

Ultrafast charge migration following ionization

driven by electron correlation
and relaxation

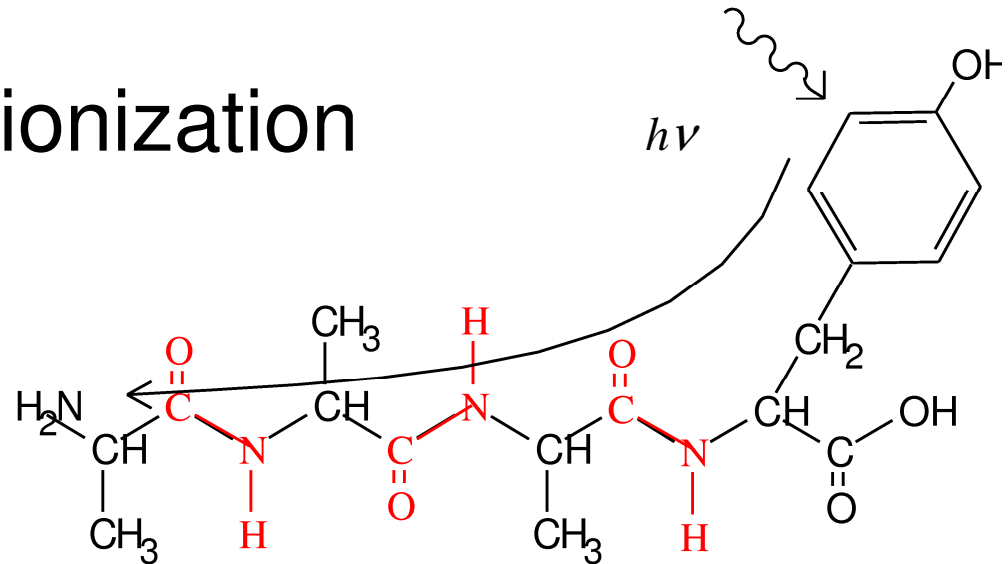
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Theoretical Chemistry
University of Heidelberg

Motivation

- Understanding of charge transport in Nature, like in photosynthesis
- Role of electron correlation and relaxation

Charge transfer in Peptides

Fragmentation after ionization
of the benzene ring



Alanin – alanin – alanin - tyrosin

R. Weinkauff et al., *J. Phys. Chem.* **1996**, *100*, 18567

Question:

What is the mechanism of the charge transport?

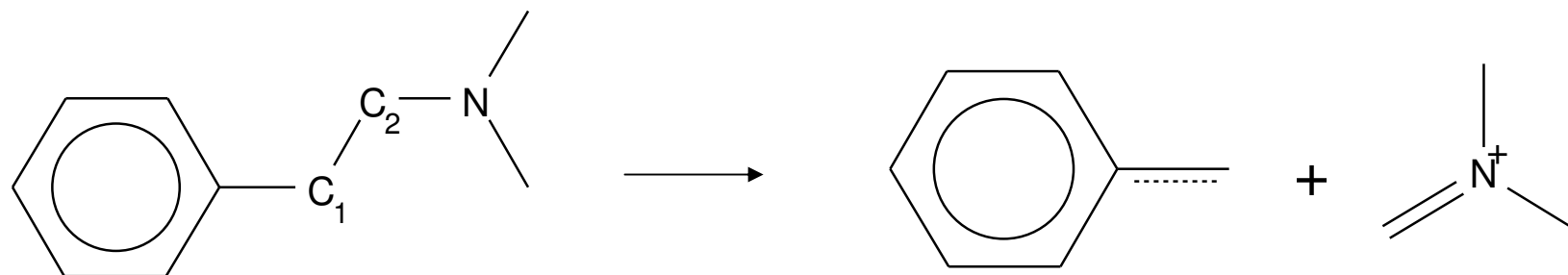
**First *ab initio* calculations indicate
that a purely electronic *ultrafast*
charge transport caused by
electron correlation and relaxation
is possible**

- charge transport on a femtosecond timescale
- no nuclear dynamics

	Charge transfer	Charge migration
caused by	nuclear dynamics	electron dynamics
timescale	~ ps	~ fs

Further experiments with femtosecond lasers

- PENNA (2-Phenylethyl-*N,N*-dimethylamine)
- Related to the amino acid phenylalanin
- Fragmentation after ionization of benzene ring
- Reported timescale of fragmentation: 80 ± 28 fs



Theoretical Methods for the calculation of the hole density

$$Q(\vec{r}, t) := \langle \Psi_0 | \hat{\rho}(\vec{r}, t) | \Psi_0 \rangle - \langle \Phi_i | \hat{\rho}(\vec{r}, t) | \Phi_i \rangle = \rho_0(\vec{r}) - \rho_i(\vec{r}, t)$$

electron density
of the ground state
(time independent)

electron density
of the produced cation
(time dependent)

$$Q(\vec{r}, t) = \underbrace{\langle \Psi_0 | \hat{\rho}(\vec{r}, t) | \Psi_0 \rangle}_{\rho_0(\vec{r})} - \underbrace{\langle \Phi_i | \hat{\rho}(\vec{r}, t) | \Phi_i \rangle}_{\rho_i(\vec{r}, t)},$$

$\hat{\rho}$ density operator

$|\Phi_i\rangle$ initial nonstationary cationic state

In an one-particle (orbital) basis $\{\varphi_p\}$

$$Q(\vec{r}, t) = \sum_{p,q} \varphi_p^*(\vec{r}) \varphi_q(\vec{r}) N_{pq}(t)$$

$\mathbf{N}(t)$ hole density matrix with elements $N_{pq}(t)$

diagonalization of $\mathbf{N}(t)$ leads to

$$Q(\vec{r}, t) = \sum_p |\tilde{\varphi}_p(\vec{r}, t)|^2 \tilde{n}_p(t)$$

$\tilde{\varphi}_p(\vec{r}, t)$ natural charge orbitals

$\tilde{n}_p(t)$ hole occupation numbers

How to calculate Q ?

\mathbf{N} is computed using *ab initio* many-body Green's functions (GF)

Two ways:

1. Diagonalization of GF – ADC – matrices
as long as the matrices are small [1,2]
2. Propagation of the initial cationic state by
multielectron wavepacket dynamics [3]

Visualization using graphical standard tools, i.e. gnuplot, Molden

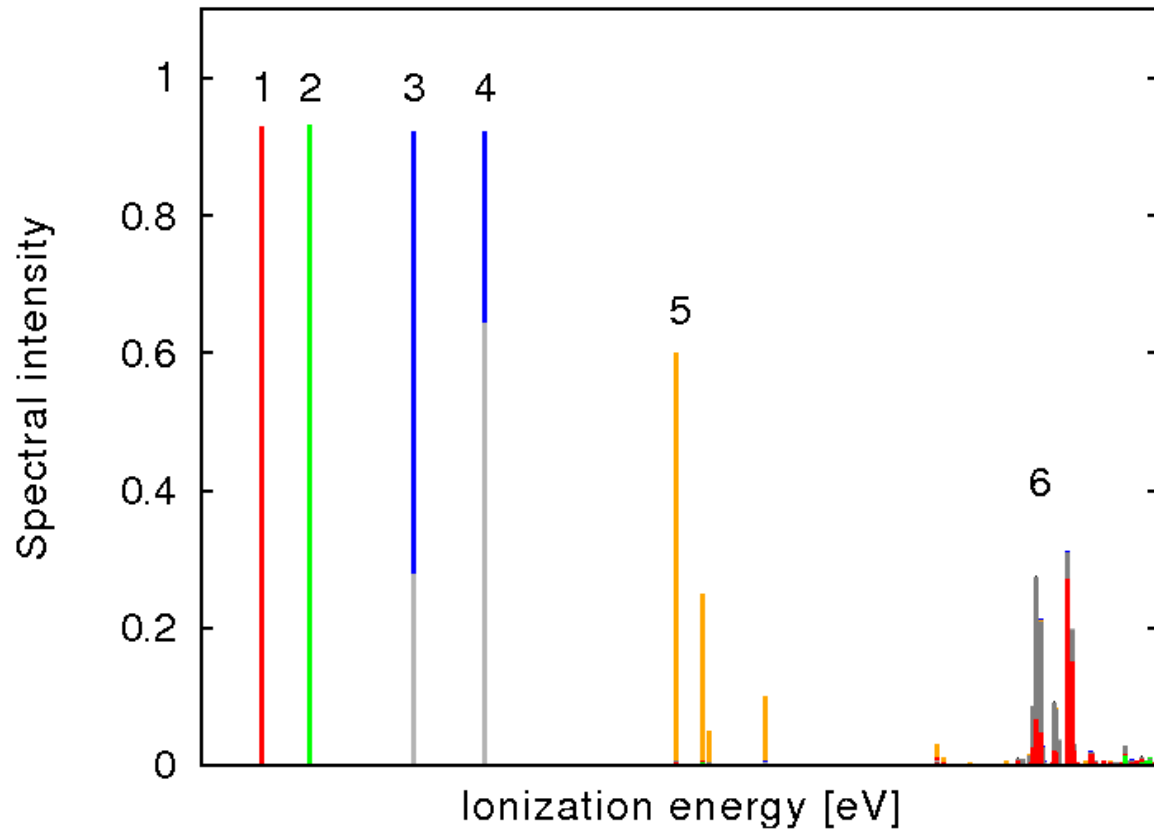
[1] J. Breidbach et al *J. Chem. Phys.* **2003**, *118*, 3983

[2] J. Breidbach et al *J. Chem. Phys.* **2007**, *126*, 34101

[3] A. I. Kuleff et al *J. Chem. Phys.* **2005**, *123*, 044111

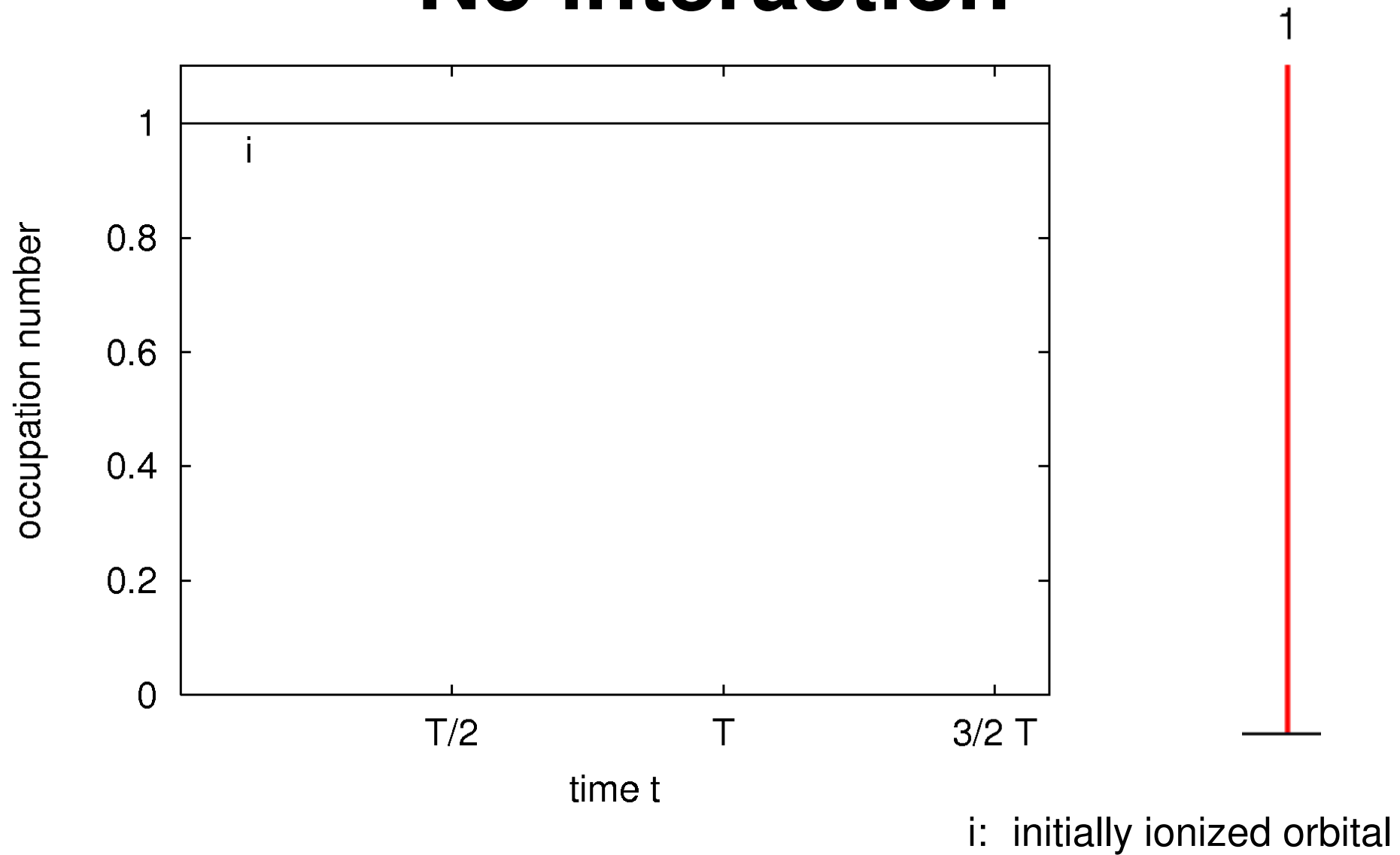
On the basic mechanisms of charge migration

A typical ionization spectrum

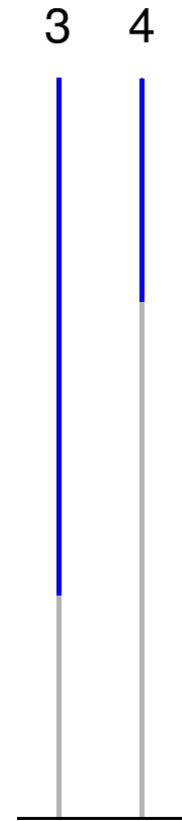
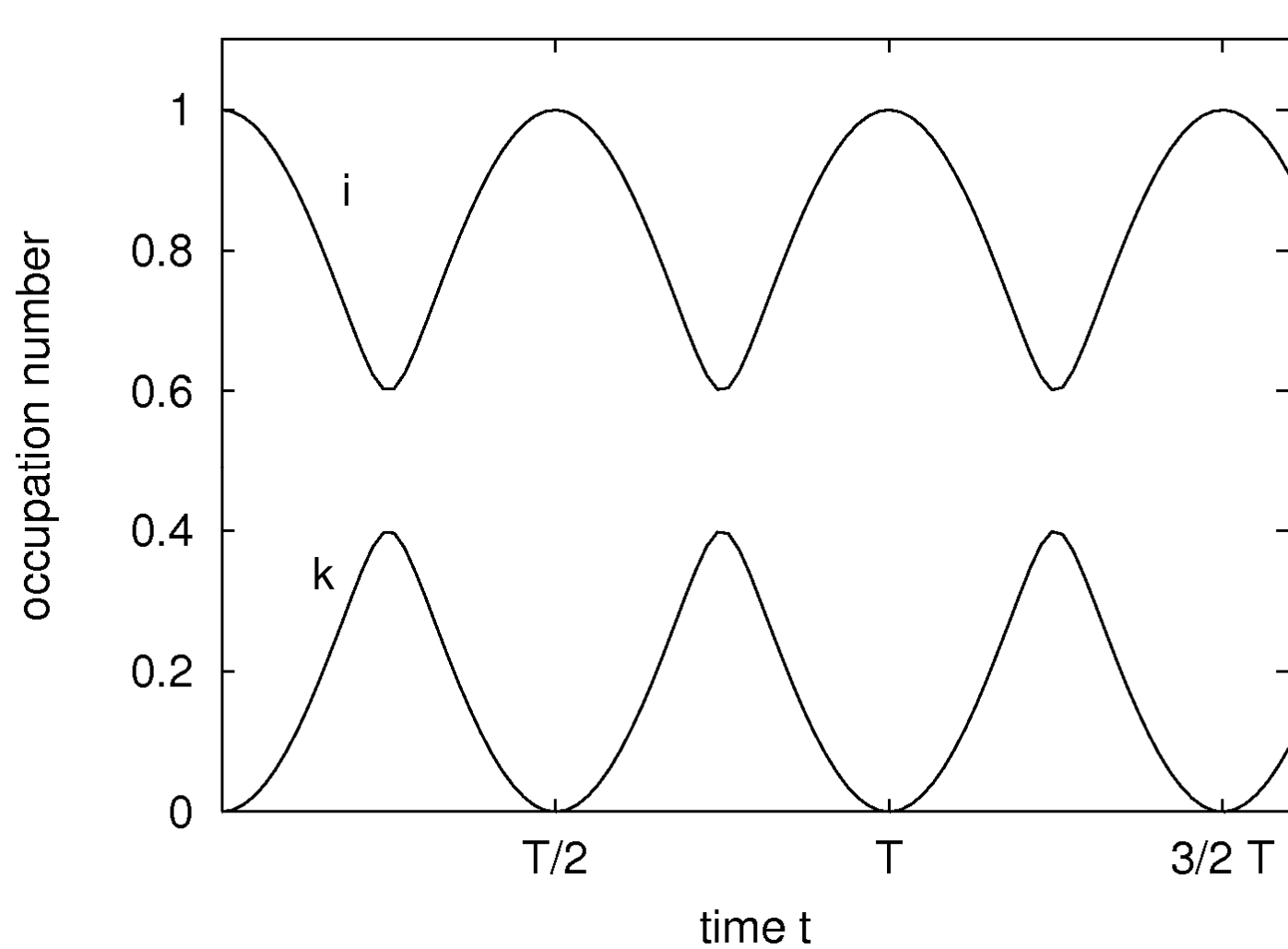


1,2: no interactions
3,4: hole mixing
5: satellites
6: breakdown
of MO-picture

No interaction

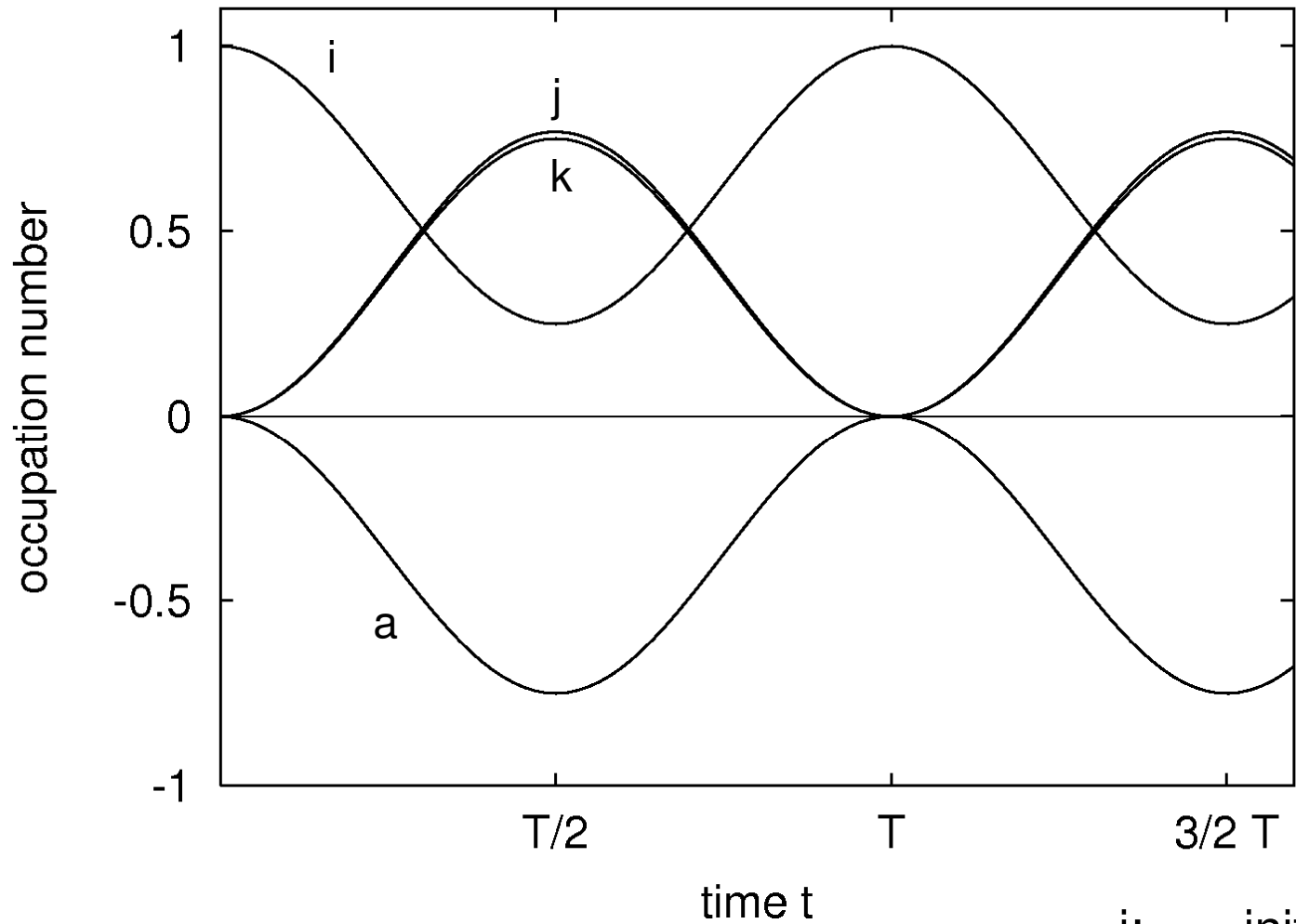


Case of hole mixing



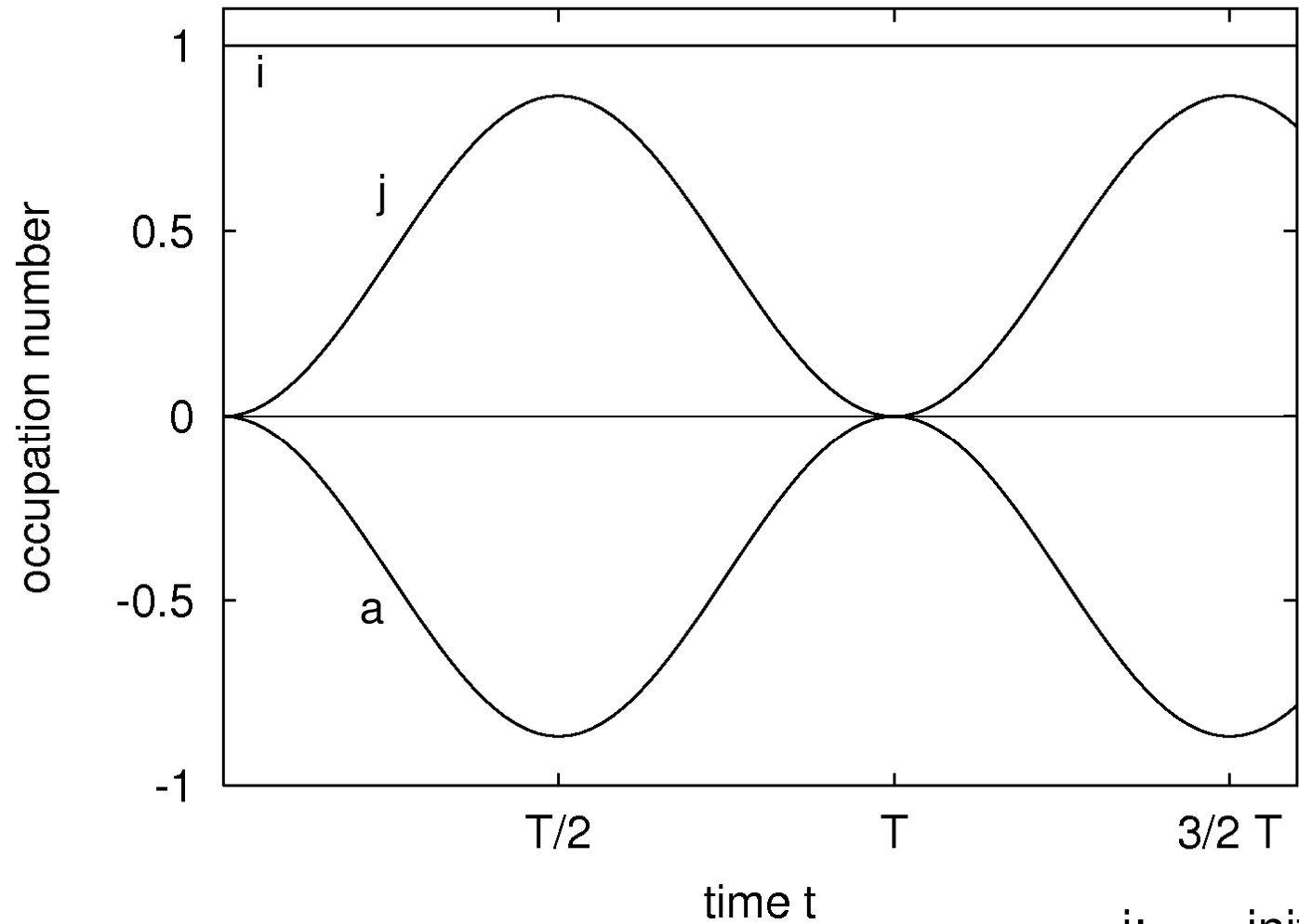
i: initially ionized orbital
k: partner orbital

Case of correlation satellite



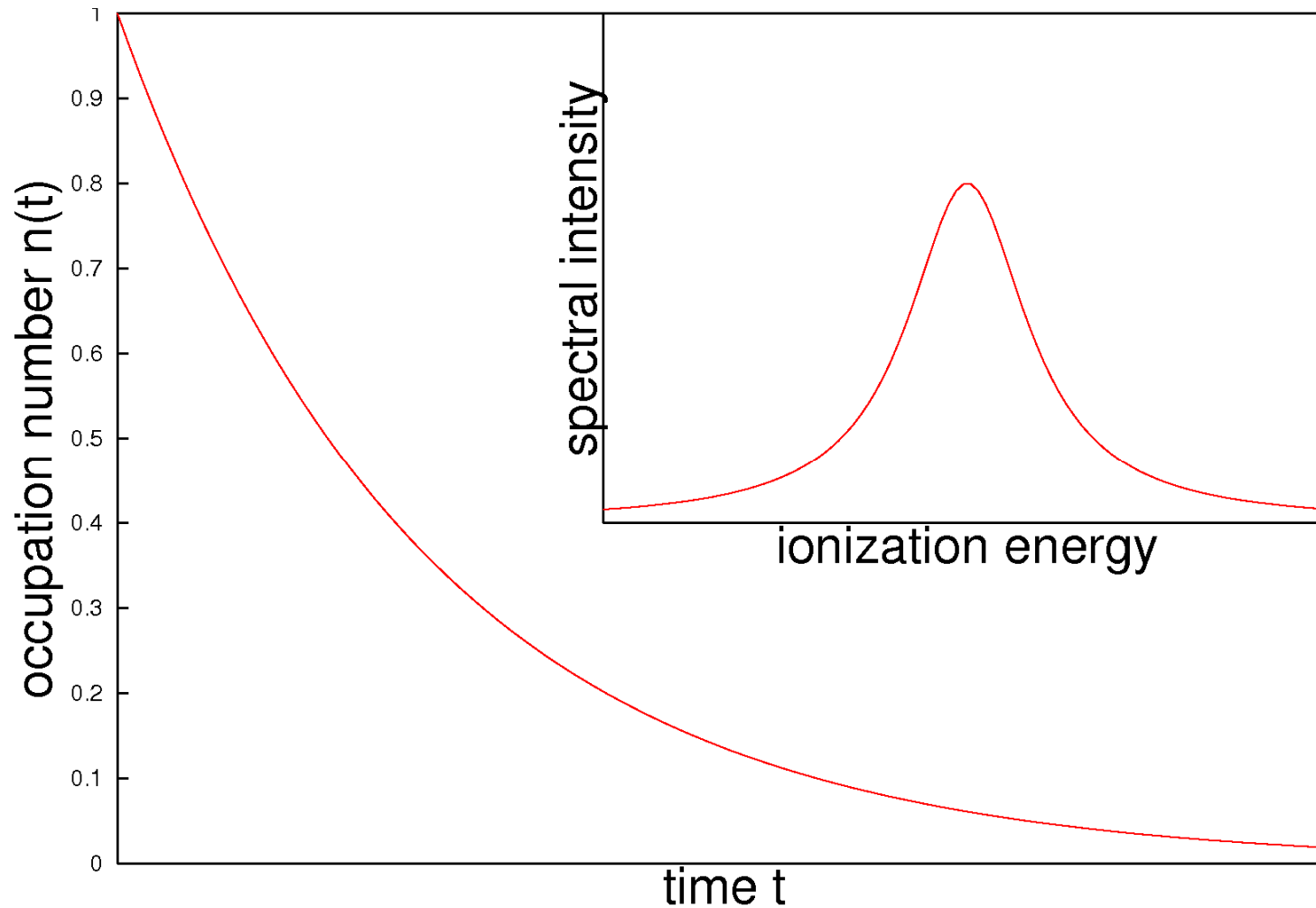
- i : initially ionized orbital
- j, k : partner orbital
- a : virtual orbital

Case of **relaxation satellite**



- i: initially ionized orbital
- j: partner orbital
- a: virtual orbital

Case of breakdown of MO-picture

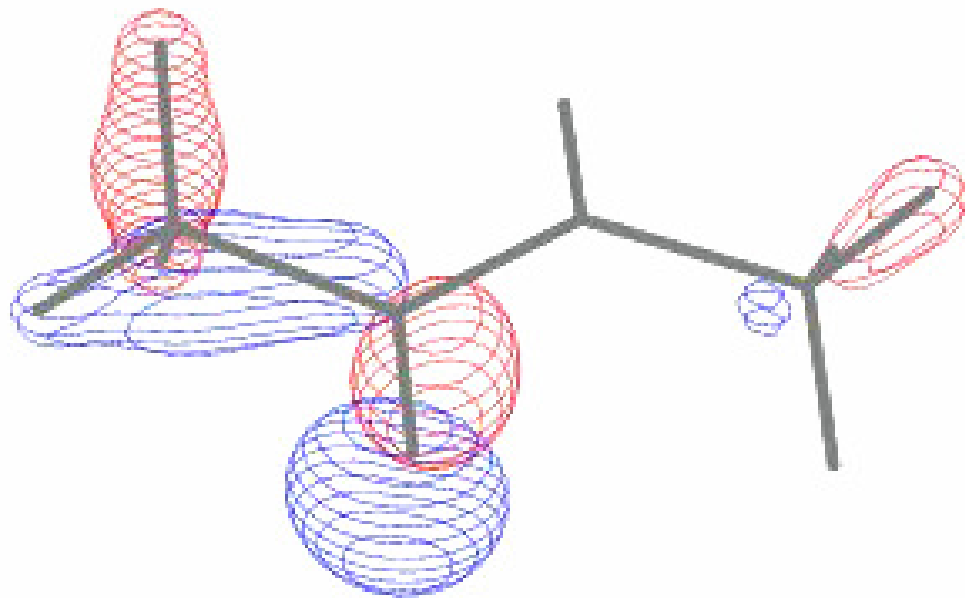


Typically, the initially created hole is distributed in time over the whole system

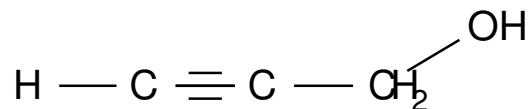
Examples

ionization in the
inner-valence
regime

The example of a peptide bond (N-methyl Acetamide)



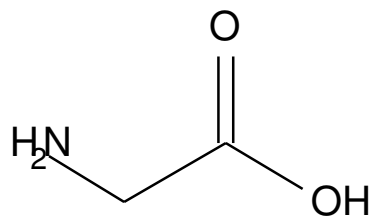
Other interesting cases



2-propyn-1-ol: [Hole mixing](#) [1]



3-fluoro-2-propynenitrile: [Dominant satellite](#) [1]



Glycine: [Dom. satellite and hole mixing](#) [2]



5-fluoro-2,4-pentadiynenitril: [Breakdown of MO](#) [1]

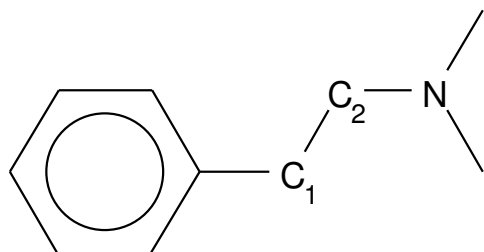
[1] J. Breidbach et al *J. Chem. Phys.* **2003**, *118*, 3983

[2] A. I. Kuleff et al *J. Chem. Phys.* **2005**, *123*, 044111

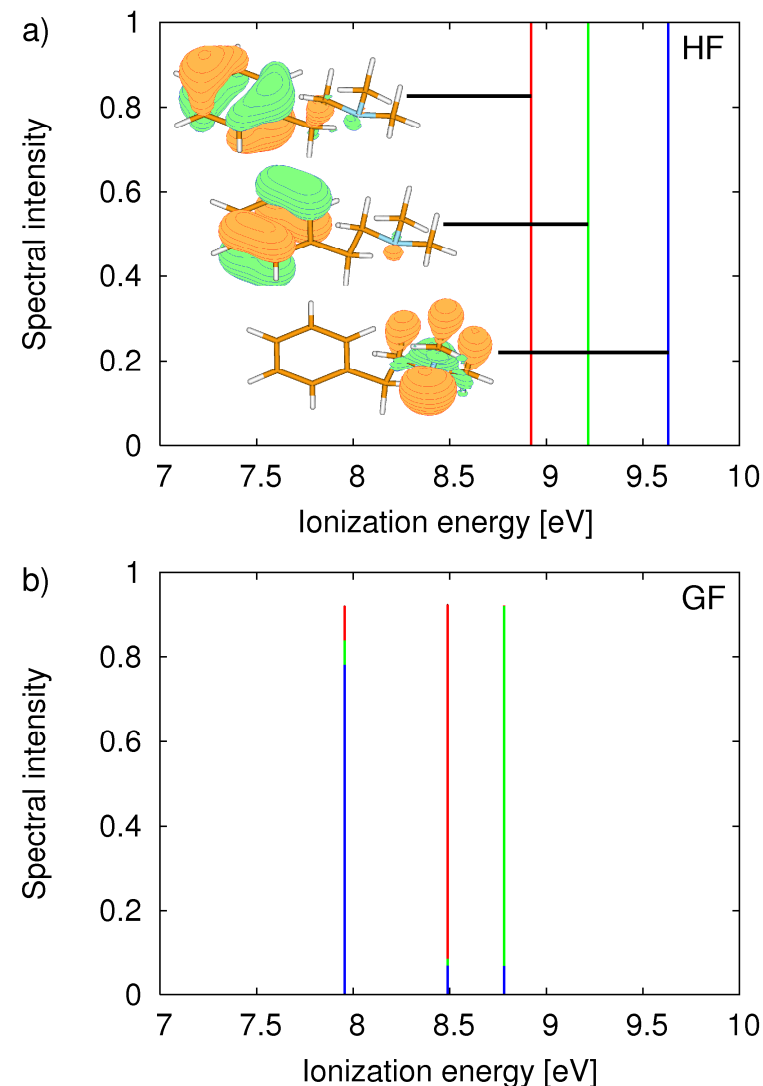
ionization of
outer-valence
electrons

The ionization spectrum of PENNA

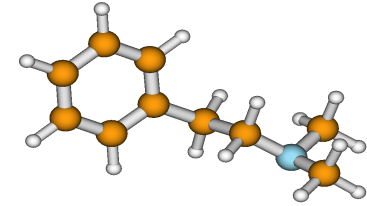
- 2-Phenylethyl-*N,N*-dimethylamine
- 2.6 eV gap to the inner valence
- failure of Koopmans' Theorem
- Mixing of one hole (1h) states



S. Lünnemann et al *Chem. Phys. Lett.* **2008**, 450, 232

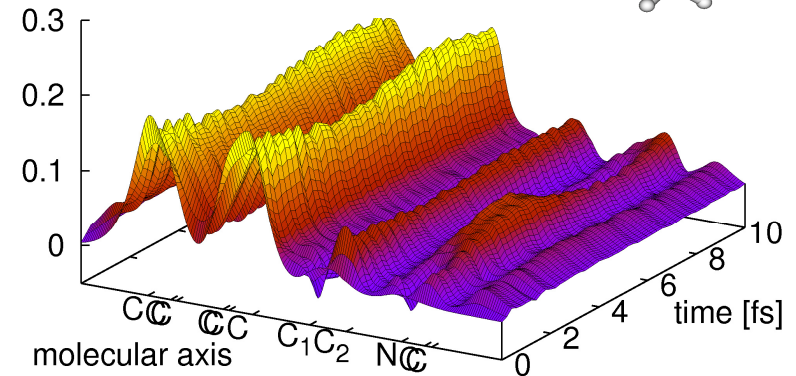


The charge migration



a)

hole density $Q(z,t)$

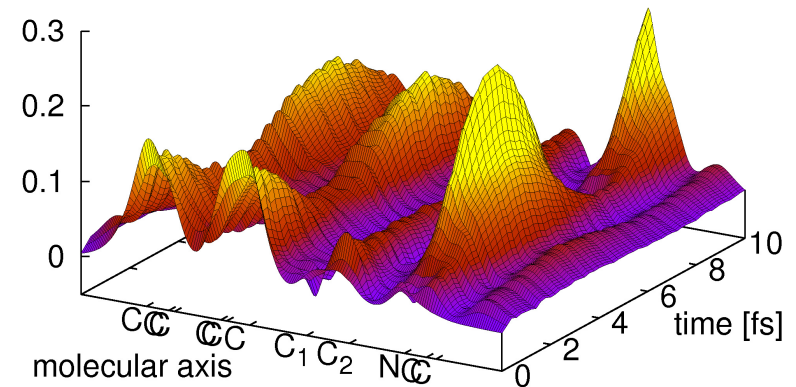


a) ground state geometry

- some charge from ring to N

b)

hole density $Q(z,t)$

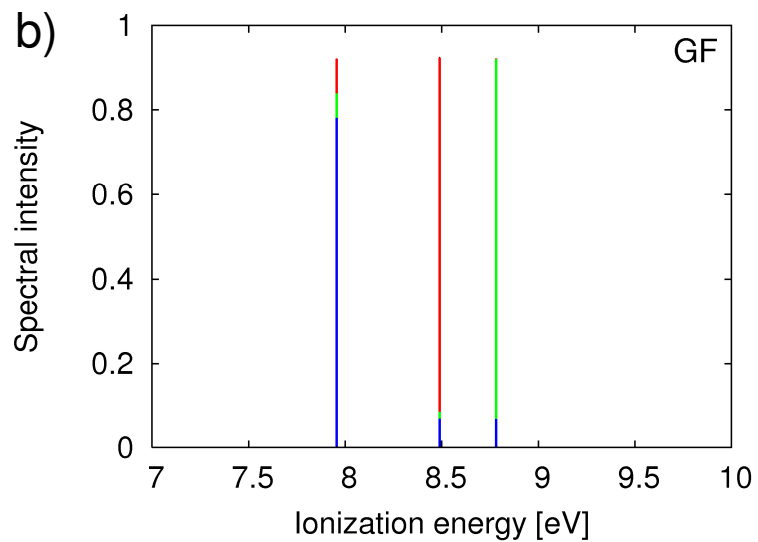
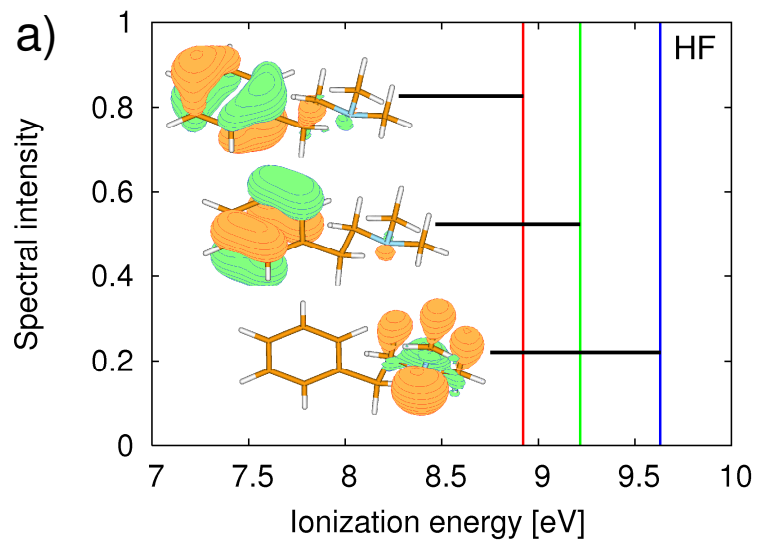


b) elongated C_1-C_2 -bond: 20 pm

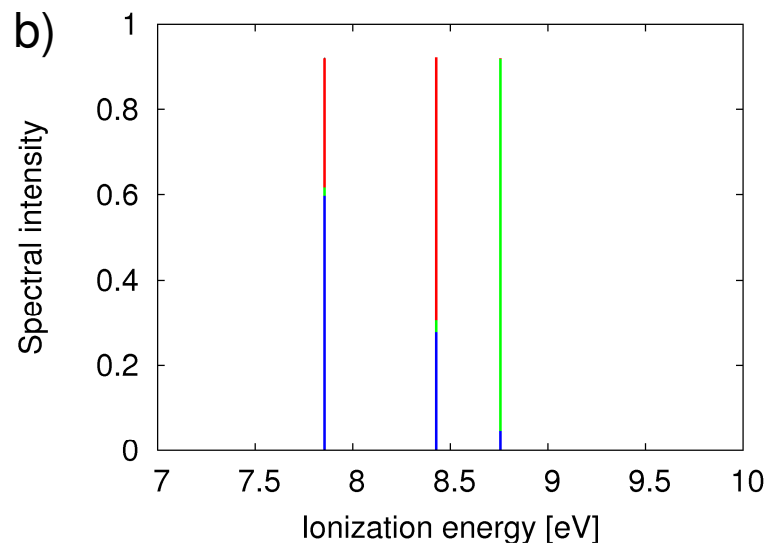
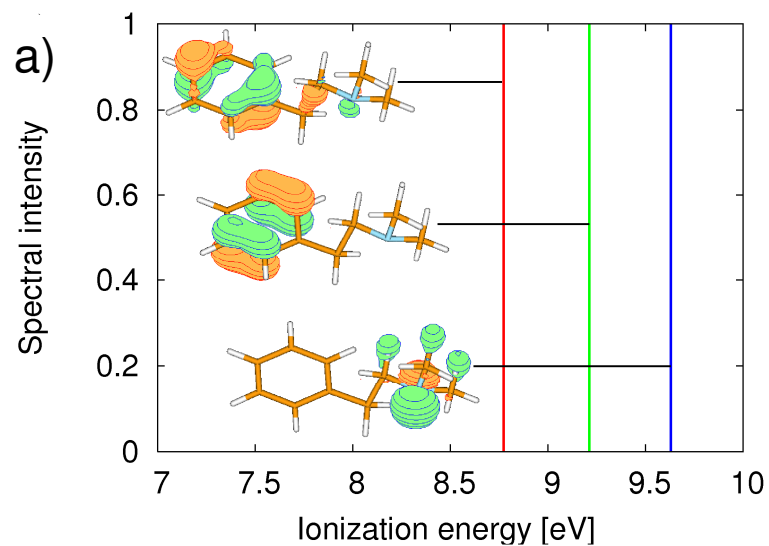
- substantial charge from ring to N

Ionization spectra of PENNA

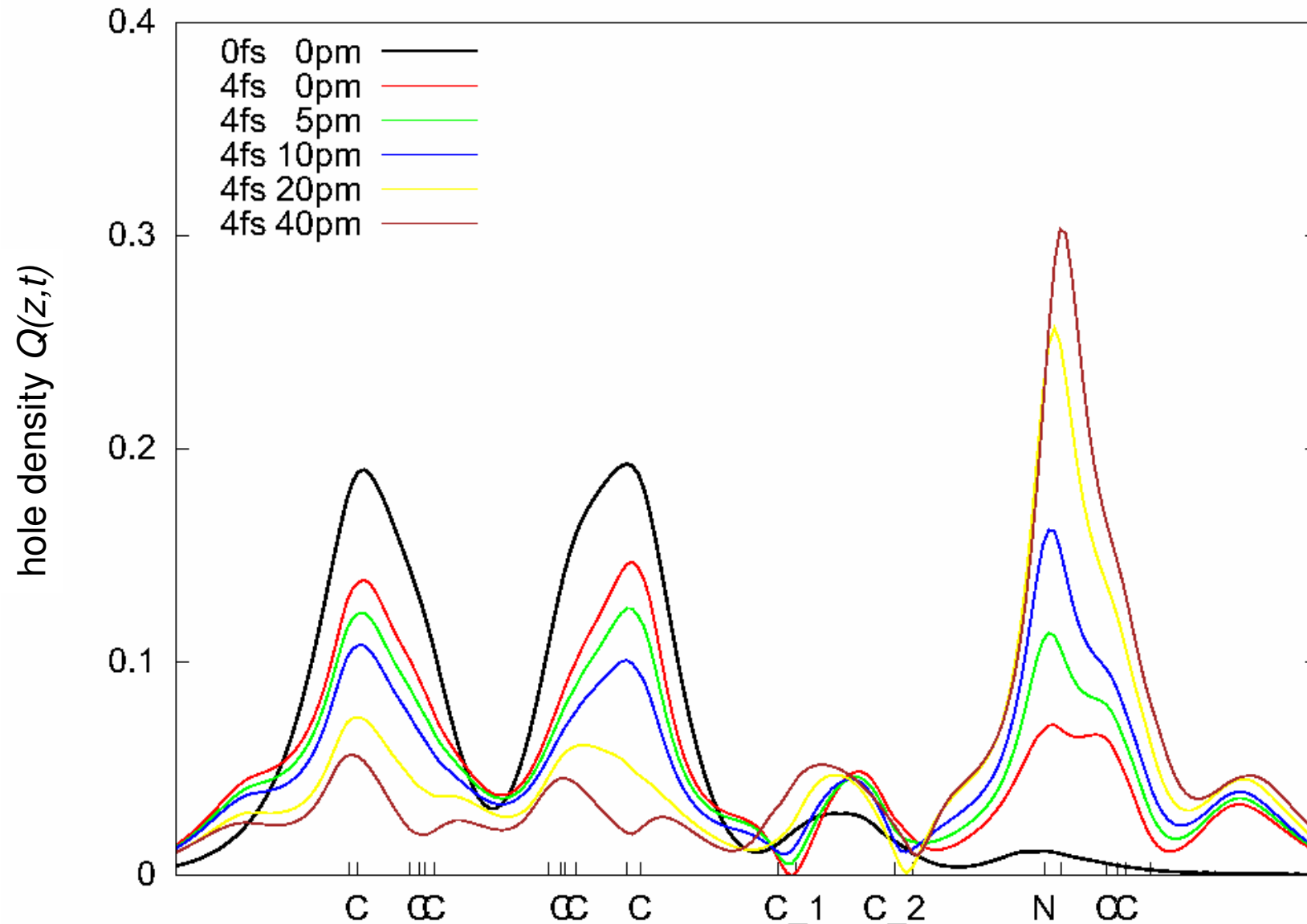
Ground state geometry



Elongated C_1-C_2 bond

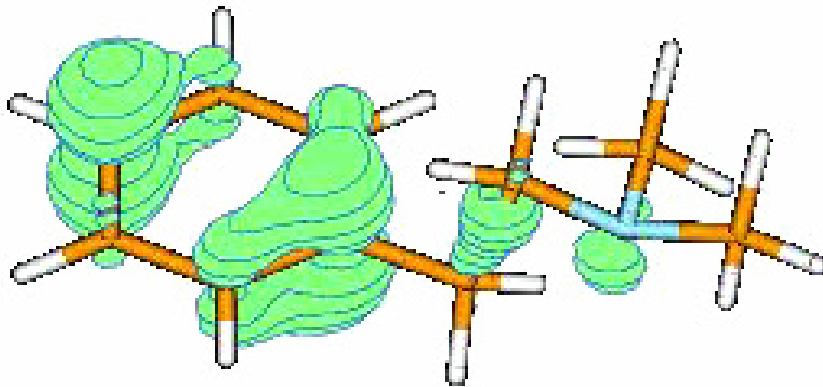


Charge distribution at 4 fs after ionization at different geometries



The charge migration with the C₁-C₂-bond elongated by 20 pm

- time = 00.00 fs



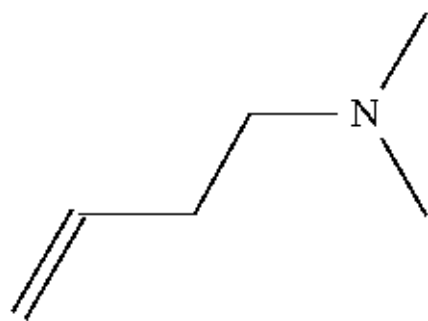
Suggestion for a mechanism of charge migration and bond breaking

1. **Step:** Ionization of the benzene ring
2. **Step:** Some charge oscillates from the ring to N
3. **Step:** Elongation of the C₁-C₂-bond
4. **Step:** Migration of hole charge intensifies
5. **Step:** The bond breaks and the hole charge is trapped at the energetically favourable N-site

Is the molecule PENNA special or is the scheme **chromophore – C₂-Bridge – Nitrogen** general for charge migration?

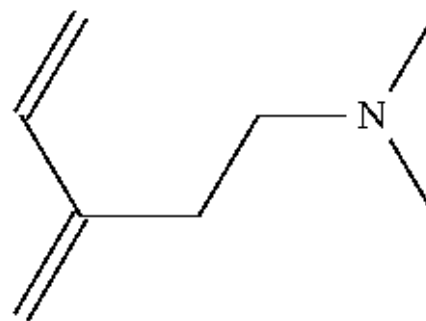
Many related systems computed (also different conformers).

Two examples:



BUNNA

3-Buten-*N,N*-dimethylamine

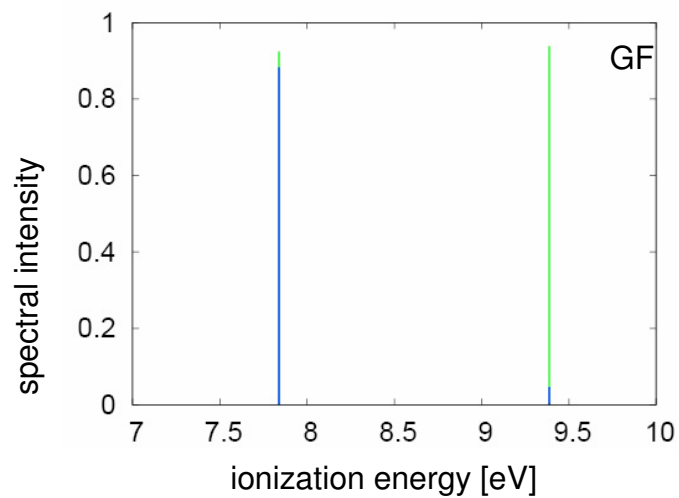
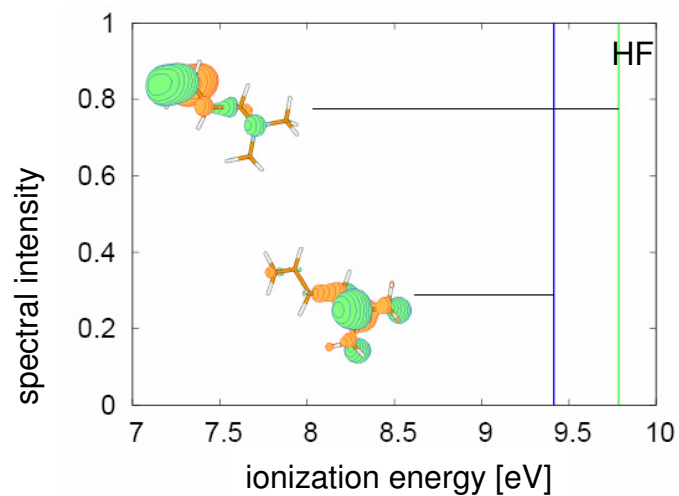


MePeNNA

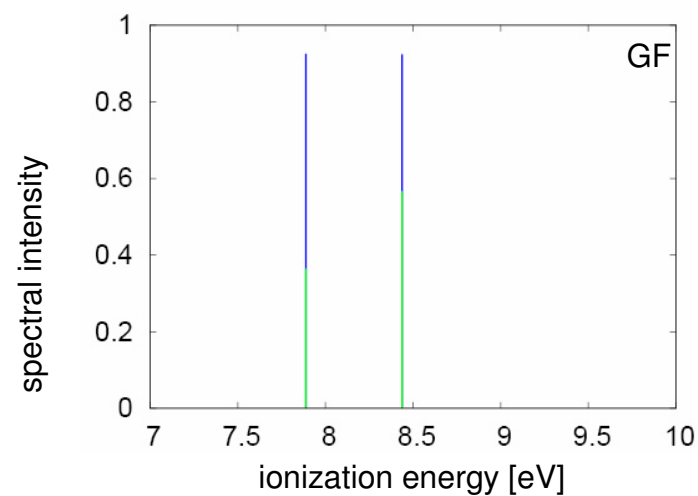
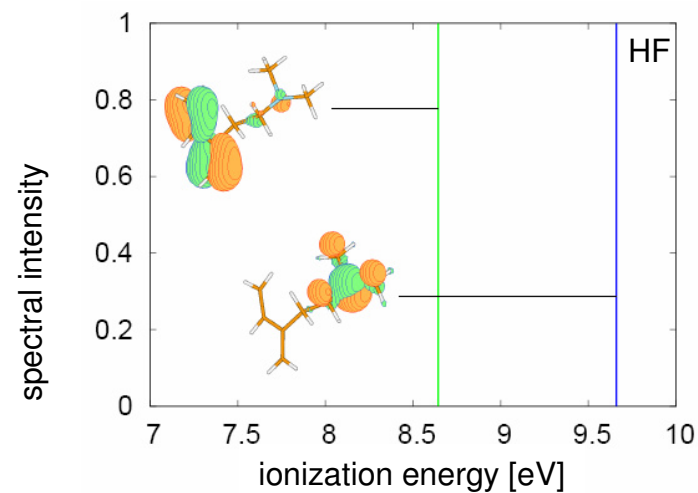
3-Methylen-4-penten-*N,N*-dimethylamine

The ionization spectra

BUNNA

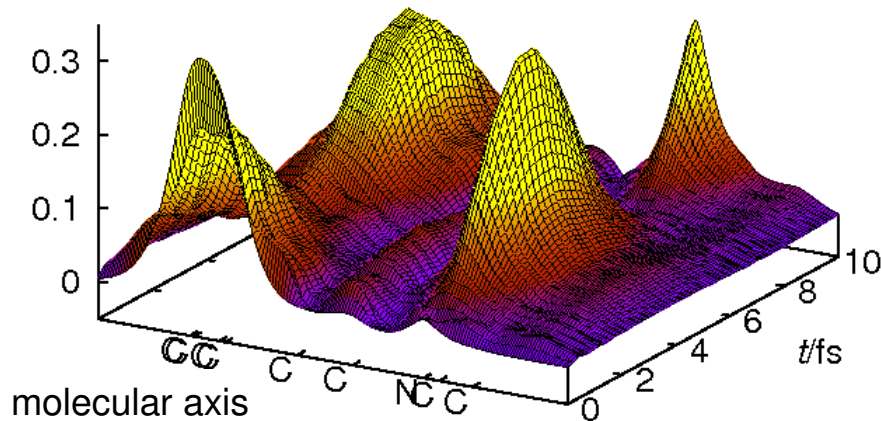


MePeNNA



The charge migration

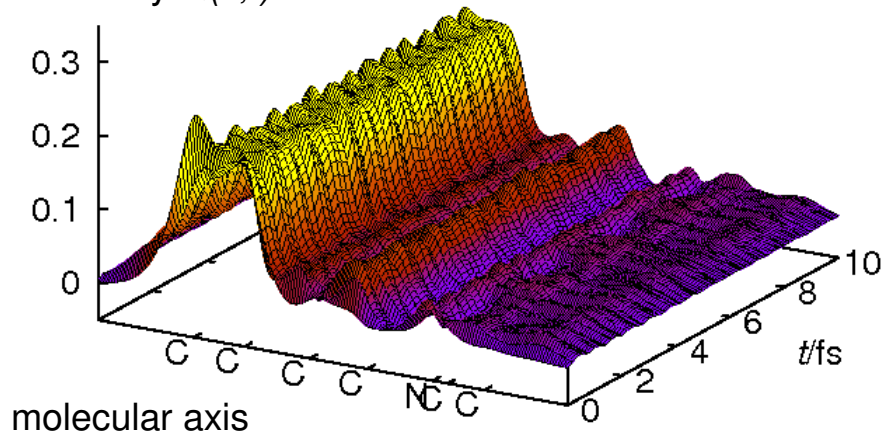
hole density $Q(z,t)$



MePeNNA:

nearly the complete hole charge migrates from the chromophore to the Nitrogen

hole density $Q(z,t)$



BUNNA:

no charge migration at all

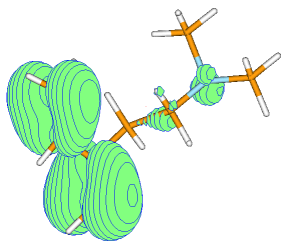
The role of 2h1p-configurations

The hole density in real space

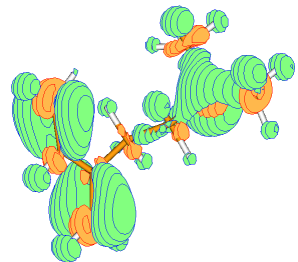
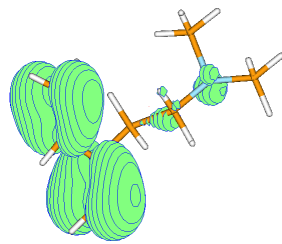
with

and

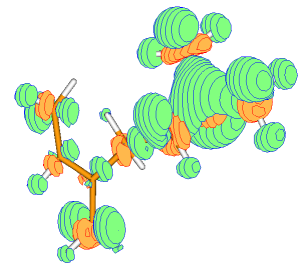
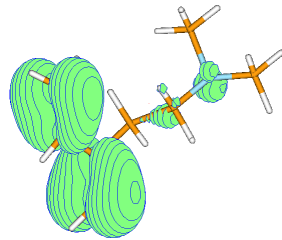
without 2h1p-interactions



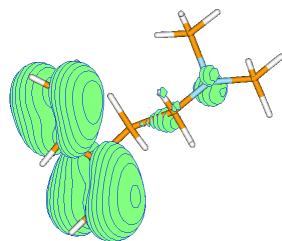
0 fs



2 fs



4 fs



no charge migration
without the 2h1p-interactions

Analysis of the charge migration mechanism: The exact effective Hamiltonian (EEH)-Method

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \overbrace{\begin{matrix} \varepsilon_1 & 0 \\ \varepsilon_2 \end{matrix}}^{1h} & \overbrace{\begin{matrix} x_{11} & \cdots & x_{1n} \\ x_{21} & \cdots & x_{2n} \\ a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & a_{nn} \end{matrix}}^{2h1p} \\ \hline \end{pmatrix}}_{H_{CI}} \longrightarrow \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{E}_1 & V_{12} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ & \tilde{E}_2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \hline & & \tilde{a}_{11} & \cdots & \tilde{a}_{1n} \\ & & & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & & & \tilde{a}_{nn} \end{pmatrix}}_{H_{eff}}$$

large V_{12} + small $\Delta\tilde{E}$
 \rightarrow large coupling

small V_{12} + large $\Delta\tilde{E}$
 \rightarrow small coupling

PENNA

$$\begin{pmatrix} 8.00 & 0.15 \\ \cdots & 8.44 \end{pmatrix}$$

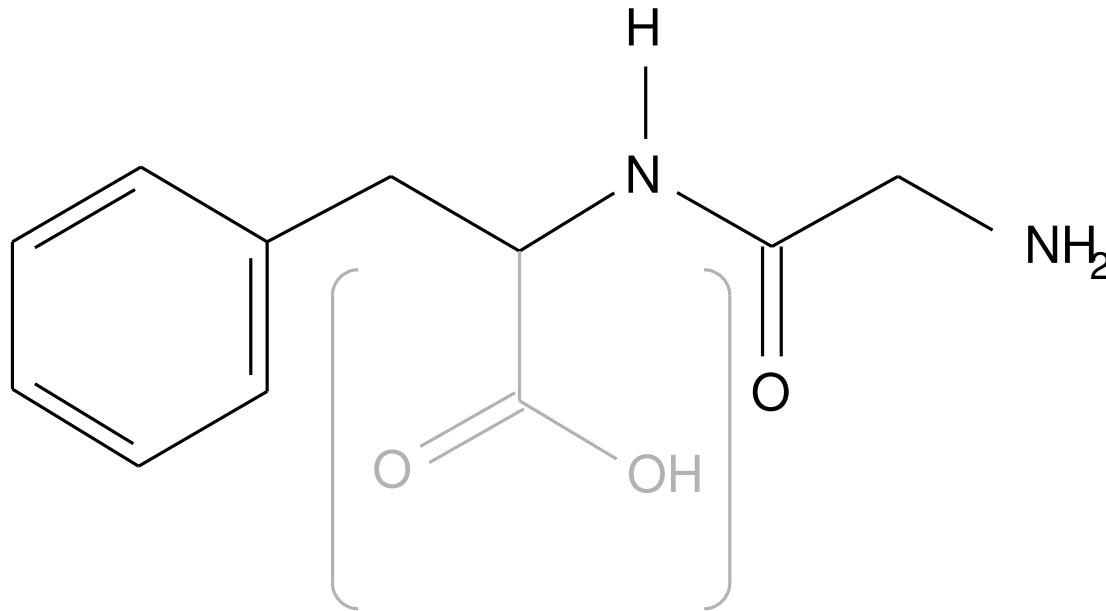
BUNNA

$$\begin{pmatrix} 7.91 & 0.32 \\ \cdots & 9.32 \end{pmatrix}$$

MePeNNA

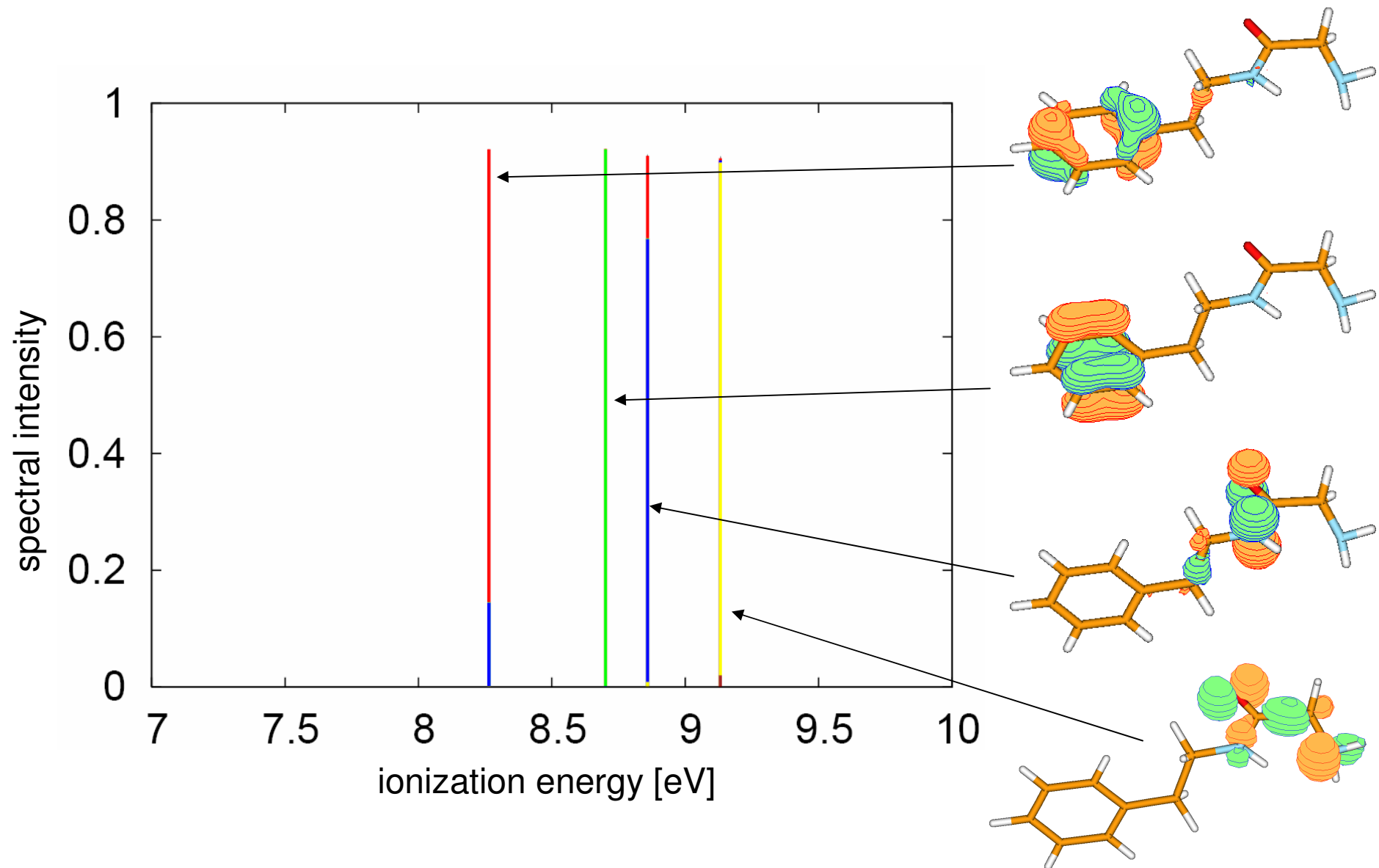
$$\begin{pmatrix} 8.13 & 0.30 \\ \cdots & 8.20 \end{pmatrix}$$

**A first step on the way to polypeptides:
reduced dipeptide Glycin-Phenylalanin
(Gly-Phe; carboxylgroup of Phe removed)**

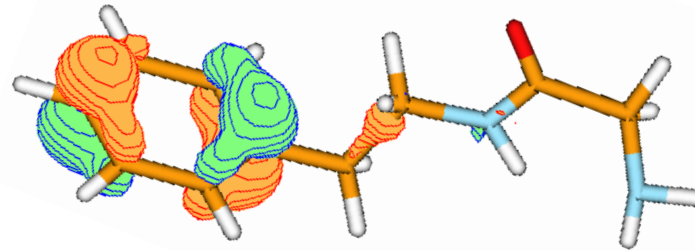


Does this molecule show charge migration
after ionization of the chromophore?

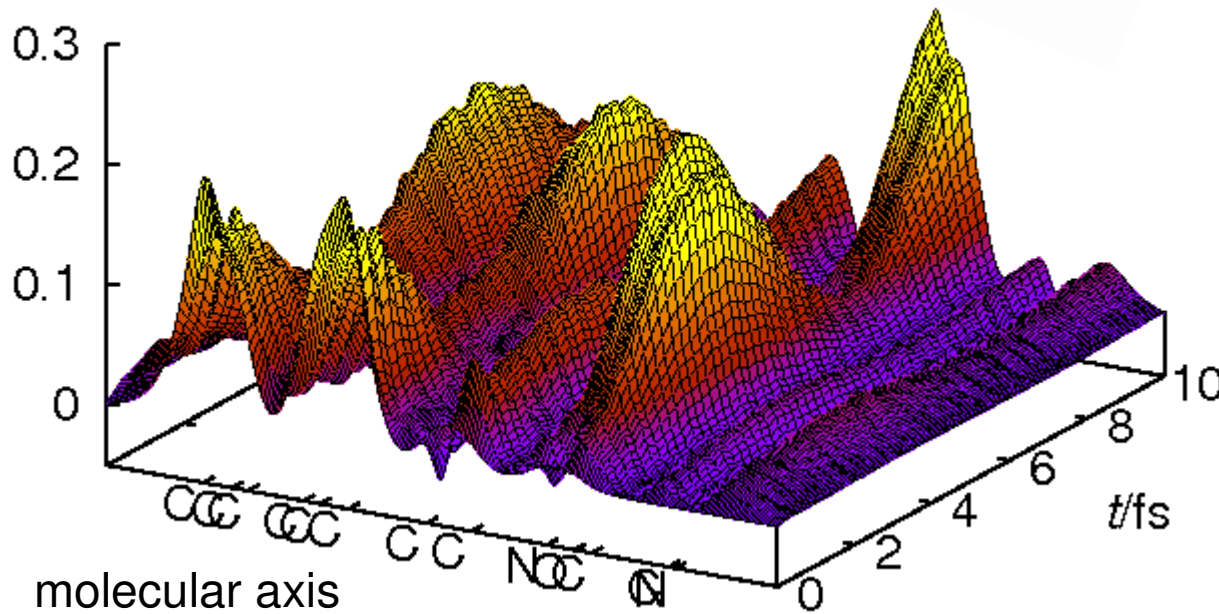
The ionization spectrum and HF-Orbitals



The charge migration following ionization



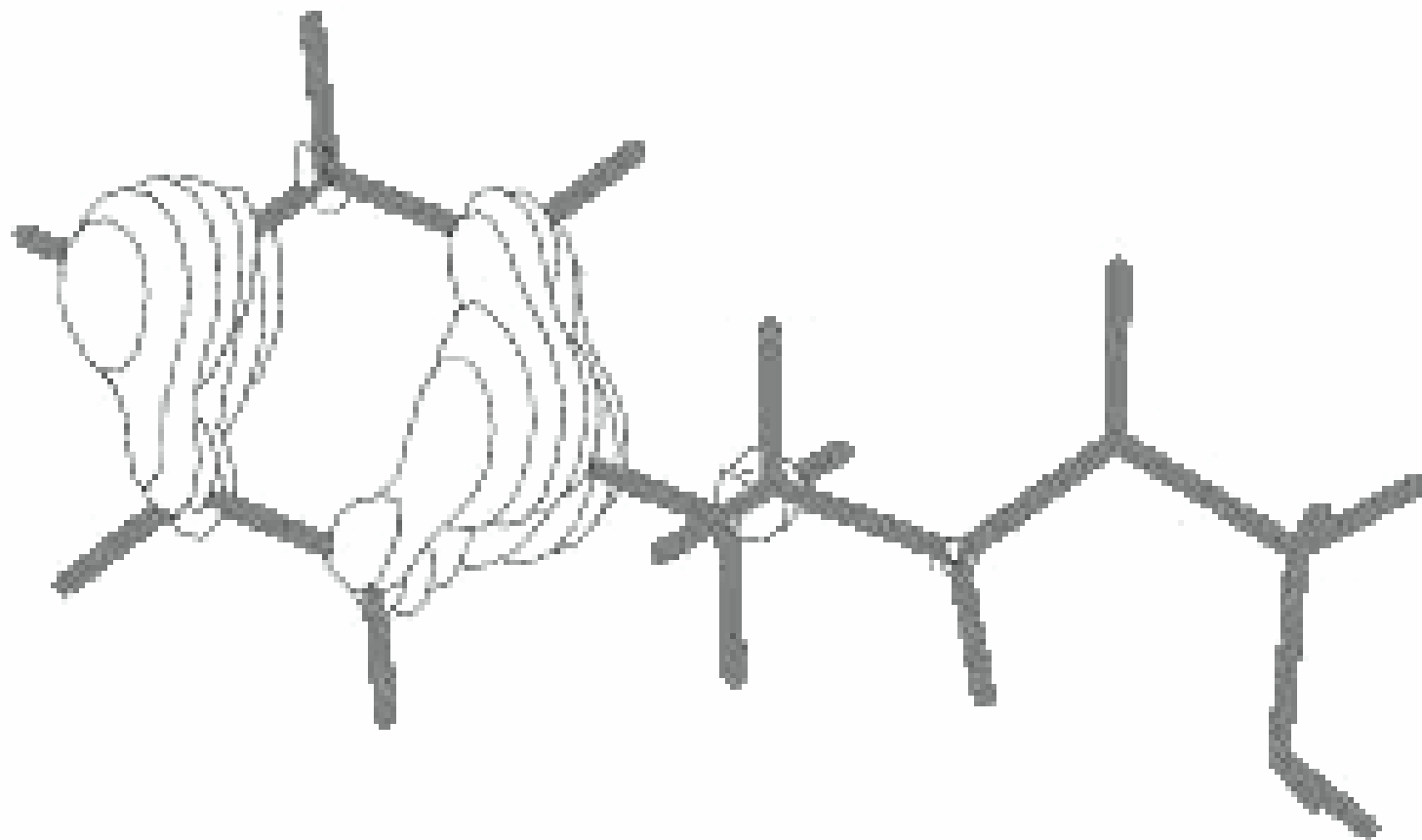
hole density $Q(z,t)$



0 fs:
charge on
chromophore

4 fs:
charge on amid
(peptidebond)

- time = 00 fs



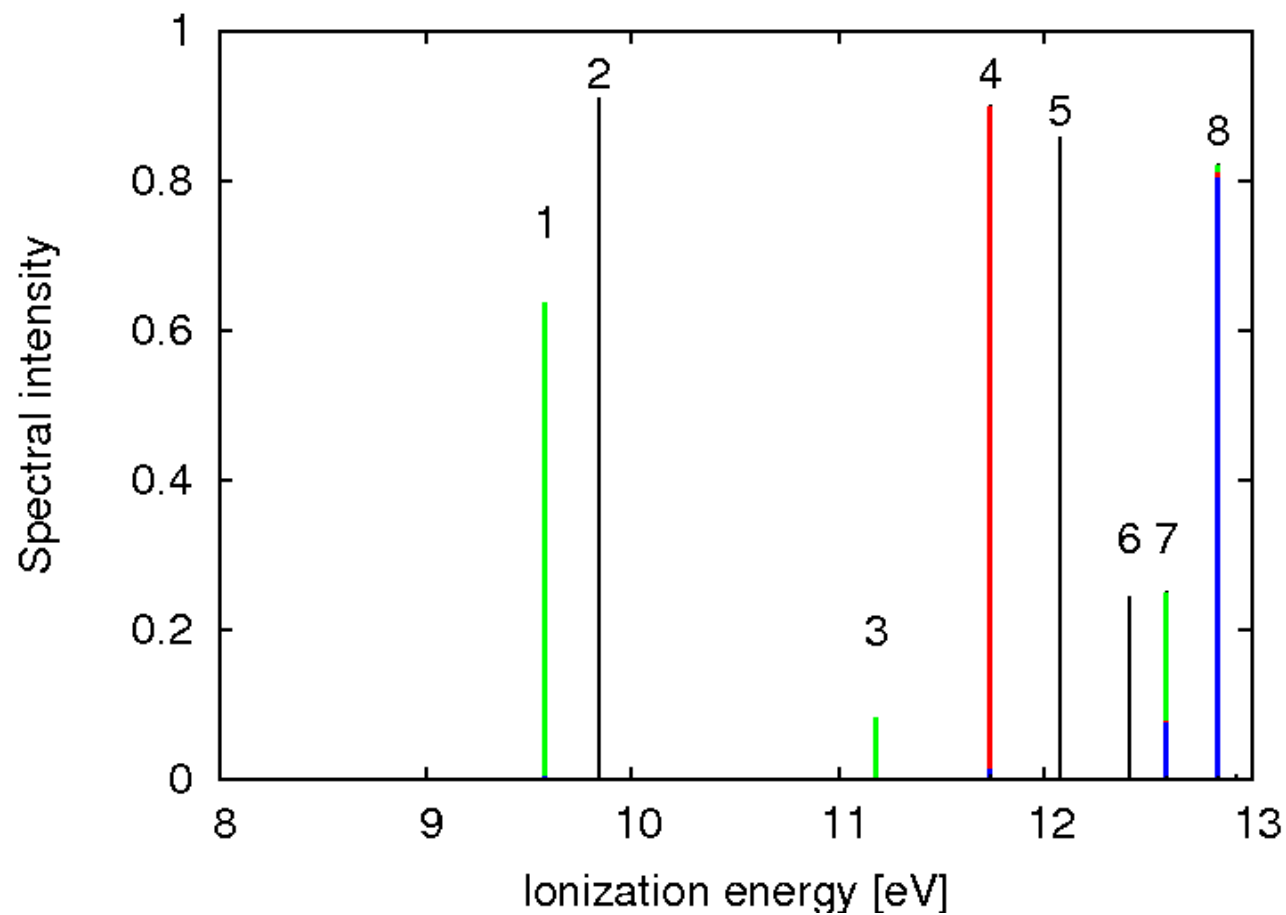
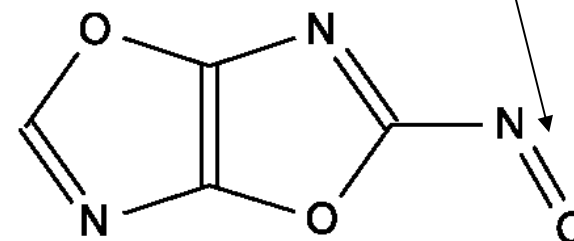
The role of satellite states

Relaxation satellite:

The nitroso molecule

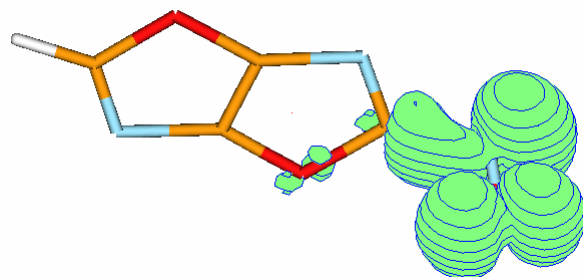
The ionization spectrum

Nitroso-group

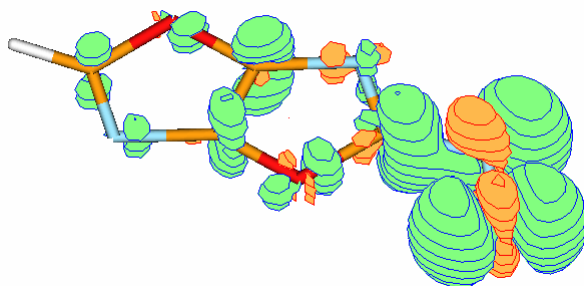


- 1: $29a'$ + ($29a'$ $6a''$ $7a''$)
- 2: $6a''$
- 3: ($29a'$) + $29a'$ $6a''$ $7a''$
- 4: $28a'$
- 5: $5a''$
- 6: ($4a''$) + $6a''6a''$ $7a''$
- 7: ($29a'$ + $27a'$)
- + $29a'$ $6a''$ $7a''$

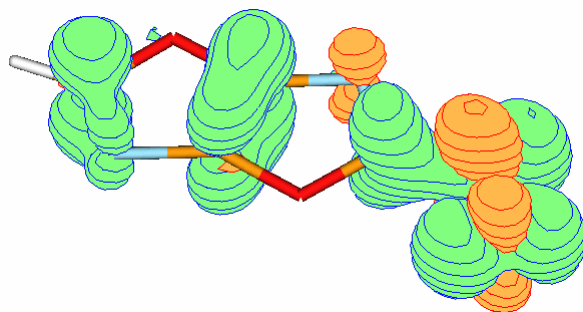
The charge migration following ionization of the **HOMO** (29a' orbital)



0 fs



0.7 fs



1.4 fs

Correlation satellite:

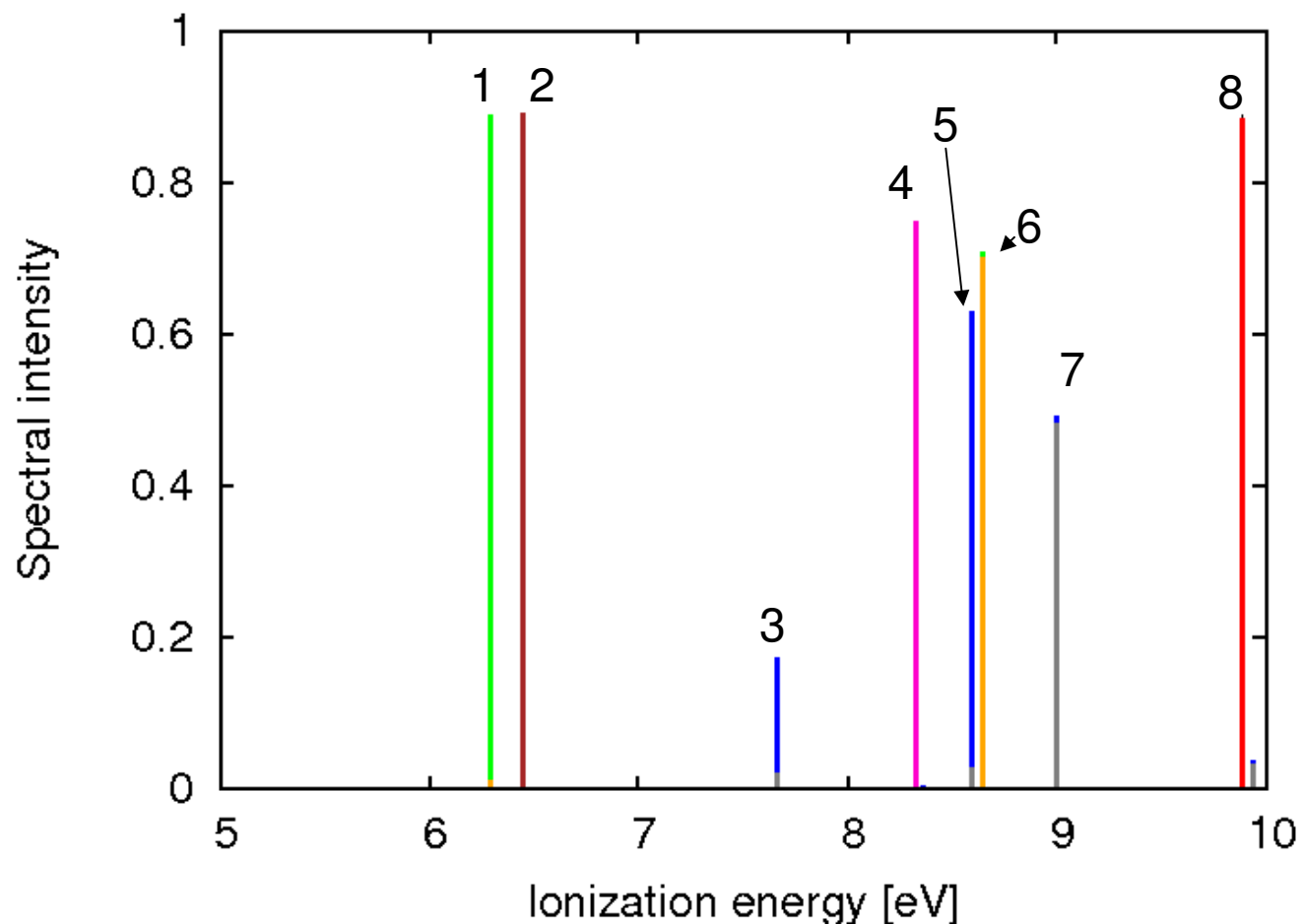
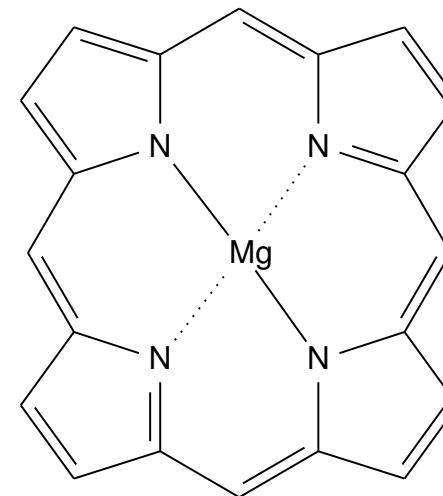
A molecule related to
Chlorophyll:

Mg-Porphyrin

(Active site in Photosynthesis)

The ionization spectrum

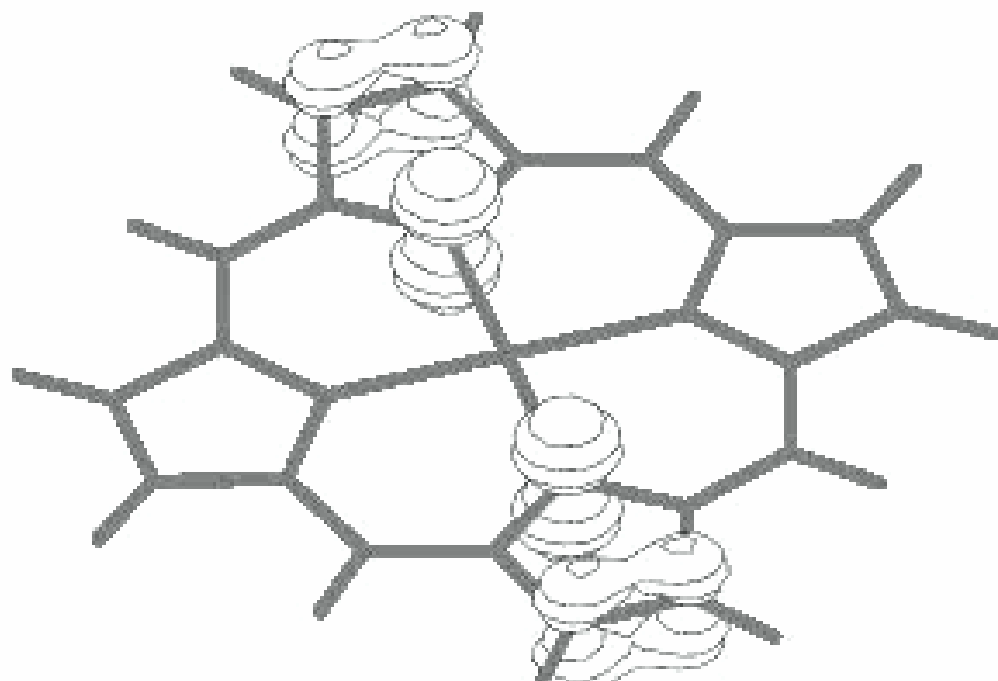
point group: D_{2h}



- 1: $6b_{1u} + \dots$
- 2: $2a_{1u} + \dots$
- 3: $6b_{1u} 2a_{1u} 4b_{3g}$
 $+ 2a_{1u} 2a_{1u} 4b_{2g}$
 $+ 3b_{2g}$
 $+ 6b_{1u} 6b_{1u} 4b_{2g} + \dots$
- 4: $5b_{1u} + \dots$
- 5: $3b_{2g}$
 $+ 2a_{1u} 2a_{1u} 4b_{2g} + \dots$
- 6: ...
- 7: ...

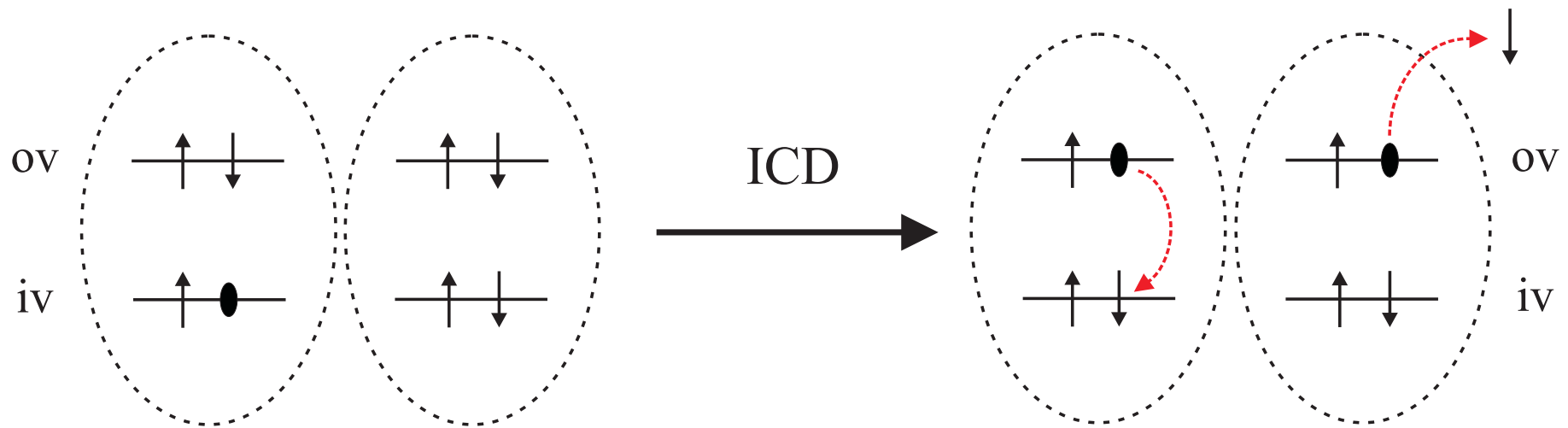
The charge migration following ionization of the $3b_{2g}$ orbital

- time = 0 fs



ICD

Interatomic
Coulombic
Decay

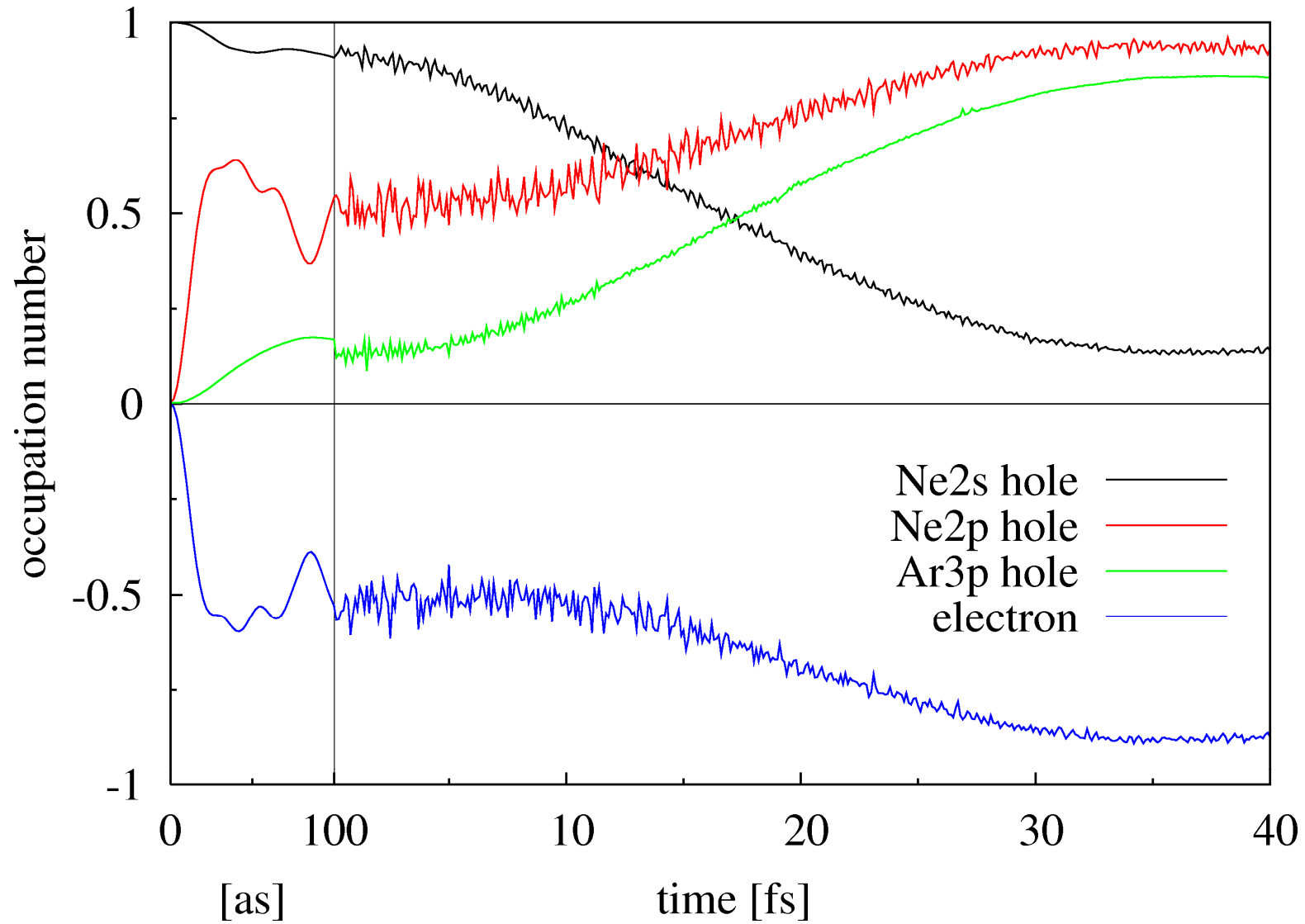


- ICD is a general phenomenon
 - van der Waals clusters – Ne_n , Ne_nAr_m , MgNe , CaNe , ...
 - hydrogen bonded clusters – $(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n$, $(\text{HF})_n$, ...
 - endohedral fullerenes – $\text{Ne}@C_{60}$, $\text{Ar}@C_{60}$
- Ultrafast process – fs time domain
- Source of LEE → biological relevance

Tracing ultrafast interatomic electronic decay processes in real time and space

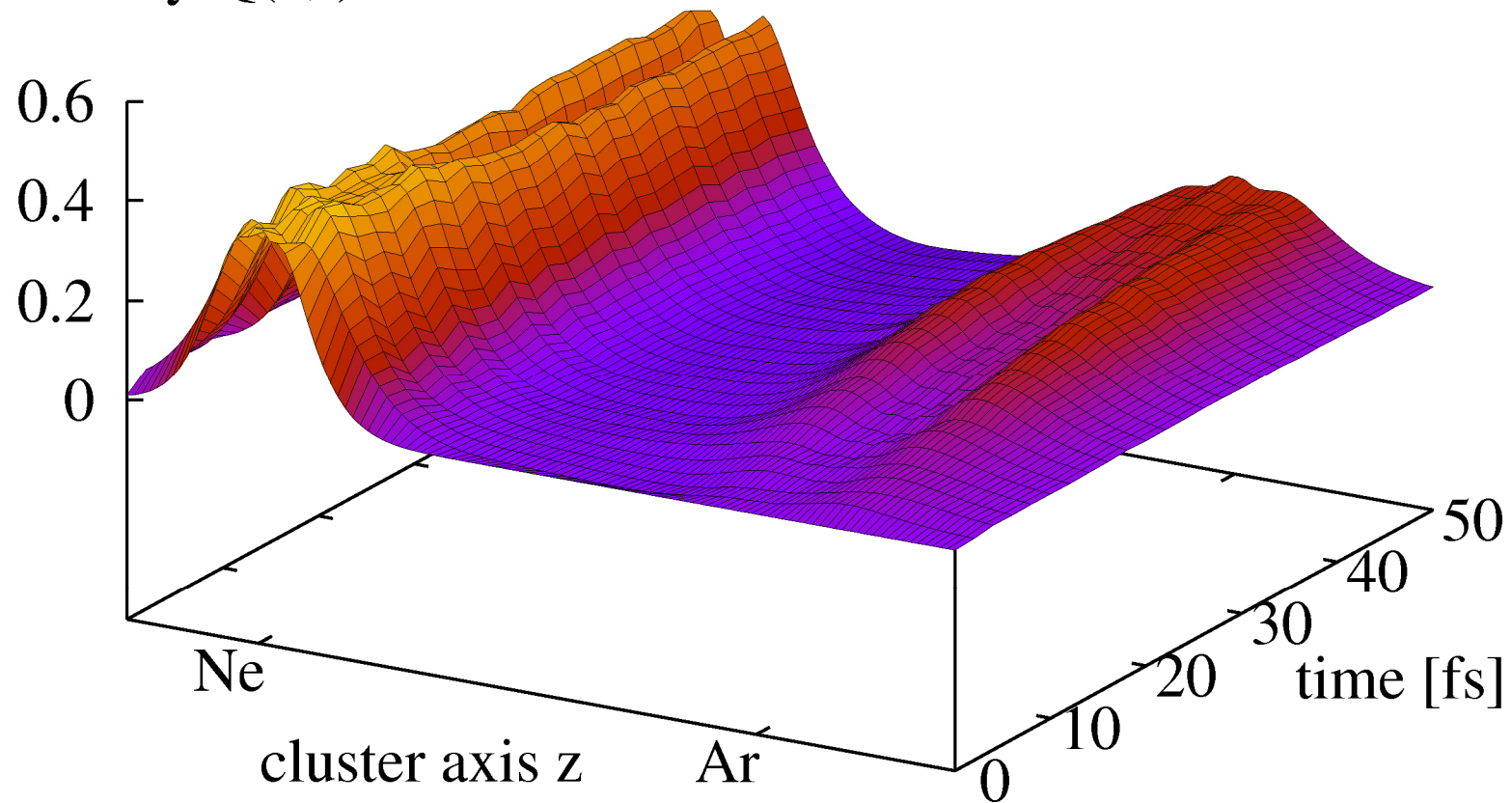
- Femto-second spectroscopy. Using lasers with femto-second pulses to „see“ the nuclear motion. Standard techniques nowadays.
- Atto-second spectroscopy. 1 as = 10^{-18} seconds. Using lasers with atto-second (sub-femto-second) pulses to „see“ the electronic motion. Future techniques. First important steps already done.
- The observation of the ICD process is an appealing project for atto-second spectroscopy.

ICD in NeAr

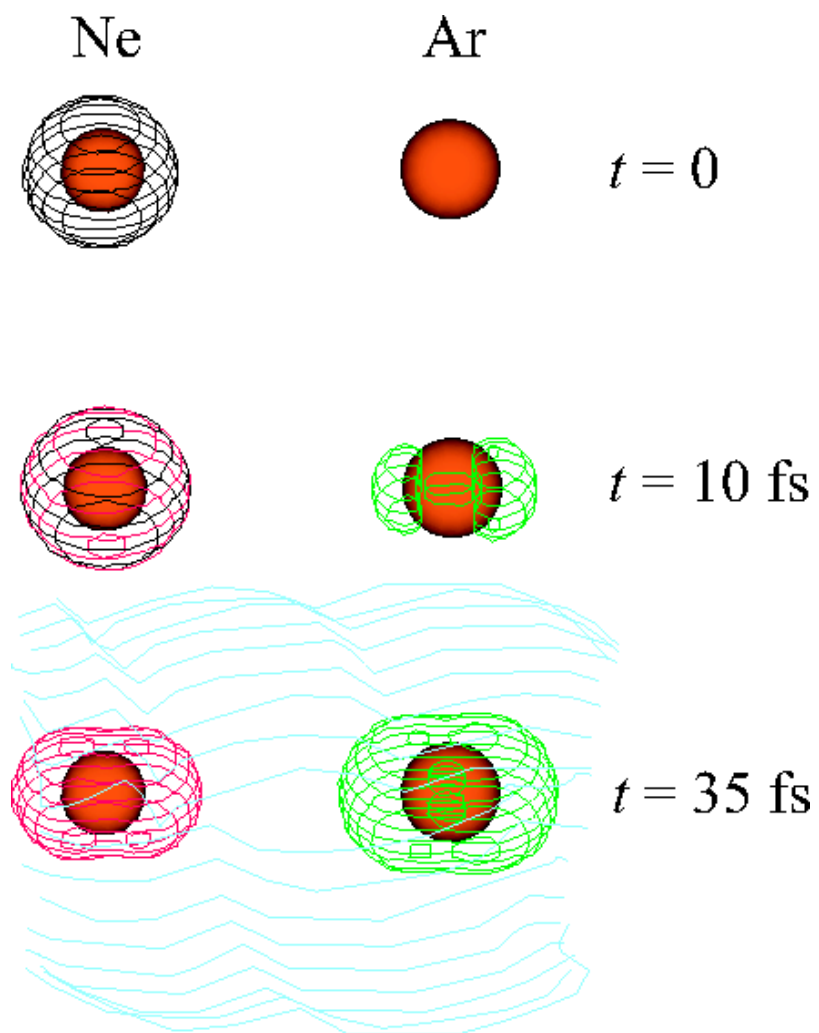


ICD in NeAr

hole density $Q(z,t)$

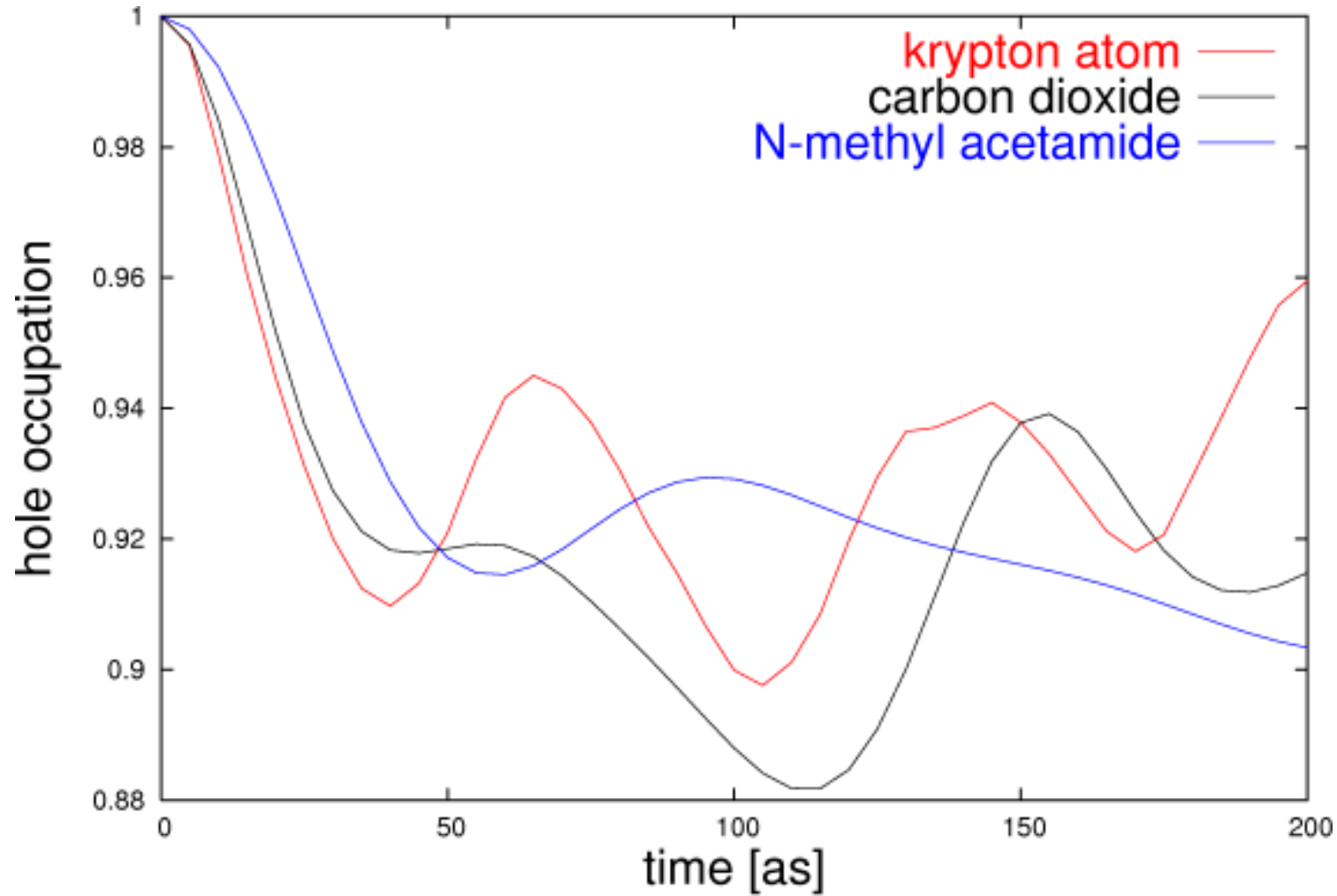


ICD in NeAr

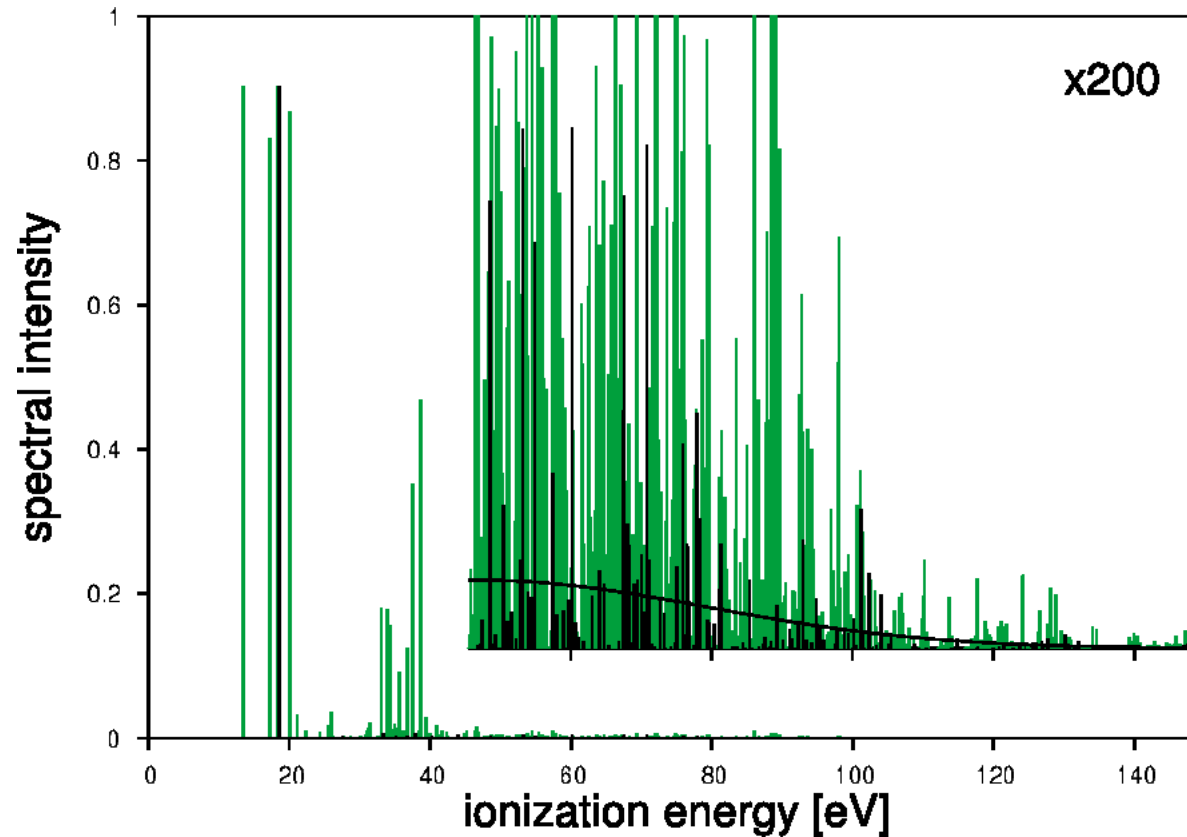


**Universal Attosecond
response to the removal
of an electron**

The hole occupation on a 200 as time scale for different systems

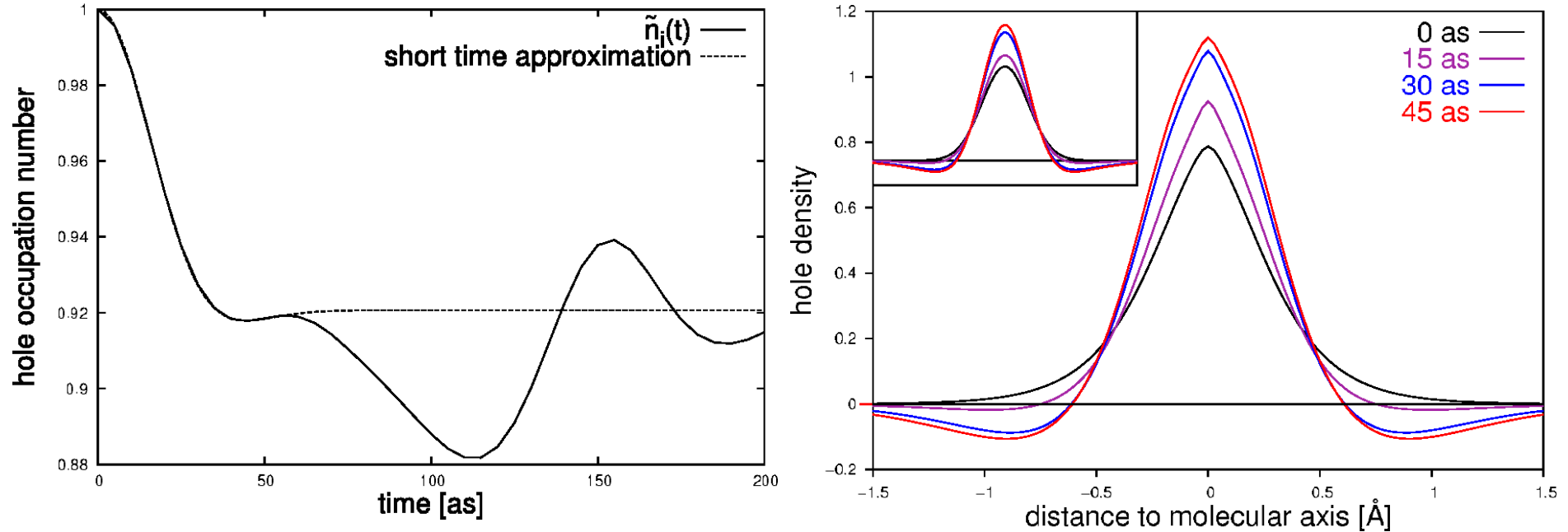


The ionization spectrum of CO₂



lines in black correspond to the eigenstates
contributing to the nonstationary state prepared

Attosecond response



$$\tilde{n}_i(t) = 1 - A [1 - \cos(\Omega t) \exp(-\Delta^2 t^2)], \Omega = \bar{E} - E_{I_0}$$

$$Q(\vec{r}, t) = c(t) \{ |\tilde{\varphi}_i(\vec{r})|^2 - \alpha h(\vec{r}) [1 - \cos(\Omega t) \exp(-\Delta^2 t^2)] \}$$

$h(\vec{r})$ exchange-correlation hole function

Many thanks to:

Jörg Breidbach

Holger Hennig

Siegfried Lünemann

Alexander Kuleff