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# Factorized electron-nuclear dynamics with an effective complex potential

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# Outline

1. Motivation and background
2. Nuclear subspace-factorized wavefunctions
3. Vibrationally non-adiabatic model
4. Summary

# Nuclear quantum effects (NQE)

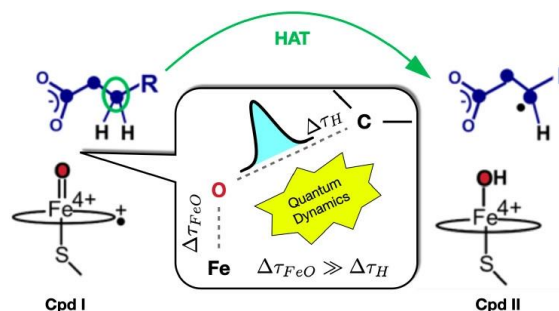
Kinetic Isotope Effect in Cytochrome P450

Decarboxylase OleT

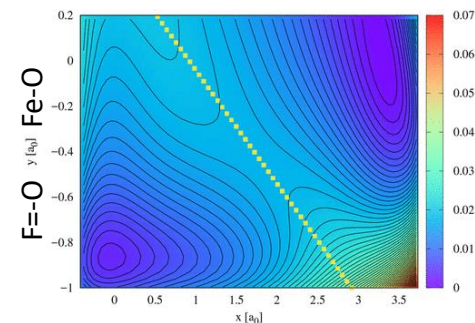
Experiments at T=[4,21]C at transient step:

KIE ~8-16;  $E_a=16/32$  kJ/mol

[moderate tunneling; tunneling-ready state]



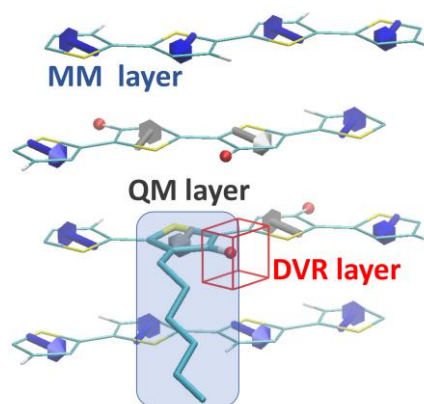
*hard NQE: tunneling*



Dutra, Amaya, McElhenney, OManley, Makris, Rassolov, SG  
*J. Phys. Chem. B* 126 (2022); *J. Phys. Chem. A* 126 (2022)

H/D substitution reduces polymer crystallinity of P3HT when D on main chain, but not on side chain

[ $\Delta\Delta ZPE$  crystal vs chain & NQE on dipoles, interchain correlation]



*soft NQE: ZPE, anharmonicity*

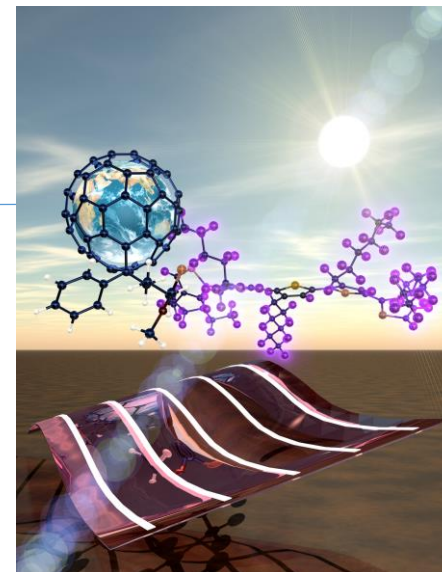
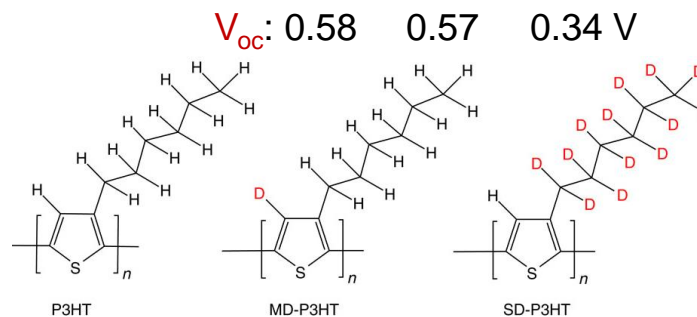
Jakowski, Huang, SG, Hong, Keum, Bobby Sumpter *JPLC* 2017

*electronic excitations + NQE*

H/D isotope effect on the optoelectronic properties of P3HT/PCBM

[fluctuations in HOMO-LUMO gaps]

<https://www.ornl.gov/news/solar-surprise>  
*Nature Comm.* 5, 4180 (2013) doi:10.1038/ncomms4180  
*JCTC* 12 (2016) Wang, Jakowski, SG, Sumpter



Scholes, G., Fleming, G., Chen, L. *et al.* *Nature* **543**, 647–656 (2017).

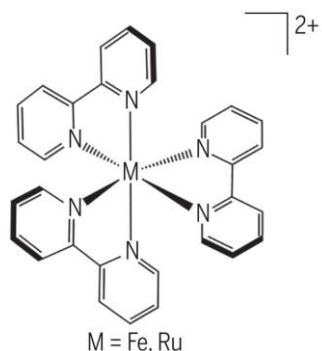
- high yield
- long-lived electronic excitations
- earth-abundant metals in chromophores
- reversibility, favorable redox energetics
- property and functionality control

## On the use of vibronic coherence to identify reaction coordinates for ultrafast excited-state dynamics of transition metal-based chromophores

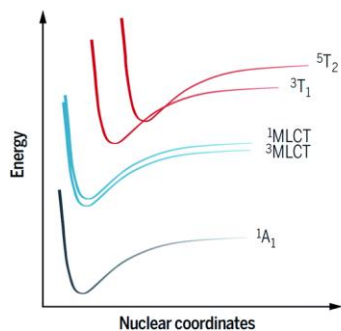
Paulus, McCusker *Faraday Discussions* **237**, 274 (2022).

## Leveraging excited-state coherence for synthetic control of ultrafast dynamics

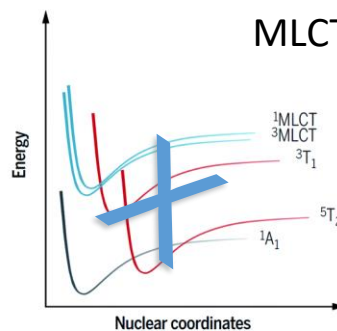
Paulus, B.C., Adelman, S.L., Jamula, L. *et al.* *Nature* **582**, 214–218 (2020).



Ru ~100 ns

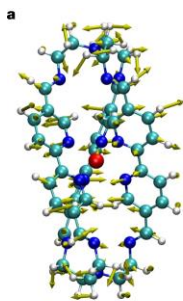
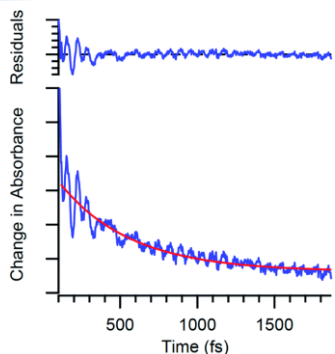


Fe ~ 100 fs

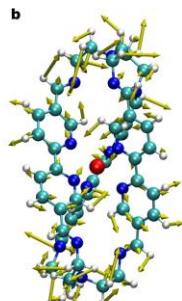


Photoinduced electron transfer  
MLCT: metal-to-ligand charge transfer

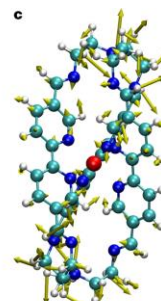
identify DOFs coupled to MLCT  $\rightarrow$  T evolution



Calculated 157  $\text{cm}^{-1}$   
Observed 156  $\text{cm}^{-1}$



Calculated 174  $\text{cm}^{-1}$   
Observed 173  $\text{cm}^{-1}$



Calculated 174  $\text{cm}^{-1}$   
Observed 173  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

chemical perturbation:  
100-fold increase of  
MLCT lifetime

# quantum dynamics ~ quantum nuclei

$$H(t)|\psi(t)\rangle = i\hbar\frac{\partial}{\partial t}|\psi(t)\rangle$$

- NQEs and time-dependent Hamiltonians + exponential scaling of complexity
- take advantage of mass, energy and time-scale separation
- time-dependent bases, multilayer representations, trajectories

## established approaches for electrons + nuclei

- Born-Oppenheimer approx. → PES
- Classical trajectories for the nuclei
- Multiple electronic PES
- Ehrenfest trajectory dynamics; surface hopping
- Kinetic (non-adiabatic) vs potential (diabatic) formulation

Derivatives of PES w/r to nuclear positions are zeros

Backreaction from nuclear to electronic DOFs  
PESs cross; Berry phase

Not exact, non-unique

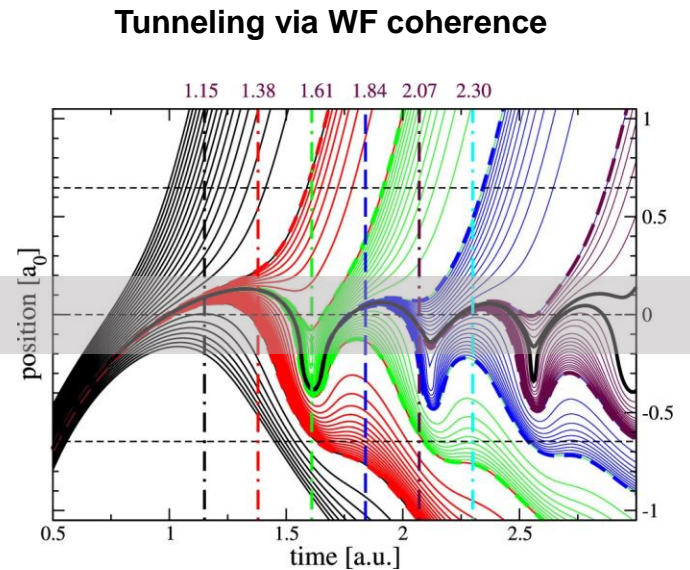
want to include the **dominant NQEs** within  
a trajectory frame for controllable approximations

Exact quantum trajectories  $(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{p})$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{q}}{dt} = \frac{\mathbf{p}}{m} \quad \mathbf{p} = \nabla(\arg \psi)|_{\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{q}}$$

trajectory 'weight' conservation

barrier



solve for the nuclei and electrons together

- Nuclear-electronic orbital (NEO) method
- Electron-nuclear dynamics (END); multi-configuration END
- Exact factorization (XF), TDPES, conditional WF
- Nuclear subspace factorized END with **effective complex** potential

*hard*

Deumens and Öhrn "Electron-nuclear dynamics with diabatic and adiabatic wave packets," J. Phys. Chem. 92, 3181–3189 (1988)

Wang et al Multi-configuration electron–nuclear dynamics: An open-shell approach J. Chem. Phys. 155, 154103 (2021)D

SG, Stetzler, Rassolov "Factorized Electron-Nuclear Dynamics with an Effective Complex Potential" JCTC (2023)

# XF- and QT- inspired fast/slow factorization

light:  $m, x$

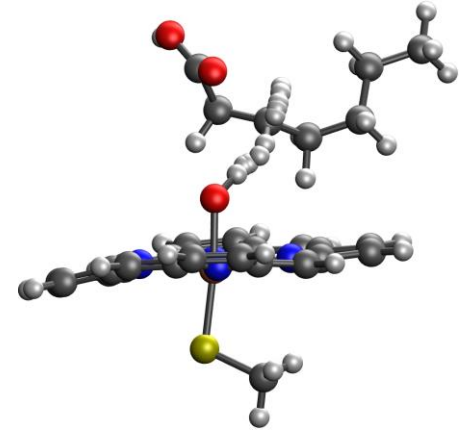
heavy:  $M, y$

$$\Psi(x, y, t) = \underbrace{\Phi(x, y, t)}_{\text{electronic}} \underbrace{\psi(y, t)}_{\text{nuclear}}$$

$$\psi(y, t) = \sqrt{\rho(y, t)} e^{i s(y, t)} \quad \dot{y}_t = \frac{p_t}{M}$$

## requirements

- (i) light DOF norm conservation
- (ii) continuity eq for heavy DOF along or trajectory weight conservation



separate TDSEs via a **complex** potential

$$V_d := V_r(y, t) + iV_i(y, t)$$

$$\underbrace{\Phi \left[ (\hat{K}_y + V_d)\psi - i\partial_t\psi \right]}_{=0, \text{ nuclear TDSE}} + \psi \underbrace{\left[ (\hat{K}_x + \hat{K}_y - \frac{1}{M} \frac{\nabla_y \psi}{\psi} \nabla_y + V - V_d)\Phi - i\partial_t\Phi \right]}_{=0, \text{ electronic TDSE}} = 0$$

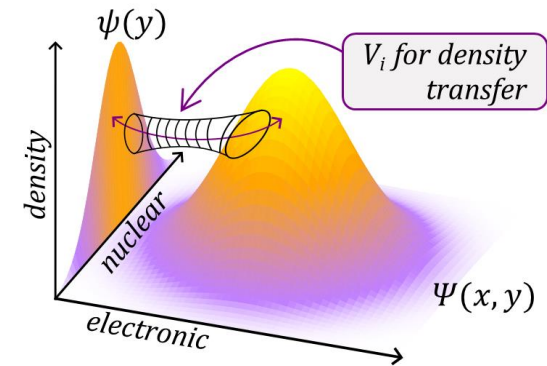
## conditions

$$\psi(y, t) = \sqrt{\rho(y, t)} e^{iS(y, t)}$$

$$\partial_t N(y) = -i(\langle \Phi | (\hat{D}_1 + \hat{D}_2) \Phi \rangle_x - \langle (\hat{D}_2 + \hat{D}_1) \Phi | \Phi \rangle_x) - 2V_i N(y)$$

$$\partial_t \rho + \frac{\nabla_y S}{M} \nabla \rho + \frac{\nabla_y^2 S}{M} \rho - 2V_i \rho = 0$$

derivation ...



## results

trajectory follows the average momentum in  $y$   
(normalized by the electronic density at  $y$ )

$$p_t = \nabla_y S + \overline{p_\Phi}$$

imaginary potential

$$p_\Phi := \nabla_y (\arg \Phi)$$

$$V_i = \Im(\langle \Phi | (\hat{D}_2 + \hat{D}_1) \Phi \rangle) = -\frac{\nabla_y \overline{p_\Phi}}{2M} - \frac{\overline{p_\Phi}}{M} \frac{\nabla_y |\psi|}{|\psi|}$$



# real potential driving dynamics

$$\Phi \underbrace{\left[ (\hat{K}_y + V_d)\psi - i\partial_t\psi \right]}_{=0, \text{ nuclear TDSE}} + \psi \underbrace{\left[ (\hat{K}_x + \hat{K}_y - \frac{1}{M} \frac{\nabla_y\psi}{\psi} \nabla_y + V - V_d)\Phi - i\partial_t\Phi \right]}_{=0, \text{ electronic TDSE}} = 0$$

try to 'minimize' change in  $S$  (energy)

$$\langle \partial_t S \rangle_x = 0 \text{ or } \langle dS/dt \rangle_x = 0 \quad S = \arg \Phi$$

does not track y-motion *Eulerian*

$$V_r = \underbrace{\bar{H}_{el} + \Re(\bar{D}_2)}_{\text{Lagrangian}} + \frac{\overline{p_\Phi} \nabla_y(\arg \psi)}{M} - \frac{p_t}{M} \overline{p_\Phi}$$

removes 1<sup>st</sup> derivative coupling

minimize the nuclear momentum of electronic WF: set to zero  $\frac{d\overline{p_\Phi}}{dt}$

$$V_r^{(e)} = \overline{H}_{el} + \overline{U}_\Phi + \frac{\overline{p_\phi^2}}{2M} + \frac{\overline{p_\Phi p_\psi}}{M} - \frac{(\overline{p_\Phi})^2}{M}$$

Intermediate 'electronic' frame works best (model)

## initialize the nuclear WF

so that electronic WF has zero nuclear momentum

$$z(y, 0) = \frac{\int \Psi^*(x, y, 0) \nabla_y \Psi(x, y, 0) dx}{\int |\Psi(x, y, 0)|^2 dx}$$

$$\psi(y, 0) = N_\psi \exp\left(\int_{-\infty}^y z(y', 0) dy'\right)$$

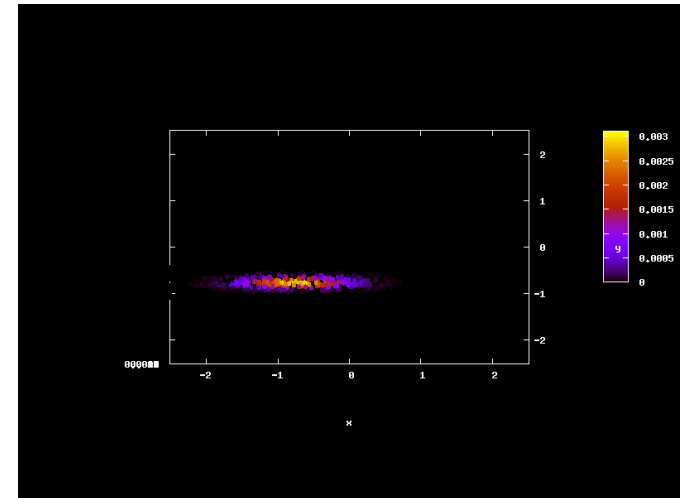
$$\overline{p_\Phi} = 0$$

- uniform electronic norm
- exact in one nuclear DOF
- can be done at all times
- ideal or 'exact'

## KST model

### two-dimensional Gaussian dynamics

$$V = \frac{k(x - y)^2}{2} + \frac{Ky^2}{2}$$

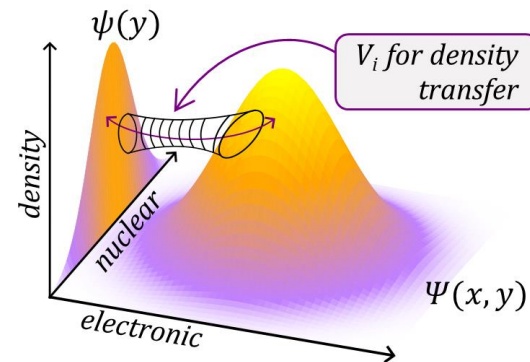
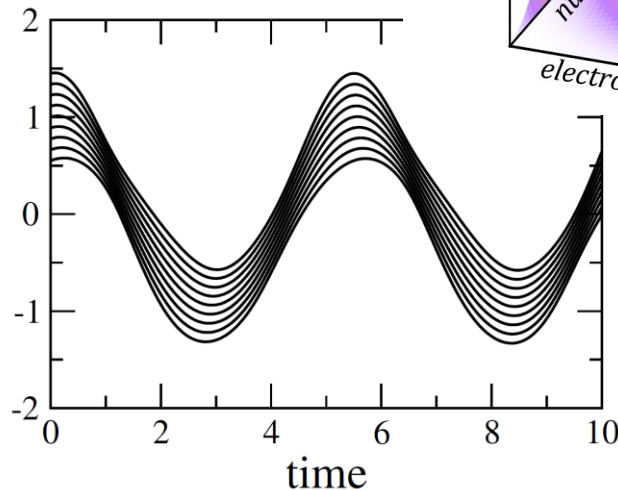
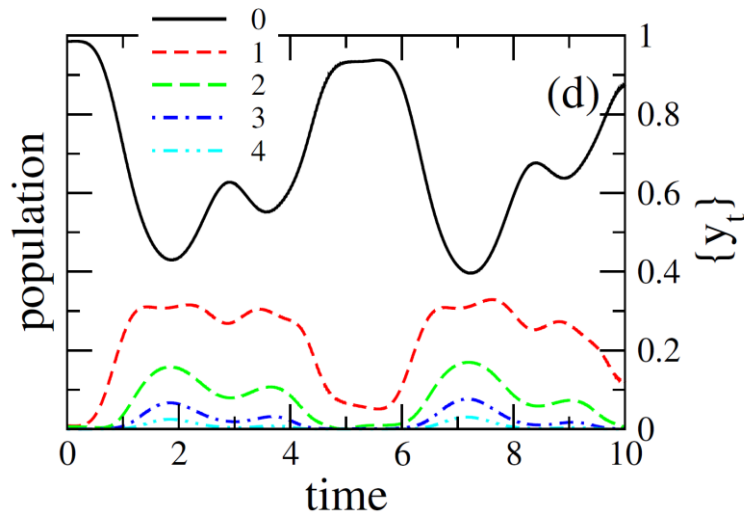


$$\psi(\mathbf{x}, t) = N_0 \exp\left(-(\mathbf{x} - \overline{\mathbf{x}}_t) \mathbf{A}_t (\mathbf{x} - \overline{\mathbf{x}}_t) / 2 + i \overline{\mathbf{p}}_t (\mathbf{x} - \overline{\mathbf{x}}_t) + i S_t + \gamma_t\right)$$

# vibrationally nonadiabatic dynamics

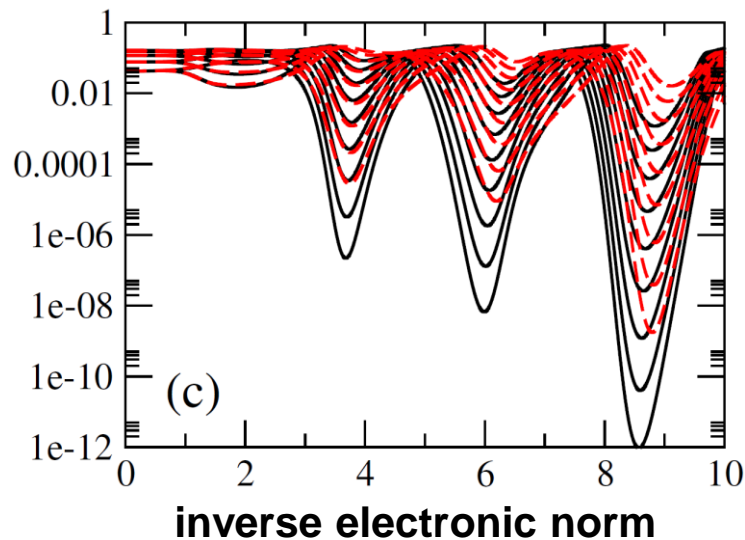
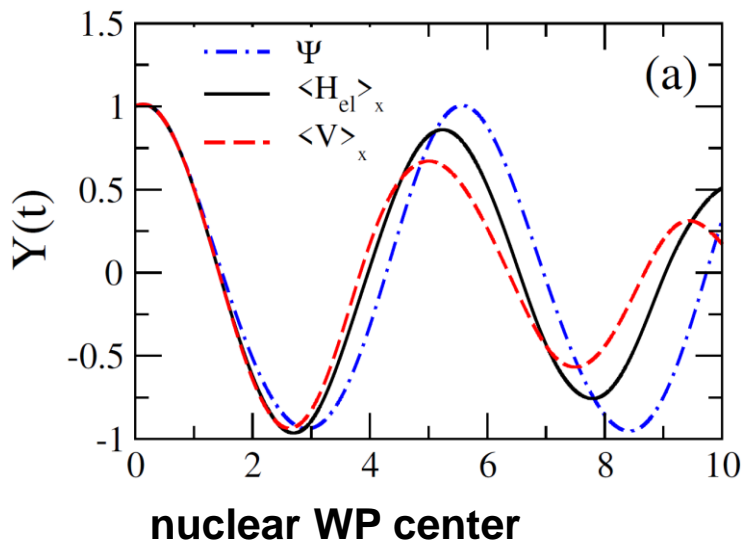
IC: complex correlated 2D wavepacket

## 'electronic' state populations



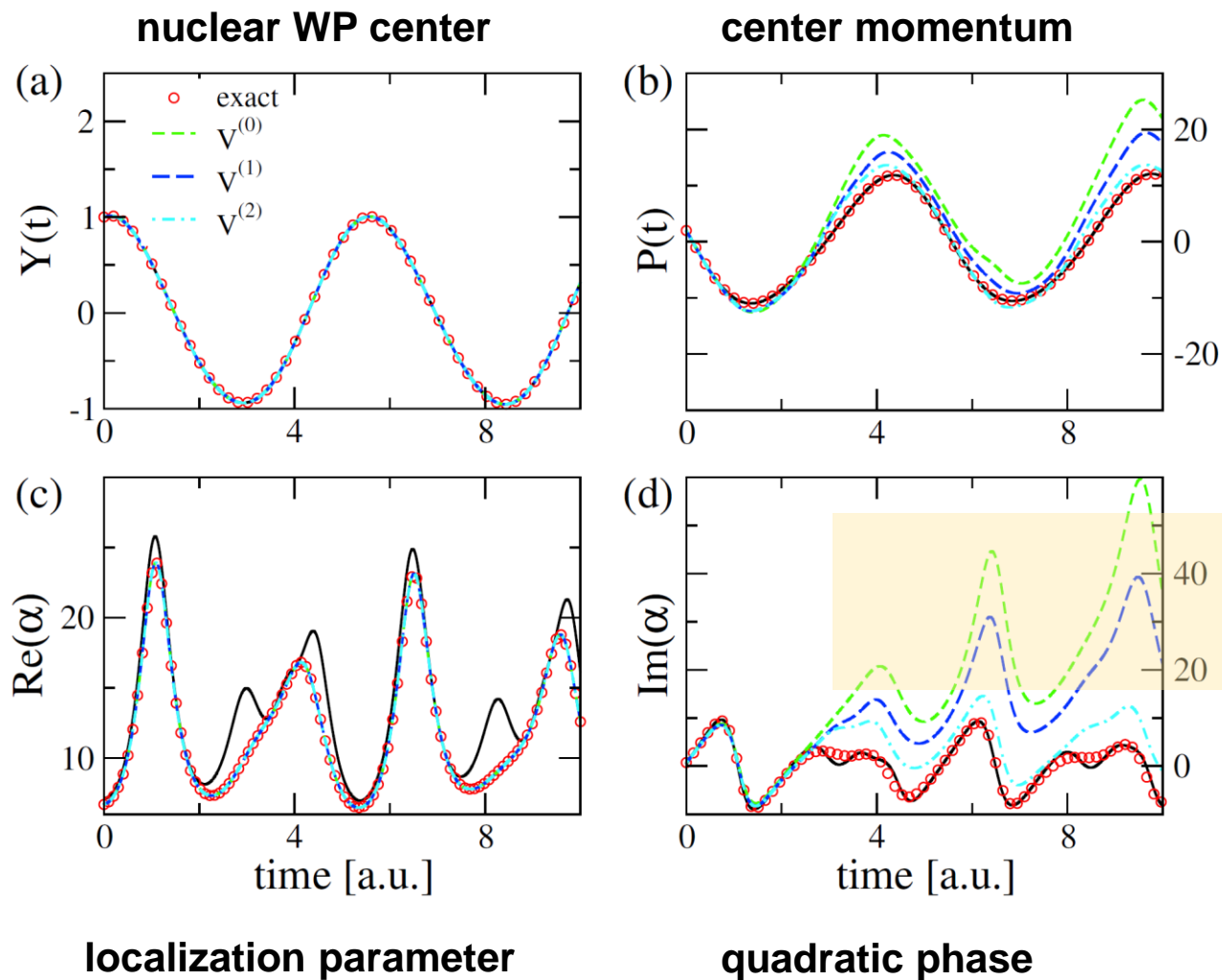
nuclear subspace trajectories

$V_r := \text{mean-field}$     $V_i := 0$



# complex effective potential

Lagrangian frame; exact: = ideally factorized;  $V^{(0,1,2)}$  := kinetic energy in  $V_r$



correlates with large imaginary potential ☹

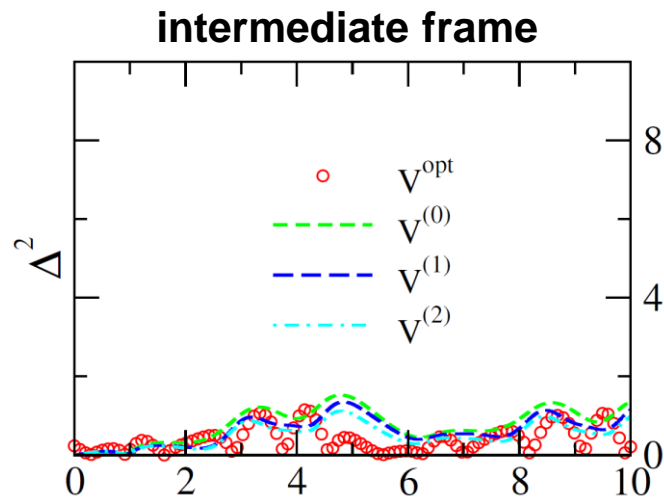
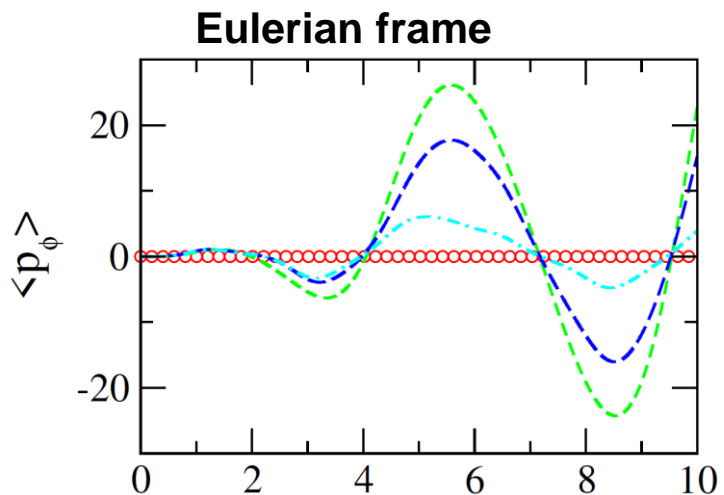
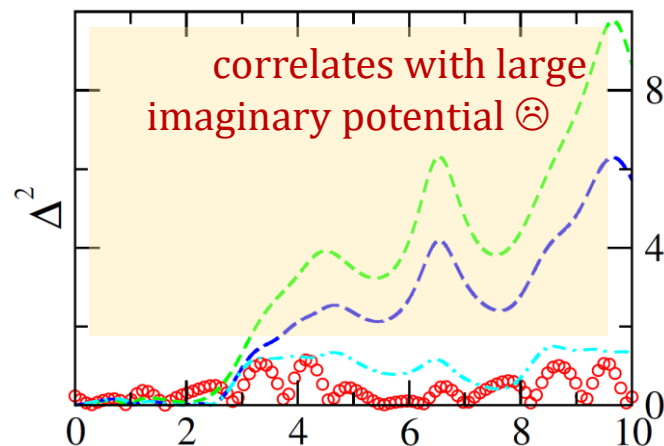
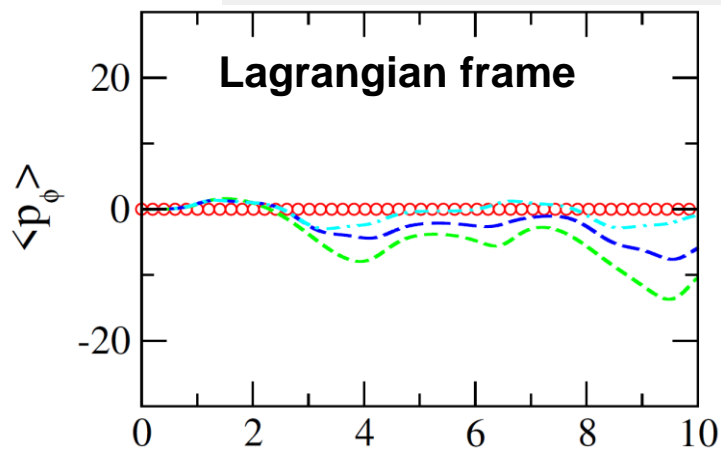
can we have purely real potential?

# 'exact' corresponds to zero imaginary potential (1 DOF)

$$\nabla_y V_r = \langle \nabla_y V \rangle_x + \frac{1}{M} (2r_\psi + \nabla_y) \langle r_\Phi^2 + p_\Phi^2 \rangle_x$$

condition on  $V_r$   
frame-independent

$p_\phi$ , nuclear momentum of electronic function and its dispersion are good measures of efficient factorization



## Summary:

- QT -- momentum from phase -- define compact WF representations for the 'BO-and-beyond' exact, approximate, mixed quantum dynamics
- Conservation properties at the expense of complex effective nuclear potential
- Imaginary potential is frame-independent; depends on nuclear momentum of electronic wavefunction
- Frame of reference affects  $V_i$  amplitude and dynamics stability
- There is (for 1D) an ideally factorized dynamics with zero  $V_i$  and frame-independent  $V_r$
- Beyond 1D: intermediate frame, dropping the kinetic energy terms in  $V_r$  work the best

## Future:

- The role of the residual nuclear phase in the electronic wavefunction; simplifications
- The role of the kinetic energy, including the quantum potential terms
- Test systems and chemical models



**Thank you VISTA  
organizers and  
participants!**

**Questions?**

## *Propagation scheme for exact implementation*

0. *initialize nuclear WF*
1. *define  $V_d$*
2. *update by  $\mathbf{dt}$  the nuclear SE with complex potential*
3. *update by  $\mathbf{dt}$  the full WF exactly*
4. *define the electronic WF at  $\mathbf{dt}$  as (full WF)/(nuclear WF)*
5. *go to 1 and repeat until final time is reached*

### *Gaussian wavepacket*

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}, t) = N_0 \exp \left( -(\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t) \mathbf{A}_t (\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t) / 2 + i \bar{\mathbf{p}}_t (\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}_t) + i s_t + \gamma_t \right)$$