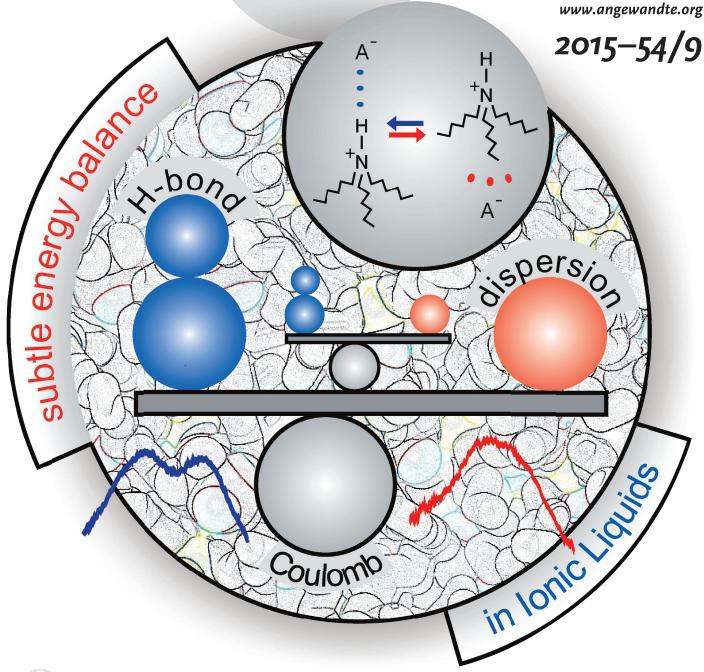
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The secrets ...

... of ionic liquid properties rely on the subtle energy balance between Coulomb interaction, hydrogen bonding, and dispersion forces. In their Communication on page 2792 ff., R. Ludwig et al. show that far-infrared spectroscopy is suitable to study the competition between hydrogen bonding and dispersion interactions in these Coulomb-dominated liquids. Characteristic spectral signatures allow the transition between both types of noncovalently bound "ion pairs" to be quantified.

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