National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

Molecular Modeling ACE-Mali/USTTB

Advanced molecular dynamics

January 5, 2016

National Institute of

Michael Dolan, Ph.D.

Bioinformatics and Computational Biosciences Branch Office of Cyber Infrastructure and Computational Biology

Schedule

14h00 – 16h00, Tuesdays & Thursdays

Important dates for molecular modeling course

Molecular modeling final exam: **Friday, Jan. 22**

Outline

Classical forcefields: Topologies and parameters defined

- Creating novel forcefield parameters

Mechanics of classical MD

Solvation models

Electrostatics models

Thermostats and barostats

Hands-on exercise

Homework assignment

Molecular dynamics (MD)

A computer technique where atoms or molecules are approximated by physics and allowed to interact over a period of time giving a *view of motion*

A word about quantum mechanical MD…

Why is there an atom limit? Limit is due to computational power.

Why so computationally demanding? Takes time to solve the electronic Schrödinger equation.

Schrödinger equation – linear, partial differential equation that describes how the quantum state of some physical system changes with time – analog to Newton's 2nd Law. (The Hartree-Fock method is one way to solve this equation.) The "solutions" are functions which describe wave-like motion for a group of particles.
 $E\Psi(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{-\hbar^2}{2m}\nabla^2\Psi(\mathbf{r}) + V(\mathbf{r})\Psi(\mathbf{r})$

wavefunction - probability (density) amplitude describing the quantum state of a particle (electrons, nuclei) and how it behaves as a function of space and time

basis sets - a set of functions which are combined to build molecular orbitals (STO-3G, 3-21G, 6-31G*, 6-311G*, cc-pVDZ …)

semi-empirical models - simplest of the quantum chemical schemes, – use Hartree-Fock method, but make approximations and obtain some parameters from use empirical data (like pre-calculated orbitals). (PM3, MNDO, AM1, RM1, PM3, and PM6)

Why is it "more real" than molecular mechanics?

- bond breaking and formation
- using molecular orbitals instead of balls and springs

-In the real world, electron clouds surrounding atoms are constantly shifting according to their environments; charges of atoms can be represented as dynamic and responsive (electronic polarization) instead of fixed

Spartan (Wavefunction), **Gaussian**, **GAMESS** (Gordon group, Iowa State Univ.)

"Classical" or "molecular mechanical" MD

- represents a molecule mechanically using a "force field"
- force field describes the energy of a configuration of atoms using an *equation* and *set of parameters* $U = \sum_{\text{bonds}} k_r (r - r_0)^2$ experimentally-derived + $\sum k_{\theta} (\theta - \theta_0)^2$ vdW radii torsions bonded + $\sum k_{\phi} [1 + \cos(n\phi + \phi_0)]$ bond lengths dihedrals $+ \quad \sum_{\textrm{atom } i} \sum_{j \neq i} 4 \epsilon_{i,j} \left[\left(\frac{\sigma_{i,j}}{r_{i,j}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma_{i,j}}{r_{i,j}} \right)^{5} \right] \quad \ \ \rule{0pt}{2.7cm} \right]$ angles charges non-bonded $+ \sum_{i} \sum_{i \neq i} \frac{q_i q_j}{\epsilon_0 r_{i,j}}$ atomic masses

Force field parameters

- Geometries from real-world experiments (X-ray crystallography, NMR, spectroscopy)
- Charges from rigorous quantum-mechanical *ab initio* methods
- Algorithm assigns a type to each atom
- Nucleic acids, amino acids, common small molecules (ATP, heme, modified aa) already solved

Potential energy surface

$$
E = \sum_{bonds} K_b (r - r_0)^2 + \sum_{angles} K_\theta (\theta - \theta_0)^2 + \sum_{dihedrals} K_\phi [1 + \cos(n\phi - \delta)] + \sum_{impropers} K_\psi (\psi - \psi_0)^2
$$

+
$$
\sum_{i>j} \varepsilon \left[\left(\frac{r_m}{r} \right)^{12} - 2 \left(\frac{r_m}{r} \right)^6 \right] + \sum_{i>j} \frac{q_i q_j}{4 \pi \varepsilon_0 \varepsilon r}
$$

- all possible conformations of a molecule describes a potential energy surface
- represented as a curve (or multidimensional surface) with atomic positions as variables.

Some forcefields

Creating novel ff parameters

QM programs: Gaussian, GAMESS, Spartan

basis sets – algorithms describing molecular orbitals

Example: 6-31G*

Minimization vs. MD

Minimization

Attempts to find the nearest, low energy conformation

Molecular dynamics

Seeks to explore conformational space; can access multiple low energy conformations

Running a classical MD simulation

Mechanics of classical MD

Newton's 2nd Law of motion:

$$
F_i = m_i a_i
$$

$$
v(t) = \frac{dx}{dt} \qquad a(t) = \frac{dv}{dt}
$$

Basic physics reminder

The force can also be expressed as the gradient of the potential energy:

$$
\angle F_i = -\nabla_i E \qquad \text{(less force = less energy)}
$$

Combining these two equations gives:

$$
-\frac{dE}{dx_i}=m_i\frac{d^2x_i}{dt^2}
$$

Newton's equation of motion can then relate the derivative of the potential energy to the changes in position as a function of time.

How do we calculate Δ **in position?**

- knowledge of atomic forces and masses is used to solve for the positions of each atom along a series of small time steps
- resulting series of snapshots of structural changes over time is called a *trajectory*
- •atoms are assigned *initial velocities* that conform to the total kinetic energy of the system dictated by a desired simulation temperature
- force on an atom can be calculated from the change in energy between its current position and its position a small distance away

"time step" usually 1 fsec $(10^{-15}$ sec) = fastest bond vibration

SHAKE – algorithm that fixes H-bonds allowing the use of a 2 fsec time step

Newtons' 2nd Law: A simple example

$$
F = ma = m \frac{dv}{dt} = m \frac{d^{2}x}{dt^{2}}
$$

Take the simple case where acceleration is constant:
After integrating, an expression for velocity (v):
Integrate again to get position (x):

$$
x = \overline{vt} + x_{0}
$$

Substitute for velocity in above:

$$
x = at^{2} + v_{0}t + x_{0}
$$

We get the value of *x* at time *t* as a function of the acceleration, *a*, the initial position, x_0 , and the initial velocity, v_0

Summary

To calculate a trajectory, one only needs the initial positions of the atoms, an initial distribution of velocities and the acceleration, which is determined by the gradient of the potential energy function.

The acceleration is given as the derivative of the potential energy with respect to the position, x

 The equations of motion are deterministic … the positions and the velocities at time zero determine the positions and velocities at all other times.

Initial velocity assignment

- initial assignment of velocities are pulled from a Maxwell-Boltzmann or Gaussian distribution for a given temperature
- gives the probability that an atom *i* has a velocity *v(x)* in the *x* direction at a given temperature
- velocities can be calculated for an input T using the relation:

$$
T = \frac{1}{(3N)} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{|p_i|}{2m_i}
$$

where N is the number of atoms

• velocities chosen randomly resulting in *no overall momentum:*

$$
P = \sum_{i=1}^{N} m_i v_i = 0 \qquad \qquad P(v_{ix}) = \left(\frac{m_i}{2\pi k_B T}\right)^{1/2} \exp\left[\frac{m_i}{2\pi k_B T}\right]
$$

Integrators

- potential energy is a function of the atomic positions (3N) of all the atoms in the system \longrightarrow a complicated function!
- no analytical solution to the equations of motion; must be solved numerically
- numerical algorithms have been developed for integrating the equations of motion (Taylor series expansions)

- 1. The algorithm should conserve energy and momentum.
- 2. It should be computationally efficient
- 3. It should permit a long time step for integration.

Running a classical MD simulation

A typical classical MD experiment

Implicit solvation

- *approximates* solvent effects in MD systems by treating solvent as a "continuum"
- interactions between solvent and solute are described as a function of solute coordinates alone
- computationally more efficient than explicit solvent

Does not account for: *solvent degrees of freedom hydrophobic effect (entropy component) viscosity H-bonds with the solute*

Distance-dependent dielectric

- simplest form of implicit solvation
- describes the magnitude of the electrostatic force between two charges

Generalized Born/Surface Area (GB/SA)

- most popular
- based on experimental linear relations between Gibbs free energy of transfer and the surface area of a solute molecule

Explicit solvation

- solvent molecules modeled using all-atoms
- counterions modeled explicitly
- potentially doubles system size, more computation
- includes H-bonding, hydrophobic effect, viscosity, solvent degrees of freedom

Explicit water models

A typical classical MD experiment

Periodic Boundary Conditions (PBC)

The fully solvated central cell is simulated, in the environment produced by the repetition of this cell in all directions.

A typical classical MD experiment

Coulomb's law

- Coulomb energy decreases only as $1/r$
- long range interaction
- Special techniques to reduce combinatorial problem:

 E_{elec}

 $q_i q_j$

 $\overline{4\pi\varepsilon_{0}\varepsilon r_{ij}}$

Particle Mesh Ewald (PME)

 Reac'on Field

Electrostatics

Particle/Mesh Ewald method

- method for computing the electrostatic interaction energies of periodic systems (e.g. crystals)
- "speed trick" interaction potential decomposed into a short-range component (summed in real space) and a long-range component (summed in Fourier space)

• Fourier-space summation of longer range interactions rapidly converges compared to its real-space equivalent (*needed for PBC where solvent goes to ∞*)

Particle/Mesh Ewald: *In actu*

- a. System of charged particles
- b. Charges interpolated onto a grid
- c. Calculate forces and potentials at grid points using a FFT
- d. Interpolate forces back to particles and update coordinates

A typical classical MD experiment

Ensembles

Thermostats: Temperature Control

- system is coupled to a large heat bath that imposes a desired temperature
- coupling represented by stochastic impulsive forces that act occasionally on randomly selected particles
- ensures that all accessible constant-energy shells are visited according to their Boltzmann weight

Langevin Thermostat

In the Langevin equation of motion, a frictional force added to the conservative force is proportional to the velocity, and it adjusts the kinetic energy of the particle so that the temperature matches the set temperature.

Barostats: Pressure control

- system is coupled to a large pressure bath that imposes a desired pressure
- pressure controlled by dynamically changing the size of the simulation cell
- change can be isotropic (shape unchanged) or anisotropic (shape changes)

• modified Nose-Hoover method in which Langevin dynamics are used to control fluctuations in the barostat

User defines desired P, oscillation and decay times of piston, temperature of piston, damping coefficients, and temperature of atoms for Langevin dynamics.

An isobaric-isothermal MD run

Time Scales of Biological Processes

- *N*ot *A*nother *M*olecular *D*ynamics program
- parallel molecular dynamics code for large biomolecular systems
- available for free from the Univ. III, Urbana-Champaign (Google "namd')
- installed on the NIH Biowulf cluster

Forcefields: CHARMM (default), Amber

Barostat: modified Nosé-Hoover constant pressure method with piston fluctuation control implemented using Langevin dynamics

Thermostat: Langevin (default), Berendsen

Hands-on exercise

Goal: Run a short MD simulation of explicitly solvated crambin using the CHARMM ff with CHARMM atom types and charges

- 1. Examine the protein (VMD)
- 2. Create NAMD input files (VMD)
- 3. Examine and modify a configuration file (.conf)
- 4. Run simulation (NAMD)
- 5. View trajectory (VMD)
- 6. Analyze run (VMD)

Steered and interactive MD

- External forces are applied reducing energy barriers
- Increases the probability of unlikely events on the time scale of molecular dynamics
- Corresponds closely to micromanipulation through atomic force microscopy or "optical tweezers"

Free Energy Perturbation (FEP)

Flexible fitting to a cryo-EM map

Acetyl-CoA Synthase Trabuco, L.G. et al. (2008) Structure

 $\overline{\textbf{d}}$

Replica Exchange MD (REMD)

• couples MD trajectories with a temperature exchange Monte Carlo process to efficiently sample conformational space

- series of replicas (<65) are run in parallel between desired T and a high T, where a replica can surmount energy barriers
- periodically, configurations of neighboring replicas are exchanged
- exchange accepted or rejected based on criterion to maintain balance
- combined trajectories in T and conformational space allow a replica to overcome free energy barriers present at low T

Coarse-grained MD

- Groups of atoms are represented by a single particle ("bead") reducing degrees of freedom
- Shaped based and residue based
- Requires less resources and is faster compared to all-atom representation
- Results in an orders of magnitude increase in simulation time

- Forcefields, parameters
- Molecular mechanics of MD (don't forget about quantum MD)
- Implicit vs. explicit solvent models
- Electrostatics models (PME)
- Control: Thermostats, barostats
- Other methods: Steered, coarse-grained, replica exchange, gravity

Questions or comments about molecular dynamics?

dolanmi@niaid.nih.gov

General questions about what the BCBB group has to offer?

scienceapps@niaid.nih.gov

Momentum *P = mv*

Force *F = ma*

Kinetic energy $E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$

Boltzmann's constant

$$
k_b = \frac{R}{N_A}
$$

Ideal Gas Constant

 \overline{a} R = 8.314 472 J K−1 mol−1

Covalent bonds and angles

Bonds

a c ← r → c

Angles

$$
E_{\text{angle}} = K_{\theta} (\theta - \theta_{0})^{2}
$$

Dihedrals and improper angles

van der Waals interactions

Lennard -Jones potential

$$
E_{\text{VdW}} = 4\varepsilon \left[\left(\frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r} \right)^{6} \right] = \varepsilon \left[\left(\frac{r_{m}}{r} \right)^{12} - 2 \left(\frac{r_{m}}{r} \right)^{6} \right]
$$

Repulsive : Pauli exclusion principle

$$
\propto \frac{1}{r^{12}}
$$

Attractive: induced dipole / induced dipole

$$
\propto -\frac{1}{r^6}
$$

