

Correction to Classical Electrostatics for Biomolecular Simulations

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he authors provide the following addition to include references that were inadvertently omitted from the original review. The following paragraph is an addition to section 3.5 on p 799. The reference list contained in this Addition and Correction is separate from that in the original paper (published on August 27, 2013); that is, these references 1–14 do not replace references 1–14 in the original paper but are additions to the original reference list. The reference numbering system below refers only to the citations in the text of this Addition and Correction.

Popelier and co-workers have developed the Quantum Chemical Topology Force Field (QCTFF), based on the Quantum Chemical Topology (QCT) method. The QCT method is a generalization of the Quantum Theory of Atoms in Molecules, which generates topological atoms of finite size and particular shapes, using only the gradient of the electron density. QCTFF embraces multipolar electrostatics as a way to overcome the inherent limitations of point charge electrostatics. QCTFF captures polarization effects (beyond dipole moments) through a machine learning method called kriging. Kriging establishes a direct mapping between a given atom's multipole moment and the coordinates of the atoms surrounding it. This procedure handles both inter¹- and intramolecular² polarization. QCTFF handles the remaining nonelectrostatic energy contributions by kriging, thereby offering a seamless treatment of all energy contributions. All training information is sampled from supermolecular clusters, thereby abandoning the framework of long-range perturbation theory that underpins some multipolar force fields. This decision makes the modeling of an ion in aqueous solution³ conceptually smooth.^{4–10} In principle, the method is independent of the basis used, and the QCT partitioning naturally treats charge penetration effects and charge transfer. 6 QCT multipolar electrostatic models have also been used in molecular dynamics simulation, albeit still in the rigid body context. The fully flexible case is feasible and currently being implemented in the program DL POLY 4. The simulation work shows both quantitative and qualitative differences in spatial distribution functions calculated for liquid water, 11 aqueous imidazole, 12 and hydrated serine, 13 again demonstrating the need for multipole moments.¹⁴

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