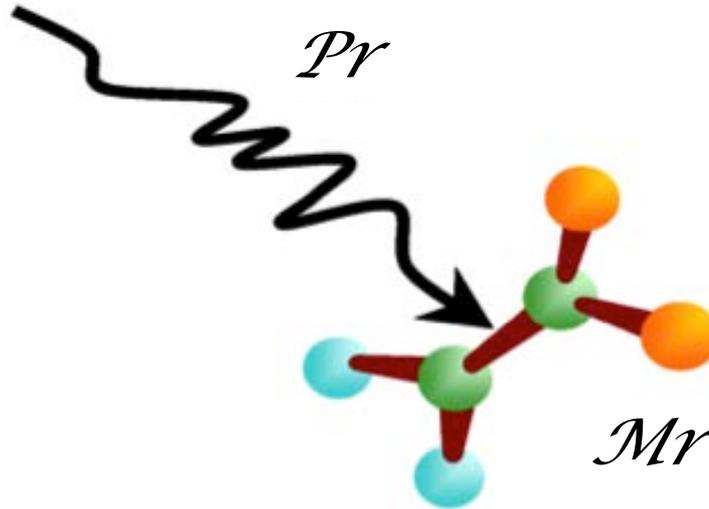


# Control of Quantum Dynamics Phenomena: Analyses, Options and Opportunities

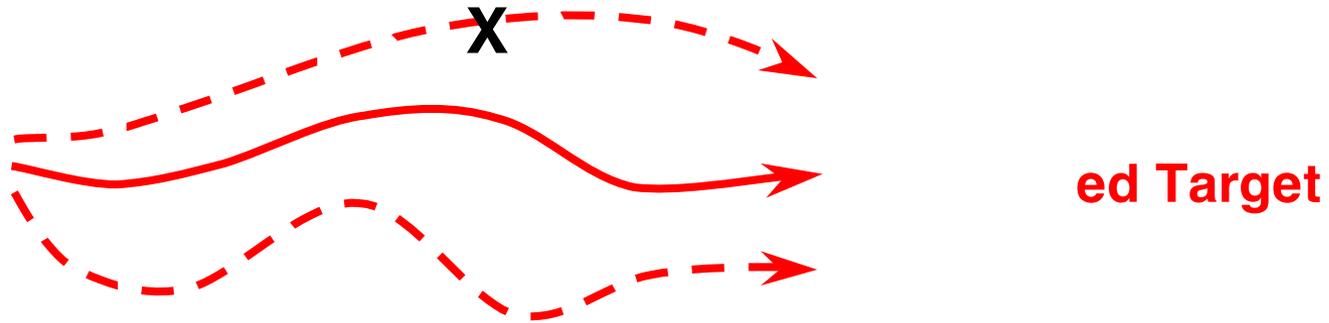
*Herschel Rabitz, Princeton University*



- $Pr$  Photonic Reagents as Controls
- $Mr$  Material Reagents as Controls

# Control of Quantum Systems

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Control

## Why explore this subject?

- Manage dynamical events at the atomic and molecular scale
- Reveal fundamental insights into dynamics

## Applications and technology transfer

# Quantum Control

- **Goal A:** Optimally achieve control objective
- **Goal B:** Understand control mechanism

Better Physical Understanding  $\longleftrightarrow$  Better Control Performance

How to identify optimal control solutions?

$$J_{\text{opt}} = \max_{\varepsilon(t)} J[\varepsilon(t)]$$

## Open-loop control

Find optimal controls for theoretical model

Apply theoretical optimal control designs to actual system in laboratory

## Closed-loop control

Find optimal controls directly in laboratory using feedback signal from controlled system

### Adaptive feedback control

Measure control objective to guide optimization. Reset system after each measurement.

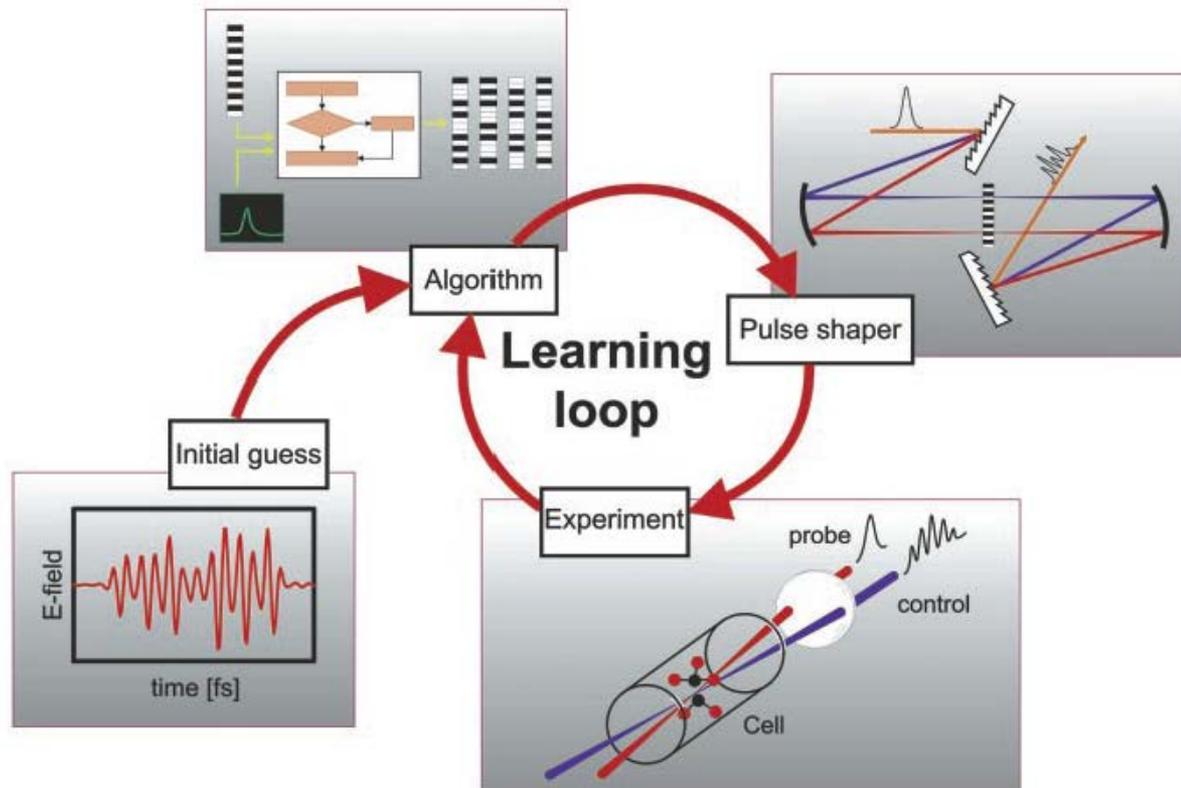
### Real-time feedback control

Measure signal from system and use in real time to select next control action. Measurements affects system dynamics

### Coherent feedback control

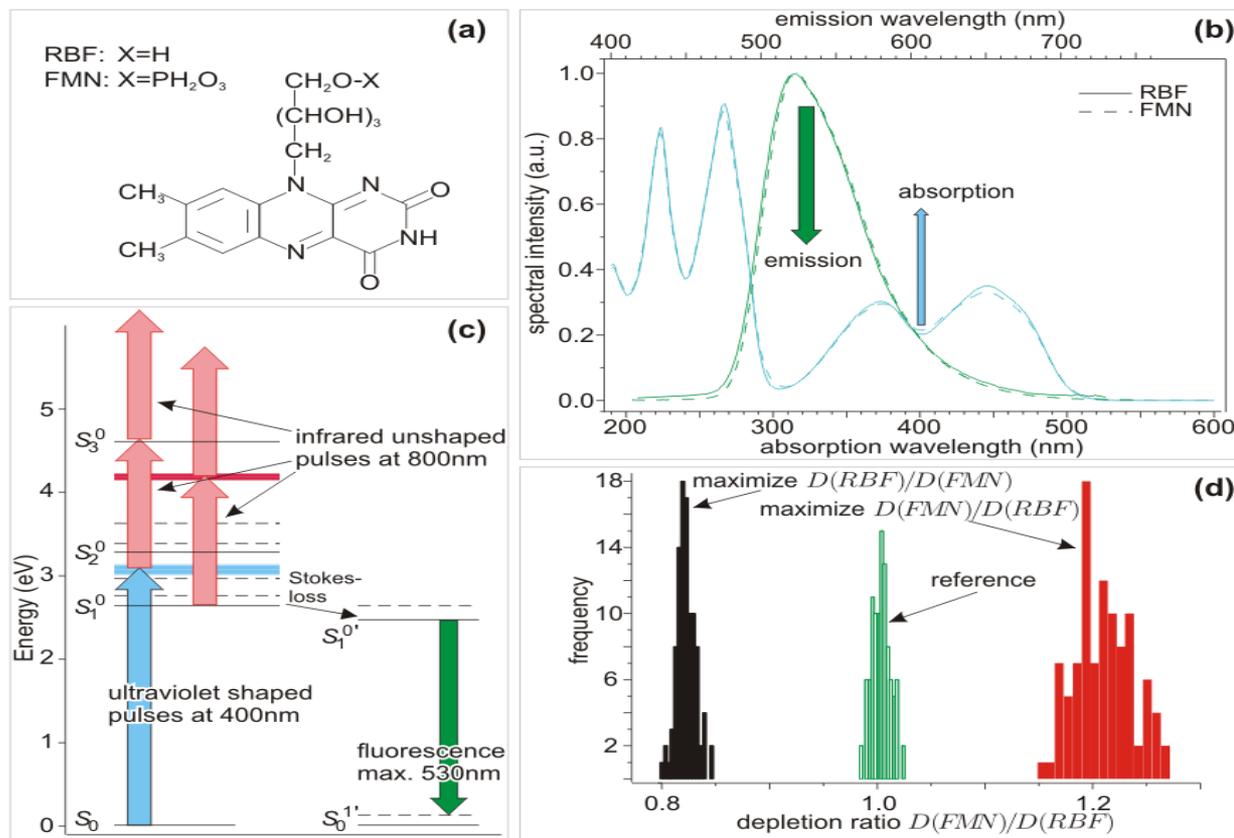
Coherently process signal from controlled quantum system ("plant") by an auxiliary quantum system ("controller")

# Automated Optimization of Quantum Phenomena



# Pushing the Limits of Quantum Control

- *Static* spectroscopic methods fail to differentiate RBF and FMN



- Create distinct spectral signatures by optimal tailoring of the *dynamics*

# Domains Subjected To Optimal Quantum Control

## Comments

1. Atomic excitation
2. Vibrational excitation
3. Vibronic excitation
4. Selective isotope excitation
5. Discrimination of very similar molecules
6. Ionization, single to multiple
7. Molecular isomerization
8. Molecular fragmentation
9. Molecular alignment
10. Nonlinear spectroscopy
11. Ultrafast semi-conductor optical switching
12. Biomolecular energy transfer
13. Filimentation
14. Pulse propagation in nonlinear media
15. Decelerating and trapping of molecules
16. Surface ablation
17. Subsurface imaging
18. Decoherence mitigation

- 5~10 examples/domain
- Control mechanism often hard to discern
- Rules to be discovered
- How “quantum” is the dynamics?

# Results from Seeking Optimal Fields

- Optimal control simulations typically attain excellent yields
- ~200 optimal control experiments with good-excellent yields (constrained controls)

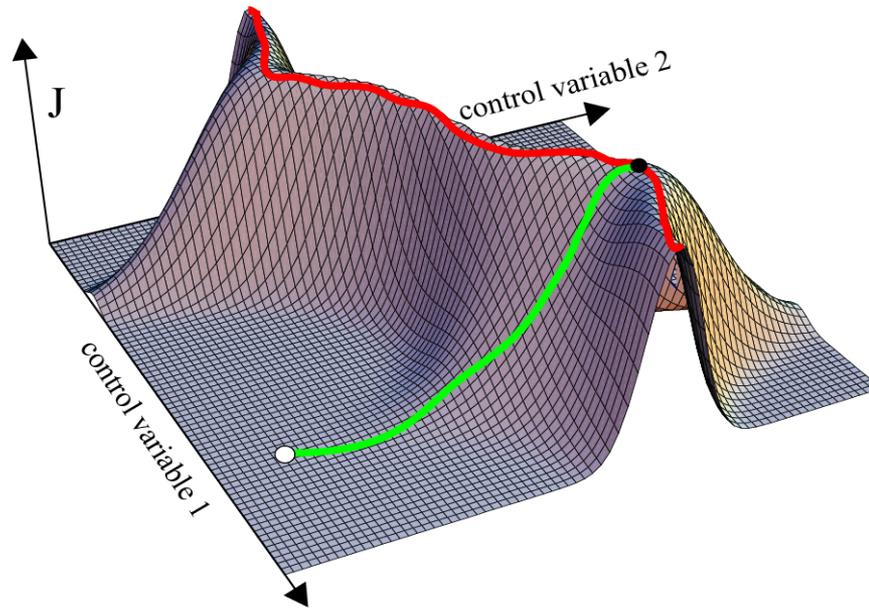
**Common finding:**  $\sim 10^3$ - $10^4$  iterations to optimize, despite the search space being of size  $\sim 10^{100}$

*Why the good fortune\*?*

\* *Beyond overhead*

# Why is the Search for Optimal Control Fields so Efficient?

➤ Physical Objective  $J[\varepsilon(t)] = \text{Tr}\{\rho[\varepsilon(t)]O\}$



Landscape Features determine the ease of finding a successful optimal control  $\varepsilon(t)$

➤ Topological Features: critical points,  $\delta J / \delta \varepsilon(t) = 0, \forall t$

➤ Structural Features: non-topological “twists and turns”

# Landscape Analysis

## Assumptions

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial U(t)}{\partial t} = [H_0 - \mu \varepsilon(t)]U(t)$$

- a) The system is controllable
- b) No (significant) constraints are placed on the controls
- c) The control  $\rightarrow$  state map is full rank:  $\delta U(T) / \delta \varepsilon(t) = \frac{-i}{\hbar} U(T)U^\dagger(t) \mu U(t)$

## Conclusion

- No sub-optimal traps exist on the control landscape
- When are the assumptions satisfied?

# Are Traps Lurking on Quantum Control Landscapes?

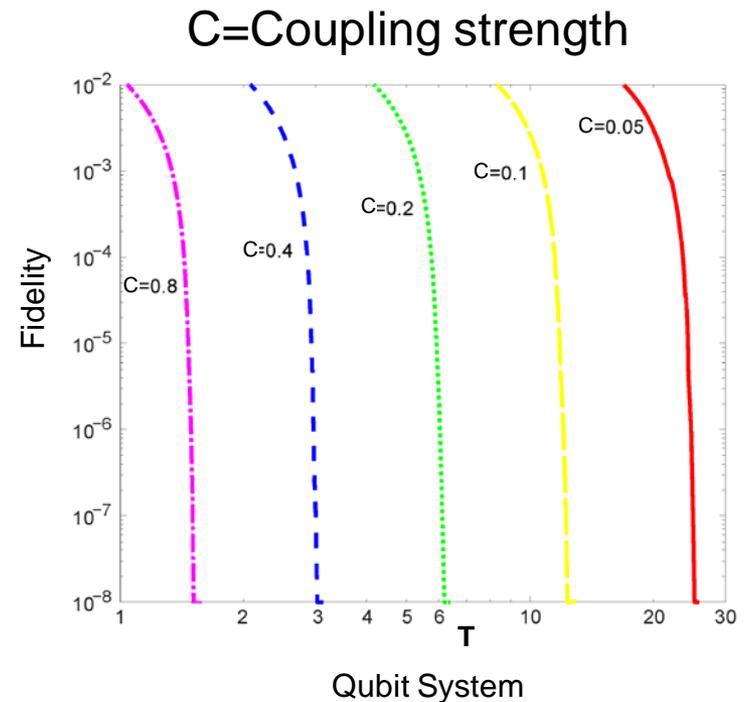
**Numerical Simulations:** employ a myopic algorithm

$$\begin{aligned} P_{i \rightarrow f} & \sim 20,000 \text{ runs} \\ \text{Tr}[\rho O] & \sim 15,000 \text{ runs} \\ \|W - U\| & \sim 50,000 \text{ runs} \end{aligned}$$

**All reached full fidelity ( $\sim 0.999$ )!**

## Impact of control constraints

- Mild constraints can still permit a trap free climb of the landscape
- Significant constraints will fracture the landscape
- Even the target time  $T$  is a control resource

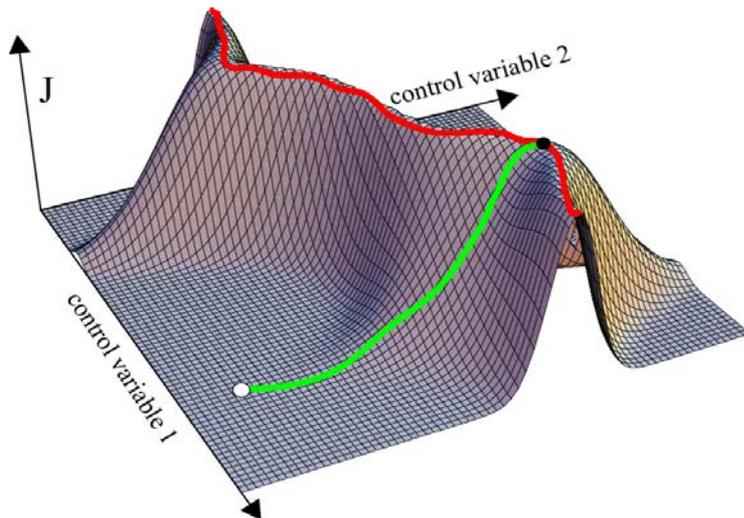


# Does Discovery of an Optimal Field Follow a Tortured Path through Control Space?

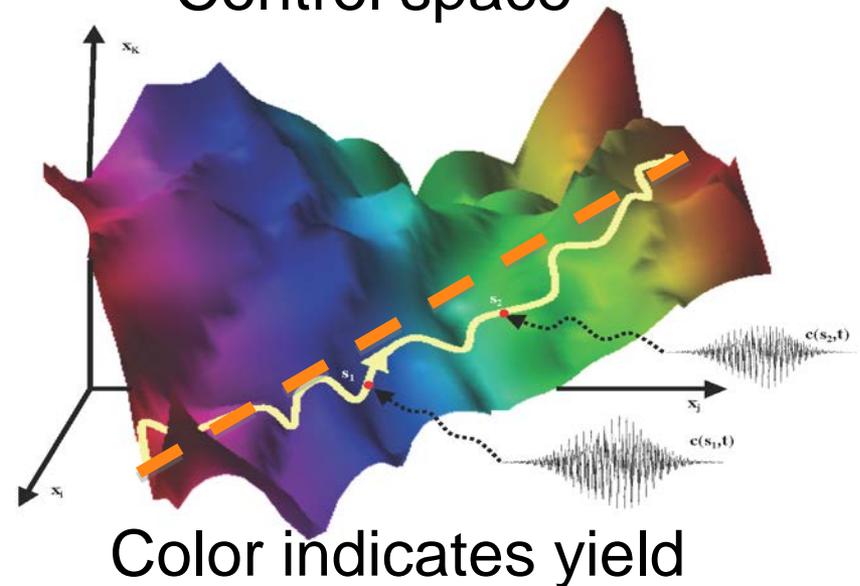
- Under reasonable assumptions, there are no traps lurking on control landscapes
- But, is the path to the top gnarled?

$$R = \frac{\text{Path Length}}{\text{Euclidean Distance}} \geq 1$$

Observable landscape

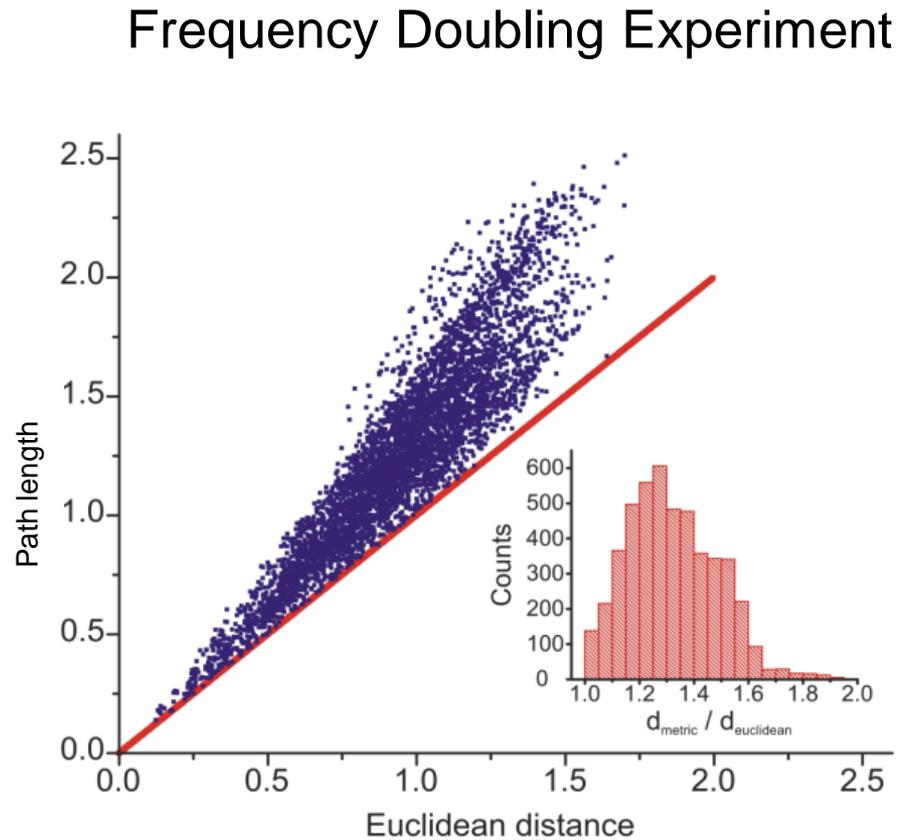
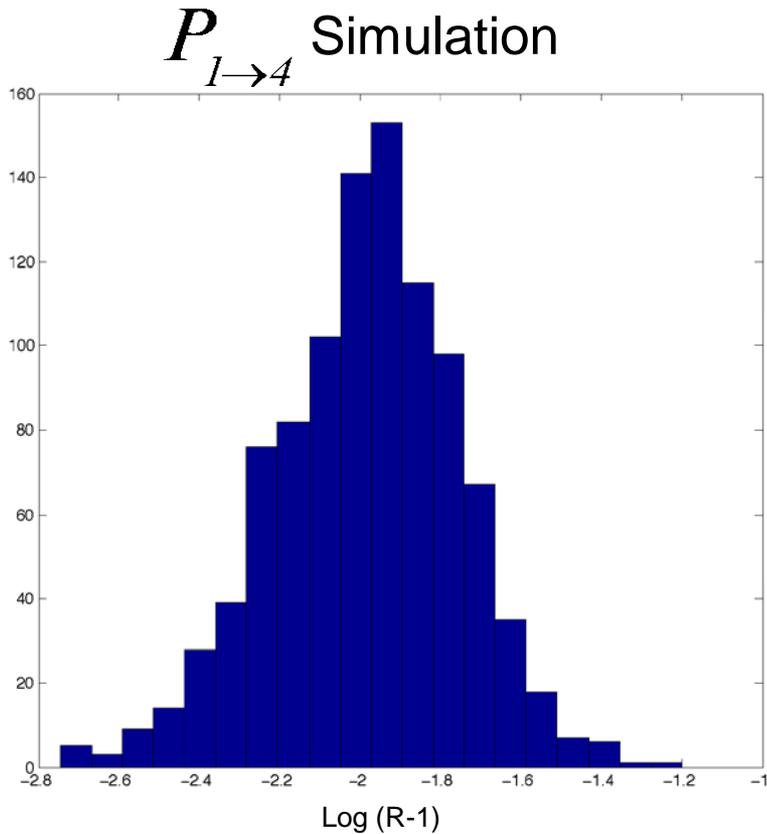


Control space



Color indicates yield

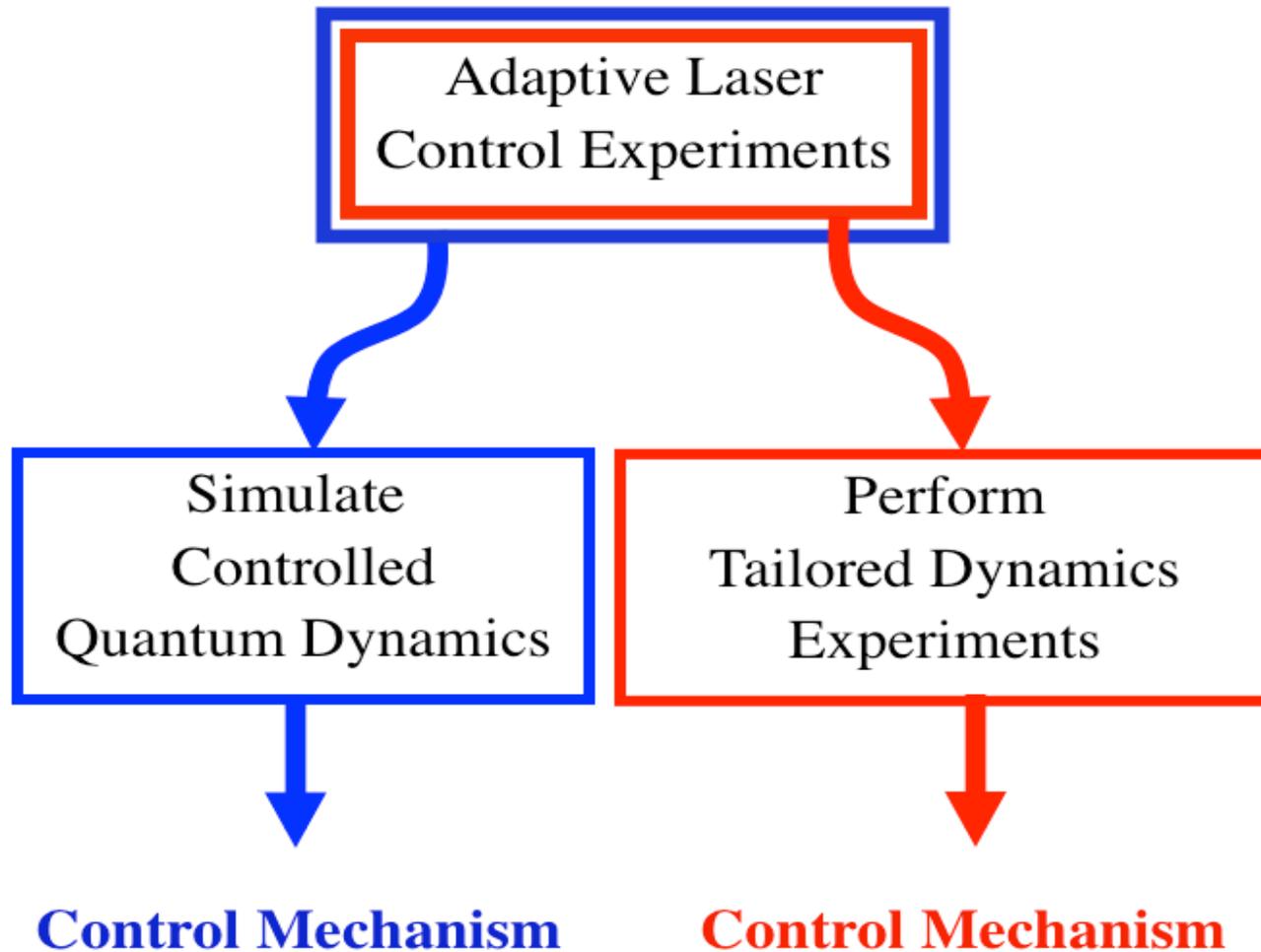
# Control Space is Dense with Nearly Straight Shots to the Top of the Landscape



Both cases with random initial fields

- **Control space looks like “Quantum Swiss Cheese” with easy passages to traverse**

# Revealing Mechanisms of Laser-Controlled Dynamics



# Revealing Quantum Control Mechanisms

**Perspective:** The quantum system + shaped laser pulse acts as a complex functioning machine

**Problem:** Deduce the machine operating mechanism without numerically solving the system Schrödinger equation

**Solution:** Modulate  $\varepsilon(t)$  with a pseudo time-like variable  $s$

**Approach:**

- Encode a “secret” message  $m(s)$  in the Hamiltonian
- Decode the nonlinear distortion of the message in observations



**Mechanism revealed by identification of the dynamical amplitudes  $\{U_{if}^l\}$**

$l =$

# Implementation of Hamiltonian Encoding - Observable Decoding for Control Mechanism Analysis

Formulation

$$\langle O \rangle = \text{Tr}[U\rho U^\dagger O]$$

$$U = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} U^n$$

Dyson expansion

$$U^n = \left( \frac{-i}{\hbar} \right)^n \int_0^{t_n} \int_0^{t_{n-1}} \dots \int_0^{t_1} \mu(t_n) \varepsilon(t_n) \dots \mu(t_1) \varepsilon(t_1) dt_1 \dots dt_n$$

$$\varepsilon(t) = \sum_p a_p \varepsilon_p(t)$$

Encoding  $\varepsilon(t) \rightarrow \varepsilon(t,s) = \sum_p a_p h_p(s) \varepsilon_p(t)$

$h_p(s)$ -encoding function

$$U \Rightarrow U(s) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{\{p_i\}} h_{p_n}(s) h_{p_{n-1}}(s) \dots h_{p_1}(s) U^{n(p_1 \dots p_n)}$$

$$\langle O \rangle \Rightarrow \langle O(s) \rangle$$

Decoding: Measure  $\langle O(s) \rangle$  to extract the amplitudes  $U^{n(p_1 \dots p_n)}$

# Identifying and Manipulating Quantum Control Mechanisms

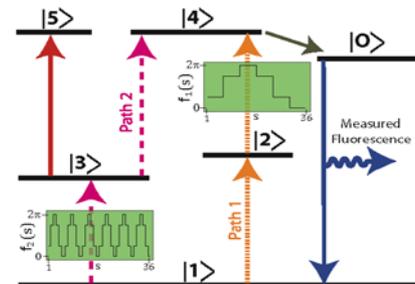
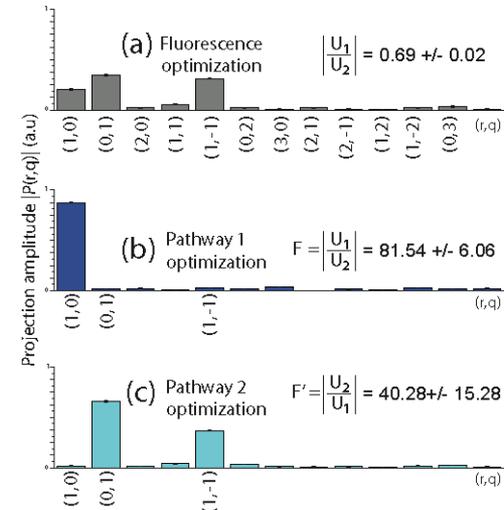
- Mechanism identification by Hamiltonian encoding and observable decoding
- Fast operation enables on-the-fly steering of the mechanism



$(i,j)$ :

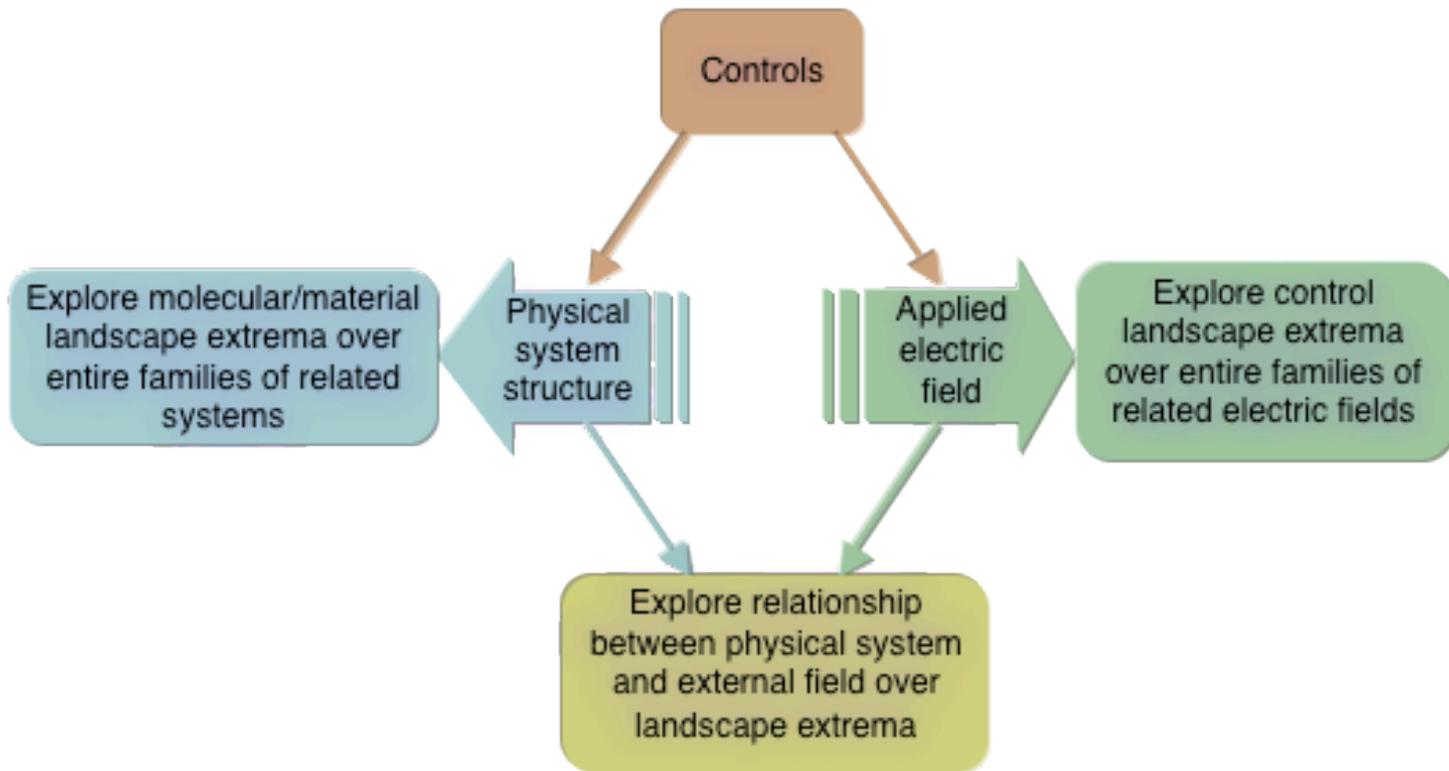
Atomic Rb

$i$ -th order in control pathway 1  
 $j$ -th order in control pathway 2



# The Full Prospects for Control Resources

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**Mix and Match Control Resources from the Photonic ( $\mathcal{P}r$ ) and Material ( $\mathcal{M}r$ ) Reagent Stockrooms**

# Where is Optimization Encountered in the Sciences?

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**Everywhere!**

## **Glimpse at Optimization:**

- ✦ Quantum dynamics phenomena
- ✦ Chemical & material science
- ✦ Natural evolution
- ✦ Directed evolution
- ✦ .....

# The Limit of Field Free Control: Chemistry



**“Chemistry is all about getting lucky” -Robert Curl**

**What is the truth about the nature of Chemistry?**

*“I'm on the verge of a major breakthrough, but I'm also at that point where physics leaves off and chemistry begins, so I'll have to drop the whole thing.”*

# Optimization in Chemistry & Material Science

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## Objectives

- a. Optimize synthesis yield
- b. Optimize property

## Controls

Chemicals, solvents, catalysts, processing conditions

## Experimental findings

Optimization in chemistry & material science are widely successful

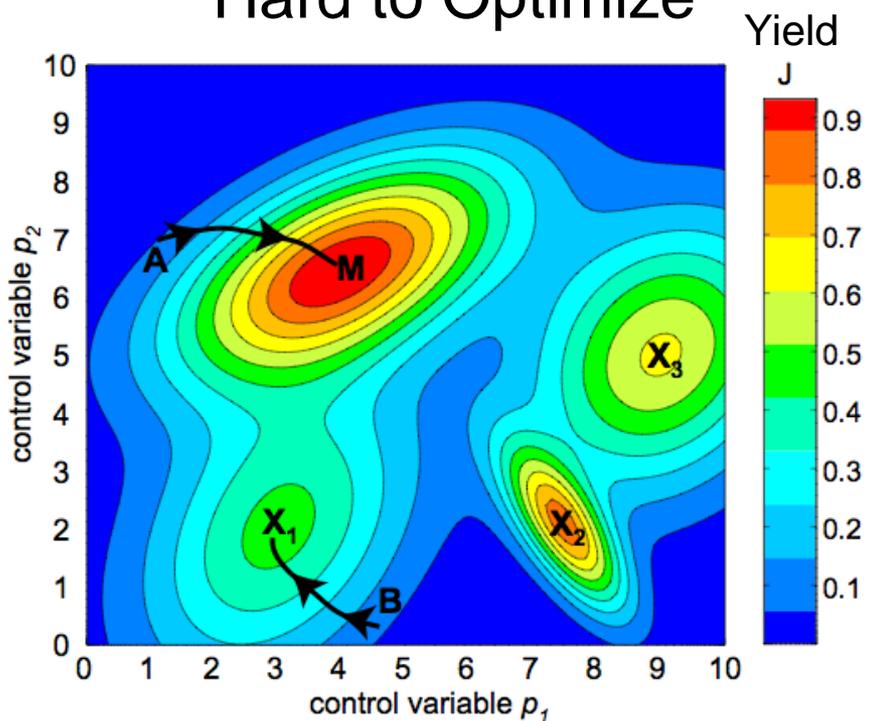
# Automated Optimization of Chemical & Material Synthesis and Properties

Ref.	Var.	Objective	Expts.	Space
9	6	Binding to stromelysin	300	$6.4 \times 10^7$
16	8	Propane $\rightarrow$ propene	328	NA
17	4	Inhibition of thrombin	400	$1.6 \times 10^5$
18	8	Propane $\rightarrow$ CO	150	NA
19, 20	8	Propane $\rightarrow$ propene	280	NA
21	13	Propane $\rightarrow$ propene	60	NA
22	23	$\text{NH}_3 + \text{CH}_4 \rightarrow \text{HCN}$	644	NA
23	9	$\text{CO} \rightarrow \text{CO}_2$	189	NA
24	4	$\text{CO} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OH}$	115	$2.7 \times 10^9$
25	5	$3\text{CO} + 3\text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_6\text{O} + \text{CO}_2$	160	$2.4 \times 10^{11}$
26	6	$\text{CO} + \text{CO}_2 + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{OH}$	235	$4.7 \times 10^9$
27	10	<i>n</i> -Pentane isomerization	72	$1.44 \times 10^4$
28	7	Propane $\rightarrow$ aldehydes	80	NA
29	8	Isobutane $\rightarrow$ methacrolein	90	$10^9$
30	8	Membrane permeability	192	$9 \times 10^{21}$
31	4	Cyclohexene epoxidation	114	NA
32	3	Protein inhibition	160	$10^{16}$
33	6	Red luminescence	216	NA
34	7	Green luminescence	540	$10^{14}$
35	6	Color chromaticity	168	NA
36	8	Red luminescence	270	NA
37, 38	7	Red luminescence	1080	NA

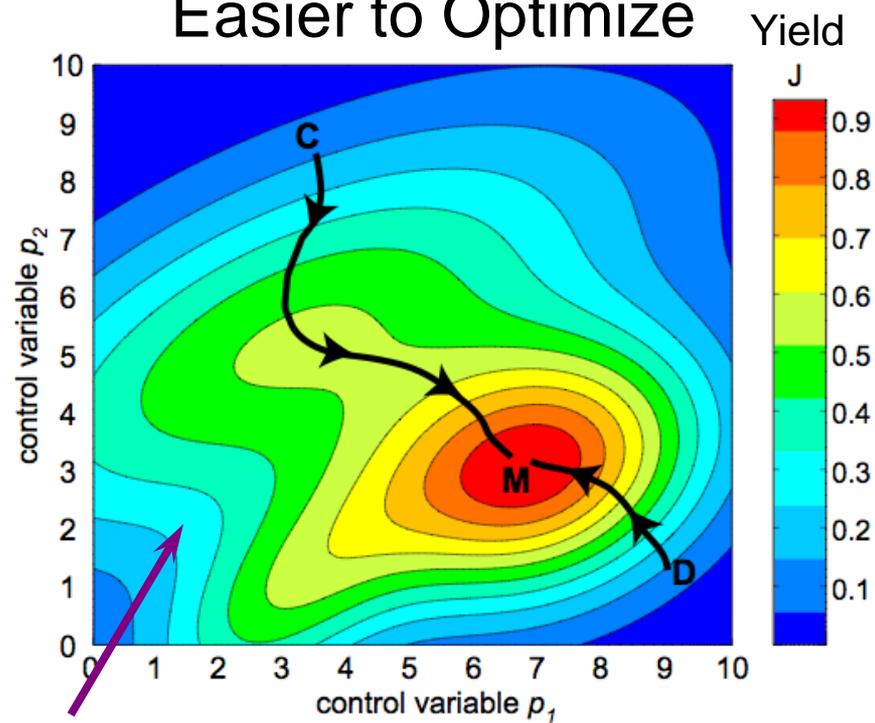
***“The studied parameter space had  $9 \times 10^{21}$  possible combinations. A total of 192 polymeric solutions were synthesized.... producing a substantially improved membrane performance.” Jacobs (2006).***

# What does the Chemistry Control Landscape Look Like?

Contains "Traps"  
Hard to Optimize



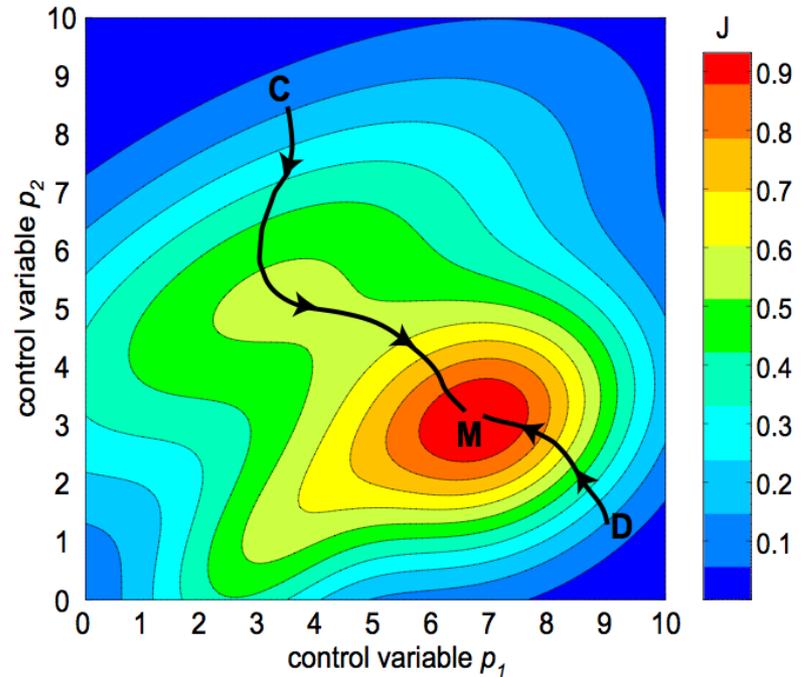
Trap-Free  
Easier to Optimize



Chemical optimization looks like this!

# OptiChem\* : Chemistry has Trap-Free Landscapes!

- Convex analysis leads to the conclusion that the landscape should be trap-free
- Assumptions
  - Objective is well-posed
  - No significant constraints are placed on the controls
  - Freedom to move over the landscape



R. Wu et al., *J. Math. Phys.* **49** 022108 (2008)

K. Moore, A. Pechen, X. Feng, J. Dominy, V. Beltrani, and H. Rabitz, *Chemical Science* (2011)

\*Optimization of syntheses and properties in **Chemistry**

# Evidence for Trap-Free Landscapes in Chemistry

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## Synthesis Optimization Landscapes

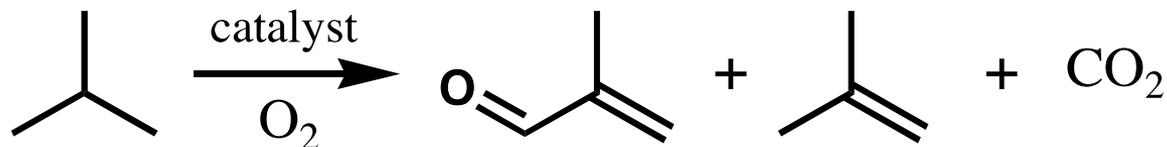
- Chemical products
- Material products

## Property Optimization Landscapes

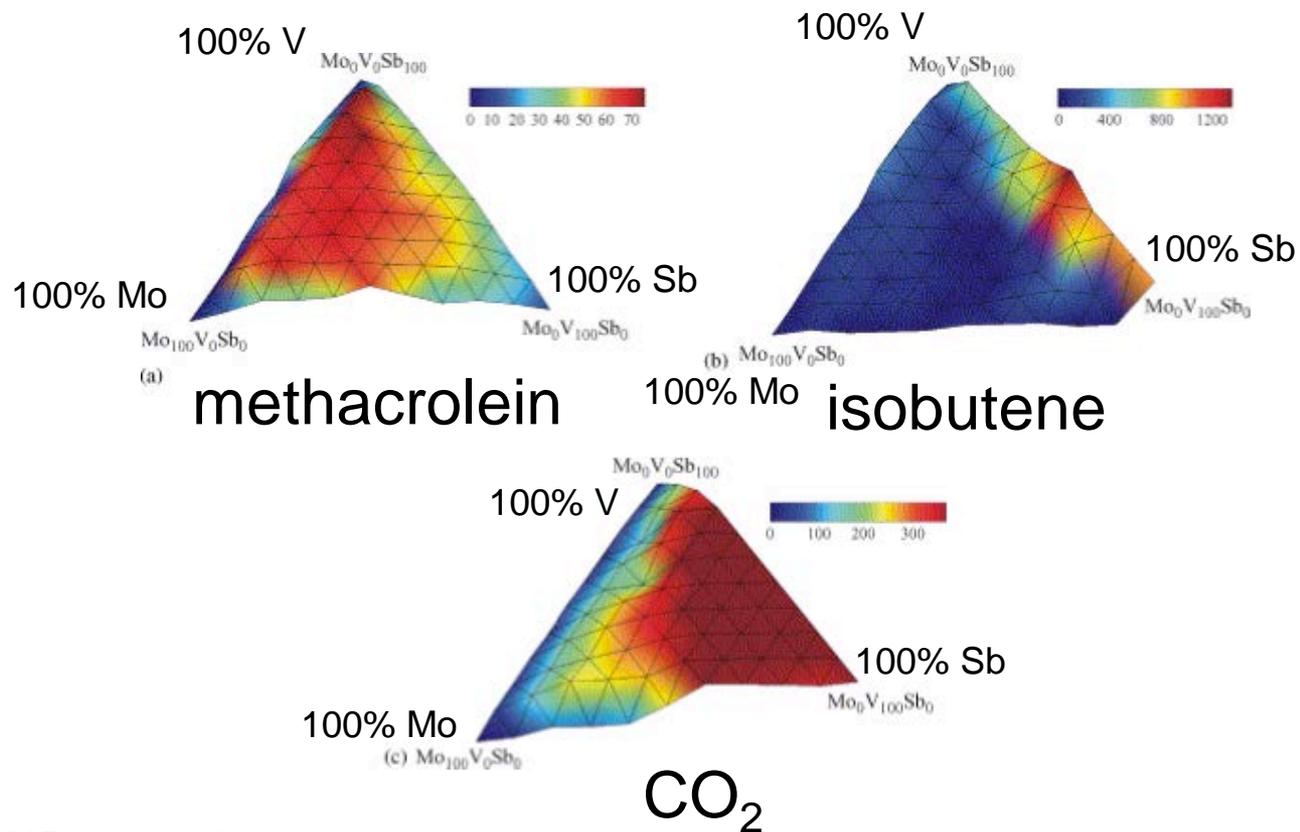
- Light emission and spectral properties
- Electrical properties of materials
- Mechanical properties of materials
- Substituent selection for protein binding

Hundreds of landscapes in the literature, ~90% are trap-free

# Optimization of Catalyst Composition

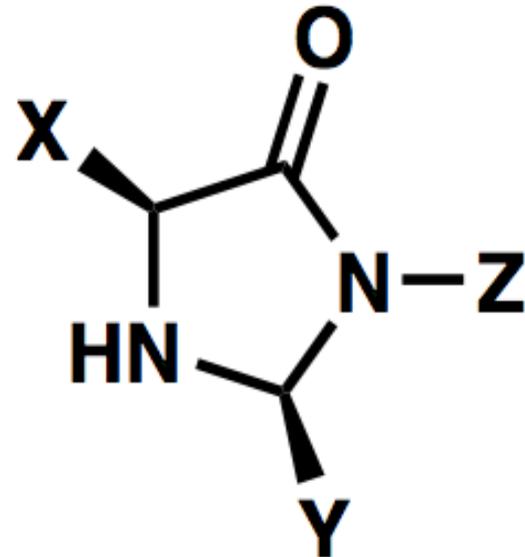


- Objective: maximize catalytic oxidation of isobutane
- Controls: mole fraction of Mo, V, Sb in catalyst

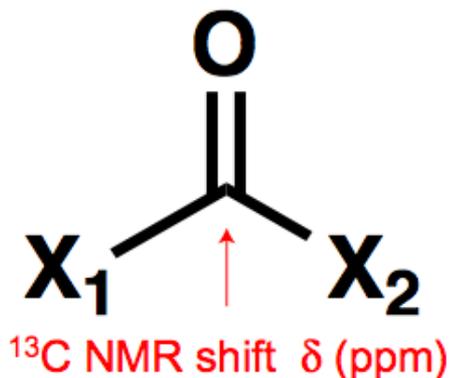


# Molecular Discovery Landscapes

- **Goal:** Assess the landscape from a minimal set of property data
- **Means:** Optimally reorder the substituents on a scaffold
- **Outcome:** Estimate property of as yet un-synthesized molecules



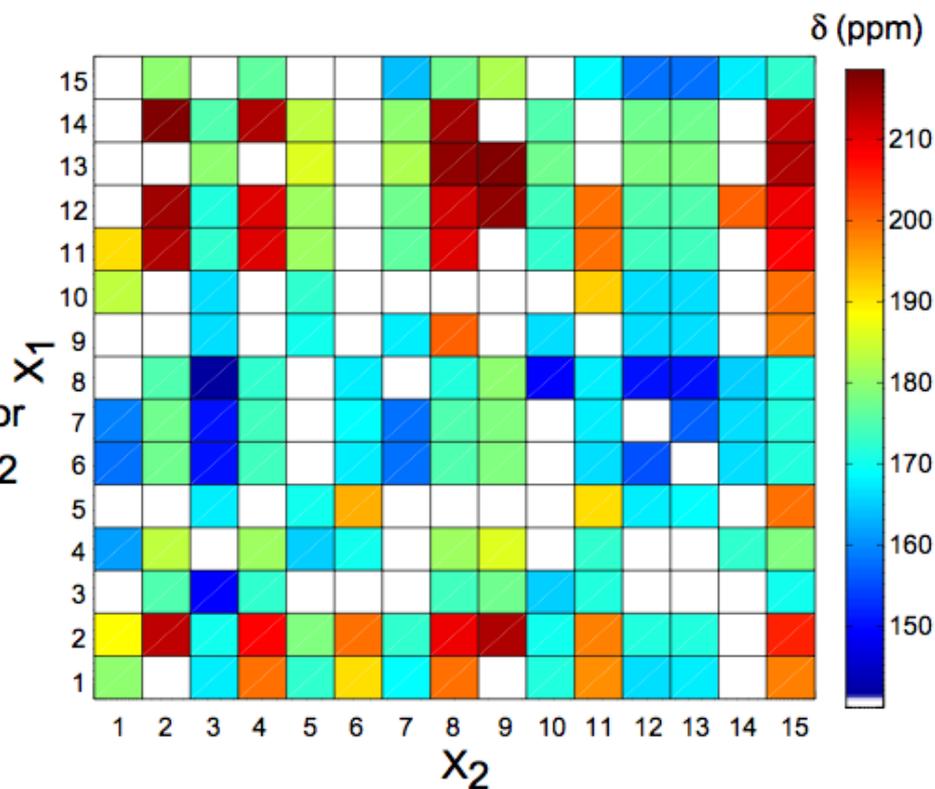
# Uncovering Landscapes for Molecular Properties



**Step 1:** Select integer labels for substituents  $X_1$  and  $X_2$

$X_1$ :  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5=1$ ,  $\text{CH}_3=2, \dots$   
 $\text{CH}_2\text{Br}=10, \dots$   $\text{NH}_2=15$

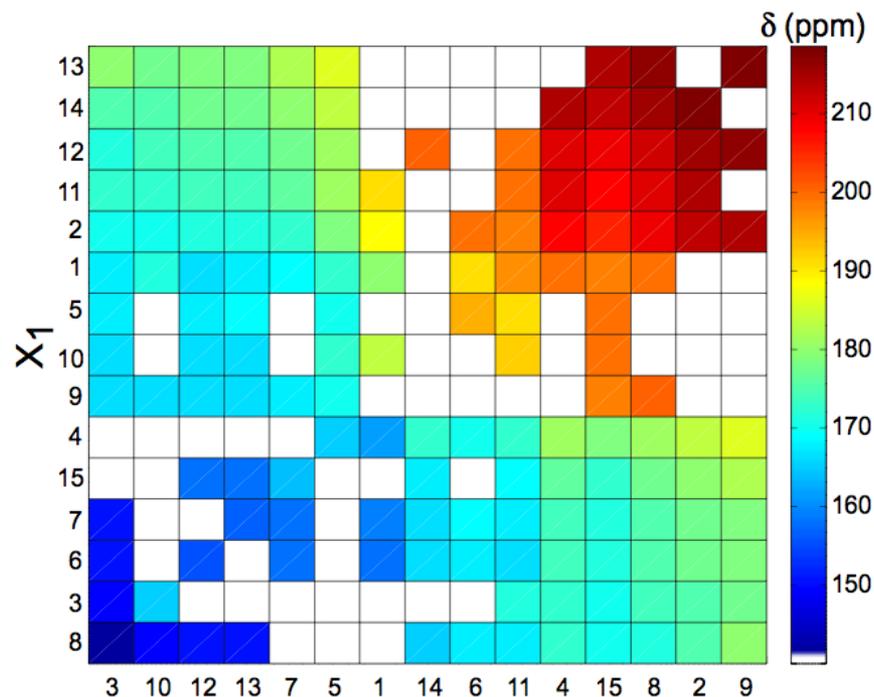
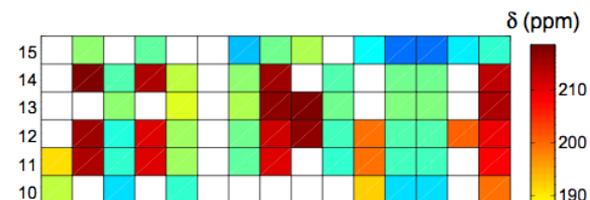
$X_2$ :  $\text{CF}_3=1$ ,  $i\text{-pr}=2, \dots$   
 $\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2=10, \dots$   $\text{CH}_3=15$



- Property: NMR shift
- Controls: Chemical substituents  $x_1$  and  $x_2$

# Optimal Substituent Reordering

- **Goal:** Find ordering of integer labels for substituents that gives smoothest property landscape
- **Allowed movements:** reorder rows and columns of property landscape



Optimal order for  $x_1$ : Cl, N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, OEt, OMe, NH<sub>2</sub>, ... Et, *i*-pr, t-bu  $X_2$

**The “rules” of NMR are discovered by substituent reordering**

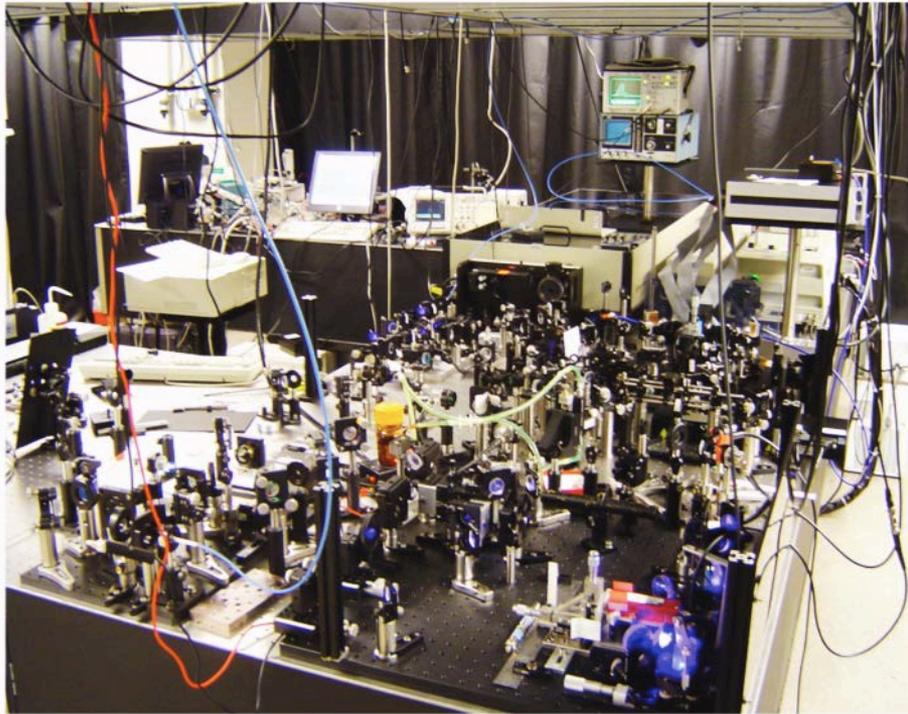
# Features of Optimization

Domain	Control Variables	What Is Optimized	Outcome	Mechanism Understanding	Systematics	Laboratory Implementation
Quantum	Photonic	Yield, Fidelity	good	Initial stages	Rules emerging	Automated
Chemical & Material	Chemicals, Processing Conditions	Yield, Property	Good - Excellent	Good	Rule driven	Automated

- Number of experiments to reach optimality is generally small
- Yet, libraries of controls are enormous

# Laboratories Controlling Events in Nano/Micro-World

**Control Laboratory  
Employing Photonic Reagents**



**Control Laboratory Employing  
Molecular/Material Reagents**



**What is common here?**

# Optimal Control over Vast Length and Time Scales

- ✦ Is common high search efficiency a coincidence?
- ✦ Under optimization, is a unified picture operative?
- ✦ What are practical control consequences?

**Control of Quantum Phenomena has a Special Role**

# The Control Landscape Principles Encompass Quantum and Classical Phenomena

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## Quantum Mechanics

$$\langle O_{qm} \rangle = \text{Tr}(\rho_{qm} O)$$

## Classical Mechanics

$$\langle O_{cl} \rangle = \int dw \rho_{cl}(w) O(w)$$

- Control in both cases is a convex optimization problem, upon satisfaction of the key assumptions
- The associated control landscapes should be trap free

# Implications of Common Control Landscape Behavior over Vast Length and Time Scales

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- Systematic discovery of operational “rules” in the sciences
- Early identification of flawed experimental designs
- Curse of dimensionality may be overcome by *increasing* the number of variables

# Unification

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## Assumptions

- Objective is well posed
- No significant constraints on resources (controls)
- Free movement on objective landscape  
(i.e., control  $\rightarrow$  state map is full rank)

Satisfaction of the assumptions implies that the objective landscape should be trap-free

Optimal control of phenomena in the sciences share common landscape topology

# Common Features of Optimization in Science

Science	Control Variables	What Is Optimized	Outcome	Mechanism Understanding	Systematics	Laboratory Implementation
Quantum	Photonic	Yield, Fidelity	good	Initial stages	Rules emerging	Automated
Chemical & Material	Chemicals, Processing Conditions	Yield, Property	Good - Excellent	Good	Rule driven	Automated
Natural Evolution	Genomic	Fitness	Excellent	Poor	Not clear	Micro-organisms (laboratory)
Directed Evolution	Genomic	Enzymatic activity	Good	Fair	Vague rules	Semi-automated

- Libraries of controls are enormous
- Yet, number of experiments to reach optimality is generally small

Why this good fortune?