The proton momentum distribution in strongly H-bonded phases of water: A critical test of electrostatic models

C. J. Burnham,¹ T. Hayashi,² R. L. Napoleon,³ T. Keyes,³ S. Mukamel,² and G. F. Reiter^{1,a)}¹Physics Department, University of Houston, Houston, Texas 77204, USA²Department of Chemistry, University of California, Irvine, California 92697-2025, USA³Department of Chemistry, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts 02215-2521, USA

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Water is often viewed as a collection of monomers interacting electrostatically with each other. We compare the water proton momentum distributions from recent neutron scattering data with those calculated from two electronic structure-based models. We find that below 500 K these electrostatic models, one based on a multipole expansion, which includes the polarizability of the monomers, are not able to even qualitatively account for the sizable vibrational zero-point contribution to the enthalpy of vaporization. This discrepancy is evidence that the change in the proton well upon solvation cannot be entirely explained by electrostatic effects alone, but requires correlations of the electronic states on the molecules involved in the hydrogen bonds to produce the observed softening of the well.

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I. INTRODUCTION

A deep understanding of the physical and chemical properties of water in its liquid form is fundamental to the progress of atmospheric, biological, and chemical sciences. Even though the properties of this “elementary” molecule have been the subject of intense research for decades (and centuries), water has not yet yielded all its mysteries.

Fundamental to our understanding of the properties of water is a detailed description of the H-bond energetics and how these intermolecular bonds are modified according to differing environments. Considerable effort has gone into characterizing these bonds.¹ In order to develop a microscopic picture, it is useful to regard the covalently bonded O–H oscillators as probes of the comparatively low frequency intermolecular (O–H–O) H-bonds in which they participate. Neutron Compton scattering is such a probe, providing a measurement of the momentum distribution of the protons in the water.²

The momentum distribution, $n(p)$ is a statistical average over single particle distributions, with a shape determined by the shapes of the proton wells. The variations in $n(p)$ with environment are a direct result of changes in the proton potential energy surface (PES), which in bulk water will be due to the perturbative effect of the solvating water molecules on the intramolecular PES. Measurement of the momentum distribution thus provides direct access to the changes in the PES upon solvation. That there are significant changes is well known. The water OH stretch frequency in the bulk is red-shifted by several hundred wavenumbers with respect to the gas phase, indicating a significant softening in the proton PES by the intermolecular interactions in the bulk. Identifying the intermolecular forces responsible for this softening is still an open problem.

It seems reasonable to expect that intermolecular electrostatics accounts for much of the softening, but just how much is not known. Several studies^{3–5} have convincingly demonstrated that there is a strong (though not necessarily linear) correlation between the intermolecular electric field and the OH stretch frequency in bulk water/ice. It remains an open question whether intermolecular electrostatics alone are sufficient to explain the softening in the OH stretch. This has proven difficult to answer, in part because of the lack of accurate (geometry dependent) electrostatic models for water, though a promising start has been recently made in that direction.^{6,7}

The first attempt to simulate the momentum distribution of protons in ice Ih was performed by Burnham *et al.*⁶ who developed a normal-mode path-integral molecular dynamics algorithm for evaluating the reduced one-body density matrix elements $\rho(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}')$. The Fourier transform of this quantity being the particle momentum distribution. Simulations were performed on an icelike water cluster using empirical water models. All of the water models gave similar differences to experiment. In particular, the models were found to overestimate the kinetic energy contribution from the stretch modes, suggesting that the models overestimate the stiffness along the stretch direction.

This study was followed by the study of Morrone *et al.*⁸ who used a “staging” based path-integral molecular dynamics technique with the flexible/non-polarizable SPCF-2 water model of Lobaugh and Voth⁹ to find the proton distribution in ice Ih, ambient liquid water, and super-critical water at 673 °K. Morrone *et al.* working with a simple modification of existing algorithms, used an approximation which appears to work very well for water in which N_{mol} one-body density matrices (on one proton per molecule) are calculated per simulation. Consequently, their algorithm is N_{mol} times faster than “serial molecule” calculations without this approximation.

^{a)} Author to whom correspondence should be addressed. Electronic mail: greiter@uh.edu.

The empirical water model used by Morrone *et al.* did not give any particular improvement in predictions for the momentum distributions over those of Burnham *et al.* However, Morrone and Car have recently reported¹⁰ a follow-up study, showing that momentum distributions calculated from a Car-Parrinello¹¹ molecular dynamics simulation using the BLYP functional gives much closer agreement with the experimental data for bulk ice and water, whereas none of the empirical models have come close to reproducing the accuracy of their Car-Parrinello based calculations for the proton momentum distributions in water/ice.

Though the Car-Parrinello results are impressive, it is important to note that almost all of the exchange correlation functionals (including BLYP) being used in bulk-water simulations underestimate the frequency of the OH stretch band in both the bulk^{12,13} and gas phases.^{14,15} For instance, the bulk D₂O water/ice Car-Parrinello simulations of Chen *et al.*¹⁶ produce infrared spectra which underestimate the experimental OD stretch frequency by $\approx 300\text{ cm}^{-1}$. The authors conclude that around 80 wavenumbers of this discrepancy is due to artefacts associated with the fictitious mass, leaving around 220 cm^{-1} attributable to the approximate nature of the PBE functional used in the calculation. Unfortunately, quantization of the vibrational degrees of freedom is expected to increase the discrepancy, perhaps by another 50 cm^{-1} .

The poor performance of commonly used functionals in reproducing the correct monomer distortion energies in bulk simulation of water, as compared to the much more accurate coupled-cluster single double triple (CCSD(T)) predictions for the single molecule PES, was recently critically examined by Santra *et al.*¹⁷ Consistent with previous studies, they found that both the BLYP (Refs. 18 and 19) and PBE (Ref. 20) functionals significantly underestimate the stretch force constant. They also discovered that the PBE0 (Ref. 21) hybrid functional does in fact seem capable of satisfactorily reproducing the variation in the PES along the OH stretch coordinate; at least for distorted monomers. It should be noted that the success of this functional was found to be at least partly due to fortuitous cancellation of errors in the exchange and correlation components (again compared to the CCSD(T) results).

Most recently, Burnham *et al.*²² attempted to modify the electrostatics of the flexible/polarizable TTM2-F water model of Burnham *et al.*^{23,24} to create a more realistic proton potential. They argued (based on the study by Hermansson²⁵) that a major factor in the softening of the OH stretch in the condensed phase is due to the geometry dependence of the OH bond polarizability. In nearly all polarizable water models the molecular polarizability is assumed independent of the molecular geometry. However, electronic structure calculations demonstrate that the polarizability along the bond direction increases substantially as the OH stretch is elongated, which acts to soften the proton potential and also increases the bond dipole derivative in condensed phases. A parameterization of a water model that incorporated these effects was shown to produce a superior description of both the redshift of the stretch band (reflecting a softening of the proton potential) and enhancement of the IR intensity (associated with the increased bond dipole-derivative) in agreement with experiment. The stretch mode frequency for each configuration

of the surroundings of the water molecule tracks linearly with the proton kinetic energy. However, this new model, TTM4-F, still overestimates the average stiffness of the OH stretch, giving only a very minor improvement in the predicted momentum distribution with respect to experimental data.

The experimental momentum distribution has yet to be reproduced by any of the empirical models. In this work, we calculate the momentum distribution from an electronic structure based-surface. This present study follows on from the work of Hayashi *et al.*²⁶ who performed a computational study of the IR spectrum of HDO using a mixed quantum mechanics/molecular mechanics (QM/MM) method. They first performed a simulation of the liquid using various empirical water models (polarizable and non-polarizable). The time-dependent electrostatic field about each molecule was then characterized by coefficients in a Taylor-series expansion in displacements $\Delta\mathbf{r}$ about each molecule's center of charge. The electronic structure response to a given (non-uniform) field was then characterized by a second Taylor series, this time of the intramolecular PES and molecular dipole surface in vibrational normal-mode coordinates expanded in terms of field components. Combining the two series allowed for an electronic structure calculation of the (time-dependent) vibrational PES due to the intermolecular field from surrounding (empirically modeled) water molecules. The nuclear Schrödinger equation was then solved on the resulting potential energy surface to find the vibrational eigenvalues and hence the $0 \rightarrow 1$ OH stretch transitions, which can then be compared to the experimental IR spectra.

It was shown by Hayashi *et al.* that their method gives an accurate representation of the position and line shape of the OH band in liquid HDO. However, in a subsequent study²⁷ of H₂O, a scaling factor of 2.2 was required in the fields in order to bring the predicted and experimental OH frequency band into coincidence. Using the unscaled field distribution, the model will underestimate the size of the observed redshift of the bulk OH stretch frequency with respect to the gas phase. This is consistent with the hypothesis that, while the redshift is strongly correlated with the intermolecular field, these fields are not strong enough by themselves to account for all or even nearly all of the complete redshift.

In this work, we use two different but related models for calculating the momentum distribution in solvation. In both approaches electrostatic interactions are the only source of perturbation to the intramolecular PES of each water molecule. The results will be compared with experimental neutron scattering data for water at different state points from 300 K to 673 K. We find that the electrostatic interactions are insufficient to explain the softening of the PES in the denser phases of water.

II. MOMENTUM DISTRIBUTIONS

In this section, we will summarize a few properties of nuclear momentum distribution functions.

The experimental momentum distributions of Pantalei *et al.*²⁸ at the various state points covered in this work are displayed in Fig. 1, along with earlier path-integral simulations which were performed using the TTM4-F water model

Comparison of experimental and calculated radial momentum distribution

FIG. 1. Radial proton momentum distribution at several measured temperatures and densities compared with path-integral molecular dynamics calculations using an extended TTM2-F model (TTM4-F). The densities are with 1 gcm^{-3} at 300 K, 0.9 gcm^{-3} at 423 K, 0.8 gcm^{-3} at 523 K, 0.7 gcm^{-3} at 573 K and 673 K. Error bars on the lower temperature measurements have been omitted for clarity and are similar to those shown. (Figure reproduced from Pantalei *et al.* (Ref. 28).

of Burnham and co-workers.^{23,24} Note that while the momentum distribution at the highest temperature (and lowest density) is reasonably well reproduced by the empirical water model, it fails significantly for the 300 K and 423 K data. The high momentum tail of the distribution reflects the potential of the stretch mode along the bond and is evidently too stiff in the empirical model. As we shall see, this is not simply a failure of the model, but of the failure of electrostatics, even when calculated accurately, to describe the effect of intermolecular interactions on the proton potential. We note that the momentum distribution is more sensitive to this failure than the radial distribution function, which is adequately described by the TTM4-F model for all temperatures.²⁸

Let the probability of a particle possessing a momentum in the range $\mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{p} + d\mathbf{p}$ be $\rho(\mathbf{p})d^3\mathbf{p}$, where $\rho(\mathbf{p})$ is the momentum distribution function. Equivalently, in terms of the wave vector $\mathbf{k} = \mathbf{p}/\hbar$, we have $\rho'(\mathbf{k}) = \hbar^3 \rho(\mathbf{p} = \hbar\mathbf{k})$.

It is useful to consider the harmonic limit, in which the momentum distribution becomes a Gaussian ellipsoid $\rho^g(\mathbf{k}) = \exp(-\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{T} \cdot \mathbf{k} / 2) / ((2\pi)^{3/2} |\mathbf{T}|^{1/2})$, where the tensor $\mathbf{T}$ is defined by $\mathbf{T} = \sum_{\alpha=x,y,z} \hat{\alpha} \hat{\alpha} / \sigma_\alpha^2$, with $\hat{\alpha}$ being the orthonormal ellipsoidal axes directions and $\sigma_\alpha^2 = \langle k_\alpha^2 \rangle$ is the variance along the α th axis of the ellipsoid.

The observed $\rho(\mathbf{p})$ of protons in an oriented water molecule or ice is generally close to a (prolate) Gaussian and can be usefully characterized by the sigmas $\sigma_S > \sigma_{T1} \approx \sigma_{T2}$, where the “stretch sigma” σ_S is dominated by contributions from the OH stretch modes and the two transverse modes σ_{T1} , σ_{T2} are mostly due to motion in the bend and rotational modes of the waters.

We will focus on the isotropically averaged distribution functions $n(k) = \langle \rho(\mathbf{k}) \rangle_{\phi,\theta}$. Note that the second moment of this function is related to the average kinetic energy per proton, via $\langle K.E. \rangle = \hbar^2 \langle k^2 \rangle / 2m_p = (\hbar^2 / 2m_p) \int 4\pi k^2 n(k) dk$, where m_p is the proton mass.

For an arbitrary distribution (i.e., non-Gaussian), we define the RMS sigma $\sigma_{\text{RMS}} = \sqrt{\langle \sigma^2 \rangle}$ from $\langle \sigma^2 \rangle$

$= 2m_p \langle K.E. \rangle / 3\hbar^2$, which is defined so that $\langle \sigma^2 \rangle = (1/3) \sum_{\alpha=x,y,z} \sigma_\alpha^2$ for Gaussian distributions.²⁹

The variance of the proton momentum distribution along the stretch direction is almost completely determined by the ground state vibrational wavefunction and is of a fundamentally quantum nature. Thus quantum methods are required to obtain the distribution.

In the ground state, the momentum distribution of the n th particle is given by

$$\rho_n(\mathbf{k}_n) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^3} \int e^{-i\mathbf{S}_n \cdot \mathbf{k}_n} \langle \hat{D}(\mathbf{S}_n) \rangle d^3\mathbf{S}_n, \quad (1)$$

where $\hat{\mathbf{k}}_n = -i\partial/\partial\mathbf{r}_n$ is the momentum operator for the n th particle, i.e., and $\langle \hat{D}(\mathbf{S}_n) \rangle$ is the thermal (or trace) average of the displacement operator $\hat{D}(\mathbf{S}_n) = \exp(i\mathbf{S}_n \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}}_n)$.

The following strategy was used to obtain momentum distributions from the vibrational wavefunction. We solve the molecular wavefunction in normal mode coordinates from which we evaluate the one-body density matrix elements $\rho_n(\mathbf{r}_n, \mathbf{r}'_n) = \langle \mathbf{r}_n | \langle \exp(-\beta \hat{H}) \rangle_{m \neq n} | \mathbf{r}'_n \rangle$ where the inner triangular brackets denote a trace average of the full density matrix $\hat{\rho}(\beta) = \exp(-\beta \hat{H})$ over all particles $m \neq n$. In our case, we are calculating properties for a single proton from a molecular wavefunction – thus the trace average is taken over the remaining H and O nuclei of the molecule.

The trace average of the displacement operator is then given by the autocorrelation function

$$\langle \hat{D}(\mathbf{S}_n) \rangle = \int \rho_n \left(\mathbf{r}_n - \frac{\mathbf{S}_n}{2}, \mathbf{r}_n + \frac{\mathbf{S}_n}{2} \right) d^3\mathbf{r}_n. \quad (2)$$

Finally, from Eq. (1), the momentum distribution is obtained from Fourier transforming the above trace average back to k space.

III. EVALUATING THE VIBRATIONAL WAVEFUNCTION

We begin this section with a description of the two approaches we used for calculating the vibrational wavefunctions. Although the first of the two methods below does not (in this implementation) give excited state properties, there is practically no population in the vibrational mode excited states over the temperature range considered in this work (<1000 K) and calculation of ground state properties alone suffices.

The section continues with a discussion of harmonic corrections which are used to account for the fact that the nuclear wavefunction is solved in only a subspace of the complete set of molecular modes. Finally, we briefly describe how the momentum distributions were obtained from the resulting harmonic-corrected wavefunction eigenvectors.

A. Taylor-series approach

In the first approach, hereafter referred to as the Taylor-series approach, the ground state nuclear wavefunction of a gas-phase molecule is calculated by solving the vibrational Schrödinger equation in normal mode coordinates on the Born-Oppenheimer surface obtained from electronic

structure calculations. The eigenvector describing the nuclear ground-state wavefunction is then Taylor series expanded as a function of external field and field derivatives in order to characterize the electrostatic response of the molecule. Field distributions in the condensed phases are taken from a molecular dynamics simulation in periodic boundary conditions using an empirical force field for water. Taking together the calculated field distributions and the field response as characterized by the Taylor-series expansion, this method allows us to calculate the nuclear ground-state wavefunction of a single water molecule in the condensed phase.

The vibrational Schrödinger equation for a gas-phase molecule is solved in the space of its three vibrational modes (bend, symmetric, antisymmetric stretch) using product basis states $\Pi_m \phi_{Am}(q_m)$, where $\phi_{Am}(q_m)$ is a Hermite basis function for the m th normal mode. The vibrational wavefunction for the i th energy level is then given by

$$\psi^i(q_1, q_2, q_3) = \sum_A C_A^i \phi_{A1}(q_1) \phi_{A2}(q_2) \phi_{A3}(q_3), \quad (3)$$

where C_A^i are the eigenvectors of the i th state, and the index A labels the triplet $A = (A1, A2, A3)$.

We next expand the electrostatic potential $\phi(\mathbf{r})$ in a Taylor series about the center of charge. Using the notation $r_\alpha = \hat{\alpha} \cdot \mathbf{r}$ and $E_{\alpha\beta} = -\partial^2 \phi / \partial r_\alpha^X \partial r_\beta^X$,

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(\mathbf{r}^X + \Delta \mathbf{r}) - \phi(\mathbf{r}^X) = & - \sum_\alpha E_\alpha \Delta r_\alpha \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha, \beta} E_{\alpha\beta} \Delta r_\alpha \Delta r_\beta + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Finally, the eigenvector coefficients are also Taylor expanded as a power series in the field terms

$$C_A = C_A^0 + \sum_j \frac{\partial C_A}{\partial E_j} \Delta E_j + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{jk} \frac{\partial^2 C_A}{\partial E_j \partial E_k} \Delta E_j \Delta E_k + \dots, \quad (5)$$

where the j index sums over all ΔE indices ($\Delta E_\alpha, \Delta E_{\alpha\beta}$, etc.). $\Delta E_j = E_j - E_j^0$ and C_A^0 indicates the value of C_A at $\mathbf{E} = \langle \mathbf{E} \rangle$, where the average is taken over all molecules. The electronic structure monomer field response is calculated with respect to a reference liquid geometry and $\langle \mathbf{E} \rangle$ are the average field components in the liquid.

B. Multipole-based approach

In the second approach, the Born-Oppenheimer surface of the gas-phase molecule is written as the sum of the intramolecular potential energy surface (as obtained in zero field) and the electrostatic energy of the charge distribution in an inhomogeneous external field. That is,

$$E(\vec{R}_\alpha) = E_{\text{mol}}(\vec{R}_\alpha) + \sum_{i,j,k} \mu_{i,j,k}(\vec{R}_\alpha) \frac{\delta^{i+j+k} \Phi(\vec{P})}{\delta x_1^i \delta x_2^j \delta x_3^k}. \quad (6)$$

Here, $\vec{R}_\alpha$ are the positions of the nuclei in the molecule, $\vec{P}$ is the point chosen for expanding the potential Φ due to the other molecules (the center of charge in our case), the x_i are

the displacements about $\vec{P}$, and the $\mu_{i,j,k}(\vec{R}_\alpha)$ are the multipole moments of the charge distribution of the molecule. The electrostatic response of a molecule in a field is then characterized from the geometry-dependent multipole and polarizability surfaces using the electronic-structure charge distribution calculated from GAUSSIAN 03. Next, a nonlinear least-mean squares fit of a polarizable water-model is performed in order to best reproduce the geometry-dependent electronic structure multipole and polarizability surfaces.

We parameterize the multipole surfaces by fitting a few charge, polarization and induction sites chosen to reproduce the multipole surfaces as a function of field and the positions of the nuclei. A six site water-model was used to fit the multipole surfaces. Three sites are located on the nuclear sites and three are off-nuclear sites. Each nuclear site contains a permanent charge, a permanent dipole, and a dipole-induction site. In addition, two charge-sites are positioned symmetrically above and below the plane of the molecule along the molecular bisector. Finally, there is an off-nuclear induction site placed in the plane of the molecule and along the molecular bisector.

In common with the Taylor-series method, the condensed phase molecular structures are taken from molecular dynamics calculations. Here, the vibrational Schrödinger equation is solved on a potential energy surface using the above-mentioned least-mean-squares fit water-model to calculate both the response of the molecule to the fields and the fields themselves.

All electrostatic parameters in the water model (atomic charges and dipoles and location of off-nuclear sites) depend on the intramolecular geometry defined by r_1 , r_2 , θ , where r_1 , r_2 are the two OH distances and θ is half the HOH bond angle. Defining symmetry coordinates $S_1 = (r_1 - r_2)/\sqrt{2}$ and $S_2 = (r_1 + r_2)/\sqrt{2}$ each parameter is expanded in the power/Fourier series

$$\begin{aligned} B_n(\Delta S_1, \Delta S_2, \theta) \\ = \sum_{i=0}^{i_{\max}} \sum_{j=0}^i \sum_{k=0}^{k_{\max}} b_{n,i,j,k} (\Delta S_1)^j (\Delta S_2)^{i-j} \cos(k\theta + \alpha_n), \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

where B_n is the n th parameter and α_n is a constant. The expansion for each parameter is taken only over terms consistent with the molecular symmetry, and $i_{\max}$ and $k_{\max}$ are chosen sufficiently large to make the remaining terms negligible, both 6 in this case.

The expansion terms are parameterized by minimizing the fitness function $A(\mathbf{b}) = \sum_m W_m \epsilon_m$ with respect to the expansion coefficients, where ϵ_m is the RMS error per tensor element over all elements of the rank m (traceless) Cartesian multipole tensor and W_m are weighting coefficients, with larger weights assigned to the lower rank tensor elements.

The induction sites were fit to the gas-phase multipole polarizability surfaces, using a least mean squares fit to the gas-phase electronic-structure multipole moments in the presence of a small field in the x , y , and z directions.

We found that the potential energy surface using the self-consistent multipoles becomes unstable, heading to $-\infty$ for

extensions of the stretch coordinate by a few tenths of an Angstrom longer than the equilibrium value. This dipole-catastrophe occurs whenever the distance between interacting point-multipole induction sites gets too close. In order to remedy this unphysical behavior, the intermolecular dipole-dipole interactions were damped at short range based on the modified dipole tensor scheme of Thole.³⁰ Changes in the damping function parameters result in large effects on the calculated vibrational frequencies and in our implementation, these functions were empirically fit to reproduce the frequency of the stretch band in the IR spectrum of ice. We find strong discrepancies in the calculated proton momentum distribution despite the fact that the vibrational spectrum is substantially correct.

C. Harmonic corrections

As noted above, in the Taylor-series approach, eigenvectors are expanded as a function of $m = 3$ vibrational modes (i.e., the two stretch modes and the bend), whereas those in the multipole-based approach are expanded in three vibrational and three rotational modes, i.e., $m = 6$ modes in full. In order to account for the fact that both approaches use only a subset of the total complement of nine degrees of freedom per molecule, additional harmonic corrections are made to account for the $(9 - m)$ modes missing from each calculation. The momentum distribution is calculated from the Fourier transform of the trace average of the density operator over the included anharmonic degrees of freedom multiplied by a Gaussian correction accounting for displacement along the missing molecular modes

$$\langle \hat{D}(\mathbf{S}_n) \rangle = \langle \hat{D}(\mathbf{S}_n) \rangle_A \exp \left(-\frac{\mathbf{S}_n \cdot \mathbf{T}_h^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{S}_n}{2} \right), \quad (8)$$

where $\langle \cdots \rangle_A$ indicates an average over the included anharmonic degrees of freedom and $\mathbf{T}_h^{-1}$ is a temperature-dependent tensor obtained from a harmonic analysis in which estimates were used for the harmonic frequencies of the missing modes. For the multipole model, the tensor includes contributions from the three translational modes only, with the harmonic frequencies assigned to be $\omega_{\text{trans}} = 250 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. We note that the value of ω_{trans} chosen makes very little difference, as at 300 K, the kinetic energy contribution from the translational modes is very nearly that given by the classical result. In the Taylor-series based approach, only the vibrational degrees of freedom are accounted for and so harmonic corrections were required for both the three librational and three translational modes. For this model, estimates for the (temperature and density dependent) harmonic rotational frequencies were taken from calculated IR spectra using the multipole-based model.

D. Calculation of the momentum distribution

Finally, the momentum distribution was calculated from the eigenvectors of the vibrational wavefunction as follows.

The autocorrelation function of the single particle density matrix (see Eq. (2)) was calculated in the harmonic oscillator basis using the known relation for the autocorrelation of a

Hermite function in terms of associated Laguerre polynomials, e.g., see Ref. 31, Appendix B]. The resulting autocorrelation was then numerically Fourier transformed to give the single particle momentum distribution (see Eq. (1)) and the final momentum distribution is taken to be the average over single particle momentum distributions.

IV. MODEL PARAMETERIZATION AND SIMULATION DETAILS

All simulations used 128 molecules in periodic boundary conditions at experimental densities. Momentum distributions in the bulk were calculated using intermolecular geometries obtained from “snapshots” of molecular dynamics path integral simulations in periodic boundary conditions using the TTMF-4 water model. As has been previously shown,²⁸ this model gives reasonable agreement with the experimentally determined structures over the temperature/density range to be covered in this present work.

The path-integral simulations were used only to generate reasonable configurations representative of equilibrium structures and were not particularly computationally intensive, with the equilibration requiring only a few hours of CPU time per state point.

A. The Taylor-series approach

This model was parameterized using MP2/6-31+G(d,p) electronic structure data.

The Taylor-series approach requires intermolecular field distributions provided from an electrostatic model of the solvent molecules. We chose the TIP3P-F water model for this purpose because it was found to give similar field distributions to those used in the original study of Hayashi *et al.* The intermolecular electrostatics of this model are obtained using static charges placed on the nuclear sites, with $q_O = -2q_H = -0.834|e|$.

In determining the electronic-structure electrostatic response, the local field at each expansion center was expanded up to fourth order (i.e., terms including $E_{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta}$). The wavefunction expansion coefficients C_A were expanded up to second order in ΔE_j (see Eq. (5)). A total of 35 C_A coefficients ($A1 + A2 + A3 \leq 4$) were used in the expansion of the ground-state wavefunction of Eq. (3).

The electric fields were calculated via standard Ewald sum expressions. Gradients and higher order derivatives of the field were calculated using a finite difference method using as input the field evaluated at grid points around the field expansion center.

B. The multipole-based approach

The multipole-based model was parameterized using RMP4/aug-cc-pvdz electronic structure data obtained using the GAUSSIAN 03 code.³²

The parameters were expanded up to a sixth-order polynomial ($i_{\text{max}} = 6$) in ΔS_1 , ΔS_2 , with six Fourier coefficients over θ , fit to reproduce 1500 geometries covering the range $90^\circ \leq \theta_{\text{HOH}} \leq 130^\circ$ and $.64 \text{ \AA} \leq r_{H1}, r_{H2} \leq 2.24 \text{ \AA}$.

The fit resulted in accurate reproduction of the geometry-dependent electronic structure multipole surfaces up to rank-3 (octapole). The parameter set and FORTRAN code to run the model is available by request from the corresponding author.

The polarizable multipoles on each molecule are solved iteratively for each different arrangement of nuclear coordinates, ensuring that the system remains at all times on the electrostatic self-consistent surface.

Obtaining self-consistent multipoles across all molecules makes this approach far more expensive than the Taylor-series approach. In order to reduce costs, a simple real-space spherical cut-off was used for calculating electrostatic interactions, with a radius equal to half the shortest axis of the periodic simulation cell.

The multipole model uses Partridge and Schwenke's accurate intramolecular surface³³ for each monomer. Thus, the multipole model becomes identical to the Partridge Schwenke model in the gas phase.

The wavefunction was calculated from scanning over three vibrational and three rotational modes per molecule. Performing a full six-dimensional (6D) scan would be quite slow and so following Jung and Gerber,³⁴ a many-body approximation was employed in which only two-body terms are retained, reducing the calculation to a more manageable set of $6 \times 5/2 = 15$ scans per molecule. The wavefunction is then solved for by first calculating the vibrational self-consistent field (VSCF) solution³⁵ in the 6D space. This results in a product wavefunction $\psi_{\mathbf{m}}^{\text{VSCF}}(q_1, \dots, q_6) = \phi_{m_1}(q_1)\phi_{m_2}(q_2)\dots\phi_{m_6}(q_6)$ with ψ_0^{VSCF} giving the optimal single product ground state. The final wavefunction is then solved using a configuration interaction in which the reduced Hamiltonian $H_{\mathbf{m},\mathbf{m}'} = \langle \mathbf{m} | H | \mathbf{m}' \rangle$ is diagonalized, where $H_{\mathbf{m},\mathbf{m}'}$ is formed from states $\mathbf{m}$ with $\sum_i m_i \leq 4$ leading to matrix sizes of $\approx 6500 \times 6500$. Altogether it takes ≈ 40 min to calculate the momentum distribution for one particle, with the diagonalization stage being by far the most time-consuming part of the calculation.

V. RESULTS

The calculated and experimental²⁸ RMS sigmas σ_{RMS} for the set of temperature/density state points are displayed in Fig. 2 as a function of temperature. At each temperature value, we have also plotted calculated values for the gas-phase momentum distributions.

The bulk values for σ_{RMS} are seen to approach the corresponding gas-phase values for $T \geq 500$ K. In this high temperature region, there appears to be practically no difference in the kinetic energy between the bulk and gas phases.

The observed approximate linear dependence with temperature of the predicted gas-phase sigmas is due to the $k_B T/2$ per degree of freedom kinetic energy in the near-classical translational and rotational modes. In the temperature range under study the gas-phase vibrational modes are nearly completely frozen out, having virtually no contribution to the temperature dependence.

Though the Taylor series and multipole-based approaches predict quite different absolute values for σ_{RMS} , the two show very similar trends as a function of temperature.

FIG. 2. RMS values of the observed and calculated proton momentum distribution width. These widths give directly the kinetic energy of the protons. The results are shown as a function of temperature, with densities 0.9 g cm^{-3} at 50 and 269 K 1 g cm^{-3} at 300 K, 0.9 g cm^{-3} at 423 K, 0.8 g cm^{-3} at 523 K, 0.7 g cm^{-3} at 573 K and 673 K. (Data reproduced from Pantalei *et al.* (Ref. 28)) The curve labeled gas phase is calculated by including the temperature dependence of classical rotation and translation modes in the calculation of the total energy in addition to the kinetic energy calculated for the vibrational modes of the isolated molecule.

Most of the difference between models appears to be due to their different gas-phase asymptotes, with the Taylor-series approach predicting a slightly larger value for the gas phase σ_{RMS} at each temperature. Presumably this is due to the different intramolecular surfaces used in the two models, with the gas-phase asymptote of the Taylor-series model being given by MP2/6-31+G(*d,p*) electronic structure vs. the somewhat more accurate Partridge-Schwenke gas-phase surface incorporated into the multipole-based model.

The multipole-based approach is in excellent agreement with the experimentally determined sigmas at high temperatures, $T \geq 500$ K. As the temperature is lowered, the curves diverge, with the experimental σ_{RMS} showing a steeper drop than predicted by either of the simulation approaches. At 300 K, the discrepancy between the predicted and observed kinetic energies is 0.35 kcal/mol per proton or 0.7 kcal/mol per molecule. This discrepancy between simulation and experiment accounts for $\approx 7\%$ of the 9.7 kcal/mol per molecule enthalpy of vaporization, $\Delta H = H^{(g)} - H^{(l)}$ at 300 K.

Furthermore, the simulations predict the wrong sign for the kinetic energy contribution to ΔH . Assuming that the gas-phase kinetic energies calculated using the high-quality Partridge-Schwenke intramolecular surface are correct, the experimental data show that below 500 K, the kinetic energy per proton in the bulk lies below the gas-phase values (at the same temperature), whereas simulation predicts the opposite behavior, with the average kinetic energy per proton in the bulk becoming *larger* than the corresponding gas-phase values at lower temperatures.

The increase in the simulated kinetic energy is due to hindered rotations in the bulk having a larger kinetic energy than in the gas phase, where the molecules act as free rotors. A similar contribution is expected to be present in the experimental data, but this is evidently more than cancelled out

FIG. 3. The stretch sigma values (momentum widths) of the calculated proton momentum distributions at the same temperature/density points as in Fig. 1. The gas-phase sigma values are given for reference, as there is no significant change with temperature for these.

by the lowering in kinetic energy due to the softening in the stretch modes.

The experimentally observed reduction in σ_{RMS} over the corresponding values in the gas phase indicates that the effective proton potential is substantially softened at low temperatures; a softening manifestly not reproduced by the electrostatic models.

Experiment has previously shown²⁸ that most of the reduction in the proton mean kinetic energy is due to a lowering of the stretch sigma (σ_s) values. Figure 3 shows simulation results for this sigma as a function of temperature, extracted from the calculated momentum distribution using the multipole and Taylor-series methods. The individual sigmas were then obtained from the tensor of second moments $M_{\alpha\beta} = \langle k_\alpha k_\beta \rangle$, which when diagonalized gives eigenvectors $\hat{\alpha}$ with corresponding eigenvalues σ_α^2 .

Again, though there is a sizable offset between values calculated from the multipole and Taylor-series approaches, both approaches result in near identical trends as a function of temperature. The simulation shows a modest, but definite decrease in the stretch sigmas as the temperature is lowered. This reduction is due to a softening of the proton potential, in turn caused by the increasing strength of the intermolecular fields at lower temperatures and higher densities.

VI. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In this work we tested how accurately state of the art electrostatic models for water, which perform well for infrared spectra can reproduce the observed neutron scattering data for the proton kinetic energy and momentum distribution in bulk water. Both models were parameterized to reproduce high quality electronic structure data for the geometry-dependent monomer electrostatics. However, two quite different modeling approaches were used in order to generate the nuclear wavefunction from which the momentum distributions were calculated.

Although the two electrostatic models give qualitatively similar results for trends in the kinetic-energy and momentum widths, neither was able to fully reproduce the observed experimental trends. In contrast with experiment, both models predict the kinetic energy per proton increases in the strong H-bonding region. Even sophisticated electrostatic models for water, such as the ones used in this work are unable to reproduce the correct sign in the proton kinetic energy contribution to the enthalpy change between the gas and condensed phases at the same temperature.

These results have important implications for all simulations requiring accurate bulk properties of water. For a simulation to reproduce the experimental enthalpy difference (for the right reasons), it must take into account the zero-point changes associated with the vibrational degrees of freedom. Several recent studies have examined the thermodynamic properties of water using rigid-body path-integral calculations.^{36–40} Though cheaper than a fully flexible path-integral simulation, such calculations obviously cannot account for the relatively sizeable changes discussed in this work associated with the proton kinetic energy contribution to the enthalpies. In this regard, it is also worth mentioning the recent simulations of Hyeon-Deuk and Ando,⁴¹ who performed a wavepacket dynamics simulation of bulk liquid water using a simple empirical flexible water model. They observed significant correlations between the wavepacket width of the proton with its H-bond coordination number, further confirming that quantization vibrational modes will affect the properties of the H-bond network.

Even larger discrepancies than those described above between the electrostatically interacting monomer model and experimental momentum distributions are found in water in confined spaces. Neutron scattering studies from Kolesnikov and co-workers^{42,43} have shown that water in carbon nanotubes displays a very sizeable (30%) reduction in the zero-point kinetic energy of the protons relative to bulk water, consistent with the anomalously large Debye Waller factors also observed. Measurements of the momentum distribution in water confined in xerogel by Garbuio *et al.*⁴⁴ show, on the other hand, large increases in the kinetic energy of the protons in the water near the surface, also unexplainable with the electrostatically interacting monomer model.

One might ask if further refinement of the electrostatic interaction between the molecules could reduce the discrepancy between the calculations based on this model and the momentum distribution measurements. Quantum chemical topology (QCT) calculations, for instance, Handley *et al.*,⁴⁵ are able to “learn” the polarization response of a central water molecule in a cluster, and by iteration of the method, the moments of the surrounding atoms as well. These could then be used to construct Born-Oppenheimer surfaces for the protons in the same manner as done here. At the moment, these methods are using rigid molecules, which would not be suitable for the calculation of the momentum distribution, as the variation of the interaction energy with respect to the motion of the proton, beyond its possible motions as a component of a rigid molecule, is essential for that purpose. However, one could imagine that restriction being lifted for at least one molecule, without excessive computational cost. These

methods have the virtue that they do not suffer from the polarization catastrophe and, hence, do not require a cutoff in the polarization at short distances. We have chosen that cutoff to give the best agreement with the vibrational spectrum in bulk room temperature water, but it remains an adjustable parameter in the problem. We cannot say whether the QCT moments would be more or less accurate than ours, but we think the difference would be small in any case in the region that the proton is localized in. As we have seen, the softening of the stretch mode due to electrostatic interactions, in both of our calculations, is far too small to compensate for the increase in the rotational and librational stiffness in the denser phases of water. A small percentage change in the moments would not change that result, and the sign of the zero-point contribution to the enthalpy of vaporization would still be incorrect.

We note that the QCT models, and indeed, empirical potentials, such as TTM2-F and its extension TTM4-F, can give quite accurately the spatial structure factors in water^{28,46} but this is not sufficient to get the momentum distribution correctly. The momentum distribution is a direct reflection of the local potential experienced by the proton. A 10% change in the ground state kinetic energy, which is very large on the scale of the measurement uncertainty (less than 1%) amounts to a change in the width the proton wavefunction of only .005 Å. This would make an un-discernible difference in the structure factors, where the scale length of the features is about 1 Å.

Finally, consider the possible reasons why the electrostatic models fail to predict the proton kinetic energy changes in the bulk. Given that the proton momentum distribution is a function of the vibrational potential energy surface, we are led to conclude that the intermolecular perturbation on the proton potential in bulk phases cannot be satisfactorily modeled using classical electrostatics alone. As evidenced by comparison with experiment, there appears to be an additional softening of the proton potential upon H-bond formation, beyond that accounted for by intermolecular electrostatics.

Why do the electrostatic models underestimate the required softening in the OH stretch? The most probable explanation is that these models either completely neglect or at best provide only a crude estimate of intermolecular overlap effects between H-bonded molecules, i.e., in a molecular orbital description of the wavefunction, the orbitals of the donor and acceptor molecules have a non-negligible overlap, resulting in a total wavefunction that cannot be accurately approximated as the product of single-molecule contributions.

Overlap effects can be usefully subdivided into various contributions. First, there is charge-overlap/penetration term. The intermolecular energy of overlapping charge distributions differs from that predicted using traceless multipole-multipole interactions. Charge overlap always makes the interaction energy more positive with respect to the traceless multipole approximation (the difference in both the e-e and e-Z terms are also separately positive).

Second, there is the exchange contribution arising from the Pauli exclusion principal. The intermolecular contribution to the exchange energy is generally positive for an interaction between closed shell molecules.

Lastly, there is electron correlation, which can be defined as the difference between the exact solution to the electronic Hamiltonian with respect to the self-consistent field solution obtained using the Hartree-Fock method. The correlation contribution causes modifications to both the electronic kinetic and potential (V_{e-e} and V_{e-Z}) expectation values, producing an overall reduction in the total energy. The intermolecular contribution is also negative and; therefore, correlation is the only one of the overlap effects expected to reduce the energy. Also, given that all of the overlap effects tend to increase with increasing overlap, the correlation term should result in an overall softening in the stretch PES of protons participating in H-bonds.

The Taylor-series approach as implemented in this work neglects all overlap effects. The multipole-based approach, however, incorporates the aforementioned short-range damping term in the fields in order to prevent over-polarization of the induction sites. Given that the damping functions attenuate the short-range (electrostatic) interactions, it seems plausible that a suitable parameterization of these terms can help to at least partly mimic the effects of overlap on the PES. We should not expect that such a simple modification to the PES can provide anything better than a crude approximation to the actual overlap effects present in the intermolecular interaction. Indeed, we have seen that even when damping functions are included, the multipole model is not accurate enough to give qualitative agreement with the observed kinetic energies.

It may be very difficult to modify existing electrostatic-based models to account for the intermolecular overlap effects on the OH stretch PES in order that, upon quantization of the nuclear coordinates, they be capable of reproducing the observed kinetic energy changes. As things stand, it is doubtful whether any of the existing models are accurate enough to even qualitatively account for the environmentally dependent kinetic energy changes in the vibrational modes. Nevertheless, comparison of results against the experimentally determined proton momentum distributions provides an invaluable benchmark of both empirical models and exchange-correlation functionals, which should help in the effort to create more accurate simulations where water is involved and further reveal the nature of the H-bond.

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