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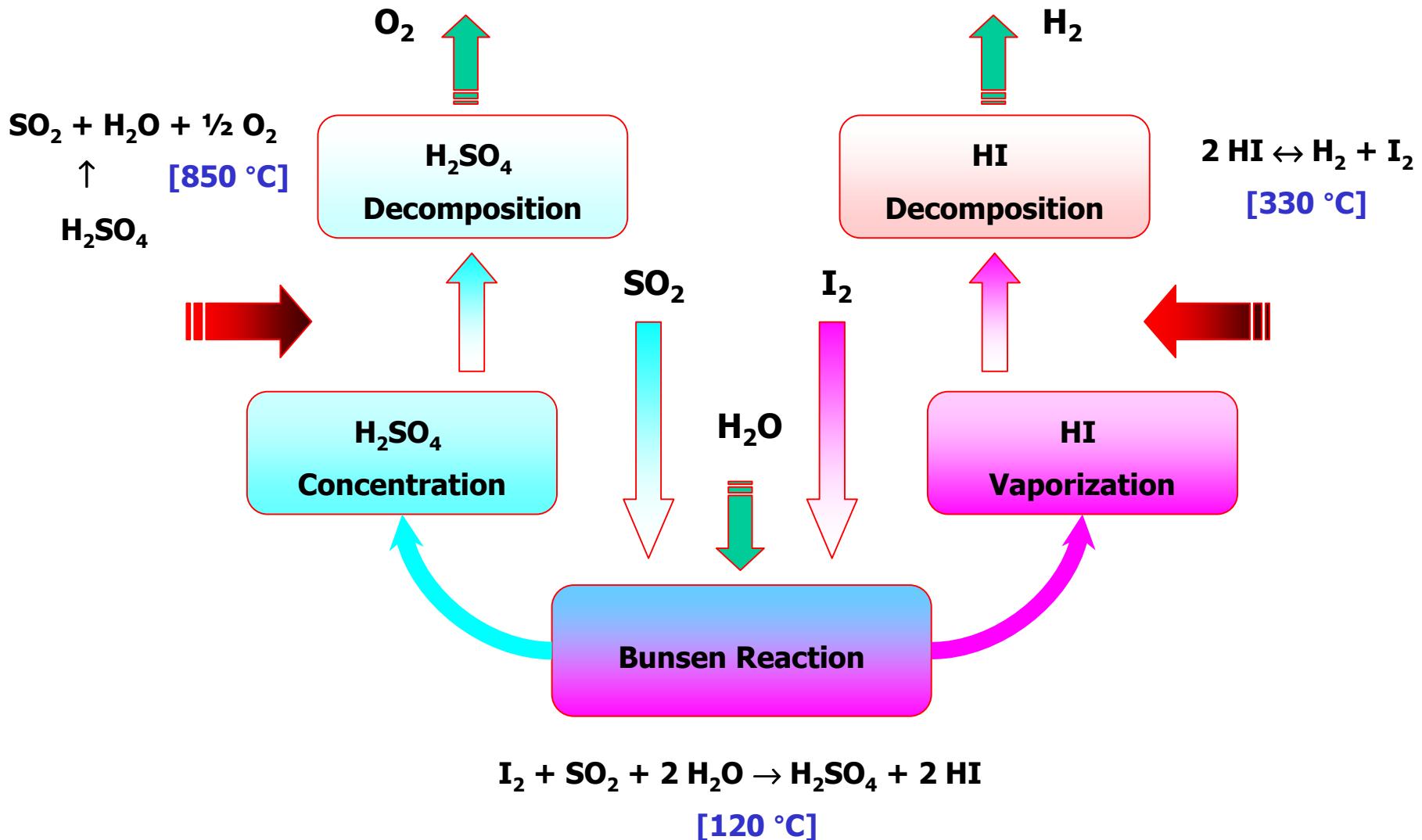
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Thermodynamics modeling of the HIx part of the Iodine – Sulfur thermocycle

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Iodine – sulfur thermocycle for hydrogen production



Thermodynamics challenges of HIx system

“ ...The sulfuric acid decomposition section of this process can be simulated accurately, but other sections (acid generation and hydrogen iodide decomposition) illustrate the difficulty of modeling phase behavior, particularly liquid-phase immiscibility, in complex electrolyte systems.”

(Mathias 2005, Fluid Phase Equilibria)

$$\text{HIx} = \text{HI}/\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{I}_2 \text{ (nominal : HI / 5 H}_2\text{O / 4 I}_2\text{)}$$

- ✓ Multiphase behavior (vapor – liquid – liquid – solid),
- ✓ $\text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{I}_2$: highly immiscible liquid – liquid equilibrium system,
- ✓ $\text{HI} - \text{I}_2$: solid – liquid equilibrium system,
- ✓ $\text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{HI}$
 - Maximum boiling / low pressure azeotrope,
 - Strong electrolytic system,
 - Liquid – liquid equilibrium,
- ✓ The ternary mixture has two separate liquid – liquid regions,
- ✓ Solvation reactions occur as well as poly-iodides formation in the solution.

Outline

- ✓ Iodine-Sulfur thermochemical cycle for hydrogen production
- ✓ HIx modeling Challenges
- ✓ Proposed model and identification methodology
- ✓ Validation vs experimental literature data
- ✓ Conclusions and perspectives

HIX modeling

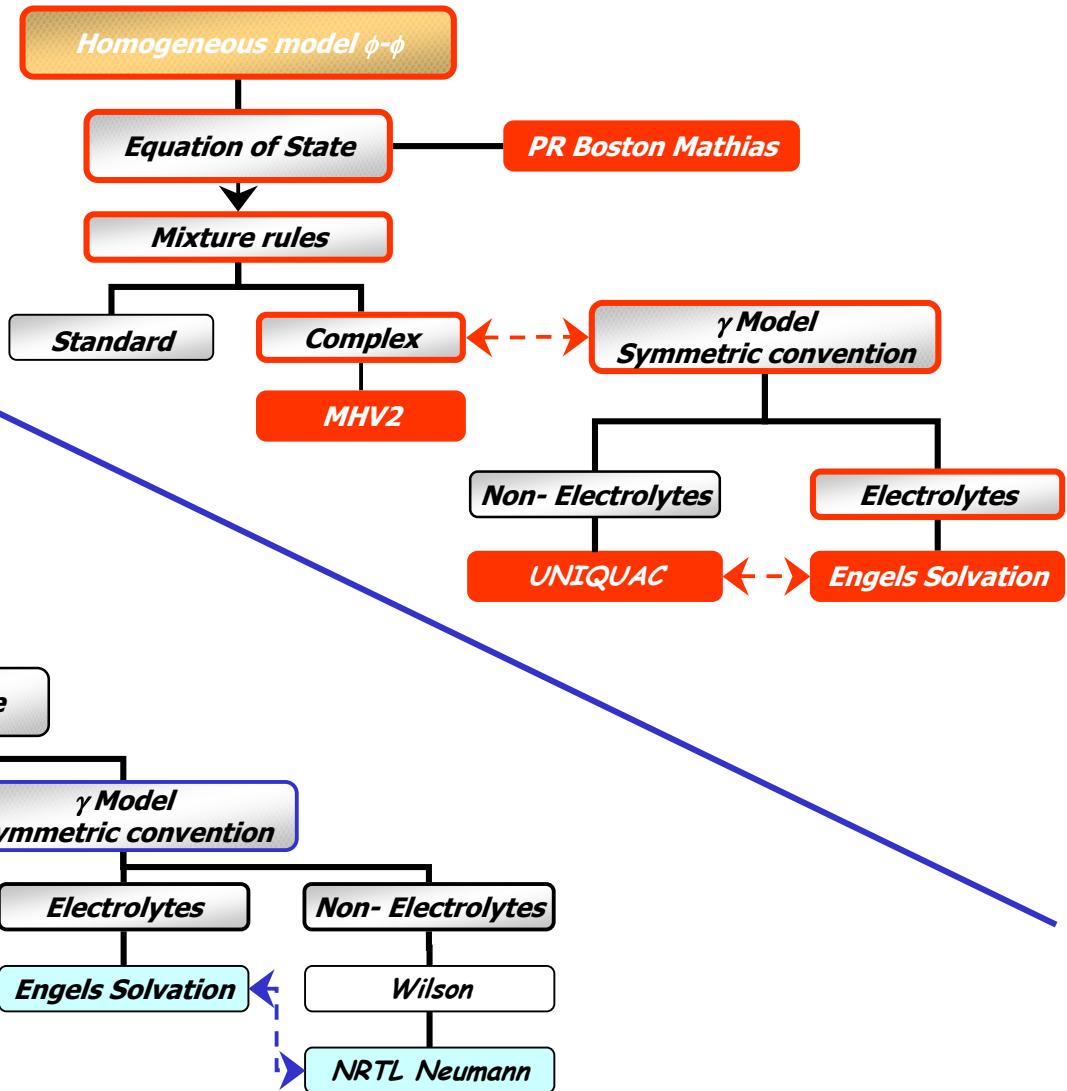
New models:

UNIQUAC Solvation (UQSolv)

Literature models:

Neumann : Engels + NRTL

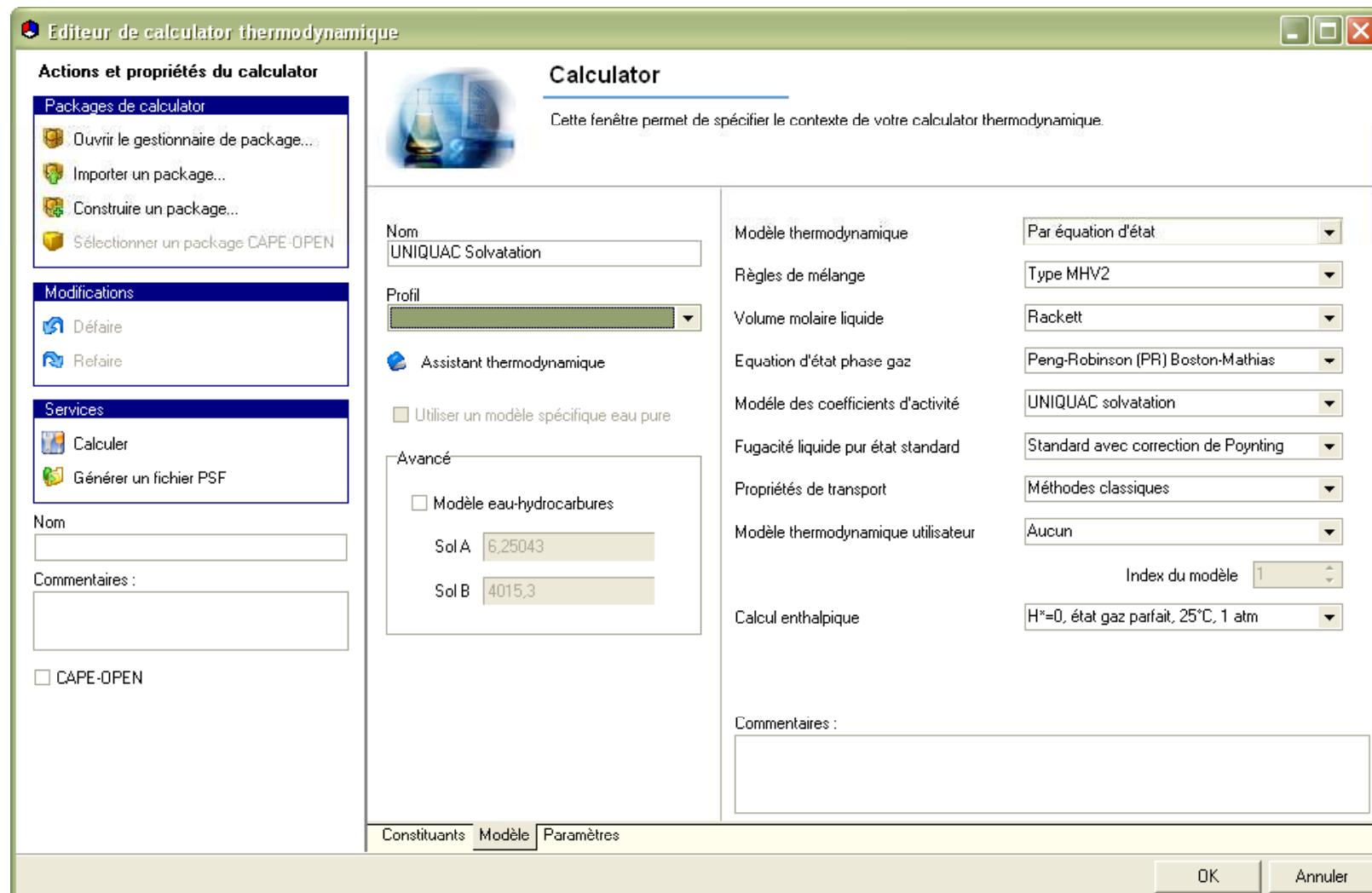
Mathias et al. : electrolyte



Advantages of the model

- ✓ **φ-φ approach:**
 - No extrapolation of the vapor pressure law above critical points
 - Correct handling of mixture phase behavior above HI critical point ($T_C=423K$)
- ✓ **Equation of state: Peng Robinson w/ Boston Mathias α function**
 - Accurate behavior of pure components above critical points
- ✓ **Mixing rule: MHV2 including non ideal liquid phase behavior via a G^{ex} model**
- ✓ **Activity coefficient model: Engels solvation**
 - Electrolytic model but with symmetric convention so as to span the whole composition range
 - Introduces solvation complexes with several solvents
- ✓ **Activity coefficient model: UNIQUAC vs NRTL:**
 - Combinatorial term handles steric effect
 - Residual term accounts for non ideal liquid phase behavior (as NRTL)

Simulis Thermodynamics component



Model parameter identification procedure

✓ Three binary mixtures

- H₂O – I₂: only UNIQUAC binary interaction parameters
- HI – I₂: only UNIQUAC binary interaction parameters
- H₂O – HI:
 - HI solvation by H₂O → equilibrium constant and solvation number



- UNIQUAC binary interaction parameters for H₂O, HI and the solvation complex C

✓ Ternary mixture

- H₂O – HI – I₂: refined parameter values

Available experimental data



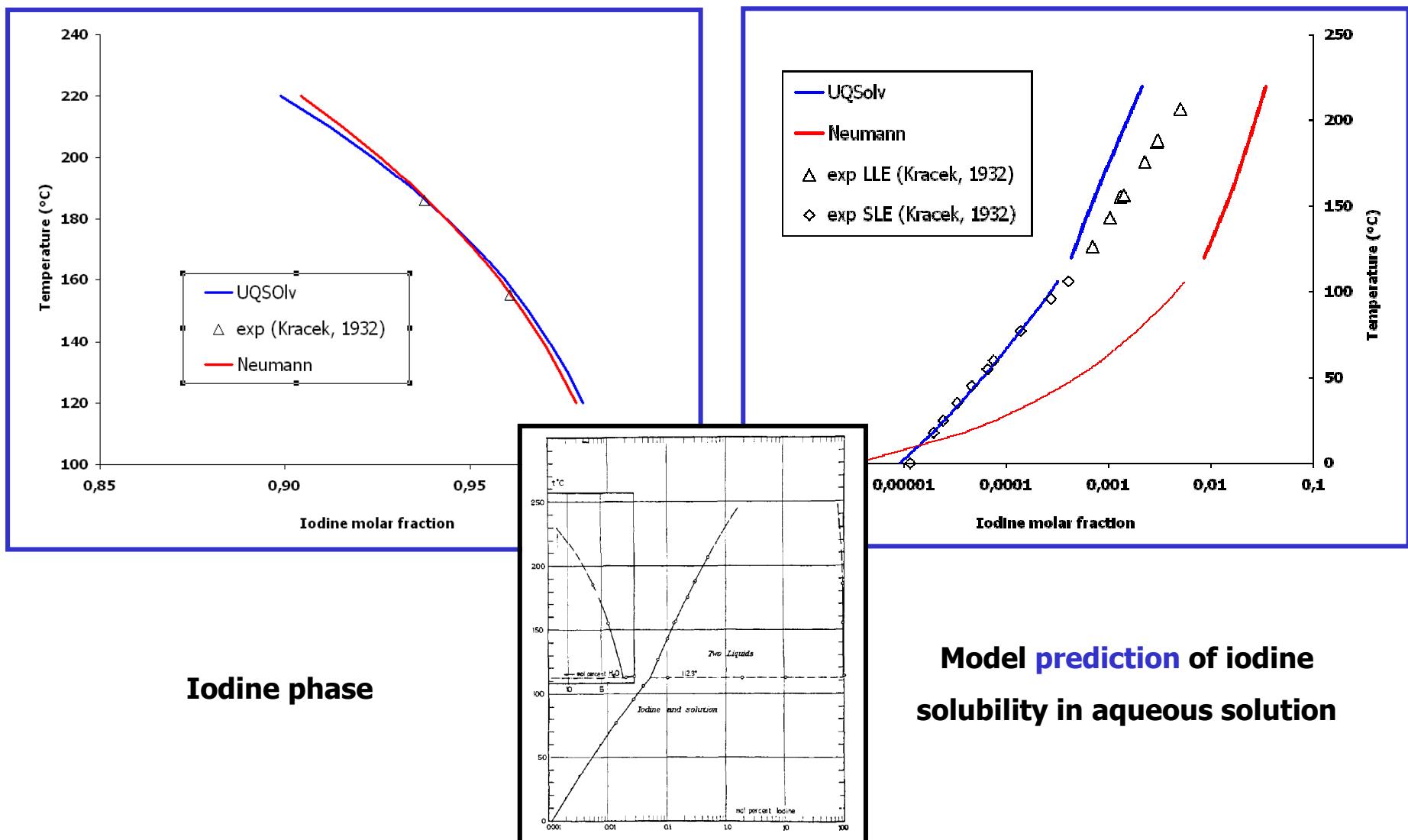
Fitting data



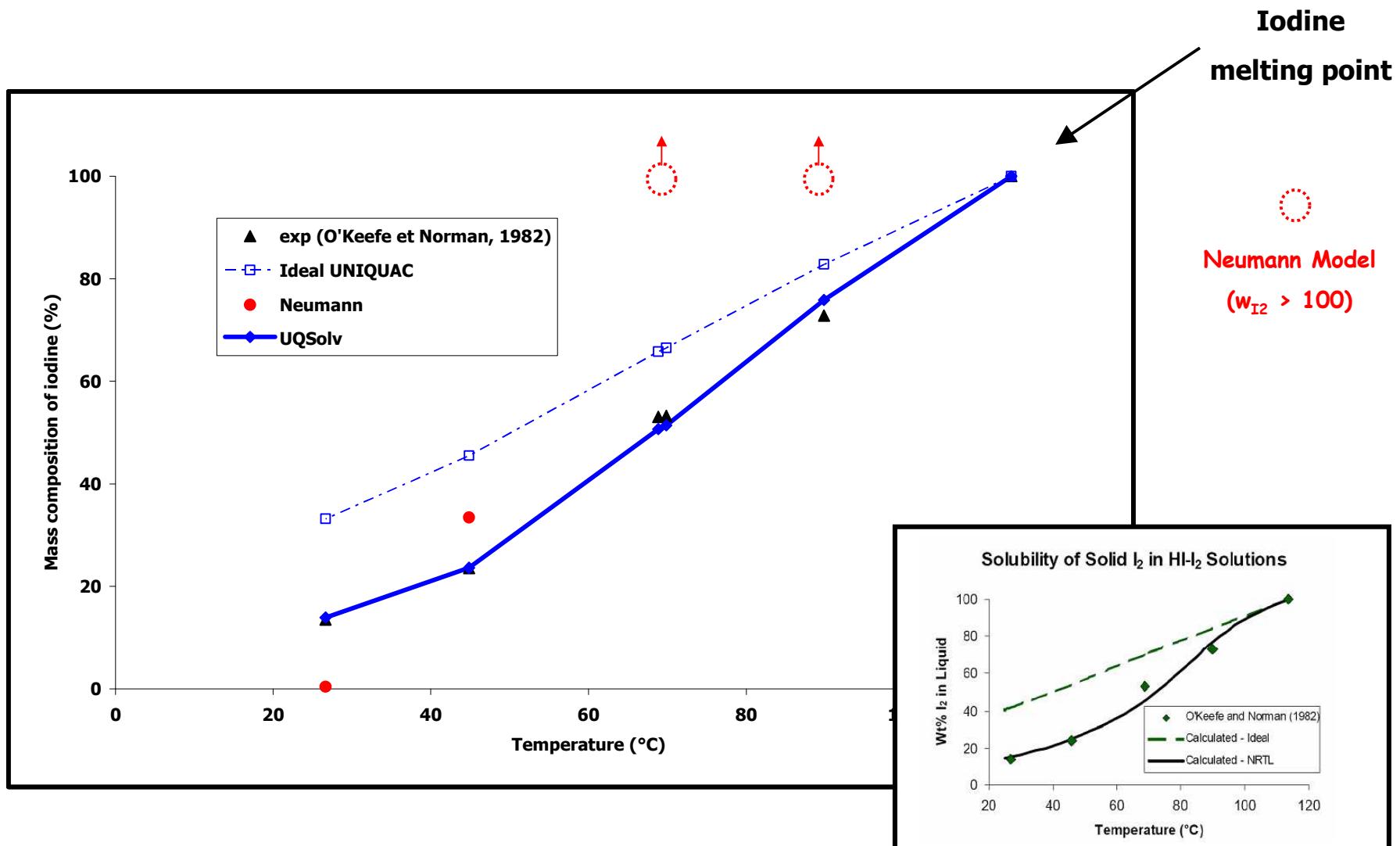
validation

| | Data | Data number | Data sources |
|--|------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| H₂O – HI | VLE | 38 $T = f(P, x, y)$ | Pascal (1926) |
| | VLE | 21 $P = f(T, x, y)$ | Haase (1963) |
| H₂O – I₂ | VLE | 80 $P = f(T, x)$ | Wüster (1979) |
| | ΔH | 13 | Vanderzee & Gier (1974) |
| HI – I₂ | LLE | 6 $T = f(x)$ | Haase (1963) / Norman (1985) |
| | LLE | 10 $T = f(x)$ | Kracek (1932) |
| H₂O – HI – I₂ | LSE | 10 $T = f(x)$ | Kracek (1932) |
| | VLE | 280 $P = f(T, x)$ | Neumann (1986) |
| | LLE | 12 | Norman (1984) |

$\text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{I}_2$ identification results

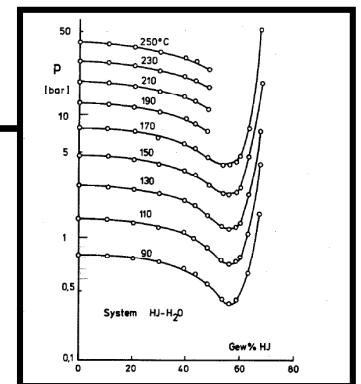
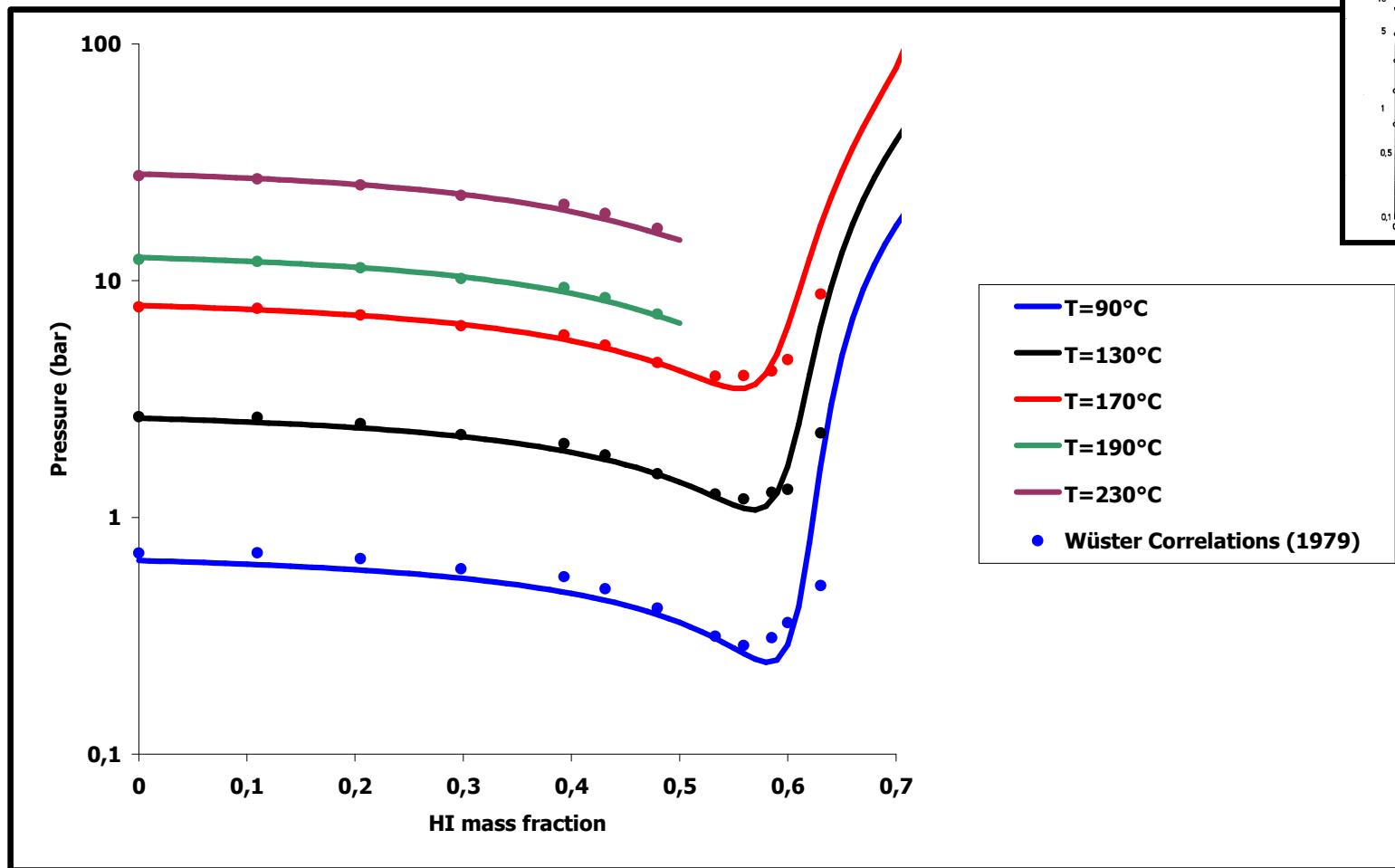


HI – I₂ identification results

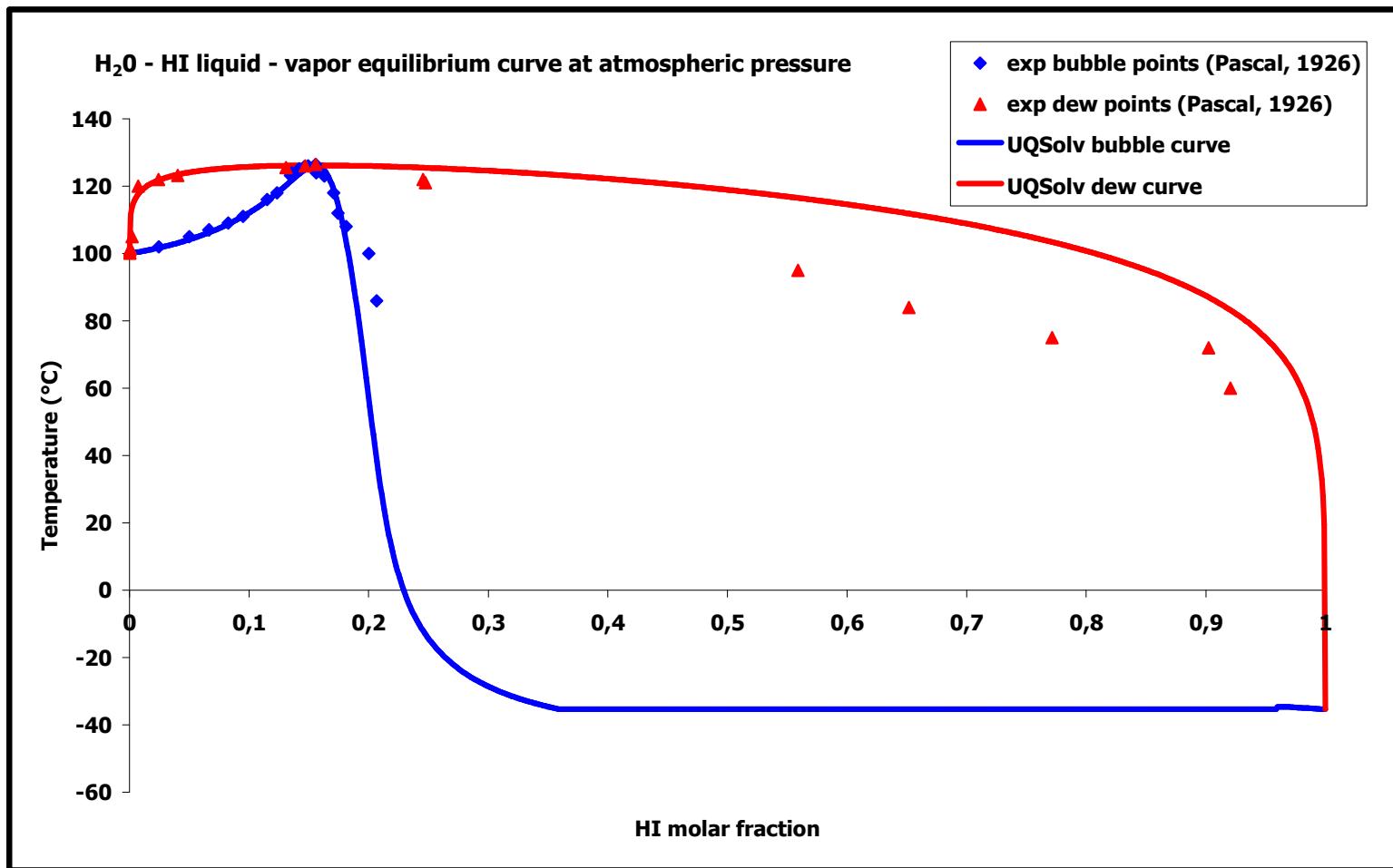


$\text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{HI}$ identification results 1/2

Good agreement up to the azeotrope

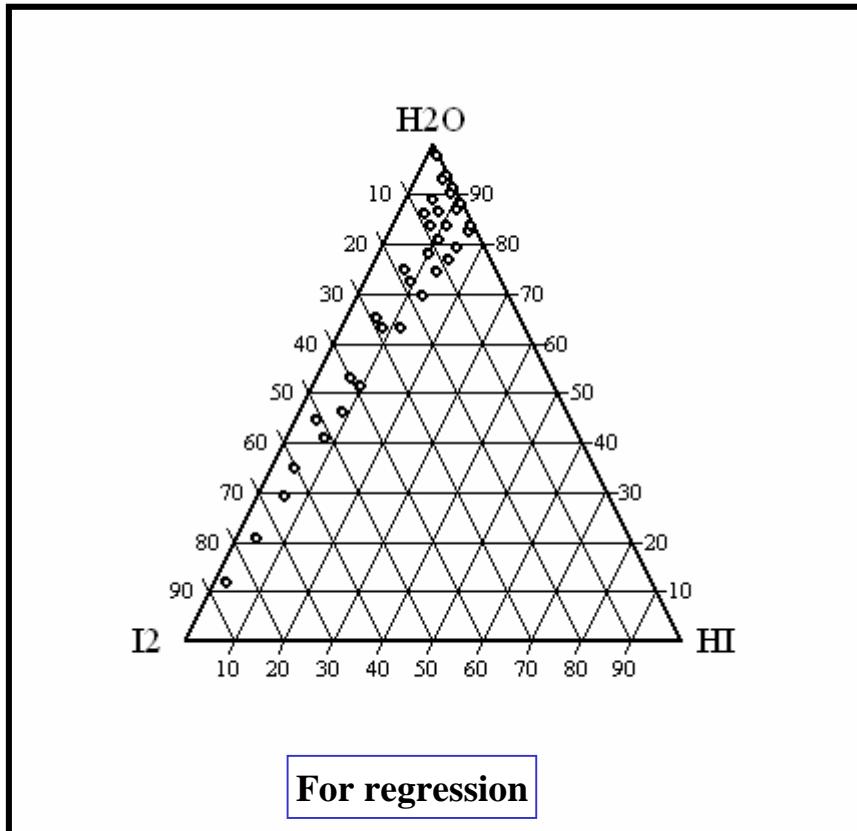


$\text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{HI}$ identification results 2/2

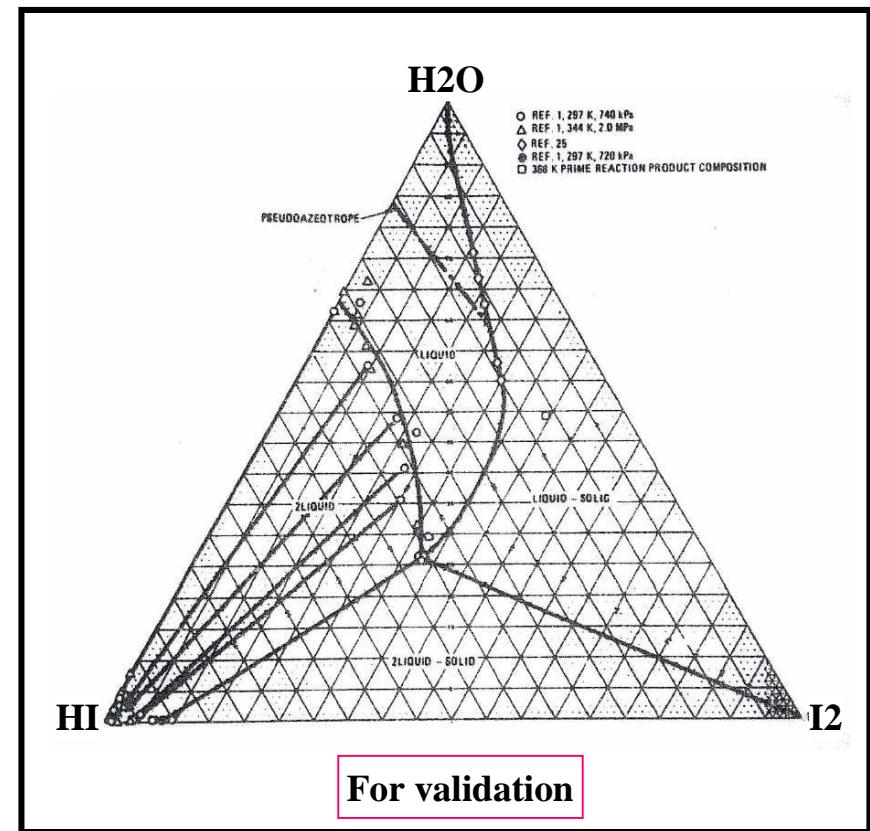


Model prediction of LVE curve at atmospheric pressure

Ternary system $\text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{HI} - \text{I}_2$



Engels experimental data
 $(0,017 < x_{\text{HI}} < 0,159)$



Liquid – liquid equilibrium data
(Norman, 1984)

$\text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{HI} - \text{I}_2$ identification results 1/2

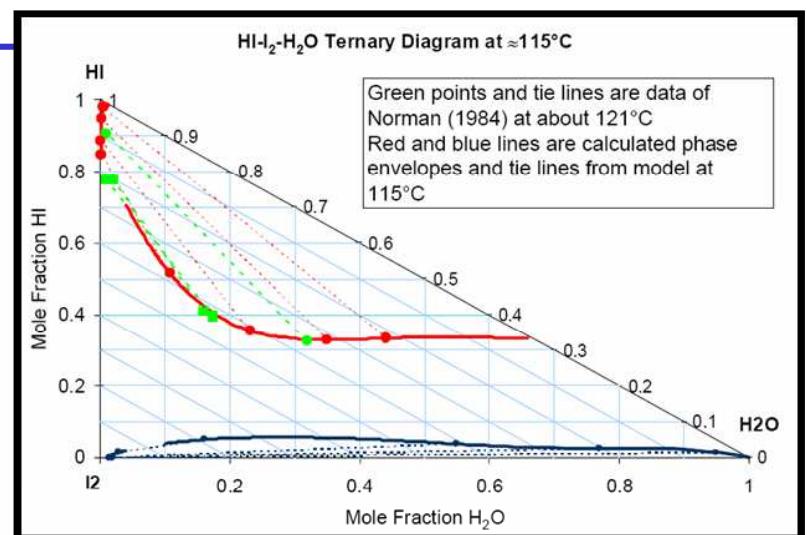
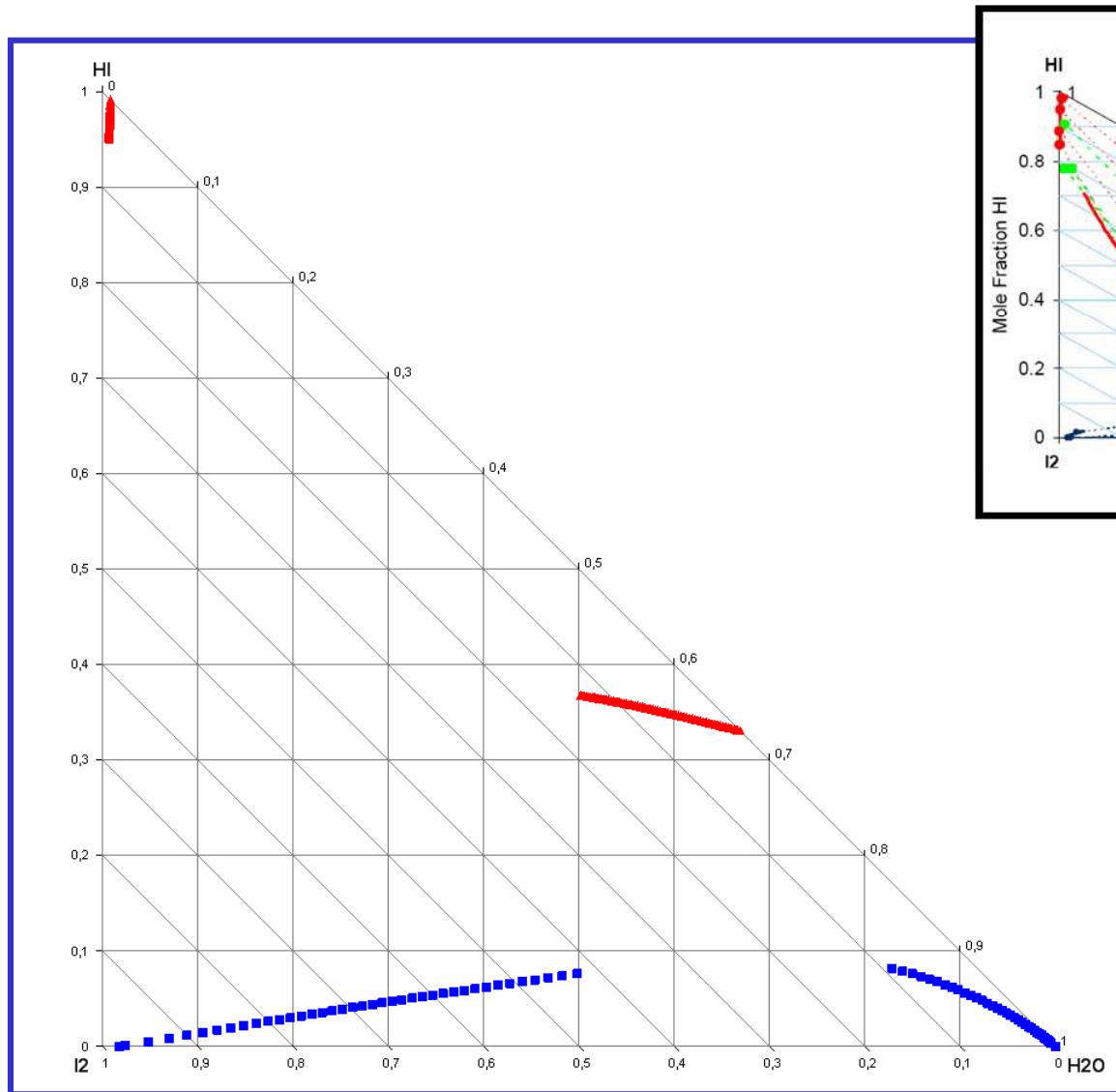
Keeping identified parameters for :

- ✓ Liquid – liquid equilibrium ($\text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{I}_2$)
- ✓ Solid – liquid equilibrium ($\text{HI} - \text{I}_2$)
- ✓ Vapor – liquid equilibrium ($\text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{HI}$) with solvation ($m \text{ H}_2\text{O} + \text{HI} \rightleftharpoons 2\text{C}$)

$$\text{Criterion} = \sum_{\text{Np}} \left(\frac{P_{\text{exp}} - P_{\text{cal}}}{P_{\text{exp}}} \right)^2$$

| | Average error (%) | Max error (%) | criterion |
|---------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Neumann | 9.53 | 62.24 | 6.50 |
| UQSolv | 8.18 | 44.83 | 3.73 |

$\text{H}_2\text{O} - \text{HI} - \text{I}_2$ identification results 2/2



Conclusion and perspectives

- ✓ HIx non ideal and electrolytic system is modeled by an equation of state (EOS) approach with complex mixing rules including G^{EX} models.
- ✓ The EOS approach is well suited with expected process T and P conditions that may be higher than the HI critical point.
- ✓ The liquid phase non ideal behavior is modelled combining Engels solvation equations suitable for any electrolyte composition and activity coefficient UNIQUAC equation.
- ✓ The resulting UQsolv model predict accurately most of the experimental data available and accurate, incl. LLE, LSE and LLVE for each binary and ternary system.
- ✓ Largest discrepancy is found for high HI concentration mixtures where experimental data is lacking or is uncertain.
- ✓ Improvements are under investigation:
 - Polyiodide ion formation
 - HI decomposition in I₂ and H₂ for the vapor phase rich in HI