A Simple Python Simulator

In classical physics, the EOM of a system can be determined from the potential in the system. Here, I will investigate a discrete particle simulation The project consists of three main python files.

- config.py: holds all the configuration information for the project.
- driver.py: computes the particle dynamics and saves them to a file.
- visualize.py: creates animations to view the simulations.

Physics Relationships

Looking at Potential Energy, we have:

$$\overrightarrow{\mathbf{F}} = -\nabla \mathbf{U} = \langle -\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial x}, -\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial y} \rangle \tag{1}$$

$$\overrightarrow{\mathbf{F}} = m \overrightarrow{\mathbf{a}} \tag{2}$$

The time derivative of velocity is acceleration so assuming that the potential energy is time independant. The change in velocity and position from $t_n \to t_{n+1}$ is:

$$\Delta \overrightarrow{\mathbf{v}} = \overrightarrow{\mathbf{a}}(t_{n+1} - t_n) \tag{3}$$

$$\Delta \overrightarrow{\mathbf{x}} = \overrightarrow{\mathbf{v}}(t_{n+1} - t_n) \tag{4}$$