Scalar Properties, Static Correlations and Order Parameters

What do we get out of a simulation?

- Static properties: pressure, specific heat, etc.
- Density
- Pair correlations in real space and Fourier space.
- Order parameters and broken symmetry: how to tell a liquid from a solid
- *Dynamical properties* – next lecture

Thermodynamic properties

*We can get averages over distributions*

- Total (internal) energy $= \frac{1}{2} k_B T$ per momentum (degree of freedom)
- Specific heat $= \text{mean squared fluctuation in energy}$
- Pressure can be computed from the *virial theorem*.
- Compressibility, bulk modulus, sound speed

*We have problems with entropy and free energy* because they are not ratios with respect to the Boltzmann distribution. We will discuss this in a few weeks.
## Thermodynamic Estimators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Formula</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinetic Energy</td>
<td>$K = \frac{m dF}{dm}$</td>
<td>$\frac{1}{2} \sum_i m_i v_i^2 = \frac{1}{2} k_B T \times \text{(degrees of freedom)}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential Energy</td>
<td>$U$</td>
<td>$\sum_{i&lt;j} \phi(r_{ij}) = \frac{N}{2} \int d^3r \phi(r) g(r)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pressure</td>
<td>$P = -\frac{\delta F}{\delta N}$</td>
<td>$\frac{1}{2 \Omega} \left[ 2K - \sum_{i&lt;j} r_{ij} \frac{\delta^2 \phi}{\delta r_{ij}^2} \right] = \frac{k_B T}{\Omega} - \frac{\rho^2}{6} \int d^3 r g(r) r \frac{\delta^2 \phi}{\delta r^2}$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific Heat</td>
<td>$C_V = \frac{\delta F}{\delta T}$</td>
<td>$\frac{1}{(k_B T)^2} \left[ \langle E - \langle E \rangle \rangle^2 \right] = \frac{3}{2} N + \frac{1}{(k_B T)^2} \left[ \langle V^2 \rangle - \langle V \rangle^2 \right]$</td>
</tr>
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Pressure: remember virial theorem

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## Microscopic Density

In Real-Space:

$$\rho(r) = \langle \sum_i \delta(r-r_i) \rangle$$

Its Fourier transform:

$$\rho_k = \langle \sum_i \exp(i k r_i) \rangle$$

*This is a good way to smooth the density.*

- A solid has broken symmetry (order parameter): *density is not constant.*
- At a liquid-gas transition, the density is also inhomogeneous.

- In periodic boundary conditions the k-vectors are on a grid: $\mathbf{k} = (2\pi/L) \cdot (n_x, n_y, n_z)$ Long wavelength modes are absent.

- **In a solid, Lindemann’s ratio gives a rough idea of melting:**

  $$u^2 = \langle (r_i - z_i)^2 \rangle / d^2$$

  When deviations about lattice are greater than ~15%, the solid has melted.
Order parameters

• Systems have symmetries: e.g. translation invariance.
  – At high T, one expects the system to have those same symmetries at
    the microscopic scale (e.g., a gas).
  – BUT, as the system cools, those symmetries can be broken
    (e.g., a gas condenses or freezes).
  – The best way to monitor the transition is to look at how the order
    parameter changes during the simulation.

Examples:
• At a liquid gas-transition, density no longer fills the volume:
  droplets form. The density is the order parameter.
• At a liquid-solid transition, both rotational and translational
  symmetry are broken.

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Electron Density
2d quantum electron Wigner crystal

Contour levels are 0.0005, 0.001, 0.002, 0.004, 0.008

Snapshots of densities

Liquid or crystal or glass?

Blue spots are defects
Density Distribution of $^4\text{He}+(\text{HCN})_x$ Droplets

T=0.38 K, N=500

Pair Correlation Function: $g(r)$
Radial distribution function: $\text{rdf}$
Density-Density correlation function

Primary quantity in a liquid is the probability distribution of pairs of particles. What is the density of atoms around a given atom?

$$g(r) = \langle \sum_{i<j} \delta(r - |r_i - r_j|) \rangle \left(\frac{2\Omega}{N^2}\right)$$

- In practice, the delta-function is replaced by binning and making a histogram.

From $g(r)$ you can calculate all pair quantities (potential, pressure, …):

$$V = \sum_{i<j} V(r_{ij}) = \frac{N\rho}{2} \int d^3r \, v(r) g(r)$$

A function gives more information than a number!
! Loop over all pairs of atoms.
do i=2,natoms
do j=1,i-1
!Compute distance between i and j.
r2 = 0
do k=1,ndim
  dx(k) = r(k,i) - r(k,j)
!Periodic boundary conditions.
  if(dx(k).gt. ell2(k)) dx(k) = dx(k)-ell(k)
  if(dx(k).lt.-ell2(k)) dx(k) = dx(k)+ell(k)
  r2 = r2 + dx(k)*dx(k)
enddo
!Only compute for pairs inside radial cutoff.
if(r2.lt.rcut2) then
  index=sqrt(r2)*dr_inverse
  g(index)=g(index)+1
endif
endo
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Also need to normalize and output at the end of a block.

All of this is the same.
Do g(r) when F is calculated!

How do we choose dr_inverse?

New code

Example: g(r) in liquid and solid helium

- **Exclusion hole around the origin**
- **First peak** is at inter-particle spacing, (shell around the particle)
- **Only can go out to** \( r < L/2 \) in periodic boundary conditions without bringing in images.
- **Crystal shows up as shoulders**
Pair correlation in water

$\alpha$ is angle between dipoles

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$g(r)$ for fcc and bcc lattices

1\textsuperscript{st} neighbor
2\textsuperscript{nd} neighbor
3\textsuperscript{rd} neighbor
distances are arranged in increasing distances.

What happens at finite $T$?
What happens when potentials are not hard spheres?

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J. Haile, MD simulations
The (Static) Structure Factor: $S(k)$

- The *Fourier transform of $g(r)$* is the *static structure factor*:
  \[ S(k) = \frac{<|\rho_k|^2>}{N} \]  
  \[ S(k) = 1 + \rho \int dr \exp(ikr) [g(r)-1] \]  

- Problems with (2):
  - Need to extend $g(r)$ to infinity
  - Need to calculate 3D $g(r)$.

*Why is $S(k)$ important? $S(k)$ can:*

- Be measured in neutron and X-ray scattering experiments.
- Provide a direct test of the assumed potential.
- Use to see the state of a system:
  - *liquid, solid, glass, gas (much more precise than $g(r)$)*
- Order parameter in a solid is $\rho_G$ where $G$ is a particular wavevector.
S(K) is measured in x-ray and neutron scattering

- In a perfect lattice, S(k) is non-zero only at reciprocal lattice vectors G: S(G) = N.
- At non-zero temperature (or for quantum systems) this structure factor is reduced by the Debye-Waller factor
  \[ S(G) = 1 + (N-1)\exp(-G^2q^2/3) \]
- To tell a liquid from a crystal, see how S(G) scales as the system is enlarged. In a solid, S(G) will have peaks that scale with the number of atoms.

- The compressibility is given by:
  \[ \chi_T = \frac{S(0)}{k_B T \rho} \]
- We can use this to detect a liquid-gas transition: the compressibility should diverge as k \to 0
Here is a snapshot of a binary mixture. What correlation function would be important to decide the order?

What is the order parameter for a glass? How to distinguish it from a liquid or from a crystal?

Next time: dynamical correlations