Intermolecular Forces: Thermodynamic and Statistical Aspects

Gia Dagelashvili

E-mail: gia.daghelashvili111@ens.tsu.edu.ge

Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Exact and Natural Sciences, Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, I. Chavchavadze Ave. 3, 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia.

Intermolecular forces are pivotal in defining the behavior of molecular systems, influencing both thermodynamic properties and statistical distributions. This work delves into the thermodynamic and statistical mechanics frameworks that underpin these interactions, providing a comprehensive understanding of their roles in equilibrium and dynamic systems.

The study begins with an analysis of molecular interactions in free space and within media, emphasizing the contributions of self-energy and pair potentials to molecular behavior. The Boltzmann distribution and chemical potential are introduced as fundamental tools for linking microscopic interactions with macroscopic thermodynamic properties, offering a statistical perspective on molecular states.

A systematic classification of intermolecular forces and pair potentials is presented, differentiating between short-range and long-range interactions. Theoretical considerations extend to multimolecular systems, integrating continuum and molecular approaches to describe complex systems. Computational techniques, including Monte Carlo (MC) and Molecular Dynamics (MD) simulations, are introduced as robust methodologies for modeling and analyzing intricate interactions.

Newtonian mechanics is applied to two-body collisions, illustrating foundational principles of molecular motion. These insights are expanded to address the kinetic and statistical aspects of multiple collision events, with the Boltzmann distribution revisited to elucidate energy redistribution in collisional processes.

This study highlights the intricate interplay between thermodynamic principles and statistical mechanics in elucidating intermolecular forces. The findings underscore the importance of bridging microscopic interactions with macroscopic phenomena to advance our understanding of molecular systems.[1]

References:

[1] Jacob N. Israelachvili, (2011), Intermolecular and Surface Forces, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA, USA. 23-51.