

Quantum Algorithms to compute the neighbour list of N-body Simulations

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Abstract

One of the strategies to reduce the complexity of N -body simulations is the computation of the neighbour list. However, this list needs to be updated from time to time, with a high computational cost. This paper focuses on the use of quantum computing to accelerate such a computation. Our proposal is based on a well-known oracular quantum algorithm (Grover). We introduce an efficient quantum circuit to build the oracle that marks pairs of closed bodies, and we provide three novel algorithms to calculate the neighbour list under several hypotheses which take into account a-priori information of the system. We also describe a decision methodology for the actual use of the proposed quantum algorithms. The performance of the algorithms is tested with a statistical simulation of the oracle, where a fixed number of pairs of bodies are set as neighbours. A statistical analysis of the number of oracle queries is carried out. The obtained results indicate that our algorithms can clearly outperform the best classical algorithm in terms of oracle queries, when the density of bodies is low.

Key words: quantum computing, quantum algorithm, neighbour list, N-body simulations

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1. Introduction

The N-body problem is widely used in simulations in a large variety of fields, from material science, statistical physics, to astrophysics [1-3]. However, the high computational load of N-body simulations is well-known. When the number of particles, N , is not too large, the interactions can be computed by a brute-force approach, with complexity order $O(N^2)$ [1, 2, 4]. Nevertheless, when N increases it is necessary to reduce the complexity.

Barnes & Hut defined a hierarchical tree cells scheme to locate the particles and an algorithm to compute the interactions with a complexity of $O(N \log(N))$. It is widely applied to a large number of long-range interactions ranging from stellar dynamical applications [5] to material science or molecular dynamics [1]. Moreover, an adaption of Barnes & Hut' scheme has also been simplified for the approximate computation of long-range forces between mutually interacting bodies with a complexity of $O(N)$ [6].

In the context of short-range interactions, the main approach to get a complexity of $O(N)$ is to define a neighbour list, where the interactions are only computed among neighbour particles. However, the neighbour list has to be updated after several time steps and its complexity is $O(N^2)$. The frequency of such computation can be reduced if the neighbourhood radius is optimized [2, 7].

Our interest is the acceleration of simulations related to N-body systems with short-range interactions by the fast computation of neighbour lists. This technique is commonly used in computer simulations in many different fields, such as phase equilibria, equilibrium or out-of-equilibrium molecular dynamics, or soft-matter systems [8]. Particularly in suspensions of macromolecules or colloids, the interaction among the particles is of a much shorter range than the radius or typical length, making the use of neighbour lists very convenient. This has allowed the experimental realization of the paradigmatic hard-sphere

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9 model, or the attractive square-well with controllable range, in addition to the
10 Lennard-Jones potential typical of atoms of molecules.

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12 Quantum computing [9] can be considered as a strategy to predictably accel-
13 erate these computationally expensive simulations. Quantum computing relies
14 on the basic quantum principles of superposition and entanglement, which make
15 it suitable for accelerating parallel and distributed applications and also for im-
16 proving networks and communications.
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20 Previous works exploit the quantum parallelism in many-body system sim-
21 ulations based on adiabatic quantum computation [10-12]. In contrast, this pa-
22 per addresses the N-body simulations considering quantum circuit algorithms
23 to accelerate the computation of neighbour lists. It is designed using Grover’s
24 Algorithm, the main oracular quantum search algorithm [9].
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28 The aim of this paper is two-fold. Firstly, to propose several comprehen-
29 sive solutions to the computation of the neighbour list with quantum comput-
30 ing under different alternative hypothesis. The algorithms proposed here are
31 tested with a simplified oracle, where a fixed number of pairs of particles are
32 set as neighbours. The circuits obtained from this study are freely available
33 at <https://github.com/2forts/qsec>. Secondly, to set a decision methodology for
34 the actual use of the proposed quantum algorithms. And, additionally, to set
35 a design methodology for the development of quantum algorithms, taking into
36 account a comprehensive design that supplies both algorithms and related cir-
37 cuits.
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41 The manuscript is organized as follows. In Section 2 an overview about
42 quantum computing is established. Section 3 is devoted to describing the three
43 proposed quantum algorithms for finding pairs of close particles and the se-
44 lection criteria. Furthermore, details about the oracle design as a reversible
45 quantum circuit are discussed. In section 4 statistical simulations to test the
46 proposed algorithms with a simplification of the oracle are carried out. Finally,
47 the conclusions are presented.
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2. Quantum Computing Background

Quantum computers have been considered a promising technology from its introduction to our days. These computers benefit from the special and counter-intuitive properties of quantum mechanics, like superposition. Superposition allows a qubit (a quantum bit, the basic unit of the quantum computers) to be in the states $|0\rangle$ and $|1\rangle$ simultaneously. Thanks to this feature, quantum computers can evaluate a function $f(x)$ at many values of x at once, what is known as quantum parallelism [9].

Since their introduction, quantum algorithms have outperformed classical ones in several problems. Grover and Shor algorithms are the two best-known examples. In fact, most of the current quantum algorithms are based on the methodology of one of these two [9]. Focusing on Grover's algorithm, it performs a search through an unstructured space, achieving a quadratic speedup with respect to classic search algorithms. Among other quantum properties, Grover's algorithm is based on the concepts of superposition and quantum parallelism to compute several evaluations of a function as one [13]. The algorithm obtains a solution with a certain probability, being necessary a minimum of iterations of the algorithm to get the solution with the desired probability. The estimation of the necessary number of iterations is one of the most important parts in the algorithm.

Grover's algorithm needs a black box oracle O as an input. This oracle has to check if a value x is (or not) a solution to the search problem. Therefore, to apply Grover's algorithms to a real problem it is necessary to build an oracle with the capacity to recognize if a given value is a valid solution to that problem. It is just as important to use the algorithm in the correct context, as it is to build an efficient oracle for it. The circuits paradigm is the most usual methodology to design and implement quantum algorithms, where an oracle based on the design of reversible quantum circuits is required. In the literature, it is a common practice to mathematically define an oracle for the problem. However, without a real implementation, the algorithm is not functional on a quantum computer

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9 or simulator.

10 So, the methodology widely used to design quantum applications involves
11 the combination of: (1) the design of quantum algorithms based on well-known
12 quantum procedures (for example, Grover) bearing in mind the statistical com-
13 putation provided by them and (2) and the use of a particular reversible quan-
14 tum circuit that implements the specific oracle use in such design. In this work
15 we provide a whole design of quantum algorithms to compute the neighbour
16 list.
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21 In the rest of this paper, we introduce a quantum algorithm based on
22 Grover's algorithm, showing that it involves fewer queries than classical alterna-
23 tives. Moreover, we present the complete design of the oracle for our algorithm,
24 ready for its use in quantum simulators.
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29 **3. Quantum algorithms for finding pairs of close particles**

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31 In this section, we propose three quantum algorithms that can be used to
32 find all the pairs of particles that are closer than a given threshold distance. For
33 this, we will assume, as it is customary in this kind of problem [9, 13], that we
34 are given a quantum circuit implementing an oracle O such that
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$$39 \quad O(|x\rangle|0\rangle) = \begin{cases} |x\rangle|1\rangle & \text{if } x \text{ satisfies certain conditions} \\ |x\rangle|0\rangle & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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43 Notice that this is a completely general situation and can be applied not
44 only for the case of finding all the pairs of particles that are close (in which case
45 $|x\rangle = |x_1\rangle|x_2\rangle$, with x_1 and x_2 indices of two particles), but to any setting in
46 which we have to find all the elements in a set that satisfy a certain condition.
47 This is closely related to the Coupon Collector Problem [14], that has been
48 recently studied in a quantum context [15] but with an important difference:
49 in general, we do not know how many pairs of particles are closer than the
50 threshold, so we are not able to use the methods presented in that work. Another
51 important feature is the fact that, for a given particle, the number of close
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9 particles is upper bounded by a constant independent of the total number of
10 particles.
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12 The availability of the oracle O allows us to use Grover's search algorithm [13],
13 that will be central to our methods. It is important to note that the success
14 probability of Grover's algorithm and the number of times it consults the oracle
15 are completely determined by the number of elements ν in the set and by the
16 number μ of *marked* elements (i.e., elements that satisfy the condition). For that
17 reason, in our algorithms we will consider oracles $O = O_\nu^\mu$ that mark exactly
18 μ elements from a set of size ν . This general setting allows us to consider two
19 different situations: we can search among all the pairs of particles at once (i.e.,
20 $\nu = N^2$, and μ is the number of pairs of close particles) or we can fix one of the
21 particles and search for the close ones (i.e., $\nu = N$, and μ is the number of close
22 neighbour). This will prove useful in certain situations, as we explain below,
23 but from the point of view of the analysis of our quantum algorithms we can
24 consider both cases in just one abstract setting, with the only difference being
25 the values of the parameters ν and μ .
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34 35 *3.1. Oracle Construction*

36 In this subsection we discuss the construction of a quantum circuit imple-
37 menting the oracle O for the particular case of marking pairs of particles that
38 are below a given distance. In this paper, we will consider that all our algo-
39 rithms use that circuit as an instantiation of the oracle. Therefore, we want to
40 demonstrate the feasibility of building such an oracle. Therefore, we want to
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44 demonstrate the feasibility of building such an oracle.

45 A circuit implementing the oracle must return 1 if the distance between two
46 particles i and j is less than or equal to a threshold value δ , and 0 otherwise.
47 That procedure can be divided into two operations: the computation of the
48 distances between i and j , and the comparison between that distance and δ .
49 Additionally, as required in two of the proposed algorithms, we will need to
50 modify the oracle O so that, once found a marked element x_0 , it is excluded
51 from being marked by a new oracle O' :
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$$O'(|x\rangle|0\rangle) = \begin{cases} |x\rangle|1\rangle & \text{if } x \text{ is marked and } x \neq x_0 \\ |x\rangle|0\rangle & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Focusing on the arithmetic part, the process supports some simplifications. On the one hand, it is possible to work with the squared distances. Therefore, the square root of the distances between particles is not necessary. Then, the distances can be computed using subtractors, adders, and squaring circuits. On the other hand, the comparison can be computed using a half comparator instead of a full comparator since it is only necessary to identify if the distance is, or is not, less than or equal to the threshold. Half comparators involve less resources than full ones. Focusing now on the modification proposed in the previous equation, it can be achieved by standard procedures, such as for instance the use of X gates and a multi-controlled Toffoli gates. We will repeatedly use these modifications of the original oracles in our algorithms.

It is important to note that this oracle will not provide any quantum advantage. However, even quantum circuits that does not provide quantum advantages can be useful as part of larger circuits if they involve an small number of resources [16]. In our case, the oracle must use the least possible number of resources to be efficiently used by our algorithms. In terms of quantum circuits, resource optimization is commonly measured using the number of involved qubits. It is also important to avoid the so-called garbage outputs: qubits that are not part of the result and whose value is not restored to the initial one, so they cannot be used in other circuits. A reduction in the number of operations (represented by the so-called quantum cost) is also desirable [17, 18].

Table 3.1 shows some of the most prominent adders, subtractors, squaring circuits, and half-comparators available in the literature. The table shows their quantum cost, their number of ancilla inputs, and the number of garbage outputs, according to the definitions given by Mohammadi et al. [17]. To carry out a complete analysis of the available circuits in the state-of-the-art is out of the scope of this article. However, we have studied a few selection of them in order

| | Circuit | Quantum cost | Ancilla inputs | Garbage outputs |
|------------------------|---|--------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Adders and subtractors | [23] (full subtractors) | $6n$ | n | 0 |
| | [23] (full and half subtractors) | $6n - 2$ | n | 0 |
| | [24] + [23] | $6n$ | $n + 1$ | 0 |
| | [20] (input carry) $(\overline{a + b})$ | $18n - 6$ | 2 | 0 |
| | [20] (input carry) $(a + \overline{b} + 1)$ | $16n - 4$ | 2 | 0 |
| | [20] (no input carry) $(\overline{a + b})$ | $16n - 8$ | 1 | 0 |
| | [25] $(\overline{a + b})$ | $31n - 15W(n) - 15\log(n) - 6$ | $5n/4$ | 0 |
| | [26] $(a + \overline{b} + 1)$ | $30n - 15W(n) - 15\log(n) - 4$ | $5n/4$ | 0 |
| Squaring circuits | [27] | $36n$ | $7n$ | $7n$ |
| | [28] | $35n$ | $10n$ | $10n$ |
| | [29] | $36n$ | $7n$ | $13n$ |
| | [30] | $38n$ | $13n$ | $13n$ |
| | [21] | $32n$ | $6n - 3$ | 0 |
| Half comparators | [31] | $O(n^2)$ | $2n$ | 0 |
| | [32] | $39n + 9$ | $6n + 1$ | 0 |
| | [18] | $18n + 9$ | $4n - 3$ | 0 |
| | [33] | $14n$ | $4n - 2$ | 0 |
| | [34] | $28n$ | 2 | 0 |
| | [20] $(\overline{a + b})$ | $32n - 18$ | 3 | 0 |
| | [20] $(a + \overline{b} + 1)$ | $30n - 10$ | 3 | 0 |
| | [23] (full and half subtractors) | $12n$ | $2n - 3$ | 0 |
| | [22] | $16n - 8$ | 2 | 0 |

Table 1: Evaluation of most optimized circuits which can be used as part of the oracle O for the general n -digit case, in terms of quantum cost, ancilla inputs and number of garbage outputs.

to implement a functional oracle. We have followed the methodology described in [19] to measure and to test these circuits. We have chosen the best circuits of each category to build the oracle, prioritizing the absence of garbage outputs and the number of ancilla inputs since their optimization involves less qubits. In particular, we have built and tested a prototype of the oracle in ProjectQ simulator using the circuits proposed in [20] (computing $\overline{a + b}$), [21], and [22]. The source code is freely available in <https://github.com/2forts/qsec>.

3.2. The algorithmic methodology

All our algorithms are based on the use of Grover's search [13]. This quantum algorithm allows, given an oracle O_V^μ that marks μ elements from a set of

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9 size ν , to find, with high probability, a marked element with $O\left(\sqrt{\frac{\nu}{\mu}}\right)$ consults
10 to the oracle, compared to the $\Omega\left(\frac{\nu}{\mu}\right)$ that would be needed with a classical
11 algorithm. This means that there is a quadratic gap between the upper-bound
12 of the quantum algorithm, and the lower-bound of the classical ones. We will
13 exploit this quadratic speed-up to obtain algorithms that are asymptotically
14 faster than any possible classical algorithm that also uses a black-box oracle.
15 Namely, this allows to beat the $\Omega(N^2)$ bound for the search of pairs of closed
16 particles, in a non-quantum setting. Because of the intrinsic probabilistic na-
17 ture of quantum computing, our algorithms will provide a right answer with
18 probability at least $1 - w$, where w is a chosen input parameter.

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20 We first consider the situation in which the number of marked elements μ is
21 known. This case will be rarely encountered in practice (when our algorithms
22 are used to find the pairs of particles that are below a given threshold), but we
23 present it here anyway for two reasons. First, it is closely related to the Quantum
24 Coupon Collector Problem, that has recently attracted some attention [15].
25 Second, it will provide a useful benchmark for the more realistic algorithms we
26 present later, as an ideal minimal bound on the number of oracle consults.

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28 Since we are assuming that we know μ , we can simply run Grover's algo-
29 rithm, checking every time if we have obtained a new marked element, until
30 all of them have been found. However, since Grover's algorithm only returns a
31 marked element with certain probability, there is no upper bound to the num-
32 ber of required oracle consults. For that reason, we propose first to compute a
33 number R of Grover iterations that guarantees finding all marked elements with
34 probability of failure at most w (see the details in Appendix A). The complete
35 procedure is, then, the one presented in Algorithm 1.

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Algorithm 1.

INPUT:

- An oracle O_ν^μ marking a known number of μ elements in a database of ν elements ($0 < \mu \leq \frac{\nu}{2}$).
- A desired error bound probability $0 < w < 1$.

OUTPUT:

- A set of r marked database elements $L = \{x_1, \dots, x_r\}$.
With probability at least $1 - w$, we will have $r = \mu$.

PROCEDURE:

1. Set $L = \emptyset$; $R = \left\lceil \frac{\log(\frac{w}{\mu})}{\log(1 - \frac{1}{2\mu})} \right\rceil$
2. FOR l from 1 to R do
 - (a) Run Grover's algorithm with $\left\lceil \frac{\pi}{4} \sqrt{\frac{\nu}{\mu}} \right\rceil$ iterations
 - (b) If a marked element x is found, set $L = L \cup \{x\}$
 - (c) If $|L| = \mu$ GO TO 3.
3. Return L

In practice, however, μ will be unknown to us. This affects our application of Grover's search in two different ways. On the one hand, we can never be sure that we have already found all the marked elements and this affects the stopping conditions (cf. line 2(c) of Algorithm 1). On the other, we do not know what is the optimal number of iterations in Grover's algorithm (cf. line 2(a) of Algorithm 1). Of course, not knowing μ , also prevents us from computing R .

To overcome these difficulties, we adopt a strategy similar to the one proposed in [35]. For the number of iterations in Grover's search, we select a random number in $\{0, \dots, \lfloor \sqrt{\nu} \rfloor - 1\}$. For the stopping condition, we compute a value R that will guarantee that if after R executions of Grover's search no marked element has been found, then the probability that indeed there are marked elements is below w , an error bound selected by the user. The mathematical

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9 derivation of R is given in [Appendix A](#). Note that this bound is very conserva-
10 tive and that, in practice, errors much smaller than w will be usually obtained,
11 as shown in the numerical simulations that we have conducted (see [Section 4](#)).
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13 The complete procedure is described in [Algorithm 2](#). Notice that in line
14 3(b), after a new element has been found, we modify the oracle so that this
15 element is not considered again. For that, we use the construction of oracle the
16 O' mentioned above ([Subsection 3.1](#)).
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Algorithm 2.

INPUT:

- An oracle O_v^μ marking an unknown number of μ elements (upper bounded by a known or estimated B) in a database of ν elements ($0 \leq \mu \leq B \leq \frac{3\nu}{4}$).
- A desired error bound probability $0 < w < 1$.

OUTPUT:

- A set of r marked database elements $L = \{x_1, \dots, x_r\}$.
With probability at least $1 - w$, we will have $r = \mu$.

PROCEDURE:

1. Set $L = \emptyset$; $R = \left\lceil \frac{\log\left(1 - (1-w)^{\frac{1}{B}}\right)}{\log\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)} \right\rceil$; $FOUND = FALSE$
2. FOR l from 1 to R do
 - (a) Choose j uniformly at random from the set $\{0, \dots, \lfloor \sqrt{\nu} \rfloor - 1\}$
 - (b) Run Grover's algorithm with j iterations
 - (c) If a marked element x is found, set $FOUND = TRUE$; GO TO 3.
3. IF $FOUND = FALSE$, OUTPUT L
ELSE
 - (a) Set $L = L \cup \{x\}$; $FOUND = FALSE$
 - (b) Eliminate x from the list of marked elements by the oracle
 - (c) GO TO 2.

Although Algorithm 2 gives an acceptable worst case asymptotic behaviour (cf. Table 2), the average number of oracle consults can be improved by using techniques similar to the ones used in [35]. This yield us to introduce a third algorithm to achieve such an improvement (Algorithm 3). Instead of always

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choosing the number of iterations of Grover’s algorithm in a uniform way (see line 2(a) in Algorithm 2), we now increase the number of iterations, starting from 1, by a factor of $\frac{6}{5}$ (see Algorithm 3, line 3.(a)). This allows us to improve the behaviour in the average case, as shown in Table 2. We still need, however, a stopping condition that guarantees that the probability of missing some elements is less than w , leading to a worst case behaviour equivalent to that of Algorithm 2. The details of the analysis can be found in Appendix A

Table 2 summarises the oracle query complexities of the three algorithms that we have proposed, where we suppose that, in general, μ is a function of ν .

| Algorithm | Worst case | Average case |
|-----------|------------------------------|---|
| 1 | $O(\sqrt{\nu\mu} \log(\mu))$ | $O(\sqrt{\nu\mu} \log(\mu))$ |
| 2 | $O(\sqrt{\nu\mu} \log(B))$ | $O(\sqrt{\nu}(\log(B) + \mu))$ |
| 3 | $O(\sqrt{\nu\mu} \log(\nu))$ | $O(\sqrt{\nu}(\log(\nu) + \sqrt{\mu}))$ |

Table 2: Summary of query complexities (ν is the size of the database, μ is the number of marked elements, $B \leq \frac{3\nu}{4}$ is an upper bound on μ)

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Algorithm 3.

INPUT:

- An oracle O_ν^μ marking an unknown number of μ elements (upper bounded by a known or estimated B) in a database of ν elements ($0 \leq \mu \leq B \leq \frac{3\nu}{4}$).
- A desired error bound probability $0 < w < 1$.

OUTPUT:

- A set of r marked database elements $L = \{x_1, \dots, x_r\}$.
With probability at least $1 - w$, we will have $r = \mu$.

PROCEDURE:

1. Set $L = \emptyset$; $m = 1$; $\lambda = \frac{6}{5}$; $R = 1$; $FOUND = FALSE$
 2. FOR l from 1 to R do
 - (a) Choose j uniformly at random from the set $\{0, \dots, \lceil m \rceil - 1\}$
 - (b) Run Grover's algorithm with j iterations
 - (c) If a marked element x is found, set $FOUND = TRUE$; GO TO 3.
 3. IF $FOUND = FALSE$
 - (a) IF $m = \sqrt{\nu}$, OUTPUT L .
ELSE,
set $m = \min\{\lambda m, \sqrt{\nu}\}$;
 $FOUND = FALSE$.
IF $m = \sqrt{\nu}$, set $R = \left\lceil \frac{\log\left(1 - (1-w)^{\frac{1}{B}}\right)}{\log\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)} \right\rceil$
 - (b) GO TO 2.
- ELSE
- (a) Set $L = L \cup \{x\}$; $m = 1$; $R = 1$; $FOUND = FALSE$
 - (b) Eliminate x from the list of marked elements by the oracle
 - (c) GO TO 2.

3.3. *The case of particle pairs*

The general search methods presented in the previous subsection can be applied to the problem of determining all the particle pairs that are closer than a given threshold distance. In this paper, the number of close particles to a fixed one is upper bounded by a constant independent of the total number of particles, because of the characteristics of the physical problem (see Section 4). We will explore two possible instantiations.

The first one is to consider all possible pairs of particles and apply any of the three algorithms directly. In this case, we will have $\nu = N^2$, where N is the total number of particles, and μ represents the number of pairs of close particles. Provided some mild conditions are met (see Appendix B), we obtain the asymptotic complexities shown in Table 3

| Algorithm | Worst case | Average case |
|-----------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | $O(N\sqrt{\mu} \log \mu)$ | $O(N\sqrt{\mu} \log \mu)$ |
| 2 | $O(N\mu \log B)$ | $O(N(\log B + \mu))$ |
| 3 | $O(N\mu \log N)$ | $O(N(\log N + \sqrt{\mu}))$ |

Table 3: Query complexities in our particular problem, first instantiation: pairs of close particles ($N \geq 54$ is the number of particles, μ is the number of pairs of close particles, $B \leq 27N$ is an upper bound on μ)

In the second instantiation, we fix one particle and search, with any of the three proposed algorithms, for all the particles that are close to it. This can be helpful, as explained in detailed in the next subsection, when only a few of the particles have changed their positions and, thus, we only need to update their neighbour lists. If we consider α to be the number of particles with new positions, then the complexities of the algorithms are those given in Table 4. For the detailed analysis, which is based on the key fact that the number of closed particles to a fixed one is upper bounded by a constant independent of the total number of particles, see Appendix B.

Notice that several of the algorithms offer asymptotic complexities which

| Algorithm | Worst case | Average case |
|-----------|---|---|
| 1 | $O(\sqrt{N}\alpha \log \alpha)$ | $O(\sqrt{N}\alpha \log \alpha)$ |
| 2 | $O(\sqrt{N}\alpha \log \alpha)$ | $O(\sqrt{N}\alpha \log \alpha)$ |
| 3 | $O(\sqrt{N} \log(N)\alpha \log \alpha)$ | $O(\sqrt{N} \log(N)\alpha \log \alpha)$ |

Table 4: Query complexities in our particular problem, second instantiation: particles close to a fixed one ($N \geq 54$ is the number of particles, α is the number of particles to search for close neighbours)

can be, in the average or even in the worst case, better than those of any classical algorithm (which, necessarily, would have to make $\frac{N(N-1)}{2}$ or αN distance computations and comparisons). In fact, we will show in Section 4 that for a range of parameter values found in real-life problems, our algorithms can greatly reduce the number of oracle queries that need to be performed.

In the next subsection, we explain how the different choices of algorithm can be integrated in a decision procedure depending on the problem parameters and the evolution of the system.

3.4. The decision procedure

As we can see, the second and third algorithms are memory procedures in which the input oracle must be updated in order to keep track of found elements. The three algorithms can be combined with different input parameters in order to obtain the set of close pairs of N particles in the space. Since the particles are continuously moving in space, we propose a two-step dynamic programming strategy: first, looking for close particles among the set of all pairs; later on, looking for close particles to fixed ones, when the positions of particles change (i.e., an update methodology). One aspect to be considered is that Algorithm 3 performs uniformly better than Algorithm 2 in the average case. So, if desired, Algorithm 3 could be a substitute for Algorithm 2 in the alternatives given below.

First step: initialize the pairs of close particles

At this initial stage, the parameter ν is to be instantiated as N^2 , and μ is the number of close pairs to be found. The choice of the algorithms is as follows:

- **If** μ is not known, then:
 - **If** μ is believed to be negligible in relation to the total number of pairs, use Algorithm 2 ($O(N)$ oracle calls in the worst case) with an estimated upper bound $B \leq 27N$ of μ .
 - **Else**, use Algorithm 3 with an estimated upper bound $B \leq 27N$ of μ ($O(N\sqrt{N})$ oracle calls in the average case).
- **Else** (μ is known), then:
 - **If** μ is negligible in relation to the total number of pairs, use Algorithm 1 (in the worst scenario, $O(N)$ oracle calls) or Algorithm 2 ($O(N \log N)$ oracle calls in the worst case) with $B = \mu$.
 - **Else**, use Algorithm 1 ($O(N\sqrt{N} \log N)$ oracle calls in the worst case) or Algorithm 3 with $B = \mu$ ($O(N\sqrt{N})$ oracle calls in the average case).

Second step: update the set of particles close to fixed ones

At this stage, the parameter ν is to be instantiated as N , the number of updated particles is α , and for a fixed particle, μ represents the number of close particles to be found.

The alternatives are the following:

1. If $\alpha \log \alpha$ is close to N , then backtrack to the first step.
2. Else, set $S = \left\lceil \frac{\log(\frac{w}{\alpha})}{\log(w)} \right\rceil$. Then:
 - (a) If μ is known, then use Algorithm 1 S times for each of the α particles ($O(\sqrt{N}\sqrt{\alpha} \log \alpha)$ oracle calls in the worst case).
 - (b) Else, use Algorithm 2 S times for each of the α particles ($O(\sqrt{N}\sqrt{\alpha} \log \alpha)$ oracle calls in the worst case).

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9 **4. Statistical simulation of the algorithms**

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11 In this section, the performance of the first-step algorithms introduced in
12 Section 3 are tested in practical situations. A key aspect of the simulation is
13 the oracle O , where the particle configuration should be fed into, and the use of
14 Grover’s search. For the purpose of testing the actual behaviour of algorithms
15 1 – 3, the oracle is simplified notably, just taking into account the number μ of
16 pairs of close particles, among the total number of N particles. The simulation
17 will simply identify such a number of pairs. Since Grover executions in the
18 algorithms are independent, we can directly simulate (because of the results
19 in 35) the running of the Grover steps by sampling from a Bernoulli distribution
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$$\sin^2((2j + 1)\theta)$$

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29 where j is the number of Grover iterations, $\sin^2 \theta = \frac{t}{\nu}$ and t is the number of
30 marked elements (notice that $t = \mu$ for Algorithm 1, but in Algorithms 2 and
31 3 t starts at μ and is decreased in one unit with each found element). This
32 means that we do not actually run the Grover steps: we simply simulate the
33 success probability of such runs, instead. In the case of Algorithms 2 and 3 that
34 is enough, because each successful run of Grover will find a different element
35 (we eliminate the obtained ones from the oracle). For Algorithm 1, when the
36 simulation shows that Grover has found a marked element, we sample uniformly
37 from the set $\{1, 2, \dots, \mu\}$ to determine the actual element that has been found.
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44 In all cases, three values of μ are considered, $\mu = 40, 80,$ and 150 . This
45 implies a mean number of neighbours per particle ranging from 2.3 to 0.08,
46 which corresponds to some situations found in practice. For instance, in the
47 canonical hard-sphere system, taking a threshold value for the center to center
48 distance of $3a$, with a the particle radius, these mean number of neighbours are
49 obtained volume fractions below.
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53 For Algorithm 1, following the analysis of Appendix A, the bounds on the
54 total number of iterations for different success probabilities are given in Ta-
55 bles 5, 6 and 7. These bounds, however, are shown to be very conservative once
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we take into account the actual results found in the simulations. In Tables [8](#), [9](#) and [10](#) we show the minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle calls needed until all the pairs are found, across 10^6 repetitions of the algorithm. Notice that these values are much lower than those expected from the asymptotic analysis, even when we take into account the standard deviation.

| Error bound w | # Calls 125 part. | # Calls 216 part. | # Calls 512 part. | # Calls 1000 part. |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 0.1 | 7632 | 15264 | 30528 | 61056 |
| 0.05 | 8512 | 17024 | 34048 | 68096 |
| 0.01 | 10560 | 21120 | 42240 | 84480 |
| 0.005 | 11440 | 22880 | 45760 | 91520 |
| 0.001 | 13488 | 26976 | 53952 | 107094 |

Table 5: Bounds on # of oracle calls for Algorithm 1 when $\mu = 40$

| Error bound w | # Calls 125 part. | # Calls 216 part. | # Calls 512 part. | # Calls 1000 part. |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 0.1 | 12804 | 24541 | 48015 | 96030 |
| 0.05 | 14124 | 27071 | 52965 | 105930 |
| 0.01 | 17208 | 32982 | 64530 | 129060 |
| 0.005 | 18540 | 35535 | 69525 | 139050 |
| 0.001 | 21612 | 41423 | 81045 | 162090 |

Table 6: Bounds on # of oracle calls for Algorithm 1 when $\mu = 80$

In Table [11](#), we show the value of R for Algorithms 2 and 3 for $B = 27N$. . Again, these bounds prove to be extremely conservative. We have executed Algorithms 2 and 3 for 10^6 times with values of R taken from $\{5, 10, \dots, 70\}$. The full results can be found in the supplementary material. In this section, we present only the data for the first value of R that successfully finds all the

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| Error bound w | # Calls 125 part. | # Calls 216 part. | # Calls 512 part. | # Calls 1000 part. |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 0.1 | 19719 | 37247 | 72303 | 144606 |
| 0.05 | 21582 | 40766 | 79134 | 158268 |
| 0.01 | 25920 | 48960 | 95040 | 190080 |
| 0.005 | 27792 | 52496 | 101904 | 203808 |
| 0.001 | 32130 | 60690 | 117810 | 235620 |

Table 7: Bounds on # of oracle calls for Algorithm 1 when $\mu = 150$

| Particles | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|-----------|---------|---------|----------|--------------------|
| 125 | 928 | 12600 | 2749.08 | 790.33 |
| 216 | 1888 | 24224 | 5481.58 | 1575.03 |
| 512 | 3904 | 44928 | 10957.61 | 3150.78 |
| 1000 | 7552 | 86144 | 21909.18 | 6313.69 |

Table 8: Minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of iterations for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 1 when $\mu = 40$

| Particles | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|-----------|---------|---------|----------|--------------------|
| 125 | 1908 | 20064 | 4920.50 | 1243.43 |
| 216 | 3795 | 33833 | 9181.87 | 2318.84 |
| 512 | 7254 | 61650 | 17887.36 | 4516.25 |
| 1000 | 14940 | 131490 | 35743.77 | 9016.89 |

Table 9: Minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of iterations for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 1 when $\mu = 80$

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| Particles | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|-----------|---------|---------|----------|--------------------|
| 125 | 3636 | 28665 | 8038.76 | 1819.60 |
| 216 | 6613 | 49691 | 14415.13 | 3266.95 |
| 512 | 12606 | 92532 | 27695.03 | 6265.49 |
| 1000 | 24354 | 180774 | 55391.35 | 12542.27 |

Table 10: Minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of iterations for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 1 when $\mu = 150$

particle pairs in all 10^6 experiments for a fixed value of μ . Since all these results can be quickly obtained from simulations alone, for other values of N , ν and μ , one can repeat experiments similar to the ones presented here in order to determine, before using an actual quantum computer, which algorithm is most suitable for the situation and what is the desirable value of R . In Tables [12](#) through [17](#) we show those results, including the value of R and the minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle calls used by the algorithms.

We can see that, as it was the case with Algorithm 1, Algorithms 2 and 3, we achieve an error rate below one in a million for values of R much less than what Table [11](#) would lead to expect.

| Error bound w | R 125 part. | R 216 part. | R 512 part. | R 1000 part. |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 0.1 | 37 | 39 | 41 | 44 |
| 0.05 | 39 | 42 | 44 | 46 |
| 0.01 | 45 | 47 | 50 | 52 |
| 0.005 | 47 | 50 | 52 | 54 |
| 0.001 | 53 | 55 | 58 | 60 |

Table 11: Number of repetitions for different error bounds in Algorithms 2 and 3 when $\mu = 40$

In Figures [1](#), [2](#) and [3](#), we compare the number of queries needed by the classical algorithm with the average number of queries made by Algorithms 1,

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| Particles | R | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|-----------|-----|---------|---------|----------|--------------------|
| 125 | 30 | 4275 | 11155 | 6966.10 | 679.77 |
| 216 | 30 | 8783 | 22207 | 13987.19 | 1364.44 |
| 512 | 30 | 17789 | 43981 | 28031.48 | 2729.62 |
| 1000 | 30 | 34156 | 90053 | 56105.27 | 5462.89 |

Table 12: Minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 when $\mu = 40$

| Particles | R | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|-----------|-----|---------|---------|----------|--------------------|
| 125 | 20 | 2027 | 4928 | 3183.36 | 260.28 |
| 216 | 20 | 4255 | 10959 | 6742.70 | 528.98 |
| 512 | 20 | 8806 | 22982 | 13986.88 | 1067.27 |
| 1000 | 20 | 19203 | 43485 | 28652.95 | 2151.95 |

Table 13: Minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 when $\mu = 40$

| Particles | R | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|-----------|-----|---------|---------|----------|--------------------|
| 125 | 30 | 8209 | 17179 | 12066.42 | 948.43 |
| 216 | 30 | 16616 | 35536 | 24232.50 | 1905.19 |
| 512 | 30 | 33531 | 69521 | 48549.50 | 3805.91 |
| 1000 | 30 | 66544 | 139891 | 97211.92 | 948.43 |

Table 14: Minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 when $\mu = 80$

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| Particles | R | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|-----------|-----|---------|---------|----------|--------------------|
| 125 | 20 | 2572 | 5504 | 3815.21 | 271.06 |
| 216 | 20 | 5832 | 11881 | 8242.92 | 552.67 |
| 512 | 20 | 12368 | 24762 | 17312.67 | 1117.62 |
| 1000 | 20 | 25475 | 50528 | 35718.52 | 2251.94 |

Table 15: Minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 when $\mu = 80$

| Particles | R | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|-----------|-----|---------|---------|-----------|--------------------|
| 125 | 35 | 15946 | 28345 | 21269.77 | 1288.21 |
| 216 | 35 | 31338 | 56721 | 42704.70 | 2586.14 |
| 512 | 35 | 63555 | 112327 | 85583.67 | 5176.96 |
| 1000 | 35 | 127876 | 226940 | 171312.89 | 10360.06 |

Table 16: Minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 when $\mu = 150$

| Particles | R | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|-----------|-----|---------|---------|----------|--------------------|
| 125 | 20 | 3178 | 6341 | 4522.74 | 280.11 |
| 216 | 20 | 7495 | 13782 | 10012.76 | 572.83 |
| 512 | 20 | 15898 | 28518 | 21342.74 | 1160.47 |
| 1000 | 20 | 32971 | 57502 | 44433.08 | 2337.95 |

Table 17: Minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 when $\mu = 150$

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2 and 3. Notice that, while the growth in the case of the classical algorithm is quadratic, for our algorithms it is linear for fixed values of μ . In fact, for the lowest values of μ , the average number of queries of all our algorithms is lower than the number of queries performed by the classical algorithm. For bigger values of μ (80 and 150), the classical algorithm beats some of the quantum algorithms for low number of particles (125 and 216) but for the simulations with 512 and 1000 particles, our algorithms are always better (and the speed-up increases with the number of particles). In fact, Algorithm 3 was always better than the classical algorithm for all the cases under study.

These data show that our algorithms can clearly outperform the best classical algorithm in terms of oracle queries when the density of particles is low (μ is low or ν is high). Thus, once robust quantum hardware is available, these methods, especially Algorithm 3, may be of use in practical situations, where the density is usually low, a situation in which our algorithms show their better performance.

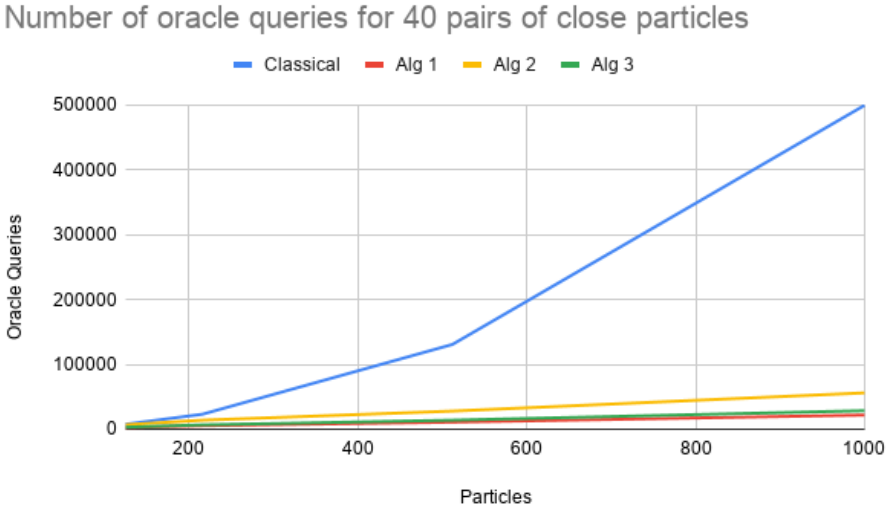


Figure 1: Comparison of the number of oracle queries of the different algorithms when $\mu = 40$

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Number of oracle queries for 80 pairs of close particles

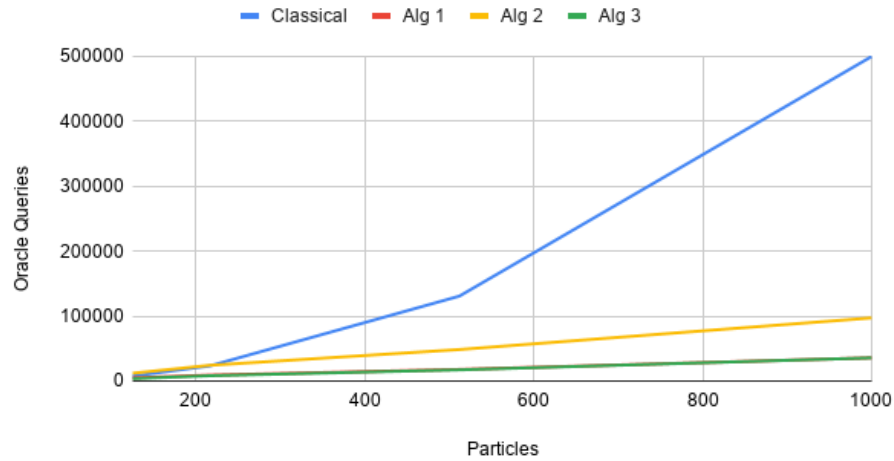


Figure 2: Comparison of the number of oracle queries of the different algorithms when $\mu = 80$

5. Conclusions

The focus of this work has been on the use of quantum computing to efficiently calculate the neighbour list in the context of N-body simulations. A quantum algorithm, based on oracle procedures (Grover) has been considered to carry out the whole proposal. The oracle has been designed with efficient reversible circuits that identify if pairs of bodies are neighbours or not. A prototype of the oracle has been developed in ProjectQ simulator based on the circuits proposed in [20-22] and it is available at <https://github.com/2forts/qsec>. Three quantum algorithms have been designed to get the pairs of neighbour particles from the information provided by the oracle. They can be combined in a two-step procedure for achieving such an objective: first, looking for pairs of close particles; second, updating the neighbour list of a small number of particles that move beyond a certain threshold. The actual combination of the algorithms has been described in a decision procedure, that aims to provide the best algorithm for each possible situation.

The asymptotic analysis of every algorithm has been justified from a the-

Number of oracle queries for 150 pairs of close particles

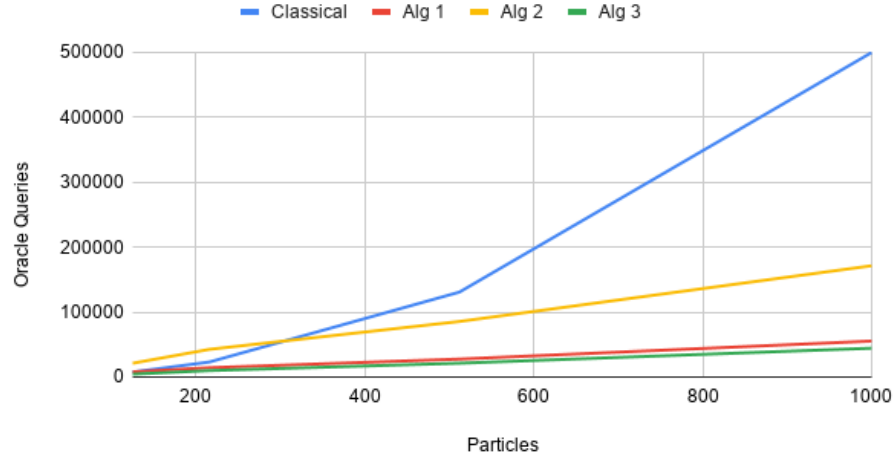


Figure 3: Comparison of the number of oracle queries of the different algorithms when $\mu = 150$

oretical point of view. A statistical simulation of the oracle O in combination with the algorithms has been considered to test their statistical behavior for μ pairs of close particles, among N particles.

After 10^6 repetitions of the algorithms, the developed test has evaluated the minimum, maximum, average, and standard deviation of the number of oracle calls needed until all the pairs were found. The obtained values have been much lower than those expected from the asymptotic analysis.

Thus, once robust quantum hardware is available, these methods, especially Algorithm 3, may be of use in practical situations, where the density is usually low, a situation in which our algorithms have shown their best performance.

Acknowledgments

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Appendix A. Mathematical proof of the asymptotic behaviour of the proposed quantum algorithms

Algorithm 1

Given a database of ν unsorted elements and an oracle that detects $\mu = \mu(\nu)$ marked elements, Algorithm 1 provides a method that finds all marked elements with a bounded probability error, based on a repeatedly use of Grover's algorithm. We shall require that, for all ν , $0 < \mu(\nu)$. We will also assume that the sequence $\mu(\nu)$ has a limit, when $\nu \rightarrow \infty$.

Grover's algorithm provides, with $O\left(\sqrt{\frac{\nu}{\mu(\nu)}}\right)$ oracle calls, a success probability greater or equal than $\delta(\nu) := 1 - \frac{\mu(\nu)}{\nu}$, i.e., $\delta(\nu) := P$ (finding a marked element out of the $\mu(\nu)$ [35, Section 3]). Assuming that $\mu(\nu) \leq \frac{\nu}{2}$, for all ν , we have a uniformly bounded success probability $\delta(\nu) \geq \frac{1}{2}$. Because such an algorithm does not distinguish between marked elements, we have that

$$P_i(\nu) := P(\text{finding the } i\text{-th marked element out of the } \mu(\nu)) = \frac{\delta(\nu)}{\mu(\nu)} \geq \frac{1}{2\mu(\nu)}$$

for all $i = 1, \dots, \mu(\nu)$, and for all ν . We want to independently repeat the search $R = R(\nu)$ times and estimate the probability $P'(\nu)$ of not finding all marked elements. Namely,

$$\begin{aligned} P'(\nu) &:= P(\text{not finding all marked elements in } R(\nu) \text{ experiments}) \\ &= P(\text{not find. the first elem. in } R(\nu) \text{ exp. } \vee \dots \vee \text{ not find. the } \mu(\nu)\text{-th elem. in } R(\nu) \text{ exp.}) \\ &\leq \mu(\nu) \left(1 - \frac{1}{2\mu(\nu)}\right)^{R(\nu)} \end{aligned}$$

In order to obtain a bounded algorithm, we require that such a probability is less than some $w < 1$, for all ν . This yields $\mu(\nu) \left(1 - \frac{1}{2\mu(\nu)}\right)^{R(\nu)} \leq w$ or,

equivalently,

$$R(\nu) \geq \frac{\log\left(\frac{w}{\mu(\nu)}\right)}{\log\left(1 - \frac{1}{2\mu(\nu)}\right)}$$

Taking $R(\nu)$ as $\left\lceil \frac{\log\left(\frac{w}{\mu(\nu)}\right)}{\log\left(1 - \frac{1}{2\mu(\nu)}\right)} \right\rceil$, we have that $R(\nu) = O(\mu(\nu) \log(\mu(\nu)))$, and the procedure requires an overall number of $O\left(\sqrt{\nu\mu(\nu)} \log(\mu(\nu))\right)$ oracle calls.

| # Marked elements | #Iterations | #Orac. calls per it. | Total # oracle calls |
|-------------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| $\mu(\nu)$ | $O(\mu(\nu) \log(\mu(\nu)))$ | $O\left(\sqrt{\frac{\nu}{\mu(\nu)}}\right)$ | $O\left(\sqrt{\nu\mu(\nu)} \log(\mu(\nu))\right)$ |

Table A.18: Summary of Algorithm 1

The main obstacles to a practical application of this methodology are the requirements on $\mu(\nu)$, namely it has to be *known* and satisfy $0 < \mu(\nu) \leq \frac{\nu}{2}$, for all ν . Moreover, the correctness of the asymptotic analysis is conditioned to the sequence $\mu(\nu)$ having a limit. Since $\mu(\nu)$ is not always known, Algorithms 2 and 3 give two practical approaches based on Grover's algorithm with a random number of iterations. In both cases, an algorithm with memory and an appropriate time-out is taken.

Algorithm 2

This algorithm consists in a direct randomisation of the number of Grover's iterations of Algorithm 1. The list L keeps track of marked elements already found (a memory list), and the number $R = R(\nu)$ of times that Grover's search is repeated has to be taken so that the algorithm has a bounded success probability. This time we shall require that, for all ν , $0 < \mu(\nu) \leq \frac{3\nu}{4}$, and that the sequence $\mu(\nu)$ has a limit, when $\nu \rightarrow \infty$.

Let us consider the correctness of the second step in a single iteration of the algorithm. In such a step, the number of marked elements by the oracle is $0 \leq t \leq \frac{3\nu}{4}$. When $t = 0$, the algorithm forces (in the third step) OUTPUT L with no new elements added to the list L , and the output is right. On the other hand, when $t > 0$, because of Lemma 2 and the proof of Theorem 3 in [35], the

probability of finding a marked element is $\delta(\nu) \geq \frac{1}{4}$, with $O(\sqrt{\nu})$ oracle calls, so the overall probability of finding a marked element is $1 - (1 - \delta(\nu))^{R(\nu)} \geq 1 - \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{R(\nu)}$.

Since the second step must be independently repeated $\mu(\nu) + 1$ times for the algorithm to succeed (the last iteration is the one forcing the output), the probability $P'(\nu)$ of not finding all marked elements is $P'(\nu) := 1 - \left(1 - (1 - \delta(\nu))^{R(\nu)}\right)^{\mu(\nu)} \leq 1 - \left(1 - \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{R(\nu)}\right)^{\mu(\nu)}$ which, in order to obtain a bounded algorithm, is required to be less than some $w < 1$, for all ν . This yields

$$R(\nu) \geq \frac{\log\left(1 - (1 - w)^{\frac{1}{\mu(\nu)}}\right)}{\log\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)}$$

Taking $R(\nu)$ as $\left\lceil \frac{\log\left(1 - (1 - w)^{\frac{1}{\mu(\nu)}}\right)}{\log\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)} \right\rceil$, we have that $R(\nu) = O(\log(\mu(\nu)))$, and the procedure requires an overall number of $O(\sqrt{\nu}\mu(\nu)\log(\mu(\nu)))$ oracle calls. Of course, since $\mu(\nu)$ is assumed to be unknown, in practice we might know an upper bound $B(\nu)$ of $\mu(\nu)$ (in the worst case we can always choose $B(\nu) = \frac{3\nu}{4}$). This allows to take $R(\nu) = \left\lceil \frac{\log\left(1 - (1 - w)^{\frac{1}{B(\nu)}}\right)}{\log\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)} \right\rceil = O(\log(B(\nu)))$ and the overall asymptotic complexity is $O(\sqrt{\nu}\mu(\nu)\log(B(\nu)))$.

| #Step 2 iterations | #Iterations in Step 2 | #Orac. calls per it. | Total # oracle class |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| $\mu(\nu) + 1$ (output iter.) | $O(\log(B(\nu)))$ | $O(\sqrt{\nu})$ | $O(\sqrt{\nu}\mu(\nu)\log(B(\nu)))$ |

Table A.19: Summary of Algorithm 2: worst case

In this algorithm, it is also interesting to analyse the average number of oracle queries. Since the probability of finding an element in any of the Grover executions of the loop of step 2 is at least $\frac{1}{4}$, the average number of queries on each execution of step 2 is less than $4\frac{\sqrt{\nu}}{2} = 2\sqrt{\nu}$ when there are still marked elements to be found. We need to add to that the number of queries of the output itera-

tion (when all elements have already been found) to obtain an average number of queries which is $2\sqrt{\nu}\mu(\nu) + O(\sqrt{\nu}\log(B(\nu))) = O(\sqrt{\nu}(\log(B(\nu)) + \mu(\nu)))$.

| #Step 2 iterations | #Iterations in Step 2 | #Orac. calls per it. | Total # oracle class |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|--|--|
| $\mu(\nu) + 1$ (output iter.) | 4 or $O(\log(B(\nu)))$ | $\frac{\sqrt{\nu}}{2}$ or $\sqrt{\nu}$ | $O(\sqrt{\nu}(\log(B(\nu)) + \mu(\nu)))$ |

Table A.20: Summary of Algorithm 2: average case

The main obstacles to a practical application of this methodology are: the requirements on $\mu(\nu)$, as it has to satisfy $0 < \mu(\nu) \leq \frac{3\nu}{4}$, for all ν ; the asymptotic behaviour of the algorithm, which is worst than in the straightforward approach; the need of a continuous oracle update. The main advantages are that $\mu(\nu)$ is now not required to be known, and that the sequence $\mu(\nu)$ is not required to have a limit, when $\nu \rightarrow \infty$.

Algorithm 3

This alternate algorithm is a variation of the previous one, based on [35], and it consists in two stages. In the first one, the parameter m increases from 1 to $\sqrt{\nu}$ by a factor of λ . In each iteration, Grover's algorithm is only run once. When the *critical* stage is reached (i.e., when $m = \sqrt{\nu}$), the algorithm behaves exactly as the previous one. Since the algorithm never outputs before reaching the critical stage, the error probability is bounded as above. The difference here consists on the number of oracle calls. In the worst case, the algorithm performs the number of calls of the previous algorithm plus the oracle calls of the noncritical stage, but this latter number is $O(\sqrt{\nu}\log(\nu))$, since $O(\log(\nu))$ iterations are needed to reach the critical stage. So the overall complexity of the worst case is $O(\sqrt{\nu}\mu(\nu)\log(\nu))$.

Again, the average number of queries can be substantially lower than that. Indeed, from Theorem 3 in [35], when there are $t > 0$ marked elements to be found, the average number of oracle queries that our algorithm needs to perform in order to find one of them is $O(\sqrt{\frac{\nu}{t}})$. Hence, the average number of

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| #Step 2 iterations | #Iter. to reach the critical stage | #Orac. calls per it. | Total # oracle class |
| $\mu(\nu) + 1$ (output iter.) | $O(\log(\nu))$ | $O(\sqrt{\nu})$ | $O(\sqrt{\nu}\mu(\nu)\log(\nu))$ |
| #Step 2 iterations | #Iter. in Step 2 (critical stage) | #Orac. calls per it. | Total # oracle class class |
| $\mu(\nu) + 1$ (output iter.) | $O(\log(B(\nu)))$ | $O(\sqrt{\nu})$ | $O(\sqrt{\nu}\mu(\nu)\log(B(\nu)))$ |

Table A.21: Summary of Algorithm 3: worst case (noncritical and critical stages)

queries is $O\left(\sum_{t=1}^{\mu(\nu)} \sqrt{\frac{\nu}{t}}\right) + O(\sqrt{\nu}\log(\nu)) + O(\sqrt{\nu}\log(B(\nu))) = O\left(\sqrt{\nu\mu(\nu)}\right) + O(\sqrt{\nu}\log(\nu)) = O\left(\sqrt{\nu}(\log(\nu) + \sqrt{\mu(\nu)})\right)$, because $B(\nu) = O(\nu)$ (see Table [A.22](#)).

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|--------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| #Step 2 iterations | #Orac. calls per it. | Total # oracle class |
| $t = 1, \dots, \mu(\nu)$ | $\sqrt{\frac{\nu}{t}}$ | $O\left(\sqrt{\nu\mu(\nu)}\right)$ |
| 1 (output iter.) | $\sqrt{\nu}\log(\nu)$ (noncritical) $+ \sqrt{\nu}\log(B(\nu))$ | $O(\sqrt{\nu}\log(\nu))$ |

Table A.22: Summary of Algorithm 3: average case

The obstacles to a practical application of this algorithm are mostly the ones of the previous one. However, although its asymptotic number of calls is never smaller than the algorithm above, its average number of queries can be better in practice (this has been observed in simulations). In fact, even though the worst case query complexity is worse than that of the first algorithm proposed, the average number of queries is better when $\log(\nu) + \sqrt{\mu(\nu)}$ is $o(\sqrt{\mu(\nu)}\log(\mu(\nu)))$.

Summary of complexities

In Table [A.23](#) we provide a table that summarises the complexities of the three algorithms that we have proposed.

| Algorithm | Worst case | Average case |
|-----------|--|---|
| 1 | $O\left(\sqrt{\nu\mu(\nu)}\log(\mu(\nu))\right)$ | $O\left(\sqrt{\nu\mu(\nu)}\log(\mu(\nu))\right)$ |
| 2 | $O\left(\sqrt{\nu}\mu(\nu)\log(B(\nu))\right)$ | $O\left(\sqrt{\nu}(\log(B(\nu)) + \mu(\nu))\right)$ |
| 3 | $O\left(\sqrt{\nu}\mu(\nu)\log(\nu)\right)$ | $O\left(\sqrt{\nu}(\log(\nu) + \sqrt{\mu(\nu)})\right)$ |

Table A.23: Summary of query complexities ($B(\nu) \leq \frac{3\nu}{4}$ is an upper bound of $\mu(\nu)$)

Appendix B. Rationale behind the decision procedure

As mentioned in the text, the decision procedure for the determination of pairs of close particles consists in two steps. First, look for close particles among the set of all pairs. Second, look for close particles to a fixed one, when the positions of particles change (i.e., an update methodology). In each case, any of the three methods above can be potentially used. Next we explain the rationale behind our proposal.

First step: look directly for pairs of close particles

In this case $\nu = N^2$, and the required bounds on $\mu(N^2)$ are always satisfied when the number of particles is $N \geq 54$ (for the first algorithm) or $N \geq 36$ (for the second and third ones), because the characteristics of the physical problem (see Section 4). However, for smaller sizes of the problem and particularly small values of $\mu(N^2)$ the algorithms could still work. The assumption that $\mu(N^2)$ has a limit, as $N^2 \rightarrow \infty$, is realistic since the density is fixed, namely, the ratio of number of particles to available space is constant. Therefore, the more particles we have, the more chances of having pairs of close particles, i.e., it seems realistic assuming that $\mu(N^2)$ is non-decreasing, and so it has a limit. The main obstacle for using the first algorithm is the need of a knowledge of the actual value of $\mu(N^2)$. The asymptotic number of oracle calls of each algorithm is given in Table B.24

Depending on the actual $\mu(N^2)$, we will have different complexities. For instance, it has been noticed in practice that sometimes the number of close pairs of *distinct* particles is small in relation to the total number of pairs. This

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| Algorithm | Worst case | Average case |
|-----------|--|--|
| 1 | $O\left(N\sqrt{\mu(N^2)}\log(\mu(N^2))\right)$ | $O\left(N\sqrt{\mu(N^2)}\log(\mu(N^2))\right)$ |
| 2 | $O\left(N\mu(N^2)\log(B(N^2))\right)$ | $O\left(N(\log(B(N^2)) + \mu(N^2))\right)$ |
| 3 | $O\left(N\mu(N^2)\log(N)\right)$ | $O\left(N(\log(N) + \sqrt{\mu(N^2)})\right)$ |

Table B.24: Query complexities in our particular problem

can be translated as the condition $\mu(N^2) = O(1)$ (since we do not count the N pairs of a repeated particle), and so the number of oracle calls, in both the worst and average cases, is simply $O(N)$ for the first two algorithms (observe that $\mu(N^2) = O(1)$ allows $B(N^2)$ to be taken as $O(1)$) and $O(N\log(N))$ for the third one. In this situation it seems reasonable to expect that the three algorithms might give accurate outputs even for small values of N .

On the other hand, we might simply assume that $\mu(N^2) = O(N)$ (because of the uniform bound on the number of closed particles to a fixed one), and so the algorithms require queries of the orders given in Table [B.25](#). Notice that, in this case, algorithm 2 (taking the natural choice $B(N^2) = O(N)$) should be avoided, and one can choose between algorithm 1 (in a conservative setting, and if the exact value of $\mu(N^2)$ is known) and algorithm 3 (if only the average running time is of interest).

| Algorithm | Worst case | Average case | $\mu(N^2), B(N^2)$ |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | $O(N)$ | $O(N)$ | $O(1)$ |
| 2 | $O(N)$ | $O(N)$ | |
| 3 | $O(N\log(N))$ | $O(N\log N)$ | |
| 1 | $O(N\sqrt{N}\log(N))$ | $O(N\sqrt{N}\log(N))$ | $O(N)$ |
| 2 | $O(N^2\log(N))$ | $O(N^2)$ | |
| 3 | $O(N^2\log(N))$ | $O(N\sqrt{N})$ | |

Table B.25: Query complexities when $\mu(N^2), B(N^2) = O(1)$, or $\mu(N^2), B(N^2) = O(N)$

Second step: fix one particle and look for the close ones

Here we have $\nu = N$ and $\mu(N) \leq 27$. If we want to apply the general setting, the requirement on the minimum number of particles is the same as above ($N \geq 54$ for the first algorithm and $N \geq 36$ for the second and third ones). Also, for the first method, we need to assume that $\mu(N)$ has a limit, as $N \rightarrow \infty$. Again, this assumption is realistic, since the more particles we have, the more chances of having close particles to a given one, i.e., it seems realistic assuming that $\mu(N)$ is non-decreasing, and so it has a limit. Moreover, in this situation $\mu(N) = O(1)$ always. The need of a knowledge of $\mu(N)$ is, as above, the main obstacle for using the first algorithm.

Application of the general setting yields an asymptotic number of oracle calls that is $O(\sqrt{N})$ for the first two methods, and $O(\sqrt{N} \log(N))$ for the third one. This number of oracle queries has to be multiplied by the number of “updated” particles, that we will call $\alpha(N)$. There is still another missing factor that must be taken into account. We know that any of the algorithms provides a uniform success probability $0 < 1 - w < 1$. When we repeat the algorithm $\alpha(N)$ times, the lower bound on the success probability becomes $(1 - w)^{\alpha(N)}$, which tends to 0, as $\alpha(N)$ tends to infinity. To avoid this, we can repeat the search method S times for each updated particle, so that the probability that we do not find all the close pairs is bounded from above by $\sum_{i=1}^{\alpha(N)} P(\text{fail to find the neighbour list of the } i\text{-th particle in all the } S \text{ repetitions}) = \alpha(N)w^S$. Then, if we take $S = \left\lceil \frac{\log(\frac{\epsilon}{\alpha(N)})}{\log(w)} \right\rceil$, which is $O(\log(\alpha(N)))$, we can make the failure probability less than any given ϵ , in particular w . Therefore, the total amount of oracle calls that we need to consider is $O(\sqrt{N}\alpha(N) \log(\alpha(N)))$ for the first two algorithms and $O(\sqrt{N} \log(N)\alpha(N) \log(\alpha(N)))$ for the third one.

Backtracking

A final question to be addressed is when it would be desirable to retake the first approach instead of updating with the second approach. This would happen, for instance, when the number of updated particles, $\alpha(N)$, verifies $\alpha(N) \log(\alpha(N)) \geq N$, but the constants hidden by the O notation can make it interesting even for smaller $\alpha(N)$.

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9 **SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**

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11 **Results for the Algorithm 2 and Algorithm 3 experiments**

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14 In this Appendix, we present the full set of results for the experiments per-
15 formed with Algorithms 2 and 3. In all the cases, we have consider values
16 of R ranging from 5 to 70, number of particles 125, 216, 512 and 1000, and
17 $\mu = 40, 80, 150$. The results are shown in Tables C.26 through C.49. In all the
18 cases, we present the values of R and the number of times that not all particle
19 pairs were recovered (“Fails”), together with minimum, maximum, average and
20 standard deviation of the number of oracle queries.
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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|--------|---------|---------|-----------|--------------------|
| 5 | 718450 | 40 | 7418 | 2939.6492 | 1717.0896 |
| 10 | 41249 | 197 | 9648 | 5569.0876 | 852.5619 |
| 15 | 1505 | 654 | 9932 | 6009.2337 | 671.0525 |
| 20 | 58 | 1211 | 10080 | 6329.9406 | 669.5504 |
| 25 | 4 | 4001 | 10578 | 6648.2113 | 674.7998 |
| 30 | 0 | 4275 | 11155 | 6966.1094 | 679.7743 |
| 35 | 0 | 4324 | 11405 | 7283.0392 | 684.7065 |
| 40 | 0 | 4928 | 11613 | 7600.7908 | 690.3017 |
| 45 | 0 | 5189 | 12223 | 7918.7430 | 695.0099 |
| 50 | 0 | 5315 | 12237 | 8237.5179 | 699.4031 |
| 55 | 0 | 5641 | 12459 | 8553.4562 | 704.2803 |
| 60 | 0 | 5777 | 12843 | 8872.4479 | 708.3241 |
| 65 | 0 | 6195 | 12964 | 9189.5284 | 712.8600 |
| 70 | 0 | 6528 | 13612 | 9505.8860 | 718.6782 |

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50 Table C.26: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number
51 of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 with 125 particles and $\mu = 40$
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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|-------|---------|---------|-----------|--------------------|
| 5 | 2824 | 386 | 3712 | 2228.2688 | 217.8424 |
| 10 | 67 | 1165 | 4018 | 2548.1559 | 232.4877 |
| 15 | 1 | 1813 | 4630 | 2866.3376 | 246.8998 |
| 20 | 0 | 2027 | 4928 | 3183.3695 | 260.2819 |
| 25 | 0 | 2322 | 5271 | 3500.6617 | 273.3451 |
| 30 | 0 | 2597 | 5657 | 3818.5138 | 285.3814 |
| 35 | 0 | 2701 | 5959 | 4136.2548 | 297.1029 |
| 40 | 0 | 2964 | 6127 | 4453.5569 | 308.5054 |
| 45 | 0 | 3190 | 6810 | 4770.9495 | 319.0550 |
| 50 | 0 | 3463 | 6904 | 5088.6793 | 329.8067 |
| 55 | 0 | 3823 | 7400 | 5405.9980 | 339.7549 |
| 60 | 0 | 4015 | 7586 | 5723.9451 | 349.8596 |
| 65 | 0 | 4329 | 7833 | 6040.8812 | 359.2226 |
| 70 | 0 | 4647 | 8415 | 6358.7057 | 368.9050 |

Table C.27: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 with 125 particles and $\mu = 40$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|--------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 718628 | 37 | 15516 | 5901.4243 | 3448.7590 |
| 10 | 41357 | 503 | 18982 | 11181.1341 | 1714.4627 |
| 15 | 1556 | 1420 | 20896 | 12065.4905 | 1345.8739 |
| 20 | 54 | 2051 | 21332 | 12711.5539 | 1341.5124 |
| 25 | 2 | 6818 | 21172 | 13349.2033 | 1353.0338 |
| 30 | 0 | 8783 | 22207 | 13987.1952 | 1364.4461 |
| 35 | 0 | 8966 | 23816 | 14624.5805 | 1373.5282 |
| 40 | 0 | 9563 | 22670 | 15264.0114 | 1382.1603 |
| 45 | 0 | 10208 | 23718 | 15898.3035 | 1392.8924 |
| 50 | 0 | 11040 | 24741 | 16537.0394 | 1403.1162 |
| 55 | 0 | 11684 | 25428 | 17174.2995 | 1412.9613 |
| 60 | 0 | 12096 | 26344 | 17812.5433 | 1421.5418 |
| 65 | 0 | 12830 | 27214 | 18450.4361 | 1431.4450 |
| 70 | 0 | 13201 | 28141 | 19089.2051 | 1441.6392 |

Table C.28: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 with 216 particles and $\mu = 40$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|-------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 2377 | 898 | 7689 | 4825.1556 | 445.2583 |
| 10 | 59 | 2104 | 8534 | 5466.6574 | 473.8216 |
| 15 | 3 | 3780 | 9491 | 6103.8121 | 501.5960 |
| 20 | 0 | 4255 | 10959 | 6742.7040 | 528.9813 |
| 25 | 0 | 4824 | 11518 | 7379.4405 | 553.3524 |
| 30 | 0 | 5463 | 11685 | 8016.7392 | 577.5888 |
| 35 | 0 | 5995 | 12124 | 8654.2270 | 601.4419 |
| 40 | 0 | 6501 | 13166 | 9292.0317 | 623.7913 |
| 45 | 0 | 6944 | 13961 | 9930.4703 | 645.1531 |
| 50 | 0 | 7375 | 14465 | 10567.1632 | 666.4657 |
| 55 | 0 | 8018 | 15225 | 11204.3752 | 685.5598 |
| 60 | 0 | 8800 | 15461 | 11840.9150 | 705.6348 |
| 65 | 0 | 9069 | 16568 | 12478.6143 | 724.6778 |
| 70 | 0 | 9830 | 17082 | 13115.8680 | 743.3970 |

Table C.29: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 with 216 particles and $\mu = 40$

| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|--------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 718791 | 160 | 30868 | 11825.2023 | 6914.3259 |
| 10 | 41221 | 878 | 38631 | 22403.9427 | 3427.6403 |
| 15 | 1517 | 2051 | 40597 | 24178.9512 | 2702.7087 |
| 20 | 57 | 4604 | 39848 | 25475.3335 | 2691.4411 |
| 25 | 1 | 7201 | 43896 | 26750.3906 | 2707.0025 |
| 30 | 0 | 17789 | 43981 | 28031.4853 | 2729.6234 |
| 35 | 0 | 18180 | 44091 | 29304.0688 | 2750.3152 |
| 40 | 0 | 19496 | 46887 | 30585.1129 | 2770.6149 |
| 45 | 0 | 20388 | 48264 | 31859.0301 | 2788.2287 |
| 50 | 0 | 21896 | 49474 | 33138.2467 | 2807.0429 |
| 55 | 0 | 23460 | 49567 | 34416.2805 | 2826.3657 |
| 60 | 0 | 24140 | 50592 | 35691.7640 | 2850.4040 |
| 65 | 0 | 24539 | 51950 | 36970.7488 | 2867.3966 |
| 70 | 0 | 26362 | 54432 | 38242.6094 | 2887.9825 |

Table C.30: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 with 512 particles and $\mu = 40$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|-------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 1923 | 1910 | 15753 | 10145.7909 | 902.9648 |
| 10 | 44 | 4633 | 17451 | 11432.0083 | 960.5882 |
| 15 | 3 | 8536 | 20316 | 12710.2747 | 1015.7321 |
| 20 | 0 | 8806 | 22982 | 13986.8836 | 1067.2772 |
| 25 | 0 | 10351 | 22902 | 15264.6188 | 1117.9356 |
| 30 | 0 | 11131 | 23273 | 16540.8108 | 1166.4377 |
| 35 | 0 | 12455 | 25087 | 17819.0396 | 1212.3312 |
| 40 | 0 | 13582 | 26600 | 19095.3893 | 1255.3162 |
| 45 | 0 | 14479 | 28519 | 20374.3377 | 1298.8724 |
| 50 | 0 | 14841 | 28812 | 21648.2902 | 1342.0320 |
| 55 | 0 | 16772 | 30478 | 22927.2429 | 1380.5863 |
| 60 | 0 | 17651 | 32652 | 24205.4284 | 1419.4951 |
| 65 | 0 | 18730 | 34298 | 25486.3516 | 1457.7054 |
| 70 | 0 | 19923 | 34743 | 26760.8443 | 1494.1648 |

Table C.31: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 with 512 particles and $\mu = 40$

| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|--------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 718391 | 166 | 63409 | 23683.5436 | 13833.8447 |
| 10 | 40895 | 2324 | 75457 | 44862.0495 | 6874.5329 |
| 15 | 1492 | 5649 | 77415 | 48402.0877 | 5402.9775 |
| 20 | 72 | 9992 | 85992 | 50994.6734 | 5381.6955 |
| 25 | 2 | 20000 | 84930 | 53551.7566 | 5423.7290 |
| 30 | 0 | 34156 | 90053 | 56105.2792 | 5462.8954 |
| 35 | 0 | 36937 | 89677 | 58674.4402 | 5503.6964 |
| 40 | 0 | 38349 | 91133 | 61227.9910 | 5542.4209 |
| 45 | 0 | 40524 | 97136 | 63783.1961 | 5582.8703 |
| 50 | 0 | 43766 | 99471 | 66336.5767 | 5621.0076 |
| 55 | 0 | 46921 | 101023 | 68902.9617 | 5656.8642 |
| 60 | 0 | 46568 | 104222 | 71462.3188 | 5697.8280 |
| 65 | 0 | 48738 | 107966 | 74008.3424 | 5741.4485 |
| 70 | 0 | 54323 | 109460 | 76582.4883 | 5770.1841 |

Table C.32: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 with 1000 particles and $\mu = 40$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|-------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 1635 | 4265 | 31542 | 20964.4723 | 1823.0690 |
| 10 | 39 | 13441 | 35629 | 23536.2271 | 1936.5643 |
| 15 | 0 | 16590 | 37738 | 26093.3338 | 2046.9211 |
| 20 | 0 | 19203 | 43485 | 28652.9518 | 2151.9537 |
| 25 | 0 | 21504 | 46209 | 31208.2892 | 2250.5519 |
| 30 | 0 | 23149 | 48898 | 33770.6442 | 2342.3008 |
| 35 | 0 | 24765 | 49575 | 36319.7148 | 2434.8336 |
| 40 | 0 | 27083 | 56501 | 38880.8974 | 2525.8832 |
| 45 | 0 | 30029 | 56789 | 41439.2587 | 2609.3545 |
| 50 | 0 | 31775 | 58314 | 43996.7575 | 2693.1135 |
| 55 | 0 | 33189 | 61831 | 46553.6430 | 2770.0797 |
| 60 | 0 | 35264 | 65534 | 49114.7834 | 2850.8926 |
| 65 | 0 | 38689 | 67909 | 51672.2018 | 2926.7659 |
| 70 | 0 | 39434 | 71960 | 54225.1105 | 2999.7123 |

Table C.33: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 with 1000 particles and $\mu = 40$

| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|--------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 923296 | 25 | 13624 | 3635.9636 | 2856.8485 |
| 10 | 80365 | 279 | 15537 | 10336.4948 | 1842.9808 |
| 15 | 2888 | 624 | 16060 | 11098.5778 | 983.8430 |
| 20 | 98 | 1196 | 16695 | 11430.6496 | 942.7164 |
| 25 | 5 | 3176 | 17785 | 11750.7350 | 945.5938 |
| 30 | 0 | 8209 | 17179 | 12066.4249 | 948.4360 |
| 35 | 0 | 8317 | 17552 | 12385.7663 | 952.5189 |
| 40 | 0 | 8636 | 17778 | 12701.6750 | 956.0423 |
| 45 | 0 | 8748 | 17962 | 13021.0638 | 958.9156 |
| 50 | 0 | 9394 | 18442 | 13336.8252 | 963.1836 |
| 55 | 0 | 9767 | 19120 | 13654.1344 | 967.2429 |
| 60 | 0 | 9806 | 19565 | 13972.2885 | 970.1708 |
| 65 | 0 | 10307 | 19695 | 14291.1269 | 972.7903 |
| 70 | 0 | 10502 | 19788 | 14607.5681 | 976.9584 |

Table C.34: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 with 125 particles and $\mu = 80$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|-------|---------|---------|-----------|--------------------|
| 5 | 2862 | 452 | 4268 | 2859.8728 | 231.2177 |
| 10 | 70 | 1063 | 4739 | 3179.8891 | 244.7497 |
| 15 | 4 | 2322 | 5091 | 3497.5590 | 258.2530 |
| 20 | 0 | 2572 | 5504 | 3815.2131 | 271.0638 |
| 25 | 0 | 2887 | 5860 | 4132.6062 | 283.2911 |
| 30 | 0 | 3173 | 6244 | 4449.8254 | 295.0987 |
| 35 | 0 | 3438 | 6949 | 4767.5163 | 306.8322 |
| 40 | 0 | 3646 | 6940 | 5085.1520 | 317.8033 |
| 45 | 0 | 3916 | 7512 | 5402.9935 | 327.4926 |
| 50 | 0 | 4177 | 7580 | 5720.4103 | 338.1065 |
| 55 | 0 | 4443 | 7898 | 6037.9105 | 348.5818 |
| 60 | 0 | 4525 | 8792 | 6355.0305 | 357.9535 |
| 65 | 0 | 5042 | 8803 | 6672.3907 | 367.2009 |
| 70 | 0 | 5055 | 9106 | 6990.2224 | 376.5325 |

Table C.35: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 with 125 particles and $\mu = 80$

| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|--------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 923535 | 53 | 26838 | 7278.0833 | 5732.9068 |
| 10 | 80164 | 466 | 30978 | 20764.6058 | 3686.2588 |
| 15 | 2893 | 1269 | 33464 | 22288.0032 | 1971.9172 |
| 20 | 98 | 3378 | 34485 | 22956.6472 | 1888.5995 |
| 25 | 4 | 6163 | 33952 | 23589.5022 | 1897.7596 |
| 30 | 0 | 16616 | 35536 | 24232.5031 | 1905.1978 |
| 35 | 0 | 16131 | 35181 | 24866.5963 | 1909.3065 |
| 40 | 0 | 18018 | 36800 | 25505.5612 | 1916.9934 |
| 45 | 0 | 17745 | 37909 | 26141.1385 | 1921.6054 |
| 50 | 0 | 18943 | 37610 | 26782.8205 | 1929.7497 |
| 55 | 0 | 19437 | 37705 | 27416.0201 | 1936.2964 |
| 60 | 0 | 20150 | 38316 | 28058.5007 | 1945.9851 |
| 65 | 0 | 20475 | 39788 | 28694.4024 | 1955.4758 |
| 70 | 0 | 20119 | 40084 | 29329.3894 | 1956.2711 |

Table C.36: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 with 216 particles and $\mu = 80$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|-------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 2392 | 1059 | 9052 | 6325.5507 | 474.2337 |
| 10 | 72 | 2573 | 10293 | 6967.4328 | 500.9015 |
| 15 | 0 | 5310 | 11499 | 7605.0946 | 527.7988 |
| 20 | 0 | 5832 | 11881 | 8242.9234 | 552.6728 |
| 25 | 0 | 6322 | 13802 | 8880.8130 | 577.3092 |
| 30 | 0 | 6792 | 13112 | 9517.5153 | 600.0381 |
| 35 | 0 | 7086 | 14341 | 10155.0858 | 621.8501 |
| 40 | 0 | 7719 | 14952 | 10793.2809 | 644.4091 |
| 45 | 0 | 8440 | 15185 | 11430.6318 | 664.4279 |
| 50 | 0 | 8552 | 15962 | 12067.8135 | 685.1698 |
| 55 | 0 | 9246 | 16926 | 12704.4590 | 703.8530 |
| 60 | 0 | 9872 | 17237 | 13343.4304 | 723.7423 |
| 65 | 0 | 10533 | 17705 | 13979.7554 | 743.0180 |
| 70 | 0 | 10967 | 18852 | 14618.0132 | 760.9026 |

Table C.37: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 with 216 particles and $\mu = 80$

| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|--------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 923253 | 187 | 52725 | 14611.2056 | 11490.1537 |
| 10 | 80134 | 1061 | 63761 | 41596.0359 | 7411.9602 |
| 15 | 2842 | 2385 | 67161 | 44658.7835 | 3943.5957 |
| 20 | 108 | 3890 | 67044 | 46001.3135 | 3790.5698 |
| 25 | 2 | 10629 | 68236 | 47280.9809 | 3798.1814 |
| 30 | 0 | 33531 | 69521 | 48549.5045 | 3805.9196 |
| 35 | 0 | 32346 | 70270 | 49839.0316 | 3822.6188 |
| 40 | 0 | 34265 | 71939 | 51111.6997 | 3840.7633 |
| 45 | 0 | 36299 | 73514 | 52389.4730 | 3858.2295 |
| 50 | 0 | 37650 | 74989 | 53670.5450 | 3874.8880 |
| 55 | 0 | 39547 | 76226 | 54943.0548 | 3881.4406 |
| 60 | 0 | 39633 | 76825 | 56222.5949 | 3896.9765 |
| 65 | 0 | 41269 | 79521 | 57496.3640 | 3908.8121 |
| 70 | 0 | 42185 | 80082 | 58775.9391 | 3928.2244 |

Table C.38: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 with 512 particles and $\mu = 80$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|-------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 1950 | 2115 | 19522 | 13470.1575 | 961.4043 |
| 10 | 54 | 4566 | 20804 | 14756.1635 | 1014.3651 |
| 15 | 4 | 11101 | 22472 | 16033.6005 | 1066.0397 |
| 20 | 0 | 12368 | 24762 | 17312.6776 | 1117.6257 |
| 25 | 0 | 12699 | 26817 | 18589.4395 | 1166.2992 |
| 30 | 0 | 14627 | 28121 | 19865.9294 | 1212.8327 |
| 35 | 0 | 15245 | 28624 | 21143.3044 | 1254.8767 |
| 40 | 0 | 16422 | 29459 | 22422.5002 | 1298.9550 |
| 45 | 0 | 17223 | 31994 | 23698.2628 | 1339.9998 |
| 50 | 0 | 18717 | 32834 | 24978.4924 | 1380.1082 |
| 55 | 0 | 19943 | 33593 | 26254.1776 | 1418.1368 |
| 60 | 0 | 20652 | 35096 | 27534.4299 | 1456.9480 |
| 65 | 0 | 21862 | 38463 | 28808.9218 | 1493.8088 |
| 70 | 0 | 23100 | 38009 | 30084.4850 | 1529.7581 |

Table C.39: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 with 512 particles and $\mu = 80$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|--------|---------|---------|-------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 923323 | 255 | 104888 | 29222.7712 | 2856.8485 |
| 10 | 79935 | 2390 | 129834 | 83289.8695 | 1842.9808 |
| 15 | 2916 | 4740 | 134464 | 89407.7511 | 983.8430 |
| 20 | 88 | 7803 | 133875 | 92074.9924 | 942.7164 |
| 25 | 2 | 64634 | 135505 | 94648.8913 | 945.5938 |
| 30 | 0 | 66544 | 139891 | 97211.9290 | 948.4360 |
| 35 | 0 | 67639 | 142266 | 99766.2836 | 952.5189 |
| 40 | 0 | 71193 | 146028 | 102337.1896 | 956.0423 |
| 45 | 0 | 74491 | 149917 | 104881.7774 | 958.9156 |
| 50 | 0 | 73612 | 148087 | 107438.8263 | 963.1836 |
| 55 | 0 | 78205 | 158620 | 109989.6281 | 967.2429 |
| 60 | 0 | 80210 | 154721 | 112540.4592 | 970.1708 |
| 65 | 0 | 80626 | 158723 | 115106.1941 | 972.7903 |
| 70 | 0 | 82811 | 160788 | 117668.0933 | 976.9584 |

Table C.40: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 with 1000 particles and $\mu = 80$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|-------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 1738 | 4574 | 40682 | 28031.4885 | 1945.7548 |
| 10 | 56 | 11198 | 43337 | 30607.4803 | 2048.0667 |
| 15 | 1 | 19392 | 46624 | 33163.4896 | 2152.5102 |
| 20 | 0 | 25475 | 50528 | 35718.5258 | 2251.9494 |
| 25 | 0 | 27591 | 54305 | 38278.1468 | 2346.4738 |
| 30 | 0 | 30115 | 56163 | 40836.8827 | 2441.6654 |
| 35 | 0 | 31025 | 57841 | 43394.7480 | 2526.3774 |
| 40 | 0 | 33172 | 61129 | 45955.3550 | 2610.1783 |
| 45 | 0 | 36524 | 62045 | 48514.9762 | 2694.3705 |
| 50 | 0 | 37159 | 67122 | 51068.2165 | 2774.7045 |
| 55 | 0 | 39510 | 69679 | 53620.3119 | 2851.4596 |
| 60 | 0 | 43035 | 73106 | 56183.0602 | 2925.0693 |
| 65 | 0 | 44113 | 75208 | 58741.6703 | 3003.4321 |
| 70 | 0 | 46962 | 76631 | 61300.5532 | 3071.1791 |

Table C.41: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 with 1000 particles and $\mu = 80$

| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|--------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 991625 | 23 | 22017 | 3936.0119 | 3539.2533 |
| 10 | 141155 | 229 | 26817 | 18238.5071 | 4088.6913 |
| 15 | 5007 | 694 | 27105 | 19945.3744 | 1482.5957 |
| 20 | 178 | 1326 | 27614 | 20312.2466 | 1286.8417 |
| 25 | 7 | 3865 | 27146 | 20631.0459 | 1280.5572 |
| 30 | 1 | 15250 | 27272 | 20950.8806 | 1286.0155 |
| 35 | 0 | 15946 | 28345 | 21269.7710 | 1288.2153 |
| 40 | 0 | 15910 | 28047 | 21584.3052 | 1291.9420 |
| 45 | 0 | 16573 | 29365 | 21901.8913 | 1293.7654 |
| 50 | 0 | 16521 | 29823 | 22219.7388 | 1296.2946 |
| 55 | 0 | 17168 | 29288 | 22536.5065 | 1297.8384 |
| 60 | 0 | 17380 | 29745 | 22856.1961 | 1301.6468 |
| 65 | 0 | 17835 | 29883 | 23171.8584 | 1303.7534 |
| 70 | 0 | 17672 | 30728 | 23490.2205 | 1306.3670 |

Table C.42: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 with 125 particles and $\mu = 150$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|-------|---------|---------|-----------|--------------------|
| 5 | 2954 | 342 | 5015 | 3567.7794 | 241.7000 |
| 10 | 77 | 1533 | 5699 | 3887.7511 | 254.1947 |
| 15 | 2 | 2880 | 5828 | 4205.6119 | 267.2645 |
| 20 | 0 | 3178 | 6341 | 4522.7434 | 280.1169 |
| 25 | 0 | 3603 | 6610 | 4840.4259 | 292.1643 |
| 30 | 0 | 3749 | 7134 | 5157.9179 | 303.3228 |
| 35 | 0 | 3966 | 7528 | 5475.1769 | 314.3134 |
| 40 | 0 | 4304 | 7636 | 5792.8299 | 324.8783 |
| 45 | 0 | 4590 | 8200 | 6110.0810 | 335.2959 |
| 50 | 0 | 4791 | 8346 | 6427.4647 | 345.2632 |
| 55 | 0 | 5012 | 8680 | 6745.1640 | 354.6144 |
| 60 | 0 | 5358 | 9359 | 7062.6664 | 364.8543 |
| 65 | 0 | 5557 | 9307 | 7380.1786 | 373.4239 |
| 70 | 0 | 5895 | 9825 | 7697.6120 | 382.8709 |

Table C.43: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 with 125 particles and $\mu = 150$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|--------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 991606 | 56 | 44866 | 7900.6697 | 7117.2576 |
| 10 | 140843 | 609 | 53792 | 36621.1976 | 8220.3127 |
| 15 | 5104 | 1370 | 54612 | 40048.2808 | 2980.3527 |
| 20 | 181 | 2722 | 54079 | 40784.4320 | 2579.0162 |
| 25 | 6 | 18818 | 54880 | 41431.0001 | 2574.3050 |
| 30 | 0 | 31161 | 55336 | 42063.5458 | 2579.5387 |
| 35 | 0 | 31338 | 56721 | 42704.7072 | 2586.1462 |
| 40 | 0 | 32303 | 57387 | 43336.8190 | 2587.6622 |
| 45 | 0 | 33082 | 57541 | 43977.8210 | 2591.9175 |
| 50 | 0 | 33625 | 58658 | 44618.2815 | 2599.5720 |
| 55 | 0 | 34127 | 59394 | 45255.0186 | 2604.8972 |
| 60 | 0 | 34587 | 60574 | 45886.6671 | 2610.6267 |
| 65 | 0 | 34515 | 59675 | 46530.9800 | 2616.4212 |
| 70 | 0 | 35837 | 61274 | 47168.8694 | 2618.2031 |

Table C.44: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 with 216 particles and $\mu = 150$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|-------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 2329 | 937 | 11030 | 8095.4643 | 497.3407 |
| 10 | 58 | 5365 | 12306 | 8737.4271 | 522.6686 |
| 15 | 1 | 6995 | 12657 | 9375.3278 | 548.0367 |
| 20 | 0 | 7495 | 13782 | 10012.7649 | 572.8338 |
| 25 | 0 | 7965 | 14121 | 10650.1500 | 596.2434 |
| 30 | 0 | 8176 | 15215 | 11287.6006 | 618.6946 |
| 35 | 0 | 9106 | 16204 | 11925.8409 | 640.3208 |
| 40 | 0 | 9565 | 16007 | 12562.8546 | 660.9694 |
| 45 | 0 | 10093 | 17563 | 13199.8430 | 681.4702 |
| 50 | 0 | 10632 | 17767 | 13837.7113 | 700.9023 |
| 55 | 0 | 11348 | 18398 | 14475.9172 | 720.4413 |
| 60 | 0 | 11748 | 19119 | 15114.0568 | 738.7913 |
| 65 | 0 | 12333 | 20315 | 15748.6789 | 757.0198 |
| 70 | 0 | 12957 | 20667 | 16386.4846 | 774.5531 |

Table C.45: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 with 216 particles and $\mu = 150$

| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|--------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 991722 | 171 | 87389 | 15787.1779 | 14214.6269 |
| 10 | 141218 | 1133 | 104564 | 73370.9227 | 16477.8624 |
| 15 | 5119 | 2584 | 106443 | 80267.4885 | 5956.5470 |
| 20 | 191 | 8396 | 110829 | 81734.6673 | 5176.2931 |
| 25 | 5 | 18438 | 112943 | 83029.7071 | 5154.9605 |
| 30 | 0 | 61565 | 112791 | 84295.9919 | 5163.6106 |
| 35 | 0 | 63555 | 112327 | 85583.6788 | 5176.9628 |
| 40 | 0 | 64111 | 113811 | 86853.8841 | 5194.6757 |
| 45 | 0 | 66188 | 115603 | 88128.6841 | 5194.7385 |
| 50 | 0 | 66729 | 117867 | 89402.4787 | 5205.8579 |
| 55 | 0 | 67905 | 117424 | 90693.6458 | 5219.0534 |
| 60 | 0 | 69315 | 119052 | 91965.4294 | 5231.4581 |
| 65 | 0 | 69658 | 124526 | 93241.4550 | 5240.3562 |
| 70 | 0 | 72515 | 124582 | 94512.2240 | 5245.4772 |

Table C.46: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 with 512 particles and $\mu = 150$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|-------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 1875 | 3230 | 23859 | 17501.6378 | 1012.9452 |
| 10 | 54 | 8240 | 25333 | 18787.8901 | 1061.4635 |
| 15 | 2 | 15497 | 26884 | 20064.1490 | 1112.5338 |
| 20 | 0 | 15898 | 28518 | 21342.7490 | 1160.4791 |
| 25 | 0 | 17546 | 30946 | 22622.6177 | 1206.2732 |
| 30 | 0 | 18106 | 32741 | 23897.8824 | 1249.8472 |
| 35 | 0 | 19230 | 32645 | 25176.4913 | 1293.0121 |
| 40 | 0 | 20251 | 34749 | 26454.0754 | 1335.0615 |
| 45 | 0 | 21517 | 35411 | 27730.7457 | 1376.7511 |
| 50 | 0 | 22288 | 37427 | 29007.4129 | 1415.1234 |
| 55 | 0 | 24033 | 38662 | 30284.7649 | 1452.5908 |
| 60 | 0 | 24633 | 39454 | 31562.9967 | 1489.6124 |
| 65 | 0 | 26049 | 42284 | 32839.0674 | 1528.9651 |
| 70 | 0 | 26944 | 42412 | 34118.9010 | 1563.3344 |

Table C.47: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 with 512 particles and $\mu = 150$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|--------|---------|---------|-------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 991505 | 414 | 180395 | 31684.0844 | 28523.4480 |
| 10 | 140787 | 2180 | 206019 | 146916.3709 | 32947.0996 |
| 15 | 5019 | 5198 | 219209 | 160687.7883 | 11937.5891 |
| 20 | 147 | 12020 | 221281 | 163628.5918 | 10357.0073 |
| 25 | 6 | 36939 | 227243 | 166217.6099 | 10331.6578 |
| 30 | 0 | 117389 | 227737 | 168767.3977 | 10334.1867 |
| 35 | 0 | 127876 | 226940 | 171312.8985 | 10360.0652 |
| 40 | 0 | 129330 | 228330 | 173867.6444 | 10383.3829 |
| 45 | 0 | 132929 | 237269 | 176427.3668 | 10392.6679 |
| 50 | 0 | 135468 | 235256 | 178971.1799 | 10419.4715 |
| 55 | 0 | 139009 | 233572 | 181569.7748 | 10439.0855 |
| 60 | 0 | 141583 | 238208 | 184098.0041 | 10464.7435 |
| 65 | 0 | 142251 | 242487 | 186666.0778 | 10483.9050 |
| 70 | 0 | 142234 | 245575 | 189222.6928 | 10520.2681 |

Table C.48: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 2 with 1000 particles and $\mu = 150$

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| R | Fails | Minimum | Maximum | Average | Standard deviation |
|----|-------|---------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 5 | 1673 | 6193 | 48431 | 36746.5779 | 2044.8347 |
| 10 | 42 | 30478 | 53071 | 39321.0275 | 2147.6401 |
| 15 | 3 | 31524 | 55663 | 41873.6086 | 2244.5502 |
| 20 | 0 | 32971 | 57502 | 44433.0812 | 2337.9566 |
| 25 | 0 | 35685 | 62610 | 46991.5814 | 2431.9973 |
| 30 | 0 | 37507 | 63685 | 49547.2117 | 2522.8804 |
| 35 | 0 | 40071 | 66778 | 52107.0978 | 2607.5169 |
| 40 | 0 | 40262 | 69429 | 54662.2551 | 2687.0371 |
| 45 | 0 | 44408 | 74472 | 57220.2541 | 2768.7009 |
| 50 | 0 | 46548 | 74999 | 59780.8423 | 2842.9850 |
| 55 | 0 | 48635 | 78220 | 62337.2892 | 2925.5149 |
| 60 | 0 | 48742 | 84650 | 64890.8063 | 2998.5694 |
| 65 | 0 | 53761 | 82784 | 67451.0666 | 3066.7362 |
| 70 | 0 | 55717 | 86997 | 70007.5573 | 3139.5400 |

Table C.49: # of fails and minimum, maximum, average and standard deviation of the number of oracle queries for 10^6 repetitions of Algorithm 3 with 1000 particles and $\mu = 150$

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