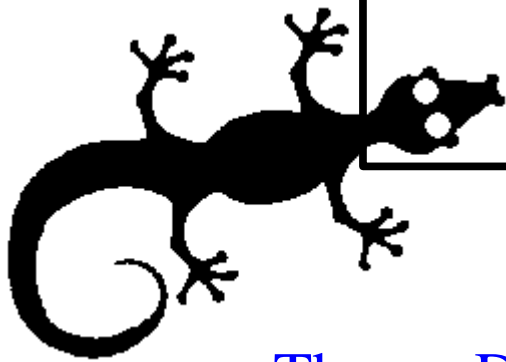




# Methods for van der Waals Interactions



Alexandre Tkatchenko

Theory Department, Fritz-Haber-Institut der MPG

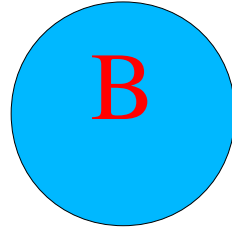
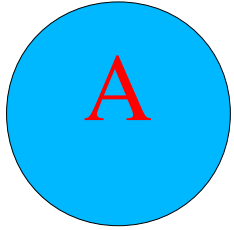
Berlin, Germany

[tkatchen@fhi-berlin.mpg.de](mailto:tkatchen@fhi-berlin.mpg.de)

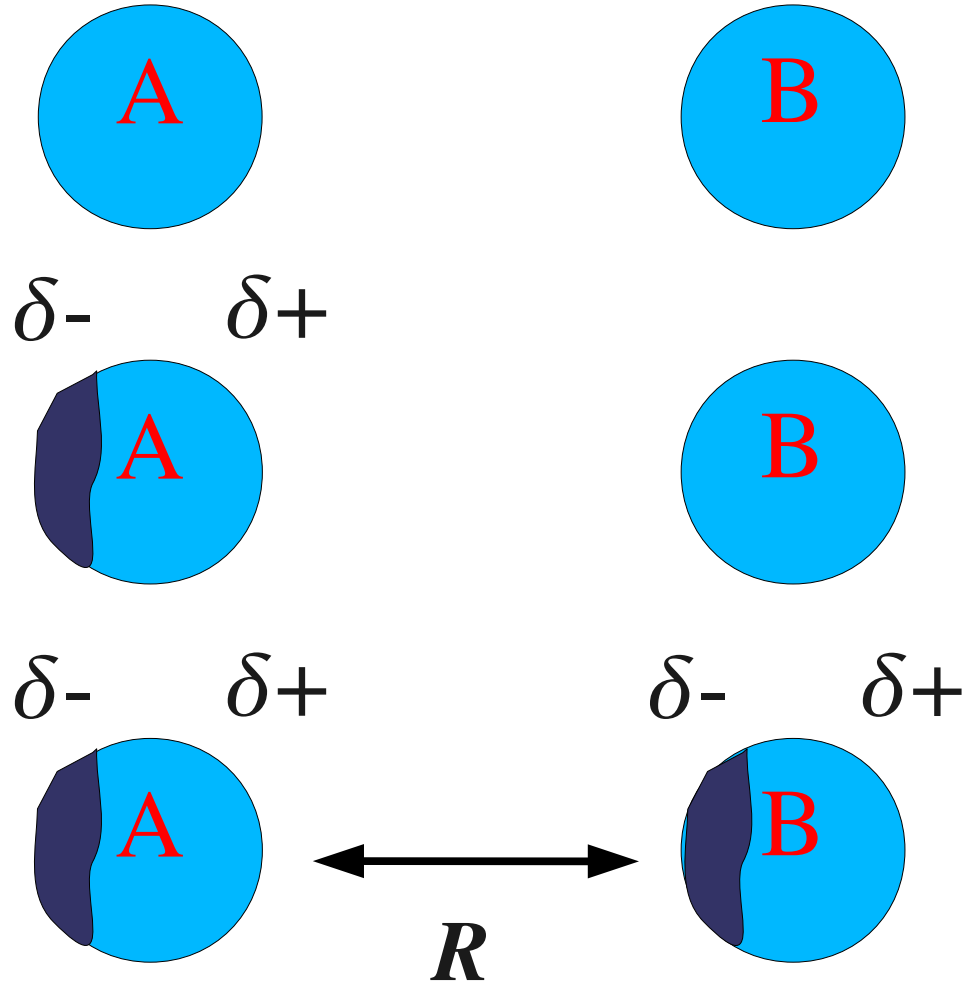
**FHI “DFT and Beyond” Workshop, Jul. 15, 2011**



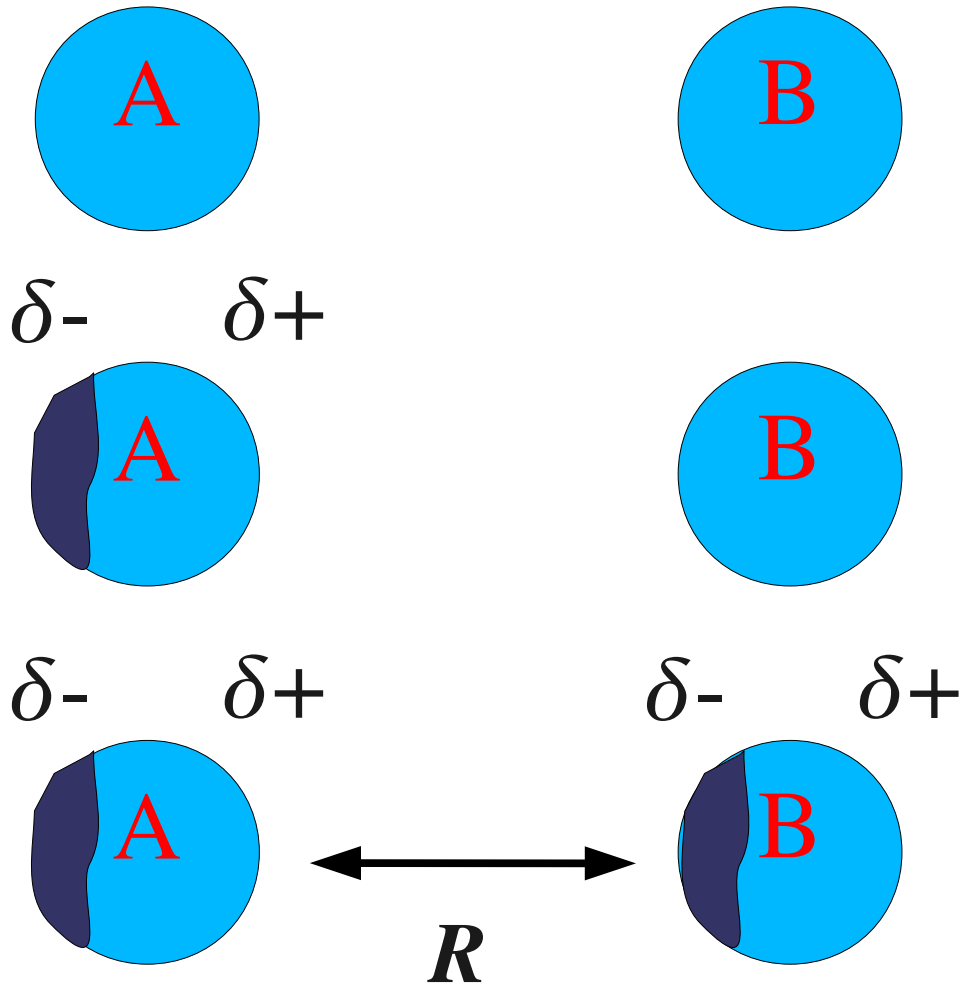
# Van der Waals (dispersion) energy



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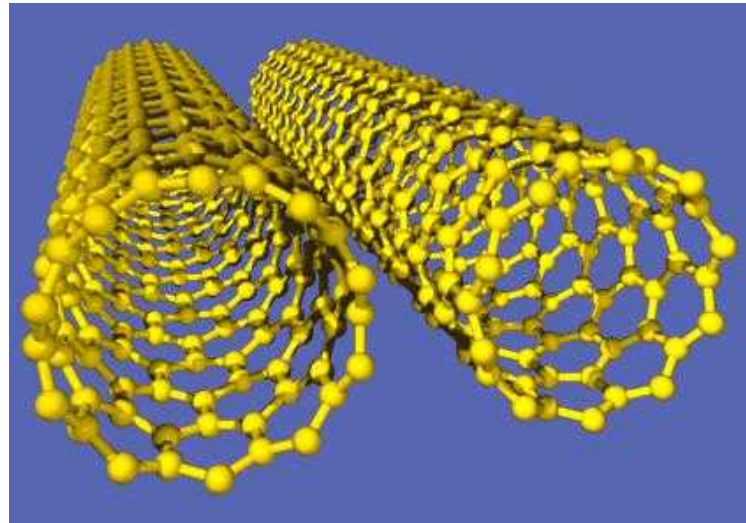
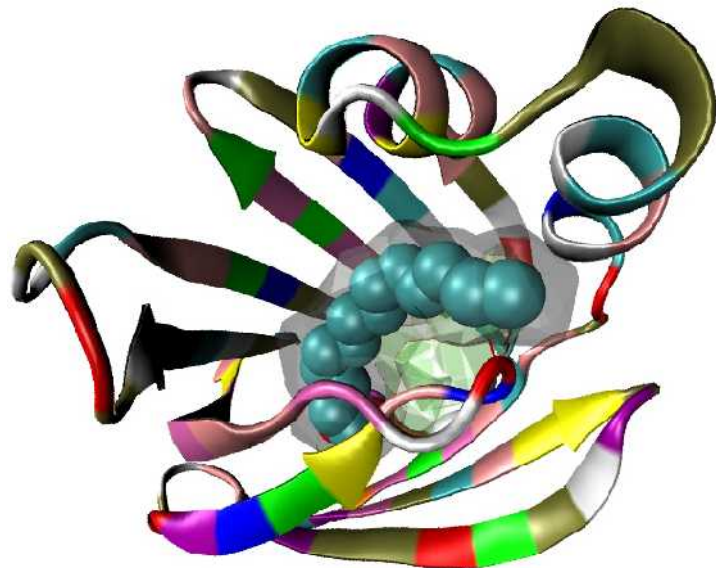
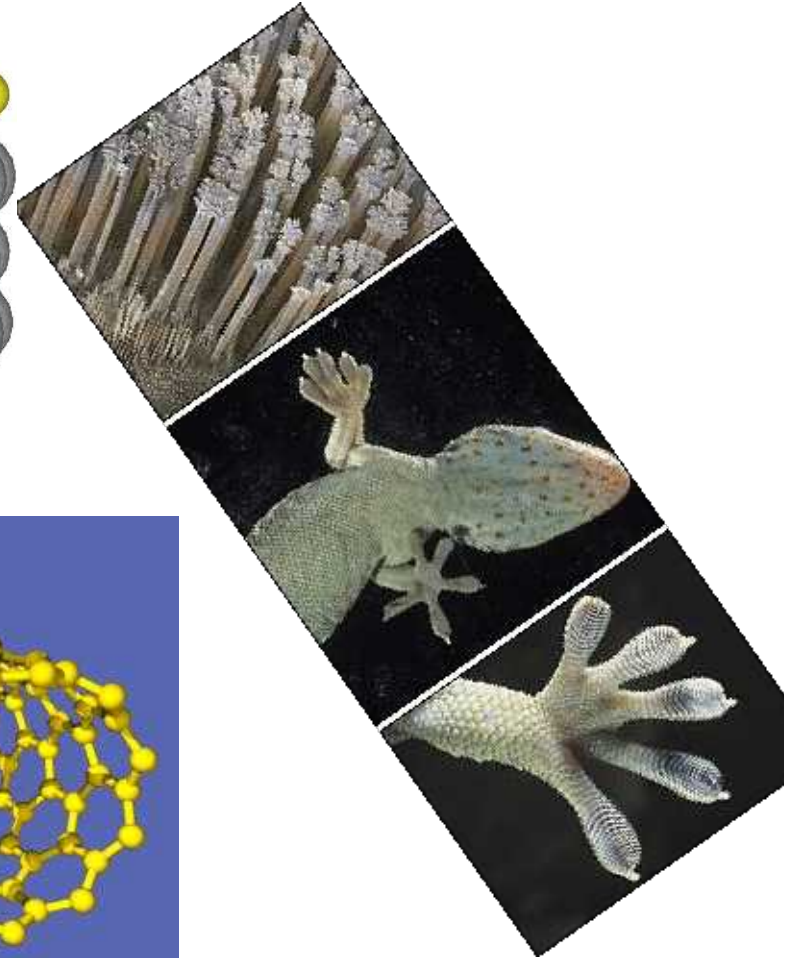
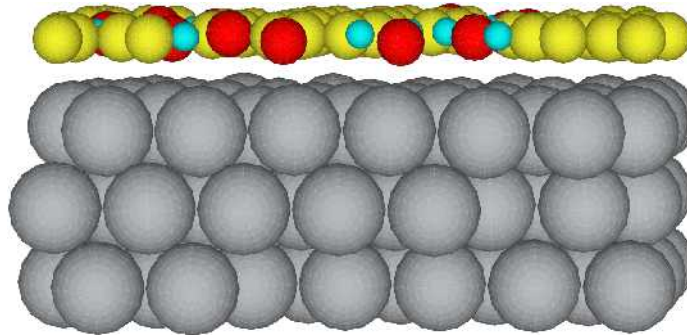
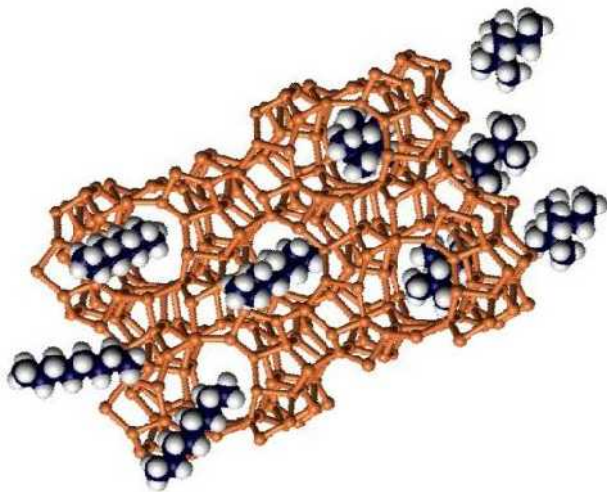


- Ubiquitous interatomic and intermolecular interaction
  - Scales linearly with system size
  - Weak compared to hydrogen or covalent bonds
- ... **but** is a significant component of *intermolecular binding energies* !

$$E^{disp}(R) = - \left( f_6(R) \frac{C_6}{R^6} + f_8(R) \frac{C_8}{R^8} + f_{10}(R) \frac{C_{10}}{R^{10}} + \dots \right)$$

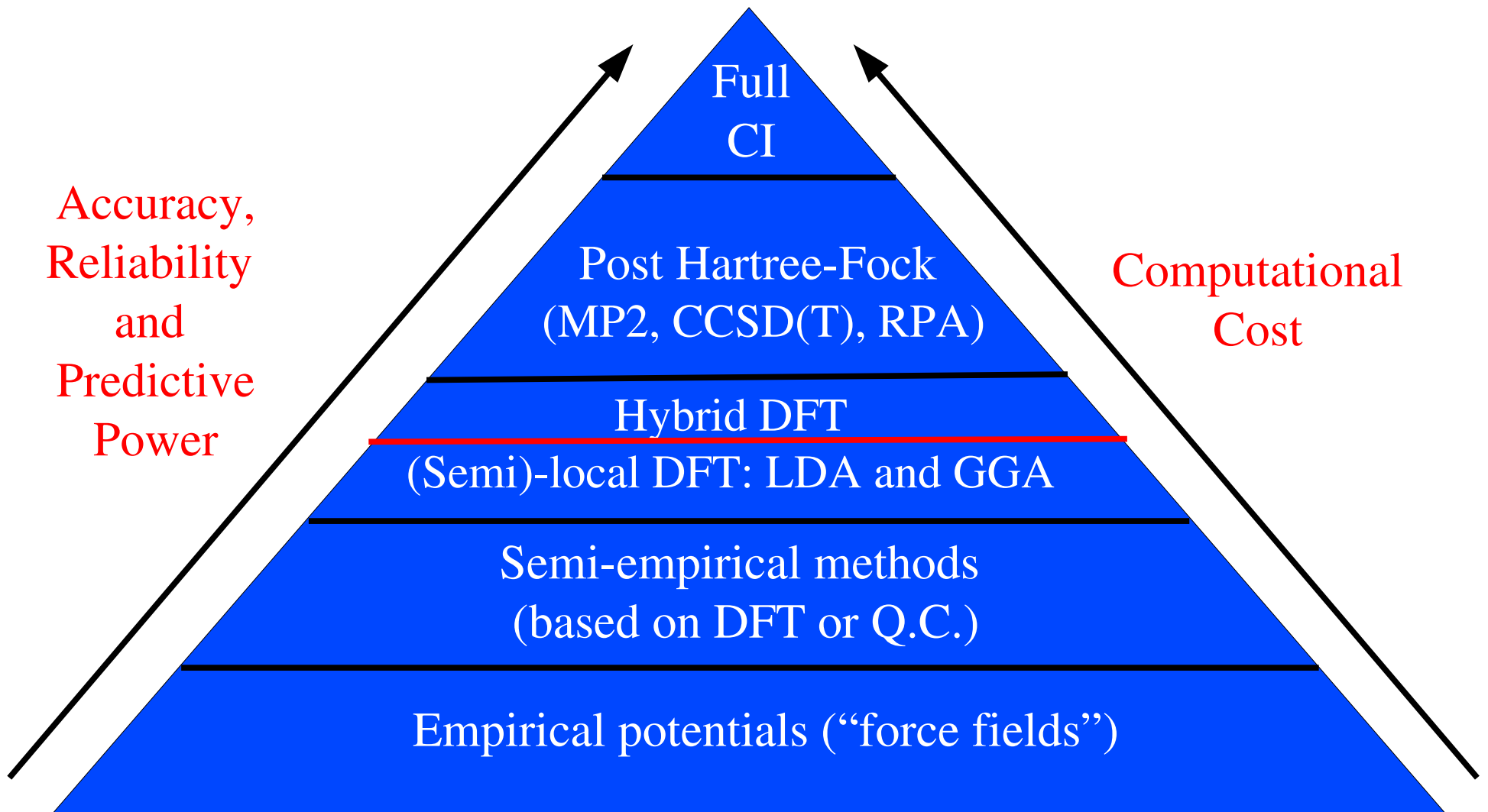


# VdW Interactions Are Ubiquitous ...



# Current state-of-the-art of modeling

$$H\Psi = E\Psi$$



# Current state-of-the-art of modeling

$$H\Psi = E\Psi$$

Full  
CI

Post Hartree-Fock  
(MP2, CCSD(T), RPA)

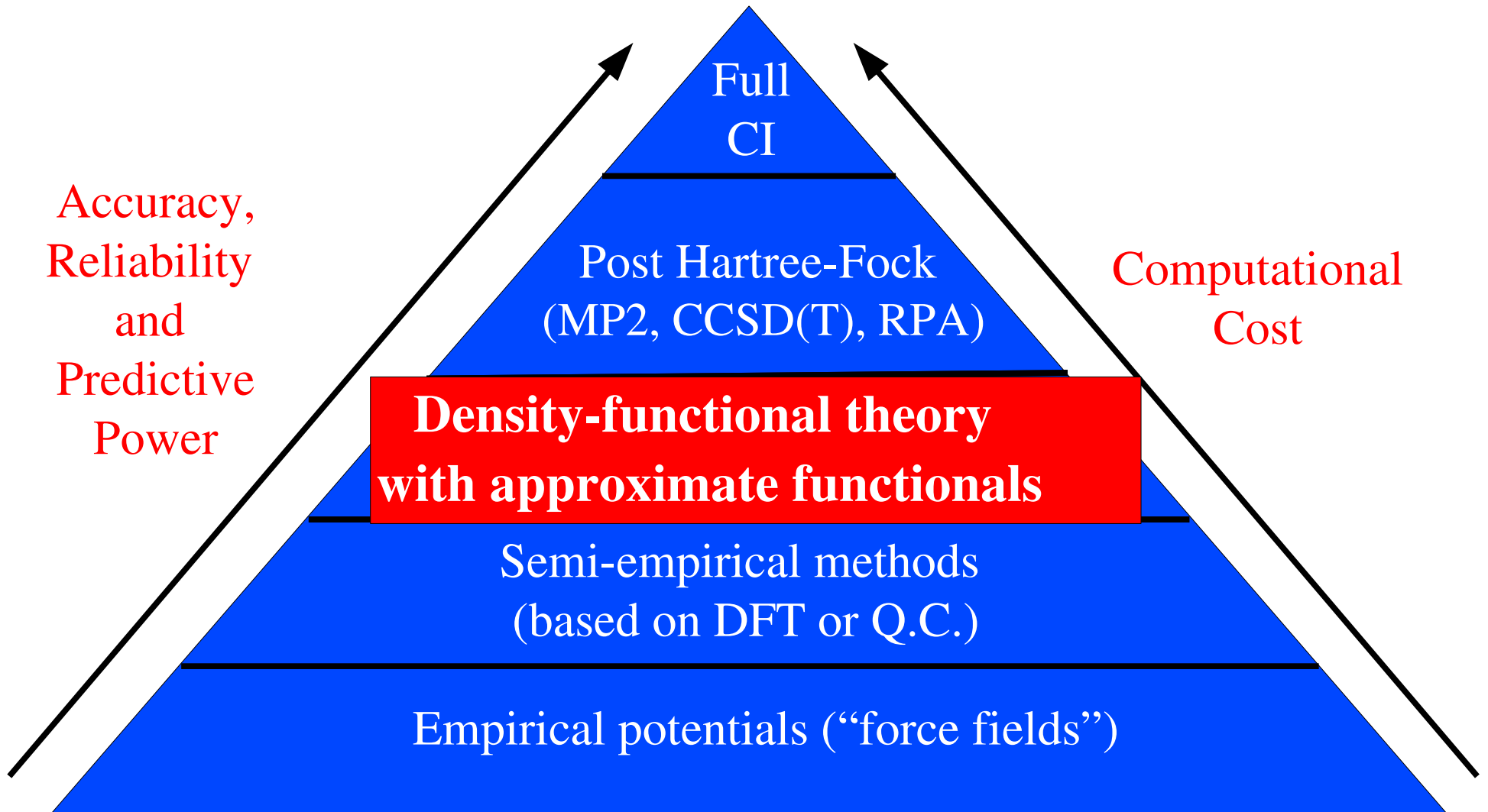
**Density-functional theory  
with approximate functionals**

Semi-empirical methods  
(based on DFT or Q.C.)

Empirical potentials (“force fields”)

Accuracy,  
Reliability  
and  
Predictive  
Power

Computational  
Cost



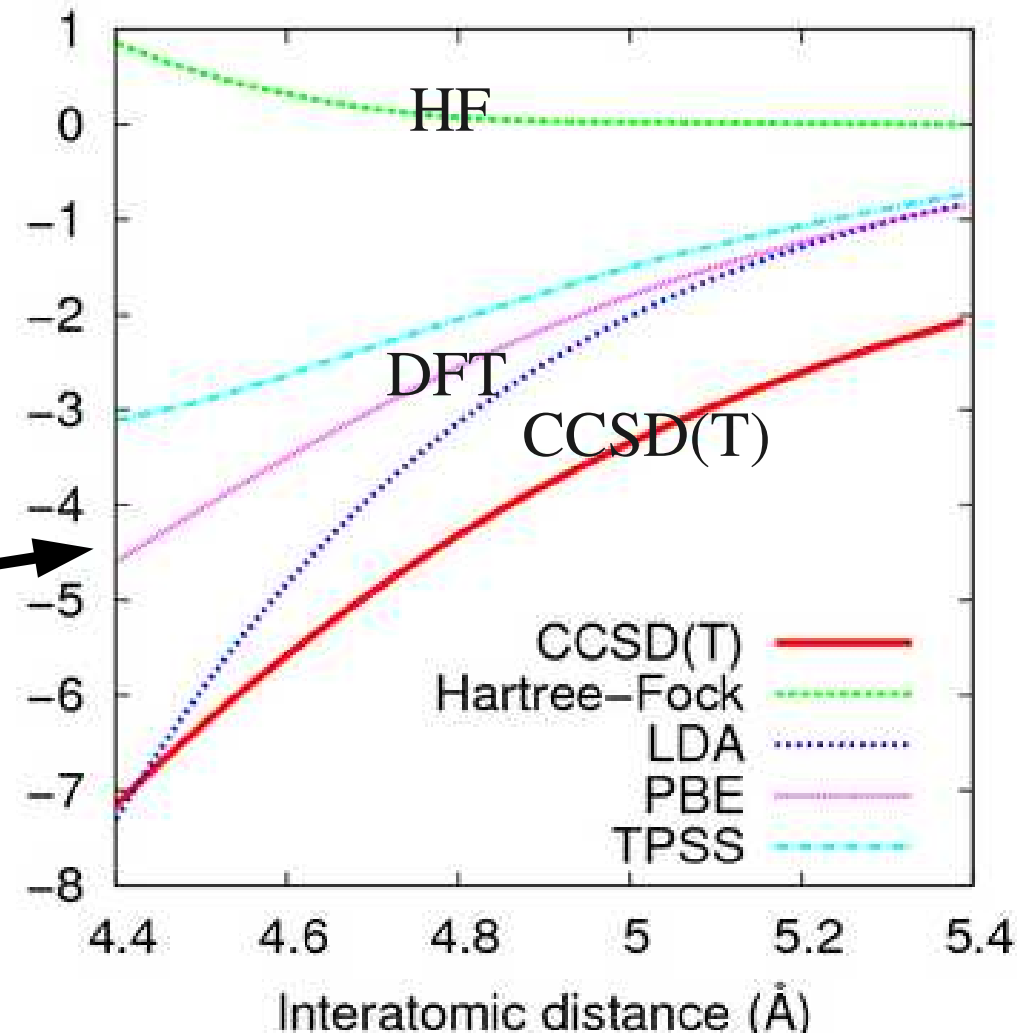
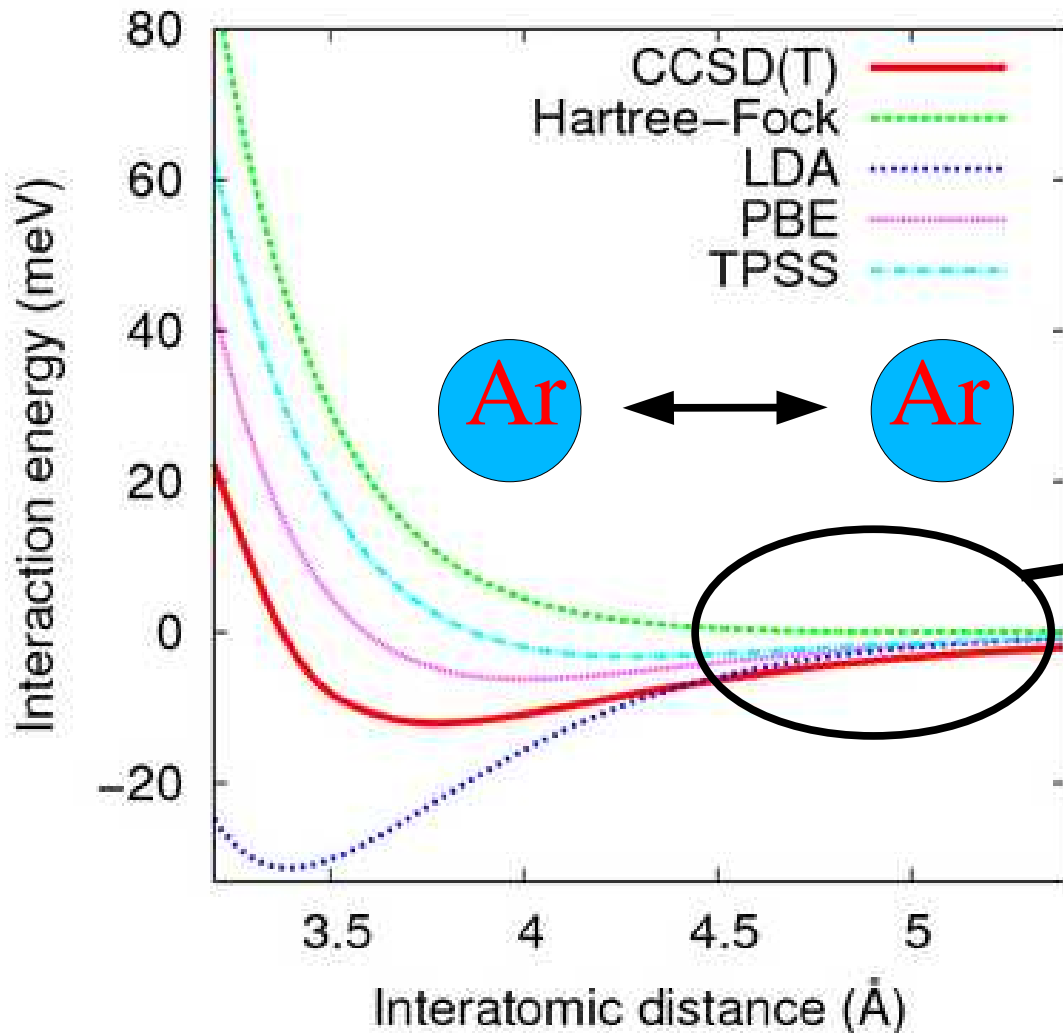


# Correlated methods: MP2, RPA, CCSD(T)

- Compute the correlation energy based on a Hartree-Fock or DFT wavefunction
- Include different many-body diagrams for the correlation energy
- **MP2**: Minimal level for correlation energy
- **RPA**: Doubles to infinite order, no singles
- **CCSD(T)**: Quantum chemistry “gold standard”

# DFT and vdW interaction: Rare-gas dimers

$$E^{disp}(R) = - \left( f_6(R) \frac{C_6}{R^6} + f_8(R) \frac{C_8}{R^8} + f_{10}(R) \frac{C_{10}}{R^{10}} + \dots \right)$$



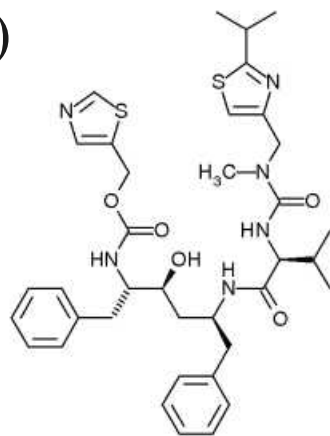
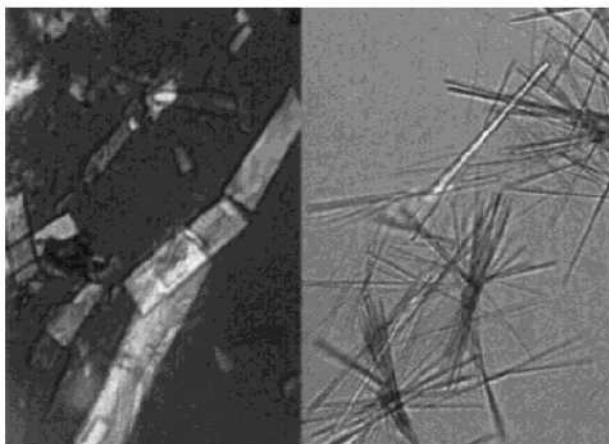
# Why existing methods are not sufficient ?

## Polymorphism in drugs

### Ritonavir (HIV protease inhibitor)

1996 (launch) 1998 (recall)

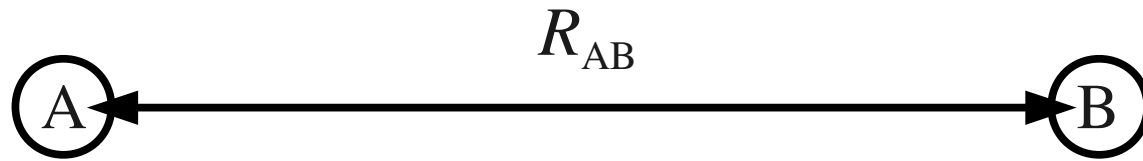
2001 (*trans* form found)



Polymorph energies  
are typically within  
1 kcal/mol per molecule



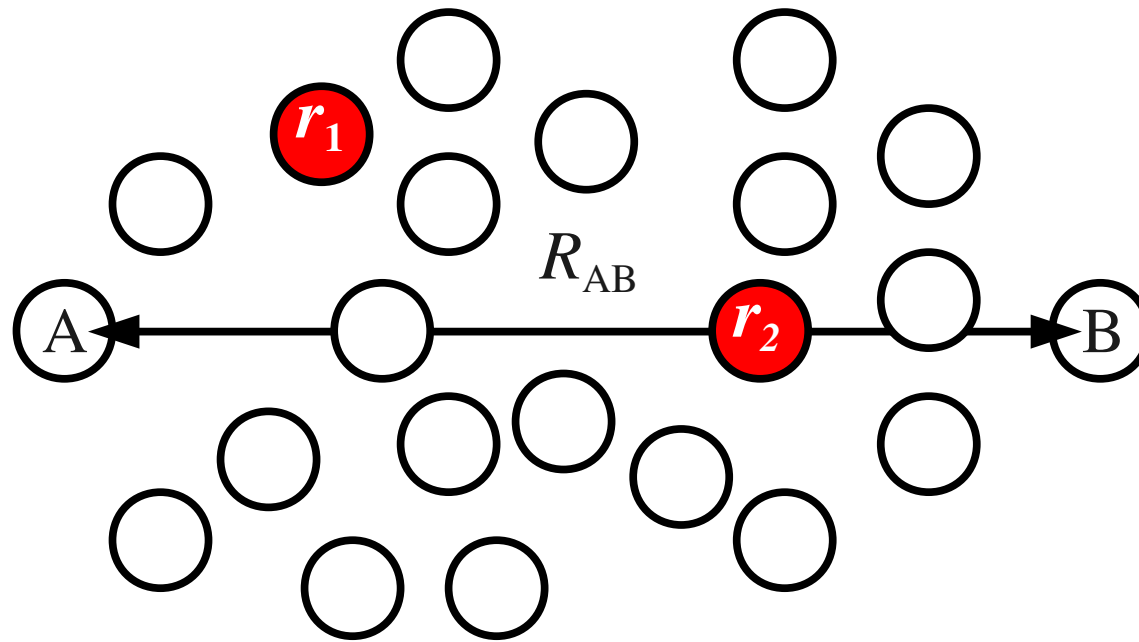
# Accurate *First-Principles* Modeling of vdW Interactions is Challenging



$$E_{\text{vdW}}^{(2)} = -\frac{C_6^{\text{AB}}}{R_{\text{AB}}^6} \quad \rightarrow \quad C_6^{\text{AB}} = \frac{3}{\pi} \int \alpha_{\text{A}}(i\omega) \alpha_{\text{B}}(i\omega) d\omega$$



# Accurate *First-Principles* Modeling of vdW Interactions is Challenging



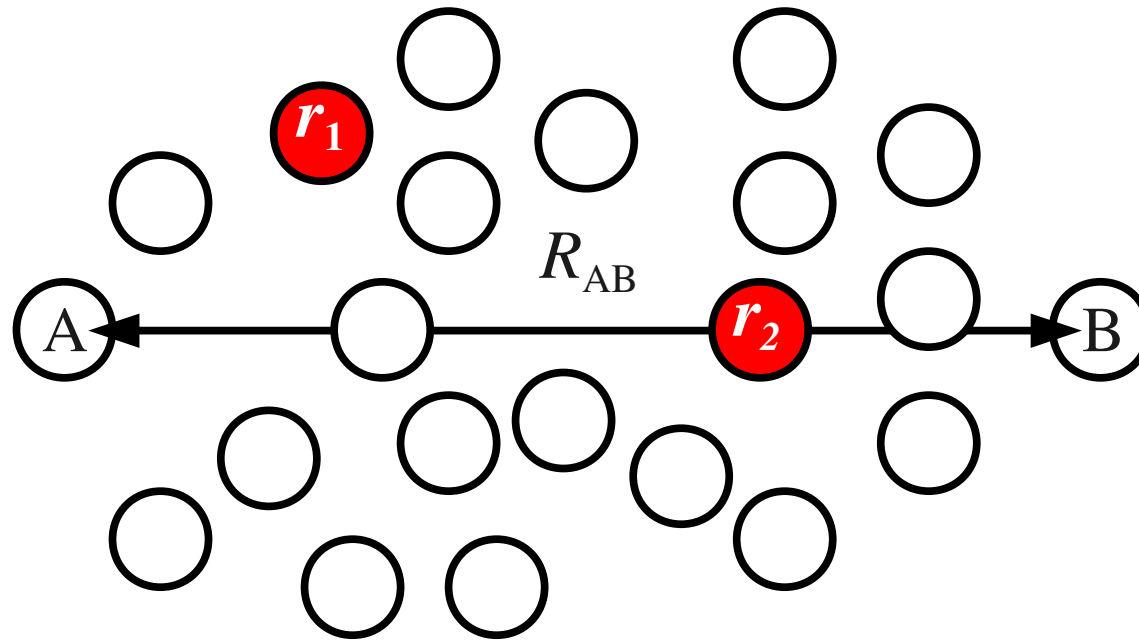
$$E_c = - \int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \int_0^1 d\lambda \text{Tr} \left( (\chi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega) - \chi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega)) \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|} \right)$$

Extremely expensive !

# Accurate *First-Principles* Modeling of vdW Interactions is Challenging

1

Accurate  
Microscopic  
Modeling of  
Coulomb  
Screening



2

Full (All-Order)  
Many-Body  
van der Waals  
Energy

$$E_c = - \int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \int_0^1 d\lambda \text{Tr} \left( (\chi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega) - \chi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega)) \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|} \right)$$

# VdW-corrected DFT methods

# Concepts and methods for dispersion in DFT

$$E_{\text{xc}} = E_{\text{ex}}^{\text{GGA or EX}} + E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{LDA, GGA}} + E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{non-local}}$$

# Concepts and methods for dispersion in DFT

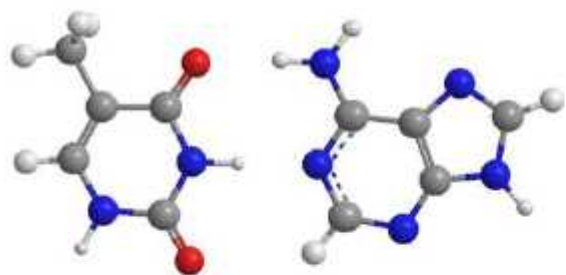
$$E_{\text{xc}} = E_{\text{ex}}^{\text{GGA or EX}} + E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{LDA,GGA}} + E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{non-local}}$$

- Non-local functionals (depend explicitly on  $\mathbf{r}$  and  $\mathbf{r}'$ ) (*Langreth, Lundqvist et al.*).
- Modified pseudopotentials (*von Lilienfeld et al.*)
- Highly empirical (hybrid) meta-GGA functionals (*Truhlar et al.*)
- Interatomic (pairwise or beyond) dispersion corrections (Many people)

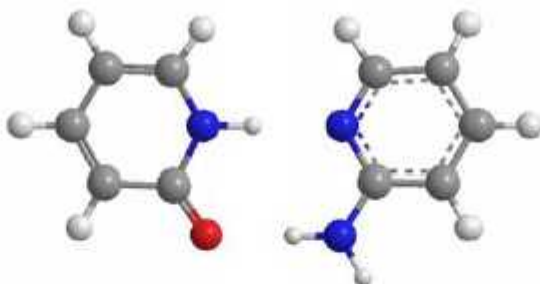
*Wu and Yang JCP (2002); Grimme J. Comp. Chem. (2004,2006); Dion et al. PRL (2004); Zhao and Truhlar JCP (2006); von Lilienfeld et al. PRL (2004); Johnson and Becke JCP (2005-2007); Tkatchenko and Scheffler PRL (2009); and many others ...*



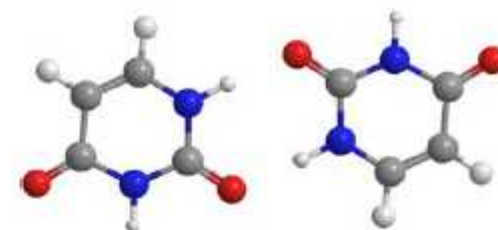
# S22 benchmark database



A...T WC



2-pyridoxine...2-aminopyridine



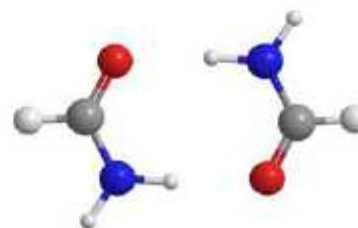
Hydrogen bonded uracil dimer



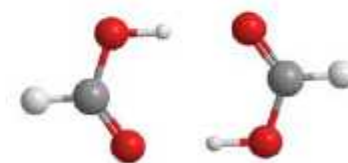
(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>



(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>



(HCONH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>



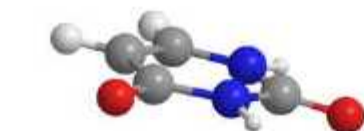
(HCOOH)<sub>2</sub>

## Hydrogen bonding

# S22 benchmark database



Stacked A...T



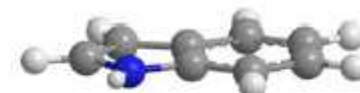
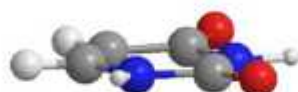
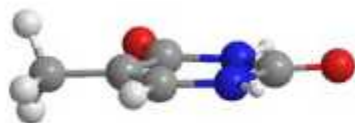
Stacked uracil dimer



Pyrazine dimer



Stacked indole-benzene



(CH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>



Benzene...CH<sub>4</sub>



PD-Benzene dimer



(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>

## VdW bonding

# S22 benchmark database



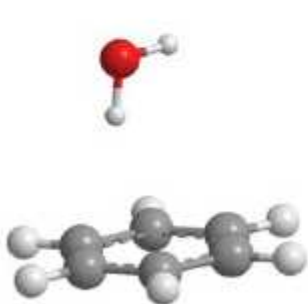
T-shaped indole...benzene



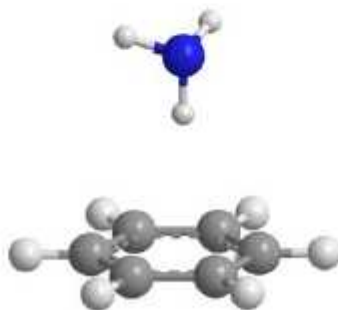
T-shaped benzene dimer



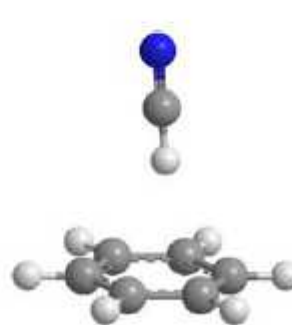
Phenol dimer



Benzene...H2O



Benzene...NH<sub>3</sub>



Benzene...HCN



Ethene...ethyne

## Mixed bonding

Langreth-Lundqvist functional  
(vdW-DF-04 and vdW-DF-10)

# Langreth-Lundqvist functional

$$E_{\text{xc}} = E_{\text{ex}}^{\text{GGA}}[n(\mathbf{r})] + E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{LDA}}[n(\mathbf{r})] + E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{non-local}}[n(\mathbf{r})]$$

$$E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{non-local}}[n(\mathbf{r})] = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3r d^3r' n(\mathbf{r}) K(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') n(\mathbf{r}')$$

*Dion, Rydberg, Schroeder, Langreth, Lundqvist, **PRL** (2004).*

*Lee, Murray, Kong, Lundqvist, Langreth, **PRB** (2010).*



# Langreth-Lundqvist functional (vdW-DF-04 and vdW-DF-10)

$$E_{\text{xc}} = E_{\text{ex}}^{\text{GGA}}[n(\mathbf{r})] + E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{LDA}}[n(\mathbf{r})] + E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{non-local}}[n(\mathbf{r})]$$

$$E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{non-local}}[n(\mathbf{r})] = \frac{1}{2} \int d^3r d^3r' n(\mathbf{r}) K(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') n(\mathbf{r}')$$

## vdW-DF-04

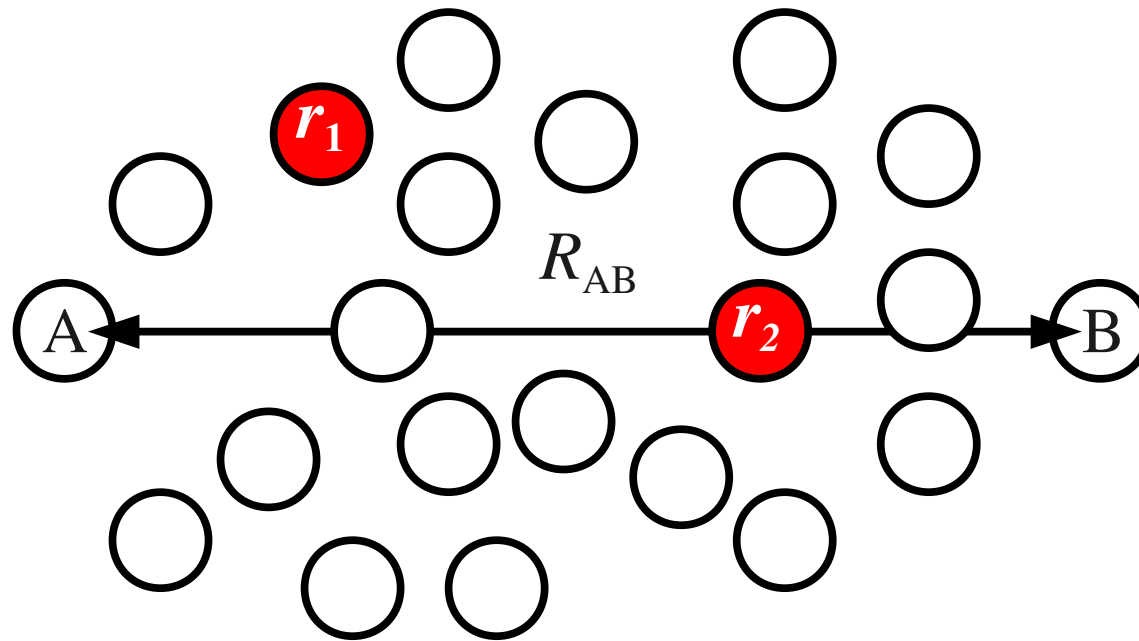
- Exchange: revPBE
- Local corr.: LDA
- No free parameters
- $C_6$  error:  $\sim 20\%$

## vdW-DF-10

- Exchange: PW86
- Local corr.: LDA
- 2 parameters
- $C_6$  error:  $\sim 60\%$ <sup>(\*)</sup>

(\*) Vydrov and van Voorhis, *PRA* (2010).

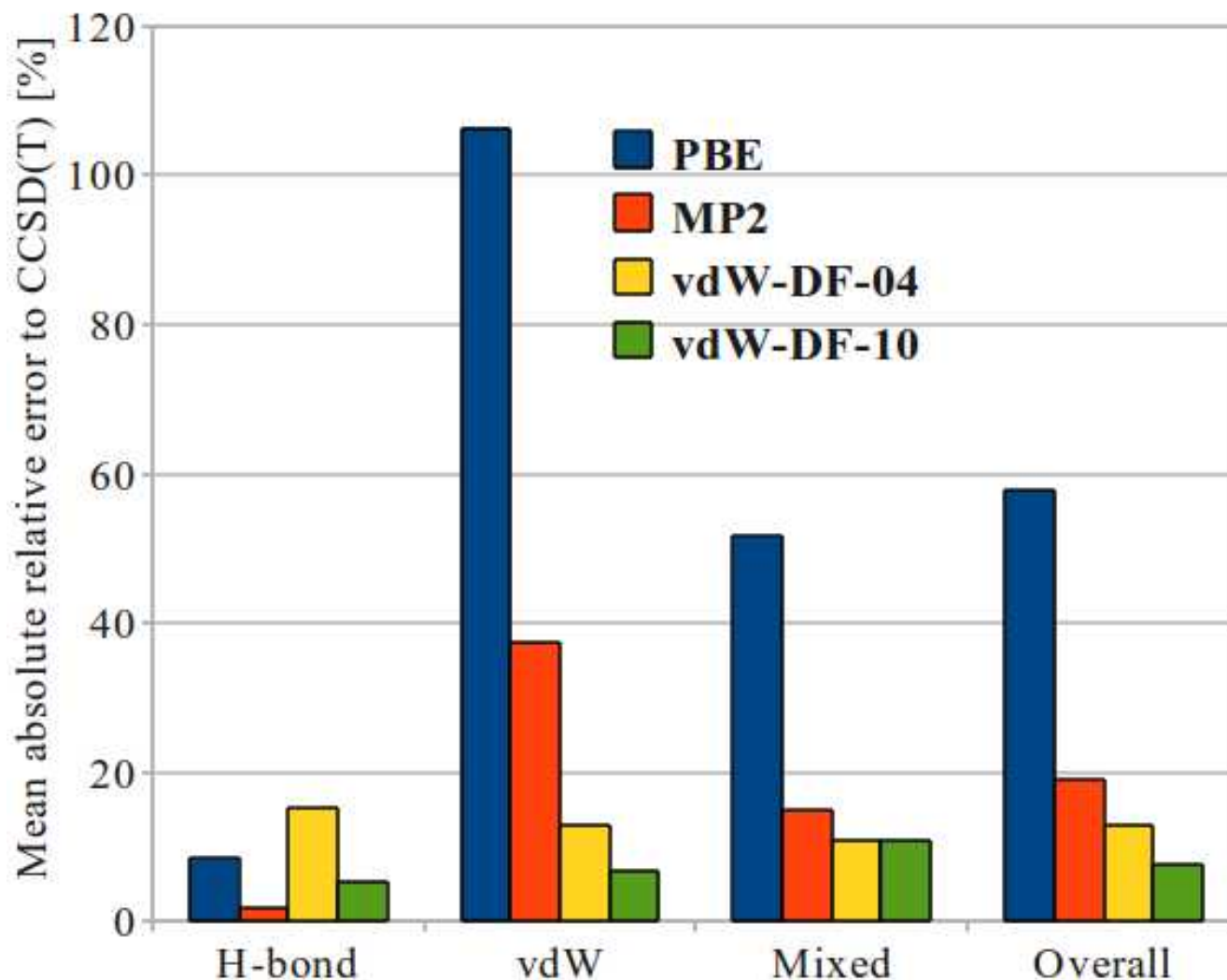
# Approximations for $E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{non-local}}$ in vdW-DF



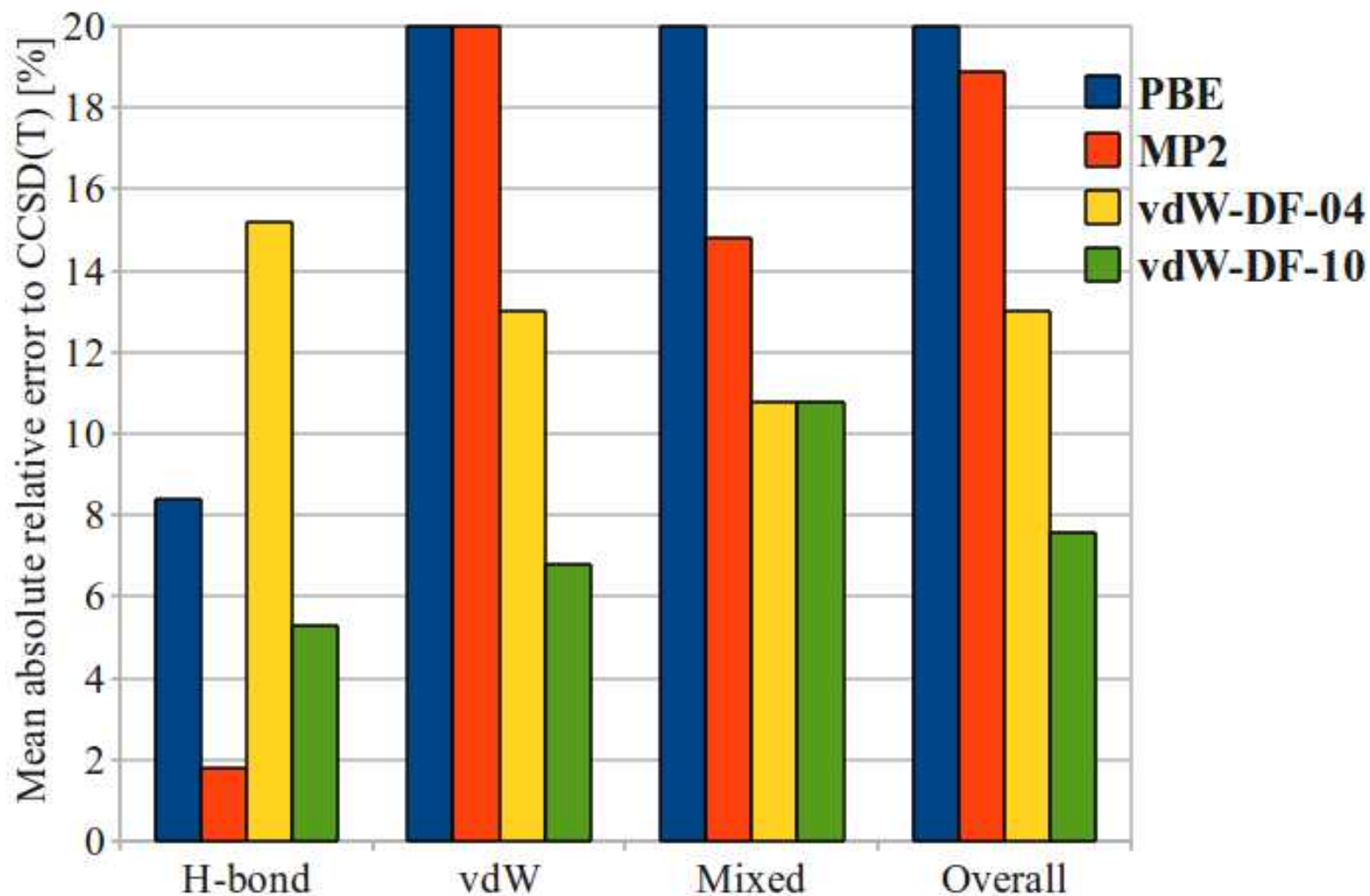
$$E_c = - \int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \int_0^1 d\lambda \text{Tr} \left( (\chi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega) - \chi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega)) \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|} \right)$$

- 1) Local approximation for the response function
- 2) Only pairwise point-point interaction, ignoring non-additive many-body energy

# Performance of vdW-DF on the S22 database



# Performance of vdW-DF on the S22 database



# Limitations of the Langreth-Lundqvist functional

- **vdW-DF-04** is a general purpose functional, however its performance is not optimal (errors significantly larger than chemical accuracy)
- **vdW-DF-10** is a special purpose functional with good performance for molecules. Asymptotic vdW interactions are significantly underestimated (~60%), so no good performance should be expected for larger systems
- The **vdW-DF** concept does not have flexibility for the coupling to semi-local DFT functional. This is being improved by Vydrov and van Voorhis (*PRL* 2009, *JCP* 2010)

# Empirical Minnesota functionals (Zhao-Truhlar, M06 family)

# Empirical Minnesota functionals (Zhao-Truhlar, M06 family)

- Highly flexible (and empirical) form for a functional (**20-40** parameters) trained on a broad set of benchmark (theory and experiment) data
- *A family* of functionals:
  - **M06**: Hybrid meta-GGA functional
  - **M06-L**: GGA (non-hybrid) version of M06
  - **M06-2X**: M06 with twice the amount of HF exchange
  - **M06-HF**: M06 with 100% HF exchange



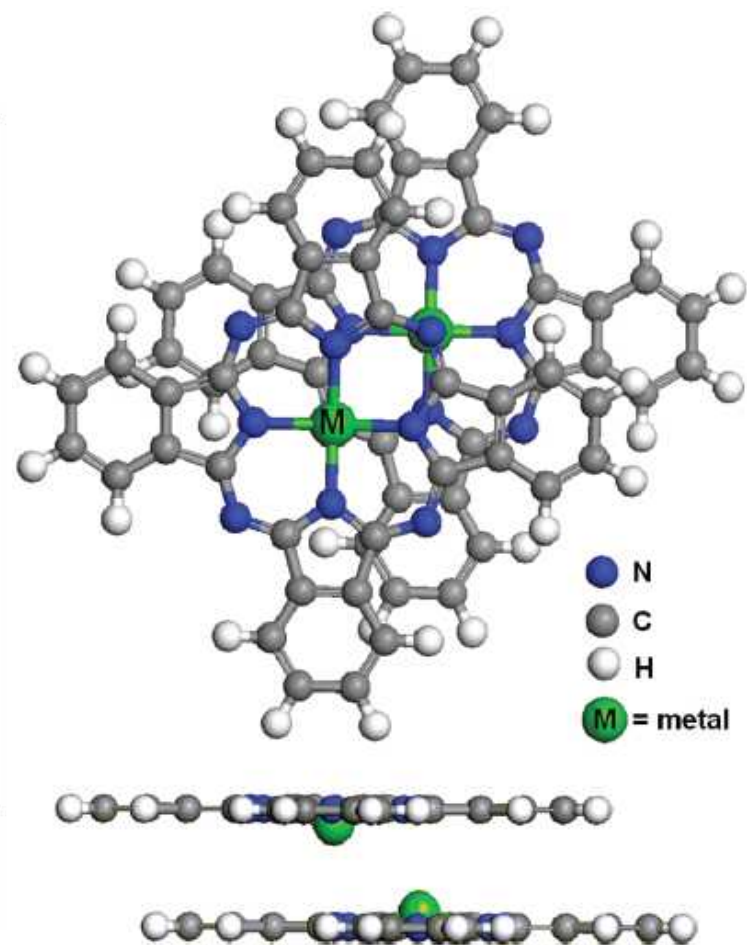
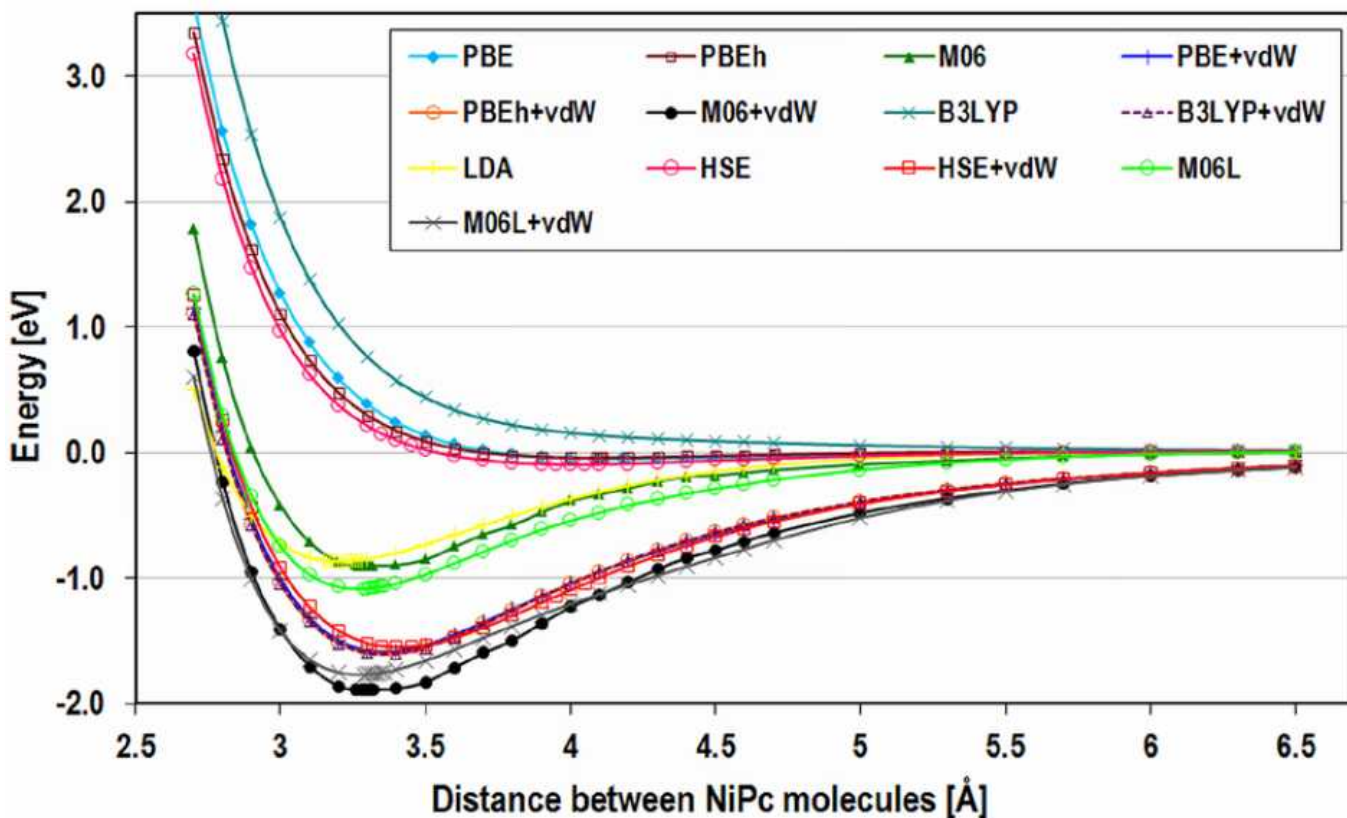
# The description of vdW in M06

Flexible meta-GGA form allows for an approximate modeling of vdW interactions at short-range whenever there is a non-negligible electron density overlap

M06 converges to zero interaction at  $\sim 5 \text{ \AA}$  separation between atoms, in the same way as LDA and GGA

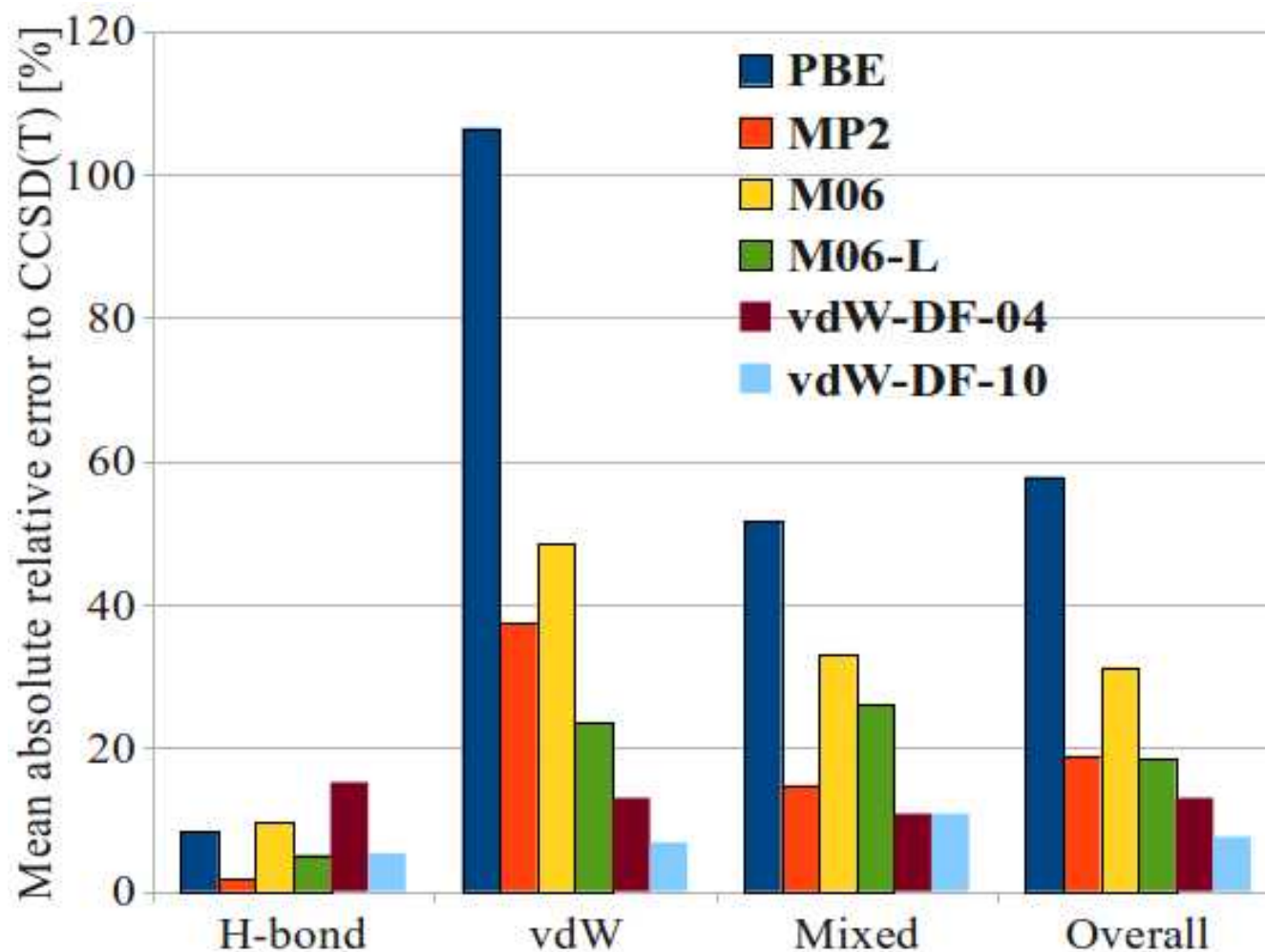
Thus, M06 does not include the correct physics of vdW interactions, typically leading to underbinding of vdW-bound systems

# The description of vdW in M06



Marom, Tkatchenko, Gobre, Rossi, Hod, Scheffler, Kronik, to be submitted.

# Performance of M06(-L) for S22



# Interatomic vdW correction methods

# Interatomic vdW methods

$$E_{\text{xc}} = E_{ex}^{\text{GGA or EX}} + E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{LDA,GGA}} + E_{\text{corr}}^{\text{non-local}}$$

$$E^{vdW}(R) = - \left( f_6(R) \frac{C_6}{R^6} + f_8(R) \frac{C_8}{R^8} + f_{10}(R) \frac{C_{10}}{R^{10}} + \dots \right)$$

- Two parameters per atomic pair: (1) **VdW  $C_6$  interaction coefficient** and (2) **vdW radius**.
- Clearly, if (1) and (2) are empirical, this leads to many fitting parameters. This was frequently the case before **2008**.



# Evolution of interatomic vdW methods

- [Grimme's D1,D2 \(2004-2006\)](#): Parameterization for many elements in the periodic table
  - Highly empirical, some approximations unfounded
- [Jurečka \*et al.\* \(2007\)](#): Accurate parameterization for organic molecules
  - Better theoretical ground, but still very empirical
- [Johnson and Becke \(2005-2008\)](#), [Silvestrelli \(2008\)](#):  $C_6$  and vdW radii from HF or DFT orbitals
  - Reduced empiricism, errors of  $\sim 20\%$ - $40\%$  in  $C_6$  coefficients
- [Tkatchenko and Scheffler \(2009\)](#):  $C_6$  coefficients and vdW radii from ground-state electron density
  - First-principles  $C_6$  accurate to **5%**
- ....

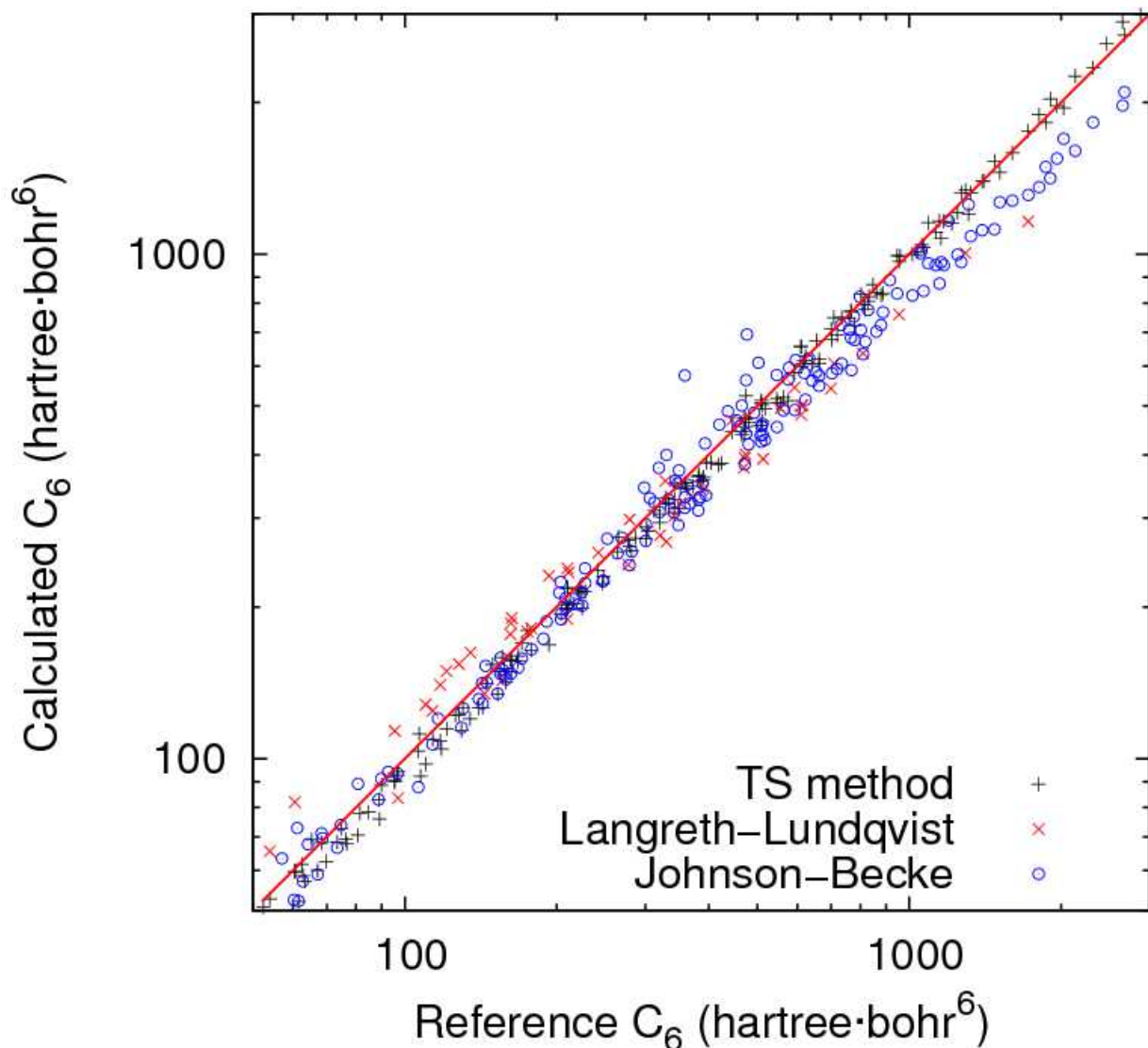


# Highlights of TS-vdW method

- VdW asymptotics with an accuracy of 5%
- Transparent partitioning of vdW coefficients over atoms
- Reduced empiricism (1 parameter in the damping function)
- Polarizability is directly proportional to volume
- Computationally efficient
- Valid for the whole periodic table

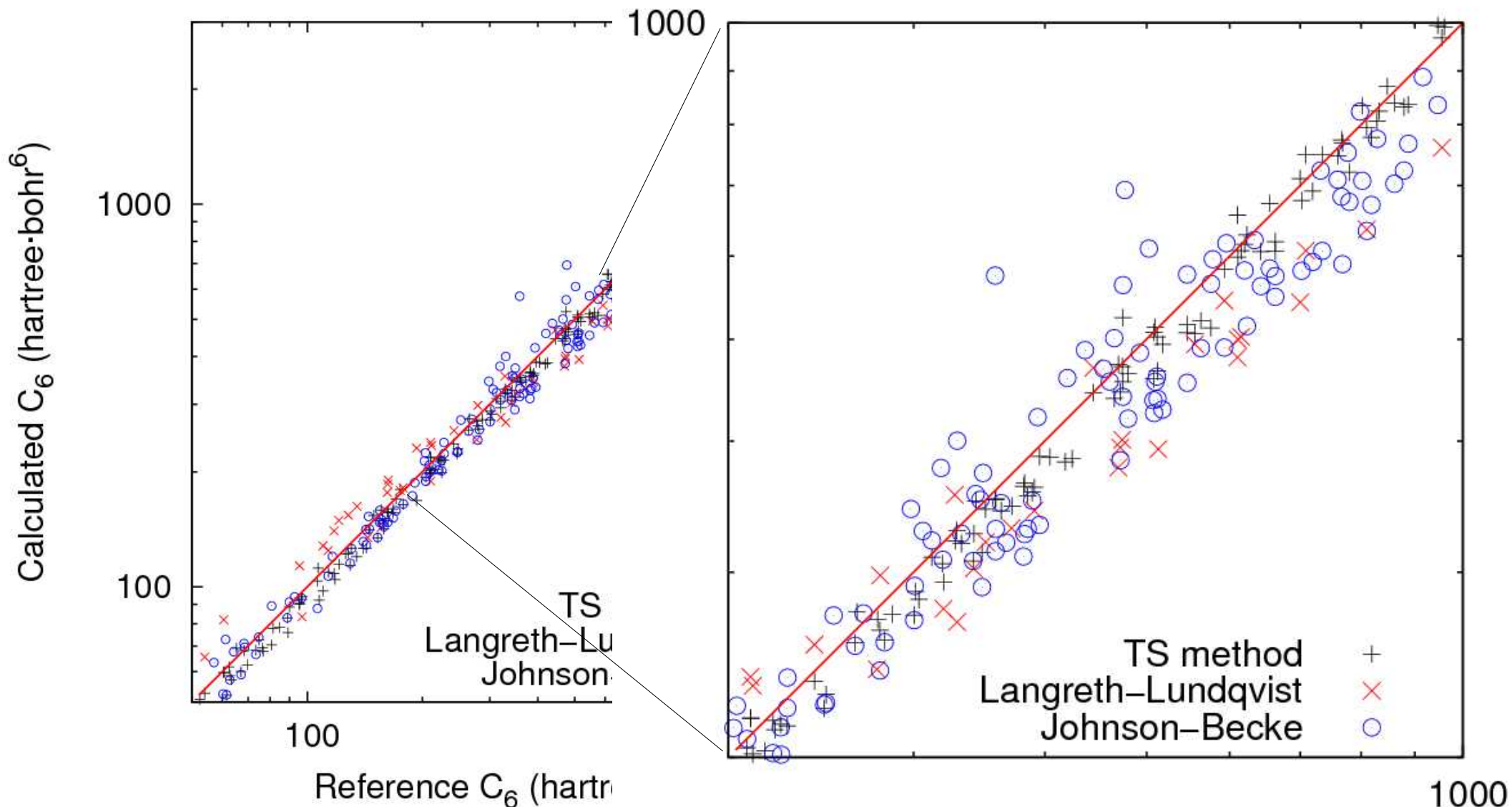
$$C_{6AA}[n(\mathbf{r})] = \left( \frac{V_A[n(\mathbf{r})]}{V_A^{free}[n^{free}(\mathbf{r})]} \right)^2 C_{6AA}^{free}$$

# Performance of TS-vdW method for molecules



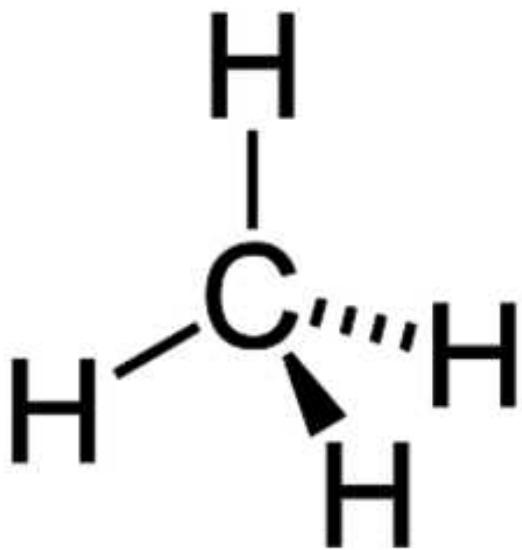
**Mean absolute error of 5.5%** for **1225** molecular  $C_6$  from reference DOSD data of *W. J. Meath et al.*

# Performance of TS-vdW method for molecules



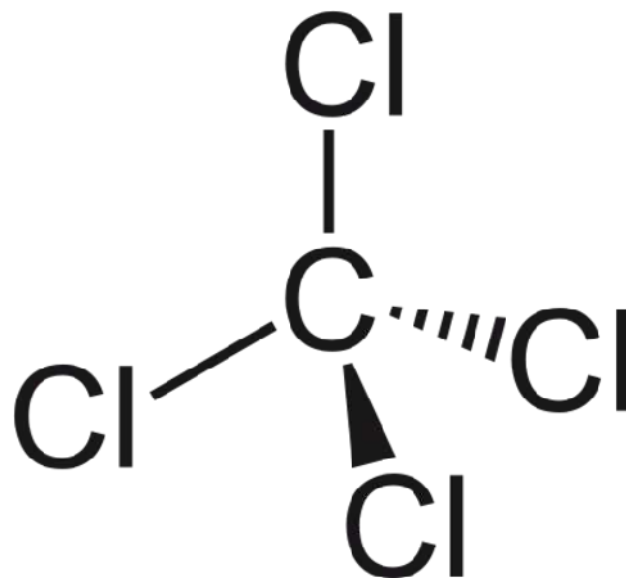
Results depend negligibly (1% deviation) on the employed  $xc$  functional

$C_6$  is a **functional** of the density  
(Carbon-Carbon  $C_6$  coefficient / Hartree Bohr<sup>6</sup>)



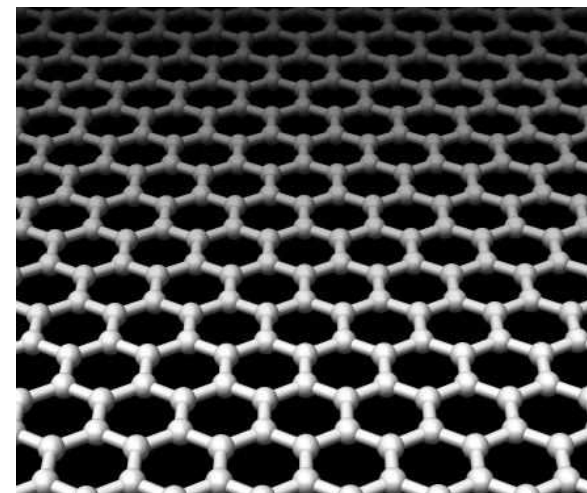
**24.1**

$sp^3$



**43.1**

$sp^3$



**33.0**

$sp^2$

# DFT+vdW

Leading dispersion term is added to DFT total energy, damped at short interatomic distance,

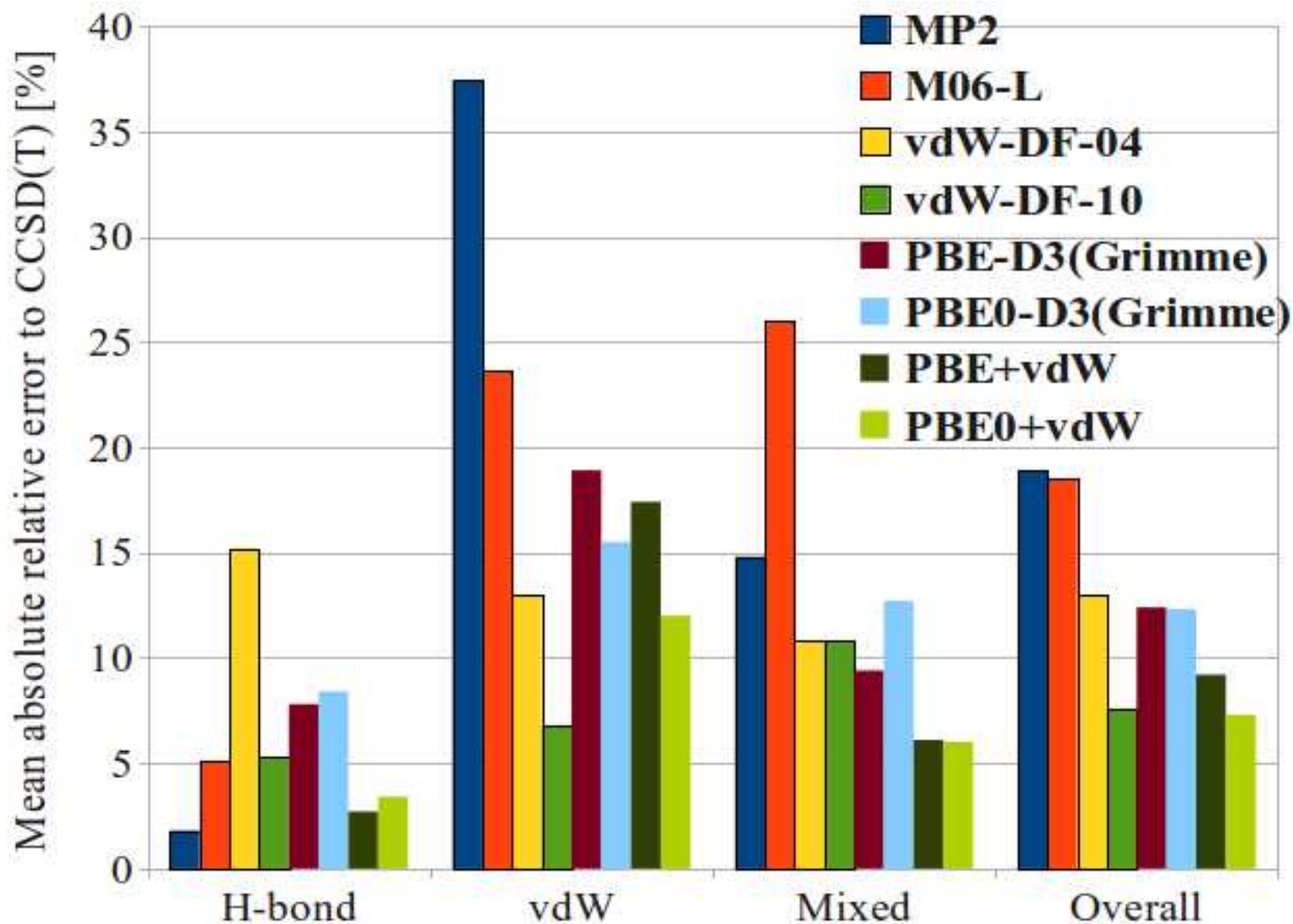
$$E_{vdW} = - \sum_A \sum_{B>A} f_{damp}(R_{AB}, R_A^0, R_B^0) C_{6AB} R_{AB}^{-6}$$

$$R_{eff}^0 = \left( \frac{V_{eff}}{V_{free}} \right)^{1/3} R_{free}^0$$

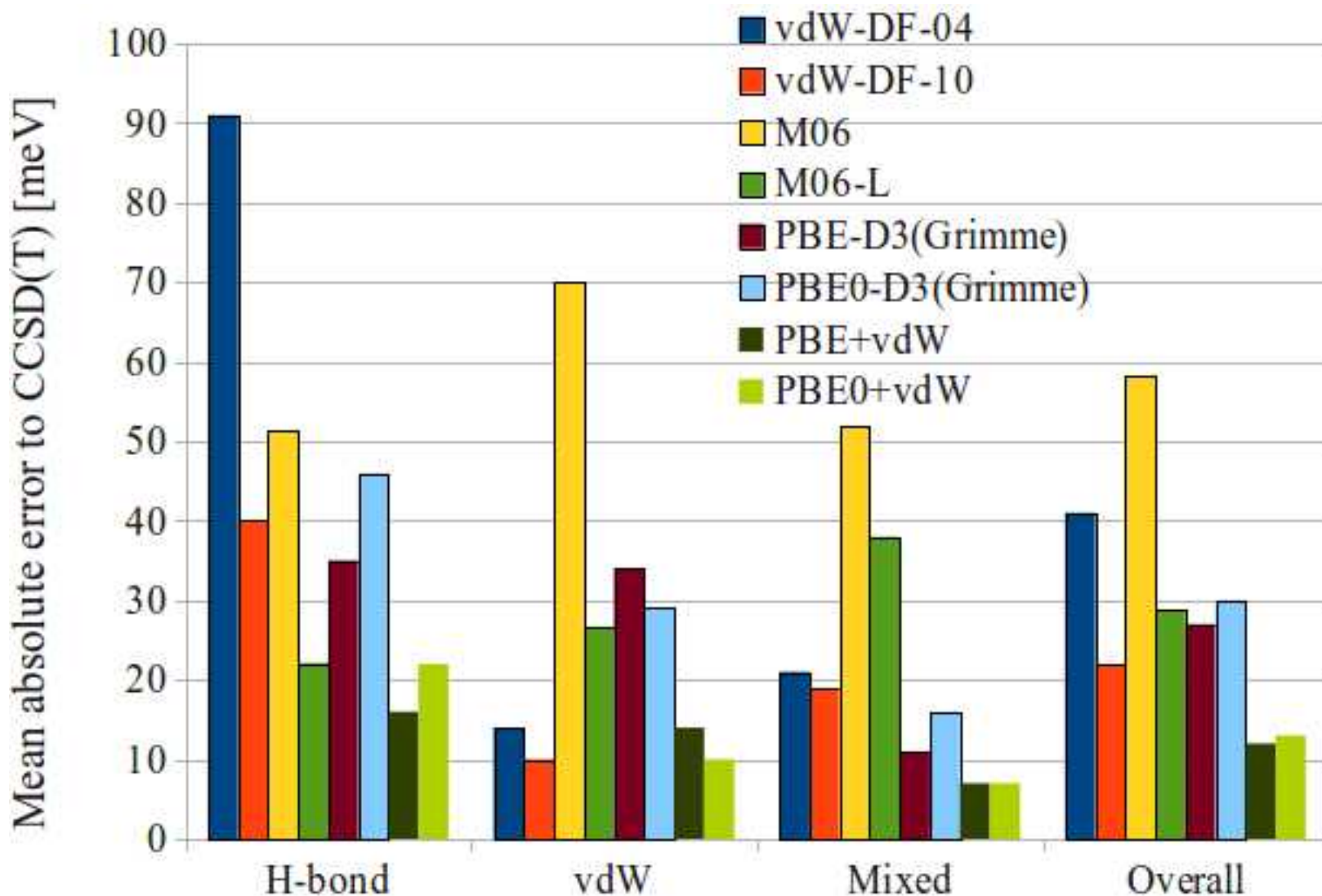
- Effective vdW parameters are functionals of the electron density:

$$C_6 = C_6[n(\mathbf{r})], \quad R_{vdW} = R_{vdW}[n(\mathbf{r})]$$

# Performance of DFT+vdW for S22

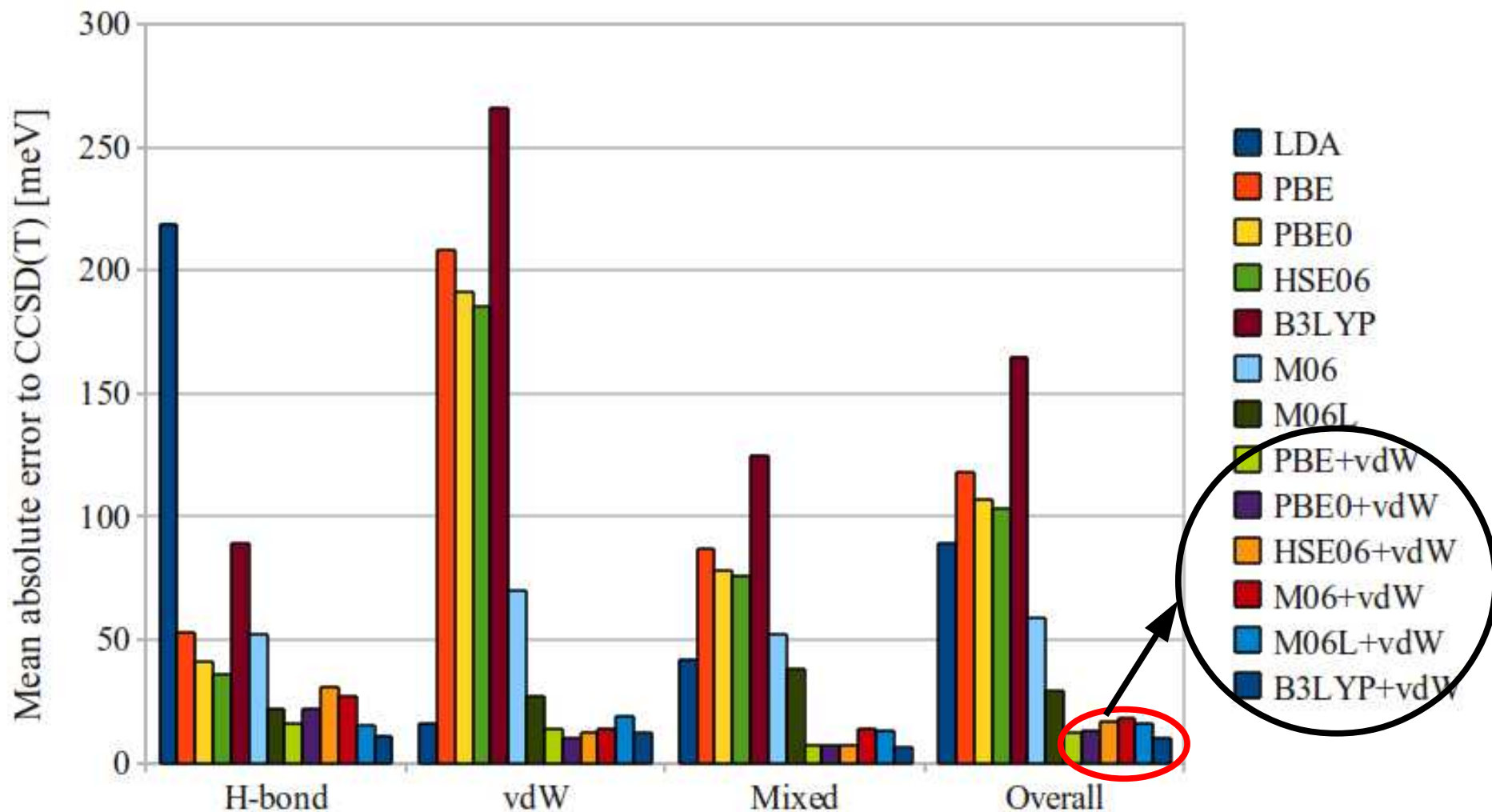


# Performance of DFT+vdW for S22 (Mean Absolute Error)

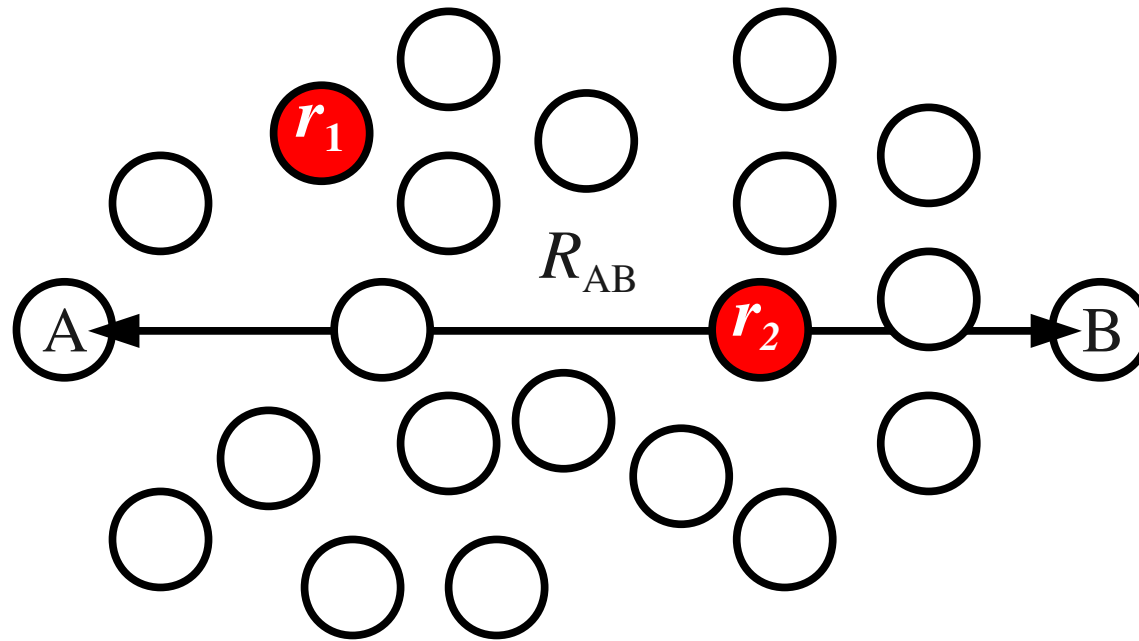




# Performance of DFT+vdW for S22: Different functionals



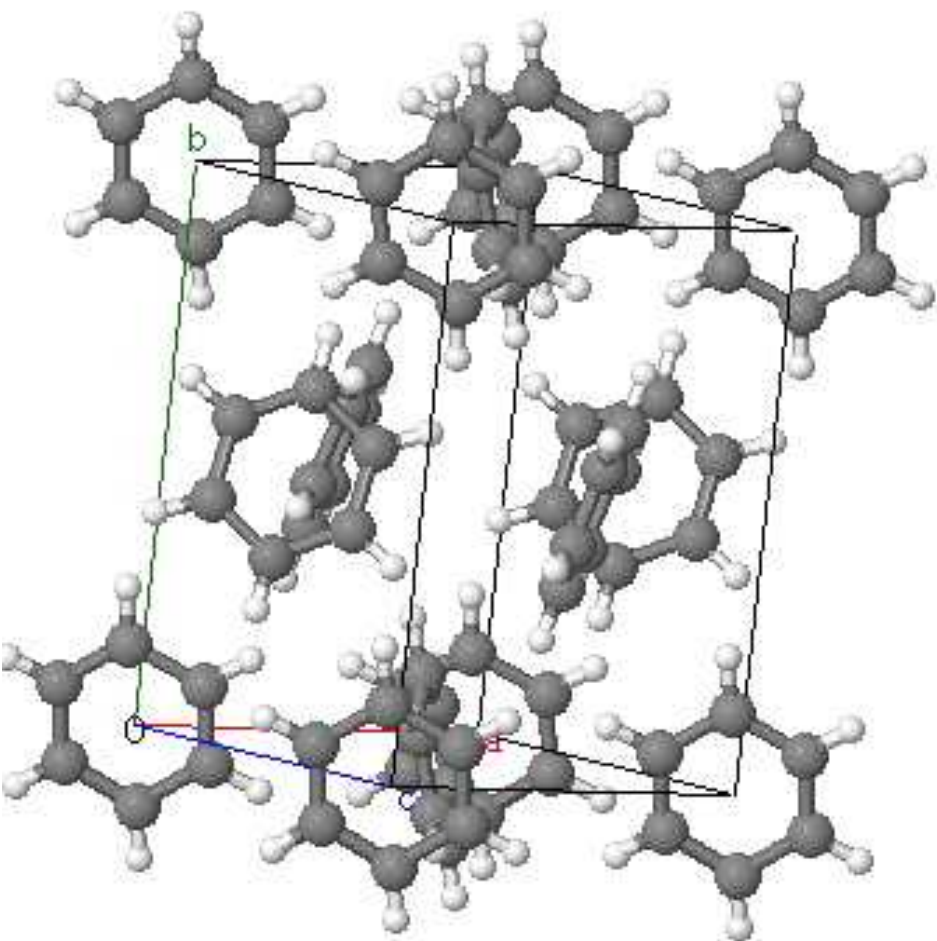
# What is missing in DFT+vdW?



$$E_c = - \int_0^\infty \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} \int_0^1 d\lambda \text{Tr} \left( (\chi_\lambda(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega) - \chi_0(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2; i\omega)) \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|} \right)$$

- 1) Long-range electrostatic screening among fluctuating dipoles
- 2) Non-additive many-body vdW energy beyond two-body

# DFT+vdW<sup>SCS+MB</sup>: Screening and Many-Body vdW Energy



**Benzene crystal**

PBE+vdW

690 meV/molecule

PBE+vdW<sup>SCS+MB</sup>

565 meV/molecule

Experiment

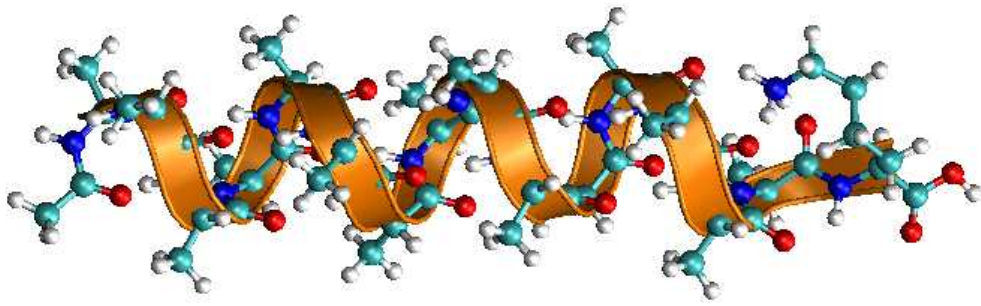
518-560 meV/molecule

2.9 kcal/mol

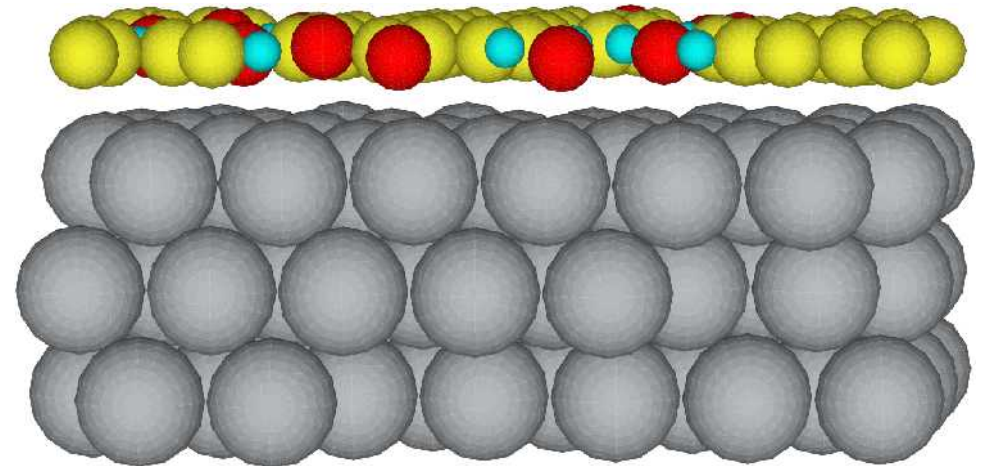
due to screening  
and many-body  
VdW effects

# DFT+vdW: Challenges

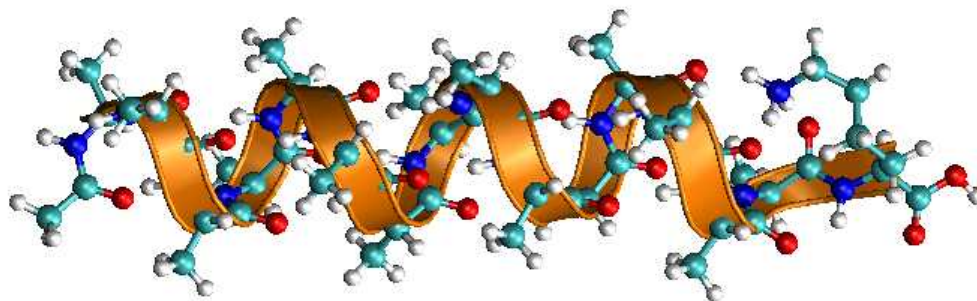
- DFT+vdW treats intra- and intermolecular interactions accurately. Recent extension permits the treatment of insulators, ionic, and semiconductor solids
- Coupling of (short-range) DFT and (long-range) vdW remains empirical, and one of the biggest issues to address
- No satisfactory model for metallic bulk systems yet
- Interatomic potentials may not work for highly anisotropic low-dimensional systems (*Dobson, Rubio, et al.*)



# Applications



# Unraveling the Role of vdW Interactions for Peptide Secondary Structure

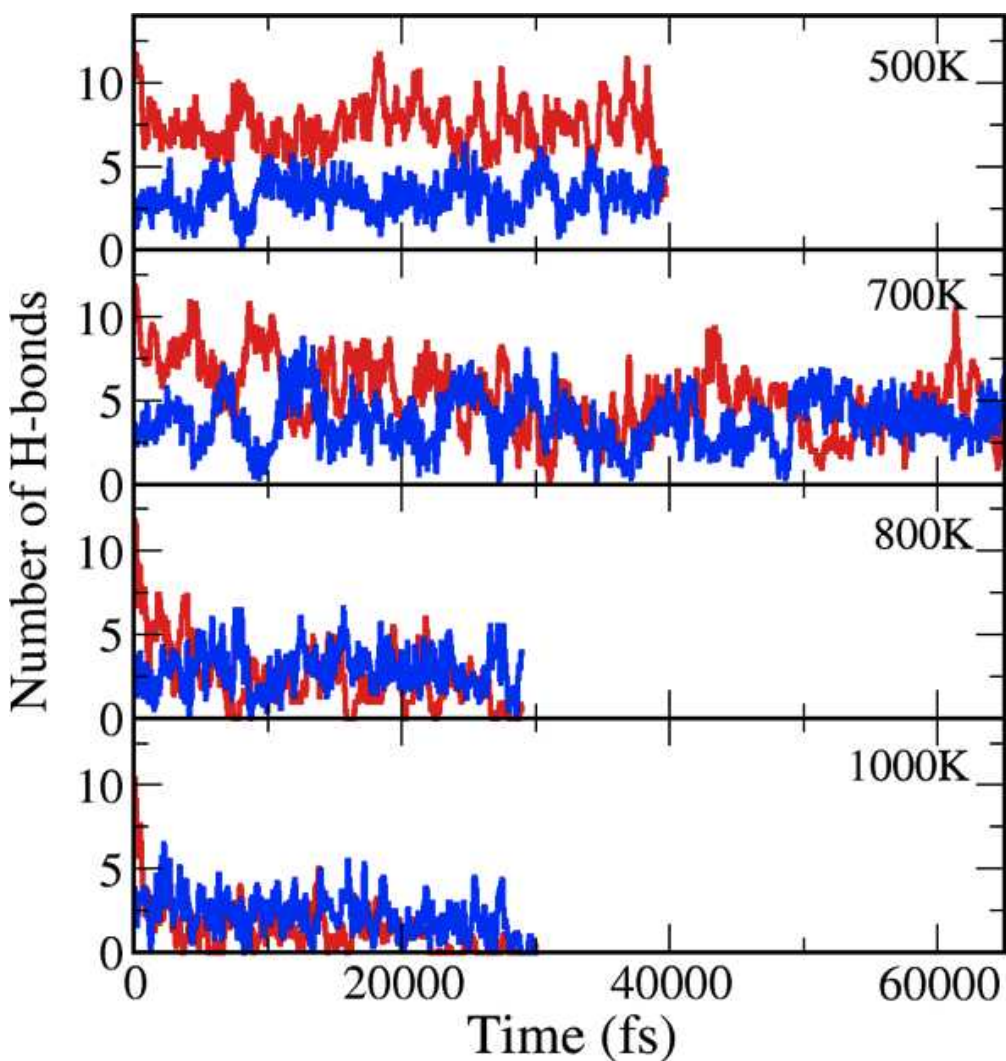


- $\text{Ala}_{15}\text{LysH}^+$  forms stable helices *in vacuo* up to  $\sim 700\text{ K}$  (in solution only up to  $\sim 340\text{ K}$ )
- Direct first-principles folding simulations are not feasible, but unfolding dynamics could provide similar insight !

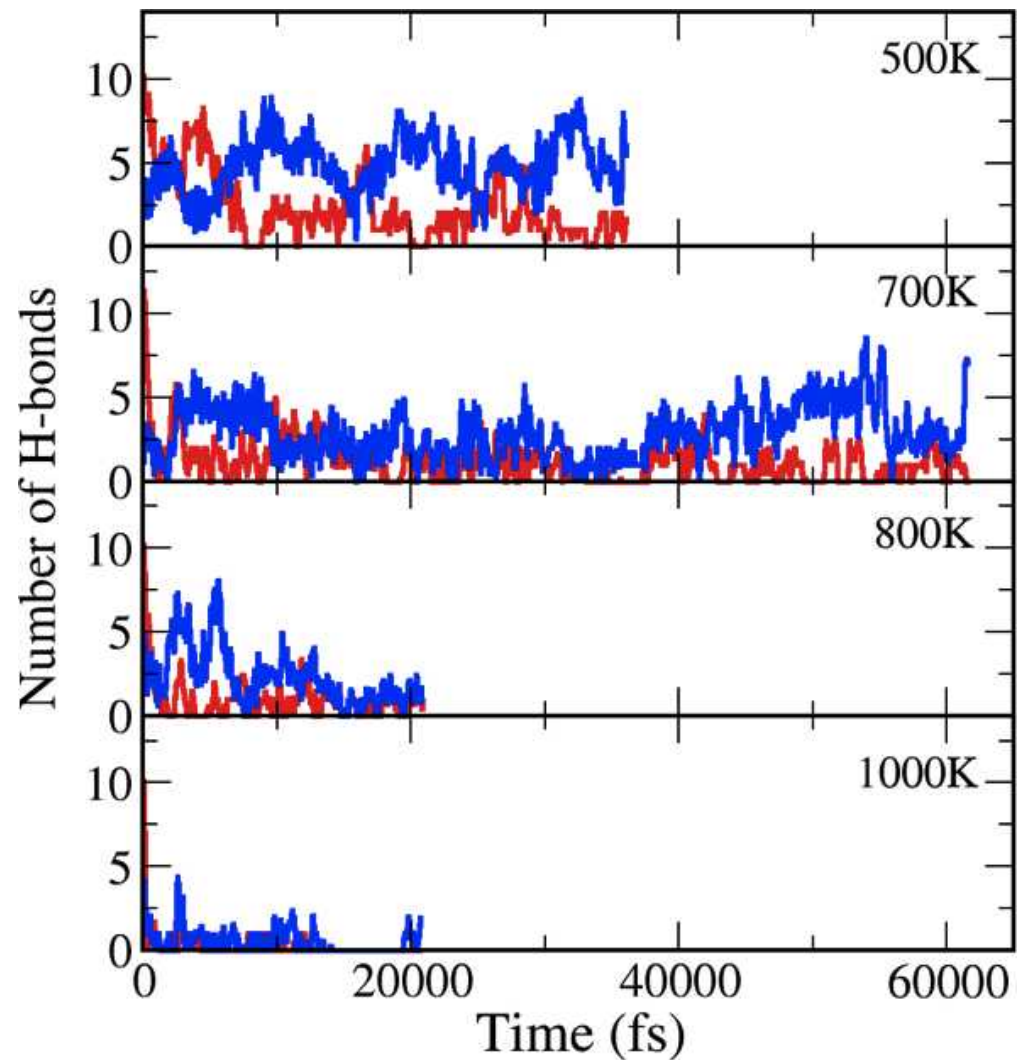
Experiments: *Kohtani, Jones, Schneider, Jarrold, JACS (2004)*



## DFT-PBE+vdW



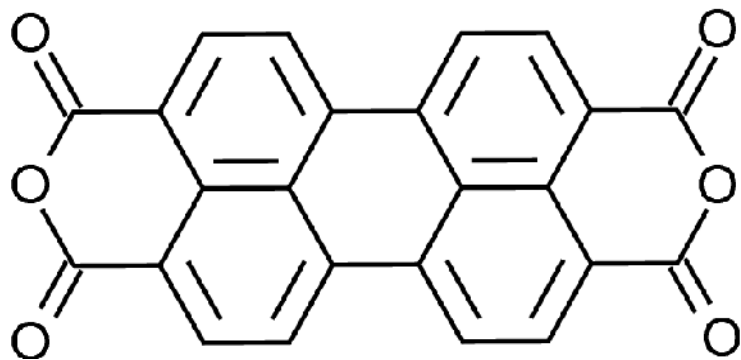
## DFT-PBE



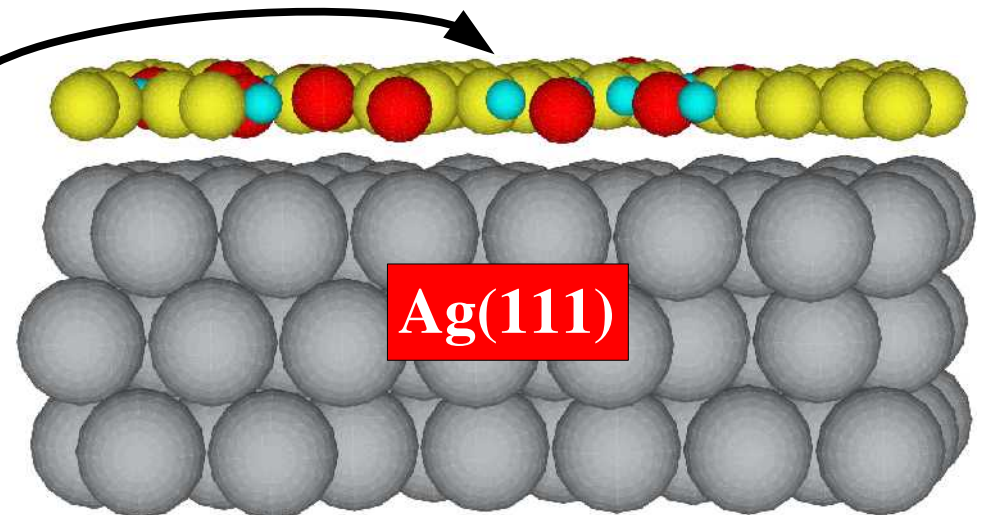
—  $\alpha$  helical  
—  $3_{10}$  helical



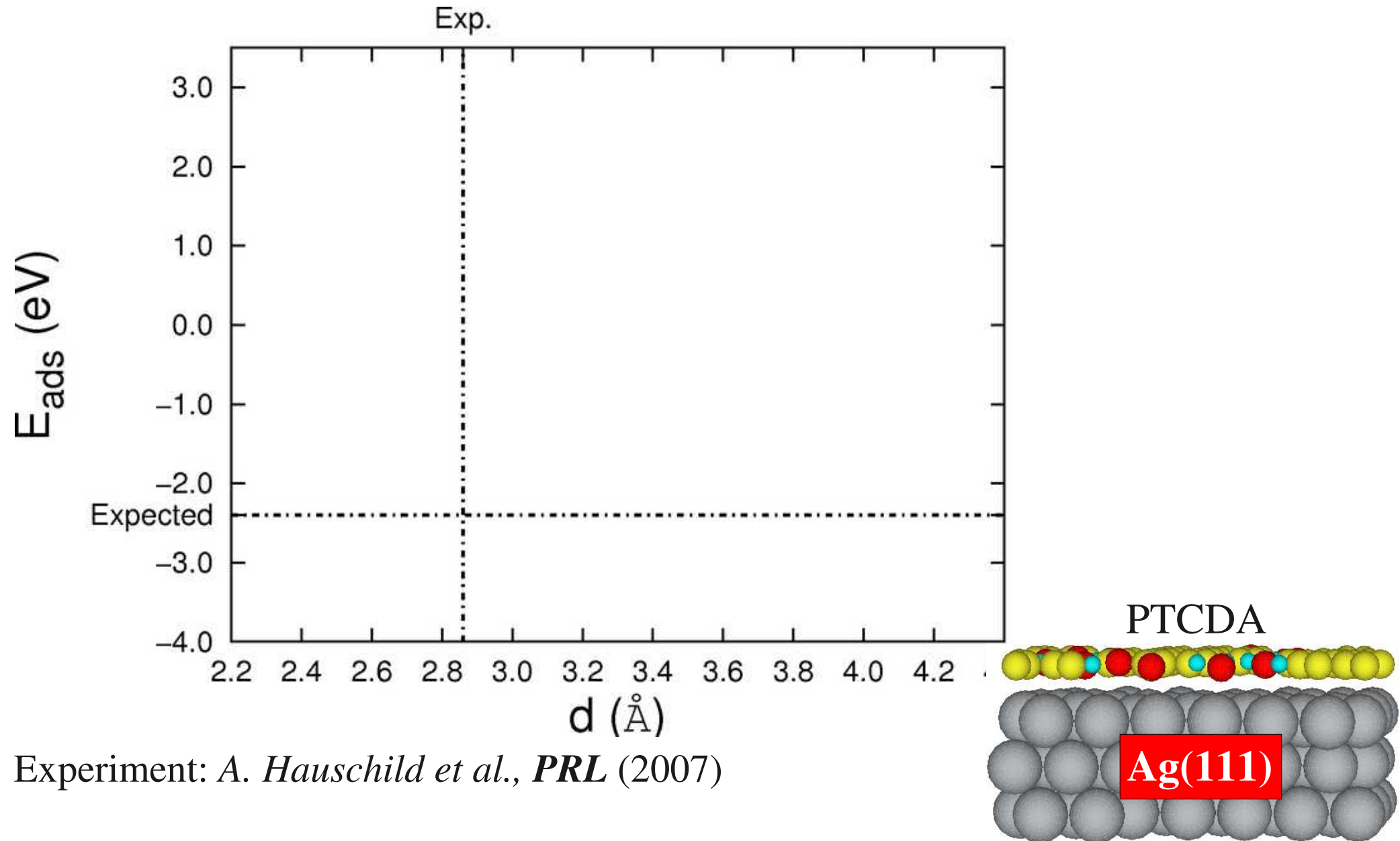
# Van der Waals and Inorganic/Organic Interfaces



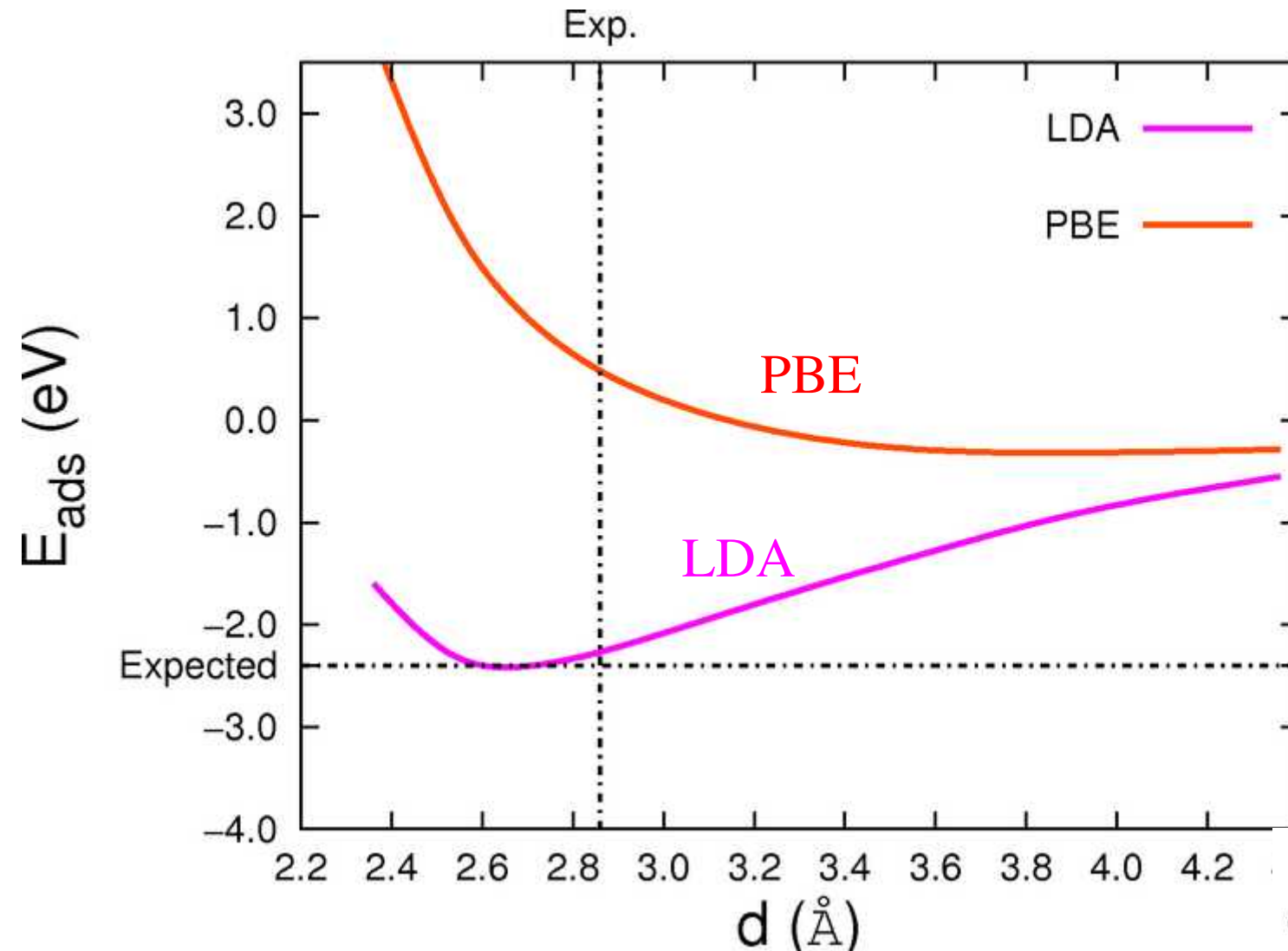
perylene-3,4,9,10-  
tetracarboxylic-  
3,4,9,10-dianhydride  
(PTCDA)



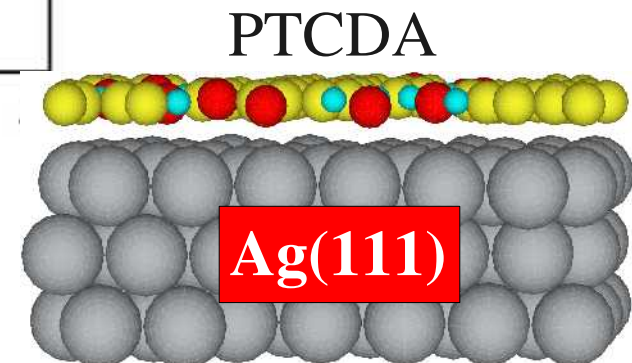
# Van der Waals and Interfaces: Which theoretical method ?



# Van der Waals and Interfaces: Which theoretical method ?



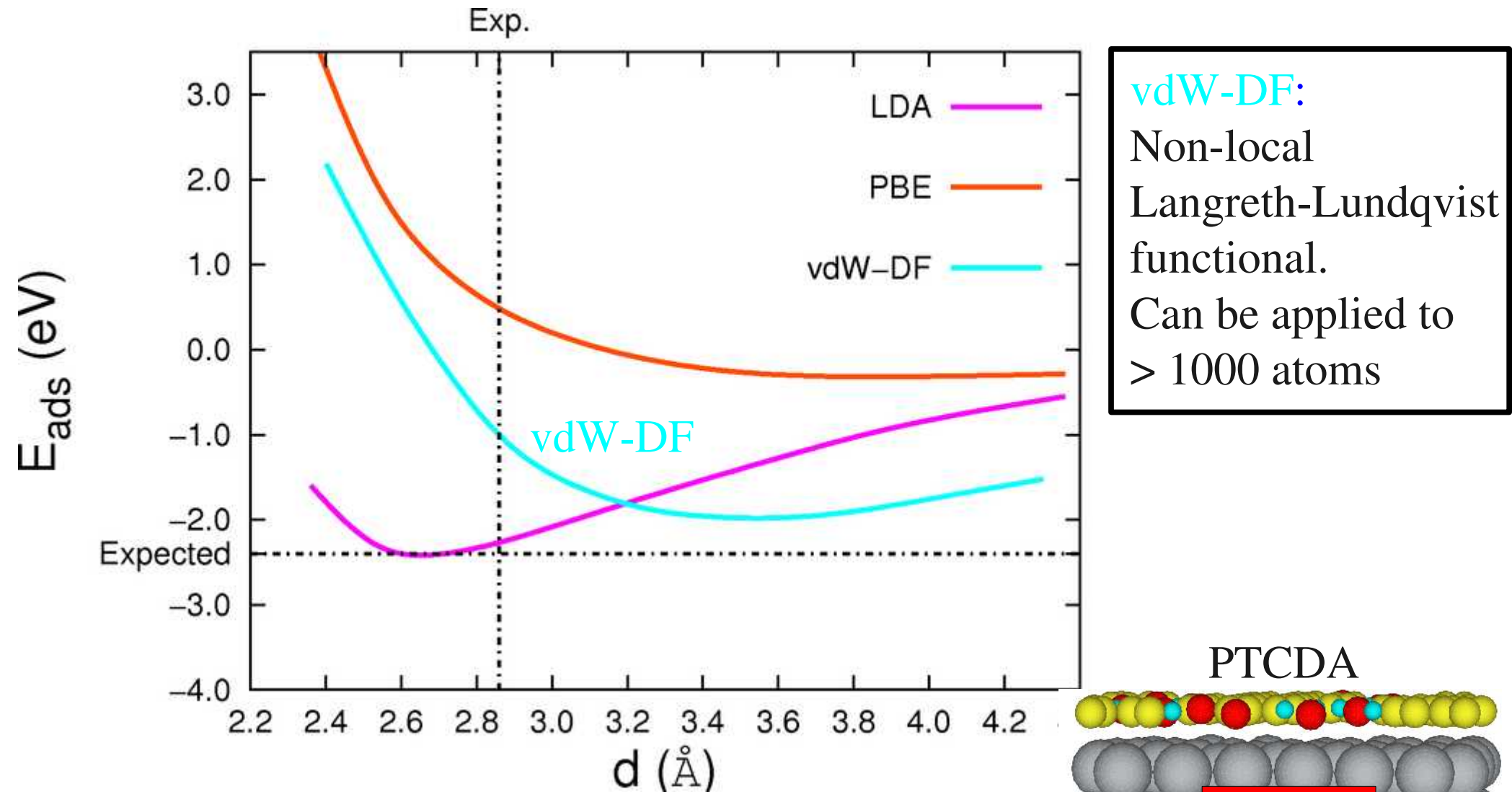
**LDA/PBE:**  
(semi-)local DFT.  
Can be applied to  
> 1000 atoms



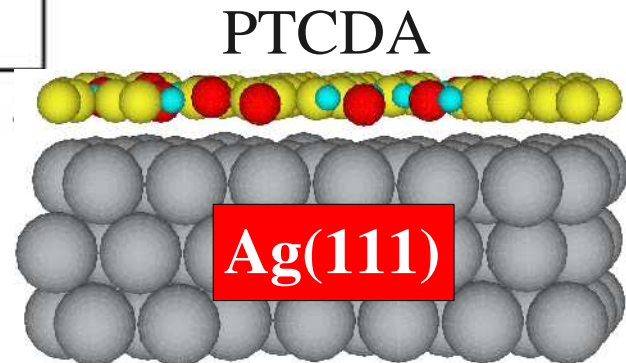
Experiment: *A. Hauschild et al., PRL (2007)*

Theory review: *A. Tkatchenko et al., MRS Bulletin (2010)*

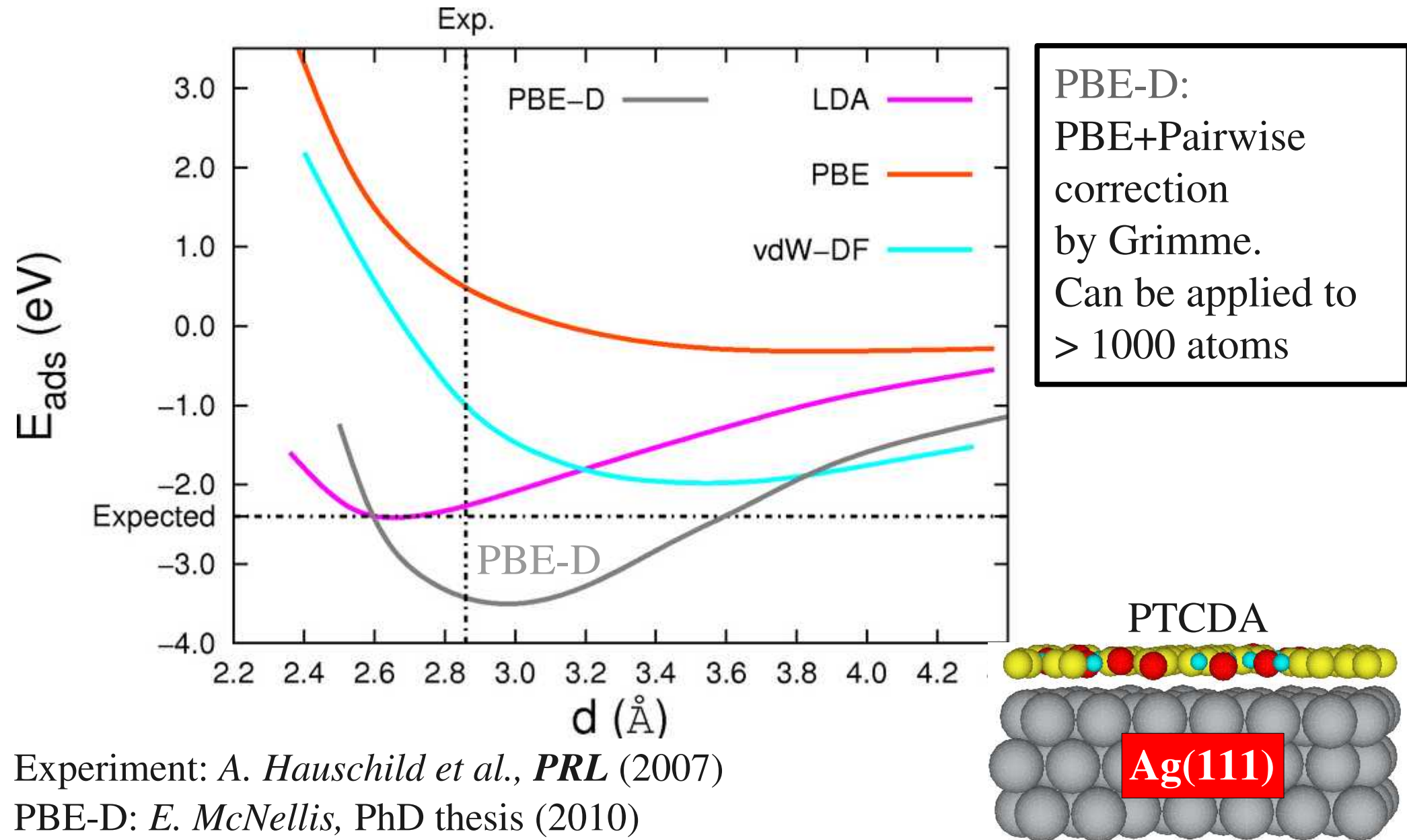
# Van der Waals and Interfaces: Which theoretical method ?



Experiment: *A. Hauschild et al., PRL (2007)*  
vdW-DF: *L. Romaner et al., New J. Phys. (2009)*

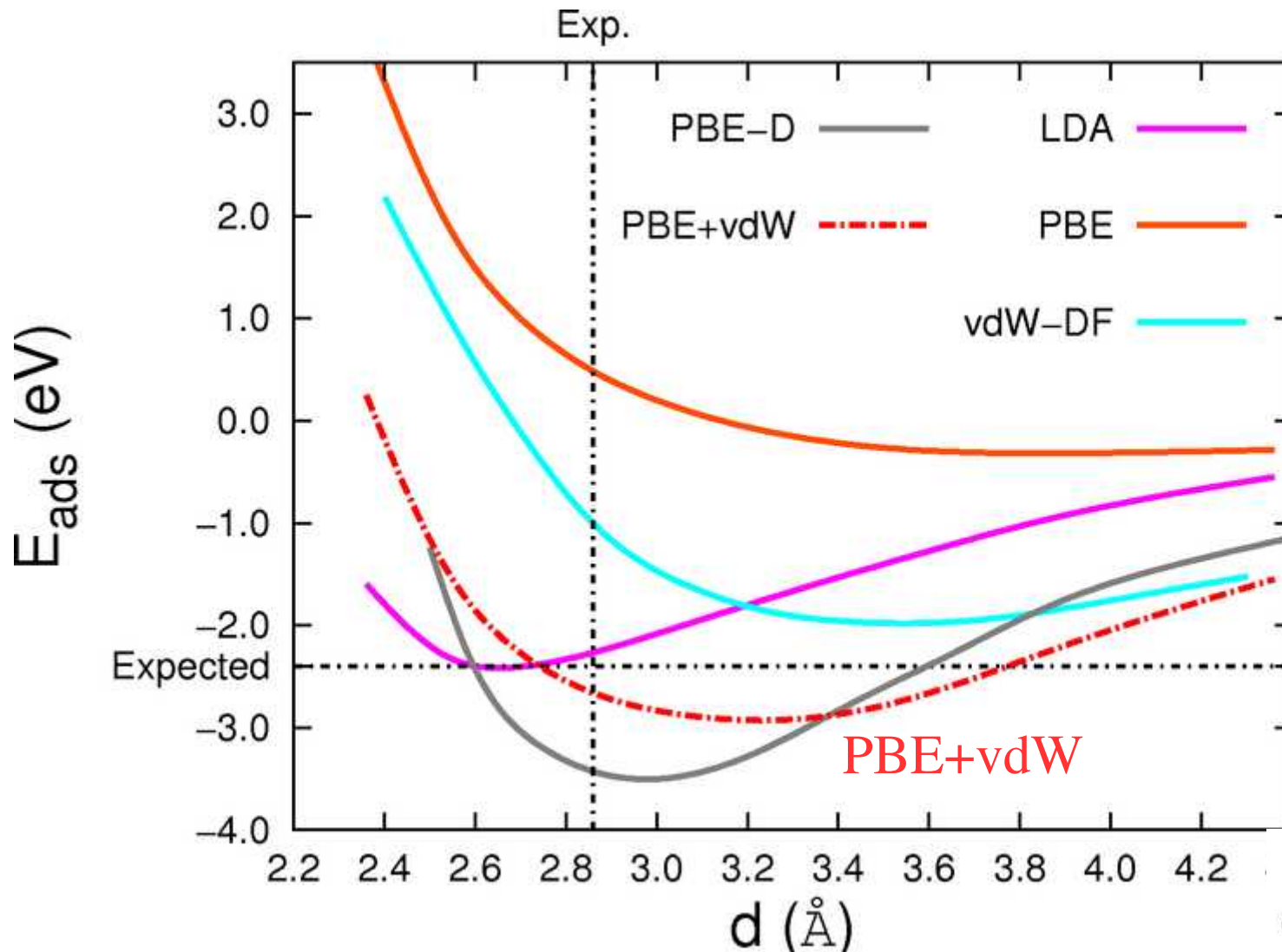


# Van der Waals and Interfaces: Which theoretical method ?

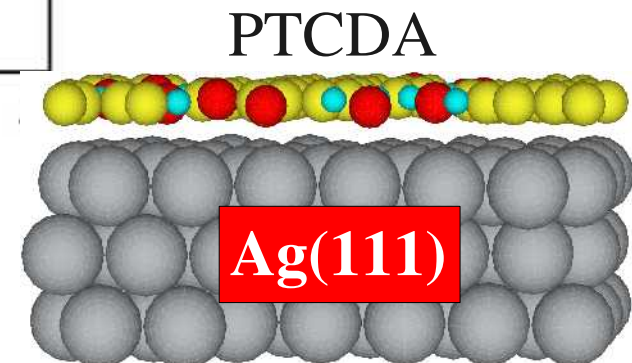




# Van der Waals and Interfaces: Which theoretical method ?



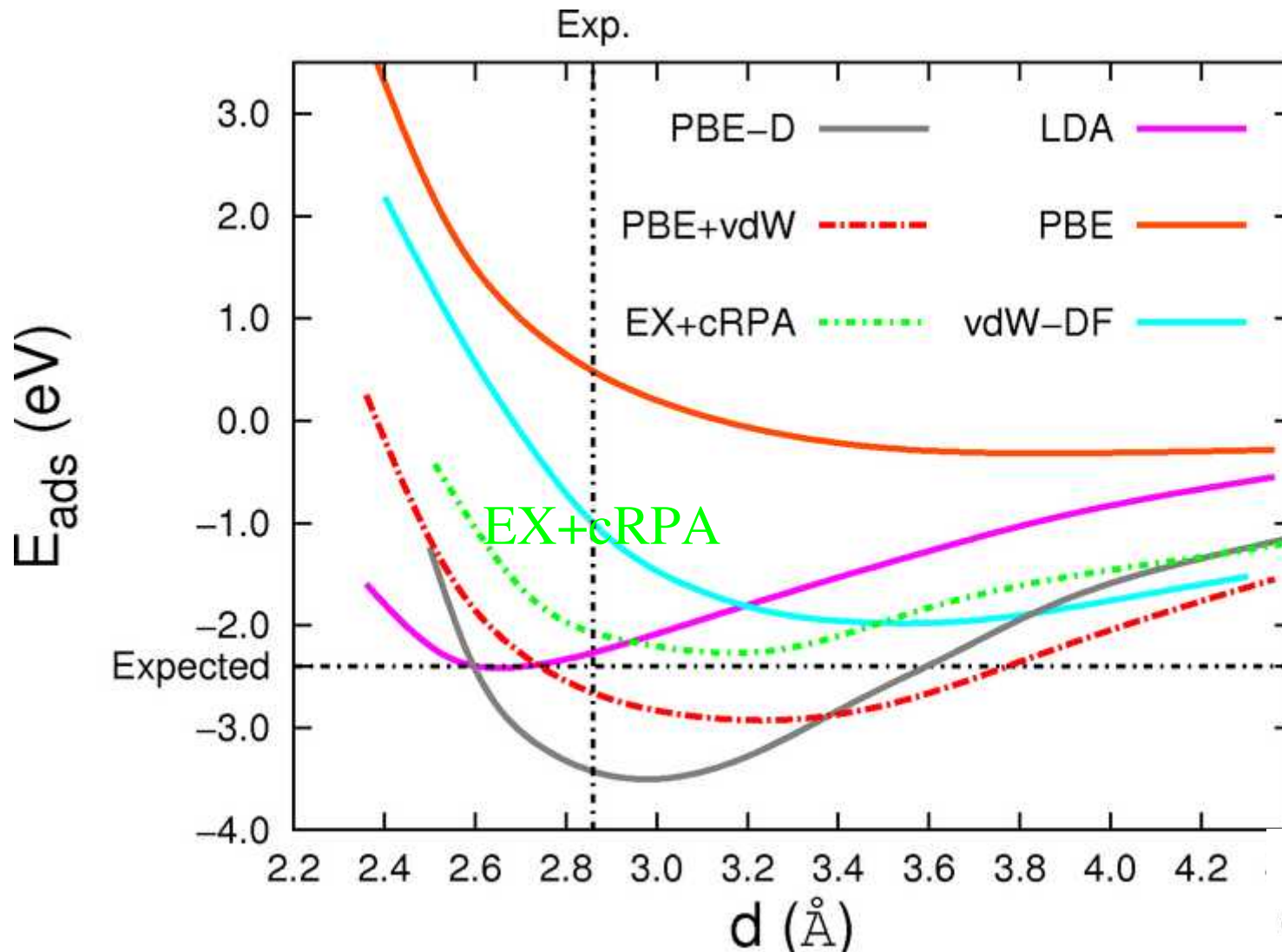
**PBE+vdW:**  
PBE+Pairwise  
correction by  
Tkatchenko-Scheffler.  
Can be applied to  
> 1000 atoms



Experiment: *A. Hauschild et al., PRL (2007)*

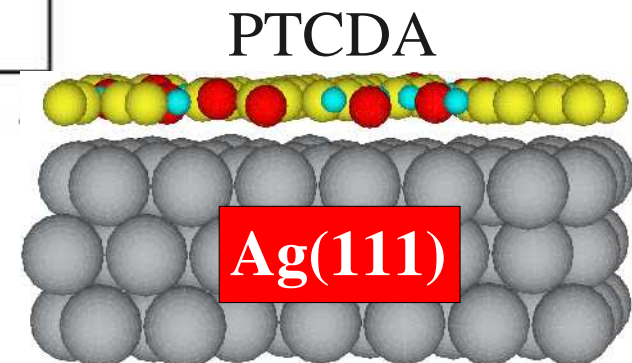
PBE+vdW: *E. McNellis, PhD thesis (2010)*

# Van der Waals and Interfaces: Which theoretical method ?



**EX+cRPA:**

Exact exchange +  
approximate  
many-body  
correlation energy.  
Can be applied to  
< 200 atoms

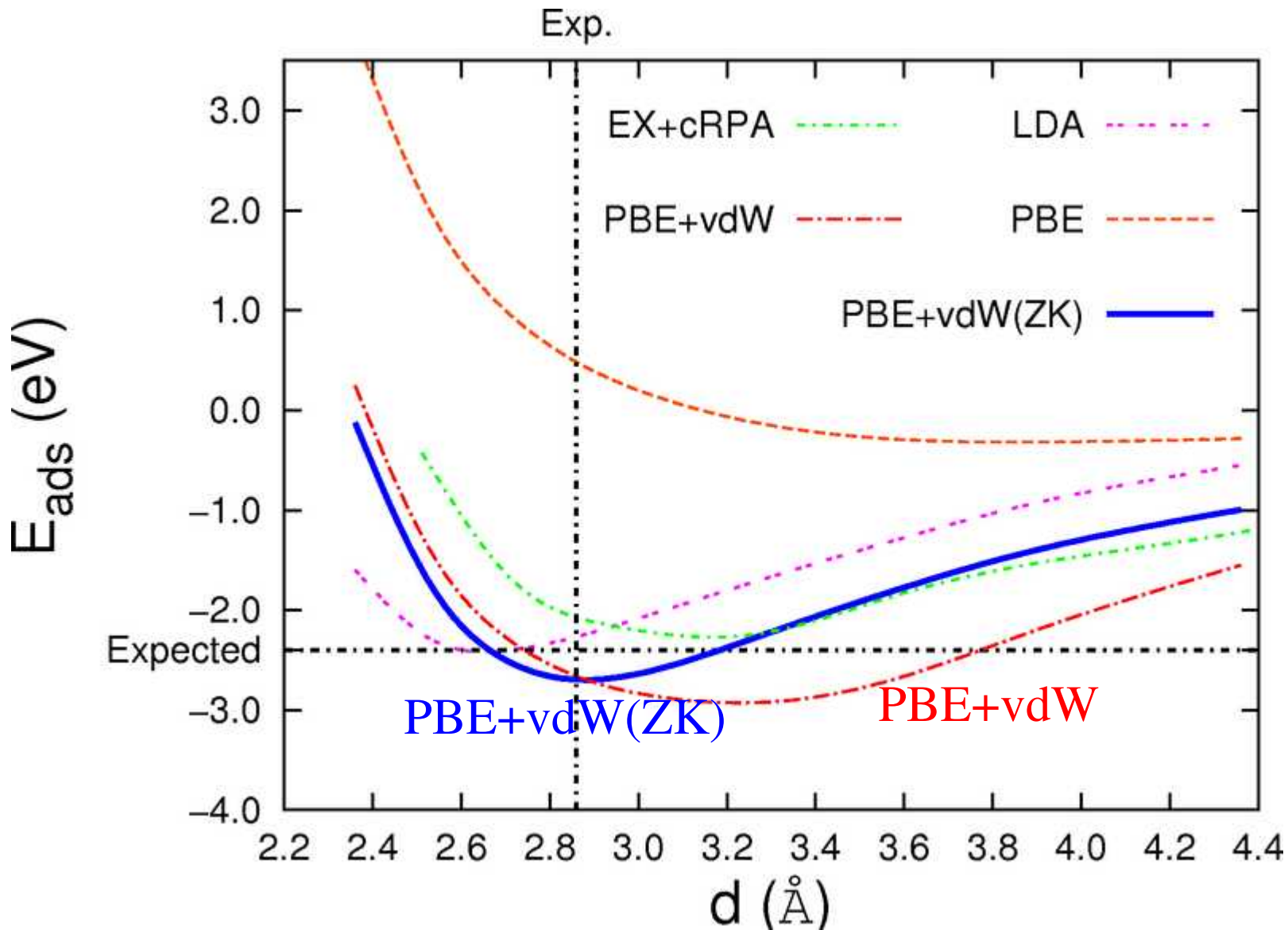


Experiment: *A. Hauschild et al., PRL (2007)*

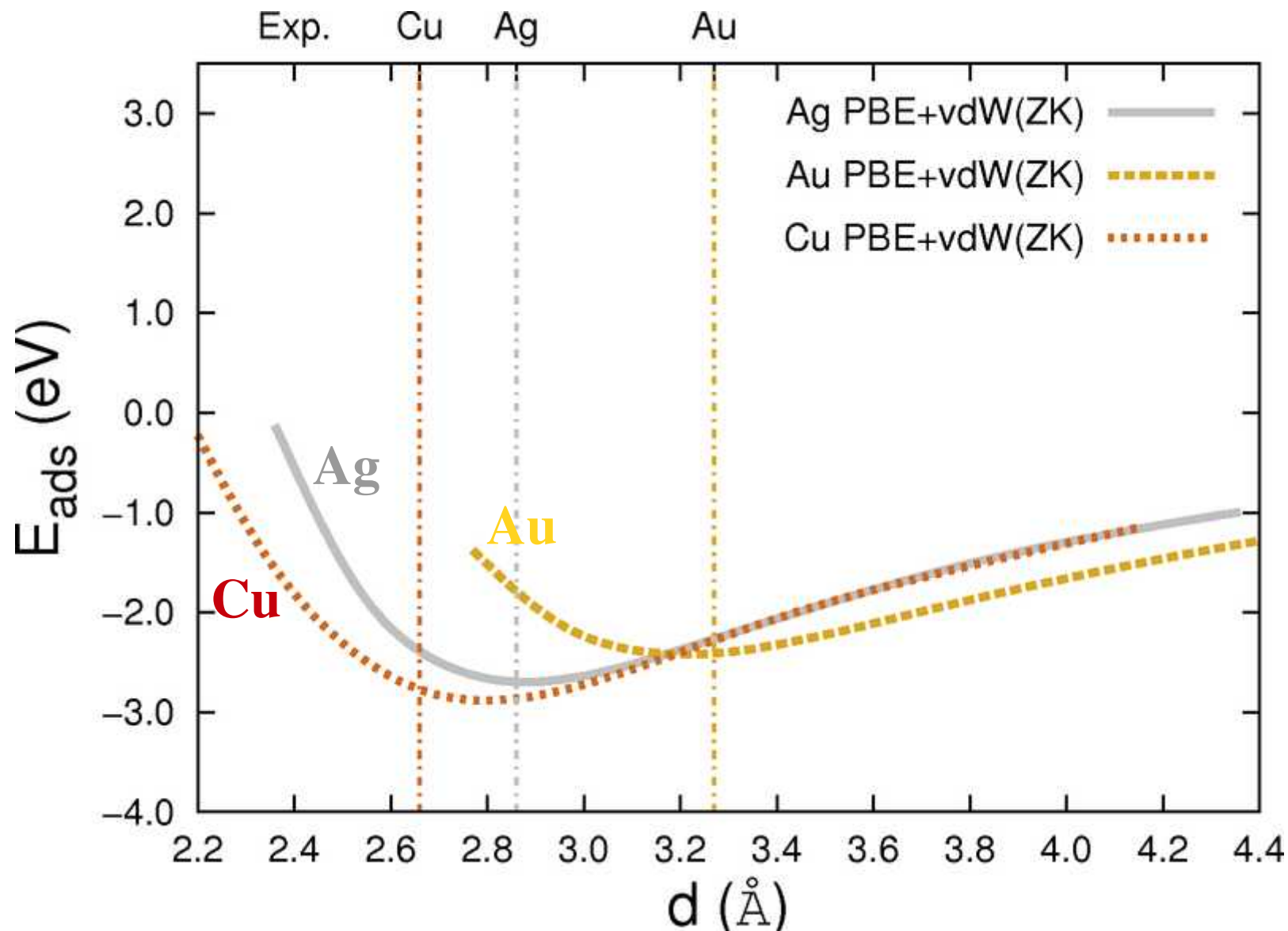
EX+cRPA: *M. Rohlfing and T. Bredow, PRL (2008)*



# PTCDA@Ag(111): PBE+vdW(ZK)

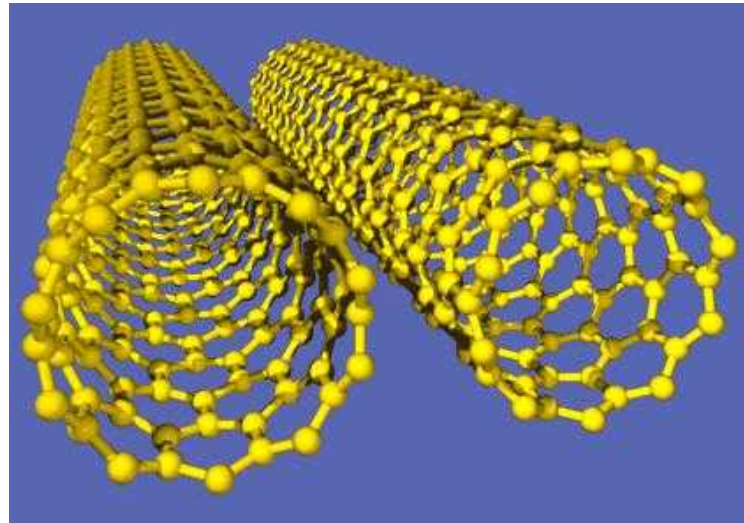
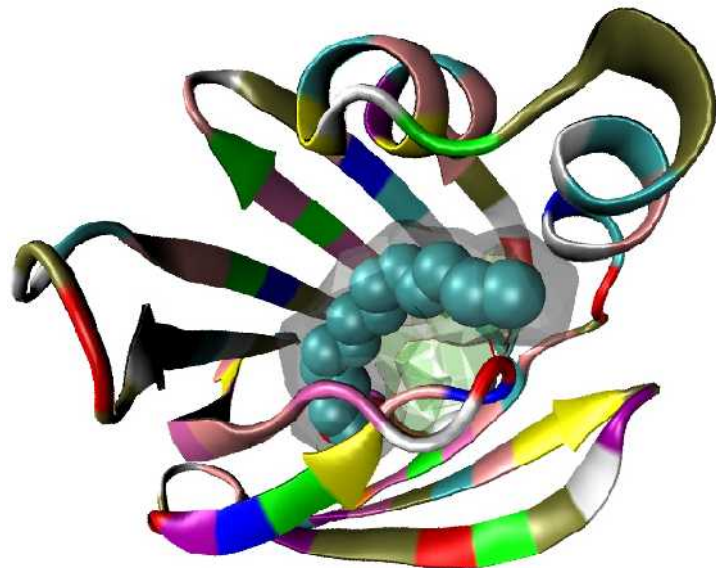
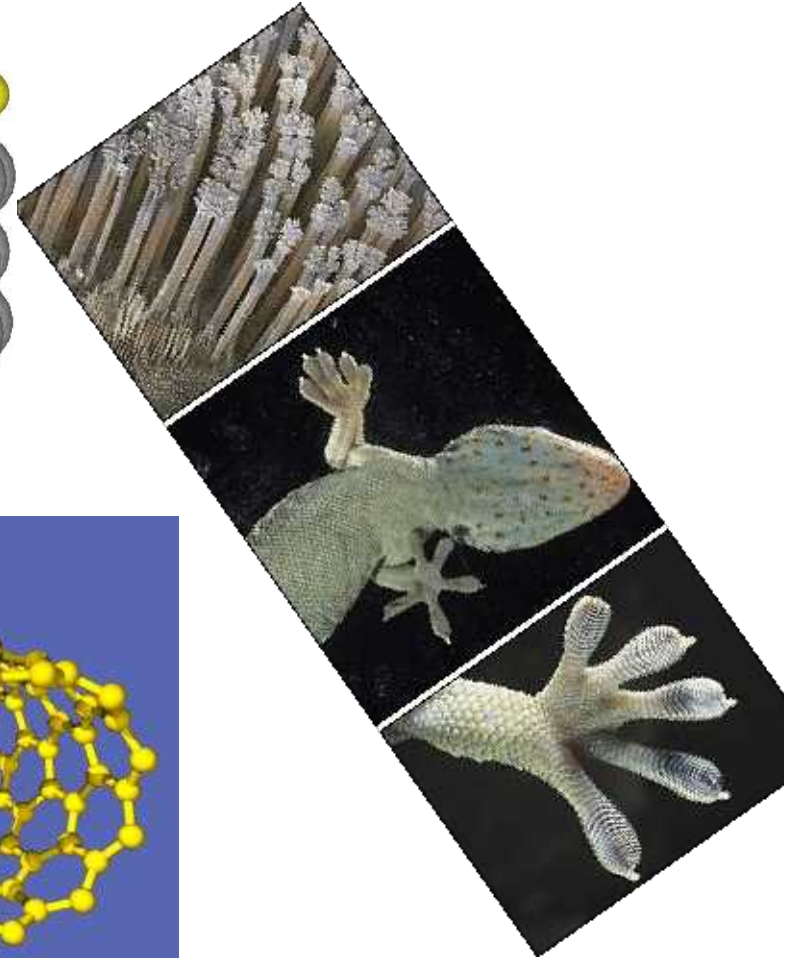
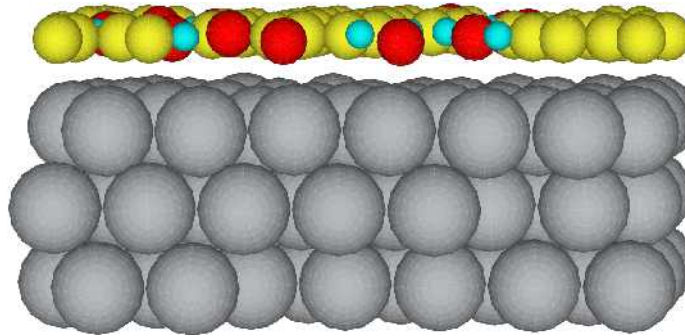
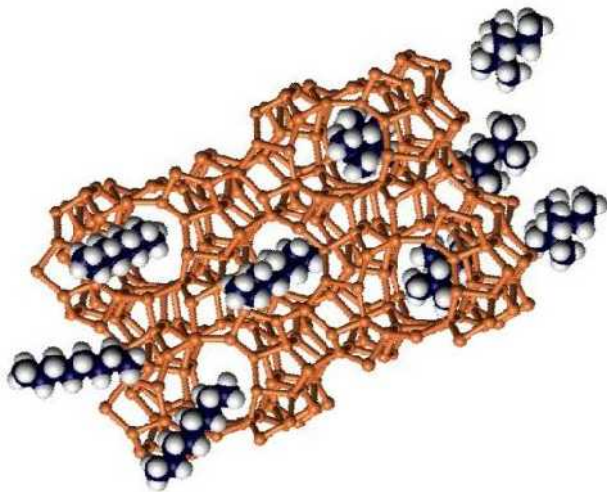


# PTCDA@Cu/Ag/Au: PBE+vdW(ZK)



Joint work with *V. Ruiz, E. Zojer, M. Scheffler.*

# VdW Interactions Are Ubiquitous ...



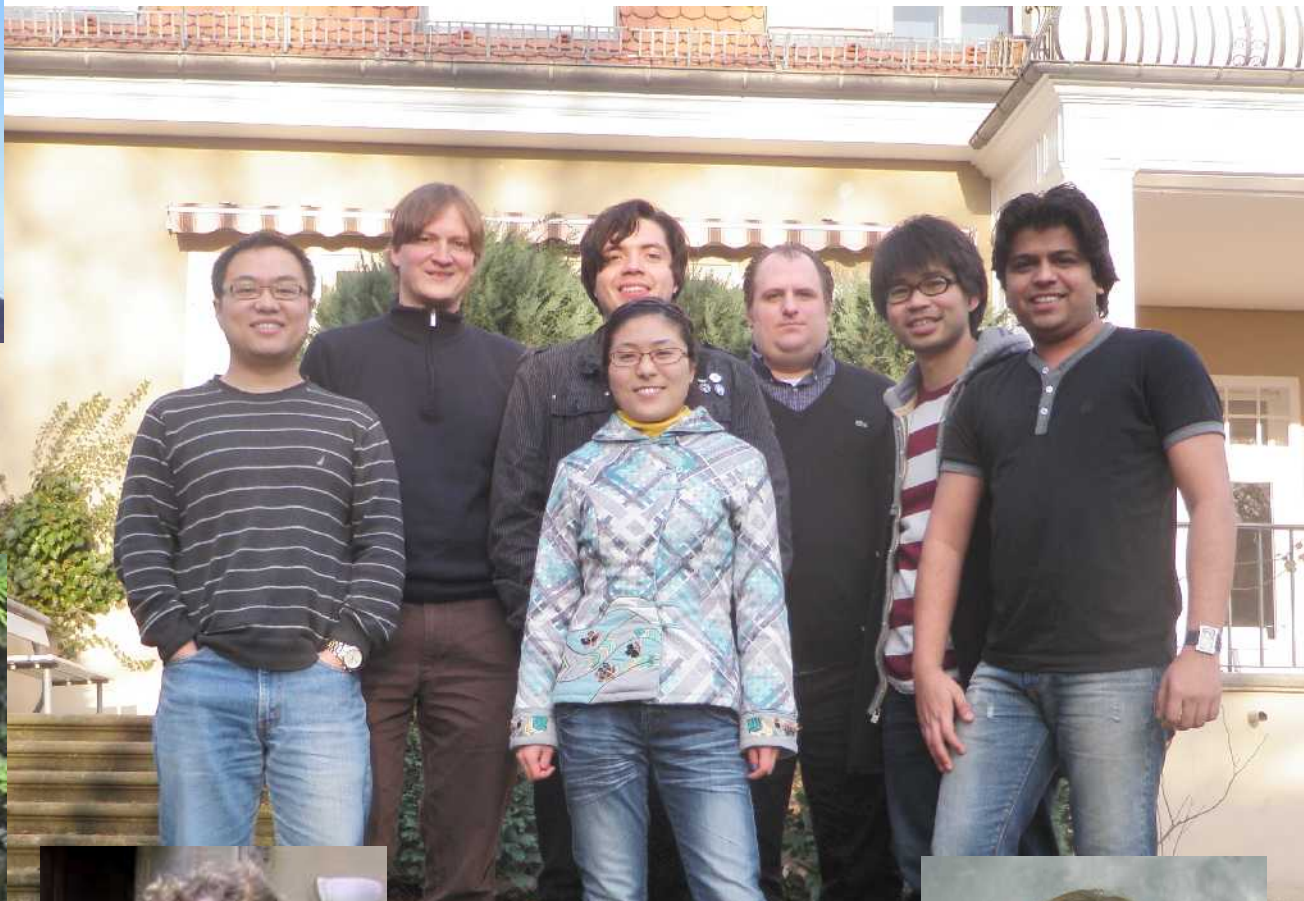


*M. Scheffler*



*Thank you!*

*R. Car*



*M. Rossi*



*O. A. von  
Lilienfeld*



*V. Blum*



*L. Kronik*



*N. Marom*