

# Running CP2K Calculations

## BASICS

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CP2K

# How to run CP2K Calculations

- CP2K binaries
  - `sopt` – serial
  - `ssmp` – single process + multiprocessor (OpenMP)
  - `popt` – parallel (MPI)
  - `psmp` – parallel (MPI) + multiprocessor (OpenMP)
- Available from <http://www.cp2k.org/download>
  - Linux binaries (released versions)
  - Linux package managers, see also MAC and Windows versions, Docker images
  - Source code (all versions, current developer version) from GITHUB
  - materialscloud.org -> WORK -> Quantum Mobile
  - Preinstalled at your computer center



# How to run CP2K Calculations

- Basic command line options:
  - `cp2k.sopt -i input_file -o output_file`  
By default, output goes to standard output  
Output to file appends (!!)  
Input file is the last argument if not otherwise specified
- Other useful options:
  - `cp2k.sopt -version`
  - `cp2k.sopt -check input_file`
  - `cp2k.sopt -html-manual`
  - `cp2k.sopt -help`



# How to run CP2K Calculations

Typical files associated with a CP2K run:

- **Input (required)**: e.g. H2O-32.inp (main input file, name and extension are arbitrary)
- **Optional inputs**: (default files are in cp2k/data
  - POTENTIAL (pseudopotential library)
  - BASIS\_SET (basis set library)
  - Structure file (e.g. psf, xyz, crd ...)
- **Outputs**:
  - PROJECT-1.restart (input file to restart calculation)
  - PROJECT-pos-1.xyz (trajectory for MD or GEO\_OPT)
  - PROJECT-1.ener (MD energies, temperature, cons. Q ...)
  - PROJECT-1.cell (cell parameters)
  - PROJECT-RESTART.wfn (orbitals for restart)



# CP2K Input File: Basics

- Full documentation available online:

`http://manual.cp2k.org`

Or generate with `-html-manual`

- **Sections** - 13 (optional) top level sections

```
&BEGIN section_name [params]
```

```
...
```

```
&END [section_name]
```

- **Keywords**

```
KEYWORD value
```

```
KEYWORD [ON|OFF] [YES|NO] [TRUE|FALSE] ...
```

```
KEYWORD
```

- **Nesting**

Sections may contain others sections and keywords



# CP2K Input File: Basics

- Basic pre-processing syntax

@INCLUDE 'filename'	copy in text from file
@SET VAR value	define a variable
@VAR	replaced with variable value
@IF / @ENDIF	simple logic
or #	comments

- Units

- Numerical entries have a default unit (see manual)
- Specify other units by hand e.g.

ABC [nm] 100 100 100 (or bohr, default is angstrom)

EMAX\_SPLINE [eV] 50 (or Ry, default is hartree)

- Also combinations e.g. [hartree\*bohr^2]



# CP2K Input File: Basics

## The GLOBAL section (required)

```
&GLOBAL
    PROJECT H2O-32
    RUN_TYPE MD
    PRINT_LEVEL HIGH
&TIMINGS
    THRESHOLD 0.000001
&END
    WALLTIME 3600
&END GLOBAL
```



# CP2K Input File: Method and System

## The FORCE\_EVAL section (required)

```
&FORCE_EVAL
    METHOD QS (or FIST, QMMM ...)
    &DFT
        ...
    &END DFT
    &SUBSYS
        ...
    &END SUBSYS
&END FORCE_EVAL
```

Definition of Simulation Method and System  
(atomic coordinates and cell size)



# CP2K Input File: Simulation Protocol

## The MOTION section

```
&MOTION
  &MD
    ENSEMBLE NVE
    STEPS 10
    Timestep 0.5
    TEMPERATURE 300.0
  &END MD
&END MOTION
```

Used to control MD, Geometry Optimisation, NEB, Monte Carlo



# Basis Sets and Pseudopotential Libraries

- CP2K uses separable dual-space pseudopotentials  
Several sets of PPs and corresponding optimised basis sets are available, See `cp2k/data` or online at GITHUB
- POTENTIAL, GTH\_POTENTIALS  
Wide range of PPs for many elements  
Optimised with different XC functional: LDA (PADE), PBE, BLYP ...
- BASIS\_SET, GTH\_BASIS\_SET, BASIS\_MOLOPT  
Contracted Gaussian basis sets; Various qualities / size of basis  
Make sure Basis and PP match (number of electrons and functional)  
Some documentation and references at head of each file

CP2K

# Controlling the Output

- The `PRINT_LEVEL` keyword in `&GLOBAL`
  - `SILENT`, `LOW`, `MEDIUM` (**default**), `HIGH`, `DEBUG`
  - `HIGH` can give more information if you are interested, also gives some per-process logging in parallel jobs
  - For long MD runs (e.g. classical), recommend using `LOW`
- Fine grained control is available via print-keys
  - Most input sections contain a `&PRINT` sub-section
  - Each `&PRINT` sub-section has further subsections for each quantity that may be printed

# Controlling the Output

- For example, the &PRINT section in &MOTION contains

```
&CELL  
&FORCES  
&TRAJECTORY  
&VELOCITIES  
...
```

- Each section has parameters (and defaults) for which print level it is output

&TRAJECTORY defaults to LOW

&VELOCITIES defaults to HIGH

# Controlling the Output

- Can also specify frequency of printing via &EACH sub-section, e.g.

```
&PRINT  
  &CELL  
    &EACH  
      MD 100  
    &END EACH  
  &END CELL  
&END PRINT
```

- Control over filenames, file formats etc. in each &PRINT section

# Restarting a Calculation

- If you need to restart your job
  - Hardware failure
  - Batch system time limit
  - Failed to converge
  - Need more MD sampling
  - ...
- CP2K dumps a restart input file which can be directly re-run
  - cp2k.sopt -i PROJECT-1.restart
  - Continuous numbering of MD steps
  - Stores all state variables (incl. extended system)
  - Use SCF\_GUESS RESTART

The CP2K logo is located in the bottom right corner. It consists of the letters "CP2K" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The letter "C" is stylized with a vertical bar extending downwards, and the "P" has a horizontal bar extending to the left.