CHEM-E4115 Computational Chemistry I (5op) 2nd part: molecular modelling

> Book Chapter 4.1-4.12 Empirical Force Field Models: Molecular Mechanics

Introduction to force-fields

- Revision
 - Potential energy surface: defined by force-field for each molecule or molecule system
 - Each point represents a molecular conformation



Revision: From quantum mechanics to molecular mechanics

- Many molecular systems in chemistry unfortunately too large to be considered by quantum mechanics
- Force-field methods (molecular mechanics) ignore electronic motion and calculate the energy of the system as a function of nuclei positions (molecular subunit positions in coarsegrained force-fields)
 - Enables treating large number of atoms (up to ~10⁶-10⁷)
 - Looses most electron based characteristics (conductivity, i.e., bandgaps, most often also reaction kinetics*, all chemical reactions* and charge re-distribution*)

* Typically. That is, some specific force-fields are designed to reproduce also reaction barriers and limited reactions (typically bond-order type advanced force fields) and some enable charge re-distribution (polarization) to some extent

Why do force-field methods work, or do they?

- Assumptions to obtain a functional force-field
 - Born-Oppenheimer approximation (electron motion can be treated separately from nuclei motion due to different time scales)
 - Energy can be written as a function of nuclear coordinates
 - Nuclei follow classical mechanics
 - Force-field terms can be written as separate, simple expressions with separated contributions due different molecular conformation and coordinate changes
 - Typically: Bond stretching, angle between two bonds, twisting (dihedrals), van der Waals, and electrostatic interaction terms
 - Force-field needs to be transferable! (tested on a small number of cases -> must be usable to a much wider set of molecules and problems)

Revision: Typical representation of a force-field (Potential energy surface)

Dialanine peptide in implicit (continuum) solvent



Force-fields: A diverse family

- Two-body force-fields (pair potentials)
 - Simple, extremely fast
 - Liquids, gases, solids
 - Lennard-Jones, Morse, ...
- Many-body chemically non-reactive force-fields
 - Many different atom types and molecules covered
 - Typically: a wide variety of organic molecules such as proteins, hydrocarbons, lipids, polymers, ...
 - Non-reactive!
- Many-body (reactive) force-fields
 - A wide variety of typically inorganic materials and compounds including also metals (structural & mechanical properties). Organic molecules tend to be too complex.
 - Some are reactive!

Pair potentials (two-body force-fields)

 Total potential energy calculated as sum over pairs of interacting objects



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 Total potential energy calculated as sum over pairs of interacting objects



Pair potentials (two-body force-fields): examples r_{13} r_{23}

$$V(r_{ij}) = De^{\left(-2\alpha(r_{ij}-r_0)\right)} - 2De^{\left(-\alpha(r_{ij}-r_0)\right)}$$
$$V(r_{ij}) = 4\varepsilon \left[\left(\frac{\sigma}{r_{ij}}\right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r_{ij}}\right)^6 \right]$$
$$V(r_{ij}) = Ae^{\left(-\frac{r_{ij}}{\sigma}\right)} - C\left(\frac{\sigma}{r_{ij}}\right)^6$$
$$V(r_{ij}) = a_0 + \frac{1}{2}k(r_{ij} - r_0)^2$$

Outside molecular modeling: Newton's law of gravity, Coulomb's law, ... Morse potential Lennard-Jones 12-6 potential Buckingham potential Harmonic approximation (spring potential)

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Pair potentials: Lennard-Jones 12-6

~interaction between a pair of neutral atoms or molecules



Pair potentials: Lennard-Jones 12-6

~interaction between a pair of neutral atoms or molecules





- Interaction based on just pair-wise distance
- Good for: noble gases, non-directed bonding
- Simple, fast!
- Failures:
 - bond strength explicitly independent of environment
 - Vacancy formation energy in lattice fundamentally overestimated
 - Only close-packed lattice structures
 - Elastic moduli C12=C44 (not true!)

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In the following: Force-field = Many-body chemically non-reactive force-field

Typical approach for many-body chemically nonreactive force-fields:

Division of interactions into analytical expression that has separate terms each corresponding to physical interactions of different origin/magnitude -> force-field (Potential energy surface)



 $E_{nonbonded} = E_{electrostatic} + E_{van der Waals}$

Many-body chemically non-reactive force-fields: Typical functional form (Leach's notation)

 $V = V_{bonded} + V_{nonbonded}$ $V_{bonded} = V_{bonds} + V_{angles} + V_{dihedrals}$ $V_{nonbonded} = V_{van der Waals} + V_{electrostatic}$

$$V(\vec{r}^{N}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{bonds} k_i (l_i - l_{i,0})^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{angles} k'_i (\theta_i - \theta_{i,0})^2 + \sum_{constant loss} \frac{V_N}{2} k''_i (1 + \cos(n\omega - \gamma)) + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=i+1}^N \left(4\varepsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ii}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ii}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right] + \frac{q_i q_j}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r_{ij}} \right)$$

For example, AMBER force-field has this form

Many-body chemically non-reactive force-fields: Typical functional form (Leach's notation)

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$$Lennard-Jones 12-6 \text{ potential} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{Coulomb energy} \\ \text{Coulomb energy} \\ \text{charge-charge interaction} \\ \end{array}$$

For example, AMBER force-field has this form

Dialanine peptide in implicit (continuum) solvent

$$V(\vec{r}^{N}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{bonds} k_{i} (l_{i} - l_{i,0})^{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{angles} k'_{i} (\theta_{i} - \theta_{i,0})^{2} + \sum_{constant} \frac{V_{N}}{2} k''_{i} (1 + cos(n\omega - \gamma)) + \sum_{constant} \sum_{j=i+1}^{N} \left(4\varepsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{i,i}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{i,i}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{6} + \frac{q_{i}q_{j}}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}r_{ij}} \right) \right]$$

Force-field parameters

$$V(\vec{r}^{N}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{bonds} k_{i} \left(l_{i} - \left(l_{i,0} \right)^{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{angles} k'_{i} \left(\theta_{i} - \left(\theta_{i,0} \right)^{2} + \sum_{corsions} \frac{V_{N}}{2} k''_{i} \left(1 + \cos\left(n\omega \right) \gamma \right) \right)$$
$$+ \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=i+1}^{N} \left(4 \varepsilon_{ij} \left(\left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{6} \right) + \frac{q_{i}q_{j}}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}r_{ij}} \right)$$

- Inherently huge number of parameters
- Grouping of similar / same -> reduces complexity, more generally usable force fields, but may cause problems going outside original parametrization regime
- Sources: Reproducing experimental data and ab initio (quantum chemical calculations)



Propane C₃H₈

Example of variation in functional form: OPLS-force-field

Note: Force-fields are empirical. There is no right or wrong functional form. A form may become popular if it works well and is computationally efficient. This energy term division is common.

$$\begin{split} E\left(r^{N}\right) &= E_{\text{bonds}} + E_{\text{angles}} + E_{\text{dihedrals}} + E_{\text{nonbonded}} \\ E_{\text{bonds}} &= \sum_{\text{bonds}} K_{r}(r-r_{0})^{2} \\ E_{\text{angles}} &= \sum_{\text{angles}} k_{\theta}(\theta-\theta_{0})^{2} \\ E_{\text{dihedrals}} &= \frac{V_{1}}{2} \left[1 + \cos(\phi-\phi_{0})\right] + \frac{V_{2}}{2} \left[1 - \cos 2(\phi-\phi_{0})\right] + \frac{V_{3}}{2} \left[1 + \cos 3(\phi-\phi_{0})\right] + \frac{V_{4}}{2} \left[1 - \cos 4(\phi-\phi_{0})\right] \\ E_{\text{nonbonded}} &= \sum_{i>j} f_{ij} \left(\frac{A_{ij}}{r_{ij}^{12}} - \frac{C_{ij}}{r_{ij}^{6}} + \frac{q_{i}q_{j}e^{2}}{4\pi\epsilon_{0}r_{ij}}\right) \\ \text{with the combining rules } A_{ij} &= \sqrt{A_{ii}A_{jj}} \text{ and } C_{ij} = \sqrt{C_{ii}C_{jj}}. \end{split}$$

Intramolecular nonbonded interactions $E_{nonbonded}$ are counted only for atoms three or more bonds apart; 1,4 interactions are scaled down by the "fudge factor" $f_{ij} = 0.5$, otherwise $f_{ij} = 1.0$.

Force-fields and parameters

- Force-field requires: Both functional form and parameter values
- Two force fields may have
 - Same functional form but different parameter values
 - Different functional form but same accuracy on same problem
- Force-field should be considered as an entity, not as divided into individual components
 - Parameters from one force-field are not transferable to another even though functional forms may be same!
 - Bond length and angle form an exception (some cases)

Force-field parameters

- Typically designed to reproduce structural properties, can also be designed to reproduce spectra (vibrations)
 - A force-field may predict other quantities outside the parametrization regime but if it does not, it is not a failure!
- Important to know what each force-field has been parameterized to reproduce
- Examples: Liquid properties (density, heat of vaporization) (OPLS), condensed phase properties of alkenes (GROMOS) partition properties between two different solvents (MARTINI), model peptide structure formation accuracy, ...
- Examples for pair potentials & inorganic potentials (typically): Lattice structures, phase behavior, mechanical properties, bond dissociation, ...

Force-fields and parameters

- Transferability important
 - Same set can be used to model related molecules



- Computational efficiency important
 - Compromise between accuracy and computational efficiency
- Calculation methods such as energy minimization or molecular dynamics require first and second derivatives, preferably in simple analytic form

Common features in force-fields

- Atom type
 - Contains information about hybridization and local environment
 - For example: sp, sp², sp³ carbon are different atom types (in a non-reactive force-field)
 - Force-fields for specific class of molecules (for example, protein force-fields) have more atom types than general force-fields
- Partial charge (in non-polarizable force-fields)
 - Electron localization described by assigning each nucleus a fraction charge

Example from course book: Fig. 4.3 AMBER atom types for histidine, tryptophan, and phenylalanine



Fig. 4.3: AMBER atom types for the amino acids histidine, tryptophan and phenylalanine. There are three possible Protonation states of histidine.

Many-body chemically non-reactive force-fields: terms

 $V = V_{bonded} + V_{nonbonded}$ $V_{bonded} = V_{bonds} + V_{angles} + V_{dihedrals}$ $V_{nonbonded} = V_{van der Waals} + V_{electrostatic}$

$$V(\vec{r}^{N}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{bonds} k_i (l_i - l_{i,0})^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{angles} k'_i (\theta_i - \theta_{i,0})^2 + \sum_{constant loss} \frac{V_N}{2} k''_i (1 + \cos(n\omega - \gamma)) + \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=i+1}^N \left(4\varepsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ii}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ii}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right] + \frac{q_i q_j}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r_{ij}} \right)$$

Next: 1) Bonds, 2) Angles, 3) Torsions (dihedrals), 4) van der Waals (dispersion) forces, and 5) Electrostatics

Bonds vs. Angles vs. Torsions (dihedrals) vs van der Waals (dispersion) forces vs Electrostatics in force-fields

- Most variation in molecular structure in molecular modelling due to interplay between torsional and non-bonded contributions
 - Bonds and angles require higher energies for significant deviations
- Electrostatics is a long-range interaction. Molecular modelling typically sensitive to long-range electrostatics (computationally heavy)

Bond stretching in force-field

$$V(l_i) = \frac{1}{2}k(l_i - l_{i,0})^2$$

Most common: Hookean spring harmonic approximation behavior close to reference bond length l_{i,0} only Requires 2 parameters: k (spring) force constant, l_{i,0}



$$V(l_{i}) = De(1 - e^{(-\alpha(l - l_{i,0}))})^{2}$$

= $D_{e}e^{(-2\alpha(l_{i} - l_{i,0}))} - 2Dee^{(-\alpha(l_{i} - l_{i,0}))} + e^{(-\alpha(l_{i} - l_{i,0}))}$

Less common but more realistic: Morse potential Describes wider range of behavior (also bond dissociation), vibration anharmonicity Requires 3 parameters

Bond stretching in force-field

$$V(l_i) = \frac{1}{2} k (l_i - l_{i,0})^2$$

Most common: Hookean spring harmonic approximation behavior close to reference bond length I_{i,0} only

Why harmonic approximation:

Bonds are "stiff", i.e., force constants relatively large and typically small deviations from reference! Exception: high temperature, dissociation and association. Special case: irradiation simulations



Bond stretching in force-field

$$V(l_i) = \frac{1}{2} k (l_i - l_{i,0})^2$$

Most common: Hookean spring harmonic approximation

 $V(l_i) = \frac{1}{2} k \left(l_i - l_{i,0} \right)^2 \left[1 - k' \left(l_i - l_{i,0} \right) - k'' \left(l_i - l_{i,0} \right)^2 - k''' \left(l_i - l_{i,0} \right)^3 \dots \right]$

Taylor expansion of any potential energy functional (with analytic derivatives) around reference bond length I_{i,0}.

Higher order expansion terms also sometimes used. Note: higher order terms may pass through maxima -> catastrophic lengthening of bonds.



Angle bending in force-field $V(\theta) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{angles} k'_i (\theta_i - \theta_{i,0})^2$

- Most common: Hooke's law (harmonic potential)
- As with bonds, force constant and reference angle
- Angle bending force constants significantly smaller than bond stretching!
- Like with bonds, higher order terms (of Taylor's expansion) can be used to improve accuracy but at computational cost (quadratic term is sometimes used)

Torsions (dihedrals) in force-fields Proper and improper dihedrals



Proper dihedral: Bond rotation in-plane Improper dihedral: Out-of-plane bending



Figure 4.8: Principle of improper dihedral angles. Out of plane bending for rings (left), substituents of rings (middle), out of tetrahedral (right). The improper dihedral angle ξ is defined as the angle between planes (i,j,k) and (j,k,l) in all cases.

> http://www.gromacs.org/@api/deki/files/152/=manual-4.5.4.pdf Gromacs Manual 4.5.4

Proper dihedrals: Let's rotate a butane

In butane, the two staggered conformations are no longer equivalent and represent two distinct conformers: the **anti-conformation** (left-most, below) and the **gauche conformation** (right-most, below).



Both conformations are free of torsional strain, but, in the gauche conformation, the two methyl groups are in closer proximity than the sum of their van der Waals radii. The interaction between the two methyl groups is repulsive (van der Waals strain), and an energy barrier results.

Proper dihedrals : Let's rotate a butane

- Gauche, conformer 3.8 kJ/mol
- Eclipsed H and CH₃ 16 kJ/mol
- Eclipsed CH₃ and CH₃ 19 kJ/mol.

The eclipsed methyl groups exert a greater steric strain because of their greater electron density compared to lone hydrogen atoms.



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(Proper) dihedrals in force-fields

- Barriers for rotation necessary for reproducing basic chemical structure
- Torsion potentials can be defined either for (all) 4 atom sets or as general torsions around central bond
- 1-fold dihedral: bond dipoles (difference in electronegativity); 2-fold dihedral: double bond character; 3-fold and higher: steric interactions
 - parameterization becomes complex and moleculespecific with high-order dihedrals

Improper dihedrals

- Example: cyclobutanone C_4H_6O (course book Fig 4.9)
 - Experimentally known the oxygen remains in the plane of the carbon atoms; To achieve this a out-of-plane bending term added



Fig. 4.9: Without an out-of-plane term, the oxygen atom in cyclobutane is predicted to lie out of the plane of the ring (left) rather than in the plane.

A torsional potential of the following form is then used to maintain the improper torsion angle at 0° or 180°:

$$v(\omega) = k(1 - \cos 2\omega) \tag{4.11}$$

Improper dihedrals

- Necessary for (for example)
 - aromatic rings (planar)
 - stereochemistry in united-atom force-fields (forcefields which combine non-polar hydrogens with adjanced heavy atom)
- Quite often omitted in force-fields because
 - Necessary only for some molecular configurations (when necessary, cannot be omitted)
 - Including out-of-plane terms often has bad effect on force-field behaviour
 - Vibration frequencies sensitive
Examples of less common bonded interaction terms

- Cross-terms
 - Cross-interaction of 2 bonds stretching
 - Cross-interaction of bond stretching and angle
- Relating 2nd neighbor distance with angle (=1-3 distance energy term instead of angle energy term)
- Including bond stretching into dihedrals
- Including angle bending into dihedrals

Many-body chemically non-reactive force-fields: functional form



- 1.Bond stretching term;
- 2. Angle term;
- 3. Torsion term;
- 4. Out of plane term;
- 5. Bond -Bond term;
- 6. Angle Angle term;
- 7. Bond Angle term;
- 8. Angle Angle Torsion term;
- 9. Out of plane Out of plane term; 10. Non bonded term;
 - 11. Electrostatic term; etc..

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Intro

Main

Briefly

Revision: Many-body chemically nonreactive force-fields: terms

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Last time: 1) Bonds, 2) Angles, 3) Torsions (dihedrals), Next: 4) van der Waals (dispersion) forces, and 5) Electrostatics

Revision: Typical representation of a force-field (Potential energy surface)

Dialanine peptide in implicit (continuum) solvent



Many-body chemically non-reactive force-fields: Now moving on to non-bonded terms

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$$+ \sum_{torsions} \frac{V_N}{2} k''_i (1 + \cos(n\omega - \gamma))$$

$$+ \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=i+1}^N \left(4\varepsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ii}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right] + \frac{q_i q_j}{4\pi\varepsilon_0 r_{ij}} \right)$$

For example, AMBER force-field has this form

Many-body chemically non-reactive force-fields: Now moving on to non-bonded terms

potential energy

$$V(\vec{r}^{N}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{bonds} k_{i} (l_{i} - l_{i,0})^{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{angles} k'_{i} (\theta_{i} - \theta_{i,0})^{2}$$

$$+ \sum_{v} \frac{V_{N}}{2} k''_{i} (1 + \cos(n\omega - \gamma))$$
Bond rotation energy

$$n = multiplicity$$

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=i+1}^{N} \left(4\varepsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ii}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ii}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{6} \right] + \frac{q_{i}q_{j}}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}r_{ij}} \right)$$
Summation over
all particle pairs
Lennard-Jones 12-6 potential
Coulomb energy
van der Waals (dispersion)
Coulomb energy
charge-charge interaction
interaction
For example, AMBER force-field has this form

- Long range
- Not dictated by "bonds"
- Both within molecules and between different molecules
- Long-range nature introduces a need for either cut-off distance in computation or longrange calculation scheme

- Typically 4 components
 - Repulsive component resulting from the Pauli exclusion principle (prevents the collapse of molecules)
 - Attractive or repulsive electrostatic interactions between permanent charges, dipoles, multipoles
 - Polarization (induced electrostatic interactions) (Debye forces)
 - Dispersion arising from the interactions of instantaneous multipoles (London forces)
- Most common in molecular modelling to divide these into van der Waals and electrostatic interactions

On this course: (nomenclature varies in different books)

van der Waals

electrostatic

electrostatic

van der Waals

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Now

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electrostatic

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Electrostatic interactions: basics

- Electronegative elements attract electrons more than less electronegative elements
 - Unequal charge distribution in molecule
 - Electric field changes this distribution (polarization)
 - Can be external field or caused by molecular environment
 - Most commonly, polarization not taken into account in force-fields but instead fixed charge distribution used
 - Polarizable force-fields an important method development direction in molecular modelling







Electrostatics by fractional point charges

- One common approach in molecular modelling to assign fractional point charges throughout the molecule
 - Point charges designed to reproduce electrostatic properties of the molecule
 - Do not need to be at same locations as nuclei
 - If located at nuclei positions: partial atomic charges

$$\mathsf{V}=\sum_{i=1}^{N}\sum_{j=i+1}^{N}\left(\frac{q_{i}q_{j}}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}r_{ij}}\right)$$

- Downsides of using fractional point charges
 - No dynamical charge redistribution due to changes in electric field (due to changes in molecular environment)

Electrostatics by fractional point charges

- Electrostatics can be represented by multipole expansion of the electrostatic interaction energy
- Sufficient number of fractional point charges reproduce all electric moments of the multipole expansion
 - This may require charges at other positions besides nuclei locations



Fractional point charges: where do the numbers come from?

- For simple molecules, can be calculated exactly based on experimental multipole moments
- Sometimes chosen to reproduce thermodynamic properties (large number of simulations required)
- Ab initio simulations: several ways to determine partial charges
- Charge distribution validified by ability to reproduce experimental multipole moments, electrostatic potential, or thermodynamic quantities

Fractional point charges of large molecules

- Look at a small fraction of the larger system
 - Proteins: dipeptide, tripeptide
 - Polymers: oligomers
- Charge distribution will depend on conformation
 - Possible to average over a number of conformations, can be problematic for large molecules



Fractional point charges

- Charges determined from ab initio calculations depend on
 - Basis set (larger does not necessary improve charges, or force-field performance)
 - Molecular conformation
- In parameterizing new molecules, must be consistent with existing parameterization

Fractional point charges at atom positions (partial atomic charge)

- Electrostatic forces act directly on nuclei
 - Makes things more simple computationally
- Assume charge distribution spherically symmetric
- Incapability to reproduce some higher multipole moments



Benzene



 Question: How should the partial charges be distributed? Why?

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/comm ons/9/9a/Benzene_Representations.svg



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Example of aromatic-aromatic interactions

 P-stacking difficult to model (nucleic acids, benzene, ringlike molecules)



Fig. 4.25: Anisotropic model of benzene developed by Hunter and Saunders [Hunter and Saunders 1990].

- Hunter-Saunders: Carbons have +1 charge on plane, -1/2 above and below plane of ring
- Classical force-fields can be tuned to a wide variety of behavior. Most typical force-fields do not have this benzene property.

Leach: Molecular Modelling, Figure 4.25

Polarization



Induced dipole moment

$$\vec{\mu}_{ind} = \alpha \vec{E}$$
 electric field
polarizability

Dipole moment

$$\vec{\mu} = q\vec{r}$$

$$v(\alpha, E) = -\int_{0}^{E} d\vec{E} \,\vec{\mu}_{ind} = \int_{0}^{E} d\vec{E} \,\alpha\vec{E} = -\frac{1}{2}\alpha E^{2}$$

Energy of interaction for each dipole calculated by work done when charging field from zero to E

At high electric fields also higher order terms may be important (typically quadrupole moment).

Polarization



- Polarization of one molecule will affect electric field observed by another molecule; other molecules influence the effect: A collective (cooperative) effect
 - Modeled by coupled equations
 - Typically iterative solution methods
 - Dipoles get an initial value
 - Value updated
 - Iterated until dipoles do not change significantly
 - Computationally costly

Electrostatic interactions in medium



- Medium, for example, solvent, can be modelled by explicit molecules
- In addition, dielectric screening of electrostatic interactions can be taken into account without explicit solvent molecules (implicit solvent)

Electrostatic interactions in medium



Choosing appropriate value for bulk • dielectric may be difficult, solvent is not present everywhere especially with large molecules

```
In medium
```

 $4\pi\varepsilon_0\varepsilon_r$

 $q_i q_j$

Permittivity of vacuum

```
Vacuum \varepsilon_r = 1
Ar gas ε<sub>r</sub> ~1.0005 (~1)
Ar liquid \varepsilon_r \sim 1.5 (van der Waals)
NaCl crystal \varepsilon_r ~1.0005 Ar gas (~1)
Water \varepsilon_r \sim 80
PVC ε<sub>r</sub> ~7
Lipid bilayer \varepsilon_r \sim 2-4
Protein \varepsilon_r \sim 2-10
```

Relative permittivity of medium

Typically 4 components

Now

Now

- Repulsive component resulting from the Pauli exclusion principle (prevents the collapse of molecules)
- Attractive or repulsive electrostatic interactions between permanent charges, dipoles, multipoles
- Polarization (induced electrostatic interactions) (Debye forces)
- Dispersion arising from the interactions of instantaneous multipoles (London forces)
- Most common in molecular modelling to divide these into van der Waals and electrostatic interactions

On this course: (nomenclature varies in different books)

van der Waals

electrostatic

electrostatic

van der Waals

What is left?

- A repulsive component resulting from the Pauli exclusion principle
- Dispersion: attractive interaction between any pair of molecules due to interactions of instantaneous multipoles
 - Relatively weak (compared to other molecular interactions)
 - Highly relevant in molecular self-assembly, supramolecular chemistry, structural biology (proteins etc.), surface science (surface interactions), ...

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- Pauli principle: no two fermions (here electrons) in a system can have exactly the same quantum numbers
- Forbids electrons to occupy the same region of space (internuclear region at short separations) -> reduced electron density between nuclei -> repulsion between incompletely shielded nuclei
- Also called: exchange forces, overlap forces



- Pauli principle: no two fermions (here electrons) in a system can have exactly the same quantum numbers
- Functional form

 $\propto \frac{1}{r}$, at very short distances $\propto e^{-2r/a_0}$, at larger separations, a_0 Bohr radius

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Attractive contribution (dispersion)

- Long range (opposed to very short range repulsive)
- Due to dispersive forces induced by instantaneous dipoles arising from fluctuations in the electron clouds
 - (instantaneous) dipole can induce a dipole in neighboring atoms -> attractive effect
- Also called: London forces

Drude model for dispersive interaction (a simple model): Isolated molecule



Molecule with two charges, +q and –q -q: Harmonic motion around +q, angular frequency ω Drude model for dispersive interaction (a simple model): Isolated molecule



Molecule with two charges, +q and –q

-q: Harmonic motion around +q, angular frequency ω

Potential energy (z separation, $\omega^2 = k/m$, k force constant) Schrödinger equation

$$\left(-\frac{\hbar}{2m}\frac{\partial}{\partial z^2}+V\right)\psi=\mathsf{E}\psi$$

$$-\frac{\hbar}{2m}\frac{\partial \Psi}{\partial z^2} + \frac{1}{2}kz^2\Psi = \mathbf{E}\Psi$$

 $V = \frac{1}{2}kz^2$

Drude model for dispersive interaction (a simple model): Isolated molecule



Simple harmonic oscillator Energies: $E_v = (v + \frac{1}{2}) \times \hbar \omega$ $E_0 = \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega$

 $-\frac{\hbar}{2m}\frac{\partial\Psi}{\partial z^2}+\frac{1}{2}kz^2\psi=E\psi$

 $V = \frac{1}{2}kz^2$

Molecule with two charges, +q and -q

-q: Harmonic motion around +q, angular frequency $\boldsymbol{\omega}$

Potential energy (z separation, ω²=k/m, k force constant) Schrödinger equation

$$\left(-\frac{\hbar}{2m}\frac{\partial}{\partial z^2}+V\right)\psi=\mathsf{E}\psi$$

Drude model for dispersive interaction (a simple model): Interacting molecules



Molecules with two charges, +q and –q -q: Harmonic motion around +q, angular frequency ω

When interacting, energy

$$1D: v(r) = -\frac{\alpha^{4}\hbar\omega}{2(4\pi\varepsilon_{0})^{2}r^{6}}$$

 $3D: v(r) = -\frac{3\alpha^{4}\hbar\omega}{2(4\pi\varepsilon_{0})^{2}r^{6}}$

$$-\frac{\hbar}{2m}\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial z^2}+\frac{1}{2}kz^2\psi=\mathsf{E}\psi$$

Drude model for dispersive interaction (a simple model): Summary





Molecules with two charges, +q and -q

-q: Harmonic motion around +q, angular frequency ω

When interacting, energy

$$1D: v(r) = -\frac{\alpha^{4}\hbar\omega}{2(4\pi\varepsilon_{0})^{2}r^{6}}$$

 $3D: v(r) = -\frac{3\alpha^{4}\hbar\omega}{2(4\pi\varepsilon_{0})^{2}r^{6}}$

Interaction always attractive (also with higher order multipoles)
Summary of Pauli exclusion repulsion and dispersion attraction (van der Waals interactions)

- A repulsive short range component resulting from the Pauli exclusion principle
 - $\propto \frac{1}{r}$, at very short distances
 - $\propto e^{-2r/a_0}$, at larger separations, a_0 Bohr radius
- Dispersion: attractive interaction between any pair of molecules due to interactions of instantaneous multipoles
 - proportional to $1/r^6$
 - Long-range

Modeling van der Waals interactions

• Most common model: Lennard-Jones

$$v(r) = 4\varepsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]$$

- No solid theoretical arguments for repulsive part, attractive is the dispersion term (Drude model)
- 12th power reasonable for noble gases, too steep for most other systems, also 9th or 10th power used sometimes
- More general: n-m Lennard-Jones (12-6 a special case)

$$v(r) = k\varepsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^n - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^m \right]$$

Modeling van der Waals interactions

• Theoretically more realistic alternative to Lennard-Jones: Buckingham potential

$$v(r_{ij}) = \varepsilon \left[\frac{6}{\alpha - 6} e^{\left(-\alpha \left(\frac{r_{ij}}{r_m} - 1\right)\right)} - \frac{6}{\alpha - 6} \left(\frac{r_m}{r_{ij}}\right)^6 \right]$$

- α approx 14 or 15 corresponds to Lennard-Jones 12-6 close to minimum
- Collapses at very short distances!!!
 must check
- Morse potential is also sometimes used for van der Waals interactions

Modeling van der Waals interactions: Systems of many atoms / molecules



$$v(r) = 4\varepsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]$$

Modelling van der Waals interactions: Systems of many atoms / molecules σ_A, ε_A σ_B, ε_B γ $v(r) = 4\varepsilon_{ij} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]$

- van der Waals interactions usually parametrized for one atom / molecule type for one orientation / conformation
- Parameters for cross-interaction between different atoms typically calculated using mixing rules from parameters of same type of atoms interacting

Mixing rules of van der Waals parameters



- Arithmetic mean or geometric mean
- Common: Lorentz-Berthelot

$$\sigma_{AB} = \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_{AA} + \sigma_{BB})$$

- $\mathcal{E}_{AB=\sqrt{\mathcal{E}_{AA}\mathcal{E}_{BB}}}$ – Arithmetic mean (minimum position)+ geometric mean (potential well depth)
- Works well for similar atoms
- Well depth may be overestimated

Many body terms in non-bonded interactions

$$\mathsf{V}=\sum_{i=1}^{N}\sum_{j=i+1}^{N}\left(4\varepsilon_{ij}\left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}}\right)^{12}-\left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}}\right)^{6}\right]+\frac{q_{i}q_{j}}{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}r_{ij}}\right)+\sum_{i=1}^{N}\sum_{j=i+1}^{N}\sum_{k=j+1}^{N}V_{3}$$

Until now, two-body interactions Here, three-body interactions

- Lennard-Jones terms can be affected 10% by 3-body interactions
- 2-body: ~N² interactions (N number of particles); 3-body: ~N³ interactions
- Axilrod-Teller terms

van der Waals summary

- Obtaining van der Waals parameter values
 - Sources: Experimental lattice packing, density, sublimation energy, enthalpy of vaporization, vapor pressure
 - Computationally long-range

Force-fields: A diverse family

Intro

Main

Briefly

- Two-body force-fields (pair potentials)
 - Simple, extremely fast
 - Liquids, gases, solids
 - Lennard-Jones, Morse, ...
- Many-body chemically non-reactive force-fields
 - Many different atom types and molecules covered
 - Typically: a wide variety of organic molecules such as proteins, hydrocarbons, lipids, polymers, ...
 - Non-reactive!
- Many-body (reactive) force-fields
 - A wide variety of typically inorganic materials and compounds including also metals (structural & mechanical properties). Organic molecules tend to be too complex.
 - Some are reactive!

Modelling inorganic molecules

- Inorganic molecules have a wider range of geometries and highly delocalized bonds
 - Model needs to capture also these properties
 - More complex / different than organic molecular models (often)
 - Coordination numbers vary
- More specialized force-fields than for organic compounds, quite often capture also bond reorganization (changes in bond order)

Empirical potentials for semiconductors and metals

- Bond-order potentials
 - Examples: Finnis-Sinclair; Tersoff; Brenner; Stillinger-Weber; Sutton; Pettifor (several models)
 - Physical basis: relating quantum mechanical electronic density of states and its moments to classical bond order (bond strength)
 - Binding energy strongly correlated with square root of the second moment of the electronic density of states
 - In practice, local density of states is used
 - Second moment approximation for binding energy $E_i^{\rm el} \propto \sqrt{Z}_i$, Z_i number of neighbors

Bond-order potentials

- Can describe several different bonding states of an atom with the same parameters
- May be able to describe chemical reactions (correctly)
- strength of a chemical bond depends on the bonding environment

Bond-order potentials

- Two alternative ways to write potential energy expression (equivalent)
 - $V_{ij} = V_{repulsive}(r_{ij}) + b_{ijk}V_{attractive}(r_{ij})$
 - $V_{ij} = V_{pair}(r_{ij}) + A\sqrt{\rho_i}$, ρ_i local electron density

•
$$\rho_i = \sum_{j=1, j \neq 1}^N \varphi_{ij}(rij)$$

- Relies on number of neighbors which is not always straightforward to define (disordered materials, bond reorganization, ...)
- Continuous transition between different numbers of neighbors

Example: Brenner bond-order potential for hydrocarbons

$$E_{b} = \sum_{i} \sum_{j(>i)} \left[V_{R}(r_{ij}) - \overline{B}_{ij} V_{A}(r_{ij}) \right], \qquad \overline{B}_{ij} = (B_{ij} + B_{ji})/2 + F_{ij}(N_{i}^{(t)}, N_{j}^{(t)}, N_{ij}^{conj}),$$

where the repulsive and attractive pair terms are given by

$$V_{R}(r_{ij}) = f_{ij}(r_{ij}) D_{ij}^{(e)} / (S_{ij} - 1) e^{-\sqrt{2S_{ij}}\beta_{ij}(r - R_{ij}^{(e)})}$$
(7)

and

$$V_{A}(r_{ij}) = f_{ij}(r_{ij}) D_{ij}^{(e)} S_{ij} / (S_{ij} - 1) e^{-\sqrt{2/S_{ij}}\beta_{ij}(r - R_{ij}^{(e)})}, \quad (8)$$

respectively. The function $f_{ii}(r)$, which restricts the pair potential to nearest neighbors, is given by

$$f_{ij}(r) = \begin{cases} 1, & r < R_{ij}^{(1)} & x_{ik} = N_k^{\text{tot}} - f_{ik}(r_{ik}) \\ \left[1 + \cos\left(\frac{\pi(r - R_{ij}^{(1)})}{(R_{ij}^{(2)} - R_{ij}^{(1)})} \right) \right] \right] / 2, & R_{ij}^{(1)} < r < R_{ij}^{(2)} \\ 0, & r > R_{ij}^{(2)} \\ 0, & r > R_{ij}^{(2)} \end{cases}$$
$$B_{ij} = \left[1 + \sum_{k (\neq i, j)} G_i(\theta_{ijk}) f_{ik}(r_{ik}) e^{\alpha_{ijk} [(r_{ij} - R_{ij}^{(e)}) - (r_{ik} - R_{ik}^{(e)})]} + H_{ij}(N_i^{(H)}, N_i^{(C)}) \right]^{-\delta_i}$$
$$G_C(\theta) = a_0 \{ 1 + c_0^2 / d_0^2 - c_0^2 / [d_0^2 + (1 + \cos\theta)^2] \} \quad (18)$$

$$N_{ij}^{\text{conj}} = 1 + \sum_{\text{carbons } k \ (\neq i, j)} f_{ik}(r_{ik}) F(x_{ik})$$

+
$$\sum_{\text{carbons } l \ (\neq i, j)} f_{jl}(r_{jl}) F(x_{jl})$$
(15)

where

$$F(x_{ik}) = \begin{cases} 1, & x_{ik} \leq 2\\ \{1 + \cos[\pi(x_{ik} - 2)]\}/2, & 2 < x_{ik} < 3 \\ 0, & x_{ik} \geq 3 \end{cases}$$
(16)

and

$$x_{ik} = N_k^{\text{tot}} - f_{ik}(r_{ik})$$
 (17)

Example: Brenner bond-order potential

TABLE VI. Predicted energetics and intramolecular carbon-carbon bond lengths for various single molecules chemisorbed on terrace sites on a hydrogen-terminated diamond {111} surface.

Molecule	Potential I		Potential II	
	Potential energy (eV)	Bond length (Å)	Potential energy (eV)	Bond length (Å)
Hydrogen atom	-4.1ª		-4.2^{a}	
Methyl radical	-3.7^{a}		-4.0^{a}	
Acetyl radical	-3.9^{a}	1.20	-4.1 ^a	1.29
Hydrogen molecule	-3.6 ^b		-3.6 ^b	
Acetylene	-5.0^{b}	1.33	-4.9 ^b	1.39
Ethylene	-4.3 ^b	1.59	-4.3 ^b	1.57

^aRelative to a hydrogen-terminated surface with one radical site and the gas-phase molecule.

^bRelative to a hydrogen-terminated surface with two adjacent radical sites and the gas-phase molecule.

TABLE VII. Predicted energetics and intramolecular carbon-carbon bond lengths for a monolayer of various molecules chemisorbed on the diamond {111} surface. The energies are relative to a relaxed clean surface and the gas-phase molecules.

Molecule	Potential I		Potential II	
	Potential energy	Bond length	Potential energy	Bond length
Hydrogen atom	-4.2 eV/atom ^a		-4.3 eV/atom ^a	
Methyl radical	$-3.2 \text{ eV/molecule}^{a}$		-3.0 eV/molecule ^a	
Acetyl radical	-4.2 eV/molecule ^a	1.20	-4.3 eV/molecule ^a	1.29
Hydrogen molecule	-3.7 eV/molecule ^b	•	-3.9 eV/molecule ^b	
Acetylene	-5.2 eV/molecule ^b	1.33	-5.2 eV/molecule ^b	1.39
Ethylene	-4.0 ev/molecule ^b	1.58	-3.9 eV/molecule ^b	1.57

^aOne surface atom per chemisorbed molecule.

^bTwo surface atoms per chemisorbed molecule.

Stillinger-Weber bond-order potential

$$U = \sum_{i} \sum_{j>i} \phi_{2}(r_{ij}) + \sum_{i} \sum_{j\neq i} \sum_{k>j} \phi_{3}(r_{ij}, r_{ik}, \theta_{ijk})$$

$$\phi_{2}(r_{ij}) = A_{ij}\epsilon_{ij} \left[B_{ij} \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{p_{ij}} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij}} \right)^{q_{ij}} \right] exp \left(\frac{\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij} - a_{ij}\sigma_{ij}} \right)$$

$$\phi_{3}(r_{ij}, r_{ik}, \theta_{ijk}) = \lambda_{ijk}\epsilon_{ijk} \left[\cos\theta_{ijk} - \cos\theta_{0ijk} \right]^{2} exp \left(\frac{\gamma_{ij}\sigma_{ij}}{r_{ij} - a_{ij}\sigma_{ij}} \right) exp \left(\frac{\gamma_{ik}\sigma_{ik}}{r_{ik} - a_{ik}\sigma_{ik}} \right)$$

Effective Medium Theory (EMT)

- approximation in which models based on density-functional theory are used to describe the properties of solids, usually metals
- Environment around each atom replaced by "jellium",
 - corresponds to homogeneous electron gas (a constant positive background density (metal ions)
 - Atoms embedded into this jellium (Daw and Baskes: Embedded atom method EAM)

Summary: Empirical bond-order and effective medium potentials

- Can be quite accurate (and fast) within their parametrization regime
- Increased computational speed: Modern tight binding simulations compete
- Can be reactive, can allow for bondreorganization and can describe non-localized bonds
- Structural properties, not electronic properties!

Movies for visualizing molecular modelling

- Materials simulations (metals, surfaces, shear flows, liquids, some molecular materials...)
 - <u>http://lammps.sandia.gov/movies.html</u>
- Biomolecules
 - <u>http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Gallery/Movies/</u>