# **Nanoscopic Water and Proton Transfer**



# **Ultrafast Infrared and Visible Spectroscopy**



-head group counter ion

Same head group as Nafion

 $w_0$  is directly related to the micelle radius

 $w_0 = 10 \longrightarrow 4.0 \text{ nm} (\sim 1000 \text{ H}_2\text{O})$  $w_0 = 20 \longrightarrow 7.0 \text{ nm} (\sim 5400 \text{ H}_2\text{O})$  $w_0 = 40 \longrightarrow 17 \text{ nm} (\sim 77,000 \text{ H}_2\text{O})$  $w_0 = 60 \longrightarrow 28 \text{ nm} (\sim 350,000 \text{ H}_2\text{O})$ 

## **Properties of Water - Hydrogen Bond Network and Its Evolution**





Water can make up to 4 hydrogen bonds.

Strong bonds become weak. Weak bonds become strong. Bonds form. Bonds break.



**How Does Nanoscopic Confinement Change the Properties of Water?** 

**Over what distances are the properties of water changed by confinement?** 

# IR Spectroscopy of Water Hydroxyl Stretch – Direct Probe of Hydrogen Bond Network and Its Dynamics

#### **Four Experimental Observables**

- **1.** Absorption spectra FT-IR measurements
- 2. Vibration population relaxation Ultra fast IR pump-probe measurements
- 3. Orientational relaxation Ultrafast IR pump-probe polarization measurements
- 4 Spectral diffusion Ultrafast IR vibrational echo measurements

#### Linear absorption spectra blue shift as water nanopool gets smaller



#### **Ultrafast IR Wavelength Selected Polarized IR Pump-Probe Experiments Population Relaxation and Orientational Relaxation**



 $S_{\parallel}(t) = Ae^{-t/\tau}(1+0.8C_{2}(t))$   $S_{\perp}(t) = Ae^{-t/\tau}(1-0.4C_{2}(t))$ 

 $C_2(t)$  is the orientational correlation function for a dipole transition (second order Legendre polynomial).

population relaxation  $P(t) = S_{\parallel}(t) + 2S_{\perp}(t)$ 

orientational anisotropy 
$$r(t) = \frac{S_{\parallel}(t) - S_{\perp}(t)}{S_{\parallel}(t) + 2S_{\perp}(t)} = 0.4C_{2}(t)$$

 $C_2(0) = 1$ ; therefore r(0) = 0.4 M.I San 6/20

#### **Vibrational Population Relaxation Slows as Water Nanopool Gets Smaller.**



	P(t)
$w_0 = 2$	<b>5.2 ps</b>
$w_0 = 5$	<b>4.4 ps</b>
$w_0 = 10$	<b>2.7 ps</b>
$w_0 = 20$	<b>2.1 ps</b>
$w_0 = 40$	<b>1.7 ps</b>
$w_0 = 60$	<b>1.8 ps</b>
water	<b>1.7 ps</b>

	<i>d</i> (nm)	# H <sub>2</sub> O
water	-	-
$w_0 = 60$	28	350,000
$w_0 = 40$	17	77,000
$w_0 = 20$	7.0	5400
$w_0 = 10$	4.0	1000
$w_0 = 5$	2.4	300
$w_0 = 2$	1.7	<b>40</b>

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## **Orientational Anisotropy Relaxation**



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### **Ultrafast 2D Infrared Vibrational Echo Spectroscopy**





#### **Spectrally Resolved Vibrational Echoes**



The vibrational echo peak shift is determined by the frequency-frequency correlation function. As  $T_w$  increases, there is more spectral diffusion that makes the vibrational echo decay faster, and reduces the peak shift.

> Detailed fitting of FFCF to full set of decay curves and linear spectrum for each size shows:

fastest components, very local motions, change somewhat,

major change in slowest component, global hydrogen bond network rearrangement slows dramatically as water nanopool becomes smaller.

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hydroxyl stretch (OD of 5% HOD in H<sub>2</sub>O)

Orientational relaxation and spectral diffusion are intimately related to

H-bond network evolution.

**Core and shell H-bond networks are continuous.** 

Dynamics in the core and shell are coupled through the H-bond network.



Complete orientational relaxation and

complete spectral diffusion
require randomization of the
H-bond network.
Core-shell dynamics coupled.

Core-shell exchange time very slow.

J. Phys. Chem. A <u>110</u>, 4585-4599 (2006).

# **Proton Transfer in Nanoscopic Water – Photoacid Dynamics**

#### Photoexcitation - K<sub>a</sub> increases 10<sup>7</sup>





How does nanoscopic water dynamics influence proton transfer?

**HPTS in reverse micelle** 



Sulfonates and Na<sup>+</sup> counter ions same as head groups and counter ions of AOT. A variety of experiments (anisotropy decays, spectra) demonstrate that HPTS in water nanopool, not associated with AOT head groups or buried in surfactant.

## First, what happens in bulk water.



HPTS – pump 405 nm; continuum probe

Detailed MCD and polarization studies show that none of the dynamics involves shifting of the electronic excited states of the protonated form following optical excitation.

# **Model and Fitting**



**Formation of charge-transfer complex.** Four coordinate hydrogen bond complex becomes three coordinate hydronium ion. **Establish equilibrium.** 



**Charge separation.** A more global rearrangement of hydrogen bond network is required to separate the anion and hydronium.

### Solve differential equations for above model. Fit data.

Fits include: Stoke's shift, formation of charge-transfer complex, charge separation.





**On to Nanoscopic Water – AOT Reverse Micelles** 

Because the excited state lifetimes are so long, the steady state fluorescence spectra reflect the end points of the photoinduced proton transfer but prior to recombination on the ground state surface.



The proton transfer dynamics have a well defined size dependence similar to the dynamics of nanoscopic water in AOT. Nanoscopic water dynamics first deviates from bulk at  $w_0 = 10$  rather than 7. The largest sizes (d = 17 nm, 7 nm, and 4 nm) show no size dependence and are almost the same as bulk water. The difference is the long time asymptotic value.



sample	<i>k</i> <sub>1</sub>	<i>k</i> <sub>-1</sub>	<i>k</i> <sub>2</sub>	k <sub>-2</sub>	K <sub>eq</sub>
water	0.033	0.079	0.048	0	∞
$w_0 = 40, 20, 10$	0.024	0.041	0.039	0.0004	57
$w_0 = 7$	0.020	0.031	0.015	0.002	5.2
$w_0 = 5$	0.017	0.029	0.009	0.003	1.6
$w_0 = 4$	0.021	0.046	0.009	0.005	0.8
$w_0 = 3$	0.013	0.039	0.011	0.007	0.5

The proton transfer dynamics in nanoscopic water are fit with the same model used for bulk water. The same quality of fits are obtained over all times and wavelengths.





 $k_1$  – initial forward proton transfer kinetics slow as water nanopool becomes smaller

 $\mathbf{K}_{eq} = \frac{k_1 k_2}{k_{-1} k_{-2}} - \begin{array}{l} \text{becomes smaller as nanopool gets smaller.} \\ \text{Less generation of "free" protons. Long} \\ \text{time off-set increases.} \end{array}$ 

Smallest reverse micelles,  $w_0 = 4$  and 3, d < 2 nm, don't fall all trends. Head group water shell, 0.4 nm thick. HPTS contacting interface?

## Nafion fuel cell membrane



Nanoscopic water channels, proton transport.





#### **Orientational Anisotropy Decays and Simulations of Water in Nafion Nanochannels**

Decays are non-exponential – comparison of slowest components that leads to complete randomization.

	slowest component		
sample	experiment	simulation	
$\lambda = 1$ $\lambda = 3$ $\lambda = 5$ $\lambda = 7.5$ water	81 ps 47 ps 21 ps 18 ps 2.6 ps	73 ps 33 ps 24 ps 13 Ps	

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hydroxyl stretch (OD of 5% HOD in H<sub>2</sub>O)

## **Proton Transfer in Nanoscopic Water Channels – HPTS in Nafion**



Like the HPTS experiments in AOT reverse micelles, as the water channels contain less water, proton transfer dynamics slow.

Nafion becomes a proton transport membrane for  $\lambda > 5$ .

#### **Key Points**

Water dynamics slow dramatically in reverse micelles with small water nanopools, particularly H-bond network global structural rearrangement.

Photoacid HPTS experiments in bulk water occur on three time scales, Stoke's shift, local charge transfer complex formation, and proton migration. Excellent agreement between data and model calculations.

Photoacid HPTS proton transfer dynamics unaffected in large reverse micelles, but slow dramatically in small water nanopools. Equilibrium constant shift, less dissociation

Water dynamics slow substantially in water nanochannels of Nafion membranes in a manner akin to reverse micelles. Simulations do a good job of reproducing orientational relaxation.

HPTS photoacid experiments in Nafion water channels show the influence of channel size (amount of water per head group) on proton transfer dynamics. Proton transfer dynamics slow significantly as water content is reduced.



Reverse Micelles - Water Ivan Piletic David Moilanen Ben Spry Prof. Nancy Levinger

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