

Charge transport in DNA molecular wires: combining molecular dynamics with model Hamiltonian approaches

Rafael Gutierrez
Dresden University of Technology
Germany



Outline

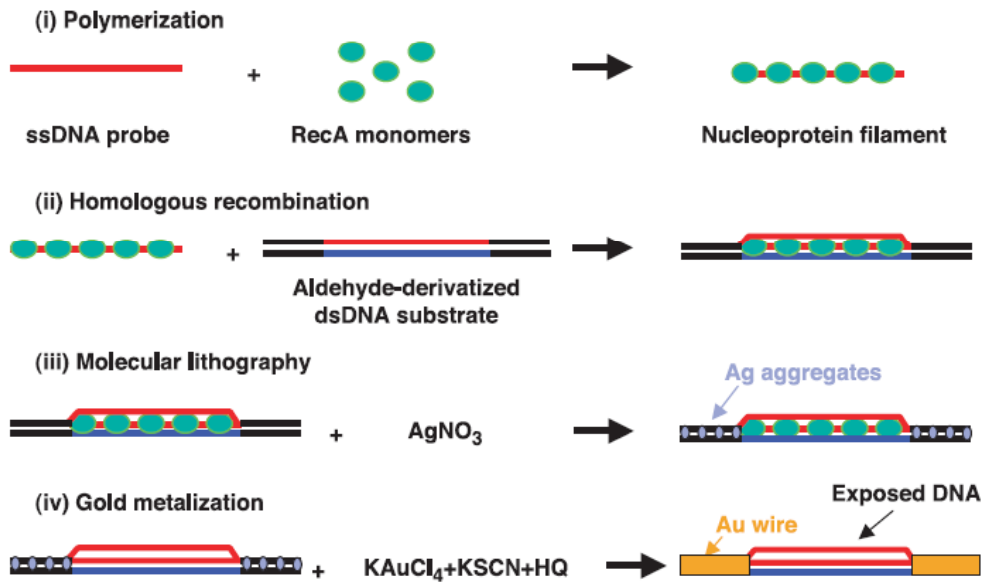
- 1. perspectives for DNA in nanoelectronics**
- 2. electrical transport in DNA: experimental overview**
- 3. modeling charge transport in DNA molecular wires: MD simulations and model Hamiltonians**
- 4. outlook**

1. Perspectives for DNA in nanoelectronics

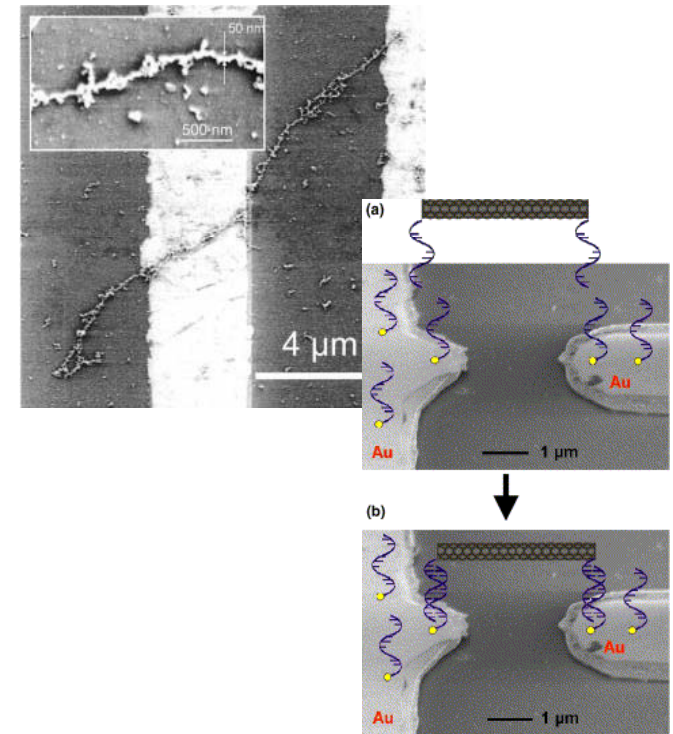
Exploit assembling via self-recognition

Sequence-Specific Molecular Lithography on Single DNA Molecules

K. Keren *et al.*, *Science* 297, 72 (2002)



Construction of highly conductive nanowires on a DNA template
J. Richter *et al.*, *APL*. 78, 536 (2001)



2. Electrical transport in DNA: experimental overview

Very dispersed results

Insulator

- *DNA-templated assembly and electrode attachment of a conducting silver wire*, E. Braun *et al.*, Nature 391, 775 (1998)

Semiconductor

- *Direct Measurements of Electrical Transport Through DNA Molecules* D. Porath *et al.*, Nature 403, 635 (2000)

Conductor (non-zero current at low bias)

- *Direct Conductance Measurement of Single DNA Molecules in Aqueous Solution*, B. Xu, P. Zhang, X. Li, N. Tao, Nano Lett. 4, 1105 (2004).
- *Direct measurement of electrical transport through single DNA molecules of complex sequence*, H. Cohen *et al.*, PNAS 102, 11589 (2005)
- *Direct Electrical Measurements on Single-Molecule Genomic DNA Using Single-Walled Carbon Nanotubes*, S. Roy, *et al.*, Nano Letters 8, 26 (2008)

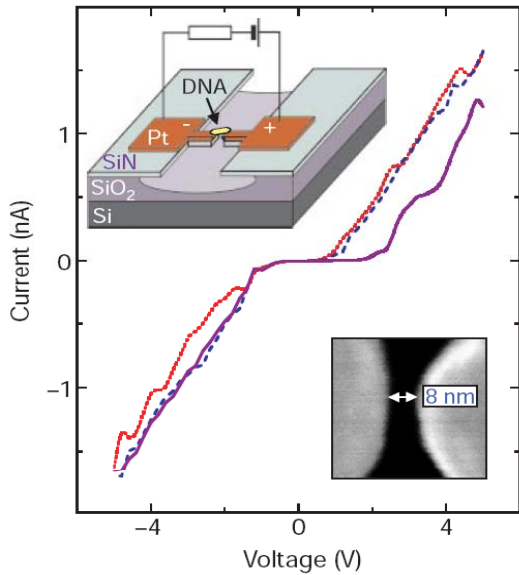
Problem: No systematic studies available (base-sequence effects, solvent, temperature...)

Single molecule measurements

Direct measurement of electrical transport through DNAmolecules

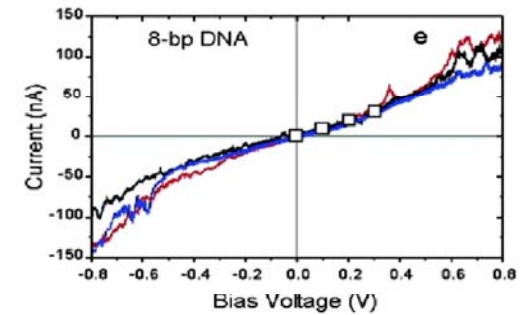
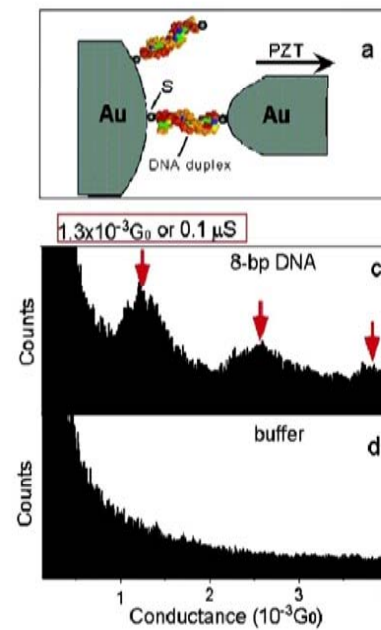
D. Porath, A. Bezryadin, S. de Vries, and C. Dekker, *Nature* **403**, 635 (2000)

poly(G)₃₀-poly(C)₃₀

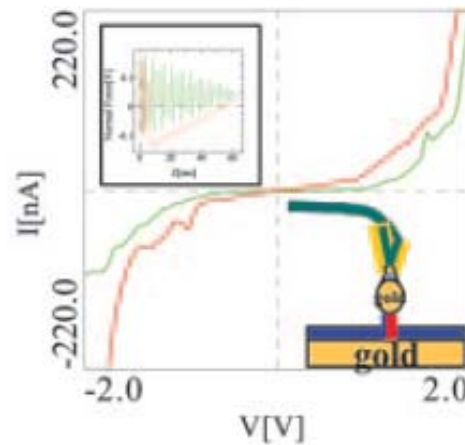
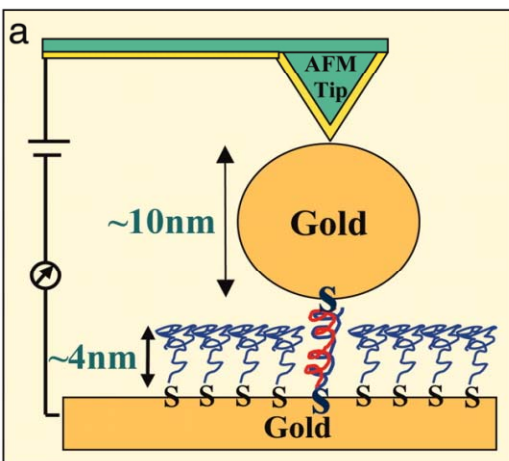


Direct Conductance Measurement of Single DNA Molecules in Aqueous Solution, B. Xu, P. Zhang, X. Li, N. Tao, *Nano Lett.* **4**, 1105 (2004).

wet-Poly(GC)



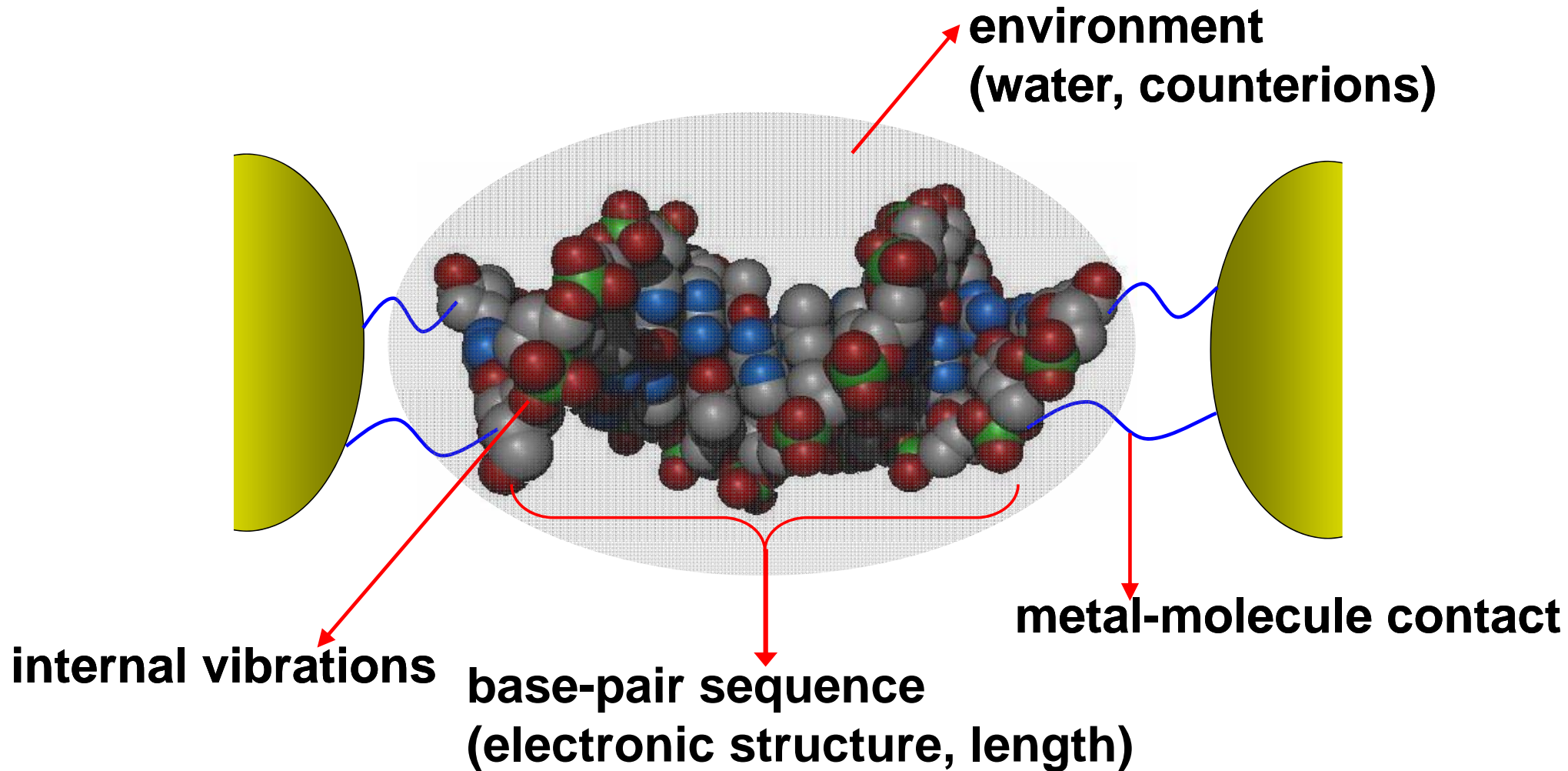
Direct measurement of electrical transport through single DNA molecules of complex sequence, H. Cohen et al., *PNAS* **102**, 11589 (2005)



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?

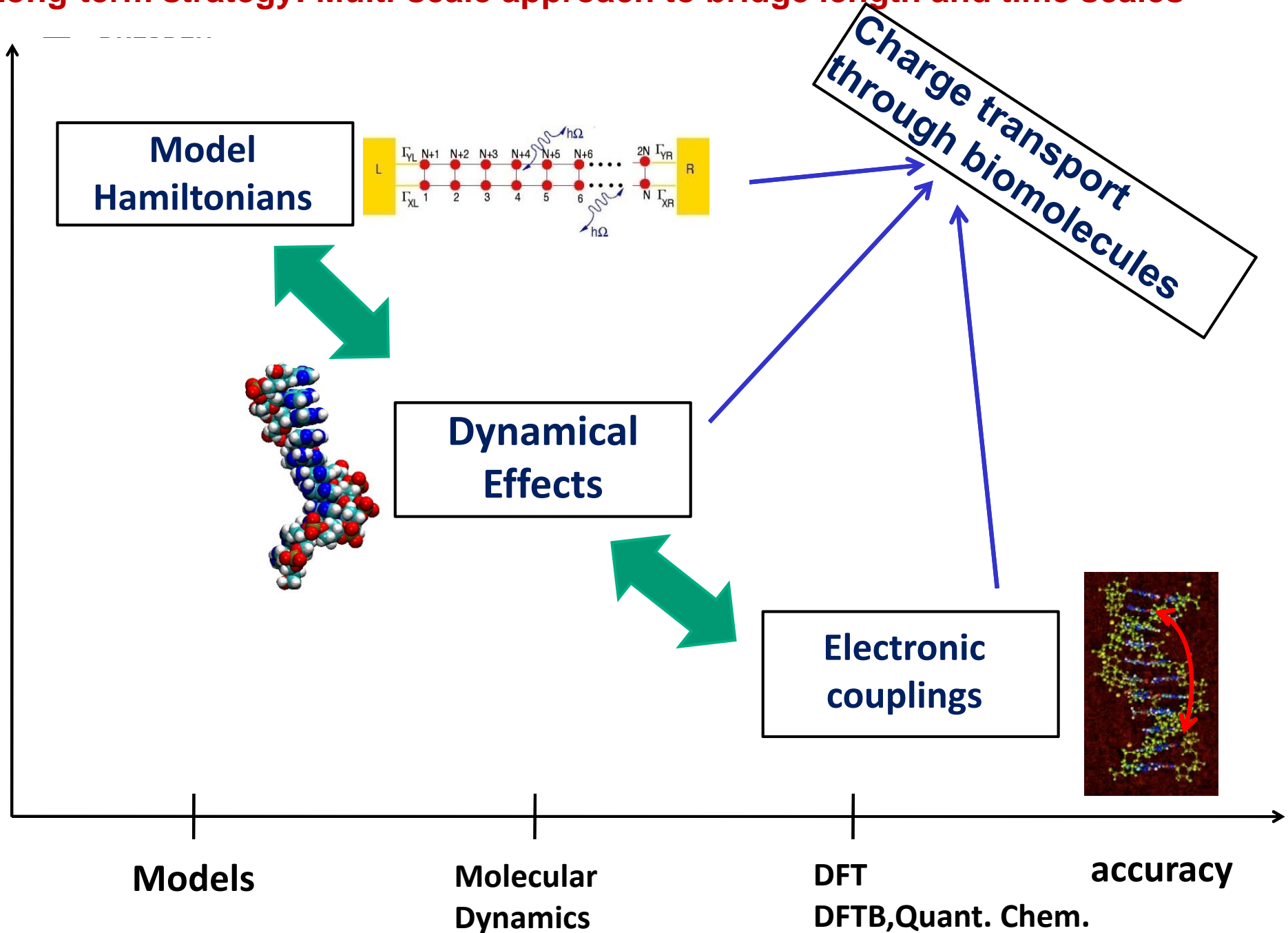
Diversity of experimental results: DNA is a (very) complex molecular wire



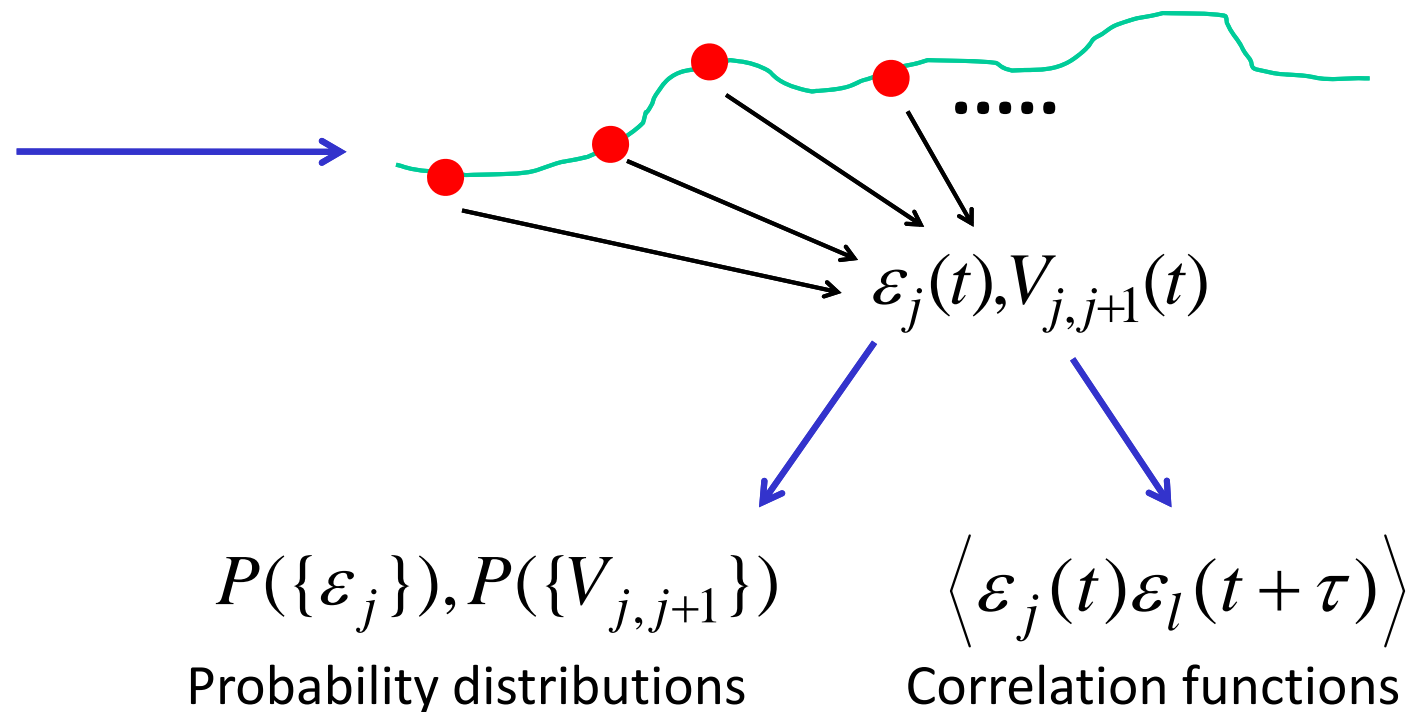
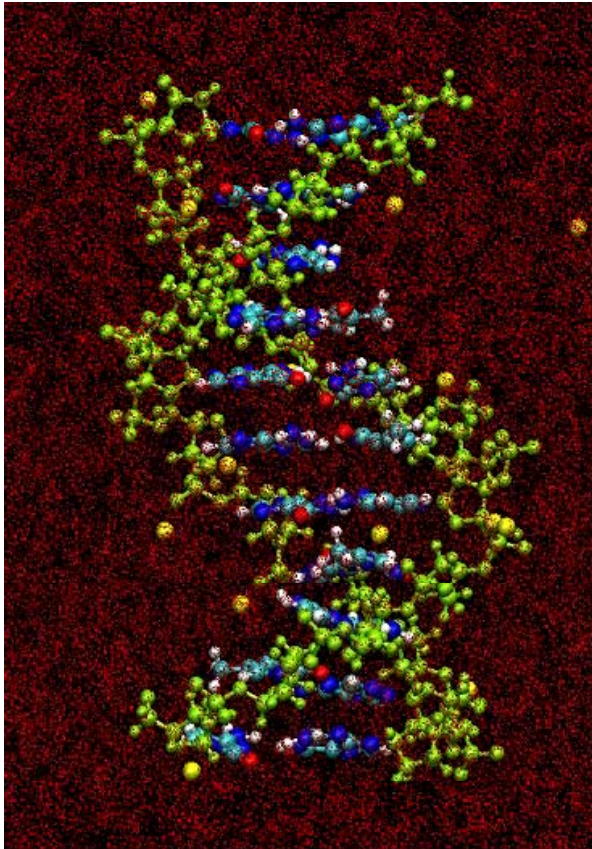
Concurrent transport channels!?

Modeling charge transport

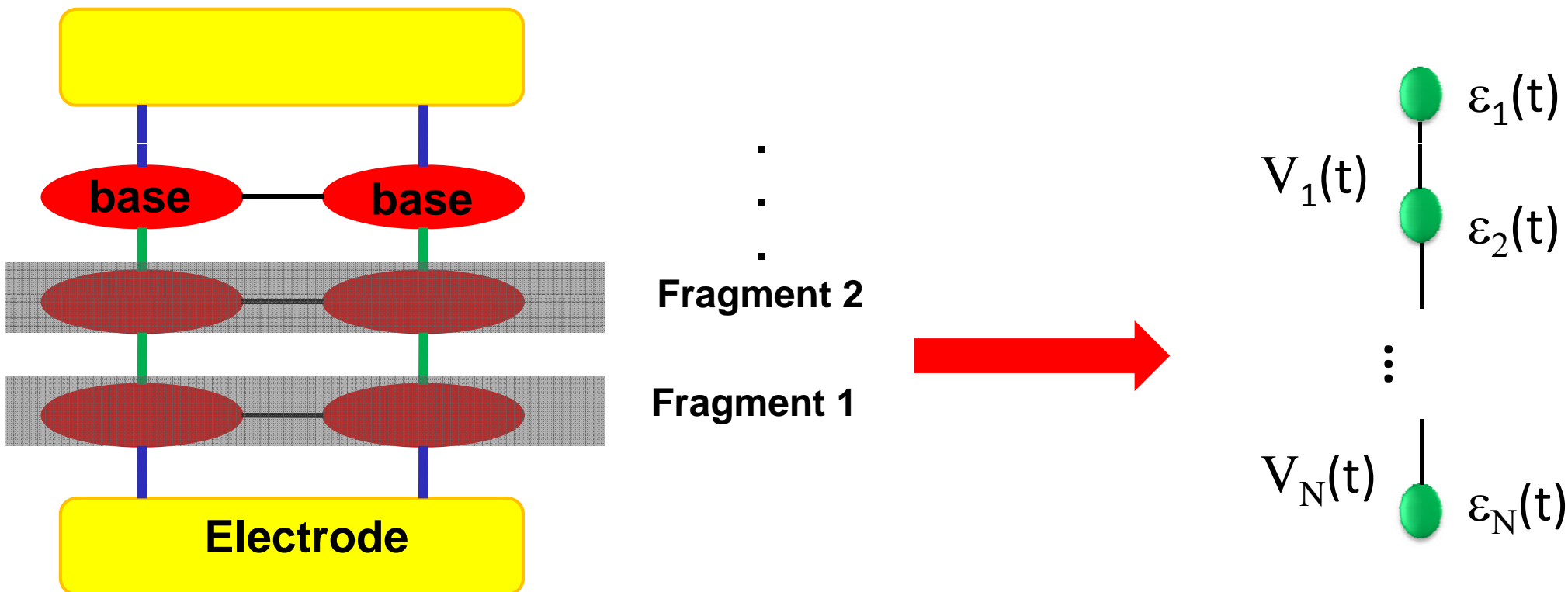
Long-term strategy: Multi-scale approach to bridge length and time scales



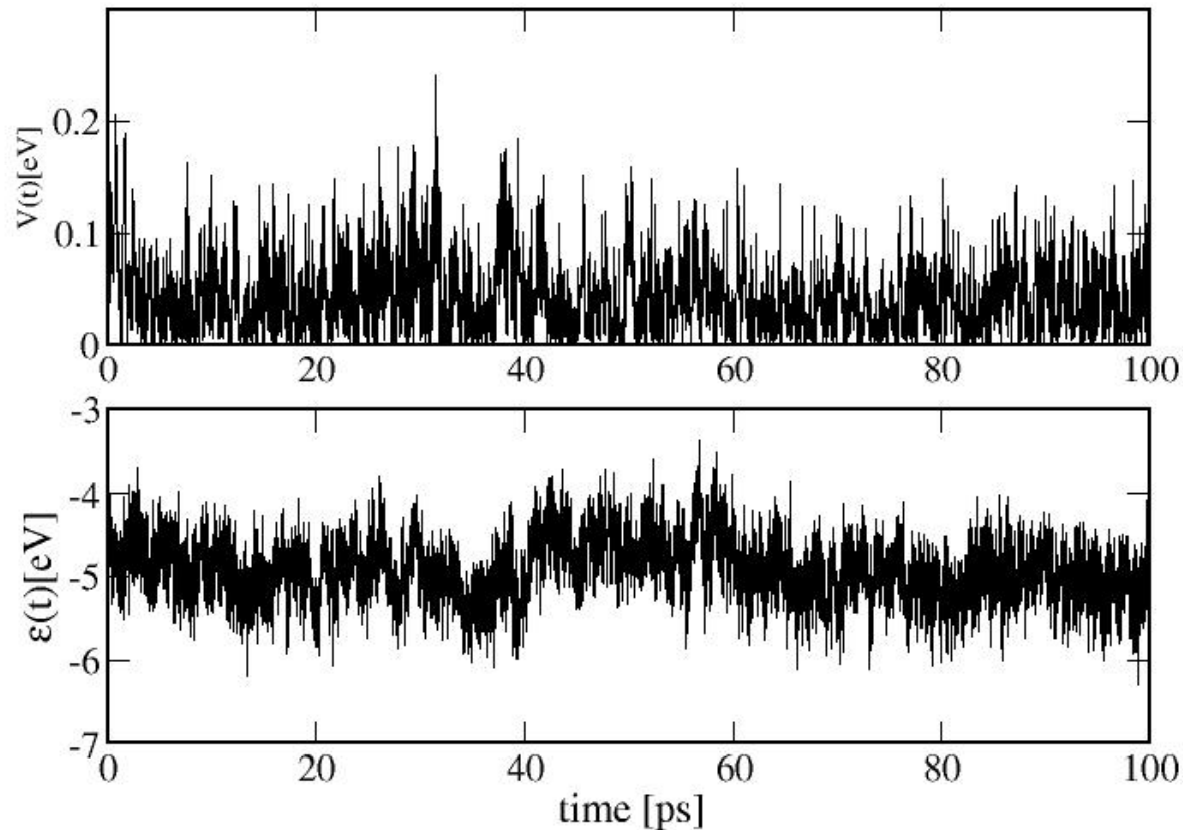
Idea: map **DFT(B)**-based electronic structure onto
TB-Hamiltonian along MD trajectory



Coarse-graining of the electronic structure



Charge transport and dynamics in short DNA wires



Time series of effective ionization energies and nearest-neighbor hopping integrals
Structural and solvent dynamics encoded in the time series!

Charge transport and dynamics in short DNA wires

	static B-DNA 5'-XY-3' T_{ij}	average MD values 5'-YX-3' $\langle T_{ij} \rangle \pm \sigma$	static A-DNA 5'-XY-3' T_{ij}
intrastrand			
AA	0.013	0.058 ± 0.037	0.070
GG	0.052	0.029 ± 0.023	0.012
GA	0.053	0.034 ± 0.027	0.023
interstrand			
GC	0.017	0.012 ± 0.012	0.006
AT	0.035	0.037 ± 0.029	0.018
GT	0.020	0.016 ± 0.013	0.010

-Average values of electronic parameters **different** from static calculations

- **Fluctuations** are of the **same order** of magnitude as the averages

$$T_{ij} = \langle \text{HOMO fragment } i \mid H \mid \text{HOMO fragment } j \rangle$$

First approach to the problem:

assume charge transfer in rigid bridge provides
the **shortest** time scale τ_{TE} compared with
typical scales of dynamical fluctuations τ_{dyn}

→ adiabatic limit

→ Compute quantum-mechanical transmission **at each time step**

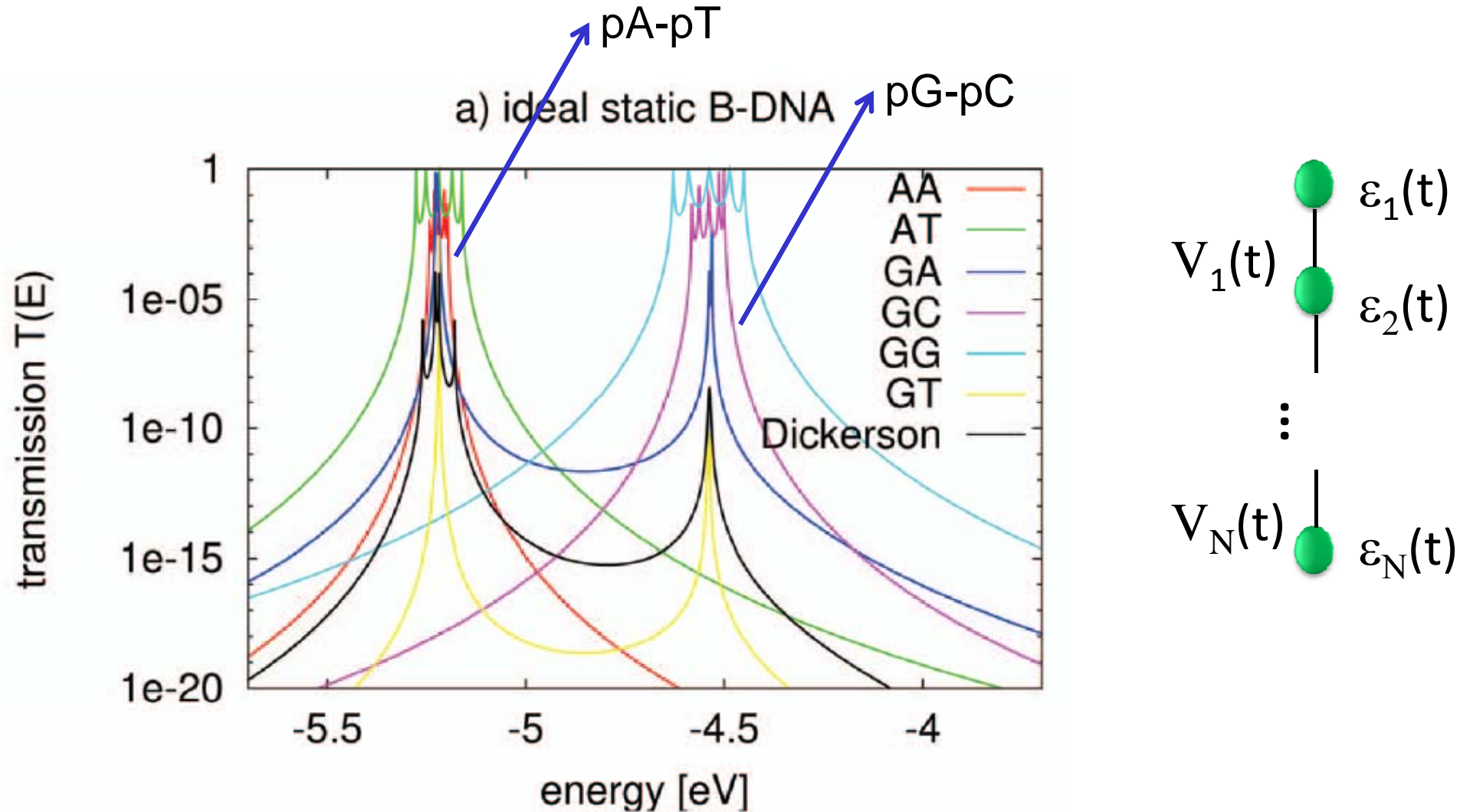
$$T(E, t = t_j) = Tr \left[\Gamma_R(E) G^r(E, t = t_j) \Gamma_L(E) G^a(E, t = t_j) \right]$$

$$\Gamma_{R/L}(E) = i \left[\Sigma_{R/L}^r(E) - \Sigma_{R/L}^a(E) \right]$$

$$\left[G^r(E, t = t_j) \right]^{-1} = E - H(t = t_j) - \Sigma_L^r(E) - \Sigma_R^r(E)$$

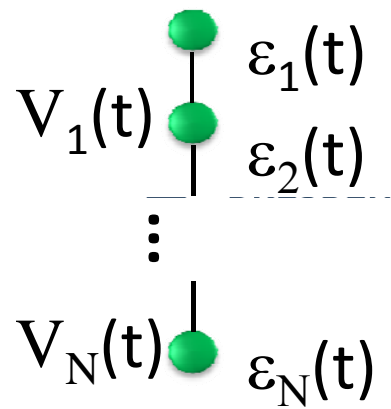
→ Perform time average $T(E) = \frac{1}{t_{MD}} \sum_i T(E, t = t_j)$

Charge transport and dynamics in short DNA wires

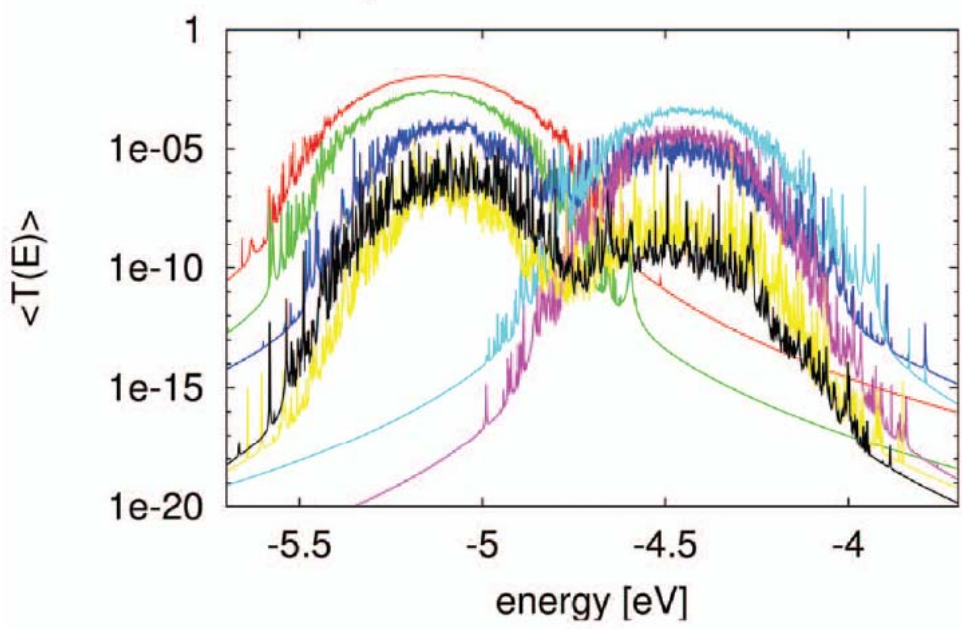


Static structures display resonances at eigenenergies

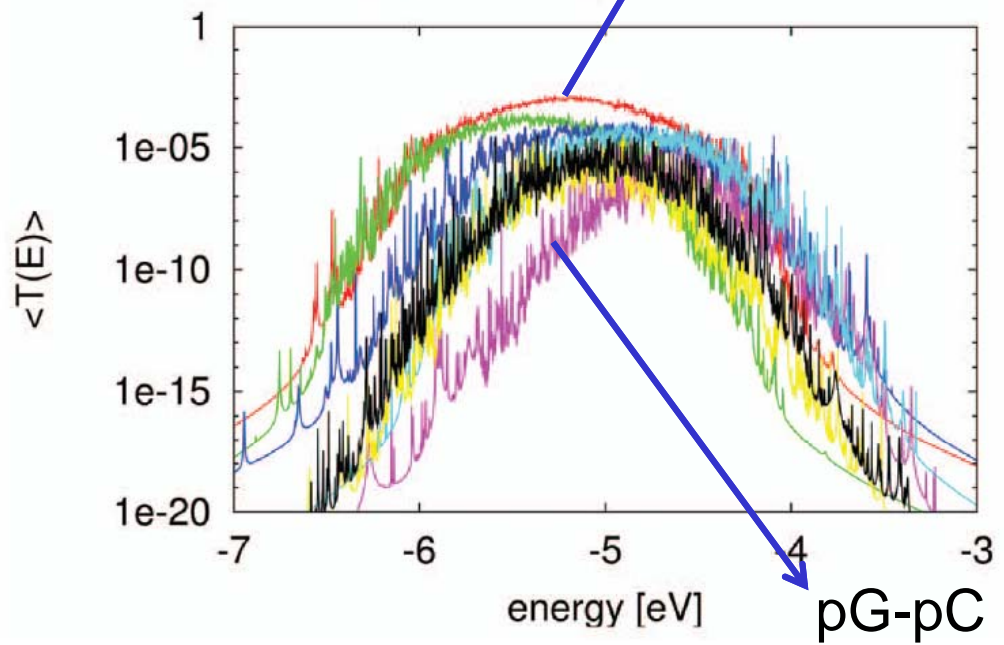
Charge transport and dynamics in short DNA wires



b) MD without solvent effects



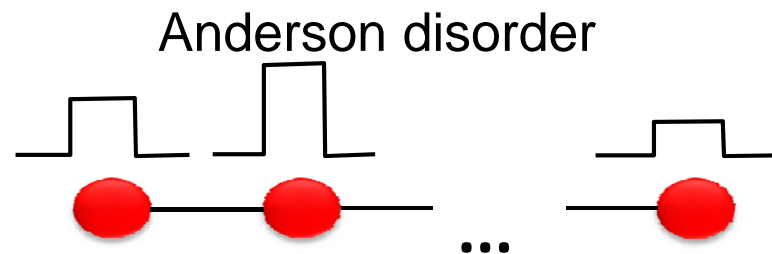
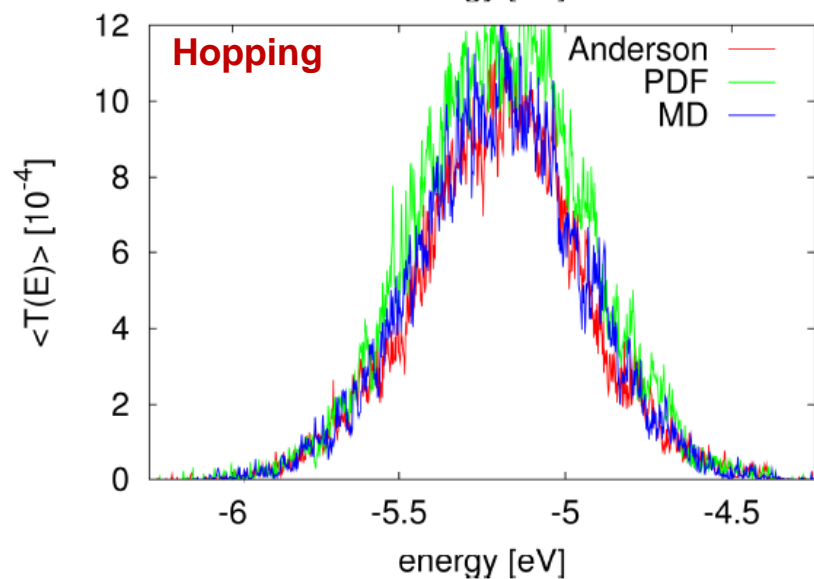
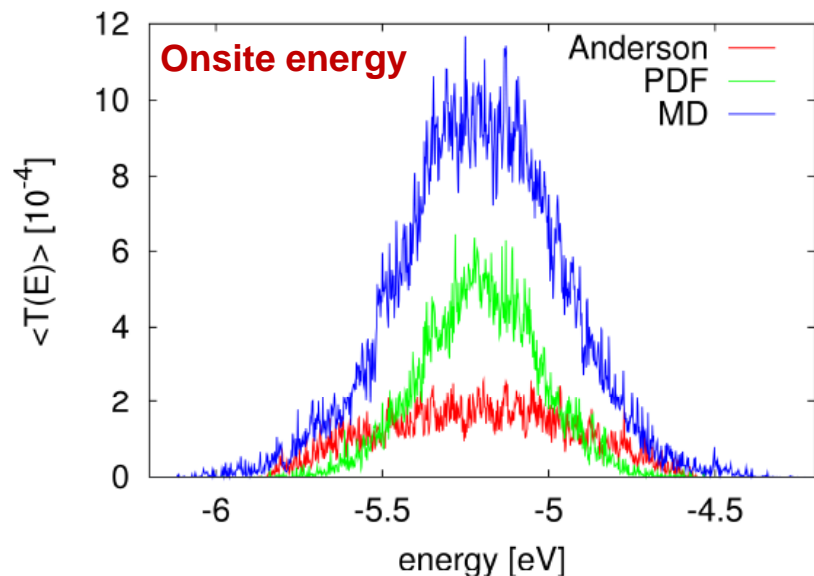
c) MD including solvent effects



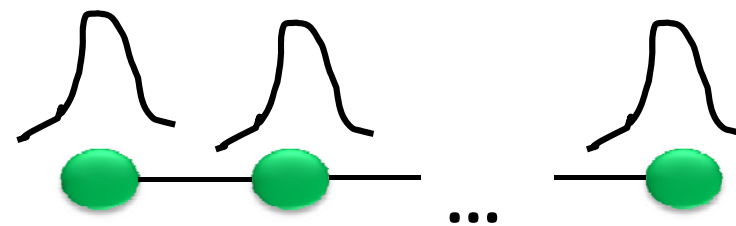
Dynamical disorder-induced broadening of transmission spectra (base dynamics and solvent fluctuations)

Charge transport and dynamics in short DNA wires

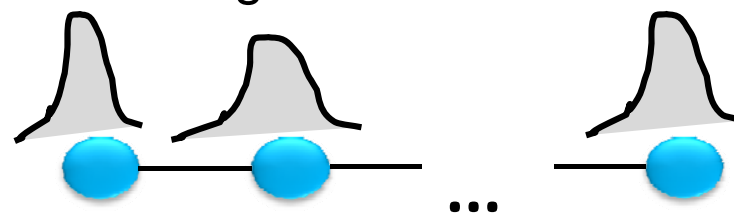
Correlations matter !



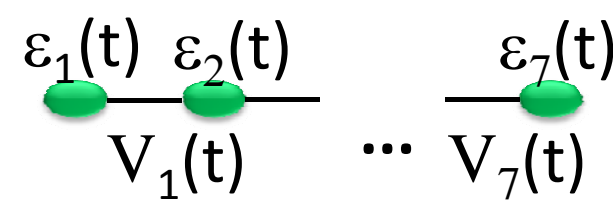
Gaussian-like (PDF)
local correlations only



Full time series from MD
including all correlations



Hopping integrals are self-averaging!

$$\begin{aligned}
 H &= \sum_j \langle \epsilon_j \rangle d_j^\dagger d_j - \sum_j \langle V_{j,j+1} \rangle (d_j^\dagger d_{j+1} + \text{h.c.}) \\
 &+ H_{\text{bath}} + H_{\text{el-bath}} + H_{\text{tunnel}} + H_{\text{leads}}
 \end{aligned}$$


The diagram shows a horizontal line representing a chain of sites. Above the line, energy levels are indicated by green circles labeled $\epsilon_1(t)$, $\epsilon_2(t)$, ..., $\epsilon_7(t)$. Below the line, couplings between sites are indicated by horizontal lines labeled $V_1(t)$, ..., $V_7(t)$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 H_{\text{bath}} &= \sum_{\alpha} \Omega_{\alpha} B_{\alpha}^{\dagger} B_{\alpha} \\
 H_{\text{el-bath}} &= \sum_{\alpha,j} \lambda_{\alpha} d_j^{\dagger} d_j (B_{\alpha} + B_{\alpha}^{\dagger}) \\
 H_{\text{tunnel}} &= \sum_{\mathbf{k},\alpha,j} \left(t_{\mathbf{k},j} c_{\mathbf{k}}^{\dagger} d_j + \text{h.c.} \right) \\
 H_{\text{leads}} &= \sum_{\mathbf{k},\alpha} \epsilon_{\mathbf{k},\alpha} c_{\mathbf{k},\alpha}^{\dagger} c_{\mathbf{k},\alpha}
 \end{aligned}$$

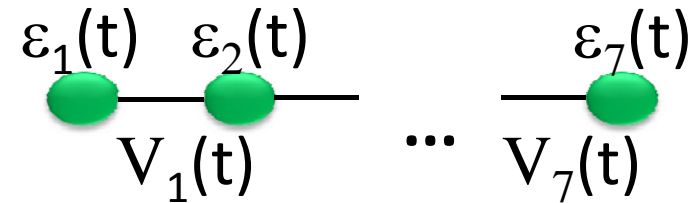
$\langle \epsilon_j \rangle, \langle V_{j,j+1} \rangle$
 Time average quantities
 Only local correlations

Fully parametrized model Hamiltonians !

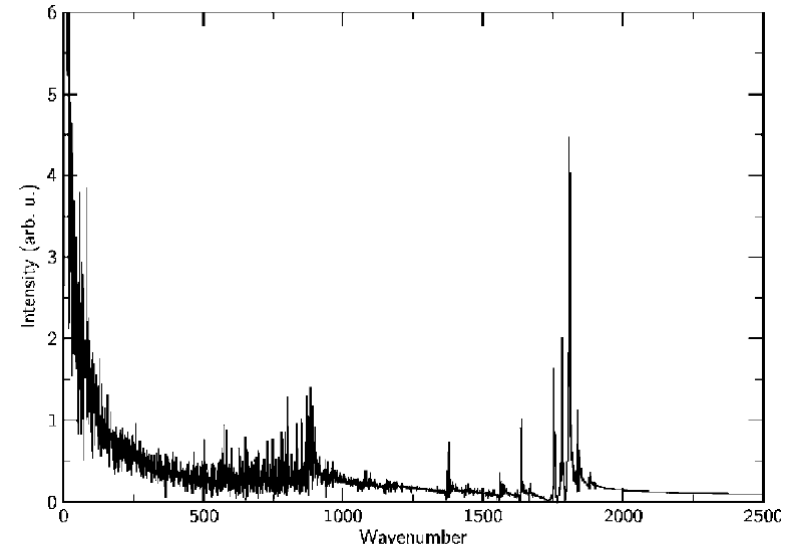
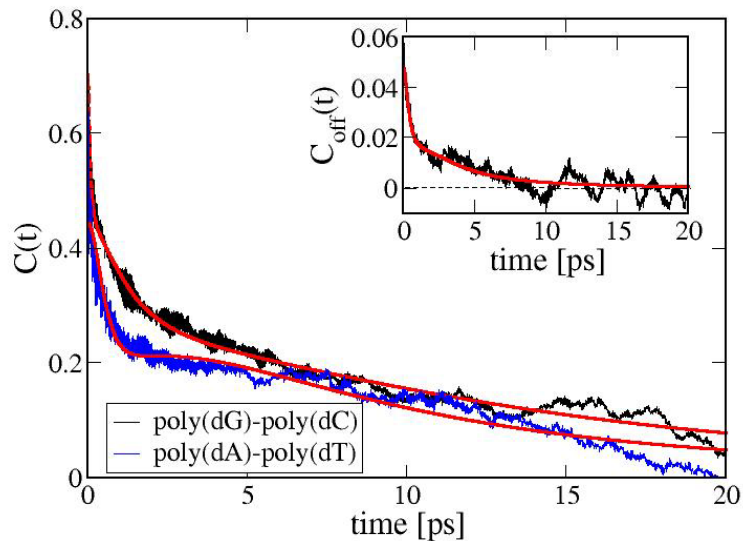
Parametrizing the environment: bosonic bath

$$C(t) \rightarrow J(\omega)$$

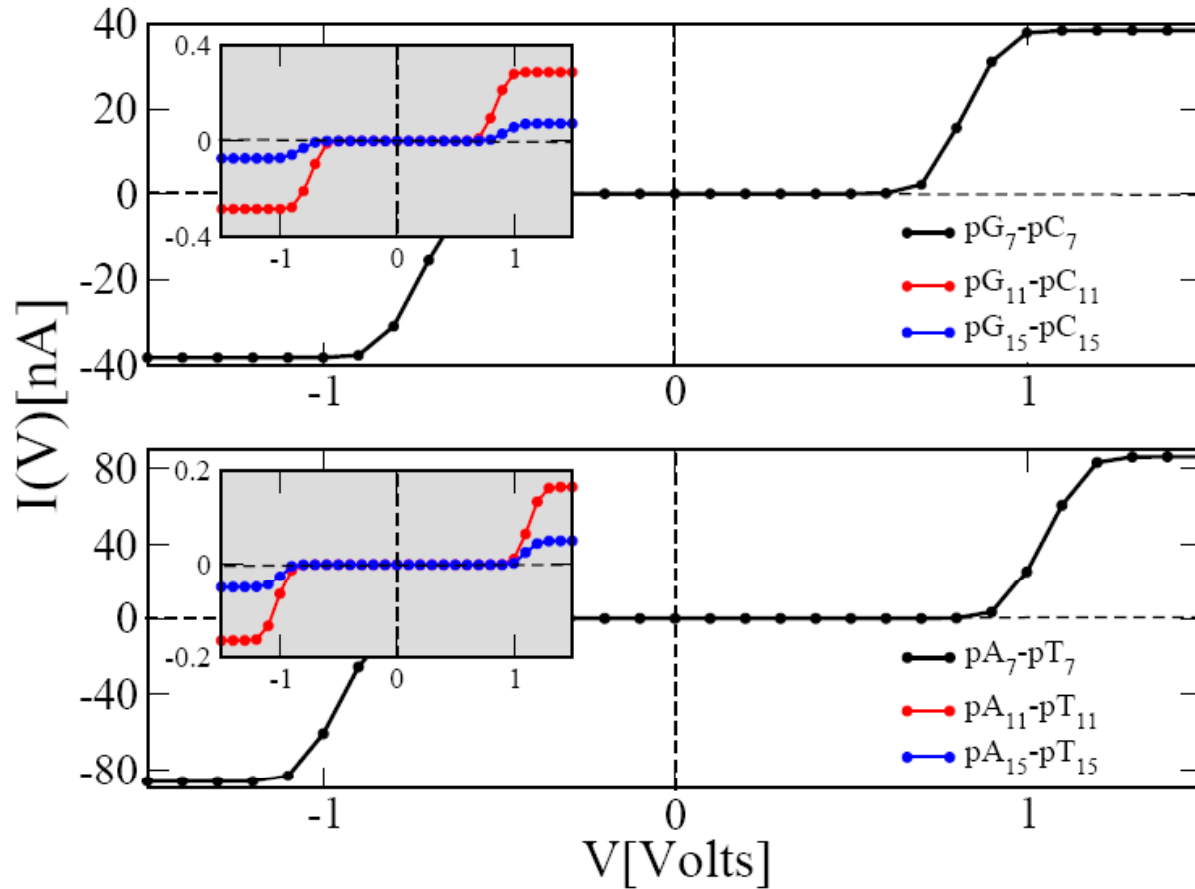
$$J(\omega) = \frac{2}{\pi} \tanh \frac{\omega}{2k_B T} \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} dt \cos(\omega t) C(t)}_{C(\omega)}$$



Correlation functions **C(t)** \leftrightarrow spectral density **J(ω)**



Beyond coherent transport: I-V characteristics



Strong length dependence

Poly(A)₇-poly(T)₇ shows larger $I(V)$

Less clear for longer sequences

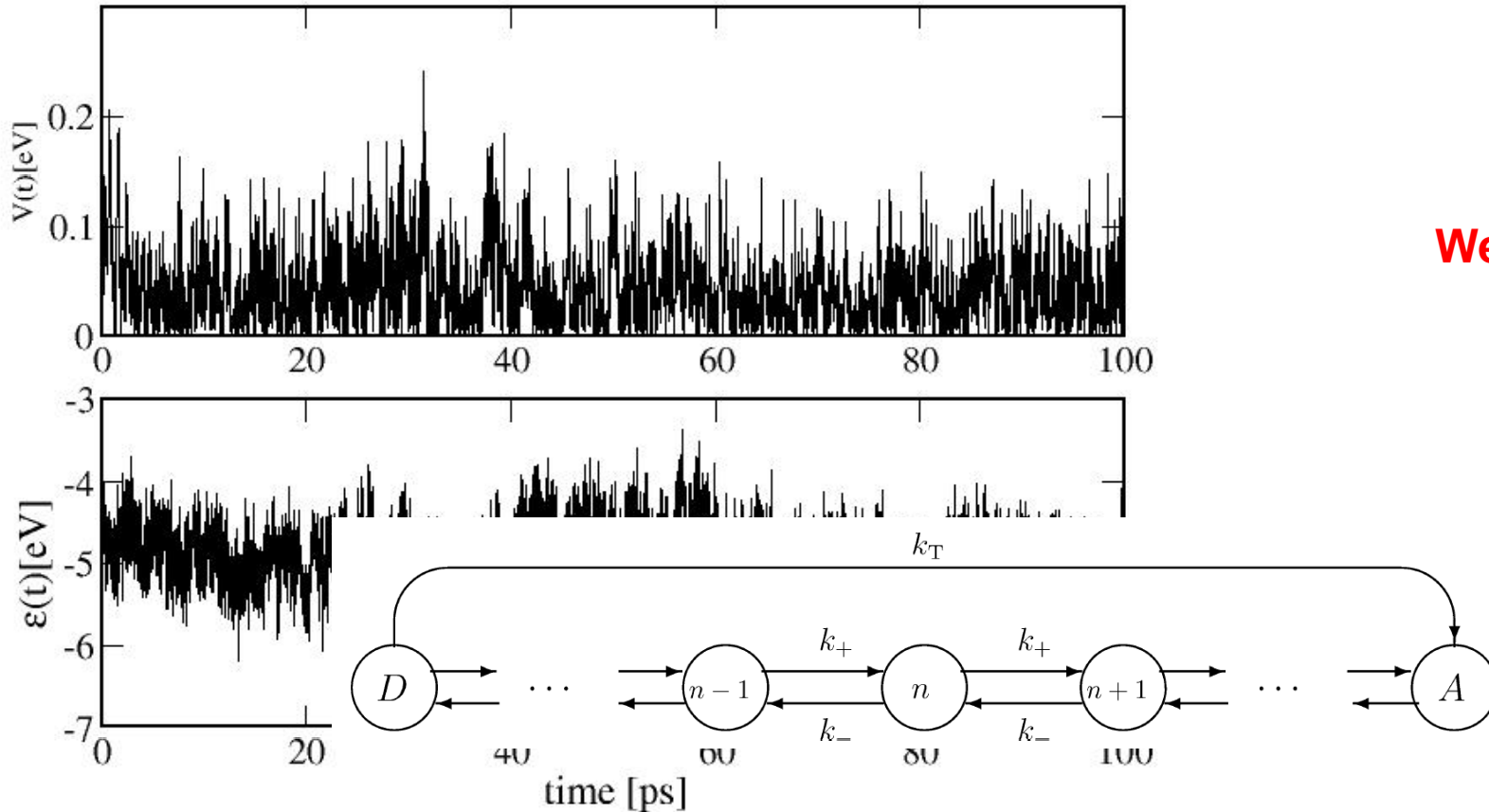
Main conclusion

- Possible to obtain effective electronic parametrization **including** dynamical effects
- Formally „ab initio“ model Hamiltonians
- different charge migration scenarios (incoherent hopping, polarons, etc)

Where we are going...

Time-dependent Hamiltonians and master equation

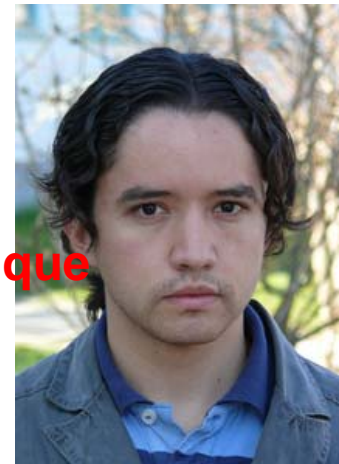
- Using parametrizations from MD simulations + incoherent transport
- Realistic (experimentally relevant sequences, DNA-NP hybrids)



Wei Tu



Pedro Manrique



Collaborators:

TU-Dresden



Gianaurelio Cuniberti



Myeong Lee



Stas Avdoshenko

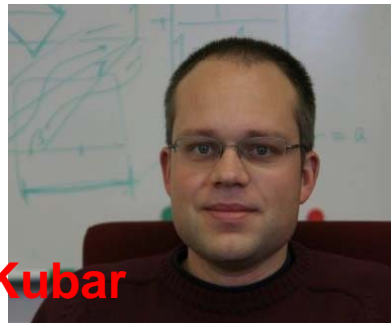


Wei Tu

TU Braunschweig



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