

Problem - 3 (Spring 2026)

Due date: 12 February, 2026

- 3a. Generate a random set of  $n$  data points in three dimensions such that no two points are closer than a distance of  $r_{min}$  from each other. Choose  $n = 500$  and  $L = 21$  and  $r_{min} = 2.0$  for your code.
- 3b. Generate the nearest-neighbor (NN) map of this set. Assume the nearest-neighbor distance is given by  $r_c = 2.8$  unit.
- 3c. Repeat the calculation in (3b) by using the periodic images of the box so that the NN map is not affected by the presence of the boundary.