

The background features a diagram of potential energy surfaces (parabolas) representing electronic states. A vertical axis is labeled 'd' and a horizontal axis is labeled 'f'. Three horizontal arrows point to the left, indicating the direction of wavepacket motion. The wavepackets are depicted as shaded regions moving along the surfaces.

Ehrenfest dynamics

$$\epsilon(\mathbf{R}) \rightarrow \langle \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t), t) | \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{el}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)) | \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t), t) \rangle_{\mathbf{r}}$$

Ehrenfest dynamics

In Ehrenfest dynamics, the potential energy $\epsilon(\mathbf{R})$ used to evolve a trajectory is the average electronic energy as computed from the time-dependent electronic wavefunction:

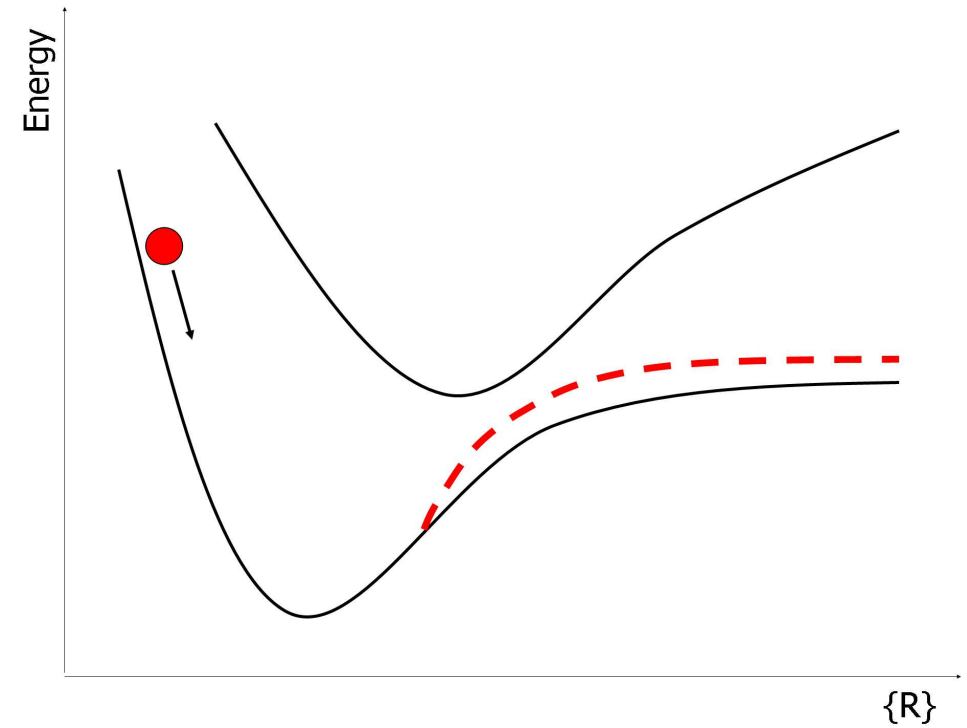
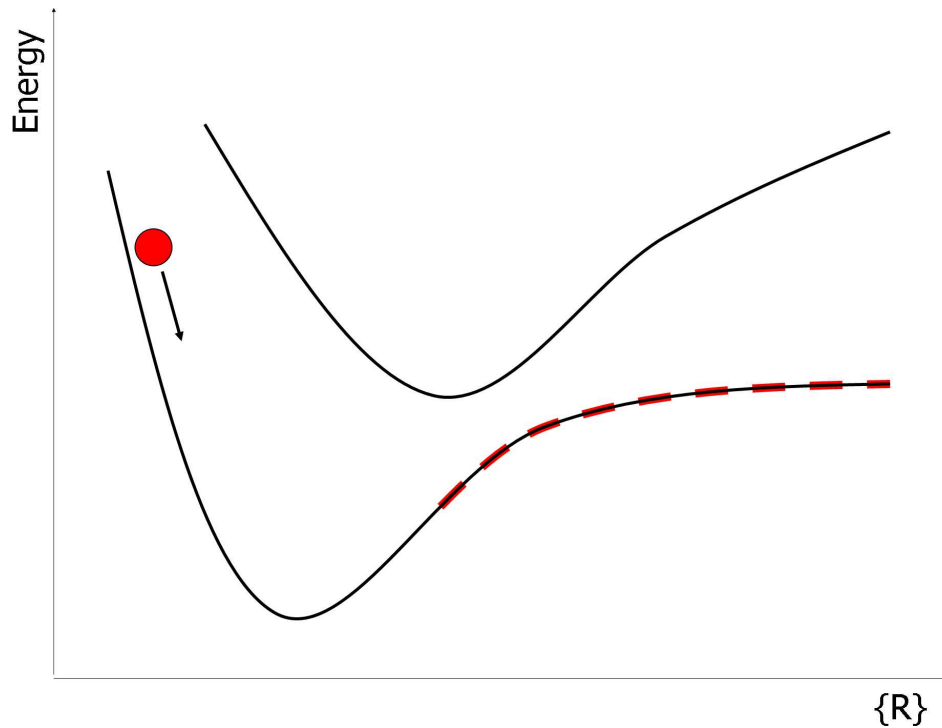
Ehrenfest dynamics

$$i\hbar\dot{c}_I^\alpha(t) = \sum_J c_J^\alpha(t) \left(E_J^{el}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t))\delta_{IJ} - i\hbar\dot{\mathbf{R}}^\alpha \cdot \mathbf{d}_{IJ}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)) \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{F}^\alpha &= -\nabla_{\mathbf{R}} \langle \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t), t) | \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{el}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)) | \tilde{\Phi}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t), t) \rangle_r \\ &= -\nabla_{\mathbf{R}} \left(\sum_{IJ} c_I^\alpha(t)^* c_J^\alpha(t) \langle \Phi_I(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)) | \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{el}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)) | \Phi_J(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)) \rangle_r \right) \end{aligned}$$

One can perform Ehrenfest dynamics by using the **time-dependent Kohn-Sham equation** instead of the time-dependent electronic Schrödinger equation!!!

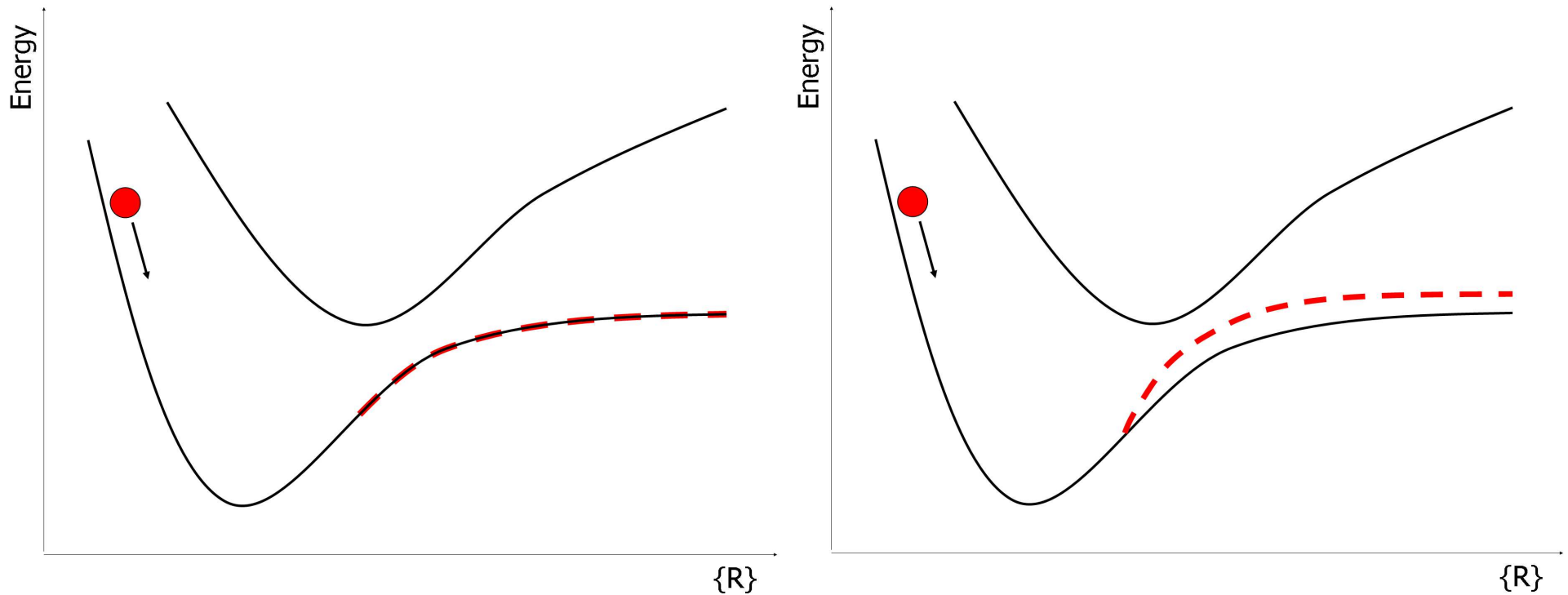
Nuclear dynamics with a mean potential



$$i\hbar\dot{c}_I^\alpha(t) = \sum_J c_J^\alpha(t) \left(E_J^{el}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t))\delta_{IJ} - i\hbar\dot{\mathbf{R}}^\alpha \cdot \mathbf{d}_{IJ}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)) \right)$$

$$\mathbf{F}^\alpha = -\nabla_{\mathbf{R}} \left(\sum_{IJ} c_I^\alpha(t)^* c_J^\alpha(t) \langle \Phi_I(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)) | \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{el}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)) | \Phi_J(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)) \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} \right)$$

Nuclear dynamics with a mean potential



- Approximate account for nonadiabatic effects – mean-field dynamics.
- Produce physical nonadiabatic dynamics **only** if the different electronic states important for the dynamics have similar potential energy surfaces, or for short-time dynamics.

A Feynman diagram of a hadron, showing a central vertical line representing a quark, with three horizontal lines representing gluons. The diagram is labeled with 'd' at the top and 'f' at the bottom. The background is a light blue gradient with a faint, stylized image of a hadron.

An example of Ehrenfest Dynamics dynamics using TDDFT

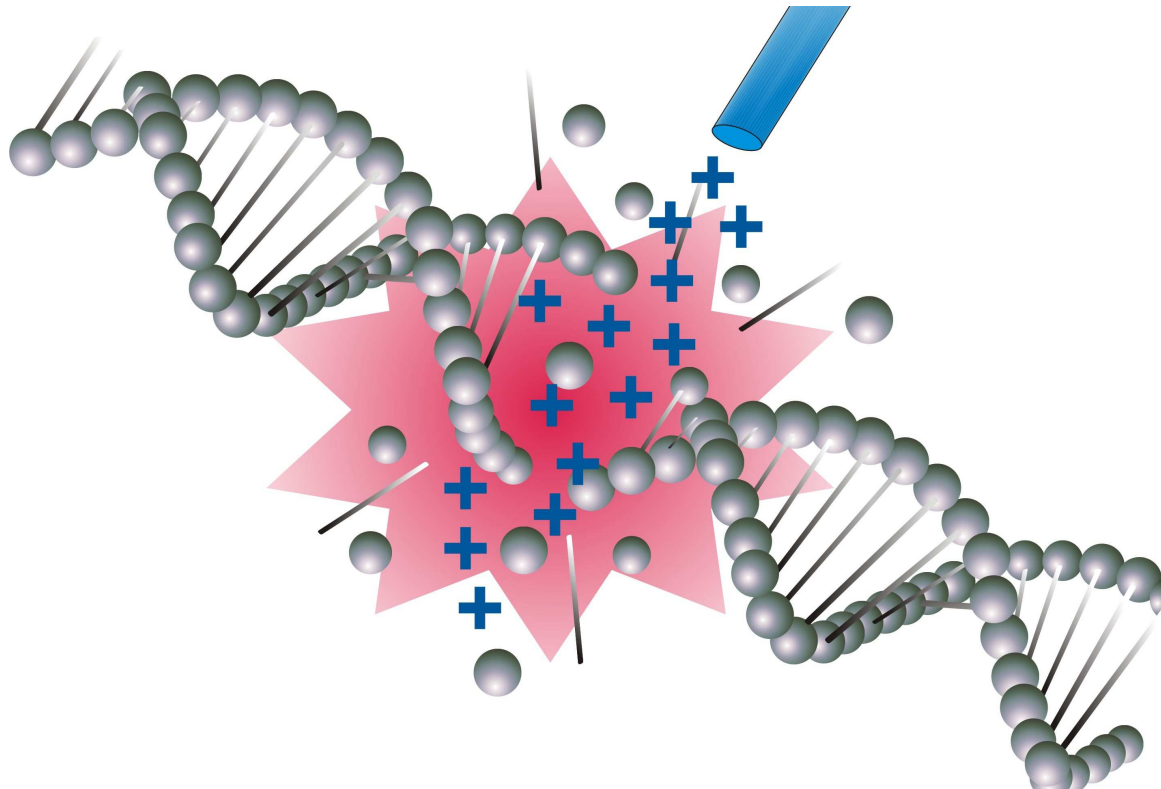
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Early mechanisms of hadrontherapy

Hadrontherapy

“Process of irradiating a malignant tumor with ionizing radiation with the aim of damaging the DNA of the cancerous cells.”

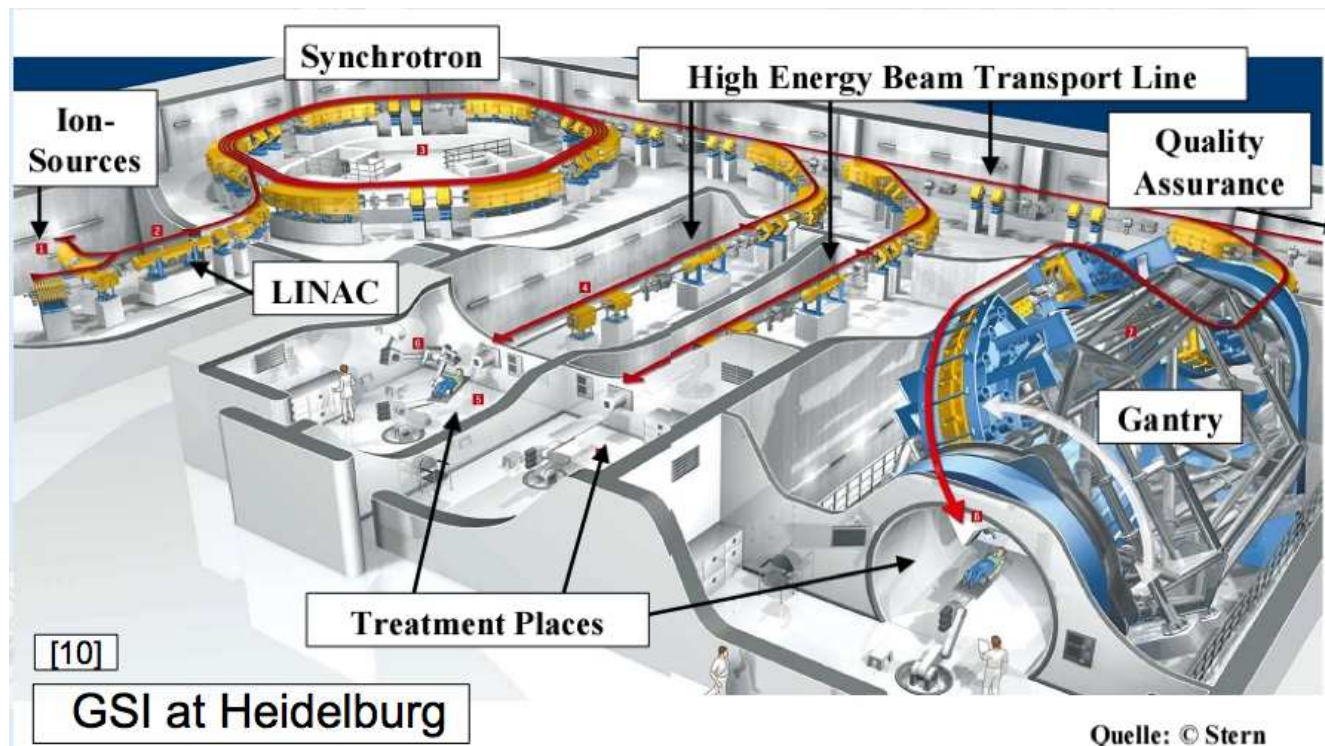
- When high-energy photons are used: X-ray therapy.
- When hadronic matter is used (H or C): **Hadrontherapy**.



Hadrontherapy

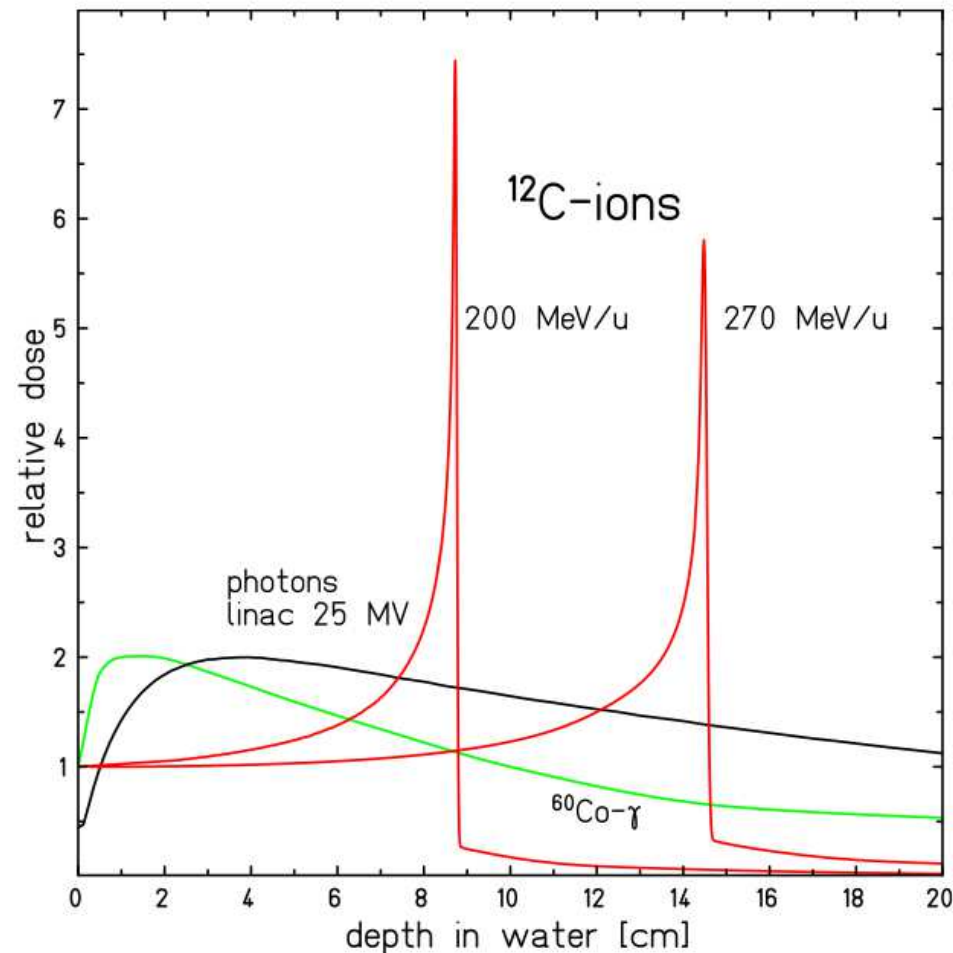
“Process of irradiating a malignant tumor with ionizing radiation with the aim of damaging the DNA of the cancerous cells.”

- When high-energy photons are used: X-ray therapy.
- When hadronic matter is used (H or C): **Hadrontherapy**.



Hadrontherapy - The idea

The main advantage of heavily-charged ion beams is their favorable depth-dose profile, also known as **Bragg curve**³.



³Rev. Mod. Phys. **82**, 383 (2010).

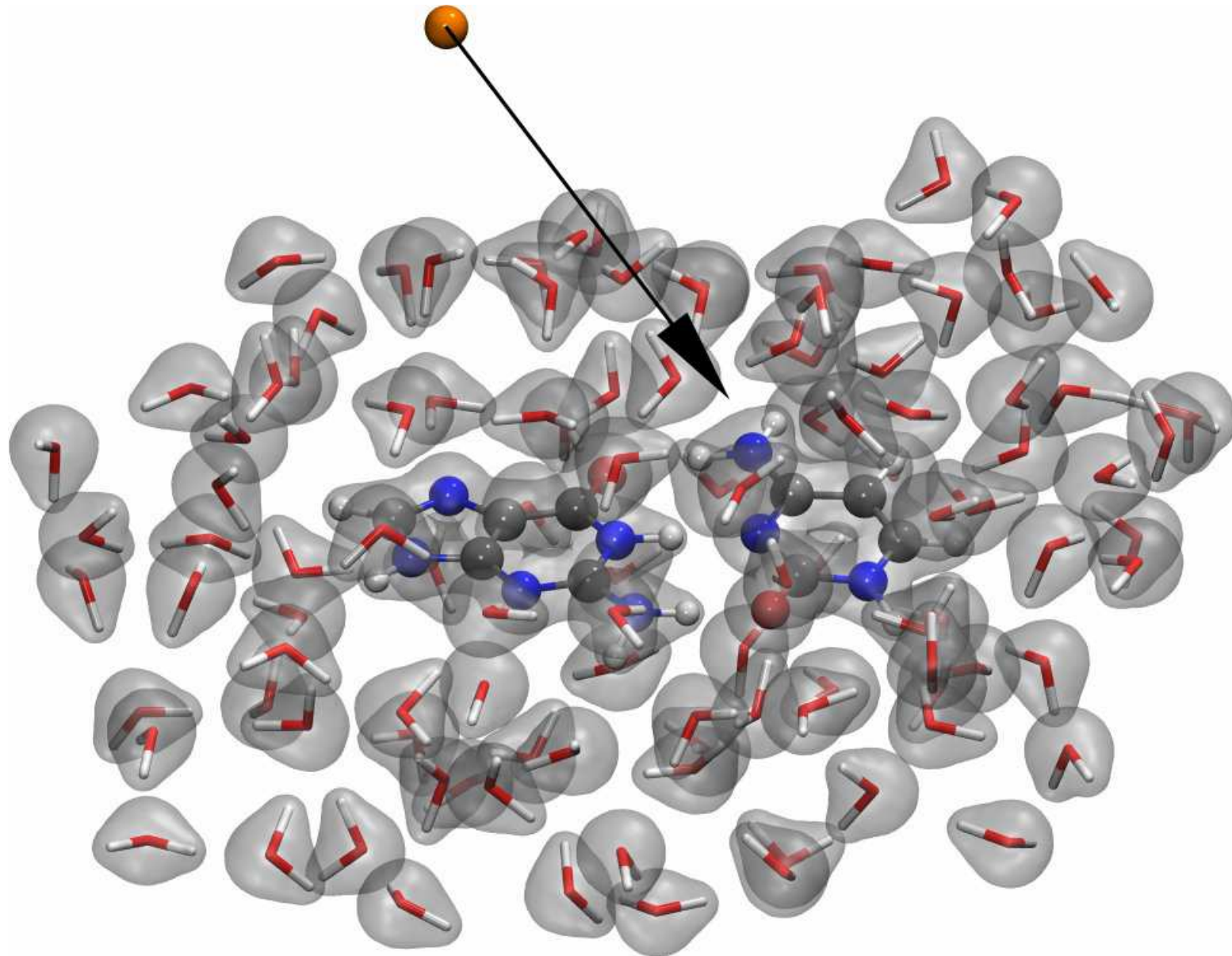
Setup

Ehrenfest dynamics with TDDFT

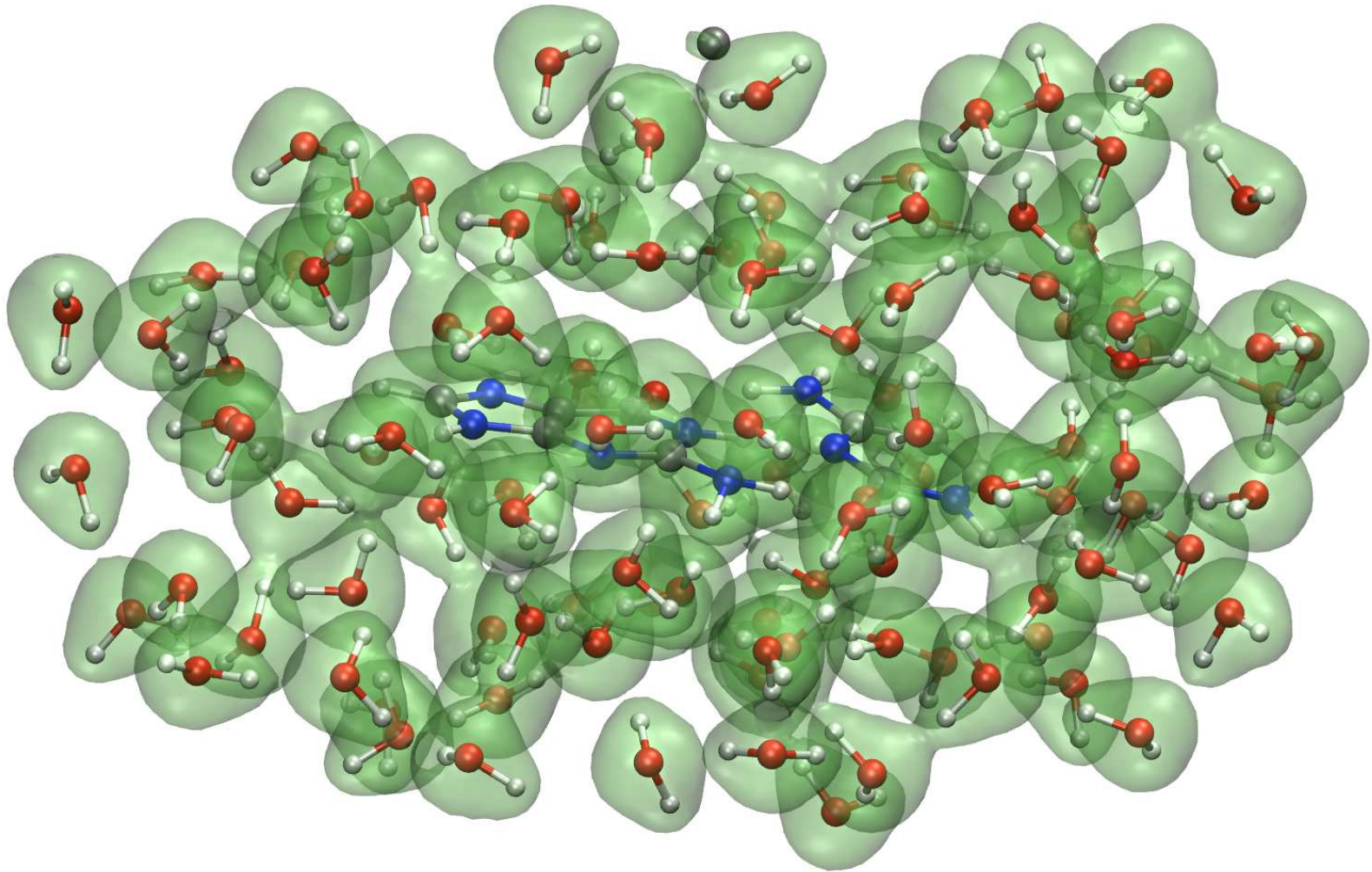
- Guanine-Cytosine base pair + 107 water molecules.
- Full system treated at the Ehrenfest/TDDFT level of theory (PBE functional).
- Projectile: C^{4+} .
- Speed of the ion in the Bragg peak: $\sim 0.79\%$ of c
 \Rightarrow relativistic effects are negligible!
- Projectile added on a corner of the box, with a velocity computed to cross the bubble with **no** direct collision.
- Time step = 0.24 **as**. Total duration of the dynamics: 1 fs.
- And the final setup is...

Unpublished results.

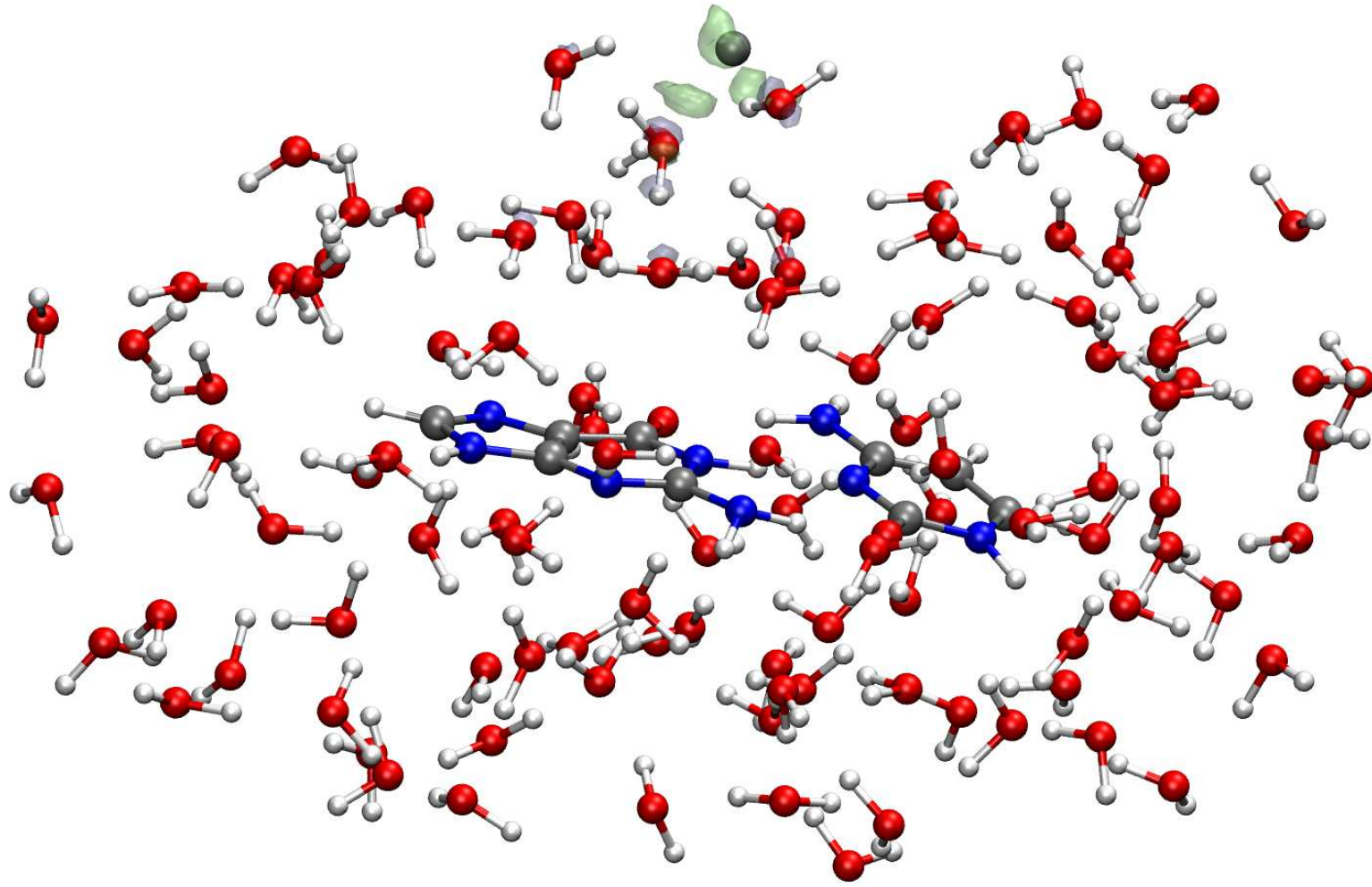
Setup



Electron extraction from C^{4+} - $[\rho(\mathbf{r}, t)]$

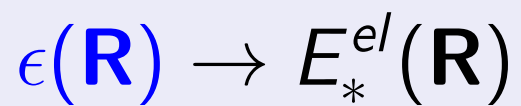


Electron extraction from C^{4+} - $\left[\rho(\mathbf{r}, t) - \rho_0^{(\text{no } C^{4+})}(\mathbf{r}) \right]$



The background features a complex diagram of potential energy surfaces (parabolas) and trajectories. A vertical axis is labeled 'd'. Three horizontal arrows point to the left from different heights on the vertical axis. A trajectory is shown as a curved line starting from a higher energy state and moving towards a lower energy state. Another trajectory is shown as a curved line starting from a lower energy state and moving towards a higher energy state. A label 'f' is placed near the bottom right of the diagram.

Trajectory Surface Hopping dynamics



Trajectory Surface Hopping dynamics

Trajectory Surface Hopping (TSH) invokes that the PES, $E_*^{el}(\mathbf{R})$, from which the nuclear forces are computed can be chosen based on a set of rules after each nuclear integration time step:

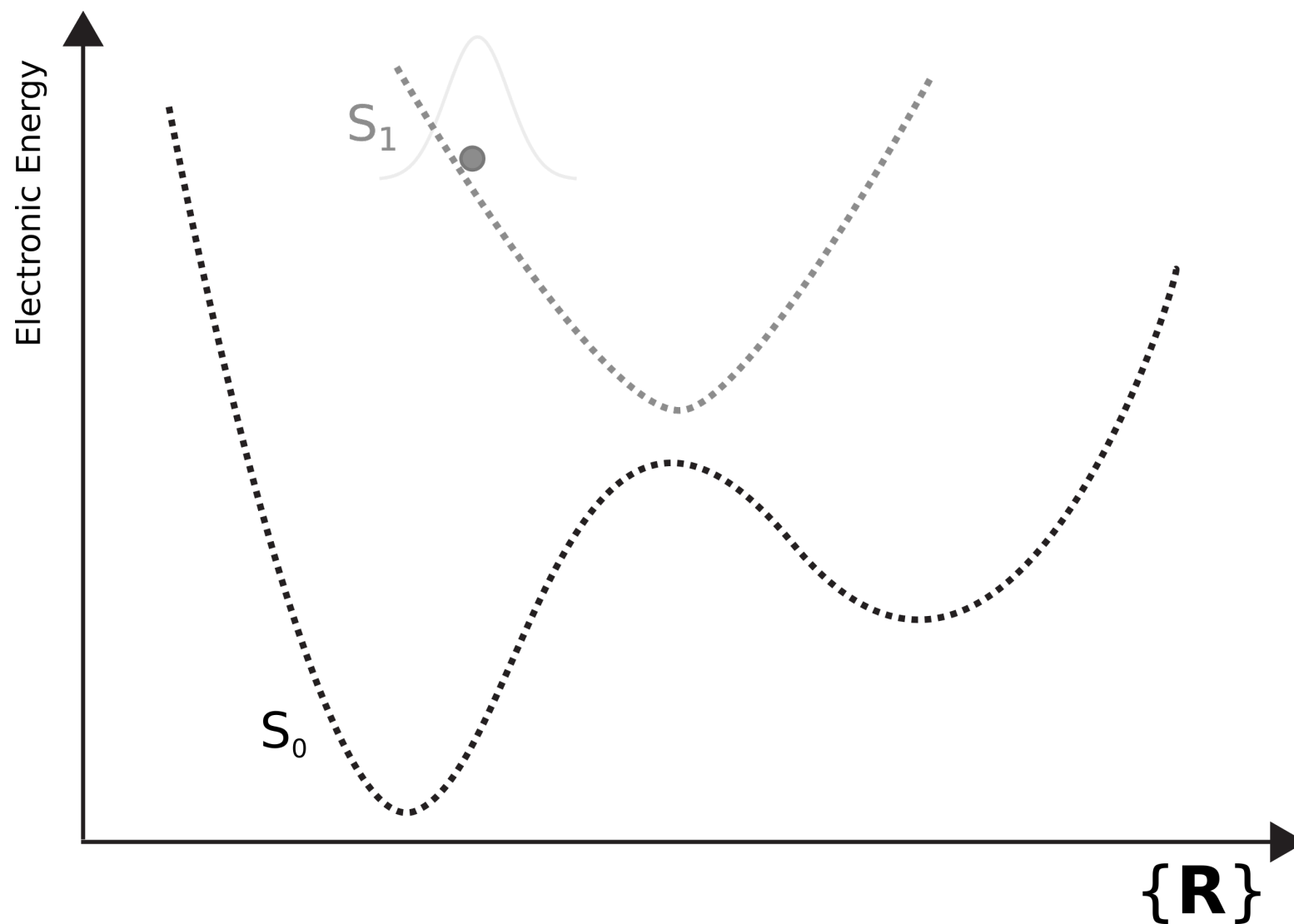
Trajectory Surface Hopping dynamics

$$i\hbar\dot{c}_I^\alpha(t) = \sum_J c_J^\alpha(t) \left(E_J^{el}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t))\delta_{IJ} - i\hbar\dot{\mathbf{R}}^\alpha(t) \cdot \mathbf{d}_{IJ}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)) \right)$$

$$\mathbf{F}^\alpha = -\nabla_{\mathbf{R}} E_*^{el}(\mathbf{R})|_{\mathbf{R}=\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)}$$

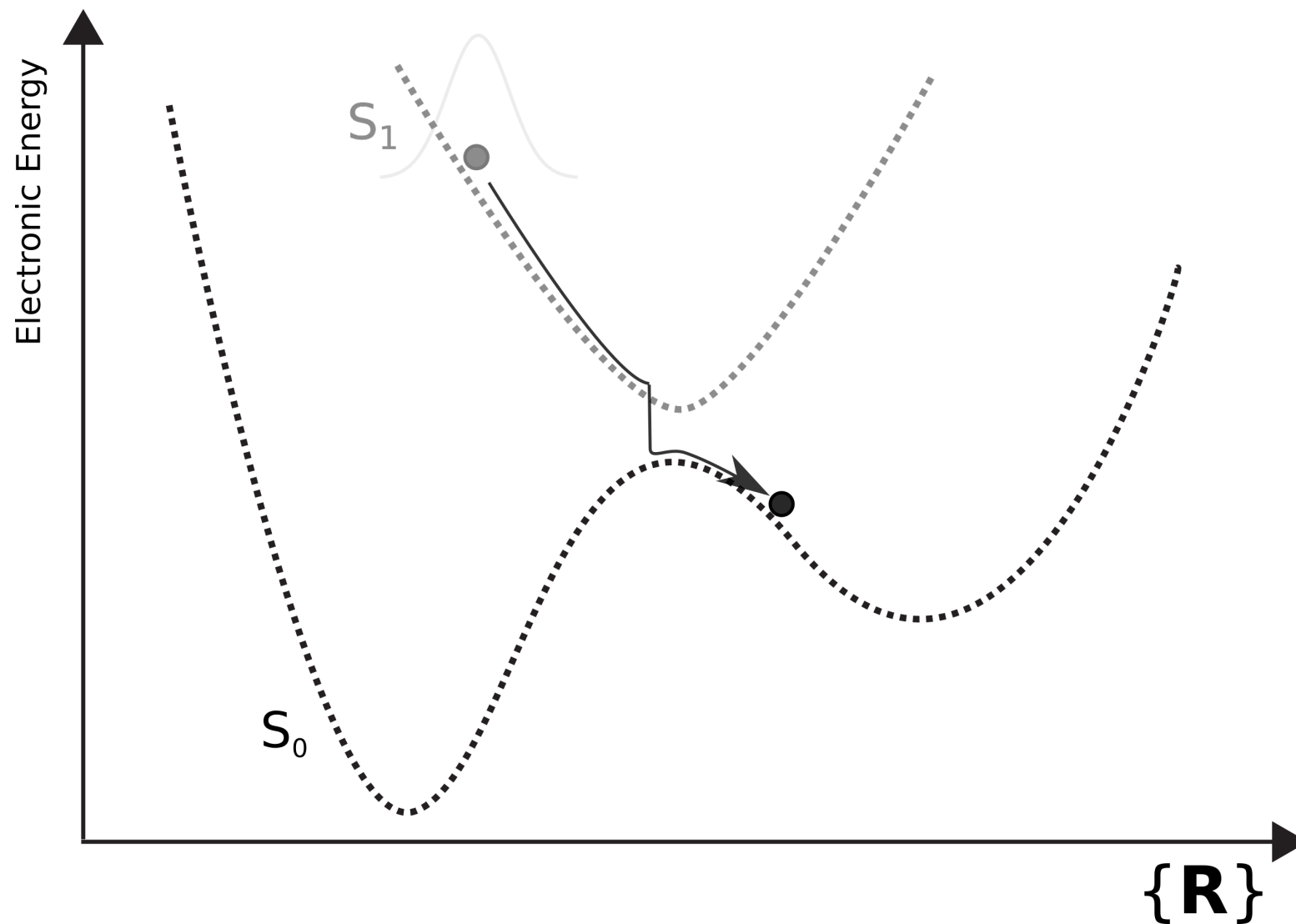
In TSH, a trajectory α evolves adiabatically on a given potential energy surface but can *hop* after each nuclear time step if nonadiabatic effects are detected.

Trajectory Surface Hopping – a pictorial introduction



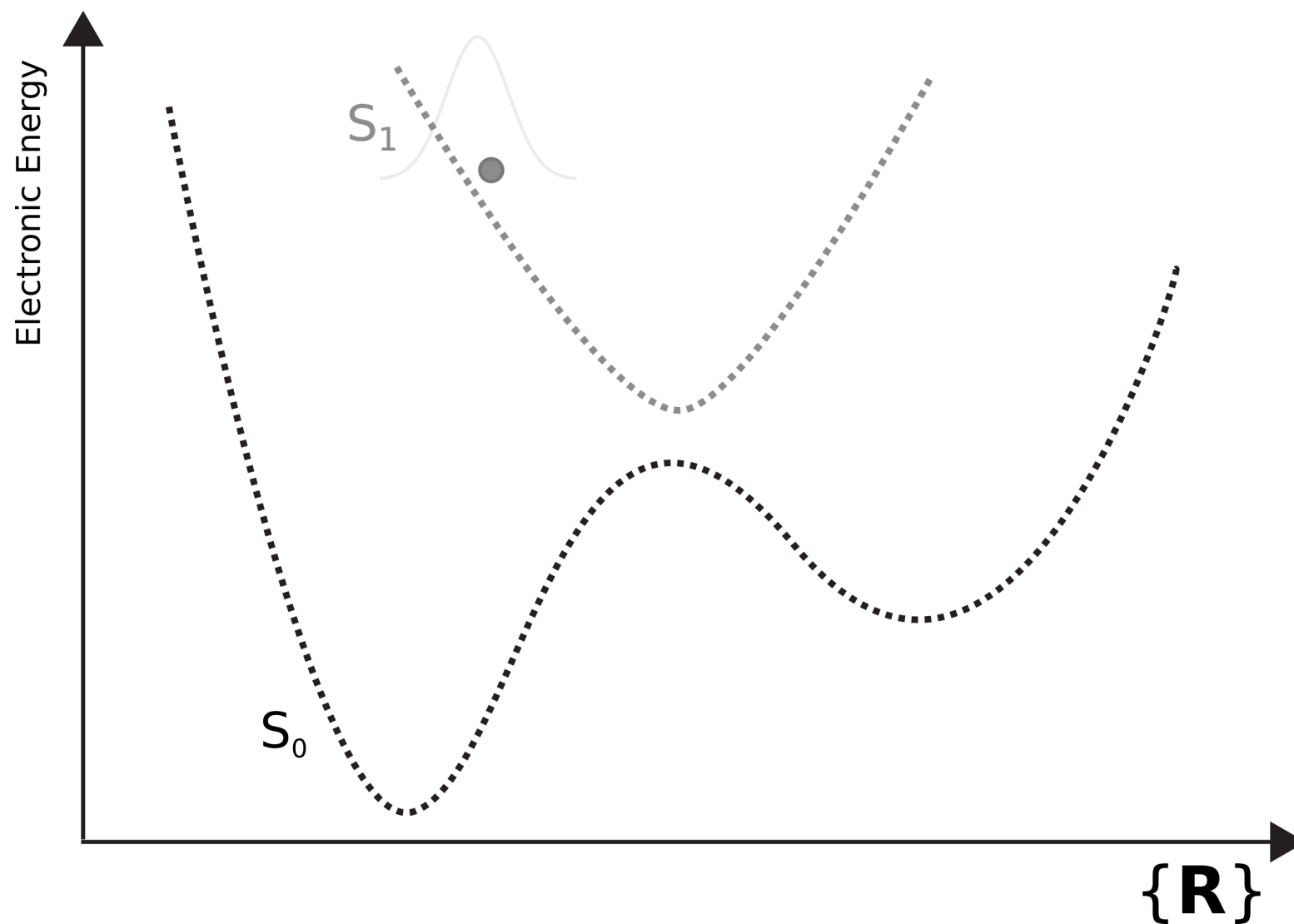
J. C. Tully, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **93**, 1061 (1990).

Trajectory Surface Hopping – a pictorial introduction



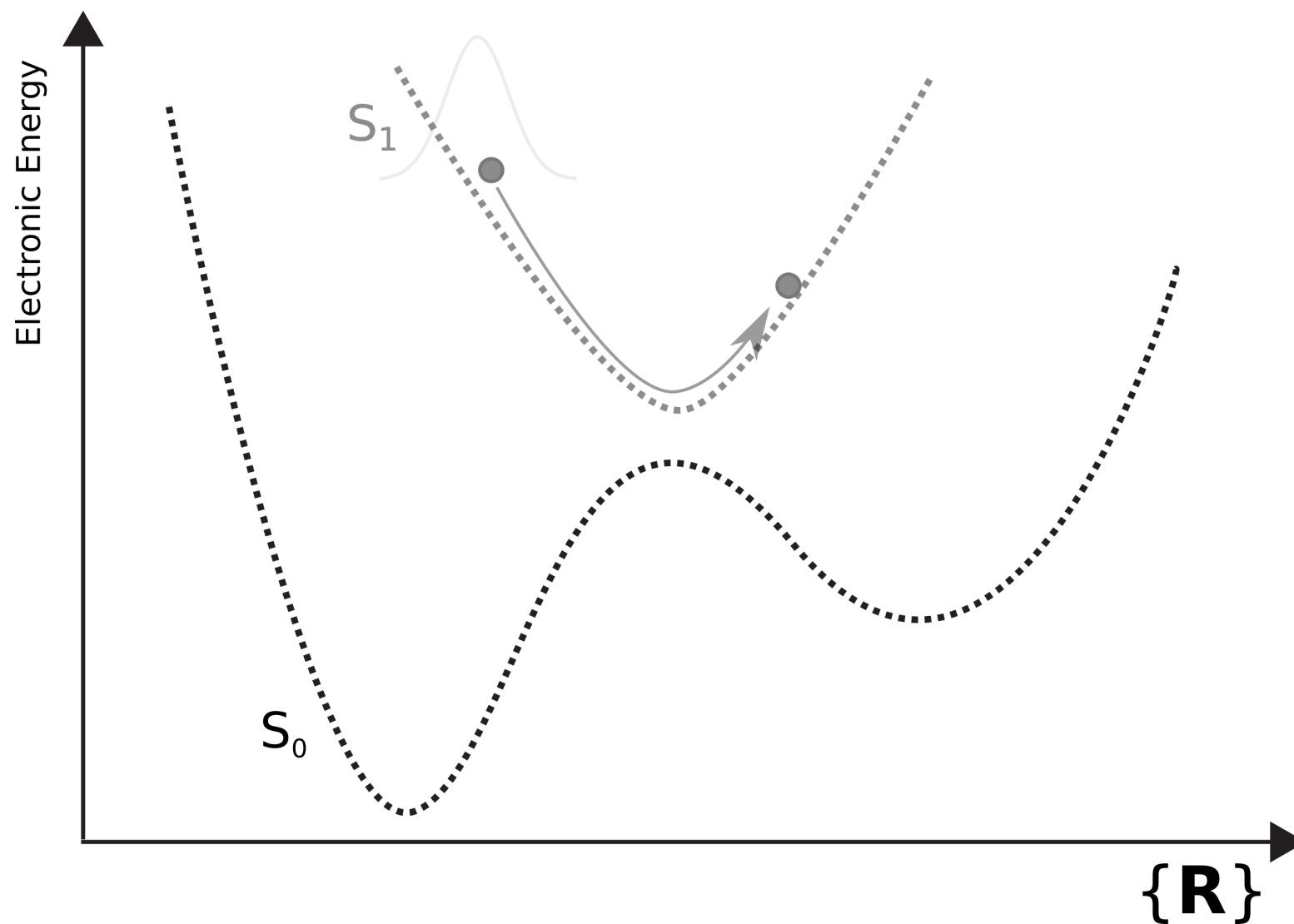
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Trajectory Surface Hopping – a pictorial introduction



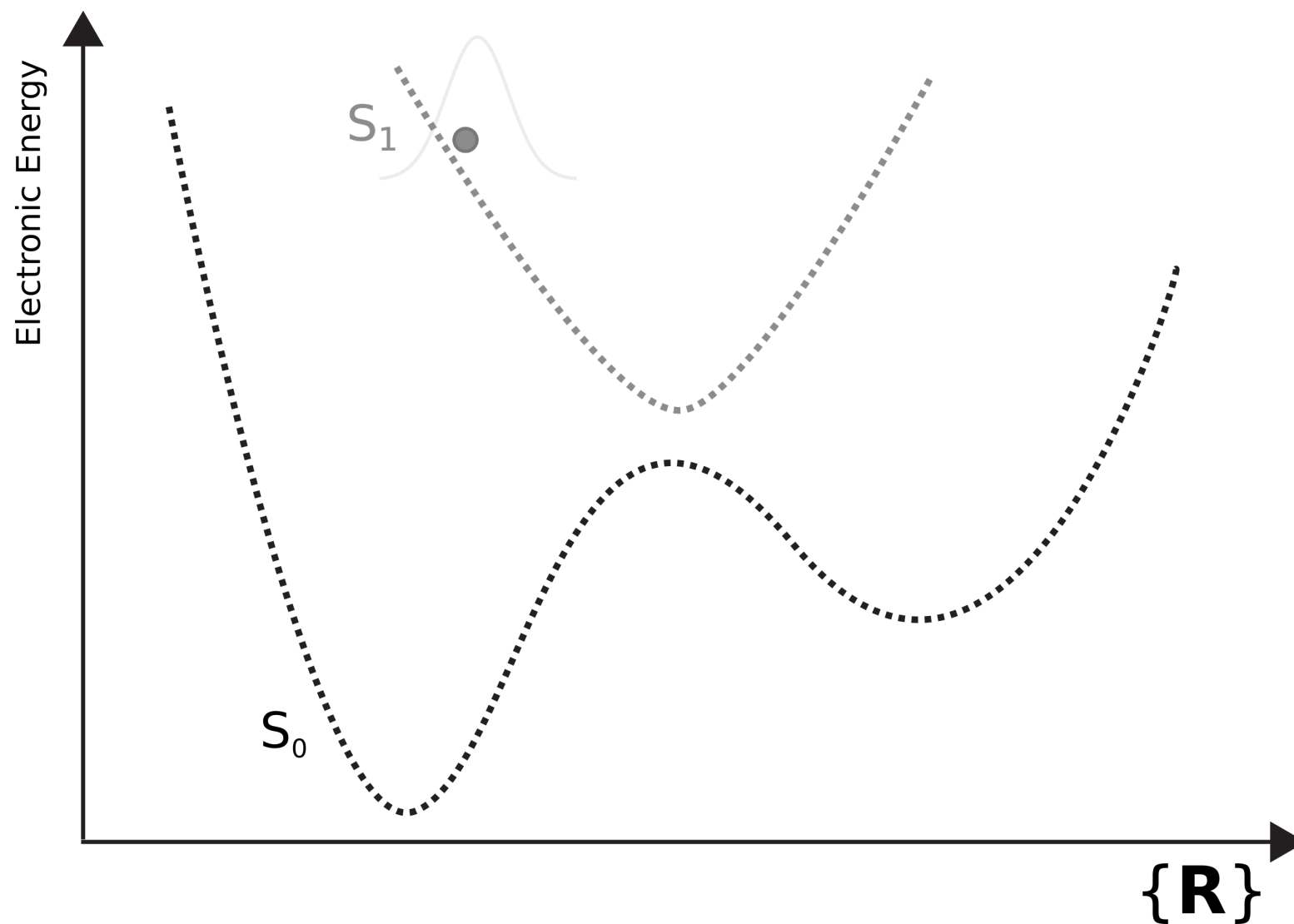
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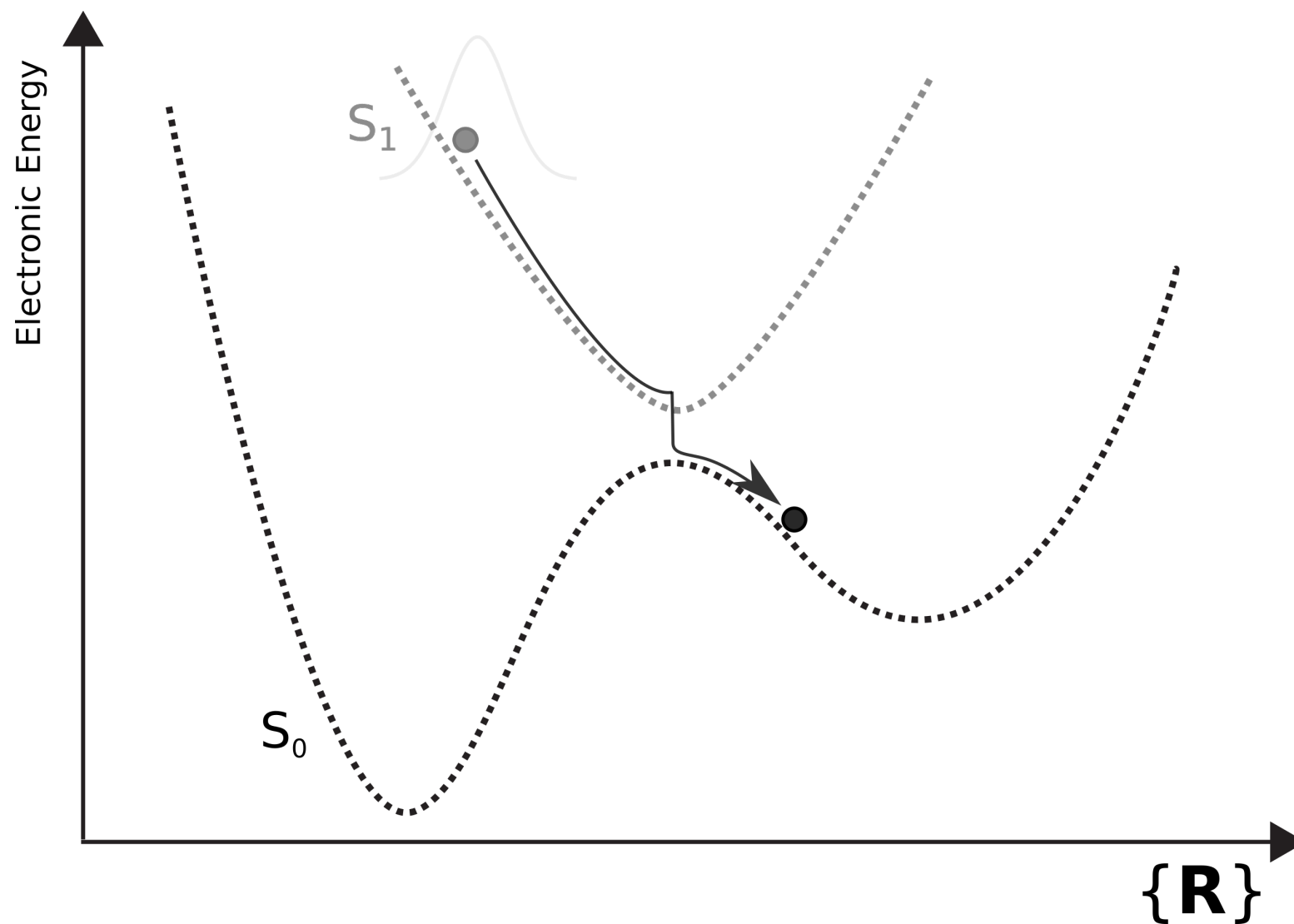
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Trajectory Surface Hopping – a pictorial introduction



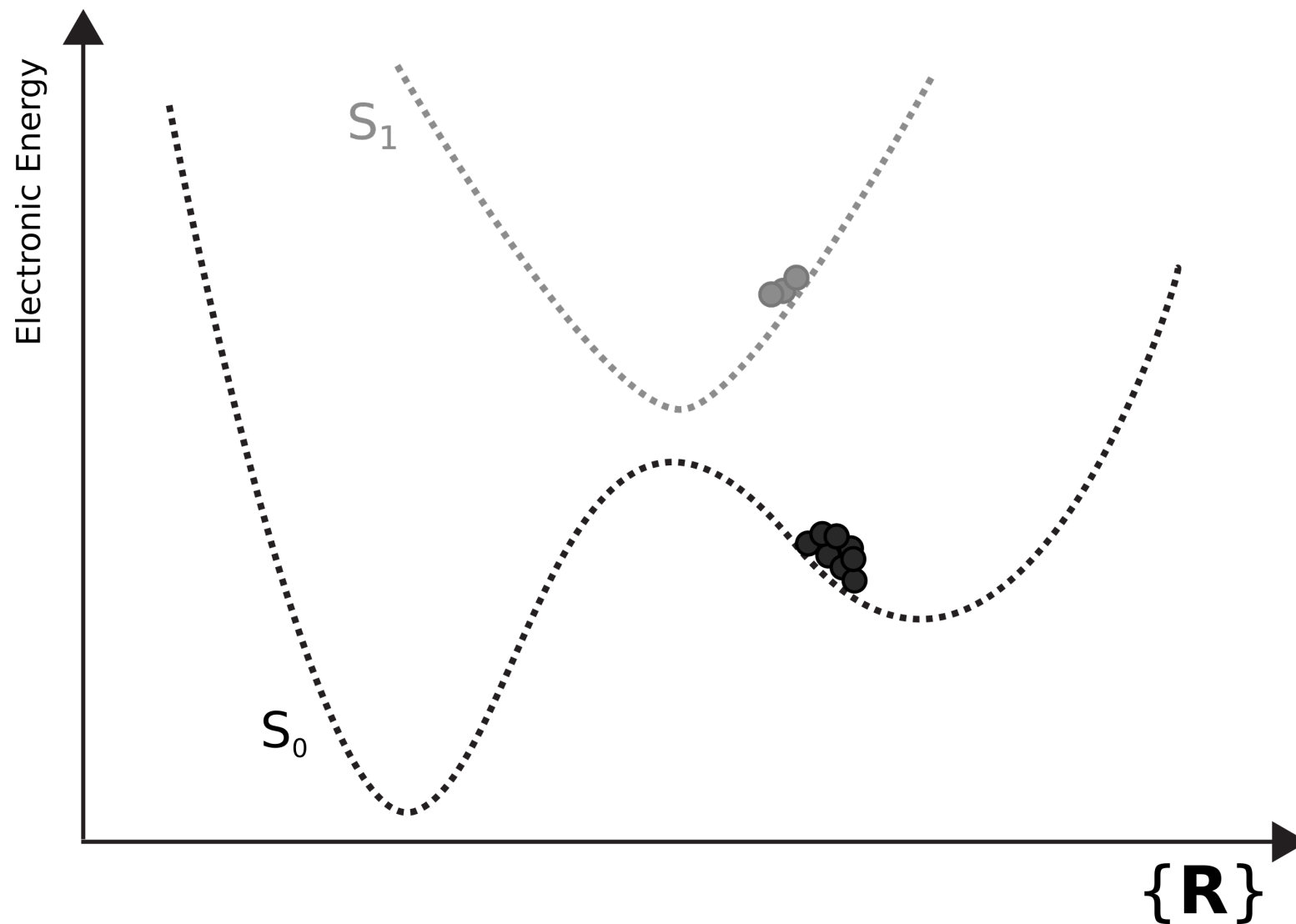
J. C. Tully, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **93**, 1061 (1990).

Trajectory Surface Hopping – a pictorial introduction



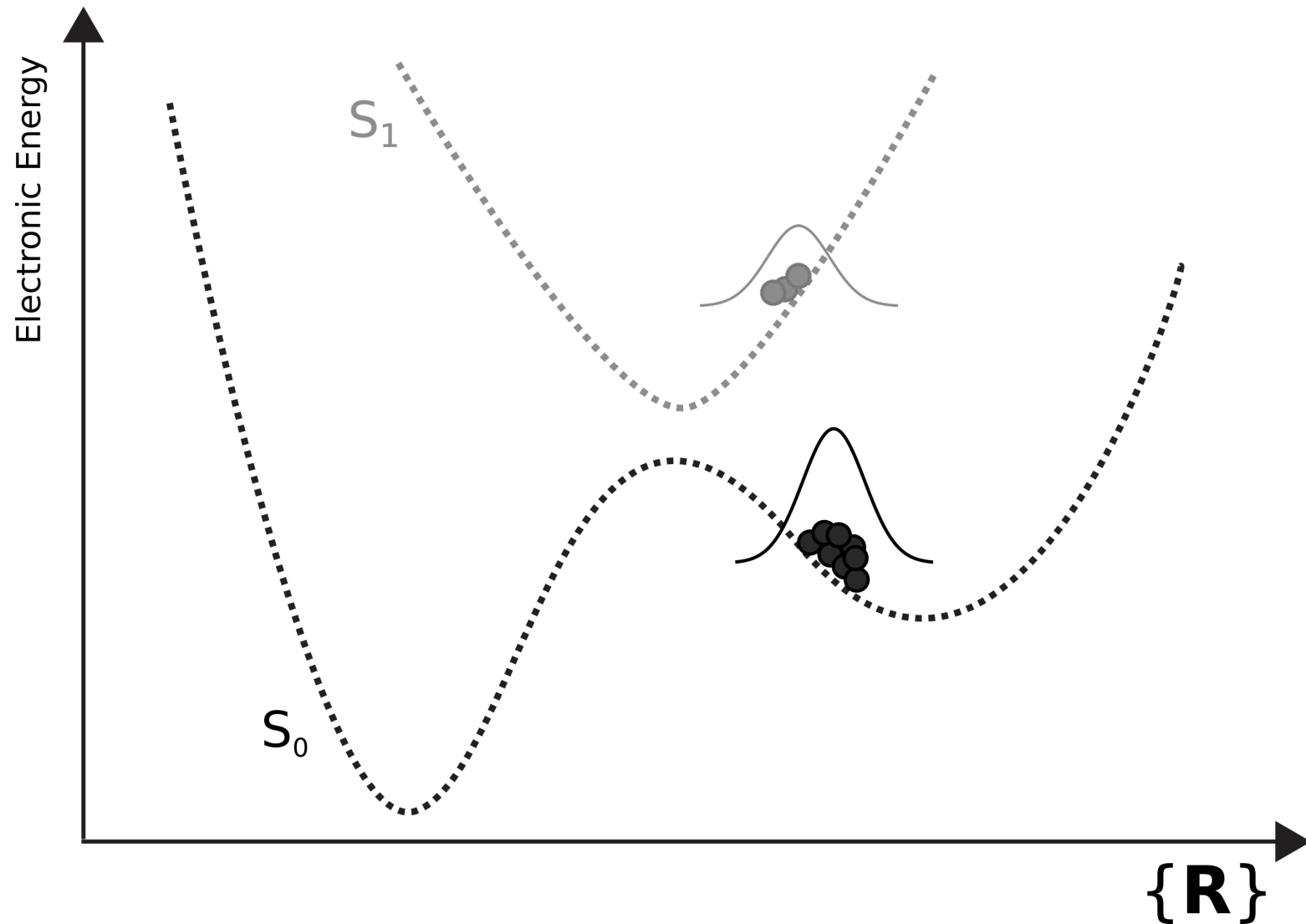
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Trajectory Surface Hopping – a pictorial introduction



J. C. Tully, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **93**, 1061 (1990).

Trajectory Surface Hopping – a pictorial introduction



J. C. Tully, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **93**, 1061 (1990).

What is the prescription for a hop to occur?

Tully devised in 1990 the *fewest switches* algorithm, which provides a possible prescription for a trajectory to hop from one state to the other after each time step:

$$\mathcal{P}_{K \rightarrow I}^{\alpha} = \max \left[0, \frac{-2 dt}{|c_K^{\alpha}(t)|^2} \Re [c_K^{\alpha*}(t) c_I^{\alpha}(t)] \dot{\mathbf{R}}^{\alpha}(t) \cdot \mathbf{d}_{IK}(\mathbf{R}^{\alpha}(t)) \right].$$

A hop occurs from electronic K to another electronic state I if

$$\sum_J^{I-1} \mathcal{P}_{K \rightarrow J}^{\alpha} \leq \zeta \leq \sum_J^I \mathcal{P}_{K \rightarrow J}^{\alpha},$$

where ζ is a random number generated uniformly in the interval $[0 : 1]$. If a hop occurs, the nuclear forces will now be obtained from $E_*^{el}(\mathbf{R}) = E_I^{el}(\mathbf{R})$.

An important point of the TSH algorithm is that it requires a **large number of independent trajectories**, or independent TSH runs, to converge the hopping algorithm, as well as the sampling of initial conditions.

J. C. Tully, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **93**, 1061 (1990).

Trajectory Surface Hopping dynamics – central equations

Trajectory Surface Hopping dynamics

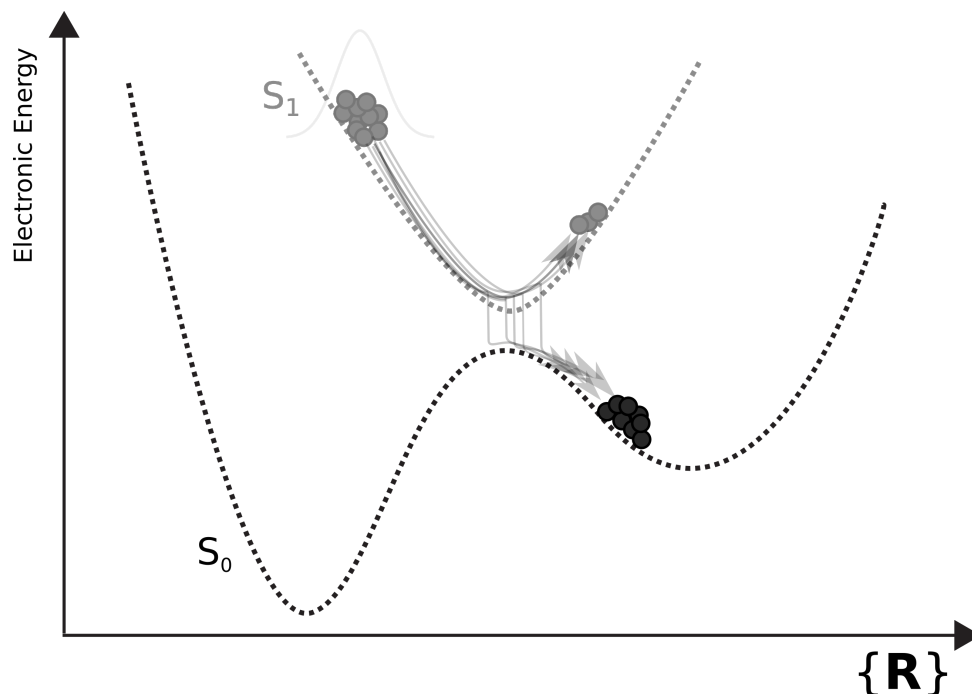
$$i\hbar\dot{c}_I^\alpha(t) = \sum_J c_J^\alpha(t) \left(E_J^{el}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t))\delta_{IJ} - i\hbar\dot{\mathbf{R}}^\alpha(t) \cdot \mathbf{d}_{IJ}(\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)) \right)$$

$$\mathbf{F}^\alpha = -\nabla_{\mathbf{R}} E_*^{el}(\mathbf{R})|_{\mathbf{R}=\mathbf{R}^\alpha(t)}$$

$$\sum_J^{I-1} \mathcal{P}_{K \rightarrow J}^\alpha \leq \zeta \leq \sum_J^I \mathcal{P}_{K \rightarrow J}^\alpha,$$

Multiple independent trajectories α have to be propagated.

Trajectory Surface Hopping dynamics – some warnings



- Rescaling of the nuclei velocities after a hop is still a matter of debate.
- Depending on the system studied, **a lot** of trajectories could be needed to obtain a complete statistical description of the non-radiative relaxation.
- **TSH cannot adequately describe the decoherence of nuclear wavepackets...**

For more details (and warnings) about Tully's surface hopping, see G. Granucci and M. Persico, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **126**, 134114 (2007).



The background features a diagram of potential energy surfaces (parabolas) representing different electronic states. A vertical axis is labeled 'd' and a horizontal axis is labeled 'f'. A trajectory is shown as a series of arrows starting from a lower state, moving up to a higher state, and then hopping back to the lower state. This illustrates the concept of trajectory surface hopping dynamics.

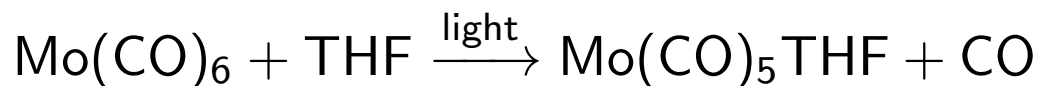
An example of Trajectory Surface Hopping dynamics using LR-TDDFT

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CO release of $\text{Cr}(\text{CO})_6$ upon photoexcitation

Cr(CO)₆ - CO photodissociation

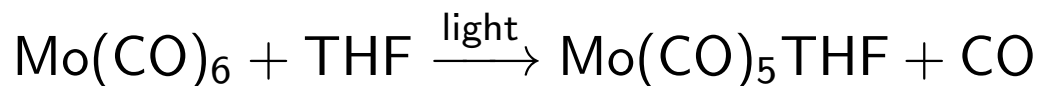
Experimentally, it is well-known that light-irradiation of carbonyl organometallic complexes leads to dissociation of a CO ligand and subsequent replacement by a solvent molecule.



This mechanism is used in the lab to produce interesting initial reactants for more complex reactions.

Cr(CO)₆ - CO photodissociation

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This mechanism is used in the lab to produce interesting initial reactants for more complex reactions.

Study of Cr(CO)₆ photodissociation using trajectory surface hopping to understand the electronic excited states involved.

JCP, **134**, 164305 (2011)

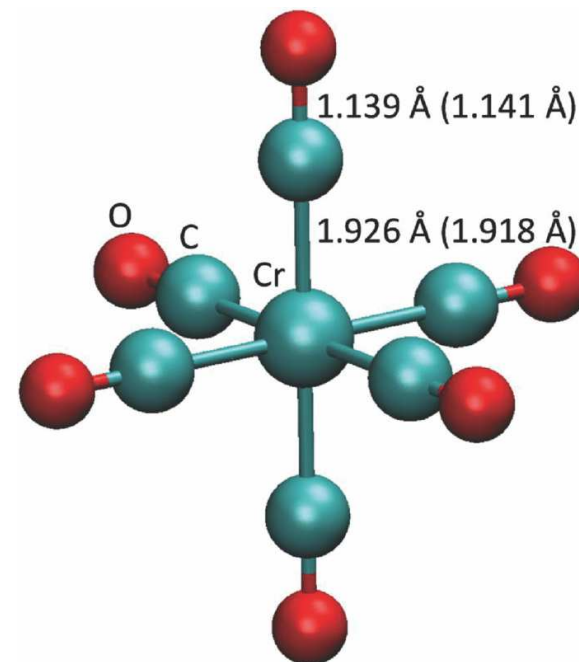
Cr(CO)₆ - CO photodissociation

Study of Cr(CO)₆ photodissociation using trajectory surface hopping

Computational details

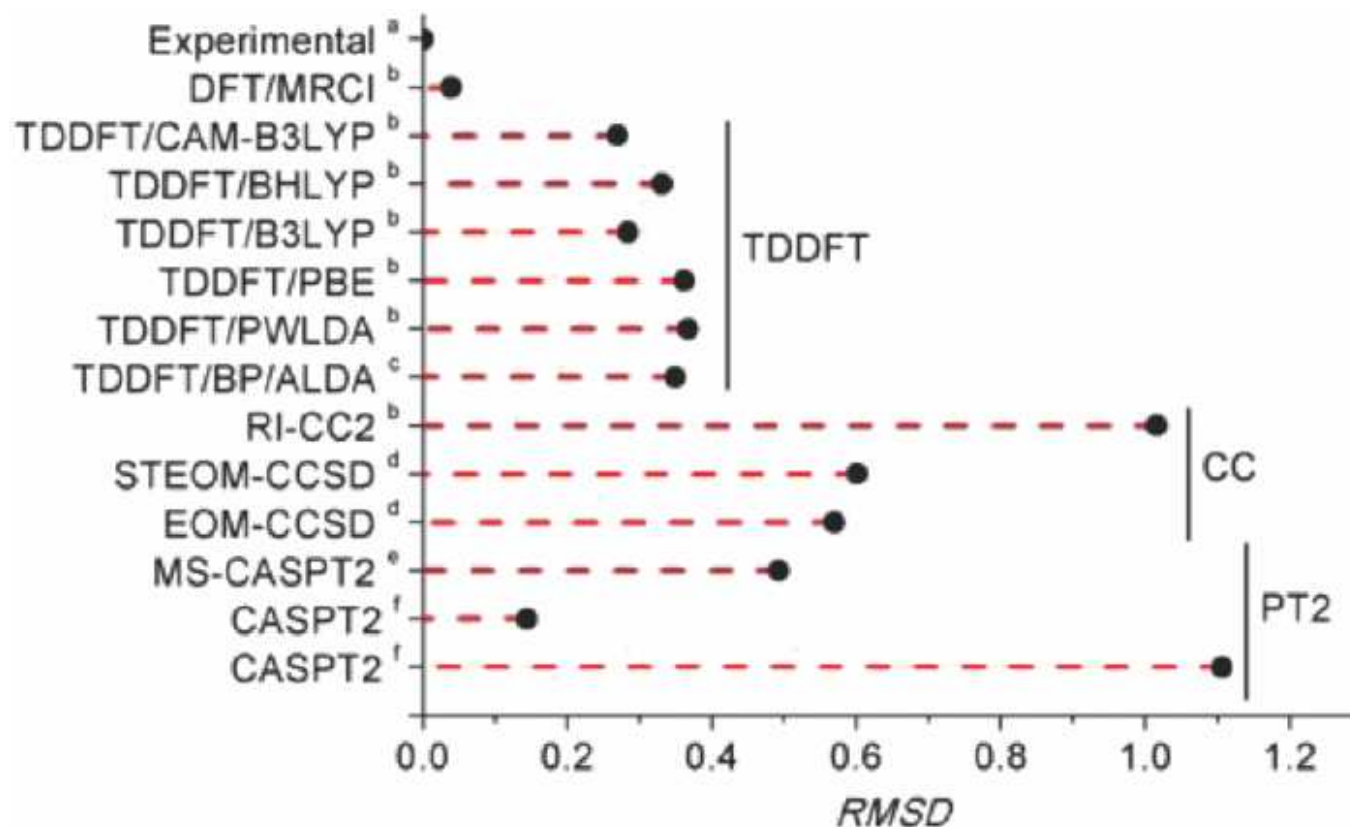
- Gas phase system
- LR-TDDFT/B3LYP for 5 lowest excited state
- TSH dynamics
- ~ 30 trajectories
- ~ 200 fs per trajectory

JCP, **134**, 164305 (2011)



Cr(CO)₆ - Comparison between methods

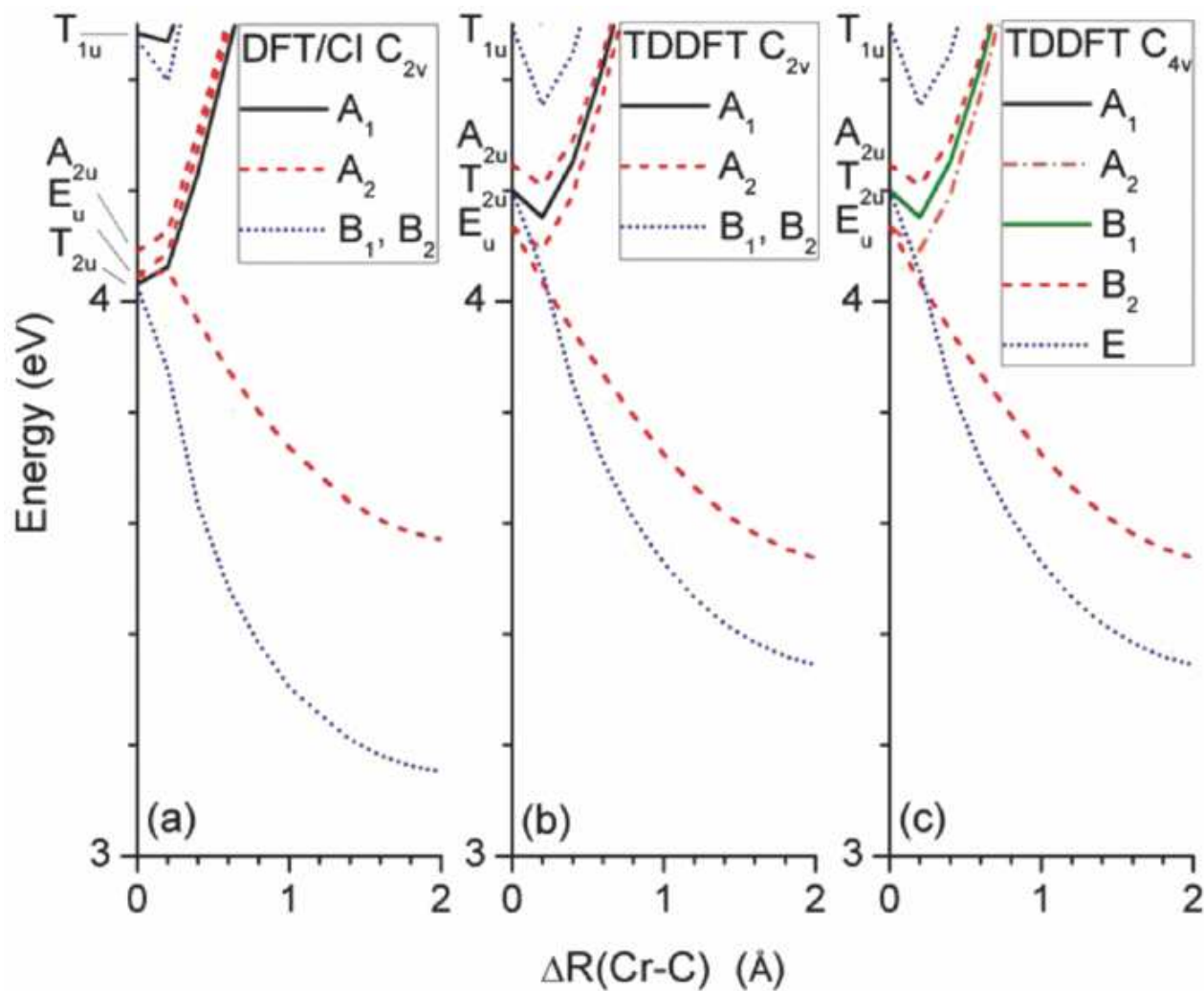
The root mean square deviation between experimental and theoretical excitation energies and oscillator strengths for two selected states.



CASPT2: importance of the active space.

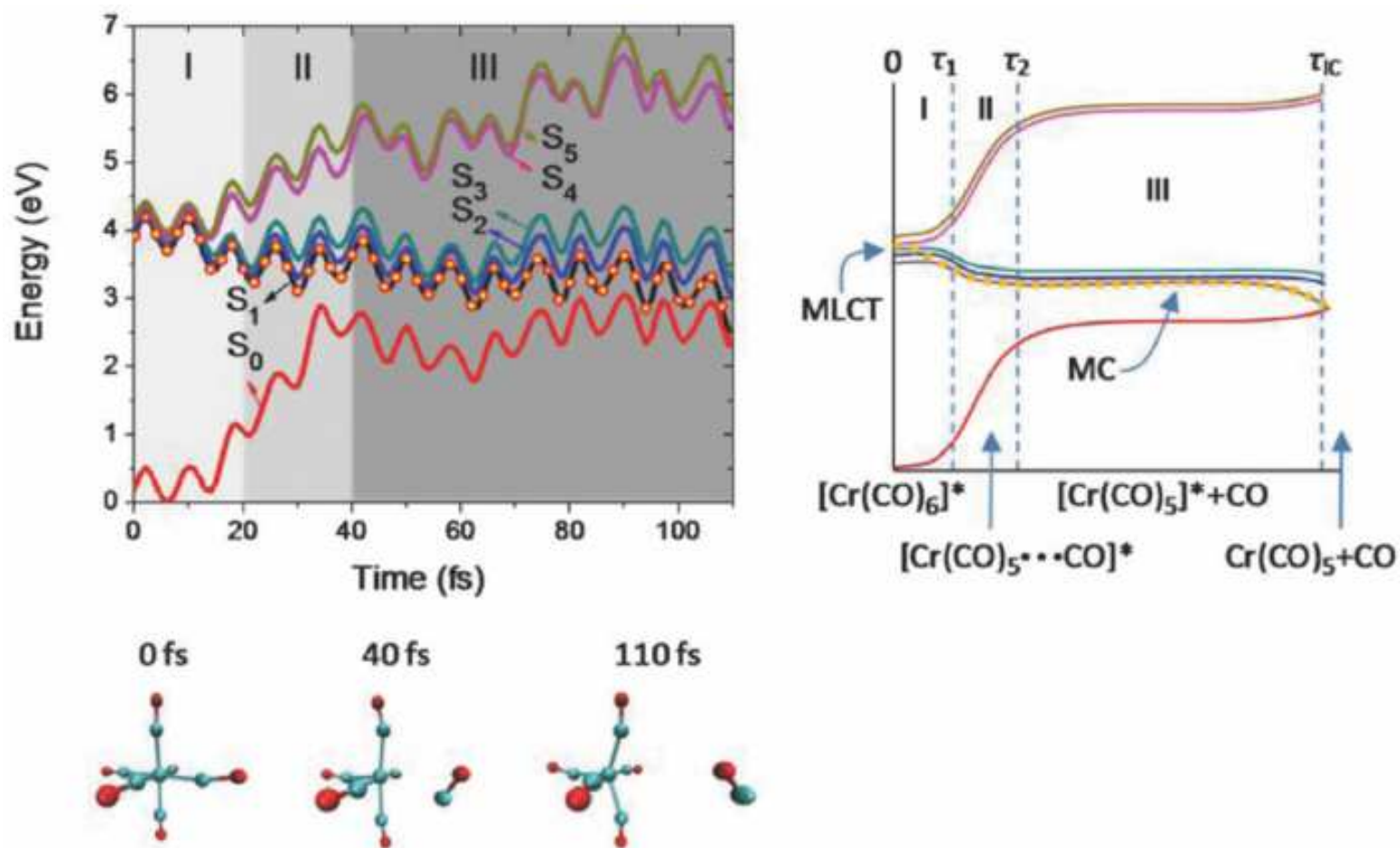
Cr(CO)₆ - Potential energy surfaces

Validation of the potential energy surfaces



Cr(CO)₆ - Trajectory surface hopping

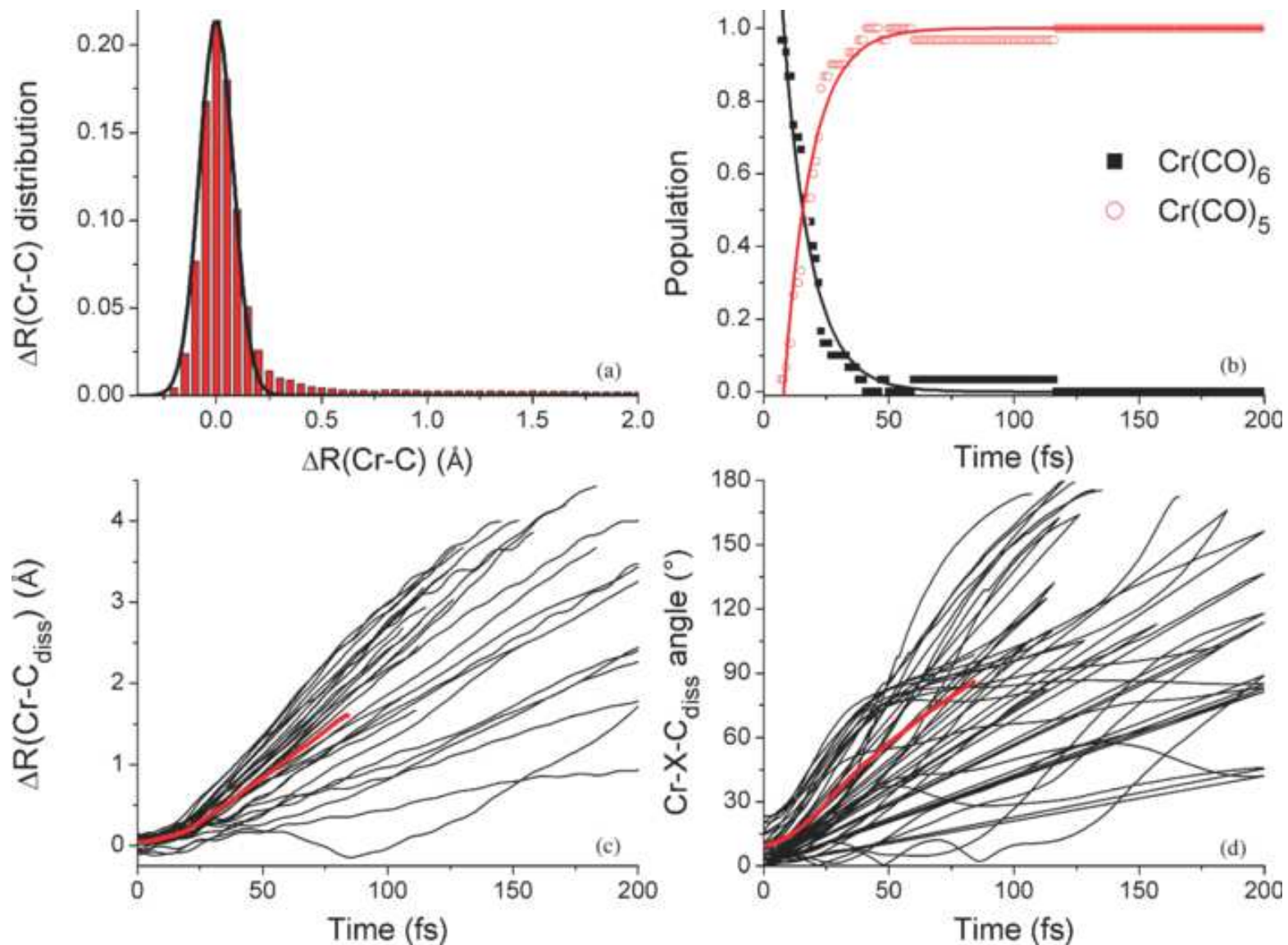
General trends of the nonadiabatic trajectories



Three steps: Hops within the large density of states - bands splitting - dynamics of the Cr(CO)₅ fragment and relaxation towards S₀.

Cr(CO)₆ - Trajectory surface hopping

Different observables along the dynamics



Cr(CO)₆ - Trajectory surface hopping

Comparison with experimental findings

TABLE V. Summary of simulated and experimental time constants (fs) for photodynamics of Cr(CO)₆. Experimental data from Ref. 16 for 345 nm pump wavelength. See Fig. 8-right for the definition of the time constants.

	Present work	Experimental
t_d	8	
t_e	11	
$\tau_1 = t_d + t_e$	19	21 ± 1
$\tau_2 = t_d + 3t_e$	41	43 ± 3
τ_{IC}	148	68 ± 6

t_d is the latency time before any dissociation takes place and t_e is the exponential time constant

τ_1 : Time when the dissociation starts. τ_2 : Time when Cr(CO)₅ population dominates ($3t_e$ corresponds to 95% of the exponential decay distribution). τ_{IC} : Excited state lifetime.