

# Long-Range Potentials

Today we learn how we can handle long range potentials.

- What are they?
- Ewald sums

# Ways to treat periodic distances

- Minimum Image Convention: take the closest distance

$$|r|_M = \min ( r+nL )$$

Potential is *cutoff* so that  $V(r)=0$  for  $r > L/2$  since force needs to be continuous. Remember perturbation theory.

- *Image potential*

$$V_I = \sum_n v(r_i - r_j + nL) - \text{background (if needed)}$$

For long-range potential (e.g. Coulomb) need the *Ewald image potential*. You need a background and a convergence method.



# Perturbation theory

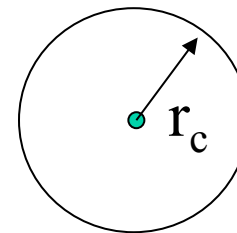
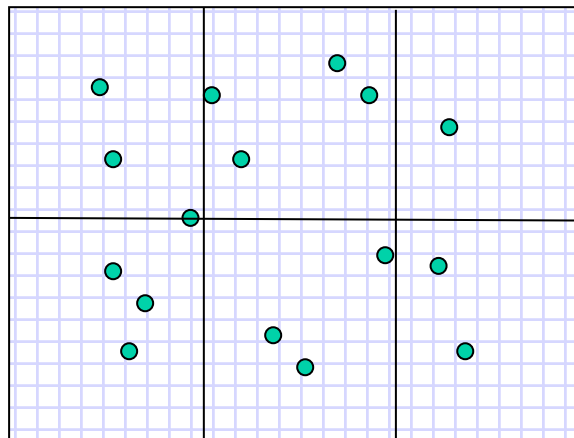
- One can restore a cutoff potential by using a *tail correction*

$$V_{tail} = \frac{\rho}{2} \int dr g(r) \Delta\phi(r)$$

- To do better one has to find *effect of perturbation on g(r)*, e.g. one can use an integral equation (such as HNC) involving the potential and g(r).
- The Stillinger-Lovett condition says that S(k) as  $k \rightarrow 0$  for a charged system is different than in a neutral system.
  - $S(k) = c k^2$  for *charged* system
  - $S(k) = c > 0$  for *uncharged* system

# Complexity of Force Calculations

- Complexity is the scaling with the number of particles.
- Number of terms in a pair potential is  $N(N-1)/2 \sim O(N^2)$
- For short-range potential you can use neighbor tables to reduce it to  $O(N)$ 
  - (Verlet) *neighbor list* for systems that move slowly.
  - *bin sort list* (map system onto a  $r_c \times r_c$  mesh and find neighbors from the mesh table, only n.n. cells matter) is  $O(N)$ .



If  $v(r > r_c) = 0$ , force calculations are  $O(NM)$  with  $M$  neighbors

# What is Long-Ranged Potential?

- A potential is long-ranged if the real-space lattice sum does not (naively) converge. Look at  $v(r)$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ 
  - In 3D, a potential is short-ranged if converges faster than  $r^{-3}$
  - In 2D, a potential is short-ranged if converges faster than  $r^{-2}$
- MOTIVATION: Many interesting systems contain charges:
  - Any atomic system at the level of electrons and nuclei.
  - Any system with charged defects (e.g., Frenkel defects)
  - Any system with dissolved ions (e.g. biological cases)
  - Any system with partial charges (e.g. chemical systems)

## How can we handle charged systems in PBC?

- **Treat like short-ranged potential:** cutoff potential at  $r > L/2$ .

Problems:

- Effect of discontinuity never disappears:  $(1/r)$  ( $r^2$ ) gets bigger.
- Will violate Stillinger-Lovett conditions because Poisson equation is not satisfied.
- One even has a problem with dipolar forces.
- Cutting off is a BAD idea!

- **The “image potential” solves most problems:**

$$V_I = \sum_n v(\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j + n\mathbf{L})$$

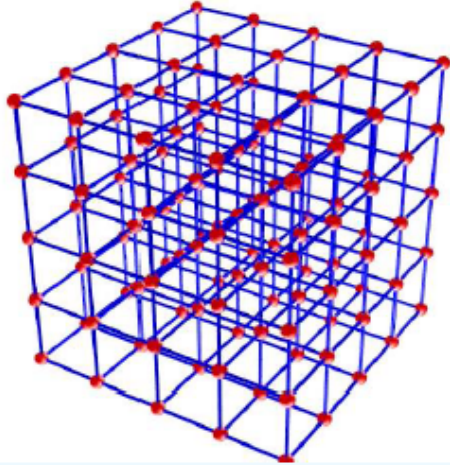
- But summation diverges!

We need to resum: use the Ewald image potential.

- For one component system, we need to add a background to make it neutral.

# Long-Ranged Potentials

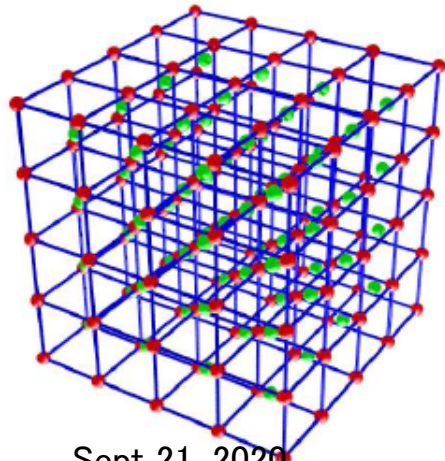
- Why make the potential long ranged?
  - Consider a cubic lattice with +1 charges, and its Coulomb potential.



$$V(r_i) = \sum_{L \neq 0} \frac{1}{|r_i - L|} \approx \int_0^{\infty} dr 4\pi r^2 \frac{\rho}{r}$$

- Approximate integral diverges!
  - Correct! Non-neutral system with infinite charge has infinite potential.

- Consider a cubic lattice with charge neutrality, i.e. with  $\pm 1$  charges.



$$V_{cell} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \sum_L \frac{Z_i Z_j}{|r_i - r_j - L|}$$

- Again need convergent lattice sum.
  - Energy is finite in charge neutral cell

# 1-D Madelung Sum: Prelude to Ewald Sum



*Madelung const.*  $\frac{\alpha}{R} = \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{(\pm)}{Rp_{ij}} \quad (r_{ij} = Rp_{ij})$

$$\alpha = \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{(\pm)}{p_{ij}} = -2 \left[ \frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \dots \right]$$

Sum is  
conditionally  
convergent

Since  $\ln(1+x) = \left[ x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} + \dots \right]$

$$\alpha = -2 \ln 2$$

$$V_{\text{electrostatic}} \sim \alpha/R$$

Structure	$\alpha$
NaCl	1.747565
CsCl	1.762675
ZnS	1.6381

**In 3D the series presents greater difficulty. Series will not converge unless successive terms in the series are arranged so that + and - terms nearly cancel.**

Powerful methods were developed by Ewald (*Ann. Physik* 64, 253 (1921)), and Evjen (*Phys. Rev.* 39, 675 (1932)) and Frank (*Phil. Mag.* 41, 1287 (1950)).

## Use Fourier Transform: large $r$ =small $k$

If  $f(\mathbf{r})$  is a continuous periodic function such that  $f(\mathbf{r}+\mathbf{L})=f(\mathbf{r})$ , with  $\mathbf{L}_n = n_x L_x \mathbf{x} + n_y L_y \mathbf{y} + n_z L_z \mathbf{z}$ , then

$$f(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_k e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} f_k \quad ; \quad \mathbf{k} = m_x \frac{2\pi}{L_x} \hat{x} + m_y \frac{2\pi}{L_y} \hat{y} + m_z \frac{2\pi}{L_z} \hat{z}$$

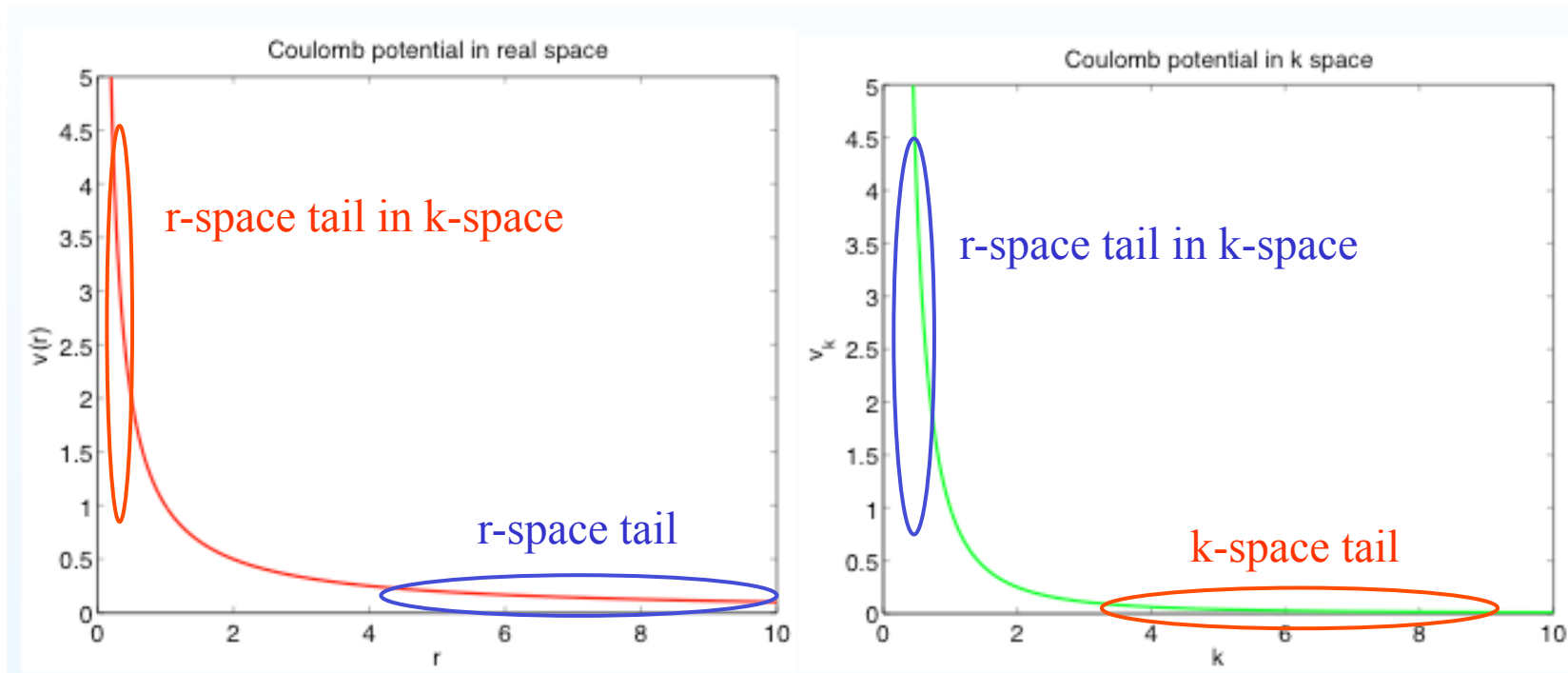
$$f_k = \frac{1}{\Omega} \int_{\text{all-space}} d\mathbf{r} e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} f(\mathbf{r}) \quad \mathbf{k} \text{ is discrete!}$$

$$\text{With } f(r) \rightarrow v(r) = e^2/r, \quad v_k = \frac{1}{\Omega} \int dr e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} v(r) = 4\pi e^2/k^2$$

Potential decays slowly in  $k$ -space also.

# Origin of Convergence Problem

$$\text{With } v(r) = e^2/r, \quad v_k = \frac{1}{\Omega} \int dr e^{ik \cdot r} v(r) = 4\pi e^2/k^2$$

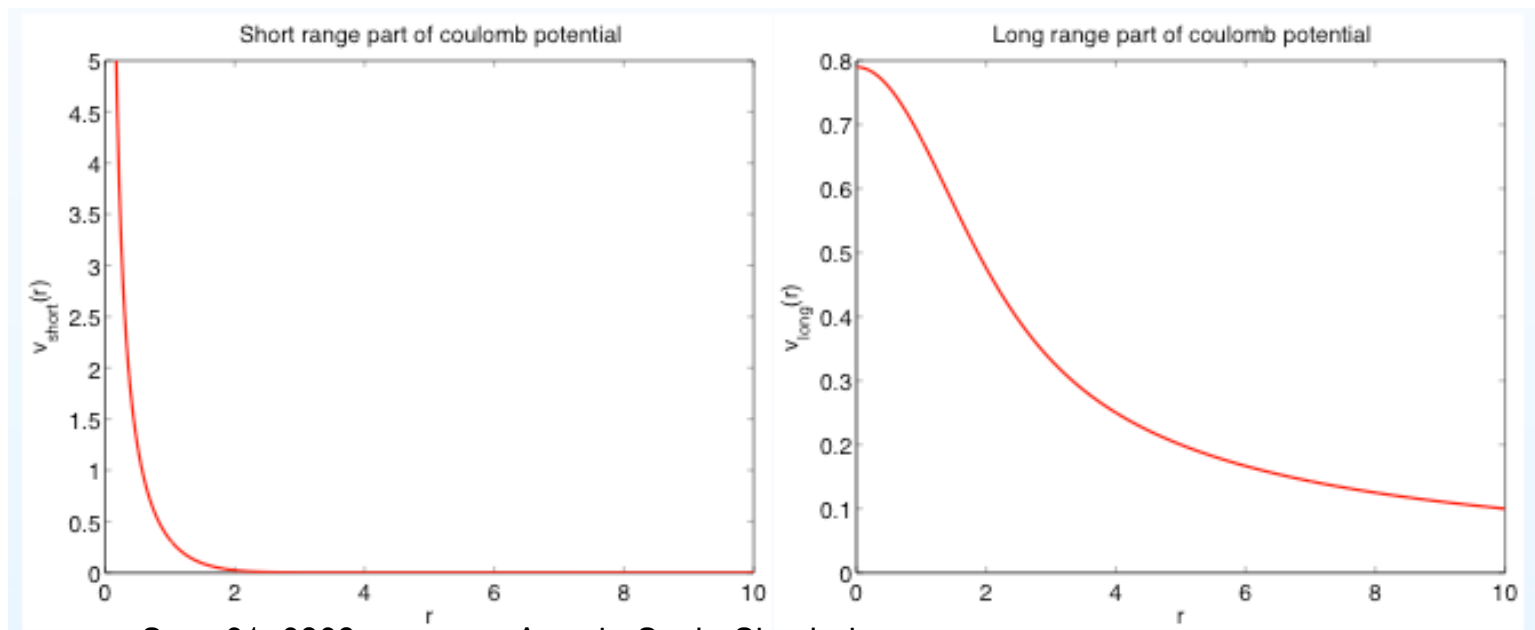


- r-space convergence issue comes from  $r \rightarrow \infty$  ( $k \rightarrow 0$ ).
- k-space convergence issue comes from  $k \rightarrow \infty$  ( $r \rightarrow 0$ ).

# Ewald summation method

Key idea: *Split potential into k-space and real-space parts.*  
We can do since a Fourier Transform is a linear operation.

$$V = \sum_{i < j, n} \varphi(r_i - r_j + nL) \quad V = \sum_{i < j, n} \varphi_k (|\rho_k|^2 - N)$$
$$\rho_k = \sum e^{ik \cdot r}, \quad \varphi(r) = e^2/r \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi_k = \frac{1}{\Omega} \int dr e^{ik \cdot r} \varphi(r) = 4\pi e^2/k^2$$



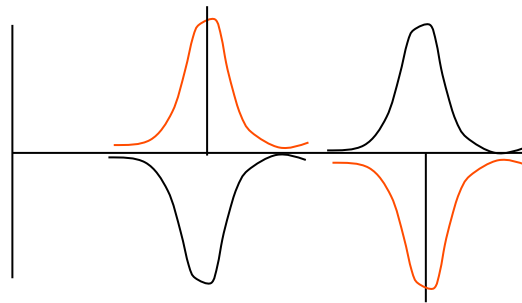
# Classic Ewald

*In the conventional break up,*

$$v_{short}(L/2) = \frac{2q_1q_2}{L} \text{erfc}(\kappa L/2) \neq 0$$

- Summation in k-space is truncated at desired accuracy.
- Adjust  $\kappa$  to *minimize total error!*

*Poisson Eq. is linear so we are free to add and subtract charge that conserves system neutrality, making sure charges screen out long-range part.*



**Gaussian charge (black) screens pt. charge.  
Gaussian charge (red): Ewald sum!**

# Classic Ewald (A&T C.5)

- Split up via *Gaussian charge distribution*

$$\text{erf}(z) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^z dt e^{-t^2}$$

$$v_{short}(r) = \frac{q_1 q_2}{r} \text{erfc}(\kappa r) \quad v_{long}(r) = \frac{q_1 q_2}{r} - v_{short}(r) = \frac{q_1 q_2}{r} \text{erf}(\kappa r)$$

$$\text{decays fast at big } r \quad v_k^{long} = \frac{4\pi}{\Omega k^2} e^{-k^2/4\kappa^2} \text{decays fast at big } k$$

- Choose Ewald parameter  $\kappa$  such that  $v_{short}(\mathbf{r}) = 0$  at  $r=L/2$ .
- Need only one image in real space: *min. image potential*.

- Total Potential is then:*

$$V = C + \sum_{i \neq j} \left[ v^{short}(r_{ij}) + \sum_{|k| < k_c} e^{ik \cdot r_{ij}} v_k^{long} \right] \quad \mathbf{r}_{ij} = \min_L |\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j - \mathbf{L}|$$

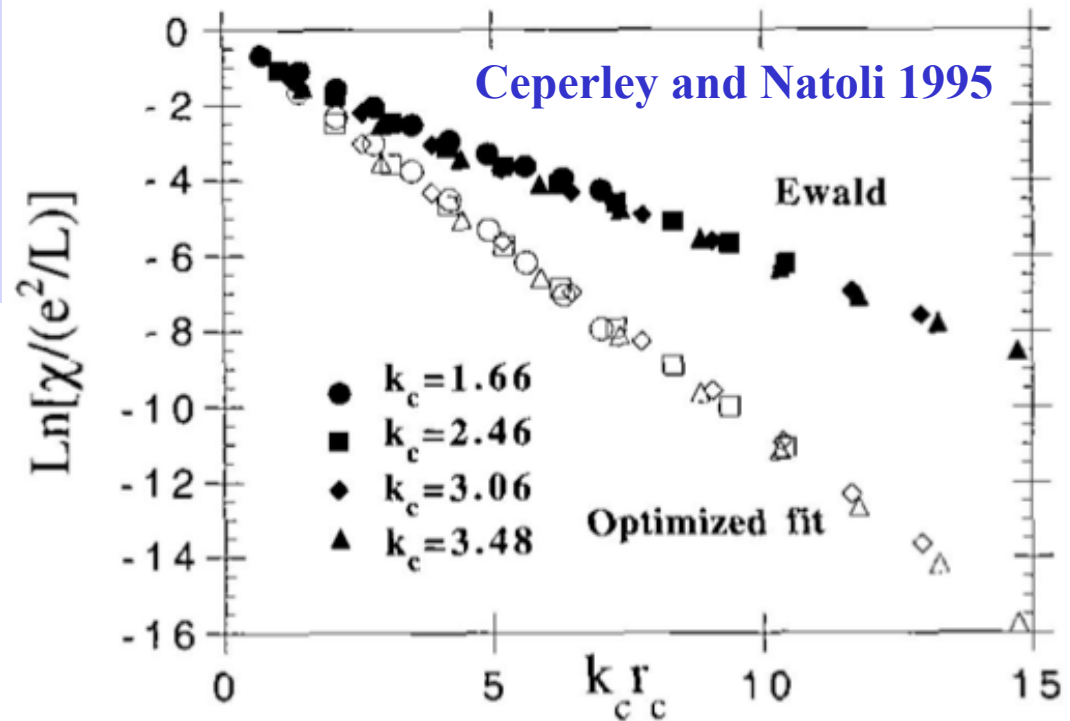
- Extra term for insulators:  $V_{dipole} = \frac{2\pi}{(2\epsilon + 1)\Omega} \left| \sum_i \mu_i \right|^2$

# Ewald: optimizing breakup

- *Improve the conventional break up, by*

$$v_{short}(r) = \sum_n c_n h_n(r) \quad v_{long}(r) = v(r) - v_{short}(r)$$

- $h_n$ 's satisfy B.C.
- Choose k-space cutoff,  $k_c$ .
- Write error that comes from neglecting higher  $k$ 's.
- **Minimize error w.r.t.  $c_n$ 's.**



## Look at k-space: the algorithm

$$\begin{aligned} V_k &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j)} v_k = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j)} v_k - \frac{N}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} v_k \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \left[ \sum_i e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}_i} \right] \left[ \sum_j e^{-i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}_j} \right] v_k + C \end{aligned}$$

- $\rho_{\mathbf{k}} = \rho_{-\mathbf{k}}^*$  so we only have to compute one of them.
- Computation of  $\rho_{\mathbf{k}} \sim NM_k$  with  $M_k$  the number of  $k$  vectors.

*Algorithm for computing k-space sums:*

**for all k in k-vector-list do**

$$V_{\text{long}} := V_{\text{long}} + \rho_{\mathbf{k}} \rho_{-\mathbf{k}} v_{\mathbf{k}}$$

**end for all**

*Changes due to moving a few particles can be calculated more quickly*

# Look at k-space: the algorithm

$$V_k = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mathbf{k}} \rho_k \rho_{-\mathbf{k}} v_k + C$$

## Algorithm to compute $\rho_k$

- *Complex multiply is much faster than complex exponentiation.  
Use sin's and cos's!*

$$e^{i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}} = \left[ e^{i\frac{2\pi}{L}r_x} \right]^{\mathbf{m}_1} \left[ e^{i\frac{2\pi}{L}r_y} \right]^{\mathbf{m}_2} \left[ e^{i\frac{2\pi}{L}r_z} \right]^{\mathbf{m}_3}$$

# Look at k-space: the algorithm

*Algorithm for quickly computing  $\rho_{\mathbf{k}}$ :*

Create list of  $\mathbf{k}$  & corresponding  $(m_1, m_2, m_3)$  indices.

Zero out  $\rho_{\mathbf{k}}$

**for all**  $i \in$  particles **do**

**for all**  $j \in [1, 2, 3]$  **do**

compute  $C_j^i \equiv e^{i\mathbf{b}_j \cdot \mathbf{r}_i}$

**for**  $m \in [-m_{\max} \dots m_{\max}]$  **do**

*Compute  $[C_j^i]^m$  and store in array*

**end for**  $(m_1, m_2, m_3) \in$  index list **do**

*Compute  $e^{i\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{r}_i} = [C_1^i]^{m_1} [C_2^i]^{m_2} [C_3^i]^{m_3}$  from array*

*Accumulate to  $\rho_{\mathbf{k}}$*

**end for**

**end for**

- Use neighbor tables and optimize  $\sigma$ , Ewald is  $O(N^{3/2})$
- If we do not reoptimize, then  $O(N^2)$
- With efficient code, prefactor is small.

# How to do it

- r-space part same as short-ranged potential  $O(N^{3/2})$
- k-space part:
  1. Compute  $\exp(ik_0x_i) = (\cos(ik_0x_i), \sin(ik_0x_i))$ ,  $k_0=2\pi/L$ .  $O(N)$
  2. Compute powers  $\exp(i2k_0x_i) = \exp(ik_0x_i)*\exp(ik_0x_i)$  etc.  $O(N^{3/2})$   
Get all values of  $\exp(ik \cdot r_j)$  with just multiplications.
  3. Sum over particles to get  $\rho_k$  all k.  $O(N^{3/2})$
  4. Sum over k to get the potentials.  $O(N^{1/2})$
  5. Forces can also be done by taking gradients.  $O(N^{3/2})$
- Constant terms to be added.  $O(1)$

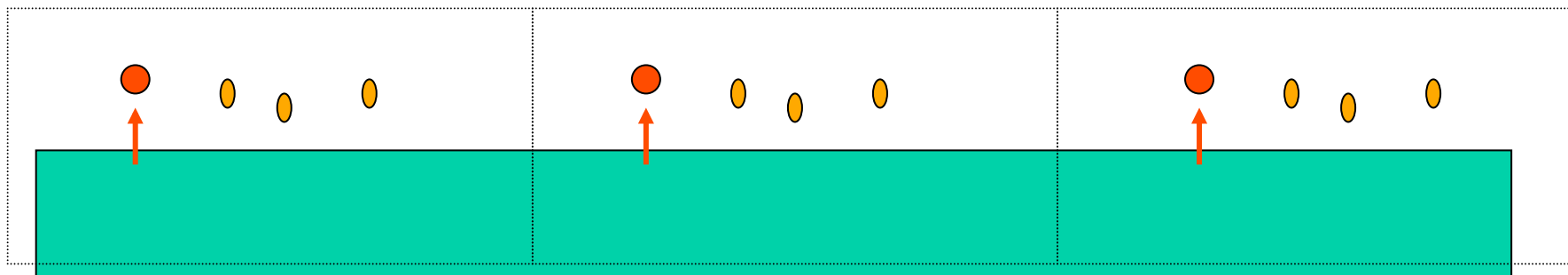
Checks: perfect cubic lattice:  $V = -1.4186487/a$ .

# Complexity of Fast Multipole

- Coulomb potentials with Ewald sums are  $O(N^{3/2})$  *if you adjust  $\kappa$*  and use neighbor tables.
- *Fast Multipole Methods* are  $O(N)$  *for large  $N$ .*
  - Divide space into cells recursively.
  - Find dipole moment of each cell.
  - Find rules for how dipole moments for supercells are related to moments for smaller cells.
  - Effective for large systems for molecular dynamics.
  - But requires a **very large system** with all particles moving.
- Other related method: *Particle cell methods* (Hockney)
  - Compute the k-space parts on a grid with FFTs.
  - $N \ln(N)$

# Problems with Image potential

- Introduces a lattice structure which may not be appropriate.
- Example: a charge layer.



- We assume charge structure continues at large  $r$ .
  - Actually nearby fluid will be anticorrelated.
  - This means such structures will be penalized.
- One should always consider the effects of boundary conditions, particularly when electrostatic forces are around!