Observing ion interactions at charged solid-liquid interfaces using x-rays: From statics to dynamics*

PAUL FENTER¹, SANG SOO LEE¹, ERIKA CALLAGON², KATHRYN L. NAGY² AND NEIL C. STURCHIO³

¹Argonne National Laboratory ²University of Illinois at Chicago ³University of Delaware

The interaction of ions with charged solid-liquid interfaces is a critical feature for understanding the transport of contaminants in the environment due to reactions at mineralwater interfaces. The actual distribution of ions at the interfaces is normally obscured by the presence of the liquid phase. I will present recent results where we use X-ray based probes (e.g., x-ray reflectivity and resonant scattering) to observe the structures and interactions of ions at solid liquid interfaces through direct in-situ measurements. Examples will include metal ion adsorption (structure, thermodynamics and kinetcs) at the muscovite-water interface, and heavy metal ion incorporation at the calcite- and dolomite-water interfaces. The results reveal the critical role of ion solvation in understanding adsorbed cation properties at mineral-water interfaces.

*This research is supported by the US DOE/BES/Geosciences Research Program.