

# Wave function embedding methods and excited states:

## A guide to the perplexed

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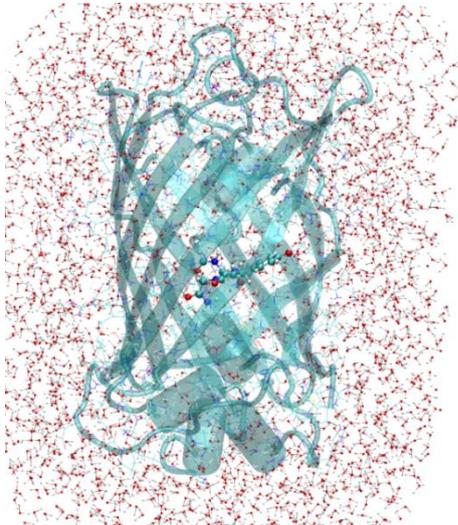
University of Münster, Germany

Vallico del Sotto, Tuscany, Italy, 27 July 2014

# Excitations in complex environments

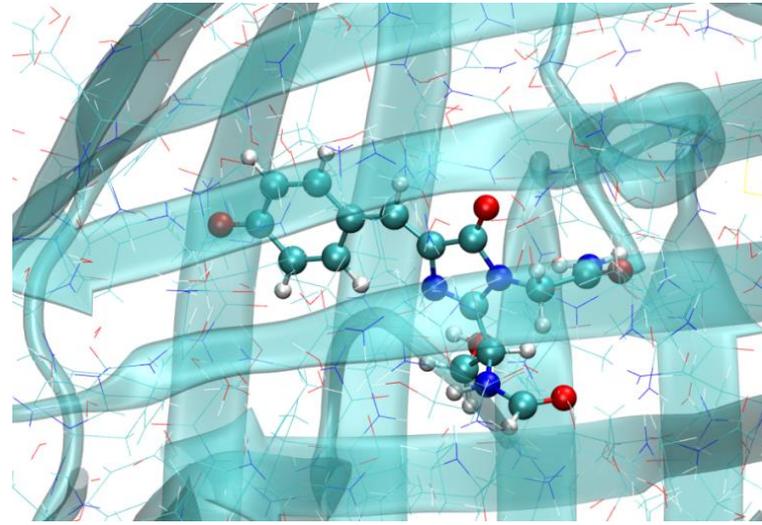
**Goal:** Describe excited states of photoactive biosystems as GFP, rhodopsin...

Full system



5000 atoms

Chromophore



50-100 atoms

## Some choices are needed

- Quantum method to describe the photo-excited chromophore
- Embedding approach to describe the environment

# Dramatis personæ

A zoo of methods for excited states

- Wavefunction-based approaches:  
CASSCF, CASPT2, CC2, CCSD, SAC-CI etc.
- What about QMC?



It typically loses in speed to CC/PT2 for small systems

but recovers for big systems, owing to favourable scaling ( $N^4$  versus  $>N^5$ )

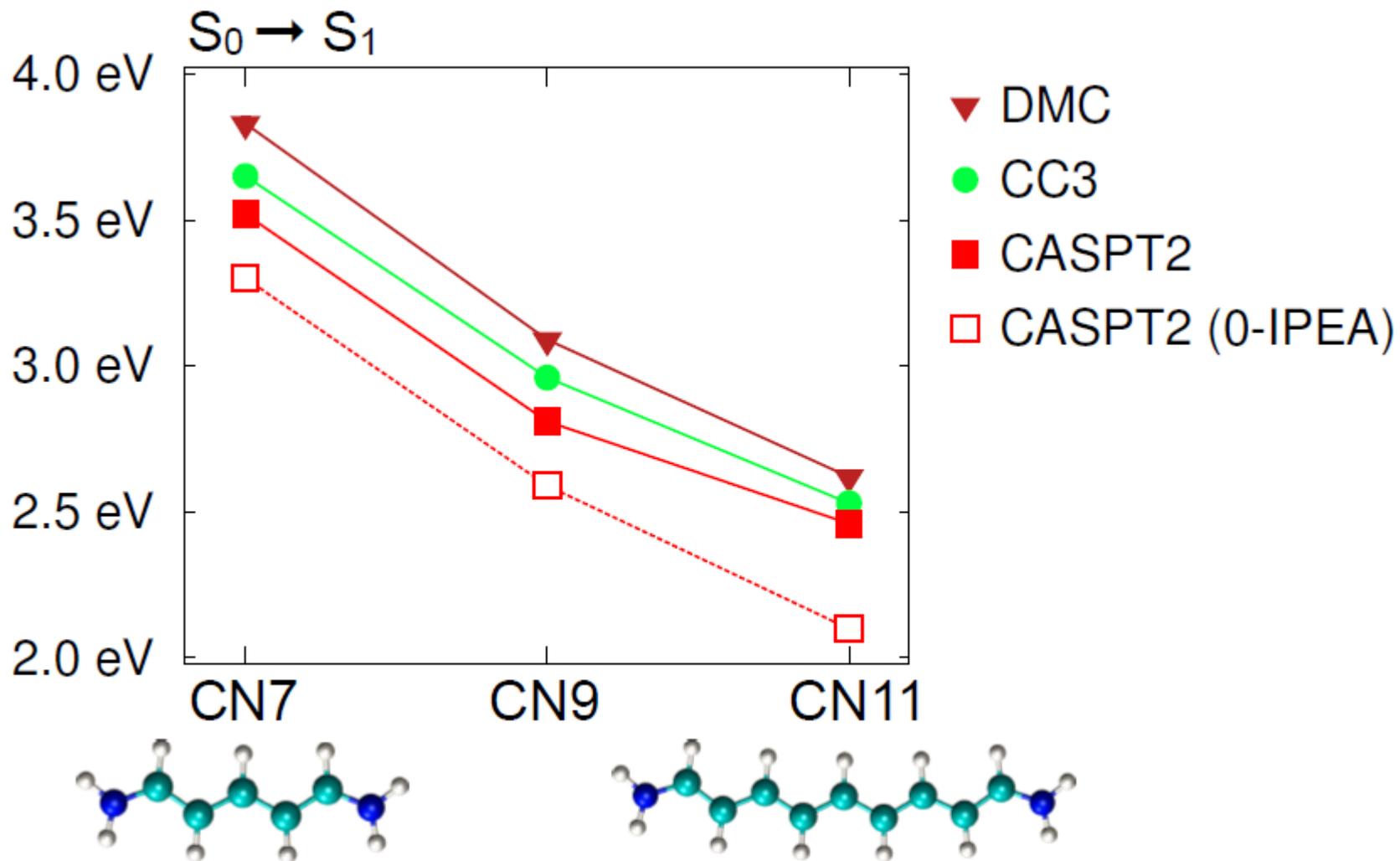
- TDDFT

Popular due to low cost but can we really rely on it?

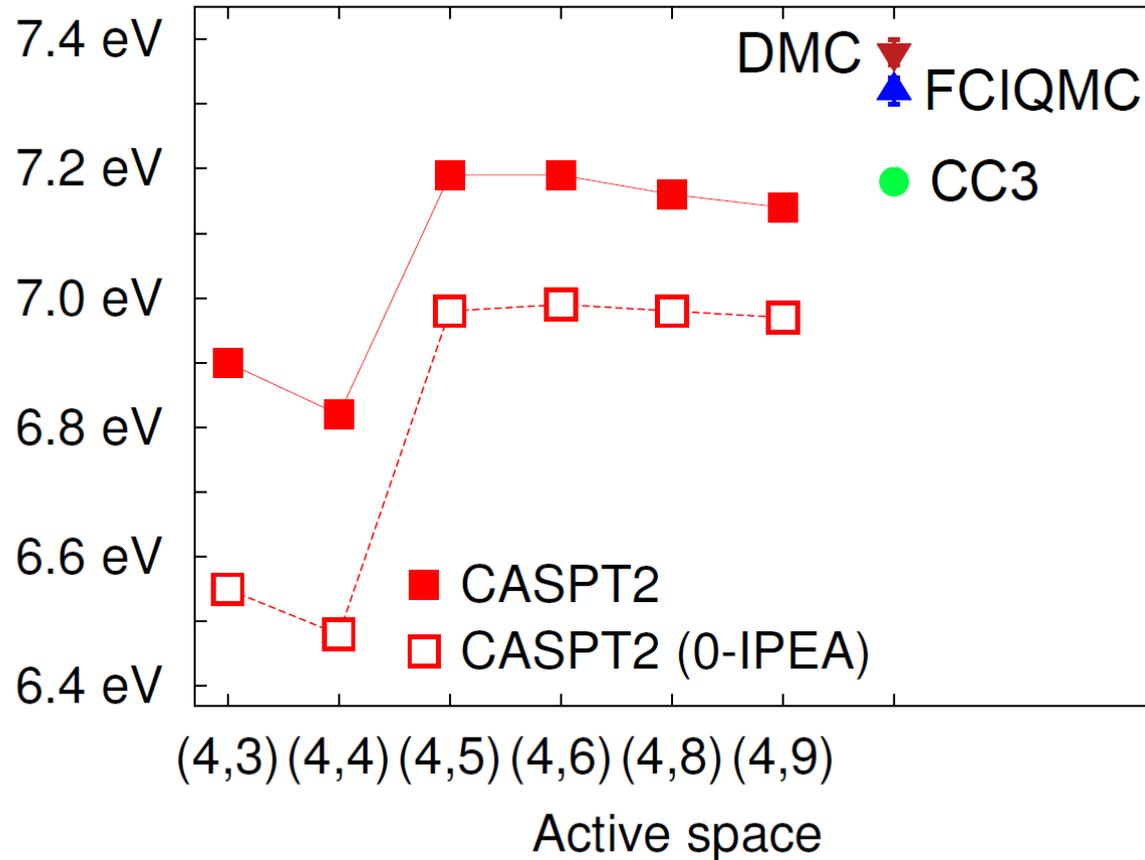
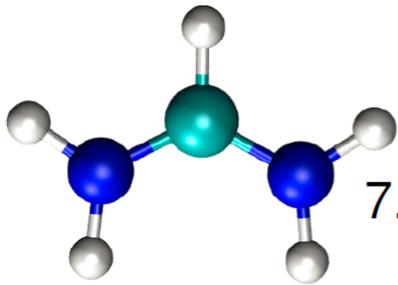
Problems with charge transfer, multireference transitions

# Prelude: Which WF method?

Typical example: Cyanine dyes

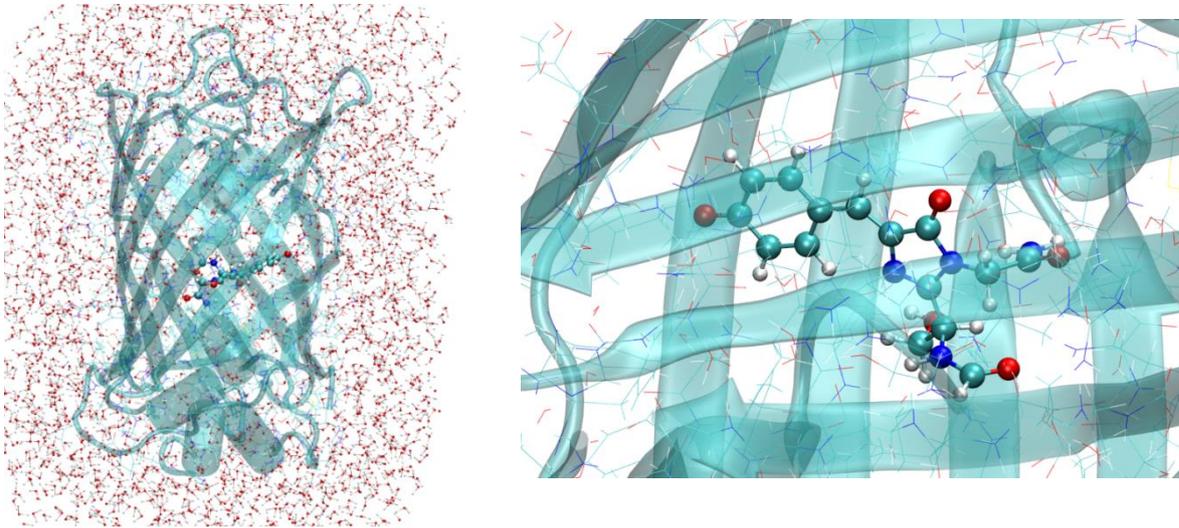


# Prelude: Which WF methods?



... perturbative approaches are dominant in photo-chemistry!

# Beyond the gas phase: Is QM/MM good enough?



## Commonly used recipe for excited-state calculations

- Quantum chromophore in static classical point charges (QM/MM)
- Failures: 0.3-0.5 eV error for GFP, rhodopsin absorption (CAS/NEVPT2, QMC)

Filippi et al. JCTC 2012; Amat et al. JCTC 2013; Valsson et al. JCTC, 2013

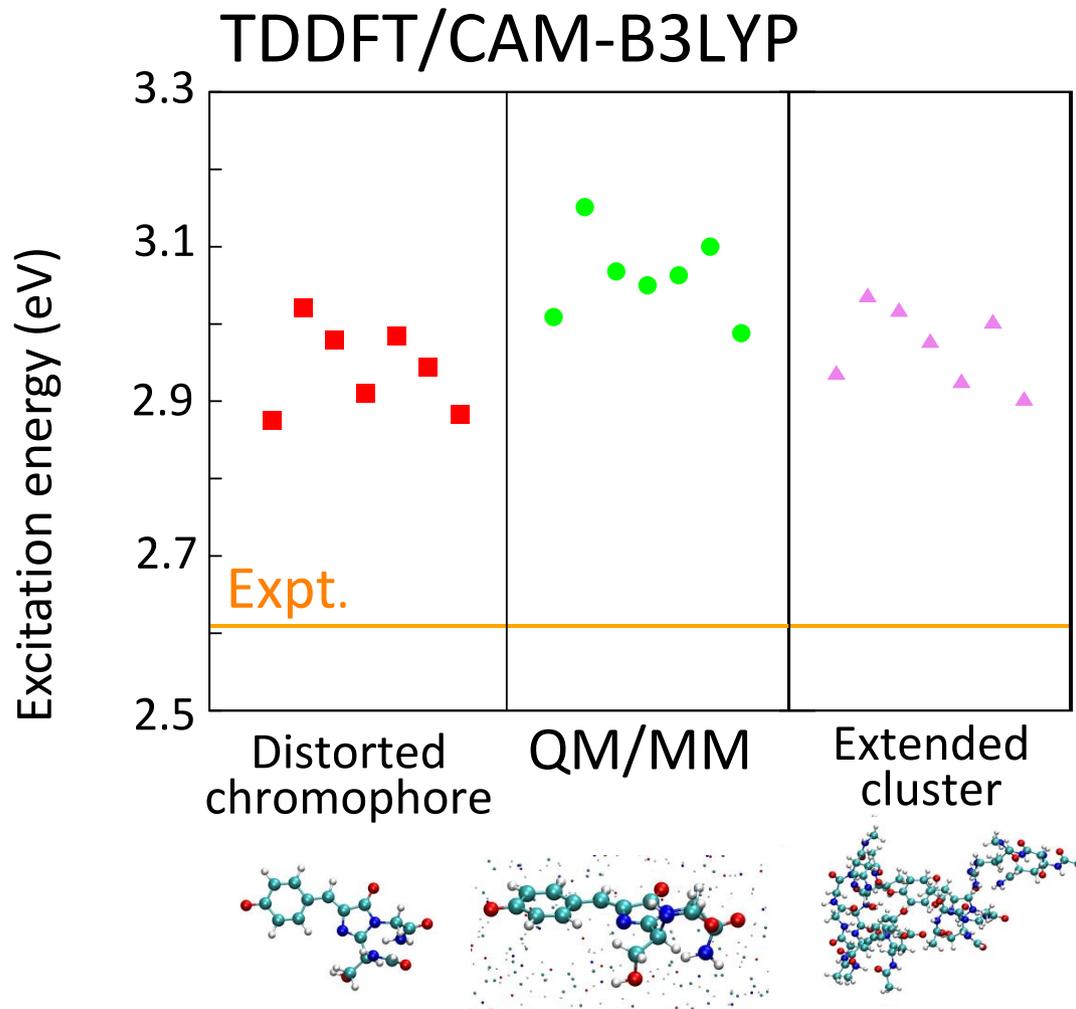


# GFP: How are we doing?

TDDFT blue-shifted but applicable up to **300 atoms**

QM/MM  $\rightarrow$  cluster: Red-shift of about 0.1 eV

Correlated methods?

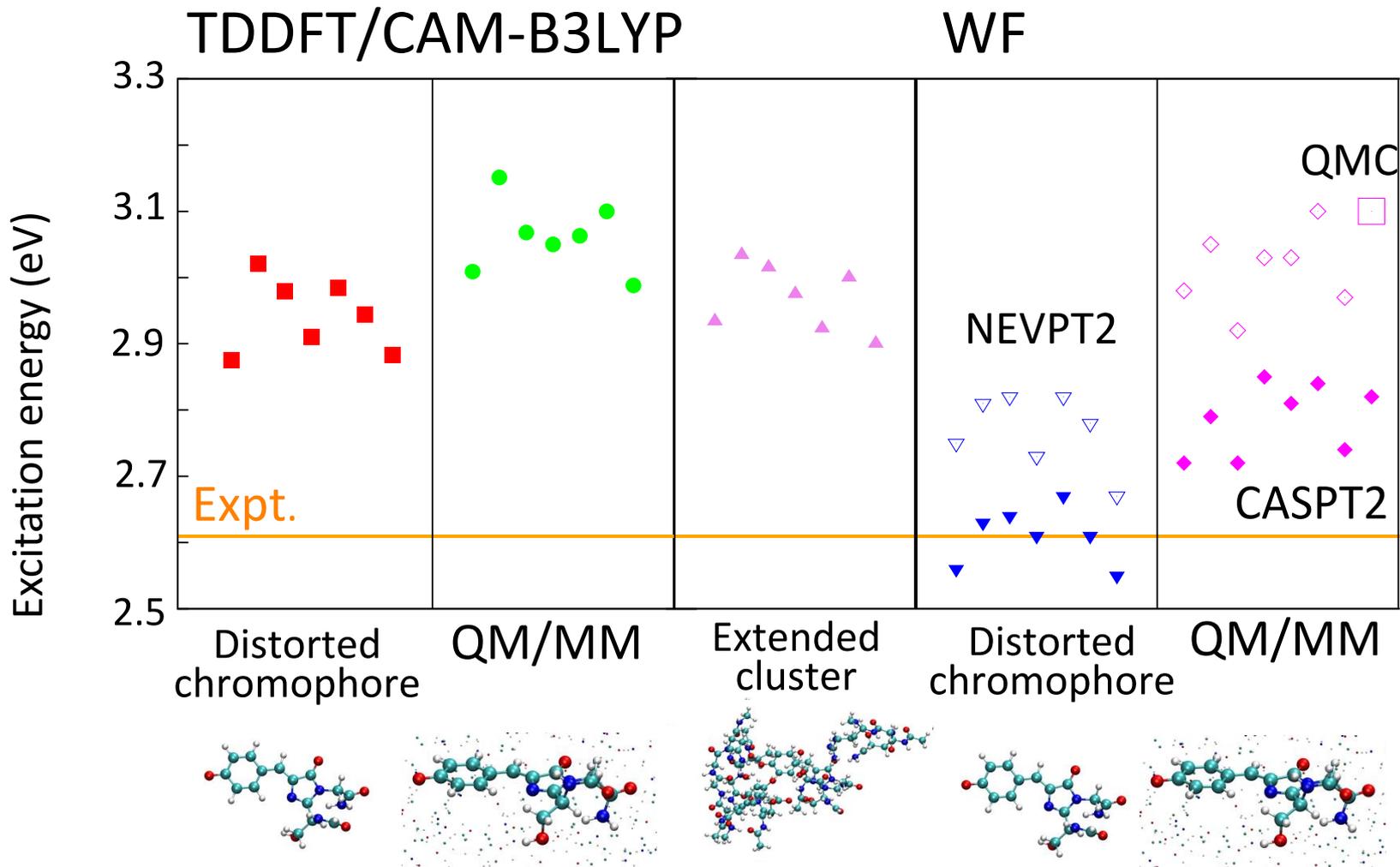


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Correlated methods? Qualitatively similar but stronger response

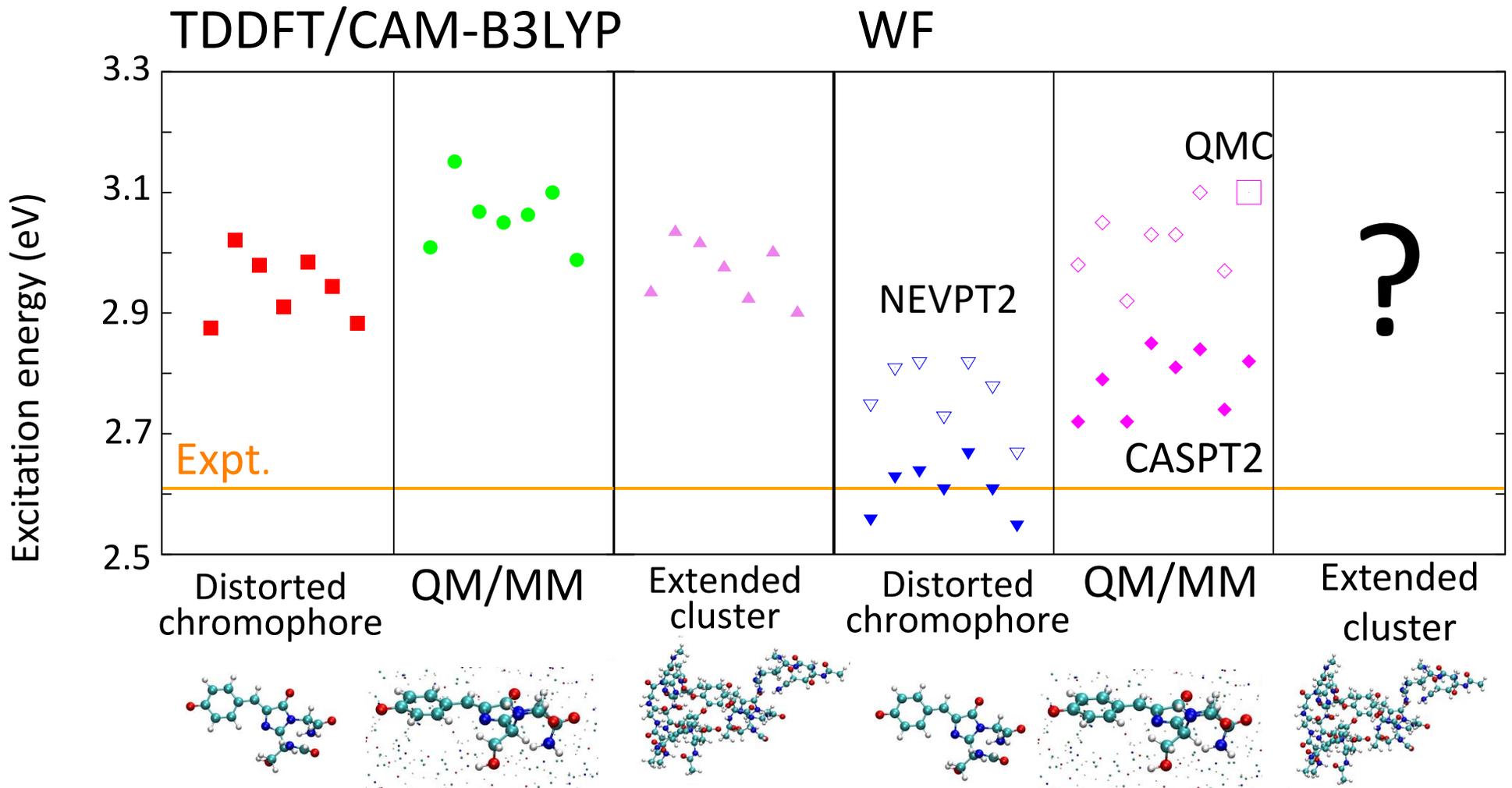


# GFP: How are we doing?

TDDFT blue-shifted but applicable up to **300 atoms**

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Correlated methods? Qualitatively similar but stronger response



# Beyond QM/MM

How to improve static MM environment?

- Description of the ground state  
Reparametrization, polarizable dipoles, or DFT embedding
- Improving excited-state description  
Allow a responsive environment (relaxing dipoles/density)

Pitfalls in classical route:

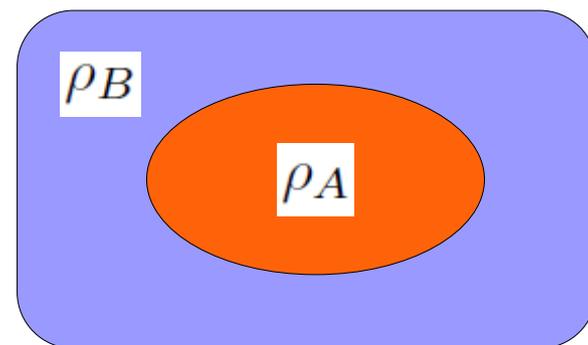
- Reparametrization: costly and not well-defined
- No Pauli repulsion

What about DFT embedding?

# Subsystem DFT (quick reminder)

Partition system in two parts:

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \rho_A(\mathbf{r}) + \rho_B(\mathbf{r});$$
$$N = N_A + N_B$$



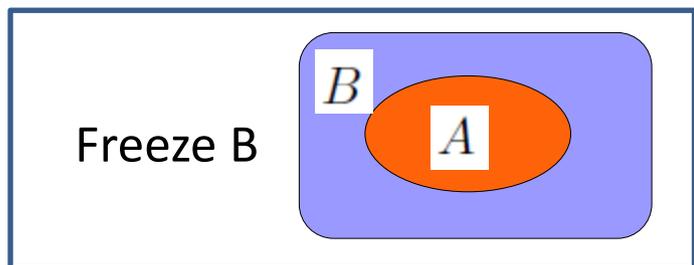
The energy of the total system is written as

$$E_{(A+B)}[\rho_A + \rho_B] = E_A[\rho_A] + E_B[\rho_B] + \underbrace{\left( E_{(A+B)}[\rho_A + \rho_B] - E_A[\rho_A] - E_B[\rho_B] \right)}_{E_{\text{int}}[\rho_A, \rho_B]}$$

where  $E_i[\rho_i] = T_s[\rho_i] + J[\rho_i] + V_{\text{nuc}i}[\rho_i] + E_{\text{xc}}[\rho_i] \quad i = A, B, A + B$

$$E_{\text{int}}[\rho_A, \rho_B] = J[\rho_A, \rho_B] + V_{\text{nuc}A}[\rho_B] + V_{\text{nuc}B}[\rho_A] + T_s^{\text{nadd}}[\rho_A, \rho_B] + E_{\text{xc}}^{\text{nadd}}[\rho_A, \rho_B]$$

# Convergence: Freeze-and-thaw cycles



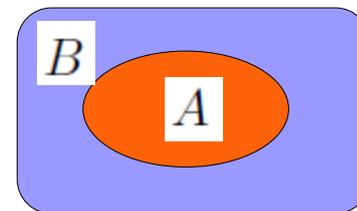
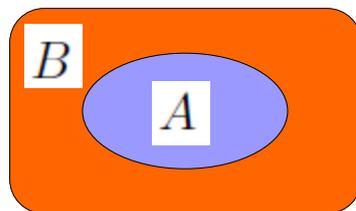
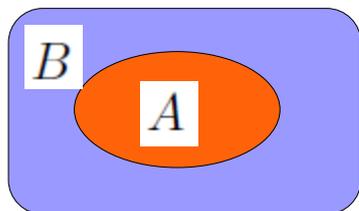
and minimize with respect to  $\rho_A$

$$\left(-\frac{1}{2}\nabla^2 + v_{\text{KS}}[\rho_A](\mathbf{r}) + v^{\text{emb}}[\rho_A, \rho_B](\mathbf{r})\right)\varphi_i^A(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon_i\varphi_i^A(\mathbf{r})$$

$$v_{\text{KS}}[\rho_A](\mathbf{r}) = v_{\text{nucA}}(\mathbf{r}) + \int \frac{\rho_A(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d\mathbf{r}' + v_{\text{xc}}[\rho_A](\mathbf{r})$$

$$v^{\text{emb}}[\rho_A, \rho_B](\mathbf{r}) = v_{\text{nucB}}(\mathbf{r}) + \int \frac{\rho_B(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d\mathbf{r}' + \frac{\delta E_{\text{xc}}^{\text{nadd}}[\rho_A, \rho_B]}{\delta \rho_A(\mathbf{r})} + \frac{\delta T_{\text{s}}^{\text{nadd}}[\rho_A, \rho_B]}{\delta \rho_A(\mathbf{r})}$$

Alternate:



# Treating the active part at WF level

Treat the active system with a wavefunction method (WF/DFT) and substitute

$$E_A^{\text{DFT}}[\rho_A] \rightarrow E_A^{\text{WF}}[\Psi_A]$$

$$E_A^{\text{WF}}[\Psi_A] = \langle \Psi_A | \sum_i \left( -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_i^2 + v_{\text{nucA}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \right) + \sum_{i < j} \frac{1}{r_{ij}} | \Psi_A \rangle$$

so that

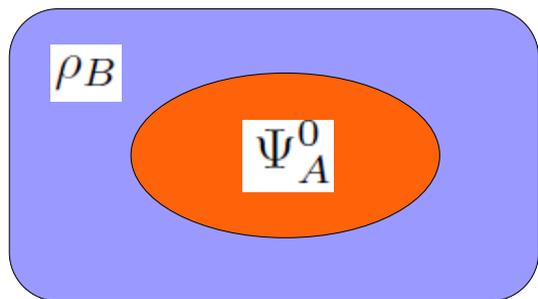
$$E_{(A+B)}[\Psi_A, \rho_B] = E_A^{\text{WF}}[\Psi_A] + E_B^{\text{DFT}}[\rho_B] + E_{\text{int}}[\rho_A^{\text{WF}}, \rho_B]$$

where  $E_{\text{int}}$  is as before

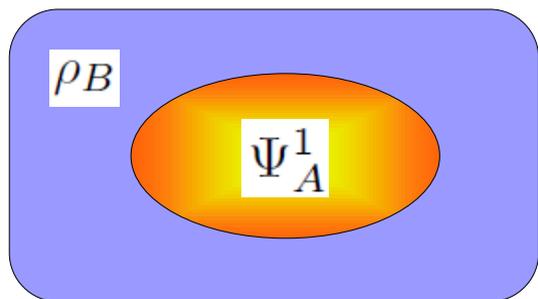
# Excited states in WF/DFT: Polarization

Minimization with respect to  $\Psi_A \longrightarrow H^{\text{emb}}\Psi_A = E_A^{\text{emb}}\Psi_A$

$$H^{\text{emb}} = \sum_i \left( -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_i^2 + v_{\text{nucA}}(\mathbf{r}_i) + v_{\text{emb}}(\mathbf{r}_i) \right) + \sum_{i < j} \frac{1}{r_{ij}}$$



Ground state  $\Psi_A^0$  and **excited states**  $\Psi_A^1, \Psi_A^2, \dots$

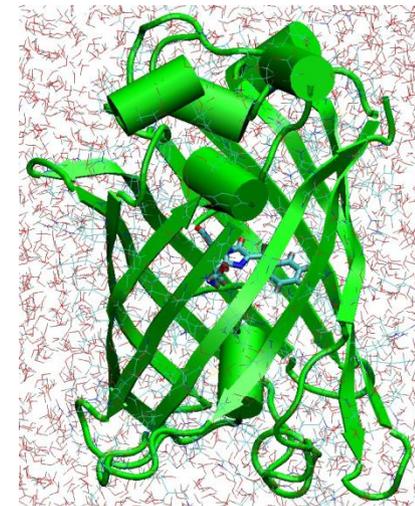
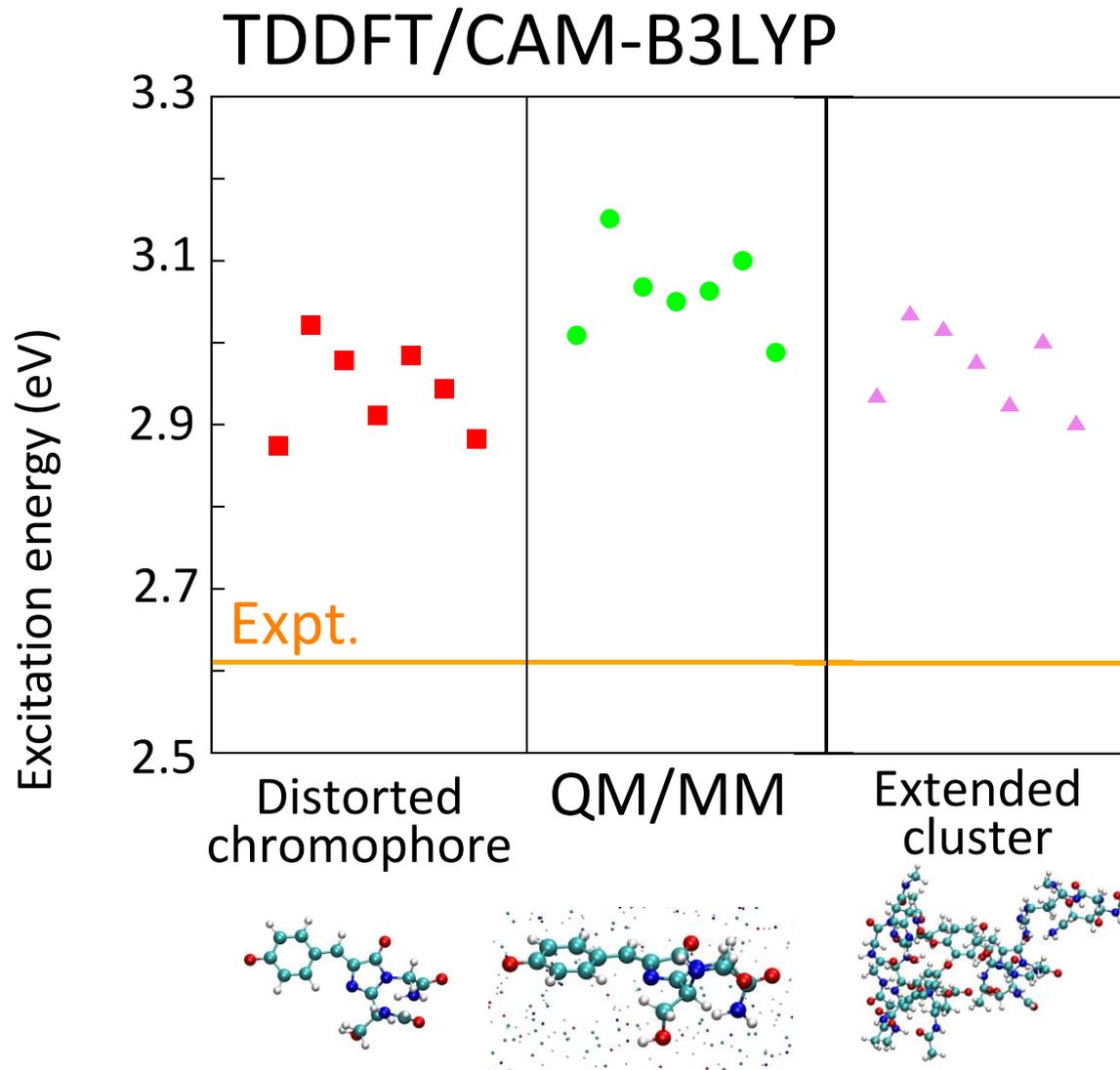


$$E_{\text{exc}} \approx \langle \Psi_A^1 | H^{\text{emb}} | \Psi_A^1 \rangle - \langle \Psi_A^0 | H^{\text{emb}} | \Psi_A^0 \rangle$$

# GFP: How are we doing?

TDDFT/DFT embedding: 4-5 hours instead of 7 days!

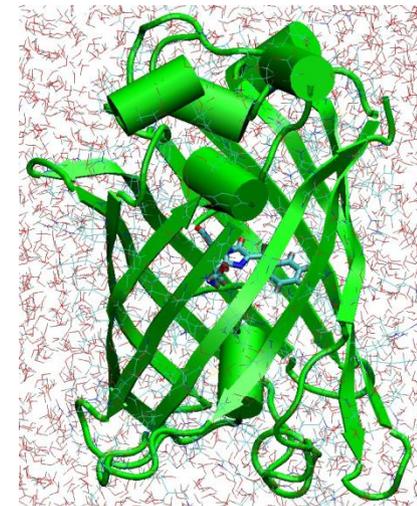
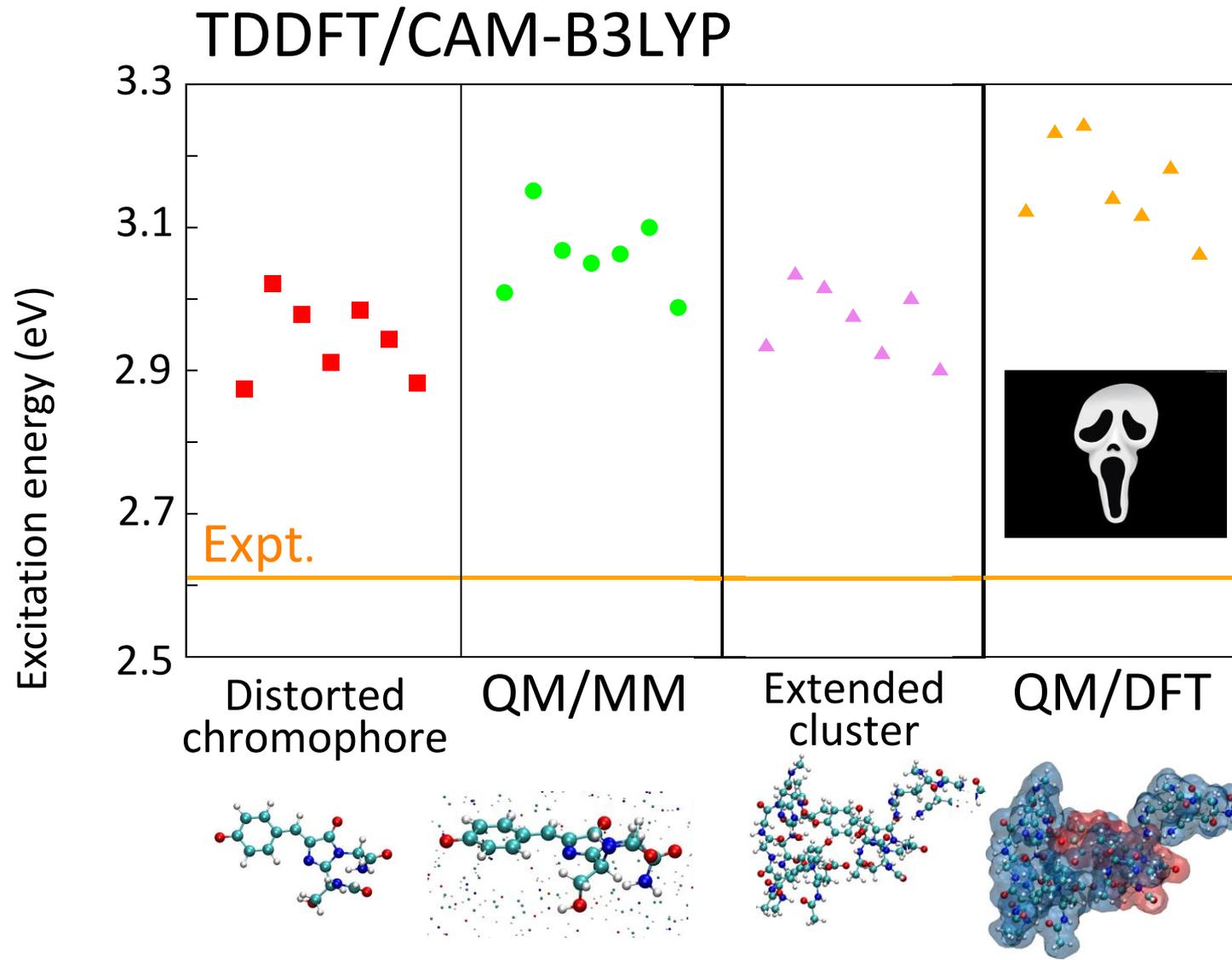
But does it work?



# GFP: How are we doing?

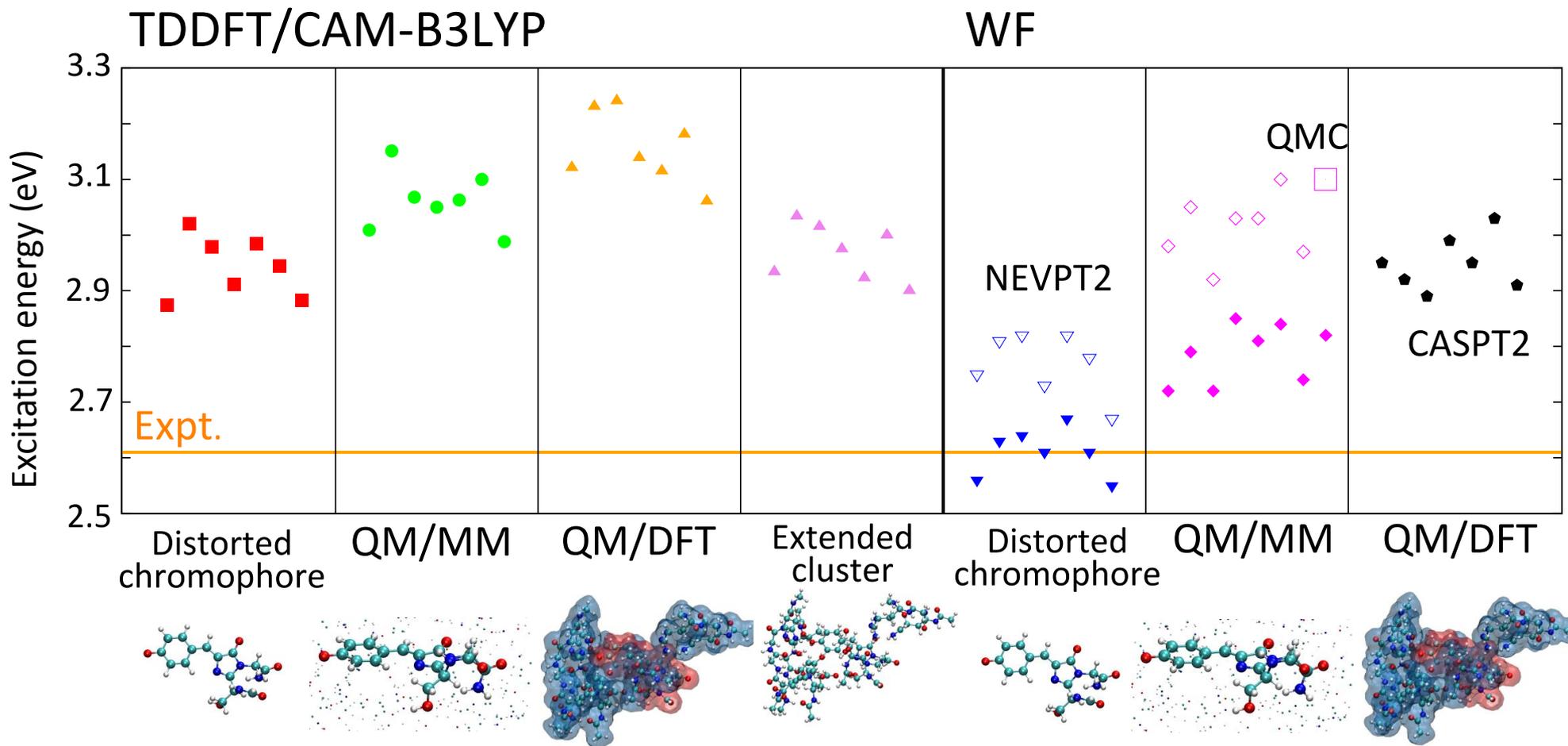
TDDFT/DFT embedding: 4-5 hours instead of 7 days !

It does not work! What went wrong? Is it only an issue with TDDFT?



# GFP: TDDFT vs correlated methods

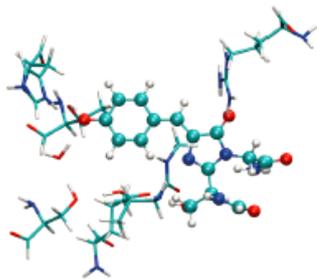
Embedding failure! What went wrong? Is it only an issue with TDDFT?



PT2/DFT behaves the same. What is missing from the embedding scheme?

# GFP: DFT embedding and cluster size

CASPT2-in-DFT: What if we increase the environment?



#atoms

168

QM/DFT

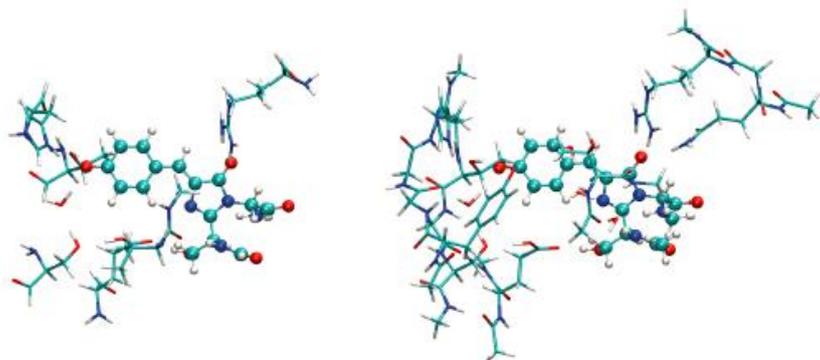
2.90 eV

Expt.: 2.63 eV



# GFP: DFT embedding and cluster size

CASPT2-in-DFT: What if we increase the environment?



#atoms

168

279

QM/DFT

2.90 eV

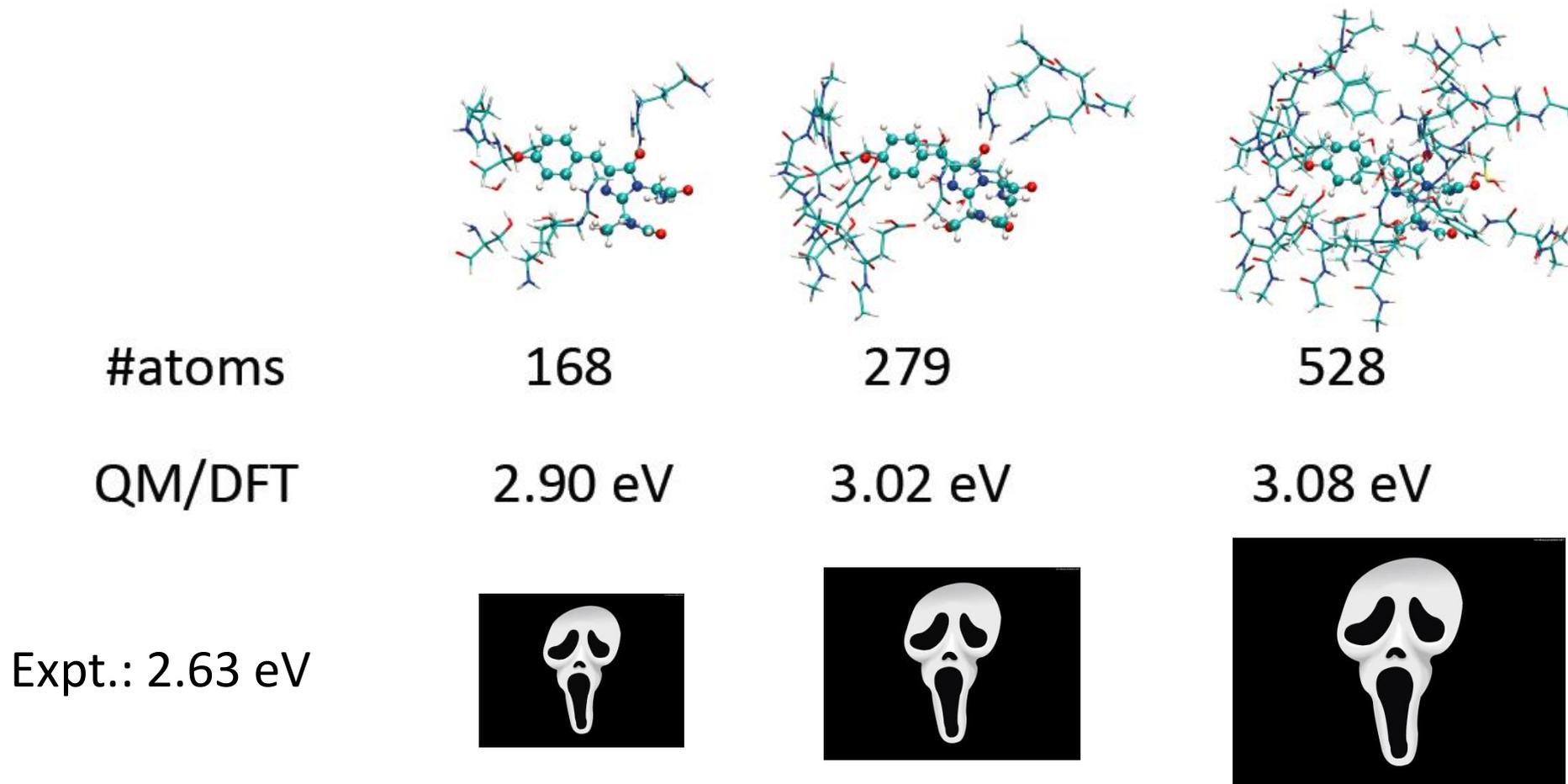
3.02 eV

Expt.: 2.63 eV



# GFP: DFT embedding and cluster size

CASPT2-in-DFT: What if we increase the environment?

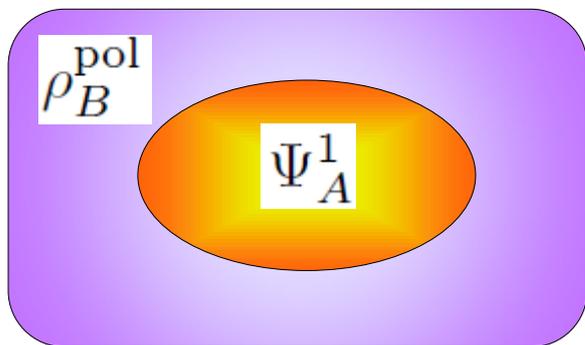
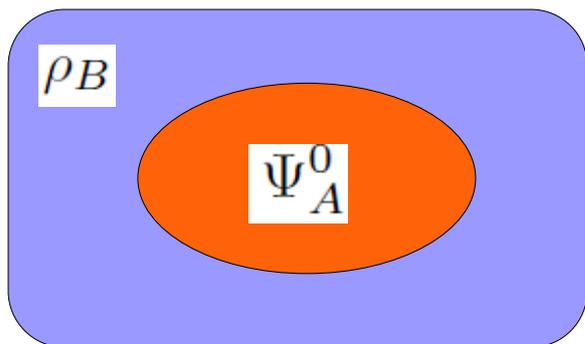


The bigger the cluster, the bigger the blue shift

# Is a responsive environment the solution?

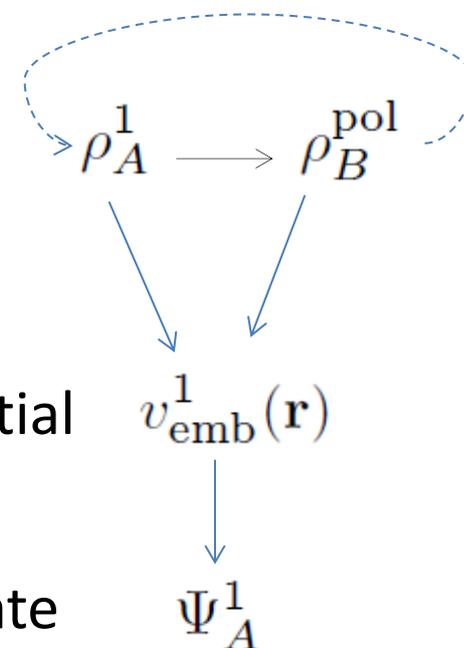
Let us try to include response from the environment in WF/DFT

1. Approximate excited-state DFT density of system A
2. Relax B in DFT ground state



State-specific embedding potential

One WF calculation for each state



# Treating changes in environment

$$H^{\text{emb},0} = \sum_i \left( -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_i^2 + v_{\text{nucA}}(\mathbf{r}_i) + v_{\text{emb}}^0(\mathbf{r}_i) \right) + \sum_{i < j} \frac{1}{r_{ij}}$$

$$H^{\text{emb},1} = \sum_i \left( -\frac{1}{2} \nabla_i^2 + v_{\text{nucA}}(\mathbf{r}_i) + v_{\text{emb}}^1(\mathbf{r}_i) \right) + \sum_{i < j} \frac{1}{r_{ij}}$$

The best approximation for the excitation is:

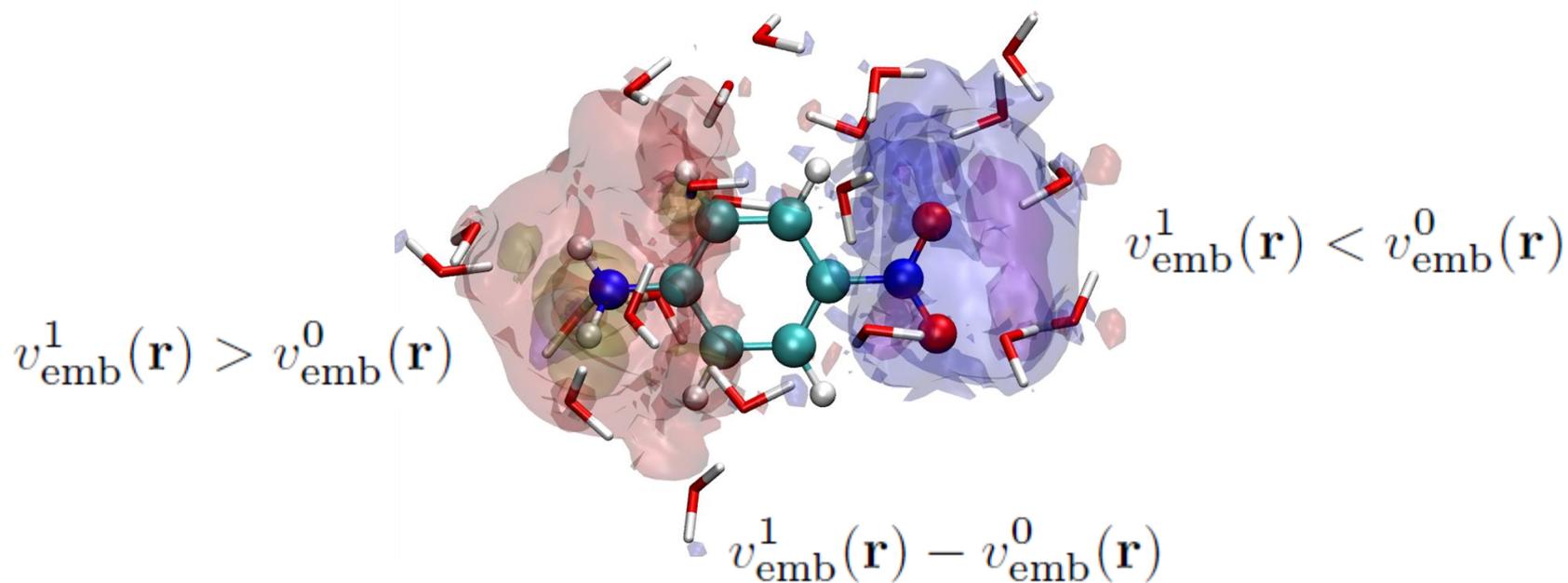
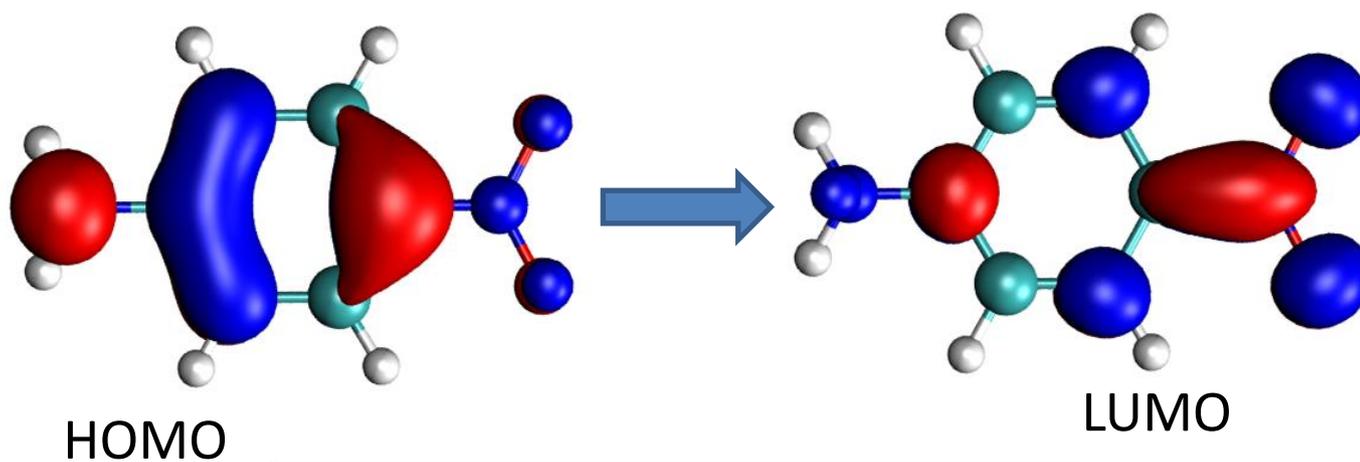
$$E_{\text{exc}} \approx \langle \Psi_A^1 | H^{\text{emb},1} | \Psi_A^1 \rangle - \langle \Psi_A^0 | H^{\text{emb},0} | \Psi_A^0 \rangle +$$

$$\underbrace{E_{\text{DFT}}[\rho_B^{\text{pol}}] - E_{\text{DFT}}[\rho_B] + V_{\text{nucA}}[\rho_B^{\text{pol}}] - V_{\text{nucA}}[\rho_B]}_{E_{\text{cor}}}$$

$E_{\text{cor}}$  includes changes in the energy which do not depend explicitly on  $\Psi_A$

# Smaller test first: PNA

*p*-nitroaniline as a test case

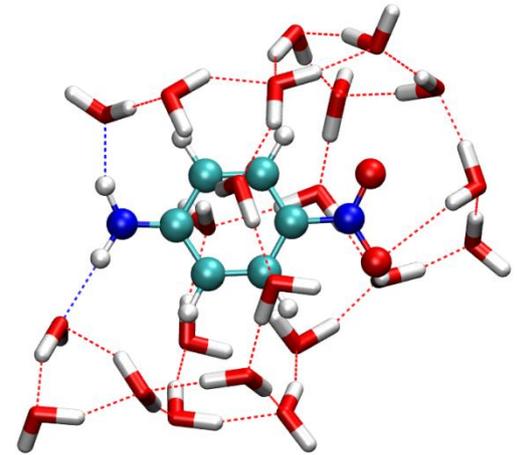


# Back-polarization: PNA

Back-polarization always improves on standard DFT embedding

$E_{\text{pol}}$  → Polarization (ground-state DFT embedding)

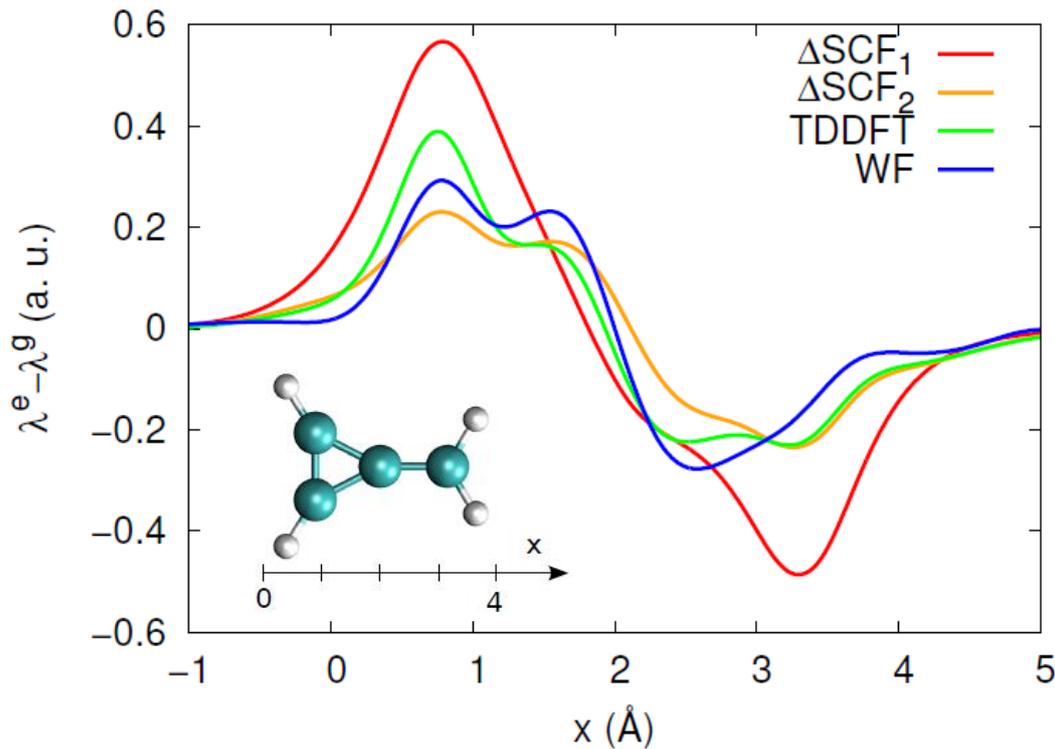
$E_{\text{back}}$  → Back-polarization with correction



conf.	$E_{\text{QM/MM}}$	$E_{\text{pol}}$	$E_{\text{back}}$	$E_{\text{super}}$
1	3.81	3.70	3.48	3.46
2	3.67	3.54	3.48	3.34
3	3.61	3.46	3.47	3.27

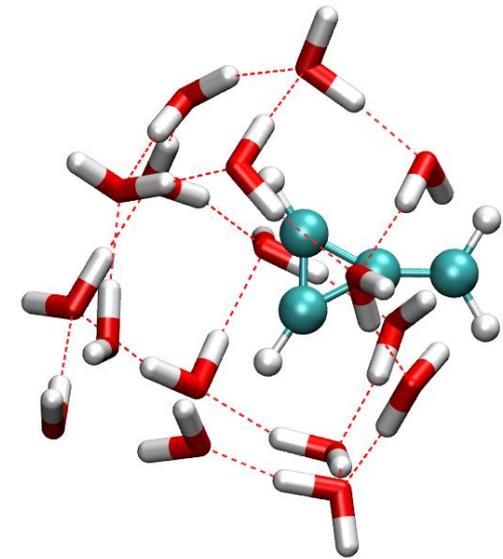
Looks good! Does it always work?

# A more problematic case



Which excited-state density to use?  
Several possibilities within KS DFT

$E_{\text{QM/MM}}$	$E_{\text{pol}}$	$\rho_A^1$	$E_{\text{back}}$	$E_{\text{super}}$
4.88	5.08	SCF <sub>1</sub>	4.75	4.97
		SCF <sub>2</sub>	4.87	
		WF	4.88	



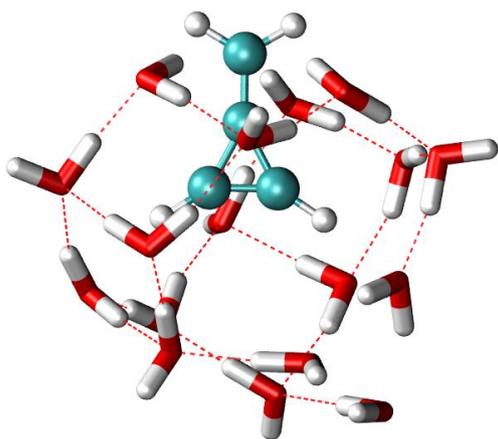
C. Daday, C. König, J. Neugebauer, and C. Filippi, CPC (submitted)

Cheaper alternative: TDDFT densities (work in progress)

# Other WF methods?

Very consistent response to embedding potentials

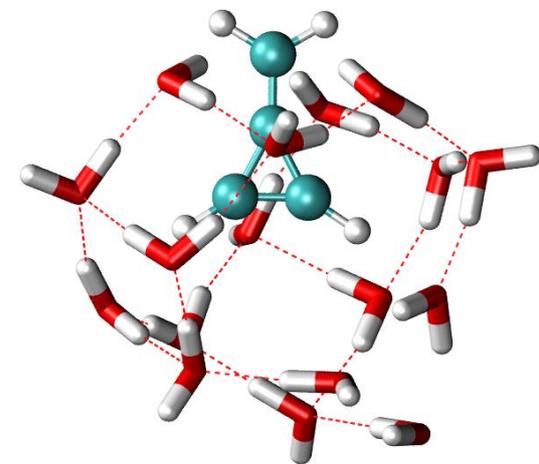
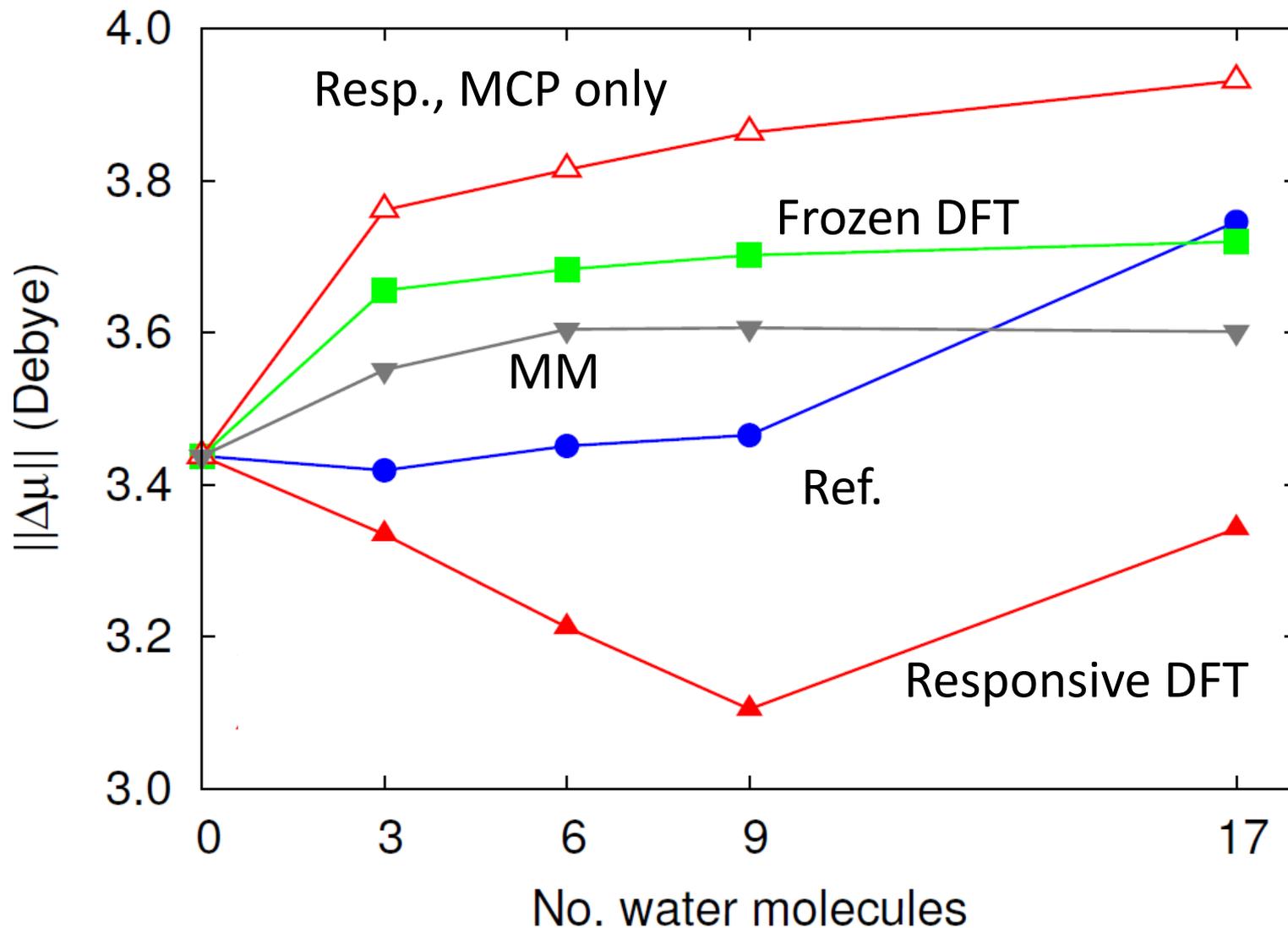
The choice of WF method is not the issue



	<b>WF/DFT</b>		<b>super</b>
	frozen	responsive	
CASPT2	5.09	4.87	4.97
CCSDR(3)	5.12	4.90	-
DMC	5.18(1)	5.00(1)	5.07(4)

C. Daday, C. König, J. Neugebauer, and C. Filippi, CPC (submitted)

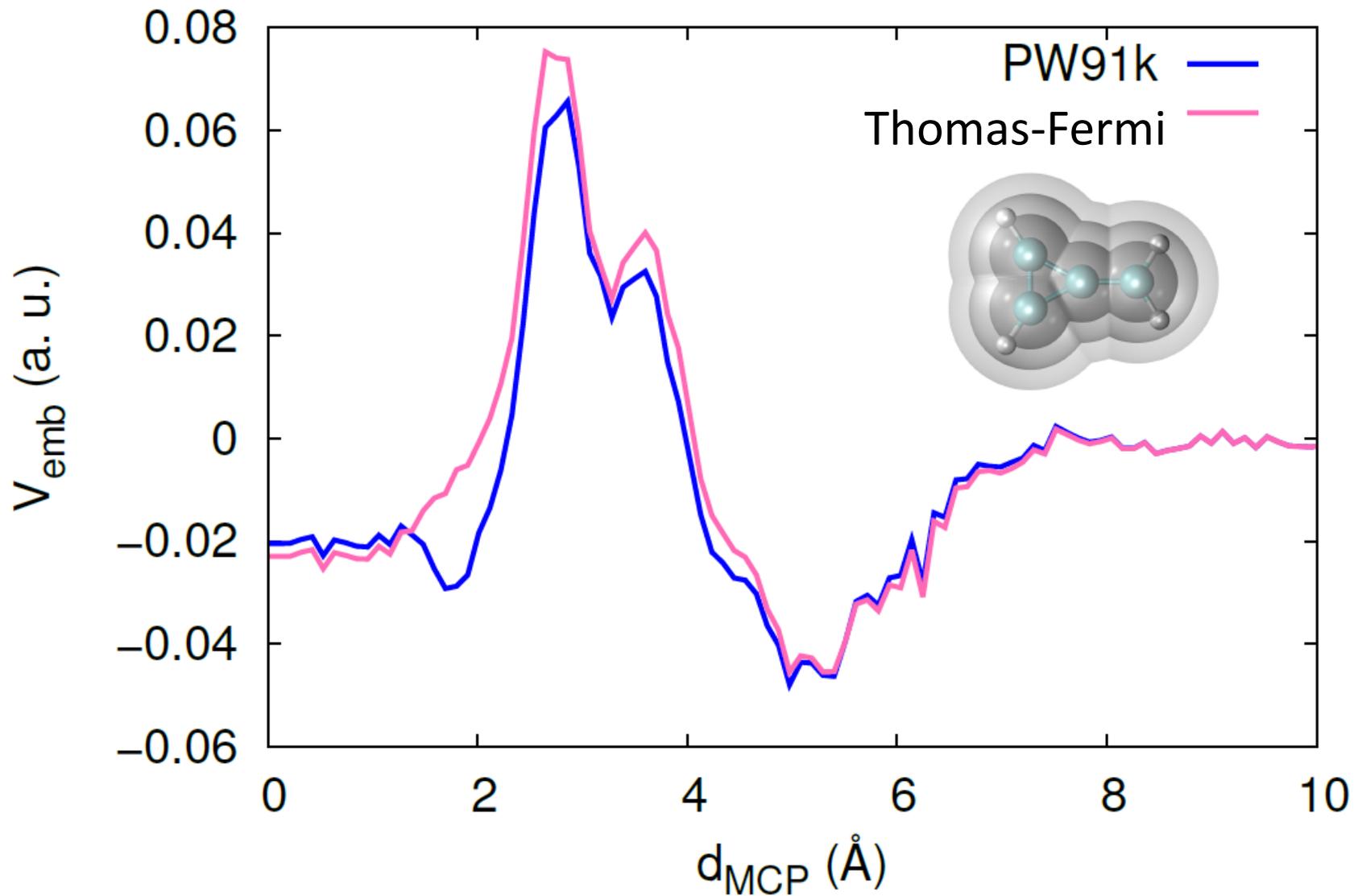
# Looking deeper: Dipole moments



Our scheme **overpolarizes** the environment in excited state

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# Looking deeper: The barrier



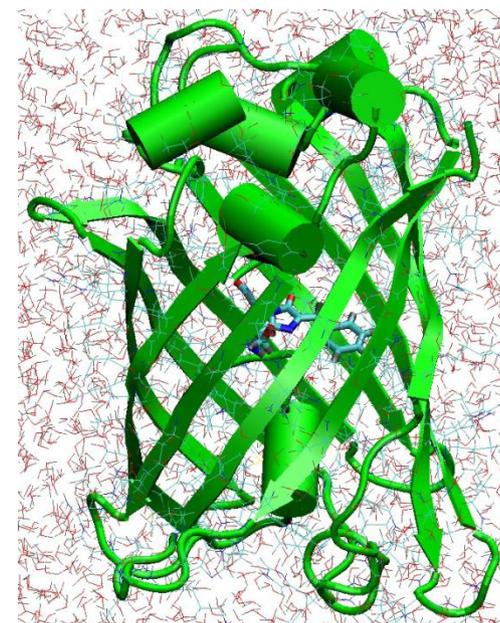
The kinetic-energy functional creates a large barrier around the WF region

# Back to GFP...

PT2/DFT with a frozen environment significantly worse than QM/MM ...

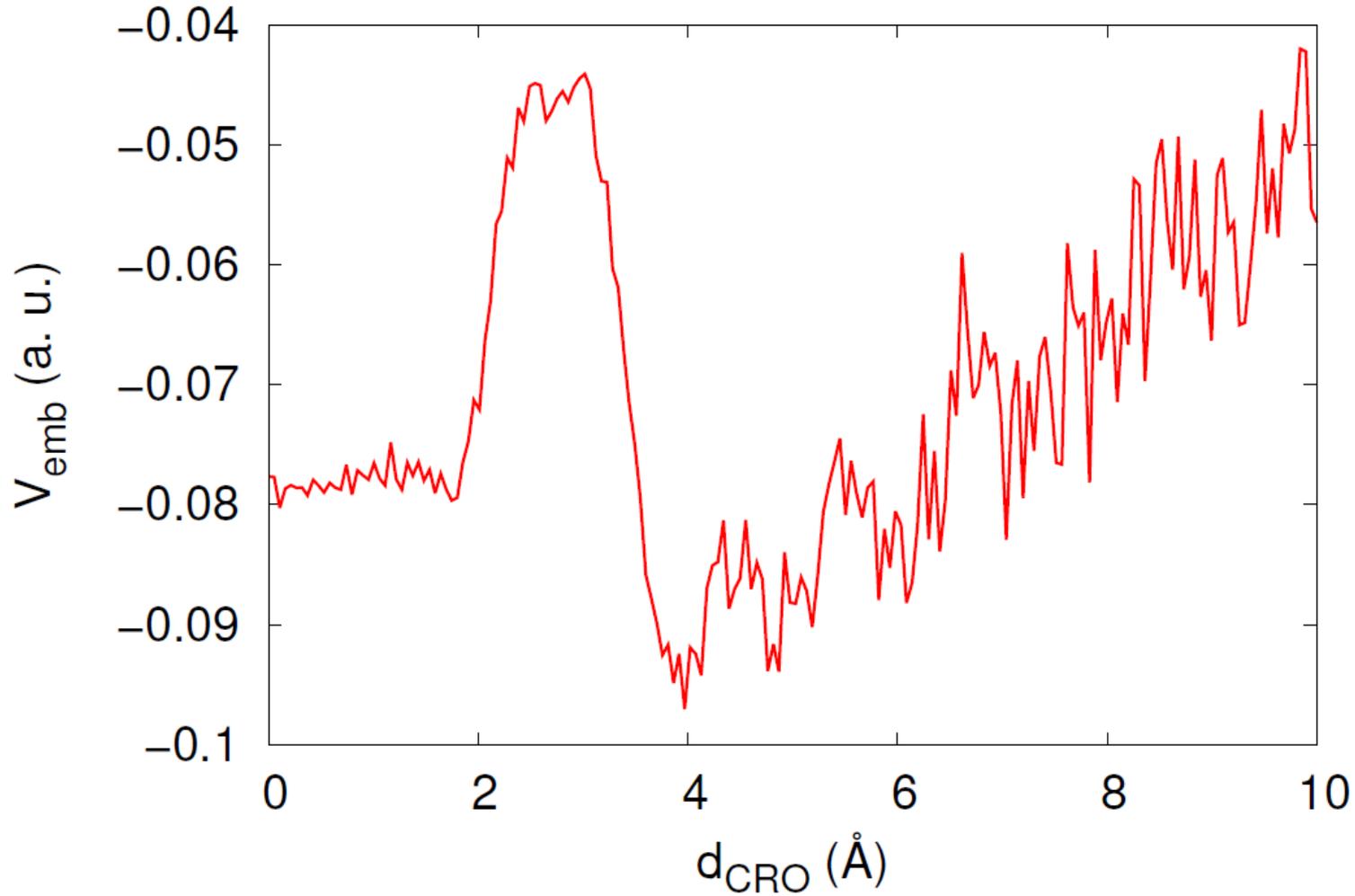
Responsive environment: No changes!

QM/MM	CASPT2/DFT		Exp.
	frozen	responsive	
2.72	2.95	2.95	2.63
2.82	3.07	3.06	



Suspect: Strong localization introduced by kinetic-energy potential

# The barrier: Reprise



Possible reason for blue shift: The barrier is too steep/high

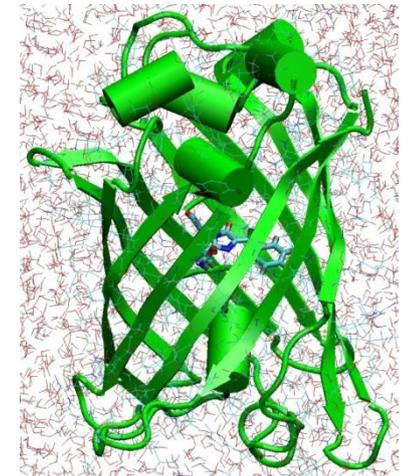
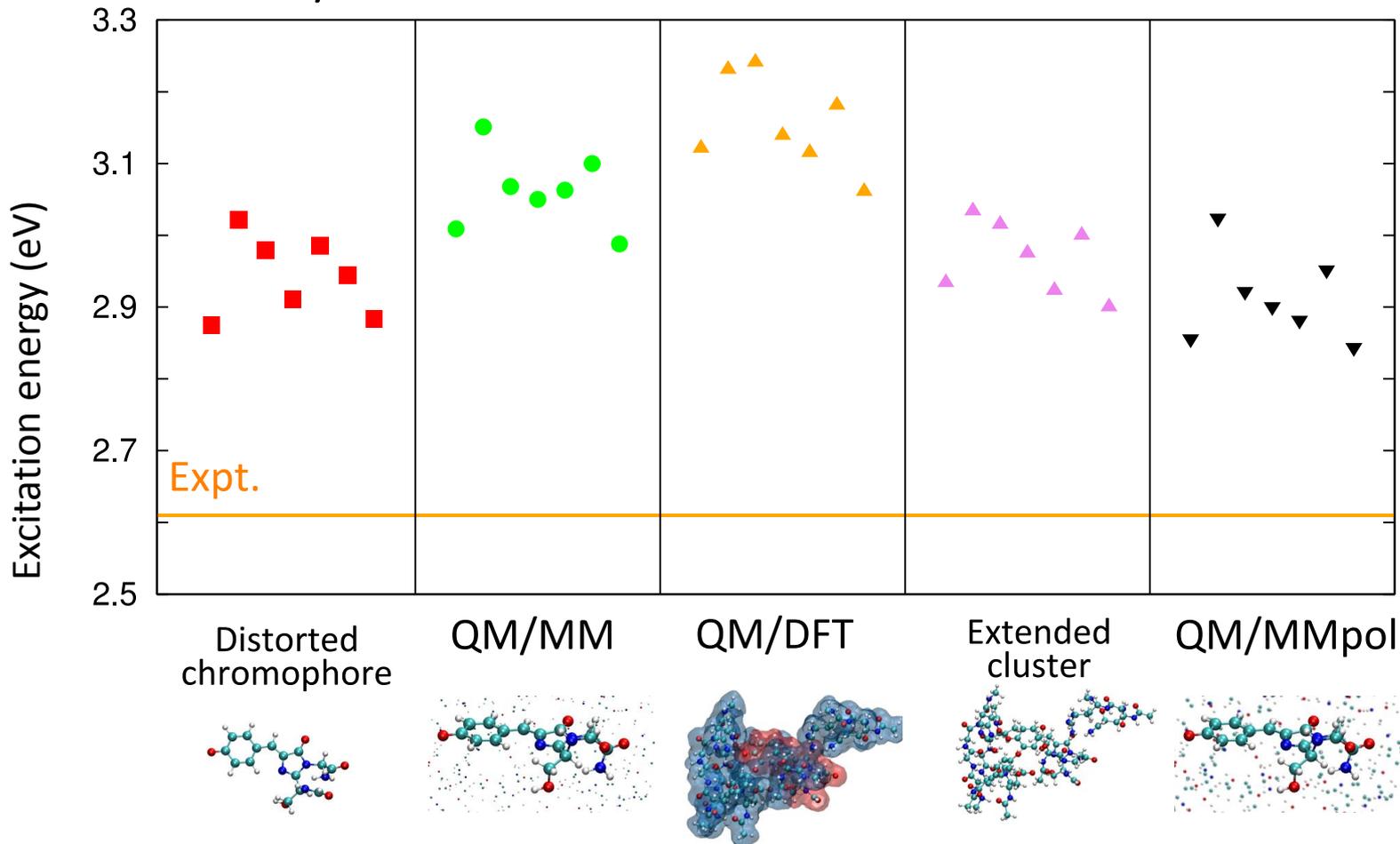
# Other ways forward?

- Reconstructed embedding potential

$$\rho = \rho_A + \rho_B \longrightarrow v_s(\mathbf{r}) \text{ to yield ground-state } \rho_A$$

- Go back to polarizable dipoles? First tests on TDDFT are promising

TDDFT/CAM-B3LYP



# Conclusions

*“Good news for people who love bad news” (Modest Mouse)*

- QM/MM description is inadequate for GFP, rhodopsin
- WF/DFT embedding: disappointing blue shift for excitations
  - Approximate kinetic-energy functionals are rather crude
  - Possible improvement: Reconstructed potentials
  - Environmental response: No improvement

Currently, QM/MMpol seems to be the more robust alternative

QMC/MMpol implemented in CHAMP and is coming soon for GFP ...

# The end

Thank you for your attention!

Questions/suggestions?

# WF/DFT: Theoretical justification

The formal justification is tenuous:

- Khait and Hoffmann, JCP 133, 044107 (2010)

The WF/DFT formalism is correct **if** the excited-state density is an extremum of the functional

- Perdew and Levy, PRB **31**, 6264 (1985)

All extrema of the energy functional are stationary densities, but the vice versa is **not** true.