

# Investigation of H<sub>2</sub>O in 3D Nanoporous Spaces

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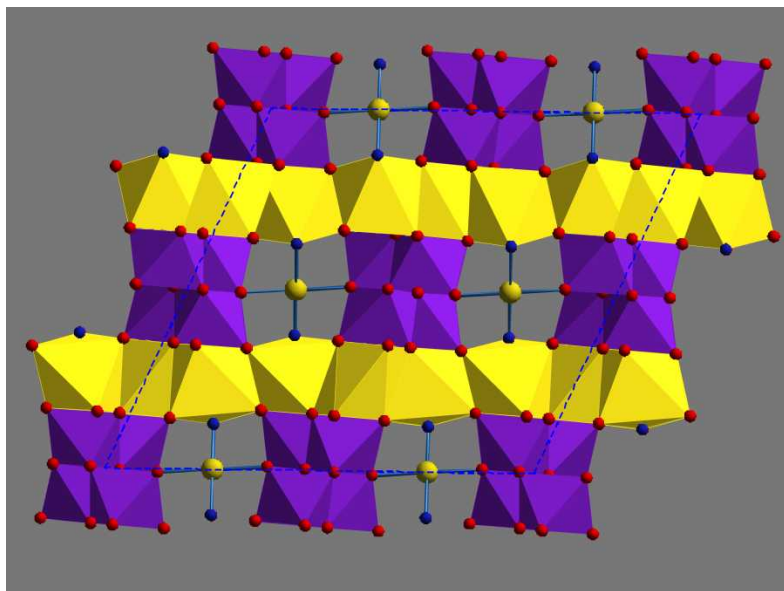
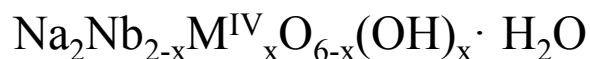
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# Introduction:

**Zeolites:** Metastable crystalline inorganic porous materials for bulk or membrane separations & Catalysis; pores 4-15Å; separations based upon size selectivity

*What is the role of water with respect to ion exchange, adsorption, selectivity??*

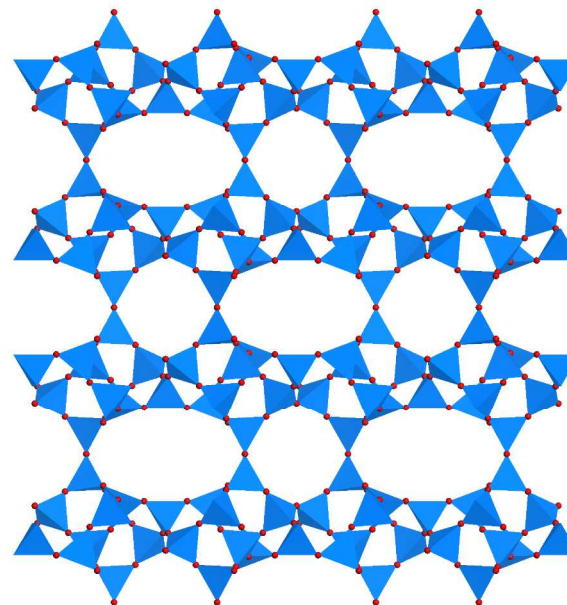
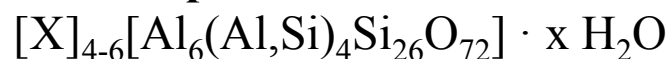
## **SOMS**



Monoclinic Unit Cell

$$a = 16.87(2), b = 5.35(1), c = 16.45(4) \text{ \AA}; \beta = 113.9(6)^\circ$$

## **Clinoptilolite / Heulandite**



Orthogonal Unit Cell

$$a = 15.916(4), b = 17.950(2), c = 7.435(1) \text{ \AA}$$

# Synthesis & Characterization Methods

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Use of hydrothermal synthesis methods for novel phase formation

## Synthesis

aqueous based chemistry  
mild temperatures (RT-200° C)  
organic templating reagents  
mild pressures (<100 psi)  
Oxide/alkoxide reagents

Parr reactor vessels, Teflon pouches BET, TPD

## Characterization Methods

Inelastic Neutron Scattering (LANSCE)  
X-ray and neutron diffraction  
MAS NMR  
TGA/DTA, calorimetry (UCD)  
electron microscopy (SEM, TEM)  
ICP/MS, AA, SEM/EDS  
FTIR, Raman

## Modeling/Simulation

DFT to classical dynamics for structure and permeation studies

**All methods combined for *Structure/Property* Relationship studies**  
**What is the role of H<sub>2</sub>O in the pores??**

# SOMS: Sandia Octahedral Molecular Sieves



Synthesis and Ion Exchange Preparations

## Hydrothermal Method:

### Synthesis:

Temperature - 170 °C

pH ~13.8

Na:(Nb+M<sup>IV</sup>):L:H<sub>2</sub>O - 10:1:1.4:133

Alkoxide reactants:

Niobium Ethoxide

M<sup>IV</sup> Alkoxide

NaOH

t-BuOOH

H<sub>2</sub>O

Time - 4 h (Ti - 68 h)

### SOMS Ion-Exchange:

SOMS

add 2 equivalents of M<sup>x+</sup> per Na<sup>+</sup>

stir, filter, wash

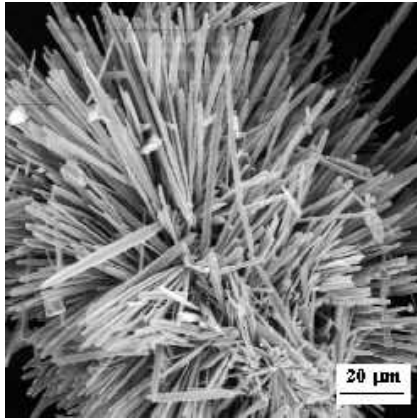
add 2 equivalents of M<sup>x+</sup> per Na<sup>+</sup>

stir, filter, wash

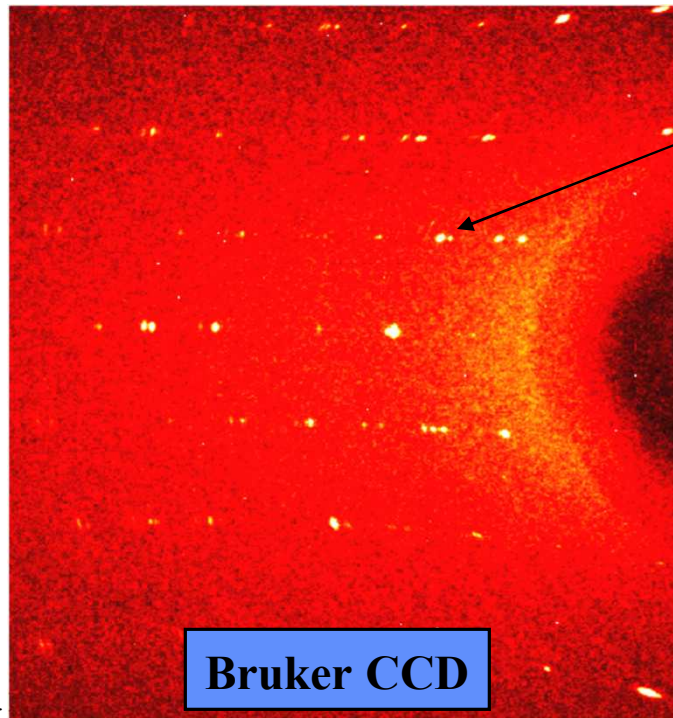
\* Ion exchange successful for Co<sup>2+</sup>, Ni<sup>2+</sup> and Y<sup>3+</sup>

\*\* ION exchanged SOMS change color for transition metals

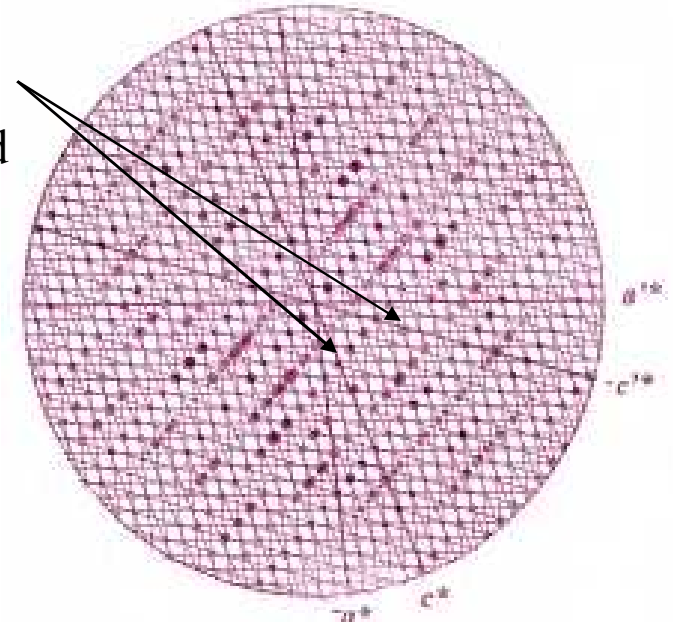
# SOMS Structure Determined: from $5 \times 5 \times 8 \text{ }\mu\text{m}^3$ Non-Merohedrally twinned crystal



Formula:	$\text{Na}_2\text{Nb}_{1.6}\text{Ti}_{0.4}\text{O}_{5.6}(\text{OH})_{0.4} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$
Space Group:	C2/c Monoclinic
Cell Dimensions	$a = 16.87(2)$ , $b = 5.35(1)$ , $c = 16.45(4)\text{Å}$ ; $\beta = 113.9(6)^\circ$
Data Collection:	SMART CCD, X3A1 NSLS, BNL
Data Index. & Partition:	GEMINI, Twin HKL
Synchrotron radiation:	$\lambda = 0.643\text{Å}$
Refinement on $F^2$ :	$R = 0.054$ , $R_w = 0.144$ , $\text{GOF} = 1.049$
Reflections/Parameters:	2400/54
Largest diff. peak, hole:	1.393, -1.228 $\text{eÅ}^{-3}$

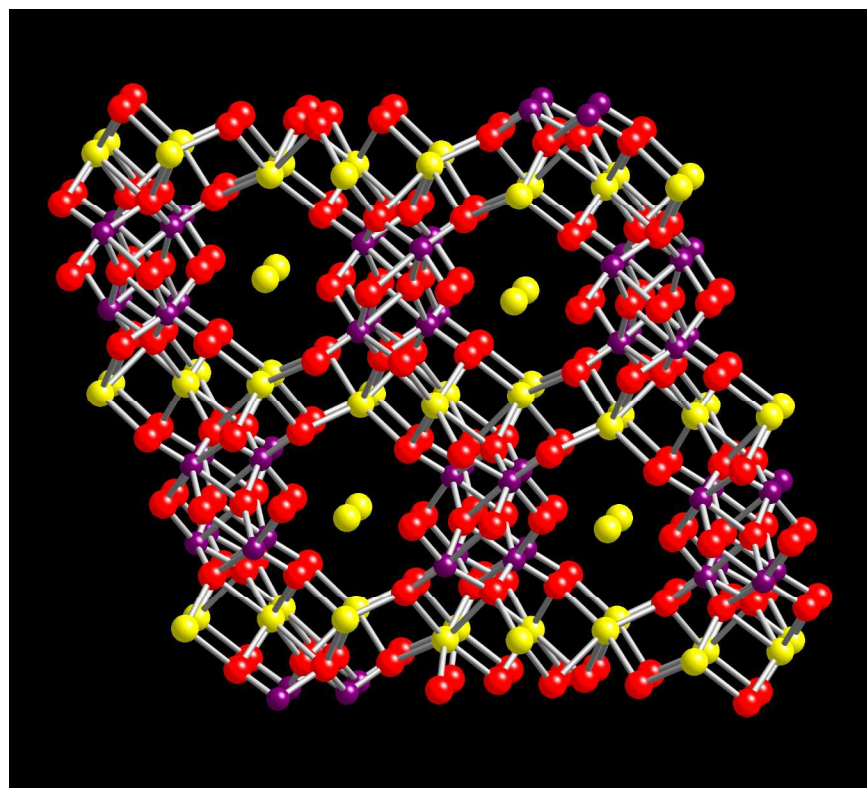


Non-merohedral  
twinning observed



2 Superimposed Reciprocal Lattices

# SOMS Zeolites and Selectivity



*SOMS-1:*



US Patent # 6,596,254; 7/03.

*JACS*, 2002, 124(8),1704; *Chem. Mater.*, 2004, 16, 2034;  
*Chem. Mater.* 2005, 17, 950; *J. Mater. Res.*, 2005, 20(3), 618

$$K_d = [\text{M}]_{\text{ie}} / [\text{M}]_{\text{sol}}$$

metal ion	6-coordinate radius (pm)	Ti-niobate phase Nb:Ti = 1:4
Ba <sup>2+</sup>	149	> 99,800 *
Sr <sup>2+</sup>	132	> 99,800 *
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	114	2,300
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	86	226
Pb <sup>2+</sup>	133	66,467
Cr <sup>3+</sup>	94	> 99,800*
Co <sup>2+</sup>	89	> 99,800 *
Ni <sup>2+</sup>	83	> 99,800 *
Zn <sup>2+</sup>	88	> 99,800 *
Cd <sup>2+</sup>	109	> 99,800 *
Cs <sup>+</sup>	181	150
K <sup>+</sup>	152	95
Li <sup>+</sup>	90	8

*\* 0.1 ppm detection limit*

K<sub>d</sub> obtained from 50 ppm metal ion solutions (no competing ions)

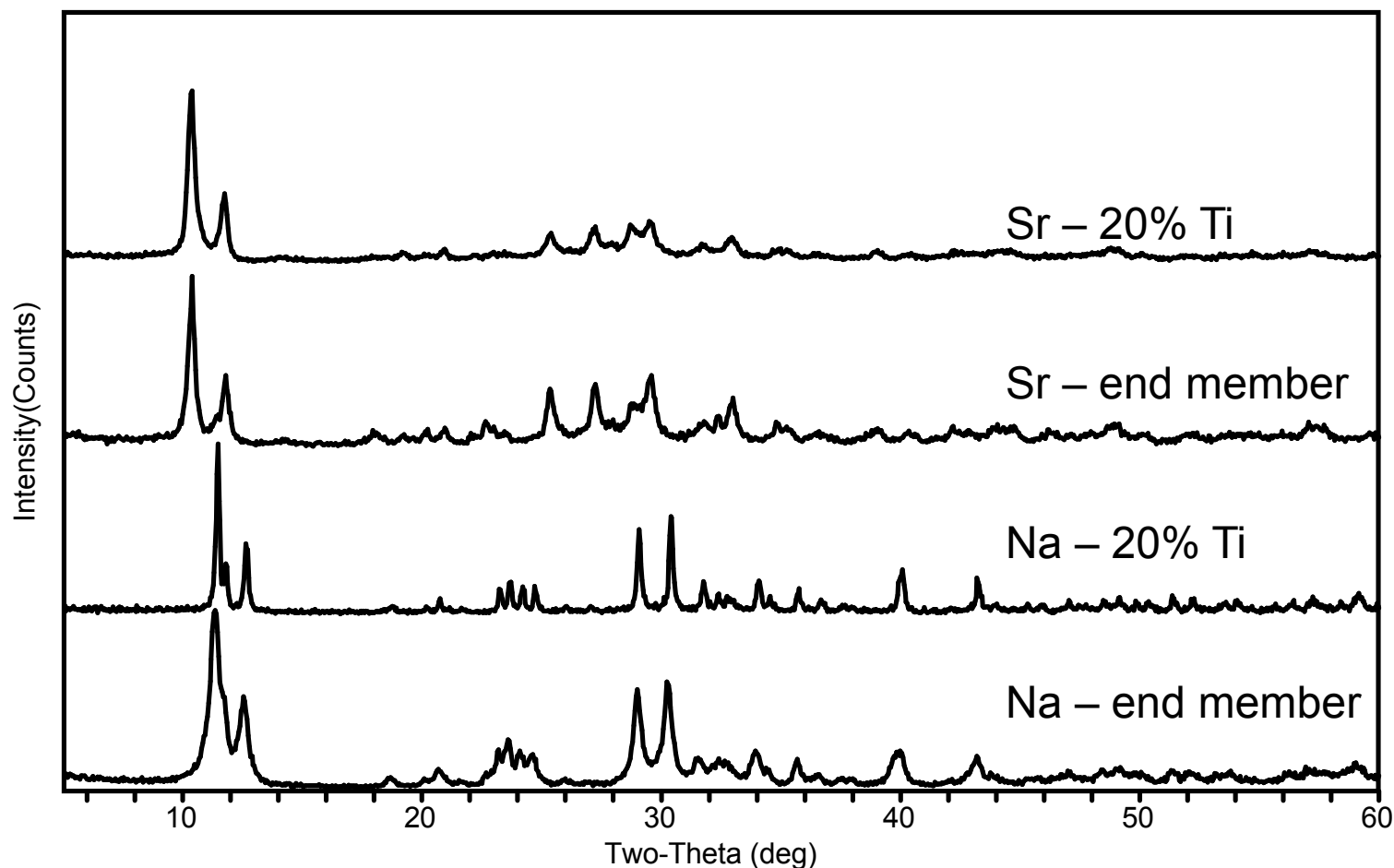


# SOMS: Stability of Framework

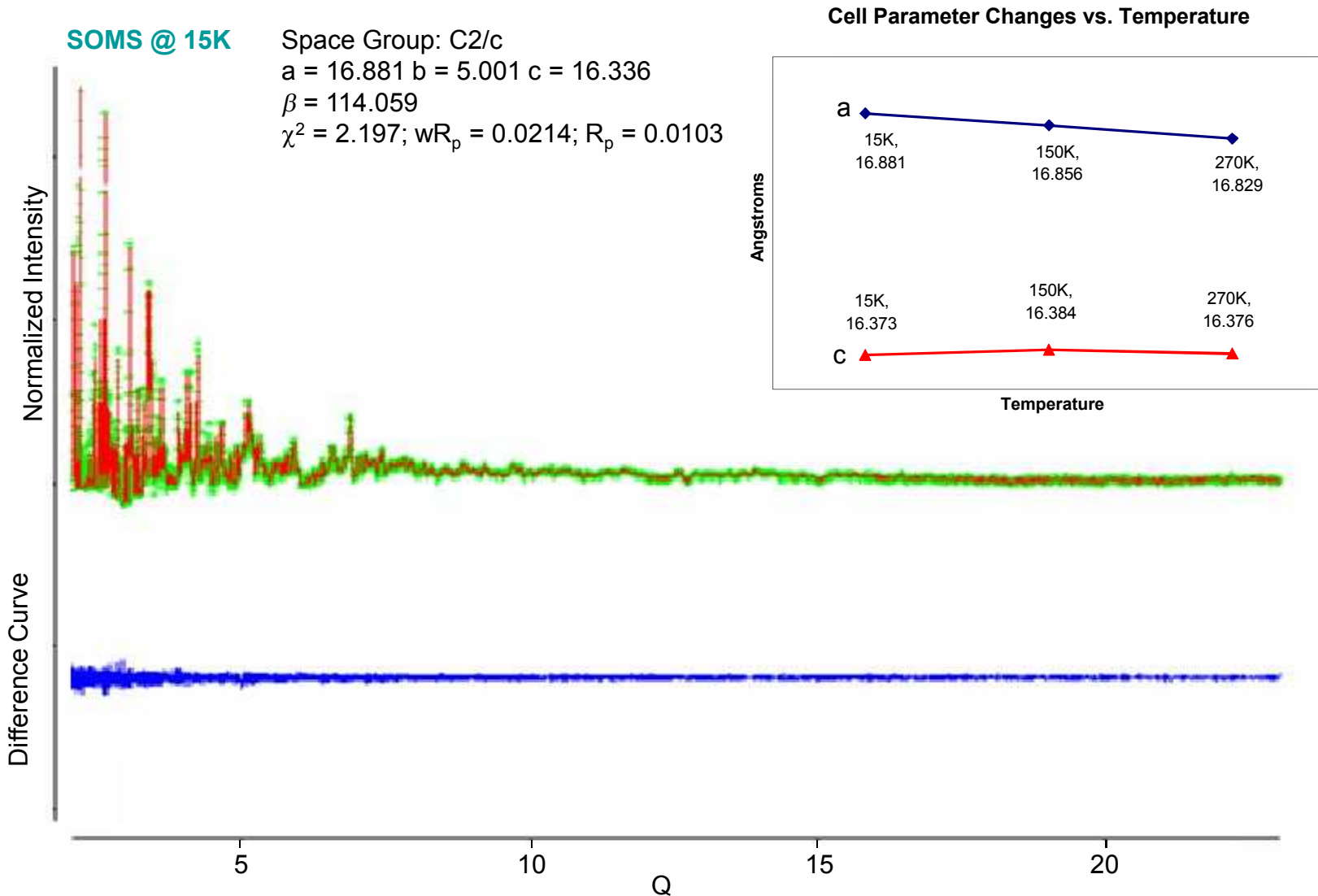
Substitution and Ion Exchange:

End Member:  $\text{Na}_2\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$

20% Ti-SOMS:  $\text{Na}_{1.6}\text{Nb}_{1.8}\text{Ti}_{0.2}\text{O}_{44.8}(\text{OH})_{3.2} \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$



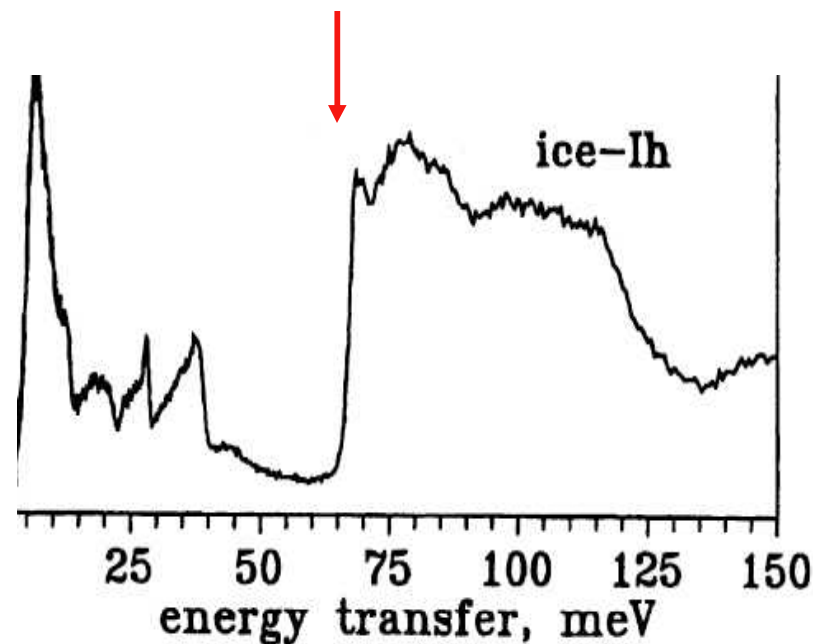
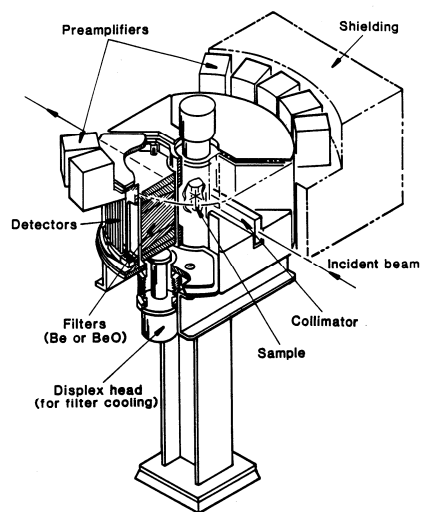
# Neutron Diffraction Structure Refinement





# Inelastic Neutron Scattering (INS) / LANSCE

FDS Specifications	
Energy transfer range	6-620 meV (50-5000 $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )
Momentum transfer range	1.5-17 $\text{\AA}^{-1}$
Energy transfer resolution	2% to 5% (depending on data treatment)
Beam size at sample	2.5 cm x 10 cm (W x H)
Detectors	60 $^3\text{He}$ tubes
Filter analyzers	5 Be and 5 BeO wedges subtending a scattering angle of $18^\circ$ ; cooled to 20 K
Moderator	Chilled water at $10^\circ\text{C}$
Sample environment	10-325 K closed-cycle refrigerators; in situ gas absorption cell; Be-Cu pressure cell to 20 kbar; 20-800 K hot-stage, closed-cycle refrigerator
Sample size	0.5-100 g
Typical experiment duration	2 hours to 2 days



INS data of Ice; J. Molecular Liquids 100/1 (2002) 1-39.

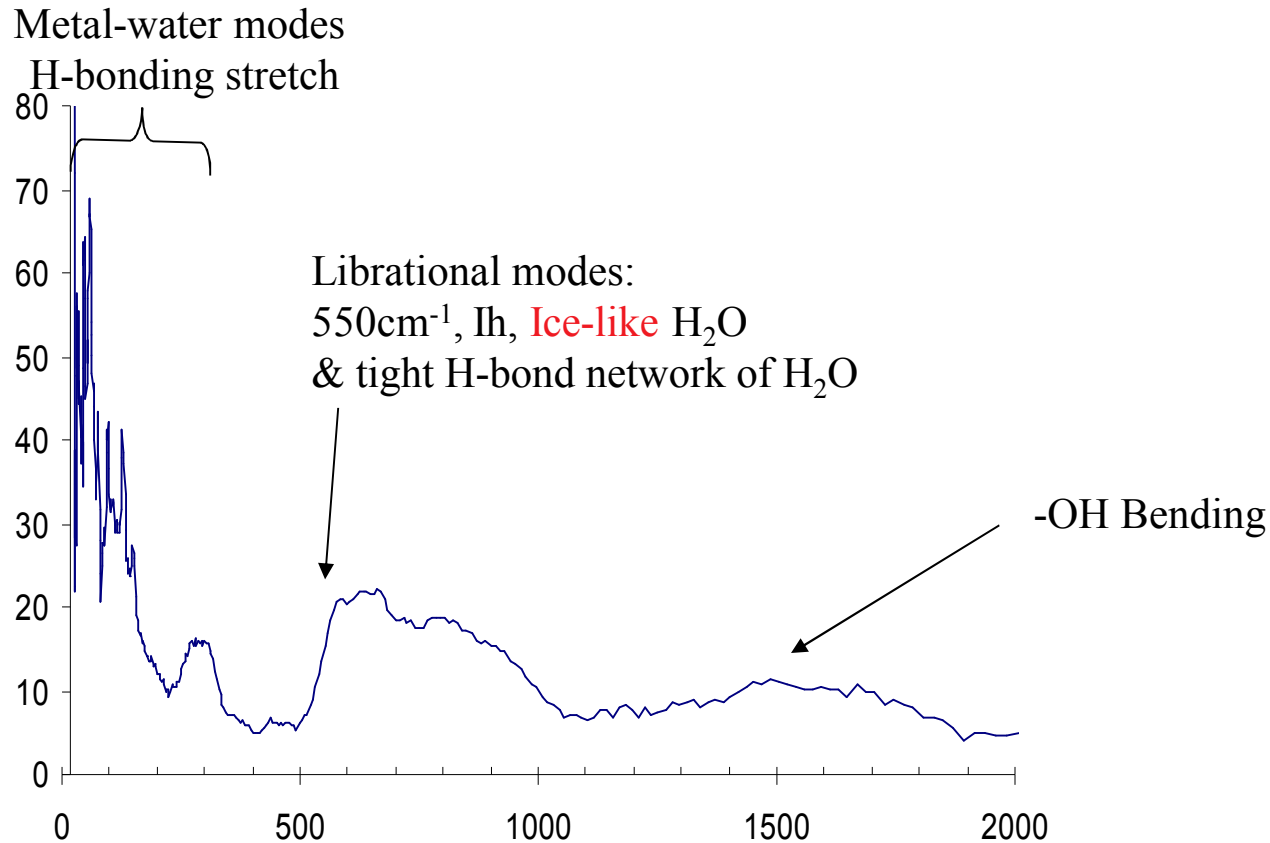
## Neutron Vibrational Spectra:

(1) strength of bonds formed with neighboring atoms/molecules, (2) the proximity of cations, and (3) the environment (charge density, dipole moment density, etc) all influence:

librational (rotational oscillations) and translational motion of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecules.

# INS data for “end member”

Inelastic Neutron Scattering, SOMS End Member  $\text{Na}_2\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$   
Low selectivity,  $K_d \approx 3800$

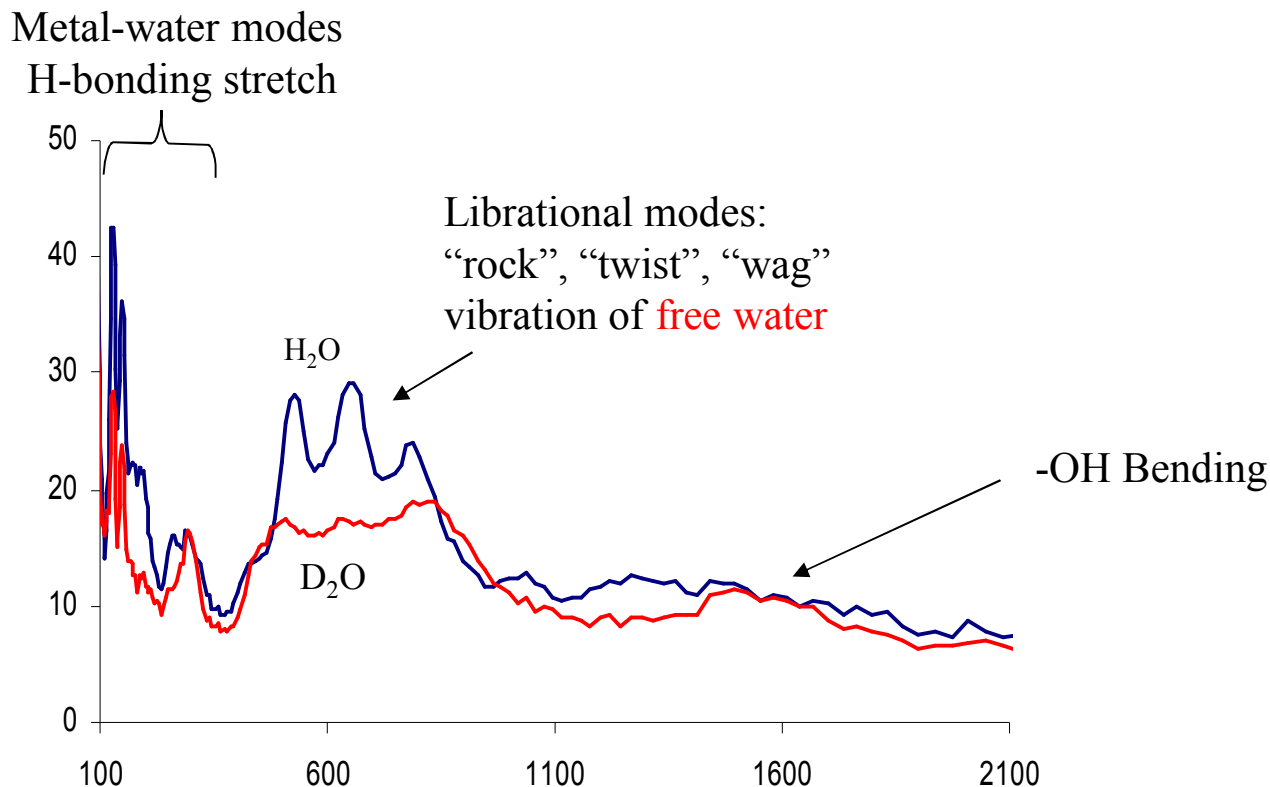


Aquo complexes:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is bound to metal by partial covalent bonding ( $100\text{-}350\text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

Lattice water:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  oxygen is bound to metal in almost ionic bond, water molecule may be considered a crystal ( $300\text{-}600\text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

# INS data for 20% Ti-SOMS

Inelastic Neutron Scattering; SOMS,  $\text{Na}_2\text{Nb}_{1.8}\text{Ti}_{0.2}(\text{OH})_{0.2}\text{O}_{5.6} \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$   
High selectivity,  $K_d \approx 26000$

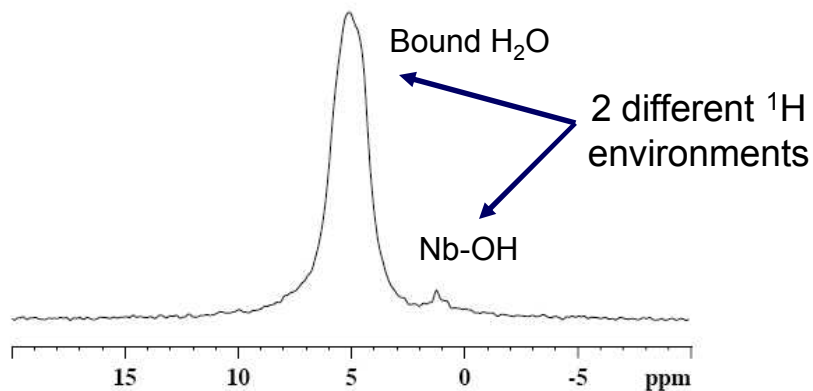


Aquo complexes:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is bound to metal by partial covalent bonding ( $100\text{-}350\text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

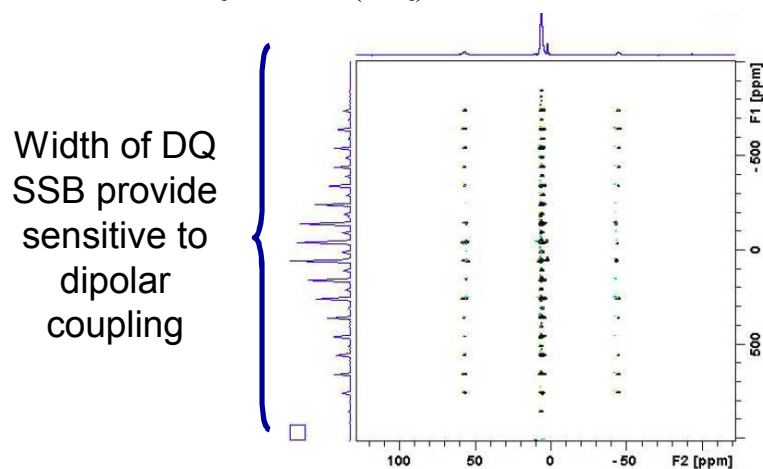
Lattice water:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  oxygen is bound to metal in almost ionic bond, water molecule may be considered a crystal ( $300\text{-}600\text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

# MAS NMR for “end member” SOMS ( $\text{Na}_2\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ )

$^1\text{H}$  MAS NMR; Bruker 600; 2.5 mm MAS probe,  $\nu_R = 30$  kHz

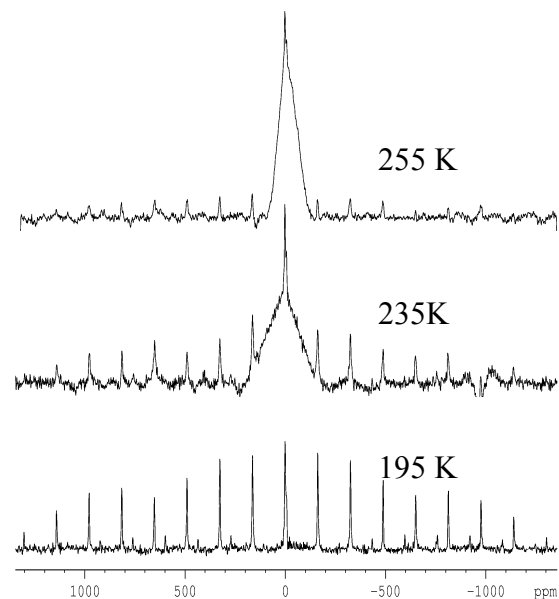


Double Quantum (DQ)  $^1\text{H}$  MAS Sideband Analysis



Dipole coupling 28KHz = **rigid**  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  species  
Immobile water 32.8 kHz

Variable temperature  $^2\text{H}$  MAS NMR

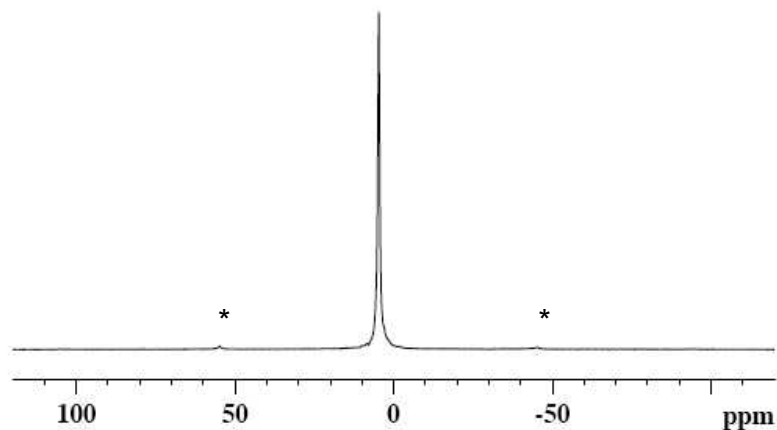
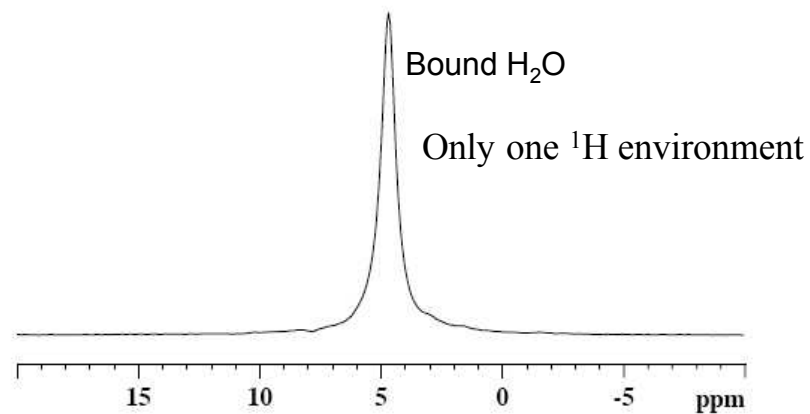


Possible: multiple water sites that  
“freeze out” at different temperatures

$^2\text{H}$  NMR; Bruker 400, 4mm MAS probe,  
 $9 \mu\text{s}$   $\pi/2$   $^2\text{H}$  pulse; 298 K,  $\nu_R = 10$  kHz

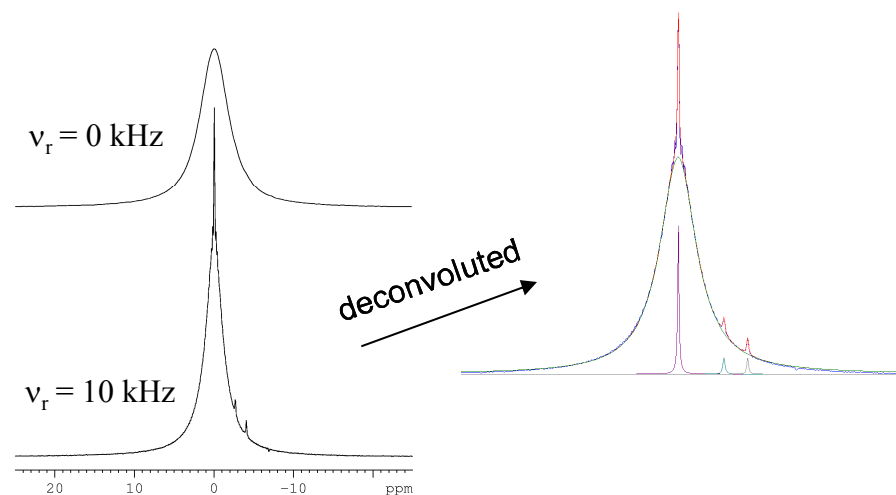
# MAS NMR for 20%Ti-SOMS ( $\text{Na}_2\text{Nb}_{1.8}\text{Ti}_{0.2}(\text{OH})_{0.2}\text{O}_{5.6}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )

$^1\text{H}$  NMR; Bruker 600; 2.5 mm MAS probe



Narrow line width & small SSB (\*) suggests **mobile water**  
NO DQ MAS NMR – small dipolar coupling!

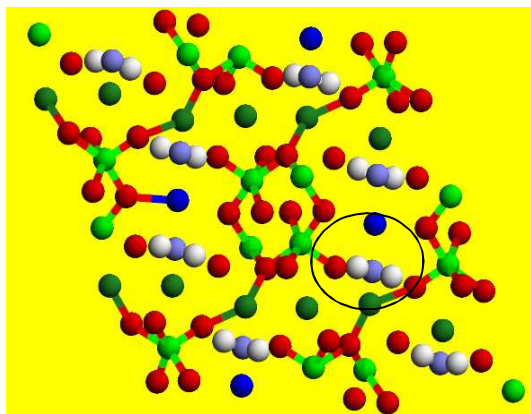
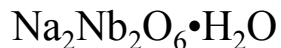
$^2\text{H}$  NMR; Bruker 400, 4mm MAS probe,  
 $9\ \mu\text{s}\ \pi/2\ ^2\text{H}$  pulse; 298 K



Very narrow deconvoluted water peaks.  
Most of the **water is mobile**,  
some very mobile (7 Hz-wide line)  
Most likely surface water.

# DFT Modeling: Water Configuration

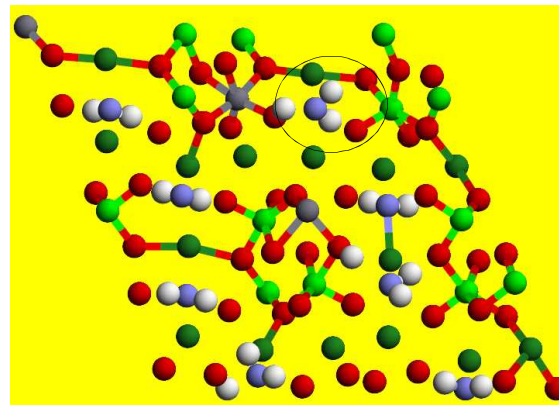
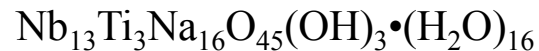
- Optimized SOMS network atoms using DFT/PBE
- Run MD at 900 K for 2 ps, then apply geometry optimization



O  
Nb  
Na  
H<sub>2</sub>O

DFT Results :

- H<sub>2</sub>O configuration extremely robust
- each water proton H-bonds to a framework O<sup>2-</sup>; water O coordinates to a framework and a pore Na<sup>+</sup> ; O-Na distance agree with exp.
- water locks into **ice-like configuration** near framework



H  
O  
O  
Nb  
Ti  
Na

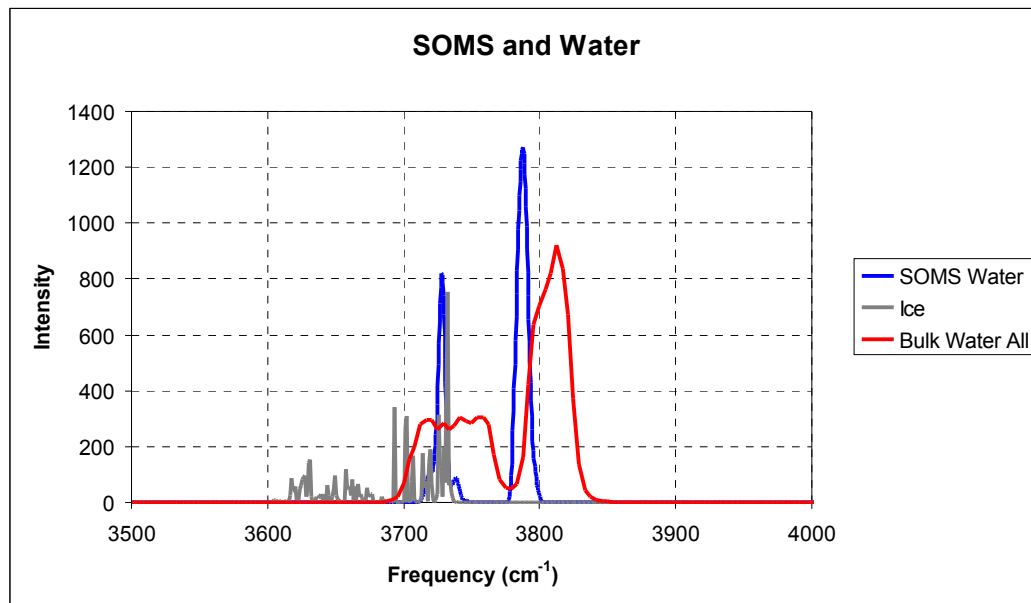
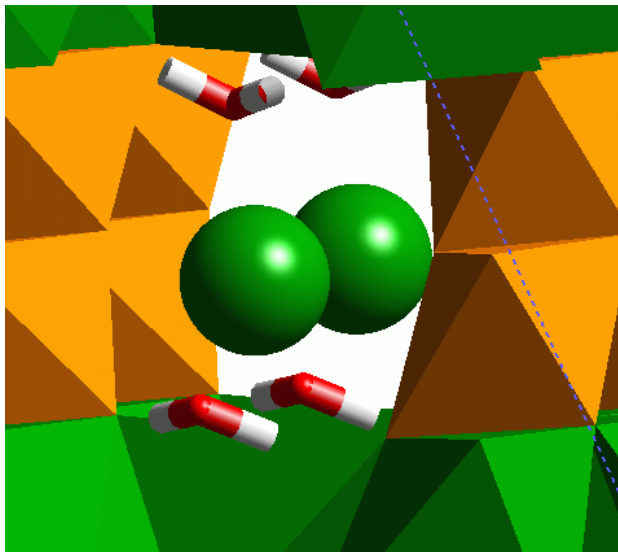
DFT Results :

- H<sub>2</sub>O is easily trapped in metastable states
- H<sub>2</sub>O can coordinate to framework and pore Na<sup>+</sup>, framework -OH and O<sup>2-</sup>
- Multiple energy minima mean **more mobile H<sub>2</sub>O!**

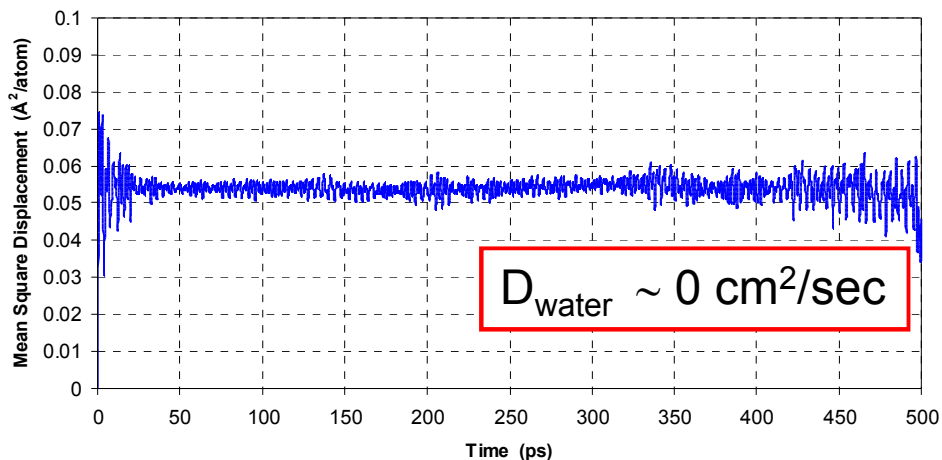


# Classical Dynamics Simulations: End Member SOMS

Force field approximated; OFF



**SOMS Pore Water Diffusion**



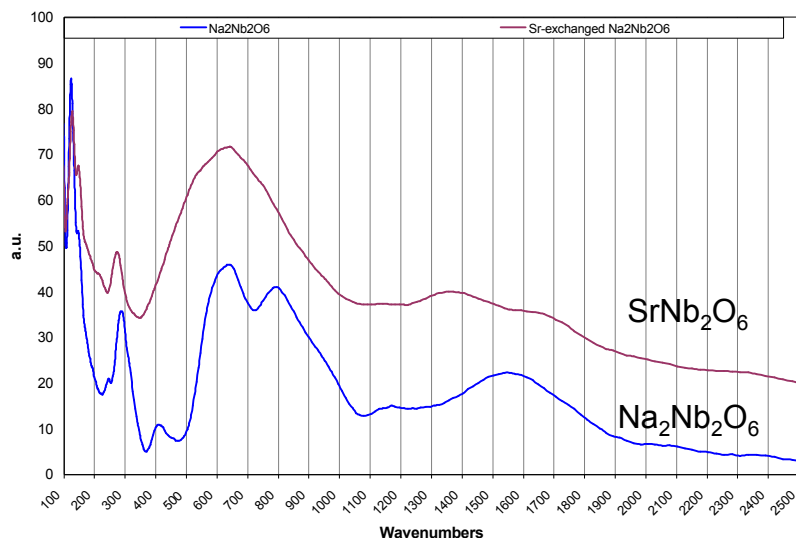
Highly static water in pores of end member SOMS

Strong H-bonding to framework,  
Strong O-bonding to Na<sup>+</sup> cation.  
“Ice-like” behavior.

Agreement between DFT & classical MD

# INS data (On-going): Sr exchanged End Member & 20 %Ti-SOMS

Loss of ice-like characteristics when monovalent  $\text{Na}^+$  was ion exchanged for divalent  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  ions, resulting in half the # of cations present in the framework.

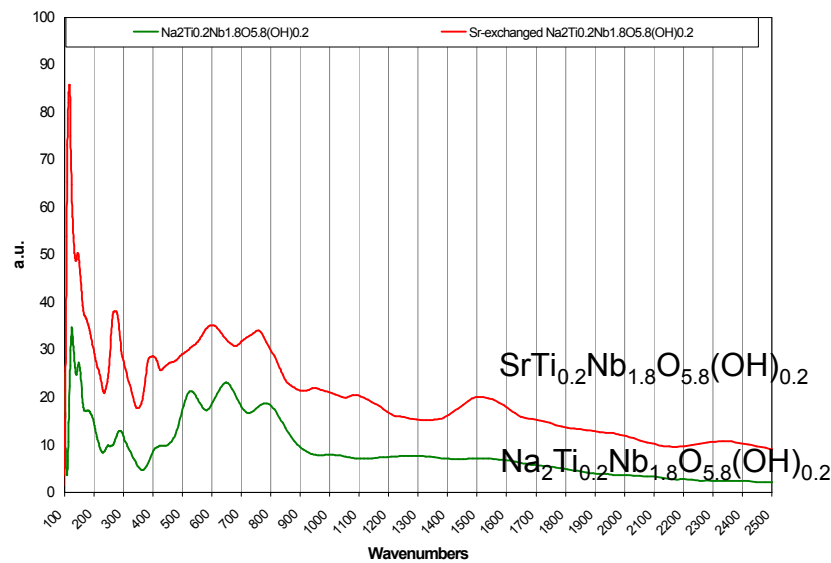


Sr exchanged end member: **loss of ice-like** peak

Broad librational modes, overlapping.

Two possible explanations:

- 2 distinct networks of water molecules (H-bonding, but not to each other)
- loss of long-range order in the network(s) of H-bonded water molecules



Sr exchanged 20% Ti:

Librational modes for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  observed.

No ice-like water behavior.

*Slight shift to lower frequencies may be due to larger size of  $\text{Sr}^{2+}$  cations & presence of  $-\text{OH}$  inhibiting H-bonding in pores.\**

# Conclusions

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The cation solvation environment and the ion exchange capability of the SOMS molecular sieves are related

End Member (non-doped)  $\text{Na}_2\text{Nb}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ , has both a low  $K_d$  value and ice-like occluded water molecules.

20% Ti-doped SOMS:  $\text{Na}_{16}\text{Nb}_{12.8}\text{Ti}_{3.2}\text{O}_{44.8}(\text{OH})_{3.2} \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , has both high  $K_d$  values and mobile occluded water molecules

The ice-like waters of the Na-end member are different in nature and “freeze out” at different temperatures.

$\text{Sr}^{2+}$  exchange disrupts longer range H-bonds & ordering of waters in end member; no ice-like fingerprint in INS data

\* Varying time scales of characterization reveal subtle changes in water molecule behavior.

# Acknowledgment

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- Sandia is a multi-program laboratory operated by Sandia Corporation, a Lockheed Martin Company, for the United States Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000. This project is funded through Sandia's LDRD program.
- Synthesis: Jason Pless, Nate Ockwig
- Modeling: Kevin Leung, Randy Cygan
- INS: Luc Daemon, Monica Hartl
- NMR: Jacalyn Clawson, Todd Alam
- May Nyman (SNL); Akhilesh Tripathi & John Parise (SUNY-SB)
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- Co-PIs: Jeff Brinker, Bruce Bunker, Randy Cygan, Peter Feibelman, Tina Nenoff