

## Potential Details

### 0.1 SMA Potential (General Form)

The SMA potential is a sum of a repulsive part and an attraction potential that is a classical representation of the tight binding approach.

$$U_{coh} = U_{rep} + U_{el} \quad (1)$$

With  $r_{ij}$  being the inter-particle distance and  $N$  the total number of particles, we have

$$U_{el} = - \sum_{i=1}^N \left\{ \zeta_0^2 \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \exp[-2q(\frac{r_{ij}}{r_0} - 1)] \right\}^{1/2} \quad (2)$$

$$U_{rep} = \sum_{i=1}^N \epsilon_0 \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \exp[-p(\frac{r_{ij}}{r_0} - 1)] \quad (3)$$

### 0.2 Force Calculation

The MD simulation was done following the Velocity Verlet Time integration scheme. To determine the force for each inter-particle interaction, the derivative of the SMA potential was described as

$$F(r_{ij}) = - \frac{dU_{coh}}{dr_{ij}} \quad (4)$$

Using

$$u = -p(\frac{r_{ij}}{r_0} - 1)$$

$$v = -2q(\frac{r_{ij}}{r_0} - 1)$$

We have

$$\frac{dU_{coh}}{dr_{ij}} = \epsilon_0 \left[ \sum_{j \neq i} \exp(u) \frac{du}{dr_{ij}} \right] - \left[ \frac{\sum_{j \neq i} \frac{\zeta_0^2}{2} \exp(v) \frac{dv}{dr_{ij}}}{\left( \sum_{j \neq i} \zeta_0^2 \exp(v) \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right] \quad (5)$$

### 0.3 Modified Potential (To code)

With  $r_{ij}$  being the inter-particle distance and  $N$  the total number of particles, we have

$$U = \frac{\epsilon}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[ A \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \exp[-p(\frac{r_{ij}}{r_0} - 1)] - \left\{ \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N \exp[-2q(\frac{r_{ij}}{r_0} - 1)] \right\}^{1/2} \right] \quad (6)$$

### 0.4 Interaction Parameters

The parameters  $\epsilon, A, p, q$  and  $r_0$  for Ni as used in the simulation are:

| $\epsilon$ | $A$  | $p$  | $q$  | $r_0$ |
|------------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1.51       | 17.8 | 9.62 | 1.45 | 9.44  |