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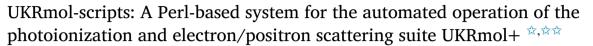
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Computer Programs in Physics



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ABSTRACT

UKRmol-scripts is a set of Perl scripts to automatically run the UKRmol+ codes, a complex software suite based on the R-matrix method to model fixed-nuclei photoionization and electron- and positron-scattering for polyatomic molecules. Starting with several basic parameters, the scripts operatively produce all necessary input files and run all codes for electronic structure and scattering calculations as well as gather the more frequently required outputs. The scripts provide a simple way to run such calculations for many molecular geometries concurrently and collect the resulting data for easier post-processing and visualization. We describe the structure of the scripts and the input parameters as well as provide examples for photoionization and electron and positron collisions with molecules. The codes are freely available from Zenodo.

Program summary

Program Title: UKRmol-scripts

Licensing provisions: GPLv3 Programming language: Perl

Nature of problem: Performing *ab initio* photoionization and low energy electron- and positron-scattering on polyatomic molecules requires selecting and setting a significant number of input parameters in order to model the physics in a numerically accurate way. These scripts streamline setting up and analyzing calculations based on the R-matrix method [1] using the UKRmol+ suite [2].

Solution method: The scripts provide automatic generation of input files and execution of programs from the UKRmol+ suite [2] using a number of parameters that describe both physical models and machine-dependent settings, and also outputs of the previous programs in the suite which are automatically read and analyzed. The resulting output files are then post-processed to collect target and scattering data for further analysis and simple plotting.

Additional comments including restrictions and unusual features: The scripts should be used with releases 3.2 of UKRmol-in and UKRmol-out [3] although they are compatible with earlier versions.

References

- P.G. Burke, R-Matrix Theory of Atomic Collisions: Application to Atomic, Molecular and Optical Processes, Springer, Berlin, 2011.
- [2] Z. Mašín et al., UKRmol+: a suite for modelling electronic processes in molecules interacting with electrons, positrons and photons using the R-matrix method, Comput. Phys. Commum. 249 (2020) 107092.

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[★] The review of this paper was arranged by Prof. F. Martin.

^{††} This paper and its associated computer program are available via the Computer Physics Communications homepage on ScienceDirect (http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/00104655).

[3] UKRMol+: UKRMol-in 3.2, https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5799110, 2021; UKRMol+: UKRMol-out 3.2, https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5799134, 2020.

1. Introduction

The increasing computational power available to Atomic, Molecular, and Optical (AMO) physicists has made it possible to run ever more accurate calculations to investigate photon and lepton-induced processes. This has led to more sophisticated, and therefore complex, software suites that require the user to provide input for several interrelated programs which need to be run, serially or in parallel, in a specific order. This is particularly true when the systems under study are molecules and computational chemistry approaches are used to generate the electronic wave functions.

One of the most established AMO codes for ab initio description of the electronic continuum of molecules is the UKRmol+ suite [1]. It is an implementation of the time-independent R-matrix method [2,3] to treat molecular photoionization, low-energy electron and positrons scattering for molecules and to provide input to the R-matrix with time-dependence codes RMT [4]. RMT models atoms and molecules in intense, ultrashort, arbitrarily-polarized laser pulses [5,6]. Among the processes that have been modeled for atoms using RMT are: attosecond transient absorption spectroscopy [7], reconstruction of attosecond beating by interference of two-photon transitions (RABBITT) with skewed laser polarisation [8], and XUV-initiated high harmonic generation (HHG) [9].

The UKRmol+ and RMT suites have so far been used to study one-photon and strong-field ionization and RABBIT time-delays for some diatomic and triatomic molecules [10,11]. In addition, UKRmol+ implements a recently developed time-independent approach to calculate transition moments for the multiphoton ionization, for any number of photons, of molecules in the perturbative regime [12]. The approach can be applied to the calculation of RABBIT time-delays [11], photoionization cross sections, and laboratory-frame photoelectron angular distributions.

Running the UKRmol+ suite for different types of physical processes requires, in principle, producing input files for between 5 and 10+ programs, defining both the models that will be used to describe the physics and the technical characteristics of the particular run, from executables to use, to the number of nodes, tasks, etc. The generation of input files for several consequently executed programs, in particular, is prone to human error: inconsistencies can lead to calculations that either fail or, worse still, produce physically meaningless results and in the process unnecessarily use up computing resources. Moreover, when calculations for many molecular geometries are needed, the manual generation of all inputs can also be tedious and time-consuming.

These problems were recognized and addressed for the UKRmol+ suite and its predecessor (the UKRmol suite [13]) around 10 years ago. A set of Perl scripts, named UKRmol-scripts, was developed to simplify the running of the suite and make it more accessible. The scripts produce the input for all the programs in the suite, run the codes in the appropriate order, and collect the data in a user-friendly format for analyzing, plotting, and comparing. They are significantly more straightforward to master by new users than the UKRmol+ suite itself but allow sufficient sophistication to enable cutting-edge calculations to be performed. The scripts are reasonably straightforward to modify, enabling users to include additional input if required and to update them as new functionality is introduced in the UKRmol+ suite. The scripts are available for download from Zenodo [14].

There have been other approaches to make UKRmol+, and other AMO codes, user-friendly. For example, a commercial package, QEC [15], is available to drive UKRmol+. A wider initiative, to make a range of AMO codes available to users, is the AMOSGateway [16,17]: this is a free, easy-to-use platform that gives access to a number of software suites that calculate cross sections for photoionization, electron and positron scattering, and solutions of the time-dependent Schrödinger equation in the presence of strong and ultrafast electromagnetic fields.

In this paper, we describe the UKRmol-scripts in detail. Our aim is to encourage more researchers to use them together with the UKRmol+suite and exploit the software capabilities to treat photoionization processes, in particular those induced by ultrashort laser pulses. Section 2 briefly describes the UKRmol+ suite; Section 3 details the use of the UKRmol-scripts, Sections 4, 5 and 6 describe the specifics of running scattering, photoionization, and RMT input calculations respectively, including a description of the examples provided with the release. Section 7 describes some newer models to generate the target and all system configurations. Finally in Section 9, we present some brief conclusions.

2. The UKRmol+ suite

A detailed description of the UKRmol+ suite can be found in [1]. The codes are freely available for download from Zenodo [18,19]. Releases include a set of CMake scripts for the configuration, compilation, testing, and installation of the suite. The suite makes use of the GBTOlib library [20] for computing the required integrals.

The basis of the R-matrix approach is the separation of space into two regions. The boundary between them is a sphere of radius a. In the outer region, correlation as well as exchange between the unbound particle (when it is an electron) and the molecular electrons can be neglected. In the inner region, these effects need to be taken into account. Quantum chemistry approaches, including the use of Gaussian-type orbital (GTO) basis sets and configuration interaction, are employed to describe both the neutral or cationic bound molecular target states and those of the (anionic or neutral) target + unbound particle system. In the outer region, the interaction potential between the target and the unbound particle is modelled in terms of a multipole expansion.

The suite requires external quantum chemistry codes, such as Molpro [21], Molcas [22], or Psi4 [23], to generate bound molecular orbitals. The unbound particle is described in the inner region through the use of purpose-built Gaussian and/or B-spline basis sets, GTOs and BTOs respectively, to represent the continuum [1]. The configuration state functions used to describe both the target and the whole system need to be carefully selected to accurately describe the physics of the problem while ensuring the calculation remains tractable.

The suite allows the user to determine quantities associated with photoionization (cross sections, asymmetry parameters, Dyson orbitals, etc.) including the transition dipole moments for the R-matrix states. The latter, together with some additional information, can be packaged as input data to run RMT calculations. Alternatively, the user can compute electronically elastic and inelastic integral cross sections for electron and positron scattering, as well as resonance energies and lifetimes for the former collision. Output from the suite, in the form of scattering data (K, S, or T-matrices), can be used, for example, to determine angular differential cross sections.

We strongly recommend reading this paper in conjunction with the paper on the UKRmol+ suite [1] where all programs mentioned below are described in detail.

Table 1
Input in dirs.pl indicating the paths where executables, basis sets, templates, and output are located.

parameter	description	format
bin_in	directory for UKRmol-in executables	string
bin_out	directory for UKRmol-out executables	string
molpro	directory for Molpro executable	string
psi4	directory for Psi4 executable	string
molcas	directory for Molcas executable	string
basis	directory where basis sets are	string
templates	directory where input templates are	string
libs	directory where libraries are	string
output	main directory for output in the working directory	string

3. The UKRmol-scripts

The UKRmol+ scripts consist of three Perl libraries (modules) placed in the directory <code>lib</code> and several Perl script files in the directory <code>scripts</code>. The module <code>dirfile.pm</code> contains general routines for dealing with files and directories, <code>ukrmollib.pm</code> specific routines for working with the UKRmol+ suite, and <code>MultiSpace.pm</code> routines for multiple active space (MAS) support. The driving script <code>main.pl</code>, which operatively prepares inputs, runs programs, and reads and collects their outputs, is called from the command line as

The auxiliary scripts dirs.pl, ..., model.pl contain all necessary settings, options, and parameters in the form of Perl hash arrays for a specific calculation and are described in detail below. Moreover, the scripts use the Perl library ForkManager.pm [24] for a simple parallelization (over target geometries and/or symmetries) if requested.

To run the UKRmol+ scripts successfully, it is first necessary to modify the settings in dirs.pl. Here, paths and directories are specified where the executable files of the UKRmol+ suite and Molpro, Molcas, or Psi4 are installed and where a copy of the directories input.templates and basis.sets, which are a part of the UKRmol-scripts package, are placed. The input.templates directory provides templates used by the scripts to prepare the inputs for UKRmol+ programs where all strings of the form >>>...<<< are replaced with appropriate values determined from the parameters and available outputs. The basis.sets directory contains standard GTO basis files for both bound molecular and continuum orbitals. The latter are generated separately using other programs from the UKRmol+ suite which are not driven by the scripts. The path to the directory lib can also be specified either by setting the environment variable PERL5LIB or using -I when running the Perl command.

The other three scripts, <code>config.pl</code>, <code>geometry.pl</code>, and <code>model.pl</code>, are used to set up a specific calculation. In <code>config.pl</code>, the user can specify options regarding the overall run of the scripts (whether to run a scattering or photoionization calculation, what quantities to save, etc.). In the script <code>model.pl</code>, all <code>physical</code> parameters characterizing the target and scattering models, except the geometries of the molecule, are specified. One or several geometries of the molecule can be given or generated in various ways in <code>geometry.pl</code>. We now describe the content of these files in detail. Note that the order of parameters given in the tables does not necessarily correspond to the order in the scripts.

3.0.1. Nomenclature for photoionization/scattering calculation

The UKRmol+ codes and the scripts run calculations for electron-molecule scattering or photoionization. In each case, a slightly different convention is used to define the total number of electrons in the system in the published R-matrix literature, cf. [25]. In the case of electron-molecule collisions, the number of electrons of the target molecule is N so the total number of electrons is N+1. In photoionization, the total number of electrons is denoted as N and is referred to as the initial (usually neutral) state of the molecule. The "target" states in the photoionization case are then the final (usually positive ion) (N-1)-electron states of the ionized molecule. In this paper, we follow the convention for electron scattering. Regardless of the type of calculation, the scripts specify in nelectrons the number of electrons of the "target" molecule (i.e. without accounting for the electron that is/will be unbound), see below.

3.1. Directories input

Paths to the UKRmol+, Molpro, Molcas, and Psi4 executables and to a copy of the directories input.templates and basis.sets are specified in dirs.pl. Molpro, Molcas, or Psi4 are used to generate bound molecular orbitals, but it is possible to run the UKRmol-scripts using an existing Molden file if appropriately placed in the directory structure. Table 1 lists all the parameters in dirs.pl.

3.2. Geometry input

The molecular geometry is provided in the <code>geometry.pl</code> file together with some additional parameters. It is possible to run the scripts for a single geometry or for a range of geometries that are explicitly specified or generated in the script. Table 2 lists first the general geometry-related parameters set in <code>geometry.pl</code> and then those specifying a particular geometry. The latter parameters form one hash array for each given geometry and can be copied manually or generated automatically in the script to get an array of all geometries. The scripts provide subroutines that help the user to generate geometries by stretching particular bonds or along one or more coupled normal vibrational modes and also a subroutine to read geometries from one or several files in Molden format [26]. Examples of how to generate a range of geometries are provided with the UKRmol-scripts package in the directory <code>examples</code>.

Parameters start_at_geometry and stop_at_geometry are only used when calculations are run for more than one geometry. It can be useful, for example, if a particular run fails for some geometries and one, therefore, needs to restart it from a certain geometry, or to manually parallelize the execution on a computer cluster. To run all generated geometries set stop_at_geometry to zero.

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Table 2} \\ \textbf{Geometry-related input in geometry.pl. Here and below, a_0 denotes the Bohr radius, the atomic unit of length.} \\ \end{tabular}$

parameter	description	format
General parameters		
suffix	added to output directory name to distinguish runs	string
geometry_labels	labels used on the first line of output files	string
correct_cm	translate geometry so the center of mass and the origin of coordinates coincide	1: yes, 0: no
length_unit	units for the coordinates	0: a ₀ , 1: Å
start_at_geometry	only run for geometries number $\geq n$	integer n
stop_at_geometry	only run for geometries number $\leq n$	integer n
Specific geometry paramete	ers	
description	identifies each geometry in output files	string
gnuplot_desc	identifies each geometry in plot files	string
atoms	each atom is specified by its symbol and its Cartesian coordinates in a single array, e.g. as in ["H", 0.0, 0.0, 0.0]	array of arrays

Table 3
Basic configuration parameters in config.pl.

parameter	description	format
suffix	name to distinguish different runs	string
print_info	where runtime messages are	string
	printed, possible values are file,	
	screen, or none	
add_files_to_backup	additional files to back up	array of strings
molpro	whether Molpro will be used	0: no, 1: yes
psi4	whether Psi4 will be used	0: no, 1: yes
scattering	run the whole calculation or only	0: target only,
	the target part	1: all
photoionization	calculate photoionization cross	0: no, 1: yes
	sections	
rmt_interface	generate RMT input	0: no, 1: yes
skip_radden	skip using RADDEN to calculate	0: no, 1: yes
	radial densities	
skip_time_delay	skip calculating time-delays	0: no, 1: yes
gather_data	gather data in a single directory	0: no, 1: yes
clean	remove intermediate files after	0: no, 1: yes
	run except integrals file	
remove_moints	remove integrals file after run	0: no, 1: yes
save_eigenph	save eigenphase sums in named	0: no, 1: yes
	files	
save_xsec	save cross sections in named files	0: no, 1: yes
save_channels	save channel data in named files	0: no, 1: yes
save_rmat_amp	save raw boundary amplitudes in	0: no, 1: yes
	named files	
save_Kmatrix	save K-matrices in named files	0: no, 1: yes
save_Tmatrix	save T-matrices in named files	0: no, 1: yes
keep_inputs	keep input files	0: no, 1: yes
keep_outputs	keep output files	0: no, 1: yes
bound	run bound state calculation	0: no, 1: yes

3.3. Configuration input

The file config.pl enables the user to specify runtime options of the calculation. Table 3 lists the basic parameters of the run. The user should modify them according to which quantum chemistry codes are available, what type of calculations to perform (photoionization, RMT input, electron/positron scattering, or target structure only), what output data to save in named files, etc.

By default, all files given on the command line after perl main.pl are saved into directory scripts_backup; add_files_to_backup enables the user to choose additional files to be saved.

The scripts can generate molecular orbitals either using the Molpro or Psi4 packages. The user must set either molpro, or psi4 to 1 and the other to 0. Similarly, photoionization and rmt_interface are also mutually exclusive. However, scattering needs to be set to 1 even when photoionization or RMT input calculations are run.

Computation of radial densities using RADDEN and time delays is by default turned off, i.e. parameters skip_radden and skip_time_de-lay are set to 1. Instead of RADDEN it is much more efficient to compute the radial densities directly as part of the integral calculation done

Table 4
Expert configuration parameters for parallel execution and evaluation of integrals in config.pl.

parameter	description	format	
Options for parallel e	xecution		
parallel_geom	number of geometries to run in parallel	integer	
parallel_symm	number of symmetries to run in parallel	integer	
mpi_integrals	MPI launcher command for SCATCI INTEGRALS	string	
mpi scatci	MPI-SCATCI launcher command	string	
mpi_rsolve	MPI_RSOLVE launcher command	string	
Runtime options for SCATCI_INTEGRALS			
buffer_size	size of temporary arrays for integral transformation	integer	
delta_r1	length in a_0 of elementary radial quadrature needed for evaluation of mixed BTO/GTO integrals	real	
transform_alg	integral transformation algorithm, 0: auto, 1: sparse, > 1: dense	integer	

Table 5
Other expert configuration parameters in config.pl.

parameter	description	format
use_templates	generate input files from	0: no, 1: yes
	templates; if not, rerun	
	calculations with user-modified	
	input files	
use_cdenprop	force use of CDENPROP for target	0: no, 1: yes
1	calculation	
ight and ighs	diagonalization method for the	integer
	target and all-electron	
	calculation, respectively;	
	-1: Arpack, 0: Davidson,	
	1: Givens-Householder,	
	2: automatic	
use_saved_ramps	use amplitudes and channel data	0: no, 1: yes
	saved from a previous run	
run_{eigenp,	selection of which (scattering)	0: no, 1: yes
tmatrx, ixsecs,	outer region programs to run; all	
reson,	can be typically switched off for	
time_delay}	photoionization runs and RMT	
	data production	
dipelm_smooth	whether to smooth dipole	integer
	moments, 0: raw data,	
	1: smoothed data, 2: both	
only	which subset of programs to run,	string
	list of programs given in one	
	string separated by a pipe	

by SCATCI_INTEGRALS. This is readily achieved by setting the variable calc_radial_densities = .true. in the input template file scatci_integrals.inp. The radial density for each orbital is then output to a separate file in the root directory for the calculation. This information is helpful to determine the appropriate R-matrix radius. When gather_data is set to 1, data like cross sections, eigenphase sums, etc. for different geometries are collected in files that are mainly placed in the collected_scattering_data directory. The subsequent parameters in Table 3 can be used to control the deletion of temporary files created during the run and the saving of various output files.

The last parameter in Table 3, bound, can be used to set up calculations when the energies of possible bound states of the total system are needed, without performing scattering calculations. In this case, all integrals are evaluated over the whole radial range, that is, avoiding cutting off the 'tails' beyond the *R*-matrix radius, as done for inner region R-matrix calculations.

In addition to the basic runtime options explained above, there are expert options in config.pl. First, in Table 4, the options for parallel execution and evaluation of integrals by the code SCATCI INTEGRALS are listed. Second, in Table 5, other expert options are summarized.

The user can decide whether to run two or more geometries and/or symmetries in parallel and whether to execute parallel versions of some programs. In the case of mpi_integrals, mpi_scatci and mpi_rsolve, the MPI launcher command should be given explicitly, for example: mpirun -np 32. When these are left empty, SCATCI INTEGRALS is run serially and the older, serial versions of SCATCI and RSOLVE are used.

When BTO or mixed BTO/GTO continuum basis sets are used, the parameter transform_alg should be set to 1 as using these basis sets results in large sparse matrices.

Expert options in Table 5 are provided for users who need to run calculations in a special setting or to run particular codes only. These options are briefly described in the table and more details can be found in config.pl. They should be used with care.

Table 6Available point groups and order of their irreducible representations.

Point Group	Order of irreducible representations
D_{2h}	A_g , B_{3u} , B_{2u} , B_{1g} , B_{1u} , B_{2g} , B_{3g} , A_u
C_{2v}	A_1, B_1, B_2, A_2
C_{2h}	A_g , A_u , B_u , B_g
D_2	A, B_3, B_2, B_1
C_2	A, B
C_s	A', A'',
\mathbf{C}_{i}	A_g, A_u
C_1	A

Table 7
General information about the target molecule in model.pl.

parameter	description	format
molecule	name of the molecule, e.g. its chemical formula, used for directory names etc.	string
atoms	all the atoms in the molecule given by their standard symbols in one array	array of strings
nelectrons symmetry	number of target electrons point group of the molecule	integer string

3.4. Model input

Settings in model.pl describe the physical model used for a particular calculation and are the main input required from the user. Since there are many parameters in model.pl it is convenient to group them as follows:

- general information about the target molecule,
- · units to be used for outputs,
- · details of molecular orbitals and their spaces, target states, scattering model, and total space-spin symmetries,
- · settings for multiple active space approach,
- · details of the pseudo-continuum orbitals,
- · details of the continuum basis set,
- · settings for the outer region calculation.

In addition to the groups above, some other parameters can be set. Each group of parameters is explained in detail in this section except the settings for the multiple active space approach which are described separately in Section 7.1. Most of the parameters are required for all types of calculations (photoionization, electron scattering, positron scattering, or the generation of input for RMT) but some are only needed for some of them. When this is the case, it is stated explicitly.

Several of the parameters in model.pl, such as the number of orbitals or target states used, are entered as arrays of integers, where each integer corresponds to an irreducible representation of the point group of the target molecule, chosen by the user. The position of each number in the array indicates the irreducible representation (or simply the symmetry) with the order as shown in Table 6. Since UKRmol+ works only with the basic Abelian groups listed in the table, the maximum number of symmetries is 8. When changing the point group to one with fewer symmetries (irreducible representations), it is not necessary to delete redundant elements as the scripts use only those elements up to the actual number of irreducible representations. It is recommended to set these redundant elements to zero anyway to avoid confusion.

3.4.1. General information about the target molecule

Table 7 summarizes the basic information regarding the molecule that should be given in model.pl. We note that atoms should include all the atoms in the molecule, so for example, for H₂O this will be:

The number of electrons of the target set in nelectrons can differ from the number for the neutral molecule. The charge of the target is then determined by the scripts from this parameter and atoms. The point groups that can be specified in symmetry are listed in Table 6. Note that the scripts do not check the consistency of this option with the geometry settings in geometry.pl so the user should ensure that they are consistent.

3.4.2. Units to be used for outputs

Units for the output produced in the calculations, that are set in model.pl, are summarized in Table 8.

3.4.3. Details of molecular orbitals and their spaces, target states, scattering model, and total space-spin symmetries

The parameters that define the type of molecular orbitals to be generated and how these are going to be split into the different frozen, active, and virtual spaces determine a large part of the physics that will be modelled in the calculation. Table 9 summarizes them. Note that the term *frozen* is used for both closed orbitals in SCF calculations and frozen orbitals in CI calculations in model.pl and thus the number of these orbitals is the same in basic models. More flexible models can be set up using the MAS approach, see Section 7.1.

Table 8
Units to be used for outputs in model.pl.

parameter	description	format
r_unit	units of length 0: a_0 , 1: Å	integer
e_unit	energy units 0: E_b , 1: Ry, 2: eV	integer
x_unit	units for the cross sections 0: a_0^2 , 1: \mathring{A}^2	integer

Table 9
Details of the molecular orbital construction, orbital spaces, scattering model, and states in close-coupling expansion in model.pl.

parameter	description	format
basis	name of the basis set	string
orbitals	which type of orbitals are generated	string
	HF: Hartree-Fock, natural: CASSCF or	
	MASSCF	
charge_of	use orbitals of target or all-electron	string
	system (scattering), only used for	
	photoionization or RMT	
select_orb_by	which ordering of orbitals to use	string
	molden or energy	
ncasscf_states	number of target states of each spin	hash array of
	and space symmetry to be averaged if	integer arrays
	a SA-CASSCF calculation is run	
model	scattering model	string
	SE, SEP, CHF-A, CHF-B, CAS-A,	
	CAS-B, or CAS-C	
nfrozen	number of frozen (closed) target	integer
	orbitals	
nactive	number of active target orbitals	integer
nvirtual	number of virtual orbitals used to	integer
	build L^2 functions	
nreference	number of reference orbitals	integer
frozen_orbs	frozen orbitals for each symmetry	integer array
active_orbs	active orbitals for each symmetry	integer array
virtual_orbs	virtual orbitals for each symmetry	integer array
reference_orbs	reference orbitals for each symmetry	integer array
ntarget_states	number of target states of each total	hash array of
	spin and symmetry for which energy	integer arrays
	and permanent and transition moments are calculated	
		:t
ntarget_states_used	number of target states included in	integer
	the close-coupling expansion	hash amou of
scattering_states	which total symmetries to run the scattering calculation for	hash array of
	scattering calculation for	integer arrays

The basis sets that can currently be indicated in basis and used are those provided with the package (in the basis.sets directory). The user can create the file for other standard (or tailor-made) basis sets.

The parameter charge_of is only used for photoionization or RMT input calculations and indicates whether orbitals for the target (usually a cation) or the total system are to be used.

As the scripts always use the first *n* orbitals (for all symmetries or each symmetry) requested by the user it is important to select an appropriate ordering using <code>select_orb_by</code>. When this is set to *molden*, the orbitals are used in the order in which they are saved in the Molden file. If set to *energy*, then the orbitals are used in energy order. This parameter is irrelevant if Hartree-Fock orbitals, which are always ordered by energy, are used.

The UKRmol-scripts will run either Molpro, Psi4, or Molcas to generate bound molecular orbitals, either using the Hartree-Fock (HF) method, the state-averaged complete active space self-consistent field (SA-CASSCF) approach, or the state-averaged multiple active space self-consistent field (SA-MASSCF) approach (which comes in two variants SA-ORMASSCF and SA-GASSCF). For details on how to set up the last approach, which is only available when using Molpro or Molcas, see Section 7.1. Table 10 summarises which quantum chemistry methods can be used with each quantum chemistry code.

When the SA-CASSCF approach is chosen, the frozen and active spaces as well as the states to be averaged, need to be selected. The latter is done using ncasscf_states to indicate how many states of each space-spin symmetry are averaged; note that currently the scripts only allow for state-averaging with equal weights for all the states. The frozen and active spaces will also be used to generate the target and total (all-electron) wave functions in the UKRmol+ suite, with the addition of some virtual orbitals.

The parameter model defines how the total wavefunctions are going to be built. The scattering models correspond to the standard approximation levels in low-energy electron and positron scattering [3,1]: static or static-exchange (SE), for positrons and electrons respectively, static plus polarization or static-exchange plus polarization (SEP), or close-coupling (CAS) where the choice of A, B or C leads to different types of L^2 functions. Additional models CHF-A and CHF-B are described in Sec. 7.

Table 10Quantum chemistry methods available in the scripts; 'irrep' stands for irreducible representation.

Method	Molpro 2021.2	Psi4 1.7	Molcas 8.4
HF	✓	/	/
CASSCF	✓	1	✓
ORMASSCF	✓		
GASSCF			✓
State Averaging: Single irrep	✓	1	✓
State Averaging: Multiple irreps	✓		
State Averaging: Multiple spins	✓*		

^{*}Not when using ORMASSCF.

Table 11
Details of the pseudo-continuum orbitals in model.pl.

parameter	description	format
use_PCO	switch to include PCO basis	0: no; 1: yes
reduce_PCO_CAS	selects which configurations to include	0: no; 1: yes
maxl_PCO	highest partial wave used in the PCO GTO basis	integer
PCO_alpha0	α_0 for PCO generation	real array
PCO_beta	β for PCO generation	real array
num_PCOs	number N_e of PCO generated	integer array
PCO_gto_thrs	threshold for allowed continuum GTO exponents	real array
PCO_delthres	deletion threshold for orthogonalization	real array

The number of frozen, active, and virtual orbitals to be used is set by nfrozen, nactive, and nvirtual parameters. By default, they will be selected in the order indicated by select_orb_by. However, it is possible to request a specific number of orbitals of each symmetry by using frozen_orbs, active_orbs, and virtual_orbs. The total number of chosen orbitals of each type must be equal to nfrozen, nactive, and nvirtual.

For SE calculations, no excitations of the target electron to virtual orbitals are included. For SEP calculations, the L^2 functions only involve single excitations from the active space into the virtual space. For close-coupling calculations, the active orbitals are used in the generation of the configurations for the target and the total wave functions. The virtual orbitals, in all cases, are only used to build the L^2 functions.

Parameters nreference and reference_orbs do not impact the physics described. They are required as input to program CONGEN that builds the configuration state functions for target and total wave functions relative to a reference determinant. Providing nreference and reference_orbs is particularly useful in the case of electron-rich targets and, when possible, it is suggested that all orbitals occupied in the ground state of the target plus a few additional orbitals of each symmetry are used.

For close-coupling calculations, one must set ntarget_states_used to the number of target states to be included in the close-coupling expansion. The program will select the ntarget_states_used lowest states out of the total number of states for which target properties are evaluated. Using ntarget_states the user can request that these properties are calculated for a specific number of states of each possible space-spin symmetry. The spin needs to be stated explicitly (so, for a target with an even number of electrons, 'singlet' and 'triplet' are usually specified) and then the number of states of each symmetry.

It is usually helpful to set ntarget_states such that the total number of states for which properties are calculated is larger than ntarget_states_used. This enables the user to check and ensure that no states are skipped in the close-coupling expansion as this could lead to non-physical features in the evaluated physical quantities [3].

In UKRmol+, once the integrals are evaluated, the inner region calculations are run separately for each space-spin symmetry of the total system. Sometimes (for example, if a specific resonance is to be investigated), it is desirable to run calculations for a reduced number of space-spin symmetries and scattering_states can be used for this purpose. As with ntarget_states, the spin needs to be stated explicitly (so, for a total system with an odd number of electrons, 'doublet' and 'quartet' are usually specified) and then a zero or one to indicate if that space-spin symmetry is required.

3.4.4. Details of the pseudo-continuum orbitals

The R-matrix with pseudostates method (RMPS) [27] is a generalization of the close-coupling method that uses an extra set of target orbitals, known as pseudo-continuum orbitals (PCO), to provide a representation of the discretized continuum in the inner region. Table 11 lists the parameters in model.pl associated with the use of PCOs and pseudostates.

The molecular implementation of this method uses even-tempered GTOs [28] where the exponents are determined by:

$$\alpha_i = \alpha_0 \times \beta^{i-1}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N_e. \tag{1}$$

Values of α_0 , β , and N_e can differ for each partial wave, thus parameters PCO_alpha0, PCO_beta, and num_PCOs are actually arrays of values. If these orbitals are not required, set use PCO to zero and there is no need to modify any of the other parameters.

There is no restriction in principle on the maximum partial wave to be included. However, due to the computational cost of this additional basis set, this is normally kept as low as or lower than the maximum partial wave for the continuum orbitals. To avoid severe linear dependence,

 Table 12

 Parameters defining continuum orbitals in model .pl.

parameter	description	format
use_GTO	switch to use GTOs	0: no; 1: yes
radius_GTO	which GTO continuum basis to use	integer
maxl_GTO	highest partial wave for GTOs	integer
use_BTO	switch to use BTOs	0: no; 1: yes
start_BTO	radius where the BTOs start	integer
rmatrix_radius	R-matrix radius, where the BTOs	real
	end	
order_BTO	order of the BTOs	integer
no_of_BTO	number of BTOs	integer
maxl_BTO	highest partial wave used for BTOs	integer
delthres	deletion thresholds for the	real array
	continuum orthogonalization, one	
	per symmetry	
maxl_legendre_1el	maximum L in Legendre expansion	integer
	for nuclear attraction integrals	
maxl_legendre_2el	maximum L in Legendre expansion	integer
	for 2-electron integrals	

PCO_gto_thrs ensures that the exponents of continuum and PCO GTOs are not too similar: continuum basis functions with exponents equal or bigger than PCO_gto_thrs are removed from the basis. If set to -1, then a default value of PCO_alpha0 \times (PCO_beta - 1) is used as threshold.

When PCOs are used, these are orthogonalized to the target bound orbitals first and then the continuum orbitals are orthogonalized to the set of target orbitals + PCOs. The parameter PCO_delthres contains deletion thresholds for each symmetry that fulfills the same role as delthresh for the continuum (see below and Table 12).

When PCOs are included in the calculation, target and total configurations involving single (and in the latter also double) occupancy of the PCOs are used. For models where the target wave functions are generated using an active space, the configurations that include PCOs can be built in two ways, controlled by the parameter reduce_PCO_CAS. When reduce_PCO_CAS equals 1, the configurations involving PCOs are generated by promoting an electron from an orbital occupied in the ground state (Hartree-Fock) configuration to a PCO. Alternatively, PCO configurations are generated by promoting an electron from the active space into a PCO. The latter often leads to a significantly larger number of configurations. For this reason, it is usual to set reduce PCO CAS to 1.

3.4.5. Details of the continuum basis set

The continuum orbitals can be expanded in a set of GTOs with predetermined exponents (these are read from the basis.sets directory), a set of BTOs that are defined via input parameters, or a mixed GTO-BTO basis set. All relevant parameters are listed in Table 12.

The parameter radius_GTO determines which continuum GTO basis will be used. Continuum GTO bases are provided in the basis.sets directory for the following radii: 4, 6, 10, 13, 15, and 18 a_0 for neutral targets and 10 and 13 a_0 for positively charged ones. Since the exponents of the continuum GTO basis must be optimized for a specific radius for each partial wave, the maximum angular momentum available for each combination of radius and charge state may differ. If a different value is set for radius_GTO, the user will need to generate the continuum GTO basis set using GTOBAS [29], a program from the UKRmol+ suite.

If no BTOs are included in the calculation, rmatrix_radius must be set equal to radius_GTO. If a mixed GTO-BTO basis is used, the parameter start_BTO must be chosen to be less than radius_GTO and a standard choice is start_BTO < radius_GTO - 1 a_0 .

Parameters maxl_legendre_lel and maxl_legendre_2el control the numerical evaluation of the nuclear one- and two-electron integrals involving BTOs in SCATCI INTEGRALS; for details, see [1].

Since UKRmol+ works with orthogonal orbitals, the continuum basis sets must be orthogonalized both to the target orbitals that will be used and among themselves. The latter is done using symmetric orthogonalization and this requires setting a threshold [1]: continuum orbitals with eigenvalues of the overlap matrix smaller than this threshold, given by delthres, are deleted. Different thresholds can be given for different orbital symmetries, although usually the same value is used for all.

3.4.6. Settings for the outer region calculation

The outer region calculation will produce one or more photoionization or scattering quantities (cross sections, asymmetry parameters, K-matrices, etc.) for a grid of kinetic energies of the unbound particle. The grid is defined as one or more energy subranges j containing N_j energies given by:

$$E_i = E_{\text{inc}}^j(1) + E_{\text{inc}}^j(2) \times i \text{ for } i = 1, ..., N_j$$
 (2)

where the starting energy of the subrange $E^{j}_{inc}(1)$, increment of energy $E^{j}_{inc}(2)$ and N_{j} are set in model.pl (see Table 13).

In the case of scattering calculations for neutral targets, the propagation radius raf is usually set to values larger than 50 a_0 . The larger the value, the longer the time the outer region calculations take. However, raf of 100 a_0 can be necessary, for example, when channels are energetically close.

By default, the target calculation will produce dipole and quadrupole permanent and transition moments for all target states considered. max_multipole enables the user to decide whether any of these will be used to model the interaction of the target and the unbound particle in the outer region. In scattering calculations, it is customary to set it to 2. If set to zero, this switches off the interaction in the outer region. For photoionization calculations, the outer region calculation is set up differently, see Section 5.

Table 13
Parameters for the outer region calculation in model .pl.

parameter	description	format
raf	propagation radius	real
max_multipole	maximum multipole retained in	integer ≤2
	expansion of long-range potential	
nescat	number of energies N_j in each	integer array
	subrange, string of integers separated by	
	commas	
einc	initial energy $E_{\rm inc}^{j}(1)$ and energy	real array
	increment $E_{\text{inc}}^{j}(2)$ for each subrange,	
	pairs of real numbers separated by	
	commas	
maxi	highest initial state for which cross	integer
	sections, etc. are calculated	
maxf	highest final state for which cross	integer
	sections, etc. are calculated	

3.5. General description of output

The output of one run of the scripts varies according to settings. In general, the scripts will create a directory for a specific run (either named automatically according to the model parameters and the suffix given in geometry.pl and config.pl, or specified explicitly by the user in model.pl using directory). The following subdirectories are created during the run:

scripts_backup: subdirectory where all the scripts (.pl files) used for the particular run are copied for later reference,
logs: subdirectory where all log files are stored; a main.log file and one geom<n>.log file for each geometry are created,
geom<n>: subdirectory where all input and output files of each program in the UKRmol+ suite for each geometry n are stored,
collected_scattering_data: subdirectory where the files with generated scattering data, such as eigenphase sums, T-matrices, and cross
sections, are copied from subdirectories geom<n> for simpler handling and plotting.

In addition, the following files are created, usefully collecting data for several geometries:

geometries and geometries.molden: text files containing descriptions of all used molecular geometries, a simple sequence of numbers *n* is assigned to the geometries, which are used for naming of output files and subdirectories for each specific geometry,

target.energies: text file with energies of the target electronic states determined in the calculations for all geometries,

target.dipole.moments: text file with the permanent dipole moment of the ground target electronic state for all geometries,

Rmatrix.energies: text file with several of the lowest-energy R-matrix poles for all geometries,

resonance.positions.and.widths: text file with resonance positions and widths for all geometries for those resonances identified and characterised by the program RESON [30].

The scripts also create a few files (with the extension .gp) for easier plotting of target energies, eigenphase sums, and cross sections using the Gnuplot software. These files are useful to compare results for several geometries.

4. Running scattering calculations

The workflow for scattering calculations is shown in Figs. 4 and 5 of the UKRmol+ paper [1].

4.1. Input

For all types of calculations, the user should choose the geometry or geometries to be run. The ground state configuration of the target is also required. When the calculations include several target states, several tests to determine the most appropriate basis set, active space, and/or state averaging are usually needed. For this step, it is useful to set scattering = 0 to reduce the computational effort. Once the best model is chosen, setting scattering = 1 ensures that all requested programs are executed.

The lepton projectile is specified via the positron_flag in model.pl: it should be set to 0 for electron scattering and 1 for positron scattering. If not specified, the default value is 0 (electron scattering). In positron scattering, excitation of triplet target states is not allowed due to selection rules. Therefore, triplet ncasscf_states and ntarget_states should all be equal to 0 for positron scattering.

The default outer region programs run by the scripts are SW_INTERF and RSOLVE so that K-matrices are generated. The user should then select, in the config.pl file (see Table 5), which other programs to execute. This will determine what output is produced.

4.2. Outputs generated

The same output files are generated for electron and positron scattering, except RESON is not usually run for the latter so no resonance information is produced. In the case of positrons, the directory name will include "e+" (instead of "e-").

In addition to the output file for each program in the UKRmol+ suite, a scattering calculation will produce several output files:

• In each geom<n> directory, files containing the contribution to the cross sections from each irreducible representation, as well as the eigenphase sum for each of these geometries.

- The same data will also be collected in the collected scattering data directory in an easy-to-plot format.
- If selected in the config.pl script, the K and/or T-matrices will be saved into collected scattering data.
- If resonances are identified and characterized using RESON, a file named resonance.positions.and.widths with the energy and width of the resonances detected for all geometries is generated.

4.3. Electron scattering example

We provide an example of a close-coupling calculation for H_2O . The calculation is run for four different geometries, generated automatically by stretching the OH bond lengths symmetrically. It uses the C_v point group.

The calculation employs the cc-pVTZ basis set and CASSCF orbitals generated by Molpro for the ground state. These orbitals have been saved in files named h2o.molden, one for each symmetry, to enable the user to run a UKRmol+ calculation without the need for Molpro to demonstrate the use of the only option of the scripts (see Table 5).

The 1a' orbital is kept frozen, the active space comprises five a' and one a'' orbitals. Five target states are included in the scattering calculation. The continuum is of GTO type only and includes partial waves up to l = 4. The R-matrix radius used is $10 \ a_0$ and the propagation is carried out to $70 \ a_0$.

The calculation is set up to run serially and to save cross sections and eigenphase sums only, collected in the collected_scattering_data directory. The following outer region programs are run: EIGENP, TMATRX, IXSECS, and RESON. Resonance information is collected in the usual file.

4.4. Positron scattering example

Two examples are provided for positron scattering calculations. The simpler one uses a similar model to that used for electron scattering from H_2O , but it is set to run for just one geometry. Again, the Molden file with the orbitals is provided.

The second example shows the use of pseudocontinuum orbitals in a positron calculation. In this case, the target is H_2 and the D_{2h} point group is used. No Molden file is provided for this example, so a quantum chemistry program is needed to run this test. The 6-311G** basis set is used to generate CASSCF orbitals for the ground state. The active space contains 9 orbitals of the following symmetry: three a_g , one b_{3u} , one b_{2u} , two b_{1u} , one b_{2g} and one b_{3g} . In addition, PCOs are included in the calculation: these are generated using $a_0 = 0.17$ and $\beta = 1.4$ for l = 0, 1, 2.

15 singlet target states are included in the close-coupling scattering calculation, corresponding to the ground state and single excitations into the PCOs. The R-matrix radius is set to 13 a_0 and a continuum GTO basis with partial waves up to l=4 is employed; again, the propagation radius is set to 70 a_0 .

5. Running photoionization calculations

For calculations of (perturbative) single-photon ionization, the scripts implement the workflow depicted in Fig. 6 of the UKRmol+ paper [1]. The calculation formally proceeds as if for the case of electron-molecule scattering where the "target" molecule is represented by the final states of the photoionized system (typically a positive ion). In both cases, a continuum wavefunction is generated but for different asymptotic boundary conditions (outgoing wave in the case of scattering and incoming wave in the case of photoionization).

In addition to the calculation of the continuum wave functions, the photoionization run produces dipole matrix elements between the R-matrix basis states (the eigenfunctions of the Hamiltonian for the whole system in the inner region) which are used to assemble the physical photoionization dipole matrix elements. This is done by the CDENPROP program [25].

5.1. Input

The input parameters required to specify the molecular model are identical to the scattering calculation. In the usual case of photoionization of neutral molecules, the photoelectron moves, asymptotically, in the field of the charged molecule. As a result, some physical parameters of the calculation are chosen differently:

- $\bullet \ \, \text{max_multipole should be set to 1 since the dominant interaction in the outer region is Coulomb.}$
- For the same reason, the propagation radius raf should be set to the R-matrix radius (i.e. no propagation is performed). This choice has practical reasons too: in photoionization, backpropagation of the wavefunction from the asymptotic to the R-matrix radius would have to be performed which is subject to numerical instabilities in the case of closed channels. If long-range interactions in the outer region are important these should be effectively included by increasing the size of the R-matrix radius instead.
- In addition, the scripts automatically ensure that the nuclear contributions to the molecular (bound-bound) multipole transition moments are not included if photoionization is set to 1 (this sets the isw option of the DENPROP program). The nuclear contribution to the dipole matrix elements must be excluded since the bound-bound dipole transition moments are needed in the CDENPROP program to compute the light-driven dipole transitions between the R-matrix basis states. As a result, the multipole matrix elements generated by DENPROP from the photoionization run cannot be used in the outer region to represent the long-range electron-molecule interaction. For that reason, it is important to switch off the R-matrix propagation in the outer region.
- The symmetry of the initial molecular state is specified in initialsym. By default, the initial state in the photoionization dipole matrix element is taken as the lowest R-matrix basis state of that symmetry.
- first_Ip, in units of e_unit, can be used to specify the accurate first ionization potential (IP) of the molecule. This value is used only by the DIPELM program to shift the first IP to the accurate value when computing the photoionization observables. If this value is set to zero then the calculated IP is used.
- dipelm_smooth controls whether the smoothed photoionization observables should be produced by smoothing the partial wave dipole matrix elements. Typically, the photoionization of neutral molecules leads to a congested spectrum of sharp autoionization states. Consequently, smoothing of the observables may produce artifacts in the observables, particularly close to the threshold. For that reason, it is advised to always produce unsmoothed (unbiased) results too. Set dipelm smooth to 0 for unsmoothed data, 1 for smoothed data, or 2 for both.

In photoionization, depending on the symmetry of the molecule, dipole transitions from the initial state, which has a specific symmetry, may only couple to a subset of the irreducible representations representing the continuum. In this case, only a subset of the scattering_states has to be generated, see Table 9.

5.2. Outputs generated

The output of the photoionization calculation consists of the standard orientation-averaged photoionization cross sections and angular distributions (β parameters) saved in the files with self-explanatory names starting with "photo_". In addition, the partial-wave dipole matrix elements are saved on the files pwdips-x, pwdips-y and pwdips-z. These files are placed in the geom<n> directories.

5.3. Example

The example provided runs a close-coupling photoionization calculation for CH_4 . A small active space of 8 electrons distributed in 6 orbitals is used to describe the ionic states of the molecule. The calculation is performed in the reduced D_2 point group. It includes four final states of the ion in the close-coupling expansion and a small Gaussian continuum with partial waves up to l=4. The scattering model uses a small set of additional L^2 functions corresponding to single excitations out of the active space to a single virtual orbital. In addition, the calculation is performed using a set of CASSCF molecular orbitals pre-generated in Molpro (saved in the file ch4+.molden). The reference photoionization cross sections and angular distributions are provided too. Section 8 shows some of the output for this calculation.

6. Generating input for RMT

For simulations of laser-driven electronic processes in molecules, the RMT package [4] requires a single binary file molecular_data produced by the program RMT_INTERFACE. The associated workflow is shown in Fig. 7 in [1]. The most sizeable part of this file is the transition dipole moments between all pairs of R-matrix basis states. Further data, including a detailed description of outer-region channels, boundary amplitudes, and various useful coupling coefficients is also included.

Molecular RMT requires boundary amplitudes evaluated not only at the boundary between the inner and outer region but also at several equally spaced radii inside the R-matrix sphere. The number of these extra radii and their spacing are set to a reasonable default directly in the UKRmol-scripts input templates (18 and $0.08\,a_0$ respectively). The chosen values correspond to the default setup of RMT. The defined overlap region of $18\times0.08\,a_0=1.44\,a_0$ needs to be numerically free of the target orbitals, which may require the use of a larger R-matrix radius than the corresponding photoionization run. Note that there is no keyword in the scripts to change these values; if needed, they can be changed directly in the templates.

Note that the default workflow that uses the program RMT_INTERFACE has an internal limit on the molecular model size. If this is exceeded, the program will fail. When such a large model is needed, it is possible to use the MPI-SCATCI-based alternative UKRmol+ workflow (see Fig. 8 in [1]), which does not suffer from such limitations. This alternative mode is enabled by setting parallel symm to "0" in config.pl.

6.1. Input

To generate the RMT file for a particular molecular model, one sets the options scattering and rmt_interface in config.pl to "1"; the option photoionization should be set to "0". Otherwise, the remaining setup should correspond to that of a photoionization calculation. The only difference with respect to a typical photoionization calculation is the number of "scattering" symmetries: in one-photon ionization, sometimes only a subset of irreducible representations is required due to symmetry reasons. However, multi-photon or strong-field processes with arbitrary polarizations couple wave functions of all irreducible representations. As a consequence, the RMT interface mode requires setting all spin-accessible symmetries in scattering_states in model.pl to "1".

6.2. Outputs generated

Even though the output of the scripts in this mode is similar to the photoionization run, the only relevant output is the file molecular_data present in the geometry folder.

6.3. Example

We provide a simple example to generate input data for RMT for a static-exchange calculation for H_2 molecule with a small Gaussian-only continuum basis. The calculation is performed in D_{2h} point group symmetry and uses a set of Hartree-Fock molecular orbitals pre-generated, this time, by Psi4. Dipole transition matrices between the singlet R-matrix states of all irreducible representations are generated to be used in the inner-region part of the RMT calculation and saved on the final output file molecular_data along with all other auxiliary quantities as described above.

7. Description of selected models

The standard SE, SEP, and close-coupling models, as well as the use of pseudocontinuum orbitals and pseudostates have been described in detail elsewhere, in particular in [1]. Here, we describe two newer approaches to modelling electron correlation and generating the configuration state functions for the target and all-electron systems.

Table 14
Using the MAS approach in model.pl.

parameter	description	format
use_MASSCF	use MASSCF for quantum chemistry	integer
	0: don't use MASSCF	
	1: ORMASSCF in Molpro	
	2: GASSCF in Molcas	
use_MAS	use MAS for target and scattering	integer
	0: don't use MAS	
	1: use ORMAS	
	2: use GAS	
qchem_MAS	allows for a different MAS for the	array
	quantum chemistry of the target and	
	total calculations	
qchem_constraints	additional constraints on allowed CSF	function
MAS	define the target active spaces	array
constraints	additional constraints on allowed CSF	function
12_MAS	define the L^2 active spaces if different	array
	from an extra electron in MAS	
12_constraints	additional constraints on allowed CSF	function

7.1. Multiple active space (MAS) approach

The multiple active space approach (MAS) is a new method for defining the orbital active space for UKRmol+ calculations [31]. It is based on a generalisation of the occupation restricted multiple active space approach (ORMAS) [32] and the generalised active space approach (GAS) [33]. The input required to set this model is summarized in Table 14.

ORMAS and GAS were developed as techniques for excluding unnecessary CSF from the configuration space generated by the standard complete active space (CAS) approach. They work by dividing the active space into multiple subspaces and defining a maximum and minimum electron occupation for each subspace. ORMAS defines a local minimum and maximum, while GAS defines a cumulative minimum and maximum. It is often possible to reduce the number of CSF by an order of magnitude or more using the MAS approach while retaining chemical accuracy, both in the bound states [32,33] and in the scattering or photoionization observables [31].

A second benefit of the MAS approach is that it provides a simple yet flexible method of defining active spaces in general, allowing for sophisticated models beyond the predefined models available in the scripts.

MAS can be used both for generating the orbitals in the initial quantum chemistry calculation (ORMASSCF in Molpro and GASSCF in Molcas, we will use MASSCF to refer to both) and for specifying the active space in the following target and total wave function calculations.

A MAS subspace is defined by a triplet of elements: First is an array specifying the orbitals per symmetry in the subspace, or an integer specifying the total number of orbitals in the subspace. If the second method is used then the orbitals are picked in order, as defined by select_orb_by, and the orbitals per symmetry are populated automatically. Second is an array giving the minimum and maximum occupancy. Thirdly, a string describing the subspace, "frozen"/"closed"/"active", this string is optional for target and total calculations but required when doing a MASSCF quantum chemistry calculation. For example, using the ORMAS version of the MAS approach, a 10-electron molecule with 2 electrons in a closed orbital, and single, double, and triple excitations out of a 6-orbital subspace into a 5-orbital subspace would be written as

```
$model{MAS} = [
    1,[2,2],"closed", 6,[5,8],"active", 5,[0,3],"active"
]
In the GAS version, this would be
$model{MAS} = [
    1,[2,2],"closed", 6,[7,10],"active", 5,[10,10],"active"]
```

The parameter constraints allows for further constraints to be applied to the subspaces by passing an anonymous function that removes unwanted distributions of electrons across the subspaces. For example, using ORMAS, the following model,

```
$model{MAS} = [
    5,[6,10],"active", 2,[0,4],"active", 5,[0,1],"active"
]
$model{constraints} =
    sub {my $dist=shift; !($dist->[2] > 0 && $dist->[0] != 9);}
```

allows single excitations to the third subspace only when there are 9 electrons in the first subspace, if HF orbitals are used then this is equivalent to CAS(10,7) + single excitations from the HF configuration to 5 higher-lying orbitals. Note that when using constraints we need to set the L^2 space by hand, as the scripts are not clever enough to derive 12_constraints from constraints on their own.

If MAS is used for the target and total run but MASSCF is not used for the quantum chemistry calculation then all the variables that are usually set to define the active space for the quantum chemistry calculation still need to be set, i.e. nfrozen, nactive, nvirtual, and possibly frozen orbs, active orbs and virtual orbs.

If MASSCF is used, then only nvirtual and possibly virtual_orbs need to be set as the rest are determined by the quantum chemistry MAS. In all cases nreference, and possibly reference_orbs still need to be set.

The MAS for the target and total calculations does not need to respect the type of active spaces defined in the quantum chemistry calculation. E.g. orbitals that are frozen or virtual in the quantum chemistry calculation can be specified as active in the target and total calculation. However, the total number of orbitals in the target calculation cannot exceed those defined in the quantum chemistry calculation. One thing to note is that any virtual orbitals retained from the quantum chemistry calculation that are not explicitly used in the MAS for the target and total calculation are automatically contracted with the continuum orbitals. This means that they are formally included as part of the 1-electron continuum orbital basis. Several examples of model.pl files setting different MAS calculations are available in the directory examples.

7.2. Polarization-consistent coupled Hartree-Fock approach

The polarization-consistent coupled Hartree–Fock (PC-CHF) approach uses a simple Hartree–Fock-like description of the target states to model polarization and multi-channel effects in polyatomic molecular targets. The model is constructed in a self-consistent manner meaning that all of the target states implied by the polarization configurations are included in the total wavefunction. This model has been used recently [34] to model photoionization of three different molecules: H₂O, N₂O and formic acid.

PC-CHF is similar to the SEP model in that it retains a simpler HF-like description of the target states, but it couples polarization states to their implied ionic states in order to remove spurious resonances that are observed in SEP calculations. For more details on the model and how states are generated see Section 2.1 in [34].

The PC-CHF model is selected using the appropriate keyword in the model parameter of the model.pl file and by specifying HF orbitals in the parameter orbitals. Two variants of the PC-CHF model are available: CHF-A and CHF-B. Setting model to CHF-A is recommended for most use-cases. In this model, each HF-like target configuration corresponds to a single target state in the close-coupling expansion. Whereas, in CHF-B the target configurations of the same space-spin symmetry are effectively producing CI expansions of the resulting target states. The latter sub-model was designed to enable PC-CHF calculations for molecules with degenerate target molecular orbitals of different symmetries that lead to degenerate target HF-like states, as in the case of N_2O . In this situation, the degenerate HF-like CSFs from the same space-spin symmetry must be combined appropriately to produce a set of orthogonal wave functions. This is achieved most readily, without any changes to the UKRmol+ codes, by contracting all these configurations into a single CI expansion and proceeding as in the case of a CAS calculation.

8. A more detailed example output

To illustrate the output generated by the use of the UKRmol-scripts we show some of the results for the photoionization example described in Section 5. The cross section for one-photon ionization into the ground state of CH_4^+ obtained with the example input for CH_4 is plotted in Fig. 1. This cross section is saved in the file photo_xsec where each column, except for the first one that is the photon energy, corresponds to a specific final cation state. Note that in this case, since the ground state of the cation is triply degenerate, the cross section for photoionization into this state is obtained by adding the cross sections for the lowest 3 states in D_2 symmetry. The energies of all cation states included in the calculation are printed in file target.energies:

```
# Target energies / a.u.

# doublet.A.1 doublet.B3.1 doublet.B2.1 doublet.B1.1

-39.409615166 -39.770863568 -39.770863568 -39.770862392
```

One can see from the figure that this relatively simple model provides a reasonable description of the process. A more accurate model of one-photon ionization including its extension to two-photon above-threshold ionization and calculation of attosecond time-delays has been published recently [35].

A summarized example of the output in the pwdips-z file can be seen below. The vertical ellipsis dots indicate that some lines of the output are omitted. The first part of the file provides information on the cation and neutral state as well as on the channel properties; the second part lists the components of the partial wave dipole moments for each channel.

```
Target GS:
            -0.39770864D+02
               Energy
Bound state
    1
            -0.40290469D+02
Channel
          Targ. 2S+1 I.Rep. g/u
                                               Channel Thresholds
                                                0.0000000D+00
    2
                  2
                              0
                                   2
                                                0.0000000D+00
                  2
                        1
                             0
                                        - 3
                                                0.0000000D+00
    4
                             Ω
                                        - 1
                                                0.0000000D+00
   23
                                         2
                                                0.72249681D+00
   2.4
                        0
                                         -4
                                                0.72249681D+00
   2.5
                                                0.72249681D+00
Channel
                                real Y
                                                                       real Z
                                                                                                              real X
           Electron Energy
                                                    imag Y
                                                                                           imag Z
                                                                                                                                  imag X
           0.18375000D-02
                               0.000000D+00
                                                  0.0000000D+00
                                                                                        -0.47697360D-01
                                                                                                                                0.000000D+00
           0.36750000D-02
                               0.0000000D+00
                                                  0.0000000D+00
                                                                     -0.20845583D+00
                                                                                        -0.48217373D-01
                                                                                                            0.0000000D+00
                                                                                                                                0.000000D+00
                                                  0.0000000D+00
                                                                    -0.20724157D+00
                                                                                        -0.48700959D-01
                                                                                                            0.0000000D+00
                                                                                                                                0.000000D+00
           0.55125000D-02
                               0.0000000D+00
           0.7350000D-02
                               0.0000000D+00
                                                  0.0000000D+00
                                                                    -0.20604717D+00
                                                                                        -0.49149313D-01
                                                                                                            0.0000000D+00
                                                                                                                                0.0000000D+00
     1
           0 918750000-02
                               0.000000000+00
                                                                    -0 20487106D+00
                                                                                        -0 49563661D-01
                                                                                                            0.0000000D+00
           0.11025000D-01
                               0.0000000D+00
                                                  0.0000000D+00
                                                                     -0.20371175D+00
                                                                                        -0.49945258D-01
                                                                                                            0.0000000D+00
           0.12862500D-01
                                                  0.0000000D+00
                                                                                        -0.50295378D-01
                                                                                                                                0.0000000D+00
                               0.0000000D+00
                                                                     -0.20256787D+00
                                                                                                            0.0000000D+00
```

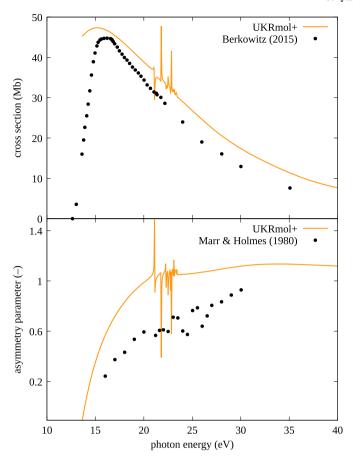


Fig. 1. Cross section (upper panel) and asymmetry parameter (bottom panel) for one-photon ionization into the ground state of CH₄⁺ calculated with the UKRmol+suite and the scripts and input described in this publication. Experimental data for the cross section is from J. Berkowitz [36] while the measurements of the asymmetry parameter come from Marr and Holmes [37].

9. Conclusions

We have described a set of Perl-based scripts that efficiently drive the complex UKRmol+ suite of codes for electron scattering and photoionization calculations in the fixed-nuclei approximation. The required user input has been condensed, as much as possible, to the physical parameters of the model to reduce the need to understand many technical switches and parameters of the calculation. The scripts provide the functionality to automatically generate at run-time the input files for the various programs of the suite and to extract and post-process the most relevant physical outputs of the calculation.

In addition, the scripts drive the prerequisite quantum chemistry calculations including the open-source codes Psi4 and Molcas. Therefore the full R-matrix calculations described above can be performed using only open-source software. We have provided several basic examples of scattering and photoionization calculations which the users can modify to generate their input for arbitrary molecules.

The scripts have been used for many years to generate the data required to model, for example, nuclear dynamics in resonant electron-molecule scattering [38–43], time-resolved photoelectron spectroscopy [44,45] and time-dependent ultrafast laser-molecule interactions [10,11], to name a few recent applications. The release of these scripts will enable many others in the AMO community to investigate photoionization and ultrafast processes either fully with the UKRmol+ suite or by generating the molecular data (e.g. transition dipoles) required by their codes and approaches.

CRediT authorship contribution statement

Karel Houfek: Conceptualization, Methodology, Software, Supervision, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing. Jakub Benda: Software, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing, Validation. Zdeněk Mašín: Conceptualization, Methodology, Software, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing. Alex Harvey: Software, Writing – original draft. Thomas Meltzer: Software, Validation, Writing – original draft. Vincent Graves: Software, Validation, Writing – original draft. Jimena D. Gorfinkiel: Conceptualization, Methodology, Software, Supervision, Validation, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing.

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

Data availability

No data was used for the research described in the article.

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Large-scale deployment of this software has been tested using computational resources supplied by the e-INFRA CZ project (ID:90254), supported by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic.

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