

## Exploring Excited-State Potential Energy Surfaces: Nonadiabatic Couplings and Minimum-Energy Crossing Points



- Nonadiabatic coupling (NAC) is the most important physical quantity governing transitions between electronic states, such as internal conversion and radiationless relaxation.
- The minimum-energy crossing points (MECPs) in the seam space where multiple electronic states are degenerate are the most important points which connect photochemical reaction pathways.
- NACs can be computed with standard CIS and TDDFT methods, as well as with the spin-flip (SF) CIS and TDDFT variants, which afford correct topology around conical intersections.
- NACs can also be computed with EOM-EE/IP/EA-CCSD methods.
- Multiple algorithms for MECP location are available, including those that do not require NACs.



(a) Calculated NAC vectors for naphthalene



(b) Calculated z-component of the derivative coupling between the  $3^{1}\Sigma_{g}^{+}$  and  $5^{1}\Sigma_{g}^{+}$  states of He<sub>2</sub>

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