

Libra Summer School and Workshop 2024

TSH: Part 1

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*Basic Concepts and Terminology of
Nonadiabatic Dynamics*

Born-Oppenheimer Approximation

$$\hat{H}(\hat{r}, \hat{R}, t) = \hat{T}(\hat{R}) + \hat{H}_{el}(\hat{r}, \hat{R}, t) + \hat{V}_{nn}(\hat{R}, t)$$

$$\hat{H}(\hat{r}, \hat{R})\Psi_n(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = E_n\Psi_n(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})$$

Includes el-el and el-nucl interactions

This is an **electron-nuclear (vibronic)** Hamiltonian

This is an **electron-nuclear (vibronic)** wavefunction

Born-Oppenheimer approximation: a general **time-scale separation** approximation = there are fast and slow degrees of freedom, in general. **Enables factorization** $X(\text{fast}, \text{slow}) \approx x(\text{slow})y(\text{fast}; \text{slow})$ the adiabatic approximation applied to **electrons and nuclei**

- Nuclei are heavier than electrons, so nuclei are seen by electrons as static entities
- Electrons move in the field created by immobile nuclei and themselves
- $m_{nucl} \gg m_{elec}$, so treat nuclei classically, and electrons – quantum-mechanically

$$\hat{H}(\hat{r}, \hat{R})\Psi_n(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = E_n\Psi_n(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})$$



$$\hat{H}(\hat{r}; \mathbf{R}(t))\Psi_n(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R}) = E_n(\mathbf{R})\Psi_n(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R}(t))$$

BO approximation

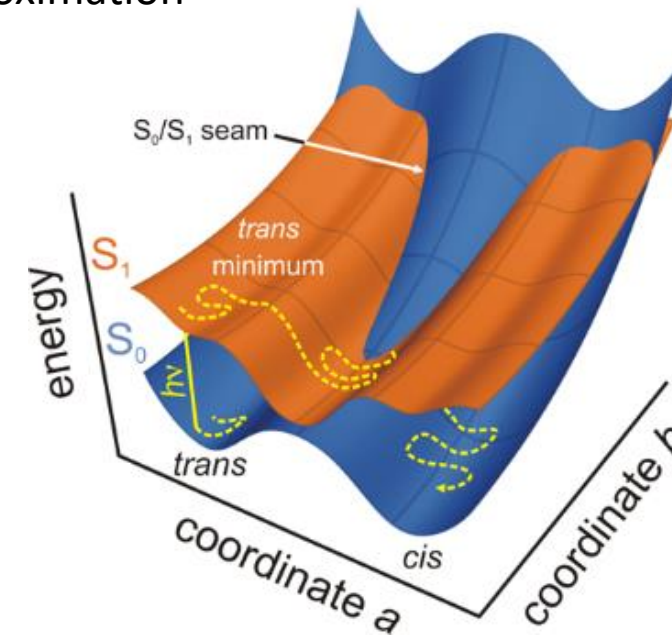
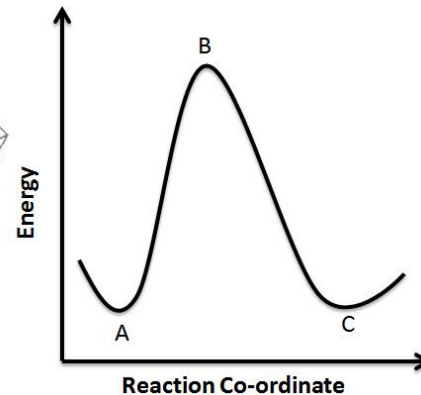
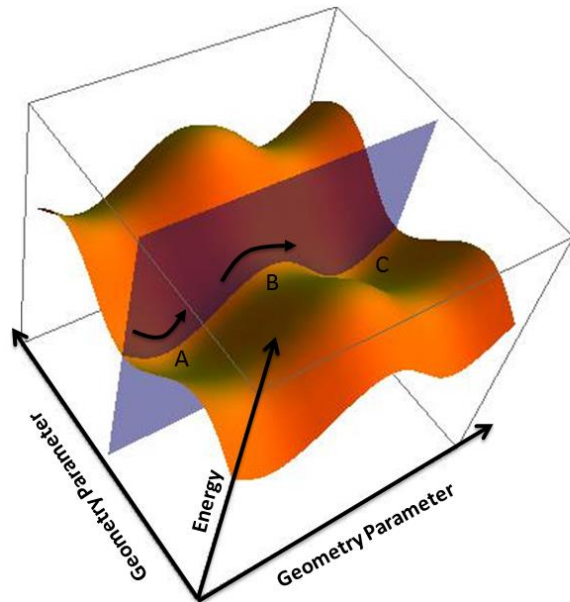
Coordinates of nuclei are the **dynamical variables**
Energy - is a number

Coordinates of nuclei are **parameters**
Energy – is a function of these parameters: **potential energy surface**

Potential energy surfaces (PES)

$$E_n(\mathbf{R}) = \langle \Psi_n(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) | \hat{H}_{el}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) | \Psi_n(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) \rangle_r + V_{nn}(\mathbf{R})$$

- Energy of a given state as a function of nuclear coordinates
- Multidimensional, but one is often interested in lower-dimensional cuts (profiles)
- Topology: minima, maxima, barriers, saddle points
- Reaction coordinate – a collective transformation of all atoms
- Present only as a consequence of the BO approximation

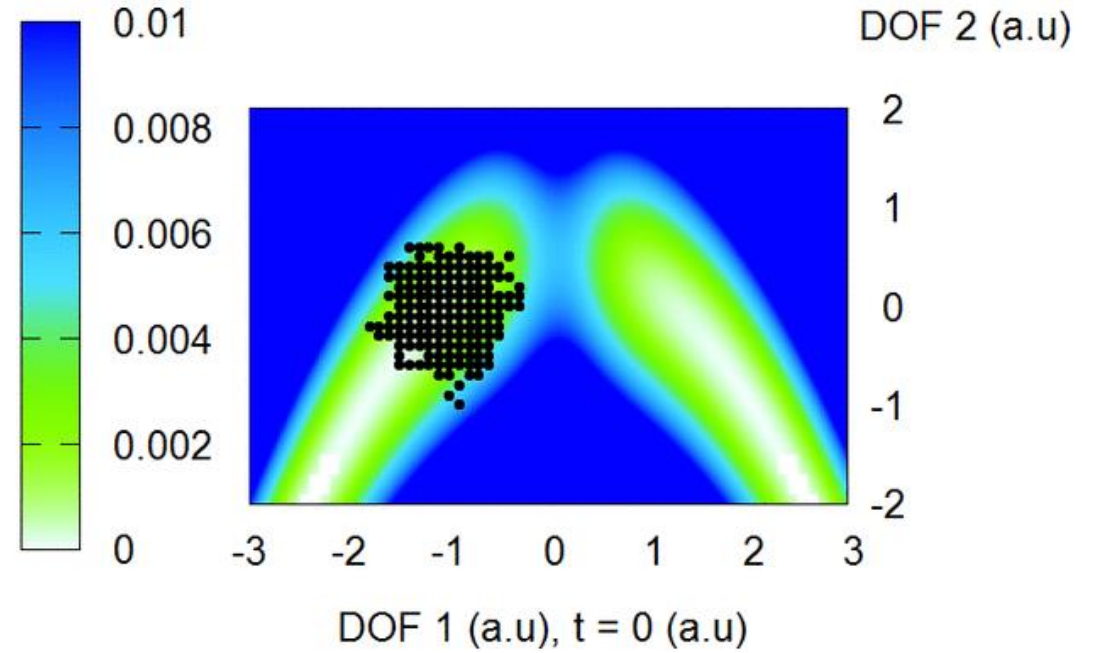
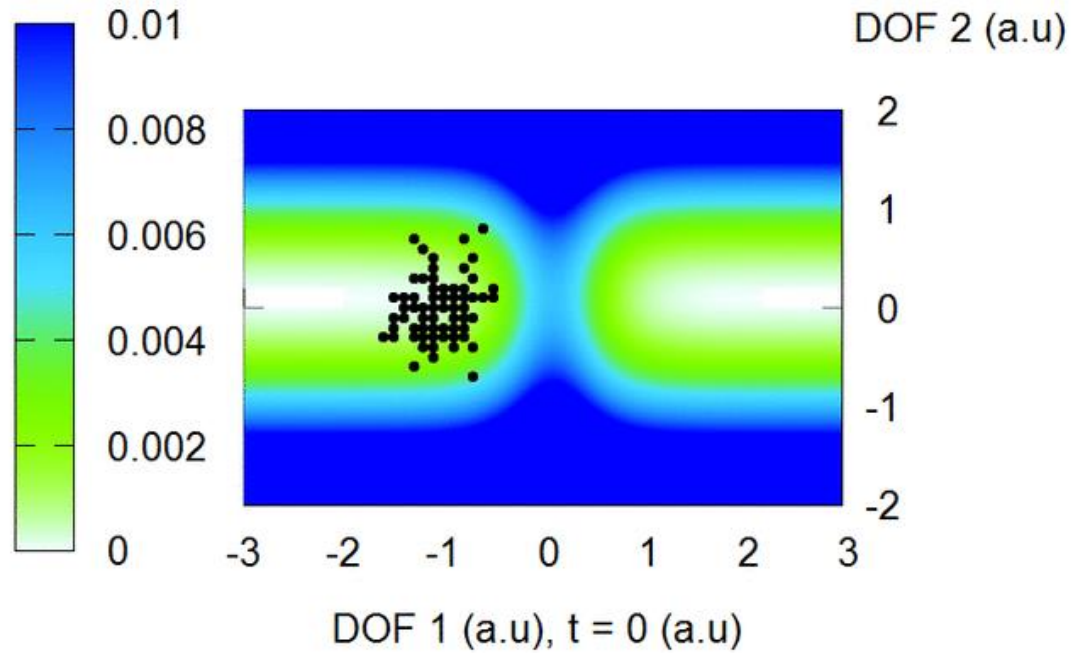


https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&url=https%3A%2F%2Fcommons.wikimedia.org%2Fwiki%2FFile%3APotential_Energy_Surface_and_Corresponding_Reaction_Coordinate_Diagram.png&psig=AOvVaw3JUnkD5y1MiNgWew9eCb6c&ust=1588191360500000&source=images&cd=vfe&ved=0CAIQjRxqFwoTCJ3nob4i-kCFQAAAAAdAAAAABAg

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Potential energy surfaces define the reactive dynamics

Credit: Brendan Smith



Tiers of approximation to the molecular Hamiltonian

Disregard the form of the wavefunction for now

Exact TD-SE

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})}{\partial t} = [\hat{T}(\hat{\mathbf{R}}) + \hat{H}_{el}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}, \hat{\mathbf{R}}) + \hat{V}_{nn}(\hat{\mathbf{R}})] \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})$$

Everything is operators!

TD-SE with the BO

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})}{\partial t} = [\hat{T}(\hat{\mathbf{R}}) + \hat{H}_{el}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}; \mathbf{R}) + \hat{V}_{nn}(\mathbf{R})] \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})$$

Electronic DOFs are still operators (quantum)

Nuclear DOFs are variables – could be independent (quantum)
or could be time-dependent (classical path)

In general, we still have nuclear kinetic energy operator (for quantum nuclei)

TD-SE with the classical
path approximation
(CPA)

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})}{\partial t} = [T(\mathbf{P}) + \hat{H}_{el}(\hat{\mathbf{r}}; \mathbf{R}(t)) + \hat{V}_{nn}(\mathbf{R}(t))] \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})$$

Nuclear DOFs are time-dependent variables

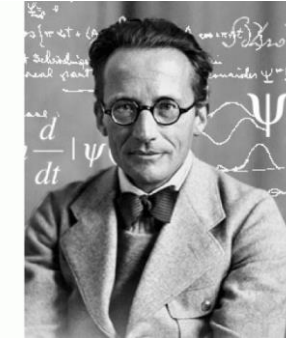
Kinetic energy is a function of momentum

Adiabatic Approximation. Adiabatic and Nonadiabatic Dynamics

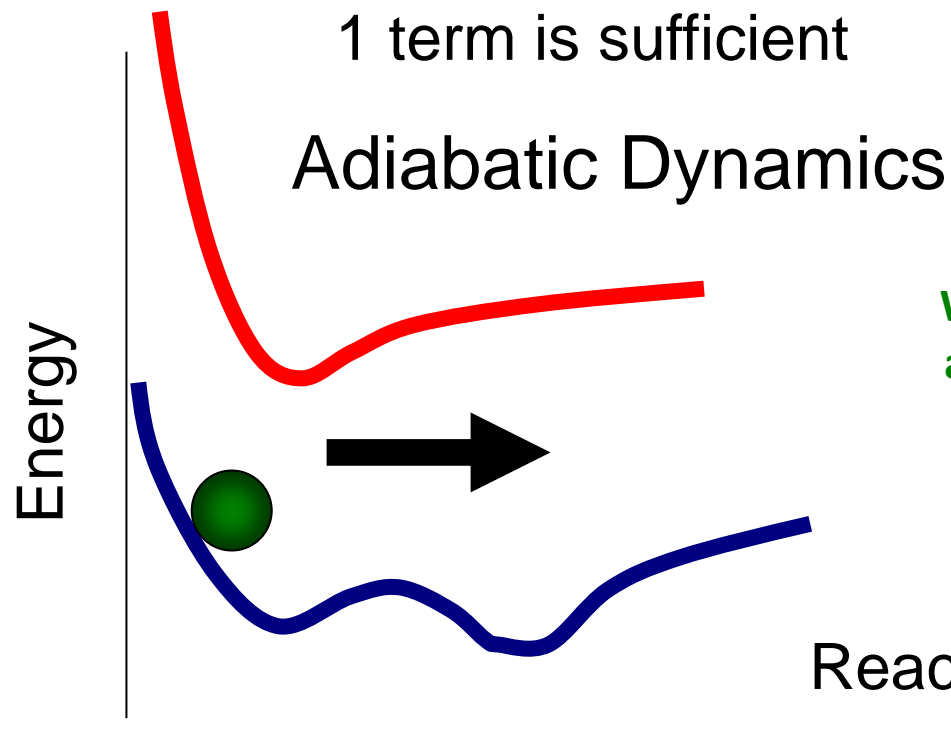
$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})}{\partial t} = H(t, \hat{\mathbf{r}}, \hat{\mathbf{R}}) \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})$$

$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \sum_i \chi_i(t, \mathbf{R}) \Phi_i(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R}(t))$$

Except for in the exact factorization ansatz!

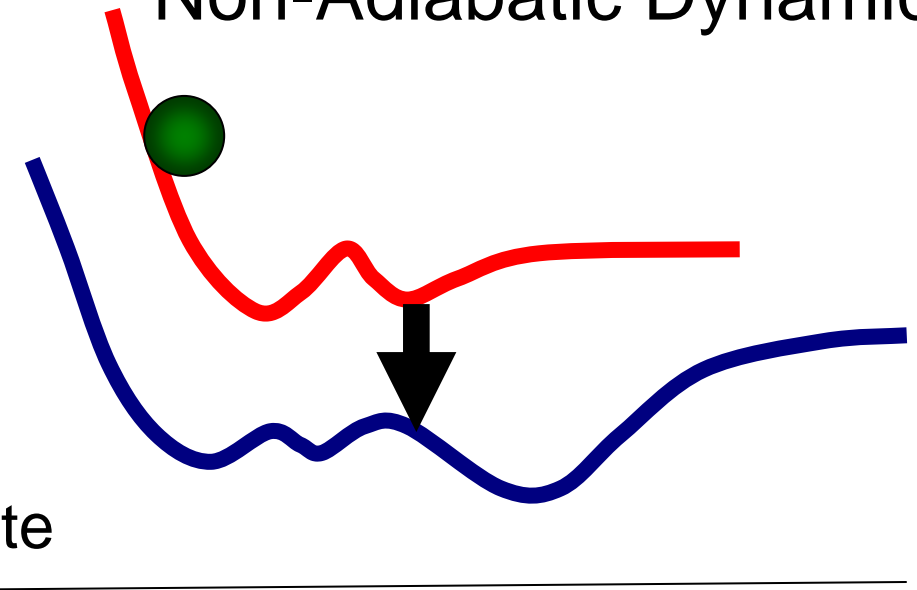


Adiabatic approximation: keep only one term



Where is the BO approximation?

Need more than 1 state
Non-Adiabatic Dynamics

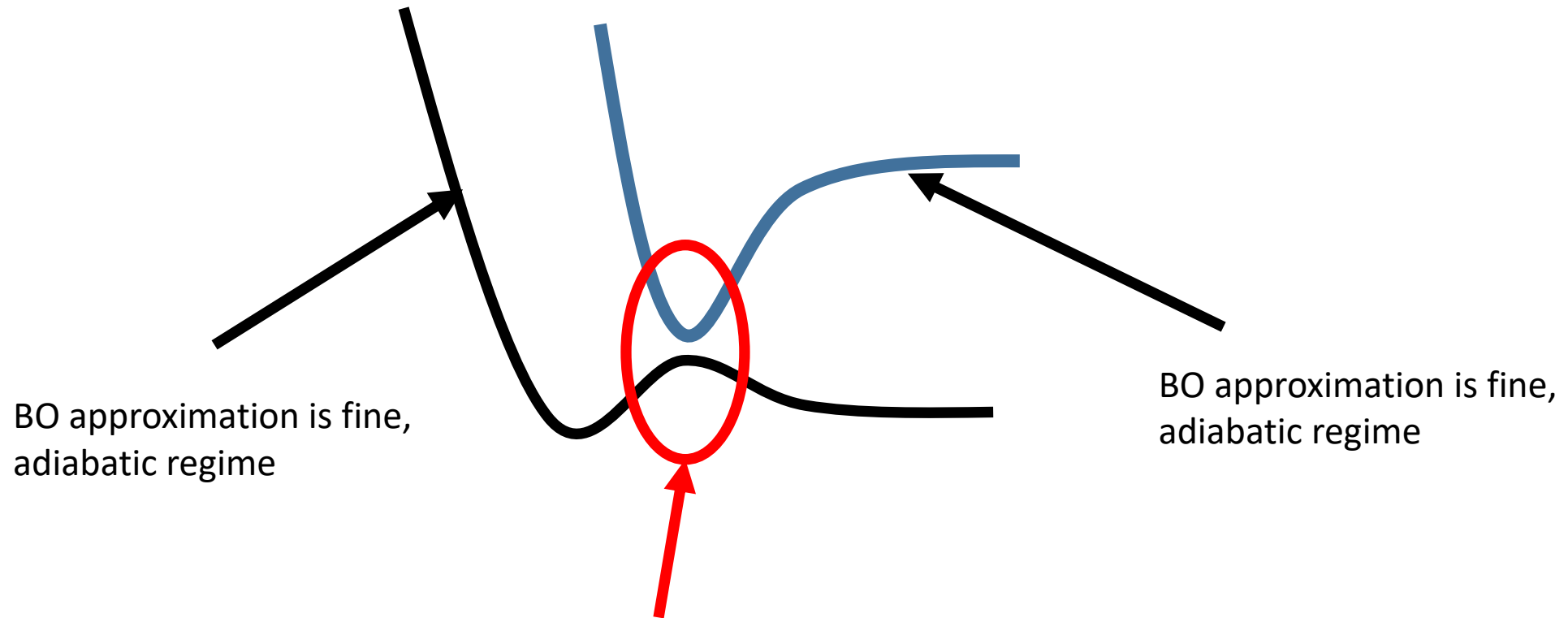


When NA dynamics is needed: Failure of the Born-Oppenheimer Approximation

$$E_{kin} \gg |E_i - E_j|$$

$$v = \frac{p}{m}$$

- light atoms (e.g. H – quantum nuclear effects)
- high-energy (momentum) – e.g. colliding particles
- degeneracies of quantum states (bond-breaking, plasmas, metals)



BO approximation is fine,
adiabatic regime

BO approximation is fine,
adiabatic regime

BO approximation breaks down here, non-adiabatic regime

Tiers of approximations to the wavefunction

The solution largely depends on the approximation we make to represent the total wavefunction $\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})$

Nonadiabatic

Adiabatic

Exact factorization

Agostini, F.; Curchod, B. F. E. *WIREs Computational Molecular Science* **2019**, *9*, e1417.

Quantum nuclei, with BO approximation (AIMS, QTAG, etc.)

Makhov, D. V.; Glover, W. J.; Martinez, T. J.; Shalashilin, D. V. *J. Chem. Phys.* **2014**, *141*, 054110.

Wavepacket-dressed trajectories

Dutra, M.; Garashchuk, S.; Akimov, A. V. *Int. J. Quantum Chem.* **2023** e27078.

Bare trajectories

Tully, J. C. *J. Chem. Phys.* **1990**, *93*, 1061–1071.

$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \chi(t, \mathbf{R})\Phi_{\mathbf{R}}(t, \mathbf{r})$$

$$\int d\mathbf{r} |\Phi_{\mathbf{R}}(\mathbf{r}, t)| = 1, \forall \mathbf{R}$$

$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \sum_i \chi_i(t, \mathbf{R})\Phi_i(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R})$$

$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \chi(t, \mathbf{R})\Phi(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R})$$

$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \sum_i \chi_i(t, \mathbf{R})\Phi_i(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R}(t))$$

$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \chi(t, \mathbf{R})\Phi(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R}(t))$$

$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R}(t)) = \sum_i c_i(t)\Phi_i(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R}(t))$$

$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R}(t)) = c(t)\Phi(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R}(t))$$

Terminology: Adiabatic and Diabatic States

Adiabatic

- unique
- eigenstates of molecular Hamiltonian:
- not always chemically-intuitive

Adiabatic (Hamiltonian is diagonal):

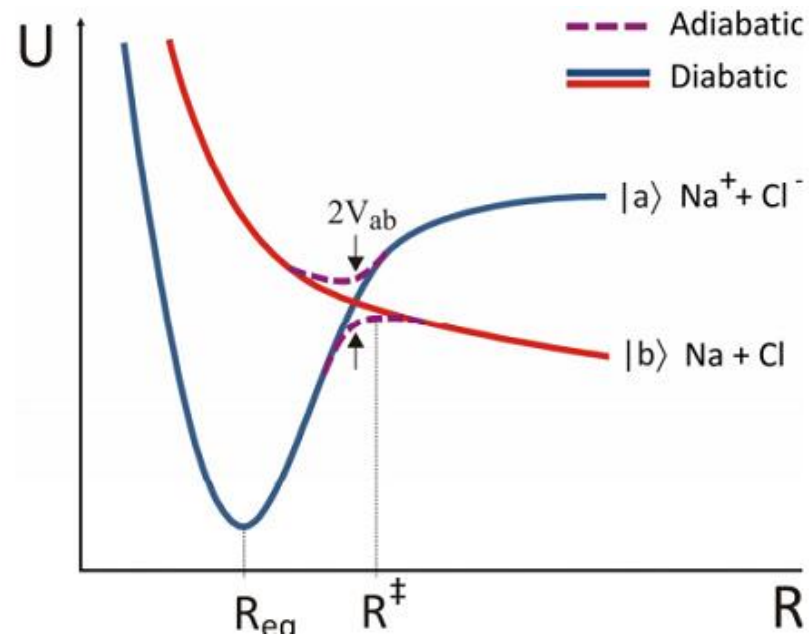
$$\langle \psi_{adi,i} | \hat{H}_{el} | \psi_{adi,j} \rangle = 0, \forall i \neq j$$

(Quasi-)Diabatic

- non-unique, infinite # of possibilities
- Is not an eigenstate of molecular Hamiltonian
- usually chosen to be chemically-intuitive

Diabatic (NACs are exactly zero):

$$\langle \psi_{dia,i} | \nabla_{\mathbf{R}} | \psi_{dia,j} \rangle = 0, \forall \mathbf{R}$$



Examples of Deriving Equations of Motion with Different Approximations

Example 1: BO with quantum nuclei

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})}{\partial t} = H(t, \hat{\mathbf{r}}, \hat{\mathbf{R}}) \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})$$

$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \sum_i \chi_i(t, \mathbf{R}) \Phi_i(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R})$$

Example 2: BO with wavepacket-dressed trajectories

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})}{\partial t} = H(t, \hat{\mathbf{r}}, \hat{\mathbf{R}}) \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})$$

$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \sum_i \chi_i(t, \mathbf{R}) \Phi_i(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R}(t))$$

Case 1: Compute the action of \hat{T} on Ψ

$$\nabla^2(AB) = \nabla(\nabla(AB)) = \nabla((\nabla A)B + A\nabla B) = (\nabla^2 A)B + 2(\nabla A)(\nabla B) + A\nabla^2 B$$

$$\left(\sum_{\alpha} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M_{\alpha}} \nabla_{\alpha}^2\right) \chi_j \Phi_j = \left(\sum_{\alpha} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M_{\alpha}} \nabla_{\alpha}^2 \chi_j\right) \Phi_j - \left(2 \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\hbar^2}{2M_{\alpha}} \nabla_{\alpha} \Phi_j \nabla_{\alpha} \chi_j\right) + \left(\sum_{\alpha} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M_{\alpha}} \nabla_{\alpha}^2 \Phi_j\right) \chi_j$$

$$\hat{T} \chi_j \Phi_j = (\hat{T} \chi_j) \Phi_j - \left(\sum_{\alpha} \frac{\hbar^2}{M_{\alpha}} \nabla_{\alpha} \Phi_j \nabla_{\alpha} \chi_j\right) + (\hat{T} \Phi_j) \chi_j$$

We keep all terms, because Φ is a function of R

Project on an arbitrary state Φ_i :

$$\langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \chi_j \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} = \langle \Phi_i | \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} \hat{T} \chi_j - \left(\sum_{\alpha} \frac{\hbar^2}{M_{\alpha}} \langle \Phi_i | \nabla_{\alpha} \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} \nabla_{\alpha} \chi_j\right) + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} \chi_j$$

$$\langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \chi_j \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} = \delta_{ij} \hat{T} \chi_j - \left(\sum_{\alpha} \frac{\hbar^2}{M_{\alpha}} \langle \Phi_i | \nabla_{\alpha} \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} \nabla_{\alpha} \chi_j\right) + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} \chi_j$$

$$\langle \Phi_i | \hat{H}_{nucl} | \chi_j \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} = \langle \Phi_i | \hat{H}_{nucl} | \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} \chi_j = \langle \Phi_i | E_j(\mathbf{R}) | \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} \chi_j = E_j(\mathbf{R}) \langle \Phi_i | \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} \chi_j = E_j(\mathbf{R}) \delta_{ij} \chi_j$$

$$\langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} + \hat{H}_{nucl} | \Psi \rangle = \sum_j \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} + \hat{H}_{nucl} | \chi_j \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} = \sum_j \left[\delta_{ij} \hat{T} \chi_j - \left(\sum_{\alpha} \frac{\hbar^2}{M_{\alpha}} \langle \Phi_i | \nabla_{\alpha} \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} \nabla_{\alpha} \chi_j\right) + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \Phi_j \rangle_{\mathbf{r}} \chi_j + E_j(\mathbf{R}) \delta_{ij} \chi_j \right]$$

Compute the LHS: Case 1

$$\langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \chi_j \Phi_j \rangle_r = \langle \Phi_i | \Phi_j \rangle_r \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_j + \langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \Phi_j \rangle_r \chi_j = \delta_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_j$$

$$i\hbar \langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \Psi \rangle_r = i\hbar \sum_j \langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \chi_j \Phi_j \rangle_r = i\hbar \sum_j \delta_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_j = i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_i$$

Now, combine the two parts of the equation:

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})}{\partial t} = H(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) \Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_i = [\hat{T} + E_i(\mathbf{R}) + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \Phi_i \rangle] \chi_i - \sum_{j, \alpha} \frac{\hbar^2}{M_\alpha} \langle \Phi_i | \nabla_\alpha \Phi_j \rangle \nabla_\alpha \chi_j - \sum_{j \neq i, \alpha} \frac{\hbar^2}{2M_\alpha} \langle \Phi_i | \nabla_\alpha^2 \Phi_j \rangle \chi_j$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_i = [\hat{T} + E_i(\mathbf{R}) + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \Phi_i \rangle] \chi_i - i\hbar \sum_{j, \alpha} \langle \Phi_i | \nabla_\alpha \Phi_j \rangle \frac{(-i\hbar \nabla_\alpha) \chi_j}{M_\alpha} - \sum_{j \neq i, \alpha} \frac{\hbar^2}{2M_\alpha} \langle \Phi_i | \nabla_\alpha^2 \Phi_j \rangle \chi_j$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_i = [\hat{T} + E_i(\mathbf{R}) + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \Phi_i \rangle] \chi_i - i\hbar \sum_{j, \alpha} \langle \Phi_i | \nabla_\alpha \Phi_j \rangle \frac{\hat{p}_\alpha \chi_j}{M_\alpha} - \sum_{j \neq i, \alpha} \frac{\hbar^2}{2M_\alpha} \langle \Phi_i | \nabla_\alpha^2 \Phi_j \rangle \chi_j$$

Nonadiabatic dynamics

This is what defines the evolution of nuclear component of the wavefunction and populations of all electronic states.

$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \sum_i \chi_i(t, \mathbf{R}) \Phi_i(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R})$$

Diagonal BO correction to the PES!
(ZPE of electrons)

In the **adiabatic basis**

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_i = [\hat{T} + E_i(\mathbf{R}(t)) + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \Phi_i \rangle] \chi_i - i\hbar \sum_{j, \alpha} D_{ij, \alpha}^{(1)} \frac{\hat{p}_\alpha \chi_j}{M_\alpha} - \sum_{j \neq i, \alpha} \frac{\hbar^2}{2M_\alpha} D_{ij, \alpha}^{(2)} \chi_j$$

$$D_{ij, \alpha}^{(1)} = \langle \Phi_i | \nabla_\alpha \Phi_j \rangle$$

first-order nonadiabatic couplings (NAC) - vector

Describes how a nuclear DOF α couples electronic state i and j
This is what determines the rates of nonadiabatic transitions.

$$D_{ij, \alpha}^{(2)} = \langle \Phi_i | \nabla_\alpha^2 \Phi_j \rangle$$

second-order NAC - scalar

In the **diabatic basis**

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_i = [\hat{T} + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{H}_{el} | \Phi_i \rangle + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \Phi_i \rangle] \chi_i$$

Nuclear dynamics on state i is defined by the probability density: $P_i(t, \mathbf{R}) = |\langle \Phi_i | \Psi \rangle_r|^2 = |\chi_i(t, \mathbf{R})|^2$

Population of a state i : $P_i(t) = |\langle \Phi_i | \Psi \rangle_{r, \mathbf{R}}|^2 = |\chi_i(t)|^2$

Case 2: Compute the action of \hat{T} on Ψ

$$\left(\sum_{\alpha} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M_{\alpha}} \nabla_{\alpha}^2\right) \chi_j \Phi_j = \left(\sum_{\alpha} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M_{\alpha}} \nabla_{\alpha}^2 \chi_j\right) \Phi_j - \left(2 \sum_{\alpha} \frac{\hbar^2}{2M_{\alpha}} \cancel{\nabla_{\alpha} \Phi_j} \nabla_{\alpha} \chi_j\right) + \left(\sum_{\alpha} -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M_{\alpha}} \cancel{\nabla_{\alpha}^2 \Phi_j}\right) \chi_j$$

$$\hat{T}(\chi_j \Phi_j) = (\hat{T} \chi_j) \Phi_j$$

because Φ is only a function of time, not \mathbf{R}

$$\langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \chi_j \Phi_j \rangle_r = \delta_{ij} \hat{T} \chi_j \quad \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} + \hat{H}_{nucl} | \Psi \rangle = \sum_j \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} + \hat{H}_{nucl} | \chi_j \Phi_j \rangle_r = \sum_j [\delta_{ij} \hat{T} \chi_j + E_j(\mathbf{R}) \delta_{ij}]$$

Compute the LHS



$$\langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \chi_j \Phi_j \rangle = \langle \Phi_i | \Phi_j \rangle_r \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_j + \langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \Phi_j \rangle \chi_j = \delta_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_j + \langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \Phi_j \rangle \chi_j$$

$$i\hbar \langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \Psi \rangle_r = i\hbar \sum_j \langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \chi_j \Phi_j \rangle_r = i\hbar \sum_j \delta_{ij} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_j + i\hbar \sum_j \langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \Phi_j \rangle \chi_j = i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_i + i\hbar \sum_j \langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \Phi_j \rangle \chi_j$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_i = [\hat{T} + E_i(\mathbf{R}(t))] \chi_i - i\hbar \sum_j \langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \Phi_j \rangle \chi_j$$

$$\langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial t} | \Phi_j \rangle = \sum_{j,\alpha} \langle \Phi_i | \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\alpha}} | \Phi_j \rangle \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_{\alpha}}{\partial t} = \sum_{j,\alpha} D_{ij,\alpha}^{(1)} \frac{\mathbf{P}_{\alpha}}{M_{\alpha}}$$

This terms appears because Φ is an implicit function of time, via $\mathbf{R}(t)$

Example 1: BO with quantum nuclei

$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \sum_i \chi_i(t, \mathbf{R}) \Phi_i(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R})$$

Nonadiabatic, adiabatic basis

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_i = [\hat{T} + E_i(\mathbf{R}(t)) + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \Phi_i \rangle] \chi_i - i\hbar \sum_{j,\alpha} D_{ij,\alpha}^{(1)} \frac{\hat{p}_\alpha \chi_j}{M_\alpha} - \sum_{j \neq i, \alpha} \frac{\hbar^2}{2M_\alpha} D_{ij,\alpha}^{(2)} \chi_j$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_i = [\hat{T} + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{H}_{el} | \Phi_i \rangle + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \Phi_i \rangle] \chi_i$$

Nonadiabatic, diabatic basis

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi = [\hat{T} + E_i(\mathbf{R}(t)) + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \Phi_i \rangle] \chi$$

Adiabatic, adiabatic basis

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi = [\hat{T} + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{H}_{el} | \Phi_i \rangle + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{T} | \Phi_i \rangle] \chi$$

Adiabatic, diabatic basis

Example 2: BO with wavepacket-dressed trajectories

$$\Psi(t, \mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \sum_i \chi_i(t, \mathbf{R}) \Phi_i(\mathbf{r}; \mathbf{R}(t))$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_i = [\hat{T} + E_i(\mathbf{R}(t))] \chi_i - i\hbar \sum_{j,\alpha} D_{ij,\alpha}^{(1)} \frac{\mathbf{P}_\alpha}{M_\alpha} \chi_j$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi_i = [\hat{T} + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{H}_{el} | \Phi_i \rangle] \chi_i$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi = [\hat{T} + E_i(\mathbf{R}(t))] \chi$$

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \chi = [\hat{T} + \langle \Phi_i | \hat{H}_{el} | \Phi_i \rangle] \chi$$