

# Tutorial 6: Vasp Calculations for *Ab Initio* Molecular Dynamics

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Workshop on “Theory and Computation for Interface  
Science and Catalysis: Fundamentals, Research and Hands  
on Engagement using VASP”

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# Outline

- Basic of molecular dynamics
- *Ab initio* molecular dynamics
- AIMD run for 16 H<sub>2</sub>O cell
- Data analysis of precomputed 32 H<sub>2</sub>O cell

# Molecular dynamics

"for the development of multiscale models for complex chemical systems".

- protein folding,
- catalysis,
- electron transfer,
- drug design
- ...

Winners of Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2013



Martin Karplus   Michael Levitt   Arieh Warshel

1. Alder, B. J. and Wainwright, T. E. *J. Chem. Phys.* **27**, 1208 (1957)
2. Alder, B. J. and Wainwright, T. E. *J. Chem. Phys.* **31**, 459 (1959)
3. Rahman, A. *Phys. Rev. A* **136**, 405 (1964)
4. Stillinger, F. H. and Rahman, A. *J. Chem. Phys.* **60**, 1545 (1974)
5. McCammon, J. A., Gelin, B. R., and Karplus, M. *Nature (Lond.)* **267**, 585 (1977)

# Ergodicity

## Ensemble average

$$\langle A \rangle_{ens} = \iint dp^N dr^N \rho(r^N, p^N) A(r^N, p^N)$$

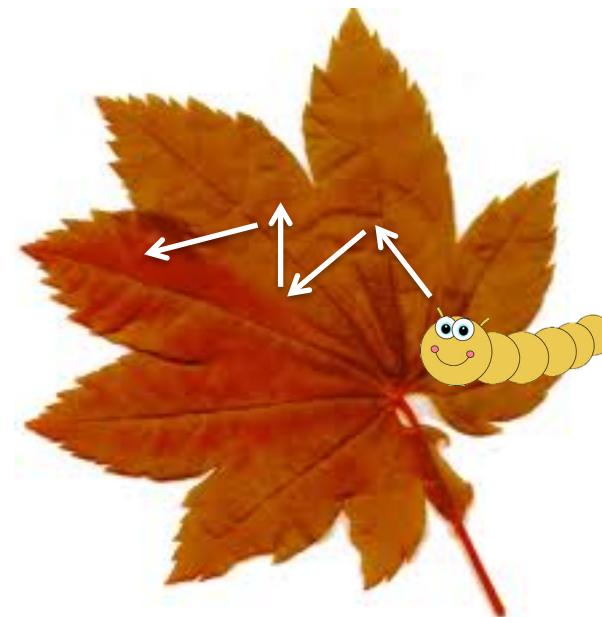
Average over all possible states of the system in the phase space



## Time average

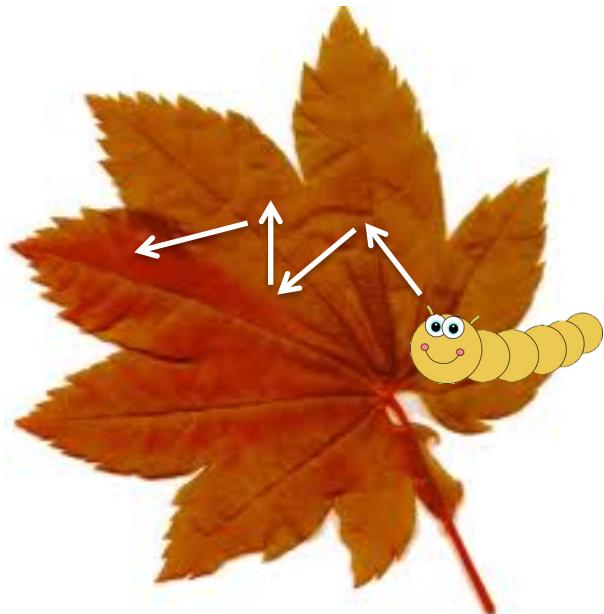
$$\langle A \rangle_{time} = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^\tau dt A(r^N(t), p^N(t))$$

Average over a sufficiently long time



# Ergodicity

If one allows the system to evolve in time indefinitely, that system will eventually pass through all possible states.



The ergodic hypothesis states

$$\langle A \rangle_{ens} = \langle A \rangle_{time}$$

Ensemble average = Time  
average

# Integration of equations of motion

Newton's equation of motion:  $F = m \ddot{r}$

- Verlet algorithm
  - the error in new position is  $O(\Delta t^4)$
  - does not use the velocity to compute the new position
  - the velocity can be derived with an error of  $O(\Delta t^2)$
- Leap frog algorithm
  - evaluates the velocities at half-integer time steps
  - Uses velocities to compute new positions
- Velocity-corrected Verlet algorithm
  - the error in both the positions and velocities is  $O(\Delta t^4)$
  - requires positions and forces at  $t + \Delta t$  to update velocity
- Higher-order schemes

# Verlet Algorithm

**Position at step n-1:**

$$r_{n-1} = r_n - v_n \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{F_n}{m} \right) \Delta t^2 - O(\Delta t^3)$$

**Position at step n+1:**

$$r_{n+1} = r_n + v_n \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{F_n}{m} \right) \Delta t^2 + O(\Delta t^3)$$

**Sum of the two term:  
propagate position**

$$r_{n+1} = 2r_n - r_{n-1} + \left( \frac{F_n}{m} \right) \Delta t^2 + O(\Delta t^4)$$

**Do a subtraction  
v is one step behind**

$$v_n = \frac{r_{n+1} - r_{n-1}}{2\Delta t} + O(\Delta t^2)$$

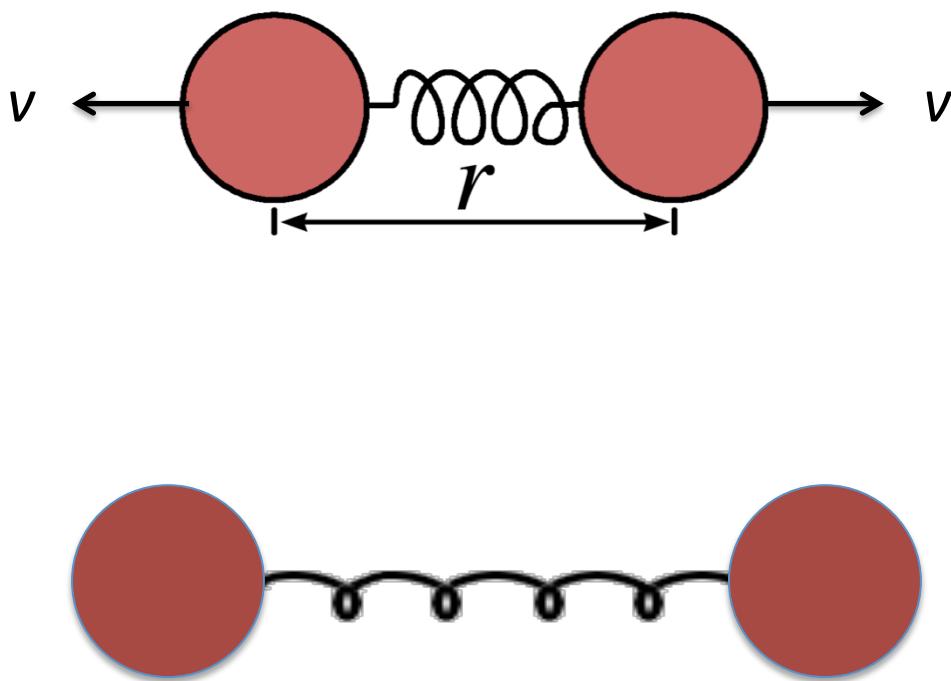
# Common thermal dynamic ensembles

- Microcanonical ensemble (NVE)
  - Isolated
  - Total energy E is fixed
  - Every accessible microstate has equal probability
- Canonical ensemble (NVT)
  - The system can exchange energy with a heat bath
  - T is constant
  - Probability of finding the system at state  $i$
- Isobaric-isothermal ensemble (NPT)
  - Both P and T are constant
- Grand canonical ensemble ( $\mu$ VT)

$$p_i = \frac{e^{-E_i/k_B T}}{\sum_i e^{-E_i/k_B T}}$$

classical

# Microcanonical ensemble



- Initialize  $r_0$  and  $v_0$
- Calculate force
- Integrate the equation of motion
- Update  $r$  and  $v$



# Canonical ensemble (NVT)

Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution:  $P(p) = \left(\frac{\beta}{2\pi m}\right)^{3/2} e^{-(\beta p^2/2m)}$

Temperature  $\longleftrightarrow$  kinetic energy:  $k_B T = m \langle v_\alpha^2 \rangle$

$$\langle E_K \rangle = \frac{3}{2} N k_B T$$

- Berendsen thermostat: Velocity rescaling
- Anderson thermostat: Stochastic coupling
- Nosé-Hoover thermostat: Extended Lagrangian

# Temperature fluctuation

$$P(p) = \left( \frac{\beta}{2\pi m} \right)^{3/2} e^{-(\beta p^2/2m)}$$

Relative variance of the kinetic energy:

$$\frac{\sigma_{p^2}^2}{\langle p^2 \rangle^2} = \frac{\langle p^4 \rangle - \langle p^2 \rangle^2}{\langle p^2 \rangle^2} = \frac{2}{3}$$

Relative variance of temperature:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sigma_T^2}{\langle T_K \rangle_{NVT}^2} &= \frac{\langle T_K^2 \rangle_{NVT} - \langle T_K \rangle_{NVT}^2}{\langle T_K \rangle_{NVT}^2} \\ &= \frac{N \langle p^4 \rangle + N(N-1) \langle p^2 \rangle \langle p^2 \rangle - N^2 \langle p^2 \rangle^2}{N^2 \langle p^2 \rangle^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \frac{\langle p^4 \rangle - \langle p^2 \rangle^2}{\langle p^2 \rangle^2} = \frac{2}{3N} \end{aligned}$$

# Berendsen thermostat

$$\lambda = \sqrt{T_{bath} / T(t)}$$

$$\Delta T = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{2m_i(\lambda v_i)^2}{3Nk_B} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{2m_i v_i^2}{3Nk_B}$$

$$= (\lambda^2 - 1) T(t)$$



$$\frac{dT}{dt} = \frac{T_{bath} - T}{\tau}$$

$$\boxed{\lambda^2 = 1 + \frac{\Delta t}{\tau} \left( \frac{T_{bath}}{T} - 1 \right)}$$

- Not real canonical ensemble, although close
- No direct proof of Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution

# Andersen thermostat

- Start with  $\{r_0^N, p_0^N\}$  and integrate the equations of motion for  $\Delta t$ .
- A number of particles are selected to undergo a collision with the heat bath, if  $p > v \Delta t$ .
- The new velocity will be drawn from a Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution at  $T_{\text{bath}}$ .

- ✓ Andersen thermostat guarantees the canonical distribution.
- ✗ The stochastic collisions destroy the correlation of particle velocities, which disturbs dynamic properties.

# Nosé-Hoover thermostat

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{p_i^2}{2m_i s^2} + U(r^N) + \frac{p_s^2}{2Q} + L \frac{Lns}{\beta}$$

- An extended Lagrangian method.
- Deterministic molecular dynamics.
- It produces a canonical due to heat exchange between fictitious degree of freedom and real system.
- $s$  is a scaling factor of the time step, so the time step fluctuates.

# *Ab initio* molecular dynamics

Hamiltonian containing both nuclear and electronic degrees of freedom

$$H = \sum_{I=1}^N \frac{P_I^2}{2M_I} + \sum_{i=1}^{N_e} \frac{p_i^2}{2m} + \sum_{i>j} \frac{e^2}{|r_i - r_j|} + \sum_{I>J} \frac{Z_I Z_J e^2}{|R_I - R_J|} - \sum_{i,I} \frac{Z_I e^2}{|R_I - r_i|}$$
$$\equiv T_N + T_e + V_{ee}(r) + V_{NN}(R) + V_{eN}(r, R)$$

In general, we need to solve

$$[T_N + T_e + V_{ee}(r) + V_{NN}(R) + V_{eN}(r, R)]\Psi(x, R) = E\Psi(x, R)$$

electronic degree  
of freedom

nuclear degree of  
freedom

# Born-Oppenheimer molecular dynamics

## the adiabatic approximation



**separation of variables:**  $\Psi(x, R) = \phi(x, R)\chi(R)$

$$[T_e + V_{ee}(r) + V_{eN}(r, R)]\phi_0(x, R) = \varepsilon_0(R)\phi_0(x, R)$$

$$[T_N + \varepsilon_0(R) + V_{NN}(R)]X(R, t) = i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} X(R, t).$$

- Electrons stay in the adiabatic ground state at any instant of time.
- Nuclei move on the ground state Born-Oppenheimer potential energy surface.
- It a good approximation if the energy difference between the electronic ground state and first excited state is large compared  $k_B T$ .
- Minimization is required at each step of the MD simulation and the forces are computed using the orbitals thus obtained.

# Car–Parrinello molecular dynamics

- The coupling between nuclear time evolution and electronic minimization is treated efficiently via an implicit adiabatic dynamics approach.
- A fictitious dynamics for the electronic orbitals is invented which, given orbitals initially at the minimum for an initial nuclear configuration, allows them to follow the nuclear motion adiabatically.
- Electronic orbitals are automatically at the approximately minimized configuration at each step of the MD evolution.

# Car–Parrinello molecular dynamics

Lagrangian of an extended dynamical system:

$$L = \mu \sum_i \langle \psi_i | \psi_i \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{I=1}^N M_I \dot{R}_I^2 - E[\{\psi\}, R] + \sum_{i,j} [\Lambda_{ij} (\langle \psi_i | \psi_j \rangle - \delta_{ij})]$$

a fictitious mass parameter      single-particle orbitals

Car-Parrinello equations of motion:

$$M_I \ddot{R}_I = -\nabla_I E[\{\psi\}, R]$$

$$\mu \ddot{\psi}_i(r) = -\underbrace{\frac{\delta}{\delta \psi_i^*(r)} E[\{\psi\}, R]}_{-H^{KS} \psi_i}$$

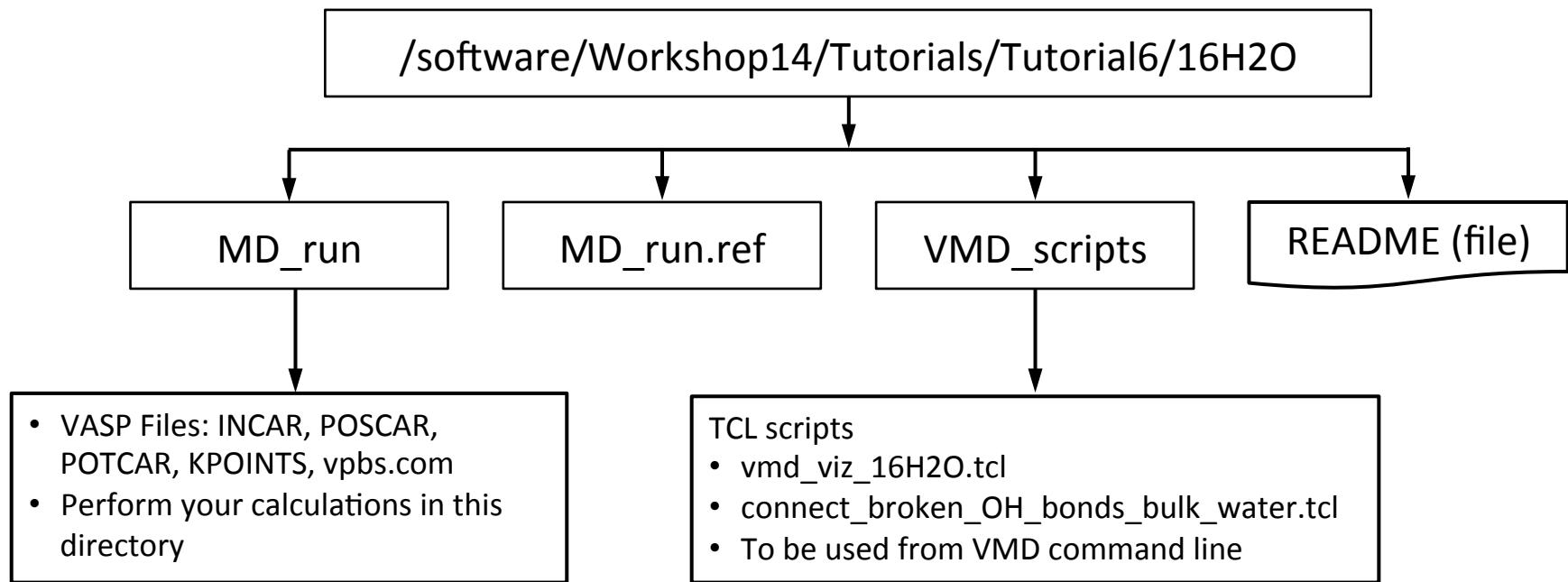
By properly choosing the fictitious mass and time step, the electronic and nuclear motions can be decoupled, so that the electronic subsystem stays cold.

R. Car and M. Parrinello, Phys. Rev. Lett. 55, 2471(1985)

# Outline

- Basic of molecular dynamics
- *Ab initio* molecular dynamics
- AIMD run for 16 H<sub>2</sub>O cell
  - Input parameters
  - Temperature and energy profiles
  - Visualization using VMD
- Data analysis of precomputed 32 H<sub>2</sub>O cell
  - RDF introduction
  - RDF using VMD

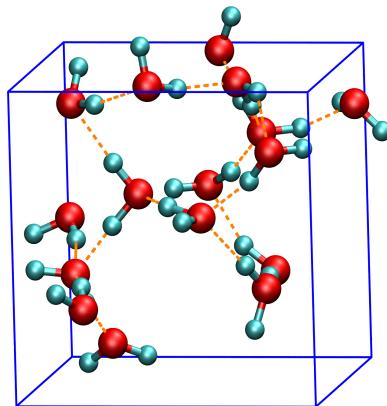
# Tutorials: File System – 16H<sub>2</sub>O MD Run



# Sample MD Run: 16 H<sub>2</sub>O

## Initial atomic structure

- Density = 1 g/cm<sup>-3</sup>
- 16 H<sub>2</sub>O in 7.82 Å cubic box
- Initial equilibration
  - Software: GROMACS
  - Classical MD at room temperature (300 K)



Initial structure in  
POSCAR file

## Key simulation parameters

- Functional: PBE
- Pseudopotential: PAW
- Γ-point sampling
- Elevated simulation temperature 400 K
  - To avoid overstructuring
  - For correct diffusion coefficients
  - J. Chem. Phys. 121, 5400 (2004)
- Time step: 0.5 fs
  - To sample O-H bond fluctuations
- Deuterium mass for Hydrogen
  - Allows for longer time step
- (Today) short MD trajectory: 50 fs i.e. 100 ionic steps
- For statistically meaningful results
  - Trajectories on the order of 5 ps

# MD Input

## INCAR

```
PREC = Normal
ENCUT = 400
ALGO = Fast
LREAL = Auto
ISMEAR = 0 ! Gaussian smearing
SIGMA = 0.05
ISYM = 0 ! Symmetry off
```

```
! MD
IBRION = 0 ! MD
POTIM = 0.5 ! Time step = 0.5 fs
NSW = 100 ! Number of ionic steps
TEBEG = 400 ! Start temperature
TEEND = 400 ! Final temperature
SMASS = 0 ! Canonical (Nose-Hoover) thermostat
POMASS = 16.0 2.0 ! Deuterium mass for Hydrogen
```

```
! Don't write WAVECAR or CHGCAR
LWAVE = F
LCHARG = F
```

## KPOINTS ( $\Gamma$ -only)

0
Gamma
1 1 1
0 0 0

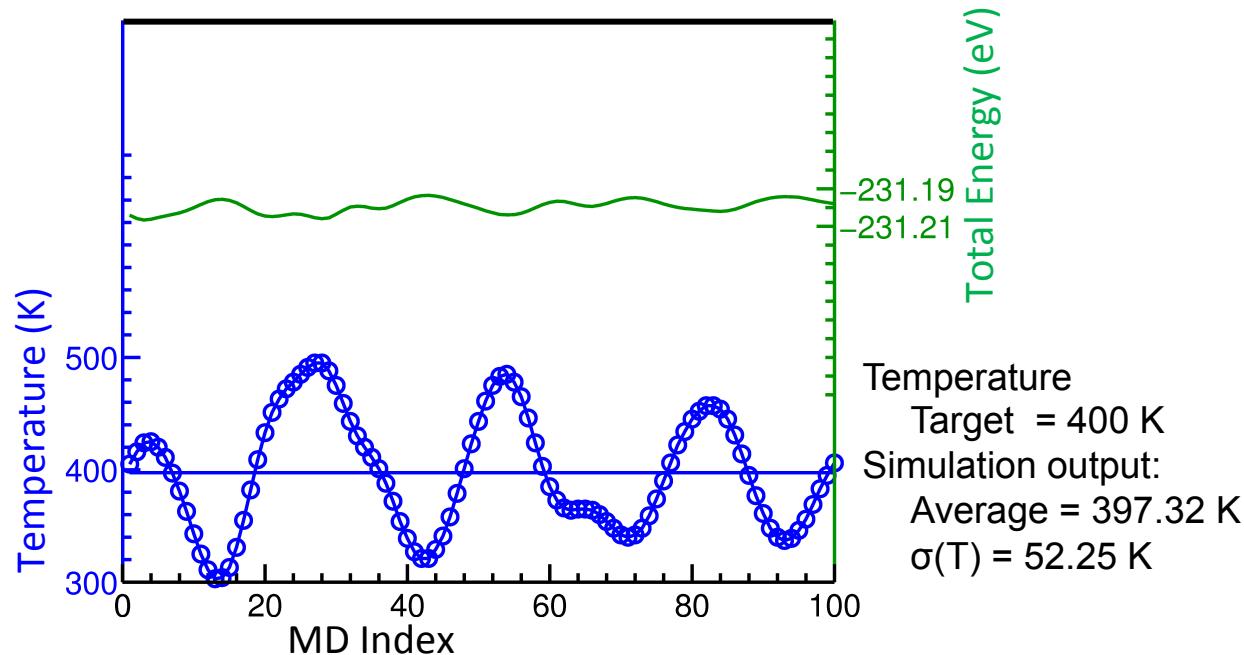
# Temperature and Energy Profiles

- Relevant OSZICAR output

```
RMM: 12 -0.233662671242E+03 0.91672E-04 -0.21448E-04 130 0.439E-02  
1 T= 405. E= -.23120407E+03 F= -.23366267E+03 E0= -.23366267E+03 EK= 0.24586E+01 SP= 0.00E+00 SK= 0.10E-05
```

```
RMM: 4 -0.233736351315E+03 -0.48227E-05 -0.40425E-04 173 0.590E-02  
2 T= 416. E= -.23120583E+03 F= -.23373635E+03 E0= -.23373635E+03 EK= 0.25298E+01 SP= 0.70E-03 SK= 0.31E-04
```

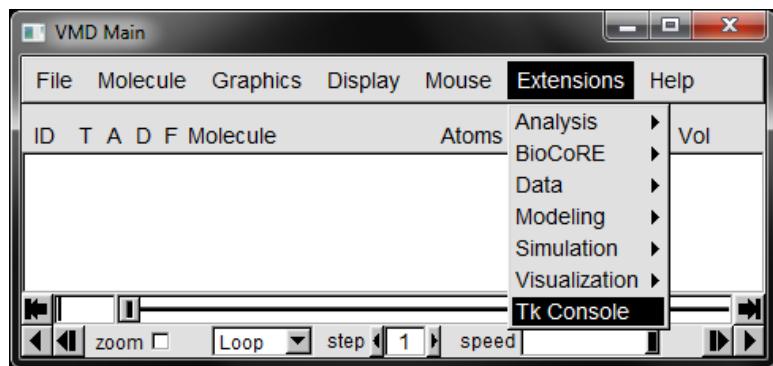
- Extract temperature and energy profiles from OSZICAR
  - `> grep "T= " OSZICAR | awk '{ print $1 " " $3 " " $5 }' > T_E.txt`



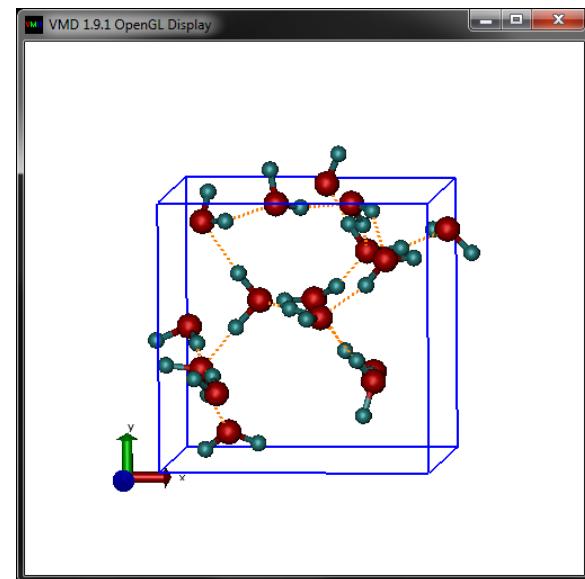
# Visualization using VMD

Load vasprun.xml in VMD

- Start VMD
- Open TCL Console



VMD Display



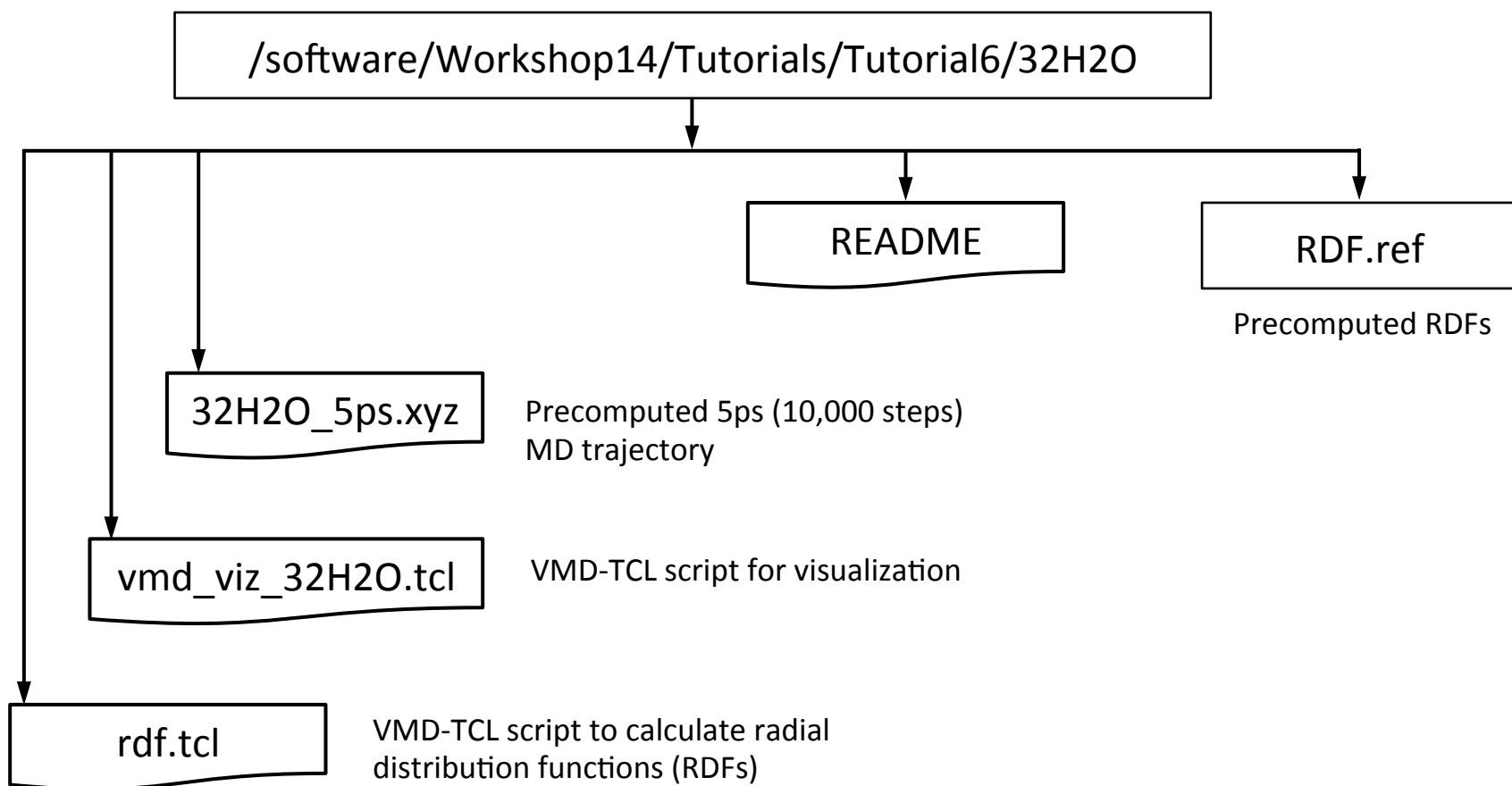
- Run (source) TCL script vmd\_viz\_16H2O.tcl

The screenshot shows the VMD TkConsole window. The console output shows the following commands being run:

```
Main console display active (Tcl8.5.6 / Tk8.5.6)
(VMD) 1 % cd C:/Users/nkharche/VASP_Workshop/16H2O

>Main< (16H2O) 2 % source vmd_viz_16H2O.tcl
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13
>Main< (16H2O) 3 % source connect_broken_OH_bonds_bulk_water.tcl
```

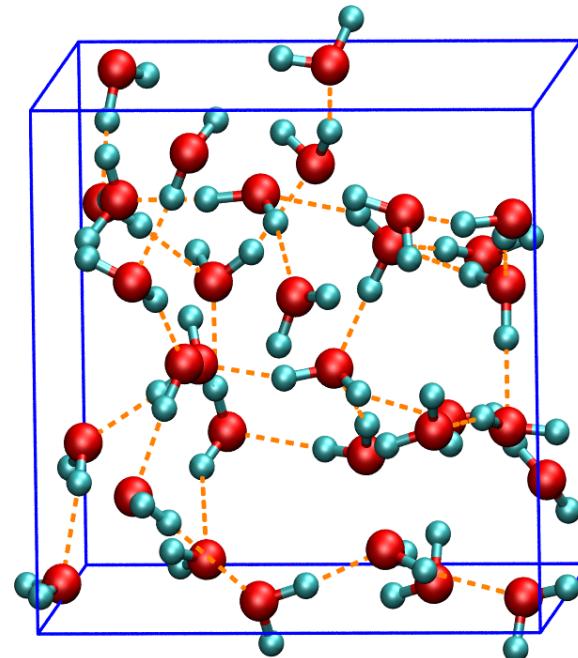
# Tutorials: File System – 32H<sub>2</sub>O MD Data Analysis



# MD Trajectory for 32 H<sub>2</sub>O Cell

## Simulation protocol

- Density = 1 g/cm<sup>-3</sup>
- 32 H<sub>2</sub>O in 9.86 Å cubic box
- DFT with vdW
- Functional: optB88-vdW
- Pseudopotential: PAW
- Temperature: 350 K
- Time step: 0.5 fs
- Simulation time: 5 ps equilibration followed by 5 ps production



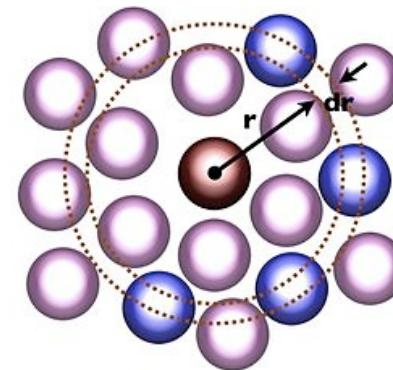
Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 16,12057 (2014)

# Radial Distribution Function (RDF)

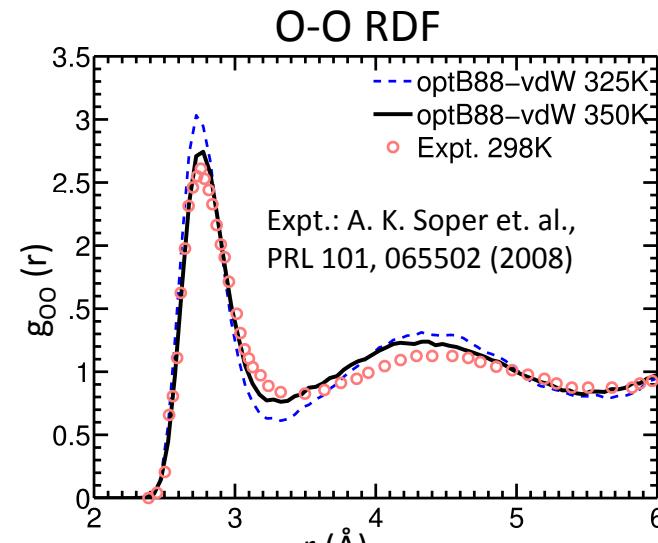
- Describes how density varies as a function of distance from a reference particle
- Definition

$$g(r[i]) = \frac{n_{pair}[i]}{v[i]} \cdot \frac{V}{N_{pair}}$$

- $n_{pair}[i]$ : Number of pairs in bin ( $r_i$ ,  $r_{i+1}=r_i+dr$ )
- $v[i]$ : Volume of bin
- $N_{pair}$ : Number of pairs
- $V$ : Volume of simulation cell
- Coordination number: Integral over first peak of  $g(r)$



Source: Wikipedia

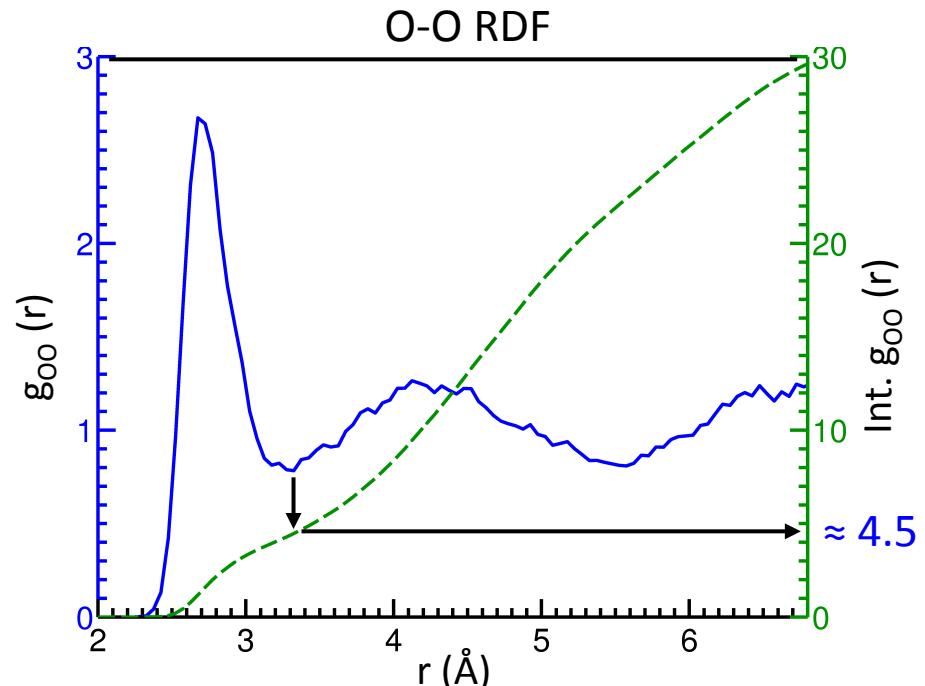


Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. 16, 12057 (2014)

# RDFs using VMD

- Load  $32\text{H}_2\text{O}_5\text{ps}.\text{xyz}$ 
  - source `vmd_viz_32H2O.tcl`
- Compute RDFs
  - source `rdf.tcl`
  - RDFs will be written to files `rdf_OO.dat`, `rdf_OH.dat`, and `rdf_HH.dat`
  - Data format

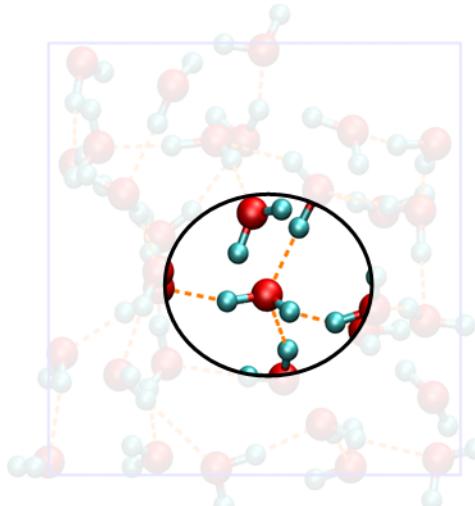
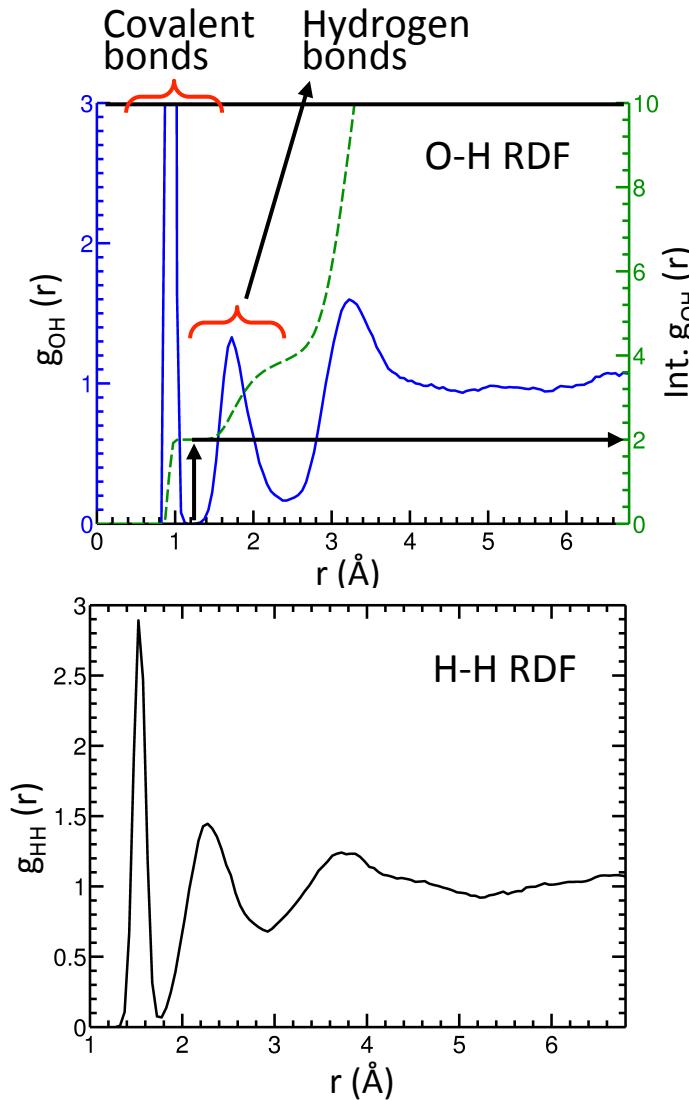
r	$g(r)$	Integrated $g(r)$
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## Coordination number

- Integral over first peak
  - Theory: 4.5
  - Expt. 4.7 (PNAS 103, 7973 (2006))

# RDFs using VMD



Experimental data: A. K. Soper  
Chem. Phys. 258,121 (2000)

