

ANALYSIS OF THE PERFORMANCE OF MULTI-LAYER INSULATED CLOTHING

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Introduction

Some special occupations, such as firefighters, need to operate in high temperatures. In order to meet this requirement, high-temperature work clothes are made of a variety of insulating materials to prevent workers from being burned. In this report, we wish to investigate the thermal insulation performance of a particular type of high-temperature operating clothing. Specifically, We would like to know body temperature of a person, wearing an insulated clothing after a specific time at a certain temperature, given information of the insulating material and the environment temperature.

Model Establishment

Assumption

1. We abstracting the whole heat transfer process as a one-dimensional heat conduction problem.
2. Parameters of each material do not change with increasing temperature.
3. Neglect the heat radiation to the outermost layer of clothing, consider only heat convection as a form of heat transfer.

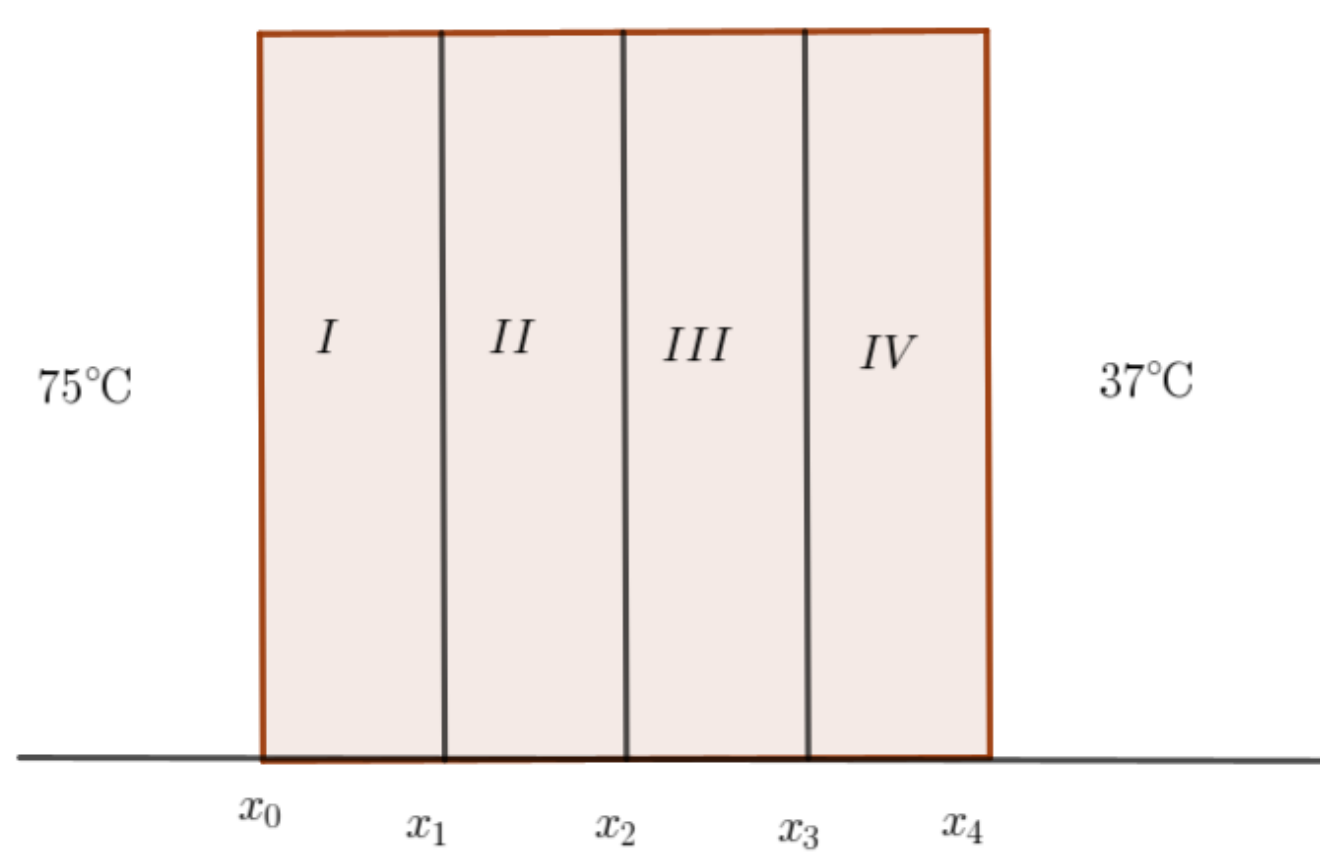


Figure 1: Cross-section of clothing

Heat Convection

$$-\lambda_1 \frac{\partial T_1}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=x_0} = h_e [T_{en} - T(x_0, t)], \quad (1)$$

$$-\lambda_4 \frac{\partial T_4}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=x_4} = h_s [-T_{sk} + T(x_4, t)], \quad (2)$$

Heat Diffusion

$$\frac{\partial T_i}{\partial t} = k_i \frac{\partial^2 T_i}{\partial x^2}, k_i = \frac{\lambda_i}{c_i \rho_i}, i = 1, 2, 3, 4 \quad (3)$$

Heat Conduction

$$T_i \Big|_{x=x_i} = T_{i+1} \Big|_{x=x_i}, i = 1, 2, 3, \quad (4)$$

$$\lambda_i \frac{\partial T_i}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=x_i} = \lambda_{i+1} \frac{\partial T_{i+1}}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=x_i}, i = 1, 2, 3. \quad (5)$$

Initial Condition

$$T(x, 0) = T_{sk} = T_2 = T_3 = T_4 \quad (6)$$

Problem Solving

We choose finite difference method.

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{T_i^{n+1} - T_i^n}{\Delta t}, \quad (7)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} = \frac{T_{i+1}^n - 2T_i^n + T_{i-1}^n}{(\Delta x)^2}, \quad (8)$$

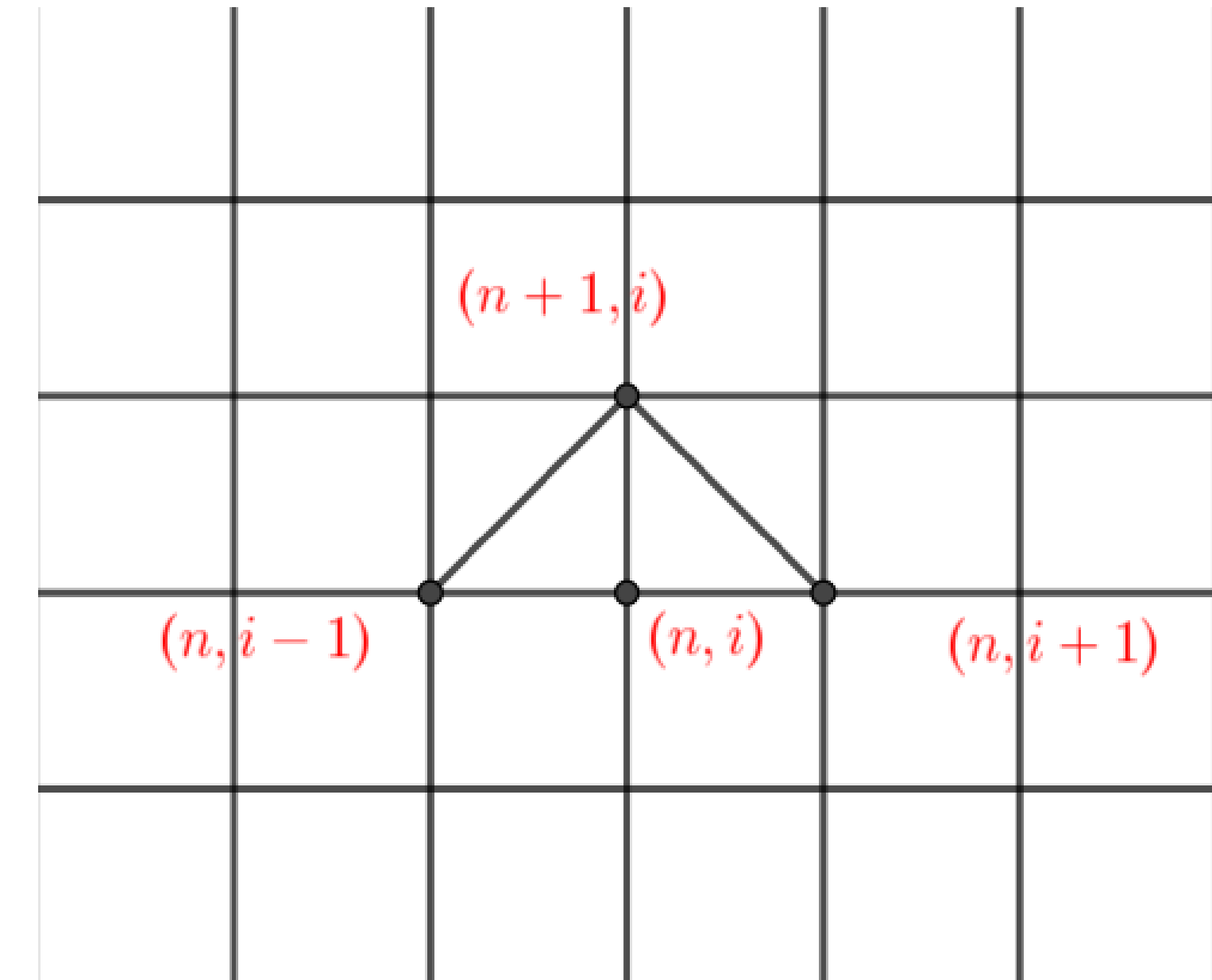


Figure 2: Discrete Grid

Below graph shows temperature distribution, while vertical axis shows temperature in degrees Celsius, horizontal axis shows position in meters.

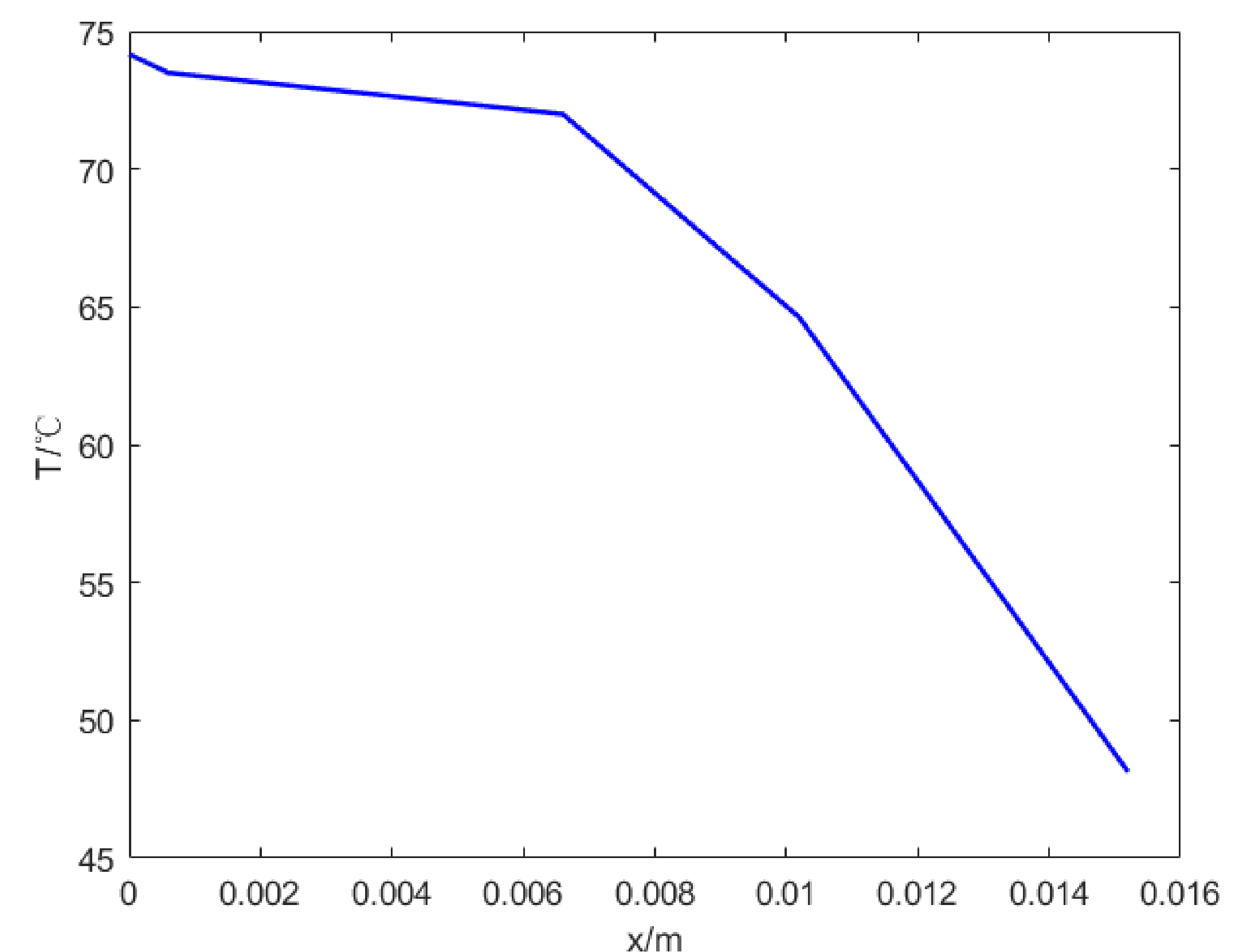


Figure 3

Here is x-t Grid, the horizontal coordinate shows the x-value and the vertical coordinate shows the t-value.

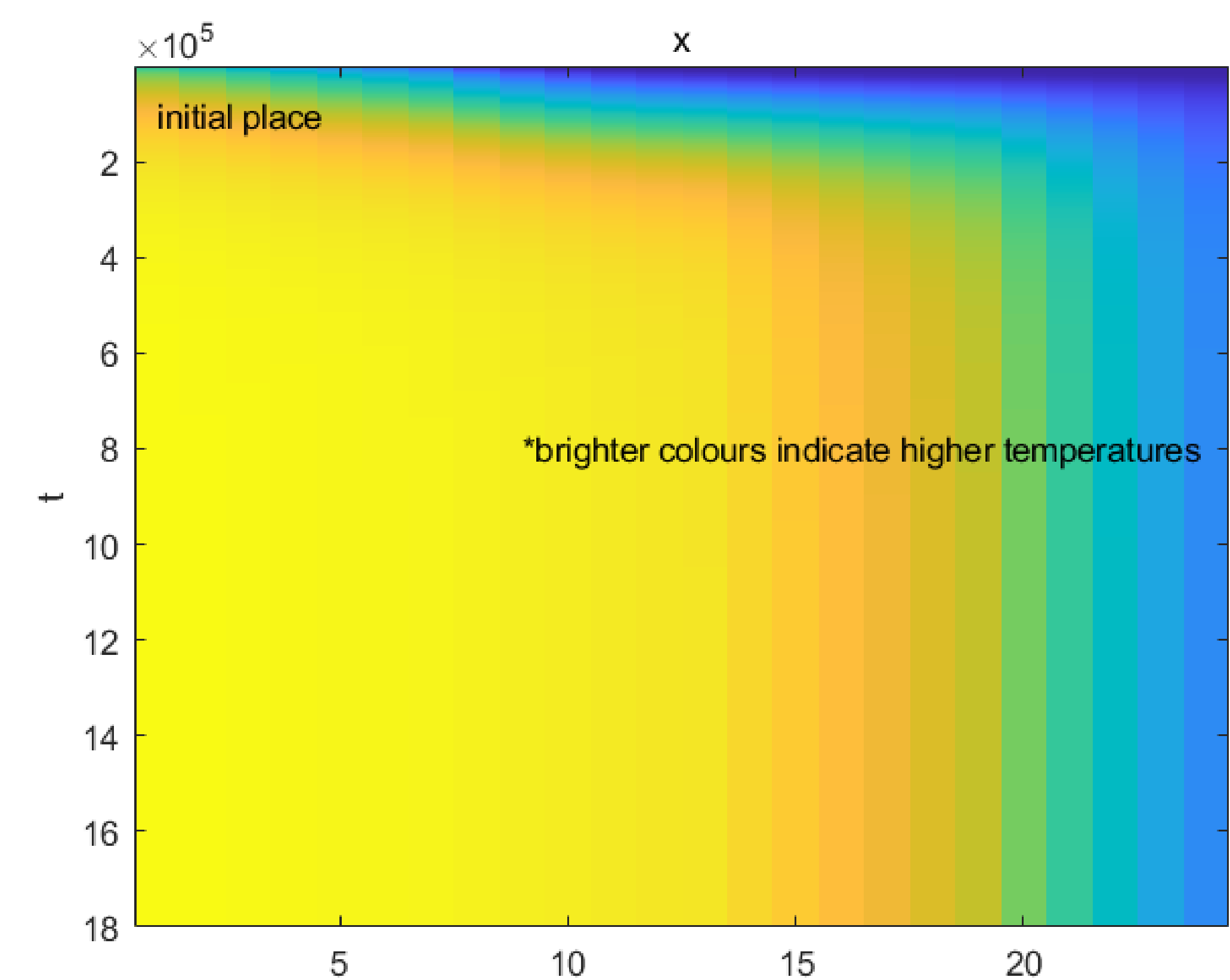


Figure 4

Error and Stability Analysis

Von Newmann stability analysis requires

$$r = \frac{k \Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2} < \frac{1}{2}, \quad (9)$$

in our model,

$$k_i = \frac{\lambda_i}{c_i \rho_i}, i = 1, 2, 3, 4 \quad (10)$$

We obtain $r_1 = 0.0397, r_2 = 4.0879 \times 10^{-4}, r_3 = 0.0020, r_4 = 0.0472, r_i < \frac{1}{2}$, satisfying Von Newmann stability analysis. Also, $RSS=0.002$ which is quite small.

$$RSS = \frac{(U_n - T_{4M}^n)^2}{3601} = 0.002 \quad (11)$$