SUMMER SCHOOL OF THE MAX-PLANCK-EPFL CENTER FOR MOLECULAR NANOSCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

THERMAL CONDUCTIVITIES FROM FIRST PRINCIPLES MOLECULAR DYNAMICS

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Heat Transport

Macroscopic Effect:Fourier's Law: $\mathbf{J} = -\kappa \nabla T$



(A) Catalytic Reactors



(B) Semiconductor Technology



Understanding heat transport on the **nanoscale** and **increasings** its efficiency essential for next-generation CPUs.

(C) THERMAL BARRIER COATINGS



CFM 56-7 airplane engine

Suppressing heat transport in thermal barrier coatings

has driven the fuel efficiency increase over the last 30 years. D. R. Clarke & C. G. Levi, Ann. Rev. Mat. Res., **33**, 383 (2003).

(D) Thermoelectric Elements

Conversion of temperature gradient into electric current. $\begin{array}{c} \hline \nabla T \\ \hline \mathbf{Efficiency roughly} \propto \frac{T}{\kappa} \\ \hline \mathbf{Ficiency roughly} \propto \frac{T}{\kappa}$

Technological Applications



Technological Applications



Technological Applications





Heat Transport



Bulk **discretized** in smaller **units** that are... (a) **large** enough to be described by **equilibrium** theory (b) in **non-equilibrium** with respect to **each other**

Diffusive Transport





Ab initio Molecular Dynamics



Iterative Approach: Explore the Dynamics of the Atoms!

I.THE HARMONIC CRYSTAL



THE HARMONIC APPROXIMATION



THE HARMONIC APPROXIMATION



THE HARMONIC APPROXIMATION





Determine Hessian aka the Harmonic Force Constants Φ_{ii} :

from DFT

- from Density-Functional Perturbation Theory S. Baroni, P. Giannozzi, and A. Testa, Phys. Rev. Lett. 58, 1861 (1987) & S. Baroni, et al., Rev. Mod. Phys. 73, 515 (2001).
- from Finite Differences K. Kunc, and R. M. Martin, Phys. Rev. Lett. 48, 406 (1982) & K. Parlinski, Z. O. Li, and Y. Kawazoe, Phys. Rev. Lett. 78, 4063 (1997).



PERIODIC BOUNDARY CONDITIONS



VIBRATIONS IN A CRYSTAL 101

K. Parlinski, Z. Q. Li, and Y. Kawazoe, Phys. Rev. Lett. 78, 4063 (1997).





e.g. N. W Ashcroft and N. D. Mermin, "Solid State Physics" (1976)

 $((\mathbf{p}_0 \mathbf{p}_0))$

Dynamical matrix:

$$D_{i'j'}(\mathbf{q}) = \sum_{j} \frac{e^{i(\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{R}_j - \mathbf{R}_{j'}))}}{\sqrt{M_{i'}M_{j'}}} \Phi_{i'j}$$

Equation of Motion becomes an Eigenvalue Problem:

 $\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{q}) \left[\nu(\mathbf{q}) \right] = \omega^2(\mathbf{q}) \left[\nu(\mathbf{q}) \right]$

Analytical Solution in Real Space:

Superposition of Harmonic Oscillations

$$\mathbf{R}_{j}(t) = \mathbf{R}_{j}^{0} + \mathfrak{Re}\left(\sum_{s} \frac{A_{s}}{\sqrt{M_{i}}} e^{i\left(\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{R}_{j}^{0} - \mathbf{R}_{j'}^{0}) - \omega_{s}(\mathbf{q})t\right)} \cdot \left[\nu_{s}(\mathbf{q})\right]_{j'}\right)$$

e.g. N. W Ashcroft and N. D. Mermin, "Solid State Physics" (1976)



e.g. N.W Ashcroft and N.D. Mermin, "Solid State Physics" (1976) = I Dynamical matrix: $D_{i'j'}(\Gamma) = \sum_{j} \frac{e^{i(\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{B}_{j} - \mathbf{B}_{j'}))}}{\sqrt{M_{i'}M_{j'}}} \Phi_{i'j}$ $= \sum_{j} \frac{e^{i(\mathbf{q} \cdot (\mathbf{B}_{j} - \mathbf{B}_{j'}))}}{\sqrt{M_{i'}M_{j'}}} \Phi_{i'j}$ $= D(\Gamma) [\nu(\Gamma)] = \omega^{2}(\Gamma) [\nu(\Gamma)]$

VIBRATIONS IN A CRYSTAL 101

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e.g. N.W Ashcroft and N. D. Mermin, "Solid State Physics" (1976)



VIBRATIONAL BAND STRUCTURE



Heat Transport Theory 101



VIBRATIONAL BAND STRUCTURE



Heat Transport Theory 101



TIME AND LENGTH SCALES



BOLTZMANN TRANSPORT EQUATION

R. Peierls, Ann. Phys. **395**,1055 (1929). D. A. Broido et al., Appl. Phys. Lett. **91**, 231922 (2007).



Boltzmann-Peierls-Transport-Equation describes the evolution of the **phonon** phase space distribution **f(ω,q,t)**.



FIRST-PRINCIPLES APPROACHES

	Order of interaction	Validity & Applicability	Finite Size Effects	Disorder
Boltzmann- Transport Eq.	~O(r³)	low T	Minute	Parameter
Non-Equilib. MD				
Laser-flash MD				
Green-Kubo MD				

Boltzmann-Transport-Eq. gives very accurate results for perfect crystals at low temperatures.



FINITE SIZE EFFECTS



P. Schelling, S. Phillpot, and P. Keblinski, *Phys. Rev. B* **65**, 144306 (2002).

FINITE SIZE EFFECTS



Non-equilibrium MD exhibits strong finite-size artifacts in supercells typically accessible within DFT/AIMD.

FINITE SIZE EFFECTS



Non-equilibrium MD can suffer from non-linear artifacts in supercells typically accessible within DFT/AIMD.



	Order of interaction	Validity & Applicability	Finite Size Effects	Disorder
Boltzmann- Transport Eq.	~O(r³)	low T	Minute	Parameter
Non-Equilib. MD	Full	all T	Huge	as in supercell
Laser-flash MD				
Green-Kubo MD				

Non-Equilibrium MD approaches are in principle exact, in DFT however prohibitively costly to converge accurately.

"LASER FLASH" MEASUREMENTS



"LASER FLASH" MEASUREMENTS

W. J. Parker et al., J. Appl. Phys. 32,1679 (1961).



,,LASER FLASH'' SIMULATIONS

T. M. Gibbons and S. K. Estreicher, Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 255502 (2009).

Mimic the "Laser-Flash Measurements" in *ab initio MD simulations*:



(A) Prepare two supercells: a small hot one and a large cold one.

Setup of the Cell in Non-Equilibrium

In the harmonic approximation, the positions r_i and the velocities v_i are related to the vibrational eigenfrequencies ω_s and -vectors e_s .



"LASER FLASH" SIMULATIONS

T. M. Gibbons and S. K. Estreicher, Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 255502 (2009); C. Carbogno, Phys. Rev. B 84, 035317 (2011).



The finite number of atoms leads to large temperature fluctuations.

"LASER FLASH" SIMULATIONS

T. M. Gibbons and S. K. Estreicher, Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 255502 (2009).

Mimic the "Laser-Flash Measurements" in ab initio MD simulations:



- (A) Prepare two supercells: a small hot one and a large cold one.
- (B) Let the heat diffuse via *ab initio* MD and monitor the temperature profile T(x,t).

"LASER FLASH" SIMULATIONS

T. M. Gibbons and S. K. Estreicher, Phys. Rev. Lett. 102, 255502 (2009); C. Carbogno, Phys. Rev. B 84, 035317 (2011).



FINITE SIZE EFFECTS



SiGe, Stillinger-Weber Potential, Courtesy of Philip Howell, Siemens AG

FINITE SIZE EFFECTS



Laser-flash approach exhibits strong finite-size artifacts in supercells typically accessible within DFT/AIMD.

$\int_{\frac{1}{2}} \int_{\frac{1}{2}} \int_{\frac$

FINITE SIZE EFFECTS

Preparation of the supercell in **non-equilibrium** via the **harmonic approximation** allows to use **rather small thermal gradients**.

1/L (unit cell)

FIRST-PRINCIPLES APPROACHES

	Order of interaction	Validity & Applicability	Finite Size Effects	Disorder
Boltzmann- Transport Eq.	~O(r ³)	low T	Minute	Parameter
Non-Equilib. MD	Full	all T	Huge	as in supercell
Laser-flash MD	Full	low T	Medium- Large	as in supercell
Green-Kubo MD				

Laser-flash MD yields accurate qualitative results at low temperatures within moderate computational costs. Quantitative predictions require finite size corrections, though.

FLUCTUATION-DISSIPATION THEOREM

Brownian Motion:

A. Einstein, Ann. Phys. 322, 549 (1905).

The erratic motion of the particles is closely related to frictional force under perturbation.



The **fluctuations of the forces** in thermodynamic **equilibrium** is related to the **generalized resistance** in **non-equilibrium** for linear dissipative systems.

H. B. Callen, and T. A. Welton, *Phys. Rev.* **83**, 34 (1951).



GREEN-KUBO METHOD

R. Kubo, M. Yokota, and S. Nakajima, J. Phys. Soc. Japan 12, 1203 (1957).

Fluctuation-Dissipation Theorem

Simulations of the thermodynamic equilibrium

$$\kappa \sim \int_{0}^{\infty} d\tau \left\langle \mathbf{J}(0) \mathbf{J}(\tau) \right\rangle_{_{eq}}$$

The **thermal conductivity** is related to the **autocorrelation function** of the **heat flux**





 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{Continuity} \\ \text{Equation:} \end{array} & \frac{\partial E(\mathbf{r})}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}) = 0 \qquad \mathbf{J}(t) = \int \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}) \, \mathbf{dr} \end{array}$



in periodic boundary conditions!

PERIODIC BOUNDARY CONDITIONS



Small heat flux through boundaries leads to huge change in energy barycenter. ⇒ Artifical scattering at the cell's boundaries!



Continuity Equation: $\frac{\partial E(\mathbf{r})}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}) = 0$ $\mathbf{J}(t) = \int \mathbf{j}(\mathbf{r}) \, d\mathbf{r}$



⇒ **Correct** heat flux definition requires an energy decompositions in **pairwise interactions**.



⇒ Relative distances are well defined in periodic boundary conditions!



Virial Heat Flux closely related to stress tensor σ !

AN AB INITIO VIRIAL FOR THE NUCLEI

Ab initio: Interactions driven by electrons

 $U(\mathbf{R}) = \langle \Psi(\mathbf{r}) | \mathbb{H}(\mathbf{R}) | \Psi(\mathbf{r}) \rangle$ = $\langle \Psi(\mathbf{r}) | T_{\mathbf{r}} + \int \frac{n(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d\mathbf{r}' - \sum_{j} \frac{Z_{j}}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{j}|} + \sum_{ij} \frac{Z_{i}Z_{j}}{|\mathbf{R}_{i} - \mathbf{R}_{j}|} |\Psi(\mathbf{r}) \rangle$

Forces on atoms still well defined! $\mathbf{F}_{i} = -\langle \Psi(\mathbf{r}) | \frac{\partial \mathbb{H}(\mathbf{R})}{\partial \mathbf{R}_{i}} | \Psi(\mathbf{r}) \rangle = -Z_{i} \left(\int d\mathbf{r} \ n(\mathbf{r}) \frac{\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{i}}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{i}|^{3}} - \sum_{j \neq i} Z_{j} \frac{\mathbf{R}_{j} - \mathbf{R}_{i}}{|\mathbf{R}_{j} - \mathbf{R}_{i}|^{3}} \right)$



APPLICATION TO ZIRCONIA



Experiment:

J.-F. Bisson et al., J.Am. Cer. Soc. **83**, 1993 (2000). G. E. Youngblood et al., J.Am. Cer. Soc. **71**, 255 (1988). S. Raghavan et al., Scripta Materialia **39**, 1119 (1998).

Semi-empirical MD:

P. K. Schelling, and S. R. Phillpot, J.Am. Cer. Soc. **84**, 2997 (2001).

ALL-ELECTRON FORMALISM FOR TOTAL ENERGY STRAIN DERIVATIVES

F. Knuth, C. Carbogno, V. Atalla, V. Blum, and M. Scheffler, Comp. Phys. Comm. 190, 33 (2015).

Formulas for analytical stress				
F. Knuth, FHI $\sigma_{ij} = \sigma_{ij}^{HF} + \sigma_{ij}^{MP} + \sigma_{ij}^{Pulay} + \sigma_{ij}^{kin} + \sigma_{ij}^{Jac}$. $\sigma_{ij}^{HF} = \frac{1}{2V} \sum_{\alpha, \beta \neq \alpha} \frac{\partial v_{\beta}^{\text{es.tot}}(\mathbf{R}_{\alpha} - \mathbf{R}_{\beta})}{\partial R_{i}^{\alpha}} (\mathbf{R}_{\alpha} - \mathbf{R}_{\beta})_{j}$ $\sigma_{ij}^{MP} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{\alpha} \int d\mathbf{r} \left[n(\mathbf{r}) - \frac{1}{2} n_{MP}(\mathbf{r}) \right] \frac{\partial v_{\alpha}^{\text{es.tot}}(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{\alpha})}{\partial t_{i}} (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{\alpha})_{j}$				
$-\frac{1}{2V}\sum_{\alpha}\int_{UC} d\mathbf{r} \frac{\partial n_{\alpha}^{MP}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{\alpha})}{\partial r_{i}}(\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{R}_{\alpha})_{j} v_{\text{es,tot}}(\mathbf{r})$				
$\sigma_{ij}^{\text{Pulay}} = \frac{2}{V} \sum_{k} \sum_{\alpha,l(\alpha)} \sum_{\beta,m(\beta)} f_k c_{kl} c_{km} \int_{\text{UC}} \text{d}\mathbf{r} \frac{\partial \varphi_l(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{\alpha})}{\partial r_i} (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{\alpha})_j \left[\hat{h}_{\text{KS}} - \varepsilon_k \right] \varphi_m(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{\beta})$				
$\sigma_{ij}^{kin} = \frac{1}{V} \sum_{k} \sum_{\alpha, l(\alpha)} \sum_{\beta, m(\beta)} f_k c_{kl} c_{km} \int_{UC} d\mathbf{r} \varphi_l(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{\alpha}) (\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{\alpha})_j \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial r_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial r_j} \varphi_m(\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{R}_{\beta}) \right]$				
$\sigma_{ij}^{\text{Jac}} = \frac{1}{V} \delta_{ij} \bigg[E_{\text{xc}}[n] - \int d\mathbf{r} n(\mathbf{r}) v_{\text{xc}}(\mathbf{r}) - \frac{1}{2} \int d\mathbf{r} n_{\text{MP}}(\mathbf{r}) v_{\text{es,tot}}(\mathbf{r}) \bigg]$				

APPLICATION TO ZIRCONIA



Experiment:

Semi-empirical MD:

J.-F. Bisson et al., J.Am. Cer. Soc. **83**, 1993 (2000). G. E. Youngblood et al., J.Am. Cer. Soc. **71**, 255 (1988). S. Raghavan et al., Scripta Materialia **39**, 1119 (1998). P. K. Schelling, and S. R. Phillpot, J. Am. Cer. Soc. **84**, 2997 (2001).



S. Fabris, A.T. Paxton, and M.W. Finnis, *Phys. Rev. B* **63**, 094101 (2001). C. Carbogno, C. G. Levi, C. G.Van de Walle, and M. Scheffler, *Phys. Rev. B* **90**, 144109 (2014).





Ab initio MD Evidence



Distance dr finite at **all** temperatures! \Rightarrow Switches are an intrinsic feature of the dynamics.



TIME AND LENGTH SCALES





Occurrence, character and degree of **anharmonicity** can be **tailored** by **doping**!



TIME AND LENGTH SCALES



CONVERGING THERMAL CONDUCTIVITIES

C. Carbogno, R. Ramprasad, and M. Scheffler (in preparation).



requires at least 10 times 10 ns of MD in a 512 atom cell.

HOW TO BOOST CONVERGENCE?



HOW TO BOOST CONVERGENCE?



THE QUASI-PARTICLE PICTURE



J. Chen, G. Zhang, and B. Li, Physics Letters A **374**, 2392 (2010).

EXTRAPOLATED CONDUCTIVITY



Extrapolation procedure yields satisfactory results!

FIRST-PRINCIPLES APPROACHES

	Order of interaction	Validity & Applicability	Finite Size Effects	Disorder
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Laser-flash MD	Full	low T	Medium- Large	as in supercell
Green-Kubo MD	Full	all T	Small	as in supercell

Ab initio Green-Kubo approach allows the accurate and predictive computation of lattice thermal conductivities κ at arbitrarily high temperatures!