



Large-Scale TDDFT for Finite and Periodic Systems: The new TDDFT in FHI-aims

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2026-06-10

Overview

TDDFT in FHIaims

Theory and
Implementation

The current
TDDFT

The new
TDDFT

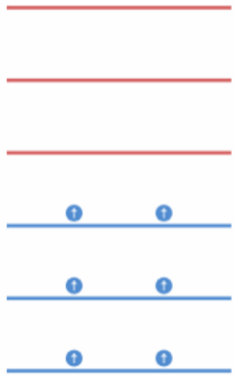
Performance

Accuracy

Features

Time-dependent density functional theory (TDDFT)

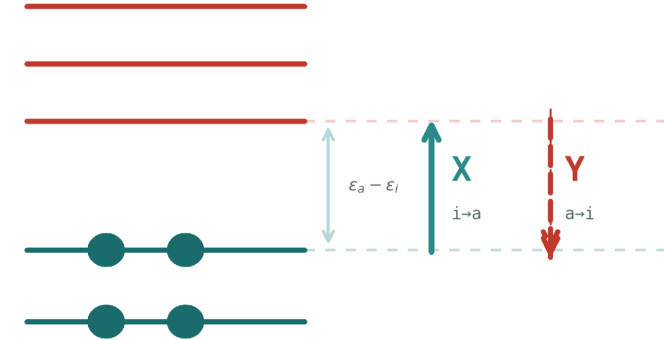
Excited state properties



TDDFT is about figuring out **how the density reacts to a time-dependent response**

Full TDDFT

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ B^* & A^* \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \end{pmatrix} = \Omega^2 \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \end{pmatrix}$$



$$B_{ia,jb} = (ia|bj) + \iint \phi_i(\mathbf{r}) \phi_a(\mathbf{r}) f_{xc}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \phi_b(\mathbf{r}') \phi_j(\mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}'$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ B^* & A^* \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \end{pmatrix} = \Omega^2 \begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \end{pmatrix} \quad B \neq 0$$

Casida matrix

$$A_{ia,jb} = \delta_{ij} \delta_{ab} (\epsilon_a - \epsilon_i) + (ia|jb) + \iint \phi_i(\mathbf{r}) \phi_a(\mathbf{r}) f_{xc}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \phi_j(\mathbf{r}') \phi_b(\mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}'$$

A matrix

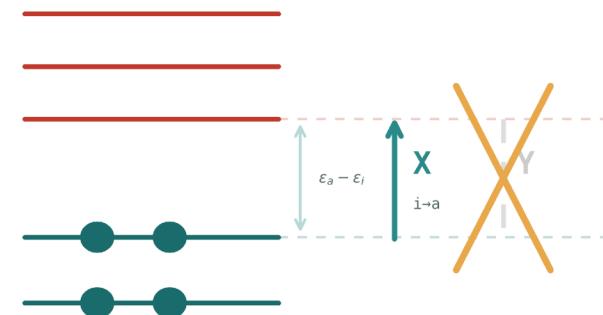
bare KS gap — zeroth order excitation energy
 Coulomb: electron-hole attraction
 XC kernel: dynamic screening
 Mixes single-particle transitions
 dressed particle-hole Hamiltonian

B matrix

excitation (j→b)
 B = 0 → TDA; valid when |B| << |A|
 B important: conical intersections

Tamm – Dankoff – Approximation (TDA)

$$A X = \Omega X$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & A^* \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} X \\ - \end{pmatrix} = \Omega \begin{pmatrix} X \\ - \end{pmatrix}$$

B = 0 → Y neglected

TDA matrix

TDA

standard Hermitian eigenvalue problem

B matrix elements are small $|B|/|A| \sim 0.01-0.1$

TDA error smaller than XC functional error

Triplet instability: full matrix can become indefinite → imaginary excitation energies

Slightly blue-shifted excitation energies ($\sim 0.1-0.2$ eV)

Old implementation

TDHF/RPA

TDDFT/TDA

LDA

No hybrid DFT
TDHF only serial

RI-V

No PBC

Dense solver

Restricted KS

New implementation

TDA

LDA/GGA
(extendable to meta
GGA)

Hybrid DFT
fully parallel

RI-LVL

NTOs

PBC

Iterative solver

RKS/UKS

The “new” TDDFT

0

Trial Vector v_{ia}

1

First order Density $P_{\mu\nu} = \sum_{ia} c_{\mu}^i v_{ia} c_{\nu}^a$

2

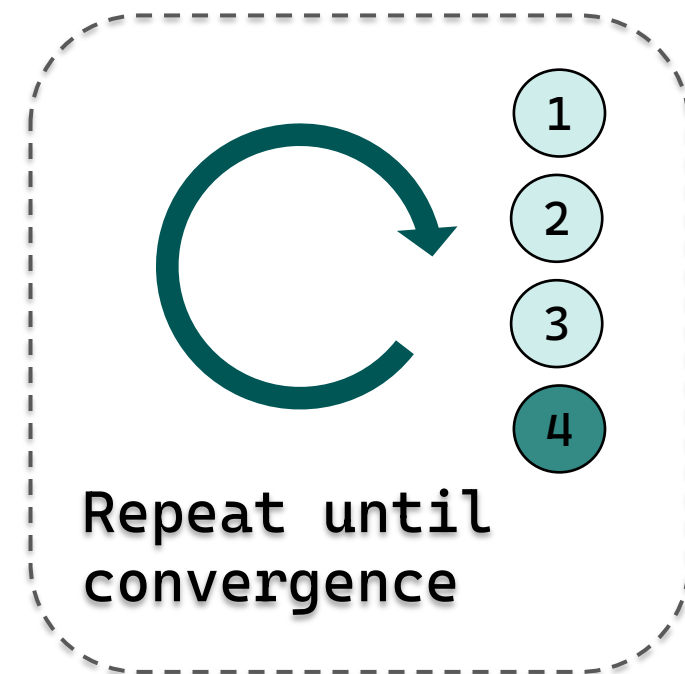
Coulomb HFX $G_{\mu\nu}[P] = \sum_{\lambda\sigma} P_{\lambda\sigma} [(\mu\nu|\lambda\sigma) - \alpha(\mu\lambda|\nu\sigma)]$

3

Fock Matrix $F_{\mu\nu} = G_{\mu\nu}[P] + F^{\text{xc}\mu\nu}[P]$

4

Vector $\widetilde{v}_{ia} = (\epsilon_a - \epsilon_i)v_{ia} + [\mathbf{C}_0^{\text{T}}\mathbf{F}\mathbf{C}_v]_{ia}$



The “new” TDDFT

Cou`l`omb HFX $G_{\mu\nu}[P] = \sum_{\lambda\sigma} P_{\lambda\sigma}[(\mu\nu|\lambda\sigma) - \alpha(\mu\lambda|\nu\sigma)]$

Cou`l`omb $\sum_{\lambda\sigma} P_{\lambda\sigma}[(\mu\nu|\lambda\sigma)]$

Exchange $-\alpha \sum_{\lambda\sigma} P_{\lambda\sigma}[(\mu\lambda|\nu\sigma)]$

Fock routines calculate **Cou`l`omb** and can now handle **non-symmetric density matrices**

RI-LVL

Cou`l`omb is pure local quantity

Exchange is the bottleneck and **P** is non-symmetric

The “new” TDDFT

$$\begin{aligned}
 {}^1\widetilde{F}_{\mu\nu}^{XC} \quad + = & \quad w_q \left[\frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta \rho_\alpha^2} \right]_q + \left[\frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta \rho_\alpha \delta \rho_\beta} \right]_q g^q \phi_\mu^q \phi_\nu^q \\
 & + w_q \left(2 \left[\frac{\delta f}{\delta \gamma_{\alpha\alpha}} \right]_q + \left[\frac{\delta f}{\delta \gamma_{\alpha\beta}} \right]_q \right) \mathbf{h}^q \cdot \nabla (\phi_\mu^q \phi_\nu^q) \\
 & + w_q \left(\left[\frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta \rho_\alpha \delta \gamma_{\alpha\alpha}} \right]_q + \left[\frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta \rho_\alpha \delta \gamma_{\beta\beta}} \right]_q + \left[\frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta \rho_\alpha \delta \gamma_{\alpha\beta}} \right]_q \right) [(\nabla \rho^q \cdot \mathbf{h}^q) \phi_\mu \phi_\nu + g^q (\nabla \rho^q \cdot \nabla (\phi_\mu^q \phi_\nu^q))] \\
 & + w_q \left(\left[\frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta \gamma_{\alpha\alpha}^2} \right]_q + \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta \gamma_{\alpha\beta}^2} \right]_q + 2 \left[\frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta \gamma_{\alpha\alpha} \delta \gamma_{\alpha\beta}} \right]_q + \left[\frac{\delta^2 f}{\delta \gamma_{\alpha\alpha} \delta \gamma_{\beta\beta}} \right]_q \right) |\nabla \rho^q|^2 \mathbf{h}^q \cdot \nabla (\phi_\mu^q \phi_\nu^q)
 \end{aligned}$$

Eigensolver

SLEPc/PETSc

01 – Ritz extraction

$$V^T A V \mathbf{s} = \theta \mathbf{s}, \quad \mathbf{u} = V \mathbf{s}$$

02 – Residual

$$\mathbf{r} = (A - \theta I) \mathbf{u}$$

03 – Diagonal preconditioner

$$t_i = \frac{-r_i}{D_{ii} - \theta}, \quad D = \text{diag}(A)$$

04 – Orthogonalisation

$$\mathbf{t} \leftarrow \mathbf{t} - V(V^T \mathbf{t}), \quad \mathbf{t} \leftarrow \mathbf{t} / \|\mathbf{t}\|$$

05 – Subspace expansion

$$\mathcal{V} \leftarrow \mathcal{V} + \text{span}\{\mathbf{t}\}$$

repeat until $\|\mathbf{r}\| < \varepsilon$

Screening in exact exchange part **breaks** linearity

Heuristic adjustment of screening (`crit_val`)

Eigval. : 1.0E-05
eV
crit_val : 1.0E-07

Settings for
ground state !

Eigenvalues converge faster
than eigenvectors

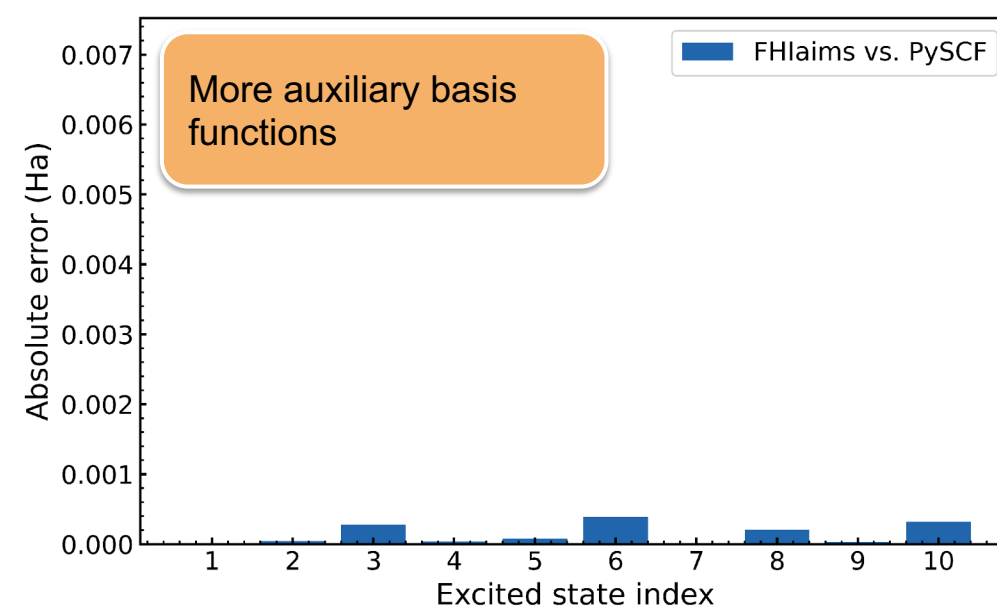
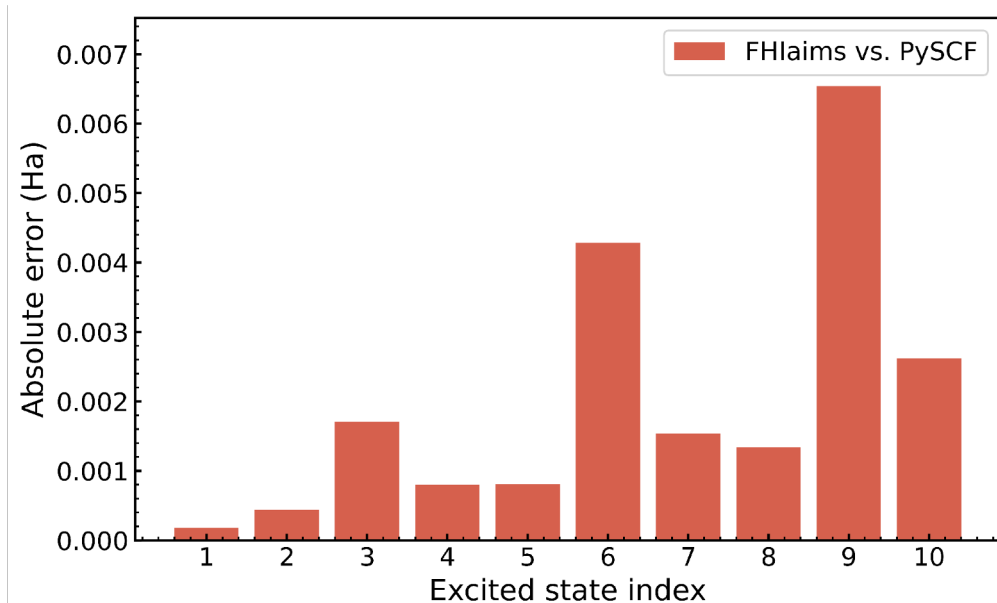
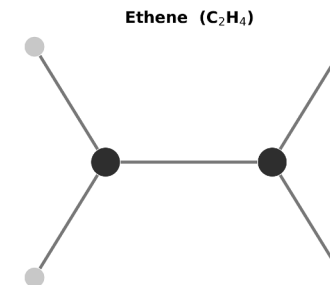
Accuracy,
Performance
and some
Features

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MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT



RI-LVL

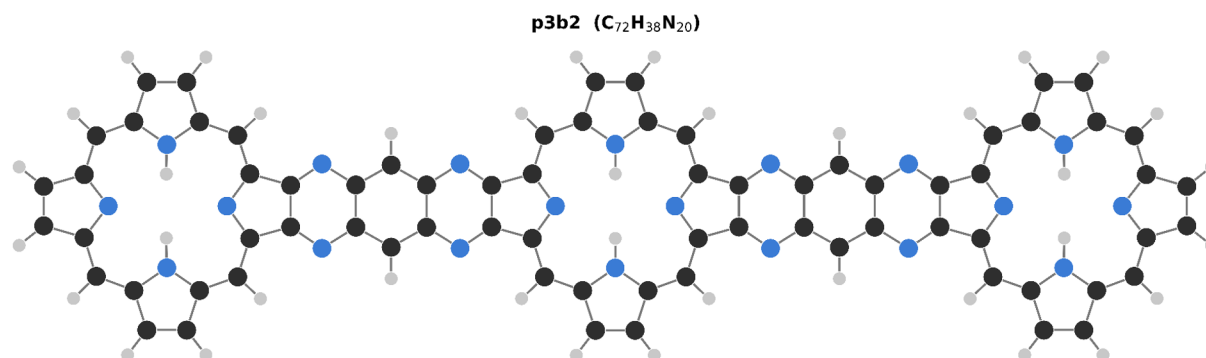
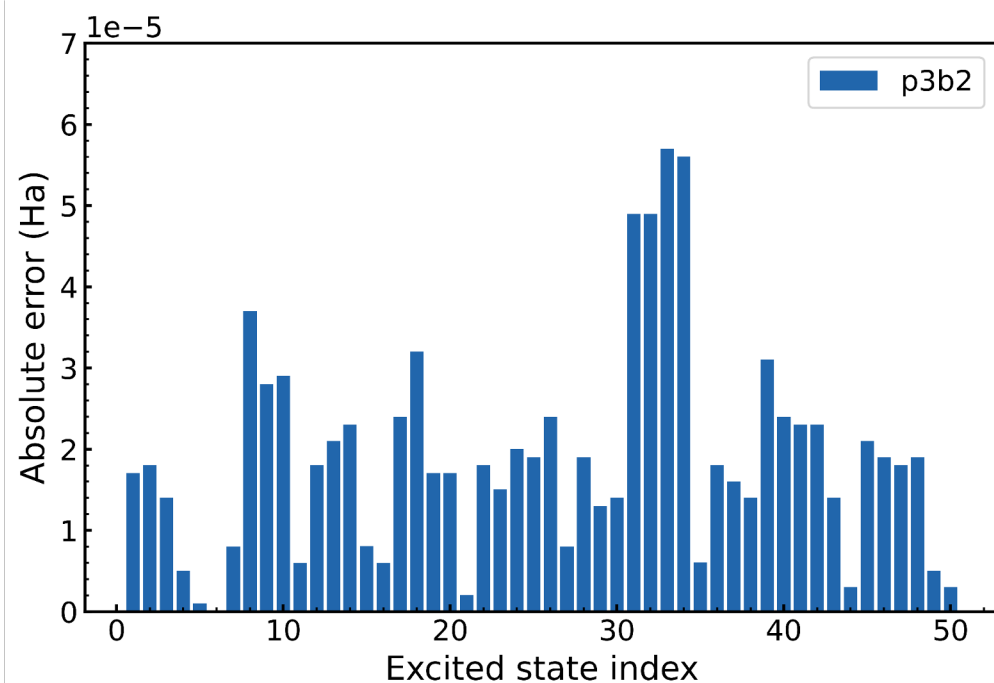
RI-LVL introduces errors for “diffuse” excitations



Rydberg-like states in **small molecules** need more auxiliary basis functions

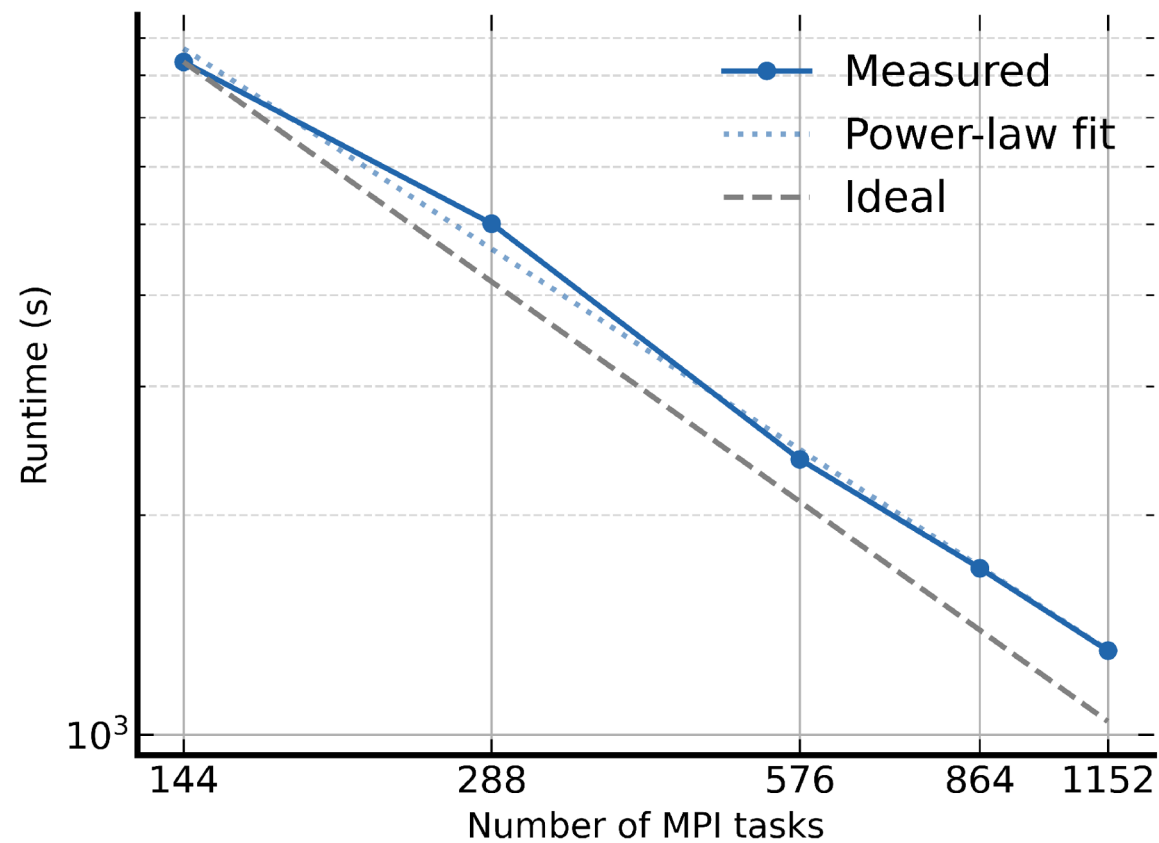
RI-LVL

P3B2 – Dye molecule (130 atoms)

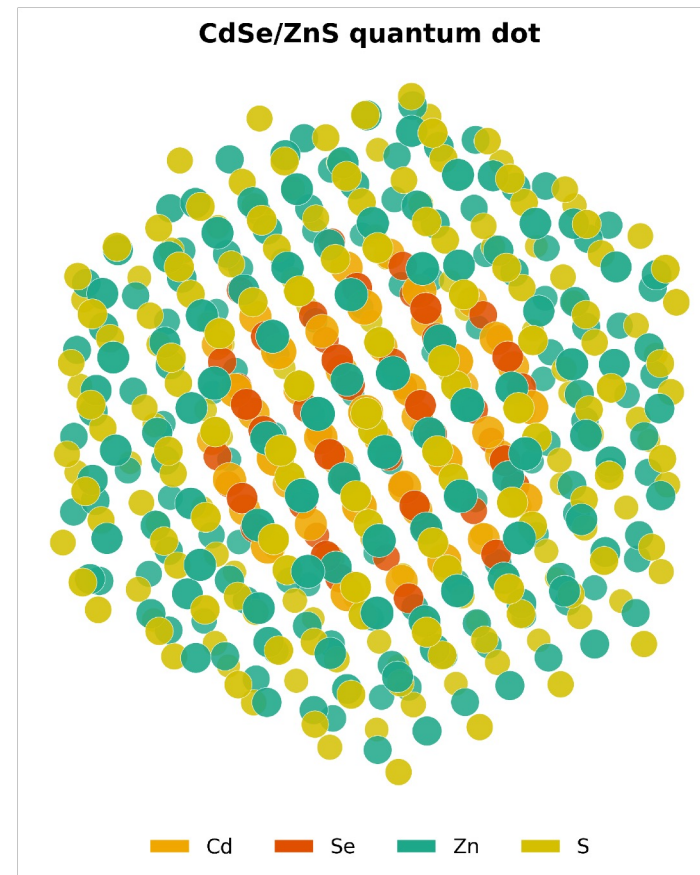


For valence excitation “standard” RI-LVL is sufficient.

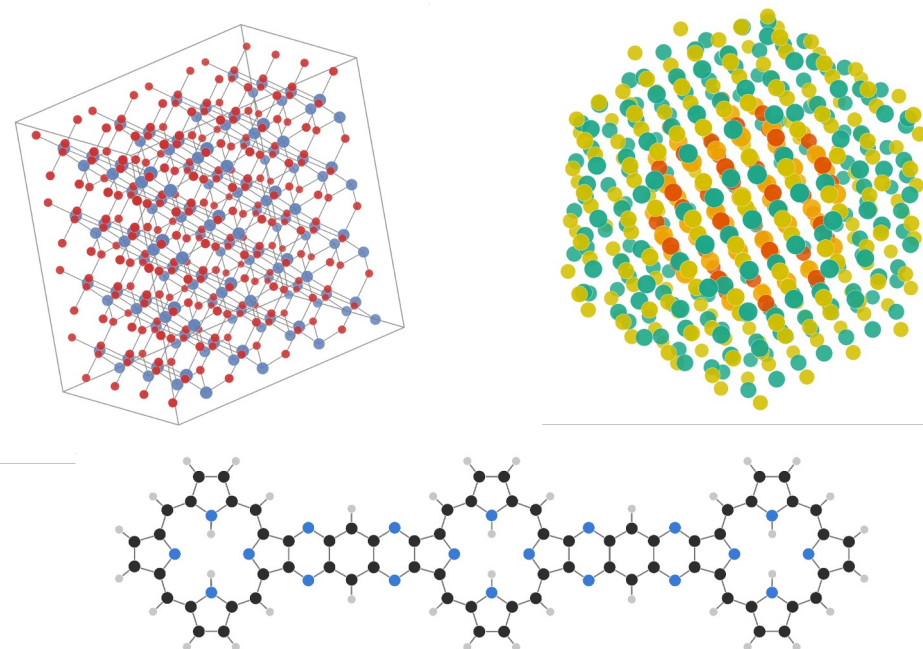
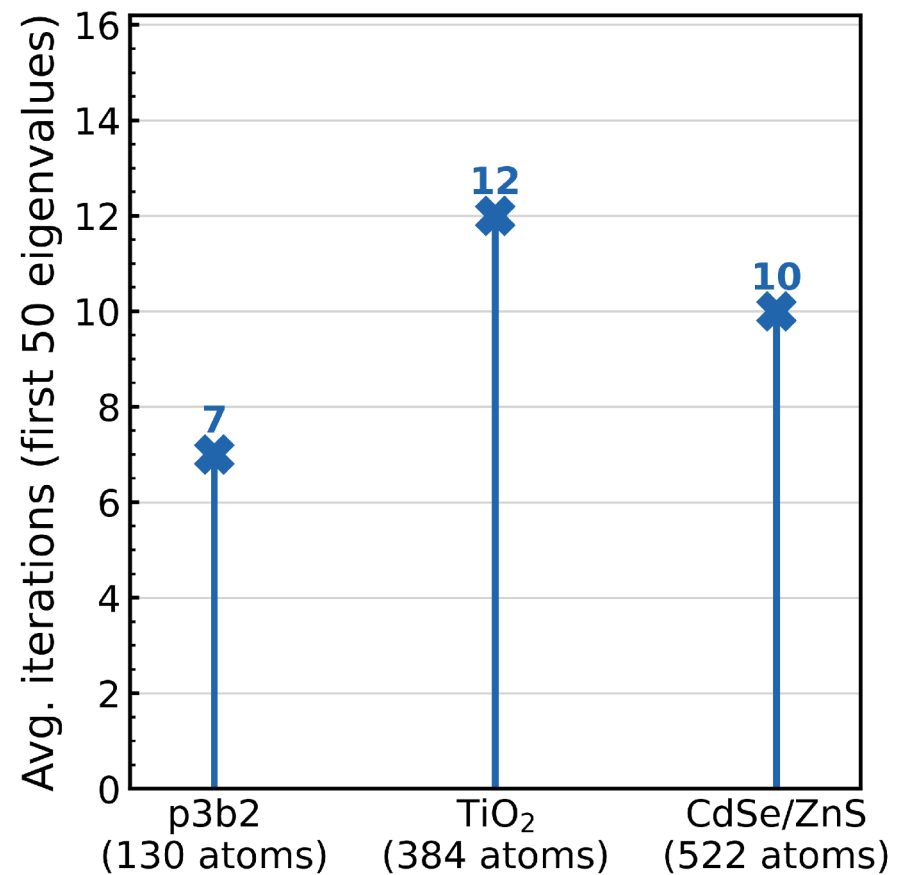
Strong Scaling



$$c = 0.92$$



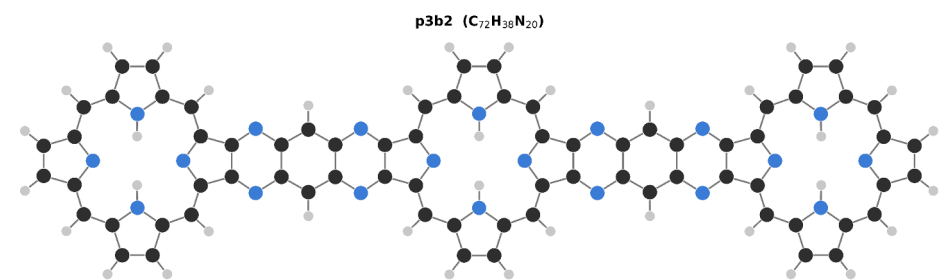
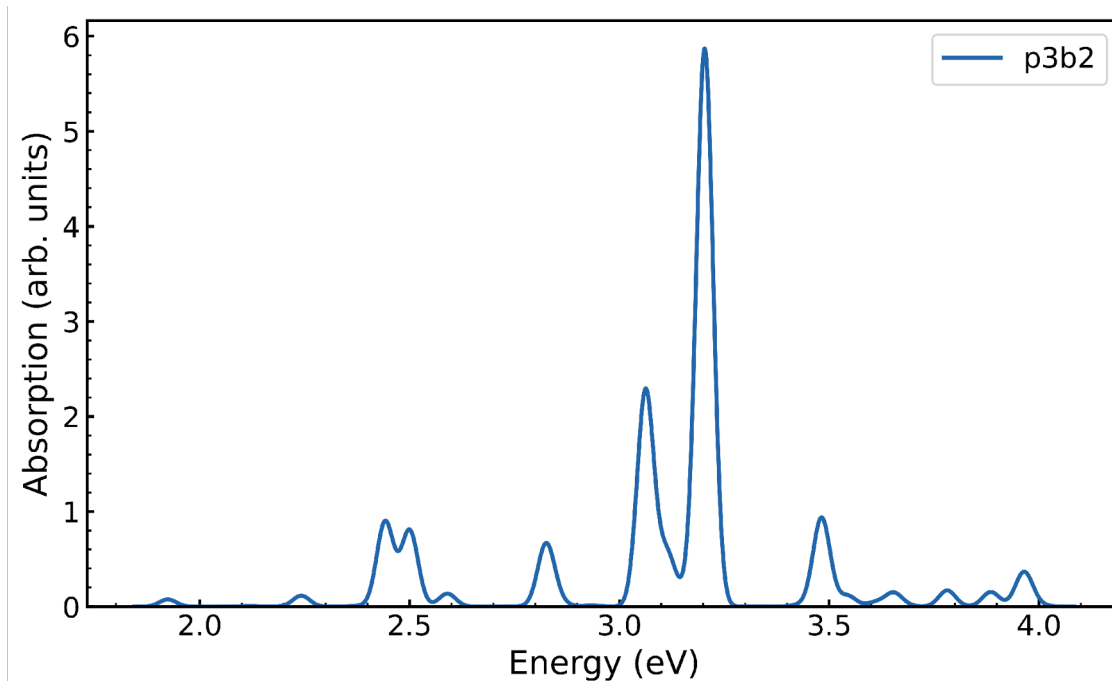
Iterative eigensolver



block size
default: 1
optimal: 1-3

Features

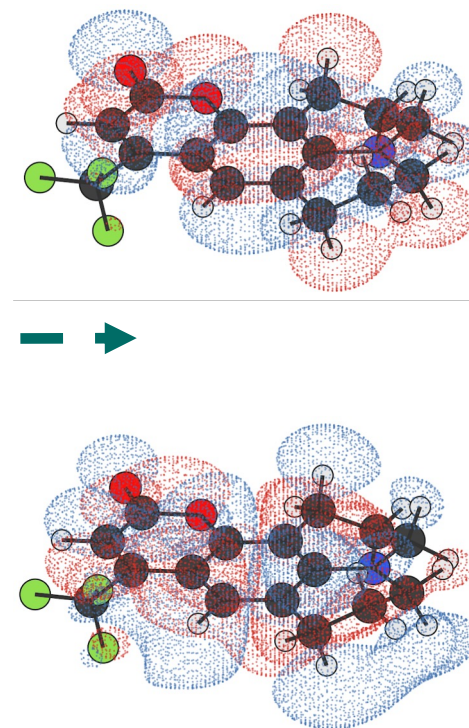
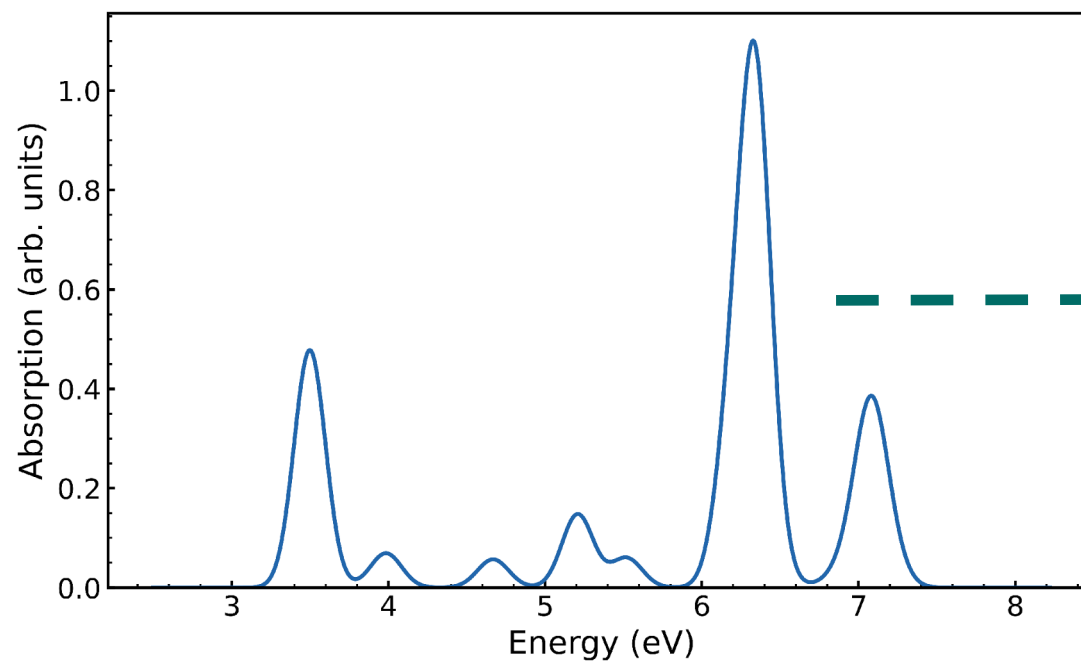
Oscillator Strength (Transition Dipoles)



$$f_I = \frac{2}{3} \omega_I \sum_{\alpha \in \{x,y,z\}} \left(\sum_{ia} X_{ia}^I \langle \psi_i | \hat{r}_\alpha | \psi_a \rangle \right)^2$$

Features

Natural transition orbitals (NTOs)



hole

particle

$$\rho^{\text{trans}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') = \sum_k \lambda_k \phi_k^{\text{hole}}(\mathbf{r}) \phi_k^{\text{particle}}(\mathbf{r}')$$

Conclusion

TDA

LDA/GGA

Hybrid
DFT

PBC

Iterative
solver

length
gauge

velocity
gauge

RI-LVL

NTOs

RKS/UKS

Oscillator
strengths

Outlook

k-points

f_{xc}

HFX

Next:

Coulomb

Full TDDFT/ Spin flip TDDFT

easy to implement
SLEPc/PETSc BSE solver
(2025)