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SIRIUS: a GPU accelerated electronic-structure DFT library

PerfLab seminar series at NHR@FAU Anton Kozhevnikov, CSCS February 11, 2025

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Brief overview of CSCS and its activities in scientific software and libraries development

Swiss National Supercomputing Centre – CSCS



CSCS develops and operates a high performance computing and data research infrastructure that supports world-class science in Switzerland





Accelerated computing at CSCS





#6 in Top500	#3 in Top500	#7 in Top500
2013 ~6.27 PFlop/s	~20 PFlop/s	2024 ~434 PFlop/s

	K20X	P100	GH200
Peak performance	1.17 TFlop/s	4.8 TFlop/s	34 TFlop/s (67 with TC)
GPU memory	6 Gb	16 Gb	96 Gb
GPU memory BW	250 Gb/s	732 Gb/s	4000 Gb/s
H-D transfer speed	32 Gb/s	32 Gb/s	900 Gb/s



ETH Zürich is a swiss partner of LUMI consortium



2019



Platform for Advanced Scientific Computing - PASC

ΡΙ

scientific vision and goals

Application scientist

input cases, analysis and interpretation of results



Computational scientist

translation of formulae to algorithms

Performance and SW engineer

Parallelization, hardware specific know-how (GPUs), development best practices





Scientific software development at CSCS

CSCS vision: complexity of current and emerging HPC platforms and programming models should be reflected in the way we develop scientific software. Encapsulation of common, reusable components of the large scientific codes into domain specific libraries leads to a better software engineering of such codes.



Pros and cons of monolithic and modular applications

	Domain scientists Scientific code "Classic" HPC platform	Domain scientists HPC SW engineers Scientific code Library 1 Library M Architecture 1 Architecture N
Pros	 usually works well on your "home"cluster few dependencies full control of the source code 	 separation of concerns reusability of code less own code to maintain
Cons	 supporting multiple architectures is close to impossible hard to maintain and on-board new developers often a hacky build process on other platforms and environments 	 long-term support of libraries lag in bug fixes requesting new features takes time need to install many dependencies, which is hard to do manually



Common traits for CSCS software development

- Use C++ as a programming language
- Use CUDA/ROCm or Kokkos as a GPU programming model
- Use **CMake** as a build system
- Use **spack** to build dependencies
- CI/CD pipeline that runs both on Github/Gitlab VMs and at CSCS

Each of our libraries:

- supports CMake/spack
- provides C/Fortran API, examples and documentation







SIRIUS: domain-specific electronic structure library

"Delta DFT" effort

DFT METHODS

Reproducibility in density functional theory calculations of solids

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The widespread popularity of density functional theory has given rise to an extensive range of dedicated codes for predicting molecular and crystalline properties. However, each code implements the formalism in a different way, raising questions about the reproducibility of such predictions. We report the results of a community-wide effort that compared **15 solid-state codes**, using 40 different potentials or basis set types, to assess the quality of the Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof equations of state for 71 elemental crystals. We conclude that predictions from recent codes and pseudopotentials agree very well, with pairwise

Science, Volume 351, Issue 6280, Mar 2016

Code	Basis	Electron treatment
Wien2k	LAPW+lo	Full-potential
FLEUR	LAPW+lo	Full-potential
Exciting	LAPW+lo	Full-potential
Elk	LAPW+lo	Full-potential
FHI-aims	Numeric atom-centered orbitals	Full-potential
FPLO	Local orbitals	Full-potential
RSPt	Linear Muffin-Tin Orbitals	Full-potential
Abinit	Plane-waves	Pseudopotential
Quantum ESPRESSO	Plane-waves	Pseudopotential
VASP	Plane-waves	Pseudopotential
GPAW	Plane-waves	Pseudopotential
CASTEP	Plane-waves	Pseudopotential
DACAPO	Plane-waves	Pseudopotential
BigDFT	Daubechies wavelet	Pseudopotential
OpenMX	Pseudo-atomic localized basis functions	Pseudopotential

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Pseudopotential plane-wave method

- Unit cell is mapped to a regular grid
- All functions are expanded in plane-waves
- Atomic potential is replaced by a pseudopotential $\hat{V}_{PS} = V_{loc}(\mathbf{r}) + \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\xi\xi'} |\beta_{\xi}^{\alpha}\rangle D_{\xi\xi'}^{\alpha}\langle\beta_{\xi'}^{\alpha}|$

Basis functions:

$$\varphi_{\mathbf{G}+\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Omega}} e^{i(\mathbf{G}+\mathbf{k})\mathbf{r}}$$

Potential and density:

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\mathbf{G}} V(\mathbf{G}) e^{i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}} \qquad \rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{\mathbf{G}} \rho(\mathbf{G}) e^{i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}}$$





Pseudopotential plane-wave method

- Approximation to atomic potential
- Core states are excluded
- Number of basis functions: ~1000 / atom
- Number of valence states: ~0.001 0.01% of the total basis size
- Efficient iterative subspace diagonalization schemes exist
- Atomic forces can be easily computed
- Stress tensor can be easily computed





Full-potential linearized augmented plane-wave method

- Unit cell is partitioned into "muffin-tin" spheres and interstitial region
- Inside MT spheres spherical harmonic expansion is used
- In the interstitial region functions are expanded in plane-waves

Basis functions:

$$\varphi_{\mathbf{G}+\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{cases} \sum_{\ell m} \sum_{\nu=1}^{O_{\ell}^{\alpha}} A_{\ell m \nu}^{\alpha}(\mathbf{G}+\mathbf{k}) u_{\ell \nu}^{\alpha}(r) Y_{\ell m}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}) & \mathbf{r} \in \mathrm{MT}\alpha \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\Omega}} e^{i(\mathbf{G}+\mathbf{k})\mathbf{r}} & \mathbf{r} \in \mathrm{I} \end{cases}$$



Potential and density:

$$V(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{cases} \sum_{\ell m} V_{\ell m}^{\alpha}(r) Y_{\ell m}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}) & \mathbf{r} \in \mathrm{MT}\alpha \\ \sum_{\mathbf{G}}^{\ell m} V(\mathbf{G}) e^{i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}} & \mathbf{r} \in \mathrm{I} \end{cases} \qquad \rho(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{cases} \sum_{\ell m} \rho_{\ell m}^{\alpha}(r) Y_{\ell m}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}) & \mathbf{r} \in \mathrm{MT}\alpha \\ \sum_{\mathbf{G}}^{\ell m} \rho(\mathbf{G}) e^{i\mathbf{G}\mathbf{r}} & \mathbf{r} \in \mathrm{I} \end{cases}$$





Full-potential linearized augmented plane-wave method

- No approximation to atomic potential
- Core states are included
- Number of basis functions: ~100 / atom
- Number of valence states: ~15-20% of the total basis size
- Large condition number of the overlap matrix
- Full diagonalization of dense matrix is required (iterative subspace diagonalization schemes are not efficient)
- Atomic forces can be easily computed
- Stress tensor can't be easily computed (N-point numerical scheme is required)





Common features of the FP-LAPW and PP-PW methods

- Definition of the unit cell (atoms, atom types, lattice vectors, symmetry operations, etc.)
- Definition of the reciprocal lattice, plane-wave cutoffs, **G** vectors, **G+k** vectors
- Definition of the wave-functions as a 2D array of basis expansion coefficients
 FFT driver
- Generation of the charge density on the regular grid
- Generation of the XC-potential
- Symmetrization of the density, potential and occupancy matrices
- Low-level numerics (spherical harmonics, Bessel functions, Gaunt coefficients, spline interpolation, Wigner D-matrix, linear algebra wrappers, etc.)



Motivation for a common plane-wave DFT library

- Many similar full-potential LAPW codes (Exciting, Elk, FLEUR, Wien2k)
- Many similar pseudopotential PW codes (Quantum ESPRESSO, Abinit, VASP, ...)
- Core DFT functionality is the same (compute total energy, magnetic moments, stress tensor, forces)
- A lot of common functionality between FP-LAPW and PP-PW methods

Accelerating and writing architecture backends for individual DFT codes is a repetition of work!

It is beneficial to develop a common DFT functionality and establish interfaces with various electronic-structure codes.





Where to draw the line?

Output:

wave-functions $\psi_j(\mathbf{r})$ and eigen energies ε_j charge density $\rho(\mathbf{r})$ and magnetization $\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{r})$ total energy E_{tot} , atomic forces \mathbf{F}_{α} and stress tensor $\sigma_{\alpha\beta}$





SIRIUS library

programming model	 C++17 with OpenMP MPI CUDA/ROCm
build system	CMakeSpack
methods	 FP-LAPW (APW, LAPW + any combination of local orbitals) ZORA, IORA PP-PW (NC, USPP, PAW) DFT+U, DFT+U+V
core functionality	 DFT ground state, energy, forces, stress tensor spin-orbit non-collinear magnetism local lattice relaxation (VC-SQNM module)
bindings	 Fortran 90 (ISO_C_BINDING) Pybind11 (at different granularity) Julia
data formats	• JSON • XML • HDF5



SIRIUS is a domain specific library for electronic structure calculations. It implements pseudopotential plane wave (PP-PW) and full potential linearized augmented plane wave (FP-LAPW) methods and is designed for GPU acceleration of popular community codes such as Exciting, Elk and Quantum ESPRESSO. SIRIUS is written in C++17 with MPI, OpenMP and CUDA/ROCm programming models. SIRIUS is organised as a collection of classes that abstract away the different building blocks of DFT self-consistency cycle.

https://github.com/electronic-structure/SIRIUS https://electronic-structure.github.io/SIRIUS-doc/



Fortran API example

```
! initialize the library
call sirius initialize(call mpi init=.true.)
! create simulation context using a specified communicator
call sirius create context(MPI COMM WORLD, handler)
call sirius import parameters(handler, &
    '{"parameters" : {"electronic structure method" : "pseudopotential"},&
      "control" : {"verbosity" : 1, "verification" : 0}}')
! atomic units are used everywhere
! plane-wave cutoffs are provided in a.u.^-1
call sirius set parameters(handler, pw cutoff=40.d0, gk cutoff=7.d0)
lat vec = 0.d0
do i = 1, 3
  lat vec(i,i) = 7.260327248
enddo
! disturb the lattice a little bit
lat vec(1,3) = 0.001
call sirius set lattice vectors(handler, lat vec(:, 1), lat vec(:, 2), lat vec(:, 3))
call sirius add atom type(handler, "Sr", fname="Sr.UPC")
call sirius add atom type(handler, "V", fname="V.UPF")
call sirius add atom type(handler, "0", fname="0.UPF")
```



Interoperability with the host code (high level overview)

Host code interacts with SIRIUS via API (C and Fortran90 bindings are provided)

```
Example:
! create context of simulation
CALL sirius_create_context(intra_image_comm, sctx,&
    &fcomm_k=inter_pool_comm, &
    &fcomm_band=intra_pool_comm, error_code=ierr)
IF (ierr .NE. 0) THEN
    STOP 'error in sirius_create_context()'
END IF
```

Once the simulation parameters are set up, host code calls SIRIUS to find the ground state and get back total energy, lattice stress and atomic forces.

Host code performs the lattice relaxation step and finds new lattice parameters and atomic positions.

SIRIUS setup phase

Create, set and initialize Simulation_context instance

- set lattice vectors, atom types and atomic positions
- set pseudopotential or LAPW basis description
- set plane-wave cutoffs and other simulation parameters
- set XC potential type

Create and initialize K_point_set instance Create and initialize DFT_ground_state instance

SIRIUS execution phase

Run DFT_ground_state and compute total energy, stress and forces components

SIRIUS update phase

Update lattice vectors and atomic positions and recompute dependent variables





GPU backend

- wrappers for cublas and rocblas linear algebra functions
- GPU kernels are written in CUDA/ROCm and compiled separately by nvcc/hip
- main C++ code calls GPU kernels using extern "C" interface
- math primitive functions and types are substituted at compile time

```
#if defined(SIRIUS CUDA)
using acc complex double t = cuDoubleComplex;
#define make accDoubleComplex make cuDoubleComplex
#define accCadd cuCadd
#define accCmul cuCmul
#define ACC DYNAMIC SHARED(type, var) extern shared type var[];
#elif defined(SIRIUS ROCM)
using acc complex double t = hipDoubleComplex;
#define make accDoubleComplex make hipDoubleComplex
#define accCadd hipCadd
#define accCmul hipCmul
#define ACC DYNAMIC SHARED(type, var) HIP DYNAMIC SHARED(type, var)
#endif
```



CUDA / ROCm kernels

```
/* CUDA runtime calls and definitions */
#ifdef CUDA
#define accLaunchKernel(kernelName, numblocks, numthreads, memperblock, streamId, ...)
   do {
        kernelName<<<numblocks, numthreads, memperblock, streamId>>>( VA ARGS );
    } while (0)
#endif
/* ROCM runtime calls and definitions */
#ifdef ROCM
#define accLaunchKernel(...)
   do {
       hipLaunchKernelGGL(__VA_ARGS__);
   } while (0)
#endif
global void add pw ekin gpu kernel(int num gvec , double alpha , double const* pw ekin , acc complex double t const* phi ,
                                      acc complex double t const* vphi , acc complex double t* hphi )
{
   int ig = blockIdx.x * blockDim.x + threadIdx.x;
   if (ig < num gvec ) {</pre>
       acc_complex_double_t z1 = accCadd(vphi__[ig], make_accDoubleComplex(alpha__ * pw_ekin__[ig] * phi__[ig].x,
                                                                           alpha * pw ekin [ig] * phi [ig].y));
       hphi [ig] = accCadd(hphi [ig], z1);
   }
}
/// Update the hphi wave functions.
extern "C" void add pw ekin gpu(int num gvec , double alpha_, double const* pw_ekin_, acc_complex_double_t const* phi_,
                               acc complex double t const* vphi , acc complex double t* hphi )
{
   dim3 grid t(64);
   dim3 grid b(num_blocks(num_gvec__, grid_t.x));
   accLaunchKernel((add pw_ekin_gpu_kernel), dim3(grid_b), dim3(grid_t), 0, 0, num_gvec__, alpha__, pw_ekin__, phi__, vphi__, hphi__);
}
```



Software stack

Sirius DFT m	ini-app	CP2K	l	Quantum ESPRESSO	Exciting	DFT-K	
Native C++ interface Fortra		Fortrar	interfac	ce using ISO_C	BINDING	Julia bindings	Python bindings
	SIRIUS						
NLCGLIB	DLA-F	SpF	FT	SpLA	COSTA	ELPA	LibXC
GPU backends MAGMA libvdwxc					libvdwxc		
NVIDIA CUDA		AMD ROCm		pugixml	GSL		
cuBLAS/cuSOLVER/cuFFT		rocBL	AS/rocSOL	/ER/rocFFT	Umpire	spglib	
System and vendor libraries BLAS LAPACK ScaLAPACK HDF5 FFTW							



CP2K

Starting from v7.1 CP2K supports interface to SIRIUS. Details are available in "CP2K: An electronic structure and molecular dynamics software package - Quickstep: Efficient and accurate electronic structure calculations" // J. Chem. Phys. 152, 194103 (2020)



B. SIRIUS: Plane wave density functional theory support

CP2K supports computations of the electronic ground state, including forces and stresses,^{419,420} in a PW basis. The implementation relies on the quantum engine SIRIUS.⁴²¹

- Possible use cases:
 - Extend CP2K with plane-wave DFT capabilities; use CP2K native or UPF pseudopotentials
 - Run FP-LPAW calculations using CP2K input file without a need to switch to a different code and a different input file. For example, get a reference full-potential total energy in "Delta-DFT" benchmarks within CP2K





Equation of states with CP2K/Sirius

In collaboration with Hossein Mirhosseini, PhD

Center for Advanced Systems Understanding (CASUS) Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf e.V. (HZDR) Conrad-Schiedt-Straße 20, 02826 Görlitz https://www.casus.science



Unaries

Oxides





Exciting code

- PoC interface with SIRIUS was implemented in Exciting long time ago
- Finally! SIRIUS bindings were integrated in the main Exciting branch
- WIP: benchmark and tweak
- Use cases:
 - Enable a GPU backed for Exciting (for both NVIDIA and AMD GPU cards)
 - Enable distributed Hamiltonian setup and diagonalization
 - Enable simulations of large unit cells (>200 atoms)



Exciting benchmark of Mn-MOF

CSCS

Number of atoms: Number of k-points: Number of basis functions: ~Number of bands: ~

Exciting Exciting/SIRIUS

	Intel Broadwell nodes	NVIDIA GH200 nodes	
Number of sockets / node	2	4	
Node performance (TFlop/s)	~1.2	~200	1:166
Total number of nodes	12	1	
One SCF iteration time (sec.)	1000.4	91.065	
Computational cost of a single SCF iteration (node-hours)	3.33	0.025	1:133

Embedded DFT

If your project requires a "black box" DFT solver, SIRIUS can help!

Missing theoretical evidence for conventional room temperature superconductivity in low enthalpy structures of carbonaceous sulfur hydrides

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To elucidate the geometric structure of the putative room temperature superconductor, carbonaceous sulfur hydride, at high pressure, we present the results of an extensive computational structure search of bulk C-S-H at 250 gigapascals. Using the minima hopping structure prediction method coupled to the GPU accelerated Sirius library, more than 17,000 local minima with different stochiometries in large simulation cells were investigated. Only 24 stochiometries are favourable against elemental decomposition, all of them are carbon doped H_3S crystals. The absence of van Hove singularities or similar peaks in the electronic density of states of more than 3.000 candidate phases rules out conventional superconductivity in C-S-H at room-temperature.

Submitted to "Physical Review Materials."









Number of atoms: Number of k-points: Number of basis functions: ~Number of bands: ~

https://github.com/electronic-structure/q-e-sirius

We can run on LUMI-G and Frontier!



Where Sirius is used

Roadmap on electronic structure codes in the exascale era. DOI: 10.1088/1361-651X/acdf06

All-electron APW+lo calculation of magnetic molecules with the SIRIUS domain-specific package DOI: 10.1063/5.0139497

CP2K: An electronic structure and molecular dynamics software package - Quickstep: Efficient and accurate electronic structure calculations DOI: 10.1063/5.0007045

The ternary phase diagram of nitrogen doped lutetium hydrides can not explain its claimed high Tc superconductivity DOI: 10.1088/1367-2630/ad0e1a

Efficient variable cell shape geometry optimization https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcpx.2023.100131

Expansion of the Materials Cloud 2D Database DOI: 10.1021/acsnano.2c11510

How to verify the precision of density-functional-theory implementations via reproducible and universal workflows https://doi.org/10.1038/s42254-023-00655-3

Materials Cloud three-dimensional crystals database (MC3D) DOI: 10.24435/materialscloud:rw-t0

Trends in Atomistic Simulation Software Usage

DOI: 10.33011/livecoms.3.1.1483







A quick introduction to the most important backend libraries of SIRIUS

SpLA





SpLA benchmark

Compute inner product for 2 spins, 8000 bands and ~700K plane-waves

$$O_{ij} = \sum_{\sigma} \sum_{\mathbf{G}} \phi_i^{\sigma*}(\mathbf{G}) \phi_j^{\sigma}(\mathbf{G})$$



NEWS RELEASE 10-NOV-2008

DOE's Oak Ridge supercomputer now world's fastest for open science Business Announcement

DOE/US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OAK RIDGE, Tenn. -- The latest upgrade to the Cray XT Jaguar supercomputer at the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) has increased the system's computing power to a peak 1.64 "petaflops," or quadrillion mathematical calculations per second, making Jaguar the world's first petaflop system dedicated to open research. Scientists have already used the newly upgraded Jaguar to complete an unprecedented superconductivity calculation that achieved a sustained performance of more than 1.3 petaflops.





35

~1.5 PFlop/s





Short description	SpFFT - A 3D FFT library for sparse frequency domain data
Key features	 MPI and OpenMP parallel backends for Nvidia and AMD GPUs via CUDA and ROCm Slab decomposition in space domain and pencil decomposition in frequency domain (1D-2D FFT split, single MPI_Alltoall data exchange) Gamma-point support Unified interface for calculations on CPUs and GPUs
Use cases	Plane-wave codes where FFT is a bottleneck
URL	https://github.com/eth-cscs/SpFFT



SpFFT benchmark



Test: local potential application to 1000 wave-functions

$$\Psi_i(\mathbf{G}) \xrightarrow{FFT^{-1}} \Psi_i(\mathbf{r}) \to \Psi_i(\mathbf{r}) \cdot V_{loc}(\mathbf{r}) \xrightarrow{FFT} [\Psi_i V](\mathbf{G})$$

FFT grid size : 450 x 450 x 450

Number of G-vectors : 23'167'857

DLA-Future

Short description	DLA-Future is a distributed linear algebra library implemented using C++ std::execution which provides generalized symmetric / hermitian eigenvalue solver $A \times Z = \lambda B \times Z$
Key features	 Fully asynchronous task based approach, written in modern C++ MPI parallel Modern C++ and C/Fortran ScaLAPACK-like interfaces ELSI interface Backends for Nvidia and AMD GPUs via CUDA and ROCm
Use cases	Dense matrix diagonalization (arising, for example, in FP-LAPW method)
URL	https://github.com/eth-cscs/DLA-Future
0000	

DLA-F benchmark

- CSCS develops and supports several libraries that can be of use to electronic structure community
- Sirius is an open-source plane-wave electronic structure library that is best suited for embedded DFT calculations
- It implements pseudo-potential and full-potential DFT ground state solvers and can run on NVIDIA and AMD GPU accelerators

Thank you for your attention.

Q & A