Integration Algorithm



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Content

Introduction

Stability

Efficiency

Accuracy



But there are much more things that we should understand here!

The list of integrator implemented in OpenMM

In OpenMM,

LangevinIntegrator	This is an Integrator which simulates a System using Langevin dynamics.
LangevinMiddleIntegrator	This is an Integrator which simulates a System using Langevin dynamics, with the LFMiddle discretization (J.
MTSIntegrator	MTSIntegrator implements the rRESPA multiple time step integration algorithm.
MTSLangevinIntegrator	MTSLangevinIntegrator implements the BAOAB- RESPA multiple time step algorithm for constant temperature dynamics.
NoseHooverIntegrator	This is an Integrator which simulates a System using one or more Nose Hoover chain thermostats, using the "middle" leapfrog propagation algorithm described in J.
RPMDIntegrator	This is an Integrator which simulates a System using ring polymer molecular dynamics (RPMD).
VariableLangevinIntegrator	This is an error controlled, variable time step Integrator that simulates a System using Langevin dynamics.
VariableVerletIntegrator	This is an error controlled, variable time step Integrator that simulates a System using the leap- frog Verlet algorithm.
VerletIntegrator	This is an Integrator which simulates a System using the leap-frog Verlet algorithm.

In OpenMMtools (https://openmmtools.readthedocs.io/en/stable/ integrators.html),

LangevinIntegrator	Integrates Langevin dynamics with a prescribed operator splitting.
VVVRIntegrator	Create a velocity Verlet with velocity randomization (VVVR) integrator.
BAOABIntegrator	Create a BAOAB integrator.
GeodesicBAOABIntegrator	Create a geodesic-BAOAB integrator.
GHMCIntegrator	Create a generalized hybrid Monte Carlo (GHMC) integrator.

NonequilibriumLangevinIntegrator	Nonequilibrium integrator mix-in.
AlchemicalNonequilibriumLangevinIntegrator	Allows nonequilibrium switching based on force parame- ters specified in alchemical_functions.
PeriodicNonequilibriumIntegrator	Periodic nonequilibrium integrator where master al- chemical parameter lambda is driven through a periodic protocol:
ExternalPerturbationLangevinIntegrator	Create a LangevinSplittingIntegrator that accounts for ex- ternal perturbations and tracks protocol work.

MTSIntegrator	MTSIntegrator implements the rRESPA multiple time step in- tegration algorithm.
DummyIntegrator	Construct a dummy integrator that does nothing except up- date call the force updates.
GradientDescentMinimizationIntegrator	Simple gradient descent minimizer implemented as an integrator.
VelocityVerletIntegrator	Verlocity Verlet integrator.
AndersenVelocityVerletIntegrator	Velocity Verlet integrator with Andersen thermostat using per-particle collisions (rather than massive collisions).
NoseHooverChainVelocityVerletIntegrator	Nosé-Hoover chain thermostat, using the reversible multi time step velocity Verlet algorithm
MetropolisMonteCarloIntegrator	Metropolis Monte Carlo with Gaussian displacement trials.
HMCIntegrator	Hybrid Monte Carlo (HMC) integrator.

Basics of MD simulation

In classical mechanics, the equation of motion is integrated to generate the trajectory.

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t} \left(\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\mathbf{r}}_i} \right) - \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{r}_i} = 0. \qquad \dot{q}_\alpha = \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_\alpha}, \ \dot{p}_\alpha = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q_\alpha}$$

Energy is conserved in classical mechanics!

By solving F=ma, we sample the **microcanonical** ensemble (constant E) for ensemble averages.

$$\langle a \rangle = \frac{\int \mathrm{dx} \ a(\mathbf{x}) \delta(\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{x}) - E)}{\int \mathrm{dx} \ \delta(\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{x}) - E)} = \lim_{\mathcal{T} \to \infty} \frac{1}{\mathcal{T}} \int_0^{\mathcal{T}} \mathrm{dt} \ a(\mathbf{x}_t) \equiv \bar{a}.$$

We need to sample the x_t in microcanonical ensemble, which we call it trajectory.(.dcd)

In here, we introduce the time discretization parameter dt, known as the **time step**. Starting with the initial cond x_0 , x_dt , x_2dt , x_3dt are generated by applying the integrator iteratively.

$$A = \langle a \rangle = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{n=1}^{M} a(\mathbf{x}_{n\Delta t}) \equiv \bar{a}.$$

A discretization of the equations of motion can be obtained by Taylor expansion:

$$\mathbf{r}_{i}(t+\Delta t) = \mathbf{r}_{i}(t) + \Delta t \ \mathbf{v}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{2}}{2m_{i}} \ \mathbf{f}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{3}}{3!} \ \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_{i}(t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{4})$$
$$\mathbf{v}_{i}(t+\Delta t) = \mathbf{v}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t}{m_{i}} \ \mathbf{f}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{2}}{2} \ \ddot{\mathbf{v}}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{3}}{3!} \ \ddot{\mathbf{v}}_{i}(t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{4}).$$

By the Euler algorithm, the trajectory is calculated according to:

$$\mathbf{r}_{i}(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{r}_{i}(t) + \Delta t \ \mathbf{v}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{2}}{2m_{i}}\mathbf{f}_{i}(t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{3})$$
$$\mathbf{v}_{i}(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{v}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t}{m_{i}} \ \mathbf{f}_{i}(t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{2})$$

WE DO NOT USE THIS, since this is not stable (neither time-reversible nor **symplectic**)

A discretization of the equations of motion can be obtained by Taylor expansion:

$$\mathbf{r}_{i}(t+\Delta t) = \mathbf{r}_{i}(t) + \Delta t \ \mathbf{v}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{2}}{2m_{i}} \ \mathbf{f}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{3}}{3!} \ \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_{i}(t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{4})$$
$$\mathbf{v}_{i}(t+\Delta t) = \mathbf{v}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t}{m_{i}} \ \mathbf{f}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{2}}{2} \ \ddot{\mathbf{v}}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{3}}{3!} \ \ddot{\mathbf{v}}_{i}(t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{4}).$$

By the Verlet algorithm (1967), the trajectory is calculated according to:

$$\mathbf{r}_i(t - \Delta t) = \mathbf{r}_i(t) - \Delta t \, \mathbf{v}_i(t) + \frac{\Delta t^2}{2m_i} \, \mathbf{f}_i(t) - \frac{\Delta t^3}{3!} \, \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_i(t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^4).$$

The updating equation for the positions and velocities are:

$$\mathbf{r}_{i}(t + \Delta t) = 2\mathbf{r}_{i}(t) - \mathbf{r}_{i}(t - \Delta t) + \frac{\Delta t^{2}}{m_{i}}\mathbf{f}_{i}(t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{4}),$$
$$\mathbf{v}_{i}(t) = \frac{\mathbf{r}_{i}(t + \Delta t) - \mathbf{r}_{i}(t - \Delta t)}{2\Delta t} + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{3}).$$

A discretization of the equations of motion can be obtained by Taylor expansion:

$$\mathbf{r}_{i}(t+\Delta t) = \mathbf{r}_{i}(t) + \Delta t \ \mathbf{v}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{2}}{2m_{i}} \ \mathbf{f}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{3}}{3!} \ \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_{i}(t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{4})$$
$$\mathbf{v}_{i}(t+\Delta t) = \mathbf{v}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t}{m_{i}} \ \mathbf{f}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{2}}{2} \ \ddot{\mathbf{v}}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{3}}{3!} \ \ddot{\mathbf{v}}_{i}(t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{4}).$$

By the Leap-frog algorithm, the trajectory is calculated according to:

$$\mathbf{v}_i(t + \frac{\Delta t}{2}) = \mathbf{v}_i(t - \frac{\Delta t}{2}) + \frac{\Delta t}{m_i} \mathbf{f}_i(t),$$
$$\mathbf{r}_i(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{r}_i(t) + \Delta t \ \mathbf{v}_i(t + \frac{\Delta t}{2}).$$

The velocities are updated at half time steps and 'leap' ahead the positions as:

$$\mathbf{v}_i(t) = \frac{\mathbf{v}_i(t - \frac{\Delta t}{2}) + \mathbf{v}_i(\Delta t + \frac{\Delta t}{2})}{2}$$

A discretization of the equations of motion can be obtained by Taylor expansion:

$$\mathbf{r}_{i}(t+\Delta t) = \mathbf{r}_{i}(t) + \Delta t \ \mathbf{v}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{2}}{2m_{i}} \ \mathbf{f}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{3}}{3!} \ \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_{i}(t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{4})$$
$$\mathbf{v}_{i}(t+\Delta t) = \mathbf{v}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t}{m_{i}} \ \mathbf{f}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{2}}{2} \ \ddot{\mathbf{v}}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{3}}{3!} \ \ddot{\mathbf{v}}_{i}(t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{4}).$$

By the Velocity-Verlet algorithm (1982), the trajectory is calculated according to:

$$\mathbf{r}_{i}(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{r}_{i}(t) + \Delta t \ \mathbf{v}_{i}(t) + \frac{\Delta t^{2}}{m_{i}} \ \mathbf{f}_{i}(t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{3}),$$
$$\mathbf{v}_{i}(t + \Delta t) = \mathbf{v}(t) + \frac{\Delta t}{2m_{i}} \left(\mathbf{f}_{i}(t) + \mathbf{f}_{i}(t + \Delta t)\right) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^{3}).$$

This is very stable and has become the perhaps most widely used integration algorithm. The Velocity-Verlet scheme is a **symplectic** integrator.

What properties should integration algorithms satisfy?

1. Stability

- Energy conservation
- Symplecticity
- Time reversibility

2. Efficiency

- Maximum permissible time step
- Constraint algorithm
- Hydrogen mass repartitioning
- Multi-step integration

3. Accuracy

- Configurational sampling
- Dynamical properties

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It would be nice if we can derive the Verlet integration algorithm directly from the classical mechanics such as Hamilton's equation. Then '**symplecticity**' (the phase-space volume preserving property) is guaranteed.

For the time evolution of any function a(x) of the phase space vector,

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}a}{\mathrm{d}t} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{3N} \left[\frac{\partial a}{\partial q_{\alpha}} \dot{q}_{\alpha} + \frac{\partial a}{\partial p_{\alpha}} \dot{p}_{\alpha} \right].$$

$$\dot{q}_{\alpha} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_{\alpha}}, \qquad \qquad \dot{p}_{\alpha} = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q_{\alpha}}$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}a}{\mathrm{d}t} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{3N} \left[\frac{\partial a}{\partial q_{\alpha}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_{\alpha}} - \frac{\partial a}{\partial p_{\alpha}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q_{\alpha}} \right]$$
$$= \{a, \mathcal{H}\}.$$

Let's define the Liouville operator L as: $iLa = \{a, \mathcal{H}\}$

$$iL = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{3N} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_{\alpha}} \frac{\partial}{\partial q_{\alpha}} - \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q_{\alpha}} \frac{\partial}{\partial p_{\alpha}} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \begin{aligned} & \mathrm{d}a/\mathrm{d}t = iLa\\ a(\mathbf{x}_{t}) = \mathrm{e}^{iLt}a(\mathbf{x}_{0}).\\ & \mathbf{x}_{t} = \mathrm{e}^{iLt}\mathbf{x}_{0}. \end{aligned}$$

We call the operator exp(iLt) as the classical propagator.

From now on, let's split the Liouville operator into two:

$$iL = iL_1 + iL_2,$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \frac{p^2}{2m} + U(x).$$

 $iL_{1} = \sum_{\alpha=1}^{3N} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial p_{\alpha}} \frac{\partial}{\partial q_{\alpha}}$ $iL_{1} = \frac{p}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \qquad iL_{2} = F(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial p},$ $iL_{2} = -\sum_{\alpha=1}^{3N} \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial q_{\alpha}} \frac{\partial}{\partial p_{\alpha}}.$

Mark T. Tuckerman, Statistical mechanics: Theory and Molecular Simulation 2thed, 2023

Let's define the Liouville operator L as: $iLa = \{a, \mathcal{H}\}$

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Mark T. Tuckerman, Statistical mechanics: Theory and Molecular Simulation 2thed, 2023

By the Trotter theorem, $e^{A+B} = \lim_{P \to \infty} \left[e^{B/2P} e^{A/P} e^{B/2P} \right]^P$

$$\mathbf{e}^{iLt} \approx \left[\mathbf{e}^{iL_2\Delta t/2} \mathbf{e}^{iL_1\Delta t} \mathbf{e}^{iL_2\Delta t/2}\right]^P + \mathcal{O}\left(P\Delta t^3\right)$$

For the Hamiltonian $\mathcal{H} = p^2/2m + U(x)$

$$\exp(iL\Delta t) \approx \exp\left(\frac{\Delta t}{2}F(x)\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right) \exp\left(\Delta t\frac{p}{m}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) \exp\left(\frac{\Delta t}{2}F(x)\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x(\Delta t)\\ p(\Delta t) \end{pmatrix} \approx \exp\left(\frac{\Delta t}{2}F(x)\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right) \exp\left(\Delta t\frac{p}{m}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) \exp\left(\frac{\Delta t}{2}F(x)\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right) \begin{pmatrix} x\\ p \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x(\Delta t) \\ p(\Delta t) \end{pmatrix} \approx \exp\left(\frac{\Delta t}{2}F(x)\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right) \exp\left(\Delta t\frac{p}{m}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) \exp\left(\frac{\Delta t}{2}F(x)\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ p \end{pmatrix}.$$
$$\exp\left(\frac{\Delta t}{2}F(x)\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ p \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ p + \frac{\Delta t}{2}F(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\exp\left(\Delta t \frac{p}{m} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) \begin{pmatrix} x\\ p + \frac{\Delta t}{2} F(x) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x + \Delta t \frac{p}{m}\\ p + \frac{\Delta t}{2} F\left(x + \Delta t \frac{p}{m}\right) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\exp\left(\frac{\Delta t}{2}F(x)\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right) \begin{pmatrix} x + \Delta t\frac{p}{m} \\ p + \frac{\Delta t}{2}F\left(x + \Delta t\frac{p}{m}\right) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} x + \frac{\Delta t}{m} \left(p + \frac{\Delta t}{2} F(x) \right) \\ p + \frac{\Delta t}{2} F(x) + \frac{\Delta t}{2} F\left(x + \frac{\Delta t}{m} \left(p + \frac{\Delta t}{2} F(x) \right) \right) \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\exp\left(\frac{\Delta t}{2}F(x)\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right) \begin{pmatrix} x + \Delta t\frac{p}{m} \\ p + \frac{\Delta t}{2}F\left(x + \Delta t\frac{p}{m}\right) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} x + \frac{\Delta t}{m} \left(p + \frac{\Delta t}{2} F(x) \right) \\ p + \frac{\Delta t}{2} F(x) + \frac{\Delta t}{2} F\left(x + \frac{\Delta t}{m} \left(p + \frac{\Delta t}{2} F(x) \right) \right) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x(\Delta t) = x(0) + \Delta t v(0) + \frac{\Delta t^2}{2m} F(x(0))$$

$$v(\Delta t) = v(0) + \frac{\Delta t}{2m} \left[F(x(0)) + F(x(\Delta t)) \right]$$

This is just the update step in the Velocity Verlet algorithm!

Symplecticity is now guaranteed!

For the N-particle systems: $\mathfrak{H} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\mathbf{p}_{i}^{2}}{2m_{i}} + U(\mathbf{r}_{1},...,\mathbf{r}_{N}),$

$$iL = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\mathbf{p}_i}{m_i} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{r}_i} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbf{F}_i \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{p}_i}.$$

Again, we can split the Liouville operator into two: $iL = iL_1 + iL_2$,

$$p(\Delta t/2) = p(0) + \frac{\Delta t}{2}F(x(0))$$

$$p = p + 0.5 * \Delta t * F$$

$$x(\Delta t) = x(0) + \frac{\Delta t}{m}p(\Delta t/2)$$

$$p(\Delta t) = p(\Delta t/2) + \frac{\Delta t}{2}F(x(\Delta t)).$$

$$p = p + 0.5 * \Delta t * F.$$

$$p(\Delta t) = p(\Delta t/2) + \frac{\Delta t}{2}F(x(\Delta t)).$$

Symplecticity

Q. Why symplecticity is good to be guaranteed?

A. Sympletic integrator has the important property that there exists a shadow Hamiltonian that remains close to the true Hamiltonian and is exactly **conserved** by the algorithm.



Mark T. Tuckerman, Statistical mechanics: Theory and Molecular Simulation 2thed, 2023

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The maximum permissible time step

	f _c	I	Period (fs)				
Motion	(kJ mol ¹)	(u nm²)	Calc.	Sim.			
Bond stretch, H	400 000	m = 1 u	10	10			
Bond stretch, heavy atoms	500 000	m = 12 u	30	20			
Water libration	_	0.0059	_	28			
Water rotation	_	0.0059	_	1300			
Angle, H	375	0.010	32	20			
Angle, heavy atoms	450	0.27	154	45			
Angle — NH ₃ ⁺ group, C—N—H	375	0.010	32	22			
Angle — NH ₃ ⁺ group, H—N—H	750	0.010	23	13			
Improper, planar	167		_	28			
Improper, tetrahedrical	335		_	27			
Dihedral, peptide bond	33	0.20	489	28			
Dihedral,	3.8	0.023	489	89			
Dihedral, OH group	1.3	0.0094	53	43			

TABLE I. ______ Characteristic Oscillation Periods of Atomic Motions in MD Simulations.^a

^a f_c : force constant; I: moment of inertia, or atomic mass for bond stretching; calc.: calculated from eq. (1); sim.: highest frequency significant peak in spectrum of angle respectively dihedral motion from simulation. An entry of "—" means not applicable, or not determinable.

The maximum time step in simulation is limited by the fastest motions which invariably involve **hydrogen** atoms, which is usually set to be **1 fs** for usual simulation.

Some simulation techniques are further required to increase the maximum time step, but how?

The idea of constraint

Rigid distance (or angle, proper angle, improper angle) **constraints** are used to increase the integration step size from **1 fs to 2 fs.**

The idea is to use the method of Lagrange multipliers.

$$\sigma_i(\{\mathbf{r}_k\}) = |\mathbf{r}_m - \mathbf{r}_n| - d_i$$

We apply a constraint force to atoms m and n, which produces a combined displacements δ along the constraint algorithm such that $\sigma = 0$ at the end of the time step.

This requires **iteratively** solving a system of nonlinear equations (i.e. Newton iteration)

$$\delta^{N+1} = \delta^N - \mathbf{J}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\sigma}^N \qquad \mathbf{J}_{ij} = \frac{\partial \sigma_i}{\partial \delta_j}$$

There are many constraint algorithms in MD simulation package which differentiates with the way to construct the jacobian matrix J and the way to perform the iteration.

List of algorithms: SHAKE, M-SHAKE, SHAPE, RATTLE, SETTLE, LINCS, P-LINCS, CCMA....

Constraint algorithm implemented in MD simulation package

In OpenMM,

SETTLE for water molecules only.

SHAKE for isolated clusters of one heavy atom with up to three hydrogens bonded to it.

CCMA for anything not handled by one of the above algorithms.

(LINCS is not implemented in OpenMM)

$$\delta^{N+1} = \delta^N - \mathbf{J}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\sigma}^N \qquad \mathbf{J}_{ij} = \frac{\partial \sigma_i}{\partial \delta_i}$$

Remark.

M-SHAKE constructs the jacobian matrix and then invert it, which is quite stable but high-cost.

LINCS circumvents the invertion of jacobian matrix by representing J^{-1} as a power series, but for strongly connected system, this series converges very slowly or even fail to converge.

SHAKE approximates J⁽⁻¹⁾ using its upper triangle form for improved convergence at very little extra cost. This method is very popular but hard to be implemented efficiently on parallel architectures.

SETTLE uses an analytical solution for rigid water molecules rather than solving it iteratively. But only applicable to water molecules.

CCMA approximates J^(-1) with a different matrix K^(-1) that is easier to calculate on parallel architectures.

Convergence issues on constraint algorithm

Cholesterol in MARTINI force field is a notorious molecule due to highly coupled constraints.

Applying **LINCS algorithm** with small LINCS Order and Iterations fails to be converged, which causes a negative energy drift and subsequently to cooling.



Such issue can be circumvented by additional incorporating the virtual sites in cholesterol.



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Shot time step is sometimes inevitable

dt=2fs is often used in simulating rigid models of water with constraint (SHAKE, SETTLE) "Fast internal vibrations are usually **decoupled** from rotational and translational motions?"



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Hydrogen Mass Repartitioning (HMR)

The idea is to increase the mass of the hydrogen atoms while decreasing the mass of the oxygen atoms to increase the integration step size from **2 fs to 4 fs**.



Ato	ABLE II Atomic Masses in Water. ^a								
Mas	ss (u)	1	η	D	τ_H bond	Drift E _{tot}	Δt_{max}		
н	0	(u nm²)	(10 ⁴ kg m ¹ s ¹)	(10 ⁹ m ² s ¹)	(ps)	(kJ mol ¹ ps ¹)	(fs)		
1	16	0.0059	4.3	4.08	0.67	1.04	6.6		
2	14	0.0104	4.7	3.89	0.74	0.86	8.9		
3	12	0.0133	4.9	3.79	0.89	0.42	10.0		
4	10	0.0148	4.9	3.34	0.79	0.36	10.3		
5	8	0.0148	5.1	3.50	0.84	0.47	10.4		
6	6	0.0133	5.3	3.35	0.84	0.59	8.6		
7	4	0.0104	5.2	3.34	0.88	0.43	7.5		
8	2	0.0059	5.1	3.60	0.95	0.61	5.6		
Rea	I H ₂ O	_	8.0	2.3	0.59	_	_		
Rea	$d D_2 O$	_	—	2.0	_	_	_		

^a *I*: corresponding smallest moments of inertia; resulting dynamical properties: η : viscosity; *D*: diffusion constant. Values of H₂O and D₂O from Lide et al.³³ and hydrogen-bond lifetime ($\tau_{H bond}$) value of H₂O from Montrose³¹; RMS drift of the total energy over 12 runs at a time step of 4 fs; maximum time step (Δt_{max}) at a maximum order of 10 of the drift as a function of time step.

J. Comp. Chem., **1999**, 20, 8, 786-798. *J. Chem. Theory Comput.* **2015**, 11, 1864-1874.

$$U(\mathbf{r}_1, ..., \mathbf{r}_N) = \sum_{\text{bonds}} \frac{1}{2} K_{\text{bond}} (r - r_0)^2 + \sum_{\text{bends}} \frac{1}{2} K_{\text{bend}} (\theta - \theta_0)^2 + \sum_{\text{tors } n=0}^6 A_n \left[1 + \cos(C_n \phi + \delta_n) \right] + \sum_{i,j \in nb} \left\{ 4\epsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right] + \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}} \right\}.$$

Intramolecular potentials (fast force) have large and rapidly varying components while nonbonded potentials (slow force) have slowly varying components due to long-range nature.

But we should choose integrator time step dt for the fast force.

Why don't we use a integrator capable of separating the time scales for a gain in computational efficiency, such as allowing the slow forces to be recomputed less frequently than the fast forces?

$$\dot{x} = \frac{p}{m}$$
$$\dot{p} = F_{\text{fast}}(x) + F_{\text{slow}}(x).$$

$$\dot{x} = \frac{p}{m}$$
$$\dot{p} = F_{\text{fast}}(x) + F_{\text{slow}}(x).$$

Liouville operator for this system is given by

$$iL = \frac{p}{m}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \left[F_{\text{fast}}(x) + F_{\text{slow}}(x)\right]\frac{\partial}{\partial p}$$

This separation (kinetic/force) leads to the standard velocity Verlet algorithm:

$$iL = iL_1 + iL_2$$
$$iL_1 = \frac{p}{m}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$$
$$iL_2 = \left[F_{\text{fast}}(x) + F_{\text{slow}}(x)\right]\frac{\partial}{\partial p}$$

$$\dot{x} = \frac{p}{m}$$
$$\dot{p} = F_{\text{fast}}(x) + F_{\text{slow}}(x).$$

Liouville operator for this system is given by

$$iL = \frac{p}{m}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \left[F_{\text{fast}}(x) + F_{\text{slow}}(x)\right]\frac{\partial}{\partial p}$$

This separation (fast/slow) leads to the reference system propagator (RESPA) algorithm:

$$iL = iL_{\text{fast}} + iL_{\text{slow}}$$

$$iL_{\text{fast}} = \frac{p}{m}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + F_{\text{fast}}(x)\frac{\partial}{\partial p}$$
$$iL_{\text{slow}} = F_{\text{slow}}(x)\frac{\partial}{\partial p}.$$

$$\exp(iL\Delta t) = \exp\left(iL_{\rm slow}\frac{\Delta t}{2}\right)\exp(iL_{\rm fast}\Delta t)\exp\left(iL_{\rm slow}\frac{\Delta t}{2}\right).$$

Mark T. Tuckerman, Statistical mechanics: Theory and Molecular Simulation 2thed, 2023

$$\exp(iL\Delta t) = \exp\left(iL_{\rm slow}\frac{\Delta t}{2}\right)\exp(iL_{\rm fast}\Delta t)\exp\left(iL_{\rm slow}\frac{\Delta t}{2}\right).$$

In here, Δt is the time step of the slow force.

Introducing the time step of the fast force $\delta t = \Delta t/n$,

$$\exp(iL_{\text{fast}}\Delta t) = \left[\exp\left(\frac{\delta t}{2}F_{\text{fast}}\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right)\exp\left(\delta t\frac{p}{m}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right)\exp\left(\frac{\delta t}{2}F_{\text{fast}}\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right)\right]^{n}$$

$$\begin{split} \exp(iL\Delta t) &= \exp\left(\frac{\Delta t}{2}F_{\rm slow}\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right) \\ &\times \left[\exp\left(\frac{\delta t}{2}F_{\rm fast}\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right)\exp\left(\delta t\frac{p}{m}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right)\exp\left(\frac{\delta t}{2}F_{\rm fast}\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right)\right]^n \\ &\times \exp\left(\frac{\Delta t}{2}F_{\rm slow}\frac{\partial}{\partial p}\right). \end{split}$$

$$\exp(iL\Delta t) = \exp\left(iL_{\rm slow}\frac{\Delta t}{2}\right)\exp(iL_{\rm fast}\Delta t)\exp\left(iL_{\rm slow}\frac{\Delta t}{2}\right).$$

In here, Δt is the time step of the slow force.

Introducing the time step of the fast force $\delta t = \Delta t/n$,

$$p = p + 0.5 * \Delta t * F_{slow}$$

for i = 1 to n
$$p = p + 0.5 * \delta t * F_{fast}$$
$$x = x + \delta t * p/m$$
Recalculate fast force
$$p = p + 0.5 * \delta t * F_{fast}$$
endfor
Recalculate slow force
$$p = p + 0.5 * \Delta t * F_{slow}.$$

Resonance Instability

There is a limit on the size of the time step for the slow forces by that of the fast forces

So called the **resonant time step** is set by the fast frequency w.

The higher the value of w, the smaller time step should be chosen, which limits the computational savings afforded by the algorithm independent of how slow the slow force is.



What properties should integration algorithms satisfy?

1. Stability

Energy conservation

Symplecticity

Time reversibility

2. Efficiency

- Maximum permissible time step
- Constraint algorithm
- Hydrogen mass repartitioning
- Multi-step integration

3. Accuracy

- Configurational sampling
 - Dynamical properties

Operator splitting order is related to the configurational sampling

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{\mathbf{x}} \\ \dot{\mathbf{v}} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathsf{R}} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -M^{-1}\nabla U(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathsf{V}} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -\gamma \, \mathbf{v} + \sqrt{2\gamma} \, (\beta M)^{-1/2} \dot{\mathbf{w}} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathsf{O}}$$
$$\mathsf{R} : e^{\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{R}}\tau} : \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \mathbf{x} \\ \Delta \mathbf{v} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \tau$$
$$\mathsf{V} : e^{\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{V}}\tau} : \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \mathbf{x} \\ \Delta \mathbf{v} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -M^{-1}\nabla U(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix} \tau$$
$$\mathsf{O} : e^{\mathcal{L}_{\mathsf{O}}\tau} : \begin{bmatrix} \Delta \mathbf{x} \\ \Delta \mathbf{v} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ (a(\tau) - 1)\mathbf{v} + \sqrt{1 - a(\tau)^2} \, (\beta M)^{-1/2} \, \xi \end{bmatrix}$$

Once a splitting is defined, the propagator exp(Ldt) can be approximated as a Trotter factorization.

$$e^{[A+B+C+D]\Delta t}$$

$$= e^{A\Delta t/2}e^{[B+C+D]\Delta t}e^{A\Delta t/2} + O(\Delta t^{3})$$

$$= e^{A\Delta t/2}e^{B\Delta t/2}e^{[C+D]\Delta t}e^{B\Delta t/2}e^{A\Delta t/2} + O(\Delta t^{3})$$

$$= e^{A\Delta t/2}e^{B\Delta t/2}e^{C\Delta t/2}e^{D\Delta t}e^{C\Delta t/2}e^{B\Delta t/2}e^{A\Delta t/2} + O(\Delta t^{3})$$

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Operator splitting order is related to the configurational sampling

ORVRO

$$e^{[\mathcal{L}_{o} + \mathcal{L}_{v} + \mathcal{L}_{r} + \mathcal{L}_{h}]\Delta t}$$

$$\simeq e^{\mathcal{L}_{o}\Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_{r}\Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_{h}\Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_{v}\Delta t} e^{\mathcal{L}_{h}\Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_{r}\Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_{o}\Delta t/2}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{RVOVR} (\mathsf{ABOBA}) & e^{\left[\pounds_o + \pounds_v + \pounds_r + \pounds_h\right] \Delta t} \\ & \simeq e^{\pounds_r \Delta t/2} e^{\pounds_h \Delta t/2} e^{\pounds_v \Delta t/2} e^{\pounds_o \Delta t} e^{\pounds_v \Delta t/2} e^{\pounds_h \Delta t/2} e^{\pounds_r \Delta t/2} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathsf{VRORV}\left(\mathsf{BAOAB}\right) & e^{\left[\pounds_{o}+\pounds_{v}+\pounds_{r}+\pounds_{h}\right]\Delta t} \\ & \simeq e^{\pounds_{v}\Delta t/2}e^{\pounds_{r}\Delta t/2}e^{\pounds_{h}\Delta t/2}e^{\pounds_{o}\Delta t}e^{\pounds_{h}\Delta t/2}e^{\pounds_{r}\Delta t/2}e^{\pounds_{v}\Delta t/2}e^{-\pounds_{v}\Delta t/2}e^{--4}e^{-4}e^{-4}e^{-4}e^{-4}e^{-4}e^$$

ROVOR

$$e^{[\mathcal{L}_{o} + \mathcal{L}_{v} + \mathcal{L}_{r} + \mathcal{L}_{h}]\Delta t}$$

$$\simeq e^{\mathcal{L}_{r}\Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_{o}\Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_{h}\Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_{v}\Delta t} e^{\mathcal{L}_{h}\Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_{o}\Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_{r}\Delta t/2}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathsf{VOROV} & e^{[\mathcal{L}_o + \mathcal{L}_v + \mathcal{L}_r + \mathcal{L}_h]\Delta t} \\ & \simeq e^{\mathcal{L}_v \Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_o \Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_r \Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_h \Delta t} e^{\mathcal{L}_r \Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_o \Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_v \Delta t/2} e^{\mathcal{L}_$$

Operator splitting order is related to the configurational sampling



Operator splitting order is related to the dynamic properties

external force	quantity		expression		continuous-limit value
zero	mean-squared displacement	$\langle r^2(n) \rangle$	or	$\langle r^2(n+1/2)\rangle$	$2/(\beta m\gamma) n\Delta t$
	mean-squared velocity	$\langle v^2(n) \rangle$	or	$\langle v^2(n+1/2)\rangle$	$1/(\beta m)$
	velocity autocorrelation	$\langle v(n)v(n+\Delta n)\rangle$	or	$\langle v(n+1/2) v(n+1/2+\Delta n) \rangle$	$1/(\beta m) e^{-\gamma \Delta n \Delta t}$
uniform, f	terminal drift	$\langle r(n+1) - r(n) \rangle / \Delta t$	=	$\langle r(n+1/2) - r(n-1/2) \rangle / \Delta t$	$f/(m\gamma)$
linear, <i>—kr</i>	mean-squared displacement	$\langle r^2(n) \rangle$	or	$\langle r^2(n+1/2)\rangle$	$1/(\beta k)$
	mean-squared velocity	$\langle v^2(n) \rangle$	or	$\langle v^2(n+1/2) \rangle$	$1/(\beta m)$
	virial	$m\langle v^2(n)\rangle - k\langle r^2(n)\rangle$	or	$m\langle v^2(n+1/2)\rangle - k\langle r^2(n+1/2)\rangle$	0

Table 1. Definition of Dynamical Properties^a

Table 2. Comparison of Properties for Different Splittings^a

desideratum	OVRVO	ORVRO	RVOVR	VRORV	VOROV	ROVOR	
All Six Splittings Perform Identically							
form is time-reversal symmetric	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	
splits heat, work, and shadow work	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	
easily incorporates constraints	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	
force evaluations per time step	one	one	one	one	one	one	
zero-force MSV	exact	exact	exact	exact	exact	exact	
zero-force VAC	exact	exact	exact	exact	exact	exact	
zero-force MSD	exact	exact	exact	exact	exact	exact	
linear-force virial	$O(\Delta t^2)$	$O(\Delta t^2)$	$O(\Delta t^2)$	$O(\Delta t^2)$	$O(\Delta t^2)$	$O(\Delta t^2)$	
Splittings Differ in Performance							
uniform-force terminal drift	exact	exact	exact	exact	$O(\Delta t^2)$	$O(\Delta t^2)$	
linear-force MSD	$O(\Delta t^2)$ at n exact at $n + 1/2$	$O(\Delta t^2)$ at n exact at $n + 1/2$	exact at n	exact at <i>n</i>	$O(\Delta t^2)$	$O(\Delta t^2)$	
linear-force MSV	exact at n	exact at n	$O(\Delta t^2)$ at n exact at $n + 1/2$	$O(\Delta t^2)$ at n exact at $n + 1/2$	$O(\Delta t^4)$ at n	$O(\Delta t^2) \text{ at } n$ $O(\Delta t^4) \text{ at } n + 1/2$	

Takeaways

■ Liouville operator splitting is important to ensure the stability of the integration algorithm, and to provide the direct translation of algorithms.

Efficiency of the integration algorithm can be gained by increasing the maximum permissible time step.

Several strategies are the constraint algorithm, hydrogen mass repartitioning, and multistep integration algorithms.

■ Changing the splitting orders of the integration procedure can impact on the configurational sampling and the dynamic properties of the system.



Q&A