Progress in Development of Thermal Hybrid Exchange-Correlation Density Functionals for Improving the Description of Warm Dense Matter



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We have developed an XC thermal density functional at the hybrid level of theory

- We have developed the KDT0 hybrid-level XC free-energy density functional, which is a finite-T version of the PBE0** functional.
- KDT0 reduces to PBE0** at T = 0 K, thus providing the high level of accuracy provided by hybrid functionals, especially in calculation of the electronic band gap.
- Preliminary calculations on various systems show that KDT0 provides an improved description of the band gap at high temperatures, evidenced by capturing the correct qualitative behavior as compared to finite-*T* GW***.

***S. V. Faleev et al., Phys. Rev. B 74, 033101 (2006).



XC: exchange correlation GGA: Generalized Gradient Approximation PBE: Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof

^{*}V. V. Karasiev, J. W. Dufty, and S. B. Trickey, Phys. Rev. Lett. 120, 076401 (2018).

^{**}J. P. Perdew, M. Ernzerhof, and K. Burke, J. Chem. Phys. 105, 9982 (1996).

Our goal is to develop more accurate XC free-energy density functionals for a better description of warm dense matter properties.





XC thermal functionals have previously been developed at the LDA and GGA levels. KDT0 is at the hybrid level of density functional approximation.



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KDT0 is a finite-*T* extension to PBE0 in a sense that it includes explicit *T* dependence in the GGA XC.

PBE0*:
$$F_{xc}^{PBE0}[n,T] = E_{xc}^{PBE}[n] + \frac{1}{4} \left(F_x^{HF}[n,T] - E_x^{PBE}[n] \right)$$

KDT0**:
$$F_{xc}^{KDT0}[n,T] = F_{xc}^{KDT16}[n,T] + \frac{1}{4} \left(F_x^{HF}[n,T] - F_x^{KDT16}[n,T] \right)$$



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^{*} J. P. Perdew, M. Ernzerhof, and K. Burke, J. Chem. Phys. <u>105</u>, 9982 (1996).

^{**} D. Mihaylov, V. V. Karasiev, and S. X. Hu, Physical Review B 101 (24), 245141 (2020).

Static calculations for band gap as a function of electronic *T* in Si show improved agreement with high-precision finite-*T* GW (FT GW) at high *T*



Silicon ($\rho = 2.33$ g/cm³)

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Static calculations for band gap as a function of electronic *T* in CH, CH₄, H₂O show that XC thermal effects in certain systems could be significant.



Strong localization around benzene ring means small XC and therefore, small XC thermal effects.



XC thermal effects could be strongly dependent on system and T range.



The relative corrections to bandgaps calculated with ground-state functionals vary strongly from system to system and peak at drastically different *T*.



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Static calculations of band structure at high *T* show that KDT0 predicts lower conduction band state energies resulting in a lower gap.



