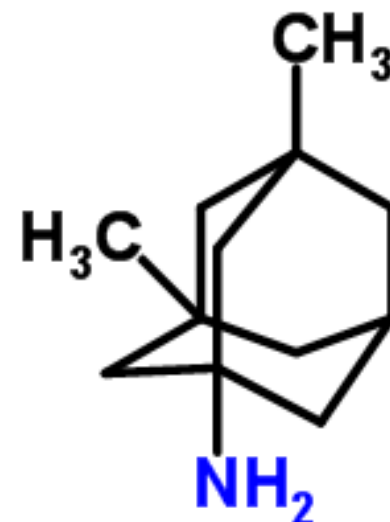


Electronic properties of memantine (Alzheimer's disease) and amantadine (anti-flu) drugs

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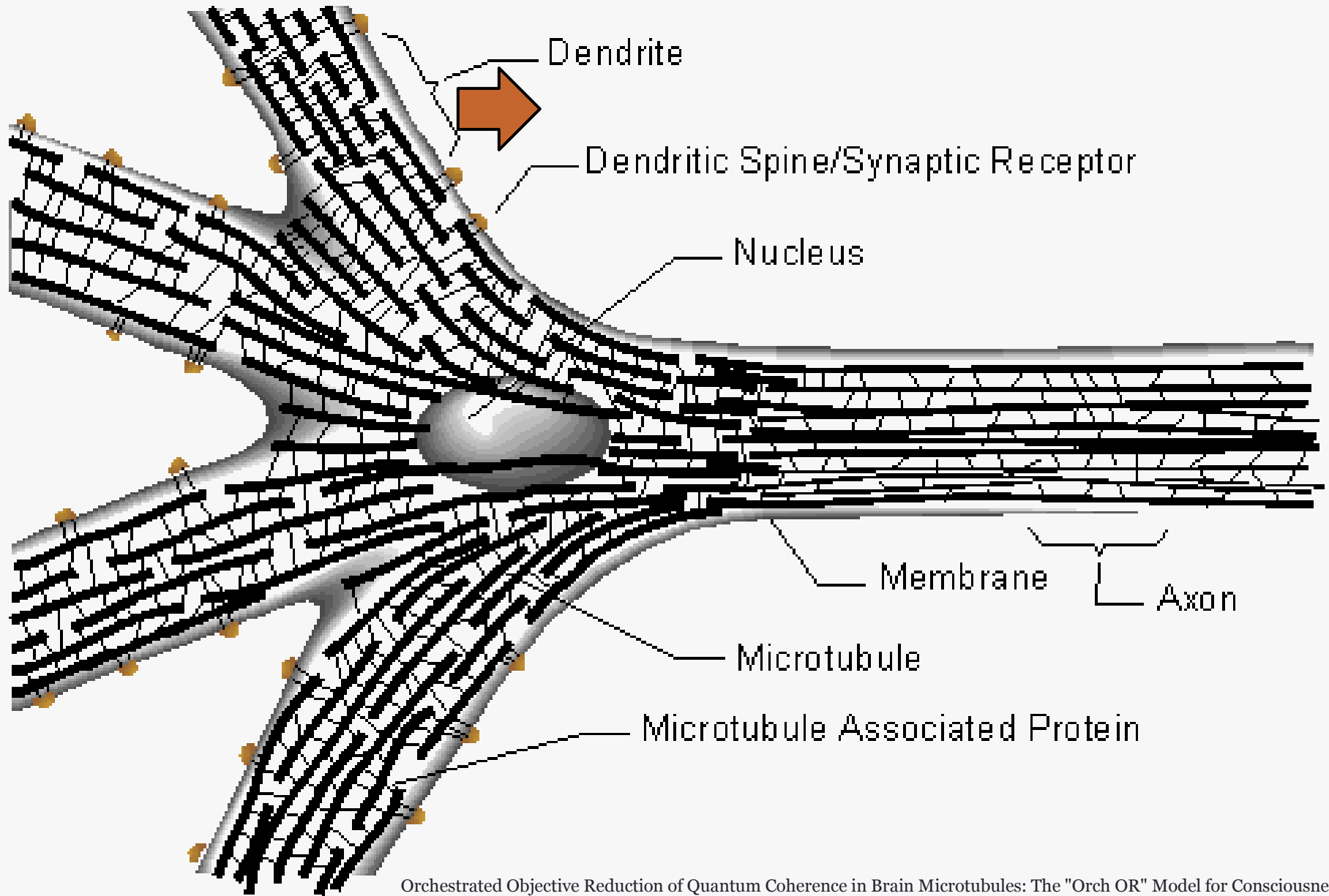


Motivation

- Alzheimer's Disease is the 5th leading cause of death for Americans 65 and older
- Treatment
 - The U.S. Food and Drug Administration
 - **Only five drugs approved that “temporarily slow worsening of symptoms for about six to 12 months.”**
 - Effective for **only** about **half** of all patients

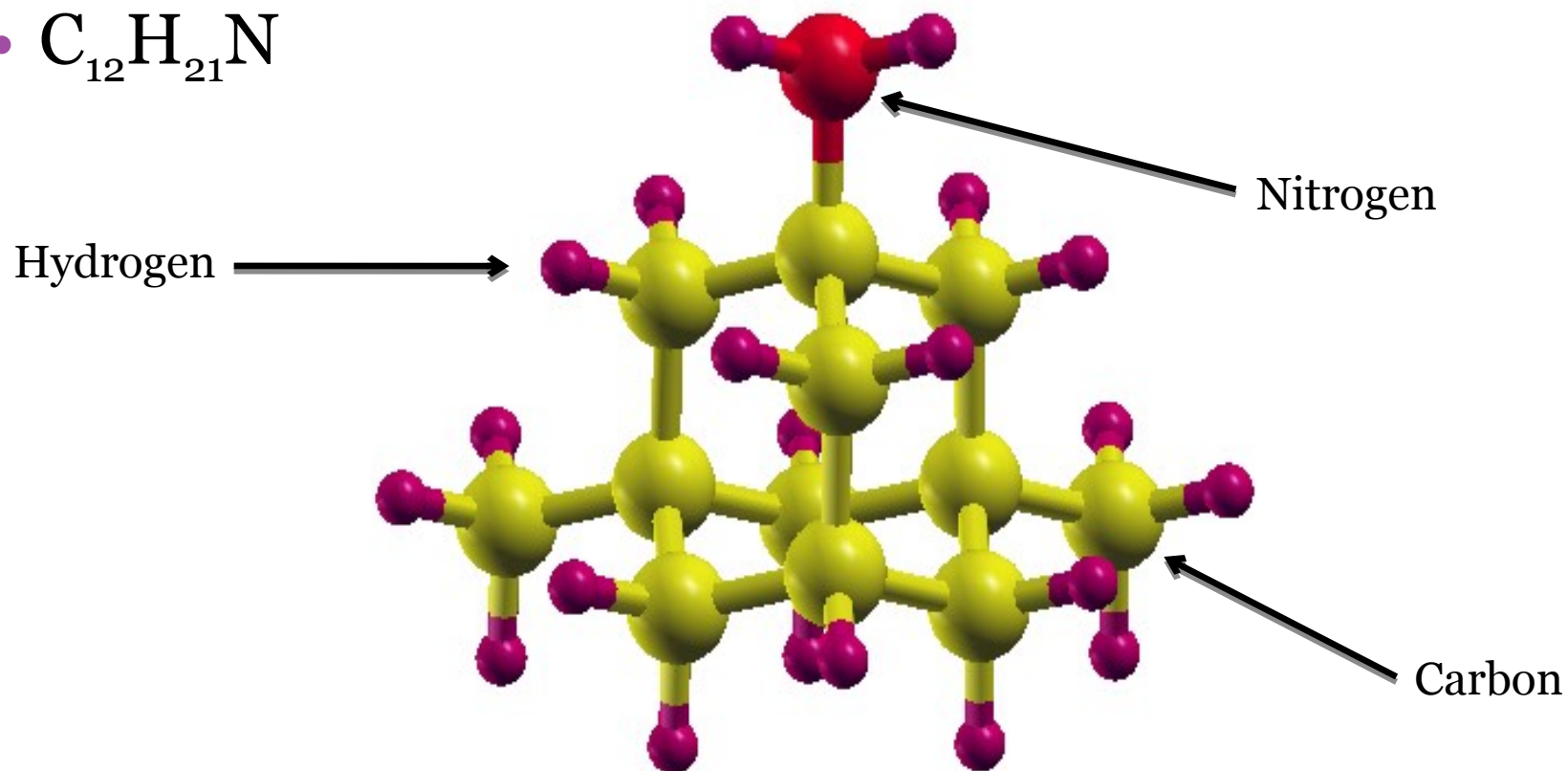
Contents

- Introduction: brain function and Alzheimer's disease
- Memantine's role as a treatment
- Results
- Conclusions



Orchestrated Objective Reduction of Quantum Coherence in Brain Microtubules: The "Orch OR" Model for Consciousness, Stuart Hameroff and Roger Penrose, <http://www.quantumconsciousness.org/penrose-hameroff/orchOR.html>

Memantine, an Alzheimer's Drug



Physical Properties

- Electron affinity
 - Comparisons between:
 - Memantine and Mg^{2+}
 - Protonated memantine and Mg^{2+}
 - Memantine and amantadine



Create

- Create coordinates using Hyperchem
- Convert files to .g03 format



Optimize

- Density functional theory method
- Optimize the structure
 - Vary the basis set



Collect

- Use the .log file to find the total surface energy



Optimize

- Optimize the structure with an additional electron
- Find the total surface energy




Calculate

- Calculate the electron affinity
- Compare molecules and ions

Calculation Methods and Basis Sets

Rhf
6-31g



MP2 MP2
cc-pVDZ



B3lyp
aug-cc-pVDZ

Calculation Methods and Basis Sets

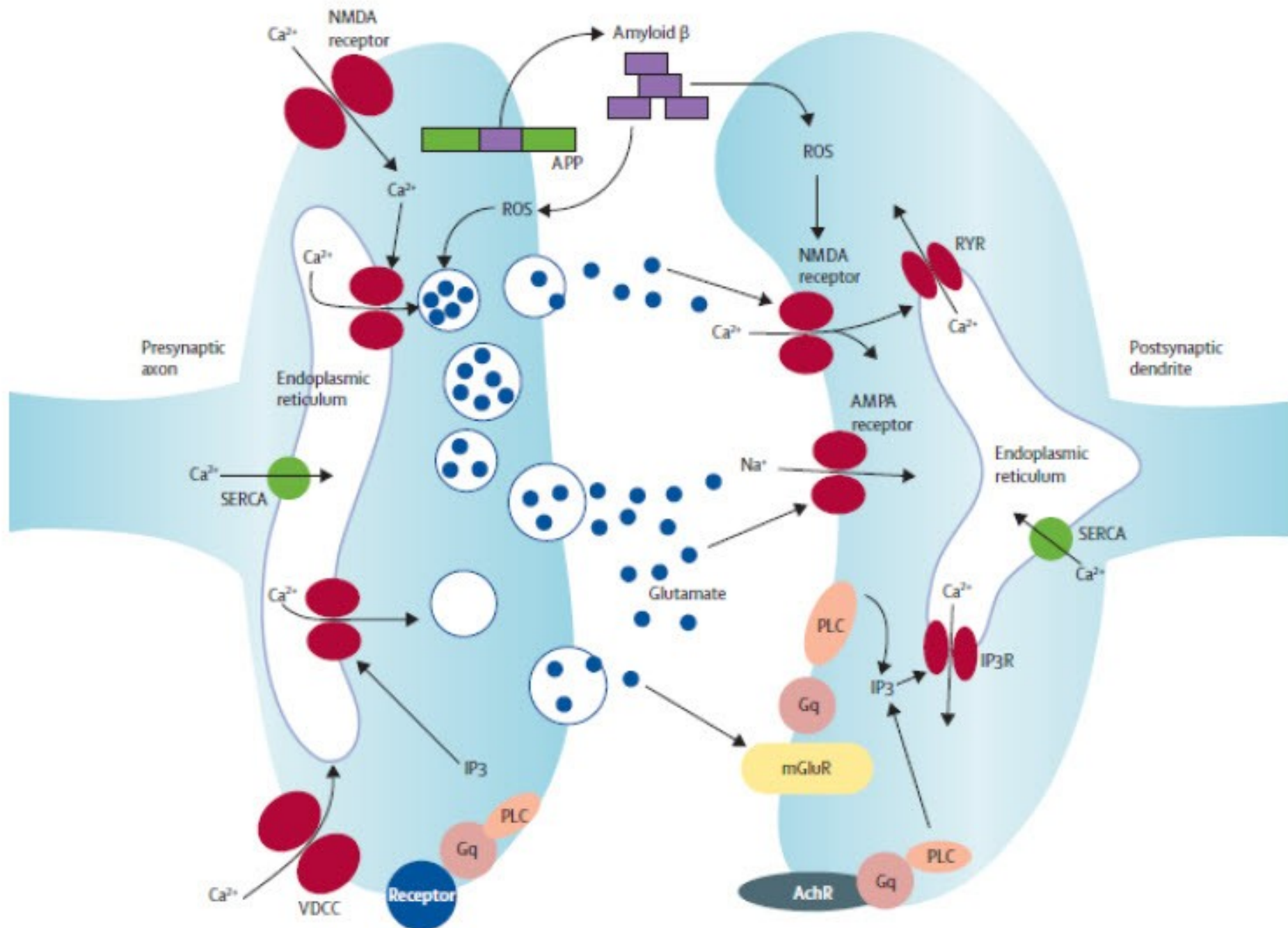
- Hartree-Fock method – approximate
- Density Functional Theory method
 - Treat electron correlation differently than RHF
- Basis sets – how accurately the true wave-function is represented

For more information:

http://www.gaussian.com/g_tech/g_ur/g09help.htm

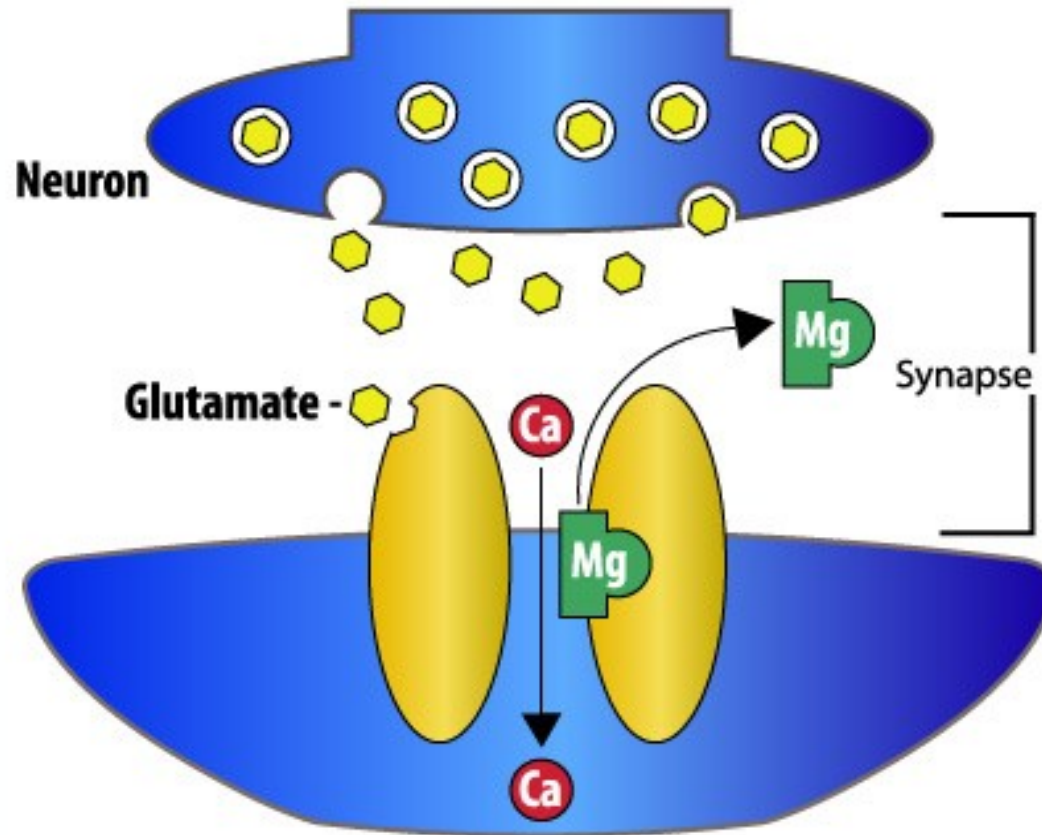
Electron Affinity

- Standard:
 - Positive: electron acceptors
 - Negative: electron donors
- Goal: understand how different molecules interact



Magnesium & The NMDA Receptor

Magnesium is necessary to prevent excessive NMDA signaling



Glutamate-induced activation of the NMDA receptor (in gold) displaces Magnesium and causes Calcium influx into neurons. This triggers neuronal firing.

Memantine and Mg^{2+}

Basis Set	Memantine(eV)	Mg^{2+} (eV)
6-31g	-3.2187	14.7040
cc-pVDZ	-2.4803	14.7100
aug-cc-pVDZ	-0.3189	14.7103

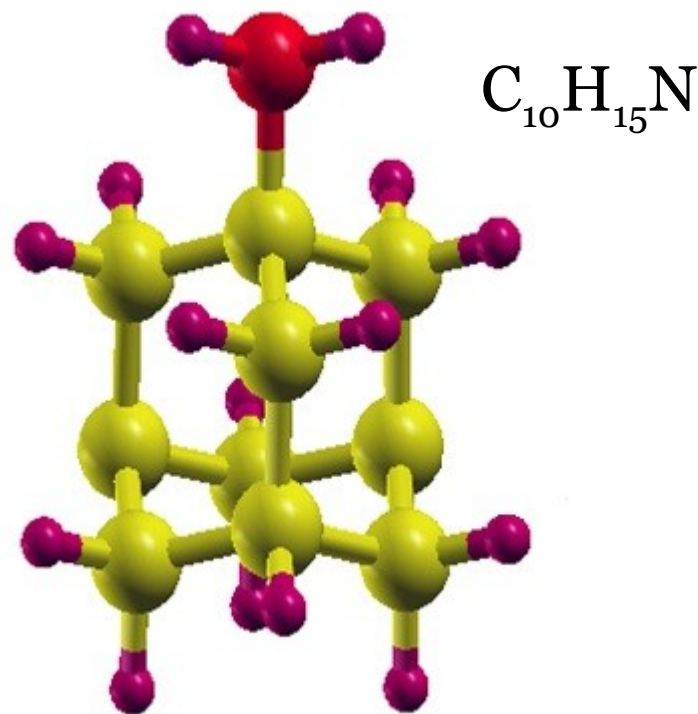
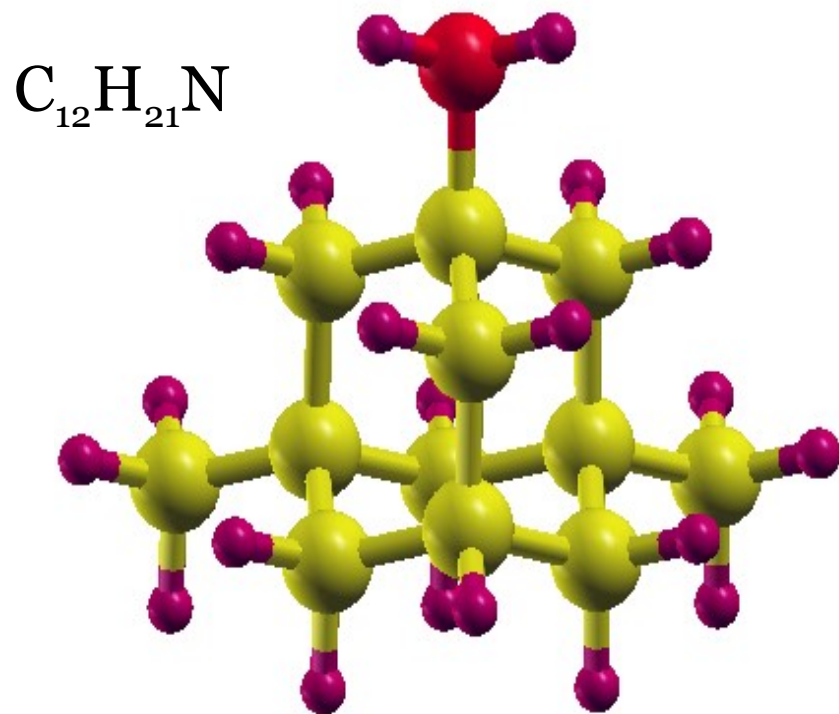
- Memantine does compete with Mg^{2+}
 - Data does **not** agree with experimental results

Protonated Memantine and Mg^{2+}

- Protonated memantine is not a competitive antagonist with Mg^{2+}
 - Consistent with experimental results

Basis Set	Protonated Memantine(eV)	Mg^{2+} (eV)
6-31g	2.2571	14.7040
cc-pVDZ	2.0626	14.7100
aug-cc-pVDZ	3.5742	14.7103

Memantine versus Amantadine

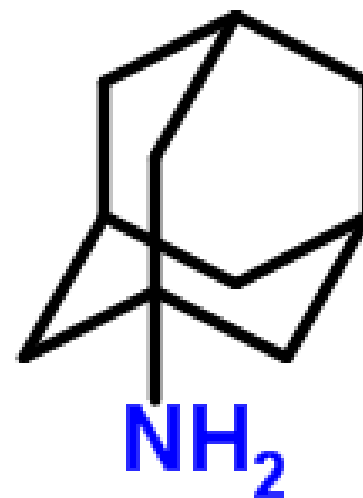




What • Why • How

Comparison to Amantadine

- Anti-viral drug
- Anti-Parkinson drug
- Similar to memantine:
 - Shape of structure
 - Purpose of treatment
 - Advanced Parkinson's patients suffer from dementia
 - Amyloid plaques and neurofibrillary tangles



Memantine and Amantadine

- Additional methyl groups have little effect on E_{EA}
- Both compounds are electron donors

Basis Set	Memantine(eV)	Amantadine(eV)
cc-pVDZ	-2.4803	-2.729
aug-cc-pVDZ	-0.3189	-0.3892

Conclusions

- Protonated memantine does not compete with Mg^{2+} within the Ca^{2+} ion channel
 - Theory: memantine could replace Mg^{2+} as a gate to the Ca^{2+} ion channel

Compound	Electron Affinity(eV) B3lyp/aug-cc-pVDZ	Electron donor versus acceptor
Memantine	-0.3189	Donor
Protonated Memantine	3.5742	Acceptor
Mg^{2+}	14.7103	Acceptor
Amantadine	-0.3892	Donor

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