

Recent Developments in the Linear Scaling DFT Code CONQUEST: Constrained DFT, TDDFT, and Basis Sets

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Linear scaling or O(N) electronic structure codes have been under development for around fifteen years [1]. After an initial explosion of interest, the practical difficulties of implementation and efficiency have led to a slow down in development and applications. In this talk I will present details of recent developments in the massively parallel CONQUEST linear scaling DFT code, and make some comments on the linear scaling field in general.

The CONQUEST code [2] is one of the leading O(N) codes, and has demonstrated not only excellent scaling to over two million atoms and many thousands of cores [3] but also practical applications to nanostructures on semiconductor surfaces [4], and recently to biological systems. I will describe the details of the CONQUEST code, including recent developments in basis functions and parallelisation. I will also discuss recent improvements including constrained DFT [5], exact exchange and TDDFT, all of which have been implemented with linear scaling.

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