Understanding hydrogen bonding with Kohn-Sham MO theory and Energy Decomposition Analysis.



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TCCM ADF Tutorial





## Importance of Resonance-Assistance

#### In Watson-Crick Base Pair AT







# Outline



- 1. B-DNA: Hydrogen bonds in Watson Crick base pairs
- 2. G-DNA: Cooperativity in Guanine Quartets
- 3. Importance of aromaticity for hydrogen bonds

# Kohn-Sham DFT Approach

### **DFT** with **ADF**:

- Accuracy ca. kcal/mol, trends better

#### Adenine - Thymine



Method	N6-H···O4 (Å)	N1…H-N3 (Å)	∆H <sub>298</sub> (kcal/mol)
HF/6-31G**	3.09	2.99	-10.5
HF/cc-pVTZ(-f)	3.06	2.92	-10.5
B3LYP/6-31G**	2.94	2.84	-10.9
BP86/TZ2P	2.85	2.81	-11.8
experiment	2.95	2.82	-12.0

#### Guanine - Cytosine



Method	N2-HO2 (Å)	N1-H…N3 (Å)	06…H-N4 (Å)	∆H <sub>298</sub> (kcal/mol)
	-			
HF/6-31G**	3.02	3.04	2.92	-21.9
HF/cc-pVTZ(-f)	2.92	2.95	2.83	-21.2
B3LYP/6-31G**	2.92	2.93	2.79	-24.0
BP86/TZ2P	2.87	2.88	2.73	-23.8
experiment	2.86	2.95	2.91	-21.0

## Adenine-Thymine with $H_2O$ and $Na^+$



Experimental values: 2.95 Å 2.82 Å

## Adenine-Thymine with H<sub>2</sub>O and Na<sup>+</sup>







Experimental values: 2.95 Å 2.82 Å

## Guanine-Cytosine with H<sub>2</sub>O and Na<sup>+</sup>



Experimental values: 2.91 Å 2.95 Å 2.86 Å





Energy Decomposition Analysis: Closed-Shell Fragments



$$Q_A^{VDD} = -\int_{\substack{\text{Voronoi}\\\text{cell of A}}} \left( \rho^{molecule}(\mathbf{r}) - \sum_B \rho_B(\mathbf{r}) \right) d\mathbf{r}$$

*J. Comput. Chem* **2004**, 25, 189

# I. Watson-Crick Base Pairs



Adenine – Thymine

Guanine – Cytosine

donor-acceptor interactions as important as electrostatic interactions

C. Fonseca Guerra et al., *Chem. Eur. J* **1999**, *5*, 3581 and *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **1999**, *38*, 2942

# I. B-DNA: Energy Decomposition Analysis

	AT	GC
$\Delta E_{\text{Bond}}$	-13.0	-26.5
$\Delta E_{\rm prep}$	2.3	4.1
$\Delta E_{int}$	-15.3	-30.6
$\Delta E_{\rm Pauli}$	39.2	52.1
$\Delta V_{\text{elstat}}$	-32.1	-48.6
ΔE <sub>oi</sub>	-22.4	-34.1

# I. B-DNA: Energy Decomposition Analysis

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$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	-15.3	-30.6
$\Delta E_{\rm Pauli}$	39.2	52.1
$\Delta V_{elstat}$	-32.1	-48.6
ΔE <sub>oi</sub>	-22.4	-34.1
$\Delta E_{\sigma}$	-20.7	-29.3
$\Delta E_{\pi}$	-1.7	-4.8



# I. B-DNA: MO diagrams of AT and GC





Voronoi Deformation Density Method

$$\Delta Q_{\rm A} = - \int_{\substack{\text{Voronoi}\\\text{cell of A}}} \left[ \rho_{\text{pair}}(\mathbf{r}) - \rho_{\text{base1}}(\mathbf{r}) - \rho_{\text{base2}}(\mathbf{r}) \right] d\mathbf{r}$$

Separation of VDD in  $\sigma$  and  $\pi$ :

\*

$$\Delta Q_{\rm A} = \Delta Q_{\rm A}^{\,\sigma} + \Delta Q_{\rm A}^{\,\pi}$$

#### For each irreducible representation:

$$\Delta Q_{\rm A}^{\Gamma} = -\int_{\substack{\text{Voronoi}\\\text{cell of A}}} \left[ \rho_{\rm pair}^{\Gamma}(\mathbf{r}) - \rho_{\rm base1}^{\Gamma}(\mathbf{r}) - \rho_{\rm base2}^{\Gamma}(\mathbf{r}) \right] d\mathbf{r}$$

where 
$$\rho^{\Gamma} = \sum_{i \in \Gamma}^{\text{occ}} |\psi_i^{\Gamma}|^2$$

#### Charge rearrangements with VDD



AdenineThymine $\Delta Q_{\rm Base}$ .03-.03electron



#### Charge rearrangements

$$\Delta Q_{\text{Pauli,A}} = -\int_{\text{Voronoi cell}} \left( \rho_{\text{complex}}^0(\mathbf{r}) - \sum_{\text{subsystems}} \rho_i(\mathbf{r}) \right) d\mathbf{r}$$

$$\Delta Q_{\text{oi},A} = - \int \left( \rho_{\text{complex}}(\mathbf{r}) - \rho_{\text{complex}}^{0}(\mathbf{r}) \right) d\mathbf{r}$$
  
Voronoi cell  
of A in molecule

 $\Delta QPauli, A \text{ and } \Delta Qoi, A \text{ can also be decomposed into contributions of different irreducible representations } \Gamma$ 

### I. B-DNA: charge flow due to Pauli repulsion from VDD





# I. B-DNA: charge flow due to orbital interactions from VDD





# I. B-DNA: Synergy in hydrogen bonds



*RemoveFragOrbitals* 

# I. B-DNA: Synergy in hydrogen bonds $A(\sigma, -)T(-, -) \longrightarrow$ charge flow from **T** to **A** $A(-,-)T(\sigma,-) \longrightarrow$ charge flow from A to T $A(-,\pi)T(-,-) \longrightarrow polarization on A$ $A(-,-)T(-,\pi) \longrightarrow polarization on T$ $A(\sigma, -)T(\sigma, -) \longrightarrow$ only charge transfer $A(-,\pi)T(-,\pi) \longrightarrow$ only polarization









## **I. B-DNA:** Role of $\pi$ electrons

Base pairs calculated with and without  $\pi$ -virtuals



# I. B-DNA: Conclusions on RAHB

- Electrostatic interaction
- Orbital interaction
  - Charge transfer in  $\sigma$  system
  - Some assistance by  $\pi$  delocalisation

#### But also in G-DNA

# 2. G-DNA: Guanine quartet



## 2. G-DNA: In Telomeres



#### Nobel Prize in Medicine 2009

for the discovery of how chromosomes are protected by telomeres and the enzyme telomerase





Blackburn



Greider



Szostak

## 2. G-DNA: In Telomeres





 $4^*\Delta E(\mathsf{G}_2) < \Delta E(\mathsf{G}_4)$ 

## 2. G-DNA: Guanine and Xanthine





## 2. G-DNA: Guanine and Xanthine





 $4 \bullet \Delta E(G_2) < \Delta E(G_4) \qquad 4 \bullet \Delta E(X_4)$ 

 $4 \bullet \Delta E(Xan_2) = \Delta E(Xan_4)$ 

Chem. Eur. J. 2011, 17, 12612
#### 2. G-DNA: Guanine and Xanthine



Chem. Eur. J. 2011, 17, 12612

#### 2. G-DNA: Guanine and Xanthine

Quartet	Symmetry	L	E <sub>bond</sub>
G <sub>4</sub>	S <sub>4</sub>		-79.8
	C <sub>4h</sub>		-79.1
X <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>4</sub>		-66.5
	C <sub>4h</sub>		-65.5

- *G*<sub>4</sub> stronger bound than *X*<sub>4</sub>
- C<sub>4h</sub> symmetry applicable

Chem. Eur. J. 2011, 17, 12612

#### 2. G-DNA: Cooperativity





#### Synergy = $\Delta E_{int} - (4^* \Delta E_{pair} + 2^* \Delta E_{diag})$

# 2. G-DNA: Cooperativity

Quartet	$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	$\Delta E_{sum}$	$\Delta E_{\rm int} - \Delta E_{\rm sum}$
G <sub>4</sub>	-89.1	-68.3	
$G_4$ no $\pi$	-75.4	-61.2	
X <sub>4</sub>	-72.6	-71.1	
X <sub>4</sub> no π	-64.6	-62.2	

#### 2. G-DNA: Cooperativity

Quartet	$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	$\Delta E_{sum}$	$\Delta E_{\rm int}$ –	ΔE <sub>sum</sub>
G <sub>4</sub>	-89.1	-68.3		-20.8
$G_4$ no $\pi$	-75.4	-61.2		-14.3
X <sub>4</sub>	-72.6	-71.1		-1.5
X <sub>4</sub> no π	-64.6	-62.2		-2.4

- cooperativity

- even when  $\pi$  electrons do **NOT** cooperate!

# 2. G-DNA: $G_4 - [B_4] - G_4$



$$\Delta E_{int} = \left[\Delta E(G_{12}) - \Delta E(G_8)\right] - 4^* \left[\Delta E(G_9) - \Delta E(G_8)\right]$$
Quartet
Base

# **2. G**-**DNA**: $G_4 - [B_4] - G_4$

Quartet	$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	$\Delta E_{sum}$	$\Delta E_{\rm int} - \Delta E_{\rm sum}$
G <sub>4</sub>	-87.0	-71.6	
X <sub>4</sub>	-73.4	-72.3	

# 2. G-DNA: $G_4 - [B_4] - G_4$

Quartet	$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	$\Delta E_{sum}$	$\Delta E_{\rm int} - E_{\rm int}$	∆E <sub>sum</sub>
G <sub>4</sub>	-87.0	-71.6		-15.3
X <sub>4</sub>	-73.4	-72.3		-1.1

Cooperativity between H-bonds in stack!

# 2. G-DNA: $G_4 - K^+ - [B_4] - K^+ - G_4$



 $\Delta E_{int} = [\Delta E(G_{12}K_2^{2+}) - \Delta E(G_8K_2^{2+})] - 4*[\Delta E(G_9K_2^{2+}) - \Delta E(G_8K_2^{2+})]$ Quartet
Base

# 2. G-DNA: $G_4 - K^+ - [B_4] - K^+ - G_4$



 Quartet
  $\Delta E_{int}$   $\Delta E_{sum}$  Synergy

  $G_A - K^+ - [G_A] - K^+ - G_A$   $G_A$  -72.7
 -54.8
 -17.9

#### **Cooperativity under "natural" conditions**

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Q





 $G_4$ 

	G <sub>2</sub>	G <sub>3</sub>
	(G+G)	(G <sub>2</sub> +G)
ΔE <sub>oi</sub>	-16.4	-18.3
$\Delta E_{\text{Pauli}}$	30.7	30.0
$\Delta V_{\text{elstat}}$	-26.2	-29.9
$\Delta E_{\rm disp}$	-4.2	-4.4
$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	-16.1	-22.7



	G <sub>2</sub>	G <sub>3</sub>	G <sub>4</sub>
	(G+G)	(G <sub>2</sub> +G)	(G <sub>3</sub> +G)
ΔE <sub>oi</sub>	-16.4	-18.3	-42.1
$\Delta E_{\text{Pauli}}$	30.7	30.0	60.9
$\Delta V_{\text{elstat}}$	-26.2	-29.9	-60.6
$\Delta E_{\rm disp}$	-4.2	-4.4	-8.6
$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	-16.1	-22.7	-50.3

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Ó NH NH







	G <sub>2</sub> (G+G)	G <sub>3</sub> (G <sub>2</sub> +G)	G <sub>4</sub> (G <sub>3</sub> +G)	[G <sub>2</sub> + G -4G <sub>2</sub> -2	<sub>3</sub> + G <sub>4</sub> ] 2G <sub>2diag</sub>
ΔE <sub>oi</sub>	-16.4	-18.3	-42.1		-10.8
$\Delta E_{Pauli}$	30.7	30.0	60.9		-1.4
$\Delta V_{elstat}$	-26.2	-29.9	-60.6		-8.6
$\Delta E_{\rm disp}$	-4.2	-4.4	-8.6		0.0
$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	-16.1	-22.7	-50.3		-20.8



-NH

-NH

-O--HN--

-N---HN--

 $G_3$ 

O N



	G <sub>2</sub> (G+G)	G <sub>3</sub> (G <sub>2</sub> +G)	G <sub>4</sub> (G <sub>3</sub> +G)	[G <sub>2</sub> + G -4G <sub>2</sub> -2	<sub>3</sub> + G <sub>4</sub> ] 2G <sub>2diag</sub>
ΔE <sub>oi</sub>	-16.4	-18.3	-42.1		-10.8
$\Delta E_{Pauli}$	30.7	30.0	60.9		-1.4
$\Delta V_{\rm elstat}$	-26.2	-29.9	-60.6		-8.6
$\Delta E_{\rm disp}$	-4.2	-4.4	-8.6		0.0
$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	-16.1	-22.7	-50.3		-20.8
$\Delta E_{\sigma}$	-14.6	-16.0	-35.9		-7.8
$\Delta E_{\pi}$	-1.8	-2.3	-6.2		-3.0

#### 2. G-DNA: Electrostatic interaction



In mili-electrons

#### 2. G-DNA: MO-diagram





Stronger

Weaker

$$\frac{\left<\sigma_{\text{LP}}\left|\sigma_{\text{N-H}}^{*}\right>^{2}\right.}{E_{\sigma_{\text{LP}}}-E_{\sigma_{\text{N-H}}^{*}}}$$

#### **2. G-DNA:** Donor orbitals $G_4$ (eV)



# 2. G-DNA: Acceptor orbitals $G_4$ (eV)



# 2. G-DNA: Cooperativity G<sub>4</sub>

- about 20 kcal/mol
- in gas phase, stack and telomere
- not due to RAHB!
- due charge separation in  $\sigma$  system

due to covalent component in hydrogen bonds

# **3.** Aromaticity: Why *sp*<sup>2</sup> beats *sp*<sup>3</sup>?



-17.9 kcal/mol

-8.9 kcal/mol

#### **3. Aromaticity:** Resonance-Assisted Hydrogen Bonding

In Watson-Crick Base Pair AT



 $\pi$  electrons "assist" the hydrogen bonds

# 3. Aromaticity: Importance









#### 3. Aromaticity: H-bond distances and energies



#### 3. Aromaticity: Electronic structure of A, T & mimics



# **3.** Aromaticity: MO diagram for AT



# 3. Aromaticity: Occupied orbitals of A

# A A' A"



-5.7



-5.6



-5.8







-10.9

 $\sigma_{\text{HOMO-1}}$ 

*σ*HOMO

# 3. Aromaticity: Unoccupied orbitals of A

#### A A' A"



-0.1



0.4



 $\sigma_{LUMO+1}$ 







 $\sigma_{LUMO}$ 

# 3. Aromaticity: Occupied orbitals of T



 $\sigma_{\text{HOMO}}$ 

 $\sigma_{\text{HOMO-1}}$ 





-7.3



-9.8



		ΔΕ	$\Delta E_{\rm prep}$	$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	$\Delta E_{\text{elstat}}$	$\Delta E_{Pauli}$	$\Delta E_{\sigma}$	$\Delta E_{\pi}$	$\Delta E_{\rm disp}$
А	т	-16.7							
А	T'	-16.4							
А	Τ"	-15.2							
A'	Т	-16.4							
A'	T'	-16.0							
A'	Τ"	-15.2							
Α"	Т	-16.2							
Α"	T'	-16.8							
Α"	Τ"	-16.1							

		ΔΕ	$\Delta E_{\rm prep}$	$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	$\Delta E_{\text{elstat}}$	$\Delta E_{Pauli}$	$\Delta E_{\sigma}$	$\Delta E_{\pi}$	$\Delta E_{\rm disp}$
А	т	-16.7	1.8	-18.5					
А	T'	-16.4	2.0	-18.4					
А	Τ"	-15.2	1.4	-16.7					
A'	т	-16.4	1.8	-18.3					
A'	T'	-16.0	1.9	-17.9					
A'	Τ"	-15.2	1.5	-16.7					
Α"	Т	-16.2	2.3	-18.5					
Α"	T'	-16.8	2.5	-19.4					
Α"	Τ"	-16.1	1.8	-17.9					

		ΔΕ	$\Delta E_{\rm prep}$	$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	$\Delta E_{\text{elstat}}$	$\Delta E_{Pauli}$	$\Delta E_{\sigma}$	$\Delta E_{\pi}$	$\Delta E_{\rm disp}$
А	т	-16.7	1.8	-18.5	-31.9	39.9			
А	T'	-16.4	2.0	-18.4	-31.2	39.4			
А	Τ"	-15.2	1.4	-16.7	-27.3	32.0			
A'	Т	-16.4	1.8	-18.3	-31.0	38.6			
A'	T'	-16.0	1.9	-17.9	-30.0	37.9			
A'	Τ"	-15.2	1.5	-16.7	-26.8	31.3			
Α"	Т	-16.2	2.3	-18.5	-31.2	38.2			
Α"	T'	-16.8	2.5	-19.4	-31.5	38.2			
Α"	Τ"	-16.1	1.8	-17.9	-28.4	32.3			

		ΔE	$\Delta E_{\rm prep}$	$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	$\Delta E_{\text{elstat}}$	$\Delta E_{Pauli}$	$\Delta E_{\sigma}$	$\Delta E_{\pi}$	$\Delta E_{\rm disp}$
А	Т	-16.7	1.8	-18.5	-31.9	39.9	-19.5	-1.6	
А	Τ'	-16.4	2.0	-18.4	-31.2	39.4	-20.0	-1.6	
А	Τ"	-15.2	1.4	-16.7	-27.3	32.0	-15.9	-1.6	
A'	Т	-16.4	1.8	-18.3	-31.0	38.6	-19.0	-1.5	
A'	Τ'	-16.0	1.9	-17.9	-30.0	37.9	-19.3	-1.6	
A'	Τ"	-15.2	1.5	-16.7	-26.8	31.3	-15.6	-1.6	
Α"	Т	-16.2	2.3	-18.5	-31.2	38.2	-19.7	-1.8	
Α"	T'	-16.8	2.5	-19.4	-31.5	38.2	-20.4	-1.9	
Α"	Τ"	-16.1	1.8	-17.9	-28.4	32.3	-16.6	-1.9	

		ΔΕ	$\Delta E_{\rm prep}$	$\Delta E_{\rm int}$	$\Delta E_{\text{elstat}}$	$\Delta E_{Pauli}$	$\Delta E_{\sigma}$	$\Delta E_{\pi}$	$\Delta E_{\rm disp}$
А	т	-16.7	1.8	-18.5	-31.9	39.9	-19.5	-1.6	-5.4
А	T'	-16.4	2.0	-18.4	-31.2	39.4	-20.0	-1.6	-5.0
А	Τ"	-15.2	1.4	-16.7	-27.3	32.0	-15.9	-1.6	-3.9
A'	Т	-16.4	1.8	-18.3	-31.0	38.6	-19.0	-1.5	-5.3
A'	T'	-16.0	1.9	-17.9	-30.0	37.9	-19.3	-1.6	-4.9
A'	Τ"	-15.2	1.5	-16.7	-26.8	31.3	-15.6	-1.6	-3.9
Α"	Т	-16.2	2.3	-18.5	-31.2	38.2	-19.7	-1.8	-4.1
Α"	T'	-16.8	2.5	-19.4	-31.5	38.2	-20.4	-1.9	-3.8
Α"	Τ"	-16.1	1.8	-17.9	-28.4	32.3	-16.6	-1.9	-3.4

#### 3. Aromaticity: Donor-acceptor interactions



-19.4

-16.3
# **3.** Aromaticity: $\sigma$ component of $\Delta Q_{A,oi}$



## **3.** Aromaticity: $\pi$ component of $\Delta Q_{A,oi}$





-17.9 kcal/mol

-8.9 kcal/mol

### 3. $sp^2$ versus $sp^3$ : electrostatics



**A''T''** 

a"t"

#### **3. Energy Decomposition Analysis**





Overlap <A" |T"> increases more than overlap <a" |t">

#### **3. Energy Decomposition Analysis**



**Overlap** <A" |T"> increases more than overlap <a" |t">

#### **3. Energy Decomposition Analysis**





#### 3. MO analysis at $R(sp^2)$

Gross populations: N–H•••O	A″T″		a"t" at R( <i>sp</i> <sup>2</sup> )
$\sigma_{ m LUMO+1}$ of A"	0.02	LUMO+1 of a"	0.01
$\sigma_{ m LUMO}$ of A"	0.01	LUMO of a"	0.02
σ <sub>HOMO</sub> of T"	1.95	HOMO of t"	2.00
$\sigma_{ m HOMO-1}$ of T"	2.00	HOMO-1 of t"	1.96
σ <sub>HOMO</sub> of T"	-5.85 eV	HOMO-1 of t"	-6.54 eV



#### 3. MO analysis at $R(sp^2)$

Gross populations: N•••H–N	Α″Τ″		a"t" at R( <i>sp</i> ²)
$\sigma_{ m LUMO+1}$ of T"	0.04	LUMO+1 of t"	0.02
$\sigma_{ m LUMO}$ of T"	0.03	LUMO of t"	0.01
σ <sub>HOMO</sub> of A"	1.91	HOMO of a"	1.93
$\sigma_{ m HOMO-1}$ of A"	2.00	HOMO-1 of a"	1.99
$\sigma_{\rm HOMO}$ of A"	-5.80 eV	HOMO of a"	-6.31 eV
$< \sigma_{\rm HOMO}   \sigma_{\rm LUMO} >$	0.23	< HOMO   LUMO >	0.10



# 3. $sp^2$ and $sp^3$ : Conclusions

- $\pi$  assistance is not exclusively due to aromaticity
- sp<sup>2</sup> systems have stronger hydrogen bonds than sp<sup>3</sup>: due to enhanced electrostatic interactions and also better covalent interactions.

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### Further reading on RAHB

- CEJ 1999, 5, 3581
- JACS 2000, 17, 12612
- CEJ 2011, 17, 12612
- CEJ 2014, 20, 9494
- PCCP, 2015, 17, 1585
- ChemOpen, 2015, 4, 318

http://www.few.vu.nl/~guerra/



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