

Contents

Preface	5
1 Getting started	
1.1 Introductory remarks	9
1.2 Intermolecular potential models	10
1.3 Mimicking an infinite system	14
2 Basics of molecular dynamics	17
2.1 General remarks	17
2.2 Verlet method	19
2.3 Predictor-corrector algorithms	20
2.4 Few technical remarks	21
3 Basics of Monte Carlo method	23
3.1 Naive versus smart sampling	23
3.2 Metropolis algorithm	25
3.3 Acceptance ratio	29
4 Measurements	31
4.1 Thermodynamic properties	32
4.1.1 Mechanical quantities	32
4.1.2 Entropic quantities	34
4.2 Structural properties	37
4.3 Auxiliary quantities	42
4.4 Estimation of errors	43
5 Implementation of simulations	45
5.1 MD versus MC method	45

5.2	Initial configuration	46
5.3	System size and cut-off potentials	48
5.3.1	Fast decaying potentials	50
5.3.2	Slowly decaying (long-range) potentials	52
5.4	Molecular systems	53
5.4.1	Rigid molecules	54
5.4.2	Flexible molecules	55
5.4.3	Orientational order parameter	59
6	Simulations at various conditions	61
6.1	MC simulations at constant pressure	61
6.2	Grandcanonical ensemble	64
6.3	MD at constant temperature	66
7	Phases at equilibrium	69
7.1	Gibbs ensemble	70
7.2	Phase equilibria with explicit interface	72
7.3	Gibbs-Duhem integration	73
8	Appendix	77
8.1	Basic thermodynamic relations	77
8.2	Basic statistical-mechanical expressions	78
8.3	Additional readings	81