#### First Principles Studies of Aqueous Solutions at Ambient and Extreme Conditions

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### Outline

- Motivation
- Strategies for Computational Modeling of Water
- 4 Vignettes about water
  - Statistically robust studies on monovalent ions in bulk water
  - Pure water and solvated ions confined in carbon nanotubes
  - First principles spectroscopy and conductivity of water under high pressure/temperature
  - Characteristics of ion solvation under high pressure/temperature
- Conclusions

# Motivation: Why water?

#### • Importance of water:

• Most abundant substance on Earth, necessary ingredient to all life, key to industrial processes, geophysical systems. Deep cultural and geopolitical significance

#### • Uniqueness of water:

- Universal solvent, increased density upon melting, high viscosity, high surface tension, density maximum
- How do perturbations affect its properties?
  - Solvation of ions
  - Physical confinement
  - High pressure and temperature





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# **Computational Modeling of Water** NEG NS AVIDAC, 1953 El Capitan, 2023

- Enduring challenge: sufficiently capturing properties of water at feasible computational cost.
- Early models: Stillinger, Rahman (1971): tetrahedral charges on Lennard Jones sites
- State of the art: Quantum mechanical properties of water are used as benchmark of new computational theories

## **Computational Modeling of Water**



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- State of the art: Quantum mechanical properties of water are used as benchmark of new computational theories

#### **Our Strategy: First Principles MD**

 Need a method that captures subtle time-dependent information in water

Molecular dynamics (MD):

$$-\frac{\partial E(\{\mathbf{R}_j\})}{\partial \mathbf{R}_i} = m_i \ddot{\mathbf{R}}_i$$

- Need theory that can account for polarizable environments, allows for bond breaking
  - **Density Functional Theory:**

$$H_{KS}\psi_i(\mathbf{r}) = \varepsilon_i\psi_i(\mathbf{r})$$

Our strategy is the combination: First Principles
 Molecular Dynamics, as implemented in the Qbox code

R. Car and M. Parrinello, Phys. Rev. Lett., 55, (1985)

63 H2O w/ Li<sup>+</sup> at 11 GPa, 1000 K



<u>http://qboxcode.org/</u> F. Gygi IBM J. Res. Dev. , **52**, (2008) 10

#### 4 Vignettes about Water



Statistically robust studies on monovalent ions in bulk water

Rozsa *et al.*, J. Chem. Phys, **152** (2020) Zeng, Rozsa, *et al.*, ACS Earth Space Chem., **3**, (2019)



Ab initio spectroscopy and ionic conductivity in water at high pressure and temperature

Rozsa et al., PNAS, 115, (2018)



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## Ions in bulk Water: Motivation





- **Fundamental chemistry:** How does water's hydrogen bond network respond to perturbation due to ion solvation?
- **Extensive application**: biochemical processes, molecular engineering of energy materials
- Long history in both experimental and computational literature:
  - Relative consensus on local solvation properties
  - Controversies on long-range properties:
    - <u>Global effects</u>: THz dielectric relaxation, neutron diffraction
    - <u>Local effects</u>: fs-IR, X-ray absorption spectroscopy, Raman scattering

#### Bulk Ions: Hydrogen Bonding



- Statistically robust (10 independent samples ~60 ps each) simulations of Li+, Na+, and K+ in PBE water
- Statistically significant H-bond density increase in 1<sup>st</sup> shell: Li+ < Na+ < K+</li>
- No statistically significant H-bond differences in 2<sup>nd</sup> shell, or bulk
- None of Li+, K+, or Na+ are "structure maker/breaker" in bulk water (PBE model)

#### Bulk Ions: Diffusion



 <sup>32</sup> independent water trajectories @ PBE level, 400 K, ~60 ps each: 1.86 ns. Average D: 1.95(27) x10<sup>-5</sup> cm<sup>2</sup>/s: (Error from "Students' T-test" w/ 95% confidence). Importance of many independent runs for sampling

- Li+: D[O] = 1.90 (30)
- Na+: D[O] = 2.1 (34)
- K+: D[O] = 2.43 (39)
- Cannot statistically conclude Li+, K+, or Na+ are "structure maker/breaker" from diffusion analysis in PBE water (contrary to previous reports)

# Molecular Polarizability, $\alpha_i$

•  $\alpha_i$  is a measure of how sensitive molecular charge density is to applied electric fields



#### Molecular Polarizability, $\alpha_i$



Rozsa et al., J. Chem. Phys, 152 (2020)

- Molecular Polarizability, α<sub>i</sub> computed as in Pan et al., J. Chem. Phys **152**, (2018)
- Large sensitivity to local solvation shells:
  - Cation solvation shells reduced: Li+  $\sim$ 6%, Na+  $\sim$ 2% and K+  $\sim$ 1%
- Out of plane molecular polarizability,  $\alpha_i^{POP}$  is most sensitive to H-bonding: largest changes
- Verification and generalization of conclusions of Gaiduk et al., J. Phys. Chem. Lett **15**, (2015)
- Molecular polarizabilities are fingerprints of longer-range effect 16

#### Aqueous bulk ions: Conclusions

- Long timescale (1.5 ns total) AIMD simulations (@PBE) of H<sub>2</sub>O+ monovalent cation solutions show that while ions affect 1<sup>st</sup> solvation shell H-bonding, there is no bulk effect
- None of Li+, Na+, or K+ affect solvated water's global diffusion in a statistically significant (95%) manner.
   Diffusion is not a sensitive probe of global effects of solvated monovalent cations at PBE level of theory.
- Molecular polarizability is a sensitive probe of ion effects in water, able to detect changes beyond the second solvation shell
- Aqueous K+ simulations also applied to isotopic fractionation study including K and Rb-rich minerals









H. Zeng, <u>V. Rozsa</u>, et al., ACS Earth Space Chem. **3**, (2019)

#### 4 Vignettes about Water



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### **Confined Solutions: Motivation**





- Fundamental chemistry: How does water's hydrogen bond network respond to perturbation due to confinement?
- Extensive application: bio capillaries, molecular engineering of desalination technology, molecular sensors, nanofluidics
- Water's anomalies under confinement:
  - Diameter-dependent phase transitions, including novel phases
  - Enhancements of water diffusion
  - Anisotropic dielectric properties
  - Effect of ions particularly unknown

#### **Confined Solutions: Structure**



**1.1 nm** diameter CNT: Pure, LiCl, KCl

**1.5 nm** diameter CNT: Pure

- 1.1 nm confinement: cylindrical arrangement, with void in center
- 1.5 nm confinement: occupied inner region
- Ion residence in 1.1 nm solutions: All Li+, K+, and Cl- occupy space towards center of tube, with K+ being most interior
- Coordination shell changes:
  - Li+ SS maintains 4 coordination
  - Desolvation of K+, Cl- ions: decrease by ~1-2.

### **Confined Dielectric Properties**



- Dipole moments: Reduced relative to bulk (9% and 7% for 1.1, 1.5 nm CNTs)
- Molecular polarizabilities: 3% enhanced relative to bulk for 1.1 nm, 1.5 nm unchanged. Degree of enhancement in ion solutions is greater
- Radial dependence of both effects... interfacial origin?

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#### **Confined Dielectric Properties** Dipole Moments, $\mu_i$ with CNT without CNT Total Non SS Molecular Dipole Moment (D) 8 8 0 9 8 0 7 8 0 8 0 Cation SS CI-SS 重 重 ∙ 重 ŧ W, 1.5 nm (LiCl)<sub>ag.</sub> 1.1 nm (KCl)<sub>ag.</sub> 1.1 nm W. 1.5 nm W. 1.1 nm W 1.1 nm (LiCl)<sub>aq.</sub> 1.1 nm (KCl)<sub>aq.</sub> 1.1 nm

- Dipole moments: effect of CNT presence is negligible
- **Molecular polarizabilities:** effect of CNT is considerable. w/ CNT: enhancements to  $\alpha$  in all solutions relative to bulk. w/out CNT: no enhancements in  $\alpha_i$ , and even reductions relative to bulk
- α<sub>i</sub>: competing effect of broken H-bonds (reduces α<sub>i</sub>) and CNT interface (enhances α<sub>i</sub>)

#### **Confined Dielectric Properties** Molecular Polarizability, $\alpha_i$ with CNT without CNT Molecular Polarizability, α΄, (Å<sup>3</sup>) 1.22 1.22 1.42 1.65-Ŧ 1.55-Total Non SS Ŧ Cation SS CI-SS W, 1.5 nm W. 1.1 nm (LiCl)<sub>ag.</sub> 1.1 nm (KCl)<sub>ag.</sub> 1.1 nm W, 1.5 nm W 1.1 nm (LiCl)<sub>ag.</sub> 1.1 nm (KCl)<sub>ag.</sub> 1.1 nm

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## **Confined solutions: Conclusions**

- Performed first principles simulations of pure water confined in CNT at 1.1 and 1.5 nm diameter. LiCl and KCl in water at 1.1 nm diameter, **verified structural behavior**
- Confinement has a reducing effect on dipole moment, and an enhancement effect molecular polarizability, which is radially dependent.
   Ions may amplify these effects confinement.
- Two **competing effects on molecular polarizability** under confinement: reduction due to broken hydrogen bonds and enhancement from the interaction of water with CNT interface.
- Demonstrate the usefulness of **molecular polarizability as a fingerprint to perturbations** due to confinement







#### **Confined solutions: Conclusions**



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Rozsa et al., J. Chem. Phys, 154 (2021)

#### **HPHT Water: Motivation**



Millot et al., Nat. Phys., 14 (2018)

- **Planetary science**: deep water, global carbon cycle, magnetic fields
- Fundamental physics of hydrogen-bonded systems at extreme conditions
- 18 known crystalline phases of ice
- High-pressure, high-temperature region:
  - Mixed, contradictory experimental results
  - Experimental tools: Raman, IR, Brillouin spectroscopy, Conductivity, Neutron scattering

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## Effect of High P/T on structure



- O-H structure:
  - No large differences in covalent peak maximum
  - First peak minimum is signature of proton dissociation



- O-MLWF indicates significant dissociation
- Structural observations indicate molecular dissociation in both fluids, with more occurring in 20 GPa than 11 GPa

#### Dissociative Species in High P/T Water







 Dissociation events lead to exotic short-lived ionic species (fs lifetimes) including hydronium/hydroxide, Zundel-like H<sub>5</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> species (cyan) with a nearby hydroxide. H<sub>7</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> species H<sub>7</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>

 Dissociation is never unimolecular. Hydroxide/hydronium formations are highly correlated. We find no free protons in the fluid

#### First Principles Ionic Conductivity, o

- Experimental measurements show large increases in conductivity, but first principles simulation has not fully explained the phenomena
- We use here a **Green Kubo relation**, which is a general result describing the collective dissipative response of any system to a fluctuation. The sample dipole moment is computed with the aid of maximally localized Wannier centers (MLWFs)

$$\mathbf{M}(t) = e \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N_H} \vec{R}_i^H(t) + 6e \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N_O} \vec{R}_i^O(t) - 2e \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N_{MLWF}} \vec{R}_i^{MLWF}(t)$$

$$\sigma = \frac{1}{3k_b TV} \int_0^\infty \langle \dot{\mathbf{M}}(0) \dot{\mathbf{M}}(t) \rangle dt \quad \checkmark$$

$$\sigma = \lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{6tk_bTV} \langle [\mathbf{M}(t) - \mathbf{M}(0)]^2 \rangle$$

#### First Principles Ionic Conductivity, o





 We find large enhancements of ionic conductivity relative to ambient conditions:

**11 GPa, 1000 K:** σ = ~1 (Ωcm)<sup>-1</sup> **20 GPa, 1000 K**: σ = ~10 (Ωcm)<sup>-1</sup>

- σ results are 6 and 7 orders of magnitude greater than to ambient water
- Computed σ values are consistent with experimental measurements of massive increase in conductivity

#### First Principles Ionic Conductivity, o





[3] Hamann *et al.*, Trans. Farad. Soc., **62** (1966)
[4] Mitchell *et al.*, J. Chem. Phys, **76** (1982)
[5] Goldman *et al.*, J. Chem. Phys., **130** (2009)
[6] French *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B., **82** (2010)

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#### From Autocorrelation to Spectrum $\langle \mathbf{r}(\tau)\mathbf{r}(t+\tau)\rangle_{\tau}\mathrm{e}^{-i\omega t}\mathrm{d}t$ $\langle \mathbf{r}(\tau)\mathbf{r}(t+\tau)\rangle_{\tau}$ 0.8 0.6 V3 Fourier 0.4 Transform 0.2 -0.2 0.05 0.2 1000 3000 5000 0 0.1 0.15 0 2000 4000 Time (ps) Wavenumber (1/cm)

All vibrational spectra are Fourier transforms of autocorrelation functions

#### Raman and IR Spectra: Theory

Fourier transform of dipole moment time correlation function is proportional to IR spectrum:

$$A(\omega) \propto \frac{2\pi\omega^2\beta}{3cV} \int dt e^{-i\omega t} \langle \mathbf{M}(0)\mathbf{M}(t) \rangle$$



Where M(t) are calculated from maximally localized Wannier functions

# Fourier transform of polarizability time correlation function is proportional to Raman spectrum:

$$R_{iso}(\omega) \propto \frac{\hbar\omega}{kT} \int dt e^{-i\omega t} \left\langle \overline{\alpha}(0)\overline{\alpha}(t) \right\rangle \qquad \left[ \overline{\alpha} = \frac{1}{3} \operatorname{Tr} \alpha \right]$$
$$R_{aniso}(\omega) \propto \frac{\hbar\omega}{kT} \int dt e^{-i\omega t} \left\langle \frac{2}{15} \operatorname{Tr} \beta(0) \beta(t) \right\rangle \qquad \left[ \beta = \alpha - \overline{\alpha} \right]$$





- VDOS is not a valid substitute for Raman spectra: difference in O-H stretch frequency and incorrect in lower modes.
- First principles prediction of Raman spectra – excellent agreement with experiment. Also inter/intra breakdown of OH shoulder
- Quenched phase: **liquid-like** Raman spectra from quenched phase
- No new signatures from Raman, but continuum signature in IR





- [12] Goncharov *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett., **94** (2005)
  [27] Lin *et al.*, J. Chem. Phys, **121** (2004)
- [41] Lin et al., Geophys. Res. Let., 32 (2005)

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# High P/T: Conclusions

- Investigated water under pressure at 11 GPa and 20 GPa, along the 1,000-K isotherm, using ab initio MD. Results consistent with a **lower melting line of Ice VII**
- Along the 1,000-K isotherm, liquid water exhibits rapid molecular dissociation events occurring via a bimolecular mechanism, which support an enhancement of ionic conductivity on the order of 6 and 7 orders of magnitude greater than ambient for 11, 20 GPa
- First **ab initio calculations of Raman spectra** at these conditions. No vibrational signatures of hydroxide and hydronium ions in Raman spectra, but signature in **continuum increase of IR spectra**





# High P/T: Conclusions



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#### **HPHT Ions: Motivation**



Rozsa et al., PNAS, 115, 6952 (2018)

- Planetary science: deep water, deep carbon, mineral solubility/transport
- Fundamental physics of hydrogen-bonded systems at extreme conditions
- Solvation properties of ions in highly dissociative water are virtually unexplored

*LiF to 6 GPa, 1000 K:* 

Jahn et al., Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta, 73, (2009)

NaOH to 0.85 GPa, 700 K:

Stefanski et al., Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys, 33, (2018)

*MgSO*<sub>4</sub> to 1.4 *GPa*, 700 *K*:

Jahn et al., J. Phys. Chem. B, 33, (2010)

#### Structural Motifs in High P/T Water + Ions

 Li+ Solution: Formation of long-lived (~10s ps) H<sub>x</sub>LiO<sub>2</sub> (x=2:4) complex

 K+, Cl- Solutions: Large ion solvation shells, no long-lived molecular species



Rozsa et al., J. Chem. Phys, 154 (2021)

#### Effect of ions on structure



- O-O structure is unaffected by ion solvation
- O-H structure, is unaffected by ion solvation
- O-MLWF structure is unaffected by ion solvation
- The effect of ions on structural properties of water, including dissociation, is minimal.

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#### Changes to Ion Solvation Shells: Structure

- 20 ~0.1 Å А O-Li ~0.1 Å O-K ~0.75 Å O-Cl 15  $g_{0\text{-Ion}}(\mathbf{r})$ 5 r (Å)
- Li+ shifts to much smaller first shell

   corresponds to flanking oxygens of H<sub>x</sub>LiO<sub>2</sub> (x=2:4)

 K+ and Cl- both have slightly smaller first shells, and behave very similar to each other with respect to the effect of high P/T



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#### Changes to Ion Solvation Shells: Coordination /



- Li+ decreases from almost perfectly tetrahedral at ambient conditions to 2-coordinated (H<sub>x</sub>LiO<sub>2</sub> (x=2:4))
- K+, Cl- greatly increase in coordination
  - N<sub>Cl-</sub> +10, N<sub>K+</sub> +8
  - Distributions have same shape (characteristic of shell "floppiness")

#### Unchanged Raman and IR



Infrared:

- Same **signatures of dissociation** (midfrequency continuum)
- No differences among ions dipole moment distributions not sensitive probe
- Raman:
  - No differences in OH stretching modes among ions
  - Overall no new spectroscopic signatures of new species, even the H<sub>x</sub>LiO<sub>2</sub>

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#### **Molecular Polarizability**



- Reduction in all molecular polarizabilities (~4%)
- Within a given ion solution, qualitative behavior of SS vs non-SS is similar to bulk
- Among ions, effect non-SS is same as bulk
- Molecular Polarizability
   continues to be a sensitive
   probe of perturbations,
   though changes are small

#### Dielectric Constant: Crucial to Geochem. Models

$$\varepsilon_0 = 1 + \frac{4\pi}{3k_BTV} \left( \left\langle \mathbf{M}^2 \right\rangle - \left\langle \mathbf{M} \right\rangle^2 \right)$$

The Helgeson-Kirkham-Flowers model for aqueous species requires **Gibbs free energy of formation of an aqueous species**, based on the Born function for the average Gibbs energy of solvation,

$$\Delta \overline{G}_{s,j} = \omega_j \left( \begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \overline{\varepsilon_0} \end{array} \right)$$

Where  $\omega_i$  is the electrostatic Born parameter for ion *j*.  $\varepsilon_0$  is the static dielectric constant of the solvating water

Helgeson et al., Am. J. Sci, 274, 1089 (1974)

Recent AIMD calculations of **pure water**  $\epsilon_0$  have allowed for a reparameterization of deep earth water models

Pan *et al.*, PNAS, **110**, 6646 (2013) Sverjensky *et al.*, Geoche et Cosm. Act., **129** (2014) "In real fluids containing mixed solvents, a **contribution from the dielectric constant of the mixed solvent** should be used in the non-standard state, extended-term contributions to the aqueous activity coefficient, e.g. an additional term ..."

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Sverjensky., J. Geol. Soc. (2019)
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#### Dielectric Constant: $\varepsilon_0$

$$\varepsilon_0 = 1 + \frac{4\pi}{3k_BTV} \left( \left\langle \mathbf{M}^2 \right\rangle - \left\langle \mathbf{M} \right\rangle^2 \right)$$

128 H<sub>2</sub>O Pure (Pan, 2013) 60 w/Li+ w/K+w/ NaCl 20 20 40 60 0 Time (ps) Rozsa et al., J. Chem. Phys, 154 (2021



Ab initio prediction that pure water is an **upper limit on**  $\epsilon_0$  relative to solvated ions.

Consistent with empirical predictions from:

- NaCl: 6-12 GPa, 800-1100 K (Foustoukos, Chem. Geol. 447 (2016)
- C-O-H: 3 GPa, 1200 K (Galvez et al., Earth Planet. Sci. Lett 430 (2015)

Larger cells: consistent pattern in dielectric constants (K+ > Li+ > NaCl), though larger change for Li+ (~10% decrease) 57

#### **Ionic Conductivity**

$$\mathbf{M}(t) = e \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N_H} \vec{R}_i^H(t) + 6e \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N_O} \vec{R}_i^O(t) - 2e \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N_{MLWF}} \vec{R}_i^{MLWF}(t)$$



$$\sigma = \lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{6tk_b TV} \langle [\mathbf{M}(t) - \mathbf{M}(0)]^2 \rangle$$

Li+  $\sigma$  = 3.8 (0.5) S/cm K+  $\sigma$  = 4.2 (0.5) S/cm <u>NaCl</u>  $\sigma$  = 4.0 (0.6) S/cm

#### $\mathsf{Overall}\textbf{, all ions exhibit enhancement of }\sigma$

Enhancements are factor of 3 or 4 at most, and distinguishability between ions is difficult to establish

# High P/T ions: Conclusions

- We have detailed analysis of how structures of how **solvation shells are altered** differently by high P/T. Global water structure RDFs are **unaffected by ions**
- Vibrational spectra (Raman/IR) show no new modes as signatures of ions or high P/T ionic species. However, VDOS shows signature spectra of suppressed vibrational spectrum of Li+ solvation shell, and K+/Cl- show qualitative similarities in their coupling to vibrational modes.
- Molecular polarizabilities are reduced across the board, though qualitative behavior of solvation shell waters is very similar to ambient conditions. Polarizability continues to be sensitive to perturbations.
- Dielectric constants of **pure HPHT water is an upper limit** for solvated ion solutions
- Conductivity is enhanced in high P/T solutions by no more than a factor of ~4.

### Summary and General Conclusions

- To understand water at extreme conditions, need first principles theory
- Molecular polarizability is a consistently effective fingerprint of perturbations to water
- Demonstrated viability of computing ionic conductivity in liquids from first principles
- **IR, not Raman spectroscopy** detects changes changes due to water dissociation at high P/T
- **Resilience of water** to perturbations extreme conditions:
  - Ions at ambient have little global effect, and differences among ions are similar to bulk
  - At high P/T, no new vibrational modes despite big changes, ion solvation similarities to bulk properties

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