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MOLECULAR DYNAMICS

THEORY

TRISTAN JOHNSTON-WOOD



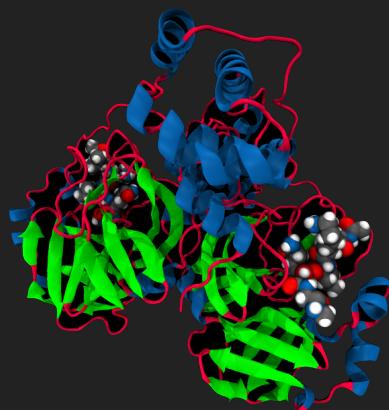
THE AIM



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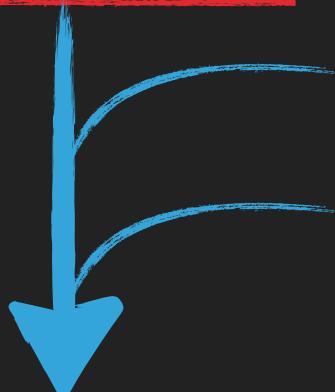


Molecular dynamics



Constant temperature

Constant pressure



Model of physical system



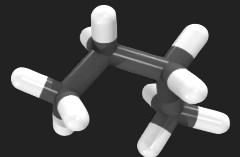
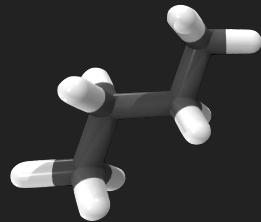
CLASSICAL MECHANICS



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First, describe positions:

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t), z(t))$$



$$\mathbf{r}(t)$$

$$\mathbf{r}(t)'$$

Second, find equations of motion:

$$\bar{\mathbf{F}} = m\bar{\mathbf{a}} = m \frac{d\mathbf{v}}{dt} = m \frac{d^2\mathbf{r}}{dt^2} \equiv \ddot{\mathbf{r}}$$

Third, define phase space:

$$\mathbf{x}_t = (r_1(t), \dots, r_N(t), p_1(t), \dots, p_N(t))$$



Complete description



STATISTICAL MECHANICS



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Application of statistics to physics
to obtain thermodynamic
properties

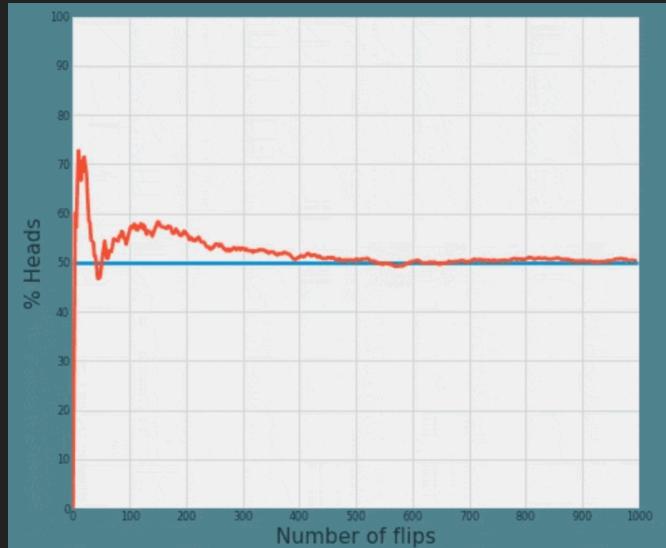
Expectation value

$$A = \sum_i P_i a_i$$

$$A = \int p(a) a d\tau \quad \text{—TOM Young 2020}$$

$$= \int a e^{-\epsilon_i/k_B T} / Z$$

$$\text{E.g. pressure: } P = \int p e^{-\epsilon_i/k_B T} / Z$$



$$P_i = \frac{e^{-\epsilon_i/k_B T}}{Z}$$

Partition function



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Can we derive equations for position and velocity at a later time?*

$$r(t + \Delta t) \approx r(t) + \dot{r}(t)\Delta t + \frac{\ddot{r}(t)\Delta t^2}{2}$$

$$r(t + \Delta t) = r(t) + v(t)\Delta t + \frac{F(t)\Delta t^2}{2m}$$

$$r(t) = \overbrace{r(t + \Delta t)} - v(t + \Delta t)\Delta t + \frac{F(t)\Delta t^2}{2m}$$

$$\begin{aligned} r(t) &= r(t) + v(t)\cancel{\Delta t} + \frac{F(t)\cancel{\Delta t}^2}{2m} - v(t + \Delta t)\cancel{\Delta t} \\ &\quad + \frac{F(t + \Delta t)\cancel{\Delta t}^2}{2m} \end{aligned}$$

Toolkit

$$\bar{F} = m\ddot{r}_i(t)$$

$$v_i(t) = \dot{r}_i(t)$$

$$\Delta v = v(t) - v(t + \Delta t) + \frac{F(t)\Delta t + F(t + \Delta t)\Delta t}{2m}$$

$$v(t + \Delta t) = v(t) + \frac{\Delta t}{2m} [F(t) + F(t + \Delta t)]$$

$$r(t + \Delta t) = r(t) + v(t)\Delta t + \frac{F(t)\Delta t^2}{2m}$$



NVT ENSEMBLE



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NVE – constant moles, volume,
energy

– “Microcanonical ensemble”

Sampled by $F=ma$



Not ideal physical
conditions

NVT – constant moles, volume,
temperature

– “Canonical ensemble”



Thermostat





NVT ENSEMBLE

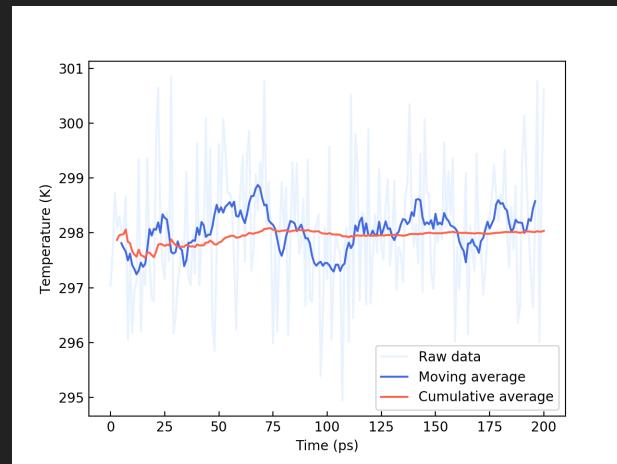


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Berendsen thermostat
–rescales velocities by λ

$$T - T_0 = Ae^{-t/\tau}$$

Velocity-rescaling thermostat
–rescales velocities by λ
and correct ensemble



Nosé–Hoover thermostat
–friction terms generate
correct ensemble

$$H_N = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\bar{p}_i^2}{2m_i s^2}}_{\text{friction terms}} + U(\bar{r}_1, \dots, \bar{r}_N) + \underbrace{\frac{p_s^2}{2Q} + gkT \ln s}_{\text{correct ensemble}}$$



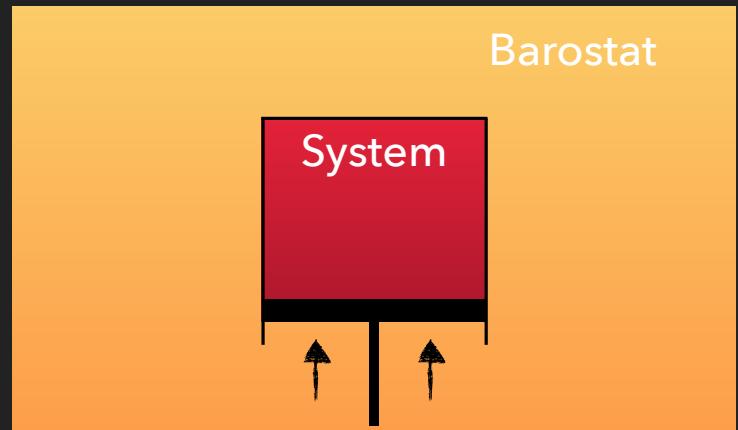
NPT ENSEMBLE



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NPT – constant moles, pressure,
temperature

– “Isobaric-isothermal ensemble”



Berendsen barostat

$$P - P_0 = Ae^{-t/\tau}$$

Parrinello–Rahman barostat

$$\frac{d^2\bar{r}_i}{dt^2} = \frac{\bar{F}_i}{m_i} - \bar{M} \frac{d\bar{r}_i}{dt}$$



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