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# Structure and dynamics of aqueous NaCl solutions at high temperatures and pressures

Annalisa Polidori,<sup>1,2</sup> Ruth F. Rowlands,<sup>1</sup> Anita Zeidler,<sup>1</sup> Mathieu Salanne,<sup>3,4</sup>

Henry E. Fischer,<sup>2</sup> Burkhard Annighöfer,<sup>5</sup> Stefan Klotz,<sup>6</sup> and Philip S. Salmon<sup>1, \*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Physics, University of Bath, Bath, BA2 7AY, UK

<sup>2</sup>Institut Laue Langevin, 71 Avenue des Martyrs, 38042 Grenoble Cedex 9, France

<sup>3</sup>Sorbonne Université, CNRS, Physico-Chimie des Électrolytes et Nanosystèmes Interfaciaux, F-75005 Paris, France

<sup>4</sup>Institut Universitaire de France (IUF), 75231 Paris Cedex 05, France

CEA-CNRS, Saclay, 91191 Gif-sur-Yvette Cedex, France

<sup>6</sup>Sorbonne Université, UMR 7590, IMPMC, F-75252 Paris, France

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The structure of a concentrated solution of NaCl in  $D_2O$  was investigated by in-situ high-pressure neutron diffraction with chlorine isotope substitution to give site-specific information on the coordination environment of the chloride ion. A broad range in densities was explored, by first increasing the temperature from 323 to 423 K at 0.1 kbar and then increasing the pressure from 0.1 to 33.8 kbar at 423 K, thus mapping a cyclic variation in the static dielectric constant of the pure solvent. The experimental work was complemented by molecular dynamics simulations using the TIP4P/2005model for water, which were validated against the measured equation of state and diffraction results. Pressure induced anion ordering is observed, which is accompanied by a dramatic increase in the Cl–O and O–O coordination numbers. With the aid of bond-distance resolved bond-angle maps, it is found that the increased coordination numbers do not originate from a sizeable alteration to the number of either  $Cl \cdots D-O$  or  $O \cdots D-O$  hydrogen bonds, but from the appearance of non hydrogen-bonded configurations. Increased pressure leads to a marked decrease in the self-diffusion coefficients but has only a moderate effect on the ion-water residence times. Contact ion-pairs are observed under all conditions, mostly in the form of charge-neutral NaCl<sup>0</sup> units, and coexist with solvent-separated  $Na^+-Na^+$  and  $Cl^--Cl^-$  ion-pairs. The exchange of water molecules with  $Na^+$ adopts a concerted mechanism under ambient conditions but becomes non-concerted as the state conditions are changed. Our findings are important for understanding the role of extreme conditions in geochemical processes.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Sodium chloride in water forms the basis of a wide variety of the Earth's geofluids such as brine, for which the state conditions can vary over a broad range of temperatures and pressures [1]. On the ocean floor at continental margins, for instance, methane-containing clathratehydrate structures can form at a temperature T below  $\sim 288$  K and pressure p above  $\sim 120$  bar [2]. In comparison, on the ocean floor at hydrothermal vents, supercritical conditions can exist where the temperature and pressure exceed values corresponding to the critical point of seawater at 680 K and 298 bar [3]. At subduction zones, temperatures of  $\sim$ 523 K at 10 kbar and  $\sim$ 773 K at 20 kbar are typical along subduction pathways [4], and the salinity of aqueous fluids can reach the equivalent of 20 wt% NaCl [5], corresponding to an aqueous solution of 4.28 molal NaCl. The concentration of halite-bearing fluid inclusions in hydrothermal ore-forming systems can be more than 50 wt% NaCl, where these inclusions were trapped within growing crystals and therefore provide information on the nature of the fluid phase from which the

crystals were formed [6–8]. Further afield, a subsurface NaCl-rich ocean may be a prominent geological feature on Jupiter's moon Europa [9].

It is a challenge to create realistic models for the geochemical processes that take place under extreme conditions given their scope and the paucity of experimental information on the structure of geofluids. These fluids include aqueous solutions of NaCl and the adaptations that originate from, e.g., the dissolution of CO<sub>2</sub> and/or silicates [1, 10]. Here, it is desirable to have a molecularscale understanding of fundamental phenomena such as ion speciation, e.g., the fractions of fully dissociated single ions versus diatomic ion pairs (NaCl<sup>0</sup>) and triple clusters (Na<sub>2</sub>Cl<sup>+</sup> or NaCl<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>) [11]. The nature of this speciation is sensitive to temperature and pressure largely because of changes to the dielectric constant of water, which decreases with increasing temperature at fixed pressure, but increases with pressure at fixed temperature [12, 13].

Knowledge of the ion speciation is necessary to constrain the parameters used in models for predicting the standard-state thermodynamic properties of ions and complexes. Here, a widely used model is the Helgeson-Kirkham-Flowers equation of state [14], which delivers results that depend on an accurate description of the dielectric constant of water and its variation with temperature and pressure [15]. Until recently, this dependence

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Université Paris-Saclay, Laboratoire Léon Brillouin,

 $<sup>^{\</sup>ast}$  Corresponding author.

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restricted its use to pressures up to 5 kbar [13]. In addition, the model uses the dielectric continuum theory of Born [16], which assumes that the dielectric constant of the solvent near to an ion is the same as that in bulk solution, an over-simplification that can affect the calculation of equilibrium constants under extreme conditions [17]. These constants express the relative concentrations of ion complexes, and are necessary to understand phenomena that include the dissolution of rock, the transport and deposition of ore minerals, and the treatment of corrosion [10, 12, 15]. From a topological point of view, it is important to understand how the hydrogen-bonded network of the aqueous solution reorganizes in order to accommodate the pressure-induced packing of the chemical species [18].

The structure of aqueous NaCl solutions under extreme conditions is difficult to access by experiment because of the corrosive nature of the samples and the need to contain them within apparatus that is suitable for the chosen structural probe. Here, we address this challenge by applying the method of neutron diffraction with chlorine isotope substitution to measure the structure of an aqueous solution of 5 molal NaCl in  $D_2O$ , with (i) temperature increasing from 323 to 423 K at 0.1 kbar, and (ii) pressure increasing from 0.1 to 33.8 kbar at 423 K. Under these conditions, the static dielectric constant of water  $\varepsilon$  is cycled, decreasing to 56% of its ambient conditions value with increasing temperature before returning to this value with increasing pressure (see Sec. IV B 4). The structure of water also varies dramatically, with the nearest-neighbor O-O coordination number increasing from 4.4 [19] to  $\simeq 11-12$  [20-22]. The neutron diffraction results are interpreted with the aid of molecular dynamics simulations using the TIP4P/2005 model for the water molecules [23]. The  $Na^+$  and  $Cl^-$  ions were given full formal charges of +e and -e, respectively, where eis the elementary charge, and the Lennard-Jones parameters were taken from Yagasaki *et al.* [24].

The neutron diffraction method was chosen for the experiments because it provides site-specific information on the coordination environment of the Cl<sup>-</sup> ion [25], and neutrons are readily transmitted through high-pressure apparatus. In contrast, there are challenges in the application of x-ray absorption spectroscopy to solutions containing ions of light elements because of the small energy of the K-edge, which limits the transmission of x-rays through the solution and its container [26, 27]. The structure of aqueous NaCl solutions has recently been investigated by x-ray diffraction at room temperature and pressures in the gigapascal regime (1 GPa = 10 kbar) [28], although site-specific structural information was not accessible and the measured diffraction patterns were restricted to a limited range of scattering vectors.

The paper is organized as follows. The essential neutron diffraction theory is given in Sec. II and the molecular dynamics simulations are outlined in Sec. III. The neutron diffraction experiments are described in Sec. IV. In the data analysis, the density was taken from experiment or, at the highest pressures, from the molecular dynamics simulations. In Sec. V, the experimental results are compared to those obtained from the simulations in order to test the validity of the force-field used in the molecular dynamics work. The simulations are then used to give a more comprehensive account of the effect of temperature and pressure on the structure and dynamics. The results are discussed in Sec. VI, where issues include the nature of the hydrogen bonded network, the effect of pressure on the ordering of the anionic (Cl and O) species, and the Na<sup>+</sup>-water exchange mechanism. Conclusions are drawn in Sec. VII.

### **II. NEUTRON DIFFRACTION**

In a neutron diffraction experiment on a solution of NaCl in D<sub>2</sub>O for which the incident neutron wavelength  $\lambda$  is fixed, the diffracted intensity is measured as a function of the scattering angle  $2\theta$  [29]. Let  $I_{sc}(\theta)$  and  $I_c(\theta)$  represent the background-corrected intensities measured for the sample (s) in its container (c) and for the empty container, respectively. The differential scattering cross-section for the sample can be written as [30]

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\sigma}{\mathrm{d}\Omega} = \frac{1}{N_s A_{s,sc}(\theta)} \left\{ \left[ \frac{I_{sc}(\theta)}{a(\theta)} - M_{sc}(\theta) \right] - \frac{A_{c,sc}(\theta)}{A_{c,c}(\theta)} \left[ \frac{I_c(\theta)}{a(\theta)} - M_c(\theta) \right] \right\},$$
(1)

where  $N_s$  is the number of illuminated sample atoms;  $a(\theta)$  is a normalization factor measured by reference to a vanadium standard [31];  $A_{i,j}(\theta)$  denotes the attenuation factor for neutrons that are scattered in medium *i* and attenuated, through absorption and scattering, in medium(s) *j*; and  $M_i(\theta)$  is the cross section for multiple scattering in medium(s) *i*. For cylindrical samples, the  $A_{i,j}(\theta)$  can be calculated by using the method of Paalman and Pings [32], and the  $M_i(\theta)$  can be evaluated within the quasi-isotropic approximation by using the method of Soper and Egelstaff [33]. The use of Eq. (1) ensures that the attenuation corrections are applied to once-scattered neutrons.

The differential scattering cross-section of Eq. (1) can also be written as

$$d\sigma/d\Omega = F(Q) + P(Q), \qquad (2)$$

where  $\theta$  is related to the magnitude of the scattering vector via  $Q = (4\pi/\lambda) \sin \theta$ . The total structure factor

$$F(Q) = \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta} c_{\alpha} c_{\beta} b_{\alpha} b_{\beta} \left[ S_{\alpha\beta}(Q) - 1 \right]$$
(3)

describes the structure of the system, where  $c_{\alpha}$  and  $b_{\alpha}$  are the atomic fraction and bound coherent neutron scattering length of chemical species  $\alpha$ , and  $S_{\alpha\beta}(Q)$  is a Faber-Ziman partial structure factor [34]. The term P(Q) has PLEASE CITE THIS ARTICLE AS DOI: 10.1063/5.0067166

contributions from (i) the self-scattering from individual nuclei and (ii) the inelastic scattering associated with both the self and distinct parts of  $d\sigma/d\Omega$ , for which there is no exact theory [29, 35, 36].

The total pair-distribution function is obtained from the Fourier transform

$$G(r) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2 \rho r} \int_0^\infty \mathrm{d}Q \, Q \, F(Q) \, M(Q) \sin(Qr) \qquad (4)$$

where r is a distance in real space,  $\rho$  is the atomic number density of the sample, and  $g_{\alpha\beta}(r)$  is a partial pair-distribution function. The modification function M(Q) = 1 for  $Q \leq Q_{\max}$ , M(Q) = 0 for  $Q > Q_{\max}$ originates from the maximum value  $Q_{\max}$  that can be accessed by a diffractometer. If  $Q_{\max}$  is sufficiently large that M(Q) does not truncate any of the large-Q oscillations in F(Q) it follows that

$$G(r) = \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta} c_{\alpha} c_{\beta} b_{\alpha} b_{\beta} \left[ g_{\alpha\beta}(r) - 1 \right].$$
 (5)

The low-*r* limit of Eq. (5) is given by  $G(r \to 0) = -\sum_{\alpha} \sum_{\beta} c_{\alpha} c_{\beta} b_{\alpha} b_{\beta}$ . The mean coordination number of atoms of type  $\beta$  contained within a volume defined by two concentric spheres of radii  $r_{\min}$  and  $r_{\max}$  centered on an atom of type  $\alpha$  is given by

$$\bar{n}_{\alpha\beta} = 4\pi \,\rho \,c_\beta \int_{r_{\min}}^{r_{\max}} \mathrm{d}r \,r^2 g_{\alpha\beta}(r). \tag{6}$$

The running coordination number is found by setting  $r_{\min} = 0$  and by finding the change in  $\bar{n}_{\alpha\beta}$  as  $r_{\max}$  is increased from zero.

Let neutron diffraction experiments be performed on two solutions that are identical in every respect, except that chlorine with isotopic abundance <sup>†</sup>Cl is replaced by chlorine with isotopic abundance <sup>‡</sup>Cl, where  $b_{\dagger Cl} > b_{\ddagger Cl}$ . The samples differ only in the isotopic enrichment of chlorine, so their scattering and absorption cross-sections are very similar. In consequence, there is little change to either the magnitude or  $\theta$ -dependence of  $A_{s,sc}(\theta)$ ,  $A_{c,sc}(\theta)$ and  $M_{sc}(\theta)$ . If the measured sample in container intensities are denoted by  $I_{sc}^{\dagger}(\theta)$  and  $I_{sc}^{\ddagger}(\theta)$  it follows from Eq. (1) that

$$\Delta F_{\rm Cl}'(Q) \equiv d\sigma/d\Omega|_{\dagger \rm Cl} - d\sigma/d\Omega|_{\dagger \rm Cl} \tag{7}$$
$$\cong \frac{1}{N_s A_{s,sc}(\theta)} \left[ \frac{I_{sc}^{\dagger}(\theta) - I_{sc}^{\dagger}(\theta)}{a(\theta)} \right],$$

where  $A_{s,sc}(\theta)$  can be calculated for either of the samples. The difference function method therefore leads to a cancellation of systematic errors that arise from the container, background and multiple scattering corrections, a feature that will be exploited in the following work on aqueous solutions under extreme conditions.

From Eq. (2), it follows that Eq. (7) can be re-written as

$$\Delta F_{\rm Cl}'(Q) = \Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q) + \Delta P_{\rm Cl}(Q) \tag{8}$$

where the first-difference function is given by

$$\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q) = F_{\dagger {\rm Cl}}(Q) - F_{\dagger {\rm Cl}}(Q)$$
(9)  
=  $A [S_{\rm ClD}(Q) - 1] + B [S_{\rm ClO}(Q) - 1]$   
+  $C [S_{\rm ClNa}(Q) - 1] + D [S_{\rm ClCl}(Q) - 1],$ 

 $A = 2c_{\rm Cl}c_{\rm D}b_{\rm D}\Delta b_{\rm Cl}, \quad B = 2c_{\rm Cl}c_{\rm O}b_{\rm O}\Delta b_{\rm Cl}, \quad C = 2c_{\rm Cl}c_{\rm Na}b_{\rm Na}\Delta b_{\rm Cl}, \quad D = c_{\rm Cl}^2 \left(b_{\dagger {\rm Cl}}^2 - b_{\dagger {\rm Cl}}^2\right) \text{ and } \Delta b_{\rm Cl} = b_{\dagger {\rm Cl}} - b_{\dagger {\rm Cl}} - b_{\dagger {\rm Cl}} + b_{\tt Cl} + b_{\tt Cl$ 

A shown by Eq. (9), the first-difference function simplifies the complexity of correlations associated with F(Q), and provides site-specific information on the coordination environment of the chloride ion. The corresponding realspace information is obtained from the Fourier transform

$$\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2 \rho r} \int_0^\infty dQ \, Q \, \Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q) \sin(Qr) \quad (10)$$
  
=  $A \left[ g_{\rm ClD}(r) - 1 \right] + B \left[ g_{\rm ClO}(r) - 1 \right]$   
+  $C \left[ g_{\rm ClNa}(r) - 1 \right] + D \left[ g_{\rm ClCl}(r) - 1 \right].$ 

The low-*r* limit is given by  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r \to 0) = -(A + B + C + D)$ . In the implementation of Eq. (10), a Lorch modification function  $M(Q) = \sin(\pi Q/Q_{\rm max})/(\pi Q/Q_{\rm max})$  for  $Q \leq Q_{\rm max}$ , M(Q) = 0 for  $Q > Q_{\rm max}$  can be used to smooth Fourier transform artifacts [38, 39].

### **III. MOLECULAR DYNAMICS SIMULATIONS**

Molecular dynamics simulations were performed using the MetalWalls code [40]. The 5 molal solution was represented by a system of 82 NaCl ion pairs and 818 D<sub>2</sub>O molecules. Pure water was represented by a system of 1000 D<sub>2</sub>O molecules. The rigid TIP4P/2005 model [23] was used for the water molecules, in which the intramolecular O–D bond length is fixed at 0.9572 Å and the intra-molecular D–O–D bond angle is fixed at 104.52°. This model was selected because it yields a phase diagram in good agreement with experiment [41]. For the Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> ions, the Lennard-Jones parameters were selected from Yagasaki *et al.* [24] because they were specifically designed to reproduce the solubility of the salt, and Lorentz-Berthelot mixing rules were used.

The systems were simulated at the following state points: (298 K, 0.001 kbar); (323 K, 0.001 kbar); (373 K, 0.001 kbar); (423 K, 0.001 kbar); (423 K, 1 kbar); (423 K, 2.4 kbar); (423 K, 10 kbar); (423 K, 22.4 kbar); (423 K, 27.9 kbar) and (423 K, 33.8 kbar). In all cases, a first NpT simulation of 200 ps was performed using an isotropic barostat (made of a Nosé-Hoover chain of length 5 with a time constant of 500 fs) coupled to a thermostat (also made of a Nosé-Hoover chain of length 5 with a time constant of 100 fs) [42], where N denotes the number of particles. For each state point, the equilibrium volume



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V from the NpT simulation was selected and the system was simulated for 2 ns in the NVT ensemble using a thermostat [43] made of a Nosé-Hoover chain of length 5 with a time constant of 1000 fs. The time step was 2 fs for all the simulations. The Coulomb interactions were calculated using an Ewald summation and a 12 Å cutoff was used for the Lennard-Jones interactions (a tail correction was applied for the calculation of the pressure tensor). The rigidity of the water molecules was enforced using the rattle algorithm [44].

Note that in the NpT simulations, the fluctuation in pressure is typically 0.5 kbar, so the calculated parameters at ambient pressure (0.001 kbar) and 0.1 kbar cannot be discriminated. Accordingly, the lowest pressure point will be labelled as 0 kbar.

### A. Pair-distribution functions and structure factors

Each G(r) function was initially obtained by combining the calculated  $g_{\alpha\beta}(r)$  functions using Eq. (5). The corresponding F(Q) function was then obtained by (i) Fourier transforming G(r) and by (ii) calculating the Fourier components that contribute towards the  $S_{\alpha\beta}(Q)$ functions in the low-Q region [45] and combining them according to Eq. (3). The data sets were then joined smoothly at  $Q \sim 2.5$  Å<sup>-1</sup>, using the direct results at smaller Q and the Fourier transformed results at larger Q. In this way, it is possible to avoid the Fourier transform artifacts that originate from the finite size of the simulation cell. To provide a direct comparison with the diffraction results, the final F(Q) function was Fourier transformed to G(r) using Eq. (4) where the modification function M(Q) was chosen to match that used in the experiments.

### B. Bond-angle distributions

The bond-angle distribution  $B(\phi)$  for bond angle  $\phi$ was calculated using a cutoff distance between atoms of type  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  set at the minimum after the first peak in  $g_{\alpha\beta}(r)$  found for the solution at 423 K and 0 kbar. Here, the calculated values are proportional to the number of bonds between  $\phi$  and  $\phi + \Delta \phi$ , which is dependent on the solid angle  $\Delta \Omega \propto \sin(\phi)$  subtended at that value of  $\phi$ . Each bond-angle distribution is therefore plotted as  $B(\phi)/\sin(\phi)$  to compensate for the effect of  $\Delta\Omega$ . In this way, a finite bond-angle distribution at  $\phi \simeq 180^{\circ}$  will not be artificially suppressed [46].

### IV. EXPERIMENT

### A. Sample preparation

Gaseous  $H^*Cl$  was prepared by the action of concentrated  $H_2SO_4$  on dry salt in a flask connected to a vacuum

line ( $\sim 10^{-5}$  Torr), where \*Cl represents the isotope <sup>35</sup>Cl (99% enrichment), chlorine of natural isotopic abundance <sup>nat</sup>Cl, a 1:1 mixture of <sup>35</sup>Cl and <sup>37</sup>Cl isotopes <sup>mix</sup>Cl, or the isotope  ${}^{37}$ Cl (99% enrichment). The vacuum line was connected via a Young's tap to glassware comprising two joined flasks. One flask was cooled using liquid nitrogen to solidify the gaseous H<sup>\*</sup>Cl. The glassware was then sealed and removed from the vacuum line, distilled water was introduced into the second flask, and the solidified H\*Cl was warmed gently to ensure slow dissolution in the water, which was stirred vigorously. The H\*Cl solution was neutralised using a 0.5 N standardized solution of NaOH in a titration setup, where the pH of the product was monitored continuously and the titration was terminated when the pH  $\simeq 6$ . Finally, the neutralised Na<sup>\*</sup>Cl solution was dried thoroughly at 353 K, and the product was dissolved in  $D_2O$  (99.9% enrichment, Sigma Aldrich) to give a solution of 5 molal Na<sup>\*</sup>Cl in  $D_2O$ . The use of  $D_2O$  avoids the large incoherent scattering crosssection associated with light hydrogen, and reduces inelastic scattering.

### B. Neutron diffraction

The neutron diffraction experiments were performed using two different high-pressure setups mounted on the instrument D4c at the Institut Laue-Langevin [47]. This instrument was chosen on account of its (i) high countrate across a wide Q-range, (ii) ability to access this Qrange with high-pressure setups [30], and (iii) high stability which leads to reproducibility of the measured diffraction patterns [48].

### 1. Ti-Zr pressure cell experiment

The first setup employed a cylindrical Ti<sub>0.676</sub>Zr<sub>0.324</sub> cell of inner diameter 5 mm and wall thickness 5.5 mm [49] to access pressures up to 1 kbar and temperatures up to 423 K. The Ti-Zr alloy was chosen because it has a mean coherent neutron scattering length of zero, and its oxide layer offers good corrosion resistance to aqueous solutions under high pressure and temperature conditions [50]. The cell was warmed using cartridge heaters set into clamps at the top and bottom of the cell. A separator of novel design was used to prevent mixing between the sample and pressurising fluid (Fluorinert FC-770) [50]. The cell, separator and associated components were filled using a procedure that was designed to avoid trapping gas bubbles within the sample in the high-pressure system [51]. A locking-pin placed in the base of the cell enabled it to be mounted with a reproducible orientation, which is important because the Ti-Zr alloy is not mixed ideally, so there are small Bragg peaks that show preferred orientation [52]. The incident neutron wavelength was 0.4987(1) A.

Diffraction patterns were measured for solutions of



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5 molal Na<sup>nat</sup>Cl or Na<sup>37</sup>Cl in D<sub>2</sub>O held within the Ti-Zr cell either (i) at a pressure of 0.1 kbar and temperature of 323, 373 or 423 K, or (ii) at a pressure of 0.5 or 1.0 kbar and temperature of 423 K; the empty Ti-Zr cell at a temperature of 323, 373 or 423 K; the empty instrument; and a cylindrical vanadium rod of diameter 6.37 mm for normalisation purposes. The sample in cell and empty cell run times were optimised by using the procedure described in [53]. The data analysis followed the procedure described in Sec II.

### 2. Paris-Edinburgh press experiment

The second setup employed a VX5 Paris-Edinburgh (PE) press with single toroid anvils to access pressures up to 33.8 kbar, where the anvils were warmed using cartridge heaters [54]. Encapsulated Ti<sub>0.676</sub>Zr<sub>0.324</sub> gaskets were used to contain the sample [55]. Here, a pipette was used to load 30  $\mu$ l of sample into each half of the gasket. The high surface tension of the solution enabled one of the gaskets to be inverted and placed on top of the other, thus ensuring that no gas bubbles were trapped. Excess sample was wiped away, and the gaskets and their outer Ti-Zr toroid were sealed in the anvils of the press using a small applied load. The incident neutron wavelength was 0.4971(1) Å.

Diffraction patterns were measured for solutions of 5 molal Na<sup>35</sup>Cl or Na<sup>mix</sup>Cl in D<sub>2</sub>O held within matched Ti-Zr gaskets at a pressure of 2.4, 10.0, 22.4, 27.9 or 33.8 kbar and temperature of 423 K; an empty uncompressed Ti-Zr gasket; several empty Ti-Zr gaskets that had been recovered from different high pressure conditions; the empty anvils with different spacings; and different sized vanadium pellets held within Ti-Zr gaskets for normalisation purposes. The sample in gasket and empty gasket run times were optimised using the procedure described in [53]. The data analysis followed the procedure described in Sec II. The pressure-volume equation of state for the Ti-Zr alloy was taken from [52]. At pressures greater than 33.8 kbar, the appearance of Bragg peaks indicated crystallisation of the solutions.

### 3. Pressure calibration

For the Ti-Zr cell experiment, the pressure at the sample position was measured using a transducer. For the PE press experiment, the pressure was determined from the load applied to the anvils by using a calibration based on the F(Q) functions measured for D<sub>2</sub>O under the same experimental conditions as for the aqueous solutions [56]. First, F(Q) was measured for D<sub>2</sub>O at 423 K for different applied loads, and the position of the principal peak at  $Q_{\rm PP} \sim 2.1-2.5$  Å<sup>-1</sup> was noted. At the largest applied load, crystallisation was observed and a pressure of 33.8 kbar was identified from the equation of state for D<sub>2</sub>O [57]. Second, the pressure dependence of  $Q_{\rm PP}$  was



FIG. 1. Equation of state for a solution of 5 molal NaCl in  $D_2O$ . The main panel shows the variation of the number density with pressure at 423 K and the inset shows the variation of the number density with temperature at 0.1 kbar. The data sets are from the molecular dynamics simulations of the present work, Potter and Brown [58] and Mantegazzi *et al.* [5].

TABLE I. Temperature T and pressure p dependence of the atomic number density  $\rho$  for a solution of 5 molal NaCl in D<sub>2</sub>O, and its ratio with the ambient conditions number density  $\rho_0$ . The static dielectric constant of water  $\varepsilon$  is also given, as taken from [59] for pressures <10 kbar and from [13] for pressures  $\geq 10$  kbar.

			Solution		Water
Setup	$T(\mathbf{K})$	p (kbar)	$\rho$ (Å <sup>-3</sup> )	$ ho/ ho_0$	ε
	298	0.001	0.0954	1.000	78.46
	298	0.10	0.0957	1.003	78.85
Ti-Zr cell	323(1)	0.10(1)	0.0947	0.993	70.27
	373(2)	0.10(1)	0.0923	0.968	55.76
	423(4)	0.10(1)	0.0895	0.939	44.30
	423(4)	0.50(1)	0.0918	0.962	45.67
	423(4)	1.00(2)	0.0938	0.983	47.14
PE press	423(4)	2.4(5)	0.0949	0.995	50.4
	423(4)	10.0(5)	0.1061	1.112	61.0
	423(4)	22.4(5)	0.1166	1.223	71.6
	423(4)	27.9(5)	0.1209	1.267	75.3
	423(4)	33.8(5)	0.1237	1.297	79.0

measured for  $D_2O$  at 423 K and either 0.1, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5 or 2.0 kbar using the Ti-Zr cell. A comparison of the measured  $Q_{PP}$  values enabled a pressure of 2.4 kbar to be identified for the smallest load applied in the PE press experiment. A linear dependence between pressure and the applied load was assumed. TABLE II. Weighting factors in Eqs. (9)–(10) for the highpressure experiments on solutions of 5 molal NaCl in D<sub>2</sub>O. For the Ti-Zr cell experiment,  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q) = F_{\rm nat}_{\rm Cl}(Q) - F_{\rm 37}_{\rm Cl}(Q)$ . For the PE press experiment,  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q) = F_{\rm 35}_{\rm Cl}(Q) - F_{\rm mix}_{\rm Cl}(Q)$ .

	Coefficient			
Setup	A  (mbarn)	B  (mbarn)	C  (mbarn)	D (mbarn)
Ti-Zr cell	16.92(16)	7.37(7)	0.462(5)	0.805(4)
PE press	11.16(10)	4.86(4)	0.305(3)	0.798(6)

### . Solution density

A solution of 5 molal NaCl in D<sub>2</sub>O has the same ratio of NaCl to water molecules as a solution of 5.5585 molal NaCl in H<sub>2</sub>O, corresponding to a 24.5 wt% solution of NaCl in light water. At pressures up to 1 kbar, the number density of the solution in heavy water was taken to be the same as the equivalent solution in light water [58] (Table I). The ambient conditions value compares to  $\rho = 0.0950(3)$  Å<sup>-3</sup> as measured using an Anton-Paar DMA 4500 M density meter. At higher pressures,  $\rho$  was taken from the equation of state found from the molecular dynamics simulations of this work (section III). As shown in Fig. 1, the results are in good accord with the equations of state reported by Potter and Brown [58] and Mantegazzi *et al.* [5]. The latter was parameterized for state conditions that cover this work using data for water and for aqueous solutions of 1 and 3 molal NaCl at temperatures up to 673 K for pressures in the range 5– 45 kbar.

As indicated by Table I, the state conditions enabled access to a broad reduced-density  $\rho/\rho_0$  range of 0.94–1.30, where  $\rho_0$  is the density at 298 K and 0.001 kbar. Table I also lists  $\varepsilon$  for pure water, which decreases to 56% of its ambient pressure value with temperature increasing to 423 K at 0.1 kbar, before returning to this value with pressure increasing to 33.8 kbar at 423 K.

### 5. Scattering lengths and weighting factors

The coherent neutron scattering lengths used in the data analysis were  $b_{^{35}\text{Cl}} = 11.65(2)$  fm,  $b_{^{nat}\text{Cl}} = 9.5770(8)$  fm,  $b_{^{mix}\text{Cl}} = 7.365(32)$  fm,  $b_{^{37}\text{Cl}} = 3.08(6)$  fm,  $b_{^{Na}} = 3.63(2)$  fm,  $b_{^{D}} = 6.661(4)$  fm and  $b_{^{O}} = 5.803(4)$  fm [60]. The weighting factors for the partial structure factors in Eqs. (9)–(10) are listed in Table II (1 barn =  $10^{-28}$  m<sup>2</sup>).

0.5 kbar, 423 K 0.8 0.1 kbar, 423 K 0.1 kbar, 373 K 0.40.1 kbar, 323 K 0.01.6 (b) 1.0 kbar, 423 K 1.20.5 kbar, 423 K 0.80.1 kbar, 423 K 0.1 kbar, 373 K 0.40.1 kbar, 323 K 0.0-0.4<sup>L</sup>\_0 2 4 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 6 8 Scattering vector  $Q(\dot{A}^{-1})$ 

FIG. 2. Total structure factors F(Q) for solutions of 5 molal (a) Na<sup>nat</sup>Cl in D<sub>2</sub>O and (b) Na<sup>37</sup>Cl in D<sub>2</sub>O. The points with vertical error bars give the functions measured using the Ti-Zr cell and the black curves give spline fits. The error bars are smaller than the curve thickness at most Q-values. The red curves show the simulated functions. The high temperature functions are offset vertically for clarity of presentation. The broken vertical green line gives the position of the first peak in F(Q) at 0.1 kbar and 323 K.

### V. RESULTS

### A. Total structure factors

The measured F(Q) functions for the experiments using the Ti-Zr cell and PE press are shown in Figs. 2 and 3, respectively. The inelasticity correction P(Q) of Eq. (2) was estimated by fitting a fifth order polynomial to  $Qd\sigma/d\Omega$ . There is a notable shift of the first peak position in F(Q) to a larger Q-value with increasing pressure.

The G(r) functions for the solutions of 5 molal Na<sup>nat</sup>Cl or Na<sup>35</sup>Cl in D<sub>2</sub>O are shown in Fig. 4. The first peak at 0.95(1) Å is identified with the intra-molecular O–D distances within water molecules, and integration of this peak gives an O–D coordination number  $\bar{n}_{O}^{D} = 2.02(2)$ . The O–D bond distance is shorter than the value of 0.985(5) Å measured for pure D<sub>2</sub>O using the method of neutron diffraction with oxygen isotope substitution, i.e., in experiments designed to eliminate the main ef-

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1.6 (a)

1.0 kbar, 423 K





FIG. 3. Total structure factors F(Q) for solutions of 5 molal (a) Na<sup>35</sup>Cl in D<sub>2</sub>O and (b) Na<sup>mix</sup>Cl in D<sub>2</sub>O. The points with vertical error bars give the functions measured using the PE press and the black curves give spline fits. The error bars are smaller than the curve thickness at most Q-values. The red curves show the simulated functions. The high pressure functions are offset vertically for clarity of presentation. The broken vertical green line gives the position of the first peak in F(Q) at 2.4 kbar and 423 K.

fects of inelastic scattering on the bond length [48, 61]. A foreshortened O–D bond length is typical of reactorbased neutron diffraction experiments on water or aqueous solutions, an artifact that originates from the difficulty in accurately correcting for the effects of recoil in neutron scattering events [35, 62]. Such bond-length issues are absent for  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$  because the main effects of inelastic scattering are eliminated when forming the first-difference function  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$  (Section II).

The molecular dynamics simulations reproduce the main features in the measured F(Q) functions (Figs. 2 and 3). In accordance with the use of a rigid model for the water molecules, the large-Q oscillations are, however, more pronounced than found by experiment, which leads [via Eq. (4)] to a sharper first peak in G(r) and to oscillations at smaller r-values about the  $G(r \to 0)$  limit (Fig. 4).

FIG. 4. Total pair-distribution functions G(r) for solutions of 5 molal (a) Na<sup>35</sup>Cl in D<sub>2</sub>O and (b) Na<sup>nat</sup>Cl in D<sub>2</sub>O. The black curves were obtained by Fourier transforming the measured F(Q) functions given by the black curves in Fig. 3(a) and Fig. 2(a), respectively, and setting the low-r oscillations (chained blue curves) to the calculated limit  $G(r \to 0)$ . The red curves in (a) and (b) were obtained by Fourier transforming the simulated F(Q) functions given by the red curves in Fig. 3(a) and Fig. 2(a), respectively, after truncation at a node in F(Q) ( $Q_{\max} = 20$  Å<sup>-1</sup>). The broken vertical green line marks the O-D bond distance in the TIP4P/2005 model.

### **B.** Difference functions

The  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$  functions obtained directly from the measured differential scattering cross-sections (Eq. 7) are shown in Fig. 5. The associated  $\Delta F'_{\rm Cl}(Q)$  functions [Eq. (8)] did not show a Q-dependent slope, indicating that the (small) light water content of the solutions was balanced [63, 64]. The functions show a measurable contrast between the total structure factors, even for the experiment using the PE press where the volume of sample illuminated by the incident neutron beam was <7% of the volume illuminated in the Ti-Zr cell experiment. With increasing pressure at 423 K, the first peak in  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$  at  $\simeq 2.1$  Å<sup>-1</sup> sharpens and moves towards a larger Q-value.

The difference functions  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$  measured in the experiment using the Ti-Zr cell are shown in Fig. 6. The large cutoff value  $Q_{\rm max} = 21$  Å<sup>-1</sup> of the Lorch modification function leads to a distinct first peak in  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$ .





FIG. 5. Difference functions  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$  for solutions of 5 molal NaCl in D<sub>2</sub>O as measured using (a) the PE press or (b) the Ti-Zr cell. The points with vertical error bars show the measured data points, and the black curves show spline fits to which a Lorch function [38] has been applied with  $Q_{\rm max}$  set at either (a) 9.75 Å<sup>-1</sup> or (b) 21 Å<sup>-1</sup>. The red curves show the results from the simulations. In (a) and (b) the high-pressure and high-temperature data sets are offset vertically for clarity of presentation, respectively. The broken vertical green line gives the position of the first peak in  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$  at 0.1 kbar and 323 K.

This peak is attributed to Cl–D correlations [37, 65, 66] and gives the bond lengths and coordination numbers listed in Table III. The second peak in  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$  has contributions from overlapping Cl–O and Cl–D correlations (Fig. S1). If the peak position is assigned to the nearestneighbor Cl–O distance, the calculated D–Cl–O bond angle is consistent with approximately linear Cl···D–O hydrogen bonds, within the experimental uncertainty in the Cl–D and Cl–O distances.

The difference functions  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$  measured in the experiment using the PE press are shown in Fig. 7. Here, the small cutoff value  $Q_{\rm max} = 9.75 \text{ Å}^{-1}$  of the Lorch modification function, which was used to avoid the Fourier transform artifacts that originate from high-Q noise in  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$ , leads to considerable overlap of the first and second peaks in  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$ . For this reason, the  $\bar{n}_{\rm ClD}$  coordination numbers (Table III) are less reliable than found in the Ti-Zr cell experiment. Nevertheless, the first and



FIG. 6. Difference functions  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$  for solutions of 5 molal NaCl in D<sub>2</sub>O. The black curves were obtained by Fourier transforming the measured  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$  functions given by the black curves in Fig. 5(b) and setting the low-*r* oscillations (chained blue curves) to the calculated limit  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r \rightarrow 0)$ . The red curves were obtained by Fourier transforming the simulated  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$  functions given by the red curves in Fig. 5(b) after the application of a Lorch modification function with  $Q_{\rm max} = 21$  Å<sup>-1</sup> as per the measured data sets. The high temperature functions are offset vertically for clarity of presentation. The broken vertical green line gives the position of the first peak in  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$  at 0.1 kbar and 323 K.

TABLE III. Pressure and temperature dependence of the measured Cl–D bond length  $r_{\rm ClD}$ , position of the second peak  $r_2$  in  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$  and Cl–D coordination number  $\bar{n}_{\rm ClD}$  for a solution of 5 molal NaCl in D<sub>2</sub>O.  $r_{\rm min}$  and  $r_{\rm max}$  refer to the limits used to obtain  $\bar{n}_{\rm ClD}$  [Eq. (6)]. The values are compared to those found for a solution of 5.32 molal NaCl in D<sub>2</sub>O under ambient conditions (0.001 kbar and 298 K) [37, 65, 66].

p (kbar)	$T(\mathbf{K})$	$r_{\rm ClD}$ (Å)	$r_2$ (Å)	$\bar{n}_{\rm ClD}$	$r_{\min}$ (Å)	$r_{\rm max}$ (Å)
0.001	298	2.26(3)	3.20(5)	5.5(4)	1.79	2.87
0.10(1)	323(1)	2.24(1)	3.52(9)	5.7(3)	1.66	2.82
	373(2)	2.27(1)	3.33(9)	5.5(3)	1.72	2.82
	423(4)	2.28(1)	3.39(9)	4.9(3)	1.72	2.76
0.50(1)	423(4)	2.24(1)	3.25(9)	5.4(3)	1.66	2.82
1.00(2)		2.24(1)	3.27(9)	5.2(5)	1.72	2.76
2.4(5)		2.20(2)	3.18(9)	6.1(7)	1.72	2.76
10.0(5)		2.22(2)	3.13(9)	8.2(7)	1.66	2.82
22.4(5)		2.21(2)	3.23(9)	5.2(7)	1.47	2.58
27.9(5)		2.21(4)	3.15(9)	3.4(7)	1.47	2.52
33.8(5)		2.22(2)	3.19(9)	4.4(7)	1.47	2.52

second peak positions in  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$  are also consistent with approximately linear Cl···D–O hydrogen bonds, within the experimental uncertainty in the Cl–D and Cl–O distances. The nature of these hydrogen bonds will be discussed in section VI A.

At 0.1 kbar, the first peak in  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$  broadens with



FIG. 7. Difference functions  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$  for solutions of 5 molal NaCl in D<sub>2</sub>O. The black curves were obtained by Fourier transforming the measured  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$  functions given by the black curves in Fig. 5(a) and setting the low-r oscillations (chained blue curves) to the calculated limit  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r \rightarrow 0)$ . The broken and solid red curves were obtained by Fourier transforming the simulated  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$  functions given by the red curves in Fig. 5(a) after the application of a Lorch modification function with either (i)  $Q_{\rm max} = 9.75$  Å<sup>-1</sup> as per the measured data sets or (ii)  $Q_{\rm max} = 21$  Å<sup>-1</sup> to provide a comparison with the data sets shown in Fig. 6, respectively. The high pressure functions are offset vertically for clarity of presentation. The broken vertical green line gives the position of the first peak in  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$  at 2.4 kbar and 423 K.

increasing temperature as the Cl–D bond length increases, the Cl–D coordination number decreases (Table III) and the height of the function at the first minimum (at  $\simeq 2.8$  Å) increases [Fig. 8(a)]. This increase in height at the first minimum originates primarily from broadening of the first peak in  $g_{\text{ClD}}(r)$  (see Sec. V C).

At 423 K, the relative height of the first and second peaks in  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$  changes with increasing pressure, and the first peak broadens [Figs. 7 and 8(b)]. There is little change to the Cl–D bond length as taken from the first peak or shoulder position in  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$ . It is difficult to assess the effect of pressure on the Cl–D coordination number because of overlap between the first and second peaks in  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$ .

The molecular dynamics simulations reproduce the main features in the measured  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$  functions (Fig. 5), including the sharpening of the first peak and its shift in position to a larger Q-value with increasing pressure. The simulations also reproduce the main features in the corresponding real-space functions  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$  (Figs. 6 and 7), although the first and second peaks are, in general, sharper than found by experiment.



FIG. 8. Measured dependence of the difference function  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r) - \Delta G_{\rm Cl}(0)$  on (a) temperature at 0.1 kbar versus (b) pressure at 423 K for a solution of 5 molal NaCl in D<sub>2</sub>O. The results were obtained using the Ti-Zr cell.



FIG. 9. Dependence of the simulated partial pairdistribution functions  $g_{\text{CID}}(r)$  and  $g_{\text{CIO}}(r)$  on (left hand column) temperature at 0 kbar versus (right hand column) pressure at 423 K.

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FIG. 10. Dependence of the coordination numbers  $\bar{n}_{\rm NaO}$  (open black squares),  $\bar{n}_{\rm CID}$  (open red triangles) and  $\bar{n}_{\rm NaCI} = \bar{n}_{\rm CINa}$  (open blue circles) obtained from the simulations on (a) temperature at 0 kbar versus (b) pressure at 423 K. Each  $\bar{n}_{\alpha\beta}$  value was obtained by integrating to the first minimum in the corresponding  $g_{\alpha\beta}(r)$  function. The total coordination numbers of the Na<sup>+</sup> ion  $\bar{n}_{\rm Na} = \bar{n}_{\rm NaO} + \bar{n}_{\rm NaCI}$  (solid black squares) and Cl<sup>-</sup> ion  $\bar{n}_{\rm CI} = \bar{n}_{\rm CID} + \bar{n}_{\rm CINa}$  (solid red triangles) are also shown. The  $\bar{n}_{\rm CID}$  values are compared to those measured in the Ti-Zr cell experiment (open magenta triangles with vertical error bars) (Table III).

### C. Chloride ion solvation

The dependence of the simulated  $g_{\text{CID}}(r)$  and  $g_{\text{CIO}}(r)$ functions on temperature and pressure is shown in Fig. 9. As in experiment, the first peak in  $g_{\text{CID}}(r)$  broadens with increasing temperature. Large-*r* oscillations develop with increasing pressure, which are particularly notable for  $g_{\text{CIO}}(r)$ .

The  $\bar{n}_{\text{CID}}$  values obtained by integrating to the first minimum in  $g_{\text{CID}}(r)$  are summarised in Fig. 10. As in experiment,  $\bar{n}_{\text{CID}}$  decreases with increasing temperature, although the simulated coordination numbers are larger than the measured values. The Cl–D coordination number increases with pressure, where peak overlap makes it difficult to extract reliable values from experiment. The  $\bar{n}_{\text{CID}}$  and  $\bar{n}_{\text{CIO}}$  values obtained by integrating to the first minimum in  $g_{\text{CID}}(r)$  and  $g_{\text{CIO}}(r)$ , respectively, are similar for the different temperatures but diverge with increasing pressure, where  $\bar{n}_{\text{CIO}}$  becomes substantially larger than

FIG. 11. Dependence of the simulated Cl–D–D, Cl–O–D and Na–O–M bond-angle distributions on (left hand column) temperature at 0 kbar versus (right hand column) pressure at 423 K. The insets zoom into the Cl–O–D bond-angle distributions, where the arrow points to the growth of a shoulder with increasing pressure. The distributions were calculated using Cl–D, Cl–O and Na–O cutoff distances of 2.98 Å, 3.92 Å and 3.2 Å, respectively.

 $\bar{n}_{\text{ClD}}$  (Fig. S2).

A similar escalation in  $\bar{n}_{\rm ClO}$  with pressure is reported from x-ray diffraction experiments on a 3 molal solution of NaCl in (light) water at 300 K, where an analysis using Empirical Potential Structure Refinement showed  $\bar{n}_{\rm ClO} =$ 5.9(1.1) at ambient pressure versus  $\bar{n}_{\rm ClO} = 16.2(1.6)$  at 1.7 GPa [28], and from other molecular dynamics simulations on aqueous NaCl solutions [67]. The discrepancy between the high-pressure  $\bar{n}_{\rm ClD}$  and  $\bar{n}_{\rm ClO}$  values found in the present work indicates that many of these oxygen atoms are in water molecules to which the chloride ion does not form hydrogen bonds.

Figure 11 shows the Cl–D–D bond-angle distributions where both deuterium atoms belong to the same water molecule [Fig. 12(a)]. There is a peak at  $\sim$ 145°, indicating that water molecules in the primary solvation shell of the chloride ion are orientated in order to facilitate hydrogen bonding with species in the second solvation shell. Figure 11 also shows the Cl–O–D bond-angle distributions where O and D belong to the same water molecule and D is the nearest-neighbor to



FIG. 12. Schematic showing the (a) Cl–D–D, (b) Cl–O–D and (c) Na–O–M bond angles.

the chloride ion [Fig. 12(b)]. At ambient conditions, there is a maximum around zero with most of the angles less than  $35^{\circ}$ , which indicates that water molecules in the primary solvation shell of the chloride ion are orientated to form single hydrogen bonds. The shoulder that grows around  $45-50^{\circ}$  with increasing pressure originates from non hydrogen-bonded configurations and will be discussed in section VI A.

### D. Sodium ion solvation

The dependence of the simulated  $g_{\text{NaO}}(r)$  and  $g_{\text{NaD}}(r)$ functions on temperature and pressure is shown in Fig. 13 and the corresponding running coordination numbers are shown in Fig. S3. The  $\bar{n}_{\text{NaO}}$  and  $\bar{n}_{\text{NaD}}/2$  values obtained by integrating to the first minimum in  $g_{\text{NaO}}(r)$  and  $g_{\text{NaD}}(r)$ , respectively, are in accord at all state conditions, i.e., most of the deuterium atoms belong to the same water molecules as the nearest-neighbor oxygen atoms. The coordination number  $\bar{n}_{\text{NaO}}$  decreases with increasing temperature but increases with pressure (Fig. 10).

Figure 11 shows the Na–O–M bond-angle distributions where O–M represents a line along the dipole moment of the water molecule [Fig. 12(c)]. These distributions show a maximum around 180° for all temperatures at 0 kbar, which indicates that the dipole moment of a solvated water molecule points directly towards the Na<sup>+</sup> ion. The maximum shifts to a smaller angle with increasing pressure, indicating the development of a finite tilt angle.



FIG. 13. Dependence of the simulated partial pairdistribution functions  $g_{\rm NaO}(r)$  and  $g_{\rm NaD}(r)$  on (left hand column) temperature at 0 kbar versus (right hand column) pressure at 423 K.

### E. Ion pairing

The temperature and pressure dependence of the simulated  $g_{\text{NaCl}}(r)$ ,  $g_{\text{NaNa}}(r)$  and  $g_{\text{ClCl}}(r)$  functions is shown in Fig. 14 and the Na-Cl running coordination number is shown in Fig. S4. Contact Na-Cl pairs occur at a distance of  $\simeq 2.8$  Å. The Na–Cl coordination number, obtained by integrating to the first minimum in  $g_{\text{NaCl}}(r)$ , does not change markedly with the state conditions (Fig. 10). The fraction of Na<sup>+</sup> ions with zero, one, two or three nearest-neighbor Cl<sup>-</sup> ions is given in Fig. 15. The majority of sodium ions do not form contact-ion pairs. Of those that do, most are in chargeneutral NaCl<sup>0</sup> units, the fraction of which is more sensitive to changing temperature than to changing pressure (the fraction increases by  $\sim 120\%$  as the temperature increases from 298 K to 423 K, and decreases by  $\sim 21\%$ as the pressure increases from 0 to 33.8 kbar). For the higher coordinated ion-pairs, the Na–Cl–Na bond-angle distribution has broad peaks at  $\sim 85^{\circ}$  and  $110^{\circ}$  under ambient conditions, which become less pronounced with increasing temperature and show little variation with pressure (Fig. S5). The Cl–Na–Cl bond-angle distribution has broad peaks at  $\sim 90^{\circ}$  and  $180^{\circ}$  under ambient conditions, which show some variation with the state conditions (Fig. S5).

The Na–Na pair-distribution function has a split

11

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(a) $\hat{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{i})$ Fraction (% fold 2-fold 403-fold 200 300 350 400Temperature T (K) ..... 80 H (b) 60 Fraction (%) dold 2-fold 40 3-fold. 200 10 2030Pressure p (kbar)

FIG. 14. Dependence of the simulated partial pairdistribution functions  $g_{\text{NaCl}}(r)$ ,  $g_{\text{NaNa}}(r)$  and  $g_{\text{ClCl}}(r)$  on (left hand column) temperature at 0 kbar versus (right hand column) pressure at 423 K. At 0 kbar, the arrows point to the first two peaks in  $g_{\text{NaNa}}(r)$  at about 3.7 and 4.4 Å.

nearest-neighbor peak under ambient conditions (Fig. 14). To investigate the origin of this feature, the percentage of  $Na^+$  ion pairs that have common  $D_2O$ molecules and/or Cl<sup>-</sup> ions was calculated for Na-Na cutoff distances of 4.06 and 4.9 Å, which correspond to the position of the minimum after the first and second peaks in  $g_{\text{NaNa}}(r)$ , respectively, for the solution at 298 K and 0 kbar. Figure 16 shows that, under ambient conditions, the first peak originates primarily from Na<sup>+</sup> pairs that share two water molecules in edge-sharing conformations [Fig. 17(a)] with an Na–O–Na bond angle of  $\sim 98^{\circ}$  (Fig. S6). The second peak originates primarily from Na<sup>+</sup> pairs that share a single water molecule in corner-sharing conformations with an Na–O–Na bond angle of  $\sim 125^{\circ}$  (Fig. S6). With increasing temperature, the fraction of edge-sharing motifs decreases as the first and second peaks in  $q_{\text{NaNa}}(r)$  merge. With increasing pressure, there is a small increase in the fraction of edge-sharing motifs as the first peak in  $g_{\text{NaNa}}(r)$  moves to a smaller distance (Fig. 18).

Figure 19 shows a sharp peak in the Cl–O–Cl bond angle distribution at  $\sim 104^{\circ}$  under ambient conditions. The peak broadens with increasing temperature, and broad-

FIG. 15. Dependence of the fraction of Na<sup>+</sup> ions with zero, one, two or three nearest-neighbor  $Cl^-$  ions, as obtained from the simulations, on (a) temperature at 0 kbar versus (b) pressure at 423 K. A cutoff distance of 3.5 Å was used in the calculations.

ens and shifts position with increasing pressure. Figure 20 gives the associated bond-distance resolved bondangle map, i.e., it shows the dependence of the Cl–O–Cl bond angle on the Cl–O distance. The map shows that the peak at ~104° originates from Cl–O distances around 3.1 Å, which corresponds to the first peak position in  $g_{\text{ClO}}(r)$  (Fig. 9). These observations indicate the presence of solvent-separated chloride-ion pairs, in which two Cl<sup>-</sup> ions share a single water molecule: The Cl···O– D bonds are almost linear (Sec. V C) and the intramolecular D–O–D bond angle is 104.52° [Fig. 17(b)]. Such configurations are the most abundant at low pressure, but become less prevalent as the pressure increases and other types of solvent separated Cl<sup>-</sup>–Cl<sup>-</sup> pairs become more numerous (Fig. 21).

### F. Effect of ion solvation on the structure of water

The temperature and pressure dependence of the simulated  $g_{OD}(r)$ ,  $g_{DD}(r)$  and  $g_{OO}(r)$  functions is shown in Fig. 22 and the O–O running coordination number is shown in Fig. S7. The first peak in  $g_{OD}(r)$  broadens with increasing temperature but changes little with increasing pressure. The first peak in  $g_{OO}(r)$  also broadens with in-

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80

60

40

20

0

60

20

0

Fraction (%)

3 D.O

0 D.O. 0 CI

A-41CI

Fraction (%)

(b)

400

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FIG. 16. Temperature dependence of the fraction of Na<sup>+</sup> ion pairs obtained from the simulations that share the listed numbers of water molecules and/or chloride ions. The sodium ion separation is either (a)  $\leq 4.06$  Å or (b)  $\leq 4.9$  Å.

Temperature T(K)

350

creasing temperature but sharpens when  $p \ge 10$  kbar as the nearest-neighbor O–O coordination number increases and pronounced large-r oscillations develop. Large-r oscillations also develop in  $g_{\text{CIO}}(r)$  as the pressure is increased (Fig. 9).

The O–O–D bond-angle distributions are shown in Fig. 23 where D and the central O atom reside in the same water molecule (Fig. 24). At ambient conditions, these distributions show a maximum around zero with most of the angles less than  $30^{\circ}$ , a typical cutoff value for the acceptor hydrogen bonds in water [68]. The shoulder at  $\sim 52^{\circ}$  corresponds to non hydrogen-bonded configurations. The origin of these features will be discussed in section VI A.

Figure 19 shows that the O–O–O and O–Cl–O bondangle distributions take similar forms at each of the investigated state points, which suggests that the chloride ions attempt to fit into the hydrogen bonded network of the water molecules.

### G. Ion-water residence times

The Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> ions have filled electron shells but differ in their electric charge and ion radius. The ion field strength  $Z/r_{\rm ion}^2$ , where Z = 1 and  $r_{\rm ion}$  is the ion radius,

FIG. 17. Schematics showing (a) the bridging of two Na<sup>+</sup> ions by two water molecules to give an edge-sharing configuration and (b) the type of configuration that contributes towards the peak in the Cl–O–Cl bond angle distribution under ambient conditions (Fig. 19). In (a), the D atoms lie above and below the plane made by the Na<sup>+</sup> ions and O atoms.

TABLE IV. The activation energy  $E_a$  at 0 kbar and the activation volume  $\Delta V^{\ddagger}$  at 423 K for the exchange of water molecules at the Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> ions.

Ion	$E_a \; (\mathrm{kJ} \; \mathrm{mol}^{-1})$	$\Delta V^{\ddagger} (\mathrm{cm}^3 \mathrm{mol}^{-1})$
$Na^+$	23.9(1.5)	0.15(3)
$Cl^{-}$	17.1(0.7)	-0.30(4)

is larger for Na<sup>+</sup> compared to Cl<sup>-</sup>, i.e., 0.961 compared to 0.305, respectively, using the Shannon [69] radius for sixfold coordinated ions. The charge within a water molecule is non-uniformly distributed, such that each hydrogen atom has a partial charge of  $+\delta e$  and the oxygen atom is associated with a partial charge of  $-2\delta e$ , and the ion-water orientation is different for cations [Fig. 12(a)] compared to anions [Fig. 12(c)]. So, in dilute solution where the ions are well separated, the residence time of a water molecule in the first solvation shell of an ion is expected to be longer for Na<sup>+</sup> versus Cl<sup>-</sup>. In concentrated solution, however, greater structural complexity originates from contact and solvent-separated ion-pairing, the detail of which is dependent on the state conditions. It is therefore informative to investigate the effect of this complexity on the ion-water dynamics.

The residence time  $\tau$  of a water molecule in the first











FIG. 18. Pressure dependence of the fraction of Na<sup>+</sup> ion pairs obtained from the simulations that share the listed numbers of water molecules and/or chloride ions. The sodium ion separation is either (a)  $\leq 4.06$  Å or (b)  $\leq 4.9$  Å.

solvation shell of  $Na^+$  or  $Cl^-$  was assessed from the simulations by using the cage correlation function [70, 71]

$$C^{\text{out}}(t) = \left\langle \Theta \left[ 1 - n_i^{\text{out}}(0, t) \right] \right\rangle. \tag{11}$$

Here, a water molecule is deemed to be within the cage of Na<sup>+</sup> if the Na–O distance is within a cutoff distance defined by the first minimum in  $g_{\text{NaO}}(r)$ , or the cage of Cl<sup>-</sup> if the Cl-D distance is within a cutoff distance defined by the first minimum in  $g_{CID}(r)$ . In Eq. (11),  $n_i^{\text{out}}(0,t)$  is the number of water molecules that exit the cage of ion *i* during time *t*: the Heaviside step function  $\Theta$ takes the value unity if its argument is greater than zero or the value zero otherwise; and the angular brackets denote an average over all ions and all origins in time. As defined, there is a finite contribution to Eq. (11) if  $n_i^{\text{out}}(0,t) < 1$ , so  $C^{\text{out}}(t)$  measures the average rate at which a single water molecule exits a cage. The converse process is represented by the function  $C^{\text{in}}(t)$ , which is also defined by Eq. (11) but with  $n_i^{\text{out}}(0,t)$  replaced by  $n_i^{\rm in}(0,t)$ , the number of water molecules that enter the cage of ion i during time t. By going backwards in time from the end of the simulation, all the exits become entrances and vice-versa. It follows that  $C^{\text{in}}(t) = C^{\text{out}}(t)$ [70]

The temperature and pressure dependence of the  $C^{\text{out}}(t)$  functions for the Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> ions is shown in

FIG. 19. Dependence of the simulated O-O-O, O-Cl-O and Cl–O–Cl bond-angle distributions on (left hand column) temperature at 0 kbar versus (right hand column) pressure at 423 K. The distributions were calculated using O-O and Cl–O cutoff distances of 4.3 Å and 3.92 Å, respectively. The arrows mark a Cl–O–Cl bond angle of 104.52°.

Figs. S8 and S9, respectively. The contribution from short-time vibrational motion of the water molecules is small such that each function is dominated by the longer-time diffusive motion of the water molecules as represented by  $C^{\text{out}}(t) = A \exp\left(-t/\tau^{\text{out}}\right)$  where A is an amplitude. The residence time  $\tau^{\text{out}}$  is defined as the time required for the function to decay to 1/e of its original value and was extracted from the integral  $\tau^{\text{out}} = \int_0^\infty \mathrm{d}t \, t \, C^{\text{out}}(t) / \int_0^\infty \mathrm{d}t \, C^{\text{out}}(t).$ 

Figure 25 shows the temperature and pressure dependence of the residence time of water molecules in the cages of the Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> ions, denoted by  $\tau_{\rm Na}^{\rm out}$  and  $\tau_{\rm Cl}^{\rm out},$ respectively. At ambient conditions, the residence time for Na<sup>+</sup> is larger than for Cl<sup>-</sup>, and the value for the chloride ion is consistent with the limit of  $\leq 100$  ps found for concentrated aqueous solutions from experiments using incoherent quasi-elastic neutron scattering [72, 73]. The residence time for Na<sup>+</sup> shows a significant decrease with increasing temperature, approaching the value for the chloride ion. In comparison, there is little change to either residence time with increasing pressure.

Under isobaric conditions. the residence time

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FIG. 20. Map showing the simulated dependence of the Cl– O–Cl bond angle on the Cl–O distance. (a) T = 298 K, p = 0 kbar; (b) T = 323 K, p = 0 kbar; (c) T = 373 K, p = 0 kbar; (d) T = 423 K, p = 0 kbar; (e) T = 423 K, p = 10 kbar; (f) T = 423 K, p = 33.8 kbar. The multiplicities are normalised to give a maximum value of unity.

shows an Arrhenius temperature dependence  $\tau^{\rm out} = \tau_0^{\rm out} \exp(E_{\rm a}/RT)$  where R is the molar gas constant [inset to Fig. 25(a)]. The activation energy  $E_{\rm a}$  for the exchange of water molecules is larger for Na<sup>+</sup> than for Cl<sup>-</sup> (Table IV). Under isothermal conditions, the residence times do not show a strong dependence on pressure. From transition state theory it is expected that

$$\left. \frac{\partial \ln \tau^{\text{out}}}{\partial p} \right|_T = \frac{\Delta V^{\ddagger}}{RT},\tag{12}$$

where the volume of activation  $\Delta V^{\ddagger}$  is the difference in partial molar volumes of the reactants and transition state [74]. An approximately linear dependence between  $\ln \tau^{\text{out}}$  and p is found for each ion [inset to Fig. 25(b)], leading to a small activation volume (Table IV).



FIG. 21. Dependence of the fraction of chloride ion pairs obtained from the simulations that share the listed numbers of water molecules on (a) temperature at 0 kbar versus (b) pressure at 423 K.

TABLE V. The activation energy  $E_a$  at 0 kbar and the activation volume  $\Delta V^{\ddagger}$  at 423 K for self-diffusion of the Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> ions and water molecules.

Species	$E_a$	$\Delta V^{\ddagger}$	
	$(kJ mol^{-1})$	$(\mathrm{cm}^3 \mathrm{mol}^{-1})$	
Na <sup>+</sup>	22.9(1.0)	1.23(4)	
$Cl^{-}$	21.2(1.2)	1.41(7)	
$D_2O$	19.3(5)	1.51(7)	

### H. Self-diffusion coefficients

The self-diffusion coefficient of a given species in the simulations was found from the long-time behaviour of the mean-square displacement for that species using the relation

$$D = \lim_{t \to \infty} \frac{1}{6t} \left\langle |\mathbf{r}_i(t) - \mathbf{r}_i(0)|^2 \right\rangle \tag{13}$$

where  $\mathbf{r}_i(t)$  is the position of particle *i* at time *t*. Figure 26 shows the temperature and pressure dependence of the self-diffusion coefficients for the Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> ions and water molecules.

Under isobaric conditions, the diffusion coefficients show an Arrhenius temperature dependence D =



p = 0 kber T = 423 K0.04 (4) rbi 200.0 0.004 0.00 0.03 0.92 B AD 0-0-D AD 0-0-D BAD O-D-D 0.60 5.04 0.02 D.S.Ma 0.01 50 50 60 40 40 Angle [] 00 20 40 60 80 100120140160 20 40 60 80 100120140160180 Angle (\*) Angle (\*)

FIG. 23. Dependence of the simulated O–O–D bond-angle distribution on (a) temperature at 0 kbar versus (b) pressure at 423 K. The insets zoom into the region of a shoulder at  $\sim$ 52°. The distributions were calculated using an O–O cutoff distances of 4.3 Å.



FIG. 22. Dependence of the simulated partial pairdistribution functions  $g_{OD}(r)$ ,  $g_{DD}(r)$  and  $g_{OO}(r)$  on (left hand column) temperature at 0 kbar versus (right hand column) pressure at 423 K. The sharp peak in  $g_{DD}(r)$  at 1.514 Å originates from the intra-molecular correlations within rigid water molecules.

 $D_0 \exp(-E_a/RT)$  [inset to Fig. 26(a)]. The activation energies for the different species take comparable values (Table V), and are similar to the values found for the exchange of water molecules at the Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> ions (Table IV). Under isothermal conditions, it was assumed that the ions or water molecules move by a jump diffusion mechanism [75] involving a transition state, such that the pressure dependence of the mobility is associated with a volume of activation as in Eq. (12). The data were analysed accordingly, using  $\partial \ln D/\partial p|_T = -\Delta V^{\ddagger}/RT$  [inset to Fig. 26(b)], and the emergent activation volumes take similar values for all the species (Table V).

### VI. DISCUSSION

### A. Hydrogen bond network

Figure 27 maps the dependence of the Cl–O–D bond angle on the Cl–O distance. At ambient conditions, there is a peak near 3.1 Å and  $8^{\circ}$  that broadens as the state conditions are changed, extending to a maximum angle

FIG. 24. Schematic showing the O–O–D bond angle. The angle is either large or small depending on whether the water molecule is accepting or donating a hydrogen bond, respectively.

around 35°. The peak position shifts to ~3.0 Å and 10° with increasing pressure as a second less-intense feature develops around 3.6 Å and 50°. From this breakdown, it follows that the peak at small angles in the Cl–O–D bond-angle distribution (Fig. 11) corresponds to short Cl–O distances associated with the first peak in  $g_{\rm ClO}(r)$  and therefore originates from the formation of Cl··· D-O hydrogen bonds (Fig. 12). With increasing pressure, the broad shoulder that develops around 50° corresponds to longer Cl–O distances and, therefore, to non hydrogen-bonded Cl–water conformations.

Figure 28 shows the contributions to the coordination number  $\bar{n}_{\rm ClO}$  from hydrogen bonded versus non hydrogen-bonded configurations. From Fig. 27, oxygen and chlorine are deemed to be hydrogen bonded if  $r_{\rm ClO}$  <3.6 Å and the Cl–O–D bond angle <35°. The  $\bar{n}_{\rm ClO}$  values for hydrogen-bonded neighbors are in accord

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FIG. 25. Dependence of the residence time  $\tau_{\alpha}^{\text{out}}$  ( $\alpha = \text{Na}$  or Cl) obtained from the simulations on (a) temperature at 0 kbar versus (b) pressure at 423 K. The curves are drawn as guides for the eye. The insets depict the dependence of  $\ln \tau_{\alpha}^{\text{out}}$  on (a) 1/T at 0 kbar or (b) p at 423 K. The curves are straight-line fits.

FIG. 26. Dependence of the self-diffusion coefficients  $D_{\alpha}$  ( $\alpha$  = Na, Cl or D<sub>2</sub>O) obtained from the simulations on (a) temperature at 0 kbar versus (b) pressure at 423 K. The curves are drawn as guides for the eye. The insets show the dependence of  $\ln D_{\alpha}$  on (a) 1/T at 0 kbar or (b) p at 423 K. The curves are straight-line fits.

with the  $\bar{n}_{\text{CID}}$  values obtained from the diffraction experiments using the Ti-Zr cell. The large increase in  $\bar{n}_{\text{CIO}}$ with pressure originates primarily from non hydrogenbonded Cl–water conformations at larger distances.

Figure 29 maps the dependence of the O–O–D bond angle on the O–O distance. At ambient conditions, there is a peak near 2.7 Å and 8° and a second less-intense peak around 2.8 Å and 95°. Two additional features occur at longer O–O distances, one near 3.3 Å and 70° and the other at  $\gtrsim 3.6$  Å and 52°. With increasing temperature, the peak at ~2.7 Å broadens but remains distinct as the other features broaden and coalesce. With increasing pressure, the peak at ~2.7 Å remains as a region of large intensity develops around 3.1 Å and 65°.

The features at short O–O distances of 2.7–2.8 Å with small and large O–O–D bond angles originate from configurations in which a water molecule is either donating or accepting a hydrogen bond, respectively (Fig. 24). The feature at the O–O–D bond angle of 52° corresponds to longer O–O distances, at which the water molecules are not deemed to be hydrogen bonded (see below). From this breakdown, it follows that the peak at small angles in the O–O–D bond-angle distribution (Fig. 23) corresponds to short O–O distances and therefore originates from the formation of  $O \cdots D$ –O hydrogen bonds in acceptor conformations (Fig. 24). The peak at 52° is at half the intra-molecular D–O–D bond angle and originates from non hydrogen-bonded configurations. Its sharpness stems from the employment of rigid water molecules in the molecular dynamics simulations, as discussed in the Supplementary Material (Figs. S10 and S11).

Figure 28 shows the contributions to the coordination number  $\bar{n}_{OO}$  from hydrogen-bonded versus non hydrogen-bonded configurations and compares the results to those obtained for pure D<sub>2</sub>O. Water molecules are deemed to be hydrogen bonded if the O–O–D bond angle  $<30^{\circ}$  and the O–O distance <3.5 Å [68]. At ambient conditions, the number of hydrogen-bonded water molecules in the solution is less than the value of  $\simeq 3.7$  found for pure water. For both systems, the large increase in  $\bar{n}_{OO}$  with increasing pressure originates primarily from non hydrogen-bonded water-water conformations, i.e., from water molecules at longer distances that are pushed into the first shell of hydrogen-bonded nearest-neighbors

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FIG. 27. Map showing the simulated dependence of the Cl– O–D bond angle [Fig. 12(b)] on the Cl–O distance. (a) T =298 K, p = 0 kbar; (b) T = 323 K, p = 0 kbar; (c) T = 373 K, p = 0 kbar; (d) T = 423 K, p = 0 kbar; (e) T = 423 K, p =10 kbar; (f) T = 423 K, p = 33.8 kbar. The multiplicities are normalised to give a maximum value of unity.

and thereby contribute towards the first peak in  $g_{\rm OO}(r)$ . The sum of the hydrogen-bonded and non hydrogenbonded O-O coordination numbers gives an overall value  $\bar{n}_{\rm OO} \simeq 12$  for the solution versus  $\bar{n}_{\rm OO} \simeq 14.5$  for liquid D<sub>2</sub>O at the highest pressure [Figure 28(b)]. The latter compares to the value  $\bar{n}_{\rm OO} \simeq 12.6(4)$  measured for liquid H<sub>2</sub>O at 33 kbar and 500 K using x-ray diffraction [21]. At room temperature, the measured O–O coordination number for liquid D<sub>2</sub>O is systematically larger than for H<sub>2</sub>O in the pressure range up to ~12 kbar [21].

### B. Pressure-induced anion ordering

As the packing of the anionic chlorine and oxygen species increases with pressure and the Cl–O and O–O coordination numbers grow (Fig. 28), the  $g_{\text{ClO}}(r)$  (Fig. 9) and  $g_{\text{OO}}(r)$  (Fig. 22) functions show the development of





FIG. 28. Dependence of the coordination numbers  $\bar{n}_{\rm ClO}$  and  $\bar{n}_{\rm OO}$  obtained from the simulations for hydrogen-bonded versus non hydrogen-bonded configurations on (a) temperature at 0 kbar versus (b) pressure at 423 K. The results for the aqueous solution of 5 molal NaCl in D<sub>2</sub>O are compared to those obtained for pure D<sub>2</sub>O. The coordination numbers for hydrogen-bonded configurations are given by the solid symbols with solid curves and the coordination numbers for non hydrogen-bonded configurations are given by the open symbols with broken curves. Also shown are the measured  $\bar{n}_{\rm ClD}$  values from the Ti-Zr cell experiment (solid magenta downward triangles with vertical error bars) (Table III).

pronounced ordering that extends to large *r*-values. In comparison, there are only modest changes to  $g_{\rm NaO}(r)$  (Fig. 13) and the Na–O coordination number (Fig. 10). The pressure-induced anionic ordering manifests itself in the dynamics by decreasing self-diffusion coefficients (Fig. 26) but does not have a marked effect on the residence times (Fig. 25).

The Cl–O ordering contributes towards the development with increasing pressure of a sharp first-peak at  $Q_1 \sim 2.45$  Å<sup>-1</sup> in the measured and simulated  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$ functions (Fig. 5): The Cl–O correlations receive a large weighting (Table II) and the wavelength of the oscillations in  $g_{\rm ClO}(r)$  is given by  $2\pi/Q_1$ . There is a concomi-

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FIG. 29. Map showing the simulated dependence of the O–O–D bond angle (Fig. 24) on the O–O distance. (a) T = 298 K, p = 0 kbar; (b) T = 323 K, p = 0 kbar; (c) T = 373 K, p = 0 kbar; (d) T = 423 K, p = 0 kbar; (e) T = 423 K, p = 10 kbar; (f) T = 423 K, p = 33.8 kbar. The multiplicities are normalised to give a maximum value of unity.

tant contribution to  $Q_1$  from the Cl–D correlations as indicated by the large-r oscillations in  $g_{\text{ClD}}(r)$  (Fig. 9), where this function describes the correlations between the chloride ions and the deuterium atoms of the water molecules and also receives a large weighting in the equation for  $\Delta F_{\text{Cl}}(Q)$  (Table II). The sharpening of the first peaks in  $S_{\text{ClO}}(Q)$  and  $S_{\text{ClD}}(Q)$  with increasing pressure, which originates from the anion ordering, is shown in Fig. S12.

### C. Na<sup>+</sup>-water exchange mechanism

The in-out cage correlation function [70]

$$C^{\text{in-out}}(t) = \left\langle \Theta \left[ 1 - n_i^{\text{out}} \left( 0, t \right) \right] \Theta \left[ 1 - n_i^{\text{in}} \left( 0, t \right) \right] \right\rangle$$
(14)

depends on both the in-and-out motion of the water molecules. In the diffusive regime,  $C^{\text{in-out}}(t) \propto$ 



FIG. 30. Comparison of the simulated cage-correlation functions  $C_{\text{Na}}^{\text{in-out}}(t)$ ,  $C_{\text{Na}}^{\text{out}}(t)$  and  $\left[C_{\text{Na}}^{\text{out}}(t)\right]^2$  describing the exchange of water molecules at the Na<sup>+</sup> ion for several state points.



FIG. 31. Dependence of the ratio  $\tau_{\rm Na}^{\rm out}/\tau_{\rm Na}^{\rm in-out}$  for water exchange at the Na<sup>+</sup> ion obtained from the simulations on temperature at 0 kbar versus pressure at 423 K.

 $\exp(-t/\tau^{\text{in-out}})$  which defines the lifetime  $\tau^{\text{in-out}}$ . For a concerted (interchange) exchange mechanism, one water molecule leaves a cage as another enters such that a distinct intermediate state is not formed. In this case,  $C^{\text{in-out}}(t) = C^{\text{out}}(t)$  and the ratio  $\tau^{\text{out}}/\tau^{\text{in-out}} = 1$ . For the opposite case of non-concerted exchange, the motion between incoming and outgoing water molecules is uncorrelated such that  $C^{\text{in-out}}(t) = C^{\text{in}}(t)C^{\text{out}}(t) =$  $[C^{\text{out}}(t)]^2 \sim \exp(-2t/\tau^{\text{out}})$  and  $\tau^{\text{out}}/\tau^{\text{in-out}} = 2$ .

Figure 30 compares the cage-correlation functions for the exchange of water at the Na<sup>+</sup> ion for several state points. The temperature and pressure dependence of the ratio  $\tau_{\text{Na}}^{\text{out}}/\tau_{\text{Na}}^{\text{in-out}}$  is shown in Fig. 31. At ambiThis is the author's peer reviewed, accepted manuscript. However, the online version of record will be different from this version once it has been copyedited and typeset

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ent conditions, a concerted water-exchange mechanism is indicated by the similarity between the  $C_{\rm Na}^{\rm out}(t)$  and  $C_{\rm Na}^{\rm in-out}(t)$  functions, which give  $\tau_{\rm Na}^{\rm out}/\tau_{\rm Na}^{\rm in-out} \simeq 1.2$ . Under isobaric conditions, the in-and-out motion becomes non-concerted as the temperature is increased. Under isothermal conditions, the ratio  $\tau_{\rm Na}^{\rm out}/\tau_{\rm Na}^{\rm in-out}$  shows a broad minimum with increasing pressure. At the most extreme conditions, uncorrelated motion of the incoming and outgoing water molecules is indicated by the similarity between  $C_{\rm Na}^{\rm in-out}(t)$  and  $[C_{\rm Na}^{\rm out}/\tau_{\rm Na}^{\rm in-out} \simeq 2$ .

### VII. CONCLUSIONS

Neutron diffraction is combined with molecular dynamics simulations to provide a comprehensive account of the structural and dynamical response of a concentrated solution of NaCl in water to extremes of temperature and pressure. The results show that the method of neutron diffraction with isotope substitution can now be used to give site-specific information on the ion solvation in aqueous solutions under conditions that extend into the gigapascal pressure regime. The simulations give a good account of the measured equation of state at low pressures and the empirical equation of state of Mantegazzi et al. [5] at high pressures (Fig. 1). They also give a good account of the neutron diffraction results, including the pressure dependence of  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$ (Fig. 5). The simulated Cl–O coordination numbers for hydrogen-bonded configurations are in accord with the measured Cl–D coordination numbers (Fig. 28), although the simulated Cl–D coordination numbers for hydrogen-bonded plus non hydrogen-bonded configurations are larger (Fig. 10).

It is found that the anionic species (chlorine and oxygen) do not pack uniformly with increasing density. Instead, pressure-induced anion ordering is observed, which manifests itself in the measured and simulated  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$ functions by the appearance of a sharp first-peak at  $\sim 2.45$  Å<sup>-1</sup>. This ordering originates from oscillations in  $g_{ClO}(r)$  and  $g_{OO}(r)$  that extend to large distances in r-space and is accompanied by a large growth in the nearest-neighbor Cl-O and O-O coordination numbers, where the latter approaches  $\bar{n}_{OO} \simeq 12$  at the highest pressure (Fig. 28). This enhancement does not emanate, however, from a large change to the number of  $Cl \cdots D-O$  or  $O \cdots D - O$  hydrogen bonds. Instead, there is a growth in the number of non hydrogen-bonded configuration as the next nearest-neighbors push into the first coordination shell of the chloride ion or oxygen. The roles of hydrogen-bonded versus non hydrogen-bonded configurations are elucidated with the aid of bond-distance resolved bond-angle maps (Figs. 27 and 29).

Ion association manifests itself in terms of contact ion pairs, most of which are charge-neutral NaCl<sup>0</sup> units, and solvent separated Na<sup>+</sup>–Na<sup>+</sup> or Cl<sup>-</sup>–Cl<sup>-</sup> pairs. On the basis of dielectric continuum theory, the increase in ionpairing caused by the reduction in the dielectric constant of the pure solvent  $\varepsilon$  with increasing temperature is expected to be reversed by the enhancement in  $\varepsilon$  with increasing pressure:  $\varepsilon$  undergoes a cyclic variation under the conditions employed in the present work (Table I). Indeed, the fraction of solvent-separated Na<sup>+</sup>–Na<sup>+</sup> pairs that are bridged by two water molecules decreases with increasing temperature (Fig. 16) before increasing by a similar amount with increasing pressure (Fig. 18). This observation appears, however, to be fortuitous, as befits a concentrated as opposed to dilute solution. For instance, the fraction of NaCl<sup>0</sup> units increases with temperature but is relatively insensitive to increasing pressure (Fig. 15). The dependence of ion pairing on the force field chosen for the ions [76] has not been investigated for the state conditions covered in the present work.

The ion-water binding times and self-diffusion coefficients were explored in the molecular dynamics simulations. The temperature dependence of this dynamics shows Arrhenius behavior. The pressure dependence was interpreted by assuming a transition state with an activation volume. Unlike the diffusion coefficients, the residence time of water molecules in the solvation cage of the Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> ions shows only a weak pressure dependence. At ambient conditions, there is a concerted mechanism for the exchange of water at the Na<sup>+</sup> ion that is disrupted as the state conditions are changed. It would be interesting to explore the impact on the dynamics of using a force field in which partial ion charges are combined with the TIP4P/2005 model for water [77, 78].

The observed evolution in the structural and dynamical properties of aqueous NaCl solutions under extreme conditions is important for understanding their role in phenomena that include the mechanisms of mass transport in geochemical processes (Sec. I), and the sequestration of  $CO_2$  in deep saline aquifers where the temperature, pressure and fluid composition effect the dissolution and eventual fate of the gas [79].

### Supplementary Material

Figure S1 shows the predictions of the molecular dynamics simulations for the partial pair-correlation functions that contribute towards  $\Delta G_{\rm Cl}(r)$ . The next figures show the temperature and pressure dependence of the running coordination numbers (i)  $\bar{n}_{\text{CID}}$  and  $\bar{n}_{\text{CIO}}$ (Fig. S2), (ii)  $\bar{n}_{\text{NaO}}$  and  $\bar{n}_{\text{NaD}}/2$  (Fig. S3), and (iii)  $\bar{n}_{\text{NaCI}}$ (Fig. S4). Figure S5 shows the Na–Cl–Na and Cl–Na–Cl bond-angle distributions and Fig. S6 shows the Na-O-Na bond-angle distributions. Figure S7 gives the temperature and pressure dependence of the running coordination number  $\bar{n}_{OO}$ . Figure S8 illustrates the temperature dependence of the cage correlation functions  $C_{\text{Na}}^{\text{out}}(t)$ and  $C_{\rm Cl}^{\rm out}(t)$ , and Fig. S9 illustrates the pressure dependence of these functions. Figure S10 gives a schematic showing the shorter and longer O–D inter-molecular distances for a configuration of two water molecules. Fig-



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ure S11 shows a breakdown of the O–O–D bond-angle distribution into its contributions from hydrogen-bonded versus non hydrogen-bonded configurations of the water molecules. Finally, Fig. S12 gives the contributions towards  $\Delta F_{\rm Cl}(Q)$  from the weighted Cl–O and Cl–D partial structure factors.

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R.F.R. and A.Z. prepared the samples. A.P., P.S.S., B.A. and H.E.F. performed the Ti-Zr cell experiment, and R.F.R., P.S.S., S.K. and H.E.F. performed the PE press experiment. A.P., R.F.R. and A.Z. analysed the diffraction data. M.S. designed and performed the molecular dynamics simulations. M.S., A.Z and P.S.S. analysed the results. P.S.S. conceived the project, and wrote the paper with input from all co-authors.

### Data Availability

The data sets created during this research are openly available from the University of Bath Research Data Archive at https://doi.org/10.15125/BATH-01054 [80]. The measured neutron diffraction data sets for the PE press and Ti-Zr cell experiments are available from [81] and [82], respectively.

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Total pair-distribution function G(r) (barn)























































