Solvation, Coupled Cluster Response Theory, and the Optical Properties of Chiral Molecules

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The optical properties of chiral molecules are among the most challenging to predict, even for state-of-the-art quantum chemical methods because of their delicate dependence on a variety of intrinsic and extrinsic factors, including electron correlation, basis set, vibrational/temperature effects, etc.[1]-[4] This task is made even more difficult by solvation, which can have a dramatic impact on even the sign of optical rotation angles or circular dichroism rotational strengths.[5] In this lecture, we will discuss the most recent efforts from our group to attack this problem, including both implicit and explicit solvent models, and the role of reduced-scaling techniques to improve the efficiency of such computations.

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