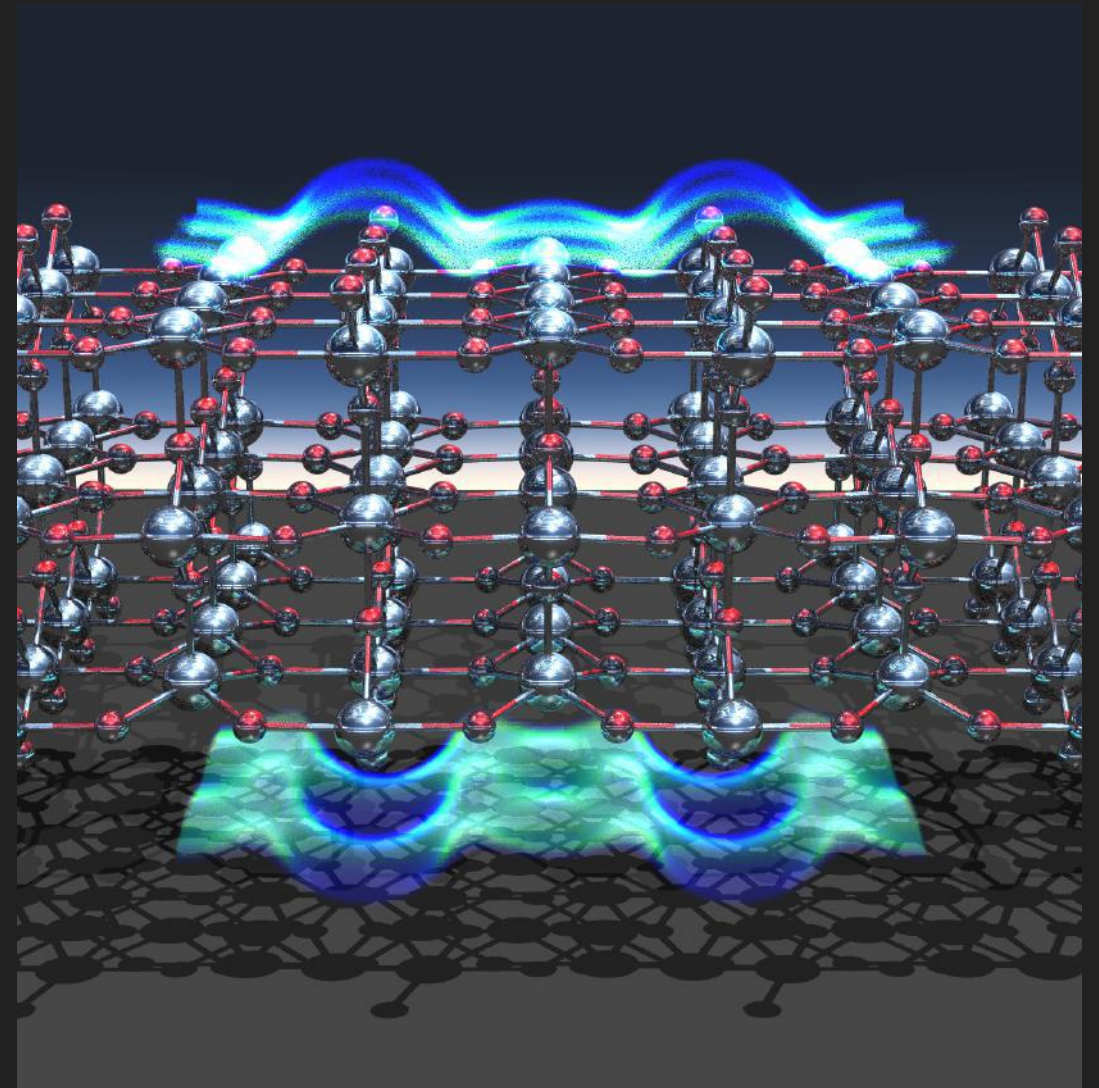




OLIVIERO ANDREUSSI  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

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# ENVIRON: CONTINUUM EMBEDDINGS IN QUANTUM-ESPRESSO

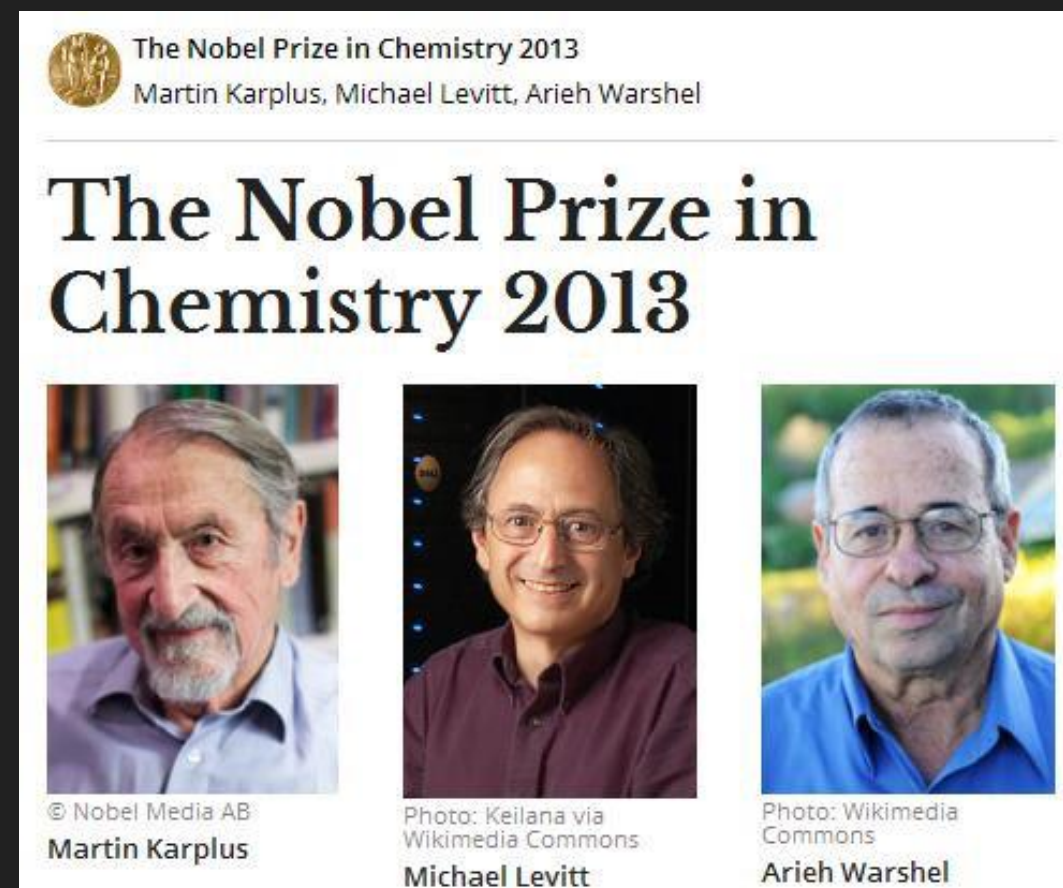
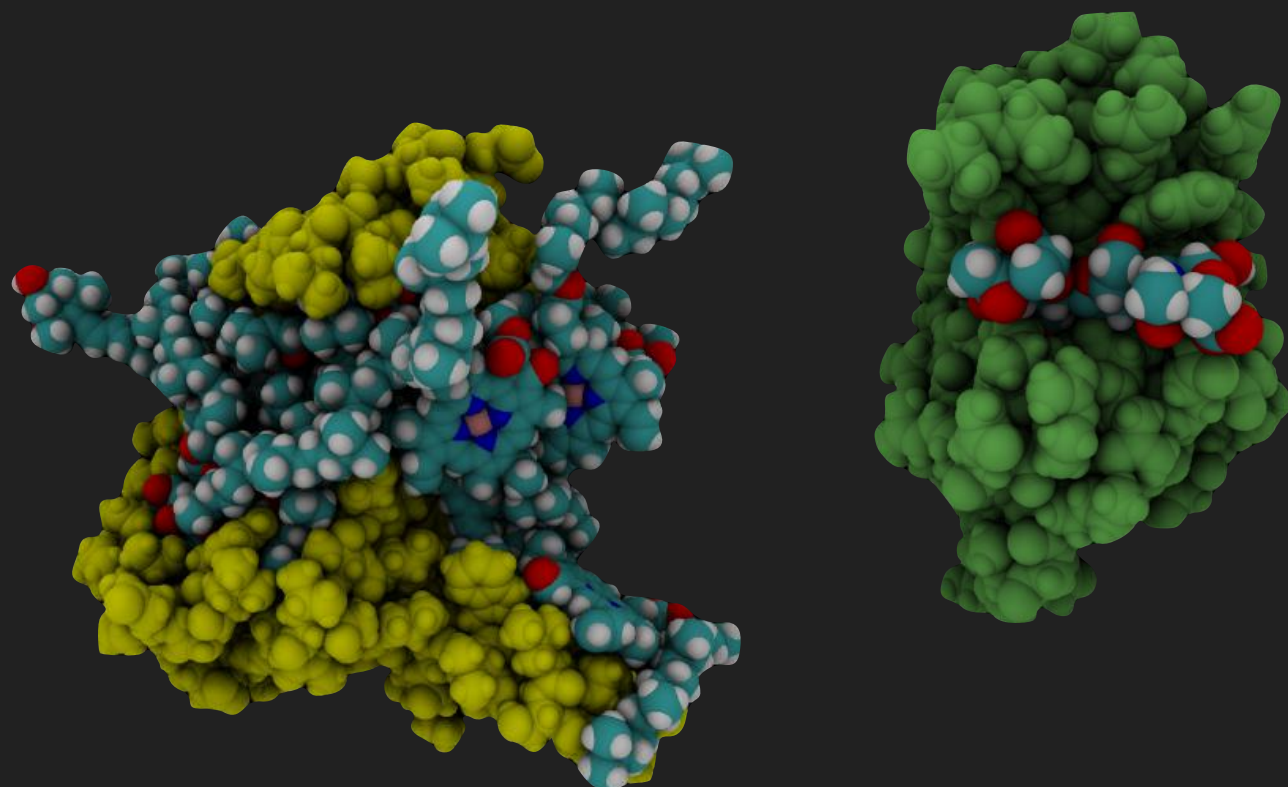


# OUTLINE

- ▶ Introduction to Continuum Embedding
- ▶ Ingredients
  - ▶ Continuum
  - ▶ Interface
  - ▶ Interactions
    - ▶ Numerical Solvers
- ▶ Recipes

## DEALING WITH COMPLEXITY

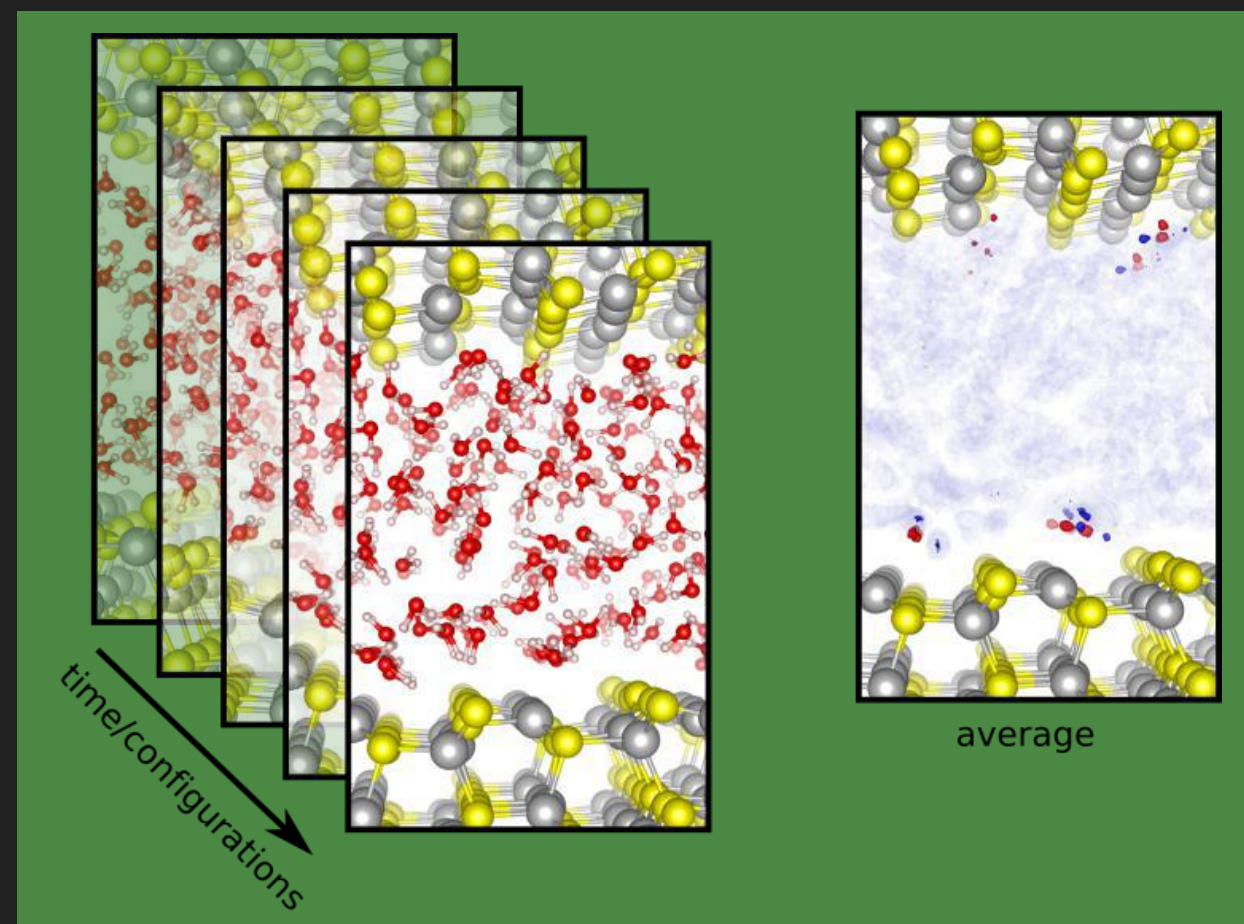
- ▶ Democratic approaches (see tomorrow's session)
- ▶ Hierarchical approaches
  - ▶ Atomistic (QM/MM, DE, ONIOM, ...)





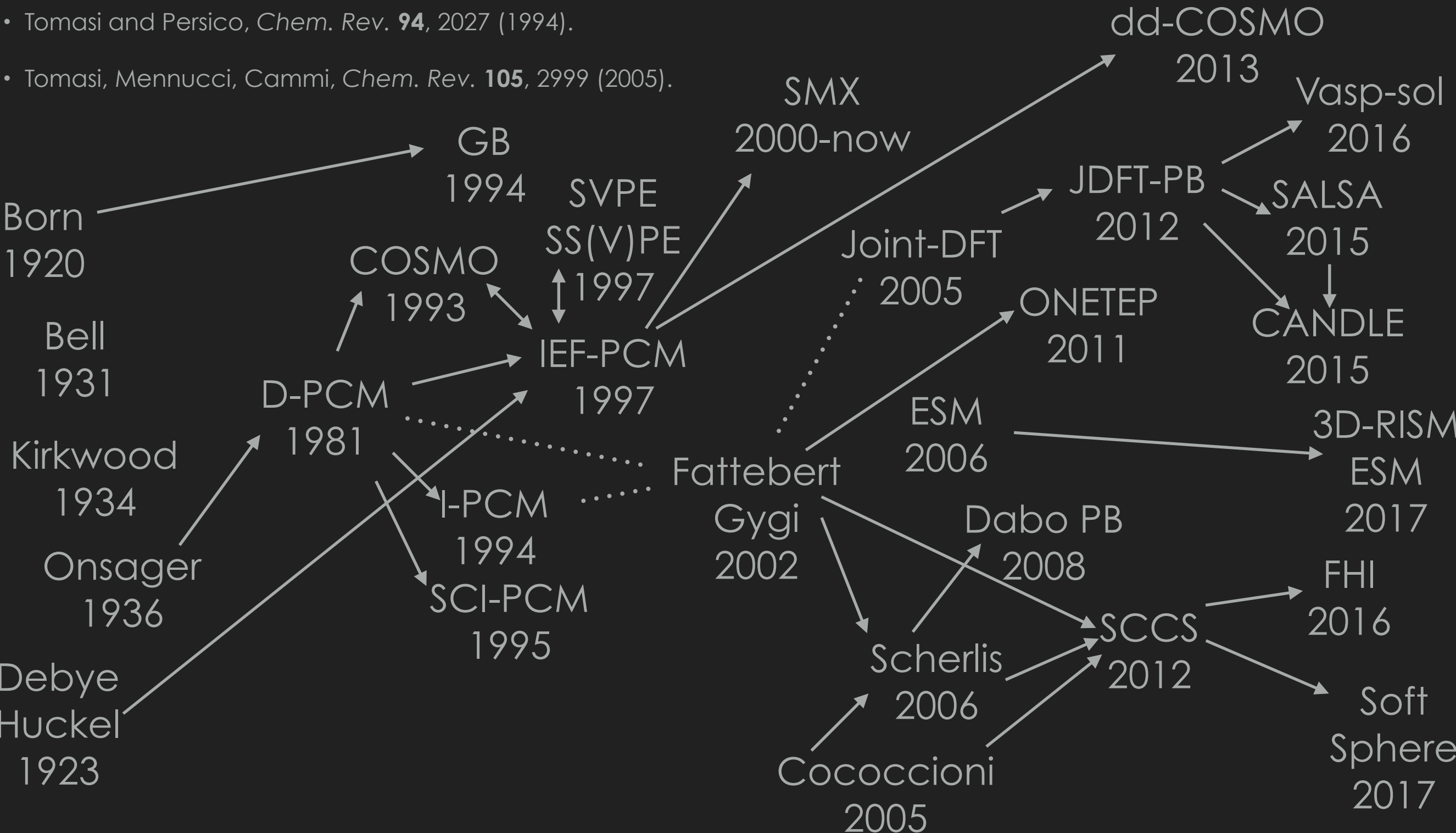
## DEALING WITH COMPLEXITY

- ▶ Hierarchical approaches
  - ▶ Continuum (PCM, COSMO, etc.)
    - ▶ Fast (high-throughput)
    - ▶ Versatile
    - ▶ Accurate (in the right conditions)



CONTINUUM GENEALOGY

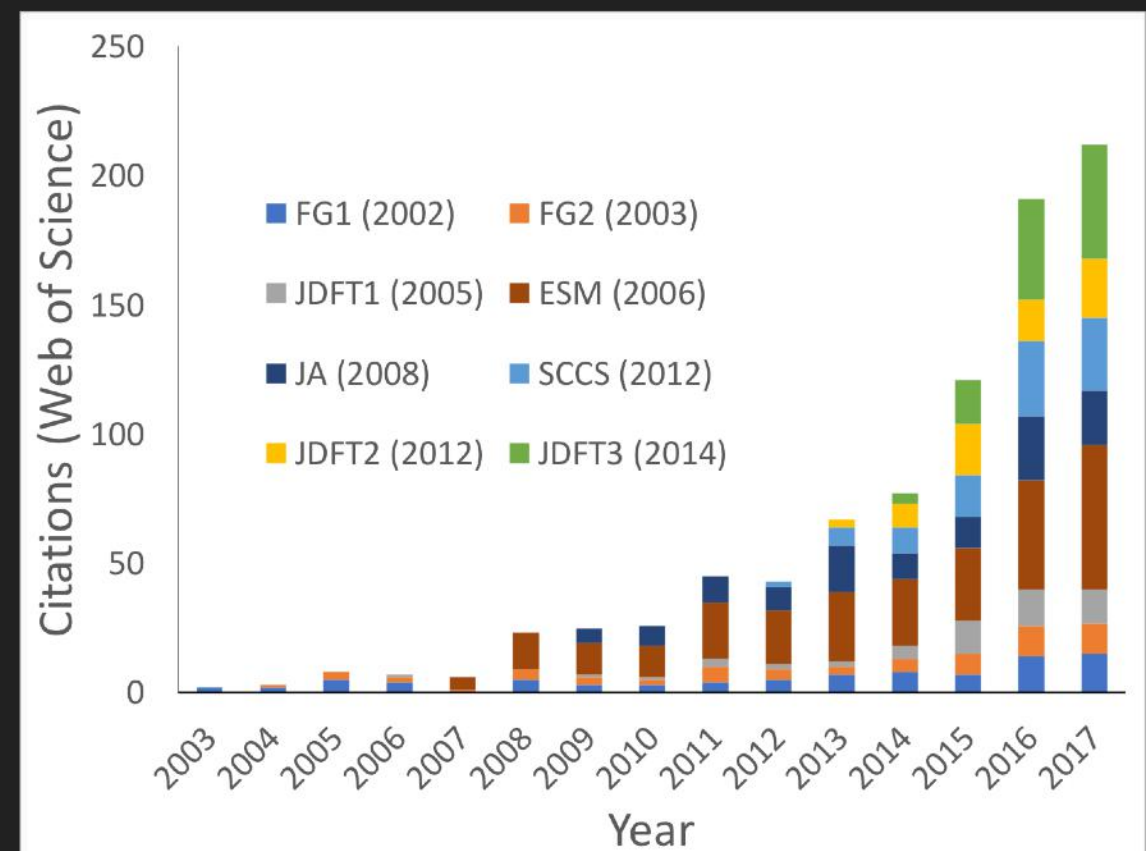
- Tomasi and Persico, *Chem. Rev.* **94**, 2027 (1994).
- Tomasi, Mennucci, Cammi, *Chem. Rev.* **105**, 2999 (2005).



# CONTINUUM EMBEDDINGS IN CONDENSED-MATTER

- ▶ Very active energy-related topic: catalysis, electro-catalysis, electro-chemistry, super-capacitors, batteries, solar, etc.
- ▶ In Quantum ESPRESSO (Environ), Big-DFT, FHI-AIMS, VASP (VaspSol), ONETEP (DL\_MG), CP2K, GPAW, JDFT-x

Andreussi and Fisicaro, *tutorial review accepted on Int. J. Quantum Chem.* (2018). Open Access!



# INGREDIENTS

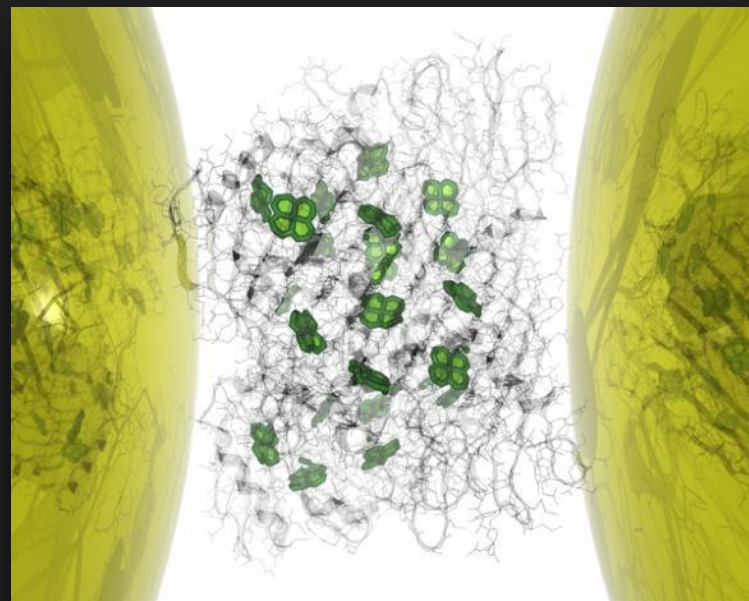
- ▶ Continuum
- ▶ Interface
- ▶ Interactions
  - ▶ Numerical Solver



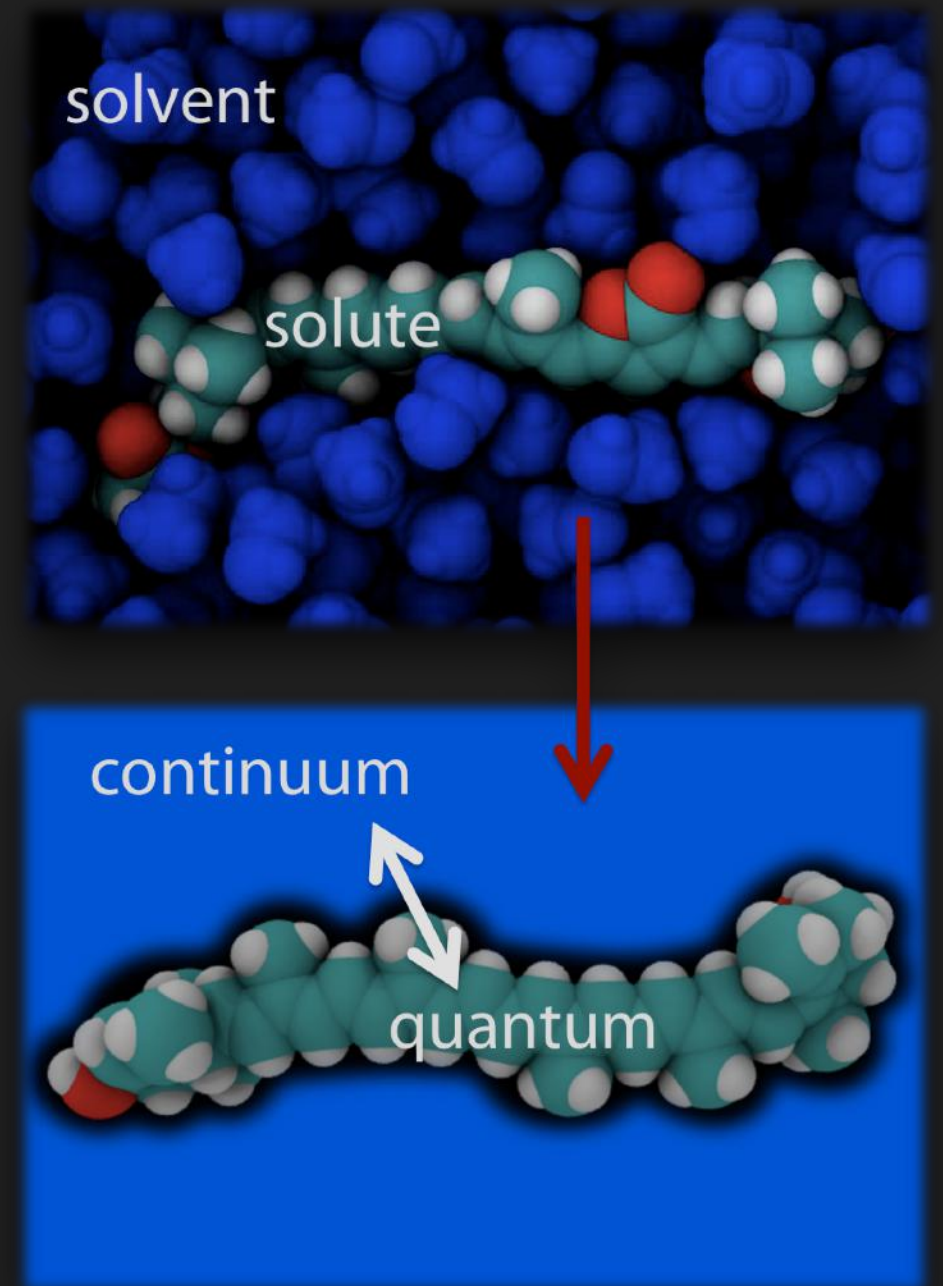


## CONTINUUM

- ▶ Liquid
- ▶ Pressure medium
- ▶ Electrolyte
- ▶ Nanoparticle
- ▶ ...



O. Andreussi, A. Biancardi, S. Corni and  
B. Mennucci, *Nano Lett.* **13**, 4475 (2013)

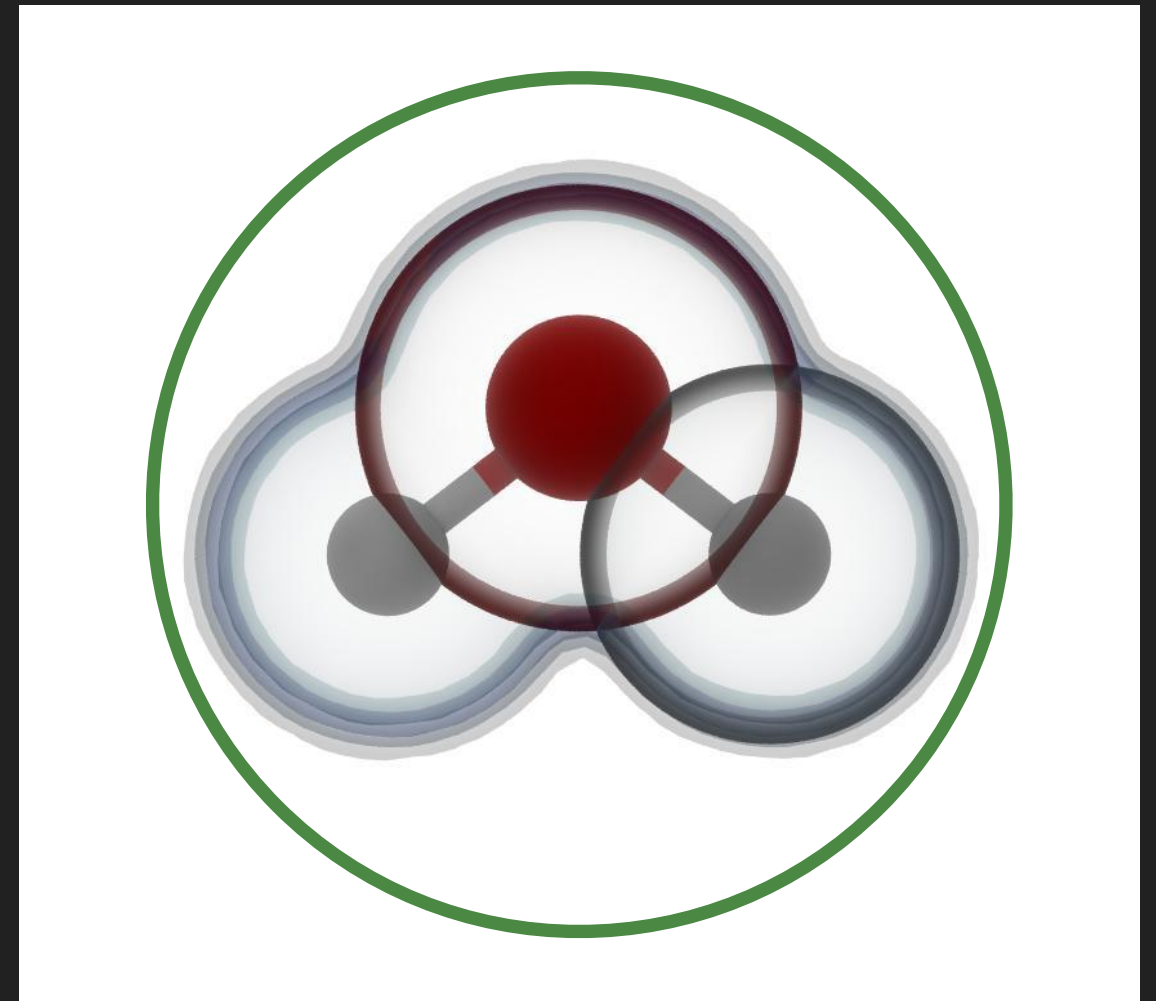




# INTERFACE

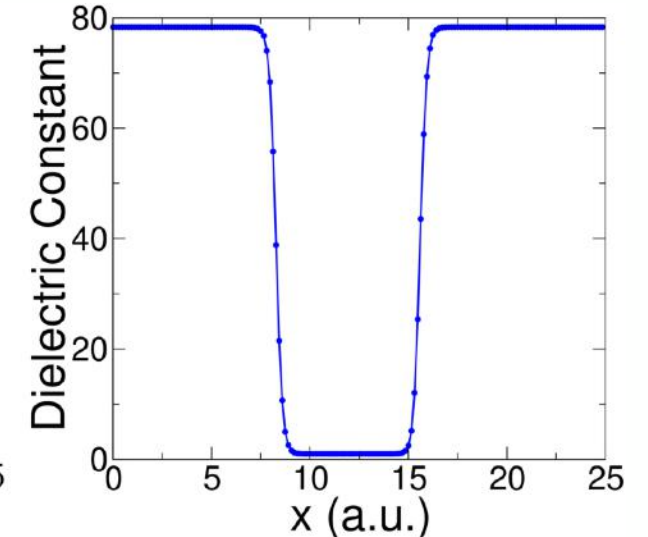
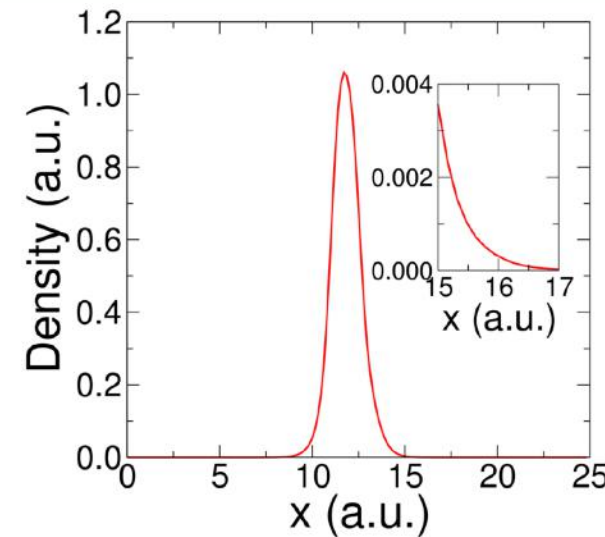
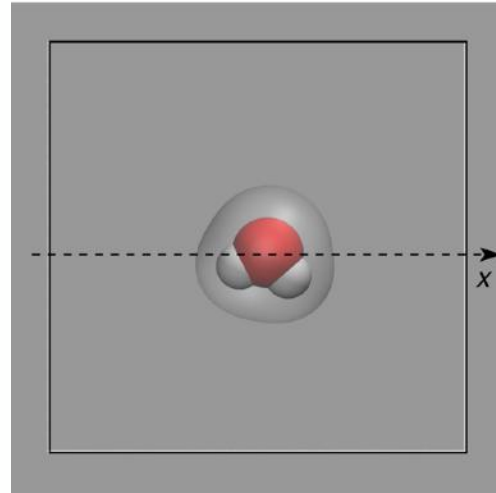
- ▶ Simple or complex
- ▶ Sharp or smooth
- ▶ Fixed or based on electrons or ions or both
- ▶ Local or non-local
- ▶ Single or multiple
- ▶ ...

$$s(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \mathbf{r} \in \text{system} \\ 0 & \mathbf{r} \in \text{continuum} \end{cases}$$



## ELECTRONIC INTERFACE

$$s(\mathbf{r}) \equiv s(\rho^{el}(\mathbf{r}))$$



$$s(\rho^{el}(\mathbf{r})) = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{1 - (\rho^{el}(\mathbf{r})/\rho_0)^{2\beta}}{1 + (\rho^{el}(\mathbf{r})/\rho_0)^{2\beta}} \right)$$

2 parameters

O. Andreussi, I. Dabo and N. Marzari,  
*J. Chem. Phys.* **136**, 064102 (2012)

J.-L. Fattebert and F. Gygi, *J. Comput. Chem.* **23**,  
662, (2002)

J.-L. Fattebert and F. Gygi, *Int. J. Quantum Chem.*  
**93**, 139 (2003)

$$s(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \rho^{el}(\mathbf{r}) > \rho_{max} \\ t(\ln(\rho^{el}(\mathbf{r}))) & \rho_{max} > \rho^{el}(\mathbf{r}) > \rho_{min} \\ 0 & \rho^{el}(\mathbf{r}) < \rho_{min} \end{cases}$$

2 parameters

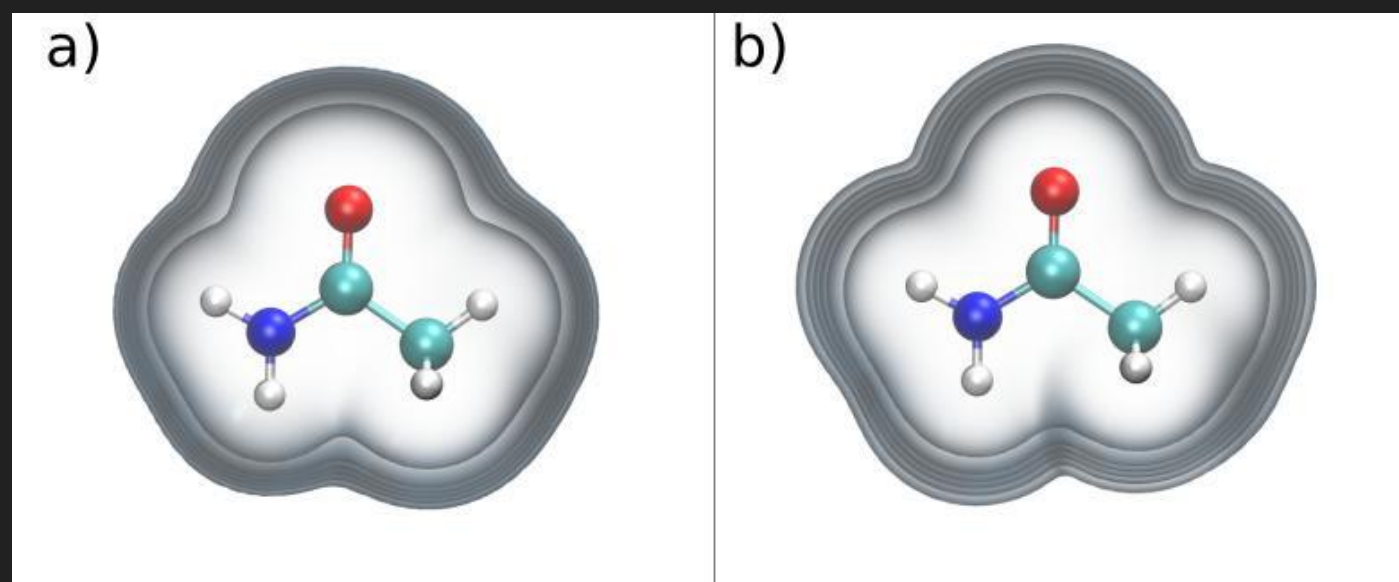
## IONIC INTERFACE

- Analytic derivatives
- Stable
- Atom-dependent parametrization
- UFF atomic radii
- Uniform scaling
- Smoothing

$$s(\mathbf{r}) \equiv s(\{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_i|\})$$

$$s(\mathbf{r}) = 1 - \prod_i h_i(|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_i|),$$
$$h_i(|\mathbf{r}|) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ 1 + \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{|\mathbf{r}| - \alpha R_i^{vdW}}{\Delta} \right) \right]$$

Giuseppe Fisicaro, et al. *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* **13**, 3829 (2017)



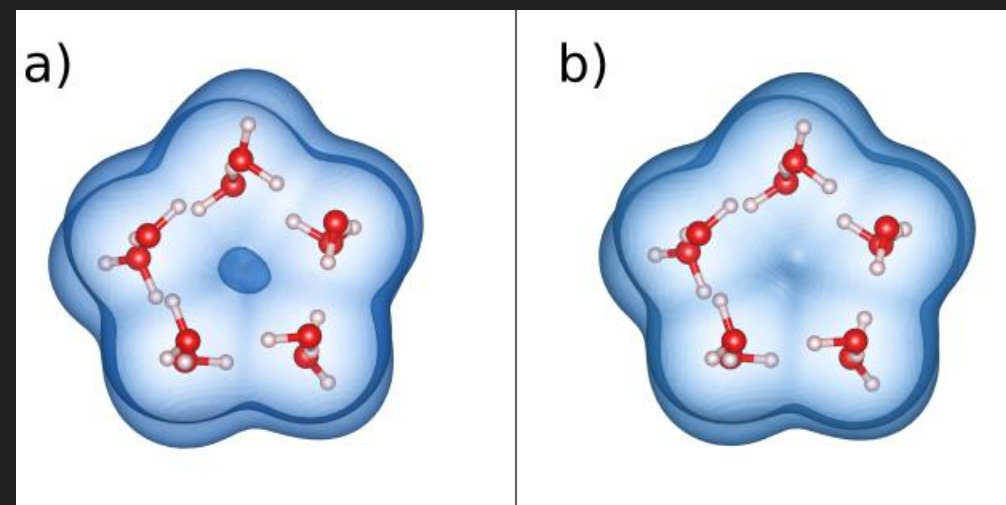
Electronic

Ionic



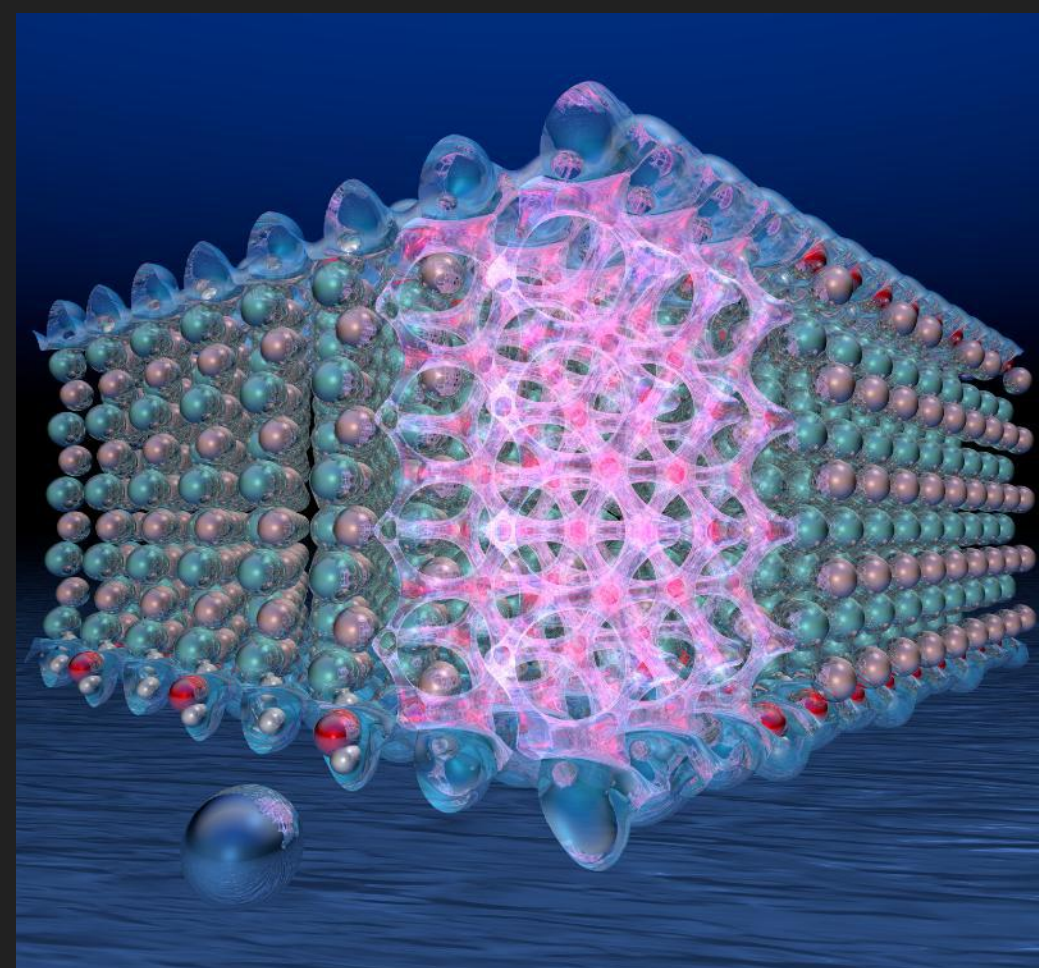
# SOLVENT-AWARE INTERFACE

- Augment the solute interface by a non-local term, that contains information on how much empty volume is around



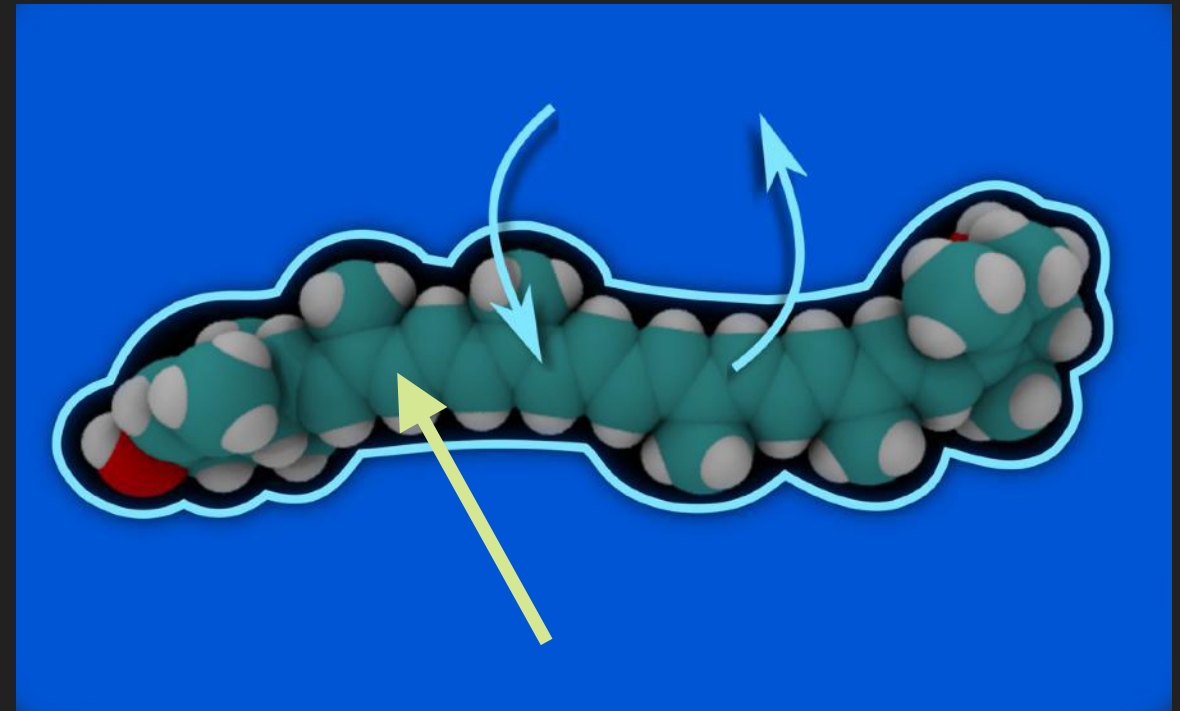
$$\hat{s}(\mathbf{r}) = s(\mathbf{r}) + (1 - s(\mathbf{r})) \overset{\text{smooth function}}{t}(f^{ff}(\mathbf{r}))$$
$$\underset{\text{filled fraction}}{f^{ff}[s(\mathbf{r}')]}(\mathbf{r}) \equiv \int \underset{\substack{\text{smooth} \\ \text{spherical function}}}{s(\mathbf{r}') h(|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|)} d\mathbf{r}' = s * h(\mathbf{r})$$

- Smooth differentiable expression
- Extra parameters: from geometrical considerations or tuned to experiments



## INTERACTIONS

- ▶ Electrostatic
  - ▶ Dielectric screening (dipolar)
  - ▶ Coulomb interaction (monopole)
- ▶ Pressure
- ▶ Cavitation
- ▶ Dispersion
- ▶ Repulsion
- ▶ Specific (hydrogen bonds, chemical bonds, etc.)
- ▶ ...



$$\Delta G^{sol} = \Delta G^{el} + G^{cav} + G^{dis} + G^{rep} + \Delta G^{tm} + P\Delta V$$

$$V_{KS}^{interface}(\mathbf{r}) = \int \frac{\delta s(\mathbf{r}')}{\delta \rho^{el}(\mathbf{r})} \frac{\delta G[s]}{\delta s(\mathbf{r}')} d\mathbf{r}'$$
$$\mathbf{f}_i^{interface} = - \int \frac{\partial s(\mathbf{r})}{\partial \mathbf{R}_a} \frac{\delta G[s]}{\delta s(\mathbf{r})} d\mathbf{r}$$

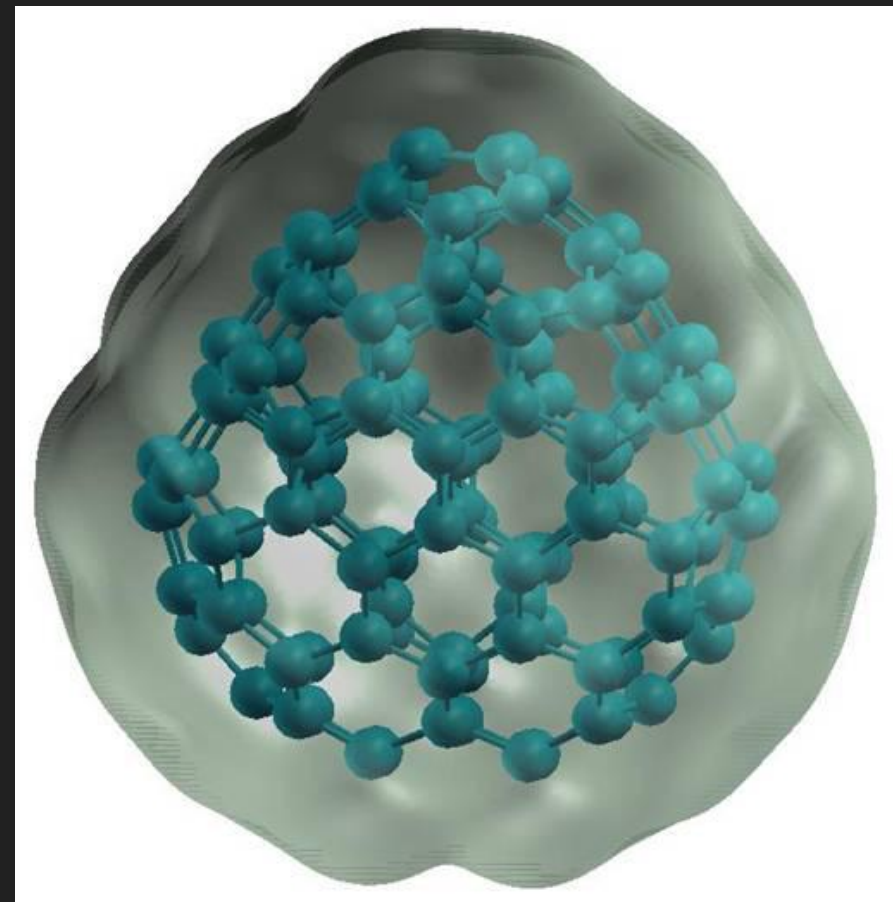
### VOLUME

- Pressurizing medium (Enthalpy functional)

$$V \equiv V[s] = \int s(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}.$$

$$G^{PV}[s] = P^{ext} V[s]$$

$$\frac{\delta G^{PV}[s]}{\delta s}(\mathbf{r}) = 1$$





# SURFACE

### ► Cavitation, repulsion

$$G^{cav} [s] = \gamma S [s]$$

$$S [s] = \int |\nabla s (\mathbf{r})| d\mathbf{r}$$

$$\frac{\delta G^{cav} [s]}{\delta s} (\mathbf{r}) = -\nabla \cdot \left( \frac{\nabla s (\mathbf{r})}{|\nabla s (\mathbf{r})|} \right)$$



M. Cococcioni, et al. *PRL* **94**, 145501 (2005)  
D. Scherlis, et al. *J. Chem. Phys.* **124**, 74103 (2006)

# DIELECTRIC SCREENING

### ► Polarizable dielectric medium

$$G [\rho^{el}, \{\mathbf{R}_i\}] = \int \rho^{sys}(\mathbf{r}) \phi(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} - \int \frac{1}{8\pi} \epsilon(\mathbf{r}) |\nabla \phi(\mathbf{r})|^2 d\mathbf{r}$$

$$\rho^{sys}(\mathbf{r}) = \left( \rho^{el}(\mathbf{r}) + \sum_i z_i \delta(|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_i|) \right)$$

$$\frac{\delta G}{\delta \phi} = 0 \rightarrow \nabla \cdot \epsilon(\mathbf{r}) \nabla \phi(\mathbf{r}) = -4\pi \rho^{sys}(\mathbf{r})$$

Generalized Poisson Equation (GPE)

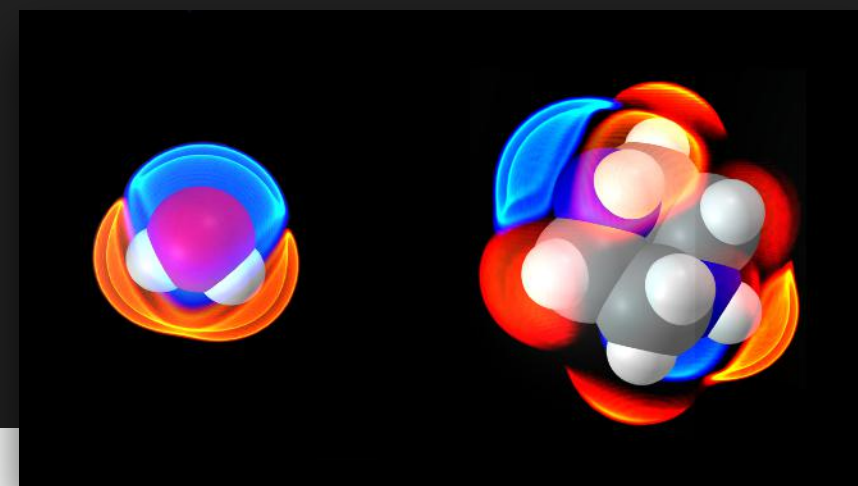
$$\epsilon(\mathbf{r}) \equiv \epsilon(s(\mathbf{r})) = 1 + (\epsilon_0 - 1)(1 - s(\mathbf{r}))$$

J.-L. Fattebert and F. Gygi, *J. Comput. Chem.* **23**, 662, (2002)

J.-L. Fattebert and F. Gygi, *Int. J. Quantum Chem.* **93**, 139 (2003)

## POLARIZATION CHARGE

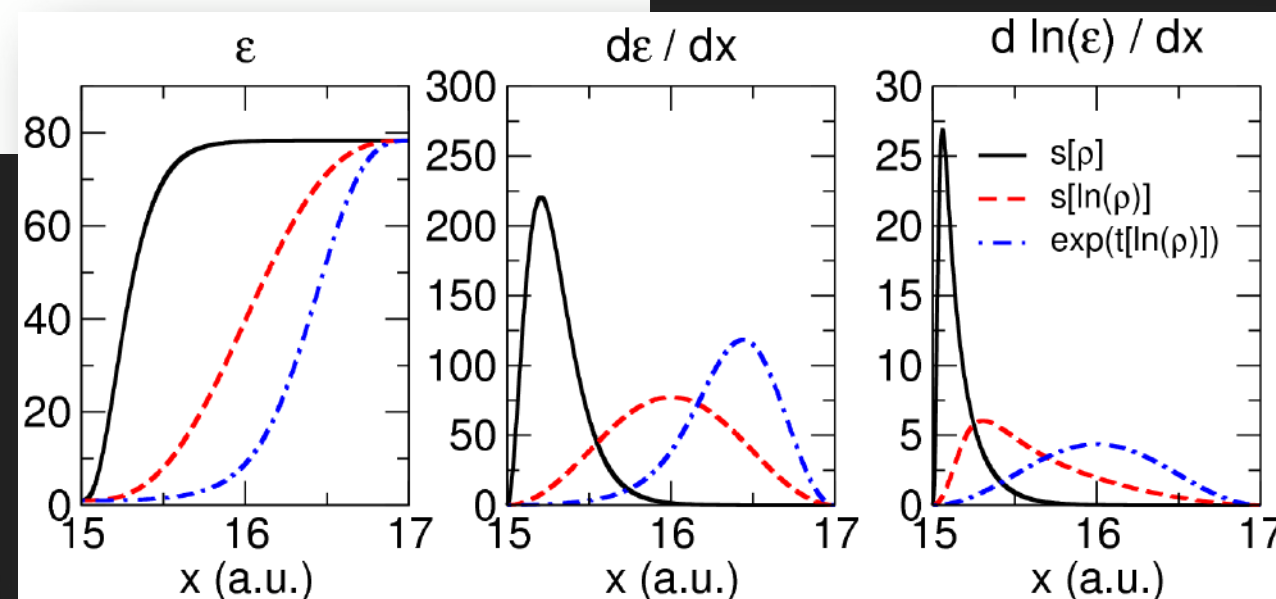
### ► Reshuffling of GPE



$$\nabla^2 \phi(\mathbf{r}) = -4\pi (\rho^{sys}(\mathbf{r}) + \rho^{pol}(\mathbf{r}))$$

$$\rho^{pol}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \nabla \ln \epsilon(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \nabla \phi(\mathbf{r}) - \frac{\epsilon(\mathbf{r}) - 1}{\epsilon(\mathbf{r})} \rho^{sys}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\epsilon(\mathbf{r}) = e^{\log \epsilon_0 [1 - s(\mathbf{r})]}$$



O. Andreussi, I. Dabo and N. Marzari,  
*J. Chem. Phys.* **136**, 064102 (2012)



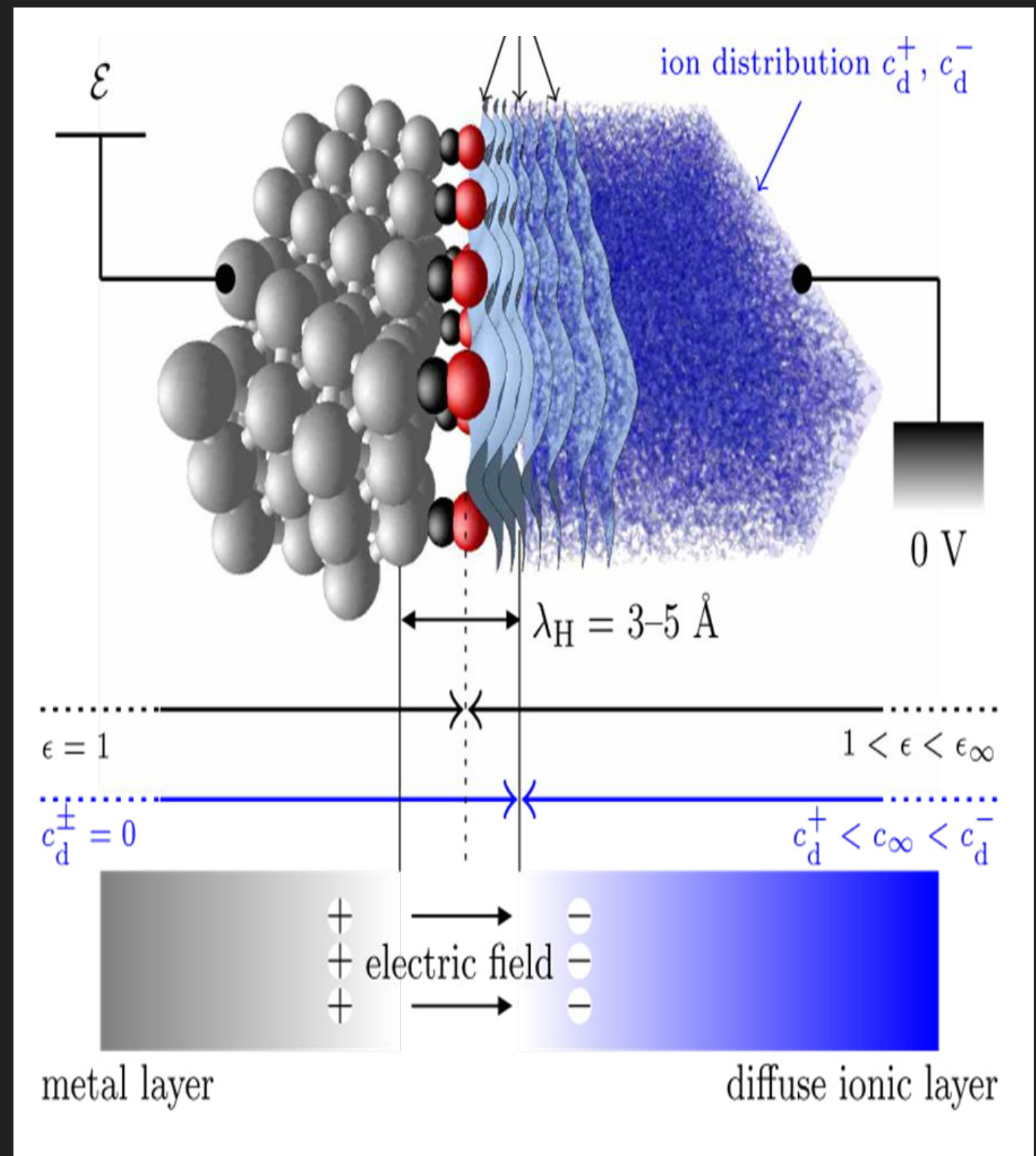
## ELECTROLYTE

- ▶ Separate interface
- ▶ Neutralizing distribution of counter-ions in solution:
  - ▶ Study of charged slabs
  - ▶ Study of applied electrochemical potentials

I. Borukov, D. Adelman and H. Orland *PRL* **79**, 435 (1997)

Dabo et al. *arXiv:0901.0096* (2008)

R. Jinnouchi and A.B. Andreson, *PRB* **77**, 245417 (2008)



# ELECTROLYTE

► Ionic species in solution

$$\rho^{\pm}(\mathbf{r}) = z^{\pm} c^{\pm}(\mathbf{r})$$

$$G[\rho^{el}, \{\mathbf{R}_i\}, c^+, c^-] = \int \left\{ [\rho^{sys}(\mathbf{r}) + \rho^+(\mathbf{r}) + \rho^-(\mathbf{r})] \phi(\mathbf{r}) - \frac{\epsilon(\mathbf{r})}{8\pi} |\nabla \phi(\mathbf{r})|^2 + \mu^+ c^+(\mathbf{r}) + \mu^- c^-(\mathbf{r}) - Ts[c^+(\mathbf{r}), c^-(\mathbf{r})] \right\} d\mathbf{r}$$

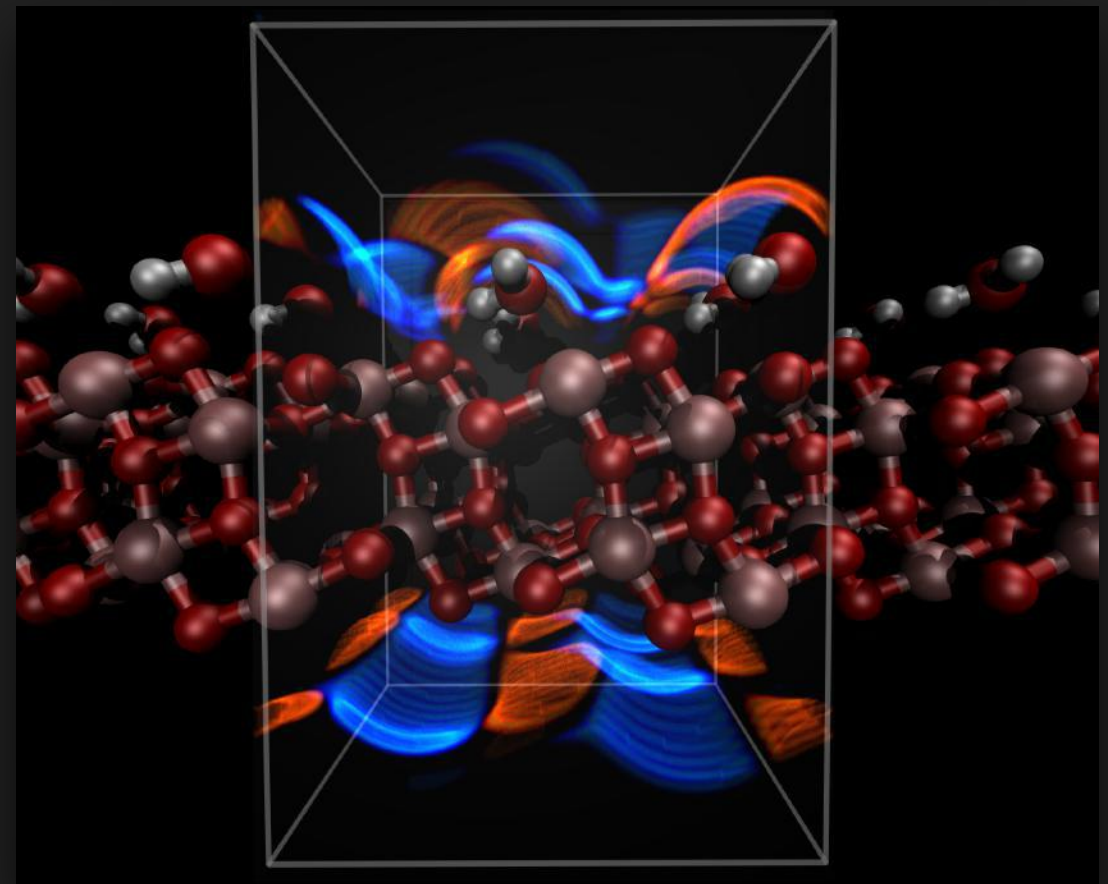
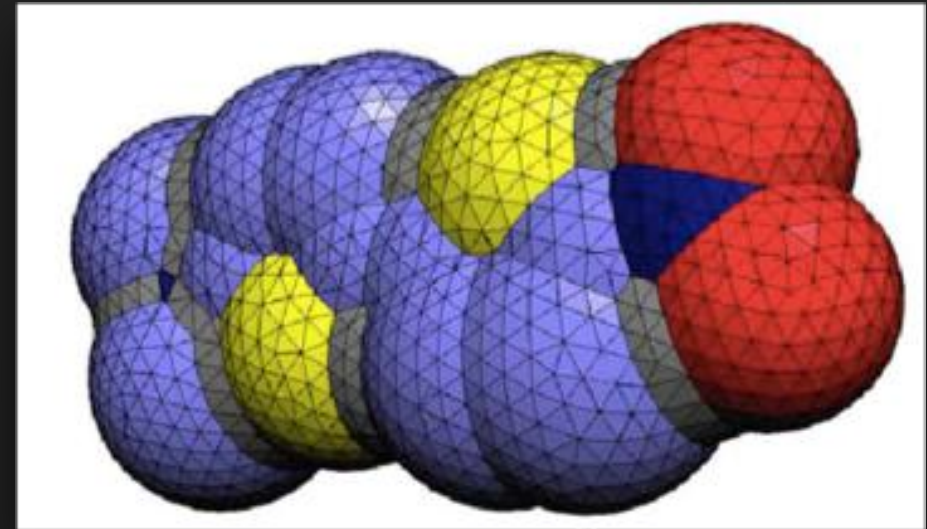
$$s[c^+, c^-] = -k_B [c^+(\mathbf{r}) \ln(c^+(\mathbf{r})) + c^-(\mathbf{r}) \ln(c^-(\mathbf{r}))]$$

$$\frac{\delta G}{\delta c^{\pm}} = 0 \rightarrow c^{\pm}(\mathbf{r}) = c_B(\mathbf{r}) e^{\frac{-z^{\pm} \phi(\mathbf{r})}{k_B T}}$$

$$\frac{\delta G}{\delta \phi} = 0 \rightarrow \nabla \cdot \epsilon(\mathbf{r}) \nabla \phi(\mathbf{r}) = -4\pi (\rho^{sys}(\mathbf{r}) + \rho^+(\mathbf{r}) - \rho^-(\mathbf{r}))$$

# NUMERICAL SOLVER

- ▶ Bi-directional interactions are usually associated with non-analytic partial differential equations (GPE, PBE, MPBE, LPBE, etc.)
  - ▶ Boundary Element Methods
  - ▶ Domain decomposition
  - ▶ Multigrid
  - ▶ Gradient descent coupled with vacuum Poisson solver (FFT, wavelets, etc.)
- ▶ ...

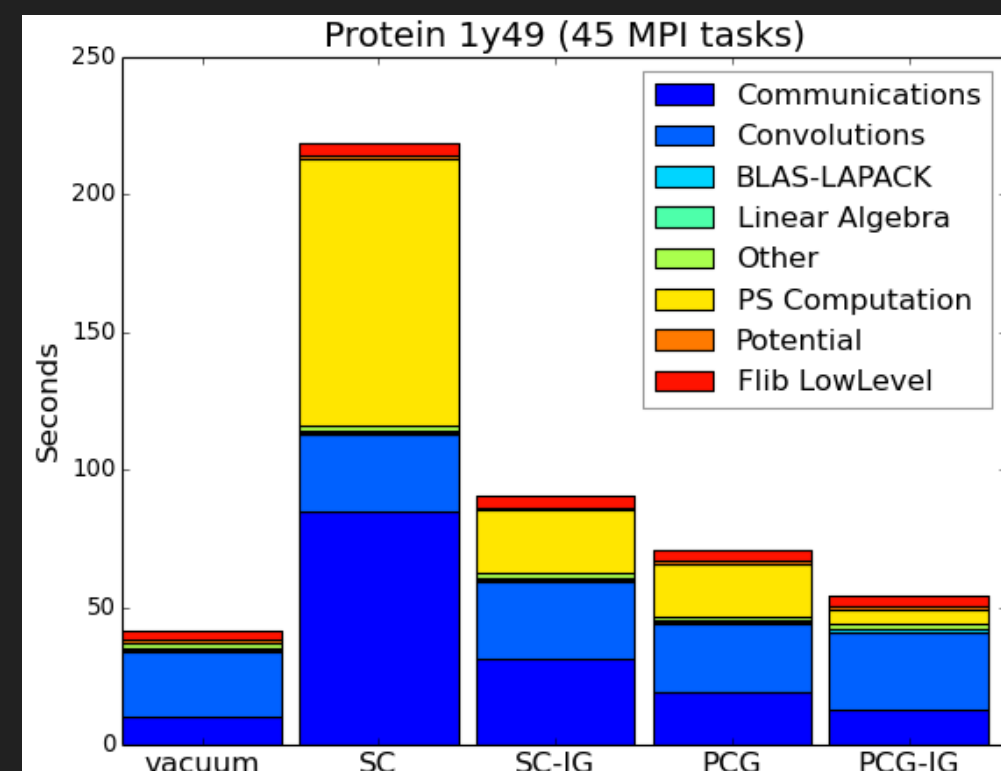
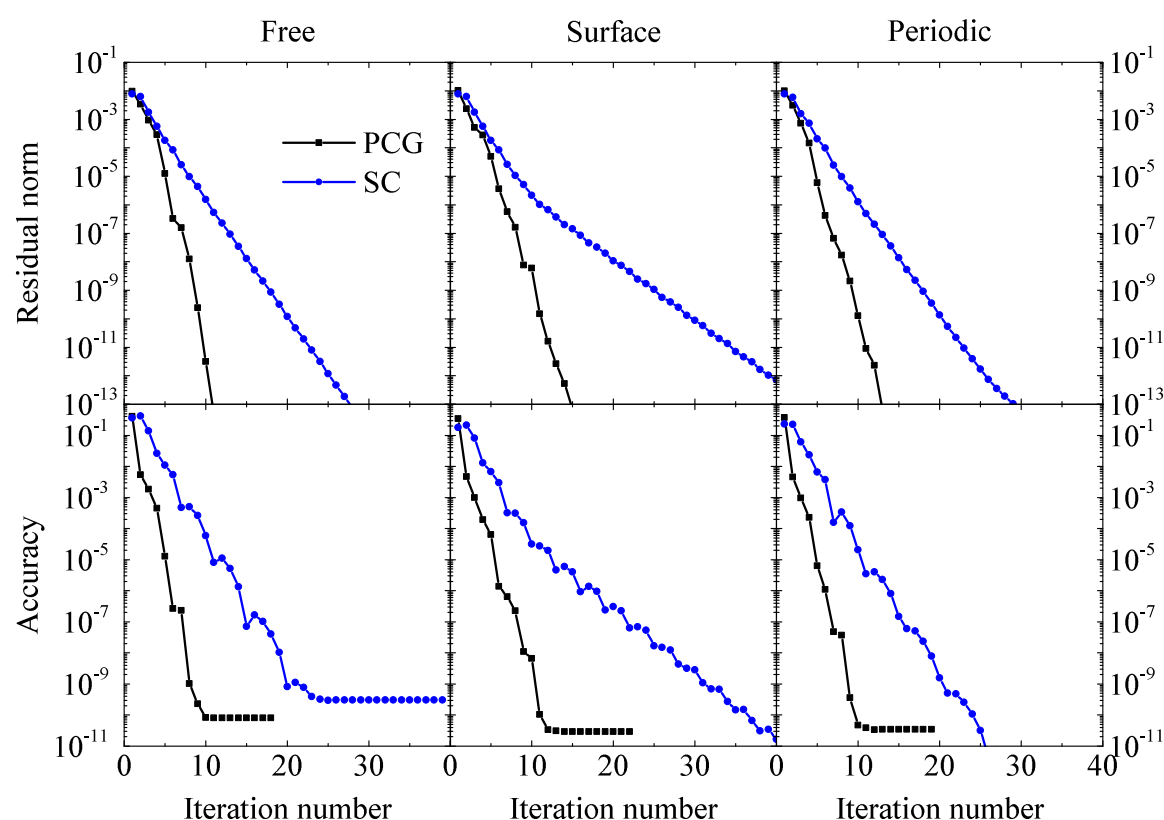




## IMPROVED PRECONDITIONED SCHEME

$$\mathcal{P}^{CG} v_k(\mathbf{r}) = \sqrt{\epsilon(\mathbf{r})} \nabla^2 [v_k(\mathbf{r}) \sqrt{\epsilon(\mathbf{r})}] = -4\pi r_k(\mathbf{r}).$$

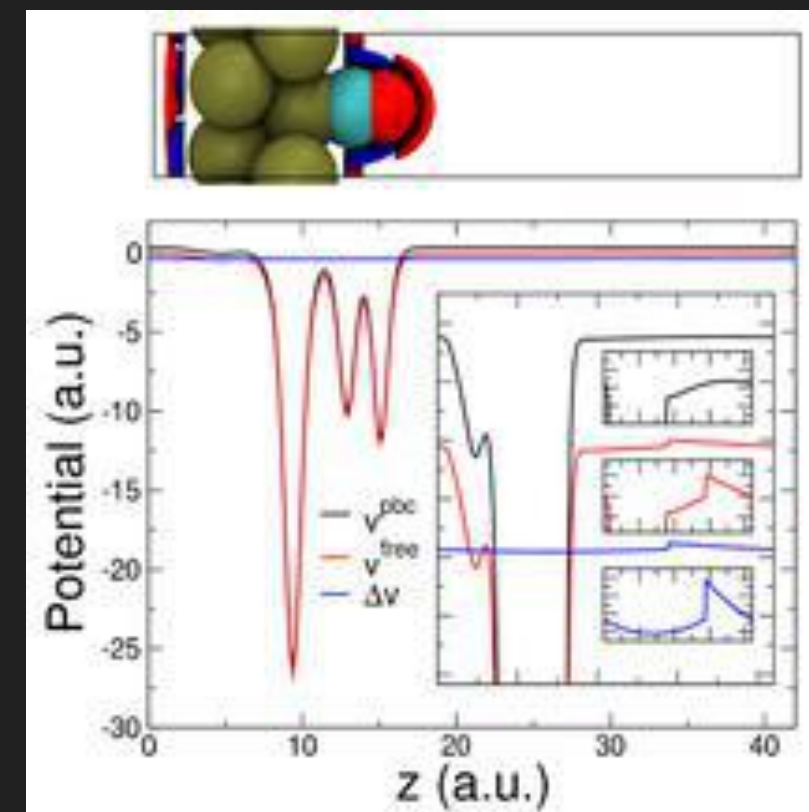
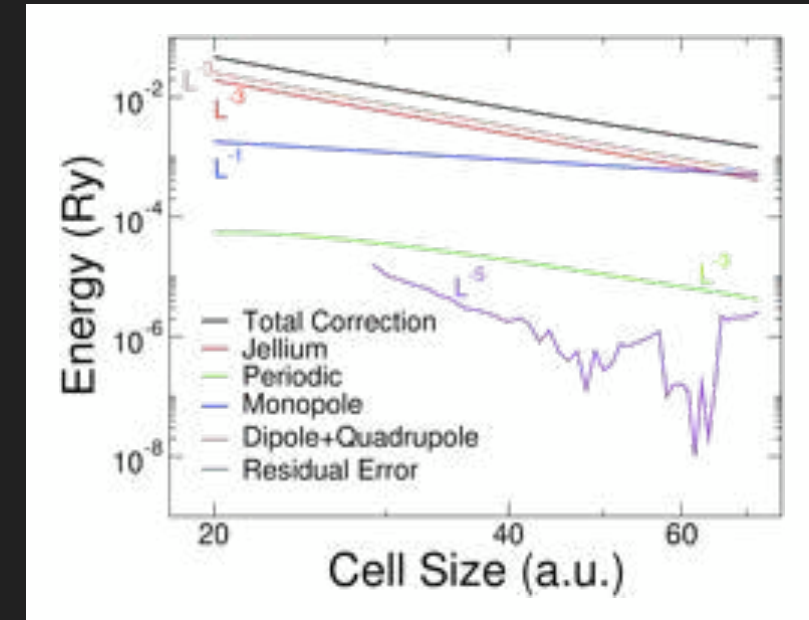
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A} v_k(\mathbf{r}) &= \nabla \cdot \epsilon(\mathbf{r}) \nabla v_k(\mathbf{r}) \\ &= -v_k(\mathbf{r}) q(\mathbf{r}) - 4\pi r_k(\mathbf{r}), \end{aligned}$$



G. Fisicaro, L. Genovese, O. Andreussi, N. Marzari and S. Goedecker, *J. Chem. Phys.* **144**, 014103 (2016).

## FFTS

- ▶ Fast, parallel, widespread
- ▶ Periodic boundary conditions (PBC) artifacts
  - ▶ Makov-Payne
  - ▶ Point-countercharge
  - ▶ Martyna-Tuckerman



# RECIPES

- ▶ Model development level
  - ▶ Choose the continuum, choose the interface, choose the interactions
  - ▶ Tune the parameters
- ▶ User level
  - ▶ Choose the solver
  - ▶ Choose an application (compatible with the parameters)



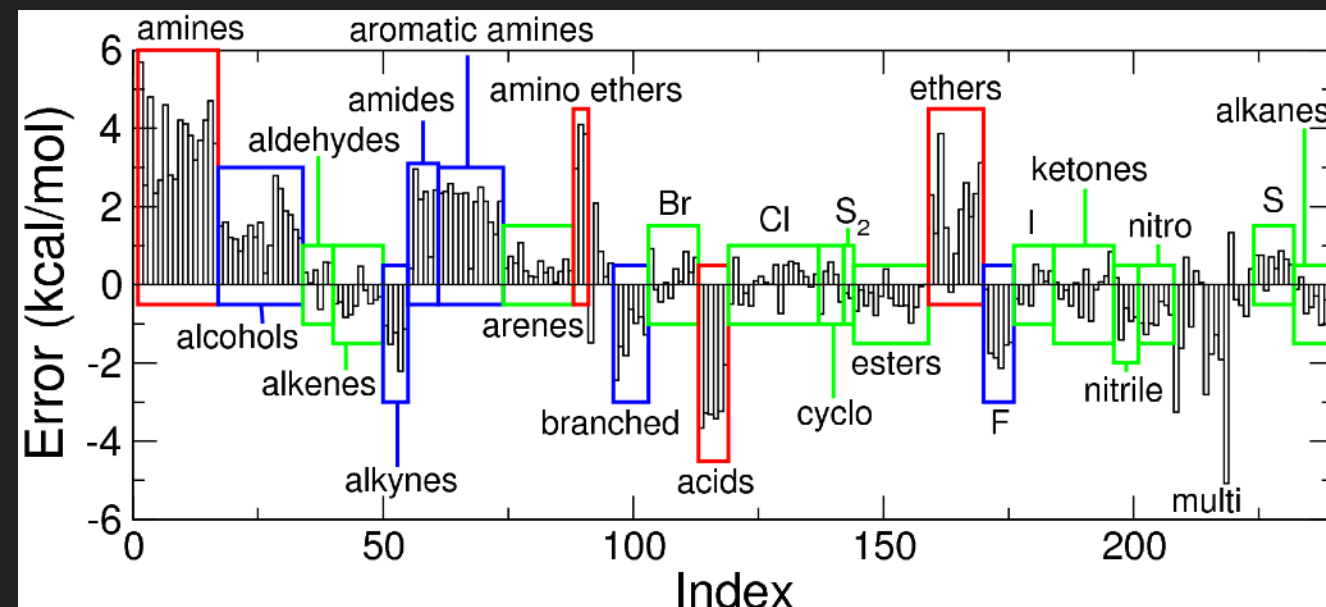
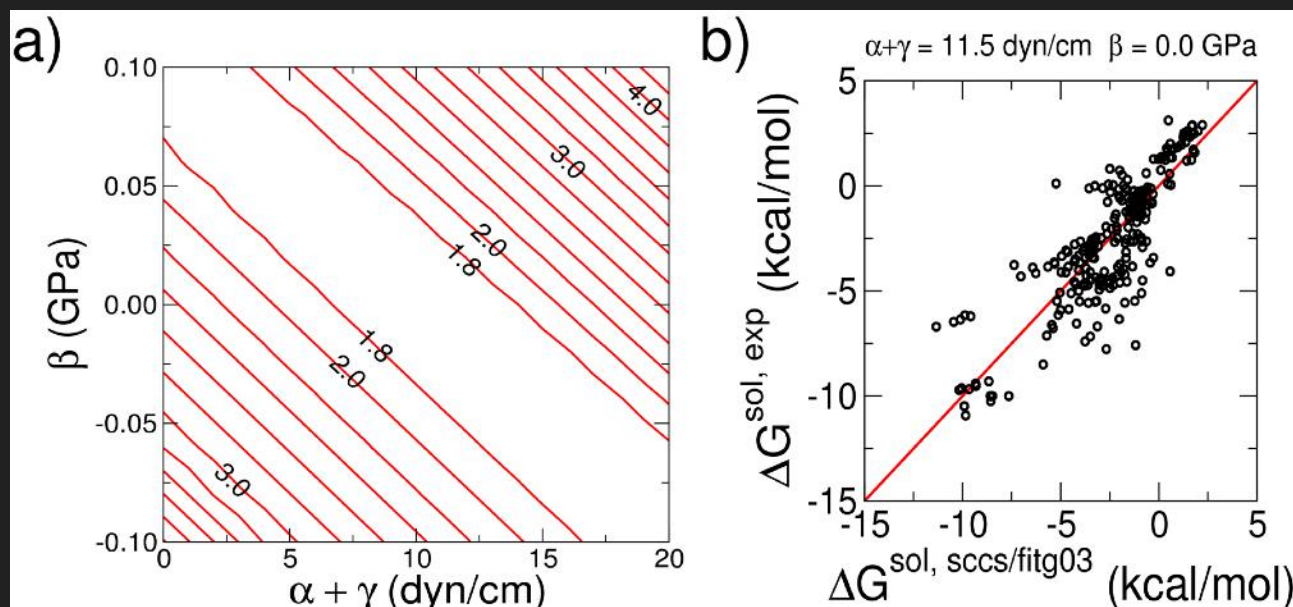
# SELF-CONSISTENT CONTINUUM SOLVATION (SCCS)

- ▶ Aqueous solutions
- ▶ Electronic interface
- ▶ Dielectric + Surface + Volume
- ▶ Or Dielectric + Surface (2D systems)

$$s(\mathbf{r}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \rho^{el}(\mathbf{r}) > \rho_{max} \\ t(\ln(\rho^{el}(\mathbf{r}))) & \rho_{max} > \rho^{el}(\mathbf{r}) > \rho_{min} \\ 0 & \rho^{el}(\mathbf{r}) < \rho_{min} \end{cases}$$

$$\epsilon(\mathbf{r}) = e^{\log \epsilon_0 [1 - s(\mathbf{r})]}$$

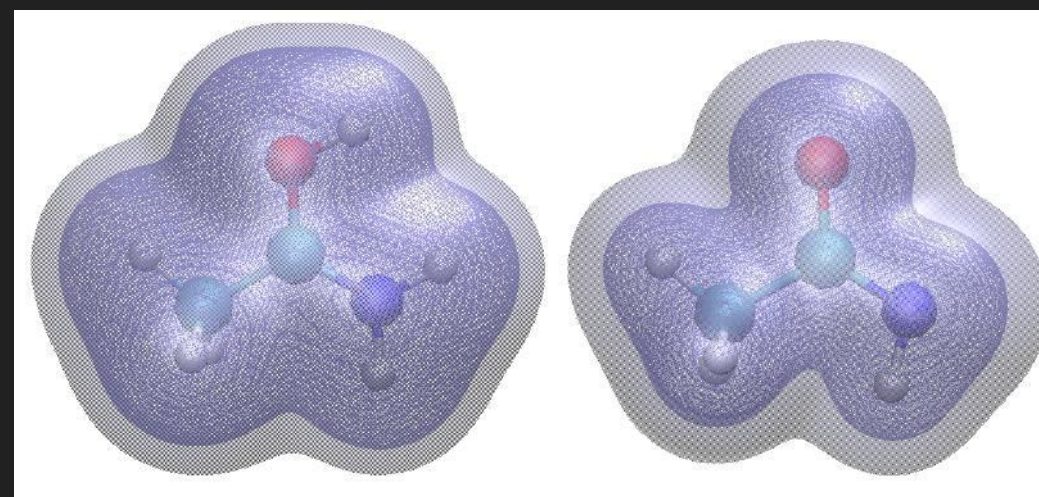
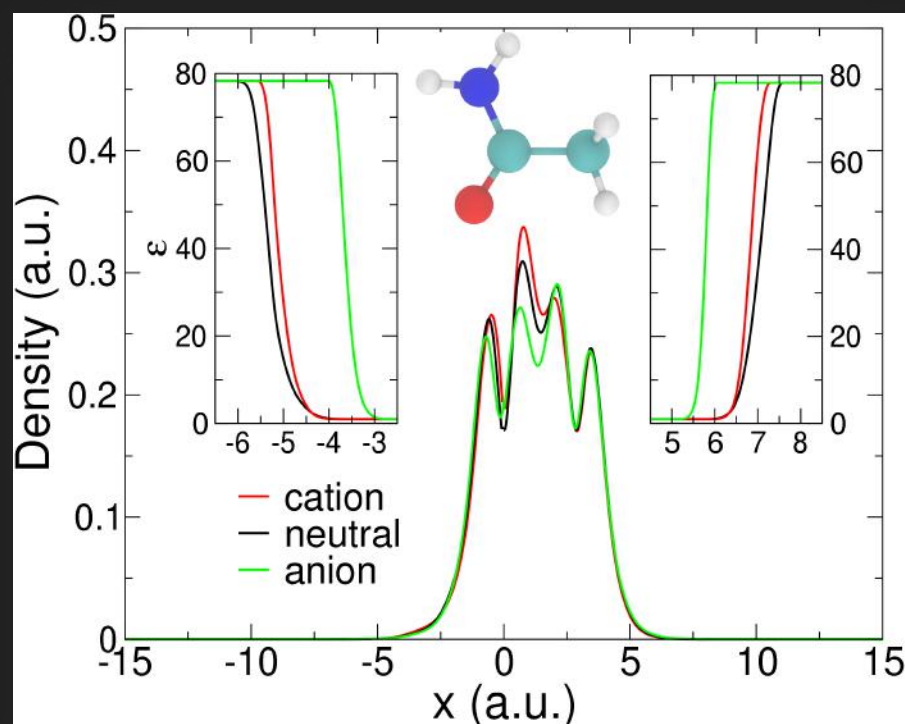
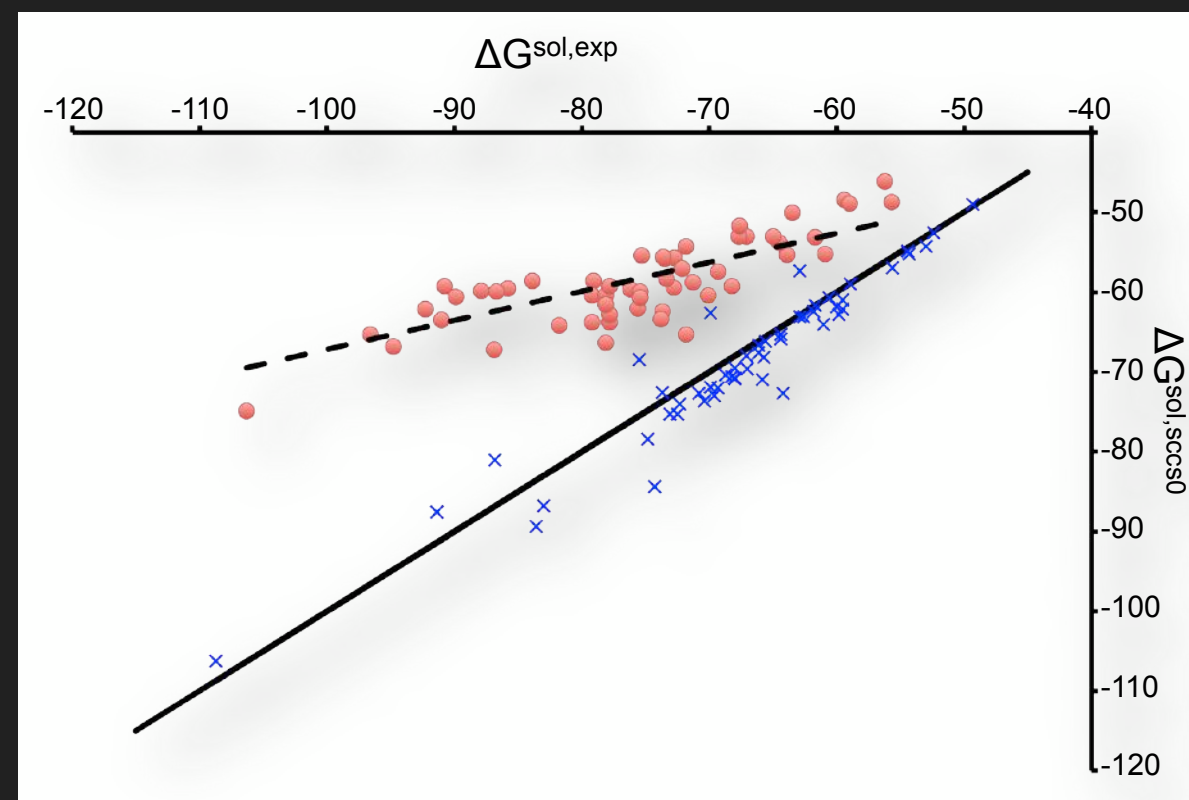
$$\Delta G = \Delta G^{el}(\epsilon(s(\mathbf{r}))) + \alpha S[s(\mathbf{r})] + \beta V[s(\mathbf{r})]$$





## SCCS FOR CHARGED SPECIES

- Anions need a separate parameterization



## SOFT-SPHERE CONTINUUM SOLVATION

- ▶ Aqueous solutions
- ▶ Ionic interface
- ▶ Dielectric + Surface + Volume
- ▶ Or Dielectric + Surface (2D systems)

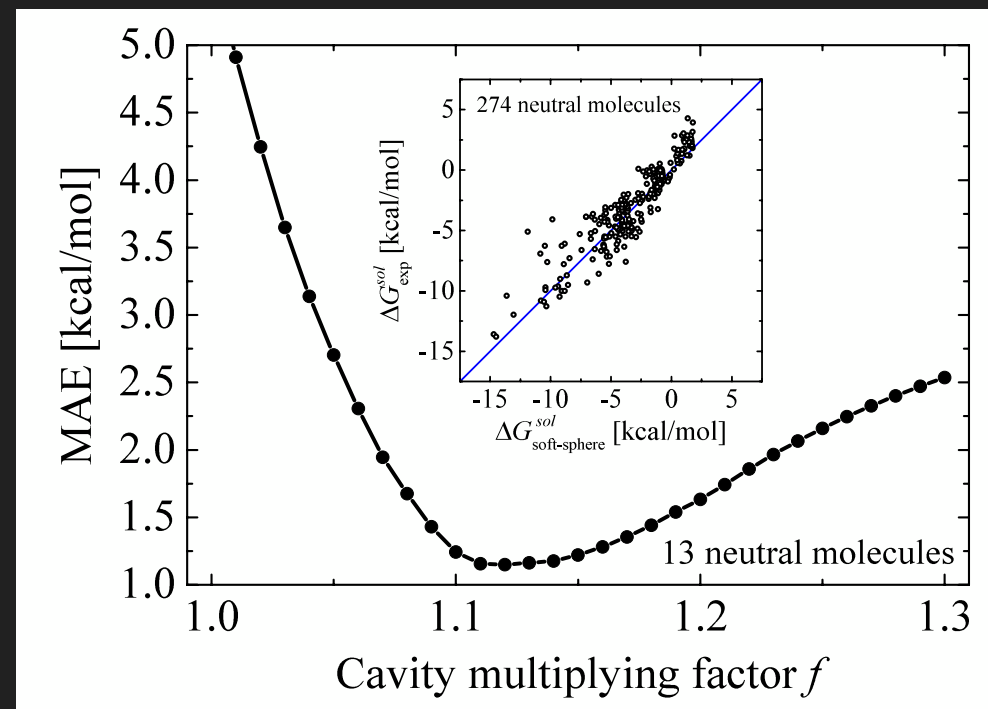


Table 2. MAEs in Aqueous Solvation Free Energies (kcal/mol) for Several Solvation Models (MAEs from ref 38)<sup>a</sup>

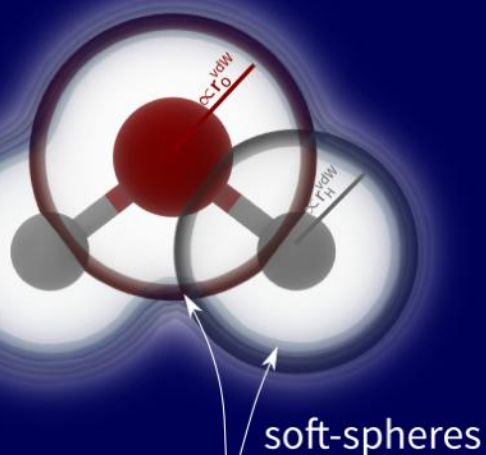
method	neutrals	cations	anions
soft-sphere <sup>b</sup>	1.12	2.13	2.96
sccs <sup>23</sup>	1.14 <sup>c</sup>	2.27 <sup>d</sup>	5.54 <sup>d</sup>
SM8 <sup>38</sup>	0.55	2.70	3.70
SM12 <sup>39</sup>	0.59	2.90	2.90
PB/Jaguar <sup>38</sup>	0.86	3.10	4.80
IEF-PCM <sup>38</sup>	1.18	3.70	5.50
C-PCM/GAMESS <sup>38</sup>	1.57	7.70	8.90
GCOSMO/NWChem <sup>38</sup>	8.17	11.00	7.00

<sup>a</sup>Model benchmarks refer to same set of 274 neutrals, 60 anions, and 52 cations of the Minnesota Solvation Database, version 2012.<sup>28</sup>

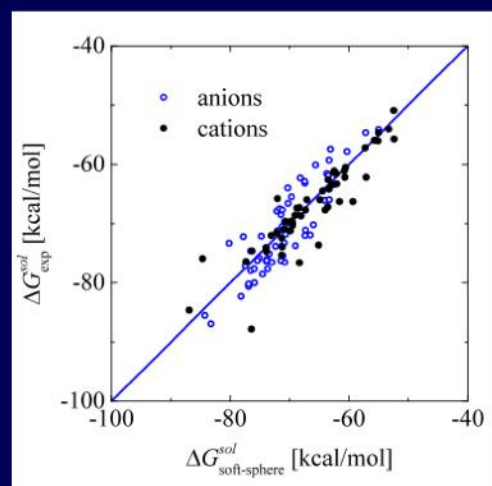
<sup>b</sup>Parametrization of row 2 Table 1. <sup>c</sup>The sccs implemented in BigDFT.

<sup>d</sup>The sccs for ions corresponds to a reduced set of 55 anions and 51 cations<sup>23</sup> of the same Minnesota data set.

continuum  
solvent



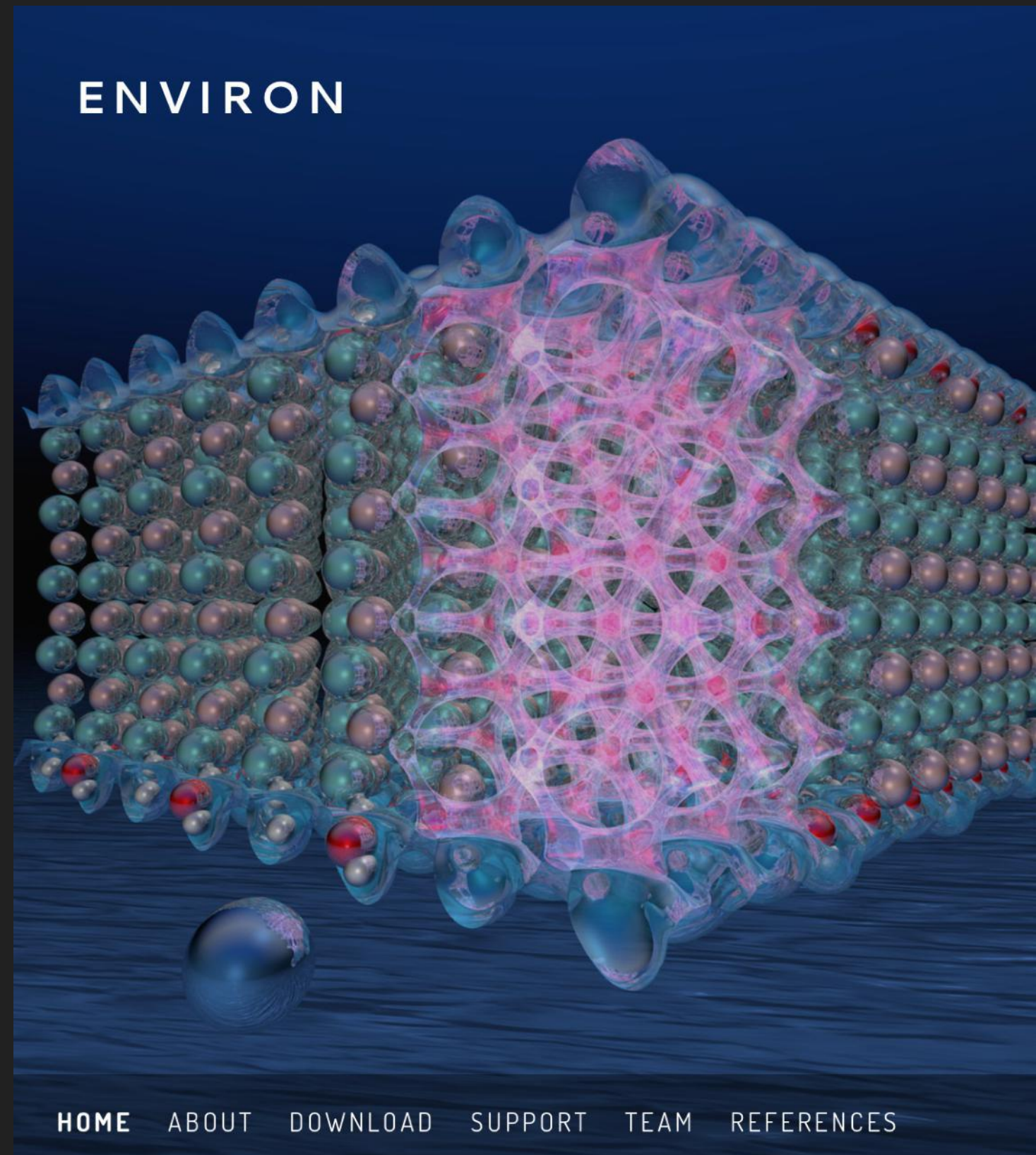
$$\epsilon(\mathbf{r}, \{\mathbf{R}_i\}) = (\epsilon_0 - 1) \left\{ \prod_i h(\{\xi\}; \|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_i\|) \right\} + 1$$





## THE CODE

- Basic information
- Download and installation
- Input and Output
- Testing and examples



## AN OPEN SOURCE PROJECT

- ▶ Website: [www.quantum-environ.org](http://www.quantum-environ.org)
- ▶ Documentation: <https://environ.readthedocs.io>
- ▶ Public Q&A group: [quantum-environ-users@googlegroups.com](mailto:quantum-environ-users@googlegroups.com)
- ▶ Public GitHub mirror: <https://github.com/environ-developers/Environ>
- ▶ Five releases:
  - ▶ Environ 0.1 in February 2015
  - ▶ Environ 0.2 in February 2016
  - ▶ Environ 1.0 in February 2018
  - ▶ Environ 1.1 in April 2019
  - ▶ Environ 2.0 in October 2021



## ENVIRON 2.0

- ▶ A modular library written in Fortran 90/95/2003 (Object-Oriented Code)
- ▶ It relies on Quantum Espresso to perform reciprocal-space operations (gradients, Poisson potential, and related stuff)
  - ▶ Compiled as a stand-alone library
  - ▶ Currently only coupled with QE
- ▶ New features w.r.t Environ 1.1:
  - ▶ Internally generated G-vectors and FFT grids
  - ▶ Decoupled cells for DFT system and embedding Environment
  - ▶ Semiconductor embedding
- ▶ Extended use of object-oriented principles

## DOWNLOAD AND INSTALLATION

- ▶ For news and releases, check out
  - ▶ [www.quantum-environ.org](http://www.quantum-environ.org)
- ▶ For installation instructions, theoretical overview, and more, check out
  - ▶ <https://environ.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>
- ▶ Instructions are also available in the README file
- ▶ Once installed:
  1. Run the test-suite to check for consistency
  2. Run the examples to get familiarized with the tools
  3. Input keywords are also in Doc/INPUT\_Environ.html

### INPUT FILE

- ▶ Environ requires one additional input file
- ▶ It must be named **environ.in** and located in the directory where pw.x is running
- ▶ environ.in is composed of three namelists (two optional) and two optional cards

# ENVIRON NAMELISTS

### **&ENVIRON** (REQUIRED)

The global properties of the calculation

- ▶ The strength of the different environment effects
- ▶ Basic control keywords (verbosity)

### **&BOUNDARY** (OPTIONAL)

The definition of the continuum boundaries

### **&ELECTROSTATIC** (OPTIONAL)

The parameters for the electrostatic solvers



# ENVIRON CARDS

### EXTERNAL\_CHARGES (OPTIONAL)

- ▶ Defines additional charge densities included in the electronic structure calculation (must be activated by `env_external_charges = N>0`)

### DIELECTRIC\_REGIONS (OPTIONAL)

- ▶ Defines non-homogenous dielectric regions inside the simulation cell
- ▶ (must be activated by `env_dielectric_regions = N>0`)

# THREE LEVELS OF OUTPUT

### 1. verbose=0 (default)

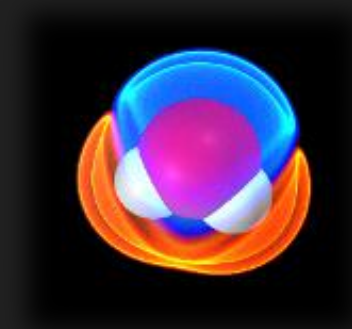
- ▶ only print minimal information to standard output (inside the QE output file)

### 2. verbose>0

- ▶ generate an additional readable text file named environ.debug
- ▶ contains information of the Environ calculations

### 3. verbose>1

- ▶ generate additional cube files
- ▶ contains values of specific physical quantities on the simulation grid



Cube files may be useful for debugging or rendering purposes; they can be viewed with molecular visualization software, such as VMD

### RUNNING TESTS

- ▶ Environ comes with a test-suite to allow for consistency checks
- ▶ To run the tests in serial, switch over to Environ/tests and run
- ▶ make run-tests

...or in parallel

- ▶ make run-tests-parallel

NOTE: a few tests may give some small errors and reported as failed

# RUNNING EXAMPLES

- ▶ Summarized in Environ/examples/README
  - ▶ To run, switch over to Environ/examples
1. Change directory into one of the examples
    - ▶ `cd example01/`
  2. Run the script
    - ▶ `./run_example.sh`
  3. Make sure the script to run the example is executable. If not, run
    - ▶ `chmod a+x run_example.sh`
  4. Compare results against the available references



# COUPLING WITH QE

- ▶ Environ is coupled with the following QE sub-packages:
  - ▶ PW & NEB
  - ▶ CP
  - ▶ TDDFPT
  - ▶ XSPECTRA
- ▶ To run environ with these codes, run (e.g. PW)
  - ▶ `$QEPATH/bin/pw.x -environ < filename.in > filename.out`
  - ▶ On the VM you can just run `pw.x -environ ...`

# USERS & ENVIRON

- ▶ If you use the code and it works...
  - ▶ please cite the main references
  - ▶ full list available online and in the calculation output
- ▶ If you use the code and it doesn't work...
  - ▶ Bug – NO WORRIES!... we'll fix it
  - ▶ Numerical problems - GREAT!... Try tweaking the parameters
  - ▶ Physical problem – NOT SO GREAT! May require development of new features
- ▶ In any case, please:
  - ▶ Check out the FAQ online or the Q&A group
  - ▶ Contact us ([oliviero.andreussi@unt.edu](mailto:oliviero.andreussi@unt.edu))