Multiscale atomistic simulation of complex materials for energy and infrastructure applications

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Goal: connect atomistic scale properties of materials to approach Brazil's innovation industry challenges



Highlights of our USP-Rice use:

a) Oil & Gas

b) Infrastructure (cement and asphalt materials)

c) Energy storage and conversion

Computational modeling in materials design: a multiscale approach



Nanoscience applied to O&G industry





NANO-EOR - Surface driven flow: NPs at interfaces brine-oil-rock over scales

ASPHALTENES Aggregation of complex matter



NANO-IOR – Pressure driven flow Fluid confinament,multiphasic fluids Flow in NANO porous media



Alvim and Miranda, J. Phys. Chem. C, 120, 13503(2016) NANO-EOR Alvim and Miranda, Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys., 17, 4952 (2015) Surface driven flow

AFM Simulations Functional groups with Clay surface – DFT + vdW





Fully atomistic to hybride models: Larger NPs and magnetic systems

Surface O1 - MMT

 Surface O2 - MMT Hydroxyl O3 - MMT



MD Physical properties $\rho_o = 0.81 \text{ g/cm}^3$; $\rho_b = 0.96 \text{ g/cm}^3$; $\eta_o = 3.62 \text{ mPa-s}$; $\eta_b = 0.79 \text{ mPa-s}$; $\gamma_{ob} = 43 \text{ mN/m}$; $\theta_w = 28^\circ$

 $ρ_o=0.81 \text{ g/cm}^3; ρ_b=0.96 \text{ g/cm}^3;$ $η_o=3.60 \text{ mPa-s}; η_b=0.88 \text{ mPa-s};$ $γ_{ob}=38 \text{ mN/m}; θ_w=21^\circ$

LBM parameters: $G = 0.14; G_w = -0.015;$ $\tau_{oil} = 1.50; \tau_{brine} = 0.70$



 $G = 0.15; G_w = -0.02;$ $\tau_{oil} = 1.50; \tau_{brine} = 0.75$

Exploring Oil Extraction by Nanofluids in Clay Coated Pore Network Models

Oil displacement by Brine+NP-PEG2: First Injection $C_a = 1.2x10^{-2}$



Oil

Brine

Rock

In collaboration with Sylvia Multisya, A. Kirch J. M. de Almeida, V. M. Sanchez.

NANO-IOR: pressure driven flow



Asphaltenes adsorption on carbonates, silicates and stainless steel





ΔE^{ads}= -56.20 kJ/mol (-0.58 eV)



In collaboration with Raphael Alvim and Filipe. D. Lima

Asphaltene nanoaggregation



In collaboration with Raphael Alvim resin and Filipe. D. Lima RSC Advances 2016 Asphaltene adsorption on calcite asphaltene agglomerate resin asphaltene agglomerate Water and Toluene adsorb adsorb **Dielectric Solvents** resin asphaltene asphaltene calcite calcite calcite (10.4) surface

Crossing scales in Cement based materials



Cement: a first principles view



In collaboration with Sylvia Multisya,

Cement: a first principles view

Morphology - Tobermorite 11 Å





Tobermorite 11 Å crystal based on surface energies

SEM image of hydrothermally synthesized tobermorite

- Morphological importance is inversely proportional to the surface energy.
- The equilibrium morphology of Tobermorite 11 Å is pseudohexagonal.

Journal of the Ceramic Society of Japan, 119(1389):375–377, 2011

Materials for energy storage and conversion: batteries and thermoelectrics



Comp. Materials Science (2016) JPC_C (2015)

In collaboration with A.O. Pereira and A. Antonelli.

Materials for energy storage and conversion: Solar Fuels and Photocatalysts



Summary (thanks to USP-Rice)

- Integrated multiscale approach (bottom-up and top-down)
- Understanding the underlying molecular mechanisms of phenomena at nanoscale
- Cost effective way to explore nanostructures under controlled, realistic and operational conditions.
- Materials design over a broad portfolio of energy and infrastructure technologies.