Disordered hyperuniformity in two-component non-additive hard disk plasmas

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We study the behavior of a two-component plasma made up of non-additive hard disks with a logarithmic Coulomb interaction. Due to the Coulomb repulsion, long-wavelength total density fluctuations are suppressed and the system is globally hyperuniform. Short-range volume effects lead to phase separation or to hetero-coordination for positive or negative non-additivities, respectively. These effects compete with the hidden long-range order imposed by hyperuniformity. As a result, the critical behavior of the mixture is modified, with long-wavelength concentration fluctuations partially damped when the system is charged. It is also shown that the decrease of configurational entropy due to hyperuniformity originates from contributions beyond the two-particle level. Finally, despite global hyperuniformity, we show that in our system, the spatial configuration associated with each component separately is not hyperuniform, i.e., the system is not “multihyperuniform.”

I. INTRODUCTION

Disordered hyperuniform systems have gained considerable attention over the last decade, since their relevance as distinguishable states of matter was first stressed by Torquato and Stillinger [1]. Hyperuniform many-body systems are those characterized by an anomalous suppression of density fluctuations at long wavelengths relative to those in typical disordered systems such as ideal gases, liquids and structured glasses. More precisely, By definition, a hyperuniform many-particle system in d-dimensional Euclidean space $\mathbb{R}^d$ at number density $\rho$ is one in which the structure factor $S(Q) \equiv 1 + \rho \tilde{h}(Q)$ tends to zero as the wavenumber $Q \rightarrow 0$, i.e.,

$$\lim_{Q \rightarrow 0} S(Q) = 0,$$

where $\tilde{h}(Q)$ is the Fourier transform of the total correlation function $h(r) = g_2(r) - 1$ and $g_2(r)$ is the pair correlation function.

All perfect crystals and perfect quasicrystals, and certain special disordered systems are hyperuniform [1, 2]. The fact that the microscopic structure of disordered hyperuniform systems lie somewhere between that of disordered fluids (with only short-range disorder) and crystals (with long-range translational and orientational order) has been found to have relevant consequences in a variety of contexts and applications across different fields. This includes maximally random jammed hard-particle packings [3], classical disordered ground states [2, 4–6], driven nonequilibrium granular and colloidal systems [7–9], dynamical processes in ultracold atoms [10], photonic band-gap materials [11–13], dense disordered transparent dispersions [14], photoreceptor mosaics in avian retina [15], immune system receptors [16], composites with desirable transport, dielectric and fracture properties [17–20], polymer-grafted nanoparticle systems [21], and “perfect” glasses [6].

Our fundamental understanding of disordered hyperuniform systems is still in its infancy. We know that one can achieve them via equilibrium and nonequilibrium routes, and they come in quantum-mechanical and classical varieties. Classical disordered hyperuniform systems of identical particles in equilibrium necessarily possess long-range interparticle interactions, whether they occur at ground-state ($T = 0$) conditions [2, 4–6] or positive temperatures [22, 23]. However, much less is known about the hyperuniformity of classical multicomponent systems and yet the infinite parameter space (particle size distribution and composition) afforded by them should provide greater tunability to achieve hyperuniform states. Of course, when more than one component is present in the system, the situation becomes obviously more involved, but also physically more interesting, including technological relevance as designer composites [17–20].

It is noteworthy that when there are two or more components, the system can be globally hyperuniform (long-wavelength total density fluctuations are suppressed) or multihyperuniform (long-wavelength density fluctuations are suppressed for each and every component). In practice, multihyperuniformity in this case amounts to suppressing simultaneously long-wavelength total density and concentration fluctuations. These possibilities are accounted for by the Bhatia-Thornton structure factors [24]. In the first instance, one must consider the total structure factor $S_{NN}(Q)$, defined as

$$S_{NN}(Q) = \sum_{\alpha \beta} S_{\alpha \beta}(Q),$$

where the partial structure factors, $S_{\alpha \beta}(Q)$ are given by

$$S_{\alpha \beta}(Q) = x_\alpha \delta_{\alpha \beta} + \rho x_\alpha x_\beta \tilde{h}_{\alpha \beta}(Q),$$

being $x_\alpha$ the mole fraction of component $\alpha$, $\delta_{\alpha \beta}$ Kronecker’s delta, $\rho$ the total number density, and $\tilde{h}_{\alpha \beta}(Q)$
the Fourier transform of the total partial correlation function \( \hat{g}_{\alpha\beta}(r) = g_{\alpha\beta}(r) - 1 \), where \( g_{\alpha\beta} \) is the partial pair distribution function). The low-\( Q \) behavior of the total structure factor is connected to the isothermal compressibility of the systems, and it is known to diverge when the critical point of a liquid-vapor transition is approached (i.e., density fluctuations occur on the macroscopic length scale). A hyperuniform system is the antithesis of such a critical point with a total structure factor that vanishes in this low-\( Q \) limit according to \( (1) \), but can be regarded to be at an “inverted” critical point in which the direct correlation function, defined through the Ornstein-Zernike equation, becomes long-ranged \([1]\). Additionally, concentration fluctuations are described by the concentration-concentration structure factor, defined by \([24, 25]\)

\[
S_{cc}(Q) = x_1^2S_{11}(Q) + x_2^2S_{22}(Q) - 2x_1x_2S_{12}(Q)
\]

(4)

This quantity exhibits a low-\( Q \) divergence when the binary system approaches the consolute point, i.e. the demixing critical point. Conversely, if the system is globally hyperuniform, multihyperuniformity implies the suppression of low-\( Q \) concentration fluctuations, i.e.,

\[
\lim_{Q \to 0} S_{cc}(Q) = 0.
\]

(5)

In this paper, we theoretically and computationally investigate the behavior of two-component plasmas made up of non-additive hard disks with a logarithmic Coulomb interaction. We will show that due to the Coulomb repulsion, long-range total density fluctuations are suppressed and the systems are globally hyperuniform at positive temperatures. It is demonstrated that short-range volume effects lead to phase separation or to hetero-coordination for positive or negative non-additivities, respectively. Interestingly, we show that the decrease of configurational entropy due to hyperuniformity originates from contributions beyond the two-particle level. Finally, despite global hyperuniformity, we show that in our system the structure of each component separately is not hyperuniform, i.e., the system is not “multihyperuniform.”

More specifically, we will study one of the simplest disordered binary systems which can exhibit hyperuniformity in two dimensions, namely, the symmetric non-additive hard-disk (NAHD) plasma. This system is characterized by a short range NAHD interaction, to which a long ranged repulsive two-dimensional Coulomb interaction is superimposed. The two-dimensional Coulomb potential in plasma systems is known to lead to hyperuniformity \([26-28]\), with \( \lim_{Q \to 0} S(Q) \propto Q^2 \). On the other hand, the short range part of the potential for positive non-additivity (i.e. when \( \sigma_{\alpha\beta} > (\sigma_{\alpha\alpha} + \sigma_{\beta\beta})/2 \), being \( \sigma_{\alpha\beta} \) the distance of minimum approach between particles \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \), can induce a demixing transition\([29, 30]\). In contrast, for negative non-additivities the system will be fully miscible and presents a tendency to heterocoordination, i.e. local coordinations with neighboring unlike particles tend to be favored. Our study makes extensive use of Monte Carlo simulations (MC) and integral-equation approaches, namely the Hypernetted Chain (HNC) equation and the closely related Reference Hypernetted Chain equation (RHNC). With these tools, we investigate the structural effects of the interplay between long- and short-ranged interactions, with special emphasis on the influence of hyperuniformity on the critical behavior of the demixing transition for the NAHD plasma with positive non-additivity. This is a particularly interesting situation, since prior to demixing the system exhibits a structure reminiscent of a disordered two-phase heterogeneous material, which in this case will be shown to be hyperuniform.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In the next Section we present our model system and provide a brief description of the theoretical and simulation methods employed, including a summary of the expressions that describe the system thermodynamics in the HNC approximation. Then, in Section III, we derive analytical expressions that describe the low-\( Q \) behavior of our system. It will be shown that whereas the condition for global hyperuniformity is fulfilled, the systems are not multihyperuniform. Finally, in Section IV we present our most relevant results, with particular emphasis on the phase behavior of the NAHD plasma and how global hyperuniformity affects the concentration fluctuations that lead to demixing. The connection between hyperuniformity, “hidden order”, and configurational entropy is also explored in this final Section.

II. MODEL AND METHODS

Our model consists of a symmetric mixture of non-additive hard disks with a two-dimensional Coulomb repulsion added, by which the interaction potential is given by

\[
\beta u_{ij}(r) = \begin{cases} 
\infty & \text{if } r < (1 + \Delta(1 - \delta_{ij}))\sigma \\
-Z_iZ_j\Gamma \log r/\sigma & \text{if } r \geq (1 + \Delta(1 - \delta_{ij}))\sigma 
\end{cases}
\]

(6)

where \( \beta = 1/k_BT \) as usual, \( \Gamma = \beta e^2 \), being \( e \) the electron charge (esu units), \( Z_i \), the particle charge in \( e \) units (and here for simplicity we will just consider \( Z_i = 1 \)), \( \Delta \) in the non-additivity parameter, and \( \sigma \) the hard disk diameter between like species. Our system will be a mixture of total surface density, \( \rho \). Theoretical calculations will be presented for the equimolar mixture \( \rho_1 = \rho_2 = \rho/2 \), i.e. the mole fractions will be simply \( x_1 = x_2 = 1/2 \). Throughout the paper density will be reduced as \( \rho\sigma^2 \).

A. The integral equation approach

The Ornstein-Zernike equation for a mixture is given by \([25]\)

\[
h_{jk}(r_{12}) = \sum_i \rho_i \int d\mathbf{r}_3 c_{ij}(r_{13}) h_{ik}(r_{32}),
\]

(7)
where $c_{ij}$ is the direct correlation function, with $\rho_l$ being the number density of species $l$. In Fourier space Eq. (7) can be cast into matrix form to yield

$$\tilde{\Gamma}(Q) = [I - \tilde{C}(Q)]^{-1}\tilde{C}(Q)\tilde{C}(Q),$$

(8)

where $I$ is the identity matrix, the tilde denotes a 2D Fourier transformation, and

$$[\tilde{\Gamma}(Q)]_{ij} = \sqrt{\rho_i \rho_j} \tilde{\gamma}_{ij}(Q),$$

(9)

$$[\tilde{C}(Q)]_{ij} = \sqrt{\rho_i \rho_j} \tilde{c}_{ij}(Q),$$

(10)

with $\gamma_{ij} \equiv h_{ij} - c_{ij}$. The closure for Equation (7) reads

$$c_{ij}(r) = \exp\left[-\beta \phi_{ij}(r) + \gamma_{ij}(r) + B_{ij}(r)\right] - 1 - \gamma_{ij}(r).$$

(11)

where $B_{ij}(r)$ is the bridge function. Here we will make use of two approximations, namely $B_{ij}(r) = 0$, i.e. the HNC approximation, and $B_{ij}(r) = B_{ij}^{HS-PY}(r)$, where this latter function is the bridge function computed in the Percus-Yevick (PY) approximation for the plain NAHD system without electrostatic interactions. We will denote this approximation by RHNC-PY. These equations can now be solved by a simple iterative procedure, provided the long range character of the correlations is appropriately treated. Following Ref. [31] we define a well-behaved long range component of the interaction

$$\beta \phi^{LR}_{ij}(r) = -Z_i Z_j I \left[ \ln \left( \frac{r}{\sigma} \right) + \frac{1}{2} E_1 \left( \frac{r^2}{\sigma^2} \right) \right],$$

(12)

$$\beta \phi^{LR}_{ij}(Q) = Z_i Z_j \Gamma \frac{2\pi}{(k\sigma)^2} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{4}(k\sigma)^2 \right),$$

(13)

where $E_1(x)$ is the exponential integral. With these, one can construct a set of short-ranged correlations and interaction of the form

$$\beta \phi^{SR}_{ij}(r) = \beta \phi_{ij}(r) - \beta \phi^{LR}_{ij}(r),$$

(14)

$$c^{SR}_{ij}(r) = c_{ij}(r) - \beta \phi^{LR}_{ij}(r),$$

(15)

$$\gamma^{SR}_{ij}(r) = \gamma_{ij}(r) + \beta \phi^{LR}_{ij}(r),$$

(16)

and similarly for their Fourier transforms. Now, Equation (8) and its closure (11) can be solved without further complications. A more detailed description of the procedure can be found in [31] and references therein. Here the equations have been solved over 2000 grid points covering a range in $r$-space of 20$\sigma$.

B. Hypernetted Chain Equation thermodynamics

In what follows, we summarize the key equations to compute the thermodynamics of our system in the HNC approximation. Our choice is based on the internal consistency of all thermodynamic properties in the HNC (with the exception of the isothermal compressibility computed from the fluctuation theorem), which can be used to test the correctness of our results. The excess internal energy is simply given by

$$\beta U^{ext}/N = -\frac{1}{2\rho} \sum_{\alpha\beta} Z_{\alpha} Z_{\beta} \rho_{\alpha} \rho_{\beta} \Gamma \pi \int dr h_{\alpha\beta}(r) \log(r/\sigma).$$

(17)

The accuracy of the internal energy calculation, is high in the HNC, as can be appreciated in Table I. Even though the RHNC-PY provides slightly better results, here we will mostly make use of the HNC thermodynamics, since quantities such as the chemical potential and Helmholtz energy can be evaluated directly from the correlation functions, and as mentioned above, it is endowed with a high degree of thermodynamic consistency. Specifically, the Helmholtz’s free energy can be evaluated as the sum of two contributions

$$\beta A^{ext}/N = \beta A^{ix}_1/N + \beta A^{ex}_2/N,$$

(18)

obtained by a set of integrals in physical $r$-space and $Q$-space, namely

![FIG. 1. Low-Q behaviour of the $S_{NN}$ and $S_{cc}$ structure factors for an equimolar hard disk plasma mixture with negative non-additivity, as determined by simulation and in the HNC approximation. The low-Q HNC expansion from Eq. (36) and that the pure OCP limit ($a = 1$) are also illustrated for $S_{NN}(Q)$, together with the limiting formula (38) for $S_{cc}(Q)$.](image-url)
Additionally, one can determine the two-particle excess numerically integrating the correlation functions with the used as an internal consistency check of the results. The fact that the Coulomb contribution equals is simply

Now, the pressure can be computed from the virial equation, that in the case if the NAHD two component plasma is simply

The fact that the Coulomb contribution equals $-\Gamma/4$ can be used as an internal consistency check of the results by numerically integrating the correlation functions with the corresponding virial factors.

From these expressions, the excess configurational entropy is obtained as

Additionally, one can determine the two-particle excess

| $\Gamma$ | $\beta U^{ex}/N$ | $\beta U^{ex}/N$ | $\beta U^{ex}/N$ | $\beta A^{ex}/N$ | $S^{ex}/Nk_B$ | $S^{ex}_2/Nk_B$ | $\Delta S^{ex}/Nk_B$ |
|---------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| 0.0     | 0              | 0              | 0              | 1.878          | -1.878        | -1.4520       | -0.426         |
| 0.5     | -0.248         | -0.2507        | -0.2407        | 1.651          | -1.892        | -1.4279       | -0.464         |
| 1.0     | -0.512         | -0.5168        | -0.4990        | 1.405          | -1.904        | -1.4121       | -0.492         |
| 2.0     | -1.053         | -1.0652        | -1.0318        | 0.897          | -1.929        | -1.3889       | -0.540         |
| 5.0     | -2.733         | -2.7716        | -2.6840        | -0.688         | -1.996        | -1.3456       | -0.650         |

One can also calculate the free energy from the chemical potential in the HNC, which is given by

\[
\beta \mu_i^{ex} = -\sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha \tilde{c}_{i\alpha}^{R}(0) + \frac{\pi}{2} \sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha \int h_{i\alpha}(r) (h_{i\alpha}(r) - c_{i\alpha}(r)) r dr, \tag{20}
\]

where

\[
\tilde{c}_{ij}^{R}(0) = \tilde{c}_{ij}^{SR}(0) + \frac{\pi}{2} \Gamma Z_i Z_j \tag{21}
\]

is the $Q \to 0$ limit of the regular part of the direct correlation\[27\]. With this one gets,

\[
\beta A^{ex}/N = \sum_i \rho_i \beta \mu_i^{ex} - \beta P/\rho + 1. \tag{22}
\]

Now, the pressure can be computed from the virial equation, that in the case if the NAHD two component plasma is simply

\[
\beta P/\rho = 1 + \frac{\pi}{4\rho} \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \rho_\alpha \rho_\beta \sigma_\alpha \sigma_\beta g_{\alpha\beta}(\sigma_{\alpha\beta}^{+}) - \frac{1}{4}\Gamma. \tag{23}
\]

The total two-particle contribution corresponds to $S^{ex}_2(\infty)/Nk_B$. This quantity accounts in most cases for more than 80 per cent of the total configurational entropy\[32\]. We will see later that our case deviates from the standard behavior in regular fluids. A relevant quantity in connection with the configurational entropy, $S^{ex}$ and its two particle contribution, $S^{ex}_2$, is their difference $\Delta S^{ex}/Nk_B = S^{ex}/Nk_B - S^{ex}_2/Nk_B$. For purely repulsive interactions, the presence of zeros in $\Delta S^{ex}(\rho)/Nk_B$ has been correlated with the location of a fluid-solid transition\[32\]. Finally, it is worth mentioning that the two particle excess entropy is closely related with the $\tau$-order metrics parameter, which is a measure of translational order\[2\],

\[
\tau = \frac{\pi \rho}{D} \sum_{\alpha,\beta} x_{\alpha} x_{\beta} \int h_{\alpha\beta}(r)^2 r dr
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{D} \sum_{\alpha,\beta} \int (S_{\alpha\beta}(Q) - x_{\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\beta})(S_{\alpha\beta}(-Q) - x_{\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\beta}) dQ,
\]

\[
\beta A^{ex}/N = \frac{\pi}{\rho} \sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha \tilde{c}_{i\alpha}^{R}(0) + \frac{\pi}{2} \sum_\alpha \rho_\alpha \int h_{i\alpha}(r) (h_{i\alpha}(r) - c_{i\alpha}(r)) r dr,
\]

\[
\beta A^{ex}/N = -\frac{1}{2\rho} \int dQQ \left( \log |I + \tilde{H}(Q)/Q^{-1}| - \text{Tr}[\tilde{H}(Q)/Q^{-1}] \right). \tag{19}
\]
where $D$ is a suitable characteristic length (e.g., correlation length). This expression is in fact the multicomponent generalization of the $\tau$ order metric defined in Ref. [2]. Importantly, the $\tau$ order parameter defined by (26) is given in terms of quantities that are experimentally accessible. Note that a closely related order metric was defined in physical space in terms of $|h(r)|$ [33], instead of $h(r)^2$. Obviously, while this does not modify the qualitative behavior of the order parameter, it does not have a corresponding representation in terms of the structure factor. Comparing Eqs. (25) and (26), one sees that the latter can easily be obtained from (25) by a small $h$-expansion of the integrand, with the sign changed. Ordered systems (e.g. crystals) will give infinite $\tau$, whereas for the ideal gas $\tau$ vanishes, as does the excess two-particle entropy.

C. Details of the simulation procedure

The Monte Carlo simulations were performed mostly in the canonical ensemble using $N$ particles embedded in a uniform neutralizing background in a square box of side $L$ with periodic boundary conditions. The energy of the periodic system was evaluated by the Ewald summation method with conducting boundary conditions: [34]

$$
\beta U^\text{ex} = \frac{\Gamma}{4\pi} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} Z_i Z_j \sum_{\mathbf{n}} E_1 \left( \alpha \frac{\mathbf{r}_{ij}}{L} + \mathbf{n} \right)
$$

$$
+ \frac{\Gamma}{4\pi} \sum_{\mathbf{n} \neq 0} \frac{e^{-\pi^2 n^2/\alpha^2}}{n^2} \left| \sum_{i=1}^{N} Z_i \exp \left( \frac{2\pi i \mathbf{n} \cdot \mathbf{r}_i}{L} \right) \right|^2
$$

$$
- \frac{\Gamma}{4} \left( \gamma + \ln \alpha^2 \right) \sum_{i=1}^{N} Z_i^2 + \frac{\Gamma \pi}{4\alpha^2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} Z_i^2
$$

$$
+ \frac{\Gamma}{2} \ln \left( \frac{L}{\gamma} \right) \sum_{i=1}^{N} Z_i^2. \quad (27)
$$

In Eq. (27), $\mathbf{r}_{ij} = \mathbf{r}_j - \mathbf{r}_i$, and $\gamma = 0.5772156\ldots$ is Euler’s constant. The prime in the sum over $\mathbf{n} = (n_x, n_y)$, with $n_x, n_y$ integers, restricts it to $i \neq j$ for $\mathbf{n} = 0$. The dimensionless parameter $\alpha^* = \alpha L$ controls the relative contributions to the Ewald sum of the direct and reciprocal space terms. With the choice $\alpha^* = 6$, adopted in our calculations, only terms with $\mathbf{n} = 0$ need to be retained in the first sum of Eq. (27). The sum in reciprocal space extends over all lattice vectors $\mathbf{k} = 2\pi \mathbf{n}/L$ with $|n^2| \leq 64$. The fourth term in Eq. (27) represents the interaction of the background with itself. In the simulations the Coulomb potential was scaled by $L$ rather than $\sigma$ as in the theoretical approaches. The last term in Eq. (27) was added to meet the theoretical choice.

In the vicinity of the demixing transition which occurs for positive non-additivity of the disks we performed semi-grand canonical MC simulations along the lines detailed in Ref. [30] for the plain NAHD system. In particular, we took advantage of the cluster algorithm described in Ref. [30] for identity sampling. Two particles of the same species are considered linked within the same cluster when their separation is less than $\sigma(1 + \Delta)$. With this choice cluster identity swaps do not lead to particle overlaps and for the present symmetrical case where the chemical potential difference $\Delta \mu = \mu_A - \mu_B = 0$, the procedure leads to a rejection free algorithm of composition sampling for a fixed set of particle positions [30].

Most simulations used 1600, 2500 and 3600 particles and generally structural properties or order parameters were obtained by averaging over $3 \times 10^6$ to $5 \times 10^6$ trial translational moves per particle after equilibration of the system. An identity swap was performed after 5 translational moves. Further calculations were carried out with 6100 and 8400 particles to allow for more precise determination of the consolute point of the mixture.

FIG. 2. Density-density, $S_{NN}$, and concentration-concentration, $S_{cc}$ structure factors for the equimolar NAHD plasma ($\Gamma = 5$) and plain NAHD system $\Gamma = 0$ for positive non-additivity. Curves denote various theoretical approaches (shown on the legend) and symbols MC data. The effect of global hyperuniformity is seen for the charged system, as it is $\lim_{Q \to 0} S_{NN}(Q) = 0$. 

\[\text{FIG. 2. Density-density, } S_{NN}, \text{ and concentration-concentration, } S_{cc} \text{ structure factors for the equimolar NAHD plasma (} \Gamma = 5 \text{) and plain NAHD system } \Gamma = 0 \text{ for positive non-additivity. Curves denote various theoretical approaches (shown on the legend) and symbols MC data. The effect of global hyperuniformity is seen for the charged system, as } \lim_{Q \to 0} S_{NN}(Q) = 0.\]
III. LOW-Q BEHAVIOR

Starting from the matrix form of the Ornstein-Zernike equation (7)

$$I + H = [I - C]^{-1}$$

one gets explicitly for the components of the partial structure factors (3)

$$1 + \rho \hat{h}_{ii} = \frac{1 - \rho c_{ij}}{|I - C|}$$

$$\sqrt{\rho \hat{h}_{ij}} = \frac{\sqrt{\rho \hat{c}_{ij}}}{|I - C|},$$

with \( i \neq j \) and

$$|I - C| = 1 - \rho c_{11} - \rho c_{22} + \rho_1 \rho_2 (c_{11} \hat{c}_{22} - c_{12}^2).$$

The situation simplifies for the symmetric system, \( c_{11} = c_{22}, \rho_1 = \rho_2 = \rho/2 \). One can perform a small-\( Q \) expansion of the direct correlation function separating the Coulomb term,

$$\hat{c}_{ij}(Q) = c_{ij}^R(0) + c_{ij}^{(2)} Q^2 - 2\pi \Gamma Z_i Z_j / Q^2.$$  

The expansion coefficients of \( c_{ij}^R(Q) \) are simply given by

$$c_{ij}^{(2)} = \left. \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial c_{ij}^R(Q)}{\partial Q} \right|_{Q=0}.$$  

These \( Q^2 \) contributions are needed to reproduce the low-\( Q \) behavior of the partial structure factors beyond \( Q = 0 \).

Using the expressions above, one can obtain the following limiting behavior

$$1 + \rho_1 \hat{h}_{11}(Q) \approx \frac{1}{aQ^2 + 2\pi \rho \Gamma Z^2} \left( \frac{c_{11}^R(0) + c_{12}^{(2)} Q^2}{Q^2} + \pi \rho \Gamma Z^2 \right),$$

$$\rho \sqrt{1 - Q^2} \hat{h}_{12}(Q) \approx \frac{1}{aQ^2 + 2\pi \rho \Gamma Z^2} \left( \frac{c_{12}^R(0) + c_{11}^{(2)} Q^2}{Q^2} - \pi \rho \Gamma Z^2 \right),$$

when \( Q \to 0 \), with

$$a = 1 - \frac{\rho}{2} (c_{11}^R(0) + c_{12}^{(2)}(0) + (c_{11}^{(2)} + c_{12}^{(2)}) Q^2)$$

$$b = 1 - \frac{\rho}{2} (c_{11}^R(0) - c_{12}^{(2)}(0) + (c_{11}^{(2)} - c_{12}^{(2)}) Q^2).$$

For the total structure factor, in our fully symmetric mixture we have

$$S_{NN}(Q) = 2S_{11}(Q) + 2S_{12}(Q)$$

by which

$$S_{NN}(Q) \approx \frac{Q^2}{aQ^2 + 2\pi \rho \Gamma Z^2}$$

This differs slightly from the pure one component plasma (OCP) behavior[8] for which \( a = 1 \), since core contributions vanish. In our case non-negligible contributions from the hard core become more evident as \( Q \) grows.

For the concentration-concentration structure factor we have,

$$S_{cc}(Q) = \frac{1}{2} (S_{11}(Q) - S_{12}(Q)),$$

which leads to

$$S_{cc}(Q) \approx \frac{1}{4b} = \frac{1}{4(1 - \frac{\rho}{2} (c_{11}^R(0) - c_{12}^{(2)}(0) + (c_{11}^{(2)} - c_{12}^{(2)}) Q^2))}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4 + s + tQ^2}$$

where the constants \( s \) and \( t \) depend on density and on the short range behavior of the direct correlation functions.

From the expressions (34), it is clear that

$$\lim_{Q\to 0} (1 + \rho_1 \hat{h}_{11}(Q)) = \frac{1}{2(1 - \frac{\rho}{2} (c_{11}^{R}(0) - c_{12}^{R}(0)))}$$

$$\lim_{Q\to 0} (\rho \sqrt{1 - Q^2} \hat{h}_{12}(Q)) = -\frac{1}{2(1 - \frac{\rho}{2} (c_{11}^{R}(0) - c_{12}^{R}(0)))}$$

which shows definitely that the system is not multihyperuniform, although globally it has a hyperuniform behavior given by Eq.(36), i.e. \( S_{NN}(Q) \propto Q^2 \) \( (Q \to 0) \). In Figure 1 the validity of expressions (36) and (38) is illustrated for a NAHD plasma with negative non-additivity. For comparison the OCP limiting behavior is also shown, and can be seen to deviate already at \( Q \sigma \sim 0.6 \). At this point it is important to stress that the global hyperuniformity summarized in Eq. (36) is the result of the symmetry relation

$$\lim_{Q\to 0} (\hat{u}_{11}(Q) + \hat{u}_{22}(Q) - 2\hat{u}_{12}(Q)) = 0$$

being fulfilled by the long-range contributions to the interactions. Obviously, repulsive Coulomb systems comply with Eq. (39) whenever \( Z_1 = Z_2 \).
Fig. 4. Snapshots of Monte Carlo configurations of the equimolar plain NAHD system (Γ = 0) and the NAHD two component plasma for Γ = 5 and positive non additivity, Δ = 0.2, for ρσ^2 = 0.6. The effect of global hyperuniformity cannot be appreciated on the translational order, but on the compositional order it can be seen that the presence of charges tends to reduce the size of the clusters.

IV. RESULTS

We have first focused our investigations in a case of positive non-additivity, Δ = 0.2, whose phase behavior has already been studied in detail for the uncharged system[30]. This NAHD mixture is known to exhibit a demixing transition with Ising 2D criticality. Additionally, we have also considered the situation with negative non-additivity, Δ = −0.2, which is characterized by the absence of a demixing transition and a tendency to present local hetero-coordination.

A. Positive non-additivity and demixing transition

In Ref. [30], it was found that the uncharged system exhibits a phase separation when Δ = 0.2 with a conso-

| Γ | βU^ex/N | β S^ex/Nk_B | S_2^ex/Nk_B | ΔS^ex/Nk_B |
|---|----------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| 0.0 | 0 | 2.301 | -2.301 | -1.9947 | -0.306 |
| 0.5 | -0.2140 | 2.097 | -2.311 | -1.9484 | -0.362 |
| 1.0 | -0.4423 | 1.879 | -2.321 | -1.9210 | -0.400 |
| 2.0 | -0.9125 | 1.429 | -2.342 | -1.8813 | -0.461 |
| 5.0 | -2.3677 | 0.030 | -2.398 | -1.8054 | -0.593 |

The effect of the charges is readily seen in the density-density correlations represented by the total structure...
factor (see Figure 2), which now vanishes as \( Q \rightarrow 0 \), making the system globally hyperuniform. On the other hand, in the lower graph of Figure 2 for \( S_{cc}(Q) \) we can observe that there are large concentration fluctuations when \( Q \rightarrow 0 \), i.e. for large separations. This is a clear indication of the vicinity of the demixing transition. Interestingly, one observes that \( S_{cc}(0)(\Gamma = 5) < S_{cc}(0)(\Gamma = 0) \), i.e., charges (or global hyperuniformity) counteract to a certain extent the tendency to demix. This effect is further illustrated by the long-range behavior of the pair distributions depicted in Figure 3. One readily observes that the long-range oscillations of like and unlike \( g_{\alpha\beta} \) in the uncharged system (an indication of the approaching divergence at the critical density) are quite damped due the effect of the charges. Overall, one sees that the values of the like correlations at short and intermediate ranges are lowered when charges are introduced, which reflects the repulsive nature of the Coulomb interaction in the plasma. In contrast unlike correlations grow, since the Coulombic repulsion has a larger effect on like particles whose distance of closest approach is \( \sigma \), which is lower than \( (1 + \Delta)\sigma \), for unlike particles. One can easily see in the snapshots of Figure 4 that this translates into a situation for which the size of the clusters of like particles decreases when charges are present. Here we have one of these situations in which global hyperuniformity leads to some sort of long-range “hidden” order invisible to the eye. In contrast, the effect on the compositional order is readily appreciated.

As to the net effect on the phase behavior, in Figure 5 we present the phase diagram for the plain NAHD system, taken from Ref. [30] and that obtained in this work for \( \Gamma = 5 \).

The critical point estimates are calculated from the crossings of Binder’s cumulants[35], \( U_4 \) and \( U_6 \),

\[
U_{2n} = \langle \theta^{2n} \rangle \langle \theta^2 \rangle^n
\]

where \( \langle \ldots \rangle \) denotes an ensemble average, and \( \theta = 2x - 1 \). The size dependence of these quantities is illustrated in Figure 6, from which one can estimate the critical density determined by the crossing of the curves. One obtains \( \rho_c \sigma^2 \approx 0.699 \), slightly larger than the value with previous findings that indicated that global hyperuniformity, damping long-range correlations, tends to counteract phase separation. Still, short range volume effects cannot be completely canceled out by the subtle changes induced by global hyperuniformity and the system demixes at a higher density. As to the crossing of the cumulants, for \( U_4 \), one gets \( U_4 \approx 1.15 \pm 0.02 \), which means that the accepted Ising 2D universal value[36], \( U_4 \approx 1.168 \) lies within the uncertainty of our calculation. Here then, for our purposes, we have assumed 2D Ising criticality[36], and thus the fitted curves of Figure 5 are obtained using a critical exponent \( \beta = 1/8 \).

B. Negative non-additivity: hetero-coordination

Thermodynamic properties for the NAHD system with \( \rho \sigma^2 = 0.8 \) and \( \Delta = -0.2 \) are collected in Table I for various couplings. As to the structure, in the snapshots of Figure 7 one can qualitatively appreciate the effects of the charges (i.e. global hyperuniformity) on the microscopic structure of the fluid. On the left (uncharged NAHD) one can see that system tends to hetero-coordination, maximizing the contacts between unlike particles and thus minimizing volume. Switching on the Coulombic repulsion, even though it affects all particles in the same degree, has more apparent effects for pairs of unlike particles. In this case, their hard core repulsion allows for closer contact, and as a consequence, hetero-coordination is no longer so favorable. One can then appreciate a slight increase of like particle “aggregates”. As a matter of fact, this is quantitatively illustrated by the behavior of the partial pair distribution functions depicted in Figure 8. There one can appreciate the considerable drop in
FIG. 7. Snapshots of Monte Carlo configurations of the equimolar plain NAHD system (\(\Gamma = 0\)) and the NAHD two component plasma for \(\Gamma = 5\) and negative non-additivity, \(\Delta = -0.2\) for \(\rho \sigma^2 = 0.6\). The system tends to hetero-coordination, but the net Coulombic repulsion somewhat enhances clustering of like particles.

The contact value of the unlike pair distribution function (in contrast with the situation for positive non-additivity seen in Figure 3). Moreover, the like distribution function also decreases somewhat, although to a much lesser extent. For this reason, the snapshot of Figure 7(b) seems to present a certain degree of clustering of like particles. This features translates into a total structure factor that decays to zero following (36) (i.e. a globally hyperuniform system), and a concentration-concentration structure factor with a low-\(Q\) behavior given by Eq. (38), as discussed in Section III and illustrated in Figure 1. Additionally, in Figure 9, we observe long-ranged oscillations in \(S_{\alpha\beta}(Q)\) (with a period of \(Q_l \approx 7\sigma^{-1}\)) that actually reflect the presence of hetero-coordination (i.e. changes in local concentration over a range \(2\pi/Q_l \approx 0.9\sigma \approx \sigma_{\alpha\beta}\)).

The presence of charges somewhat damps the oscillations, i.e. it counteracts the hetero-coordination induced by volume effects.

C. Entropy and hyperuniformity

As mentioned before, the two particle contribution to the configurational entropy (25) usually accounts for 80% of the total configurational entropy. One can actually estimate the different contributions of each particle layer from \(S_2^\tau(R)/N k_B\), and thus analyze the effect of charges on disorder (or more properly, on the number of configuration/microstates compatible with our thermodynamic state). In Figure 10 we have plotted this quantity for both the positive and negative non additivity computed in the HNC approximation. Additionally, in the lower graph we have included the results for an additive system (\(\Delta = 0\)), where no volume effects are at play. In this latter instance, we chose a density that gives a hard core contribution to the pressure similar to that of the \(\Delta = -0.2\) case. One should expect to find an obvious effect on the two-particle entropy due to the “hidden order” introduced by hyperuniformity. We observe that except in the uncharged system close to demixing, the two-particle excess entropy contributions originate in the first two coordination shells. For \(\Gamma = 0\) and \(\Delta = 0.2\)
this extends up to $4 \sim 5$ layers. Interestingly, in all instances one observes that the two-particle entropy decreases when charges are introduced (i.e. when the system becomes hyperuniform). In the case of negative non-additivity the effect is rather extreme. As mentioned, the effect of hyperuniformity in this system counteracts phase separation. Since the system looses entropy when demixing, it is understandable that the charged system, further away from the transition, might have a larger entropy. This would explain why the two-particle contribution is less negative when charges are added. The situation is less obvious for $\Delta = 0$ and $\Delta = -0.2$. Actually, as discussed above, in Figure 8 one already sees that the net effect of the Coulomb repulsion is a decrease in the contact values of the pair distribution functions (much more visible in the unlike case). This could be considered formally equivalent to the effect of a density decrease, which obviously would imply an increase of entropy. This scenario applies both to the additive and negative non additive hard disk plasmas. At least, that is the situation as far as the two-particle contribution is concerned. Note that as discussed in Section II B, these arguments also apply to the evolution of the translational order parameter, which is basically the negative of the two-particle entropy.

Turning attention to the the net configurational entropy, Tables I and II interestingly show that the increase in entropy due to the two-particle configurational entropy is overcompensated by many-particle contributions that are approximated by the various terms that enter Eqs. (19)-(23). Now, one can vividly see a clear decrease of the net configurational entropy. When comparing $S^{ex}/Nk_B$ and $S^{ex}/N_kB$, it is readily seen how the relative contribution of the two-particle excess configurational entropy decreases as the system is charged, going from 80% to 67%. This is in marked contrast with the situation for “ordinary” fluids where the two-particle contribution is
known to account for 80 ∼ 90% of the total configurational entropy[32]. This reflects how the “hidden order” introduced by hyperuniformity, being a long-range effect, must influence entropy through many particle contributions: As we have seen, the two-particle configurational entropy is determined basically by the first four coordination shells.

In summary, we have shown that a simple system of NAHD with superimposed repulsive two-dimensional Coulomb interactions can exhibit a rich structural behavior due to the interplay between the short range volume effects leading to phase separation, clustering or hetero-coordination, and the long-range effects introduced by the Coulomb forces inducing global hyperuniformity. Subtle effects are particularly visible when hyperuniformity counteracts demixing. It is worth mentioning that a completely similar picture would have been obtained had the Coulomb interaction been fully three dimensional, with the particles constrained to lie on a plane. The only relevant difference would be a linear decay of $S_{NN}(Q)$ as $Q \to 0$, instead of the quadratic dependence of Eq.(36).

Finally, we note that elsewhere we have shown that by tuning interactions in binary mixtures of non-additive hard-disk plasmas one can achieve disordered multihyperuniform many-body systems [23]. We demonstrated that multihyperuniformity competes with phase separation and stabilizes a clustered phase.

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