

new configuration at  $t + h$  satisfies the constraints. Thus the SHAKE algorithm can be written as

$$r(t + h) = 2r(t) - r(t - h) + h^2[f[r(t)] + g_s(t)],$$

where  $g_s$  is the SHAKE approximation for  $g$ .

SHAKE has the same disadvantages as those associated with the Verlet algorithm. It might be thought that a "velocity version" of SHAKE could eliminate these disadvantages. However, such a formulation of the equations of motion for constrained dynamics would give

$$r(t + h) = r(t) + hr(t) + h^2[f[r(t)] + g[r(t), \dot{r}(t)]]/2, \quad (2.5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{r}(t + h) = \dot{r}(t) + h[f[r(t)] + g[r(t), \dot{r}(t)] \\ + f[r(t + h)] + g[r(t + h), \dot{r}(t + h)]]/2. \end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

Suppose we know  $r(t)$  and  $\dot{r}(t)$  and we want to solve these equations by iteration using the ideas of SHAKE to evaluate the unknown forces  $g$ . Then using (2.5) we could calculate  $r(t + h)$  by replacing  $g[r(t), \dot{r}(t)]$  by an approximation that made  $r(t + h)$  satisfy the constraints. But then we cannot use (2.6) to get  $\dot{r}(t + h)$  because we have no way of evaluating the second  $g$  that appears in that equation. In other words, by (2.5), we need to know  $\dot{r}(t)$  before beginning the calculation of  $g(t)$ , but by (2.6) we need to know  $g(t + h)$  before calculating  $\dot{r}(t + h)$ . This is inconsistent with a simple iterative scheme.

There is a straightforward way of eliminating this difficulty. There is no need that the same approximation for  $g$  be used in the position equation as in the velocity equation. This suggests the following procedure. Suppose we know the positions, forces, and velocities at time  $t$ . Using (2.5) we calculate  $r(t + h)$  by choosing the  $g$  that appears in this equation so that  $r(t + h)$  satisfies the constraints exactly (or to within a desired precision). Thus we replace (2.5) by

$$r(t + h) = r(t) + hr(t) + h^2[f[r(t)] + g_{RR}(t)]/2. \quad (2.7)$$

Knowing  $r(t + h)$ , we can calculate  $f[r(t + h)]$ . Then using (2.6) we calculate  $\dot{r}(t + h)$  by choosing the second  $g$  that appears in this equation so that the resulting  $\dot{r}(t + h)$  satisfies the time derivatives of the constraints exactly (or within a desired tolerance). Thus we replace (2.6) by

$$\dot{r}(t + h) = \dot{r}(t) + h[f[r(t)] + g_{RR}(t) + f[r(t + h)] + g_{RV}(t)]/2. \quad (2.8)$$

This algorithm, which will be called RATTLE, makes two separate approximations,  $g_{RR}$  and  $g_{RV}$ , for the forces associated with the constraints. As a result, it is possible to require that both the positions and the velocities satisfy the constraints. The detailed equations for RATTLE are given in Appendix A.