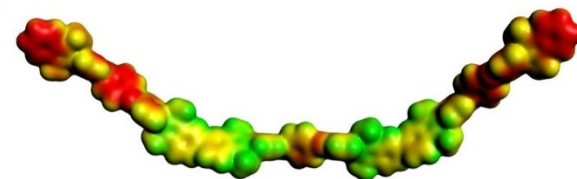
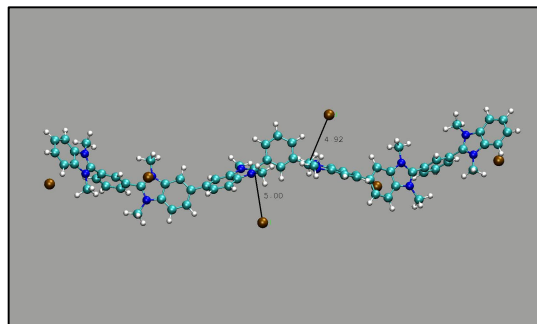
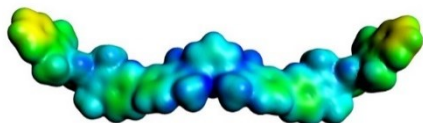


# Theoretical Studies on the Polymer-Ion Interaction and the Solvent Effects in the PBI-based Systems

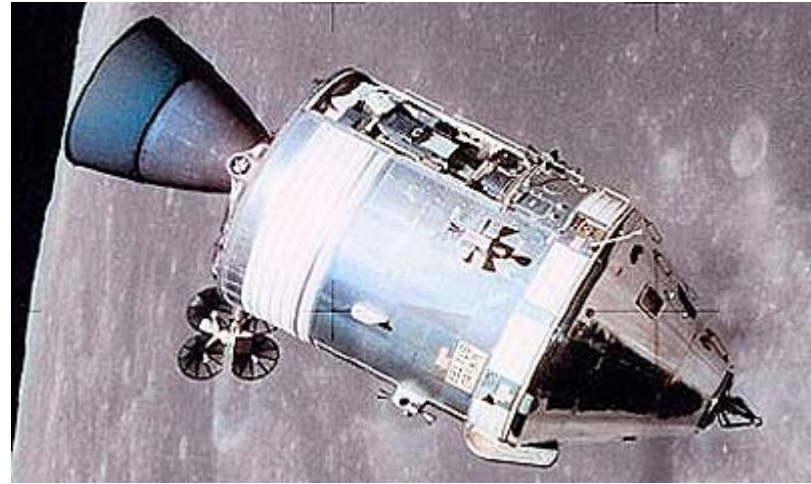
Mateusz Brela, Artur Michalak



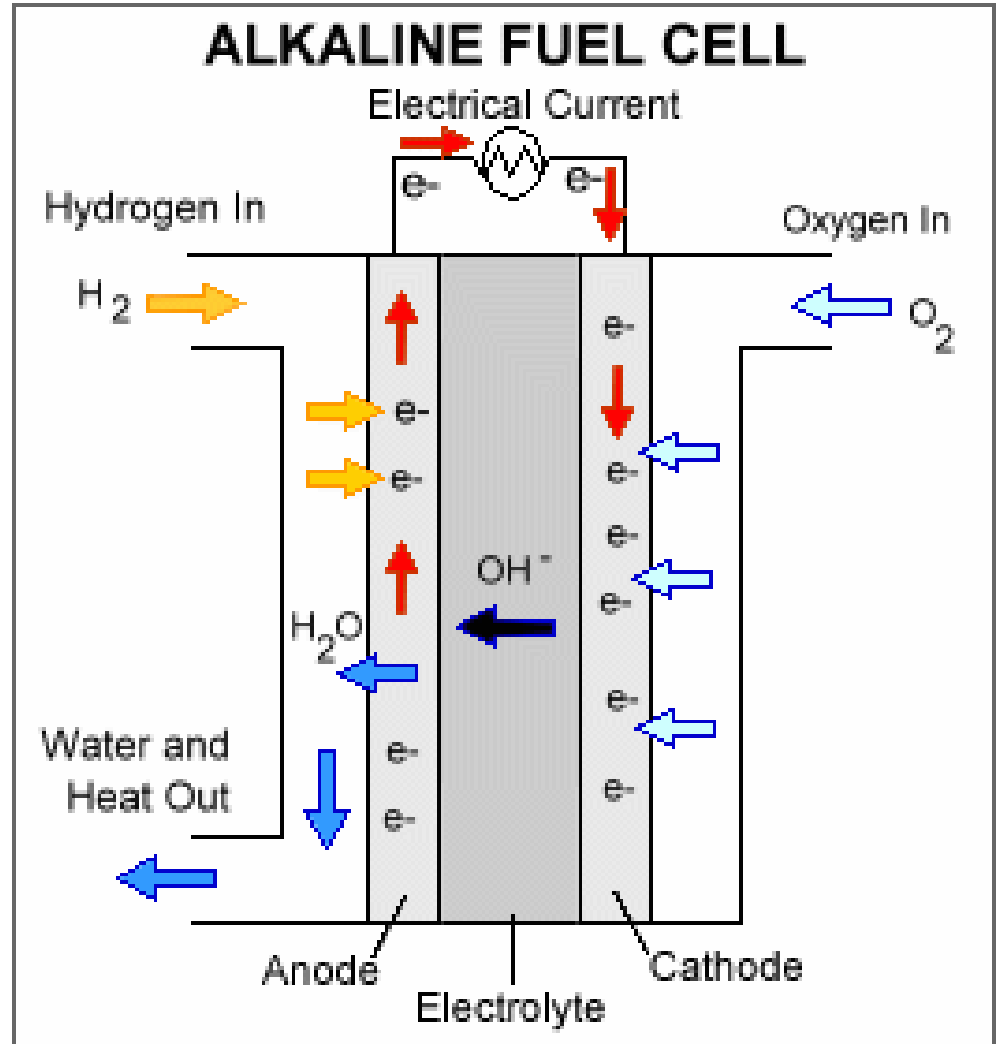
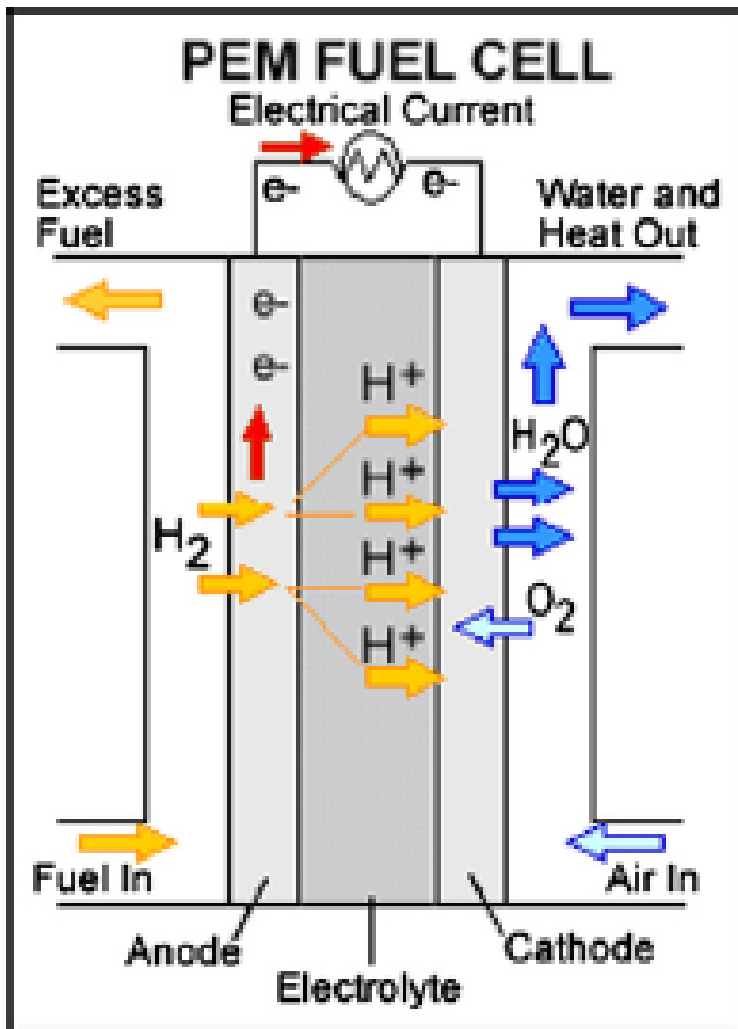
Department of Theoretical Chemistry,  
Faculty of Chemistry,  
Jagiellonian University,  
Kraków, Poland



# Alkaline Fuel Cells

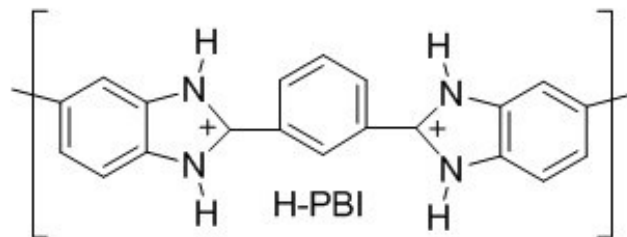
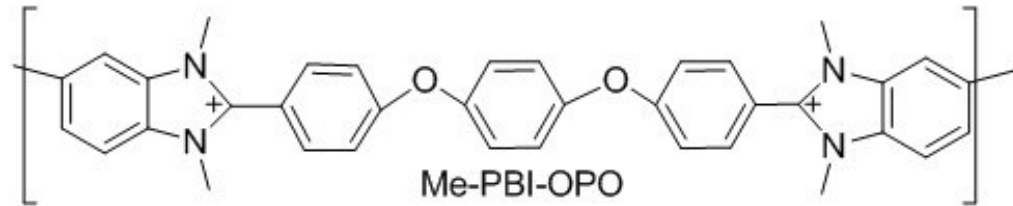
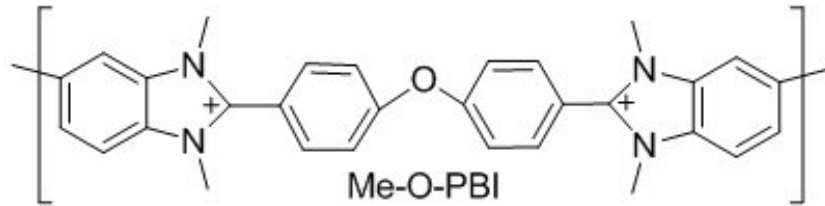
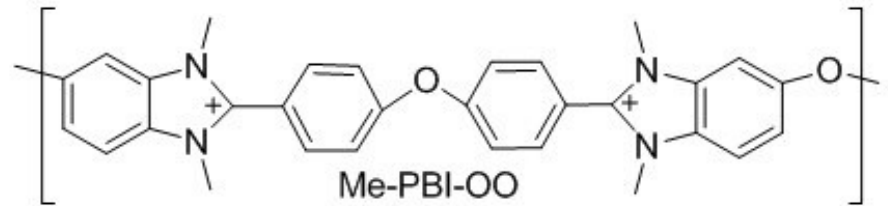
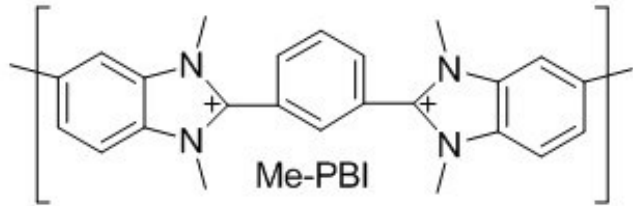


A Pratt & Whitney alkali fuel cell being assembled for an Apollo spacecraft, 1964



Schematic of a PEM and Alkaline fuel cell

# PBI-based systems



# Computational details

---

*Ab initio* Density Functional Theory (DFT );  
ADF 2013 program;  
Becke-Perdew exchange correlation functional,  
TZP basis set;

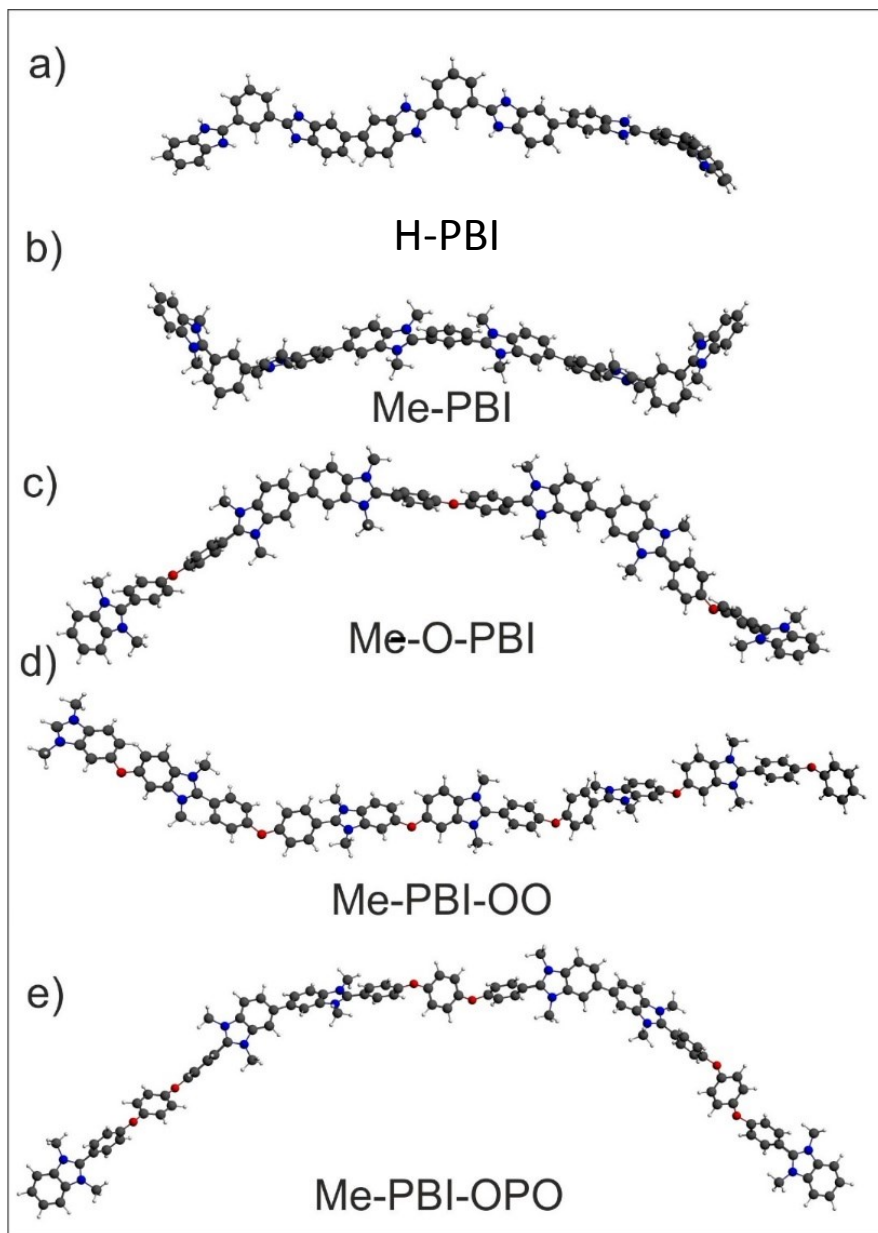
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*Ab initio* Molecular Dynamics (DFT-based; CP2K program)

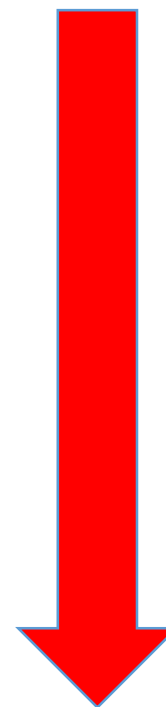
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**Analysis of the electronic structure**  
**with Natural Orbitals for Chemical Valence (ETS-NOCV)**

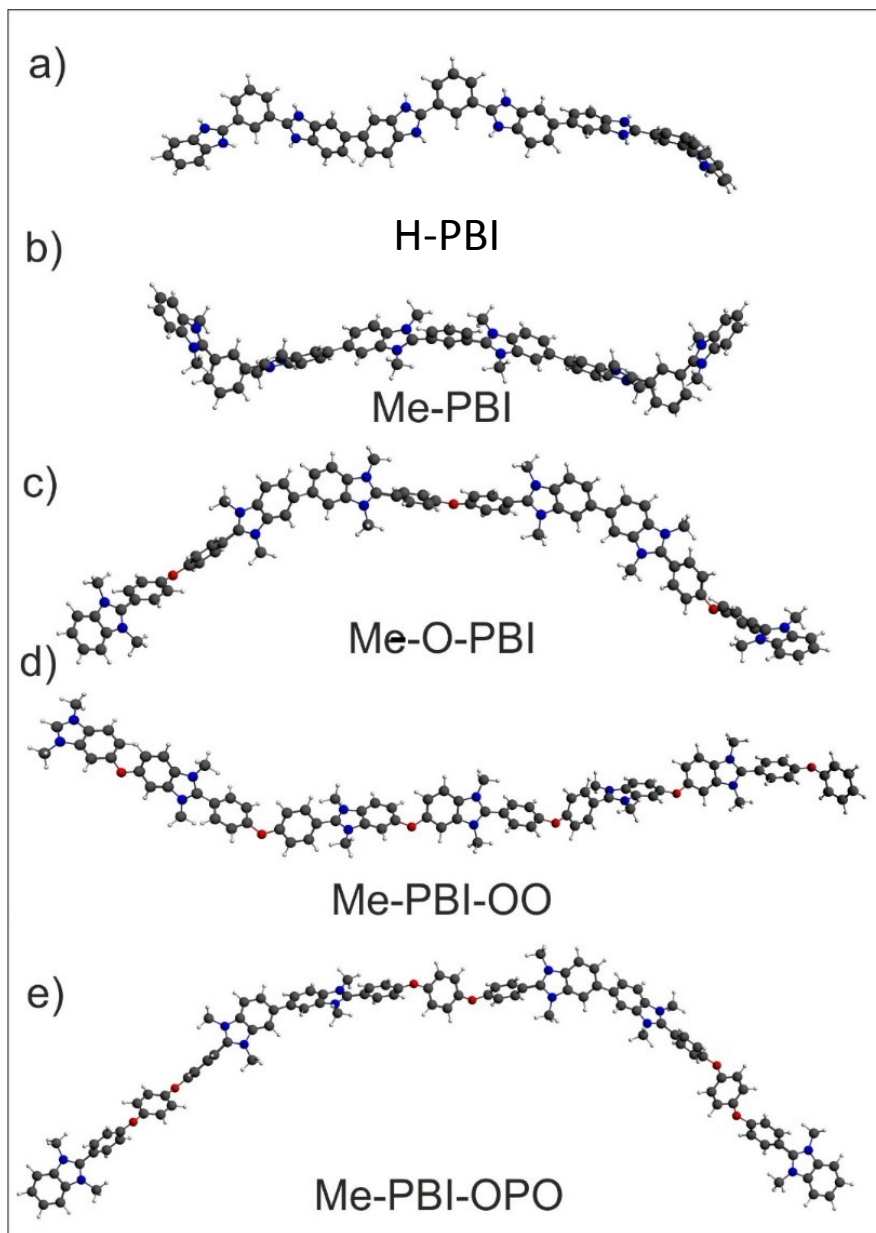
**Analysis of the charge distribution**  
**with Molecular Electrostatic Potential**

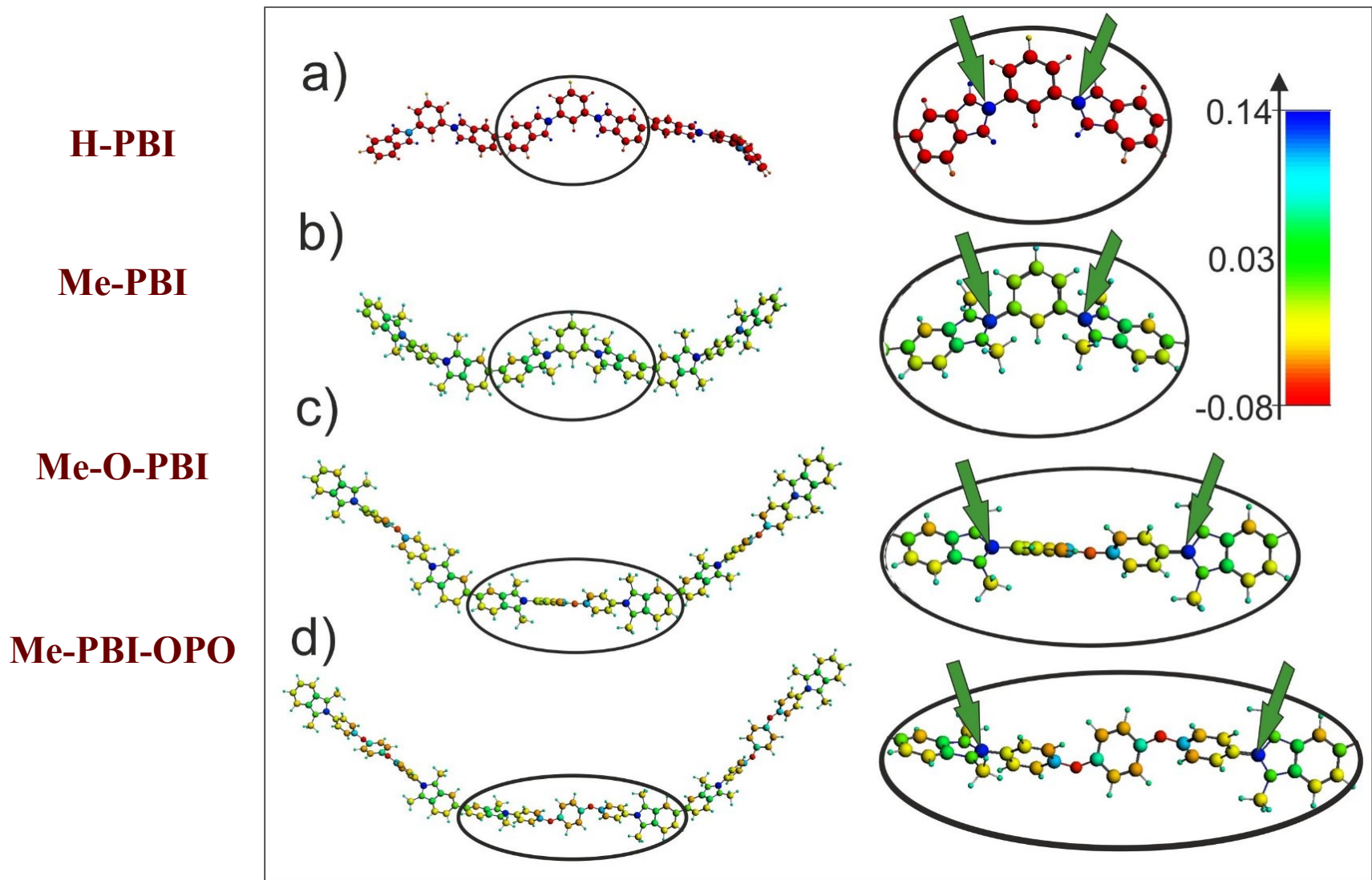


**116 atoms**

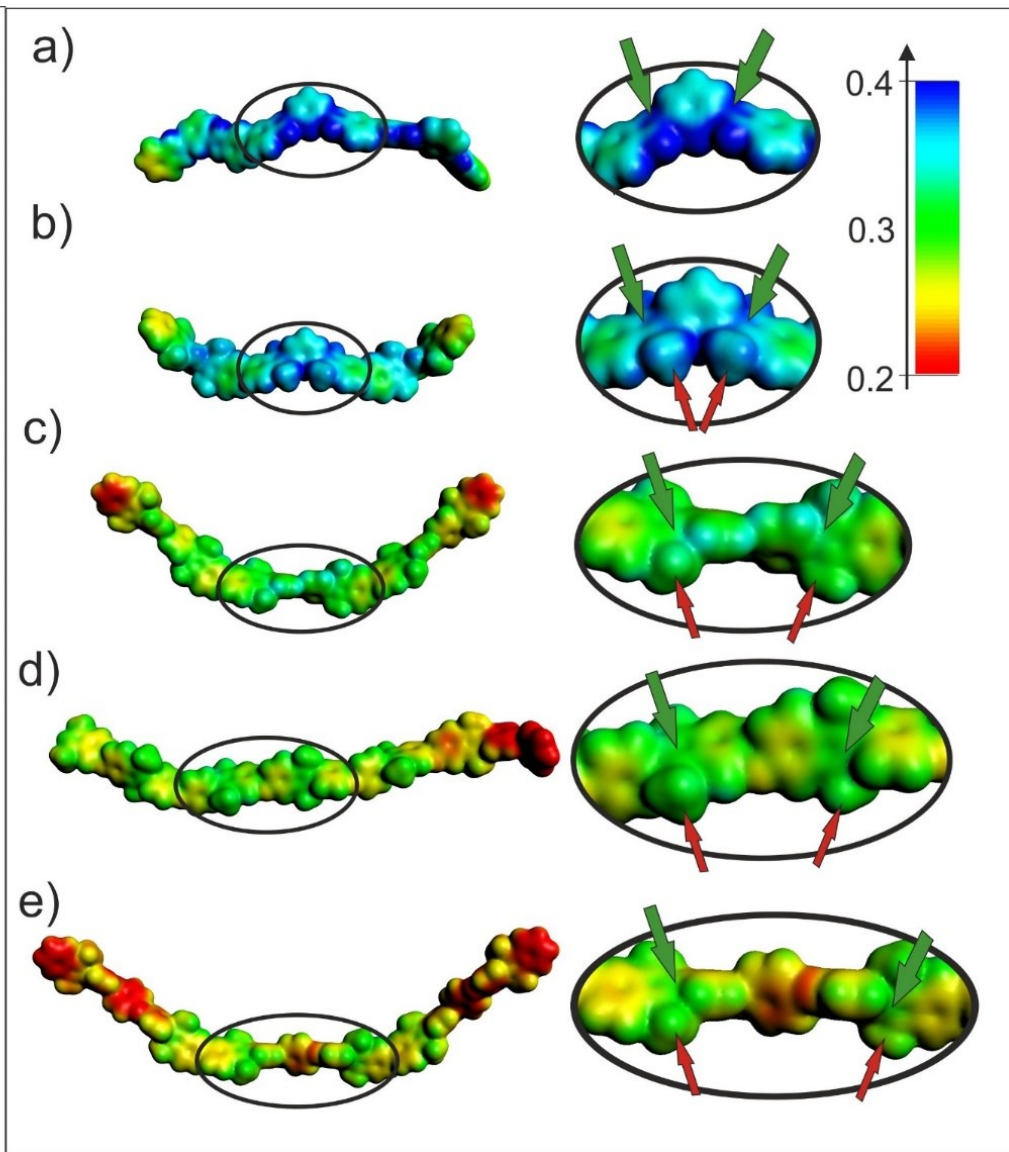
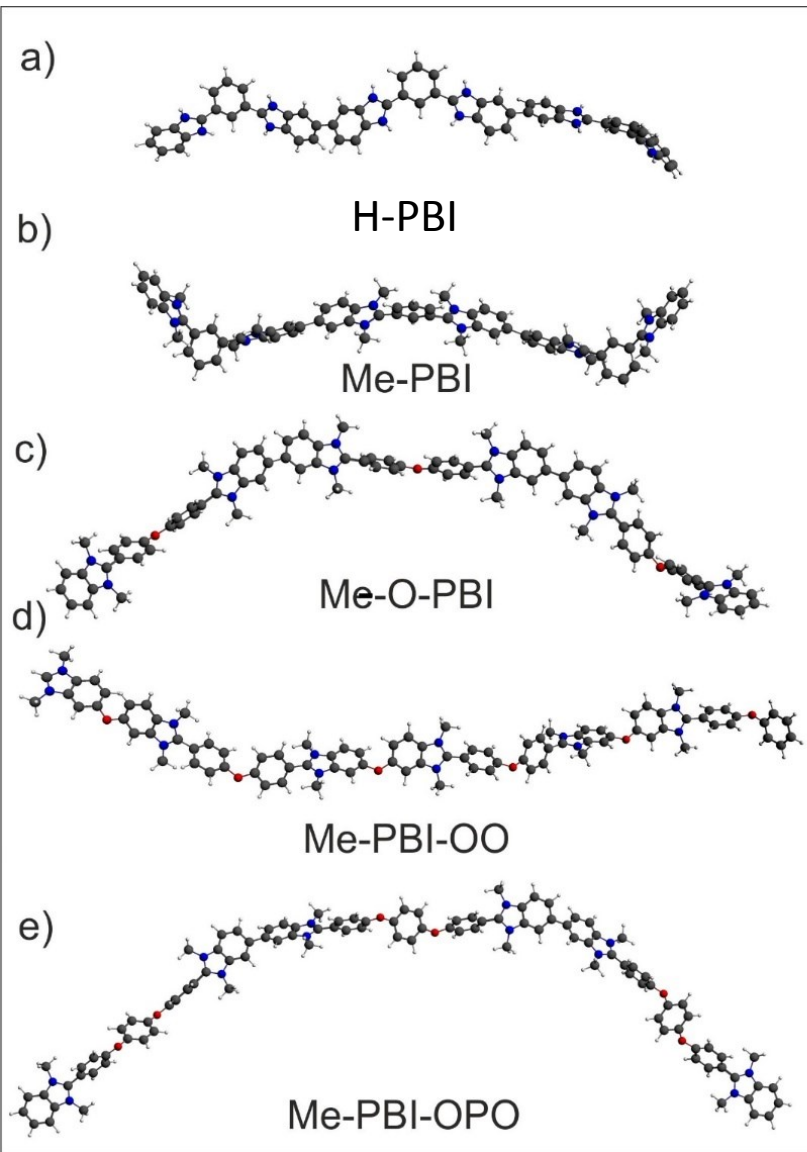


**218 atoms**

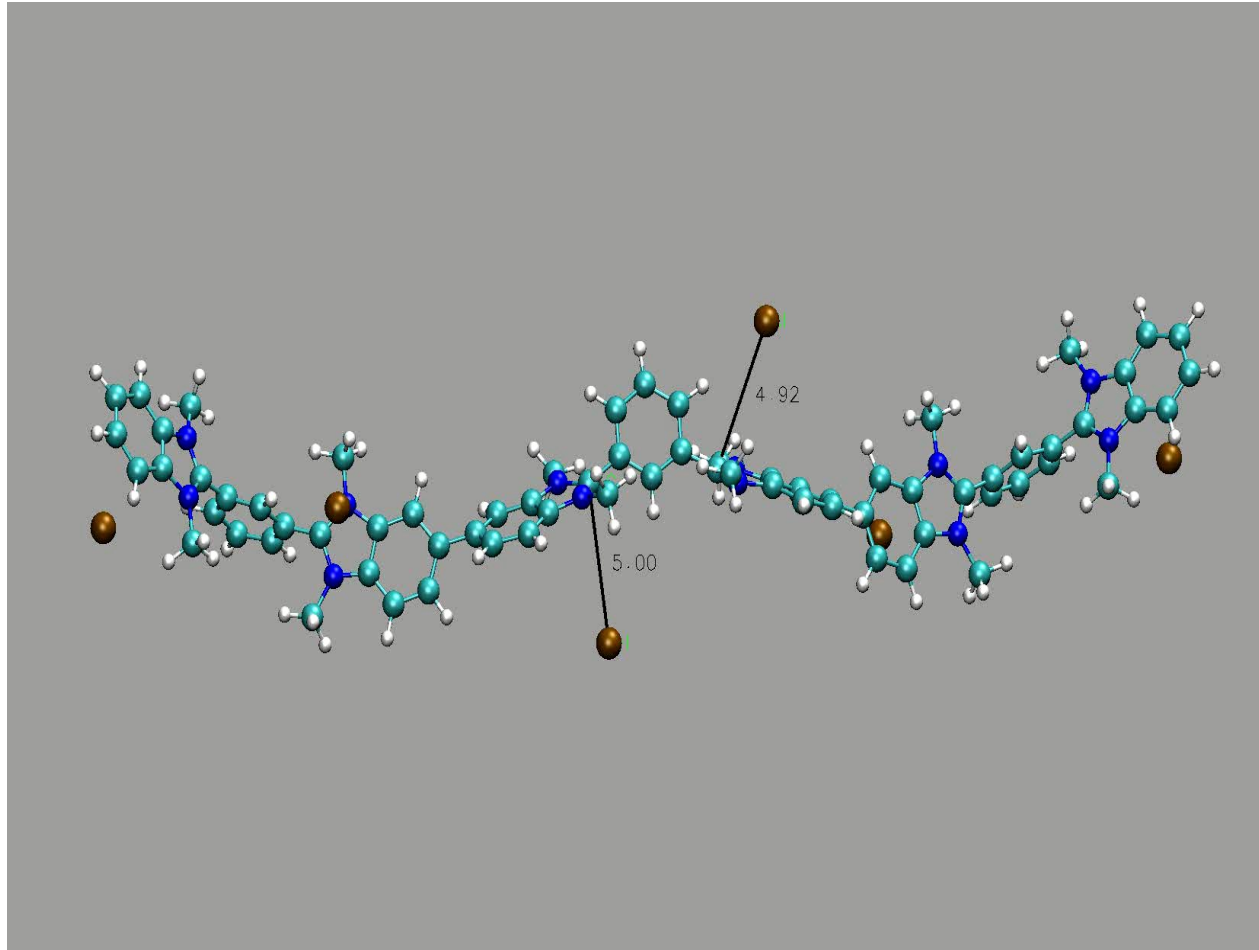






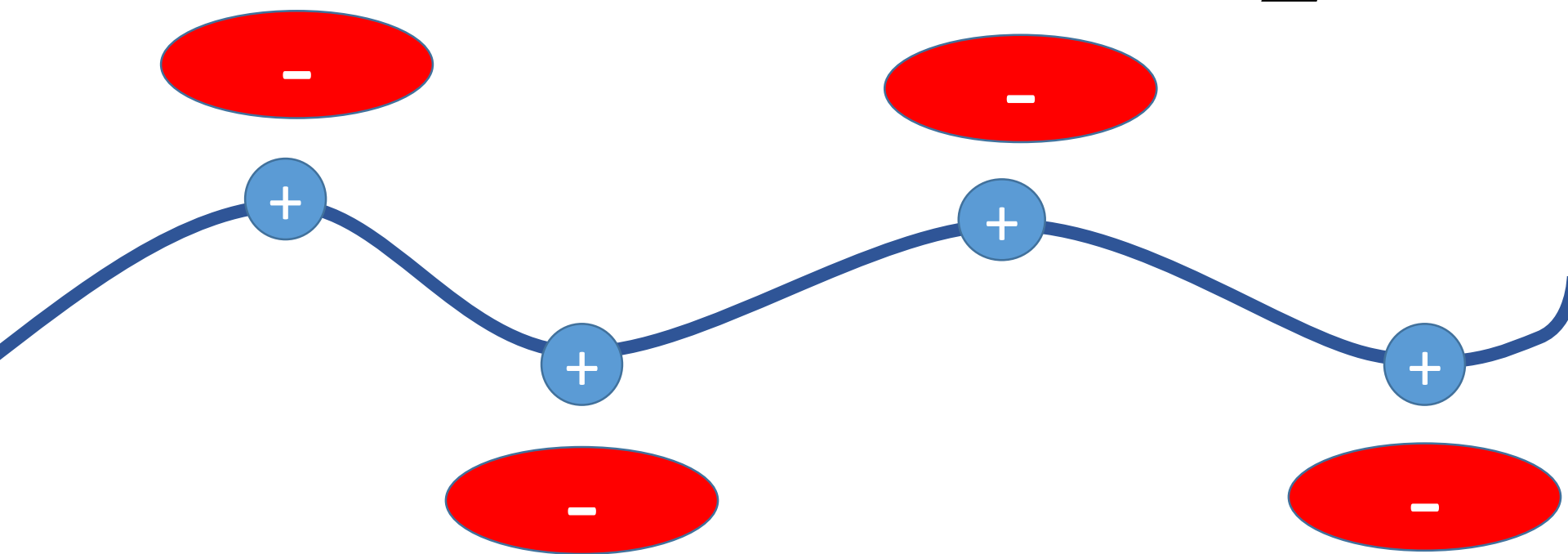


# Interactions with anions



# ETS-NOCV method for bond analysis

$E (+/-)$



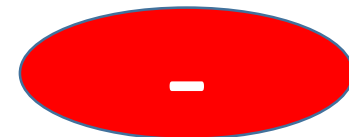
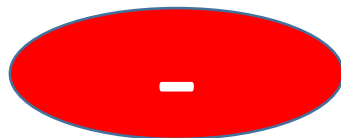
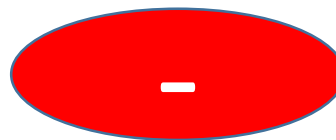
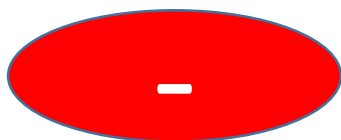
## ETS-NOCV method for bond analysis

$E(+)$

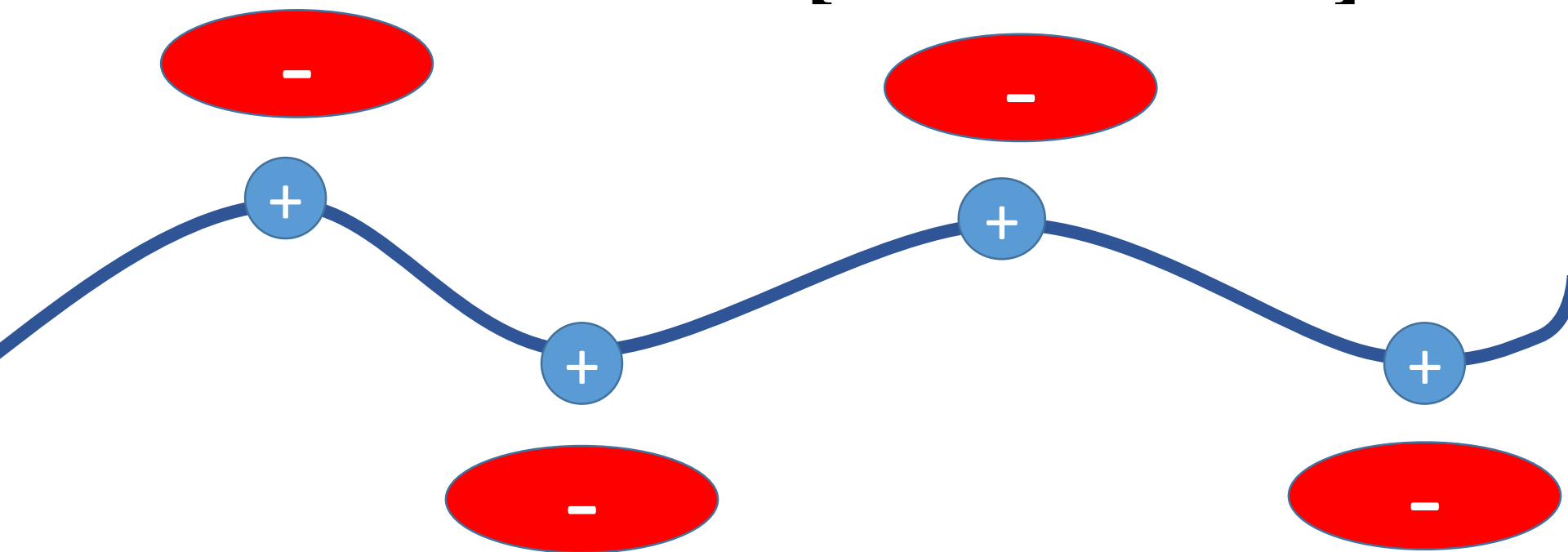


## ETS-NOCV method for bond analysis

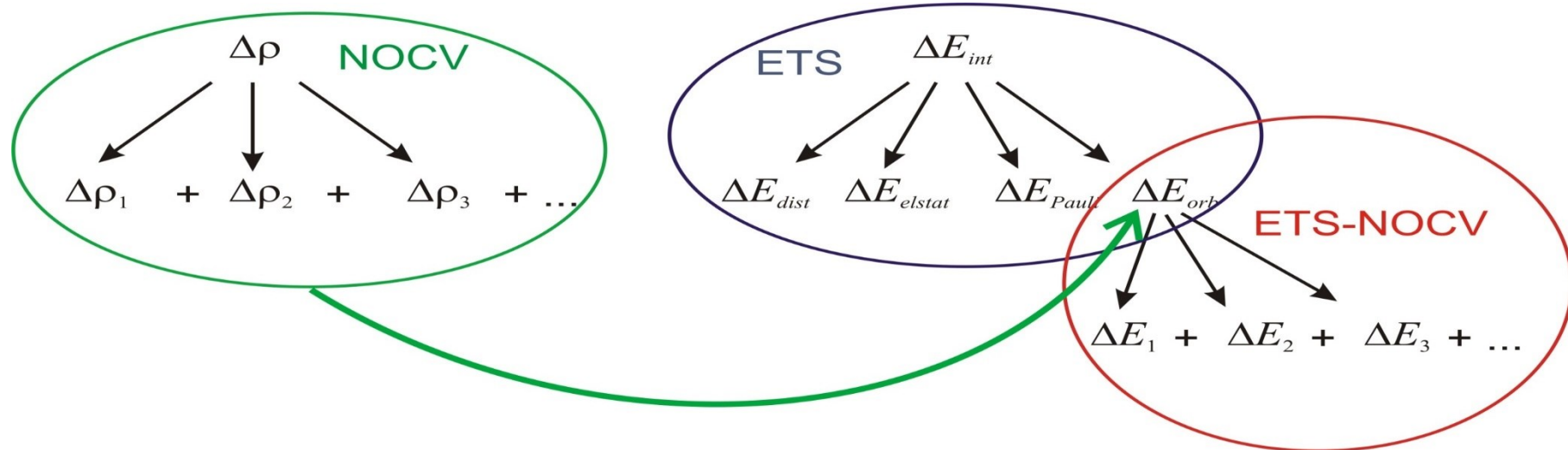
$E(-)$



$$\Delta E^{(+/-)} = E^{(+/-)} - [E^{(+)} - E^{(-)}]$$



## ETS-NOCV method for bond analysis



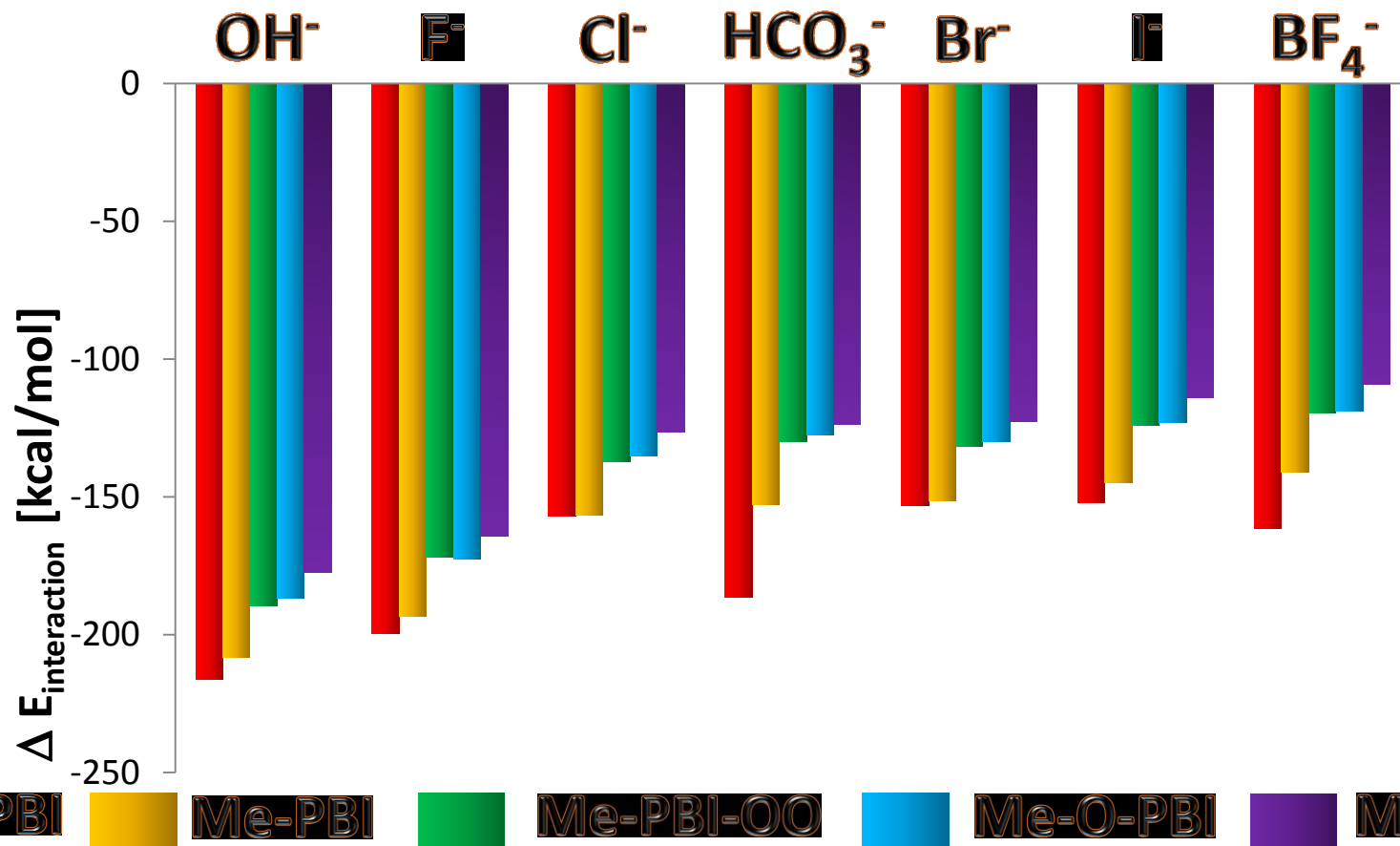
In ADF program, since version 2009.01

M.Mitoraj, A.Michalak, *J.Mol.Model.* 2007, 13, 347-355.

A.Michalak, M.Mitoraj, T. Ziegler, *J. Phys. Chem. A*, 2008, 1933-1939.

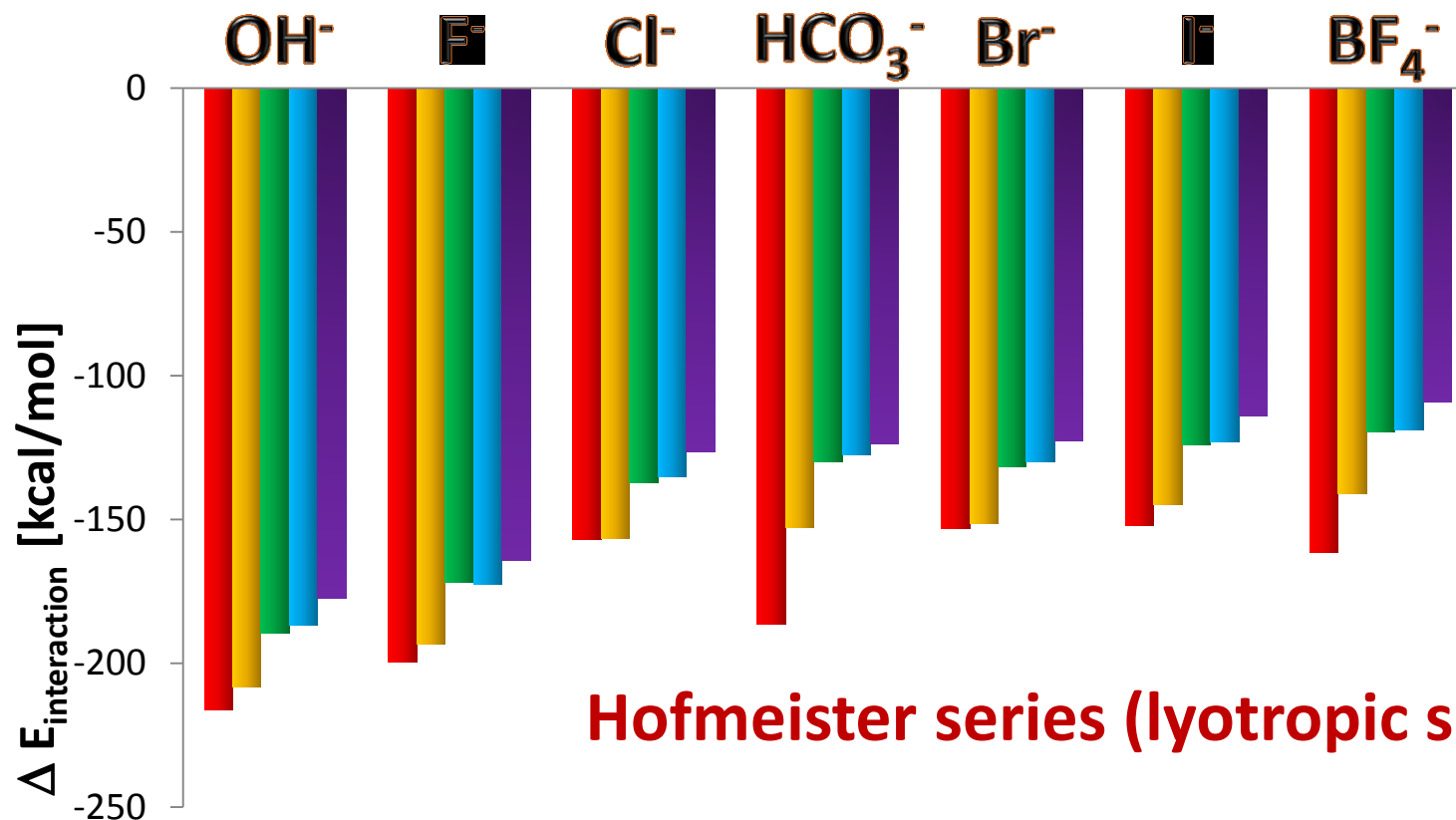
M.Mitoraj, A. Michalak, T. Ziegler *J. Chem. Theory Comput.*, 2009, 5, 962-975.

## Interactions with anions





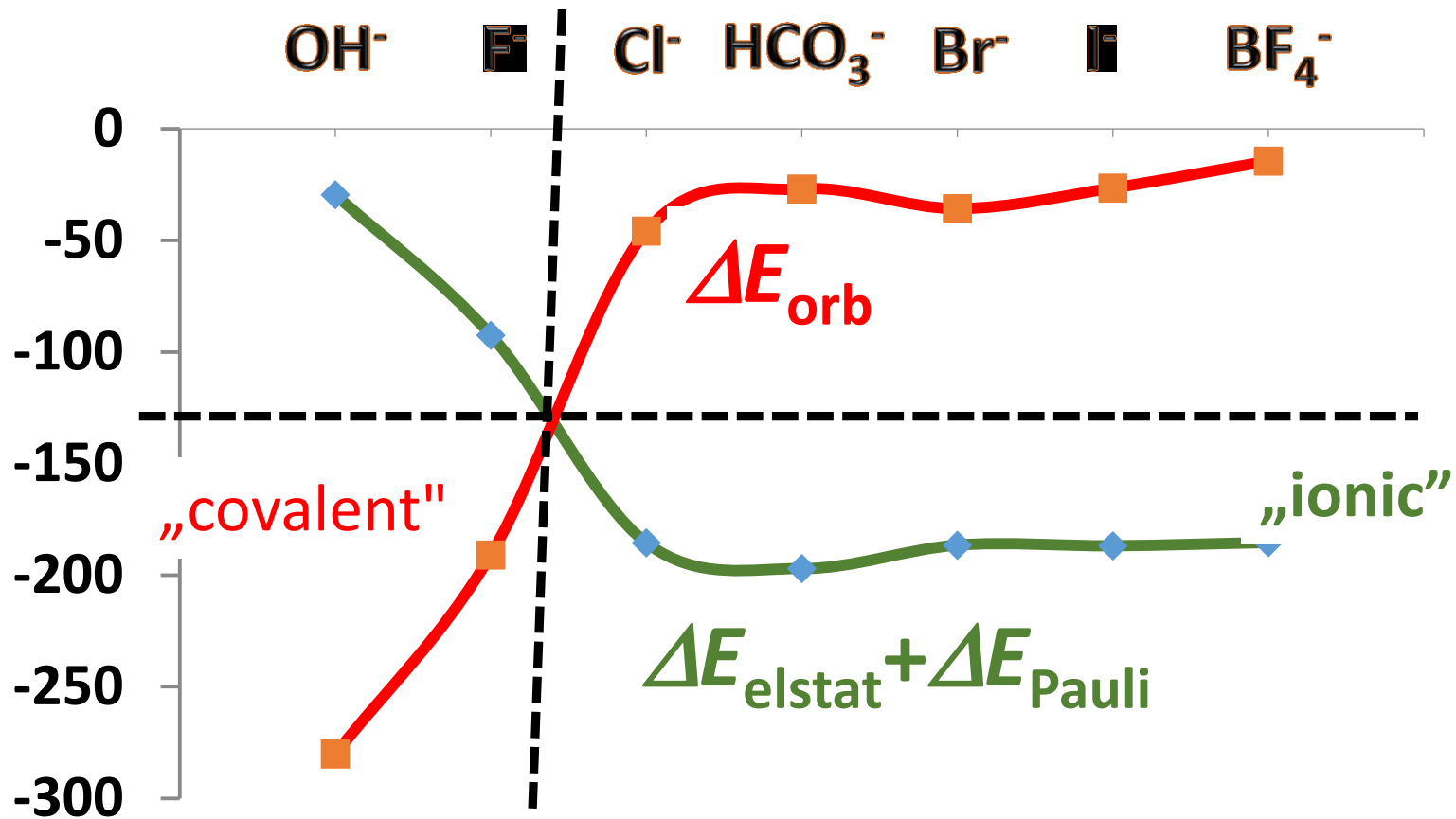
## Interactions with anions

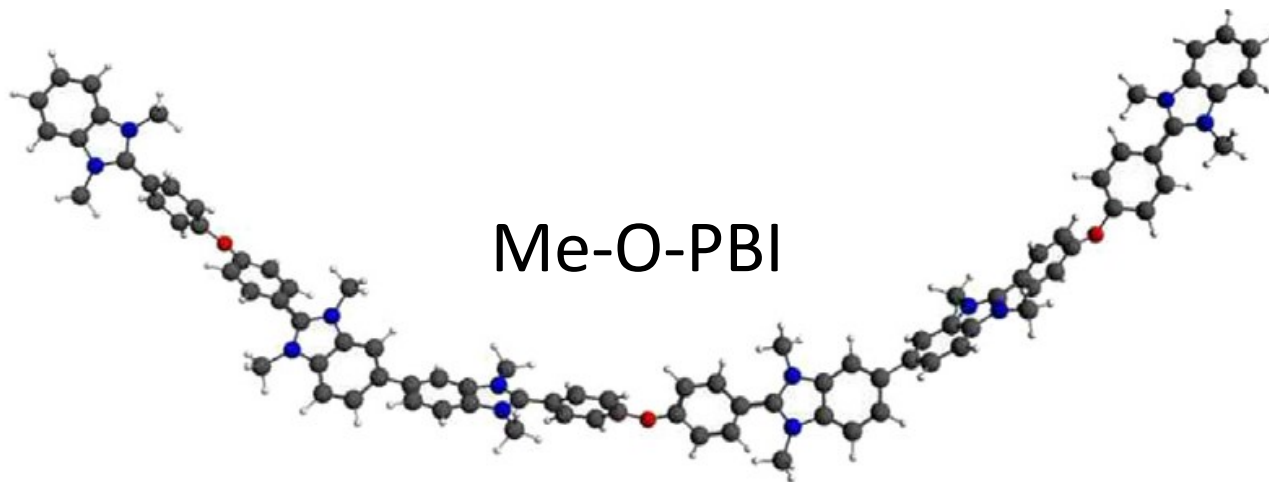


Hofmeister series (lyotropic series)

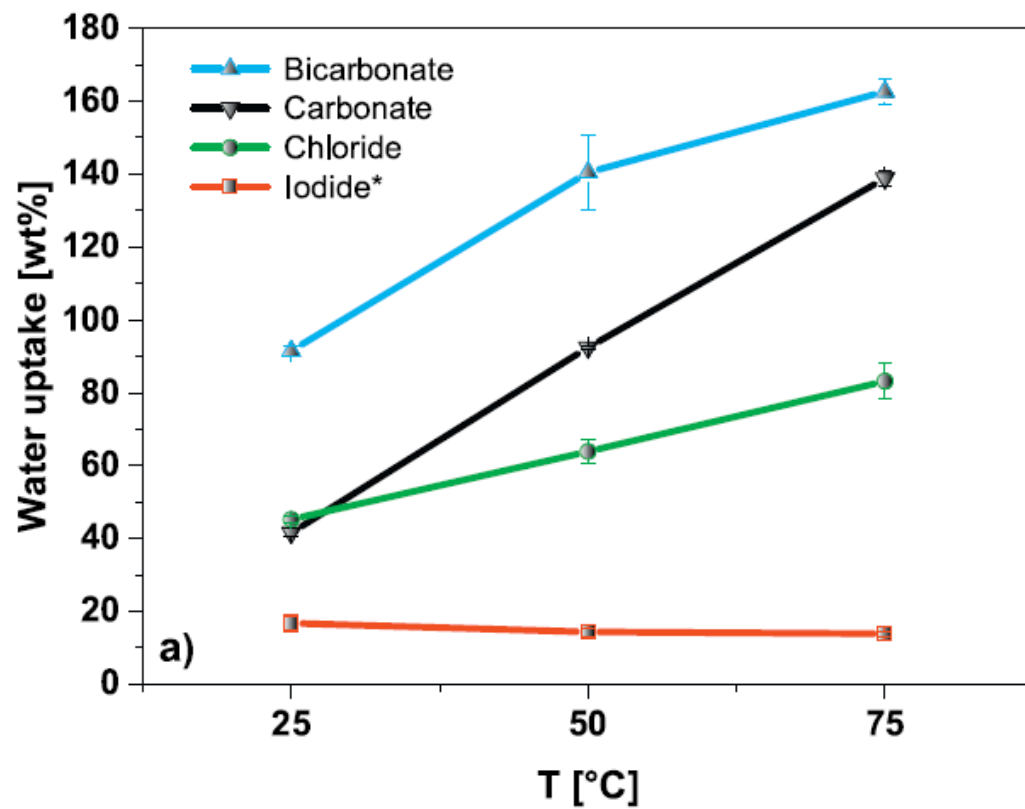


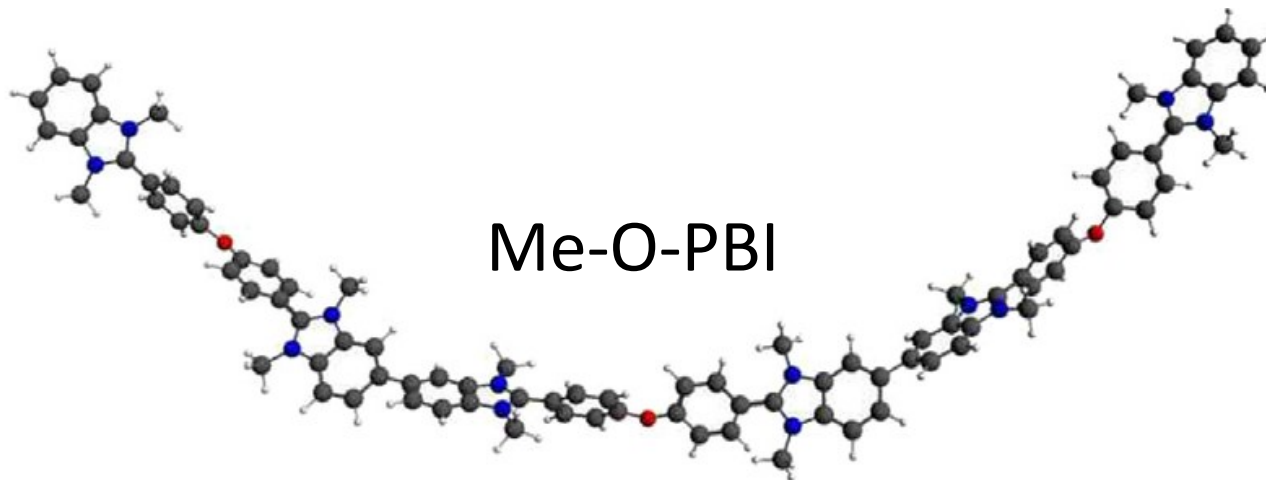
# Me-PBI: Interactions with anions (ETS-NOCV)





## Water uptake, solvation





## Water uptake, solvation

Experimental data for water uptake:



# Solvation of free ions

**$\text{Cl}^- > \text{HCO}_3^- > \text{I}^-$**   
**does not explain the water-uptake data**

our results:

	COSMO	Cluster cycle* $\Delta G_{\text{solv}}(\text{A})$
<i>Cl</i>	-77.22	-83,29
<i>HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup></i>	-76.63	-80,21
<i>I</i>	-60.89	-67,39

literature results:

Smith:		Warshel:	
Exp	calc	exp	calc
-87.06	-89.21	-78.1	-77.9
-85.42	-81.64		-76.0
-71.70	-75.28	-60.3	-62.9

# Solvation of free ions

**$\text{Cl}^- > \text{HCO}_3^- > \text{I}^-$**   
**does not explain the water-uptake data**

our results:

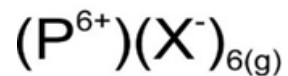
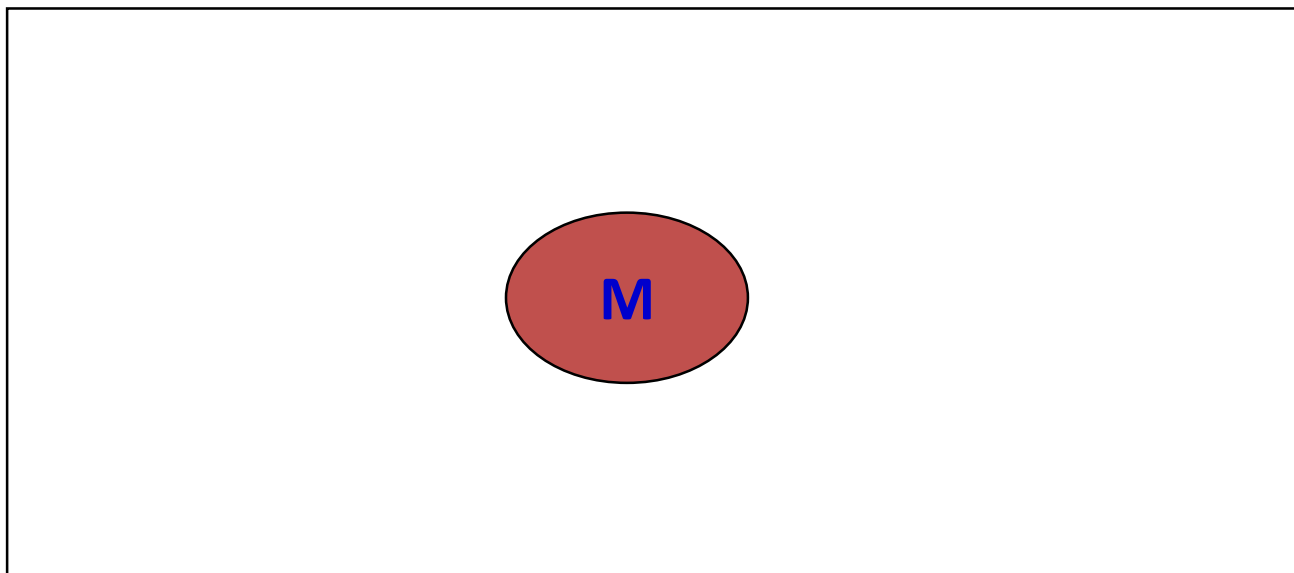
	COSMO	Cluster cycle* $\Delta G_{\text{solv}}(\text{A})$
$\text{Cl}^-$	-77.22	-83,29
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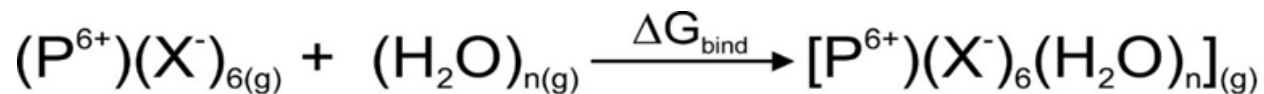
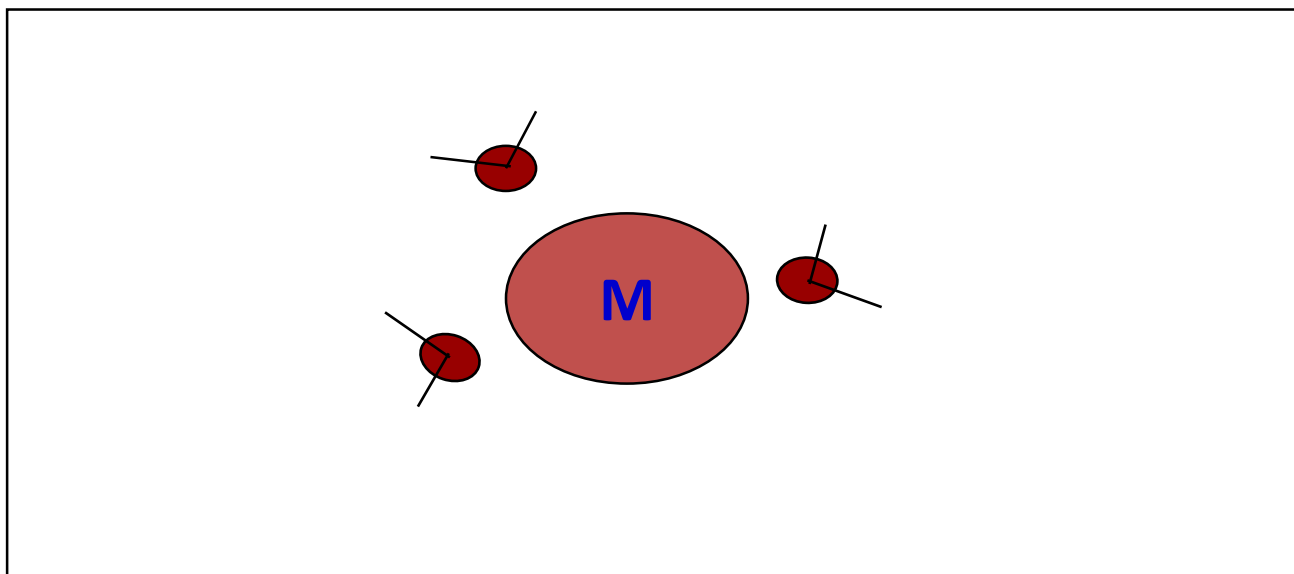
# Modeling solvent effects in theoretical calculations

## Explicit solvation



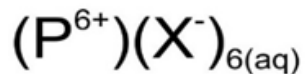
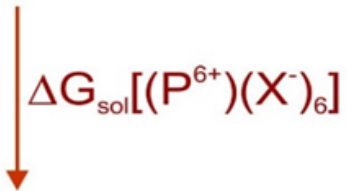
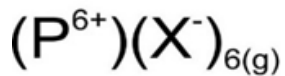
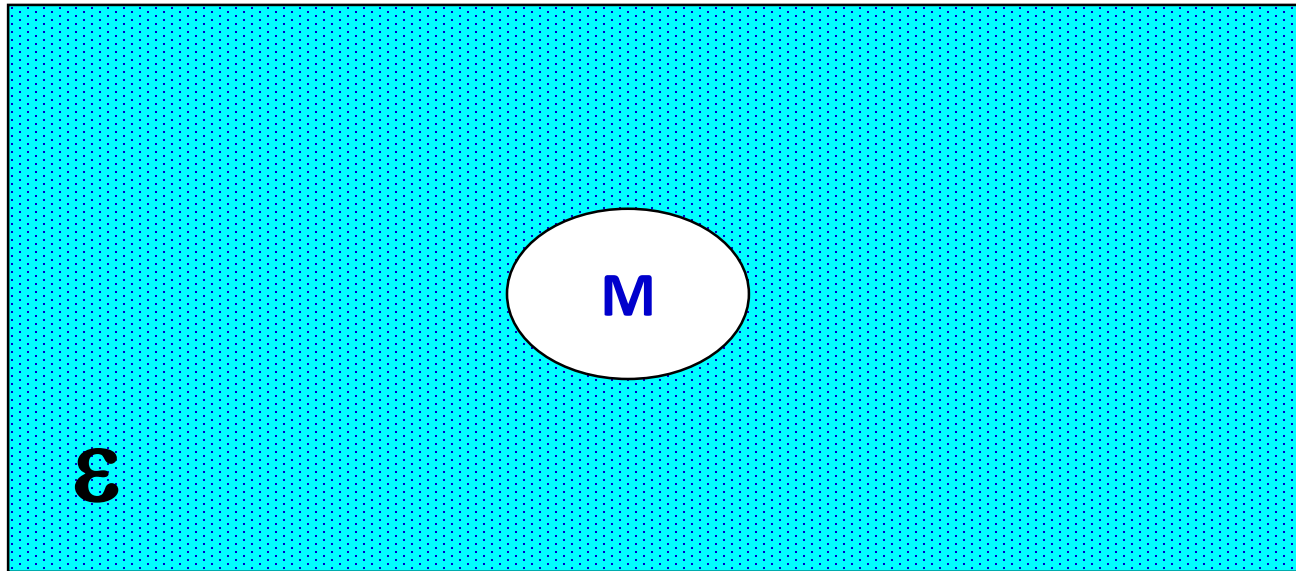
# Modeling solvent effects in theoretical calculations

## Explicit solvation

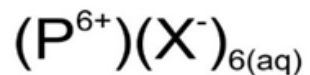
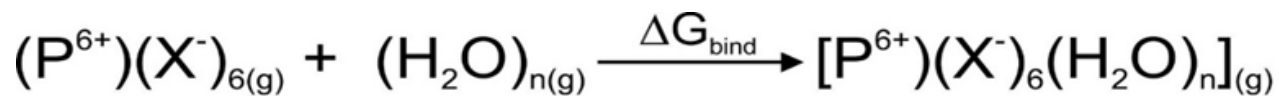
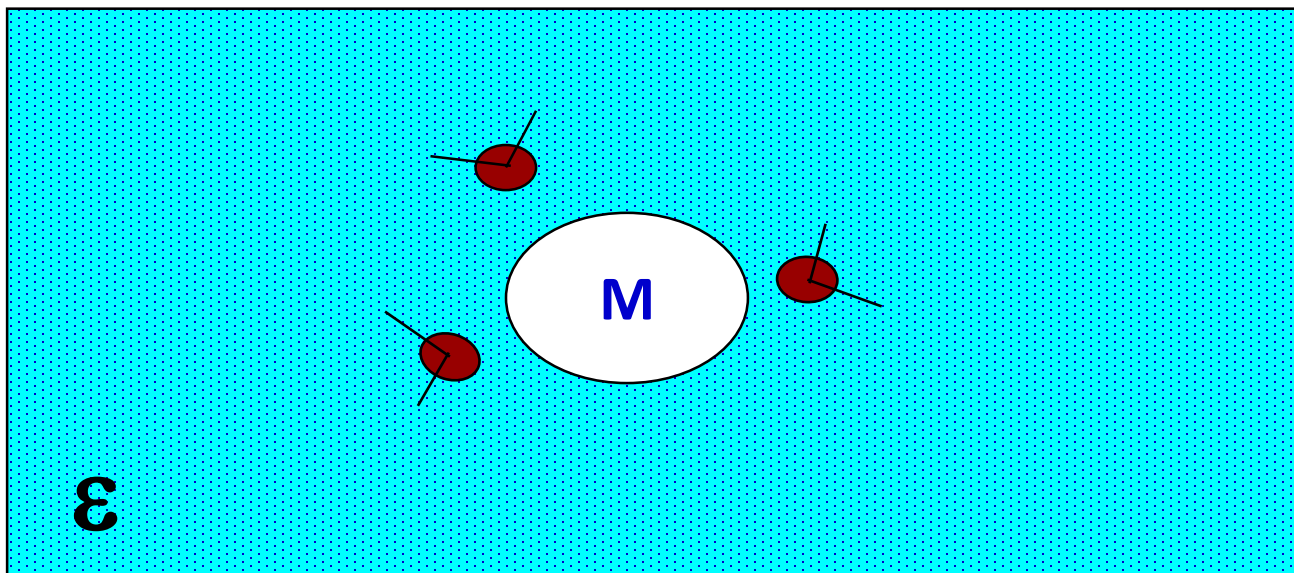




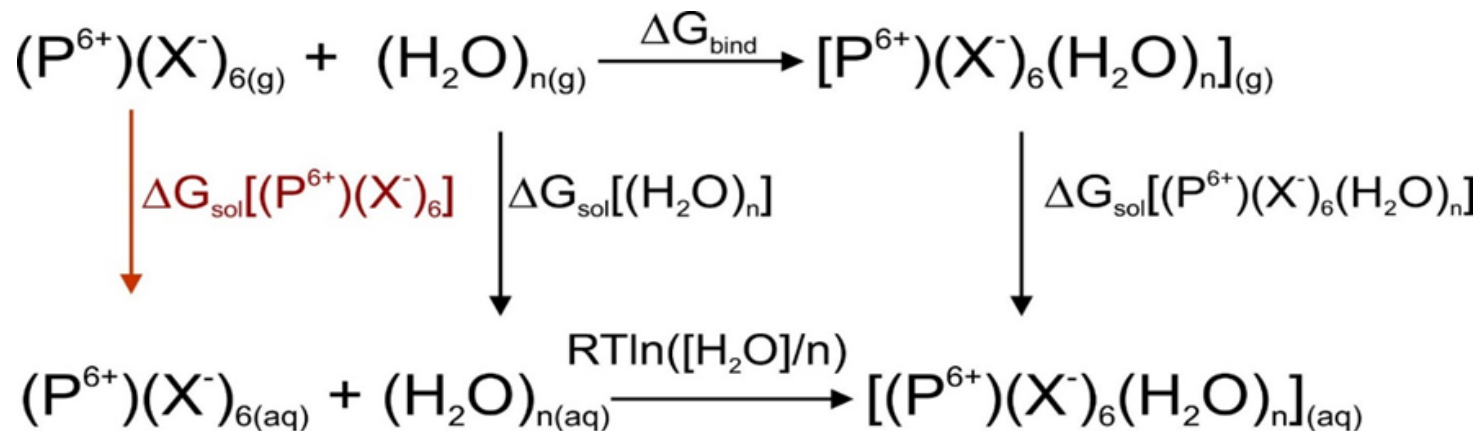
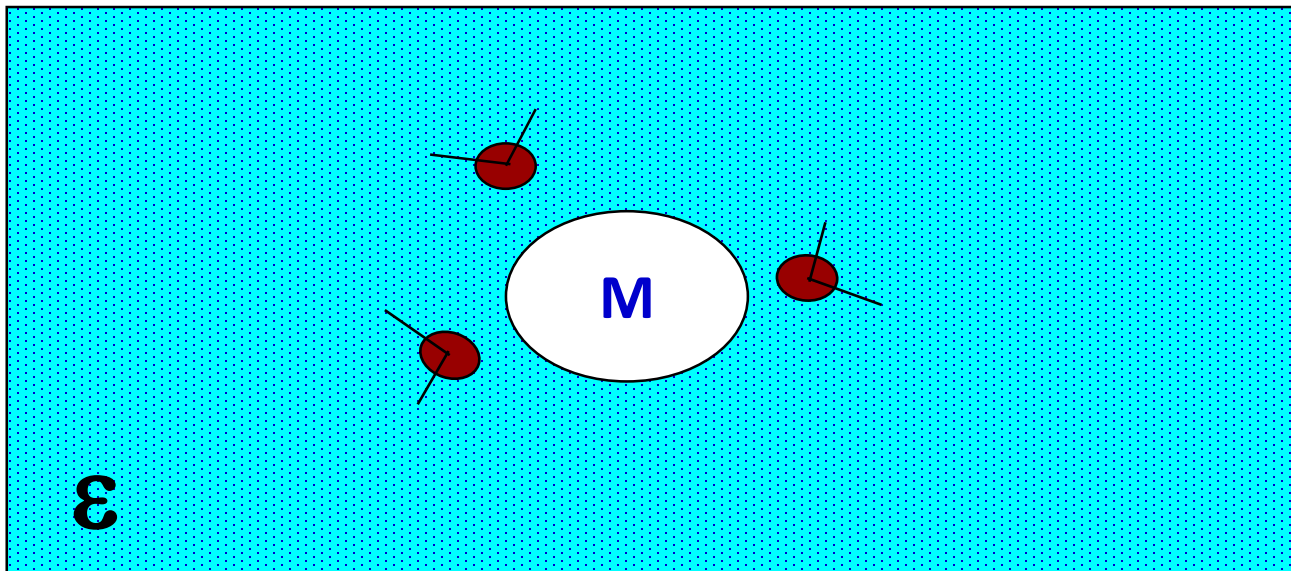
# Continuum models (implicit solvation)



# Continuum models + explicit solvation

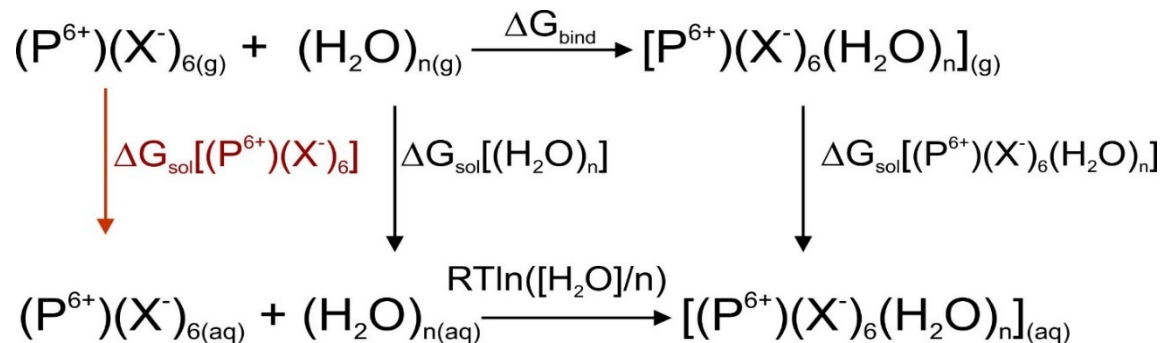
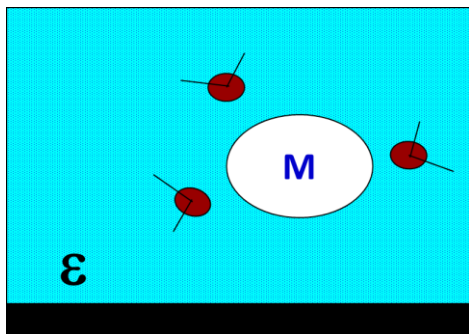


# Continuum models + explicit solvation



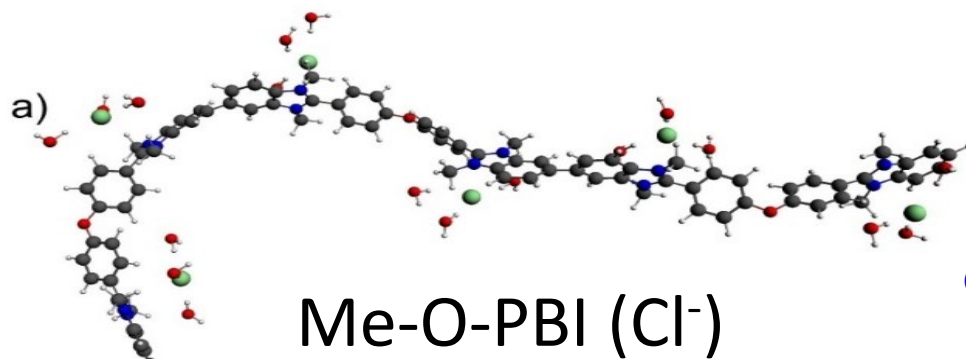
# Continuum models + explicit solvation

## Thermodynamic cycles

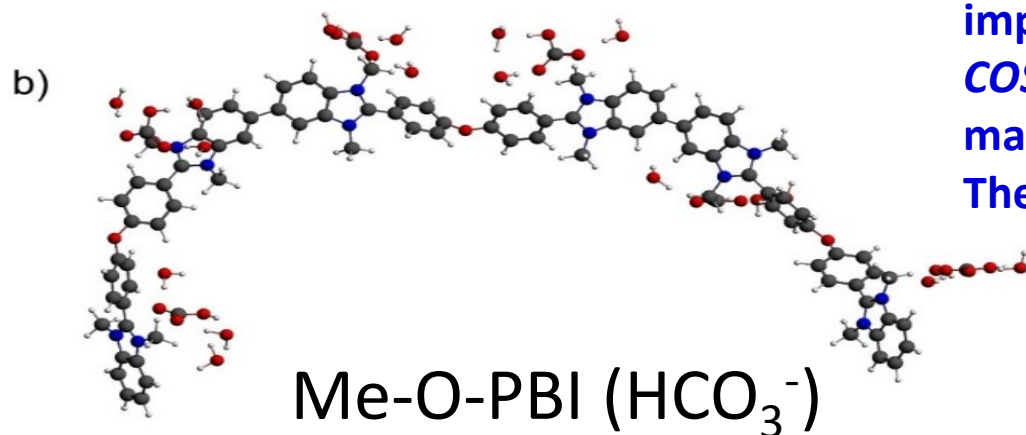


$$\Delta G_{\text{sol}}[(\text{P}^{6+})(\text{X}^-)_6] + \Delta G_{\text{sol}}[(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n] = \Delta G_{\text{bind}} + \Delta G_{\text{sol}}[(\text{P}^{6+})(\text{X}^-)_6(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n] - RT \ln([\text{H}_2\text{O}]/n)$$

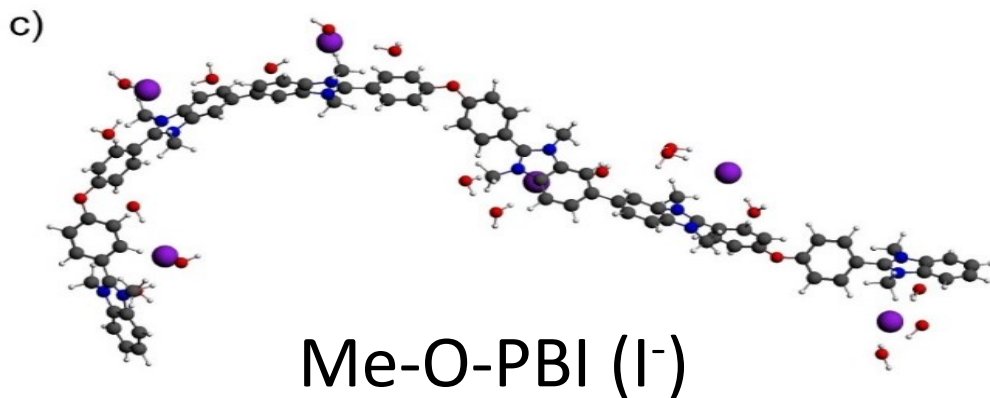
$$\Delta G_{\text{sol}}[(\text{P}^{6+})(\text{X}^-)_6] = \Delta G_{\text{bind}} + \Delta G_{\text{sol}}[(\text{P}^{6+})(\text{X}^-)_6(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n] - RT \ln([\text{H}_2\text{O}]/n) - \Delta G_{\text{sol}}[(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n]$$

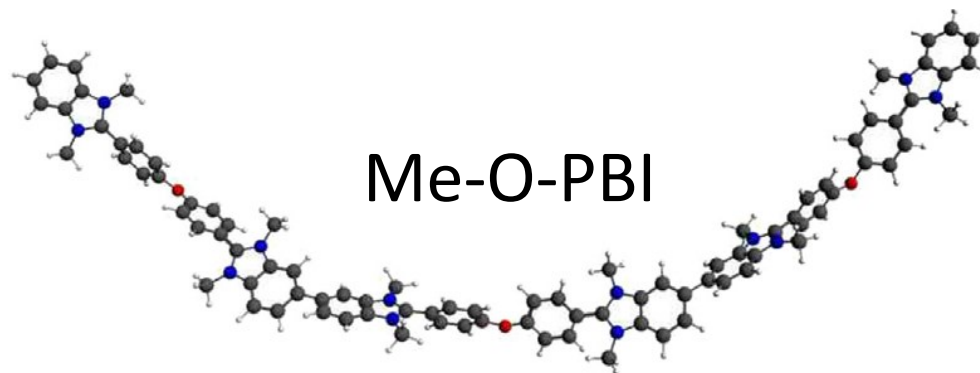


explicit solvation:  
18 water molecules included in the model  
(or 21, 24)

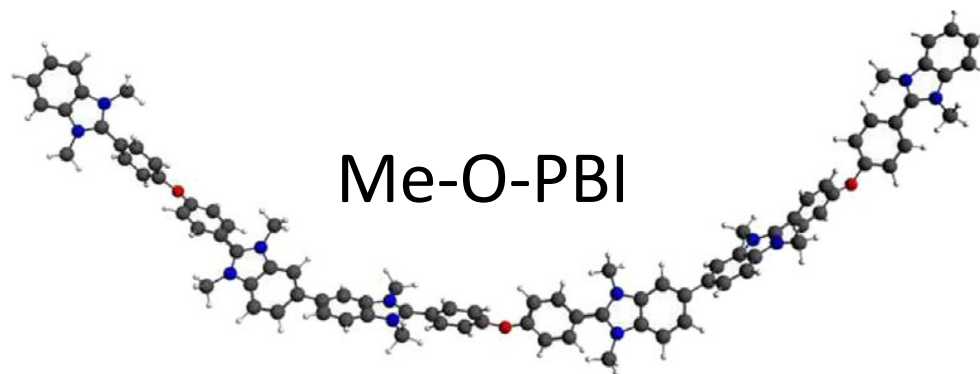


implicit solvation:  
*COSMO continuum* model  
charge:  
Thermodynamic 'cluster'

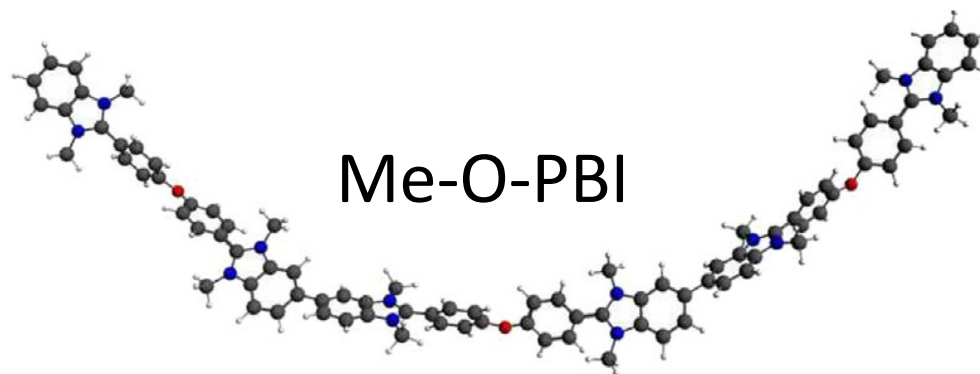




P	Implicit (COSMO)
	$\Delta G_{\text{solv}}(\text{P})$
Me-O-PBI <sup>6+</sup> + 6 Cl <sup>-</sup>	-22.96
Me-O-PBI <sup>6+</sup> + 6 HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-34.83
Me-O-PBI <sup>6+</sup> + 6 I <sup>-</sup>	-24.25

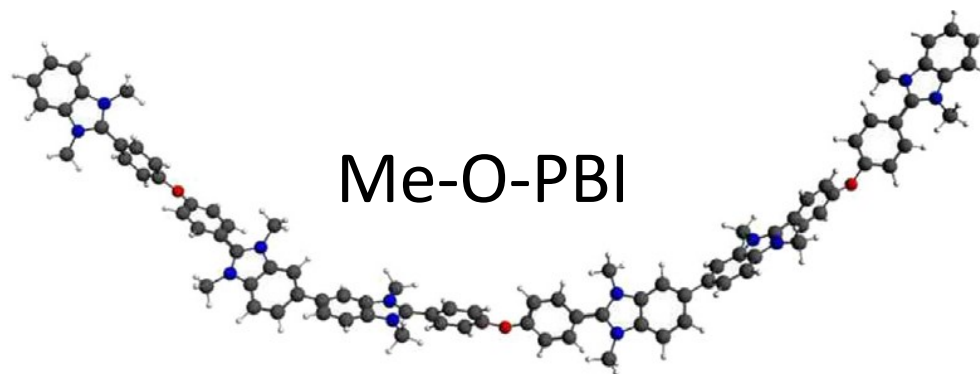


P	Implicit (COSMO)	Explicit (ETS)
	$\Delta G_{\text{solv}}(\text{P})$	$\Delta E_{\text{P-18H}_2\text{O}}$
Me-O-PBI <sup>6+</sup> + 6 Cl <sup>-</sup>	-22.96	-38.10
Me-O-PBI <sup>6+</sup> + 6 HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-34.83	-38.66
Me-O-PBI <sup>6+</sup> + 6 I <sup>-</sup>	-24.25	-31.25

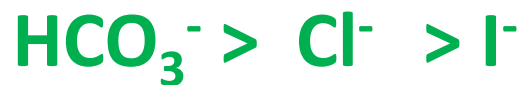


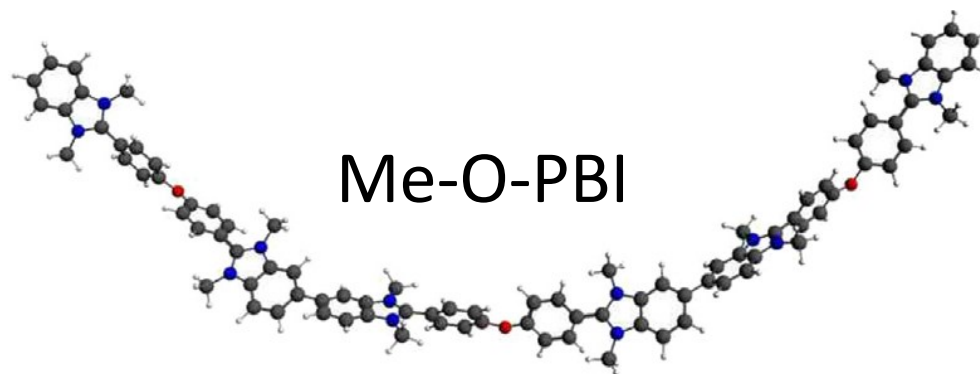
P	Implicit (COSMO)	Explicit (ETS)	Thermodynamic Cycle
	$\Delta G_{\text{solv}}(\text{P})$	$\Delta E_{\text{P-18H}_2\text{O}}$	$\Delta G_{\text{solv}}(\text{P})$
Me-O-PBI <sup>6+</sup> + 6 Cl <sup>-</sup>	-22.96	-38.10	-43.41
Me-O-PBI <sup>6+</sup> + 6 HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-34.83	-38.66	-49.76
Me-O-PBI <sup>6+</sup> + 6 I <sup>-</sup>	-24.25	-31.25	-34.40





P	Implicit (COSMO)	Explicit (ETS)	Thermodynamic Cycle
	$\Delta G_{\text{solv}}(\text{P})$	$\Delta E_{\text{P-18H}_2\text{O}}$	$\Delta G_{\text{solv}}(\text{P})$
Me-O-PBI <sup>6+</sup> + 6 Cl <sup>-</sup>	-22.96	-38.10	-43.41
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Me-O-PBI <sup>6+</sup> + 6 I <sup>-</sup>	-24.25	-31.25	-34.40



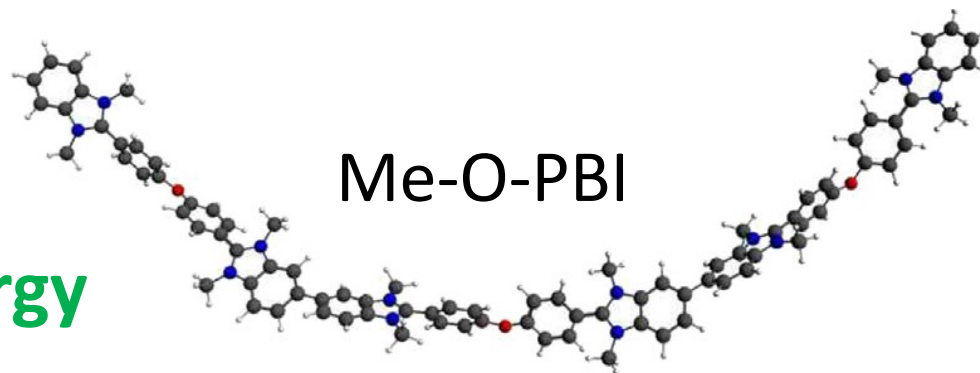


P	Implicit (COSMO)	Explicit (ETS)	Thermodynamic Cycle
	$\Delta G_{\text{solv}}(\text{P})$	$\Delta E_{\text{P-18H}_2\text{O}}$	$\Delta G_{\text{solv}}(\text{P})$
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Me-O-PBI <sup>6+</sup> + 6 HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	-34.83	-38.66	-49.76
Me-O-PBI <sup>6+</sup> + 6 I <sup>-</sup>	-24.25	-31.25	-34.40



**Why?**

## Ion binding energy

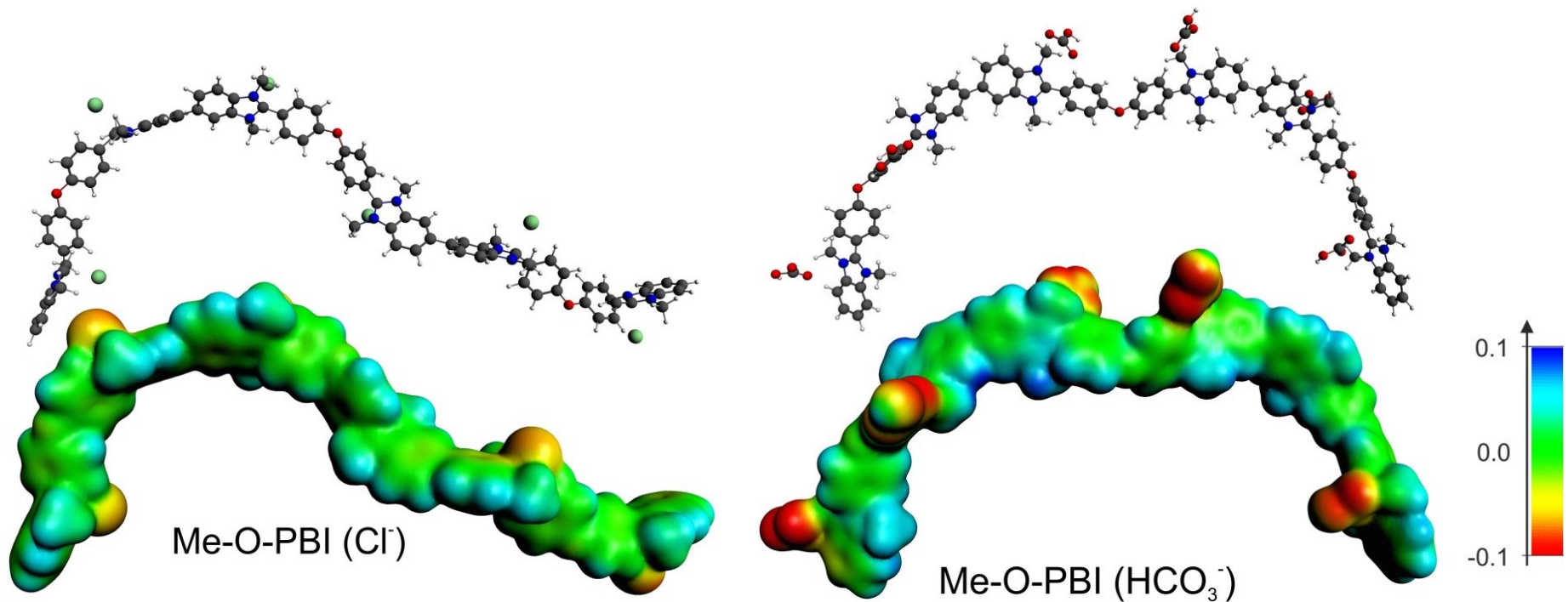


	$\Delta E_{\text{interaction}}$	$\Delta E_{\text{dist}} + \Delta E_{\text{elstat}} + \Delta E_{\text{Pauli}}$	$\Delta E_{\text{orb}}$
$\text{Me-O-PBI}^{6+} + 6 \text{Cl}^-$	-128.68	-85.39	-43.30
$\text{Me-O-PBI}^{6+} + 6 \text{HCO}_3^-$	-120.61	-99.52	-21.09
$\text{Me-O-PBI}^{6+} + 6 \text{I}^-$	-116.23	-92.66	-23.57

**'non-covalent'**                      **'covalent'**

lowest  $|\Delta E_{\text{orb}}|$ :

lowest charge transfer ion  $\rightarrow$  polymer



**lowest  $|\Delta E_{\text{orb}}|$ : lowest charge transfer ion  $\rightarrow$  polymer  
resulting in the highest charge separation**

# Main Conclusion

The **increased solvation energy** observed for the system with bicarbonate ions (compared to the polymer interacting with iodide and chloride ions), results from the **increased electrostatic interaction** with the solvent, which primarily originates from the **increased charge separation** observed for this system.

## More details:

Dirk Henkensmeier, Hyeongrae Cho, Mateusz Brela, Artur Michalak, Alexander Dyck, Wiebke Germer, Ngoc My Hanh Duong, Jong Hyun Jang, Hyoung-Juhn Kim, Nam-Suk Woo, Tae-Hoon Lim; *Anion conducting polymers based on ether linked polybenzimidazole (PBI-OO)*; **International Journal of Hydrogen Energy**, 2014, 39 (6), pp 2842–2853.

Wiebke Germer, Janine Leppin, Carolina Nunes Kirchner, Hyeongrae Cho, Hyoung-Juhn Kim, Dirk Henkensmeier, Kwan-Young Lee, Mateusz Brela, Artur Michalak and Alexander Dyck, *Phase Separated Methylated Polybenzimidazole (O-PBI) Based Anion Exchange Membranes*, **Macromolecular Materials and Engineering**, 2015,

# Thank you very much



Domain-Oriented Services and Resources  
of Polish Infrastructure  
for Supporting Computational Science  
in the European Research Space

## PLGrid Plus

**PBI<sup>6+</sup>+6Cl<sup>-</sup>+726 H<sub>2</sub>O**

