Sloppy Nuclear Energy Density Functionals: Effective model reduction

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Energy Density Functionals

✔ the nuclear many-body problem is effectively mapped onto a **one-body problem** without explicitly involving inter-particle interactions

✔ the exact density functional is approximated with **powers and gradients of ground-state densities and currents**

✔ **universal density functionals** can be applied to all nuclei throughout the chart of nuclides

✔ **wide range of applications** (ground state properties, spectroscopic properties, giant resonances, fission...)

✔ **EDF** parameters ($\approx 10$) are adjusted to describe properties (e.g. binding energies, charge radii...) of a selected set of nuclei
Relativistic energy density functionals:

The elementary building blocks are two-fermion terms of the general type:

\[
(\bar{\psi} O_\tau \Gamma \psi) \quad O_\tau \in \{1, \tau_i\} \quad \Gamma \in \{1, \gamma_\mu, \gamma_5, \gamma_5 \gamma_\mu, \sigma_{\mu\nu}\}
\]

... isoscalar and isovector four-currents and scalar densities:

\[
\begin{align*}
\hat{j}_\mu &= \langle \phi_0 | \bar{\psi} \gamma_\mu \psi | \phi_0 \rangle = \sum_k \bar{\psi}_k \gamma_\mu \psi_k , \\
\hat{\vec{j}}_\mu &= \langle \phi_0 | \bar{\psi} \gamma_\mu \vec{r} \psi | \phi_0 \rangle = \sum_k \bar{\psi}_k \gamma_\mu \vec{r} \psi_k , \\
\rho_S &= \langle \phi_0 | \bar{\psi} \psi | \phi_0 \rangle = \sum_k \bar{\psi}_k \psi_k , \\
\vec{\rho}_S &= \langle \phi_0 | \bar{\psi} \vec{r} \psi | \phi_0 \rangle = \sum_k \bar{\psi}_k \vec{r} \psi_k
\end{align*}
\]

| \phi_0 \rangle is the nuclear ground state.
Energy density functional:
\[
\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{E}_{RMF}[\jmath_\mu, \rho_s] + \mathcal{E}_{pp}[\kappa, \kappa^*]
\]

Kinetic energy term:
\[
\mathcal{E}_{kin} = \sum_k v_k^2 \int \psi_k^\dagger(r) (-i\alpha \nabla + m) \psi_k(r)
\]

Second order terms:
\[
\mathcal{E}_{2nd} = \frac{1}{2} \int \left[ \alpha_v(\rho_v)\rho_v^2 + \alpha_s(\rho_v)\rho_s^2\alpha_{tv}(\rho_v)\rho_{tv}^2 \right] d^3r
\]

Derivative term:
\[
\mathcal{E}_{der} = \frac{1}{2} \int \delta_s \rho_s \Delta \rho_s d^3r
\]

Pairing contribution:
finite-range separable pairing

Derivative term:
\[
\mathcal{E}_{coul} = \frac{e}{2} \int j_\mu A^\mu d^3r
\]

\[
\alpha_i(\rho) = a_i + (b_i + c_i x) e^{-d_i x} \quad (i \equiv S, V, TV) \quad x = \rho/\rho_{sat}
\]
Binding energies used to adjust the parameters of the DD-PC1 functional

<table>
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<th>$Z$</th>
<th>62</th>
<th>64</th>
<th>66</th>
<th>68</th>
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<td>$N_{\text{max}}$</td>
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</table>

\[
\delta E = -16.06 \text{ MeV}
\]
... energy density functional DD-PC1 ⇒ is it "predictive"? Agreement with experiment?

... functional form of the density dependence ⇒ is it "sloppy"? Large parameter uncertainties when fit to data?

\[
\alpha_s(\rho) = a_s + (b_s + c_s x)e^{-d_s x}
\]
\[
\alpha_v(\rho) = a_v + b_v e^{-d_v x}
\]
\[
\alpha_{tv}(\rho) = b_{tv} e^{-d_{tv} x}
\]

\[x = \frac{\rho}{\rho_{sat}}\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARAMETER</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>$a_s$ (fm$^2$)</td>
<td>-10.0462</td>
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<tr>
<td>$b_s$ (fm$^2$)</td>
<td>-9.1504</td>
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<tr>
<td>$c_s$ (fm$^2$)</td>
<td>-6.4273</td>
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<td>$d_s$</td>
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<td>$a_v$ (fm$^2$)</td>
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<td>$b_v$ (fm$^2$)</td>
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<td>$d_v$</td>
<td>0.6584</td>
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<tr>
<td>$b_{tv}$ (fm$^2$)</td>
<td>1.8360</td>
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<tr>
<td>$d_{tv}$</td>
<td>0.6403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\delta_s$ (fm$^4$)</td>
<td>-0.8149</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Least-square fit to the data

...N data points and the model depends on F dimensionless parameters.

...maximizing the log-likelihood corresponds to minimizing the cost function $\chi^2(p)$:

$$\chi^2(p) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} r_n(p)^2$$

⇒ the residuals:

$$r_n(p) = \frac{O_n^{(mod)}(p) - O_n}{\Delta O_n}$$

⇒ the best model: minimum of $\chi^2$ on the model manifold (manifold of predictions embedded in the data space)

In the quadratic approximation of the cost function $\chi^2$ around the best-fit point:

$$\Delta \chi^2(p) = \chi^2(p) - \chi^2(p_0) = \frac{1}{2} \Delta p^T \hat{M} \Delta p$$

$$\Delta p = p - p_0$$
The symmetric Hessian matrix of second derivatives:

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mu \nu} = \left. \frac{\partial^2 \chi^2}{\partial \mathbf{p}_\mu \partial \mathbf{p}_\nu} \right|_{\mathbf{p}=\mathbf{p}_0}$$

Diagonalization $\Rightarrow \Delta \chi^2(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{2} \Delta \mathbf{p}^T (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{A}^T) \Delta \mathbf{p} = \frac{1}{2} \xi^T \mathbf{D} \xi = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{F} \lambda_\alpha \xi_\alpha^2$

**Stiff direction** $\Rightarrow$ large eigenvalue $\lambda$, $\chi^2$ rapidly worsens away from minimum, the fit places a stringent constraint on this particular linear combination of parameters.

**Soft direction** $\Rightarrow$ small eigenvalue $\lambda$, little deterioration in $\chi^2$. The corresponding eigenvector $\xi$ involves a particular linear combination of model parameters that is not constrained by the observables included in the fit.
Model parameters define an $F$-dimensional Riemann manifold embedded in the $N$-dimensional data space (Euclidian metric for the data space):

$$dr^2 = \sum_m dr_m^2$$

The Jacobian matrix that relates changes in the parameters $\mathbf{p}$ to changes in the residuals:

$$dr_m = \sum_\mu \frac{\partial r_m}{\partial p_\mu} dp_\mu = \sum_\mu J_{m\mu} dp_\mu$$

$$dr^2 = \sum_m dr_m^2 = \sum_{\mu\nu} (J^T J)_{\mu\nu} dp_\mu dp_\nu = \sum_{\mu\nu} g_{\mu\nu} dp_\mu dp_\nu$$

The Euclidean metric of data space induces a metric on the model manifold $g = J^T J$.

Close to the best-fit point the Hessian matrix can be approximated by the metric tensor:

$$M_{\mu\nu} = \left. \frac{\partial^2 \chi^2}{\partial p_\mu \partial p_\nu} \right|_{\mathbf{p}=\mathbf{p}_0} = \sum_m \left. \frac{\partial r_m}{\partial p_\mu} \frac{\partial r_m}{\partial p_\nu} \right|_{\mathbf{p}=\mathbf{p}_0} + \sum_m \left. r_m \frac{\partial^2 r_m}{\partial p_\nu^2} \right|_{\mathbf{p}=\mathbf{p}_0}$$

$$M_{\mu\nu} \approx \sum_m \left. \frac{\partial r_m}{\partial p_\mu} \frac{\partial r_m}{\partial p_\nu} \right|_{\mathbf{p}=\mathbf{p}_0}$$
Model manifolds of nonlinear sloppy models have boundaries that can be analysed using geodesics. The geodesic curve in parameter space corresponds to a curve on the model manifold. The arc length of geodesics on the manifold are a measure of the manifold width in each direction.

The parameters corresponding to a geodesic path can be found as the solution of the differential equation:

\[ \ddot{p}_\mu + \sum_{\alpha\beta} \Gamma^\mu_{\alpha\beta} \dot{p}_\alpha \dot{p}_\beta = 0 \]

\(\rightarrow\) initial value problem in the parameter space.

with the connection coefficients:

\[ \Gamma^\alpha_{\mu\nu} = \sum_{\beta} (g^{-1})_{\alpha\beta} \sum_m \frac{\partial r_m}{\partial p_\beta} \frac{\partial^2 r_m}{\partial p_\mu \partial p_\nu} \]

The boundary of the manifold is identified by the metric tensor becoming singular.
1. Given a model and a set of parameters, determine the best-fit model, calculate the Hessian and identify the eigendirection with smallest eigenvalue.

2. Integrate the geodesic equation using the best-fit parameter values and the eigendirection with smallest eigenvalue as initial conditions, until the boundary of the model manifold is reached.

3. Evaluate the limit associated with this boundary to produce a new model with one less parameters.

4. Optimise the new model by a least-square fit to the data, and use it as a starting point for the next iteration.
Can the parameters of such a density functional form be completely determined by a microscopic nuclear matter EoS?


Density dependence of the couplings:

\[ \alpha_s(\rho) = a_s + (b_s + c_s x)e^{-d_s x} \]
\[ \alpha_v(\rho) = a_v + b_v e^{-d_v x} \]

\[ M_D = m_N + \alpha_s(p_1, \ldots, p_n; \rho_B) \rho_s \]
Sloppy models are characterised by an exponential distribution of eigenvalues of the Hessian matrix $\mathcal{M}$ of second derivatives of $\chi^2(p)$.

Least-squares fit of the EDF parameters to the APR microscopic EoS of symmetric nuclear matter.

Eigenvectors and eigenvalues of the Hessian matrix $\mathcal{M}$ of second derivatives of $\chi^2(p)$.

...empty and filled bars $\Rightarrow$ the corresponding amplitudes contribute with opposite signs.

Sloppy models are characterised by an exponential distribution of eigenvalues of the Hessian matrix $\mathcal{M}$ $\Rightarrow$ exponential sensitivity to parameter combinations!

The initial (best-fit point) and final (at the boundary of the model manifold) eigenspectrum of the FIM, and the initial and final eigenvectors that correspond to the smallest eigenvalues.

Evolution of the seven parameters of the isoscalar part of the functional defined as functions of the affine parametrisation, along the geodesic path determined by the eigenvector of the Hessian matrix that corresponds to the smallest eigenvalue.

\[
\alpha_s(\rho) = a_s + (b_s + c_s \rho) e^{-d_s \rho}
\]

\[
\alpha_v(\rho) = a_v + b_v e^{-d_v \rho}
\]

\[
\alpha_s(\rho_v) = a_s + b_s e^{-d_s \rho}
\]
The initial (best-fit point) and final (at the boundary of the model manifold) density-dependent isoscalar coupling functions, and the corresponding initial and final EoS curves.

\begin{align*}
\alpha_i^\text{init} (\rho) & \quad \alpha_i^\text{fin} (\rho) \\
\alpha_s^\text{init} (\rho) & \quad \alpha_s^\text{fin} (\rho) \\
\alpha_v^\text{init} (\rho) & \quad \alpha_v^\text{fin} (\rho)
\end{align*}

\begin{align*}
\rho \text{ (fm}^{-3}\text{)} & \quad \text{Energy per nucleon (MeV)}
\end{align*}
Second iteration:

\[ \alpha_s(\rho_v) = a_s + b_s e^{-d_s x} \]

\[ \alpha_v(\rho_v) = a_v + b_v e^{-d_v x} \]

The parameters are refitted to data!

Eigenvectors and eigenvalues of the Hessian matrix $\mathcal{M}$ at the best-fit point.

\[ \lambda_1 = 4.6 \times 10^5 \]
\[ \lambda_2 = 1.5 \times 10^4 \]
\[ \lambda_3 = 1104 \]
\[ \lambda_4 = 319 \]
\[ \lambda_5 = 0.7 \]
\[ \lambda_6 = 0.003 \]
\[
\alpha_s(\rho_v) = a_s + b_s e^{-d_s x} \\
\alpha_v(\rho_v) = a_v + b_v e^{-d_v x}
\]

\[
\alpha_v(\rho) \approx a_v + b_v (1 - d_v x) = a_v + b_v - b_v d_v x = \tilde{a}_v + \tilde{b}_v x
\]
The initial (best-fit point) and final (at the boundary of the model manifold) density-dependent isoscalar coupling functions, and the corresponding initial and final EoS curves.
The parameters are refitted to data!

Eigenvectors and eigenvalues of the Hessian matrix $\mathcal{M}$ at the best-fit point

$$\alpha_s(\rho_v) = a_s + b_s e^{-d_s x}$$

$$\alpha_v(\rho_v) = \tilde{a}_v + \tilde{b}_v x$$
\[ \alpha_s(\rho_v) = a_s + b_s e^{-d_s x} \]
\[ \alpha_u(\rho_v) = \tilde{a}_u + \tilde{b}_u x \]

\[
\alpha_s(\rho) \approx a_s + b_s (1 - d_s x) \\
= a_s + b_s - b_s d_s x = \tilde{a}_s + \tilde{b}_s x
\]
\[ \alpha_s(\rho_v) = \tilde{a}_s + \tilde{b}_s x \]
\[ \alpha_v(\rho_v) = \tilde{a}_v + \tilde{b}_v x \]

etc. \(\Rightarrow\) Walecka model, but not possible to get any agreement with experimental binding energies of finite nuclei!
Widths of the model manifold of the EDF in the directions of the eigenvectors of the Hessian matrix at $p_0$, compared to the square-roots of the corresponding eigenvalues.

The widths of sloppy model manifolds are exponentially distributed → hyperribbon.
**Density dependence of the couplings:**

\[
\alpha_s(\rho) = a_s + (b_s + c_s x)e^{-d_s x}
\]

\[
\alpha_v(\rho) = a_v + b_v e^{-d_v x}
\]

\[
\alpha_{tv}(\rho) = b_{tv} e^{-d_{tv} x}
\]

\[
x = \rho / \rho_{sat}
\]

**Derivative term:** \( \delta_s \)

**Softest eigendirection**

\[
\lambda_{10} = 5.7 \times 10^{-1}
\]

**Stiffest eigendirection**

\[
\lambda_1 = 2.5 \times 10^9
\]

---

**NM & finite nuclei:** set of 8 spherical nuclei

\(^{16}\text{O}, ^{48}\text{Ca}, ^{72}\text{Ni}, ^{90}\text{Zr}, ^{116}\text{Sn}, ^{132}\text{Sn}, ^{208}\text{Pb}, ^{214}\text{Pb} – \text{B.E., } r_{ch}, r_n - r_p\)

---

**References:**

First iteration:

\[ \alpha_s(\rho) = a_s + (b_s + c_s x) e^{-d_s x} \]
\[ \alpha_v(\rho) = a_v + b_v e^{-d_v x} \]
\[ \alpha_{tv}(\rho) = b_{tv} e^{-d_{tv} x} \]

\[ \rho (\cdot) = a_s + b_s e^{-d_s x} \]
\[ \rho (\cdot) = \tilde{a}_v + \tilde{b}_v x \]
\[ \rho (\cdot) = b_{tv} e^{-d_{tv} x} \]
Second iteration:

\[ \alpha_s(\rho) = a_s + b_s e^{-d_s x} \]
\[ \alpha_v(\rho) = \tilde{a}_v + \tilde{b}_v x \]
\[ \alpha_{tv}(\rho) = b_{tv} e^{-d_{tv} x} \]

\[ \alpha_s(\rho) = \tilde{a}_s + \tilde{b}_s x + \tilde{c}_s x^2 \]
\[ \alpha_v(\rho) = \tilde{a}_v + \tilde{b}_v x \]
\[ \alpha_{tv}(\rho) = b_{tv} e^{-d_{tv} x} \]
Summary and outlook

Nuclear energy density functionals are sloppy: complex models that can be adjusted to data but are only sensitive to a few stiff parameter combinations, while displaying an exponential decrease of sensitivity to variations of soft parameter combinations.

The exponential distribution of model manifold widths in the directions of the eigenvectors of the Hessian is nearly identical to the distribution of the square roots of the corresponding eigenvalues (sensitivity).

A sloppy multi-parameter model can still be used to make predictions, but its sloppiness really points to an underlying model of lower effective dimension associated with the stiff parameters.

The Manifold Boundary Approximation Method (MBAM) can be used to remove the irrelevant parameters and construct a simpler, non-sloppy functional of lower dimension.