

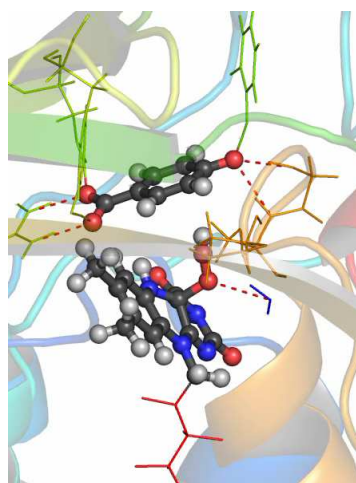
**L6**

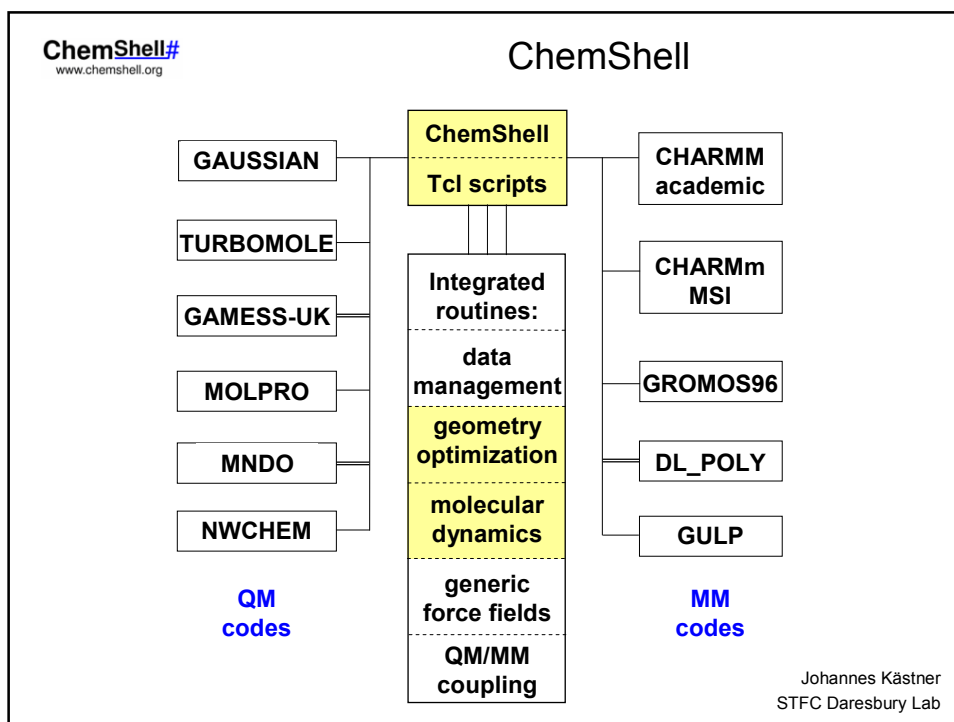
## **Geometry Optimization and Dynamics with ChemShell**

Dr. Johannes Kästner  
Computational Science and Engineering Department  
STFC Daresbury Laboratory  
[www.cse.clrc.ac.uk/ccg/j.kaestner](http://www.cse.clrc.ac.uk/ccg/j.kaestner)

### Outline

- Introduction
- Optimisation strategies
  - Coordinate systems
  - Optimisation algorithms
- Molecular Dynamics: Free-energy calculations
  - Umbrella sampling
  - Thermodynamic integration
- System preparation (biological systems)
- Conclusion





ChemShell#  
www.chemshell.org

## Why Optimisation?

- Find minima on the potential energy surface
- Structure: equilibrium structure at stationary points (reactants or products)
- Energy differences:  $\Delta E \approx \Delta U$
- Saddle points: transition states
  - Activation energies
  - Reaction rates
- All optimisation results:  $T=0$

The image shows a 3D potential energy surface (PES) with energy contours ranging from red (high energy) to blue (low energy). Several optimization paths are shown as arrows: blue arrows point towards local minima, and green arrows point towards saddle points, illustrating the search for stationary points on the surface.

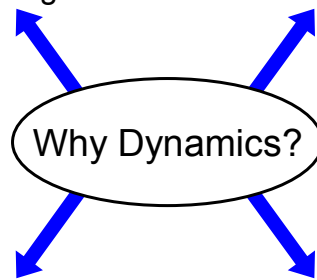
**Optimisation – Potential Energy**

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Free-energy differences:

- Umbrella sampling
- Thermodynamic integration

Finite-temperature effects



To establish a minimum as being “relatively global”

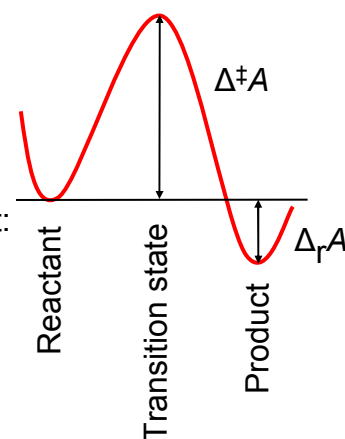
Global averages

### Molecular Dynamics – Free Energy

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### Free Energy

- Driving force of chemical reaction
- Helmholtz energy  $A = U - TS$  at constant volume
- Gibbs energy  $G = H - TS$  at constant pressure
- $\Delta_r A$  defines the equilibrium constant:  
 $\Delta_r A = -RT \ln K$
- $\Delta^\ddagger A$  determines the reaction rate



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## Optimisation in ChemShell

**ChemShell#**  
www.chemshell.org

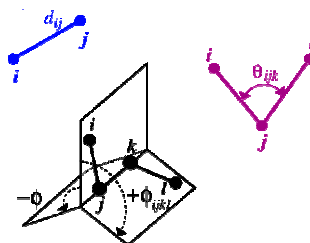
### Established Standards

- Z-matrix optimisation with a quasi-Newton optimiser (standard in quantum chemistry)
- Cartesian coordinates with a conjugate gradient optimiser (standard in MD)

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## Coordinate Systems

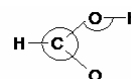
- Cartesian coordinates:
  - $O(N^0)$
  - Highly coupled (torsions)
- Z-Matrix:
  - $O(N)$
  - Less coupled
  - Biased (different ways to set up a Z-matrix)
- Redundant internal coordinates
  - $O(N^3)$
  - Less coupled
  - Nowadays standard for small systems



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## HDLC coordinates

- Hybrid DeLocalised internal Coordinates
- Divide and conquer: large molecule is split into fragments
- Internal coordinates within each fragment
- Coupling of the fragments via Cartesian coordinates
- $O(N)$
- Less coupled
- Available in ChemShell in **HDLCopt**



Billeter, Turner, Thiel *Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.* **2**, 2177 (2000)

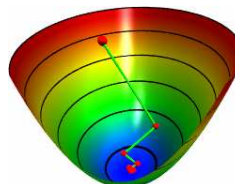
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- Determination of the search direction
- First-order methods: gradient
  - Steepest descent
  - Conjugate gradient
  - Damped dynamics
- Second order methods: gradient and Hessian
  - Quasi-Newton methods
  - RFO
  - BFGS (accumulated Hessian)
  - L-BFGS (accumulated Hessian,  $O(N)$ )

- First order saddle points:
  - Zero gradient
  - One negative eigenvalue of the Hessian, all others positive
- P-RFO (requires accurate Hessian)
- Dimer method (no Hessian required)
- Newton-Raphson (finds any extremum)

Four optimisers available:

- **Newopt**: flexible optimizer.  
Methods: BFGS, (P)RFO, DIIS, conjugate gradient, steepest descent, ...  
Coordinate systems: Cartesian or z-matrix
- **HDLCOpt**: fastest for large systems,  $O(N)$   
Methods: L-BFGS, P-RFO (for transition state search)  
Coordinate systems: hybrid delocalized internal coordinates
- **dimer**: TS search with the dimer method
- **opt**



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Optimisation of a molecule given as z-matrix using the BFGS method:

```
newopt \  
  function= zopt : { \  
    zmatrix= water.zz4 \  
    theory= mndo } \  
  method= bfgs
```

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- Small molecule, redundant internals:

```
hdlcopt coords=c \  
residues= [ res_selectall coords=c ] \  
theory= mndo
```

- Large molecule, provided as pdb file, HDLCs:

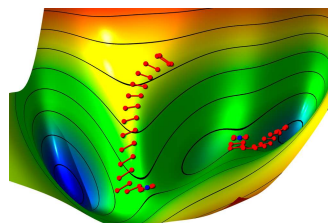
```
set residues [ pdb_to_res 1PBE.pdb ]  
hdlcopt coords=c \  
  residues= $residues \  
  constraints= {{bond 3 5} {angle 3 5 6}} \  
  theory= mndo
```

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## Dimer Method for TS search

- Dimer: two images of the system, constant distance
- Rotation: difference of the forces
- Movement:
  - In dimer direction: against the force
  - Perpendicular to dimer direction: along the force
- Converges to first-order saddle points
- No Hessian required: for large systems



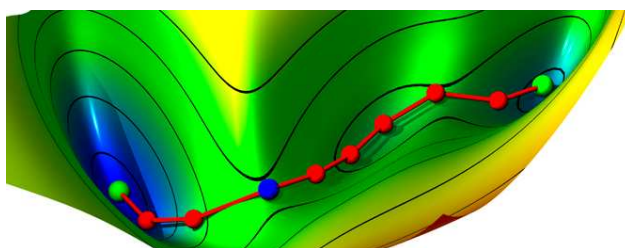
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## Dimer method in ChemShell

```
dimer coords=c mode=3 \  
maxcyc=100 \  
theory= gamess : $gamess_args
```

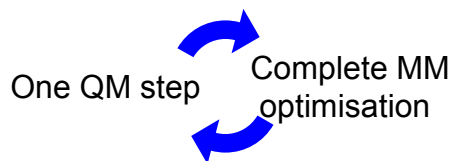
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- Multiple images, connected by “springs”
- Converges to the minimum-energy path
- Climbing image: transition state
- Evolved, but can cover difficult reactions
- Implementation in ChemShell is in “beta stage”



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## Exploiting QM/MM capabilities: Micro-iterative QM/MM optimisation



- Electrostatic embedding: ESP charges calculated on the fly
- Optimisation effort becomes independent of the system size
- Saves a factor of 2–10 in CPU time
- `hdlcopt`

```
inner_atoms= { 1 2 14 15 } mcore=true
```

Kästner, S. Thiel, Senn, Sherwood, W. Thiel,  
*J. Chem. Theory Comput.* online (2007)

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## Molecular Dynamics in ChemShell

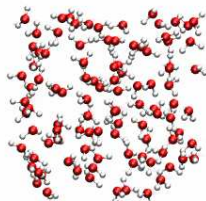
ChemShell#  
www.chemshell.org

NVE, NVT, NPT,  
constant friction

MD driver  
from DL\_POLY

Rigid body motion  
(quaternions)

Monte Carlo  
sampling



Distance and  
other constraints  
(SHAKE)

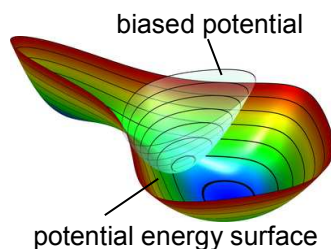
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- Fixed constraint
  - Thermodynamic integration: sampling the mean force
- Continuously changing constraint
  - Slow growth: sampling the mean force
  - Fast growth: fast changing constraint, exponential average of the energy change
- Free-energy perturbation: instantaneous changes, exponential average of the energy change

- Fixed restraint (bias)
  - Umbrella sampling: sampling the distribution of the reaction coordinate
- Continuously changing restraint
  - Steered molecular dynamics
- Hessian: quadratic approximation, anharmonicities neglected
- ...

## Umbrella Sampling

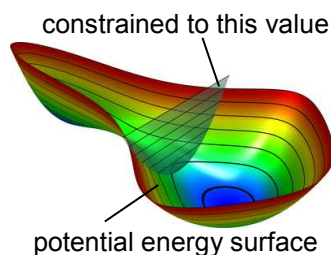
- A number of windows, each with a restraint (bias) centred at different points along the reaction coordinate
- Distribution along the reaction coordinate is sampled
- Analysis by
  - WHAM or
  - Umbrella Integrationprovides the free-energy difference
- Restraints available in ChemShell: bond, angle, torsion, difference between 2, 3, and 4 bond lengths
- Use the NHC thermostat: **nosehoover=4**



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## Thermodynamic Integration

- A number of windows, each constrained to a particular value of the reaction coordinate
- Shake-like constraint (Lagrange multiplier)
- Force on the constraint is averaged
- Integration of these mean forces provides an approximate free-energy change
- Metric tensor corrections
- Constraints available in ChemShell: bond, torsion, difference between 2 bond lengths

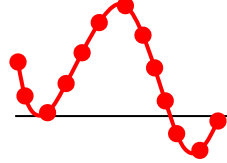


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## Exploiting QM/MM functionality: QM/MM-FEP

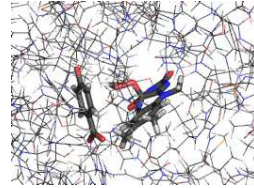
### Reaction profile:

- Full QM/MM calculations
- QM and MM atoms optimized



### Sampling:

- Frozen QM part
- MM-dynamics

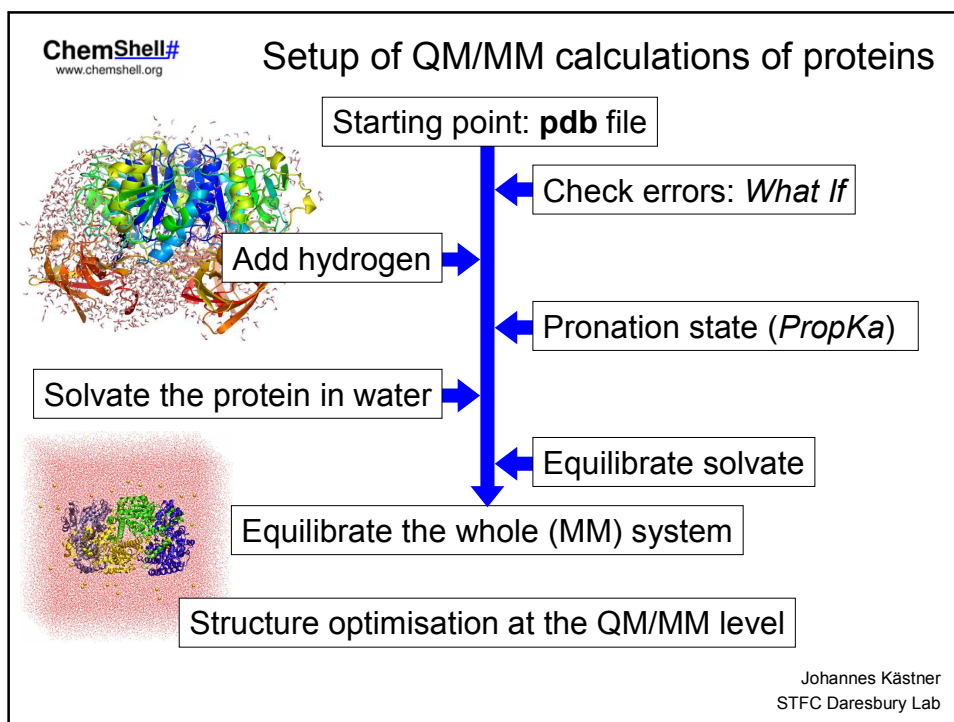


$$\Delta A = \Delta E_{\text{qm}} + \Delta A_{\text{qm/mm}}$$

Zhang, Liu, Yang *J. Chem. Phys.* **112**, 3483 (2000)

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## System Preparation



**ChemShell#**  
www.chemshell.org

## Fluorinase: Setup

QM/MM setup:

- Solvated in a 25 Å water sphere
- QM method: DFT (BP86) with Turbomole
- MM method: CHARMM force field with DL\_POLY in ChemShell
- Electrostatic embedding (charge shift)
- HDLCopt, shell of 8 Å around the active site optimized

Senn, O'Hagan, Thiel *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **127**, 13643 (2005)

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Optimisation:

- Small molecules: newopt – zopt
- Large systems: HDLCopt (possibly micro-iterative)

Free-energy sampling:

- Umbrella sampling (NHC thermostat)

Further information:

[www.chemshell.org/manual](http://www.chemshell.org/manual)

[www.chemshell.org/tutorial](http://www.chemshell.org/tutorial)