



Technische  
Universität  
Braunschweig

Institut für Physikalische  
und Theoretische Chemie

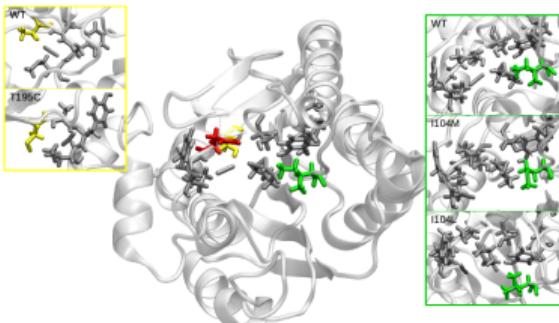


# Sensitivity analysis for assessing and controlling errors in theoretical spectroscopy and computational biochemistry

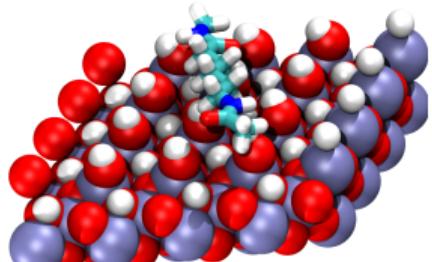
Christoph Jacob, 21. June 2022

# Complex Chemical Systems

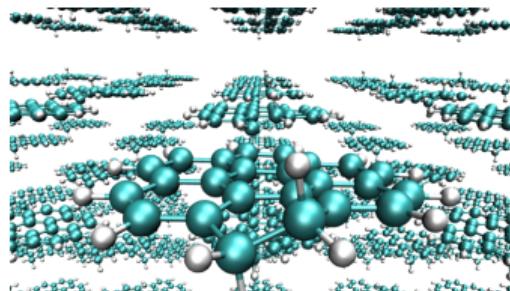
## Enzymes and Biomolecules



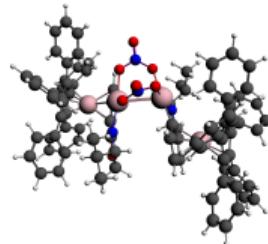
## Surfaces and Interfaces



## Molecular Materials



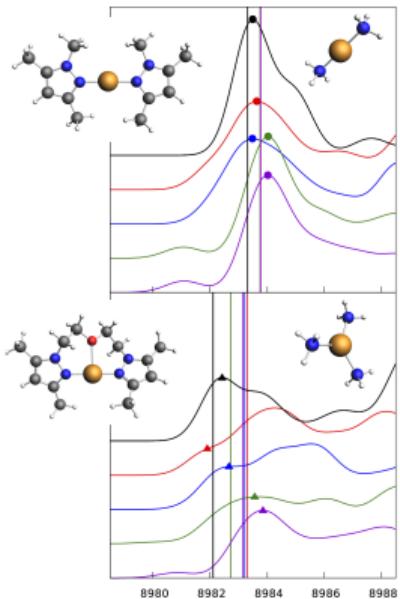
## Transition Metal Complexes



Spin-DFT Review: M. Reiher, Ch. R. Jacob  
*Int. J. Quantum. Chem.*, 112 3661 (2012).

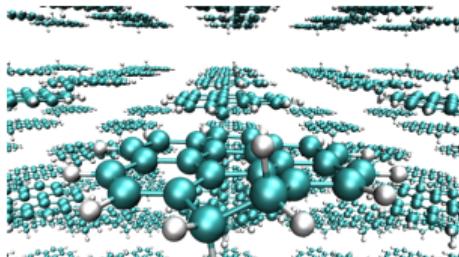
# Theoretical Spectroscopy

## X-ray Spectroscopy



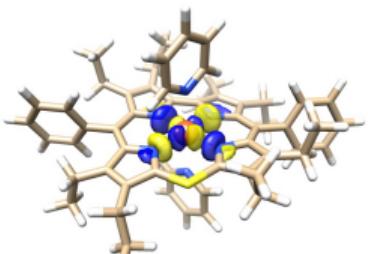
J. Rudolph, Ch. R. Jacob,  
*Inorg. Chem.* **57**, 10591–10607 (2018).

## Plasmons



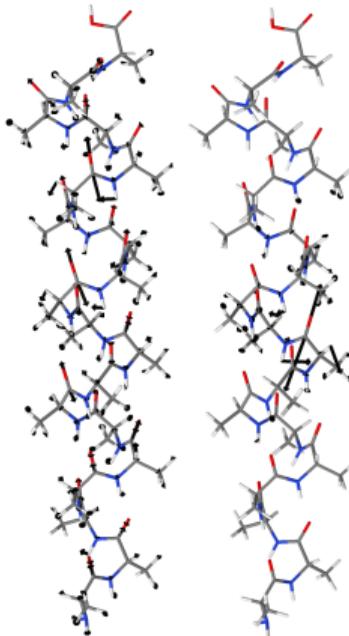
S. Bernadotte, F. Evers, Ch.R.Jacob,  
*J. Phys. Chem. C* **117**, 1863 (2013).

## EPR and Mössbauer



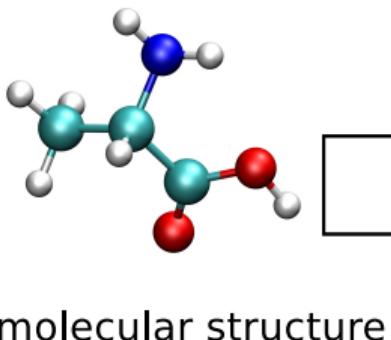
C. Sakellaris, M. Bröring, Ch. R. Jacob,  
to be submitted.

## Molecular Vibrations

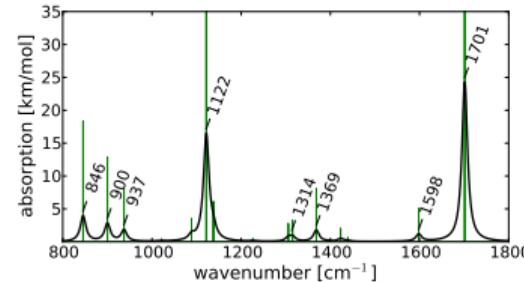


P. T. Panek, Ch. R. Jacob,  
*J. Chem. Phys. Lett.* **16**, 3084 (2016).

# Theoretical Spectroscopy

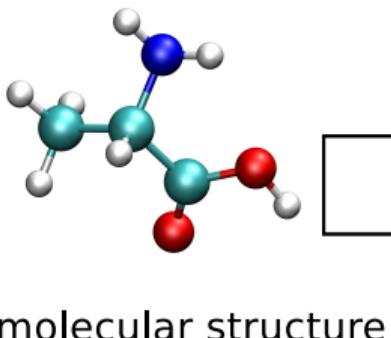


spectra

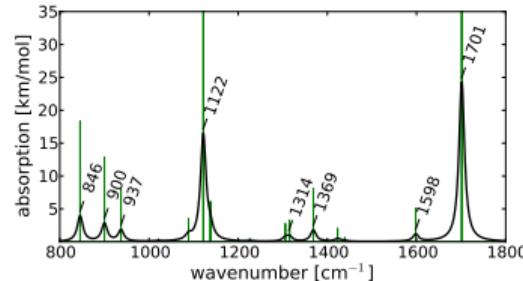


molecular properties

# Theoretical Spectroscopy



spectra



molecular properties

## Why can quantum-chemical calculations be useful for spectroscopy?

- additional information
  - assignment of peaks to vibrational modes, orbitals, ...
- further insights
  - derivation of qualitative rules and chemical concepts

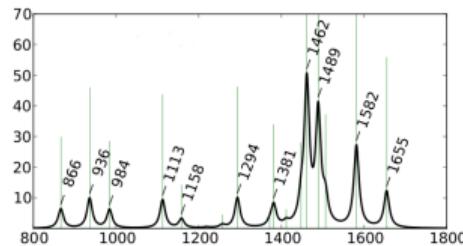
# Inverse Theoretical Spectroscopy

?

Structure

Inverse Problem

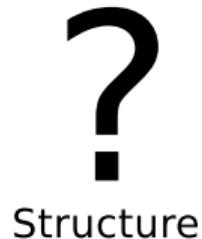
Molecular Properties



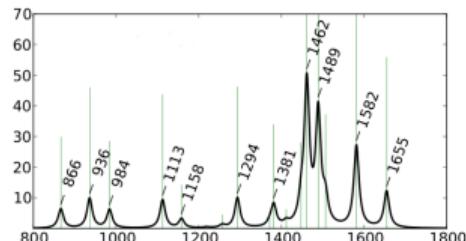
Spectra

Structural information from spectroscopic data?

# Inverse Theoretical Spectroscopy



## Molecular Properties



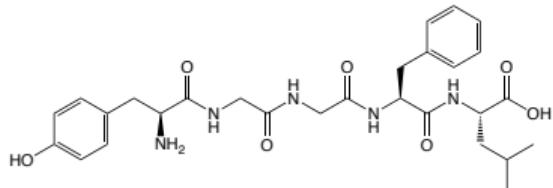
## Spectra

### Structural information from spectroscopic data?

- most spectroscopies provide only *indirect* structural information
- quantum-chemical calculation can establish link between structure and spectra
- structural assignment from comparison of experimental spectrum to spectra calculated for (many) possible structures

# Example: Structures from Gas-Phase IR Spectroscopy

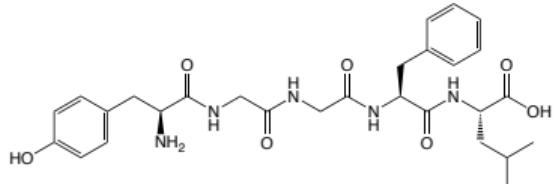
## Gas-phase structure of Leucine-Enkephalin anion (deprotonated)



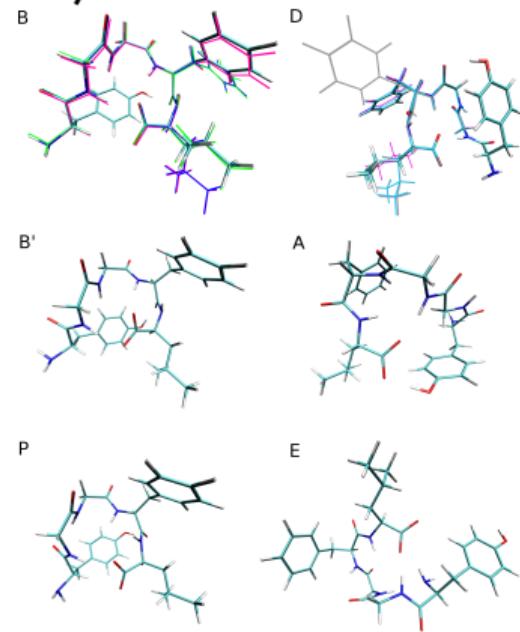
F. Schinle, Ch. R. Jacob, A. B. Wolk, J.-F. Greisch, M. Vonderach, P. Weis,  
O. Hampe, M. A. Johnson, M. M. Kappes, *J. Phys. Chem. A* **118**, 8453–8463 (2014).

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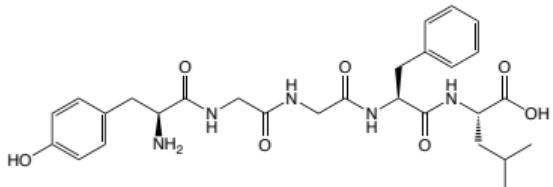
- generation of many possible conformer structures



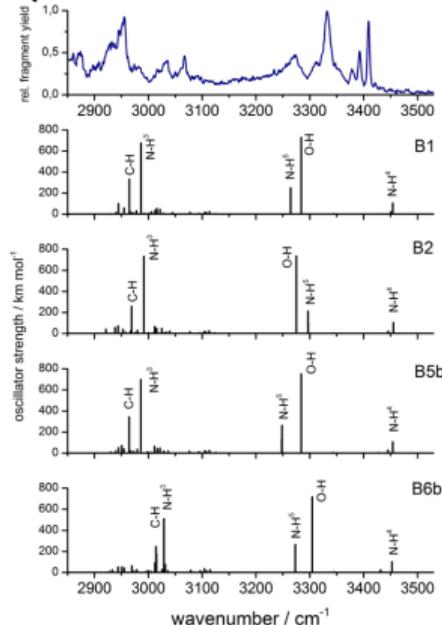
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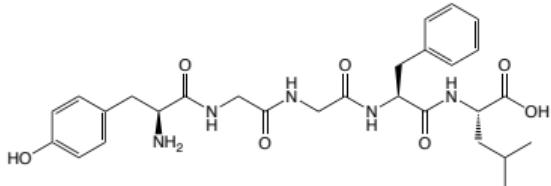
- generation of many possible conformer structures
- calculation of vibrational spectra for candidate structures



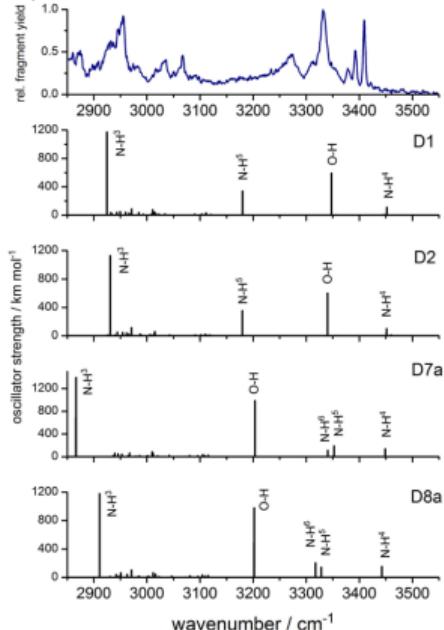
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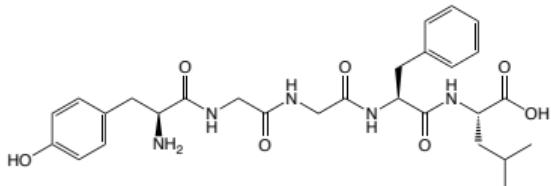
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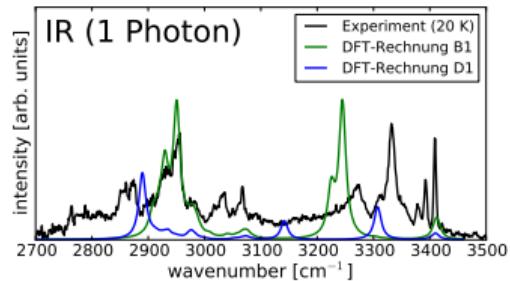
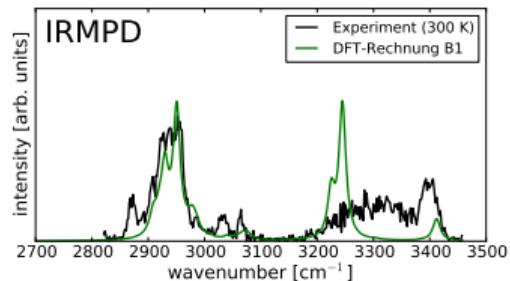
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# Example: Structures from Gas-Phase IR Spectroscopy

## Gas-phase structure of Leucine-Enkephalin anion (deprotonated)



- generation of many possible conformer structures
- calculation of vibrational spectra for candidate structures
- structure assignment based on (subjective?) comparison between calculated and experimental spectra



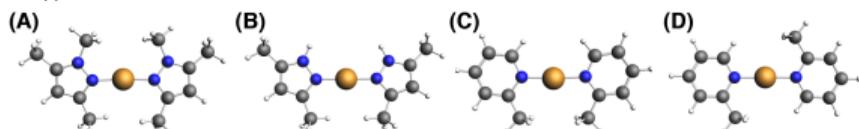
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# Example: Coordination Geometry from Cu K-edge XAS

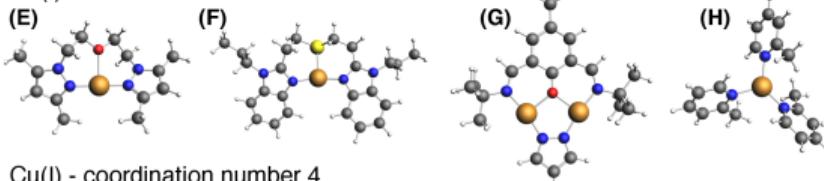
- Goal: assignment of coord. number and geometry from XAS

→ calculations of spectra for model Cu(I) complexes

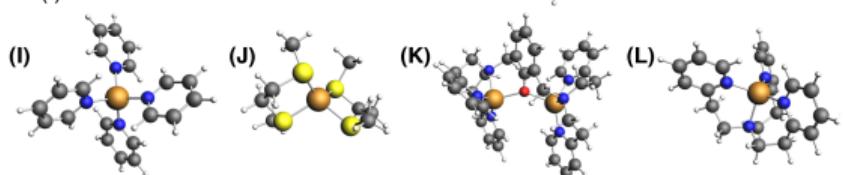
Cu(I) - coordination number 2



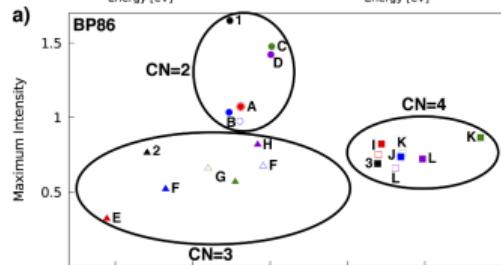
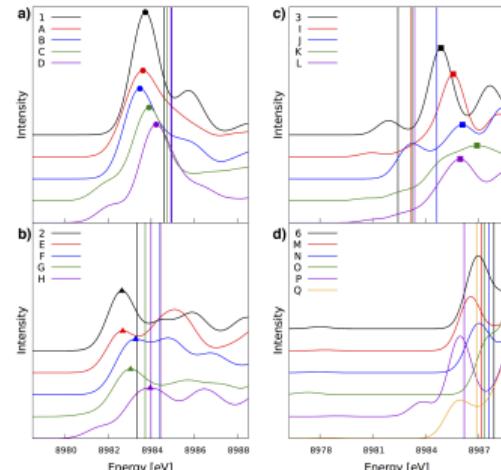
Cu(I) - coordination number 3



Cu(I) - coordination number 4



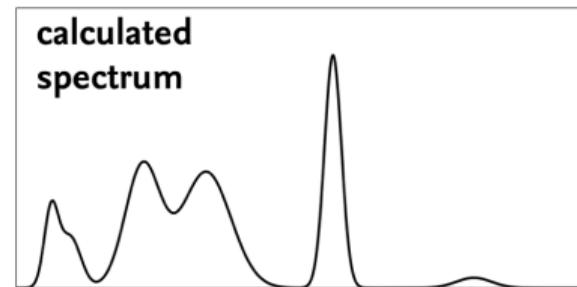
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# Theoretical Spectroscopy with Error Bars

Calculated spectra are affected by uncertainties

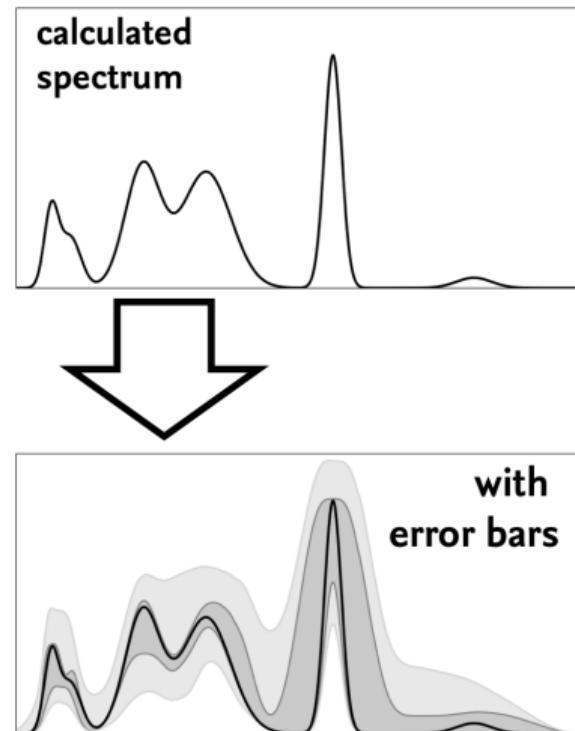
- in molecular structure
  - structural distortions
  - simplified molecular model
- in chemical environment
  - solvent effects
  - environment model
- in computational methodology
  - quantum-chemical calculations  
(e.g., xc functional in DFT)
  - approximations of theoretical spectroscopy



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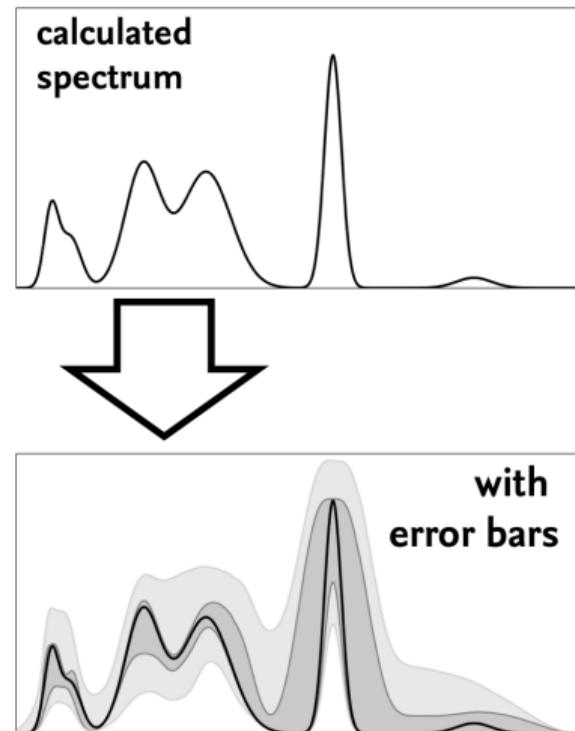
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# Goal: Systematically quantify uncertainties in calculated spectra

- *Uncertainty Quantification* is a subfield of applied mathematics that provides tools widely used in simulation science  
for a textbook, see, e.g.: R. Smith, “*Uncertainty Quantification*”, SIAM Press, 2014.
- applications of such tools in quantum chemistry are just emerging  
see, e.g.: G. N. Simm, J. Proppe, M. Reiher, *CHIMIA* **71**, 202–208 (2017).

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## First step: Structural sensitivity of calculated spectra

$$\mathbf{R} \xrightarrow{\text{QC model}} \{E_n, f_n\} \xrightarrow[\text{broadening}]{\text{empirical line}} \sigma(E; \mathbf{R})$$

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## First step: Structural sensitivity of calculated spectra

$$\mathbf{R} \xrightarrow{\text{QC model}} \{E_n, f_n\} \xrightarrow[\text{broadening}]{\text{empirical line}} \sigma(E; \mathbf{R})$$

- given input structures within an interval  $\mathbf{R}_o + \Delta \mathbf{R}$  with  $|\Delta \mathbf{R}| \leq d_{\max}$ , what is the range of possible calculated spectra?
- given a probability distribution for the input structures  $p(\mathbf{R})$ , what is the probability distribution of the calculated spectra  $p(\sigma)$ ?

# Structural Sensitivity of Calculated Spectra

## Local sensitivity analysis

- consider small distortions of reference structure  $\mathbf{R}_i$
- (local) structural sensitivity

$$\delta\sigma_i(E) = \left. \frac{\partial\sigma(E; \mathbf{R})}{\partial R_i} \right|_{\mathbf{R}_0}$$

- calculated by numerical diff.

S. W. Oung, J. Rudolph, Ch. R. Jacob, *Int. J. Quantum Chem.* **118**, e25458 (2018).

# Structural Sensitivity of Calculated Spectra

## Local sensitivity analysis

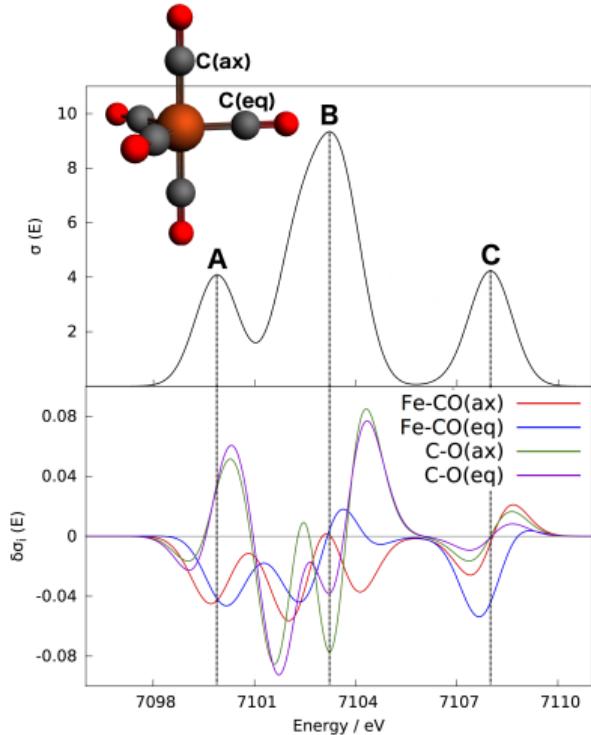
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$$\delta\sigma_i(E) = \frac{\partial\sigma(E; \mathbf{R})}{\partial R_i} \Big|_{R_0}$$

- calculated by numerical diff.

## Example: XES spectrum of $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$

- considered distortions of selected bond lengths



S. W. Oung, J. Rudolph, Ch. R. Jacob, *Int. J. Quantum Chem.* **118**, e25458 (2018).

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# Structural Sensitivity of Calculated Spectra

- calculated spectra depend on  $3N - 6$  structural parameters
- initially consider linearized model (i.e., first-order Taylor expansion)

$$\sigma(E; \mathbf{R}_o + \Delta\mathbf{R}) \approx \sigma(E; \mathbf{R}_o) + \sum_{l\alpha} \delta\sigma_{l\alpha}(E) \Delta R_{l\alpha}$$

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## Principal component analysis (PCA) of structural sensitivities

- collect all local structural sensitivities  $\delta\sigma_{l\alpha}(E_j)$  in a matrix  $\mathbf{X}$ 
  - $3N$  rows of  $\mathbf{X}$  each contain a (discretized) difference spectrum

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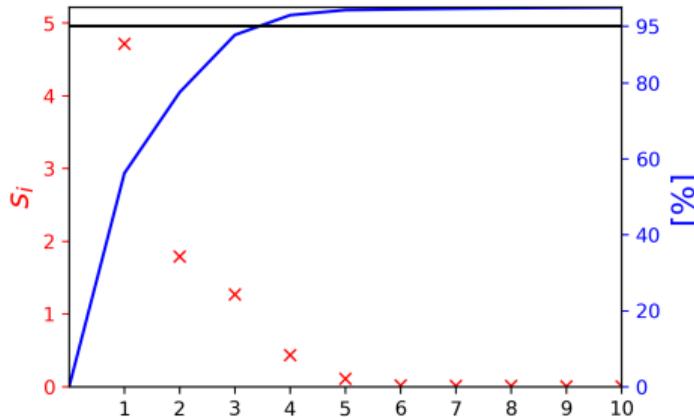
- collect all local structural sensitivities  $\delta\sigma_{l\alpha}(E_j)$  in a matrix  $\mathbf{X}$ 
  - $3N$  rows of  $\mathbf{X}$  each contain a (discretized) difference spectrum
- perform singular value decomposition  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{U} \cdot \mathbf{S} \cdot \mathbf{V}^T$ 
  - columns of  $\mathbf{U}$  define principal component distortions  $q_k$
  - columns of  $\mathbf{V}$  give structural sensitivities  $\delta\sigma_k^{PC}(E)$  w.r.t.  $q_k$
  - diagonal matrix  $\mathbf{S}$  contains rapidly decreasing singular values  $s_k \geq 0$

T. Bergmann, M. O. Welzel, Ch. R. Jacob, *Chem. Sci.* 7, 1862–1877 (2020)

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# PCA of Structural Sensitivity

- singular values  $s_k$  decrease rapidly



⇒ only few principal components required

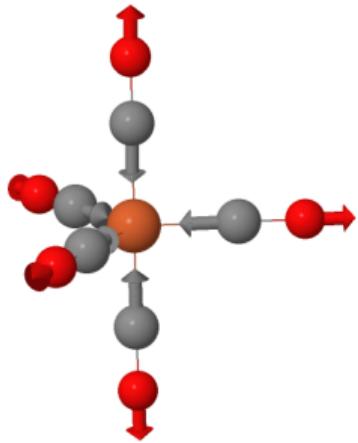
$$\sigma(E; \mathbf{R}_o + \Delta \mathbf{R}) \approx \sigma(E; \mathbf{R}_o) + \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\max}} \delta \sigma_k^{\text{PC}}(E) \Delta q_k$$

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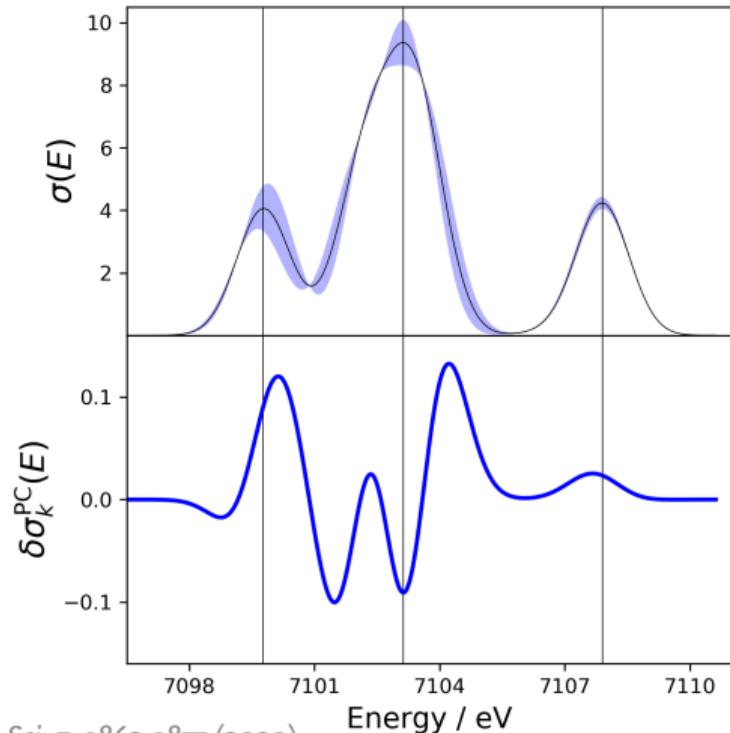
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# Principal Component Structural Sensitivities

1st principal component



$$s_1 = 4.72$$

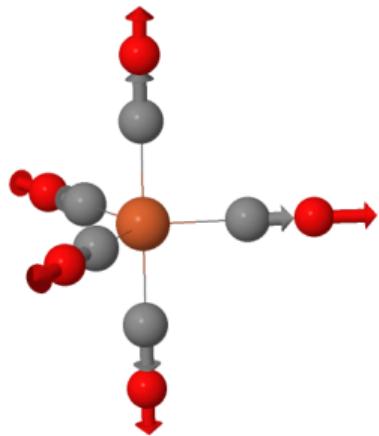


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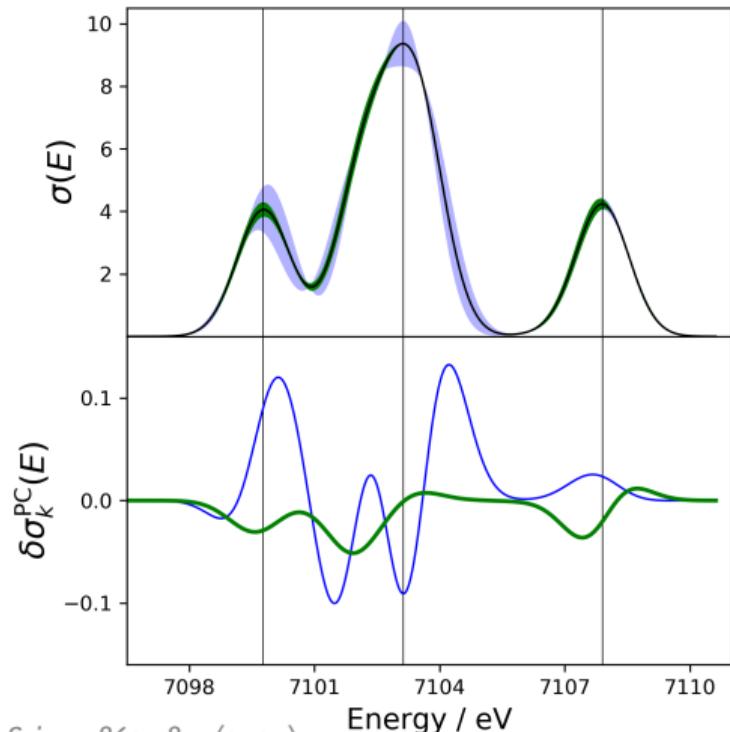
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# Principal Component Structural Sensitivities

2nd principal component



$$s_2 = 1.79$$

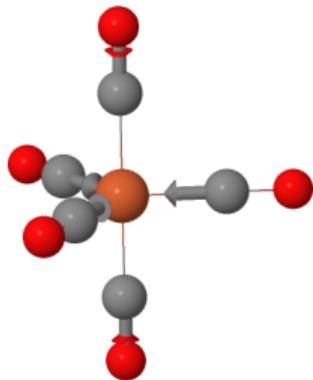


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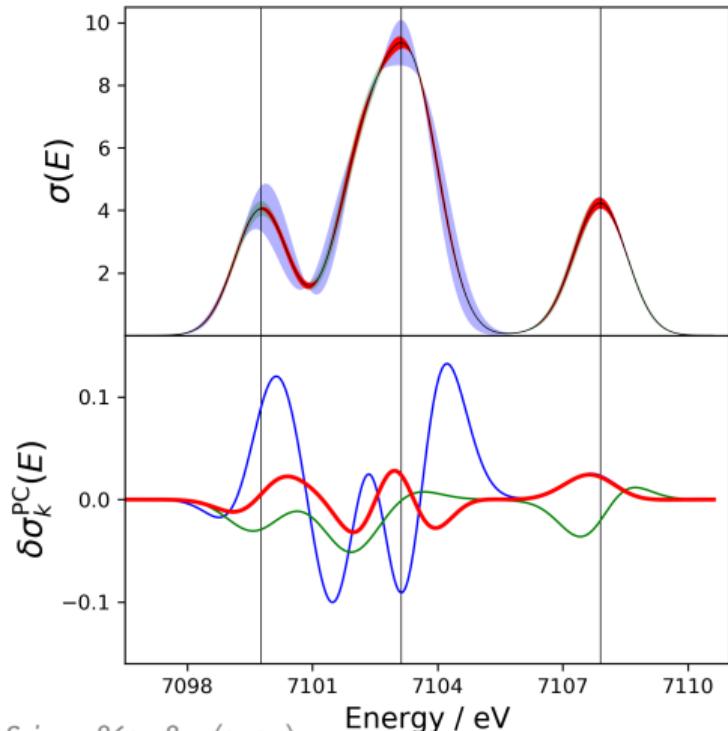
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# Principal Component Structural Sensitivities

3rd principal component



$$s_3 = 1.27$$

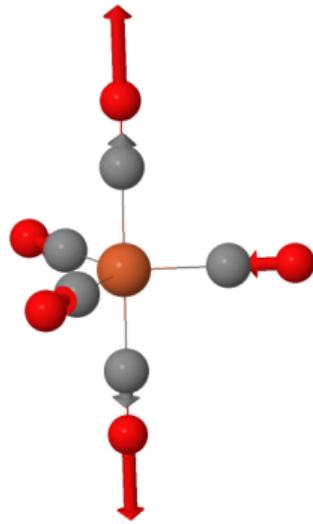


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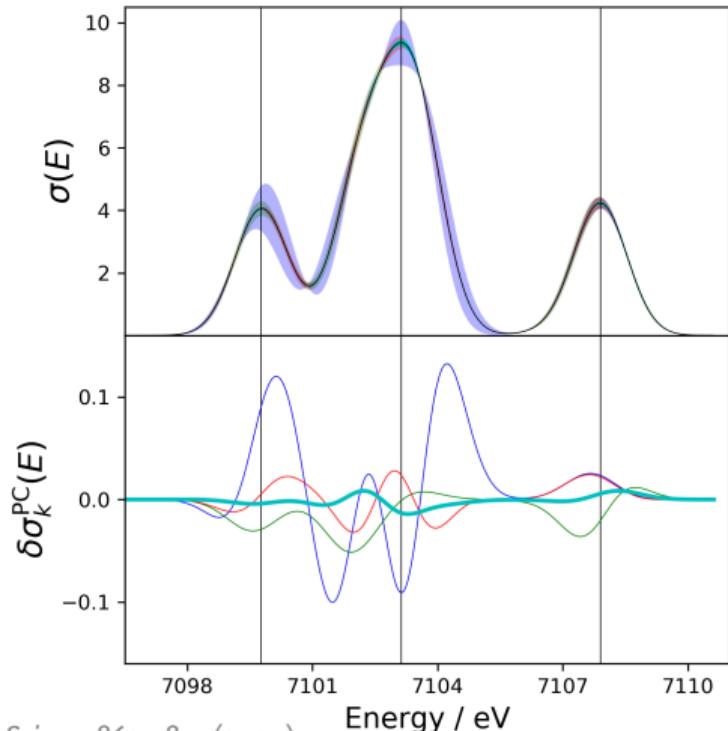
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# Principal Component Structural Sensitivities

4th principal component



$$s_4 = 0.44$$



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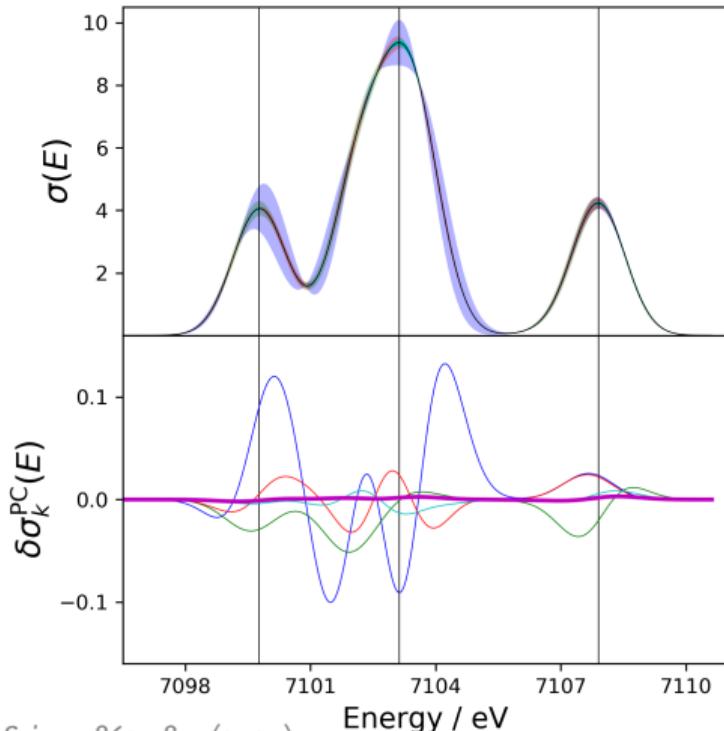
# Principal Component Structural Sensitivities

all remaining  
principal components

$$\sum_{k>4} s_k = 0.18$$

→ here: only 4 principal component distortions (out of 33) required

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\sigma(E; \Delta\mathbf{R}) \\ \approx \Delta\sigma(E; \Delta q_1, \dots, \Delta q_4)\end{aligned}$$



T. Bergmann, M. O. Welzel, Ch. R. Jacob, *Chem. Sci.* **7**, 1862–1877 (2020)

# Surrogate Models of Structural Sensitivity

## Linearized model

$$\sigma(E; \mathbf{R}) \approx \sigma(E; \mathbf{R}_o) + \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\max}} \delta\sigma_k^{\text{PC}}(E) \Delta q_k$$

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# Surrogate Models of Structural Sensitivity

## Linearized model

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## More general surrogate models (*Sobol expansion*)

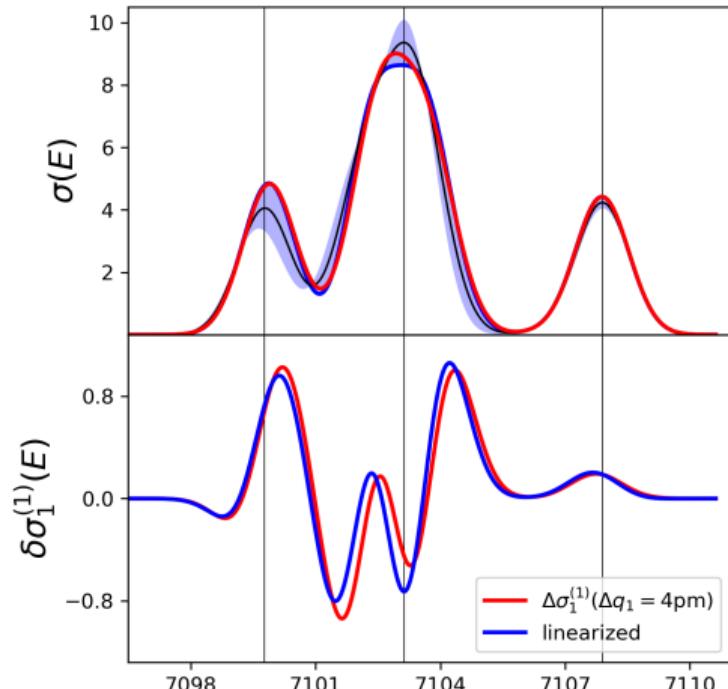
$$\sigma(E; \mathbf{R}) \approx \sigma(E; \mathbf{R}_o) + \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\max}} \delta\sigma_k^{(1)}(E; \Delta q_k) + \sum_{k < l}^{k_{\max}} \delta\sigma_{k,l}^{(2)}(E; \Delta q_k, \Delta q_l) + \dots$$

- **one-mode contributions**  $\delta\sigma_k^{(1)}(E; \Delta q_k)$ 
  - linearized model corresponds to first-order Taylor expansion
  - can be refined by using higher-order Taylor expansion
- **two-mode contributions**  $\delta\sigma_{k,l}^{(2)}(E; \Delta q_k, \Delta q_l)$ 
  - could be approximated by second-order Taylor expansion

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# Surrogate Models of Structural Sensitivity

- assess linearized model for 1st principal comp.
- $\Delta q_1 = 4 \text{ pm}$

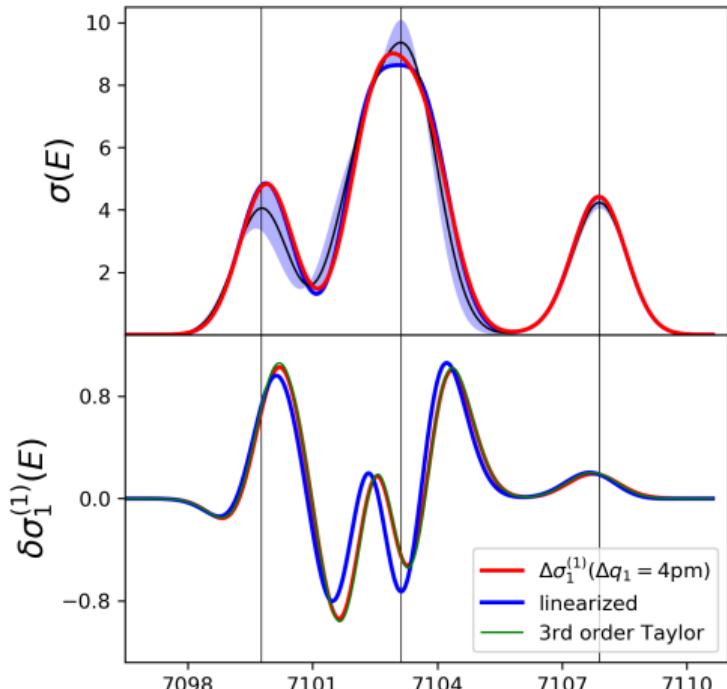


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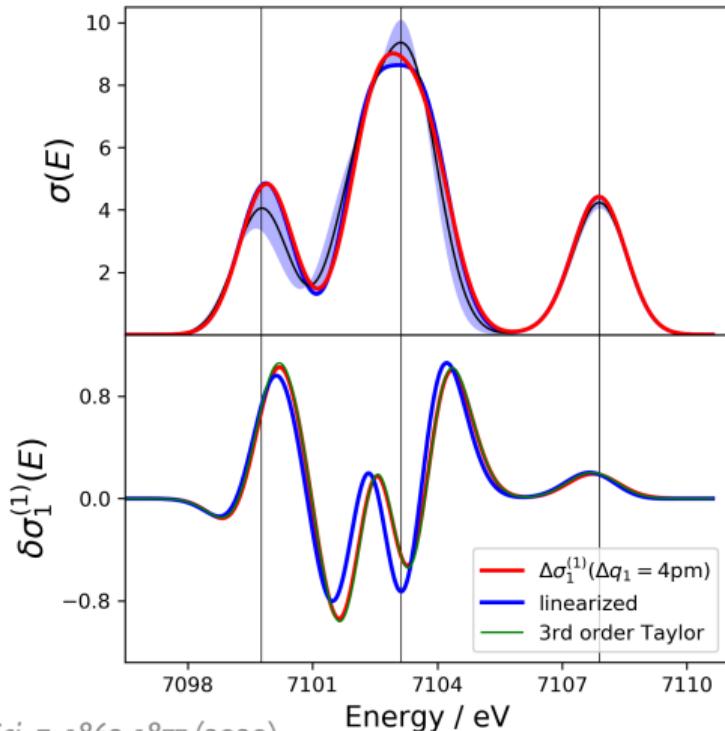
Christoph Jacob | Sensitivity analysis for assessing and controlling errors | Page 15

# Surrogate Models of Structural Sensitivity

- assess linearized model for 1st principal comp.
- $\Delta q_1 = 4 \text{ pm}$

## Surrogate Model for $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$

- 4 principal components
- 3rd order Taylor expansion for one-mode contributions
- neglect two-mode (and higher-order) contributions



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# Theoretical Spectroscopy with Error Bars

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- for higher-order Taylor expansion:  
sample interval  $[-d_{\max}, \dots, +d_{\max}]$  to find min and max

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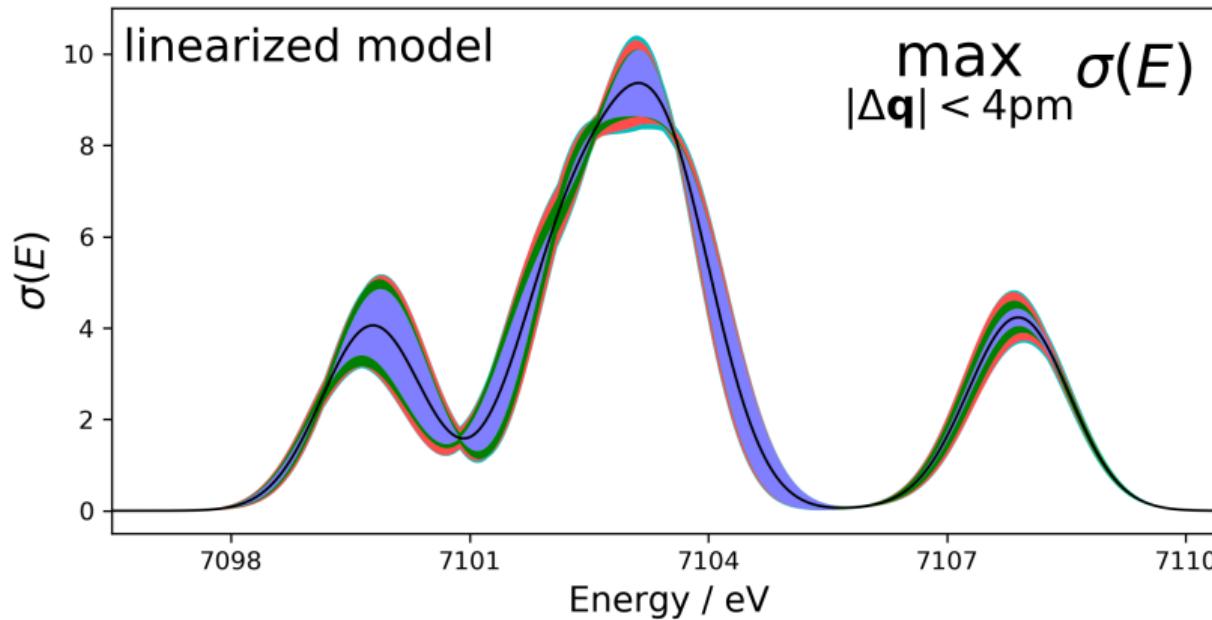
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# Theoretical Spectroscopy with Error Bars

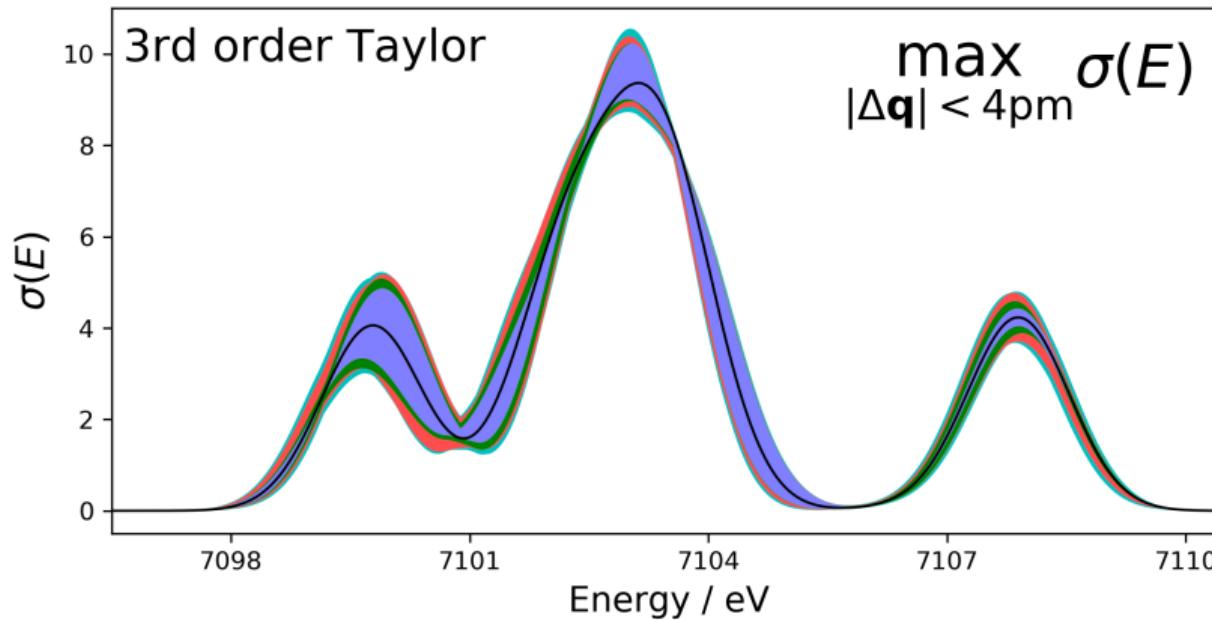
Example: XES spectrum of  $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$  with error bars



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# Theoretical Spectroscopy with Error Bars

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  - for simplicity, assume uncorrelated distortions, i.e.,  $p(\Delta q) = p_1(\Delta q_1) \cdot p_2(\Delta q_2) \cdot p_3(\Delta q_3) \cdots$

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- for one-mode expansion:

- expectation value (mean):

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \sigma(E; \mathbf{R}) \rangle &= \sigma(E; \mathbf{R}_0) + \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\max}} \left\langle \delta\sigma_k^{(1)}(E; \Delta q_k) \right\rangle \\ &= \sigma(E; \mathbf{R}_0) + \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\max}} \int \delta\sigma_k^{(1)}(E; \Delta q_k) p_k(\Delta q_k) dq_k\end{aligned}$$

- integrals can be calculated numerically

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- for one-mode expansion:

- variance

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}(\sigma(E; \mathbf{R})) &= \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\max}} \text{Var}(\delta\sigma_k^{(1)}(E; \Delta q_k)) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\max}} \left( \int (\delta\sigma_k^{(1)}(\Delta q_k))^2 p_k(\Delta q_k) dq_k - \langle \delta\sigma_k^{(1)}(\Delta q_k) \rangle^2 \right)\end{aligned}$$

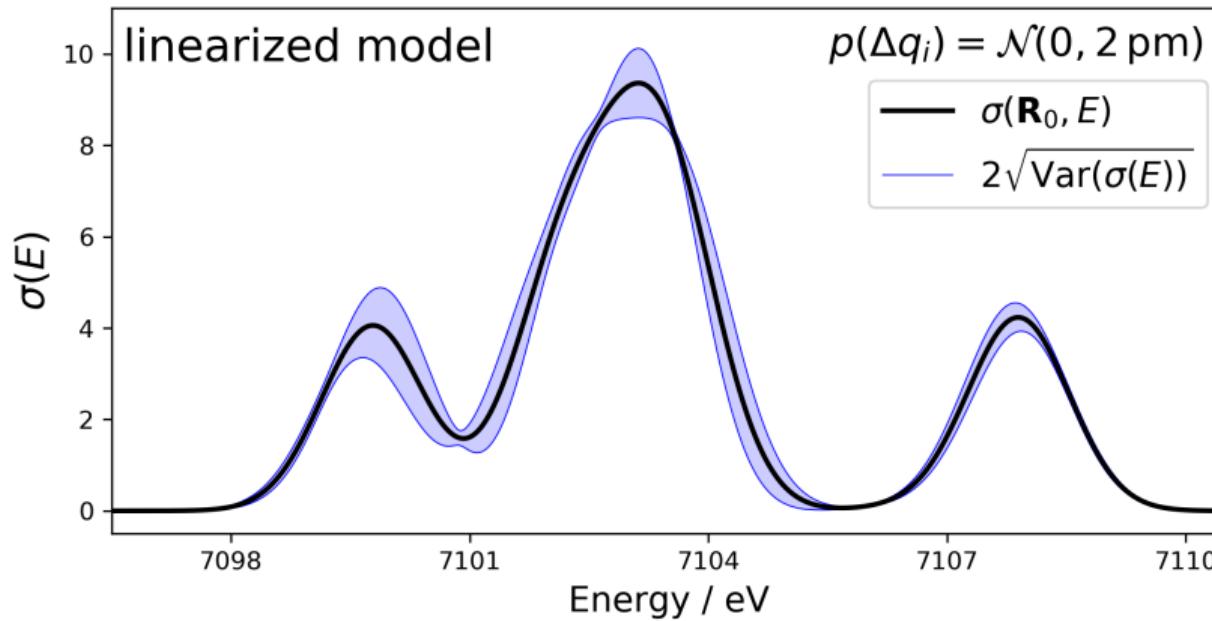
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$$\text{Var}(\sigma(E; \mathbf{R})) = \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\max}} \text{Var}\left(\delta\sigma_k^{(1)}(E; \Delta q_k)\right)$$
$$= \sum_{k=1}^{k_{\max}} \left( \int (\delta\sigma_k^{(1)}(\Delta q_k))^2 p_k(\Delta q_k) dq_k - \left\langle \delta\sigma_k^{(1)}(\Delta q_k) \right\rangle^2 \right)$$
  - integrals can be calculated numerically
- generalization to correlated distortions possible
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# Theoretical Spectroscopy with Error Bars

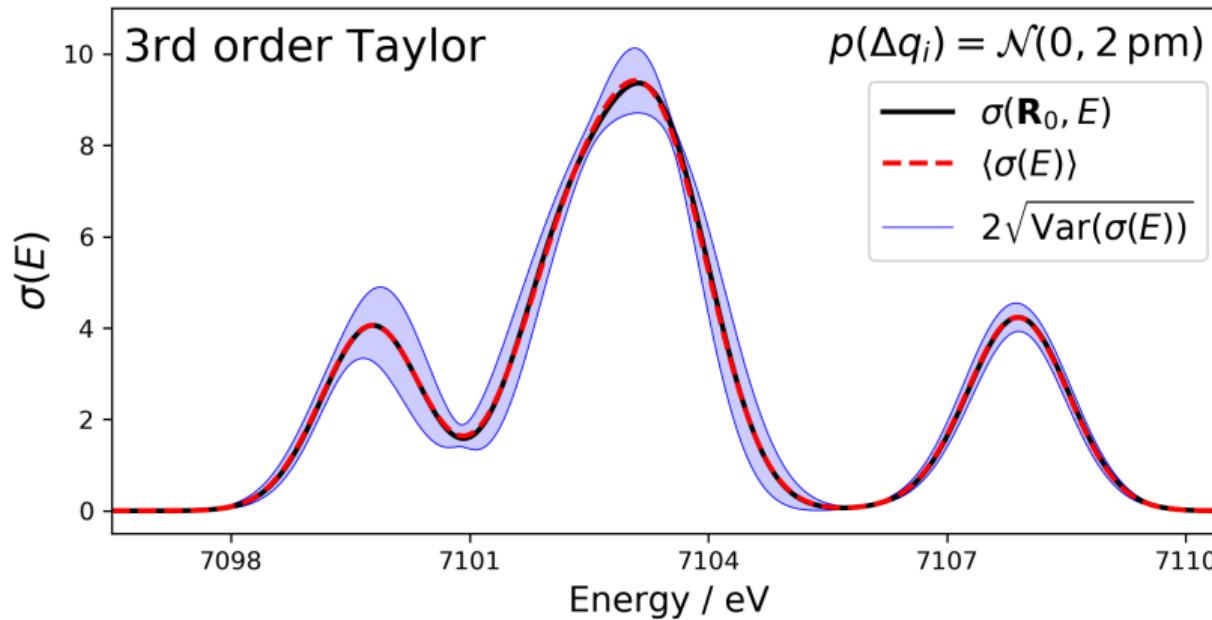
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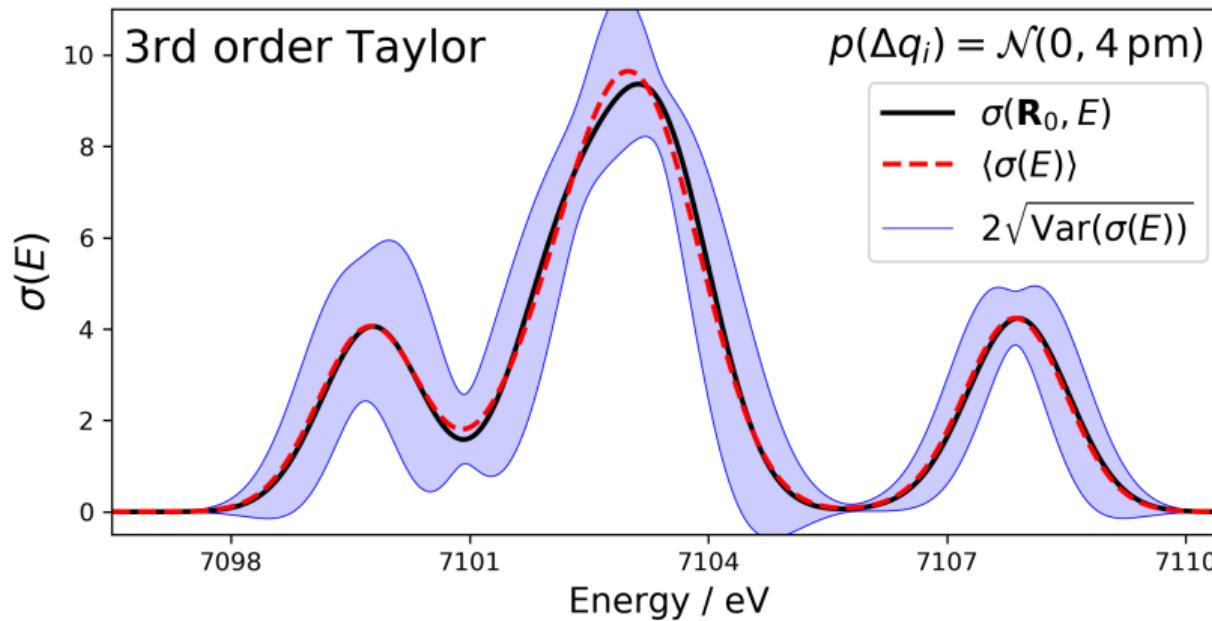
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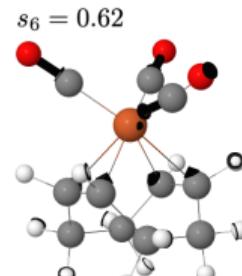
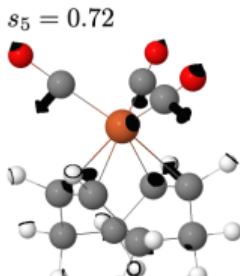
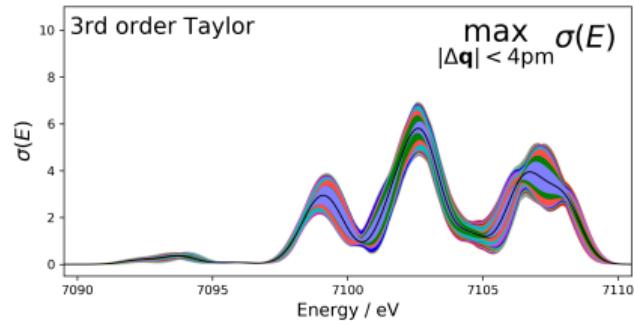
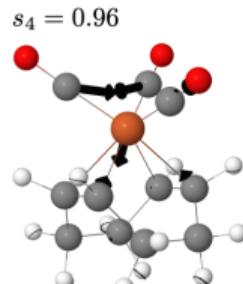
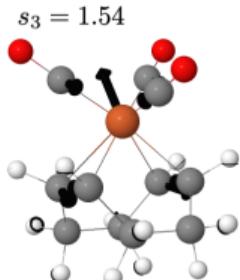
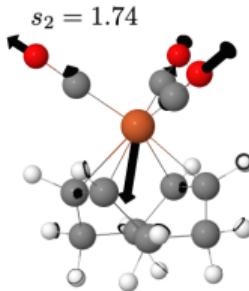
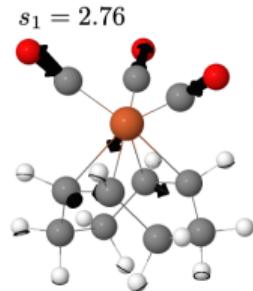
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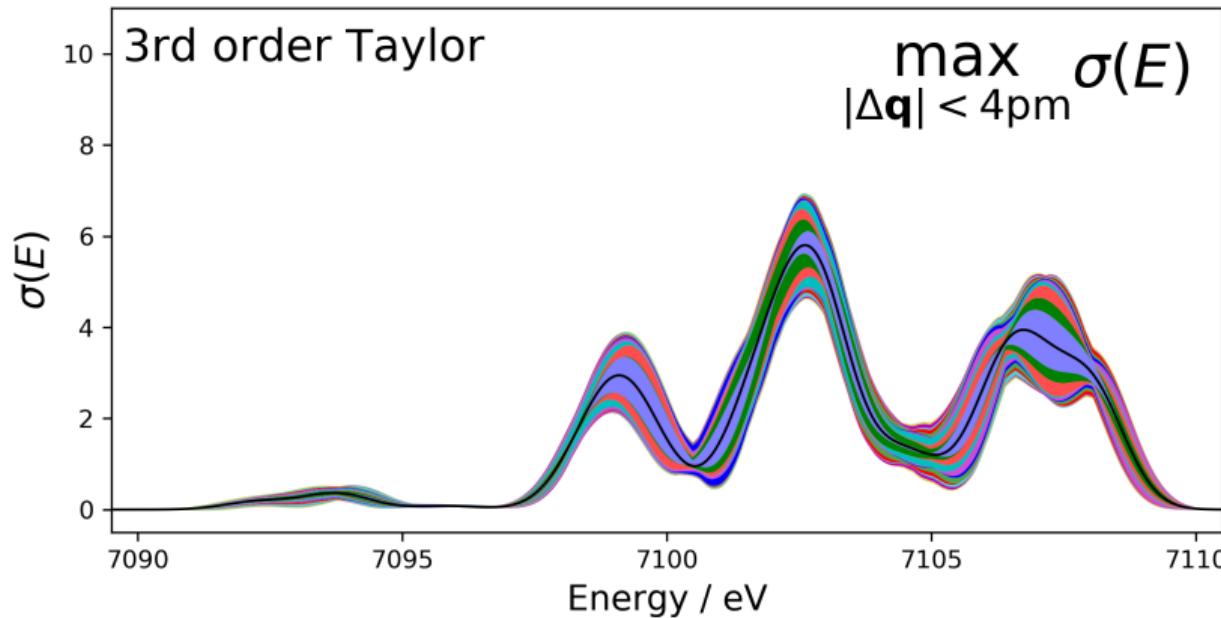
Example: XES spectrum of  $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_3(\text{cod})$  with error bars



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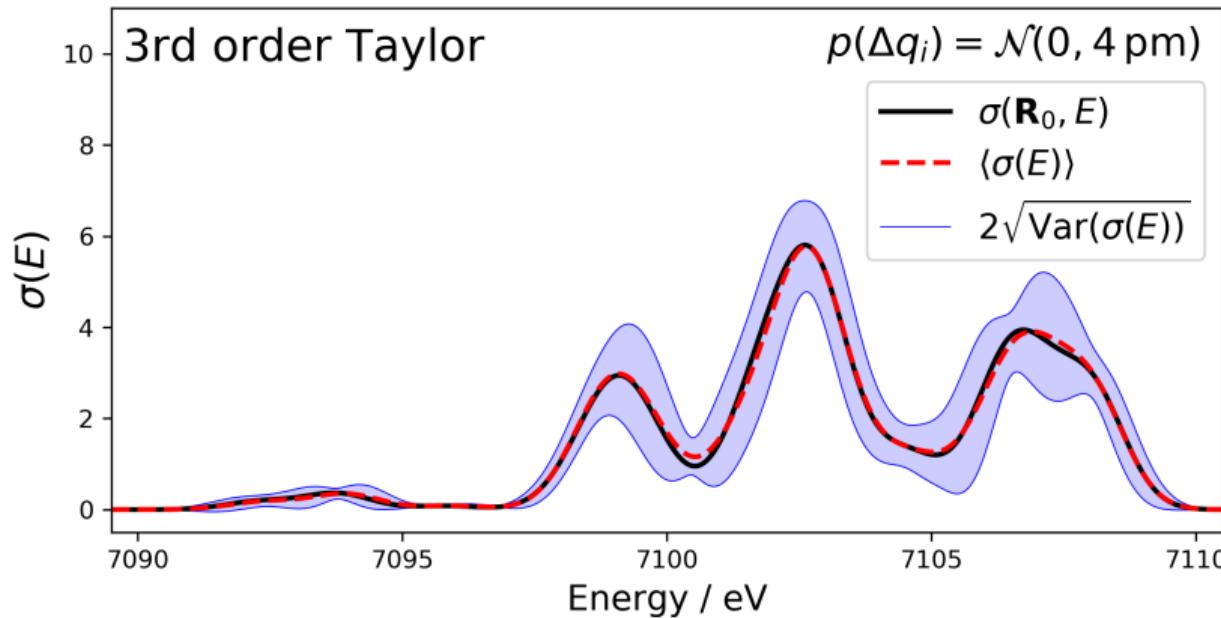
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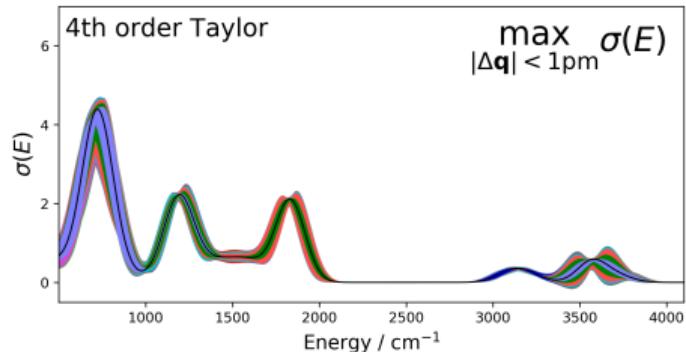
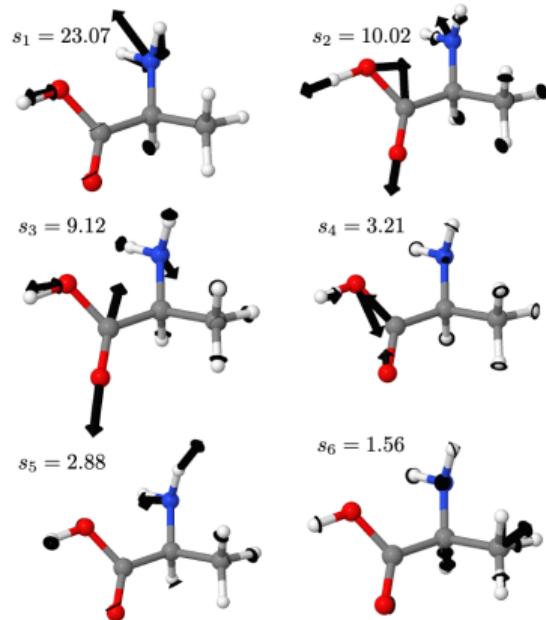
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# Theoretical Spectroscopy with Error Bars

## Example: IR spectrum of Alanine with error bars

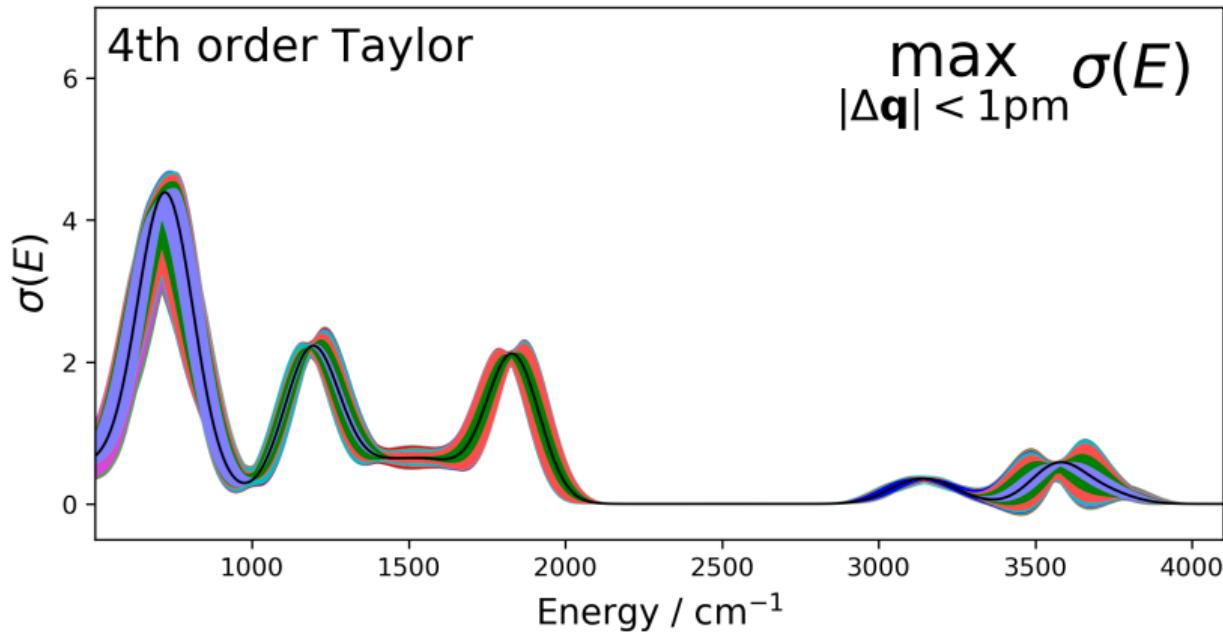


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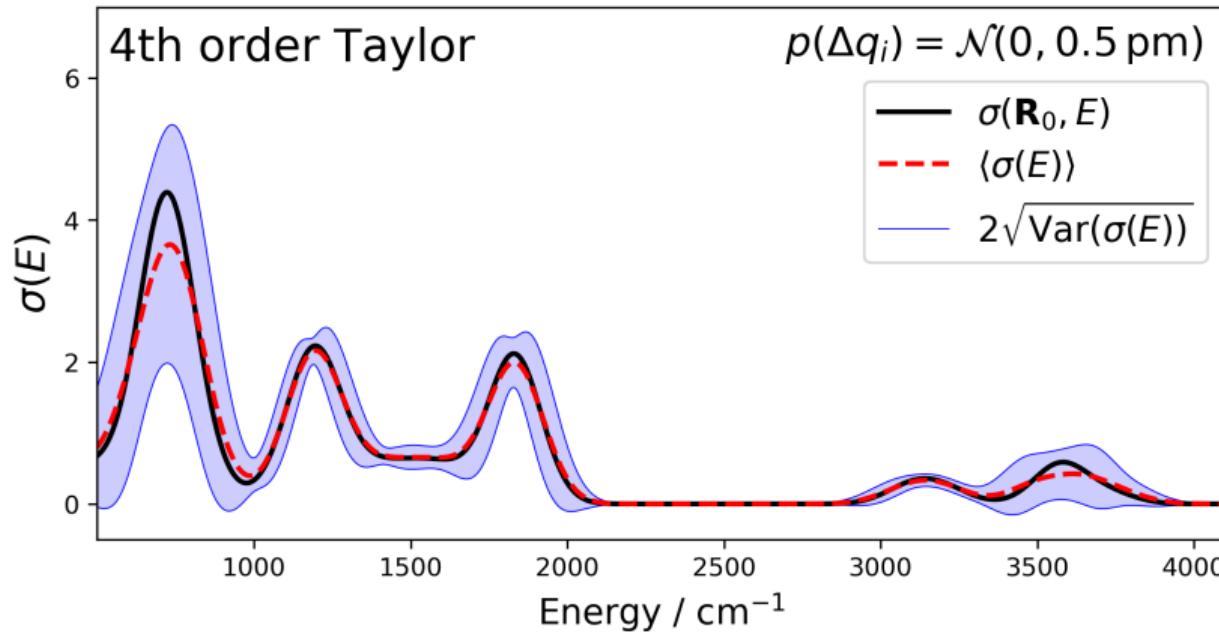


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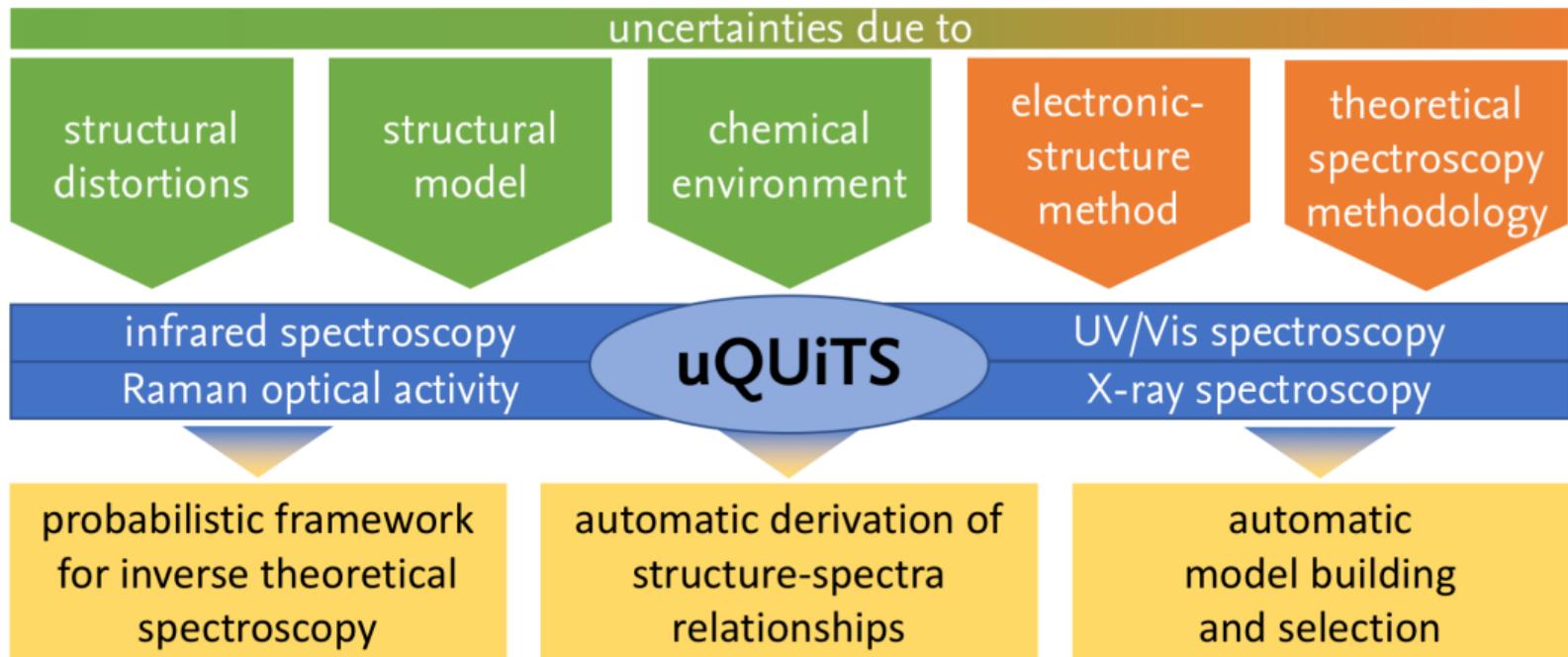
# Summary: Structural Sensitivity in Theoretical Spectroscopy

## Quantifying uncertainties in spectra due to structural sensitivity

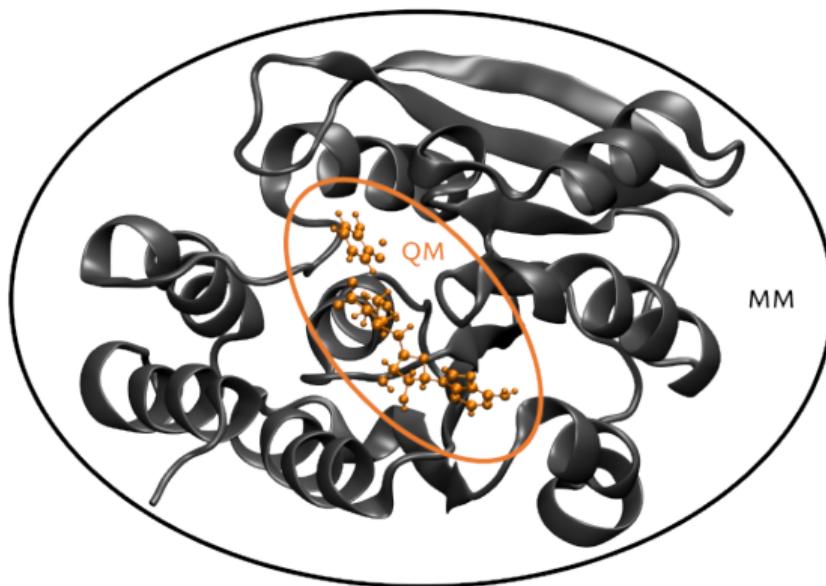
- identification of influential and non-influential structural distortions
    - consider linearized model of structural sensitivity
    - principal component analysis provides most influential distortions
  - reduced-dimensional surrogate model of structural sensitivity
    - Sobol expansion provides framework for systematic refinement
    - here: low-order Taylor expansion for one-mode contributions
  - statistical analysis of uncertainty propagation
    - uncertainties in input molecular structure need to be provided
    - uncertainties in calculated spectra can be calculated efficiently
- ⇒ rigorous (structural) “error bars” for calculated spectra

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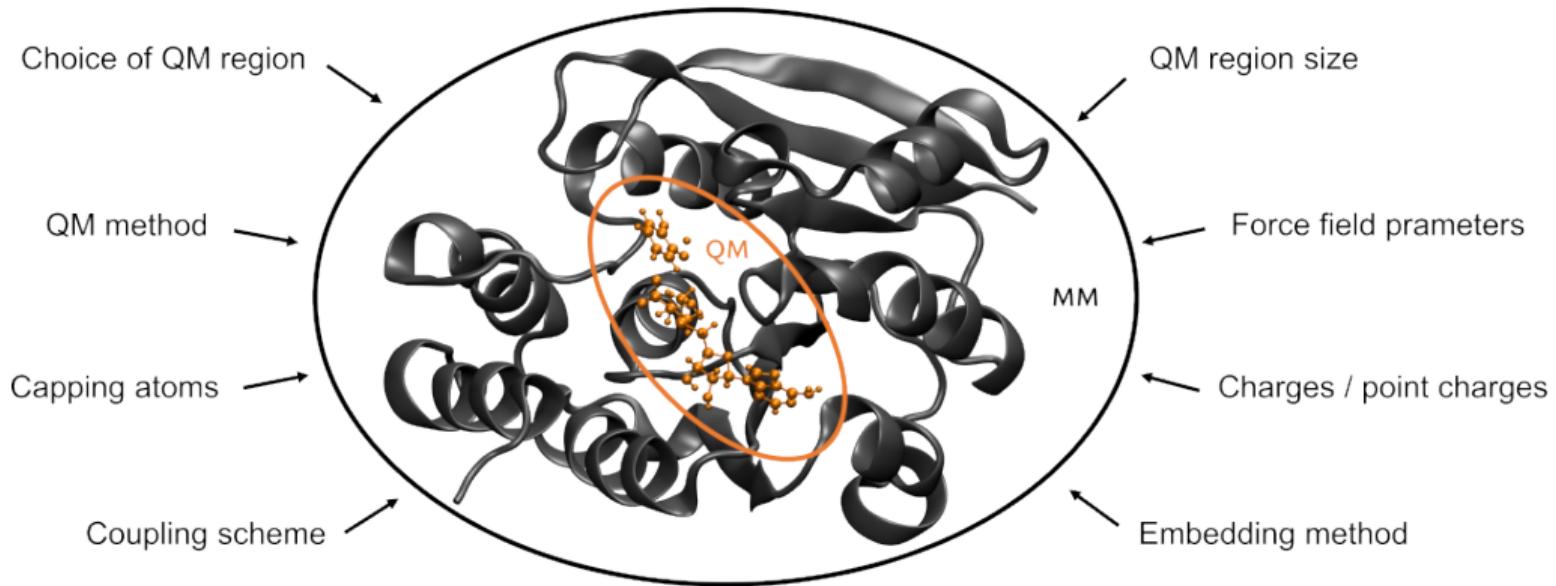
# Outlook: Uncertainty Quantification in Theoretical Spectroscopy



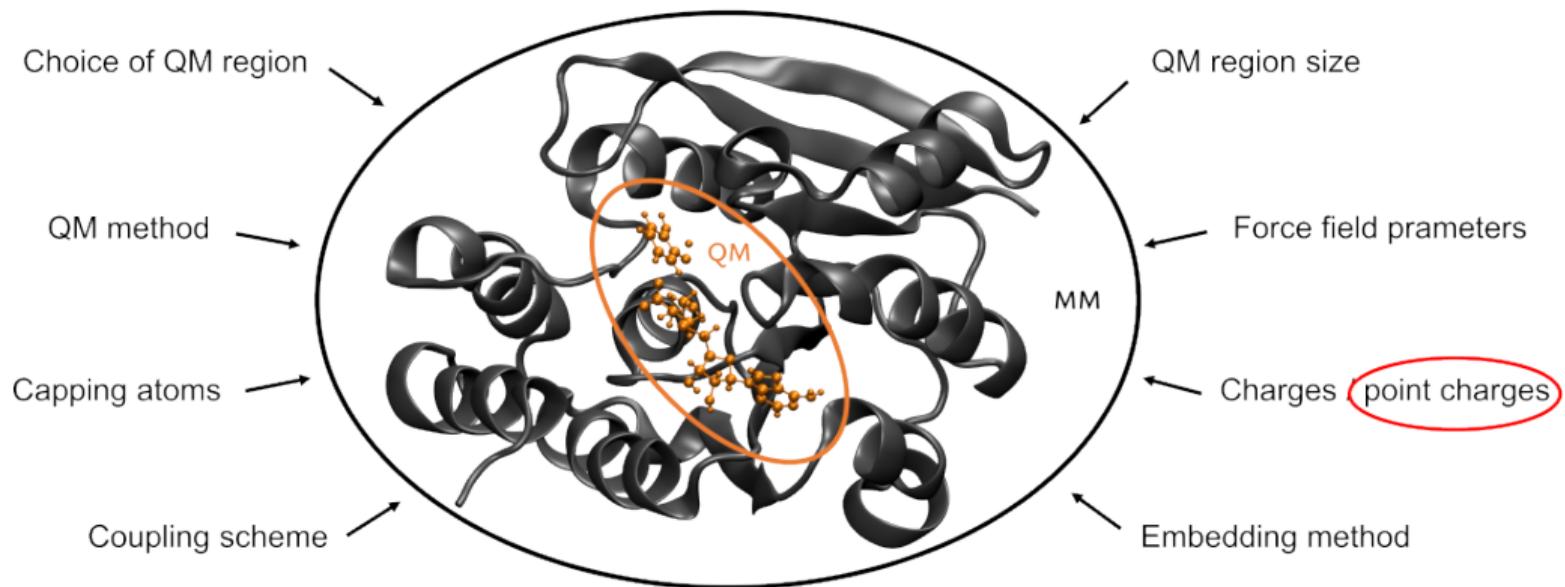
# QM/MM: Basics and Challenges



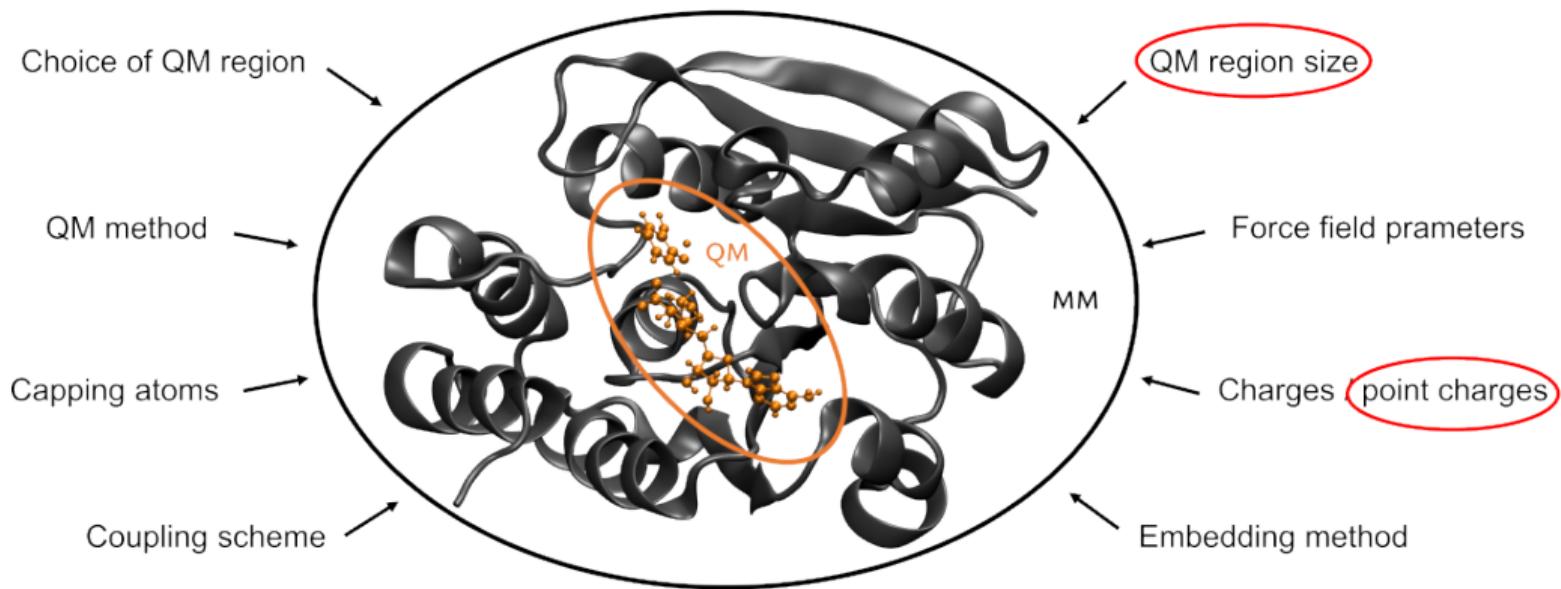
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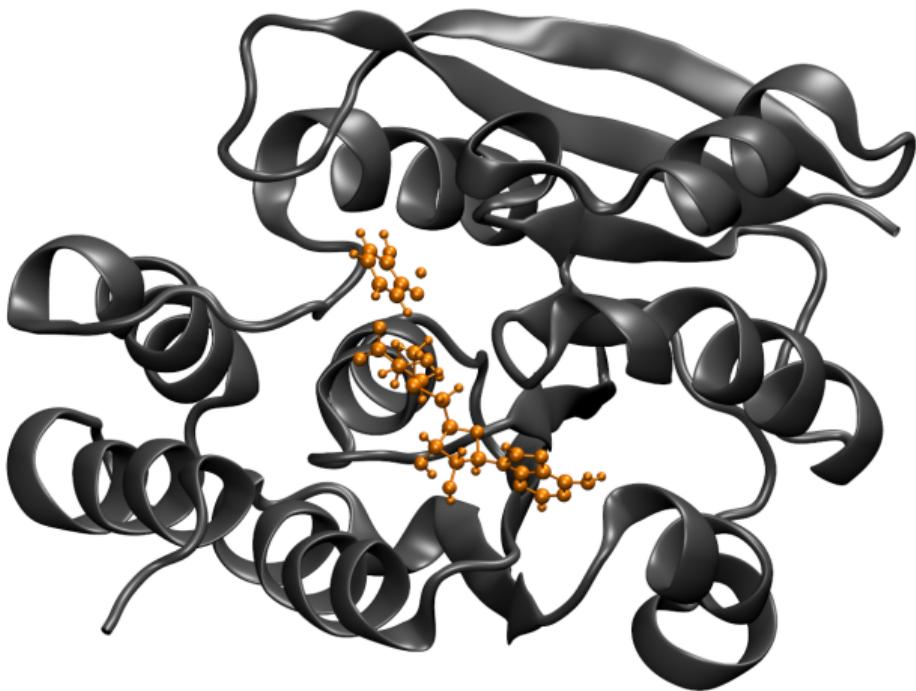
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# Which residues should be included in the QM region?

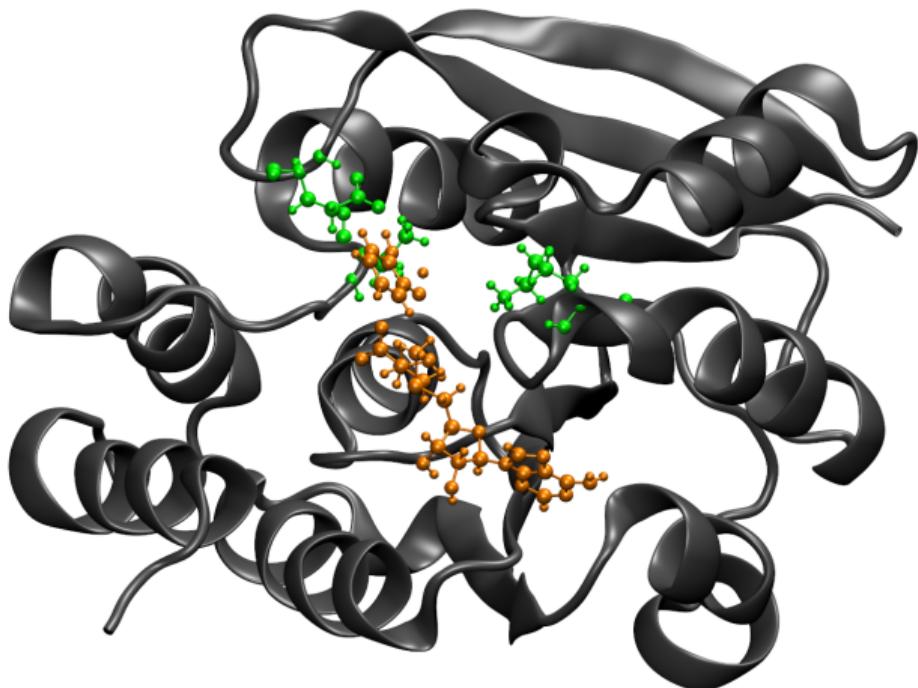


- Distance-based:  
very simple, often used
- More advanced schemes:  
CDA, CSA, FSA, etc.
- Our Idea:  
minimize sensitivity w.r.t.  
variation of the QM charges

Model system:  
catechol O-methyltransferase

H. J. Kulik, J. Zhang, J. P. Klinman, T. Z. Martínez,  
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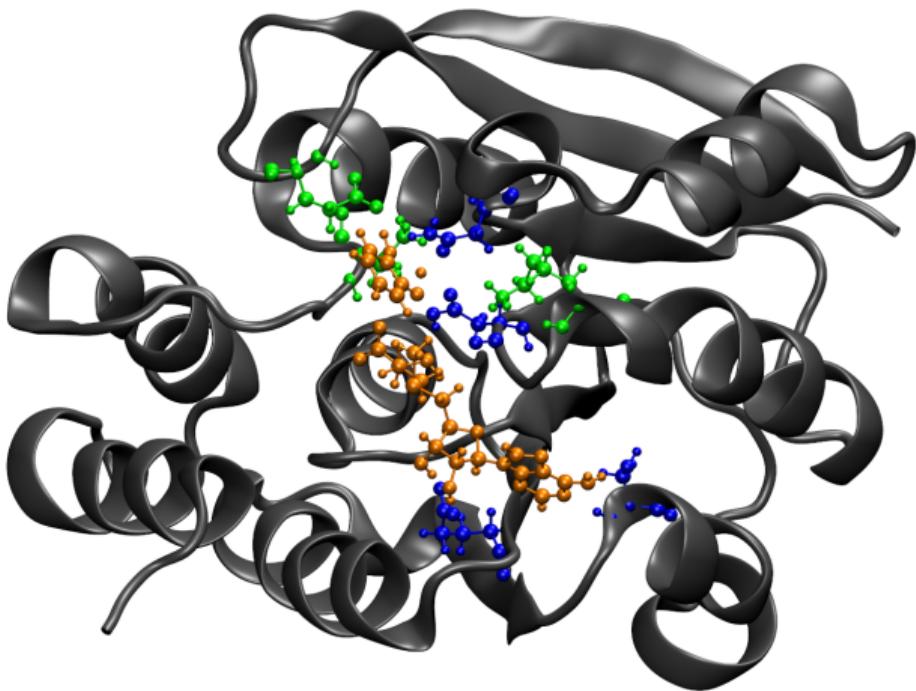


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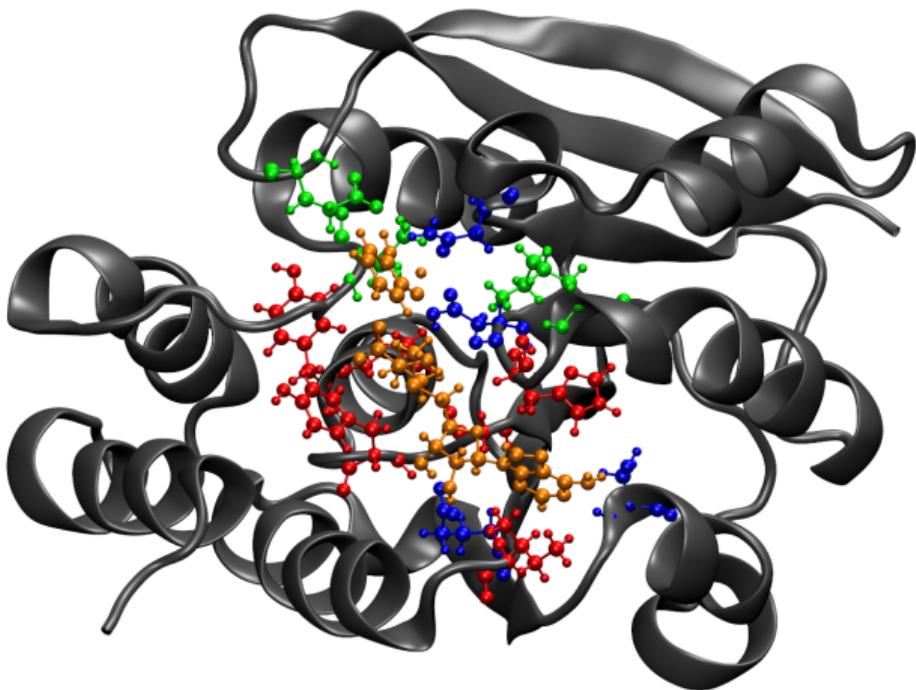


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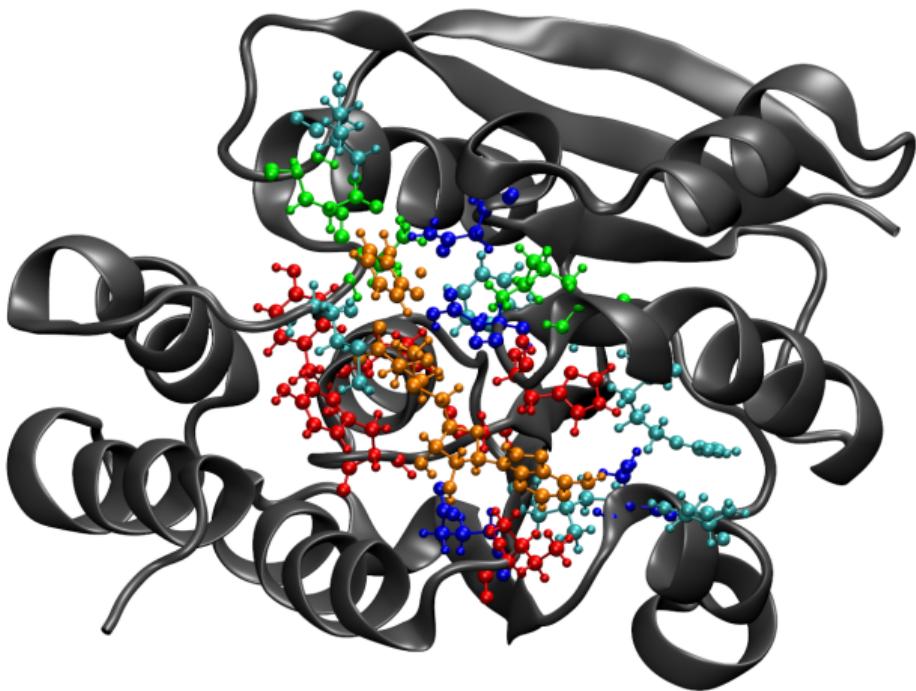


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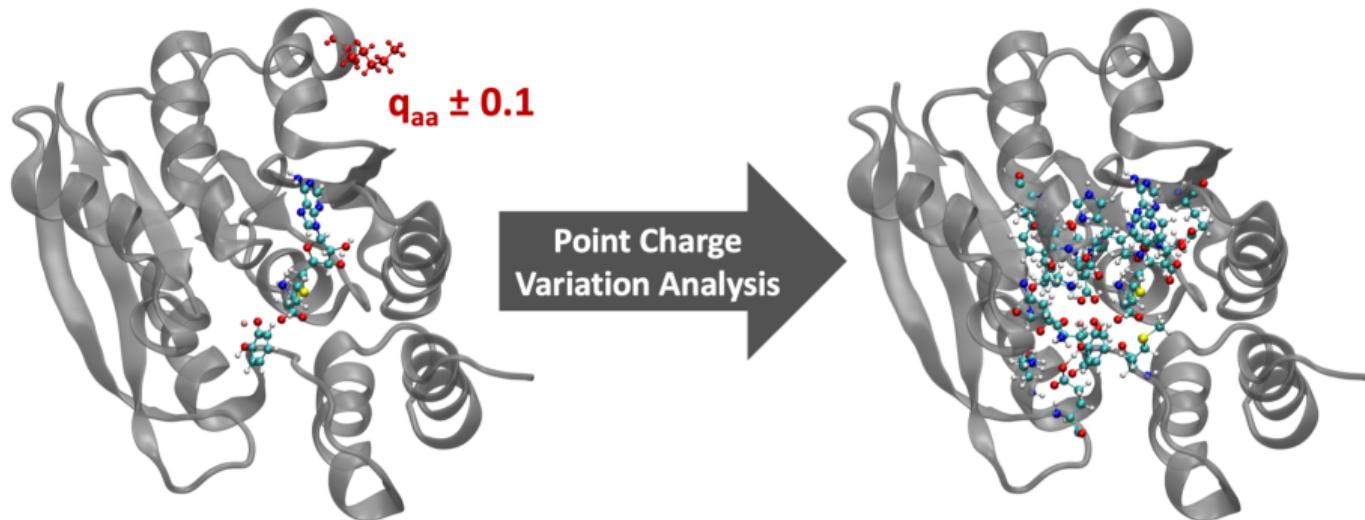
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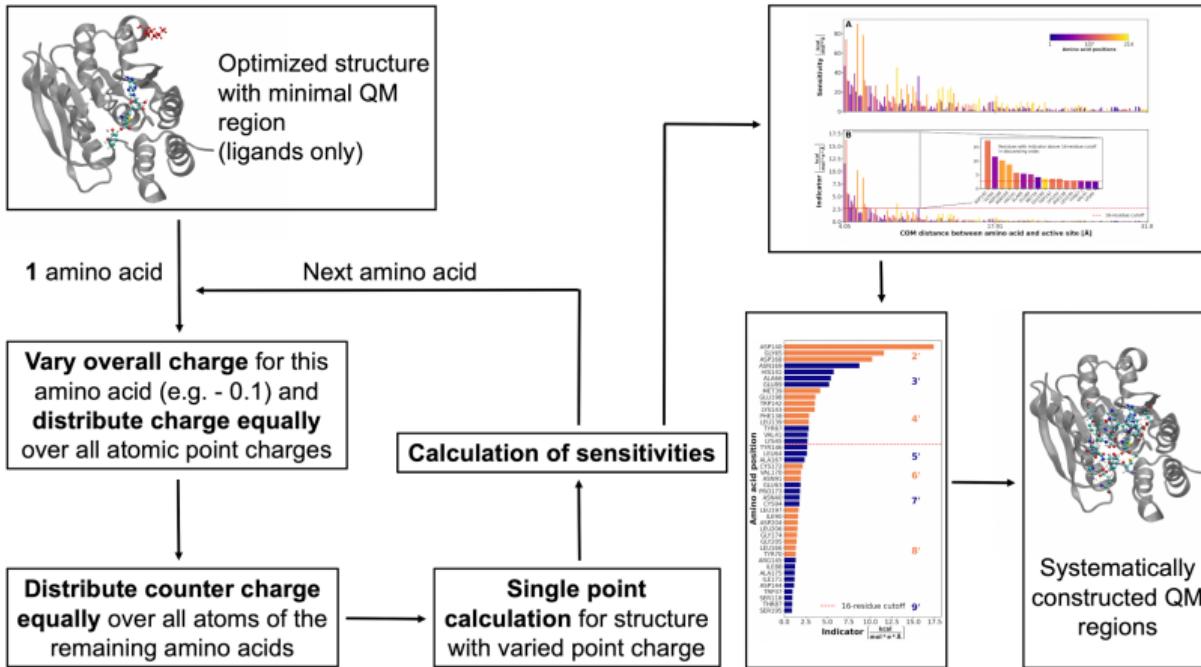
# Point Charge Variation Analysis for QM/MM Calculations

⇒ Idea: Vary point charges of MM atoms and analyze the impact on QM properties



F. Brandt, Ch. R. Jacob, *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* **18**, 2584–2596 (2022).

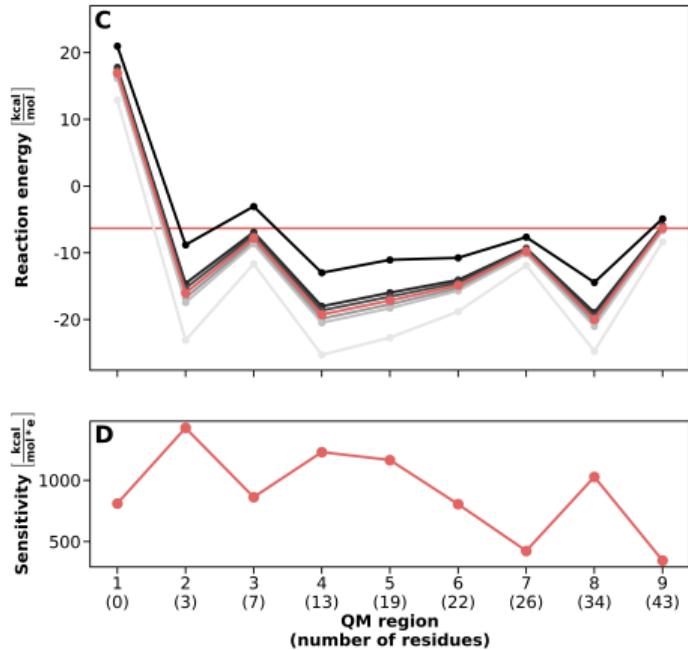
# QM-Region Selection with PCVA



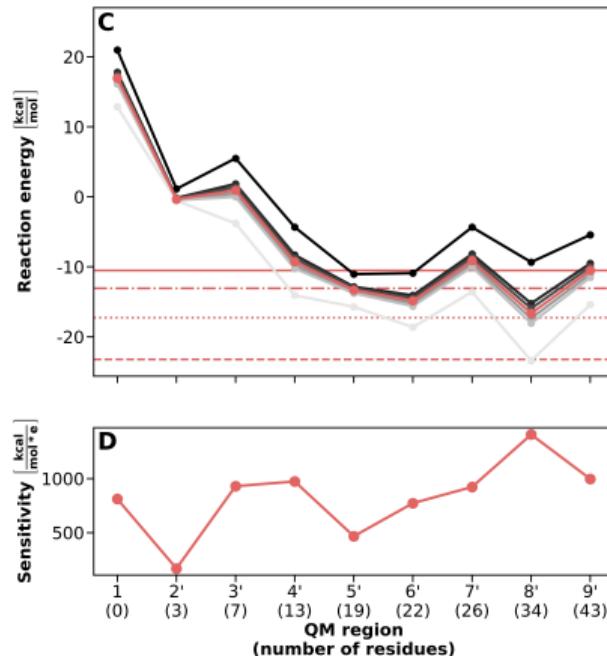
F. Brandt, Ch. R. Jacob, *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* **18**, 2584–2596 (2022).

# Distance-Based vs. PCVA-Based QM-Region Construction

Distance-Based



PCVA-Based



F. Brandt, Ch. R. Jacob, *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* **18**, 2584–2596 (2022).

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# Summary: Sensitivity Analysis for Assessing and Controlling Errors

- Many Sources of Uncertainty in Quantum Chemistry
  - sensitivity analysis can be used to assess and control errors
  - high-dimensional parameter spaces of many sources of uncertainty
- Structural Sensitivity in Theoretical Spectroscopy
  - construction of low-dimensional surrogate models
  - statistical analysis of error propagation to calculated spectra
- T. Bergmann, M. O. Welzel, Ch. R. Jacob, *Chem. Sci.* 7, 1862–1877 (2020).
- Point-Charge Sensitivity in Computational Biochemistry
  - analysis of point-charge sensitivity to judge quality of QM/MM models
  - construction of QM region to minimize uncertainties to reaction energy
- F. Brandt, Ch. R. Jacob, *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* 18, 2584–2596 (2022).

⇒ Growing Toolbox for Uncertainty Quantification in Quantum Chemistry

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**Michael Welzel**   Adrian Hoeske

Julia Brüggemann   Kevin Focke

Johannes Vornweg   **Wadtey Oung**

Anna van Bodegraven   Maria Chekmeneva

Cedric Möller

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Julian Rudolph   Daniel Schmitt-Monreal

**Tobias Bergmann**   Anika Schulz   **Daniel Lehr**

Andrew Atkins   Pawel Panek   Matt Kundrat

Stephan Bernadotte   Costas Sakellaris