
COURSE: Quantum Chemistry and Molecular Modeling

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2017-2018

TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY: Free choice

TEACHER: Prof. Camilla Minichino

e-mail: camilla.minichino@unibas.itwebsite: <http://scienze.unibas.it/site/home.html>

phone: 0971206158

mobile (optional): 3204371123

Language: ITALIAN

ECTS: (lessons e
tutorials/practice) 6n. of hours: (lessons e
tutorials/practice) 48Campus: Potenza
Dept./School: **Dipartimento di
Scienze**
Program: : **Scienze Chimiche
(LM54)**Semester: II

EDUCATIONAL GOALS AND EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course has the purpose of i) providing an overview of the methods of theoretical chemistry with particular reference to the aspects of the determination of the molecular electronic structure ii) showing how these methods may be used for modeling chemical systems and for computing molecular properties.

After completing the course the student i) knows the theoretical foundations, the potential and limitations of the methods of quantum chemistry; ii) is able to set up and develop a simple computational chemistry project; iii) • understands the language of molecular modeling (acronyms and abbreviations); iv) is able to deal with the vast literature on the subject.

PRE-REQUIREMENTSBasic knowledge of molecular quantum mechanics

SYLLABUS**Separation of motions in quantum mechanics.** (6 hours)

Separation between electronic and nuclear motions: adiabatic and Born-Oppenheimer approximation. Comparing adiabatic, diabatic and non-adiabatic approach. Non-crossing rule and conical intersections. Separation between internal and external nuclear motions. Coordinate systems and vibrational modes.

Potential energy surfaces and their exploration. (6 hours)

Methods for finding local extrema on the potential energy surfaces. Reaction pathways. Molecular force fields. Brief overview of classical molecular dynamics and Monte Carlo simulations and their use in the global optimization problems.

Theoretical methods for molecular electronic structure. (18 hours)

General aspects of the molecular orbital model. HF method. Basis sets. Electron correlation. Molecular properties, descriptors of the electronic wave function and the charge distributions. Density functional theory. Methods for describing electronic excited states. Solvation and continuum models.

Computational aspects. (10 hours)

Presentation of some quantum chemistry software packages, input preparation and output reading, calculation examples, analysis of the key information, strategies for solving problems related to the optimization of molecular structures and the SCF convergence, visualization and analysis of the results using molecular graphics programs.

Additional topics that could be treated (8 hours)*

Some theoretical approaches in the study of elementary chemical processes, modulation effect of nuclear motions on molecular observables, valence bond theory, relativistic quantum chemistry, description of condensed phase systems in the framework of DFT theory, hybrid models of molecular mechanics / quantum mechanics, Carr-Parrinello method.

*Only some of these topics (depending on students' interests) will be covered.

TEACHING METHODS

Theoretical lessons.

EVALUATION METHODS

Oral examination. with the possibility of discussing a short written report on a modeling project or on a depth study of a specific topic (agreed with the instructor).

TEXTBOOKS AND ON-LINE EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL

- On line educational material (<https://cloud.unibas.it/index.php/s/PccQRh3L3ZYnXaV>)
 - Textbooks
 - L. Piela Ideas of Quantum Chemistry, II Edition, Elsevier, 2013.*
 - A. Szabo and N.S. Ostlund Modern Quantum Chemistry – Introduction to Advanced Electronic Structure Theory, Dover, 1996.*
 - C. J. Cramer Essentials of Computational Chemistry Theories and Models. II Edition, Wiley, 2004.*
 - F. Jensen Introduction To Computational Chemistry, II Edition, Wiley, 2007.*
 - Additional Readings:
 - R. Mc Weeny Methods of Molecular Quantum Mechanics, II Edition, Academic Press, 1992.*
 - W. Koch and M.C. Holthausen A Chemist's Guide to Density Functional Theory. II Edition, Wiley-VCH, 2001.*
 - D. C. Young Computational Chemistry: A Practical Guide for Applying Techniques to Real-World Problems, Wiley, 2001.*
 - A. Leach Molecular Modelling: Principles and Application, II Edition, Prentice Hall, 2001.*
 - J.B. Foresman and A. Frisch Exploring Chemistry with Electronic Structure Methods: A Guide to Using Gaussian. II Edition, Gaussian Inc., 1996.*
 - S. P. A. Sauer Molecular Electromagnetism: A Computational Chemistry Approach, Oxford University Press, 2011.*
 - T. Helgaker, P. Jørgensen, and J. Olsen Molecular Electronic Structure Theory, Wiley, 2000.*
 - I. Mayer Simple Theorems, Proofs, and Derivations in Quantum Chemistry, Springer, 2003.*
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INTERACTION WITH STUDENTS

At the beginning of the course, after describing the objectives, program and methods of verification, the instructor provides students educational material (<https://cloud.unibas.it/index.php/s/PccQRh3L3ZYnXaV>) and collects a list of students who intend to enroll in the course, together with name, family name, e-mail and possibly cell phone number.

Office hours: usually held on Monday and Wednesday 1:00-3:00 pm in 3D-103B room or by appointment via e-mail.

EXAMINATION SESSIONS (FORECAST)¹

15/01/2018, 19/02/18, 12/03/2018, 16/04/2018, 21/05/2018, 11/06/2018, 23/07/2018, 10/09/2018, 08/10/2018, 17/12/2018.

SEMINARS BY EXTERNAL EXPERTS YES NO

FURTHER INFORMATION

¹ Subject to possible changes: check the web site of the Teacher or the Department/School for updates.