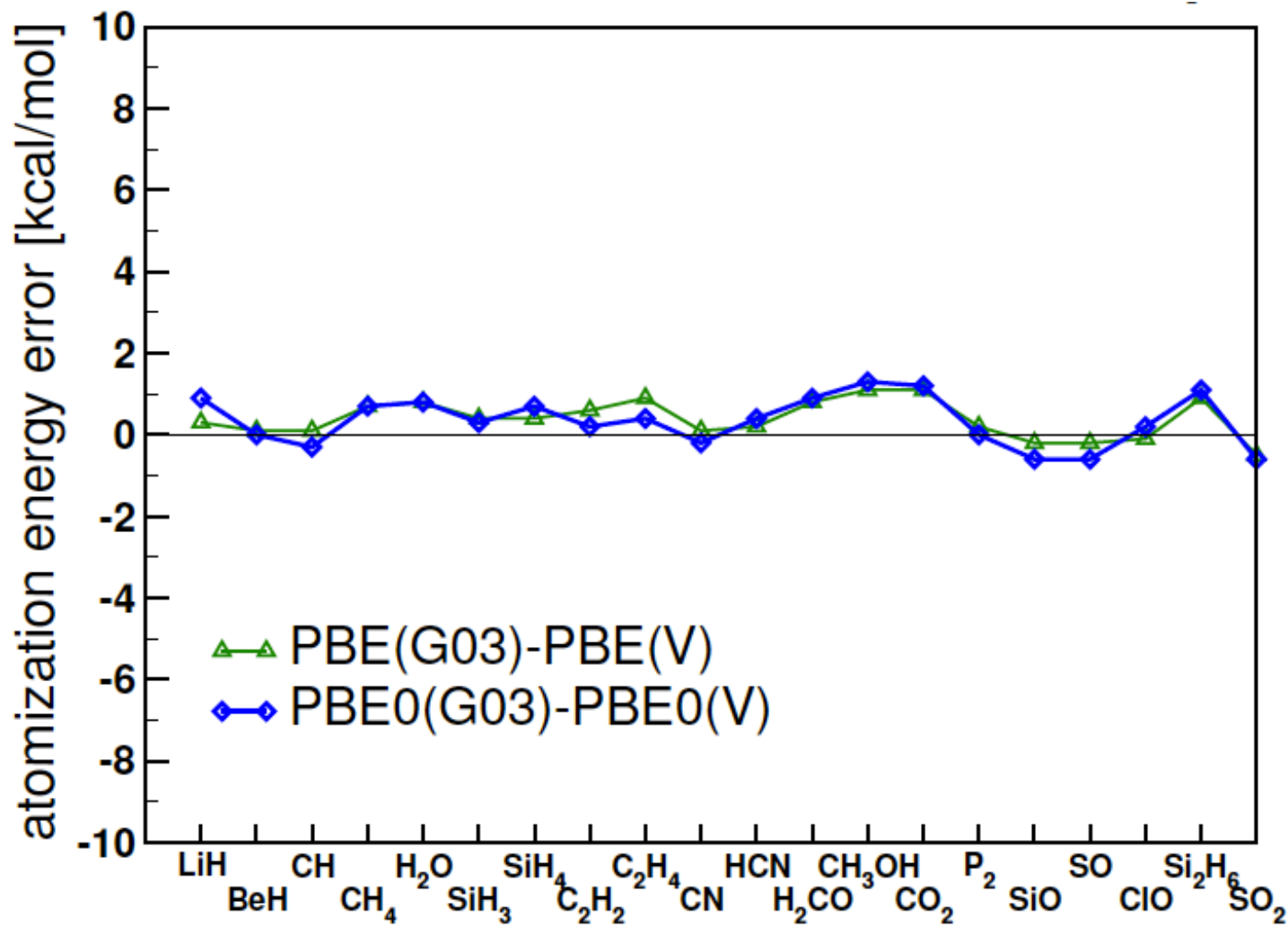
$\Delta$ -evaluation (PAW vs. FLAPW)

K. Lejaeghere *et al.*, Critical Reviews in Solid State and Materials Sciences 39,1 (2014)



# Accuracy of the PAW method (cont.)

Subset of the G2-1 testset of small molecules: deviation of PAW w.r.t. GTO (in kcal/mol)



$$|\Delta E_{AE}| < 1 \text{ kcal/mol.}$$

# Electronic minimization: Reaching the groundstate

**Direct minimization** of the DFT functional (*e.g.* Car-Parrinello): start with a set of trial orbitals (random numbers) and minimize the energy by propagating the orbitals along the gradient:

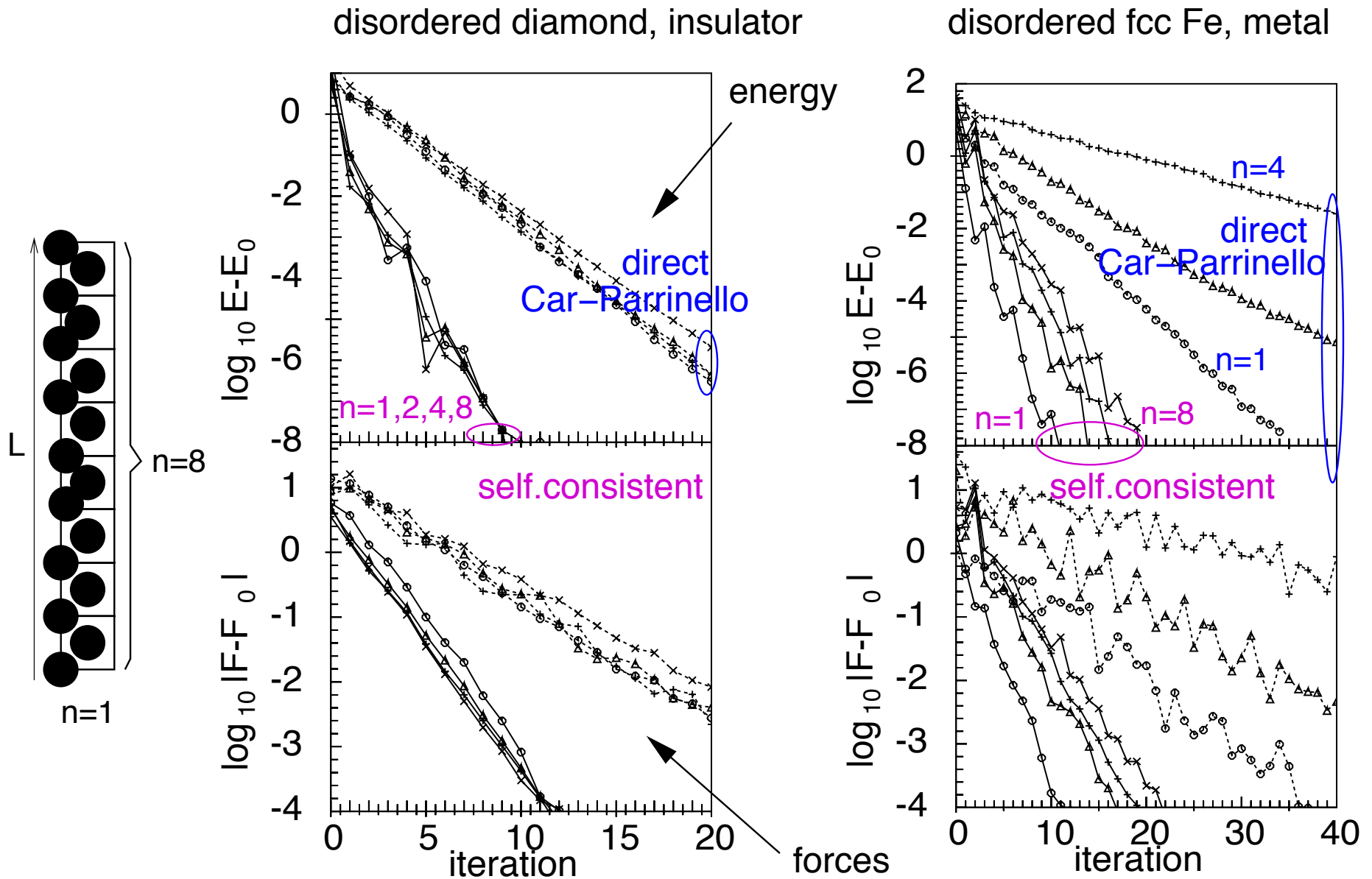
$$\text{Gradient: } F_n(\mathbf{r}) = \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \nabla^2 + V^{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}, \{\psi_n(\mathbf{r}')\}) - \epsilon_n \right) \psi_n(\mathbf{r})$$

**The Self-Consistency-Cycle:** start with a trial density, construct the corresponding Hamiltonian. Solve it to obtain a set of orbitals:

$$\left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \nabla^2 + V^{\text{eff}}(\mathbf{r}, \{\rho(\mathbf{r}')\}) \right) \psi_n(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_n \psi_n(\mathbf{r}) \quad n = 1, \dots, N_e/2$$

These orbitals define a new density, that defines a new Hamiltonian, ...  
**iterate to self-consistency**

# Direct minimization vs. SCC



# Direct minimization and charge sloshing

The gradient of the total energy with respect to an orbital is given by:

$$|g_n\rangle = f_n \left( 1 - \sum_m |\psi_m\rangle \langle \psi_m| \right) \hat{H} |\psi_n\rangle + \sum_m \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{H}_{nm} (f_n - f_m) |\psi_m\rangle$$

where

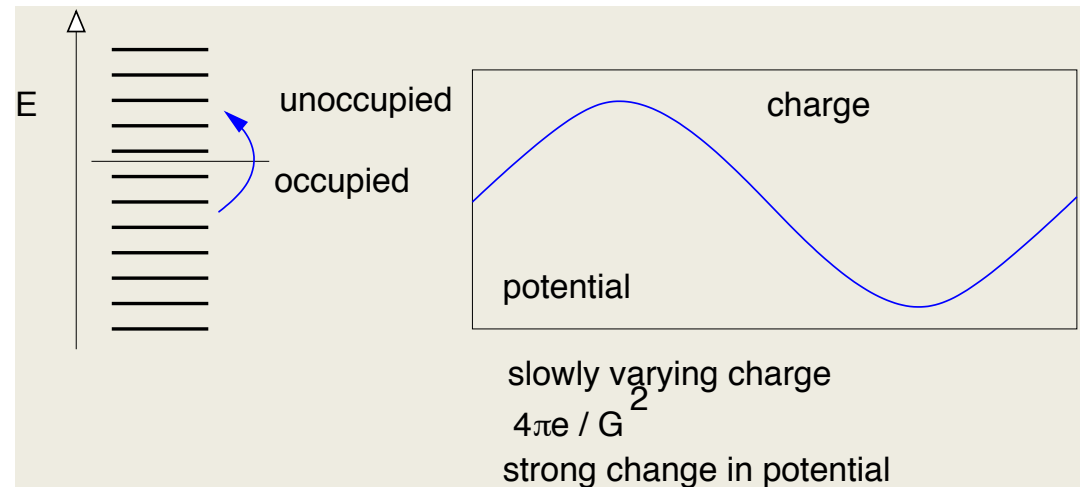
$$\mathbf{H}_{nm} = \langle \psi_m | \hat{H} | \psi_n \rangle$$

Consider two states

$$\psi_n = e^{i(\mathbf{k}_F - \delta\mathbf{k})\mathbf{r}} \quad \psi_m = e^{i(\mathbf{k}_F + \delta\mathbf{k})\mathbf{r}}$$

and a small sub-space rotation  
(2<sup>nd</sup> comp. of the gradient):

$$\psi'_n = \psi_n + \Delta s \psi_m \quad \psi'_m = \psi_m - \Delta s \psi_n$$



This leads to a long-wavelength change in the density and a very strong change in the electrostatic potential (**charge sloshing**):

$$\delta\rho(\mathbf{r}) = 2\Delta s \text{Re} e^{i2\delta\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} \quad \delta V_H(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{2\Delta s 4\pi e^2}{|2\delta\mathbf{k}|^2} \text{Re} e^{i2\delta\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}}$$

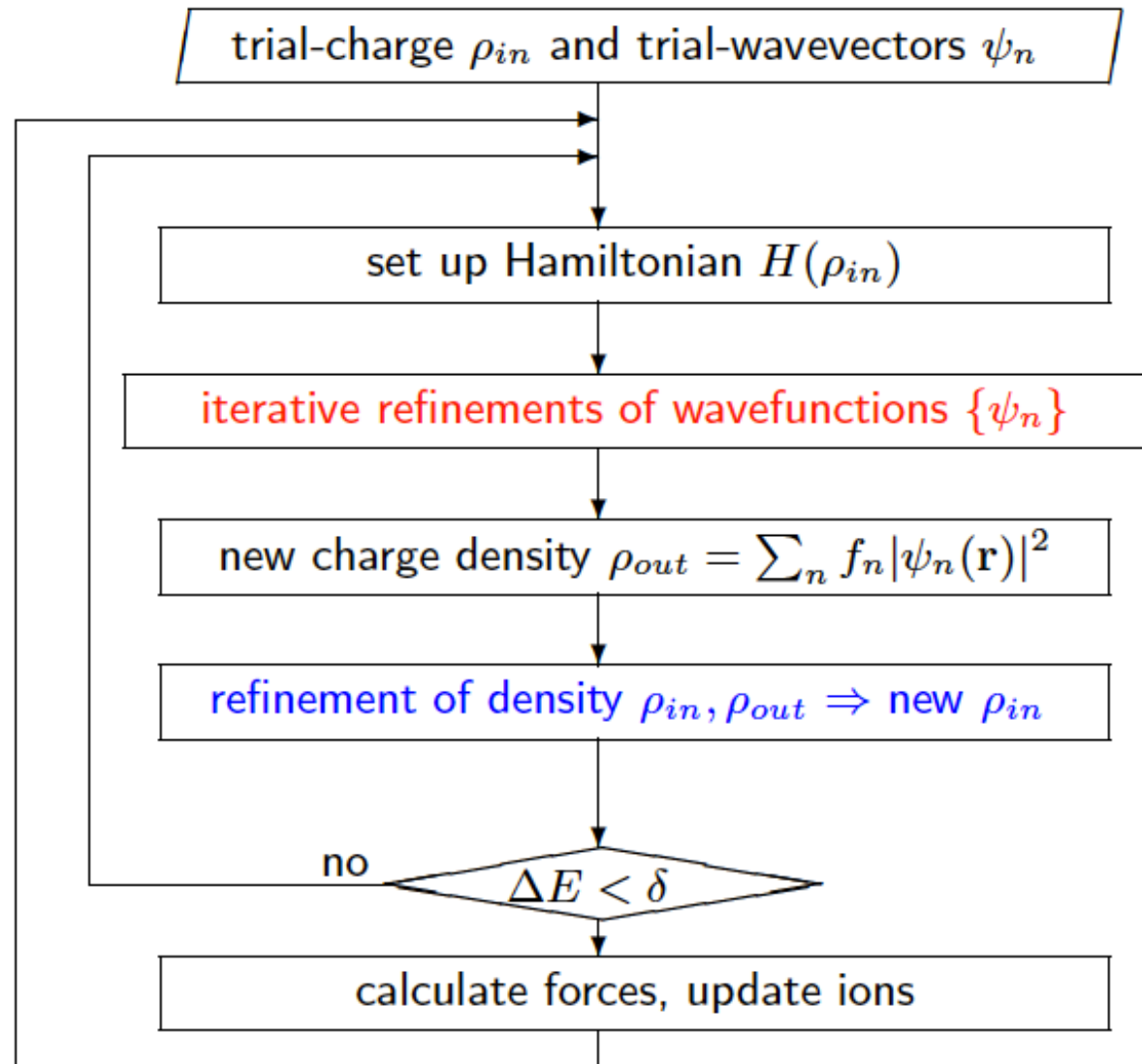
Stable step size  $\Delta s$  (for a simulation box with largest dimension  $L$ ):

$$|\delta\mathbf{k}| \propto 1/L \longrightarrow \delta V_H \propto L^2 \longrightarrow \Delta s \propto 1/L^2$$

# The Self-Consistency-Cycle (cont.)

Two sub-problems:

- Optimization of  $\{\psi_n\}$   
**Iterative Diagonalization**  
e.g. RMM-DIIS or Blocked Davidson
- Construction of  $\rho_{in}$   
**Density Mixing**  
e.g. Broyden mixer



# The self-Consistency-Cycle

A naïve algorithm: express the Hamilton matrix in a plane wave basis and diagonalize it:

$$\mathbf{H} = \langle \mathbf{G} | \hat{H}[\rho] | \mathbf{G}' \rangle \rightarrow \text{diagonalize } \mathbf{H} \rightarrow \{\psi_i, \epsilon_i\} \quad i = 1, \dots, N_{\text{FFT}}$$

Self-consistency-cycle:

$$\rho_0 \rightarrow \mathbf{H}_0 \rightarrow \rho' \rightarrow \rho_1 = f(\rho_0, \rho') \rightarrow \mathbf{H}_1 \rightarrow \dots$$

Iterate until:  $\rho = \rho'$

**BUT:** we do not need  $N_{\text{FFT}}$  eigenvectors of the Hamiltonian (at a cost of  $O(N_{\text{FFT}}^3)$ ).  
Actually we only need the  $N_b$  lowest eigenstates of  $\mathbf{H}$ , where  $N_b$  is of the order of the number of electrons per unit cell ( $N_b \ll N_{\text{FFT}}$ ).

Solution: use iterative matrix diagonalization techniques to find the  $N_b$  lowest Eigenvector of the Hamiltonian: RMM-DIIS, blocked-Davidson, etc.

# Key ingredients: Subspace diagonalization and the Residual

- Rayleigh-Ritz: diagonalization of the  $N_b \times N_b$  subspace

with 
$$\sum_m \bar{H}_{nm} B_{mk} = \sum_m \epsilon_k^{\text{app}} \bar{S}_{nm} B_{mk}$$

$$\bar{H}_{nm} = \langle \psi_n | \hat{H} | \psi_m \rangle \quad \bar{S}_{nm} = \langle \psi_n | \hat{S} | \psi_m \rangle$$

yields  $N_b$  eigenvectors  $|\bar{\psi}_k\rangle = \sum_m B_{mk} |\psi_m\rangle$  with eigenvalues  $\epsilon_{\text{app}}$ .

These eigenstates are the best approximation to the exact  $N_b$  lowest eigenstates of  $\mathbf{H}$  within the subspace spanned by the current orbitals.

- The Residual:

$$|R(\psi_n)\rangle = (\hat{H} - \epsilon_{\text{app}} \hat{S}) |\psi_n\rangle \quad \epsilon_{\text{app}} = \frac{\langle \psi_n | \hat{H} | \psi_n \rangle}{\langle \psi_n | \hat{S} | \psi_n \rangle}$$

(its norm is measure for the error in the eigenvector)

# Blocked-Davidson

- Take a subset of all bands:  $\{\psi_n | n = 1, \dots, N\} \Rightarrow \{\psi_k^1 | k = 1, \dots, n_1\}$

- Extend this subset by adding the (preconditioned) residual vectors to the presently considered subspace:

$$\{\psi_k^1 / g_k^1 = \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{H} - \epsilon_{\text{app}} \mathbf{S}) \psi_k^1 | k = 1, \dots, n_1\}$$

- Rayleigh-Ritz optimization (“sub-space rotation”) in the  $2n_1$  dimensional subspace to determine the  $n_1$  lowest eigenvectors:

$$\text{diag}\{\psi_k^1 / g_k^1\} \longrightarrow \{\psi_k^2 | k = 1, \dots, n_1\}$$

- Extend subspace with the residuals of  $\{\psi_k^2\}$

$$\{\psi_k^1 / g_k^1 / g_k^2 = \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{H} - \epsilon_{\text{app}} \mathbf{S}) \psi_k^2 | k = 1, \dots, n_1\}$$

- Rayleigh-Ritz optimization  $\Rightarrow \{\psi_k^3 | k = 1, \dots, n_1\}$

- Etc ...

- The optimized set replaces the original subset:

$$\{\psi_k^m | k = 1, \dots, n_1\} \longrightarrow \{\psi_n | n = 1, \dots, n_1\}$$

- Continue with next subset:  $\{\psi_k^1 | k = n_1 + 1, \dots, n_2\}$ , etc, ...

After treating all bands: Rayleigh-Ritz optimization of  $\{\psi_n | n = 1, \dots, N\}$



# Charge density mixing

We want to minimize residual vector

$$R[\rho_{\text{in}}] = \rho_{\text{out}}[\rho_{\text{in}}] - \rho_{\text{in}}$$

with

$$\rho_{\text{out}}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\text{occupied}} w_k f_{nk} |\psi_{nk}(\vec{r})|^2$$

Linearization of the residual around the self-consistent density  $\rho_{\text{sc}}$  (linear response theory):

$$R[\rho] = -\mathbf{J}(\rho - \rho_{\text{sc}}) \quad \mathbf{J} = \mathbf{1} - \chi \underbrace{\mathbf{U}}_{\frac{4\pi e^2}{q^2}}$$

where  $\mathbf{J}$  is the charge dielectric function.

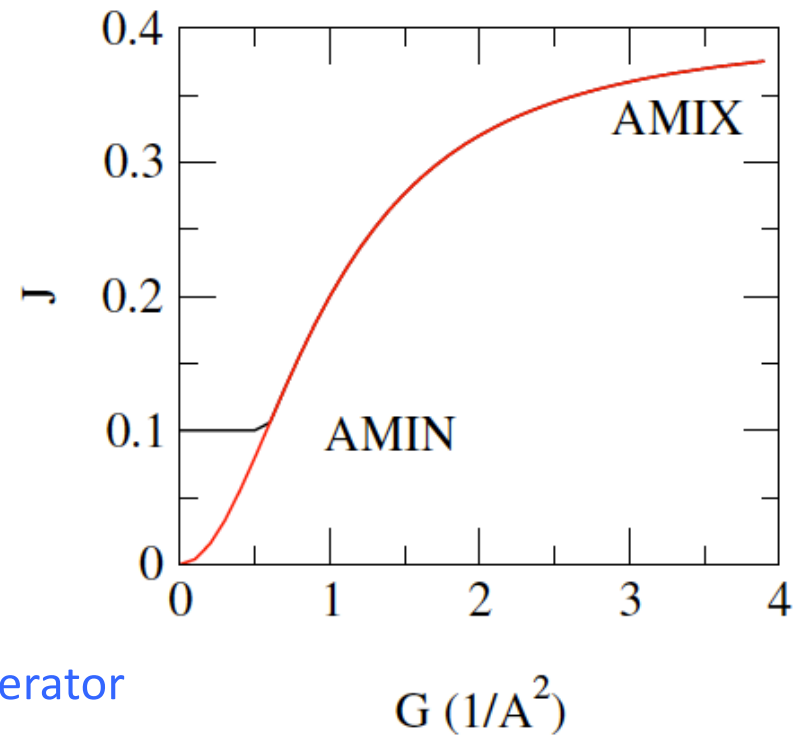
Provided we have a good approximation for the charge dielectric function, minimization of the residual is trivial:

$$R[\rho_{\text{in}}] = \rho_{\text{out}}[\rho_{\text{in}}] - \rho_{\text{in}} = -\mathbf{J}(\rho_{\text{in}} - \rho_{\text{sc}}) \longrightarrow \rho_{\text{sc}} = \rho_{\text{in}} + \mathbf{J}^{-1} R[\rho_{\text{in}}]$$

# The charge dielectric function

- Use a model dielectric function that is a good initial approximation for most systems

$$\mathbf{J}^{-1} \approx \mathbf{G}_q^1 = \max\left(\frac{q^2 \text{AMIX}}{q^2 + \text{BMIX}}, \text{AMIN}\right)$$



- This is combined with a [convergence accelerator](#)

The initial dielectric function is improved using the information accumulated in each electronic mixing step.

The End

Thank you!