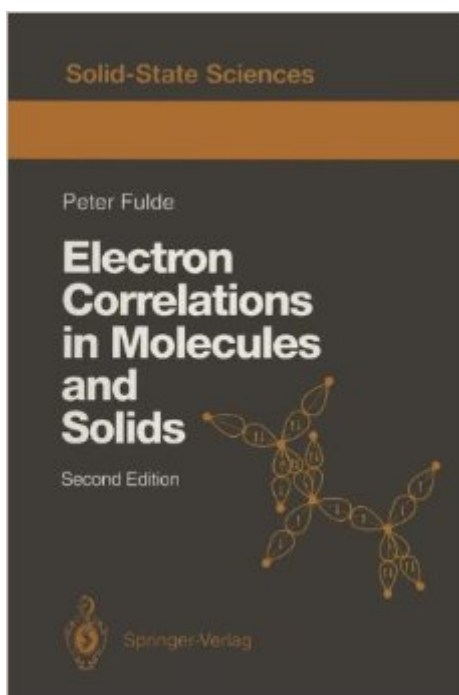


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Electron Correlations In Molecules And Solids (Springer Series In Solid-State Sciences)



Synopsis

This volume bridges the gap between quantum chemistry and solid-state theory. The text develops new concepts for treating many-body and correlation effects, and deals with applications of the theory to molecules, semiconductors, transition metals, heavy-fermion systems, and the new high-Tc superconducting materials.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Think! before writing a review and confusing people about cumulants, as the previous reviewer does. Cumulants are widely used in physics and more recently also in theoretical chemistry. Their algebra is very simple, although a bit unfamiliar. Obviously, the "reviewer" Alan Mason from Round Rock, Texas has not understood that algebra. Take his first example: he is certainly right that with his choice of A one finds $\tilde{A} \hat{A} c$. It is also true, (not pointed out by him) that $c \tilde{A} \hat{A} c = 0$ where 1_{op} is the unit operator. But so what! These are well known consequences of the cumulant algebra but they do not imply that any of the equations in the book are wrong. Certainly, they are not. Mason should try to familiarize himself with the Grassmann algebra which is also not a standard one. He should be even more startled. But he would fail by concluding from his surprises that "This king has no clothes".

Professor Fulde's primary purpose in this advanced monograph, as stated in the preface, is to

provide a unified treatment of electron correlations in molecules and in "solids"; by the latter, he means materials such as metals in which the electrons are not well localized. The basic idea is that since the electron correlation hole is a local object, it should be possible to develop a theory that applies equally well to electron correlations in both cases. First, let us say what is meant by electron correlation. One starts with a Hamiltonian H that describes an atomic system, say, with n electrons; H acts on a Hilbert space S . Pick a finite-dimensional subspace S_0 and apply a variational principle to minimize the expectation $E = \langle \Phi | H | \Phi \rangle$ over all wavefunctions Φ expressible as a single Slater determinant of n single-electron wavefunctions ϕ_i , $i = 1, \dots, n$.

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