

Demonstrations

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- Recent applications
 Hydrogen
 Protonated water clusters
- Perspectives



- × Quantum materials / quantum crystals:
 - × Both electrons and nuclei are quantum particles
 - × Nuclear quantum effects (NQE) strongly affect materials' properties
 - × Light mass → nuclear delocalization: nuclei are not point-like but have a significant "spread"
 - × Hydrogen and Hydrogen-rich materials belong to this family
 - × Remarkable properties



Towards room temperature superconductivity



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Hydrogen–based *high-pressure* superconductivity

Sulfur hydride



2015: superconductivity at 203 K and 150 GPa in H₃S (*Nature 525, 73*)

Critical temperature higher than Hg-based cuprates!









Three Bardeen-Cooper-Schrieffer (BCS) golden rules to maximize

$$\Delta = 2\hbar\omega_{\rm cut} \ e^{-1/N(\epsilon_F)V}$$

- **1. large nuclear vibrations**
- 2. high electronic density of states at the Fermi level
- 3.strong coupling between phonons and electrons

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 26 PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

23 December 1968

METALLIC HYDROGEN: A HIGH-TEMPERATURE SUPERCONDUCTOR?

N. W. Ashcroft Laboratory of Atomic and Solid State Physics, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14850 (Received 3 May 1968)

Application of the BCS theory to the proposed metallic modification of hydrogen suggests that it will be a high-temperature superconductor. This prediction has interesting astrophysical consequences, as well as implications for the possible development of a superconductor for use at elevated temperatures.

Hydrogen will meet the above requirements thanks to <u>its light mass</u> But first it needs to become a metal!













Hydrogen/water phase diagram





Hydrogen/water phase diagram





Hydrogen/water phase diagram





× Accurate evaluation of **electronic internal energies** (i.e. full account of *electronic correlation*)

Accurate treatment of the nuclear degrees of freedom by a quantum description

 (i.e. full account of nuclear quantum effects)

× Non-trivial **interplay** between the two



arXiv: 2202.05740: Lorenzo Monacelli, Michele Casula, Kosuke Nakano, Sandro Sorella, Francesco Mauri





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Electronic part: DMC Nuclear part: Stochastic self-consistent harmonic approximation using BLYP





Color from first-principles (reflectivity)





Color from first-principles (reflectivity)





JCP 154, 224108 (2021): Tommaso Morresi, Lorenzo Paulatto, Rodolphe Vuilleumier, Michele Casula

Electronic part: DFT Nuclear part: Path-integral molecular dynamics (Langevin thermostat) Phonons by "quantum correlators" (static limit of Matsubara Green's function)



One-order-of-magnitude speedup



Ready to be submitted: Tommaso Morresi, Rodolphe Vuilleumier, Michele Casula



We can reproduce the temperature dependence of the vibron frequency!



JCP 154, 224108 (2021): Tommaso Morresi, Lorenzo Paulatto, Rodolphe Vuilleumier, Michele Casula

Supercell made by 3 x 3 x 3 unit cells (54 H atoms); DFT-PBE exchange-correlation functional





Large quantum effects!!



Ready to be submitted: Tommaso Morresi, Rodolphe Vuilleumier, Michele Casula



Based on the vibron frequency matching with experiment: Ama2-24 \rightarrow phase IV





First **path integral molecular dynamics** of **protonated water hexamer** driven by **QMC ionic forces**

Both ions and electrons are treated quantum!

Hints on the dynamics of hydrated proton in a correlated framework

Casula et al. in preparation











protonated water hexamer H₁₃O₆⁺ as "realistic" playground to study H-bond and proton hopping





















arXiv: 2202.05740: Miha Srdinsek, Michele Casula, Rodolphe Vuilleumier

Thermodynamic integration scheme to compute entanglement in realistic complex systems

 $H = \sum_{i} \sigma_{i}^{z} \sigma_{i+1}^{z} + r \sigma_{i}^{x}$

Formic acid dimer





Nuclear quantum effects from QMC-based Machine Learning potential energy surfaces:

- Accurate phonon calculations in superconducting hydrides
- From water clusters to bulk water and ice

Development of a non-adiabatic electron-nucleus wave function:

- Quantum anharmonicity naturally included in the wave function
- Nuclear forces more easy to compute
- Electron-phonon coupling







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QMC: applications