Molecular simulation of Dissolved Inorganic Carbons for Underground Brine CO2 Sequestrations Project Number: DE-FE0002057

California Institute of Technology
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Challenges in Carbon Capture and Sequestration

CO₂ Capture Technologies

- Post-Combustion Capture Captured from flue gases at commercial-scale power station.
- Pre-Combustion Capture CO₂ is removed before combustion takes place.
- Oxy-Fuel Combustion The fuel is burned in Oxygen instead of air.

CO, Transportations

Pipelines, High pressure supercritical flow, Low temperature liquid

CO, Sequestrations

- Geological Storage (Deep sea, Coal mine, Oil field etc.)
- Biological Processes (Ocean, Forest, Agriculture, Peat Production, etc)
- Physical Processes (Biomass treatments: Bio-Energy with CCS (BECCS), Biomass Pyrolysis)
- Chemical Techniques (Mineral Sequestration, etc)

CO₂ Re-used

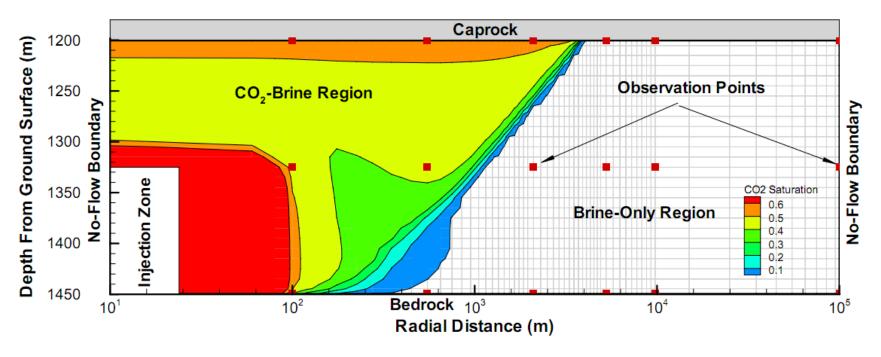
Chemical conversions to hydrocarbon, polymerization, Food & Pharmaceutical industries, Enhanced Oil Recovery (EOR)

CO₂ Monitoring

CO, Leakage; in-situ measurements



Why store CO₂ in brine?

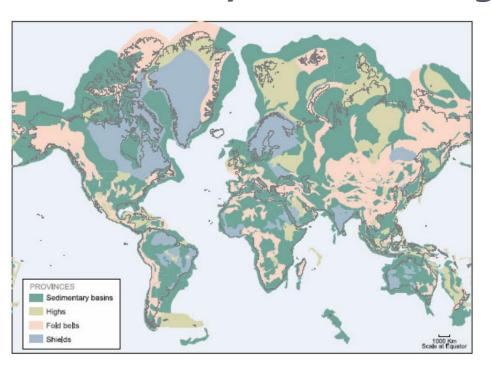


Schematic of the "closed" deep brine aguifer for CO₂ injection, with numerical mesh and observation points for Figure 1. the transient features of the aquifer in response to the CO₂ injection. The figure shows a large target formation with a radial extent of 100 km.

Large underground reservoir for storage sites

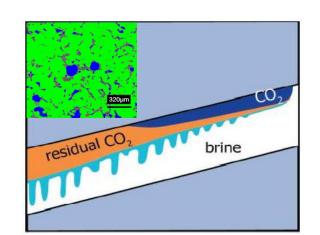


Feasibility of Co2 storage in brine



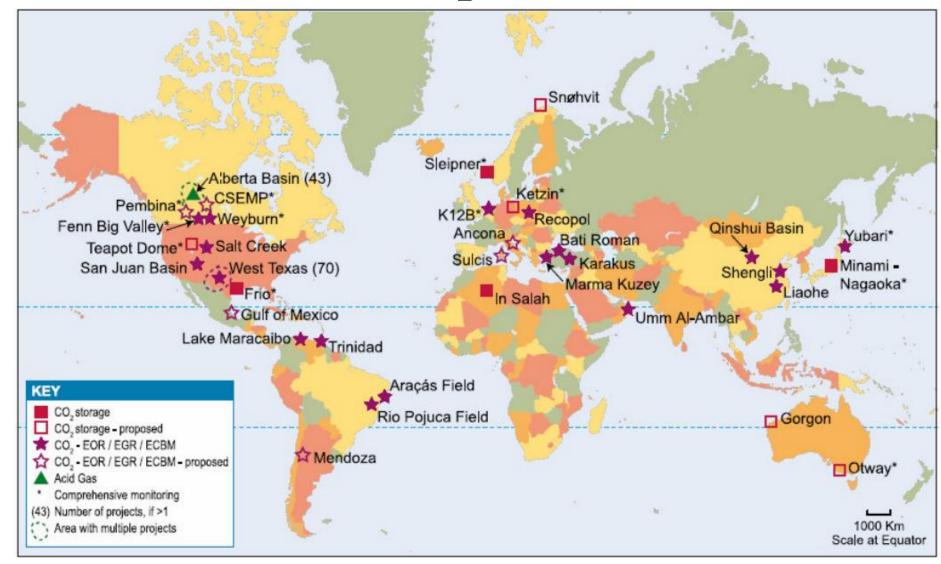
- Possible storage sites
 - sedimentary basins
 - 2. Fold belts
 - Highs
 - 4. Shield areas

- Fundamental questions
 - How can you be sure that the CO2 stays underground?
 - How much Co2 can be stored?
 - In what form is Co2 when stored?





Locations of CO₂ storage sites



Introduction

- For Monitoring, Verification and Accounting (MVA) of CO2 sequestration. need to measure the Dissolved Inorganic Carbons (DIC) in underground brine water at higher sensitivity, lower cost, in situ, at higher frequency and over long period of time
- Quantum Cascade Lasers (QCL) could provide Mid-IR spectroscopic measurement that could provide higher sensitivity of DIC measurement, to "quantify and resolve at high sensitivity over an extended spatial scale; improve the reliability of next-generation detection and sensing technologies; and quantify the mass of sequestered CO2, over its volume (both depth and lateral extent) and as a function of time "(technical Area #2 of the FOA).
- To interpret the results of such studies, need to predict how the Mid-IR spectra for CO2 (aq, or dissolved) and HCO3- change as a function of pressure, pH, temperature and salinity.

Objectives

- Use first principles QM and ReaxFF to predict the MIR spectra of DIC species in water.
- Determine how the MIR spectra change with external conditions (temperature, pressure, salinity).
- Determine the acidity changes as a result of pressure, temperature and the presence of supercritical CO₂ during underground brine water carbon sequestration process.
- Provide graduate students and scientists professional training in molecular simulation to prepare them for the applications of the acquired knowledge for carbon sequestration.

Specific Technical objectives

Simulation and identification of the Mid-IR absorption features of CO2 (aq) and HCO3-;

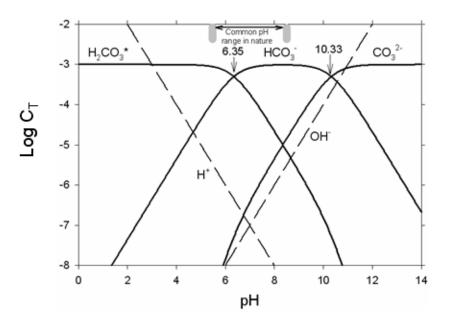
Simulation of the Mid-IR absorption spectral changes as the pressure, pH, temperature, and salinity change;

Calculation of the resulting pH and equilibrium constants for the dissolved inorganic carbon species in brine waters under high pressure, high temperature, and high CO2 concentration conditions;

Thus illustrate chemistry reaction pathways for CO2 sequestration in underground brine water and rock cap reservoirs.



New results: Carbonate system in aqueous solution



 $H_2CO_3 \rightleftharpoons HCO_3^- \rightleftharpoons CO_3^{2-}$ 0.15 Absorbance Units 0.05 2320 Wavenumber [cm-1]

Experiments (Sheng Wu, Caltech/PEERi) At pressure =1 atm as function pH) Use theory to predict how spectra changes for high pressure and

Temperature

FIG. 4. FT-IR recording when analyzing the saturation process of a 1.35 g/L CO₂ standard. (a) At 300 seconds the saturation with CO₂ was started. (b) At 1800 seconds the solution was purged with pure nitrogen to remove the dissolved CO2. In addition to (c) the analyte characteristic absorption band, (d) gaseous CO₂ absorption bands are also visible.

2400

temperature	pKH	pK_1	pK_2	pK_w
fresh water 5 °C	1.19	6.517	10.56	14.73
25	1.47	$\boldsymbol{6.35}$	10.33	14.00
50	1.72	6.28	10.17	13.26
seawater 25 °C	1.54	5.86	8.95	13.20

QM calculations of Vibrational Spectra of Gas-Phase CO₂ and H₂O

- DFT QM electronic structure calculations were performed, using the Jaguar 7.0 QM package and the augmented split-valence double (aug-cc-pVDZ) and triple (aug-cc-pVTZ) zeta basis set of Dunning and coworkers.
- We tested the accuracy of the B3LYP, X3LYP, M06, M06-2X and M06-HF DFT functionals in predicting the vibrational frequencies of CO2 and H2O in the gas phase and in implicit solvation, using the PDF module in the Jaguar 7.0 package.
- All functionals gave similar performance (within 5 cm-1 of each other).
- We list the frequencies of the best performer (B3LYP) in Table 1. Both basis sets show reasonable agreement with experiment, with the double zeta predicting the frequencies more accurately on average.

Frequencies H₂O, CO₂

Frequencies (cm⁻¹)

		rrequerieres (em	1	
	Experiment	aug-cc-pVTZ	aug-cc-pVDZ	assignment
H₂O		Quantum	n mechanics	
ν2	1594.7	1628.4	1622.3	symmetric bending
ν1	3657.1	3821.9	3803.3	symmetric stretch
ν3	3756	3947.7	3937.5	antisymmetric stretch
CO ₂				
ν2	667	659	655.5	degenerate bending OCO
ν1	1388	1325.8	1305.4	symmetric stretch OC
v3	2349	2401.4	2379.2	antisymmetric stretch OC

This provides a calibration for the accuracy of DFT

In practice we will use these scaling parameters to adjust predicted results for the aqueous phases under various conditions

QM calculations on the equilibrium structures for HCO3- and CO2 in water clusters. Use to train ReaxFF force field for large scale calculations

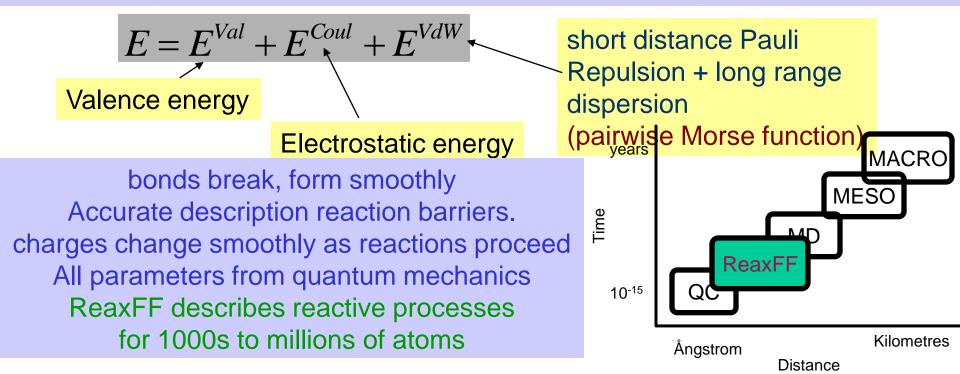
НСО3-	n=1	n=2	n=3	n=4	n-5
ncos-		11-2	11-3	11-4	n=5
	n=6	n=7	n=8	n=9	n=10
CO2	n=1	n=2	n=3	n=4	n=5
	D15 150				rorr 1
	n=6	n=7	n=8	n=9	n=10
	17-1		May 1		the state

Problem: Need to describe equilbrium between CO2, HCO3-, H3O+, CO3--, etc as function of pressure and temperature

QM not handle such large systems, has problems at high Temperature

To solve this problem we developed: ReaxFF reactive force field

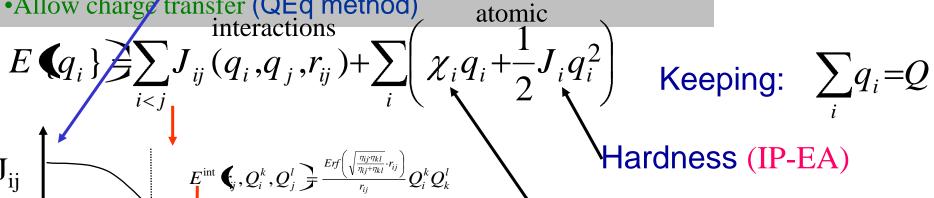
Describes reaction mechanisms (transition states and barriers) at ~ accuracy of QM at computation costs ~ ordinary force field MD



Critical element ReaxFF: charges flow as the reactions proceed

- Self-consistent Charge Equilibration (QEq)
- Describe charges as distributed (Gaussian)
- Thus charges on adjacent atoms shielded (interactions → constant as R → 0) and include interactions over ALL atoms, even if bonded (no
- exclusions)
- •Allow charge transfer (QEq method)

 $r_{i}^{0} + r_{i}^{0}$



Electronegativity (IP+EA)/2

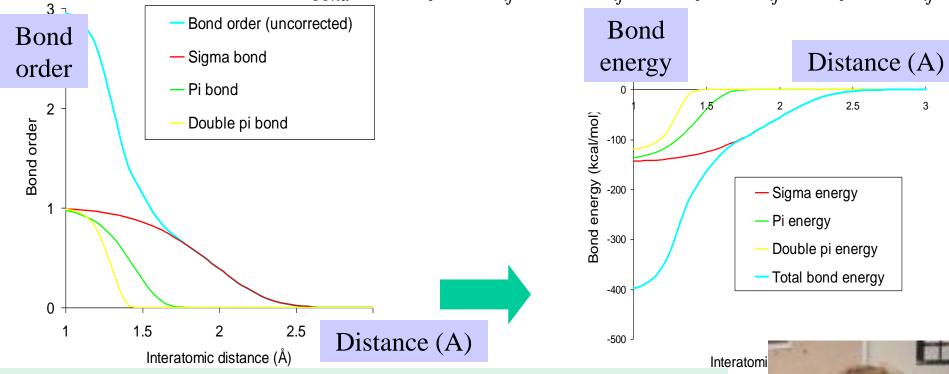
Three universal parameters for each element: χ_i^o , J_i^o , R_i^o

1991: use experimental IP, EA, R_i; ReaxFF get from fitting QM

Bond distance → bond order → forces

Use general functional form and determine parameters from fitting the bond breaking for many single, double, and triple bonded systems

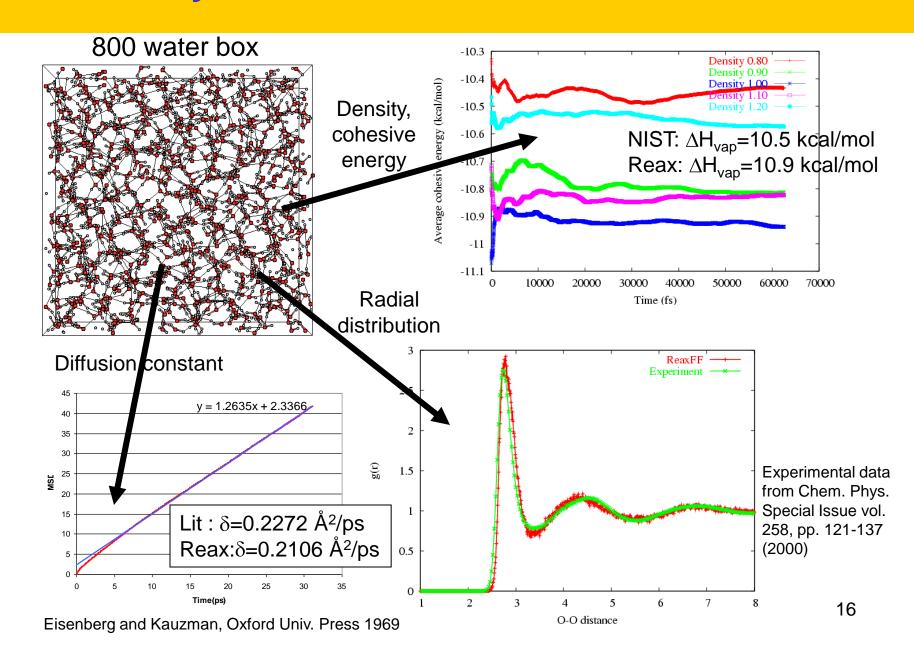
Parameters from QM $E_{bond} = -D_e^{\sigma} \cdot BO_{ij}^{\sigma} \cdot f(BO_{ij}^{\sigma}) - D_e^{\pi} \cdot BO_{ij}^{\pi} - D_e^{\pi\pi} \cdot BO_{ij}^{\pi\pi}$



- •Valence Terms (E^{Val}) based on Bond Order: dissociates smoothly
 - •Forces depend only on geometry (no assigned bond types)
 - •Allows angle, torsion, and inversion terms (where needed)
 - •Describes resonance (benzene, allyl)
 - •Describes forbidden $(2_s + 2_s)$ and allowed (Diels-Alder) reactions
 - •Atomic Valence Term (sum of Bond Orders gives valency)

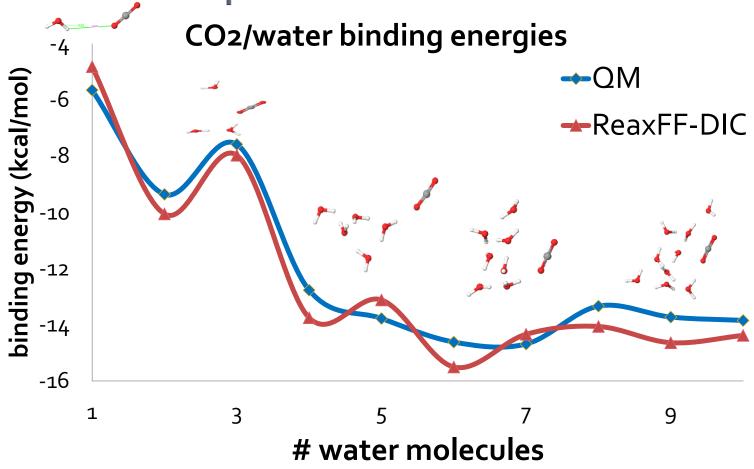


Molecular Dynamics Test of ReaxFF for Bulk Water



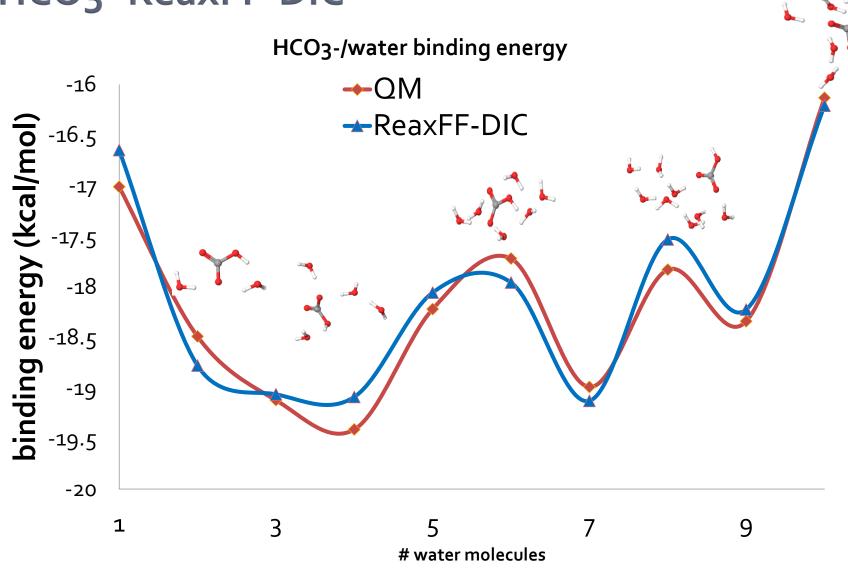


Development of the ReaxFF-DIC forcefield for solvation CO2 species in water







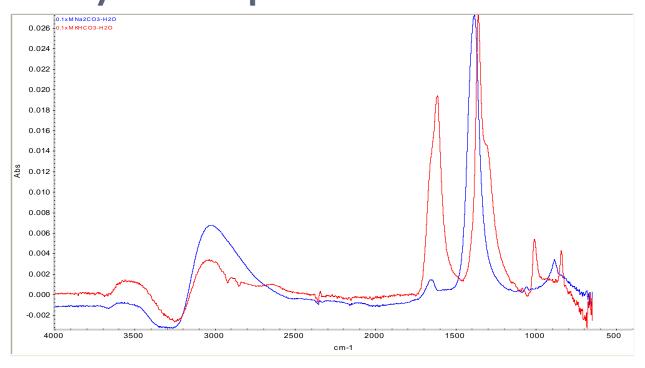




Comparing theory and experiments



ATR module for experimental FTIR spectra measurements

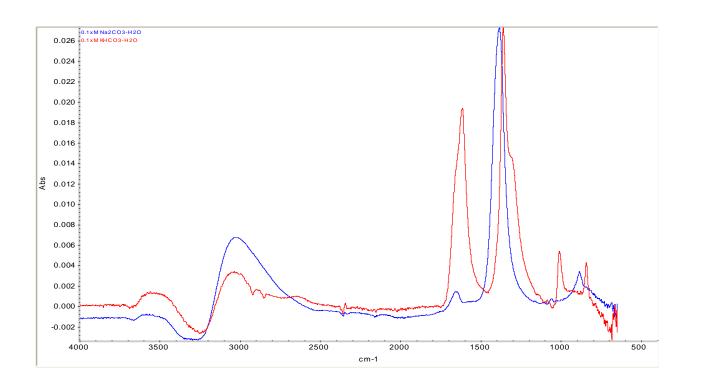


Spectra of ~~0.1M Na2CO3 with H2O background subtracted --- Blue trace; Spectra of ~0.1M KHCO3 with H2O background subtracted ---Red trace.

KHCO3					Na2C	O3			
Mode	ν8	ν5	ν4	v3	v2/H2O	v^2	ν1	v3	2x v2
Expt.	840	1010	1300	1360	1630	890	1060	1380	1680
Theory	878	1160	1260	1300	1588	900	1073	1290	1650

All spectra were collected with 32 averages at either 4cm-1 resolution. The concentration of the HCO3- and CO32- are prepared in test tube/vials, and then transferred to cotton ball tip, then acid is added to convert the HCO3- and CO32- into CO2(aq) and H2CO3. So, the initial concentrations of HCO3- and CO32- is accurate as prepared, while the concentration of HCO3- and CO32- along with CO2(aq) and H2CO3 are varying after HCl acid is applied.

We generated the spectra of ~~0.1M Na2CO3 with H2O background subtracted --- Blue trace; Spectra of ~0.1M KHCO3 with H2O background subtracted --- Red trace (figure 5).



Thermodynamics of liquid and super-critical Co2

Entropy, heat capacity and free energy over the phase diagram using 2PT molecular dynamics



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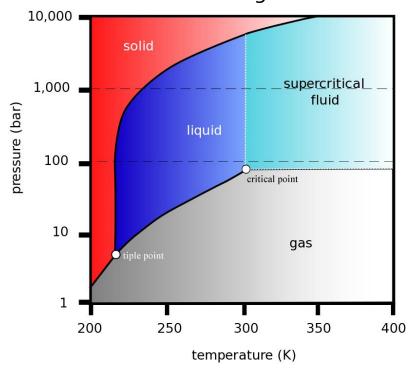




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Evolution of CO2 species from ReaxFF-DIC MD

- Simulation setup
 - 40 CO2/HCO3-
 - 2000 H2O
 - LAMMPS MD engine

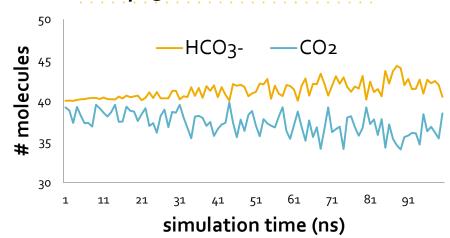


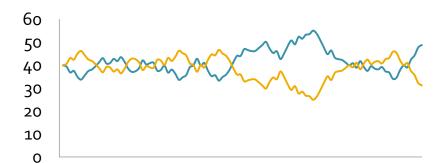
HCO₃- is stable species if injected as supercritical fluid

Prediction of equilibrium constant

Pure water.

Temp: 300K Pressure: .1GPa





50

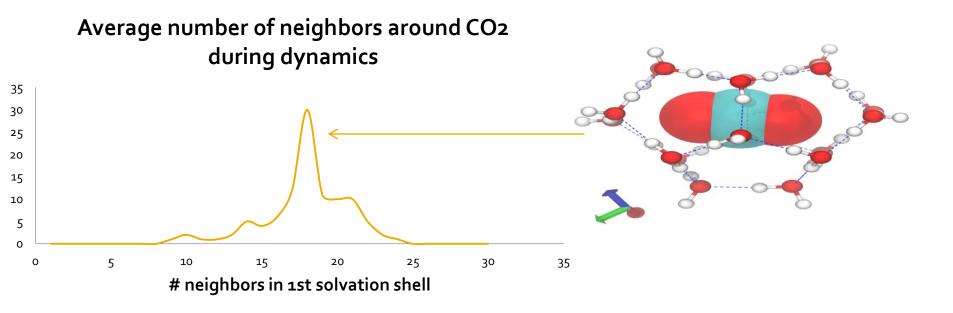
Simulation Time [ns]

0

5% brine



Structural analysis of CO2 species during MD



 "Clathrate" like CO₂(H₂O)₁₈ structure is most stable at 300K and 0.1GPa



How much CO₂ can be stored in brine from theory?

Methods of calculating partition coefficients

Scatchard-Hildebrand theory solubility in solvent

$$\ln K = \frac{V_i}{RT} \left[(\delta_{\rm a} - \delta_i)^2 - (\delta_{\rm o} - \delta_i)^2 \right] + \ln \frac{V_{\rm a}}{V_{\rm o}}$$
 partition coefficient

- **Limitation:** Unknown solubility parameters in brine/high T,P
- Theory: Grand Canonical MD Simulations
- Theory New approach: Partition Coefficients from free energy extracted from short MD



Calculations of free energy

$$\Delta G_t = \Delta H_t - T \Delta S_t$$

 ΔH is straightforward from MD, how do we get ΔS ?

Entropy:	a state variable whose change is defined for a reversible process at T where Q is the heat absorbed.	$\Delta S = \frac{Q}{T}$
Entropy:	a measure of the amount of energy which is unavailable to do work.	entropy
Entropy:	a measure of the disorder of a system.	entropy Which came
Entropy:	a measure of the multiplicity of a system.	first?

All correct but how do we compute it?

need to calculate free energies and entropy

General approach to predict Entropy, S, and Free Energy

Free Energy,
$$F = U - TS = -k_B T \ln Q(N, V, T)$$

Tolman Kirkwood thermodynamic integration

$$F(\lambda=1)-F(\lambda=0)=\int_{\lambda=0}^{\lambda=1}d\lambda \left\langle \frac{\partial U(\lambda)}{\partial \lambda} \right\rangle_{\lambda}$$
 H—N H—N H—N CMH H—N

However enormous computational cost required for complete sampling of the thermally relevant configurations of the system often impractical for realistic systems.

Additional complexities, choice of the appropriate approximation formalism or somewhat ad-hoc parameterization of the "reaction coordinate"

Thermodynamic Integration

The reaction is divided into windows with a specific value ξ i assigned to each window.

$$\Delta A_{a\to b} = \int_{\xi_a}^{\xi_b} \left\langle \frac{\partial E}{\partial \xi} \right\rangle_{\xi'} d\xi' = \int_{\xi_a}^{\xi_b} \langle F_c \rangle_{\xi'} d\xi'.$$

with an additional term correcting for incomplete momentum sampling, the metric-tensor correction

Not practical for brine solutions

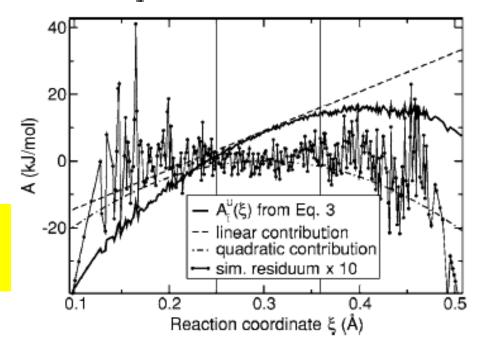


FIG. 2. The first terms of the power series of $A_i^{\mathbf{u}}(\xi)$ obtained from one window of the biological example PHBH (Sec. III). For details see Fig. 1.

New approach: Get Density of states from the Velocity autocorrelation function

Velocity autocorrelation function

$$C(t) = \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{3} m_{j} \left[\lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{2\tau} \int_{-\tau}^{\tau} v_{j}^{k}(t'+t) v_{j}^{k}(t') dt' \right]$$

DoS(v) is the vibrational density of States

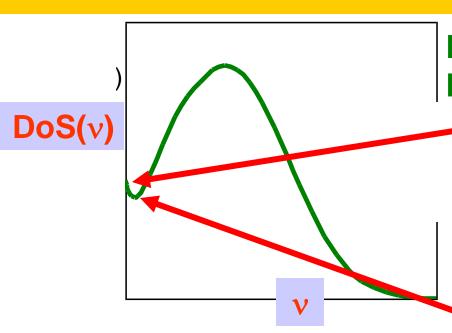
DoS(v) =
$$\frac{2}{KT} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{3} m_j s_j^k(v) = \frac{2}{kT} \lim_{\tau \to \infty} \int_{-\tau}^{\tau} C(t) e^{-i2\pi v t} dt$$
.

Calculate entropy from DoS(v)

$$S = k \ln Q + \beta^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial \ln Q}{\partial T} \right)_{N,V} = k \int_0^\infty dv S(v) \frac{\beta h v}{\exp(\beta h v) - 1} - \ln[1 - \exp(-\beta h v)],$$
zero

Problem: as $v \rightarrow 0$ get $S \rightarrow \infty$ unless DoS(0) = 0

Problem with Liquids: S(0)≠0



Finite density of states at v = 0Proportional to diffusion coefficie

$$S(0) = \frac{2}{kT} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} C(t) dt = \frac{12mND}{kT}.$$

where D is the diffusion coefficient

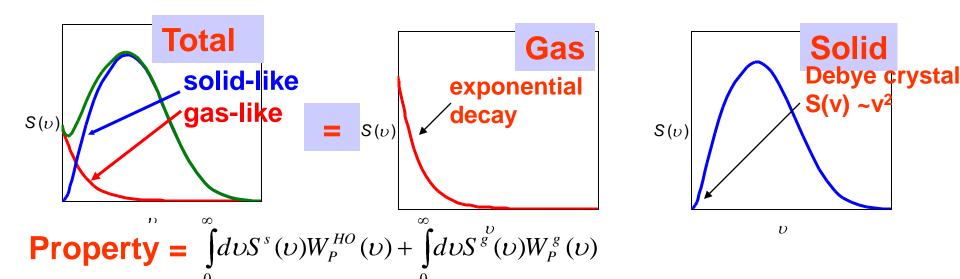
N=pumber of particles

Also strong anharmonicity at low frequencies

The two-phase model for calculating thermodynamic properties of liquids from molecular dynamics: Validation for the phase diagram of Lennard-Jones fluids; Lin, Blanco, Goddard; JCP, 119:11792(2003)

New method Two-Phase Thermodynamics Model (2PT)

- •Decompose liquid DoS(v) to a gas and a solid contribution
- •DoS(v) total = DoS(v) gas + DoS(v) solid
- S(0) attributed to gas phase diffusion
- •Gas component contains small v anharmonic effects
- Solid component contains quantum effects



The two-phase model for calculating thermodynamic properties of liquids from molecular dynamics: Validation for the phase diagram of Lennard-Jones fluids; Lin, Blanco, Goddard; JCP, 119:11792(2003)

Diffusional gas-like phase

Describe diffusional gas-like component as hard sphere fluid. velocity autocorrelation function of hard sphere gas decays exponentially \mathbf{g}_{IT}

exponentially
$$c^{HS}(t) = c^{HS}(0) \exp(-\alpha t) = \frac{3kT}{m} \exp(-\alpha t)$$

a is Enskog friction constant ~ collisions between hard sphere

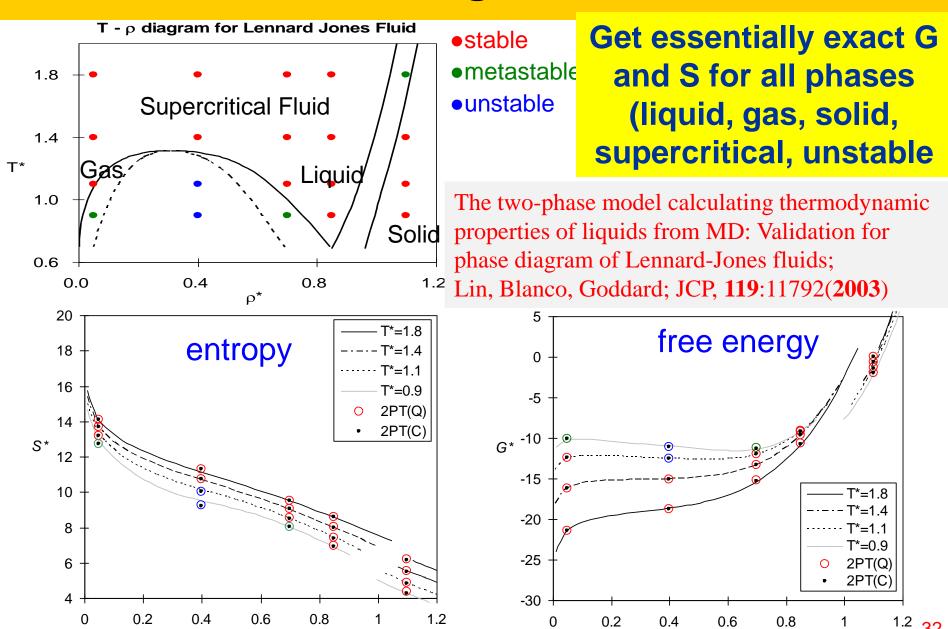
$$S^{HS}(\upsilon) = \frac{4}{kT} \int_{0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{N^{g}} \sum_{k=1}^{3} m_{j} c_{j}^{k}(t) \cos(2\pi \upsilon t) dt = \frac{4}{kT} \int_{0}^{\infty} 3N^{g} kT \exp(-\alpha t) \cos(2\pi \upsilon t) dt$$

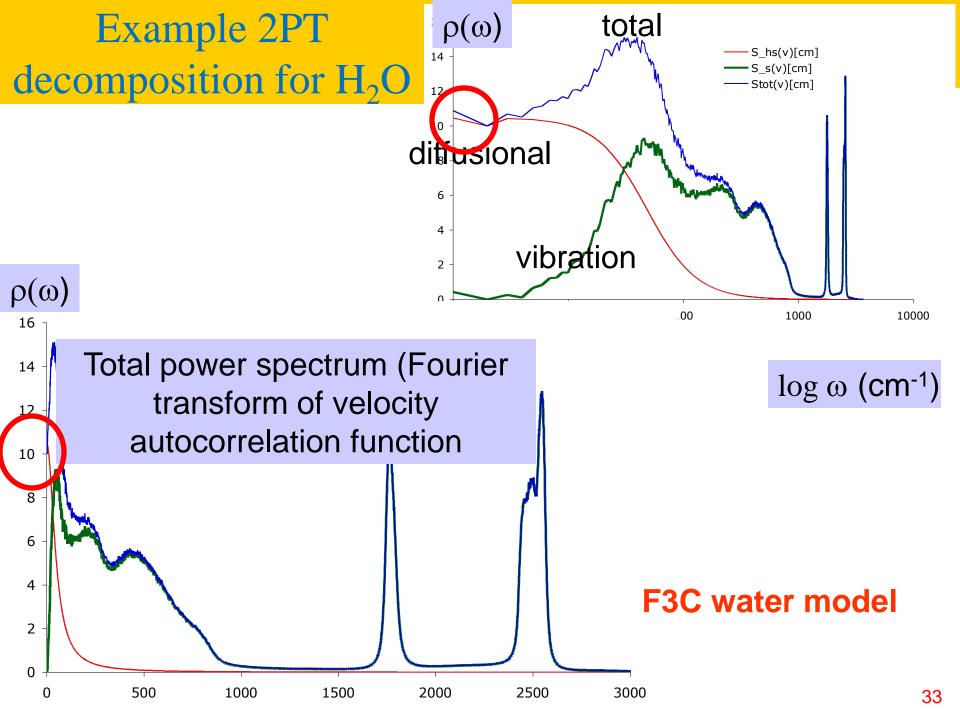
$$S^{HS}(\upsilon) = \frac{12N^g\alpha}{\alpha^2 + 4\pi^2\upsilon^2}$$

Ng = f N is number effective hard sphere particles in system f = fractional hard sphere component in overall system. Measures "fluidicity" of the system (depends on both temperature and density).

From MD, fit small n to Hard Sphere model -> S(0) and f

Validation of 2PT Using Lennard-Jones Fluids





Entropy of water box (F3C water)

Iteration	s_solid	s_liquid	s_total	sq/molecule	Volume	Density
1	26306.42	29263.86	55570.29	69.46285763	24504.28	0.975681
2	29171.87	26448.94	55620.8	69.52600088	23907.47	1.000037
3	28149.65	27416.01	55565.66	69.45707063	24350.23	0.981853
4	27695.09	28090.08	55785.18	69.73146913	24708.74	0.967607
5	28518.58	27110.11	55628.69	69.53585838	24546.61	0.973998
6	27281.02	28656.05	55937.07	69.92133425	24536.97	0.974381
7	25557.95	29920.17	55478.12	69.347647	24771.36	0.965161
8	28725.58	27031.59	55757.17	69.69646113	24393.49	0.980112
9	28970.64	26858.49	55829.14	69.786419	24647.06	0.970028
10	27409.63	28214.45	55624.08	69.53010463	24353.55	0.981719
Average	27778.64	27900.98	55679.62	69.59952226	24471.98	0.977058
Std Dev	1175.371	1127.951	141.6069	0.177008662	245.1435	0.009893

- Theory: 69.6 +/- 0.2 J/K*mol
- Experimental Entropy: 69.9 J/K*mol (NIST)



Co2 Phase Diagram

Physical Properties

Molar mass	44.010 g/mol
Appearance	colorless, odorless gas
Density	1.562 g/mL (solid/1 atm/195K)
	o.770 g/mL (liquid/56 atm293K)
	1.977 g/L (gas /1 atm/273K)
	849.6 g/L (supercritical/150
	atm/305K)
	• •

Melting point 194.7 K

Boiling point 216.6 K (at 5.185 bar)

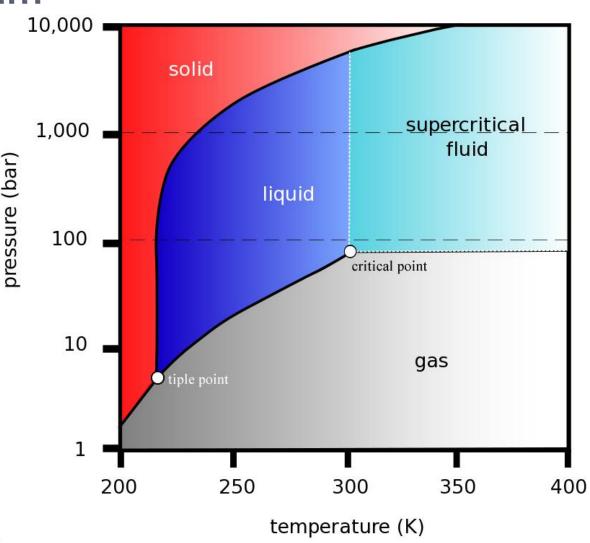
Solubility in water 1.45 g/L at 300K/1 bar Acidity (pKa)

6.35, 10.33 Viscosity 0.07 cP/195K

Dipole moment

Issues with current approaches

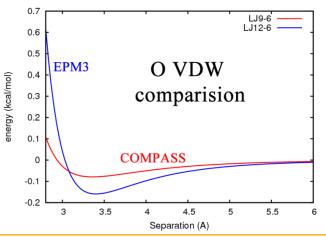
- CPMD simulations (32 molecules) too small to describe phase behavior
- Rigid empirical models give inaccurate super-critical behavior
- Flexible empirical model not fit to thermodynamic properties

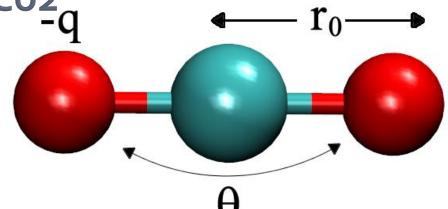


Needs accurate forcefields that accounts for physical and thermodynamic properties



Empirical forcefields for Co2





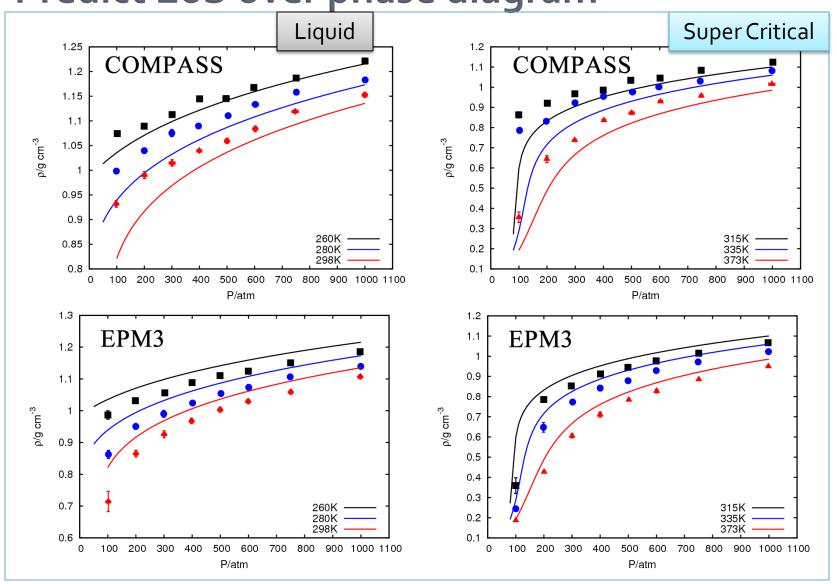
Critical Properties

										•	
	٤	σ_{c}	ε	$\sigma_{\rm o}$	α	q_c	r_{o}		T _c (K)	ρ _c (g/cm³)	P _c (MPa)
¹MSM	0.058	2.785	0.165	3.01	-	0.596	1.160		304.9	0.4642	7.17
² EPM ₂	0.056	2.757	0.160	3.03	-	0.651	1.149		303.2	0.4664	7.07
₃EPM3	0.056	2.800	0.160	3.03	-	0.652	1.162		304.0	0.4679	7.39
4TraPPE	0.054	2.800	0.157	3.05	-	0.700	1.160		309.1	0.462	7.2
5Errington*	0.058	2.753	0.165	3.03	14	0.647	1.143		302.5	0.4728	7.31
⁶ Zhang	0.057	2.792	0.164	3.00	-	0.589	1.163		304.0	0.467	7.23
7COMPASS*	0.136	3.420	0.134	2.94	-	0.800	1.160		316.1	0.4621	6.92
	_							Exp	304.1	0.4676	7.377

- Errington uses Exponential-6 for VDW
- COMPASS uses Bond-Bond stretch term to match vib. frequencies
- Models optimized to reproduce experimental physical properties



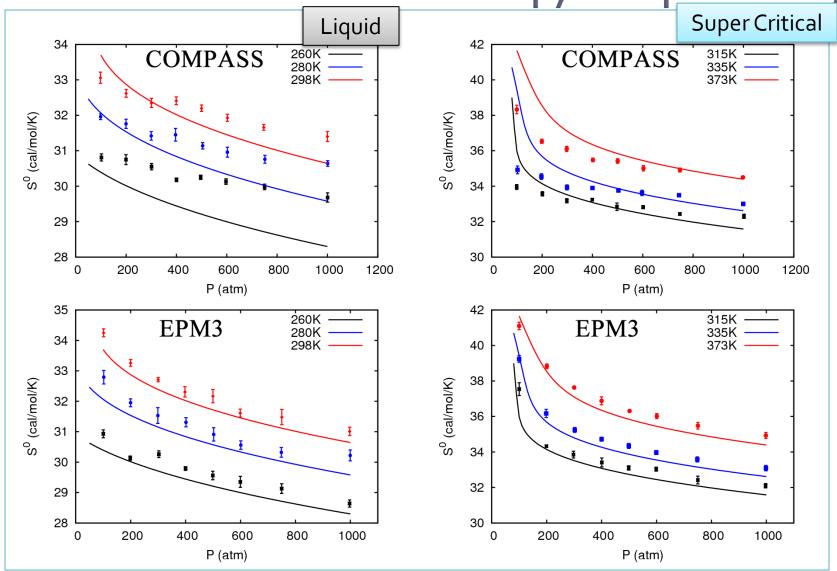
Predict EoS over phase diagram



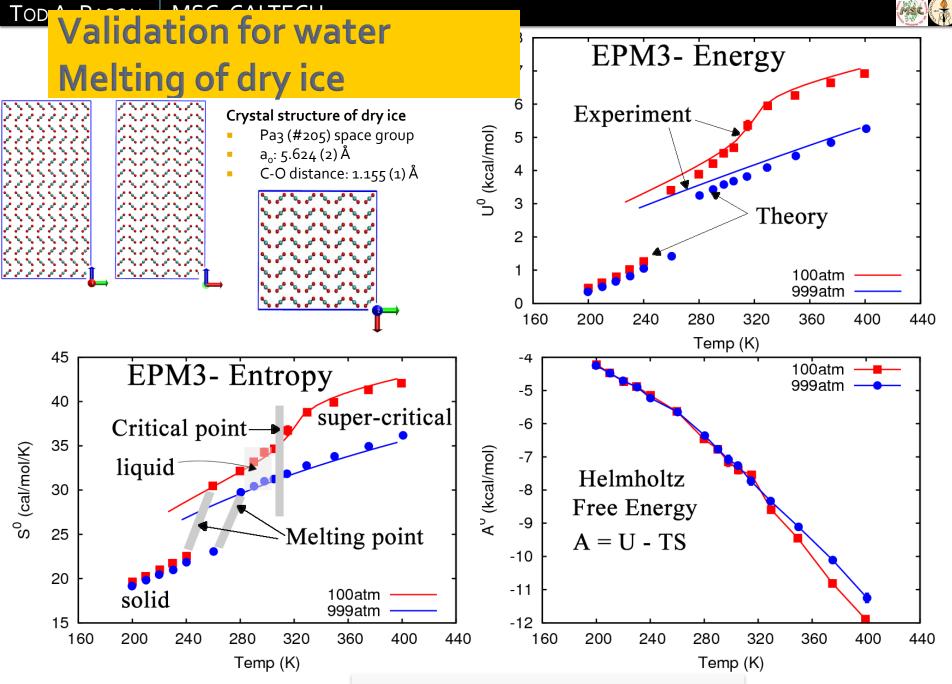
- COMPASS has reasonable description of liquid, poor description of Sc-Co2 at low pressures EPM3 more accurate for both liquid and Sc-Co2



Predict Standard Molar entropy over phase diagram

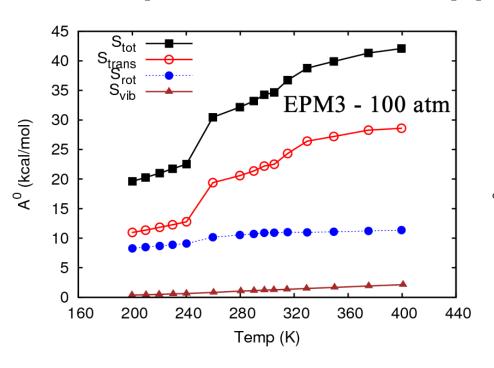


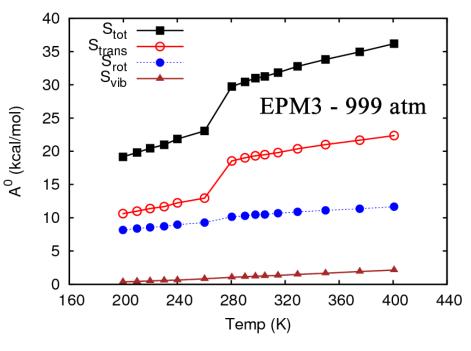
- COMPASS has large errors at high pressure liquid phase EPM3 superior for both liquid and Sc-CO2





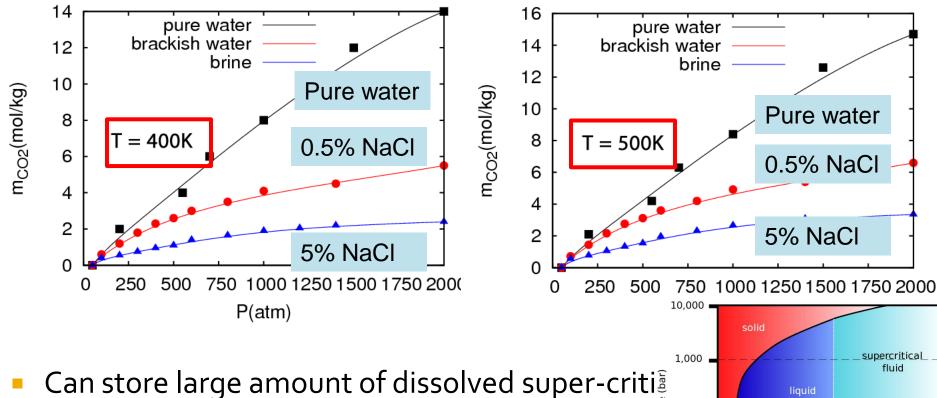
Components of entropy





- Entropy dominated by diffusion (50 % solid, 55% liquid, 66% super critical
- Melting of Co2 corresponding to dramatic increase in diffusional entropy
- Small increase in rotational entropy: Co2 not a free rotor in liquid phase
- Monotonic increase in vibrational entropy from solid-> liquid -> super critical

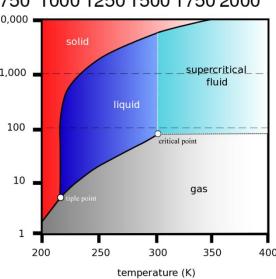
Grand Canonical Monte Carlo calculation of CO2 storage in brine Assuming no conversion of CO2 to HCO3-



 Can store large amount of dissolved super-criti in underground brine

Storage capacity increases with increasing temperature

Does not account for conversion of CO2 into





Top Stability of DIC species in Underground Brine calculated as a function of %salt, pressure, temperature 5% brine at o.2GPa and 350K



Species	ΔG (kcal/mol)	ΔH (kcal/mol)	TΔS (kcal/mol)	ratio	
CO ₂	-43.23±1.67	-30.81±1.24	12.42±3.52	1.0	
HCO ₃ -	-45.52±1.34	-31.29±2.45	14.23±1.74	13.33	
H ₂ CO ₃	-42.23±2.46	-30.21±1.98	12.02±1.32	0.061	
CO ₃ ²⁻	-43.10±1.92	-32.63±2.12	10.47 <u>±2.99</u>	0.785	

$$H_2CO_3 \rightleftharpoons HCO_3^- \rightleftharpoons CO_3^{2-}$$

pure water at 0.2GPa and 350K

Predict that ratio of HCO3- to CO2 is 13.3 Thus 92.5% of injected CO2 is converted to HCO3-Conversion to CO2 to HCO3- by itself does not dramatically increase the amount that can be stored, but HCO3- can be stabilized by interacting with the rock (not included in this project) Also partial pressure of CO2 that can leak out is dramatically reduced

- Can store 93% of injected CO₂ as HCO₃-
- HCO₃- is entropically stabilized
 - Favorable entropy of release 2 water molecules in solvation shell
 - Does not form any "clathrate" water structure as in CO₂

Conclusion

Predict that ratio of HCO3- to CO2 is 13.3

Thus 92.5% of injected CO2 is converted to HCO3Conversion to CO2 to HCO3- by itself does not
dramatically increase the amount that can be stored,
but HCO3- can be stabilized by interacting with the
rock (not included in this project)
Also partial pressure of CO2 that can leak out is
dramatically reduced

Thus storing CO2 in underground brine reservoirs is feasible

Thanks to DOE-NETL for funding and Robert Noll for monitoring program