Chapter 2

Thermodynamic Properties of Multifunctional Oxygenates in Atmospheric Aerosols from Quantum Mechanics and Molecular Dynamics: Dicarboxylic Acids\*

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#### 2.1 Abstract

Ambient particulate matter contains polar multifunctional oxygenates that partition between the vapor and aerosol phases. Vapor pressure predictions are required to determine the gas-particle partitioning of such organic compounds. We present here a method based on atomistic simulations combined with the Clausius-Clapevron equation to predict the liquid vapor pressure, enthalpies of vaporization, and heats of sublimation of atmospheric organic compounds. The resulting temperature-dependent vapor pressure equation is a function of the heat of vaporization at the normal boiling point  $[\Delta H_{vap}(T_b)]$ , normal boiling point  $(T_b)$ , and the change in heat capacity (liquid to gas) of the compound upon phase change  $[\Delta C_p(T_b)]$ . We show that heats of vaporization can be estimated from calculated cohesive energy densities (CED) of the pure compound obtained from multiple sampling molecular dynamics. The simulation method (CED) uses a generic force field (Dreiding) and molecular models with atomic charges determined from quantum mechanics. The heats of vaporization of five dicarboxylic acids: malonic (C<sub>3</sub>), succinic  $(C_4)$ , glutaric  $(C_5)$ , adipic  $(C_6)$ , and pimelic  $(C_7)$ , are calculated at 500K. Results are in agreement with experimental values with an averaged error of about 4%. The corresponding heats of sublimation at 298 K are also predicted using molecular simulations. Vapor pressures of the five dicarboxylic acids are also predicted using the derived Clausius-Clapeyron equation. Predicted liquid vapor pressures agree well with available literature data with an averaged error of 29%, while the predicted solid vapor pressures at ambient temperature differ considerably from a recent study by Bilde et al. (Environ. Sci. Technol. 2003, 37, 1371-1378) (an average of 70%). The difference is

attributed to the linear dependence assumption that we used in the derived Clausius-Clapeyron equation.

# 2.2 Introduction

Atmospheric gas-particle partitioning of organic compounds is governed strongly by the vapor pressure of the compound (subcooled if necessary) as well as its liquidphase activity coefficient [1-4]. However, data are not available for the subcooled vapor pressures as a function of temperature for many organic compounds in atmospheric aerosols. These subcooled liquid vapor pressures for compounds that are solid at the temperature of interest are usually determined only indirectly by experiments, and many methods used to estimate vapor pressure [5, 6] are typically from correlations with other data. Consequently, reliable and fast theoretical estimation techniques would be most useful. We propose an alternative that makes use of the advances in computational and theoretical chemistry to calculate the parameters needed to predict the thermodynamic properties of interest.

Dicarboxylic acids (HOOC(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n-2</sub>COOH) are of particular importance as ubiquitous components of atmospheric aerosols [7-12]. They generally have low vapor pressures and, therefore, are expected to partition to the condensed phase. The gasparticle partitioning of these acids, and indeed of all organic atmospheric compounds, depends critically on the values of their vapor pressures. Their melting temperatures are in the range of 372-461K, and their boiling temperatures are within the range of 573-623K (Table 2.1) [13-16]. As a result, the relevant vapor pressures for determination of gas-particle partitioning of the dicarboxylic acid at ambient temperature are the subcooled liquid vapor pressures.

	Malonic	Succinic	Glutaric	Adipic	Pimelic
Number of carbons, n	3	4	5	6	7
MW (g/mol)	104.1	118.1	132.1	146.1	160.2
Melting point, $T_m$ (K) <sup>a</sup>	$408 \pm 0.3$	$461 \pm 0.3$	$371 \pm 0.9$	$426 \pm 0.3$	$378 \pm 0.4$
Boiling point, $T_b(\mathbf{K})^b$	580	591	576.15	610.65	615.25
Density $(g/cm^3)^c$	1.616	1.566	1.414	1.362	1.281
Entropy of fusion at $T_m$ ,	62.28	71.43	61.80	81.90	80.34
$\Delta S_{fus}(T_m)$ (J/mol)					

Table 2.1: Experimental Physical Properties of C<sub>3</sub> - C<sub>7</sub> Dicarboxylic acids

a. Values of melting point and their uncertainties are obtained from the NIST Chemistry Webbook [13]

b. Boiling points  $C_3 - C_4$  diacids [16] are obtained from DIPPR tables [14]. Values for  $C_5 - C_6$  diacids are obtained from the CRC Handbook [15]. Uncertainties are estimated to be 10% for  $C_3 - C_6$  diacids. Boiling point of the  $C_7$  acid is from Stull's study [17] and the uncertainty is 5%

c. Densities at 298K from reference [18]

Limited experimental solid vapor pressure data are available for the dicarboxylic acids at ambient temperature. Recently, Bilde et al. [19] inferred vapor pressures and heats of sublimation for  $C_3 - C_9$  dicarboxylic acids from measured evaporation rates at ambient temperature using the tandem differential mobility analyzer (TDMA) technique.

The vapor pressures of glutaric acid and adipic acid have also been determined by Tao and McMurry [20] using TDMA. Chattopadhyay et al. [21] measured the vapor pressures of  $C_6 - C_8$  dicarboxylic acids using temperature programmed thermal desorption. At higher temperatures, vapor pressure data were reported by Davies and Thomas [22] for  $C_4 - C_{16}$  even carbon-numbered dicarboxylic acids, and by Ribeiro da Silva et al. [23] for  $C_3 - C_{11}$  odd carbon-numbered acids using the effusion method.

An intriguing feature of the thermodynamic properties of the unsubstituted dicarboxylic acids is that the vapor pressures and the heats of sublimation both alternate strongly with the parity of the number of carbon atoms. Such odd and even alternation is a result of the difference in the solid state structures between odd and even acids. Thalladi

et al. [18] found that, in the solid, the odd acid molecules pack to form twisted conformations, whereas the even acids have planar molecular conformations. Bilde et. al, [19] suggested that the alternation in vapor pressures and heats of sublimation could be attributed to this torsional strain in the odd carbon-numbered acids.

In this chapter, we present a method based on atomistic simulations for predicting the liquid vapor pressure of organic compounds. The method is applied to predict the vapor pressures of malonic (C<sub>3</sub>), succinic (C<sub>4</sub>), glutaric (C<sub>5</sub>), adipic (C<sub>6</sub>), and pimelic (C<sub>7</sub>) acids. In addition to dicarboxylic acids, we have also applied the method to formic, acetic and benzoic acids. Predicted vapor pressures are compared to those measured experimentally. Finally, an assessment of the main uncertainties in the theoretical method is given.

## **2.3** Vapor Pressure Estimation Method

The vapor pressure of an organic compound can be obtained by integrating the total enthalpy of vaporization over temperature using the Clausius-Clapeyron equation [24, 25], assuming that  $\Delta H_{vap}(T)$  has a linear temperature dependence:

$$\Delta H_{vap}(T) = \Delta H_{vap}(T_b) + \Delta C_p(T_b)(T - T_b)$$
(2.1)

The resulting temperature-dependent equation for vapor pressure is a function of heat of vaporization at normal boiling point  $[\Delta H_{vap}(T_b)]$ , the change in heat capacity of the compound upon phase change  $(\Delta C_p)$ , and the normal boiling point  $(T_b)$ :

$$\ln P_L^s = -\frac{\Delta H_{vap}(T_b)}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{T_b}\right) + \frac{\Delta C_p(T_b)}{R} \left(\frac{T_b}{T} - 1\right) - \frac{\Delta C_p(T_b)}{R} \ln\left(\frac{T_b}{T}\right) \quad (2.2)$$

Since the temperature dependence of the vapor pressure for the subcooled liquid is expected to follow the same dependence as that of the liquid state, equation (2.1) should be appropriate for estimating the subcooled vapor pressure [24]. Equation (2.2) should reproduce both the magnitude and temperature dependence of the liquid vapor pressure.

#### 2.3.1 Prediction of the heats of vaporization using CED

The heat of vaporization at the normal boiling point,  $\Delta H_{vap}(T_b)$ , can be estimated from the cohesive energy density (CED). The CED of a pure liquid substance is defined as:

$$CED = \frac{\Delta H_{vap}(T) - RT}{V_m}$$
(2.3)

where  $V_m$  is the molar volume.

The CED of a pure compound can be calculated using multiple sampling molecular dynamics (MD) with periodic boundary conditions [26]. The periodic unit cell for these MD simulations is built with molecules having the appropriate conformation and atomic charges. We determine the atomic charges and geometries of the molecules using quantum mechanics (QM), with the B3LYP flavor of density functional theory (DFT) [27]. Many studies show that DFT/B3LYP leads to reliable binding energies of hydrogen-bonded systems (e.g. water dimer [28] and dimers of DNA base [29]), suggesting that it should be accurate for describing the interaction between dicarboxylic acids. Given the appropriate geometry and atomic charges of the molecule from QM, the CED calculation proceeds as follows [26]:

(i) A periodic unit cell containing 32 molecules is built at 50% of the target density (0.5  $\rho_0$ ). The force field parameters are taken from the Dreiding force field [30] with the hydrogen bonding parameters ( $r_0 = 2.5$ Å,  $D_0 = 7.5$  kcal/mol) modified to fit the QM results for the dimer using acetic acid dimer (See Supporting Information). The

building process constructs a disordered cell by inserting the molecules with random positions, orientations, and torsions and excludes cases with contact distances less than 30% of the equilibrium value. Ten such periodic cells are constructed each independent of the other.

(ii) For each cell we carry out a series of MD calculations as follows: (a) at 0.5  $\rho_0$  we minimize (MM) the structure (2000 steps or to an root mean square (RMS) force converges to of 0.1 kcal/molÅ). This is followed by 700 steps of MD (1 femtosecond/steps) at 700K using canonical fixed volume dynamics (NVT) to anneal the sample. (b) The cell coordinates are shrunk such that the density is increased to 0.675 $\rho_0$ , then the MM and MD steps are repeated holding the cell fixed. (c) A total of four compressions, minimization, dynamics (at densities of 0.675 $\rho_0$ , 0.85 $\rho_0$ , 1.025 $\rho_0$ , and 1.2 $\rho_0$ ) are performed until the density reaches 120% of the target density ( $\rho_0$ ) (d) This is followed by a total of four expansion, minimization, dynamics until the target density is reached. (i.e. The same MM and MD steps at densities of 1.15 $\rho_0$ , 1.10 $\rho_0$ , 1.05 $\rho_0$ , and  $\rho_0$ ). The final density ( $\rho$ ) of the cell is reported. (e) After that, the system with a density of  $\rho$  is energy minimized in 2000 steps allowing the cell parameters and atom coordinates to relax (to an RMS force of 0.1 kcal/mol and an RMS stress of 0.1 GPa).

(iii) Finally, a full 10 picoseconds of NPT MD simulation is performed allowing the cell and atom positions to optimize at the target temperature. The first half of the MD is used to thermalize the sample at the target temperature, and the second half of the MD is used to obtain the average cell volume and potential energies. The CED are calculated by subtracting the potential energy of the bulk system from the sum of the potential energies of the individual molecules as if separated by an infinite distance. (iv) This procedure is repeated for all 10 independent cells from which the average CED and the standard deviation are computed. Sampling error follows statistical distribution for an average of *N* samples. i.e.  $1/\sqrt{N}$ .

The target temperature of the CED simulations was set at 500 K. At this temperature, all the selected dicarboxylic acids (n = 3 - 7) are in the liquid state, for which the liquid densities are available [14]. With the CED simulation results, the heat of vaporization [ $\Delta H_{vap}(T)$ ] of a compound is first computed at the target temperature using equation (2.3), and the molar volume ( $V_m$ ) is calculated using the simulation density ( $\rho$ ). The heat of vaporization at the normal boiling point [ $\Delta H_{vap}(T_b)$ ] are then calculated using equation (2.1). We then estimate  $\Delta S_{vap}(T_b) = \Delta H_{vap}(T_b)/T_b$ , where the normal boiling points ( $T_b$ ) is obtained from the literature [13-16].

We incur relatively little error by relating the  $\Delta C_p(T_b)$  term to  $\Delta S_{vap}(T_b)$ . Over a series of compounds, it has been found that  $\Delta C_p(T_b)/\Delta S_{vap}(T_b) = -0.8$  [24], thus for  $\Delta C_p(T_b)$  we assume:

$$\Delta C_p(T_b) = -0.8 \ \Delta S_{vap}(T_b) \tag{2.4}$$

### 2.4 Results and Discussion

Table 2.2 displays the results and the standard deviations of the CED and simulation density for the C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> dicarboxylic acids [HOOC(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n-2</sub>COOH, n = 3 - 7]. The DIPPR database contains values obtained from correlation between experimental results, which we refer to as "literature" values [14].

	Malonic	Succinic	Glutaric	Adipic	Pimelic
Number of carbons, n	3	4	5	6	7
Target Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.2863	1.1642	1.0909	1.0228	1.0759
at 500K					
Simulation Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.27 ±	1.14 ±	1.06 ±	1.01 ±	0.97 ±
at 500K	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.04
% Difference in density	-1.27	-2.08	-2.83	-1.25	-9.84
-					
CED $(J/cm^3)$ at 500K	1010.56 ±	821.57 ±	686.30 ±	623.29 ±	563.54
	56.90	51.92	60.71	40.46	± 46.69
Literature $\Delta H_{vap}(500 \text{K})$	81.47	83.87	84.46	83.84	89.97
(kJ/mol)					
Calculated $\Delta H_{vap}(500 \text{K})$	86.96 ±	89.26 ±	89.70 ±	94.34 ±	97.21 ±
without ZPE correction	5.61	6.45	8.99	7.70	9.00
(kJ/mol)					
$\Delta$ %	6.74	6.43	6.19	12.53	8.05
Calculated $\Delta H_{vap}(500 \text{K})$ with	75.71 ±	82.48 ±	84.07 ±	87.47 ±	$95.05 \pm$
ZPE correction (kJ/mol)	4.88	5.96	8.43	7.14	8.80
Δ%	-7.08	-1.65	-0.47	4.33	5.65

 Table 2.2: Averaged Values of CED and Density for Dicarboxylic Acids and their

 Calculated Heats of Vaporization at 500K

 $\Delta$ % is the percentage deviation of the predicted value from the literature value

Figure 2.1 and 2.2 compares the predicted and literature values for the heat of vaporization for C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> dicarboxylic acids at 500K; the target density and the final density of the simulation are also shown. With the exception of pimelic acid, the final density from the simulations is 1.2 to 2.8% low at our target density of 500K, indicating that the model provides a reasonable representation of the real system. The exception is pimelic acid where the DIPPR Database [14] gives a value 9.84 % higher than our value. As indicated in Figure 2.1, the density of the C<sub>7</sub> diacid given by DIPPR Database [14] is well outside the trends in experimental values at 500K. Experimental densities at 298K [18] were also shown to illustrate such trends for C<sub>3</sub> - C<sub>7</sub> diacids.



Figure 2.1: Comparison between predicted and initial target densities (experimental at 500K) of the simulations. The experimental densities at 298K are also shown



Figure 2.2: Predicted and experimental values of  $\Delta H_{vap}(500 \text{K})$ 

The calculated heats of vaporization at 500K are systematically high by 5.2 to 5.7 kJ/mol for n = 3 - 5, but high by 10.5 kJ/mol for n = 6 and 7.2 kJ/mol for n = 7. (Figure 2.2) These values are expected to be too high because we have not corrected for zeropoint energy (ZPE). Because we freeze out the molecular geometries to estimate the average enthalpies of the gas phase individual molecules, the intramolecular contributions should cancel out from  $\Delta H_{vap}$ , but the intermolecular terms do not. The intermolecular ZPE for the crystalline forms range from -2.2 kJ/mol to -11.3 kJ/mol as shown in Table 2.3.

 Table 2.3: Calculated Inter-molecular Zero-point Energy (ZPE) for C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub>

 Dicarboxylic Acid Crystals

	Malonic	Succinic	Glutaric	Adipic	Pimelic
Number of carbons, n	3	4	5	6	7
ZPE for single molecule	201.64	279.29	359.23	437.61	516.65
(kJ/mol)					
Number of molecules in crystals	2	2	4	2	4
ZPE for crystals (kJ/mol) <sup>a</sup>	425.79	572.14	1459.43	888.98	2075.25
Normalized inter-molecular	-11.25	-6.78	-5.63	-6.88	-2.16
ZPE (kJ/mol)					

The zero-point energy of the unit cells were calculated in the Brillouin zone (3,3,3)

After the ZPE correction, the predictions are now low by 5.8 kJ/mol for n = 3, 1.4 kJ/mol for n = 4, and only 0.4 kJ/mol for n = 5. The predictions for n = 6 - 7 are still high, but the absolute errors are reduced to 3.6 kJ/mol for n = 6 and 5.1 kJ/mol for n = 7. All the predictions and their respective errors are shown in Table 2.2.

The parameters,  $\Delta H_{vap}(T_b)$  and  $\Delta C_p(T_b)$ , are then be calculated using equations (2.1) to (2.4), with molar volumes ( $V_m$ ) calculated using the simulation densities. With these parameters (Table 2.4), the liquid vapor pressures for C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> dicarboxylic acids are predicted using equation (2.2).

	Malonic	Succinic	Glutaric	Adipic	Pimelic
Number of carbons,					
n	3	4	5	6	7
$T_b(\mathbf{K})$	580	591	576.15	610.65	615.25
$V_m$ (cm <sup>3</sup> /mol)	81.94	103.59	124.64	144.70	165.12
$\Delta H_{vap}(T_b)$ (kJ/mol)	68.18 ±	$73.43 \pm$	$76.03 \pm$	76.39 ±	82.66 ±
	6.11	6.91	8.99	7.62	8.97
$\Delta S_{vap}(T_b)$ (J/mol)	117.56	124.25	131.96	125.10	134.36
$\Delta C_p(T_b)$ (J/mol K)	-94.05	-99.40	-105.57	-99.99	-107.48

Table 2.4: Input Parameters for C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> Dicarboxylic Acids<sup>a</sup>

a. These values are used in equation (2.2) to predicted liquid vapor pressures, and they are also used for uncertainties estimation. All of the values are calculated from the simulation results, with the exception of  $T_b$ , which are taken from literatures [13-16]

Measurements of the vapor pressures are available for these five acids over the temperature range ~400K to ~600K [14]. The predicted liquid vapor pressures are compared with the experimental values in Figure 2.3, and our predictions differ from the experimental values on average by 29%. At ambient temperature, solid vapor pressures of low molecular weight carboxylic acids have been measured using various methods [19-21]. Most of these studies derive vapor pressures of the compounds from measurements of evaporation rates, and the heats of vaporization (sublimation for solids) were also calculated by assuming a Clausius-Clapeyron relationship [19-23]. We also predicted heats of sublimation for the  $C_3 - C_7$  dicarboxylic acids using MD simulations, which are compared with available literature data [19-23] in Table 2.5. All values were determined at 298K, with the exception of those given by Bilde et al. [19], which were calculated at 296K (we assume that the 2K temperature difference can be neglected).



Figure 2.3: Comparison of predicted vs. literature liquid vapor pressure,  $\ln P$  (in units of Pa), over the temperature range ~400K to ~600K for C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> dicarboxylic acids. The solid line is the 1:1 correspondence line. The average error over all points is 29%. Original references for malonic, succinic [31], glutaric [32], adipic [17], pimelic [31].

	Malonic	Succinic	Glutaric	Adipic	Pimelic
Prediction	$103.72 \pm$	114.37 ±	121.98 ±	132.55 ±	139.33 ±
	5.70	2.38	2.57	1.66	2.07
Exp. Ribeiro da Silva	111.4 ±	121.8 ±	119.8 ±	133.6 ±	139.9 ±
et al. [23]	0.7	3.3	1.2	1.3	1.0
$\Delta\%$	-6.9	-6.1	1.8	-0.8	-0.4
Exp. Bilde et al. [19] 296K	92 ± 15	$138 \pm 11$	91 ± 7	$154 \pm 6$	147 ± 11
$\Delta$ %	13	-17	34	-14	-5
Exp. Chattopadhyay et				140	178
al. [21]				-	22
$\Delta$ %				-5	-22
Exp. Tao and McMurry [20]			102.39	117.55	
Δ%			19.14	12.76	

Table 2.5: Predicted and Experimental Heats of Sublimation (kJ/mol) for C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> Dicarboxylic Acids

 $\Delta$ % is the percentage deviation of the predicted value from the literature

Figure 2.4 shows the heats of sublimation of the dicarboxylic acids against number of carbons (n). While the calculated heats of sublimation for  $C_3 - C_7$  dicarboxylic acids agree reasonably with those of Riberio da Silva et al. [23], with an average of 3% difference and a maximum difference of ~7%, the predictions from those of Bilde et al. [19] with an average error of 17%. In general, our predictions for even acids are better than those for odd acids. The predicted value for pimelic acid agrees well with two data sets with the exception of Chattopadhyay et al. [21].



Figure 2.4: Comparison of calculated Heats of Sublimation for C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> dicarboxylic acids against all available experimental data.

Since experimental subcooled vapor pressures are not available in the literature,

solid vapor pressures were calculated from the predicted results using [24],

$$\ln P_S^s = \ln P_L^s - \frac{\Delta S_{fus}(T_m)}{R} \left(\frac{T_m}{T} - 1\right)$$
(2.5)

Entropies of fusion at the melting point  $[\Delta S_{fus}(T_m)]$  and melting points  $(T_m)$  for C<sub>3</sub> – C<sub>7</sub> dicarboxylic acids were obtained from the literature [13, 14] (Table 2.1). Calculated solid vapor pressures are compared with literature values in Figure 2.5.



Figure 2.5: Predicted vs. Literature solid vapor pressure,  $\ln P_s$  (in units of Pa) over the temperature range ~300K to ~400K for C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> dicarboxylic acids. The solid line is the 1:1 correspondence line. Horizontal bars indicate the experimental uncertainty, vertical bars are  $2\sigma$  from the predicted values. The upper group ( $\ln P_s$ from ~-3 to 2) includes data from Riberio da Silva et al. [23] and leads to an average error of 21%. The lower group includes data from Bilde et al. [19] and leads to an average error of 70%.

It shows that the predictions for solid vapor pressure are relatively better (~21% error) at higher temperature (350K – 400K), comparing to the large discrepancy (~70% error) with Bilde et al. [19] at the lower temperature (~300K). The discrepancy may be the result of our assumption that  $\Delta H_{vap}(T)$  has a linear temperature dependence. A linear fit for the solid vapor pressure data in Figure 2.4 provides a correction factor equal to 0.844 with R<sup>2</sup> = 0.979, that is, experimental ln  $P_s = 0.844$  (predicted ln  $P_s$ ).

Figures 2.6a and 2.6b show the predicted solid vapor pressures versus literature values at 298K and 365K, respectively. At both temperatures, we capture qualitatively

the odd-even alternation in vapor pressures. Our predictions at 365K have an averaged error of 9.5% with the literature values, while the predictions of solid vapor pressure at 298K have a larger averaged error of 71.5%. Overall, the predictions are considered satisfactory given the simplicity of the method and the substantial uncertainty involved in the low-pressure data.

We have shown that the new hydrogen bonding parameters are appropriate for dicarboxylic acids. Since the new hydrogen bonding parameters for carboxylic acid functional groups were determined using the formic and acetic acid dimer results, they should also be applicable to monocarboxylic acids. In addition to mono- and dicarboxylic acids, we have also examined the applicability of the new parameters to aromatic monocarboxylic acids (e.g. benzoic acids). The simulation results, normal boiling points, calculated  $\Delta H_{vap}(T_b)$  and  $\Delta C_p(T_b)$ , for formic, acetic, and benzoic acids are shown in Table 2.6.



Figure 2.6: The odd-even effect. Comparison between the predicted solid vapor pressures and various literature vapor pressure values for  $C_3$ - $C_7$  dicarboxylic acids at (a) 365K and (b) 298K

	Formic	Acetic	Benzoic
Structure	0	0	
	н^ <sup>С</sup> `он	но <sup>-С</sup> -сн.	$\square \rightarrow \bigcirc$
	11 011	110 0113	HU 🖵
$T_m \left( \mathbf{K} \right)^{\mathrm{a}}$	$281.5 \pm 0.6$	$289.6 \pm 0.5$	$395.2 \pm 0.7$
$T_b \left( \mathbf{K} \right)^{\mathbf{a}}$	$373.9 \pm 0.5$	$391.2 \pm 0.6$	$523.2 \pm 0.2$
Target Temperature (K)	298.15	298.15	403.15
Target Density, $\rho_0$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.21	1.04	1.08
Simulation Density, $\rho$ (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.09	1.04	1.08
$\Delta\%^{b}$	10.16	0.34	0.47
Calculated $\Delta H_{vap}(T_b)$			
with ZPE correction (kJ/mol)	$35.14 \pm 2.6$	$39.70 \pm 5.4$	$70.72 \pm 5.2$
$\Delta C_p(T_b)$ (J/mol K)	-75.22	-81.18	-108.14
	1 1.1	• • •	

 Table 2.6: The Melting Points, Boiling Points, and Simulation Results for Formic,

 Acetic, and Benzoic acid

a. Values and uncertainties of the melting and boiling points are obtained from NIST chemistry webbook [13].

b.  $\Delta$ % is the percentage deviation of the predicted value from the literature.

Liquid vapor pressures are calculated using equation (2.2), and the results were compared with available experimental data [14] (Table 2.7). The averaged error for formic acid is only 7.7% and 14.3% for acetic acids (Table 2.7). For benzoic acid, we have a relatively larger discrepancy, corresponding to an averaged error of 31.2%. Nevertheless, it is still comparable with our averaged error for  $C_3 - C_7$  dicarboxylic acids (~29%).

	Experimental	Predicted P	Uncertainty in Predicted	
Temperature (K)	$P(\mathbf{k}Pa)^{a}$	(kPa)	P (kPa)	$\Delta\%$
Formic Acid		·		
299.79	6.19	4.92	1.21	- 20.50
307.58	8.88	7.42	1.65	- 16.49
310.03	9.90	8.39	1.81	- 15.19
316.8	13.29	11.66	2.31	- 12.27
324.84	18.43	16.84	3.00	- 8.62
329.03	21.83	20.21	3.41	- 7.42
336.16	28.64	27.18	4.19	- 5.09
344.58	38.85	37.78	5.27	- 2.75
349.13	45.63	44.74	5.94	- 1.96
353.36	52.45	52.07	6.63	- 0.72
357.00	59.30	59.11	7.29	- 0.31
364.87	76.34	76.84	8.98	0.65
			Averaged % error	-7.66
Acetic Acid				
297.54	2.00	1.46	0.76	- 27.24
304.76	3.00	2.28	1.07	- 23.92
310.15	4.00	3.14	1.36	- 21.50
318.14	6.00	4.91	1.87	- 18.13
324.11	8.00	6.74	2.31	- 15.77
328.92	10.00	8.60	2.70	- 14.00
338.12	15.00	13.37	3.48	- 10.84
355.32	30.00	28.20	4.74	- 6.01
369.37	50.00	48.45	4.82	- 3.09
374.69	60.00	58.64	4.41	- 2.27
			Averaged % error	- 14.28
<b>Benzoic Acid</b>				
405.25	1.33	0.56	0.20	- 57.81
419.85	2.67	1.32	0.39	- 50.47
435.75	5.33	3.08	0.74	- 42.23
445.95	8.00	5.09	1.06	- 36.33
459.35	13.33	9.43	1.57	- 29.24
478.95	26.66	21.43	2.38	- 19.63
500.15	53.33	47.29	2.63	- 11.32
522.35	101.32	98.74	0.64	- 2.55
			Averaged % error	- 31.20

Table 2.7: Predicted Liquid Vapor Pressures for Formic acid, Acetic acid, and Benzoic acids. The Uncertainties in the Prediction and the Percentage Error were Included

a. Liquid vapor pressures obtained from DIPPR database [14].



Figure 2.7: Predicted vs. Literature liquid vapor pressure, ln *P* (in the units of Pa) for formic acid, acetic acid, and benzoic acid. The solid line is the 1:1 correspondence line. The average error ranges from 8% (formic) to 31% (benzoic).

We are relying on equation (2.1) to estimate heat of vaporization at temperatures other than  $T = T_b$ . Table 2.7 shows that vapor pressures are often underestimated below  $T_b$  for formic, acetic, and benzoic acids. Note that the error diminishes as we approach the boiling point. Thus, the approximation in equation (2.1) could be explained by a  $\Delta C_p$ value that is overestimated by equation (2.4). In principle, we could adjust the value -0.8in equation (2.4) to avoid such systematic underestimation of vapor pressures. However, from Figure 2.3, we notice that for glutaric acid we overestimate the vapor pressures. Therefore, we choose to keep equation (2.4) as in reference [24].

# **2.5 Estimation of Uncertainties**

Uncertainties of individual data points are shown in Figures 2.2, 2.4 and 2.6. According to the DIPPR database [14], the maximum error in the experimental liquid vapor pressure data is 25%. An error of 5% can be found in the normal boiling point data for pimelic ( $C_7$ ) acid. Uncertainties for  $C_5$  and  $C_6$  diacids are not clearly given in the CRC Handbook [15]. The normal boiling points for  $C_3$  and  $C_4$  diacids were obtained by Lydersen method using the predicted critical temperatures by Thodos and Forman [16]. Since most of the normal boiling points estimation methods incur errors ranging from ~1% to 10% [24, 33], we estimated the error in the normal boiling points to be 10%. For melting points, values were obtained from the NIST chemistry Webbook [13] (Table 2.1 and 2.6), Experimental solid vapor pressure are usually determined from the Clausius-Clapeyron equation with a general form:

$$\ln P = -\frac{(\Delta H_{vap} \pm \sigma_{\Delta H_{vap}})}{RT} + (C \pm \sigma_C)$$
(2.6)

Uncertainties in experimental solid vapor pressures can be determined from  $\sigma_{\Delta H_{vap}}$  (see Table 2.5) and  $\sigma_c$  [19, 21-23], The uncertainty of predicted ln (liquid/solid vapor pressure) generally decreases with increasing temperature, as shown in Figure 2.8.



Figure 2.8: Uncertainties in solid vapor pressure (dotted line) and liquid vapor pressure (solid line),  $\ln P$ , as a function of temperature for C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> dicarboxylic acids

The large uncertainty at low temperature may be due to the extrapolation of predicted heats of vaporization at 500K to ambient temperature in addition to the linear dependence assumption in heats of vaporization. The relative error in the predicted vapor pressure,  $\delta P$ , can be calculated at different values of  $\delta V$ , where V can represent  $T_b$ ,  $\Delta H_{vap}(T_b)$  and  $\Delta C_p(T_b)$ ; the perturbation ( $\delta V$ ) is defined as:

$$\delta V = \frac{V - V_{\text{input}}}{V_{\text{max}} - V_{\text{input}}}$$
(2.7)

The input values,  $V_{input}$ , are listed in Table 2.4 for the five dicarboxylic acids, and it is assumed that there can be a maximum variation of 10% in the input values. Table 2.8 shows the relative errors in predicted liquid pressure at 500K for glutaric acid with different perturbations in  $T_b$ ,  $\Delta H_{vap}(T_b)$  and  $\Delta C_p(T_b)$ .

Parameter, V	Range,	Perturbation, $\delta V$	Relative error,
	$V_{\rm input}$ to $V_{\rm max}$		$\delta P$
$T_b$	576 – 634 K	0	0.67
		0.1 (1%)	0.40
		0.5 (5%)	-0.30
		1 (10%)	-0.69
$\Delta H_{vap}(T_b)$	81.12 – 89.23kJ/mol	0	0.67
		0.1 (1%)	0.63
		0.5 (5%)	0.48
		1 (10%)	0.31
$\Delta C_p(T_b)$	-112.64123.90 J/molK	0	0.67
		0.1 (1%)	0.67
		0.5 (5%)	0.66
		1 (10%)	0.65

 Table 2.8: Error in Predicted Liquid Vapor Pressure for Glutaric Acid at 500K

 Relative to Experiment (DIPPR) [14]

As shown in Table 2.8, the predicted liquid vapor pressure is most sensitive to normal boiling point  $(T_b)$  and least sensitive to the change in heat capacity  $\Delta C_p(T_b)$ . A 1% variation in boiling point changes  $\delta P$  from 0.67 to 0.40. The same variation in predicted heats of vaporization reduces  $\delta P$  to 0.63, and there is no change in  $\delta P$  with the 1% variation in  $\Delta C_p(T_b)$ . This order for glutaric (odd) acid also holds for adipic (even) acid, as shown in Figure 2.9.



Figure 2.9: Sensitivity of the predicted liquid vapor pressure on the value of  $T_b$  (triangles), on the value of  $\Delta H_{vap}$  ( $T_b$ ) (squares) and on the value of  $\Delta C_p(T_b)$  (circles) for glutaric acid at 500K and adipic acid at 495K

The normal boiling point is an important input parameter in the vapor pressure equation. Therefore, the vapor pressure method is usually applied to compounds with well-known normal boiling points. Nevertheless, we have shown that reasonable estimates for liquid vapor pressure can be obtained for dicarboxylic acids over a large temperature range even with an uncertainty of 10% in the input boiling temperatures.

The accuracy of the predicted heats of vaporization using CED directly depends on the accuracy of the force field used in the molecular simulations. To describe the strong hydrogen bonding capability of dicarboxylic acids, we modified the hydrogen bonding parameters in the Dreiding force field [30] to fit the QM results. We show that these new hydrogen bonding parameters are equally appropriate for other molecules containing the carboxylic acid functional group. In addition to mono- and dicarboxylic acids, the new hydrogen bonding parameters are also applicable to aromatic monocarboxylic acids. For instance, we obtain an averaged error for predicted liquid vapor pressures of ~8% for formic acid, ~14% for acetic acid, and ~31% for benzoic acid, which is comparable to the overall average error of the C<sub>3</sub> - C<sub>7</sub> diacids (~29%).

Little experimental data are available on the change of heat capacity upon boiling. Chickos et al. [34] calculated an average value of -134 J/mol K with a standard deviation of 71 J/mol K for most organic solids at 298K. Their analysis also indicated  $\Delta C_p$  is not a strong function of temperature. The estimated  $\Delta C_p(T_b)$  using equation (2.4) (see Table 2.4) are well within the range of  $\Delta C_p$  values observed by Chickos et al. [34]. On the other hand,  $\Delta C_p(T_b)$  can also be estimated by MD simulations, with results ranging from – 139.08 J/molK for succinic acid (C<sub>4</sub> diacid) to –315.26 J/molK for pimelic acid (C<sub>7</sub> diacid). These values are outside the range of  $\Delta C_p$  values observed by Chickos et al. [34].

Using these MD predicted  $\Delta C_p(T_b)$  values, a factor of 2 (or more) error were found for the predicted liquid and solid vapor pressures. Therefore, we continue to use equation (2.4) for the input  $\Delta C_p(T_b)$  values.

Mydral and Yalkowsky [6] developed a vapor pressure estimation method that only requires the knowledge of transition temperatures and the molecular structure of the compound. Compared their results to ours, we find (Table 2.9) that our predictive method performed better than the Mydral and Yalkowsky equation [6] for liquid vapor pressures. For  $C_3 - C_7$  diacids, an averaged error of 40% was found for the Mydral and Yalkowsky equation [6], while the averaged error for our results is only 26%, as shown in Table 2.9.

	Malonic	Succinic	Glutaric	Adipic	Pimelic	Average % Error
Number of carbons, n	3	4	5	6	7	
Experimental <sup>a</sup>	7662.10	5211.60	4793.80	3257.00	2343.90	
Our predictions	9254.29	5593.84	7904.17	2779.96	1813.53	26.1%
Mydral and Yalkowsky						
equation [6]	4749.96	3137.96	5597.39	1434.64	1198.40	39.9%
~		1.0				

Table 2.9: Comparison between the Vapor Pressure (Pa) Predicted by Mydral andYalkowsky Equation [6] and Our Computational Chemistry Method at 500K.Experimental data were also included

a. Liquid vapor pressure data obtained from DIPPR database [14]

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# 2.7 Supporting Information

#### 2.7.1 Determining the Hydrogen Bonding Parameters in the Force Field

The accuracy of the molecular dynamics results directly depends on the accuracy of the force field. The hydrogen bond parameters in the original Dreiding force field [30] were optimized for water dimers. However, these parameters do not account for the strong hydrogen bonding ability of the carboxylic acid functional group.

To re-determine these parameters, we used density functional theory (DFT/B3LYP) quantum mechanical calculations to calculate the interaction energies of the dimers, from which we extracted the hydrogen bond parameters. The optimized hydrogen bond parameters were used to compare molecular dynamics predictions of heats of vaporization, as explained above the paper, to experimental data without further optimization.

The Dreiding force field [30] uses the Lennard-Jones 12-10 function,

$$E_{hb}(r) = D_0 \left[ 5 \left( \frac{r_0}{r} \right)^{12} - 6 \left( \frac{r_0}{r} \right)^{10} \right] \cos^4(\theta_{DHA})$$

to describe hydrogen bonding interactions. Here *r* is the distance between the hydrogen bond donor and acceptor,  $r_0$  is the equilibrium hydrogen bond distance between the donor and acceptor, and  $D_0$  is the hydrogen bond strength in kcal/mol. In addition the energy depends on the angle  $\theta_{DHA}$  between the bond of the H to the donor atom and the line between the donor and acceptor angle. The hydrogen-bond function in Dreiding uses  $r_0 =$ 2.75 Å and  $D_0 = 4.00$  kcal/mol, parameters that were optimized for water dimers. These values are too large and too low, respectively, to represent the hydrogen bonding in dicarboxylic acids. For our acid systems, *r* would be the distance between the two oxygen



atoms of the  $O \cdots H - O$  hydrogen bond, as shown in Figure 2.10.

Figure 2.10: Dimeric configuration for acetic acid (C<sub>2h</sub> symmetry)

We assumed (and found) that formic and acetic acids form cyclic dimers with point group  $C_{2h}$  in the gas phase, as established previously with experiment and computation [35, 36].

To determine the appropriate parameters for organic acids:

- The binding energy curve of the acid dimer, as a function of the *r*, was obtained from QM (DFT/B3LYP).
- Using Mulliken charges at optimum geometries of the monomer derived from the DFT/B3LYP method, we calculated the similar binding energy curve using the Dreiding force field, but with the hydrogen bonding function was turned off.
- The difference between the two binding energy curves was taken as the hydrogenbonding energy curve.
- 4. Optimum values for  $D_0$  and  $r_0$  were determined by fitting the above function to the hydrogen-bonding energy curve.

For formic acid, the LJ12-10 hydrogen-bonding function fits well with the calculated hydrogen bonding energy curve with a  $r_0 = 2.55$ Å and  $D_0 = 7.15$  kcal/mol (Figure 2.11).



Figure 2.11: Comparison of QM results with fitted hydrogen-bonding energy curves for formic acid. The fitted functions are LJ12-10 and Exp-6

Other functional forms could be used to describe hydrogen bonding. For instance, we find that an exponential-6 (Exp-6) function,

$$E_{hb}(r) = D_0 \left\{ \left( \frac{6}{\zeta - 6} \right) \exp\left[ \zeta \left( 1 - \frac{r}{r_0} \right) \right] - \left( \frac{\zeta}{\zeta - 6} \right) \left( \frac{r_0}{r} \right)^6 \right\}$$

fits the hydrogen bonding energy for a wider range of hydrogen bond donor-acceptor distance (R(O...O)) with  $r_0 = 2.55$ Å,  $D_0 = 7.15$  kcal/mol and  $\zeta = 9.37$ . However, the default LJ12-10 function seems sufficiently accurate for our systems.

The hydrogen-bonding parameters were also determined for acetic acid in a similar fashion. For acetic acid, the  $r_0$  and  $D_0$  are found to be 2.50Å and 7.50 kcal/mol,

respectively, for LJ12-10. The Exp-6 potential fits well for the same  $r_0$  and  $D_0$  values with  $\zeta = 9.34$ . (see Figure 2.12)



Figure 2.12: Hydrogen-bonding energy curve for acetic acid determined by both quantum mechanics and force field calculation, and the fitted LJ12-10 and Exp-6 functions.

The total binding energy curve as a function of *r* was also determined for acetic acid with the LJ12-10 hydrogen bonding potential. Figure 2.13 shows that the binding energy from force field calculation with the new parameters ( $r_0 = 2.50$ Å and  $D_0 = 7.50$  kcal/mol) agrees well with the QM calculations.



Figure 2.13: Total binding energy curves for the acetic acid dimer determined using quantum mechanics and force field calculations with new hydrogen bonding parameters. Negative energies are binding, positive are repulsive.

We determined new hydrogen bonding parameters for carboxylic acid functional groups based on the formic and acetic acid dimer results. For dicarboxylic acid systems, the hydrogen bond parameters determined using acetic acids should be more appropriate than those determined by formic acids. Chao and Zwolinski [35] determined the enthalpy of dimerization for acetic acid to be 15.10 kcal/mol. Our calculated value using the new hydrogen bonding parameters is 14.96 kcal/mol. Thus we have shown that ab initio determined hydrogen bond parameters can provide reasonable estimate for the binding energy, heats of vaporization, and vapor pressures of the carboxylic acids presented here.

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