

POROSITY AND MODELS WITH DISCRETE INNOVATIONS

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In our previous work, we obtained sufficient conditions for the existence of trajectories with unbounded consumption for a model of economic dynamics with discrete innovations. In this paper, using the porosity notion, we show that for most models these conditions hold.

1. Introduction

We consider the model with discrete innovations introduced in [6] and studied in [10, 11, 12, 13]. In this model, the state of the economy is determined by a set of operating technologies, a collection of funds corresponding to these technologies, and a set of known, but as yet not implemented technologies. To introduce a new technology, expenditures of the already utilized types of funds are required. As a result of these expenditures, the new technology at the next instant of time will be introduced into action with a certain initial reserve of new funds.

We consider a single-product economy which deals with two production factors: labor L and funds K . The time is assumed to be discrete and the amount of labor is constant and equal to unity. The state of the economy is determined by a set of operating technologies, a collection of funds corresponding to these technologies, and a set of known, but as yet not implemented technologies.

A technology is a pair (f, v) where f is a production function of two variables K, L and $v \in [0, 1]$. Possessing at time t funds K and labor resources L , the economy utilizing the technology (f, v) will produce during a unit time interval, a product in the amount of $f(K, L)$. Moreover, at time $t + 1$ the economy will still have in its possession the used old funds in the amount of vK .

To introduce a new technology, expenditures of the already utilized types of funds are required. As a result of these expenditures, the new technology at the next instant of time will be introduced into action with a certain initial reserve of the new funds.

Let $I = \{0, 1, \dots\}$ and $\{(f^i, v^i) : i \in I\}$ be the set of all technologies which can be utilized in the production process. At time $t \in I$ the state of the economy is given in the form

$$(I_0^t, I_n^t, (K_t^i, C_t^i) \ (i \in I_0^t)), \quad (1.1)$$

where I_0^t is a finite set of numbers (indices) of technologies introduced by the time t , I_n^t is the set of numbers of technologies which are available in principle but not introduced, and $K_t^i, C_t^i \geq 0$ are the funds and consumption of the i th type available at time t which correspond to the technology with the number i . We will assume that at time t the following information is available:

$$(K^i), (s^{ij}) \quad (i \in I_n^t, j \in I_n^t \cup I_0^t), \quad (1.2)$$

where $s^{ij} \geq 0$ is the expenditure of the j th funds required for introduction of the i th technology and $K^i > 0$ is the initial amount of the i th fund which is obtained at the initial time of utilization of the i th technology. At time $t+1$ the economy may pass over to the state

$$(I_0^{t+1}, I_n^{t+1}, (K_{t+1}^i, C_{t+1}^i) \quad (i \in I_0^{t+1})) \quad (1.3)$$

for which

$$I_0^t \subset I_0^{t+1} \subset I_0^t \cup I_n^t, \quad I_0^{t+1} \setminus I_0^t \subset \{i \in I_n^t : s^{ij} = 0 \ \forall j \in I_n^t\}, \quad (1.4)$$

and the numbers $L_t^i \geq 0, i \in I_0^t$ are determined such that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i \in I_0^t} L_t^i &\leq 1, \\ K_{t+1}^j &\geq \nu^j K_t^j \quad \forall j \in I_0^t, \\ K_{t+1}^i &= K^i, \quad C_{t+1}^i = 0, \quad i \in I_0^{t+1} \setminus I_0^t, \\ K_{t+1}^j - \nu^j K_t^j + C_{t+1}^j + \sum_{i \in I_0^{t+1} \setminus I_0^t} s^{ij} &\leq f^j(K_t^j, L_t^j) \quad \forall j \in I_0^t. \end{aligned} \quad (1.5)$$

(We assume here that the result of a summation over an empty set equals zero.) Note that in the model under consideration the newly produced product is used for consumption and expenditures related to an introduction of new technologies. Sometimes the state of the economy at time t will be written in the form

$$(I_0^t, I_n^t, (K_t^i, C_t^i, L_t^i) \quad (i \in I_0^t)), \quad (1.6)$$

where $(L_t^i) \quad (i \in I_0^t)$ is the distribution of labor resources at time t . We do it in the case when some information about this distribution is required. When describing a trajectory of the model, we would also include into its description the corresponding sequence of distributions of labor resources, most often only in the case when some information about these resources is required. However, in any case, a definite sequence of distributions of labor resources is always associated with a trajectory of the model.

Denote by R_+^l the cone of elements of the Euclidean space R^l with nonnegative coordinates. Below all the technologies under consideration (f, ν) will assume to be such that $f : R_+^2 \rightarrow R_+$ be a continuous, superlinear (superadditive, positively homogeneous)

function,

$$\begin{aligned} f(0,1) &= f(1,0) = 0, \\ f(x,1) &< f(\lambda x,1) < \lambda f(x,1) \text{ for each } \lambda > 1 \text{ and each } x > 0, \end{aligned} \quad (1.7)$$

and there exists $X \in R_+$ such that $f(1,X) > 1 - \nu$.

Let (f,ν) be a technology. It is easy to see that there exists a unique number $x(f,\nu) > 0$ such that

$$f(x(f,\nu),1) = (1 - \nu)x(f,\nu). \quad (1.8)$$

For $x_0 > 0$ the inequality $f(x_0,1) > (1 - \nu)x_0$ holds if and only if $x_0 < x(f,\nu)$ and the sequence

$$x_t = \nu x_{t-1} + f(x_{t-1},1), \quad t = 1, 2, \dots \quad (1.9)$$

converges to $x(f,\nu)$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. Evidently $x(f,\nu)$ is a characteristic of the technology (f,ν) which evaluates its production capabilities.

The technology (f,ν) is associated with a dynamic model of the economy whose trajectory is a sequence (K_t, C_t) , $t = 0, 1, \dots$, where $K_t, C_t \geq 0$ are the funds and consumption available at time t which satisfy

$$K_{t+1} - \nu K_t \geq 0, \quad K_{t+1} - \nu K_t + C_{t+1} \leq f(K_t,1) \quad (1.10)$$

for all $t = 0, 1, \dots$.

It is easy to see that for any model trajectory (K_t, C_t) , $t = 0, 1, \dots$, we have

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} (\nu K_t + f(K_t,1)) \leq x(f,\nu), \quad \limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} K_t \leq x(f,\nu). \quad (1.11)$$

Moreover, for any initial state of the model (K_0, C_0) with $K_0 > 0$, there exists a trajectory (K_t, C_t) , $t = 0, 1, \dots$ such that $K_t \rightarrow x(f,\nu)$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

Let $X = (K_t, C_t)$ ($t \in I$) be a model trajectory. Set

$$w(X) = \limsup_{T \rightarrow \infty} T^{-1} \sum_{t=0}^{T-1} C_t. \quad (1.12)$$

Evidently $w(X) \leq x(f,\nu)$. Set

$$w(f,\nu) = \sup \{w(X) : X \text{ is a model trajectory}\}. \quad (1.13)$$

The number $w(f,\nu)$ is a characteristic of the technology (f,ν) which evaluates its consumption capabilities.

It is easy to verify that the following result is true.

PROPOSITION 1.1. *There exists a number $h(f,\nu) \in (0,1)$ such that*

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (h(f,\nu)f(1,x)) &\in (1 - \nu, \infty], \\ (1 - h(f,\nu))f(x(h(f,\nu)f,\nu),1) &= w(f,\nu) > 0. \end{aligned} \quad (1.14)$$

2. Existence of trajectories with unbounded consumption

Consider the model with discrete innovations introduced in Section 1. We assume that

$$s^{ij} = 0 \quad \forall i, j \in I \text{ satisfying } j \geq i, \quad (2.1)$$

and that for any state of the model $(I_0^t, I_n^t, (K_t^i, C_t^i) \ (i \in I_0^t))$ at any instant of time t the relation

$$\sup \{i : i \in I_0^t\} + 1 \in I_n^t \quad (2.2)$$

holds.

It is well known that for a model with a finite number of technologies all trajectories are bounded. For the model with discrete innovations a finite number of technologies can be introduced by time t , where $t = 0, 1, \dots$, but the set of all technologies which can be utilized in the production process is infinite.

In [10], we studied the existence of model trajectories with unbounded consumption and established the following result.

THEOREM 2.1. *Let $\sup \{w(f^i, v^i) : i \in I\} = \infty$ and*

$$\sup_{p \in I} \left\{ \sum_{i \in I} s^{pi} (x(f^i, v^i) (1 - v^i))^{-1} \right\} < 1. \quad (2.3)$$

Assume that $(I_0^0, I_n^0, (K_0^i, C_0^i) \ (I \in I_0^0))$ is an initial state of the economy such that $K_0^i > 0$, $i \in I_0^0$, and

$$s^{pj} = 0 \quad \text{for any } p > p(0) := \sup \{i : i \in I_0^0\} \text{ and any } j \in \{0, \dots, p(0)\} \setminus I_0^0. \quad (2.4)$$

Then there exists a model trajectory

$$(I_0^t, I_n^t, (K_t^i, C_t^i) \ (I \in I_0^t)) \quad (t \in I) \quad (2.5)$$

such that

$$0 < \sup \{C_t^i : i \in I_0^t\} \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty. \quad (2.6)$$

Note that inequality (2.3) means that the expenditures of the i th funds required for introduction of the technology (f^p, v^p) should be small compared to the value

$$x(f^i, v^i) (1 - v^i) = f^i (x(f^i, v^i), 1) \quad (2.7)$$

which characterizes the production capabilities of the technology (f^i, v^i) .

We consider a particular case of the model such that for each $i, j \in I$ the inequality $s^{ij} > 0$ holds if and only if $i = j + 1$. This assumption means that for introduction of the $(i+1)$ th technology we only need expenditures of the i th fund.

In this case inequality (2.3) is equivalent to the following inequality:

$$\sup_{i \in I} \left\{ s^{(i+1)i} (x(f^i, v^i) (1 - v^i))^{-1} \right\} < 1. \quad (2.8)$$

Let $i \in I$ and the i th technology be introduced at time t_0 . Assume that $K^i < x(f^i, v^i)$. This inequality means that the initial amount of the i th fund is less than the characteristic of the technology (f^i, v^i) which evaluates its production capabilities. It is easy to see that for each instant of time $t > t_0$, $K_t^i < x(f^i, v^i)$, and $f^i(K_t^i, 1) < f^i(x(f^i, v^i), 1)$. Therefore the inequality

$$s^{(i+1)i} < f^i(x(f^i, v^i), 1) \quad (2.9)$$

is necessary for implementation of the $(i+1)$ th technology.

If $I_0^0 = \{0\}$ and inequality (2.9) is not true for some integer $i \geq 0$, then only a finite number of technologies can be implemented. Therefore it is natural to consider a class of models such that inequality (2.9) holds for all integers $i \geq 0$. By Theorem 2.1, in order to construct trajectories with unbounded consumption, we need inequality (2.8) which is stronger than (2.9). In this paper we consider two classes of models which satisfy inequality (2.9) and show that for most of the models in these spaces inequality (2.8) is valid.

When we say that most of the elements of a complete metric space Y enjoy a certain property, we mean that the set of points which have this property contains a G_δ everywhere dense subset of Y . In other words, this property holds generically. Such an approach, when a certain property is investigated for the whole space Y and not just for a single point in Y , has already been successfully applied in many areas of analysis. See, for example, [2, 3, 4, 5, 7] and the references mentioned therein.

We use the concept of porosity which will enable us to obtain even more refined results.

In this paper, we consider two metric spaces of models which satisfy inequality (2.9). Using the porosity notion we show that for most models in these spaces inequality (2.8) is true. Combined with Theorem 2.1 our results imply that for most of models in these spaces there exist trajectories with unbounded consumption.

We now recall the notion of porosity [1, 4, 7, 8, 9].

Let (Y, d) be a metric space. We denote by $B(y, r)$ the closed ball of center $y \in Y$ and radius $r > 0$. A subset $E \subset Y$ is called porous in (Y, d) if there exist $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and $r_0 > 0$ such that for each $r \in (0, r_0]$ and each $y \in Y$ there exists $z \in Y$ for which

$$B(z, \alpha r) \subset B(y, r) \setminus E. \quad (2.10)$$

Other notions of porosity have been used in the literature [1, 8, 9]. We use the rather strong notion which appears in [4, 7].

3. The first main result

We use the convention that $\infty/\infty = 1$. Let $\{(f^i, v^i) : i \in I\}$ be a set of technologies which satisfy the assumptions introduced in introduction.

Denote by \mathcal{A} the set of all sequences $\{\sigma_i\}_{i=0}^\infty$ of positive numbers such that

$$\sigma_i \leq f^i(x(f^i, v^i), 1) \quad \forall i \in I. \quad (3.1)$$

Let $\{\sigma_i\}_{i=0}^\infty \in \mathcal{A}$. This sequence generates a model with the set of technologies $\{(f^i, v^i) : i \in I\}$ such that for each $i, j \in I$

$$s^{ji} = 0 \quad \text{if } j \neq i + 1, \quad s^{(i+1)i} = \sigma_i. \quad (3.2)$$

We equip the set \mathcal{A} with a metric. For each $\{\alpha_i\}_{i=0}^\infty, \{\beta_i\}_{i=0}^\infty \in \mathcal{A}$ set

$$\tilde{d}(\{\alpha_i\}_{i=0}^\infty, \{\beta_i\}_{i=0}^\infty) = \sup \left\{ \left| \ln \left(\frac{\alpha_i}{\beta_i} \right) \right| : i \in I \right\}, \quad (3.3)$$

$$d(\{\alpha_i\}_{i=1}^\infty, \{\beta_i\}_{i=0}^\infty) = \tilde{d}(\{\alpha_i\}_{i=0}^\infty, \{\beta_i\}_{i=0}^\infty) (1 + \tilde{d}(\{\alpha_i\}_{i=0}^\infty, \{\beta_i\}_{i=0}^\infty))^{-1}. \quad (3.4)$$

It is not difficult to see that $d : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$ is a metric and that the metric space (\mathcal{A}, d) is complete.

Denote by \mathcal{F}_A the set of all $\{\sigma_i\}_{i=0}^\infty \in \mathcal{A}$ such that

$$\sup \left\{ \sigma_i f^i(x(f^i, v^i), 1)^{-1} : i \in I \right\} < 1. \quad (3.5)$$

THEOREM 3.1. $\mathcal{A} \setminus \mathcal{F}_A$ is a porous subset of (\mathcal{A}, d) .

Proof. Set

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{16}. \quad (3.6)$$

Let $\{\sigma_i\}_{i=0}^\infty \in \mathcal{A}$ and $r \in (0, 1]$. Set

$$\lambda = \exp(2\alpha r). \quad (3.7)$$

By (3.7) and (3.6)

$$1 < \lambda < e^{r/4}. \quad (3.8)$$

Define

$$\bar{\sigma}_i = \sigma_i \lambda^{-1}, \quad i \in I. \quad (3.9)$$

Clearly $\{\bar{\sigma}_i\}_{i=0}^\infty \in \mathcal{A}$.

Assume that

$$\{\Delta_i\}_{i=0}^\infty \in \mathcal{A}, \quad d(\{\Delta_i\}_{i=0}^\infty, \{\bar{\sigma}_i\}_{i=0}^\infty) \leq \alpha r. \quad (3.10)$$

It follows from (3.9), (3.3), and (3.8) that

$$d(\{\sigma_i\}_{i=0}^\infty, \{\bar{\sigma}_i\}_{i=0}^\infty) \leq \ln \lambda \leq \frac{r}{4}. \quad (3.11)$$

Together with (3.10) and (3.6), this implies that

$$d(\{\Delta_i\}_{i=0}^\infty, \{\sigma_i\}_{i=0}^\infty) \leq d(\{\Delta_i\}_{i=0}^\infty, \{\bar{\sigma}_i\}_{i=0}^\infty) + d(\{\sigma_i\}_{i=0}^\infty, \{\bar{\sigma}_i\}_{i=0}^\infty) \leq \alpha r + \frac{r}{4} < r. \quad (3.12)$$

By (3.10), (3.3), and (3.6)

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{d}(\{\Delta_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}, \{\bar{\sigma}_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}) &= d(\{\Delta_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}, \{\bar{\sigma}_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty})(1 - d(\{\Delta_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}, \{\bar{\sigma}_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}))^{-1} \\ &\leq \alpha r(1 - \alpha r)^{-1} \leq \left(\frac{5}{4}\right)\alpha r.\end{aligned}\tag{3.13}$$

Let $i \in I$. It follows from (3.3), (3.13), (3.9), (3.7), and (3.1) that

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_i &\leq \bar{\sigma}_i \exp\left(\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)\alpha r\right) = \lambda^{-1} \exp\left(\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)\alpha r\right)\sigma_i \\ &\leq \exp\left(-\frac{\alpha r}{2}\right)\sigma_i \leq \exp\left(-\frac{\alpha r}{2}\right)f^i(x(f^i, v^i), 1).\end{aligned}\tag{3.14}$$

Hence

$$\sup\left\{\Delta_i(f^i(x(f^i, v^i), 1))^{-1} : i \in I\right\} \leq \exp\left(-\frac{\alpha r}{2}\right)\tag{3.15}$$

and $\{\Delta_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty} \in \mathcal{F}_A$. Theorem 3.1 is proved. \square

4. The second main result

Let $f, g : R_+^2 \rightarrow R^1$. We say that $f \leq g$ if $f(x) \leq g(x)$ for each $x \in R_+^2$.

Denote by \mathcal{B} the set of all collections

$$b = (\{(f^i, v^i) : i \in I\}, \{\sigma_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty})\tag{4.1}$$

such that (f^i, v^i) , $i \in I$ are technologies which satisfy assumptions introduced in Section 1 and

$$\sigma_i \in (0, f^i(x(f^i, v^i), 1)], \quad i \in I.\tag{4.2}$$

Any

$$b = (\{(f^i, v^i) : i \in I\}, \{\sigma_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty})\tag{4.3}$$

from \mathcal{B} generates a model denoted by $\mathcal{M}(b)$ with the set of technologies $\{(f^i, v^i) : i \in I\}$ such that for each $i, j \in I$,

$$s^{ji} = 0 \quad \text{if } j \neq i + 1, \quad s^{(i+1)i} = \sigma_i.\tag{4.4}$$

We assume that an infimum of an empty set is zero.

We equip the set \mathcal{B} with a metric.

For each

$$a_1 = (\{(f_1^i, v_1^i) : i \in I\}, \{\sigma_{i1}\}_{i=0}^{\infty}), \quad a_2 = (\{(f_2^i, v_2^i) : i \in I\}, \{\sigma_{i2}\}_{i=0}^{\infty}) \in \mathcal{B}\tag{4.5}$$

set

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{d}(a_1, a_2) &= \inf \{ \gamma \geq 0 : e^{-\gamma}(1 - v_1^i) \leq (1 - v_2^i) \leq e^{\gamma}(1 - v_1^i), i \in I, \\ &\quad e^{-\gamma}\sigma_{i1} \leq \sigma_{i2} \leq e^{\gamma}\sigma_{i1}, i \in I, e^{-\gamma}f_1^i \leq f_2^i \leq e^{\gamma}f_1^i, i \in I \},\end{aligned}\quad (4.6)$$

$$d(a_1, a_2) = \tilde{d}(a_1, a_2)(1 + \tilde{d}(a_1, a_2))^{-1}. \quad (4.7)$$

Clearly (\mathcal{B}, d) is a metric space.

Denote by $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{B}}$ the set of all $b = (\{(f^i, v^i) : i \in I\}, \{\sigma_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}) \in \mathcal{B}$ such that

$$\sup_{i \in I} \{\sigma_i(f^i(x(f^i, v^i), 1))^{-1}\} < 1. \quad (4.8)$$

THEOREM 4.1. $\mathcal{B} \setminus \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{B}}$ is a porous subset of (\mathcal{B}, d) .

Proof. Set

$$\alpha = 32^{-1}. \quad (4.9)$$

Let

$$b = (\{(f^i, v^i) : i \in I\}, \{\sigma_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}) \in \mathcal{B}, \quad r \in (0, 1]. \quad (4.10)$$

Set

$$\lambda = e^{8\alpha r}. \quad (4.11)$$

Define

$$\bar{b} = (\{(\bar{f}^i, \bar{v}^i) : i \in I\}, \{\bar{\sigma}_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}) \in \mathcal{B} \quad (4.12)$$

as follows:

$$\bar{\sigma}_i = \sigma_i \lambda^{-1}, \quad i \in I, \quad \bar{v}^i = v^i, \quad i \in I, \quad (4.13)$$

$$\bar{f}^i = \lambda f^i, \quad i \in I. \quad (4.14)$$

In view of (4.13), (4.14), (4.6), (4.11), and (4.9),

$$d(b, \bar{b}) \leq \ln \lambda \leq \frac{r}{4}. \quad (4.15)$$

Assume that

$$\begin{aligned}d &= (\{(g^i, u^i) : i \in I\}, \{\Delta_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}) \in \mathcal{B}, \\ d(a, \bar{b}) &\leq \alpha r.\end{aligned}\quad (4.16)$$

Equations (4.15), (4.16), and (4.9) imply that

$$d(a, b) \leq d(a, \bar{b}) + d(\bar{b}, b) \leq \alpha r + \frac{r}{4} < r. \quad (4.17)$$

Let $i \in I$. By (4.6), (4.16), and (4.9),

$$\tilde{d}(a, \bar{b}) = d(a, \bar{b})(1 - d(a, \bar{b}))^{-1} \leq \alpha r(1 - \alpha r)^{-1} \leq \left(\frac{5}{4}\right)\alpha r. \quad (4.18)$$

In view of (4.16), (4.18), (4.6), (4.12), (4.14), (4.13), and (4.11),

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_i &\leq \bar{\sigma}_i \exp\left(\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)\alpha r\right) \leq \lambda^{-1} \sigma_i \exp\left(\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)\alpha r\right) \leq \sigma_i \exp(-6\alpha r), \\ (1 - v^i) \exp\left(\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)\alpha r\right) &\geq (1 - u^i) \geq (1 - v^i) \exp\left(-\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)\alpha r\right), \\ g^i &\geq \exp\left(-\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)\alpha r\right) \bar{f}^i \geq \exp\left(-\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)\alpha r\right) \lambda f^i \geq \exp(6\alpha r) f^i. \end{aligned} \quad (4.19)$$

We have

$$f^i(x(f^i, v^i), 1) = (1 - v^i)x(f^i, v^i). \quad (4.20)$$

It follows from (4.19) and (4.20) that

$$\begin{aligned} g^i(x(f^i, v^i), 1) &\geq \exp(6\alpha r) f^i(x(f^i, v^i), 1) \\ &= \exp(6\alpha r)(1 - v^i)x(f^i, v^i) \\ &\geq (1 - u^i) \exp\left(-\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)\alpha r\right) \exp(6\alpha r)x(f^i, v^i). \end{aligned} \quad (4.21)$$

This inequality implies that

$$x(g^i, u^i) > x(f^i, v^i). \quad (4.22)$$

It follows from (4.19), (4.2), and (4.22) that

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_i &\leq \sigma_i \exp(-6\alpha r) \leq \exp(-6\alpha r) f^i(x(f^i, v^i), 1) \\ &\leq \exp(-6\alpha r) f^i(x(g^i, u^i), 1) \leq \exp(-6\alpha r) g^i(x(g^i, u^i), 1). \end{aligned} \quad (4.23)$$

Thus

$$\sup \{ \Delta_i (g^i(x(g^i, u^i), 1))^{-1} : i \in I \} \leq \exp(-6\alpha) \quad (4.24)$$

and $d \in \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{B}}$. Theorem 4.1 is proved. \square

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This subject has been extensively studied in the past years for one-, two-, and three-dimensional space. Additionally, such dynamical systems can exhibit a very important and still unexplained phenomenon, called as the Fermi acceleration phenomenon. Basically, the phenomenon of Fermi acceleration (FA) is a process in which a classical particle can acquire unbounded energy from collisions with a heavy moving wall. This phenomenon was originally proposed by Enrico Fermi in 1949 as a possible explanation of the origin of the large energies of the cosmic particles. His original model was then modified and considered under different approaches and using many versions. Moreover, applications of FA have been of a large broad interest in many different fields of science including plasma physics, astrophysics, atomic physics, optics, and time-dependent billiard problems and they are useful for controlling chaos in Engineering and dynamical systems exhibiting chaos (both conservative and dissipative chaos).

We intend to publish in this special issue papers reporting research on time-dependent billiards. The topic includes both conservative and dissipative dynamics. Papers discussing dynamical properties, statistical and mathematical results, stability investigation of the phase space structure, the phenomenon of Fermi acceleration, conditions for having suppression of Fermi acceleration, and computational and numerical methods for exploring these structures and applications are welcome.

To be acceptable for publication in the special issue of Mathematical Problems in Engineering, papers must make significant, original, and correct contributions to one or more of the topics above mentioned. Mathematical papers regarding the topics above are also welcome.

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