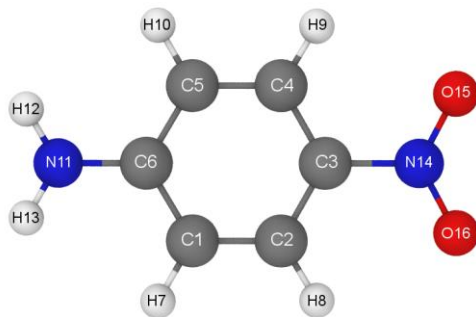


# Analyses of molecular dynamics trajectories

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# I. The motion of the molecule

# Translation (diffusion)

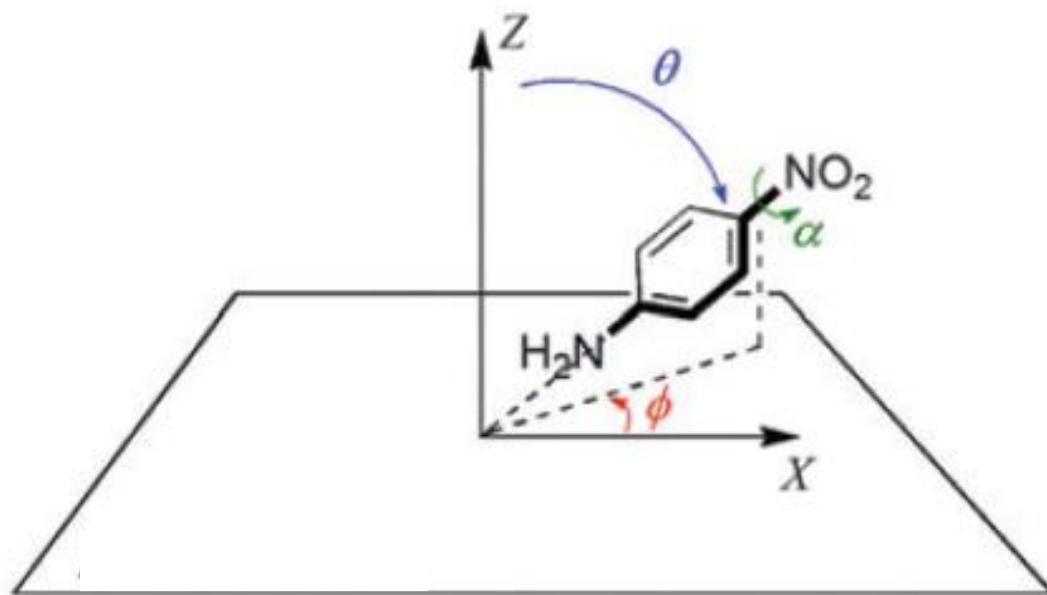
- The Einstein relation

$$6D_{\text{ion}} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d}{dt} \langle |\vec{R}(t) - \vec{R}(0)|^2 \rangle$$

- $D_{\text{ion}}$  is the self-diffusion coefficient
- The factor of 6 arises for 3D system
- $D_{\text{ion}}$  is obtained from linear fitting of the mean square deviation (MSD) – time plot

# Rotation (isotropic tumbling)

- Spatial rotation of the molecule described by the vector along or perpendicular to the molecule



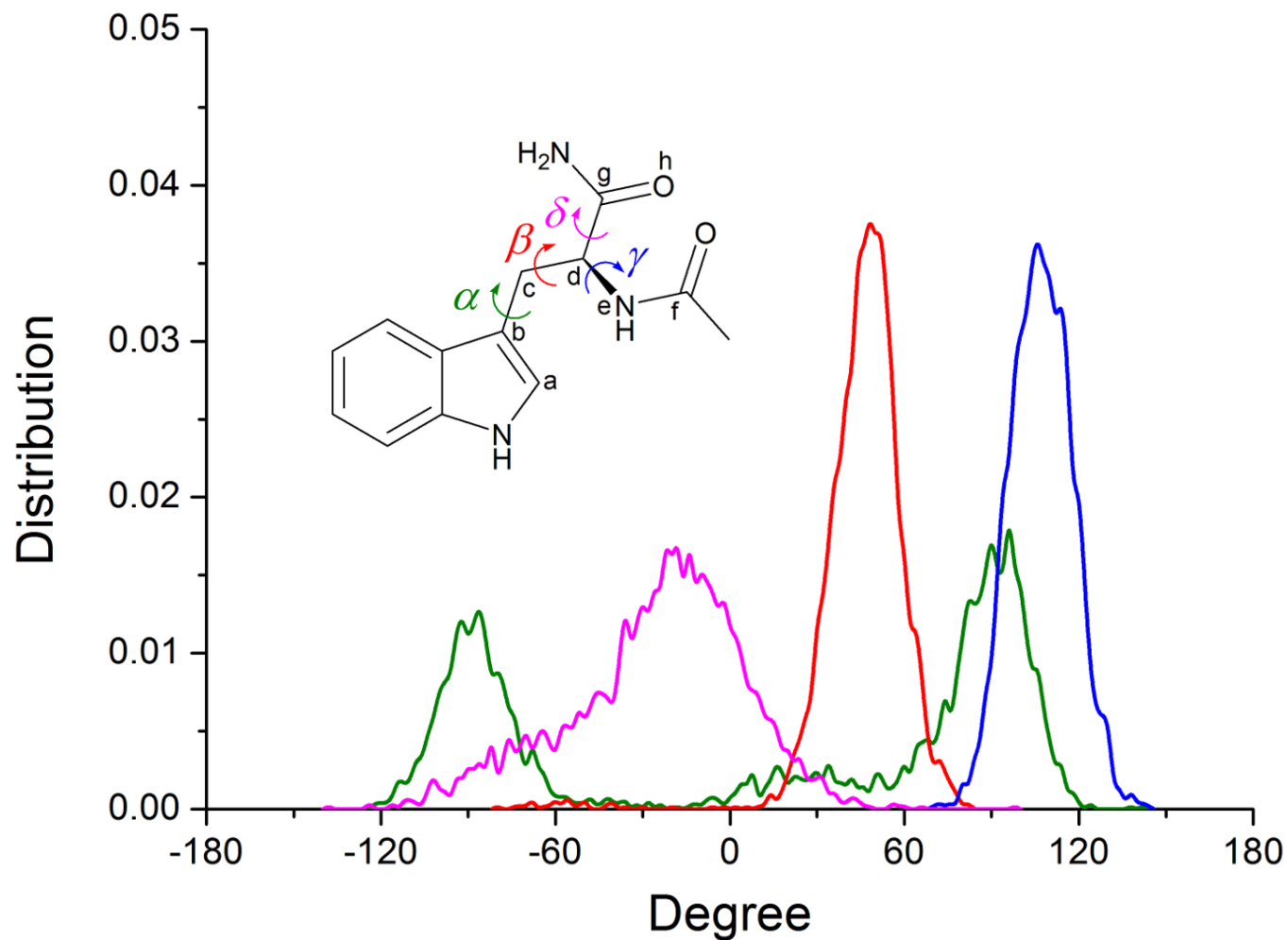
# Auto-correlation function

- For a vector  $p$

$$C_p(t) = \int_0^\infty P_n(\cos \angle (p(\xi), p(\xi + t))) d\xi$$

- $P_n$  is  $n$ -th order Legendre polynomial.  
Usually  $n = 2$ .
- The rotational correlation time is obtained through integration of the auto-correlation function from zero to infinity

# Dihedral angle dynamics



# Auto-correlation function

- For a dihedral angle  $\varphi$

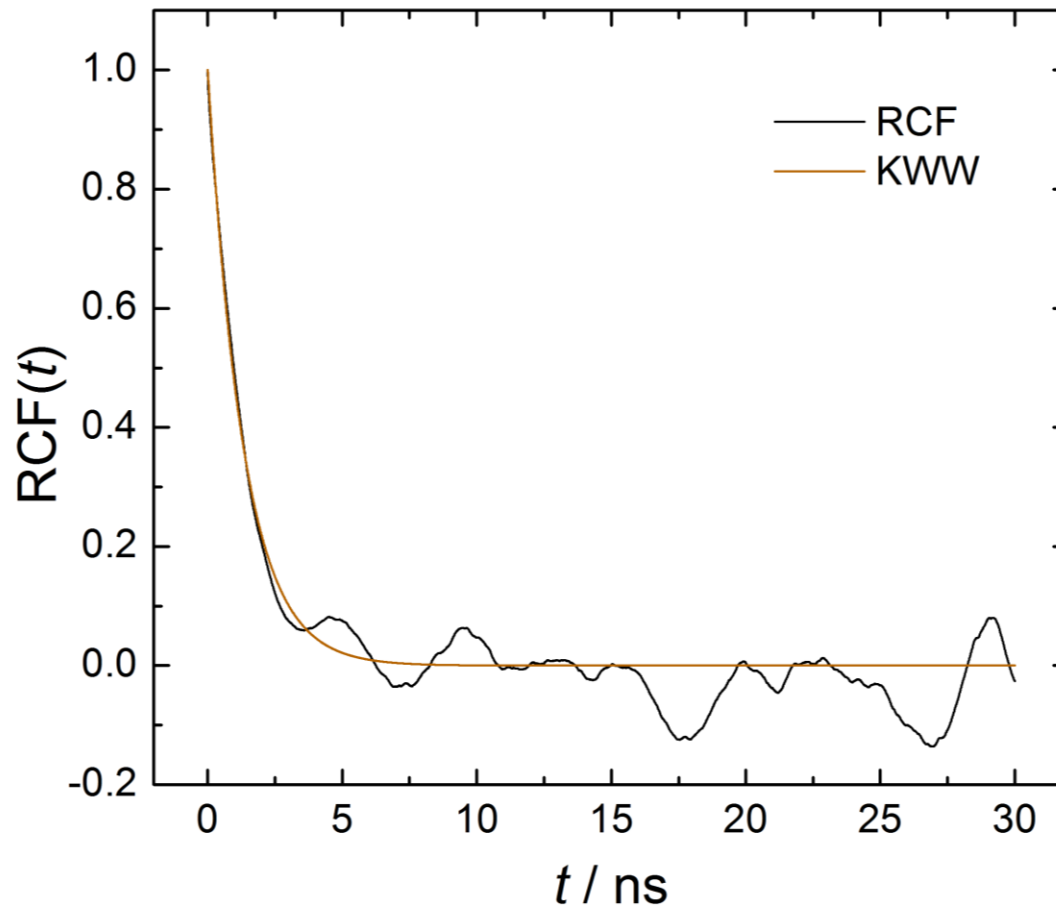
$$C(t) = \langle \cos[\varphi(t_0) - \varphi(t_0 + t)] \rangle_{t_0}$$

- Can be fitted to the Kohlrausch-Williams-Watts relaxation function

$$KWW(t) = \exp(-\alpha t^\beta)$$

- The rotational correlation time is obtained through integration of the  $KWW$  function from zero to infinity

# Rotational correlation function



Nonlinear  
fitting:

Use Matlab  
Or Gauss-  
Newton  
method



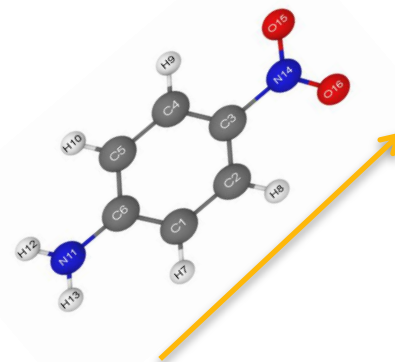


## **2.The orientation of the molecule**

# Orientation (long axis)

- The molecular inertia tensor (3x3)

$$I_{\alpha\beta} = \sum_i m_i (r_i^2 \delta_{\alpha\beta} - r_{i\alpha} r_{i\beta})$$
$$\alpha, \beta \in \{x, y, z\}$$

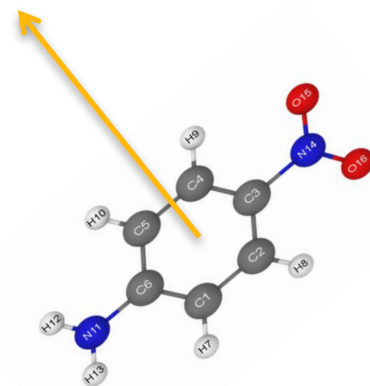


- The molecular long-axis is defined as the eigenvector associated with the **smallest** eigenvalue of  $I$ .

# Orientation (normal direction)

- The molecular inertia tensor (3x3)

$$I_{\alpha\beta} = \sum_i m_i (r_i^2 \delta_{\alpha\beta} - r_{i\alpha} r_{i\beta})$$
$$\alpha, \beta \in \{x, y, z\}$$



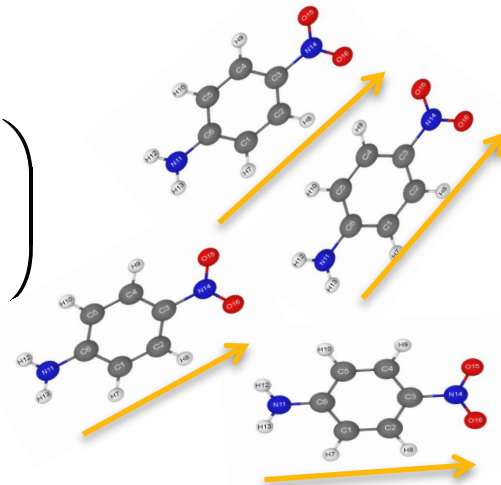
- The eigenvector associated with the **largest** eigenvalue of inertia tensor ***I*** is perpendicular to the molecular plane.

# Order-parameter (self-assembly)

- The ordering tensor (3x3)

$$Q_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \left( \frac{3}{2} a_{j\alpha} a_{j\beta} - \frac{1}{2} \delta_{\alpha\beta} \right)$$

$\alpha, \beta \in \{x, y, z\}$



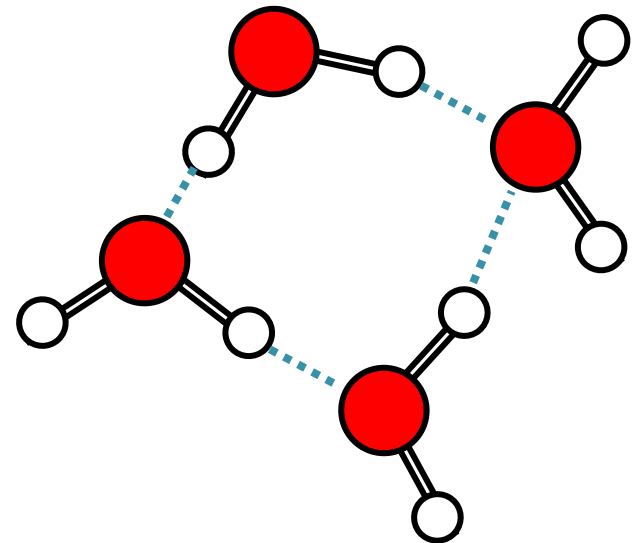
- $N$  is number of molecules
- $a_j$  is the molecular long-axis of the  $j$ -th molecule
- The largest eigenvalue of  $Q$  is the uniaxial order parameter



### **3. Molecule-environment interaction**

# Hydrogen bonds

- Formed between hydrogen atoms and electronegative atoms (N, O, F, etc.)
- Donor(D)-Hydrogen(H)...Acceptor(A)
- Geometry criteria:
  - distance  $D-A \leq 3.5 \text{ \AA}$
  - angle  $H-D-A \leq 30^\circ$



# Lifetime of hydrogen bonds

- Auto-correlation function

$$C(t) = \langle s_i(t_0) s_i(t_0 + t) \rangle$$

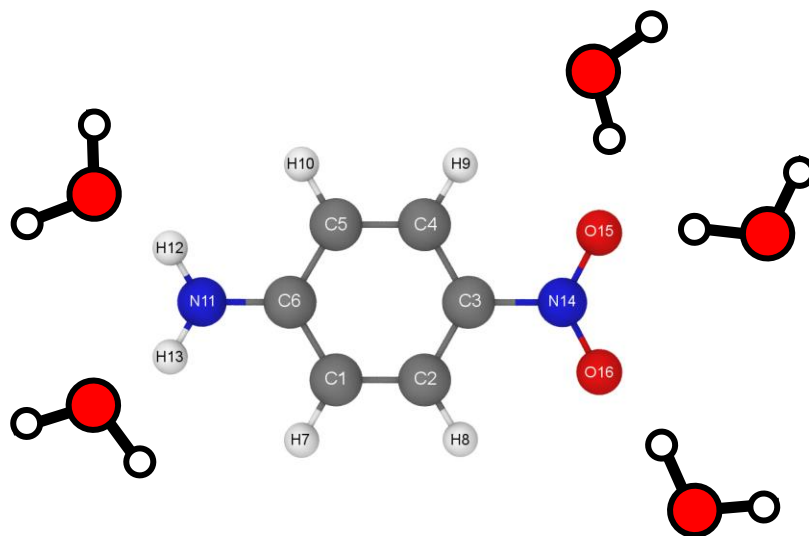
- $s_i(t_0) = 0$  or  $1$  for H-bond  $i$  at time  $t_0$

- The average H-bond lifetime

$$\tau_{HB} = \int_0^{\infty} C(t) dt$$

# Radial distribution function

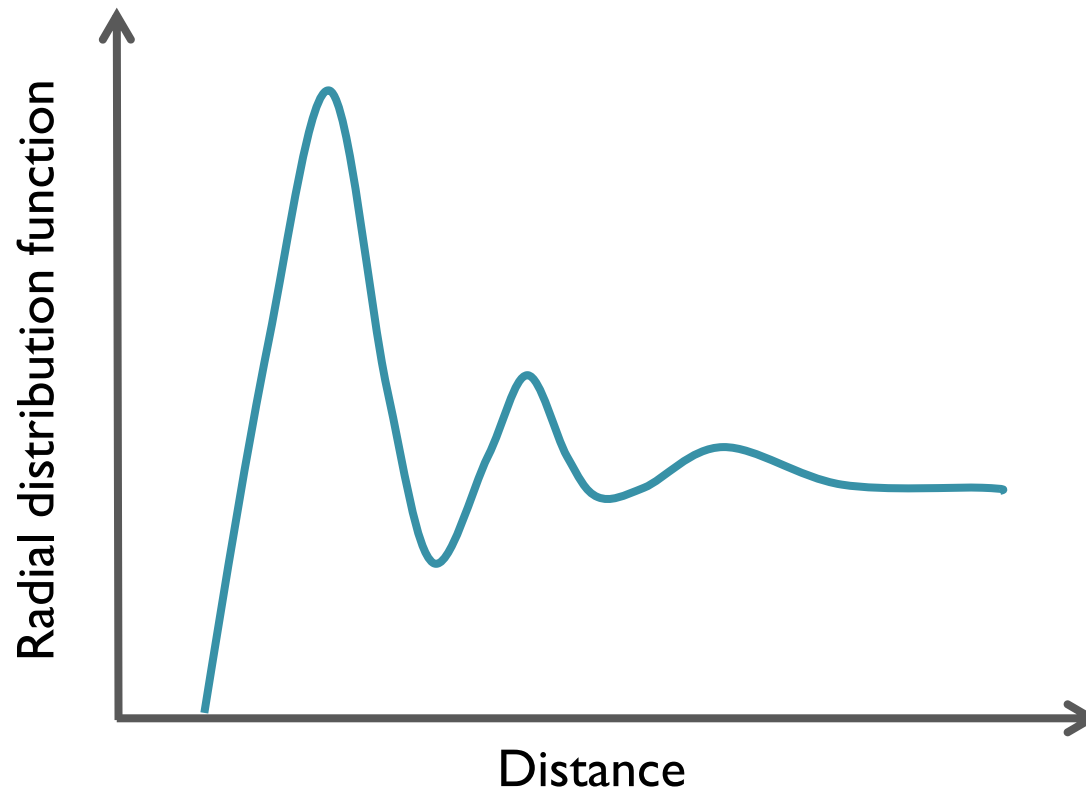
- Relative density of B around A with respect to bulk
- Non-uniform distribution of B in the vicinity of A





# Radial distribution function

- First solvation shell
- Second solvation shell





## 4. Analyzing tools in GROMACS

# GROMACS tools

- **g\_msd**
  - Calculate mean square deviation and diffusion constant.
- **g\_rotacf**
  - Calculate rotational correlation function for molecules.
- **g\_rdf**
  - Calculate radial distribution function in several different ways.
- **g\_hbond**
  - Calculate and analyze hydrogen bond number, distance, angle, lifetime, etc.

# GROMACS tools

Refer to the manual

editconf	g_dyndom	g_potential	g_tune_pme
eneconv	g_enemat	g_principal	g_vanhove
g_anadock	g_energy	g_protonate	g_velacc
g_anaeig	g_filter	g_rama	g_wham
g_analyze	g_gyrate	g_rdf	g_wheel
g_angle	g_h2order	g_rms	g_x2top
g_bar	g_hbond	g_rmsdist	g_xrama
g_bond	g_helix	g_rmsf	genbox
g_bundle	g_helixorient	g_rotacf	genconf
g_chi	g_lie	g_rotmat	genion
g_cluster	g_mdmat	g_saltbr	genrestr
g_clustsize	g_membed	g_sas	gmxccheck
g_confrms	g_mindist	g_select	gmxdump
g_covar	g_morph	g_sgangle	make_edt
g_current	g_msd	g_sham	make_ndx
g_density	g_nmeig	g_sigeps	mdrun
g_densmap	g_nmens	g_sorient	mk_angndx
g_dielectric	g_nmtraj	g_spatial	Pdb2gmx
g_dih	g_order	g_spol	tpbconv
g_dipoles	g_polystat	g_tcaf	trjconv
g_disre		g_traj	trjcat
g_dist			trjorder



## 5. Computational models for absorption spectra

# Computational models

- Molecule (QM) + PCM
- Molecule (QM) + Solvent (MM, point charges)
- Molecule (QM) + Solvent (MM, point charges and dipoles)
- Supermolecule: Molecule + surrounding solvent molecules (QM)



## **6. Analysis of computed spectra**

# A few words on TD-DFT

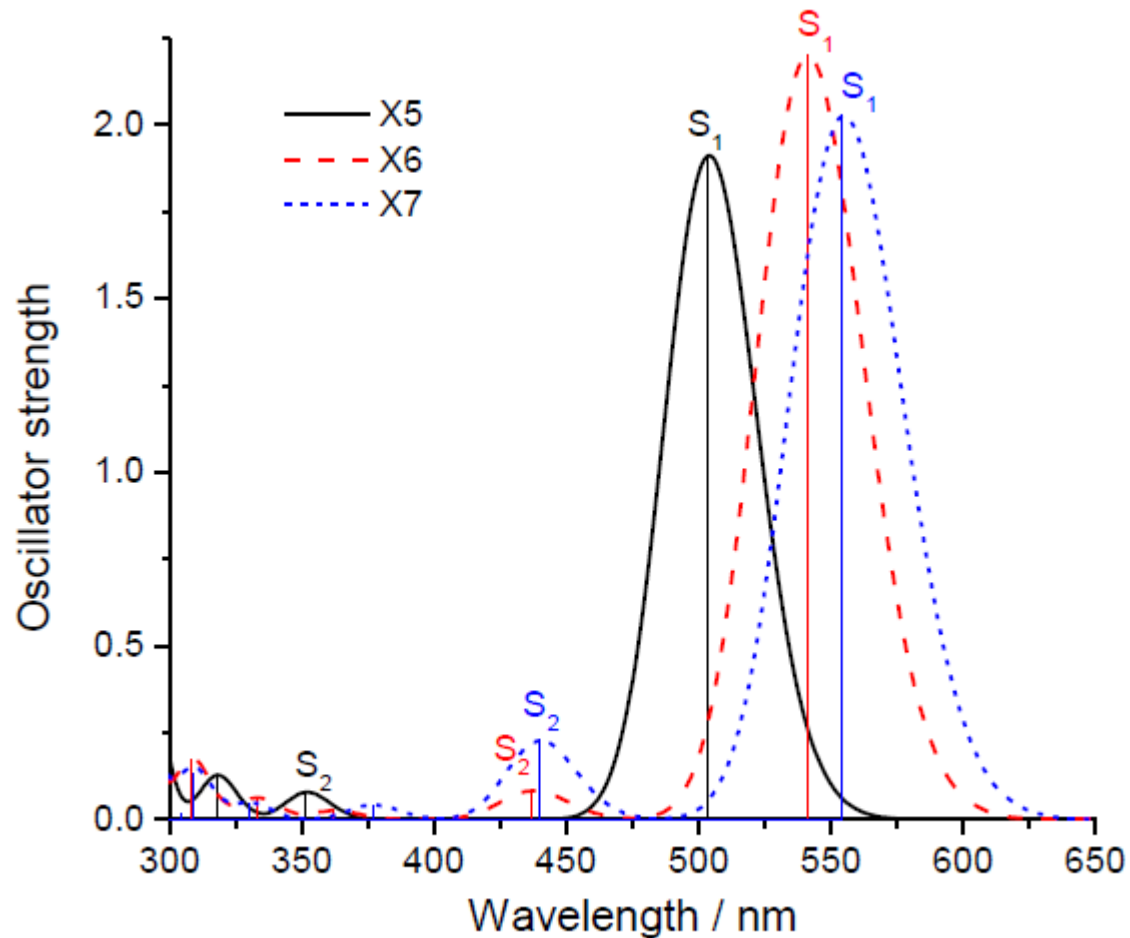
- Compute the absorption spectra (UV-Vis spectra)
- Only reliable for low-lying excited states
- Be careful with charge transfer cases
- Use polarization and diffusion functions
  
- CAM-B3LYP/6-311+G(d,p)
- CAM-B3LYP/TZVP



# Output from Gaussian09

- Excitation energies  $\Delta E$
- Oscillator strengths  $f$
- Transition dipole moment  $M$
- $f = 2/3 \Delta E M^2$
- Molecular orbital composition
  - $2 \times (\text{CI coefficient})^2$
  - e.g. coefficient = 0.7, composition = 98%

# Broadening of stick spectra



# Broadening of stick spectra

- Gaussian broadening

$$G(\omega) = \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi} \cdot \Delta} e^{-\left(\frac{\omega - \omega_n}{\Delta}\right)^2}$$

- Lorentzian broadening

$$L(\omega) = \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{\pi \cdot \Delta \cdot \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{\omega - \omega_n}{\Delta} \right)^2 \right]}$$