

COME TO BIOPHYSICS FOR

# Paul Cézanne

Mt. St. Victoire

Philadelphia Art Museum\*



*\*also  
> 69 Cézanne  
>200 Renoir (!)  
at  
The Barnes*

# Discrete Selective Conductance in a Continuous Model of a Calcium Channel

Kaufman<sup>1</sup>, Luchinsky<sup>1,2</sup>, Tindjong<sup>1</sup>, McClintock<sup>1\*</sup>, [Eisenberg](#)<sup>3</sup>

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*based on*

<http://arxiv.org/abs/1209.2381>

## *Preview*

**Brownian dynamics** were simulated using Igor Kaufman's code for the simple model of Ca channels introduced in 1998 by Nonner & Eisenberg, computing electric forces from all charges. **Permanent charge  $Q_f$**  (of acidic side chains) **was varied**.

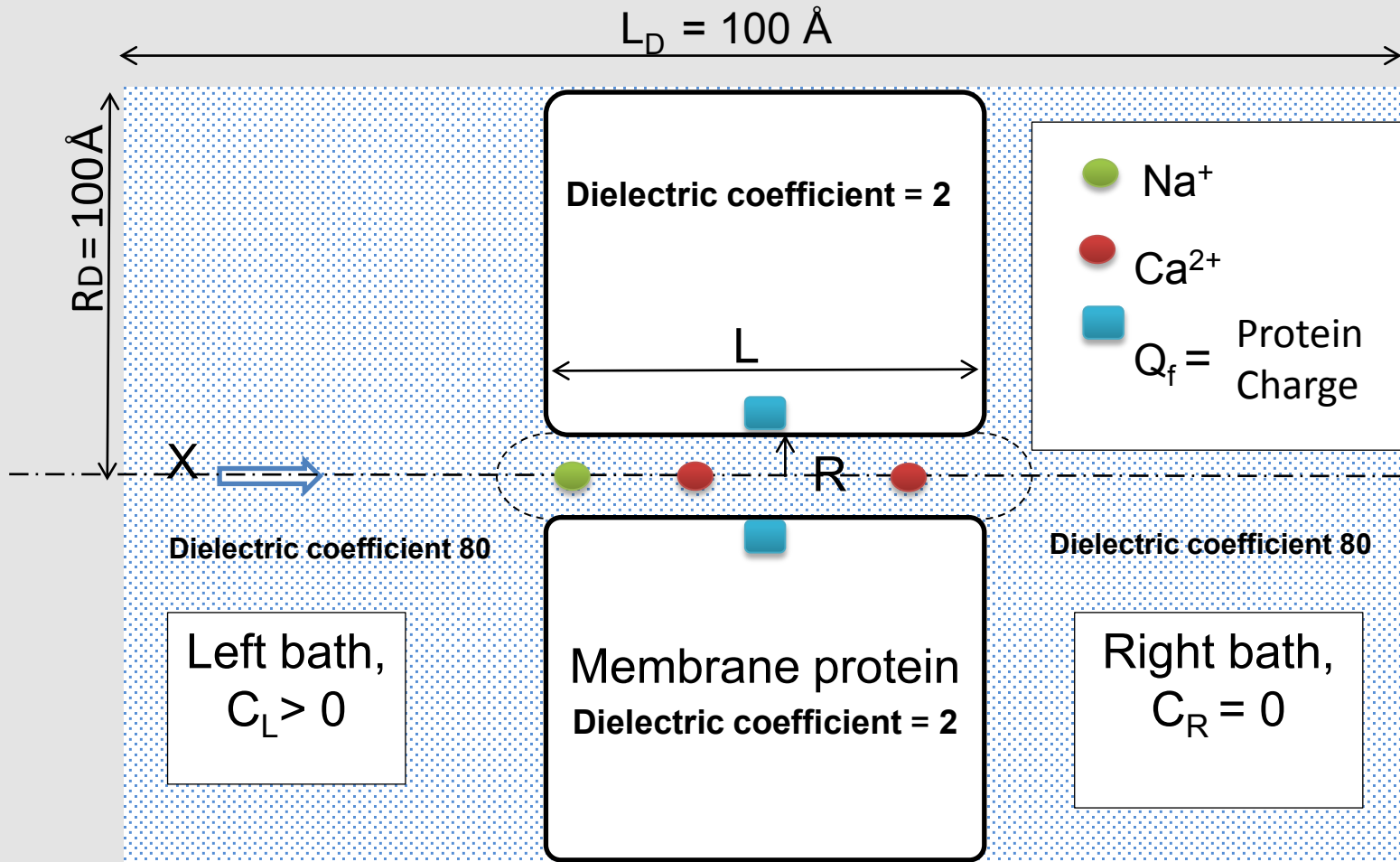
**Substantial conduction was found only at discrete integral values of permanent charge  $Q_f$**

**Different conduction states had different selectivity,**  
**one resembling L-type  $CaV_1$**   
**the other resembling RyR channels**

*We speculate:*

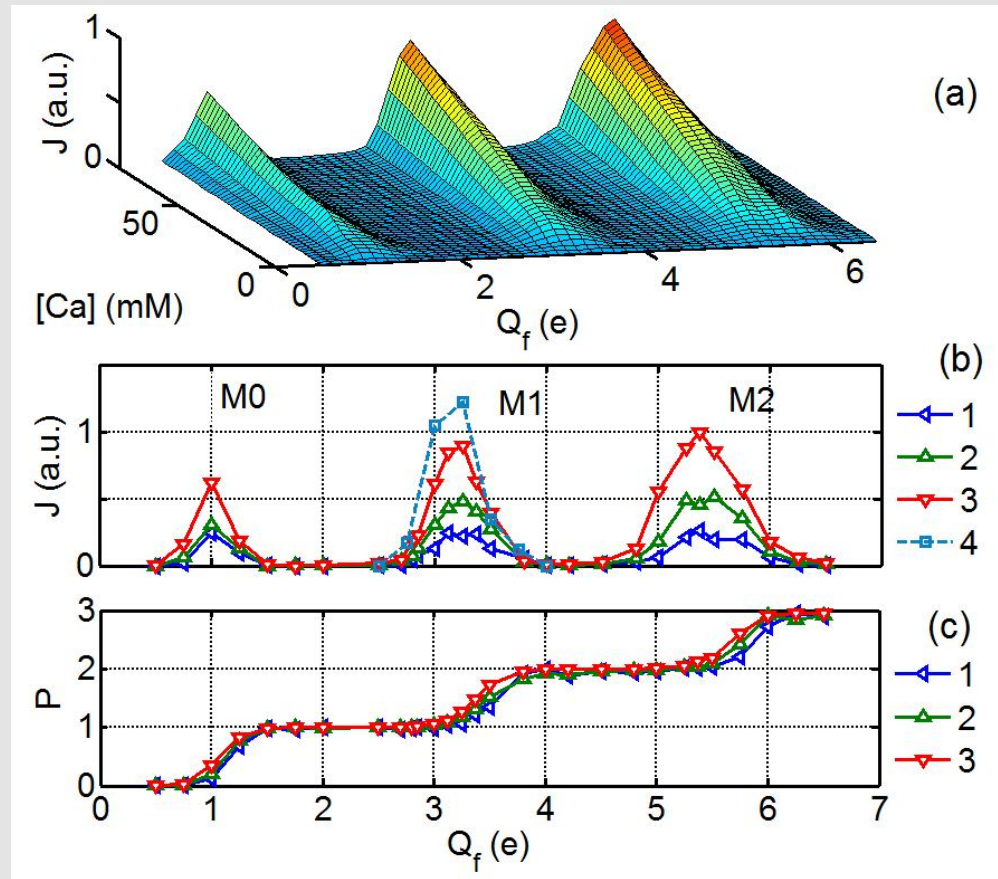
*some types of spontaneous gating could arise from thermal fluctuations in  $Q_f$  that switch between conductance states.*

# Setup and Model of Calcium Channel



Simple electrostatic model of the calcium channel: water-filled cylindrical hole of radius  $R = 3 \text{ \AA}$  and length  $L = 12\text{-}16 \text{ \AA}$  through the charged protein hub in the cellular membrane.

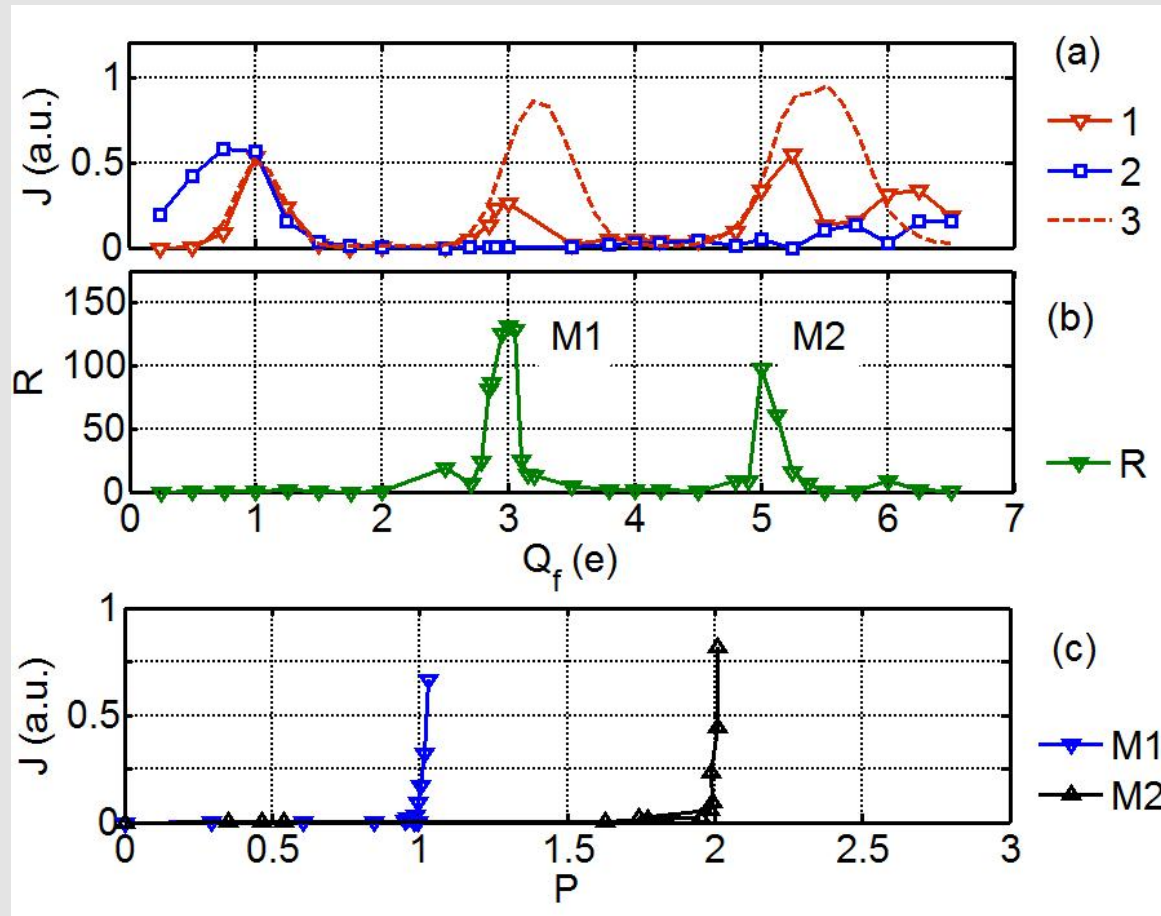
# Conduction and Selectivity Bands



- (a) **Band Structure** in 3D plot of Ca current  $J$  vs fixed charge  $Q_f$  and concentration  $[Ca]$ .
- (b)  $J$  as a function of  $Q_f$  and  $[Ca]$  shows the **nonspecific M0, L type M1, and RyR M2 bands**: plots **1,2,3** are for  $[Ca] = 20$  mM, 40 mM, 80 mM, respectively; and **4** is from Corry *et al*, Biophys. J., (2001) 80 195-214, compare to M1.
- (c) **Occupancy P shows stepwise growth** as  $Q_f$  increases. The flat steps are saturated occupancy values  $P = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

# Conduction and Selectivity Bands

for a  $[Na] = 30 \text{ mM}$ ,  $[Ca] = 40 \text{ mM}$  mixed salt bath



(a) Currents  $J$  vs fixed charge  $Q_f$ . Curves: **1 Ca**; **2 Na**;

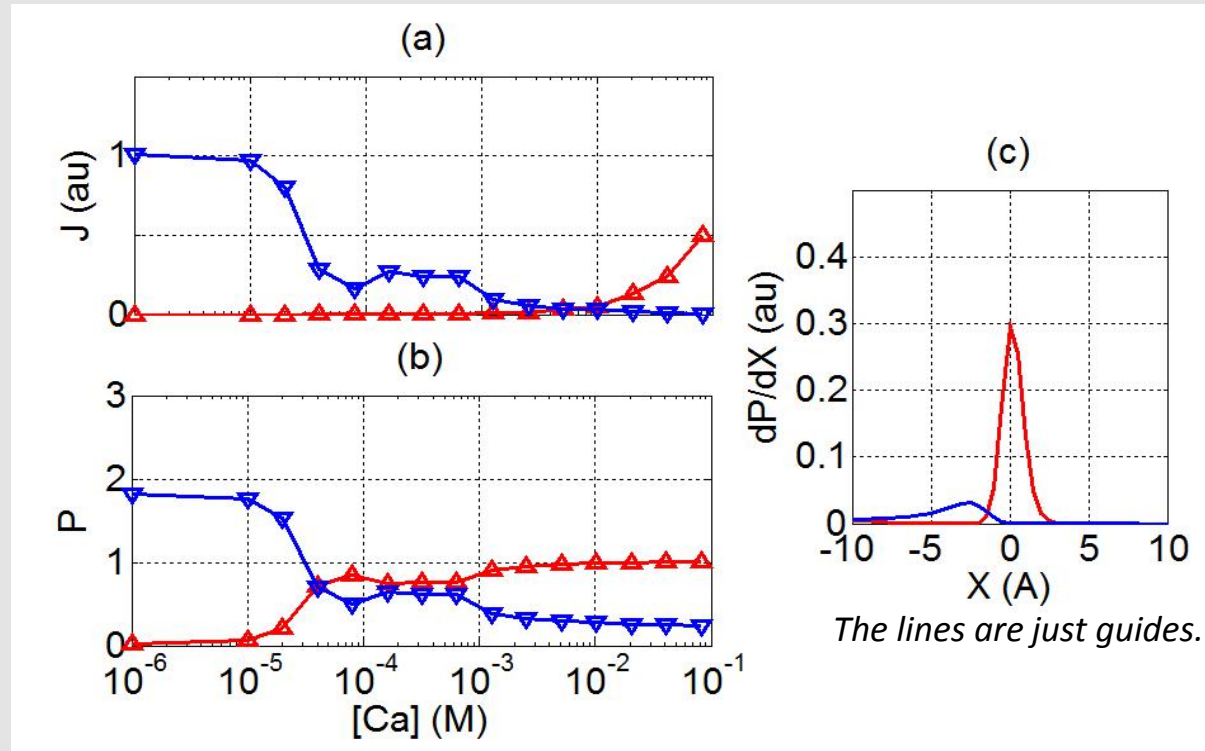
only for reference **3 Ca** is a pure bath (from Fig 1).

(b) The selectivity ratio  $R_S = J_{Ca}/J_{Na}$  shows sharp peaks for **L type M1** and **RyR M2 bands**.

(c)  $J_{Ca}$  vs  $Ca^{2+}$  occupancy  $P$ . conductance saturates at nearly constant  $P$  for L-type and RyR

# AMFE for the L-type M1 channel

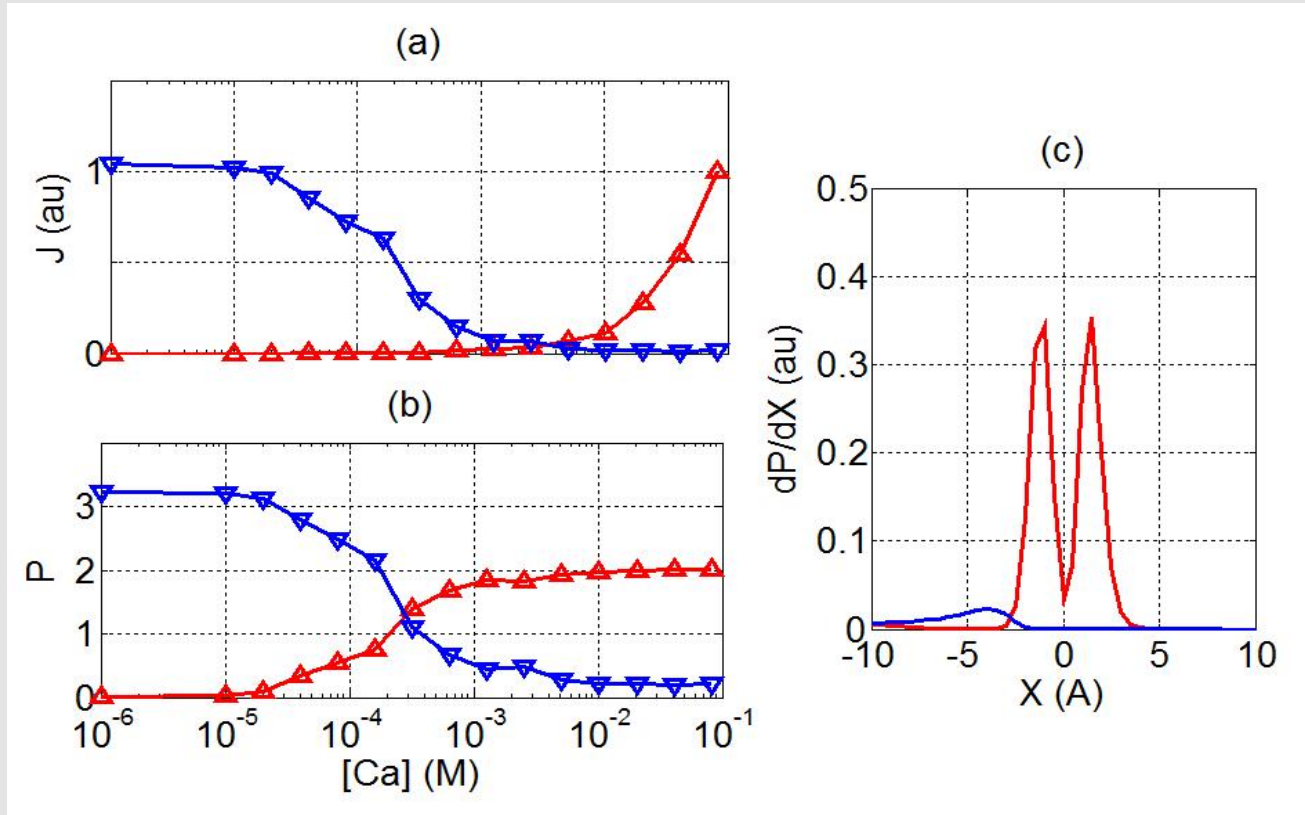
## Blockade in a mixed salt bath



- (a),(b) **Na blue**, point-down, triangles and **Ca red**, point-up, triangles currents  $J$  and occupancies  $P$  vs  $[Ca]$  concentration in the L type M1 channel for  $[Na] = 30\text{mM}$ . **L-type shows strong blockade and AMFE** at  $P_{Ca} = 1$  with threshold  $[Ca]_{50} \approx 30\mu\text{M}$ .
- (c) Mutual occupancy profiles for **Na left, blue**, and **Ca right, red**  
note Blockade of **Na ions** by the first **Ca ion**

# AMFE for the RyR M2 channel

## Blockade in a mixed salt bath



(a),(b) **Na blue** triangles and **Ca red**, triangles currents  $J$  and occupancies  $P$  vs  $[Ca]$  concentration in **moderately selective RyR M2** channel for  $[Na] = 30\text{mM}$ .

**RyR M2 shows moderate blockade and AMFE at  $P_{Ca} = 2$  with threshold  $[Ca]_{50} \approx 200\mu\text{M}$ .**

(c) Mutual occupancy profiles for **Na left, blue**, and **Ca right, red**

note **Blockade** of **Na ions** by two **Ca ions**



# Conduction and Selectivity Bands

Conduction band	Fixed protein charge	Na conductivity	Ca conductivity	Blockade of Na current by Ca ions	AMFE	Channel(s)	Residues locus
M0 nonselective	≈ 1e	High	High	No blockade	No AMFE	Non-selective cation channel, OmpF channel	
M1 <b>L type</b>	≈ 3e	High	High	Yes, sodium ion is blocked by <b>one Ca<sup>2+</sup></b> low blockade offset ( <b>30μM</b> )	Yes, blockade is followed by <b>moderate</b> calcium current	<b>L-type</b> Calcium channel	EEEE
M2 <b>Ryanodine Receptor</b>	≈ 5e	High	High	Yes, sodium ion is blocked by <b>two Ca<sup>2+</sup></b> higher blockade offset ( <b>200μM</b> )	Yes, blockade is followed by <b>strong</b> calcium current	<b>RyR Channel</b>	DDDD

Table shows how **non-selective OmpF porin** becomes a **Ca selective channel** after mutations Miedema *et al*, *Biophys. J.* (2004) 87 3137

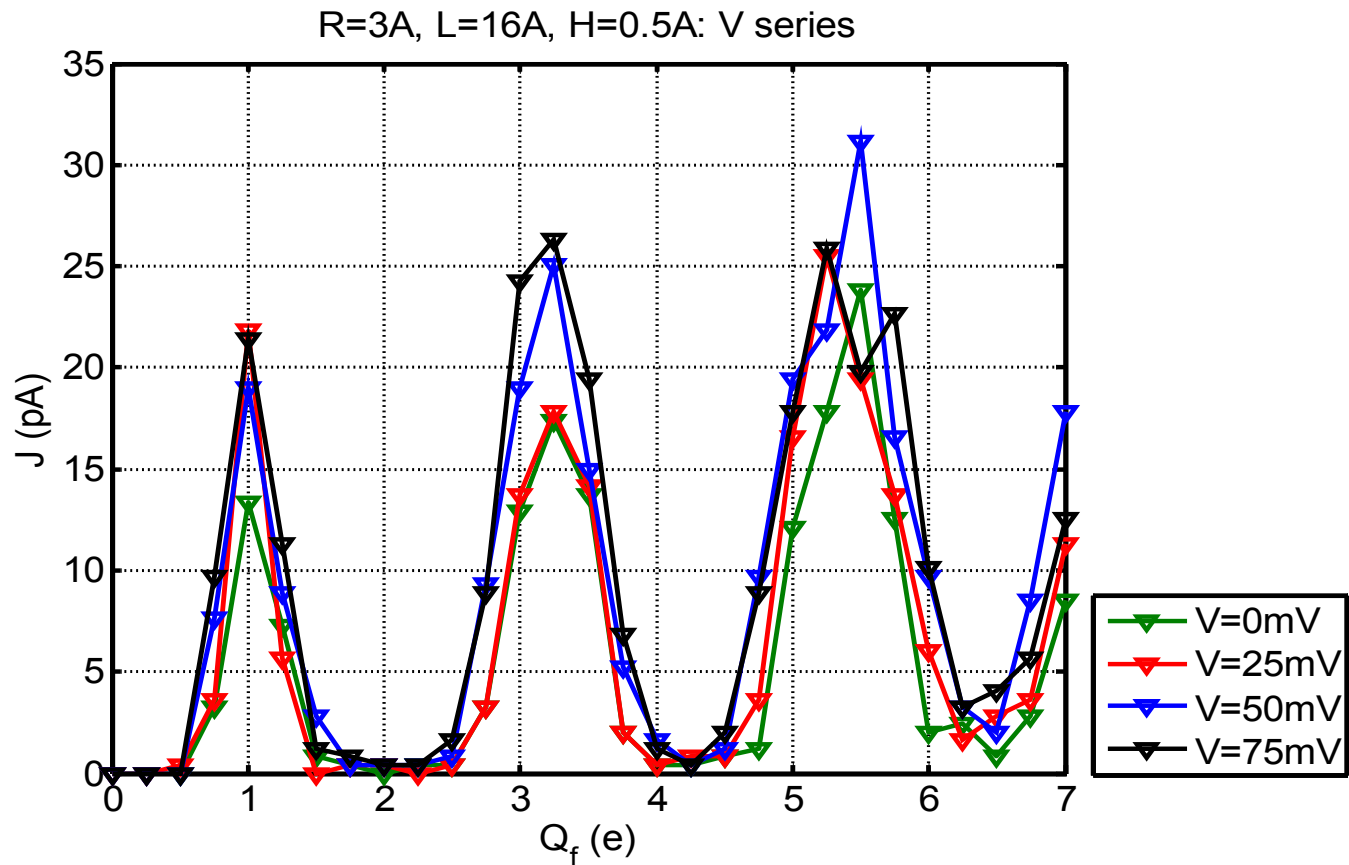
Conclusion  
**Discrete**  
**Selectivity, Occupancy, Blockade**

arise as  
**OUTPUTS**  
of a  
**Continuous Model**  
because of  
**Correlations**  
in solutions (outputs) of  
**PNP (*with finite size ions*)**

# **Sensitivity Analysis**

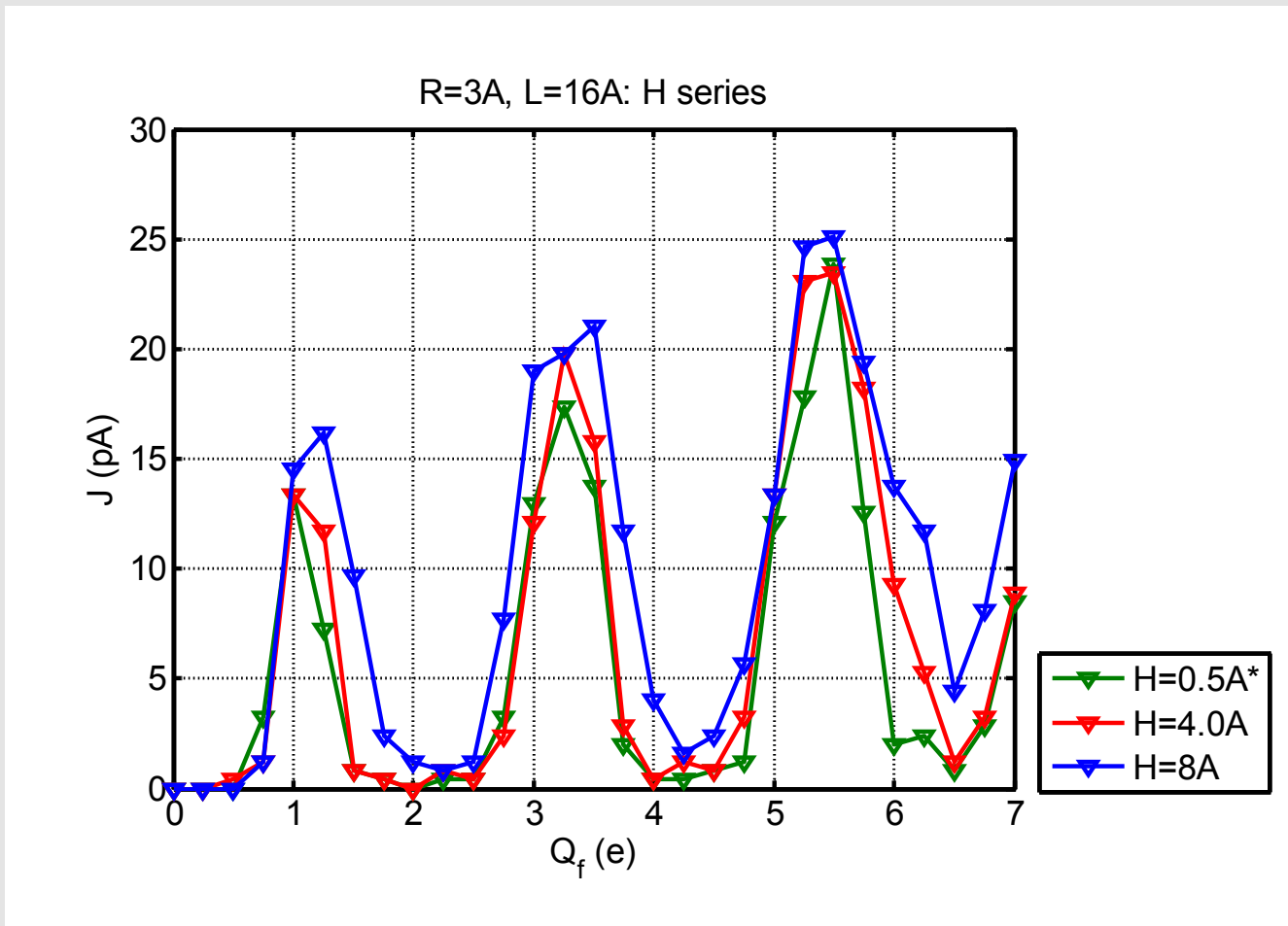
# Sensitivity Analysis

## Little Dependence on Voltage

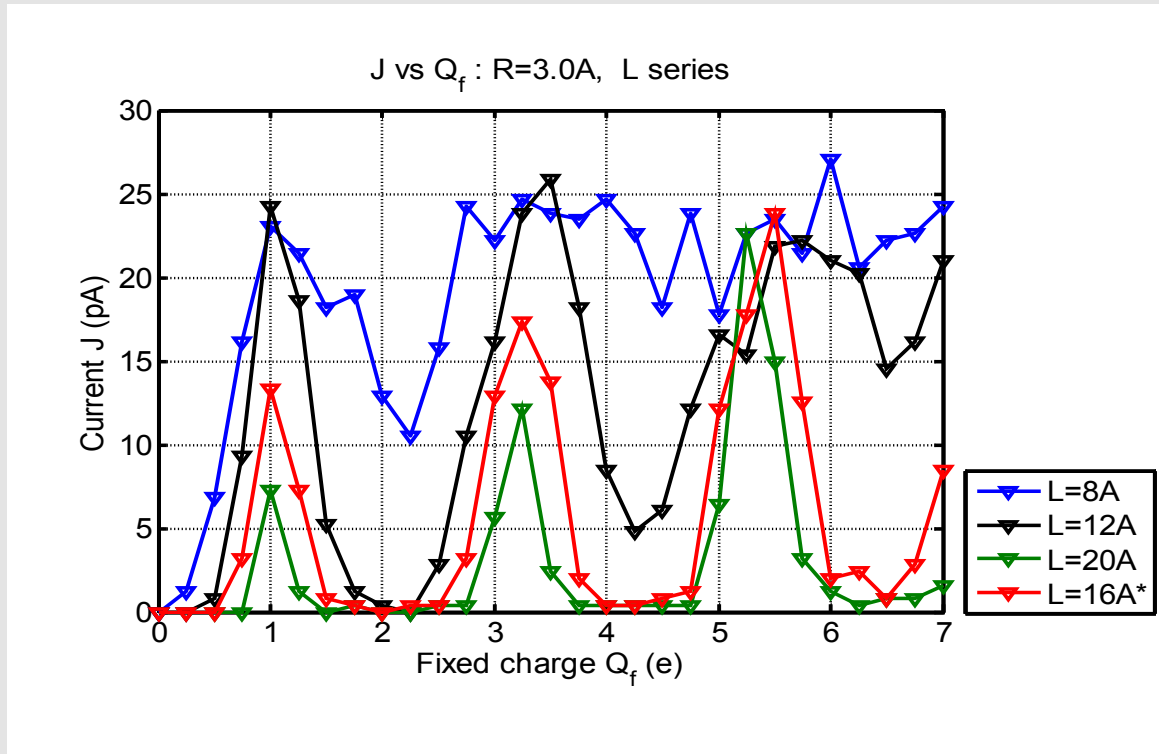


# Sensitivity Analysis

## Little Dependence on Length $H$ of Charged Ring

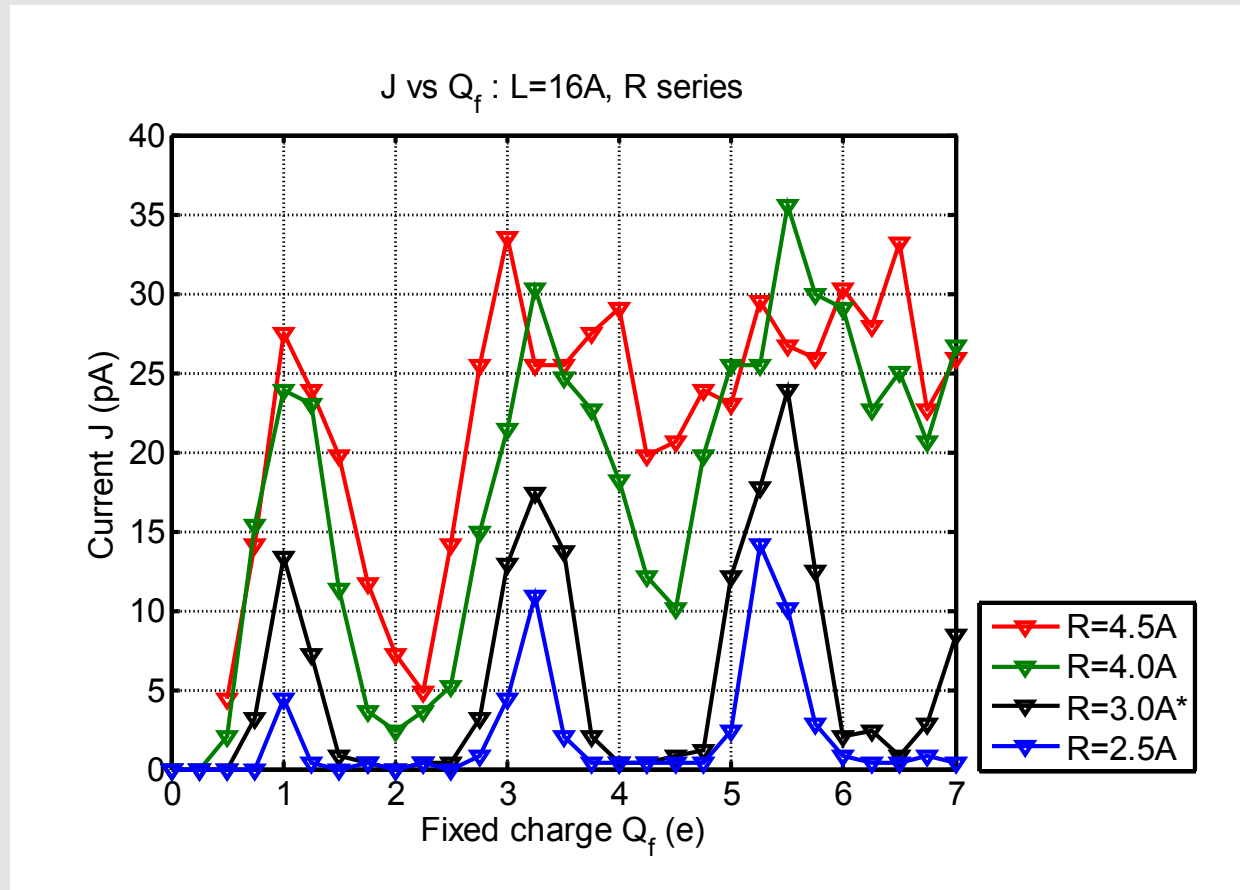


# Sensitivity to Channel Length $L$



Increase of  $L$  separates the conduction/non-conduction bands and decreases  $J$ .

# Sensitivity to Channel Radius R



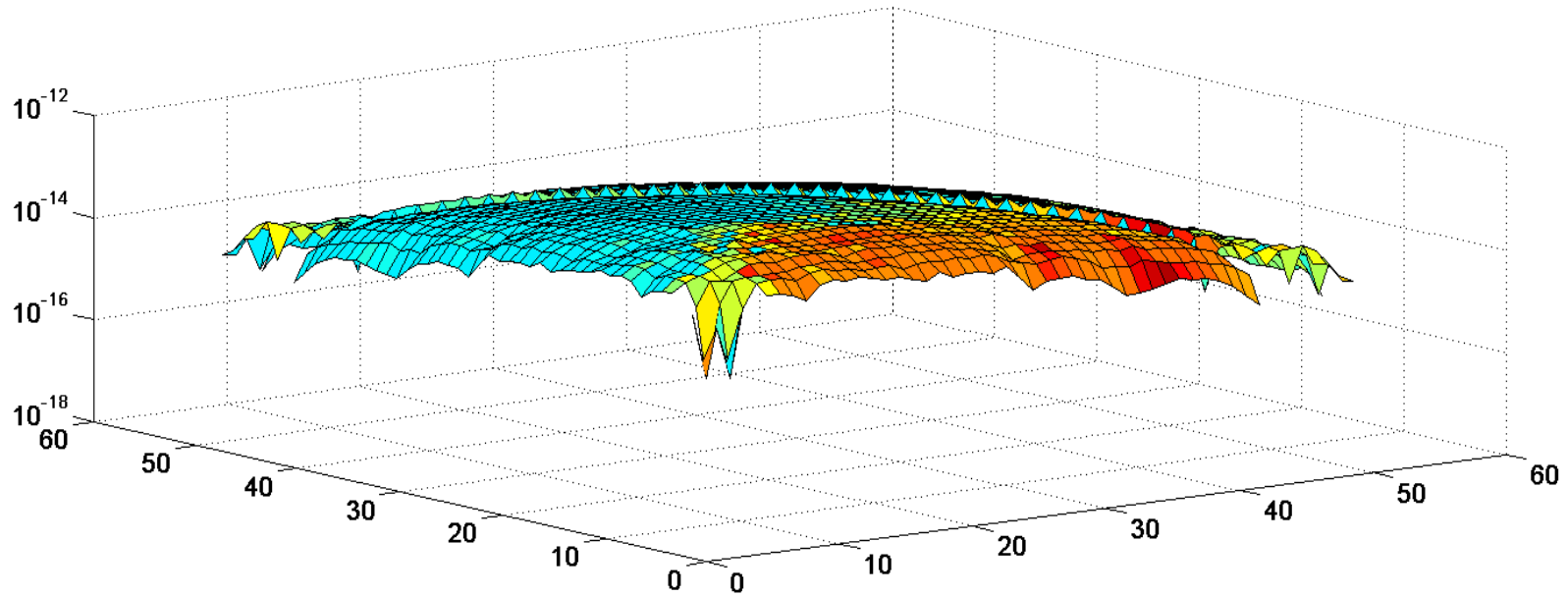
An increase of  $R$  to 3-4Å leads to a decrease in the band structure, but the general pattern of the bands is still visible.

**A (further) increase of  $R$  to 4.5Å destroys the band structure.**

# Accuracy Checks are Important

e.g.

## Map of Gauss law residuals for the field of a point

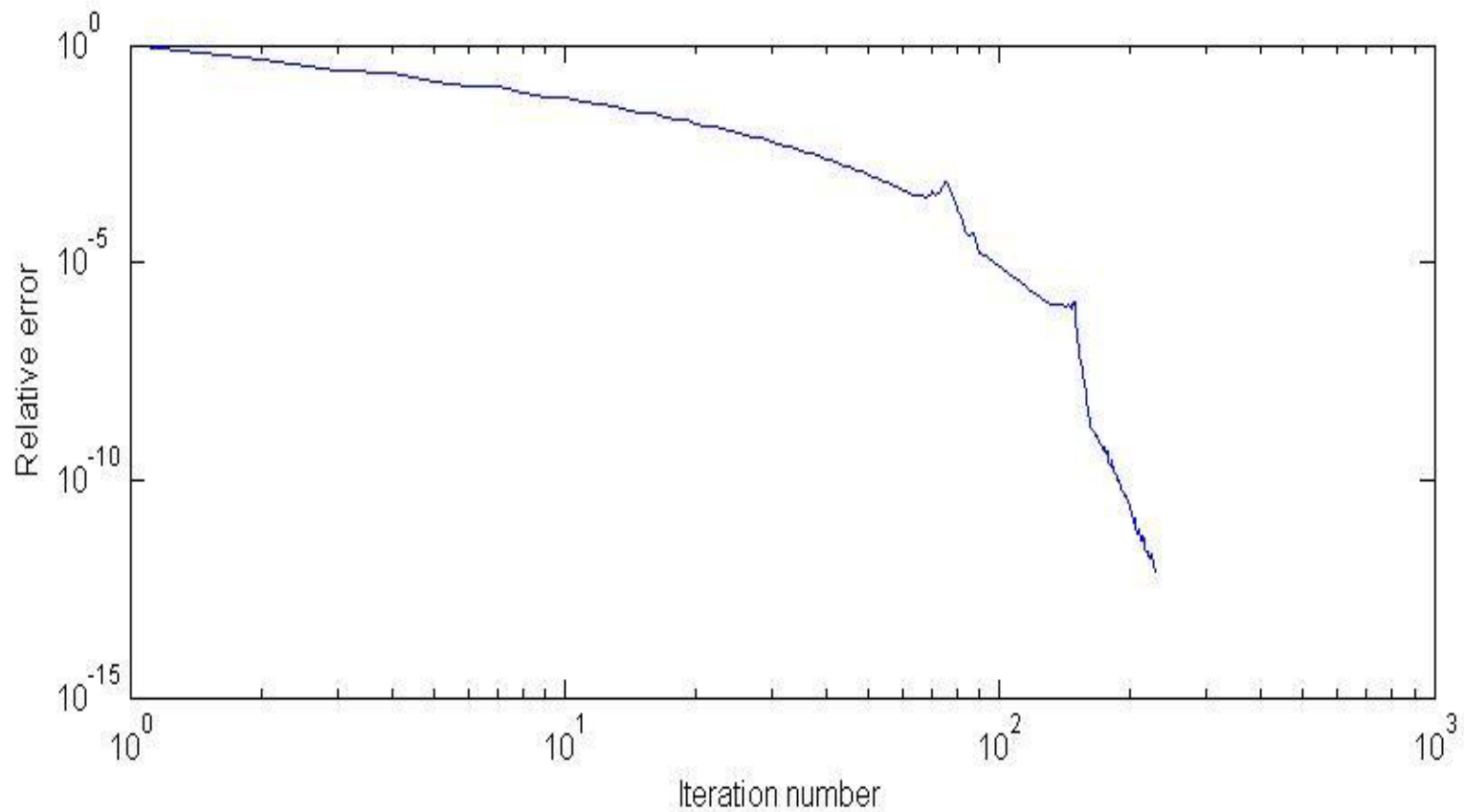


The finite-volume scheme automatically fulfils Gauss's law for each grid cell within the limits of the method's tolerance  $10^{-16}$

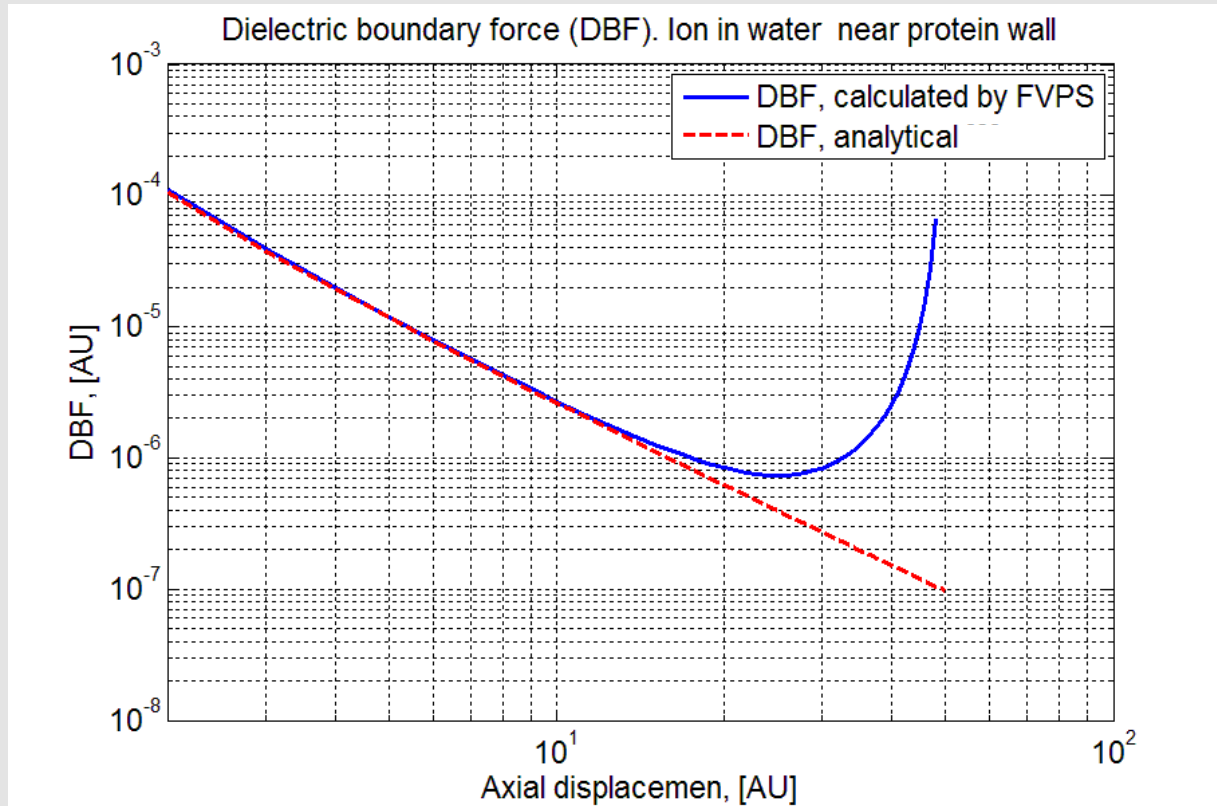


# Convergence

for a point charge



# Dielectric Boundary Force



Numerical (blue) and analytical values coincide well for two orders of magnitude for DBF

The unavoidable divergence region shows where external boundary condition in numerical analysis restricts validity region of analytical expression of Nadler, *et al*, (2003)

Phys Rev E **68**:021905.

# Stability Analysis of Related System

# Mathematical Stability Analysis

led by **Weishi Liu** (Kansas State University)

to determine

## Relation of Instability and Gating

**Ji, S. and W. Liu** (2012)

Poisson–Nernst–Planck Systems for Ion Flow with Density Functional Theory for Hard-Sphere Potential: **I–V Relations and Critical Potentials.**

Part I: Analysis. Journal of Dynamics and Differential Equations:1-29.

**Liu, W., X. Tu, and M. Zhang** (2012)

Poisson–Nernst–Planck Systems for Ion Flow with Density Functional Theory for Hard-Sphere Potential: **I–V Relations and Critical Potentials.**

Part II: Numerics. Journal of Dynamics and Differential Equations:1-20.