Electronic Tunneling through Dissipative Molecular Bridges

Uri Peskin

Department of Chemistry, Technion – Israel Institute of Technology Haifa 32000 Israel

Outline

Motivation:

• Controlled electron transport in molecular devices and in biological systems.

Background:

- ET in Donor-Acceptor complexes: The Golden Rule, the Condon approximaton and the spin-boson Hamiltonian.
- ET in Donor-Bridge-Acceptor complexes: McConnell's formula for the tunneling matrix elements.

The problem:

• Electronic-nuclear coupling at the molecular bridge and the breakdown of the Condon approximation.

The model system:

• Generalized spin-boson Hamiltonians for dissipative through-bridge tunneling.

Results:

- The weak coupling limit: Langevin-Schroedinger formulation, simulations and interpretation of ET through a dissipative bridge
- Beyond the weak coupling limit: An analytic formula for the tunneling matrix element in the deep tunneling regime.

Conclusions:

- Promotion of tunneling through molecular barriers by electronic-nuclear coupling.
- The effect of molecular rigidity.