

Additional documentation for the RE-squared ellipsoidal potential as implemented in LAMMPS

Mike Brown, Sandia National Labs, October 2007

Let the shape matrices $\mathbf{S}_i = \text{diag}(\mathbf{a}_i, \mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{c}_i)$ be given by the ellipsoid radii. Let the relative energy matrices $\mathbf{E}_i = \text{diag}(\epsilon_{i\mathbf{a}}, \epsilon_{i\mathbf{b}}, \epsilon_{i\mathbf{c}})$ be given by the relative well depths (dimensionless energy scales inversely proportional to the well-depths of the respective orthogonal configurations of the interacting molecules). Let \mathbf{A}_1 and \mathbf{A}_2 be the transformation matrices from the simulation box frame to the body frame and \mathbf{r} be the center to center vector between the particles. Let A_{12} be the Hamaker constant for the interaction given in LJ units by $A_{12} = 4\pi^2\epsilon_{\text{LJ}}(\rho\sigma^3)^2$.

The RE-squared anisotropic interaction between pairs of ellipsoidal particles is given by

$$U = U_A + U_R,$$

$$U_\alpha = \frac{A_{12}}{m_\alpha} \left(\frac{\sigma}{h}\right)^{n_\alpha} (1 + o_\alpha \eta \chi \frac{\sigma}{h}) \times \prod_i \frac{a_i b_i c_i}{(a_i + h/p_\alpha)(b_i + h/p_\alpha)(c_i + h/p_\alpha)},$$

$$m_A = -36, n_A = 0, o_A = 3, p_A = 2,$$

$$m_R = 2025, n_R = 6, o_R = 45/56, p_R = 60^{1/3},$$

$$\chi = 2\hat{\mathbf{r}}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{r}},$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{r}} = \mathbf{r}/|\mathbf{r}|,$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A}_1^T \mathbf{E}_1 \mathbf{A}_1 + \mathbf{A}_2^T \mathbf{E}_2 \mathbf{A}_2$$

$$\eta = \frac{\det[\mathbf{S}_1]/\sigma_1^2 + \det[\mathbf{S}_2]/\sigma_2^2}{[\det[\mathbf{H}]/(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2)]^{1/2}},$$

$$\sigma_i = (\hat{\mathbf{r}}^T \mathbf{A}_i^T \mathbf{S}_i^{-2} \mathbf{A}_i \hat{\mathbf{r}})^{-1/2},$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \frac{1}{\sigma_1} \mathbf{A}_1^T \mathbf{S}_1^2 \mathbf{A}_1 + \frac{1}{\sigma_2} \mathbf{A}_2^T \mathbf{S}_2^2 \mathbf{A}_2$$

Here, we use the distance of closest approach approximation given by the Perram reference, namely

$$h = |r| - \sigma_{12},$$

$$\sigma_{12} = [\frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{r}}^T \mathbf{G}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{r}}]^{-1/2},$$

and

$$\mathbf{G} = \mathbf{A}_1^T \mathbf{S}_1^2 \mathbf{A}_1 + \mathbf{A}_2^T \mathbf{S}_2^2 \mathbf{A}_2$$

The RE-squared anisotropic interaction between a ellipsoidal particle and a Lennard-Jones sphere is defined as the $\lim_{a_2 \rightarrow 0} U$ under the constraints that $a_2 = b_2 = c_2$ and $\frac{4}{3}\pi a_2^3 \rho = 1$:

$$U_{\text{elj}} = U_{A_{\text{elj}}} + U_{R_{\text{elj}}},$$

$$U_{\alpha_{\text{elj}}} = \left(\frac{3\sigma^3 c_\alpha^3}{4\pi h_{\text{elj}}^3} \right) \frac{A_{12_{\text{elj}}}}{m_\alpha} \left(\frac{\sigma}{h_{\text{elj}}} \right)^{n_\alpha} (1 + o_\alpha \chi_{\text{elj}} \frac{\sigma}{h_{\text{elj}}}) \times \frac{a_1 b_1 c_1}{(a_1 + h_{\text{elj}}/p_\alpha)(b_1 + h_{\text{elj}}/p_\alpha)(c_1 + h_{\text{elj}}/p_\alpha)},$$

$$A_{12_{\text{elj}}} = 4\pi^2 \epsilon_{\text{LJ}} (\rho \sigma^3),$$

with h_{elj} and χ_{elj} calculated as above by replacing B with B_{elj} and G with G_{elj} :

$$\mathbf{B}_{\text{elj}} = \mathbf{A}_1^T \mathbf{E}_1 \mathbf{A}_1 + \mathbf{I},$$

$$\mathbf{G}_{\text{elj}} = \mathbf{A}_1^{\text{T}} \mathbf{S}_1^2 \mathbf{A}_1.$$

The interaction between two LJ spheres is calculated as:

$$U_{\text{lj}} = 4\epsilon \left[\left(\frac{\sigma}{|\mathbf{r}|} \right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{|\mathbf{r}|} \right)^6 \right]$$

The analytic derivatives are used for all force and torque calculation.