

Chaotropes & Kosmotropes and the Driving Force of the Salting Effect

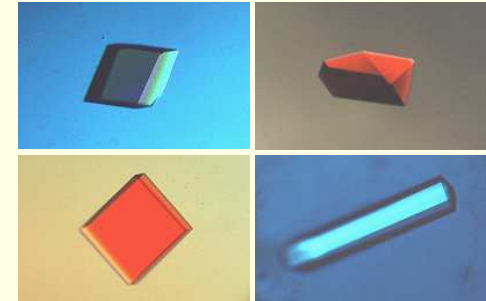
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University of the Basque Country, UPV/EHU
San Sebastian, Spain*

The Salting Problem and its Significance

How does the solvent induced interaction between non-polar solutes vary when salts of different types are dissolved in the aqueous solution?

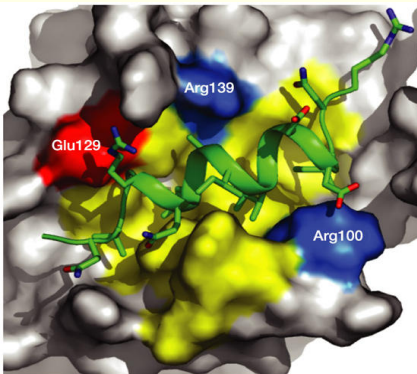
- Protein solubility: crystallization and aggregation



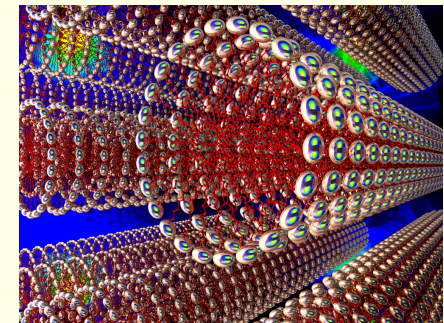
www.u.arizona.edu/weichsel

- Recognition between proteins and multimerization
- Catalytic activity of enzymes
- Stability of secondary and tertiary structures

Nature Rev. Drug Disc. 3, 301 (2004)



- Phase boundaries of micellar solutions and lipid bilayers
- Cloud point of non-ionic surfactants
- Polymer swelling



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Characteristics of the Salting Phenomenon

- It becomes important at moderate salt concentrations: 0.01–1.0 M
- Additive over all ions in solution; anions have larger effect than cations
- The dependence of solute solubility on salt concentration:

$$\log(S_0/S) = K_s C_s$$

Salting-Out: $K_s > 0$
stronger solute-solute interactions

Salting-In: $K_s < 0$
weaker solute-solute interactions

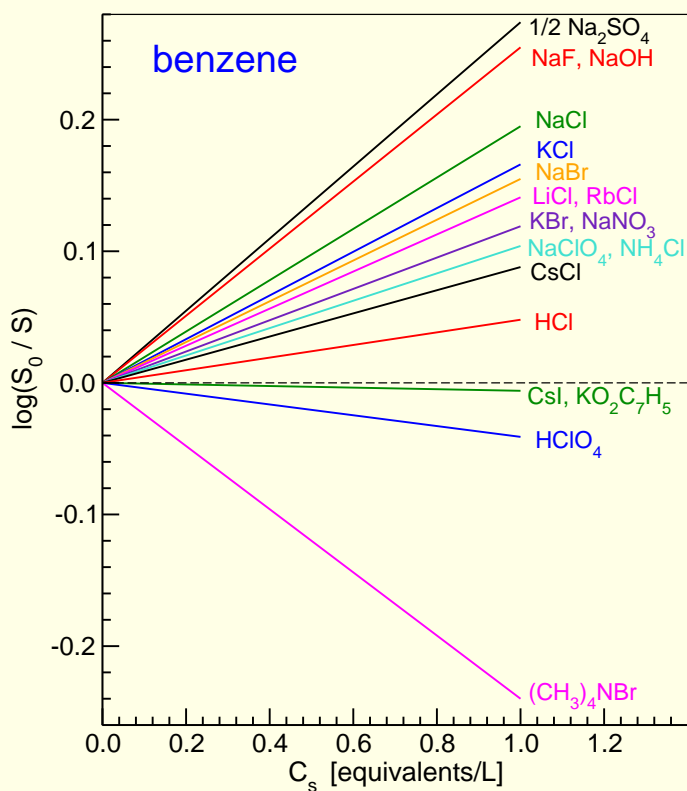
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Long & McDevit, Chem. Rev. 51, 119 (1952)

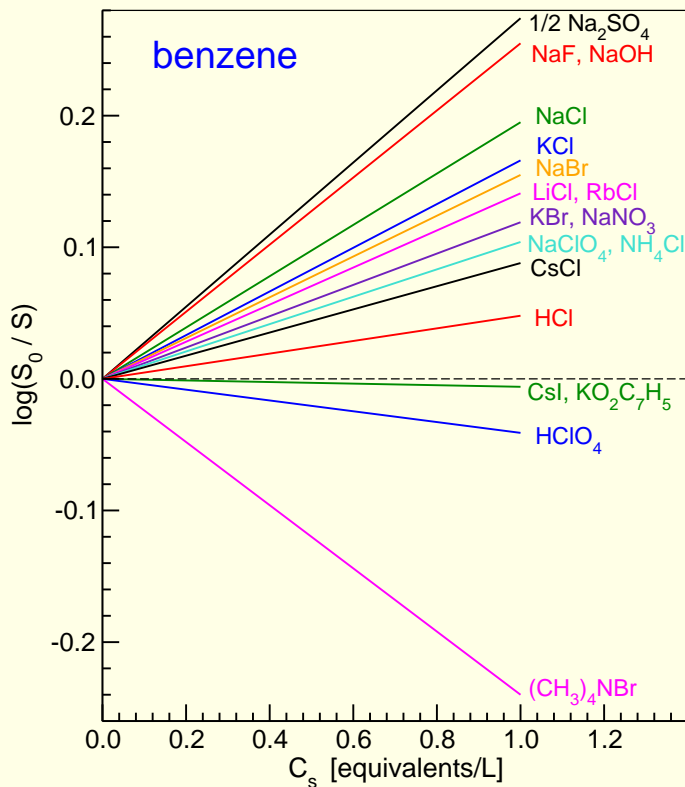
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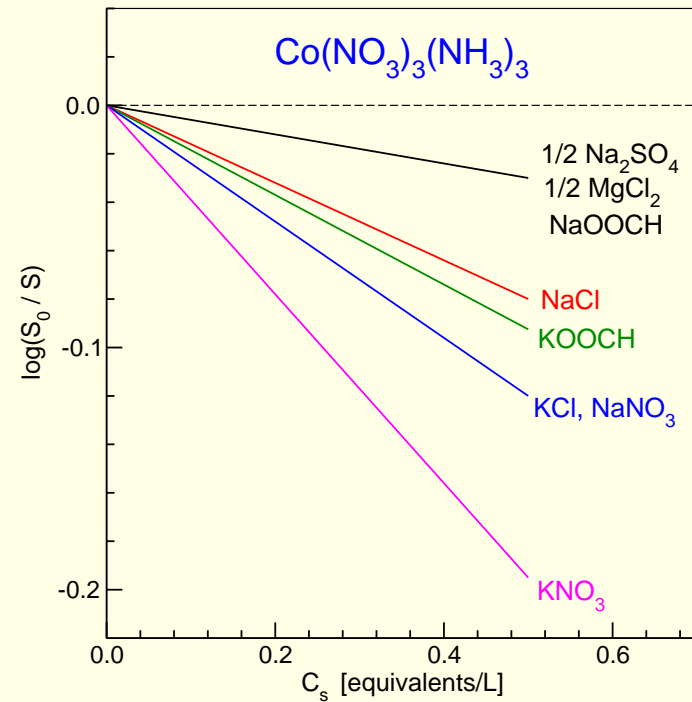
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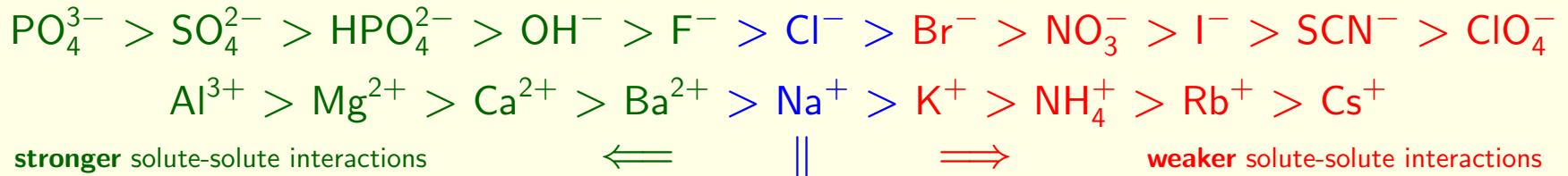
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- Salting-In enhances for larger and more polar solutes

Hofmeister Series

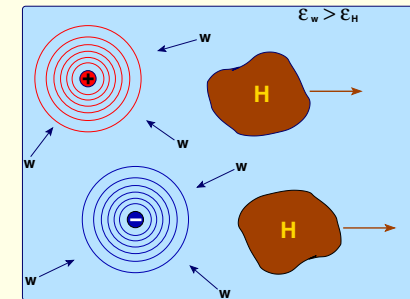
The ranking of the (Salting-Out and Salting-In) ions to precipitate proteins:



⇒⇒ Attraction between the proteins increases with ionic charge density

Electrostatic theories

problems with predicting salting-in behavior

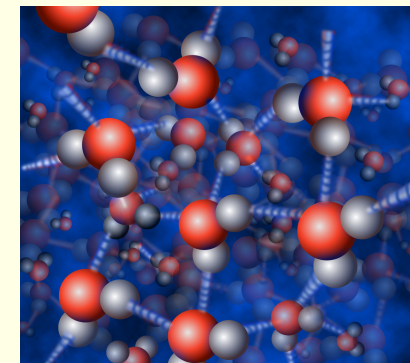


Proposed Explanations

Changes in the structure of water

- ★ Kosmotropic ions - order the structure of water ⇒⇒ Salting-Out
- ★ Chaotropic ions - disorder the structure of water ⇒⇒ Salting-In

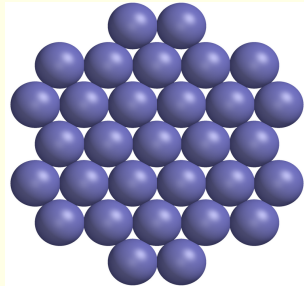
problems with accounting for different behavior of the same salt



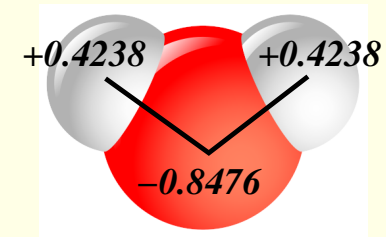
Molecular Dynamics Simulations

Two Hydrophobic Plates ($\varnothing \sim 2.1$ nm)
solvated in aqueous electrolyte solutions

$$\sigma_{\text{plt}} = 0.40 \text{ nm}$$
$$\epsilon_{\text{plt}} = 0.50 \text{ kJ/mol}$$



SPC/E water

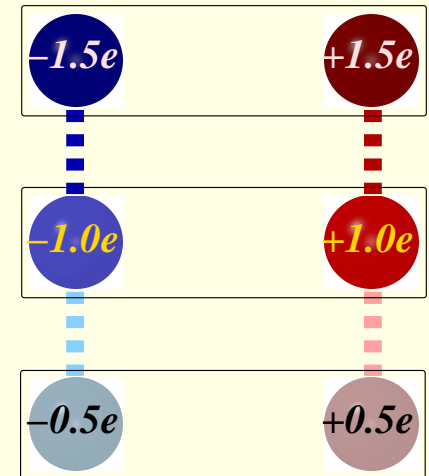


N = 1090 molecules

Salt : 30 anions & 30 cations

1.43 molal
(1.20–1.35 M)

$$\sigma_{\text{ion}} = 0.50 \text{ nm}$$
$$\epsilon_{\text{ion}} = 1.00 \text{ kJ/mol}$$

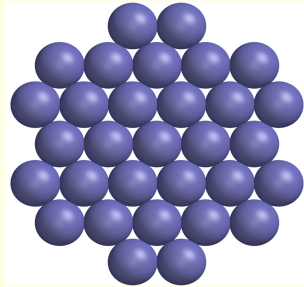


Molecular Dynamics Simulations

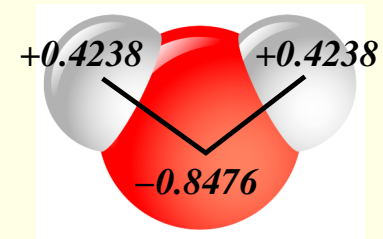
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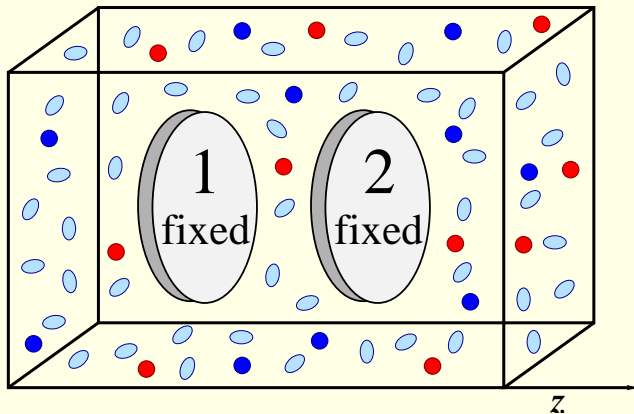


SPC/E water



N = 1090 molecules

Potential of Mean Force



T=300 K
P=1 atm

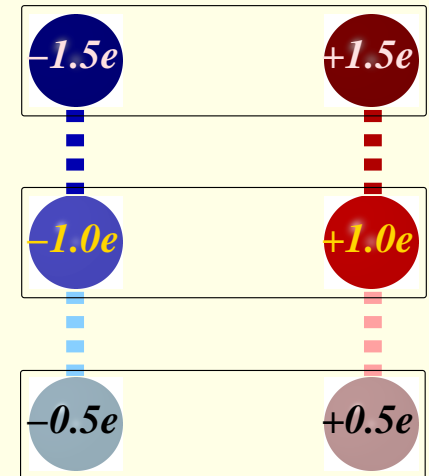
$$\frac{1}{2} \left\langle \hat{r}_{12} \cdot (\vec{F}_1 - \vec{F}_2) \right\rangle_{\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2} = -\partial w(r_{12}) / \partial r_{12}$$

$$\left\langle \hat{r}_{\perp} \cdot (\vec{F}_1 - \vec{F}_2) \right\rangle_{\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2} = 0$$

Salt : 30 anions & 30 cations

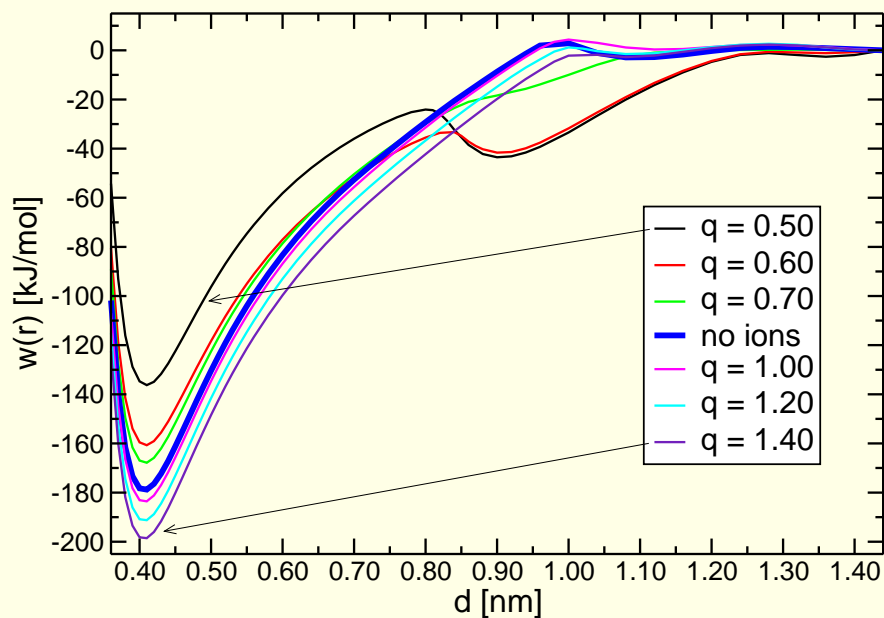
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Changes in the Hydrophobic Interaction as a Function of the Type of Salt in Solution

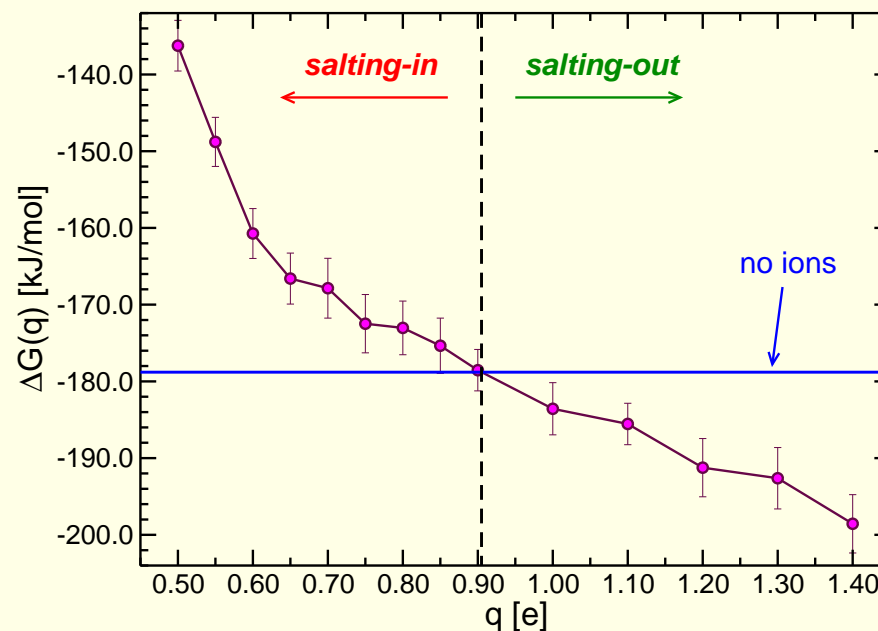
Free energy profile of bringing the plates from far apart to contact



R. Zangi, M. Hagen & B. J. Berne, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 129, 4678 (2007)

Salting-In ions: $q < 0.90 e$
weaker effective interaction between plates

Free energy difference for association process: $P(aq) + P(aq) \rightleftharpoons P_2(aq)$

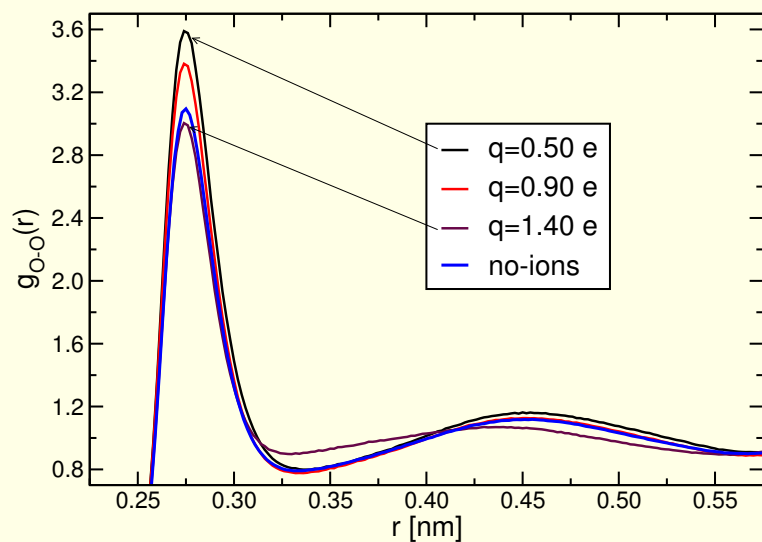


Salting-Out ions: $q > 0.90 e$
stronger effective interaction between plates

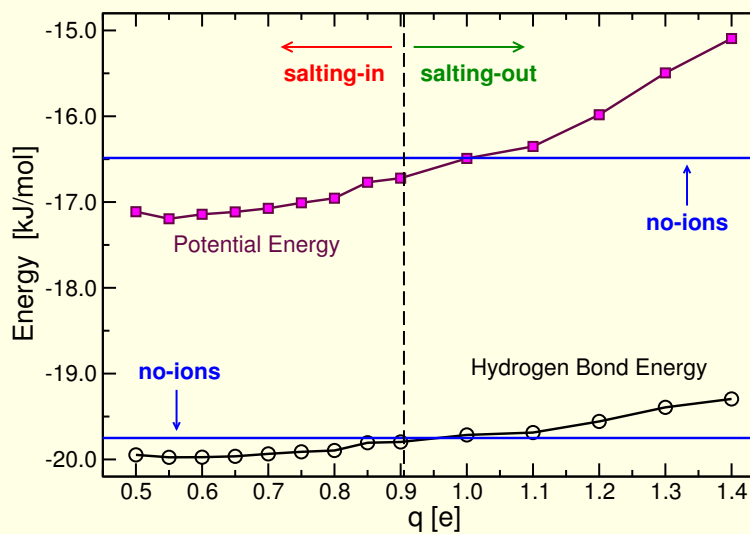
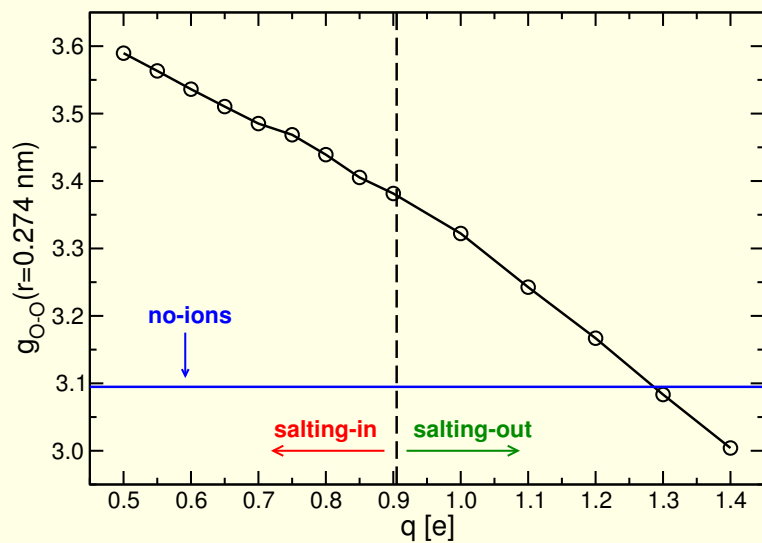
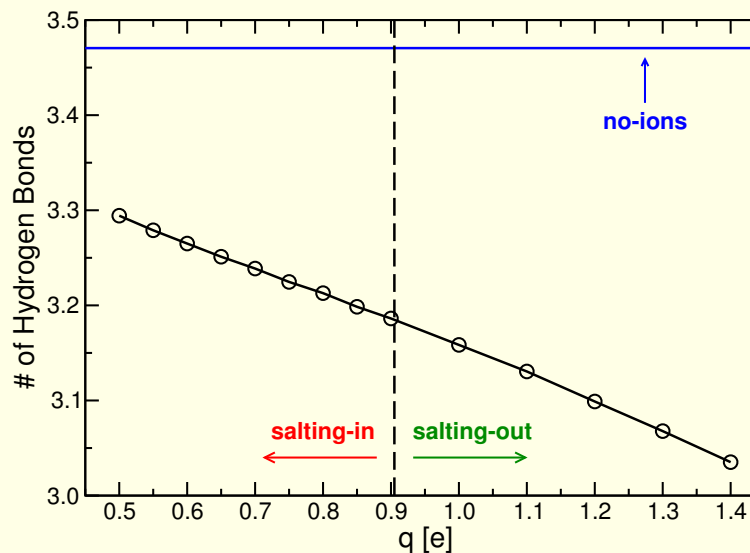
- Why did the effective interaction change?
- Can the variation be predicted?

The Corresponding Changes in Water Structure

Water-Water RDF



Interactions Between Water Molecules



The Corresponding Changes in Water Viscosity

Experiments:

Salting-out ions *increase* viscosity ($B > 0$)

Salting-in ions *decrease* viscosity ($B < 0$)

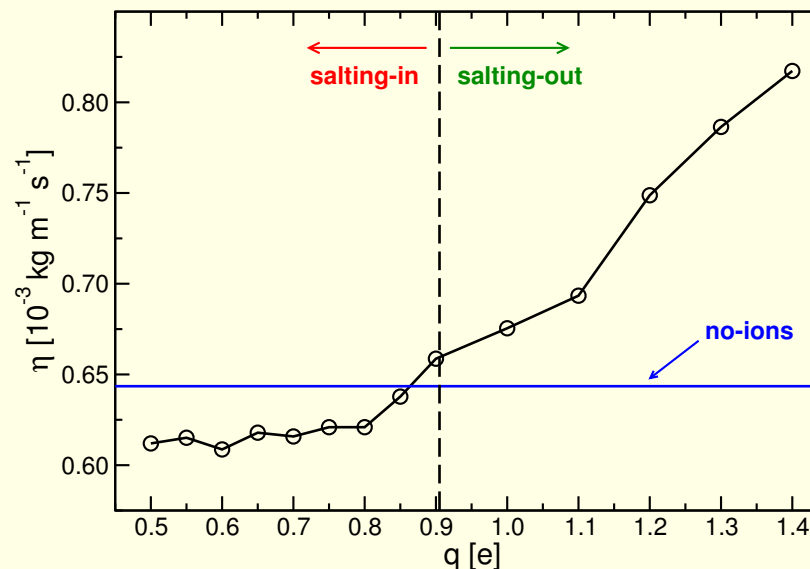
For dilute aqueous salt solutions:

$$\eta/\eta_0 = 1 + A\sqrt{c} + Bc + \dots$$

Cations	B [1/M]	Anions	B [1/M]
Mg ²⁺	0.385	CO ₃ ²⁻	0.294
Ca ²⁺	0.284	SO ₄ ²⁻	0.206
Sr ²⁺	0.261	OH ⁻	0.122
Ba ²⁺	0.216	F ⁻	0.107
Na ⁺	0.085	Cl ⁻	-0.005
K ⁺	-0.009	Br ⁻	-0.033
NH ₄ ⁺	-0.008	NO ₃ ⁻	-0.043
Rb ⁺	-0.033	I ⁻	-0.073
Cs ⁺	-0.047	SCN ⁻	-0.022
Me ₄ N ⁺	0.123	ClO ₄ ⁻	-0.058

Simulations:

Viscosity of Water



It is the strength of the ion-water interactions that affect the viscosity water.

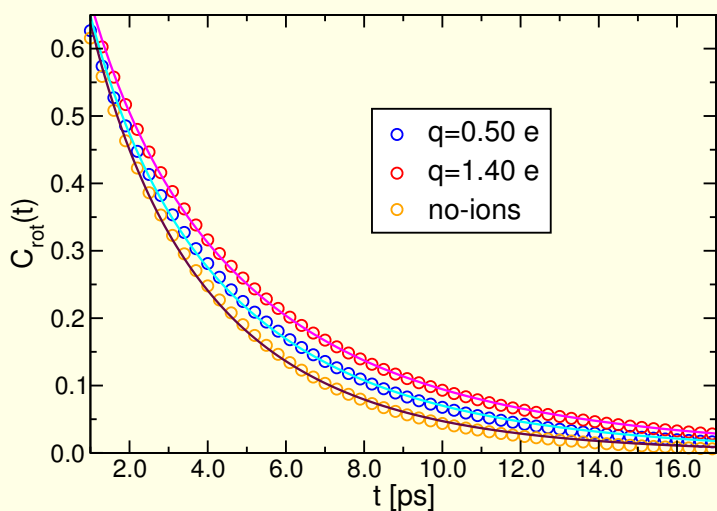
The Corresponding Changes in Water Reorientation

Reorientation auto-correlation function of waters

- of normal to the molecular plane vector
- of dipole moment vector

$$C_{\text{rot}}(t) = A \cdot \exp [-(k_{\text{rot}} \cdot t)^\beta]$$

Fitting β and k_{rot}

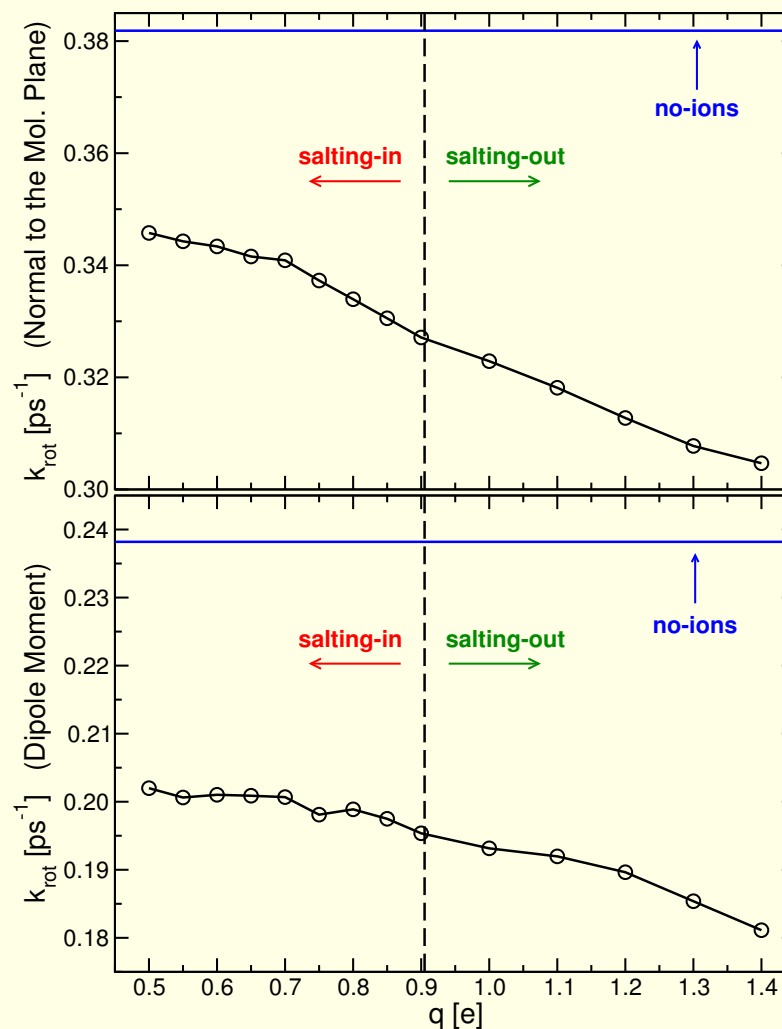


$$C_{\text{rot}}(t = 0) = 1 \implies A = 1$$

β for normal to the plane: 0.77–0.79

β for dipole moment: 0.78–0.70

Rotational Decay Rate



A Thermodynamic View: Preferential Binding

Linked Functions: *J. Wyman, Adv. Protein Chem. 19, 224 (1964)*

C. Tanford, J. Mol. Biol. 39, 539 (1969)

Consider the reaction: $A(\text{aq}) + B(\text{aq}) \rightleftharpoons C(\text{aq})$

Now, add a ligand (salt) X that can (in addition to water) interact with A, B and C

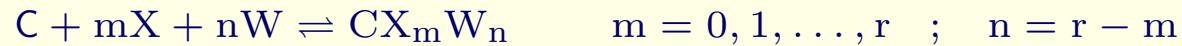
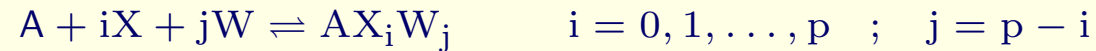
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How does the addition of X affect the equilibrium constant of the reaction?

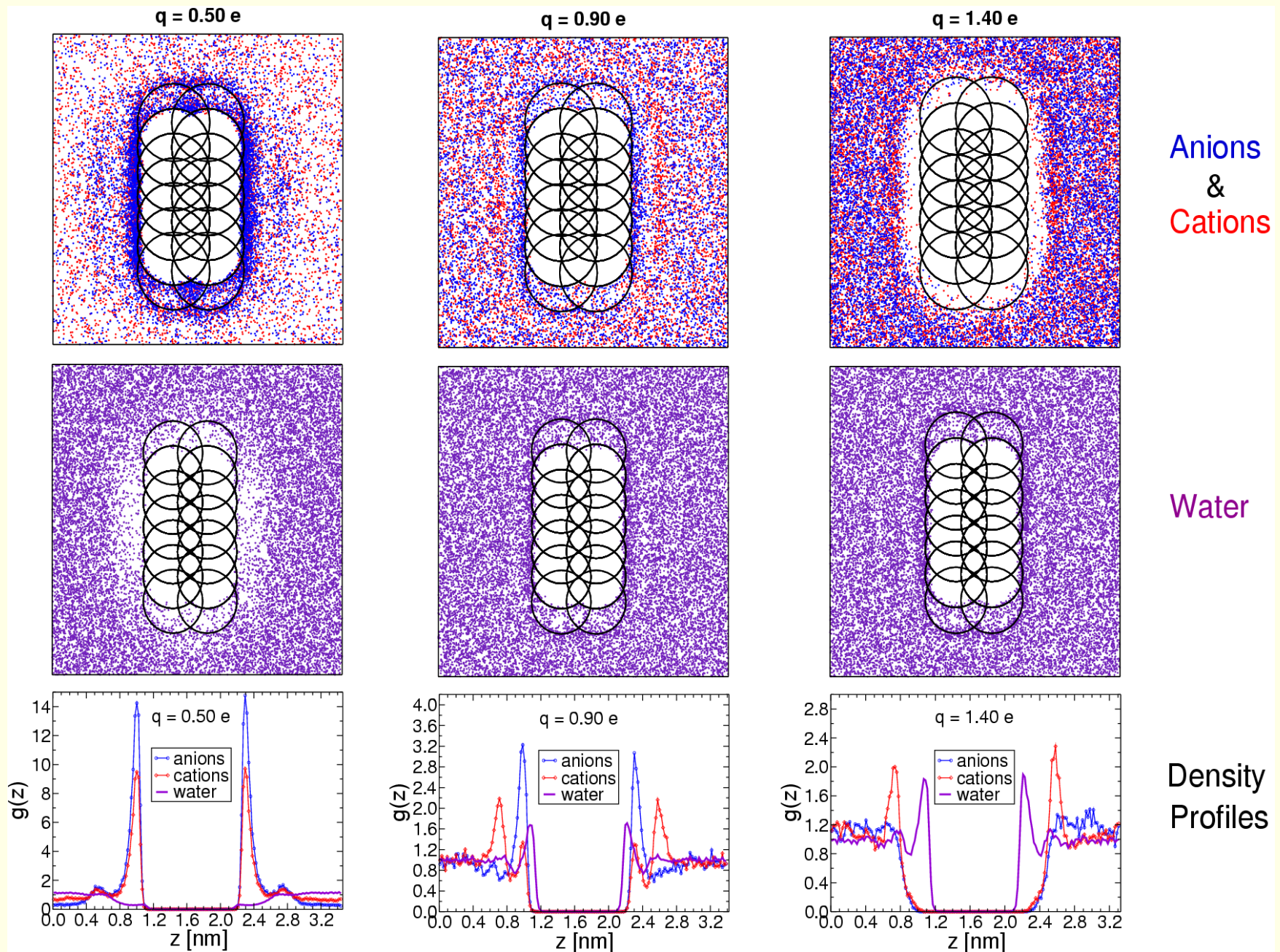
In the limit of infinite dilution of A, B and C \implies

$$\frac{d \ln K}{d \ln a_X} = \nu_{X,C} - \nu_{X,A} - \nu_{X,B} - \frac{n_X}{n_W} (\nu_{W,C} - \nu_{W,A} - \nu_{W,B}) \equiv \Delta \nu_{X, \text{pref}}$$

$\nu_{Y,M}$ = number of Y molecules bound to M macromolecule

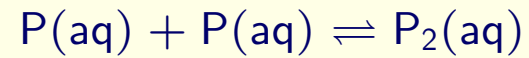
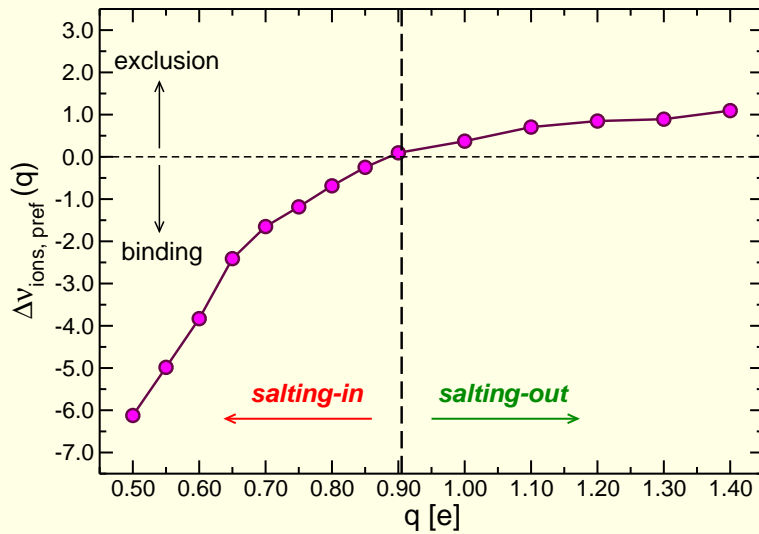
a_X = chemical activity of X

Binding/Exclusion of the Ions and Water



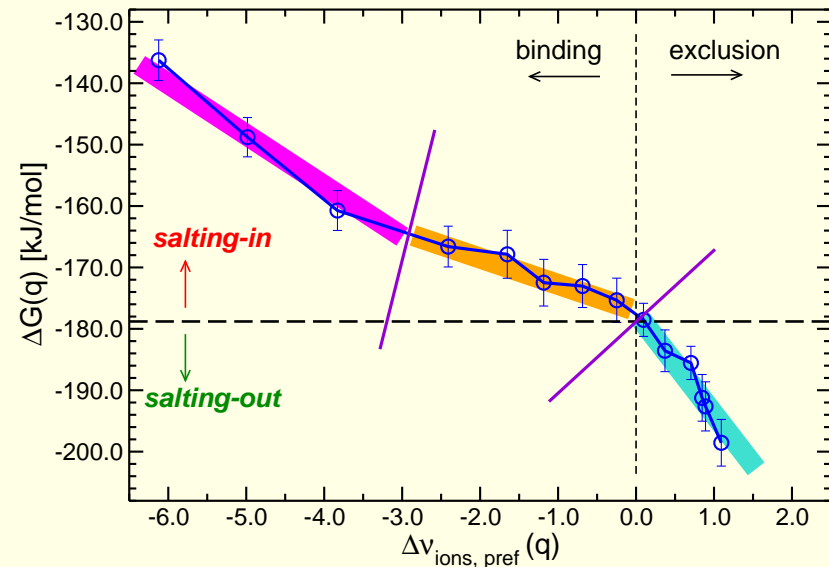
Relation between $\Delta\nu_{pref}$ and ΔG

$$\Delta\nu_{ions, pref} = (\Delta\nu_{cations} + \Delta\nu_{anions})/2 - \frac{n_{salt}}{n_{water}} \Delta\nu_{water}$$



binding of the ions \implies salting-in
 exclusion of the ions \implies salting-out

$$d(\Delta G) = -RT \Delta\nu_{ions, pref} \cdot d \ln a_{ions}$$



Mechanism of Salting-In and Salting-Out

What is the driving force for: $P(\text{aq}) + P(\text{aq}) \rightleftharpoons P_2(\text{aq})$ in pure water?

In the large scale regime it is **enthalpic** and **entropic**:

- $\Delta H < 0 \iff$ enthalpic penalty for solvating a hydrophobic surface due to loss of hydrogen bonds at the interface
- $\Delta S > 0 \iff$ entropic penalty for solvating a hydrophobic surface due to ordering of interfacial waters

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In salt solutions:

The mechanism for **Salting-In** and **Salting-Out** can be inferred from changes of ΔH and ΔS in salt solutions relative to pure water

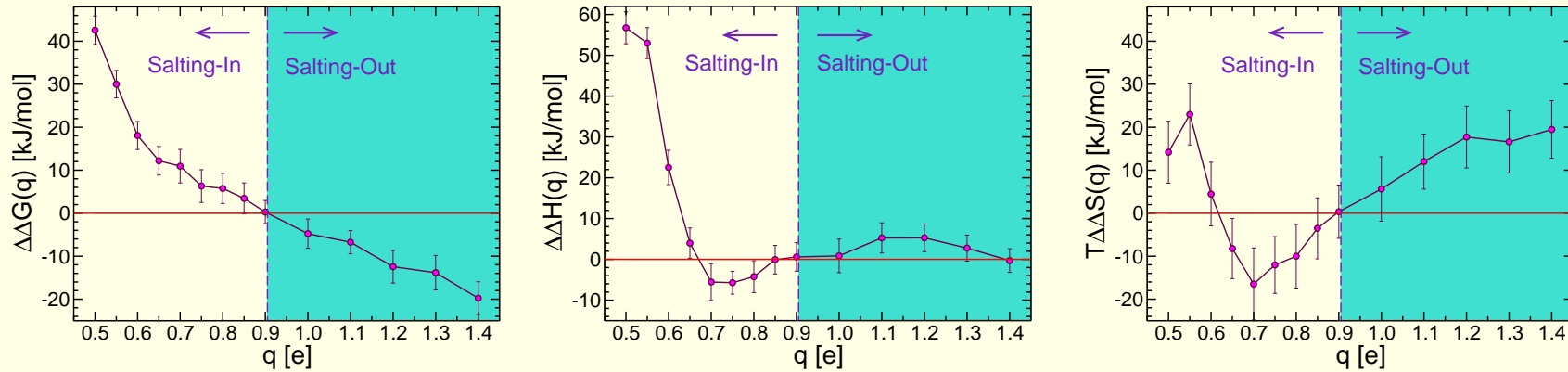
$$\Delta\Delta G(q) = \Delta G_{\text{salt}}(q) - \Delta G_{\text{water}}$$

\implies **Salting-Out** $\Delta\Delta G < 0$ **Salting-In** $\Delta\Delta G > 0$

$$\Delta\Delta H(q) = \Delta H_{\text{salt}}(q) - \Delta H_{\text{water}}$$

$$\Delta\Delta S(q) = \Delta S_{\text{salt}}(q) - \Delta S_{\text{water}}$$

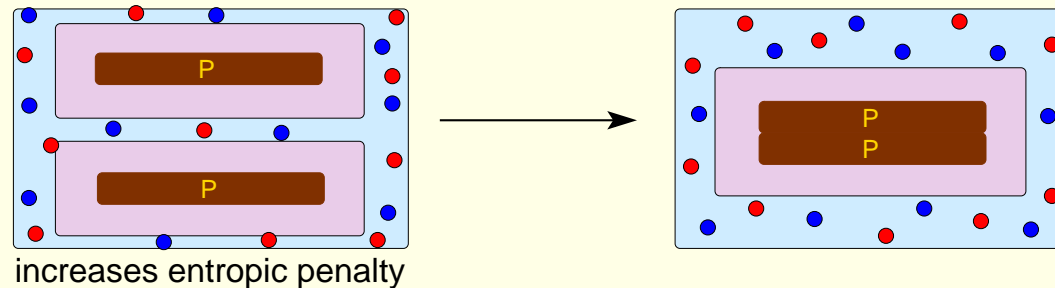
Mechanism of Salting-Out



For Salting-Out (high charge-density ions):

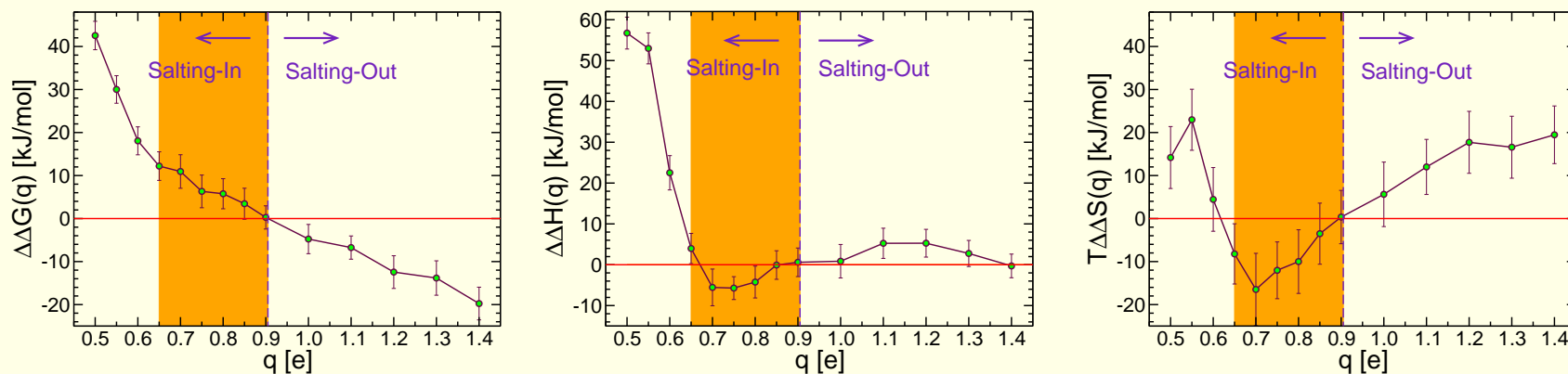
$$\underbrace{\Delta\Delta G}_{\text{negative}} = \underbrace{\Delta\Delta H}_{\text{positive}} - \underbrace{T\Delta\Delta S}_{\text{negative}}$$

Thus, Salting-Out is purely an entropic effect



Salting-Out: is driven by elimination of an exclusion zone for the ions

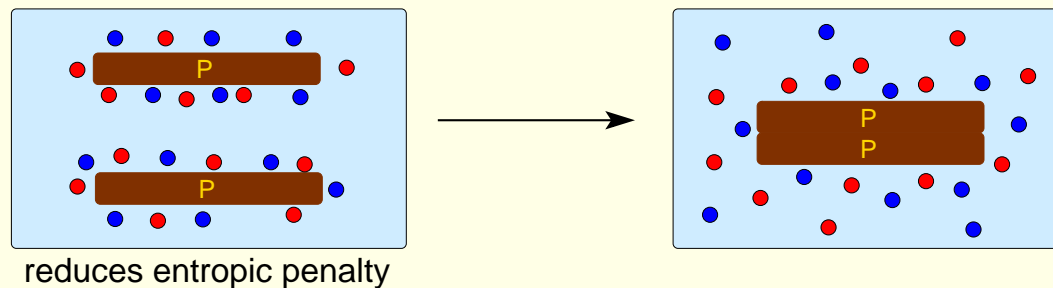
Mechanism of Salting-In (region-I)



For **Salting-In** ($0.65 < |q| < 0.90$ e):

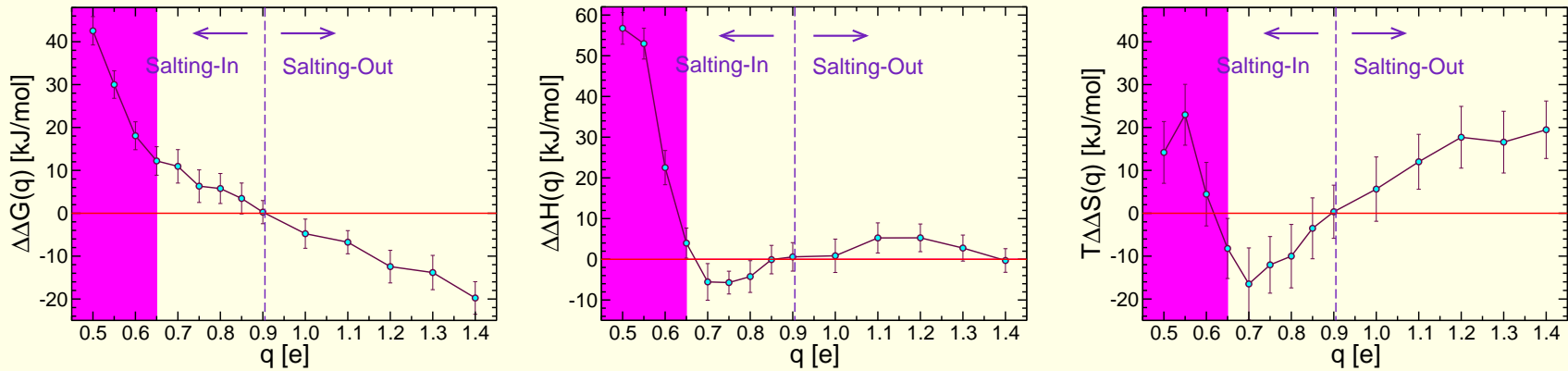
$$\underbrace{\Delta\Delta G}_{\text{positive}} = \underbrace{\Delta\Delta H}_{\text{negative}} - \underbrace{T\Delta\Delta S}_{\text{positive}}$$

Thus, **Salting-In** in this regime is an entropic effect



Salting-In: the binding of ions reduces the ordering of the interfacial water (entropic penalty) and, therefore, stabilizes the monomeric state.

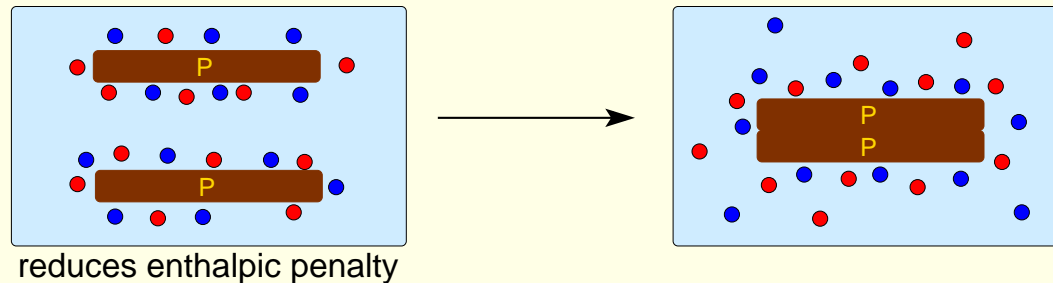
Mechanism of Salting-In (region-II)



For **Salting-In** (low charge-density ions):

$$\underbrace{\Delta\Delta G}_{\text{positive}} = \underbrace{\Delta\Delta H}_{\text{positive}} - \underbrace{T\Delta\Delta S}_{\text{negative}}$$

Thus, **Salting-In** in this regime is an enthalpic effect

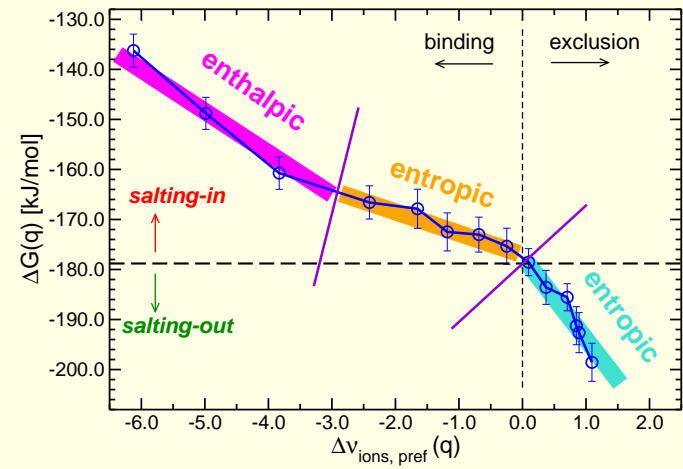


Salting-In: the binding of ions reduces the enthalpic penalty when the plates are solvated in water (acting as 'surfactants').

Conclusions

- We did not find a correlation between the ion-induced changes of the structure (and dynamics) between water molecules and the ability of these ions to alter the magnitude of the hydrophobic interactions.

- However, we did observe that ΔG correlates with $\Delta\nu_{ions, pref}$ (depends on both ions and solute) with 3 different slopes. From $\Delta\Delta H$ and $\Delta\Delta S$ we find the 3 slopes match 3 different mechanisms for the salting effect.



- For a given charge density, anions bind stronger than cations.
- As the polarity of the solute increases the ion-water attractive interactions will increase (dipole–dipole interactions) and the transition from **salting-out** to **salting-in** will occur at higher ionic charge density (i.e., more **salting-in**).

Acknowledgments

Bruce J. Berne (Columbia University)

Morten Hagen

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→ International Reintegration Grant



→ Start-Up Fund

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