Computational Studies of Supercooled Water with an Ab-Initio Deep Neural Network Model

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Abstract

Using a combination of computational chemistry, machine learning and advanced sampling, it is possible to study, with *ab-initio* accuracy, problems involving time and length scales that until recently were only accessible using classical, empirical models [1]. This approach will be illustrated through three examples. First, the phase behavior of supercooled water is investigated via equation of state [1] and free energy calculations [2]. Both approaches yield evidence consistent with the existence of a metastable first-order phase transition between two different liquids, terminating at a liquid-liquid critical point. The second example involves calculations of ice homogeneous nucleation rates in supercooled water at ambient pressure, which yields predictions that are in good agreement with experiments [3]. Finally, melting curve calculations for several ice polymorphs allow the computational re-creation of the Mishima-Stanley experiment [4], which for many years provided the strongest evidence in support of the existence of a metastable critical point in supercooled water. The computational results suggest a different interpretation of experimental observations than that proposed by Mishima and Stanley [5].

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