

Structrural and transport properties of thin films assembled by nanoparticles

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May 14, 2023

Contents

1	Introduction	5
2	Background	7
2.1	Nanoparticles	7
2.2	Molecular Dynamics	8
2.2.1	Integration Algorithms	8
2.2.2	Interaction Potential	8
2.3	Experimental results	8

Chapter 1

Introduction

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$$\int dx \sin x \tag{1.1}$$

[3]

Chapter 2

Background

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2.1 Nanoparticles

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2.2 Molecular Dynamics

Molecular dynamics is a powerful tool capable of solving the N body problem of statistical mechanics [4], by simulating the motion of individual molecules (where here by molecules we refer to the basic components of the simulation which can be molecules, individual atoms or even objects of arbitrary geometric shapes [1, 5]). At its core the main idea behind molecular dynamics is quite simple, with the most basic simulation only requiring an assembly of molecules with some initial conditions such as their positions in space or their initial velocities and a schema for their reciprocal interactions. Then the equations of motion for such a system are then solved numerically for each molecule to obtain their evolution in time [4]. While the trajectory of the molecules in itself is rather meaningless, the key concept is that we are then able to obtain the equilibrium and transport properties of the system under consideration [2].

2.2.1 Integration Algorithms

Velocity Verlet

$$x(t + \Delta t) = x(t) + v(t)\Delta t + \frac{1}{2}a(t)\Delta t^2 \quad (2.1a)$$

$$v(t + \Delta) = v(t) + \frac{a(t + \Delta t) + a(t)}{2}\Delta t \quad (2.1b)$$

2.2.2 Interaction Potential

Lennard Jones

Embedded Atom Model

2.3 Experimental results

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