

Falling into the Black Hole of Vertex Corrections

Pierre-François (Titou) Loos

Laboratoire de Chimie et Physique Quantiques, University of Toulouse, CNRS, France

https://pfloos.github.io/WEB_LOOS

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What's New in Green's Function Methods?

Recent developments in *GW* and BSE

- *GW* for resonances
- Analytic nuclear gradients for *GW* and BSE
- Non-Dyson *GW* schemes: Decoupling the IP and EA sectors
- Fully self-consistent *GW* (sc*GW*) with Hartree-Fock-Bogoliubov (HFB) reference

Beyond *GW*: vertex corrections

- Vertex corrections via extended coupled cluster (ECC)
- Introducing the singles into *GW*: direct-ring (dr) ECCSD
- Algebraic-diagrammatic construction (ADC) of G_3W_2
- Parquet formalism

Collaborators



Loris
Burth
(PhD)



Antoine
Marie
(PhD)
↓
Warsaw



Marios-Petros
Kitsaras
(Postdoc)



Mauricio
Rodriguez-Mayorga
(Postdoc)



Fábris
Kossoski
(Toulouse)



Johannes
Tölle
(Hamburg)

The GW Approximation in a Single Slide

$$\left. \begin{aligned} [f + \Sigma^{GW}(\omega = \epsilon_\nu^{GW})] \psi_\nu^{GW} &= \epsilon_\nu^{GW} \psi_\nu^{GW} \\ \Sigma^{GW}(\omega) &= \left(\mathbf{U}^{2h1p} \right)^\dagger \cdot (\omega - \mathbf{K}^{2h1p})^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{U}^{2h1p} \\ &+ \left(\mathbf{U}^{2p1h} \right)^\dagger \cdot (\omega - \mathbf{K}^{2p1h})^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{U}^{2p1h} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

downfolding
upfolding

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \mathbf{H} \Psi_\nu^{GW} &= \epsilon_\nu^{GW} \Psi_\nu^{GW} \\ \mathbf{H} &= \begin{pmatrix} f & (\mathbf{U}^{2h1p})^\dagger & (\mathbf{U}^{2p1h})^\dagger \\ \mathbf{U}^{2h1p} & \mathbf{K}^{2h1p} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{U}^{2p1h} & \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{K}^{2p1h} \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned} \right.$$

RPA excitation energies

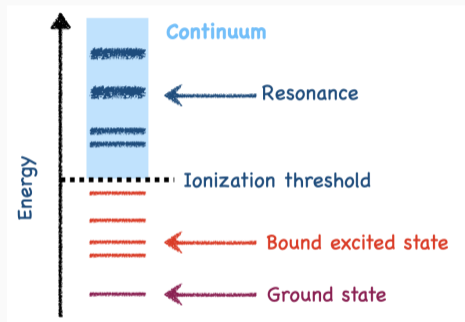
$$\begin{aligned} \left(\mathbf{K}^{2h1p} \right)_{i\nu, j\mu} &= (\epsilon_i - \Omega_\nu) \delta_{ij} \delta_{\nu\mu} \\ \left(\mathbf{K}^{2p1h} \right)_{a\nu, b\mu} &= (\epsilon_a + \Omega_\nu) \delta_{ab} \delta_{\nu\mu} \end{aligned}$$

mean-field energies

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\mathbf{U}^{2h1p} \right)_{i\nu, q} &= M_{qi, \nu} \\ \left(\mathbf{U}^{2p1h} \right)_{a\nu, q} &= M_{aq, \nu} \end{aligned}$$

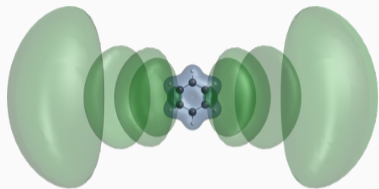
screened integrals

Bintrim & Berkelbach, JCP 154 (2021) 041101; Monino & Loos, JCP 156 (2022) 231101

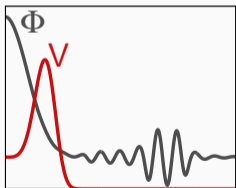


Jagau, Bravaya & Krylov, *Annu. Rev. Phys. Chem.* 68 (2017) 525

Complex Absorbing Potential (CAP)

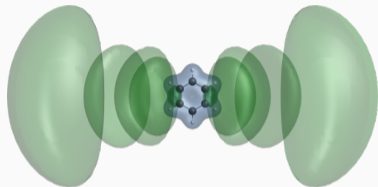


$$H = T + V$$

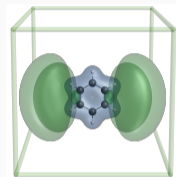


Riss & Meyer, JPB 26 (1993) 4503

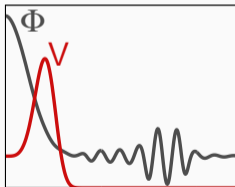
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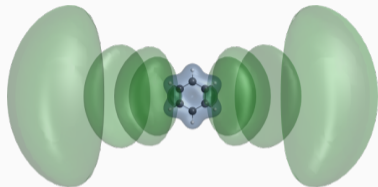


$$H(\eta) = T + V - i\eta W$$

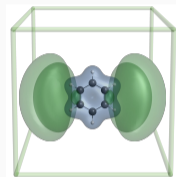
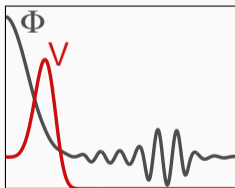


Riss & Meyer, JPB 26 (1993) 4503

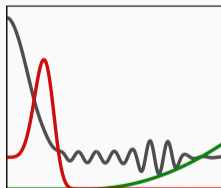
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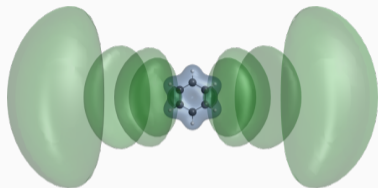


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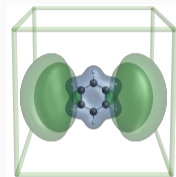
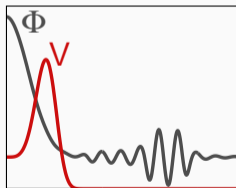


Riss & Meyer, JPB 26 (1993) 4503

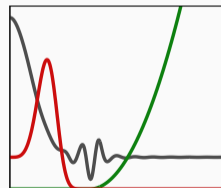
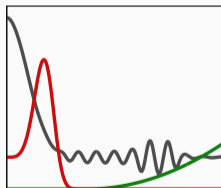
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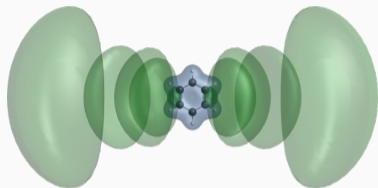


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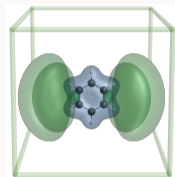
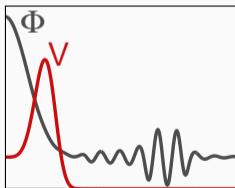


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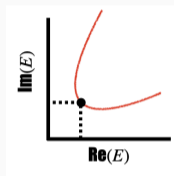
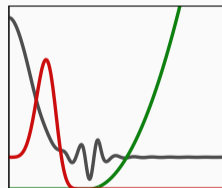
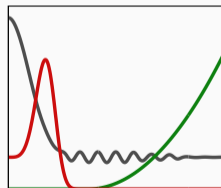
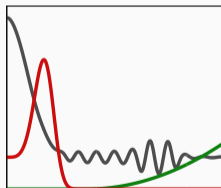
Complex Absorbing Potential (CAP)



$$H = T + V$$



$$H(\eta) = T + V - i\eta W$$



Riss & Meyer, JPB 26 (1993) 4503

Complex-valued energy

$$\hat{H}(\eta) = \hat{T} + \hat{V} - i\eta \hat{W} \quad (\eta > 0)$$

CAP Hamiltonian
Absorbing potential

$$E = E_R - i\Gamma/2$$

Energy
Resonance width

Resonance position

NB: Γ^{-1} is proportional to the resonance lifetime

 N_2^- / aug-cc-pVTZ+3s3p3d

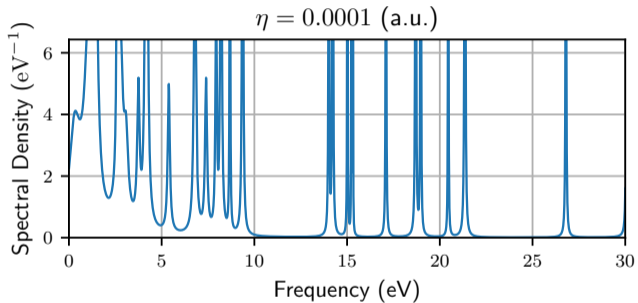
Method	E_R (eV)	Γ (eV)
Experiment	2.316	0.414
CAP-qSGW ¹	2.565	0.460
CAP-EA-EOM-CCSD ²	2.487	0.417
CAP-CIPSI ³	2.449(1)	0.391(3)

¹Burth et al. JCTC 21 (2025) 11463

²Zuev et al. JCP 141 (2014) 024102

³Damour et al. JPCL 15 (2024) 8296

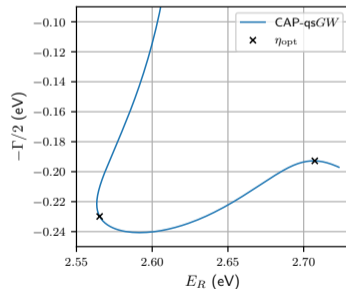
Spectral Function of N₂



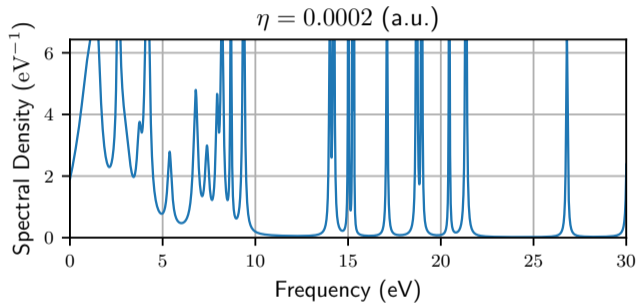
Burth, Kossoski & Loos, JCTC 21 (2025) 11463

Spectral function

$$A(\omega) = \frac{1}{\pi} \text{Im} |G(\omega)|$$



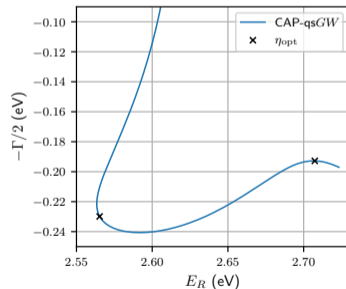
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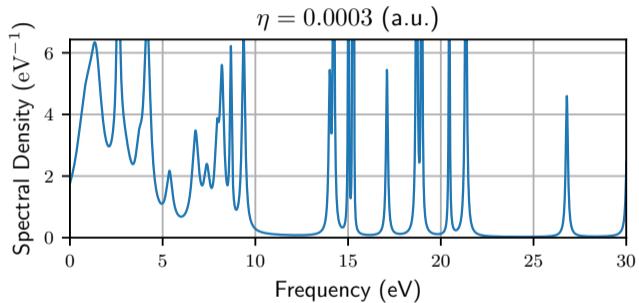
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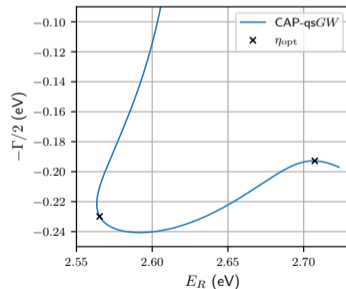
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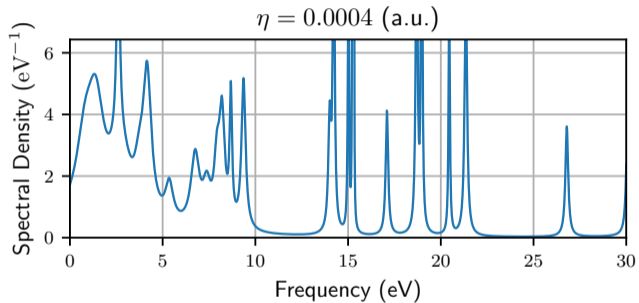
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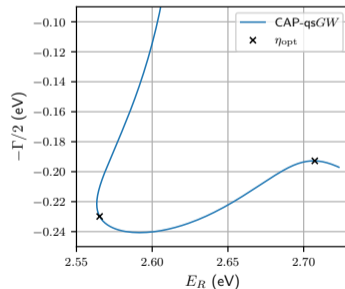
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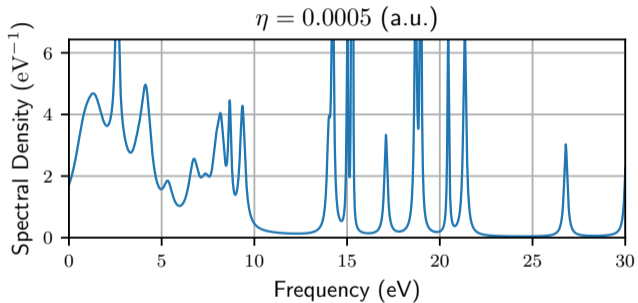
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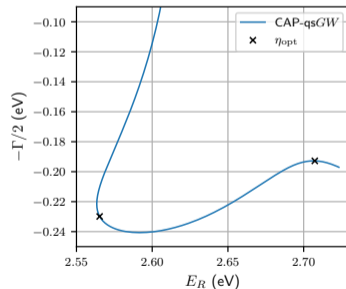
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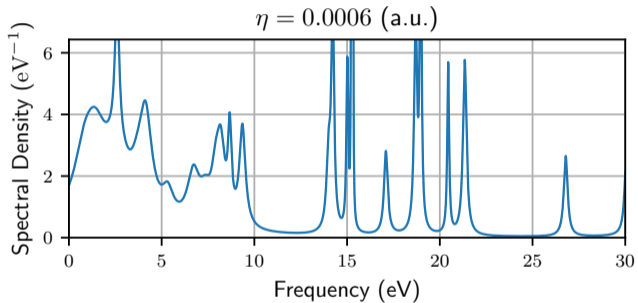
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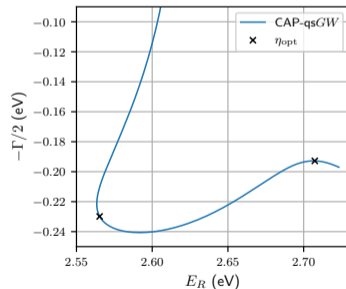
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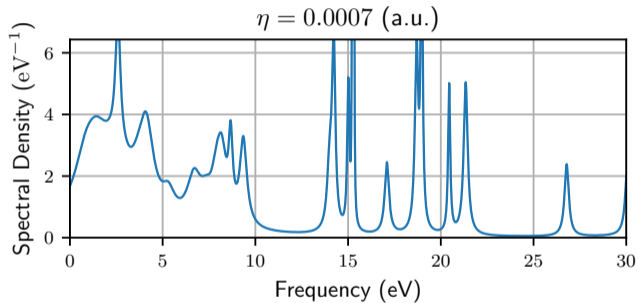
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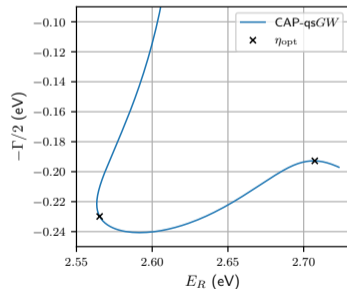
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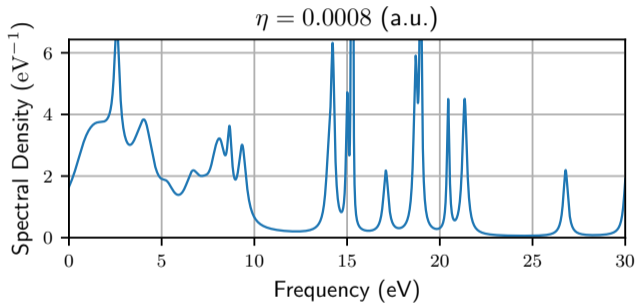
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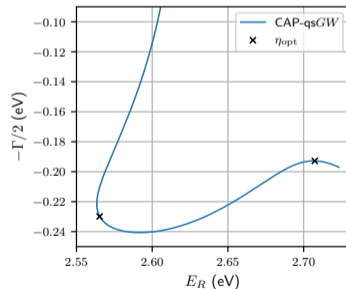
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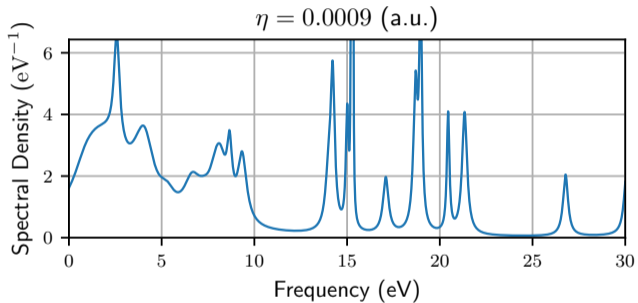
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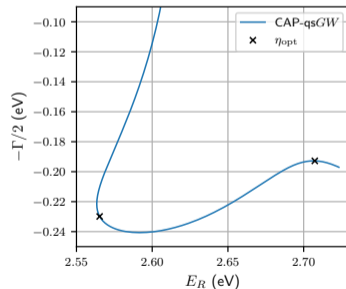
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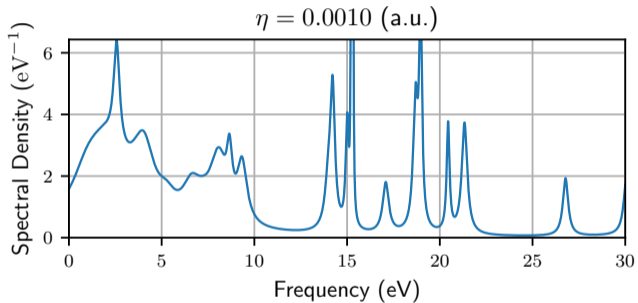
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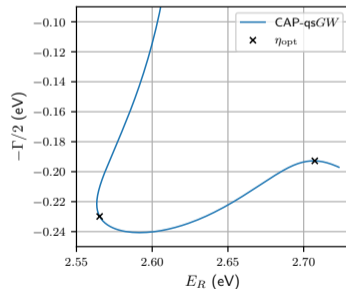
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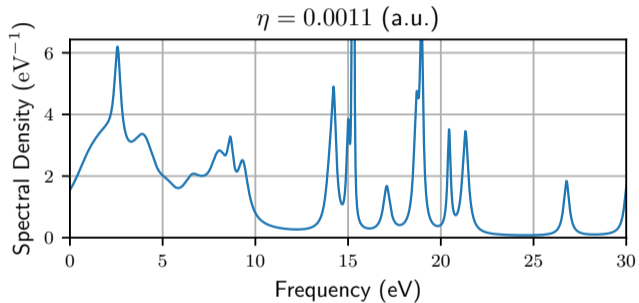
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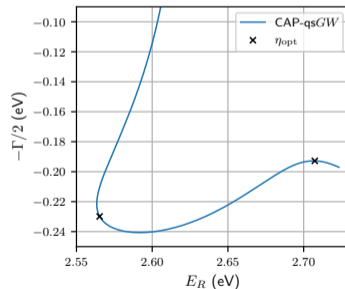
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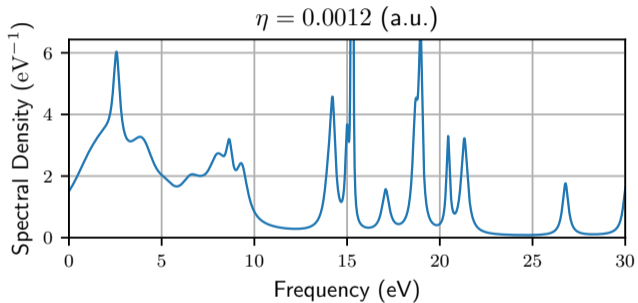
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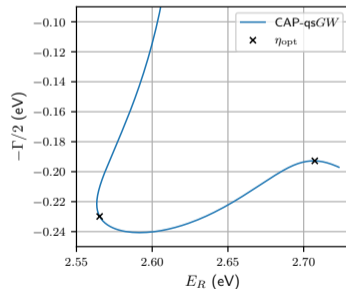
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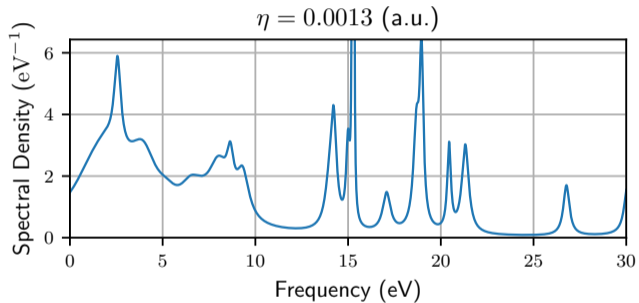
Burth, Kossoski & Loos, JCTC 21 (2025) 11463

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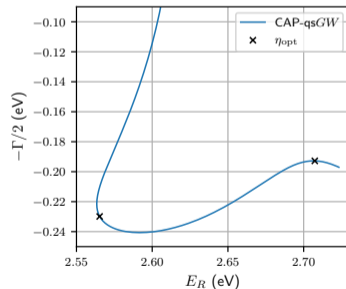
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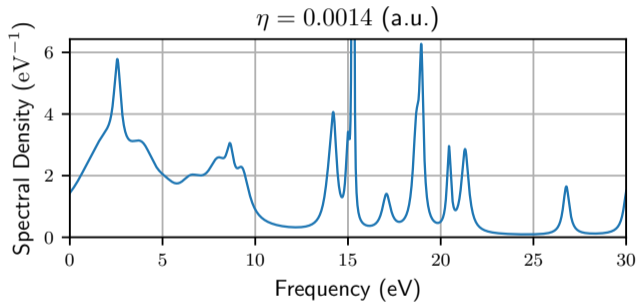
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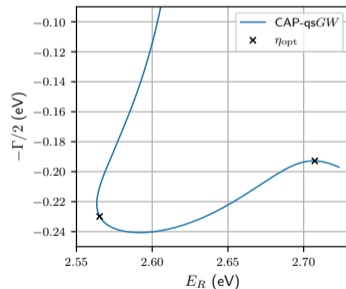
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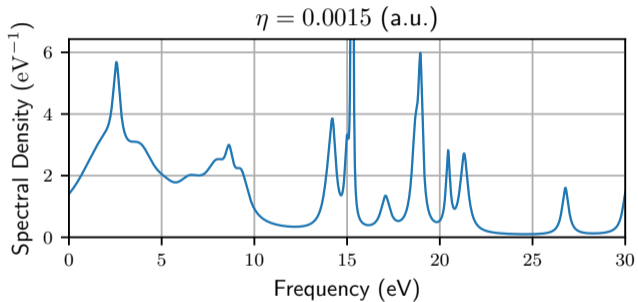
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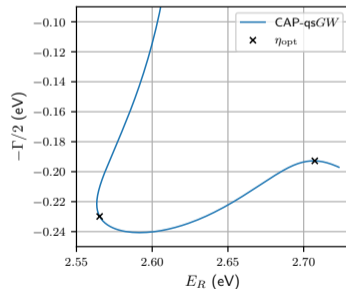
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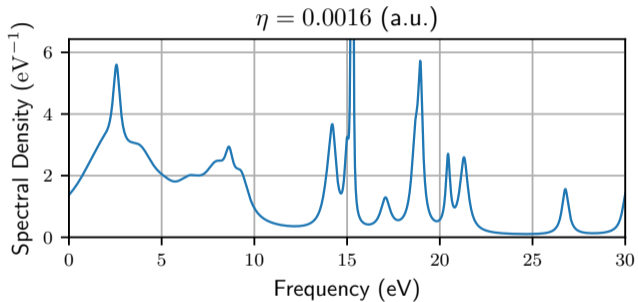
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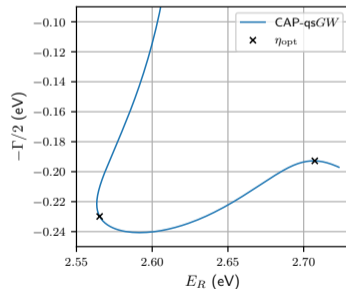
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Burth, Kossoski & Loos, JCTC 21 (2025) 11463

Spectral function

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Take-home messages

- GW interfaced with pyOpenCAP \Rightarrow CAP-GW
<https://github.com/gayverjr/opencap>
- Self-consistency is crucial \Rightarrow quasiparticle self-consistent GW (qsGW)
- qsGW performed with SRG regularization
Marie & Loos, JCTC 19 (2023) 3943
Monino & Loos, JCP 156 (2022) 231101
- SRG-qsGW is similar in spirit to κ -OOMP2
Lee & Head-Gordon JCTC 14 (2018) 520
Shee et al. JPCL 12 (2021) 12084

Analytic Nuclear Gradients for GW and Bethe-Salpeter Equation (BSE)

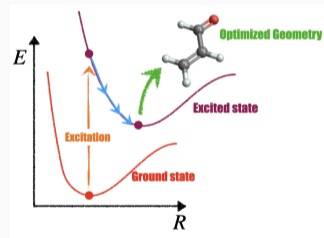
Following the unitary CC (UCC) formalism

- GW is IP+EA-EOM-drUCCD
Tölle & Chan, JCP 158 (2023) 124123
- Derivatives obtained thanks to the formal connection with UCC
Tölle, JPCL 16 (2025) 3672
Tölle, Kitsaras & Loos, JPCL 16 (2025) 11134

Following the extended CC (ECC) formalism

- GW is also IP+EA-EOM-drECCD
Tölle et al. JCTC (in press) arXiv:2602.10887
- Derivatives obtained thanks to the formal connection with ECC
Kitsaras, Tölle & Loos, JCP 164 (2026) 044122
- No truncation of commutators but more Lagrange multipliers

$$\bar{H}^{\text{UCC}} = e^{\hat{T}^\dagger} e^{-\hat{T}} \hat{H} e^{\hat{T}} e^{-\hat{T}^\dagger}$$



$$\bar{H}^{\text{ECC}} = e^{\hat{Z}} e^{-\hat{T}} \hat{H} e^{\hat{T}} e^{-\hat{Z}}$$

Future developments

- Dynamical BSE (i.e., BSE with a dynamical kernel) is finally getting some traction
Loos & Blase, JCP 153 (2020) 114120
Bintrim & Berkelbach, JCP 156 (2022) 044114
Wen, Harsha & Zgid, arXiv:2604.22187

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}(\omega = \Omega_\nu^N) & \mathbf{B} \\ -\mathbf{B} & -\mathbf{A}(\omega = \Omega_\nu^N) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}_\nu \\ \mathbf{Y}_\nu \end{pmatrix} = \Omega_\nu^N \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}_\nu \\ \mathbf{Y}_\nu \end{pmatrix}$$

- Dynamical BSE (beyond TDA) gradient underway via the UCC route
- Static BSE gradients and non-adiabatic couplings via the ECC route
- We want to do non-adiabatic MD with BSE@GW

What's the idea?

- The idea is to decouple IP and EA sectors: valence IPs/EAs become lowest eigenvalues
- Seminal ideas from Schirmer and coworkers in the ADC context
Trofimov & Schirmer, JCP 123 (2005) 144115
Schirmer, Lecture Notes in Chemistry, Vol. 94, Springer
- Previous results were not encouraging
Bintrim & Berkelbach, JCP 154 (2021) 041101
Tölle & Chan, JCP 158 (2023) 124123
- We recently found that it's not that bad after all...
Loos & Tölle, arXiv:2604.08350

Non-Dyson GW Scheme: How Does it Work?

1h+1p	f	U	U
2h1p	U	C	0
2p1h	U	0	C

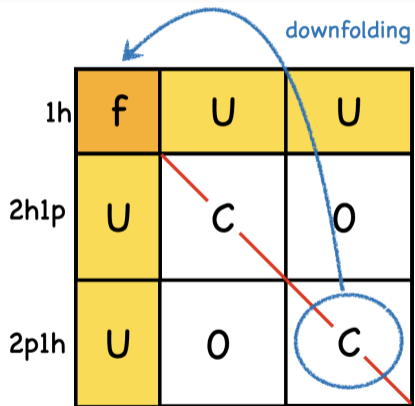
Non-Dyson GW Scheme: How Does it Work?

1h	f		U	U
1p		f	U	U
2h1p	U	U	C	O
2p1h	U	U	O	C

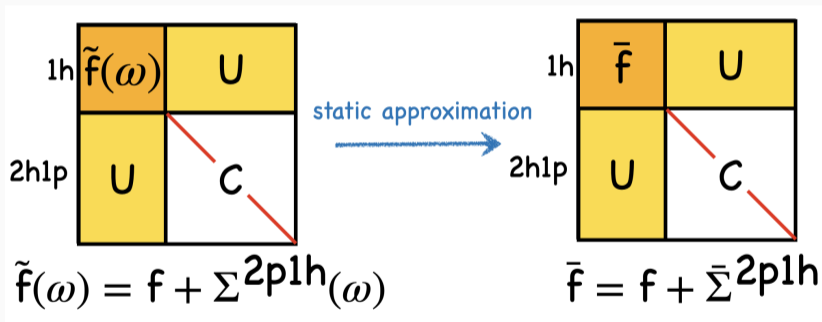
Non-Dyson GW Scheme: How Does it Work?

1h	f	U	U
2h1p	U	C	O
2p1h	U	O	C

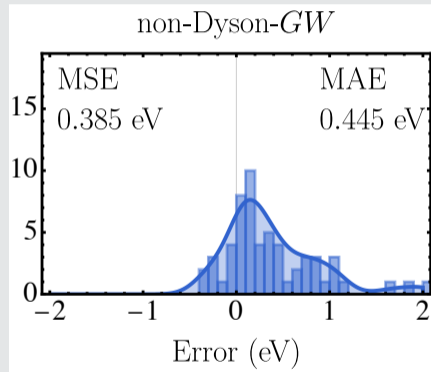
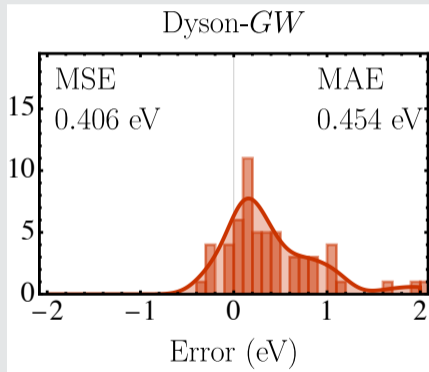
Non-Dyson GW Scheme: How Does it Work?



Non-Dyson GW Scheme: How Does it Work?



Inner- and outer-valence IPs (aug-cc-pVTZ) for 23 small molecules (FCI reference)



Marie & Loos, JCTC 20 (2024) 4751

Take-home messages

- Non-Dyson-GW systematically reproduces Dyson-GW
[Loos & Tölle, arXiv:2604.08350](#)
- Even better for core IPs: justify the cumulant Green's function ansatz
[McClain et al. PRB 93 \(2016\) 235139](#)
[Loos, Marie & Ammar, Faraday Discuss. 254 \(2024\) 240](#)

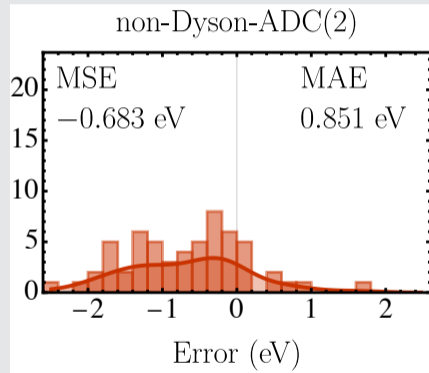
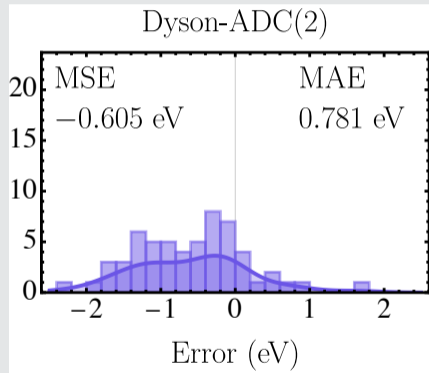
TABLE III. Core ionization energies (in eV) of the O 1s and C 1s states for the CO molecule computed using various schemes with the aug-cc-pVTZ basis.

Reference space	O 1s			C 1s		
	full dynamic	h&h	pure static	full dynamic	h&h	pure static
1h+1p	547.961	547.957	545.255	300.590	300.586	299.503
1h	547.958	547.954	545.245	300.587	300.582	299.397
diagonal	547.957	547.953	545.234	300.585	300.581	299.396

- Other hybrid schemes might require regularization
- Is it also true for ADC?

Dyson vs Non-Dyson for ADC(2)

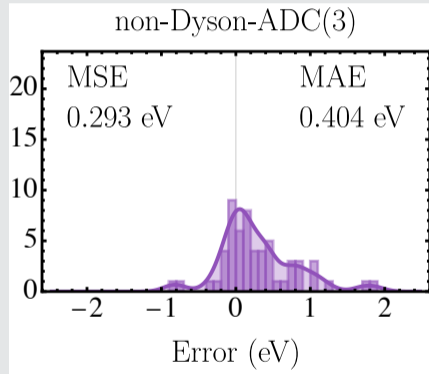
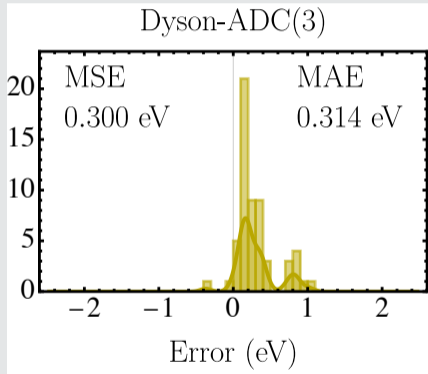
Inner- and outer-valence IPs (aug-cc-pVDZ) for 23 small molecules (FCI reference)



Marie, Töle & Loos, arXiv:2606.04285

Dyson vs Non-Dyson for ADC(3)

Inner- and outer-valence IPs (aug-cc-pVDZ) for 23 small molecules (FCI reference)



Marie, Töle & Loos, arXiv:2606.04285

GW based on a Hartree-Fock-Bogoliubov (HFB) reference

- Based on our recent work on anomalous propagators (Gorkov propagator)

Marie et al. PRB 110 (2024) 115155; JCP 162 (2025) 134105

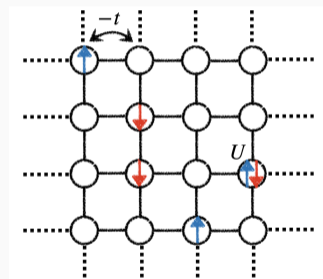
- scGW@HFB for small Hubbard lattices ($U < 0$) where HFB solutions can be found

Rodriguez-Mayorga, Tölle & Loos, in preparation

Abraham, Harsha & Zgid, JCTC 20 (2024) 4579

- scGW@HFB looks very bad (probably due to lack of exchange)
- Vertex corrections look promising

$$\mathbf{G} = \begin{pmatrix} G^{he} & G^{hh} \\ G^{ee} & G^{eh} \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \chi_0 = -i [G^{he} G^{eh} - G^{hh} G^{ee}]$$



Improving upon *GW* is hard...



Motivations To Go Beyond GW

- GW is good for principal IPs (e.g., GW100), especially if one tunes the starting point

Caruso et al. JCTC 12 (2016) 5076

- GW is getting worse for inner-valence IPs

Marie & Loos, JCTC 20 (2024) 4751

- It is terrible for core IPs if one does not tune the starting point:

$G_0W_0@PBEh(\alpha = 0.45)$ or $evGW_0@PBE$

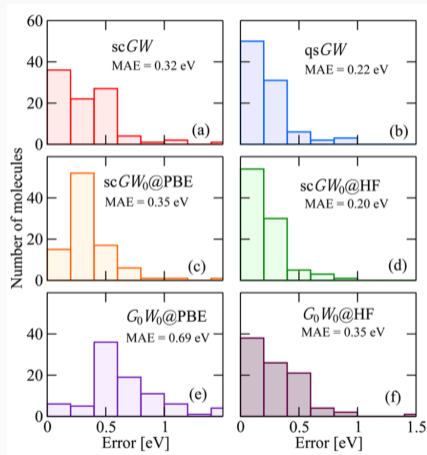
Golze et al. JPCL 11 (2020) 1840

Vo & Berkelbach, arXiv:2508.00168

- Tuning of the starting point is basically element/row dependent:

$\alpha = 0.45$ for 2nd-row elements and $\alpha = 0.70$ for 3rd-row elements

Marie, Burth & Loos, arXiv:2604.05920



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Marie & Loos, JCTC 20 (2024) 4751

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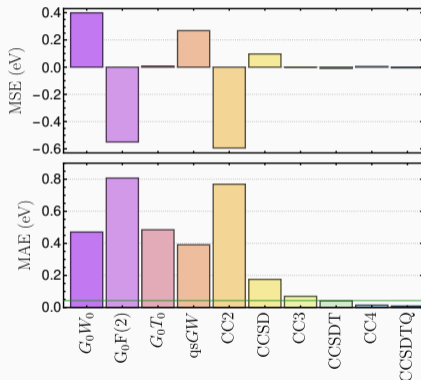
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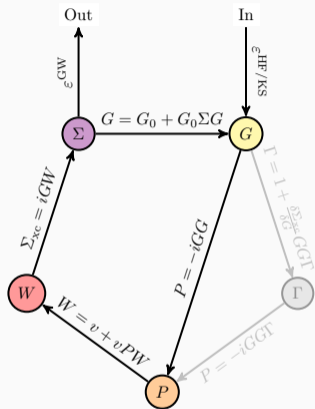
Core IPs (in eV) of CO in aug-cc-pCVTZ

	$G_0W_0@HF$	evGW@HF	qsGW	IP-EOM-CCSD	$G_0W_0@PBEh(\alpha)$	FCI
C*O	301.69	300.42	298.97	297.66	296.14	296.26
CO*	548.88	545.99	545.45	544.26	541.76	542.47

Marie, Burth & Loos, arXiv:2604.05920

What do we want?

- We want a scheme weakly sensitive to the starting point
- We want a systematically improvable theory



Hedin, Phys. Rev. 139 (1965)
A796

The GW Approximation

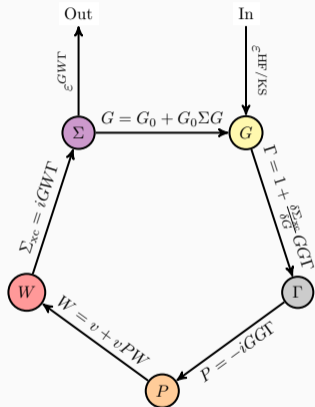
$$\underbrace{G(12)}_{\text{Green's function}} = G_0(12) + \int G_0(13) \underbrace{\Sigma(34)}_{\text{self-energy}} G(42) d(34)$$

$$\underbrace{\Gamma(123)}_{\text{vertex}} = \delta(12)\delta(13)$$

$$\underbrace{P(12)}_{\text{polarizability}} = -iG(12)G(21)$$

$$\underbrace{W(12)}_{\text{screening}} = v(12) + \int v(13)P(34)W(42) d(34)$$

$$\underbrace{\Sigma_{\text{xc}}(12)}_{\text{self-energy}} = iG(12)W(12)$$



Hedin, Phys. Rev. 139 (1965)
A796

Beyond GW

$$\underbrace{G(12)}_{\text{Green's function}} = G_0(12) + \int G_0(13) \Sigma(34) G(42) d(34)$$

$$\underbrace{\Gamma(123)}_{\text{vertex}} = \delta(12)\delta(13) + \int \frac{\delta \Sigma_{xc}(12)}{\delta G(45)} G(46) G(75) \Gamma(673) d(4567)$$

$$\underbrace{P(12)}_{\text{polarizability}} = -i \int G(13) \Gamma(342) G(41) d(34)$$

↑ inner-vertex correction

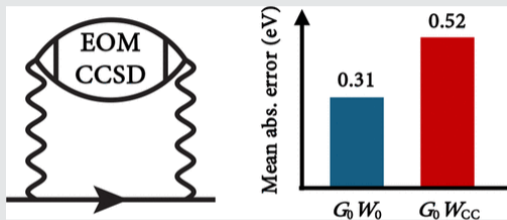
$$\underbrace{W(12)}_{\text{screening}} = v(12) + \int v(13) P(34) W(42) d(34)$$

$$\underbrace{\Sigma_{xc}(12)}_{\text{self-energy}} = i \int G(14) W(13) \Gamma(423) d(34)$$

↑ outer-vertex correction

Why Do Vertex Corrections Have a Bad Reputation?

Correcting P alone does not improve IPs



Lewis & Berkelbach, JCTC 15 (2019) 2925

Correcting Σ alone does not improve IPs



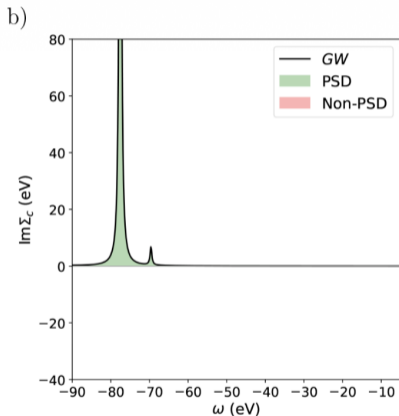
Bruneval & Forster, JCTC 24 (2024) 3218

Take-home messages

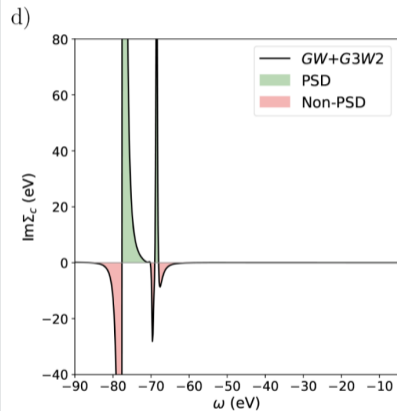
- Inner- and outer-vertex corrections should be treated on equal footing
Forster & Bruneval, JPCL 15 (2024) 12526
- Are Hedin's equations actually suitable for vertex corrections?

Is the $G3W2$ Self-Energy Positive Semi-Definite (PSD)?

GW self-energy of Ne



$G3W2$ self-energy of Ne

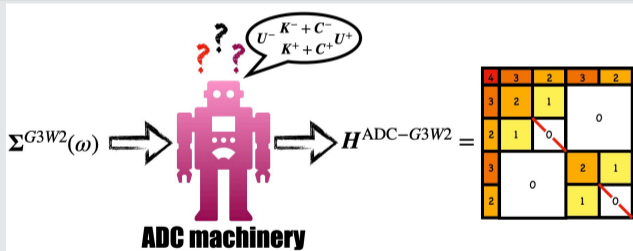


Bruneval, Forster & Pavlyukh, JCTC 21 (2025) 10223

The G3W2 self-energy

$$\Sigma^{G3W2}(\omega) = iG \cdot W + i^2 G \cdot W \cdot G \cdot W \cdot G$$

ADC version of G3W2

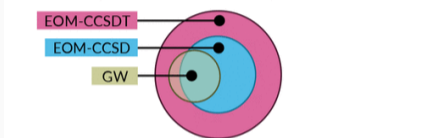


Marie, Tölle & Loos, arXiv:2606.04285

Formal Connections Between GW And CC

- GW does not resum diagrams the same way as EOM-CC!
Lange & Berkelbach, JCTC 14 (2018) 4224

Number of diagrams included in the one-particle Green's function



$$\bar{H}^{\text{TCC}} = (1 + \hat{Z})e^{-\hat{\tau}} \hat{H} e^{\hat{\tau}}$$

- We show that GW can be written as two coupled Riccati equations
Quintero-Monsebaiz et al. JCP 157 (2022) 231102
- Tölle and Chan found a formal equivalence between IP+EA-EOM-drUCCD and GW
Tölle & Chan, JCP 158 (2023) 124123
- Recently, we showed that GW is also equivalent to IP+EA-EOM-drECCD
Tölle et al. JCTC (in press) arXiv:2602.10887

ECC-Based Vertex Corrections

- ECCD is, in general, costly but the GW electron-boson Hamiltonian is quadratic!

Töle & Chan, JCP 158 (2023) 124123

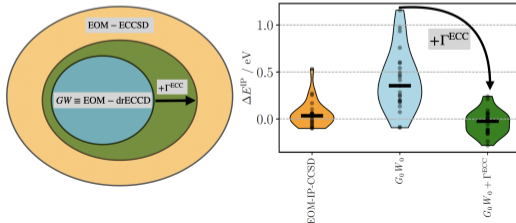
$$\hat{H}_{\text{eB}} = \underbrace{\sum_{pq} f_{pq} \hat{a}_p^\dagger \hat{a}_q}_{\text{electron}} + \underbrace{\sum_{\mu\nu} A_{\mu\nu} b_\mu^\dagger b_\nu + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mu\nu} B_{\mu\nu} (b_\mu^\dagger b_\nu^\dagger + b_\mu b_\nu)}_{\text{boson}} + \underbrace{\sum_{pq\nu} V_{pq,\nu} \hat{a}_p^\dagger \hat{a}_q (b_\nu^\dagger + b_\nu)}_{\text{electron-boson}}$$

- Thus, it remains N^6 , like quadratic CCD.

van Voorhis & Head-Gordon, CPL 330 (2000) 585

- We found that the static self-energy and exchange-like (SOSEX-type) terms super important

Diagrams included in Green's function



The rationale

- *GW* is IP+EA-EOM-drECCD
- *GW* is very sensitive to the starting orbital
- Can we include the single excitations to at least alleviate this?
- Yes! It gives IP+EA-EOM-drECCSD
- Do we get more orbital relaxation?

Core IPs (in eV) of CO in aug-cc-pCVTZ

	$G_0 W_0@HF$	$G_0 W_0+S@HF$	$\Delta drECCD$	$\Delta drECCSD$	IP-EOM-CCSD	FCI
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CO*	548.88	548.57	542.97	542.96	544.26	542.47

Kitsaras, Burth & Loos, in preparation

Schwinger-Dyson relationship

$$G^{-1}(11') = G_0^{-1}(11') - \Sigma(11')$$

$$\Sigma(11') = -iv(12; 3'2') G_2(3'2'; 32) G^{-1}(31')$$

Bickers, in *Theoretical Methods for Strongly Correlated Electrons* (2004) 237

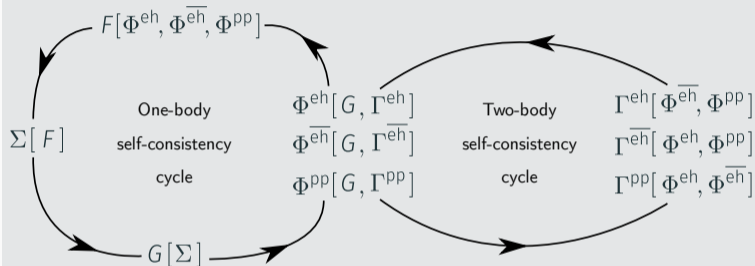
Two-body vertex

$$G_2(12; 34) = G(13)G(24) - G(14)G(23) - G(11')G(3'3) \underbrace{F(1'2'; 3'4')}_{\text{Full two-body vertex}} G(4'4)G(22')$$

Parquet decomposition

$$F(12; 34) = \underbrace{\Lambda(12; 34)}_{\text{Irreducible vertex}} + \underbrace{\Phi^{\text{eh}}(12; 34) + \bar{\Phi}^{\text{eh}}(12; 34) + \Phi^{\text{pp}}(12; 34)}_{\text{can be computed with Bethe-Salpeter equations}}$$

Self-consistent algorithm



Approximations

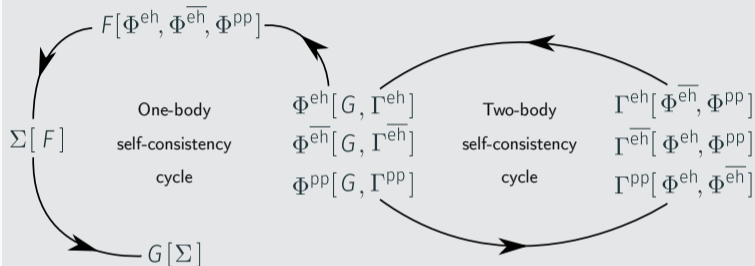
- Parquet approximation $\Lambda = -i\bar{v}$
- One-shot approximation
- Static kernel approximation for Γ
- Hardcore regularization

Preliminary statistics on 20 IPs in the aug-cc-pVTZ basis set

Method	osPA	$G_0 W_0$	$G_0 T_0$
MAE	0.29	0.37	0.34

Parquet Algorithm

Self-consistent algorithm



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Marie & Loos, JCP 163 (2025) 194115

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- **SCI:** Anthony Scemama, Emmanuel Giner & Michel Caffarel
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- **Postdocs:** Marios-Petros Kitsaras, Mauricio Rodriguez-Mayorga, Abdallah Ammar, Sara Giarrusso & Raúl Quintero-Monsebaiz
- **Collaborators:** Johannes Tölle, Hugh Burton, Pina Romaniello & Xavier Blase



https://pfloos.github.io/WEB_LOOS
<https://lcpq.github.io/PTEROSOR>

The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for QUESTDB. At the top, there are navigation links for README, Contributing, and CC-BY-SA-4.0 license. The main heading is "QUESTDB: A Database of Highly-Accurate Excitation Energies". Below the heading, there are badges for Funding (ERC PTEROSOR), License (CC BY SA 4.0), and last update (august). There are also icons for Stars (16), Forks (2), and Watchers (2). A DOI badge is visible: DOI 10.5281/zenodo.15671384. The Table of Contents section includes links for Key Features, Why Use QUESTDB?, Repository Contents, and Contributors. On the right side, there are statistics for 10 stars, 2 watching, and 2 forks. The Releases section shows "QUESTDB version 1.1" as the latest release on Jul 28. The Packages section indicates no packages published. The Contributors section lists pfloos (Pierre-Francois Loos) and scemama (Anthony Scemama).

<https://github.com/pfloos/QUESTDB>

Loos, Boggio-Pasqua, Blondel, Lipparini & Jacquemin, JCTC 21 (2025) 8010