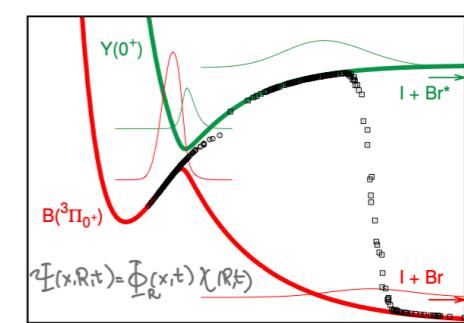
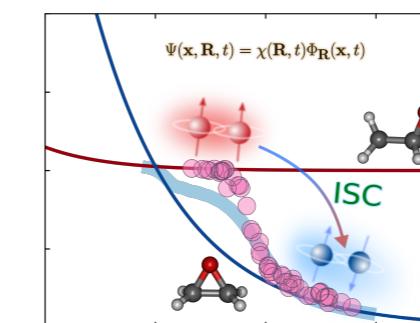
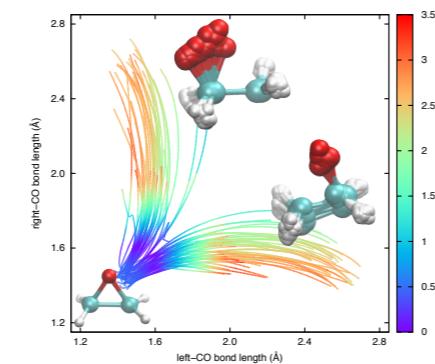
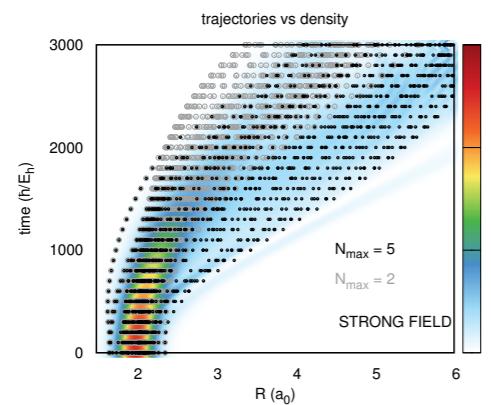


# Theory and simulation of ultrafast processes in molecules with the exact factorization



Federica Agostini

Institut de Chimie Physique, University Paris-Saclay  
[federica.agostini@universite-paris-saclay.fr](mailto:federica.agostini@universite-paris-saclay.fr)

# Overview

Preparation of the initial state

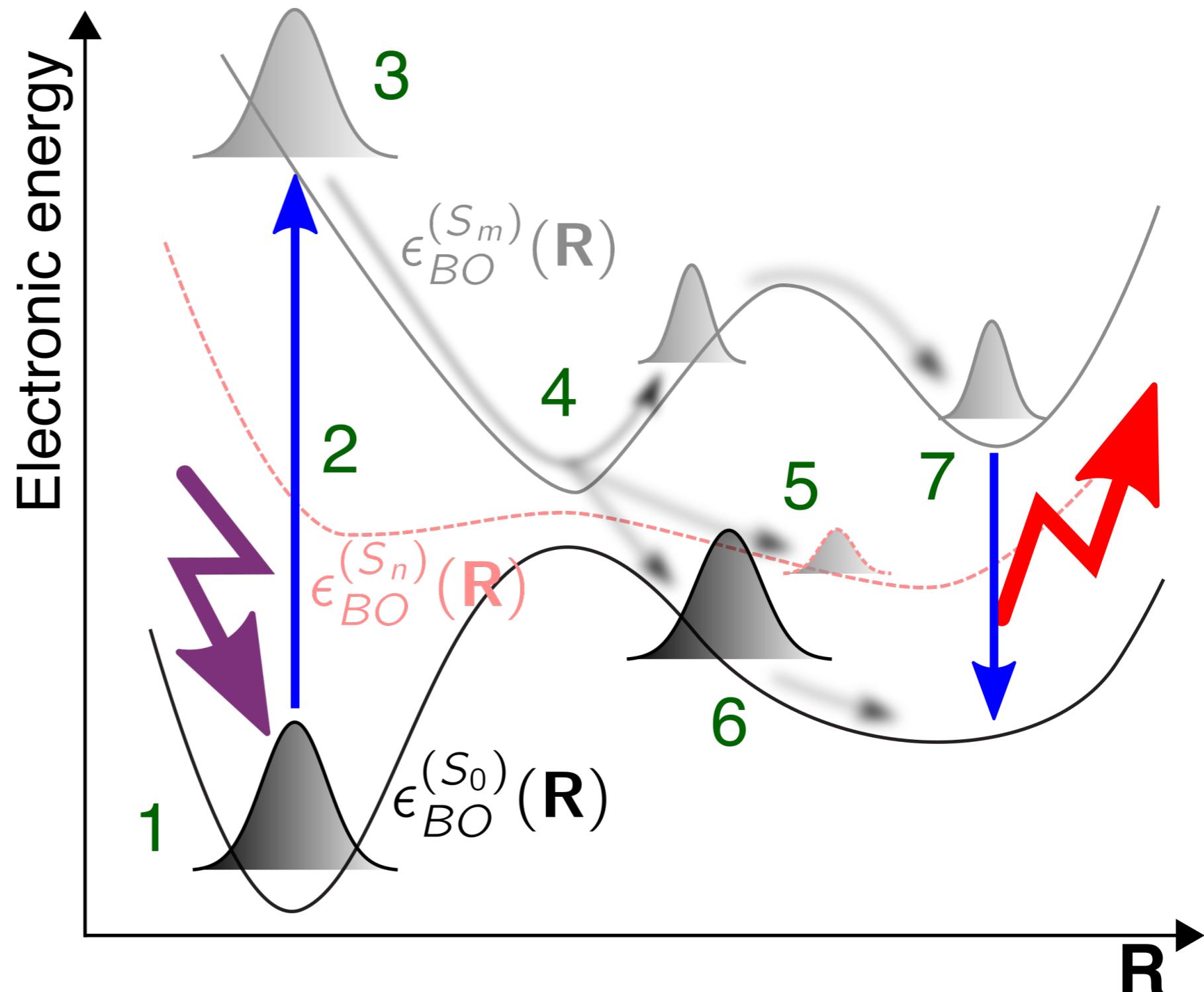
Excitation by photo-absorption

Creation of an excited nuclear wavepacket

Non-radiative relaxation via internal conversion or intersystem crossing

Formation of photoproducts

Radiative relaxation via fluorescence or phosphorescence



Courtesy of Basile Curchod

# Summary

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- \* An introduction on nonadiabatic dynamics with trajectories
- \* Exact factorization of the electron-nuclear wavefunction and its classical limit
- \* The concept of classical force from the exact factorization
- \* Some studies on photo-isomerization, intersystem crossing, Floquet-driven dynamics

# About nonadiabatic dynamics

$$i\hbar\partial_t\Psi(r, R, t) = \left( \hat{T}_n + \hat{H}_{el} \right) \Psi(r, R, t)$$

resolution strategies based on representing  $\Psi(r, R, t)$  as:

$$\sum_k \chi_k(R, t) \varphi_k(r; R) = \text{BH}$$

**DD-vMCG, AIMS, AIMC, TSH**

$$\chi(R, t) \Phi(r, t; R) = \text{EF}$$

**CT-MQC(/TSH), SHXF, EH**

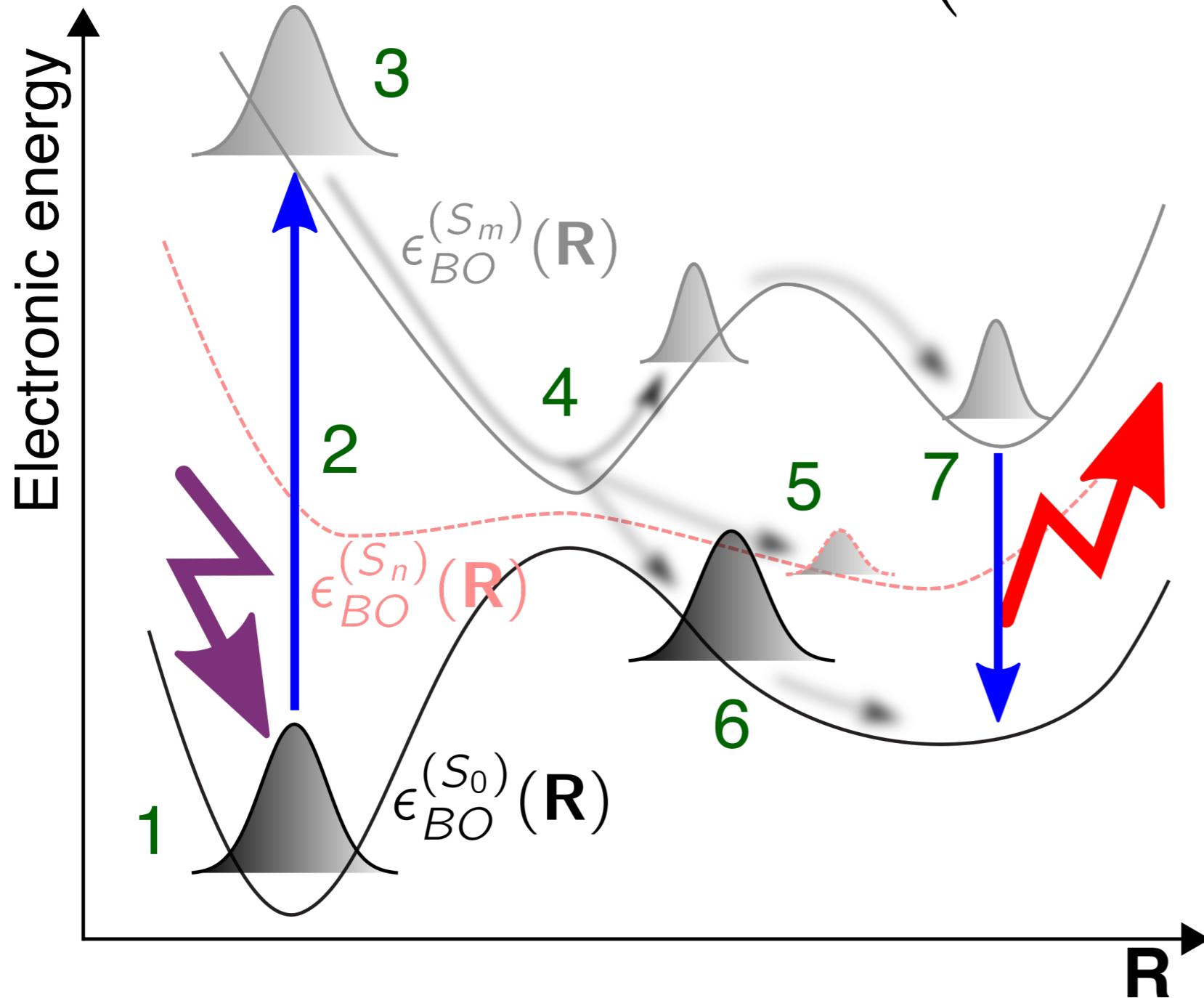
and if we only keep one term in the Born-Huang expansion or if we neglect the time-dependence in the electronic wavefunction of the exact factorization, we recover the Born-Oppenheimer limit

$$\chi_{BO}(R, t) \varphi_{BO}(r; R) = \text{BO}$$

Abedi, Maitra, Gross, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2010); Agostini, Curchod, *WIREs Overview* (2019); Crespo-Otero, Barbatti, *Chem. Rev.* (2018).

# About nonadiabatic dynamics with trajectories

$$i\hbar\partial_t\Psi(r, R, t) = \left( \hat{T}_n + \hat{H}_{el} \right) \Psi(r, R, t)$$



$\hat{H}_{el}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})$  encodes the **electronic structure problem**  
[energies, gradients, nonadiabatic coupling, spin-orbit coupling, transition dipole moments]

$\hat{T}_n(\mathbf{R}) + \hat{H}_{el}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})$  generates the **coupled electron-nuclear dynamics**  
[quantum trajectories, semiclassical dynamics, trajectory-basis functions, independent or coupled classical trajectories]

# Exact factorization of the molecular wavefunction

$$i\hbar\partial_t \chi(R, t)\Phi(r, t; R) = \underbrace{\left( \hat{T}_n + \hat{H}_{el} \right)}_{\text{EF}} \chi(R, t)\Phi(r, t; R)$$

$$i\hbar\partial_t \Phi(r, t; R) = \left[ \hat{H}_{el} + \hat{U}_{en}[\Phi, \chi] - \epsilon(R, t) \right] \Phi(r, t; R)$$

$$i\hbar\partial_t \chi(R, t) = \left[ \frac{[-i\hbar\nabla_R + A(R, t)]^2}{2M} + \epsilon(R, t) \right] \chi(R, t)$$

expansion in the adiabatic electronic basis with coefficients  $C_k(R_\alpha(t), t)$

classical limit & trajectory-based description  $R_\alpha(t)$  with forces  $F_\alpha(t)$

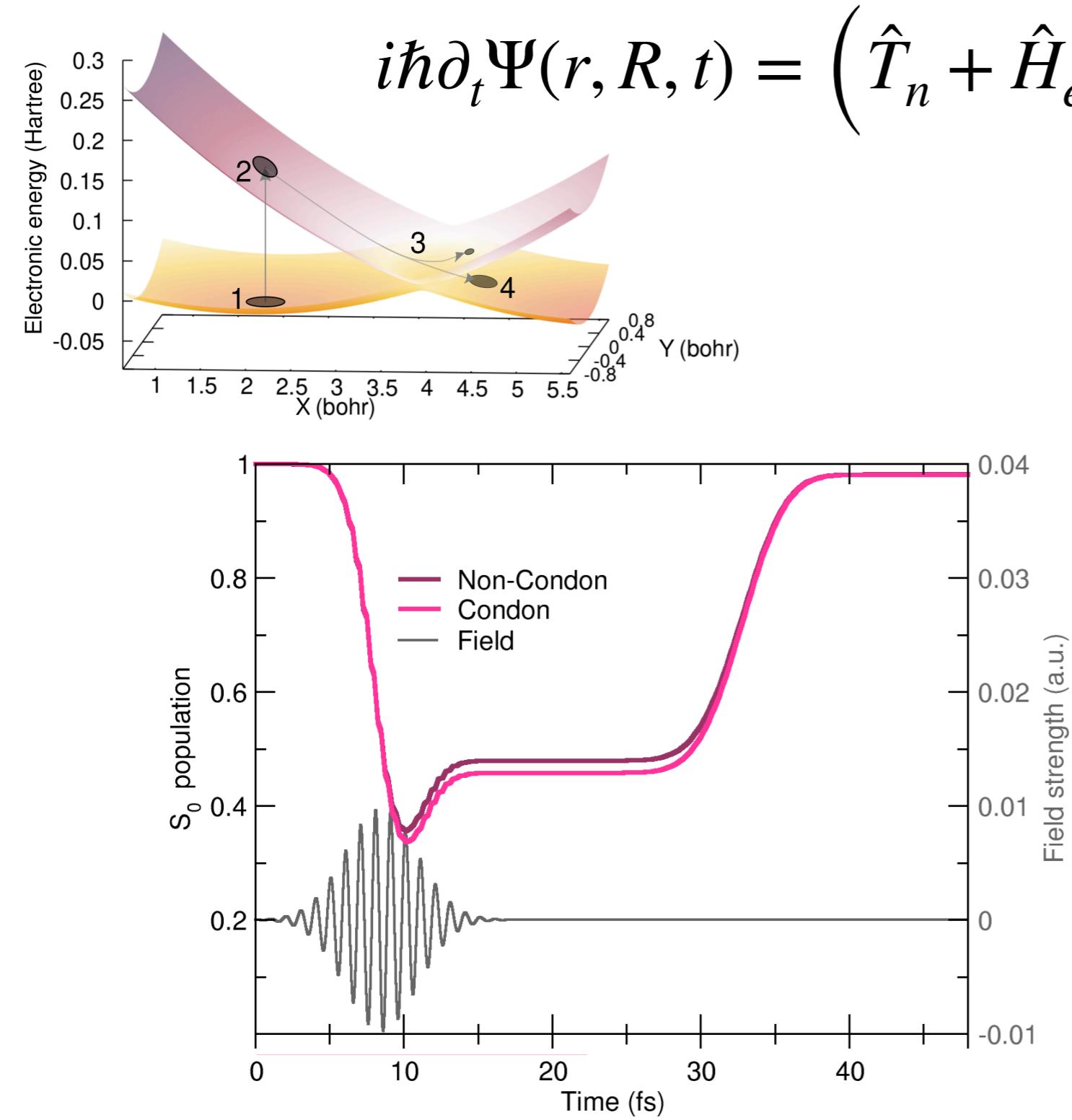
$$\dot{C}_k(R_\alpha(t), t) = \dot{C}_k^{\text{mf}}(R_\alpha(t), t) + \dot{C}_k^{\text{ct}}(R_\alpha(t), t; \underline{R}(t))$$

$$F_\alpha(t) = F_\alpha^{\text{mf}}(t) + F_\alpha^{\text{ct}}(t; \underline{R}(t))$$

**CT-MQC**

Abedi, Maitra, Gross, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2010); Min, Agostini, Gross, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2015).

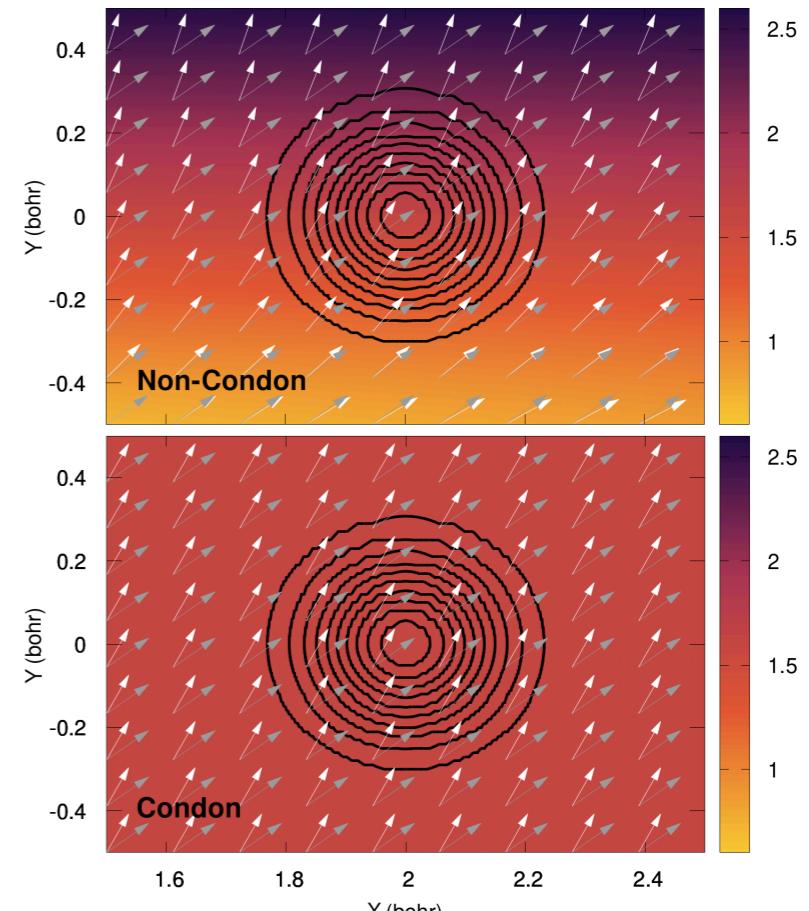
# The classical force in the exact factorization



$$i\hbar\partial_t\Psi(r, R, t) = \left( \hat{T}_n + \hat{H}_{el} + \hat{V}(t) \right) \Psi(r, R, t)$$

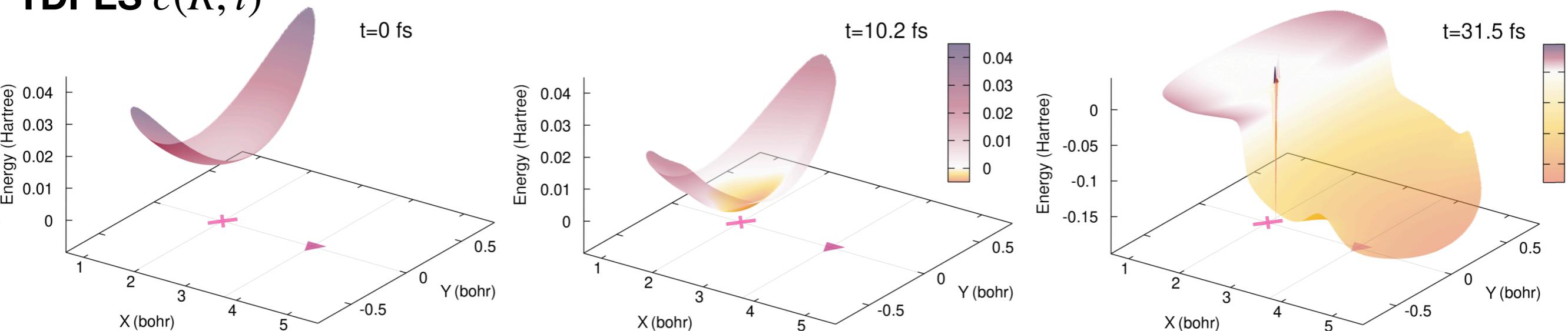
$$\hat{V}(t) = -\hat{\mu} \cdot E(t)$$

- $E_0 = 0.065 E_h/(ea_0); \Omega = 0.15 E_h/\hbar$
- laser pulse duration  $\sim 15 fs$
- linear approximation for  $\mu(R)$

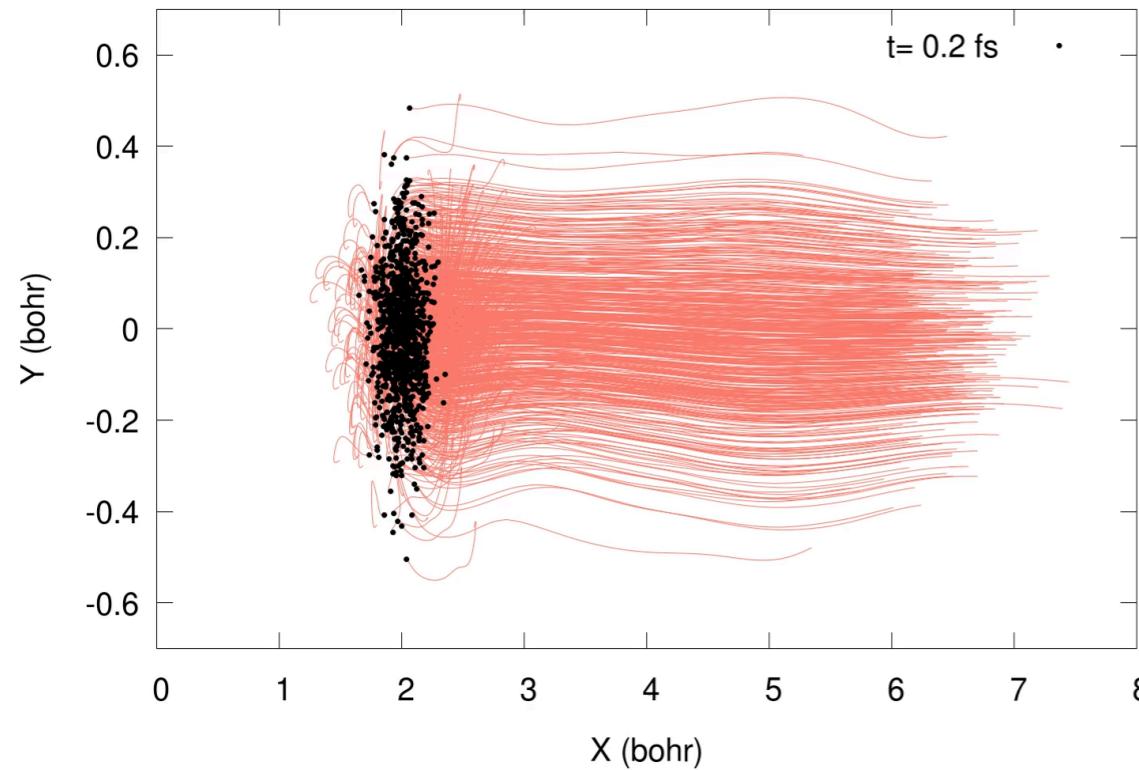


# The classical force in the exact factorization

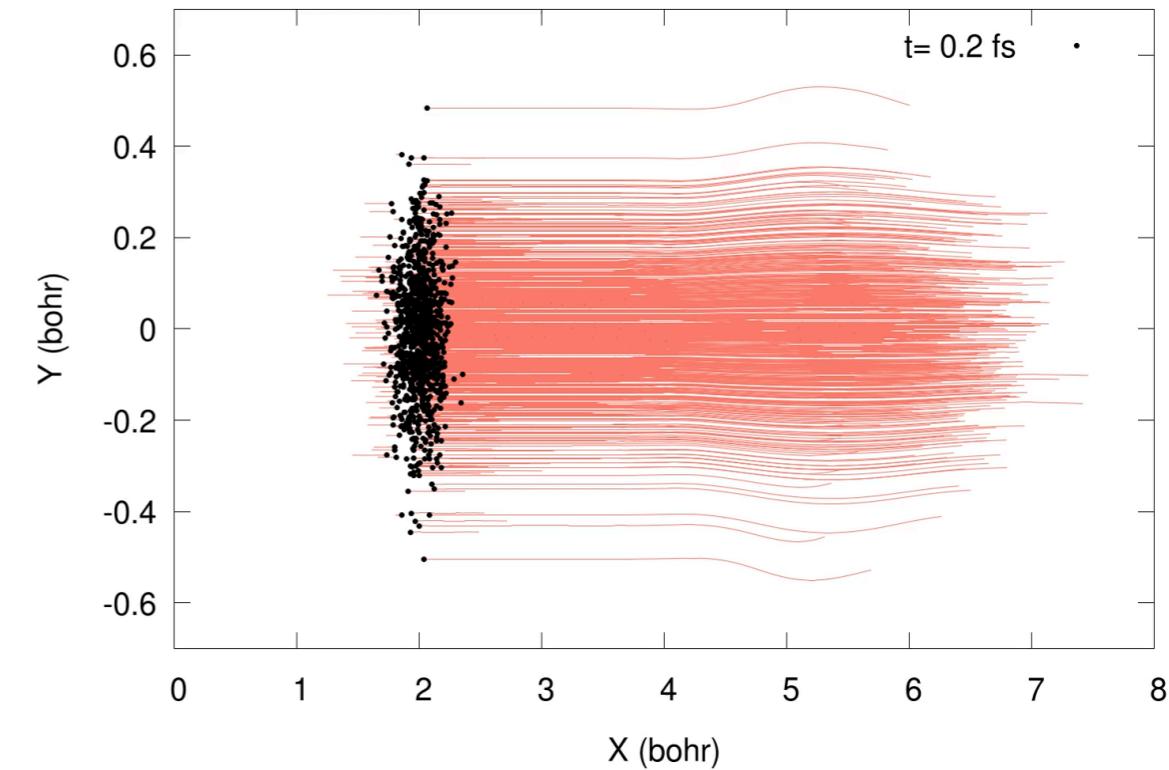
TDPES  $\epsilon(R, t)$



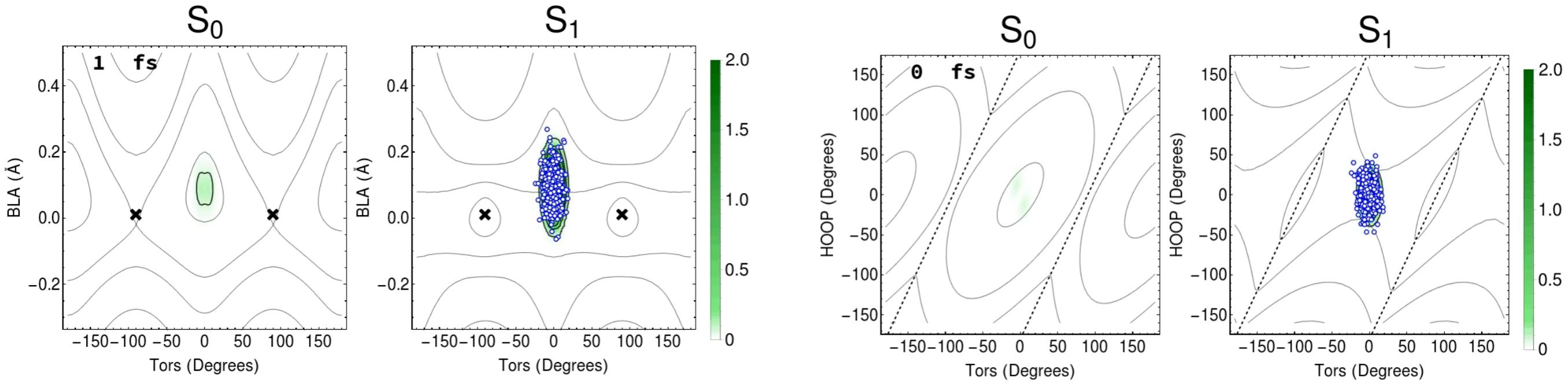
Quantum trajectory distribution (Non-Condon)



Quantum trajectory distribution (Condon)

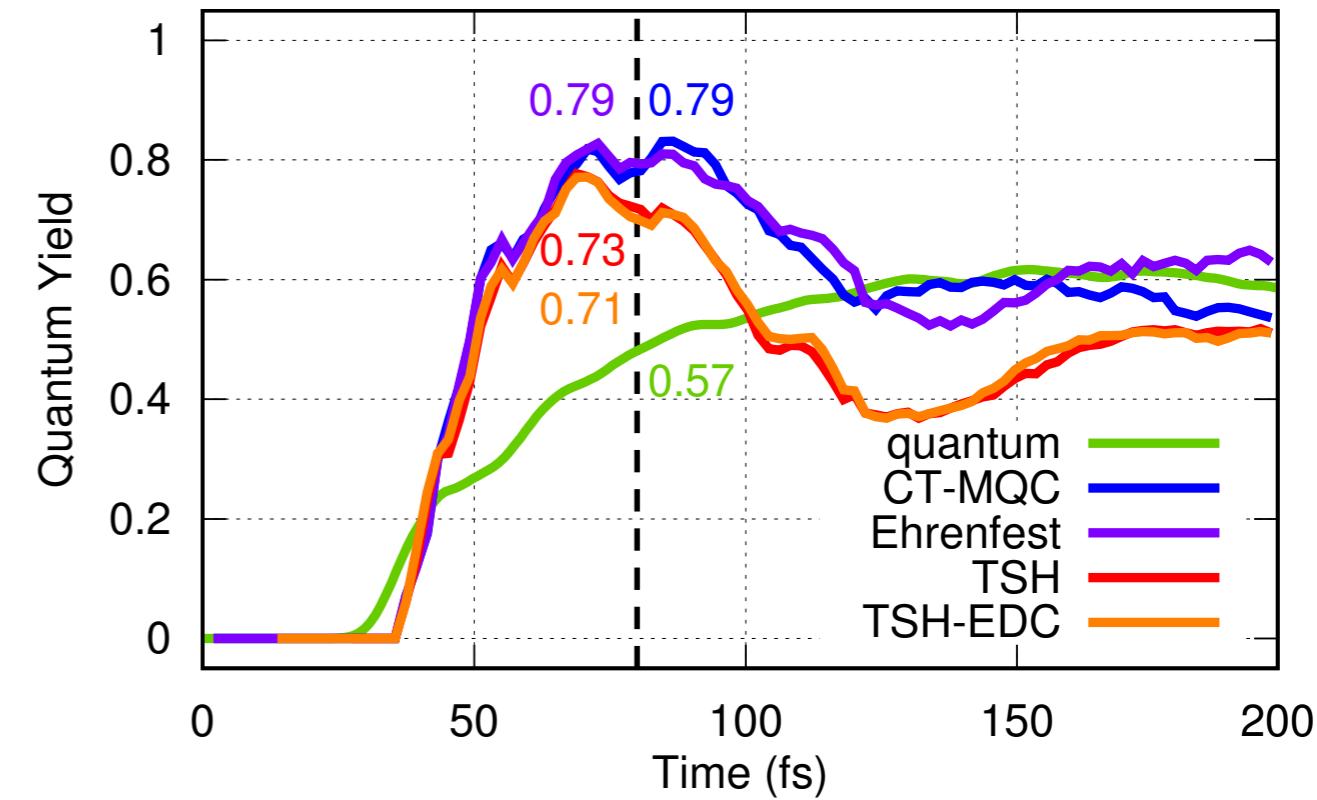
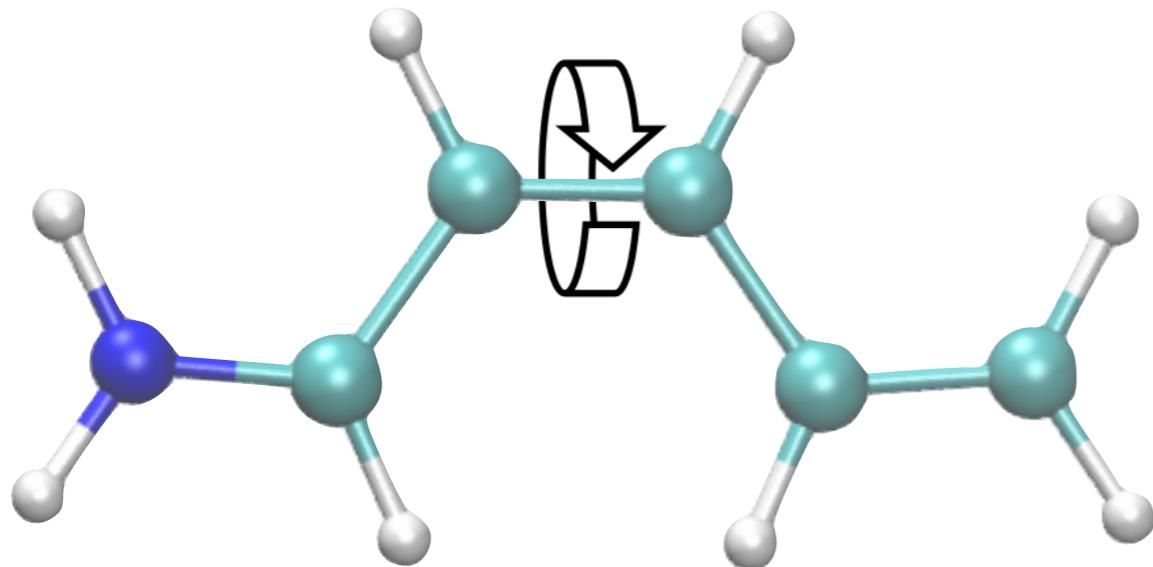


# Photo-isomerization of a retinal chromophore model



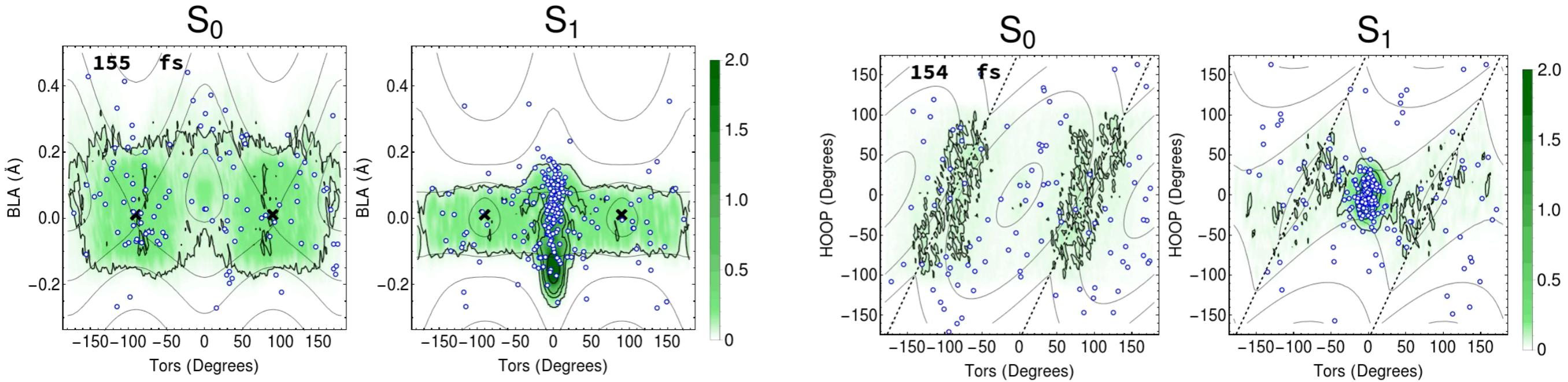
## CT-MQC

rotation around the CC double bond in PSB3

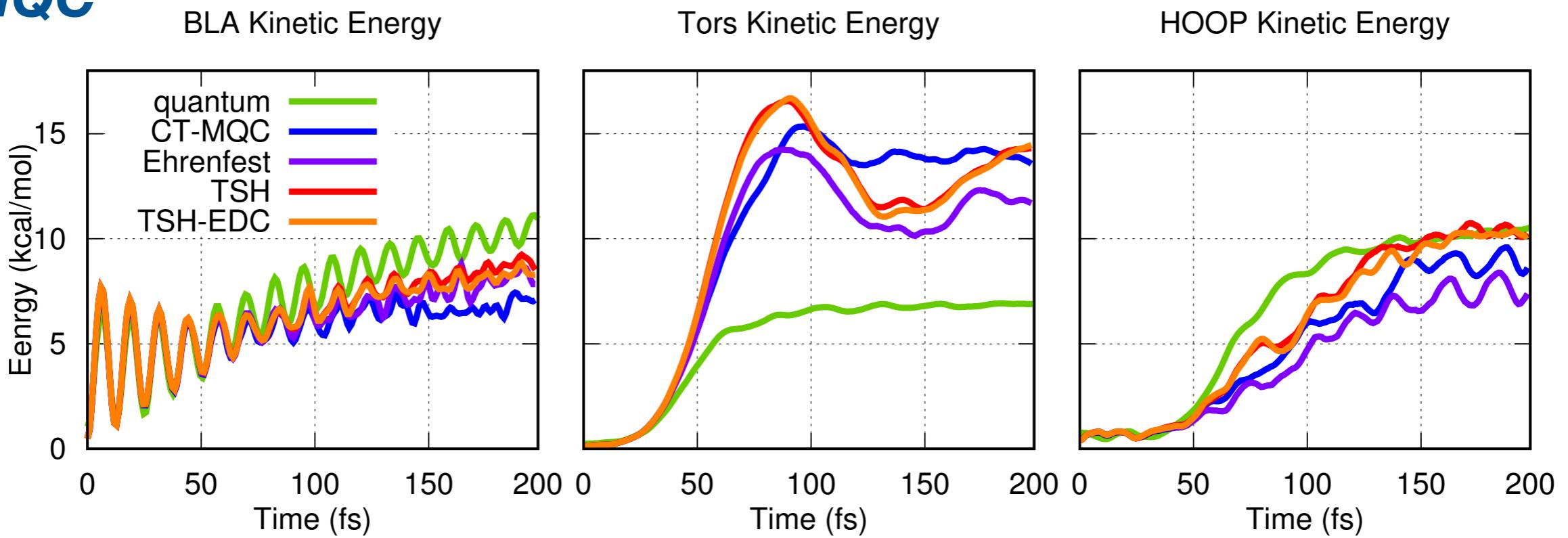


Marsili, Olivucci, Lauvergnat, Agostini, *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* (2020).

# Photo-isomerization of a retinal chromophore model



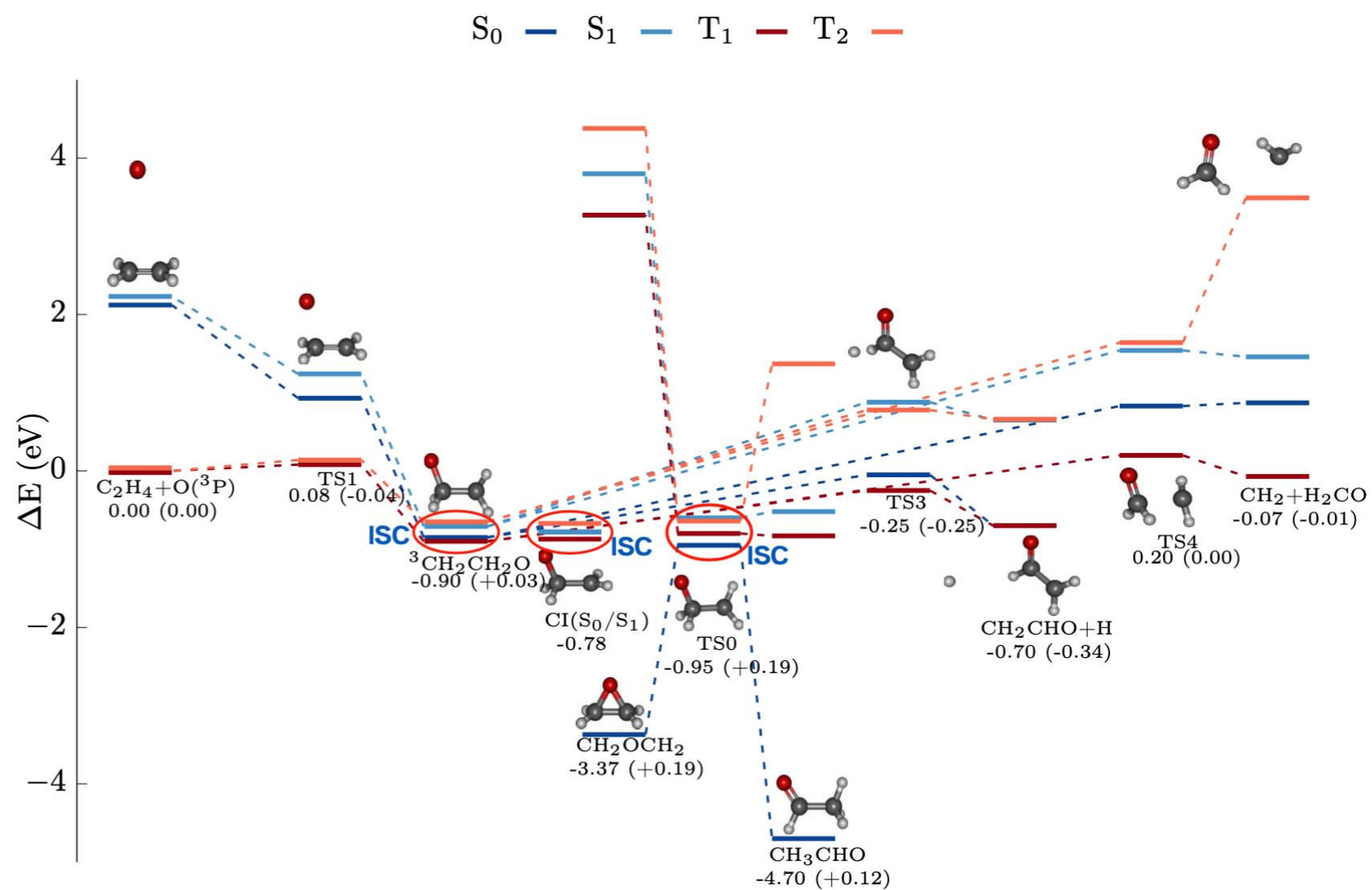
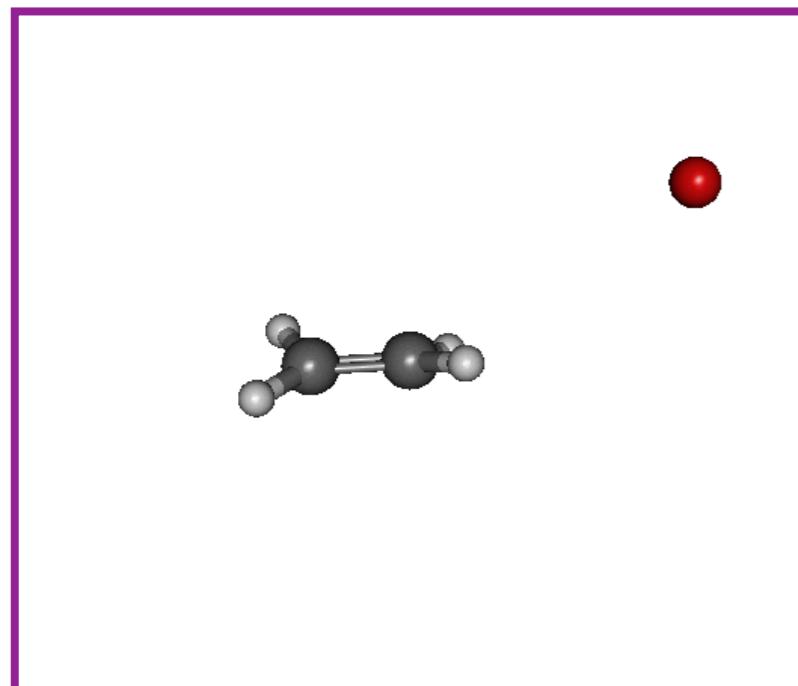
**CT-MQC**



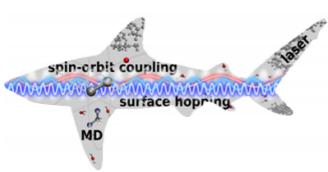
Marsili, Olivucci, Lauvergnat, Agostini, *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* (2020); Pieroni, Marsili, Lauvergnat, Agostini, *J. Chem. Phys.* (2021).

# Intersystem crossing in a collision reaction

$$i\hbar\partial_t\chi(R, t)\Phi(\textcolor{red}{x}, t; R) = \left( \hat{T}_n + \hat{H}_{el} + \hat{H}_{SOC} \right) \chi(R, t)\Phi(\textcolor{red}{x}, t; R)$$

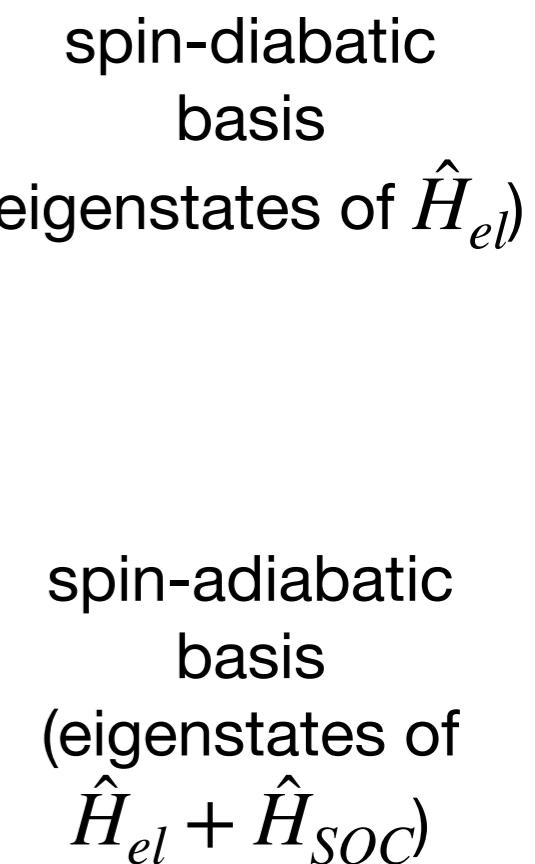
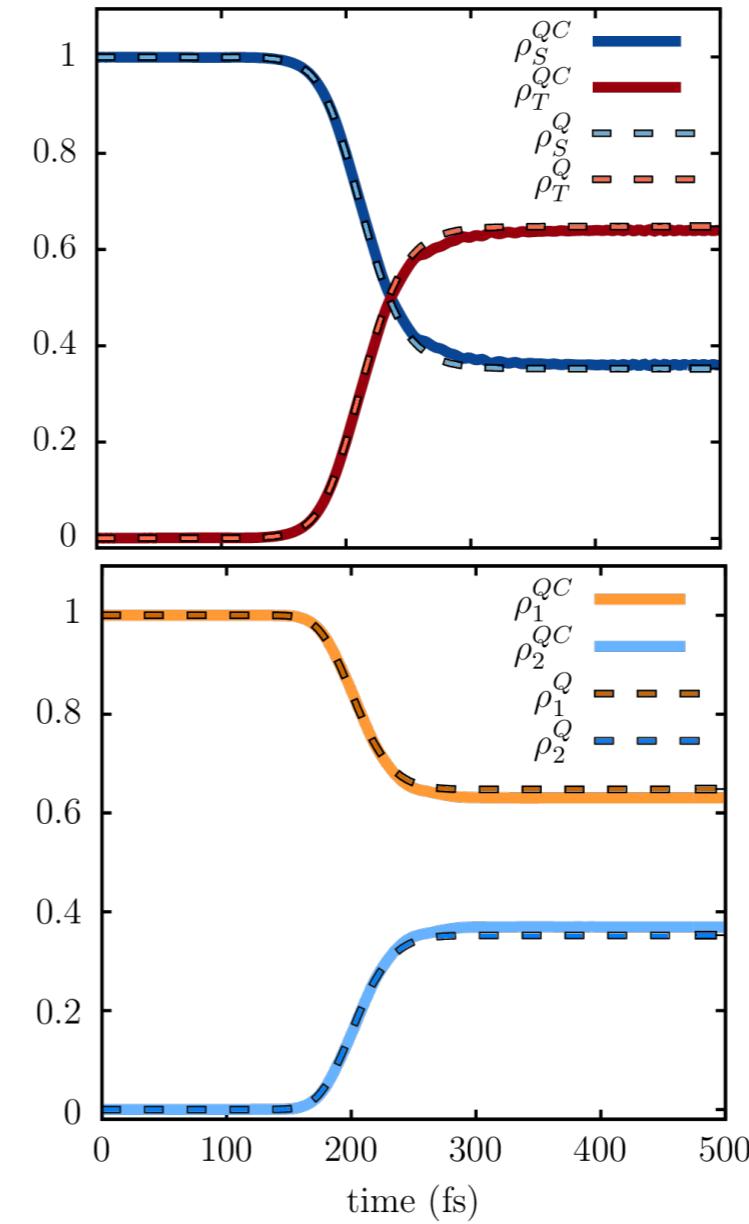
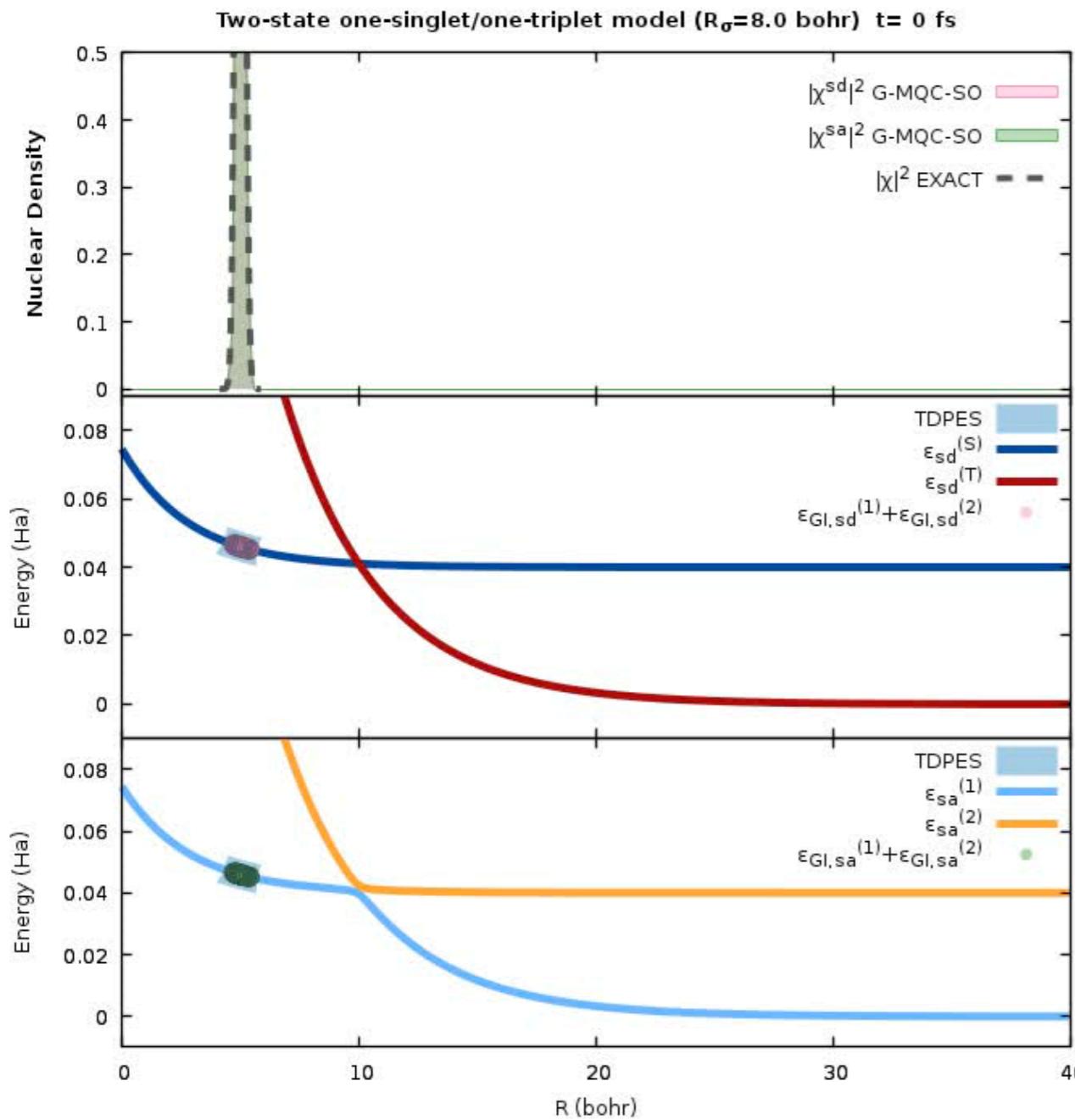


calculations with SHARC based  
on CASSCF with OpenMolcas



# Intersystem crossing in a collision reaction

$$i\hbar\partial_t\chi(R, t)\Phi(\textcolor{red}{x}, t; R) = \left( \hat{T}_n + \hat{H}_{el} + \hat{H}_{SOC} \right) \chi(R, t)\Phi(\textcolor{red}{x}, t; R)$$

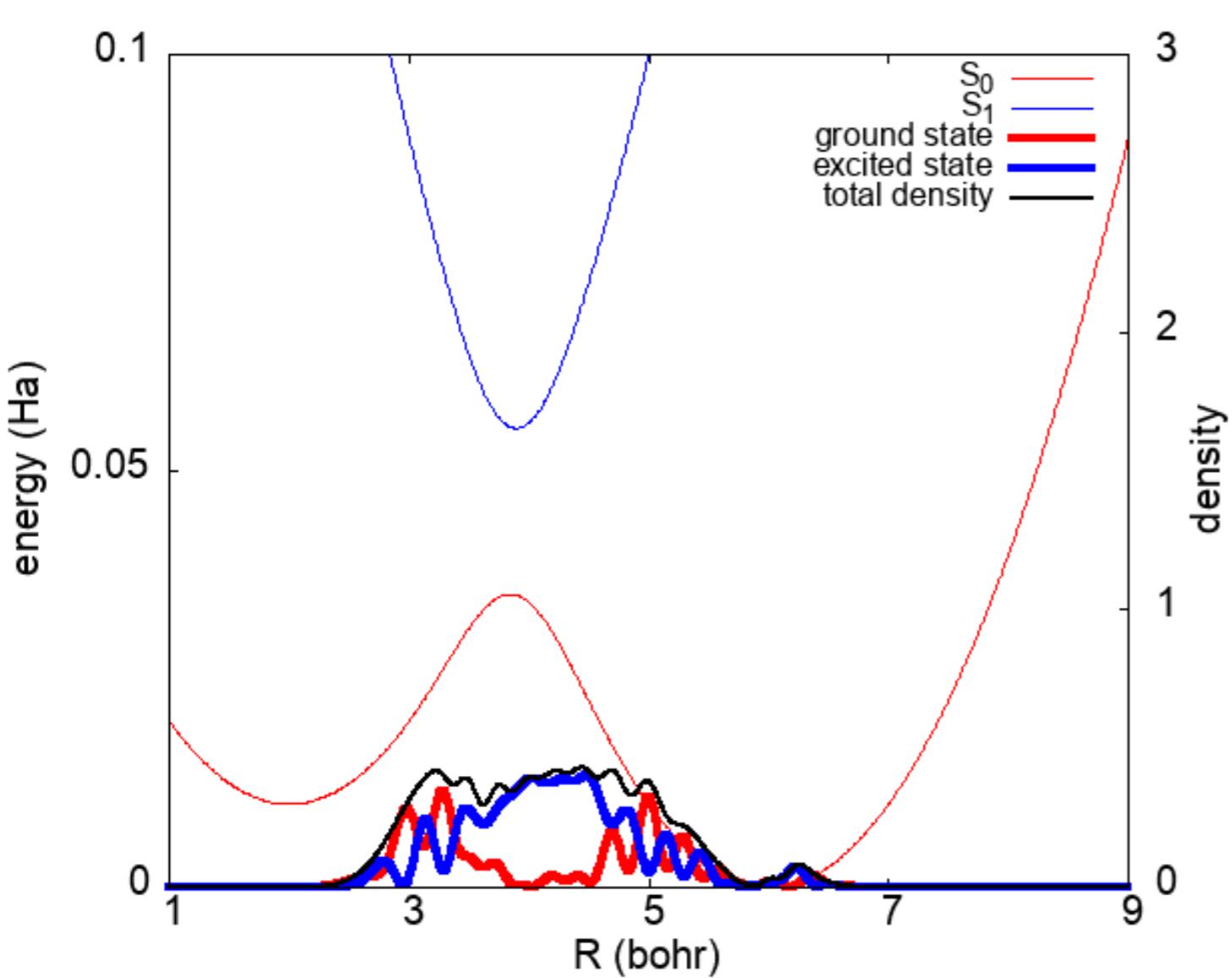


**G-CT-MQC**

Talotta, Morisset, Rougeau, Lauvergnat, Agostini, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (2020); *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* (2020).

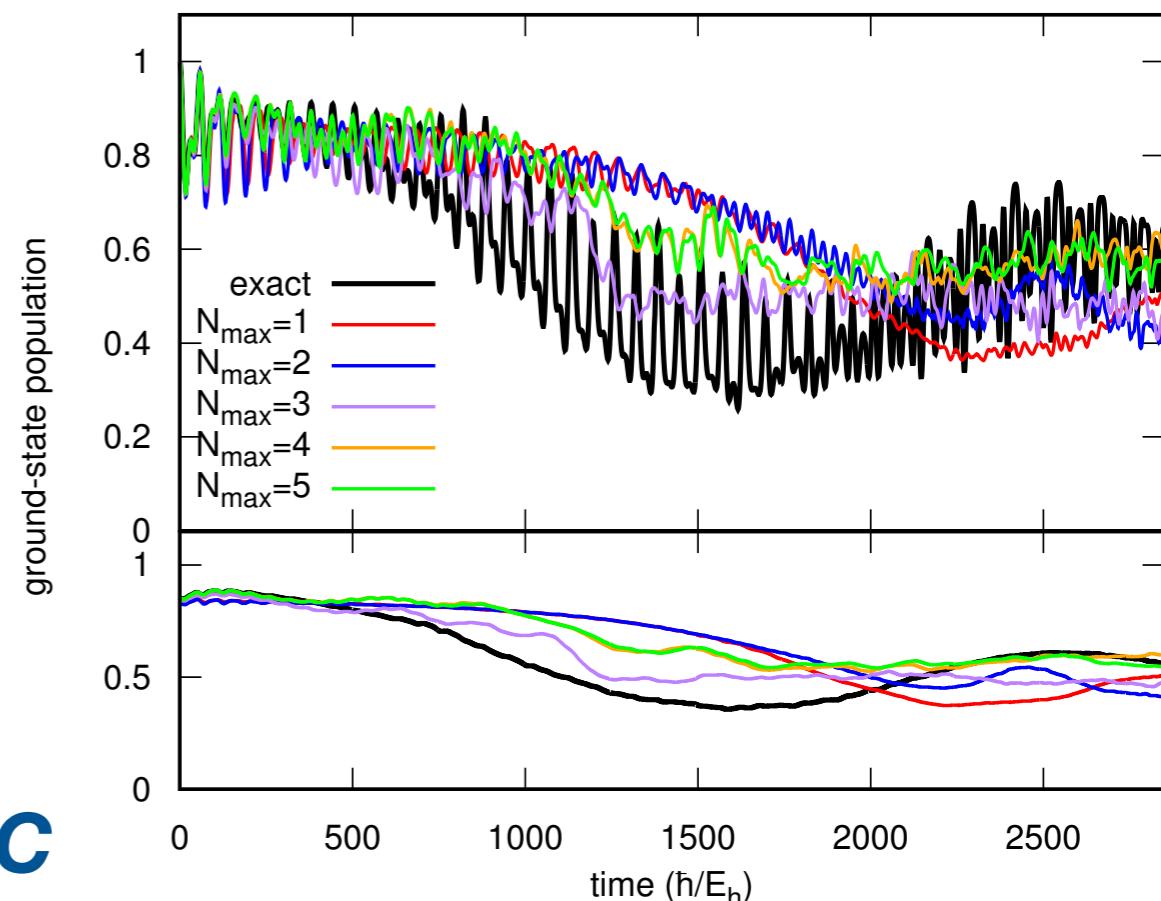
# Floquet-driven nonadiabatic dynamics

$$i\hbar\partial_t\chi(R, t)\Phi(r, t; R) = \left( \hat{T}_n + \hat{H}_{el} + \hat{V}(t) \right) \chi(R, t)\Phi(r, t; R)$$



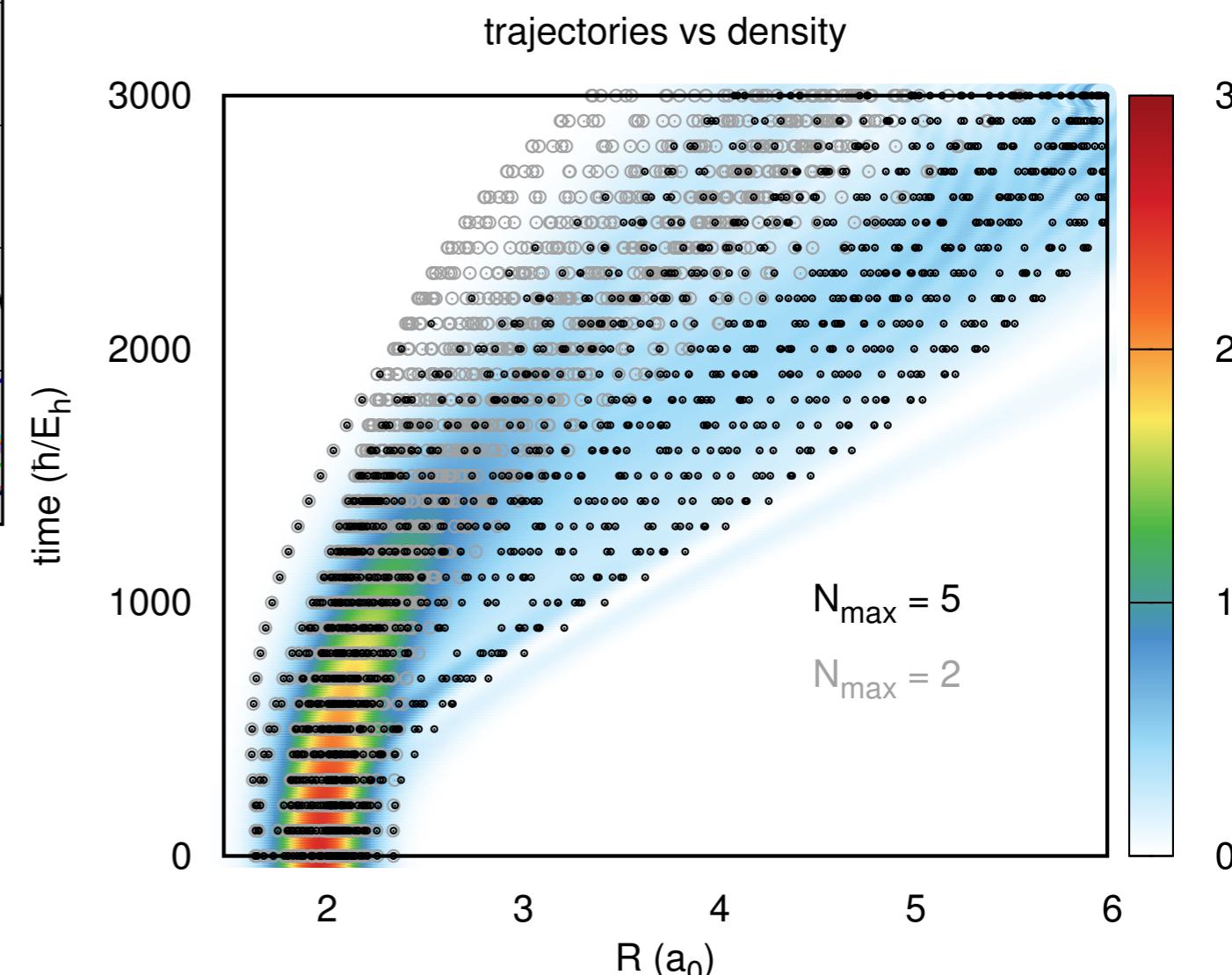
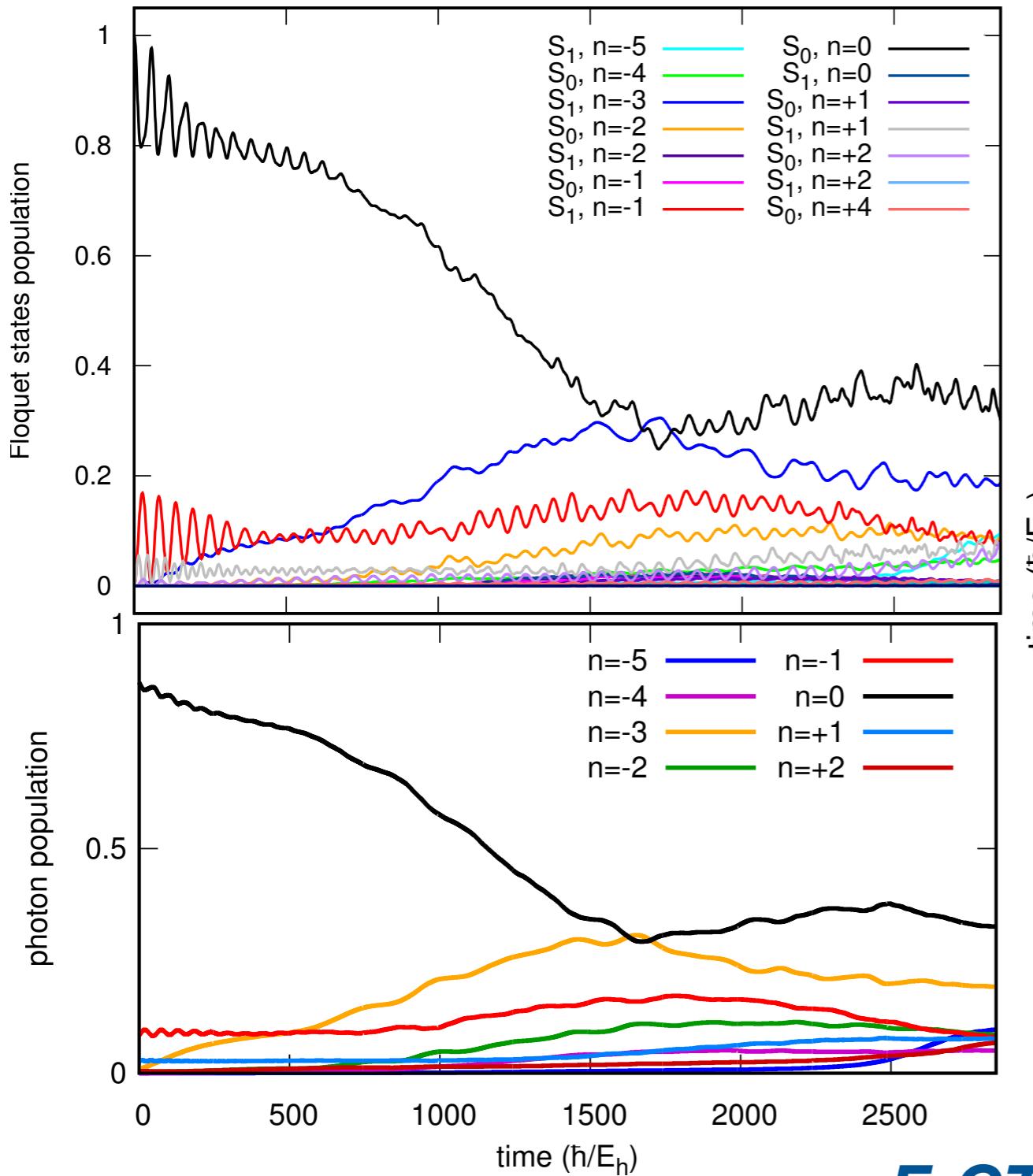
$$\hat{V}(t) = -\hat{\mu}E_0 \cos(\Omega t)$$

- \*  $E_0 = 0.5 E_h/(ea_0)$ ;  $\Omega = 0.05 E_h/\hbar$
- \* linear approximation for  $\mu(R)$
- \* dynamics of  $3000 \hbar/E_h \simeq 75 \text{ fs}$



**F-CT-MQC**

# Floquet-driven nonadiabatic dynamics



**F-CT-MQC**

# Conclusions

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- \* From the Born-Huang representation to the exact factorization for nonadiabatic dynamics
- \* Important of identifying the classical force in a trajectory-based description of nonadiabatic dynamics
- \* Some application of coupled-trajectory mixed quantum classical algorithm

G-CTMQC: Pieroni, Agostini, *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* (2021).  
SHORT REVIEW ON EF: Agostini, Gross, *Eur. Phys. J. B* (2021).

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**Sabine Morisset**  
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**Nathalie Rougeau**  
(UPSay)

**Massimo Olivucci** (U.  
Siena)

**Marco Schirò** (CdF  
Paris)

**Florian Eich** (HQS  
Karlsruhe)



# Job offer



Two-year postdoc position at the University of Montpellier (south of France) in collaboration with the University Paris-Saclay on the combination of the exact factorization with a quantum-trajectory approach.

**Coordinator:** Yohann Scribano [yohann.scribano@umontpellier.fr](mailto:yohann.scribano@umontpellier.fr)

**Partners:** David Lauvergnat [david.lauvergnat@universite-paris-saclay.fr](mailto:david.lauvergnat@universite-paris-saclay.fr)  
Federica Agostini [federica.agostini@universite-paris-saclay.fr](mailto:federica.agostini@universite-paris-saclay.fr)

<https://anr.fr/Projet-ANR-19-CE30-0039>