50 years of Molecular Dynamics

Aneesur Rahman



Scanned at the American Institute of Physics

- Correlations in the Motion of Atoms in Liquid Argon, Physical Review 136, A405-A411 (1964).
- 864 Lennard-Jones atoms on CDC 3600 computer
- 780 timesteps, 45 sec/step
- Irving Langmuir Prize 1977
- American Physical Society (APS) Computational Prize is named in Aneesur's honor

1927-1987

What's new in LAMMPS

Steve Plimpton Sandia National Labs sjplimp@sandia.gov

4th LAMMPS User Workshop August 2015 - Albuquerque, NM





Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory managed and operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94AL85000. Presentation: SAND2015-645C



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- DOE/NNSA ASC funding for facility/equipment rentals
- Materials Design providing lunches!
- Scienomics providing snacks and drinks!

Social activities

2 dinners & tram ride:



3 recreational choices:







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New interatomic potentials (pair styles)

- Comb3 with polarization effects
 - U Florida groups of Sinnott and Phillpot
 - metals, oxides, hydrocarbons
- Ziegler-Biersack-Littmark (ZBL)
 - Stephen Foiles and Aidan Thompson (Sandia)
 - strong short-range repulsions
 - can be added to other potentials via pair hybrid
- Peridynamics
 - Rezwanur Rahman talk (Fri 8:30 AM), UT Austin
 - new viscoelastic and elastic/plastic models
- Soft segmental repulsive potential (SRP)
 - Tim Sirk (ARL)
 - prevents bond-crossing in DPD polymer chains
- QEq charge equilibration
 - Ray Shan talk (Wed 2:15 PM), Sandia
 - matrix and damped dynamics methods via fix qeq
 - can be added to other potentials (ReaxFF,COMB,etc)
 - with coul/streitz and EAM, enables Streitz-Mintmire potential

New "quantum-accurate" potentials

- Goal is to be as good as DFT for some systems, at a fraction of the cost
- Derived from "big data" archives of DFT results
- QUIP
 - Albert Bartok (Cambridge U)
 - interface to their QUIP MD code
 - variety of potentials including GAP
- SNAP
 - Aidan Thompson talk (Thu PM breakout A1), Sandia
 - new potential for tantalum



In addition to fix qeq (fluctuating charge) and COMB3 pair style ...

- Adiabatic core/shell model
 - Hendrik Heenan (Technical University of Munich)
 - CORESHELL package
 - crystalline materials
- Thermalized Drude dipole model
 - Alain Dequidt (Clermont University, France), with Julien Devemy and Agilio Padua
 - USER-DRUDE package
 - molecular systems and fluid states
- Helpful docs
 - doc/Section_howto.html: 24, 25, 26
 - doc/tutorial_drude.html

Two path-integral MD (PIMD) options

- Quantum MD via Feynman path integral method for quantum effects like tunneling
- One atom \Rightarrow ring polymer of P quasi-beads, equivalent to QM partition function
- Fix pimd command
 - Chris Knight & Yuxing Peng (U Chicago)
 - uses multi-replica partitioning within LAMMPS
 - scales nicely to large systems and machines
- Fix ipi command
 - Michele Ceriotti (EPFL)
 - i-PI Python package performs PIMD
 - LAMMPS called as client (via sockets) to compute forces/energies



Acceleration packages

- Kokkos package
 - Christian Trott, Stan Moore, Ray Shan (Sandia)
 - support for GPUs, Xeon Phi, OpenMP
 - 31 pair styles, some bonded styles, no PPPM (yet)
 - Stan talk (Thu 9:30 AM)
- Intel package
 - Mike Brown talk (Wed 3:15 PM), Intel
 - support for Xeon Phi, optimization for Intel CPUs
 - 5 pair styles, no PPPM (yet)
- GPU package
 - Mike Brown and Trung Nguyen (ORNL)
 - support for GPUs
 - 43 pair styles, PPPM
- USER-OMP package
 - Axel Kohlmeyer (Temple U)
 - 103 pair styles, 29 fixes, PPPM, Verlet & rRESPA
 - most bonded styles and PPPM variants
- USER-CUDA package being deprecated for Kokkos

- All packages now usable via one build command
- Example:

Make.py -p gpu -gpu mode=single arch=31 -o gpu -a lib-gpu file mpi

- Use same input script with any package:
- Example:

mpirun -np 48 -ppn 12 lmp_gpu -sf gpu -pk gpu 2 -in in.script

USER-DIFFRACTION package

- Shawn Coleman talk (Thu 9:45 AM), ARL
- Compute X-ray and electron diffraction patterns
- Bulk Ni example:



Vislt package for visualization

USER-LB package for Lattice-Boltzmann

- Colin Denisston group (U Western Ontario)
- Venkat Bala poster (Fri 10:30 AM), UWO
- Particles in background Lattice-Bolztmann fluid
- MD particles influenced by hydrodynamic forces



- Biopolymer filtration, Phys Rev Lett 112, 118301 (2014)
- GPU version for LB now available (contact Colin)

USER-SMD package = SPH for solids

- Georg Ganzenmueller (Ernst Mach Institute, Germany)
- Stable, quadratic convergence, various material models









Other new user packages

• USER-FEP package

- Agilio Padua (Universite Blaise Pascal Clermont-Ferrand)
- free-energy perturbation with soft potentials
- fix adapt/fep command and several pair styles

USER-QMMM package

- Axel Kohlmeyer (Temple U)
- couple LAMMPS with DFT using Quantum Espresso
- LAMMPS performs MD algorithm, BC, constraints, etc
- QE called to compute QM forces (subset of atoms and procs)
- could be generalized to other DFT codes

USER-QTB package

- Yuan Shen, Tingting Qi, and Evan Reed (Stanford)
- quantum nuclear effects (low temperatures, heat capacity)
- fix qtb and fix qbmsst commands

MC only, or MC moves interspersed with MD Paul Crozier (Sandia), Aidan Thompson talk (Fri 9:15 AM)

- Fix gcmc command
 - Atomic/molecular insertions/deletions, rotate, displace
 - Supports all pair styles, KSpace
 - Local or global energy evaluation
- Fix atom/swap command
 - Metropolis MC for surface relaxation
 - Swaps atom types, displaces atoms
- Fix tfmc command
 - Kristof Bal (U Antwerp, Belgium)
 - Force-biasing to enable longer timescales
 - E.g. chemical vapor deposition onto surface

Molecule template files

- New molecule command reads molecule template file
 - coords, atom types, bond topology (angles, dihedrals, etc)
 - center of mass, moment of inertia for overlapping finite-size particles
- Input to other commands:
 - create_atoms (with molecules)
 - molecule insertion: fix gcmc, fix deposit, fix pour
 - fix rigid/small
- See doc/molecule.html for details

Invoke Python code from your input script

In addition to Python scripts calling LAMMPS ...

- New python command defines a Python function
 - Function can be in-lined in input script or in a file
 - Pass LAMMPS variables to Python, values returned
 - Associate function with python-style variable
 - Python function invoked whenever variable is evaluated
 - Immediate in input script (parameter for command)
 - $\bullet~$ Every N steps during a simulation when fix requests it
 - Function can callback into LAMMPS (e.g. grab atom coords)
- Why?
 - Make input script into a real programming language:
 - complex looping, branching, etc
 - Compute values more complex than LAMMPS variables allow
 - $\bullet\,$ Easier way to add functionality than C++ coding
 - assuming it's not a time-critical operation
- See doc/Section_python.html for details

New chunk commands

- General way to compute quantities for subsets of atoms
- Chunk = atoms in spatial bin, molecule, same atom type, etc
- More generally, chunks can be set by any atom property, output of per-atom compute or atom-style variable
 - atoms in local clusters
 - atoms within velocity windows
 - atoms with similar potential energy
 - atoms with same local defect structure
- Compute chunk/atom assigns chunk ID to each atom
 - one-time or dynamically (e.g. as clusters change)
- Compute */chunk commands calculate per-chunk values
 - count, sum of atom property, COM, MSD, etc
- Fix ave/chunk time averages & outputs per-chunk values
- See doc/Section howto 23 for overview

Miscellaneous input/output enhancements

• Read_data command

- can now be used multiple times
- allows building of system, component by component
- e.g. substrate, adsorbed molecule, solvent
- Write_data command
 - write out a data file for current configuration
 - replaces old restart2data program
- MPIIO package for parallel I/O
 - Paul Coffman (IBM)
 - read/write of dump and restart files

Load-balancing via RCB

- RCB = recursive coordinate bisectioning
- Assigns same number of (weighted) atoms per processor
- See balance and fix balance commands
- Often needed for coarse-grained models
 - DPD, SPH, Peridynamics, granular, etc



• Worked to reduce comm with 26 neighbors to 6+ (for 3d)

2d SPH "water" flowing over a dam Georg Ganzenmueller (Ernst Mach Institute, Germany)



Load-balancing examples for soft and hard materials

2d SPH "water" flowing over a dam Georg Ganzenmueller (Ernst Mach Institute, Germany)





Atomic microlattice of metal struts Alex Stukowski (Tech Univ Darmstadt)

- star imbalance = 18x
- 13x speed-up for 21M atoms on 16K cores

Give us your input on LAMMPS development plans

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