





# Introduction to Tight-Binding

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#### Outline

- Theoretical Part
- Common approximations in tight-binding
- Practical case : Band Structure (Graphene)
- Practical case : Optical Spectrum (Bulk Silicon)
- Ab initio tight-binding
- Going further

## **Theoretical Part**

# Linear Combination of Atomic Orbitals(LCAO)

Originally proposed as *ab initio* technique for computing electronic properties from atomic wave functions <sup>1</sup>

But very demanding in terms of calculations => relatively little success

<sup>1</sup> F.Bloch, Z. Phys. 52, 555 (1928)

#### Atomic orbitals (n=3)



From www.chemcomp.com/journal/molorbs.htm

#### **Construction of LCAO Hamiltonian**

We consider a set of atomic-like orbitals located on atomic positions  $\overrightarrow{R_i}$ 

The LCAO idea is to express one-electron wave functions as a combination of atomic orbitals

$$\psi(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\alpha,i} c_{\alpha,i} \chi_{\alpha} (\vec{r} - \vec{R_i})$$
Orbital Atom

#### **Construction of LCAO Hamiltonian**

Considering two orbitals  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  located on atomic sites at  $\overrightarrow{R_i}$  and  $\overrightarrow{R_j}$ 

• The Hamiltonian matrix elements are  $H_{\alpha,\beta}(\vec{R_i},\vec{R_j}) = \int d\vec{r}\chi_{\alpha}(\vec{r}-\vec{R_i})H\chi_{\beta}(\vec{r}-\vec{R_j})$ 

The overlap matrix elements are

$$S_{\alpha,\beta}(\vec{R}_i, \vec{R}_j) = \int d\vec{r} \chi_\alpha(\vec{r} - \vec{R}_i) \chi_\beta(\vec{r} - \vec{R}_j)$$

#### **Construction of LCAO Hamiltonian**

 We use the definition of Hamiltonian and overlapping matrices to Schrödinger equation

 $H\psi(\vec{r}) = E\psi(\vec{r})$ 

The equation we have to solve is

$$\sum_{\beta,j} [H_{\alpha,\beta}(\vec{R}_i, \vec{R}_j) - ES_{\alpha,\beta}(\vec{R}_i - \vec{R}_j)]c_{\beta,j} = 0$$

(generalized eigenvalue problem)

# Using periodicity

 Considering a periodic crystal, on can define a new set of orbitals



# **Using periodicity**

 Considering a periodic crystal, on can define a new set of orbitals

$$\chi_{\alpha i \vec{k}}(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{\vec{T}} e^{i\vec{k}\vec{T}} \chi_{\alpha}(\vec{r} - (\vec{T} + \vec{\tau_i}))$$
$$\psi_{n\vec{k}}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\alpha,i} c_{n,\alpha,i}(\vec{k}) \chi_{\alpha i \vec{k}}(\vec{r})$$

The Hamiltonian becomes

$$H_{\alpha,\beta,i,j}(\vec{k}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\vec{T},\vec{T'}} e^{-i\vec{k}((\vec{T}+\vec{\tau_i})-(\vec{T'}+\vec{\tau_j}))} H_{\alpha,\beta}(\vec{T}+\vec{\tau_i},\vec{T'}+\vec{\tau_j})$$

# **Tight-Binding approximation**

The interaction between nearest neighbors is large and decrease quickly with the distance



# **Tight-Binding approximation**

The interaction between nearest neighbors is large and decrease quickly with the distance



#### Construction of the Tight-Binding Hamiltonian

The Tight-Binding Hamiltonian becomes a truncation of the sum in Hamiltonian expression

$$H_{\alpha,\beta,i,j}(\vec{k}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{\vec{T},\vec{T'}} e^{-i\vec{k}((\vec{T}+\vec{\tau_i})-(\vec{T'}+\vec{\tau_j}))} H_{\alpha,\beta}(\vec{T}+\vec{\tau_i},\vec{T'}+\vec{\tau_j})$$
  
Limited by the tight-binding approximation

Common approximations in Tight-Binding

#### **Common approximations in TB**

#### Nearest-neighbors

Two centers approximation

- Orthogonal tight-binding
- Semi-empirical Tight-Binding (SETB)

One has to choose the extension of the interactions between neighbors

In general first nearest-neighbors (1N-N) or third nearest-neighbors (3N-N)



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1st neighbors

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In general first nearest-neighbors (1N-N) or third nearest-neighbors (3N-N)



2nd neighbors 1st neighbors

 One has to choose the extension of the interactions between neighbors

In general first nearest-neighbors (1N-N) or third nearest-neighbors (3N-N)

> 3rd neighbors 2nd neighbors 1st neighbors



#### **Common approximations in TB**

Nearest-neighbors

Two centers approximation

Orthogonal tight-binding

• Semi-empirical Tight-Binding (SETB)

#### Two centers approximation

All overlap terms and Hamiltonian matrix elements involve only orbitals and potentials on two atomic sites

Sometime called *Slater-Koster two-centers approximation*<sup>1</sup> or *Two centers tight-binding model* 

<sup>1</sup>*Phys. Rev* 94, 1498 (1956)

#### **Two centers approximation**

$$\begin{split} H_{\alpha\beta}\left(\mathbf{R}_{i},\mathbf{R}_{j}\right) &= \left\langle \varphi_{\alpha}\left(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{i}\right) \middle| h \middle| \varphi_{\beta}\left(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{j}\right) \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \varphi_{\alpha}\left(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{i}\right) \middle| -\frac{\hbar^{2}}{2m_{0}} \Delta_{\mathbf{r}} + \sum_{k} v_{k}\left(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{k}\right) \middle| \varphi_{\beta}\left(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{j}\right) \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \varphi_{\alpha}\left(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{i}\right) \middle| -\frac{\hbar^{2}}{2m_{0}} \Delta_{\mathbf{r}} \middle| \varphi_{\beta}\left(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{j}\right) \right\rangle + \sum_{k} \left\langle \varphi_{\alpha}\left(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{j}\right) \middle| v_{k}\left(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{k}\right) \middle| \varphi_{\beta}\left(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{j}\right) \right\rangle \end{split}$$

Keeping only k=i or k=j give the two-center approximation otherwise it's a three center tightbinding model

#### **Common approximations in TB**

Nearest-neighbors

Two centers approximation

Orthogonal tight-binding

• Semi-empirical Tight-Binding (SETB)

## **Orthogonal Tight-Binding**

The overlapping is given, on the same atomic site

$$S_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{R}_{i},\mathbf{R}_{i}) = \left\langle \varphi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{i}) \middle| \varphi_{\beta}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{i}) \right\rangle = \delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

But for two different sites, we only have

$$S_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{R}_{i},\mathbf{R}_{j}) = \langle \varphi_{\alpha}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{i}) | \varphi_{\beta}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{j}) \rangle \approx \delta_{ij}\delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

# **Orthogonal Tight-Binding**

The Orthogonal Tight-Binding Approximation is an approximation where your basis is chosen to have the property

$$S_{\alpha\beta}\left(\mathbf{R}_{i},\mathbf{R}_{j}\right) = \left\langle \varphi_{\alpha}\left(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{i}\right) \middle| \varphi_{\beta}\left(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{j}\right) \right\rangle = \delta_{\alpha\beta}$$

This is not an *Orthogonalized Tight-Binding* where you transform your orbitals to be orthogonal (Löwdin theorem<sup>1</sup>)

<sup>1</sup> P.O Löwdin, J. Chem. Phys. 18, 365 (1950)

## **Orthogonal Tight-Binding**

The equation we have to solve is now an eigenvalue problem

$$\sum_{\beta,j} [H_{\alpha,\beta,i,j}(\vec{k}) - E_n(\vec{k})\delta_{\alpha,\beta}\delta_{i,j}]c_{n,\beta,j}(\vec{k}) = 0$$

$$\mathbf{H}\Psi = E\mathbf{S}\Psi \longrightarrow \mathbf{H}\Psi = E\Psi$$

#### **Common approximations in TB**

Nearest-neighbors

Two centers approximation

Orthogonal tight-binding

Semi-empirical Tight-Binding (SETB)

#### Semi-empirical Tight-Binding

Proposed by Slater and Koster Phys. Rev 94, 1498 (1956)

The idea was to parameterize the matrix elements  $H_{\alpha,\beta}(\vec{R}, \vec{R'})$  that become the tight-binding parameters

Advantage : orbitals are never defined ! Parameters are obtained by fitting or adjusting band structures

#### Fitting the parameters

Fitting from experiment or Hatree-Fock, DFT, GW, ... calculations



## Ways for obtaining parameters

• Fitting (e.g. least square minimization) : Minimization of the discrepancy between the band structures

 Adjusting on band structure : The band structure have some points fixed

 Analytic expression of values of the band structure at some high symmetry point Practical case : Band Structure

Graphene

#### **Application to Graphene**

We start from the most general problem for  $p_z$  orbital only

 $\begin{vmatrix} H_{AA}(\mathbf{k}) - E(\mathbf{k})S_{AA}(\mathbf{k}) & H_{AB}(\mathbf{k}) - E(\mathbf{k})S_{AB}(\mathbf{k}) \\ H_{AB}^{*}(\mathbf{k}) - E(\mathbf{k})S_{AB}^{*}(\mathbf{k}) & H_{AA}(\mathbf{k}) - E(\mathbf{k})S_{AA}(\mathbf{k}) \end{vmatrix} = 0,$ 

From PRB 66 035412 (2002) *Tight-binding description of graphene* 



#### **Application to Graphene**

#### The general solution is

$$E(\mathbf{k})^{\pm} = \frac{-(-2E_0 + E_1) \pm \sqrt{(-2E_0 + E_1)^2 - 4E_2E_3}}{2E_3}$$

with

$$E_{0} = H_{AA}S_{AA}, \quad E_{1} = S_{AB}H_{AB}^{*} + H_{AB}S_{AB}^{*}$$
$$E_{2} = H_{AA}^{2} - H_{AB}H_{AB}^{*} \quad E_{3} = S_{AA}^{2} - S_{AB}S_{AB}^{*}.$$

We limit the sums to the first nearest-neighbors

$$\begin{split} H_{AB} &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{R_A} \sum_{R_B} e^{ik(R_B - R_A)} \langle \varphi_A(r - R_A) | H | \varphi_B(r - R_B) \rangle \\ &= \gamma_0 (e^{ikR_{11}} + e^{ikR_{12}} + e^{ikR_{13}}) \end{split}$$

with

$$\gamma_0 = \langle \varphi_A(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_A) | H | \varphi_B(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_A - \mathbf{R}_{1i}) \rangle \quad (i = 1, 2, 3),$$

We limit the sums to the <u>first nearest-neighbors</u>

The Tight-Binding approximation

$$\begin{split} H_{AB} = & \frac{1}{N} \sum_{R_A} \sum_{R_B} e^{ik(R_B - R_A)} \langle \varphi_A(r - R_A) | H | \varphi_B(r - R_B) \rangle \\ = & \frac{\gamma_0(e^{ikR_{11}} + e^{ikR_{12}} + e^{ikR_{13}})}{\text{The parameter}} \\ & \gamma_0 = & \langle \varphi_A(r - R_A) | H | \varphi_B(r - R_A - R_{1i}) \rangle \quad (i = 1, 2, 3), \end{split}$$

We limit the sums to the first nearest-neighbors We apply the same to overlap matrix

$$S_{AB} = \underline{s_0}(e^{ikR_{11}} + e^{ikR_{12}} + e^{ikR_{13}})$$
  
Second parameter

 $s_0 = \langle \varphi_A(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_A) | \varphi_B(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_A - \mathbf{R}_{1i}) \rangle \quad (i = 1, 2, 3)$ 

The solution becomes

 $\varepsilon_{2p} + \gamma_0 \sqrt{f(\mathbf{k})}$  $E^{\pm}(\mathbf{k})$  $1 \mp s_0 \sqrt{f(\mathbf{k})}$ 



PRB 66 035412 (2002)

#### Non orthogonal 3N-N TB

With a better choice of parameters (fitting) and considering overlapping and third-neighbors interaction



PRB 66 035412 (2002)

#### **Application to Nanotubes**



Wave vector k,

FIG. 4. Band structure of a (10,10) armchair nanotube. (a) Ab *initio* calculation. (b) Nearest-neighbor tight-binding calculation with  $\gamma_0 = -2.7$  eV. (c) Third-nearest-neighbor tight-binding calculation with parameters obtained from a fit to the optical energy range; see Table I. The dashed lines denote *ab initio* calculated energies of the singularities in the density of states.



FIG. <u>5. Band structure of a (19.0) zigzag nanotube.</u> (a) *Ab initio* calculation. (b) Nearest-neighbor tight-binding calculation with  $\gamma_0 = -2.7$  eV. (c) Third-nearest-neighbor tight-binding calculation with parameters obtained from a fit to the optical energy range; see Table I. The dashed lines denote *ab initio* calculated energies of the singularities in the density of states.

#### PRB 66 035412 (2002)

Practical case : Optical Spectrum

Silicon

## **Application to Silicon**



Approximation : -Two center approximation -Orthogonal TB



From Y. M. Niquet presentation : Introduction of tight-binding description of semiconductor nanostructures

## Basis choice for Silicon

Depending on the number of parameters, one can describe correctly more or less bands

• sp3 basis :

Nearest-Neighbours	First	Third
Number of parameters	6	20

sp3d5s\* basis First Nearest-Neighbors :

Nearest-Neighbours	First
Number of parameters	18

#### Basis choice for Silicon

- sp3 : quite accurate for the valence bands, somewhat less for the conduction band, especially at high energy
- sp3s\* : s\* orbital to mimic d orbitals
- sp3d5s\* : accurate valence and first conduction bands

#### **Band Structure**

Third nearest neighbors orthogonal *sp*<sup>3</sup> model

#### Nearest neighbors orthogonal $sp^3d^5s^*$ model



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#### **Density of States**

Comparison between TB and ab initio (ABINIT) density



# Computing momentum matrix elements

#### From k.p theory

$$\begin{split} H_{\vec{k}+\vec{q}} &= H_{\vec{k}} + \vec{q}\vec{v} - \frac{i}{2}[\vec{q}\vec{r},\vec{q}\vec{v}] + O[(\vec{q})^3] \\ H_{\vec{k}+\vec{q}} &= H_{\vec{k}} + \nabla_{\vec{k}}H_{\vec{k}}\vec{q} + \frac{1}{2}\vec{q}\nabla_{\vec{k}}\nabla_{\vec{k}}H_{\vec{k}}\vec{q} + O[(\vec{q})^3] \end{split}$$

Momentum matrix elements are obtained from Hamiltonien matrix elements directly

$$\vec{q}\vec{v} = \nabla_{\vec{k}}H_{\vec{k}}\vec{q}$$

# Computing momentum matrix elements

Hamiltonian matrix elements  $<\lambda, \vec{k}|H(\vec{k})|\mu, \vec{k}> = H_{\lambda,\mu}(\vec{k}) = \sum_{\vec{T}} e^{i\vec{k}.\vec{T}} t_{\lambda,\mu}(\vec{T})$ 

Momentum matrix elements  $<\lambda, \vec{k} | \nabla_{\vec{k}} H(\vec{k}) | \mu, \vec{k} > = \sum_{\vec{T}} (i\vec{T}) e^{i\vec{k}.\vec{T}} t_{\lambda,\mu}(\vec{T})$ 

and  $\vec{q}\vec{v} = \nabla_{\vec{k}}H_{\vec{k}}\vec{q}$ 

# Computing momentum matrix elements

Hamiltonian matrix elements

 $<\lambda, \vec{k}|H(\vec{k})|\mu, \vec{k}> = H_{\lambda,\mu}(\vec{k}) = \sum_{\vec{T}} e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{T}} t_{\lambda,\mu}(\vec{T})$ Tight-Binding Parameters

 $\begin{aligned} \text{Momentum matrix elements} \\ <\lambda, \vec{k} | \nabla_{\vec{k}} H(\vec{k}) | \mu, \vec{k} > = \sum_{\vec{T}} (i\vec{T}) e^{i\vec{k}\cdot\vec{T}} t_{\lambda,\mu}(\vec{T}) \end{aligned}$ 

and  $\vec{q}\vec{v} = \nabla_{\vec{k}}H_{\vec{k}}\vec{q}$ 





#### **Conclusion from linear spectrum**

• Tight-Binding is good for ground state properties : Good for band structures (e.g. Silicon or Graphene)

Not really accurate for computing spectra

# Inclusion of Local-Field and excitonic effects

Possible in (semi-empirical) tight-binding

- Local Field effects with a Semi-Empirical Tight-Binding
- C. Delerue, M. Lannoo, and G. Allan, Phys. Rev. B 56, 15306 (1997)
- Excitonic effects via BSE J.Jiang et al., Phys. Rev. B 75, 035407 (2007)

# Ab initio tight-binding

# Ab initio tight-binding

# One can define the orbitals rather than using parameterization $\Gamma^{\text{Large}}$



#### Orbitals can be

- analytic functions, *e.g.* gaussian-type orbitals
- from DFT calculation, *e.g.* from atomic Kohn-Sham calculations with PBE exchangecorrelation functional JCP 33, 1165 (2012)

# Improving the tight-binding model

New Tight-Binding schemes

- Linear-muffin-tin orbitals tight-binding (LMTO-TB)<sup>1</sup>
- Hartree-Fock-based TB <sup>2</sup>
- *ab initio* multicenter TB <sup>3</sup>
- DF-based TB (DFTB) 4
- Self-consistent charge DFTB <sup>5</sup>

1 - Phys. Rev. Lett. **53**, 2571 (1984) 2 - Phys. Rev. B **44**, 6169 (1991) 3 - Phys. Rev. B **40**, 3979 (1989) 4 - Phys. Rev. B **51**, 12 947 (1995) 5 - Phys. Rev. B **58**, 7260 (1998)

# Density Functional based Tight-Binding (DFTB)

DFT equations + tight-binding approximation

Interest : quite accurate and really quicker than DFT

Formamide	DFTB	SCC-DFTB	DFT-LSD (Ref. 39)	Expt. (Ref. 39)
C=0	1.296	1.224	1.223	1.193
C-N	1.296	1.382	1.358	1.376
N-H	1.003	0.996	1.022	1.002
C - H	1.130	1.131	1.122	1.102
OCN	127.0	125.5	124.5	123.8

From Phys. Rev. B 58, 7260 (1998)

#### **Going further** Deformation potentials in SETB

Spin-orbit coupling in SETB Examples of applications

## **Deformation potentials in SETB**

#### Generalized Harrison's law :

$$V_{ss\sigma}(d) = V_{ss\sigma}(d_0) \left(\frac{d_0}{d}\right)^{\alpha_{ss\sigma}}$$



Harrison's law<sup>1</sup> :  $\alpha_{ss\sigma} = 2$ This is the value for a free electron

<sup>1</sup> Phys. Rev. B 10, 1516 (1974)

## **Deformation potentials in SETB**

Examples of applications :

Strained crystal

- Atomic displacements
- Surface reconstruction

# Spin-orbit coupling in SETB

 Spin orbit coupling can be introduce (on p orbitals for instance, under approximations)

 $H_{i}^{so} \approx \lambda_{i} \mathbf{L}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{S}$   $H_{i}^{so} \approx \lambda_{i} \mathbf{L}_{i} \cdot \mathbf{S}$   $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -i & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ i & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -i & -i & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & i & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} p_{x} \uparrow \rangle \\ p_{z} \uparrow \rangle \\ p_{z} \downarrow \rangle$ Spin-orbit coupling parameter

Sol. State Comm. 62, 399 (1987)

#### **Examples of applications**

Comparison between TB and LDA



From Y. M. Niquet presentation : Introduction of tight-binding description of semiconductor nanostructures

## **Examples of applications**

#### Coallescence of nanotubes



M. Terrones, H. Terrones, F. Banhart, J.-C. Charlier, and P. M. Ajayan Science May 19 2000 : 1226-1229.

### **Examples of applications**

Highly defective graphene ( 2 millions of atoms )



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Nano Research

# Thank you for your attention !

#### Sp3 3N-N

$E_{ss}(000)$	-6.17334	eV	$E_{ss}(111)$	-1.78516	eV
$E_{xx}(000)$	2.39585	eV	$E_{sx}(111)$	0.78088	eV
$\Delta$	0.04500	eV	$E_{xx}(111)$	0.35657	eV
			$E_{xy}(111)$	1.47649	eV
$E_{ss}(220)$	0.23010	eV	$E_{ss}(311)$	-0.06857	eV
$E_{sx}(220)$	-0.21608	eV	$E_{sx}(311)$	0.25209	eV
$E_{sx}(022)$	-0.02496	eV	$E_{sx}(113)$	-0.17098	eV
$E_{xx}(220)$	0.02286	eV	$E_{xx}(311)$	0.13968	eV
$E_{xx}(022)$	-0.24379	eV	$E_{xx}(113)$	-0.04580	eV
$E_{xy}(220)$	-0.05462	eV	$E_{xy}(311)$	-0.03625	eV
$E_{xy}(022)$	-0.12754	eV	$E_{xy}(113)$	0.06921	eV

Y. M. Niquet et al., Phys. Rev. B 62, 5109 (2000)

## sp3d5s\* basis

PRB 69, 115201 (2004)

Parameter	Si	Ge
Es	-2.15168	-1.95617
$E_p$	4.22925	5.30970
$E_{s}^{*}$	19.11650	19.29600
$E_d$	13.78950	13.58060
λ	0.01989	0.10132
$ss\sigma$	-1.95933	-1.39456
$s^*s^*\sigma$	-4.24135	-3.56680
$ss^*\sigma$	-1.52230	-2.01830
$sp\sigma$	3.02562	2.73135
$s^*p\sigma$	3.15565	2.68638
$sd\sigma$	-2.28485	-2.64779
$s^*d\sigma$	- 0.80993	-1.12312
$pp\sigma$	4.10364	4.28921
$pp\pi$	-1.51801	-1.73707
$pd\sigma$	-1.35554	-2.00115
$pd\pi$	2.38479	2.10953
$dd\sigma$	-1.68136	-1.32941
$dd\pi$	2.58880	2.56261
ddδ	-1.81400	-1.95120

