

GPU Monte Carlo Algorithms for Molecules within a Microporous Framework

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Outline

- Introduction
- Computational Setup (Methane MFI system)
- GPU Monte Carlo Algorithms
- Results
- Conclusion and Future Work







Carbon Capture and Sequestration

- Goal: separate CO₂ molecules from power plant flue gases and bury them underground
- 46 Energy Frontier Research Centers (EFRC) established by DOE to tackle this and other energy issues: \$777 million dollars over five years
- Collaboration with Prof. Berend Smit (UC Berkeley Chemical Engineering): simulate mobile molecules contained in host frameworks
- Millions of frameworks (need fast simulation)



CO₂ molecules: red-grey-red rods and metal-organic framework Consisting of cobalt atoms (purple) Linked by an organic bridging ligand (D. M. D'Alessandro, B. Smit, J. Long "Carbon Dioxide Capture: Prospects for New Materials)





Focus on Canonical Monte Carlo

- Constant number (N), volume (V), and temperature (T): compute total energy
- Mobile methane molecules within an immobile MFI framework
- Interaction modeled with Lennard-Jones potential with cutoff radius, R = 12 Å

$$U_{jk}(r_{jk}) = 4\epsilon \left[\left(\frac{\sigma}{r_{jk}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r_{jk}} \right)^6 \right], \qquad r_{jk} < R$$
$$U_{jk}(r_{jk}) = 0, \qquad r_{jk} \ge R$$

- Periodic boundary condition small system size (V = 40 x 40 x 26 Å³, hundreds of methane molecules)
- Energy grid (512x512x256) used to compute gas-framework interaction – use interpolation functions



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2D graphic illustration of the methane (silver and black), MFI (red) system Image courtesy of Dr. Jocelyn Rodgers





Quick Summary of Markov Chain Monte Carlo Algorithm









Use GPUs to obtain Speedup

- GPU (graphics processing units) : More transistors devoted to data computation (CPU: cache, loop control)
- GPU simulations: Dirac GPU Cluster at NERSC (44 Fermi Tesla C2050 GPU cards - 448 CUDA cores, 3 GB GDDR5 memory, PCle x16 Gen2), double-precision, CUDA C
- CUDA 3.2 (CURAND Library)
- CPU simulations: Carver cluster at NERSC (2 quad-core Intel Nehalem 2.67 GHz), Intel 11.1 Compiler





Dirac GPU Cluster (NERSC)





Thousands of CUDA Threads: Parallelization Strategies?

Small system size: conduct multiple, independent MC simulations side-by-side



Thread 1** (1) CUDA block per system*

- CUDA threads work together to process the same system: (a) parallel Lennard-Jones (b) waste recycling Monte Carlo
- Total number of independent methane MFI system: (# CUDA blocks per SM) x (# of SM)
- Utilize fast GPU memory
- Large system size

(2) CUDA thread per system**

- Embarrassingly parallel problem: no communication between threads
- Total number of independent methane MFI system: (# CUDA threads per block) x (# CUDA blocks per SM) x (# of SM)

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- Cannot utilize fast GPU memory
- Small system size (large DRAM usage)





Method 1: Parallel Lennard-Jones MC

 Lennard-Jones (LJ) pair potential kernel: bottleneck routine

$$U_{jk}(r_{jk}) = 4\epsilon \left[\left(\frac{\sigma}{r_{jk}} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r_{jk}} \right)^6 \right], \qquad r_{jk} < R$$
$$U_{jk}(r_{jk}) = 0, \qquad r_{jk} \ge R$$

 Threads in the same CUDA block share work to parallelize LJ

$$E_{\text{total,new}} = E_{\text{total,old}} + \sum_{\mathbf{j}\mathbf{k}'}^{N_{\text{tot}}} U_{\mathbf{j}\mathbf{k}'}(r_{\mathbf{j}\mathbf{k}'}) - \sum_{\mathbf{j}\mathbf{k}}^{N_{\text{tot}}} U_{\mathbf{j}\mathbf{k}}(r_{\mathbf{j}\mathbf{k}}) + E_{\text{grid},\mathbf{k}'} - E_{\text{grid},\mathbf{k}}$$

- Thread i is responsible for pair potential calculation of particle i, i +32, i+2*32, ... to ensure memory coalescing
- Combine partial results at the end to obtain new total energy using











Method 2: Waste Recycling MC*

- Multi-proposal Monte Carlo each thread generates its own displacement moves
- Only one of these moves (including old state) will be accepted
- Utilize "waste" by incorporating information gathered from other, rejected proposals

$$S_{\rm E} \to S_{\rm E} + \frac{\sum_i w_i E_i}{\sum_i w_i} \quad w_i = \exp\left(-\beta E_i\right)$$

 Two kinds of waste recycling MC: (1) displacement, (2) uniformly sampled Displacement WRMC



Uniformly Sampled WRMC



*D. Frenkel. "Speed-up of Monte Carlo simulations by sampling of rejected States" Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America 101.5 (Dec. 2004) pp. 17571-17575.







Method 3: Embarrassingly Parallel MC

- Each CUDA thread is responsible for conducting its own independent methane – MFI system
- Memory coalescing strategy (1): particle position data layout, avoid warp divergence for LJ memory transactions
- Memory coalescing strategy (2): choose the same particle index for all CUDA threads in each MC step, one memory transaction for particle translation proposals











Iteration Time (sec)



CUDA Block size = 32, one block per SM



- Embarrassingly parallel MC: best performance
- Displacement WRMC > Uniform WRMC at denser systems
- Performance of parallel LJ MC should become similar to embarrassingly parallel MC at larger system size

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Speedup = GPU iteration time / CPU iteration time







Conclusion and Future Work

- Three approaches to GPU canonical Monte Carlo simulations: (1) parallel LJ, (2) waste-recycling (3) embarrassingly parallel
- Embarrassingly parallel: best performance (limitation is at large system size, not enough GPU DRAM)
- GPU Grand canonical Monte Carlo (GCMC): vary the number of particles during MC simulation (add insertion/deletion moves)
- Obtain adsorption isotherm (number of molecules as a function of pressure)







Main Collaborators

- Prof. Berend Smit (UC Berkeley)
- Dr. Jocelyn Rodgers (LBNL)
- Weekly meetings (Tuesday 2pm @ Gilman Hall UC Berkeley)



