

---

# All electron *ab initio* molecular simulations

## Status, successes, and some computational challenges

---



Volker Blum

Fritz-Haber-Institut der Max-Planck-Gesellschaft  
Berlin



100 YEARS OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY  
100 YEARS  
IN BERLIN-DAHLEM



# Electronic structure theory for real materials

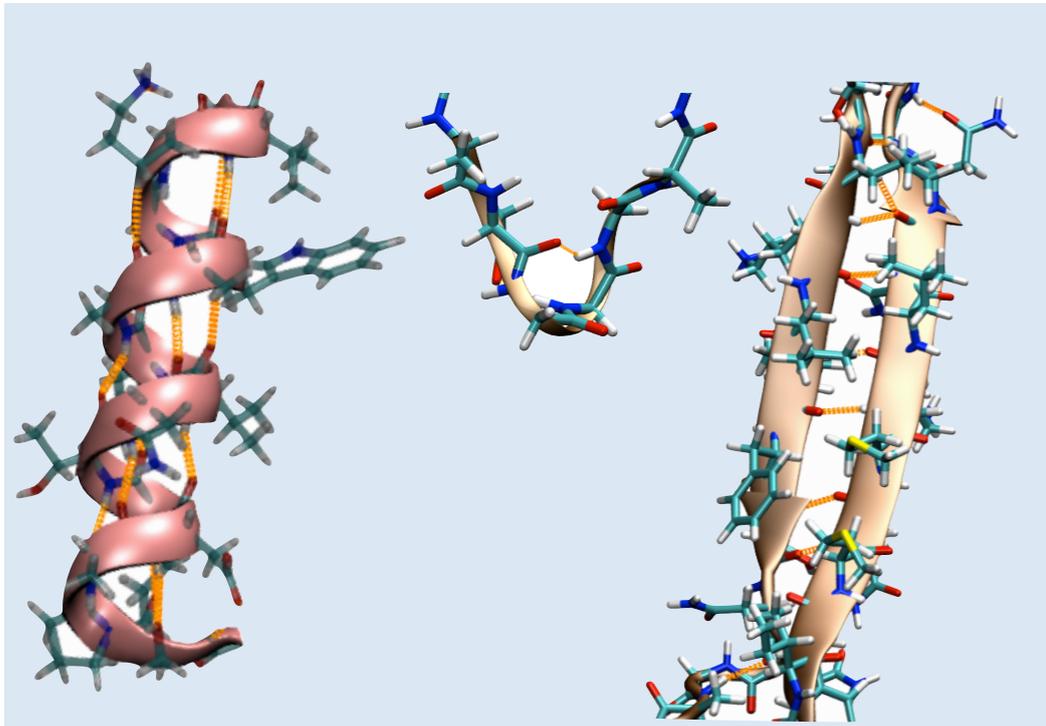
---

Enormous successes:

# Electronic structure theory for real materials

---

## Enormous successes:

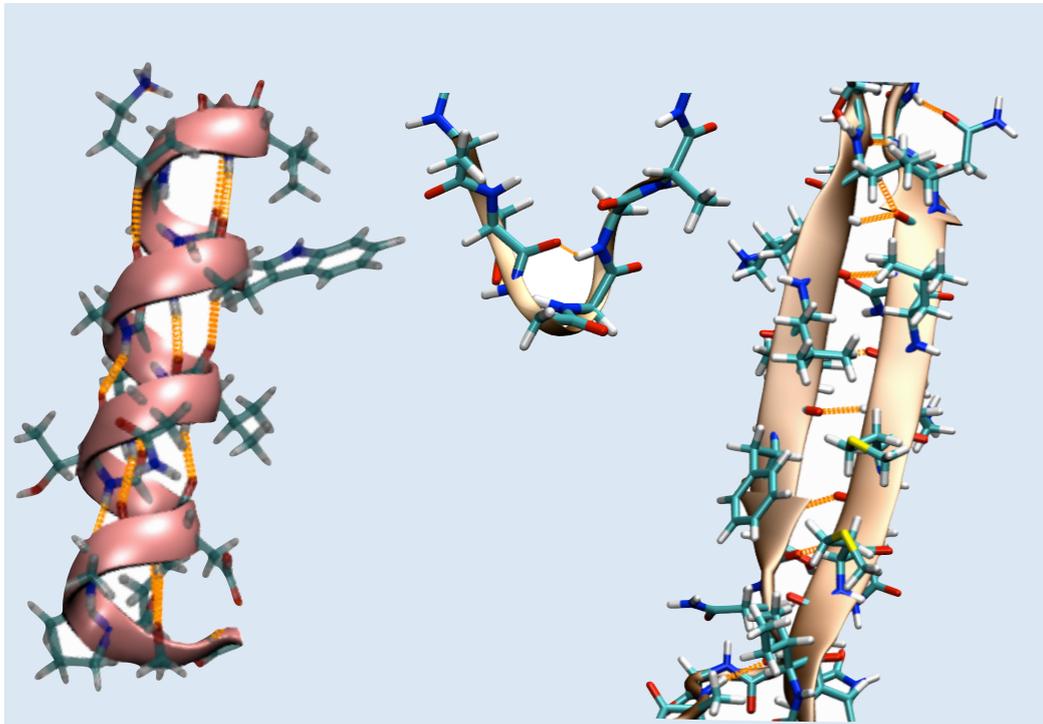


### (Bio)molecular matter

- Structural complexity
- statistical averages & dynamics
- “weak” interactions critical

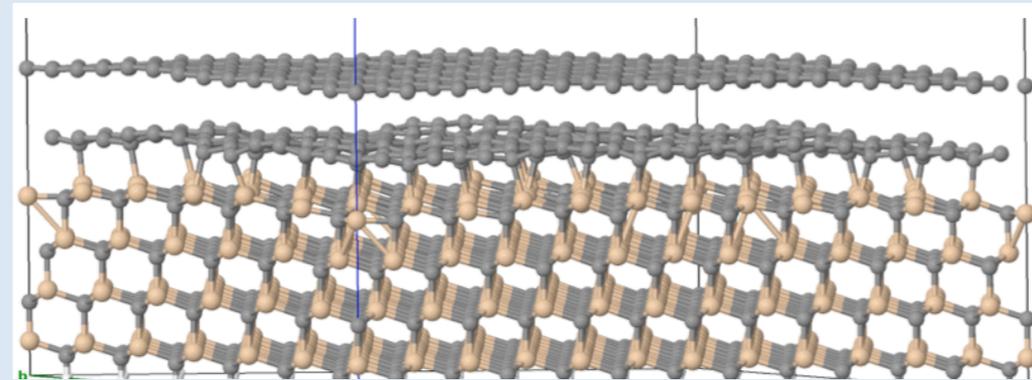
# Electronic structure theory for real materials

## Enormous successes:

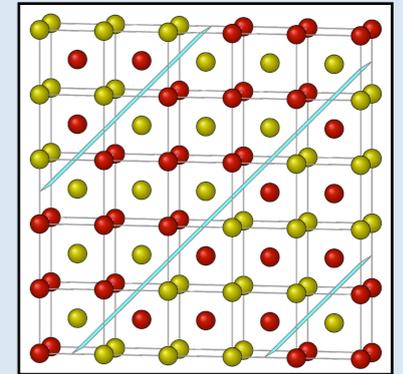


### (Bio)molecular matter

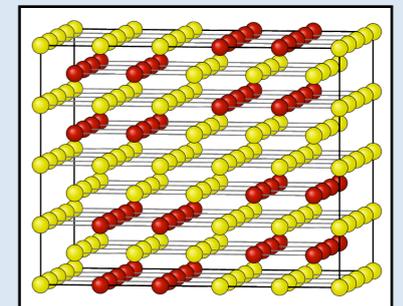
- Structural complexity
- statistical averages & dynamics
- “weak” interactions critical



Graphene / SiC



Ta<sub>3</sub>W<sub>3</sub>



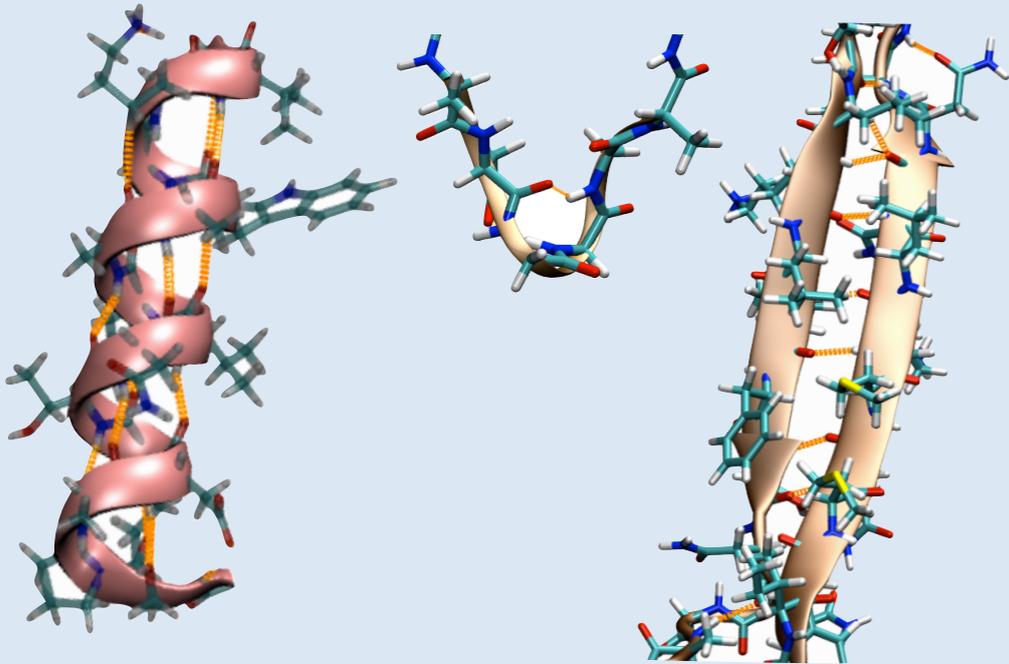
Ta<sub>4</sub>W<sub>9</sub>

### Condensed phases

(solids, surfaces, ...)

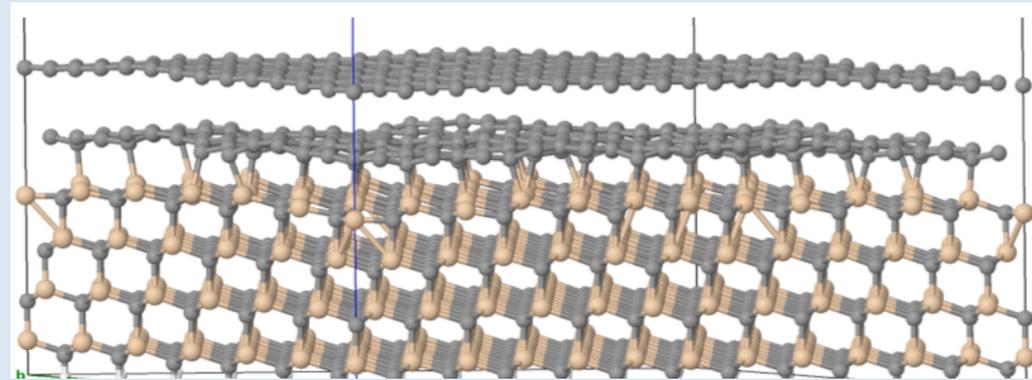
- Structure!
- Stability, free energies
- electronic, mechanical, optical, ... properties

# Electronic structure theory for real materials

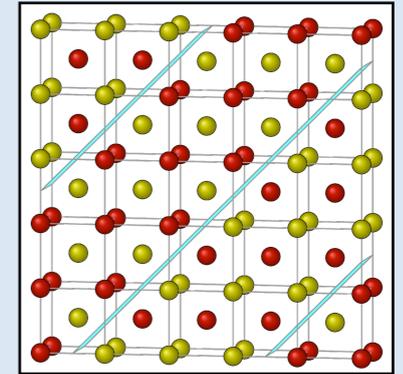


## (Bio)molecular matter

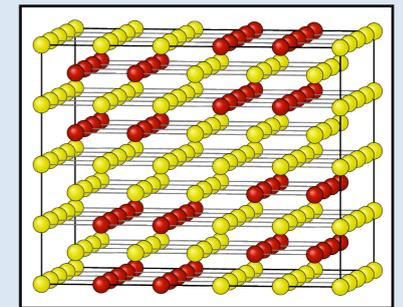
- Structural complexity
- statistical averages & dynamics
- “weak” interactions critical



Graphene / SiC



Ta<sub>3</sub>W<sub>3</sub>



Ta<sub>4</sub>W<sub>9</sub>

## Condensed phases

(solids, surfaces, ...)

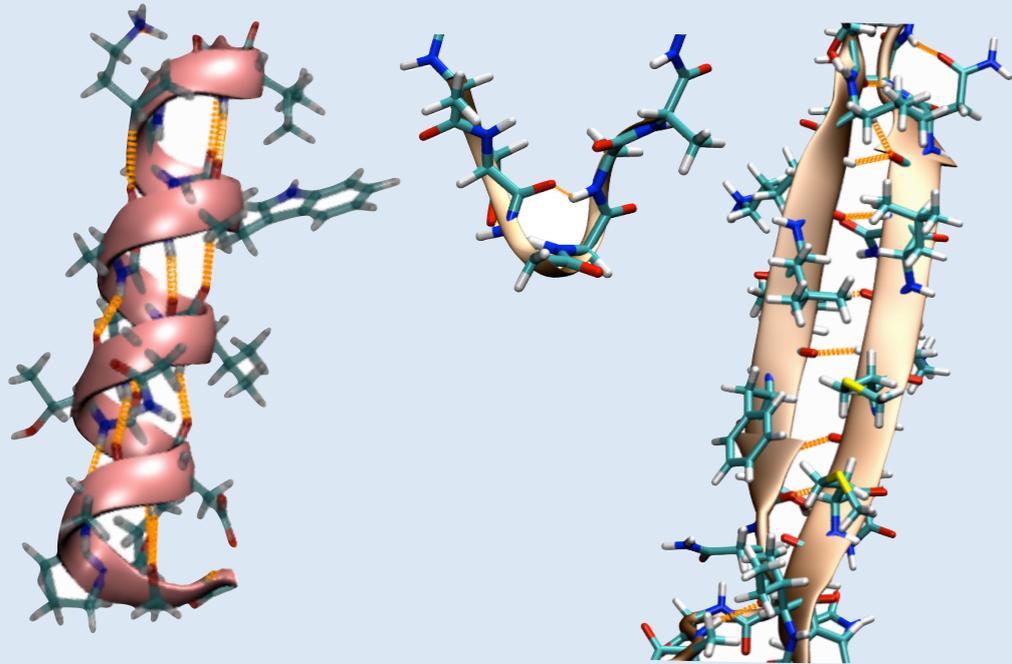
- Structure!
- Stability, free energies
- electronic, mechanical, optical, ... properties

## Matter at extreme conditions

- “electron gas + protons”; high-pressure compounds, transitions
- (Born-Oppenheimer) molecular dynamics, classical nuclei
- Quantum nuclei? (PIMD)

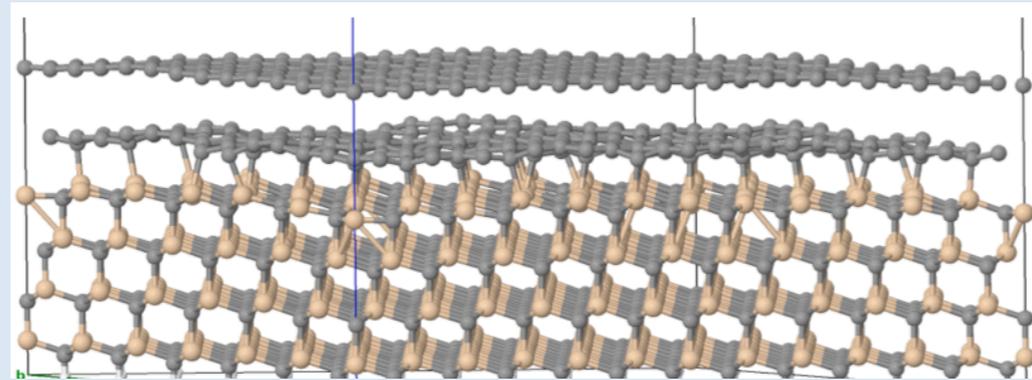


# Electronic structure theory for real materials

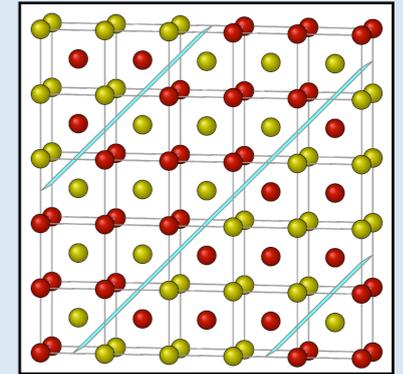


## (Bio)molecular matter

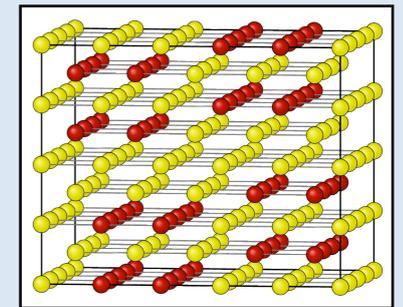
- Structural complexity
- statistical averages & dynamics
- “weak” interactions critical



Graphene / SiC



Ta<sub>3</sub>W<sub>3</sub>



Ta<sub>4</sub>W<sub>9</sub>

## Condensed phases

(solids, surfaces, ...)

- Structure!
- Stability, free energies
- electronic, mechanical, optical, ... properties

Today: “Mostly density-functional theory”, plenty of flavors

## Matter at extreme conditions

- “electron gas + protons”; high-pressure compounds, transitions
- (Born-Oppenheimer) molecular dynamics, classical nuclei
- Quantum nuclei? (PIMD)



# Electronic structure theory for real materials

---

... but we still face some challenges:

# Electronic structure theory for real materials

---

... but we still face some challenges:

- **Methods. Are we computing the right thing?**
  - ▶ Current DFT (LDA/GGA *and beyond*) may qualitatively fail with *or without* warning for much of the interesting space, even for “structure”
  - ▶ Other numerical approximations? (grids, cutoffs, pseudoization, ...)
  - ▶ “Classical” vs. “quantum” nuclei? Born-Oppenheimer?

# Electronic structure theory for real materials

---

... but we still face some challenges:

- **Methods. Are we computing the right thing?**

- ▶ Current DFT (LDA/GGA *and beyond*) may qualitatively fail with or without warning for much of the interesting space, even for “structure”
- ▶ Other numerical approximations? (grids, cutoffs, pseudoization, ...)
- ▶ “Classical” vs. “quantum” nuclei? Born-Oppenheimer?

- **Algorithms. Can we compute the right thing?**

- ▶ Realistically sized systems to capture “reality”
- ▶ Statistical averages, dynamics, combinatorial complexity of “structure”?
- ▶ Simply, hardware vs. software - utilize *available* hardware effectively



An approach to all-electron “density functional theory and beyond”: FHI-aims [1]

- ▶ Numeric atom-centered (localized) basis sets
- ▶ Scalability (1,000s of atoms, 1(0),000s of CPUs)
- ▶ Pushing towards “better” functionals (→ P. Rinke)

[1] *The Fritz Haber Institute ab initio molecular simulations suite (FHI-aims)*

V. Blum, R. Gehrke, F. Hanke, P. Havu, V. Havu, X. Ren, K. Reuter and M. Scheffler,

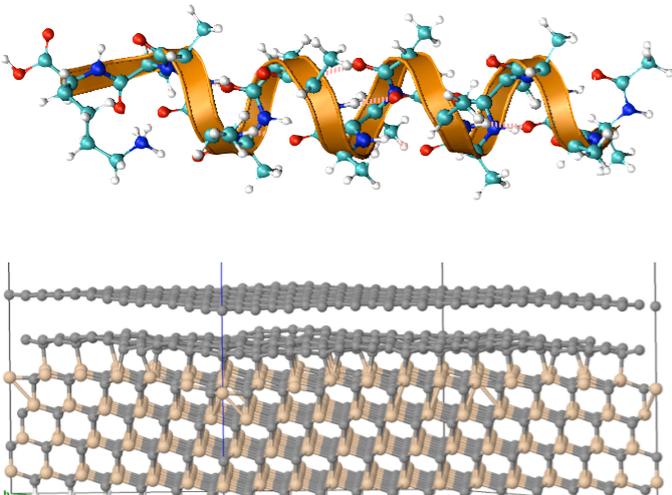
*Computer Physics Communications* **180**, 2175-2196 (2009) - <http://www.fhi-berlin.mpg.de/aims/>

# Outline



An approach to all-electron “density functional theory and beyond”: FHI-aims [1]

- ▶ Numeric atom-centered (localized) basis sets
- ▶ Scalability (1,000s of atoms, 1(0),000s of CPUs)
- ▶ Pushing towards “better” functionals (→ P. Rinke)



Where do “we” come from?

- ▶ (Bio)molecular structure and spectroscopy
- ▶ Nanostructured inorganic surfaces

[1] *The Fritz Haber Institute ab initio molecular simulations suite (FHI-aims)*

V. Blum, R. Gehrke, F. Hanke, P. Havu, V. Havu, X. Ren, K. Reuter and M. Scheffler,

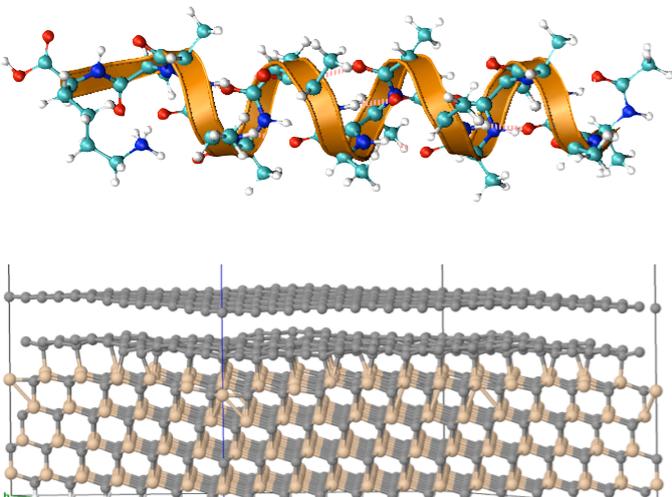
*Computer Physics Communications* **180**, 2175-2196 (2009) - <http://www.fhi-berlin.mpg.de/aims/>

# Outline



An approach to all-electron “density functional theory and beyond”: FHI-aims [1]

- ▶ Numeric atom-centered (localized) basis sets
- ▶ Scalability (1,000s of atoms, 1(0),000s of CPUs)
- ▶ Pushing towards “better” functionals (→ P. Rinke)



Where do “we” come from?

- ▶ (Bio)molecular structure and spectroscopy
- ▶ Nanostructured inorganic surfaces

... and some challenges (towards WDM)

[1] *The Fritz Haber Institute ab initio molecular simulations suite (FHI-aims)*

V. Blum, R. Gehrke, F. Hanke, P. Havu, V. Havu, X. Ren, K. Reuter and M. Scheffler,

*Computer Physics Communications* **180**, 2175-2196 (2009) - <http://www.fhi-berlin.mpg.de/aims/>

# People behind these projects

---



Fritz Haber Institute, Berlin

[Richard-Willstätter-Haus]

# People behind these projects

---



Matthias  
Scheffler



Fritz Haber Institute, Berlin

[Richard-Willstätter-Haus]

# People behind these projects

## Scalability



Matthias  
Scheffler



Ville Havu  
(FHI/Helsinki)

Rainer Johanni  
(Munich)

Fritz Haber Institute, Berlin

[Richard-Willstätter-Haus]

# People behind these projects

## Scalability



Matthias  
Scheffler



Ville Havu  
(FHI/Helsinki)



Rainer Johanni  
(Munich)

Fritz Haber Institute, Berlin

[Richard-Willstätter-Haus]

# People behind these projects

Scalability



Matthias  
Scheffler

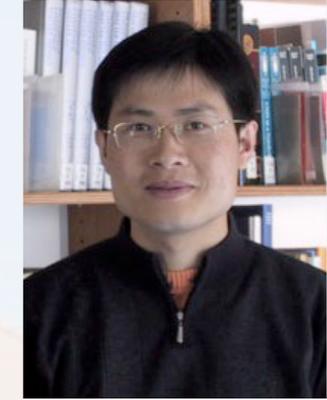


Ville Havu  
(FHI/Helsinki)



Rainer Johanni  
(Munich)

“Beyond LDA / GGA”



Xinguo Ren  
(FHI)

Fritz Haber Institute, Berlin

[Richard-Willstätter-Haus]

# People behind these projects

## Scalability



Matthias  
Scheffler



Ville Havu  
(FHI/Helsinki)



Rainer Johanni  
(Munich)

## “Beyond LDA / GGA”



Xinguo Ren  
(FHI)

## Biomolecular simulations



Mariana  
Rossi



Franziska  
Schubert



Alex  
Tkatchenko



Carsten  
Baldauf

Fritz Haber Institute, Berlin

[Richard-Willstätter-Haus]

# People behind these projects



Matthias  
Scheffler



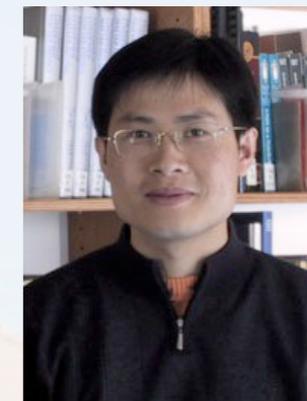
Ville Havu  
(FHI/Helsinki)

## Scalability



Rainer Johanni  
(Munich)

## “Beyond LDA / GGA”



Xinguo Ren  
(FHI)

## Biomolecular simulations



Mariana  
Rossi



Franziska  
Schubert



Alex  
Tkatchenko



Carsten  
Baldauf

## ... FHI-aims - support from many more:

Karsten Reuter, Patrick Rinke, Ralf Gehrke, Paula Havu, Andreas Dolfen, Felix Hanke, Stefan Gutzeit, Andrea Sanfilippo, Luca Ghiringhelli, Sergey Levchenko, Matthias Gramzow, Mina Yoon, Christian Carbogno, Norbert Nemec, Jörg Meyer, Fabio Caruso, Sucismita Chutia, Jürgen Wieferink, Simiam Ghan, Viktor Atalla, Matti Ropo, Ferdinand Evers, Alex Bagrets, Heiko Appel, Daniel Berger, Oliver Hofmann, ...

# The electronic structure “wishlist”

---



# The electronic structure “wishlist”

---

- Cover (essentially) the entirety of chemistry / materials:

# The electronic structure “wishlist”

---

- Cover (essentially) the entirety of chemistry / materials:
  - ▶ first/second row elements

# The electronic structure “wishlist”

---

- Cover (essentially) the entirety of chemistry / materials:
  - ▶ first/second row elements
  - ▶ 3*d* transition metals (magnetism)

# The electronic structure “wishlist”

---

- Cover (essentially) the entirety of chemistry / materials:
  - ▶ first/second row elements
  - ▶ 3*d* transition metals (magnetism)
  - ▶ 4*d*/5*d* elements (relativity)

# The electronic structure “wishlist”

---

- Cover (essentially) the entirety of chemistry / materials:
  - ▶ first/second row elements
  - ▶ 3*d* transition metals (magnetism)
  - ▶ 4*d*/5*d* elements (relativity)
  - ▶ *f*-electron systems

# The electronic structure “wishlist”

---

- Cover (essentially) the entirety of chemistry / materials:
  - ▶ first/second row elements
  - ▶ 3*d* transition metals (magnetism)
  - ▶ 4*d*/5*d* elements (relativity)
  - ▶ *f*-electron systems
  - ▶ ...

# The electronic structure “wishlist”

---

- Cover (essentially) the entirety of chemistry / materials:
  - ▶ first/second row elements
  - ▶ 3*d* transition metals (magnetism)
  - ▶ 4*d*/5*d* elements (relativity)
  - ▶ *f*-electron systems
  - ▶ ...
- Periodic, cluster systems on equal footing

# The electronic structure “wishlist”

- Cover (essentially) the entirety of chemistry / materials:
  - ▶ first/second row elements
  - ▶ 3*d* transition metals (magnetism)
  - ▶ 4*d*/5*d* elements (relativity)
  - ▶ *f*-electron systems
  - ▶ ...
- Periodic, cluster systems on equal footing
- “Properties” (structure, dynamics, spectroscopy, ...)

# The electronic structure “wishlist”

- Cover (essentially) the entirety of chemistry / materials:
  - ▶ first/second row elements
  - ▶ 3*d* transition metals (magnetism)
  - ▶ 4*d*/5*d* elements (relativity)
  - ▶ *f*-electron systems
  - ▶ ...
- Periodic, cluster systems on equal footing
- “Properties” (structure, dynamics, spectroscopy, ...)
- Path “beyond” DFT-LDA/GGA (HF, hybrids, RPA, MP2, GW, ...)

# The electronic structure “wishlist”

- Cover (essentially) the entirety of chemistry / materials:
  - ▶ first/second row elements
  - ▶ 3*d* transition metals (magnetism)
  - ▶ 4*d*/5*d* elements (relativity)
  - ▶ *f*-electron systems
  - ▶ ...
- Periodic, cluster systems on equal footing
- “Properties” (structure, dynamics, spectroscopy, ...)
- Path “beyond” DFT-LDA/GGA (HF, hybrids, RPA, MP2, GW, ...)
- (Massively) parallel scalability

# The electronic structure “wishlist”

- Cover (essentially) the entirety of chemistry / materials:
  - ▶ first/second row elements
  - ▶ 3d transition metals (magnetism)
  - ▶ 4d/5d elements (relativity)
  - ▶ *f*-electron systems
  - ▶ ...
- Periodic, cluster systems on equal footing
- “Properties” (structure, dynamics, spectroscopy, ...)
- Path “beyond” DFT-LDA/GGA (HF, hybrids, RPA, MP2, GW, ...)
- (Massively) parallel scalability

Our goal: Efficient method, but do not sacrifice accuracy

Numerical approximations (including all electrons) should be reliably convergable for the *actual* problem of interest!

# Central decision: the basis set

$$\left[ -\frac{\nabla^2}{2} + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{es}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r}) \right] \psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_k \psi_k(\mathbf{r})$$

*Kohn-Sham  
Equations*

Basis set:

$$\psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i c_{ki} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

# Central decision: the basis set

$$\left[ -\frac{\nabla^2}{2} + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{es}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r}) \right] \psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_k \psi_k(\mathbf{r})$$

Kohn-Sham  
Equations

Basis set:

$$\psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i c_{ki} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$



Generalized eigenvalue  
problem:

$$\underline{\underline{h}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k = \epsilon_k \underline{\underline{s}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k$$

$$h_{ij} = \langle \varphi_i | \hat{h}_{\text{KS}} | \varphi_j \rangle$$

$$s_{ij} = \langle \varphi_i | \varphi_j \rangle$$

# Central decision: the basis set

$$\left[ -\frac{\nabla^2}{2} + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{es}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r}) \right] \psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_k \psi_k(\mathbf{r})$$

Kohn-Sham  
Equations

Basis set:

$$\psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i c_{ki} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

Many good options:

Generalized eigenvalue  
problem:

$$\underline{\underline{h}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k = \epsilon_k \underline{\underline{s}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k$$

$$h_{ij} = \langle \varphi_i | \hat{h}_{\text{KS}} | \varphi_j \rangle$$

$$s_{ij} = \langle \varphi_i | \varphi_j \rangle$$

# Central decision: the basis set

$$\left[ -\frac{\nabla^2}{2} + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{es}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r}) \right] \psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_k \psi_k(\mathbf{r})$$

Kohn-Sham  
Equations

Basis set:

$$\psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i c_{ki} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$



Generalized eigenvalue  
problem:

$$\underline{\underline{h}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k = \epsilon_k \underline{\underline{s}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k$$

$$h_{ij} = \langle \varphi_i | \hat{h}_{\text{KS}} | \varphi_j \rangle$$

$$s_{ij} = \langle \varphi_i | \varphi_j \rangle$$

Many good options:

- Plane waves

# Central decision: the basis set

$$\left[ -\frac{\nabla^2}{2} + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{es}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r}) \right] \psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_k \psi_k(\mathbf{r})$$

Kohn-Sham  
Equations

Basis set:

$$\psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i c_{ki} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$



Generalized eigenvalue  
problem:

$$\underline{\underline{h}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k = \epsilon_k \underline{\underline{s}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k$$

$$h_{ij} = \langle \varphi_i | \hat{h}_{\text{KS}} | \varphi_j \rangle$$

$$s_{ij} = \langle \varphi_i | \varphi_j \rangle$$

Many good options:

- Plane waves
- *Augmented plane waves*  
(Slater 1937; Andersen 1975; etc.)

# Central decision: the basis set

$$\left[ -\frac{\nabla^2}{2} + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{es}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r}) \right] \psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_k \psi_k(\mathbf{r})$$

Kohn-Sham  
Equations

Basis set:

$$\psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i c_{ki} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$



Generalized eigenvalue  
problem:

$$\underline{\underline{h}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k = \epsilon_k \underline{\underline{s}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k$$

$$h_{ij} = \langle \varphi_i | \hat{h}_{\text{KS}} | \varphi_j \rangle$$

$$s_{ij} = \langle \varphi_i | \varphi_j \rangle$$

Many good options:

- Plane waves
- *Augmented plane waves*  
(Slater 1937; Andersen 1975; etc.)
- Gaussian-type orbitals

# Central decision: the basis set

$$\left[ -\frac{\nabla^2}{2} + v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{es}}(\mathbf{r}) + v_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r}) \right] \psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_k \psi_k(\mathbf{r})$$

Kohn-Sham  
Equations

Basis set:

$$\psi_k(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_i c_{ki} \varphi_i(\mathbf{r})$$



Generalized eigenvalue  
problem:

$$\underline{\underline{h}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k = \epsilon_k \underline{\underline{s}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k$$

$$h_{ij} = \langle \varphi_i | \hat{h}_{\text{KS}} | \varphi_j \rangle$$

$$s_{ij} = \langle \varphi_i | \varphi_j \rangle$$

Many good options:

- Plane waves
- *Augmented* plane waves  
(Slater 1937; Andersen 1975; etc.)
- Gaussian-type orbitals
- **Many others:** (L)MTO, “real-space”,  
numeric atom-centered functions, ...

# Our choice: Numeric atom-centered basis sets

$$\varphi_{i[lm]}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{u_i(r)}{r} \cdot Y_{lm}(\Omega)$$

- $u_i(r)$ : Flexible choice - “Anything you like.”

Many popular implementations:  
DMol<sup>3</sup> (Delley), FPLO (Eschrig *et al.*), PLATO (Horsfield *et al.*),  
PAOs (Siesta, Conquest, OpenMX<sup>2</sup>,  
Fireball, ...)

# Our choice: Numeric atom-centered basis sets

$$\varphi_{i[lm]}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{u_i(r)}{r} \cdot Y_{lm}(\Omega)$$

- $u_i(r)$ : Flexible choice - “Anything you like.”

Many popular implementations:  
DMol<sup>3</sup> (Delley), FPLO (Eschrig *et al.*), PLATO (Horsfield *et al.*),  
PAOs (Siesta, Conquest, OpenMX<sup>2</sup>,  
Fireball, ...)

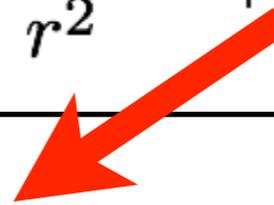
$$\left[ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} + v_i(r) + v_{\text{cut}}(r) \right] u_i(r) = \epsilon_i u_i(r)$$

# Our choice: Numeric atom-centered basis sets

$$\varphi_{i[lm]}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{u_i(r)}{r} \cdot Y_{lm}(\Omega)$$

- $u_i(r)$ : Flexible choice - “Anything you like.”

Many popular implementations:  
DMol<sup>3</sup> (Delley), FPLO (Eschrig *et al.*), PLATO (Horsfield *et al.*),  
PAOs (Siesta, Conquest, OpenMX<sup>2</sup>,  
Fireball, ...)

$$\left[ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} + v_i(r) + v_{\text{cut}}(r) \right] u_i(r) = \epsilon_i u_i(r)$$


- free-atom like:  $v_i(r) = v_{\text{free atom}}^{\text{DFT}}(r)$
- Hydrogen-like:  $v_i(r) = z/r$
- free ions, harm. osc. (Gaussians), ...

# Our choice: Numeric atom-centered basis sets

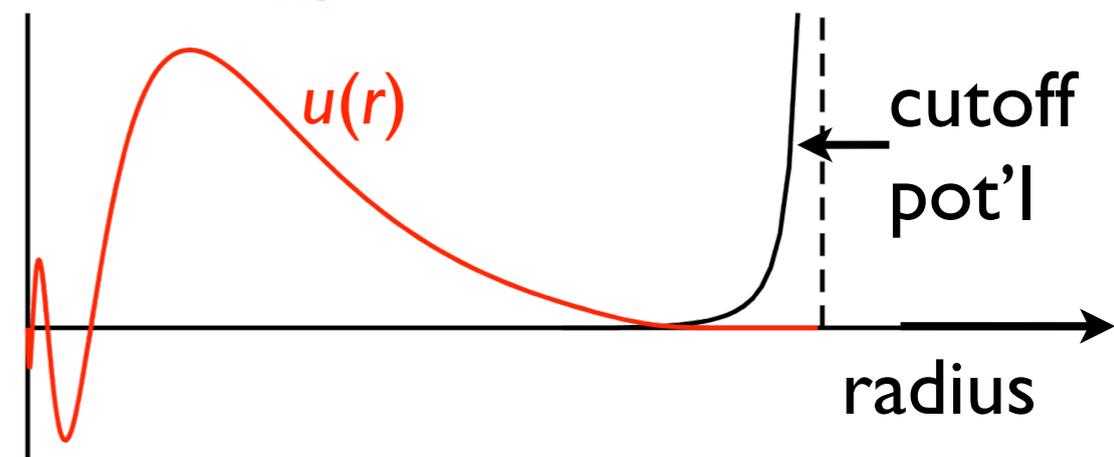
$$\varphi_{i[lm]}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{u_i(r)}{r} \cdot Y_{lm}(\Omega)$$

Many popular implementations:  
DMol<sup>3</sup> (Delley), FPLO (Eschrig *et al.*), PLATO (Horsfield *et al.*),  
PAOs (Siesta, Conquest, OpenMX<sup>2</sup>,  
Fireball, ...)

- $u_i(r)$ : Flexible choice - “Anything you like.”

$$\left[ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + \frac{l(l+1)}{r^2} + v_i(r) + v_{\text{cut}}(r) \right] u_i(r) = \epsilon_i u_i(r)$$

- free-atom like:  $v_i(r) = v_{\text{free atom}}^{\text{DFT}}(r)$
- Hydrogen-like:  $v_i(r) = z/r$
- free ions, harm. osc. (Gaussians), ...



# Our choice: Numeric atom-centered basis sets

$$\varphi_{i[lm]}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{u_i(r)}{r} \cdot Y_{lm}(\Omega)$$

- $u_i(r)$ : Flexible choice - “Anything you like.”

→ Localized; “naturally” all-electron

Many popular implementations:  
DMol<sup>3</sup> (Delley), FPLO (Eschrig *et al.*), PLATO (Horsfield *et al.*),  
PAOs (Siesta, Conquest, OpenMX<sup>2</sup>,  
Fireball, ...)

V. Blum, R. Gehrke, F. Hanke, P. Havu, V. Havu, X. Ren, K. Reuter and M. Scheffler,  
“Ab Initio Molecular Simulations with Numeric Atom-Centered Orbitals”,  
*Computer Physics Communications* **180**, 2175-2196 (2009)

# Our choice: Numeric atom-centered basis sets

$$\varphi_{i[lm]}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{u_i(r)}{r} \cdot Y_{lm}(\Omega)$$

- $u_i(r)$ : Flexible choice - “Anything you like.”

→ Localized; “naturally” all-electron

→ The choice of efficient and of enough radial functions is obviously important

Many popular implementations:  
DMol<sup>3</sup> (Delley), FPLO (Eschrig *et al.*), PLATO (Horsfield *et al.*),  
PAOs (Siesta, Conquest, OpenMX<sup>2</sup>,  
Fireball, ...)

V. Blum, R. Gehrke, F. Hanke, P. Havu, V. Havu, X. Ren, K. Reuter and M. Scheffler,  
“Ab Initio Molecular Simulations with Numeric Atom-Centered Orbitals”,  
*Computer Physics Communications* **180**, 2175-2196 (2009)

# Our choice: Numeric atom-centered basis sets

$$\varphi_{i[lm]}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{u_i(r)}{r} \cdot Y_{lm}(\Omega)$$

Many popular implementations:  
DMol<sup>3</sup> (Delley), FPLO (Eschrig *et al.*), PLATO (Horsfield *et al.*),  
PAOs (Siesta, Conquest, OpenMX<sup>2</sup>,  
Fireball, ...)

- $u_i(r)$ : Flexible choice - “Anything you like.”
  - Localized; “naturally” all-electron
  - The choice of efficient and of enough radial functions is obviously important
  - We have a basis set library for all elements (1-102), from fast qualitative to meV-converged (total energy, LDA/GGA) calculations - efficient and accurate approach

V. Blum, R. Gehrke, F. Hanke, P. Havu, V. Havu, X. Ren, K. Reuter and M. Scheffler,  
“*Ab Initio* Molecular Simulations with Numeric Atom-Centered Orbitals”,  
*Computer Physics Communications* **180**, 2175-2196 (2009)

# How to find good basis sets - and how far do they carry?

---

Lots of shapes  $u(r)$  available:  
Confined free atoms, hydrogen-like, free ions, ...

Simple robust selection strategy:

Initial basis  $\{u\}^{(0)}$ :  
Occupied free  
atom orbitals  $u_{\text{free}}$

# How to find good basis sets - and how far do they carry?

Lots of shapes  $u(r)$  available:  
Confined free atoms, hydrogen-like, free ions, ...

Simple robust selection strategy:

Initial basis  $\{u\}^{(0)}$ :  
Occupied free  
atom orbitals  $u_{\text{free}}$

Search large pool of  
candidates  $\{u_{\text{trial}}(r)\}$ :  
Find  $u_{\text{opt}}^{(n)}$  to minimize  
 $E^{(n)} = E[\{u\}^{(n-1)} \oplus u_{\text{trial}}]$

# How to find good basis sets - and how far do they carry?

Lots of shapes  $u(r)$  available:  
Confined free atoms, hydrogen-like, free ions, ...

Simple robust selection strategy:

Initial basis  $\{u\}^{(0)}$ :  
Occupied free  
atom orbitals  $u_{\text{free}}$

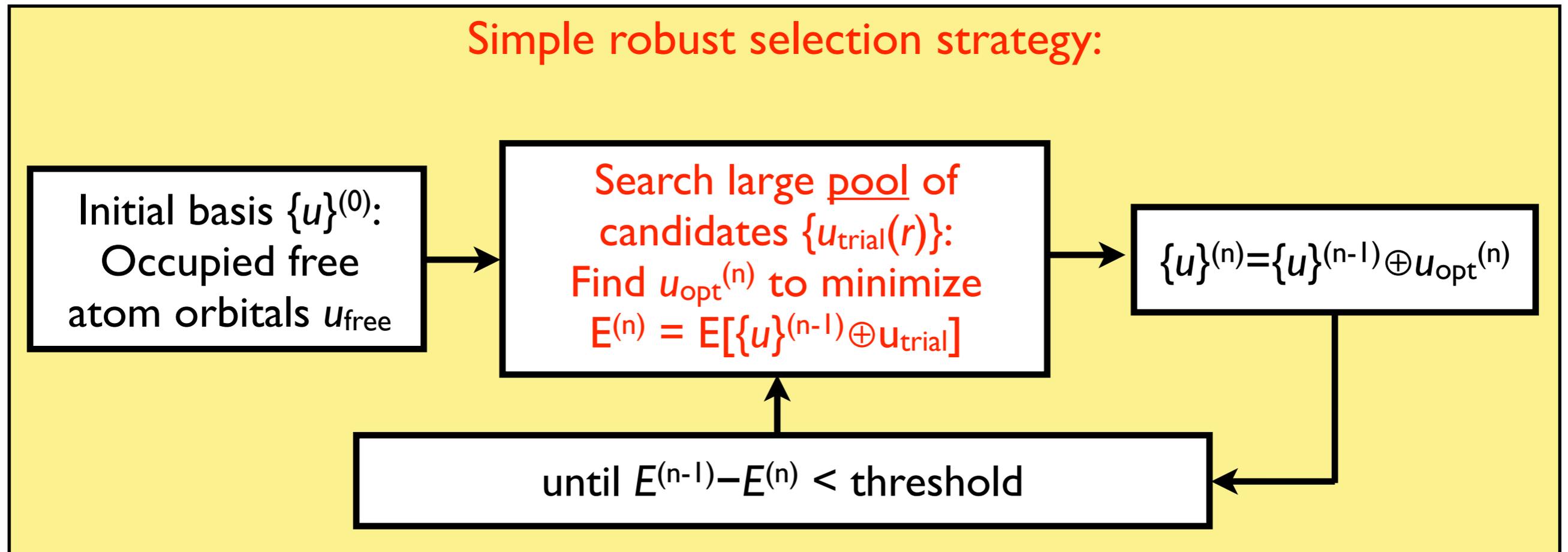
Search large pool of  
candidates  $\{u_{\text{trial}}(r)\}$ :  
Find  $u_{\text{opt}}^{(n)}$  to minimize  
 $E^{(n)} = E[\{u\}^{(n-1)} \oplus u_{\text{trial}}]$

$\{u\}^{(n)} = \{u\}^{(n-1)} \oplus u_{\text{opt}}^{(n)}$

# How to find good basis sets - and how far do they carry?

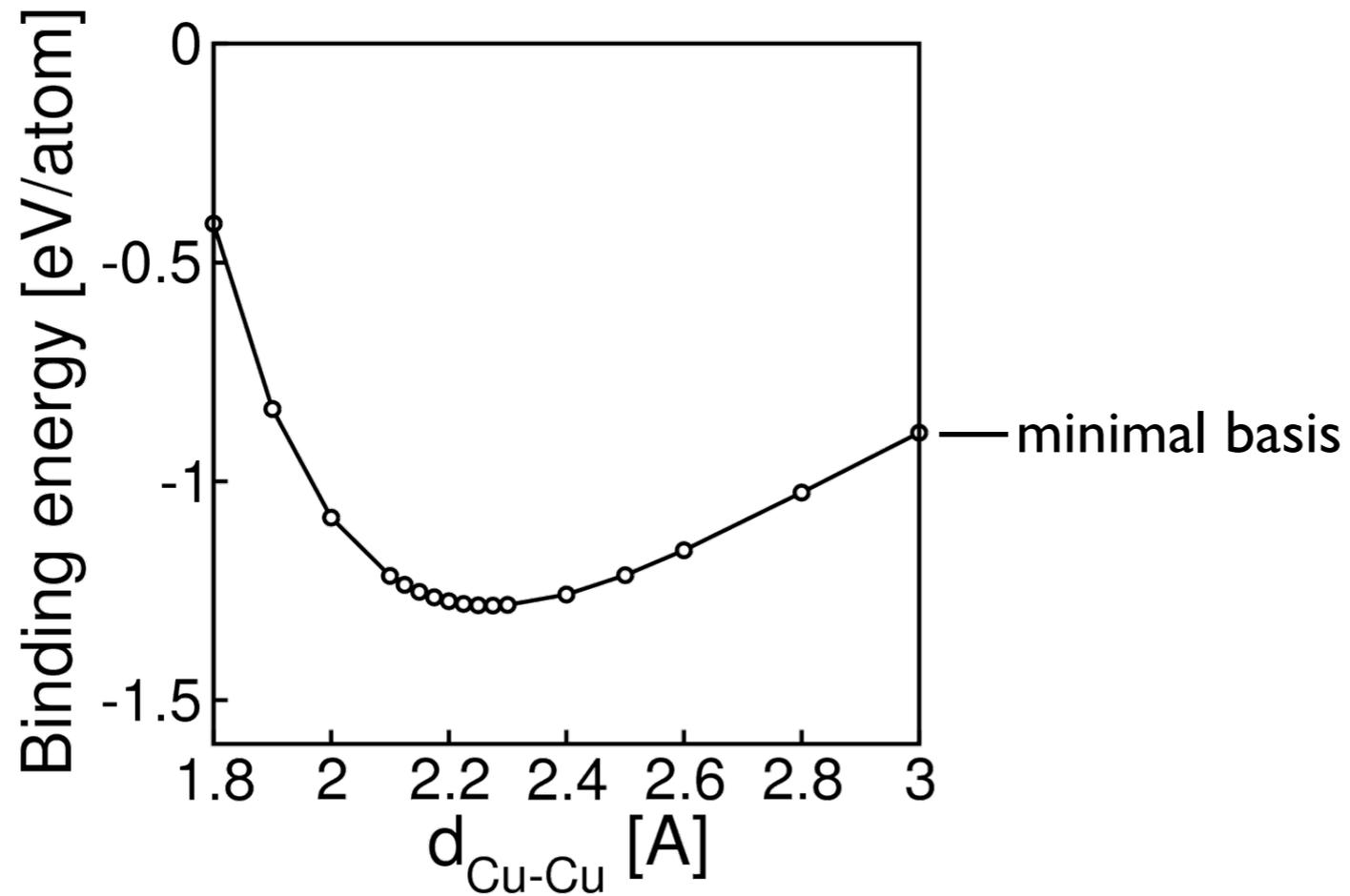
Lots of shapes  $u(r)$  available:  
Confined free atoms, hydrogen-like, free ions, ...

Simple robust selection strategy:



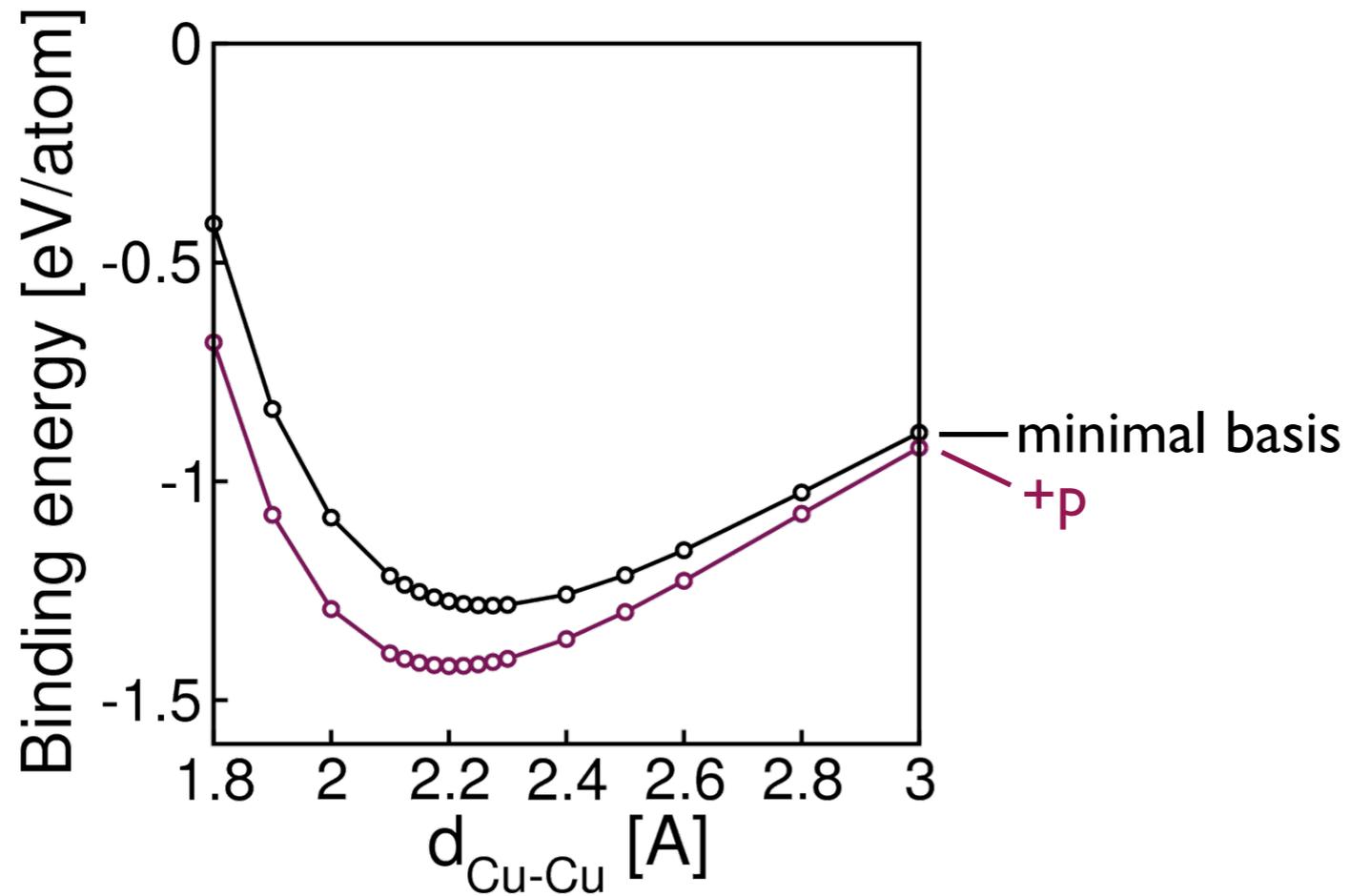
# Dimer binding curves to optimize the basis

## Example: Cu<sub>2</sub> binding curve for different basis sets



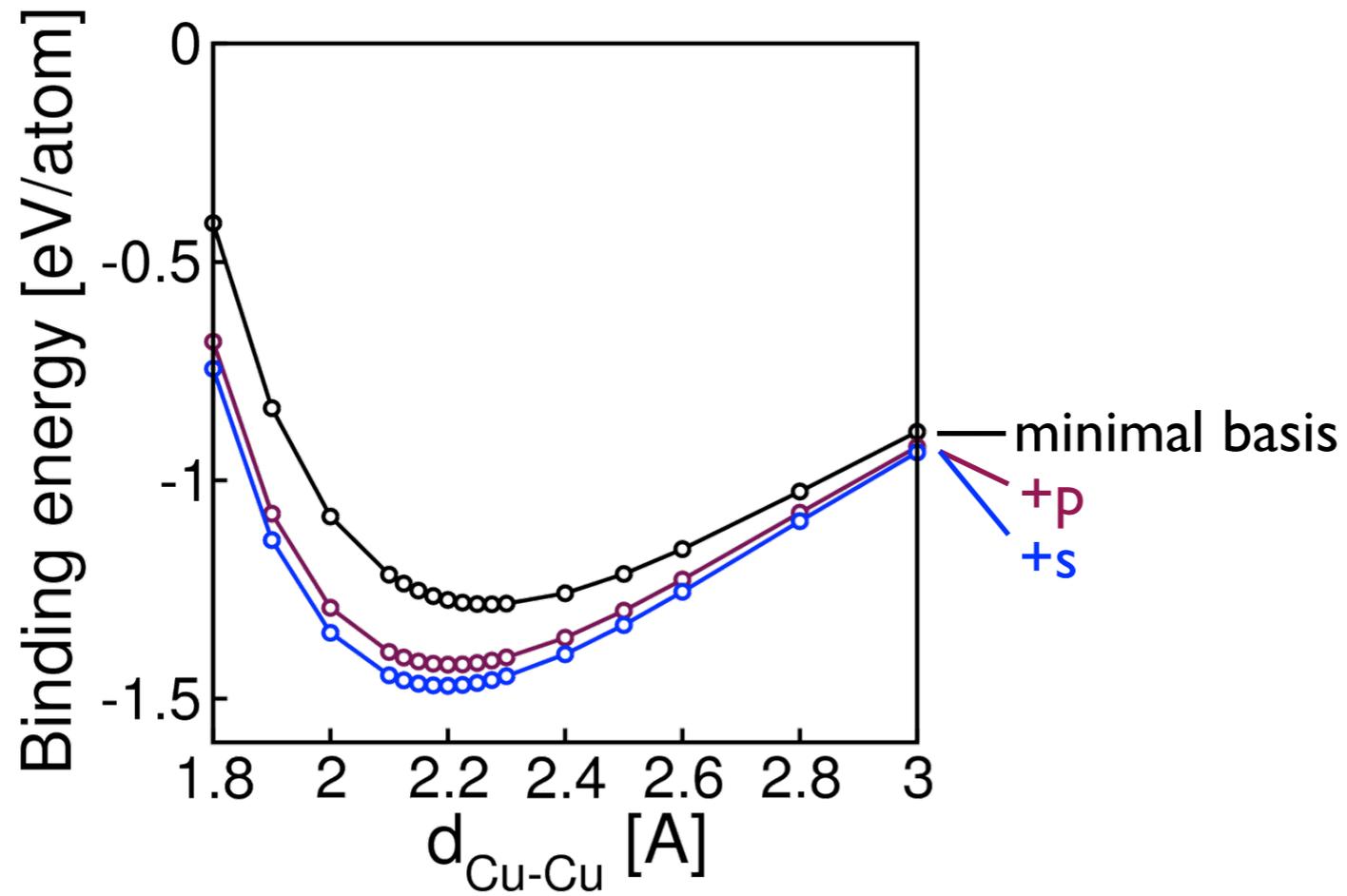
# Dimer binding curves to optimize the basis

## Example: Cu<sub>2</sub> binding curve for different basis sets



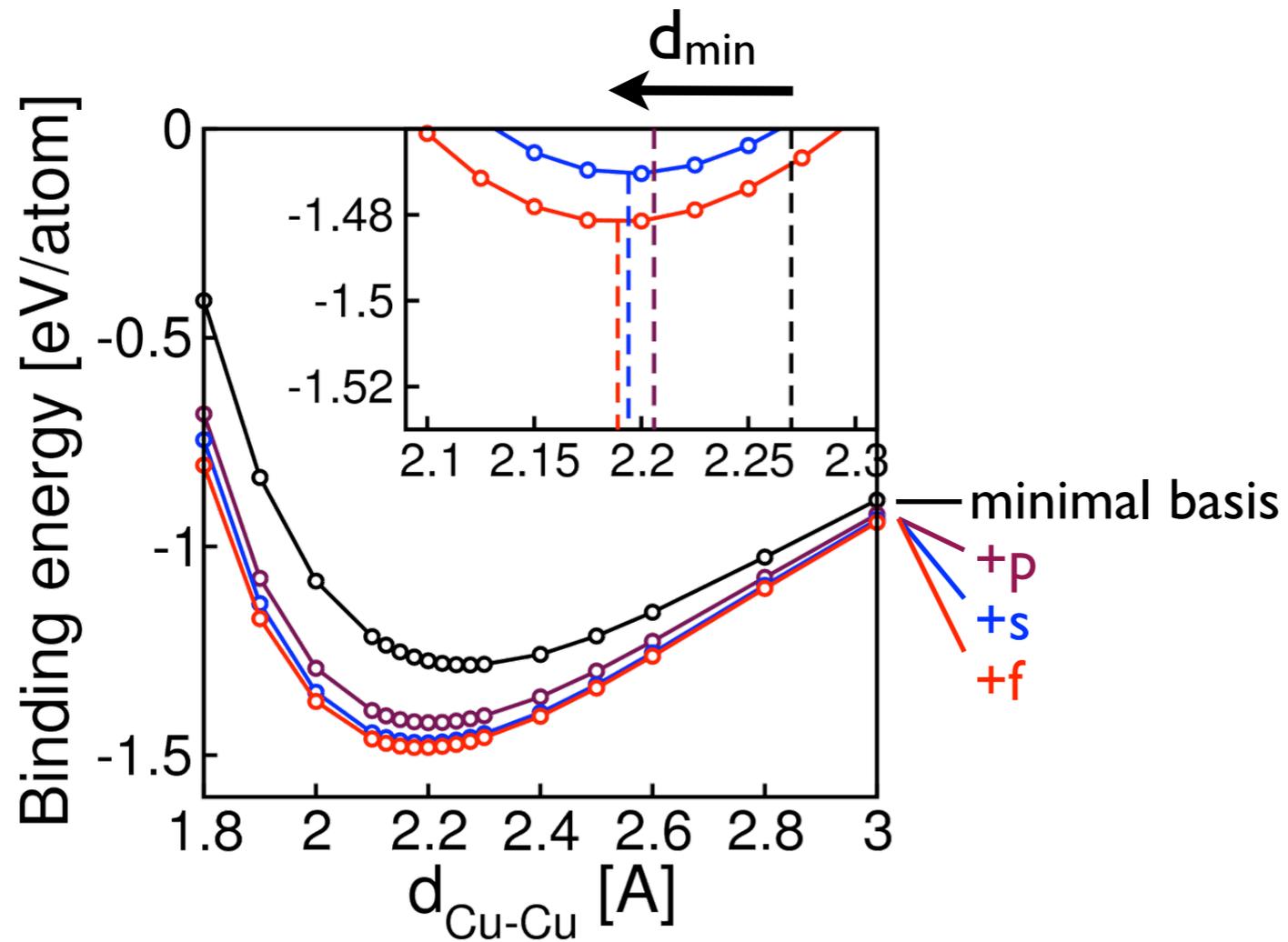
# Dimer binding curves to optimize the basis

Example:  $\text{Cu}_2$  binding curve for different basis sets



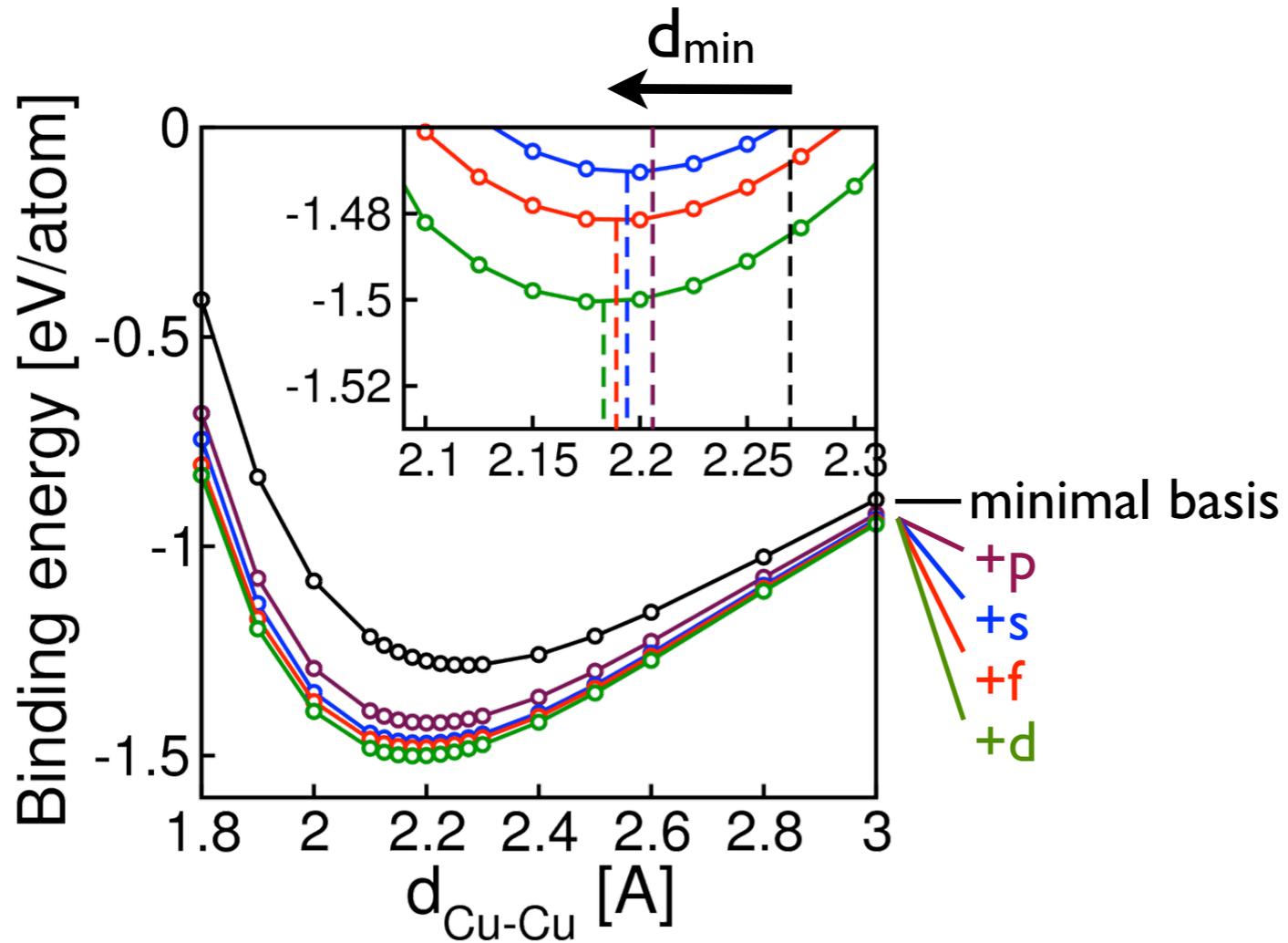
# Dimer binding curves to optimize the basis

## Example: $\text{Cu}_2$ binding curve for different basis sets



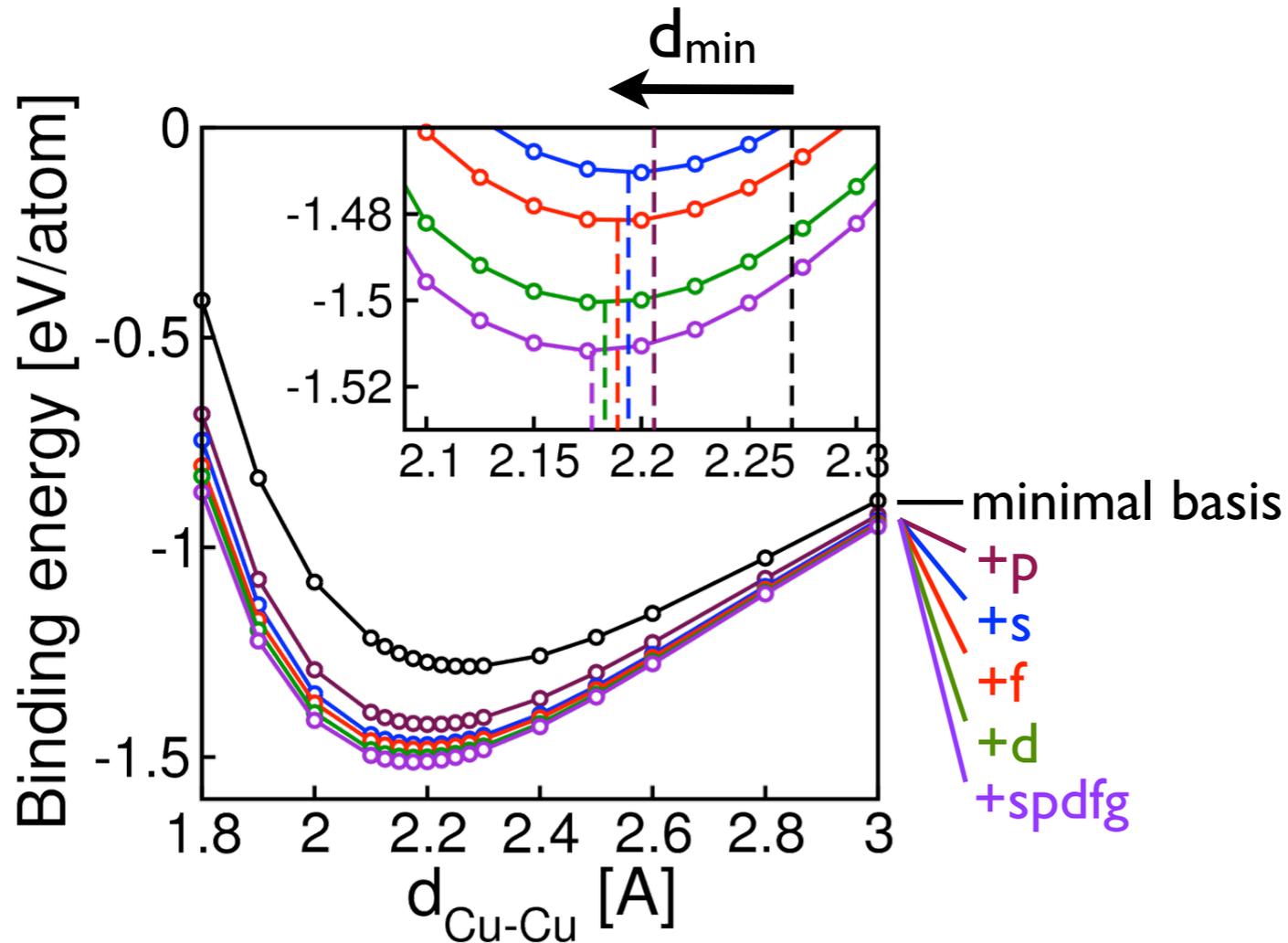
# Dimer binding curves to optimize the basis

## Example: $\text{Cu}_2$ binding curve for different basis sets



# Dimer binding curves to optimize the basis

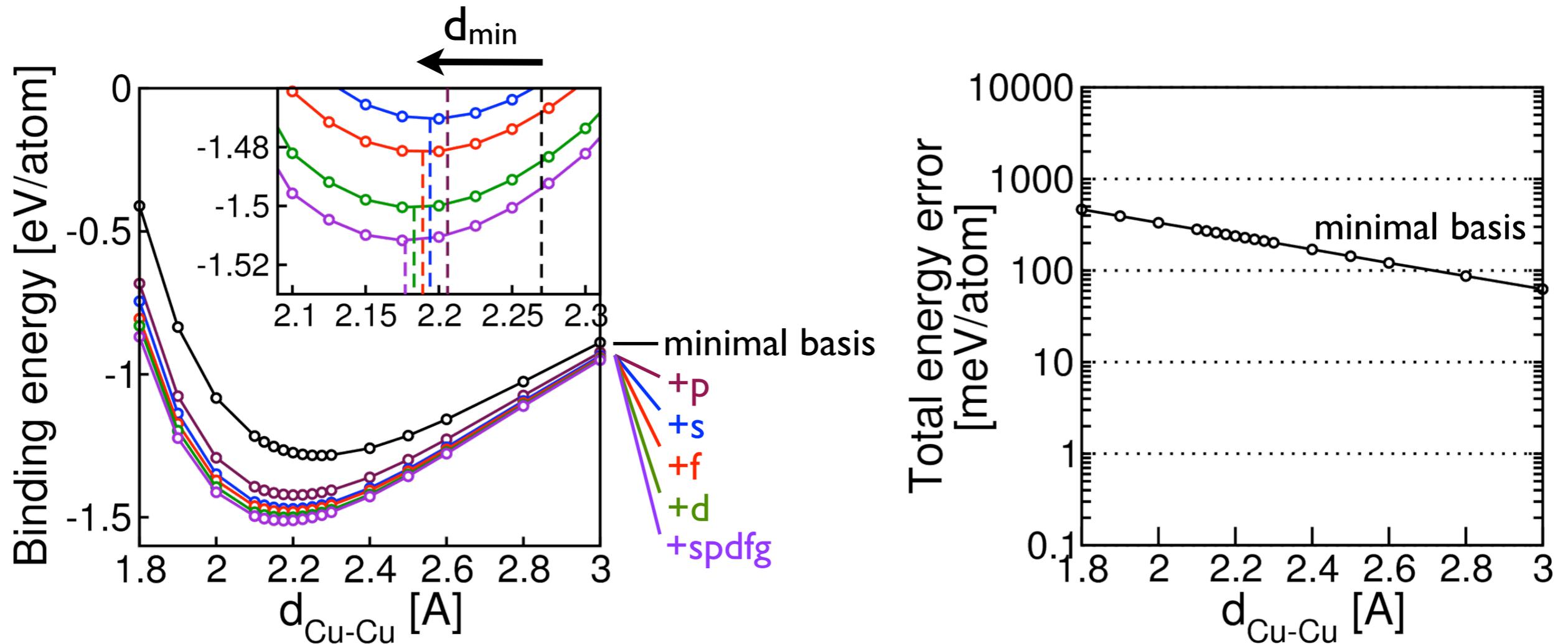
## Example: $\text{Cu}_2$ binding curve for different basis sets



- Increasing basis set: clear drift of  $d_{\text{min}}$  towards smaller values

# Dimer binding curves to optimize the basis

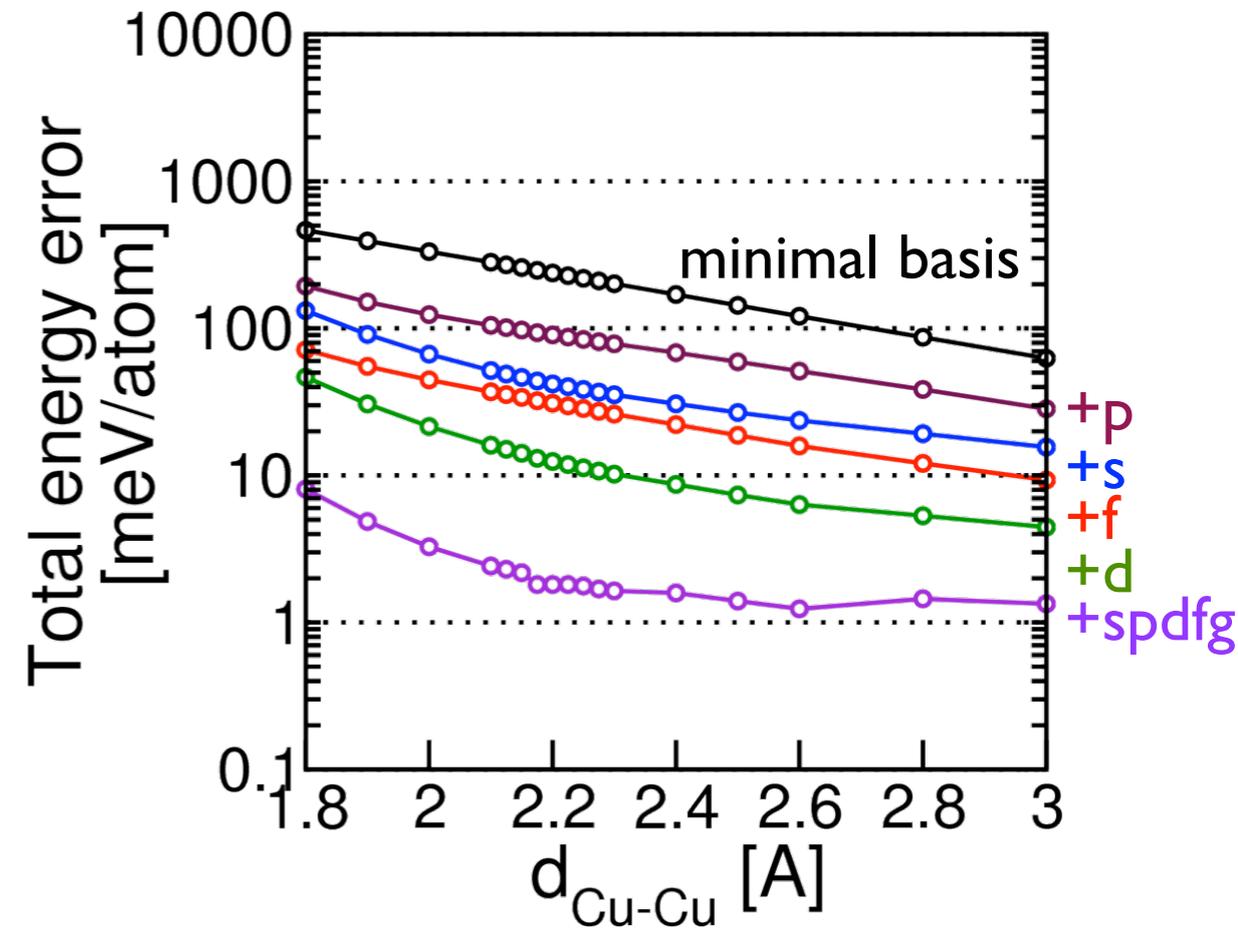
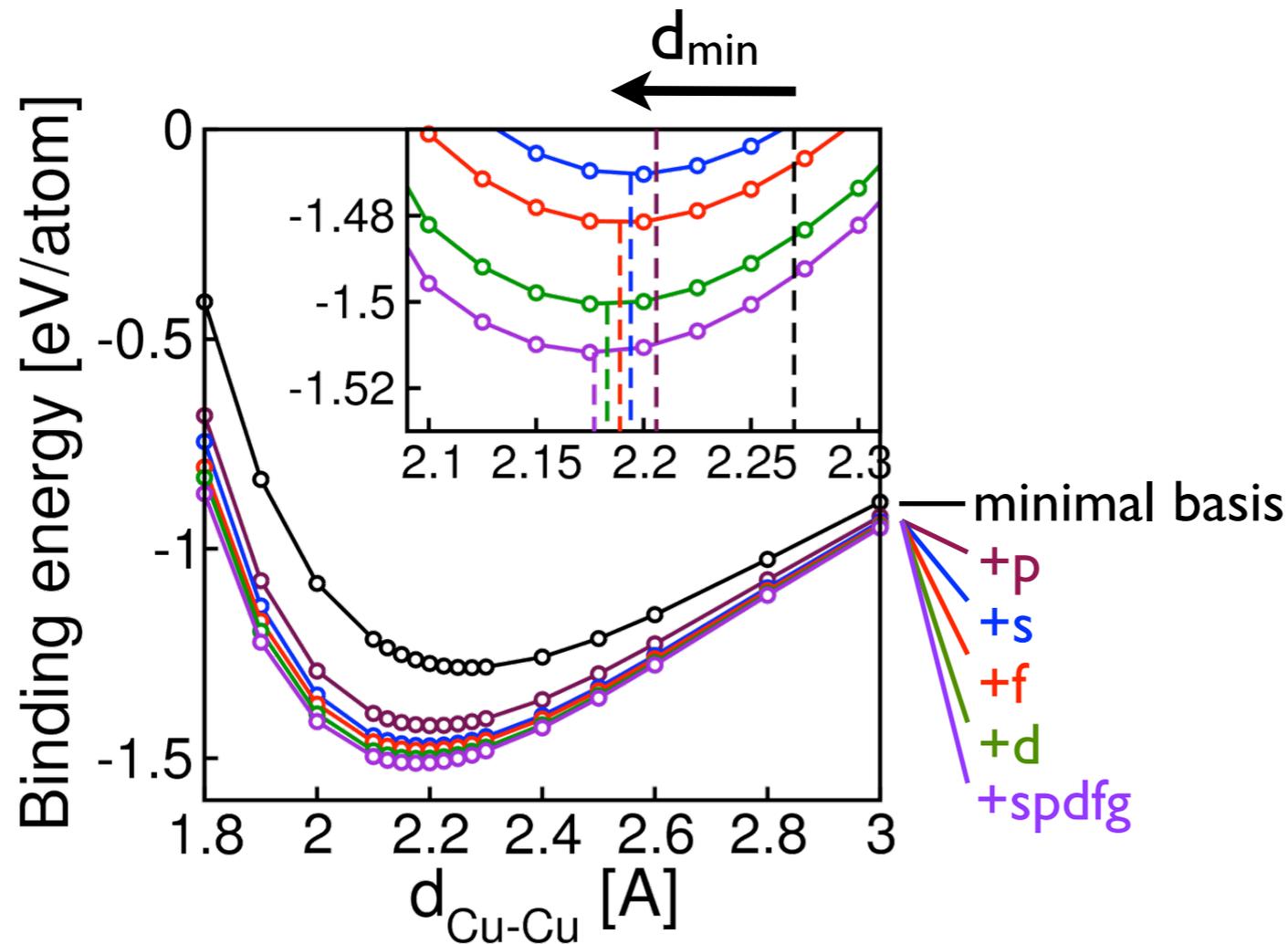
## Example: $\text{Cu}_2$ binding curve for different basis sets



- Increasing basis set: clear drift of  $d_{\text{min}}$  towards smaller values
- Reason: Minimal basis  $\rightarrow$  exponential basis set error as function of  $d$

# Dimer binding curves to optimize the basis

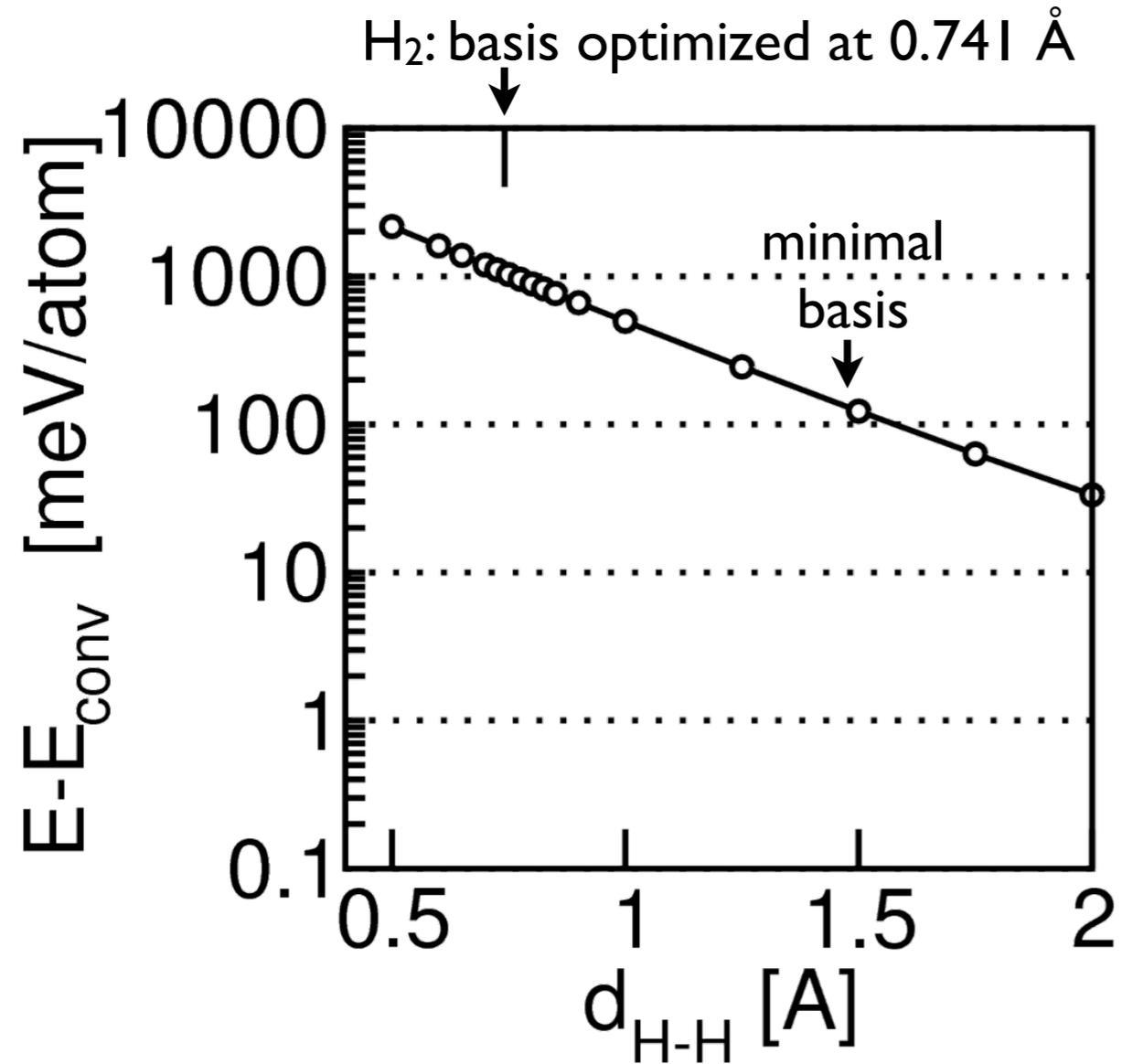
## Example: $\text{Cu}_2$ binding curve for different basis sets



- Increasing basis set: clear drift of  $d_{\text{min}}$  towards smaller values
- Minimal basis  $\rightarrow$  exponential basis set error as function of  $d$
- meV-level accuracy for practical basis sets; small  $d$  require larger basis

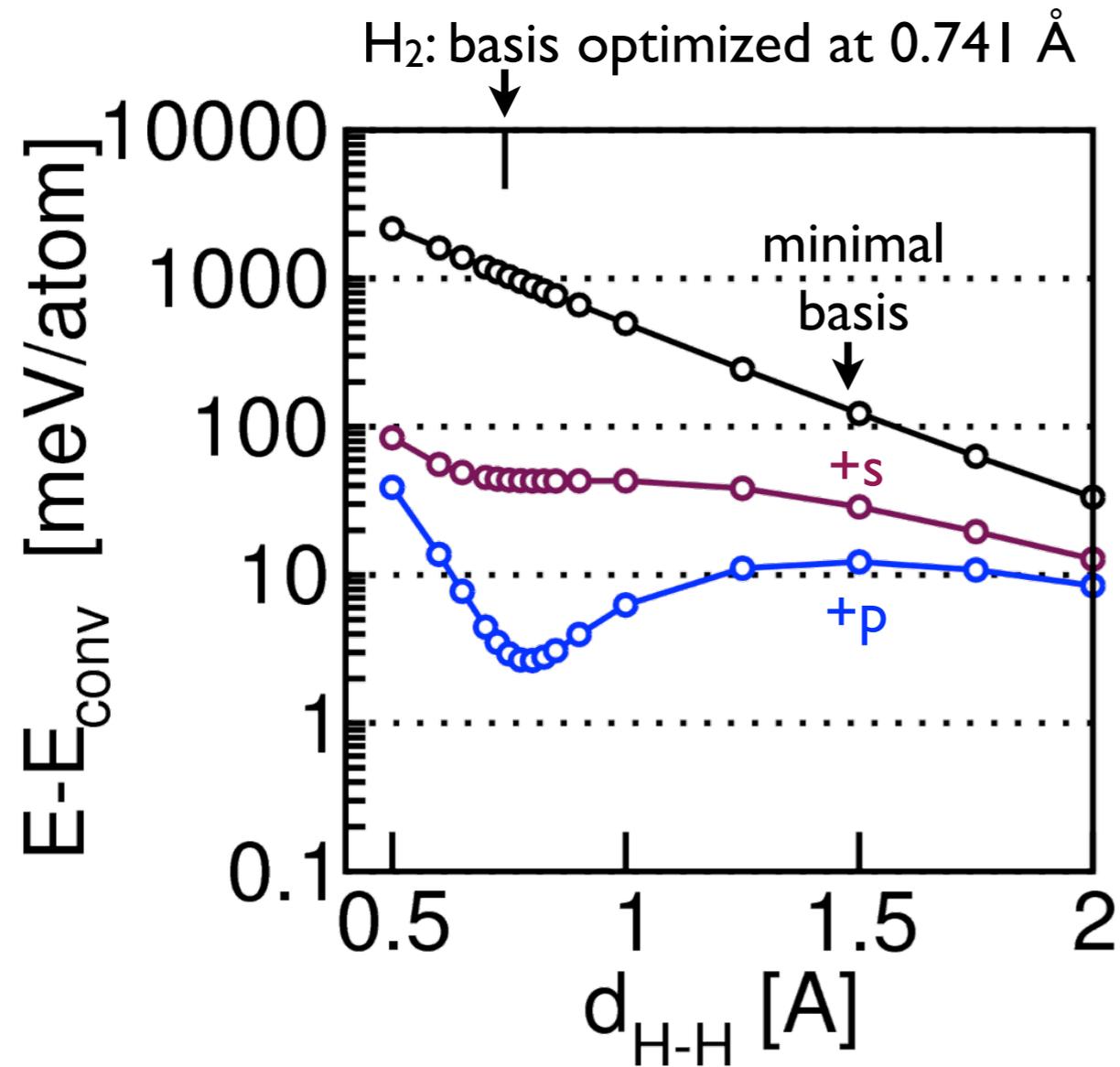
# Dimer binding curves to optimize the basis

## Extreme example: $H_2$ (only one occupied orbital)



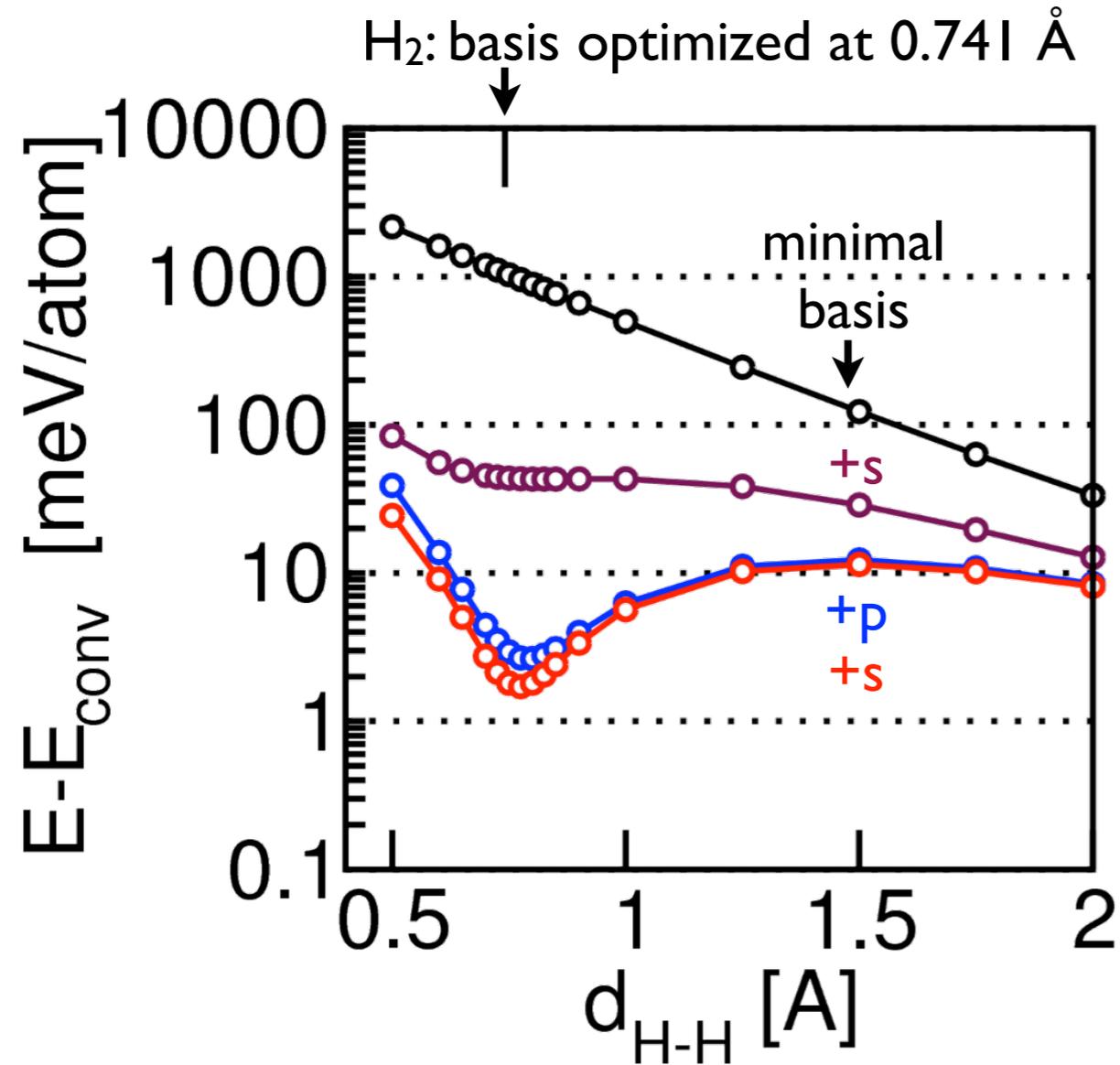
# Dimer binding curves to optimize the basis

## Extreme example: $H_2$ (only one occupied orbital)



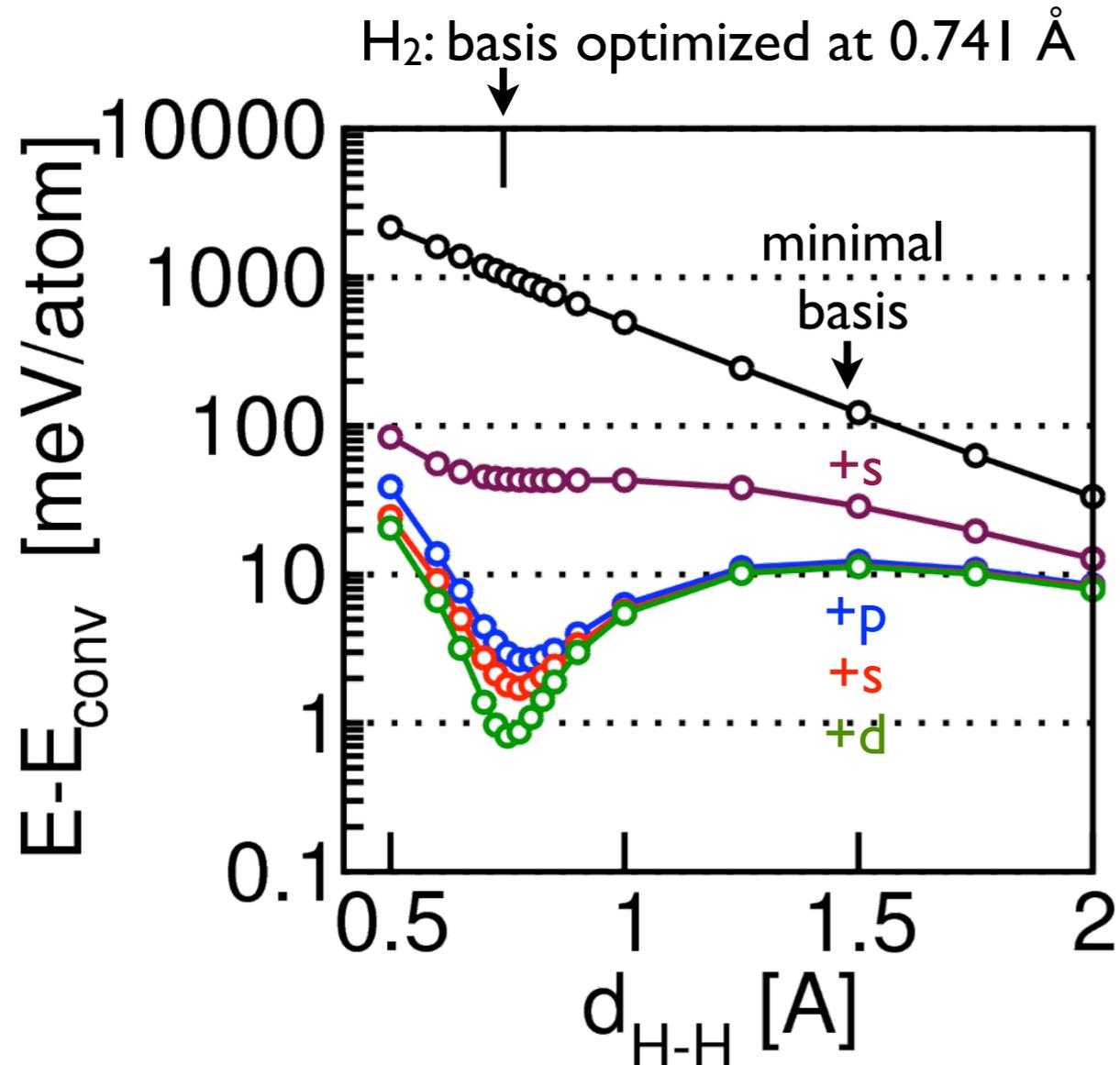
# Dimer binding curves to optimize the basis

## Extreme example: $H_2$ (only one occupied orbital)



# Dimer binding curves to optimize the basis

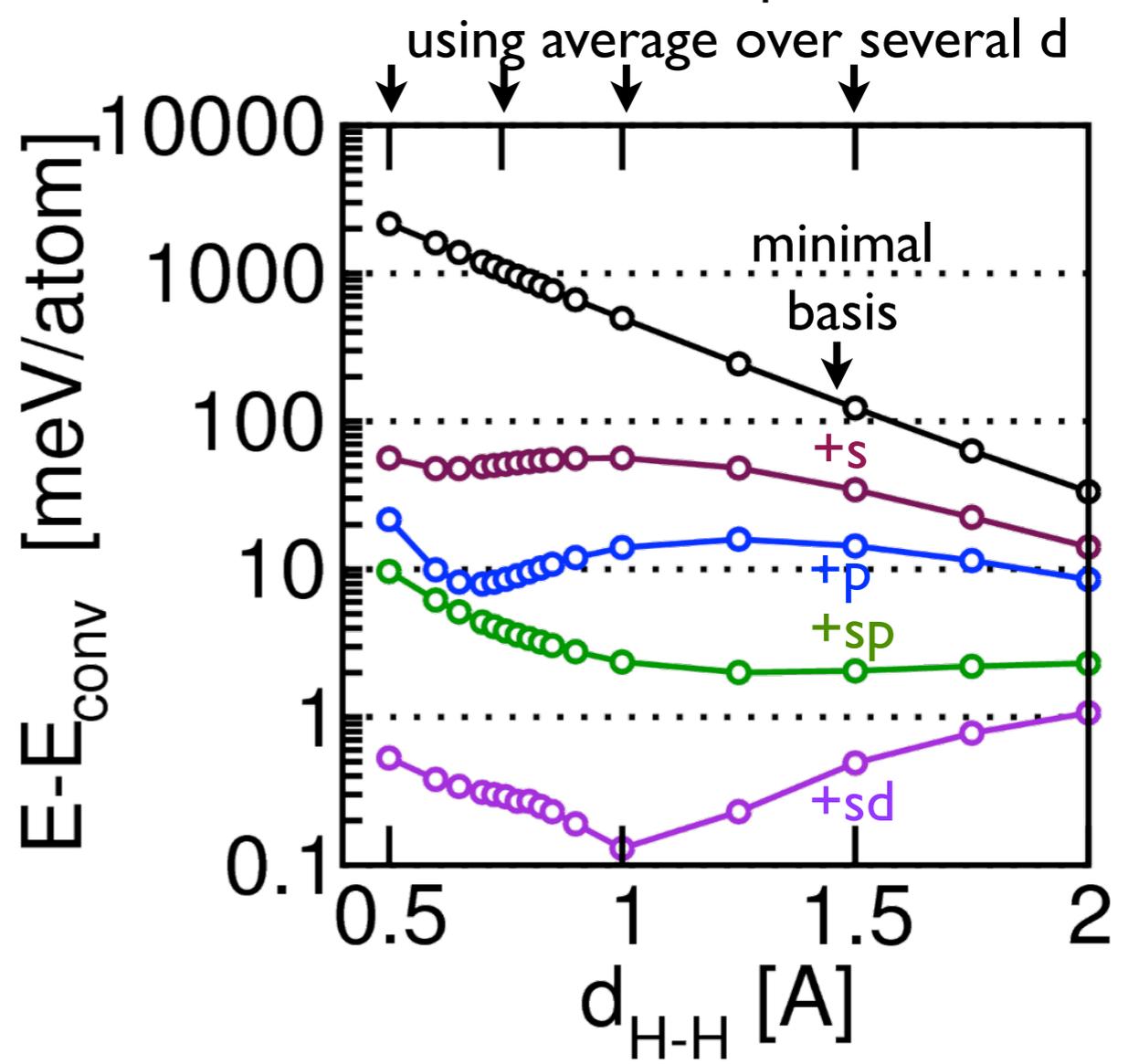
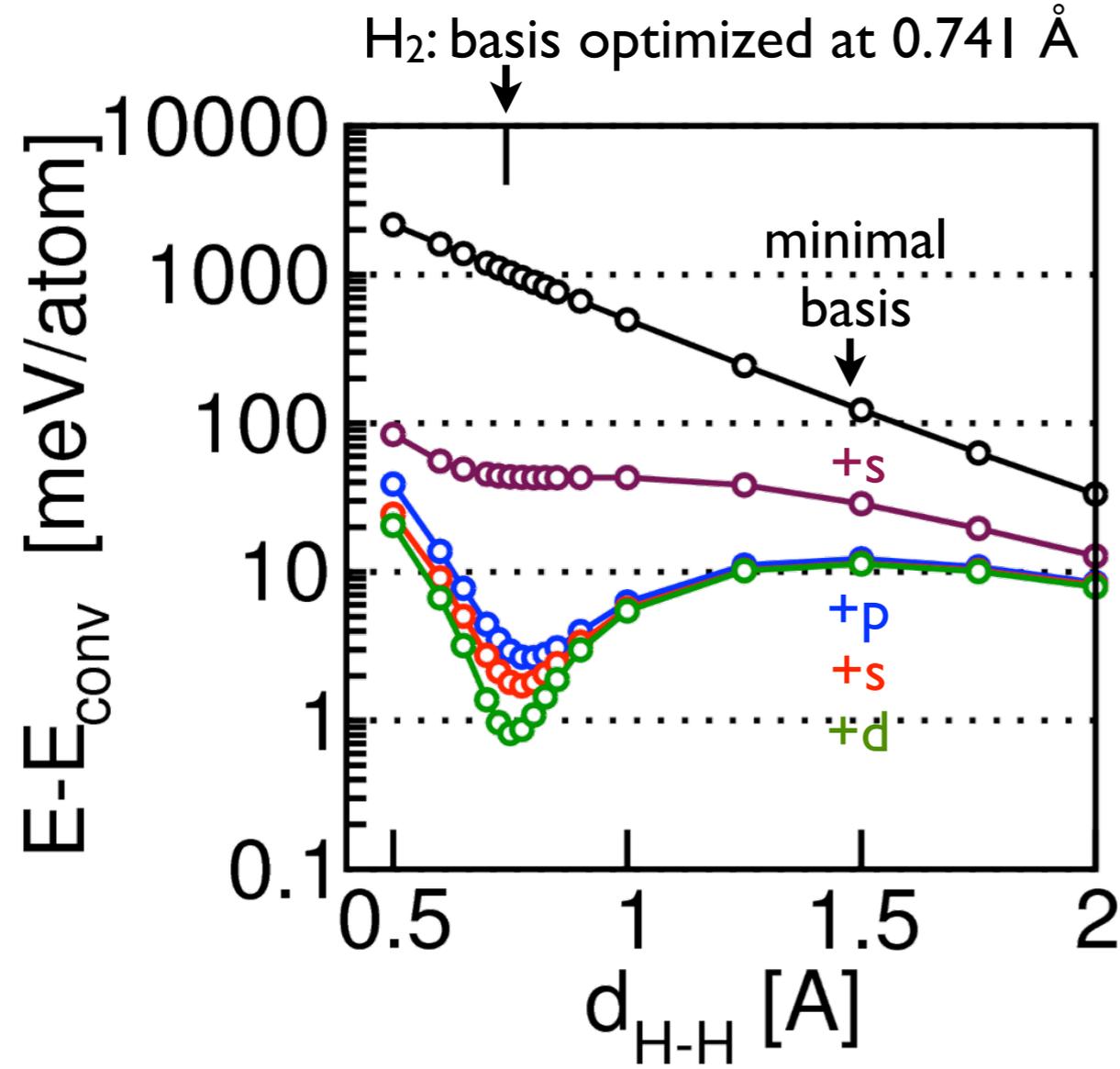
## Extreme example: $H_2$ (only one occupied orbital)



Light elements (particularly H):  
Basis optimization for single geometry not enough!

# Dimer binding curves to optimize the basis

**Extreme example: H<sub>2</sub> (only one occupied orbital)**



Light elements (particularly H):  
Basis optimization for single geometry not enough!

**Robust basis construction:  
Optimize average of several dimer bond distances**

# Iterative selection of NAO basis functions

---

“Pool” of trial basis functions:

2+ ionic  $u(r)$

Hydrogen-like  $u(r)$  for  $Z=0.1-20$

Optimization target:

Non-selfconsistent symmetric dimers, averaged for different  $d$

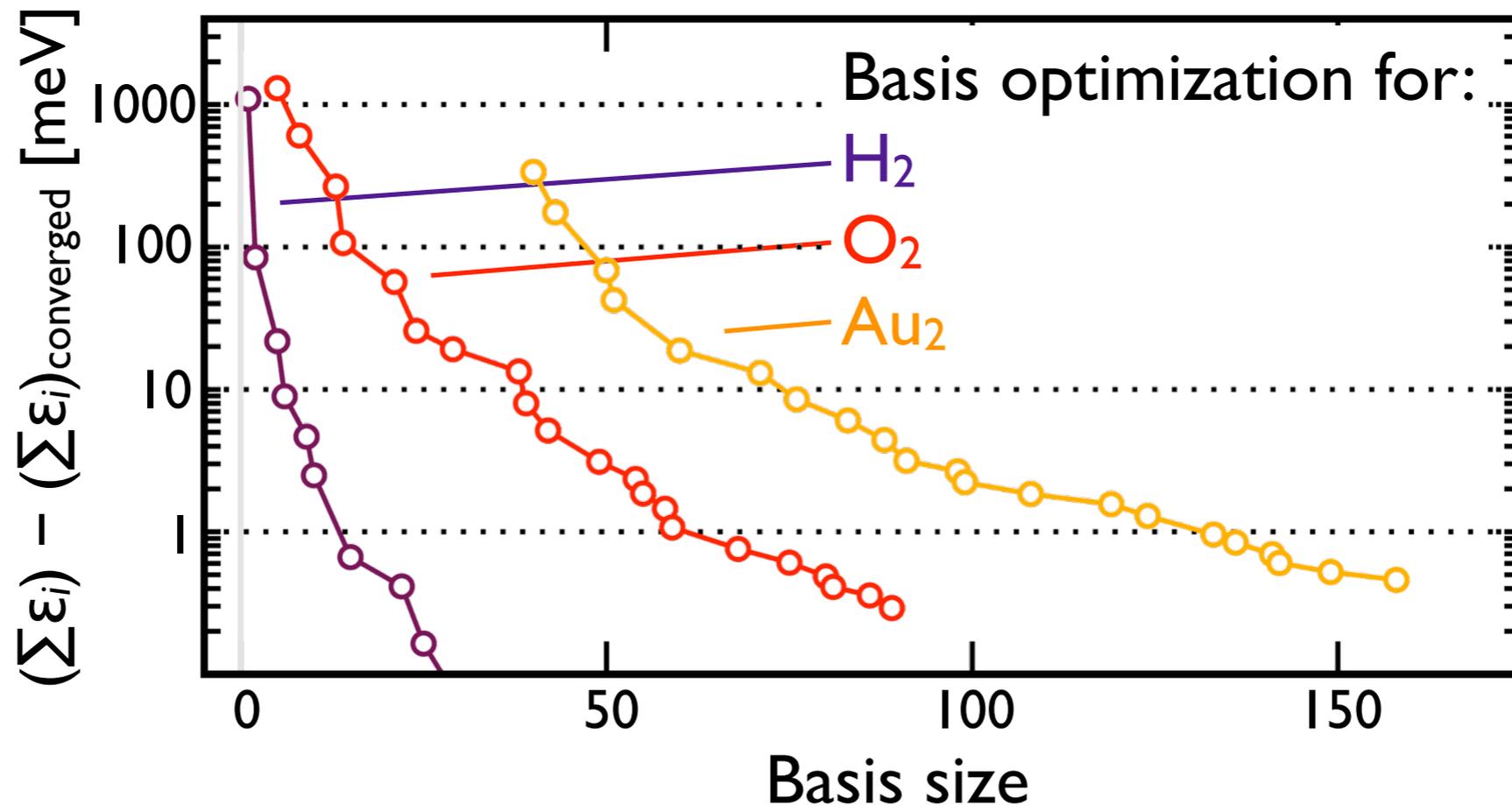
Pick basis functions one by one: *Total energy convergence*

# Iterative selection of NAO basis functions

“Pool” of trial basis functions:  
2+ ionic  $u(r)$   
Hydrogen-like  $u(r)$  for  $Z=0.1-20$

Optimization target:  
Non-selfconsistent symmetric  
dimers, averaged for different  $d$

Pick basis functions one by one: *Total energy convergence*



# In practice: Hierarchical basis set library for all elements

	H	C	O	Au
minimal	1s	[He]+2s2p	[He]+2s2p	[Xe]+6s5d4f
Tier 1	H(2s,2.1)	H(2p,1.7)	H(2p,1.8)	Au <sup>2+</sup> (6p)
	H(2p,3.5)	H(3d,6.0)	H(3d,7.6)	H(4f,7.4)
		H(2s,4.9)	H(3s,6.4)	Au <sup>2+</sup> (6s)
				H(5g,10)
				H(6h,12.8)
				H(3d,2.5)
Tier 2	H(1s,0.85)	H(4f,9.8)	H(4f,11.6)	H(5f,14.8)
	H(2p,3.7)	H(3p,5.2)	H(3p,6.2)	H(4d,3.9)
	H(2s,1.2)	H(3s,4.3)	H(3d,5.6)	H(3p,3.3)
	H(3d,7.0)	H(5g,14.4)	H(5g,17.6)	H(1s,0.45)
		H(3d,6.2)	H(1s,0.75)	H(5g,16.4)
				H(6h,13.6)
Tier 3	H(4f,11.2)	H(2p,5.6)	O <sup>2+</sup> (2p)	H(4f,5.2)*
	H(3p,4.8)	H(2s,1.4)	H(4f,10.8)	H(4d,5.0)
	...	...	...	...

Systematic hierarchy of basis (sub)sets, iterative *automated* construction based on *dimers*

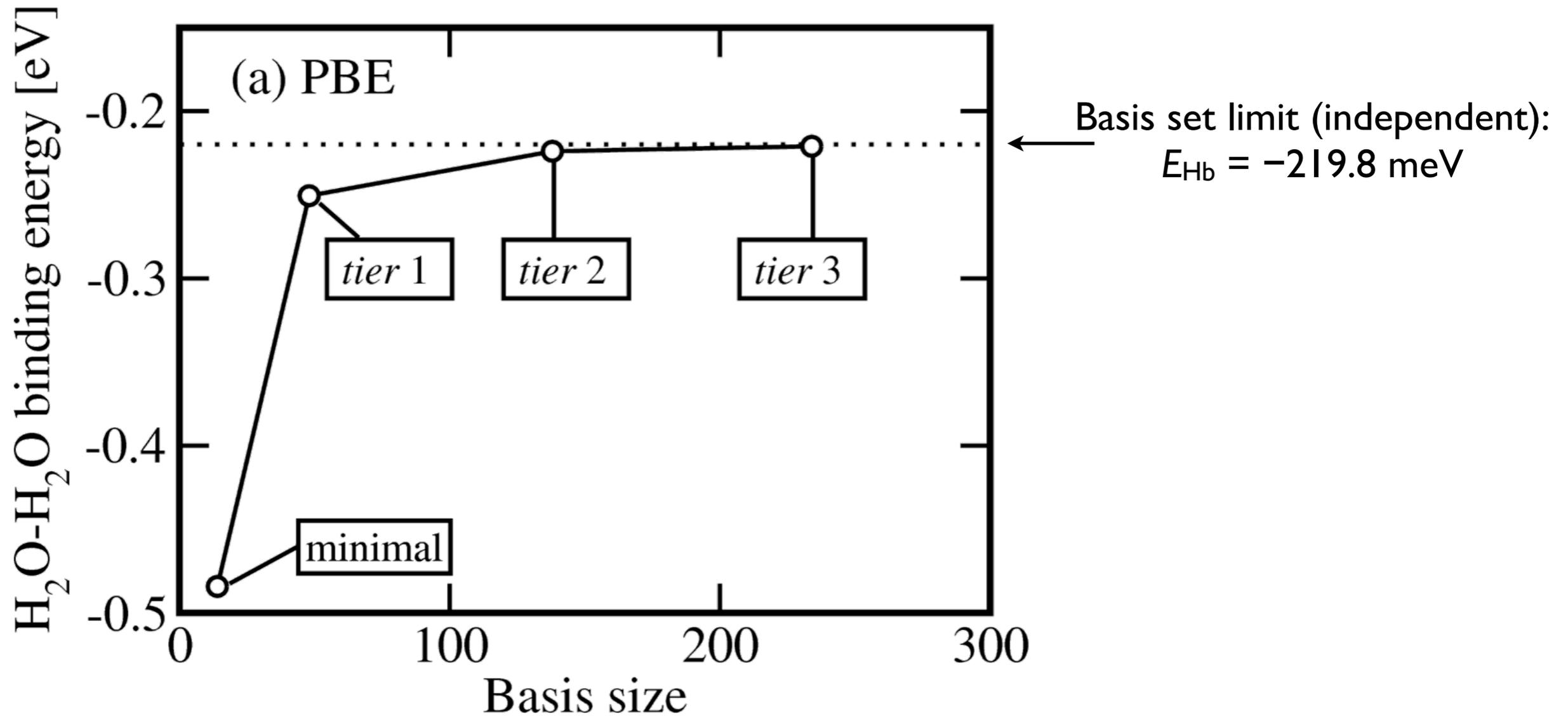
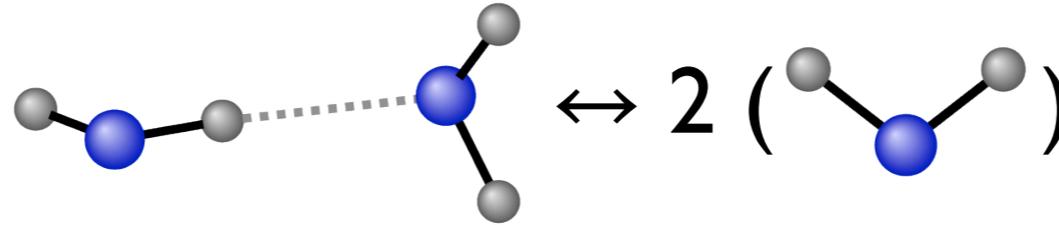
“First tier”

“Second tier”

“Third tier”

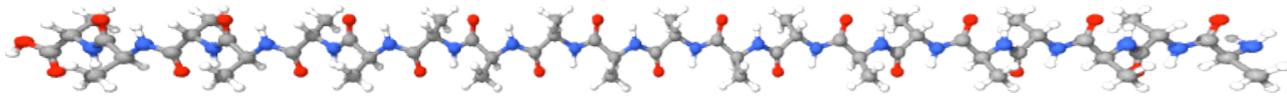
...

# Transferability: $(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$ hydrogen bond energy ...

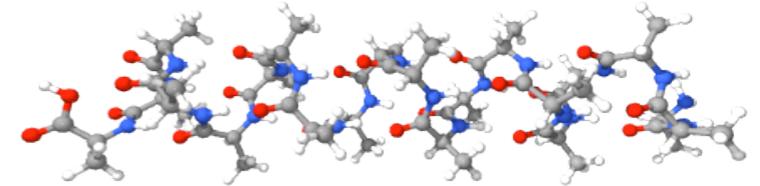


# ... conformational energy hierarchy, large molecules ...

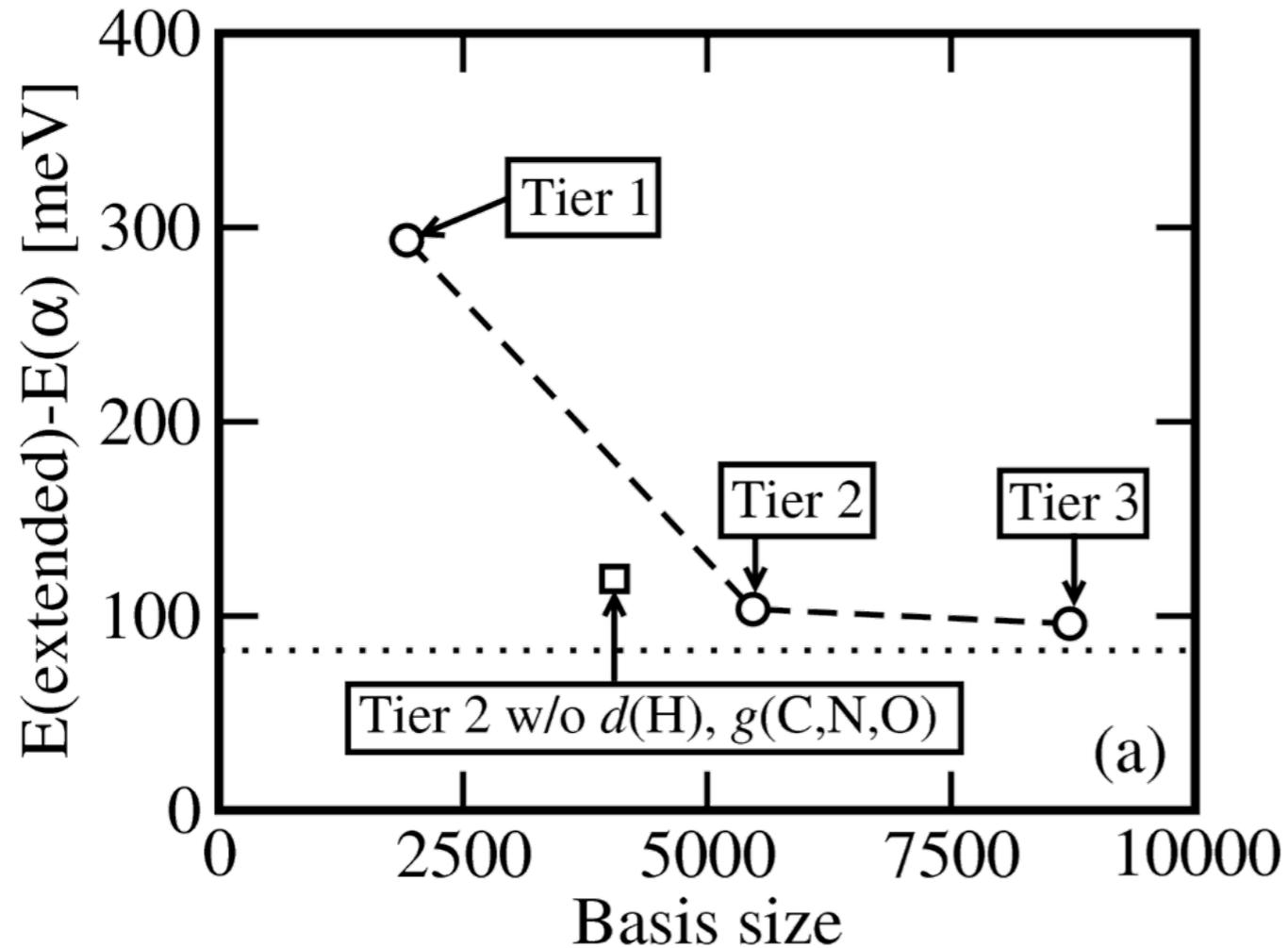
Ala<sub>20</sub> - fully extended structure



Ala<sub>20</sub> -  $\alpha$  helix

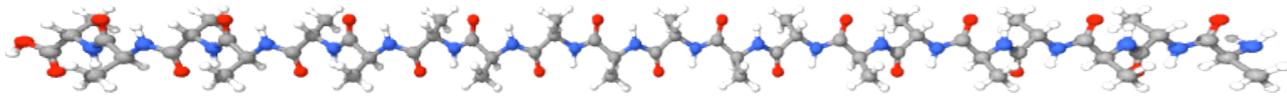


203 atoms  
↔  
 $\Delta E = 0.08$  eV

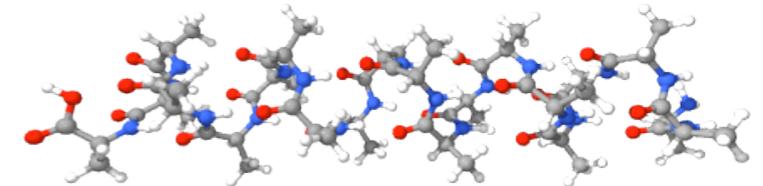


# ... conformational energy hierarchy, large molecules ...

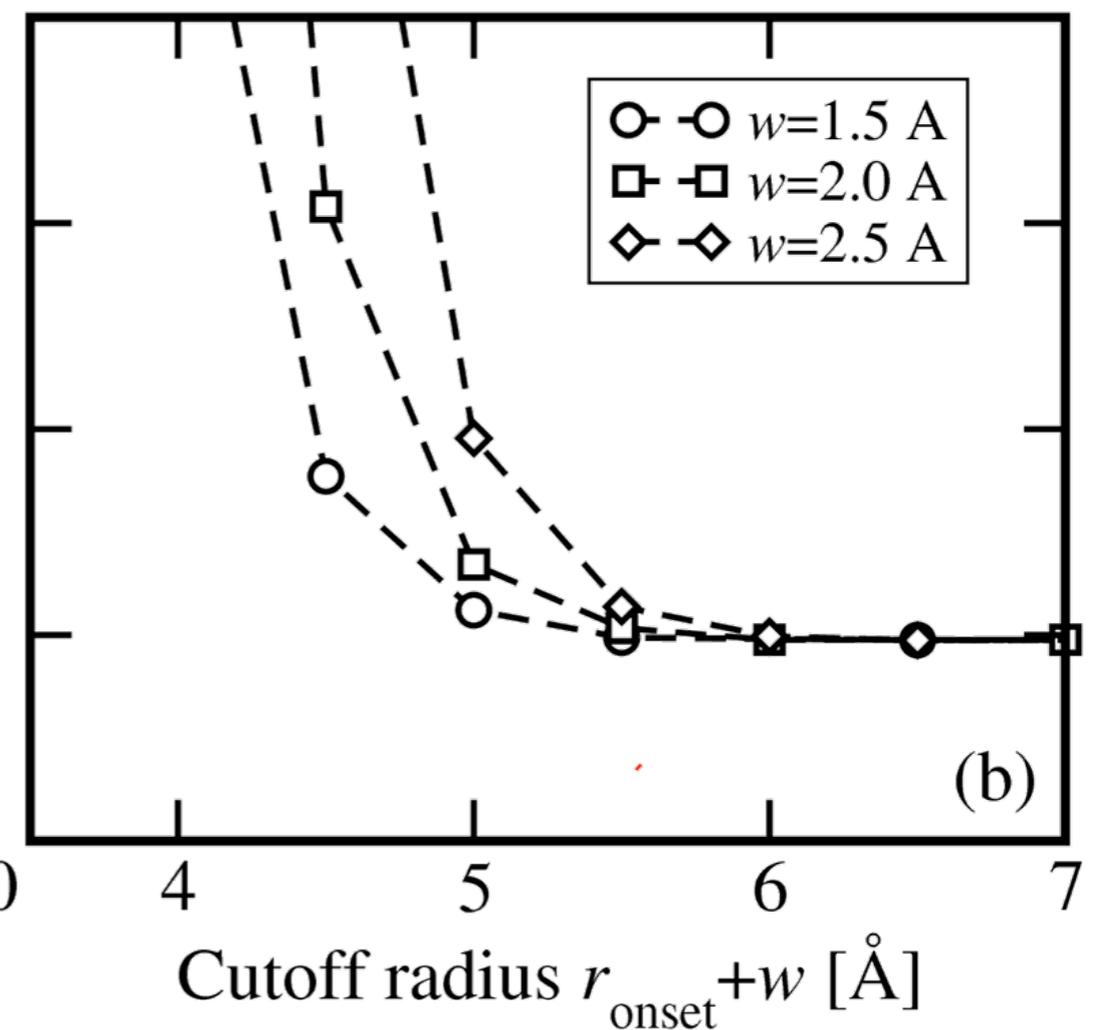
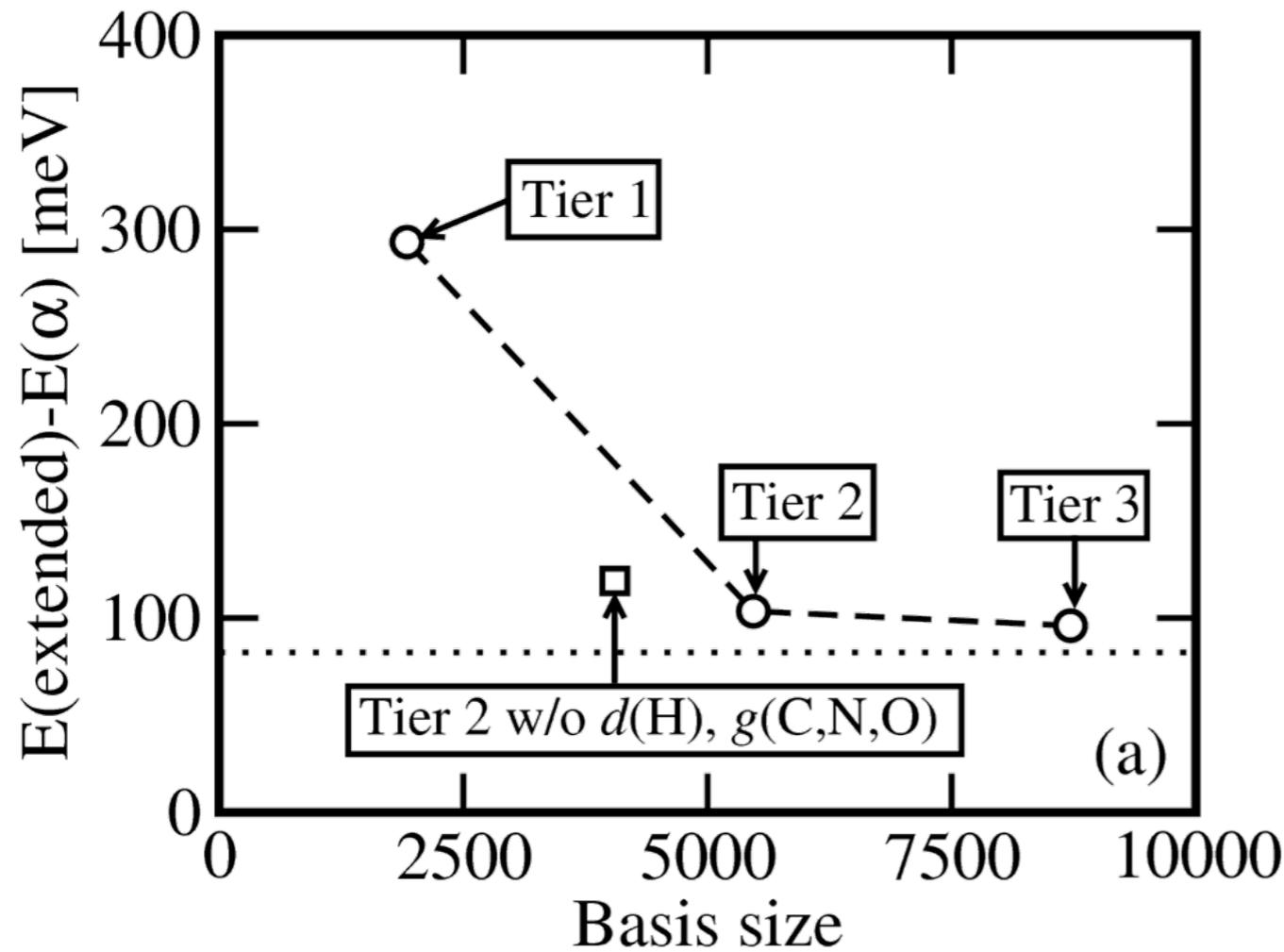
Ala<sub>20</sub> - fully extended structure



Ala<sub>20</sub> -  $\alpha$  helix



203 atoms  
 $\Delta E = 0.08$  eV



# ... periodic hybrid functionals ...

## Cohesive properties, bulk semiconductors

<b>Si</b>			
<b>PBE0</b>	$a$ [Å]	$B_0$ [Mbar]	$E_{\text{coh}}$ [eV]
FHI-aims, <i>tight</i>	5.439	0.99	4.553
Ref. [1]	5.433	1.00	4.555
<b>HSE06</b>			
FHI-aims, <i>tight</i>	5.446	0.98	4.527
Ref. [2]	5.435	0.98	4.582
<b>GaAs</b>			
<b>HSE06</b>			
FHI-aims, <i>tight</i>	5.695	0.71	3.150
Ref. [2]	5.687	0.71	3.149
<b>Ge</b>			
<b>HSE06</b>			
FHI-aims, <i>tight</i>	5.700	0.71	3.761
Ref. [3]	5.703	0.73	n/a

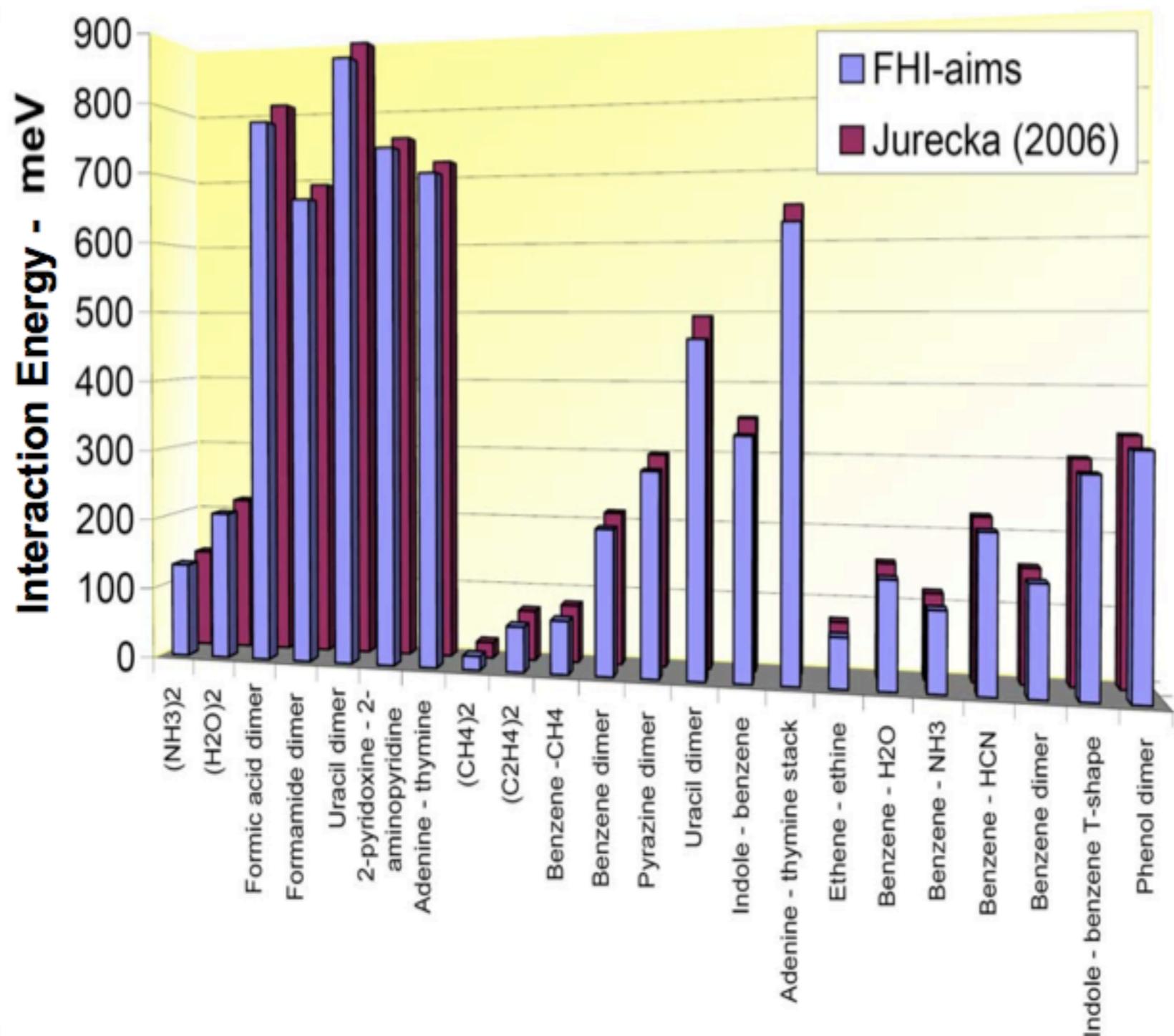
[1] J. Paier *et al.*, J. Chem. Phys. **124**, 154709 (2006).

[2] J. Paier *et al.*, J. Chem. Phys. **125**, 249901 (2006).

[3] A. Stroppa *et al.*, PRB **83**, 085201 (2011).

# ... and many-body perturbation theory - MP2, RPA, GW

Ren, Rinke, Blum, Wieferink, Tkatchenko, Sanfilippo, Reuter, Scheffler, *NJP* **14**, 053020 (2012)



NAO basis set:  
CNO: min.+3s3p3d1f  
H: min.+4s3p2d

Resolution of identity  
for Coulomb operator

→ recover CBS limit  
within 5%!

Perturbation theory:  
Counterpoise correction  
**ESSENTIAL**  
for MP2, RPA

MP2: Complete basis set limit benchmark set "S22":  
*Jurecka et al., Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys* **8**, 1985 (2006)

# So where are we at?

---



# So where are we at?

---



- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102

# So where are we at?

---



- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102
- Basic numerical techniques for DFT  
Real-space integrals, Poisson equation, scalar relativity  
etc. (*Becke, Delley, Baerends, many others*)

# So where are we at?

---



- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102
- Basic numerical techniques for DFT  
Real-space integrals, Poisson equation, scalar relativity  
etc. (*Becke, Delley, Baerends, many others*)
- Non-periodic, periodic boundary conditions on exactly equal footing

# So where are we at?

---



- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102
- Basic numerical techniques for DFT  
Real-space integrals, Poisson equation, scalar relativity  
etc. (*Becke, Delley, Baerends, many others*)
- Non-periodic, periodic boundary conditions on exactly equal footing
- “Properties”: Structure optimization, *ab initio* molecular dynamics, vibrations/phonons, spectroscopy, etc.

# So where are we at?

---



- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102
- Basic numerical techniques for DFT  
Real-space integrals, Poisson equation, scalar relativity  
etc. (*Becke, Delley, Baerends, many others*)
- Non-periodic, periodic boundary conditions on exactly equal footing
- “Properties”: Structure optimization, *ab initio* molecular dynamics, vibrations/phonons, spectroscopy, etc.
- LDA, GGA, van der Waals corrections, hybrid functionals, Hartree-Fock+MP2, RPA, GW, ...

# So where are we at?

---



- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102
- Basic numerical techniques for DFT  
Real-space integrals, Poisson equation, scalar relativity  
etc. (*Becke, Delley, Baerends, many others*)
- Non-periodic, periodic boundary conditions on exactly equal footing
- “Properties”: Structure optimization, *ab initio* molecular dynamics, vibrations/phonons, spectroscopy, etc.
- LDA, GGA, van der Waals corrections, hybrid functionals, Hartree-Fock+MP2, RPA, GW, ...
- Massively parallel - scalable eigensolver ELPA

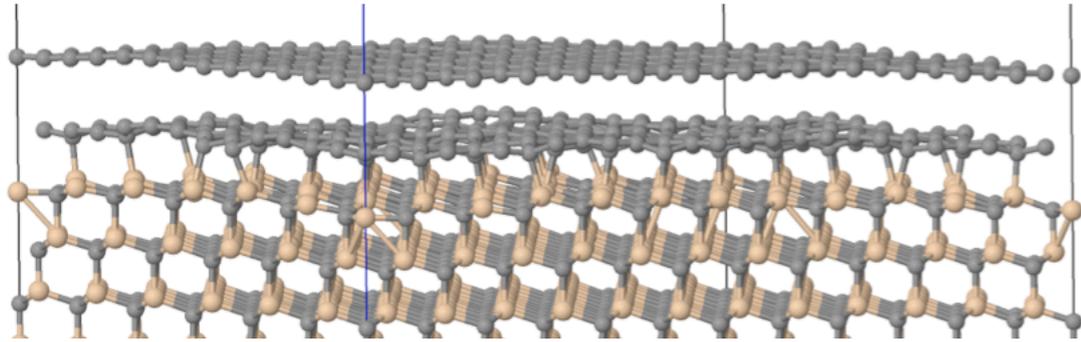
# So where are we at?

---

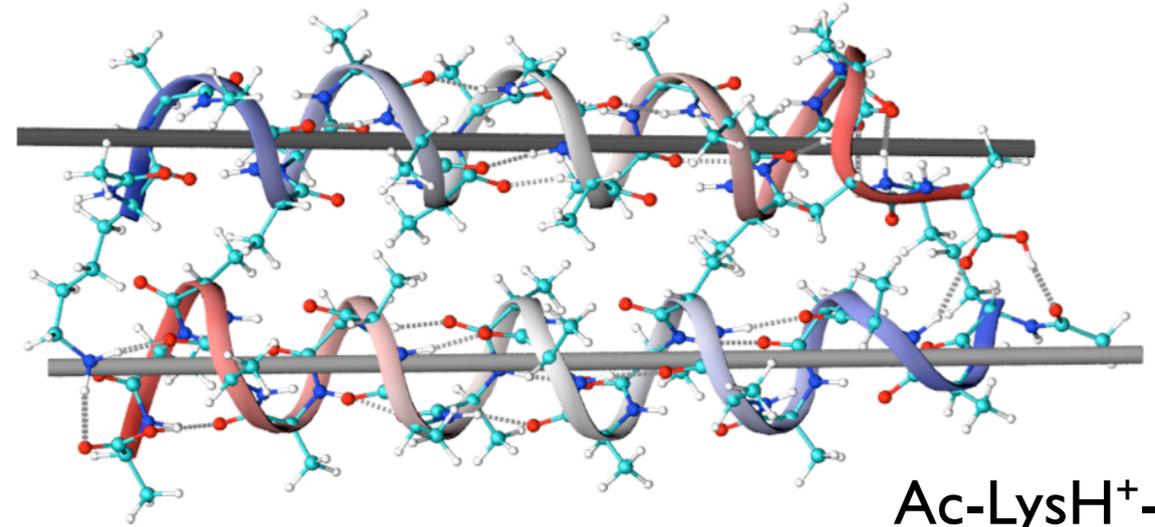


- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102
- Basic numerical techniques for DFT  
Real-space integrals, Poisson equation, scalar relativity etc. (*Becke, Delley, Baerends, many others*)
- Non-periodic, periodic boundary conditions on exactly equal footing
- “Properties”: Structure optimization, *ab initio* molecular dynamics, vibrations/phonons, spectroscopy, etc.
- LDA, GGA, van der Waals corrections, hybrid functionals, Hartree-Fock+MP2, RPA, GW, ...
- **Massively parallel - scalable eigensolver ELPA**

# Scalability: Real systems (Kohn-Sham DFT)



SiC(111)-(6√3x6√3) graphene-like monolayer  
(216-338 atoms/layer ... want >2000 atoms total)

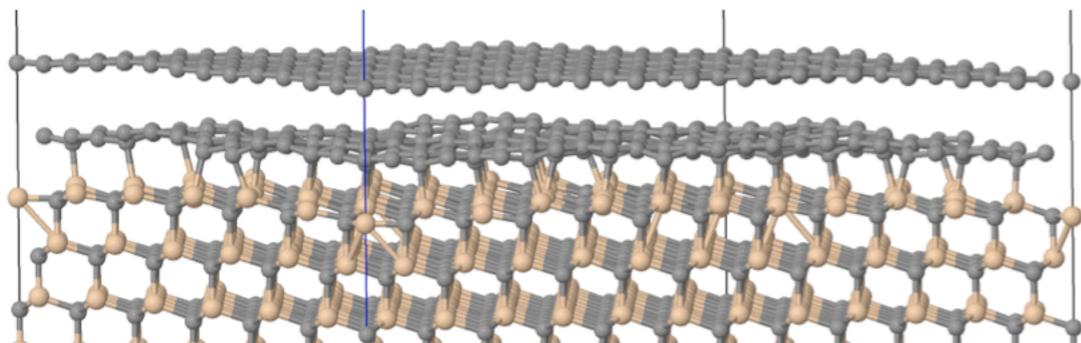


Ac-LysH<sup>+</sup>-Ala<sub>19</sub>  
dimerized peptide

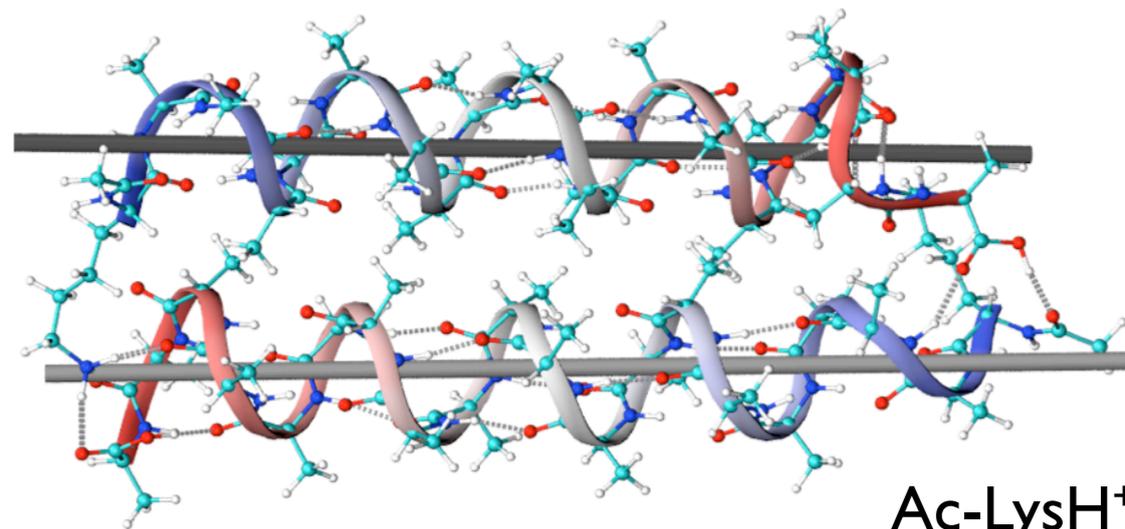
## What we would like to do routinely:

- 1,000s of atoms, light or heavy
- 10-70 basis function
- Occupied eigenstates for Kohn-Sham DFT:  
1/3-1/6 of full basis size

# Scalability: Real systems (Kohn-Sham DFT)



SiC(111)-(6√3x6√3) graphene-like monolayer  
(216-338 atoms/layer ... want >2000 atoms total)



Ac-LysH<sup>+</sup>-Ala<sub>19</sub>  
dimerized peptide

## What we would like to do routinely:

- 1,000s of atoms, light or heavy
- 10-70 basis function
- Occupied eigenstates for Kohn-Sham DFT:  
1/3-1/6 of full basis size



IBM BlueGene (MPG, Garching)  
16384 CPU cores

... and we have (now!) large computers:

# Where does the time go? (Kohn-Sham DFT)

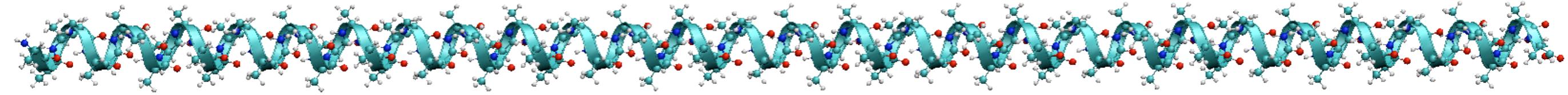
---



IBM BlueGene (MPG, Garching)  
16384 CPU cores

# Where does the time go? (Kohn-Sham DFT)

---

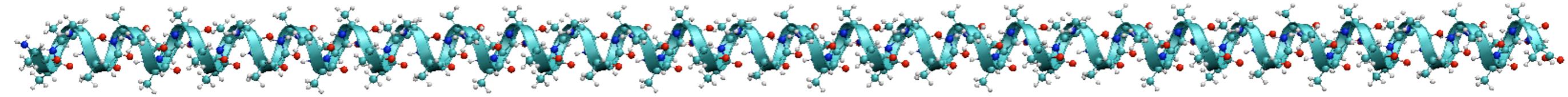


$\alpha$ -helical Ala<sub>100</sub> (1000 atoms),  
high accuracy, DFT-PBE

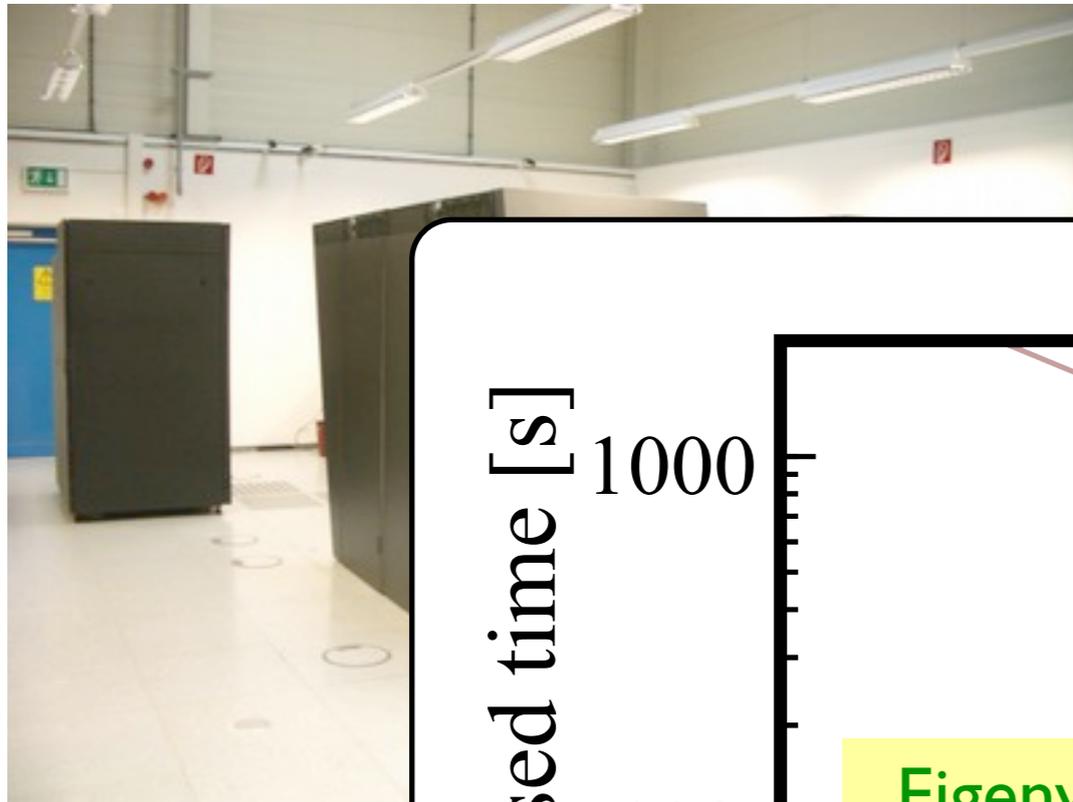


IBM BlueGene (MPG, Garching)  
16384 CPU cores

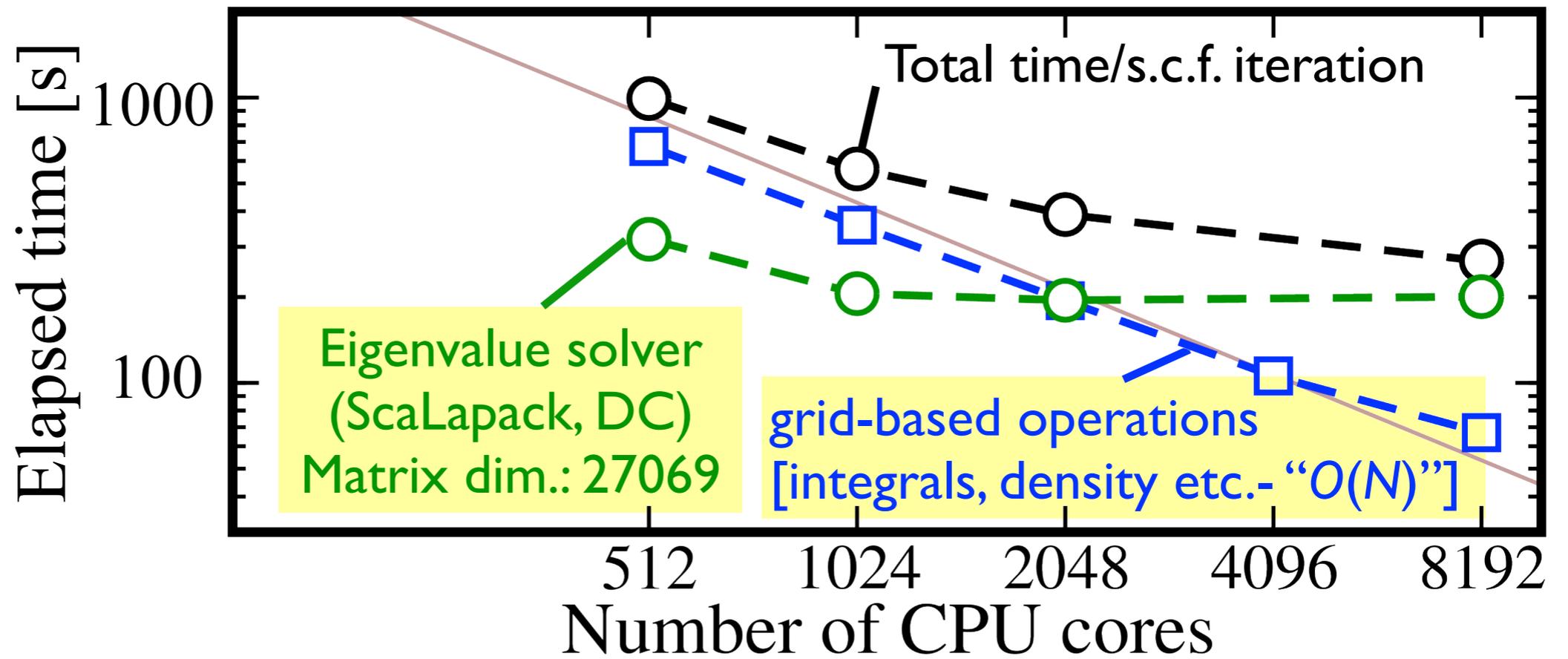
# Where does the time go? (Kohn-Sham DFT)



$\alpha$ -helical Ala<sub>100</sub> (1000 atoms),  
high accuracy, DFT-PBE



IBM BlueGene  
1638



# Taking apart the eigenproblem

$$\underline{\underline{h}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k = \epsilon_k \underline{\underline{S}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k$$

Generalized (non-orthogonal) eigenvalue problem:

- Transform to orthogonal form:  $U^T H U^{-1}$
- Transform orthogonal  $H'$  to *tridiagonal* form
- Solve *tridiagonal* eigenproblem
- Backtransform (1) solution to standard form
- Backtransform (2) standard to general form

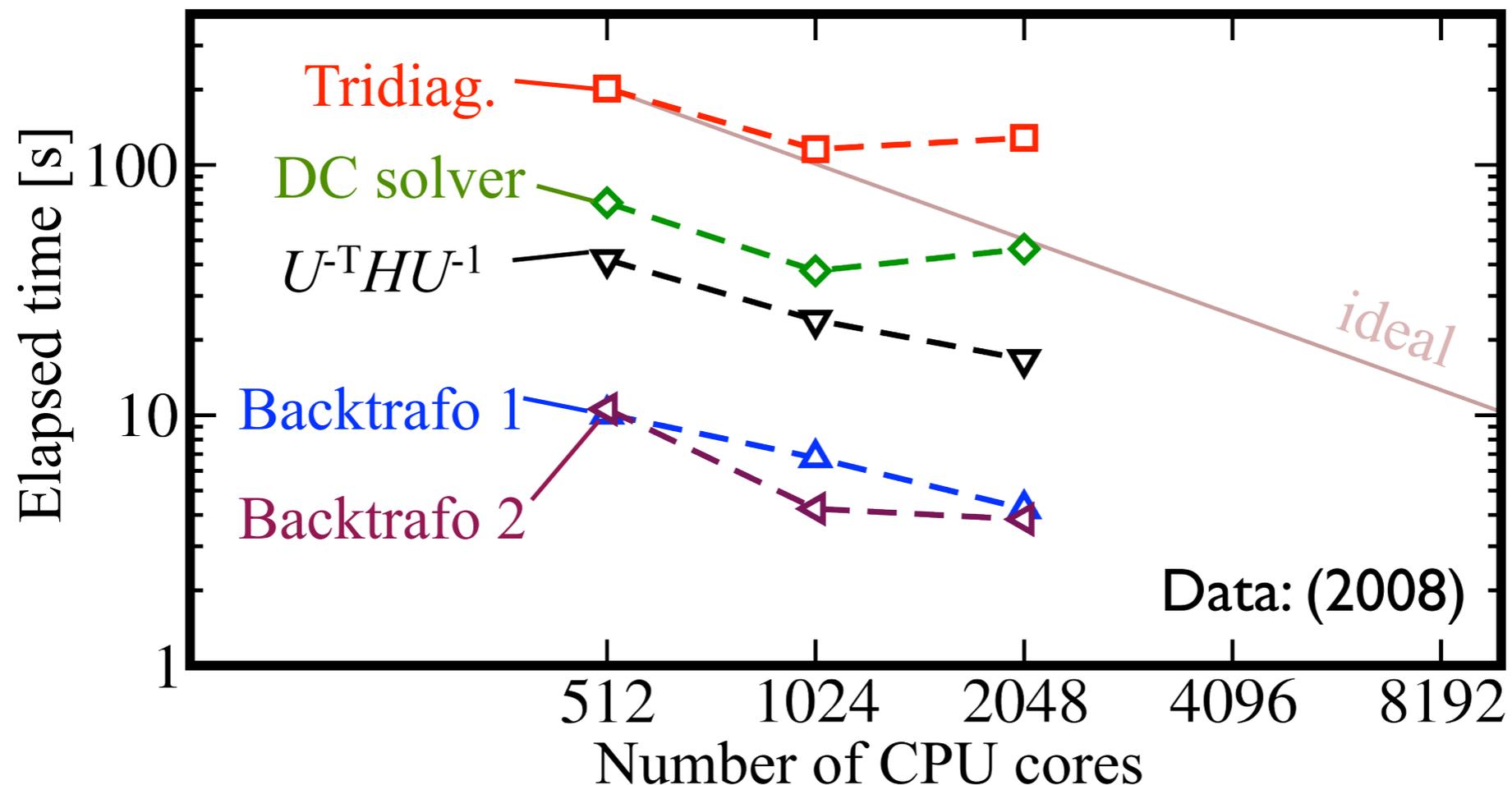
Data: (2008)

# Taking apart the eigenproblem

$$\underline{\underline{h}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k = \epsilon_k \underline{\underline{s}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k$$

Generalized (non-orthogonal) eigenvalue problem:

- Transform to orthogonal form:  $U^{-T} H U^{-1}$
- Transform orthogonal  $H'$  to *tridiagonal* form
- Solve *tridiagonal* eigenproblem
- Backtransform (1) solution to standard form
- Backtransform (2) standard to general form



$\alpha$ -helical  
Polyalanine  
Ala<sub>100</sub>,  
BlueGene/P

Data: (2008)

# Significant improvement: “ELPA” library

<http://elpa.rzg.mpg.de>

<http://elpa-lib.fhi-berlin.mpg.de>

$$\underline{\underline{h}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k = \epsilon_k \underline{\underline{s}} \underline{\underline{c}}_k$$

## “EigensoLver for Petaflop Applications”

- “Drop-in enhancement” for ScaLapack solution (same layout)
- Rewrite of all communication, data handling etc. from scratch (retain only serial BLAS, Lapack)
- LGPL license - free to use with open or closed codes as long as modifications to ELPA library itself are open

The logo for ELPA, consisting of the letters 'ELPA' in a bold, sans-serif font. The letters are white and set against a dark blue background that features a grid of small, light blue dots.

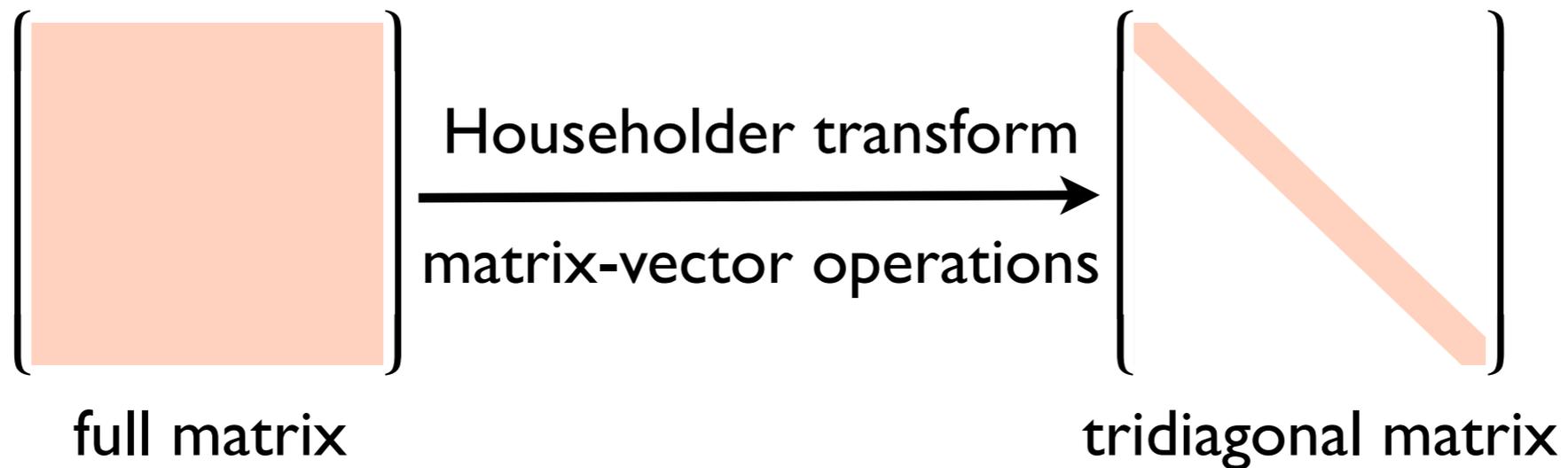
German Ministry for Research and Education (BMBF) funded consortium, 2008-2011:  
*Garching Computing Center (Max Planck Society); Fritz Haber Institute;  
Wuppertal University; Technical University Munich; MPI Mathematics in Science; IBM*

# Example: Reduction to tridiagonal form (just linear algebra)

---

## Chief bottleneck: Tridiagonalization

“Conventional” reduction:

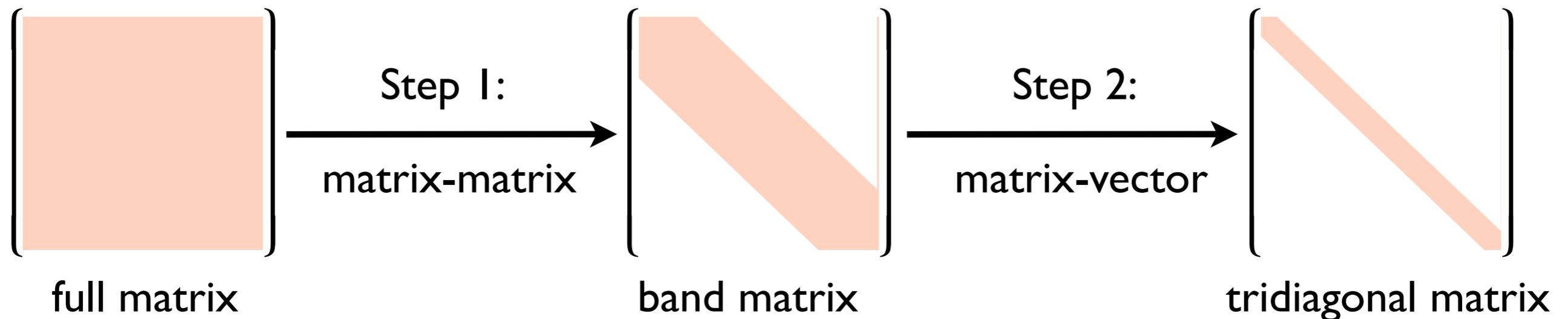


# Example: Reduction to tridiagonal form (just linear algebra)

## Chief bottleneck: Tridiagonalization

“Two-step” reduction:

*C. Bischof, B. Lang, X. Sun, ACM Trans. Math. Software* **26**, 581 (2000).



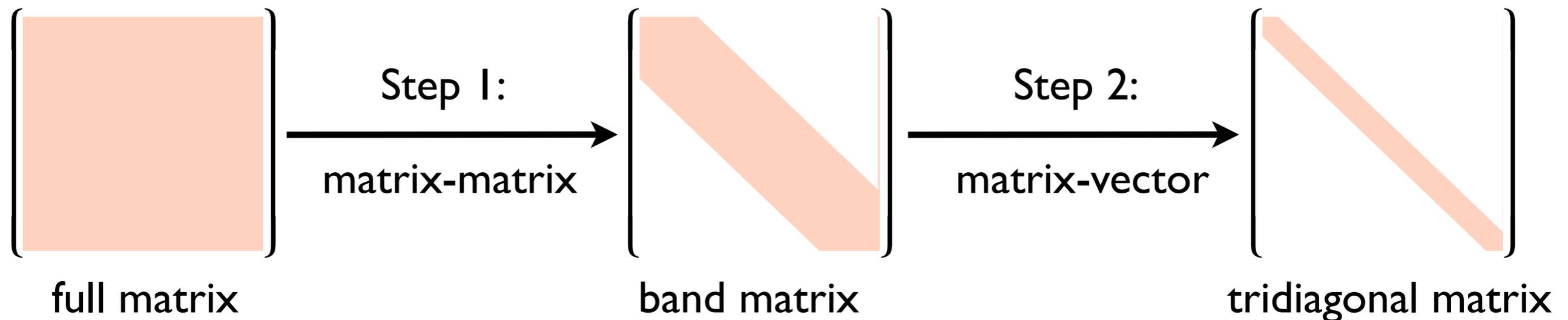
*Auckenthaler, Blum, Bungartz, Huckle, Johanni, Krämer, Lang, Lederer, Willems, Parallel Computing* **37**, 783-794 (2011).

# Example: Reduction to tridiagonal form (just linear algebra)

## Chief bottleneck: Tridiagonalization

“Two-step” reduction:

*C. Bischof, B. Lang, X. Sun, ACM Trans. Math. Software* **26**, 581 (2000).



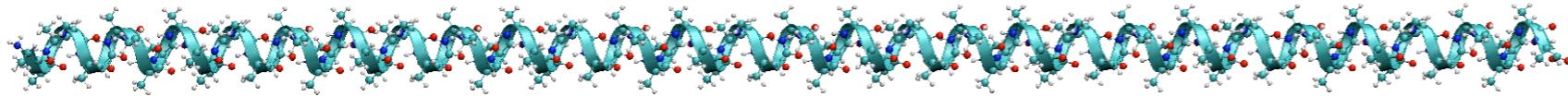
Need two eigenvector backtransformation steps instead of one

- Heavily optimized backtransform for eigenvectors (adaptive data layout, architecture-specific linear algebra kernels) to offset overhead

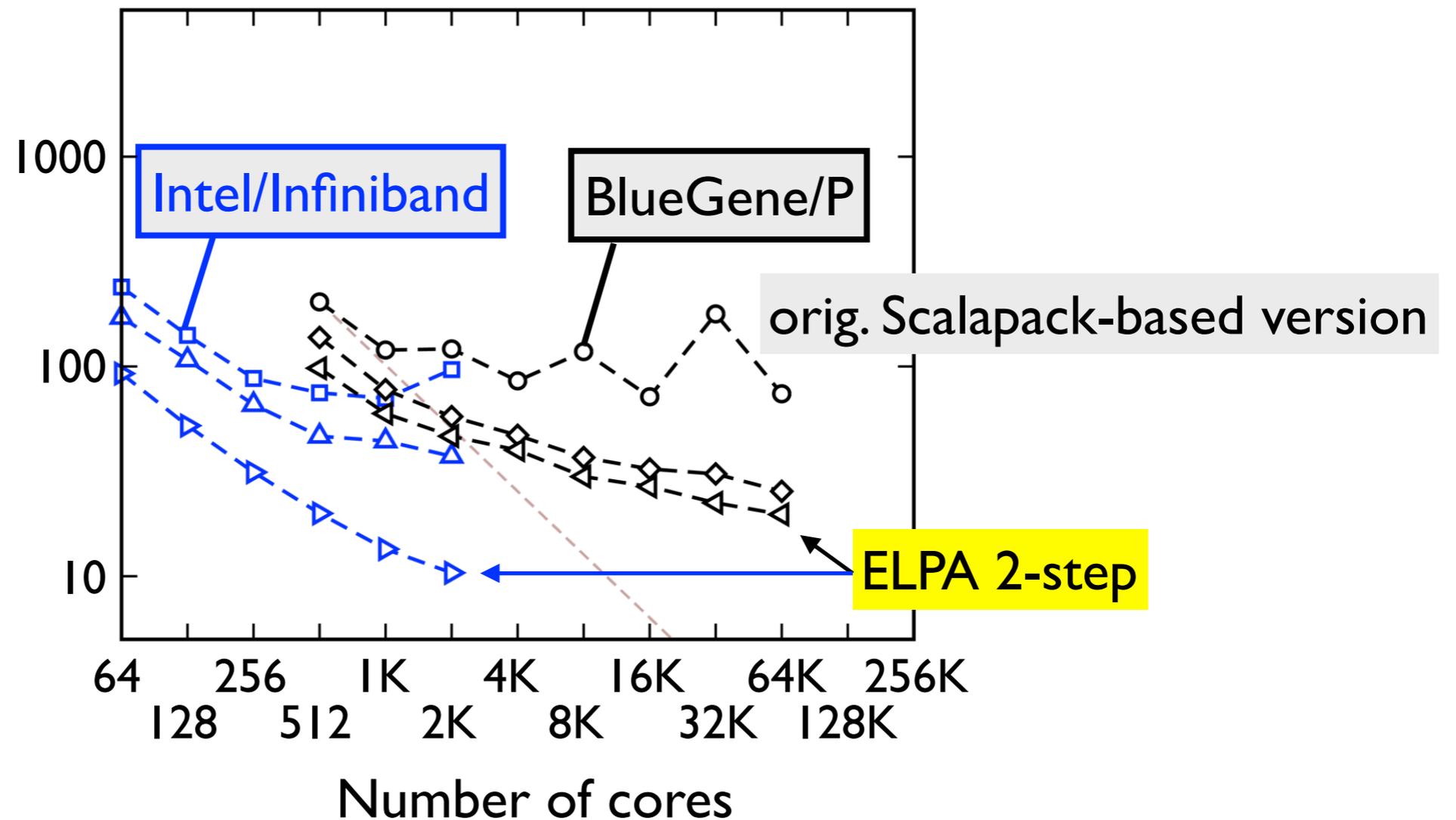
*Auckenthaler, Blum, Bungartz, Huckle, Johanni, Krämer, Lang, Lederer, Willems, Parallel Computing* **37**, 783-794 (2011).

# Our experience: Significant improvement

Open source (LGPL): <http://elpa.rzg.mpg.de>

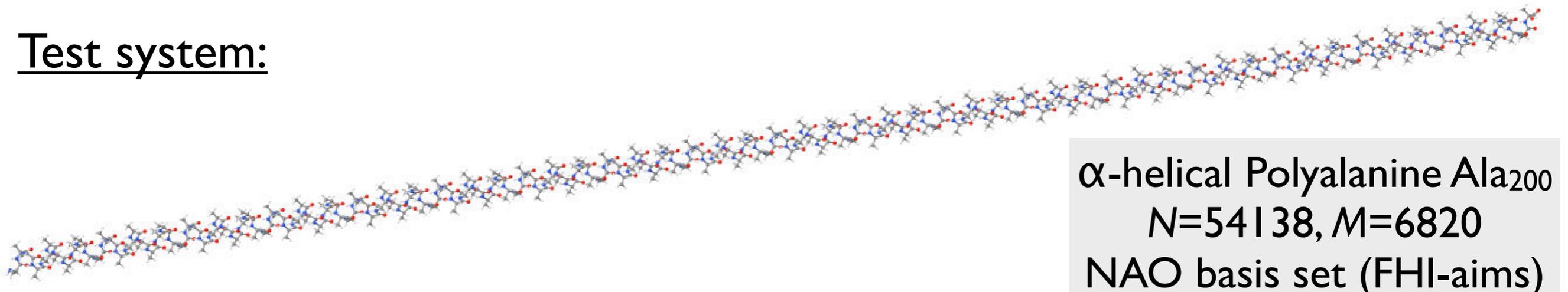


$\alpha$ -helical Polyalanine Ala<sub>100</sub>  
Matrix: 27069, States: 3410



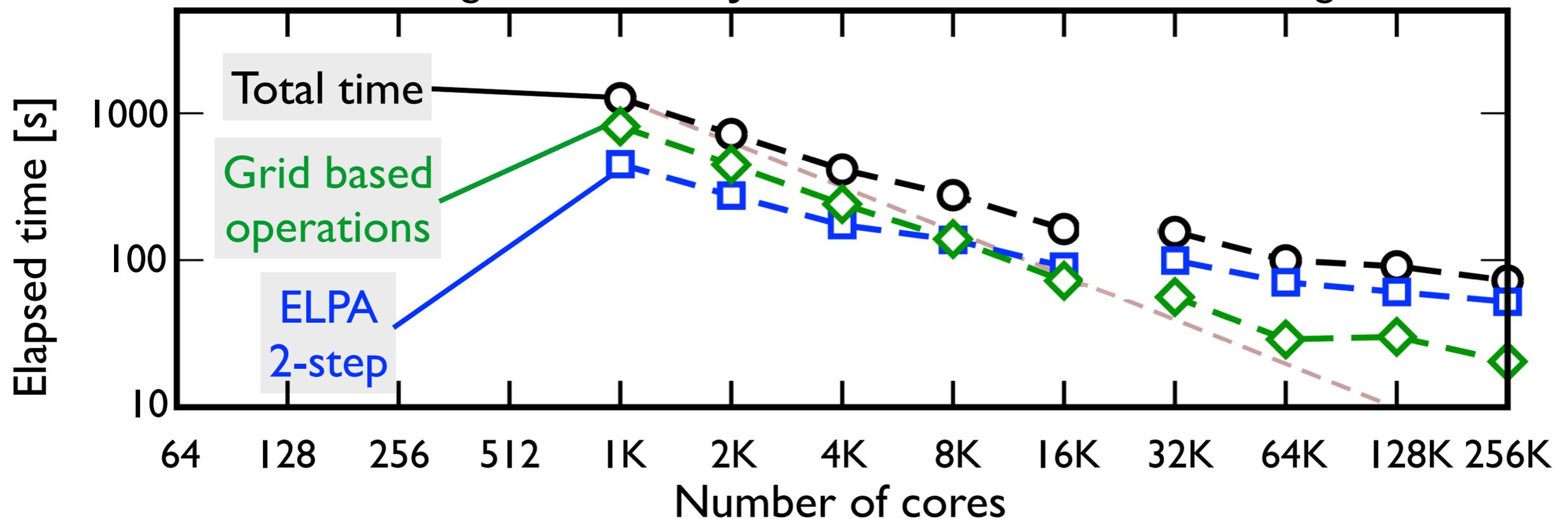
# ... so what about that “petascale”?

Test system:



Time per FULL DFT-PBE s.c.f. iteration: BlueGene/P

*Timings: A. Marek, R. Johanni, Rechenzentrum Garching*

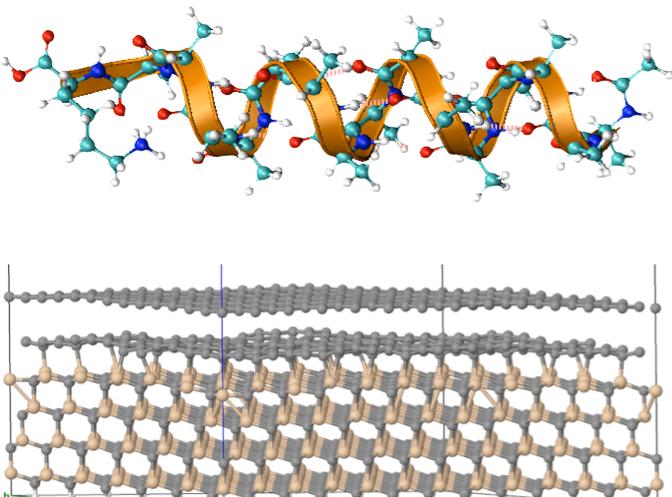


# Outline



An approach to all-electron “density functional theory and beyond”: FHI-aims [1]

- ▶ Numeric atom-centered (localized) basis sets
- ▶ Scalability (1,000s of atoms, 1(0),000s of CPUs)
- ▶ Pushing towards “better” functionals (→ P. Rinke)



Where do “we” come from?

- ▶ (Bio)molecular structure and spectroscopy
- ▶ Nanostructured inorganic surfaces

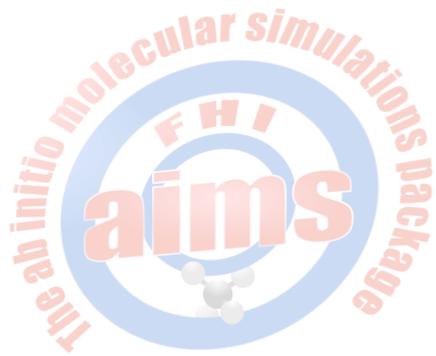
... and some challenges (towards WDM)

[1] *The Fritz Haber Institute ab initio molecular simulations suite (FHI-aims)*

V. Blum, R. Gehrke, F. Hanke, P. Havu, V. Havu, X. Ren, K. Reuter and M. Scheffler,

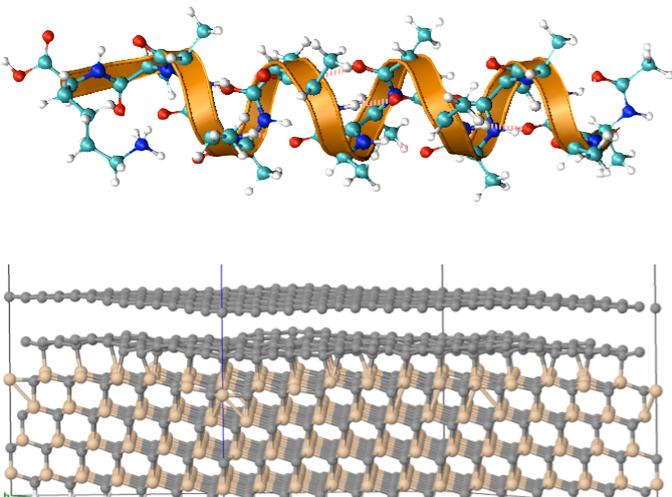
*Computer Physics Communications* **180**, 2175-2196 (2009) - <http://www.fhi-berlin.mpg.de/aims/>

# Outline



An approach to all-electron “density functional theory and beyond”: FHI-aims [1]

- ▶ Numeric atom-centered (localized) basis sets
- ▶ Scalability (1,000s of atoms, 1(0),000s of CPUs)
- ▶ Pushing towards “better” functionals (→ P. Rinke)



Where do “we” come from?

- ▶ (Bio)molecular structure and spectroscopy
- ▶ Nanostructured inorganic surfaces

... and some challenges (towards WDM)

[1] *The Fritz Haber Institute ab initio molecular simulations suite (FHI-aims)*

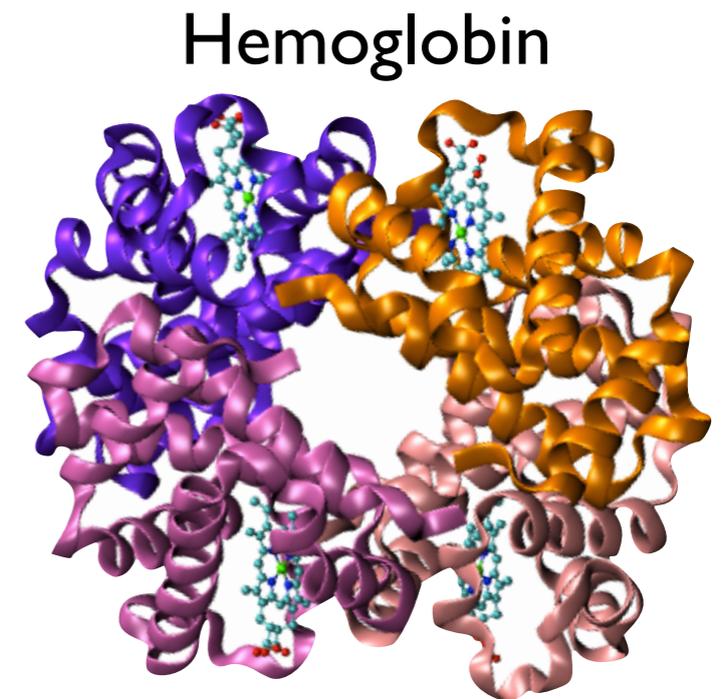
V. Blum, R. Gehrke, F. Hanke, P. Havu, V. Havu, X. Ren, K. Reuter and M. Scheffler,

*Computer Physics Communications* **180**, 2175-2196 (2009) - <http://www.fhi-berlin.mpg.de/aims/>

# Cold, not so dense world: Biomolecules

- Proteins: macromolecules that perform essential tasks inside living organisms
- ~60.000 different proteins in human organism, several billion per cell.
- *The structure of a protein determines its function!*

This structure is not random, but tuned by the amino acid sequence.



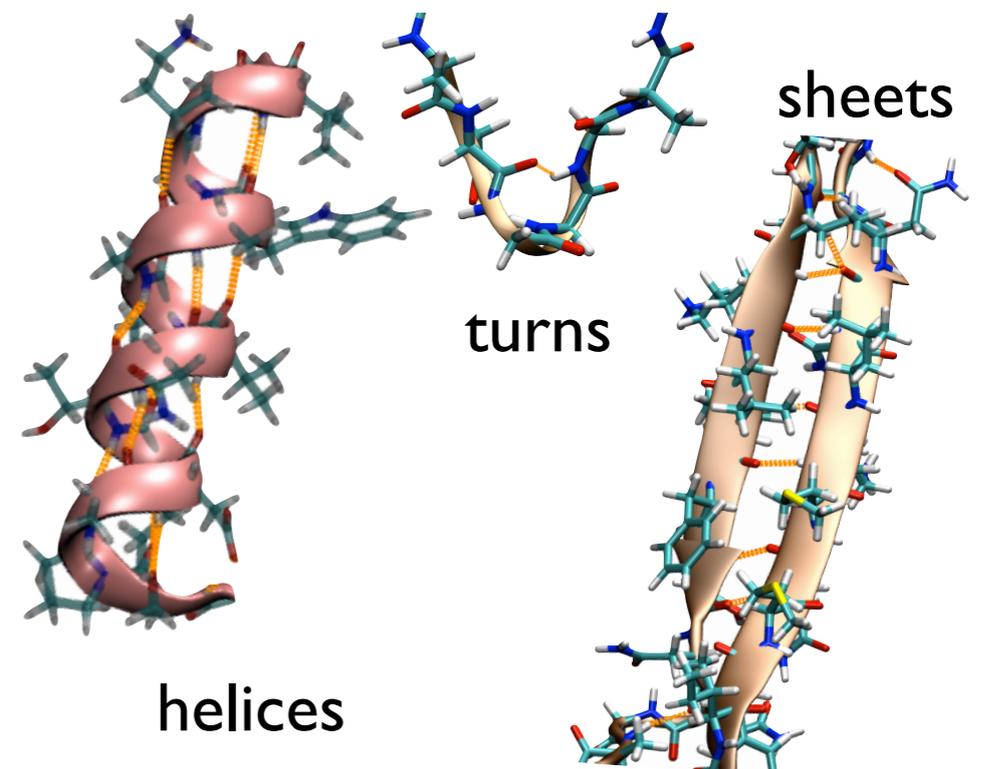
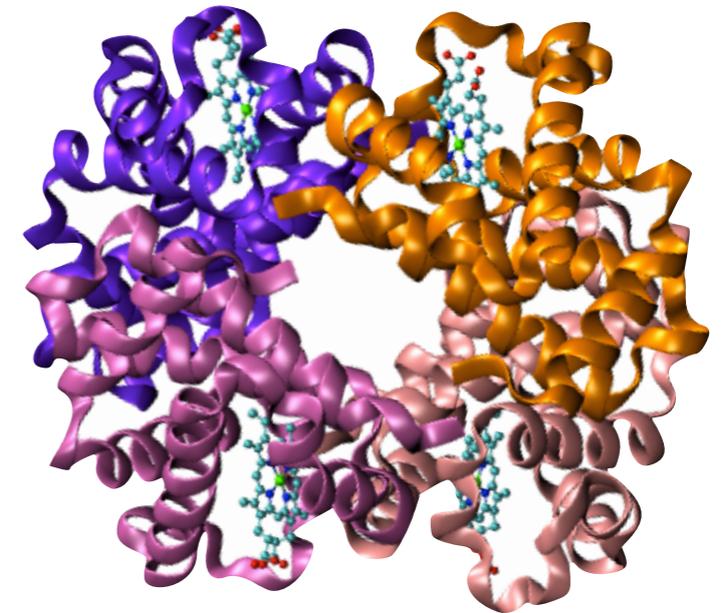
# Cold, not so dense world: Biomolecules

- Proteins: macromolecules that perform essential tasks inside living organisms
- ~60.000 different proteins in human organism, several billion per cell.
- The structure of a protein determines its function!

This structure is not random, but tuned by the amino acid sequence.

Typical “building blocks:”  
Secondary structure

Hemoglobin



# Cold, not so dense world: Biomolecules

- Proteins: macromolecules that perform essential tasks inside living organisms
- ~60.000 different proteins in human organism, several billion per cell.

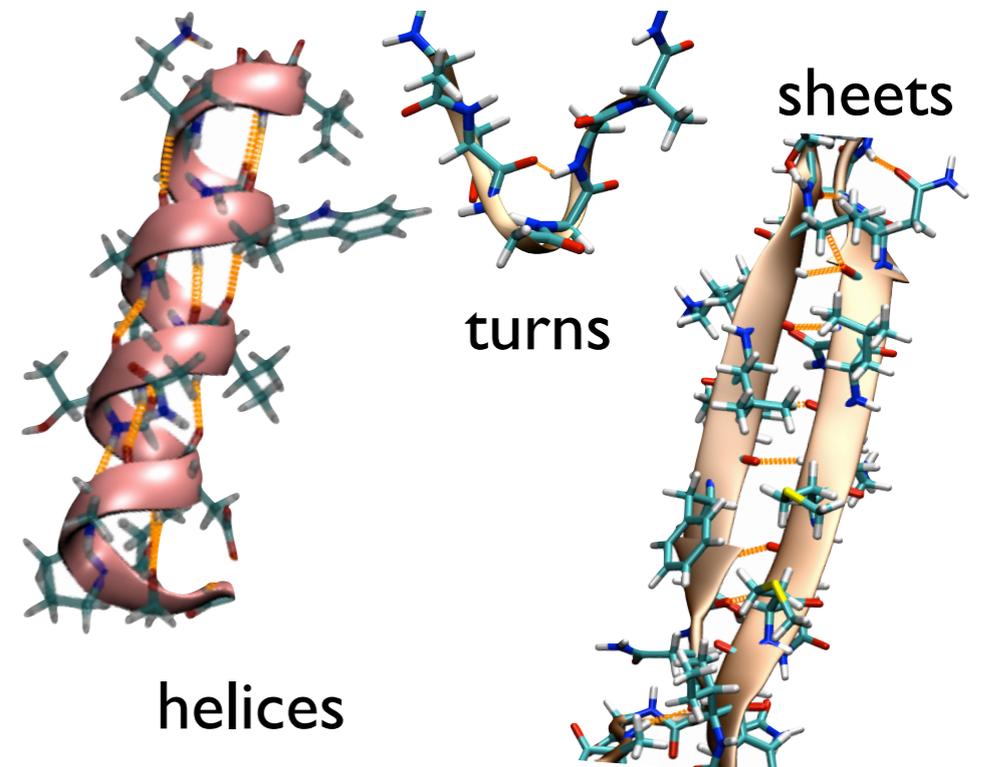
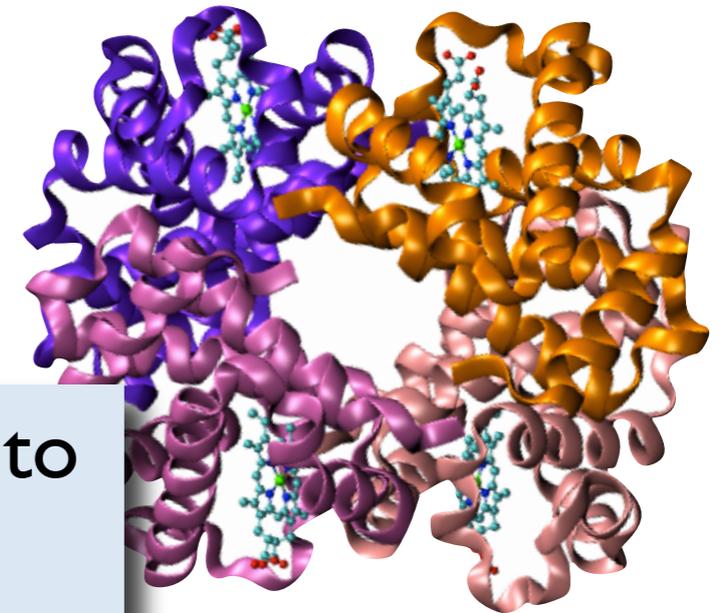
- The structure of a protein *function!*

Can we push “first principles” to predict secondary structure?  
(~100s of atoms)

This structure is not random, but tuned by the amino acid sequence.

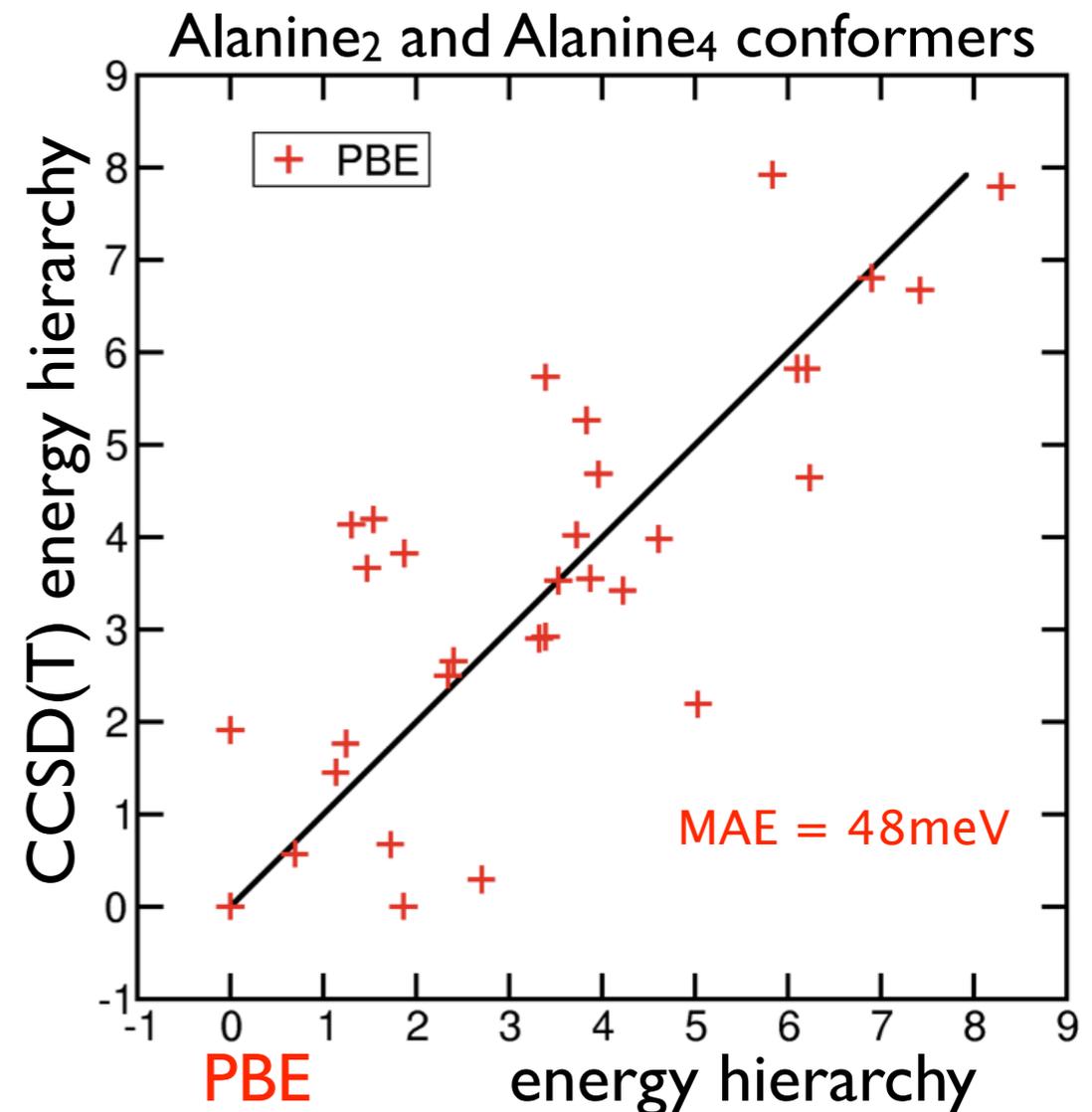
Typical “building blocks:”  
Secondary structure

Hemoglobin



# The first ingredient is weak: van der Waals

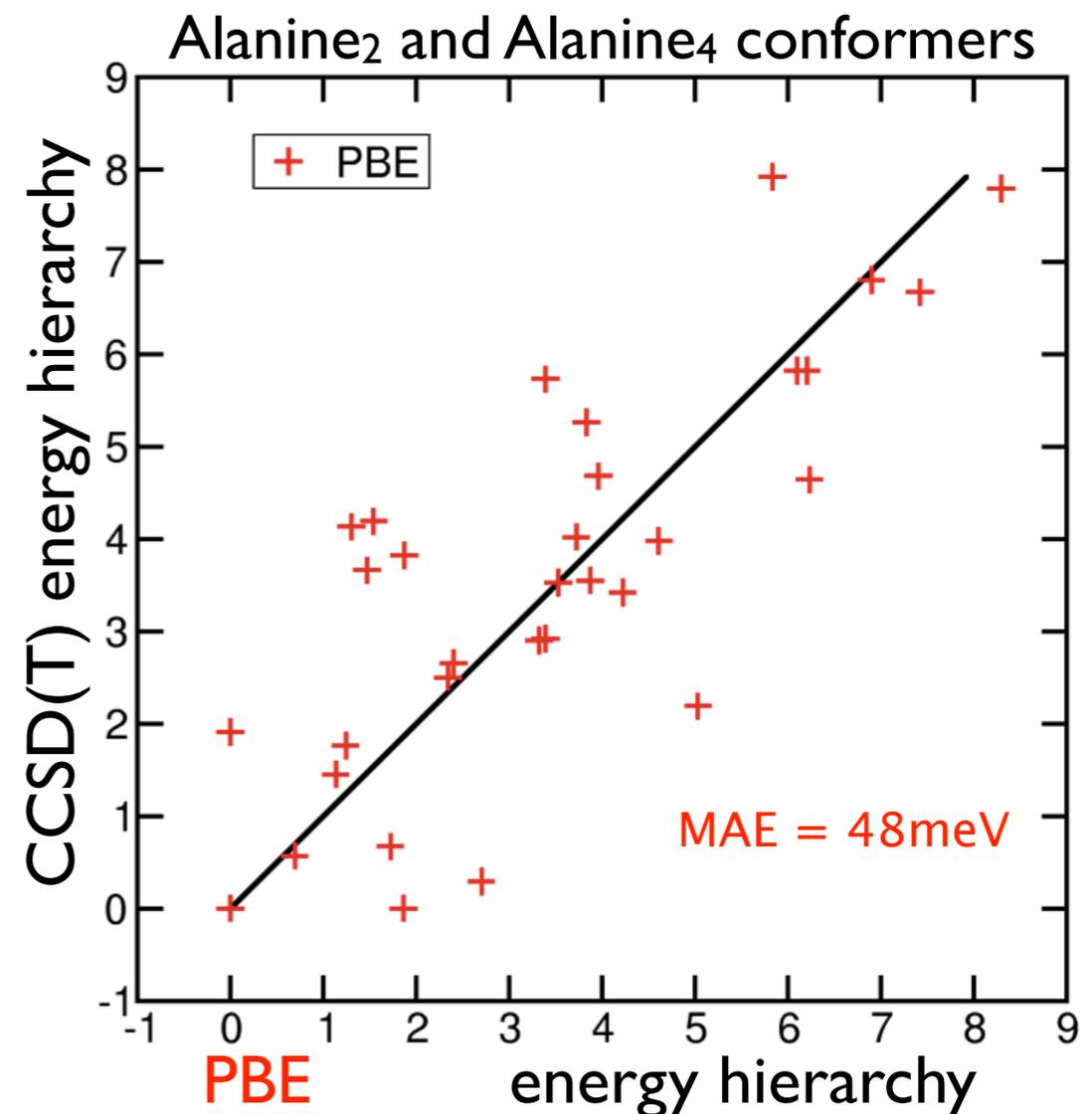
- DFT in the Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (1996) generalized gradient approximation
- Non-empirical, widely used, but *any* GGA lacks van der Waals tails



# The first ingredient is weak: van der Waals

- DFT in the Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (1996) generalized gradient approximation
- Non-empirical, widely used, but *any* GGA lacks van der Waals tails
- Inclusion of van der Waals (vdW) dispersion via a  $C_6[n]/R^6$  term:  
(Yang, Grimme, Hobza, many others)

$$E_{\text{DFT}} + \sum_{\text{atoms } ij} \frac{C_6^{ij}}{R_{ij}^6} \cdot f_{\text{damp}}(R_{ij})$$

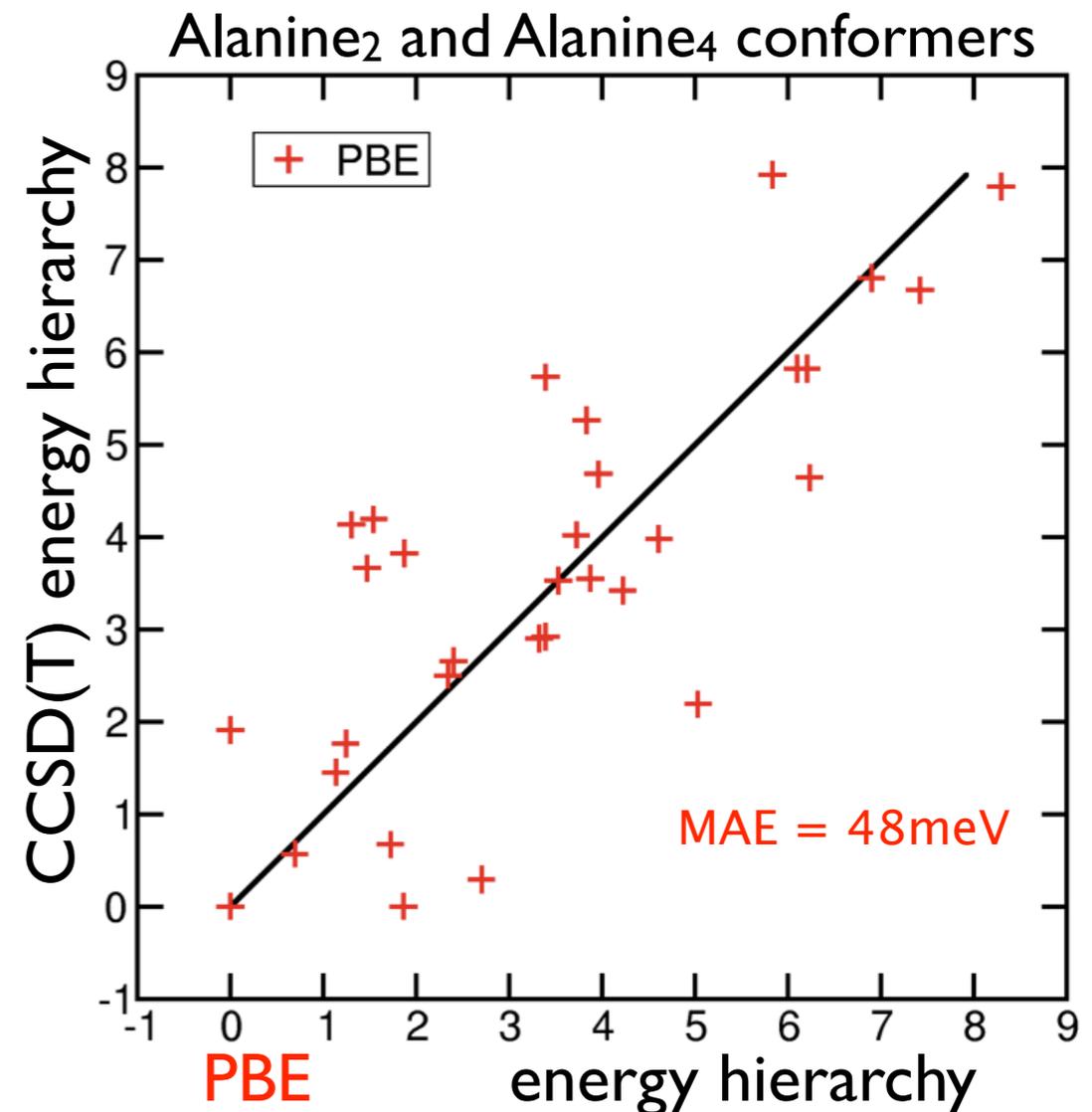


# The first ingredient is weak: van der Waals

- DFT in the Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (1996) generalized gradient approximation
- Non-empirical, widely used, but *any* GGA lacks van der Waals tails
- Inclusion of van der Waals (vdW) dispersion via a  $C_6[n]/R^6$  term:  
(Yang, Grimme, Hobza, many others)

$$E_{\text{DFT}} + \sum_{\text{atoms } ij} \frac{C_6^{ij}}{R_{ij}^6} \cdot f_{\text{damp}}(R_{ij})$$

- Here:  $C_6[n]$  term derived from self consistent electron density [1]



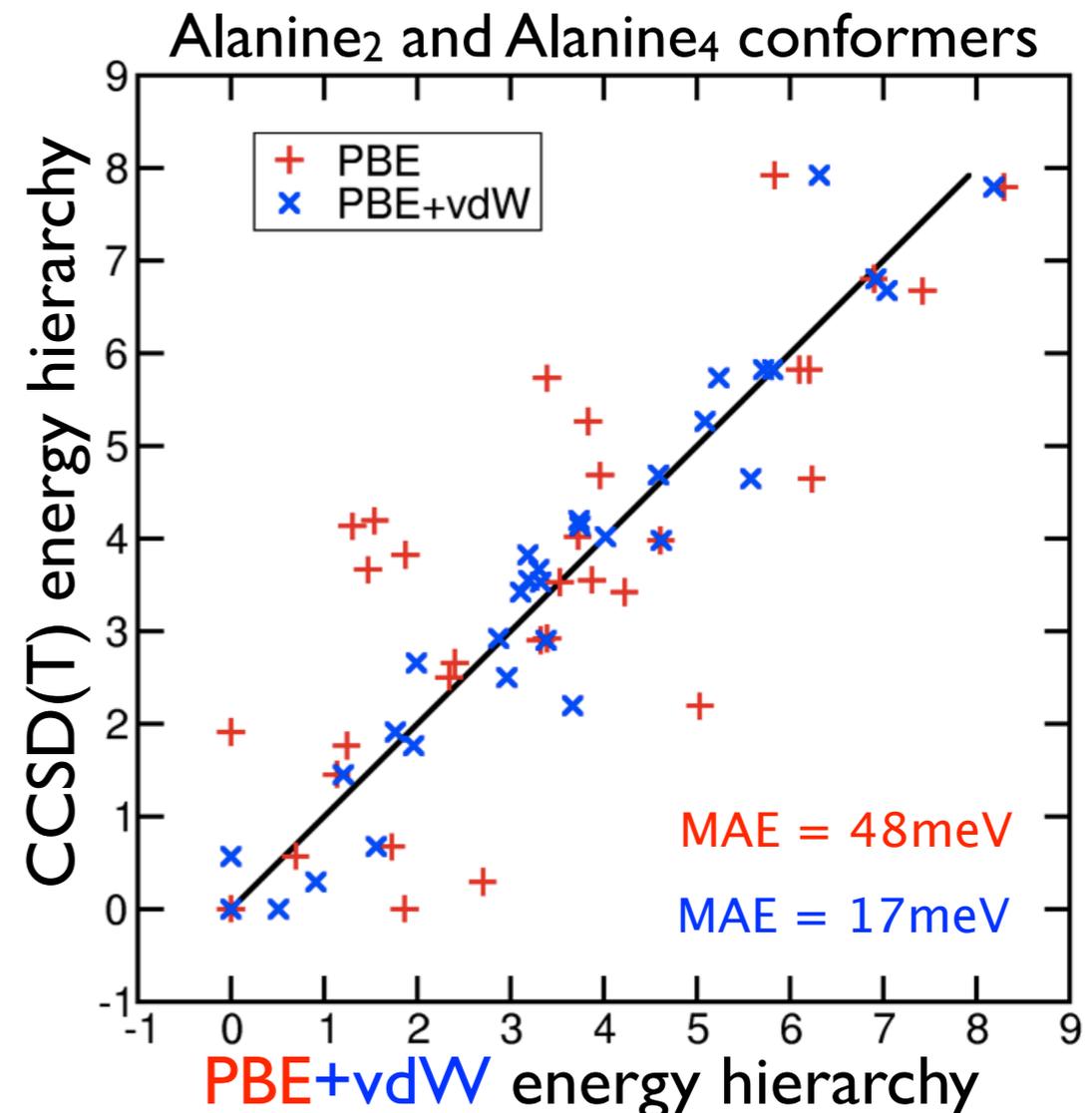
[1] A. Tkatchenko and M. Scheffler, PRL **102**, 073005 (2009)

# The first ingredient is weak: van der Waals

- DFT in the Perdew-Burke-Ernzerhof (1996) generalized gradient approximation
- Non-empirical, widely used, but *any* GGA lacks van der Waals tails
- Inclusion of van der Waals (vdW) dispersion via a  $C_6[n]/R^6$  term:  
(Yang, Grimme, Hobza, many others)

$$E_{\text{DFT}} + \sum_{\text{atoms } ij} \frac{C_6^{ij}}{R_{ij}^6} \cdot f_{\text{damp}}(R_{ij})$$

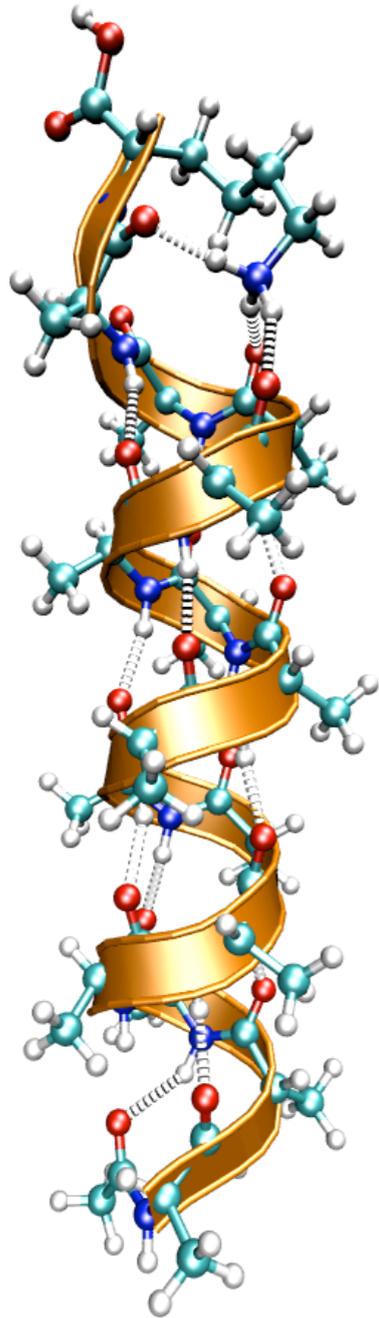
- Here:  $C_6[n]$  term derived from self consistent electron density [1]



[1] A. Tkatchenko and M. Scheffler, PRL **102**, 073005 (2009)

# A known helix in the gas phase: Ac-Ala<sub>15</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>

Rossi, Blum, Kupser, von Helden, Bierau, Pagel, Meijer, Scheffler, *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **1**, 3465 (2010)



## Experiment:

*von Helden, Kupser, Bierau, Meijer,  
Molecular Physics, FHI Berlin*

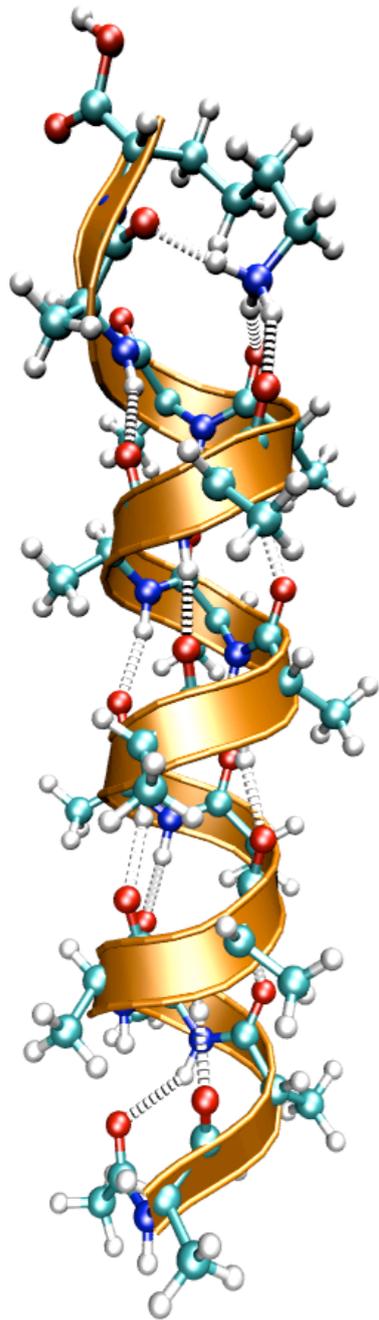
Infrared multiphoton dissociation  
spectroscopy, FELIX free electron laser

Room temperature

$\alpha$ -helical Ac-Ala<sub>15</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>  
(180 atoms): Helical?

# A known helix in the gas phase: Ac-Ala<sub>15</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>

Rossi, Blum, Kupser, von Helden, Bierau, Pagel, Meijer, Scheffler, *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **1**, 3465 (2010)



$\alpha$ -helical Ac-Ala<sub>15</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>  
(180 atoms): Helical?

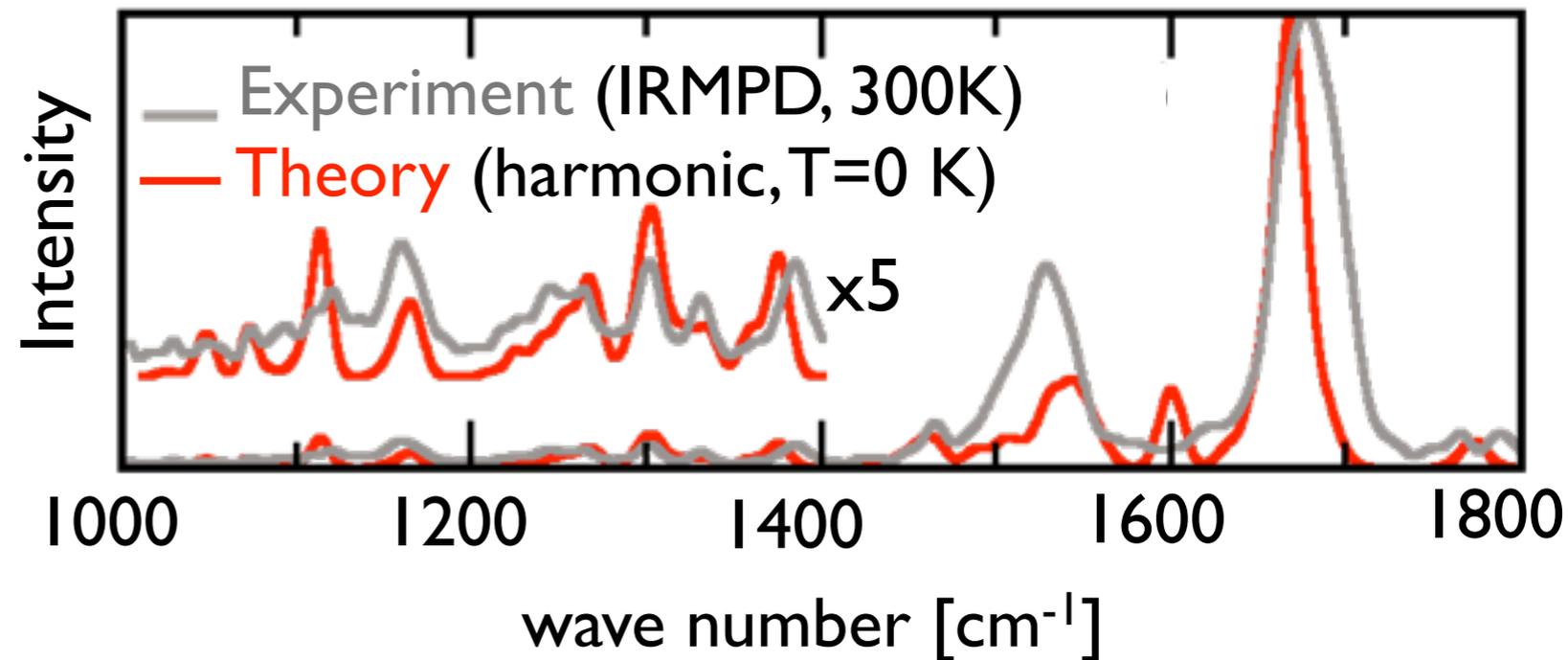
## Experiment:

von Helden, Kupser, Bierau, Meijer,  
*Molecular Physics, FHI Berlin*

Infrared multiphoton dissociation  
spectroscopy, FELIX free electron laser

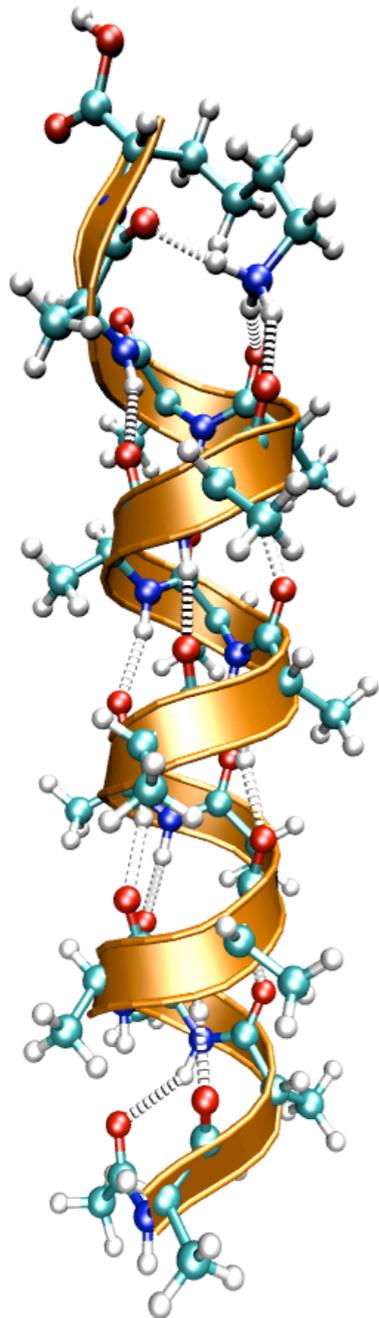
Room temperature

*Theory: DFT-PBE+vdW; shifted, not scaled*

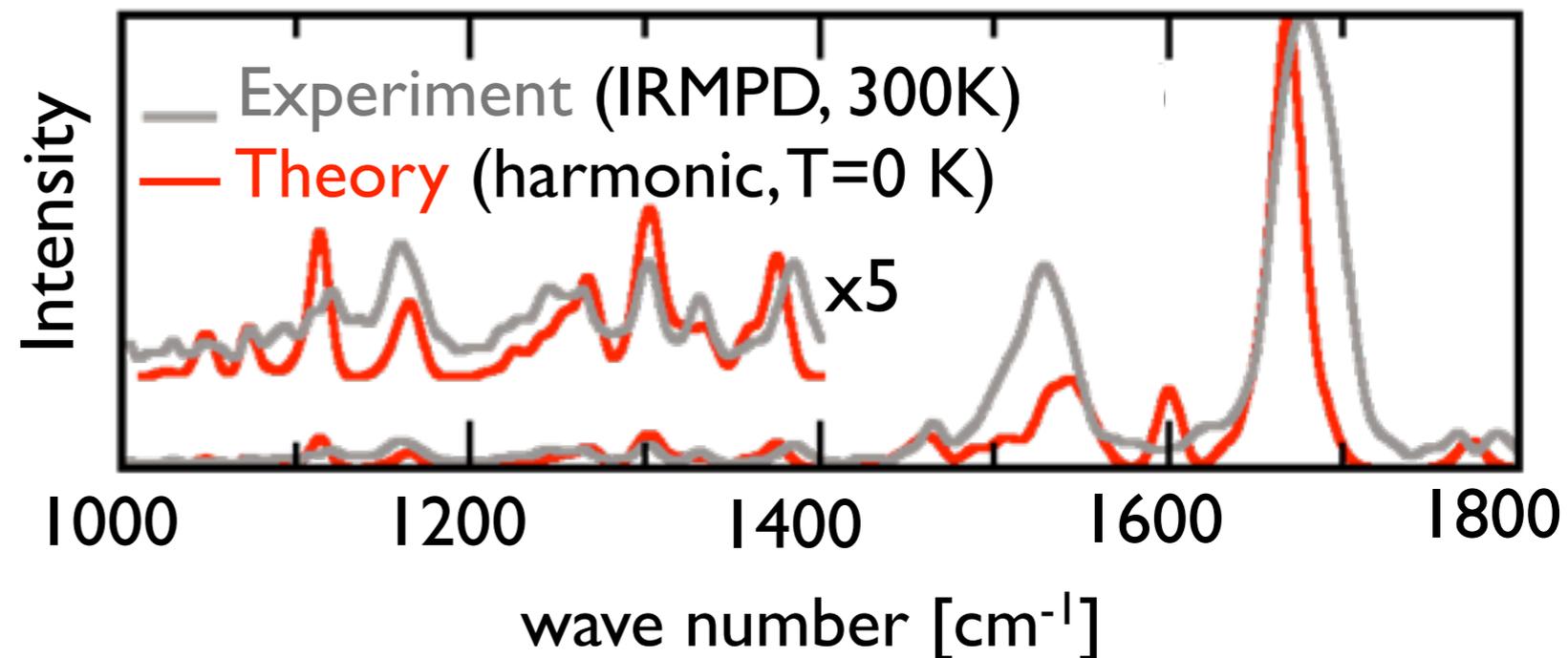


# A known helix in the gas phase: Ac-Ala<sub>15</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>

Rossi, Blum, Kupser, von Helden, Bierau, Pagel, Meijer, Scheffler, *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **1**, 3465 (2010)



Theory: DFT-PBE+vdW; shifted, not scaled



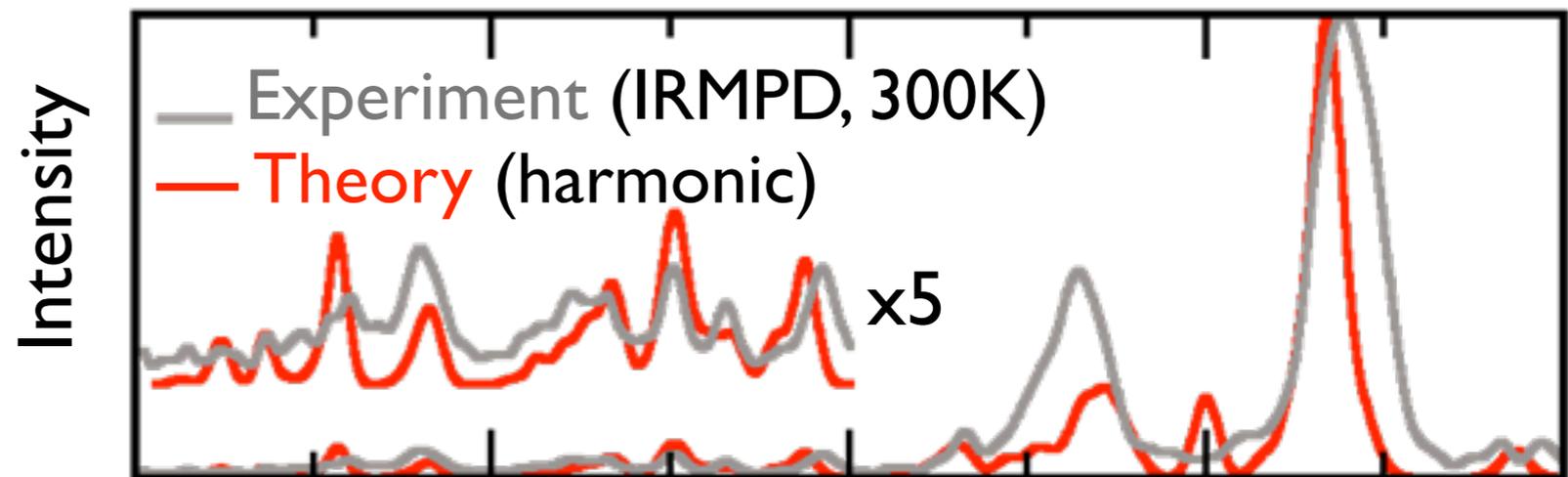
$\alpha$ -helical Ac-Ala<sub>15</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>  
(180 atoms): Helical?

# A known helix in the gas phase: Ac-Ala<sub>15</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>

25 ps Born-Oppenheimer molecular dynamics, “tight”(!), DFT-PBE+vdW

*M. Rossi, V. Blum, P. Kupser, G. von Helden, F. Bierau, K. Pagel, G. Meijer, and M. Scheffler, J. Phys. Chem. Lett. 1, 3465 (2010)*

*Theory: PBE+vdW, shifted, not scaled*



$$I(\omega) \propto \omega^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \underbrace{\langle \vec{M}(t) \cdot \vec{M}(0) \rangle}_{\text{dipole-dipole time correlation function}} e^{i\omega t}$$

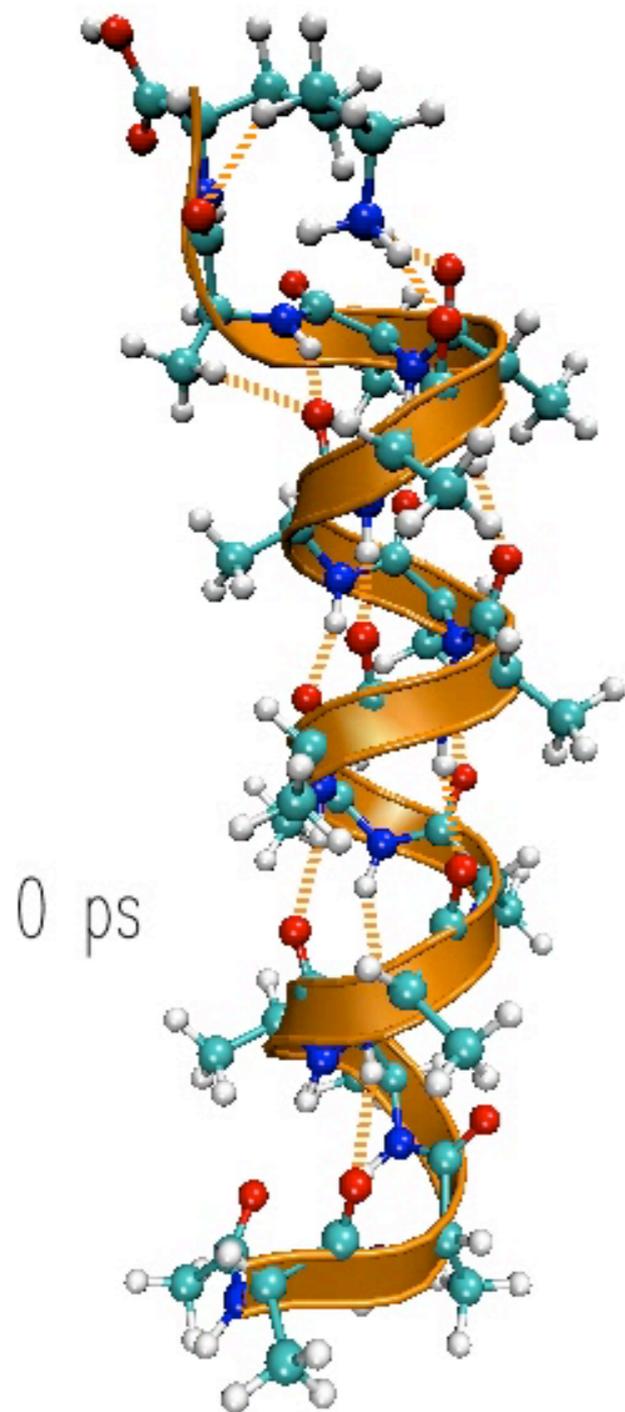
dipole-dipole time correlation function  
see, e.g., *M.-P. Gaigeot, others*

# A known helix in the gas phase: Ac-Ala<sub>15</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>

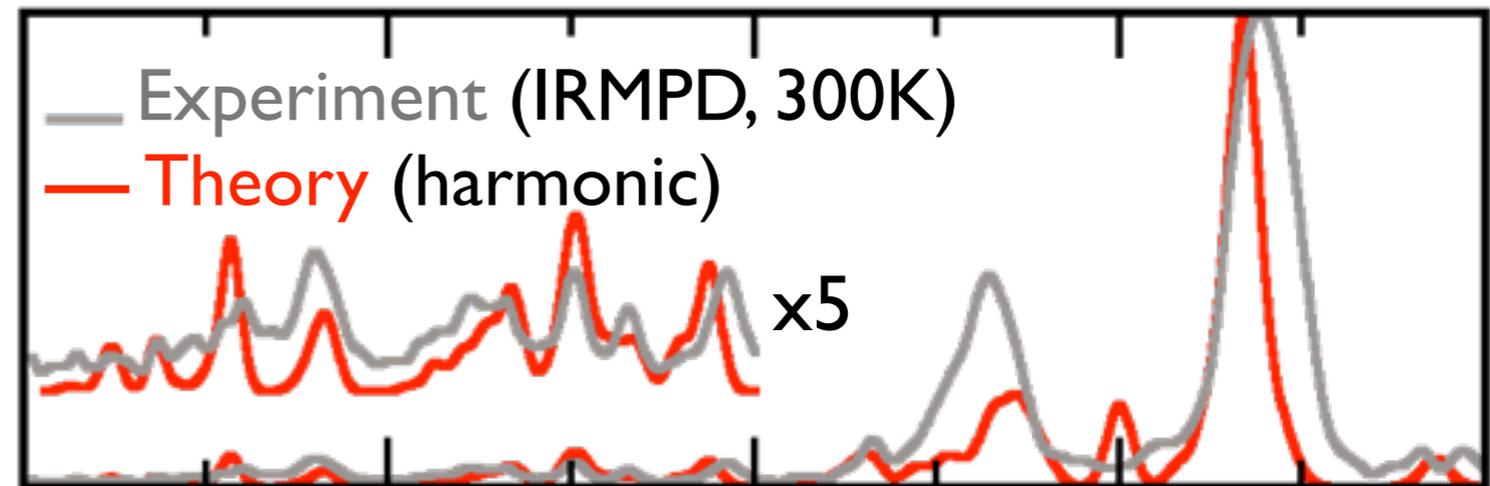
25 ps Born-Oppenheimer molecular dynamics, “tight”(!), DFT-PBE+vdW

M. Rossi, V. Blum, P. Kupser, G. von Helden, F. Bierau, K. Pagel, G. Meijer, and M. Scheffler, *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **1**, 3465 (2010)

Theory: PBE+vdW, shifted, not scaled



Intensity



$$I(\omega) \propto \omega^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \underbrace{\langle \vec{M}(t) \cdot \vec{M}(0) \rangle}_{\text{dipole-dipole time correlation function}} e^{i\omega t}$$

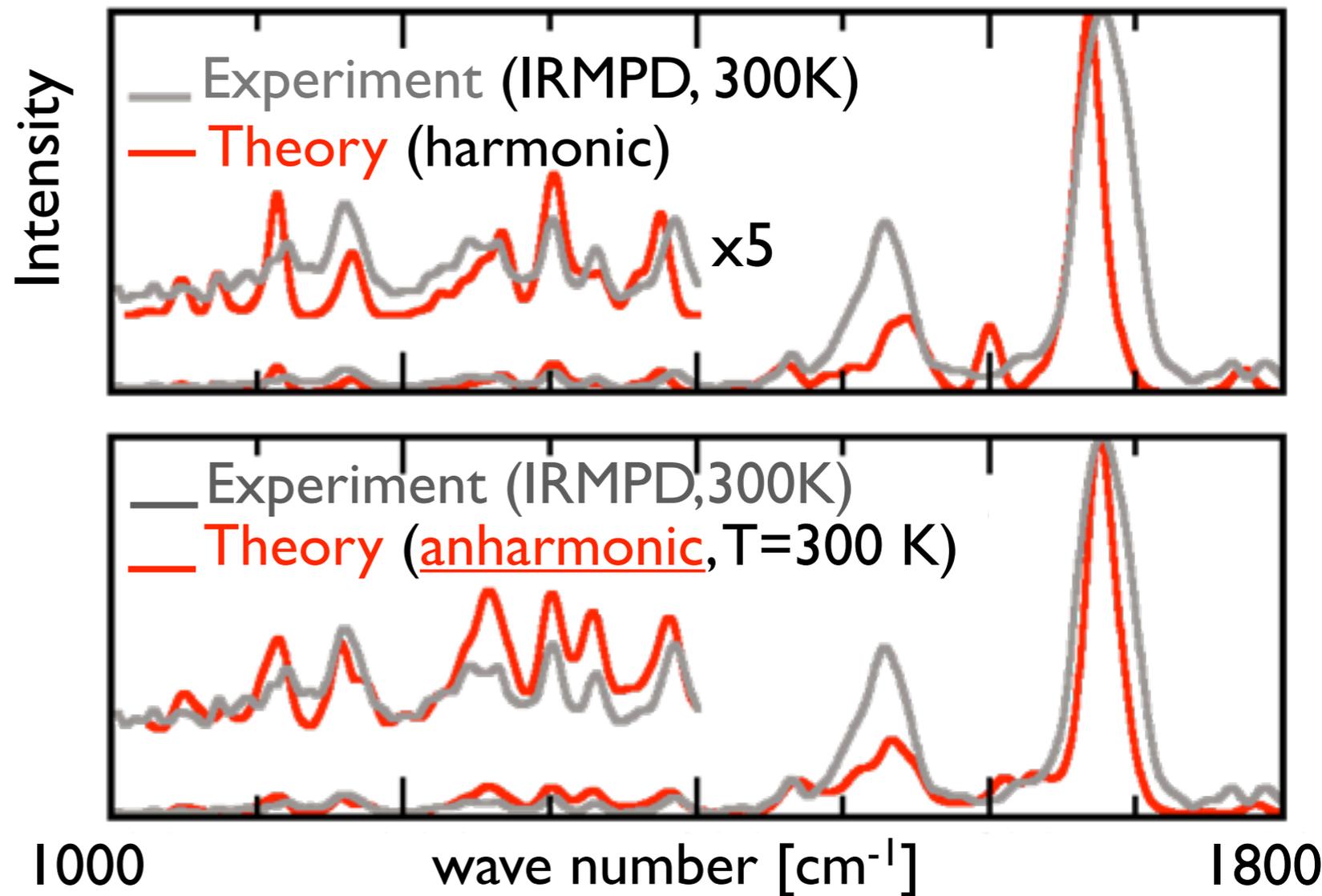
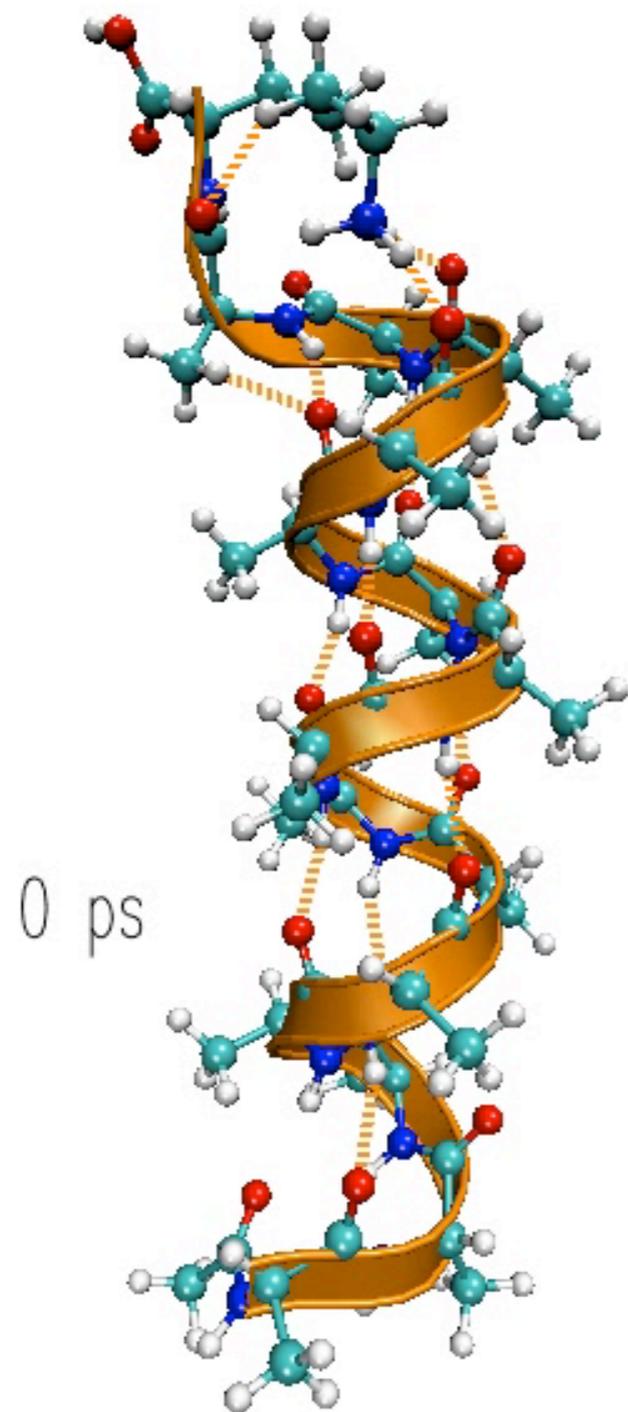
dipole-dipole time correlation function  
see, e.g., M.-P. Gaigeot, others

# A known helix in the gas phase: Ac-Ala<sub>15</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>

25 ps Born-Oppenheimer molecular dynamics, “tight”(!), DFT-PBE+vdW

M. Rossi, V. Blum, P. Kupser, G. von Helden, F. Bierau, K. Pagel, G. Meijer, and M. Scheffler, *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **1**, 3465 (2010)

Theory: PBE+vdW, shifted, not scaled



$$I(\omega) \propto \omega^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \underbrace{\langle \vec{M}(t) \cdot \vec{M}(0) \rangle}_{\text{dipole-dipole time correlation function}} e^{i\omega t}$$

dipole-dipole time correlation function  
see, e.g., M.-P. Gaigeot, others

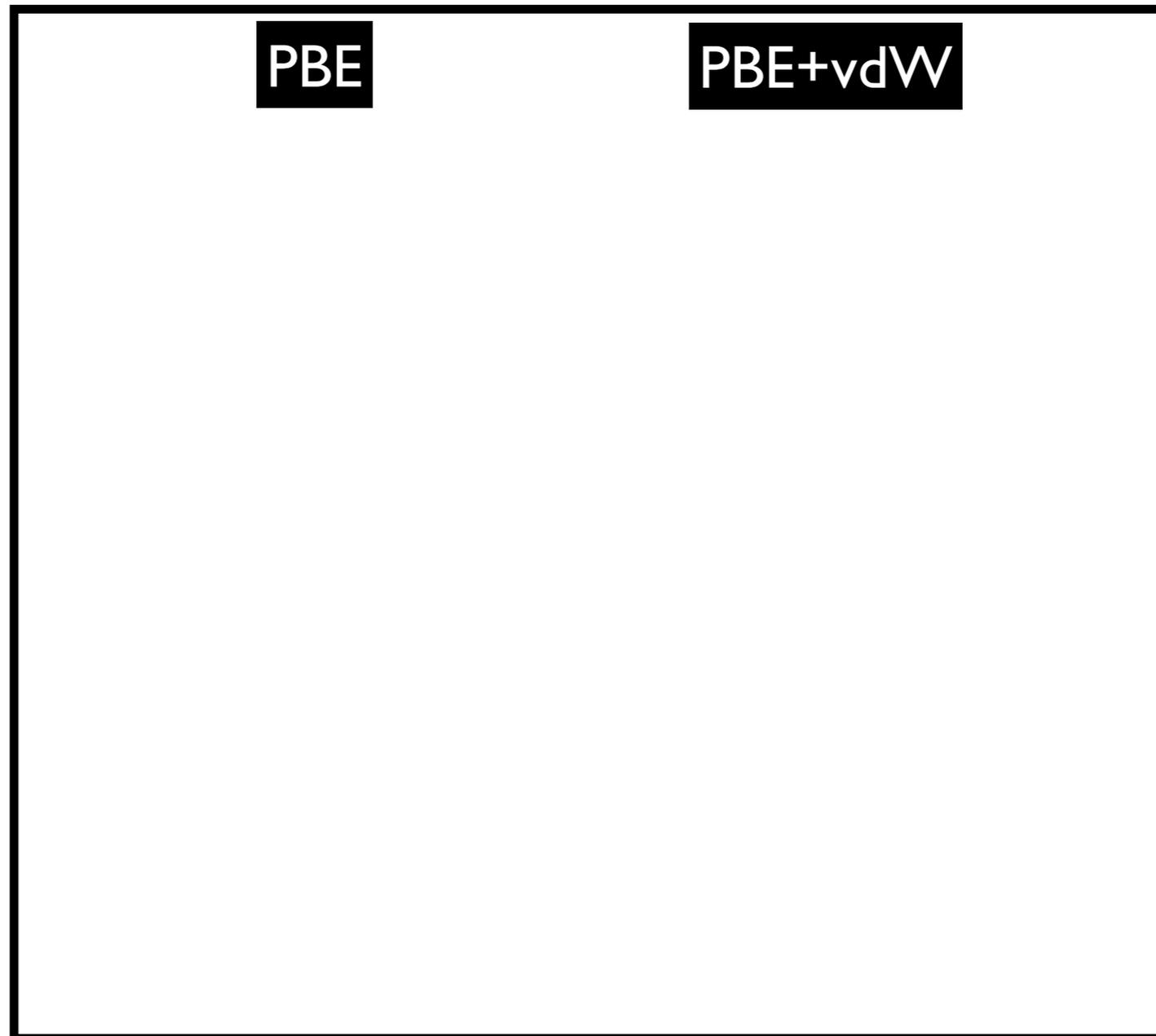
# Now what happens without van der Waals?

---

*Kohtani et al., JACS* **126**, 7420 (2004): “Extreme stability of an unsolvated helix”  
Ac-Ala<sub>15</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>  **$\alpha$ -helix** is stable up to  $\approx 650$  K

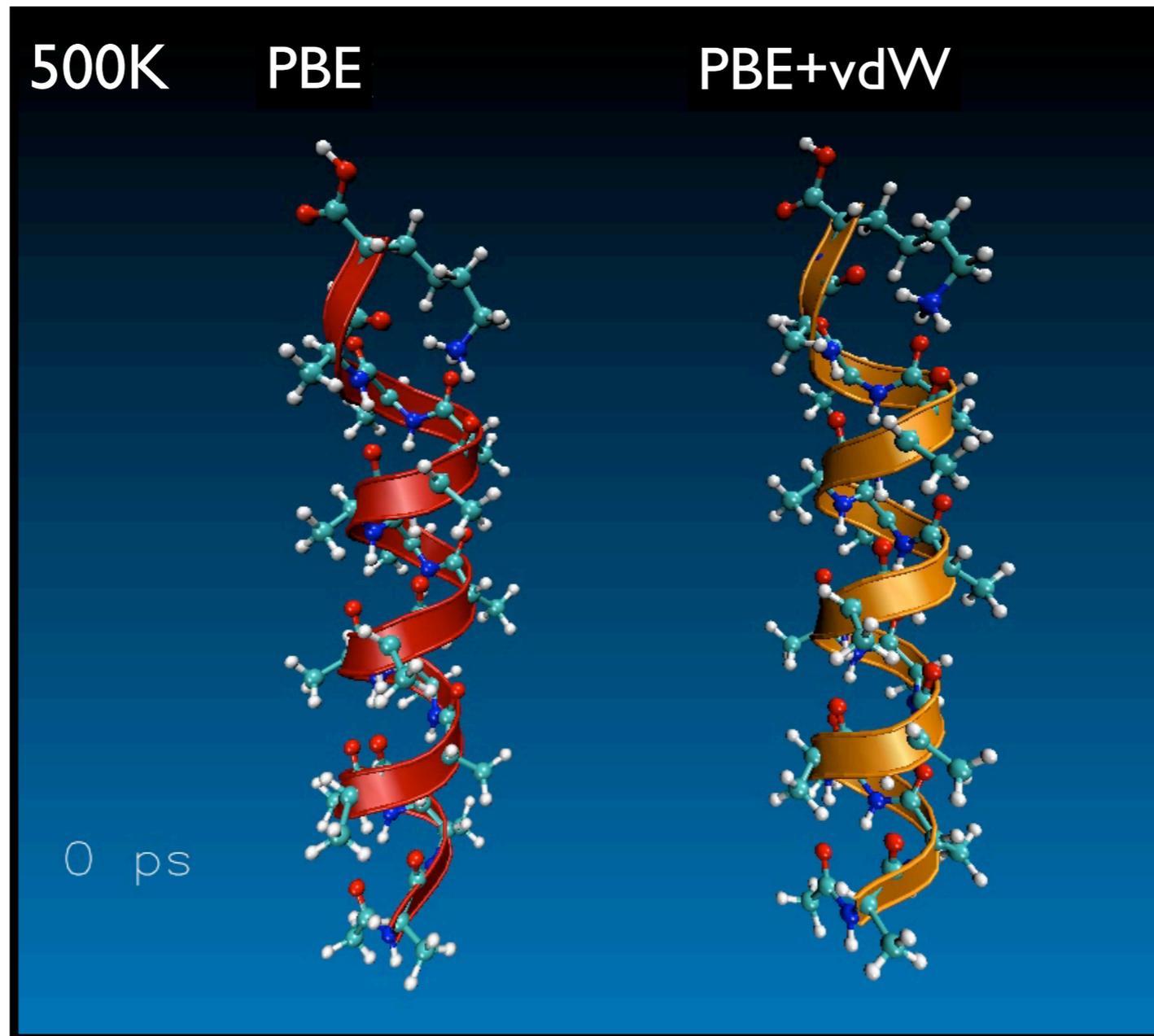
# Now what happens without van der Waals?

*Kohtani et al., JACS* **126**, 7420 (2004): “Extreme stability of an unsolvated helix”  
Ac-Ala<sub>15</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>  **$\alpha$ -helix** is stable up to  $\approx 650$  K



# Now what happens without van der Waals?

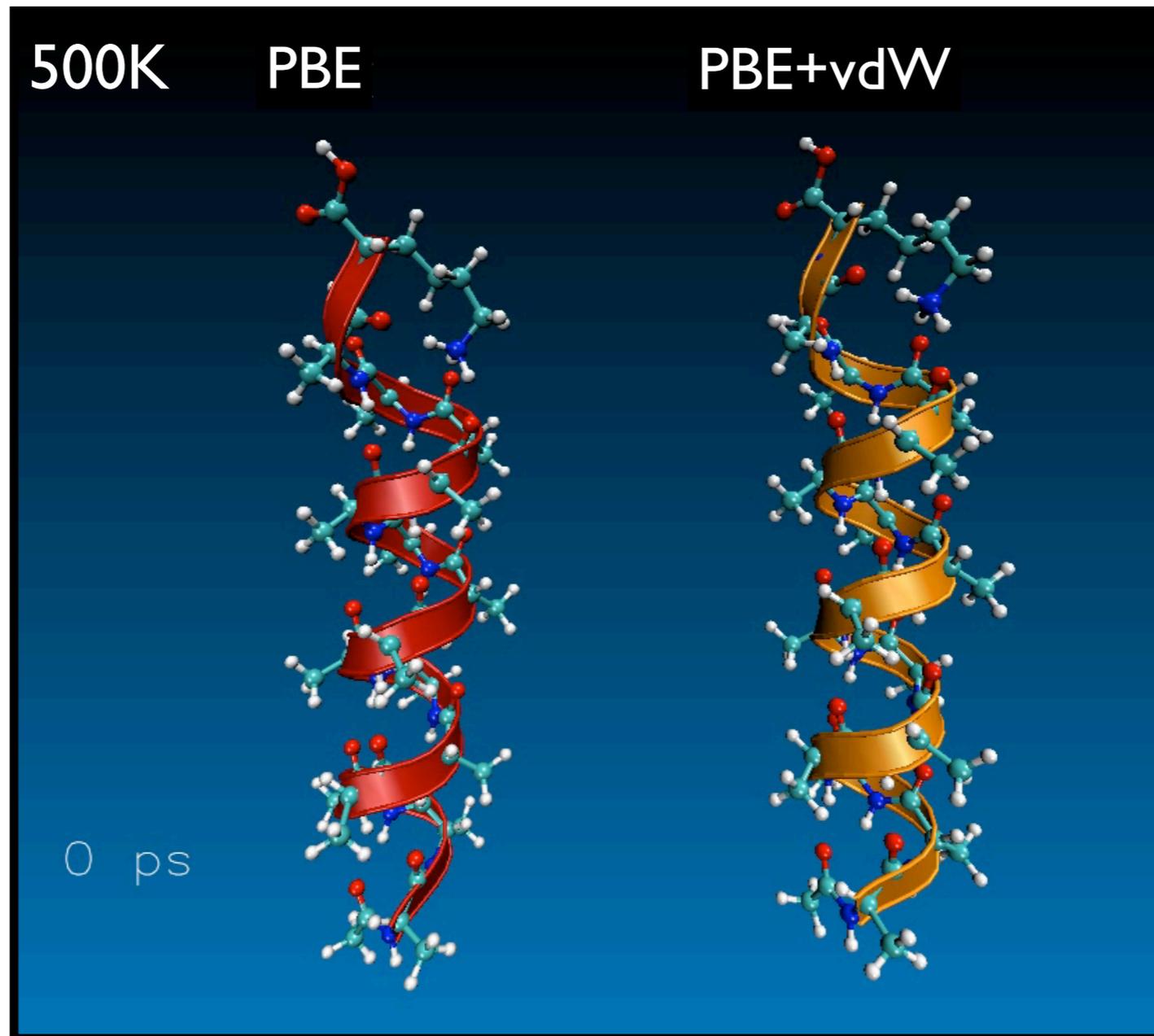
Kohtani *et al.*, *JACS* **126**, 7420 (2004): “Extreme stability of an unsolvated helix”  
Ac-Ala<sub>15</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>  **$\alpha$ -helix** is stable up to  $\approx 650$  K



# Now what happens without van der Waals?

Kohtani et al., *JACS* **126**, 7420 (2004): “Extreme stability of an unsolvated helix”  
Ac-Ala<sub>15</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>  **$\alpha$ -helix** is stable up to  $\approx 650$  K

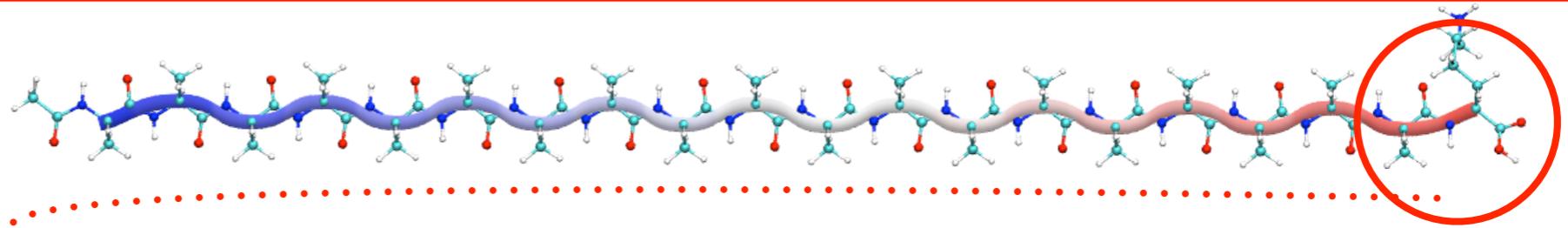
Mostly  
3<sub>10</sub> helical!



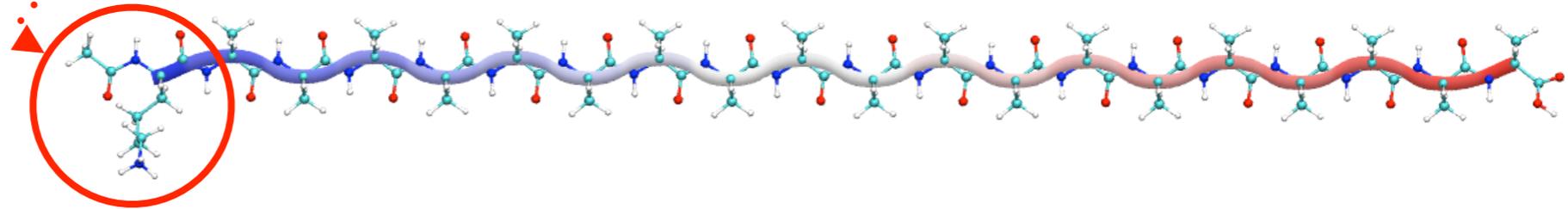
$\alpha$  helical!

... and what if we “structurally destroy” the helix?

Ac-Ala<sub>19</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>



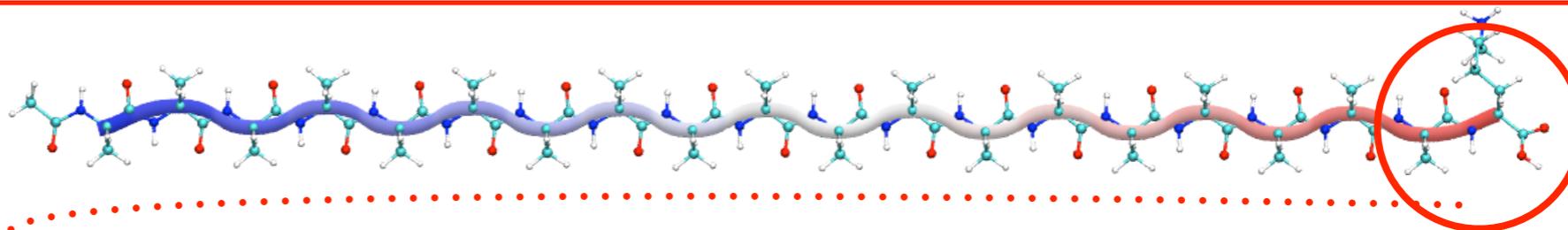
Ac-LysH<sup>+</sup>-Ala<sub>19</sub>



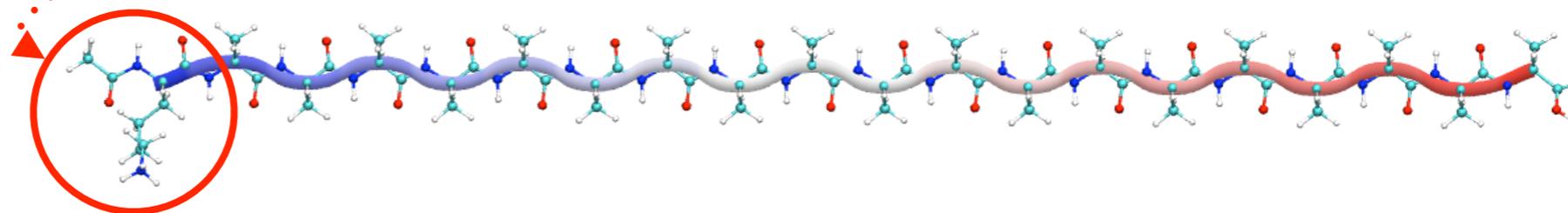
Can we tackle the conformational space of a 220-atom system?  
Combinatorial explosion!

# ... and what if we “structurally destroy” the helix?

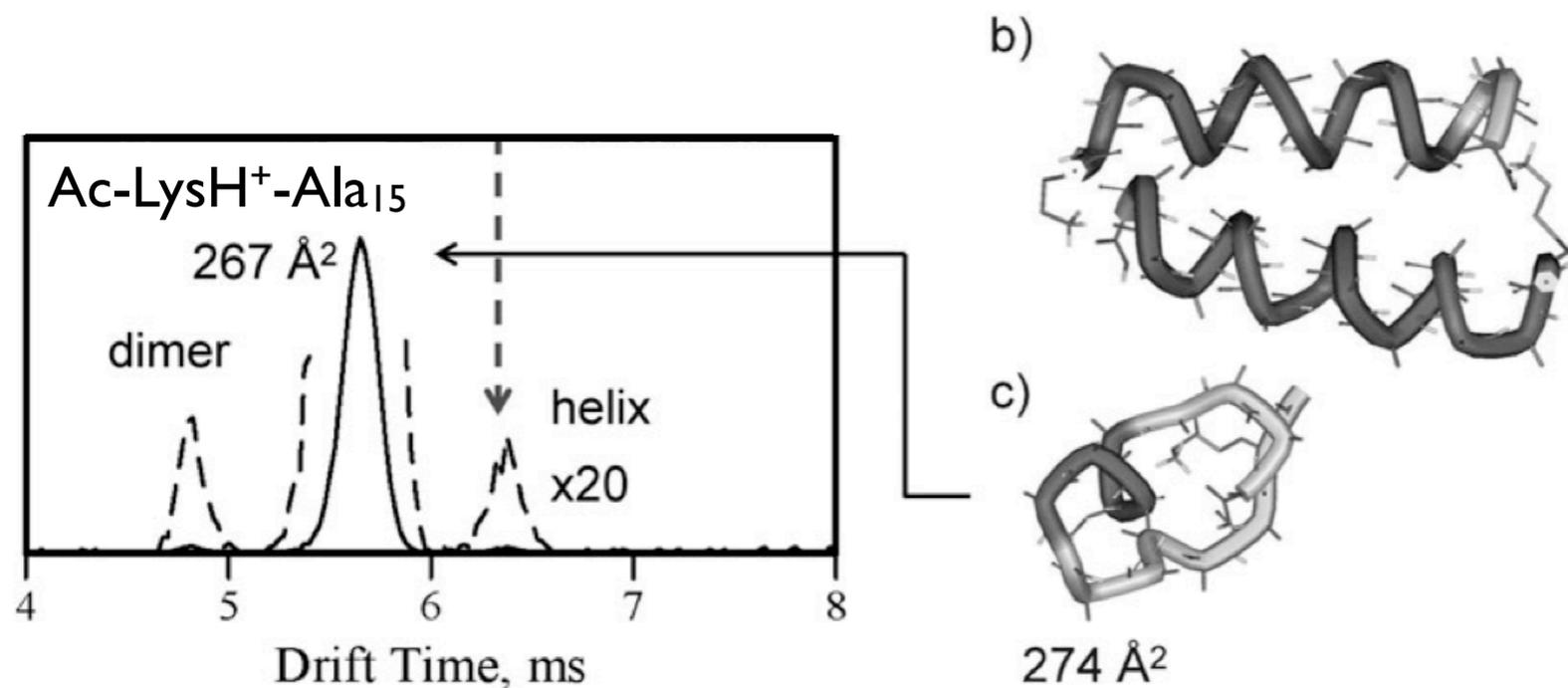
Ac-Ala<sub>19</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>



Ac-LysH<sup>+</sup>-Ala<sub>19</sub>



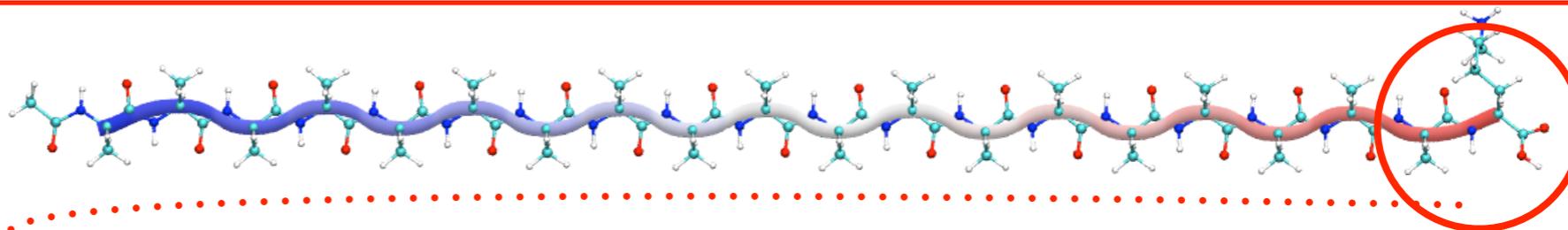
Can we tackle the conformational space of a 220-atom system?  
Combinatorial explosion!



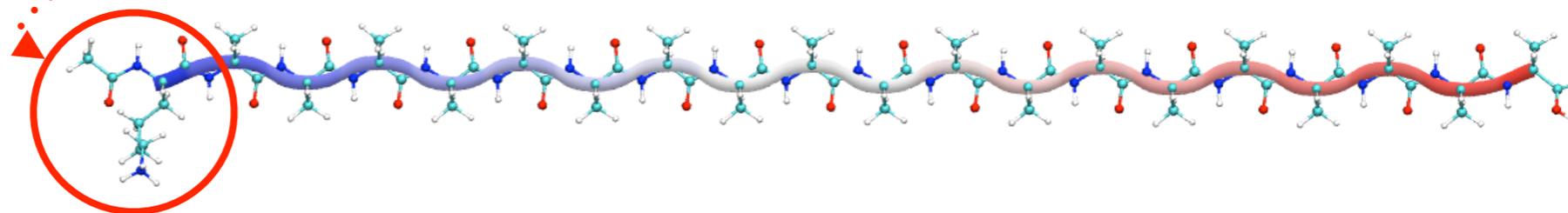
[2] Jarrold, PCCP 9, 1659, 2007

# ... and what if we “structurally destroy” the helix?

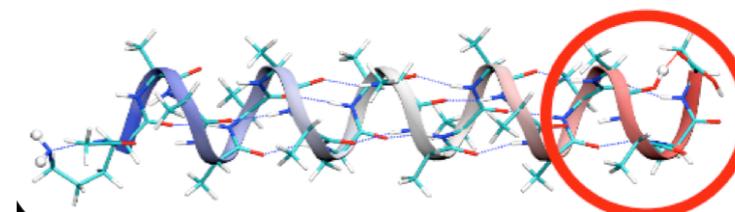
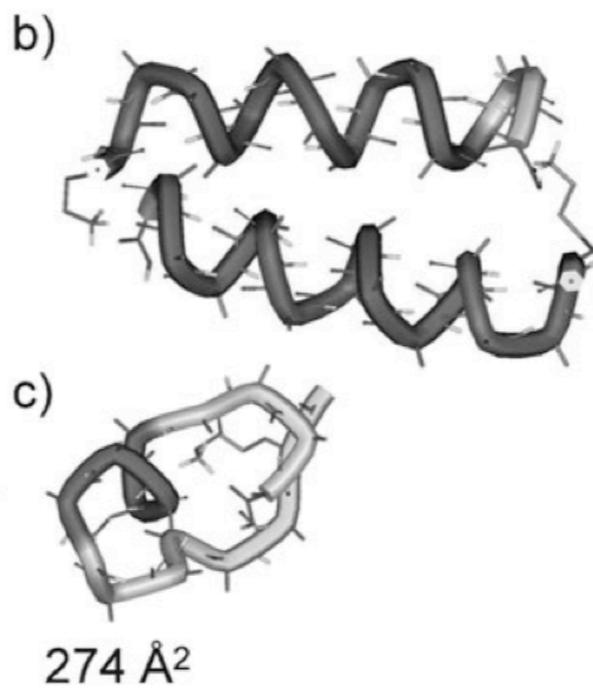
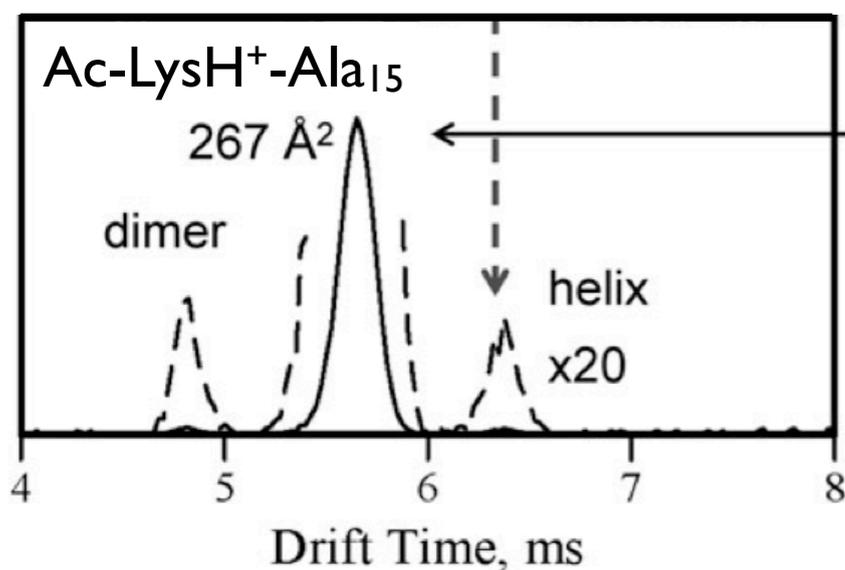
Ac-Ala<sub>19</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>



Ac-LysH<sup>+</sup>-Ala<sub>19</sub>



Can we tackle the conformational space of a 220-atom system?  
Combinatorial explosion!

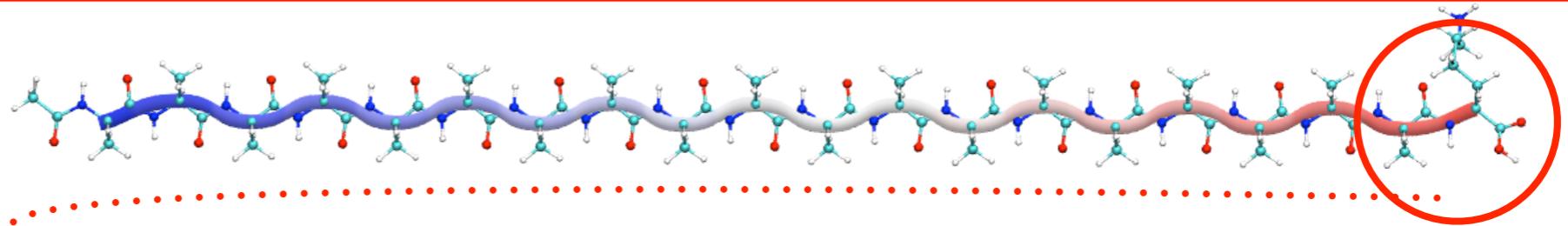


Helix, protonated  
C-terminus?

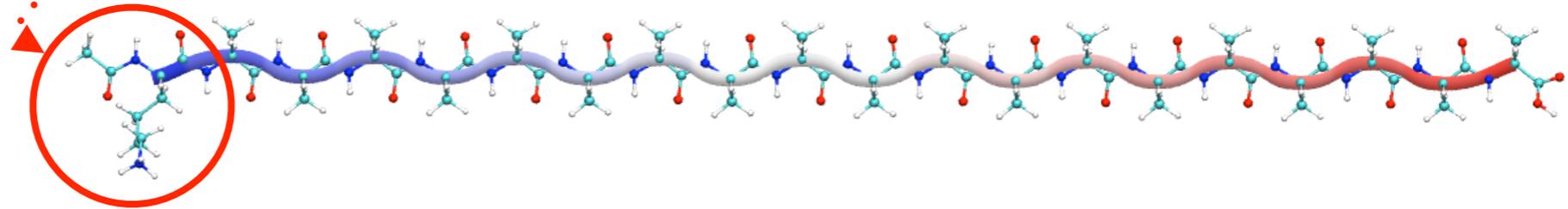
[2] Jarrold, PCCP 9, 1659, 2007

# ... and what if we “structurally destroy” the helix?

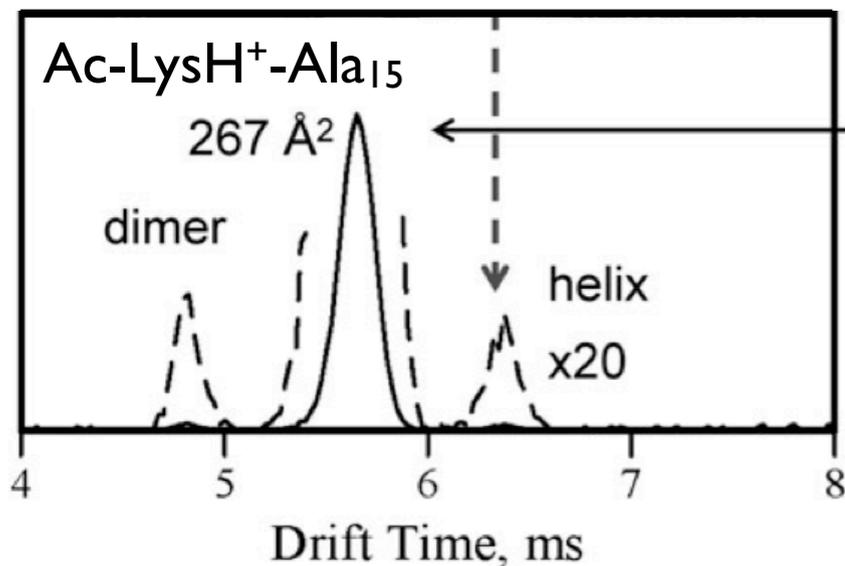
Ac-Ala<sub>19</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>



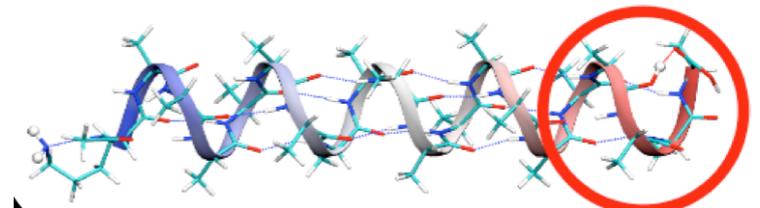
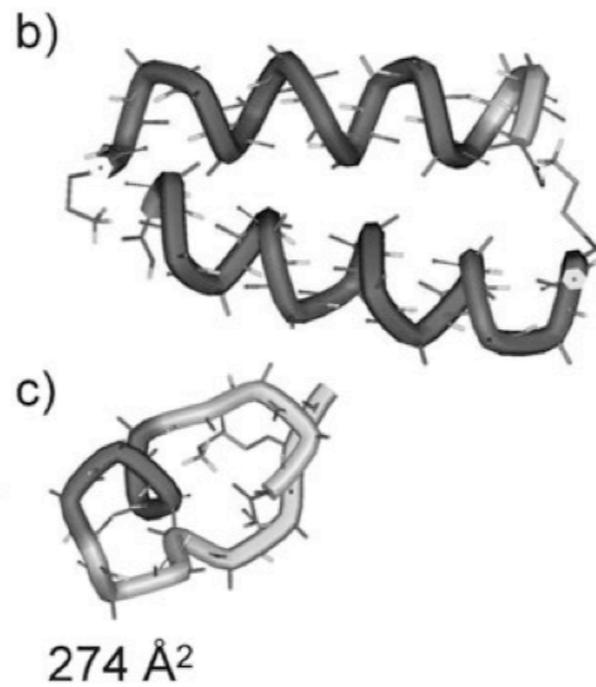
Ac-LysH<sup>+</sup>-Ala<sub>19</sub>



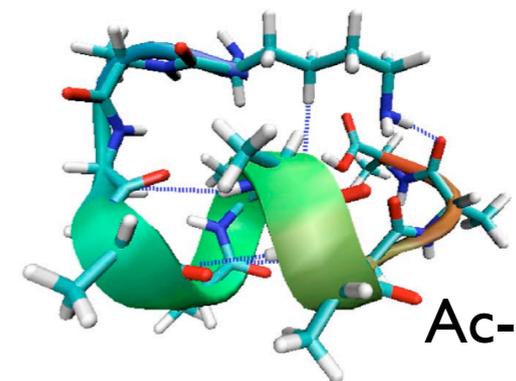
Can we tackle the conformational space of a 220-atom system?  
Combinatorial explosion!



[2] Jarrold, PCCP 9, 1659, 2007



Helix, protonated  
C-terminus?



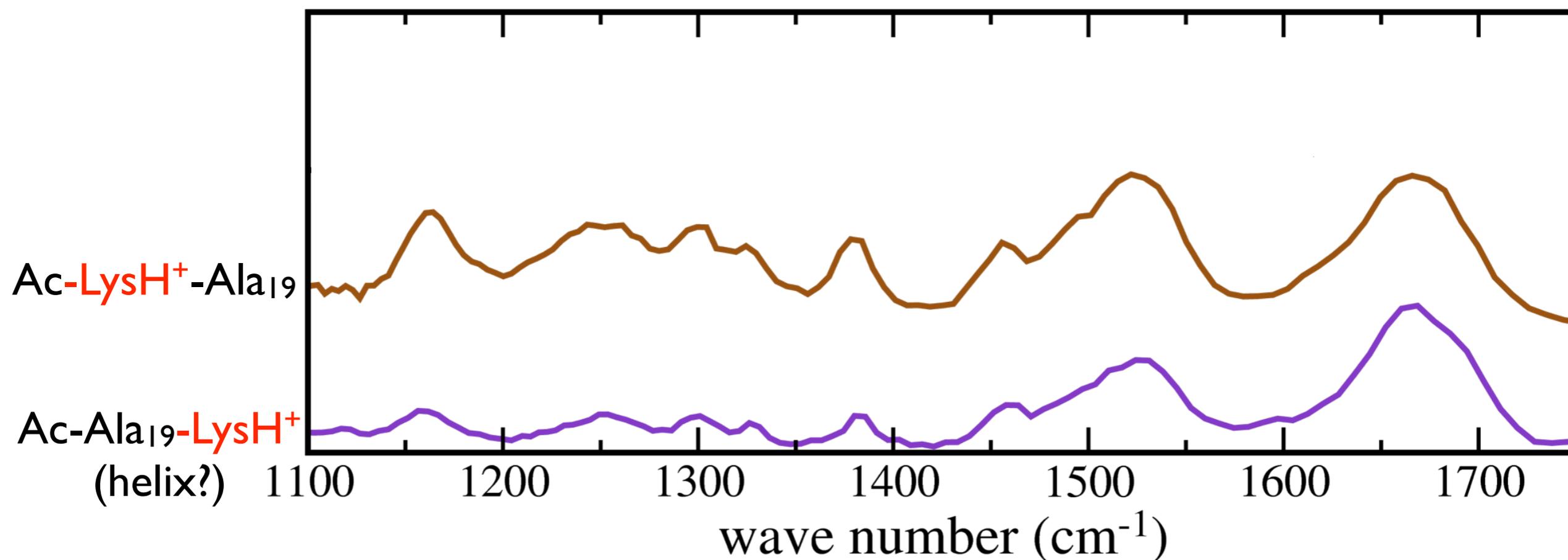
Ac-Lys<sup>+</sup>-Ala<sub>10</sub>

Wei et al., JCP 126, 204307 (2007)  
Replica Exchange / Force Field

# Turn again to vibrational spectroscopy: Helical?

*Peter Kupser, Gert von Helden, Frank Filsinger, Kevin Pagel, Gerard Meijer,  
Molecular Physics, FHI Berlin*

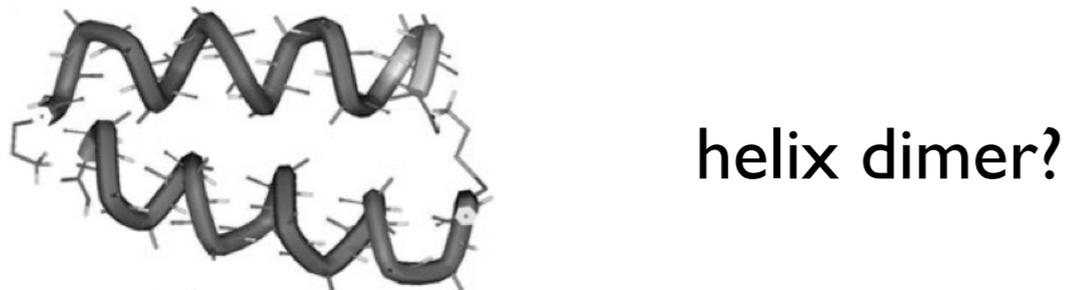
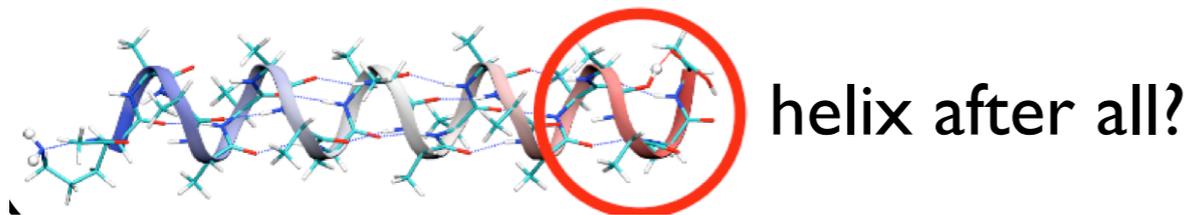
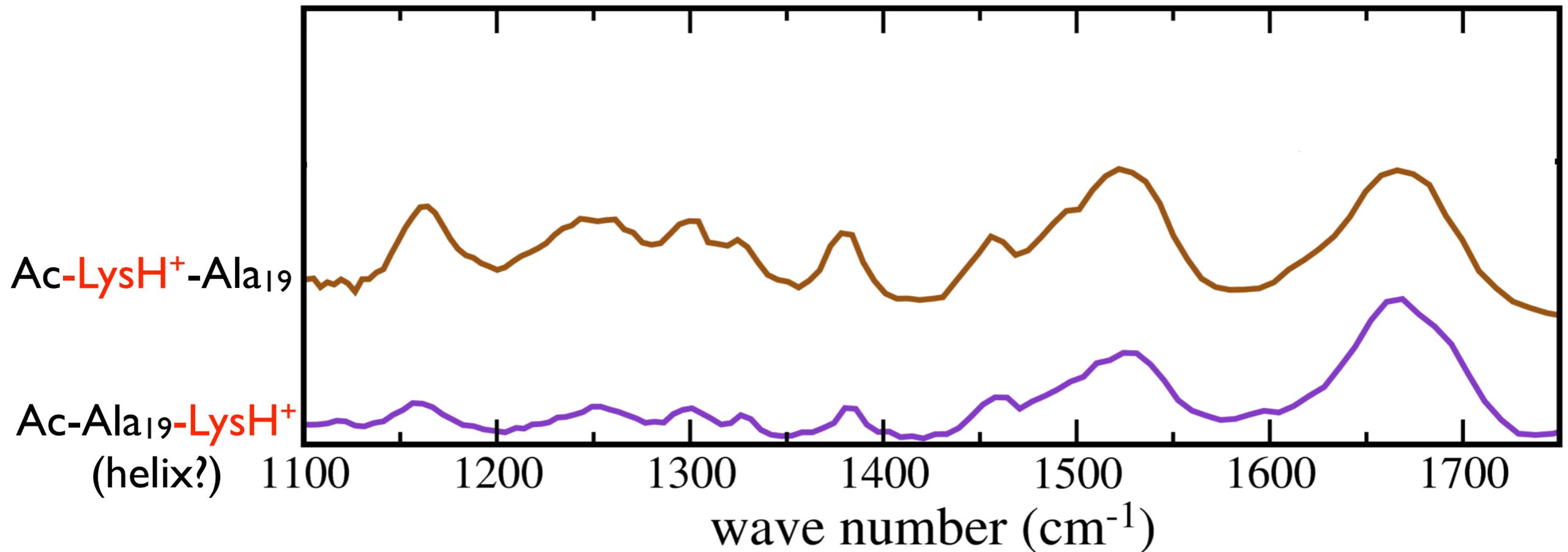
Infrared multiphoton dissociation spectroscopy, FELIX, room temperature



# Turn again to vibrational spectroscopy: Helical?

*Peter Kupser, Gert von Helden, Frank Filsinger, Kevin Pagel, Gerard Meijer,  
Molecular Physics, FHI Berlin*

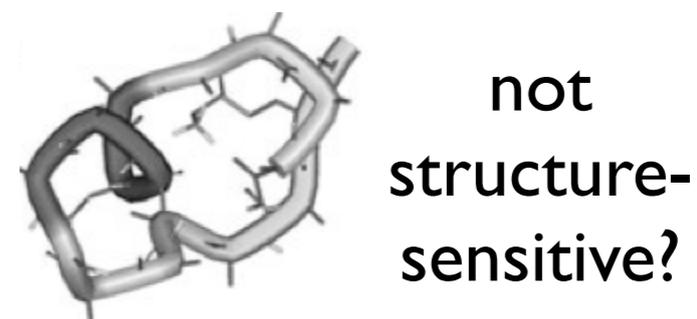
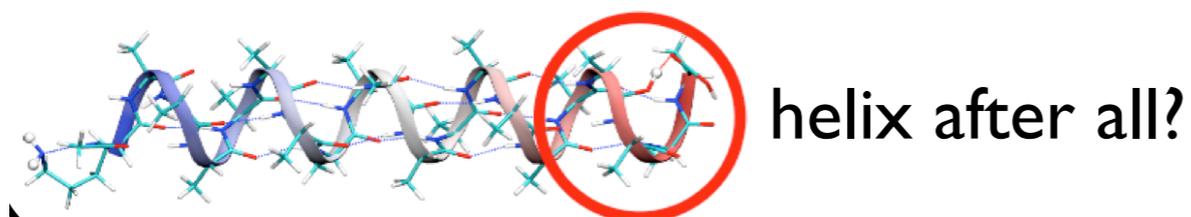
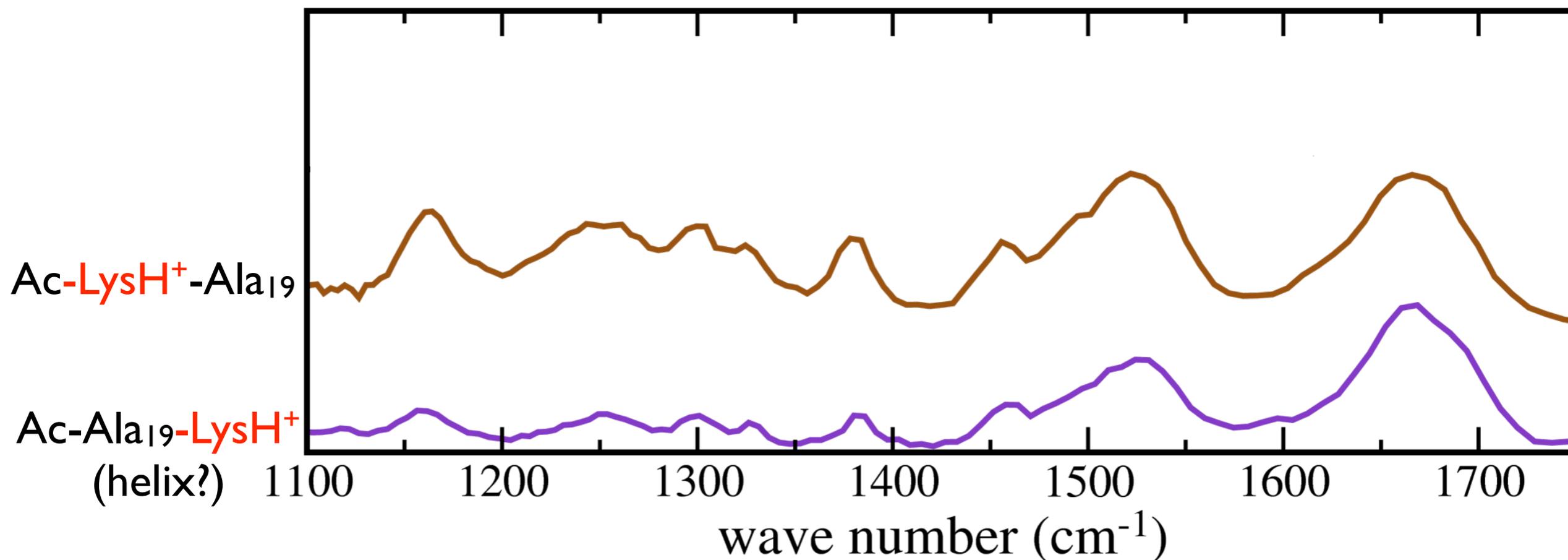
Infrared multiphoton dissociation spectroscopy, FELIX, room temperature



# Turn again to vibrational spectroscopy: Helical?

*Peter Kupser, Gert von Helden, Frank Filsinger, Kevin Pagel, Gerard Meijer,  
Molecular Physics, FHI Berlin*

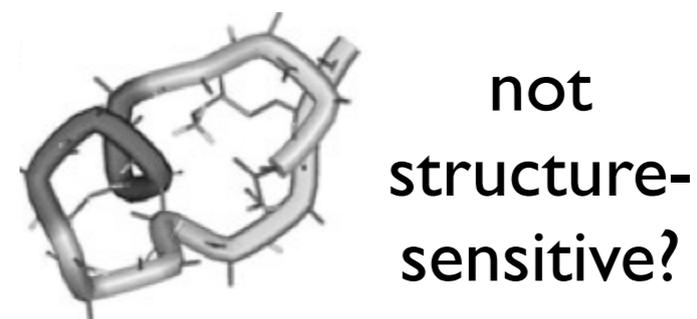
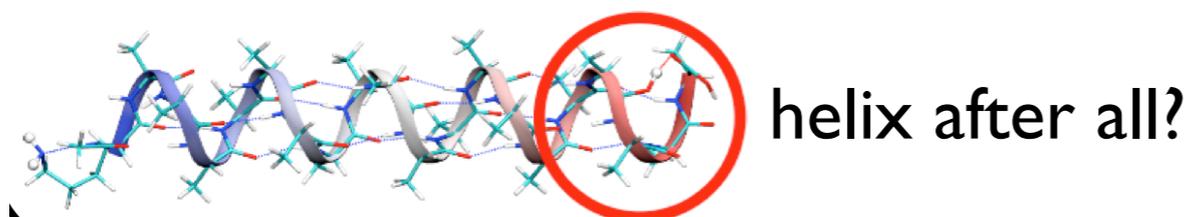
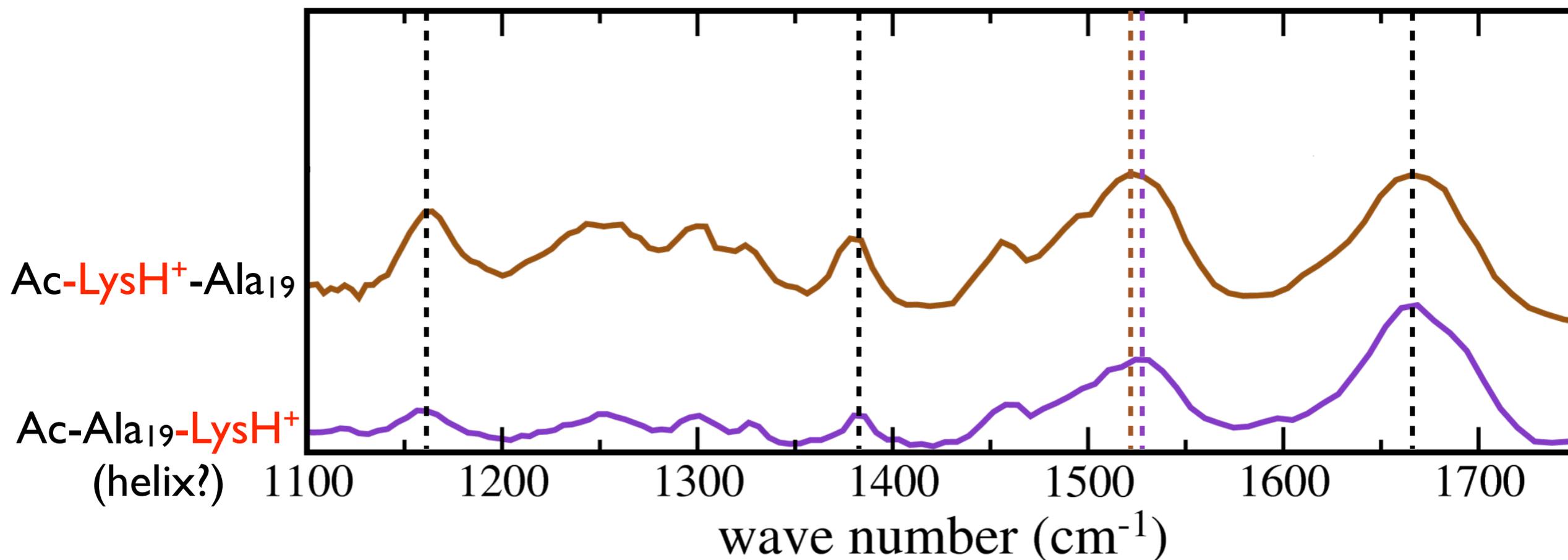
Infrared multiphoton dissociation spectroscopy, FELIX, room temperature



# Turn again to vibrational spectroscopy: Helical?

*Peter Kupser, Gert von Helden, Frank Filsinger, Kevin Pagel, Gerard Meijer,  
Molecular Physics, FHI Berlin*

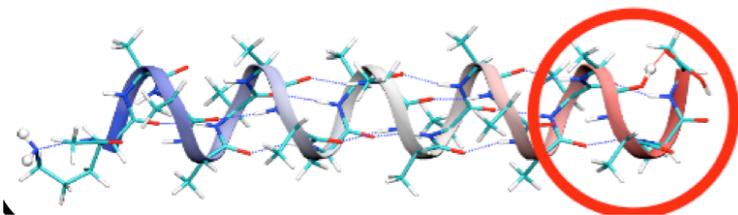
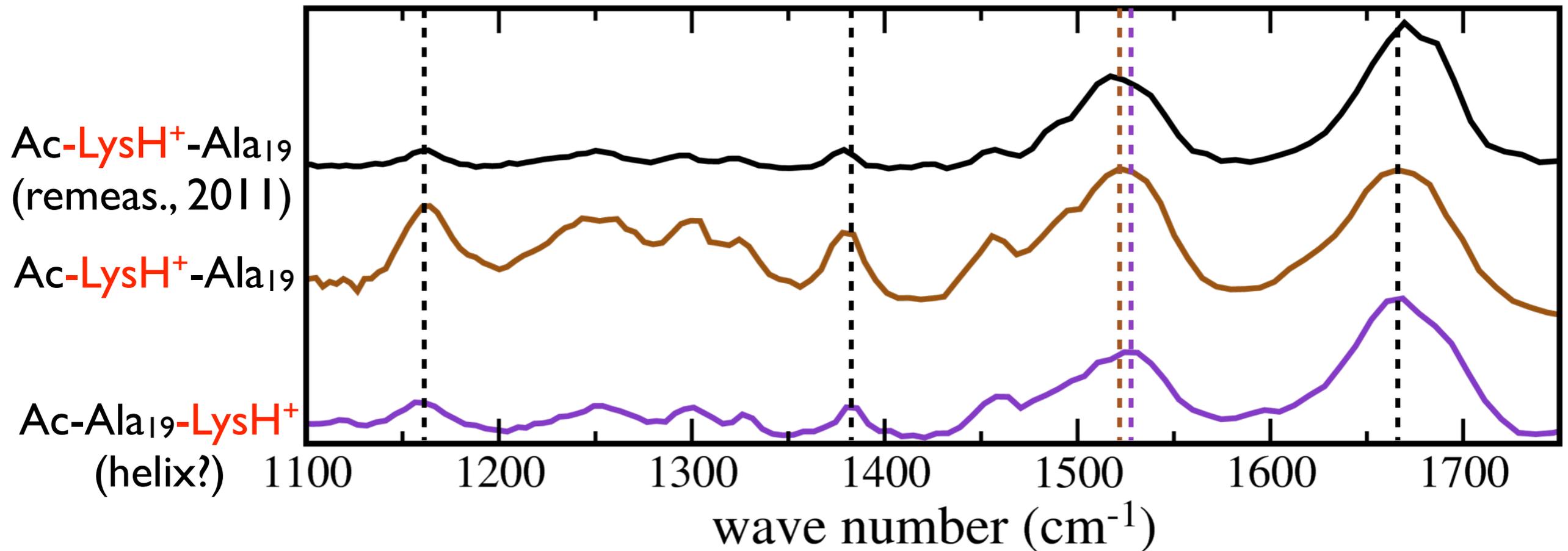
Infrared multiphoton dissociation spectroscopy, FELIX, room temperature



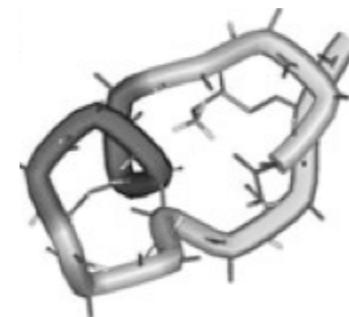
# Turn again to vibrational spectroscopy: Helical?

Peter Kupser, Gert von Helden, Frank Filsinger, Kevin Pagel, Gerard Meijer,  
Molecular Physics, FHI Berlin

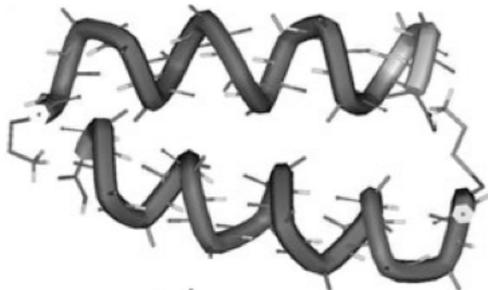
Infrared multiphoton dissociation spectroscopy, FELIX, room temperature



helix after all?



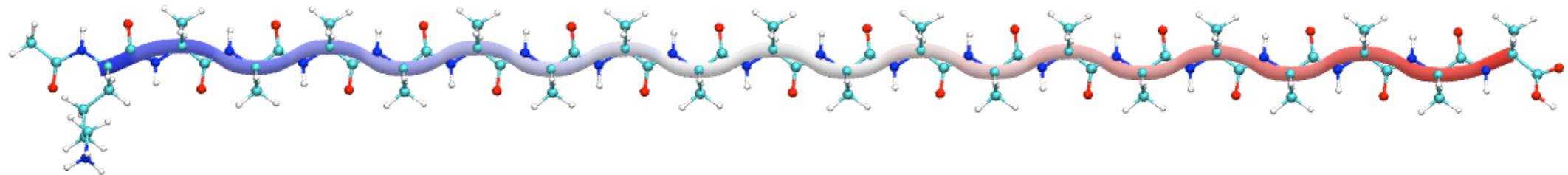
not  
structure-  
sensitive?



helix dimer?

# Ac-LysH<sup>+</sup>-Ala<sub>19</sub>: Searching a huge conformational space

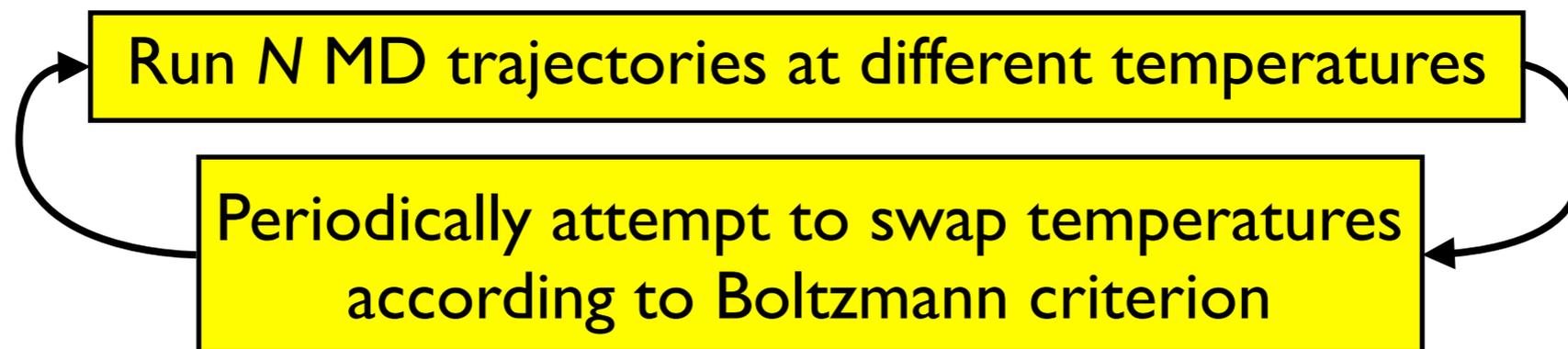
*Franziska Schubert, Carsten Baldauf, Mariana Rossi, VB - FHI*



220 atoms - well beyond brute force “enumeration”.

One alternative:

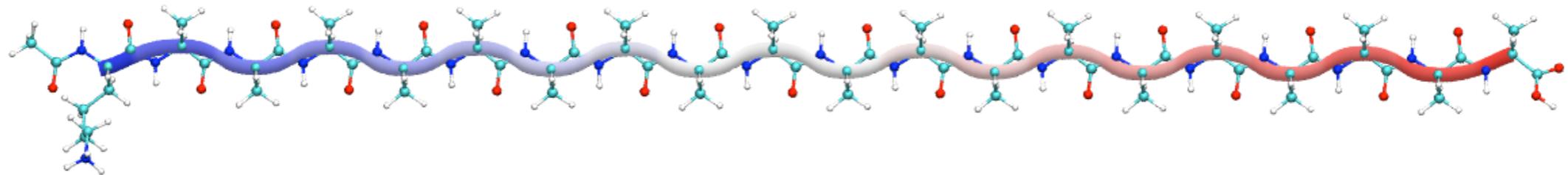
Replica Exchange Molecular Dynamics (REMD)



*Marinari, Parisi, Europhys. Lett* **19**, 451 (1992); *U.H.E. Hansmann, Chem. Phys. Lett.* **281**, 140 (1997);  
*Y. Sugita, Y. Okamoto, Chem. Phys. Lett.* **314**, 14 (1999); many others

# Ac-LysH<sup>+</sup>-Ala<sub>19</sub>: Searching a huge conformational space

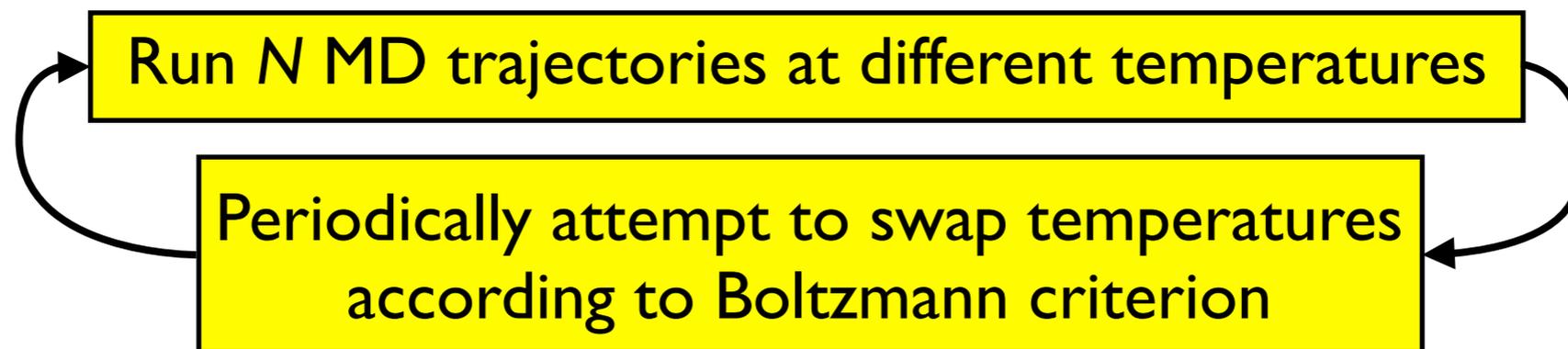
*Franziska Schubert, Carsten Baldauf, Mariana Rossi, VB - FHI*



220 atoms - well beyond brute force “enumeration”.

One alternative:

Replica Exchange Molecular Dynamics (REMD)



But typical (even just to scan for structures):  
100s of nanoseconds,  $O(10)$  trajectories  
→ first principles??

*Marinari, Parisi, Europhys. Lett* **19**, 451 (1992); *U.H.E. Hansmann, Chem. Phys. Lett.* **281**, 140 (1997);  
*Y. Sugita, Y. Okamoto, Chem. Phys. Lett.* **314**, 14 (1999); many others

# Coupling REMD & first principles:

---

## Strategy:

“Global” FF REMD (e.g., 500 ns × 16 trajectories)

(Gromacs  
OPLS-AA)

↓  
Postrelax, reweight  $O(10^3)$  midpoint structures  
by DFT-PBE+vdW

↓  
“Local” *ab initio* REMD for few “best” conformers  
DFT-PBE+vdW, 10-20 ps × 16 trajectories

*ai-REMD in FHI-aims: Luca Ghiringhelli, FHI*

# Coupling REMD & first principles:

## Strategy:

“Global” FF REMD (e.g., 500 ns × 16 trajectories)

(Gromacs  
OPLS-AA)

↓  
Postrelax, reweight  $O(10^3)$  midpoint structures  
by DFT-PBE+vdW

↓  
“Local” *ab initio* REMD for few “best” conformers  
DFT-PBE+vdW, 10-20 ps × 16 trajectories

*ai-REMD in FHI-aims: Luca Ghiringhelli, FHI*

For:

Monomers

Dimers

Helices with “mobile proton”

“Unlikely  $\alpha$ -helix” with proton at LysH<sup>+</sup>

# Coupling REMD & first principles:

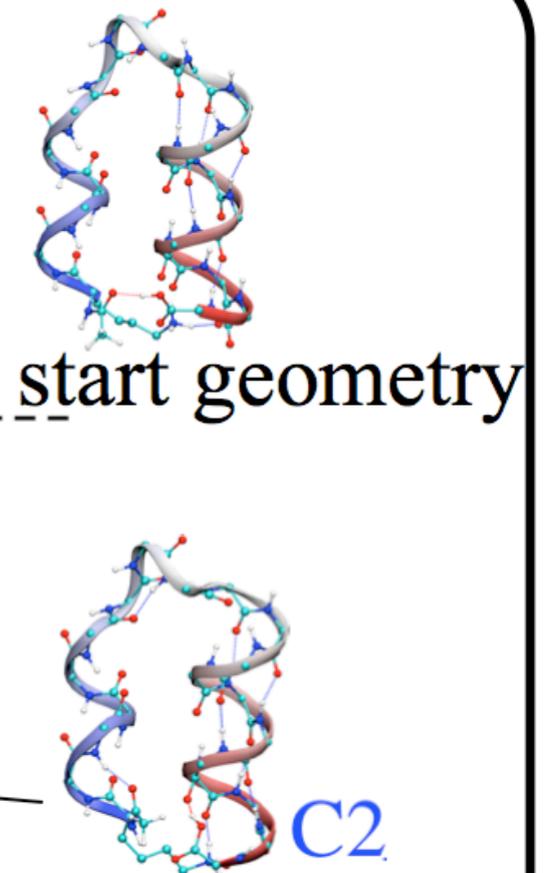
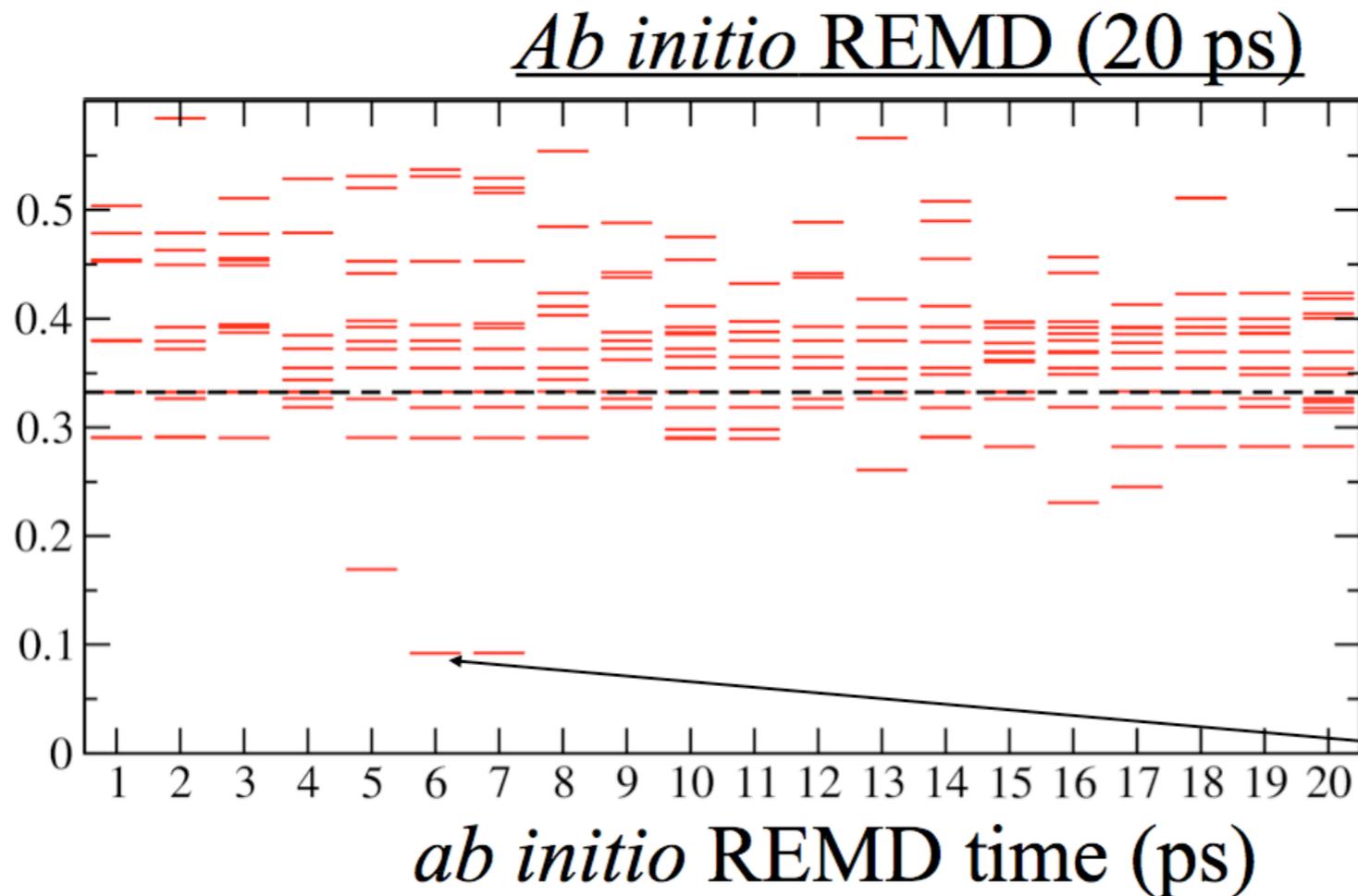
Strategy:

“Global” FF REMD (e.g., 500 ns × 16 trajectories)

(Gromacs  
OPLS-AA)

Postrelax, reweight  $O(10^3)$  midpoint structures

rel. PBE+vdW energy (eV)  
after relaxation

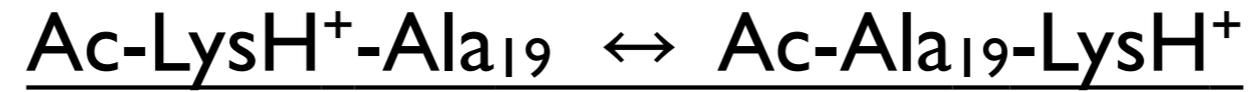


→ rearrange local bond networks (termination!) successfully

# Conformation prototypes vs. IRMPD: (I) Helical monomers

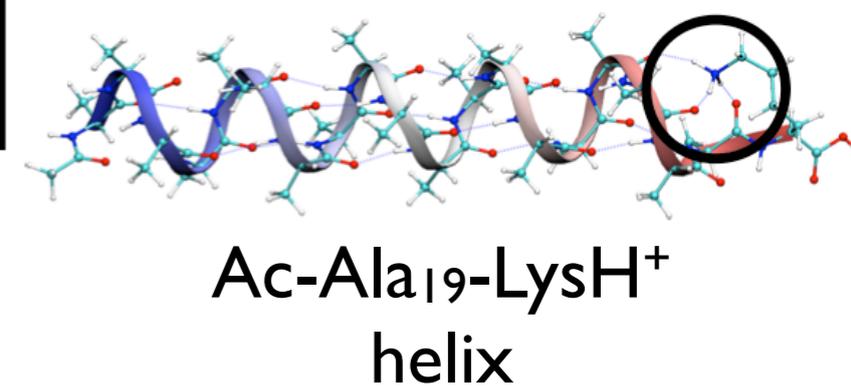
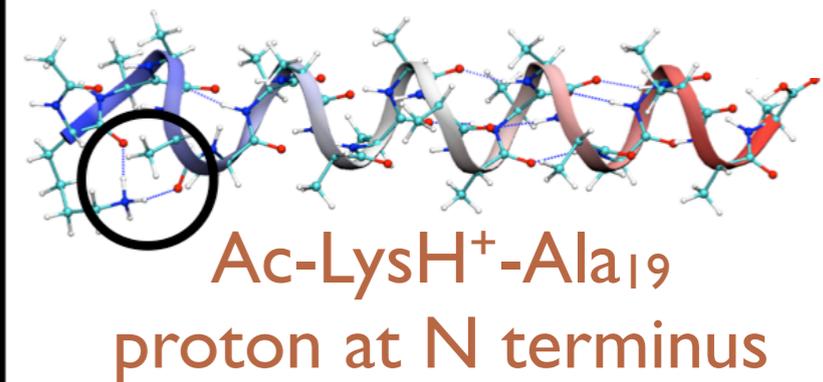
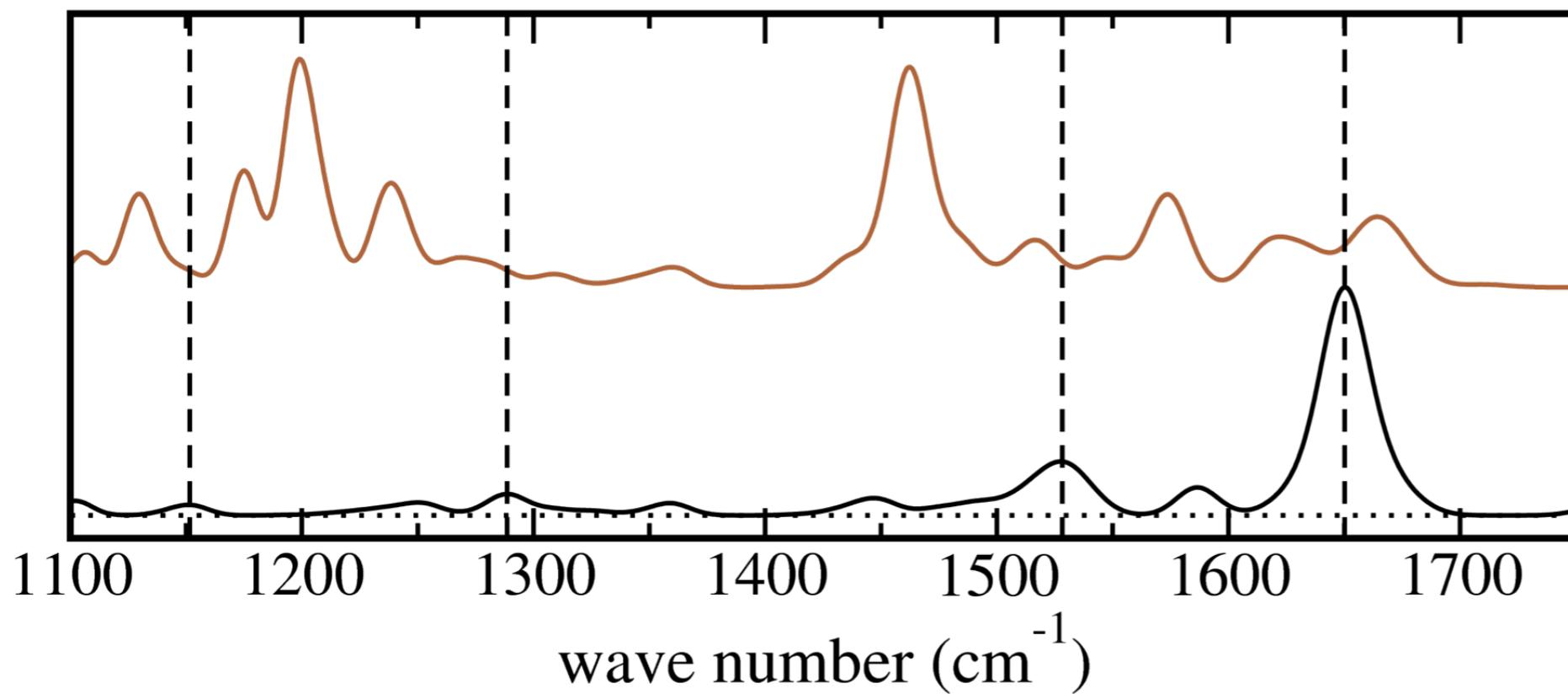
---

Theory-theory comparison, harmonic:



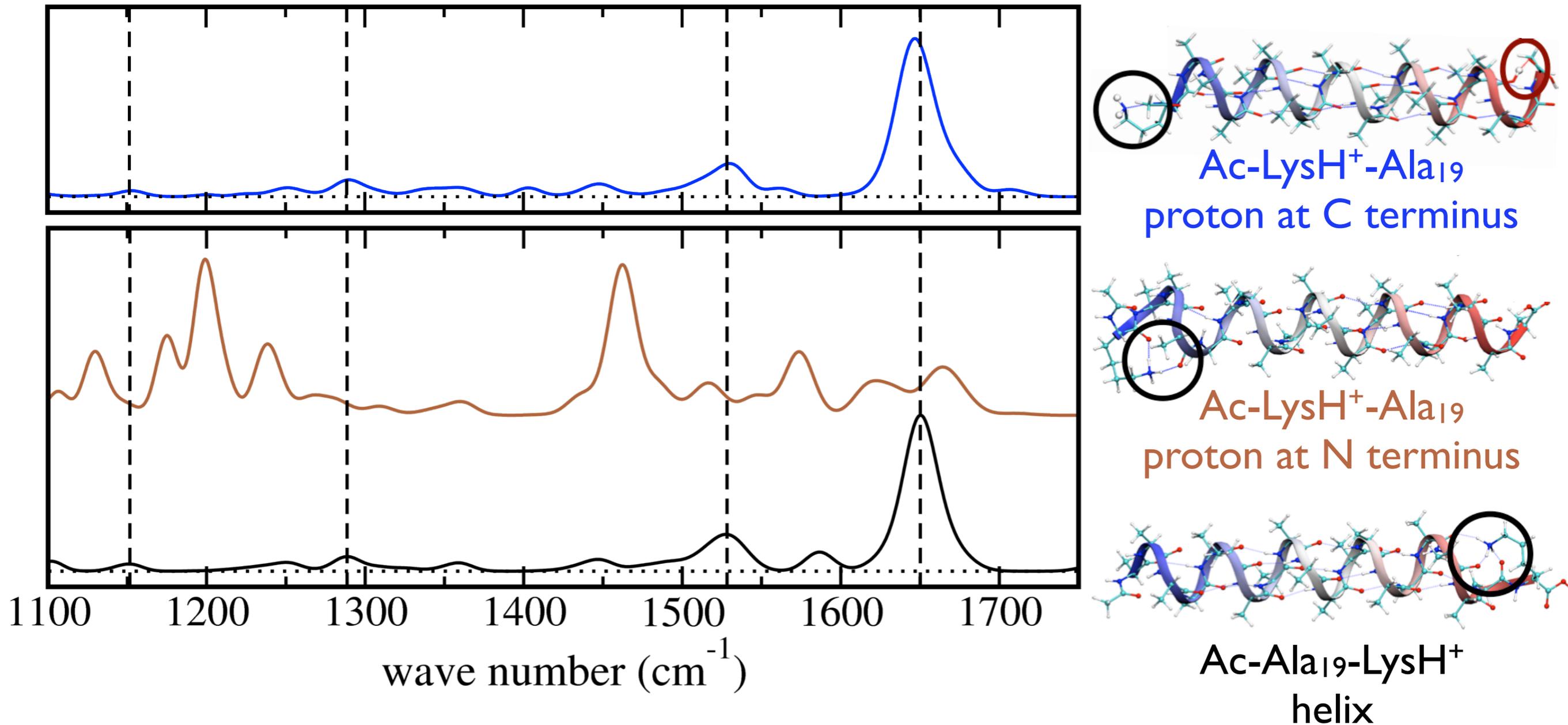
# Conformation prototypes vs. IRMPD: (I) Helical monomers

Theory-theory comparison, harmonic:



# Conformation prototypes vs. IRMPD: (I) Helical monomers

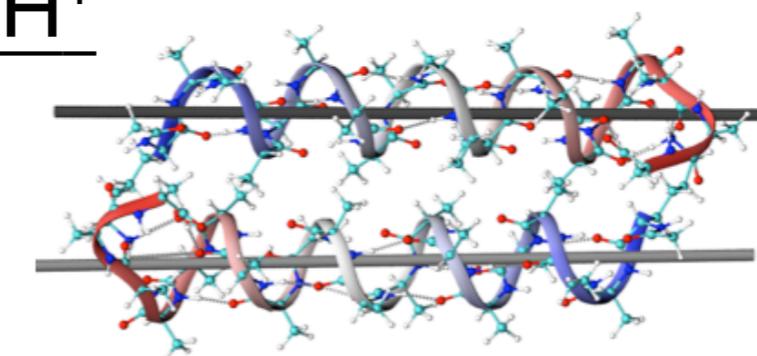
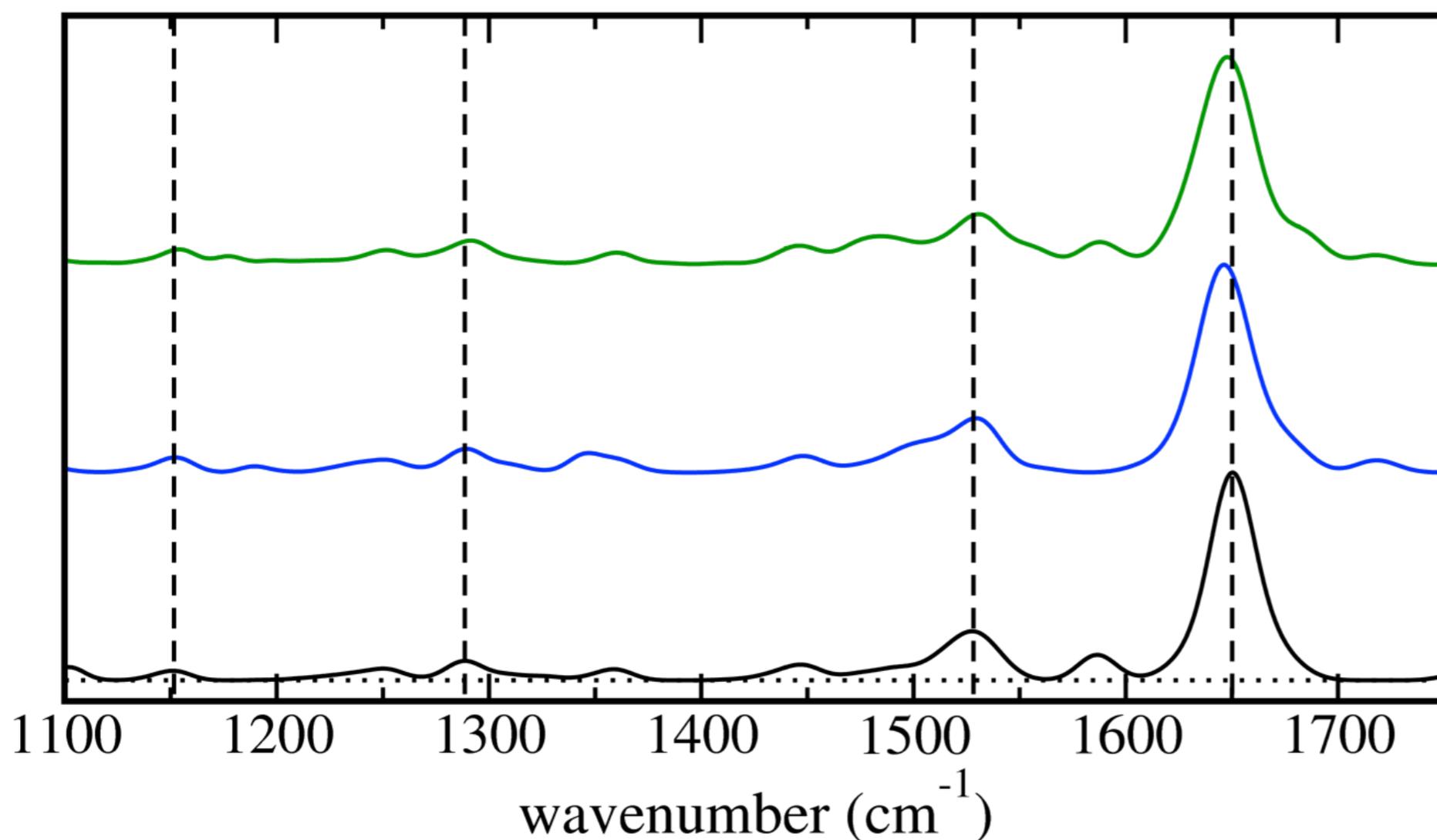
Theory-theory comparison, harmonic:



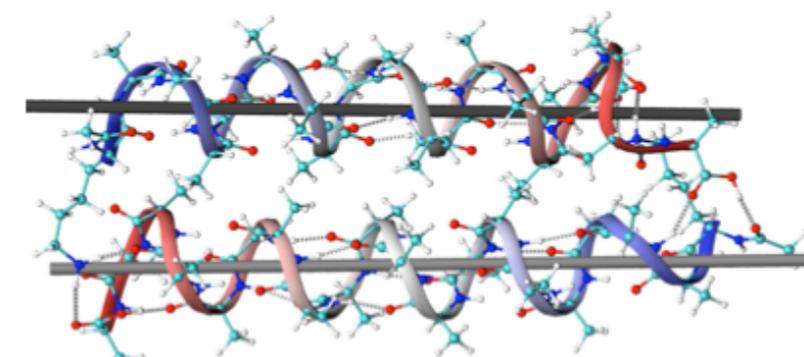
I) “Just helical” models: Need C-terminus proton. No Amide-II shift.

# Conformation prototypes vs. IRMPD: (2) Helical dimers

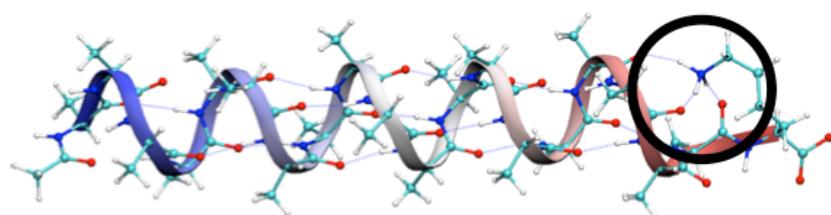
Theory-theory comparison, harmonic:



Ac-Ala<sub>19</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>, dimer 2



Ac-Ala<sub>19</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>, dimer 1

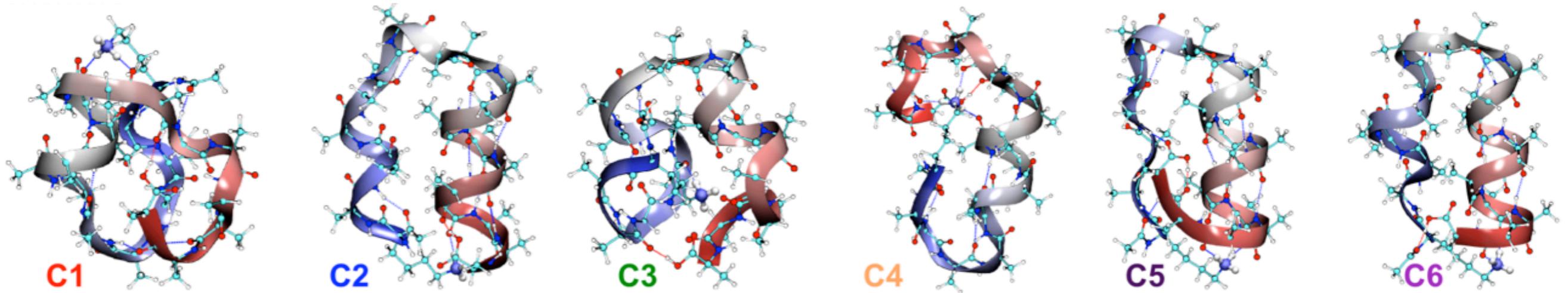


Ac-Ala<sub>19</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>  
helix

2) “Best dimer” models: Plausible, but no Amide-II shift.

# Conformation prototypes vs. IRMPD: (3) Any monomers

Plenty of options close in (harmonic) free energy:



$\Delta F$  0.0

0.06 eV

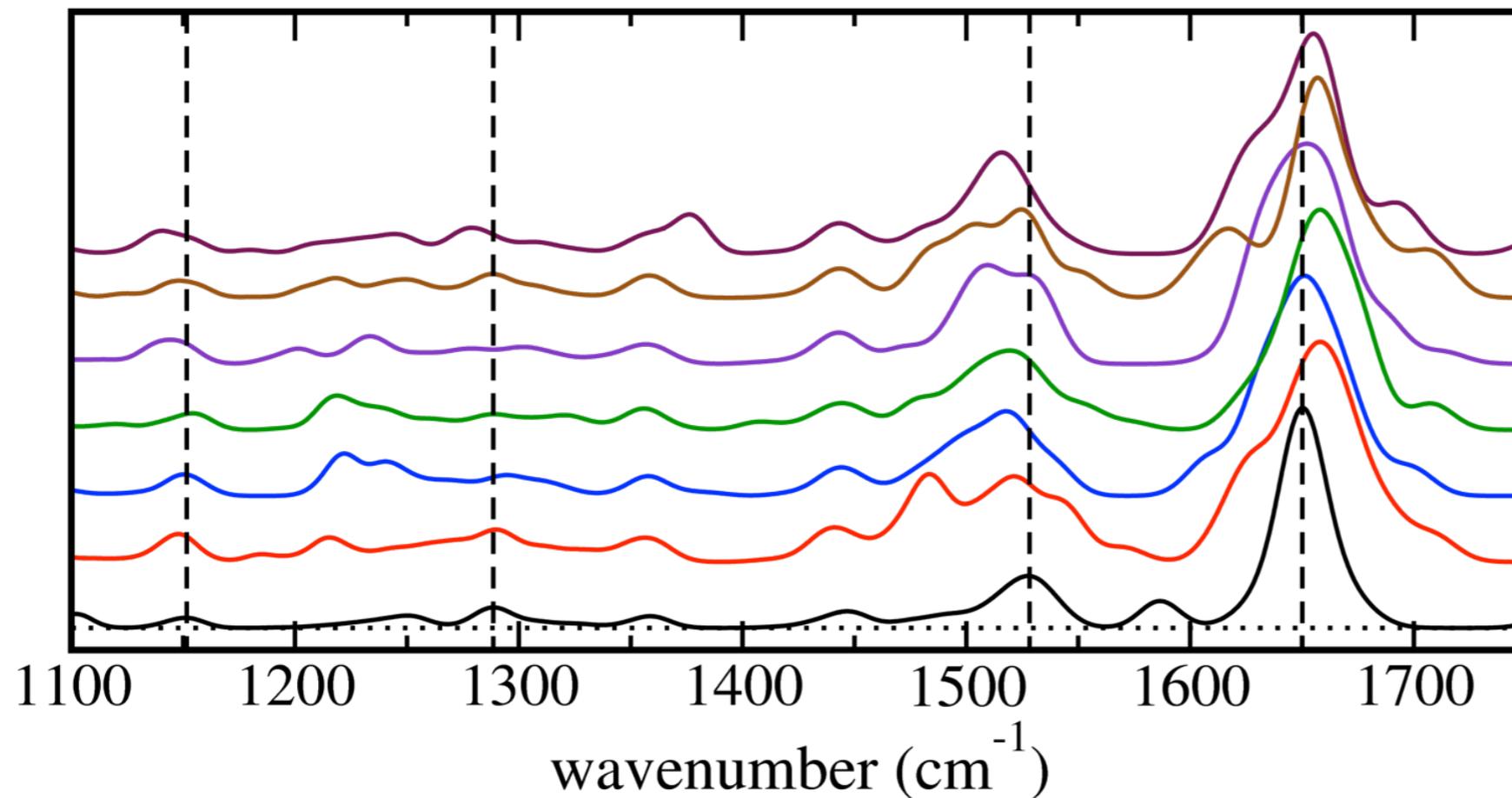
0.09 eV

0.15 eV

0.09 eV

0.12 eV

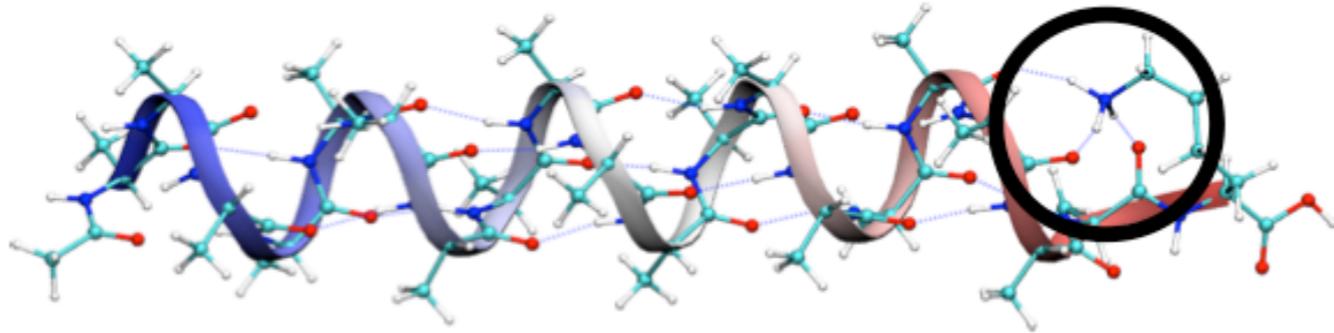
(300K)



3) Many possible monomers.  
Amide-II shift.

# Upshot: $\text{Ac-Ala}_{19}\text{-LysH}^+$ vs. $\text{Ac-LysH}^+\text{-Ala}_{19}$

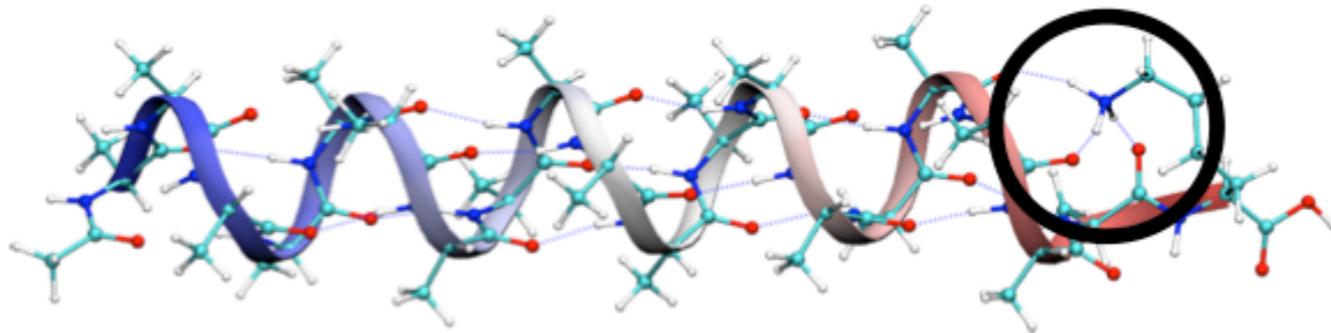
---



$\text{Ac-Ala}_{19}\text{-LysH}^+$ :

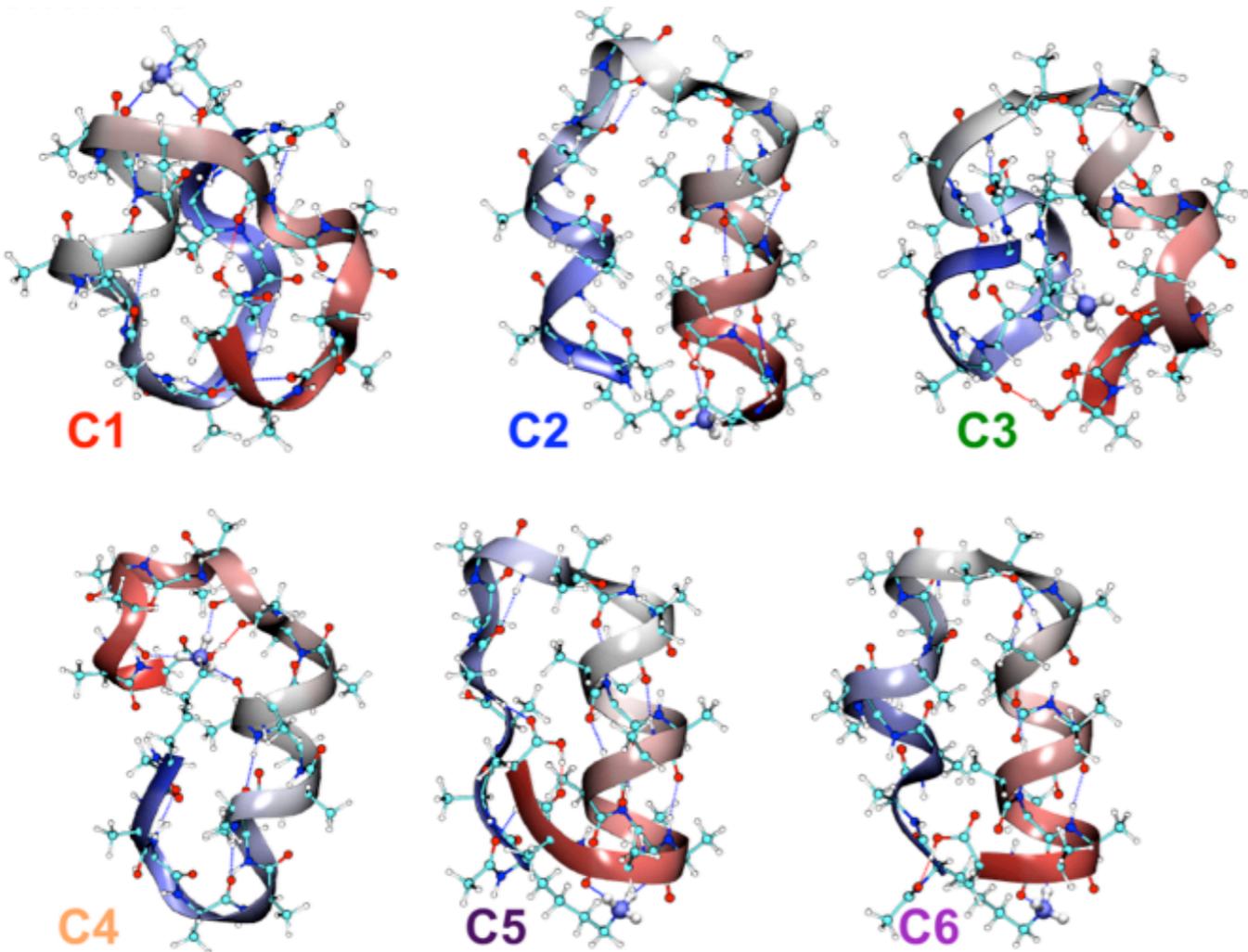
“Helix seeker” - Alanine likes helices, and proton at electrostatically favorable end

# Upshot: Ac-Ala<sub>19</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup> vs. Ac-LysH<sup>+</sup>-Ala<sub>19</sub>



Ac-Ala<sub>19</sub>-LysH<sup>+</sup>:

“Helix seeker” - Alanine likes helices, and proton at electrostatically favorable end



Ac-LysH<sup>+</sup>-Ala<sub>19</sub>

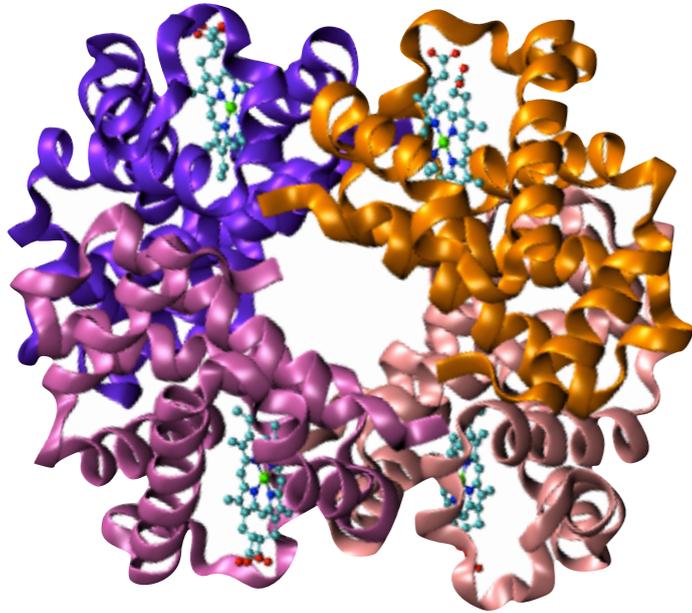
“Frustrated helix seeker” - Alanine likes helices, but proton at “wrong” end

→ Mix of energetically similar “bent” helix segments that twist proton to “right” end of helix explains spectra!

# Cold, not so dense world: Challenges

---

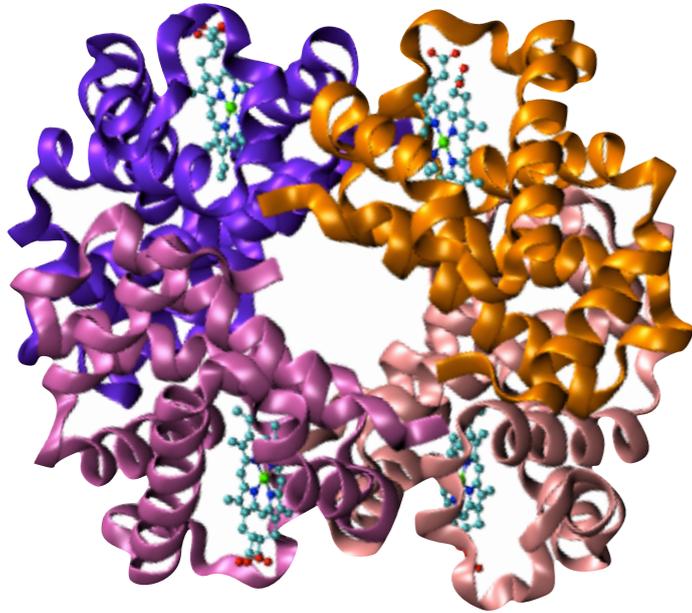
Hemoglobin  
("Real" protein)



# Cold, not so dense world: Challenges

---

Hemoglobin  
("Real" protein)

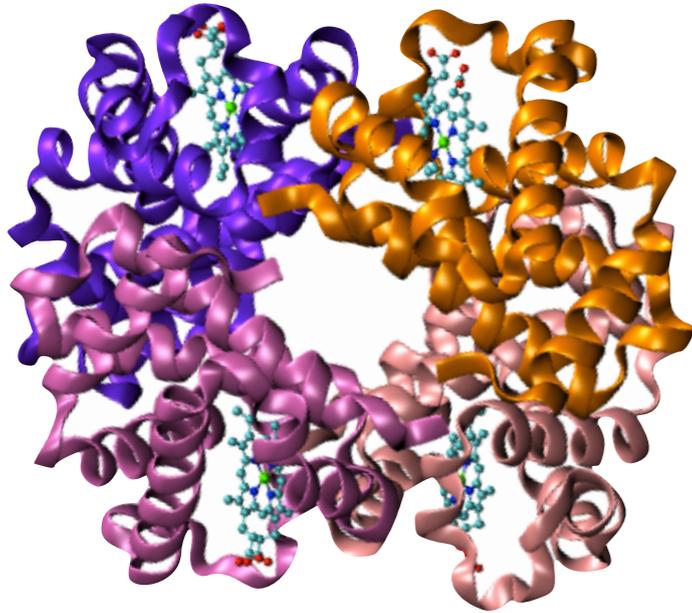


“Trivial”: System sizes, simulation times -  
~100 picoseconds, ~1000 atoms is still low end

# Cold, not so dense world: Challenges

---

Hemoglobin  
("Real" protein)



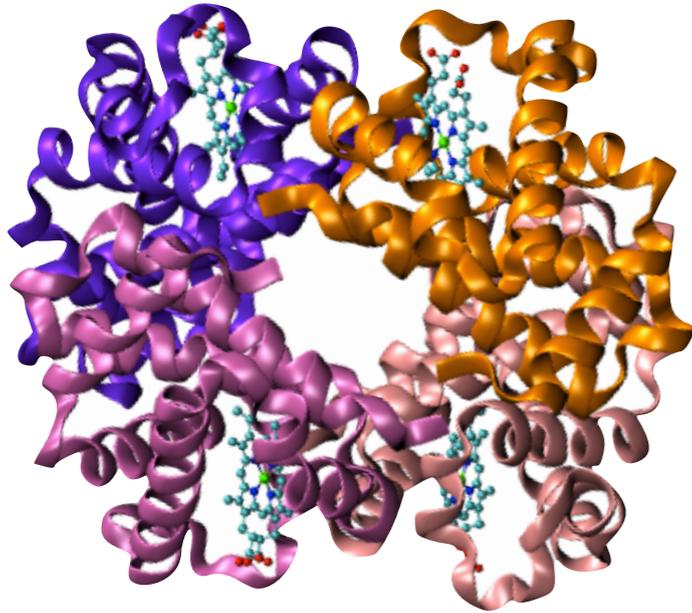
“Trivial”: System sizes, simulation times -  
~100 picoseconds, ~1000 atoms is still low end

“Less trivial”: Meaningful free energy based  
predictions beyond harmonic approximation

# Cold, not so dense world: Challenges

---

Hemoglobin  
("Real" protein)



“Trivial”: System sizes, simulation times -  
~100 picoseconds, ~1000 atoms is still low end

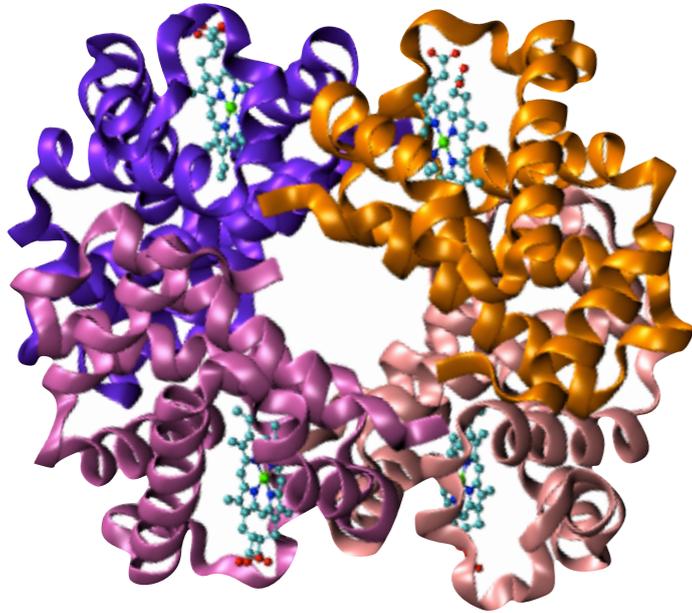
“Less trivial”: Meaningful free energy based  
predictions beyond harmonic approximation

“Less trivial”: “Coarse-grained” techniques to  
sample “rare events” without wasteful simulations

# Cold, not so dense world: Challenges

---

Hemoglobin  
("Real" protein)



“Trivial”: System sizes, simulation times -  
~100 picoseconds, ~1000 atoms is still low end

“Less trivial”: Meaningful free energy based  
predictions beyond harmonic approximation

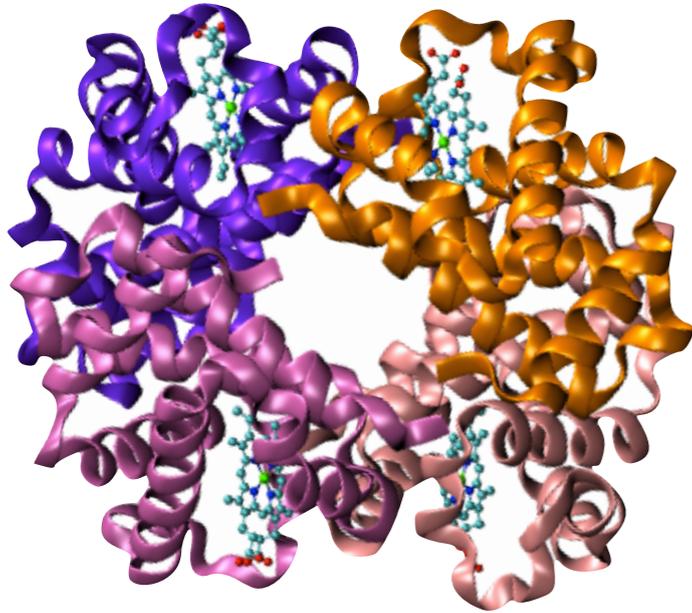
“Less trivial”: “Coarse-grained” techniques to  
sample “rare events” without wasteful simulations

“Less trivial”: Yet more accurate energies, but not  
(much) more expensive. GGA still barely good  
enough for ~few meV

# Cold, not so dense world: Challenges

---

Hemoglobin  
("Real" protein)



“Trivial”: System sizes, simulation times -  
~100 picoseconds, ~1000 atoms is still low end

“Less trivial”: Meaningful free energy based  
predictions beyond harmonic approximation

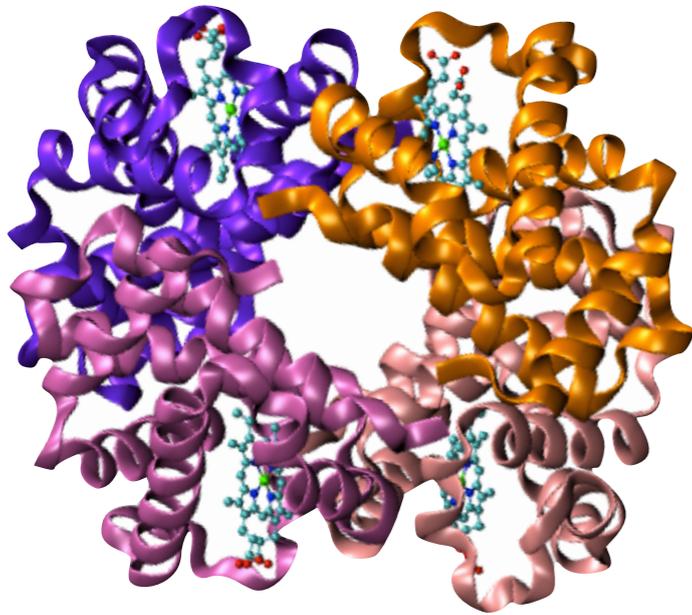
“Less trivial”: “Coarse-grained” techniques to  
sample “rare events” without wasteful simulations

“Less trivial”: Yet more accurate energies, but not  
(much) more expensive. GGA still barely good  
enough for ~few meV

“Not trivial”: Nuclei (esp. hydrogen) are not  
classical particles. Electronic excitations?

# Cold, not so dense world: Challenges

Hemoglobin  
("Real" protein)



“Trivial”: System sizes, simulation times -  
~100 picoseconds, ~1000 atoms is still low end

“Less trivial”: Meaningful free energy based  
predictions beyond harmonic approximation

“Less trivial”: “Coarse-grained” techniques to  
sample “rare events” without wasteful simulations

“Less trivial”: Yet more accurate energies, but not  
(much) more expensive. GGA still barely good  
enough for ~few meV

“Not trivial”: Nuclei (esp. hydrogen) are not  
classical particles. Electronic excitations?

Most of these sound suspiciously like “warm, (somewhat) dense” as well!

# Warm, dense: “Hopes” and challenges

---



“Hopes:”

# Warm, dense: “Hopes” and challenges

---



## “Hopes:”

- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102

# Warm, dense: “Hopes” and challenges

---



## “Hopes:”

- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102
- Simple basic recipe, no implicit limit to all-electron accuracy by cutoff radii, pseudoization radii, etc.

# Warm, dense: “Hopes” and challenges

---



## “Hopes:”

- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102
- Simple basic recipe, no implicit limit to all-electron accuracy by cutoff radii, pseudoization radii, etc.
- Still “pretty compact” basis sets compared to possible alternatives

# Warm, dense: “Hopes” and challenges



## “Hopes:”

- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102
- Simple basic recipe, no implicit limit to all-electron accuracy by cutoff radii, pseudoization radii, etc.
- Still “pretty compact” basis sets compared to possible alternatives

## Challenges:



S.B. Carroll, *Science* 316, 1427 (2007)



# Warm, dense: “Hopes” and challenges



## “Hopes:”

- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102
- Simple basic recipe, no implicit limit to all-electron accuracy by cutoff radii, pseudoization radii, etc.
- Still “pretty compact” basis sets compared to possible alternatives

## Challenges:



- Many atoms per volume = high density of basis functions per volume. We suffer like all others.
- For *very dense* conditions, add basis functions for low-distance limit?

# Warm, dense: “Hopes” and challenges



## “Hopes:”

- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102
- Simple basic recipe, no implicit limit to all-electron accuracy by cutoff radii, pseudoization radii, etc.
- Still “pretty compact” basis sets compared to possible alternatives

## Challenges:



- Many atoms per volume = high density of basis functions per volume. We suffer like all others.
- For *very dense* conditions, add basis functions for low-distance limit?
- Are sums over high-lying states really the way?

# So where are we at?

---



- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102
- Basic numerical techniques for DFT  
Real-space integrals, Poisson equation, scalar relativity  
etc. (*Becke, Delley, Baerends, many others*)
- Non-periodic, periodic boundary conditions on exactly equal footing
- “Properties”: Structure optimization, *ab initio* molecular dynamics, vibrations/phonons, spectroscopy, etc.
- LDA, GGA, van der Waals corrections, hybrid functionals, Hartree-Fock+MP2, RPA, GW, ...
- Massively parallel - scalable eigensolver ELPA

# So where are we at?

---



- Sound, accurate basis sets, elements 1-102
- Basic numerical techniques for DFT  
Real-space integrals, Poisson equation, scalar relativity  
etc. (*Becke, Delley, Baerends, many others*)
- Non-periodic, periodic boundary conditions on exactly equal footing
- “Properties”: Structure optimization, *ab initio* molecular dynamics, vibrations/phonons, spectroscopy, etc.
- LDA, GGA, van der Waals corrections, hybrid functionals, Hartree-Fock+MP2, RPA, GW, ...
- Massively parallel - scalable eigensolver ELPA

Thank you!