

# Semester Project Part 1 - Progress Report



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## 1 Step 1

The differential area element in 2D is defined using polar coordinates as,

$$dA = dc_x c_y = C dC d\theta \quad (1)$$

Knowing the Maxwell distribution function for 1D velocities is defined as,

$$f(c_i) = \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\left(\frac{m}{2kT} c_i^2\right)} \quad (2)$$

Integrating Eq. (2) over a 2D velocity space results in the desired probability density function (PDF). The PDF describes the probability distribution of speeds which determines the probability of finding a differential number of particles/molecules in a resultant velocity range from  $C$  to  $C + dC$  along the differential area element defined in Eq. (1).

$$\begin{aligned} \chi(C) &= \int_C^{C+dC} \int_0^{2\pi} \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\left(\frac{m}{2kT} C^2\right)} C d\theta dC \\ \chi(C) &= \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right) \int_C^{C+dC} e^{-\left(\frac{m}{2kT} C^2\right)} C dC \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \\ \chi(C) &= 2\pi \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right) \int_C^{C+dC} e^{-\left(\frac{m}{2kT} C^2\right)} C dC \end{aligned}$$

Eq. (3) defines the cumulative distribution function (CDF).

$$\chi(C) = \left(\frac{m}{kT}\right) \int_C^{C+dC} e^{-\left(\frac{m}{2kT} C^2\right)} C dC \quad (3)$$

The integral sign over  $C$  to  $C + dC$  can be dropped to obtain the PDF, as defined in Eq. (4).

$$\chi(C) = C \left(\frac{m}{kT}\right) e^{-\left(\frac{m}{2kT} C^2\right)} \quad (4)$$

## 2 Step 2

Figure 1 depicts the resulting Molecular Dynamic (MD) simulation written in Matlab (using 20000 collisions), the algorithm of which was implemented using [1] as reference, and can be

found in the Appendix. This algorithm uses non-uniform time-steps which are determined based on the next nearest collision, either between molecules or between a molecules and one of the (left, right, bottom, top) walls; the positions and velocities of all molecules involved in the current collision are then updated to produce the current scene/frame. The velocities of each molecule in the current collision induced frame is stored to later sample and produce a distribution (depicted using a histogram in step 3) and compared against the theoretical 2D Maxwell distribution of velocities. Note that any molecules that seem to be escaping the box are in fact about to experience a collision with the corresponding wall, all molecules remain within the box throughout the simulation.

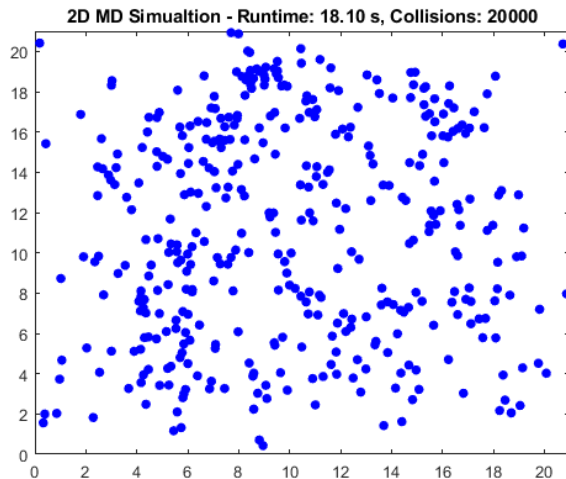


Figure 1: 2D MD simulation of 400 gas molecules for 20000 collisions

### 3 Step 3

Figures 2 and 3 depict the 2D Maxwell distribution ran for 20000 and 4000 collisions respectively. The results show that as the number of collisions are increased the sampling becomes more accurate and a better fit to the theoretical Maxwell distribution. Note that after around 10000 collisions for 400 molecules the fit of the experimental distribution doesn't improve significantly, leading to the belief that there is a minimum number of collisions per molecule required to achieve the Maxwellian profile. The only visible error is a spike at a Molecular speed of 1, however, as the collision count increased the disproportionate number of molecules with a speed of 1 decreases, signifying that unitary velocity is just a temporary bulk state. The total kinetic energy remained constant at 200 for the entirety of the simulation (see Figure 6), as expected; so, the bulk state (speed equal to 1) is not an error within the system of gas molecules.

Figure 4 and 5 depict the 1D Maxwell distributions for the x-component and y-component velocities respectively. Again a good agreement between the experimental and theoretical results is observed. Note that the 1D simulated distribution is more sensitive to a varying number of collisions, this makes sense seeing as the 1D results do not use an average (resultant) velocity as is the case with the 2D results.

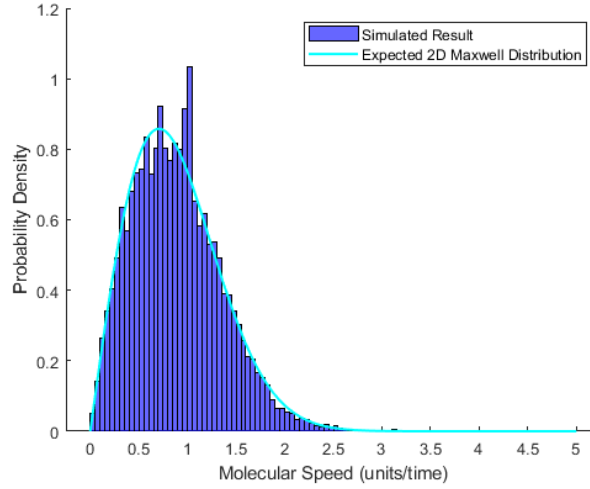


Figure 2: Comparison between the experimental and theoretical 2D speed distribution of 400 gas molecules for 20000 collisions

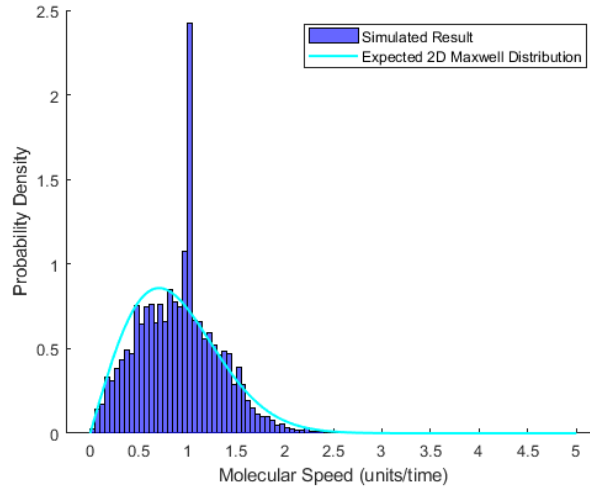


Figure 3: Comparison between the experimental and theoretical 2D speed distribution of 400 gas molecules for 4000 collisions

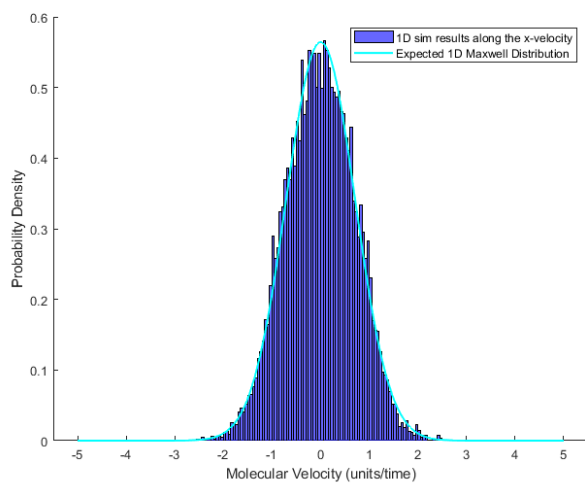


Figure 4: Comparison between the experimental and theoretical 1D x-velocity distribution of 400 gas molecules for 20000 collisions

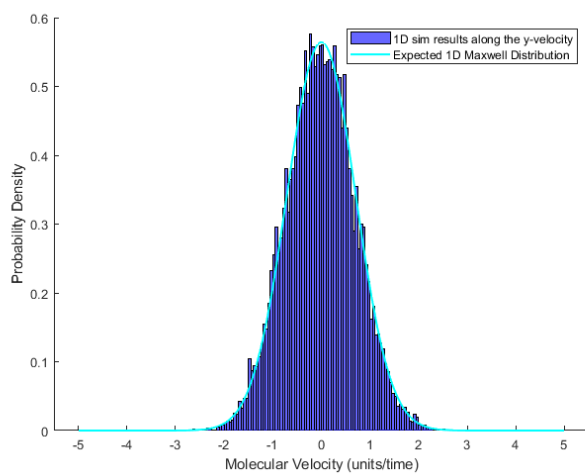


Figure 5: Comparison between the experimental and theoretical 1D y-velocity distribution of 400 gas molecules for 20000 collisions

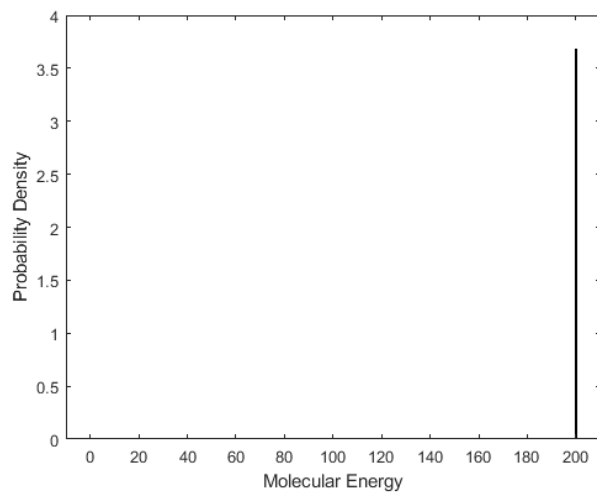


Figure 6: Total energy distribution of 400 gas molecules for 20000 collisions

## 4 Appendix

Listing 1: 2D MD simulation written in Matlab

```
1  clc
2  clear all
3
4  % Input parameters
5  mass = 1;
6  diameter = 0.1;
7  k = 1; % Boltzmann constant
8  T_0 = 1/2; % Temperature
9  num_mol = 400;
10 dim = sqrt(num_mol); % Dimension of the box
11 num_cols = 20000;
12
13 left = 0;
14 right = dim+1;
15 bottom = 0;
16 top = dim+1;
17 wall = [left right bottom top];
18 time_of_closest_approach_wall = zeros(length(wall),1);
19
20 % Arrays for collision Recordings
21 collisions_between_molecules = zeros(0.5*num_mol*(num_mol-1),3); % Particles are in pairs
22 collisions_with_wall = zeros(num_mol,3);
23
24 % Initialize arrays consisting for attributes of molecule
25 mol_position = zeros(num_mol,2);
26 mol_velocity = zeros(num_mol,2);
27 position_plot = zeros(num_mol,2,num_cols);
28 velocity_plot = zeros(num_mol,2,num_cols);
29 C = zeros(num_mol,1,num_cols);
30 Energy = zeros(num_cols,1);
31
32 %Time parameters
33 t = 0;
34 Time = zeros(num_cols,1);
35
36 count = 0;
37 % Seed random number generator
38 for i = 1:dim
39     for j = 1:dim
40
41         count = count+1;
42
43         mol_position(count,1) = i;
44         mol_position(count,2) = j;
45
46         theta = 2*pi*randi([0 360],1,1)/360;
47         mol_velocity(count,1) = cos(theta);
48         mol_velocity(count,2) = sin(theta);
49
50     end
```

```

51 end
52
53 position_plot(:,1) = mol_position(:,1);
54 velocity_plot(:,1) = mol_velocity(:,1);
55
56 % Plotting the initial frame
57 figure(1);
58 P = plot(position_plot(:,1),position_plot(:,2),'o','Color','blue',...
59     'MarkerFaceColor','blue','MarkerSize',5);
60 xlim([0 dim+1]);
61 ylim([0 dim+1]);
62 time_frames = title(sprintf('2D MD Simulation - Runtime: %0.2f sec', Time(1)));
63 drawnow update
64
65 % Algorithm implementaion follows see Haile Section 3.2.1
66
67 count = 0;
68 % Collisions between molecules
69 for i = 1:(num_mol-1)
70     for j = (i+1):num_mol
71
72         count = count+1;
73
74         % Calculating the relative position and velocity
75         dr = mol_position(i,:) - mol_position(j,:);
76         dv = mol_velocity(i,:) - mol_velocity(j,:);
77
78         dot_product = dot(dv,dr);
79         situationB = dot_product^2 - norm(dv)^2*(norm(dr)^2-diameter^2);
80
81         if (dot_product >= 0)
82             % There is no collision
83             collisions_between_molecules(count,1) = i;
84             collisions_between_molecules(count,2) = j;
85             collisions_between_molecules(count,3) = NaN;
86             continue
87         end
88
89         if (situationB < 0)
90             % There is no collision
91             collisions_between_molecules(count,1) = i;
92             collisions_between_molecules(count,2) = j;
93             collisions_between_molecules(count,3) = NaN;
94             continue
95         end
96
97         % Checking if the distance of closest approach is greater than diameter
98         if (dot_product < 0 && situationB >= 0)
99             collisions_between_molecules(count,1) = i;
100             collisions_between_molecules(count,2) = j;
101             % Solving for time of closest approach Eq 3.24 from Haile.
102             collisions_between_molecules(count,3) = min(t+...
103                 (-dot_product+sqrt(situationB))/norm(dv)^2, ...
104                 t+(-dot_product-sqrt(situationB))/norm(dv)^2);
105         end

```



```

106         end
107     end
108
109
110     count = 0;
111     % Collisions with wall
112     for i = 1:num_mol
113         for j = 1:length(wall)
114
115             count = count+1;
116
117             collisions_with_wall(count,1) = i;
118             collisions_with_wall(count,2) = j;
119
120
121             if j == 1 || j == 2 % Left & Right walls
122                 collisions_with_wall(count,3) = t + (wall(j) - mol_position(i,1))...
123                 /mol_velocity(i,1) - (diameter/2)/abs(mol_velocity(i,1));
124             else % Bottom & Top walls
125                 collisions_with_wall(count,3) = t + (wall(j) - mol_position(i,2))...
126                 /mol_velocity(i,2) - (diameter/2)/abs(mol_velocity(i,2));
127             end
128         end
129     end
130     % Wall was not hit, fill zeros with NaN
131     collisions_with_wall(collisions_with_wall==0) = NaN;
132
133     for col_frame = 2:num_cols % Initial collision frame is static, so iterate from second onward
134
135         % Finding the next minimum collision time
136         [next_molecules_collision_time, mols_col_index] = min(collisions_between_molecules(:,3));
137         [next_wall_collision_time, wall_hit_index] = min(collisions_with_wall(:,3));
138
139         % Case where collision between molecules occurs sooner
140         if (next_molecules_collision_time < next_wall_collision_time)
141             a = 2; % Flag for collision between molecules happening first
142             dt = next_molecules_collision_time - t;
143             molecule1 = collisions_between_molecules(mols_col_index,1);
144             molecule2 = collisions_between_molecules(mols_col_index,2);
145             t = t + dt;
146
147             % Update position and velocity
148             mol_position = mol_position + mol_velocity*dt;
149             r_rel_norm = (mol_position(molecule2,:) - mol_position(molecule1,:))...
150             /norm(mol_position(molecule2,:) - mol_position(molecule1,:));
151             v_1 = mol_velocity(molecule1,:)-dot((mol_velocity(molecule1,:))...
152             -mol_velocity(molecule2,:),r_rel_norm)*r_rel_norm; % Eq. 3.17
153             v_2 = mol_velocity(molecule2,:)+dot((mol_velocity(molecule1,:))...
154             -mol_velocity(molecule2,:),r_rel_norm)*r_rel_norm; % Eq. 3.18
155             mol_velocity(molecule1,:) = v_1;
156             mol_velocity(molecule2,:) = v_2;
157
158             % Once the collision is handled clear the time entry to move forward
159             collisions_between_molecules(mols_col_index,3) = NaN;
160         else

```

```

161         a = 1; % Flag for collision between a molecule and a wall hapening first
162         dt = next_wall_collision_time - t;
163         molecule1 = collisions_with_wall(wall_hit_index,1);
164         wall_col = collisions_with_wall(wall_hit_index,2);
165         t = t + dt;
166
167         % Update position and velocity
168         mol_position = mol_position + mol_velocity*dt;
169
170         if wall_col == 1 || wall_col == 2 % Left & Right walls
171             mol_velocity(molecule1,1) = -mol_velocity(molecule1,1);
172         else % Bottom & Top walls
173             mol_velocity(molecule1,2) = -mol_velocity(molecule1,2);
174         end
175
176         collisions_with_wall(wall_hit_index,3) = NaN; %Collision was handled
177     end
178
179     % Loop through collision type flag to update particle collision list
180     % or wall collision list
181     for count = 1:a
182
183         if count == 1
184             [mol_col_flag, ~] = find(collisions_between_molecules == molecule1);
185             [wall_col_flag, ~] = find(collisions_with_wall == molecule1);
186         else
187             [mol_col_flag,~] = find(collisions_between_molecules == molecule2);
188             [wall_col_flag, ~] = find(collisions_with_wall == molecule2);
189         end
190
191         for i = 1:num_mol-1
192
193             n = collisions_between_molecules(mol_col_flag(i),1);
194             m = collisions_between_molecules(mol_col_flag(i),2);
195
196             % Redo calculations to compute new entries for the list of
197             % collision times Step 11 of Haile algorithm
198             dr = mol_position(n,:) - mol_position(m,:);
199             dv = mol_velocity(n,:) - mol_velocity(m,:);
200             dot_product = dot(dv,dr);
201             situationB = dot_product^2 - norm(dv)^2*(norm(dr)^2-diameter^2);
202
203             if (dot_product < 0 && situationB >= 0)
204                 % Resolving for the time of closest approach
205                 temp_t = min(t+(-dot_product+sqrt(situationB))/norm(dv)^2,...
206                             t+(-dot_product-sqrt(situationB))/norm(dv)^2);
207                 collisions_between_molecules(mol_col_flag(i),3) = temp_t;
208             end
209         end
210
211         for i = 1:length(wall)
212
213             n = collisions_with_wall(wall_col_flag(i),1);
214             m = collisions_with_wall(wall_col_flag(i),2);
215

```

```

216         if m == 1 || m == 2 % Left & Right walls
217             time_of_closest_approach_wall(m) = (wall(m)-mol_position(n,1))...
218             /mol_velocity(n,1)-(diameter/2)/abs(mol_velocity(n,1));
219         else % Bottom & Top walls
220             time_of_closest_approach_wall(m) = (wall(m)-mol_position(n,2))...
221             /mol_velocity(n,2)-(diameter/2)/abs(mol_velocity(n,2));
222         end
223
224         if time_of_closest_approach_wall(m) <= 1e-12
225             time_of_closest_approach_wall(m) = NaN;
226         end
227         collisions_with_wall(wall_col_flag(i),3) = t + ...
228         time_of_closest_approach_wall(m);
229     end
230
231
232 end
233
234 position_plot(:,col_frame) = mol_position(:,:);
235 velocity_plot(:,col_frame) = mol_velocity(:,:);
236 C(:,1,col_frame) = sqrt(sum(mol_velocity.^2,2));
237 Time(col_frame) = t;
238
239 % Update collision frame
240 set(P, 'XData', position_plot(:,1,col_frame));
241 set(P, 'YData', position_plot(:,2,col_frame));
242 set(time_frames, 'String', ...
243 sprintf('2D MD Simualtion - Runtime: %0.2f s, Collisions: %d', Time(col_frame), col_frame));
244 drawnow update
245
246 % Store current total kinetic energy
247 Energy(col_frame) = (1/2)*mass*sum(sum(mol_velocity.^2,2));
248 end
249
250 % Plotting the 2D Maxwellian distribution
251 figure(2)
252 hold on
253 edges = [0 0:0.05:5 5];
254 exp_distribution = histogram(C,edges,'Normalization','pdf');
255 exp_distribution.FaceColor = "b";
256 X_C = @(y) (mass/(k*T_0))*y*exp(-mass*(y^2)/(2*k*T_0));
257 fplot(X_C, [0 5], "-c", 'Linewidth', 1.5)
258 xlabel('Molecular Speed (units/time)')
259 ylabel('Probability Density')
260 legend('Simulated Result', 'Expected 2D Maxwell Distribution')
261 hold off
262
263 % Plotting the energy distribution
264 figure(3)
265 exp_distribution = histogram(Energy,'Normalization','pdf');
266 exp_distribution.FaceColor = "b";
267 xlabel('Molecular Energy')
268 ylabel('Probability Density')
269
270 % Plotting the 1D Maxwellian distributions

```

```

271
272 figure(4)
273 hold on
274 edges = [-5 -5:0.05:5 5];
275 exp_distribution_x = histogram(velocity_plot(:,1,:),edges,'Normalization','pdf');
276 exp_distribution_x.FaceColor = "b";
277 f_C = @(y) sqrt(mass/(2*pi*k*T_0))*exp(-mass*(y^2)/(2*k*T_0));
278 fplot(f_C, [-5 5],"-c",'Linewidth',1.5)
279 xlabel('Molecular Velocity (units/time)')
280 ylabel('Probability Density')
281 legend('1D sim results along the x-velocity', 'Expected 1D Maxwell Distribution')
282 hold off
283
284 figure(5)
285 hold on
286 edges = [-5 -5:0.05:5 5];
287 exp_distribution_y = histogram(velocity_plot(:,2,:),edges,'Normalization','pdf');
288 exp_distribution_y.FaceColor = "b";
289 f_C = @(y) sqrt(mass/(2*pi*k*T_0))*exp(-mass*(y^2)/(2*k*T_0));
290 fplot(f_C, [-5 5],"-c",'Linewidth',1.5)
291 xlabel('Molecular Velocity (units/time)')
292 ylabel('Probability Density')
293 legend('1D sim results along the y-velocity', 'Expected 1D Maxwell Distribution')
294 hold off

```

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## References

- [1] J. M. Haile, *Molecular dynamics simulation: Elementary methods*. Wiley, 1997.