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Gaussian-2 theory for molecular energies of first- and second-row compounds

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The Gaussian-2 theoretical procedure (G2 theory), based on *ab initio* molecular orbital theory, for calculation of molecular energies (atomization energies, ionization potentials, electron affinities, and proton affinities) of compounds containing first- (Li–F) and second-row atoms (Na–Cl) is presented. This new theoretical procedure adds three features to G1 theory [J. Chem. Phys. **90**, 5622 (1989)] including a correction for nonadditivity of diffuse-*sp* and *2df* basis set extensions, a basis set extension containing a third *d* function on nonhydrogen atoms and a second *p* function on hydrogen atoms, and a modification of the higher level correction. G2 theory is a significant improvement over G1 theory because it eliminates a number of deficiencies present in G1 theory. Of particular importance is the improvement in atomization energies of ionic molecules such as LiF and hydrides such as C₂H₆, NH₃, N₂H₄, H₂O₂, and CH₃SH. The average absolute deviation from experiment of atomization energies of 39 first-row compounds is reduced from 1.42 to 0.92 kcal/mol. In addition, G2 theory gives improved performance for hypervalent species and electron affinities of second-row species (the average deviation from experiment of electron affinities of second-row species is reduced from 1.94 to 1.08 kcal/mol). Finally, G2 atomization energies for another 43 molecules, not previously studied with G1 theory, many of which have uncertain experimental data, are presented and differences with experiment are assessed.

I. INTRODUCTION

In previous papers^{1,2} we have presented a general theoretical procedure, based on *ab initio* molecular orbital theory, for the computation of total energies of molecules at their equilibrium geometries. The objective was to develop a general predictive procedure, applicable to any molecular system in an unambiguous manner, which can reproduce known experimental data to a prescribed accuracy of about ± 2 kcal/mol and can be applied with similar accuracy to species having larger experimental uncertainty. The theoretical procedure, referred to as "Gaussian-1 theory" ("G1 theory" for short), was a composite one, based on the 6-311G(*d,p*) basis set and two basis set extensions (diffuse-*sp* and *2df*). Treatment of correlation is by Møller–Plesset (MP) perturbation theory and quadratic configuration interaction. The procedure was used to calculate atomization energies, ionization energies, proton affinities, and electron affinities of a large number of molecules for which these quantities have been well established experimentally. For compounds containing first-row elements agreement with experiment was found to be within ± 2 kcal/mol (± 0.1 eV) in most cases and for those containing second-row elements² agreement was found to be within ± 3 kcal/mol

(± 0.15 eV). G1 theory has also been applied to numerous molecules^{3–9} where the experimental energies have not been as well established and in these cases it has provided valuable information.

G1 theory was conceived as the first in a series of well-defined methods that could be routinely applied to the calculation of molecular energies in a systematic manner. A number of deficiencies in G1 theory were noted and future developments to alleviate these deficiencies were indicated as being desirable. In particular G1 theory does poorly on dissociation energies of ionic molecules such as LiF (3.7 kcal/mol too high), on triplet state molecules such as O₂ (2.6 kcal/mol too low) and S₂ (2.3 kcal/mol too low), on singlet–triplet energy separations such as those of CH₂ (2.8 kcal/mol too small) and SiH₂ (2.7 kcal/mol too large), and on some hydrides such as NH₃ (2.5 kcal/mol too low) and N₂H₄ (4.1 kcal/mol too low). Also, G1 theory does poorly on the hypervalent species SO₂ and ClO₂ where the atomization energies are low by 6–8 kcal/mol. It was found that an additional *d* function may reduce this discrepancy.²

In this paper we set forth the Gaussian-2 theoretical procedure (referred to as "G2 theory"), which makes a significant improvement over G1 theory by eliminating some of the above deficiencies. It has the following new features: (1) It eliminates the assumption of additivity of the diffuse-*sp* (+) and *2df* basis set extensions used in G1 theory. This

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change gives significant improvement for ionic species and some anions. (2) It adds a third d function on the nonhydrogen atoms and a second p function on the hydrogens. The third d function is especially important for some hypervalent molecules containing second-row atoms such as ClO_2 and SO_2 , while the second p function significantly improves the atomization energies of some of the hydrogen containing molecules. (3) Finally, the higher level correction (HLC), which was determined in G1 theory by the error in the calculated energy of the H_2 molecule and the H atom, is determined from the best fit to the experimental atomization energies of 55 molecules for which the experimental value is well established. This also contributes to an improvement in calculated energies. In Sec. II the specifics of the G2 theory are given. In Sec. III the G2 and experimental values for 0 K atomization energies (ΣD_0), ionization potentials, proton affinities, and electron affinities are compared. These comparisons are restricted to examples where accurate experimental data are known and are the same ones that were used to test the performance of G1 theory.^{1,2} Finally, in Sec. IV atomization energies from G2 theory are given for 79 molecules (including 43 which were not previously considered with G1 theory) for which the experimental data is less accurate. Species for which there are significant discrepancies between theory and experiment are discussed in this section.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE THEORETICAL METHOD

G1 theory has been described in detail in Refs. 1 and 2. It is based on $\text{MP2} = \text{FU}/6-31\text{G}^*$ (second-order MP perturbation) geometries using all electrons ($\text{MP2} = \text{FU}$). Energies are calculated at the $\text{MP4SDTQ}/6-311\text{G}(d,p)$ level (complete fourth-order MP perturbation) with corrections due to diffuse- sp functions on nonhydrogen atoms [$\Delta E(+)$], higher polarization functions on nonhydrogen atoms [$\Delta E(2df)$], and for correlation beyond fourth-order perturbation theory using quadratic configuration interaction [$\Delta E(\text{QCI})$]. A final higher level correction, $E(\text{HLC})$, to make E_c exact for hydrogen atom and hydrogen molecule is added. This corresponds to 6.14 millihartrees for each valence electron pair and 0.19 millihartrees for each unpaired electron. (The justification and possible problems with the use of the higher level correction are discussed in detail in Ref. 1.) Finally, the energy E_0 is obtained by adding a zero-point energy [$\Delta E(\text{ZPE})$, scaled $\text{HF}/6-31\text{G}^*$ frequencies] to E_c . In this paper we refer to this energy as $E_0(\text{G1})$.

In G2 theory a correction Δ is added to the G1 energy. This is composed of two parts, both computed at the MP2 level. The first part Δ_1 corrects for nonadditivity caused by the assumption of separate basis set extensions for diffuse- sp functions (+) and higher polarization functions ($2df$) in G1 theory,

$$\Delta_1 = \Delta(+2df) - \Delta(+)-\Delta(2df), \quad (1)$$

where $\Delta(+2df) = E[\text{MP2}/6-311 + \text{G}(3df,2p)] - E[\text{MP2}/6-311\text{G}(d,p)]$, $\Delta(+)=E[\text{MP2}/6-311 + \text{G}(d,p)] - E[\text{MP2}/6-311\text{G}(d,p)]$, and $\Delta(2df) = E[\text{MP2}/6-311\text{G}(2df,p)] - E[\text{MP2}/6-311\text{G}(d,p)]$.

The second part Δ_2 is a correction for addition of a third d

function to the nonhydrogen atoms and a second p function to the hydrogens,

$$\Delta_2 = E[\text{MP2}/6-311 + \text{G}(3df,2p)] - E[\text{MP2}/6-311 + \text{G}(2df,p)]. \quad (2)$$

The total correction Δ is then

$$\Delta = \Delta_1 + \Delta_2 = E[\text{MP2}/6-311 + \text{G}(3df,2p)] - E[\text{MP2}/6-311\text{G}(2df,p)] - E[\text{MP2}/6-311 + \text{G}(d,p)] + E[\text{MP2}/6-311\text{G}(d,p)]. \quad (3)$$

Thus, G2 theory requires only one additional calculation, $\text{MP2}/6-311 + \text{G}(3df,2p)$, the other MP2 values in Eq. (3) already being done in G1 theory as part of the MP4 calculations.

The G2 energy is then obtained as follows:

$$E_0(\text{G2}) = E_0(\text{G1}) + \Delta + 1.14n_{\text{pair}}, \quad (4)$$

where n_{pair} is the number of valence pairs. The last term in Eq. (4) lowers the higher level correction (HLC) of 6.14 millihartrees per electron pair in G1 theory by 1.14 millihartrees. The value of 1.14 was determined to give the zero mean deviation from experiment of the calculated atomization energies of 55 molecules having well-established experimental values (Table III).

The use of MP2 instead of MP4 energies to obtain the correction Δ in Eq. (3) has been examined in several test calculations and found to be valid. The results are shown in Table I for the ΣD_0 's of CH_4 , HCCH , H_2S , CO , Cl_2 , NaCl and the IP of HCCH . The differences between the MP4 calculation and the MP2 approximation used in Eq. (3) are small.

III. COMPARISON WITH ACCURATE EXPERIMENTAL DATA

G2 theory has been applied to the set of atoms, molecules and ions in Table II. This includes the species chosen in Refs. 1 and 2 to test the G1 theory. It also includes 79 species whose atomization energies are not as well known. Results for these species are discussed in Sec. IV. Table II contains

TABLE I. Comparison of use of MP2 and MP4 energies to calculate Δ [Eq. (3)].

	G2 reaction energies (in kcal/mol)	
	MP2 energies used to calculate Δ^a	MP4 energies used to calculate Δ
$\text{CH}_4 \rightarrow \text{C} + 4\text{H}$	393.2	393.1
$\text{CO} \rightarrow \text{C} + \text{O}$	258.1	258.0
$\text{HCCH} \rightarrow 2\text{H} + 2\text{C}$	387.3	387.2
$\text{H}_2\text{S} \rightarrow 2\text{H} + \text{S}$	173.0	173.0
$\text{Cl}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{Cl}$	55.8	56.1
$\text{NaCl} \rightarrow \text{Na} + \text{Cl}$	98.8	98.9
$\text{C}_2\text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{C}_2\text{H}_2^+ + e^-$	263.3	263.3

^a Corresponds to method proposed in this paper.

TABLE II. G1 and G2 total energies.^a

Molecule	E_0 (G1)	Δ	E_0 (G2)
H	-0.500 00	...	-0.500 00
H ₂	-1.165 01	-2.49	-1.166 36
Li	-7.432 22	...	-7.432 22
Be	-14.623 37	-0.11	-14.622 34
B	-24.602 79	-0.40	-24.602 05
C	-37.784 64	-0.82	-37.784 32
N	-54.517 76	-1.36	-54.517 98
O	-74.982 04	-2.27	-74.982 03
F	-99.632 75	-3.49	-99.632 82
Na	-161.846 18	...	-161.846 18
Mg	-199.646 13	-0.15	-199.645 14
Al	-241.931 67	-0.44	-241.930 97
Si	-288.933 78	-0.61	-288.933 25
P	-340.818 00	-1.36	-340.818 22
S	-397.654 93	-2.30	-397.654 95
Cl	-459.676 70	-3.36	-459.676 64
LiH	-8.022 28	-1.34	-8.022 48
BeH	-15.195 28	-0.77	-15.194 91
BeH ₂	-15.844 26	-1.56	-15.843 54
BH	-25.234 70	-1.57	-25.233 99
BH ₂	-25.856 51	-3.03	-25.857 26
BH ₃	-26.524 07	-4.21	-26.524 86
CH	-38.412 20	-2.66	-38.412 58
CH ₂ (³ B ₁)	-39.067 00	-4.28	-39.069 00
CH ₂ (¹ A ₁)	-39.057 10	-4.72	-39.058 40
CH ₃	-39.742 54	-5.97	-39.745 09
CH ₄	-40.407 72	-7.72	-40.410 88
NH	-55.140 77	-3.68	-55.142 17
NH ₂	-55.786 16	-6.28	-55.789 02
NH ₃	-56.454 77	-8.44	-56.458 65
OH	-75.642 14	-5.19	-75.643 91
OH ₂	-76.328 34	-8.27	-76.332 05
FH	-100.347 13	-7.44	-100.350 01
NaH	-162.416 99	-2.11	-162.417 96
MgH	-200.191 53	-1.44	-200.191 83
MgH ₂	-200.804 04	-2.49	-200.804 25
AlH	-242.546 70	-1.77	-242.546 19
AlH ₂	-243.118 73	-2.51	-243.118 96
AlH ₃	-243.753 98	-3.59	-243.753 95
SiH	-289.546 30	-1.98	-289.546 00
SiH ₂ (¹ A ₁)	-290.167 90	-3.23	-290.167 71
SiH ₂ (³ B ₁)	-290.130 13	-2.64	-290.130 49
SiH ₃	-290.773 21	-3.73	-290.773 51
SiH ₄	-291.418 81	-4.79	-291.419 04
PH	-341.427 35	-3.36	-341.428 43
PH ₂	-342.047 25	-5.30	-342.049 13
PH ₃	-342.676 54	-7.06	-342.679 04
SH	-398.285 48	-4.92	-398.286 98
SH ₂	-398.927 82	-7.47	-398.930 73
ClH	-460.337 98	-6.75	-460.340 17
Li ₂	-14.907 04	+0.14	-14.905 76
LiN	-62.012 72	+0.91	-62.009 52
LiO	-82.540 29	+1.31	-82.535 56
LiOH	-83.244 73	-0.50	-83.240 67
LiF	-107.290 13	+1.36	-107.284 21
LiCl	-467.290 09	-2.08	-467.287 61
BeO	-89.767 53	-0.67	-89.763 64
BeOH	-90.430 37	-3.42	-90.429 23
BeF	-114.468 33	-1.58	-114.465 35
BeS	-412.397 58	-3.14	-412.396 16
BeCl	-474.440 70	-4.07	-474.440 21
BO	-99.890 26	-4.40	-99.889 70
HBO	-100.566 37	-5.71	-100.566 38
BS	-422.467 82	-3.61	-422.466 87
HBS	-423.142 99	-4.37	-423.141 66
BCl	-484.475 76	-4.57	-484.474 63
C ₂	-75.804 02	-4.33	-75.803 79

TABLE II (continued).

Molecule	E_0 (G1)	Δ	E_0 (G2)
C ₂ H	-76.473 45	-4.15	-76.473 04
C ₂ H ₂	-77.186 02	-5.42	-77.185 74
C ₂ H ₃	-77.738 45	-7.21	-77.739 96
C ₂ H ₄	-78.414 01	-8.76	-78.415 93
C ₂ H ₅	-78.966 61	-10.57	-78.970 34
C ₂ H ₆	-79.626 56	-12.32	-79.630 90
CN	-92.583 36	-3.96	-92.582 76
HCN	-93.285 47	-5.12	-93.284 89
H ₂ CNH	-94.460 95	-9.17	-94.463 28
H ₂ CNH ₂	-95.662 10	-12.79	-95.666 91
CO	-113.177 22	-5.97	-113.177 49
HCO	-113.697 46	-7.07	-113.698 83
H ₂ CO	-114.337 24	-8.48	-114.338 88
H ₃ COH	-115.530 59	-12.28	-115.534 89
CF	-137.626 79	-5.91	-137.627 00
HCF	-138.246 05	-7.86	-138.247 07
H ₃ CF	-139.551 26	-10.93	-139.554 21
CSi	-326.875 72	-2.84	-326.875 14
CP	-378.798 14	-4.82	-378.798 40
HCP	-379.491 83	-5.64	-379.491 77
H ₂ CPH	-380.690 52	-8.43	-380.692 11
H ₃ CPH	-381.902 31	-11.71	-381.906 04
CS	-435.712 57	-4.13	-435.711 00
H ₂ CS	-436.933 01	-7.52	-436.933 69
H ₃ CSH	-438.145 32	-11.13	-438.148 47
CCl	-497.614 33	-5.13	-497.613 76
H ₃ CCl	-499.552 04	-9.77	-499.553 83
N ₂	-109.393 72	-4.59	-109.392 61
H ₂ NNH ₂	-111.675 21	-13.22	-111.680 45
NO	-129.739 12	-6.53	-129.739 95
HNO	-130.313 89	-8.34	-130.315 39
NF	-154.271 14	-6.58	-154.272 02
NSi	-343.626 48	-3.74	-343.624 52
NP	-395.568 58	-4.25	-395.567 13
NS	-452.344 17	-6.93	-452.345 40
O ₂	-150.147 90	-6.02	-150.148 22
HOO	-150.725 66	-8.91	-150.727 73
HOOH	-151.362 91	-10.85	-151.365 78
HOF	-175.352 02	-9.36	-175.353 40
ONa	-236.936 08	+1.71	-236.930 95
HONa	-237.623 90	+0.87	-237.618 47
OMg	-274.726 37	+0.30	-274.721 52
HOMg	-275.407 10	-2.56	-275.405 10
OSi	-364.218 92	-2.96	-364.216 18
OP	-416.021 20	-7.25	-416.022 75
OPH	-416.627 99	-7.62	-416.628 77
OS	-472.828 54	-6.65	-472.829 49
OCl	-534.755 75	-7.26	-534.756 17
HOCl	-535.407 52	-9.04	-535.408 58
F ₂	-199.325 21	-6.74	-199.323 97
FNa	-261.669 29	+3.11	-261.661 62
FMg	-299.448 50	-1.44	-299.445 38
FAI	-341.825 83	-1.14	-341.821 27
FSi	-388.790 22	-2.48	-388.787 00
FSiH ₃	-390.645 01	-7.00	-390.644 03
FP	-440.619 77	-4.54	-440.618 62
FS	-497.418 68	-6.34	-497.418 18
FCI	-559.406 67	-7.97	-559.406 67
Na ₂	-323.724 10	-0.04	-323.723 00
NaCl	-621.681 29	-3.49	-621.680 22
MgS	-597.383 42	-3.05	-597.381 91
MgCl	-659.442 75	-3.08	-659.441 27
AlCl	-701.802 85	-3.03	-701.800 18
Si ₂	-577.985 92	-1.26	-577.983 76
H ₃ SiSiH ₃	-581.668 99	-7.07	-581.668 08
SiS	-686.821 69	-3.22	-686.819 21
SiCl	-748.771 53	-2.80	-748.768 63

TABLE II (continued).

Molecule	E_0 (G1)	Δ	E_0 (G2)
CiSiH ₃	-750.623 54	-6.25	-750.621 81
P ₂	-681.820 90	-4.10	-681.819 30
H ₂ PPH ₂	-684.185 29	-9.57	-684.186 88
PS	-738.631 02	-5.49	-738.630 81
PCI	-800.614 62	-3.24	-800.612 16
S ₂	-795.466 63	-4.19	-795.465 12
HSSH	-796.671 62	-8.24	-796.671 87
CiS	-857.436 60	-3.91	-857.433 67
Cl ₂	-919.445 85	-4.33	-919.442 20
CO ₂	-188.361 07	-9.36	-188.361 31
COS	-510.949 17	-7.95	-510.948 00
CS ₂	-833.534 97	-7.70	-833.533 55
O ₃	-225.175 16	-9.61	-225.174 51
O ₂ Si	-439.364 05	-6.07	-439.361 00
O ₂ S	-548.011 92	-14.06	-548.015 72
O ₂ Cl	-609.823 59	-18.96	-609.832 29
Li ⁺	-7.235 84	...	-7.235 84
Be ⁺	-14.276 39	...	-14.276 39
B ⁺	-24.301 75	-0.06	-24.300 67
C ⁺	-37.374 05	-0.54	-37.373 45
N ⁺	-53.986 00	-1.13	-53.985 99
O ⁺	-74.484 39	-1.73	-74.484 98
F ⁺	-98.993 62	-2.53	-98.993 87
Na ⁺	-161.664 23	-0.06	-161.664 29
Mg ⁺	-199.364 02	-0.06	-199.364 08
Al ⁺	-241.713 79	-0.39	-241.713 04
Si ⁺	-288.636 26	-0.53	-288.635 65
P ⁺	-340.434 37	-1.14	-340.434 37
S ⁺	-397.279 56	-1.74	-397.280 16
Cl ⁺	-459.203 84	-2.98	-459.204 54
CH ₄ ⁺	-39.941 73	-6.57	-39.944 88
NH ₃ ⁺	-56.081 10	-6.42	-56.084 10
NH ₄ ⁺	-56.777 82	-8.14	-56.781 40
OH ⁺	-75.165 45	-3.85	-75.167 02
OH ₂ ⁺	-75.865 23	-6.17	-75.867 98
OH ₃ ⁺	-76.588 66	-7.83	-76.591 93
FH ⁺	-99.756 67	-5.63	-99.758 88
SiH ₄ ⁺	-291.013 76	-3.95	-291.014 29
SiH ₅ ⁺	-291.662 46	-4.96	-291.662 86
PH ⁺	-341.057 02	-2.91	-341.057 65
PH ₂ ⁺	-341.690 49	-4.77	-341.691 84
PH ₃ ⁺	-342.314 24	-5.58	-342.316 40
PH ₄ ⁺	-342.973 17	-7.10	-342.975 71
SH ⁺	-397.906 66	-3.54	-397.907 92
SH ₂ ⁺ (² B ₁)	-398.545 31	-5.53	-398.547 42
SH ₂ ⁺ (² A ₁)	-398.460 36	-5.22	-398.462 16
SH ₃ ⁺	-399.195 21	-7.31	-399.197 96
CIH ⁺	-459.870 96	-5.36	-459.872 90
CIH ₂ ⁺	-460.548 82	-7.87	-460.552 13
C ₂ H ₂ ⁺	-76.765 65	-4.89	-76.765 98
C ₂ H ₃ ⁺	-77.429 07	-7.23	-77.430 60
C ₂ H ₄ ⁺	-78.024 69	-8.26	-78.027 25
CO ⁺	-112.660 23	-6.87	-112.662 54
CS ⁺	-435.291 03	-4.94	-435.291 41
N ₂ ⁺ (² Σ_g^+)	-108.820 29	-4.90	-108.820 63
N ₂ ⁺ (² Π_u)	-108.780 24	-4.47	-108.780 15
O ₂ ⁺	-149.700 94	-5.73	-149.700 97
FCI ⁺	-558.939 77	-8.96	-558.941 89
P ₂ ⁺	-681.433 45	-2.90	-681.431 79
S ₂ ⁺	-795.125 70	-4.11	-795.124 11
Cl ₂ ⁺	-919.021 69	-4.32	-919.019 17
C ⁻	-37.828 25	-0.95	-37.828 06
O ⁻	-75.033 85	-2.98	-75.033 41
F ⁻	-99.759 93	-5.32	-99.760 69
Si ⁻	-288.982 27	-1.91	-288.983 04
P ⁻	-340.840 18	-3.77	-340.841 67

TABLE II (continued).

Molecule	E_0 (G1)	Δ	E_0 (G2)
S ⁻	-397.726 83	-5.15	-397.728 56
Cl ⁻	-459.807 93	-5.62	-459.808 99
CH ⁻	-38.452 82	-3.49	-38.454 03
CH ₂ ⁻	-39.090 72	-5.99	-39.093 29
CH ₃ ⁻	-39.742 99	-8.05	-39.746 48
NH ⁻	-55.151 77	-4.84	-55.153 19
NH ₂ ⁻	-55.813 43	-8.56	-55.817 43
OH ⁻	-75.709 99	-7.33	-75.712 76
SiH ⁻	-289.588 45	-3.28	-289.589 45
SiH ₂ ⁻	-290.203 07	-4.39	-290.204 04
SiH ₃ ⁻	-290.824 34	-5.86	-290.825 64
PH ⁻	-341.460 82	-6.23	-341.463 63
PH ₂ ⁻	-342.091 31	-8.20	-342.094 95
SH ⁻	-398.367 64	-8.51	-398.371 59
CN ⁻	-92.731 58	-2.91	-92.728 79
NO ⁻	-129.736 89	-6.33	-129.737 52
O ₂ ⁻	-150.165 25	-6.95	-150.165 36
OP ⁻	-416.061 63	-4.98	-416.060 91
S ₂ ⁻	-795.526 97	-5.84	-795.525 97
Cl ₂ ⁻	-919.529 09	-8.41	-919.529 52

*Total energies in hartrees; Δ is in mhartrees. Calculations done using the GAUSSIAN 88 series of computer programs: M. J. Frisch, M. Head-Gordon, H. B. Schlegel, K. Raghavachari, J. S. Binkley, C. Gonzalez, D. J. Defrees, D. J. Fox, R. A. Whitesides, R. Seeger, C. F. Melius, J. Baker, R. L. Martin, L. R. Kahn, J. J. P. Stewart, E. M. Fluder, S. Topiol, and J. A. Pople (Gaussian, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA, 1988).

G1 energies, the corrections Δ , and G2 energies for all species considered in this paper. The G2 energies were computed using Eq. (4). Tables III–VI contain G2 atomization energies, ionization energies, electron affinities, and proton affinities for the species that have well established experimental values and were studied with G1 theory in Refs. 1 and 2. Also included in these tables are the G1 and experimental values for comparison. Table VII contains a summary of the average absolute deviations of the theoretical values from experiment. For 125 energies the average absolute deviation at the G2 level is 1.21 kcal/mol compared to 1.53 kcal/mol at the G1 level. We now discuss the specific results.

Agreement between G2 theory and experiment is improved for atomization energies over the agreement with G1 theory. The G2 atomization energies have an average absolute deviation of 1.16 kcal/mol, a significant improvement over the deviation of 1.56 kcal/mol at the G1 level. The improvement is especially significant for the first row compounds (1.49 to 0.92 kcal/mol). At the G2 level, with the exception of O₂ (2.4 kcal/mol too high), H₂CO (2.1 kcal/mol too high), and CO₂ (2.7 kcal/mol too high), all of the first-row atomization energies differ from experiment by less than 2 kcal/mol and, with the exception of S₂ (3.3 kcal/mol too low) and SO₂ (5.1 kcal/mol too low), all of the second-row compounds differ by less than 3 kcal/mol.

The most dramatic improvement in atomization energy is that of LiF where the dissociation energy decreases from 141.3 kcal/mol (G1) to 137.5 kcal/mol (G2). The improvement is due to the large nonadditivity Δ_1 of the (+) and (2df) basis set expansions (6.83 millihartrees). Apparently,

TABLE III. Total atomization energies ΣD_0 (in kcal/mol).

Molecule	G1 theory	G2 theory	Expt. ^a
LiH	56.5	56.6	56.0
BeH	45.1	45.5	46.9
CH	80.0	80.5	79.9
CH ₂ (³ B ₁)	177.2	178.6	179.6
CH ₂ (¹ A ₁)	171.0	172.0	170.6
CH ₃	287.4	289.1	289.2
CH ₄	391.0	393.2	392.5
NH	77.2	77.9	79.0
NH ₂	168.4	170.1	170.0
NH ₃	274.2	276.5	276.7
OH	100.5	101.6	101.3
OH ₂	217.3	219.6	219.3
FH	134.5	136.3	135.2
SiH ₂ (¹ A ₁)	146.9	147.1	144.4
SiH ₂ (³ B ₁)	123.2	123.8	123.4
SiH ₃	213.1	213.5	214.0
SiH ₄	304.4	304.8	302.8
PH ₂	143.9	144.9	144.7
PH ₃	225.0	226.4	227.4
SH ₂	171.1	173.0	173.2
ClH	101.2	102.6	102.2
Li ₂	26.7	25.9	24.0
LiF	141.3	137.5	137.6
HCCCH	387.0	387.2	388.9
H ₂ CCH ₂	530.1	531.7	531.9
H ₃ CCH ₃	663.5	666.6	666.3
CN	176.3	176.0	176.6
HCN	303.1	302.8	301.8
CO	257.6	258.0	256.2
HCO	270.3	271.4	270.3
H ₂ CO	358.1	359.3	357.2
H ₃ COH	479.4	482.3	480.8
N ₂	224.8	223.8	225.1
H ₂ NNH ₂	401.4	404.4	405.4
NO	150.2	150.6	150.1
O ₂	115.4	115.6	118.0
HOOH	250.3	252.1	252.3
F ₂	37.5	36.6	36.9
CO ₂	384.3	384.6	381.9
Na ₂	19.8	19.2	16.6
Si ₂	74.3	73.6	74.0
P ₂	116.0	114.7	116.1
S ₂	98.4	97.4	100.7
Cl ₂	58.1	55.8	57.2
NaCl	99.4	98.8	97.5
SiO	190.2	188.8	190.5
SC	171.3	170.5	169.5
SO	120.1	120.8	123.5
ClO	60.9	61.2	63.3
ClF	60.9	61.0	60.3
Si ₂ H ₆	502.9	503.0	500.1
CH ₃ Cl	370.6	372.1	371.0
CH ₃ SH	442.8	445.0	445.1
HOCl	156.1	156.8	156.3
SO ₂	246.6	248.9	254.0

^a Experimental references are given in Refs. 1 and 2.

in ionic systems the polarization extension ($2df$) on the positive center (Li) duplicates some of the contribution of the diffuse function (+) on the negative center (F). This is corrected in G2 theory. The only other ionic species considered in this set, NaCl, also improves, but since it was off by

TABLE IV. Ionization potentials (eV).

	G1 theory	G2 theory	Expt. ^a
Li→Li ⁺	5.34	5.34	5.39
Be→Be ⁺	9.44	9.41	9.32
B→B ⁺	8.19	8.20	8.30
C→C ⁺	11.17	11.18	11.26
N→N ⁺	14.47	14.48	14.54
O→O ⁺	13.54	13.52	13.61
F→F ⁺	17.39	17.39	17.42
CH ₄ →CH ₄ ⁺	12.68	12.68	12.62
NH ₃ →NH ₃ ⁺	10.17	10.19	10.18
OH→OH ⁺	12.97	12.98	13.01
OH ₂ →OH ₂ ⁺	12.60	12.63	12.62
FH→FH ⁺	16.07	16.08	16.04
Na→Na ⁺	4.95	4.95	5.139
Mg→Mg ⁺	7.68	7.65	7.646
Al→Al ⁺	5.93	5.93	5.984
Si→Si ⁺	8.09	8.10	8.15
P→P ⁺	10.44	10.44	10.49
S→S ⁺	10.21	10.20	10.36
Cl→Cl ⁺	12.86	12.85	12.97
SiH ₄ →SiH ₄ ⁺	11.02	11.01	11.00
PH→PH ⁺	10.08	10.09	10.15
PH ₂ →PH ₂ ⁺ (¹ A ₁)	9.71	9.72	9.82
PH ₃ →PH ₃ ⁺	9.86	9.87	9.87
SH→SH ⁺	10.30	10.31	10.37
SH ₂ →SH ₂ ⁺ (² B ₁)	10.41	10.43	10.47
SH ₂ →SH ₂ ⁺ (² A ₁)	12.72	12.75	12.78
ClH→ClH ⁺	12.71	12.71	12.75
C ₂ H ₂ →C ₂ H ₂ ⁺	11.44	11.42	11.40
C ₂ H ₄ →C ₂ H ₄ ⁺	10.59	10.58	10.51
CO→CO ⁺	14.07	14.01	14.01
N ₂ →N ₂ ⁺ (² Σ _g)	15.59	15.56	15.58
N ₂ →N ₂ ⁺ (² Π _u)	16.69	16.67	16.70
O ₂ →O ₂ ⁺	12.16	12.17	12.07
P ₂ →P ₂ ⁺	10.54	10.54	10.53
S ₂ →S ₂ ⁺	9.28	9.28	9.36
Cl ₂ →Cl ₂ ⁺	11.53	11.51	11.50
ClF→ClF ⁺	12.70	12.65	12.66
SC→SC ⁺	11.47	11.42	11.33

^a Experimental references given in Refs. 1 and 2.

only 1.9 kcal/mol at the G1 level, the change is not as dramatic. More ionic species are considered in Sec. IV and significant changes due to Δ_1 are also found for these species.

The addition of the third d function and the second p function to the basis set contributes to improvement in the atomization energies at the G2 level. The increase in basis set size, along with the modification in the higher level correction (HLC), has the largest effect on hydrides of the first-row compounds. In the majority of cases, the G2 value is in better agreement with experiment and contributes to the overall improvement in G2 theory compared to G1 theory. The atomization energies of C₂H₆ [2.8 kcal/mol too low (G1) compared to 0.3 kcal/mol too high (G2)], NH₃ [2.5 kcal/mol too low (G1) compared to 0.2 kcal/mol too low (G2)], N₂H₄ [4.0 kcal/mol too low (G1) compared to 1.0 kcal/mol too low (G2)], and H₂O₂ [2.0 kcal/mol too low (G1) compared to 0.2 kcal/mol too low (G2)] are notable for their improved agreement with experiment at the G2 level. Also, the addition of the third d function is largely responsible for the increase by 2 kcal/mol of the dissociation

TABLE V. Electron affinities (in eV).

	G1 theory	G2 theory	Expt. ^a
C	1.19	1.19	1.26
CH	1.11	1.13	1.24
CH ₂	0.65	0.66	0.65
CH ₃	0.01	0.04	0.08
NH	0.28	0.30	0.38
NH ₂	0.74	0.77	0.74
O	1.41	1.40	1.46
OH	1.85	1.87	1.83
F	3.46	3.48	3.40
O ₂	0.47	0.47	0.44
NO	-0.06	-0.07	0.02
CN	4.03	3.97	3.82
Si	1.32	1.35	1.385
P	0.60	0.64	0.746
S	1.96	2.00	2.077
Cl	3.57	3.60	3.615
SiH	1.15	1.18	1.277
SiH ₂	0.96	0.99	1.124
SiH ₃	1.39	1.42	1.44
PH	0.91	0.96	1.00,1.028
PH ₂	1.20	1.25	1.26,1.271
HS	2.24	2.30	2.314
PO	1.10	1.04	1.09
S ₂	1.64	1.66	1.663
Cl ₂	2.26	2.38	2.39

^aExperimental references given in Refs. 1 and 2.

energy of SO₂ [from 246.6 (G1) to 248.9 kcal/mol (G2)]. However, it still remains 5.1 kcal/mol below the experimental value. The reason for the remaining discrepancy is unclear and needs further study. The singlet-triplet energy differences for CH₂ and SiH₂ are improved somewhat at the G2 level with the triplet stabilized relative to the singlet. For CH₂ the difference increases from 6.2 (G1) to 6.6 kcal/mol (G2), while for SiH₂ where the singlet is more stable, it decreases from 23.7 (G1) to 23.3 kcal/mol (G2). The experimental values are 9.0 and 21.0 kcal/mol, respectively. Finally, the dissociation energies of the triplet molecules O₂, S₂, and SO remain in error by more than 2 kcal/mol at the G2 level with no significant improvement over the G1 level. The values for SO and S₂ are actually somewhat worse. Hence, this remains another area for further improvement.

TABLE VI. Proton affinities (kcal/mol).^a

	G1 theory	G2 theory	Expt. ^b
NH ₃	202.7	202.5	202.5
OH ₂	163.3	163.1	165.1
C ₂ H ₂	152.5	153.6	152.3
SiH ₄	152.9	153.0	154
PH ₃	186.1	186.2	187.1
SH ₂	167.8	167.7	168.8
ClH	132.3	133.0	133.6

^aAt 0 K.

^bFrom S. G. Lias, J. F. Liebman, and R. D. Levin, *J. Phys. Chem. Ref. Data* **13**, 695 (1984).
Corrections to 0 K from J. A. Pople and L. A. Curtiss, *J. Phys. Chem.* **91**, 155 (1987).

TABLE VII. Average absolute deviations of G1 and G2 results compared to experiment (from Tables III-VI).^a

	Species	Ave. Abs. Dev.			
		G1		G2	
		kcal/mol	eV	kcal/mol	eV
ΣD_0	1st row	1.49	0.065	0.92	0.040
	2nd row	1.71	0.074	1.47	0.064
	1st + 2nd row	1.56	0.068	1.16	0.050
IP ₀	1st row	1.27	0.055	1.13	0.049
	2nd row	1.59	0.069	1.34	0.058
	1st + 2nd row	1.43	0.062	1.24	0.054
EA ₀	1st row	1.57	0.068	1.52	0.066
	2nd row	1.94	0.084	1.08	0.047
	1st + 2nd row	1.75	0.076	1.29	0.056
PA ₀	1st + 2nd row	1.00	0.043	1.04	0.045

^a ΣD_0 = atomization energy, IP₀ = ionization potential, EA₀ = electron affinity, PA₀ = proton affinity.

The absolute average deviations listed in Table VII indicate that, for the ionization potentials of the 37 atoms and molecules in Table IV, the deviation decreases from 0.063 (G1) to 0.055 eV (G2). For the 24 molecules in Table IV the deviation improves from 0.050 (G1) to 0.039 eV (G2). The largest change is for the ionization potential of CO which decreases from 14.07 (G1) to 14.01 eV (G2), in good agreement with the experimental value of 14.01 eV. The deviation for G2 theory is ≤ 0.1 eV from experiment for all 24 molecules considered. Of the atoms considered in Table IV, only Na, S, and Cl differ by more than 0.1 eV from experiment. As discussed in Ref. 2, the error for Na is due to neglect of inner shell correlation energy.

The electron affinities (see Table V) calculated at the G2 level improve significantly with the average absolute deviation decreasing from 0.076 (G1) to 0.056 eV (G2). Most of the improvement occurs for the electron affinities of the species containing second row atoms [0.084 eV (G1) compared to 0.047 eV (G2)]. The largest improvements are for CN and Cl₂. For CN the error in the electron affinity is reduced from 0.21 (G1) to 0.15 eV (G2). The error is further reduced to 0.07 eV if QCISD(T)/6-31G* geometries are used instead of MP2 = FU/6-31G* geometries.¹⁰ (The MP2 = FU/6-31G* geometry is poor for CN.) For Cl₂ the error decreases from 0.13 (G1) to 0.01 eV (G2). Much of the improvement in the G2 electron affinities can be traced to the correction for the nonadditivity of the diffuse-*sp* and 2*df* basis set extensions in the G1 procedure. At the G2 level all of the electron affinities are now within 0.15 eV of experiment. Only four are off by more than 0.1 eV. These are CH (0.11 eV too low), CN (0.15 eV too high), P (0.11 eV too low), and SiH₂ (0.13 too low).

The G2 level proton affinities (see Table VI) show little change from the G1 level values which were already in good agreement with experiment. All values are within 2 kcal/mol of the experimental value with an absolute average deviation of 1.04 kcal/mol for 7 species.

IV. PREDICTIONS OF ATOMIZATION ENERGIES OF OTHER COMPOUNDS

In this section we report the results of applying the G2 procedure to a large number of neutral molecules most of which have experimental atomization energies with an uncertainty of greater than 1 kcal/mol. The G2 atomization energies of the 36 molecules in this category, considered in the study on second-row compounds,² are listed in Table VIII. The G2 results for an additional 43 molecules, not included in the previous studies,^{1,2} are listed in Table IX. Experimental and G1 values of ΣD_0 are also listed in Tables VIII and IX for comparison with the G2 values. Most of the experimental ΣD_0 values were derived from enthalpies of formation (0 K) in the JANAF tables.¹¹

TABLE VIII. Total atomization energies (in kcal/mol), ΣD_0 , for other species studied in Ref. 2.

	G1 theory	G2 theory	Expt. ^a
NaH	44.4	45.0	47.2 ± 5
MgH	28.5	29.3	46 ± 12, 30.9 ^b
MgH ₂	99.1	99.8	
AlH	72.2	72.3	67.0 ± 5, < 70.6 ^b
AlH ₂	117.4	118.0	
AlH ₃	202.2	202.7	
SiH	70.6	70.8	68.7, < 70.6 ^b
PH	68.6	69.2	70.5 ± 2 ^c
HS	81.9	82.8	87.7 ± 1.2, 81.7 ^b
AlCl	122.0	120.8	119.2, 118.1 ^b
AlF	164.0	161.6	160.0 ± 1.6, 158.9 ^b
SiS	146.2	145.0	147.4 ± 3.0
PN	146.1	144.9	165.8 ± 1.2, 146.6 ± 5.0 ^{b,d}
PO	138.8	139.6	140.7 ± 0.9, 141.8 ^b
SF	82.2	81.8	81.2 ± 2.1
CiSi	101.1	99.6	88.3 ± 3
MgO	61.6	59.2	80 ± 6, 81.4 ^b
LiCl	113.7	112.2	113.0 ± 3.0
NaF	119.5	114.6	113.2 ± 0.5, 122.9 ^b
SiF	140.4	138.6	130.3 ± 3, 128.4 ^b
SiC	98.7	98.9	106.5 ± 8, 107.0 ^b
SN	107.6	108.2	110.7 ± 6 ^c
BeCl	88.3	88.6	91.1 ± 3, 104.5 ^b
H ₃ CPH ₂	501.8	504.2	507.9 ^f
H ₂ CPH	368.9	370.0	
H ₂ CS	309.6	310.3	317.4 ± 2 ^g
HCP	244.2	244.3	260.9 ± 15 ^h
CP	122.7	122.9	121.8 ± 2
HPO	205.8	206.2	198.7 ± 10
NaOH	185.5	182.1	182.7 ± 3
P ₂ H ₄	344.7	345.4	338.1 ^f
S ₂ H ₂	227.0	227.2	237.0 ⁱ
H ₃ SiCl	321.9	321.2	321.8 ± 2 ^h
H ₃ SiF	363.0	362.7	367.7 ± 5 ^h
SiO ₂	292.5	291.0	297.2 ± 8
ClO ₂	114.6	120.2	121.0 ± 1.5

^a From JANAF tables (Ref. 11) unless otherwise specified.

^b Reference 15.

^c J. Berkowitz, L. A. Curtiss, S. T. Gibson, J. P. Greene, G. L. Hillhouse, and J. A. Pople, *J. Chem. Phys.* **84**, 375 (1986).

^d K. A. Gingerich, *J. Chem. Phys.* **73**, 2735 (1969).

^e P. O'Hare, *J. Chem. Phys.* **52**, 2992 (1970).

^f Reference 25, estimated.

^g M. Roy and T. B. McMahon, *J. Organic Mass Spectrosc.* **17**, 392 (1982).

^h JANAF tables (Ref. 11), estimated.

ⁱ Reference 26.

TABLE IX. Total atomization energies (in kcal/mol), ΣD_0 , for other species.^a

	G1 theory	G2 theory	Expt. ^b
BeH ₂	138.6	138.8	149.3 ^c
BH (¹ Σ ⁺)	82.8	82.8	78.2 ± 2 ^d
BH ₂	159.2	160.1	188.8 ± 15.2
BH ₃	264.4	265.3	262.3 ± 2.4
LiN (³ Σ ⁻)	39.4	37.2	70.2 ± 40 ^e
LiO (² Π)	79.1	76.1	76.6 ± 5
LiOH (¹ Σ ⁺)	207.4	204.8	203.8 ± 1.5
BeO (¹ Σ ⁺)	101.7	99.9	104.2 ± 3
BeOH (² A')	203.9	203.8	214.3 ± 10
BeF (² Σ ⁺)	133.2	131.9	136.1 ± 2
BeS (¹ Σ ⁺)	74.8	74.6	79.8 ± 15 ^e
BO (² Σ ⁺)	191.7	191.8	192.4 ± 2
HBO (¹ Σ ⁺)	302.2	302.6	291.7 ± 3
BS (² Σ ⁺)	131.8	131.7	140.0 ± 4
HBS (¹ Σ)	241.8	241.4	239.0 ± 10 ^e
BCl (¹ Σ ⁺)	123.2	123.0	129.4 ± 4
C ₂ (¹ Σ _g ⁺)	147.3	147.6	140.95 ± 0.9
C ₂ H	253.6	253.8	^e
C ₂ H ₃	419.9	421.3	^e
C ₂ H ₅	563.1	565.8	^e
H ₂ CNH	413.2	414.8	
H ₃ CNH ₂	539.5	542.5	542.7 ± 0.1 ^f
CF (² Π)	131.4	131.7	128.3 ± 2
HCF (² A')	206.2	207.0	210.2 ± 7
H ₃ CF	397.8	399.8	397.4 ± 8
CCl (² Π)	96.0	95.9	80 ± 5
HNO (¹ A')	197.1	197.9	198.7
NF (³ Σ ⁻)	75.7	76.1	71.4 ± 8 ^c
NSi (² Σ ⁺)	105.9	105.6	130 ± 15
HOO (² A')	164.1	165.5	161.1 ± 2
HOF	148.9	149.7	151.9 ± 1 ^g
ONa (² Π)	67.7	64.5	64.3 ± 10
HONa	185.5	182.1	182.7 ± 3
HOMg (² Σ ⁺)	175.0	174.4	184.9 ± 9 ^c
FMg (² Σ ⁺)	106.4	105.1	109.8 ± 2
FP (³ Σ ⁻)	106.1	105.2	106.1 ± 4.6 ^c
MgS (¹ Σ ⁺)	51.7	51.3	< 66 ± 16
MgCl (² Σ ⁺)	75.3	75.0	73.8 ± 10
PS (² Π)	99.2	98.9	140 ± 25 ^c
PCl (³ Σ ⁻)	75.3	73.6	73.0 ^c
CiS (² Π)	65.9	64.1	57.1 ± 4 ^c
COS	331.1	330.5	327.7 ± .2
CS ₂	276.4	275.7	273.5 ± .2
O ₃ (¹ A ₁)	143.7	143.3	142.2 ± 0.5

^a This table contains additional species that were not considered in Refs. 1 and 2. Many have significant uncertainties in the experimental values.

^b From JANAF tables (Ref. 11) unless otherwise specified.

^c JANAF tables (Ref. 11), estimated values.

^d See Ref. 4 for more discussion.

^e See Table X.

^f From $\Delta H_{f,0}^{298}$ in Ref. 25, adjusted to 0 K using scaled HF/6-31G* frequencies.

^g See Ref. 8 for more discussion.

The basic conclusions concerning the atomization energies of the molecules in Table VIII which have been made in Ref. 2 from the G1 results remained unchanged at the G2 level. Therefore, we will not repeat our discussion of the specific experimental values here except to point out significant differences between G1 and G2 theory. The G2 atomization energies of 11 of the 36 molecules in Table VIII differ by more than 1 kcal/mol from the G1 values. Five of these are "ionic" molecules including AlF (decreases by 2.4 kcal/

TABLE X. C-H bond dissociation energies at 0 K (in kcal/mol) in C_2H_n , $n = 2, 4, 6$.

	G1	G2	Other theory	Expt.
$C_2H_2 \rightarrow C_2H + H$	133.4 ^a	133.4	131.5, ^b 129.7, ^c 130.1 ^d	126–133 ^e
$C_2H_4 \rightarrow C_2H_3 + H$	110.1 ^f	110.4	109.5 ^c	98–117 ^g
$C_2H_6 \rightarrow C_2H_5 + H$	100.4 ^h	100.8		97–100 ⁱ

^a Reference 9.^b Reference 22.^c Reference 23.^d Reference 24.^e Range of values quoted in Ref. 19.^f Reference 3.^g Range of values quoted in Ref. 27.^h Reference 7.ⁱ Range of values quoted in Ref. 7.

mol), MgO (decreases by 2.4 kcal/mol), LiCl (decreases by 1.5 kcal/mol), NaF (decreases by 4.9 kcal/mol), and NaOH (decreases by 3.4 kcal/mol). The G2 values should be more reliable. The decreases are largely due to the correction in G2 theory for the nonadditivity of the diffuse-*sp* and *2df* basis set extensions in G1 theory. The G2 results for these five species are generally in better agreement with experiment, and, for MgO and NaF, with previous high level calculations by Bauschlicher *et al.*¹² For NaF there are two experimental numbers: 113.2 kcal/mol (JANAF¹¹) and 122.9 kcal/mol (Huber and Herzberg¹⁵). The G1 number of 119.5 kcal/mol is between the two values while the G2 value of 114.6 kcal/mol supports the JANAF value. This is also in agreement with the results of Bauschlicher *et al.*¹² who calculate a value of 115.1 kcal/mol for the dissociation energy of NaF. Two of the 11 molecules are triatomics which have significant contributions from the third *d* function. These are SiO₂ and ClO₂. The atomization energy of SiO₂ decreases by 1.5 kcal/mol and that of ClO₂ increases by 5.6 kcal/mol. The ClO₂ atomization energy of 120.2 kcal/mol is now in good agreement with the experimental value of 121.0 ± 1.5 kcal/mol. The SiO₂ atomization energy of 291.0 kcal/mol is about 6 kcal/mol lower than the experimental value of 297.2 kcal/mol, but this has a large uncertainty of ± 8 kcal/mol. The remaining five molecules that change by more than 1 kcal/mol all contain second-row atoms and are SiS (decreases by 1.2 kcal/mol), PN (decreases by 1.2 kcal/mol), ClSi (decreases by 1.5 kcal/mol), SiF (decreases by 1.5 kcal/mol), and H₃CPH₂ (increases by 2.4 kcal/mol). These changes are due to both corrections (Δ_1 and Δ_2) in G2 theory.

We now turn to the atomization energies of the molecules in Table IX. The changes in the G2 energies compared to the G1 energies in Table IX are similar to those discussed previously for molecules in Tables III and VIII. Significant changes occur for ionic molecules (LiN, LiO, LiOH, BeO, BeF, ONa, HONa, FMg) where the nonadditivity correction is important, hydrides (C₂H₃, C₂H₅, H₂CNH, H₃CNH₂, H₃CF, HOO) where the second *p* function is important, and some second-row molecules (PCl, ClS) where the third *d* function is important. The G2 values should be

more reliable for these cases. The G2 values for about three-quarters of the molecules in Table IX are in reasonable agreement with the experimental values. For the remaining one-quarter there is significant disagreement and we comment on these cases.

LiN: The JANAF¹¹ value of 70.2 ± 40 kcal/mol is estimated from dissociation energies of related molecules. The G2 value of 39.4 kcal/mol is much lower and more reliable. **BeOH:** The G2 atomization energy of BeOH is 203.8 kcal/mol. This is about 10 kcal/mol lower than the JANAF value of 214.3 kcal/mol from mass spectral data which has a large uncertainty of ± 10 kcal/mol. Bauschlicher *et al.*¹³ report a theoretical value of 108.4 kcal/mol for the dissociation energy of the Be–O bond in BeOH. Using the experimental value for the dissociation energy of OH radical in Table II, this corresponds to an atomization energy for BeOH of 209.7 kcal/mol also significantly lower than the experimental value. Hence, our results and those of Bauschlicher *et al.*¹³ suggest that the experimental atomization energy of BeOH in the JANAF tables is too high by 5–10 kcal/mol. At the G1 and G2 levels of theory BeOH is predicted to be nonlinear, but the energy difference with linear BeOH is very small, 0.4 and 0.2 kcal/mol, respectively.

HBO: The G2 atomization energy of HBO is 302.6 kcal/mol. This is about 10 kcal/mol higher in energy than the JANAF value of 291.7 ± 1 kcal/mol which is derived from mass spectrometric data on DBO. The difference is much larger than is expected of G2 theory which does well on the dissociation energy of BO (see Table IX). The disagreement between the G2 result and the mass spectrometric value suggests that the latter may be unreliable.

BS: The G2 dissociation energy of BS is 131.7 kcal/mol. This is about 8 kcal/mol lower than the JANAF value of 140.0 ± 4 kcal/mol derived from mass spectral data. Gaydon¹⁴ recommends a value of 118 from spectroscopic data, but this has a very large uncertainty of ± 18 kcal/mol. Since the G2 result for isovalent BO is in good agreement with experiment (see Table IX), the G2 value for the *D*₀ of BS should be more reliable than the experimental values.

C₂: The G2 method gives 147.6 kcal/mol for the dissociation energy of the ¹Σ_g⁺ ground state of C₂. The JANAF tables give a value of 141.0 ± 1 kcal/mol from a spectroscopic study. However, Huber and Herzberg¹⁵ give a value of 143.2 kcal/mol which is the average of two thermochemical values of 142.3 ± 2.5 and 144.1 kcal/mol. Bauschlicher *et al.*¹⁶ report a theoretical value of 140.9 kcal/mol, but indicate that remaining basis set saturation would increase the value. The G2 value may be too large because the higher level correction may overestimate the basis set deficiency in singlet C₂ molecule relative to two triplet carbon atoms. Further study of the dissociation energy of C₂ is required, both by experiment and theory, to pin down a more accurate value for its *D*₀.

CCl: The G2 value for the dissociation energy of CCl is 95.9 kcal/mol. This is about 16 kcal/mol higher than the JANAF value of 80 ± 5 kcal/mol which is from chemiluminescence of flame reactions. However, Gaydon¹⁴ recommends a value of 88 ± 11 kcal/mol based on spectroscopic evidence. The G2 results suggest that both of these values

may be low.

NF: The G2 value for the D_0 of the triplet ground state of NF is 76.1 kcal/mol. The JANAF value is 71.4 kcal/mol with a large uncertainty of ± 8 kcal/mol. Since the G2 method is low by about 2 kcal/mol for O_2 which is also a triplet and isoelectronic with NF, the G2 value for NF may be low by a similar amount. Montgomery *et al.*¹⁷ have recently reported a theoretical study of the dissociation energy of NF using their complete basis set (CBS) method. They obtain a D_0 value of 76.1 ± 0.9 kcal/mol in agreement with the G2 results.

NSi: The G2 method gives a D_0 value of 105.6 kcal/mol for NSi. This is about 24 kcal/mol lower than the JANAF value of 130 ± 15 kcal/mol, based on spectroscopic data. Gaydon¹⁴ recommends a value of 104 ± 9 kcal/mol from spectroscopic data. The G2 value supports the value of Gaydon over that of the JANAF tables.

HOMg: The results for magnesium hydroxide are similar to that for beryllium hydroxide. The G2 atomization energy of 174.4 kcal/mol is about 10 kcal/mol lower than the JANAF value of 184.9 ± 9 kcal/mol. Bauschlicher *et al.*¹³ report a theoretical for D_0 (Mg–OH) of 76.3 kcal/mol. This corresponds to an atomization energy for MgOH of 177.6 kcal/mol. Hence, theory suggests that the experimental atomization energy of HOMg is too high.

MgS: The G2 method gives a dissociation energy of 51.3 kcal/mol for MgS. There is considerable uncertainty in the experimental value. The JANAF tables adopt D_0 (MgS) $< 66 \pm 16$ kcal/mol while Huber and Herzberg¹⁵ and Gaydon¹⁴ recommend < 55 kcal/mol. The G2 value should be more reliable than the experimental values.

PS: The G2 value for the D_0 of PS is 98.9 kcal/mol. The JANAF tables list an estimated value of 140 ± 25 kcal/mol. Gaydon¹⁴ recommends 120 ± 23 kcal/mol based on spectroscopic data and Huber and Herzberg¹⁵ list a value of 104 kcal/mol from mass spectrometric data. The G2 result supports the value chosen by Huber and Herzberg and suggests that it might even be lower.

CIS: The G2 value of D_0 for CIS is 64.1 kcal/mol. This should be considered more reliable than the estimated value listed in JANAF of 57.1 ± 4 kcal/mol.

There are four one-heavy atom hydrides (BeH₂, BH, BH₂, and BH₃) listed in Table VIII. These were studied previously in separate studies with the G1 method⁴ and with a G1-like theory without the QCI correction.¹⁸ The G2 atomization energies for these species do not change significantly from the previous studies and the assessment of the experimental data remains unchanged.

There are four molecules in Table IX with accurate experimental atomization energies. These are H₃CNH₂, COS, CS₂, and O₃. Ozone has been studied previously at the G1 level of theory.⁶ The other three were not studied with the G1 method. The ΣD_0 values for all four molecules are in agreement with the experimental values. Little change occurs from G1 to G2 theory, except for H₃CNH₂ where the addition of the second p function makes a significant improvement.

Finally, Table IX lists atomization energies for the C₂H, C₂H₃, and C₂H₅ radicals. These species have previously

been studied at the G1 level of theory.^{3,7,9} The experimental enthalpies of formation of these species, especially C₂H, have been the subject of some uncertainty in recent years. In Table X we list the energies for breaking the first CH bond in acetylene, ethylene, and ethane. The G1 and G2 energies for these bond breakings are nearly the same. For acetylene the experimental D_0 (HCC–H) values have fallen in two groups,¹⁹ one at around 126 kcal/mol and the other at 131–132 kcal/mol. The most recent experimental measurements^{20,21} support the latter value as do recent theoretical calculations.^{9,22–24} The G1 and G2 values are 2–3 kcal/mol higher than the three theoretical values from other groups.^{22–24} Use of QCISD(T)/6–31G* geometries, which is important for the C₂H radical, reduces the G2 value to 132.3 kcal/mol,¹⁰ in good agreement with the most recent experimental values of 131.3 ± 0.7 (Ref. 20) to 131.1 ± 0.7 (Ref. 21) kcal/mol. The G2 values for D_0 (H₂CCH–H) and D_0 (H₃CCH₂–H) of 110.4 and 100.8 kcal/mol, respectively, are also in good agreement with the recent experimental values of Berkowitz *et al.*^{7,27} of $\geq 106.6 \pm 1$ and 99.6 kcal/mol, respectively.

V. CONCLUSIONS

The Gaussian-2 theoretical procedure (G2 theory), based on *ab initio* molecular orbital theory, for calculation of molecular energies (atomization energies, ionization potentials, electron affinities, and proton affinities) of compounds containing first- (Li–F) and second-row atoms (Na–Cl) has been presented. This new theoretical procedure adds three features to G1 theory including a correction for nonadditivity of diffuse- sp and $2df$ basis set extensions, a basis set extension containing a third d function and a second p function, and a modification of the higher level correction. In tests carried out in this study, we have found G2 theory to be a significant improvement over G1 theory because it eliminates a number of deficiencies present in G1 theory. Of particular importance is the improvement in atomization energies of ionic molecules such as LiF and hydrides such as C₂H₆, NH₃, N₂H₄, H₂O₂, and CH₃SH. The average absolute deviation from experiment of atomization energies of 39 first-row compounds is reduced from 1.42 to 0.92 kcal/mol. In addition, G2 theory gives improved performance for hypervalent species and electron affinities of second-row species (the average deviation from experiment of electron affinities of second-row species is reduced from 1.94 to 1.08 kcal/mol). G2 theory is still inadequate (low by about 3 kcal/mol) for triplet states of molecules such as O₂ and S₂, as was G1 theory, and although the atomization energy of SO₂ is improved, it still remains about 5 kcal/mol below experiment. These remain problems for further study.

G2 atomization energies for 43 molecules not previously studied with G1 theory, many of which have uncertain experimental data, have also been presented and differences with experiment are assessed. For a number of species the results of G2 theory indicate that values in thermochemical tables are in error and should be re-examined. Among these are LiN, BeOH, HBO, BS, CCl, NSi, MgOH, MgS, PS, and CIS. In addition, G2 results for five ionic species (AlF, MgO, LiCl, NaF, NaOH) studied previously by G1 theory² show

significant decreases (greater than 1 kcal/mol) in atomization energies. The results are generally in better agreement with experiment and, for MgO and NaF, with previous high level calculations by Bauschlicher *et al.*¹²

Finally, while G1 theory has proved to be remarkably accurate in many applications, G2 theory strengthens G1 theory by eliminating several deficiencies. We are currently using G2 theory for a number of systems where the improvements over G1 theory should provide more reliable results including studies of N₂H_n and H₂O_n species.

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