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## **Electronegativity: A Mnemonic Number Code for an Atom**

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*Abstract: An attempt is made to substantiate that, electronegativity expressed as Hellman-Feynman force(Force by Nucleus on electron) or Ehrenfest force(Force by electron on Nucleus) will be accurate and absolute. The concept of Hellman-Feynman force as an equivalence of Born-Oppenheimer approximated energy for di-atomic system and Hartree-Fock force as an equivalence of Hartree-Fock approximated energy for polyatomic system have been critically analyzed. An extended theory of Electronegativity based on Force concept is established. Electronegativity values computed for various elements using Hellmann-Feynman force exerted on the nuclei and the Ehrenfest force exerted on the electron density are presented.* 

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

All models of electronegativity are theorized by individual's intuition. The qualitative understanding of electronegativity is not up to the mark. Universal acceptance on the common agreement of the all models till to 2019 A.D seems impossible. Force model of electronegativity was defined first by AL Allred and EG Rochow[1] with help of electrostatic field. According to this definition, electronegativity is equal to Coulomb force of attraction between the nucleus and an electron at the covalent radius.

$$
c_{AR} \circ Z^* \frac{e^2}{r^2} \tag{1}
$$

Where  $Z^*=Z-\sigma$ , r is covalent radius for the atom(considering smaller value as well as outer radial maxima). The Coulomb force is a measure of power of an atom in a molecule that drags electron towards nucleus. Therefore, electronegativity is an absolute one.

 $c_{AR}$  dimension is not straight forward as it is evaluated through eq. 1. The quantity  $Z^*/r^2$  was calculated through Pauling's work and Slater rules[2,3]. Pauling's Scale and Allred-Rochow scale can be made to coincide by expressing the electronegativity from the

electrostatic approach as the linear function of  $Z^{\dagger}/r^2$ . Here mean radius is expressed in picometer.

$$
\chi_{AR} = 3590(z*/r2) + 0.744
$$
   
Eq (2) WHERE 3590 AND 0.744 ARE NUMBERICAL CONSTANTS.

Introduction of the idea of force into electronegativity theory makes this scale seem quite consistent with Pauling's definition. It also emphasizes the idea for simple calculation, because r and  $Z^*$  are readily available quantities for many elements. It is to be noted that, this scale independent of electron affinities and bond dissociation energies. Slater rules for finding effective nuclear charge are empirical.

Four extension of the Allred and Rochow's idea were reported by different authors. The

first extension of Allred-Rochow scale by Huhee<sup>[4]</sup> is based on two assumptions, r of order  $(1/Z^*)$  and  $Z^*$  of order  $\sigma$ .

$$
c_H = 0.36' \frac{(Z^* - 3s)}{r^2} + 0.74
$$
 (3)

The second extension of Allred-Rochow scale by Boyd and Markus[5]is based on non empirical approach. The empirical covalent radius is replaced by relative covalent radius obtained from the free atom wave function by density contour technique. The effective nuclear charge is obtained through integration of radial density function from nucleus to relative distance. Electrostatic electronegativity is expressed as,

$$
c = \frac{Z}{r^2} \oint_{\mathbf{\hat{e}}}^{z} - \int_{0}^{r} r(r) dr \bigg|_{\mathbf{\hat{u}}}^{q}
$$
 (4)



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The radial charge density  $\rho(r)$  can be obtained from the Hartree Fock atomic orbitals data[113], [114]. The computed electronegativity values follow the general pattern of Mulliken ground state electronegativity values with an exception for groups 2 and 3 of periodic table because  $p(r)$  decreases as per the expectation rule i.e.  $\langle IP' \rvert r \rangle > \frac{12}{3}$ 

The third extension of the scale was made Mande et al. [6] where the value of effective nuclear  $(Z^*)$  charge was obtained spectroscopic analysis. Therefore, the values become less arbitrary than that of Slater's. This electronegativity scale is more fundamental and reliable. The correlation of the scale is excellent with that of Pauling's scale. The electronegativity values obtained for  $1<sup>st</sup>$  transition metals are more reasonable than Allred-Rochow scale.

The fourth extension of this scale was made by Yonghe Zhang[7] where electronegativity was calculated on the basis of electrostatic force given by**,**

$$
F = n^* \frac{\sqrt{IP_z/Ry}}{r^2} \tag{5}
$$

WHERE 
$$
IP_z = Ry \frac{\mathfrak{F}Z^*}{\mathfrak{F}n^* \frac{1}{\phi}}
$$
 (6)

*IP*<sub>Z</sub> is ultimate ionization potential for outer electron. This type of scale is based on the concept of different electron attracting power of an element in different valence state. Therefore, electronegativity is termed as a function of oxidation number. Zhang has also reported dual parameter equation[12]. Zhang electronegativity is given by,

$$
c_{z} = 0.241F + 0.775\tag{7}
$$

$$
Z = \frac{Z}{r_i^2} - 7.7c_Z + 8.0
$$
 (8)

In this section, an independent approach to define electronegativity is presented. The force expression based on Hellmann-Feynman theorem is proposed as electronegativity. Moreover, this force must be equivalent to the primary definition of electronegativity such as ability of an atom to attract electron towards itself. Following the proposition, the definition of electronegativity becomes 'inherent ability of an atom to attract and hold electron'. The electronegativity in terms of Hellmann Feynman force is equal to Born Oppenheimer force for an atom in diatomic system and Hartree -Fock force of an atom in poly atomic system. Prior to the force based definition of electronegativity and relevant correlations, the four relevant force concepts are briefly discussed. Born-Oppenheimer Force within the Born-Oppenheimer approximation is expressed as a balance of two opposing terms such as one from Nuclear-Nuclear repulsions and other from Electron-Nuclear attraction. The latter is conceived as the 3-D electron density.This force concept arises out of Born Oppenheimer(BO) energy approximation. M Born and J R Oppenheimer[8], [9] have contributed a celebrated paper to science. It brings the systematic correspondence of the energy of electronic motion, nuclear vibration and rotation to the terms of power series in the fourth root of electron nucleus mass ratio. Born and Oppenheimer suggested that total wave function (*y*) can be written as the product of the nuclear wave function ( $y_n$ ) and electronic wave

function ( $y_e$ ). This approximation simplifies complicated Schrödinger equation into electronic equation ( $H_e y_e = E_e y_e$ ) and nuclear equation ( $H_n y_n = E_e y_e$ ). The equation devised by them for the rotation represents a generalization of the treatment of Kramers theorem and Pauli exclusion principle. This approximation also justifies Frank-Condon principle used in explaining the intensity of band lines. In the last several decades, rigorous mathematical work has been reported on the validity of the BO approximation. Quite a few number of papers contain the study of BO have reported that, a reduced Hamiltonian is an appreciable approximation to true molecular HamiltonianHowever, a few of those are closely related to works on semi classical Schrodinger matrix operators[10-26]. BO approximation is based on "assumption of ignoring motions of nearly stationary nuclei with much larger mass and smaller velocity with respect to motion of electron with much smaller mass and larger velocity". The approximation holds good for the ground state of molecule and breaks down for the excited state. Complete Hamiltonian is represented as

$$
H = H_n + H_e = T_n + T_e + V_{nn} + V_{en} + V_{ee}
$$



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$$
\mathbf{H} = -\frac{1}{2}\hat{\mathbf{a}}_{A} \ \tilde{\mathbf{N}}_{A}^{2} - \frac{1}{2}\hat{\mathbf{a}}_{i} \ \tilde{\mathbf{N}}_{i}^{2} + \frac{2}{3}\frac{Z_{A}Z_{B}}{R_{B} - R_{A}} - \frac{2}{3}\frac{Z_{A}}{A_{i}} \frac{Z_{A}}{r_{i} - R_{A}} + \frac{2}{3}\frac{1}{r_{i} - r_{j}}
$$

Again, Molecular Hamiltonian  $(H^{mol})$ 

$$
H^{mol} = -\frac{1}{2}\stackrel{\circ}{\mathbf{a}}_{A} \tilde{N}_{A}^{2} - \frac{1}{2}\stackrel{\circ}{\mathbf{a}}_{i} \tilde{N}_{i}^{2} + \frac{\circ}{\mathbf{a}}_{BA} \frac{l^{2}Z_{A}Z_{B}}{|R_{B} - R_{A}|} - \frac{\circ}{\mathbf{a}}_{A,i} \frac{lZ_{A}}{|r_{i} - R_{A}|} + \frac{\circ}{\mathbf{a}}_{i,j} \frac{1}{|r_{i} - r_{j}|^{11}}
$$

 $\lambda$  is treated as parameter and it may vary between 0 and 1. The exact solution to the electronic Schrodinger equation, obtained from BO approximation can be reachable for one electron systems.

## **II. HARTREE-FOCK FORCE**

This force concept arises out of Hartree-Fock energy approximation for multi electronic systems. The Hartree-Fock approximation is a good enough to approximate the energies and wave function. The electronic Hamiltonian and energy based on Hartree-Fock approximation can be written as follows .

$$
H_e = \mathop{\mathbf{a}}_{i} \ z(a) + \mathop{\mathbf{a}}_{a
$$

The first term represents a one electron operator, the second term represents a two electron operator and third term is a constant for the fixed set of nuclear coordinates

$$
E_{hf} = \mathop{\mathbf{a}}\limits_{a} \langle a|z|b\rangle + \frac{1}{2}\mathop{\mathbf{a}}\limits_{ab} \quad (\text{[aa |bb] - [ab |ba])} \tag{13}
$$

Where the first term represents one electron integral, the second term represents two electron Coulomb integral, the third term represents exchange integral. All the integrals can be computed by existing computer algorithms. The energy difference between non relativistic energy of the system and Hartree-Fock limit energy is considered as both static and dynamic electronic correlation energy. The derivative  $\left(-\prod_{i=1}^{\infty}H_{i}\right)/\prod_{i=1}^{n}V_{i}$  of electronic Hamiltonian operator w.r.t. distance of nucleus of an atom from electron can also be defined in quantum mechanics and also this represents the force on atom A due to electrons. Furthermore, within simple Born-Oppenheimer approximation and Hartree-Fock approximation, Energy (E) plays the role of potential energy for actual motion. Moreover,  $\P E / \P V$  replaces the above derivative and it is equal to the BO force (also Hartree Fock force) because nuclear coordinates are simply treated as external parameters.. This force is better to be termed as BO force in the steady state. The electronegativity will be equal to B-O force (also Hartree Fock force).

#### **III. HELLMAN-FEYNMAN FORCE**

The force concept is the consequence of Hellmann Feynma theorem .The expression for this theorem have already been reported by different authors[27]–[38]. This concept dictates that the actual force on any nucleus can be interpreted in terms of classical electrostatics if three dimensional charge distribution in a system of electrons and nuclei were known from quantum mechanical procedure. The force on a nucleus will be equal to charge on that nucleus times the electric field due to all electrons and other nuclei. R Feynman further stated that a three dimensional electron cloud in a molecule is restricted from collapsing as it obeys Schrödinger equation. The force concept explains the nature of chemical bonding, the change in molecular shape on excitation and chemical reaction. Energy concept is not proved to be satisfactory always because they lack the simplicity and elegant nature. A.C.Hurley[36]–[38] has given the theoretical justification of the actual use of such electrostatic approach and shown that the force calculations are valid even for approximate wave functions. The Hellmann Feynman force concept have been used (i) by R.F.W.Bader[39]–[43] for interpreting chemical binding, (ii)by Koga T and H.Nakatsuji[44]–[46] for force modelling of molecular geometry,(iii)by P.Politzer and K.C.Daiker[47], [48] for models of Chemical Reactivity, (iv) by A.J.Coleman[49]–[51] for calculation of first and second order reduced density matrices. It also withstands the critical examination of theoretical physists and chemists as well. This force concept has certain advantage over the concept of total energy even though the calculation of force



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always involves an approximate charge density function. The advantage of calculating charge density is possible through molecular orbital method. The total force on a nucleus is simple sum of orbital contributions but total energy is not sum of orbital energies. The second advantage is that, force is an expectation value of one electron, momentum independent operator. It is more sensitive to any change in wave functions than energy. T Berlin[52] gave clear interpretation of this electrostatic force arising out of Hellmann Feynman theorem. This force is equivalent to infinitesimal change in energy per change in distance (parameter). Classical physics states that, a force is the negative gradient of energy. He proposed a term binding (related force acting on the nucleus) in place of bonding (related to changes in energy) in the picture of chemical bonding. He has proposed the physical partitioning of three dimensional space of electrons of diatomic system into a binding region  $(f_i > 1)$ , anti-binding region( $f_i < 1$ ) and the nonbinding region( $f_i = 1$ ). The charge density is positive everywhere and thus the sign of contribution to force to the charge in each volume element depends on the sign of  $f_i$ . The net value of  $f_i$  around 1 helps to assign the electronegativity to the concerned atom in molecule for the diatomic system with  $Z_B > Z_A$  the anti-binding region for A is closed while anti-binding region for B in the limit  $Z_B$ > $Z_A$  approaches a plane perpendicular to inter nuclear axis. The idea of closing of anti-binding region is used to justify to assign more electronegativity value to B**.** Hellmann Feynman force equation can be written in various forms. At static equilibrium geometry, Hellman Feynman force is zero but at dynamical equilibrium geometry, this force can never be equal to zero for which the magnitude of Hellman Feynman force is reasonably to be construed as power of nucleus of an atom to attract electron towards itself.

**GENERALIZED FORM OF HELLMAN FEYNMAN FORCE FOR BOTH STEADY STATE AND NON- STEADY STATE IS REPRESENTED AS,** 

$$
F_V = F_V = - \P E / \P V = - \tilde{O} y y * (\P H_e / \P V) dv
$$

$$
-\frac{\P E}{\P V_A} = -\frac{2}{3} \frac{Z_A Z_B}{\left|R_B - R_A\right|^2} + \frac{Z_A}{\left|r - R_A\right|^2} r(r) dr
$$

Where the first term is independent of the electronic coordinates and is constant during integration over the coordinates. This term gives ordinary columbic force of repulsion between the nuclei. The second term represents charge density distribution due to ith electron.

$$
-\frac{\P E}{\P V_A} = -2l \frac{\mathfrak{A}}{\P R_B} \frac{Z_A Z_B}{|R_B - R_A|} + \frac{\mathfrak{A}}{A} Z_A \mathfrak{O} \frac{r(r, l)}{|r_i - R_A|} dr
$$

Where the  $\lambda$  is a parameter which solves two problems. Firstly, it helps to apply simultaneously to all nuclei. Secondly it is a continuous function between 0 and 1 so that differentiation of energy w.r.t. nuclear coordinates is made possible.

The other form of Hellmann-Feynman force equation can be written as

$$
F_z = \frac{Z_A}{R_A^2} \frac{\acute{e}}{\acute{e}}_B - \frac{\acute{a}}{4} f_i(R_A) \frac{\acute{u}}{\acute{u}}
$$
  
=  $-\frac{1}{2} \grave{O} f(r)r(r)dr$  which is electronic contribution to the force on either nucleus

The term f(r) is called berlin quantity[52]. And also the electronic contribution in terms of the quantum mechanical average of the electric field operator is also mathematically represented as,

$$
F_z = Z_A \partial dr \cdots \partial y \stackrel{*}{\underset{\mathcal{B}_{i=1}}{\otimes} N_A (r_i - R_A |) \stackrel{1}{\underset{\mathcal{B}_{i=1}}{\otimes}} dr_n
$$



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The equivalence of the electron in the above equation is equivalent to n times the average force exerted on an atom by one electron so the above equation can be written in the form of electronic charge density.

$$
F_z = Z_A \partial \tilde{N}_A (r - R_A) \int r(r) dr
$$

Where,  $r(r) = n \partial ds_1 \partial dx_2 ... \partial y$  (x<sub>1</sub>, x<sub>2</sub>, ..., x<sub>n</sub>)<sup>y</sup> (x<sub>1</sub>, x<sub>2</sub>, ..., x<sub>n</sub>)<sup>y</sup>  $1, 42$ \*  $r(r) = n \partial \, ds_1 \partial \, dx_2 ... \partial \, y$ <sub>(*x*<sub>1</sub>,*x*<sub>2</sub>, ...,*x<sub>n</sub>*</sub>) $x$ <sub>(*x<sub>1</sub>, x<sub>2</sub>, ...,x<sub>n</sub></sub>)* $dx_n$  Eq.20 Where  $\rho(r)$  denotes</sub> *n*

electronic charge density in a stationary state,  $\rho(r)$  dr stands for amount of electronic charge in a volume element dv and  $x_i$ denotes the product of space co-ordinate  $(r_i)$  and spin co-ordin ate( $s_i$ ) of the ith electron. The interpretation of  $\rho(r)$  as a physical model of the electrons in line with the HF theorem includes the possibility of ascribing a value to the electrostatic force exerted at atom A by each and every element  $\rho(r)$  dr.

## **IV. EHRENFEST FORCE**

The Ehrenfest force theorem, a primal force theorem involves fluxes of corresponding current density through the surface bounding the system whether this be a surface of zero-flux for an atom in a molecule or the surface bounding an infinitesimal volume element, the properties of which are described in the local form of the theorem. The atomic statement of Ehrenfest force is given as,

( ) ˆ ( ) / ( ) ( ). ( ) *s s A A m dr j r t dr dr V dS r r*  ………………………21

sity at the point r and the left side integral in the above expression represents the rate of change of the total momentum of electron density in atomic-basin(A).The first term in the right side integral not only comes from averaging of the commutator

$$
\prec i/(h/2\pi) \succ [H.P]
$$
 but also represents the Ehrenfest force,  $F(r,t) = N \int dr' \psi^* < -\nabla V' > \psi$  .......

where  $\nabla \hat{V}$  is the gradient with respect to coordinates of electron located at r of total potential energy operator  $\hat{V}$  which speaks of all interactions within the system and  $-\nabla \hat{V}$  is the force exerted on the electron at position r by all of remaining electrons and nuclei in the system.And also the net force exerted on the electron density distribution r(r) in a molecule at point r, i.e. the sum of the attraction forces by all the nuclei and repulsion forces by the average electron density, is the Ehrenfest force.

*A. Scientific Justification for correlation among Electronegativity, Hellman-Feynma & Ehrenfest Force*

The Hellmann Feynman electrostatic force leads two opposing terms, one from nuclear nuclear repulsions and other from electron nuclear attractions.

The electron-nuclear attractive force is expressed in terms of three dimensional electron density. This force can be termed as charge equivalent force. This follows from the energy approximations postulated by Born Oppenheimer for di atomic system and Hartree Fock for poly atomic systems.

This is true as, the fast motion of electron allows electronic wave function and probability density for immediate adjustment to changes in nuclear configuration. The fast motion of electron causes the sluggish nuclei to see electrons as charge cloud rather than discrete particles.

This fact affirms the force as electrostatic by nature thereby ruling out the possibility of mysterious quantum mechanical force in mono atomic, di atomic as well as poly atomic systems.

Electronegativity of an atom (A) just in a bonding molecule AB may be defined as Hellmann Feynman force exerted on atom (A) due to electron. The state of molecule is conceived as dynamical equilibrium geometry where Hellman-Feynman force can never be zero but at static equilibrium geometry, this force becomes zero. The first definition of electronegativity i.e. "the power of an atom to attract electron towards itself" is construed as Hellmann-Feynman Force.

This is also equivalent to Hartree Fock force in steady and non-steady states. In steady state,  $r(r)$  may be interpreted as a

number or charge density and  $r(r)dr$  as amount of electronic charge in the volume element. Based on above explanation, Electronegativity=Hellmann-Feynman Force=Ehrenfest Force.

*FVA c* = =*F r t* ( , ) **…………………….23** 



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Based on the BO approximation

$$
F_{VA} = -\frac{\P E}{\P V_A} = -\frac{2}{3} \frac{Z_A Z_B}{\left|R_B - R_A\right|^2} + \frac{Z_A}{\left|r_i - R_A\right|^2} r(r) dr
$$

Based on the basis of Hartree-Fock approximation

$$
F_{VA} = -\frac{\P E}{\P V_A} = -2l \frac{\mathfrak{A}}{\P A} \frac{Z_A Z_B}{|R_B - R_A|} + \frac{\mathfrak{A}}{A} Z_A \mathfrak{O} \frac{r(r, l)}{|r_i - R_A|} dr \qquad (25)
$$

First terms in eq. 24 and 25 represent classical nuclear contribution. Second terms in eq. 24 and 25 above represent electronic contribution.

### **V. COMPUTATION OF ELECTRONEGATIVITY AND DISCUSSION**

Electronegativity in terms of energy gradient in au/picometer unit.

A. 
$$
C_{E\text{-}slater} = \frac{E_{hf}}{r_{slater}}
$$
  
\nB.  $C_{E\text{-}elementi} = \frac{E_{hf}}{r_{elementi}}$   
\nC.  $C_{E\text{-}absolute}} = \frac{E_{hf}}{r_{absolute}}$   
\n28

Electronegativity in terms Coulomb force.

D. 
$$
c_{f \text{-}slater} = \frac{Z_{slater}^{*}}{r_{slater}^{2}} \cdot 1000
$$
  
\nE. 
$$
c_{f \text{-}elementi} = \frac{Z_{\text{element}}^{*}}{r_{\text{element}}^{2}} \cdot 1000
$$
  
\n30  
\nF. 
$$
c_{f \text{-} absolute}} = \frac{Z_{\text{element}}^{*}}{r_{\text{absolute}}^{2}} \cdot 1000
$$
  
\n31

**FOR REFERENCE,** 2 0 1 au of force= $\frac{ae}{e}$ *a*  $\mathop{\rm Re}\limits^{\mathfrak X}e\,\mathop{\rm F}^{\mathop{\rm C}}_{\mathop{\bf \frac{1}{2}^+}}$ <br> $\mathop{\rm Re}\limits^{\mathfrak X}a_0\mathop{\rm F}^{\mathop{\bf C}}$ 

In eq.29-31, 1000 is multiplied to make the data more convincible. Electronegativity values based on energy and force from Hydrogen to Lawrencium have been computed through the above equations and are mentioned in table 1 and 2. In case of unavailability of data the spaces are '\*' marked.

The necessary data for Hartree-Fock Energy[53], Z\* Slater effective nuclear charge[54], Z\* Clementi effective nuclear charge[57]- [58] ,Density-metric radius[59] Absolute Radius[60] and calculated Clementi Radius[57]- [58] and are taken from cited references.



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It is argued as to which Electronegativity-model is best approximation because no benchmark for this intuitive concept has been set up till date. Furthermore, the confusion as to what physical picture corresponds Electronegativity and even if non-agreement of proposed units such as Energy, Force and Potential. Numerical values of quantities with different units in computation are not comparable because they are conceptually different. No effort is made to compare the computed values of electronegativity with those of other scales. The computed electronegativity values reproduce the periodicity and also increase monotonically right from representative element to noble gas with maximum value.

#### VI. **CONCLUSION**

The new attempt to define electronegativity is characterized by specific physical meaning and reliable theoretical basis since it is derived from two famous mathematical formulation i.e Hellmann Feynman theorem and Born Oppenheimer (in turn conventional Hartree Fock) approximation. This definition will be acting like a bridge in between two parallel definitions of electronegativity (either in energy or force). It will be logical to consider electronegativity equalization in a diatomic as well as polyatomic system. This new approach (force approach) will be helpful to assign the more accurate electronegativity values to various elements of the periodic table and also more valuable in different areas of chemical science for example to predict the structure and property of materials. This will also help design new electrode materials efficiently, electrocatalysts with novel properties for energy conversion devices like Fuel cell, Solar cell etc.

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