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# **Tracking the Liquid-Vapour interface at the Molecular Scale**

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#### **Brunel University London**



#### **Overview**



- An introduction to Molecular Dynamics (MD)
- The moving contact line
- The liquid-vapour interface a Lagrangian reference frame
- Some applications

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# **Molecular Dynamics**





#### **Molecular Dynamics**

- Solving just Newton's law
  - Energy is automatically conserved  $\rightarrow$  total = kinetic + potential



- Pressure, viscosity, heat flux and surface tension do not need to be specified and, are in fact, all outputs of the simulation
- Phase change (evaporation, condensation) occur with no additional models needed
- Solid constructed with molecular roughness
- Can model complex molecules, water, polymers, biomolecules



### **Molecular Dynamics**

Discrete molecules in continuous space

- Molecular position evolves continuously in time
- Acceleration→Velocity→Position

$$\ddot{\boldsymbol{r}}_i 
ightarrow \dot{\boldsymbol{r}}_i 
ightarrow \boldsymbol{r}_i(t)$$



Acceleration obtained from forces

- Governed by Newton's law for an N-body system
- Pairwise electrostatics interactions from quantum mechanics

$$m_i \ddot{\boldsymbol{r}}_i = \mathbf{F}_i = \sum_{i \neq j}^N \boldsymbol{f}_{ij} \qquad \qquad \Phi_{ij} = 4\epsilon \left[ \left( \frac{\sigma}{r_{ij}} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma}{r_{ij}} \right)^6 \right]$$



#### **MD Computing**

- Force Calculation
  - All pairs simulation uses local cell and neighbour lists to reduce the N<sup>2</sup> calculation to order N



• Move particles (leapfrog in time)

$$m_i \frac{dv_i}{dt} \approx m_i \frac{v_i(t + \Delta t/2) - v_i(t - \Delta t/2)}{\Delta t} = F_i$$
$$\frac{dr_i}{dt} \approx \frac{r_i(t + \Delta t) - r_i(t)}{\Delta t}$$

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- Non-Equilibrium Molecular Dynamics (NEMD) is the study of cases beyond thermodynamic equilibrium, with:
  - Temperature gradients
  - Flow of fluid (e.g. Couette or Poiseuille flow)
- Essentially fluid dynamics temperature gradients and flows
  - Thermostats (e.g. Nosé Hoover)  $m_i \ddot{r}_i = F_i + F_i^{teth} \psi m_i c_i$ remove heat from system  $\dot{\psi} = \frac{1}{Q} [T - 3T_{target}]$ • Solids of molecules with (an)harmonic
  - Solids of molecules with (an)harmonic springs linking them to tether site
  - Sliding walls by moving molecules
  - Many techniques for inducing flows...



#### **Wall Bounded Flow**



#### **Wall Bounded Flow**





 $Reynolds\ Number$ 

 $Re\approx 400$ 

with 300 million molecules

#### **Wall Bounded Flow**





Reynolds Number

 $Re\approx 400$ 

with 300 million molecules

## **Molecular Dynamics - Turbulence**





energy coloured by velocity

#### **Molecular Dynamics - Turbulence**





Isosurfaces of turbulent kinetic energy coloured by velocity

molecules



#### Viscosity

Good agreement with experiments





#### **Heat Conduction**

Good agreement with experiments





# Molecular Dynamics – Complex Walls and Fluids

Liquid structure causes viscosity

Stick-slip near walls







Molecules of arbitrary complexity



*Oil, water and textured surface* 17



# **Molecular Dynamics – Shocks and Multi-Phase**



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#### **Phase Change**





#### **Results for Surface Tension**

Good agreement with experiments





#### **Surface Wettability**

- Depends entirely on the "wetting" interaction between surface and fluid, tuned using:
  - Mixing rules, e.g. Lorentz-Berthelot  $\epsilon_{ls} = \sqrt{\epsilon_l \epsilon_s}$
  - Bottom up simulation e.g. quantum mechanics
  - Top down e.g. to get desired contact angle



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# **The Moving Contact Line**





# **MD Simulation of Droplets**

Low Wettability



• Intermediate Wettability



• High Wettability





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#### **Dynamic Contact Line**







## **Dynamic Contact Line**



#### **Dynamic Contact Line**

- Two fluid phases and sliding molecular walls
- Wall velocity vs contact line angle
- MD captures the sliding contact line but we need to work out how to interpret it





 $\mathcal{L}agrangian$ 

#### **Flowfields**





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#### **Link to Experiments**



L. Wang and T. J. McCarthy, Langmuir, 2013, 29, 7776

# **Identifying the Liquid and Surface Fitting**



Cluster Analysis to identify the liquid droplets



Least Square fitting to outer molecules, linear example here





#### A Cubic Fit to the Interface



Sliding Solid walls (tethered)



#### **Angle vs. Velocity**



## **Time Evolution of Contact Angle**



Linear and Cubic Fitting angles fluctuates over time



 Steady state so we can take the probability density function of angle



• Linear, Advancing and Receding angles

# **Building this into the Continuum Model**



- A Langevin Equation uses random noise to model this  $\dot{\theta} + \frac{k}{\Gamma} \left[\theta - \langle \theta \rangle\right] - \frac{1}{\Gamma} \xi(t) = 0 \text{ where } \langle \xi(t)\xi(t') \rangle = C\delta(t-t'),$
- Coefficients parameterised using
  - Standard deviation range of fluctuations
  - Autocorrelation how quickly they decay.







# **Building this into the Continuum Model**



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# **The Intrinsic Interface**





# **Identifying the Liquid**



Cluster Analysis to identify the liquid droplets



# Least Square fitting to outer molecules



Work with Carlos Braga and Serafim Kalliadasis



#### **The Intrinsic Interface**

The Intrinsic Interface method



Chacon & Tarazona (2003) PRL 91, 166103

• Surface fitted by least squares

$$= \sum_{\boldsymbol{k} < k_u} \hat{\xi}_{\boldsymbol{k}}(t) e^{2\pi i \boldsymbol{k} \cdot \boldsymbol{r}} \approx \sum_{\boldsymbol{k} < k_u} \hat{\xi}_{\boldsymbol{k}}(t) \xi_u(y) \xi_v(z),$$

• Sum of sines and cosines down to intermolecular spacing

 $\xi_a(b) = \begin{cases} \cos(2\pi ab) & \text{if } a > 0\\ \sin(2\pi |a|b) & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$ 


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# **The Intrinsic Interface**



• The Intrinsic Interface method



Chacon & Tarazona (2003) PRL 91, 166103

- Surface fitted by least squares
- Sum of sines and cosines down to intermolecular spacing
- Fitting occurs in stages

> Fit to an outer set using a grid (e.g. 3 by 3)

- > Order molecules based on distance from surface
- > Add nearest
- > Repeat until surface density reaches target value (~0.7)

# **The Intrinsic Interface**







#### **Getting Curvature**

• Tensor product surface  $\xi \approx \sum_{k < k_u} \hat{\xi}_k(t) \xi_u(y) \xi_v(z)$ ,

$$\xi_a(b) = \begin{cases} \cos(2\pi ab) & \text{if } a > 0\\ \sin(2\pi |a|b) & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$





# **Moving Reference Frame - Overview**



d) Intrinsic interface layers  $\langle \rangle \rangle \rangle \rangle \rangle \rangle \rangle$ 



c) Refit closest molecules
f) Bilinear conversion





# **Molecular Dynamics - Averaging**

Refine

0000	
	 0000

• Density in a cell

$$\rho = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \langle m_i \rangle$$

Momentum in a cell

•

$$\rho \boldsymbol{u} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \langle m_i \boldsymbol{v}_i \rangle$$

Temperature in a cell

$$T = \frac{1}{3N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \langle \boldsymbol{v}_i^2 \rangle$$
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# Irving and Kirkwood (1950)



 $\delta(x-x_i)$ TRANSPORT PROCESSES a) fias da - 1 (a) 778, 819, +(0, 4) ? n hands, 769. bas not been observed. id to each other in much the same TRANSPORT PROCESSES I. pect, the group of Rama ones to each other of much de saite cops in the spectra of CO3 and CS5. ween calculated and 829 c and at \$00.7 cm ACEROWLEDGMENT f(R\_1,..., R\_N; p.,..., pe; 1) scribec to the prost. Stald' forg his band could be an ours and the normalizetion condition du Pont de Ne Doctors Isobella and sharp band at 769.4 tion data; and to Dr. C. F. Hammer and N'10 SCRIDE TROPP  $\int /d\mathbf{R}_1 \cdots d\mathbf{R}_N d\mathbf{p}_1 \cdots d\mathbf{p}_N = 1$ mbiration National Burea ) band at 828.5 Com in the long wave-knigth region. dynamin. upper-stage band, E.K. Plyler (2.1) rive the equations of hydro III. STATISTICAL MECHANICAL EXPRESSIONS FOR DENSITIES difference band the corresponding sum band ip a valume clement in the mothan as the Bar JUNE. 1950 VOLUME IS. NUMBER 6. The Statistical Mechanical Theory of Transport Processes. IV. The Equations of Hydrodynamics" P.g. L'ILES with dens THE JOCSKAL OF CREMICAL FURBICS sity. We shall m values of dynamical w  $x_i$ xUnit .. The Dirac delta infinitely high, wer phase space.) infinitely thin peak Pril Ret Solt ; OdR. + (a; Vest. Vest) . de formally equivalent (2.4) applied in the space of R. to the continuum differential r)/(R., ···· i P···· i Odk ... (B. - 1)/(R. formulation " ; P1, ...; f)dR, ... dpr  $\overline{\partial t}^{(\alpha;f)} = \sum_{i}^{k} \left\langle \frac{\mathbf{p}_{i}}{\mathbf{w}_{i}} \nabla_{\mathbf{R}_{k}\alpha} \right\rangle$ Pria; f) (2.7) (3(R,-1); f) mean that the kth molecule of the kill molecule to of this N  $\rho(\mathbf{r},t) =$  $m_i \delta \left( oldsymbol{r} - oldsymbol{m}_i \delta \left( oldsymbol{r} - oldsymbol{r} - oldsymbol{m}_i \delta \left( oldsymbol{r} - oldsymbol{r} - oldsymbol{r} \right) \right) \right)$ 



# **The Control Volume Functional**

• The Control volume functional is the formal integral of the Dirac delta functional in 3 dimensions (3D top hat or box car function)

$$\vartheta_i \equiv \int_{x^-}^{x^+} \int_{y^-}^{y^+} \int_{z^-}^{z^+} \delta(x_i - x) \delta(y_i - y) \delta(z_i - z) dx dy dz$$

$$= [H(x^{+} - x_{i}) - H(x^{-} - x_{i})]$$
$$\times [H(y^{+} - y_{i}) - H(y^{-} - y_{i})]$$

$$\times \left[ H(z^+ - z_i) - H(z^- - z_i) \right]$$

• In words

 $\vartheta \equiv \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if molecule is inside volume} \\ 0 & \text{if molecule is outside volume} \end{cases}$ 



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# **Density**



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Brune

$$\vartheta_{i} \equiv \int_{z^{-}}^{z^{+}} \int_{y^{-}}^{y^{+}} \int_{x^{-} + \xi^{-}(y, z, t)}^{x^{+} + \xi^{+}(y, z, t)} \delta(x - x_{i}) \,\delta(y - y_{i}) \,\delta(z - z_{i}) \,dxdydz$$

$$= \left[ H\left(x^{+} + \xi^{+} - x_{i}\right) - H\left(x^{-} + \xi^{-} - x_{i}\right) \right]$$

$$\times \left[ H(y^{+} - y_{i}) - H(y^{-} - y_{i}) \right]$$

$$\times \left[ H(z^{+} - z_{i}) - H(z^{-} - z_{i}) \right]$$

• In words

 $\vartheta \equiv \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if molecule is inside the moving volume} \\ 0 & \text{if molecule is outside the moving volume} \end{cases}$ 

Work with Carlos Braga and Serafim Kalliadasis



# **The Intrinsic Interface**





# **Pressure (Stress)**

- We need pressure to understand the surface
  - Using Cauchy's original definition
  - In two dimensions the tensor is then,

$$\mathbf{\Pi} = \left[ \begin{array}{cc} \Pi_{xx} & \Pi_{xy} \\ \Pi_{yx} & \Pi_{yy} \end{array} \right]$$



• Where pressure in molecular systems include kinetic and configurational

$$\oint_{S} \Pi_{xx} \cdot dS_{x} = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \left\langle m_{i} v_{xi} v_{xi} dS_{xi} \right\rangle}_{\text{Kinetic}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j \neq i}^{N} \left\langle f_{xij} dS_{xij} \right\rangle}_{\text{Configurational}}$$



# **Pressure (Stress)**

- We need pressure to understand the surface
  - Using Cauchy's original definition
  - In two dimensions the tensor is then,





# **Derivative for Fluxes and Stresses**

• Taking the Derivative of the CV function

$$dS_{ix} \equiv -\frac{\partial \vartheta_i}{\partial x_i} = \left[\delta(x^+ - x_i) - \delta(x^- - x_i)\right] \\ \times \left[H(y^+ - y_i) - H(y^- - y_i)\right] \\ \times \left[H(z^+ - z_i) - H(z^- - z_i)\right]$$

Vector form defines six surfaces

$$d\mathbf{S}_i = \mathbf{i} dS_{xi} + \mathbf{j} dS_{yi} + \mathbf{k} dS_{zi}$$

• Or in words

 $d\mathbf{S}_i \equiv \begin{cases} \infty \\ 0 \end{cases}$ 

if molecule on surface otherwise





# **Pressure Components (normal form)**

Working through the mathematics, a form in terms of the unit vectors

$$\boldsymbol{\Pi}_{\alpha}^{\text{kinetic}} = \frac{1}{\Delta S_{\alpha}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} m_{i} \boldsymbol{\dot{r}}_{i} \boldsymbol{r}_{12} \cdot \frac{\boldsymbol{n}_{\alpha}}{|\boldsymbol{r}_{12} \cdot \boldsymbol{n}_{\alpha}|} dS_{\alpha}$$
$$\boldsymbol{\Pi}_{\alpha}^{\text{Moving surf}} = \frac{1}{\Delta S_{\alpha}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} m_{i} \boldsymbol{\dot{r}}_{i} \vartheta_{t}$$
$$\boldsymbol{\Pi}_{\alpha}^{\text{config}} = \frac{1}{2\Delta S_{\alpha}} \sum_{i,j}^{N} \boldsymbol{f}_{ij} \boldsymbol{r}_{ij} \cdot \frac{\boldsymbol{n}_{\alpha}}{|\boldsymbol{r}_{ij} \cdot \boldsymbol{n}_{\alpha}|} dS_{\alpha}$$



- Calculating pressure on a surface:
  - Obtain a crossing on a surface (a moving molecule or a force)
  - Dot this with the unit vector to the surface



# **CV Balance Per Bilinear Cube**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Advection} &= \boxed{\frac{1}{\Delta S_z} \sum_{i=1}^{N} m_i \dot{\boldsymbol{r}}_i \frac{\boldsymbol{r}_{12} \cdot \boldsymbol{n}_z}{|\boldsymbol{r}_{12} \cdot \boldsymbol{n}_z|} dS^+}_{\text{Forcing}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{\Delta S_z} \sum_{i=1}^{N} m_i \dot{\boldsymbol{r}}_i \vartheta_t}_{\text{Eorcing}} \\ \text{Forcing} &= \boxed{\frac{1}{2\Delta S_z} \sum_{i,j}^{N} \boldsymbol{f}_{ij} \frac{\boldsymbol{r}_{ij} \cdot \boldsymbol{n}_z}{|\boldsymbol{r}_{ij} \cdot \boldsymbol{n}_z|} dS^+}_{\text{Accumulation}} \\ \text{Accumulation} &= \boxed{\frac{d}{dt} \sum_{i=1}^{N} m_i \dot{\boldsymbol{r}}_i \vartheta_i}_{\text{Forcing}} \\ \text{Accumulation} &= \text{Advection} \\ + \text{Forcing} \\ \frac{\pm 50.0}{0.0} \\ \underbrace{\pm 50.0}_{0.0} \\ \underbrace{\pm 50.0}_{0.0$$



# **Pressure (Stress)**

- We need pressure to understand the surface
  - Using Cauchy's original definition
  - In two dimensions the tensor is,

$$\mathbf{\Pi} = \begin{bmatrix} \Pi_{xx} & \Pi_{xy} \\ \Pi_{yx} & \Pi_{yy} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Pi_N & 0 \\ 0 & \Pi_T \end{bmatrix}$$





Configurational part Inter-molecular bonds act like the stress in a stretched spring 55

# **Liquid-Vapour interface**







# **Liquid-Vapour interface**



#### **Normal Pressure**







#### **Normal Pressure**





# Normal Pressure is Flat (equilibrium)



#### Liquid-vapour Eulerian reference





Liquid-vapour Lagrangian reference







# **Other Pressure Definitions**





# **Tangential Pressure and Surface Tension**



# **Stress Networks**



• Taking the instant Tangential Pressures on the intrinsic interface itself





# **Percolating Cluster**



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# **Applications**

# **Marangoni flows**



• Formation of concentrations gradients linked to surface



# The Contact Line























# **The Dynamic Contact Line**



Sliding Solid walls (tethered)

# **Droplet vs. Bubbles**





Work by Wen Jun (Sonic) at Imperial Work with Omar Matar & Tassos Karayiannis EMBOSS EPSRC grant



# **Molecular Dynamics - Nucleation**



Work with Omar Matar & Tassos Karayiannis EMBOSS EPSRC grant

# **Isosurface of Density**














Work by Alessio Lavino at Imperial

## **Factors in Bubble Nucleation**







## **Coupled Simulation of Boiling**





## **Coupled Simulation of Boiling**

- Bubble nucleation occurs naturally in MD
- Density, velocity and temperature passed as boundary conditions





# **Application to Experimental Results**

Open-source code

- Designed for particles
- Can be used for cells/pixels
- Surface fitting can be made as refined as necessary



## **Overview**



- An introduction to Molecular Dynamics (MD)
- The moving contact line
- The liquid-vapour interface a Lagrangian reference frame
- Some applications



## **Further Talks and Collaboration**

- 1- Talks from Brunel
  - (a) Thermofluids (Fluid Mech/Heat Transfer/Thermodynamics/Energy)
  - (b) Manufacturing (automation/sustainability/design/materials
  - (c) Biosystems (LOC/Biomaterials)
- 2- Talks from York:
  - (a) Microfluidics with or without a bio twist;
  - (b) Automation with space applications;
  - (c) Thermal systems with applications to vehicles; or for solar systems;
  - (d) Materials (Bio, polymeric, or composites);
  - (e) Droplet-surface interactions and applications in various industries.
- 3- UKRI (the UK funding Body) offers the UK-Canada Globallink doctoral exchange scheme, a 12 week research visit for PhD students (up to £15k)
  Deadline 26<sup>th</sup> April 2022

### Questions



### Thank you, any questions?

wardsmith999 / flowmol (Public)		🛠 Unpin 🤇
ode 💿 Issues 🚺 🏦 Pull requests	s 📀 Actions 🖽 Projects 🕮 Wiki 🗇 Security 🗠 Insi	ights 🔅 Settir
🐉 master 👻 🕻 2 branches 🚫 0 tag	Go to file Add	l file ▼ Code
Ed Added allocation of mflux back inte	o initial_setup when vflux not used 24750d0 4 days ago	🕑 5,047 commit
platforms	Updated makefile to allow builds without Heaviside functions from ass	13 months ag
runs/Intrinsic_Interface	Added input file which was omitted by gitignore file	3 months ag
src src	Added allocation of mflux back into initial_setup when vflux not used	4 days ag
🗅 .gitignore	Added some more stuff to gitignore	7 years ag
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### flowmol

A molecular dynamics solver for molecular fluid dynamics simulation.

You only need a Fortran compiler and MPI (tested with MPICH). Assuming you have gfortran installed (from gcc), build it by going to the src directory and calling



#### Non-equilibrium Molecular Dynamics (NEW)

#### Description

Non-equilibrium molecular dynamics (NEMD) is the study of fundamental fluid flow using molecular simulation - 'non-equilibrium' because the system is driven away from thermodynamic equilibrium by wall motion, temperature and pressure gradients or contains an interface, e.g. a liquid-vapour coexistence.

### Please see <a href="https://edwardsmith.co.uk">https://edwardsmith.co.uk</a>



### **Pressure (Stress)**

Working through the mathematics





## **Tangential Pressure**





## **Results for Surface Tension**

