University of Ottawa

Discrete-Velocity Scheme Project

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Shock-Tube Problem

For the initial conditions of the shock-tube we must select an appropriate velocity space. This velocity space can be determined by observing the distribution function on each side of the shock tube for both initial conditions. The distribution function in velocity space can be determined by applying Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution for various ranges in velocity space.

$$f = \frac{\rho}{m} \left(\frac{\rho}{2\pi p}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} e^{\frac{\rho}{2p}(u-v)^2}$$

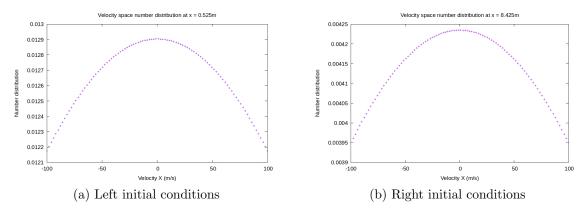


Figure 1: Distribution function at initial conditions velocity range of $\pm 100 \,\mathrm{m \, s^{-1}}$

Figure 1 shows the distribution function for the left and right initial conditions. The velocity space selected was ranging from $\pm 100\,\mathrm{m\,s^{-1}}$. This range of velocity as shown in Figure 1 is insufficient as the tail end of the distribution is cut off for both the left and right ends of the shock tubes.

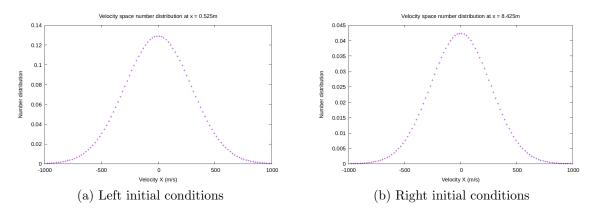


Figure 2: Distribution function at initial conditions velocity range of $\pm 1000 \,\mathrm{m\,s^{-1}}$

Selecting a velocity range of $\pm 1000\,\mathrm{m\,s^{-1}}$, as shown in 2 we obtain a velocity space that covers the full distribution of the particle space.

In addition to verifying the velocity space distribution we can also evaluate the properties of the gas at those initial conditions. The properties of the gas can be computed at each point in the x direction by the following equations.

$$\rho = \langle mF \rangle \qquad c = v - u$$

$$\rho u = \langle mvF \rangle$$

$$p = \langle mc^2F \rangle$$

$$q = \frac{1}{2} \langle mc^3F \rangle$$

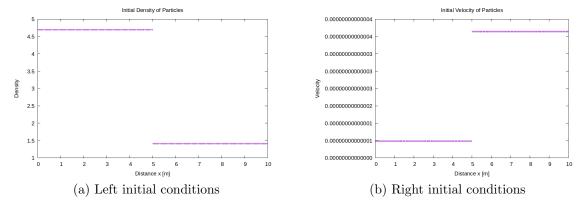


Figure 3: Initial conditions ρ , u

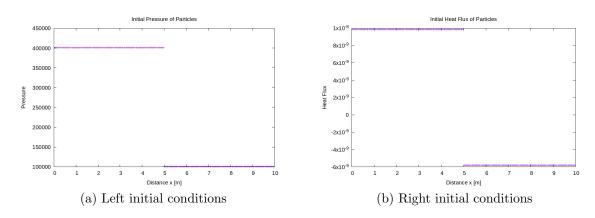


Figure 4: Initial conditions p, q

As shown in Figure 3 and 4 the initial density calculated using the set number density of the particles is around the $4.696\,\mathrm{kg/m^3}$ and $1.408\,\mathrm{kg/m^3}$. The initial velocities and heat flux are near zero and the pressure is set to be near $404.4\,\mathrm{kPa}$ and $101.1\,\mathrm{kPa}$.