



Wir schaffen Wissen – heute für morgen

Jan P. Embs

**Laboratory for Neutron Scattering & Imaging**

**Cation Dynamics in Ionic Liquids (ILs) as Seen by  
QuasiElastic Neutron Scattering (QENS)**

**5<sup>th</sup> Swiss-Sino Workshop, 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> May 2015**



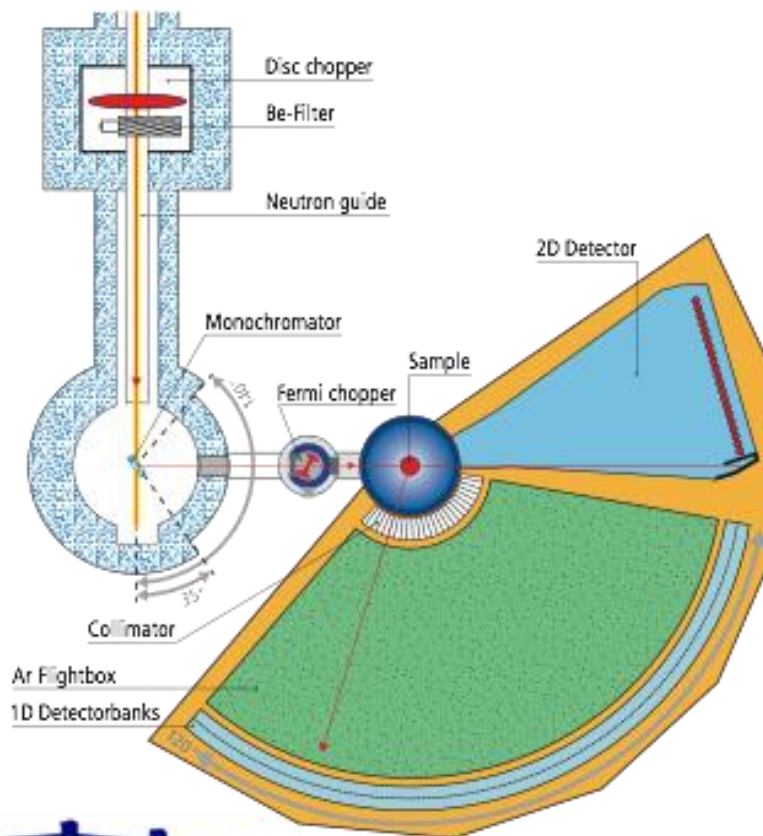
- FOCUS
- QENS
- ILs
- QENS results
- INS on ILs
- Outlook



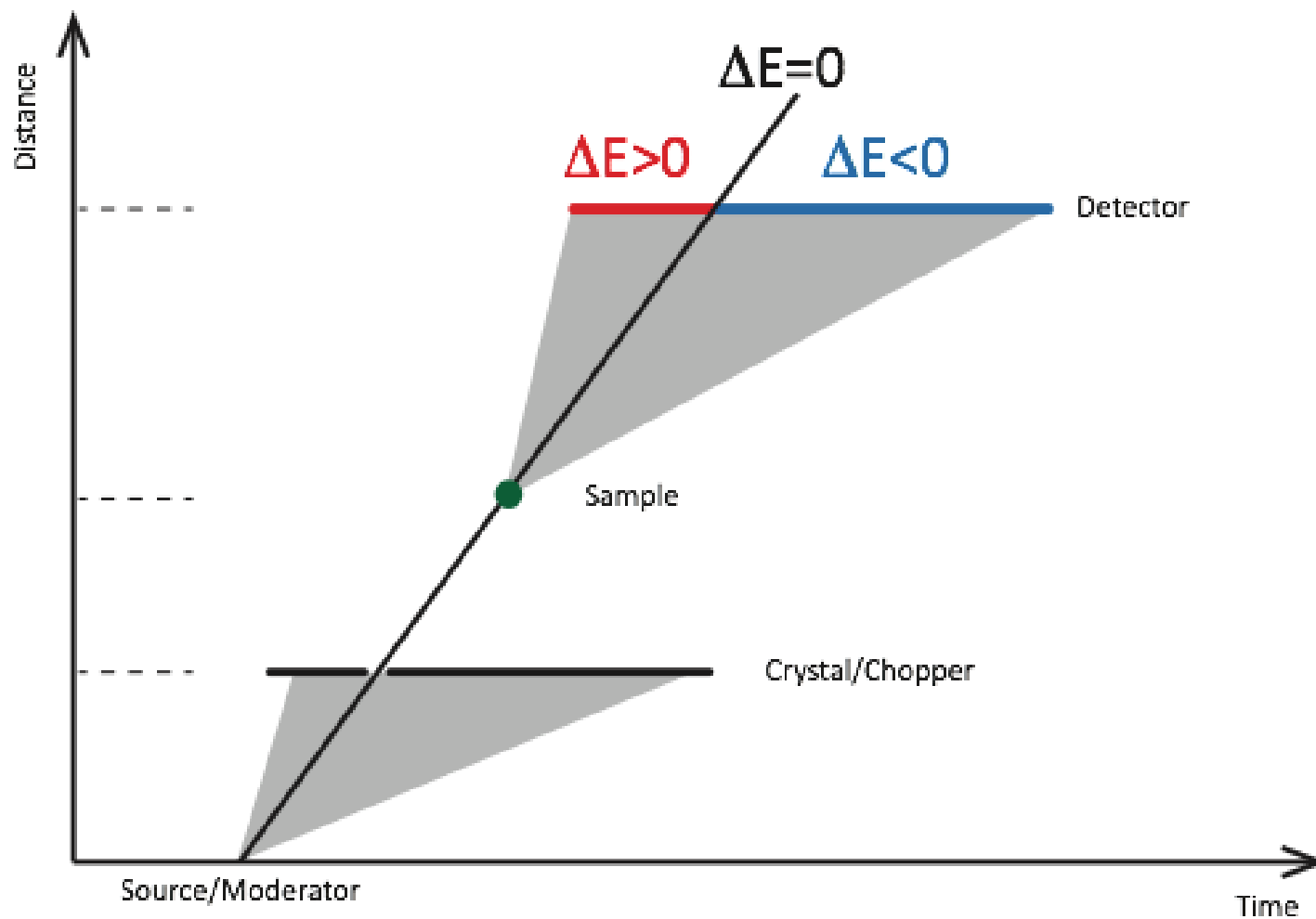




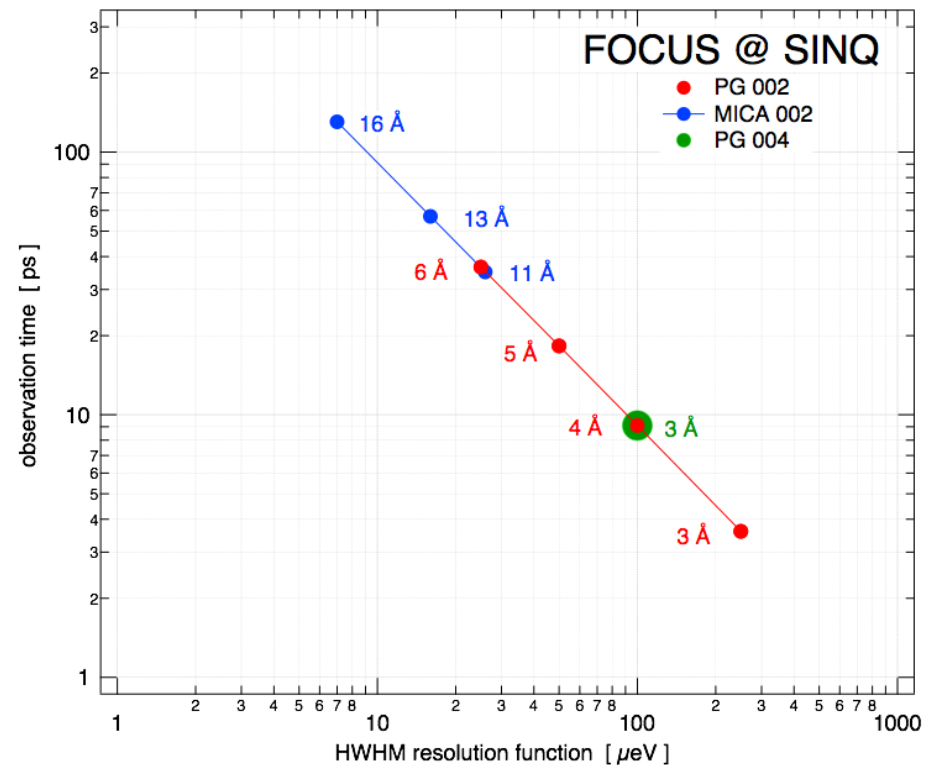
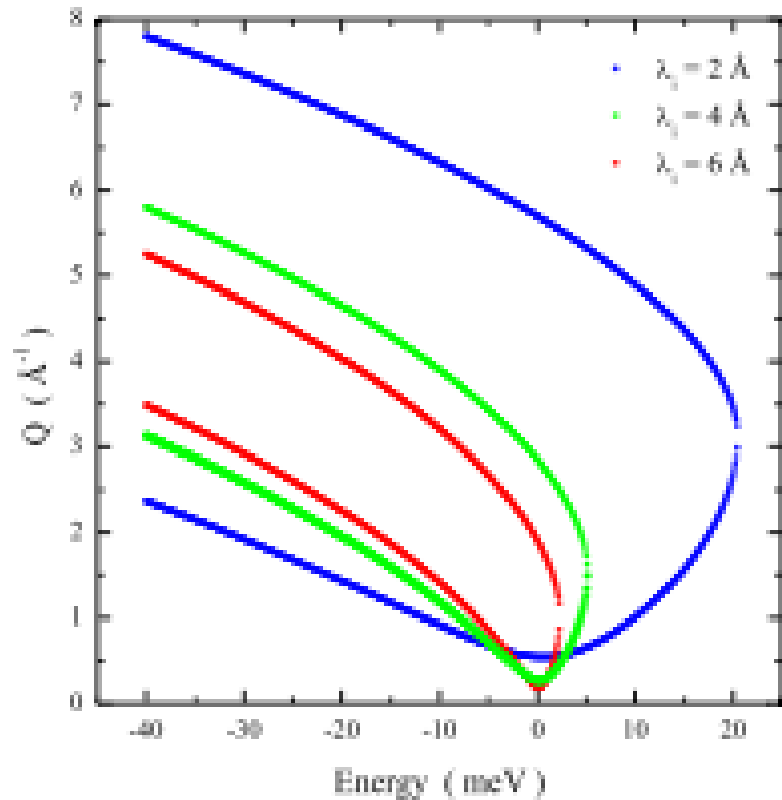
- $2 \text{ \AA} \leq \lambda \leq 6 \text{ \AA}$  (PG)
- $6 \text{ \AA} \leq \lambda \leq 16 \text{ \AA}$  (MICA)
- energy range: 20 – 0.3 meV
- $20 \text{ mK} \leq T \leq 1400 \text{ K}$
- $p \leq 1.2 \text{ GPa}$
- $H \leq 9 \text{ T}$



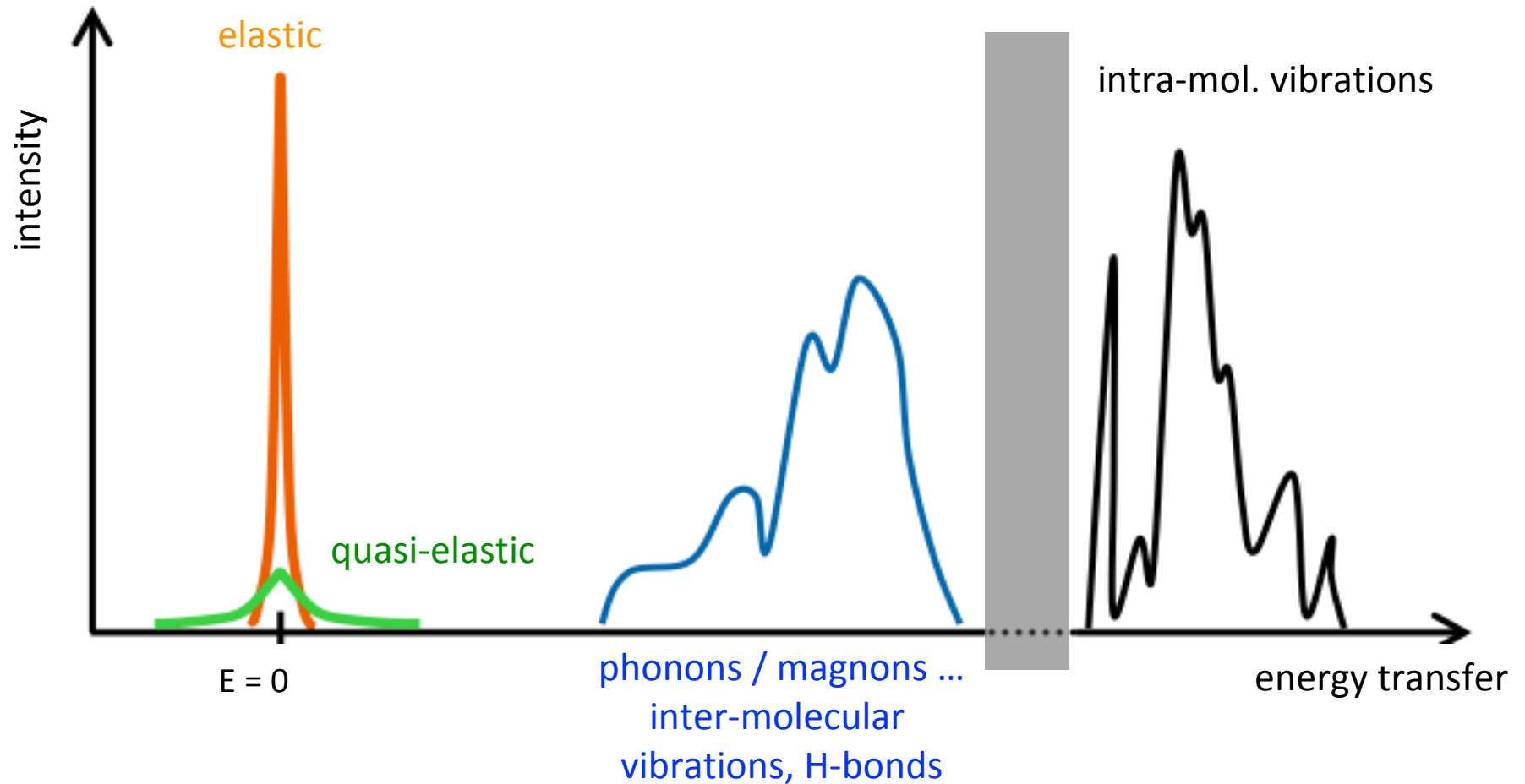
QENS (diffusion, librations, ...)  
INS (VDOS, magnetic excitations)



$$I(\text{tof}, 2\theta) \Rightarrow I(Q, \omega) \propto S(Q, \omega)$$



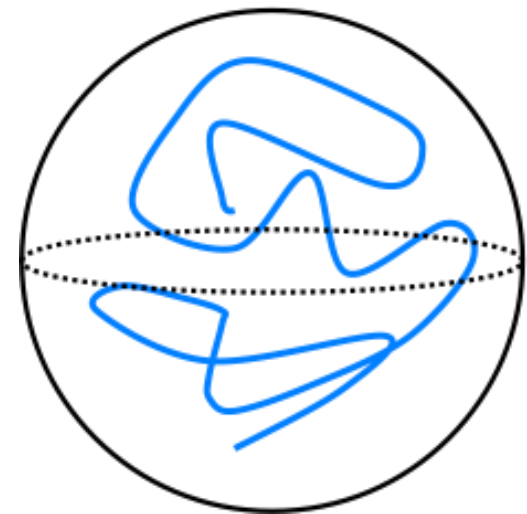
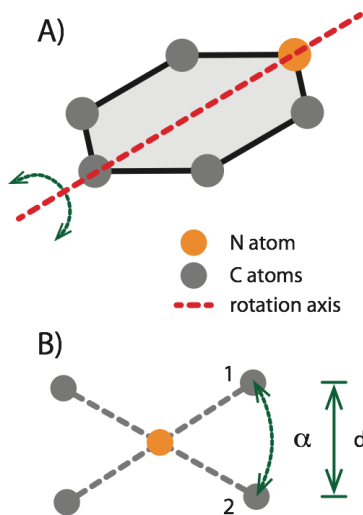
$$\Delta t_{\text{obs}} = \frac{2\hbar\sqrt{\ln 2}}{\Delta E}$$



- far-IR / Raman
- dielectric relax spectroscopy
- NO selection rules for neutrons



- stochastic atomic motions on ps time scale
- reveals spatial details of the dynamic process (jump distances, rot. angles etc.)
- discerns between localised (e.g., rotational) & translational types of motions
- well suited for samples containing protons
- masking via deuteration





## Separation

- gas separation
- extraction
- membranes



## Electrolytes

- fuel cells
- sensors
- batteries
- supercaps
- metal finishing
- coating

## Heat Storage

- thermal fluids

## Liquid Crystals

- displays

## Lubricants & Additives

- lubricants
- fuel additives

$10^{18}$

## Electroelastic Materials

- artificial muscles
- robotics



## Solvents

- bio-catalysis
- organic reactions & catalysis
- synthesis of nano-particles
- polymerization
- protein-crystallisation

## Ionic Liquids

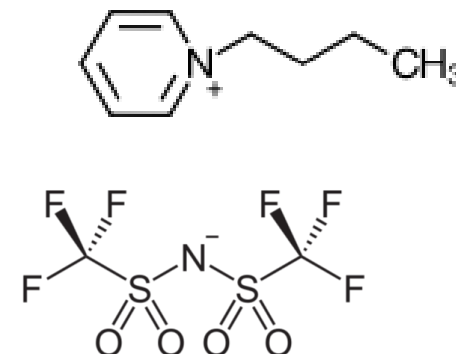
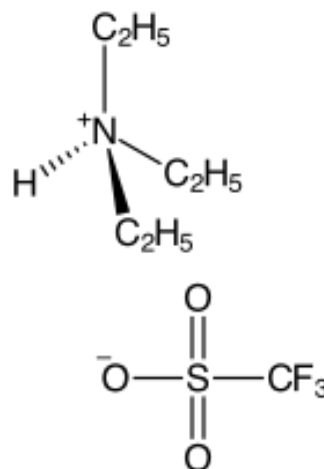
- \* thermal stability
- \* (very) low vapor pressure
- \* electric conductivity
- \* interesting solvent properties
- \* liquid crystalline structures
- \* high heat capacity
- \* high electroelasticity
- \* non flammability
- ⇒ **designer solvents**





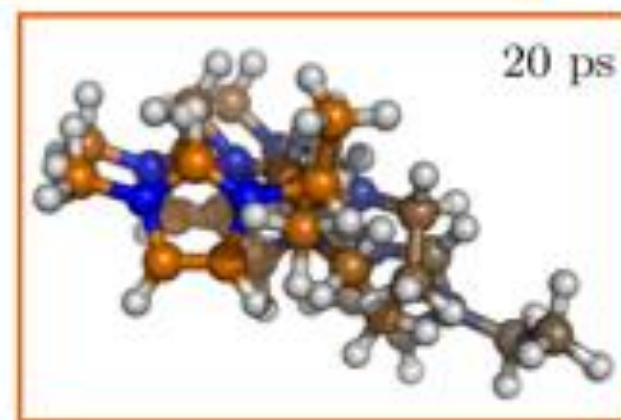
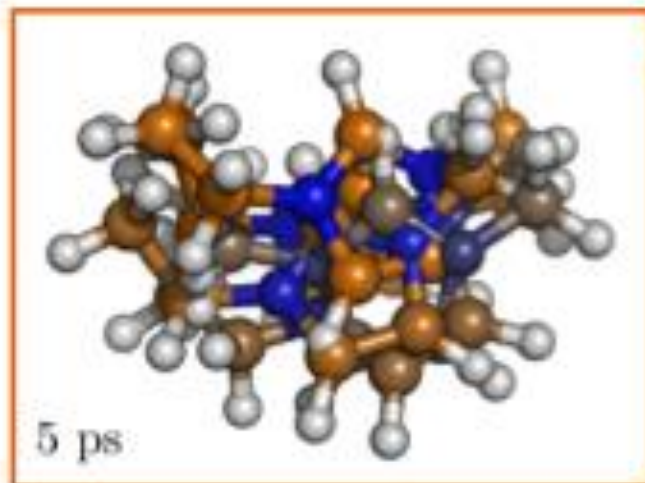
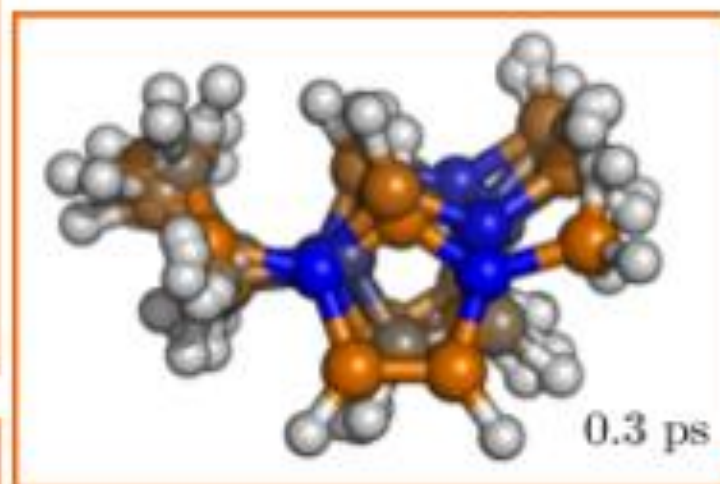
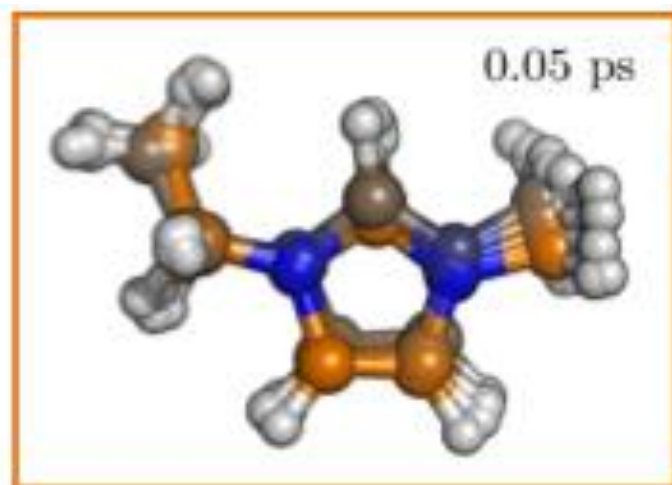
element	$\sigma_{coh}$	$\sigma_{inc}$	$\sigma_{scatt}$	$\sigma_{abs}$
H	1.7568	80.26	82.02	0.3326
D	5.592	2.05	7.64	0.000519
C	5.559	0	5.559	0.00353
O	4.232	0	4.232	0.0001
N	11.03	0.5	11.53	1.91
F	4.017	0.0008	4.018	0.0096
S	0.988	0	0.988	0.54

$$\sigma_{scatt} = \sigma_{coh} + \sigma_{inc}$$

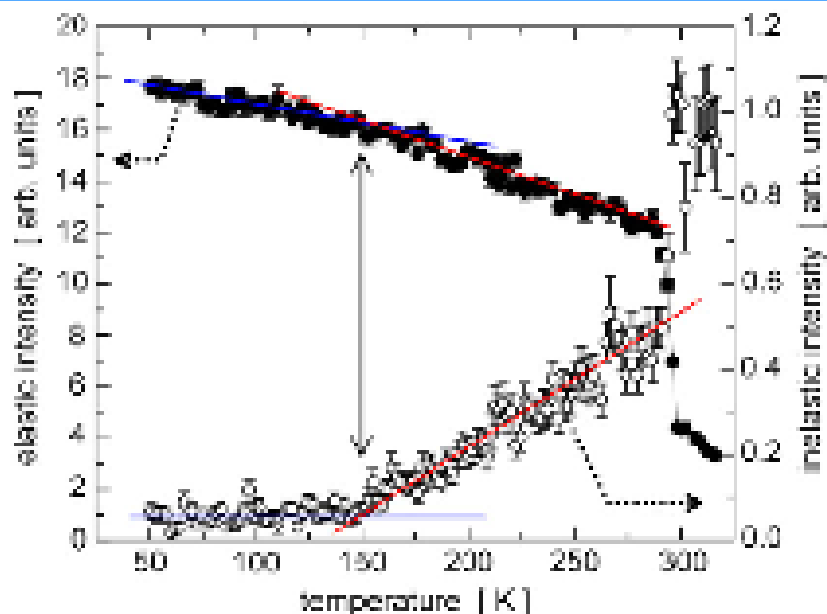


system	$\sigma_{scatt}$ [b]	$\sigma_{inc}$ [b]	$\sigma_{abs}$ @ 5.75 Å	$\sigma_{inc}/\sigma_{scatt}$ [%]
BuPy-Tf <sub>2</sub> N	1275.6	1124.8	30.7	88.2
Bu <sub>D</sub> Py-Tf <sub>2</sub> N	606.1	420.8	21.2	69.4
BuPy <sub>D</sub> -Tf <sub>2</sub> N	901.6	731.7	25.4	81.2
C <sub>12</sub> Py-Tf <sub>2</sub> N	2632.5	2409.1	47.9	91.5
TEA-TF	1388.6	1284.8	25.0	92.5
TEA <sub>D</sub> -TF	272.8	130.0	9.0	47.6

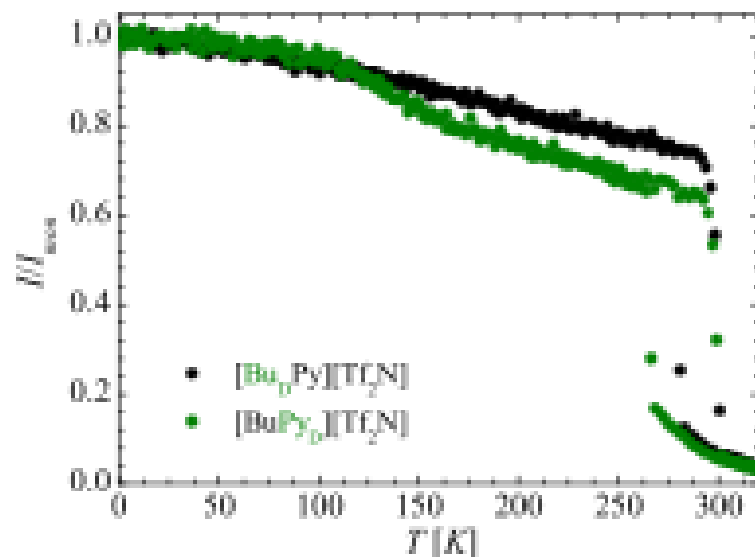
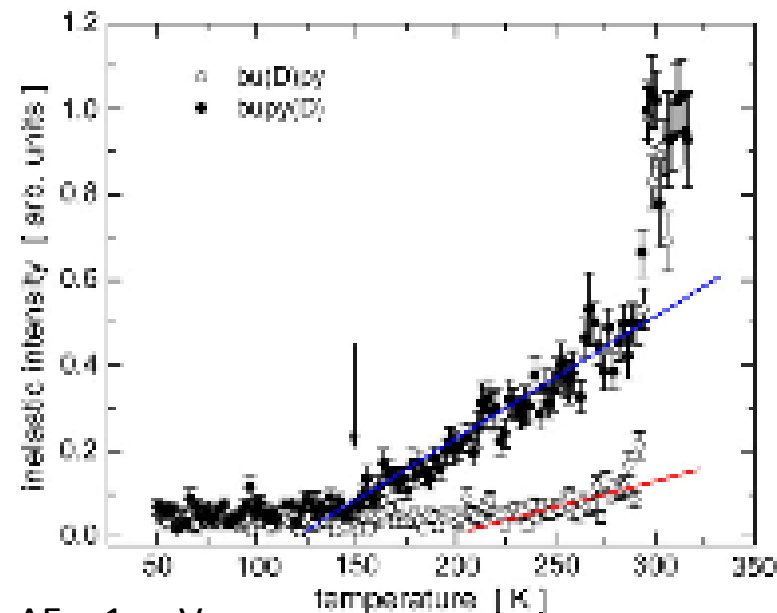
$$1b = 1\text{barn} = 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^2$$



courtesy, B. Kirchner, U Bonn



data from MARS@SINQ/PSI,  $\Delta E \approx 14 \mu\text{eV}$



IN10 data,  $\Delta E \approx 1 \mu\text{eV}$



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Molecular Liquids **192** (2014) 199

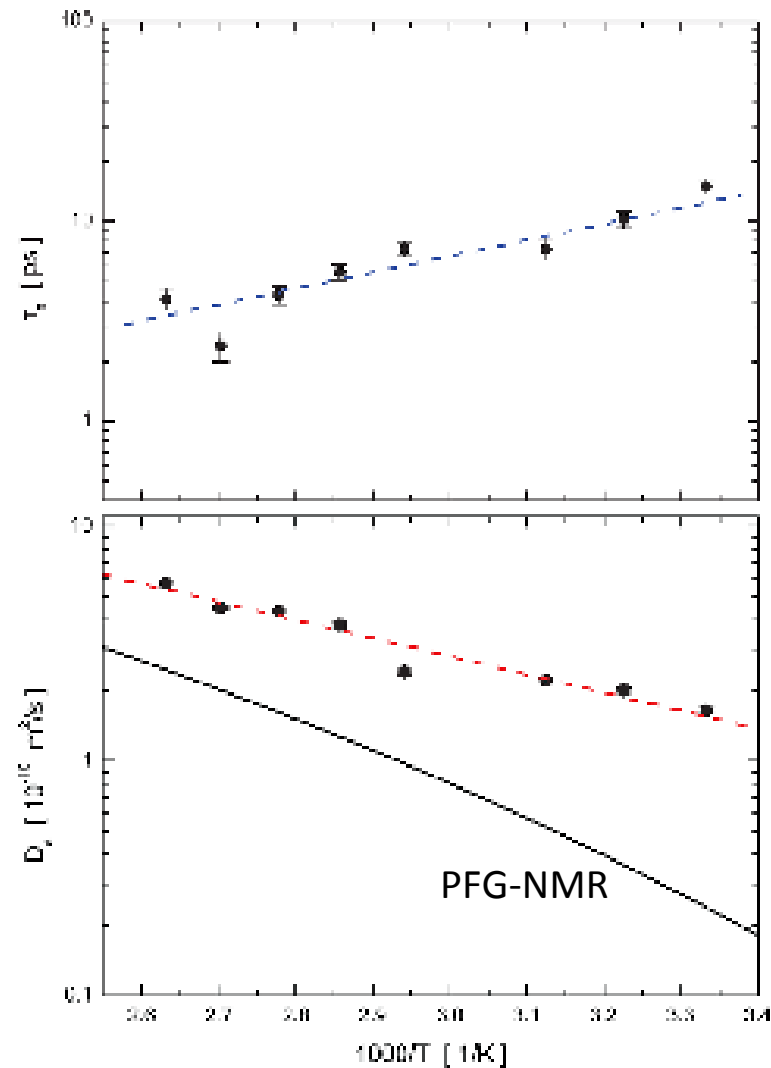
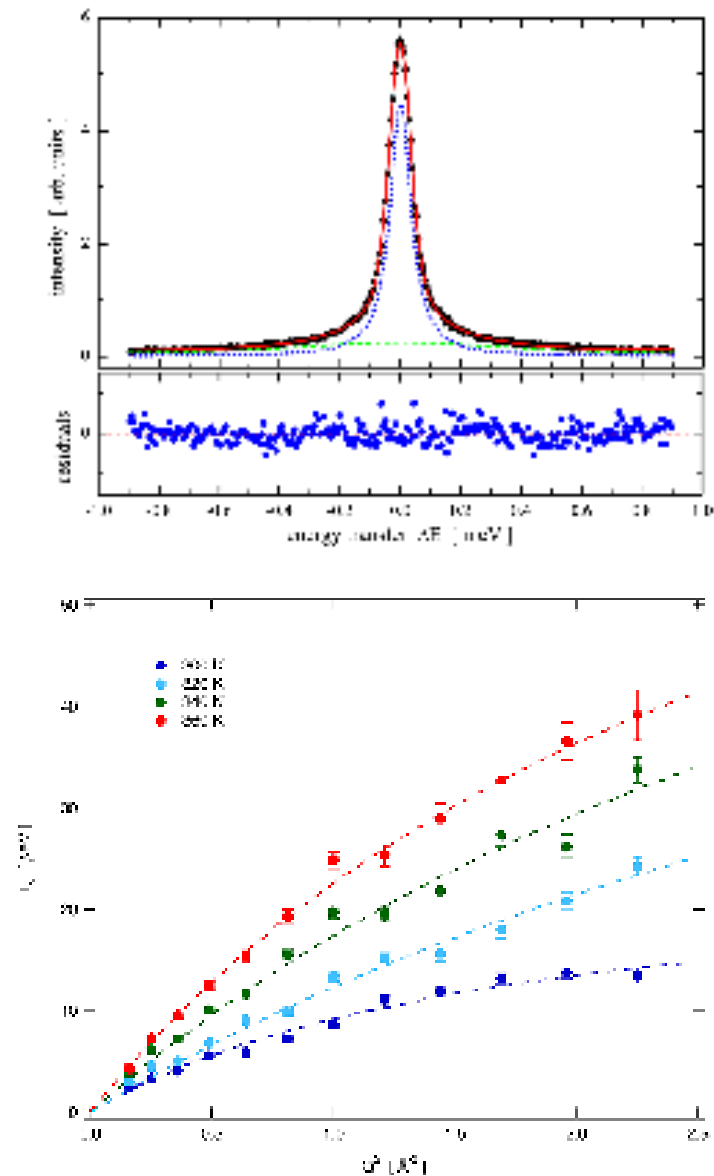
journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/molliq](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/molliq)

The dynamics of cations in pyridinium-based ionic liquids by means of quasielastic- and inelastic neutron scattering

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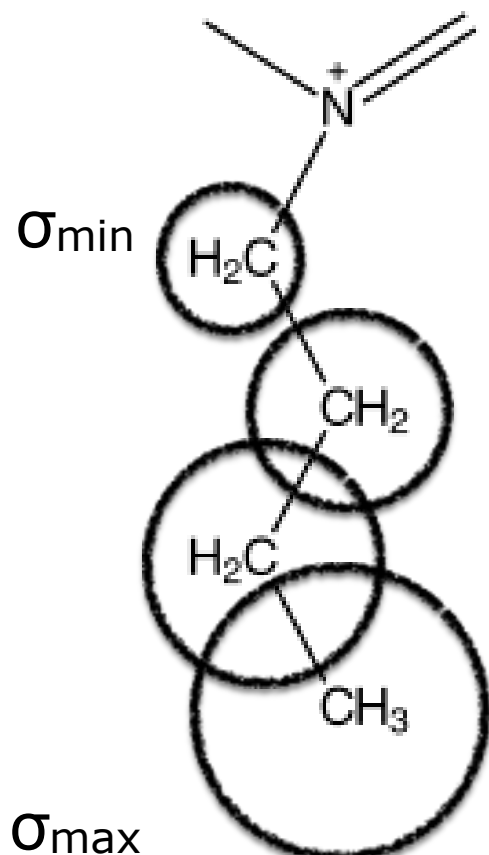


$$\Gamma_2(Q) = \frac{\hbar D_s Q^2}{1 + D_s Q^2 \tau_0}$$

Embs, Burankova et al.  
J.Phys.Chem. B **116** (2012), 13265



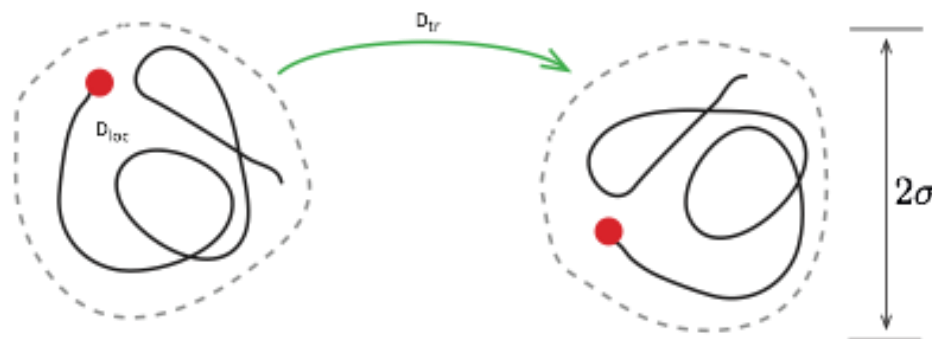
Embs, Burankova et al.  
J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. **82** (2013) SA003



$$S_I(Q, E) = I_0(Q) \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\Gamma_{\text{glob}}}{\Gamma_{\text{glob}}^2 + E^2} \otimes \left\{ \int_0^\infty f(r_\sigma; a, \sigma_{\text{ign}}) S_G(Q, E; r_\sigma) dr_\sigma \right\} \otimes R(Q) + a + bE$$

$$S_G(Q, E) = e^{-Q^2 \sigma^2} \left[ \delta(E) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(Q^2 \sigma^2)^k}{k!} \mathcal{L}(n \hbar D_{\text{loc}} / \sigma^2, E) \right]$$

$$f(r; a, \beta) = \frac{\exp(-(\ln^2(r/a) - \beta^2)^2 / 2\beta^2)}{r\beta\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

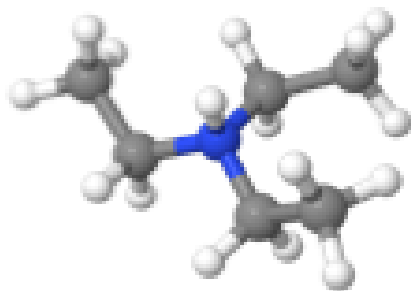


Kneller, PCCP **7** (2005), 2641  
Volino et al., J Phys Chem B **110** (2006), 11217

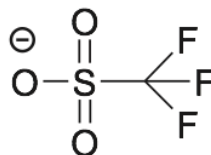
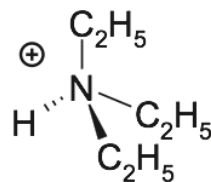




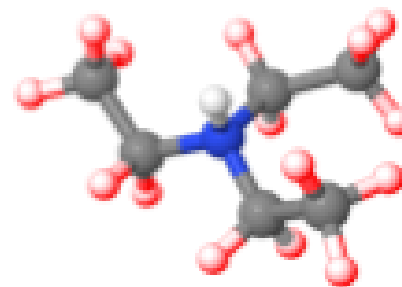
TEA



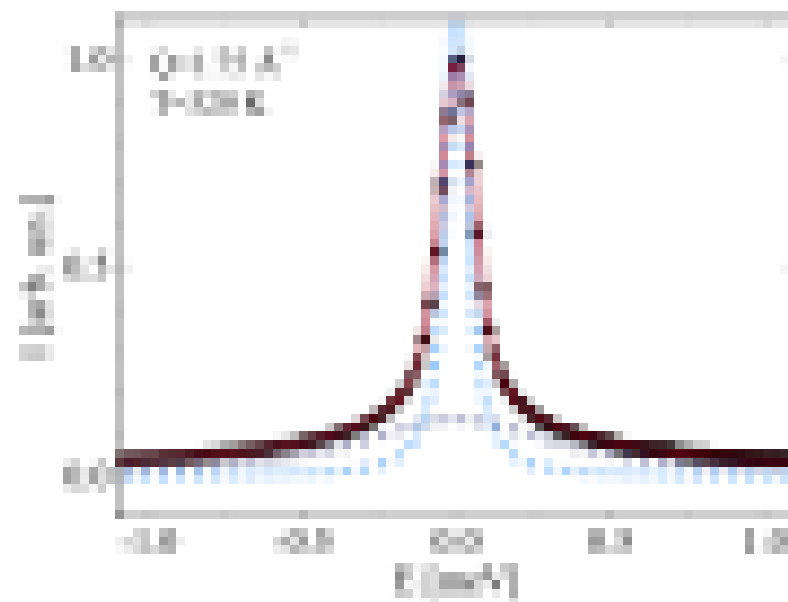
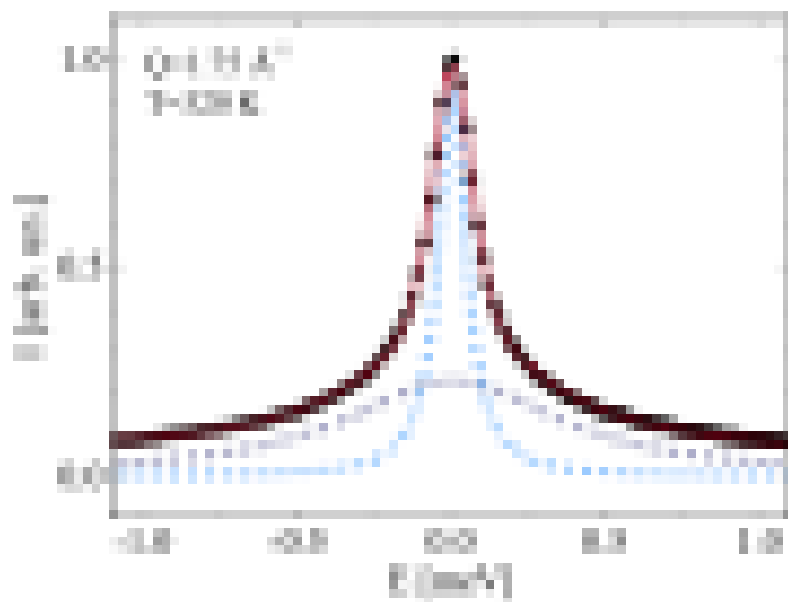
$\text{NH}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_3$



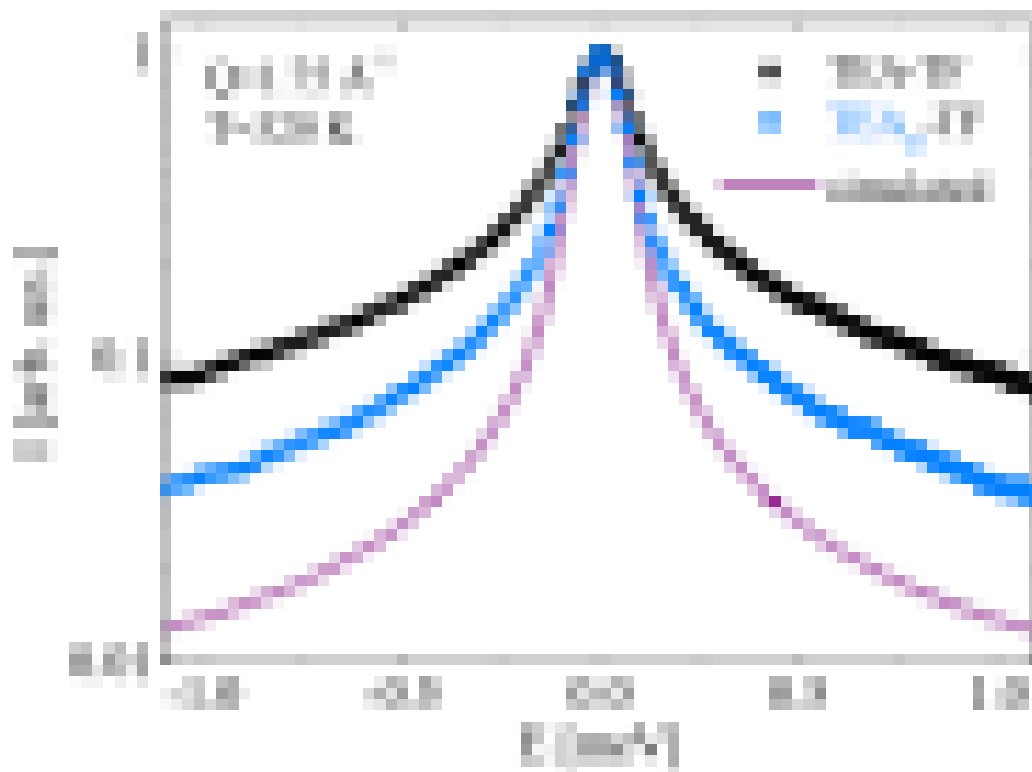
TEA<sub>D</sub>



$\text{NH}(\text{C}_2\text{D}_5)_3$

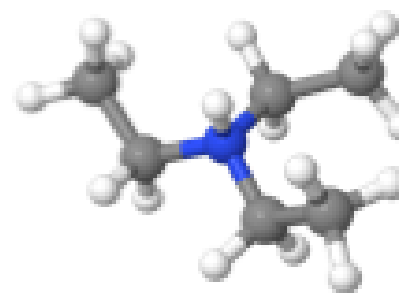


$$S(Q, E) = S_{\text{local}}(Q, E) \otimes S_{\text{global}}(Q, E)$$



broad component in TEA<sub>D</sub>-TF  
⇒ H-bond dynamics?!?

TEA



Grotthuss mechanism (Proton hopping)

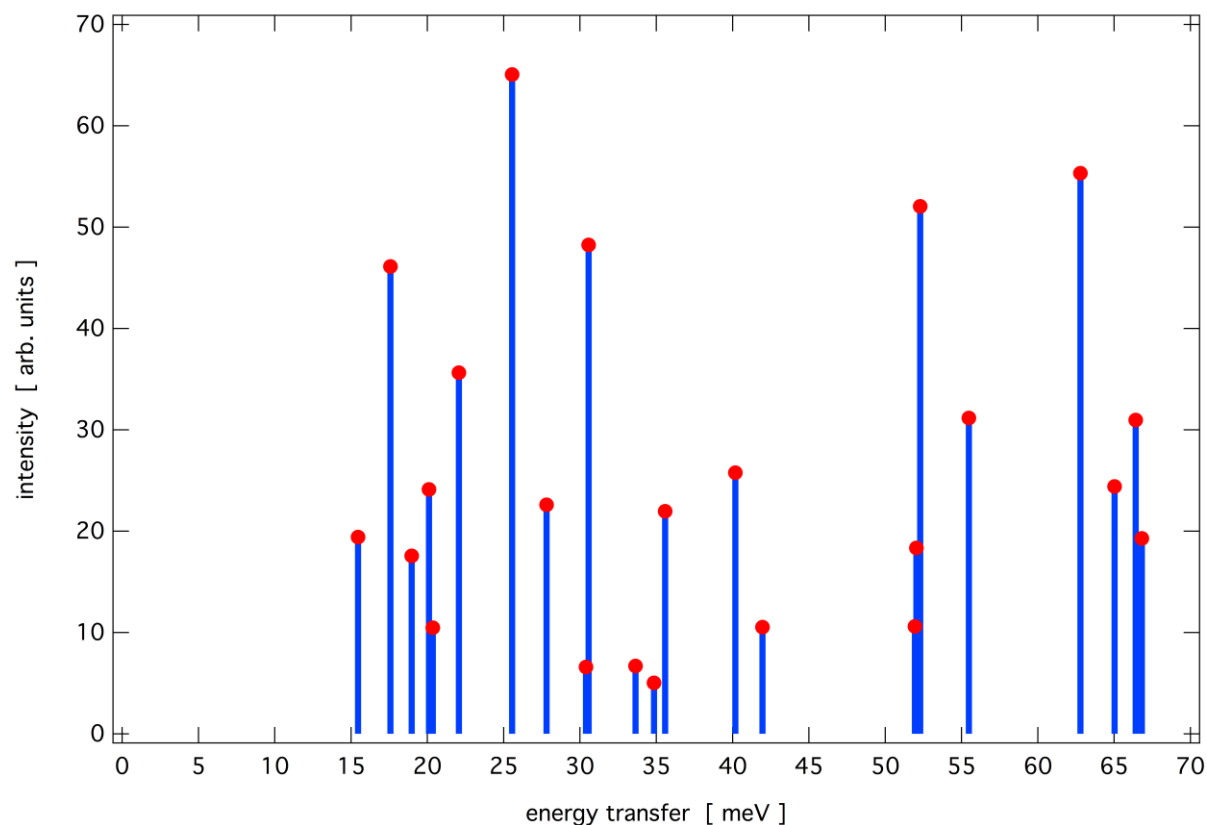
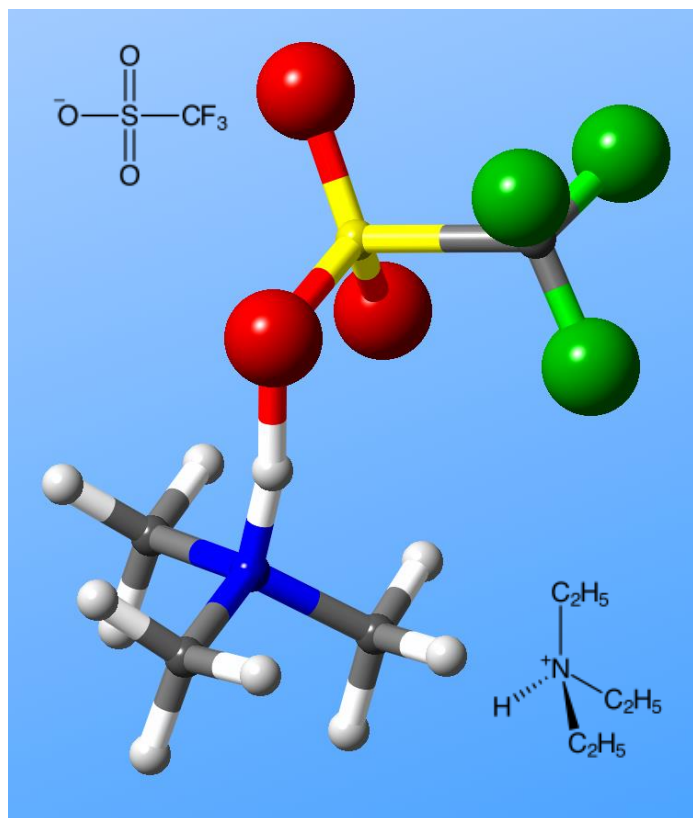


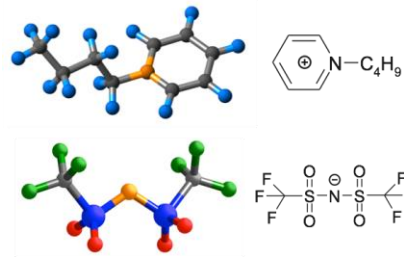
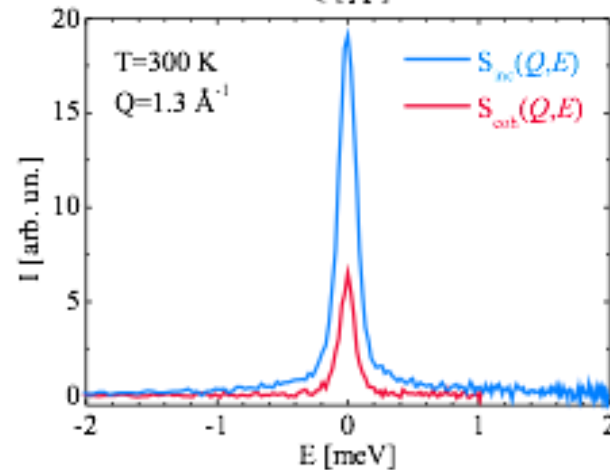
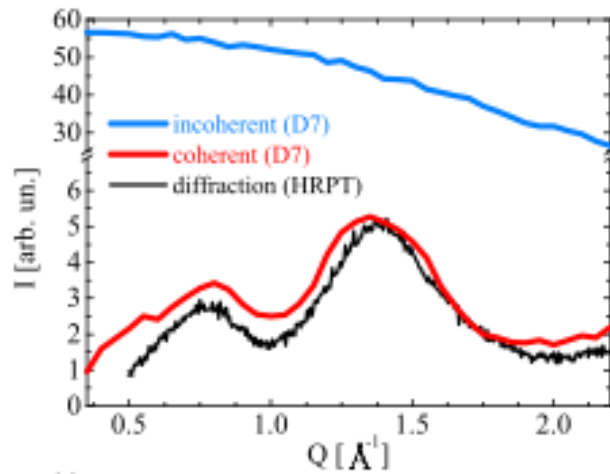
Vehicle mechanism





- Coulomb, dipole-dipole, H-bonding ...
- force field generation
- $S(Q, \omega)$ , ...

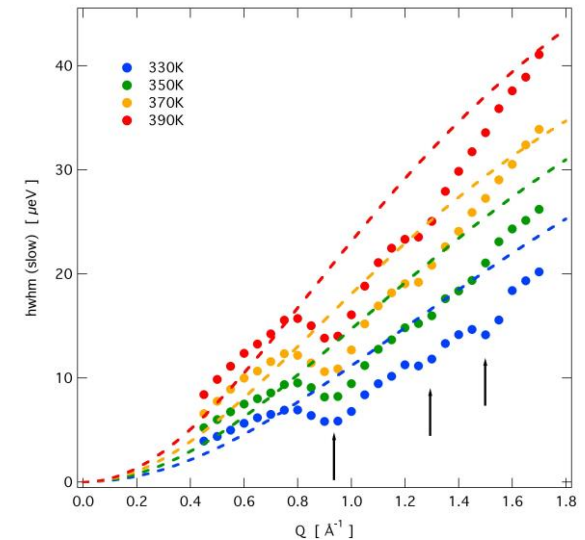
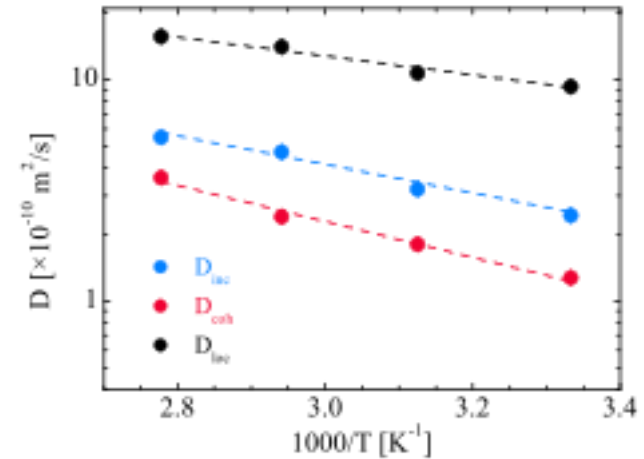




$$I_{\text{coh}} = I_{\text{corr}}^{\uparrow\uparrow} - \frac{1}{2} I_{\text{corr}}^{\uparrow\downarrow}$$

$$I_{\text{inc}} = \frac{3}{2} I_{\text{corr}}^{\uparrow\downarrow}$$

coherent/collective dynamics  
cannot be neglected  
(incoherent approx. fails),  
but clear picture of it  
still missing  $\Rightarrow$   
MD-simulations + neutron results



## outlook

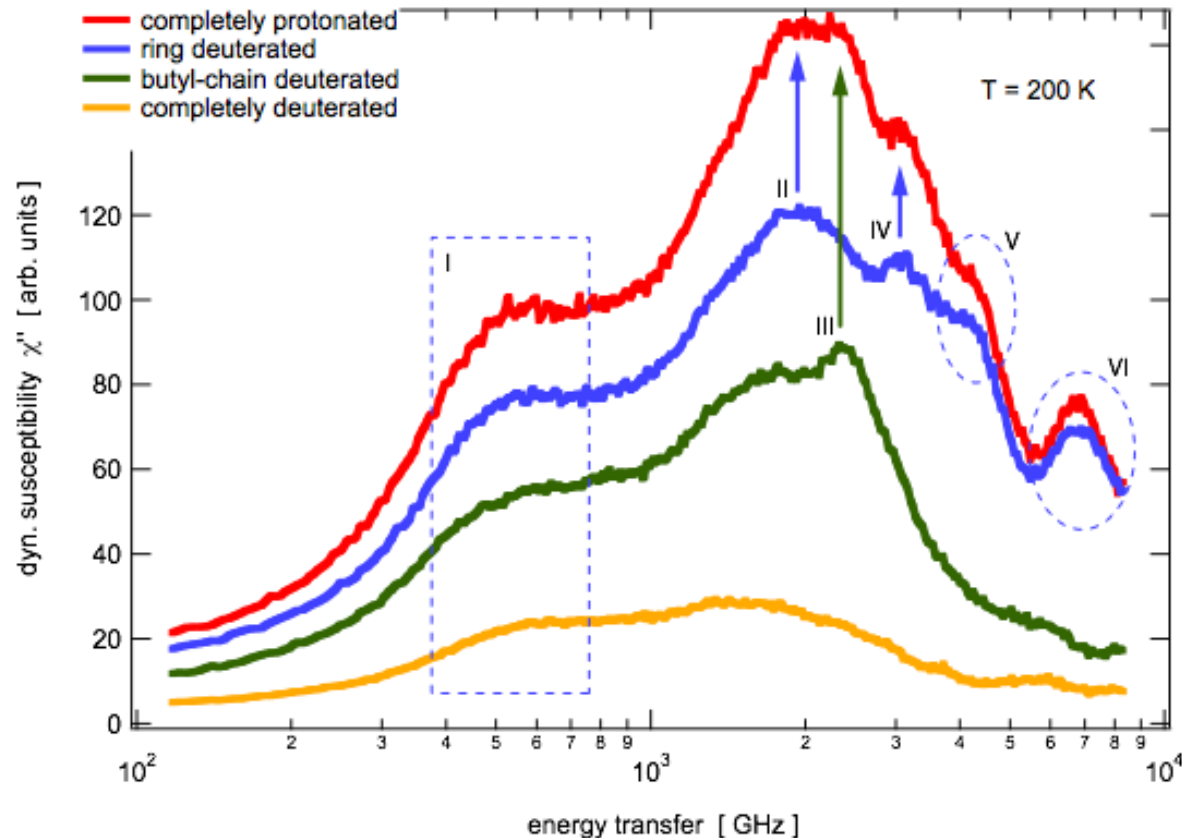
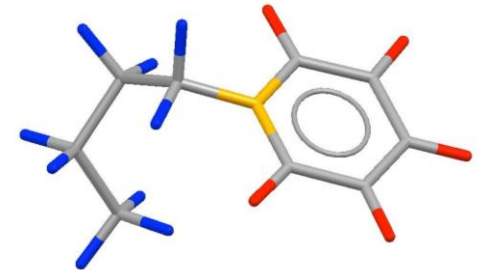
- study of collective dynamics in ILs (using deuteration & polarized neutrons)
- H-bond dynamics in protic ILs  $\rightarrow$  **PhD project, SNF funded**
- interaction of ILs with prototypical bio-structures, i.e. influence on properties and functions  
 $\rightarrow$  **PSI-Fellow/COFUND in collab. with University College Dublin/School of Physics**



**QENS**  $\Rightarrow$  time scale of molecular rotations, reorientations  
diffusion mechanisms

- proton hopping (breaking/creating H-bonds) vs. vehicle mech.
- single-particle & collective dynamics  $\rightarrow$  polarized neutrons!
- comparison to MD-results

**Inelastic Neutron Scattering**  $\Rightarrow$  studies of ion interactions (H-bond dynamics)



$$\chi''(E, T) = \frac{S(E)}{n_B(E, T)}$$

$$n_B(E, T) = (\exp(E/k_B T) - 1)^{-1}$$

$$S(E) = \sum_{2\theta} S(2\theta, E)$$





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IN10 @ ILL (France)  
IN5 @ ILL (France)  
UdS / Phys. Chemistry (Germany)  
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UdS / Phys. Chemistry (Germany)  
PSI & UC Dublin (CH & Ireland)  
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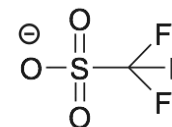
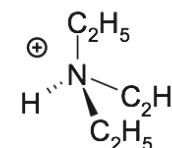
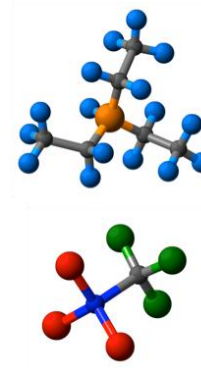
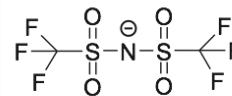
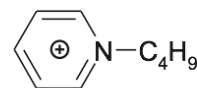
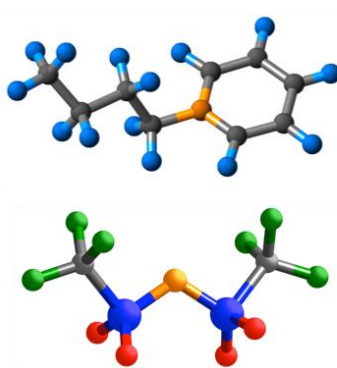
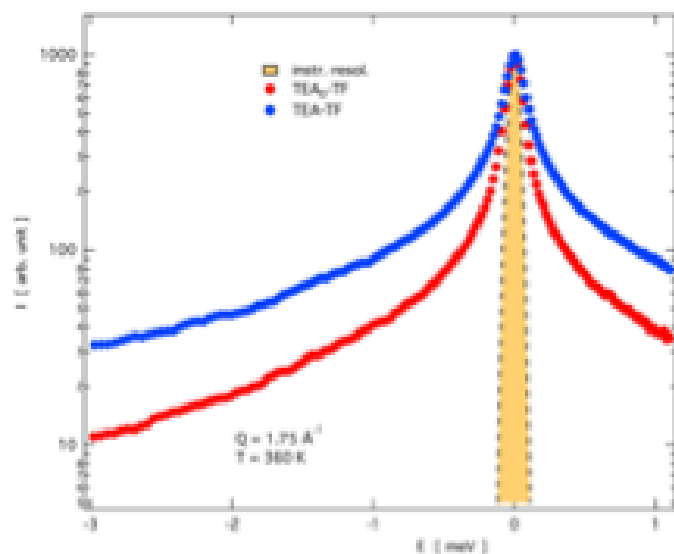
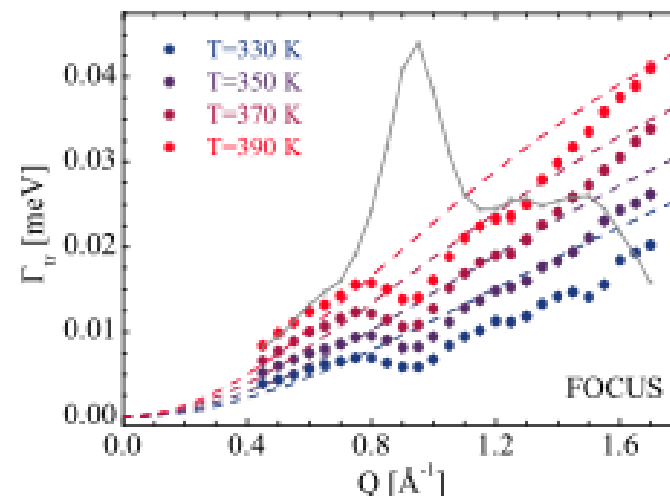
## Ionic Liquids $\Rightarrow$

- tunable physico-chemical properties  $\Rightarrow$  **designer solvents**
- high thermal & electrochemical stability / wide liquid range
- **applications:** potential electrolytes for fuel cells, batteries, ...
- Coulomb, dipole-dipole interactions, H-bonding ...

## QENS $\Rightarrow$ time scale of molecular rotations, reorientations diffusion mechanisms

- proton hopping (breaking/creating H-bonds) vs. vehicle mech.
- single-particle & collective dynamics  $\rightarrow$  polarized neutrons!
- comparison to MD-results

## Inelastic Neutron Scattering $\Rightarrow$ studies of ion interactions (H-bond dynamics)



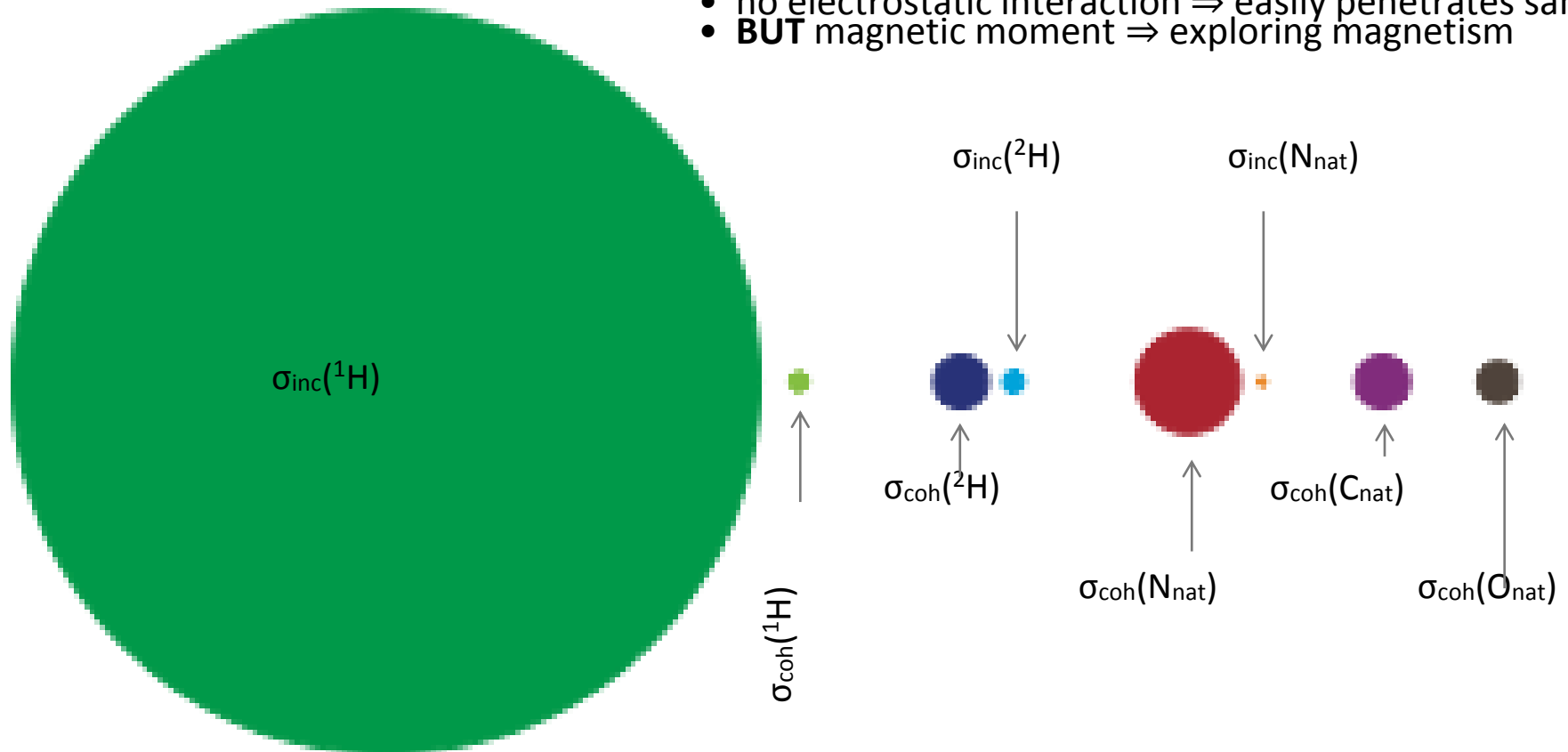
- Z. Phys. Chem. **224** (2010) 5
- J. Phys. Chem. B **116** (2012) 13265
- J. Phys. Soc. Japan **82** (2013) SA003
- J. Mol. Liquids **192** (2014) 199
- J. Phys. Chem. B **118** (2015), 14452–14460
- J. Phys. Chem. B (2015) submitted



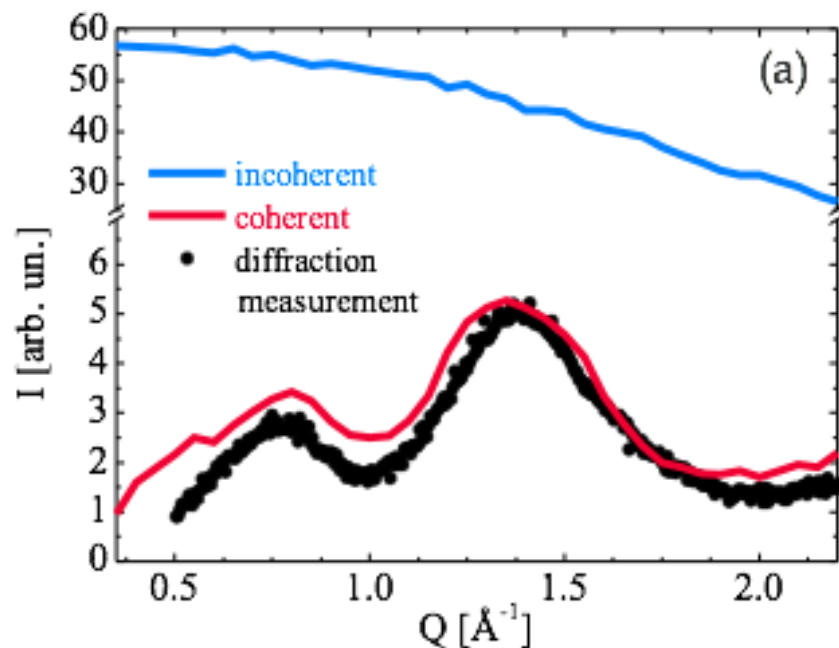
cross section  $\sigma$  ( 1 b = 1 barn =  $10^{-24}$  cm<sup>2</sup> )

area  $\Rightarrow$  prob. that a neutron will interact with a nucleus

- scattering power varies 'randomly'
- strong but very short ranged interaction
- isotopic labeling
- no electrostatic interaction  $\Rightarrow$  easily penetrates samples
- **BUT** magnetic moment  $\Rightarrow$  exploring magnetism

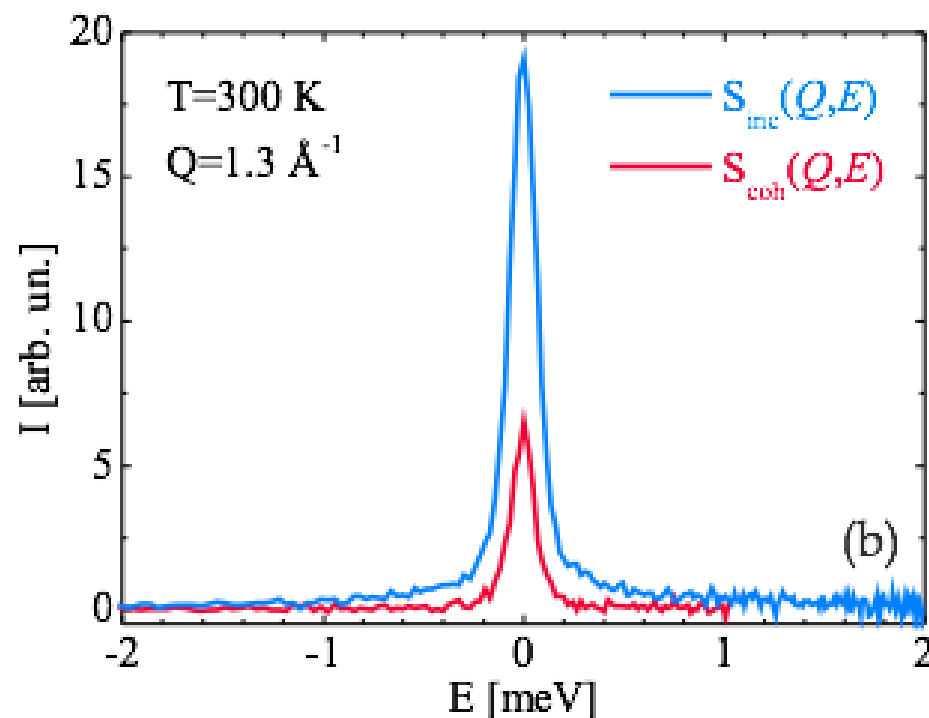






$$I_{\uparrow\uparrow} = I_{\text{coh}} + \frac{1}{3}I_{\text{inc}}$$

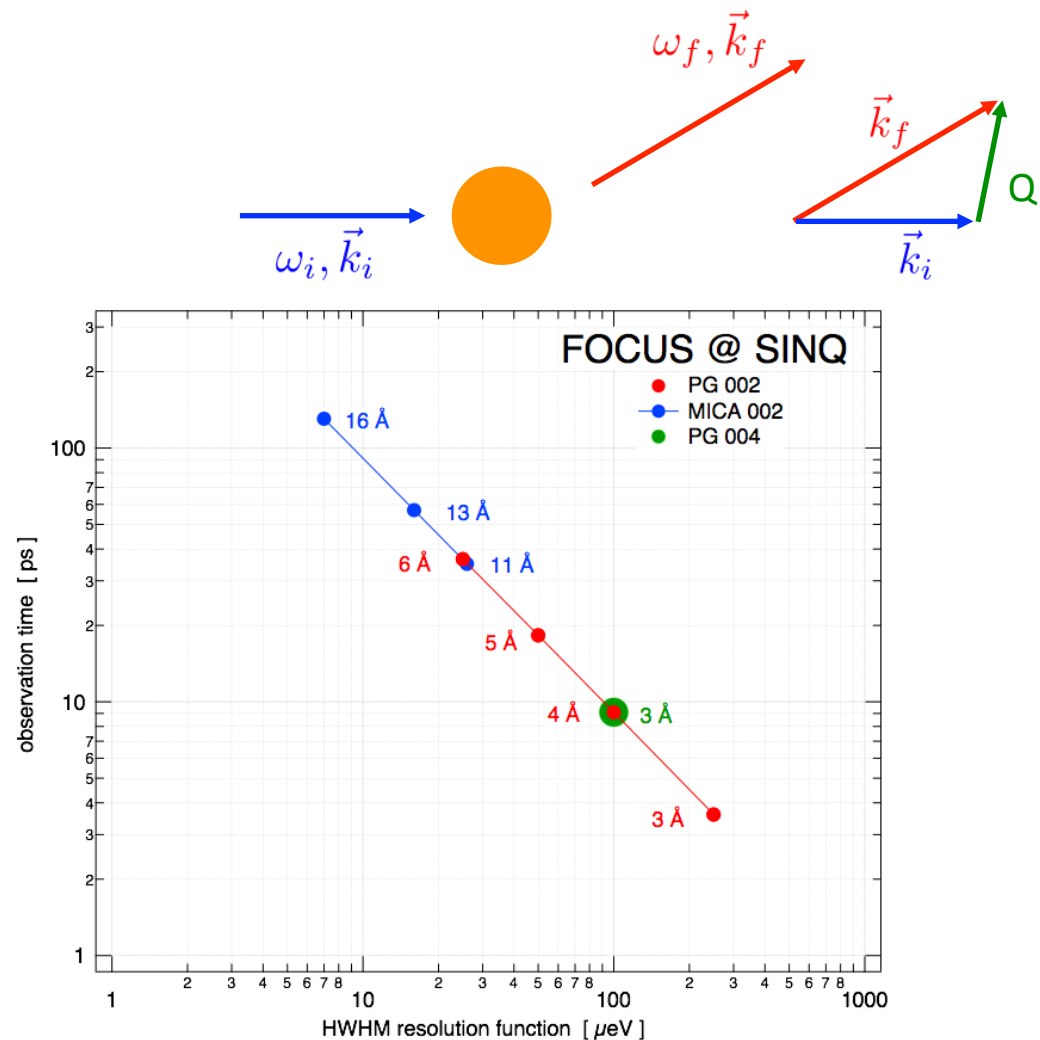
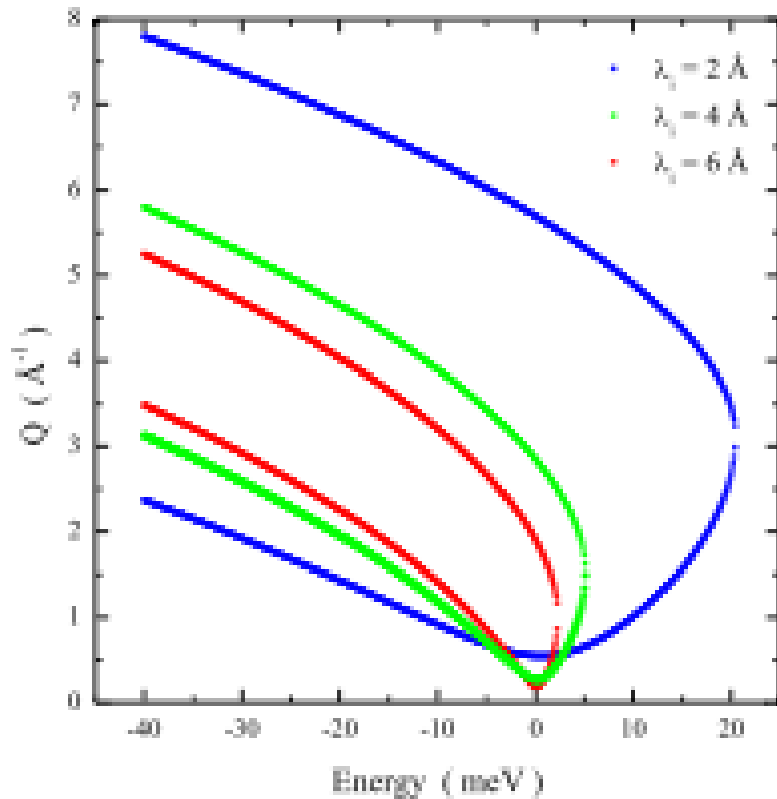
$$I_{\uparrow\downarrow} = \frac{2}{3}I_{\text{inc}}$$





$$\hbar\omega = \hbar(\omega_f - \omega_i)$$

$$\hbar\vec{Q} = \hbar(\vec{k}_f - \vec{k}_i)$$



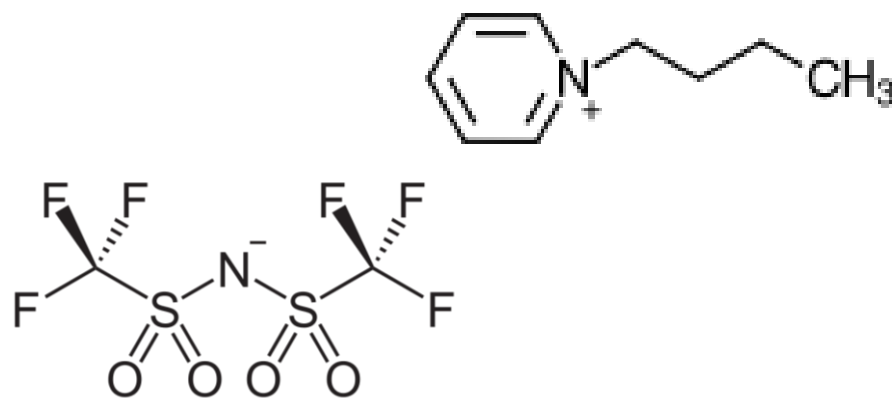
$$\Delta t_{\text{obs}} = \frac{2\hbar\sqrt{\ln 2}}{\Delta E}$$



> molten salts with  $T_m \leq 100^\circ\text{C}$  (ethylammonium nitrate by Paul Walden, 1914)

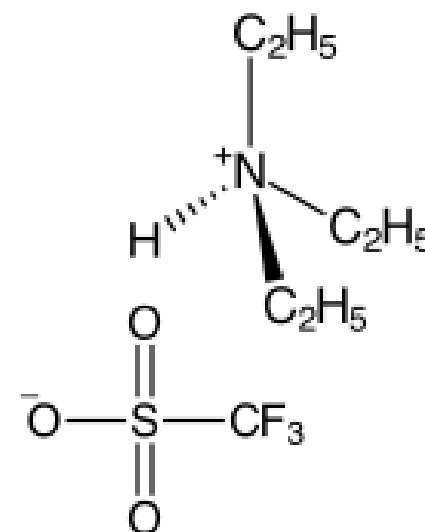
- ions only
- vapor pressure  $\approx 0$
- wide liquid range
- high thermal & electrochemical stability
- designer solvents (i.e. tuneable physicochemical properties)
- Coulomb, dipole-dipole, H-bonding ...

> electrolytes in fuel cells, batteries ...



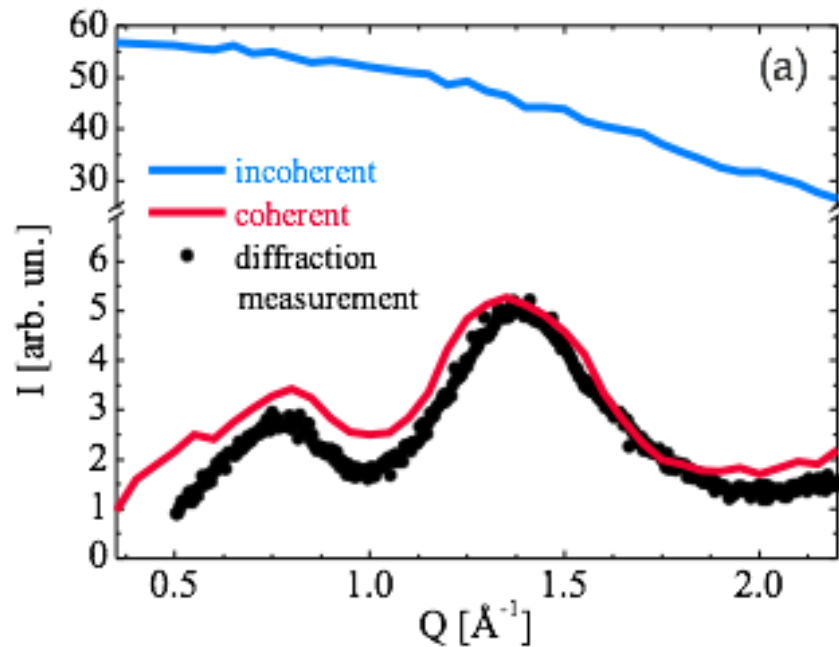
1-butylpyridinium (BuPy)

bis(trifluoromethylsulfonyl)imide (Tf<sub>2</sub>N)



triethylammonium (TEA)

trifluoromethanesulfonate (TF)



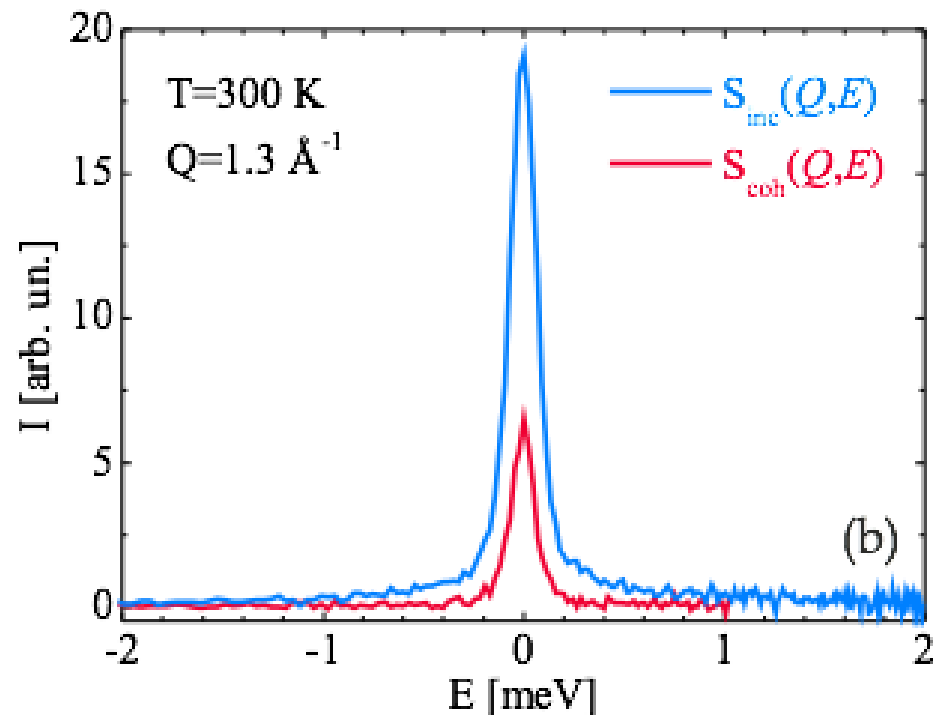
$$I_{\uparrow\uparrow} = I_{\text{coh}} + \frac{1}{3}I_{\text{inc}}$$

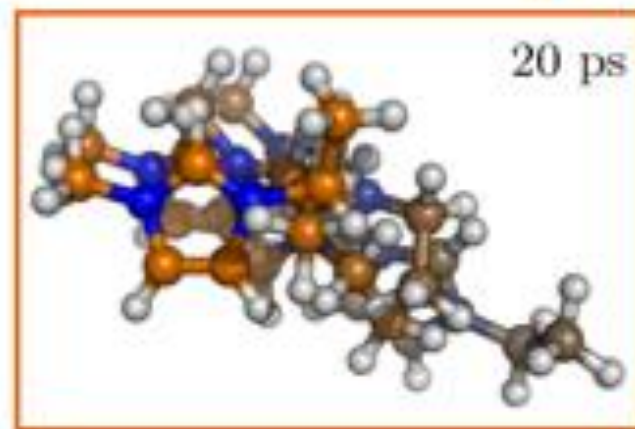
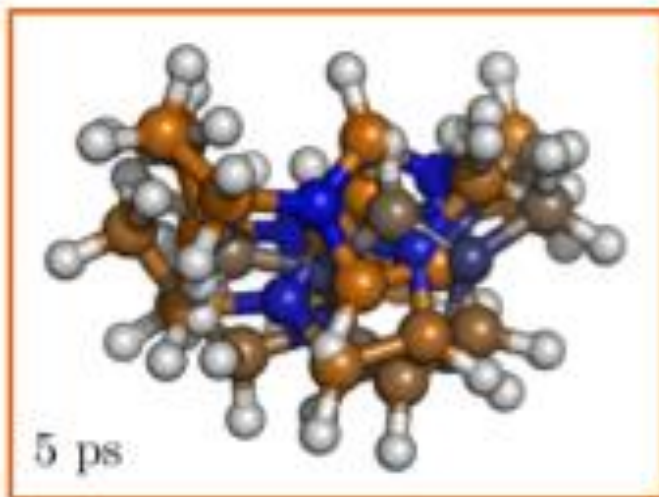
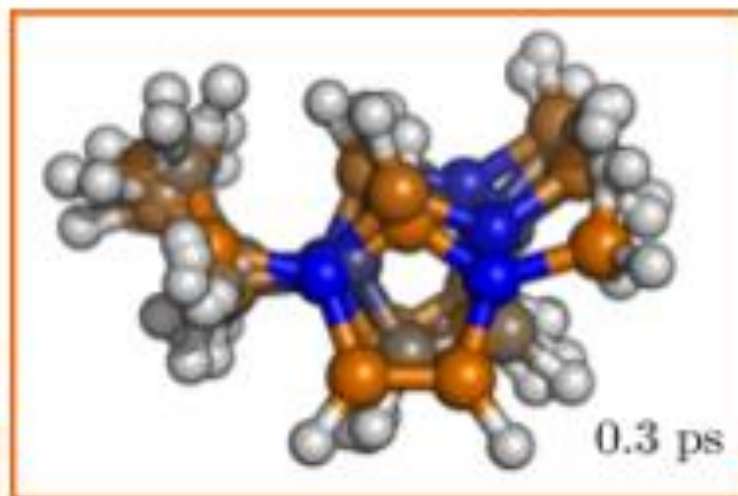
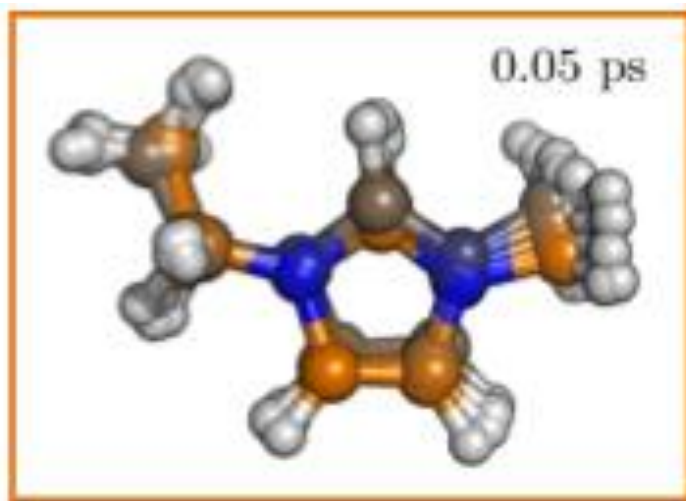
$$I_{\uparrow\downarrow} = \frac{2}{3}I_{\text{inc}}$$

$$I_{\text{corr}}^{\uparrow\uparrow} = I^{\uparrow\uparrow} + \frac{1}{R-1} [I^{\uparrow\uparrow} - I^{\uparrow\downarrow}]$$

$$I_{\text{corr}}^{\uparrow\downarrow} = I^{\uparrow\downarrow} - \frac{1}{R-1} [I^{\uparrow\uparrow} - I^{\uparrow\downarrow}]$$

R = flipping ratio







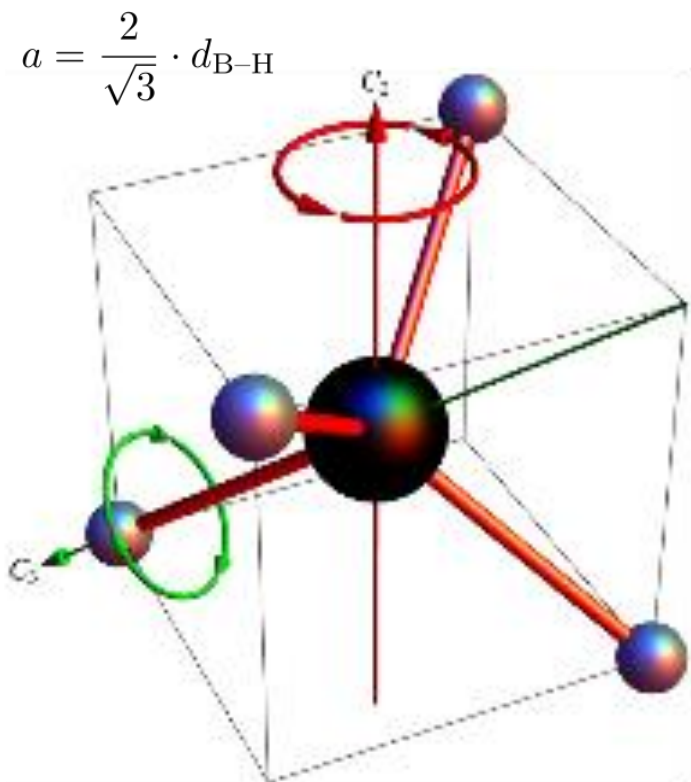


from J. Phys. B **45** (2012), 194003

PHYSICAL REVIEW B **81**, 214304 (2010)

Rotational motion of BH<sub>4</sub> units in MBH<sub>4</sub> (*M*=Li,Na,K) from quasielastic neutron scattering and density functional calculations

Arndt Remhof,<sup>1,\*</sup> Zbigniew Lodziana,<sup>1,2</sup> Pascal Martelli,<sup>1</sup> Oliver Friedrichs,<sup>1</sup> Andreas Züttel,<sup>1</sup> Alexander V. Skripov,<sup>3</sup> Jan Peter Embs,<sup>4,†</sup> and Thierry Strässle<sup>4</sup>



**LiBH<sub>4</sub> / NaBH<sub>4</sub> outstanding volumetric & gravimetric hydrogen density ⇒ possible H<sub>2</sub> storage materials**

$$S_{\text{inc}}^{2\text{-site}} = A_0(Q)\delta(E) + [1 - A_0(Q)] \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{2\hbar/\tau_2}{(2\hbar/\tau_2)^2 + E^2}$$

$$A_0(Q) = \frac{1}{2} [1 + j_0(Qd)] \quad d = d_{\text{B-H}} \cdot 2\sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$B_0(Q) = \frac{1}{3} [1 + 2j_0(Qd)]$$

$$S_{\text{inc}}^{3\text{-site}} = \frac{1}{4}\delta(E) + \frac{3}{4} \left[ B_0(Q)\delta(E) + [1 - B_0(Q)] \cdot \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{3\hbar/2\tau_2}{(3\hbar/2\tau_2)^2 + E^2} \right]$$

$$S_{\Sigma}(Q, E) = S_{\text{inc}}^{2\text{-site}}(Q, E) \otimes S_{\text{inc}}^{3\text{-site}}(Q, E)$$

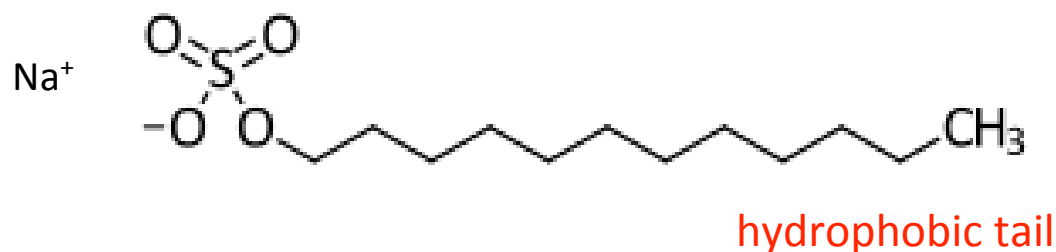


## Molecular Mobility in Solid Sodium Dodecyl Sulfate

S. Mitra,<sup>†</sup> V. K. Sharma,<sup>†</sup> V. Garcia Sakai,<sup>†</sup> J. Peter Embs,<sup>§</sup> and R. Mukhopadhyay<sup>\*,†</sup>

J.Phys.Chem. B **115** (2011) 9732

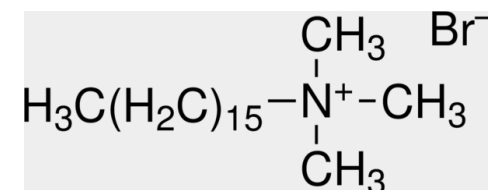
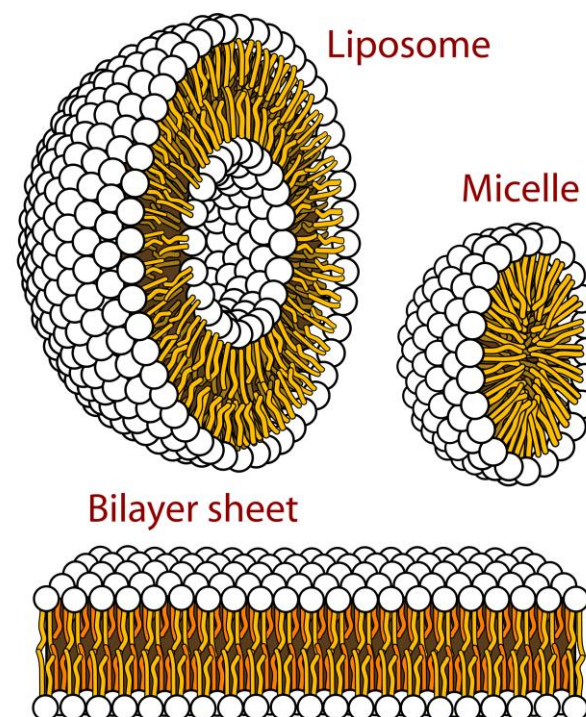
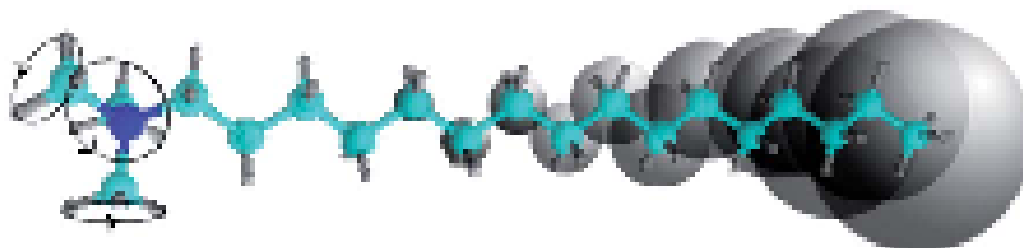
Soft Matter **8** (2012) 7151



## The dynamical landscape in CTAB micelles

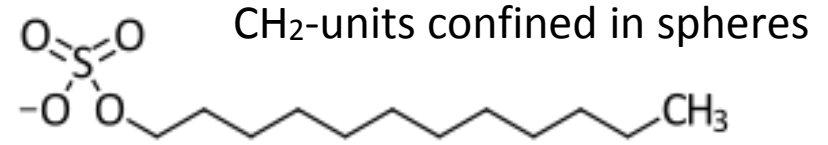
V. K. Sharma,<sup>a</sup> S. Mitra,<sup>a</sup> V. Garcia Sakai,<sup>b</sup> P. A. Hassan,<sup>c</sup> J. Peter Embs<sup>d</sup> and R. Mukhopadhyay<sup>\*,a</sup>

CetylTrimethylAmmonium Bromide = CTAB





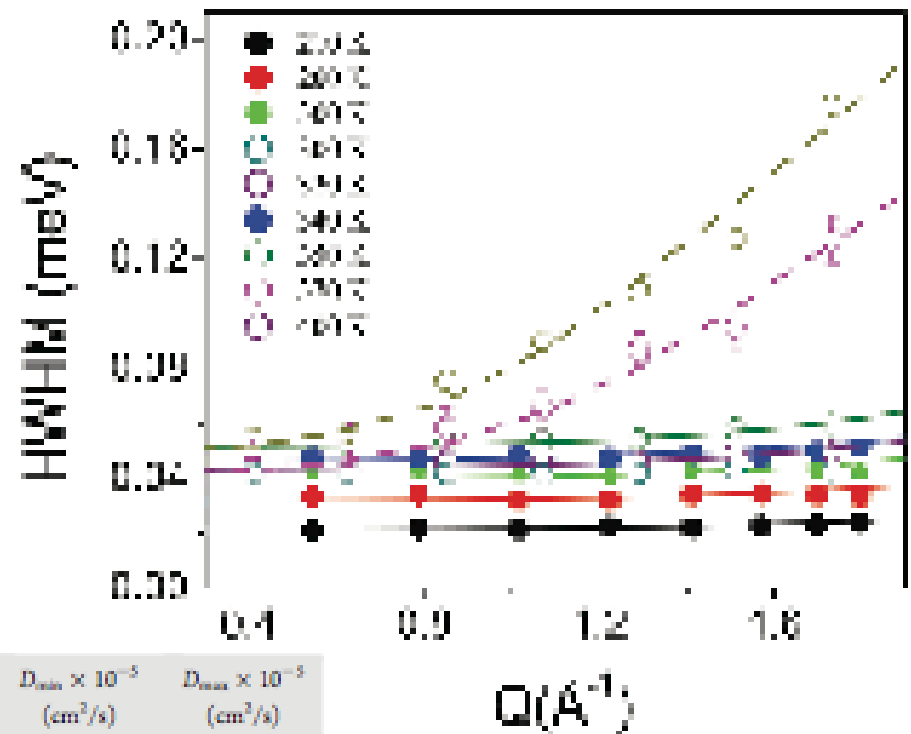
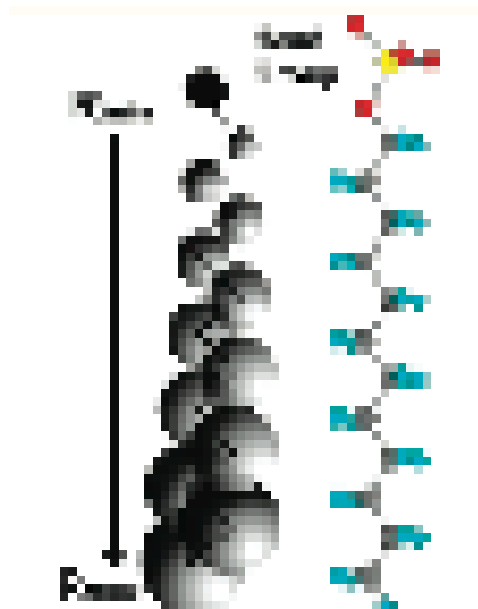
$$A_0(Q) \equiv \frac{1}{12} \sum_{k=1}^{12} A_0^0(QR_k) = \frac{1}{12} \sum_{k=1}^{12} \left[ \frac{3j_1(QR_k)}{QR_k} \right]^2$$



$$S_{\text{inc}}(Q, \omega) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N \left[ A_0^0(QR_j) \delta(\omega) + \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{(l,n) \neq (0,0)} (2l+1) A_n^l(QR_j) \frac{\hbar(x_n^l)^2 D_j / R_j^2}{(\hbar(x_n^l)^2 D_j / R_j^2)^2 + \hbar^2 \omega^2} \right]$$

$$R_j \equiv \frac{j-1}{N-1} [R_{\text{max}} - R_{\text{min}}] + R_{\text{min}}$$

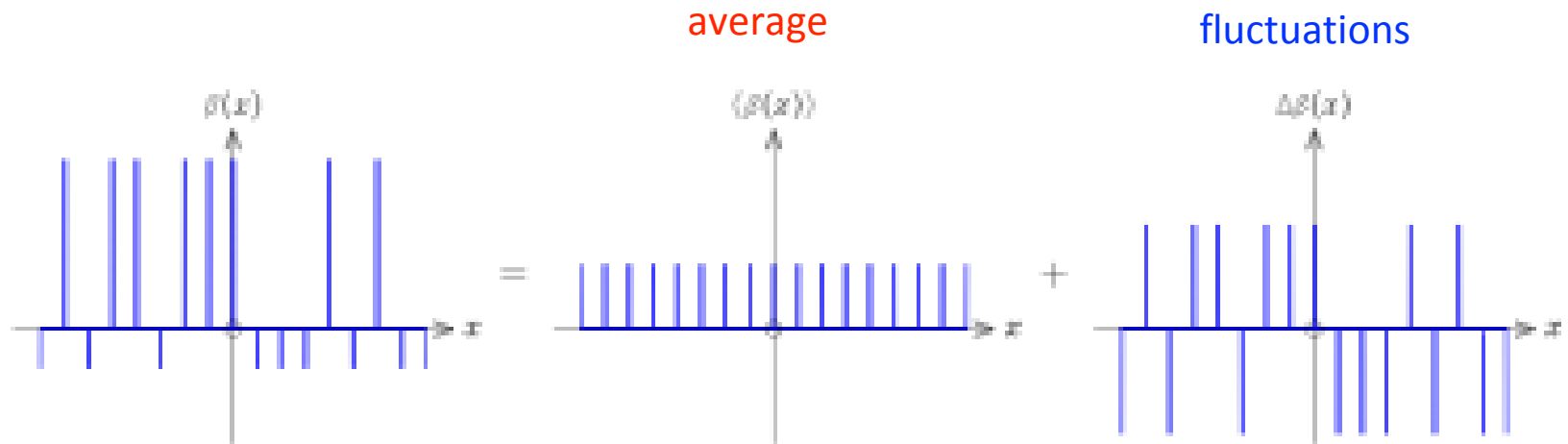
ditto for D<sub>j</sub>



T (K)	R <sub>min</sub> (Å)	R <sub>max</sub> (Å)	D <sub>min</sub> × 10 <sup>-5</sup> (cm <sup>2</sup> /s)	D <sub>max</sub> × 10 <sup>-5</sup> (cm <sup>2</sup> /s)
370	0.004 ± 0.003	3.89 ± 0.3	0.015 ± 0.005	1.78 ± 0.3
400	0.003 ± 0.001	4.44 ± 0.3	0.06 ± 0.005	2.77 ± 0.3



due to **isotope & spin effects**, atoms of the same element are **not identical!**



coherent, scatt from average  $b_{\text{coh}} = \langle b \rangle$

$\Rightarrow$  correlated dynamics (phonos, magnons, ...)

incoherent, scatt from fluctuations  $b_{\text{inc}}^2 = \langle b^2 \rangle - \langle b \rangle^2$

$\Rightarrow$  self-correlations, stochastic motions (diffusion, reorientations, ...)



$$S_{\text{inc}}(Q, \omega) = A_0(Q)\delta(\omega) + \sum_{j=1}^N A_j(Q)\mathcal{L}(\Gamma_j, \omega)$$

$$S_{\text{inc}}(Q, \omega) = A_0(Q)\delta(\omega) + [1 - A_0(Q)]\mathcal{L}(\Gamma, \omega)$$

$$\text{EISF} = \frac{I_{\text{el}}(Q)}{I_{\text{el}}(Q) + I_{\text{qel}}(Q)}$$

space-FT of the particle distribution, taken at  $t \Rightarrow \infty$  and averaged over all its possible initial positions; provides info on the geometry of the molecular motion

localized/rotational motions  $\Rightarrow$  prob of finding a scatterer at infinite time within a small volume  $\neq 0$  ! (  $\neq$  translational diffusion !)

$$S_{\text{inc}}(Q, \omega) = (1 - p)\delta(\omega) + p[A_0(Q)\delta(\omega) + [1 - A_0(Q)]\mathcal{L}(\Gamma, \omega)]$$

$p$  = fraction of mobile particles/scatterers



## Molecular Mobility in Solid Sodium Dodecyl Sulfate

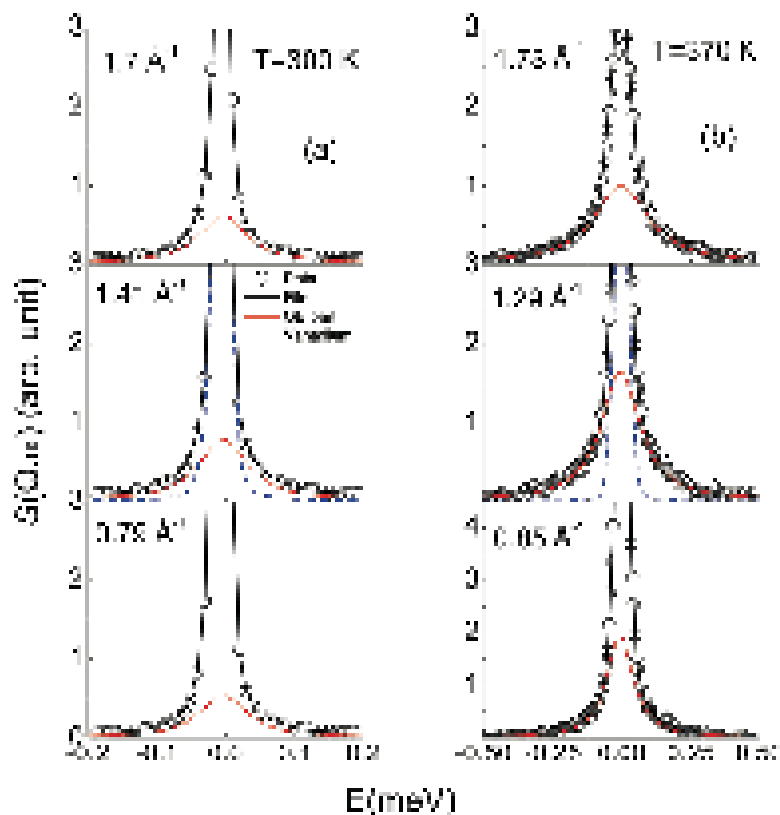
S. Mitra,<sup>†</sup> V. K. Sharma,<sup>†</sup> V. Garcia Sakai,<sup>†</sup> J. Peter Embs,<sup>§</sup> and R. Mukhopadhyay<sup>\*,†</sup>

$$S_{\text{inc}}(Q, \omega) = B_0(Qa)\delta(\omega) + \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} B_n(Qa)\mathcal{L}_n(\hbar/\tau_n, \omega)$$

$$B_n(Qa) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{p=1}^N j_0(2QA \sin(\pi p/N)) \cos(2\pi np/N)$$

$$\frac{1}{\tau_n} = \frac{2}{\tau} \sin^2\left(\frac{n\pi}{N}\right)$$

$\tau$  = average time spent on a site  
between 2 successive jumps







system	$\sigma_{\text{scatt}}$ [b]	$\sigma_{\text{inc}}$ [b]	$\sigma_{\text{inc}}/\sigma_{\text{scatt}}$ [%]
BuPy-Tf <sub>2</sub> N	1275.6	1124.8	88.2
Bu <sub>D</sub> Py-Tf <sub>2</sub> N	606.1	420.8	69.4
BuPy <sub>D</sub> -Tf <sub>2</sub> N	901.6	731.7	81.2

