

# **Excess electron localization and the associated strand breaks of DNA — a method survey**

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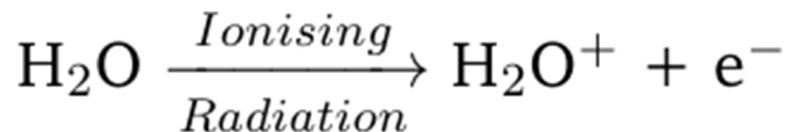
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# 1. Low energy electron (LEE) induced DNA Damages



1Mev energy deposit:  $5 \times 10^4$  secondary electron

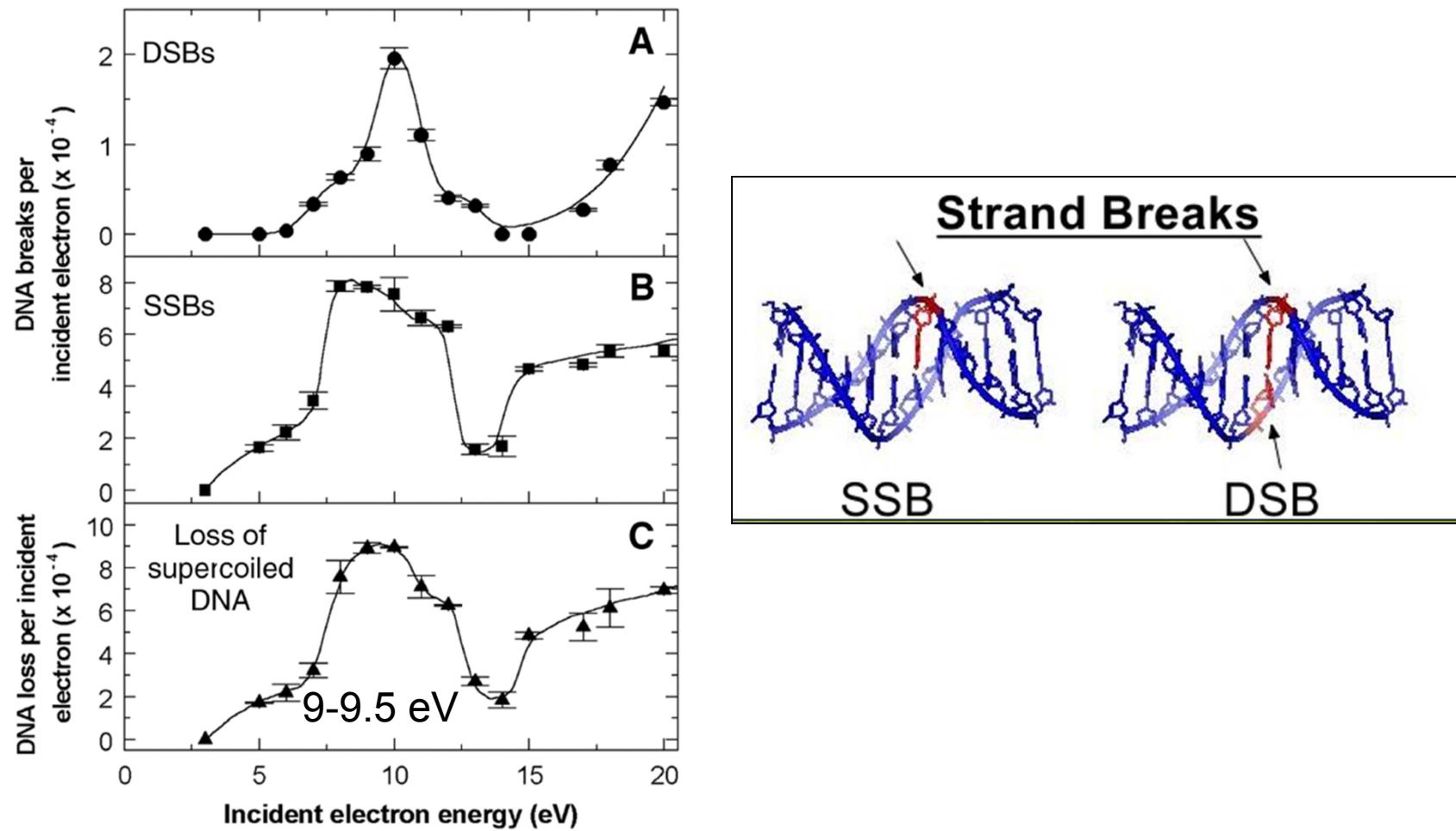
LEE: the most abundant species produced by ionization of water

77 % of these electrons have energies below 20 eV,  
56 % having energies below 8.76 eV (taken as the first ionisation potential in liquid water)  
27 % of the secondary electrons and their daughters have energies between 0-1 eV.

V. Cobut Radiat. Phys. Chem., 51(3):229, 1998.  
S. M. Pimblott Radiat. Phys. Chem., 76:1244, 2007.  
E. Scifoni Phys. Rev. E, 81(2):021903, 2010.

LEE has been proved to be aggressive to DNA

-- at even lower energies down to zero kinetic energy



Boudaia et al, Science 287, 1659 (2000) and PRL

## 2. Methods (Self-interaction of excess electron)

- DFT
- SIC (a,b)
- Hybrid  
PBE0 (ADMM)
- Meta-GGA  
M06-2X
- UMP2

Criteria:

### 1. Electron structure

spin density distribution:  $\sigma$

### 2. Energy

a: vertical electron detachment energy:

$$E_{VDE} = E(x) - E(X')$$

b: Strand break:

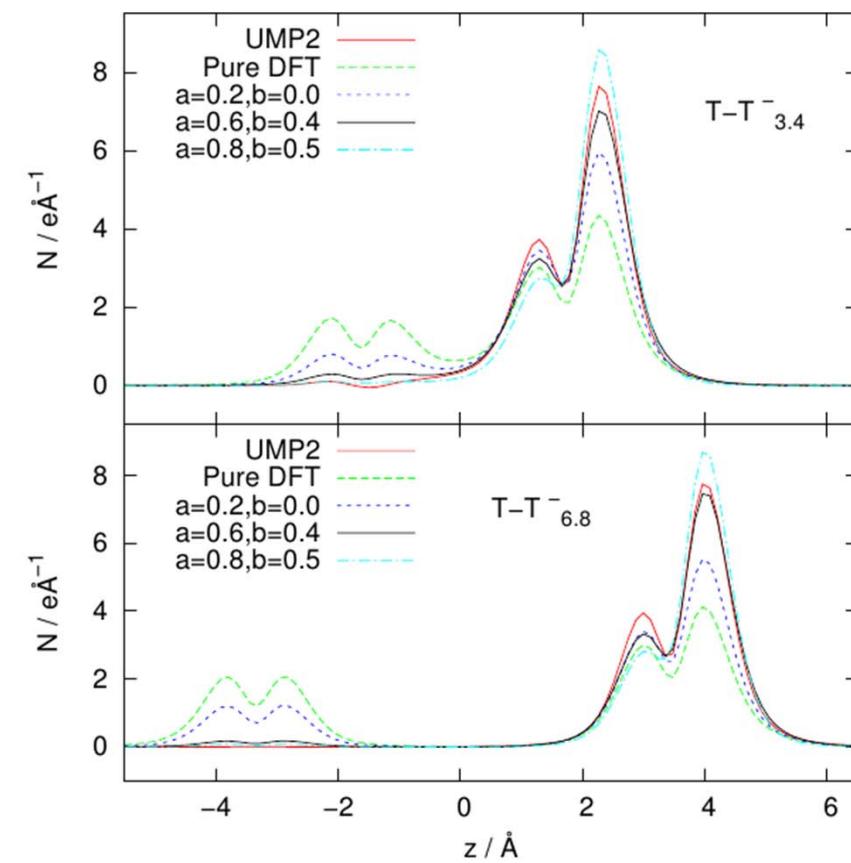
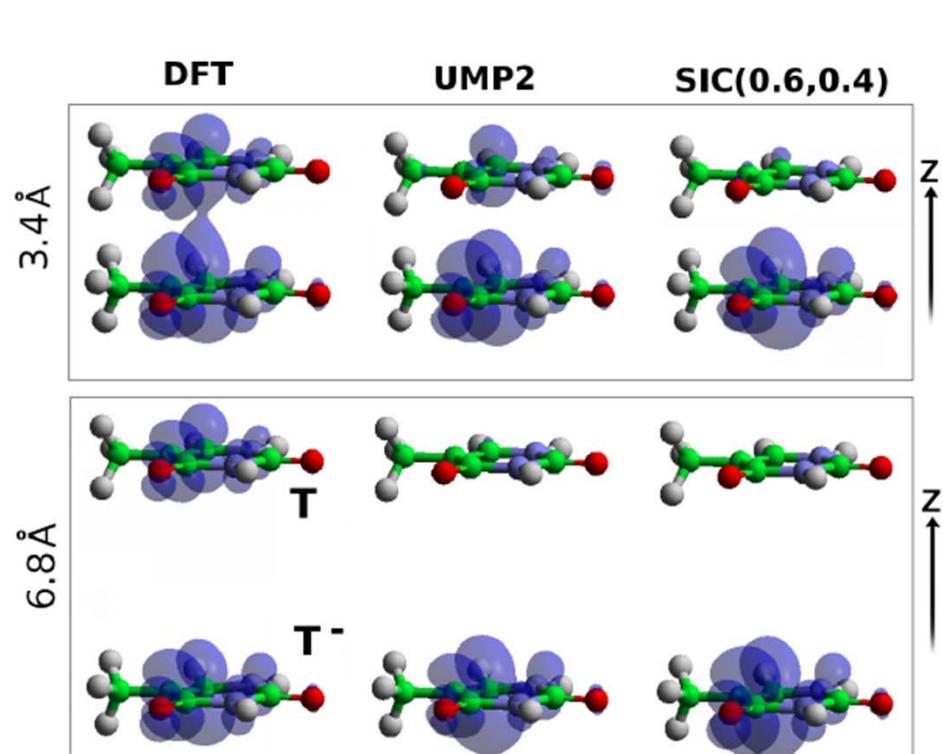
Gas phases activation energy

$$E = E_{max} - E_{min}$$

Free energy barrier

$$\Delta A(\xi_i) = - \int_{\xi_1}^{\xi_i} < \lambda(r') > dr'$$

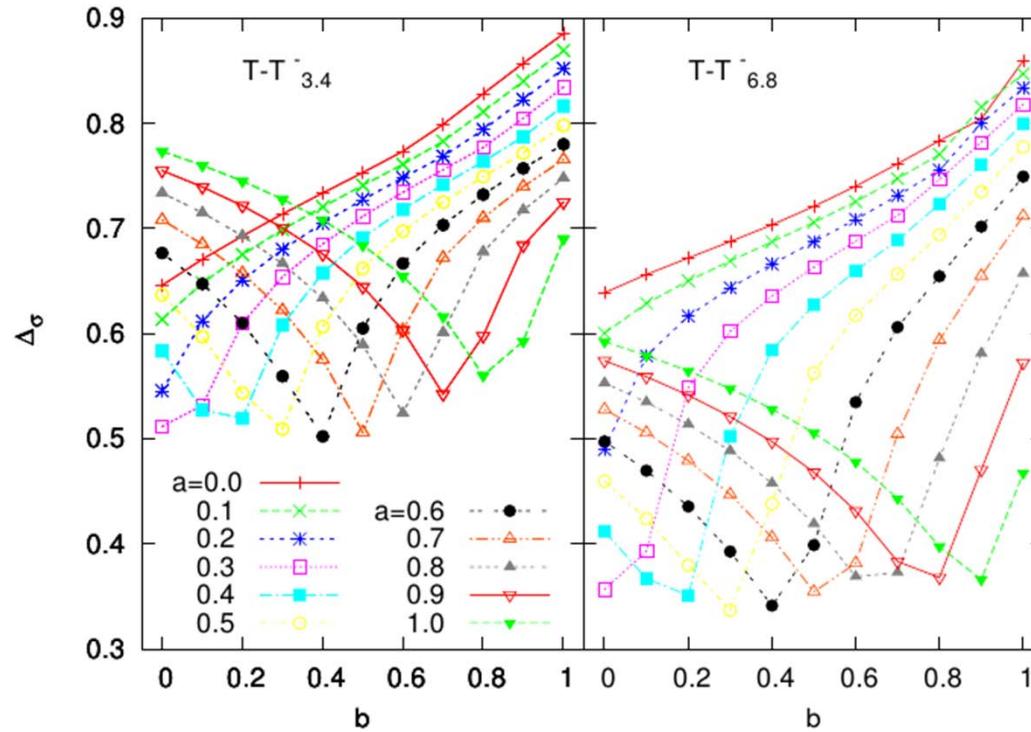
### 3. Neutral and anionic Thymine base pair ( $T-T^-$ ) — results of the empirical SIC (Mauri-SPZ)



Joost Vande Vondelle et al PCCP 2005 7 1363 OH radical ( $a=0.2, b=0.0$ )  
Yves A Mantz et al JPCA 2007 111-1 105 stacked bases cation (0.8, 0.5)

3D Spin density difference:

$$\Delta_{\sigma} = \frac{\int |\sigma_{SIC} - \sigma_{UMP2}| dx dy dz}{\int |\sigma_{UMP2}| dx dy dz}$$



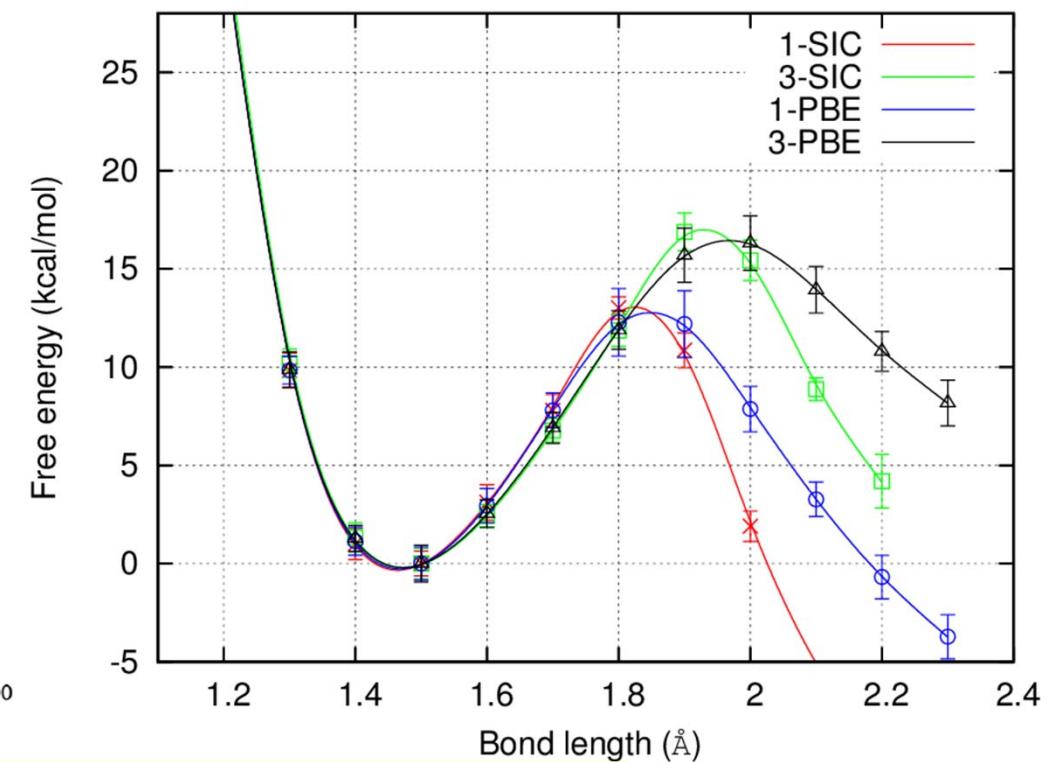
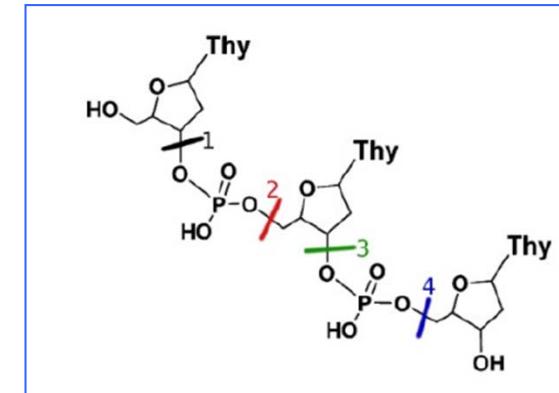
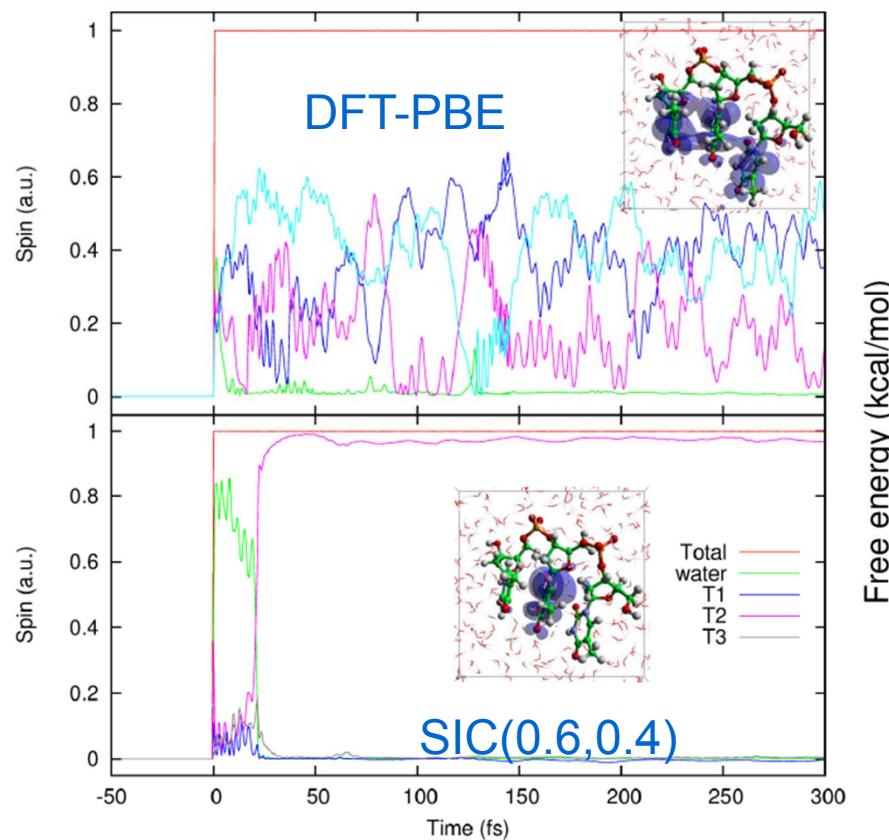
UMP2: NWChem  
aug-cc-pvdz

SIC(a,b): CP2K  
aug-TZVP-GTH  
GTH-PP  
MT

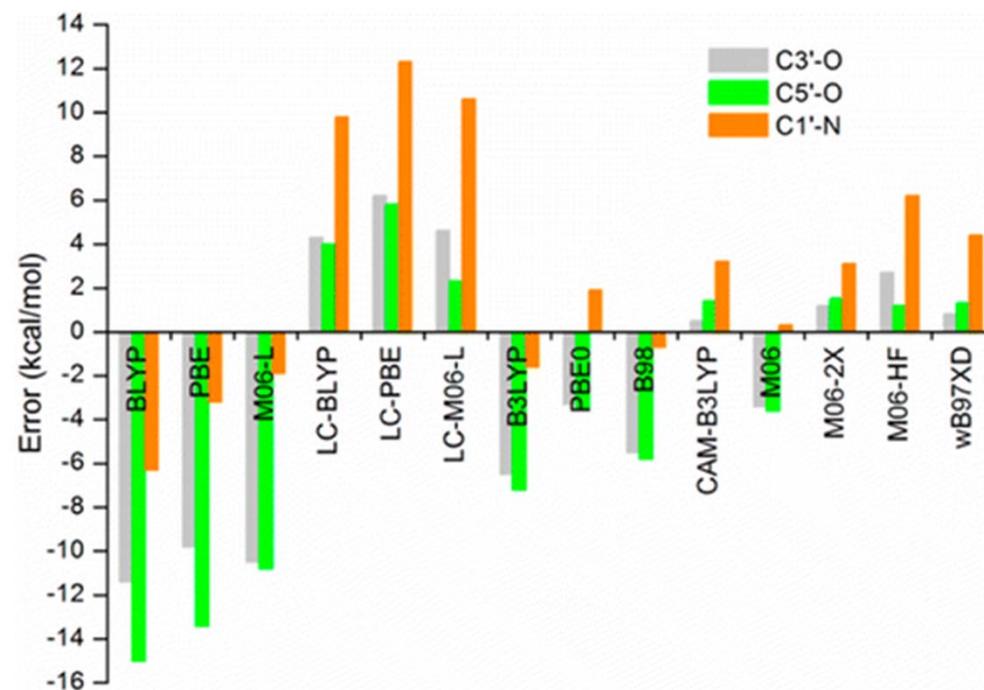
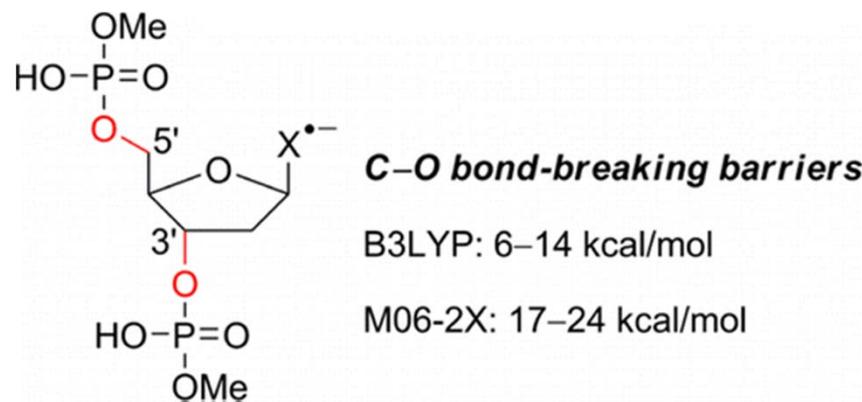
$$E_{VDE} = E(X) - E(X^-)$$

Configuration	UMP2	Pure DFT	(0.2,0.0)	(0.6,0.4)	(0.8,0.5)
T-T <sub>3.4</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0.53*	1.21	0.76	0.69	0.89
T-T <sub>6.8</sub> <sup>-</sup>	0.48*	1.14	0.64	0.75	0.78

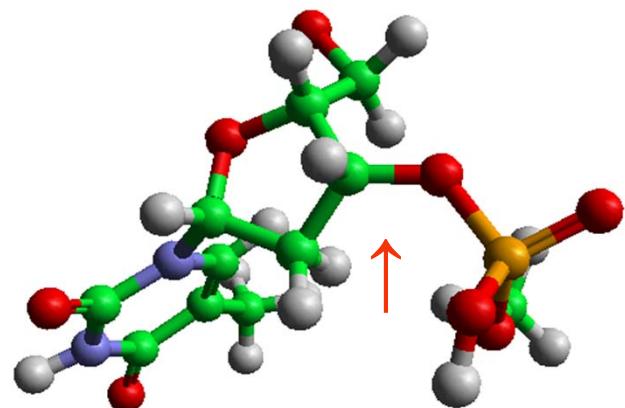
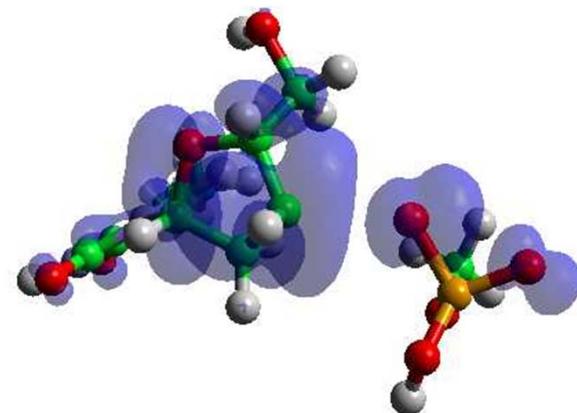
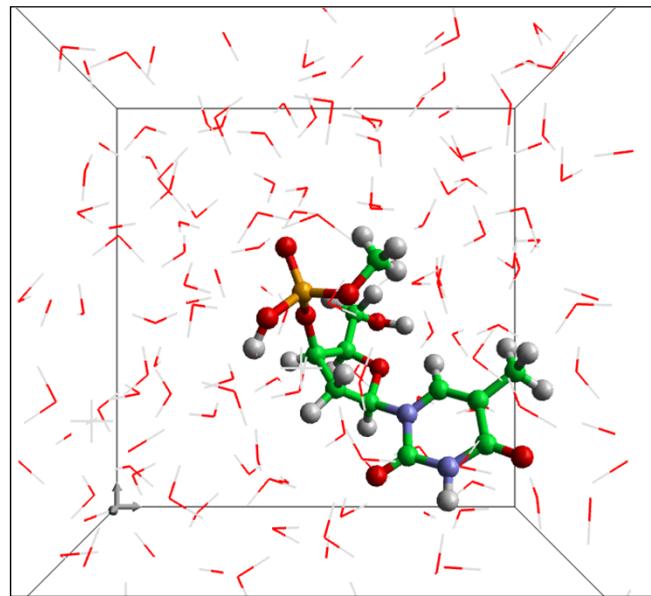
## DNA strand breaking Free energy: aqueous solvent of $[dTdTdT]^-$



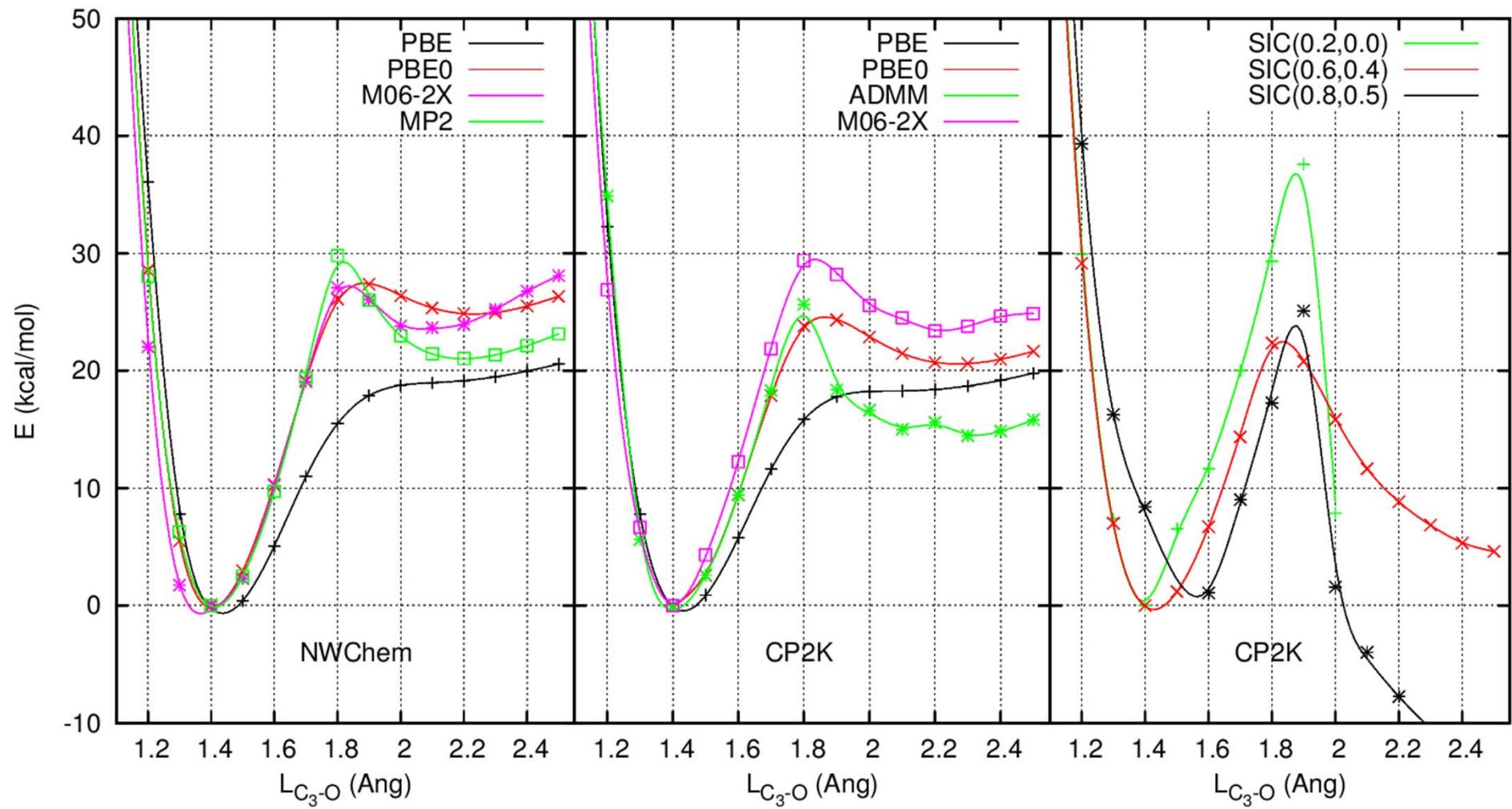
The SIC( $a,b$ )  $\rightarrow$  localization,  
but no change in Free energy barrier of bond breaking



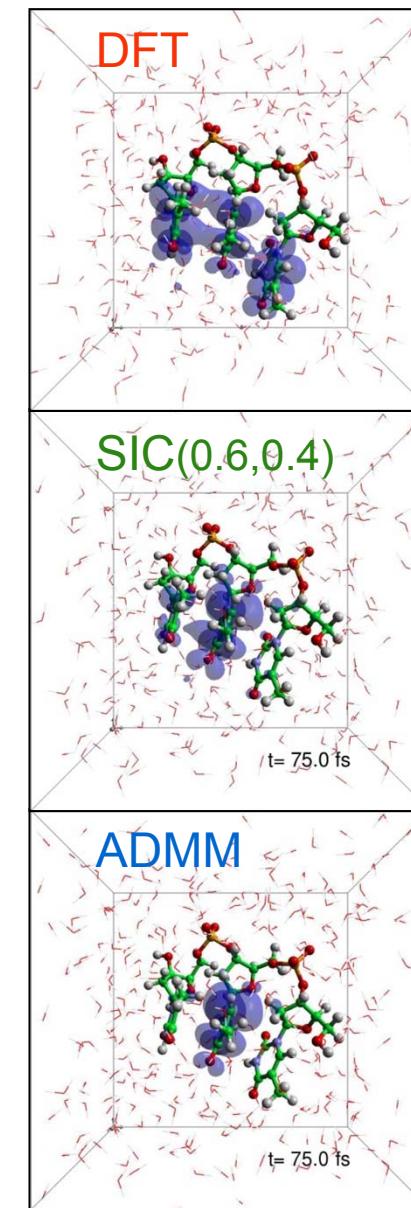
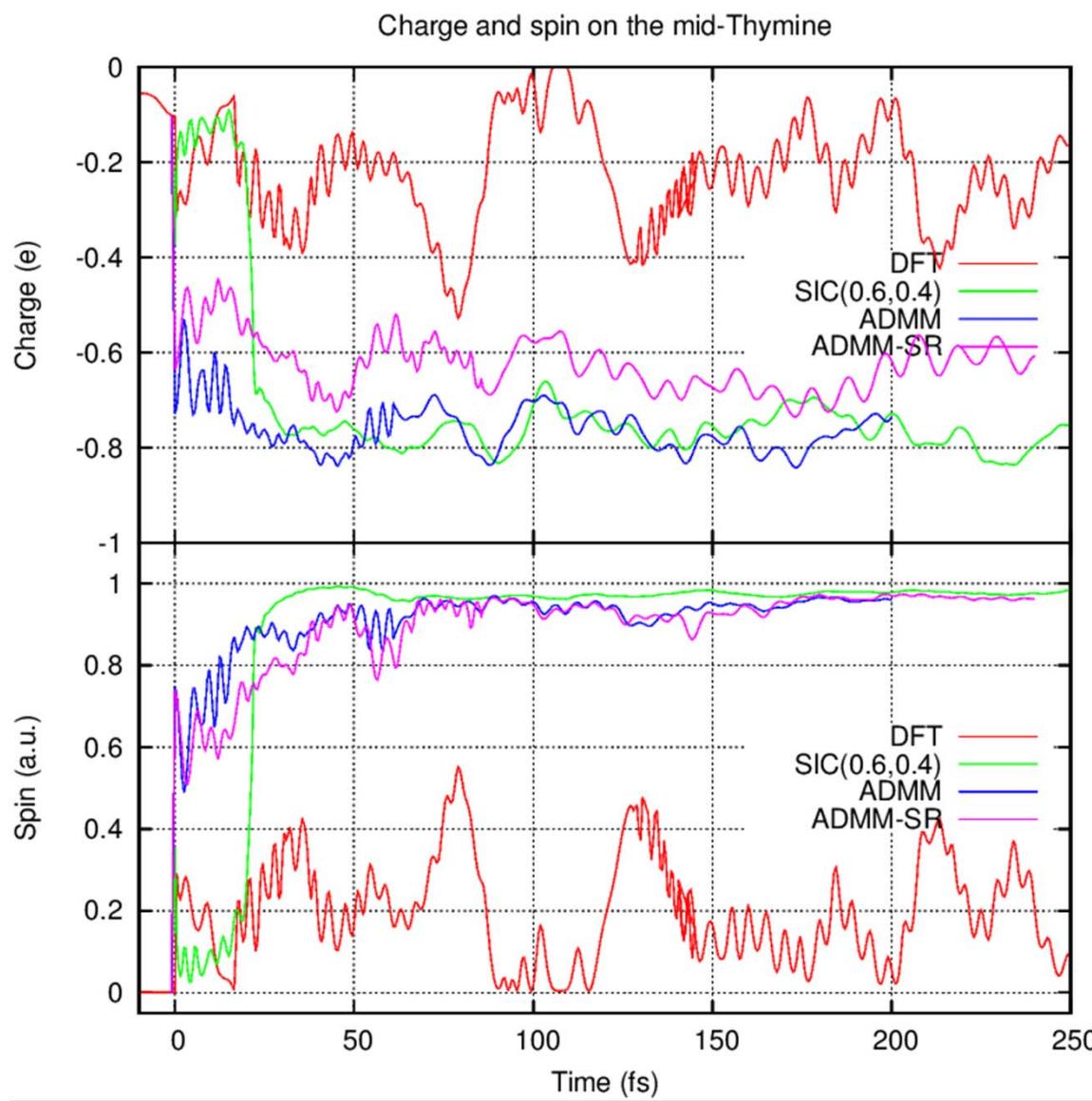
#### 4. dTMP(m)<sup>-</sup> C<sub>3</sub>-O bond dissociation barrier



NWChem	CP2k	CP2k-SIC(a,b)
PBE aug-cc-pvdz	PBE all 6-311++G**   BASIS_SET aug-TZVP-GTH POTENTIAL GTH-PBE-qx HFX 0.2	
PBEO aug-cc-pvdz	PBEO all 6-311++G**   BASIS_SET aug-TZVP-GTH POTENTIAL GTH-PBE-qx	BASIS_SET aug-TZVP-GTH POTENTIAL GTH-PBE-qx
M06-2X aug-cc-pvdz	ADMM BASIS_SET TZV2P-MOLOPT-GTH AUX_FIT_BASIS_SET aug-pFIT3 POTENTIAL GTH-PBE-qx	ROKS with OT SIC_METHOD MAURI_SPZ
UMP2 aug-cc-pvdz	M06-2X FUNCTIONAL XC_MGGA_X_M06_2X XC_MGGA_C_M06_2X BASIS_SET aug-TZVP-GTH POTENTIAL GTH-PBE-qx HFX 0.54	



## 5. Condensed phases MD: [dTdTdT]<sup>-</sup>



## 6. Conclusions and perspectives

- a. Pure DFT: Not sufficient for DNA with excess electrons.  
*delocalization, bond stretching barrier*
- b. Gas phase  
Hybrid ([PBE0](#), [ADMM](#)), [SIC\(0.6,0.4\)](#), [M06-2X](#): comparable with MP2 calculation.
- c. Condensed phase  
[SIC\(0.6,0.4\)](#) and [ADMM](#): same electron structure  
Free energy ? ( in progress)
- d. [ADMM hybrid](#): promising in both efficiency and accuracy for condensed DNA systems with excess electron.

(not published)

## Collaborators:

- ✓ Maeve McAllister
- ✓ Gareth Tribello
- ✓ Maeve Smyth
- ✓ Lila Bouessel du Bourg

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