Improving Molecular Modeling through Advances in Force Field Development

Daniel Cabrera, Jessica Maat, Dr. David Mobley Department of Chemistry, University of California Irvine - Software Engineering Major



Abstract

- · Force fields are the underlying technology in molecular simulations that allow for predictive measures of different physical properties
- These molecular simulations have applications in computer aided drug design through accurate predictions of protein and ligand behavior





 Force fields consist of potential energy functions that describe bonded and non-bonded molecular interactions

- · In order to improve, benchmark, and train force fields, chemically diverse datasets are important
- · DANCE works to generate diverse datasets of molecules using fragment based fingerprints
- This allows for molecules to be filtered for specific molecular substructures and properties for force field development

Introduction

- · Chemists make use of tools, such as ForceBalance, in order to parameterize force fields
- . DANCE aids in this process by providing chemists with diverse datasets for parameterization
- · This ultimately allows for improved molecular modeling and increasingly accurate predictions about molecular behavior





SOURCE: avogadro.cc



Wang et al. J. Phys. Chem. Lett.20145111885-1891

- DANCE currently implements fragment based fingerprinting for impropers and select torsion parameters
- · This project extends this method to bonds, specifically single nitrogen-nitrogen bonds

Methods

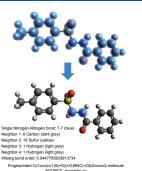
Develop a customizable fingerprint method to filter molecules based on their Wiberg bond order and neighboring atoms



Curate a diverse dataset of molecules with single nitrogen-nitrogen bonds using the customizable DANCE fingerprint



Perform chemical diversity analysis on the resulting datasets using MACCS key fingerprint and bond lenath



Results: Bond Length

- We have established a customizable fingerprint for molecular bonds
- Used this fingerprint to generate a diverse database of molecules with single nitrogen-nitrogen bonds based on a
- · Analyzed the diversity of the dataset by comparing against a dataset of randomly selected molecules
- Bond length values appeared relatively similar between the two datasets
- MACCS kev fingerprint values varied heavily, with more diverse values in the fingerprinted dataset

Bond Length Comparisons

· Fingerprinted Dataset



Random Dataset



Results: MACCS Key Fingerprint

MACCS Key Fingerprint Comparisons

· Fingerprinted Dataset





























Outlook

- . DANCE proved to be effective at filtering datasets for specific molecular traits and electronic properties
- · DANCE also demonstrated the ability to effectively generate diverse datasets using customizable fingerprinting
- · Moving forward, we are looking to develop new fingerprinting methods and expand the molecular properties that DANCE is able to fingerprint for



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