

# Classical Density Functional Theory: Applications to Nanocomposites and the Electrical Double Layer



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Sandia National Laboratories

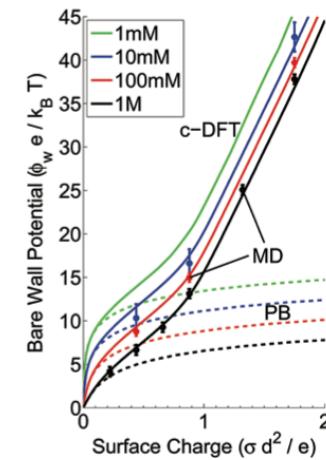
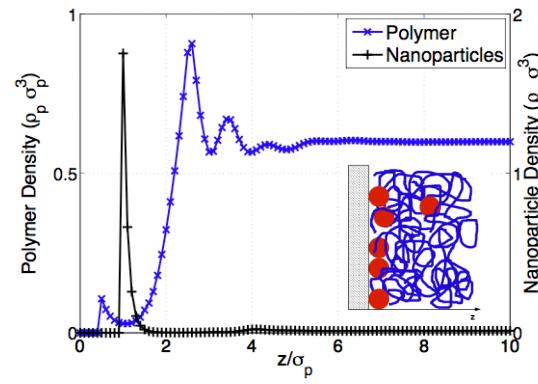
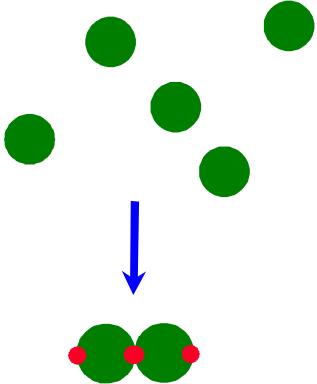
CM4 Webinar  
June 30, 2014



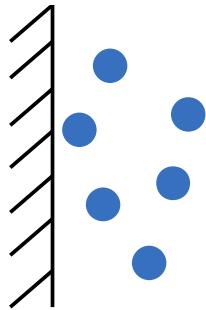
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# Outline

- classical density functional theory
- nanoparticle/polymer assembly
  - hard sphere systems
  - polymer-nanoparticle attractions
- electrical double layers
  - hard sphere systems
  - electroosmotic flow



# Basics



classical statistical mechanics for a fluid

goal is to calculate the free energy:

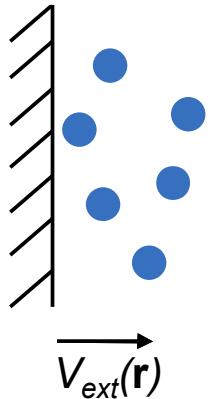
$F$  for a canonical system (fixed  $V, T, n$ )

$\Omega$  for a grand canonical system (fixed  $V, T, \mu$ )

many-body system: can't calculate  $F$  or  $\Omega$  exactly

DFT: an approximate theory based on a variational principle

# Foundation of DFT



$$\rho_0(\mathbf{r}) = \left\langle \sum_i \delta(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_i) \right\rangle \quad \text{equilibrium density}$$

- suppose have open system, temp T, volume V, chem potential  $\mu$
- can show  $\Omega$  is a functional of  $\rho_0$ ,  $\Omega[\rho_0(\mathbf{r})]$
- Theorem: can show that  $\rho_0(\mathbf{r})$  is uniquely given by  $V_{ext}(\mathbf{r})$  (and vice versa)
  - then also,  $F[\rho(\mathbf{r})]$  is a unique functional of  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$
- grand potential energy:

$$\Omega[\rho(\mathbf{r})] = F[\rho(\mathbf{r})] + \int d\mathbf{r} \rho(\mathbf{r}) [V_{ext}(\mathbf{r}) - \mu]$$

# Foundation of DFT, contd

Variational principle: can show

$$\Omega[\rho(\mathbf{r}) \neq \rho_0(\mathbf{r})] > \Omega[\rho_0(\mathbf{r})] \equiv \Omega$$

which implies: 
$$\frac{\delta \Omega[\rho(\mathbf{r})]}{\delta \rho(\mathbf{r})} \bigg|_{\rho_0} = 0$$

Equivalently, since 
$$\Omega[\rho(\mathbf{r})] = F[\rho(\mathbf{r})] + \int d\mathbf{r} \rho(\mathbf{r}) [V_{ext}(\mathbf{r}) - \mu]$$

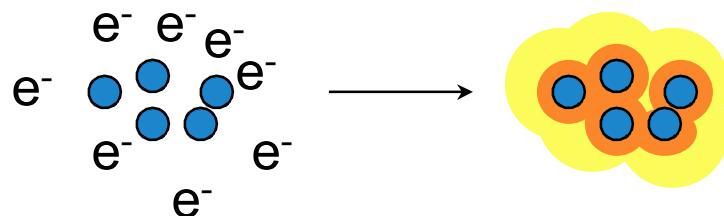
we have 
$$\frac{\delta F[\rho]}{\delta \rho(\mathbf{r})} + V_{ext}(\mathbf{r}) - \mu = 0$$

Issue: we don't know the form of  $F$ . Approximate it.

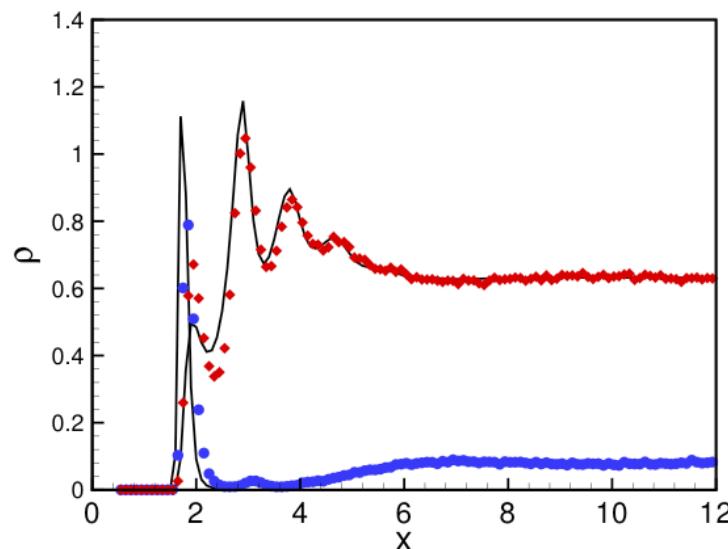
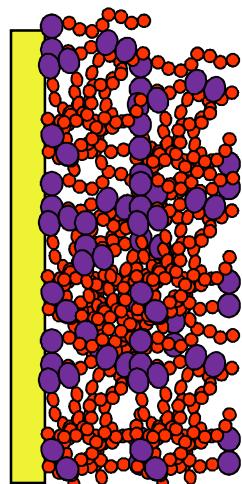
# Relation to Electronic Structure DFT

$$\Omega[\rho(r)] : V(r) \rightarrow \rho(r)$$

External  
field      Density  
profile



Electronic Structure  
(Closed system with N-electrons)



Fluid Structure  
(Often open system  
with fixed chemical  
potential)

# Basic Structure of a Fluids-DFT

- model for the fluid
- expression for Helmholtz free energy
  - can contain multiple additive terms
  - e.g. excluded volume, van der Waals, Coulomb, etc.
- minimize grand free energy

$$\frac{\delta F[\rho]}{\delta \rho(\mathbf{r})} + V_{ext}(\mathbf{r}) - \mu = 0 \longrightarrow \text{integral equations to solve for } \rho(\mathbf{r})$$

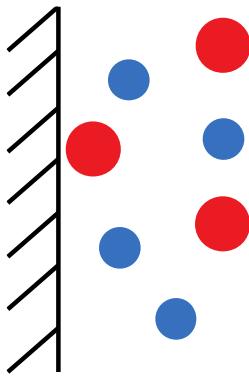
Example: ideal gas

$$\beta F^{id}[\rho] = \int d\mathbf{r} \rho(\mathbf{r}) (\ln(\lambda^3 \rho(\mathbf{r})) - 1)$$

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \lambda^{-3} \exp[-\beta(V_{ext}(\mathbf{r}) - \mu)] \quad \text{Boltzmann dist.}$$

$$\lambda = \sqrt{\frac{\beta h^2}{2\pi m}} \quad \text{de Broglie wavelength, not important (absorb into } e^{\beta\mu})$$

# Hard Sphere Fluids



- mixture of hard spheres
  - can have different sizes
- near a hard wall

state of the art: “White Bear” functional, Roth et al, 2002

excess Helmholtz free energy

$$F_{hs} [\rho_\alpha(\mathbf{r})] = kT \int d\mathbf{r} \Phi[n_\gamma(\mathbf{r})]$$

$$\Phi = -n_0 \ln(1 - n_3) + \frac{n_1 n_2 - n_{V1} \cdot n_{V2}}{1 - n_3} + (n_2^3 - 3n_2 n_{V2} \cdot n_{V2}) \frac{n_3 + (1 - n_3)^2 \ln(1 - n_3)}{36\pi n_3^2 (1 - n_3)^2}$$

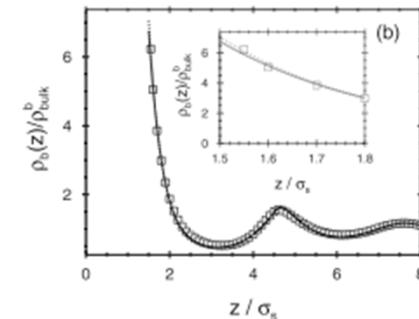
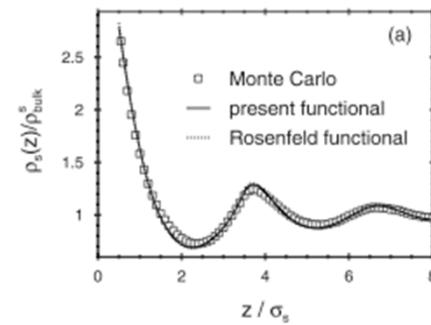
weighted densities

$$n_\gamma(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_\alpha \int d\mathbf{r}' \rho_\alpha(\mathbf{r}) \omega_\alpha^{(\gamma)}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'),$$

$$\omega_\alpha^{(2)}(\mathbf{r}) = \delta(R_\alpha - |\mathbf{r}|) \quad \omega_\alpha^{(3)}(\mathbf{r}) = \theta(R_\alpha - |\mathbf{r}|)$$

$$\omega_\alpha^{(0)}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\omega_\alpha^{(2)}(\mathbf{r})}{4\pi R_\alpha^2} \quad \omega_\alpha^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\omega_\alpha^{(2)}(\mathbf{r})}{4\pi R_\alpha}$$

$$\omega_\alpha^{(V2)}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\mathbf{r}}{r} \delta(R_\alpha - |\mathbf{r}|) \quad \omega_\alpha^{(V1)}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\omega_\alpha^{(V2)}(\mathbf{r})}{4\pi R_\alpha}$$



# Implementation: Tramonto

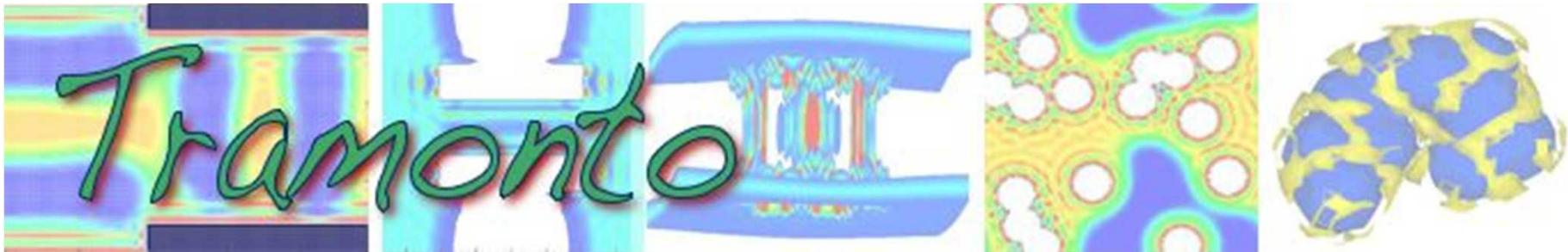
<http://software.sandia.gov/tramonto>

3D parallel fluids-DFT code

primarily developed by: Laura Frink, Andy Salinger, Mike Heroux

code strategies:

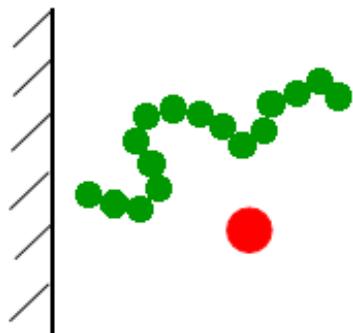
- solve by collocation on 3D Cartesian mesh, real space
- precalculate integration stencils (e.g. for delta funcs)
- Poisson's eq: finite elements
- solvers:
  - inexact Newton's methods
    - use analytic Jacobian
    - uses Trilinos
  - Picard iteration



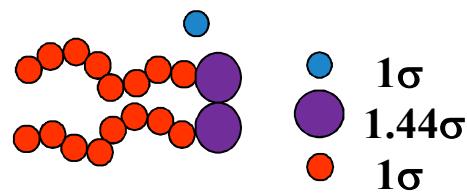
# Models/Physics in Tramonto

basic elements:

- spherical fluid particles
- surfaces



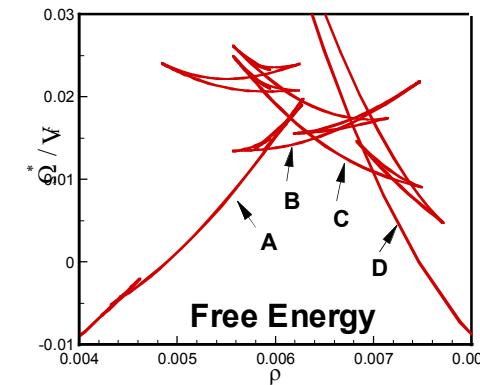
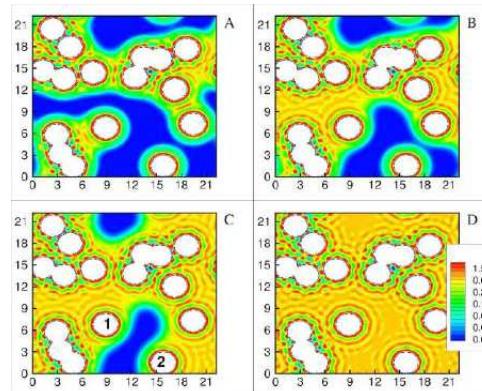
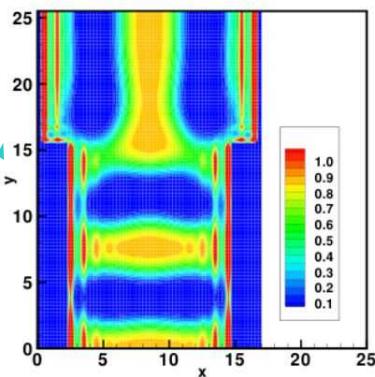
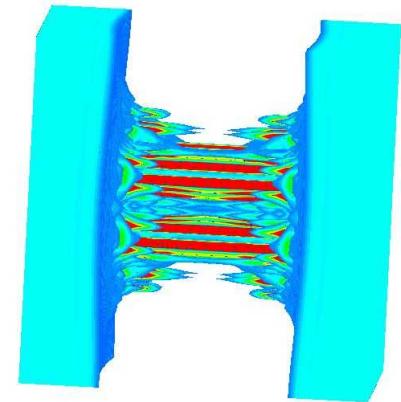
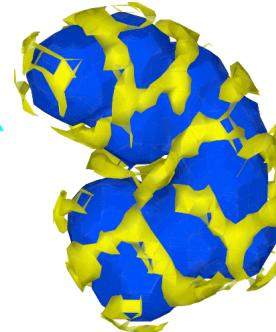
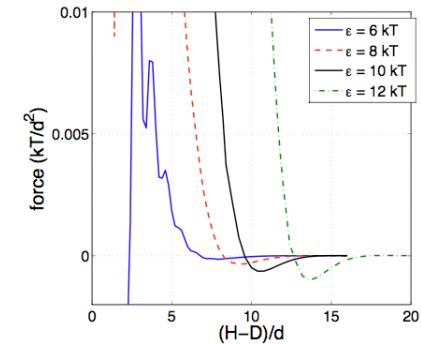
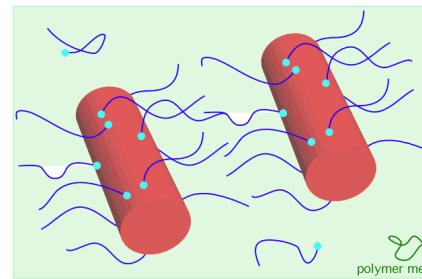
- hard-sphere fluids
- 3 different versions of FMT
- mean-field attractive interactions
  - Lennard-Jones, exponential, Yukawa
- bonded molecules
  - 2 classes of functionals: CMS; iSAFT
  - polymers, linear or branched
- charged systems
- diffusive transport
- arbitrary surface geometries



8-2-8 Chain

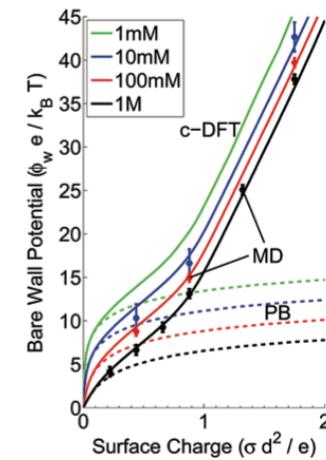
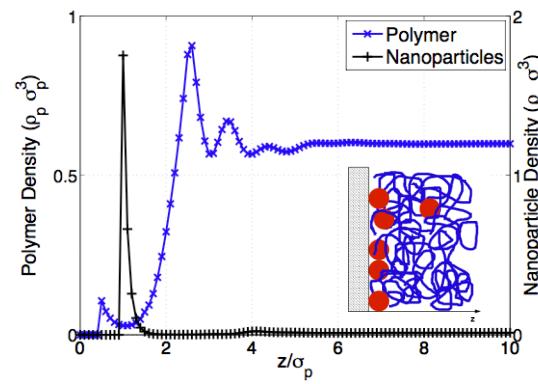
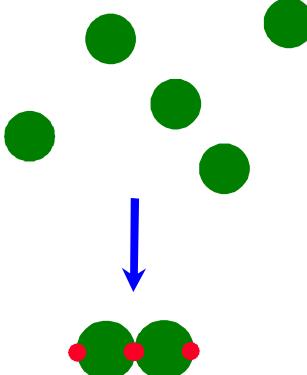
# What can fluids-DFT do?

- forces between particles
- phase behavior
- solvation free energies
  - implicit solvent
- complex geometries
- complex chain architectures
- compare to simulation (e.g., MD, MC)



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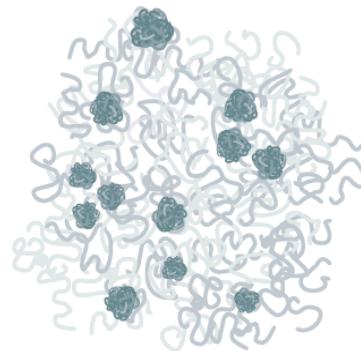




# Interfacial Properties: Experiments

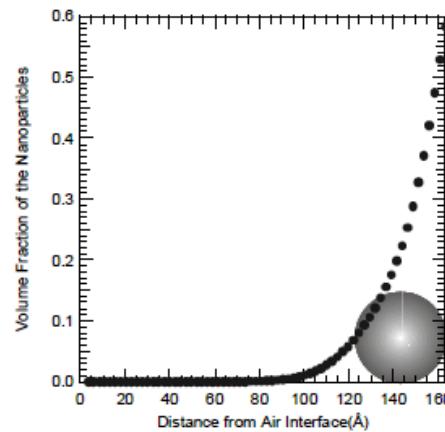
model athermal system: PS NPs in PS

NPs stay  
dispersed  
(for  $R_{NP} < R_g$ )

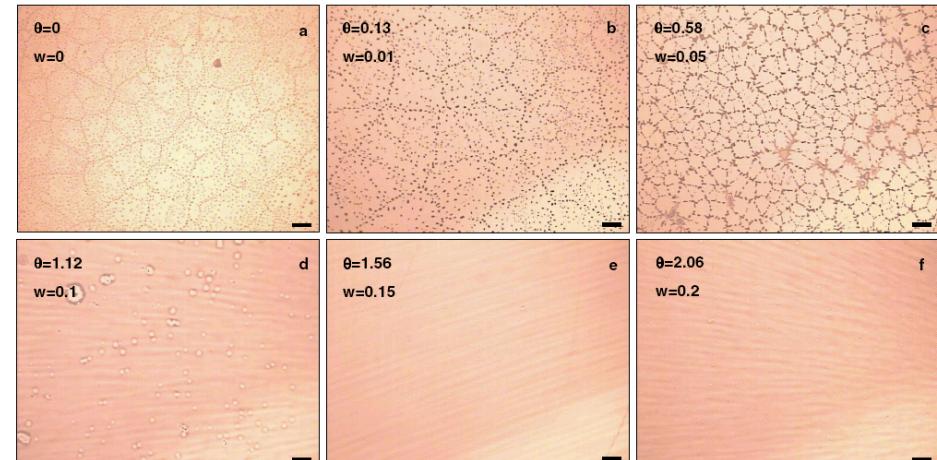


Mackay et al., Nature Mat., 2003

E. Harth, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2002



PS nanoparticles blended with PS  
40 nm thick film  
NPs prevent dewetting!



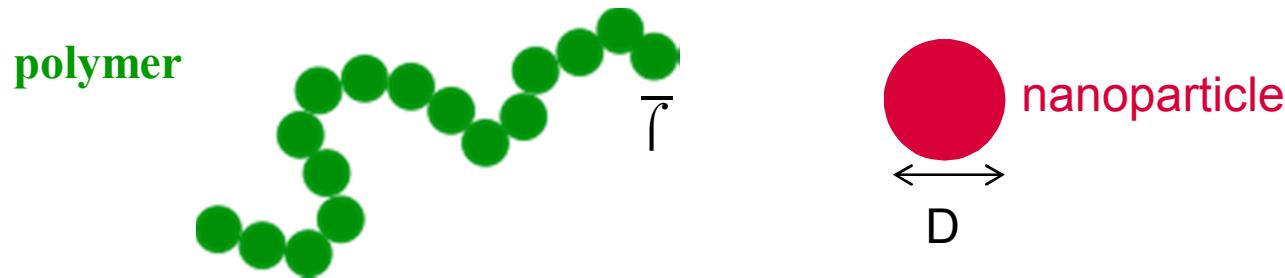
- profile from neutron reflectivity
- nanoparticles segregate to surface

Krishnan et al. Langmuir (2005)



# Coarse-Grained Models

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- polymers: freely-jointed, tangent chains
- athermal system:
  - model as hard spheres
  - only interactions are entropic
- attractions:
  - mean-field
  - simple forms (LJ; exponential)

Kuhn length for PS: 1.485 nm

$$D = 2.0 \bar{r} = 2.97 \text{ nm}$$

$$D = 3.0 \bar{r} = 4.45 \text{ nm}$$

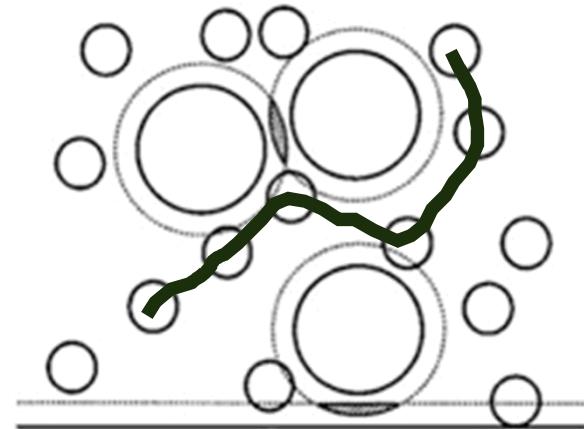


# Physics of PNC Phase Behavior

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**hard sphere systems:  
depletion attractions  
(entropic)**

- between particles
- between particles & hard walls



**other contributions to equilibrium structure:**

- polymer configurational entropy
- enthalpic (van der Waals) interactions



# Structure of a DFT: iSAFT

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$$\Omega[\rho_\alpha(\mathbf{r})] = F[\rho_\alpha(\mathbf{r})] + \sum_\alpha \int d\mathbf{r} \rho_\alpha(\mathbf{r}) [V_\alpha(\mathbf{r}) - \mu_\alpha]$$

$$F = F^{id} + F^{hs} + F^{ch}$$

ideal gas part:

$$F^{id}[\rho_\alpha(\mathbf{r})] = kT \sum_\alpha \int d\mathbf{r} \rho_\alpha(\mathbf{r}) [\ln \rho_\alpha(\mathbf{r}) - 1]$$

hard sphere functional:  $F^{hs}[\rho_\alpha(\mathbf{r})] = kT \int d\mathbf{r} \Phi[n_\gamma(\mathbf{r})]$  (“White Bear” FMT, Roth et al., 2002)

chain bonding contribution:

$$F^{ch}[\rho_\alpha(\vec{r})] = kT \int d\vec{r}' \sum_{\alpha=1}^m \rho_\alpha^{\text{seg}}(\vec{r}') \sum_{\alpha'}^{\{\alpha'\}} \left( -\frac{1}{2} \ln \int d\vec{r}'' \frac{\delta(|\vec{r}' - \vec{r}''| - \sigma^{\alpha\alpha'})}{4\pi(\sigma^{\alpha\alpha'})^2} y^{\alpha\alpha'}(\vec{r}', \vec{r}'') \rho_{\alpha'}^{\text{seg}}(\vec{r}'') + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

minimize free energy

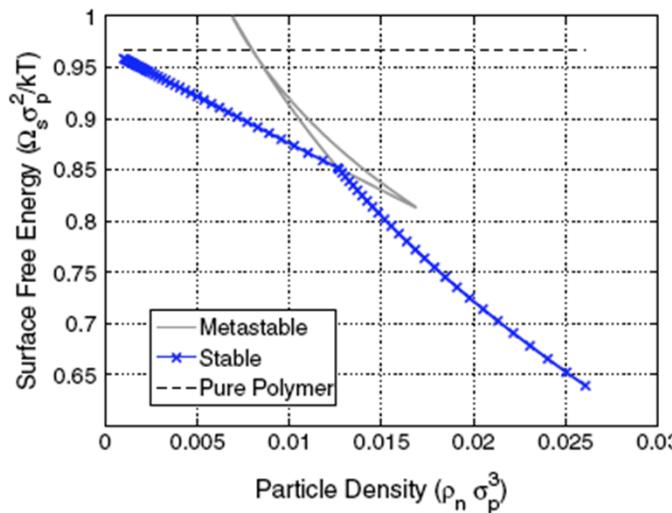
$$\frac{\delta \Omega}{\delta \rho(\mathbf{r})} = 0 \longrightarrow \text{equations to solve for } \langle \cdot \rangle(\mathbf{r})$$

S. Tripathi and W.G. Chapman, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **94**, 087081

(2005); *J. Chem. Phys.* **122**, 094506 (2005);

S. Jain et al., *J. Chem. Phys.* **127**, 244904 (2007)

# Athermal Blends: A Layering Phase Transition

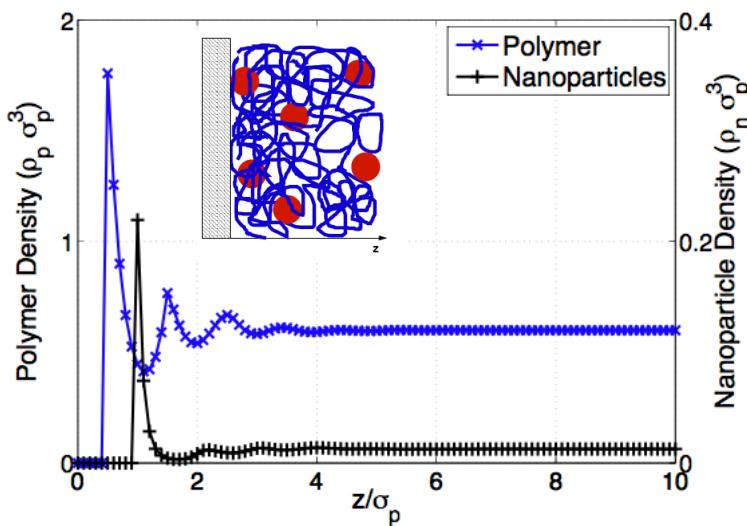


$$N = 40, D = 2 \text{ nm}$$

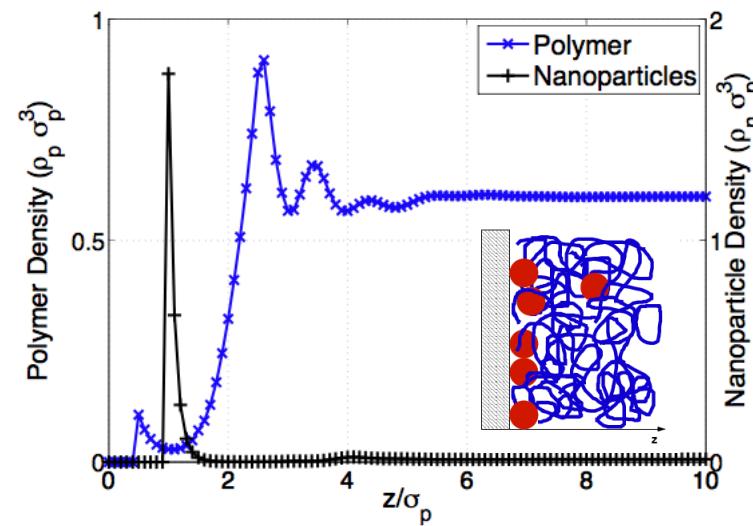
- fixed total packing fraction

$$\rho_p \sigma^3 + \rho_{np} \sigma_{np}^3 = 0.79$$

- first-order transition
- entropy-driven

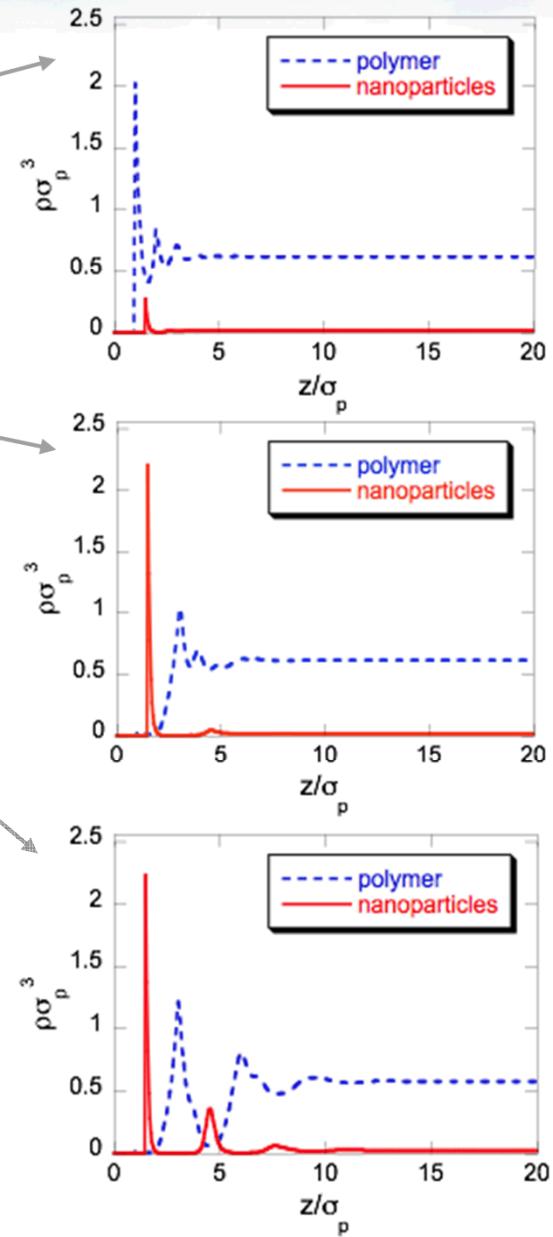
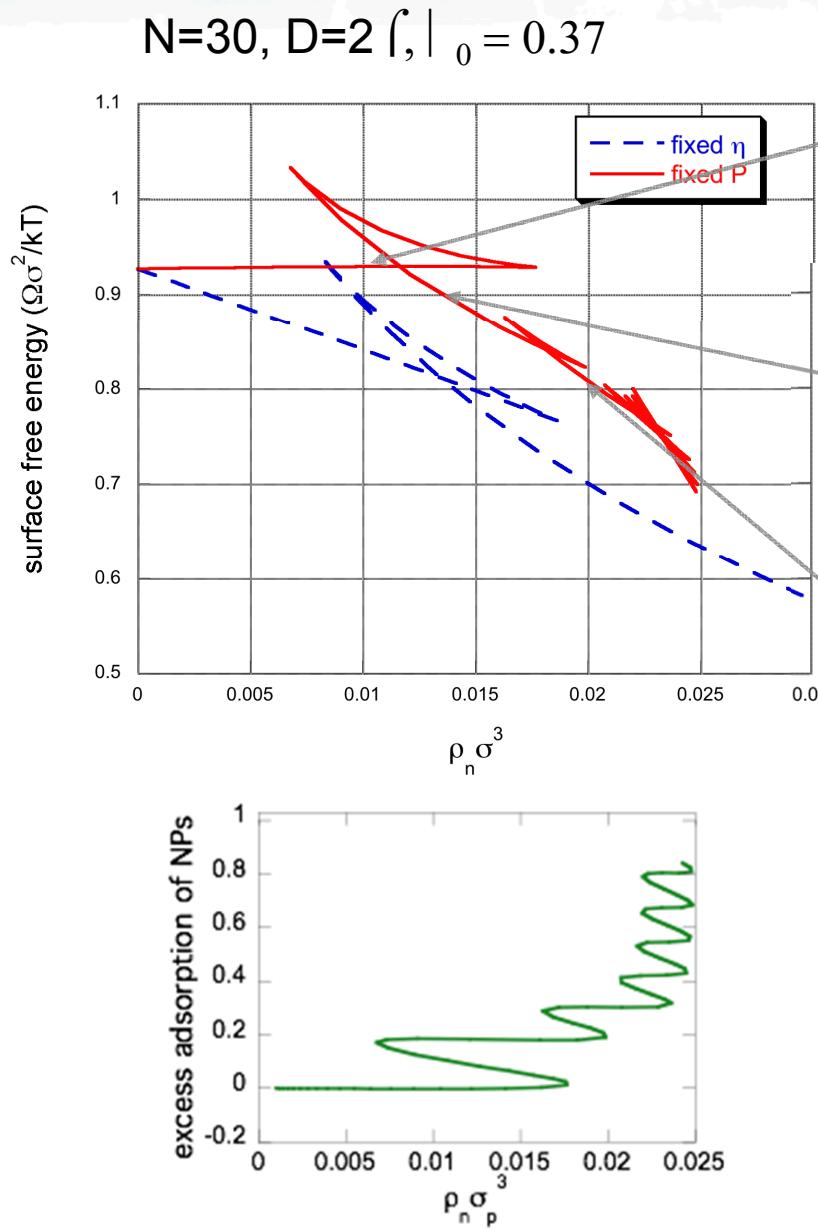


typical fluid structure



NP layer, areal coverage 0.82

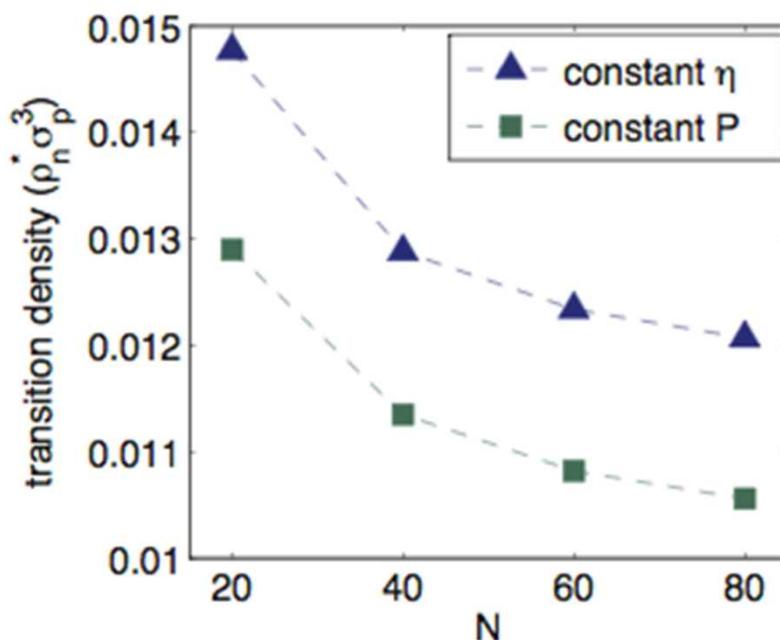
# Constant pressure: still a transition



# Balance of entropic terms

dependence on chain length

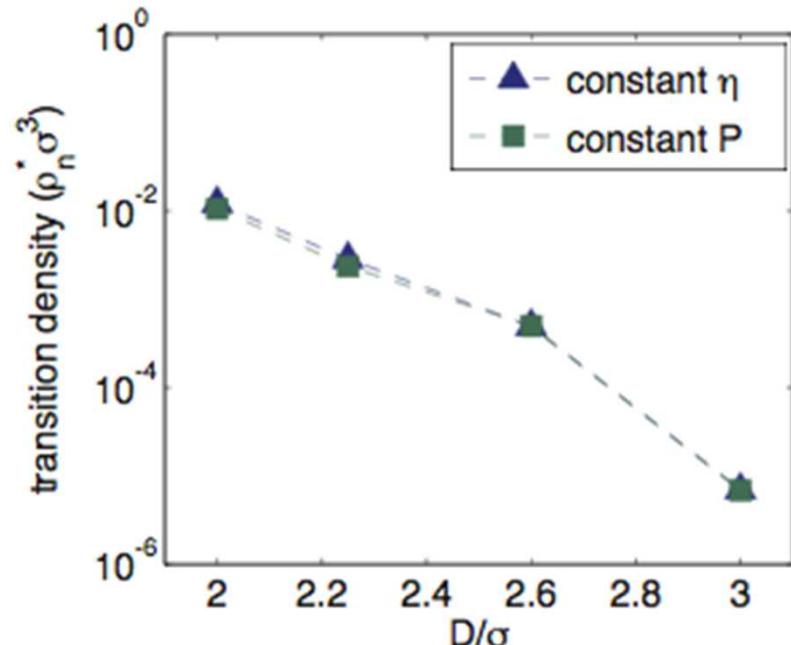
$$D = 2 \int, l_0 = 0.37$$



no transition for short chains  
➡ configurational entropy

dependence on NP size

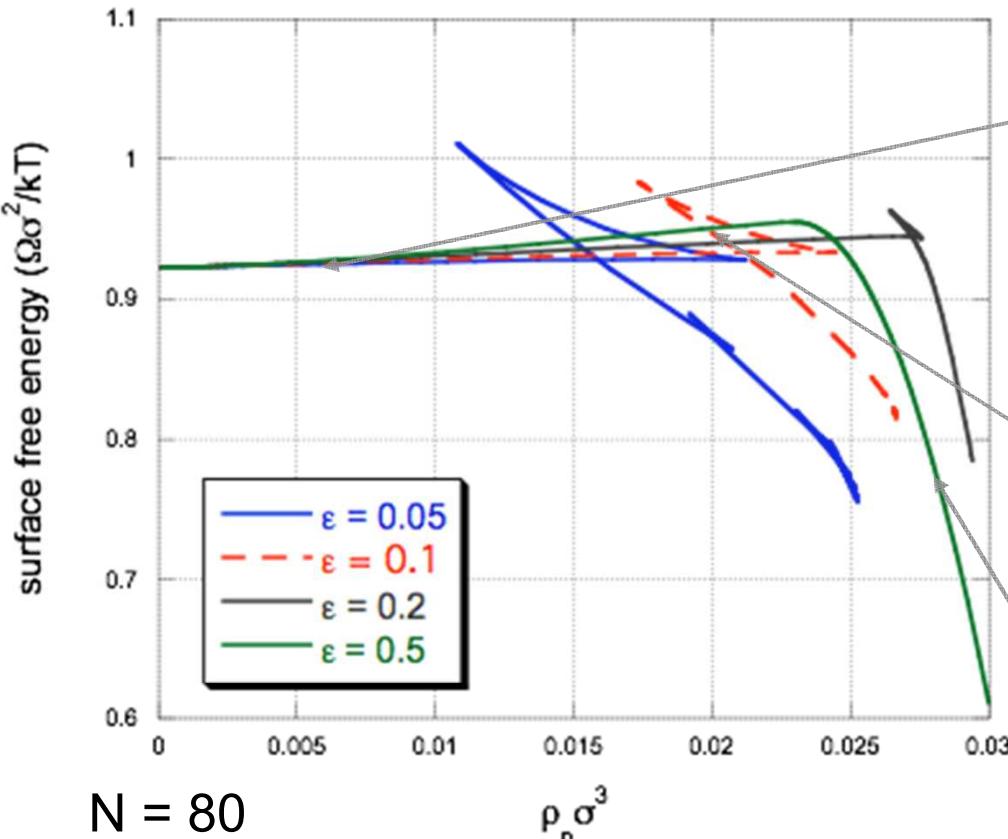
$$N = 80, l_0 = 0.37$$



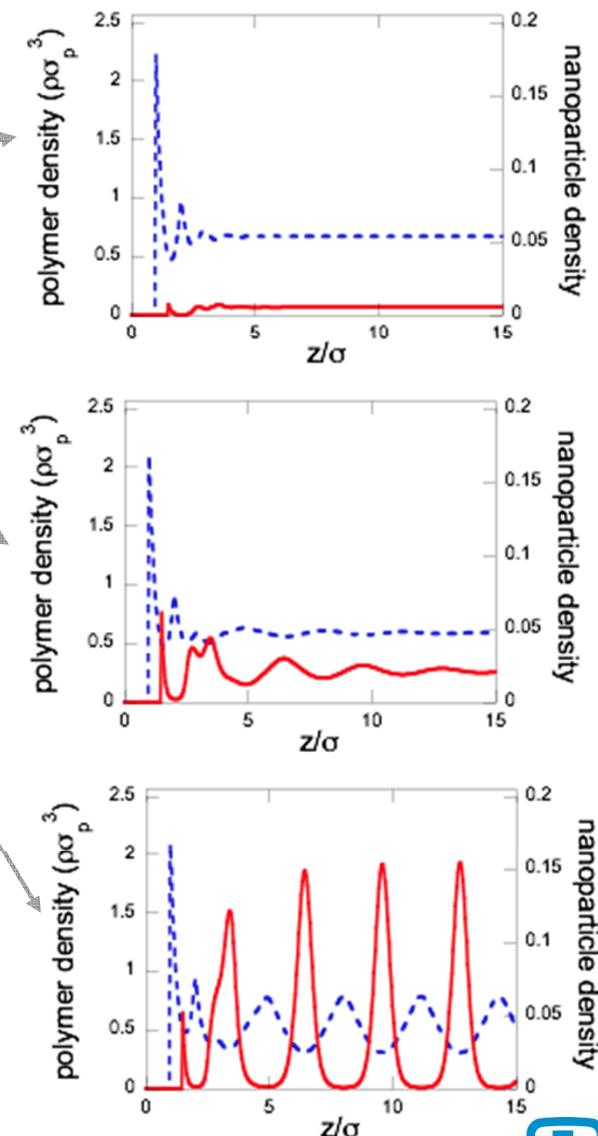
no transition for small particles  
➡ packing entropy

# Effect of Attraction Strength

attractive potential  $u_{np}(r) = -\epsilon e^{-(r-\sigma_{np})/\alpha}$



- van der Waals loop vanishes at high  $\epsilon$
- transition becomes continuous





# Summary of NP Work

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- modified iSAFT predicts NP surface segregation
  - first order phase transition
  - polymeric effect
  - entropy alone is sufficient to cause NPs to segregate to the surface
- transition still present for:
  - **constant pressure**
  - **monomer-particle attractive interactions**

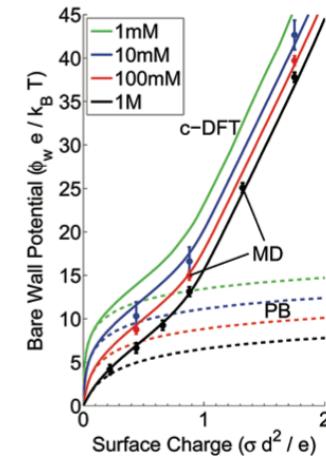
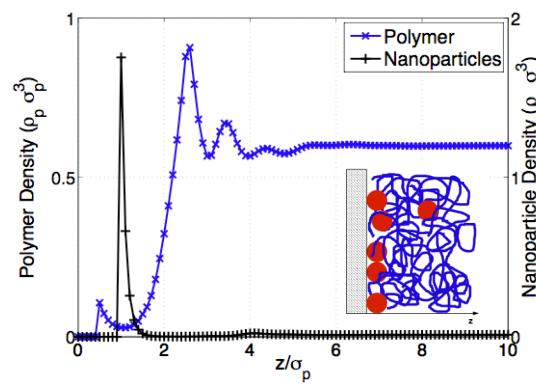
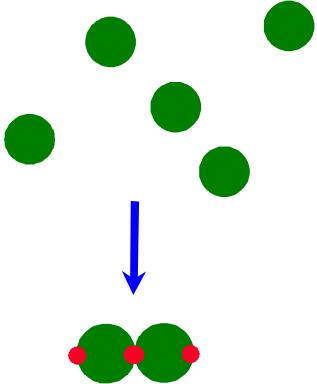
E. S. McGarry et al., *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, **99**, 238302 (2007).

E. S. McGarry, A. L. Frischknecht, and M. E. Mackay, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **128**, 154904 (2008).

**A. L. Frischknecht, V. Padmanabhan, M. E. Mackay, J. Chem. Phys., 136, 164904 (2012).**

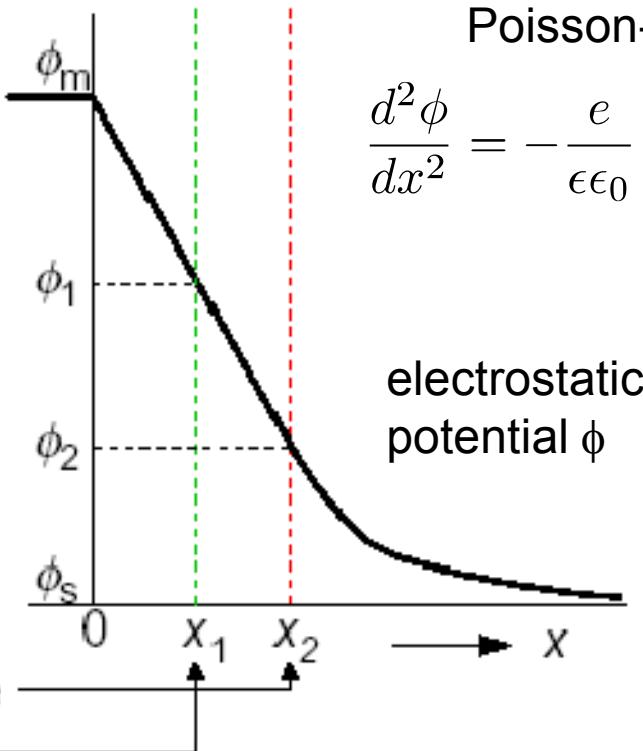
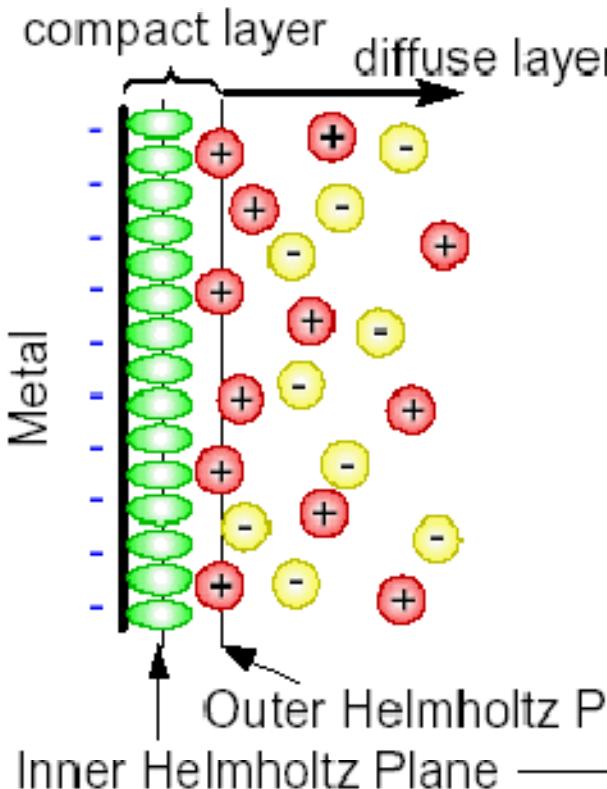
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# Classical Theory

Gouy-Chapman-Stern theory (GCS)

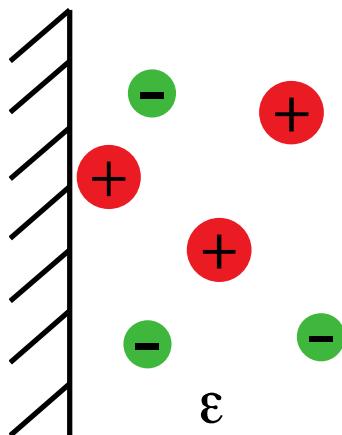


$$\phi(z) = \frac{4kT}{e} \tanh^{-1} \left( \tanh \left( \frac{\phi_w e}{4kT} \right) \exp[-\kappa(z - d)] \right) \quad \kappa = (2\rho_0 e^2 / \epsilon kT)^{1/2}$$

size of diffuse layer depends on: potential, concentration, temperature

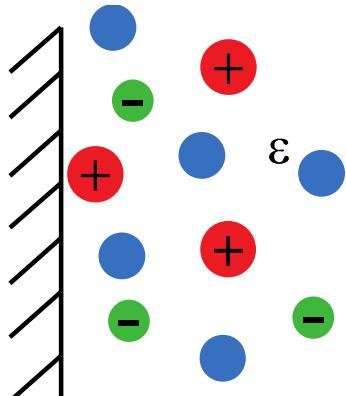
# Application of DFT to the Double Layer

- first done in 1987 (Boyle et al)
- seminal papers by Tang, Scriven, Davis, et al.
- other important work by D Henderson, D Gillespie, etc.



## Primitive Model (PM)

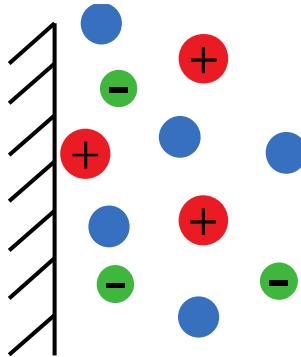
- ions as charged hard spheres
- continuous dielectric medium for solvent
- charged hard surface (wall)
- if ions have same size, called restricted primitive model (RPM)



## Semi-primitive model (SPM)

- charged hard spheres
- neutral charged solvent, dielectric  $\epsilon$
- charged hard wall
- also called 3-component model (3CM)

# Free-energy for Double-Layer



$$F[\rho_\alpha] = F^{id}[\rho_\alpha] + F^{hs}[\rho_\alpha] + F^{MF}[\rho_\alpha] + F^{corr}[\rho_\alpha]$$

$$F^{MF}[\rho_i] = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \int d\mathbf{r} z_i e \rho_i(\mathbf{r}) \phi(\mathbf{r})$$

mean-field  
electrostatics

$$\phi(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_j \int d\mathbf{r}' \rho_j(\mathbf{r}') \frac{z_j e}{\epsilon k T |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|}$$

where  $\phi$  satisfies Poisson's eq with appropriate BCs

$$F^{corr}[\rho_i] = -\frac{1}{2} k T \sum_{ij} \int d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' \rho_i(\mathbf{r}) \rho_j(\mathbf{r}') \Delta c_{ij}(|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|)$$

ion correlation term

$$\Delta c_{ij}(|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|) = c_{ij}(r) + \frac{z_i z_j e^2}{\epsilon k T |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} - c_{ij}^{HS}(r)$$



obtain from integral eq. theory of bulk state (MSA)

# Residual Equations to Solve

solve  $R_i = 0$

$$R_1 = \ln \rho_\alpha(\mathbf{r}) + V(\mathbf{r}) - \mu_\alpha + \int \sum_\gamma \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial n_\gamma}(\mathbf{r}') \omega_\alpha^{(\gamma)}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r}' + \sum_\beta \int d\mathbf{r}' \rho_\beta(\mathbf{r}') u_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') - \sum_\beta \int d\mathbf{r}' \rho_\beta(\mathbf{r}') \Delta c_{\alpha\beta}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}') + Z_\alpha \phi(\mathbf{r})$$

$$R_2 = n_\gamma(\mathbf{r}) - \sum_\alpha \int d\mathbf{r}' \rho_\alpha(\mathbf{r}) \omega_\alpha^{(\gamma)}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}')$$

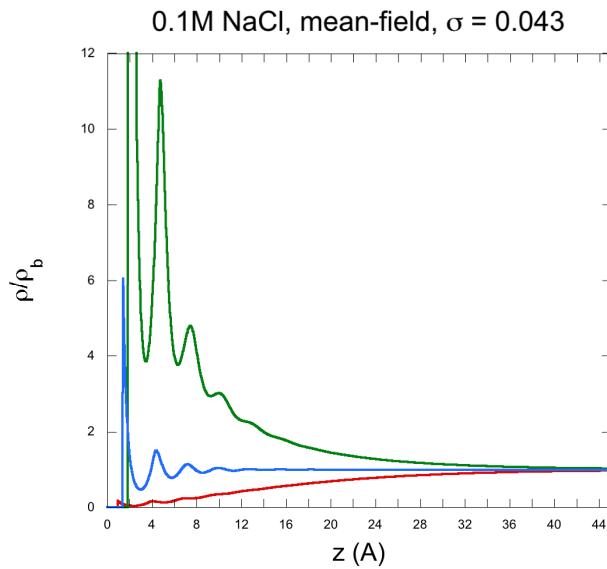
$$R_3 = \nabla^2 \phi - \frac{4\pi}{T^*} \sum_\alpha q_\alpha \rho_\alpha \quad T^* = 4\pi k_B T \epsilon \epsilon_0 d / e^2$$

$T^*$  characterizes strength of Coulomb interactions

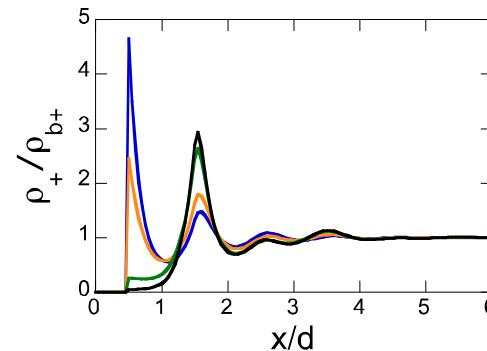
Bjerrum length:  $l_B \equiv \frac{e^2}{4\pi k T \epsilon \epsilon_0} = \frac{d}{T^*}$

where electrostatic energy =  $kT$

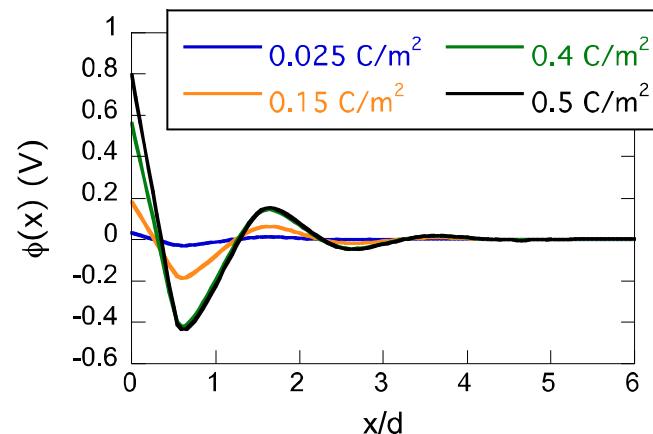
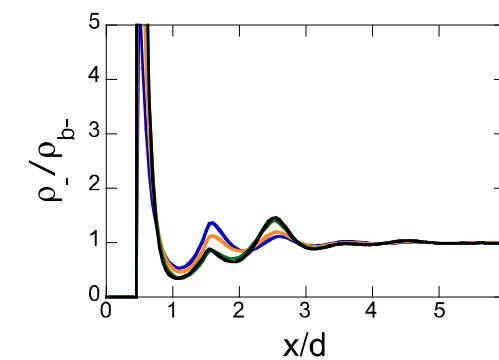
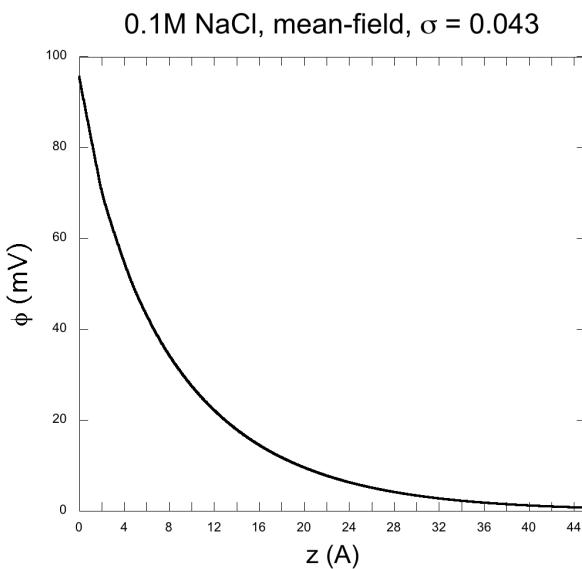
# EDL from DFT



aqueous NaCl  
 $T = 300\text{K}$   
 $\epsilon = 80$



molten salt  
 $T = 1400\text{ K}$   
 $\epsilon = 10$

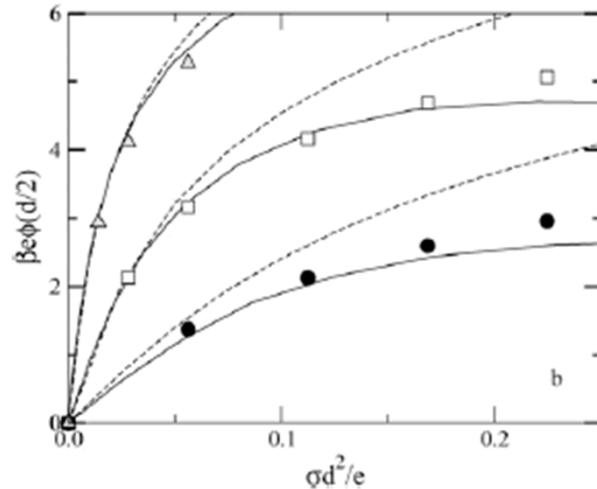


# DFT Results: Primitive Model

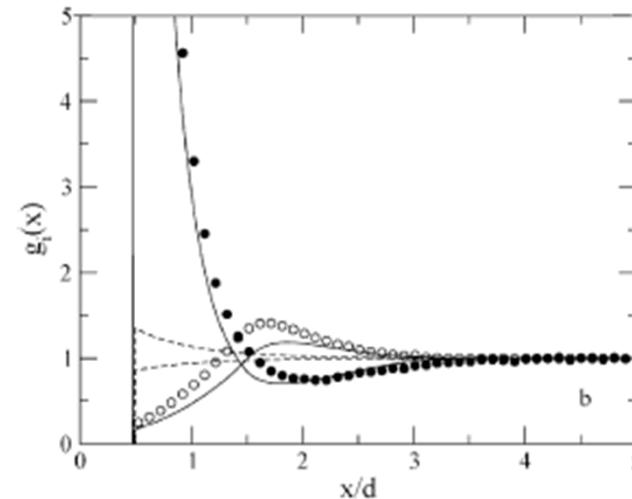
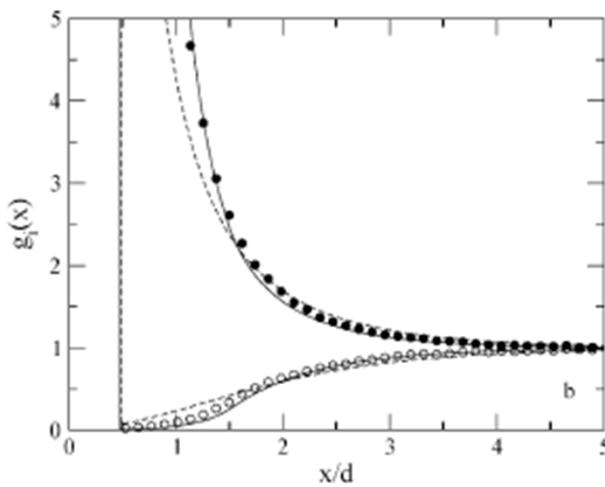
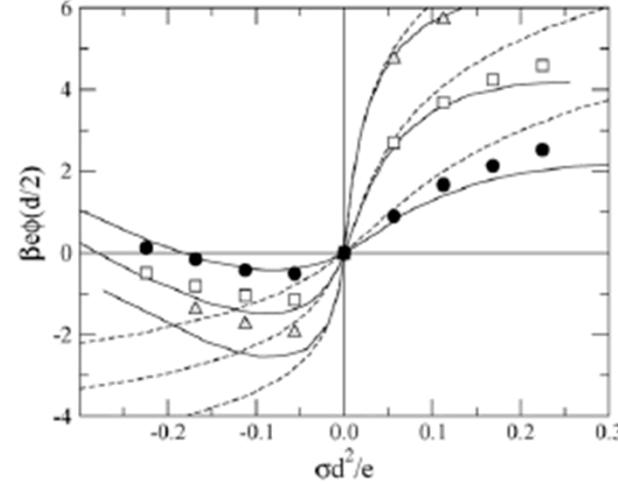
Boda et al., J Chem Phys (2002) 116, 7170-7176

points = MC; solid lines = DFT; dashed lines = PB

1:1 electrolyte



2:1 electrolyte

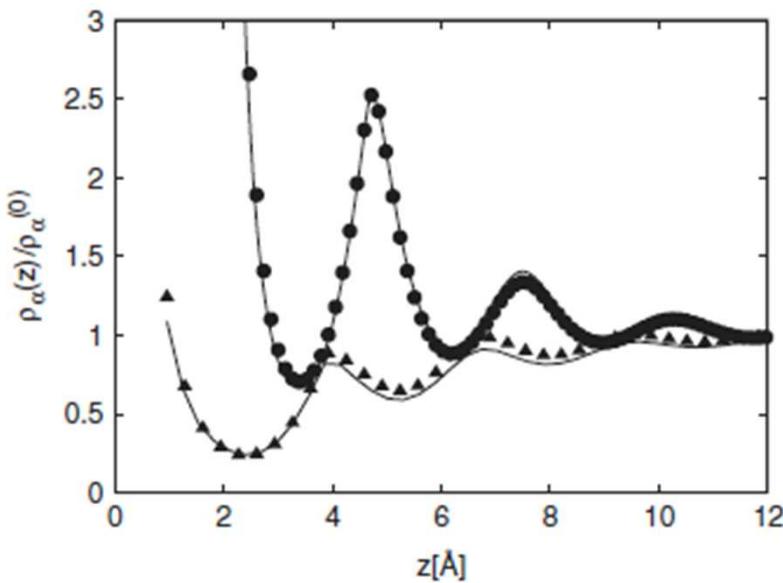


# Semi-primitive model

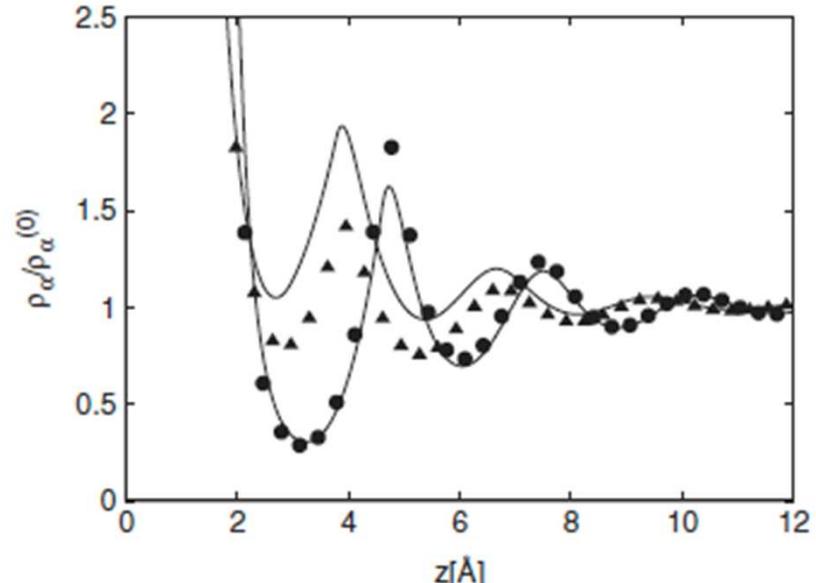
Oleksy and Hansen, Mol. Phys. (2006) 104, 2871-2883

- semi-primitive model
- all species have different sizes
- uses White Bear HS functional

1M NaCl,  $\sigma = 0.043$



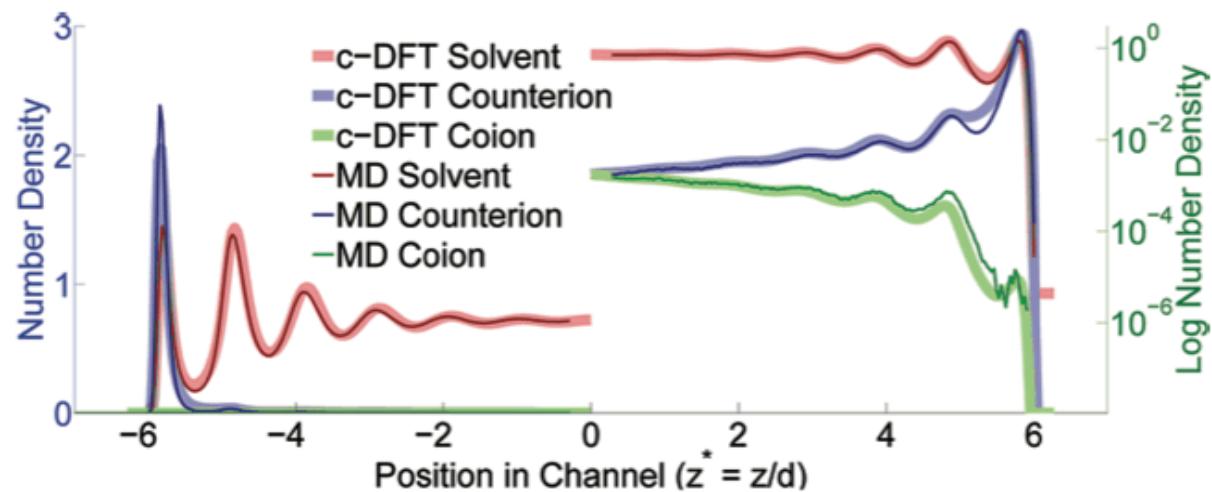
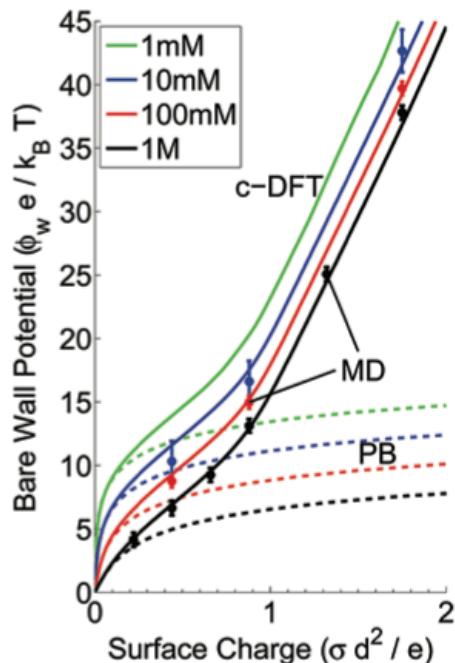
1M CaCl<sub>2</sub>,  $\sigma = -0.087$



also tabulate surface tensions, adsorptions

# Comparison of DFT with MD, PB

1:1 electrolyte in water, 300K, LJ interactions



93 mM, surface charge 0.44

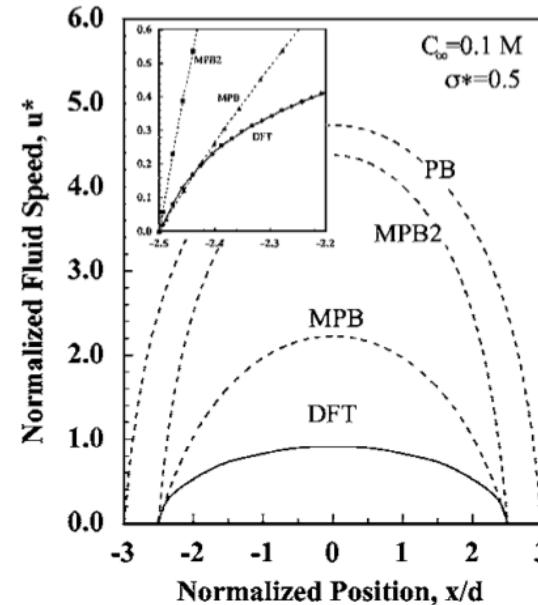
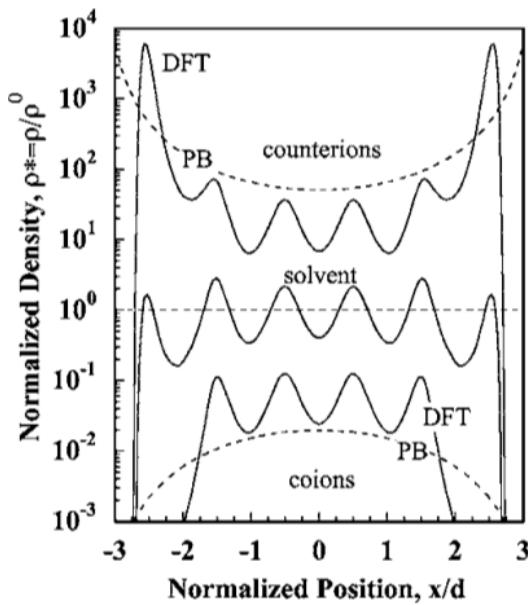
Jonathan W. Lee, Robert H Nilson, Jeremy A. Templeton, Stewart K Griffiths, Andy Kung, and Bryan M. Wong, *J Chem Theory Comput* **8**, 2012–2022 (2012).

# Application to EOF

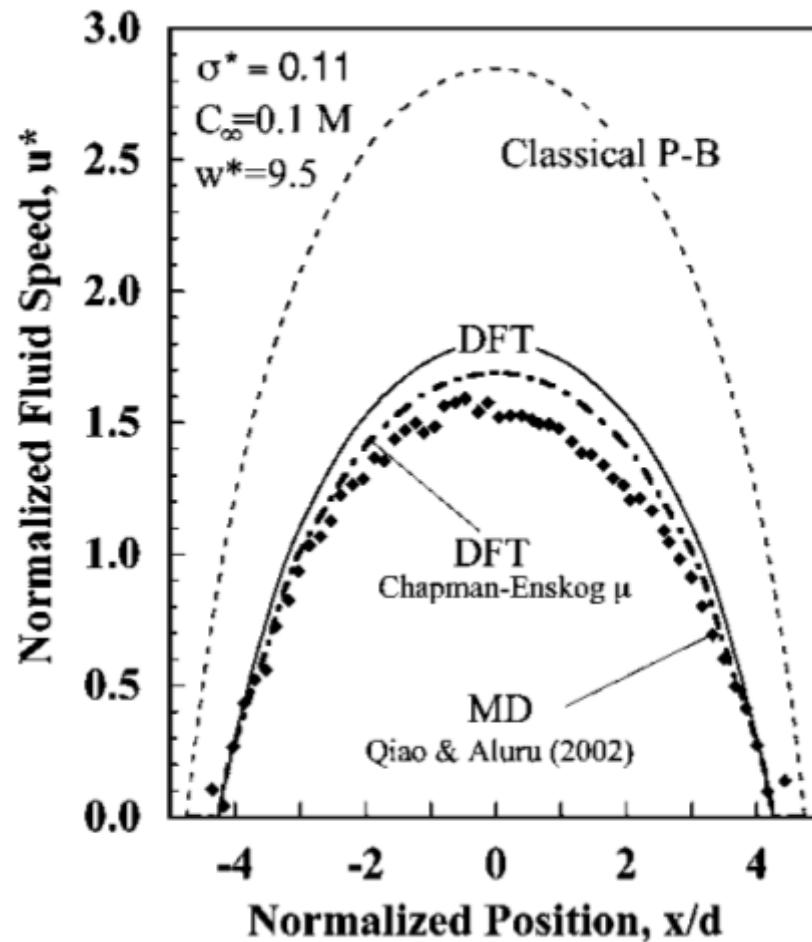
consider steady-state electro-osmotic flow in a channel aligned along  $z$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \mu \frac{\partial u_z(x)}{\partial x} \right) = -\rho_e E_z$$

$$\rho_e(x) = \sum_i z_i e \rho_i(x) \quad \text{obtain } \rho_e \text{ from DFT}$$



# Comparison to MD



Nilson, R. H. & Griffiths, S. K. Influence of atomistic physics on electro-osmotic flow: An analysis based on density functional theory. *J Chem Phys* **125**, 164510 (2006).



# Conclusions

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- DFT often accurate molecular model
  - faster than particle simulations
  - includes polymers, charges
- DFT goes beyond Poisson-Boltzmann
  - more accurate at high ion concentration
  - more accurate at high surface density
  - includes finite ion size, ion correlations



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*Sandia*



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- LDRD
- ASC

Venkat Padmanabhan  
Michael Mackay →  
*University of Delaware*



## Funding



# Tramonto as a Solvent for Simulation

single chain polymer in LJ solvent

0. initial polymer configuration
1. polymer acts as external field for DFT
2. solve 3D DFT; calculate solvent potential of mean force on polymer
3. do MC step for new chain configuration; go back to 1.

