

FMO calculations for nano-biotechnology

Yuji Mochizuki^{1,2} Yoshio Okiyama² Kaori Fukuzawa^{2,3}

fullmoon@rikkyo.ac.jp okiyama@iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp kaori.fukuzawa@mizuho-ir.co.jp

Chiduru Watanabe² Kouichiro Kato³ Takayuki Tsukamoto³

chiduru@iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp kouichiro.kato@mizuho-ir.co.jp takayuki.tsukamoto@mizuho-ir.co.jp

Tatsuya Nakano⁴ Shigenori Tanaka⁵

nakano@nihs.go.jp tanaka2@kobe-u.ac.jp

- ¹ Department of Chemistry & Research Center for Smart Molecules, Faculty of Science, Rikkyo University, 3-34-1 Nishi-ikebukuro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo 171-8501, Japan
- ² Institute of Industrial Science, University of Tokyo, 4-6-1 Komaba, Meguro-ku, Tokyo 153-8505, Japan
- ³ Mizuho Information & Research Institute Inc., 2-3 Kanda-nishiki-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-8443, Japan
- ⁴ Division of Medicinal Safety Science, National Institute of Health, 1-18-1 Kamiyoga, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo 158-8501, Japan
- ⁵ Graduate School of System Informatics, Department of Computational Science, Kobe University, 1-1 Rokkodai, Nada-ku, Kobe 657-8501, Japan

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The fragment molecular orbital (FMO) method [1] has now been popular in the field of computational biochemistry and pharmacology, where proteins with a few hundred amino acid residues can be routinely computed within Kitaura's original two-body expansion (FMO2) of fragments. In Ref. [2], we developed the four-body extension (FMO4) in which the contribution from up to fragment tetramers are included. FMO4 provides better accuracy than does FMO2, and furthermore it makes the treatment of 3-dimensional cluster models of solids (with proper band-gap) tractable. The applicability of FMO4 to solids is promising to attack various important problems in the nano-biotechnology as an emerging field (e.g. fabrication of safer implants or protein-based chemical sensors). In this context, we [3] recently reported the FMO4 calculations to investigate the interaction between a designed peptide, with sequence of Arg1-Lys2-Leu3-Pro4-Asp5-Ala6 [4], and the silica surface modeled by a large cluster model including 257 silicon atoms (under an explicitly hydrated condition). The electron correlation effect was taken into account at the second-order perturbation (MP2) level with the Cholesky decomposition technique for acceleration. The importance of three charged residues (Arg1, Lys2 and Asp4) in the peptide-silica interaction was found, where the contributions from not only the electrostatic attraction but also the charge-transfer were addressed. The poster will resume the details of calculations and results in Ref. [3]. Additionally, some preliminary data about ionic solids such as apatite and alkali halide will be presented as well.

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