

# A Computational Viewpoint on Classical Density Functional Theory

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Geometric Modeling in Biomolecular Systems  
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# Outline

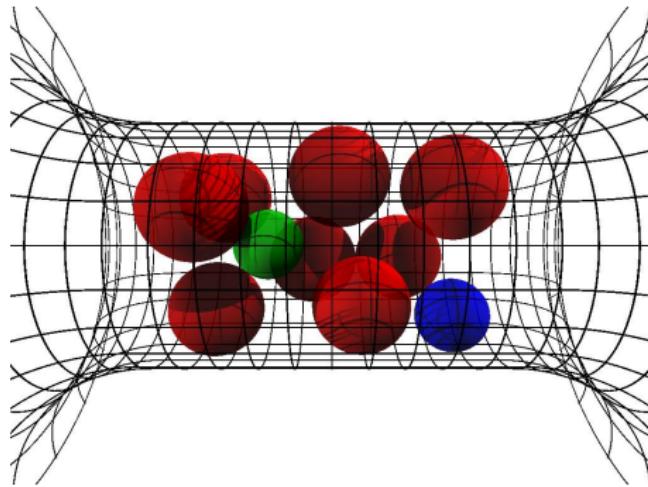
1 CDFT Intro

2 Model

3 Verification

# What is CDFT?

*A fast, accurate theoretical tool  
to understand the fundamental  
physics of inhomogeneous fluids*



# What is CDFT?

For concentration  $\rho_i(\vec{x})$  of species  $i$ ,  
solve

$$\min_{\rho_i(\vec{x})} \Omega[\{\rho_i(\vec{x})\}]$$

where  $\Omega$  is the free energy.

## What is CDFT?

For concentration  $\rho_i(\vec{x})$  of species  $i$ ,  
solve

$$\frac{\delta\Omega}{\delta\rho_i(\vec{x})} = 0$$

which are the Euler-Lagrange  
equations.

# What is CDFT?

## DFT

- Computes ensemble-averaged quantities directly
- Can have physical resolution in time ( $\mu\text{s}$ ) and space ( $\text{\AA}$ )
- Requires an accurate  $\Omega$
- Requires sophisticated solver technology
- Can predict experimental results!

For example,

D. Gillespie, L. Xu, Y. Wang, and G. Meissner,  
J. Phys. Chem. B 109, 15598, 2005

# Outline

## 1 CDFT Intro

## 2 Model

- Hard Sphere Repulsion
- Bulk Fluid Electrostatics
- Reference Fluid Density Electrostatics

## 3 Verification

# Equilibrium

$$\rho_i(\vec{x}) = \exp\left(\frac{\mu_i^{\text{bath}} - \mu_i^{\text{ext}}(\vec{x}) - \mu_i^{\text{ex}}(\vec{x})}{kT}\right)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_i^{\text{ex}}(\vec{x}) &= \mu_i^{\text{HS}}(\vec{x}) + \mu_i^{\text{ES}}(\vec{x}) \\ &= \mu_i^{\text{HS}}(\vec{x}) + \mu_i^{\text{SC}}(\vec{x}) + z_i e \phi(\vec{x})\end{aligned}$$

and

$$-\epsilon \Delta \phi(\vec{x}) = e \sum_i \rho_i(\vec{x})$$

## Details

The theory and implementation are detailed in  
Knepley, Karpeev, Davidovits, Eisenberg, Gillespie,  
**An Efficient Algorithm for Classical Density Functional  
Theory in Three Dimensions: Ionic Solutions,**  
JCP, 2012.

# Outline

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## Model

- Hard Sphere Repulsion
- Bulk Fluid Electrostatics
- Reference Fluid Density Electrostatics

# Hard Spheres (Rosenfeld)

$$\mu_i^{\text{HS}}(\vec{x}) = kT \sum_{\alpha} \int \frac{\partial \Phi^{\text{HS}}}{\partial n_{\alpha}}(n_{\alpha}(\vec{x}')) \omega_i^{\alpha}(\vec{x} - \vec{x}') d^3x'$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi^{\text{HS}}(n_{\alpha}(\vec{x}')) &= -n_0 \ln(1 - n_3) + \frac{n_1 n_2 - \vec{n}_{V1} \cdot \vec{n}_{V2}}{1 - n_3} \\ &\quad + \frac{n_2^3}{24\pi(1 - n_3)^2} \left(1 - \frac{\vec{n}_{V2} \cdot \vec{n}_{V2}}{n_2^2}\right)^3\end{aligned}$$

# Hard Sphere Basis

$$n_\alpha(\vec{x}) = \sum_i \int \rho_i(\vec{x}') \omega_i^\alpha(\vec{x} - \vec{x}') d^3x'$$

where

$$\omega_i^0(\vec{r}) = \frac{\omega_i^2(\vec{r})}{4\pi R_i^2}$$

$$\omega_i^1(\vec{r}) = \frac{\omega_i^2(\vec{r})}{4\pi R_i}$$

$$\omega_i^2(\vec{r}) = \delta(|\vec{r}| - R_i)$$

$$\omega_i^3(\vec{r}) = \theta(|\vec{r}| - R_i)$$

$$\vec{\omega}_i^{V1}(\vec{r}) = \frac{\vec{\omega}_i^{V2}(\vec{r})}{4\pi R_i}$$

$$\vec{\omega}_i^{V2}(\vec{r}) = \frac{\vec{r}}{|\vec{r}|} \delta(|\vec{r}| - R_i)$$

# Hard Sphere Basis

All  $n_\alpha$  integrals may be cast as convolutions:

$$\begin{aligned} n_\alpha(\vec{x}) &= \sum_i \int \rho_i(\vec{x}') \omega_i^\alpha(\vec{x}' - \vec{x}) d^3x' \\ &= \sum_i \mathcal{F}^{-1} (\mathcal{F}(\rho_i) \cdot \mathcal{F}(\omega_i^\alpha)) \\ &= \sum_i \mathcal{F}^{-1} (\hat{\rho}_i \cdot \hat{\omega}_i^\alpha) \end{aligned}$$

and similarly

$$\mu_i^{\text{HS}}(\vec{x}) = kT \sum_\alpha \mathcal{F}^{-1} \left( \frac{\partial \hat{\Phi}^{\text{HS}}}{\partial n_\alpha} \cdot \hat{\omega}_i^\alpha \right)$$

# Hard Sphere Basis

## Spectral Quadrature

There is a fly in the ointment:

- standard quadrature for  $\omega^\alpha$  is very inaccurate ( $\mathcal{O}(1)$  errors),
- and destroys conservation properties, e.g. total mass

We can use spectral quadrature for accurate evaluation,

- combining FFT of density,  $\hat{\rho}_i$ ,
- with analytic FT of weight functions.

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# Hard Sphere Basis

## Spectral Quadrature

$$\hat{\omega}_i^0(\vec{k}) = \frac{\hat{\omega}_i^2(\vec{k})}{4\pi R_i^2}$$

$$\hat{\omega}_i^1(\vec{k}) = \frac{\hat{\omega}_i^2(\vec{k})}{4\pi R_i}$$

$$\hat{\omega}_i^2(\vec{k}) = \frac{4\pi R_i \sin(R_i |\vec{k}|)}{|\vec{k}|}$$

$$\hat{\omega}_i^3(\vec{k}) = \frac{4\pi}{|\vec{k}|^3} \left( \sin(R_i |\vec{k}|) - R_i |\vec{k}| \cos(R_i |\vec{k}|) \right)$$

$$\hat{\omega}_i^{V1}(\vec{k}) = \frac{\hat{\omega}_i^{V2}(\vec{k})}{4\pi R_i}$$

$$\hat{\omega}_i^{V2}(\vec{k}) = \frac{-4\pi i}{|\vec{k}|^2} \left( \sin(R_i |\vec{k}|) - R_i |\vec{k}| \cos(R_i |\vec{k}|) \right)$$

# Hard Sphere Basis

## Numerical Stability

Recall that

$$\Phi^{\text{HS}}(n_\alpha(\vec{x}')) = \dots + \frac{n_2^3}{24\pi(1-n_3)^2} \left(1 - \frac{\vec{n}_{V2} \cdot \vec{n}_{V2}}{n_2^2}\right)^3$$

and note that we have analytically

$$\frac{|n_{V2}(x)|^2}{|n^2(x)|^2} \leq 1.$$

However, discretization errors in  $\rho_i$  near sharp geometric features can produce large values for this term, which prevent convergence of the nonlinear solver. Thus we **explicitly** enforce this bound.

# Outline

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## Model

- Hard Sphere Repulsion
- **Bulk Fluid Electrostatics**
- Reference Fluid Density Electrostatics

# Bulk Fluid (BF) Electrostatics

$$\mu_i^{\text{SC}} = \mu_i^{\text{ES},\text{bath}} - \sum_j \int_{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'| \leq R_{ij}} \left( c_{ij}^{(2)}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') + \psi_{ij}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') \right) \Delta\rho_j(\vec{x}') d^3x'$$

Using  $\lambda_k = R_k + \frac{1}{2\Gamma}$ , where  $\Gamma$  is the MSA screening parameter, we have

$$c_{ij}^{(2)}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') + \psi_{ij}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') = \frac{z_i z_j e^2}{8\pi\epsilon} \left( \frac{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|}{2\lambda_i \lambda_j} - \frac{\lambda_i + \lambda_j}{\lambda_i \lambda_j} + \frac{1}{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'|} \left( \frac{(\lambda_i - \lambda_j)^2}{2\lambda_i \lambda_j} + 2 \right) \right)$$

# Bulk Fluid (BF) Electrostatics

$$\mu_i^{\text{SC}} = \mu_i^{\text{ES},\text{bath}} - \sum_j \int_{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'| \leq R_{ij}} \left( c_{ij}^{(2)}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') + \psi_{ij}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') \right) \Delta\rho_j(\vec{x}') d^3x'$$

It's a convolution too!

# Bulk Fluid (BF) Electrostatics

$$\mu_i^{\text{SC}} = \mu_i^{\text{ES},\text{bath}} - \sum_j \int_{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'| \leq R_{ij}} \left( c_{ij}^{(2)}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') + \psi_{ij}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') \right) \Delta\rho_j(\vec{x}') d^3x'$$

$$\mathcal{F}(\Delta\rho_j) = \mathcal{F}(\rho_j - \rho_{\text{bath}}) = \mathcal{F}(\rho_j) - \mathcal{F}(\rho_{\text{bath}})$$

- $\mathcal{F}(\rho_j)$  was already calculated
- $\mathcal{F}(\rho_{\text{bath}})$  is constant
- $\mathcal{F}\left(c_{ij}^{(2)}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') + \psi_{ij}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}')\right)$  is constant

so we only calculate the inverse transform on each iteration.

# Bulk Fluid (BF) Electrostatics

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FFT is also inaccurate!

# Bulk Fluid (BF) Electrostatics

$$\mu_i^{\text{SC}} = \mu_i^{\text{ES},\text{bath}} - \sum_j \int_{|\vec{x} - \vec{x}'| \leq R_{ij}} \left( c_{ij}^{(2)}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') + \psi_{ij}(\vec{x}, \vec{x}') \right) \Delta\rho_j(\vec{x}') d^3x'$$

$$\hat{c}_{ij}^{(2)} + \hat{\psi}_{ij} = \frac{z_i z_j e^2}{\epsilon |\vec{k}|} \left( \frac{1}{2\lambda_i \lambda_j} I_1 - \frac{\lambda_i + \lambda_j}{\lambda_i \lambda_j} I_0 + \left( \frac{(\lambda_i - \lambda_j)^2}{2\lambda_i \lambda_j} + 2 \right) I_{-1} \right)$$

where

$$I_{-1} = \frac{1}{|\vec{k}|} \left( 1 - \cos(|\vec{k}|R) \right)$$

$$I_0 = -\frac{R}{|\vec{k}|} \cos(|\vec{k}|R) + \frac{1}{|\vec{k}|^2} \sin(|\vec{k}|R)$$

$$I_1 = -\frac{R^2}{|\vec{k}|} \cos(|\vec{k}|R) + 2\frac{R}{|\vec{k}|^2} \sin(|\vec{k}|R) - \frac{2}{|\vec{k}|^3} \left( 1 - \cos(|\vec{k}|R) \right)$$

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## Model

- Hard Sphere Repulsion
- Bulk Fluid Electrostatics
- Reference Fluid Density Electrostatics

# Reference Fluid Density (RFD) Electrostatics

Expand around  $\rho_i^{\text{ref}}(\vec{x})$ , an inhomogeneous reference density profile:

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_i^{SC} [\{\rho_k(\vec{y})\}] &\approx \mu_i^{SC} [\{\rho_k^{\text{ref}}(\vec{y})\}] \\ &- kT \sum_i \int c_i^{(1)} [\{\rho_k^{\text{ref}}(\vec{y})\}; \vec{x}] \Delta\rho_i(\vec{x}) d^3x \\ &- \frac{kT}{2} \sum_{i,j} \iint c_{ij}^{(2)} [\{\rho_k^{\text{ref}}(\vec{y})\}; \vec{x}, \vec{x}'] \Delta\rho_i(\vec{x}) \Delta\rho_j(\vec{x}') d^3x d^3x'\end{aligned}$$

with

$$\Delta\rho_i(\vec{x}) = \rho_i(\vec{x}) - \rho_i^{\text{ref}}(\vec{x})$$

# Reference Fluid Density (RFD) Electrostatics

$$\rho_i^{\text{ref}} [\{\rho_k(\vec{x}')\}; \vec{x}] = \frac{3}{4\pi R_{SC}^3(\vec{x})} \int_{|\vec{x}' - \vec{x}| \leq R_{SC}(\vec{x})} \alpha_i(\vec{x}') \rho_i(\vec{x}') d^3x'$$

Choose  $\alpha_i$  so that the reference density is

- charge neutral, and
- has the same ionic strength as  $\rho_i$

This can model gradient flow

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# Reference Fluid Density (RFD) Electrostatics

We can rewrite this expression as an averaging operation:

$$\rho^{\text{ref}}(\vec{x}) = \int \rho(\vec{x}') \frac{\theta(|\vec{x}' - \vec{x}| - R_{SC}(\vec{x}))}{\frac{4\pi}{3} R_{SC}^3(\vec{x})} d\vec{x}'$$

where

$$R_{SC}(\vec{x}) = \frac{\sum_i \tilde{\rho}_i(\vec{x}) R_i}{\sum_i \tilde{\rho}_i(\vec{x})} + \frac{1}{2\Gamma(\vec{x})}$$

We close the system using

$$\Gamma_{SC}[\rho](\vec{x}) = \Gamma_{MSA}[\rho^{\text{ref}}(\rho)](\vec{x}).$$

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# Consistency checks

- Check  $n_\alpha$  of constant density against analytics
- Check that  $n_3$  is the combined volume fraction
- Check that wall solution has only 1D variation

# Sum Rule Verification

## Hard Spheres

$$\beta P_{\text{bath}}^{HS} = \sum_i \rho_i(R_i)$$

where

$$P_{\text{bath}}^{HS} = \frac{6kT}{\pi} \left( \frac{\xi_0}{\Delta} + \frac{3\xi_1\xi_2}{\Delta^2} + \frac{3\xi_2^3}{\Delta^3} \right)$$

using auxiliary variables

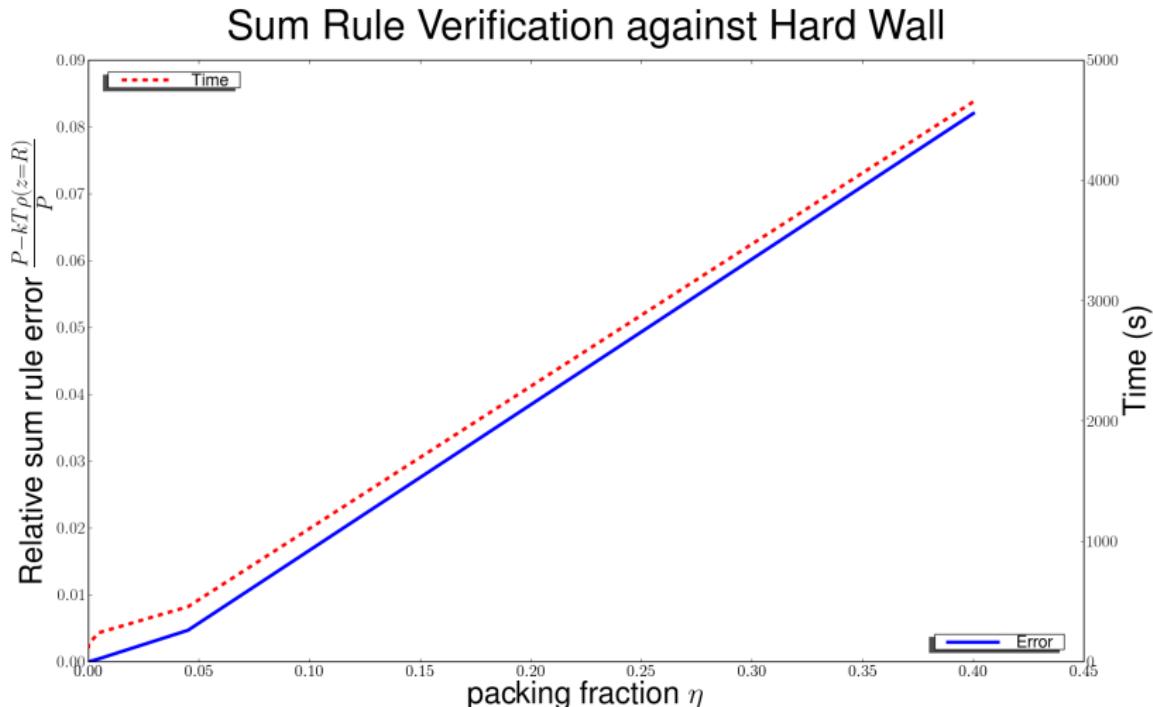
$$\xi_n = \frac{\pi}{6} \sum_j \rho_j^{bath} \sigma_j^n \quad n \in \{0, \dots, 3\}$$

$$\Delta = 1 - \xi_3$$

# Sum Rule Verification

## Hard Spheres

Relative accuracy and Simulation time for  $R = 0.1\text{nm}$

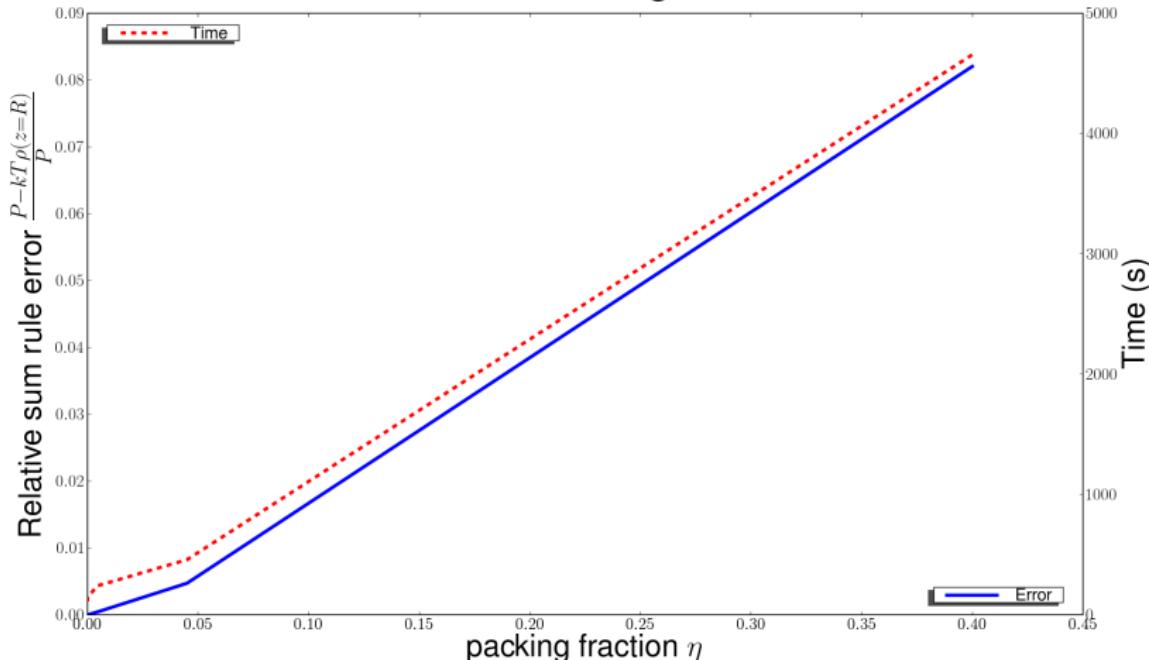


# Sum Rule Verification

## Hard Spheres

Volume fraction ranges from  $10^{-5}$  to 0.4 (very difficult for MC/MD)

Sum Rule Verification against Hard Wall



# Ionic Fluid Verification

## Charged Hard Spheres

$R_{\text{cation}}$	0.1 nm
$R_{\text{anion}}$	0.2125 nm
Concentration	1 M
Domain	$2 \times 2 \times 6 \text{ nm}^3$ and periodic
Uncharged hard wall	$z = 0$
Grid	$21 \times 21 \times 161$

# Ionic Fluid Verification

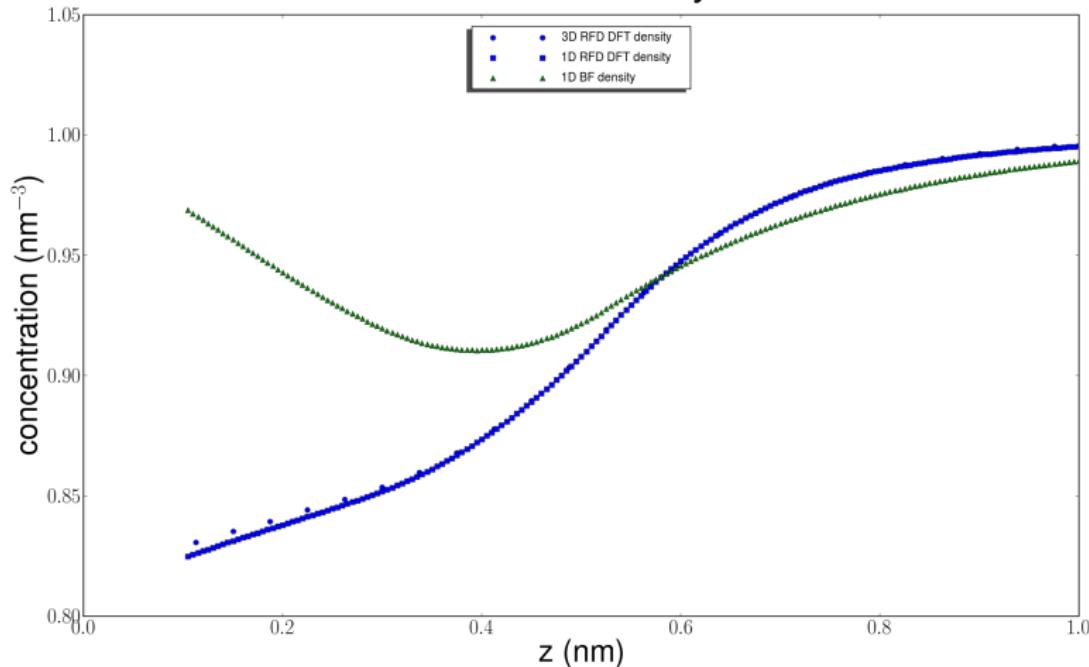
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# Ionic Fluid Verification

## Charged Hard Spheres

### Cation Concentrations for 1M concentration Cation Density

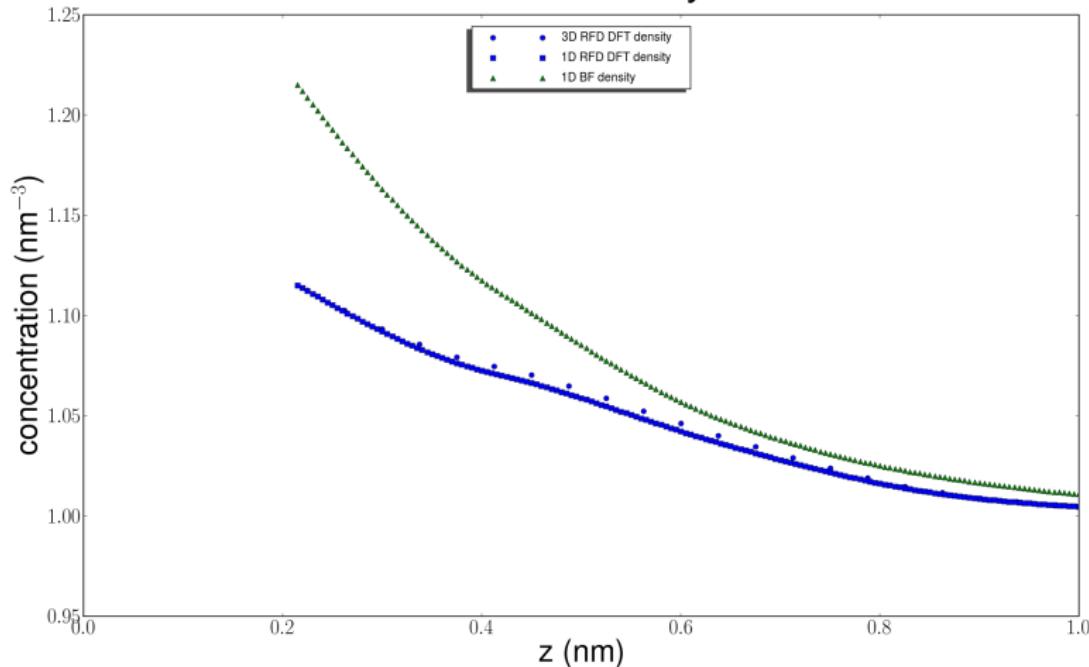


# Ionic Fluid Verification

## Charged Hard Spheres

Anion Concentrations for 1M concentration

Anion Density

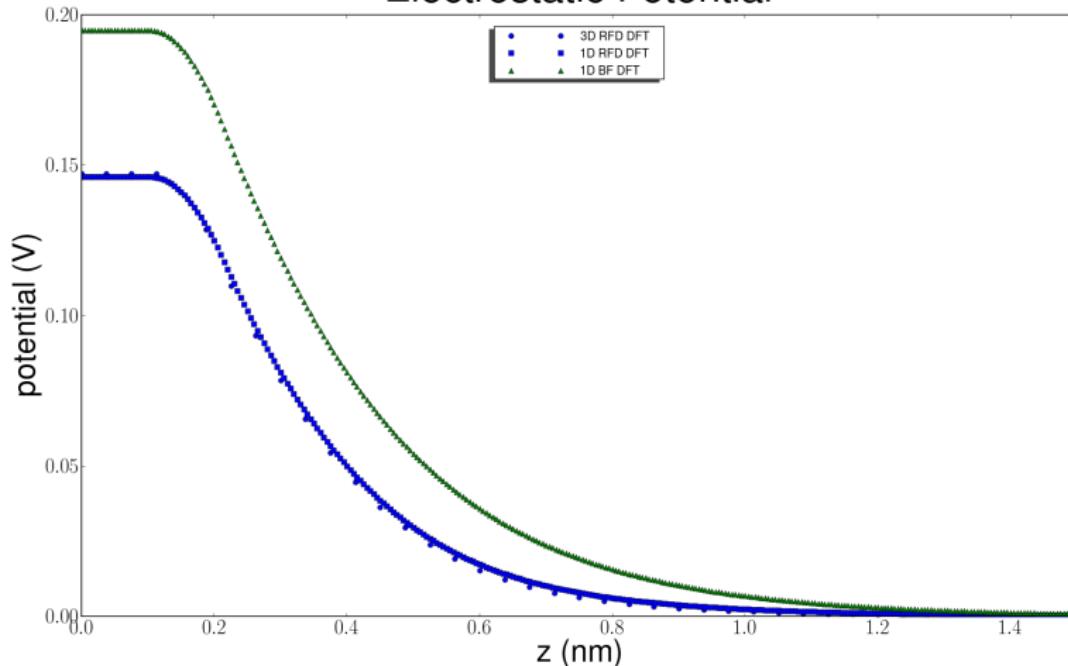


# Ionic Fluid Verification

## Charged Hard Spheres

Mean Electrostatic Potential for 1M concentration

Electrostatic Potential



# Ionic Fluid Verification

## Charged Hard Spheres

These results were first reported in 1D in  
Density functional theory of the electrical double  
layer: the RFD functional,  
J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 17, 6609, 2005.

# Main Points

## Real Space vs. Fourier Space

- $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$  vs.  $\mathcal{O}(N \lg N)$
- Accurate quadrature only available in Fourier space

## Electrostatics

- Bulk Fluid (BF) model can be qualitatively wrong
- Reference Fluid Density (RFD) model demands complex algorithm

## Solver convergence

- Picard was more robust
- Newton rarely entered the quadratic regime
- Still no multilevel alternative (interpolation?)

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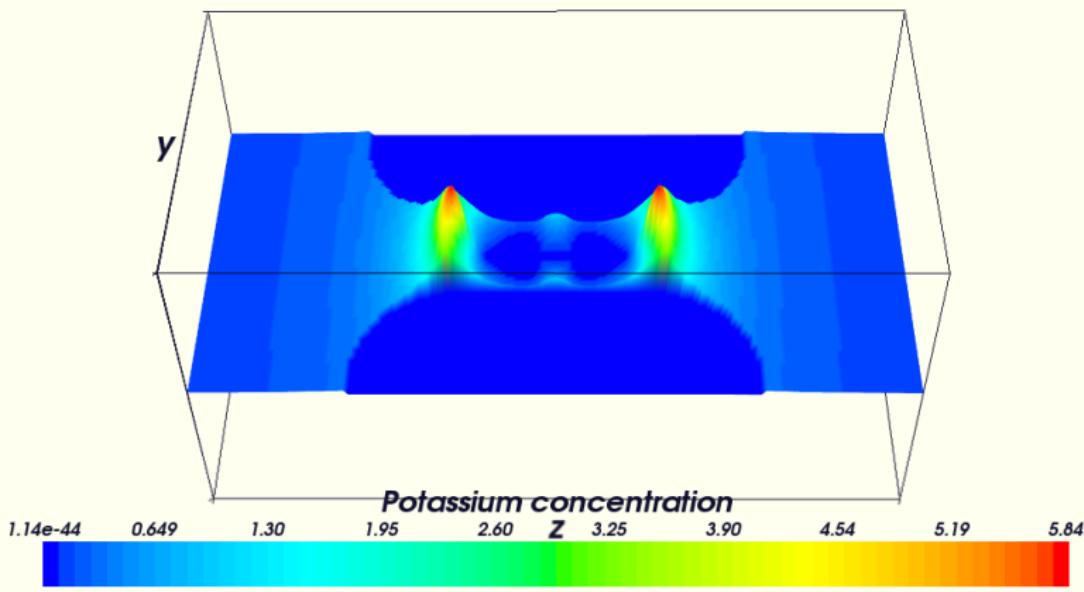
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# Conclusion

The theory and implementation are detailed in

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Potassium Density in a Calcium Channel



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Hardsphere Chemical Potential (bath subtracted) for Potassium

