

Science and Technology Facilities Council

Scientific Computing



Scientific Computing

DL_Software: SOFTWARE Enabling Discovery Atomistic to Mesoscopic Scale Modelling & Simulation: DL_POLY, DL_MESO_DPD, DL_FIELD, D_ATA, SHAPESPYER, DL_MESO_LBE

14-16 May @ University of Manchester

Ilian Todorov, Michael Seaton, Benjamine Speake, Joseph Thacker, Harvey Devereux, Chin Yong, Andrey Brukhno & Valeria Losasso







Collaborative Computational Project Computer Simulation of Condensed Phases

)th Anniversary



Flexible Agenda over three days

1 Introduction to Molecular Dynamics

What does it do and what it does not?

2 Introduction to DL_POLY

Purpose, history, capability, use, etc.

3 Introduction to DPD and DL_MESO

Why and how is DPD different from MD. Purpose of Coarse Graining.

4 Calculations on the Fly

Why do we need calculations on the fly.

5 What's up doc

Demonstration, labs and helping your research projects by using DL_POLY and the rest of the packages



Daresbury Laboratory







Scales of Materials Modelling



Molecular Simulation Ecosystem

- DL_POLY particle Molecular Dynamics
- dlpoly-py framework Alin Elena
- DL_MONTE atomistic Monte Carlo including GCMC Andrey Brukhno
- ACDC Adaptive kinetic Monte Carlo John Purton

initio MD – Andrew Duff

- pyChemShell collaborative framework & QM/MM coupling environment
 - DL-FIND configuration minimisation library Thomas Keal, You Lu
- DL_MESO mesoscale dynamics via Dissipative Particle Dynamics and Lattice Boltzmann Equation – Michael Seaton
- DL_FIELD advanced force-field matching, conversion & set-up for softmatter – Chin Yong – DL_ANALYSER/D_ATA – advanced analytics for softmatter simulations
- SHAPESPYER a workflow and simulation builder for condensed soft-mater systems (atomistic & coarse-grained) – Andrey Brukhno



• MEAMfit – potential optimisation & high temperature ab



Scientific Computing

Introduction to particle dynamics



Instruments



Computer (crunch)



Particle dynamics is a journey



Why use MD?

- Theoretical tool for modelling the detailed microscopic behaviour of many different types of systems, including; gases, liquids, solids, polymers, surfaces and clusters.
- In an MD simulation, the <u>classical equations of motion governing the</u> <u>microscopic time evolution</u> of a many body system are solved <u>numerically</u>, subject to the boundary conditions appropriate for the geometry or symmetry of the system.
- Can be used to monitor the microscopic mechanisms of energy and mass transfer in chemical processes, and dynamical properties such as absorption spectra, rate constants and transport properties can be calculated.
 - Can be employed as a means of sampling from a statistical mechanical ensemble and determining equilibrium properties. These properties
 Science and Technologia Clude average thermodynamic quantities (pressure, volume, Facilities Council

Scientific Computing mperature, etc.), structure, and free energies along reaction paths.

What is MD in a nutshell



- MD is the solution of the classical equations of motion for atoms and molecules to obtain the time evolution of a system.
- It is applied to many-particle systems since a general analytical solution is not possible. Thus one must resort to numerical methods and computers.
- It does classical mechanics only since a fully fledged many-particle time-dependent quantum method is not yet available.
- It uses a Maxwell-Boltzmann averaging process for thermodynamic properties (i.e. time averaging).

Use of MD

Ensemble average:

- Free energy (of binding, solvation, interaction) differences
- Diffusion coefficients, viscosity, elastic constants
- Reaction rates, phase transition properties
- Protein folding times
- Structure refinement
- Non-equilibrium processes:
- Energy Dissipation/Radiation damage
- Sound Propagation
- Surface coating



Limitations of MD

- Parameters are imperfect and fit to particular P, T, pH, etc.
- Phase space is not sampled exhaustively
- Example: Free energies of solvation for amino acids often have errors ~1kJ/mol
- Likely impossible to calculate binding free energies more accurately than this
- Chemical bonds breaking and creation is not allowed
- Limited polarization effects; waters can reorient, but partial charges are fixed

However, MD simulations are cheaper than experiments as more easy to set up, repeat with changes to the model systems, their force-field, the initial conditions and simulation control; and thus serve as an invaluable testing tool for scientists! It may be used cleverly to answer cheaply hypothetical and <u>comparative questions</u>!

KK 🛛

Science and Technology Facilities Council

Scientific Computing

It can be made DFT level exact and embed reactivity with the help of MLIPs. However, it comes at a cost!





Examples of Model Systems





Membranes' processes



Nanocomposite materials involving graphene



Carbohydrates and complex drug molecules

Proteins solvation & binding







Dynamic processes in Metal-Organic & Organic Frameworks

Dynamics at Interfaces & of Phase Transformations

Capability Videos

	 	1	
	 1.4.		
	 ÷		
5	 de de la		
	 i o i o		
			 and a stand











Further information

 More details on Molecular Simulations in general – including theoretical background and applications – are available in the Knowledge Centre of the DL_Software Digital Guide (DL_SDG):

https://dl-sdg.github.io/

• DL_POLY repository

https://gitlab.com/ccp5/dl-poly/ https://github.com/ccp5UK/dl-poly/





Scientific Computing

http:/www.jiscmail.ac.uk/DLPOLY/



Scientific Computing

Molecular Dynamics for Beginners



Example Use of MD

- Microscopic insight: we can follow the motion of a single molecule (glass of water)
- Investigation of phase change (NaCl)
- Understanding of complex systems like polymers (plastics hydrophilic and hydrophobic behaviour)



Example: Simulation of Argon





Lennard-Jones Potential

Models the Pauli exclusion principle (repulsive) at short distances & the van der Waals forces (attractive) at long ones



Equations of Motion

Lagrange Equation – time evolution

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{v}_i} \right) = \frac{\partial L}{\partial r_i}$$
$$m_i \vec{a}_i = \vec{F}_i$$
$$\vec{F}_i = \sum_{i=1}^N \vec{f}_{ij}$$
$$\vec{f}_{ij} = -\vec{\nabla}_i V(r_{ij})$$



Force Evaluation –

 $\overline{r_{ij}}$ **Pair force:** $\vec{r_i}$ $= -\frac{\partial V(r_{ij})}{\partial x_i} = -\frac{\partial V(r_{ij})}{\partial r_{ij}}\frac{\partial r_{ij}}{\partial x_i}$ $f_{i(j)}^{x}$ $\overrightarrow{r_{i\,i}} = \overrightarrow{r_i} - \overrightarrow{r_i}$ $r_{ij} = \left[\left(x_j - x_i \right)^2 + \left(y_j - y_i \right)^2 + \left(z_j - z_i \right)^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}$ $\frac{\partial r_{ij}}{\partial r_{ij}} = -\frac{(x_j - x_i)}{(x_j - x_i)} = \frac{r_{ij}^x}{(x_j - x_i)}$ ∂x_i r_{ii}

Note this leads to equal and opposite forces on the two particles.

EoM Consequences

$$f_i = m_i \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial t}$$

The force on atom *i* for any given configuration can be calculated from the force-field. This equation relates force and acceleration.

 $\frac{\partial v_i}{\partial t} = \frac{f_i}{m_i}$

So for any given configuration we know the acceleration of each particle.

$$v_i(\tau) = v_i(0) + \int_0^\tau \frac{dv_i}{dt} dt$$

If a particle has an initial velocity,
$$v_i(0)$$
, and
moves under the action of this force for a
time, τ , its velocity after the time, τ , will be
given by integration.

$$r_i(\tau) = r_i(0) + \int_0^\tau v_i(t) dt$$

Similarly, the position of the particle after time, τ , is given by an integral of the velocity.

Unfortunately, once the particles move the distances governing the potential change and so the forces are altered.



Science and Technology Facilities Council Molecular dynamics is about integrating these equations of motion such that the continuous trajectories are obtained numerically.

Boundary Conditions

2D cubic periodic



- None biopolymer simulations
- Stochastic boundaries biopolymers
- Hard wall boundaries pores, capillaries
- Periodic boundaries (PBC) most MD simulations

Why PBC

Our model systems are still too small especially with respect to Avogadro's number!

To avoid surface over bulk domination effects we resort to periodic boundaries, pretending that boundaries do not exist (like in pacman)!

PBC Consequences

- The system no longer has a *surface*.
- The system becomes *pseudo-periodic* (used to advantage for Ewald sums). It is incorrect to impose cutoff on long range interactions. However, the Ewald method can deal with infinite number of periodic images – specifically Particle Mesh Ewald (PME)
- Correlations in space beyond *half-cell width* (L/2) are artificial. For this reason, the cut-off r_{cut} is usually no greater than L/2.
- Correlations in time beyond t=L/c are (in principle) subject to recurrence. In practice this does not seem to be the case.
- Use with *Minimum Image* convention



Ewald Summation

The method offers an elegant solution to solving the full electrostatic problem by splitting it in two parts – one in *real space* and one in reciprocal space. In real space, complying with the cutoff concept, a convenient screening function is added around all charges to make their interactions decay very fast at r_{cut} . The added screening functions can be subtracted in reciprocal space due to the periodic boundary condition by using





Science and Technology OUVIEV transforms. Facilities Council

Periodic Boundary Conditions



Triclinic



Hexagonal prism





Truncated octahedron

Rhombic dodecahedron



Minimum Image Condition (MIC)



Use r_{ij} not r_{ij} $x_{ij} = x_{ij} - L^* Nint(x_{ij}/L)$

Science and Technology Facilities Council

Science and Technology Nint(**a**)=nearest integer to **a**

Scientific Computing

2D cubic periodic



3D MIC

Use r_{ij} , not r_{ij} : To find r_{ij} , work in fractional co-ordinates:

 $f_{aij} = a^* \bullet r_{ij}$ $f_{bij} = b^* \bullet r_{ij}$ $f_{aij} = c^* \bullet r_{ij}$ (* indicates reciprocal space vectors)



These need to be in the range $-\frac{1}{2} < f \le \frac{1}{2}$

$$f_{ij'} = f_{ij} - \operatorname{n}\operatorname{int}\left(f_{ij}\right)$$

(nint(f)=nearest integer to f)

Then convert back to Cartesian:

$\left(r_{ij'x} \right)$		(a_x)	b_x	c_x	$\left(f_{aij'}\right)$
r _{ij'y}	=	a_{y}	b_{y}	C_y	$f_{bij'}$
$\left(r_{ij'z} \right)$		a_z	b_{z}	c_z	$\left(f_{cij'}\right)$



Facilities Council Scientific Computing For van der Waals interactions use only the nearest images of atoms. The minimum image convention limits the cut off used in the potential sum to half the shortest lattice parameter.

Key Stages in MD Simulation



• Set up initial system positions of atoms and initial velocities (3D Boltzmann distributed)

• Calculate atomic forces based on potential model

• Calculate atomic motion via an integration algorithm

Calculate physical properties

basically collect instantaneous data for statistical purposes

- Repeat !
- Produce final summary



System Properties – Static (2)

Structural Properties

Pair correlation (Radial Distribution Function):

$$g(r) = \frac{\langle n(r) \rangle}{4\pi\rho r^2 \Delta r} = \frac{V}{N^2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N-1} \sum_{j\neq i}^{N} \delta(r - r_{ij}) \right)$$

• Structure factor:

$$S(k) = 1 + 4\pi\rho \int_{0}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(kr)}{kr} (g(r) - 1) r^2 dr$$

Note: S(k) available from X-ray diffraction



Radial Distribution Function (RDF)



Science and Technology Facilities Council

Typical RDF





System Properties – Dynamic (1)

Single correlation functions:

- Mean squared displacement (Einstein relation) $2Dt = \frac{1}{3} \langle |r_i(t) - r_i(0)|^2 \rangle$
- Velocity Autocorrelation (Green-Kubo relation)

$$D = \frac{1}{3} \int_{0}^{t} \langle v_i(t) - v_i(0) \rangle dt$$



Typical VAF




System Properties – Dynamic (2)

Collective Correlation Functions: DL_POLY GUI

General van Hove correlation function

$$G(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{1}{N} \left\langle \sum_{i,j=1}^{N} \delta[r + r_i(0) - r_j(t)] \right\rangle$$

van Hove self-correlation function

$$G_{s}(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{1}{N} \left\langle \sum_{i}^{N} \delta[r - r_{i}(0) - r_{i}(t)] \right\rangle$$

van Hove distinct correlation function

$$G_d(\mathbf{r},t) = \frac{1}{N} \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j \neq i}^{N} \delta[r + r_i(0) - r_j(t)] \right\rangle$$



Recommended Books

Elements of Molecular Dynamics W. Smith, 2017 (WWW)

Statistical Mechanics: Theory and Molecular Simulation Mark Tuckerman, Oxford Graduate Texts, (FE 2010, SE 2016)

Computer Simulation of Liquids M.P. Allen & D.J. Tildesley, Oxford (FE 1998, SE 2017)

The Art of Molecular Dynamics Simulation D.C. Rapaport, Cambridge University Press (2004)

Understanding Molecular Simulation Daan Frenkel & Berend Smit, Academic Press, (FE 1996, SE 2010)

Theory of Simple Liquids J.-P. Hansen and I.R. McDonald, Academic Press (1986).

Classical Mechanics H. Goldstein+ (FE 1950, SE 1980, TR 2001)

Molecular Modelling, Principles & Applications A.R. Leach, Pearson Prentice Hall (SE





Scientific Computing

Introduction to DL_POLY



Resources

W. Smith and T.R. Forester J. Molec. Graphics (1996), 14, 136

W. Smith, C.W. Yong, P.M. Rodger Molecular Simulation (2002), 28, 385

I.T. Todorov, W. Smith, K. Trachenko, M.T. Dove J. Mater. Chem. (2006), 16, 1611-1618

W. Smith (Guest Editor) Molecular Simulation (2006), **32**, 933

I.J. Bush, I.T. Todorov and W. Smith Comp. Phys. Commun. (2006), 175, 323-329



Scientific Computing

I. Todorov (Guest Editor) *Molecular Simulation* (2021), **47**, 89

DL_POLY

General purpose classical particle dynamics simulation software package

- MPI parallelised code
 - Created in 1993 as a DL project, supported as flagship by CCP5, HEC-MCC under EPSRC and NERC funding schemes
 - Support currently funded under CoSeC for HEC-MCC
- Current versions
 - 5.0+ Domain Decomposition: released April 2021 (L-GPLv3.0) F95 (cmake)
 - 1.10 Replicated data: last updated April 2017 (BSD2.0) F90 (make)
 - https://gitlab.com/ccp5/dl-poly/ https://gitlab.com/DL_POLY_Classic
 - Used widely by academics and industry



- ~6000 verified users
- 22 industrial licences 1996-2023

Simplified view of MD force field (FF)

Bonded interactions – also referred as intra-molecular



Non-bonded interactions – also referred as inter-molecular





DL_POLY FF mappings – I

- *particle:* a rigid ion or an atom (charged or not), a core or a shell of a polarisable ion (with or without associated degrees of freedom), a massless charged site. A particle is a countable object and has a **global ID index**.
- site: a particle prototype that serves to define the chemical & physical nature (topology/connectivity/stoichiometry) of a particle (mass, charge, frozen-ness). Sites are not atoms they are prototypes!
- Intra-molecular interactions: chemical bonds, bond angles, dihedral angles, improper dihedral angles, inversions. Usually, the members in a unit do not interact via an inter-molecular term. However, this can be overridden for some interactions. These are defined by local site, ultimately relatable to the global ID index #sites=#particles#max(glD)

• Inter-molecular interactions: van der Waals, metal (2B/E/EAM, Gupta, Science and Finnis-Sinclair, Sutton-Chen), Tersoff, three-body, four-body. Scientific Computing These are defined by *species*.

DL_POLY FF mappings – II

- Electrostatics: Standard Ewald*, Hautman-Klein (2D) Ewald*, SPM Ewald (**3D FFTs**), Force-Shifted Coulomb, Reaction Field, Fennell damped FSC+RF, Distance dependent dielectric constant, Fuchs correction for non charge neutral MD cells.
- *Ion polarisation* via Dynamic (Adiabatic) or Relaxed shell model.
- External fields: Electric, Magnetic, Gravitational, Oscillating & Continuous Shear, Containing Sphere, Repulsive Wall.
- Intra-molecular like interactions: tethers, core shells units, constraint and PMF units, rigid body units. These are also defined by *site*.
- **Potentials:** parameterised analytical forms defining the interactions. These are always spherically symmetric!



• THE CHEMICAL NATURE OF PARTICLES DOES NOT CHANGE Science and Technology **Facilities Council** IN SPACE AND TIME * Except for DLC and MLIP!!! Scientific Computing



DL_POLY Domain Decomposition (particles)





DL_POLY Domain Decomposition (topology)





DL_POLY topology (bonding int.) distribution



KK

Velocity Verlet integration

$$\vec{r}_{i}^{n+1} = \vec{r}_{i}^{n} + \Delta t \vec{v}_{i}^{n} + \frac{\Delta t^{2}}{2m_{i}} \vec{f}_{i}^{n} + O(\Delta t^{4})$$
$$\vec{v}_{i}^{n+1} = \vec{v}_{i}^{n} + \frac{\Delta t}{2m_{i}} \left(\vec{f}_{i}^{n} + \vec{f}_{i}^{n+1}\right) + O(\Delta t^{2})$$



Application in Practice

$$\vec{v}_i^{n+1/2} = \vec{v}_i^n + \frac{\Delta t}{2m_i} \vec{f}_i^n$$

$$\vec{r}_i^{n+1} = \vec{r}_i^n + \Delta t \vec{v}_i^{n+1/2}$$

$$\vec{v}_i^{n+1} = \vec{v}_i^{n+1/2} + \frac{\Delta t}{2m_i} \vec{f}_i^{n+1}$$

Scientific Computing

Discrete time

DL_POLY Integrators

- NVE^
- NVT (Ekin) Evans^
- NVT dpdS0/1/2^ Sharlow 0th, 1st, 2nd order splitting, dpd mdvv
- NVT Andersen, Langevin, Berendsen, Nosé-Hoover ^, GST^
- NPT Langevin, Berendsen, Nosé-Hoover, Martyna-Tuckerman-Klein
- NPT dpd Langevin^
- NoT/NPnAT/NPnyT Langevin^, Berendsen, Nosé-Hoover, Martyna-Tuckerman-Klein^

Note: *CoM motion is removed from non-conserving integrators!*

Constraints & Rigid Body Solvers:



• RATTLE, No_Squish

DL_POLY Special Features

- Radiation damage driven features:
 - defects analysis
 - boundary/stochastic thermostats
 - volumetric expansion (integer) *nfold Nx Ny Nz*
 - replay history
 - variable time step algorithm
- Extra ensembles:
 - DPD, Langevin, Andersen, MTK, GST
 - extensions of NsT to NP_nAT and $NP_n\gamma T$
- Infrequent k-space Ewald evaluation
- Direct VdW/Metal
- Force shifted VdW
- I/O driven features Parallel I/O & netCDF
- Potential tapering
- Extensions: PLUMED, OpenKIM
- VdW potentials mixing schemes





Scientific Computing

DL_POLY I/O



- Crystallographic (Dynamic) data
- Reference data for DEFECTS
- Traj. data for replay
- Simulation controls
- Molecular/Topological Data

 Tabulated interactions





- Final & CGM configurations
- Best CGM configuration
- Simulation summary data
- Trajectory data
- Defects data
- Statistics data
- RSD, MSD & T _{inst} data
- VAF data

- Intra PDF data
- Inter PDF/RDF data
- Z density data
- Restart data

DL_POLY Units

Internally, DL_POLY uses atomic scale units:

- mass of H atom (D) [Daltons] Mass
- charge on proton (e) Charge
- Angstroms (Å) Length
- Time - picoseconds (ps)
- **•** Force D Å ps⁻²
- Energy D Å² ps⁻² [10 J mol⁻¹]
- angles - rad [radians]

For I/O purposes:

- Temperature is expressed in Kelvin
- Pressure is expressed in k-atm
- Angles are expressed in degrees (not radians)

However, input- and output-wise there is a great flexibility of community specific units, including DPD



Acceptable DL_POLY Units

UNITS directive in FIELD file allows to opt for the following energy units

- Internal DL_POLY units
- Electron-volts
- kilo calories per mol
- kilo Joules per mol
- Kelvin per Boltzmann
- DPD relative units

- 10 J mol⁻¹
- eV
- k-cal mol⁻¹
 - k-J mol⁻¹
- K Boltzmann⁻¹
 - Boltzmann Temperature

All interaction MUST have the same energy units! Not only in FIELD but in TABVDW, TABEAM, TAB*INT*!



CONTROL File

SIMULATION CONTROL

- Free Format
- Mandatory
- Driven by *keywords*:

keyword [options] {data} e.g.:

ensemble NPT Hoover 1.0 8.0



Scientific Computing

DL_POLY TEST CASE 1: K Na disilicate glass

temperature	1000.0		
pressure	0.0000		
ensemble nve			
steps	500		
equilibration	200		
multiple step	5		
scale	10		
print	10		
stack	100		
stats	10		
rdf	10		
timestep	0.0010		
primary cutoff	9.0000		
cutoff	12.030		
delr width	1.0000		
rvdw cutoff	7.6000		
ewald precision	1.0E-5		
print rdf			
job time	1200.0		
close time	100.00		
finish			

CONTROL File

SIMULATION CONTROL

- Free Format
- Mandatory
- Driven by *keywords*:

keyword [options] {data} e.g.:

ensemble NPT Hoover 1.0 8.0



Scientific Computing

title DL_POLY_5 CONTROL DIRECTIVES

RESTART OPTIONS restart noscale

SYSTEM TARGET TEMPERATURE AND PRESSURE pressure_hydrostatic 0.001 katm temperature 300.0 K

SYSTEM CUTOFFS AND ELECTROSTATICS vdw_cutoff 8 ang padding 0.35 ang cutoff 10.0 ang coul_method spme spme_precision 1e-05

INTEGRATION FLAVOUR, ENSEMBLE AND PSEUDO THERMOSTAT ensemble_nst ensemble_method berendsen ensemble_thermostat_coupling 0.5 ps ensemble_barostat_coupling 1.5 ps

INTEGRATION TIMESTEP timestep 0.001 ps

SIMULATION & EQUILIBRATION LENGTH time_run 10000 steps time_equilibration 1000 steps

EQUILIBRATION DIRECTIVES reset_temperature_interval 1 steps

EXECUTION TIME time_job 1000.0 s time_close 10.0 s

CONFIG [REVCON,CFGMIN] File

Initial atomic coordinates

- Format
 - Integers (I10)
 - Reals (F20)
 - Names (A8)
- Mandatory
- Units:
 - Position Angstroms (Å)
 - Velocity Å ps⁻¹
 - **Force D** Å **ps**⁻²
- Construction: A GUI or DL_FIELD essential for



Technology Facilities Complex systems

DL_POLY TEST CASE	: 1: K	Na disilicate glass	structure
24.1790000	0000	.0000000000	.000000000
.0000000	0000	24.1790000000	.000000000
.0000000	0000	.0000000000	24.179000000
Na+	1		
-10.18970354		-11.14553975	2.950816701
-10.92491513		-11.32922344	-1.683043107
8078.967958		7831.492182	14290.88665
K_+	2		
4.203354201		-6.599949388	11.67055019
4336920163		-8.629860244	.5802665381
14372.08258		9808.543805	4104.320538
Na+	3		
11.90756913		-3.986750583	.8846158473
7.418084829		-6.374985769	3.895762997
-1417.528114		-3882.775455	906.1837533
K_+	4		
3.507280530		-7.793662912	-6.292661606
10.31603370		-10.41715131	-4.280009692
2416.375138		1825.582828	4092.039688
Na+	5		
3.461171708		-7.578232190	5.932411530
-1.095217789		-1.174904220	-3.990554703
-10432.37938		6228.183582	-10280.33991
K_+	6		
5.950806200		-6.205017024	6.104974282
93255360228	E-01	-6.757387763	2.025695932
-2228,699102		-4655.604575	10544,62228
Na+	7	- 1. T. T. T. S.	- 1920 - Maria Alaman, 1920
-2.842267238	04000	7.394332997	1.865677792
-17.68579103		4.615099801	2.644830030
253,4967609		3720.053118	408.3262594

FIELD File

 Force Field specification 	DL_POLY TEST CASE 4: Water dynamical shell model
 Mandatory 	UNITS KJ
• Format:	MOLECULAR TYPES 1
• Integers (I5)	SPC WATER NUMMOLS 256
• Reals (F12)	ATOMS 4
• Names (A8)	HW 1.0000 0.41 2 0 1
• Keywords (A4)	0_shell 1.0000 -0.50 1 0 1 SHELL 1
 Maps on to CONFIG file structure 	1 4 100.0 RIGID UNITS 1 3 1 2 3
 Construction 	FINISH VDW 5
 Small systems - by hand Large systems - nfold or GUL or DL_EIFLDI 	O_shell O_shell lj .36854 3.1650 O_shell OW lj .21059 3.1650 OW OW lj .05265 3.1650 OW HW lj .00000 3.1650
Science and Technology Facilities Council	0_shell HW 1j .00000 3.1650 CLOSE
Scientific Computing	

TABLE File

- Defines non-analytic pair (vdw) potentials
- Format
 - Integers(I10)
 - Reals (F15)

(A8)

- Names
- Conditional, activated by FIELD file option
- Potential & Force
- NB force (here) is:



DL_POLY TEST CAS	E 1: Silica Pot	entials	
1.5212170E-03	7.600000E+00	5000	
Si4+ 0_2-			
9.5140002E+06	9.4702042E+06	9.4266099E+06	9.3832162E+06
9.3400223E+06	9.2970273E+06	9.2542301E+06	9.2116300E+06
9.1692260E+06	9.1270171E+06	9.0850026E+06	9.0431815E+06
9.0015529E+06	8.9601159E+06	8.9188696E+06	8.8778133E+06
8.8369459E+06	8.7962667E+06	8.7557747E+06	8.7154691E+06
8.6753490E+06	8.6354137E+06	8.5956621E+06	8.5560936E+06
8.5167072E+06	8.4775021E+06	8.4384775E+06	8.3996325E+06
8.3609664E+06	8.3224782E+06	8.2841672E+06	8.2460326E+06
8.2080735E+06	8.1702892E+06	8.1326787E+06	8.0952415E+06
8.0579765E+06	8.0208831E+06	7.9839605E+06	7.9472078E+06
7.9106243E+06	7.8742092E+06	7.8379617E+06	7.8018811E+06
7.7659666E+06	7.7302174E+06	7.6946328E+06	7.6592120E+06
7.6239542E+06	7.5888587E+06	7.5539248E+06	7.5191517E+06
7.4845387E+06	7.4500850E+06	7.4157899E+06	7.3816527E+06
7.3476726E+06	7.3138490E+06	7.2801810E+06	7.2466681E+06
7.2133094E+06	7.1801042E+06	7.1470520E+06	7.1141518E+06
7.0814031E+06	7.0488052E+06	7.0163573E+06	6.9840588E+06
6.9519090E+06	6.9199072E+06	6.8880527E+06	6.8563448E+06
6.8247829E+06	6.7933663E+06	6.7620942E+06	6.7309662E+06
6.6999814E+06	6.6691393E+06	6.6384392E+06	6.6078803E+06
6.5774622E+06	6.5471841E+06	6.5170453E+06	6.4870453E+06
6.4571834E+06	6.4274589E+06	6.3978713E+06	6.3684199E+06
6.3391041E+06	6.3099232E+06	6.2808766E+06	6.2519637E+06
6.2231840E+06	6.1945367E+06	6.1660213E+06	6.1376372E+06
6.1093837E+06	6.0812603E+06	6.0532663E+06	6.0254012E+06
5.9976644E+06	5.9700553E+06	5.9425732E+06	5.9152177E+06
5.8879881E+06	5.8608838E+06	5.8339043E+06	5.8070490E+06
5.7803173E+06	5.7537087E+06	5.7272226E+06	5.7008584E+06

TABEAM File

- Defines embedded atom potentials
- Format
 - Integers(I10)
 - Reals (F15)
 - Names (A8)
- Conditional, activated by FIELD file option
- Potentials only
- pair, embed & dens keywords for atom types followed by data records (4 real numbers per record)
- Individual interpolation arrays



REVOLD [**REVIVE**] File

- Provides program restart capability
- File is unformatted (not human readable)
- Contains thermodynamic accumulators, RDF data, MSD data and other checkpoint data
- REVIVE (output file) ---> REVOLD (input file)



OUTPUT File

- Provides Job Summary (mandatory!)
- Formatted to be human readable
- Contents:
 - Summary of input data
 - Instantaneous thermodynamic data at selected intervals
 - Rolling averages of thermodynamic data
 - Statistical averages
 - Final configuration
 - Radial distribution data
 - Estimated mean-square displacements and 3D diffusion coefficient
- Plus:
 - Timing data, CGM and relaxed shell model iteration data
 - Warning & Error reports



STATIS File

- System properties at intervals selected by user
- Optional
- Formatted (I10,E14)
- Intended use: statistical analysis (e.g. error) and plotting vs. time.
- Recommend use with GUI!
- Header:
 - Title
 - Units
- Data:
 - Time step, time, #entries
 - System data



DL_POLY TEST CASE 1: K Na disilicate glass structure				
ENERGY UNITS = DL POLY Internal UNITS				
10 1.00000E-02	40			
-3.205280E+08 1.008482E+03 -	-3.218852E+08	8.415979E+07	-4.070454E+08	
0.000000E+00 1.000478E+06	0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	-3.032144E+08	
0.000000E+00 -4.922665E+07 -	-4.517780E+08	4.070324E+08	0.000000E+00	
-4.480974E+06 0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	1.413562E+04	0.000000E+00	
0.000000E+00 0.000000E+00	9.000000E+01	9.000000E+01	9.000000E+01	
0.000000E+00 2.006775E+02	0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	
0.000000E+00 2.167462E+02 -	-2.966174E+00	9.929801E-01	-2.966174E+00	
1.954298E+02 2.026411E+00	9.929801E-01	2.026411E+00	1.898565E+02	
20 2.000000E-02	40			
-3.205146E+08 9.854523E+02 -	-3.218408E+08	8.420167E+07	-4.070089E+08	
0.000000E+00 9.664992E+05	0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	-3.030159E+08	
0.000000E+00 -4.984402E+07 -	-4.521951E+08	4.069810E+08	0.000000E+00	
-4.629916E+06 0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	1.413562E+04	0.000000E+00	
0.000000E+00 0.000000E+00	9.000000E+01	9.000000E+01	9.000000E+01	
0.000000E+00 2.028233E+02	0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	
0.000000E+00 2.133485E+02	1.064831E-01	-6.994367E+00	1.064831E-01	
1.992877E+02 -9.291212E-01 -	-6.994367E+00	-9.291212E-01	1.958336E+02	
30 3.00000E-02	40			
-3.205199E+08 1.016426E+03 -	-3.218877E+08	8.443556E+07	-4.073304E+08	
0.000000E+00 1.007151E+06	0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	-3.029124E+08	
0.000000E+00 -5.008689E+07 -	-4.529860E+08	4.073139E+08	0.000000E+00	
-4.414858E+06 0.000000E+00	0.00000E+00	1.413562E+04	0.00000E+00	
0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000	9.000000E+01	9.0000000000000000000000000000000000000	9.000000E+01	
0.000000000000 2.0408378402	0.0000008+00	0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000	0.000000£+00	
0.000000E+00 2.178241E+02	6.607459E+00	-1.175251E+01	6.607459E+00	
1.8981778+02 -4.6904318-01 -	-1.175251£+01	-4.690431E-01	2.046095£+02	
40 4.00000E-02	40	0 4400048.05	4 000000000000	
-3.205438E+08 1.008437E+03 -	-3.2190088+08	0.4198916+07	-4.0702371+08	
0.000000E+00 9.239793E+05	4 5206075:00	4.0701228.00	-3.032935E+08	
-2 080226F106 -4.903003E+07 -	0.000000000000	1 4125625.04	0.0000001+00	
-3.980336E+08 0.00000E+00	9 0000000000000000000000000000000000000	9 0000005-01	9 0000000000000000000000000000000000000	

HISTORY [HISTORF] File

 Configuration data at user selected intervals 	DL_POLY TEST 2 timestep	CASE 10: DNA Strand in SPC Wate 7 3378 1 3378 2	 7 0.001000
 Formatted 	52.00 0.000 0.000	0.000 0.000 30.02 0.000 0.000 64.34	
Optional	P_3 -8.6522E+00	1 30.973800 1.165900 4.6430E+00 -3.1314E+01	
• Header:	3.8840E+00 -9.8599E+02	7.9765E-01 -2.1608E+00 1.1857E+03 1.9631E+03	
• Title • Data lavel call key	0_2 -9.8537E+00	2 15.999400 -0.776100 3.8644E+00 -3.1469E+01	
• Data level, cell key, number	-1.3153E+03 0_2	2.2118E+03 1.2624E+02 3 15.999400 -0.776100	
 Configuration data: 	-8.1115E+00 4.3244E+00 1.5923E+03	3.6735E+00 3.2111E+01 1.7421E+00 -2.9006E+00 1.6067E+03 1.2143E+03	
 Time step and data keys 	0_3 -8.4095E+00	4 15.999400 -0.495400 3.7741E+00 -3.0066E+01	
Cell Matrix Atom name mass charge	-3.7534E+00 1.6786E+03 C 3	1.5520E+00 -1.2485E-01 7.2103E+02 2.4525E+02 5 12.011000 -0.006900	
 Atom name, mass, charge X Y 7 coordinates (level 0) 	-8.2889E+00 -3.2596E+00	4.2697E+00 -2.8741E+01 1.1117E+00 -4.9447E-03	
 X,Y,Z velocities (level 1) 	-3.9063E+02 H_ -7.9345E+00	2.3338E+02 4.4700E+02 6 1.008000 0.075400 3.3762E+00 -2.8227E+01	
• X,Y,Z forces (level 2)	9.5048E+00 -2.4981E+03	1.0488E+01 7.7937E+00 -4.9711E+02 4.6945E+02 7 1.008000 0.075400	
RI lechnology Facilities Council	-9.2952E+00 -6.0025E+00	4.5264E+00 -2.8410E+01 6.4848E+00 -1.2228E+01	
Scientific Computing	3.5275E+02	-1.2279E+03 1.8052E+03	

RDFDAT [ZDNDAT] File

- Formatted (A8,I10,E14)
 Plotable
 Optional
 RDFs from pair forces
 Header:

 Title
 - No. plots & length of plot
- RDF data:
 - Atom symbols (2)
 - Radius (A) & RDF
 - Repeated...
- ZDNDAT file has same format

Science and Technology Facilities Council

Silver	Iodide	Alpha Phase	
	3	160	
Ag+	Ag+		
2.375	5000E+00) 1.932754E-03	
2.425	5000E+00) 7.415510E-03	
2.475	5000E+00) 7.118930E-03	
2.525	5000E+00) 1.196964E-02	
2.575	5000E+00) 1.315351E-02	
2.625	5000E+00) 1.582152E-02	
2.675	5000E+00) 3.199477E-02	
2.725	5000E+00) 3.964044E-02	
2.775	5000E+00) 5.662942E-02	
2.825	5000E+00) 7.786575E-02	
2.875	5000E+00) 1.002413E-01	
2.925	5000E+00) 1.197803E-01	
2.975	5000E+00) 2.020131E-01	
3.025	5000E+00) 2.501949E-01	
3.075	5000E+00) 2.594195E-01	
3.125	5000E+00) 3.460766E-01	
3.175	5000E+00) 4.152931E-01	
3.225	5000E+00) 5.335431E-01	
3.275	5000E+00) 5.824296E-01	
3.325	5000E+00) 7.090180E-01	
3.375	5000E+00) 7.570784E-01	
3.425	5000E+00) 8.996351E-01	
3.475	5000E+00	9.226854E-01	
3.525	5000E+00) 1.020409E+00	
3.575	5000E+00) 1.103812E+00	
3.625	5000E+00) 1.164834E+OO	
3.675	5000E+00) 1.147884E+00	
3.725	5000E+00) 1.247703E+00	
3.775	5000E+00) 1.328861E+OO	
3.825	5000E+00) 1.342782E+00	
3.875	5000E+00) 1.380233E+00	
3.925	5000E+00) 1.393415E+OO	
3.975	5000E+00) 1.416540E+00	
4.023	5000E+00) 1.436074E+00	

Other Extra Files

- REFERENCE file
 - Reference structure to compare against
- DEFECTS file
 - Trajectory file of vacancies and interstitials migration
- MSDTMP file
 - Trajectory like file containing particles' Sqrt(MSD_{mean}) and T_{mean}
- RSDDAT file
 - Trajectory like file containing particles' Sqrt(RSD from origin)
- TABINT file
 - Table file for *INT*ra-molecular interactions
- INTDAT file
 - Probability Distribution Functions for INTra-molecular interactions
- HISTORF file
 - Force replayed HISTORY





DL_POLY Scalable Performance



Proof of Concept

300,763,000 NaCl with full SPME electrostatics evaluation on 1024 CPU cores

- Start-up time $\approx 60 \text{ min}$ $\approx 15 \text{ min}$
- Timestep time $\approx 68 \text{ sec}$ $\approx 23 \text{ sec}$
- FFT evaluation $\approx 55 \text{ sec} \approx 18 \text{ sec}$

In theory ,the system can be seen by the eye. Although you would need a very good microscope – the MD cell size for this system is 2μ m along the side and as the wavelength of the visible light is 0.5μ m so it should be Science and theoretically possible.



Benchmarking BG/L Jülich 2007



Weak Scaling


RB v/s CB Performance & Scalability HECTOR (Cray XE6) 2013



Weak Scaling and Cost Complexity HECToR (Cray XE6) 2013



I/O Solutions

- 1. Serial read and write (sorted/unsorted) where only a single MPI task, the master, handles it all and all the rest communicate in turn to or get broadcasted to while the master completes writing a configuration of the time evolution.
- 2. Parallel write via direct access or MPI-I/O (sorted/unsorted) where ALL / SOME MPI tasks print in the same file in some orderly manner so (no overlapping occurs using Fortran direct access printing. However, it should be noted that the behaviour of this method is not defined by the Fortran standard, and in particular we have experienced problems when disk cache is not coherent with the memory).
- 3. Parallel read via MPI-I/O or Fortran
- **4. Serial NetCDF read and write** using NetCDF libraries for machineindependent data formats of array-based, scientific data (widely used by various scientific communities).



Scientific Computing

The Advanced Parallel I/O Strategy

N compute cores of which M < N do I/O HECTOR (Cray XE6) 2013



- 72 I/O NODES
- READ ~ 50-300 Mbyte/s with best performance on 16 to 128 I/O Groups
- WRITE ~ 50-150 Mbyte/s with best performance on 64 to 512 I/O Groups
- Performance depends on user defined number of I/O groups, and I/O batch (memory CPU to disk) and buffer (memory of comms transactions between CPUs)
- Reasonable defaults as a function of all MPI tasks are provided

Scientific Computing



Scientific Computing

DL_POLY Compiling, Running and Labs https://dl-sdg.github.io/



Scientific Computing



Scientific Computing

Professor Kostyantyn Trachenko 1st February 1971 – 20th April 2025





Scientific Computing

Thank you

scd.stfc.ac.uk





Science and Technology Facilities Council

DL_Software and Dissipative Particle Dynamics (DPD)

Michael Seaton UKRI STFC Daresbury Laboratory michael.seaton@stfc.ac.uk











The mesoscale

'If life is going to exist in a Universe of this size, then the one thing it cannot afford to have is a sense of proportion.'Douglas Adams, *The Restaurant at the End of the Universe*

Getting a sense of (middle) scale

Mesoscale

- Bridges a 'hinterland' between atomistic and continuum scales
 - From 10nm+, 1ns+
 - Upper limit depends on computing capability
- Many interesting scientific
 applications operate at mesoscale
 - Approaching engineering (process) scales



- Correct thermodynamics <u>and</u> hydrodynamics needed
 - Parameterisation may involve bottom-up (microscopic) <u>and</u> top-down (macroscopic) approaches
- Models often involve bigger-than-atom particles ('beads')



Mesoscale modelling approaches

Bottom-up: from the microscale

- Coarse-grain atoms/molecules into beads as 'sub-thermodynamic populations'
- Obtain effective interactions between beads to represent those between atoms

Top-down: from the macroscale

- Reverse-engineer simulation rules to give required behaviours
- Beads are 'carriers of momentum': mesoscopic representation of continuum fluids
 - Direct connection to atoms/molecules not needed





Dissipative Particle Dynamics (DPD)

'The world is a thing of utter inordinate complexity and richness and strangeness that is absolutely awesome. I mean, the idea that such complexity can arise not only out of such simplicity, but probably absolutely out of nothing, is the most fabulous extraordinary idea.' - Douglas Adams

Dissipative Particle Dynamics (DPD)

From molecular to mesoscopic dynamics

- Modelling condensed phase systems using particles ('beads') with pairwise potentials
- Integrate forces on particles to move them around

DPD is actually two things ...

- Heat bath coupling using additional pairwise forces:
 DPD thermostat
- Soft (usually) repulsive pair potentials and forces to represent bead interactions at mesoscale:
 DPD interactions



Basic DPD algorithm very similar to classical MD: can use MD code to carry out DPD calculations without much modification

Pairwise thermostatting provides <u>Galilean</u> <u>invariance</u>: can control temperature without disrupting flows

Can use DPD thermostat and DPD interactions separately, but usually used together for mesoscopic simulations

DPD thermostat: pairwise Langevin dynamics

Two pairwise forces working in tandem^[1]

- Dissipative force: $\mathbf{F}_{ij}^D = -\gamma w^D (r_{ij}) (\hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij} \cdot \mathbf{v}_{ij}) \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij}$
- Random force:

 $\mathbf{F}_{ij}^{R} = \sigma w^{R} (r_{ij}) \theta_{ij} \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij}$

 $\begin{aligned} \mathbf{r}_{ij} &= \mathbf{r}_j - \mathbf{r}_i \\ \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij} &= \mathbf{r}_{ij} / r_{ij} \\ \mathbf{v}_{ij} &= \mathbf{v}_j - \mathbf{v}_i \\ \left\langle \theta_{ij}(t) \right\rangle &= 0 \\ \left\langle \theta_{ij}(t) \theta_{i'j'}(t') \right\rangle &= \left(\delta_{ii'} \delta_{jj'} + \delta_{ij'} \delta_{ji'} \right) \delta(t - t') \end{aligned}$

- Fokker-Planck fluctuation-dissipation theory obtain thermal equilibrium when: $w^{D}(r_{ij}) = (w^{R}(r_{ij}))^{2}$ Under these conditions, \mathbf{F}_{ij}^{D} and $\sigma^{2} = 2k_{B}T\gamma$ Under these conditions, \mathbf{F}_{ij}^{D} and \mathbf{F}_{ij}^{R} control system temperature
- Can also make connection to Navier-Stokes equations^[2,3]
 - Dissipative force parameter γ and switching function w^D related to viscosity and diffusivity



- 1. Español and Warren, *EPL* **30** (4), 191–196 (1995)
- 2. Marsh *et al.*, *Phys Rev E* **56** (2), 1676–1691 (1997)
- 3. Visser *et al.*, *J Chem Phys* **214**, 491–504 (2006)

Summary: DPD gives <u>correct</u> <u>hydrodynamic behaviour</u>

DPD interactions: how should beads interact?

Simplest possible force/potential^[1]

- No real restrictions on how beads should interact, but ideally want something representative at mesoscale
 - As accurately as we can with as few particles as possible, simple to speed up calculations
- Coarse-graining polymer melts gives pairwise potentials that differ markedly from atomistic forms^[2,3]
- Groot and Warren chose:

$$\mathbf{F}_{ij}^{C} = \begin{cases} A \left(1 - \frac{r_{ij}}{r_{c}} \right) \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij}, & r_{ij} < r_{c} \\ 0, & r_{ij} \ge r_{c} \end{cases}$$



- 1. Groot and Warren, J Chem Phys **107** (11), 4423–4435 (1997)
- 2. Forrest and Suter, *J Chem Phys* **102** (18), 7256–504 (1995)
- 3. Flekkøy and Coveney, *PRL* **83** (9), 1775–1778 (1999)



Equivalent potential:

$$V(r_{ij}) = \frac{1}{2} A r_c \left(1 - \frac{r_{ij}}{r_c}\right)^2 \text{ for } r_{ij} < r_c$$

- Finite ranged, bounded
- No divergence for $r_{ij} \rightarrow 0$
- Entirely repulsive (no attraction)

DPD interactions: how should beads interact?

Simplest possible force/potential^[1]

$$\mathbf{F}_{ij}^{C} = \begin{cases} A \left(1 - \frac{r_{ij}}{r_c} \right) \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij}, & r_{ij} < r_c \\ 0, & r_{ij} \ge r_c \end{cases}$$

• Above choice of conservative interaction force gives <u>quadratic</u> equation of state (EOS):

 $p \approx \rho k_B T + 0.101 A r_c^4 \rho^2$

- Applicable for $\rho r_c^3 > 2$, when radial distribution functions g(r) do not change with ρ
- Provides some (limited) non-ideal behaviour



1. Groot and Warren, *J Chem Phys* **107** (11), 4423–4435 (1997)

Parameterisation mainly for *A* (repulsion strength)

 Can use EOS to fit isothermal compressibility for each component

 $\left|\frac{\partial p}{\partial \rho}\right|_{T} = \frac{V_{bead}}{\kappa_{T}} \approx k_{B}T + 0.202Ar_{c}^{4}\rho$

A between components can be related to mixing energies, e.g.
 Groot and Warren's connection to Flory-Huggins solution theory^[1]

 $\chi^{AB} \propto (A^{AB} - A^{AA})$

Using DPD for mesoscale modelling

Can take similar approach to classical MD

- Algorithm described as pairwise interaction forces within a cutoff
 - Thermostatting 'for free'!
 - No velocity field sampling required to use DPD thermostat with flow fields (cf. neMD)
- Mass (m) and length (r_c) scales from bead contents, energy scale $(k_B T)$ from system temperature
- Time scale often given as $\tau = r_c \sqrt{\frac{m}{k_B T}}$

Example – water with 3 molecules per bead at room temperature (298 K), bead density $\rho = 3r_c^{-3}$

$$\begin{split} m &\approx 9.00 \times 10^{-26} \text{ kg (54.046 u)} \\ r_c &\approx 6.46 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m (0.646 nm)} \\ k_B T &\approx 4.12 \times 10^{-21} \text{ J (2.48 kJ mol^{-1})} \\ \tau &\approx 2.50 \times 10^{-12} \text{ s (2.50 ps)} \\ A &\approx 78 k_B T / r_c \end{split}$$

Can add springs to connect beads
 together for larger molecules

Bonds not normally 'chemical' as DPD beads often quite large: DPD interactions between connected beads <u>not</u> excluded

• Soft repulsive interactions simplify initial simulation setup: no numerical issues if beads overlap

Using DPD for mesoscale modelling

Structure formation by surfactants/lipids/copolymers







Mesophases formed from amphiphilic dimers^[1] (two-bead surfactants) of different concentrations in solvent Bilayer spontaneously formed from solution of liposomes^[2]

Formation and destruction of copolymer vesicles (based on pH) for drug loading/delivery^[3]: *A* obtained from χ values calculated using atomistic MD



- 1. Prinsen et al., PRL 89 (14), 148302 (2002)
- 2. Shillcock and Lipowsky, J Chem Phys 117 (10), 5048–5061 (2002)
- 3. Luo and Jiang, J Control Release 162 (1), 185–193 (2012)

Using DPD for mesoscale modelling

Systems with fluid flows





Pressure-driven (Poiseuille) flow of fluid between frozen bead plates

Velocity profiles of Poiseuille flow for simple fluid (top) and dilute suspension of molecules with FENE bonds (bottom)^[1] Linear shear flow past stationary sphere (consisting of frozen beads) constrained by plates: comparison of drag forces with experiments/Stokes' law^[2]



. Fan *et al.*, *Phys Fluids* **15** (1), 11–21 (2003)

2. Chen et al., Phys Fluids 18 (10), 103605 (2006)

DPD challenges: Parameterisation

- Unlike atomistic and CG-MD, currently no* 'standard' force fields (sets of interaction parameters) available for DPD simulations
- Different methods available to get hold of *A* between components:
 - Flory-Huggins solution theory via χ -parameters^[1]
 - Infinite dilution activity coefficients $(\gamma_i^{\infty})^{[2]}$
 - Fitting to water/octanol partition coefficients (log P)^[3]
 - Ab initio (DFT) calculations^[4]
- Dissipative force parameters γ harder to obtain, but could try:
 - Fitting to diffusivities or velocity autocorrelation functions
 - Ensemble-averaging forces/velocities from MD calculations^[6]
- 1. Groot and Warren, *J Chem Phys* **107** (11), 4423–4435 (1997) 4.
- 2. Vishnyakov et al., J Phys Chem Lett 4 (5), 797–802 (2013)
- 3. Anderson *et al.*, *J Chem Phys* **147** (9), 094503 (2017)

- Sepehr and Paddison, Chem Phys Lett 645, 20–26 (2016)
- 5. Wan *et al.*, *PLOS ONE* **13** (5), 1–31 (2018)
- 6. Sokhan and Todorov, *Mol Simul* **47** (2–3), 248–256 (2021)

* Attempts at DPD FFs for surfactants^[3] and phospholipids^[5] available

If flows do not need to be quantified, can just choose γ to give decent temperature control and quick equilibration

DPD challenges: Correct thermodynamics

- Usual (Groot-Warren) interactions provide limited thermodynamics, e.g. no stable phase coexistence
- Alternative pairwise interactions exist to provide more realistic behaviours, e.g.
 - Exponential function for colloids, gas/liquid^[1]

$$\mathbf{F}_{ij}^{C} = \frac{A}{1 - e^{-b}} \left(e_{ij}^{-br_{ij}/r_{c}} - e^{-b} \right) \, \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij}$$

• Extended Groot-Warren with attraction $(n DPD)^{[2]}$

$$\mathbf{F}_{ij}^{C} = A \left[b \left(1 - \frac{r_{ij}}{r_c} \right)^n - \left(1 - \frac{r_{ij}}{r_c} \right) \right] \hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij}$$



Pan *et al.*, *Langmuir* **26** (1), 133–142 (2010)
 Sokhan *et al.*, *Soft Matter* **19** (30), 5824–5834 (2021)



*n*DPD potential form (above) and resulting vapour-liquid coexistence (below)



DPD challenges: Correct thermodynamics

- Also possible to <u>impose</u> required free energy density (or EOS) using many-body DPD approach^[1,2]
 - Define localised density as sum of pairwise weighting functions, $\tilde{\rho}_i = \sum_{j \neq i} w(r_{ij})$
 - Pairwise conservative force given as functions of excess free energy $\psi^{ex}(\rho)$:

$$\mathbf{F}_{ij}^{C} = -\left[\frac{\partial\psi^{ex}}{\partial\rho}(\tilde{\rho}_{i}) + \frac{\partial\psi^{ex}}{\partial\rho}(\tilde{\rho}_{j})\right]\frac{dw}{dr_{ij}}(r_{ij})\hat{\mathbf{r}}_{ij}$$

Simple form gives vapour-liquid coexistence^[3] (cubic EOS), can be extended for e.g. solid-liquid systems^[4]





- 1. Pagonabarraga and Frenkel, J Chem Phys 115 (11), 5015–5026 (2001)
- 2. Trofimov et al., J Chem Phys 117 (20), 9383–9394 (2002)
- 3. Warren, PRE 68 (6), 066702 (2003)
- 4. Vanya and Elliot, *PRE* **102** (1), 013312 (2020)

Similar approach to Embedded Atom Models (EAMs) for metal potentials



DPD challenges: Electrostatics

- Long-range charge interactions (sometimes) unavoidable!
 - Hydrophilic head groups in surfactants/lipids, electroosmotic flows^[1], (poly)electrolytes^[2] etc.
- Can use similar approaches to MD calculations (e.g. P³M^[3] and Ewald sum^[4,5] methods)
- Not always possible to use point charges with DPD: attractions might overwhelm soft repulsions^[6]

Science and

Technology Facilities Council

- Often modify Coulombic potential to smear out charges
 over finite volumes
 - 1. Moshfegh and Jabbarzadeh, Microfluid Nanofluid 20 (4), 1–17 (2016)
 - 2. Ibergay et al., J Chem Theory Comput 5 (12), 3245–3259 (2009)
 - 3. Groot, *J Chem Phys* **118** (24), 11265–11277 (2003)
 - 4. González-Melchor et al., J Chem Phys 125 (22), 224107 (2009)
 - 5. Warren et al., J Chem Phys **138** (20), 204907 (2013)
 - 6. Terrón-Mejia et al., J Phys: Condens Matter 28 (42), 425101 (2016)



DPD challenges: Thermostats and nonisochoric processes

- Simplest integration of DPD thermostat forces less accurate for higher Δt
 - More sophisticated integration of \mathbf{F}_{ij}^{D} and $\mathbf{F}_{ij}^{R[1]}$ (separately to \mathbf{F}_{ij}^{C}) helps
- Low Schmidt numbers (Sc = ν/D): difficult to get viscosities for liquids
 - Choose w^D to increase viscosity
 - Alternative pairwise thermostats designed for higher Sc, e.g. pairwise form of Andersen thermostat^[2]
- Can couple barostat into system alongside DPD thermostat^[3] to control pressure, surface area, interfacial tension etc.



- 1. Shardlow, SIAM J Sci Comput 24 (4), 1267–1282 (2001)
- 2. Lowe, EPL 47 (2), 145–151 (1999)
- 3. Jakobsen, J Chem Phys 122 (12), 124901 (2005)

More information about DPD

• Knowledge Centre in DL_Software Digital Guide:

https://dl-sdg.github.io/RESOURCES/knowledge.html

 Includes pages on coarse-graining, DPD and further details (how to set scales in DPD calculations, parameterisation approaches etc.)



- 1. Shardlow, SIAM J Sci Comput 24 (4), 1267–1282 (2001)
- 2. Lowe, EPL 47 (2), 145–151 (1999)
- 3. Jakobsen, J Chem Phys 122 (12), 124901 (2005)



DPD in DL_Software: DL_MESO_DPD and DL_POLY_5

'We are stuck with technology when what we really want is just stuff that works.'

- Douglas Adams, The Salmon of Doubt

Two DPD simulation codes

- Bespoke code for DPD calculations: **DL_MESO_DPD**
 - DPD code in DL_MESO (general-purpose mesoscale simulation package)
- An MD code that can also do DPD calculations: **DL_POLY_5**
 - General-purpose MD code with DPD functionalities
- Both codes are similar 'under the hood' and do many of the same things
 - Derived from the same 'ancestor code' (MDMEGA: CCP5 Program Library)
 - Use MPI-based domain decomposition for parallel running
 - Some interoperability due to similar input file formats



DL_MESO

General purpose mesoscopic simulation software package

- MPI domain-decomposed codes with optional OpenMP multithreading for:
 - Dissipative Particle Dynamics (DPD)
 - Lattice Boltzmann Equation (LBE)
- Created in 2004 as CCP5 flagship project: www.ccp5.ac.uk/DL_MESO
 - Development currently funded under CoSeC for UKCOMES
- Current version (2.7): released December 2018, 800+ registered academic users





DL_MESO

General purpose mesoscopic simulation software package

- Two articles available in Molecular Simulation on DL_MESO
- Cited ~200 times over past 12 years
- Available under dual licence:
 - Free for academic users
 - Annual subscription for commercial users



Molecular Simulation, 2013 Vol. 39, No. 10, 796-821, http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/08927022.2013.772297



DL_MESO: highly scalable mesoscale simulations

Michael A. Seaton*, Richard L. Anderson, Sebastian Metz and William Smith

Scientific Computing Department, STFC Daresbury Laboratory, Keckwick Lane, Daresbury, Warrington WA4 4AD, UK

(Received 19 October 2012; final version received 28 January 2013)

DL_MESO is a parallel mesoscale simulation package capable of dissipative particle dynamics and the lattice Boltzmann equation method. It has been developed at Daresbury Laboratory for the United Kingdom Collaborative Computational Project known as CCP5. Capable of addressing industrially relevant tasks, but written to support academic research, it has a wide range of applications and scales to thousands of processors on high-performance computing platforms yet runs efficiently on smaller commodity clusters and single processor personal computers. This article serves as a guide to a variety of users, describing the functionality, performance and structure of this simulation package. Representative examples highlighting the capabilities of DL_MESO are given for each of the two methodologies available. Future directions for the package are discussed towards the end of the article.

Keywords: DL_MESO; dissipative particle dynamics; lattice Boltzmann; mesoscale simulation

1. Introduction

Computer simulations of condensed matter are frequently performed using either atomistic methods, e.g. molecular dynamics (MD), or continuum methods based on the Navier–Stokes equation. Although these are very successful in their own domains, many systems exist in which large-scale structures appear but require some vestige of atomistic detail to capture the essential physics. Mesoscale m

2021, VOL. 47, NO. 2-3, 228-247

scales, which are important in the context of consumer interaction with formulated products.

The DL_MESO project originated as part of the United Kingdom Collaborative Computational Project for the Computer Simulation of Condensed Phases, known as CCP5 (www.ccp5.ac.uk). The objective was to develop a comprehensive mesoscale modelling package capable of bridging the gap between atomistic and continuum



Check for updates

DL_MESO_DPD: development and use of mesoscale modelling software

Michael A. Seaton 💿

STFC Daresbury Laboratory, Warrington, UK

https://doi.org/10.1080/08927022.2018.1524143

ABSTRACT

DL_MESO is a highly-scalable general purpose software package for mesoscale modelling. Created and developed at Daresbury Laboratory for the UK Collaborative Computational Project CCP5, it was intended to be a companion package to the flagship molecular dynamics code DL_POLY. One of DL_MESO component codes, DL_MESO_DPD, is based on dissipative particle dynamics, a mesoscale modelling technique with many similarities to classical molecular dynamics. While this code and DL_POLY were created with different applications in mind, they share a significant amount of functionality and development history. This article gives an overview on how DL_MESO_DPD has been developed, including its shared history with DL_POLY and information on its current performance, and a selection of applications for which the code has been used.

ARTICLE HISTORY Received 19 March 2018

Accepted 19 March 2018 Accepted 11 September 2018

KEYWORDS

DL_MESO; mesoscale modelling; dissipative particle dynamics; software development; DL_POLY

1. Introduction

Mesoscale modelling methods fit into a gap between atomistic and continuum methods of modelling materials, addressing intermediate length and timescales (10–1000 nm, 1 ns–10 ms) by including some vestige of atomistic detail to capture both essential microscopic physics and large-scale structural effects. As well as being of interest to the academic community, mesoscopic simulation methods are of great interest to industry and many of their key developments

The DPD part of the DL_MESO package, DL_MESO_DPD, has a lot in common with DL_POLY. Both programs and their included methodologies (DPD and MD) depend upon calculating interaction forces acting on particles and integrating those forces over time to determine their motion. From the user's point of view, both programs use similar input file formats which are – to at least some degree – interchangeable and compatible. DL_MESO_DPD and DL_POLY_4 also share the same parallelisation strategy of domain decomposition with link-cell

Why do DPD in DL_POLY_5?

- DL_POLY_5 can now do most things DL_MESO_DPD can do, plus a bit more
 - Some DL_POLY_5 functionalities (e.g. rigid body dynamics) potentially useful for DPD calculations, but not widely explored
- Easier to transfer problems from atomistic MD to DPD
 - Can generate atomistic system using DL_FIELD
 - Could systematically coarse-grain atomistic system to DPD scales via e.g. Shapespyer and run DPD calculation immediately
- No need to learn how to use a different code!
 - Inputs for DPD systems similar in form to MD ones
 - Converting between codes not too difficult: similarities in input file formats



DPD in DL_POLY_5

- Intermolecular (van der Waals) interactions include:
 - 'Standard DPD' (Groot-Warren)^[1]
 - *n*DPD (DPD with additional attraction)^[2]
 - Generalised many-body DPD^{[3]*}
 - Tabulated interactions supplied in TABVDW file
- DPD thermostat available for NVT ensembles:
 - Simple force integration (MD-VV)*
 - Shardlow splitting^[4]: **zeroth***, first and second order
 - Can specify γ for species pairs in FIELD (as additional VDW parameter)
- Electrostatic interactions of smeared charges (with SPME)*:
 - Linear^[5], Slater-type (exact and truncated^[6]), Gaussian^[7]
- 1. Groot and Warren, *J Chem Phys* **107** (11), 4423–4435 (1997)
- 2. Sokhan *et al.*, *Soft Matter* **19** (30), 5824–5834 (2021)
- 3. Vanya and Elliot, *PRE* **102** (1), 013312 (2020)
- 4. Shardlow, *SIAM J Sci Comput* **24** (4), 1267–1282 (2001)

- 5. Groot, J Chem Phys **118** (24), 11265–11277 (2003)
- 6. González-Melchor et al., J Chem Phys 125 (22), 224107 (2009)
- 7. Warren et al., J Chem Phys 138, 204907 (2013)

* Functionalities added during ARCHER2 eCSE project

Functionality not yet available in DL_MESO_DPD

Higher order = more accurate DPD thermostat force integration

DPD units

- New DPD unit scheme added to DL_POLY_5
 - Equivalent to internal DPD units used in DL_MESO_DPD
 - Each unit has <u>fictional equivalent</u> in DL_POLY internal units that <u>does</u> <u>not</u> have to match a 'real' value

	DPD unit	Equal to	Unit name	DL_POLY internal equivalent
5 7 F	Mass [M]	[M]	dpd_m	$m_0 = 1 \text{ Da (u)}$
	Length [L]	[L]	dpd_l	$\ell_0 = 1 \text{ Å}$
	Energy [E]	[E]	dpd_e	$E_0 = 10 \text{ J mol}^{-1}$
	Time [t]	$[L]\sqrt{[M]/[E]}$	dpd_t	$t_0 = 1 \text{ ps}$
	Temperature [T]	$[E]/k_B$	dpd_temp	1/k _B K (ca. 1.2027 K)
	Pressure [P]	$[E][L]^{-3}$	dpd_p	$\mathcal{P}_0 = 16.61 \text{ MPa} (163.9 \text{ atm})$
	Force [F]	$[E][L]^{-1} = [M][L][t]^{-2}$	dpd_f	1 Da Å ps ⁻²
	Velocity [V]	$\sqrt{[M]/[E]} = [L][t]^{-1}$	dpd_v	1 Å ps ⁻¹
	Charge $[Q]$	[<i>Q</i>]	[dpd_q]	$q_0 = e \approx 1.6 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

DPD units

- Can specify quantities in CONTROL and FIELD in DPD units, including interaction and thermostat parameters
- Need directive in CONTROL file (io_units_scheme dpd) to correctly report temperatures, pressures and stress tensors in OUTPUT, STATIS etc.: i.e. printing in DPD units
- Positions, velocities and forces in CONFIG files automatically in DPD units: <u>directly interchangeable with</u> DL_MESO_DPD



title DL_POLY DPD lipid bilayer example

```
io_units_scheme dpd
```

```
temperature 1.0 dpd_temp
cutoff 2.0 dpd_1
```

```
density_variance 100.0 %
```

timestep 0.03 dpd_t
time_run 100000 steps
time_equilibration 0 steps

```
DL POLY DPD lipid bilayer example
UNITS dpd
MOLECULES 2
M
nummols 7388
atoms 1 m
        1.0 0.0 1 0
M
finish
. . .
                   A r_c
                          γ
VDW 6
          dpd
                 25.0 1.0 4.5
Η
    Η
          dpd
                 25.0 1.0 4.5
С
     С
. . .
```

DPD simulations of molecules

- Can add bonds, angles, dihedrals etc. between beads
 - Not excluding VDW/charge interactions between connected beads
 - Default behaviour in DL_MESO_DPD
 - Bond/angle types starting with '-' in DL_POLY_5
 - DL POLY 5 can also use fixedlength constraints and rigid bodies (not available in DL_MESO_DPD)



```
DL POLY DPD lipid bilayer example
. . .
MOLECULES 2
. . .
HC6
nummols 700
atoms 7
        1.0 0.0 1 0
Η
       1.0 0.0 6 0
С
bonds 6
     1 2 128,000 0,50000
-hrm
-hrm
     2 3 128.000 0.500000
     3 4 128.000 0.500000
-hrm
     4 5 128,000 0,50000
-hrm
     5 6 128.000 0.500000
-hrm
     6 7 128.000 0.500000
-hrm
angles 5
      1 2 3 20.0 0.0 1.0
-cos
       2 3 4 20.0 0.0 1.0
-cos
       3 4 5 20.0 0.0 1.0
-cos
     4 5 6 20.0 0.0 1.0
-cos
-cos
      5 6 7 20.0 0.0 1.0
finish
```

File formats: DL_POLY_5 vs DL_MESO_DPD

- CONTROL files
 - DL_MESO_DPD uses similar format to older DL_POLY CONTROL files
 - DL_POLY_5 now uses [keyword] [value] [unit]: <u>must use this format for DPD</u> <u>calculations!</u>
- FIELD files
 - Similar between DL_POLY_5 and DL_MESO_DPD, except DL_MESO_DPD allows definition of non-molecular (solvent) beads and sample configurations of molecules to devise initial configuration without a CONFIG file
- CONFIG files
 - Identical between both codes can use files generated by either code in both programs
 - Optional for DL_MESO_DPD



CONTROL files: DL_POLY_5 vs DL_MESO_DPD

title DL_POLY DPD lipid bilayer example

io_units_scheme dpd

temperature 1.0 dpd_temp
cutoff 2.0 dpd_l

density_variance 100.0 %

timestep 0.03 dpd_t
time_run 100000 steps
time equilibration 0 steps

traj_calculate ON
traj_start 0 steps
traj_interval 2000 steps
traj_key pos

stats_frequency 2000 steps
stack_size 100 steps

print_frequency 1000 steps
time_job 10800.0 s
time close 100.0 s

ensemble nvt
ensemble_method dpd
ensemble_dpd_order first

DL MESO lipid bilayer example volume 4096.0 temperature 1.0 cutoff 1.0 boundary halo 2.0 densvar 100.0 timestep 0.03 steps 100000 equilibration steps 0 trajectory 0 2000 0 stats every 2000 stack size 100 print every 1000 job time 10800.0 close time 100.0 ensemble nvt dpds1 finish
FIELD files: DL_POLY_5 vs DL_MESO_DPD

DL POLY DPD lipid bilayer example UNITS dpd MOLECULES 2 W nummols 7388 atoms 1 1.0 0.0 1 0 W finish HC6 nummols 700 atoms 7 Η 1.0 0.0 1 0 С 1.0 0.0 6 0 bonds 6 -hrm 1 2 128.000 0.500000 -hrm 2 3 128.000 0.500000 -hrm 3 4 128.000 0.500000 -hrm 4 5 128.000 0.500000 -hrm 5 6 128.000 0.500000 -hrm 6 7 128.000 0.500000 angles 5 -cos 1 2 3 20.0 0.0 1.0 2 3 4 20.0 0.0 1.0 -cos 3 4 5 20.0 0.0 1.0 -cos 4 5 6 20.0 0.0 1.0 -cos -cos 5 6 7 20.0 0.0 1.0 finish VDW 6 Η Η dpd 25.0 1.0 4.5 С С dpd 25.0 1.0 4.5 25.0 1.0 4.5 W W dpd dpd Η W 35.0 1.0 4.5 С Н dpd 50.0 1.0 9.0 75.0 1.0 20.0 С W dpd close

DL MESO lipid bilayer example SPECIES 3 Η 1.0 0.0 0 1.0 0.0 0 С 1.0 0.0 7388 W MOLECULES 1 HC6 nummols 700 beads 7 Η -0.0172847 0.383451 0.2849 С -0.016165 0.381111 -0.215093 С 0.280007 0.0703806 0.0412832 С 0.440339 -0.359403 -0.157664 С 0.00469362 -0.136529 -0.260333 С -0.455453 -0.119133 -0.0654933 С -0.236136 -0.219878 0.3724 bonds 6 harm 1 2 128.000 0.500000 harm 2 3 128.000 0.500000 harm 3 4 128.000 0.500000 harm 4 5 128.000 0.500000 harm 5 6 128.000 0.500000 harm 6 7 128.000 0.500000 angles 5 cos 1 2 3 20.0 0.0 1.0 cos 2 3 4 20.0 0.0 1.0 cos 3 4 5 20.0 0.0 1.0 cos 4 5 6 20.0 0.0 1.0 cos 5 6 7 20.0 0.0 1.0 Finish INTERACTIONS 6 H H dpd 25.0 1.0 4.5 C C dpd 25.0 1.0 4.5 W W dpd 25.0 1.0 4.5 H W dpd 35.0 1.0 4.5 H C dpd 50.0 1.0 9.0 C W dpd 75.0 1.0 20.0 close

File formats: DL_POLY_5 vs DL_MESO_DPD

- HISTORY files
 - DL_MESO_DPD generates bespoke binary files: need to be converted for visualisation or analysis (utilities to do this supplied with DL_MESO)
 - DL_POLY format text-based and directly readable into VMD and OVITO
- Statistics files
 - DL_MESO_DPD generates CORREL file with flexible number of columns of data (depending on system being modelled): easy to read in and manipulate
 - DL_POLY generates STATIS file with numbers in multi-line blocks: needs to be interpreted to plot or analyse (via e.g. dlpoly-py)



Future DL_POLY_5 DPD functionalities

- Constant pressure (NPT, etc.) ensembles via barostats coupled to DPD thermostat
 - Langevin barostat^[1]
- Lees-Edwards boundary conditions for linear shear flows^[2]
 - Can be used to calculate viscosities as a function of shear rate (rheology)
- Alternative pairwise thermostats (e.g. Lowe-Andersen^[3])
 - Provide larger viscosities than DPD can ordinarily manage
- Dynamic load balancing of particles among processor cores
 - Better parallel scalability for inhomogeneously distributed particle systems, e.g. when using many-body DPD
- 1. Jakobsen, J Chem Phys 122 (12), 124901 (2005)
- 2. Lees and Edwards, *J Phys C* **47** (2), 145–151 (1999)
- 3. Lowe, EPL 47 (2), 145–151 (1999)

All above functionalities already available in DL_MESO_DPD: use this code if you need them right now!

DPD in DL_POLY_5

 More information about DPD functionalities in DL_POLY_5 available in its documentation (user manual)

https://ccp5.gitlab.io/dl-poly/

• Specific section on Dissipative Particle Dynamics, including DPD units, thermostats and many-body DPD interactions

https://ccp5.gitlab.io/dl-poly/UserManual/DPD/dpd.html



DPD Tutorial Exercises

- Three available in DL_Software Digital Guide
- Two can work either with DL_MESO_DPD or with DL_POLY_5 (medium difficulty exercises):
 - Parameterising DPD interactions using Flory-Huggins solution theory
 - Simulation workflow to find relationship between free energy of mixing (Flory-Huggins χ -parameter) and A
 - Lipid bilayers and micelles with DPD
 - Formation of lipid structures from randomised configurations



DPD Tutorial Exercises

- DL_MESO_DPD exclusive exercise:
 - Transport properties of DPD fluids
 - Uses Lees-Edwards shear to calculate viscosities, examines DPD and another pairwise thermostat
- All three exercises use DL_POLY_5 or DL_MESO_DPD with input files supplied, some Python scripts provided for simulation workflow (Flory-Huggins exercise) and data visualisation

https://dl-sdg.github.io/RESOURCES/EXERCISES/Exercises.html





Questions?



Science and Technology Facilities Council

Thank you

Science and Technology Facilities Council

© @STFC_matters

Science and Technology Facilities Council



DL_SOFTWARE Workshop 2025, Correlations and more

14 May 2025

Jupyter notebook tinyurl.com/dlp-viscosity

- On-the-fly (also online) algorithms consume a sequence of data, updating immediately on each input
- General on-the-fly correlation module in DL_POLY.



$$\mu_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$
$$\Rightarrow \mu_{n+1} = \frac{n\mu_n + x_{n+1}}{n+1}$$

Devereux, H.L., Cockrell, C., Elena, A.M., Bush, I., Chalk, A.B., Madge, J., Scivetti, I., Wilkins, J.S., Todorov, I.T., Smith, W. and Trachenko, K., 2025. DL_POLY 5: Calculation of system properties on the fly for very large systems via massive parallelism. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2503.07526*. Karp, R.M., 1992, July. On-line algorithms versus off-line algorithms: How much. In *Algorithms, Software, Architecture: Information Processing 92: Proceedings of the IFIP 12th World Computer Congress* (Vol. 1, p. 416).

Ramírez, J., Sukumaran, S.K., Vorselaars, B. and Likhtman, A.E., 2010. Efficient on the fly calculation of time correlation functions in computer simulations. *The Journal of chemical physics*, *133*(15).



- The multi-tau algorithm calculates on-the-fly correlations [7], following earlier online correlators [8-9].
- Stores data in hierarchical block averages.
- Data is passed down blocks, averaged over m points.



Memory outline of multi tau correlator blocks [7]. Each block stores p data points, and passes down data averaged over m points.

[8] Ramírez, J., Sukumaran, S.K., Vorselaars, B. and Likhtman, A.E., 2010. Efficient on the fly calculation of time correlation functions in computer simulations. *The Journal of chemical physics*, *133*(15).

[9] Frenkel, D. and Smit, B., 2002. *Understanding molecular simulation: from algorithms to applications*. San Diego: Academic Press.

[10] Schätzel, K., Drewel, M. and Stimac, S., 1988. Photon correlation measurements at large lag times: improving statistical accuracy. *Journal of Modern Optics*, *35*(4), pp.711-718.



Correlation	Derived quantities	Atomistic observable
Stress	Viscosity, elastic constants	$\frac{1}{V} \left(\sum_{i} m_{i} \mathbf{r}_{i}^{\prime \alpha} \mathbf{r}_{i}^{\prime \beta} + \sum_{\mathbf{i} < \mathbf{j}} \mathbf{r}_{\mathbf{ij}}^{\alpha} \mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{ij}}^{\beta} \right)$
Velocity	Transport coefficients, vibrational density of states	$\mathbf{r}'_{\mathbf{i}}$
Heat flux	Thermal conductivity	$\overline{V}\sum_{i=1}\left(u_{i}\mathbf{r}_{i}^{\prime}+\sum_{j\neq i}\mathbf{f}_{ij}\cdot\mathbf{r}_{i}^{\prime}\mathbf{r}_{ij}\right)$
Current*	Electrical conductivity*	$\sum_{i} q_{i} \mathbf{r'}_{i}^{\mathbf{x}}$
Density (user kpoints) dev	Thermal conductivity, intermediate scattering	$1 \sum_{\alpha=-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r_i}}^{N}$

Thermal conductivity, intermediate scattering function and dynamic structure factor

U. Balucani and M. Zoppi, Dynamics of the liquid state, vol. 10 (Clarendon Press, 1995).

R. Zwanzig and R. D. Mountain, The Journal of Chemical Physics 43, 4464 (1965).

Parrinello, M. and Rahman, A., 1982. Strain fluctuations and elastic constants. The Journal of Chemical Physics, 76(5), pp.2662-2666.

Ray, J.R., 1988. Elastic constants and statistical ensembles in molecular dynamics. *Computer physics reports*, *8*(3), pp.109-151. Frenkel, D. and Smit, B., 2002. *Understanding molecular simulation: from algorithms to applications*. San Diego: Academic Press.

Hansen, J.P. and McDonald, I.R., 2013. Theory of simple liquids: with applications to soft matter. Academic press.

Cheng, B. and Frenkel, D., 2020. Computing the heat conductivity of fluids from density fluctuations. *Physical Review Letters*, 125(13), p.130602.



X* not yet supported X^{dev} In active development

Correlation	Derived quantities	Atomistic observable
Longitudinal momentum current (user kpoints)	Dynamic structure factor [1] liquid spectra [8]	$C_L(\mathbf{k},t) = \langle \mathbf{j}_L^z(\mathbf{k},t) \mathbf{j}_L^z(\mathbf{k},0) \rangle \mathbf{j}_L(\mathbf{k},t) = \sum_i (\mathbf{v}^i(t) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{k}}) \hat{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}^i(t)}$
Transverse momentum current (user kpoints)	liquid spectra [8]	$2C_T(\mathbf{k},t) = \langle \mathbf{j}_T^x(\mathbf{k},t)\mathbf{j}_T^x(\mathbf{k},0) \rangle + \langle \mathbf{j}_T^y(\mathbf{k},t)\mathbf{j}_T^y(\mathbf{k},0) \rangle$ $\mathbf{j}_T(\mathbf{k},t) = \sum [\mathbf{v}^i(t) - (\mathbf{v}^i(t)\cdot\hat{\mathbf{k}})]\hat{\mathbf{k}}e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}^i(t)}$
Energy current (user kpoints)		$\mathbf{q}^{a}(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i} \left[e_{i} \mathbf{v}_{i}^{a} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j \neq i} \sum_{b} (\mathbf{v}_{i}^{b} + \mathbf{v}_{j}^{b}) (\mathbf{r}_{ij}^{a} \mathbf{r}_{ij}^{b} / \mathbf{r}_{ij} ^{2}) \mathbf{r}_{ij} \frac{\partial U(\mathbf{r}_{ij})}{\partial r} \frac{1 - e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{i}}}{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{i}} \right]$
Rigid body: positions, velocities, and orientational velocities		
STATIS values	Bulk modulus, specific heat capacity, [9]	E.g. temperature, volume, energies, cell angles,
General molecules?*		Bonds, angles, dihedrals, inversions, positions, velocities, angular velocities?

U. Balucani and M. Zoppi, Dynamics of the liquid state, vol. 10 (Clarendon Press, 1995). Yang, C., Dove, M.T., Brazhkin, V.V. and Trachenko, K., 2017.

Emergence and evolution of the k gap in spectra of liquid and supercritical states.

Physical review letters, 118(21), p.215502.

Allen, M.P. and Tildesley, D.J., 2017. Computer simulation of liquids. Oxford university press.



Input

- Request correlations by juxtaposing observables, with specified components
- Averaging of derived quantities is automatic (e.g. stress: xy, yz, zx for viscosity)

correlation_observable [s_xy-s_xy s_yz-s_yz s_zx-s_zx hf_x-hf_y velocity_x-hf_z]
correlation_block_points [5000 5000 5000]
...



• New COR file including correlation values, and derived quantities e.g., viscosity, elasticity tensor, or thermal-conductivity.

```
title: 'Argon'
observables:
     viscosity:
           value:
                 0.24150069E-03
           components: [ 0.39309725E-03, 0.89904136E-04]
           units: Katm ps
     kinematic-viscosity:
           value: 0.21993727E-03
           components: [ 0.35799788E-03, 0.81876662E-04]
           units: Katm ps / (amu / Ang^3)
     thermal-conductivity:
           value: 0.96869183E-06
           units: e.V / (ps Ang K)
     elasticity_tensor:
         components: [C_xxxx , C_xxyy , C_xxzz , C_yyyy , C_yyzz , C_zzzz , C_yzyz , C_zxzx , C_xyxy]
         values: [ 24.007901 , 10.219979 , 11.545088 , 17.599676 , 8.3646309 , 19.861066
   14.510356 . 16.062736 . 14.391474
                                               1
         units: Katm
correlations:
```



- Values, lags, parameters, and observables all in YAML format
- dlpoly-py reader
- Per-atom or per-molecule quantities are split by species

```
observables:
correlations:
     stress_xy-stress_xy:
           parameters:
                 points_per_block: 5000
                 number_of_blocks: 1
                window_size: 1
           lags: [ 0.0000000 , 1.0000000
           value: [ 0.28183438E-03, 0.28071854E-03, ... ]
     stress_yz-stress_yz:
           parameters:
                 points_per_block: 100
                number_of_blocks: 1
                window_size: 1
           lags: [ 0.0000000 , 1.0000000
           value: [ 0.64655167E-04, 0.64642762E-04, ... ]
     heat_flux_x-heat_flux_x:
           parameters:
                 points_per_block: 100
                number_of_blocks: 1
                window size: 1
           lags: 0.0000000 , 1.0000000
           value: [ 0.23606349E-08, 0.23606349E-08, ...]
     Ar-velocity_x-velocity_y:
           parameters:
                 points_per_block: 100
                number_of_blocks: 1
                window_size: 1
           lags: 0.0000000 , 1.0000000
           value: [ 0.14340287E-01, 0.14342140E-01,
```



• Scaling (VAF). Granularity is frequency of correlation/ saving trajectory data. FFTW computed in C++



Devereux, H.L., Cockrell, C., Elena, A.M., Bush, I., Chalk, A.B., Madge, J., Scivetti, I., Wilkins, J.S., Todorov, I.T., Smith, W. and Trachenko, K., 2025. DL_POLY 5: Calculation of system properties on the fly for very large systems via massive parallelism. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2503.07526*.



• Viscosity and thermal-conductivity (Argon)



Devereux, H.L., Cockrell, C., Elena, A.M., Bush, I., Chalk, A.B., Madge, J., Scivetti, I., Wilkins, J.S., Todorov, I.T., Smith, W. and Trachenko, K., 2025. DL_POLY 5: Calculation of system properties on the fly for very large systems via massive parallelism. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2503.07526*.





Devereux, H.L., Cockrell, C., Elena, A.M., Bush, I., Chalk, A.B., Madge, J., Scivetti, I., Wilkins, J.S., Todorov, I.T., Smith, W. and Trachenko, K., 2025. DL_POLY 5: Calculation of system properties on the fly for very large systems via massive parallelism. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2503.07526*. Clavier, G., Desbiens, N., Bourasseau, E., Lachet, V., Brusselle-Dupend, N. and Rousseau, B., 2017. Computation of elastic constants of solids using molecular simulation: comparison of constant volume and constant pressure ensemble methods. *Molecular Simulation*, *43*(17), pp.1413-1422.



Currents



Devereux, H.L., Cockrell, C., Elena, A.M., Bush, I., Chalk, A.B., Madge, J., Scivetti, I., Wilkins, J.S., Todorov, I.T., Smith, W. and Trachenko, K., 2025. DL_POLY 5: Calculation of system properties on the fly for very large systems via massive parallelism. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2503.07526*.



• Rigid bodies (SF6 left and Methane right)



Devereux, H.L., Cockrell, C., Elena, A.M., Bush, I., Chalk, A.B., Madge, J., Scivetti, I., Wilkins, J.S., Todorov, I.T., Smith, W. and Trachenko, K., 2025. DL_POLY 5: Calculation of system properties on the fly for very large systems via massive parallelism. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2503.07526*. Yang, C., Brazhkin, V.V., Dove, M.T. and Trachenko, K., 2015. Frenkel line and solubility maximum in supercritical fluids. *Physical Review E*, *91*(1), p.012112.

Brodka, A. and Zerda, T.W., 1992. A molecular dynamics simulation of sulphur hexafluoride. *Molecular Physics*, 76(1), pp.103-112.



- 2nd derivatives for two-body potentials (e.g., for elastic constants).
- Momentum flux* (for thermal-conductivity corrections) $q = \sum m_i \boldsymbol{v}_i$
- Strain tensor (from user supplied reference cell)
- Heating and cooling.

first simulation, to heat temperature_increment 2.0 K temperature_increment_start 10000 steps temperature_increment_stop 125 K temperature_increment_frequency 10000 steps # second simulation, to cool temperature_increment 2.0 K temperature_increment_start 10000 steps temperature_increment_stop 2 K temperature_increment_frequency 10000 steps



*Cockrell, C., Withington, M., Devereux, H.L., Elena, A.M., Todorov, I.T., Liu, Z.K., Shang, S.L., McCloy, J.S., Bingham, P.A. and Trachenko, K., 2025. Thermal conductivity and thermal diffusivity of molten salts: insights from molecular dynamics simulations and fundamental bounds. *The Journal of Physical Chemistry B*.



DL_POLY – a brief overview



SPC/Fw model of water. Argon (after melting and freezing at 1 Atm). Hydration of Na (highlighted in yellow) from a NaCl crystal







From 4 to 5 – New CONTROL

• All control directives now require units where applicable.

DL_POLY: ar	
temperature	240
pressure	1
steps	50000
equilibration step	s 40000
scale every 1	
timestep	0.001
ensemble npt lange	vin 1.0 1.0
cutoff	10.0
rvdw	10.0
ewald precision	0.000001
print	100
stats	100
job time	3550
close time	50
restart noscale	
finish	

title DL_POLY: ar temperature 240.0 K pressure_hydrostatic 1.0 katm time_run 50000 steps time_equilibration 40000 steps rescale_frequency 1 steps timestep 0.001 ps ensemble npt ensemble_method langevin ensemble_thermostat_friction 1.0 ps^-1 ensemble_barostat_friction 1.0 ps^-1 vdw_cutoff 10.0 ang cutoff 10.0 ang coul_method spme spme_precision 1e-06 print_frequency 100 steps stats_frequency 100 steps time_job 3550.0 s time_close 50.0 s restart noscale



From 4 to 5 – New CONTROL

- All control directives now require units where applicable.
- Various unit schemes are supported with automated conversion.

pressure_hydrostatic 0.000986923 katm # 0.99864e-4 GPa
pressure_hydrostatic 1 bar # 1e-4 GPa
pressure_hydrostatic 1 mbar # 1e-7 GPa
pressure_hydrostatic 1 Mbar # 100 GPa

• Including "free-form" units.





From 4 to 5 – New CONTROL examples

• Control all I/O file names

title Argon

io_file_config REVCON io_file_field FIELD io_file_statis STATIS io_file_revive REVIVE io_file_revcon REVCON



From 4 to 5 – YAML output

- Can output e.g., STATIS in plain or YAML format.
- Standard format, many languages have a YAML parser package.

title: 'Argon				
energy unitS: e	electron Volts			
0 0.0	000000E+00	48		
-3.195864E+01	6.000000E+01	-3.582870E+01	-3.582870E+01	0.000000E+00
0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	-3.194549E+01
0.000000E+00	-3.811703E+01	-3.811703E+01	0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00
0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	2.106341E+04	0.000000E+00
0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	9.000000E+01	9.000000E+01	9.000000E+01
0.000000E+00	1.147496E+00	0.000000E+00	4.680097E-01	-6.406590E-01
-1.614104E+00	-6.406590E-01	5.005164E-01	-1.597755E+00	-1.614104E+00
-1.597755E+00	2.473963E+00	0.000000E+00	2.830000E+01	0.000000E+00
0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00	2.830000E+01	0.000000E+00	0.000000E+00
0.000000E+00	2.630000E+01	1.528572E+01		

%YAML 1.2

title: 'Argon energy unitS: electron Volts labels:

- [step, time, Total Extended System Energy, System Temperature, Configurational Energy, Short Range Potential Energy, Electrostatic Energy, Chemical Bond Energy, Valence Angle And 3-Body Potential Energy, Dihedral Inversion And 4-Body Potential Energy, Tethering Energy, Enthalpy (Total Energy + Pv), Rotational Temperature, Total Virial, Short-Range Virial, Electrostatic Virial, Bond Virial, Valence Angle And 3-Body Virial, Constraint Bond Virial, Tethering Virial, Volume, Core-Shell Temperature, Core-Shell Potential Energy, Core-Shell Virial, Md Cell Angle A, Md Cell Angle B, Md Cell Angle Gamma, Pmf Constraint Virial, Pressure, External Degree Of Freedom, stress xx, stress xy, stress xz, stress yx, stress yy, stress yz, stress zx, stress zy, stress zz, amsd Ar , cell A1, cell A2, cell A3, cell B1, cell B2, cell B3, cell C1, cell C2, cell C3, pV] timestense:

e emesceps.												
- [0,	0.000	0000 ,	-31.958	3637 ,	0000 ,	-35.82	8705 ,	-35.828	3705 ,	0.000	0000 ,	
0.0000000		0.0000000		0.0000000	0.0000000		-31.945490		0.0000000		-38.117031	
-38.117033		0.00000)0 ,	0.000000	0.00000)0 ,	0.00000)0 ,	0.000000		21063.407	
0.000000		0.00000)0 ,	0.000000	90.0000)0 ,	90.00000)0 ,	90.00000		0.0000000	
1.1474964		0.00000)0 ,	0.46800972	-0.6406590)2,	-1.614103	37,	-0.64065902		0.50051642	
-1.5977546		-1.614103	37,	-1.5977546	2.473962	29,	0.00000)0 ,	28.300000		0.0000000	
0.000000		0.00000)0,	28.300000	0.00000)0,	0.00000)0 ,	0.000000		26.300000	
15.285722]										



From 4 to 5 – dlpoly-py

- Python companion package, can organise and manipulate inputs.
- Runs simulations.
- Parses outputs.



From 4 to 5 – Currents

- DL_POLY 5 includes a currents module supporting the calculation of user k-point resolved quantities.
- The (k-space) density and longitudinal/transverse momentum currents can be used for calculating thermal conductivity and the intermediate scattering function.

$$n(\mathbf{k},t) = \sum_{i} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}^{i}(t)} \qquad \mathbf{j}_{L}(\mathbf{k},t) = \sum_{i} (\mathbf{v}^{i}(t)\cdot\hat{\mathbf{k}})\hat{\mathbf{k}}e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}^{i}(t)} \qquad \mathbf{j}_{T}(\mathbf{k},t) = \sum_{i} [\mathbf{v}^{i}(t) - (\mathbf{v}^{i}(t)\cdot\hat{\mathbf{k}})]\hat{\mathbf{k}}e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}^{i}(t)}$$

Devereux, H.L., Cockrell, C., Elena, A.M., Bush, I., Chalk, A.B., Madge, J., Scivetti, I., Wilkins, J.S., Todorov, I.T., Smith, W. and Trachenko, K., 2025. DL_POLY 5: Calculation of system properties on the fly for very large systems via massive parallelism. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2503.07526*. Balucani, U. and Zoppi, M., 1995. *Dynamics of the liquid state* (Vol. 10). Clarendon Press.



From 4 to 5 – Currents

• The energy density (using energy per-particle), stress tensor, and energy current all by user supplied k-points.

$$e(\mathbf{k},t) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i} E^{i} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}^{i}(t)}. \qquad \sigma_{\alpha,\beta}(\mathbf{k}) = \sum_{i} \left(m v_{\alpha}^{i} v_{\beta}^{i} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j\neq i} \frac{r_{\alpha}^{ij} r_{\beta}^{ij}}{|r^{ij}|^{2}} P(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{r}^{ij}) \right) e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}^{i}(t)}$$

$$\mathbf{q}_{a}(\mathbf{k}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i} \left[E^{i} \mathbf{v}_{a}^{i} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j\neq i} \sum_{b} (\mathbf{v}_{b}^{i} + \mathbf{v}_{b}^{j}) (\mathbf{r}_{a}^{ij} \mathbf{r}_{b}^{ij} / |\mathbf{r}^{ij}|^{2}) P(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{r}^{ij}) \right] e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}^{i}(t)}$$

$$\frac{\partial U(|\mathbf{r}|)}{\partial \mathbf{r}^{i}} \mathbf{1} - e^{-i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}}$$

$$P_k(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{r}) = |\mathbf{r}| \frac{\partial \mathcal{O}(|\mathbf{r}|)}{\partial r} \frac{1 - e}{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}}$$

Devereux, H.L., Cockrell, C., Elena, A.M., Bush, I., Chalk, A.B., Madge, J., Scivetti, I., Wilkins, J.S., Todorov, I.T., Smith, W. and Trachenko, K., 2025. DL_POLY 5: Calculation of system properties on the fly for very large systems via massive parallelism. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2503.07526*. Balucani, U. and Zoppi, M., 1995. *Dynamics of the liquid state* (Vol. 10). Clarendon Press.



From 4 to 5 – Currents

• Split by species, with optional YAML output.

```
%YAML 1.2
title: CONFIG generated by ASE
timesteps:
 - { time:
    density: {
              Li: [ 480.15417 , -23.363180 , 423.50791 , -41.311618
                                                                        ],
         },
     longitudinal: {
              Li: [ 0.0000000 , 0.0000000
                                             , ... ],
              F: [ 0.0000000
                               , 0.000000
         },
     transverse: {
              Li: [ -3.6907121 , 6.6360514
                                             , ... ],
              F: [ 0.32876256 , 8.7363090
         },
     energy_density: {
              Li: [ -14006705. , 681466.17
                                             , ... ],
              F: [ -14015950. , 681964.98
         }
         stress: {
              Li: [ 408098.72 , -18325.922
                                             , ... ],
              F: [ 139907.22
                                             , ... ]
         },
    energy: {
              Li: [ 107657.26 , -193709.72 , ... ],
              F: [ -9493.7622 , -255005.03 , ... ]
         }
   }
```



Thanks for Listening!

People

Aaron Diver, Aidan Chalk, Alexander Buccheri, Alin Elena, Andres Rojano, Andrey Brukhno, Ben Palmer, Benjamin Speake, Bill Smith, Buket Benek Gursoy, Gavin Khara, Cillian Cockrell, Harvey Devereux, Henry Boateng, Ian Bush, Ilian Todorov, Ivan Scivetti, Jacob Wilkins, Jim Madge, Kiran Jonathan, Kostya Trachenko, Laurence Ellison, Martin Dove, Michael Lysaght, Michael Seaton, Oliver Dicks, Ondřej Čertík, Peicho Petkov, Peter Nash, Ruairi Nestor, Ruslan Davidchack, Ryan Hunt, Samuel Murphy, Szymon Daraszewicz, Thomas Durrant, Vlad Sokhan, Yaser Afshar, You Lu

Silicon (Apocrita@QMUL, Sluis Tier 2, and SCARF@STFC)

- Computing resources provided by STFC Scientific
 Computing Department's SCARF cluster
- This research utilised Queen Mary's Apocrita HPC facility, supported by QMUL Research-IT. <u>http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.438045</u>
- Calculations were performed using the Sulis Tier 2 HPC platform hosted by the Scientific Computing Research Technology Platform at the University of Warwick. Sulis is funded by EPSRC Grant EP/T022108/1 and the HPC Midlands+ consortium.





Daresbury Laboratory



Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council



Science and Technology Facilities Council

EP/W029006/1





https://gitlab.com/ccp5/dl-poly

https://gitlab.com/drFaustroll/dlpolypy

