

# Chapter 1

## Summary

The interface between air and ice governs many phenomena that are essential to chemical processes in the atmosphere. Ice ever-present in the atmosphere and possess a wide range of microenvironments in which trace gases can interact, including a quasi-liquid disordered layer (Toubin et al., 2001; Bartels-Rausch et al., 2014). Studies connected to ice indicate that it can initiate and influence photochemical processes that could lead to ozone destruction (Solomon, 1999; Abbatt, 2003) in the troposphere. In view of this, chemical processes at the air/liquid interface have attracted a lot of scientific research, of particular interest is acids with liquid water or water-like layer on ice. A number of surface sensitive techniques including Infrared spectroscopy (Darvas et al., 2012) and vibrational sum frequency spectroscopy (Gordon et al., 2018) have been conducted over the years to derive information about the electronic properties of such reaction through the study of the hydrogen-bonding and proton transfer of such reaction. The reason being that the dissociation of trace gases upon interaction with liquid water or the liquid-like layer on ice surface is related to the distortion of the hydrogen-bonding network. X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy (XPS) is one of the most well-established methods to provide detailed information about the chemical composition and electronic properties of molecular systems (Hüfner, 2013) given its surface sensitivity. XPS has been applied to investigate the properties of various molecules at the core-valence region. Studies at interface between metal oxides such as Bismuth Vanadate (Starr et al., 2017), Magnesium oxide (Newberg et al., 2011), and  $\alpha - Fe_2O_3$  (Yamamoto et al., 2010) and

aqueous electrolyte solution have indicated that XPS is a powerful tool to investigate the binding energies at the core-valence region. These studies revealed that XPS is able to resolve metal oxide, hydroxyl, surface molecular water and water vapor peaks arising from the core-valence region of water adsorption on metal surface based on their binding energies. Studies into the adiabatic electron binding energies of gaseous species including Uraniumpentachloride (Su et al., 2013) and Uranyl tetrafluoride (Dau et al., 2012) indicate that XPS suitable to study ionic bonding of heavier halogen complexes at the core-valence level. Studies conducted by (Olivieri et al., 2016) with XPS to investigate the ionization energies of aqueous solutions at the core level revealed huge shift in ionization energies of gas phase water in the presence of liquid water and that the ionization energy of the liquid water depends on the chemical composition of the solution. Quite recently, the use of XPS to study the surface of saturated sodium chloride (Tissot et al., 2015; Gaiduk et al., 2016) indicate that XPS is able to resolve ionic chlorine form aqueous solution of sodium chloride based on the core level shift of binding energies with respect to the bulk liquid. XPS has also been utilized to investigate the impact of acids on liquid water or water ice at the air-liquid interface at core-valence level. Investigations into the bound state of weak acid such as 2-propanol (Newberg and Bluhm, 2015), acetone (Starr et al., 2011) and acetic acid (Krepelova et al., 2013) on ice surface indicate that such species do not produce any significant changes in the hydrogen-bonding network of water ice. It has been suggested that, strong acid on ice surface on the other hand fully dissociate leading to modification in the hydrogen-bonding network of water ice at low temperatures (Parent et al., 2011). Quite recently, experiment on the interaction of HCl at warm ice surface revealed a huge chemical shift in binding energy of 2.2 eV between covalent and ionic form of solvated HCl. The photoelectron spectroscopy experiment further revealed that the ionic form of the HCl perturbs the hydrogen bonding network of the water ice by binding them into solvation (Kong et al., 2017). In this respect, there is the need for molecular dynamics simulation in order to either provide theoretical support or give detailed information on the type of bonding at the core-valence regions to the experimental findings. Theoretical studies based on semi-empirical method aimed to provide understanding of the electronic properties of solvated

HCl determined no chemical shift in the binding energies between ionic and covalent chlorine. These observations fact that semi-empirical methods overestimate the proton transfer barrier and underestimate the proton affinity of chloride anions (Arillo-Flores et al., 2007). Recent studies probing the ground-state properties of hydrogen chloride in solvent suggest that classical molecular dynamics models coupled with ab initio calculations need parameterization of some of the core-core functions to provide accurate description of intermolecular interactions due to the difficulties to sample transitions from the molecular form to the contact ion pair form (Wick, 2017). These are indication that classical models parameterized with ab initio calculations are prone to problems of potential transferability and lead to poor description of intermolecular interactions and hydrogen bonding between solute and solvents if some of the electronic interactions are not optimized or parameterized. At the moment, the electronic structure calculations to give predictive quantitative description of the ground-state electronic properties of solute-solvent systems such as solvated hydrogen halides including excitation energies is a full quantum mechanics based on the combination of first principle molecular dynamics density functional theory (DFT) and many-body perturbation theory (MBPT) in the  $G_0W_0$  approximation. According to studies on the ionization potential and electron affinity of solute-solvent system, density functional calculations followed by the  $G_0W_0$  approximation (Gaiduk et al., 2018; Pham et al., 2017; Opalka et al., 2014) yield accurate results in self-energy calculations, however, it lacks the ability to account for the presence of spin-dependence in coulombic interactions, inaccurate in its application to large and complex systems, not self-consistent (Aryasetiawan and Gunnarsson, 1998) and computationally costly. An alternative approach to the  $G_0W_0$  approximation to probe the ground-state electronic properties of solute-solvent systems to derive photoelectron spectra is the coupled-cluster method. Coupled-cluster formalism at the single and double (triple) (CCSD(T) levels (Bartlett and Musiał, 2007) on water clusters (Blase et al., 2016) and implementations based on equation-of-motion at coupled-cluster single and double levels (EOM-CCSD) (Musiał et al., 2011) on water clusters (Lange and Berkelbach, 2018) have been applied to probe the ionization potential at the ground-state level. These studies indicate that the use of DFT followed by CC approaches predicts binding

energies of solvent systems accurately with small errors compared to  $G_0W_0$ , which underestimate the ionization potential. In addition, prediction of the ionization potential of water clusters based on approximate variant of EOM-CCSD (Dutta et al., 2017, 2018) such as P-EOM-MBPT2 yield results that can be compared to  $G_0W_0$  (Lange and Berkelbach, 2018). Not only have the EOM-CCSD proved to be a significant tool to derive the electronic properties of water clusters but also shown to be a powerful approximation to accurately account for relativistic effects such as spin-orbit coupling in describing the electron affinity, ground- and excited-state properties of halogen species (Shee et al., 2018; Bouchafra et al., 2018). Quite recently, (Peng et al., 2015) have developed a much more elaborate method to target core excitation energies within the EOM-CCSD ansatz based on the core valence separation (CVS) approximation (Cederbaum et al., 1980). This approach is seen to be provide a path that only includes excitations from the essential core orbitals when computing the core-level spectra. In this study, we present the use of a new approach in the DFT in the form the so-called frozen density embedding (FDE) method and CVS-EOM-CCSD to provide accurate ground-state photoelectron spectra, including excitation energies of the interaction hydrogen chloride on ice surface. This complicated approach give reliable ground- and excited-state properties based on its partitioning of large systems into subsystems and taking the effect of the environment on a subsystem of interest into account. Recent formulation of FDE have shown that FDE still possesses an exact framework that allows the DFT to be substituted with WFT for one subsystem (WFT-in-DFT) (Gomes et al., 2008; Höfener et al., 2013; Daday et al., 2013) or for all the subsystem under consideration (WFT-in-WFT) (Höfener and Visscher, 2012) as well as the incorporation of coupled-cluster theory, making it possible to calculate the embedding potential for the ground state as well as the excited states at high accuracy and with less computational cost.

In the evaluation of the binding energy of the interaction HCl with ice surface, the statistical averaging orbital potential (SAOP) model (Schipper et al., 2000) would be employed prior to the DFT calculation. Photoelectron spectra obtained with the SAOP model suggest that it provides balanced approach to the exchange correlation potential that predict accurately the ionization en-

ergies (Lemierre et al., 2005; Segala and Chong, 2009) and binding energies of molecules at the core level (Takahata and Chong, 2003). The reason being that, the approximation based on the SAOP model has a perfect long-range (asymptotic) behavior with the ability to reduce self interaction errors in cases where there are discontinuities in the derivative of the total energy as the number of particles varies and also to correctly depict atomic shell structure both in the inner and outer regions which are necessary in the evaluation of ionization potentials in the Kohn-Sham densities(Tecmer et al., 2011) compared to (meta)GGA's, which underestimate the ionization potential in such situation.

## 1.1 Potential Model

To study the adsorption of HCl on ice surface, we describe the surface interaction potential between them. To compute the intramolecular and molecule-surface interaction energy of this system, the charges, center of masses, and radii for each atom and atom pairs were taken and applied to their corresponding force fields. Based on the fact that different force fields employ different parameter sets, the interaction potential arising from the collision between the HCl and the surface of ice was considered as additive, consisting of the sum of pair potentials,  $V_{HCl-H_2O}$  over all water molecules(w), which can be expressed as

$$V_{HCl-ice} = \sum_{w,w_i,j} \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{w_i,j}} + \sum_{w,w_i,j} \frac{C_{6,i,j}}{r_{w_i,j}^6} D(r_{w_i,j}) + \sum_{w,w_i,j} a_{i,j} \exp(-b_{i,j} r_{w_i,j}) \quad (1.1)$$

where the fisrt term on the right hand side of the above equation is the electrostatic potential from the attraction and repulsion between charges of the HCl and water molecules, the second term is the dispersion potential and the last term is the short-range repulsion potential. The  $q_i$ 's and  $q_j$ 's are the charges on the water molecules and the HCl molecule respectively and the  $r_{w_i,j}$  is the distance between the charges. The  $a_{i,j}$  and  $b_{i,j}$  in the repulsion potential contribution are atom-atom parameters (X-Y), where X= H, O and Y= Cl, H . In the case of the dispersion potential, the coefficient  $C_6$  is from  $X - H_2O$ , where i = X, (X= Cl, H) and j =  $H_2O$  based on the Slater-Kirkwood formula, the  $r_{w_i,j}$  is the distance between the centers of mass of the molecules and the  $D(r_{w_i,j})$  is

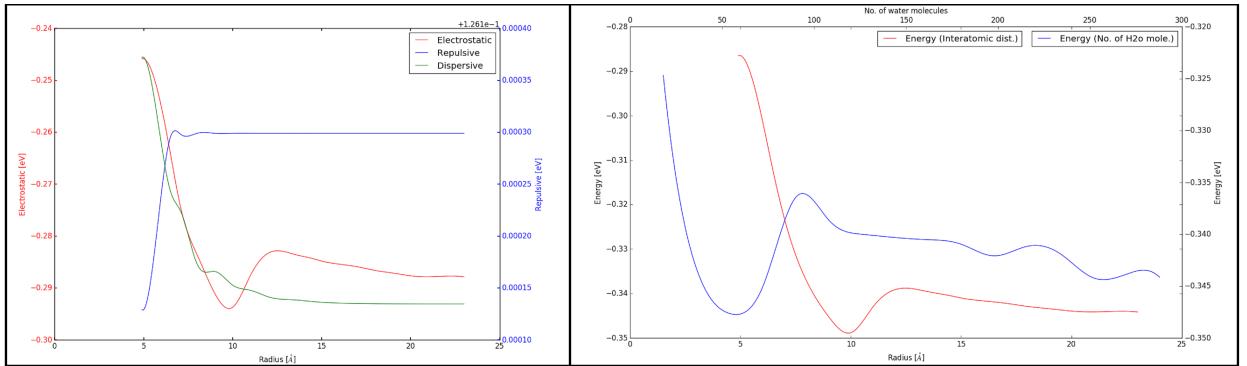
a damping function.

For the water molecules, point charges based on the TIP4P pair potential model (Jorgensen et al., 1983) was used to describe them. This model type consists of two positive point charges representing the hydrogen atoms (+0.52 au) and a negative point charge (-1.04 au) situated at the bisection of the hydrogen sites near the oxygen atom of the water molecule. For the HCl molecule, it was described with a positive point charge (+0.403 au), a negative point charge (-0.909 au) representing hydrogen atom and chlorine atom respectively and a third positive point charge (+0.506 au) located in a direction opposite the hydrogen atom and 1 au away from the chlorine atom. The values of the parameters  $C_6$  in the dispersion term, and  $a_{i,j}$  and  $b_{i,j}$  in repulsion term to describe the surface interaction potential between HCl on ice were taken from (Woittequand et al., 2007). The value of the  $D(r_{w_i,j})$  was obtained by applying the damping function equation (Kroes and Clary, 1992).

## 1.2 Discussion on the potential model

We now discuss the potential energy surface (PES) derived from the classical force fields. At shorter distances for HCl interaction with water molecules on ice, the dispersion potential contribution to the total interaction energy tend to decrease to interatomic distance around 9Å. For the repulsive potential contribution, it increase to around 7Å. In both cases, a constant trajectory is observed for large intermolecular distances at energies around -0.183 eV and 0.00030 eV for the dispersive and repulsive part respectively. The electrostatic potential on the other hand decreased in energy at shorter interatomic distances to a minimum of -0.295 eV around 10Å and then converges to a constant path at larger distances. From figure, it can be seen that at large intermolecular distance, the effect of the adsorption on the water molecules on ice is less pronounced and have negligible effect on the total interaction energy due to weak interaction between them. The interaction energy curve derived from the electrostatic appears to be similar to the interaction energy curve. For this reason, we can suggest that the adsorption of HCl on ice surface gives a total interaction energy that evolves mainly from the electrostatic part of the force field and that

contribution from the dispersion and repulsion potential play a minor role in the interaction energy of the molecular system of interest.

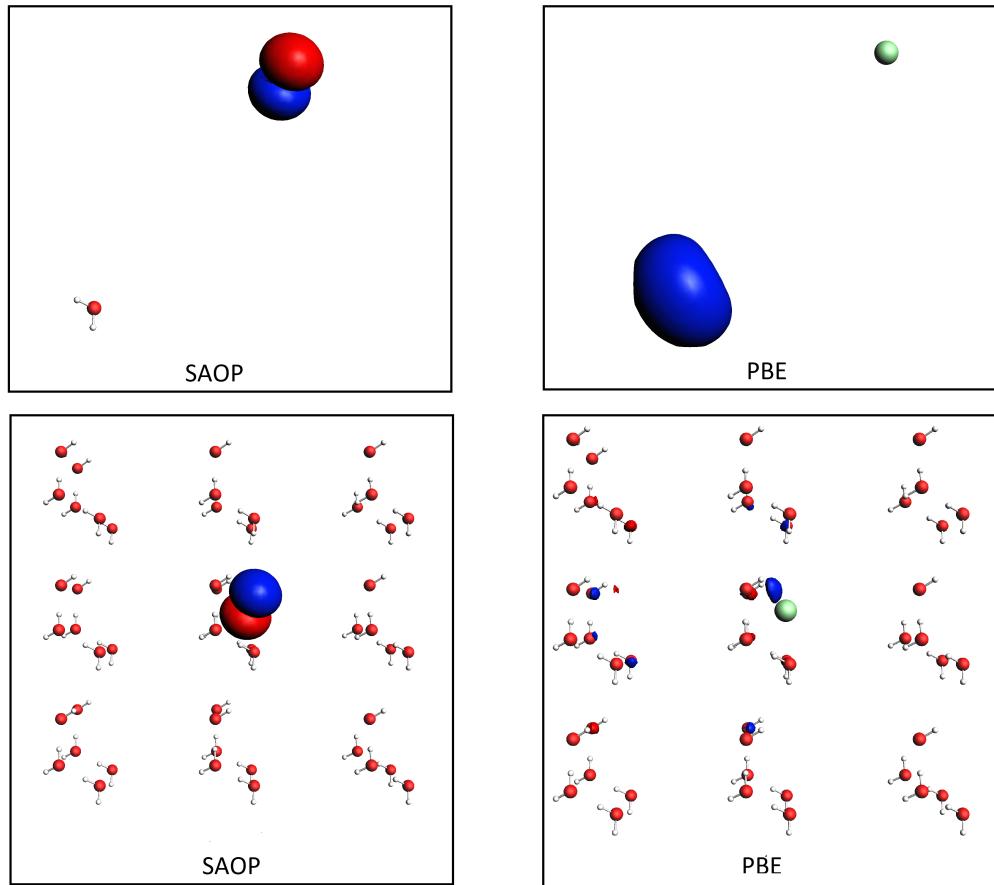


**Figure 1.1:** The potential energy of the interaction of HCl on the surface of ice.

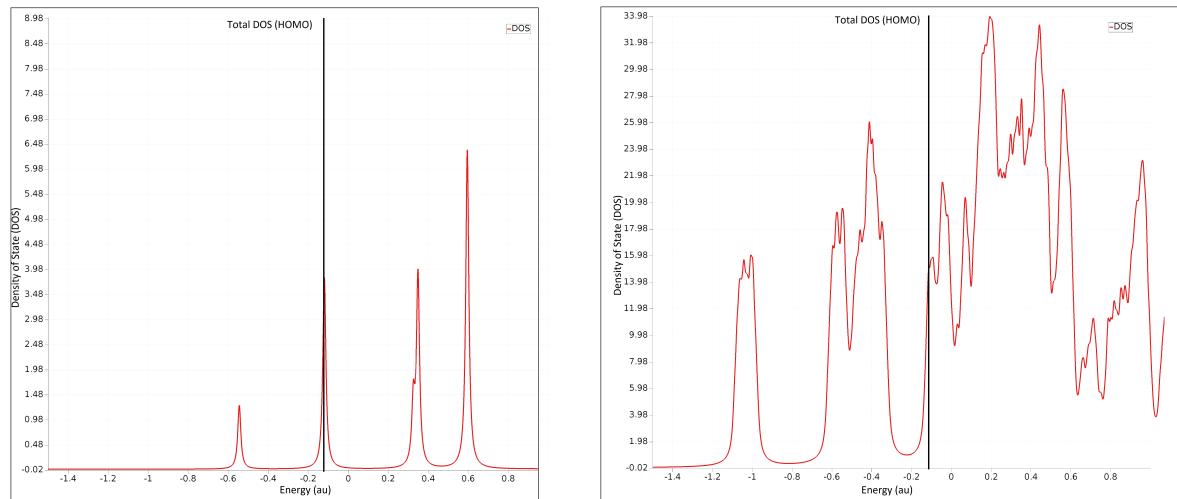
### 1.3 Results of comparison between SAOP and PBE

To evaluate our computational approach, it was essential to compare the effects of water molecules on the halogen of the adsorption of the HCl molecule on ice surface with different functionals. To attain this, we analyzed the orbital energy of our molecular system with the SAOP model and PBE functional. Based on the calculation, it was observed that the GGA's provide inaccurate orbital energy of the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) as the number of water molecules. The PBE functional gave values for the HOMO energy that were either spurious or too high compared to those of the SAOP model as shown in table 1.1. This attest to the fact that GGA's do not have the right asymptotic behavior to reduce self interaction errors as increase in the number of molecules occurs and can compromise the ionization potential. From figure 1.2, it can be seen the PBE functional has problem with charge transfer due its deficiency to account for integral discontinuity in the total energy for large system. The SAOP model on the other hand proved to be an excellent approximation to compute the HOMO orbital energies and can predict the ionization energy of the molecular system of interest accurately based on the dependence of the HOMO energy on the ionization potential in the Koopmann's theorem. By comparing both models, we can suggest that the significant number charges allocated to the halogen in the SAOP model and its asymptotic behavior makes the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) more localized and

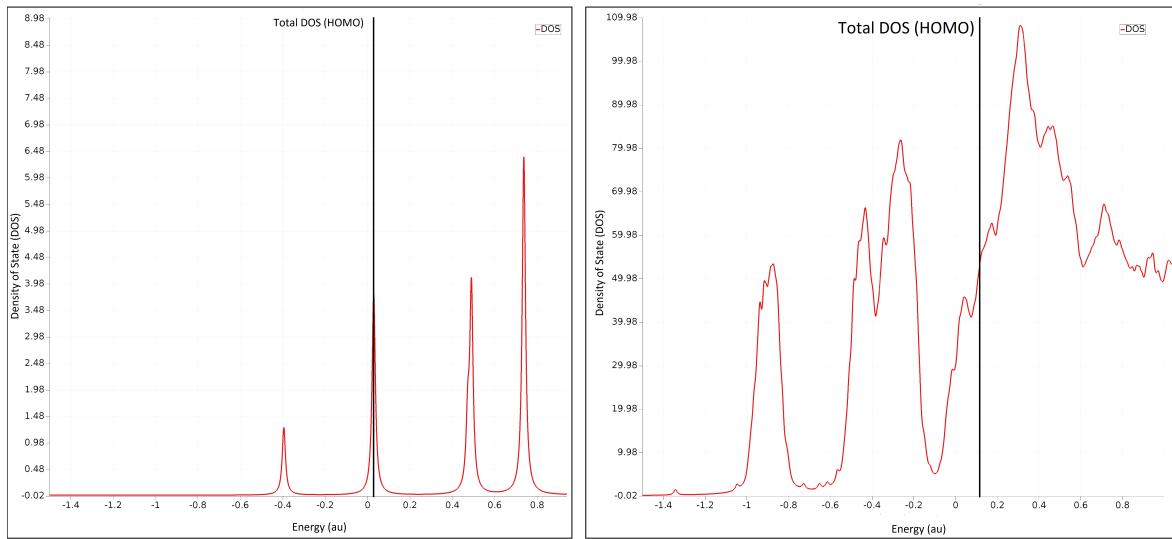
tightly bound compared to the PBE model as the solvent system increases.



**Figure 1.2:** Localization of the HOMO of solvated chloride ion using different exchange correlation models.



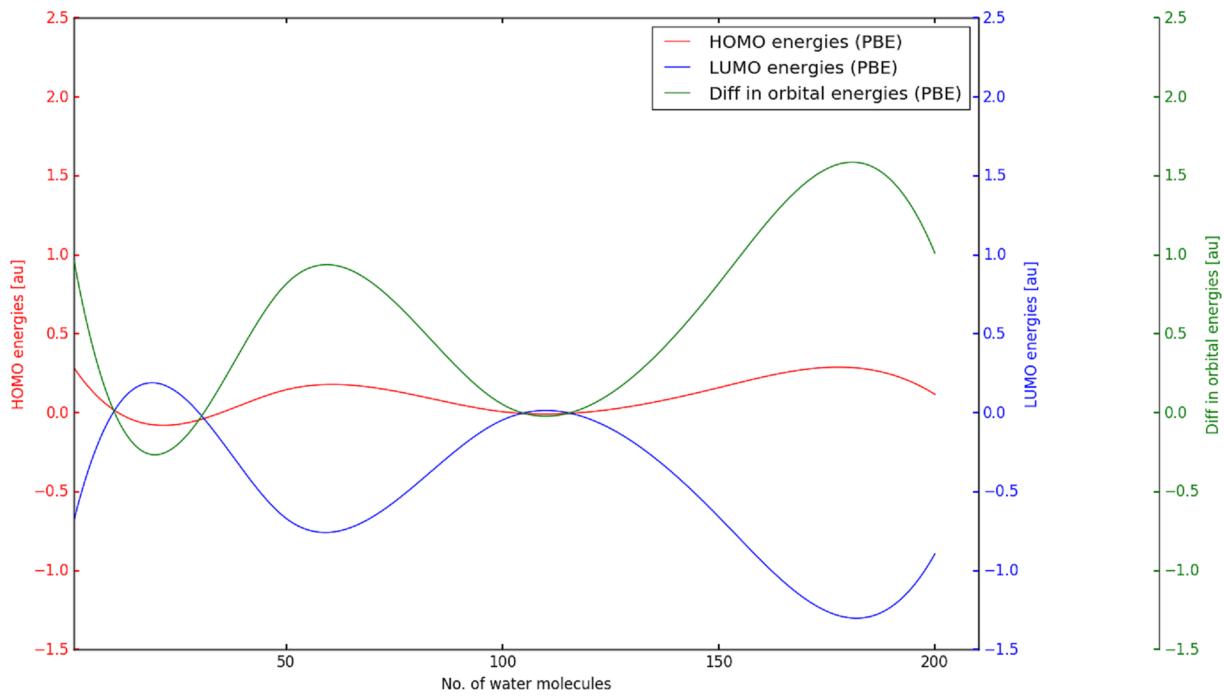
**Figure 1.3:** Density of states of the impact of the outermost layer of ice on chloride ion with SAOP model (50 water molecules).



**Figure 1.4:** Density of states of the impact of the outermost layer of ice on chloride ion with PBE functional (200 water molecules).

Table 1.1: Comparison of the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) energies for SAOP and PBE as a function of variation of in the number of water molecules of Chloride ion adsorption on ice surface

	HOMO energies (au) (SAOP)	LUMO energies (au) (SAOP)	HOMO energies (au) (PBE)	LUMO energies (au) (PBE)
$Cl^-$	-0.120	0.325	0.029	0.473
$Cl^-/1 H_2O$	-0.119	-0.087	0.283	-0.679
$Cl^-/10 H_2O$	-0.126	-0.096	0.021	-0.002
$Cl^-/50 H_2O$	-0.116	-0.134	0.145	-0.669
$Cl^-/100 H_2O$			0.006	-0.047
$Cl^-/150 H_2O$			0.158	-0.659
$Cl^-/200 H_2O$			0.116	-0.894

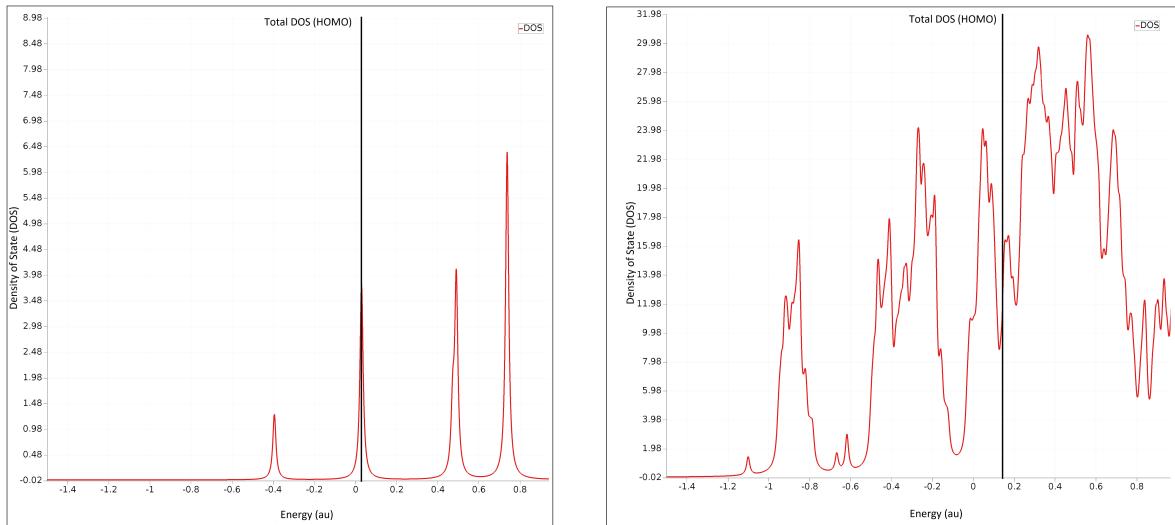


**Figure 1.5:** The orbital energies with change in the number of water molecules on ice using the PBE functional.

Table 1.2: Comparison of the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) energies for SAOP and PBE as a function of variation of in the number of water molecules of HCl adsorption on ice surface

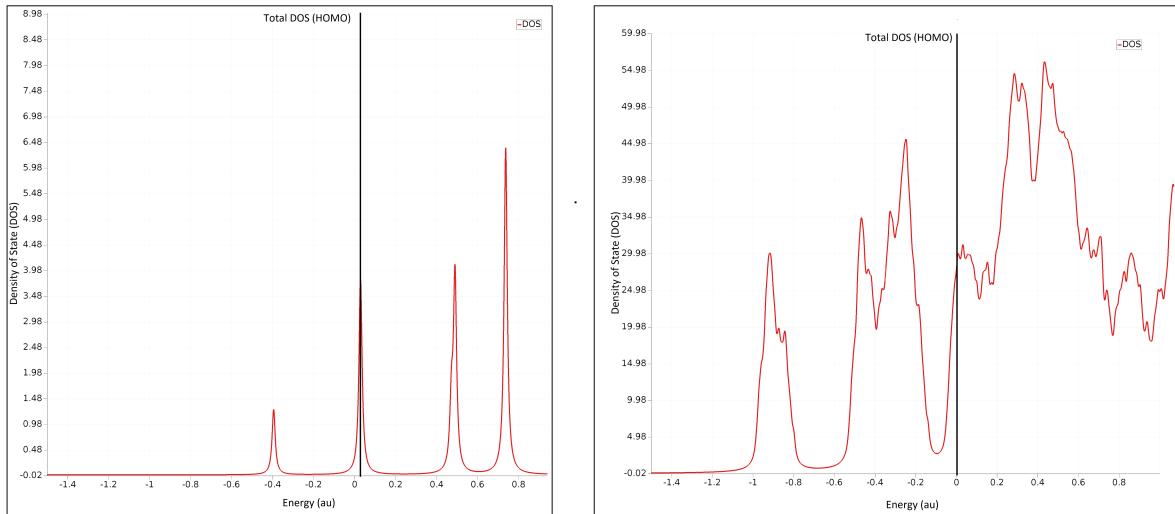
	HOMO energies (au) (SAOP)	LUMO energies (au) (SAOP)	HOMO energies (au) (PBE)	LUMO energies (au) (PBE)
HCl	-0.458	-0.190	-0.295	-0.365
HCl/1 $H_2O$	-0.456	-0.190	-0.267	-0.036
HCl/10 $H_2O$	-0.450	-0.195	-0.261	-0.043
HCl/50 $H_2O$	-0.399	-0.222	-0.214	-0.086
HCl/100 $H_2O$	-0.372	-0.211		
HCl/150 $H_2O$				
HCl/200 $H_2O$				

## 1.4 Appendix



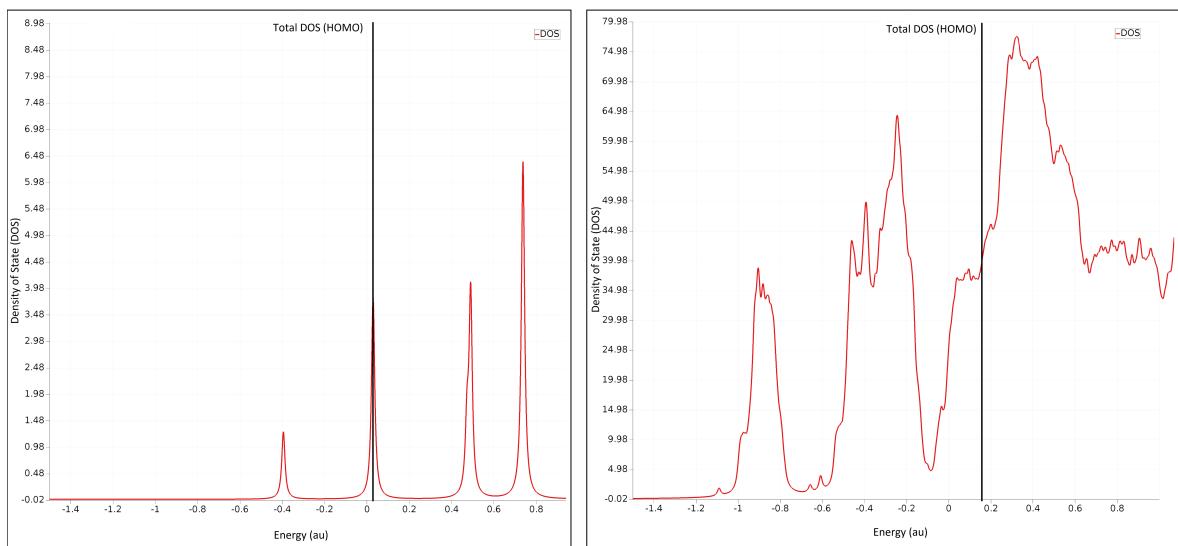
**Figure 1.6:** Density of states of the impact of the outermost layer of ice on chloride ion with PBE

functional (50 water molecules).



**Figure 1.7:** Density of states of the impact of the outermost layer of ice on chloride ion with PBE

functional (100 water molecules).



**Figure 1.8:** Density of states of the impact of the outermost layer of ice on chloride ion with PBE functional (150 water molecules).

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