Kullback-Leibler and relative Fisher information as descriptors of locality

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Abstract

Kullback-Leibler and relative Fisher information functionals are applied in studying deviation from local density approximation. The parameters s and α are also key ingredients of these new locality descriptors. The relative Kullback-Leibler information density incorporates extra knowledge as it is negative where the given probability density is smaller than the reference density. The relative Fisher information incorporates the highest order deviations from the uniform electron gas approximation.

I. INTRODUCTION

Nowadays density functional theory is an essential tool of studying materials. As the exact form of the exchange-correlation functional is not known, constructing high quality approximate functionals is of great importance. We refer here to the current dispute in Science on the strategy of developing improved functionals [1–4]. The present analysis intends to shed light on quantities utilized in approximate exchange-correlation functionals using Kullback-Leibler and relative Fisher information functionals.

Information theoretical concepts have proved to be beneficial in analyzing physical systems. They have been applied, among others, in density functional theory (see e. g. [5–7]). These ideas have found applications for example in studying atoms and molecules [6–23]. Our aim is to give a new insight in analysing density functionals via relative information.

In the following section the definitions of the Kullback-Leibler and relative Fisher information are summarized. Locality descriptors of functionals are reviewed in the subsequent section. Then it is shown that these locality descriptors are key ingredients of relative information. The final section is devoted to a comparison of descriptors and discussion.

II. KULLBACK-LEIBLER AND RELATIVE FISHER INFORMATION

Consider a probability density function $f(\mathbf{r})$. Shannon information is defined as [24]

$$S_f = -\int f(\mathbf{r}) \ln f(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}.$$
 (1)

Having two probability density functions the information gain we can obtain using $f(\mathbf{r})$, instead of the other (reference) probability density function $f^{ref}(\mathbf{r})$, is given by the relative or Kullback-Leibler information (also called cross-entropy) [25]

$$G = \int f(\mathbf{r}) \ln \frac{f(\mathbf{r})}{f^{ref}(\mathbf{r})} d\mathbf{r}.$$
 (2)

The relative information is a measure of the deviation of $f(\mathbf{r})$ from the reference density $f^{ref}(\mathbf{r})$. *G* is never negative [25]:

$$G \ge 0. \tag{3}$$

We have G = 0 if and only if the probability density function f equals the reference function f^{ref} almost everywhere.

The Fisher information [26] measures the information that we can obtain for the parameter θ of the distribution function $f(x|\theta)$. It is defined as

$$I_f(\theta) = \int f(x|\theta) \left[\frac{\partial \ln f(x|\theta)}{\partial \theta}\right]^2 dx = \int \frac{\left[f'(x|\theta)\right]^2}{f(x|\theta)} dx .$$
(4)

For example, we want to measure the position of a particle. Let θ be this position and we try to estimate this quantity. Suppose that we observe the particle at the position x. The fluctuation of the position observed should be translation invariant:

$$f(x|\theta) = f(x - \theta) = f(\gamma) .$$
(5)

Generally, θ stands for any physical quantity that we intend to measure. The fluctuation of the observed and the true values of the physical quantity is always supposed to be independent of the value of θ . If relation (5) holds, θ is a parameter of locality [27, 28]. Then we obtain that

$$\frac{\partial f(x|\theta)}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial f(x-\theta)}{\partial (x-\theta)} = -\frac{\partial f(\gamma)}{\partial \gamma} .$$
(6)

That is, the Fisher information (4)

$$I_f(\theta) = \int \left[\frac{\partial f(x-\theta)}{\partial (x-\theta)}\right]^2 / f(x-\theta) dx.$$
(7)

does not depend on θ . Therefore, the parameter θ is taken to be zero:

$$I_f = \int \frac{[f'(x)]^2}{f(x)} dx \;. \tag{8}$$

For a normal distribution

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$
(9)

with mean μ and variance σ^2 , the Fisher information is

$$I_f = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \,. \tag{10}$$

Generally, the Cramer-Rao inequality holds, that is, the variance is bounded from below by the reciprocal of the Fisher information [27]

$$\operatorname{Var}(x) \ge \frac{1}{I_f} \,. \tag{11}$$

 I_f estimates intrinsic accuracy, it shows the 'narrowness' of the distribution function f. For a three variable function the analogue of Eq. (8) can be written as

$$I = \int \frac{|\nabla f(\mathbf{r})|^2}{f(\mathbf{r})} d\mathbf{r},$$
(12)

which is the trace of the Fisher information matrix. The relative Fisher information corresponding Eq. (12) is defined as [29]

$$J = \int f(\mathbf{r}) \left| \nabla \left(\ln \frac{f(\mathbf{r})}{f^{ref}(\mathbf{r})} \right) \right|^2 d\mathbf{r}.$$
 (13)

It can be rewritten as

$$J = \int f(\mathbf{r}) \left| \frac{\nabla f(\mathbf{r})}{f(\mathbf{r})} - \frac{\nabla f_{ref}(\mathbf{r})}{f^{ref}(\mathbf{r})} \right|^2 d\mathbf{r}.$$
 (14)

There is a simple relationship between the Shannon and Fisher information [21]. Nagy and March [30] introduced the ratio of the density gradient to the electron density n as a local wave-number to characterize the ground state of atoms and molecules. Independently, Kohout, Savin and Preuss [31] also investigated the role of the quantity $|\nabla n/n|$ in the shell structure of atoms. With the present notation the local wave-vector is

$$\mathbf{q}(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{\nabla f(\mathbf{r})}{f(\mathbf{r})}.$$
(15)

In estimation theory $-\mathbf{q}$ is called the linear score function [32]. With the concepts of the local Shannon information $s(\mathbf{r}) = -f(\mathbf{r}) \ln f(\mathbf{r})$ and the local Fisher information $i(\mathbf{r}) = |\nabla f|^2 / f$ introduced earlier [21]

$$\mathbf{q} = \nabla\left(\frac{s}{f}\right) \tag{16}$$

and

$$q^2 = \frac{i}{f}.\tag{17}$$

That is, the local wave-vector \mathbf{q} is the gradient of the function s/f, — the expectation value of which is the Shannon information — and the square of the local wave-vector is i/f the expectation value of which is the Fisher information. The latter can be also expressed as that the variance of the linear score function is the Fisher information.

Now we introduce the relative local wave-vector as

$$\tilde{\mathbf{q}}(\mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{q}(\mathbf{r}) - \mathbf{q}^{ref}(\mathbf{r}) \tag{18}$$

with

$$\mathbf{q}^{ref}(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{\nabla f^{ref}(\mathbf{r})}{f^{ref}(\mathbf{r})}.$$
(19)

 $\tilde{\mathbf{q}}$ corresponds to the linear score function of the pair relative to f^{ref} . Then the relation between the Kullback-Leibler and the relative Fisher information has the form

$$\tilde{\mathbf{q}} = \nabla\left(\frac{g}{f}\right) \tag{20}$$

and

$$\tilde{q}^2 = \frac{j}{f}.\tag{21}$$

The Kullback-Leibler and the relative Fisher information densities are defined as

$$g = f \ln \frac{f}{f^{ref}} \tag{22}$$

and

$$j = f \left| \nabla \left(\ln \frac{f}{f^{ref}} \right) \right|^2, \tag{23}$$

respectively. We can also see that relative Fisher information is the variance of the linear score function of the pair relative to f^{ref} .

III. LOCALITY DESCRIPTORS OF FUNCTIONALS

The exact density functional is unknown, the exchange-correlation energy needs to be approximated. The simplest approximation is the local density approximation (LDA)

$$E_{xc}^{LDA} = \int d\mathbf{r} n(\mathbf{r}) \epsilon_{xc}^{unif}(n(\mathbf{r})), \qquad (24)$$

where $\epsilon_{xc}^{unif} = \epsilon_x^{unif} + \epsilon_c^{unif}$ is the exchange-correlation energy per electron of the electron gas with uniform density n.

The simplest semilocal approximation is the generalized gradient approximation (GGA):

$$E_{xc}^{GGA}[n] = \int d\mathbf{r} n \epsilon_x^{unif}(n) F_{xc}^{GGA}(n,s), \qquad (25)$$

where $\epsilon_x^{unif} = -(3/4)(3n/\pi)^{1/3}$ is the exchange energy per electron of the jellium and

$$s = \frac{|\nabla n|}{2(3\pi^2)^{1/3}n^{4/3}}.$$
(26)

The enhancement factor can be partitioned as

$$F_{xc}^{GGA}(n,s) = F_x^{GGA}(s) + F_c^{GGA}(n,s).$$
(27)

The high-density limit of F_{xc}^{GGA} is the exchange enhancement factor F_x^{GGA} . In case of uniform density $(F_x^{GGA}(s=0) = F_x^{LDA} = 1)$ the LDA is recovered.

In the semilocal meta-GGA another ingredient, the kinetic energy density

$$\tau(\mathbf{r}) = 2\sum_{i}^{occup} |\nabla \psi_i|^2 / 2 \tag{28}$$

is involved. ψ_i is a Kohn-Sham orbital. The exchange-correlation energy can be written as

$$E_{xc}^{MGGA}[n] = \int d\mathbf{r} n \epsilon_x^{unif}(n) F_{xc}^{MGGA}(n, s, \alpha), \qquad (29)$$

where

$$\alpha = \frac{\tau - \tau^W}{\tau^{unif}}.$$
(30)

 $\tau^W = |\nabla n|^2/(8n)$ and $\tau^{unif} = (3/10)(3\pi^2)^{2/3}n^{5/3}$ are the Weizsäcker and the uniform kinetic energy densities, respectively. As the kinetic energy density can be partitioned as the sum of the Weizsäcker and the Pauli terms

$$\tau = \tau^W + \tau^{Pauli},\tag{31}$$

the parameter α can be rewritten as

$$\alpha = \frac{\tau^{Pauli}}{\tau^{unif}}.$$
(32)

 α is a useful quantity as it can distinguish between covalent single ($\alpha \approx 0$), metallic ($\alpha \approx 1$) and weak ($\alpha >> 1$) bonds [33–37].

IV. DESCRIPTORS α AND s AS KEY INGREDIENTS OF RELATIVE INFORMATION

The parameter α is defined as the ratio of the Pauli and the uniform kinetic energy densities (Eq. (32)). To use α in the Kullback-Leibler information we have to express it with probability density-like function. Therefore we introduce two distribution descriptors

$$p^{unif} = \frac{\tau^{unif}}{T^{unif}} \tag{33}$$

and

$$p^{Pauli} = \frac{\tau^{Pauli}}{T^{Pauli}},\tag{34}$$

where T^{unif} and T^{Pauli} are the uniform and Pauli kinetic energies:

$$T^{unif} = \int \tau^{unif} d\mathbf{r} \tag{35}$$

and

$$T^{Pauli} = \int \tau^{Pauli} d\mathbf{r},\tag{36}$$

which we refer as the uniform and Pauli probabilities. Here we utilize the fact that the Pauli and the uniform kinetic energy densities are non-negative. The uniform probability p^{unif} is an escort distribution (see e.g.[38])

$$p^{unif}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{n^{5/3}(\mathbf{r})}{\int n^{5/3}(\mathbf{r}')d\mathbf{r}'}.$$
(37)

Escort distributions are often applied among others in the theory of fractals. They are closely related to Rényi information. We mention in passing that the kinetic energy functional of the uniform electron system can be easily expressed with a Rényi information [39].

The concept of escort distribution can be further generalized [38]:

$$P(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\phi(\mathbf{r})}{\int \phi(\mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r}'}.$$
(38)

Any properly selected positive test function ϕ [40, 41] can yield a distribution function. Clearly, the special choice of $\phi = n^{5/3}$ leads to the uniform probability p^{unif} . The Pauli probability (Eq. (34)) and the Weizsäcker probability (Eq. (45)) are defined in this general sence.

Define now the Pauli relative information with the uniform kinetic energy density as reference distribution

$$G^{Pauli} = \int g^{Pauli} d\mathbf{r},\tag{39}$$

where the Pauli relative information density g^{Pauli} is

$$g^{Pauli} = p^{Pauli} \ln \frac{p^{Pauli}}{p^{unif}}.$$
(40)

Substituting Eqs. (33) - (36) into Eq. (40) we are led to

$$g^{Pauli} = \frac{\tau^{Pauli}}{T^{Pauli}} \left(\ln \alpha + \ln \frac{T^{unif}}{T^{Pauli}} \right).$$
(41)

Then, the Pauli relative information takes the form

$$G^{Pauli} = \frac{1}{T^{Pauli}} \int \tau^{Pauli} \ln \alpha d\mathbf{r} + \ln \frac{T^{unif}}{T^{Pauli}}.$$
(42)

If we consider slowly varying densities, then $\alpha \approx 1$, $\tau^{Pauli} \approx \tau^{unif}$ and $G^{Pauli} \approx 0$, that is, the local density functional is an appropriate approximation. g^{Pauli} and G^{Pauli} can be considered local and global descriptors. These quantities indicate how well the LDA approximation can be applied for the given system.

We can also define the Weizsäcker relative information with the uniform kinetic energy density as reference distribution

$$G^W = \int g^W d\mathbf{r},\tag{43}$$

where

$$g^W = p^W \ln \frac{p^W}{p^{unif}} \tag{44}$$

and

$$p^W = \frac{\tau^W}{T^W} \tag{45}$$

are the Weizsäcker relative information density and probability, respectively. Substituting Eqs. (33), (44) and (45) into Eq. (43) and taking into account that

$$\frac{\tau^W}{\tau^{unif}} = \frac{5}{3}s^2\tag{46}$$

we are led to

$$g^{W} = \frac{\tau^{W}}{T^{W}} \left(\ln s^{2} + \ln \frac{5T^{unif}}{3T^{W}} \right).$$

$$\tag{47}$$

Then, the Weizsäcker relative information takes the form

$$G^W = \frac{1}{T^W} \int \tau^W \ln s^2 d\mathbf{r} + \ln \frac{5T^{unif}}{3T^W}.$$
(48)

We arrived at the result that the Pauli and the Weizsäcker relative information densities can be expressed in terms of the logarithm of α and s, respectively. Turning to the relative Fisher information we can define the Pauli relative Fisher information and information density as

$$J^{Pauli} = \int j^{Pauli}(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}$$
(49)

and

$$j^{Pauli}(\mathbf{r}) = p^{Pauli}(\mathbf{r}) \left| \nabla \left(\ln \frac{p^{Pauli}(\mathbf{r})}{p^{unif}(\mathbf{r})} \right) \right|^2 d\mathbf{r}.$$
 (50)

Making use of Eqs. (34) - (36) the relative Fisher information density can be given by

$$j^{Pauli} = \frac{\tau^{Pauli}}{T^{Pauli}} |\nabla(\ln \alpha)|^2.$$
(51)

Define now the Weizsäcker relative Fisher information and the corresponding information density as

$$J^W = \int j^W(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} \tag{52}$$

and

$$j^{W}(\mathbf{r}) = p^{W}(\mathbf{r}) \left| \nabla \left(\ln \frac{p^{W}(\mathbf{r})}{p^{unif}(\mathbf{r})} \right) \right|^{2} d\mathbf{r}.$$
 (53)

Taking into account Eq. (46) we arrive at

$$j^{W} = \frac{\tau^{W}}{T^{W}} \left| \nabla(\ln\left(s^{2}\right)) \right|^{2}.$$
(54)

Our final expressions show that the Pauli and the Weizsäcker relative Fisher information densities can be expressed in terms of the gradient of the logarithm of α and s, respectively.

V. COMPARISON OF DESCRIPTORS AND DISCUSSION

Now, we analyze locality descriptors for some systems. For comparison, we also present results for the electron localization function (ELF) definied as [42]

$$ELF = \frac{1}{1 + (\tau^{Pauli}/\tau^{unif})^2}.$$
 (55)

Utilising Eq. (32), ELF can be expressed with α as

$$ELF = \frac{1}{1+\alpha^2}.$$
(56)

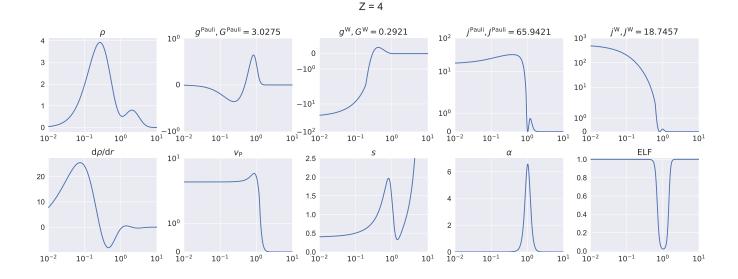


FIG. 1: (Color online) ρ , g^{Pauli} , g^W , j^{Pauli} , j^W , $d\rho/dr$, v_P , s, α and ELF as functions of radial distance for the Be atom.

ELF has proved to be a very useful quantity for several applications [42–45]. The uniform electron gas is the reference system here. For this model $\alpha = 1$, *ELF* = 1/2, s = 0, $g^{Pauli} = 0$, $g^W = 0$, $j^{Pauli} = 0$ and $j^W = 0$, where Eqs. (32), (56), (26), (40), (44), (51) and (54) were used. That is, the relative information densities g^{Pauli} , g^W , j^{Pauli} and j^W measure the deviation from the uniform electron gas approximation.

Consider now atoms and calculate all these descriptors for them. We deliberately chose atomic systems because they are supposed to be far from the homogeneous electron gas and the deviation from LDA can be clearly seen. Further, the shell structure can be nicely detected in atoms. Another quantity, the Pauli potential v_P was also determined. The Pauli potential, defined as a functional derivative of the Pauli energy with respect to the density,

$$v_P = \frac{\delta T^{Pauli}}{\delta n},\tag{57}$$

is a key quantity. Its appearence is the consequence of the Pauli principle. The Pauli potential clearly shows the shell structure of atoms.

We have implemented all of the descriptors and the Pauli potential in dftatom [46] atomic solver, which we have used in our calculations.

Figs. 1.- 5. present locality descriptors for atoms Be, Ne, Ar, Kr and Xe. It is also instructive to plot the radial density ($\rho = 4r^2\pi n$) and its derivative. The upper row in the figures present the radial density ρ , the relative information densities g^{Pauli} , g^W , j^{Pauli}

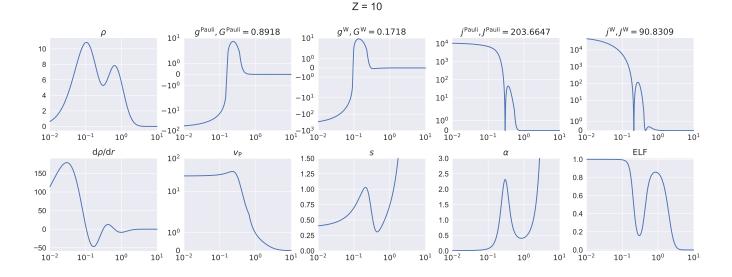


FIG. 2: (Color online) ρ , g^{Pauli} , g^W , j^{Pauli} , j^W , $d\rho/dr$, v_P , s, α and ELF as functions of radial distance for the Ne atom.

and j^W , while the lower row shows the derivative of the radial density $d\varrho/dr$, v_P , s, α and ELF as a function of the radial distance. All these descriptors manifest the shell structure. Most of the information quantities are positive, but g^{Pauli} and g^W can also be negative. Negative values appear where the given probability density is smaller than the reference density. Therefore g^{Pauli} and g^W incorporate extra information. If we integrate the relative information densities, we obtain global descriptors G^{Pauli} and G^W to characterize the deviations from LDA. These global values are reported for each atom in the headers of the figures.

While s involves only the density and the gradient of the density, the other descriptors include the kinetic energy densities, that is, more direct knowledge of the orbital behaviour.

Only j^{Pauli} and j^W involve the gradient of s and α , that is, the relative Fisher information measures not the deviation of the kinetic energy density from the reference one, but the deviation of the logarithmic derivative of the kinetic energy density from the reference one. No wonder that one can observe the highest values in the figures of j^{Pauli} and j^W . It means that the relative Fisher information incorporates the highest order deviations from LDA. The integrals of j^{Pauli} and j^W give the global quantities J^{Pauli} and J^W specifying the difference from LDA. The high values of J^{Pauli} and J^W clearly reflect that the relative Fisher information is the most sensitive measure of deviations from LDA. All plotted quantities show the shell structure, but in different ways. We have studied the maxima and the minima of the quantities presented. It follows from the definition (55) of *ELF* that *ELF* has a maximum (minimum) when α displays a minimum (maximum). The relationships between the extrema of other quantities are more complicated. We found that the radial distance where the radial density has a minimum, is almost the same radial distance where *ELF* and j^{Pauli} show a minimum (and α has maximum) in all atoms studied.

The Kullback-Leibler and the relative Fisher information densities are defined in terms of the Pauli, the Weizsäcker and the uniform kinetic energy densities. Therefore, the assertion that these quantities measure the deviations from LDA, means that these concepts show how much the Pauli or the Weizsäcker kinetic energy densities differ from the uniform (Thomas-Fermi) kinetic energy. The parameter α also contains knowledge on the kinetic energy density (versus to the uniform kinetic energy density). Meta-GGA approximations for the exchange and correlation use this quantity α incorporating kinetic energy density into the exchange-correlation functional. In this paper we showed how the knowledge on kinetic energy densities can be grasped with information theoretical concepts.

In summary, we have shown that the relative information functionals provide alternative measures of the deviation from local density approximation. The relative Kullback-Leibler information density includes extra knowledge compared to the frequently used local descriptors. The relative Fisher information incorporates the deviation of the logarithmic derivative of the kinetic energy density from the reference one, and therefore it embodies the highest order deviations from LDA.

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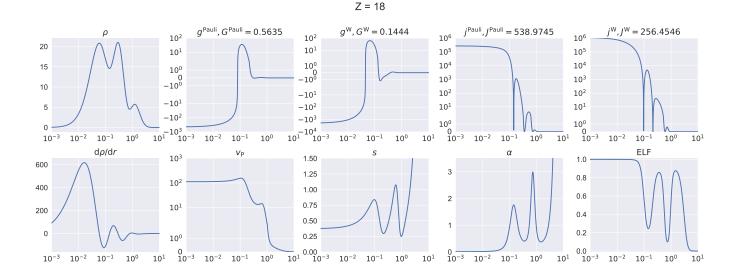


FIG. 3: (Color online) ρ , g^{Pauli} , g^W , j^{Pauli} , j^W , $d\rho/dr$, v_P , s, α and ELF as functions of radial distance for the Ar atom.

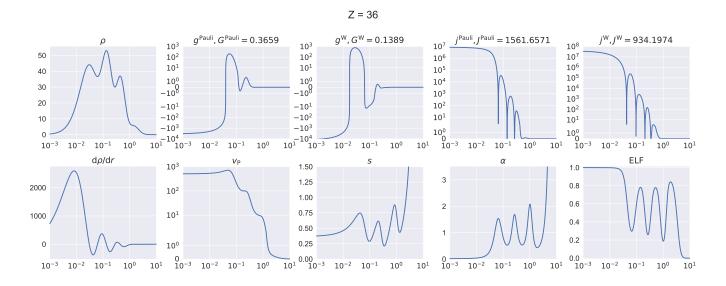


FIG. 4: (Color online) ρ , g^{Pauli} , g^W , j^{Pauli} , j^W , $d\rho/dr$, v_P , s, α and ELF as functions of radial distance for the Kr atom.

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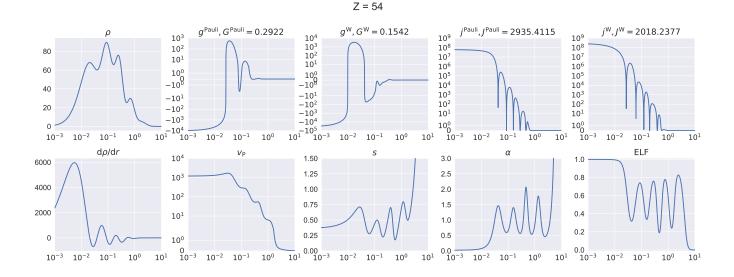


FIG. 5: (Color online) ρ , g^{Pauli} , g^W , j^{Pauli} , j^W , $d\rho/dr$, v_P , s, α and ELF as functions of radial distance for the Xe atom.

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