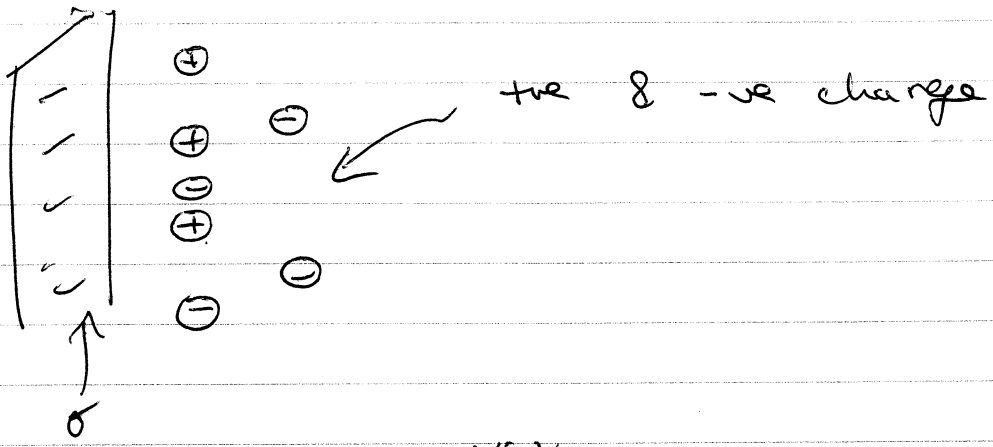


# Debye-Huckel



•  $c_+ = c_{\infty} e^{-eV(x)/kT}$        $c_- = c_{\infty} e^{+eV(x)/kT}$

$f(x) = e c_+(x) - e c_-(x)$

so P-B  $\frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = \frac{ec_{\infty}}{\epsilon \epsilon_0} (e^{+eV(x)/kT} - e^{-eV(x)/kT})$

• for small  $eV(x) \leftarrow$  small potentials  $< 25 \text{ mV}$   
expand exp.

$\rightarrow \frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = \frac{2e^2c_{\infty}}{\epsilon k_B T} V(x) = \frac{V(x)}{\lambda_D^2}$

where  $\lambda_D = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon k_B T}{2e^2}} \equiv \text{Debye-length}$

$\sim 0.7 \text{ nm}$  in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$   
with  $\epsilon \sim 80$   
 $c_{\infty} \sim 200 \text{ mM}$  for  $\text{K}^+$   
in cell

Now

$$V(x) = A e^{-x/\lambda_D} + B e^{+x/\lambda_D}$$

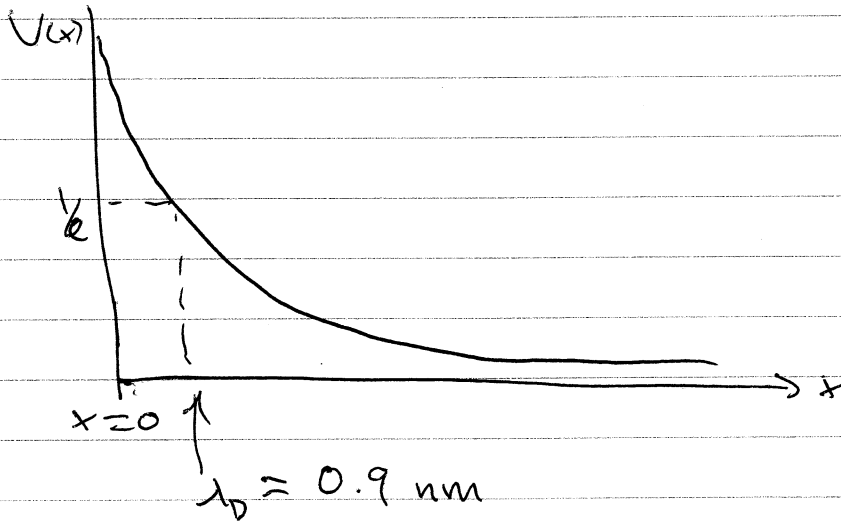
B.C.  $V(\infty) = 0 \rightarrow B = 0$

@  $x=0$ ,  $E(0) = \frac{\sigma}{\epsilon} = -\frac{dV}{dx} \Big|_{x=0}$

$$\Rightarrow A = \frac{\sigma \lambda_D}{\epsilon}$$

so

$$V(x) = \frac{\sigma \lambda_D}{\epsilon} e^{-x/\lambda_D} \leftarrow \text{screened potential}$$



so for  $x > \lambda_D$ , charge is effectively screened and  $V = 0$ .