

Keller group

Theoretical Chemistry: Molecular Dynamics

Research & Drinks
Freie Universität Berlin

Bettina Keller
Freie Universität Berlin

Molecular dynamics

Electronic energy

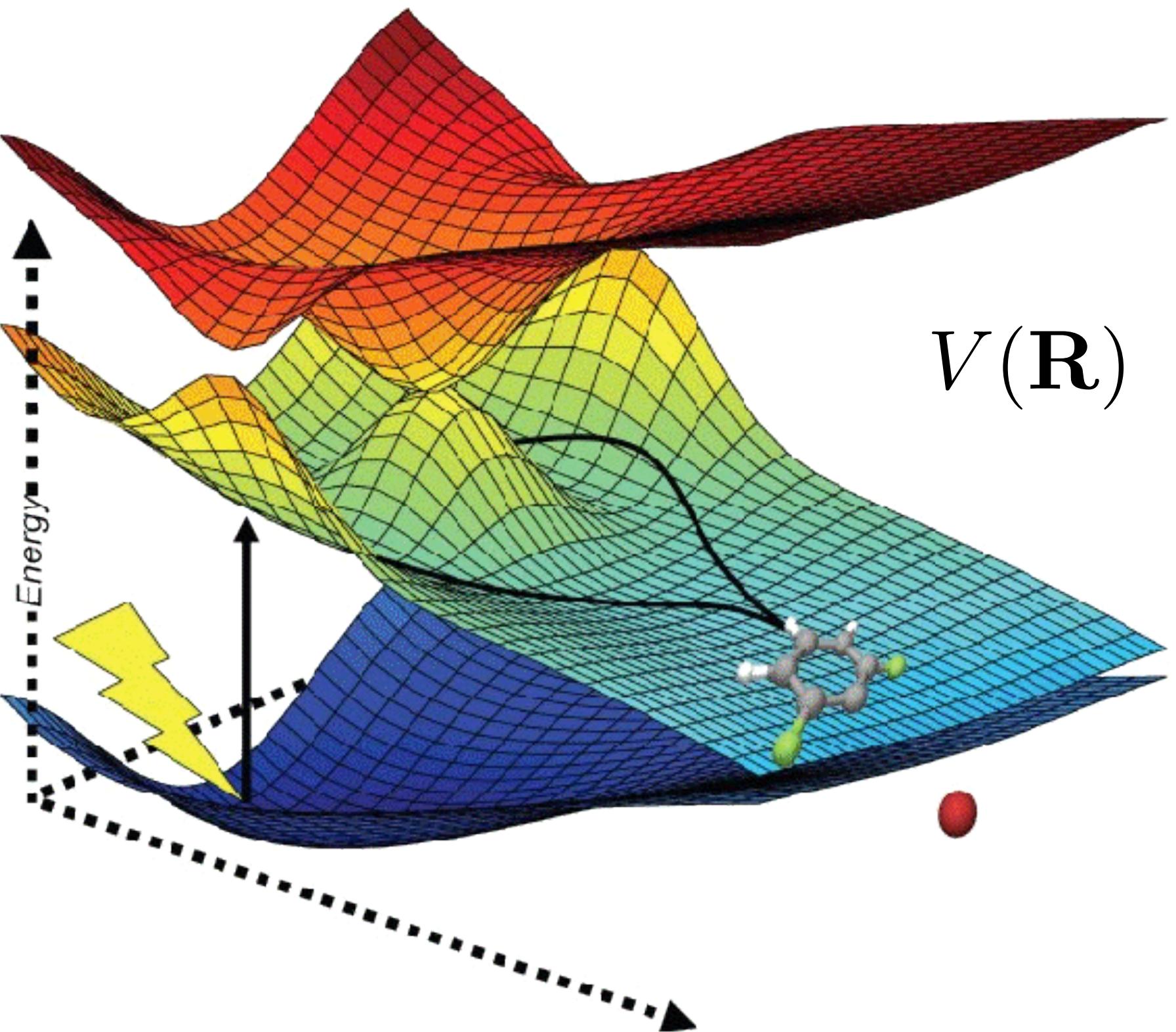
$$\hat{H}_{\text{el}}\psi_k = E_{\text{el}}\psi_k$$

$$V(\mathbf{R}) = V_{NN}(\mathbf{R}) + E_{\text{el}}(\mathbf{R})$$

↓
Various approximations

- DFT
- Neural-Network-Potentials
- Empirical Force Fields

Born-Oppenheimer surface



Classical dynamics

$$\mathbf{F}_i(t) = -\nabla_i V(\mathbf{R}(t))$$

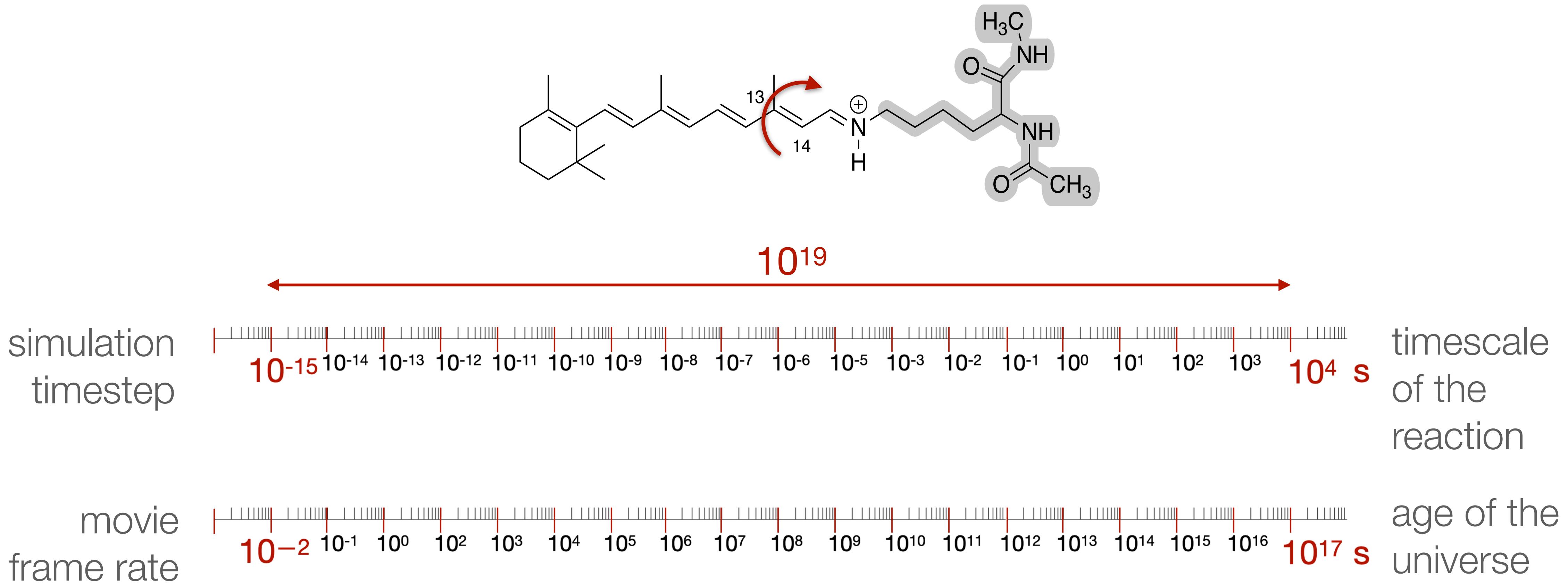
↓
computer simulations

Molecular trajectories

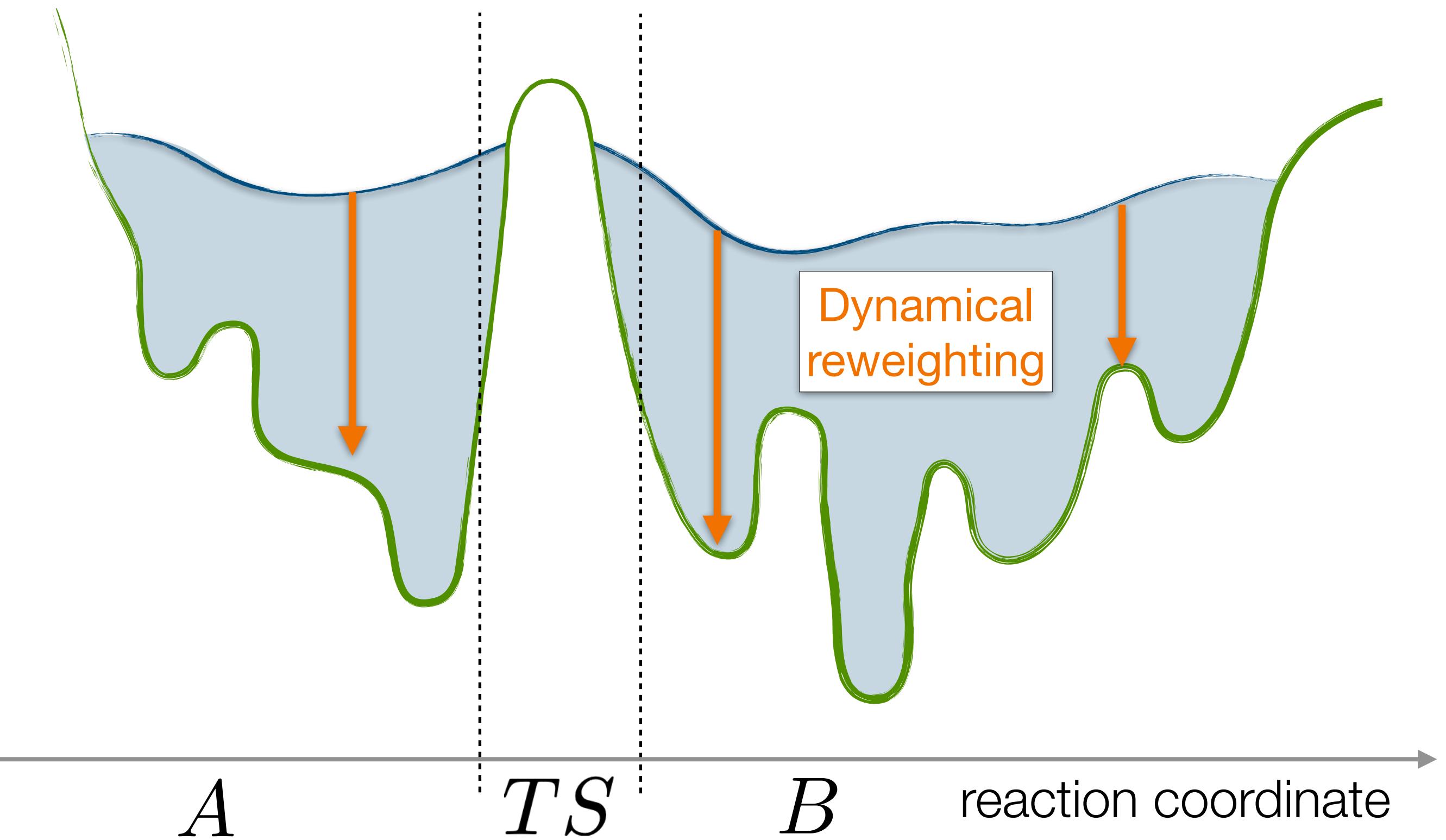
$$\mathbf{R}(t)$$

Simulating chemical reactions

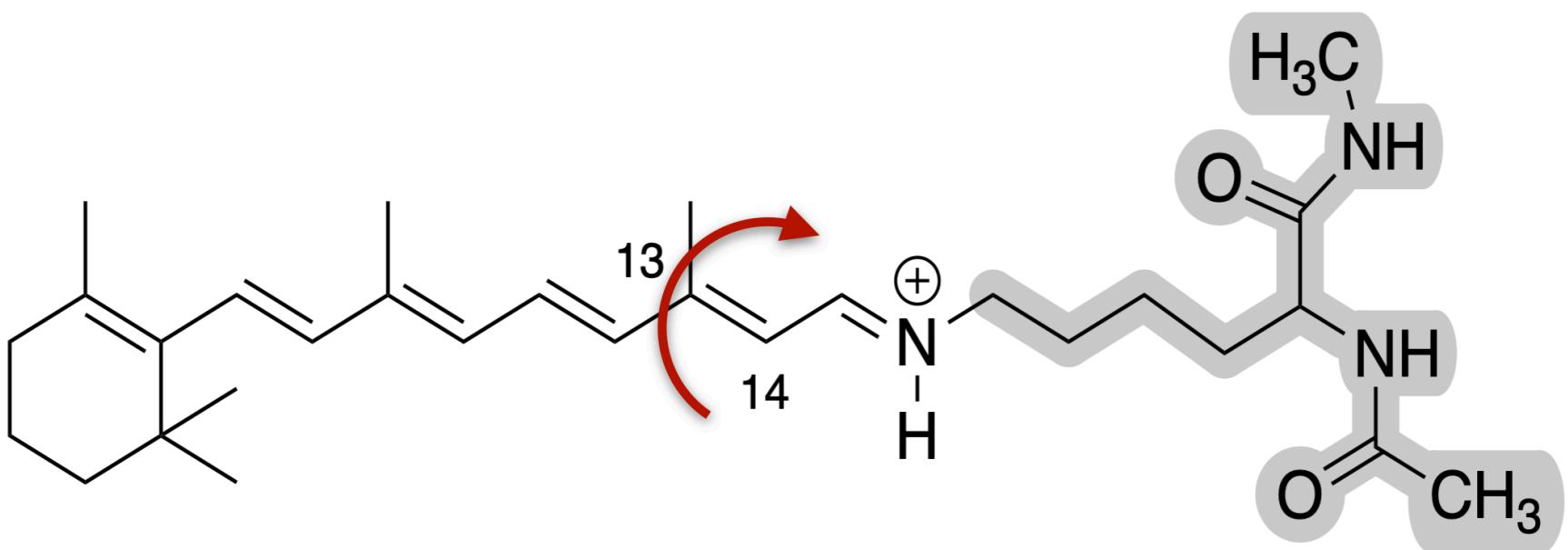
thermal cis-trans isomerization in retinal



Simulating chemical reactions

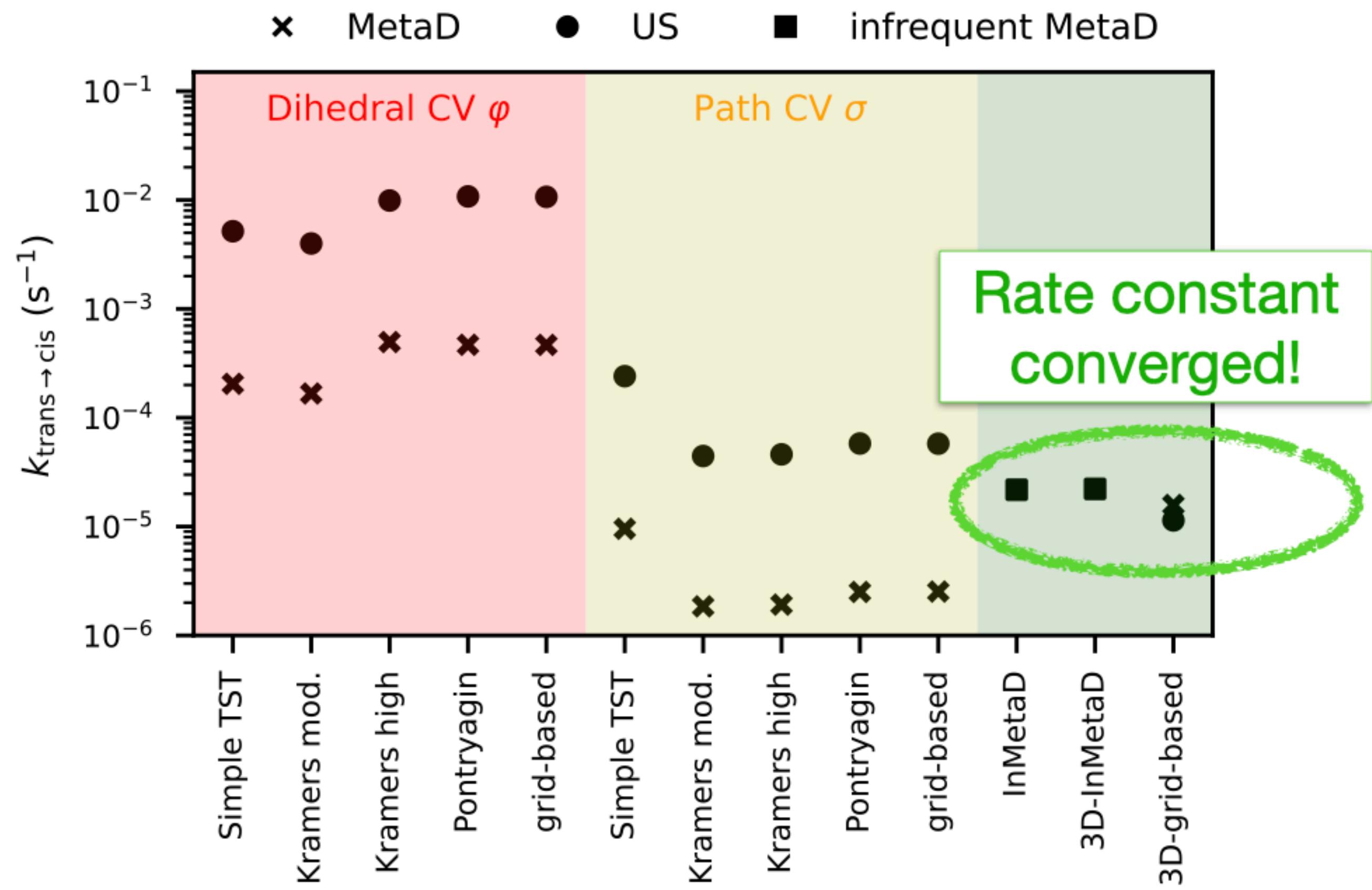


thermal cis-trans isomerization
in retinal

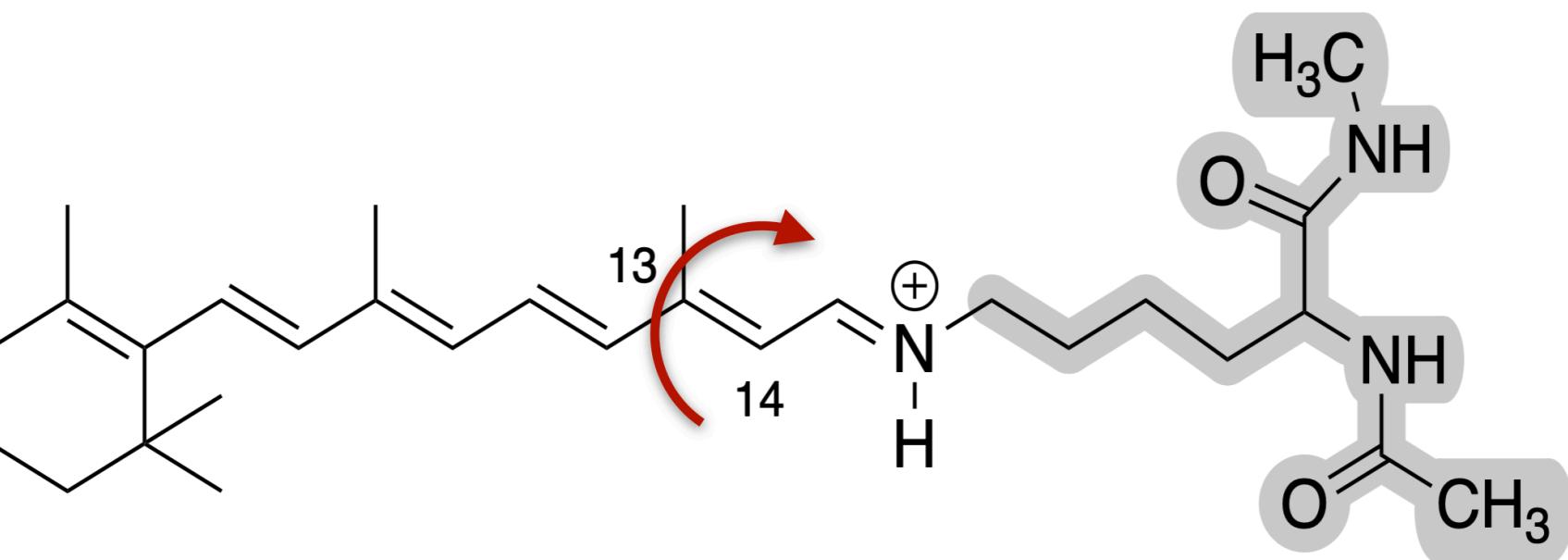


B.G. Keller, P.G. Bolhuis. "Dynamical reweighting for biased rare event simulations." *Annual Review of Physical Chemistry* 75.1 (2024): 137-162.

Simulating chemical reactions

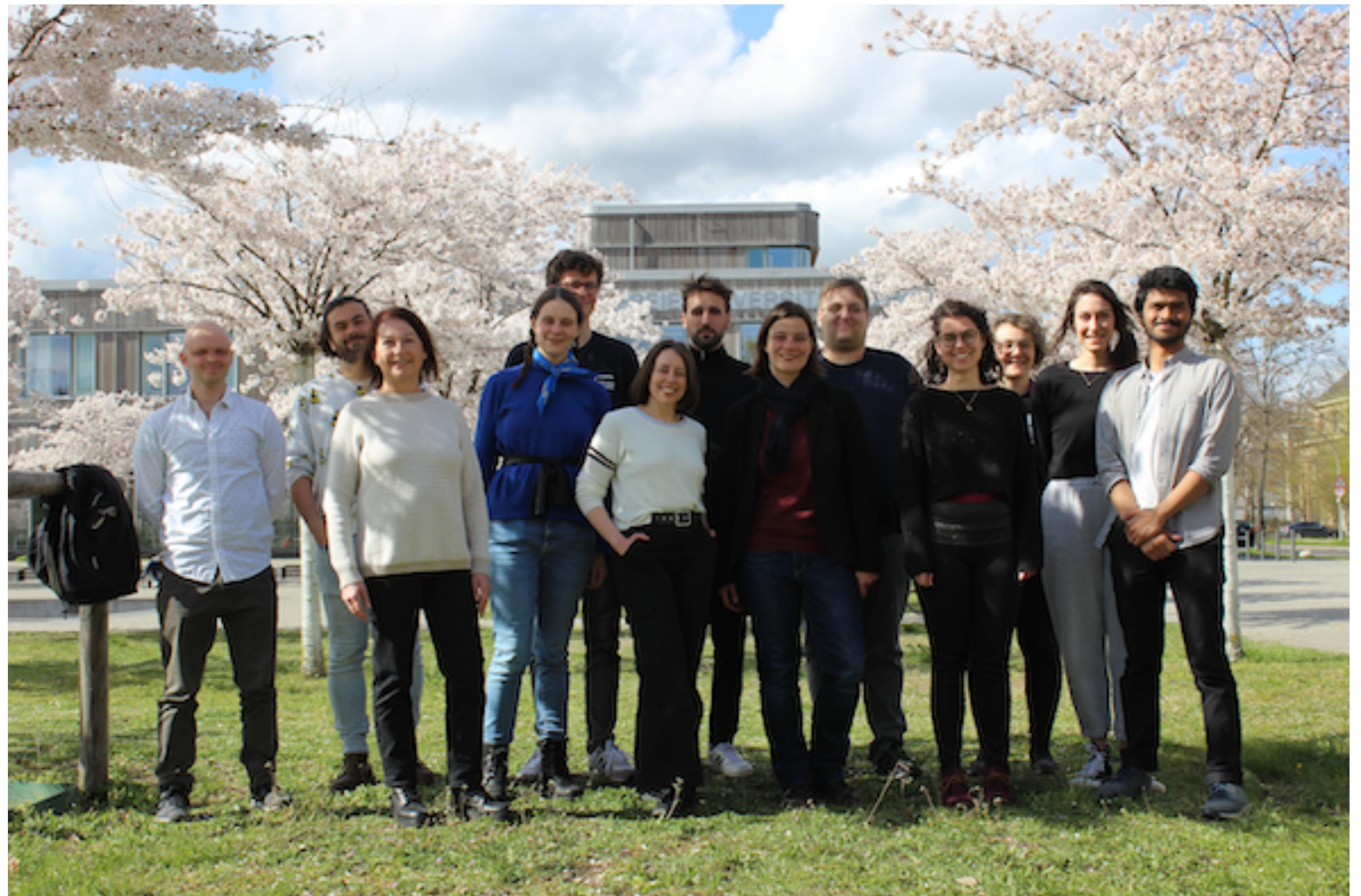


thermal cis-trans isomerization
in retinal



S. Ghysbrecht, L. Donati, B.G. Keller "Accuracy of reaction coordinate based rate theories for modelling chemical reactions: insights from the thermal isomerization in retinal"
J. Comput. Chem. (accepted), arXiv <https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.12948>

Keller group



Group members

- Lauren Finn
- Nikolas Froböse
- Simon Ghysbrecht
- Frederick Heinz
- Sascha Jähnigen
- Leon Werhahn
- Joana-Lysiane Schäfer
- Hana Zupan

Master students and student assistants

- Dominik Dusza
- Aryna Hreben
- Johann Arthur Laux
- Chandramouli Reddy

Thesis or research project

You should have completed one of these courses:

Theoretical Chemistry
Molecular Dynamics

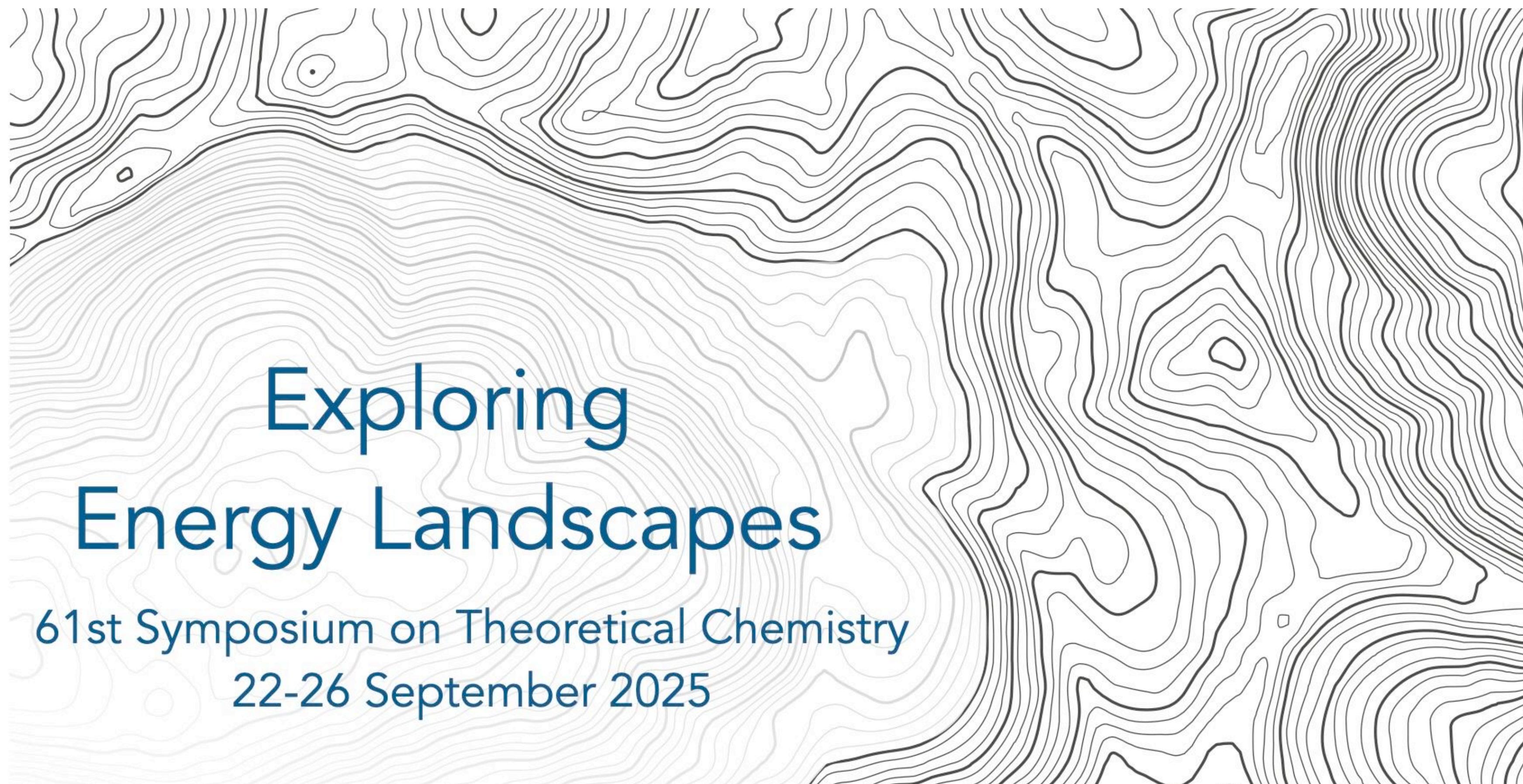
Statistical Mechanics
Quantum Chemistry
DFT

and/or have

Programming experience

Send an email with your background in Theoretical and Physical Chemistry (e.g. transcript of records) to
bettina.keller@fu-berlin.de

61st Symposium for Theoretical Chemistry



Exploring Energy Landscapes

61st Symposium on Theoretical Chemistry
22-26 September 2025

Organizers: Bettina Keller, Beate Paulus