## EXPLORING CRITICAL CONFORMATIONS: STATE SEARCHING AND SAMPLING IN BOTH GERMANIUM CHAINS AND ICE INTERFACES {EARLY DRAFT}

Ву

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Thesis Approved:		
	Thesis Advisor	

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Acknowledgments reflect the views of the author and are not endorsed by committee members or Oklahoma State University.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

To Oklahoma State University, for providing the environment in which I have been able to study, teach, and research.

To the HPCC and the individuals within (get first/last names) for providing a powerful cluster for computations and continuous support for technical issues.

To my advisor, who instructed and assisted me in research

To my parents, by blood and marriage, who have always encouraged me toward higher goals.

To my wife, Miranda, who has supported me for over 5 years.

Acknowledgments reflect the views of the author and are not endorsed by committee members or Oklahoma State University.

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Title of Study: EXPLORING CRITICAL CONFORMATIONS

Major Field: COMPUTATIONAL CHEMISTRY

Abstract: Molecular conformation plays a critical role in the properties of systems in either the condensed or vapor states. The ensemble of conformations dictates structural properties, energies, heat capacities, and other thermodynamic and dynamic quantities. Here, we explore the role of conformation in proton ordering and orientational defect formation in ice as well as strategies for exhaustive conformer searching for molecules using Group IV element backbones. In the ice systems, we show algorithmic strategies for seeking optimized proton disordered crystals that satisfy the Bernal-Fowler ice rules. In the Group IV molecule investigations, we develop an automated strategy for seeking the optimal low energy conformer and uncover previously unreported deficiencies in common computational software used in investigating Germanium complex energies.

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#### NOMENCLATURE

# Variables $\epsilon$ ....... Lennard-Jones Potential well depth r ...... Lennard-Jones Potential distance between center of two particles $\sigma$ ...... Lennard-Jones Potential intermolecular contact distance V ..... Lennard-Jones Potential intermolecular potential Subscripts/Superscripts 0 ...... Initial condition

#### CHAPTER 1

#### Introduction

I want a first paragraph that inspires the reader to continue reading. Maybe something with a quote or a question. Maybe not.

The idea for an introduction is to interest the reader and provide general background information. For my work, the interesting part is how impactful computational science (specifically chemistry) has been in research and on society. The background information will start extremely generic and then go into some overarching themes. Generically, I'll include the development of computational science in the 20th century and the vast applications of computational chemistry specifically. Overarching themes are related, but don't have to be explicitly relevant. For example, Levinthal's paradox is a fun example showing the problem of conformation landscape searches. Also,

#### 1.1 Reason for Study

The studies conducted that comprise this work were determined as a combination of collaborative efforts and larger research group goals with novel discoveries worth reporting. Collectively, they explore conformations of internal bond dihedrals, molecule orientations of microstates, and properties of interfacing substrates. These efforts are categorized and separated into three categories: ice crystal states, conformation landscapes, and ice interfaces. A brief introduction of each and a literature review of relevant information is given below.

#### 1.1.1 Generation of Ice $I_h$ Crystal Structure

Ice crystals can take many forms based on properties like temperature and pressure. The proton-disorganized orthorhombic form of ice known as  $I_h$  is the form of ice most commonly found on earth (general understanding, CITATION NEEDED). Due to the inherent randomness of the disorganization of the molecules within the crystal, computational efforts are limited in scope or instead utilize the proton-ordered orthorhombic form of ice XI (general understanding, CITATION NEEDED). This project explores a method to produce a high quality pseudorandom ice  $I_h$  crystal structure.

#### 1.1.2 Conformation Landscapes of Group IV Chains

Any molecule with a chain length of at least four contains at least one dihedral. In small molecules, the steric hindrance between the head and tail atoms are usually minimized in the fully gauche conformation to produce the lowest-energy conformer. In larger and more bulky molecules, additional interactions may cause the dihedral to take other conformations in search of the lowest-energy conformation. This project details the search for the lowest-energy conformer of a bulky hexagermane molecule in collaboration with Oklahoma State University's Charles Weinert and the complications and curiosities found within.

#### 1.1.3 Ice Interfaces in Two Dimensions

Ice is capable of interfacing with hydrophobic and amphipathic molecules. These interfaces often have a specific range of polarity and **physicochemical** properties like atom type, charge, and the spacing of interfaces. While usually considered in the biochemical sense, molecular interfaces with water have additional applications. If, for example, an interface had the properties to encourage ice growth, then it may be possible to observe significant ice growth above the expected freezing temperature.

Modeling water systems can be computationally intensive and require significant

resources or a limited scope of system. One proven method of simplifying water

modeling is to reduce the system by one dimension, creating a two-dimensional wa-

ter. The 'Mercedez Benz' BN2D model and the more recent rose potential model

are two examples of two-dimensional water models. Exploring and studying a two-

dimensional water system allows for computationally-efficient investigating and can

provide relevant information for a similar simulation with three-dimensional water.

This project covers the usage of the two-dimensional rose potential model to observe

ice growth on a substrate with varying properties.

1.2 Ice Annealing

EACH SUBSECTION: DEFINITION OF TERMS

1.2.1 Bernal - Fowler Ice Rules

Citation! Bernal and Fowler (1933)

There have been many works published on this topic, so I will have no problem

obtaining a cohesive review. I plan to include the various forms of ice and focus on

 $I_h$  and XI. This includes differences between the two in prevalence, environment, and

synthesis (is synthesis the correct term here?).

I expect to focus on many thermodynamic properties and to focus on entropy as

a driving force of difference in the modeled system. I will include publications of

the effort to model a truly proton-disordered system and focus on the computational

aspect.

1.2.2Structures of Ice

Ice contains many structures. These structures are typically orthorhombic, which

means rectangular at non-90 angles. They can also be hexagonal, cubic, else. These

different structures form based on temperature and pressure. Ice  $\mathbf{I}_h$  is the most

prevalent form of ice found normally on earth, forming at pressures around 1 atm

and temperatures around 0C. (source needed?).

More detail on ice  $I_h$ .

More detail on ice XI.

Residual Entropy of Ice  $I_h$  and Ice XI 1.2.3

Residual entropy is a thermodynamic property that greatly differs between ice  $I_h$ 

and XI. In general, entropy can be calculated for a system of N molecules as S =

 $Nk \ln(w)$ , where k is the Boltzmann constant and w is the number of real microstates

corresponding to any macrostate. Residual entropy differs in calculation from entropy

in that it generally refers to the entropy of a crystal near zero kelvin. Linus Pauling

(1935) described the w of very low temperature crystals to approach the number of

orientations possible for each molecule with consideration to immediate neighbors.

Since ice  $I_h$  is a

For a proton-disordered ice  $I_h$  crystal, w becomes  $\frac{x}{2^4}$  where x is the number of

acceptable orientations within the crystal.

1.2.4Hydrogen Bond Defects in Ice Crystals

Speak here about defects and how they quantitatively harm stability and why the

defects need to be reduced in general ice  $I_h$  structures.

Literature Review on Relevant Works 1.2.5

> 1.3 Conformation Landscapes

EACH SUBSECTION: DEFINITION OF TERMS

For ROUGHLY forty years, computational programs have allowed investigators

to model chemical systems with high accuracy to determine their physical properties.

1.3.1 A Brief History of Conformation Landscapes

1.3.1.1 Levinthal's Paradox

Discuss history of Levinthal and his paradox. Provide the non-paradoxical solution.

Next: Levinthal golf courses by Ken Dill.

1.3.2 Computational Modeling

Introduce importance and impact. Bigly important.

1.3.2.1 History of Chemical Modeling

Here I will introduce molecular modeling. This will begin with a brief history of the

development of the field. It will continue through to mention the styles and goals

of molecular modeling. Upon reaching modern techniques, I will discuss the benefits

and costs associated with the major types of calculations (QM, MD, MC, etc).

1.3.2.2 Hardware: Oklahoma State University's Cowboy Cluster

It would also be appropriate to mention the computational capabilities of OSU's

Cowboy cluster.

1.3.2.3 Software

Software to mention:

VisualizingAvogadro, UCSF Chimera(?),

ComputingGAMESS(?), Gaussian, NWChem(?), OOPSE

This also includes brief pros and cons about the programs and the general purpose

of use in case.

#### 1.3.2.4 Programming Languages

Another hugely important portion of this will include a choice in the programming languages used (mostly python (Cython-compiled!), some Perl and Bash).

#### 1.3.3 Literature Review on Relevant Works

#### 1.4 Modeling Germanium Compounds

#### EACH SUBSECTION: DEFINITION OF TERMS

This will be an interesting section as there is extremely little in terms of Ge computational work. Perhaps a broader search will yield interesting results. For sake of thoroughness, I will also include work on computational energy optimization in general and work through complications brought by the size of Ge. I might also include a portion on the statistical spread of conformations at a given temperature (internal energy?) I may include a sentence or paragraph on Gaussian-based publications.

#### 1.4.1 Tools for Modeling Germanium

Computational Requirements and reasons for those requirements.

Germanium is not the most-studied atom in computational works. The majority of Germanium studies are done with Gaussian (citation needed?).

#### 1.4.2 Computational Complexity of Germanium Compounds

Draw-backs of modeling Germanium. Uncommon but still necessary for wetwork.

#### 1.4.3 Literature Review on Relevant Works

Make note of various Germanium modeling research. Make note of tools and methods used.

#### 1.5 Two-Dimensional Water

#### EACH SUBSECTION: DEFINITION OF TERMS

Rose water is fairly new on the computational scene and so I may also include a review on the Mercedez-Benz water system as well as any other attempts to model water in two dimensions. For the rose potential system, I will review the Lennard-Jones potential as well as any other equations/systems related to the rose potential.

#### 1.5.1 Lennard-Jones Potential

The Lennard-Jones Potential well is a soft-sphere model of interaction between two spheres described with

$$V_{LJ} = 4\epsilon \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^{6} \right]$$
 (1.1)

where V is the potential, r is the distance between the center of two particles,  $\sigma$  is the specific distance between the two particles where the potential is zero, and  $-\epsilon$  is the minimum potential of the plot. **REFINE WORDING:** The plot is defined in  $[0,\infty)$ . As two particles approach from infinity, their interaction become negative - which is an attractive force - and will approach the global minimum of  $-\epsilon$ . The r of this interaction is slightly larger than the combined radii of the two particles - which means they aren't quite touching - and is the equilibrium distance between the two particles. As r decreases beyond the minimum and toward  $\sigma$ , the interaction strength increases and reaches zero as  $r = \sigma$ . At  $r < \sigma$ ,

Potential digression: In a "hard-sphere" model, a particle's radius is firm, which is to say that the interaction potential is infinite at r less than  $\sigma$ . Basically a vertical line between two discrete values (usually  $\epsilon$  and  $\infty$ ) as the potential shifts from  $r \geq \sigma$  to  $r < \sigma$  (maybe include image?). The Lennard-Jones potential is a "soft-sphere" model, which blurs the line and replaces the vertical line with a functional representation.

This breaks with reality as the particles become "squishy" and the potential ramps up toward infinity as r decreases. The benefit to the soft-sphere model is that modeling programs can more-easily account for overlaps in particles during time steps than with hard-sphere models. For example, a hard-sphere model of two particles interacting will likely not have a position where  $r = \sigma$  and will potentially overlap. At this overlap, the potential is infinity and will introduce a nearly infinite force at that instant of time. Computer systems do not like having infinitely large repulsions suddenly introduced into a simulation.

#### 1.5.2 Modeling Water in Two Dimensions

Modeling in two dimensions sacrifice the "realism" of models in three dimensions, but reduce the computational load significantly. This allows researchers (scientists, chemists, digital magicians?) to test more simple designs in two dimensions as well as a higher volume of simulations at the same time/computational cost.

#### 1.5.2.1 Mercedes-Benz Model

The "Mercedes-Benz" BN2D model of water first proposed by Ben-Naim (1971) as "waterlike particles" are a popular two-dimensional representation of water. ROUGH: details of shape of MB water

The mathematical model used in the BN2D model is generated from the Percus-Yevick equation by substituting the approximation

$$c(X_1, X_2) = y(X_1, X_2)f(X_1, X_2)$$
(1.2)

into the Percus-Yevick equation obtained from the Ornstein-Zernike relation

$$h(X_1, X_2) = c(X_1, X_2) + \frac{\rho}{2\pi} \int c(X_1, X_3) h(X_3, X_2) dX_3$$
 (1.3)

to produce the overall relation

 $y(X_1, X_2) = 1 + \frac{\rho}{2\pi} \int y(X_1, X_3) f(X_1, X_3) \times \left[ y(X_3, X_2) f(X_3, X_2) + y(X_3, X_2) - 1 \right] dX_3$ 

(1.4)

1.5.2.2Rose Potential Model

The rose potential is another model first introduced by Williamson et al. (2017). This

model, while similar to the three-pronged BN2D, is notably different in that the rose

potential model simplifies the model by use of a radial sinusoidal plot to make the

three "prongs" of the particle.

1.5.2.3Two-Dimensional Modeling

Something other than OOPSE? (not seeing obvious answer other than "custom code

modified/forked from existing 3D tools")

The Object Oriented Parallel Simulation Engine (OOPSE) was introduced by A.

et al. (n.d.) as a relatively light-weight molecular dynamics simulation package fo-

cused on "efficiently integrating equations of motion for atom types with orientational

degrees of freedom" (from abstract). While OOPSE was further developed and re-

named OpenMD, a fork of OOPSE was developed specifically to model water in two

dimensions.

1.5.3 Literature Review on Relevant Works

TODO: Work with MB water,

CHAPTER 2

On Algorithms for Building and Sampling Disordered Crystal States

TODO: FIX ICE IH -  $I_h$  As discussed in the introduction, ice  $I_h$  modeling comes with

computational challenges. The problem of generating a random proton-disordered

crystal with only ordered pseudorandom tools presents as a technical impossibility.

However, through the usage of averages and distributions, it is possible to generate

a pseudorandom proton-disordered crystal that behaves similar to a truly random

proton-disordered crystal.

2.1Ice Annealing

EACH SUBSECTION: DEFINITION OF TERMS

Bernal - Fowler Ice Rules 2.1.1

Citation! Bernal and Fowler (1933)

There have been many works published on this topic, so I will have no problem

obtaining a cohesive review. I plan to include the various forms of ice and focus on

 $I_h$  and XI. This includes differences between the two in prevalence, environment, and

synthesis (is synthesis the correct term here?).

I expect to focus on many thermodynamic properties and to focus on entropy as

a driving force of difference in the modeled system. I will include publications of

the effort to model a truly proton-disordered system and focus on the computational

aspect.

#### 2.1.2 Structures of Ice

Ice contains many structures. These structures are typically orthorhombic, which means rectangular at non-90 angles. They can also be hexagonal, cubic, else. These different structures form based on temperature and pressure. Ice  $I_h$  is the most prevalent form of ice found normally on earth, forming at pressures around 1 atm and temperatures around 0C. (source needed?).

More detail on ice  $I_h$ .

More detail on ice XI.

#### 2.1.3 Residual Entropy of Ice $I_h$ and Ice XI

Residual entropy is a thermodynamic property that greatly differs between ice  $I_h$  and XI. In general, entropy can be calculated for a system of N molecules as  $S = Nk \ln(w)$ , where k is the Boltzmann constant and w is the number of real microstates corresponding to any macrostate. Residual entropy differs in calculation from entropy in that it generally refers to the entropy of a crystal near zero kelvin. Linus Pauling (1935) described the w of very low temperature crystals to approach the number of orientations possible for each molecule with consideration to immediate neighbors. Since ice  $I_h$  is a

For a proton-disordered ice  $I_h$  crystal, w becomes  $\frac{x}{2^4}$  where x is the number of acceptable orientations within the crystal.

#### 2.1.4 Hydrogen Bond Defects in Ice Crystals

Speak here about defects and how they quantitatively harm stability and why the defects need to be reduced in general ice  $I_h$  structures.

#### 2.1.5 Literature Review on Relevant Works

words????

#### 2.2 Framing the Problem

While ice  $I_h$  is known as the most common form of ice found on the planet, it is much more difficult to generate than an ice XI lattice. The ease of generation of an ice XI structure stems from the repetition of a unit cell with consistent layering and orientation throughout the crystal lattice. All protons and lone pairs are ordered in a consistent manner that produce proper hydrogen bonds. As such, lattice defects do not naturally arise in the computational structure without running a simulation with sufficient energy to perturb the system.

With ice  $I_h$  crystals, the proton-disordered form introduces entropy by way of rotational disorder. As the protons and lone pairs are no longer consistently ordered, hydrogen bonds may no longer form properly at all interaction sites. The interaction of proton with proton or lone pair with lone pair are not hydrogen bonds and are considered defects in the lattice. An ice structure of randomly oriented molecules without consideration of hydrogen bonds will likely produce defects at many interaction sites across the lattice and weaken the integrity of the system, leading to stability problems while running simulations. In generating the crystal, the cause of these defects must be considered and countered effectively.

#### 2.3 Method of Generating an Ice $I_h$ Crystal

This approach to generating an ice  $I_h$  structure involves beginning with a protonordered ice XI structure, randomly rotating all water molecules, and then recursively perturbing high-defect regions to reduce the number of overall defects. As detailed later, defect thresholds can be adjusted to fit the desired system.

#### 2.3.1 Generation of an ice XI crystal

TODO This details Dr. Fennells method of making an ice XI crystal.

#### 2.3.2 Algorithm to rotate water molecules (TODO Code inside?)

Once the ice XI PDB file has been generated, the next goal is to introduce disorder into the lattice by rotating each water molecule. Using the Euler-Rodrigues formula for rotating a three-dimensional point about a vector (detailed below), the water molecule is rotated about the center oxygen atom along the vector of one proton to determine the four spatial potential locations for the two protons. These locations are stored in a water object variable for later potential use. Using a pseudo-random number generator, two of the four location potentials are selected and the PDB file is modified so that the protons occupy those locations. The lone pairs are then implied to occupy the two remaining spaces. As PDB files do not specify lone pair location, no action is taken to specify this. Considering each hydrogen bond location individually, the six possible molecule orientations will yield three orientations each of a protonoccupied or lone pair-occupied location. Assuming the rotation is close-enough to random, the probability of occupation by either type is  $\frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$ .

While considering each molecule as a whole, (12 distinguishable, 6 indistinguishable)

Because there are six potential orientations of the indistinguishable protons in the four locations each containing three proton-facing and three lone pair-facing orientations, the molecule stands a  $\frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$  chance of occupying the same orientation after the rotation. After each molecule is randomly rotated, the molecule likely contains defects at half of all junctions due to the  $\frac{1}{2}$  chance of any one junction containing either a proton - proton or lone pair - lone pair interaction. These defects introduce instability in the lattice and need to be reduced.

#### 2.3.2.1 The Euler-Rodrigues Formula

The Euler-Rodrigues Formula is a method of rotating a three-dimensional object in space by use of four-dimensional quaternions. Specifically, it has been used for object rotation in video games for years due to its computational efficiency and analytic accuracy.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euler

#### 2.3.2.2 Center of Rotation for Water Molecules

During the rotation, the center of rotation was set to be the center of the oxygen atom. The center of mass of the water molecule is toward the two hydrogens (calculate?). The crystal structure isnt COM-based. Its based on the hydrogen bonds and those line up as an extention from the center of each oxygen atom through each hydrogen atom toward a neighboring oxygen atom. Because of that connection, the rotation formula uses the center of the oxygen atom as the basis for molecule rotation.

#### 2.3.3 Determining Crystal Defects

Crystal defects are determined by distance between central oxygen and neighboring oxygen atoms between two water molecules. Specifically, the squared distance is calculated to remain computationally efficient. This value contains all the pertinent distance information, but squared to prevent the hardware from computing a large number of relatively costly square root calculations. If an oxygen atom contains a hydrogen atom in the direction of the neighboring hydrogen atom (or lone pair to lone pair), then a defect is recognized and counted. The method utilized to count this is to compare the squared distance between two oxygen atoms with the squared distances between each oxygen atom and neighboring proton of every two neighboring water molecules. The neighboring water molecules are determined by calculating the squared distance between oxygen atoms and storing the four closest values.

NEED TO ACTUALLY DO: Recognize edges by wrapping crystal in periodic boundary conditions, recognize neighbor (HOW DO?).

Due to the 50% likelihood of a defect existing at an interface, the average defect

count for all internal water molecules will be near 2. This can easily be confirmed by iterating through all internal water molecules, counting the defective interfaces, and dividing the value by 2 times the number of internal molecules.

$$Defects_{Average,Internal} = \frac{Defects_{Internal}}{2 * N_{InternalMolecules}}$$
(2.1)

The method allows for a variable average number of defects to be considered and input as a value by the user. Future work may also include a maximum number of defects per molecule.

#### 2.3.4 Removing Defects from the Lattice

This is ongoing, but basically it randomly rotates to reduce the number of defects. If impossible, then just move on. Also mention the criteria of deciding the number of defects allowed as well as the average defect count (per molecule, not bond pairs). Not yet perfect!!!

If the calculated average number of defects is greater than the specified maximum, then actions need to be taken to remove defects without sacrificing the disordered nature of the molecule. The method repeats the random rotation mentioned earlier for every molecule and redetermines the defect count for each molecule. After each molecule is rotated the new defect count is determined. If the defect value is reduced, the rotation is kept. If it is equal to or increases the defect prior to the rotation, then the rotation is discarded. Once the system has completed iterating through the lattice, the average defect count is redetermined. If it remains above the threshold, then the process outlined above is repeated until the criteria is met.

#### 2.4 Results of Approach

Initial results show a successful rotation of water molecules in the lattice to disorder the protons and successfully reclassify the system as ice  $I_h$ . An example ice XI lattice

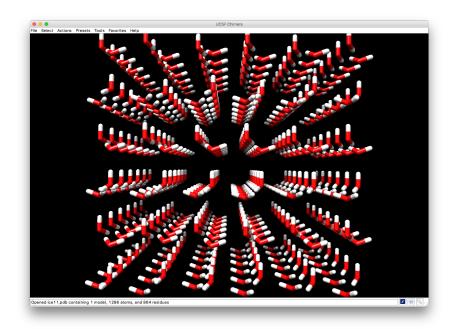


Figure 2.1: Ice XI Lattice Before Rotation

of 432 water molecules converted to an ice Ih lattice is shown in figures 2.1 and 2.2.

#### 2.4.1 Difficulties of Method / Known Issues

Upon closer inspection of figure 2.2, there appears to be fragments of order within layers. Curiously, multiple regions of repetitive ordered fragments are in different orientations from the original structure. Due to the nature of the pseudo-random orientation and the defect removal, molecules rotated to the original orientation may encourage neighboring high-defect molecules to rotate back to their original rotation or to a new pseudo-ordered orientation for multiple layers in localized fragments. Additional study is necessary to confirm this. Some inherent order may be retained by the method and might become a focus of future work. With the caveat of some retained order, the method successfully and consistently rotates the provided structure in a pseudo-random fashion.

A known issue exists where the user-specified average-defect value can cause an infinite loop where the method approaches, but does not achieve, the desired average defect count.

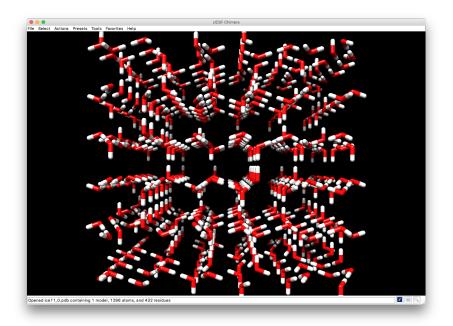


Figure 2.2: Ice  $I_h$  Lattice After Rotation

#### 2.4.2 Suggested Improvements for Future Work

Future work on this method can improve the code base of the method as well as utilize thermodynamic values such as entropy and chemical potential to better generate a proton-disordered lattice. The calculation of entropy in regions within the lattice may specifically help reduce the proton-ordered fragments.

#### CHAPTER 3

#### Sampling Conformation Landscapes by Rotatable Bond Degrees of Freedom

#### 3.1 Conformation Landscapes

#### EACH SUBSECTION: DEFINITION OF TERMS

For ROUGHLY forty years, computational programs have allowed investigators to model chemical systems with high accuracy to determine their physical properties.

#### 3.1.1 A Brief History of Conformation Landscapes

#### 3.1.1.1 Levinthal's Paradox

Discuss history of Levinthal and his paradox. Provide the non-paradoxical solution.

Next: Levinthal golf courses by Ken Dill.

#### 3.1.2 Computational Modeling

Introduce importance and impact. Bigly important.

#### 3.1.2.1 History of Chemical Modeling

Here I will introduce molecular modeling. This will begin with a brief history of the development of the field. It will continue through to mention the styles and goals of molecular modeling. Upon reaching modern techniques, I will discuss the benefits and costs associated with the major types of calculations (QM, MD, MC, etc).

#### 3.1.2.2 Hardware: Oklahoma State University's Cowboy Cluster

It would also be appropriate to mention the computational capabilities of OSU's Cowboy cluster.

#### **3.1.2.3** Software

Software to mention:

VisualizingAvogadro, UCSF Chimera(?),

ComputingGAMESS(?), Gaussian, NWChem(?), OOPSE

This also includes brief pros and cons about the programs and the general purpose of use in case.

#### 3.1.2.4 Programming Languages

Another hugely important portion of this will include a choice in the programming languages used (mostly python (Cython-compiled!), some Perl and Bash).

#### 3.1.3 Literature Review on Relevant Works

intro: Reference introduction: inherent complexity of "objective" or "exhaustive" search, levinthal's paradox as it applies to non-biological systems, ELSE?

#### 3.2 Approach to Solution: Variable-Resolution Search

Run through a set of dihedral positions at a constant interval. Selection of lowest-energy optimization organized on dihedral values. Quick determination of importance of dihedral based on how heavily it impacts internal energy. Splitting "best" dihedral into smaller interval to repeat the process.

This method produces an interesting visual plot with varying resolution at different X values (if plotting energy vs. dihedral). Example given on 3.1.



Figure 3.1: example VR chart (exploding like molecule/cell/fiber/muscle)



Figure 3.2: Flow of method design for variable resolution conformation landscape search.

#### 3.2.1 Design of System

System designed in Python for ease of development and compiled via Cython for computational efficiency. Utilizes Gaussian and UCSF Chimera, but can be redesigned for any computational programs that accomplish the desired tasks. Overview of system flow given in 3.2.

This design, with implementation being a current work in progress, but should<sup>TM</sup> work as a cascade toward the lowest energy conformation in each case.

### 3.2.1.1 Variation of Theory and Basis Set Usage by System Size and largest atom type

System will have inherent restrictions. Give an example of large system with simple atoms, small system with complex atoms. System estimates quantity and cost of calculations based on computational limits defined by user for various theory-basis set pairings. System optimizes calculations for the scale of run (is it the first broad-scope search, or a final near-exact search).

Good to have: data on how theory and basis set alter computational requirement.

Available in literature? Create data from runs?

#### 3.2.1.2 Computational Optimization by Varying Resolution

Extant work not optimized for a general search (negative claim: make sure literature has nothing). Design should work with additional development (primary focus this semester) as a general search tool.

#### 3.2.2 Inherent Complications

Complications of size and atom type, impossible conformations, duplications, limited computational resources, GERMANIUM.

#### 3.3 Results

Current success: finding accepted lowest energy conformer of a two-dihedral system by manually cranking each step. Self-running is still a work in progress.

#### 3.3.1 Problems

Difficulty in defining an abstract system based on arbitrary hardware limitations. Propose a test-run to determine efficiency and resource availability.

#### 3.3.2 Anticipated Approaches for Future Work

Putting system into a single cohesive program. Further optimizing Theory/Basis Set determination by computational efficiency as well as system size ( determine an upper-limit of computation?)

#### CHAPTER 4

#### Germanium Compounds and QM Concerns

#### 4.1 Modeling Germanium Compounds

#### EACH SUBSECTION: DEFINITION OF TERMS

This will be an interesting section as there is extremely little in terms of Ge computational work. Perhaps a broader search will yield interesting results. For sake of thoroughness, I will also include work on computational energy optimization in general and work through complications brought by the size of Ge. I might also include a portion on the statistical spread of conformations at a given temperature (internal energy?) I may include a sentence or paragraph on Gaussian-based publications.

#### 4.1.1 Tools for Modeling Germanium

Computational Requirements and reasons for those requirements.

Germanium is not the most-studied atom in computational works. The majority of Germanium studies are done with Gaussian (citation needed?).

#### 4.1.2 Computational Complexity of Germanium Compounds

Draw-backs of modeling Germanium. Uncommon but still necessary for wetwork.

#### 4.1.3 Literature Review on Relevant Works

Make note of various Germanium modeling research. Make note of tools and methods used.

Table 4.1: Collaborator's Hexagermane Energies by Conformation (Density Function Theory, Unknown Basis Set)

Conformation	Energy $(E_h)$	$\Delta$ Energy $(E_h)$	$\Delta \text{ Energy } (\frac{Kj}{mol})$
Trans-coplanar	-15014.8403143	0.0066255	17.39525025
Cis-Trans-Cis	-15014.7983311	0.0486087	127.6221418
Trans-Cis-Trans	-15014.8469398	0.0000000	0
Cis-Trans-Trans	-15014.8246918	0.0222480	58.412124

In the fall of 2016, the Fennell Group was contacted by Dr. Scott Weinert to study a germanium-based compound comprised of a backbone hexagermane chain, two phenyl rings off the internal atoms, and isopropyl groups on the terminal germanium atoms (hereafter referred to as "hexagermane"). Dr. Weinert's lab had received curious results from a prior collaborator and sought confirmation by a second computational group.

#### 4.2 Current Methods

Reiterate the scarcity of extant Germanium studies. Probably definitely reference Dr. Weinert's work.

#### 4.2.1 Precursory Work

Dr. Weinert's lab had received curious results from a prior collaborator and sought confirmation by a second group.

From the information provided in 4.1, the energy from Density Functional Theory calculations suggest that the most energetically-favorable conformation of hexagermane be the trans-cis-trans form.

### 4.3 Modeling Germanium molecules in Gaussian

This is the meat of the chapter - the Gaussian problem.

### 4.3.1 Recognition of Problem

Include Dr. Fennell's image. Relate to strangeness of collaborator's data. FRAME PROBLEM WITH THEORY AND BASIS SET

### 4.3.2 Confirmation of Germanium consistency from other systems

A minor note of confirmation of Gaussian problem from consistent results from other programs with same theory and basis set.

### 4.3.3 Correcting the Issue

Use basis set from Basis Set Exchange, detail selection and usage in input settings.

#### CHAPTER 5

### Crystal and Liquid 2D Water at Interfaces

#### 5.1 Two-Dimensional Water

#### EACH SUBSECTION: DEFINITION OF TERMS

Rose water is fairly new on the computational scene and so I may also include a review on the Mercedez-Benz water system as well as any other attempts to model water in two dimensions. For the rose potential system, I will review the Lennard-Jones potential as well as any other equations/systems related to the rose potential.

#### 5.1.1 Lennard-Jones Potential

The Lennard-Jones Potential well is a soft-sphere model of interaction between two spheres described with

$$V_{LJ} = 4\epsilon \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^{6} \right]$$
 (5.1)

where V is the potential, r is the distance between the center of two particles,  $\sigma$  is the specific distance between the two particles where the potential is zero, and  $-\epsilon$  is the minimum potential of the plot. **REFINE WORDING:** The plot is defined in  $[0, \infty)$ . As two particles approach from infinity, their interaction become negative - which is an attractive force - and will approach the global minimum of  $-\epsilon$ . The r of this interaction is slightly larger than the combined radii of the two particles - which means they aren't quite touching - and is the equilibrium distance between the two particles. As r decreases beyond the minimum and toward  $\sigma$ , the interaction strength

increases and reaches zero as  $r = \sigma$ . At  $r < \sigma$ ,

Potential digression: In a "hard-sphere" model, a particle's radius is firm, which is to say that the interaction potential is infinite at r less than  $\sigma$ . Basically a vertical line between two discrete values (usually  $\epsilon$  and  $\infty$ ) as the potential shifts from  $r \geq \sigma$  to  $r < \sigma$  (maybe include image?). The Lennard-Jones potential is a "soft-sphere" model, which blurs the line and replaces the vertical line with a functional representation. This breaks with reality as the particles become "squishy" and the potential ramps up toward infinity as r decreases. The benefit to the soft-sphere model is that modeling programs can more-easily account for overlaps in particles during time steps than with hard-sphere models. For example, a hard-sphere model of two particles interacting will likely not have a position where  $r = \sigma$  and will potentially overlap. At this overlap, the potential is infinity and will introduce a nearly infinite force at that instant of time. Computer systems do not like having infinitely large repulsions suddenly introduced into a simulation.

#### 5.1.2 Modeling Water in Two Dimensions

Modeling in two dimensions sacrifice the "realism" of models in three dimensions, but reduce the computational load significantly. This allows researchers (scientists, chemists, digital magicians?) to test more simple designs in two dimensions as well as a higher volume of simulations at the same time/computational cost.

#### 5.1.2.1 Mercedes-Benz Model

The "Mercedes-Benz" BN2D model of water first proposed by Ben-Naim (1971) as "waterlike particles" are a popular two-dimensional representation of water. ROUGH: details of shape of MB water

The mathematical model used in the BN2D model is generated from the Percus-Yevick equation by substituting the approximation

$$c(X_1, X_2) = y(X_1, X_2) f(X_1, X_2)$$
(5.2)

into the Percus-Yevick equation obtained from the Ornstein-Zernike relation

$$h(X_1, X_2) = c(X_1, X_2) + \frac{\rho}{2\pi} \int c(X_1, X_3) h(X_3, X_2) dX_3$$
 (5.3)

to produce the overall relation

$$y(X_1, X_2) = 1 + \frac{\rho}{2\pi} \int y(X_1, X_3) f(X_1, X_3) \times \left[ y(X_3, X_2) f(X_3, X_2) + y(X_3, X_2) - 1 \right] dX_3$$
(5.4)

#### 5.1.2.2 Rose Potential Model

The rose potential is another model first introduced by Williamson et al. (2017). This model, while similar to the three-pronged BN2D, is notably different in that the rose potential model simplifies the model by use of a radial sinusoidal plot to make the three "prongs" of the particle.

### 5.1.2.3 Two-Dimensional Modeling

Something other than OOPSE? (not seeing obvious answer other than "custom code modified/forked from existing 3D tools")

The Object Oriented Parallel Simulation Engine (OOPSE) was introduced by A. et al. (n.d.) as a relatively light-weight molecular dynamics simulation package focused on "efficiently integrating equations of motion for atom types with orientational degrees of freedom" (from abstract). While OOPSE was further developed and renamed OpenMD, a fork of OOPSE was developed specifically to model water in two dimensions.

#### 5.1.3 Literature Review on Relevant Works

intro: Paragraph refreshing current work. Emphasize computational efficiency of Rose-Potential over Mercedez-Benz model.

### 5.2 Goal of Project

The objective of this work was to model two-dimensional water with a surface designed to discourage crystal growth at freezing temperatures. The design of the surface was the primary focus. Successfully designing a surface capable of discouraging water ice formation at freezing temperatures would provide valuable information in designing a three-dimensional model of the same type at a reduced computational cost.

Idea: adjust freezing point depression to be freezing point modification.

#### 5.3 Tools and Terms

Either a refresh from intro or a detailed explanation of OOPSE and the reduced terms.

#### 5.3.1 OOPSE in 2D

Detail differences in computation system that Dr. Fennell developed to allow 2D MD(?) on a 3D program.

### 5.3.2 Reduced Terms: 2D analogues

Detail differences in dimensionality and define the reduced dimensions. Still working on the understanding/equations.

### 5.4 Designing System

Include: ensemble, thermodynamic variables, box attributes (size, pressure, temp, etc), number of waters, surface (size, spacing between beads of surface, charges, LJ values, etc)

# 5.4.1 Defining the Surface

Explain how to develop the surface in the program and how to build a custom surface (walk through surface builder here)

### 5.4.1.1 Manipulation of LJ Potential

Manipulate  $\sigma$  and  $\epsilon$  values to effectively adjust the radius and interaction strength of surface beads.

### 5.4.1.2 Manipulation of bead spacing

Detail design of optimizing bead spacing for freezing encouragement or disruption.

#### 5.5 Results

Success of freezing point elevation, pending results for freezing point depression

#### 5.5.1 Future Work

Continued efforts to disrupt crystal growth on the surface.

# CHAPTER 6

# Conclusion

# 6.1 Ice $I_h$ Generation

6.1.3 Flaws/Improvements										
6.1.4 Practical Implications										
Easier to generate crystals for modeling research										
6.2 Conformation Landscapes										
Review:										
6.2.1 Purpose										
6.2.2 Results										
6.2.3 Flaws/Improvements										

Practical Implications

Collected Program for general use

Review:

6.1.1

6.1.2

Purpose

Results

# 6.3 Modeling Germanium Compounds

Review:

6.3.1 Purpose

6.3.2 Results

6.3.3 F	${ m laws/Improvements}$								
6.3.4 P	ractical Implications								
Discovered mistake to be fixed									
	6.4 Two-Dimensional Water								
Review:									
6.4.1 P	urpose								
6.4.2 R	esults								
6.4.3 F	${ m laws/Improvements}$								
6.4.4 P	ractical Implications								
super-dup	er anti-freeze? also freezing point elevation.								
	6.5 Super Duper Final Conclusion								

#### References

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#### APPENDIX A

### Ice Ih to Ice XI Conversion

Listed below is the source code utilized in the conversion of a PDB Ice Ih structure into an Ice XI structure.

### A.1 Code: PDBDisorganize.py

```
2 #!/usr/bin/python
4 # Author = Gentry Smith
5 # Copyright 2016, all rights reserved
7 # this reads in a .PDB file, takes an argument for deformities per
     molecules, and randomly organizes the crystal
8 # structure into a disordered proton formation
9
# import sample: python PDBDisorganize.py arg1 arg2 arg3
11 # where:
12 # arg1 = source pdb file to be read (ex: acetone.pdb or acetone)
13 # arg2 = number of defects per molecule (in H20, num of non-hydrogen-
     bonds. from 0 to 4)
14 # arg3 = desired output pdb file name
15
16 import sys
17 print sys. path
18 import string
19 import numpy as np
20 import math
21 import random
23 sys.setrecursionlimit (10000000) # maximum recursive depth. Set to
     (10,000,000) as under maximum
24
pdbIN = file (sys.argv[1])
                                 # source PDB file
\max \text{Err} = \inf(\text{sys.argv}[2])
                                # max errors allowed
pdbOUT = str(sys.argv[3])
                                # output file name
finalData = [[0 \text{ for i in } range(3)] \text{ for j in } range(3)] for k in
     range (300)
31 # looks at args validity
def checkArgs(arg1, arg2, arg3):
      returnBool = False
if type(arg1) != file: # check arg1
```

```
print"Bad arg", arg1, " must be a file "
35
           returnBool = True
36
      if type(arg3) != str: # check arg3
37
           print"Bad arg", arg3, ", must be a file name"
38
           checkPDBSuffix (arg3)
39
           print arg3
40
           returnBool = True
41
      if type(arg2) != int: # check arg2 type
42
           print "Bad arg2: ", arg2, " is not an int."
43
           returnBool = True
       elif type (arg2) = int:
45
           if arg2 < 0 or arg2 > 4: # check arg2 range
46
               print "arg2 is not in a valid range 0 <= arg2 <= 4"
47
               returnBool = True
48
      return returnBool
49
  def checkPDBSuffix(pdbFile):
       if string.find(pdbFile, '.pdb', 0, len(pdbFile)) == -1:
           print("did not find 'pdb' in ", pdbFile, ". Appending...")
53
54
           pdbFile += '.pdb'
56
57
58 # reads in file,
  def readFile (fileName):
      print "Reading file ..."
60
      # gets number of atoms
61
      atoms = 0
62
      for line in fileName:
           data = line.split()
64
           if len(data) > 0:
65
               if data[0] != "CONECT" and data[0] != "END":
66
                   atoms += 1
      # print "atoms: ", atoms
68
      numMol = atoms / 3 # assumes 3-atom water molecule
      dataTable = [ [ 0 \text{ for i in } range(3) ] \text{ for j in } range(3) ] \text{ for k in}
70
       range (numMol)
      fileName.seek(0)
71
      iter0 = 0
72
      iter1 = 0
73
      pdbType = -1
74
      for line in fileName:
75
           data = line.split()
76
           if pdbType == -1:
               if data[0] = "ATOM":
78
                   pdbType = 0
79
               elif data[0] = "HETATM":
80
                   pdbType = 1
          # print "LineTuple= ", data
82
           if len(data) > 1 and (data[0] = "ATOM" or data[0] = "HETATM"
     ):
84
               if data[0] = "ATOM":
                   newData = getDataATOM(data)
85
                   for i in range (3):
86
```

```
#data [molecule] [atom] [X/Y/Z]
87
                        dataTable[iter0][iter1 % 3][i] = newData[i]
88
                elif data[0] = "HETATM":
                    dataTable[iter0][iter1 % 3] = getDataHETATM(data)
90
                if iter1 == 2:
91
                    iter0 += 1
                    iter1 = 0
                elif iter1 != 2:
94
                    iter1 += 1
95
       # print "DataTable: ", dataTable
       print "File read"
97
       return dataTable, pdbType
aa
       # Split by index
       # if having a problem with reading data, check .pdb to see if data
      has a space between each value
104 # reads XYZ coordinate data from ATOM-type pdb
   def getDataATOM(strLine):
       # print "Getting ATOM Data..."
106
       dataLine = strLine [5:8]
107
       # print "dataline: ", dataLine
108
       i = 0
109
       while i < 3:
           # print "dataline[", i, "]: ", dataLine[i]
           dataLine[i] = float (dataLine[i])
           # print "dataline[", i, "] type: ", type(dataLine[i])
113
           i += 1
       return dataLine
  # reads XYZ coordinate data from HETATM-type pdb
   def getDataHETATM(strLine):
119
       # print "Getting HETATM Data..."
       dataLine = strLine [5:8]
       # print "dataline: ", dataLine
       i = 0
123
       while i < 3:
124
           # print "dataline[", i, "]: ", dataLine[i]
           dataLine[i] = float (dataLine[i])
           # print "dataline[", i, "] type: ", type(dataLine[i])
           i += 1
128
       return dataLine
130
132 # gets all four position vectors of hydrogen/lone pair as offset of
      oxygen molecule
   def getOrientations ( molecule ):
133
       \# 120 degrees = ( 2 * pi ) / 3 radians
       theta = ( (2 * math.pi) / 3 )
       newMol = zeroOrientation (molecule)
       returnInt1 = rotateMolecule(newMol[1], newMol[2], theta)
137
       returnInt2 = rotateMolecule(newMol[1], newMol[2], (-1 * theta))
138
```

```
return [returnInt1, returnInt2]
140
141
142 # randomly selects new orientation, returns two unique ints, from 0 to 3
       inclusively
   def newRandOrientation( positions ):
       # print "Changing orientation"
144
       randVal1 = random.randint(0,3)
145
       randVal2 = random.randint(0,3)
146
       while randVal1 = randVal2:
           randVal2 = random.randint(0,3)
148
       newMol = [ [0, 0, 0],
                    positions [ randVal1
                    positions [ randVal2
       return newMol
153
154 # selects new orientation from list. Reduces computational overhead in
      re-orientation option traversal
   def newSetOrientation( positions, pos1, pos2 ):
156
       newMol = [ [0, 0, 0],
                   positions [ pos1 ],
157
                   positions [pos2]
158
       return newMol
159
160
161
  # sets molecule coordinates so that oxygen is the origin
162
   def zeroOrientation(source):
      # print "Zeroing Molecule..."
164
       oxy = source[0]
166
       hyd1 = source[1]
167
       hyd2 = source[2]
168
       # print "Oxygen pos: ", oxy
170
       # print "Hydrogen 1: ", hyd1
       # print "Hydrogen 2: ", hyd2
173
       zeroedOrigin = [0, 0, 0]
174
       zeroedHyd1 = [0, 0, 0]
175
       zeroedHyd2 = [0, 0, 0]
       for i in range (3):
177
           zeroedHyd1[i] = hyd1[i] - oxy[i]
178
           zeroedHyd2[i] = hyd2[i] - oxy[i]
179
       # print "Zeroed Hydrogen 1: ", zeroedHyd1
181
       # print "Zeroed Hydrogen 2: ", zeroedHyd2
182
183
       # return new molecule position
       newMol = [zeroedOrigin, zeroedHyd1, zeroedHyd2]
185
       return newMol
186
187
188 # resets the zeroed molecule to the original oxygen position
def resetOrientation(oxygenPos, molecule):
  # print "Resetting molecule..."
```

```
rO = oxygenPos
       rH1 = [0, 0, 0]
192
       rH2 = [0, 0, 0]
193
       newMol = []
194
       for i in range (3):
195
            rH1[i] = molecule[1][i] + rO[i]
196
            rH2[i] = molecule[2][i] + rO[i]
            newMol = [rO, rH1, rH2]
198
       # print "Rebuilt Molecule: ", newMol
199
       return newMol
200
201
     rotates vector about axis for theta degrees
  # Handler for rotationMatrix function below
   def rotateMolecule(vector, axis, theta):
       rotMatx = rotationMatrix(axis, theta)
205
       return np.dot(rotMatx, vector)
206
207
209 # Creates Rotation matrix for a given axis and theta
210 # from stackoverflow user unutbu
211 # page: http://stackoverflow.com/questions/6802577/python-rotation-of-3d
   def rotationMatrix(axis, theta):
212
213
214
       :type axis: list
       :type theta: union
216
217
       axis = np. asarray(axis)
       theta = np.asarray(theta)
219
       axis /= math.sqrt(np.dot(axis, axis))
       a = math.cos(theta/2.0)
       b, c, d = -axis*math.sin(theta/2.0)
       aa, bb, cc, dd = (a * a), (b * b), (c * c), (d * d)
223
       bc, ad, ac, ab, bd, cd = (b * c), (a * d), (a * c), (a * b), (b * d)
       (c * d)
       return np.array( [ (aa + bb - cc - dd), (2 * (bc + ad)), (2 *
225
        ( bd - ac ) ) ],
                             [(2 * (bc - ad)), (aa + cc - bb - dd), (2 *
226
        (cd + ab)),
                             [ \ (\ 2\ *\ (\ \mathrm{bd}\ +\ \mathrm{ac}\ )\ )\ ,\ (\ 2\ *\ (\ \mathrm{cd}\ -\ \mathrm{ab}\ )\ )\ ,\ (\mathrm{aa}\ +
227
        dd - bb - cc)
228
229
     gets results from rotateAboutAxis plus two Hydrogens to get the
230 #
       tetrahedron positions
   def getTetrahedronPositions (molecule):
       positions = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \text{for i in range}(3) \end{bmatrix} for j & \text{in range}(4) \end{bmatrix}
       newMol = zeroOrientation(molecule) # zero molecule
       positions[0] = newMol[1]
       positions[1] = newMol[2]
235
       newPos = getOrientations(molecule) # get final two positions
       positions[2] = list(newPos[0])
237
       positions [3] = list (newPos[1])
238
```

```
return positions
                                             # return all four positions
240
242 # checks distance of new positions from zero
   def checkDist(posArray):
       distance = [0 for i in range(len(posArray))]
       for i in range(len(posArray)):
245
           distance[i] = (posArray[i][0] * posArray[i][0]) +
246
                             (posArray[i][1] * posArray[i][1]) +
247
                             (posArray[i][2] * posArray[i][2]) )
           # print "Distance", i, ": ", distance[i]
       avg = 0
       for i in range (len (posArray)):
251
           avg += distance[i]
       averageDistance = ( avg / len(posArray) )
253
       # print "Average Distance: ", averageDistance
254
       return averageDistance
255
257
    prints data given a 3D table of water molecules
   def printData(data):
       print "Data: "
260
       strData = [" O", "H1", "H2"]
261
       dimData = ["X", "Y", "Z"]
262
       bigAvg = 0
263
       numAtoms = 0
264
       for mol in range (len (data)):
           for atom in range (len (data [mol])):
266
               printStr = str(mol) + ":" + strData[atom] + ":"
                for dimension in range (3):
268
                    printStr += dimData[atom] + ":" + "{:7.3 f}".format(data[
      mol ] [atom] [dimension] + " \ t"
                print printStr
           bigAvg += checkDist(zeroOrientation(data[mol])[1:])
271
           numAtoms += 1
           print ""
       print "total average distance: ", bigAvg / numAtoms
275
  # checks validity of molecule
   def isDefectiveCheck(err, neighborData, posData, index):
       # find nearby molecules (avg oxygen distance???)
       print "checking for defects at index", index, "..."
280
       print "neighbor indices: ", neighborData[index]
       returnBool = False
282
       neighbors = 4
283
       for i in range (4): # count real neighbors
284
           if neighborData[index][1][i] = -1:
               neighbors -= 1
286
       if neighbors <= err: # de facto good if num(neighbors) <</pre>
      maxErrAllowed
           # print "Fewer neighbors than allowed errors. de facto Good
      Orientation"
           returnBool = True
289
```

```
elif neighbors > err: # enough neighbors to require check
           # print "More neighbors than error threshold"
291
           defectCount = 0
           for neighbor in range (4): # check each neighbor
293
               if neighborData[index][1][neighbor] !=-1: # skip over non-
294
      existant neighbors
                   molA = posData[index]
295
                   molB = posData[ neighborData[index][1][neighbor] ]
296
                   oxyDist = getDistBetweenAtoms(molA[0], molB[0])
297
                   if minHydrogenDistance(molA, molB) > oxyDist: # check
299
      for facing lone pairs
                       print "Double Lone Pair defect"
300
                       defectCount += 1
                       break
302
                           # check for facing protons
                   else:
303
                       smallerHydrogenDistanceCount = 0
304
                       isDefective = False
                       for first in range(2):
306
307
                           if not is Defective:
                                for second in range (2):
308
                                    newDist = getDistBetweenAtoms(molA[first]
309
       +1, molB[second +1])
                                    if newDist < oxyDist:
310
                                        smallerHydrogenDistanceCount += 1
                                if smallerHydrogenDistanceCount > 1:
312
                                    print "Double Hydrogen defect"
313
                                    defectCount += 1
314
                                    isDefective = True
           # print "Defects found:", defectCount
316
           if defectCount > 4:
317
               print "IMPOSSIBLE AMOUNT OF DEFECTS DETECTED!!!!
318
      if defectCount > err:
319
               # print "Found a bad molecule!"
               returnBool = False
321
           else:
               # print "Molecule is within parameters."
323
               returnBool = True
324
325
       return returnBool
326
327
328
  # randomly re-reorients molecule and neighbors, rechecks all
   def rerunMolAndNeighbors(err , neighborData , posData , index):
330
      # print "Re-reordering molecule at", index
      \# err - max errors allowed
332
      # neighborData - int[4] of neighbor indices
      # posData - array of all molecule position vectors
334
      # index - location of focus molecule in posData
335
       isGood = False
336
       timeCount = 0
       while not is Good:
338
```

```
# re-rotate molecule through all positions (iterated through all
       orientations)
           positions = getTetrahedronPositions(posData[index])
340
           zeroedMol = newRandOrientation(positions)
341
           # print "isGood CHECK", isGood
342
           isGood, posData = iterThroughRotations(err, neighborData,
343
      posData, index)
           posData[index] = resetOrientation(posData[index][0], zeroedMol)
344
           if timeCount >= 13: # { (1 - 1/6) n < 0.05 } says n = 17
345
               # BROKEN - need to rebuild
               # 0. evaluated molecule has too many defects
347
               # 1. reorient molecule statistically probable amount of
      times to cover all orientations
               # 2. Repeat 1. with neighbor 1
               # 2a repeat 1. with original molecule
350
               # 3. Repeat 2. with neighbor 2, 3, 4, as/if necessary
351
               for neighborIndex in range (4):
352
                    if neighborData[index][1][neighborIndex] != -1:
                        positions = getTetrahedronPositions(posData[
354
      neighborIndex])
                        zeroedMol = newRandOrientation(positions)
355
                        posData[neighborIndex] = resetOrientation(posData[
356
      neighborIndex [0], zeroedMol)
                       # isGood = isDefectiveCheck(err, neighborData,
357
      posData, neighborIndex)
               isGood = isDefectiveCheck(err, neighborData, posData, index)
               if not isGood:
359
                   isGood, posData = rerunMolAndNeighbors(err, neighborData
360
       , posData, neighborData[index][1][neighborIndex])
       finalData = posData
361
       return True, finalData
362
363
     iterates molecule through all possible rotations
   def iterThroughRotations(err, neighborData, posData, index):
365
       isGood = False
       pos1 = 0 # tetrahedral position for H1
367
       pos2 = 0 # tetrahedral position for H2
368
       while not is Good or (pos1 != 3 and pos2 != 3): # iterates through
369
      all orientations, stops if good orientation
           if pos1 != pos2 :
370
               posData[index] = newSetOrientation(posData[index][0], pos1,
371
      pos2)
               isGood = isDefectiveCheck(err, neighborData, posData, index)
372
           if pos2 < 3:
               pos2 += 1
374
           elif pos2 == 3:
375
               if pos1 < 3:
376
                   pos1 += 1
                   pos2 = 0
378
       return is Good, posData
380 # determines minimum hydrogen distance between two atoms
   def minHydrogenDistance (mol1, mol2):
       minDist = 100
382
       for first in range (2):
```

```
for second in range (2):
                newDist = getDistBetweenAtoms(mol1[first+1], mol2[second+1])
385
                if newDist < minDist:
386
                     minDist = newDist
387
       return minDist
388
390
391
392
     finds neighboring molecules of each molecule
394
   def getNeighbors(data):
       returnData = [ [ 0 for i in range(4) ] for j in range(2) ] for k
396
       in range(len(data)) ] # data[molecule][distance,index][four values]
       for mol1 in range (len (data)):
397
            minDist = [100, 100, 100, 100]
398
            \min \operatorname{Index} = [0, 0, 0, 0]
399
            for mol2 in range (len (data)):
                if mol1 != mol2 :
401
                     newMin = getDistBetweenAtoms(data[mol1][0], data[mol2]
402
      [0]
403
                     bigIndex = indexOfBiggest (minDist)
404
                     if newMin < minDist[bigIndex]:</pre>
405
                         minDist[bigIndex] = newMin
                         minIndex[bigIndex] = mol2
407
            for i in range (4):
                if \min Dist[i] >= 9:
409
                     \min Dist[i] = -1
                     \min \operatorname{Index}[i] = -1
411
           # print "Four smallest Distances of", mol1, ": ", minDist
412
           # print "Four smallest Indices of", mol1, ": ", minIndex
413
            returnData[mol1] = [minDist, minIndex]
       return returnData
415
     finds distance between oxygen atoms
418
   def getDistBetweenAtoms( mol1, mol2 ):
419
       distance = ( ( mol1[0] - mol2[0] ) * ( mol1[0] - mol2[0] 
420
                        ( mol1[1] - mol2[1] ) * ( mol1[1] - mol2[1] 
421
                        ( mol1[2] - mol2[2] ) * ( mol1[2] - mol2[2] 
422
       return distance
423
424
     gets index of largest item from a list
   def indexOfBiggest(check):
426
427
       bigIndex = 0
       for i in range (len (check)):
428
            if check[i] > check[bigIndex]:
                bigIndex = i
430
       return bigIndex
431
432
434 # writes data to PDB file
def writeDataPDB(data, pdbType):
```

```
print "Writing Data to", str (pdbOUT)
436
       fileName = str(pdbOUT)
437
       output = open(fileName, 'w')
438
       if pdbType = 0:
439
           writeDataPDBATOM(data, output)
440
       elif pdbType == 1:
           writeDataPDBHETATM(data, output)
442
       output.close()
443
444
445
    Writes data to PDB file style = ATOM
446 #
   def writeDataPDBATOM(data, inFile):
       iterator = 0
448
       for molecule in range (len (data)):
449
            for atom in range (3):
450
                iterator += 1
451
                outStr = "ATOM"
452
                outStr += str(iterator)
                while len(outStr) < 11:
454
                    outStr = outStr[:6] + " " + outStr[6:]
455
                outStr += " "
                if atom == 0:
457
                    outStr += " O " + " WAT"
458
                elif atom == 1:
459
                    outStr += "H1" + "WAT"
460
                elif atom == 2:
461
                    outStr += " H2 " + " WAT"
                outStr += str(molecule)
463
                while len (outStr) < 26:
                    outStr = outStr[:20] + "" + outStr[20:]
465
                outStr += "
466
                outStr += "{:8.3 f}".format(data[molecule][atom][0])
467
                outStr += "{:8.3 f}". format(data[molecule][atom][1])
                outStr += "{:8.3 f}".format(data[molecule][atom][2])
469
                outStr += " 1.00" + " 0.00"
                outStr += "
                if atom == 0:
472
                    outStr += " O
473
                elif atom = 1:
474
                    outStr += " H
                elif atom == 2:
476
                    outStr += " H "
477
                outStr += "\n"
478
                inFile.write(outStr)
479
480
  # Writes data to PDB file style = HETATOM
482
   def writeDataPDBHETATM(data, inFile):
       iterator = 0
484
       for molecule in range (len (data)):
            for atom in range (3):
486
                iterator += 1
                outStr = "HETATM"
488
                outStr += str(iterator)
489
```

```
while len (outStr) < 11:
490
                    outStr = outStr [:6] + " " + outStr [6:]
491
                outStr += " "
492
                if atom == 0:
493
                    outStr += " O " + " WAT"
494
                elif atom = 1:
                    outStr += " H1 " + " WAT"
496
                elif atom == 2:
497
                    outStr += " H2 " + " WAT"
498
                outStr += str (molecule)
                while len (outStr) < 26:
500
                    outStr = outStr[:20] + " " + outStr[20:]
                outStr += "
502
                outStr += "{:8.3 f}".format(data[molecule][atom][0])
503
                outStr += "{:8.3 f}".format(data[molecule][atom][1])
504
                outStr += "{:8.3 f}".format(data[molecule][atom][2])
505
                outStr += " 1.00" + " 0.00"
506
                outStr += "
                if atom == 0:
508
                    outStr += "O"
509
                elif atom = 1:
510
                    outStr += " H
511
                elif atom == 2:
512
                    outStr += "H"
513
                outStr += "\n"
514
                inFile.write(outStr)
517
  # runs program
   def testRun(inFile, err, outFile):
       print "Running Test Version of Program..."
523 # this is the parent runner for the program
   def runPgm(inFile, err):
       print "Running Program..."
525
       data, pdbType = readFile(inFile)
       newData = [ [ 0 for i in range(3) ] for j in range(3) ] for k in
527
      range (len (data))
       print "Reordering Molecules ..."
       for i in range (len (data)):
           positions = getTetrahedronPositions(data[i])
530
           zeroedMol = newRandOrientation(positions)
           newMol = resetOrientation( data[i][0], zeroedMol)
           newData[i] = newMol
       print "Molecules Reordered"
534
       connected Molecules = getNeighbors (newData) # -1 index = not
      neighboring
       finalData = newData
536
       for i in range (len (connected Molecules)):
           # print "check defects"
538
           isFine = isDefectiveCheck(err, connectedMolecules, finalData, i)
           # print "isFINE CHECK", isFine
540
           if not is Fine:
541
```

```
# print "fixing defects"
                while not is Fine:
543
                   # print "RerunMol"
                    isFine, finalData = rerunMolAndNeighbors(err,
545
      connectedMolecules, finalData, i)
                   # print "rerunDone"
546
       write Data PDB (\,final Data\,\,,\,\,pdbType)
547
       # printData(newData)
548
549
   badArgs = checkArgs(pdbIN, maxErr, pdbOUT) # stop in case of bad
551
      argument
552
553 # check input args
   if not badArgs: # stop in case of bad argument
       print "Good Arguments, Initializing Reorientiation with", maxErr, "
      maximum defects"
       # testRun(pdbIN, maxErr, pdbOUT)
       runPgm(pdbIN, maxErr)
557
   elif badArgs:
     print "Bad Arguments, Quitting..."
```

# APPENDIX B

Conformation Landscapes

### APPENDIX C

### Germanium Landscape

Listed below are two example Germanium PDB files. The first is for the end-goal hexagermane in the trans-trans conformation with isopropyl groups on the terminal Ge atoms. The second is for the simplified butagermane with fully protonated Germanium atoms.

# C.1 Code: hexagermane-transall.pdb

1	HEADER								
2	REMARK	Title	e: hexagermar	ne_trans	all syste	m			
	HETATM		Ge	1	-4.399	0.008	0.355	0.00	0.00
4	HETATM		Ge	1	-1.965	0.138	-0.022	0.00	0.00
5	HETATM	3 C	С	1	-4.822	1.886	0.961	0.00	0.00
6	HETATM	4 C	C	1	-5.008	-1.297	1.715	0.00	0.00
7	HETATM	5 C	С	1	-5.256	-0.261	-1.445	0.00	0.00
8	HETATM	6 C	C	1	-1.213	1.435	1.157	0.00	0.00
9	HETATM		Ge	1	-0.756	-1.988	0.223	0.00	0.00
10	HETATM	Ge 8 C	С	1	-1.297	-2.917	1.805	0.00	0.00
11	HETATM	Ge 9	Ge	1	1.647	-1.496	0.371	0.00	0.00
12	HETATM	10 C	С	1	-1.182	-3.010	-1.339	0.00	0.00
13	HETATM	11 C	C	1	2.131	-0.425	1.877	0.00	0.00
14	HETATM	12 C	С	1	2.111	-0.634	-1.269	0.00	0.00
15	HETATM	_	Ge	1	2.889	-3.585	0.738	0.00	0.00
16	HETATM	14 C	C	1	2.287	-4.358	2.378	0.00	0.00
17	HETATM		Ge	1	5.327	-3.386	1.080	0.00	0.00
18	HETATM	16 C	C	1	2.766	-4.685	-0.813	0.00	0.00
19	НЕТАТМ	17 C	С	1	5.688	-2.615	2.887	0.00	0.00

20 HETATM	18 C	С	1	6.239	-2.415	-0.417	0.00	0.00
21 HETATM	19 C	C	1	5.893	-5.324	0.888	0.00	0.00
22 HETATM	20	C	1	-3.527	2.543	1.328	0.00	0.00
23 HETATM	C 21	С	1	-5.754	1.844	2.133	0.00	0.00
24 HETATM	C 22	Н	1	-5.303	2.355	0.072	0.00	0.00
25 HETATM	H 23	Н	1	-5.269	1.358	2.999	0.00	0.00
26 HETATM	H 24	Н	1	-6.679	1.287	1.913	0.00	0.00
27 HETATM	H 25	Н	1	-6.047	2.856	2.449	0.00	0.00
28 HETATM	H 26	Н	1	-3.043	2.019	2.171	0.00	0.00
29 HETATM	H 27	Н	1	-3.683	3.585	1.642	0.00	0.00
зо НЕТАТМ	H 28	Н	1	-2.818	2.559	0.490	0.00	0.00
31 HETATM	H 29	Н	1	-4.336	-1.167	2.589	0.00	0.00
32 HETATM	H 30	C	1	-4.907	-2.680	1.154	0.00	0.00
зз НЕГАТМ	C 31 C	C	1	-6.417	-0.909	2.051	0.00	0.00
34 HETATM	32 H	Н	1	-3.858	-2.985	0.982	0.00	0.00
35 HETATM	п 33 Н	Н	1	-5.433	-2.773	0.187	0.00	0.00
36 HETATM	п 34 Н	Н	1	-5.349	-3.420	1.836	0.00	0.00
37 HETATM	35 H	Н	1	-6.488	0.167	2.302	0.00	0.00
38 HETATM		Н	1	-6.802	-1.477	2.909	0.00	0.00
39 HETATM	37 H	Н	1	-7.103	-1.094	1.205	0.00	0.00
40 HETATM	38 C	C	1	5.200	-6.127	1.944	0.00	0.00
41 HETATM	39 C	С	1	7.384	-5.453	0.966	0.00	0.00
42 HETATM	40	Н	1	5.523	-5.590	-0.126	0.00	0.00
43 HETATM	H 41 H	Н	1	7.790	-4.974	1.874	0.00	0.00
44 HETATM	42	Н	1	7.885	-4.994	0.099	0.00	0.00
45 HETATM	H 43 H	Н	1	7.691	-6.509	0.992	0.00	0.00
46 HETATM	н 44 Н	Н	1	5.502	-5.821	2.960	0.00	0.00
	11							

47 HETATM	45 H	Н	1	5.436	-7.197	1.849	0.00	0.00
48 HETATM	46 H	Н	1	4.106	-6.027	1.879	0.00	0.00
49 HETATM	47 C	С	1	6.243	-1.232	2.746	0.00	0.00
50 HETATM	48	С	1	6.612	-3.524	3.636	0.00	0.00
51 HETATM	C 49	Н	1	4.684	-2.582	3.376	0.00	0.00
52 HETATM	H 50	Н	1	7.535	-3.731	3.068	0.00	0.00
53 HETATM	H 51	Н	1	6.139	-4.497	3.853	0.00	0.00
54 HETATM	H 52	Н	1	6.913	-3.088	4.599	0.00	0.00
55 HETATM	H 53	Н	1	7.243	-1.234	2.279	0.00	0.00
56 HETATM	H 54	Н	1	6.347	-0.742	3.725	0.00	0.00
57 HETATM	Н 55	Н	1	5.589	-0.589	2.128	0.00	0.00
58 HETATM	H 56	С	1	5.630	-1.055	-0.555	0.00	0.00
59 HETATM	C 57	Н	1	6.024	-3.039	-1.315	0.00	0.00
60 HETATM	H 58	С	1	7.712	-2.342	-0.145	0.00	0.00
61 HETATM	C 59	Н	1	7.923	-1.890	0.839	0.00	0.00
62 HETATM	H 60	Н	1	8.227	-1.728	-0.898	0.00	0.00
63 HETATM	Н 61 Н	Н	1	8.188	-3.335	-0.163	0.00	0.00
64 HETATM	п 62 Н	Н	1	4.573	-1.106	-0.861	0.00	0.00
65 HETATM	63	Н	1	6.155	-0.455	-1.314	0.00	0.00
66 HETATM	Н 64 Н	Н	1	5.675	-0.486	0.391	0.00	0.00
67 HETATM	п 65 Н	Н	1	-5.890	-1.163	-1.302	0.00	0.00
68 HETATM	66 C	С	1	-4.220	-0.487	-2.505	0.00	0.00
69 HETATM	67 C	С	1	-6.093	0.945	-1.729	0.00	0.00
70 HETATM	68 H	Н	1	-6.841	1.122	-0.939	0.00	0.00
71 HETATM	п 69 Н	Н	1	-6.644	0.838	-2.676	0.00	0.00
72 HETATM	п 70 Н	Н	1	-5.478	1.858	-1.818	0.00	0.00
73 HETATM	п 71 Н	Н	1	-3.754	-1.481	-2.414	0.00	0.00
	11							

74 HETATM	72 H	Н	1	-3.411	0.262	-2.459	0.00	0.00
75 HETATM	73	Н	1	-4.659	-0.429	-3.512	0.00	0.00
76 HETATM	H 74	С	1	-1.706	1.681	2.429	0.00	0.00
77 HETATM	C 75	С	1	-0.128	2.155	0.679	0.00	0.00
78 HETATM	C 76	Н	1	0.268	1.941	-0.323	0.00	0.00
79 HETATM	H 77	$\mathbf{C}$	1	0.451	3.147	1.465	0.00	0.00
80 HETATM	C 78	С	1	-1.134	2.678	3.216	0.00	0.00
81 HETATM	C 79	$\mathbf{C}$	1	-0.058	3.415	2.731	0.00	0.00
82 HETATM	C 80	Н	1	-1.525	2.873	4.219	0.00	0.00
83 HETATM	H 81	Н	1	1.306	3.716	1.086	0.00	0.00
84 HETATM	H 82	Н	1	0.391	4.199	3.349	0.00	0.00
85 HETATM	H 83	$\mathbf{C}$	1	-1.557	-4.274	1.694	0.00	0.00
86 HETATM	C 84	$\mathbf{C}$	1	-0.365	-3.088	-2.455	0.00	0.00
87 HETATM	C 85	$\mathbf{C}$	1	-2.027	-4.985	2.796	0.00	0.00
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99 HETATM	Н 97	C	1	-1.952	-4.568	-3.509	0.00	0.00
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	Η							

101 HETATM	99 H	Н	1	-3.721	-5.027	-2.358	0.00	0.00
102 HETATM	100 H	Н	1	-2.253	-5.182	-4.364	0.00	0.00
103 HETATM	101	Н	1	-2.596	-4.891	4.876	0.00	0.00
104 HETATM	H 102	Н	1	-2.041	-2.474	5.091	0.00	0.00
105 HETATM	H 103	С	1	2.487	-3.679	3.571	0.00	0.00
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113 HETATM	п 111 С	С	1	1.520	-5.523	4.784	0.00	0.00
114 HETATM	112 H	Н	1	2.260	-3.721	5.716	0.00	0.00
115 HETATM	113 C	С	1	1.311	-6.197	3.585	0.00	0.00
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	O							

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141 HETATM	H 139	С	1	3.650	1.229	2.740	0.00	0.00
142 HETATM	C 140	Н	1	3.633	0.553	0.682	0.00	0.00
143 HETATM	H 141	Н	1	4.480	1.926	2.585	0.00	0.00
144 HETATM	$\frac{\mathrm{H}}{142}$	Н	1	3.439	1.703	4.836	0.00	0.00
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146 HETATM	C 144	С	1	-1.525	0.195	-2.916	0.00	0.00
147 HETATM	C 145	С	1	-2.655	2.077	-1.927	0.00	0.00
148 HETATM	C 146	C	1	-1.618	0.802	-4.168	0.00	0.00
149 HETATM	C 147	Н	1	-1.048	-0.789	-2.818	0.00	0.00
150 HETATM	H 148	С	1	-2.746	2.686	-3.175	0.00	0.00
151 HETATM	C 149	Н	1	-3.084	2.566	-1.036	0.00	0.00
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155 HETATM	153	Н		1		-2.292	2.524	-5.279	0.00	0.00
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183 CONECT 184 CONECT	75 77	$76 \\ 75$	77 79	6 81						
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206 CONECT	117	105	115	119						

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310 CONECT
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311 END
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The above molecule contains 154 atoms and 153 bonds, making it extremely computationally expensive for regular(WHICH) QM calculations. This made utilizing

the large molecule as a trial system unreasonable due to the prohibitively long computation time for each conformation, assuming the conformation calculation would complete at all.

The below PDB file is the simplified butagermane with fully protonated Germanium atoms. As a significantly smaller system with only 14 atoms and 13 bonds, the relatively short computation time allowed the trial system to move with relative ease.

C.2 Code: ge4h.pdb

	COMPND		NAME		OPEN	D A DEE						
	AUTHOR						L 2.3.90	1 0 10	0.050	4 00	0.00	
3	HETATM	1 Ge3-	GE	UNL	1		-3.520	1.842	-0.078	1.00	0.00	
4	HETATM		GE	UNL	1		-1.368	2.888	-0.034	1.00	0.00	
		Ge2-										
5	HETATM		GE	UNL	1		0.324	1.200	0.059	1.00	0.00	
6	HETATM	Ge3-	GE	UNL	1		2.475	2.248	0.099	1.00	0.00	
Ü	1112121111	Ge	OL	OTIL	•		2.110	2.210	0.000	1.00	0.00	
7	HETATM	5	Н	UNL	1		-4.622	2.930	-0.135	1.00	0.00	
8	HETATM	H 6	Н	UNL	1		-3.699	0.985	1.202	1.00	0.00	
		Η										
9	HETATM	7 H	Η	UNL	1		-3.621	0.932	-1.328	1.00	0.00	
10	HETATM	8	Н	UNL	1		-1.258	3.797	1.217	1.00	0.00	
		Η										
11	HETATM	9 H	Η	UNL	1		-1.178	3.740	-1.314	1.00	0.00	
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		Η										
13	HETATM	11	Η	UNL	1		0.135	0.352	1.342	1.00	0.00	
14	HETATM	H 12	Н	UNL	1		2.655	3.095	-1.186	1.00	0.00	
		Н			_		_,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	0.000				
15	HETATM	13	Η	UNL	1		3.578	1.161	0.165	1.00	0.00	
16	HETATM	H 14	Н	UNL	1		2.574	3.167	1.343	1.00	0.00	
		Η		-								
17	CONECT	1	2	2 5	6	7						
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	CONECT	6	1									
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	CONECT	10	3									
	CONECT	11	3									
	CONECT	12										
			4									
	CONECT	13	4									
30	CONECT	14	4	ŧ								

MASTER 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 14 0 14 0 32 END

# APPENDIX D

# Two-Dimensional Rose-Potential Water

words

### VITA

# Gentry H. Smith

### Candidate for the Degree of

### Master of Science

Thesis: EXPLORING CRITICAL CONFORMATIONS

Major Field: Chemistry

Biographical:

Personal Data: Born in Olathe, KS in November 1993.

Education:

Received a Bachelors of Science in Chemistry at Southern Nazarene University in May 2016.

Completed the requirements for the degree of Master of Science with a major in Chemistry at Oklahoma State University in May 2018.

Experience:

Professional Affiliations:

American Chemical Society

Awards

Colonel Andre Whitely Scholarship in Chemistry