

# Efficient Quantum Monte Carlo Simulations with Large Atomic Numbers

GDR NBODY Meeting

Jonas Feldt

12.01.2022



# Quantum Monte Carlo

- real space & zero-temperature
  - variational Monte Carlo
  - diffusion Monte Carlo

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# Quantum Monte Carlo

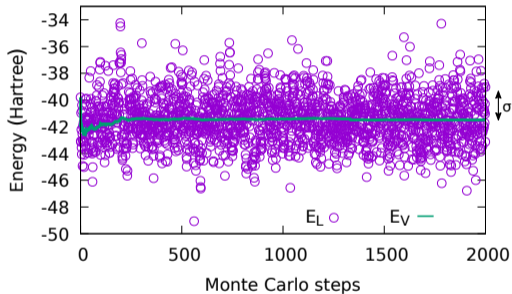
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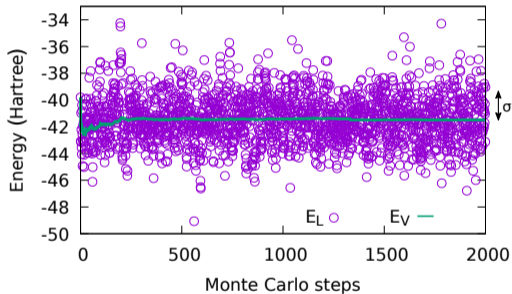
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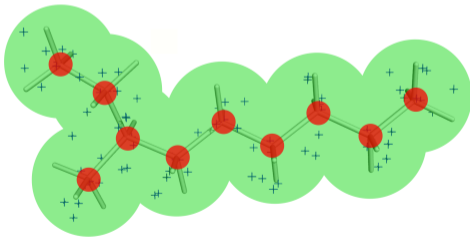
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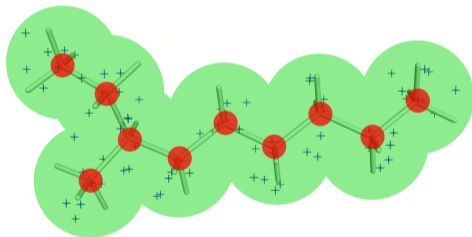
# Electrons in Molecular Systems

- valence electrons
- core electrons
  - distance to the core  $\mathcal{O}(1/Z)$
  - contribution to energy  $\mathcal{O}(Z^2)$
- DMC cost  $\sim \mathcal{O}(Z^6)$

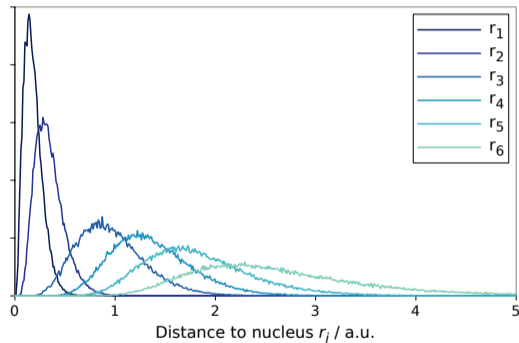


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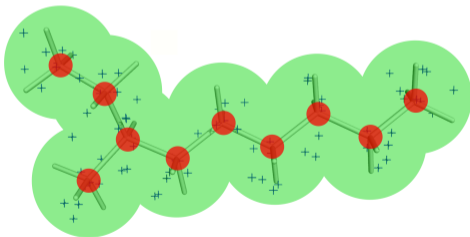


- histogram for a single Carbon atom

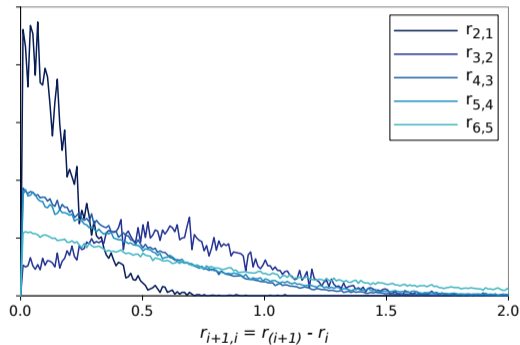


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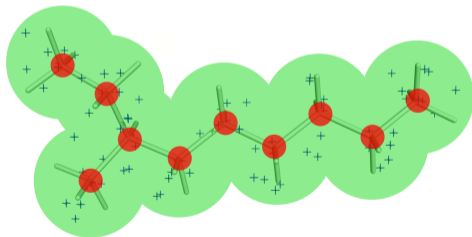


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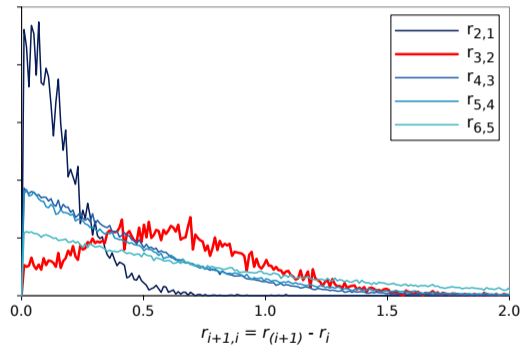


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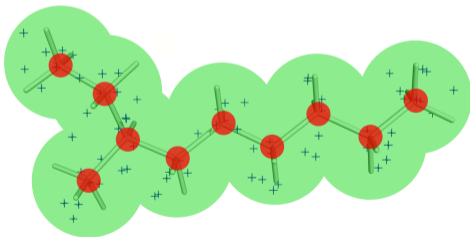
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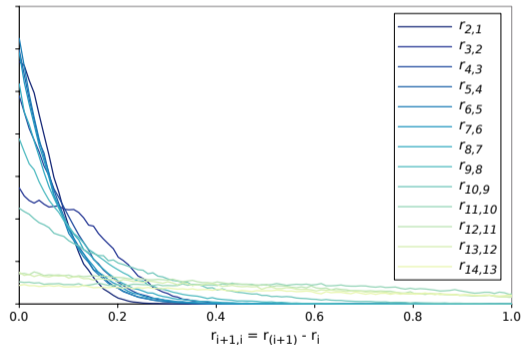


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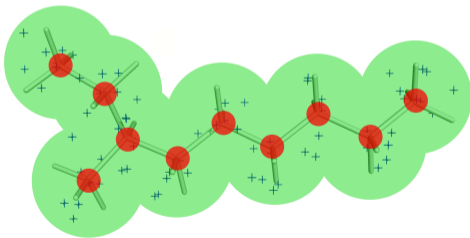


- histogram for a single Silicon atom

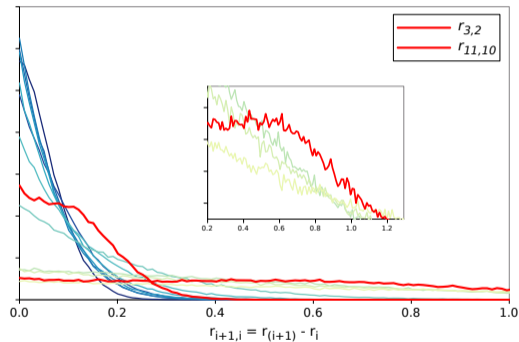


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## Different Scales

- **core electrons:**  
Many high-energy electrons moving within small but well separated volumes
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## How to simulate molecular systems efficiently?

- ⇒ usually: empirical effective core potentials → **unknown bias**
- ⇒ exact contribution of the core electrons
- ⇒ treat core and valence electrons differently
- ⇒ treat different cores independently

## Computational Cost $f$

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- improved sampling  $\rightarrow$  reduces serial correlation  $c$ 
  - VMC: spherical coordinates (Umrigar, *Physical Review Letters*. 1993)
  - DMC: different timesteps (Nakano, Maezono, and Sorella, *Physical Review B*. 2020)
- Subsampling of the Core Regions  $\rightarrow$  reduces all three:  $V$ ,  $c$ ,  $t$  (Feldt and Assaraf, *Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation*. 2021)

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# Variance Reduction

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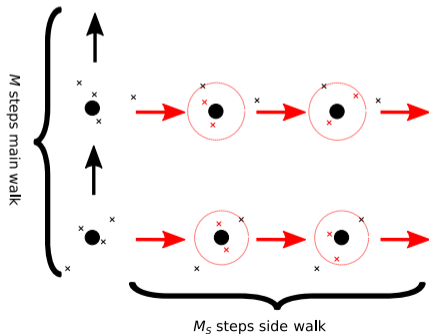
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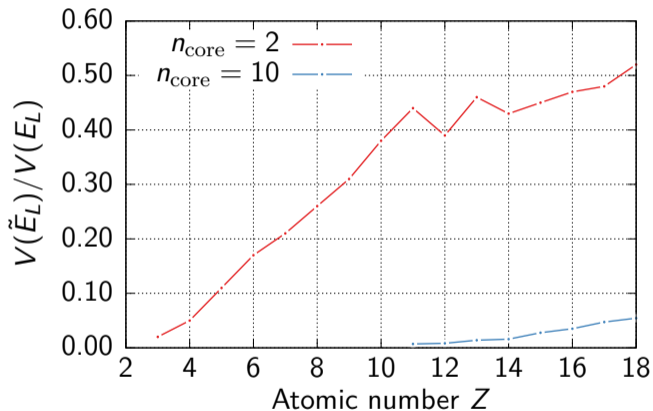
- Improved Estimator

$$\tilde{X} = X + (\mathbb{E}(X|\Omega) - X)$$

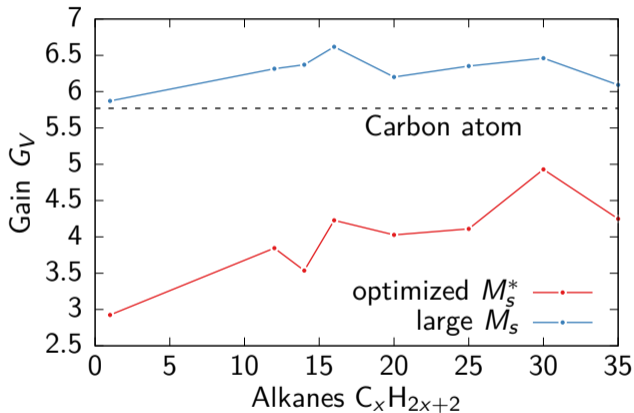
$$\tilde{X} = X + \lambda \underbrace{\sum_i (\mathbb{E}(X^i|\Omega_i) - X^i)}_{\text{sum over cores}}$$



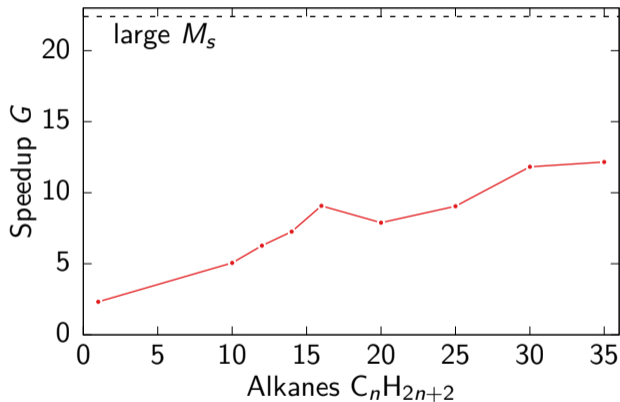
# Subsampling: Atoms



# Subsampling: Independence of Cores



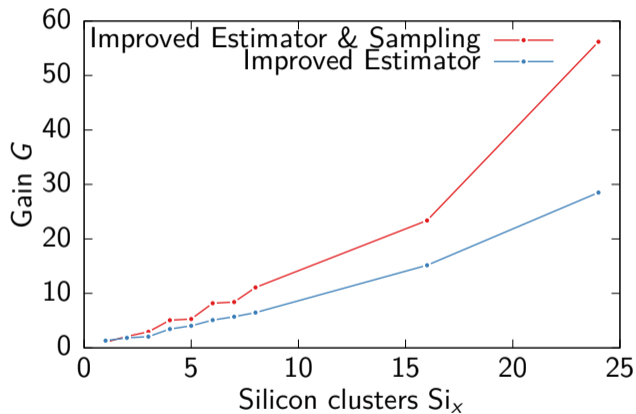
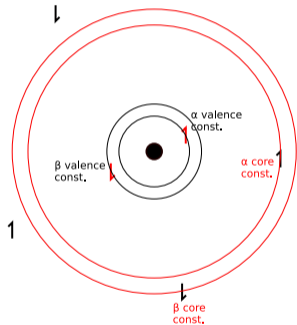
# Subsampling: Efficiency



Feldt and Assaraf, *Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation*. 2021.

# Subsampling: Efficiency

- spin-dependent core



## Subsampling

- exact on-the-fly construction of effective core potentials
- adapting the simulation for different regions
  - variance
  - correlation & time step
- results suggest reduced scaling with  $Z$

## Perspective

- Derivatives/Forces for Optimization of the Wavefunction/Geometry  
→  $V(\tilde{O})$  less sensitive to quality of  $\Psi$
- Projector Monte Carlo

- Roland Assaraf, LCT  
(→ *Tuesday, Exchange Cluster Estimators*)
- Antoine Bienvenu, LCT  
(→ *Tuesday, Partition Monte Carlo*)

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