

# Chapter #3

Potential Energy Surface Exploration  
Coordinates, File Formats, Scans, and IRC

# Observables

[1] Structure.

[2] Energy.

[3] Properties.

Spectroscopy: MW, IR, UV/Vis, NMR, ESR,...

Thermochemistry and Kinetics.

# Potential Energy Surface, PES

$$\text{Energy} = E(x_1, y_1, z_1, x_2, y_2, z_2, \dots, x_M, y_M, z_M)$$

$$\text{Nonlinear: } M = 3N - 6$$

$$\text{Linear: } M = 3N - 5$$

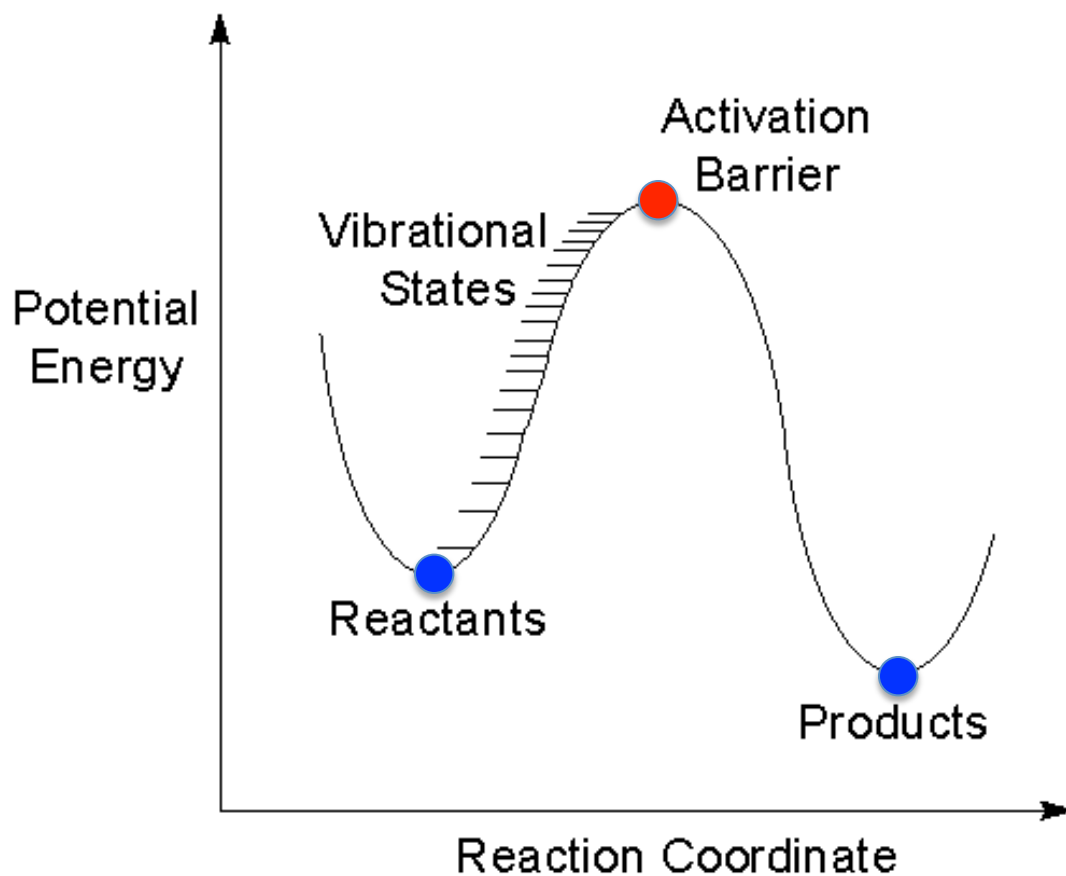
$N$  is the number of atoms.

$3N$  is the total number of degrees of freedom.

$M$  is the number of internal degrees of freedom which describe the structure.

$3N - M$  degrees of freedom describe the motion of the molecule as a whole.

# PES and Stationary Structures



Stationary Structure

Gradient = 0

Minimum (pl.: Minima)

All curvatures are positive

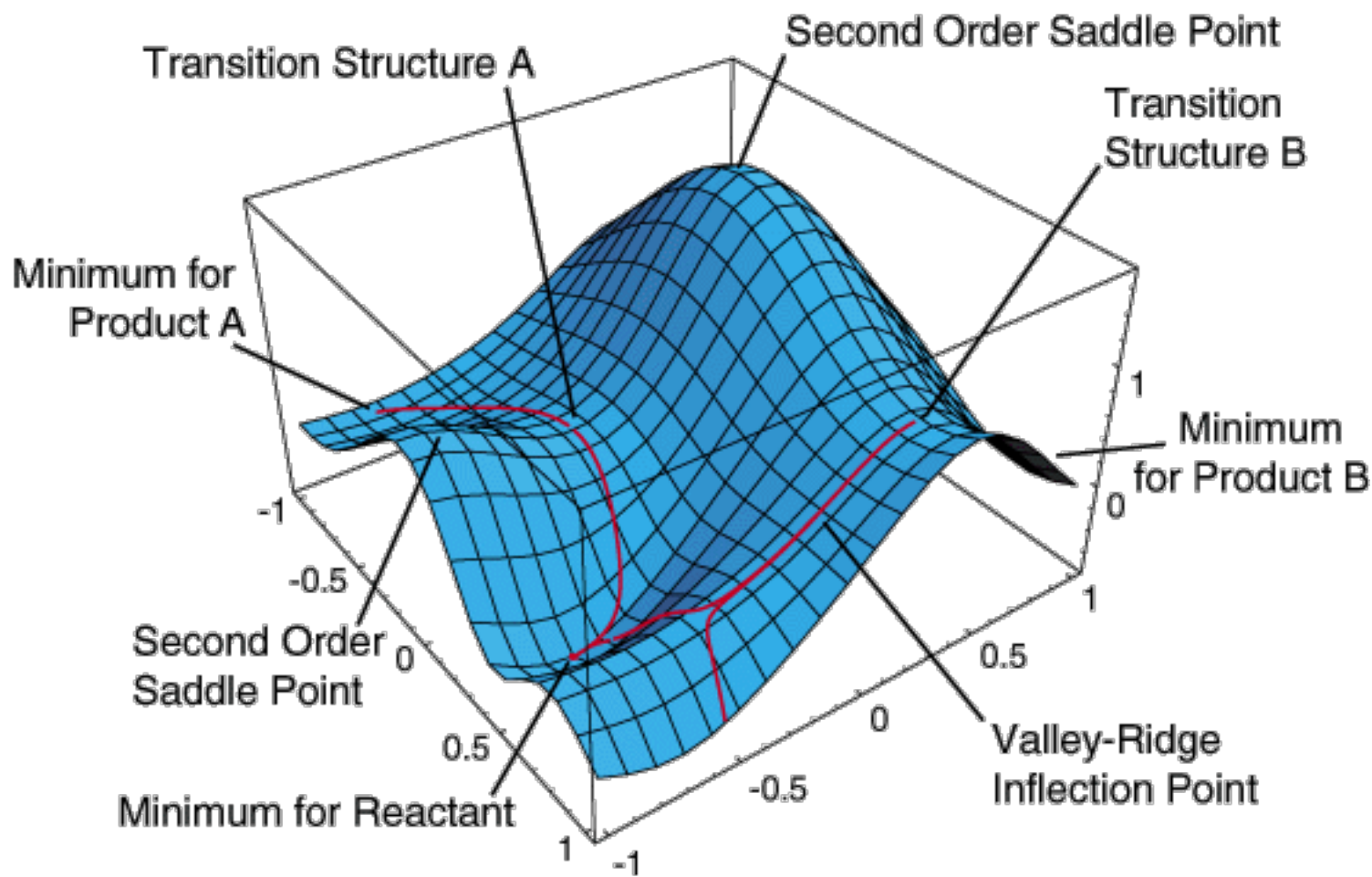
Transition State Structure

ONE curvature is negative

Higher-Order Saddle Point

More than one curvature  
are negative

# Potential Energy Surface, PES



# Chapter #3

## 3.1. Stationary Structures, Symmetry, Step-by-Step Scans – Preparation for Assignment #1

# NH<sub>3</sub> Str. Opt.: Internal Coordinates

Draw NH<sub>3</sub> in Active Window without using Point Group

Save as internal coordinates from "File" menu

```
%chk=C:\Users\glaserr\Desktop\ammonia.chk  
# hf/6-31G* geom=connectivity
```

Title Card Required

```
0 1  
N  
H          1          B1  
H          1          B2    2          A1  
H          1          B3    3          A2    2          D1    0  
  
B1          1.00000000  
B2          1.00000000  
B3          1.00000000  
A1          109.47120255  
A2          109.47125080  
D1          -119.99998525  
  
1 2 1.0 3 1.0 4 1.0  
2  
3  
4
```

# NH<sub>3</sub> Str. Opt.: Cartesian Coordinates

Draw NH<sub>3</sub> in Active Window without using Point Group

Save as Cartesian coordinates from "File" menu (mark "Write Cartesians")

```
%chk=C:\Users\glaserr\Desktop\ammonia_coord.chk  
# hf/6-31G* geom=connectivity
```

Title Card Required

```
0 1  
N          0.00000000    0.00000000    0.00000000  
H          0.00000000    0.00000000    1.00000000  
H          0.94280915    0.00000000   -0.33333304  
H         -0.47140478   -0.81649655   -0.33333304  
  
1 2 1.0 3 1.0 4 1.0  
2  
3  
4
```

Optimization will still be performed in internal coordinates.



# NH<sub>3</sub> Opt.: C<sub>3v</sub>, Internal Coords.

```
%nprocshared=1
%mem=128MW
%chk=C:\Users\glaserr\Desktop\ammonia_C3v.chk
# opt=z-matrix hf/6-31G*
```

Ammonia in C3v

```
0 1
N
X      1      1.0
H      1      b1      2      a1
H      1      b1      2      a1      3      120.0      0
H      1      b1      2      a1      3      -120.0      0
```

```
b1=1.
a1=110.
```

Opt=z-matrix: Optimization will be performed in the internal coordinates specified in the z-matrix.

# NH<sub>3</sub> Opt.: D<sub>3h</sub>, Internal Coords. I

```
%nprocshared=1
%mem=128MW
%chk=C:\Users\glaserr\Desktop\ammonia_D3h.chk
# opt=z-matrix hf/6-31G*
```

Ammonia in D3h

0 1

N

X 1 1.0

H 1 b1 2 90.

H 1 b1 2 90. 3 120.0 0

H 1 b1 2 90. 3 -120.0 0

b1=1.

# NH<sub>3</sub> Opt.: D<sub>3h</sub>, Internal Coords. II

```
%nprocshared=1
%mem=128MW
%chk=C:\Users\glaserr\Desktop\ammonia_D3h_V2.chk
# opt=z-matrix hf/6-31G*

Ammonia in D3h

0 1
 N
 H      1      b1
 H      1      b1      2      120.
 H      1      b1      2      120.      3 -180.0      0

b1=1.
```

# Characterize Your PES Position

## Gradient Vector:

Change of energy  $E(r_i)$  as a function of coordinate  $r_i$

## Curvature Matrix: (Hessian)

Change of the change of energy  $E$

-- as a function of coordinate  $q_i$

-- as a function of coordinates  $q_i$  and  $q_j$

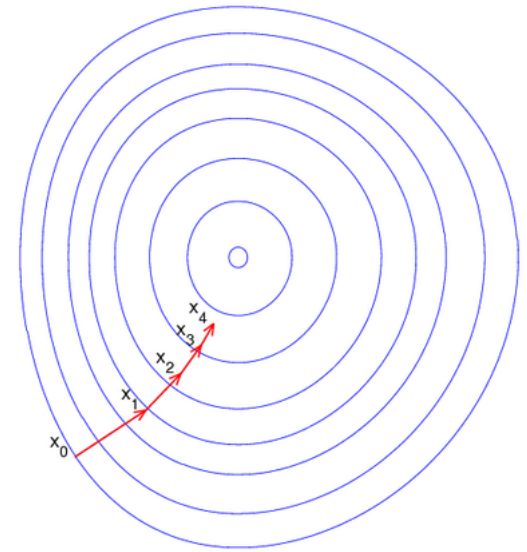
*Estimate and update, opt*  
*Compute once, opt=calcf*  
*Compute everytime, opt=calcl*

*Analytically*  
*or*  
*Numerically*

# Steepest Descent

**Steepest Descent:** Take steps proportional to the negative of the gradient of the energy of the present structure: Walk to MINIMUM.

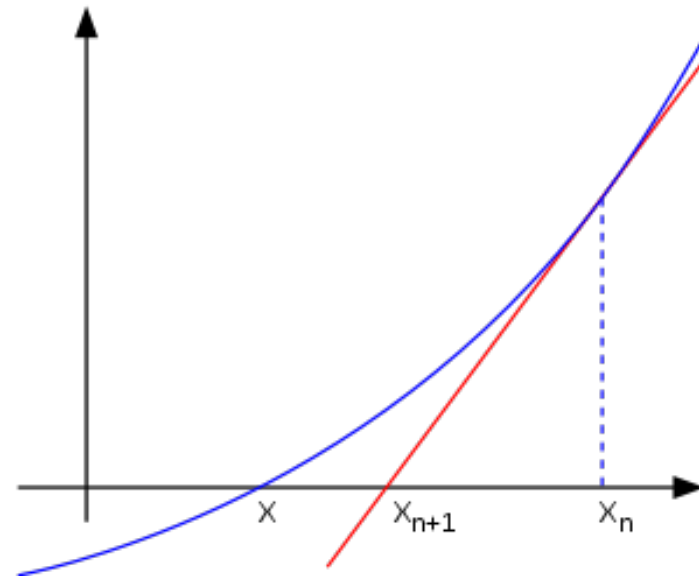
**Steepest Ascent:** Take steps proportional to the negative of the gradient of the energy of the present structure: Walk to TRANSITION STATE.



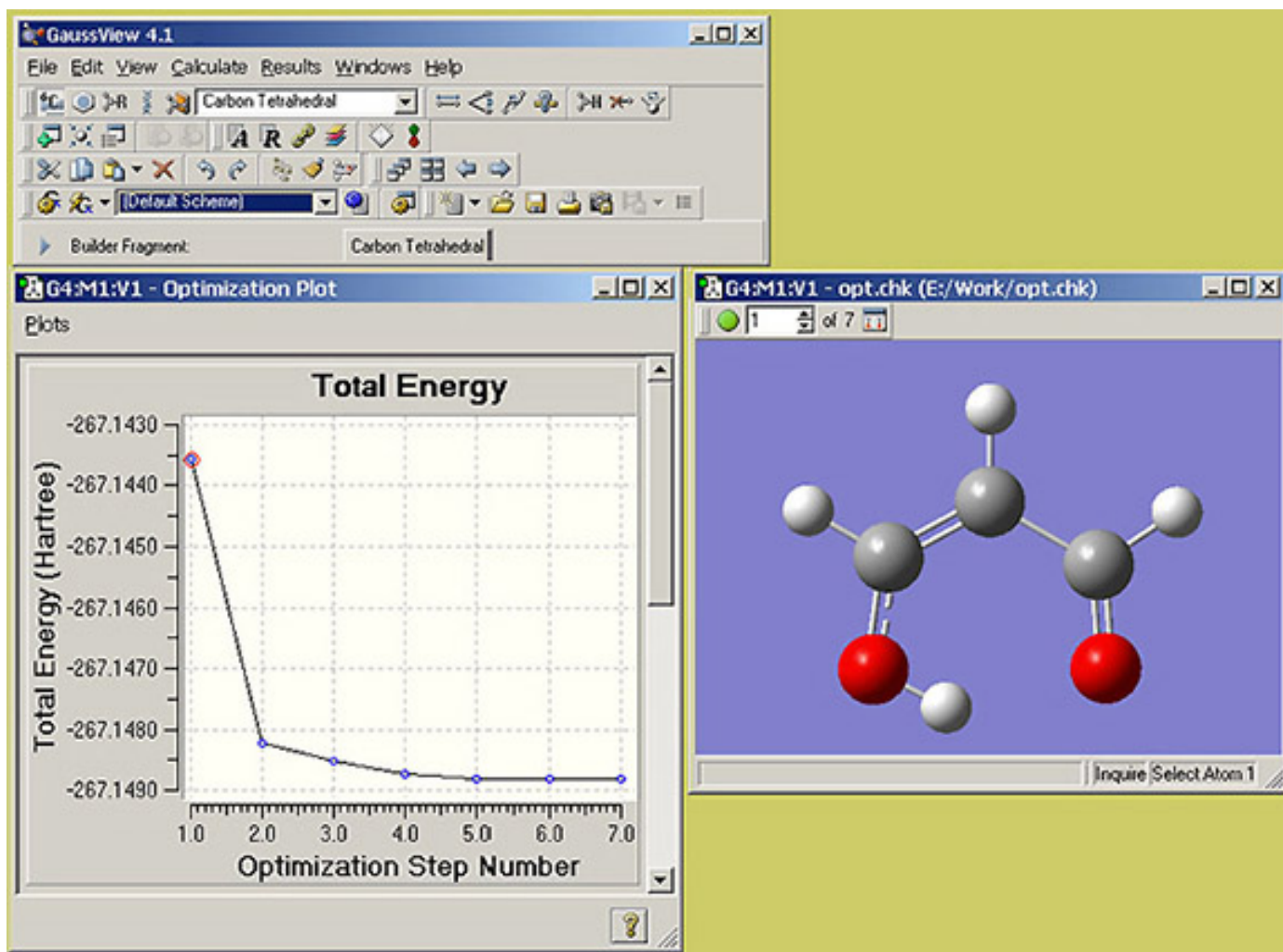
# Newton-Raphson Method

**Gradient:** Where to go.

**Curvature:** How far to step.  
High curvature, small step.



# Optimization Steps



# NH<sub>3</sub> Opt.: Locate TS

```
%chk=C:\Users\glaserr\Desktop\ammonia_TS.chk  
# hf/6-31G* opt=(TS,calcfc) geom=connectivity
```

Title Card Required

0 1

N

H 1 B1

H 1 B2 2 A1

H 1 B3 3 A2 2 D1 0

B1 1.00000000

B2 1.00000000

B3 1.00000000

A1 118.23587891

A2 121.47125080

D1 -115.99998525

1 2 1.0 3 1.0 4 1.0

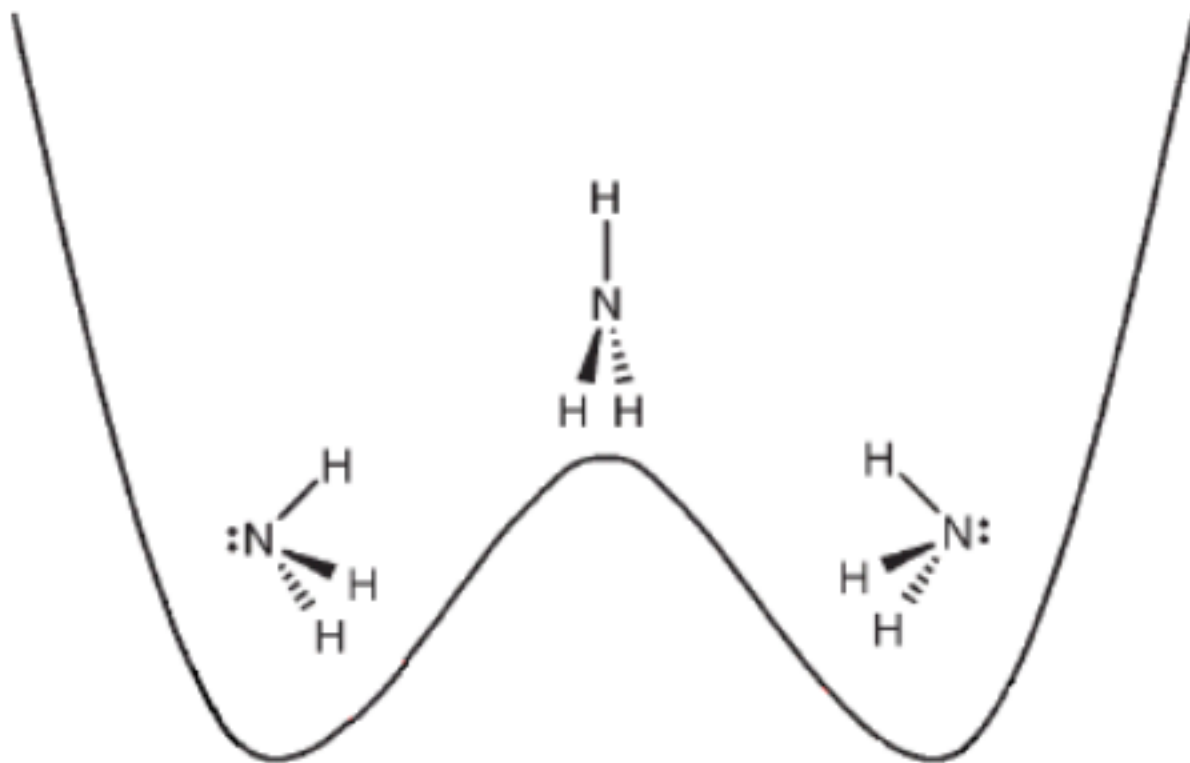
2

3

4



# PES and Scan of Inversion Path



One internal coordinate suffices to define a “good path”

# NH<sub>3</sub> Str. Opt.: Constrained

```
%nprocshared=1
%mem=128MW
%chk=C:\Users\glaserr\Desktop\partd_80.chk
# opt=z-matrix hf/6-31G*
```

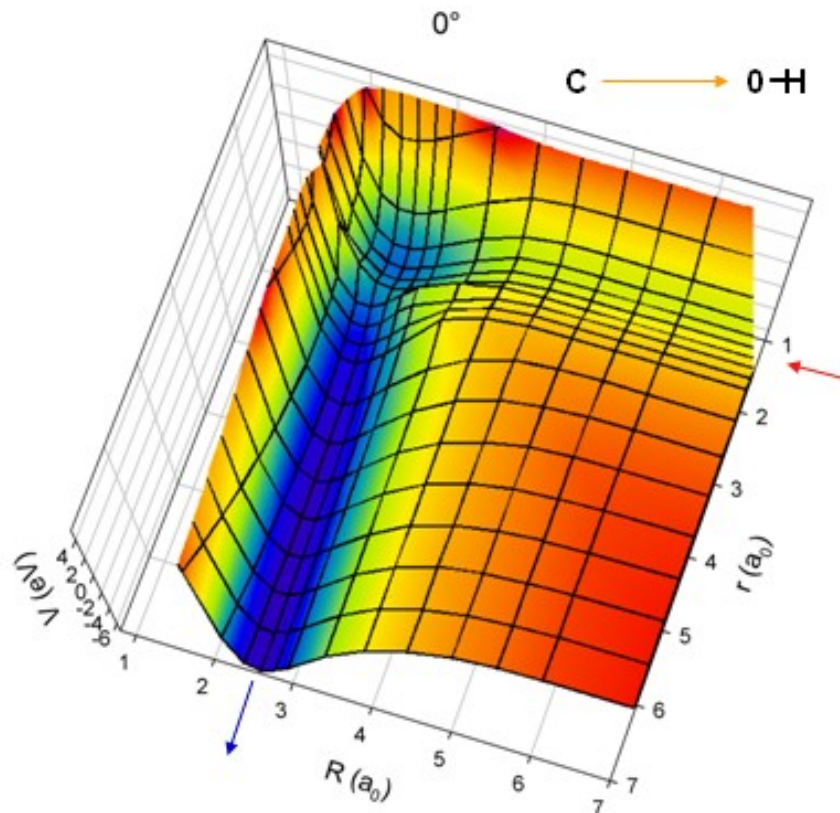
Ammonia with a1 angle 80 degrees

```
0 1
N
X      1      1.0
H      1      b1      2      a1
H      1      b1      2      a1      3      120.0      0
H      1      b1      2      a1      3      -120.0      0
```

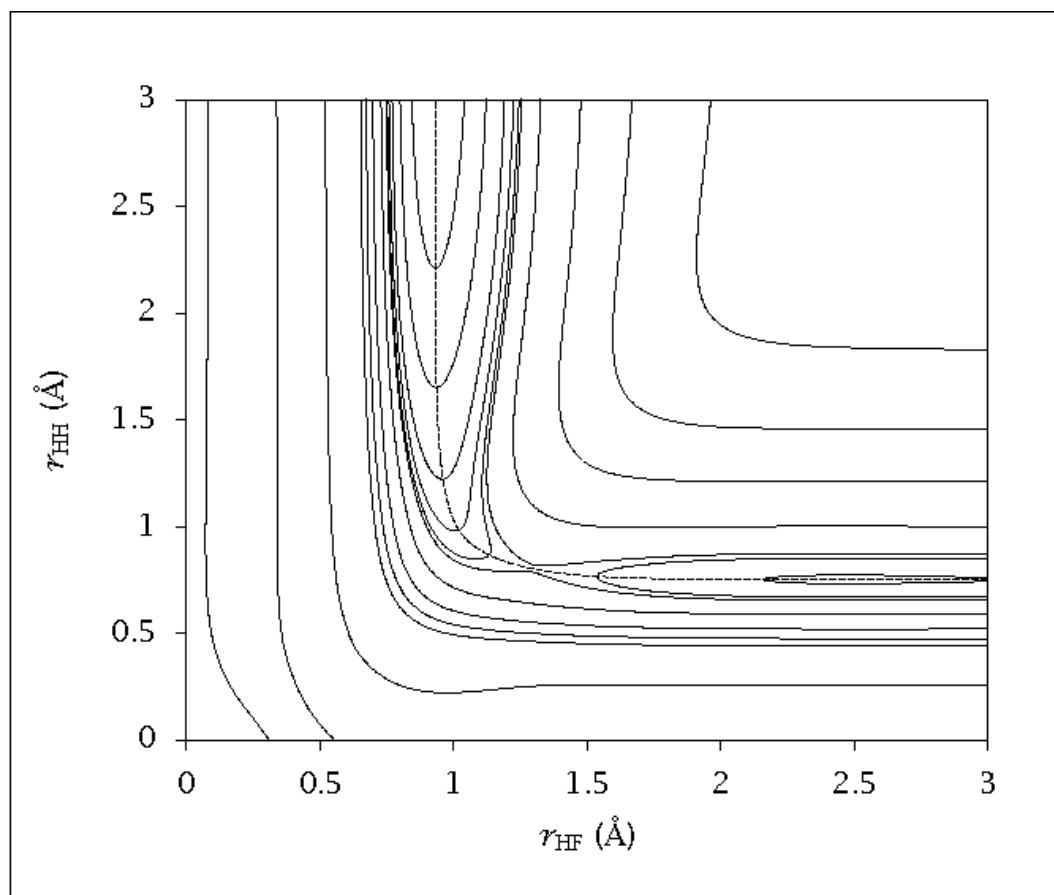
b1=1.                    Variable will be optimized

a1=80.                  Variable after the extra line with NOT be optimized

# PES Scan: 2 of 3 Coordinates



# PES: PES Scan *versus* IRC



<http://jbrwww.che.wisc.edu/home/jbrow/chemreacfun/ch5/figures/hfc.png>

# Chapter #3

## 3.2.1 CIF and PDB File Formats – Preparation for Assignment #2

# CIF File @ Acta Cryst.

MU - Chemistry 8330 - FS16 (IUCr) Acta Crystallographi... +

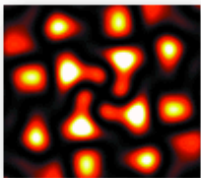
journals.iucr.org/b/issues/2016/04/00/ Search

Acta Cryst. B Acta Crystallographica Section B STRUCTURAL SCIENCE, CRYSTAL ENGINEERING AND MATERIALS search IUCr

home archive editors for authors for readers submit subscribe open access

## research papers

Acta Cryst. (2016). B72, 571-583  
doi: 10.1107/S2052520616005552



**An insight into real and average structure from diffuse X-ray scattering – a case study**


M. L. Chodkiewicz, A. Makal, R. Gajda, D. Vidovic and K. Woźniak

Diffuse X-ray scattering from an organic salt has been analysed including modeling of the local structure, explaining relationships between symmetry and extinction patterns, and assessing the sensitivity of the calculated diffuse scattering to the model of the average structure.

CCDC references: 1472062; 1472063; 1472064; 1472065

[Read article](#)

Acta Cryst. (2016). B72, 584-592  
doi: 10.1107/S2052520616008180

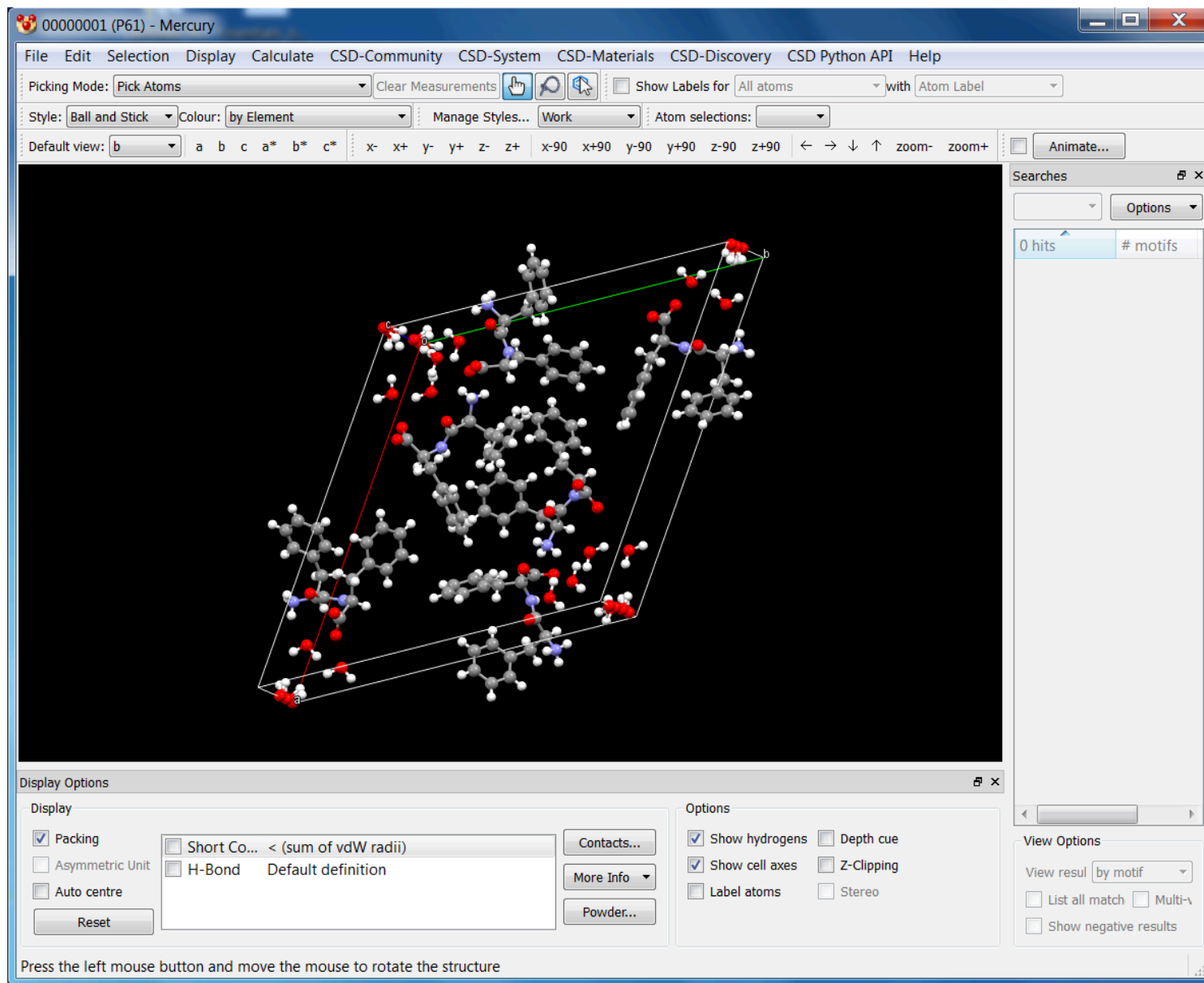


**Self-assembly modes of glycyrrhetic acid esters in view of the crystal packing of related triterpene molecules**

# Content of a “Small Molecule” CIF File

```
#####  
#  
# Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre  
# CCDC  
#  
#####  
#  
# If this CIF has been generated from an entry in the Cambridge  
# Structural Database, then it will include bibliographic, chemical,  
# crystal, experimental, refinement or atomic coordinate data resulting  
# from the CCDC's data processing and validation procedures.  
#  
#####  
  
data_00000001  
_symmetry_cell_setting hexagonal  
_symmetry_space_group_name_H-M 'P 61'  
_symmetry_Int_Tables_number 169  
_space_group_name_Hall 'P 61'  
loop_  
_symmetry_equiv_pos_site_id  
_symmetry_equiv_pos_as_xyz  
1 x,y,z  
2 -x+y,-x,2/3+z  
3 -y,x-y,1/3+z  
4 y,-x+y,5/6+z  
5 x-y,x,1/6+z  
6 -x,-y,1/2+z  
_cell_length_a 24.1048(18)  
_cell_length_b 24.1048(18)  
_cell_length_c 5.4459(5)  
_cell_angle_alpha 90  
_cell_angle_beta 90  
_cell_angle_gamma 120  
_cell_volume 2740.36  
loop_  
_atom_site_label  
_atom_site_type_symbol  
_atom_site_fract_x  
_atom_site_fract_y  
_atom_site_fract_z  
O23 O 0.30333 0.25106 0.6074  
O11 O 0.28335 0.10734 0.5575  
...  
H3wa H 0.18 0.08 0.2723  
H3wb H 0.132 0.112 0.2697  
  
#END
```

# Diphenylalanine in *Mercury*





# “Calculate” Menu in *Mercury*

Vary the ranges along the crystal axes until the display matches your target moiety.

Save the atom coordinates of the edited structure in a file format which can be read by *GaussView*.

## Cif files (\*.cif \*.cmf)

Debug output file (\*.txt)

MOL files (\*.mol \*.sdf \*.sd \*.mdl)

Mercury compressed XML crystal files (\*.mryx)

Mol2 files (\*.mol2 \*.mol)

PDB files (\*.pdb \*.ent)

SHELX files (\*.res \*.ins)

XMol files (\*.xyz)

BMP (\*.bmp)

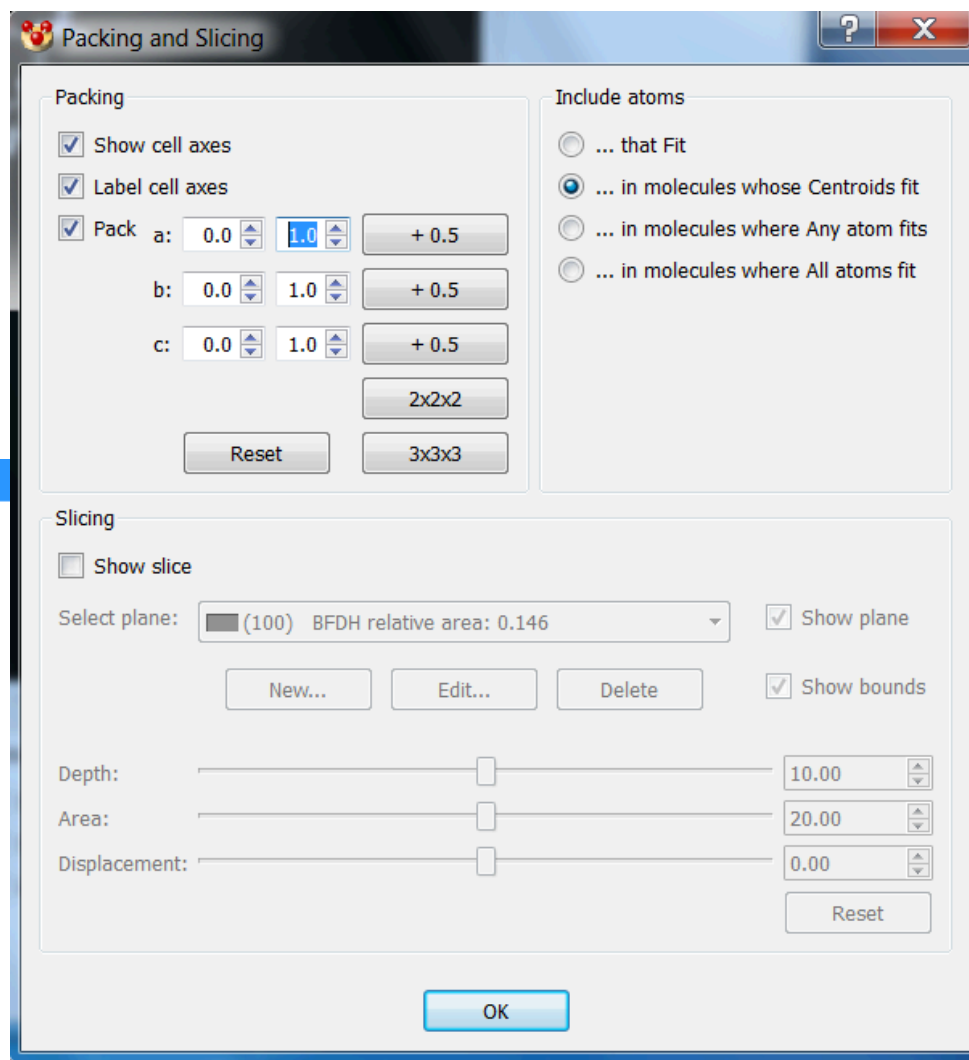
JPEG (\*.jpg \*.jpeg \*.jpe \*.jfif)

PDF (\*.pdf)

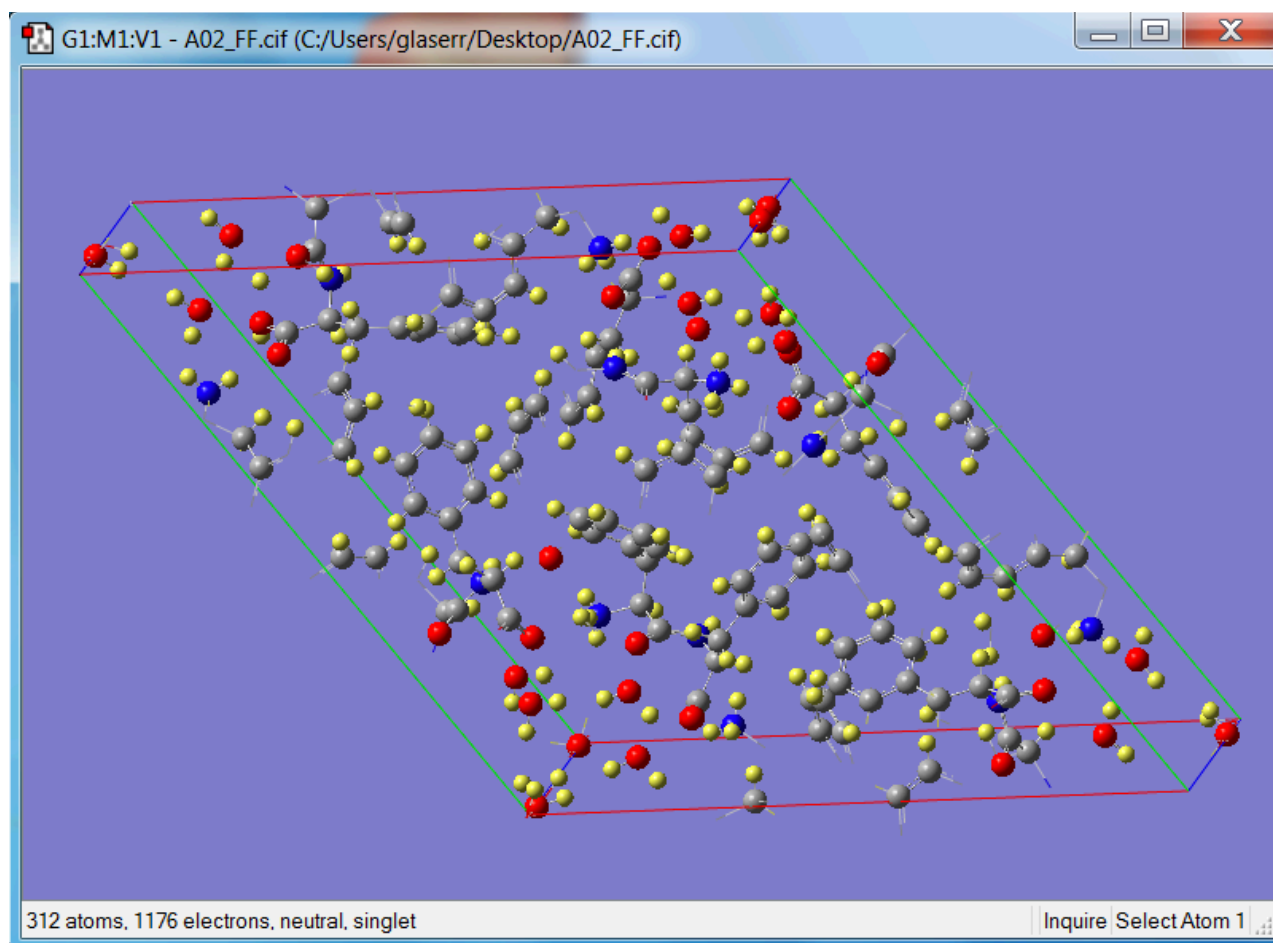
PNG (\*.png)

POV-Ray (\*.pov)

TIFF (\*.tif \*.tiff)

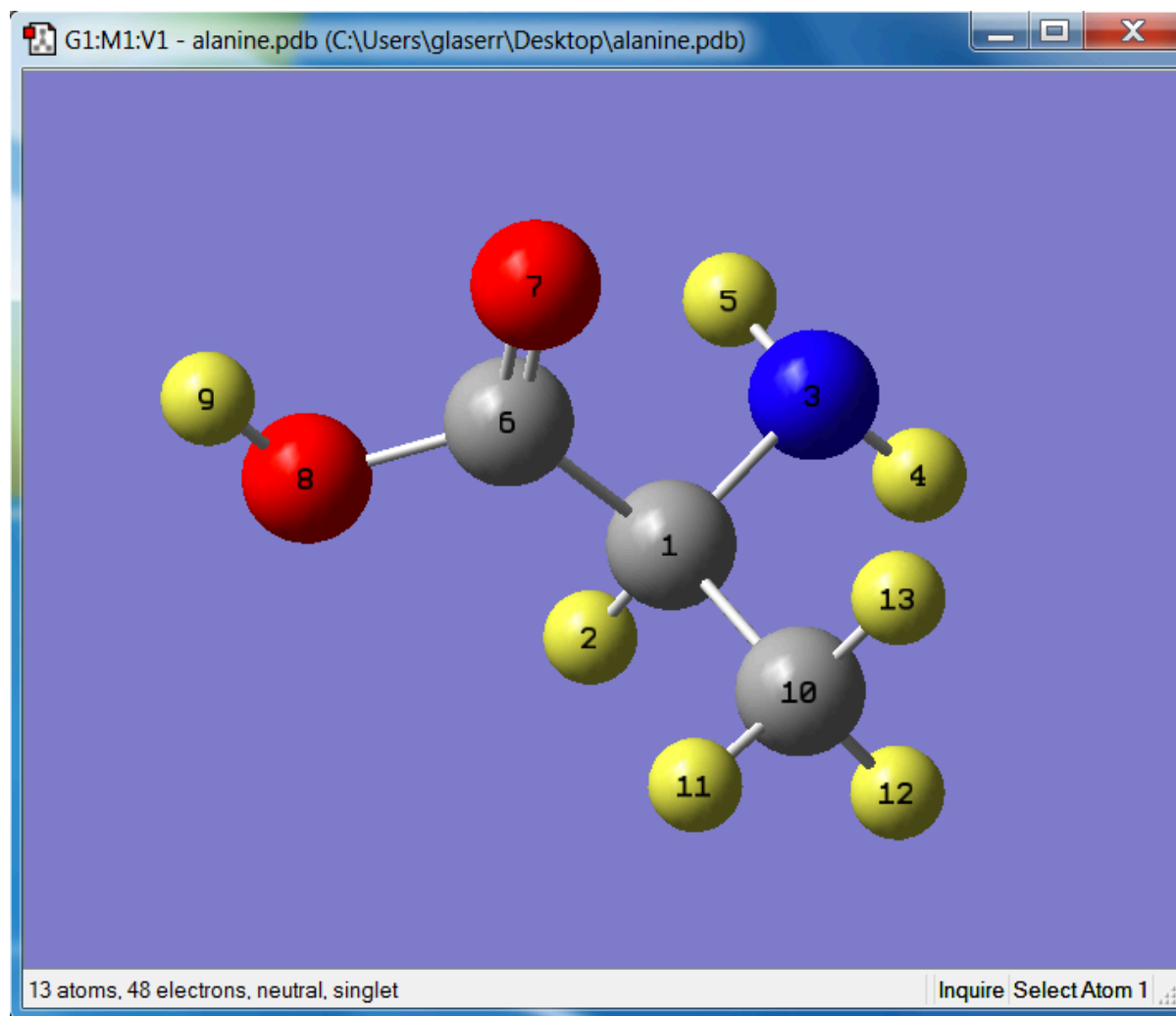


# Diphenylalanine in *GaussView*



Use “Select Atoms by Rubberband” and “Delete” until only the desired moieties of the peptide are left. Save as GJF File.

# Alanine in *GaussView*



```

TITLE      alanine
REMARK    1 File created by GaussView 5.0.9
HETATM    1  C          0          0.000   0.000   0.000           C
HETATM    2  H          0          0.000   0.000   1.070           H
HETATM    3  N          0          1.386   0.000  -0.490           N
HETATM    4  H          0          1.857   0.816  -0.157           H
HETATM    5  H          0          1.857  -0.816  -0.158           H
HETATM    6  C          0         -0.726  -1.257  -0.514           C
HETATM    7  O          0         -0.845  -1.691  -1.659           O
HETATM    8  O          0         -1.310  -1.961   0.489           O
HETATM    9  H          0         -1.760  -2.746   0.139           H
HETATM   10  C          0         -0.726   1.258  -0.512           C
HETATM   11  H          0         -1.767   1.190  -0.276           H
HETATM   12  H          0         -0.309   2.125  -0.044           H
HETATM   13  H          0         -0.604   1.333  -1.573           H
END
CONNECT    1      2      3      6     10
CONNECT    2      1
CONNECT    3      4      5      1
CONNECT    4      3
CONNECT    5      3
CONNECT    6      7      8      1
CONNECT    7      6
CONNECT    8      6      9
CONNECT    9      8
CONNECT   10     11     12     13      1
CONNECT   11     10
CONNECT   12     10
CONNECT   13     10

```

Alanine Saved  
by *GaussView*  
as PDB File

Structure Summary

3D View

Annotations

Sequence

Sequence Similarity

Structure Similarity

Experiment

Biological Assembly 1 ?



View in 3D: NGL or JSmol or PV (in Browser)

Standalone Viewers

Simple Viewer Protein Workshop  
Ligand Explorer Kiosk Viewer

Biological assembly 1 generated by PISA (software)

Macromolecule Content

- Unique protein chains: 1

# 5CJH

Crystal Structure of Eukaryotic Oxoiron MagKatG2 at pH 8.5

DOI: 10.2210/pdb5cjh/pdb

Classification: [OXIDOREDUCTASE](#)

Deposited: 2015-07-14 Released: 2015-09-02

Deposition author(s): [Gasselhuber, B.](#), [Obinger, C.](#), [Fita, I.](#), [Carpene, X.](#)

Organism: [Magnaporthe oryzae](#)

Expression System: Escherichia coli

Structural Biology Knowledgebase: 5CJH (1 model >18 annotations) [SBKB.org](#)

Experimental Data Snapshot

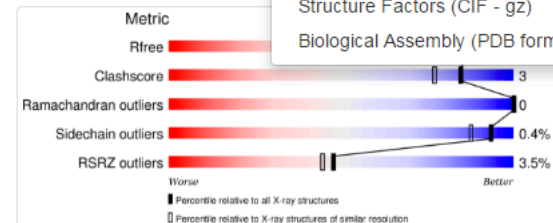
Method: X-RAY DIFFRACTION

Resolution: 1.6 Å

R-Value Free: 0.190

R-Value Work: 0.165

wwPDB Validation



Literature

Download Primary Citation

Eukaryotic Catalase-Peroxidase: The Role of the Trp-Tyr-Met Adduct in Protein Stability, Substrate Accessibility, and Catalysis of Hydrogen Peroxide Dismutation.

[Gasselhuber, B.](#), [Carpene, X.](#), [Graf, M.M.](#), [Pirker, K.F.](#), [Nicolussi, A.](#), [Sundermann, A.](#), [Hofbauer, S.](#), [Zamocky, M.](#), [Furtmuller, P.G.](#), [Jakopitsch, C.](#), [Oostenbrink, C.](#), [Fita, I.](#), [Obinger, C.](#)

(2015) Biochemistry 54: 5425-5438

Contact Us

5cjh @ PDB

# Beginning of 5cjh.pdb File

## More Section Types

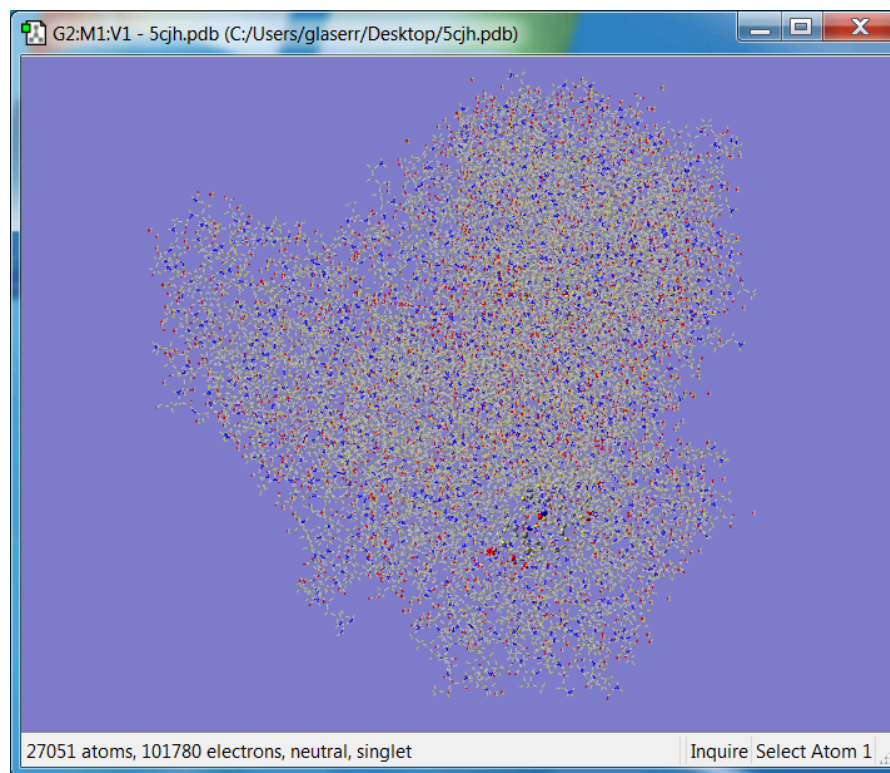
```
HEADER      OXIDOREDUCTASE                      14-JUL-15    5CJH
TITLE       CRYSTAL STRUCTURE OF EUKARYOTIC OXOIRON MAGKATG2 AT PH 8.5
COMPND      MOL_ID: 1;
COMPND      2 MOLECULE: CATALASE-PEROXIDASE 2;
COMPND      3 CHAIN: A, B;
COMPND      4 FRAGMENT: RESIDUES 24-786;
COMPND      5 SYNONYM: CP 2, PEROXIDASE/CATALASE 2;
COMPND      6 EC: 1.11.1.21;
COMPND      7 ENGINEERED: YES
SOURCE      MOL_ID: 1;
SOURCE      2 ORGANISM_SCIENTIFIC: MAGNAPORTHE ORYZAE (STRAIN 70-15 / ATCC MYA-
SOURCE      3 4617 / FGSC 8958);
SOURCE      4 ORGANISM_COMMON: RICE BLAST FUNGUS;
SOURCE      5 ORGANISM_TAXID: 242507;
SOURCE      6 GENE: KATG2, CPXB, MAGKATG2, MGG_09834;
SOURCE      7 EXPRESSION_SYSTEM: ESCHERICHIA COLI;
SOURCE      8 EXPRESSION_SYSTEM_TAXID: 562
KEYWDS      OXIDOREDUCTASE, COMPOUND I, OXOIRON CATALASE-PEROXIDASE
EXPDTA      X-RAY DIFFRACTION
AUTHOR      B.GASSELHUBER,C.OBINGER,I.FITA,X.CARPENA
REVDAT      3   28-OCT-15 5CJH      1
REVDAT      2   16-SEP-15 5CJH      1          JRNL
REVDAT      1   02-SEP-15 5CJH      0
JRNL        AUTH    B.GASSELHUBER,X.CARPENA,M.M.GRAF,K.F.PIRKER,A.NICOLUSSI,
JRNL        AUTH 2  A.SUNDERMANN,S.HOFBAUER,M.ZAMOCKY,P.G.FURTMULLER,
JRNL        AUTH 3  C.JAKOPITSCH,C.OOSTENBRINK,I.FITA,C.OBINGER
JRNL        TITL    EUKARYOTIC CATALASE-PEROXIDASE: THE ROLE OF THE TRP-TYR-MET
JRNL        TITL 2  ADDUCT IN PROTEIN STABILITY, SUBSTRATE ACCESSIBILITY, AND
```

# Extract from 5cjh.pdb File

## More Columns in “Atom” Section

ATOM	18	CZ	PHE	A	52	44.314	-0.531	-23.438	1.00	22.62	C
ATOM	19	N	GLY	A	53	46.658	-4.243	-22.274	1.00	24.05	N
ATOM	20	CA	GLY	A	53	45.657	-4.819	-21.373	1.00	23.46	C
ATOM	21	C	GLY	A	53	46.059	-6.134	-20.735	1.00	23.57	C
ATOM	22	O	GLY	A	53	45.222	-6.816	-20.121	1.00	22.59	O
ATOM	23	N	ARG	A	54	47.338	-6.476	-20.855	1.00	24.28	N
ATOM	24	CA	ARG	A	54	47.888	-7.712	-20.302	1.00	25.30	C
ATOM	25	C	ARG	A	54	49.058	-7.380	-19.396	1.00	24.08	C
ATOM	26	O	ARG	A	54	49.948	-6.622	-19.784	1.00	24.13	O
ATOM	27	CB	ARG	A	54	48.390	-8.607	-21.436	1.00	27.72	C
ATOM	28	CG	ARG	A	54	47.374	-8.849	-22.541	1.00	30.24	C
ATOM	29	CD	ARG	A	54	46.314	-9.854	-22.128	1.00	33.50	C
ATOM	30	NE	ARG	A	54	46.892	-11.185	-21.925	1.00	38.38	N
ATOM	31	CZ	ARG	A	54	46.192	-12.282	-21.638	1.00	41.31	C
ATOM	32	NH1	ARG	A	54	44.864	-12.234	-21.525	1.00	44.28	N
ATOM	33	NH2	ARG	A	54	46.825	-13.436	-21.459	1.00	41.30	N
ATOM	34	N	CYS	A	55	49.060	-7.956	-18.195	1.00	22.69	N
ATOM	35	CA	CYS	A	55	50.155	-7.782	-17.252	1.00	22.68	C
ATOM	36	C	CYS	A	55	51.288	-8.726	-17.655	1.00	23.63	C

# 5cjh.pdb File Read by *GaussView*



**27051 atoms!!**

Use “Select Atoms by Rubberband” and “Delete” until only the desired moieties of the protein are left.

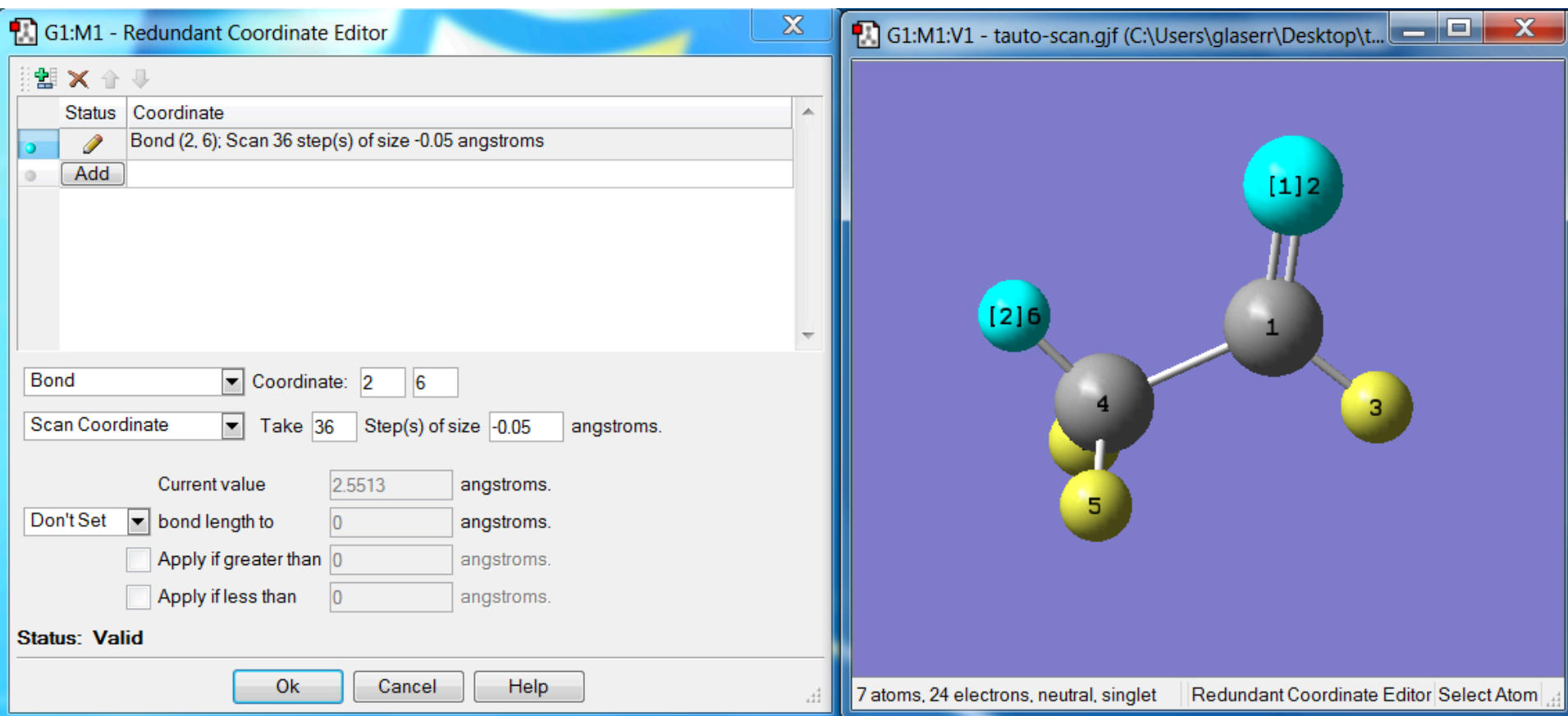


# Chapter #3

## 3.2.2. PES-Scans – Preparation for Assignments #2

# PES-Scan Request in *GaussView*

Tautomerization of acetaldehyde to its enol: Drive OH distance



# PES-Scan Request in *GaussView*



Define scan coordinate in the “Edit” menu under “Redundant Coordinates”.  
Best to define scan coordinate before you request “Scan” type.

If you request “Scan” type before you define the scan coordinate, GV will remind you to define the scan coordinate in the “Edit” menu under “Redundant Coordinates”.

```
# opt=modredundant hf/6-31g(d) geom=connectivity
```

Tautomerization of acetaldehyde

```
0 1
C
O          1          B1
H          1          B2      2          A1
C          1          B3      2          A2      3          D1      0
H          4          B4      1          A3      2          D2      0
H          4          B5      1          A4      2          D3      0
H          4          B6      1          A5      2          D4      0
```

```
B1          1.22731700
B2          1.11045737
B3          1.54000000
B4          1.07000000
B5          1.07000000
B6          1.07000000
A1          122.22491839
A2          122.22491841
A3          109.47120255
A4          109.47120255
A5          109.47123134
D1          179.99762133
D2          -120.11110740
D3          -0.00000000
D4          119.88890000
```

```
1 2 2.0 3 1.0 4 1.0
2
3
4 5 1.0 6 1.0 7 1.0
5
6
7
```

```
B 2 6 S 36 -0.050000
```

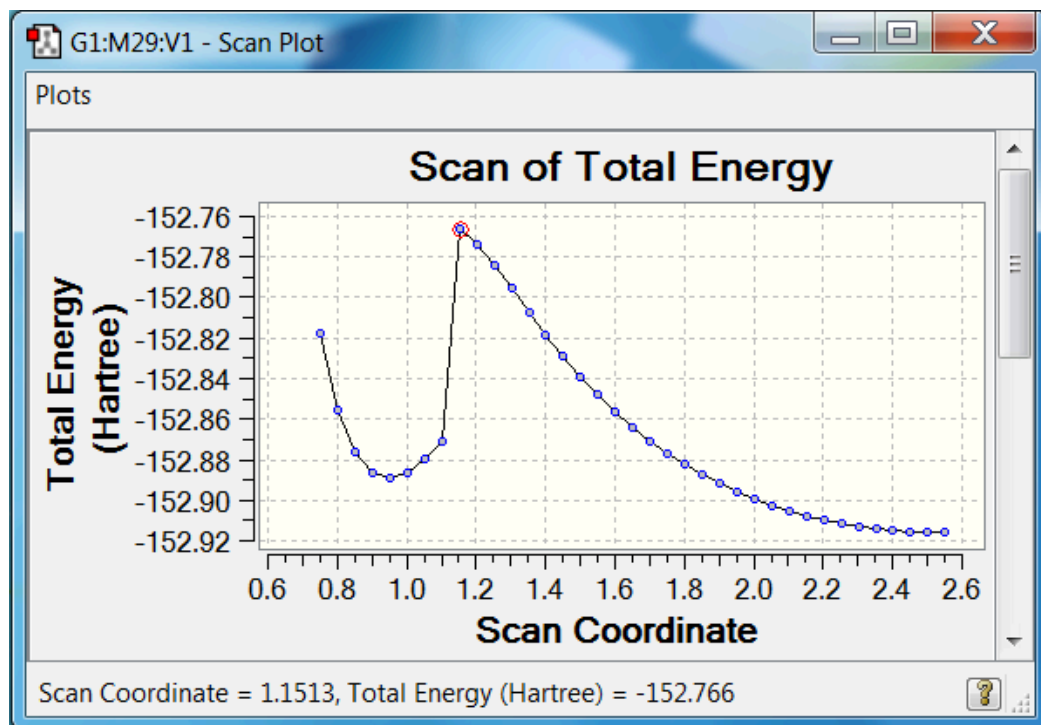
```
Bond between atoms 1 and 6 scan 36 steps with stepsize -0.05
```

## PES-Scan Request in GJF File

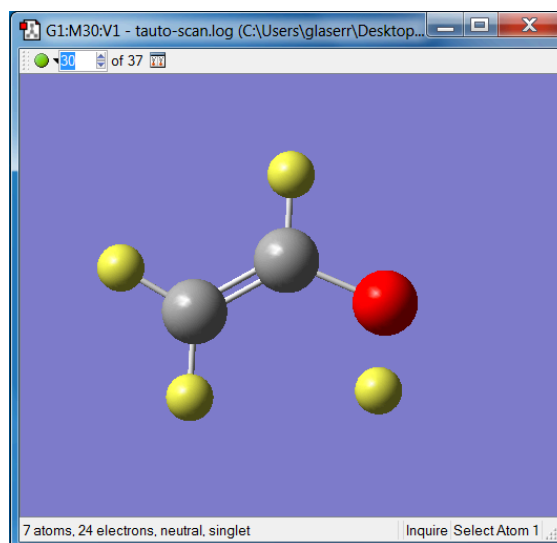
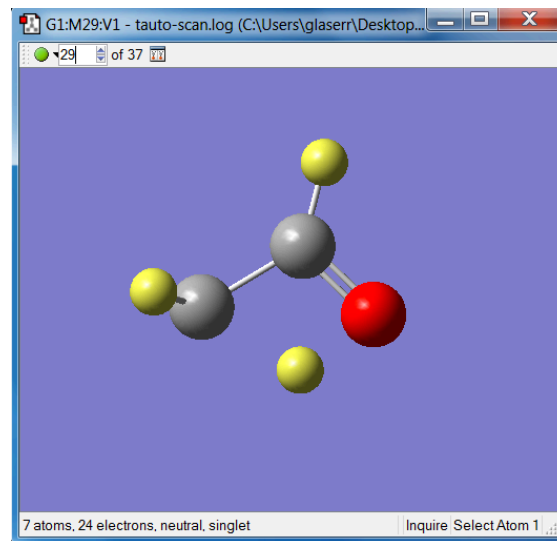
# PES-Scan Output in *GaussView*

Tautomerization of acetaldehyde to its enol:

1. Drive OH distance from the aldehyde.

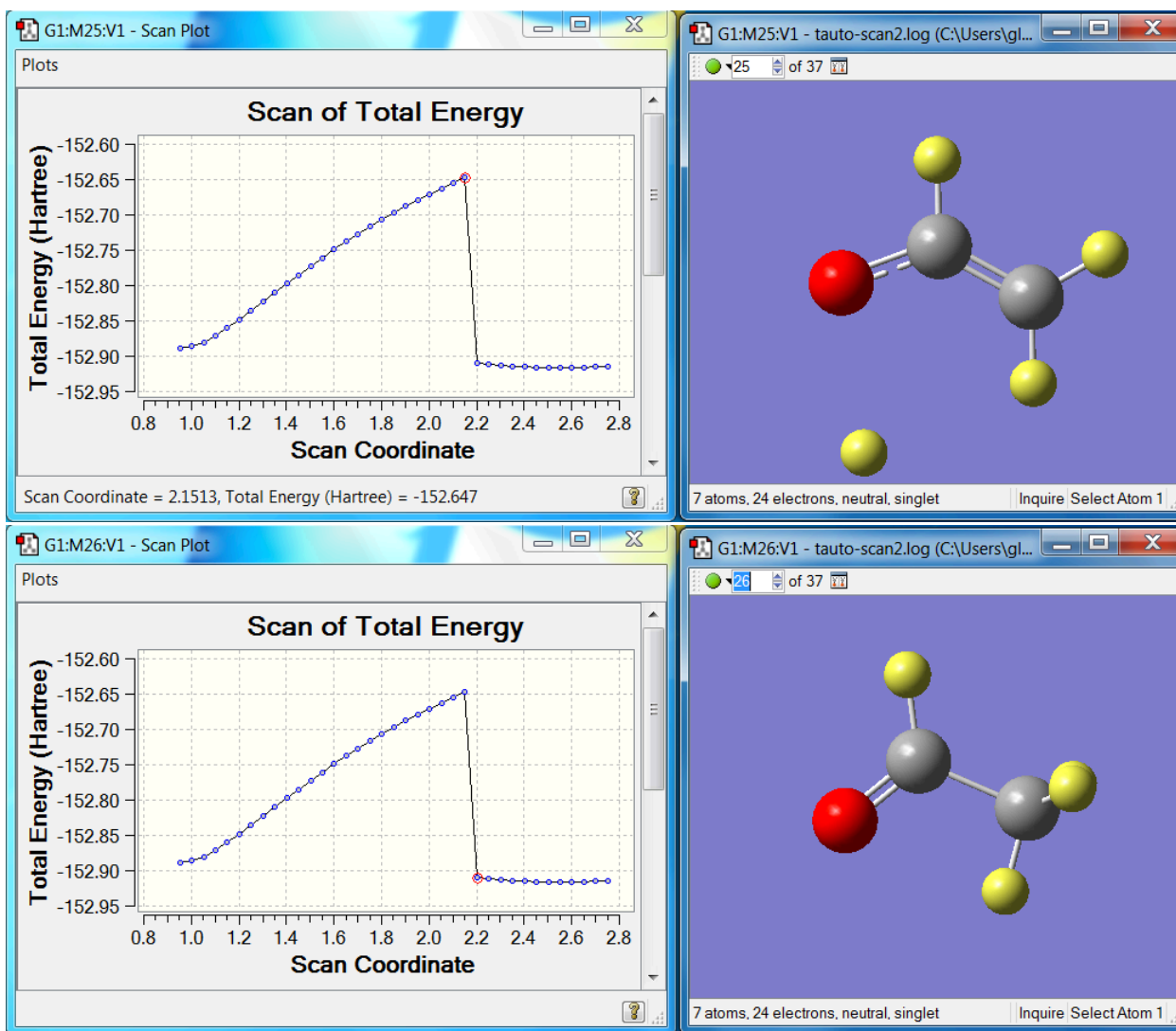


Works well at first, then sudden collapse as CH<sub>2</sub> group rotates.



# PES-Scan Output in *GaussView*

Tautomerization of acetaldehyde to its enol: 2. Drive OH distance from the enol.



# PES-Scan Request in *GaussView*

Tautomerization of acetaldehyde to its enol: 3. Drive HCH angle

The image shows two windows from the GaussView software interface. The left window, titled "G1:M1 - Redundant Coordinate Editor", contains a table for defining coordinates and a section for setting scan parameters.

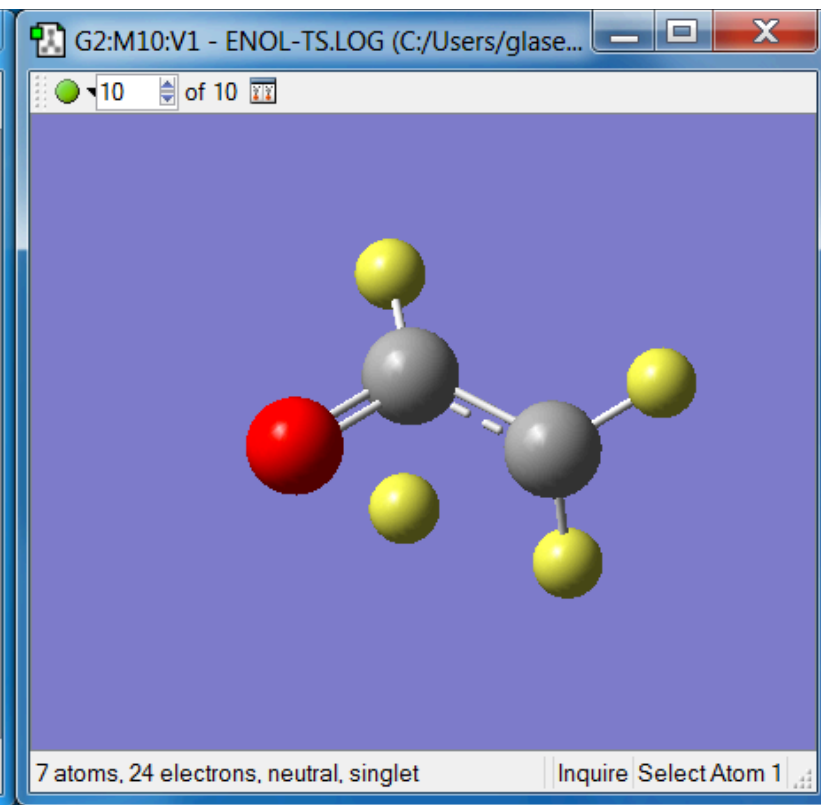
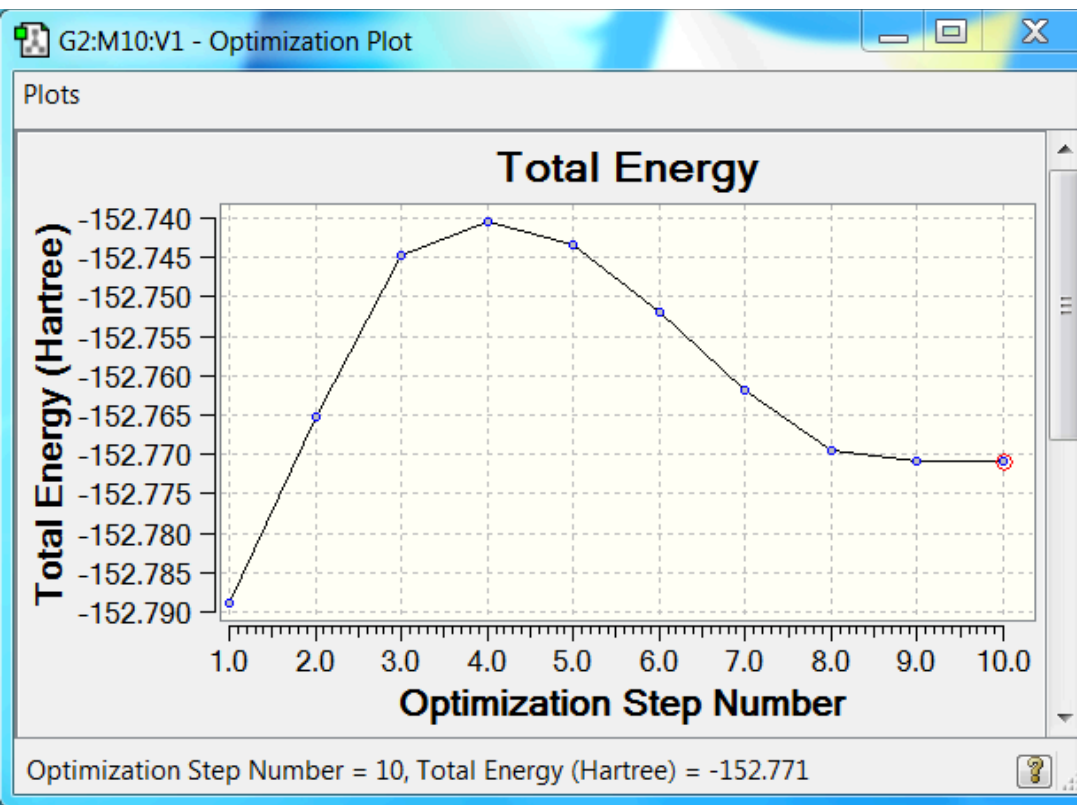
Status	Coordinate
	Angle (5, 4, 7): Scan 19 step(s) of size 5 degrees

Below the table is an "Add" button. Further down, the "Angle" dropdown is selected, and the "Coordinate" fields are set to 5, 4, and 7. The "Scan Coordinate" dropdown is also selected, and the "Take" field is set to 19 and "Step(s) of size" is set to 5 degrees. The "Current value" is 109.471 degrees. There are checkboxes for "Don't Set", "Apply if greater than", and "Apply if less than", all currently unchecked. The status at the bottom is "Valid".

The right window, titled "G1:M1:V1 - TAUTO-SCAN3.gjf (C:/Users/glaserr/Desktop...)", displays a 3D ball-and-stick model of an acetaldehyde molecule. The atoms are numbered: 1 (grey, carbonyl carbon), 2 (red, carbonyl oxygen), 3 (yellow, methyl carbon), 4 (cyan, methyl carbon), 5 (cyan, methyl hydrogen), and 6 (yellow, methyl hydrogen). The HCH angle (C4-C5-H6) is highlighted with a label [1] 5. The status bar at the bottom indicates "7 atoms, 24 electrons, neutral, singlet" and provides buttons for "Redundant Coordinate Editor" and "Select Atom".

# TS Search with Reasonable Guess

By now we have a pretty good idea of the tautomerization TS:  
H close to O; migrating H out of OCC plane; CH<sub>2</sub> group rotated





# Chapter #3

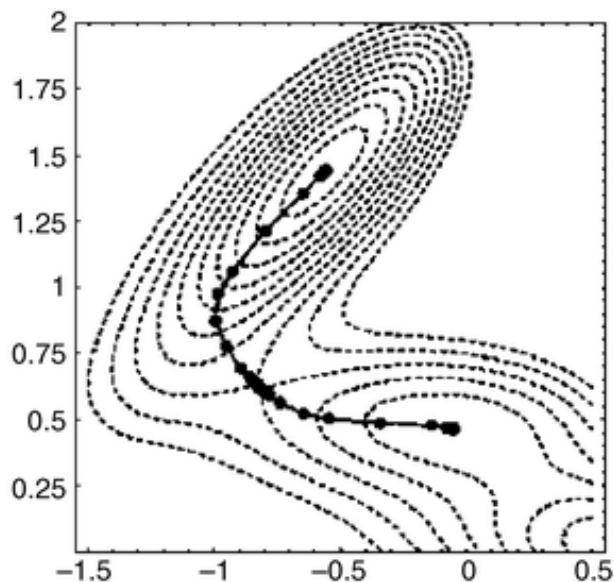
## 3.3. Intrinsic Reaction Path – Preparation for Assignments #3

# IRC: Intrinsic Reaction Path

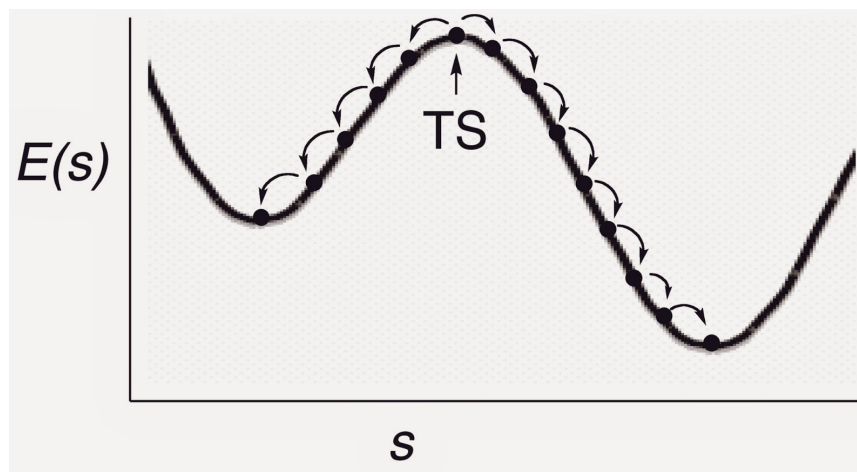
## Introduction

Intrinsic reaction coordinate (IRC), which was proposed by Fukui in 1970 as a path of chemical reactions,<sup>[1,2]</sup> is the mass-weighted steepest descent path on the potential energy surface (PES), starting from the transition structure (TS), that is, first-order saddle point. The mass-weighted steepest descent path starting from nonstationary structures is called meta-IRC.<sup>[3]</sup> The IRC is the solution of the following differential equation,

$$\frac{d\mathbf{q}(s)}{ds} = \mathbf{v}(s) \quad (1)$$



where  $\mathbf{q}$  is the mass-weighted Cartesian coordinates and  $s$  the coordinate along the IRC. The normalized tangent vector  $\mathbf{v}$  of the IRC corresponds to the normal coordinate eigenvector with a negative eigenvalue at the TS with  $s = 0$ , and, at the other points, the unit vector parallel to the mass-weighted gradient vector  $\mathbf{g}$ , that is,  $\mathbf{v} = -\mathbf{g}/|\mathbf{g}|$  for  $s > 0$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{g}/|\mathbf{g}|$  for  $s < 0$ . In numerical integration of Eq. (1),  $\mathbf{g}$  has to be computed repeatedly. Hence, various IRC-following algorithms have been proposed to reduce the number of gradient calculations.<sup>[4–10]</sup> With help of these algorithms, the IRC approach has been used extensively in analysis and prediction of mechanisms of a variety of chemical reactions.<sup>[11–15]</sup>



# IRC Request in *GaussView* and in GJF File

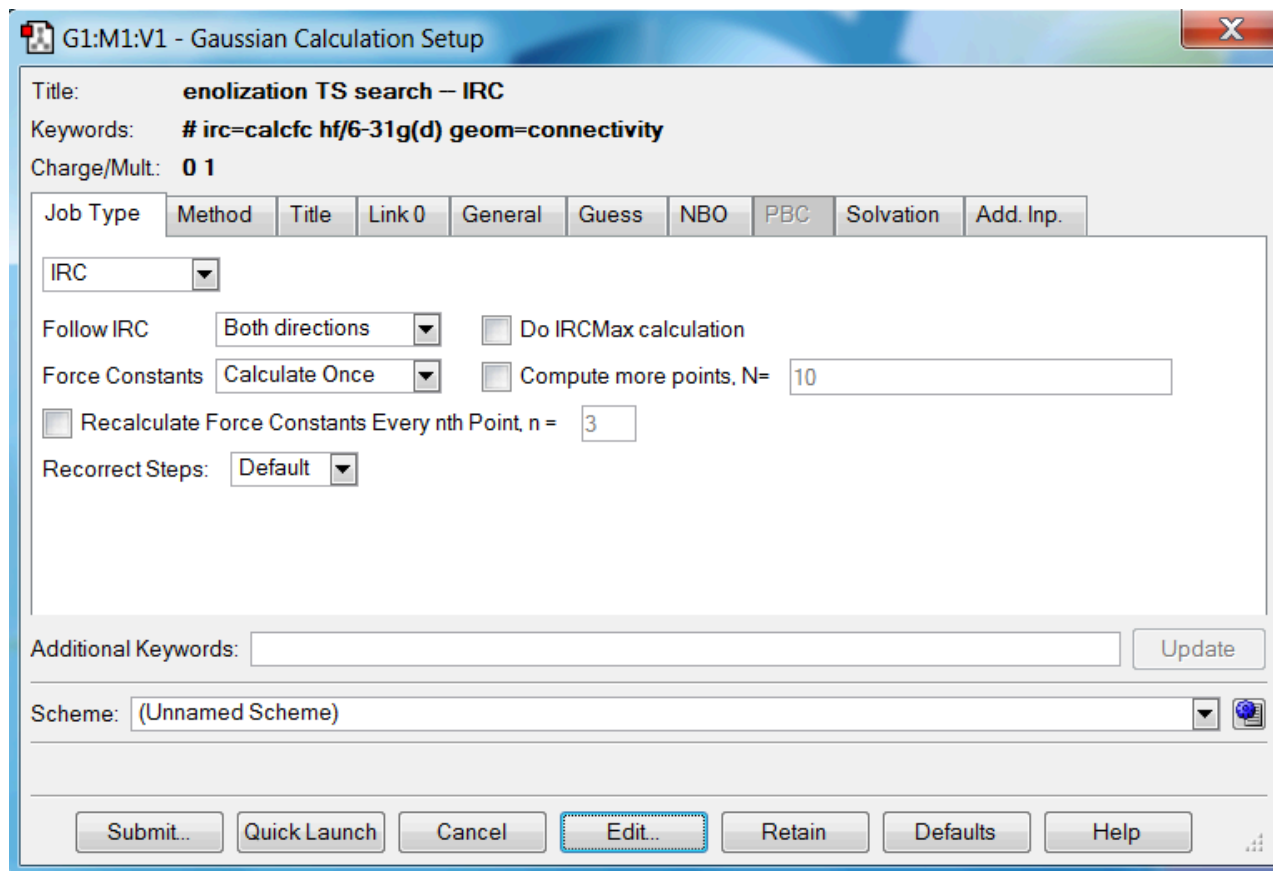
```
%nprocshared=2  
%mem=128MW  
%chk=C:\Users\glaserr\Desktop\Enol-TS-IRC.chk  
# irc=rcfc hf/6-31g(d) geom=connectivity
```

enolization TS search - IRC

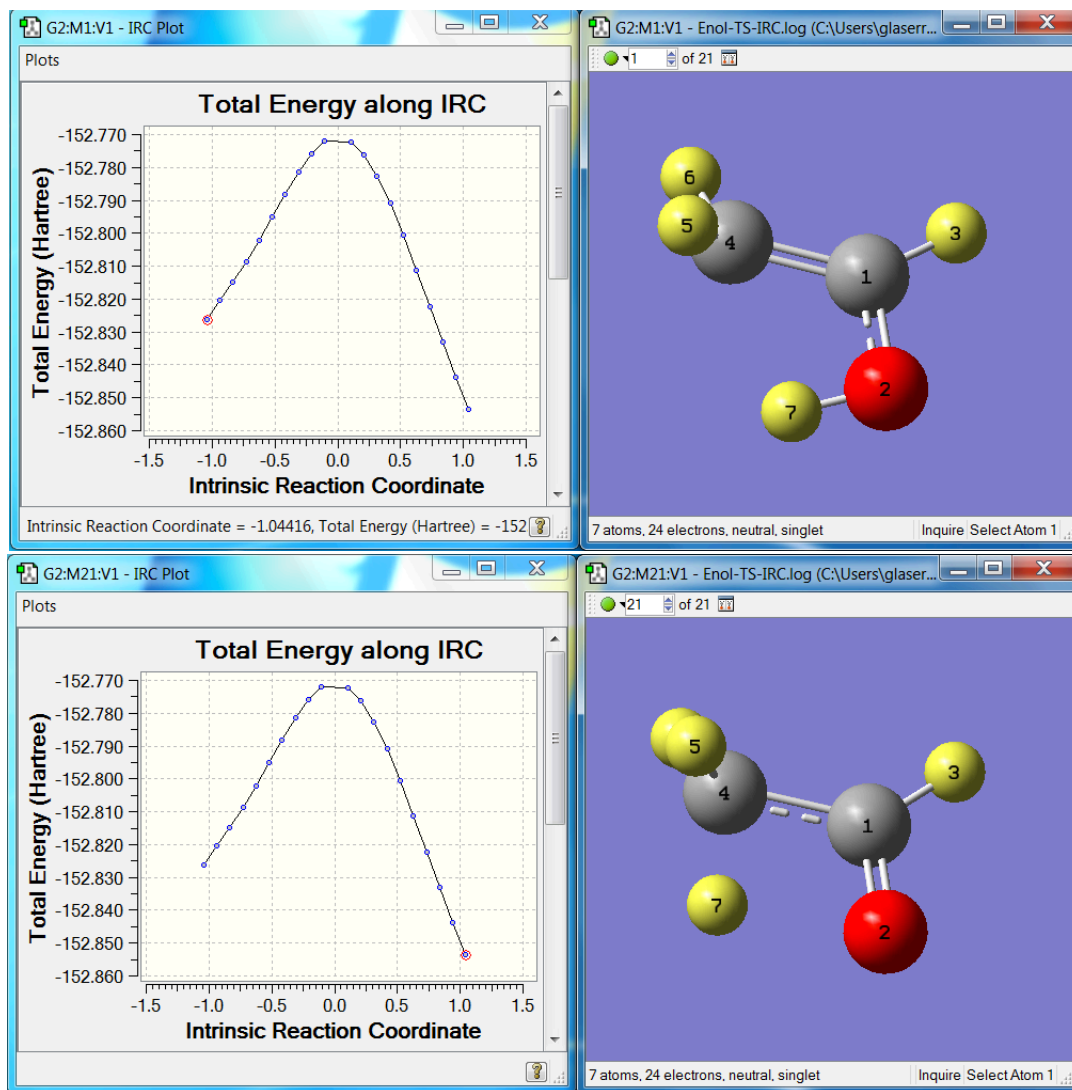
0 1

**Geometry of TS follows here.**

Reads forces from CHK, but not geometry.



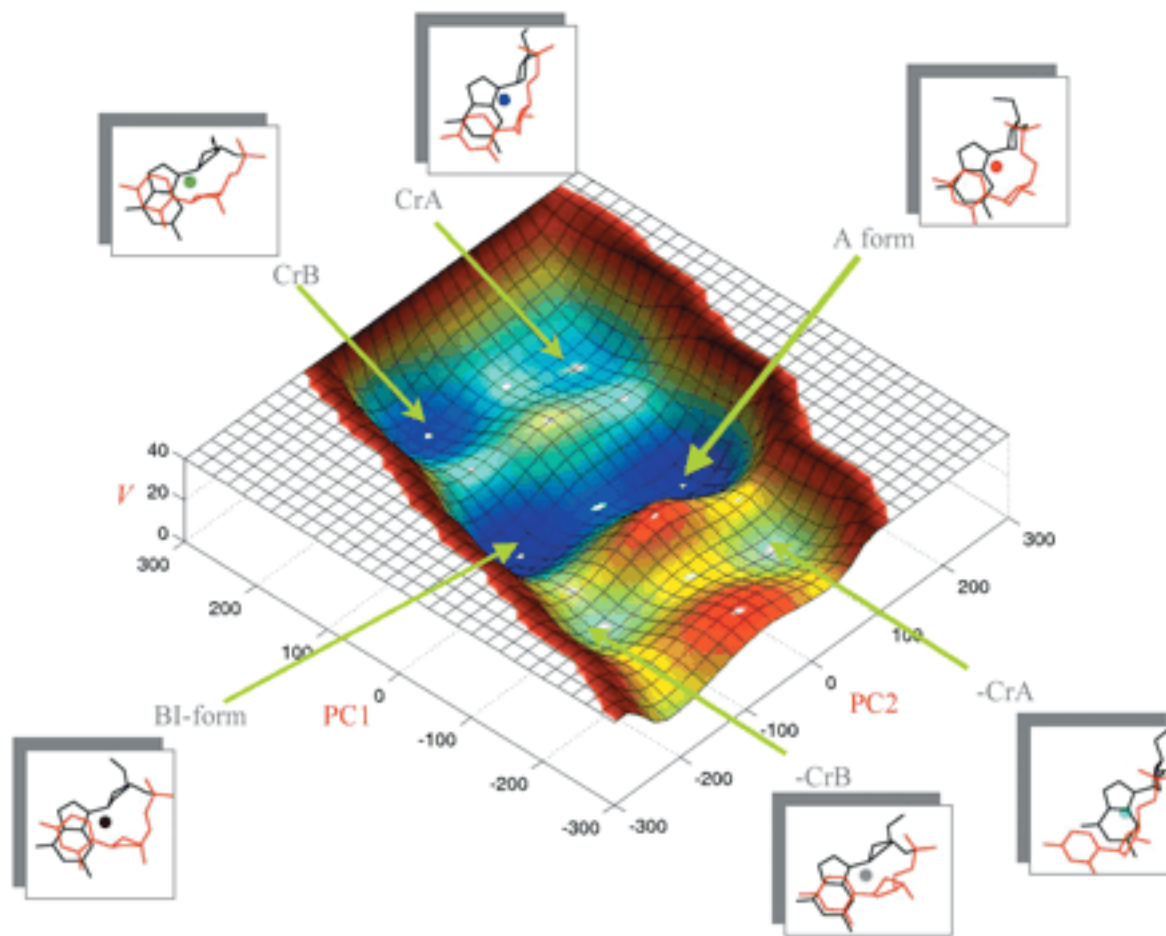
# IRC Output in *GaussView*



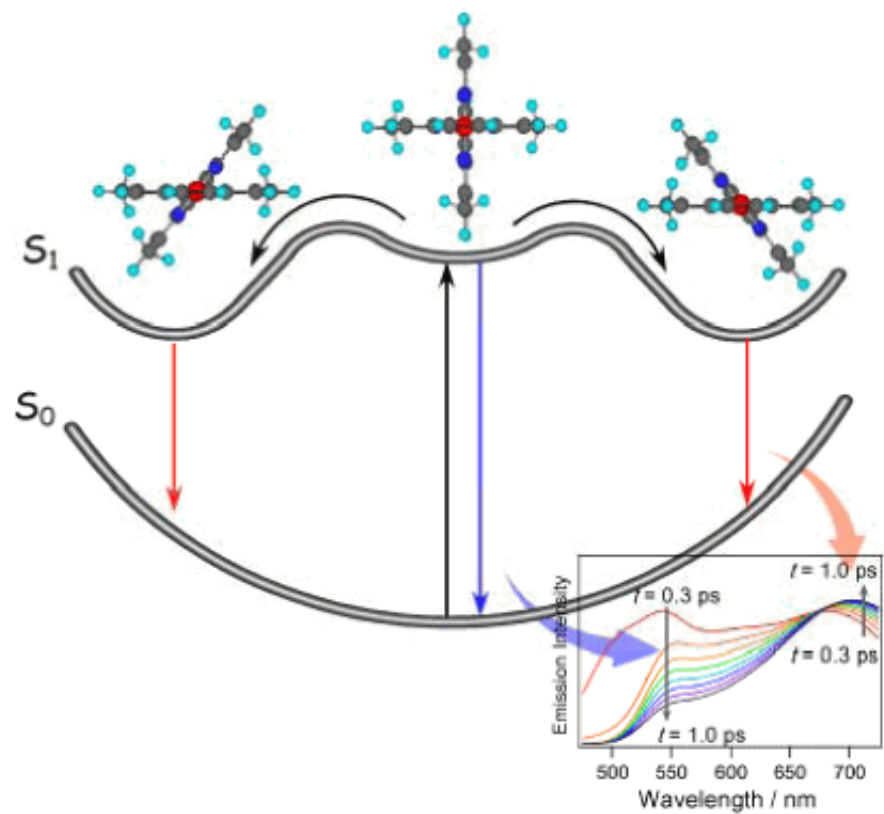
# Chapter #3

## 3.4. Complicated Systems, Excited States

# Potential Energy Surface, PES



# PES, Excited States



[http://www.riken.jp/lab-www/spectroscopy/img/metal\\_complex\\_fig3.gif](http://www.riken.jp/lab-www/spectroscopy/img/metal_complex_fig3.gif)

# PES, Excited States

