

DIALOGUE BETWEEN MOLECULAR DYNAMICS AND
CONTINUOUS MEDIA: DEFINITION OF A COHESIVE
MODEL BASED ON ATOMIC SCALE INFORMATION

- 2nd YEAR INTERNSHIP REPORT -

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1 — Introduction

1.1 Context

Technological advances in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (MLOps) have led to the development of many tools to facilitate the life of users and methods to advance research. A very recent phenomenon in the world of research, Machine Learning allows to save a lot of computing time to perform large scale simulations but also to make some predictions.

There are several branches of Machine Learning. The most classical one is the one where a program is given a lot of data and it learns from this data. The program can then provide a prediction based on the input parameters. However, by doing this, we lose the physical sense (if the data are physical simulations or experiments). Another branch is to sort the input data according to what is more likely to happen. The physical meaning is then preserved but the program will only be able to provide an estimation of what could happen.

1.2 Internship's Problematic

This internship is part of a multiscale analysis of fracture and more precisely by conducting a dialogue in molecular dynamics and description in continuous medium. More precisely, the aim is to identify a cohesive zone model, representing the fracture mechanism at the continuous scale through a "stress-vector" - "opening" relation. This model will be identifiable following calculations in molecular dynamics which produce the numerical experiments.

An important part of the work is to conduct Molecular Dynamics simulations on a Silicon (Si) crystal for which the fracture occurs by cleavage. However, since Si has anisotropic elastic properties, it is expected that the fracture properties are also anisotropic. Therefore, simulations for different orientations between the crack plane and the crystalline symmetry planes will also have to be carried out. A systematic approach can be conducted. Nevertheless, the methodology associating Machine Learning and Molecular Dynamics is to be exploited in order to gain in calculation time.

Once the cohesive model is identified, it is then possible to study and predict the interactions between cracking and microstructure (in a polycrystal for example), as well as between crack and cavity.

It is a 100% digital project with a strong interest in simulation methods and Machine Learning.

1.3 Laboratory Presentation

1.3.1 History

The Laboratory of Science and Engineering of Materials and Processes is the result of the merger of three units on January 1, 2007. It is a joint research unit: CNRS, Grenoble-INP, and IESA. It brings together an average of 220 people including 56 researchers and teacher-researchers, 37 engineers, technicians and administrative staff, 60 PhD students, post-doctoral fellows, guests and trainees.

1.3.2 Research Groups

The Laboratory relies on four research groups that perpetuate the basic sciences in physics and physical chemistry, thermodynamics and kinetics, solid and fluid mechanics:

- **EPM** : Elaboration by Magnetic Processes
- **GPM2** : Physical and Mechanical Engineering of Materials
- **PM** : Metal Physics
- **TOP** : Thermodynamics, modeling, Process Optimization

This internship is placed between two divisions (PM and TOP) in a small team composed of :

- **Noel JAKSE** : Teacher-researcher in the TOP research group, Master and Supervisor of the internship
- **Rafael ESTEVEZ** : Researcher, Co-Supervisor of the internship
- **Thibault MROZ** : Intern Assistant Engineer

The TOP Research Group focuses on materials development, thermodynamic phenomena (stability and characterization) and atomistic, thermodynamic, kinetic and reactor modeling. This has applications in the fields of thin films, complex metal alloys and functional materials.

The PM Research Group focuses on the metallurgy of metals: atomic structure, mechanical and physical properties and oxidation. This has applications in the fields of materials for energy and microelectronics but also for structural materials.

The internship is in the field of atomistic modeling and atomic structure.

1.4 Report Outline

2 — Hardware and Methods

In this part, will be detailed all the hardware, software and methods used to carry out simulations.

2.1 Hardware and Software

As this internship is 100% digital, a good comuter is required. A personal computer (MacBook Air M1) as well as a computer provided by the laboratory (under Ubuntu) will be the main equipment for this internship.

The main softwares are the following ones:

- **Visual Studio Code (VS Code)**: a source-code editor developed by Microsoft.
- **Large-scale Atomic/Molecular Massively Parallel Simulator (LAMMPS)**: a molecular dynamics programm (coded in C++) from [Sandia National Laboratories](#).
- **Ovito**: a visualization and analysis software for output data generated in molecular dynamics.
- **Perseus GRICAD**: high performance computing and storage platforms.

2.1.1 LAMMPS

LAMMPS is an open-source molecular dynamic code with a focus on materials modeling. It provides potentials for solid-state materials (metals and semiconductors). It can be used to model atoms or, more generically, as a parallel particle simulator at the atomic, meso, or continuum scale.

LAMMPS does not have any graphic interface which makes the handholding not that easy. The input code is written in `.txt` files that are compiled through a `Makefile` called with a `bash` command : `lmp_serial -in input.file.txt`.

LAMMPS provides a `log.lammps` file as output. All the behaviour of the script (output values, warnings, errors ...) is written in this file. However, with specific commands, this software can provide other outfile such as a `dump.test` file, which will be useful to have a visualization of the material behaviour.

Here is a quick recap :

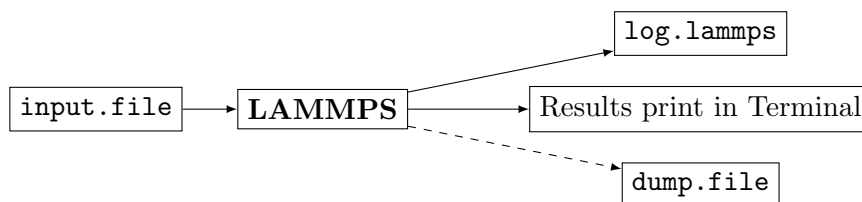


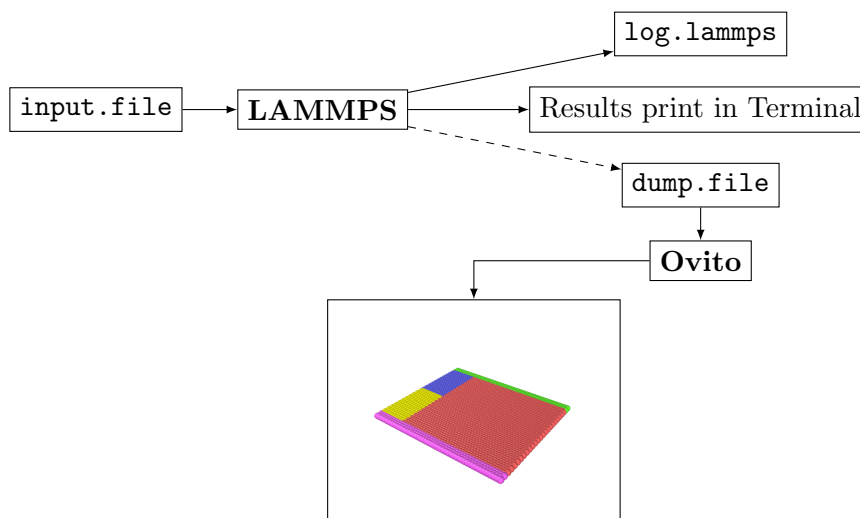
Figure 2.1: LAMMPS operation

2.1.2 Ovito

Ovito is a scientific visualization and data analysis tool for atomistic and other particle-based models. The community edition is free of charge under an open source license. Ovito has a Pro version which is a powerful extension with extended analysis toolset, visualization capabilities and automation with the `Python` integration. For this internship, the community edition is used.

Ovito will be used to visualize the behaviour of the atoms (mainly their position and velocity along the x,y and z axes). It will help to have a first sight of the simulation to see if there is no inconsistent behaviours before going deeper in the process.

The visualization is based on the `dump.file` that LAMMPS is producing. So here is the final scheme :

**Figure 2.2:** Final Operation Scheme

2.1.3 Perseus GRICAD

GRICAD offers intensive computing and data processing infrastructures to answer the needs of scientists. This tool provides an access to computing, grid, cloud, notebook and associated storage platforms. Moreover, an user support with assistance is opened. These infrastructures are open to all members of the scientific communities of the Grenoble site, as well as to their external collaborators. To have an access to this computing tool, a Perseus account is required. Once the Perseus account is created, you need to be member of the project to run your scripts. For this internship, the project is `pr-atosimul`.

GRICAD provides four computing clusters that are different (each cluster has its own hardware and configuration). Cluster access is normally done using a **SSH Client** (Secure Shell Protocol) [1]. However, SSH servers are vulnerable to scans and attacks so, for security reasons, it is not possible to let the clusters be directly accessed from the internet. GRICAD provides two SSH gateways that are more secure than the clusters. So the login method is to first, login to an SSH gateway and then to the targeted cluster :

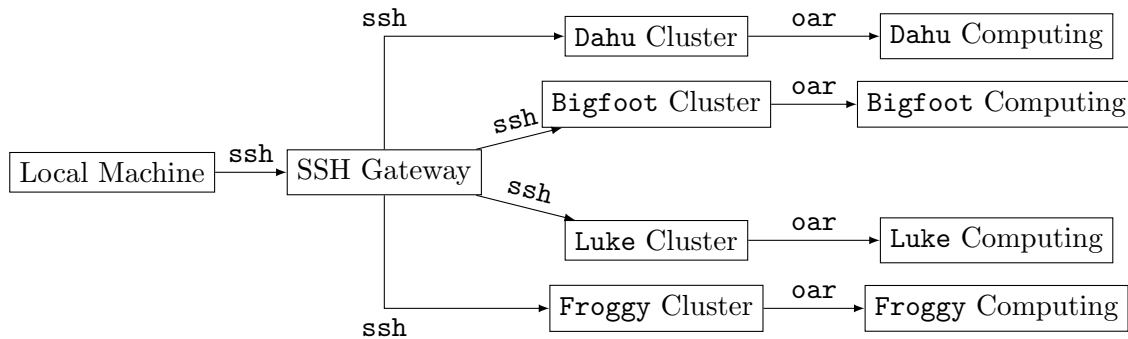


Figure 2.3: SSH cluster access schema

Those two SSH gateways (called **Rotule** and **Trinity**) are grouped under a single DNS : `access-gricad.univ-grenoble-alpes.fr`. This allows for load balancing on these two machines. Moreover, if one server came to fail, the other one is still available for computing.

The submission work for computing is made through a `run.oar` file. It is a **bash** script that provides the number of nodes and cores of the processor wanted by the user, the walltime (max time of computing), the name of some output files and then commands to run external scripts. (AJOUTER SCRIPT EN ANNEXE)

3 — Mise en contexte

3.1 Contexte d'utilisation

Conclusion et Perspectives

Bibliography

- [1] **Article**, Secure Shell
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secure_Shell

Annexes

A) Annexe 1