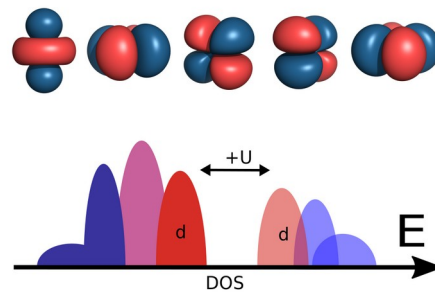


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# Intricacies of DFT+U, not only in a numeric atom centered orbital framework



# Overview

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Part I: DFT+U in general

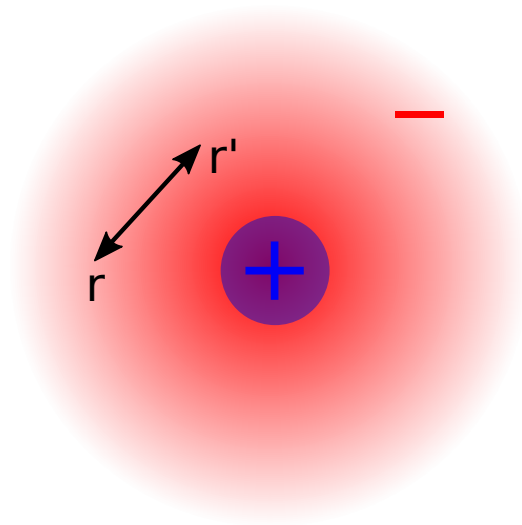
Part II: DFT+U in FHIaims



# Motivation

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## Self-interaction-error (SIE)

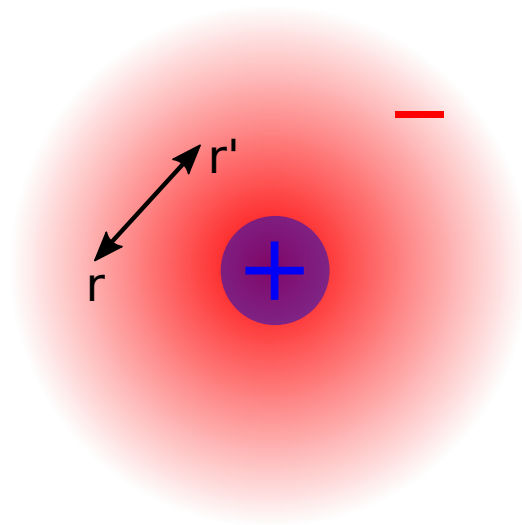


$$J[\rho(r)] = \frac{1}{2} \int \int \frac{\rho(r) \rho(r')}{|r - r'|} dr dr'$$

# Motivation

---

## Self-interaction-error (SIE)



Solution:

Hybrid-functionals

high-cost

DFT+U

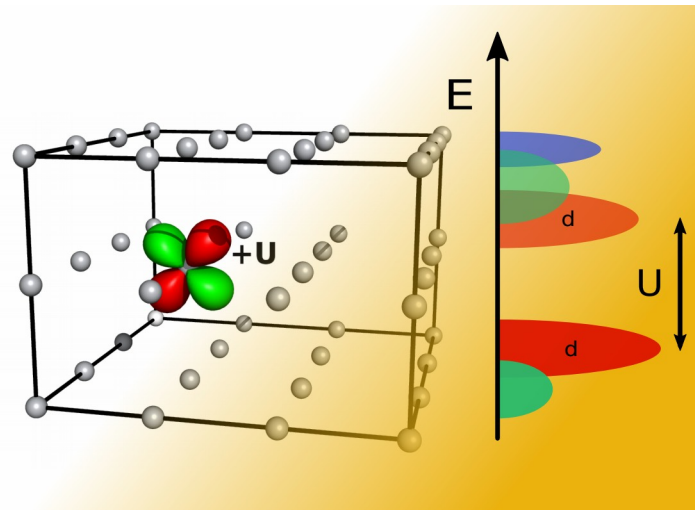
low-cost

d-, f-electrons

# Motivation - Theory

---

## Hubbard-model

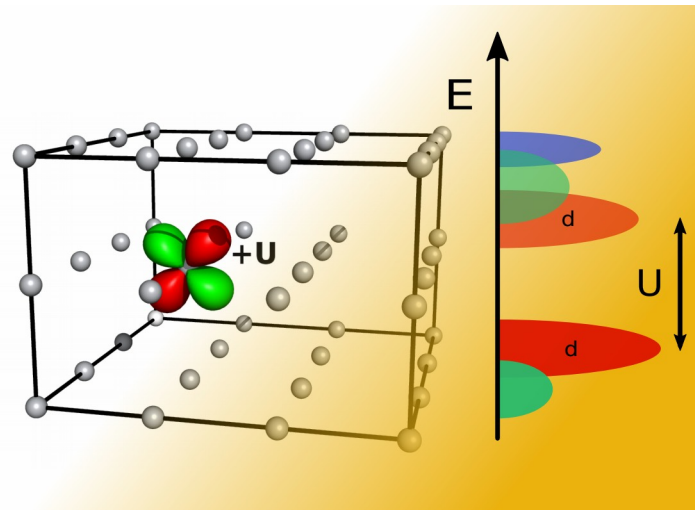


$$H_U = U \sum_i c_{i\uparrow}^\dagger c_{i\uparrow} c_{i\downarrow}^\dagger c_{i\downarrow} - t \sum_{\langle ij \rangle, \sigma} \left( c_{i\sigma}^\dagger c_{j\sigma} - c_{j\sigma}^\dagger c_{i\sigma} \right)$$

# Motivation - Theory

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## General DFT+U Functional



$$E_{\text{DFT+U}}[\rho(\mathbf{r})] = E_{\text{DFT}}[\rho(\mathbf{r})] + E_{\text{U}}^0[n_{Im}] - E_{\text{dc}}[n_{Im}]$$

# Motivation - Theory

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Hubbard-Term

$$\begin{aligned} E_U^0 [\{n_{mm'}\}] = & \\ & \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\sigma} \sum_I \sum_{\{m\}} \langle m, m'' | \hat{V}_{ee} | m', m'' \rangle n_{Imm'}^{\sigma} n_{Im''m'''}^{-\sigma} \\ & + (\langle m, m''' | \hat{V}_{ee} | m', m''' \rangle \\ & - \langle m, m'' | \hat{V}_{ee} | m''', m' \rangle) n_{Imm'}^{\sigma} n_{Im''m'''}^{\sigma} \end{aligned}$$

# Motivation - Theory

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Spherically averaged form of DFT+U

$$E_U [\{n_{Imm'}^\sigma\}] = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\sigma, I} U_{\text{eff}}^I [\text{Tr}(\mathbf{n}_I^\sigma) - \text{Tr}(\mathbf{n}_I^\sigma \mathbf{n}_I^\sigma)]$$

Main quantity: DFT+U occupation matrix  $\mathbf{n}_I^\sigma$





# Motivation - Theory

---

Spherically averaged form of DFT+U

$$E_U [\{n_{Imm'}^\sigma\}] = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\sigma, I} U_{\text{eff}}^I [Tr(\mathbf{n}_I^\sigma) - Tr(\mathbf{n}_I^\sigma \mathbf{n}_I^\sigma)]$$

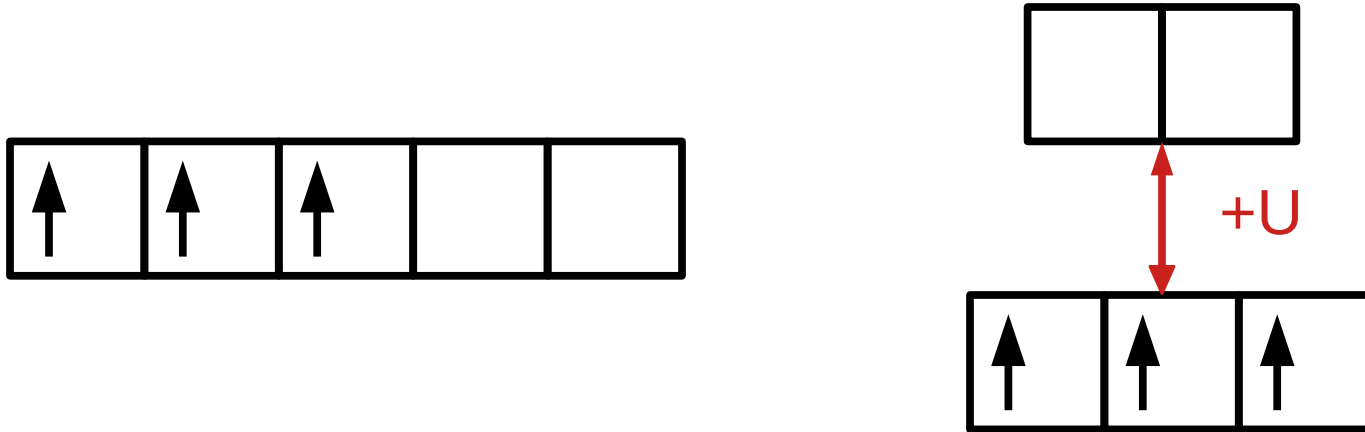
Main quantity: DFT+U occupation matrix  $\mathbf{n}_I^\sigma$

$\mathbf{n}_I^\sigma$  : how many electrons at a certain lattice site



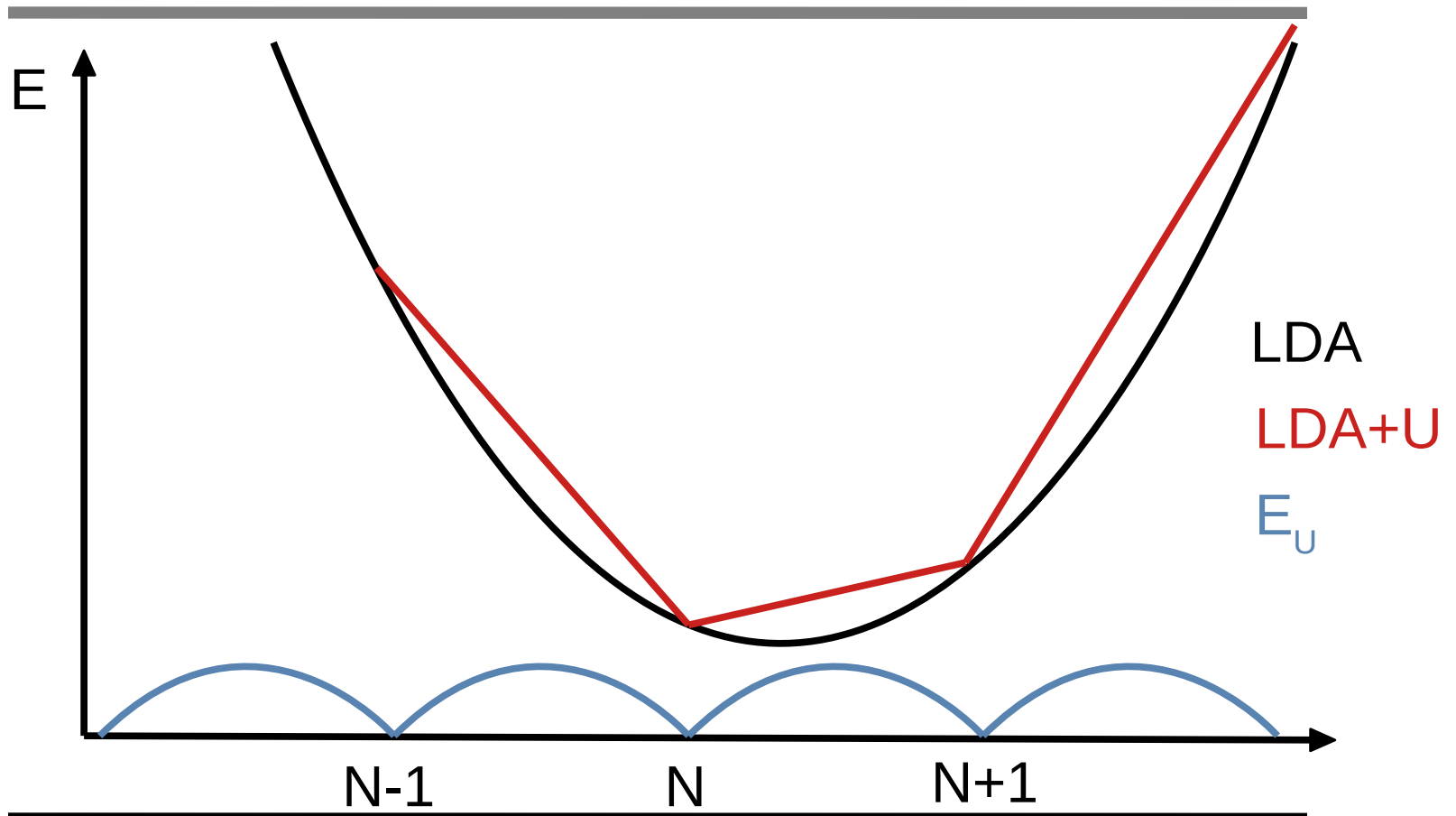
# How does it work?

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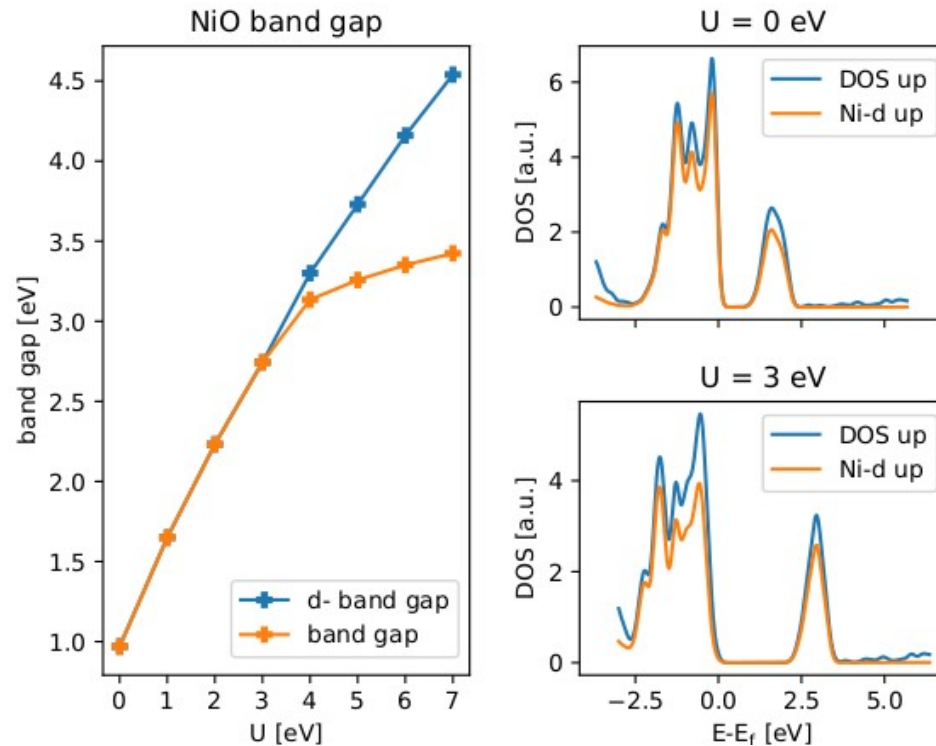
$$v_{mm'} = -U \left( n_{mm'} - \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

# How does it work?



# How does it work?

NiO



# DFT+U Occupation Matrix

---

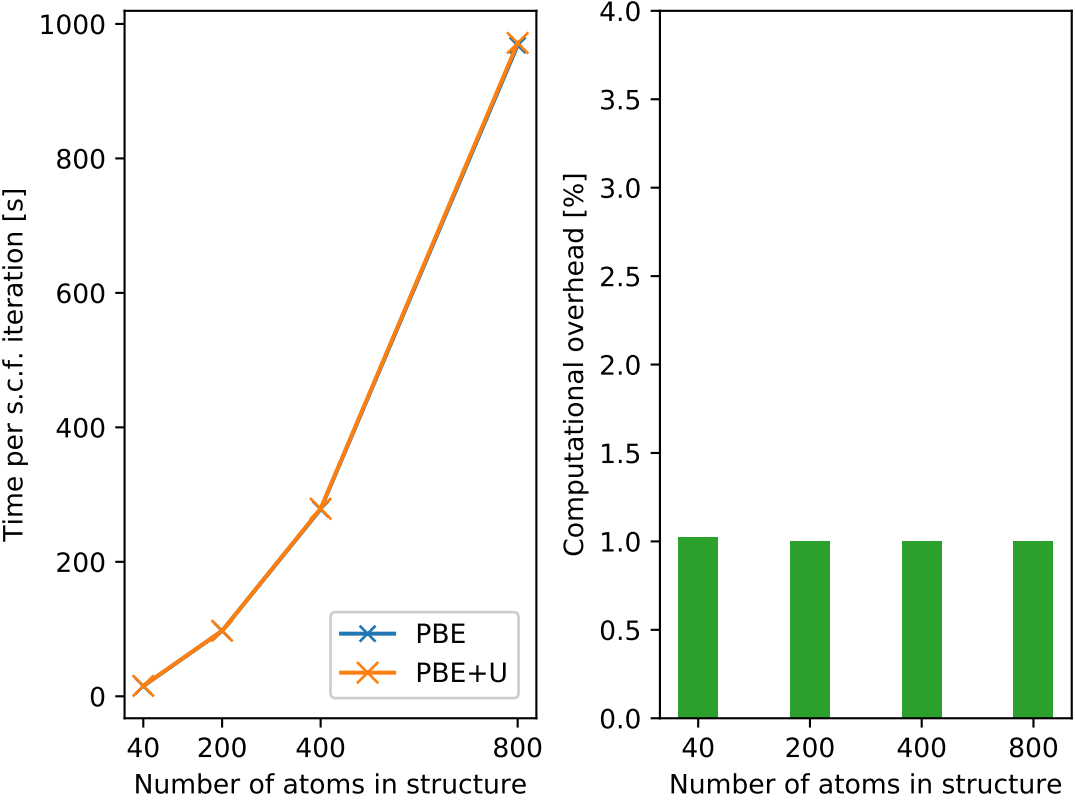
Problem: How to identify localized states from the KS-spectrum

$$n_{Imm'}^{\sigma} = \sum_{\gamma} f_{\gamma} \langle \Psi_{\gamma}^{\sigma} | \hat{P}_{Imm'}^{\sigma} | \Psi_{\gamma}^{\sigma} \rangle$$

Computational cost is negligible, evaluation of  $n_I^{\sigma}$  is reduced to finding the correct entries of the density matrix

---

# DFT+U Occupation Matrix



# DFT+U Occupation Matrix

---

Problem: How to identify localized states from the KS-spectrum

$$n_{Imm'}^\sigma = \sum_\gamma f_\gamma \langle \Psi_\gamma^\sigma | \hat{P}_{Imm'}^\sigma | \Psi_\gamma^\sigma \rangle$$

on-site

$$\hat{P}_{Imm'}^\sigma = |\tilde{\phi}_{Im'}^\sigma \rangle \langle \tilde{\phi}_{Im}^\sigma|$$

$$|\tilde{\phi}_{Im}^\sigma \rangle = \sum_q c_{Imq}^\sigma |\tilde{\psi}_{Imq}^\sigma \rangle$$



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## Part II: DFT+U in FHIaims

(or DFT+U in electronic structure codes with localized basis functions)

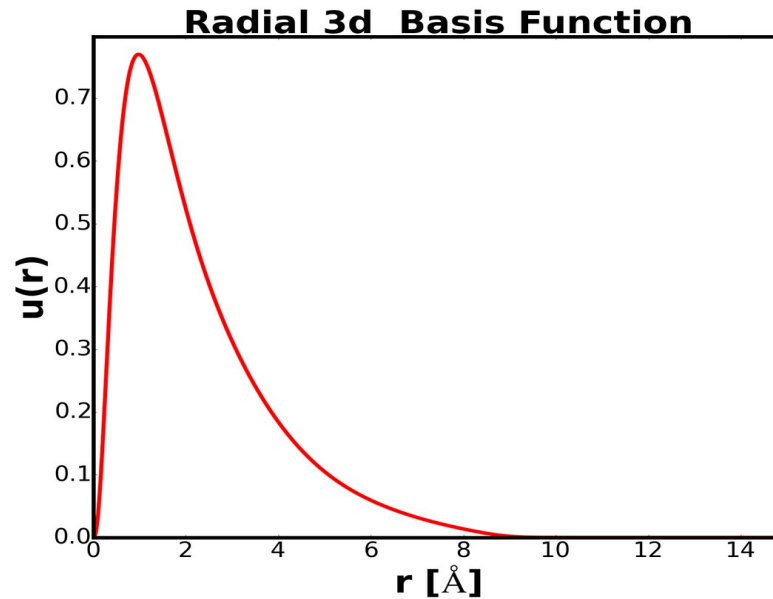
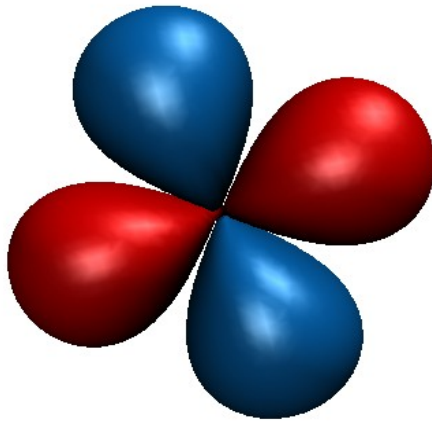


# Hubbard Projectors

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$$\psi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{u_i(r)}{r} Y_{lm}(\Omega)$$

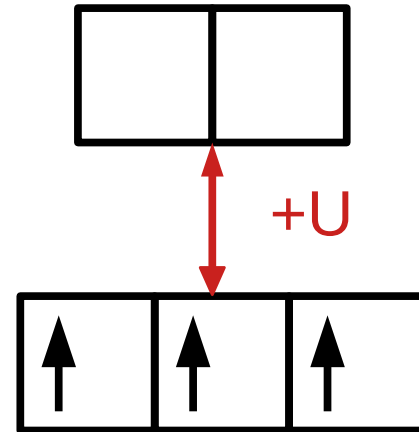
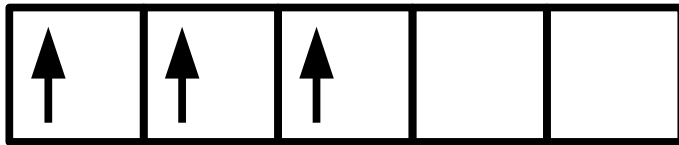
“minimal basis set is default”



# Hubbard Projectors

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Not “fully true” anymore



penalize basis functions

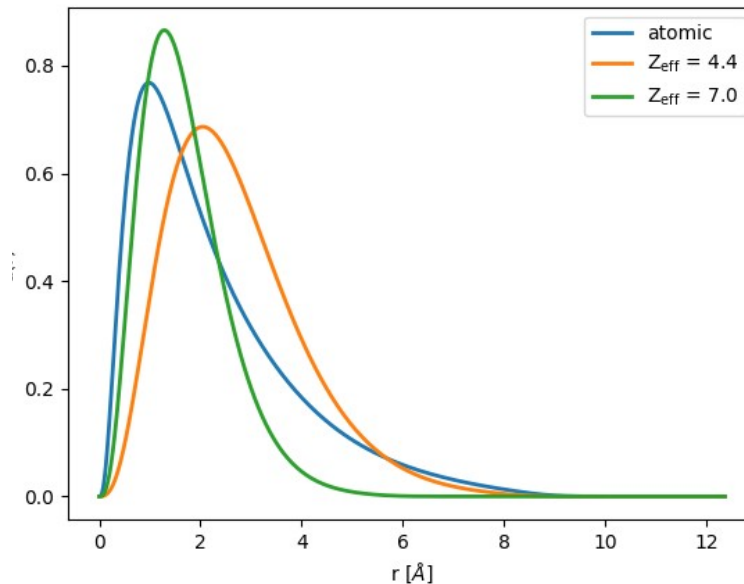
better to speak of a correlated subspace

$$v_{mm'} = -U \left( n_{mm'} - \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

# Hubbard Projectors

## Titanium basis set

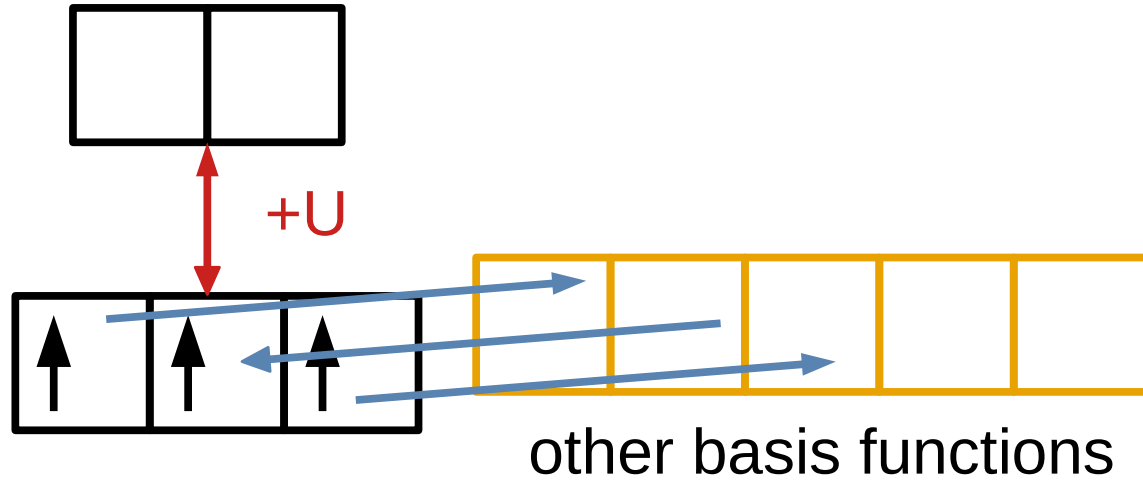
```
# "First tier"  
hydro 4 f 8  
hydro 3 d 2.7  
ionic 4 p auto  
hydro 5 g 11.6  
ionic 4 s auto  
# "Second tier"  
hydro 3 d 4.4
```



...

# My electrons disappear

---



Energy penalty depending on the occupation numbers

# My electrons disappear

---

What can I do?

adjust U value

initial structure is bad

use DFT+U occupation matrix control

Include other basis functions also in DFT+U description

# Matrix Control

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Fix  $n_I^\sigma$  for entire run will fix DFT+U potential and increases stability

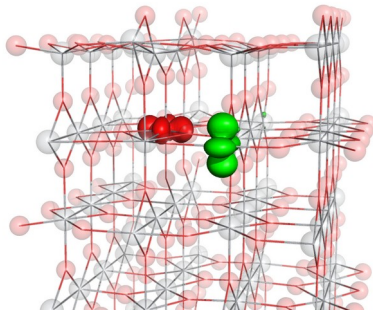
$$v_{mm'} = -U_{\text{eff}} \left( n_{mm'} - \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

Occupation numbers from a PBE run, HSE06 run or completely user defined

Use the obtained restart information to make it self-consistently

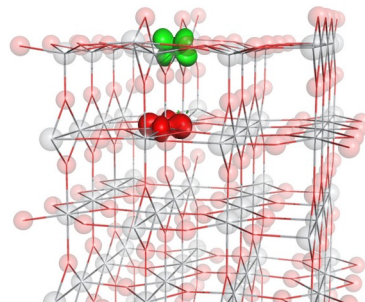
# Matrix Control: Examples

localize excess electrons in  $\text{TiO}_2$



a) Ti 3d

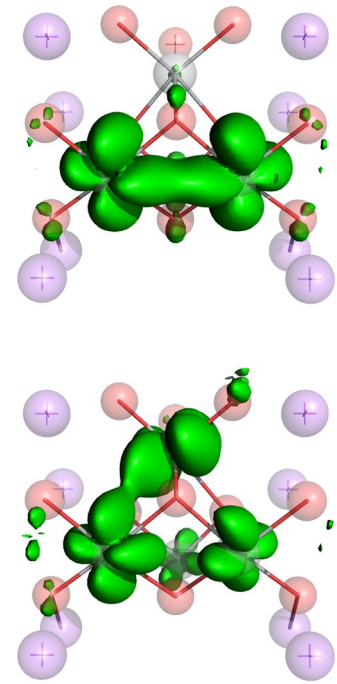
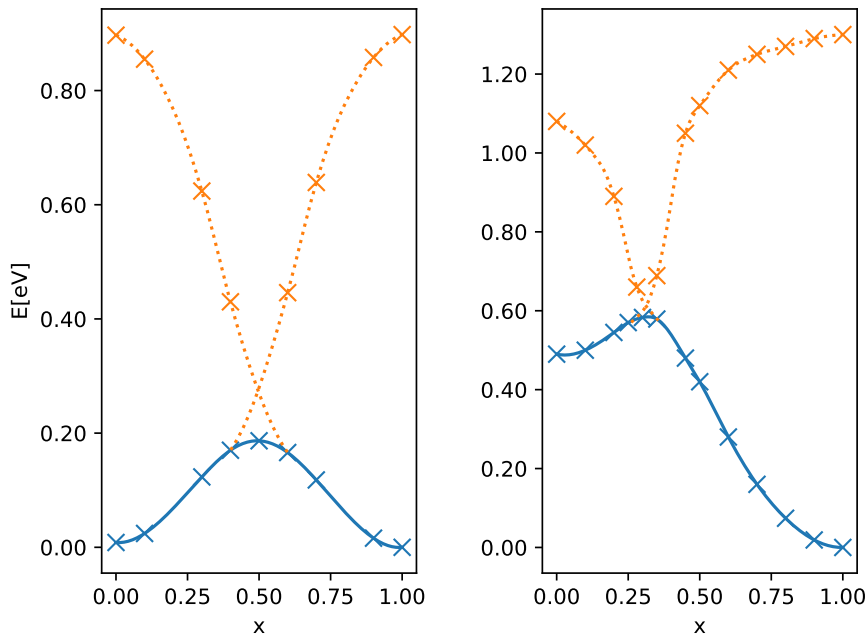
|      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 0.12 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 0.00 | 0.13 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 0.00 |
| 0.04 | 0.00 | 0.09 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 0.00 | 0.04 | 0.00 | 0.13 | 0.00 |
| 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.09 |



b) Ti 3d modified

|      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 0.12 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 0.00 | 0.13 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 0.00 |
| 0.04 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 0.00 | 0.04 | 0.00 | 0.13 | 0.00 |
| 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.09 |

# Matrix Control: Examples



calculation of polaron hopping barriers and transition states



# Conclusion

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DFT+U corrects SIE (similar to hybrid functionals)

Ambiguities come mainly from the projector functions

Negligible computational cost compared to LDA/GGA

Occupation matrix control extremely powerful  
Enables the treatment of systems which otherwise are pathologically

# Thank you for your attention!

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**DFG** Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft

# Implementation

