

71. The Regularity of Discrete Models of the Boltzmann Equation

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The aim of this note is to single out a category of the discrete Boltzmann equations as the regular models of the Boltzmann equation. It is shown that there exist regular models with n moduli of velocities for an arbitrary integer $n \geq 2$.

1. Let $M = \{v_1, \dots, v_d\}$ be the set of velocities, i.e., the constant vectors in \mathbf{R}^3 . We assume that the linear span of M coincides with \mathbf{R}^3 . The model M is essentially three-dimensional in this sense. First of all, we introduce the notion of the collision. Let us denote by Σ the set of all unordered pairs of distinct velocities. We may set

$$\Sigma = \{(v_i, v_j); 1 \leq i < j \leq d\}.$$

Let $\alpha, \beta \in \Sigma$. Then the ordered pair of α and β is called a collision, if

- (i) $\alpha \neq \beta$,
- (ii) the momentum of α equals the momentum of β ,
- (iii) the energy of α equals the energy of β .

It is usual to denote the ordered pair by $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$. We call α and β the initial and the final states of the collision, respectively. It is assumed in the following that there exists at least one collision. Now let \mathcal{C} be the set of all collisions. We obtain a partition of \mathcal{C} by the equivalence relation given below.

We introduce the group of transformations acting in M . We set

$$\tilde{G} = \{T; T \in \mathcal{O}(\mathbf{R}^3), TM = M\}.$$

Here, $\mathcal{O}(\mathbf{R}^3)$ denotes the group of orthogonal transformations. \tilde{G} induces naturally a group of isometric transformations on M , which we denote by G . It is easily seen that G is determined uniquely as the maximal set of isometric transformations on M . We define that $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ and $\alpha' \rightarrow \beta'$ are equivalent if these collisions are obtained from each other by performing a transformation which belongs to G or by interchanging the initial and the final states or by combining these two operations. The constants A_{ij}^{kl} appearing in the definition of the collision term may be identified with a "step function" subordinate to the partition of \mathcal{C} , which is induced from the equivalence relation given above. (See [3] for details.) Thus, if \mathcal{C} consists of m equivalence classes, we have m arbitrary constants in defining the collision term. The general form of the discrete Boltzmann equation is given by

$$(1) \quad \frac{\partial F_i}{\partial t} + v_i \cdot \nabla_x F_i = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k,l} \{A_{kl}^{ij} F_k F_l - A_{ij}^{kl} F_i F_j\}, \quad i=1, 2, \dots, d.$$

Here A_{ij}^{kl} is set to be zero if the formal expression $(v_i, v_j) \rightarrow (v_k, v_l)$ does not correspond to a collision.

We say that (1) is regular if the following properties hold:

1°) The equation (1) is irreducible in the sense that the system can not be decomposed into two decoupled subsystems.

2°) The collision term on the right side of (1) is invariant under the associated transformation group G .

3°) The stability condition for Maxwellians is satisfied. (We refer the reader to [3] for the precise statement of this condition.)

Note that 2°) is always satisfied when A_{ij}^{kl} is chosen according to the procedure described above. The other conditions 1°) and 3°) can be verified without the knowledge of A_{ij}^{kl} . Hence we may also say that the discrete model M is regular by abuse of the terminology.

2. Our results are summarized in the following two theorems. We denote by $\mathcal{R}(G)$ the set of regular models with the prescribed transformation group G . For the notations such as T, T_d, T_h, O_h, I_h , see, for example, [1].

Theorem 1. *Let $n \geq 2$ be an arbitrary integer and let G be either T_d or O_h . Then $\mathcal{R}(G)$ contains a model with n moduli of velocities.*

Theorem 2. *Let $n \geq 2$ be an arbitrary integer and let G be one of T, T_h and I_h . Then $\mathcal{R}(G)$ contains a model with n moduli of velocities.*

In order to prove Theorem 2, we need the computer. See [4] for details. On the contrary, Theorem 1 can be proved without using the computer.

Remark 1. For concrete models known up to date, the dimension of the space of summational invariants is five in the case of $G=T_d, O_h$, while the dimension of the same space turns out to be eight in the case of $G=T, T_h, I_h$. See [2], [3], [4]. It is not known whether these facts hold in general or not.

Remark 2. We obtain a 13-velocity model by omitting a vertex of the cube in the 14-velocity model studied in [3]. This model is also regular and we have $G=C_3$.

3. We give a sketch of the proof. Details are published elsewhere. First we consider the case where $G=O_h$. We define the 6, 12, 8, 6, 24-velocity models as follows. Let

$$\begin{aligned} u_1^{(1)} &= (1, 0, 0), & u_2^{(1)} &= (0, 1, 0), & u_3^{(1)} &= (0, 0, 1), & u_4^{(1)} &= (-1, 0, 0), \\ u_5^{(1)} &= (0, -1, 0), & u_6^{(1)} &= (0, 0, -1); & u_1^{(2)} &= (1, 0, 1), & u_2^{(2)} &= (0, 1, 1), \\ u_3^{(2)} &= (-1, 0, 1), & u_4^{(2)} &= (0, -1, 1), & u_5^{(2)} &= (-1, 0, -1), & u_6^{(2)} &= (0, -1, -1), \\ u_7^{(2)} &= (1, 0, -1), & u_8^{(2)} &= (0, 1, -1), & u_9^{(2)} &= (1, 1, 0), & u_{10}^{(2)} &= (-1, 1, 0), \\ u_{11}^{(2)} &= (-1, -1, 0), & u_{12}^{(2)} &= (1, -1, 0); & u_1^{(3)} &= (1, 1, 1), & u_2^{(3)} &= (-1, 1, 1), \\ u_3^{(3)} &= (-1, -1, 1), & u_4^{(3)} &= (1, -1, 1), & u_5^{(3)} &= (-1, -1, -1), & u_6^{(3)} &= (1, -1, -1), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& u_7^{(3)} = (1, 1, -1), u_8^{(3)} = (-1, 1, -1); u_1^{(4)} = (2, 0, 0), u_2^{(4)} = (0, 2, 0), \\
& u_3^{(4)} = (0, 0, 2), u_4^{(4)} = (-2, 0, 0), u_5^{(4)} = (0, -2, 0), u_6^{(4)} = (0, 0, -2); \\
& u_1^{(5)} = (2, 1, 1), u_2^{(5)} = (2-1, 1), u_3^{(5)} = (2, -1, -1), u_4^{(5)} = (2, 1, -1), \\
& u_5^{(5)} = (-2, -1, -1), u_6^{(5)} = (-2, 1, -1), u_7^{(5)} = (-2, 1, 1), \\
& u_8^{(5)} = (-2, -1, 1), u_9^{(5)} = (1, 2, 1), u_{10}^{(5)} = (1, 2, -1), u_{11}^{(5)} = (-1, 2, -1), \\
& u_{12}^{(5)} = (-1, 2, 1), u_{13}^{(5)} = (-1, -2, -1), u_{14}^{(5)} = (-1, -2, 1), u_{15}^{(5)} = (1, -2, 1), \\
& u_{16}^{(5)} = (1, -2, -1), u_{17}^{(5)} = (1, 1, 2), u_{18}^{(5)} = (-1, 1, 2), u_{19}^{(5)} = (-1, -1, 2), \\
& u_{20}^{(5)} = (1, -1, 2), u_{21}^{(5)} = (-1, -1, -2), u_{22}^{(5)} = (1, -1, 2), u_{23}^{(5)} = (1, 1, -2), \\
& u_{24}^{(5)} = (-1, 1, -2).
\end{aligned}$$

We set $M_n = \{u_i^{(n)}; 1 \leq i \leq d(n)\}$ for $n=1, \dots, 5$, where $d(1)=6, d(2)=12, d(3)=8, d(4)=6, d(5)=24$. For $n \geq 6$, we define $M_n = \{u_i^{(n)}; 1 \leq i \leq d(n)\}$, where $u_i^{(n)} = 2u_i^{(n-4)}$ ($1 \leq i \leq d(n)$) and $d(n) = d(n-4)$. Let $N_n = M_1 \cup \dots \cup M_n$. Then the dimension of the space of summational invariants is 5 for the model N_n , if $n \geq 2$. This can be proved by induction. The regularity of N_n for $n \geq 2$ is shown by using the argument of Cercignani. The case where $G = T_d$ is proved similarly. The modification needed is to replace only M_3 by the 4-velocity model which corresponds to the vertices of a regular tetrahedron. The proof of Theorem 2 will be given in the forthcoming paper [4].

References

- [1] F. A. Cotton: Chemical Applications of Group Theory. 2nd edition, John Wiley & Sons (1970).
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