Orbital Magnetization in Condensed Matter: Part 2

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Trieste, 2020

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1 Single-point formula: Noncrystalline systems & supercells

- 2 Application: NMR shielding tensor
- 3 Geometrical observables: local vs. nonlocal
- 4 M and AHC as local properties



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$$M_{\gamma} = \frac{\varepsilon_{\gamma\alpha\beta}}{2c(2\pi)^{3}} \operatorname{Im} \sum_{n} \int_{\mathsf{BZ}} d\mathbf{k} \, \langle \partial_{\alpha} u_{n\mathbf{k}} | (H_{\mathbf{k}} + \epsilon_{n\mathbf{k}} - 2\mu) | \partial_{\beta} u_{n\mathbf{k}} \rangle$$

- Discretized on a reciprocal-cell mesh for numerical implementation.
- Invariant by cell doubling.
- Large supercell limit: Single point formula.

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Good for Car-Parrinello simulations!

Even the Chern number can be evaluated single-point: Is this an oxymoron?

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Convergence with supercell size (D. Ceresoli & R.R.)



Chern number & orbital magnetization as a function of the supercell size, evaluated using the single-point formulas for the Haldane model Hamiltonian. The largest *L* corresponds to 2048 sites in the supercell.



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An external magnetic field B^{ext} is applied to a finite sample.

The field induces an orbital current: the total (shielded) field inside the sample is B(r) = B^{ext} + B^{ind}(r).
 Notice: B(r) depends on sample shape.

At nuclear site $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_s$ (to linear order):

$$\mathbf{B}_{s}^{\text{ind}} = -\overleftarrow{\sigma}_{s} \cdot \mathbf{B}^{\text{ext}}, \qquad \mathbf{B}_{s} = (1 - \overleftarrow{\sigma}_{s}) \cdot \mathbf{B}^{\text{ext}}$$
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Suppose we neglect the macroscopic induced field, thus identifying the macroscopic total B field inside the material with the external one B^{ext}. Then

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- This is exact for a sample in the form of a slab, and B^{ext} normal to the slab.
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- Evaluated via linear-response theory.
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Exploits the modern theory of orbital magnetization.

It has an exact electrical analogue, routinely used to compute Born effective charges (for lattice dynamics) by exploiting the modern theory of polarization (Berry phase).

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B_s can be ideally measured via the torque acting on a classical magnetic (point) dipole at site r_s:

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E is the energy per cell of a periodic lattice of such dipoles (one per cell) in a macroscopic field B.

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The "converse" approach: main concept

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In words:

- $1 \overleftrightarrow{\sigma}_s$ is the macroscopic orbital magnetization linearly induced by a classical point dipole at \mathbf{r}_s and its periodic replicas.
- Computations by finite differences, switching on the m_s perturbation and evaluating the induced macroscopic magnetization M.
- If we "switch off" the electronic response, then $\partial \mathbf{M}/\partial \mathbf{m}_s = 1/V_{cell}$, as it must be.

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 $1 - \overleftarrow{\sigma}_s$ is the macroscopic orbital magnetization linearly induced by a classical point dipole at \mathbf{r}_s and its periodic replicas.

- Computations by finite differences, switching on the m_s perturbation and evaluating the induced macroscopic magnetization M.
- If we "switch off" the electronic response, then $\partial \mathbf{M} / \partial \mathbf{m}_s = 1 / V_{\text{cell}}$, as it must be.

NMR shielding tensor for H in selected molecules

	experiment	direct	converse
H_2	26.26	26.2	26.2
HF	28.51	28.4	28.5
CH ₄	30.61	30.8	31.0
C_2H_2	29.26	28.8	28.9
C_2H_4	25.43	24.7	24.8
C_2H_6	29.86	30.2	30.4

Hydrogen NMR chemical shielding σ , in ppm, for several different molecules.

Pseudopotential PW calculations in a large supercell.

Core contribution added according to the theory of Pickard & Mauri (2003).

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NMR shielding tensor for H in liquid water



Five snapshots, 64 molecule-supercell: average over 640 H atoms.

Average and spread very similar to what previously found with the direct method (and smaller supercells).

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1 Single-point formula: Noncrystalline systems & supercells

2 Application: NMR shielding tensor

3 Geometrical observables: local vs. nonlocal

4 M and AHC as local properties

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Local vs. nonlocal observables

Most nongeometrical observables are local (e.g. spin magnetization)

They are meaningful for inhomogeneous systems



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Local vs. nonlocal observables

- Most nongeometrical observables are local (e.g. spin magnetization)
- They are meaningful for inhomogeneous systems



Local vs. nonlocal observables



$$\langle \mathcal{O}
angle = \int_{\mathrm{BZ}} rac{d\mathbf{k}}{(2\pi)^d} \ \mathbf{\mathfrak{f}}(\mathbf{k})$$

Implicitly requires:

- Crystalline system
- Homogenous noncrystalline system (supercell)

Useless for macroscopically inhomogeneous systems

Physical property of a given region



Any k-space approach is useless!

Can we address the geometrical observables in r-space?

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Electrical polarization and orbital magnetization, again

$$\mathbf{P} = \frac{\mathbf{d}}{V} = \frac{1}{V} \int d\mathbf{r} \, \mathbf{r} \, \rho^{(\text{micro})}(\mathbf{r})$$
$$\mathbf{M} = \frac{\mathbf{m}}{V} = \frac{1}{2cV} \int d\mathbf{r} \, \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{j}^{(\text{micro})}(\mathbf{r})$$

- These r-space formulas are definitely NOT local!
- The multivalued nature of P rules out any local description

- Instead, M can be recast in a local form (similar in spirit to an integration by parts):
 - R. Bianco & R. Resta, PRL 2013 (insulators)
 - A. Marrazzo & R. Resta, PRL 2016 (metals)

Single-particle orbitals (Hartree-Fock or Kohn-Sham): $\psi_n(\mathbf{r})$

Density matrix (spinless electrons):

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') = \sum_{n = \text{occupied}} \psi_n(\mathbf{r}) \psi_n^*(\mathbf{r}')$$

- P(r, r') uniquely determines all ground state properties (including the independent-electron wave function)
- Embeds the information about any g.s. observable
- The dipoles (electric and magnetic) of a **finite** crystallite are trivial functions of $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$ **but...**

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Density matrix in a crystal (single band)

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') = \sum_{n = \text{occupied}} \varphi_n(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_n^*(\mathbf{r}') \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{V_{\text{cell}}}{(2\pi)^3} \int_{\text{BZ}} d\mathbf{k} \ \psi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) \psi_{\mathbf{k}}^*(\mathbf{r}')$$

For a condensed system in the thermodynamic limit:

- In the bulk of the material P(r, r') is independent of boundary conditions (either periodic or "open")
- Does the bulk part of P(r, r') contain the information to evaluate P and M?

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Nearsightedness (C by W. Kohn)



In the bulk of insulators (either topologically trivial or nontrivial):

$$|\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}')| \propto \mathrm{e}^{-|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'|/\lambda}$$
 for $|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'| o \infty$

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(λ related to the valence-conduction energy gap)

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Nearsighted QM Maxwell demon



The poor demon sits well inside the sample:

- Cannot see beyond λ
- Cannot see the sample boundary
- Cannot distinguish between periodic and "open" BCs
- Can he measure P and M ?

Nearsighted QM Maxwell demon



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A 1d insulator (polyacetylene), different terminations



Our demon, sitting in the bulk, would guess $\mathbf{P} = 0$. Is he right?

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Polarization of a centrosymmetric polymer



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1 Single-point formula: Noncrystalline systems & supercells

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2 Application: NMR shielding tensor

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The modern theories: **P** and **M** as BZ integrals

Single band, spinless electrons, no macroscopic fields

$$\begin{array}{lll} H|\psi_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle &=& \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}|\psi_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle \\ H_{\mathbf{k}}|\boldsymbol{u}_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle &=& \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}}|\boldsymbol{u}_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle & \qquad |\boldsymbol{u}_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle = \mathrm{e}^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}}|\psi_{\mathbf{k}}\rangle & H_{\mathbf{k}} = \mathrm{e}^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}}H\mathrm{e}^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} \end{array}$$

1992-93: Polarization

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{P}_{ ext{nuclei}} + rac{e}{(2\pi)^3} ext{Im} \; \int_{\mathsf{BZ}} d\mathbf{k} \; \langle u_{\mathbf{k}} |
abla_{\mathbf{k}} u_{\mathbf{k}}
angle$$

2005-06: Orbital Magnetization

$$\mathbf{M} = \frac{e}{\hbar c (2\pi)^3} \operatorname{Im} \int_{\mathsf{BZ}} d\mathbf{k} \ \langle \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} u_{\mathbf{k}} | \times (H_{\mathbf{k}} + \varepsilon_{\mathbf{k}} - 2\mu) | \nabla_{\mathbf{k}} u_{\mathbf{k}} \rangle$$

Modern theory of magnetization

- The k-space formula for M has no "quantum" indeterminacy
- Tinkering with the boundaries does not alter the M value
- A Maxwell demon sitting deeply in the material is able to measure M even without "seeing" the boundaries
- The bulk P(r, r') determines M unambiguously
 even for topological insulators

May we obtain the M value directly from P(r, r') in r space, avoiding the "detour" in k space?

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The "Haldanium" workhorse in our simulations



"some magnetism"

Tight-binding parameters:

- 1st-neighbor hopping t₁
- staggered onsite $\pm \Delta$
- complex 2nd-neighbor t₂e^{iφ}



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- Zero flux per cell (no Landau levels!)
- Insulating (either trivial or topological) at half filling
- Metallic at any other filling

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A flake of Haldanium (OBC)



Sample of 2550 sites, line with 50 sites

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Can our demon (nearsighted, sitting in the bulk of the sample) measure the *M* value?
A flake of Haldanium (OBC)



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One-body density matrix, a.k.a. ground-state projector:

$$\mathcal{P} = \sum_{\epsilon_j < \mu} |arphi_j
angle \langle arphi_j |$$
 (spinless)

Tensor fields in **r**-space:

$$\begin{aligned} \widetilde{\boldsymbol{\mathfrak{F}}}_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{r}) &= & \operatorname{Im} \langle \mathbf{r} | \, \mathcal{P}\left[\boldsymbol{r}_{\alpha}, \mathcal{P} \right] \left[\boldsymbol{r}_{\beta}, \mathcal{P} \right] \left| \mathbf{r} \right\rangle \\ \mathfrak{M}_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{r}) &= & \operatorname{Im} \langle \mathbf{r} | \, |\mathcal{H} - \mu| \left[\boldsymbol{r}_{\alpha}, \mathcal{P} \right] \left[\boldsymbol{r}_{\beta}, \mathcal{P} \right] \left| \mathbf{r} \right\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

Orbital magnetization a a function of the Fermi level A. Marrazzo and R. Resta, Phys. Rev. Lett. **116**, 137201 (2016)



At convergence all formulas coincide:

Textbook formula: $\frac{1}{2cV} \int d\mathbf{r} \, \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{j}^{(\text{micro})}(\mathbf{r})$ $M_{\gamma} = -\frac{ie}{2\hbar c} \varepsilon_{\gamma\alpha\beta} \int_{FV} d\mathbf{k} \left\langle \partial_{\alpha} u_{j\mathbf{k}} \right| \left(H_{\mathbf{k}} + \epsilon_{j\mathbf{k}} - 2\mu \right) \left| \partial_{\beta} u_{j\mathbf{k}} \right\rangle$ Our novel formula: $\frac{e}{2\hbar c} \varepsilon_{\gamma\alpha\beta} \text{Tr}_{V} \left\{ \mathfrak{M}_{\alpha\beta} \right\}$

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Why is our formula for M better than the trivial one?



$$\mathbf{m} = \frac{1}{2c} \int d\mathbf{r} \, \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{e}{2c} \int d\mathbf{r} \, \langle \mathbf{r} | \, P \, \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{v} \, | \mathbf{r} \rangle$$
$$\mathbf{m} = -\frac{ie}{2\hbar c} \int d\mathbf{r} \, \langle \mathbf{r} | \, |H - \mu| \, [\mathbf{r}, P] \times [\mathbf{r}, P] \, | \mathbf{r} \rangle$$

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(similar in spirit to an integration by parts)

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Fast convergence in both insulator and metal



■ 1/*L* convergence with size: $\frac{1}{2cV} \int d\mathbf{r} \, \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{j}^{(\text{micro})}(\mathbf{r})$

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Much better convergence: $\frac{e}{2\hbar c} \varepsilon_{\gamma\alpha\beta} \text{Tr}_{V} \{\mathfrak{M}_{\alpha\beta}\}$