



UNIVERSIDADE DO ESTADO DO RIO DE JANEIRO
INSTITUTO DE QUÍMICA – PPG-EQ



Ion-specific Effects on Biocolloidal Systems

Prof. Eduardo Rocha de Almeida Lima

Chemical Engineering Graduate Program – PPG-EQ

Rio de Janeiro State University – UERJ – Brazil

lima.eduardo@uerj.br

limaeduardo.wixsite.com/equerj/home

APS & ICTP-SAIFR Young Physicists Forum on Biological Physics:
from Molecular to Macroscopic Scale (Bio2020)





Outline (Lecture 2)

- The modified Poisson-Boltzmann equation;
- Introduction to Classical Density Functional Theory;
- Size and electrostatic correlations.



The Modified Poisson-Boltzmann Equation

The Modified PBE

- ✓ Improvement: modifications in order to take into account several important effects such as dispersion forces, hydration, ion size effects, and electric correlation between ions.
- ✓ Additional contributions may be divided in two classes:
 - external field contributions: e.g., ion-interface interactions.
 - contributions depending on the interaction among molecules (ions): residual chemical potential.

The Modified Boltzmann Distribution

- ✓ Additional terms can be included in the description of the electrochemical potential:

$$\mu_i(p, T) = \mu_i^0(p, T) + k_B T \ln c_i + e z_i \psi + U_i + \mu_i^{res}$$

$$\mu_{\infty,i}(p, T) = \mu_i^0(p, T) + k_B T \ln c_{\infty,i} + e z_i \psi_{\infty} + \mu_{\infty,i}^{res}$$

- ✓ Equilibrium condition: $\mu_i(p, T) = \mu_{\infty,i}(p, T)$

- ✓ Resulting in:

$$c_i = c_{\infty,i} \exp \left[- \frac{z_i e (\psi - \psi_{\infty}) + U_i + \mu_i^{res} - \mu_{\infty,i}^{res}}{k_B T} \right]$$

The Modified PBE

- ✓ Modified Boltzmann distribution:

$$c_i = c_{\infty,i} \exp \left[-\frac{z_i e (\psi - \psi_{\infty}) + U_i + \mu_i^{res} - \mu_{\infty,i}^{res}}{k_B T} \right]$$

- ✓ Combining with Poisson Equation, we have the Modified Poisson- Boltzmann equation:

$$\varepsilon_0 \nabla \cdot (\varepsilon \nabla \psi) = -e \sum_i z_i c_{\infty,i} \exp \left[-\frac{z_i e (\psi - \psi_{\infty}) + U_i + \mu_i^{res} - \mu_{\infty,i}^{res}}{k_B T} \right] - \rho_f$$

- ✓ The Boundary conditions are the same as for the classical PBE.

van der Waals Interactions

Dispersion interactions between ions and a planar surface (Parsons, and Ninham, 2010):

$$U_i^{disp} = -\frac{G(x)B_i}{x^3}$$

$$G(x) = 1 + \frac{2x}{\sqrt{\pi}r_i} \left(\frac{2x^2}{r_i^2} - 1 \right) \exp \left(-\frac{x^2}{r_i^2} \right) - \left(1 + \frac{4x^4}{r_i^4} \right) \operatorname{erfc} \left(\frac{x}{r_i} \right)$$

And between two spheres (Lima et al., 2007) (without ion size correction):

$$U_i = \frac{-B_i}{(r_1 - r_{p1})^3 \left[1 + \frac{(r_1 - r_{p1})^3}{2r_{p1}^3} \right]} + \frac{-B_i}{(r_2 - r_{p2})^3 \left[1 + \frac{(r_2 - r_{p2})^3}{2r_{p2}^3} \right]}$$

where B_i is calculated from Lifshitz Theory.

Scale integration

✓ Inclusion of ionic potential of mean force (PMF) obtained from molecular dynamics (Horinek and Netz, 2007):

$$\frac{V(x)}{k_B T} = \frac{A}{(x - x')^{12}} - \frac{B}{(x - x')^8} + C_1 (x - C_2) e^{-C_3 (x - C_2)^2} + D_1 e^{-D_3 (x - D_2)^2}$$

✓ For two plates

$$U_i(x) = V(x) + V(L - x)$$

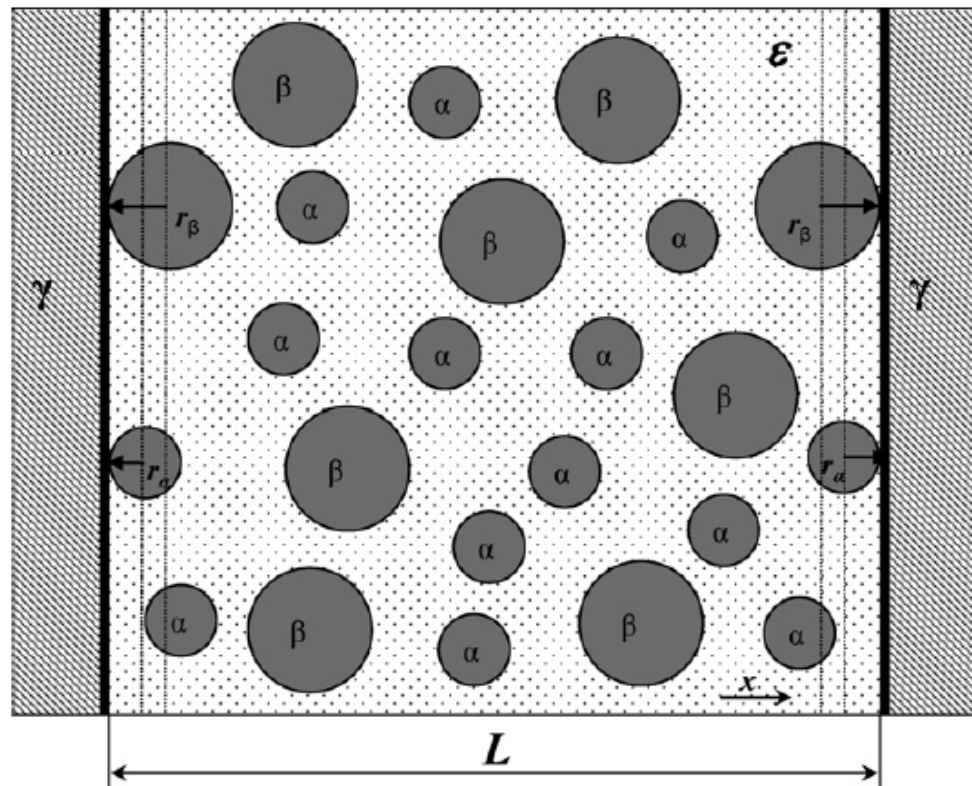
✓ These PMF include:

- van der Waals interactions;
- ionic hydration
- Self-image charge potential

Ion Size Correlation in PBE

✓ Modified Boltzmann distribution:

$$c_i = c_{\infty,i} \exp \left[- \frac{z_i e \psi + U_i + w_i(c(\mathbf{x}), \sigma) - w_i(c_{\infty}(\mathbf{x}), \sigma)}{k_B T} \right]$$



Ion Size Correlation in PBE

The size effects are taken into account through size correlations terms by using Boublik–Mansoori–Carnahan–Starling–Leland equation of state:

$$w_i(\mathbf{c}(x), \sigma) = g_i = \frac{\mu_i^{\text{res}, \text{BMCSL}}}{k_B T} = \frac{(\xi_0 - \xi_2^3 / \xi_3^2) \sigma_i^3 + 3\xi_2 \sigma_i + 3\xi_1 \sigma_i^2}{1 - \xi_3} \\ + \frac{2\xi_2^3 \sigma_i^3}{\xi_3(1 - \xi_3)^3} + \frac{3\xi_1 \xi_2 \sigma_i^3 + 3\xi_2^2 \sigma_i^2 / \xi_3 + \xi_2^3 \sigma_i^3 / \xi_3^2}{(1 - \xi_3)^2} \\ + (-1 + 3\xi_2^2 \sigma_i^2 / \xi_3^2 + 2\xi_2^3 \sigma_i^3 / \xi_3^3) \ln(1 - \xi_3)$$

ξ is the packing factor, given by

$$\xi_k = \frac{\pi}{6} \sum_i c_i(x) \sigma_i^k$$

Ion-ion Electrostatic Correlation in PBE

✓ Modified Poisson equation (equivalent to a Poisson–Fermi equation):

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} \equiv \varepsilon(\ell_c^2 \nabla^2 - 1) \nabla^2 \psi = \rho,$$

where \mathbf{D} is the displacement field. For the linear response regime (for small electric fields), the displacement field is given by

$$\mathbf{D} = -\hat{\varepsilon} \nabla \psi \quad \hat{\varepsilon} = \varepsilon(1 - \ell_c^2 \nabla^2)$$

ℓ_c = scaling factor: empirical parameter that establishes a characteristic length scale in which the electrostatic correlations are relevant .

Bazant, Storey, Kornyshev, Phys. Rev. Lett. 106 (2011), 046102.

Ion-ion Electrostatic Correlation in PBE

✓ Rewriting in Cartesian coordinates:

$$\varepsilon \left(\ell_c^2 \frac{\partial^4 \psi}{\partial x^4} - \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} \right) = e \sum_{i=1}^{n_c} z_i c_i$$

that is is the Poisson–Fermi equation.

Additional boundary conditions: correlations are neglected at the surface:

$$\hat{n} \cdot \nabla (\nabla^2 \psi) = 0$$

Bazant, Storey, Kornyshev, Phys. Rev. Lett. 106 (2011), 046102.

Alijó, Tavares, Biscaia, Secchi, Electrochimica Acta 152 (2015) 84–92 .

Charge Regulation at the Surface

- ✓ The surface is uniformly charged.
- ✓ Basic groups = positive contributions:

$$ez_+^i = \frac{e[H^+]_s}{[H^+]_s + K_a^i}, \quad \text{where} \quad [H^+]_s = 10^{-pH} \exp\left(-\frac{e\psi_s}{k_B T}\right)$$

- ✓ Acid groups = negative contribution:

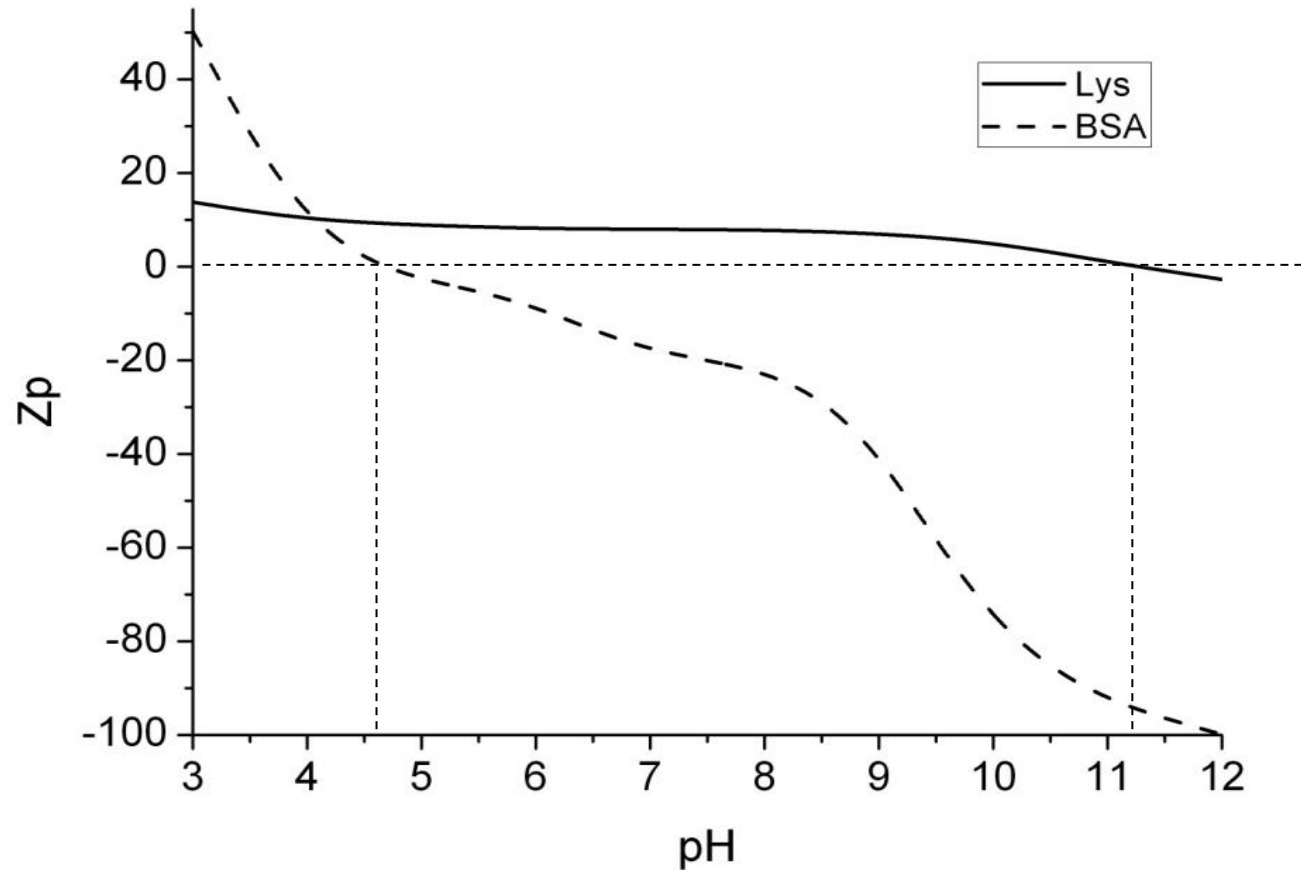
$$ez_-^i = \frac{-eK_a^i}{[H^+]_s + K_a^i}$$

- ✓ Average surface charge: $Q_p = \sum_{\text{básicos}} ez_+^i + \sum_{\text{ácidos}} ez_-^i$

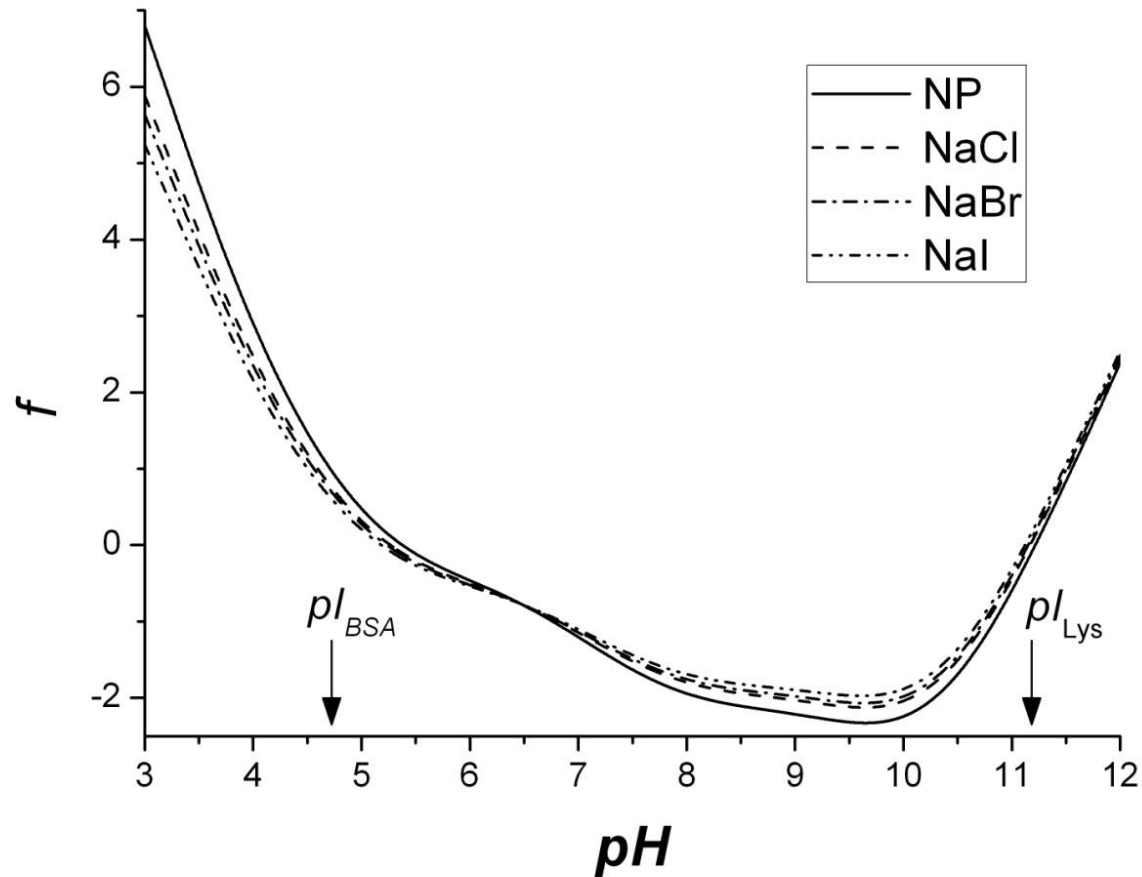
Ninham and Parsegian (1971)

Charge Regulation at the Surface

✓ Titration curve obtained from charge regulation model :



Force between a Lysozyme and a BSA





Density Functional Theory

Density Functional Theory

“Matter distributes itself in space in such a way that, for a given energy, the entropy attains a maximum.”

$$\delta S[\rho(\mathbf{r})] = 0$$

J. D. van der Waals, *Verhandel. Konink. Akad. Weten. Amsterdam*, Vol. I, No. 8, 58 (1893)

J. S. Rowlinson, *Journal of Statistical Physics*, Vol. 20, No. 2, 1979



J. D. van der Waals

Classical DFT x Electronic DFT

Classical DFT

- ✓ Structure and thermo-physical properties
- ✓ Statistical Mechanics
- ✓ Density of matter

◆ van der Waals (1893)

Nobel Prize (1910)

◆ Onsager (1949)

Nobel Prize(1968)

◆ Mermin (1965)-Ebner-Saam-Stroud (1976)

Electronic DFT

- ✓ Spectroscopic, electronic e optoelectronic properties
- ✓ Quantum Mechanics
- ✓ Electronic density

◆ Thomas-Fermi (1920s)

Nobel Prize(1938)

◆ Hohenberg and Kohn (1964)

◆ Kohn and Sham (1965)

Nobel Prize (1998)



Classical Density Functional Theory (DFT)

- ✓ Structure and thermodynamic properties from a molecular perspective.
- ✓ Can be applied to several kinds of systems: polymers, electrolytes, polyelectrolytes and biomacromolecules.
- ✓ Takes into account microscopic details without dealing explicitly with thermal fluctuations.

Hohenberg-Kohn Theorem (1964)

- ✓ Originally established in the quantum mechanics of the ground-state energy of electrons at 0K.
- ✓ Generalization to a finite temperature by Mermin (1965).
- ✓ Equally applicable to classical systems (Evans, 1979).

“The one-body potential can be uniquely determined by a density profile that minimizes the grand-potential functional.”

Consequence: the Helmholtz energy can be expressed as a unique functional of the density profiles.

Hohenberg P, Kohn W (1964) Phys Rev 136:B864

Mermin ND (1965) Phys Rev 127:A1441

Evans R (1979) Adv Phy 28:143

Fundamentals of DFT

✓ Helmholtz Energy = functional of density profiles of molecules.

$$F = F[\rho(\vec{r})]$$

✓ Molecular density profile: ensemble average of instantaneous molecular densities (Wu, 2006):

$$\rho(\vec{r}) = \langle \sum_i \delta(\vec{r} - \vec{r}_i) \rangle$$

Fundamentals of DFT

- ✓ Central task: derive an analytical expression for the grand potential of an open system as a functional of the density profiles:

$$\Omega[\{\rho_i(\vec{r})\}] = F[\{\rho_i(\vec{r})\}] + \sum_{i=1}^N \int \rho_i(\vec{r}) \underbrace{[\psi_i(\vec{r}) - \mu_i(\vec{r})]}_{\text{One-body potential}} d\vec{r}$$

One-body potential

- ✓ The equilibrium density profile of inhomogeneous fluid is given by the minimum condition (Euler-Lagrange equation):

$$\left. \frac{\delta \Omega[\{\rho_i(\vec{r})\}]}{\delta \rho_i(\vec{r})} \right|_{\rho_i^{eq}} = 0$$

Fundamentals of DFT

Or in terms of Helmholtz free energy (F):

$$\frac{\delta F[(\rho_i(\vec{r}))]}{\delta \rho_i(\vec{r})} + \psi_i(\vec{r}) - \mu_i(\vec{r}) = 0$$

The ideal contribution for the Helmholtz energy is:

$$\begin{aligned}\beta F^{id} &= \beta \Omega^{id} - \int \rho(\vec{r}) \beta \phi(\vec{r}) d\vec{r} = - \int \rho(\vec{r}) d\vec{r} + \int \rho(\vec{r}) \ln[\rho(\vec{r}) \Lambda^3] d\vec{r} \\ &= \int \rho(\vec{r}) \{ \ln[\rho(\vec{r}) \Lambda^3] - 1 \} d\vec{r}\end{aligned}$$

Solving for the density profiles:

$$\rho_i(\vec{r}) = \exp \left[\beta \mu_i - \beta \psi_i - \frac{\delta \beta F^{\text{ex}}[(\rho_i(\vec{r}))]}{\delta \rho_i(\vec{r})} \right]$$

Density Functional Theory (DFT)

The Helmholtz functional can be split in four parts:

$$F = F^{id} + \underbrace{F_{hs}^{ex} + F_C^{ex} + F_{el}^{ex}}_{F^{ex}}$$

The electrostatic contribution is composed by two contributions:

➤ Direct Coulomb interactions: F_C^{ex}

➤ Electrostatic correlations: F_{el}^{ex}

Density Functional Theory (DFT)

Using the same notation as for PB Theory, the Euler-Lagrange functions for the density of ions are given by:

$$c_i(x) = \exp \left[\left(\mu_i - \Psi_i(x) - \frac{\delta F^{ex}}{\delta c_i(x)} \right) / k_B T \right]$$

Defining the mean electrostatic potential:

$$z_i e \psi(x) = \Psi_i(x) + \frac{\delta F_c^{ex}}{\delta c_i(x)}$$

DFT x Boltzmann Distribution

✓ Neglecting size correlations: $\delta F_{hs}^{ex} / \delta c_i = 0$

and electrostatic correlations: $\delta F_{el}^{ex} / \delta c_i = 0$

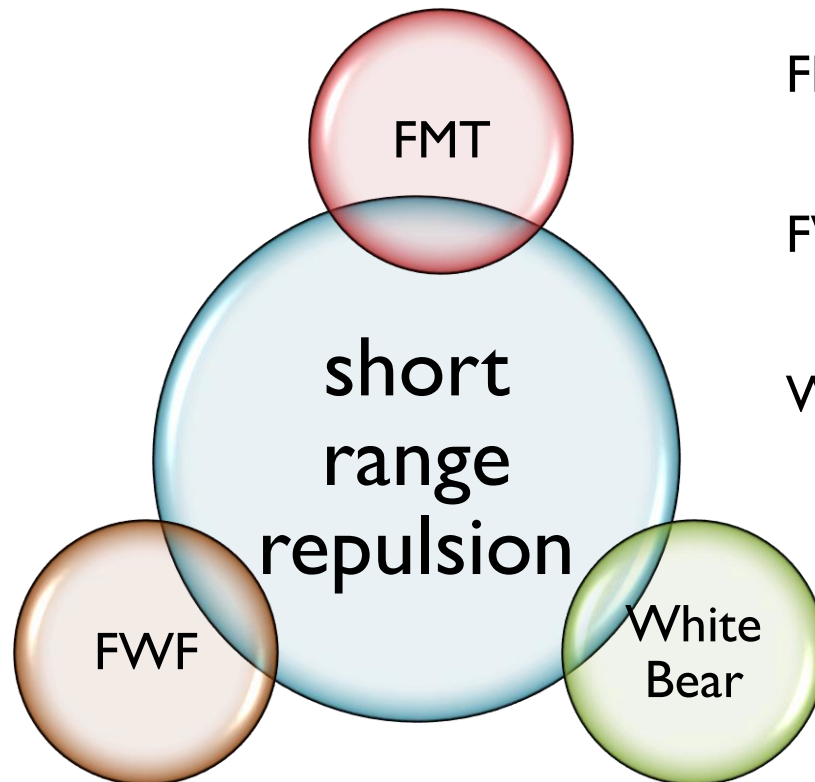
✓ Helmholtz energy F simplifies to that used in Poisson-Boltzmann theory and the expression for the density profile of ions simplifies to

$$c_i(x) = c_{\infty,i} \exp \left[-\frac{z_i e \psi(x)}{k_B T} \right]$$

that is the classical Boltzmann distribution

Short range repulsion

- ✓ Different Approaches usually used for the short range repulsion contribution to the excess Helmholtz free energy:



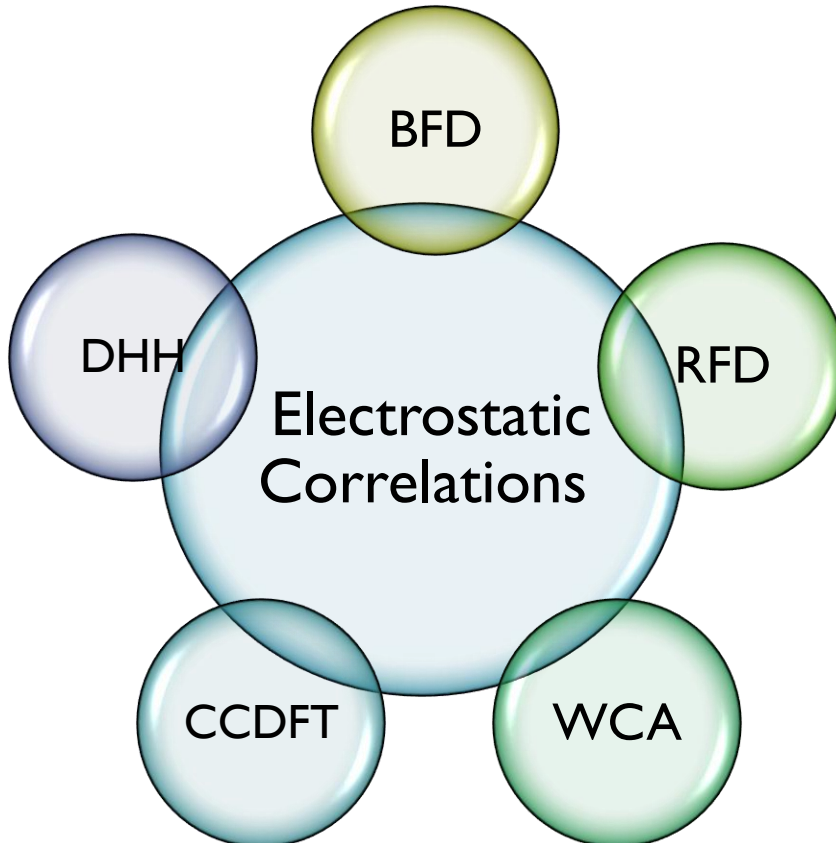
FMT → Rosenfeld's fundamental measure theory

FWF → Forsman, Woodward and Freasier methods

White Bear → modification of FMT using EoS for bulk hard-sphere fluids by Boublik, Mansoori, Carnahan, Starling and Leland (BMCSL).

Density Functional Theory

Approaches used for the ion-ion electrostatic correlations



WCA → Weighted correlation approach

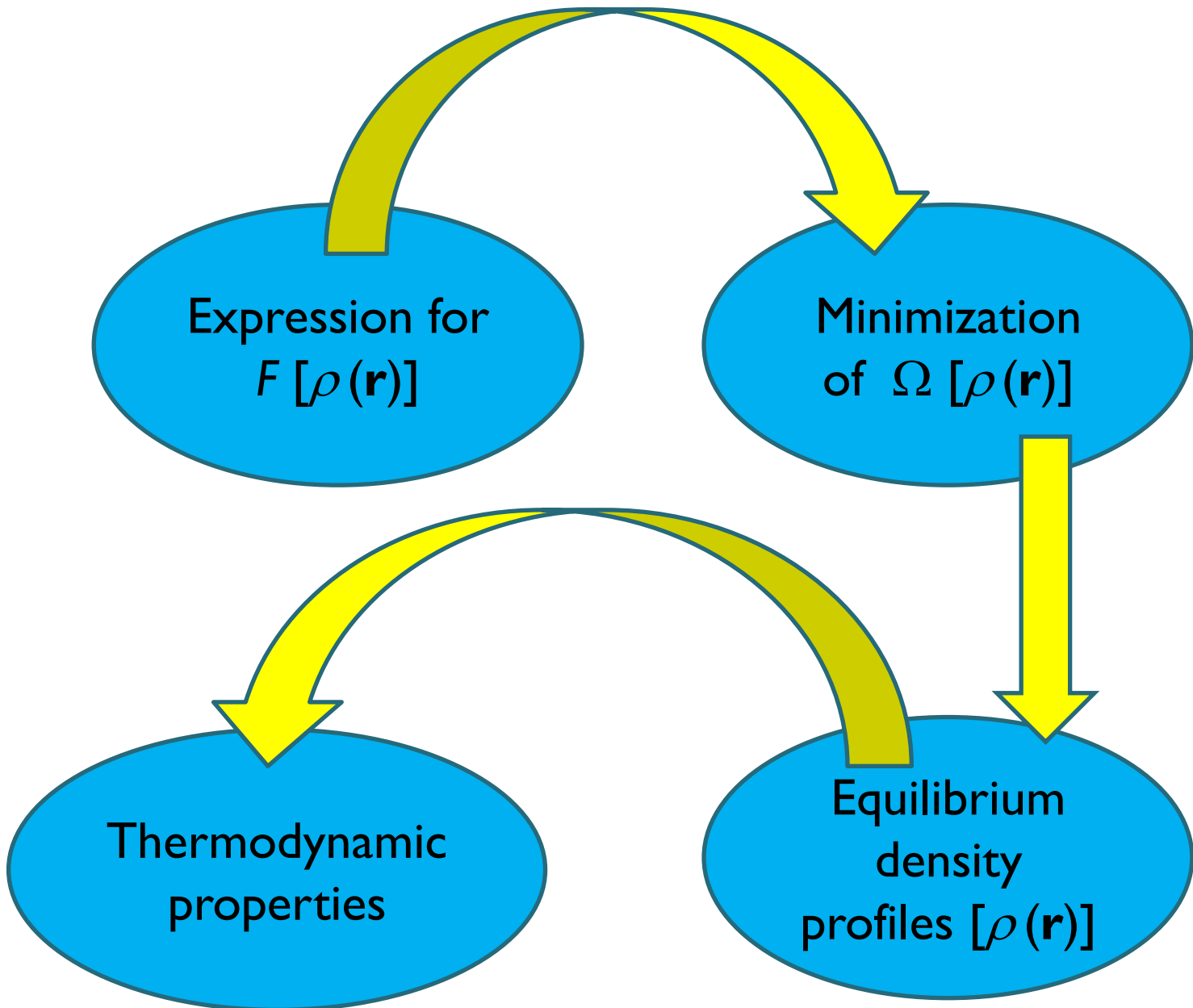
BFD → bulk fluid density approach

RFD → reference fluid density approach

CCDFT → *contact-corrected* DFT approach

DHH → hole corrected Debye-Hückel theory

Density Functional Theory (DFT)




Picard Method

- Conventional method to converge to the equilibrium density profiles → Picard method.

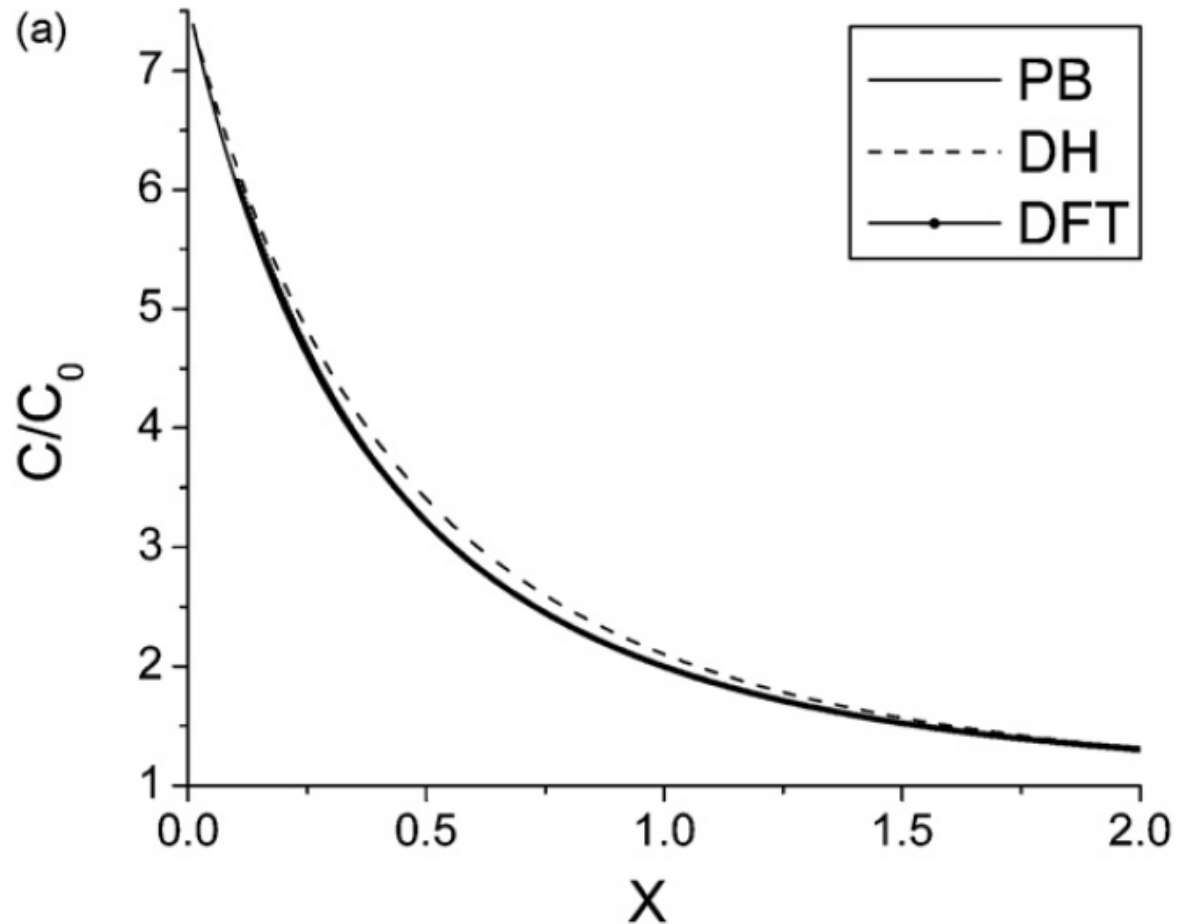
$$\rho_{i,in}^{(k)}(\vec{r}) = \rho_{i,out}^{(k-1)}(\vec{r})f + \rho_i^{(k-1)}(\vec{r})(1 - f)$$

- This method belongs to the class of **successive substitution** methods and uses a “mixture parameter” f that is the weight of a weighted average between the new and old estimates of ρ .



Some results applying the Classical Theories

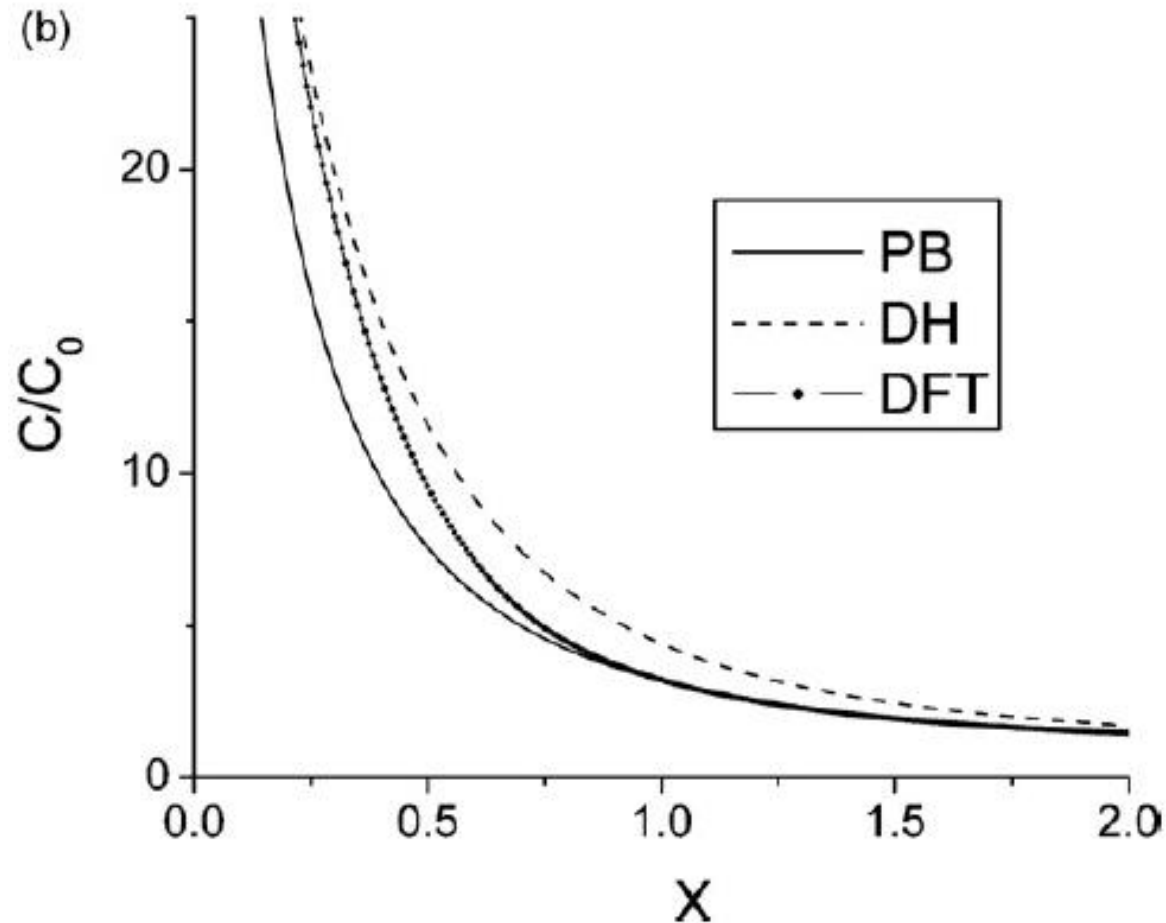
Counterion Concentration profile



1:1 salt; $\varphi_0 = 2$; $C_0 = 0.1$ mol/L; $D = 2\text{\AA}$

Tavares, Boström, Lima, Biscaia. FPE (2010).

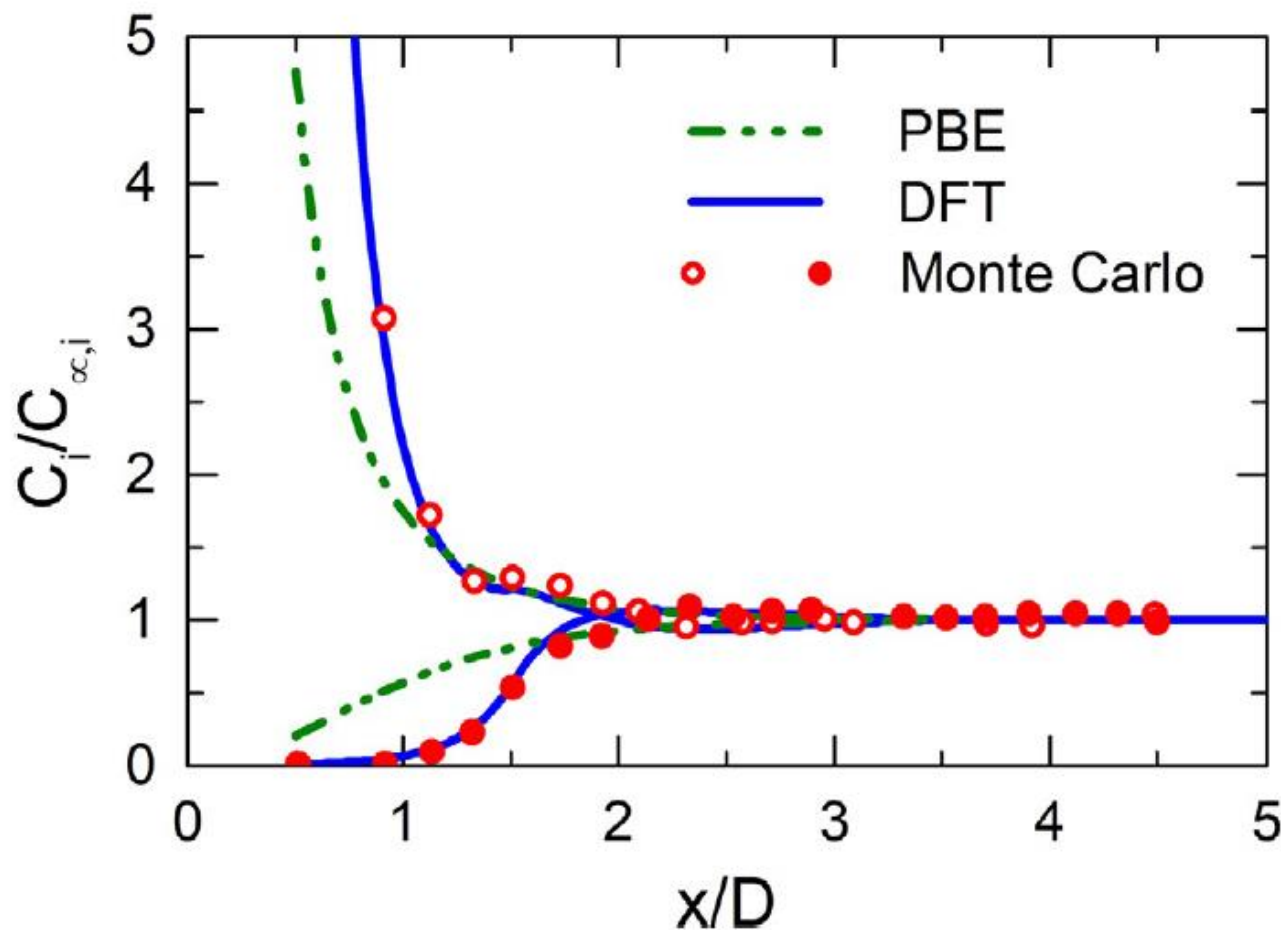
Counterion Concentration profile



2:2 salt; $\varphi_0 = 2$; $C_0 = 0.1$ mol/L; $D = 2\text{\AA}$

Tavares, Broström, Lima, Biscaia. FPE (2010).

Ionic Concentration profiles



I:I salt; $Q = 0.35 \text{ C/m}^2$; $C_{\infty} = 2 \text{ mol/L}$; $T = 298.15 \text{ K}$; $D = 4.25 \text{ \AA}$.

Barbosa, Lima, Tavares (2017). doi: 10.1016/B978-0-12-409547-2.13915-0.

Monte Carlo results from Torrie and Valleau (1980) cited therein