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7: Common Equilibrium Calculations

Jeremy B. Lechman

Engineering Sciences Center
Sandia National Laboratories,
Albuquerque, New Mexico



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Observables and Ensemble Averages

- Variables in MD/particle-based simulation
 - $\mathbf{r}(t) = (\mathbf{r}_1(t), \mathbf{r}_2(t), \dots, \mathbf{r}_N(t)); \mathbf{p}(t) = (\mathbf{p}_1(t), \mathbf{p}_2(t), \dots, \mathbf{p}_N(t))$
 - What we really are interested in is some (macroscopic) observable, $O = O(\mathbf{r}(t), \mathbf{p}(t))$
 - How to obtain?
 - Ensemble Average
 - Average over all possible values of $\mathbf{r}(t)$ and $\mathbf{p}(t)$; given $f^N(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p})$
 - » Note: in equilibrium there is no time dependence of f^N

$$\bar{O}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}) = \langle O \rangle_{ens} = \int \int O(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}) f^N(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}) d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{p}$$

- In MD practice

$$\bar{O}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{p}, t_{obs}) = \langle O \rangle_{time} = \lim_{t_{obs} \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{t_{obs}} \int_0^{t_{obs}} O(\mathbf{r}(t), \mathbf{p}(t)) dt$$

- Note for Ergodic systems

- Simulation big/long “enough”? $\langle O \rangle_{time} = \langle O \rangle_{ens}$



Thermodynamic Averages

- Calculated by LAMMPS `compute(s)`
 - Useful simulation diagnostic
- Temperature – `compute temp`
 - Equipartition of energy

$$\langle \mathcal{K} \rangle = \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^N p_i^2 / 2m_i \right\rangle = \frac{3}{2} Nk_B T$$

- Instantaneous kinetic temperature

$$\mathcal{T}(t) = \frac{1}{3Nk_B} \sum_{i=1}^N p_i^2(t) / m_i$$

- Not the thermodynamic temperature

Thermodynamics Averages

- Pressure – compute pressure
 - Kinetic (ideal) part + potential (nonideal or excess) part

$$PV = Nk_B T + \langle \mathcal{W} \rangle$$

- Virial equation

$$\mathcal{W} = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{r}_i \cdot \mathbf{f}_i$$

Evans and Morris, *Statistical Mechanics of Nonequilibrium Liquids*

- Instantaneous

$$\mathcal{P}(t) = \rho k_B \mathcal{T}(t) + \mathcal{W}(t)/V$$

- Not the thermodynamic pressure
- Pressure or Stress Tensor

$$\sigma_{\alpha\beta} = \left\langle \frac{1}{V} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\sum_{j \neq i} \frac{r_{ij}^{\alpha} f_{ij}^{\beta}}{2} + m_i v_i^{\alpha} v_j^{\beta} \right] \right\rangle$$



Fluctuations

- Particle simulations give more than averages
 - Statistical information is available too!
 - Fluctuations and (spatial/temporal) Correlations
- Fluctuations in (macro) observables are of interest

$$\delta A_{obs} = A_{obs} - \langle A \rangle_{ens}$$

- Example: fluctuations in thermodynamic quantities
 - Specific heats
 - Coefficient of thermal expansion
 - Isothermal compressibility

Thermodynamic Fluctuations

- Specific Heat via Thermodynamic Fluctuation Theory
 - See, e.g., Landau and Lifshitz (1980) *Statistical Physics*

$$\langle \delta E^2 \rangle = k_B T^2 C_V$$

- In MD practice (e.g., Allen and Tildesley, *Computer Simulation of Liquids*)

$$\langle \delta E^2 \rangle = \langle \delta \mathcal{H}^2 \rangle_{NVT} = \langle \delta \mathcal{K}^2 \rangle_{NVT} + \langle \delta \mathcal{V}^2 \rangle_{NVT}$$

- Recall from equipartition $\langle \delta \mathcal{K}^2 \rangle_{NVT} = \frac{3N}{2} (k_B T)^2$

$$\langle \delta \mathcal{V}^2 \rangle_{NVT} = k_B T^2 \left(C_V - \frac{3}{2} N k_B \right)$$

- Isothermal Compressibility $\langle \delta \mathcal{V}^2 \rangle_{NPT} = V k_B T \beta_T$

Structural Quantities

- Correlation Functions – compute rdf

- Pair correlation and Radial Distribution Function (RDF), $g(r)$

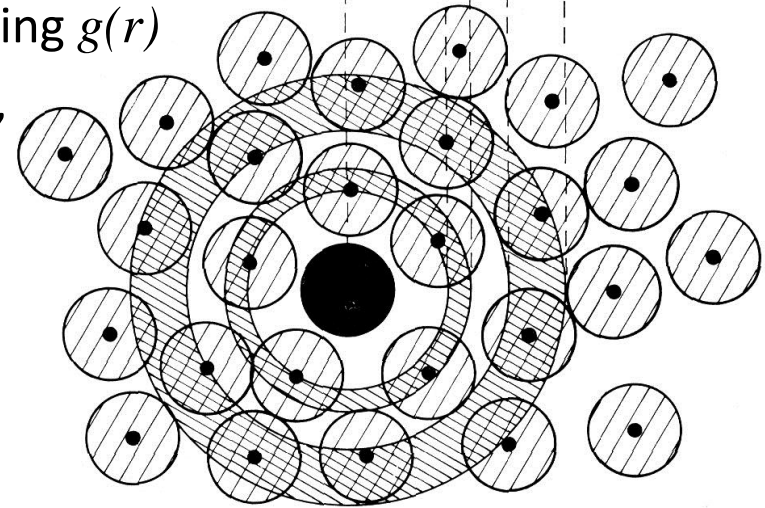
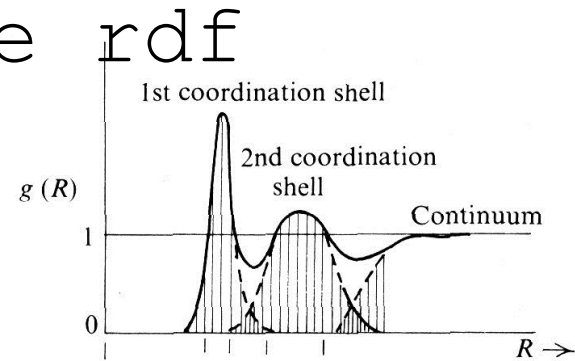
- Usefulness

- Ensemble average of any pair function may be expressed using $g(r)$

- » Density, energy, pressure, chemical potential

$$\left\langle \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \sum_{j \neq i} \delta(r - r_j + r_i) \right\rangle = \rho g(r)$$

$$P = \rho k_B T + \frac{2\pi\rho^2}{3} \int \frac{dU(r)}{dr} g(r) r^3 dr$$



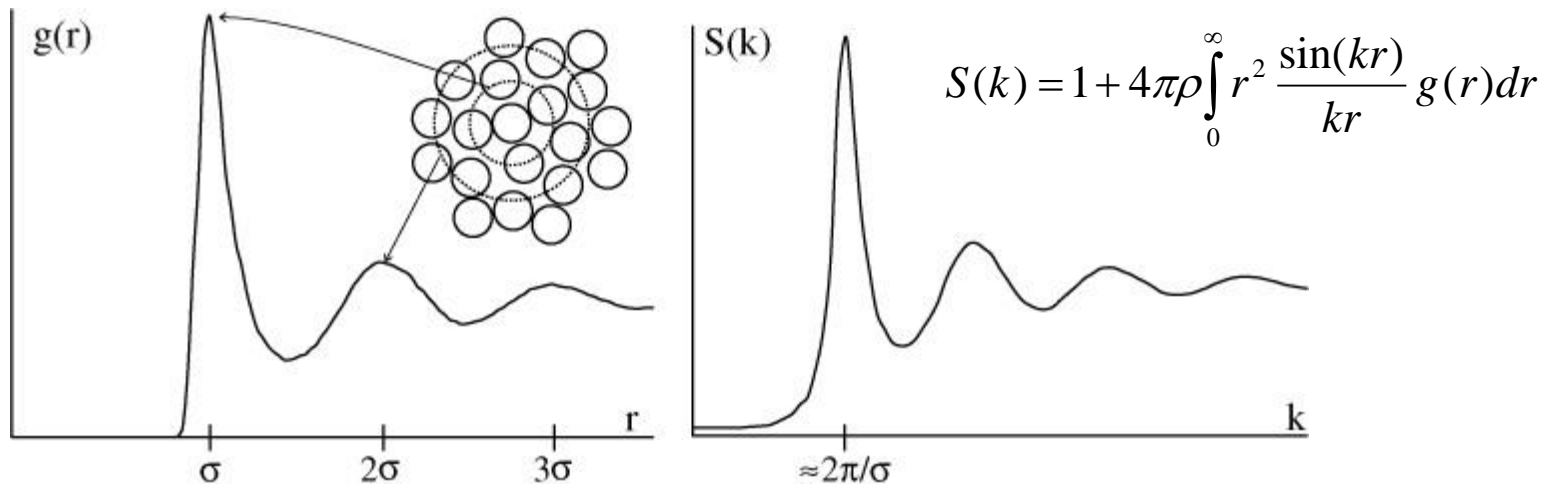
Typical fluid-like RDF

- Measurable via radiation-scattering

Structural Quantities (cont.)

– Structure Factor

$$S(k) = N^{-1} \langle \rho(k) \rho(-k) \rangle \quad \rho(k) = \sum_{i=1}^N \exp[i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}_i]$$



– Intermediate Scattering Function

$$I(k, t) = N^{-1} \langle \rho(k, t) \rho(-k, 0) \rangle$$

- Van Hove function

Hansen and McDonald, *Theory of Simple Liquids*

Temporal Correlation Functions

- Relation to transport coefficients
 - Linear Response Theory (Green-Kubo)

- Diffusion
$$D = \frac{1}{3} \int_0^{\infty} \langle \mathbf{v}_i(t) \cdot \mathbf{v}_i(t') \rangle dt'$$

- Shear Viscosity – compute `pxy`, fix ave/correlate

$$j_{\alpha\beta}(t) = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\sum_{j \neq i} \frac{r_{ij}^{\alpha}(t) f_{ij}^{\beta}(t)}{2} + m_i v_i^{\alpha}(t) v_j^{\beta}(t) \right] \quad \eta = \frac{V}{k_B T} \int_0^{\infty} \langle j_{\alpha\beta}(t) \cdot j_{\alpha\beta}(t') \rangle dt'$$

- Bulk Viscosity
- Thermal conductivity
- Others, e.g. orientation correlations, etc.
- Also useful in non-equilibrium settings



Einstein Relations

- Diffusion – compute msd

$$2Dt = \frac{1}{3} \left\langle \left| \mathbf{r}_i(t) - \mathbf{r}_i(0) \right|^2 \right\rangle$$

Helfand, E. (1960), *Phys Rev*, v. 119, p. 1

- Viscosity

$$2\eta t = \frac{V}{k_B T} \left\langle \left(Q_{\alpha\beta}(t) - Q_{\alpha\beta}(0) \right)^2 \right\rangle$$

$$Q_{\alpha\beta} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_i r_i^\alpha p_i^\beta$$

- See LAMMPS How to section 6.21 for various viscosity techniques