

**FHI-aims capabilities
for molecules, clusters, and solids**



FHI-aims



V. Blum, R. Gehrke, F. Hanke, P. Havu, V. Havu, X. Ren, K. Reuter and M. Scheffler,
“Ab Initio Molecular Simulations with Numeric Atom-Centered Orbitals”,
Computer Physics Communications **180**, 2175-2196 (2009)

Main focus:

- Accurate all-electron electronic-structure calculations (DFT and beyond) for both periodic and cluster/molecular systems
- Massively parallel

Robust interface: atomic simulation environment (ASE)

Approximations to the electronic problem: Basis set

Idea: represent all unknown functions ($\rho(\mathbf{r}), \psi_i(\mathbf{r})$)
as a linear combination of known functions with well-defined
properties: $\psi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_p C_{ip} \varphi_p(\mathbf{r})$

Widely used basis sets:

gaussians $x^i y^j z^k \exp(-\alpha r^2)$ (localized, analytic integrals)

plane waves $\exp(i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r})$ (delocalized, analytic integrals)

Slater-type $x^i y^j z^k \exp(-\alpha r)$ (localized, nuclear cusp)

grid-based $\delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_i)$ (localized, analytic integrals)

Core electrons are often treated separately (pseudopotentials, plane-wave + localized basis)

The basis set: Numeric atomic orbitals

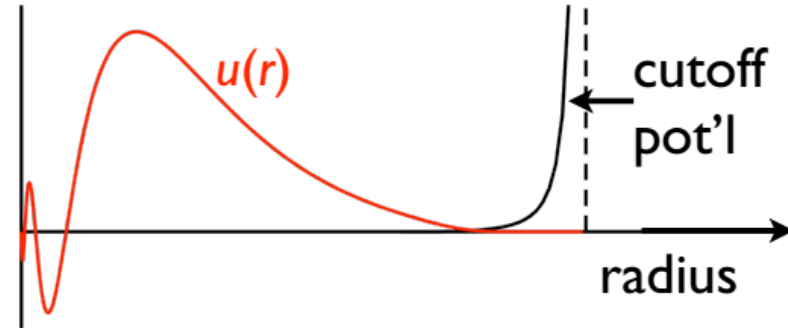
$$\varphi_{i[lm]}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{u_i(r)}{r} \cdot Y_{lm}(\Omega)$$

Many popular implementations:
DMol³ (Delley), FPLO (Eschrig et al.), PLATO (Horsfield et al.), PAOs (Siesta, Conquest, OpenMX², Fireball, ...)

- $u_i(r)$: Flexible choice - “Anything you like.”

$$\left[-\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} + v_i(r) + v_{\text{cut}}(r) \right] u_i(r) = \epsilon_i u_i(r)$$

- free-atom like: $v_i(r) = v_{\text{free atom}}^{\text{DFT}}(r)$
- Hydrogen-like: $v_i(r) = z/r$
- free ions, harm. osc. (Gaussians), ...



The basis set: Numeric atomic orbitals

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- $u_i(r)$: Flexible choice - “Anything you like.”

- Localized; “naturally” all-electron

- The choice of efficient and of enough radial functions is obviously important

- We have a basis set library for all elements (1-102), from fast qualitative to meV-converged (total energy, LDA/GGA) calculations - efficient and accurate approach

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The basis set

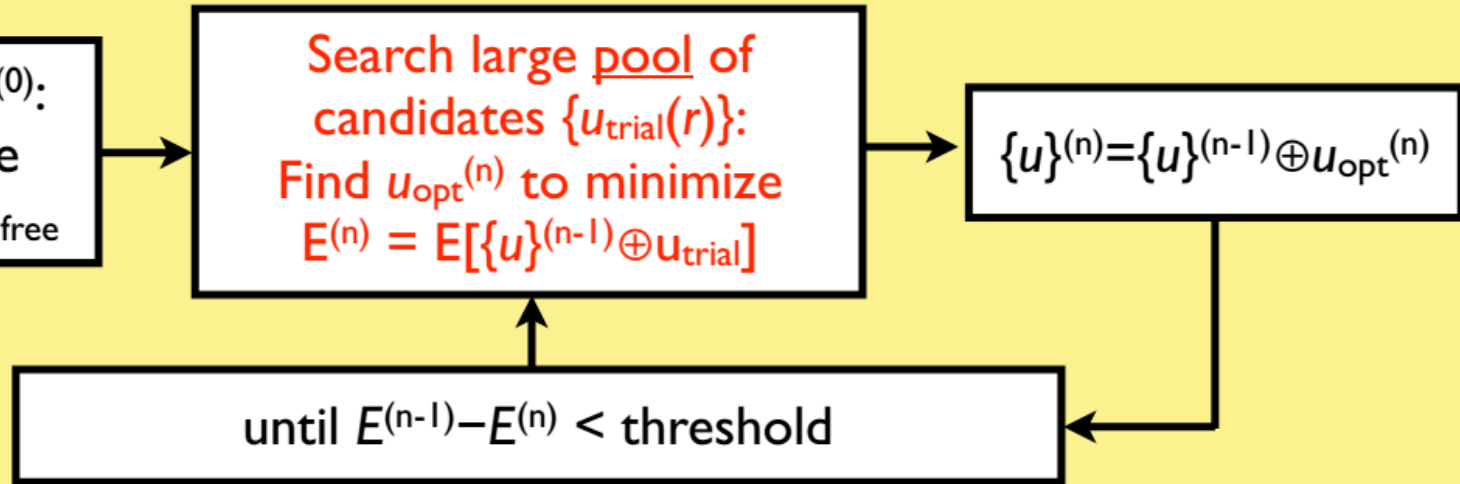
Robust iterative selection strategy:
(e.g., Delley 1990)

Initial basis $\{u\}^{(0)}$:
Occupied free
atom orbitals u_{free}

Search large pool of
candidates $\{u_{\text{trial}}(r)\}$:
Find $u_{\text{opt}}^{(n)}$ to minimize
 $E^{(n)} = E[\{u\}^{(n-1)} \oplus u_{\text{trial}}]$

$\{u\}^{(n)} = \{u\}^{(n-1)} \oplus u_{\text{opt}}^{(n)}$

until $E^{(n-1)} - E^{(n)} < \text{threshold}$



The basis set

“Pool” of trial basis functions:

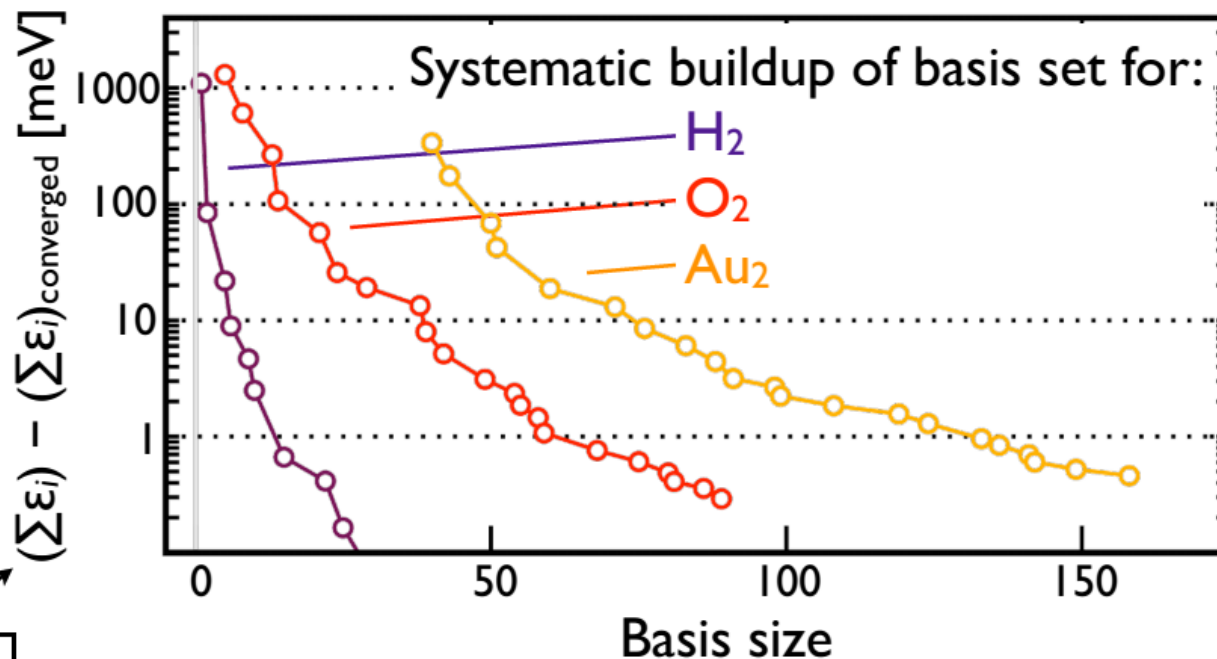
2+ ionic $u(r)$

Hydrogen-like $u(r)$ for $z=0.1-20$

Optimization target:

Non-selfconsistent symmetric dimers, averaged for different d

Pick basis functions one by one, up to complete *total energy convergence*



Remaining
basis set error

The basis set

Systematic hierarchy of basis (sub)sets, iterative *automated* construction based on *dimers*

“First *tier* (level)”

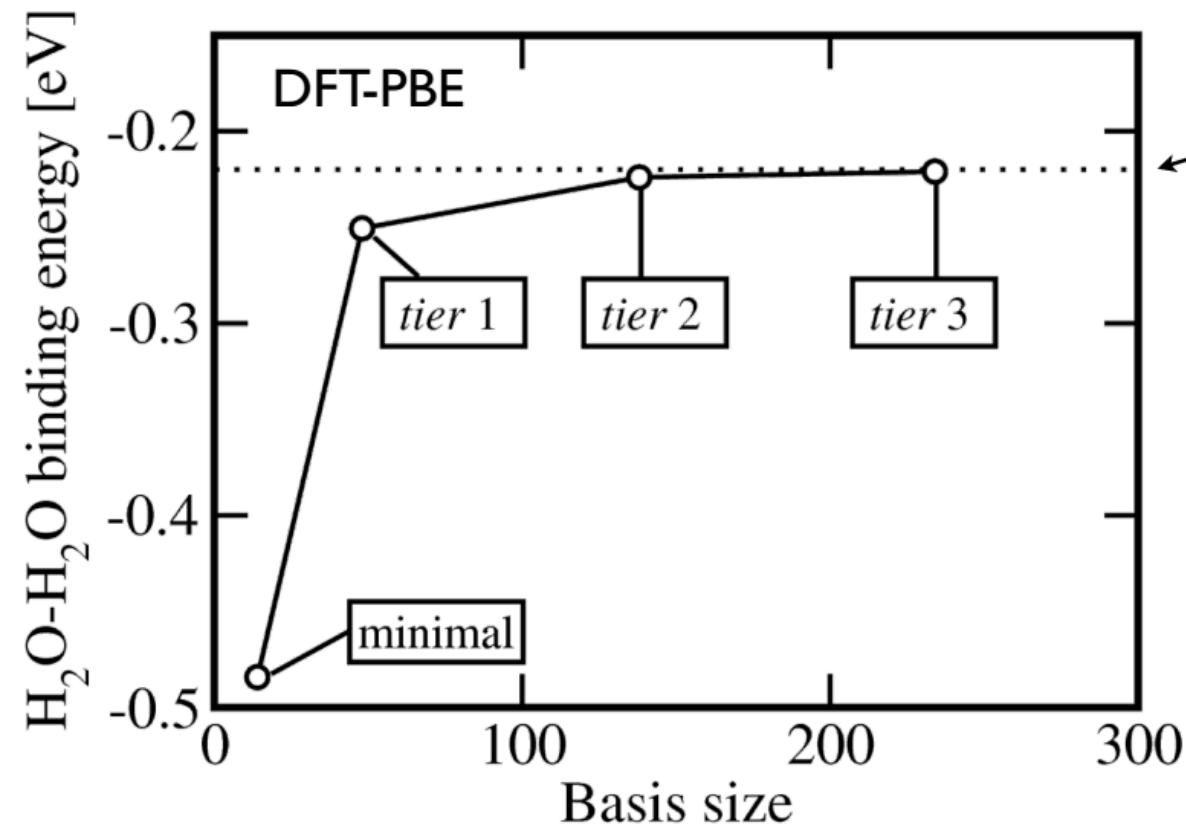
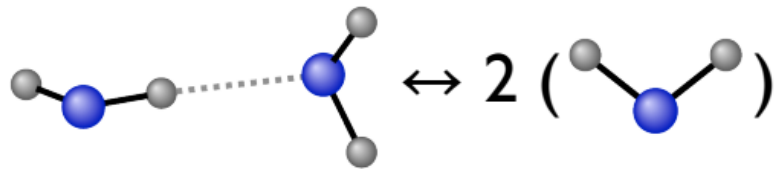
“Second *tier*”

“Third *tier*”

	H	C	O	Au
minimal	1s	[He]+2s2p	[He]+2s2p	[Xe]+6s5d4f
Tier 1	H(2s,2.1)	H(2p,1.7)	H(2p,1.8)	Au ²⁺ (6p)
	H(2p,3.5)	H(3d,6.0)	H(3d,7.6)	H(4f,7.4)
		H(2s,4.9)	H(3s,6.4)	Au ²⁺ (6s)
				H(5g,10)
				H(6h,12.8)
			H(3d,2.5)	
Tier 2	H(1s,0.85)	H(4f,9.8)	H(4f,11.6)	H(5f,14.8)
	H(2p,3.7)	H(3p,5.2)	H(3p,6.2)	H(4d,3.9)
	H(2s,1.2)	H(3s,4.3)	H(3d,5.6)	H(3p,3.3)
	H(3d,7.0)	H(5g,14.4)	H(5g,17.6)	H(1s,0.45)
		H(3d,6.2)	H(1s,0.75)	H(5g,16.4)
			H(6h,13.6)	
Tier 3	H(4f,11.2)	H(2p,5.6)	O ²⁺ (2p)	H(4f,5.2)*
	H(3p,4.8)	H(2s,1.4)	H(4f,10.8)	H(4d,5.0)

...

The basis set



Basis set limit (independent):
 $E_{\text{Hb}} = -219.8 \text{ meV}$

Basis sets: Radial fn. character

	H	C,N,O
minimal	1s	[He]+2s2p
tier 1	s,p	s,p,d
tier 2	s,p,s,d	s,p,d,f,g
tier 3	s,p,d,f	s,p,d,f

The basis set: additional parameters to converge

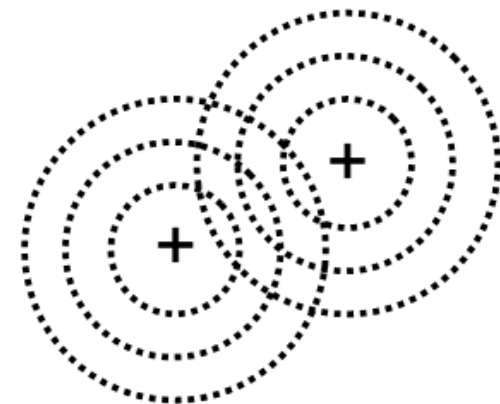
$$h_{ij} = \int d^3r \varphi_i(\mathbf{r}) \hat{h}_{\text{KS}} \varphi_j(\mathbf{r})$$

- Discretize to integration grid: $\int d^3r f(\mathbf{r}) \rightarrow \sum_{\mathbf{r}} w(\mathbf{r}) f(\mathbf{r})$

... but even-spaced integration grids are out:
 $f(r)$ strongly peaked near all nuclei!

- Overlapping atom-centered integration grids:

- Radial shells (e.g., H, light: 24; Au, tight: 147)
- Specific angular point distribution (“Lebedev”) exact up to given integration order l (50, 110, 194, 302, points per shell)



Pioneered by

Becke JCP 88, 2547 (1988), Delley, JCP 92, 508 (1990), MANY others!

Electronic structure methods

Quantum chemistry & many-body theory:

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}\Psi = E\Psi$$

... successive refinement of Ψ

Density functional theory: (Hohenberg-Kohn 1964, Kohn-Sham 1965)

$$E_{\text{tot}} = E[n(r)] = T_s[n] + V[n] + V_{\text{es}}[n] + E_{\text{xc}}[n]$$

“Perdew’s ladder”
to exact solution

- Key practical approximation: E_{xc}

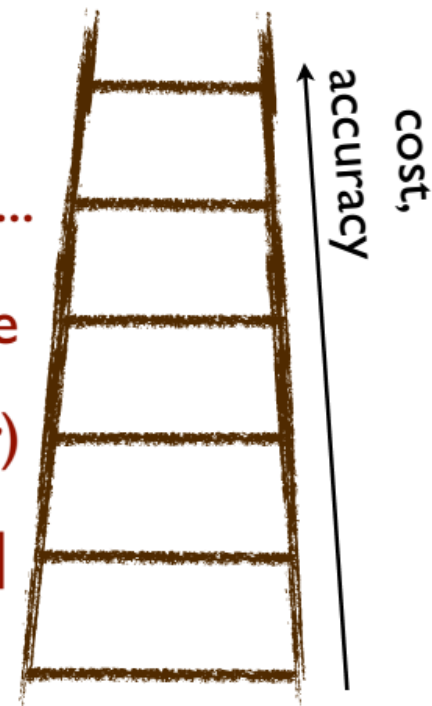
response / many-body terms: RPA, SOSEX, ...

hybrid functionals: non-local exchange

meta-GGAs: $\nabla^2 n(r)$, $\nabla^2 \phi(r)$

Generalized gradient approximations (GGAs): $|\nabla n(r)|$

Local-density approximation (LDA): $n(r)$



Part I: atom and molecule

Problem I: Hydrogen atom

Tasks:

- Input files needed to run FHI-aims.
- Test the convergence of the total energy with basis size.
- Compare the total energy of the hydrogen atom computed with different methods implemented in FHI-aims. Do all methods converge to the same result?

FHI-aims input files

geometry.in

Atomic structure

```
#   x   y   z
atom 0.0 0.0 0.0 H
atom 1.0 0.0 0.0 H
initial_moment 1.0
```

```
# That's a comment
```

Units:

Positions in Å

Energies in eV

control.in

Physical model settings

```
xc pw-lda
```

```
charge 0.
```

```
spin collinear
```

SCF convergence settings

```
sc_accuracy_eev 1E-2
```

```
sc_accuracy_etot 1E-5
```

```
sc_accuracy_rho 1E-4
```

```
sc_iter_limit 100
```

Species specifics

```
...
```

Default basis sets

.../species_defaults

Predefined species

Copy-paste into control.in

- light
- tight
- really tight

Increased accuracy:

Basis

Hartree potential

Basis cutoff potential

Integration grids

Default basis sets

.../species_defaults

Predefined species

Copy-paste into control.in

- **light**

- **tight**

- **really tight**



Fast, many production tasks

Fast pre-relaxation

Used to verify important results

Converged settings

Heavily converged numerical settings

Explicit convergence tests

Default basis sets

.../species_defaults

Predefined species

Copy-paste into control.in

● light

Fast, many production tasks

Fast pre-relaxation

● tight

Used to verify important results

Converged settings

● really tight

Heavily converged numerical settings

Explicit convergence tests

Additionally converge “tiers”

FHI-aims output

```
1      Invoking FHI-aims ...
-----
2      Reading file control.in.
-----
3      Reading geometry description geometry.in.
-----
4      Preparing all fixed parts of the calculation.
-----
```

Geometry independent preparations
Basis set generation

FHI-aims output

5

```
-----  
Begin self-consistency loop: Initialization.  
Date : 20130610, Time : 162002.389  
-----
```

Geometry dependent preparations
Integration grid
Initialization of charge density

FHI-aims output

5

```
-----  
Begin self-consistency loop: Initialization.  
Date : 20130610, Time : 162002.389  
-----
```

6

```
-----  
Begin self-consistency iteration # 1  
Date : 20130610, Time : 162002.445  
-----
```

First SCF cycle

**THIS
TUTORIAL** →

» **Energy**

```
| Total energy           : -13.01991124 eV  
| Total energy, T → 0   : -13.01991124 eV  
| Electronic free energy : -13.01991124 eV
```

↓
Periodic metals only

FHI-aims output

5

```
-----  
Begin self-consistency loop: Initialization.  
Date : 20130610, Time : 162002.389  
-----
```

6

```
-----  
Begin self-consistency iteration # 1  
Date : 20130610, Time : 162002.445  
-----
```

First SCF cycle

» Self-consistency convergence accuracy

```
| Change of charge density      : 0.6753E-02  
| Change of sum of eigenvalues : 0.4376E+00 eV  
| Change of total energy       : 0.1143E-01 eV
```

FHI-aims output

5

```
-----  
Begin self-consistency loop: Initialization.  
Date : 20130610, Time : 162002.389  
-----
```

6

```
-----  
Begin self-consistency iteration # 1  
Date : 20130610, Time : 162002.445  
-----
```

Sixth SCF cycle

» Self-consistency convergence accuracy

```
| Change of charge density      : 0.3163E-05  
| Change of sum of eigenvalues : -.9415E-05 eV  
| Change of total energy       : 0.2388E-10 eV
```

FHI-aims output

7 Self-consistency cycle converged.

» Energy and forces

→ | Total energy uncorrected : -0.130198526094581E+02 eV
~~| Total energy corrected : -0.130198526094581E+02 eV~~
| Electronic free energy : -0.130198526094581E+02 eV

» SCF info

| Number of self-consistency cycles : 6

» Timings

8 Have a nice day.

FHI-aims output

7

Self-consistency cycle converged.

Postprocessing

Structure optimization

- » Get next relaxation step
- » Redo SCF for new geometry

8

Have a nice day.

Problem II-III: H₂

Tasks:

- Learn how to optimize geometry with FHI-aims.
- Calculate relative energies of different spin states.
- Calculate the atomization energy (ΔH_{at}).
- See how geometry and atomization energy depend on the exchange-correlation functional.

Problem II-III: H₂

From now on, run FHI-aims via the batch system:

1) copy the file job.sh from the tutorial folder to your working directory

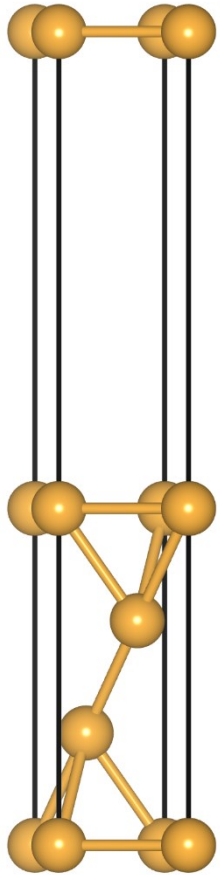
2) submit a job:

```
sbatch --ntasks=XX job.sh
```

3) To see the progress, type
`tail -f output`

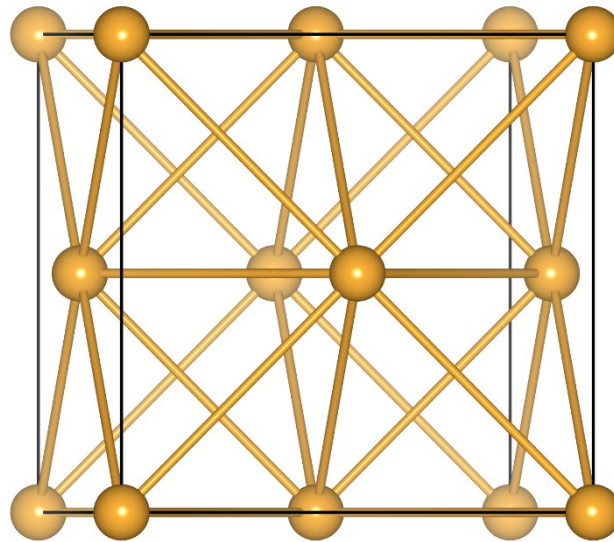
Part II: periodic system

surface



fcc(111)

bulk



fcc

geometry.in

```
lattice_vector 4.0 0.0 0.0
lattice_vector 0.0 4.0 0.0
lattice_vector 0.0 0.0 4.0
atom 0.0 0.0 0.0 Si
atom 0.0 2.0 2.0 Si
atom 2.0 0.0 2.0 Si
atom 2.0 2.0 0.0 Si
```

Important practical points

- Each calculation one directory, for example

```
> mkdir tutorial1  
> cd tutorial1  
> mkdir 02
```

- 2 input files (plus 1 for pseudopotential embedding)

```
geometry.in  
control.in
```

- Launching FHI-aims calculation
-

```
sbatch --ntasks=XX job.sh
```

Visualization

Orbitals and densities

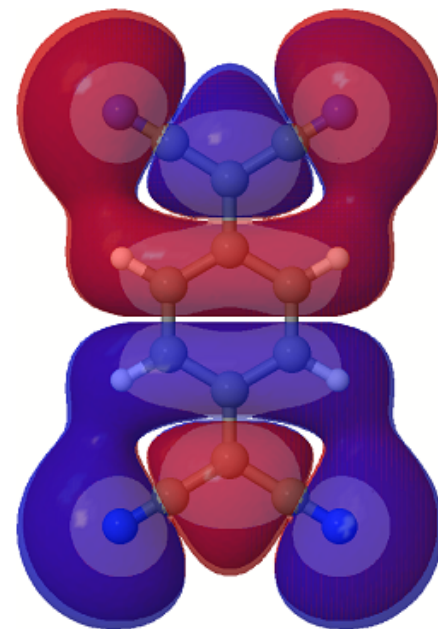
Keyword in control.in

```
output cube eigenstate homo  
cube filename HOMO.cube  
output cube total_density  
cube filename tot_dens_uc.cube
```

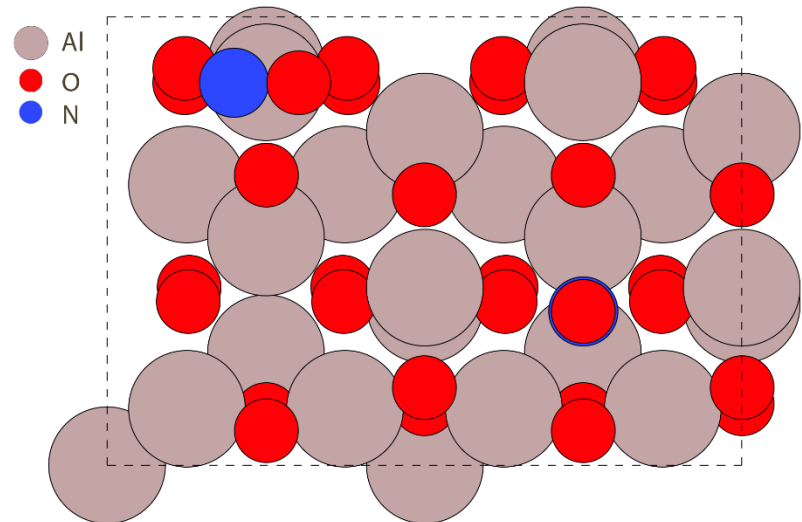
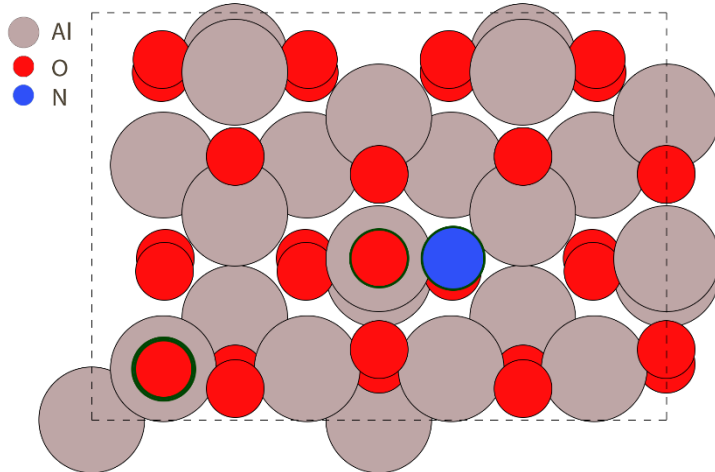
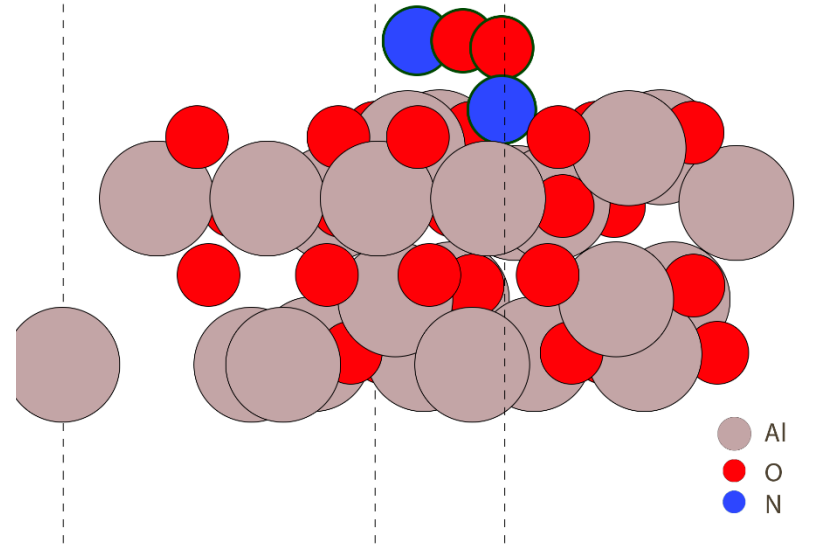
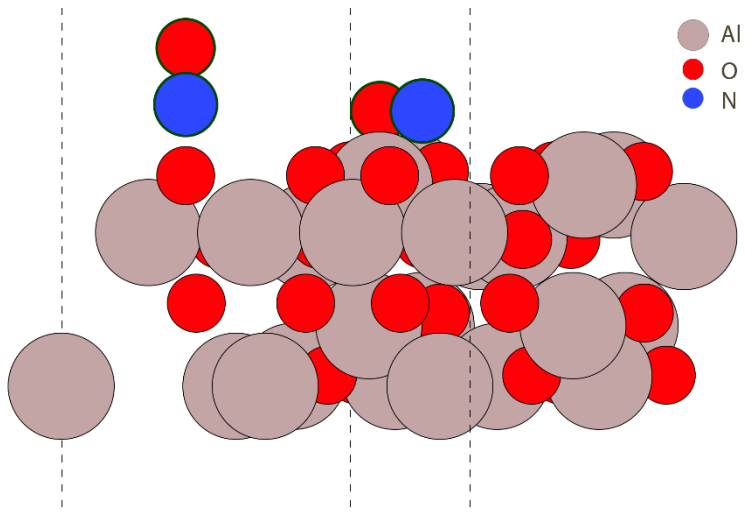
Get: *.cube file - values on a regular 3D grid.

Software: jmol

⇒ Appendix of handout



Lab 2: Calculate phase diagram of $\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (110) surface in NO atmosphere



Lab 2: Calculate phase diagram of $\gamma\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (110) surface in NO atmosphere

Both team and individual work

- 1) Relax NO molecule (team)
- 2) Construct surface slab model from bulk (team)
- 3) Place NO at the surface in three different configurations and *different* coverages for each student (overall 27 structures) (team)
- 4) Distribute the structures among students evenly (3 each) (team)
- 5) Test convergence of NO adsorption energy as a function of the number of relaxed bottom layers for one structure (individual)
- 6) Choose the optimal number of relaxed layers (team)
- 7) Relax the structures, report the energy, discuss the difference between starting and final geometries, calculate, report, and discuss work function (individual)
- 8) Build a surface phase diagram in NO atmosphere combining all obtained energies (team)