Collective variable: The dihedrals rotating under light irradiation Force field derived in the ground and excited states to describe the dihedral rotation

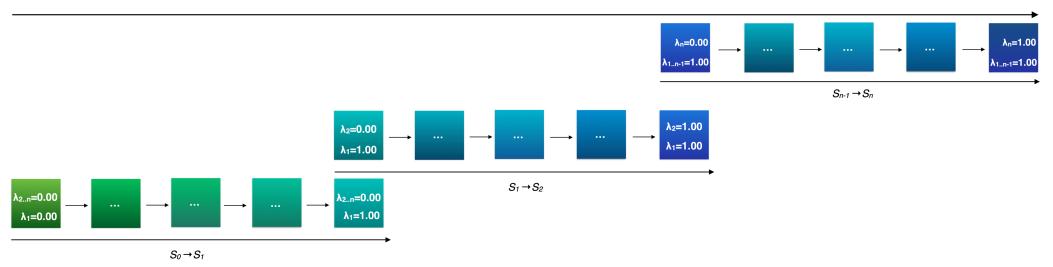
Different parallel bias metadynamics replica in ground and excited states. To allow an energy overlaps in each electronic free-energy surfaces Replica Exchange Methods can be used and each replica can exchange its torsional potential.

Fortino, Cozza, Bonomi, Pietropaolo, J. Chem. Phys. 2021, 154, 174108. Special collection in honor of women in Chemical Physics and Physical Chemistry.

Replica Exchange Methods can be used and each replica can exchange its torsional potential.

$$V_{\lambda}(\varphi) = \sum_{m=1}^{N} \left[(1 - \lambda_1) V^{S_0}(\varphi_m) + \lambda_1 (1 - \lambda_2) V^{S_1}(\varphi_m) + \cdots \lambda_{n-1} (1 - \lambda_n) V^{S_{n-1}}(\varphi_m) + \lambda_n V^{S_n}(\varphi_m) \right]$$

 $S_0 \rightarrow S_n$ Excited state Replica Exchange simulations

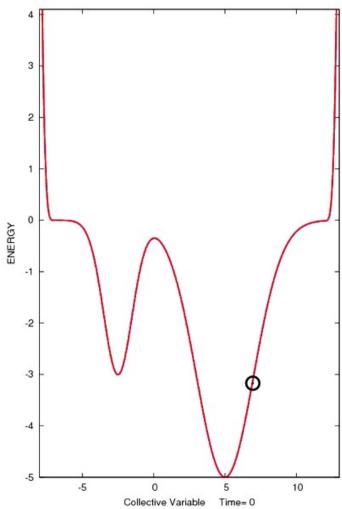


Parallel bias Metadynamics workflow can be used adding multiple mono-dimensional metadynamics bias potentials on specific CVs.

$$V_{PB}(\varphi_1, \dots \varphi_N; t) = -\frac{1}{\beta} \log \left(\sum_{i=1}^N e^{-\beta V_G(\varphi_i; t)} \right)$$

$$V_G(\varphi_i;t) = \int_0^t dt' \ \omega(t') \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{\left(\varphi_i(r) - \varphi_i(r(t'))\right)^2}{2\sigma_i^2}\right)$$

Laio, Parrinello PNAS 2002, 99 ,12562-12566
Pfaendtner, Bonomi J. Chem. Theory Comput. 2015, 11, 11, 5062–5067



Finally, Free-energy perturbation was used together with Replica exchange and Parallel bias metadynamics to estimate the free-energy difference between ground and excited states.

3.70

$$\Delta F^{(\lambda_i + \Delta \lambda)} = -\frac{1}{\beta} \log \langle e^{-\beta(V_{\lambda_i + \Delta \lambda} - V_{\lambda_i})} \rangle_{\lambda_i}$$
$$\Delta F^{S_i \to S_{i+1}} = \sum_i \Delta F^{(\lambda_i + \Delta \lambda)}$$

