



# Introduction of the NWChem software



[www.emsl.pnl.gov](http://www.emsl.pnl.gov)

  
Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY

Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965



# EMSL is a National Scientific User Facility at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory



EMSL—the Environmental Molecular Science Laboratory—located in Richland, Washington, is a national scientific user facility funded by the DOE. EMSL provides integrated experimental and computational resources for discovery and technological innovation in the environmental molecular sciences to support the needs of DOE and the nation.



William R. Wiley, founder

## William R. Wiley's Vision:

An innovative multipurpose user facility providing *“synergism between the physical, mathematical, and life sciences.”*

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Proudly Operated by **Battelle** Since 1965

- NWChem is part of the Molecular Science Software Suite



## MS<sup>3</sup>

MOLECULAR SCIENCE  
SOFTWARE SUITE



## NWCHEM

HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTATIONAL  
CHEMISTRY SOFTWARE



## GA TOOLS

PARALLEL COMPUTING LIBRARIES  
AND SOFTWARE TOOLS

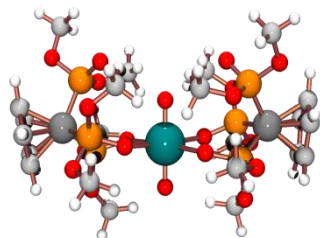
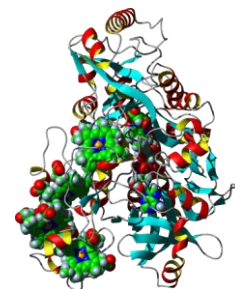
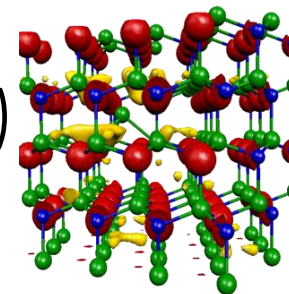
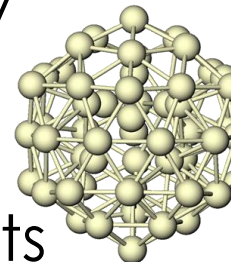
- Designed and developed to be a highly efficient and portable **Massively Parallel** computational chemistry package
- Provides computational chemistry solutions that are scalable with respect to chemical system size as well as MPP hardware size

- Designed for parallel architectures
- Emphasis on modularity, portability, and integration
- Portable – runs on a wide range of computers
  - ◆ Supercomputer to Mac or PC with Windows
- Uses Global Arrays/ARMCI for parallelization
- **NWChem 6.8 is open-source and freely available**

<http://www.nwchem-sw.org/>

<http://github.com/nwchemgit/nwchem>

- Provides major modeling and simulation capability for molecular science
  - ◆ Broad range of **molecules**, including **biomolecules**, **nanoparticles** and heavy elements
  - ◆ Electronic structure of molecules (non-relativistic, relativistic, ECPs, first and second derivatives)
  - ◆ **Solid state** capability (DFT plane-wave, CPMD)
  - ◆ Molecular dynamics, molecular mechanics
- About 340/year publications citing NWChem



# NWChem's core developer team



*Edoardo Aprà*  
*DFT & HPC*



*Eric Bylaska*  
*Plane wave methods*



*Niri Govind*  
*Density functional theory*

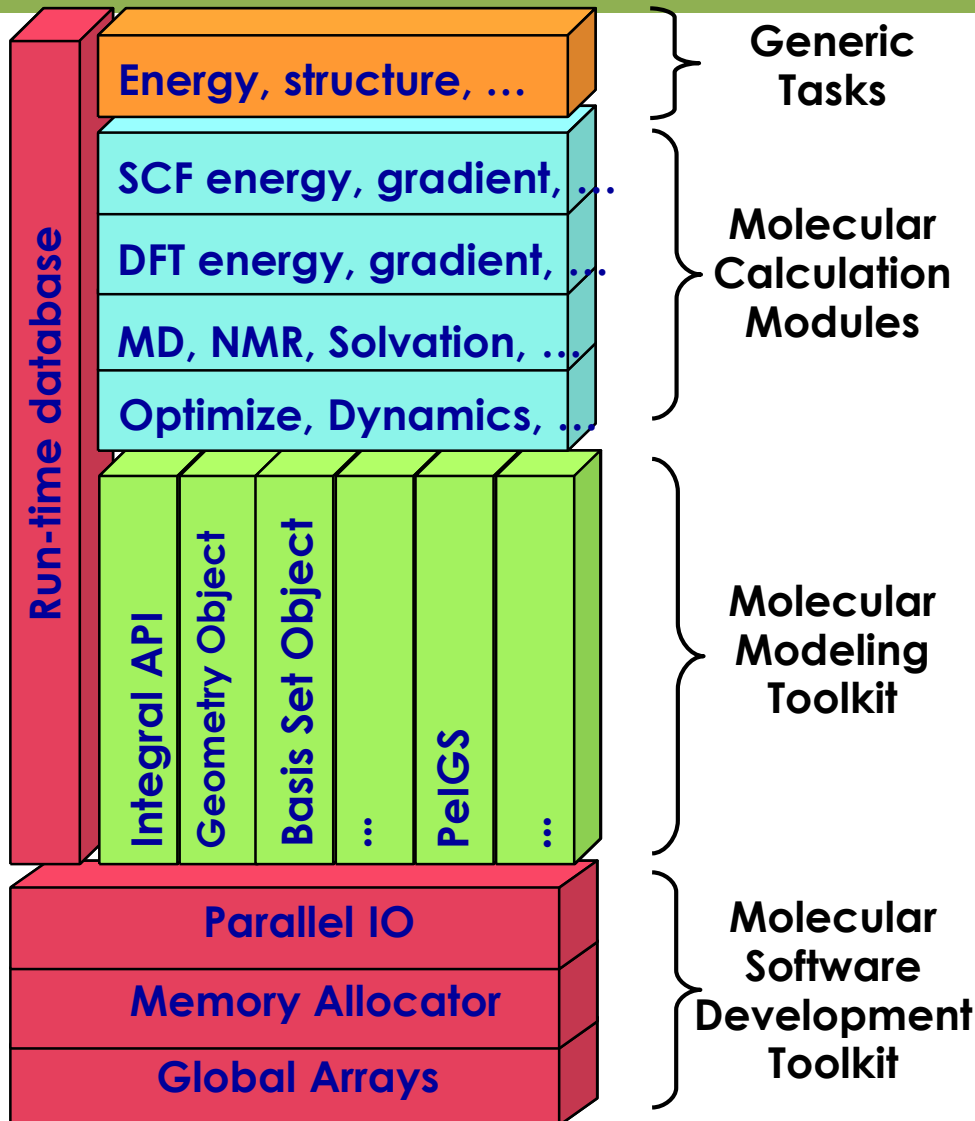


*Karol Kowalski*  
*Correlated Methods*



*Marat Valiev*  
*QM/MM*

- NWChem brings a full suite of methodologies to solve large scientific problems
  - ◆ High Accuracy Methods → MP, CC, EOMCC, MRCC
    - Ground & Excited States & Linear response
  - ◆ Gaussian-based DFT/TDDFT
    - Ground & Excited States, Optimization, Properties (NMR, Electric field gradient, linear response,...)
  - ◆ Plane wave based DFT
    - Car-Parinello MD (CPMD), Band Structure, Optimization, etc.
  - ◆ Molecular Dynamics, Molecular Mechanics
  - ◆ Integrated Methodologies → QM/MM
  - ◆ Scripting → Python



- **Object-oriented design**
  - abstraction, data hiding, APIs
- **Parallel programming model**
  - non-uniform memory access, **Global Arrays, MPI**
- **Infrastructure**
  - GA, Parallel I/O, RTDB, MA, ...
- **Program modules**
  - communication only through the database
  - persistence for easy restart



- Electronic structure methods for single point calculations
- Geometry optimization and transition state search
- Vibrational HF and DFT
- Spectroscopic properties (UV/Vis, IR, Raman, X-ray, NMR, EPR, non-linear optical properties)
- Chemical reactions in solutions: solvation models
- Relativistic effects
- Dynamics on a ground state potential energy surface
- Free Energy Sampling Techniques
- partial atomic charges from Electrostatic Potential (ESP)

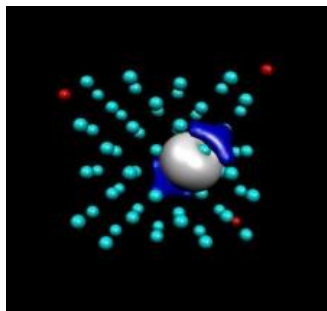
- Gaussian based DFT → Finite systems (molecules, clusters, nanostructures)
  - Wide range of local and non-local exchange-correlation functionals
    - LDA & GGA XC functionals
    - Wide range of hybrid functionals (B3LYP, PBE0, HF exchange, ...)
    - Meta-GGA functionals
    - Minnesota functionals (M05, M06, M11, etc ...)
    - Range separated functionals
    - DFT + D implementation (long-range empirical vdW)
  - Spin-orbit DFT
    - ECP, ZORA, DK
  - Constrained DFT
  - IR frequencies
  - Linear-response & Real-time TDDFT TDDFT for excited states → Optical spectroscopy (UV/Vis, XAS, ...)
  - Various properties (NMR, Linear response, Raman, ...)

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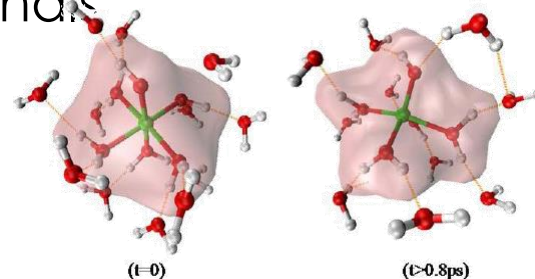
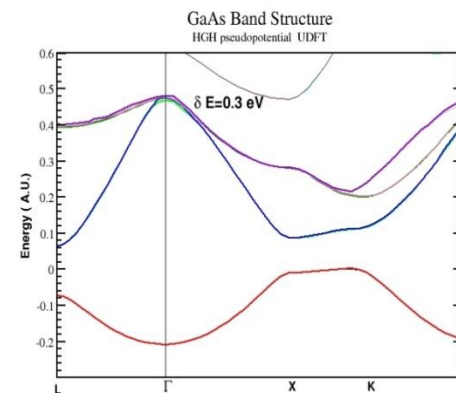
- Coupled Cluster
  - ◆ Closed shell coupled cluster [CCSD and CCSD(T)]
  - ◆ Tensor contraction engine (TCE)
    - Spin-orbital formalism with RHF, ROHF, UHF reference
    - CCSD,CCSDT, ...
    - CCSD(T), CR-CCSD(T), ...
    - EOMCCSD,EOMCCSDT
    - Linear response CC (polarizabilities, hyperpolarizabilities)
    - Active-space CCSDt/EOMCCSDt
    - Multi-reference CC : BW-MRCCSD, Mk-MRCCSD, BW-MRCCSD(T), Mk-MRCCSD(T)

- Plane wave density functional theory
  - ◆ Gamma point pseudopotential and plane wave
  - ◆ Band structure (with spin-orbit ZORA)
  - ◆ Extensive dynamics functionality Car-Parrinello
  - ◆ AIMD QM/MM molecular dynamics, e.g. SPC/E, CLAYFF solid state MD
  - ◆ Various exchange-correlation functionals
    - LDA, PBE96, PBE0, B3LYP
    - Exact exchange
  - ◆ SIC and OEP

SIC localization

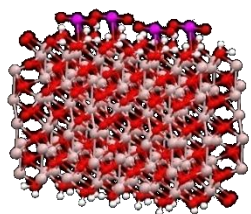


## Spin-Orbit splitting in GaAs

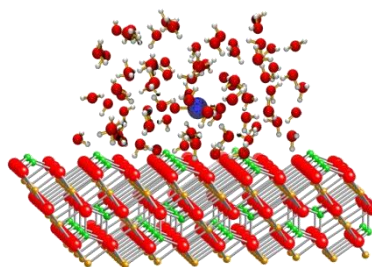


Car-Parrinello provides evidence for five-coordinate  $\text{Al}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4\text{OH}_2^+$   
Swaddle et al, **Science**, 2005

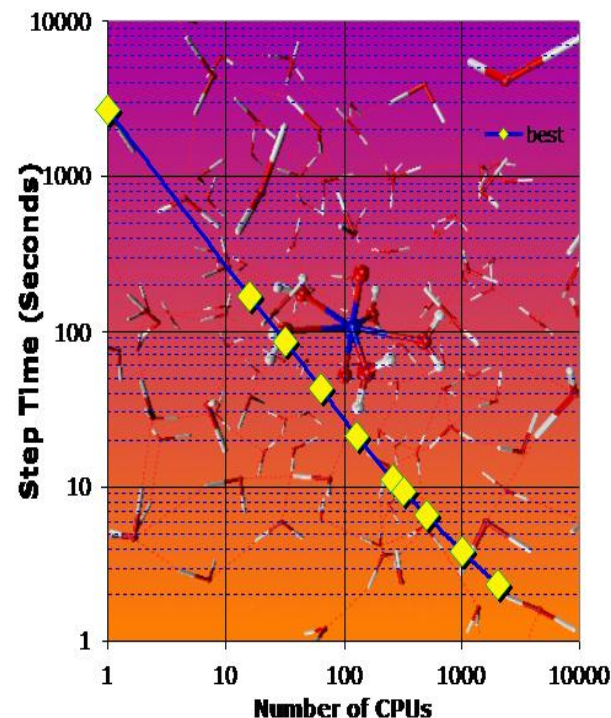
- Can handle charged systems
- A full range of pseudopotentials and a pseudopotential generator
- A choice of state-of-the-art minimizers
- Can also do plane-wave QM/MM



*Uranyl on a hydroxylated  $Al_2O_3$  surface*

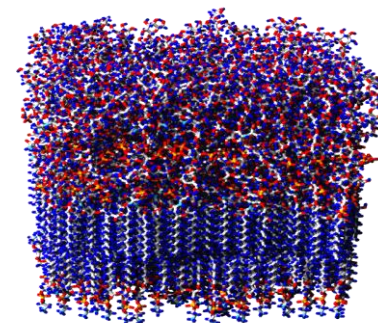


*Uranyl in solution interacting with iron oxide*



Car-Parrinello plane wave performance, PBE96 GGA Functional, -300 K thermostat, 0.121 fs time step, 122 water molecules-15.6 Å box

- Molecular dynamics
  - ◆ Charmm and Amber force fields
  - ◆ Various types of simulations:
    - Energy minimization
    - Molecular dynamics simulation including *ab initio* dynamics
    - Free energy calculation
    - Multiconfiguration thermodynamic integration



- Seamless integration of molecular dynamics with Coupled Cluster and DFT
  - ◆ Optimization and transition states
  - ◆ QM/MM Potential of Mean Force
  - ◆ Modeling properties at finite temperature
    - Excited States with EOMCC, TDDFT
    - Polarizabilities with linear response CC
    - NMR chemical shift with DFT
  
- QM/MM for pathways
  - ◆ NEB-QM/MM approach for Reaction Pathway Calculations
  - ◆ Free energy calculation



## New Gaussian basis AIMD module

- Compatible with all Gaussian basis function based electronic structure methods in NWChem
  - ◆ Will work with numerical gradients if analytical gradients are absent
- Molecular systems, finite clusters
- Velocity Verlet
- NVE and NVT ensembles
  - ◆ Berendsen<sup>1</sup>, Langevin<sup>2</sup>, and stochastic velocity rescaling<sup>3</sup>
- Standalone program provided to analyze trajectories

<sup>1</sup>Berendsen, *et al. J. Chem. Phys.* **81**, 3684–3690 (1984)

<sup>2</sup>Bussi, Parrinello, *Phys. Rev. E* **75**, 056707 (2007)

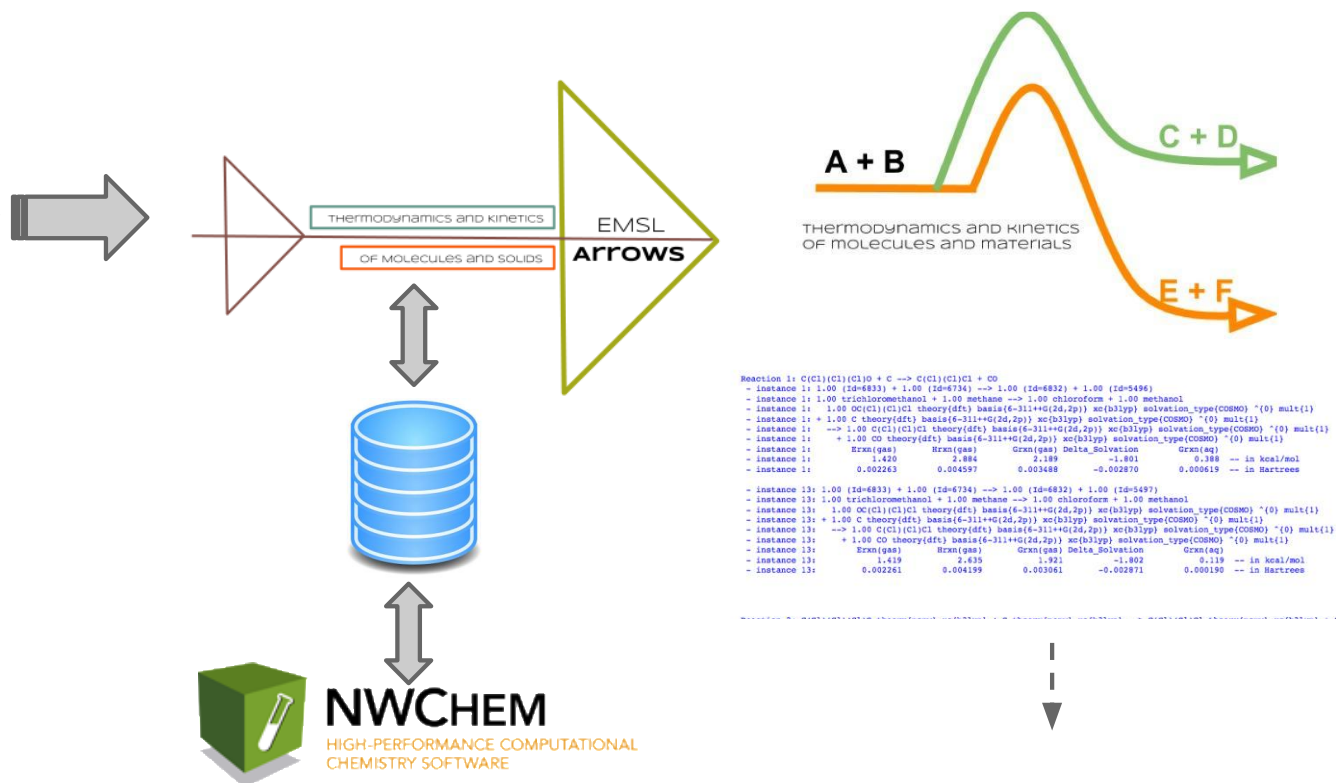
<sup>3</sup>Bussi, *et al. J. Chem. Phys.* **126**, 014101 (2007)

- Other functionality available in NWChem
  - ◆ NMR shielding and indirect spin-spin coupling
  - ◆ COSMO
  - ◆ ONIOM
  - ◆ Relativity through spin-orbit ECP, ZORA, and DK
  - ◆ Electron transfer
  - ◆ Vibrational SCF and DFT for anharmonicity
  - ◆ Module for dynamic nucleation theory Monte Carlo
  - ◆ Interface with VENUS for chemical reaction dynamics
  - ◆ Interface with POLYRATE, Python
  - ◆ Interface with NBO

# EMSL Arrows: Making molecular modeling accessible

- **EMSL Arrows** is a very simple way to use NWChem.
- The user emails chemical reactions to [arrows@emsl.pnnl.gov](mailto:arrows@emsl.pnnl.gov) and
- then an email is sent back with thermodynamic, reaction pathway (kinetic), spectroscopy, and other results.

reaction: C(Cl)(Cl)(Cl)O + C → C(Cl)(Cl)Cl + CO  
reaction: C(Cl)(Cl)(Cl)S + C → C(Cl)(Cl)Cl + CS  
reaction: C(Cl)(Cl)(Cl)O theory{pspw} xc{b3lyp} + C theory{pspw} xc{b3lyp} → C(Cl)(Cl)Cl theory{pspw} xc{b3lyp} + CO theory{pspw} xc{b3lyp}



- Packages available from Linux distributions (e.g. RPM)
  - ◆ Mostly well built and read for desktop computers
  
- When starting from source, be sure of
  - ◆ Use the most efficient GA/ARMCI
  - ◆ Link with optimized BLAS and Scalapack
  - ◆ Play nicely with compilers ...
  - ◆ Validate installation with Q&A suite
  - ◆ Follow the compilation hints from the NWChem website
  - ◆ We can help you, please contact us at <http://www.nwchem-sw.org>

- Keep it simple
  - ◆ Most of the defaults are suited for most cases
- Use direct algorithms
  - ◆ HF/DFT direct algorithm prevent I/O
  - ◆ Default is I/O that might not be suitable for your HW
- Use memory based algorithms (a.k.a in-core)  
When enough aggregate memory is available,

- DFT, PSPW, BAND, HF, MP2, CCSD(T)
- Reaction thermodynamics for molecular systems
- Reaction paths for molecular systems
- IR, Raman spectra, UV-vis for molecular systems, phonon spectra for materials systems
- NMR and EXAFS spectra for molecular and materials systems
- Energetics, structures, and band structures of crystals using the Crystal Open Database
- A variety of datafiles can be returned including XYZ files, CIF files, NWChem output files

- Minimal input (all defaults)

```
geometry
```

```
  n  0.00 0.00 0.00
```

```
  n  0.00 0.00 1.08
```

```
end
```

```
basis
```

```
  n library cc-pvdz
```

```
end
```

```
task scf
```

- Performs a closed-shell SCF on the N<sub>2</sub> molecule

- Input can be in Angstrom or atomic units

```
geometry # units are in angstroms
```

```
C 0 0 0  
H 0 0.9885 -0.4329  
H 0 -0.9885 0.4329  
end
```

OR

```
geometry units au # change units to a.u.
```

```
C 0 0 0  
H 0 1.868 -0.818  
H 0 -1.868 0.818  
end
```



- Water molecule with  $C_{2v}$  symmetry

```
geometry units au #input using symmetry
C 0 0 0
H 0 1.868 -0.818
symmetry c2v
end
```

- $C_{60}$  with  $I_h$  symmetry

```
geometry #bonds = 1.4445 and 1.3945 Angstrom
symmetry Ih
c -1.2287651 0.0 3.3143121
end
```

- By default NWChem will:
  - ◆ Attempt to find **symmetry** if none is specified
  - ◆ Attempt to build a **z-matrix** from cartesian coordinates (for the geometry optimization)
  - ◆ **Center** the molecule in the reference frame
  - ◆ The input below turns off these three steps (not recommended!)

```
geometry noautoz noautosym nocenter
C 0 0 0
H 0 0.9885 -0.4329 #Angstroms
H 0 -0.9885 0.4329
end
```

- Geometry can be specified using a z-matrix format

```
geometry
zmatrix
O
H1 O 0.95
H2 O 0.95 H1 108.0
end
end
```

- Distances and angles can be specified with variables

```
geometry
  zmatrix
  O
  H1 O doh
  H2 O doh H1 ahoh
  variables
  ahoh 108.0
  doh 0.95
end
end
```

- Forcing internal coordinates (use with care ...)

```
geometry
Si    0.0000E+00  0.0000E+00  0.0000E+00
H     -0.9436E+00 -0.8807E+00  0.7319E+00
H      0.7373E+00 -0.8179E+00 -0.9932E+00
H     -0.7835E+00  0.1038E+01 -0.7137E+00
Si    0.1699E+01  0.1556E+01  0.1695E+01
H      0.7715E+00  0.2377E+01  0.2511E+01
H      0.2544E+01  0.6805E+00  0.2539E+01
H      0.2514E+01  0.2381E+01  0.7713E+00
```

end

### fix the Si-Si distance to 4.0 angstroms ###

geometry adjust # initial state

zcoord

bond 1 4 4.00 r constant

end

end

- Crystal lattice, used in plane wave code, for 3-D periodic systems (crystals)

```
geometry units angstroms center noautosym noautoz print
system crystal
  lat_a 3.625d0      #diamond
  lat_b 3.625d0
  lat_c 3.625d0
  alpha 90.0d0
  beta  90.0d0
  gamma 90.0d0
end
C   -0.50000d0 -0.50000d0 -0.50000d0
C   0.00000d0  0.00000d0 -0.50000d0
C   0.00000d0 -0.50000d0  0.00000d0
C  -0.50000d0  0.00000d0  0.00000d0
C  -0.25000d0 -0.25000d0 -0.25000d0
C   0.25000d0  0.25000d0 -0.25000d0
C   0.25000d0 -0.25000d0  0.25000d0
C  -0.25000d0  0.25000d0  0.25000d0
end
```

- Atoms can be defined by symbol and name

```
basis
  O library cc-pvdz
  H library cc-pvdz file /home/me/nwchem/libraries/
end
```

- \* can be used to state that all atoms in the system should be using the same basis set type

```
basis
  * library cc-pvdz
end
```

- Basis set input can be done with exponents and coefficients

**basis spherical**

**H s**

**13.0100 0.019685**

**1.9620 0.137977**

**0.4446 0.478148**

**0.1220 0.501240**

**H s**

**0.1220 1.000000**

**H p**

**0.7270 1.000000**

**end**



- Libraries and explicit input can be used together

```
basis spherical
  * library cc-pvdz
H p
  0.007270 1.000000
end
```

- In sync with Basis Set Exchange
  - ◆ <https://bse.pnl.gov>

- Task directive tells NWChem what it should do

```
task scf # default is energy
task scf energy

task dft optimize
task dft saddle
task ccscf frequencies

task pspw optimize

task md dynamics
```

- Tasks are preformed in sequence as listed in input

**task scf energy**

**task dft optimize ignore # ignore if failed, go to next task**

**task dft saddle**

**task ccsc frequencies**

- To restart NWChem will need certain files, that should be saved in permanent directory

```
start ne
permanent_dir /users/me
geometry
  ne 0 0 0
end
basis
  ne library cc-pvdz
end
task scf
```

```
restart ne
permanent_dir/users/me
scf
  thresh 1e-8
end
task scf
```

- If NWChem fails with an error asking for more memory, you can set it explicitly

**memory 2400 mb**

- Remember, memory is per processor!
- By default, molecules have a neutral charge (0)

**charge -1**

# NWChem web pages



A screenshot of a Mozilla Firefox browser window displaying the NWChem website. The browser's address bar shows the URL "http://www.nwchem-sw.org/index.php/NWChem\_Documentation". The website header includes the NWChem logo (a green cube with a white pencil) and the text "NWCHEM HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTATIONAL CHEMISTRY SOFTWARE". A navigation menu contains links for "Main Page", "Science", "Benchmarks", "Download Code", "Documentation", "News", "Community", and "Developers". A search bar with a "Go" button and a "Search" label is located in the top right. The main content area is titled "NWChem Documentation" and includes an "Overview" section with a list of links: "Comprehensive Suite of Scalable Capabilities", "Getting Started", "Top-level Directives", "NWChem Architecture", and "Running NWChem". Below this are sections for "System Description", "Quantum Mechanical Methods", "Classical Methods", and "Hybrid Methods", each with a list of sub-links. At the bottom of the page, there is a "Potential Energy Surface Analysis" section. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the system tray with the date "12/1/2010" and time "12:38 PM".

<http://www.nwchem-sw.org>

# NWChem Mailing List



Screenshot of the NWChem Community Forums website. The browser address bar shows <http://www.nwchem-sw.org/index.php/Special:AWI>. The page features the NWChem logo (HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTATIONAL CHEMISTRY SOFTWARE) and a navigation menu with links: Main page, Science, Benchmarks, Download Code, Documentation, Ongoing Projects, News, Community, and Developers. Below the navigation is the "NWChem Community Forums" section, described as a "Discussion forum for the NWChem open-source software". It includes a search bar and a table of forum categories.

NWChem's corner	Topics	Replies	Last Post
<b>Feedback</b> Any kind of feedback: positive, negative, neutral, etc ... For example: I have tried ten times to download the tarball file for NWChem 6.5 and the download never completed in full	5	16	<a href="#">URL structure for NWChem documentation</a> Mar 9th 10:13 am Mernst
<b>General Topics</b> General topics related to NWChem	426	915	<a href="#">Error during dplot calculations</a> Mar 27th 3:41 pm Aniruddha
<b>QMMM</b> Questions related to QM/MM calculations	94	168	<a href="#">TiO2 MD simulation</a> Mar 16th 8:35 am Saeed1
<b>Compiling NWChem</b> Topics related to compiling NWChem from source	222	950	<a href="#">Compiling issue.</a> Mar 20th 4:05 pm Edoapra
<b>Running NWChem</b> Topics related to running NWChem	496	1322	<a href="#">Diffuse Basis set error</a> Mar 26th 1:08 pm Edoapra
<b>NWChem functionality</b>	198	362	<a href="#">Rotation Entropy for non-Abelian point group sym a...</a> Mar 19th 8:00 am



<https://github.com/nwchemgit/nwchem>

- **Source code repository**
- **Release files**
- **Documentation in wiki format**
- **Issue channel for bug reports**

# Questions ... ?