

















## Models used to understand reactions on excited surfaces

- Adiabatic and diabatic surfaces
- Crossing and avoided crossing
- Funnel
- Conical intersection
- Energy gap law and Fermi's golden rule
- Wave packets vs particles (marbles)

























Stretch

Twist

a ----- b



























## Detection of crossing and avoided crossing

- If there is no mixing, the two curves would remain separate and the excited NaI will retain covalent character and dissociate like CH<sub>3</sub>I
- If the two first order curves mix the crossing will become avoided.
- The avoided crossing will lead to a 'well' where the excited NaI will get trapped and establish a resonance (oscillation) between covalent and ionic character.
- · The molecule resonate between two electronic configuration











## Conclusions based on ultrafast experiments

"The study of chemical events that occur in the femtosecond time scale is the ultimate achievement in half a century of development and, although many future events will be run over the same course, chemists are near the end of the race against time"

George Porter, 1993

- Considering molecules as particles (classical mechanics) or wave packets (quantum mechanics) lead to similar results. Wave packets can leak through a barrier (tunneling) while particles cannot.
- Surfaces generated based on electronic correlation diagrams help predict reaction dynamics
- Crossing of surfaces are common and these could lead to 'real', 'avoided' and conical intersections
- On excited state surfaces oscillation (resonance) of electronic structures occurs in fs time scale.

















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