

Abstract Submitted
for the MAS14 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

The impact of resolution upon the complexity, information, thermodynamics, and transferability of coarse-grained models¹ THOMAS FOLEY², The Pennsylvania State University, M. SCOTT SHELL³, University of California, Santa Barbara, WILLIAM NOID⁴, The Pennsylvania State University — By eliminating atomic degrees of freedom, coarse-grained (CG) models allow highly efficient simulations of complex phenomena. However, as a consequence of changing the model resolution, the coarse-graining procedure alters the apparent thermodynamic properties and model transferability. The present work analyzes the effects of model resolution upon the exact many-body potential of mean force (PMF), W , and, in particular, its entropic component, S_W . We demonstrate that S_W quantifies the loss of information from the atomistic model and impacts the complexity, thermodynamics, and transferability of the CG model. In order to investigate these formal results, we analytically calculate the exact PMF for the popular Gaussian Network Model of proteins and quantify both the energy-entropy balance as well as the entropic contribution to intramolecular interactions as a function of resolution. Interestingly, seven diverse proteins demonstrate strikingly similar shifts in energy-entropy balance with decreasing model resolution. We expect that these results may provide general insight into both the thermodynamic properties and transferability of coarse-grained models for soft materials.

¹We acknowledge support from the NSF, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and KITP.

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Date submitted: 29 Aug 2014

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