Non-local study of exchange-correlation holes in model metal surfaces

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The popularity of local and semi-local density functionals has seen them applied to many types of system, including those that are expected to rely heavily on non-local effects. Accurate simulations of surface systems, in particular, are important to understand processes such as catalysis. The weighted density approximation^{1,2} (WDA) is a fully non-local density functional, which is implemented in a developmental version of CASTEP³. Here we apply the WDA to a jellium surface and a Cu(100) surface, with aim to observe the behaviour of the exchange-correlation hole. We show that there are significant non-local effects, meriting further study of surfaces using functionals such as the WDA.

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