

Boxed Particles

The purpose of this exam specification is to implement a 2D simulation of elastic collisions between circular particles inside a rectangular box. The simulation includes collisions with the walls of the box and collisions between the particles themselves. The main objective of the assignment is to study the **energy evolution** of the system and to analyze the particle velocity and height distributions.

In the code, the positions and velocities of the particles inside the box are initialized. The particles are then evolved over time under the effects of gravity and collisions, while particle positions, **velocities** and **average kinetic energies** are measured. Average energies over time are plotted in a list and times are labeled to visualize **particle motion**.

Utility Classs

The `Progressbar` class is a utility for displaying a progress bar in the console to track the progress of a long-running operation. It's initialized with the total number of iterations that the operation will take. Each time the `step()` method is called, it increments an internal counter and updates the display of progress bar:

```
In [ ]: import sys
import time as clock

class ProgressBar:
    """
    A class used to represent a progress bar in the console.

    Attributes
    -----
    total_iterations : int
        The total number of iterations that the operation will take.
    current_iteration : int
        The current iteration of the operation.
    start_time : float
        The time when the operation started.

    Methods
    -----
    step():
        Increments the current iteration and updates the progress bar.
    show_progress():
        Updates the display of the progress bar in the console.
    """

    def __init__(self, total_iterations):
        """
        Constructs all the necessary attributes for the progress bar object.

        Parameters
        -----
        total_iterations : int
            The total number of iterations that the operation will take.
        """
        self.total_iterations = total_iterations
        self.current_iteration = 0
        self.start_time = clock.time()

    def step(self):
        """
        Increments the current iteration and updates the progress bar.
        If the operation is complete, it also prints the total time taken for the operation.
        """
        self.current_iteration += 1
        self.show_progress()
        if self.current_iteration == self.total_iterations:
            self.end_time = clock.time()
            print(f"Total time taken: {self.end_time - self.start_time} seconds")

    def show_progress(self):
        """
        Updates the display of the progress bar in the console.
        The progress bar is displayed as a line of 20 characters, with '=' characters representing completed iterations
        and '.' characters representing remaining iterations. The percentage of completion is also displayed next to
        the progress bar.
        """
        percent_complete = self.current_iteration / self.total_iterations
        num_bars = int(percent_complete * 20) # 20 bars on the progress bar
        sys.stdout.write("\rProgress: [" + "=" * num_bars + "." * (20 - num_bars) + "] (int(percent_complete * 100)%)")
        sys.stdout.flush()

# Example usage
progress_bar = ProgressBar(100)
for i in range(100):
    progress_bar.step()
    time.sleep(0.01)
progress_bar.show_progress()
```

Required Libraries

- Numpy**: Numpy is one of the fundamental libraries for scientific computing in Python. It provides a flexible and powerful multidimensional array object, as well as tools for working with these arrays. In this code, it is used for vector and matrix calculus, random number generation, and other mathematical operations. This library makes your code more readable and optimized.
- Matplotlib.pyplot**: `matplotlib.pyplot` is a module in the `matplotlib` library in Python. It's a collection of functions that provides a MATLAB-like interface for creating visualizations. Each `pyplot` function makes some change to a figure, such as creating a figure, creating a plotting area in a figure, plotting some lines or a plotting area, decorating the plot with labels, and so on.
- Matplotlib.animation**: This is a submodule of `Matplotlib` that provides tools for creating animations that can be embedded in Jupyter notebooks, saved as GIF or MP4 files, or displayed directly in a view window. In the code, it is used to animate the temporal evolution of the position of the particles.
- Matplotlib.patches**: The `matplotlib.patches` library provides classes for drawing 2D patches (shapes) on a canvas. A patch can be a rectangle, circle, polygon, etc. Generally any 2D shape. Each patch object has attributes like its position, size, color, etc. This library is often used to create more complex visual cues, such as adding shapes to plots or creating custom legends. For this project, `patches.Patch` is used to create custom legends.
- Python.display**: is used for the `display.HTML` method, which allows you to display HTML inside the notebook. In this case, it is used to display an HTML5 video generated by the `to_html5_video` function of the `FuncAnimation` class

```
In [ ]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import matplotlib.animation as animation
import matplotlib.patches as patches
from IPython.display import HTML, clear_output
```

Translating Physics into Code

Particle Movement

In this simulation, the motion of particles is computed using a time-stepping approach with considerations for **collisions** and **gravity**. The system starts by initializing particles' positions and velocities randomly within the defined box.

Each step of the simulation involves updating the **positions** of particles based on their **current velocities** and the effects of gravity. The position update is done using the equations of motion under constant acceleration, where the only acceleration considered is due to gravity. The velocity is updated by considering the gravitational acceleration. The equations used are:

$$\begin{cases} x(t + \Delta t) = x(t) + v_x(t)\Delta t \\ y(t + \Delta t) = y(t) + v_y(t)\Delta t - \frac{1}{2}g(\Delta t)^2 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} v_x(t + \Delta t) = v_x(t) \\ v_y(t + \Delta t) = v_y(t) - g\Delta t \end{cases}$$

Finally, the system state is sampled at specific intervals to observe the motion and other properties (like **kinetic** and **potential energy**) of the particles over time. The system also provides an animation method to visualize the motion of the particles.

Particle Collision

The `handle_collisions_between_particles` function is called to handle collisions between all particles in the system. The collisions are treated as elastic, meaning that the total kinetic energy of the system is conserved. The new velocities after the collision are calculated using the conservation of **momentum** and **kinetic energy**, resulting in the following equations:

$$\vec{v}'_1 = \vec{v}_1 - \frac{2M_2}{M_1 + M_2} \frac{(\vec{v}_{rel} \cdot \vec{r}_{rel})}{r_{rel}} \vec{r}_{rel} \quad \vec{v}'_2 = \vec{v}_2 + \frac{2M_1}{M_1 + M_2} \frac{(\vec{v}_{rel} \cdot \vec{r}_{rel})}{r_{rel}} \vec{r}_{rel}$$

These formulas reflect the fact that the colliding disks repel each other along the direction which joins their centers. The formulas are valid for arbitrary masses M_1 , M_2 , and of course simplify a bit for those collisions involving particles with equal mass.

Wall Collision

For each particle in the simulation, it checks if the particle's position on the x and y coordinates is outside the bounds of the box, taking into account the particle radius R . If a particle is found to be in contact with the wall, its velocity is reversed, simulating an elastic collision with the wall.

Energy Considerations

In the simulation, the average kinetic and potential energies of each species are calculated at each sampling step. The kinetic energy is calculated using the formula:

$$K_i = \frac{1}{2} M_i v_i^2 = \frac{1}{2} M_i (\vec{v}_i \cdot \vec{v}_i) \tag{1}$$

and the potential energy is calculated using the formula:

$$U_i = Mgy_i \tag{2}$$

Full Code for the Simulation

```
In [ ]: class ParticleSimulation:
    """
    Class to simulate the motion of particles in a box under the influence of gravity.
    """
    def __init__(self, N_A, N_B, M_A, M_B, R, v_0, seed=None):
        """
        Initialize the simulation.

        Parameters
        -----
        N_A : int
            Number of particles of type A.
        N_B : int
            Number of particles of type B.
        M_A : float
            Mass of particles of type A.
        M_B : float
            Mass of particles of type B.
        R : float
            Radius of the particles.
        v_0 : float
            Maxime initial velocity of the particles.
        """
        self.N_A = N_A
        self.N_B = N_B
        self.M_A = M_A
        self.M_B = M_B
        self.R = R
        self.v_0 = v_0
        self.seed = seed

        np.random.seed(seed)
        self.box_width = 0
        self.box_height = 16

        self.initialize_particles()

    def initialize_particles(self):
        """
        Initialize the positions and velocities of all particles.
        The particles are randomly distributed within the box,
        and their initial velocities are also chosen randomly.
        """
        total_particles = self.N_A + self.N_B
        self.positions = np.random.uniform(low=0, high=self.box_width, size=(total_particles, 2))
        self.positions[:, 1] = np.minimum(self.positions[:, 1], 0) # Limit y position to 0
        self.velocities = np.random.uniform(low=-self.v_0, high=self.v_0, size=(total_particles, 2))
        self.colors = np.concatenate([np.full(self.N_A, 'blue'), np.full(self.N_B, 'red')])

    def evolve(self, T, dt, dt_s):
        """
        Evolve the simulation for a given time period.

        Parameters
        -----
        T : float
            Total time to evolve the system.
        dt : float
            Time step for the evolution of the system.
        dt_s : float
            Time step for sampling the system's state.

        Returns
        -----
        tuple
            Tuple containing arrays of positions and velocities samples and average kinetic and potential energy of particles A and B.
        """
        N_steps = int(T / dt)
        N_samples = int(T / dt_s)

        positions_samples = np.zeros((N_samples, self.N_A + self.N_B, 2))
        velocities_samples = np.zeros((N_samples, self.N_A + self.N_B, 2))
        avg_kinetic_energy_A = np.zeros(N_samples)
        avg_kinetic_energy_B = np.zeros(N_samples)
        avg_potential_energy_A = np.zeros(N_samples)
        avg_potential_energy_B = np.zeros(N_samples)

        pb = Progressbar(N_steps)
        for step in range(N_steps):
            self.update_positions(dt)
            self.handle_collisions_with_walls()
            self.handle_collisions_between_particles()

            if step % (dt_s / dt) == 0:
                sample_index = int(step * (dt_s / dt))
                positions_samples[sample_index] = self.positions.copy()
                velocities_samples[sample_index] = self.velocities.copy()

                avg_kinetic_energy_A[sample_index] = self.get_average_kinetic_energy(self.N_A, self.M_A)
                avg_kinetic_energy_B[sample_index] = self.get_average_kinetic_energy(self.N_B, self.M_B)
                avg_potential_energy_A[sample_index] = self.get_average_potential_energy(self.N_A, self.M_A)
                avg_potential_energy_B[sample_index] = self.get_average_potential_energy(self.N_B, self.M_B)

            pb.step()

        return positions_samples, velocities_samples, avg_kinetic_energy_A, avg_kinetic_energy_B, avg_potential_energy_A, avg_potential_energy_B

    def update_positions(self, dt):
        """
        Update the positions of all particles.

        Parameters
        -----
        dt : float
            Time step for the position update.
        """
        self.positions += self.velocities * dt
        self.positions[:, 1] = 0.5 * self.g * dt**2
        self.velocities[:, 1] -= self.g * dt

    def handle_collisions_with_walls(self):
        """
        Handle collisions of particles with the walls of the box.
        """
        self.velocities[self.positions - self.R < 0 | (self.positions + self.R > self.box_width)] *= -1

    def handle_collisions_between_particles(self):
        """
        Handle collisions between particles.
        """
        distances = self.distFast(self.positions)

        for i in range(len(self.positions)):
            for j in range(i+1, len(self.positions)):
                if distances[i, j] < 2 * self.R:
                    self.handle_particle_collision(i, j)

    def distFast(self, pos):
        """
        Calculate the pairwise distance between points for an array of points.

        Parameters
        -----
        pos : numpy.ndarray
            Array containing the positions of the points.

        Returns
        -----
        numpy.ndarray
            Array containing the pairwise distances.
        """
        R = np.sqrt(np.einsum('ij->i', (pos[:, np.newaxis, :] - pos[ np.newaxis, :, ])**2))
        return R

    def handle_particle_collision(self, i, j):
        """
        Handle collision between two particles.

        Parameters
        -----
        i : int
            Index of the first particle.
        j : int
            Index of the second particle.
        """
        r1 = self.positions[i]
        r2 = self.positions[j]
        v1 = self.velocities[i]
        v2 = self.velocities[j]
        m1 = self.mass[i]
        m2 = self.mass[j]

        r12 = r1 - r2
        v12 = v1 - v2
        r12_dot_v12 = np.dot(r12, v12)
        r12_dot_r12 = np.dot(r12, r12)

        v1_prime = v1 - (2 * m2 * r12_dot_v12 / ((m1 + m2) * r12_dot_r12)) * r12
        v2_prime = v2 + (2 * m1 * r12_dot_v12 / ((m1 + m2) * r12_dot_r12)) * r12

        self.velocities[i] = v1_prime
        self.velocities[j] = v2_prime

    def get_average_kinetic_energy(self, N_particles, mass):
        """
        Calculate the average kinetic energy of a set of particles.

        Parameters
        -----
        N_particles : int
            Number of particles.
        mass : float
            Mass of the particles.

        Returns
        -----
        float
            Average kinetic energy of the particles.
        """
        velocity_squared = np.sum(self.velocities[N_particles]**2, axis=1)
        total_kinetic_energy = 0.5 * mass * np.sum(velocity_squared)

        return total_kinetic_energy / N_particles

    def get_average_potential_energy(self, N_particles, mass):
        """
        Calculate the average potential energy of a set of particles.

        Parameters
        -----
        N_particles : int
            Number of particles.
        mass : float
            Mass of the particles.

        Returns
        -----
        float
            Average potential energy of the particles.
        """
        total_potential_energy = mass * self.g * np.sum(self.positions[N_particles, 1])

        return total_potential_energy / N_particles

    def animate(self, positions_samples, interval, frame_number):
        """
        Create an animation of the motion of the particles.

        Parameters
        -----
        positions_samples : numpy.ndarray
            Array containing the positions of all particles at different time steps.
        interval : int
            Time interval between frames in the animation.

        Returns
        -----
        fig, ax = plt.subplots()
            Figure and axis for the animation.
        """
        fig, ax = plt.subplots()
        ax.set_xlim(0, self.box_width)
        ax.set_ylim(0, self.box_height)

        # Initialize scatter plot with initial positions and colors
        initial_positions = positions_samples[0]
        colors = [particle for particle in self.colors]
        particles_scatter = ax.scatter(initial_positions[:, 0], initial_positions[:, 1], c=colors, s=80)

        # Add legend outside of plot
        blue_patch = patches.Patch(color='blue', label='Species A')
        red_patch = patches.Patch(color='red', label='Species B')
        ax.legend(handles=[blue_patch, red_patch], loc='center left', bbox_to_anchor=(1, 0.5))

        pb = Progressbar(frame_number)
        # Start progress bar
        def update(frames):
            x = positions_samples[frame, :, 0]
            y = positions_samples[frame, :, 1]
            particles_scatter.set_offsets(np.c_[x, y])

        return particles_scatter,

    animate = animation.FuncAnimation(fig, update, frames=frame_number, interval=interval, blit=True)

    # Use to_html5_video to convert the animation to a JavaScript HTML video
    html_vid = animate.to_html5_video()

    # Close up the plot
    plt.close(fig)

    # Use IPython.display.HTML to display the animation
    return HTML(html_vid)
```

Parameters Initialization

```
In [ ]: N_A = 30 # Number of type A particles
N_B = 30 # Number of type B particles
M_A = 0.025 # Mass of type A particles (kg)
M_B = 0.05 # Mass of type B particles (kg)
R = 0.8 # Radius of the particles (m)
v_0 = 0.5 # Initial velocity of the particles (m/s)
seed = 42 # Random seed for particles's position generation
```

Average Energies

The average kinetic and potential energies for particles of types A and B are computed at each time step during the simulation. The kinetic energy of a particle is given by the equation $\frac{1}{2}mv^2$, where m is the mass of the particle and v is its velocity. The potential energy of a particle in a gravitational field is given by mgh (in this simulation $g=9.8$), where m is the mass, g is the acceleration due to gravity, and h is the height or vertical position of the particle. These energy values are calculated for each particle, summed up, and then divided by the total number of particles to get the **average** energy.

The calculation is done for both particle types *A* and *B*, and the results are stored in arrays `avg_kinetic_energy_A`, `avg_kinetic_energy_B`, `avg_potential_energy_A`, and `avg_potential_energy_B`. These arrays are then plotted against time to see how the average energies of the particles evolve over the course of the simulation.

```
In [ ]: # Create the simulation
simulation = ParticleSimulation(N_A, N_B, M_A, M_B, R, v_0, seed)

T = 100 # Total time for simulation
dt = 0.04 # Sampling time step
dt_s = 0.001

positions_samples, velocities_samples, avg_kinetic_energy_A, avg_kinetic_energy_B, avg_potential_energy_A, avg_potential_energy_B = simulation.evolve(T, dt, dt_s)

times = np.arange(0, T, dt_s)

fig = figure(figsize=(10, 6))
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
plt.plot(times, avg_kinetic_energy_A, label='Kinetic Energy A', color='blue')
plt.plot(times, avg_kinetic_energy_B, label='Kinetic Energy B', color='red')
plt.plot(times, avg_potential_energy_A, label='Potential Energy A', color='cyan')
plt.plot(times, avg_potential_energy_B, label='Potential Energy B', color='magenta')
plt.legend(['upper right'])
plt.xlabel('Time')
plt.ylabel('Average Energies Over Time')
plt.title('Average Energies Over Time')
plt.show()

# If we've reached the end of our data, remove the extra subplots and break the loop
for i, ax in enumerate(axs.flat):
    if i == len(times.to_plot()):
        fig.delaxes(ax)
        continue

    time = times.to_plot[i]
    positions = positions_samples[time]
    velocities = velocities_samples[time]
    colors = simulation.colors
    quiver(positions[:, 0], 0, positions[:, 1], velocities[:, 0], velocities[:, 1], color=colors, scale=1, scale_units='xy')
    ax.set_xlim(0, simulation.box_width)
    ax.set_ylim(0, simulation.box_height)
    ax.set_title('Trajectory (time)')

plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```

Considerations

The plot presented here is a series of **quiver plots** illustrating the progression of the particle simulation over time. These plots will provide a visual representation of both the positions and velocities of particles at various points in time.

At each instance, the quiver plot shows the arrows of both the position, with their location in the box corresponding to their spatial position. The arrows originating from each point represent the direction and magnitude of the particle's velocity. The length of the arrow corresponds to the speed of the particle, and the direction of the arrow indicates the direction of movement.

We expect to observe a few things from these plots. Initially, when the simulation just starts, the particles might be distributed **unevenly** (long arrows), because of the initial conditions. As the simulation progresses, we hope to see a uniform distribution of energy. However, it's important to note that despite various attempts at altering the initial velocities and simulation time, equilibrium wasn't consistently achieved. This indicates that the two species aren't consistently reaching a state of equal energy distribution.

This lack of equilibrium could be due to a variety of factors, including the inherent properties of the species (such as mass or particle count), initial conditions, or other factors not considered within the simulation. Identifying the point at which equilibrium is achieved, if at all, is key to understanding the timescales at which the system evolves. Thus, the inability to consistently reach equilibrium presents an interesting area for further investigation.

Particles Animation

This code will generate an animation of the particles *A* and *B* inside the box.

```
In [ ]: # Set initial conditions
simulation = ParticleSimulation(N_A, N_B, M_A, M_B, R, v_0, seed)

T = 200 # Time interval (in seconds)
dt = 0.004 # Simulation steps (in seconds)
dt_s = 0.04 # Sampling step (in seconds)
v0 = 2 # Initial velocities (in m/s)

time = np.arange(0, T, dt_s)

# Animate the motion of particles
interval = 50
HTML(simulation.animate(positions_samples, interval, 1))
```

Velocity and Height Distributions

The provided code implements the calculation and visualization of **velocity** and **height distributions** for two species of particles in a simulation. The simulation is run for an extended period of time, including a thermalization phase and additional **500 seconds**. After reaching equilibrium (if it's reached), the velocities of the particles are used to compute the squared velocity values, which are then used to populate histograms for each particle species.

Similarly, the positions of the particles are used to calculate histograms for the **height distributions**. The code utilizes the `numpy.histogram` function to compute the histograms and `matplotlib.pyplot.hist` to visualize the distributions. The resulting histograms provide insights into the velocity and height distributions, which are expected to resemble the Maxwell-Boltzmann distributions observed in gas particles. The value of `KT`, representing the average kinetic energy, is used in the calculation of the exponential probabilities for the velocity and height distributions. The code allows for exploration of different initial parameters, such as `v0`, to observe the effects on the distributions.

```
In [ ]: # Changing the time for the simulation
T_tot = 100 + 500 # Total time

positions_samples, velocities_samples, avg_kinetic_energy_A, avg_kinetic_energy_B, avg_potential_energy_A, avg_potential_energy_B = simulation.evolve(T_tot, dt, dt_s)

# Calculate KT
KT = 0.5 * avg_kinetic_energy_A

# Compute velocity histograms
hist_A, bins_A = np.histogram(velocities_samples[:, 0, 1], bins='auto', density=True)
hist_B, bins_B = np.histogram(velocities_samples[:, 1, 1], bins='auto', density=True)

# Compute height histograms
hist_height_A, bins_height_A = np.histogram(positions_samples[:, 0, 1], bins='auto', density=True)
hist_height_B, bins_height_B = np.histogram(positions_samples[:, 1, 1], bins='auto', density=True)

# Create a figure and a 2x2 array of subplots
fig, (ax1, ax2) = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(10, 6))

# Plot velocity histograms from the first subplot
ax1.hist(bins_A[1:], bins_A, weights=hist_A, alpha=0.5, label='Type A')
ax1.hist(bins_B[1:], bins_B, weights=hist_B, alpha=0.5, label='Type B')
ax1.set_xlabel('Velocity (m/s)')
ax1.set_ylabel('Probability Density')
ax1.set_title('Velocity Distribution')
ax1.legend()

# Plot height histograms on the second subplot
ax2.hist(bins_height_A[1:], bins_height_A, weights=hist_height_A, alpha=0.5, label='Type A')
ax2.hist(bins_height_B[1:], bins_height_B, weights=hist_height_B, alpha=0.5, label='Type B')
ax2.set_xlabel('Height')
ax2.set_ylabel('Probability Density')
ax2.set_title('Height Distribution')
ax2.legend()

# Show the plots
plt.tight_layout()
# Adjusts the subplot params so that subplots are nicely fit in the figure.
plt.show()
```

Considerations

The plots for velocity and height distributions should give us important information about the state of our simulated system and how the particles of the two species are behaving.

The **velocity distribution** plot is expected to be a reflection of the **Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution**. At thermal equilibrium, we would expect the distribution of velocities for each species to form a bell curve shape, centered around a peak velocity that reflects the most probable speed of particles in the system. This distribution arises from the principle that in a gas at thermal equilibrium, the velocities of particles are distributed according to their kinetic energies.

Similarly, the **height distribution** should provide us with an insight into the spatial distribution of the particles in the system. At equilibrium, we expect the particles to be **uniformly distributed** throughout the system, resulting in a uniform distribution of heights. If the system is not in thermal contact, then these are **ideal expectations**. Depending on the specifics of the uniform distribution, such as the properties of the two species and the initial conditions, the actual distributions may differ. This type of analysis can provide valuable insights into the timescales over which equilibrium is reached, and the factors that might speed up or slow down the process.