# Richardson-Gaudin Wavefunctions for Strong Correlation

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# Weak and Strong Correlation

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- Dispersion effects
- For molecules: one resonance structure
- HOMO-LUMO gap large compared with electronic repulsion

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Any system far from a mean-field of electrons (aufbau). Try to subdivide effects and treat correctly at the mean-field level.

Weakly-correlated:

$$|\Psi\rangle = |\mathsf{HF}\rangle + \sum_{i,a} C_{i,a} |\Phi_i^a\rangle + \sum_{ij,ab} C_{ij,ab} |\Phi_{ij}^{ab}\rangle + \dots$$

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- Productive to expand in seniority
- Solve seniority problems individually
- Start with weakly-correlated pairs rather than electrons

# Seniority and DOCI



- $\bullet\,$  Seniority,  $\Omega\colon$  the number of unpaired electrons of a given MO diagram
- Doubly-Occupied Configuration Interaction: DOCI, all diagrams with seniority zero
- Pair mean-fields have DOCI as best possible case

# Bytautas JCP 135, 044119 (2011)



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Extends to any number of spatial orbitals cleanly:

$$S_i^+ = a_{i\uparrow}^\dagger a_{i\downarrow}^\dagger , \quad S_i^- = a_{i\downarrow} a_{i\uparrow} , \quad S_i^z = \frac{1}{2} \left( a_{i\uparrow}^\dagger a_{i\uparrow} + a_{i\downarrow}^\dagger a_{i\downarrow} - 1 \right)$$
$$\left[ S_i^+, S_j^- \right] = 2\delta_{ij} S_i^z , \quad \left[ S_i^z, S_j^\pm \right] = \pm \delta_{ij} S_i^\pm$$

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- Geminal Power (AGP):  $G_a^{\dagger} = \sum_i g_i S_i^+$
- Richardson-Gaudin (RG) states:  $G_a^{\dagger} = \sum_i \frac{S_i^+}{u_a \varepsilon_i}$
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  - GVB/PP:  $G_a^{\dagger} = S_a^+ S_{a+M}^+$

• APSG: 
$$G_a^{\dagger} = S_a^+ + \sum_{b \in \mathcal{A}} g_{ab} S_b^+$$

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Geminal wavefunction  $\approx$  Natural-Orbital functionals.

Explicit AGP and APSG Implicit RG states and APIG

$$\hat{H}_{BCS} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i} \varepsilon_i \hat{n}_i - \frac{g}{2} \sum_{ij} S_i^+ S_j^-$$

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$$|\{u\}\rangle = \left(\sum_{i} \frac{S_i^+}{u_1 - \varepsilon_i}\right) \left(\sum_{i} \frac{S_i^+}{u_2 - \varepsilon_i}\right) \dots \left(\sum_{i} \frac{S_i^+}{u_M - \varepsilon_i}\right) |\theta\rangle$$

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Can show that

$$\hat{H}_{BCS} \left| \{u\} \right\rangle = E \left| \{u\} \right\rangle + (garbage)$$

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So  $|\{u\}\rangle$  a solution provided garbage disappears, or

$$\frac{2}{g} + \sum_{i} \frac{1}{u_a - \varepsilon_i} + \sum_{b \neq a} \frac{2}{u_b - u_a} = 0.$$

# Variational Program

Use RG states to approximate energy of Coulomb Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}_C$ 

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- $\{\varepsilon\},g$  define reduced BCS Hamiltonian
- Solve Richardson's equations for  $\{u\}$
- Construct (normalized)

$$\gamma_i = \langle \{u\} | \hat{n}_i | \{u\} \rangle$$
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System: {ε}, g
States: {u} ≈ pair energies





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APIG scalar products

$$\langle \{h\}|\{g\}\rangle = \sum_{\mathcal{P}} \prod_{P \in \mathcal{P}} \Gamma\left(\{h\}_P \cup \{g\}_P\right)$$

Sums of all possible rank-q contractions:

$$\Gamma\left(h_{a_1},\ldots,h_{a_q},g_{b_1},\ldots,g_{b_q}\right) = (-1)^{(q-1)}q!(q-1)!\sum_i h_{a_1}^i\ldots h_{a_q}^i g_{b_1}^i\ldots g_{b_q}^i$$

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APSG Sparsity: only diagonal rank-1 contractions are non-zero

b)









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RDM elements require computing rapidities  $\{u\}$ 

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$$U_i = \sum_a \frac{g}{\varepsilon_i - u_a}, \qquad 0 = U_i^2 - 2U_i - g \sum_{k(\neq i)} \frac{U_k - U_i}{\varepsilon_k - \varepsilon_i}$$

Equations are solved by adiabatic evolution from g=0

$$0 = U_i(U_i - 2)$$

Solutions at g = 0 are Slater determinants labelled by occupations and **evolve uniquely**. Unambiguous to label states based on g = 0, e.g. 111000, 110100, ..., 000111

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After assigning occupations at g = 0, dynamic g-step approach:

- Attempt large step with a Taylor series
- Reject, and retry with half-step if terms in series grow
- Newton-Raphson solve
- $\bullet\,$  Reject, and retry if norm of  $\{U\}$  changes by more than threshold

Number of steps required grows only **logarithmically** with g.













a)







#### RG 1010 smoothly transitions from RHF + pairs to GVB

a)





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- Correct description of excited states requires OO for each state...



b)

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#### Machinery to employ RG states as a basis is not difficult!

#### More than 1 RG state required



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A. E. Stuchberry and J. L. Wood, Physics, 2022, 4, 697-773.

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A. E. Stuchberry and J. L. Wood, *Physics*, **2022**, *4*, 697-773.

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We are looking for PhD students! paul.johnson@chm.ulaval.ca