

Chair of Condensed Matter Physics Institute of Theoretical Physics Faculty of Physics, University of Warsaw

### Semester Zimowy 2011/2012

Wykład

# Modelowanie Nanostruktur

Jacek A. Majewski

E-mail: Jacek.Majewski@fuw.edu.pl







1

















# Farsightedness (hyperopia) of the Standard k-p Model

Alex Zunger, phys. stat. sol. (a) 190, 467 (2002)

The use of a small number of bands in conventional *k-p* treatment of nanostructures leads to "farsightedness" (hyperopia),

- detailed atomistic symmetry is not seen,
- only the global landscape symmetry is noted,
- ➡ the real symmetry is confused with a higher symmetry.
- Number of important symmetry-mandated physical couplings are unwittingly set to zero
- These are often introduced, after-the-fact, "by hand", via an ansatz.
- In atomistic theories of nanostructures, the physically correct symmetry is naturally forced upon us by the structure itself.

# Atomistic methods for modeling of nanostructures

- Ab initio methods (up to few hundred atoms)
- Semiempirical methods (up to 1M atoms)
  - Empirical Pseudopotential
  - Tight-Binding Methods

## What about realistic nanostructures ?

Inorganics

- 3D (bulks) : 1-10 atoms in the unit cell
- 2D (quantum wells): 10-100 atoms in the unit cell
- 1D (quantum wires): 1 K-10 K atoms in the unit cell
- 0D (quantum dots): 100K-1000 K atoms in the unit cell

### Organics

Nanotubes, DNA: 100-1000 atoms (or more)

# Ab initio = Density Functional Theory Based Methods



















# Why Tight-Binding?

- Allows us to describe the band structure over the entire Brillouin zone
- **Relaxes all the approximations of Envelope Function approaches**
- □ Allows us to describe thin layer perturbation (few Å)
- Describes correctly band mixing
- Gives atomic details
- The computational cost is low
- Lt is a real space approach
- Molecular dynamics
- □ Scalability (from empirical to ab-initio)

# Scalability of TB approaches

### **Empirical Tight-Binding**

Hamiltonian matrix elements are obtained by comparison of calculated quantities with experiments or *ab initio* results. **Very efficient, poor transferability**.

### Semi-Empirical Hartree-Fock

Methods used in the chemistry context (INDO, PM3 etc.). Medium transferability.

# Density Functional based Tight-Binding (DFTB, FIREBAL, SIESTA)

 $\mathsf{DFT}\xspace$  local basis approaches provide transferable and accurate interaction potentials.

The numerical efficiency of the method allows for molecular dynamics simulations in large super cells, containing several hundreds of atoms.

# The sp<sup>3</sup>s\* Hamiltonian

### [Vogl et al. J. Phys. Chem Sol. 44, 365 (1983)]

In order to reproduce both valence and conduction band of covalently bounded semiconductors a  $s^*$  orbital is introduced to account for high energy orbitals (*d*, *f* etc.)













# Tight-Binding Formalism – Dependence of the hopping integrals on atomic distance

### Calculations for systems with distorted lattice

The dependence of the hopping integrals on the inter-atomic distance

- Harrison's ~d<sup>-2</sup> dependence
- Exponential dependence  $t = t_0 exp(-\beta r)$

• 
$$t_{\alpha\beta}(R_{ij}) = t_{\alpha\beta}(r_0)f(R_{ij})$$
  
 $f(r) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{r_0}{r}\right)^n exp\left\{n\left[-\left(\frac{r}{r_c}\right)^{n_c} + \left(\frac{r_0}{r_c}\right)^{n_c}\right]\right\} & r < r_1 \\ c_0 + c_1(r - r_1) + c_2(r - r_2)^2 + c_3(r - r_2)^3 & r \ge r_1 \end{cases}$   
C. Xu *et al.*, J. Phys. Condens. Matter 4, 6047 (1992)







# Boundary conditions for transport The transport problem is: active region where symmetry is lost t contact regions (semi-infinite bulk) contact region contact contact open-boundary conditions can be treated within several schemes: . Transfer matrix . Green Functions These schemes are well suited for localized orbital approach like TB

# Tight-Binding Formalism – Parametrization of the repulsive term

- Using the interpolated hopping integrals, the tightbinding band-structure energy can be obtained for any geometry and inter-atomic distance.
- We then *define* the repulsive energy as the difference between the 'exact' binding energy, obtained using *ab initio* calculations, and the tight-binding band-structure energy
- Several crystallographic phases of a material are usually used
  - Structure independent parametrization of the repulsive terms















**Time Dependent Current** CNT without C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> 12 ΔI = 20% 11 MMMMMCurrent [ μA] 10 9 8 7 6  $= 8 \text{ K}\Omega$ 0.0 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 Time [ps]



# Coarse-graining & effective approaches

# Large scale modeling - Coarse-Graining

- For large scale modeling, one may introduce alternative approaches using simplified *coarse-grained models* (lattice gas models)
- These models can be treated with the methods used commonly in statistical mechanics such as
  - mean-field theory,
  - the cluster variation method (CVM),
  - Monte Carlo methods.
- Question: how to provide a link between atomistic calculations (*ab initio*, classical potentials) and the potential parameters suitable for coarse-grained models.















# Simulation of growth processes – Kinetic Monte Carlo (KMC)

- Modeling crystal growth with the KMC method allows one to cover experimentally relevant growth times and system sizes, since each event on the surface is just described by a single quantity—the transition rate rather than by modeling the full reaction path including atomic geometries and energies
  - ➡ Bridging of length and time scales







