



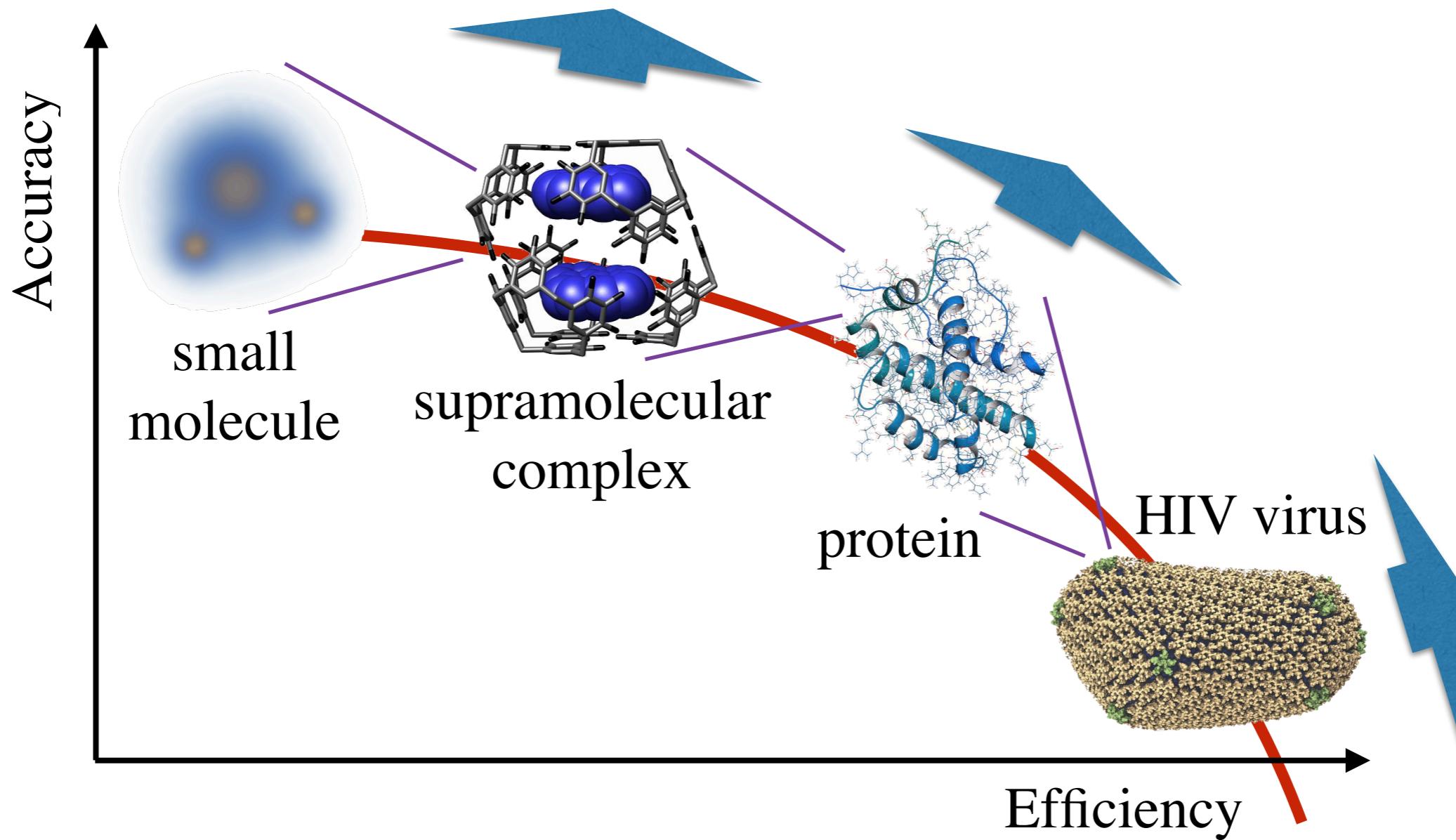
Neural-network wave functions for quantum chemistry

Jan Hermann

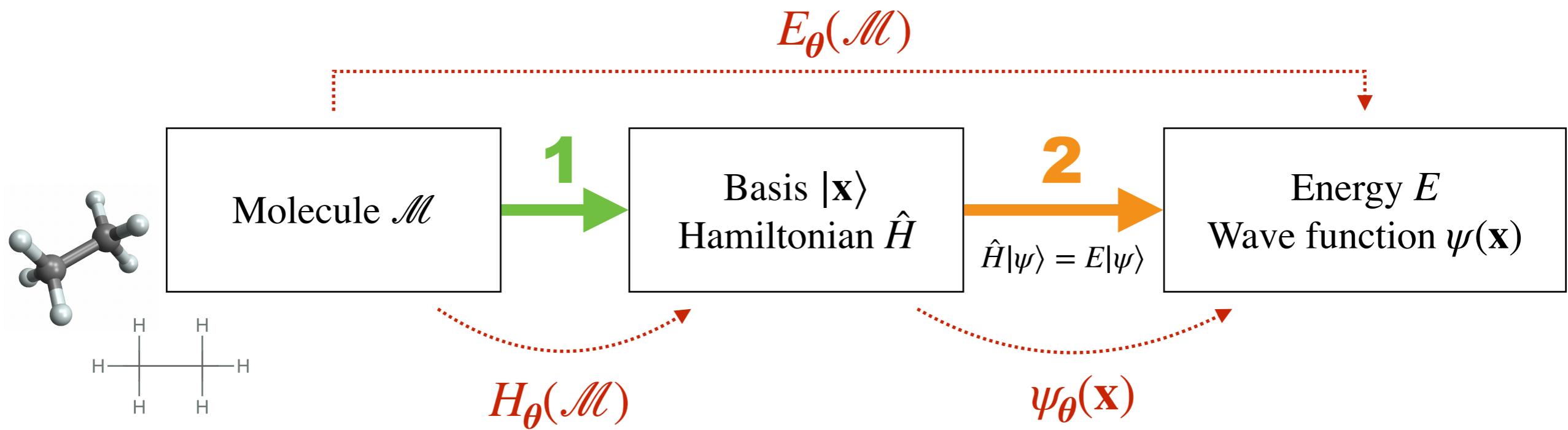
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Computational chemistry: Accuracy vs. efficiency

- Electronic Schrödinger equation – exact in principle, impossible to solve exactly in practice



Electronic structure problem



- Ab-initio: exact **1**, approximate **2** (*coupled clusters, quantum Monte Carlo*)
- Semi-empirical: approximate **1**, exact **2** (*density functional theory, tight-binding, Hubbard model*)
- Machine learning (force fields, density functionals, wave function ansatzes)

Variational quantum Monte Carlo

Schrödinger
equation

Basis states,
wave function

Monte Carlo
integration

Local energy

Variational
principle

Gradient descent

Markov-chain
sampling

$$\hat{H}|\psi\rangle = E|\psi\rangle$$

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} |\mathbf{x}\rangle \langle \mathbf{x}|\psi\rangle = \sum_{\mathbf{x}} \psi(\mathbf{x}) |\psi\rangle$$

$$E[\psi] = \frac{\langle \psi | \hat{H} | \psi \rangle}{\langle \psi | \psi \rangle} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim |\psi(\mathbf{x})|^2} [E_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x})]$$

$$E_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{x}'} \langle \mathbf{x} | \hat{H} | \mathbf{x}' \rangle \frac{\psi(\mathbf{x}')}{\psi(\mathbf{x})} \quad (\text{zero variance})$$

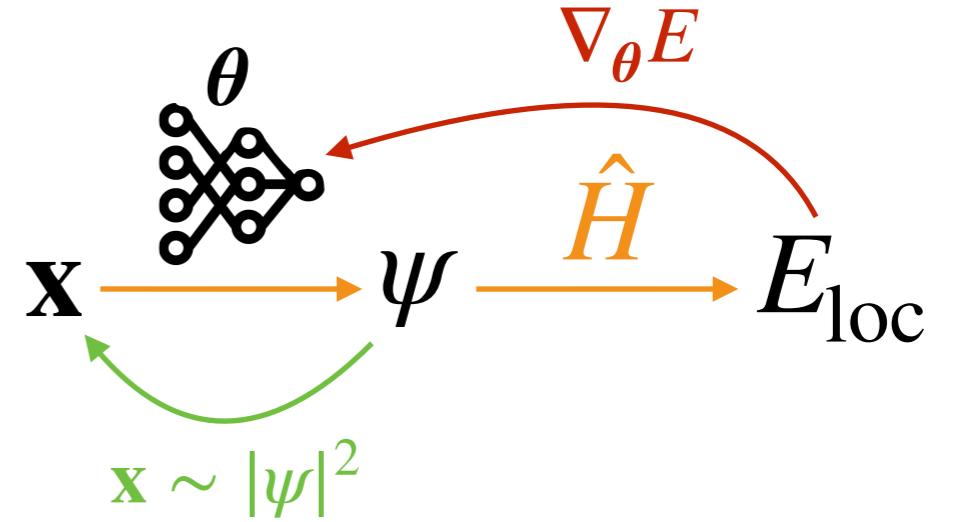
$$E = \min_{\psi} E[\psi] \leq \min_{\theta} E[\psi_{\theta}]$$

$$\nabla_{\theta} E[\psi_{\theta}] = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}} \left[\left(E_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}}[E_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{x}')] \right) \nabla_{\theta} \ln |\psi_{\theta}(\mathbf{x})| \right]$$

$$\mathbf{x}' \sim \exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|/\tau), \quad P(\mathbf{x} := \mathbf{x}') = |\psi(\mathbf{x}')|^2 / |\psi(\mathbf{x})|^2$$

Deep variational quantum Monte Carlo

```
def fit_wf(  
    hamil: Hamiltonian[X],  
    wf: Callable[[X], Psi],  
    sampler: Iterator[X],  
    opt: torch.optim.Optimizer,  
    steps: int,  
):  
    for _ in zip(steps):  
        x = next(sampler)  
        psi = wf(x)  
        E_loc = hamil.local_energy(x, wf)  
        loss = (  
            (E_loc - E_loc.mean()).detach() * psi.log()  
        ).mean()  
        loss.backward()  
        opt.step()  
        opt.zero_grad()
```



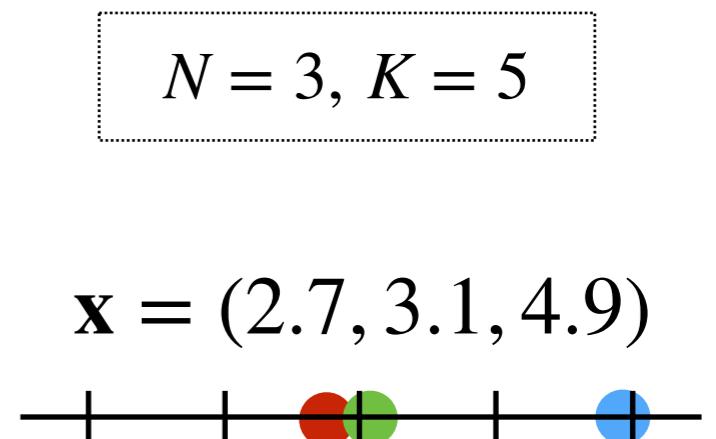
First and second quantization

- Quantum states of many-particle systems must be **(anti)symmetric** for bosons (fermions) with respect to exchange of particles
- Two ways to treat the **(anti)symmetry**

First quantization

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{\mathbf{x}_1 \dots \mathbf{x}_N} \psi(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) |\mathbf{x}_1 \dots \mathbf{x}_N\rangle$$

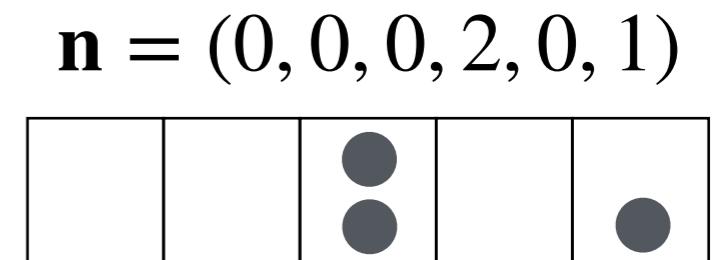
coordinates \mathbf{x}_i



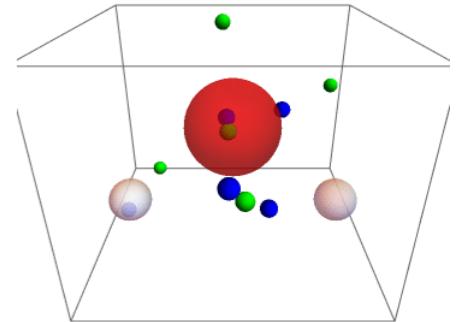
Second quantization (one-particle discrete basis: $\mathbf{x} \rightarrow k$)

$$|\psi\rangle = \sum_{n_1 \dots n_K} \psi(n_1, \dots, n_K) |\mathbf{n}_1 \dots \mathbf{n}_K\rangle$$

occupation numbers n_i



Electronic Schrödinger equation (first quantization)

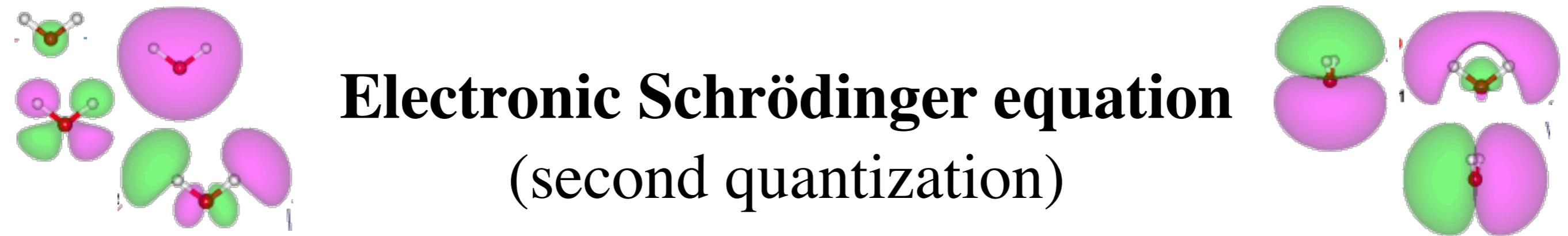


- Electron coordinates, $\mathbf{r} = (\mathbf{r}_1, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N)$, $3N$ -dimensional space
 - (Asymmetric) basis states are $|\mathbf{r}\rangle$, antisymmetric wave function $\psi(\mathbf{r})$

$$\hat{H} := \text{kinetic} - \frac{1}{2}\Delta + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} - \sum_{iI} \frac{Z_I}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{R}_I|}$$

- Molecule specified by atom charges Z_I and coordinates \mathbf{R}_I
 - Local energy needs evaluation of Laplacian

$$E_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{r}) = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta\psi(\mathbf{r})}{\psi(\mathbf{r})} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} - \sum_{il} \frac{Z_l}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{R}_l|}$$



- Discrete basis: orthogonal orbitals $\varphi_k(\mathbf{r}), k = 1, \dots, K$
- Occupation numbers $\mathbf{n}, n_k = 0, 1, \sum_k n_k = N, \mathbf{n} \equiv \{k_1, \dots, k_N\}$
- Antisymmetric basis states are *Slater determinants*,
 $|\mathbf{n}\rangle = \det \varphi_{k_j}(\mathbf{r}_i),$ (asymmetric) wave function $\psi(\mathbf{n}) \equiv c_{\mathbf{n}}$
- Local energy as a sum over all Slater determinants that differ in occupation of up to two orbitals

$$E_{\text{loc}}(\mathbf{n}) = \sum_{\mathbf{n}': k \rightarrow l} h_{kl} \frac{\psi(\mathbf{n}')}{\psi(\mathbf{n})} + \sum_{\mathbf{n}'': k, l \rightarrow m, n} V_{klmn} \frac{\psi(\mathbf{n}'')}{\psi(\mathbf{n})}$$

$$h_{kl} = \int d\mathbf{r} \varphi_k(\mathbf{r}) \left(-\frac{1}{2} \Delta - \sum_I \frac{Z_I}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_I|} \right) \varphi_l(\mathbf{r})$$

$$V_{klmn} = \frac{1}{2} \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' \frac{\varphi_k(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_l(\mathbf{r}') \varphi_m(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_n(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$

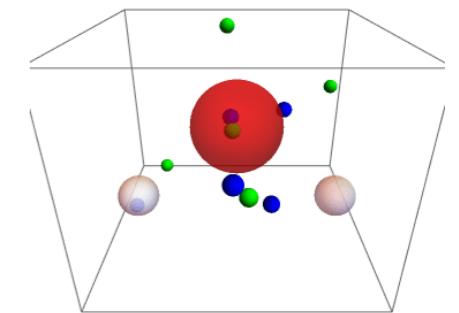
Intermezzo: Electron spin

- Electrons have both spatial and spin coordinates,
 $\mathbf{r}_i \in \mathbb{R}^3, s_i \in \{\uparrow, \downarrow\}$

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}_1, s_1, \mathbf{r}_2, s_2, \dots)$$

- Hamiltonian has no spin, so one consider the spins fixed

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}_1^\uparrow, \dots, \mathbf{r}_{N_{\text{up}}}^\uparrow, \mathbf{r}_{N_{\text{up}}+1}^\downarrow, \dots, \mathbf{r}_N^\downarrow), \quad s_i = \begin{cases} \uparrow & i \leq N_{\text{up}} \\ \downarrow & i > N_{\text{up}} \end{cases}$$



- Antisymmetry required for same-spin electrons
- Opposite-spin exchange symmetry encodes spin state (singlet, triplet,...)
- Slater determinants $\det \varphi_k(\mathbf{r}_i) = \det \varphi_k^\uparrow(\mathbf{r}_i^\uparrow) \det \varphi_k^\downarrow(\mathbf{r}_i^\downarrow)$

Real-space neural-network electronic wave functions

1. Slater determinant

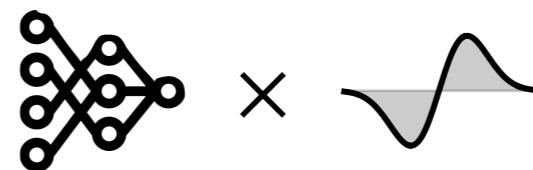
$$\psi_{\theta}(\mathbf{r}) := \det \varphi_{k,\theta}(\mathbf{r}_i), \quad k = 1, \dots, N$$

2. Generalized Slater determinant

$$\psi_{\theta}(\mathbf{r}) := \det f_{ki,\theta}(\mathbf{r}), \quad \mathbf{f}_{\theta}(\mathcal{P}_{ij}\mathbf{r}) = \mathcal{P}_{ij}\mathbf{f}_{\theta}(\mathbf{r})$$

3. Real-space baseline/envelope

$$\psi_{\theta}(\mathbf{r}) := \det f_{ki,\theta}(\mathbf{r}) \phi_k(\mathbf{r}_i)$$



4. Multiple Slater determinants

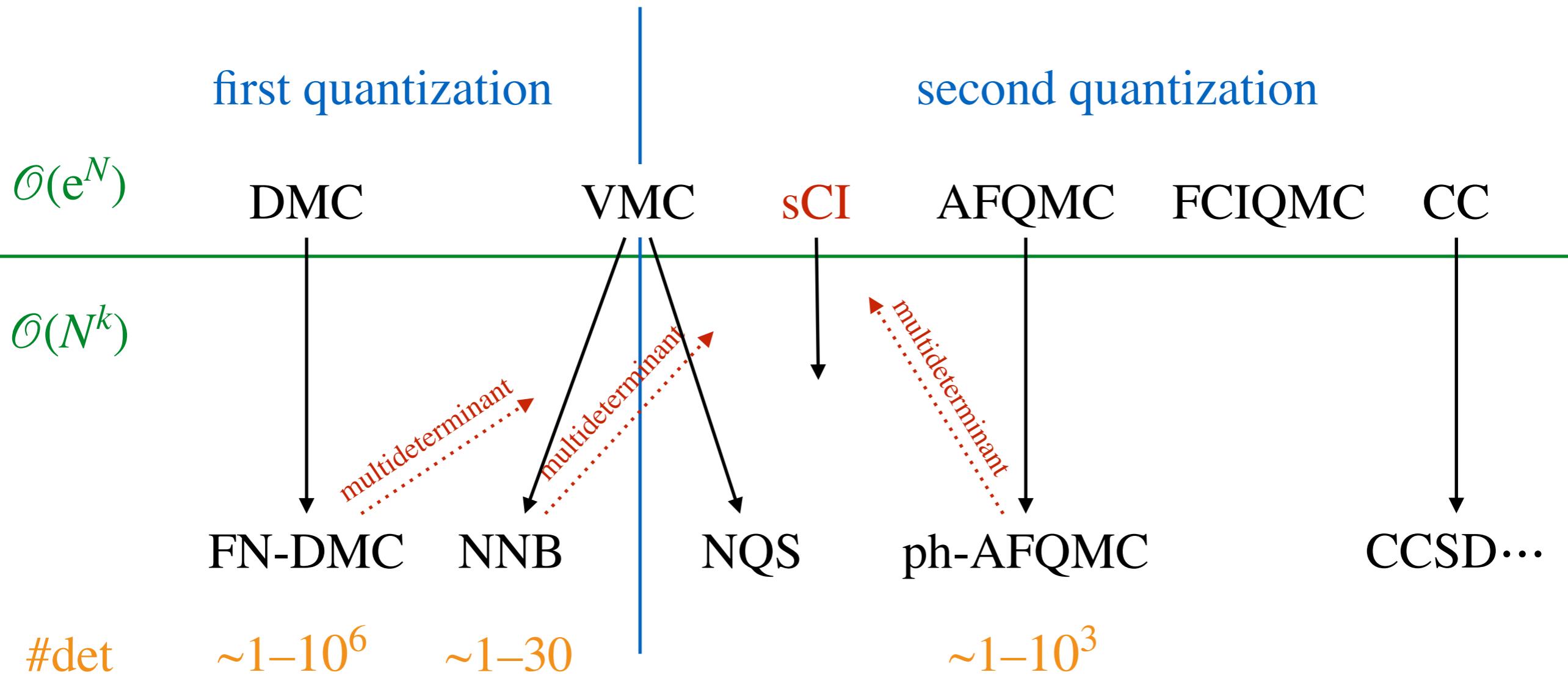
$$\psi_{\theta}(\mathbf{r}) := \sum_p c_p \det f_{ki,\theta}^{(p)}(\mathbf{r}) \phi_k^{(p)}(\mathbf{r}_i)$$

Han et al., *J. Comp. Phys.* **399**, 108929 (2019)

Pfau et al., *Phys. Rev. Research* **2**, 033429 (2020)

JH, Schätzle & Noé, *Nat. Chem.* **12**, 891 (2020)

Intermezzo: Determinant expansion curse

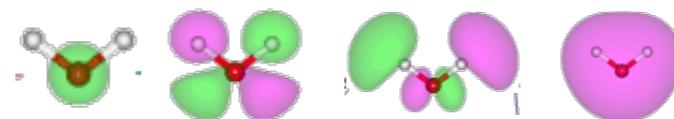


Carleo & Troyer, *Science* **355**, 602 (2017)
Luo & Clark, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **122**, 226401 (2019)
Choo et al., *Nat. Commun.* **11**, 2368 (2020)

PauliNet: Physics-inspired neural-network ansatz

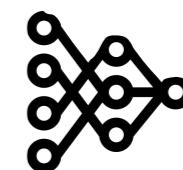
$$\psi_{\theta}(\mathbf{r}) := \sum_p \det f_{ki,\theta}^{(p)}(\mathbf{r}) \phi_k^{(p)}(\mathbf{r}_i) := e^{J_{\theta}(\mathbf{r}) + \gamma(\mathbf{r})} \sum_p c_p \det f'_{\kappa_{pk} i, \theta}(\mathbf{r}) \varphi_{\kappa_{pk}}(\mathbf{r}_i)$$

Molecular orbitals



$$\phi_k(\mathbf{r}) := \varphi_k(\mathbf{r})$$

Neural-network Jastrow and generalized backflow



$$f_{ki,\theta}(\mathbf{r}) := e^{J_{\theta}(\mathbf{r}) + \gamma(\mathbf{r})} f'_{ki,\theta}(\mathbf{r})$$

Electron configurations

$$J^{(p)} := J, \quad f'_{ki}{}^{(p)} := f'_{\kappa_{pk} i}, \quad \phi_k^{(p)} := \phi_{\kappa_{pk}}$$

Cusp corrections



n–e in $\varphi_k(\mathbf{r})$, in via $\gamma(\mathbf{r})$

κ_{pk}	k
p	
1	2
1	2
1	3
	4
	5

JH, Schätzle & Noé, *Nat. Chem.* **12**, 891 (2020)
Ceperley, *J. Stat. Phys.* **63**, 1237 (1991)

SchNet for molecules

- Instance of a graph neural network
- Original SchNet is a force field

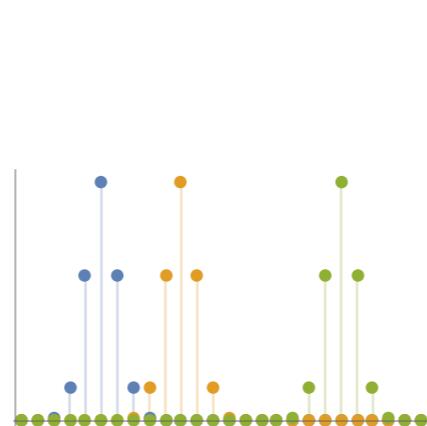
$$E(\{Z_i, \mathbf{R}_i\})$$

$$\mathbf{x}_i^{(0)} := \mathbf{X}_{\theta, Z_i}$$

$$\mathbf{z}_i^{(n)} := \sum_j \mathbf{w}_{\theta}^{(n)}(\mathbf{e}(|\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_j|)) \odot \mathbf{h}_{\theta}^{(n)}(\mathbf{x}_j^{(n)})$$

$$\mathbf{x}_i^{(n+1)} := \mathbf{x}_i^{(n)} + \mathbf{g}_{\theta}^{(n)}(\mathbf{z}_i^{(n)})$$

$$E := \sum_i \varepsilon_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_i^{(N)})$$



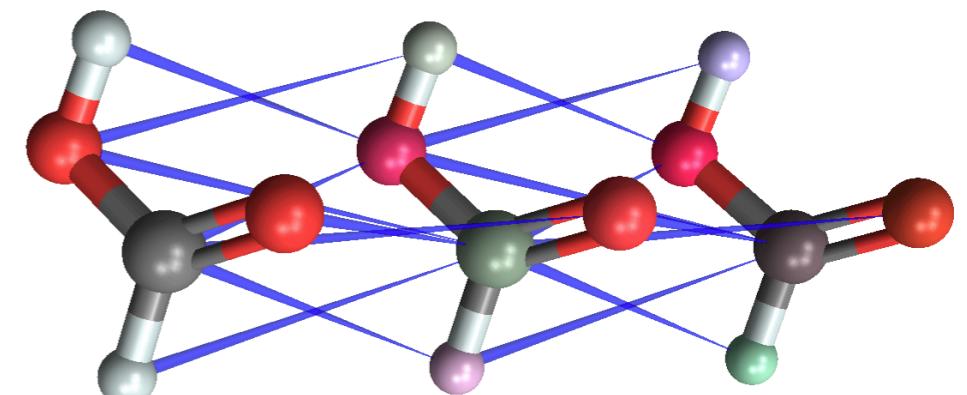
Graph neural networks

initialize $\mathbf{x}_i^{(0)}$

$$\mathbf{z}_i^{(n)} := \sum_j \mathbf{p}_{\theta}^{(n)}(\mathbf{x}_i^{(n)}, \mathbf{x}_j^{(n)}, \mathbf{e}_{ij})$$

$$\mathbf{x}_i^{(n+1)} := \mathbf{q}_{\theta}^{(n)}(\mathbf{x}_i^{(n)}, \mathbf{z}_i^{(n)})$$

$\mathcal{O}(N_{\text{edge}}^2)$



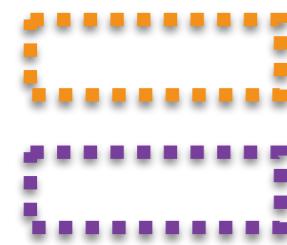
SchNet for electrons in molecules

- Nodes represent electrons
- Separate same-spin, opposite-spin, and nuclear messages
- Single SchNet instance for both the Jastrow factor $J_{\theta}(\mathbf{r})$ and backflow $\mathbf{f}_{\theta}(\mathbf{r})$

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}_i^{(0)} &:= \mathbf{X}_{\theta, s_i} \\ \mathbf{z}_i^{(n, \pm)} &:= \sum_{j \neq i}^{\pm} \mathbf{w}_{\theta}^{(n, \pm)}(\mathbf{e}(|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|)) \odot \mathbf{h}_{\theta}^{(n)}(\mathbf{x}_j^{(n)}) \\ \mathbf{z}_i^{(n, n)} &:= \sum_J \mathbf{w}_{\theta}^{(n, n)}(\mathbf{e}(|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{R}_J|)) \odot \mathbf{Y}_{\theta, J} \\ \mathbf{x}_i^{(n+1)} &:= \mathbf{x}_i^{(n)} + \sum_{\pm} \mathbf{g}_{\theta}^{(n, \pm)}(\mathbf{z}_i^{(n, \pm)}) + \mathbf{g}_{\theta}^{(n, n)}(\mathbf{z}_i^{(n, n)}) \\ J &:= \eta_{\theta} \left(\sum_i \mathbf{x}_i^{(N)} \right) \\ \mathbf{f}_i &:= \kappa_{\theta} \left(\mathbf{x}_i^{(N)} \right)\end{aligned}}$$

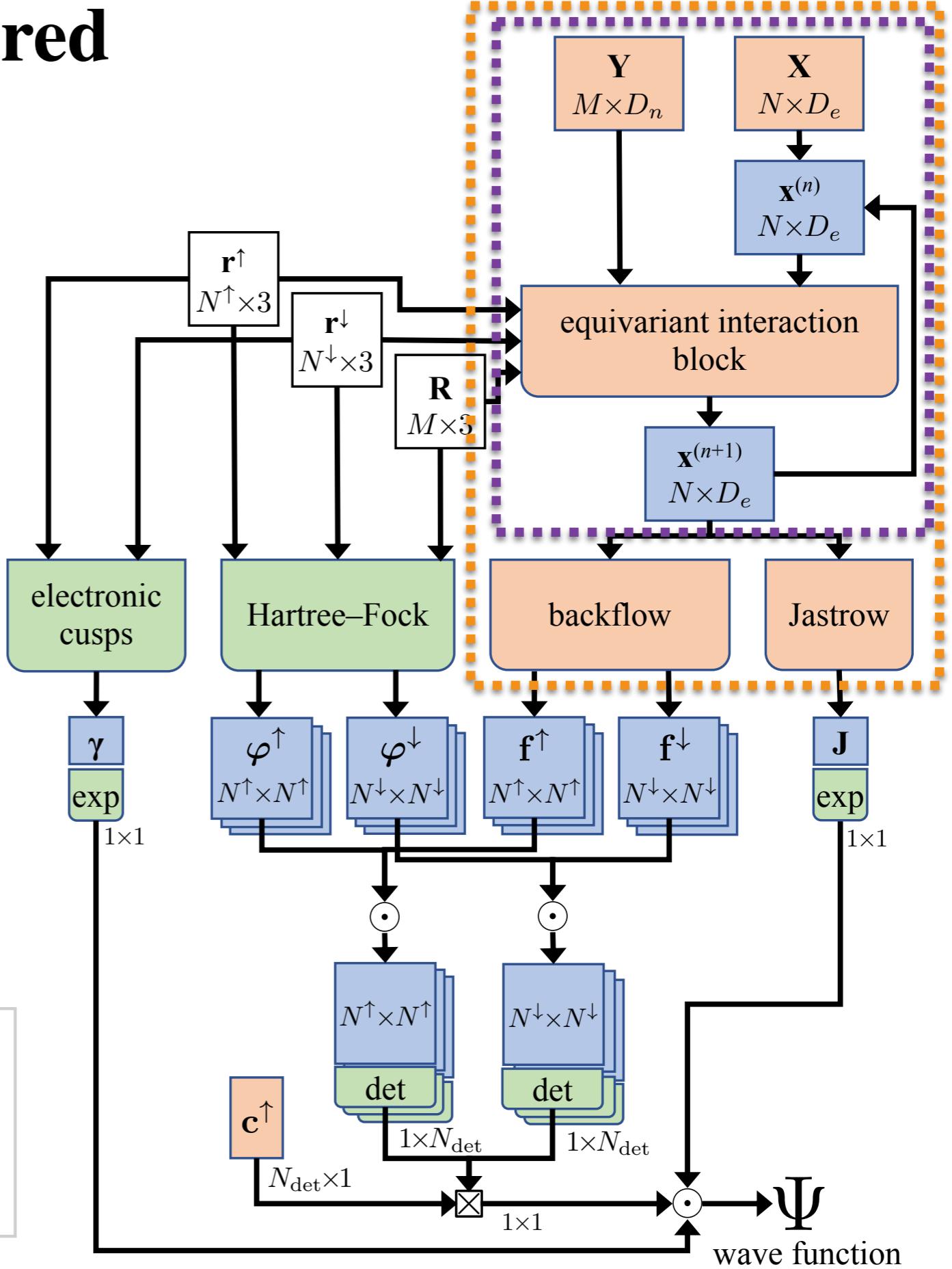
Graph neural network

PauliNet: Physics-inspired neural-network ansatz

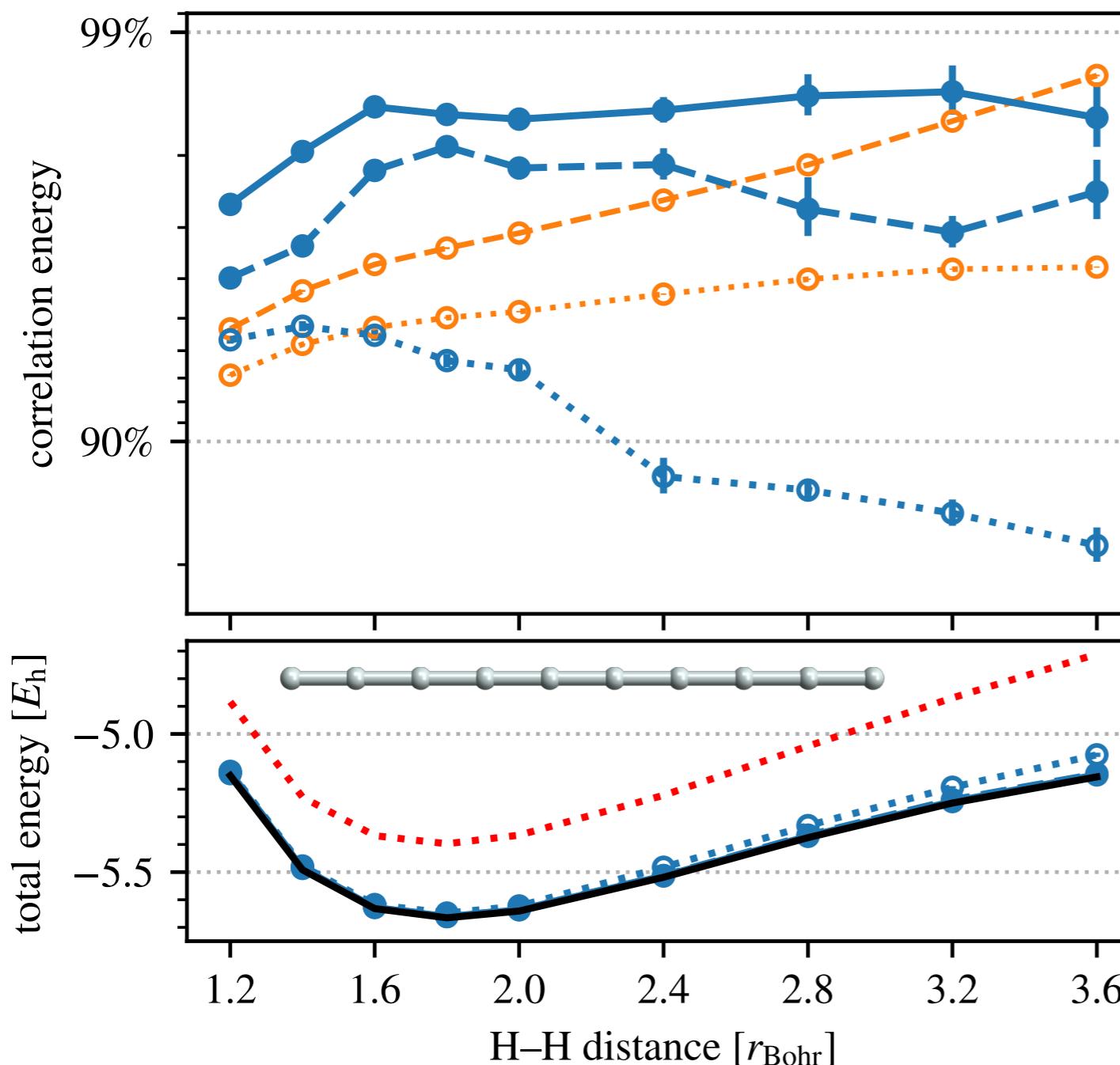


Deep learning
Graph neural network

N	number of electrons	neural network (trainable function)
N^{\uparrow}	number of spin-up electrons	trainable array
N^{\downarrow}	number of spin-down electrons	
M	number of nuclei	fixed function
D_e	embedding dimension, electrons	input array
D_n	embedding dimension, nuclei	hidden array

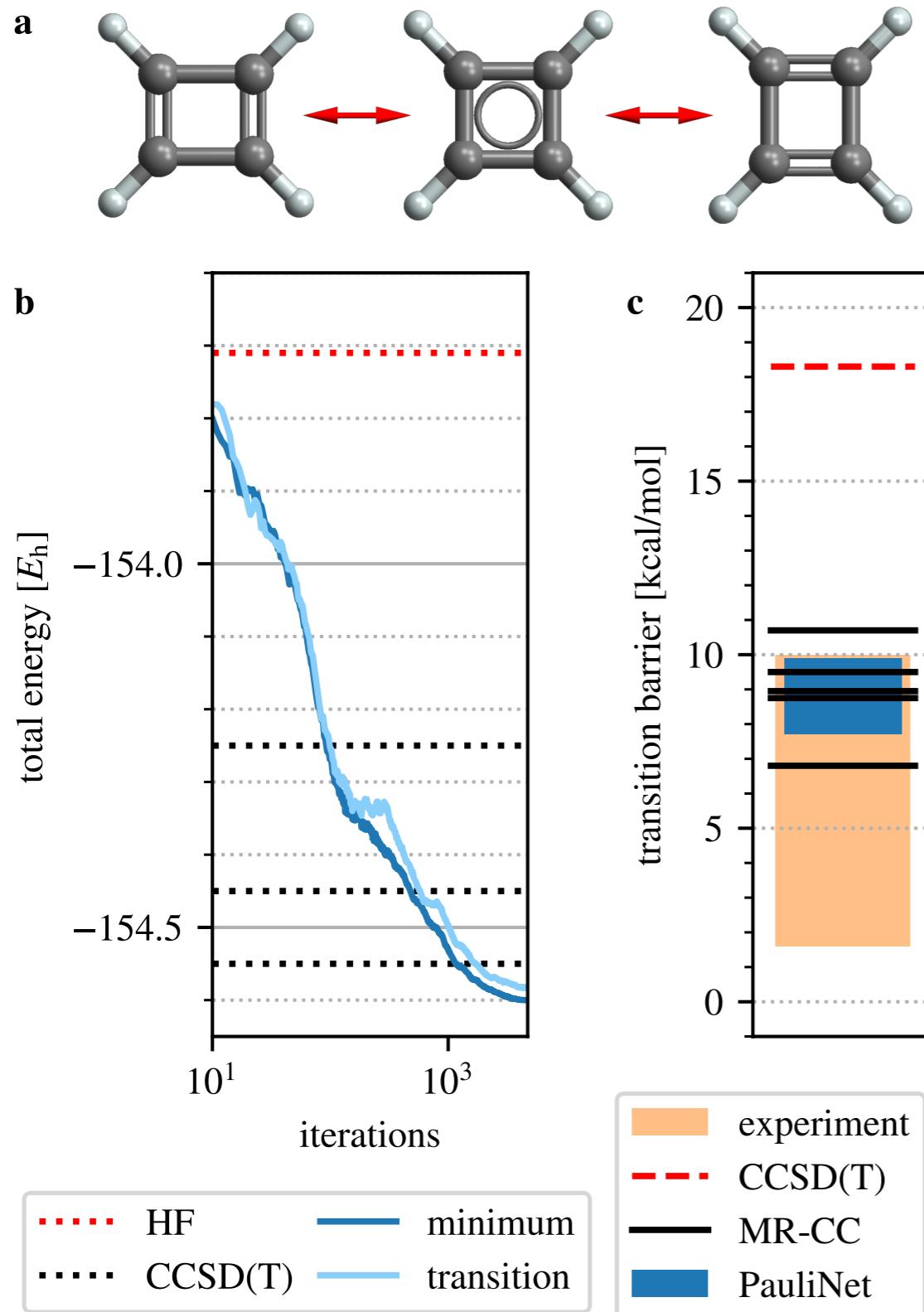


Capturing strong correlation



- Dissociation of linear H_{10} as a test case of strong correlation¹
- PauliNet with 16 determinants captures 98–99% of the correlation energy along the dissociation

Targeting realistic quantum chemistry

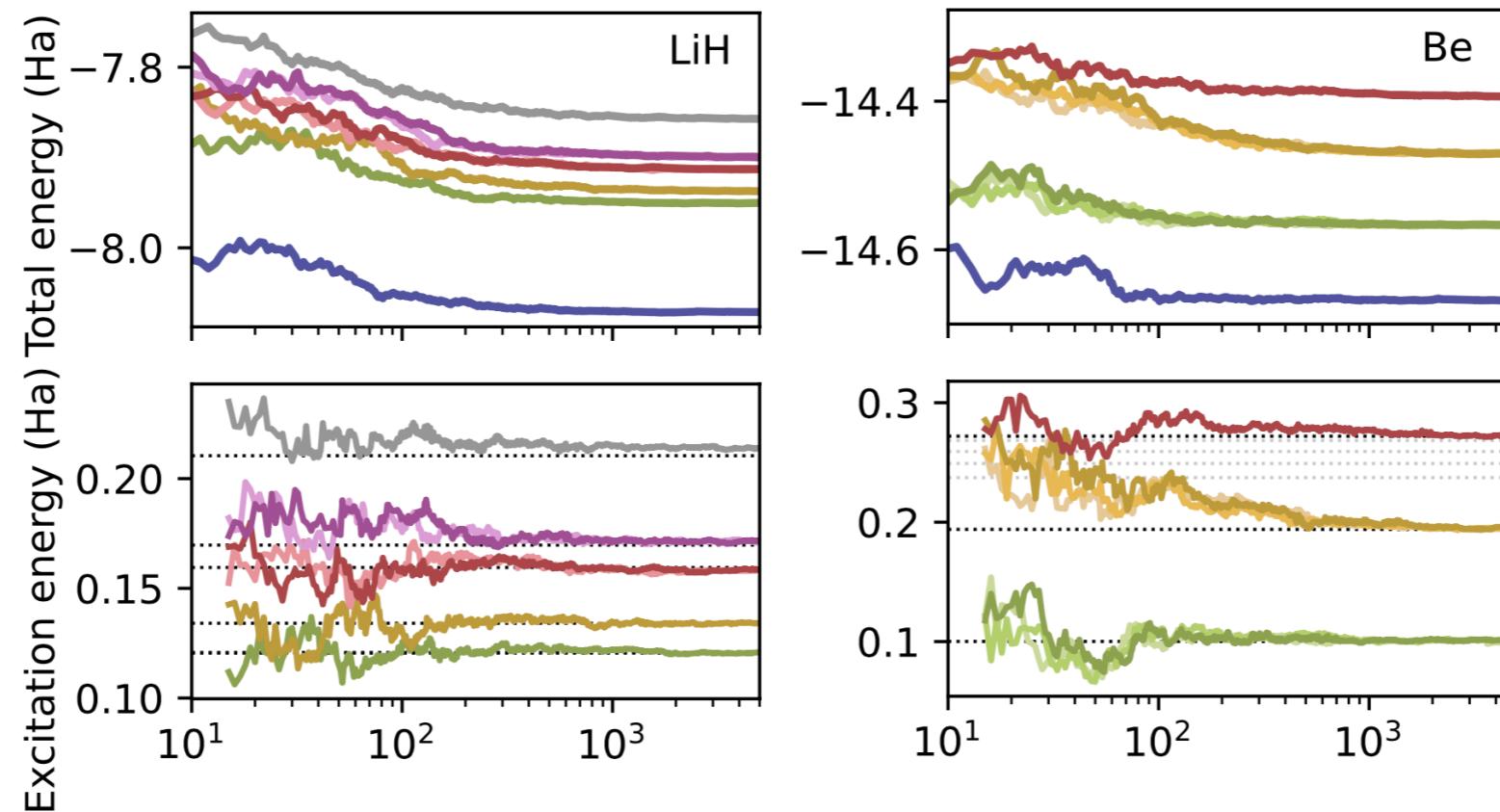


- Barrier of the automerization of cyclobutadiene (28 electrons) ~~still not fully resolved~~
- Strong multireferential character—~~CCSD(T) overestimates two-fold~~
- Experiment: 1.6–10 kcal/mol, MR-CC 7–11 kcal/mol
- PauliNet with 10 determinants: 8–10 kcal/mol
- 3 days on GTX 1080 Ti GPU

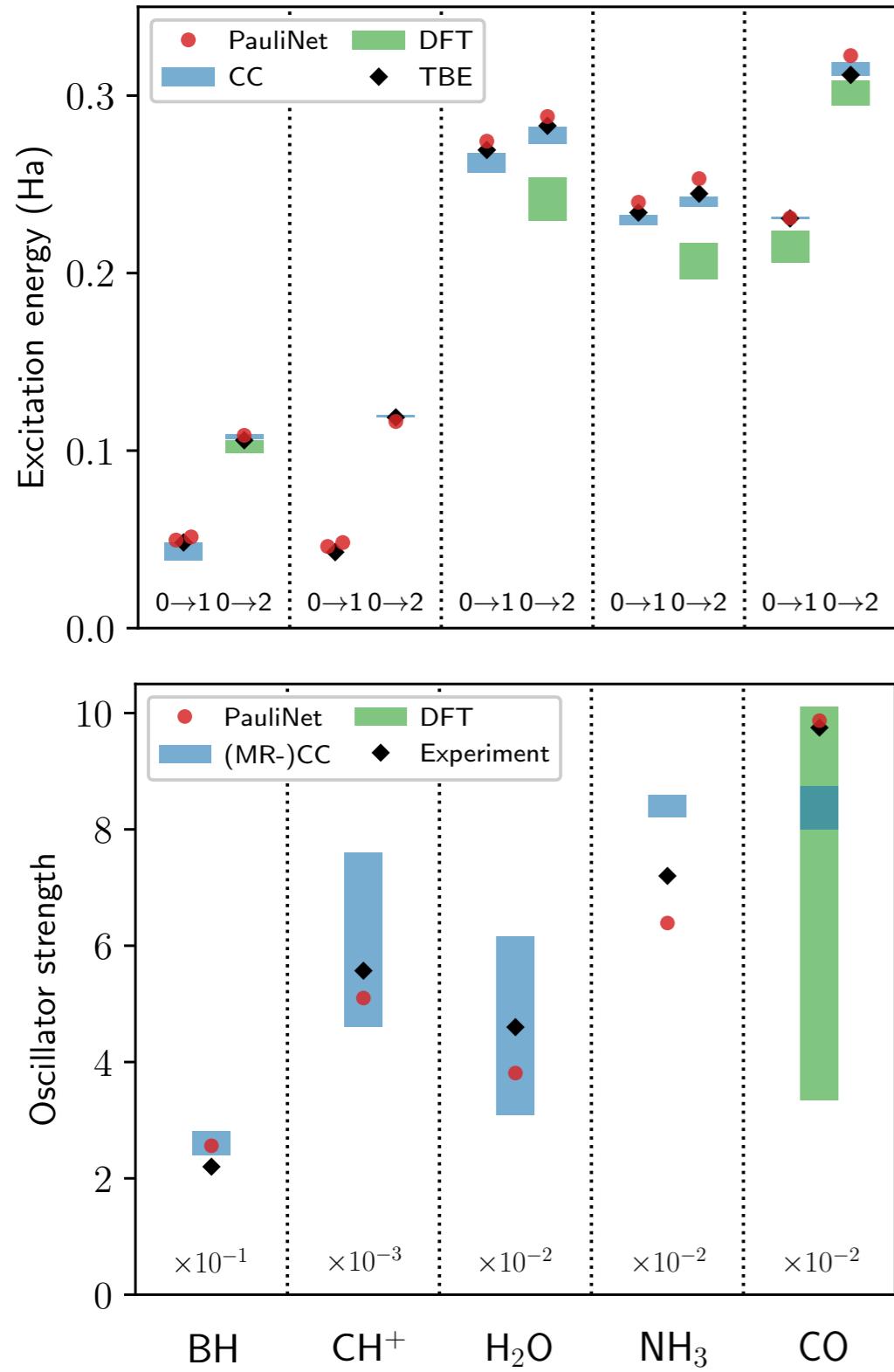
Excited states with deep variational QMC

$$\min_{\theta} \left[\sum_i E[\psi_{\theta,i}] + \alpha \sum_{j>i} \frac{1}{1 - |\langle \psi_{\theta,i} | \psi_{\theta,j} \rangle|} \right]$$

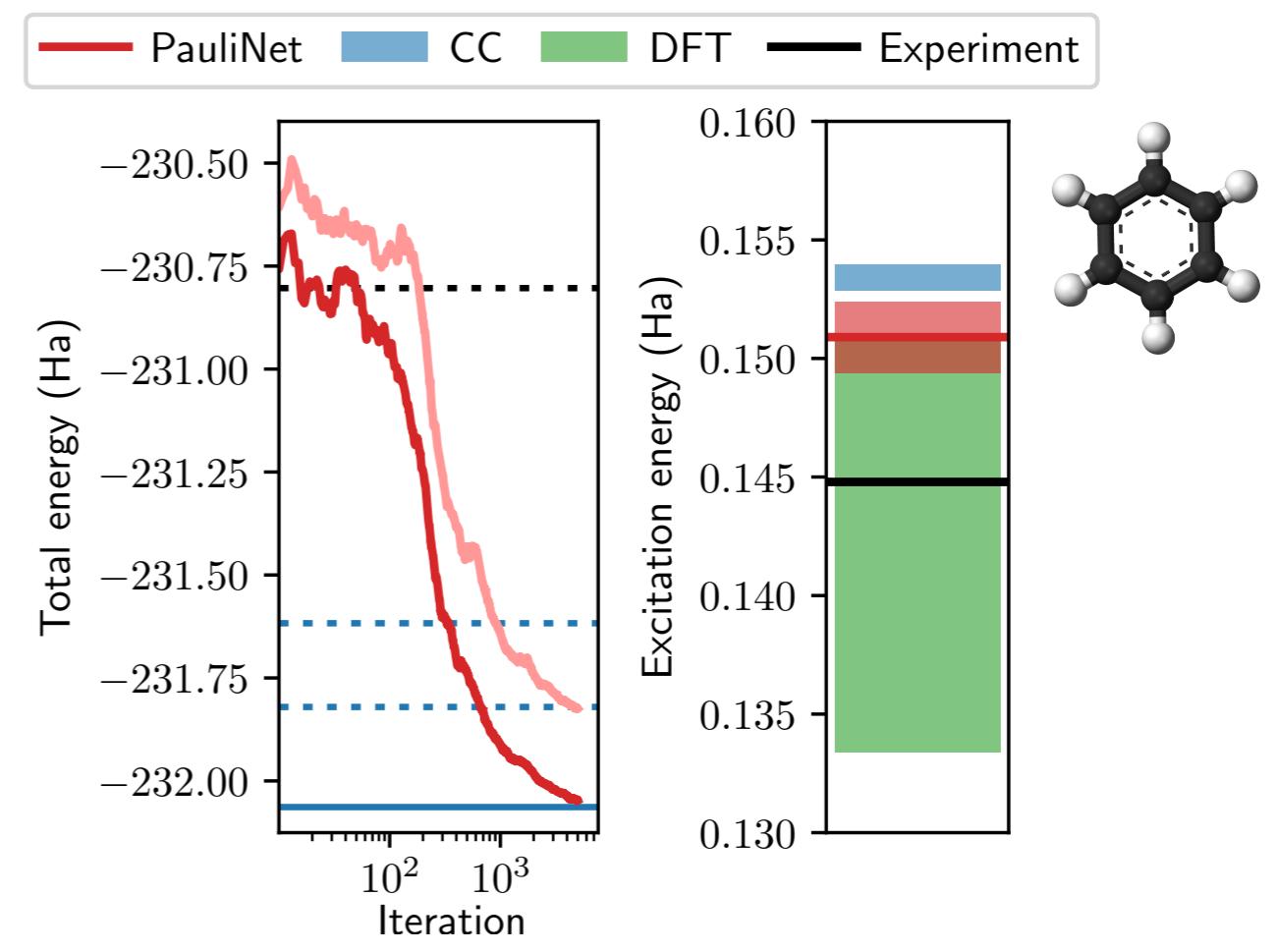
- Extra term in the loss function ensures orthogonality between different eigenstates



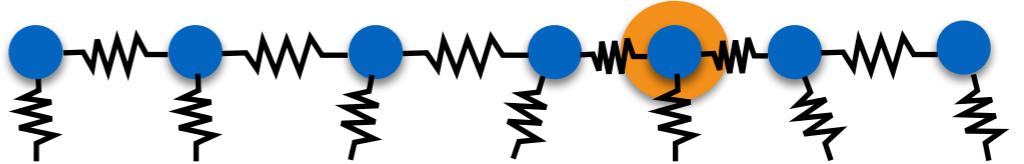
PauliNet for excited states



- Accurate excitation energies and intensities of low-lying states in molecules as large as benzene



Exciton–phonon coupling



- Model for excitations in α -helix
- Excitons in second quantization: $n_i = 0, 1, i = 1, \dots, N$
- Phonons in first quantization, $\mathfrak{R} = (R_i, \dots, R_N)$
- Wave function $\psi(\mathbf{n}, \mathfrak{R})$
- Empirical Hamiltonian

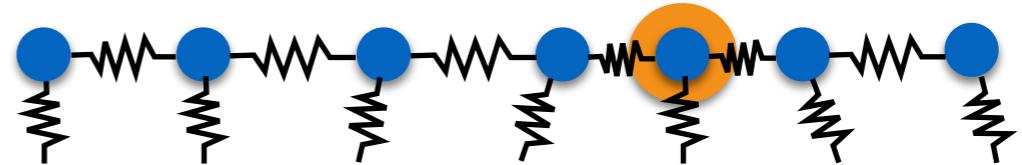
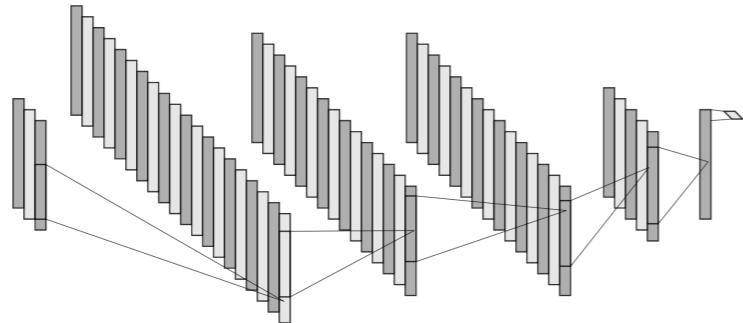
$$\hat{H} := \hat{H}^{\text{ex}} + \hat{H}^{\text{ph}} + \hat{H}^{\text{ex-ph}}$$

$$\hat{H}^{\text{ex}} = \sum_i (\alpha \hat{b}_i^\dagger \hat{b}_i + \beta (\hat{b}_i^\dagger \hat{b}_{i+1} + \hat{b}_i \hat{b}_{i+1}^\dagger))$$

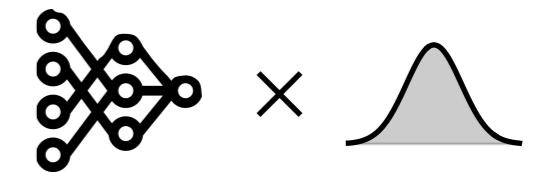
$$\hat{H}^{\text{ph}} = \sum_i \left(\frac{\Delta_i}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} m \nu^2 R_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mu \omega^2 (R_i - R_{i+1})^2 \right)$$

$$\hat{H}^{\text{ex-ph}} = \sum_i \sigma \hat{b}_i^\dagger \hat{b}_i (R_{i+1} - R_{i-1})$$
- Local energy: Laplacian of ψ w.r.t. \mathfrak{R} , ψ for nearest-neighbor hops

Exciton–phonon neural-network ansatz



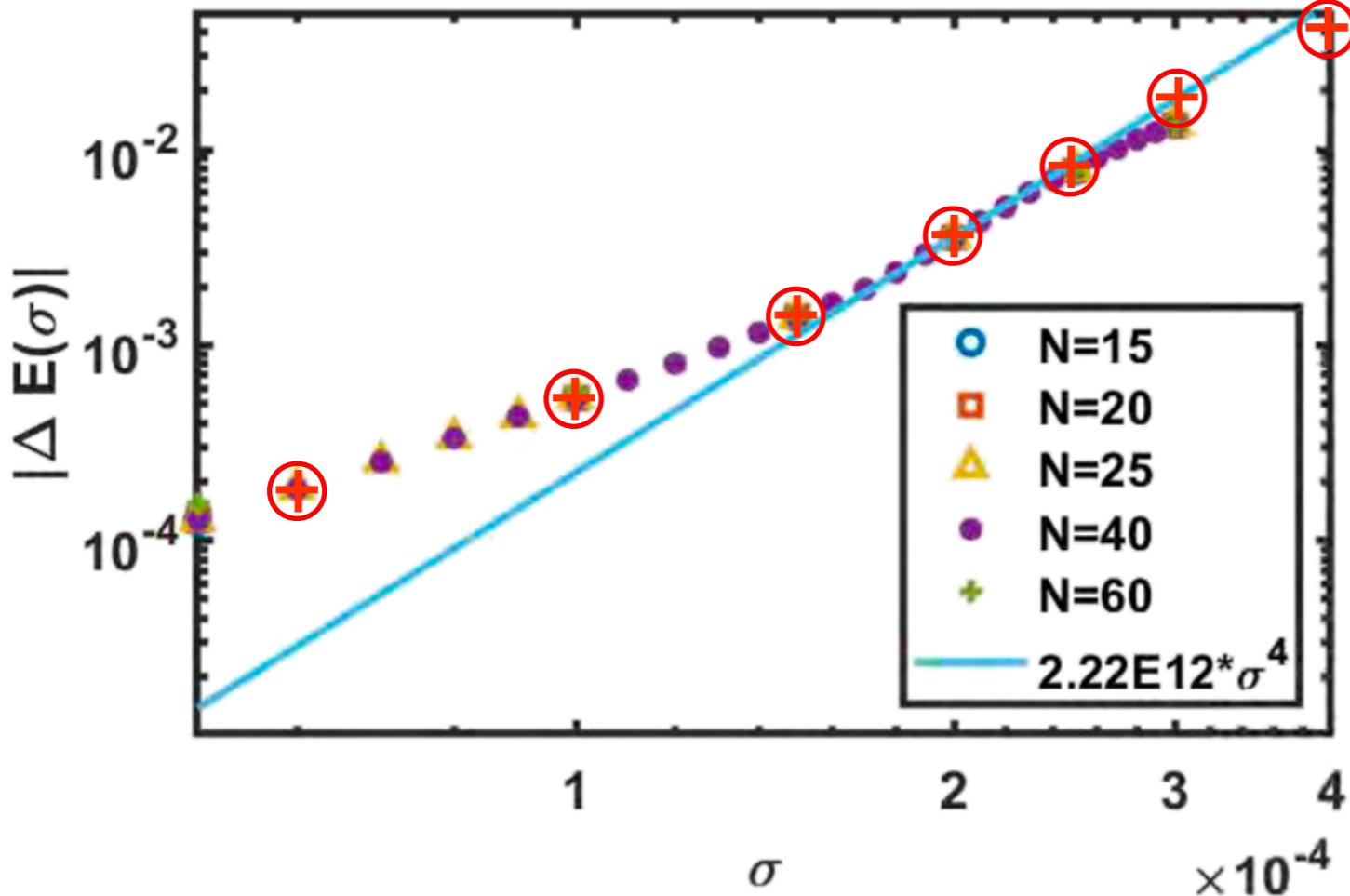
$$\psi_{\theta}(\mathbf{n}, \mathfrak{R}) := \text{ConvNet}\left(\left(\mathbf{n}_i, \frac{\mathbf{R}_i}{w}, \frac{i}{N}\right)_{i=1}^N\right) e^{-\sum_i \left(\frac{\mathbf{R}_i}{w_{\theta}}\right)^2}$$



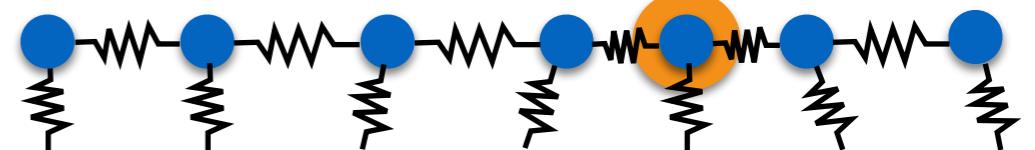
- Product of a neural network and a real-space envelope
- Ordinary 1D convolutional neural network

Davydov solitons

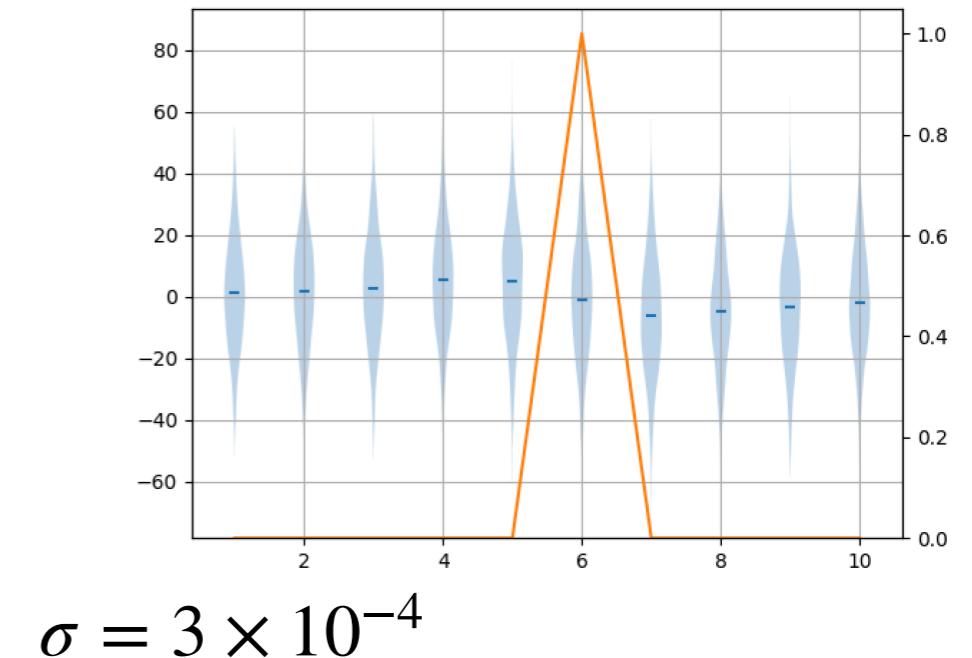
- Self-trapped excitons
- Singly excited Hilbert subspace



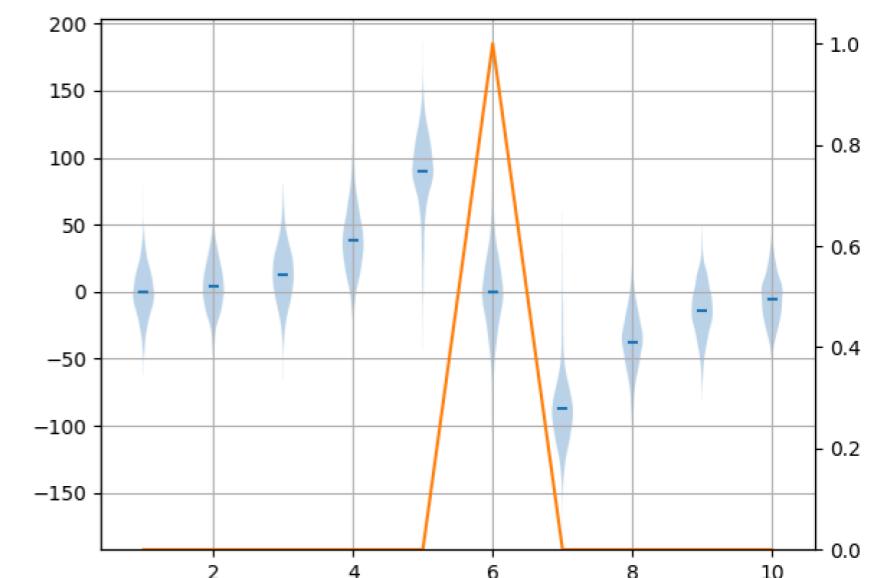
Davydov, *J. Theor. Biol.* **38**, 559 (1973)
Geiß et al., *J. Chem. Phys.* **156**, 024109 (2022)



$$\sigma = 10^{-4}$$



$$\sigma = 3 \times 10^{-4}$$



Summary & outlook

- Deep variational QMC is a powerful framework to solve both ab-initio and model Hamiltonians in chemistry with high accuracy
- Active field: periodic systems, transferable wave functions, excited states, pseudopotentials, diffusion QMC, better architectures
- Expensive – scaling up? Benchmarks? Failure modes? Size consistency? Optimization vs. expressivity?
- Aspiration: Accurate black-box method for systems with 100+ electrons and complex electronic structure