

Supporting Information

Ionization Energies in Solutions with QM:QM approach

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Table S1. The evolution of the calculated mean value of cytosine VIE and FWHM of the distribution with the size of the QM region. The data are presented for a simple electrostatic embedding scheme. SPC/E charges were used for water molecules. In the QM part, the BMK functional with 6-31+g* was employed.

# water in QM	# samples	total size of the system (QM + MM)								
		100		200		400		600		
		VIE	FWHM	VIE	FWHM	VIE	FWHM	# samples	VIE	FWHM
0	100	8.750±0.028	0.668±0.048	8.755±0.029	0.680±0.053	8.767±0.029	0.670±0.050	400	8.771±0.014	0.647±0.022
5	100	8.630±0.028	0.663±0.042	8.639±0.029	0.682±0.039	8.656±0.030	0.697±0.048	400	8.660±0.015	0.682±0.023
10	100	8.541±0.029	0.682±0.048	8.558±0.029	0.682±0.043	8.567±0.029	0.689±0.045	400	8.566±0.014	0.672±0.022
20	100	8.420±0.029	0.675±0.047	8.433±0.029	0.676±0.043	8.444±0.029	0.671±0.041	400	8.460±0.014	0.664±0.022
40	50	8.267±0.042	0.695±0.074	8.313±0.044	0.725±0.066	8.326±0.043	0.721±0.054	100	8.341±0.029	0.678±0.049
60	50	8.156±0.046	0.768±0.080	8.262±0.044	0.740±0.049	8.274±0.044	0.733±0.056	50	8.314±0.043	0.716±0.056

Table S2. Calculated mean values of the VIE for clusters of cytosine and water. The system contained altogether 400 water molecules, from 5 to 40 water molecules explicitly calculated at the BMK and PBE/6-31+g* levels, the remaining molecules were represented by SPC/E water charges. Data presented in the table were obtained for a cluster cut from a box simulation.

# water in QM	BMK			PBE		
	VIE	$Q^0(\text{cyt})$	$Q^+(\text{cyt})$	VIE	$Q^0(\text{cyt})$	$Q^+(\text{cyt})$
5	8.656±0.030	0.102±0.005	0.996±0.006	8.098±0.027	0.114±0.006	0.733±0.008
10	8.567±0.029	0.155±0.008	0.983±0.009	7.894±0.025	0.175±0.008	0.642±0.009
20	8.444±0.029	0.187±0.010	0.952±0.011	7.635±0.023	0.213±0.011	0.552±0.012
40	8.326±0.043	0.146±0.015	0.914±0.014	7.344±0.034	0.156±0.016	0.423±0.019

Table S3. VIE of cytosine within the QM:QM model as a function of an increasing system size. We consider either 0 (QM0) or 5 (QM5) water molecules together with cytosine in the QM fragment. In the QM:QM scheme, the BMK functional with the 6-31+g basis set was used. The results are presented for clusters obtained either from classical simulations of a given cluster size in vacuo (S1), or for clusters obtained by cutting from a large box simulation (S2). The results were averaged over 400 samples.*

#water	S1, QM0		S1, QM5		S2, QM0	
	VIE	FWHM	VIE	FWHM	VIE	FWHM
0	8.736±0.001	0.033±0.004	-	-	8.732±0.008	0.395±0.031
50	8.588±0.019	0.893±0.037	8.556±0.018	0.865±0.036	8.490±0.016	0.737±0.025
100	8.529±0.025	1.188±0.047	8.495±0.025	1.162±0.046	8.399±0.014	0.671±0.023
200	8.459±0.019	0.899±0.041	8.427±0.019	0.879±0.040	8.344±0.014	0.677±0.023
400	8.367±0.015	0.724±0.023	8.336±0.015	0.698±0.026	8.290±0.015	0.688±0.024
600	8.368±0.015	0.713±0.023	8.344±0.015	0.697±0.022	8.274±0.014	0.680±0.022

Table S4. Statistical convergence of VIE with the number of samples. Simulation for clusters in vacuo, QM:QM scheme, BMK functional with 6-31+g* basis set.

#water	0	50	100	200	400	600
#sample						
100	8.737±0.002	8.564±0.030	8.525±0.048	8.441±0.035	8.373±0.029	8.377±0.028
200	8.736±0.001	8.574±0.024	8.504±0.0344	8.476±0.027	8.372±0.021	8.393±0.021
300	8.736±0.001	8.576±0.021	8.537±0.029	8.470±0.022	8.370±0.018	8.372±0.018
400	8.735±0.001	8.588±0.019	8.529±0.025	8.459±0.019	8.367±0.015	8.368±0.015
500	8.736±0.001	8.580±0.017	8.535±0.023	8.459±0.017	8.372±0.014	8.378±0.014

Table S5. Statistical convergence of the FWHM with the number of samples. Simulation for clusters in vacuo, QM:QM scheme, BMK functional with 6-31+g* basis set.

#water	0	50	100	200	400	600
#sample						
100	0.034±0.007	0.707±0.052	1.119±0.084	0.830±0.060	0.689±0.046	0.660±0.043
200	0.029±0.005	0.816±0.047	1.147±0.060	0.894±0.047	0.691±0.031	0.687±0.029
300	0.028±0.003	0.867±0.043	1.168±0.049	0.894±0.044	0.713±0.031	0.715±0.025
400	0.034±0.004	0.893±0.037	1.188±0.047	0.899±0.041	0.710±0.026	0.713±0.023
500	0.035±0.004	0.912±0.033	1.183±0.043	0.917±0.037	0.724±0.023	0.718±0.021