

Time-step	$10^{-1}$	$10^{-2}$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-4}$	$10^{-5}$
Distance at end time	$3.03319 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$1.13779 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$7.3358 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$6.79042 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$6.7332 \cdot 10^{-9}$
	$10^{-6}$	$10^{-7}$	$10^{-8}$		
	$6.7274 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$6.7269 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$6.7269 \cdot 10^{-9}$		

Figure 3: Time-step and distances at end time.

Figure 1 presents the results of 8 different simulations of our Lennard-Jones implementation, for time steps  $\Delta t \in \{10^{-1}, 10^{-2}, 10^{-3}, 10^{-4}, 10^{-5}, 10^{-6}, 10^{-7}, 10^{-8}\}$ .

For all 8 simulations we see that for  $0 \leq \text{time} \leq 4100$  all simulations produce near-identical results (hence only one line is visible on the graph) and the two molecules gradually get closer to each other. At  $\text{time} = 4100$  the molecules reach the minimum distance ( $\approx 10^{-9}$ ), and as a result of our force model the molecules begin to get further away from each other. We see that in the simulation with time step  $10^{-1}$  the two molecules begin to diverge away from one another. This is a result of the large time step causing the spike in force to have more of an impact on the simulation. We see similar behaviour in the simulations with  $10^{-2}$  and  $10^{-3}$ , however due to the smaller time steps this is on a much smaller scale. We see that time steps  $\{10^{-4}, 10^{-5}, 10^{-6}, 10^{-7}, 10^{-8}\}$  produce very similar distances throughout the entire simulation, these time stepping schemes are numerically stable throughout the entire simulation. Figure 1 exhibits the property of stiffness in our algorithm and shows that our method for solving the equation is only numerically stable for sufficiently small time steps (i.e.  $\Delta t \leq 10^{-3}$ ). We see in both Figure 1 and Figure 2 that unless the step size is sufficiently small  $\Delta t \approx 10^{-4}$  the distances yielded by the algorithm vary a lot, and small changes can make a huge impact on the overall result for time stepping schemes with larger time steps.

Figure 2 and Figure 3 presents the end time distances of the simulation for each time step in a more clear manner. From this it is clear to see that as we decrease the time step the end-time distance converges to a value, this is illustrated by (approximately) constant line from time step  $10^{-4}$  onwards. Should the value it converges to be the analytical solution then our scheme is consistent. If we take the formula  $|F^{(i+1)} - F^{(i)}| \leq C|F^{(i)} - F^{(i-1)}|^p$  with  $p = 1$  fixed and compute  $C$ , we see that for each set of  $F^{(i-1)}, F^{(i)}$  and  $F^{(i+1)}$  we have  $C \approx 0.1$ . This is the experimental method of determining the order and thus it's clear that the solution converges linearly (with order 1) - otherwise stated with order 1.

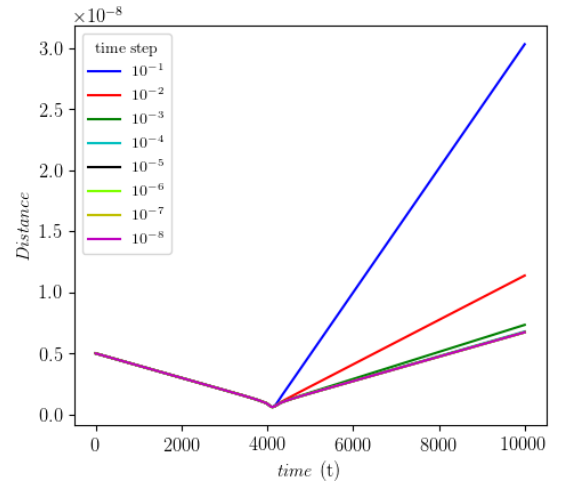
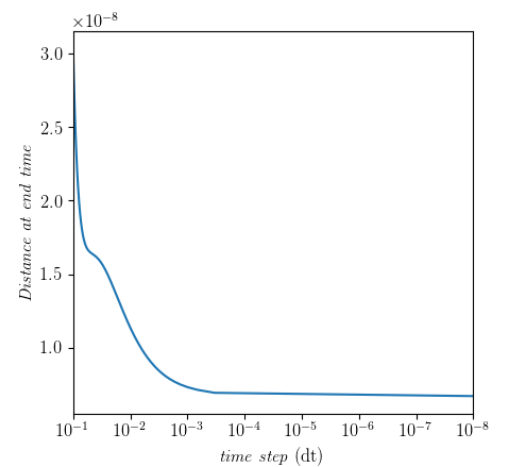
Figure 1: The distance between the particles for  $0 \leq \text{time} \leq 10000$ , for 8 simulations with different time steps.

Figure 2: The end time distance of each of the simulations.