

**Supporting Information:**

**Theory for Gas Solubility and Hydrophobic  
Interaction in Aqueous Electrolyte Solutions**

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## SI-A Inversion of $I^{ij}$ for small $n_h$

For small  $n_h$  we can easily invert the  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $I^{ij}$  to obtain  $I_{ij}$ . First, from Eq. (7), we obtain  $I^{ij} = I_s^{ij} + O(n_h)$  for  $i, j = w, I$ ,  $I^{ih} = \partial \nu_h^s / \partial n_i + O(n_h)$  for  $i = w, I$ , and  $I^{hh} = 1/n_h + U_{hh}^s + O(n_h)$ . Here  $I_s^{ij}$  has been defined below Eq. (27). We expand  $I_{ij}$  as

$$I_{ij} = I_{ij}^s + O(n_h) \quad (i, j = w, I) \quad (\text{SI-1})$$

$$I_{ih} = A_i n_h + O(n_h^2) \quad (i = w, I) \quad (\text{SI-2})$$

where  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $\{I_{ij}^s\}_{i,j=w,I}$  is the inverse matrix of  $\{I_s^{ij}\}_{i,j=w,I}$ . In Eq. (SI-2) we can easily confirm the zeroth order term identically vanishes. The relation  $\sum_j I_{wj} I^{jh} = \sum_j I_{Ij} I^{jh} = 0$  then yields

$$A_i = - \sum_{j=w,I} I_{ij}^s (\partial \nu_h^s / \partial n_j). \quad (\text{SI-3})$$

Inverting this, we obtain

$$\partial \nu_h^s / \partial n_i = - \sum_{j=w,I} I_{ij}^s A_j \quad (\text{SI-4})$$

$$= \begin{cases} \Delta_0^{-1} (-I_{II}^s A_w + I_{wI}^s A_I) & (i = w) \\ \Delta_0^{-1} (I_{wI}^s A_w - I_{ww}^s A_I) & (i = I). \end{cases} \quad (\text{SI-5})$$

Substituting Eq. (SI-5) into Eq.(34) and using Eqs. (15) and (29), we obtain

$$g_h = (1/n^2 \chi_I) (A_w n_I - A_I n_w). \quad (\text{SI-6})$$

Similarly, substitution of Eq. (SI-4) into (21) yields

$$v_h^{s*} = -(v_w^s A_w + v_I^s A_I), \quad (\text{SI-7})$$

where use has been made of Eq. (15). We can readily invert Eqs. (SI-6) and (SI-7) to have

$$A_w = n^2 \chi_I g_h v_I^s - n_w v_h^{s*} \quad (\text{SI-8})$$

$$A_I = -n^2 \chi_I g_h v_w^s - n_I v_h^{s*}. \quad (\text{SI-9})$$

Next, neglecting the terms of order  $n_h$  in  $\sum_i I^{hi} I_{ih} = 1$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 1/I_{hh} &= 1/n_h + U_{hh}^s/k_B T + \sum_{i=w,I} A_i (\partial \nu_h^s / \partial n_i) \\ &= 1/n_h + U_{hh}^s/k_B T - \sum_{i=w,I} I_s^{ij} A_i A_j, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{SI-10})$$

where Eq. (SI-4) has been used in the second line. Setting  $n_h = 0$  in Eqs. (15) and (17), we have

$$\sum_{i,j=w,I} I_{ij}^s v_i^s v_j^s = k_B T \kappa_T^s = 1 / \sum_{i,j=w,I} I_s^{ij} n_i n_j. \quad (\text{SI-11})$$

Substituting Eqs. (SI-8) and (SI-9) into (SI-10) and using (15) and (SI-11), we obtain

$$1/I_{hh} = 1/n_h + U_{hh}^{\text{eff}}/k_B T, \quad (\text{SI-12})$$

where the terms of order  $n_h$  have been neglected.

## SI-B Calculation of $C_I^{(1)}$

In this section we can set  $n_h = 0$ . From Eq. (25) we find

$$(\partial n_w / \partial X_I)_{T,p} = -n^2 v_I^s, \quad (\partial n_I / \partial X_I)_{T,p} = n^2 v_w^s. \quad (\text{SI-13})$$

Then for an arbitrary function  $w(n_w, n_I)$ , we have

$$\lim_{n_I \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\partial w}{\partial X_I} \right)_{T,p} = n_w \frac{\partial w}{\partial n_I} \Big|_{n_I \rightarrow 0} - n_w^2 v_I \frac{\partial w}{\partial n_w} \Big|_{n_I \rightarrow 0}. \quad (\text{SI-14})$$

From Eq. (10), we have  $(\kappa_T^s)^{-1} = k_B T \sum_{i,j=w,I} n_i n_j I_s^{ij}$ . Substituting  $w = (\kappa_T^s)^{-1}$  into Eq. (SI-14), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n_I \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\partial (\kappa_T^s)^{-1}}{\partial X_I} \right)_{T,p} &= k_B T n_w (1 + 2n_w I_0^{wI} + n_w^2 I_0^{wwI}) - k_B T n_w^2 v_I [\partial (n_w^2 I_0^{ww}) / \partial n_w] \\ &= n_w \kappa_w^{-1} [\partial (v_I n_w) / \partial n_w], \end{aligned} \quad (\text{SI-15})$$

where we have defined  $I_0^{wi} \equiv \lim_{n_I \rightarrow 0} I_s^{wi}$  and  $I_0^{wij} \equiv \lim_{n_I, n_h \rightarrow 0} (\partial I^{wi} / \partial n_j) = I_0^{wji}$ . This readily yields

$$\lim_{n_I \rightarrow 0} (\partial \kappa_T^s / \partial X_I)_{T,p} = -n_w \kappa_w [\partial (v_I n_w) / \partial n_w]. \quad (\text{SI-16})$$

Similarly, from Eqs. (15) and (SI-14), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n_I \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\partial v_h^s}{\partial X_I} \right)_{T,p} &= (v_h / \kappa_w) \lim_{n_I \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\partial \kappa_T^s}{\partial X_I} \right)_{T,p} + k_B T \kappa_w [n_w (I_0^{hI} + n_w I_0^{hwI}) - n_w^2 v_I (I_0^{hw} + n_w I_0^{hww})] \\ &= k_B T \kappa_w n_w \frac{\partial [n_w (K_S/2 - v_I)]}{\partial n_w}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{SI-17})$$

Using Eqs. (18) and (SI-16), we have

$$\lim_{n_I \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\partial v_h^{s*}}{\partial X_I} \right)_{T,p} = k_B T \kappa_w n_w \frac{\partial (n_w K_S/2)}{\partial n_w}. \quad (\text{SI-18})$$

Substitution of  $w = U_{hh}^s$  into Eq. (SI-14) yields

$$\lim_{n_I \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\partial U_{hh}^s}{\partial X_I} \right)_{T,p} = k_B T (n_w I_0^{hhI} - n_w^2 v_I I_0^{hhw}), \quad (\text{SI-19})$$

where we have defined  $I_0^{\text{hhi}} \equiv \lim_{n_{\text{I}}, n_{\text{h}} \rightarrow 0} (\partial I^{\text{hh}} / \partial n_i) = \lim_{n_{\text{I}}, n_{\text{h}} \rightarrow 0} (\partial I^{\text{hi}} / \partial n_{\text{h}})$  for  $i = \text{w}, \text{I}$ . Using Eqs. (SI-15), (SI-17), and (SI-19), one can calculate  $C_{\text{I}}^{(1)}$  in Eq. (41).

## SI-C Expressions for salts of general valence numbers

For a salt with general valence numbers, i.e.,  $X_a Y_b \rightarrow a X^{Z_1} + b Y^{Z_2}$  with  $b = -a Z_1 / Z_2$ , the relation between the salt density  $n_{\text{s}}$  and the ion density  $n_{\text{I}}$  in Eq. (5) becomes  $n_{\text{s}} = n_{\text{I}} / \mathcal{N}$  with  $\mathcal{N} = a + b = a(1 - Z_1 / Z_2)$ . In this case Eq. (40) becomes

$$C_{\text{I}} \equiv - \lim_{n_{\text{I}} \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\partial B}{\partial n_{\text{s}}} \right)_{T,p} = \frac{-\mathcal{N}/2}{k_{\text{B}} T n_{\text{w}}} \lim_{n_{\text{I}} \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{\partial U_{\text{hh}}^{\text{eff}}}{\partial X_{\text{I}}} \right)_{T,p}. \quad (\text{SI-20})$$

Furthermore, Eqs. (31) and (35) are generalized to

$$K_{\text{S}} = (\mathcal{N} / k_{\text{B}} T) (U_{\text{hI}} - v_{\text{h}}^* v_{\text{I}} / \kappa_{\text{w}}) \quad (\text{SI-21})$$

$$\lim_{n_{\text{I}} \rightarrow 0} g_{\text{h}} = n_{\text{w}} K_{\text{S}} / \mathcal{N}, \quad (\text{SI-22})$$

while Eq. (28) remains unchanged. Then Eq. (42) becomes

$$C_{\text{I}}^{(2)} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{N}}{2n_{\text{w}}} \lim_{n_{\text{I}} \rightarrow 0} (\partial [\chi_{\text{I}} g_{\text{h}}^2] / \partial X_{\text{I}})_{T,p} = K_{\text{S}}^2 / (2\mathcal{N}). \quad (\text{SI-23})$$

## SI-D Long-wavelength density fluctuations

We discuss the long-wavelength density fluctuations, which shall make the physical meanings of  $\chi_{\text{I}}$  and  $U_{\text{hh}}^{\text{eff}}$  (or  $B$ ) clearer. The Bjerrum length  $\ell_{\text{B}}$  and the Debye wavenumber  $\kappa$  are defined as

$$\ell_{\text{B}} = e^2 / k_{\text{B}} T \varepsilon, \quad \kappa = \sqrt{4\pi \ell_{\text{B}} n_{\text{I}}}. \quad (\text{SI-24})$$

As in the previous paper,<sup>S1</sup> we study equilibrium density fluctuations on the scales larger than the Debye length  $\kappa^{-1}$ .

The deviations of the densities from their average values are denoted by  $\delta n_i$ ,

$$\delta \hat{n}_i(\mathbf{r}) \equiv \hat{n}_i(\mathbf{r}) - \langle \hat{n}_i \rangle \quad (i = \text{w, c, a, h}). \quad (\text{SI-25})$$

where  $\langle \hat{n}_i \rangle$ 's are given by Eqs. (4) and (5). We expand the free energy functional  $\mathcal{F}$  defined in Eq. (43) with respect to  $\delta \hat{n}_i$  about the homogeneous equilibrium values  $\langle \hat{n}_i \rangle$ . The second order term, which governs the density fluctuations, is given by

$$\delta^2 \mathcal{F} = \frac{1}{2} \int \sum_{i,j=\text{w,c,a,h}} \hat{f}_{ij} \delta \hat{n}_i \delta \hat{n}_j d\mathbf{r} + \int \frac{\varepsilon |\nabla \Phi|^2}{8\pi} d\mathbf{r}, \quad (\text{SI-26})$$

where  $\hat{f}_{ij} = \partial^2 \hat{f} / \partial \hat{n}_i \partial \hat{n}_j |_{\{\hat{n}_k = \langle \hat{n}_k \rangle\}}$ . The probability distribution of the density fluctuations is proportional to  $\exp[-\delta^2 \hat{F} / k_B T]$ .

For any fluctuating variables  $\delta \hat{A}(\mathbf{r})$  and  $\delta \hat{B}(\mathbf{r})$  of zero mean  $\langle \delta \hat{A} \rangle = \langle \delta \hat{B} \rangle = 0$ , we define

$$\langle \delta \hat{A} \circ \delta \hat{B} \rangle \equiv \int d\mathbf{r} \langle \delta \hat{A}(\mathbf{r}) \delta \hat{B}(0) \rangle. \quad (\text{SI-27})$$

Let  $\delta \hat{A}_{\mathbf{q}}$  and  $\delta \hat{B}_{\mathbf{q}}$  be the Fourier components of  $\delta \hat{A}$  and  $\delta \hat{B}$ , respectively, where  $\mathbf{q}$  is the wave vector. Then we have<sup>S2</sup>  $\lim_{\mathbf{q} \rightarrow 0} \langle \delta \hat{A}_{\mathbf{q}} \delta \hat{B}_{-\mathbf{q}} \rangle / V = \langle \delta \hat{A} \circ \delta \hat{B} \rangle$ .

## SI-D.1 Fluctuations in electrolyte solvent without solute

We first study the density fluctuations in the electrolyte solvent without the hydrophobic solute,

$$n_h = 0.$$

Then  $\hat{f}$  in Eq. (43) is replaced by  $\hat{f}^s(\hat{n}_w, \hat{n}_c, \hat{n}_a) \equiv \hat{f}(\hat{n}_w, \hat{n}_c, \hat{n}_a, 0)$ . In the previous paper,<sup>S1</sup> the ion-specific fluctuations in dilute electrolyte solutions have been studied. Here we slightly generalize the previous theory to a one that is (at least formally) valid for more concentrated electrolyte solutions.

It will turn out that the following combinations are convenient:

$$\delta\hat{\phi} \equiv \sum_{i=w,c,a} v_i^s \delta\hat{n}_i, \quad \delta\hat{X}_\rho \equiv n^{-1}(\delta\hat{n}_c - \delta\hat{n}_a), \quad (\text{SI-28})$$

$$\delta\hat{X}_I \equiv n^{-2}[n_w(\delta\hat{n}_c + \delta\hat{n}_a) - n_I\delta\hat{n}_w]. \quad (\text{SI-29})$$

Here,  $\delta\hat{\phi}$  is the volume deviation,  $\delta\hat{X}_\rho$  the deviation of the ion molar fraction difference, and  $\delta\hat{X}_I$  the deviation of the total ion molar fraction. For an electrolyte solvent without solute Eqs. (44) and (SI-26), respectively, become

$$f^s(n_w, n_I) = \hat{f}^s(n_w, n_I/2, n_I/2) \quad (\text{SI-30})$$

$$\delta^2\mathcal{F} = \frac{1}{2} \int \sum_{i,j=w,c,a} \hat{f}_{ij}^s \delta\hat{n}_i \delta\hat{n}_j d\mathbf{r} + \int \frac{\varepsilon |\nabla\Phi|^2}{8\pi} d\mathbf{r}. \quad (\text{SI-31})$$

where  $\hat{f}_{ij}^s = \partial^2 \hat{f} / \partial \hat{n}_i \partial \hat{n}_j |_{\{\hat{n}_k = \langle n_k \rangle\}}$ . Inverting Eqs. (SI-28) and (SI-29), we can express  $\{\delta\hat{n}_i\}_{i=w,c,a}$  as linear combinations of  $\hat{\phi}$ ,  $\delta\hat{X}_\rho$ , and  $\delta\hat{X}_I$ . Substituting the result into  $\sum_{i,j=w,c,a} \hat{f}_{ij}^s \delta\hat{n}_i \delta\hat{n}_j$  and using Eqs. (45)–(47), we find

$$\sum_{i,j} \hat{f}_{ij}^s \delta\hat{n}_i \delta\hat{n}_j = \delta\hat{\phi}^2 / \kappa_T^s + \sum_{i,j=\rho,I} \gamma_{ij} \delta\hat{X}_i \delta\hat{X}_j, \quad (\text{SI-32})$$

where the terms proportional to  $\delta\hat{\phi} \delta\hat{X}_i$  ( $i = \rho, I$ ) identically vanish. We do not discuss the coefficients  $\gamma_{\rho\rho}$  and  $\gamma_{\rho I}$  as they are not relevant to the fluctuations in the long wavelength

limit. The coefficient  $\gamma_{\text{II}}$  is calculated as

$$\begin{aligned}
\gamma_{\text{II}} &= n^4 \left[ (v_{\text{I}}^{\text{s}})^2 \hat{f}_{\text{ww}}^{\text{s}} + (v_{\text{w}}^{\text{s}}/2)^2 \sum_{i,j=\text{c,a}} \hat{f}_{ij}^{\text{s}} - v_{\text{I}}^{\text{s}} v_{\text{w}}^{\text{s}} \sum_{i=\text{c,a}} \hat{f}_{\text{wi}}^{\text{s}} \right] \\
&= k_{\text{B}} T n^4 [(v_{\text{I}}^{\text{s}})^2 I_{\text{s}}^{\text{ww}} + (v_{\text{w}}^{\text{s}})^2 I_{\text{s}}^{\text{II}} - 2v_{\text{I}}^{\text{s}} v_{\text{w}}^{\text{s}} I_{\text{s}}^{\text{Iw}}] \\
&= k_{\text{B}} T n^4 \Delta_0^{-1} \sum_{i,j=\text{w,I}} v_i^{\text{s}} v_j^{\text{s}} I_{ij}^{\text{s}} \\
&= k_{\text{B}} T \chi_{\text{I}}^{-1}.
\end{aligned} \tag{SI-33}$$

Here the second line follows from Eq. (SI-30), and the last line from Eqs. (SI-11) and (29).

The second term of Eq. (SI-31) is rewritten as

$$\int \frac{\varepsilon |\nabla \Phi|^2}{8\pi} d\mathbf{r} = k_{\text{B}} T \int \frac{d\mathbf{q}}{(2\pi)^3} 2\pi \ell_{\text{B}} n^2 q^{-2} |\delta \hat{X}_{\rho\mathbf{q}}|^2 \tag{SI-34}$$

The long-range Coulombic interaction is bilinear only in  $\delta \hat{X}_{\rho}$ , and thus from Eq. (SI-32) we obtain

$$\langle \delta \hat{X}_{\rho\mathbf{q}} \delta \hat{\phi}_{-\mathbf{q}} \rangle = \langle \delta \hat{X}_{\text{I}\mathbf{q}} \delta \hat{\phi}_{-\mathbf{q}} \rangle = 0 \tag{SI-35}$$

$$\langle |\delta \hat{\phi}_{\mathbf{q}}|^2 \rangle = k_{\text{B}} T V \kappa_T^{\text{s}}. \tag{SI-36}$$

Furthermore, as  $\mathbf{q} \rightarrow 0$ , the coefficient in front of  $|\delta \hat{X}_{\rho\mathbf{q}}|^2$  diverges, suppressing the fluctuations of  $\delta \hat{X}_{\rho\mathbf{q}}$ . Therefore, combining Eqs. (SI-32)–(SI-34), we obtain

$$\langle \delta \hat{X}_{\text{I}} \circ \delta \hat{X}_{\text{I}} \rangle = \chi_{\text{I}} \tag{SI-37}$$

$$\langle \delta \hat{X}_{\rho} \circ \delta \hat{X}_{\rho} \rangle = \langle \delta \hat{X}_{\rho} \circ \delta \hat{X}_{\text{I}} \rangle = \langle \delta \hat{X}_{\rho} \circ \delta \hat{\phi} \rangle = 0. \tag{SI-38}$$

where  $\chi_{\text{I}}$  is the solvent composition susceptibility defined below Eq. (26). The fluctuation variance in Eq. (SI-37) has the same form as the composition fluctuation variance in a non-ionic binary solvent.<sup>S3</sup> From Eq. (SI-38), we have  $\langle \delta \hat{X}_{\rho} \circ \delta \hat{A} \rangle = 0$ , where  $\delta \hat{A}$  is an arbitrary



linear combination of  $\delta\hat{\phi}$ ,  $\delta\hat{X}_\rho$ , and  $\delta\hat{X}_I$  (hence, of  $\delta\hat{n}_w$ ,  $\delta\hat{n}_c$ , and  $\delta\hat{n}_a$ ). In particular, setting  $\delta\hat{A} = \delta\hat{n}_i$  ( $i = w, c, a$ ), we obtain the well-know relations

$$\langle \delta\hat{n}_c \circ \delta\hat{n}_c \rangle = \langle \delta\hat{n}_a \circ \delta\hat{n}_a \rangle = \langle \delta\hat{n}_c \circ \delta\hat{n}_a \rangle \quad (\text{SI-39})$$

$$\langle \delta\hat{n}_w \circ \delta\hat{n}_c \rangle = \langle \delta\hat{n}_w \circ \delta\hat{n}_a \rangle. \quad (\text{SI-40})$$

The result in Eqs. (SI-36), (SI-37), and (SI-38) indicates that in the limit  $\mathbf{q} \rightarrow 0$  the probability distribution of  $\delta\hat{\phi}_{\mathbf{q}}$  and  $\delta\hat{X}_{I\mathbf{q}}$  is proportional to  $\exp[-\delta^2 \hat{f}_{\mathbf{q}}^s / k_B T]$  with

$$\delta^2 \hat{f}_{\mathbf{q}}^s = (1/2V) \left[ |\delta\hat{\phi}_{\mathbf{q}}|^2 / \kappa_T^s + k_B T |\delta\hat{X}_{I\mathbf{q}}|^2 / \chi_I \right]. \quad (\text{SI-41})$$

Note that the above expression can be obtained by minimizing  $\delta^2 \hat{F}$  in Eq. (SI-31) with respect to  $\delta\hat{X}_{\rho\mathbf{q}}$  for  $\mathbf{q} \rightarrow 0$ .

For small ion densities, we may expand the local free energy for the electrolyte solvent  $\hat{f}^s(\hat{n}_w, \hat{n}_c, \hat{n}_a)$  as<sup>S1</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{f}^s = & f_w(\hat{n}_w) + k_B T \sum_{i=c,a} \hat{n}_i \{ \ln(\hat{n}_i \lambda_i^3) - 1 + \nu_i(\hat{n}_w) \} \\ & - \frac{k_B T}{12\pi} \hat{\kappa}^3 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=c,a} U_{ij}(\hat{n}_w) \hat{n}_i \hat{n}_j + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (\text{SI-42})$$

In the above, the third term ( $\propto \hat{\kappa}^3$ ) is the DH free energy that arises from the ion density fluctuations on the scales smaller than the Debye length, where  $\hat{\kappa}$  (without solute) is defined in accordance with Eq. (SI-24) as

$$\hat{\kappa}(\hat{n}_w, \hat{n}_c, \hat{n}_a) = [4\pi \ell_B(\hat{n}_w)(\hat{n}_c + \hat{n}_a)]^{1/2}. \quad (\text{SI-43})$$

The effective ion-ion (short-range) interaction, which is the counterpart to Eqs. (1) and (32),

is defined as

$$U_{\text{II}}^{\text{eff}} \equiv \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i,j=\text{c,a}} \left( U_{ij} - \frac{v_i^* v_j^*}{\kappa_{\text{w}}} \right) = U_{\text{II}} - \frac{(v_{\text{I}}^*)^2}{\kappa_{\text{w}}}, \quad (\text{SI-44})$$

where  $U_{\text{II}} = \sum_{i,j=\text{c,a}} U_{ij}/4$ . As shown in the previous paper,<sup>S1</sup>  $U_{\text{II}}^{\text{eff}}$  is the key quantity to explain the ion-specificity in the salt activity coefficient, osmotic coefficient, and the deviation coefficient for the salt partial volume<sup>1</sup>.

From Eqs. (46) and (SI-42), the ionic partial volumes in the dilution limit  $n_{\text{I}} \rightarrow 0$  are given by

$$v_i^* = k_{\text{B}} T \kappa_{\text{w}} n_{\text{w}} \nu_i' \quad (i = \text{c, a, I}), \quad (\text{SI-45})$$

where  $\nu_{\text{I}} = (\nu_{\text{c}} + \nu_{\text{a}})/2$  and  $\nu_i'(n_{\text{w}}) = \partial \nu_i(n_{\text{w}})/\partial n_{\text{w}}$ . For small  $n_{\text{I}}$ , Eqs. (SI-42) and (SI-30) yield

$$I_{\text{s}}^{\text{ww}} = 1/k_{\text{B}} T n_{\text{w}}^2 \kappa_{\text{w}} + O(n_{\text{I}}) \quad (\text{SI-46})$$

$$I_{\text{s}}^{\text{II}} = 1/n_{\text{I}} + U_{\text{II}}/k_{\text{B}} T - \kappa^3/16\pi n_{\text{I}}^2 + O(n_{\text{I}}) \quad (\text{SI-47})$$

$$I_{\text{s}}^{\text{wI}} = \nu_{\text{I}}' + O(n_{\text{I}}^{1/2}), \quad (\text{SI-48})$$

where  $U_{\text{I}}$  and  $\nu_{\text{I}}$  are defined below Eqs. (SI-44) and (SI-45), respectively. We also have  $v_{\text{I}}^{\text{s}} = v_{\text{I}} + O(n_{\text{I}}^{1/2})$  and  $v_{\text{w}}^{\text{s}} = (1 - v_{\text{I}} n_{\text{I}})/n_{\text{w}} + O(n_{\text{I}}^{3/2})$ , where the latter follows from Eq. (17). Substituting these and Eqs. (SI-46)–(SI-48) into Eq. (27), we obtain

$$\chi_{\text{I}}^{-1} \simeq \frac{n^3}{n_{\text{w}} n_{\text{I}}} \left[ \frac{1}{2\chi} - (v_{\text{I}} + v_{\text{I}}^*) n_{\text{I}} + \frac{n_{\text{I}}}{n_{\text{w}}} \right] \quad (\text{SI-49})$$

with  $\chi^{-1} = 2 - \ell_{\text{B}} \kappa/2 + 2n_{\text{I}} U_{\text{II}}^{\text{eff}}/k_{\text{B}} T$ . In the square bracket of Eq. (SI-49), the terms of order  $n_{\text{I}}^{3/2}$  have been neglected. Substitution of Eqs. (SI-28), (SI-29), and (SI-49) into Eq. (SI-41)

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<sup>1</sup>To be precise, the defined in the previous paper<sup>S1</sup> were  $U_{\text{eff}}$  and  $U$ , that were twice the present definitions, i.e.,  $U_{\text{eff}} = 2U_{\text{II}}^{\text{eff}}$  and  $U = 2U_{\text{II}}$ .

yields

$$\delta^2 \hat{f}_{\mathbf{q}}^s \simeq (1/2V) \left[ |\delta \hat{\phi}_{v\mathbf{q}}|^2 / \kappa_w + k_B T |\delta \hat{n}_{I\mathbf{q}}|^2 / 2n_I \chi \right], \quad (\text{SI-50})$$

where  $\delta \phi_v = n_w^{-1} \delta \hat{n}_w + v_c^* \delta \hat{n}_c + v_a^* \delta \hat{n}_a$  and  $\delta \hat{n}_I = \delta \hat{n}_c + \delta \hat{n}_a$ . From Eqs.(SI-39) and (SI-50), we reproduce the previous result for dilute electrolyte solutions,<sup>S1</sup>

$$\langle \delta \hat{n}_c \circ \delta \hat{n}_c \rangle = \langle \delta \hat{n}_a \circ \delta \hat{n}_a \rangle = \langle \delta \hat{n}_c \circ \delta \hat{n}_a \rangle \simeq n_I \chi / 2. \quad (\text{SI-51})$$

## SI-D.2 Solute-solute correlation

Now we add a small amount of hydrophobic solute. In accordance with Eqs. (7) and (44), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{f} = & \hat{f}^s + k_B T \hat{n}_h \{ \ln(\hat{n}_h \lambda_h^3) - 1 + \hat{\nu}_h^s(\hat{n}_w, \hat{n}_c, \hat{n}_a) \} \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \hat{U}_{hh}^s(\hat{n}_w, \hat{n}_c, \hat{n}_a) \hat{n}_h^2 + \dots, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{SI-52})$$

where  $\hat{\nu}_h^s$  and  $\hat{U}_{hh}^s$  satisfies

$$\hat{\nu}_h^s(n_w, n_I/2, n_I/2) = \nu_h^s(n_w, n_I) \quad (\text{SI-53})$$

$$\hat{U}_{hh}^s(n_w, n_I/2, n_I/2) = U_{hh}^s(n_w, n_I). \quad (\text{SI-54})$$

We define the total volume deviation  $\delta \hat{\phi}_{\text{tot}}$  as<sup>S3</sup>

$$\delta \hat{\phi}_{\text{tot}} \equiv \sum_{i=w,c,a} v_i^s \delta \hat{n}_i + v_h^{s*} \delta \hat{n}_h = \delta \hat{\phi} + v_h^{s*} \delta \hat{n}_h. \quad (\text{SI-55})$$

Expanding Eq. (SI-52) with respect to the density deviations  $\delta \hat{n}_i$ , and neglecting the

terms of order  $n_h$ , we obtain

$$\sum_{i,j=w,c,a,h} \hat{f}_{ij} \delta \hat{n}_i \delta \hat{n}_j = \sum_{i,j=c,a} \hat{f}_{ij}^s \delta \hat{n}_i \delta \hat{n}_j + \delta^2 \hat{f}^h. \quad (\text{SI-56})$$

Here the second term is the bilinear form including  $\delta \hat{n}_h$ ,

$$\delta^2 \hat{f}^h = (k_B T / n_h + U_{hh}^s) \delta \hat{n}_h^2 + 2k_B T \sum_{i=w,c,a} \hat{\nu}_{hi}^s \delta \hat{n}_i \delta \hat{n}_h \quad (\text{SI-57})$$

with  $\hat{\nu}_{hi}^s = \partial \hat{\nu}_h^s / \partial \hat{n}_i |_{\{\hat{n}_i = \langle \hat{n}_i \rangle\}}$ . Using Eqs. (21), (34), (SI-28), (SI-29) (SI-32), (SI-33) (SI-56), and (SI-57), we find

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i,j=w,c,a,h} \hat{f}_{ij} \delta \hat{n}_i \delta \hat{n}_j &= \frac{\delta \hat{\phi}_{\text{tot}}^2}{\kappa_T^s} + \frac{k_B T (\delta \hat{X}_I + \chi_I g_h \delta \hat{n}_h)^2}{\chi_I} \\ &\quad + (k_B T / n_h + U_{hh}^{\text{eff}}) \delta \hat{n}_h^2 + \gamma_{\rho\rho} \delta \hat{X}_\rho^2 \\ &\quad + 2\gamma_{\rho I} \delta \hat{X}_\rho \delta \hat{X}_I + \gamma_{\rho h} \delta \hat{X}_\rho \delta \hat{n}_h \end{aligned} \quad (\text{SI-58})$$

where we have introduced the coefficient  $\gamma_{\rho h}$ , but it is irrelevant to the long wavelength fluctuations. As in SI-D.1, the long-range electrostatic interaction suppresses the fluctuations of  $X_\rho$  for small  $\mathbf{q}$ . Hence, in the limit  $\mathbf{q} \rightarrow 0$ , Eqs. (SI-38), (SI-39) and (SI-40) still hold in the presence of solute. In addition we have  $\langle \delta \hat{X}_\rho \circ \delta \hat{n}_h \rangle = 0$ , or, equivalently,

$$\langle \delta \hat{n}_h \circ \delta \hat{n}_c \rangle = \langle \delta \hat{n}_h \circ \delta \hat{n}_a \rangle. \quad (\text{SI-59})$$

The long-wavelength ( $\mathbf{q} \rightarrow 0$ ) fluctuations of  $\delta \hat{\phi}_{\text{tot}}$ ,  $\delta \hat{X}_I$ , and  $\delta \hat{n}_h$  are governed by the probability distribution proportional to  $\exp[-\delta^2 \hat{f}_{\mathbf{q}} / k_B T]$  with

$$\delta^2 \hat{f}_{\mathbf{q}} = (1/2V) \left[ \frac{|\delta \hat{\phi}_{\text{tot}\mathbf{q}}|^2}{\kappa_T^s} + \frac{k_B T |\delta \hat{X}_{I\mathbf{q}} + \chi_I g_h \delta \hat{n}_{h\mathbf{q}}|^2}{\chi_I} + |\delta \hat{n}_{h\mathbf{q}}|^2 (k_B T / n_h + U_{hh}^{\text{eff}}) \right], \quad (\text{SI-60})$$

where the terms of order  $n_h$  have been neglected, and  $U_{hh}^{\text{eff}}$  has been defined in Eq. (39). The

fluctuation variance of the solute is then given by

$$\langle \delta \hat{n}_h \circ \delta \hat{n}_h \rangle = (1/n_h + U_{hh}^{\text{eff}}/k_B T)^{-1}. \quad (\text{SI-61})$$

This result also follows from Eq. (SI-12) and the well-known relation  $I_{hh} = \langle \delta \hat{n}_h \circ \delta \hat{n}_h \rangle$  (see also sentences below Eq. (39)). The results in Eqs. (39), (SI-60) and (SI-61) are the same as the previous ones for a ternary mixture composed of a non-ionic binary solvent and a solute;<sup>S3</sup> this is because in the present ionic case the long wavelength fluctuations of  $\delta \hat{X}_\rho$  are suppressed by the long-range Coulombic interaction, and thus in the limit  $\mathbf{q} \rightarrow 0$  the cations and anions can be treated as a single indistinguishable component.<sup>S1,S4</sup>

## SI-E Kirkwood-Buff integrals

Let  $g_{ij}(r)$  denote the radial distribution function associated with species  $i$  and  $j$ . Its space integral is called the Kirkwood-Buff integral (KBI):<sup>S5</sup>  $G_{ij} \equiv 4\pi \int_0^\infty dr r^2 [g_{ij}(r) - 1]$ . Since in Eqs. (SI-39), (SI-40) and (SI-59) cations and anions are indistinguishable, the cations and anions are regarded as indistinguishable, single species when KBIs are discussed in the literature.<sup>S6–S13</sup> In the present case we define the KBIs for species w (water), I (ion), and h (solute). For convenience we define  $\delta \hat{n}_I \equiv \delta \hat{n}_c + \delta \hat{n}_a$ . The well-known relation  $I_{ij} = \langle \delta \hat{n}_i \circ \delta \hat{n}_j \rangle$  combines the thermodynamics and the KBIs. Integrating the general relation  $\langle \delta \hat{n}_i(\mathbf{r}) \delta \hat{n}_j(0) \rangle = n_i n_j [g_{ij}(r) - 1] + n_i \delta_{ij} \delta(\mathbf{r})$ , we have

$$I_{ij} = \langle \delta \hat{n}_i \circ \delta \hat{n}_j \rangle = n_i n_j G_{ij} + n_i \delta_{ij} \quad (\text{SI-62})$$

First we discuss KBIs for the electrolyte solvent without solute. From Eqs. (SI-37)–(SI-40) and (SI-62) (or, from Eqs. (29) and (SI-62)), we obtain

$$\chi_I = n_w n_I / n^3 + (n_w^2 n_I^2 / n^4) (G_{ww}^s + G_{II}^s - 2G_{wI}^s). \quad (\text{SI-63})$$

where  $G_{ij}^s$ 's are KBIs evaluated at  $n_h = 0$ . The determinant  $\Delta_0 = \det\{I_{ij}^s\}$  can be expressed in terms of KBIs. Hence, The isothermal compressibility  $\kappa_T^s$  can also be expressed in terms of KBIs by using Eqs. (29) and (SI-63). At  $n_h = 0$ , Eqs. (15), (29) and (SI-62) yield

$$v_I^s = (n_I n_w^2 / n^4 \chi_I) (n_w^{-1} + G_{ww}^s - G_{wI}^s) \quad (\text{SI-64})$$

$$v_w^s = (n_I^2 n_w / n^4 \chi_I) (n_I^{-1} + G_{II}^s - G_{wI}^s). \quad (\text{SI-65})$$

For a vanishing salt density  $n_I \rightarrow 0$  we substitute Eq. (SI-49) into (SI-64), and obtain

$$v_I = -G_{wI}^0 + k_B T \kappa_w, \quad v_I^* = -G_{wI}^0, \quad (\text{SI-66})$$

where  $G_{ij}^0$  is the KBI in the limit  $n_h, n_I \rightarrow 0$ . In the same limit, Eq. (SI-65) correctly reduces to Eq. (23). These formal results for electrolyte solvents are exactly the same as those for non-ionic binary fluids,<sup>S3</sup> but in the present ionic case one needs to be careful when taking the limit  $n_I \rightarrow 0$  for ion-ion KBI,  $G_{II}^s$ . For small  $n_I$  Eq. (SI-51) yields<sup>S1, S14</sup>  $G_{II}^s \simeq (2\chi - 1)/n_I \simeq \ell_B \kappa / 4n_I \propto n_I^{-1/2}$ , which diverges as  $n_I \rightarrow 0$ ; this divergence stems from the Debye-Hückel free energy, which is specific to electrolyte solutions.

Now we discuss the KBIs in the presence of a small amount of solute. First, Eqs. (SI-61) and (SI-62) yield

$$G_{hh} = -\frac{U_{hh}^{\text{eff}}/k_B T}{1 + n_h U_{hh}^{\text{eff}}/k_B T} = \frac{G_{hh}^s}{1 - n_h G_{hh}^s}, \quad (\text{SI-67})$$

where  $G_{hh}^s = -U_{hh}^{\text{eff}}/k_B T$  is the solute-solute KBI in the limit  $n_h \rightarrow 0$ . The relation (SI-67) shows that KBI  $G_{hh}$  at finite  $n_h$  noticeably deviates from its dilute limit  $G_{hh}^s$  when  $|G_{hh}^s| \sim n_h^{-1}$ ; this observation is sometimes not negligible when one attempts to compute  $G_{hh}^s$  from MD simulations of small but finite  $n_h$ . Using Eq. (38), we obtain

$$U_{hh}^{\text{eff}}/k_B T = -G_{hh}^s = 2B. \quad (\text{SI-68})$$

Next, Eqs. (SI-62) and (SI-2) yield  $A_i = G_{ih}^s n_i$  ( $i = w, I$ ). Substituting this into Eqs. (SI-6) and (SI-7), we obtain

$$g_h = (n_w n_I / n^2 \chi_I) (G_{wh}^s - G_{Ih}^s) \quad (\text{SI-69})$$

$$v_h^{s*} = -(v_w^s n_w G_{wh}^s + v_I^s n_I G_{Ih}^s). \quad (\text{SI-70})$$

In the limit  $n_I \rightarrow 0$ , these reduce to

$$K_S = 2(G_{wh}^0 - G_{Ih}^0), \quad v_h^* = -G_{wh}^0 \quad (\text{SI-71})$$

where use has been made of Eqs. (35) and (SI-49) in deriving the first relation. Finally, Eqs. (33) and (SI-71) yield

$$U_{hl}^{\text{eff}} / k_B T = -G_{Ih}^0. \quad (\text{SI-72})$$

## SI-F Debye-McAulay theory and Eq. (52)

Debye and McAulay<sup>S15</sup> have studied effective solute-salt (electrostatic) interaction on the basis of Born theory.<sup>S16</sup> The idea is that the effective solute-salt interaction  $U_{hs}^{\text{DM}}$  is given by the Born energy difference  $\Delta\mu_{\text{Born}} = U_{hs}^{\text{DM}} n_h + O(n_h^2)$  between a pair of ions in pure water and that in water containing the solute. One can expand the dielectric permittivity with respect to  $n_h$ ,  $\varepsilon = \varepsilon^0(1 + Dn_h + O(n_h^2))$ , where  $\varepsilon^0$  is the dielectric permittivity of pure water and  $D$  is a coefficient of proportionality. Then from the Born model one readily obtain

$$U_{hs}^{\text{DM}} = -(k_B T \ell_B D / 2) (R_c^{-1} + R_a^{-1}). \quad (\text{SI-73})$$

In isobaric condition and without salt, meanwhile, the water density varies according to  $(\partial n_w / \partial n_h)_{T,p} = -\bar{v}_h / \bar{v}_w$  as the solute density varies (we can derive this relation as in the

same manner for Eq. (25)). We thus have  $n_w - n_w^0 = -v_h n_h n_w^0 + O(n_h^2)$  where  $n_w^0$  is the water density without solute. Since we have assumed the dielectric permittivity explicitly depends only on  $n_w$ , we expand  $\varepsilon(n_w) = \varepsilon^0 + (\partial\varepsilon/\partial n_w)(n_w - n_w^0) + \dots$ . We thus have

$$D = -a_\varepsilon v_h, \quad (\text{SI-74})$$

where  $a_\varepsilon = n_w \varepsilon^{-1} (\partial\varepsilon/\partial n_w)$ . Substituting Eq. (SI-74) into (SI-73) and using Eq. (53), we obtain

$$U_{\text{hs}}^{\text{DM}} = -2v_h v_I^{\text{B}}/\kappa_w \simeq -2v_h^* v_I^{\text{B}}/\kappa_w. \quad (\text{SI-75})$$

The right hand side is indeed the same as  $K_{\text{S}}^{\text{el}}$  in Eq. (52) with  $v_I^{\text{el}}$  being replaced by  $v_I^{\text{B}}$ .

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