The exchange-hole dipole moment (XDM) dispersion model implementation in FHI-aims

Alberto Otero de la Roza¹ Alastair J. A. Price² Erin R. Johnson²

¹University of Oviedo, Spain

²Dalhousie University, Halifax

Non-covalent interactions in DFT

The exchange-hole dipole moment (XDM) model is a dispersion **correction**, designed to augment DFs to treat NCIs accurately.



Dispersion corrections in DFT

- Common exchange-correlation functionals do not model **dispersion**.
- One solution is to **calculate the dispersion energy separately** and then add it to the base DFT energy:

$$E_{\text{total}} = E_{\text{DFT}} + E_{\text{disp}}$$

Several **dispersion corrections** have been proposed to address the non-covalent interactions problem:

- Grimme's D2/D3/D4.
- PBE-TS, PBE(0)-MBD and variants (already in FHI-aims).
- Exchange-hole dipole moment (XDM) model.
- Others...

Another option is using **nonlocal functionals** like the van der Waals density functionals (vdW-DF).

3/25

Motivation for XDM: Crystal structure prediction

Crystal structure prediction (CSP): Given the chemical composition (formula unit, molecular diagram) of a material, predict its crystal structure.



CSP works by calculating the minimum-energy configuration from a list of randomly generated candidates. It is difficult because it is a **global optimization problem**.

4/25

Motivation for XDM: Molecular CSP

Molecular CSP: prediction of the crystal structure of an **organic crystal** from its **molecular diagram**.



Applications:

- **Drug design** (bioavailability and patenting)
- Organic electronics (properties of the material)
- Energetic materials, phase change materials,...

A. Otero-de-la-Roza (UniOvi)



- **DFT** is successful but **expensive**. Each candidate out of a list of many thousands requires a local optimization.
- **Curse of dimensionality**: the number of degrees of freedom increases with molecular size but the energy differences in the energy landscape do not.
- **XDM**: very accurate energy landscapes.
- **FHI-aims**: hybrid functionals, linear scaling, easy access to vibrational free energies.

A. Otero-de-la-Roza (UniOvi)

The XDM method

Dispersion arises from interaction of induced dipoles.



The source of the instantaneous dipole moments is taken to be the **dipole moment of the exchange hole**.

Becke and Johnson, J. Chem. Phys. 127 (2007) 154108

The exchange hole:

$$h_{x\sigma}(\mathbf{1},\mathbf{2}) = -\frac{|\rho_{1\sigma}(\mathbf{1},\mathbf{2})|^2}{\rho_{1\sigma}(\mathbf{1})}$$

- Conditional probability of exclusion of same-spin electron.
- On-top depth condition: $h_{x\sigma}(1,1) = -\rho_{1\sigma}(1)$
- Normalization: $\int h_{x\sigma}(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2}) d\mathbf{2} = -1$ for all **1**.
- $\rho_{1\sigma}(\mathbf{1},\mathbf{2}) = \sum_{i}^{\sigma} \psi_{i}^{*}(\mathbf{1})\psi_{i}(\mathbf{2})$

8/25

The exchange-hole model



- Model for dispersion: interaction of electron-hole dipoles.
- Dipole: $d_{x\sigma}(\mathbf{r}) = \int \mathbf{r}' h_{x\sigma}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r}' \mathbf{r}$
- Assumption: dipole oriented to nearest nucleus.

The Becke-Roussel model of exchange-hole

• Becke-Roussel model of *h_x*. (PRA **39** (1989) 3761)

Parameters (A,a,b) obtained:

- Normalization
- Value at reference point.
- Curvature at reference point (reqs. kinetic energy density).

Advantages:

- Semilocal model of the dipole $(d_x = b)$.
- $\textbf{2} XDM dispersion model \longrightarrow meta-GGA.$
- **3** Better performance than exact hole (HF) version in molecules.



The XDM equations: interaction coefficients

Multipole moments

$$\langle M_l^2 \rangle_i = \sum_{\sigma} \int \omega_i(\mathbf{r}) \rho_{\sigma}(\mathbf{r}) [r_i^l - (r_i - d_{X\sigma})^l]^2 d\mathbf{r}$$

use Hirshfeld atomic partition:

$$\omega_i(\mathbf{r}) = rac{
ho_i^{\mathrm{at}}(\mathbf{r})}{\sum_j
ho_j^{\mathrm{at}}(\mathbf{r})}$$

Non-empirical dispersion coefficients. *n*-body and any order. For instance:

$$C_{6,ij} = \frac{\alpha_i \alpha_j \langle M_1^2 \rangle \langle M_1^2 \rangle_j}{\langle M_1^2 \rangle \alpha_j + \langle M_1^2 \rangle_j \alpha_i}$$

Canonical XDM: two-body terms C_6 , C_8 and C_{10} are included.

A. Otero-de-la-Roza (UniOvi)

The exchange-hole dipole moment (XDM) model

ł

The XDM model uses a **damped asymptotic expression** for the dispersion energy:

$$E_{\text{total}} = E_{\text{disp}} + E_{\text{base}}$$

The XDM dispersion energy is:

$$E_{disp} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} \frac{C_6 f_6(R_{ij})}{R_{ij}^6} + \frac{C_8 f_8(R_{ij})}{R_{ij}^8} + \frac{C_{10} f_{10}(R_{ij})}{R_{ij}^{10}} + \dots$$

where the damping function is:

$$f_n(R_{ij}) = \frac{R_{ij}^n}{R_{ij}^n + (\mathbf{a_1}R_{ij,c} + \mathbf{a_2})^n}$$

Two parameters, a_1 and a_2 , in the damping function are **fit for use with a particular XC functional**.

A. Otero-de-la-Roza (UniOvi)

Damping function parametrization: statistics

$$f_n(R_{ij}) = \frac{R_{ij}^n}{R_{ij}^n + (\mathbf{a_1}R_{ij,c} + \mathbf{a_2})^n}$$

The **damping function parameters** are determined for a given functional by fitting to a **parametrization set** composed of reference binding energies for small molecular dimers (the Kanneman-Becke set, KB49). The parameters are then **used for all systems unchanged**.

Results for **XDM parametrization** with some xc functionals (kcal/mol):

Quantity	B3LYP	BH&HLYP	PBE0	CAM-B3LYP	$LC-\omega PBE$
MAE	0.28	0.37	0.41	0.39	0.28
MA%E	6.7	7.8	10.2	8.3	7.8

The exchange-hole dipole moment (XDM) model

Extended to *n*-body and any order. For instance, 3-body coefficients:

$$C_{9,ijk} = rac{\langle M_1^2
angle_i x_i imes \langle M_1^2
angle_j x_j imes \langle M_1^2
angle_k x_k}{x_i + x_j + x_k} \quad ; \quad x_a = rac{\langle M_1^2
angle_a}{lpha_a^0}$$

are the coefficients in the leading three-body dispersion term:

$$E_{\text{ATM}}^{(3)} = \sum_{i < j < k} \frac{C_{9,ijk} \left[3\cos(\theta_i)\cos(\theta_j)\cos(\theta_k) + 1 \right] f_9(R_{ij}, R_{jk}, R_{ki})}{R_{ij}^3 R_{jk}^3 R_{ki}^3}$$

- Electronic many-body effects: arise from the changes in atomic moments, volumes, and pairwise C_n due to the chemical environment. C_6 can change by more than 50%.
- Atomic many-body effects: three-body and higher-order dispersion. Less than 1% of the dispersion energy. Much less important than pairwise C_8 , C_{10} . Choice of functional has greater impact.

XDM: summary and other advantages

- **Simple**. Although the calculation of the dispersion coefficients depend in a complex way on the density and kinetic energy density, the XDM energy and derivatives is as a simple pairwise expression.
- **Efficient**. XDM is formally a meta-GGA. The computational cost is negligible compared to a semilocal DFT calculation.
- Available in several quantum chemistry programs:
- Quantum ESPRESSO.
- Gaussian, psi4, ... using the postg interface.



github.com/aoterodelaroza

- 3 NWChem.
- **4** FHI-aims

Details of the **XDM implementation in FHI-aims**:

- Activate using XDM with the xdm keyword in control.in.
- Available functionals for combination with XDM (MAPE light/tight): PBE (19.0/14.1), B86bPBE (14.9/11.0), HSE06 (13.6/11.1), PBE0 (12.5/10.2), PBE-50 (9.8/9.6), B86bPBE-25 (9.7/8.4), B86bPBE-50 (8.5/8.5). More can be parametrized easily.
- **XDM calculation steps**: i) Atomic volumes, moments, polarizabilities, ii) Atomic dispersion coefficients, iii) lattice sum for the dispersion energies.
- The contribution to the **energy**, **forces**, **and stress** are calculated.

Work to do:

- Implement exact **density-dependent forces**.
- Improve **lattice sums** for linear scaling.

Strict test of performance for NCIs in molecular crystals is the calculation of **lattice energies**: crystal minus gas-phase molecule energy difference. Reference data can be obtained by **back-correcting experimental sublimation enthalpies**. Examples: **C21 set**, **X23 set**.



Mean absolute errors (MAE) for X23 in kcal/mol per molecule.

Functional	Dispersion	Light	Tight			
Full Geometry Relaxation						
PBE	TS	4.17	3.14			
PBE	MBD	1.61	0.94			
PBE0	MBD	1.98	0.84 ^{<i>a</i>}			
B86bPBE	XDM	0.83	0.72			
B86bPBE-25	XDM	0.81	—			
B86bPBE-50	XDM	1.06	—			
Single Points at GGA/Light Geometries						
B86bPBE-25//B86bPBE	XDM	0.66	0.48			
B86bPBE-50//B86bPBE	XDM	0.70	0.53			

Ice lattice energies

Even stricter test of performance for NCIs: lattice energies of ice phases:

- Cooperative (many-body induction) effects.
- Existence of **delocalization error** precludes obtaining good absolute and relative lattice energies.

ICE13 set: Della Pia et al. recently obtained Diffusion Monte Carlo (DMC) data for 13 ice phases.





Mean absolute errors (MAE) for X23 in kcal/mol per molecule.

		Absolute		Relative			
Functional	Dispersion	Light	Tight	Light	Tight		
Full Geometry Relaxation							
PBE	TS	3.69	2.18	0.56	0.51		
PBE	MBD	3.70	2.19	0.66	0.60		
PBEO	MBD	2.38	—	0.37			
B86bPBE	XDM	2.69	1.78	0.67	0.45		
B86bPBE-25	XDM	1.16	—	0.53			
B86bPBE-50	XDM	0.55	_	0.42			
Single Points at GGA/Light Geometries							
B86bPBE-25//B86bPBE	XDM	0.93	0.19	0.49	0.28		
B86bPBE-50//B86bPBE	XDM	0.32	1.20	0.31	0.19		

Molecular CSP: blind tests

To measure progress in the field, **blind test competitions** are periodically run by the **Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre (CCDC)**: BT1 (2000), BT2 (2002), BT3 (2005), BT4 (2009), BT5 (2011), BT6 (2016), **BT7 (2022, unpublished)**.



Molecular CSP: blind tests

Recalculated structures:

- BT1-5: first three structures submitted by all participants.
- BT6: first three structures + Neumann's 100-structure submissions + POLY59.

Compound	B86bPBE		25% hyb.		50% hyb.	
	Rank	ΔE	Rank	ΔE	Rank	ΔE
II	4	1.1	2	0.7	2	0.5
V	4	1.9	4	1.9	4	1.5
Х	2	0.9	2	0.4	1	0.0
XV	2	0.3	2	0.8	2	1.2
XIX	6	4.3	4	2.2	2	0.1
XX	4	6. 7	4	6.5	6	6. 7
XXII	9	2.7	3	0.4	2	0.1
XXIII	3	0.8	2	0.0	2	0.0
XXIV	8	2.0	3	0.7	2	0.4

Molecular CSP: blind tests

Results with B86bPBE-50:

- 18/26 experiment as **first rank**.
- 6/26 experiment as **second rank**.
- All "failed" cases are **within 1.5 kJ/mol** from the energy minimum, except XX.
- XX: experiment is 6.7 kJ/mol above the minimum. Large floppy molecule: lack of thermal contribution or kinetic effects.

In summary, B86bPBE-50-XDM **improves significantly upon B86bPBE-XDM**: it fixes intermolecular delocalization error and improves the treatment of molecular conformational energies.



XDM for systems other than molecular crystals

A good thing about XDM-corrected functionals is that they **improve the treatment of NCIs for very disparate systems** without reparametrization. XDM has been used for:

- Formation energies of **supramolecular systems**.
- Molecular surface adsorption on metals and ionic solids.
- Clathrate hydrates.
- Graphite and graphene heterostructures.
- Layered materials (transition metal dichalcogenides).
- Geometries and bulk moduli of **ionic solids**.



Conclusions

The **exchange-hole dipole moment (XDM) model** is a dispersion correction recently **implemented in FHI-aims**:

- **Simple and efficient**. The calculation of the XDM contribution takes a small fraction of an SCF cycle.
- **Physically grounded**. The dispersion coefficients are calculated non-empirically from the self-consistent wavefunction and react to the chemical environment.
- Very accurate for non-covalent interactions of any kind. Particularly B86bPBE-XDM and hybrids based on it.
- **Easy to use**. Simply include the xdm keyword.

Thanks!