

Processes of freezing and thawing of porous media

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Motivation

- Study the effects of climate and temperature change on soil grounds (Žák A.)

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 - e.g. improve ground structure design and maintenance in cold regions and in winter

Introduction

Mathematical model - Stefan problem

For $x \geq 0$ and $t > 0$:

$$\rho C_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}(x, t) = \nabla(\kappa \nabla T(x, t)) + Q \quad (\text{heat conduction equation})$$

$$\kappa \frac{\partial T}{\partial \eta}(x, t) \Big|_S - \kappa \frac{\partial T}{\partial \eta}(x, t) \Big|_L = Lv \quad (\text{Stefan condition})$$

$$T(x, 0) = T_0 \quad (\text{boundary condition})$$

$$T(0, t) = T(t_0) \quad (\text{initial condition})$$

where

ρ : density

C_p : heat capacity

κ : thermal conductivity

Q : heat source

L : latent heat

Introduction

Homogeneous geometry

- No phase change - Internal energy

$$U(x, t) = \int_{T^*}^{T(x, t)} \rho C_p dT$$

Introduction

Homogeneous geometry

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$$U(x, t) = \int_{T^*}^{T(x, t)} \rho C_p dT$$

- Phase change - Enthalpy

$$H(x, t) = \underbrace{U(x, t)}_{\text{internal energy}} + L \cdot \mathcal{H}(T(x, t))$$

where

L : latent heat

\mathcal{H} : Heaviside function

$$\mathcal{H}(T(x, t)) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } T(x, t) > T^* \\ 0 & \text{for } T(x, t) < T^* \end{cases}$$

Introduction

Heterogeneous geometry

Heat conduction equation

$$C_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}(x, t) + L \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t}(T(x, t)) = \nabla(\kappa \nabla T(x, t))$$

where

η : porosity

$$\theta(T(x, t)) = \eta \phi(T(x, t))$$

$$\phi(T(x, t)) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } T(x, t) \geq T^* \\ \left| \frac{T^*}{T(x, t)} \right|^b & \text{if } T(x, t) < T^* \end{cases}$$

b : positive constant

Introduction

Heterogeneous geometry

Ω_S Domain containing soil
 Ω_L Domain containing liquid (water here)

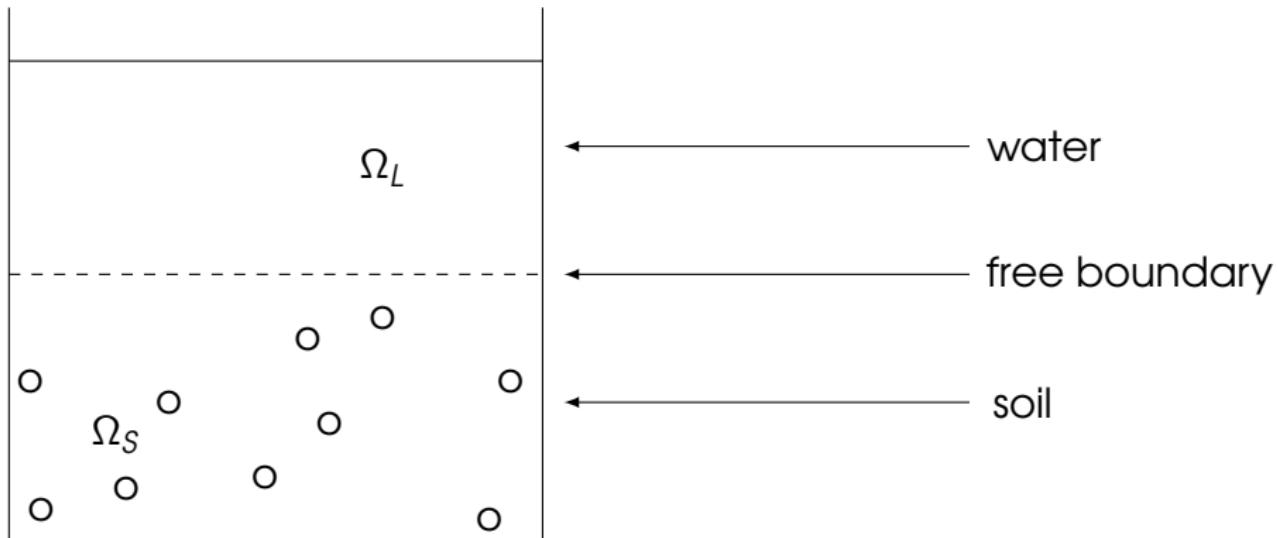


Figure: Illustration of the problem

Freezing of pure water H_2O

Computations

First derivative of the enthalpy in respect to time :

Freezing of pure water H_2O

Computations

First derivative of the enthalpy in respect to time :

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial H}{\partial t}(x, t) &= \frac{\partial U}{\partial t}(x, t) + L \cdot \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial T}(T(x, t)) \\ &= \rho C_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}(x, t) + L \cdot \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial T}(T(x, t)) \\ &= \rho C_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}(x, t) + L \cdot \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial T}(T(x, t) - T^*) \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}(x, t) \\ &= \nabla(\kappa \nabla T(x, t)) + Q\end{aligned}$$

Freezing of pure water H_2O

Computations

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Regularization :

Freezing of pure water H_2O

Computations

First derivative of the enthalpy in respect to time :

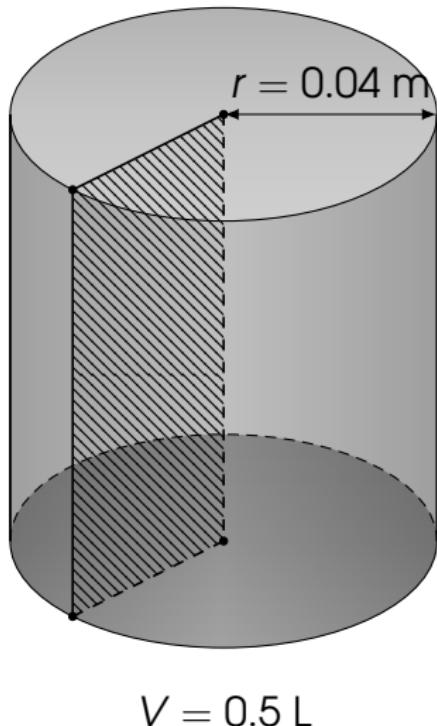
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Regularization :

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial U}{\partial t}(x, t) &= \rho C_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}(x, t) \\ &= \nabla(\kappa \nabla T(x, t)) - L \cdot \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}_\varepsilon}{\partial T}(T(x, t) - T^*) \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}(x, t)\end{aligned}$$

Freezing of pure water H_2O

Modelling

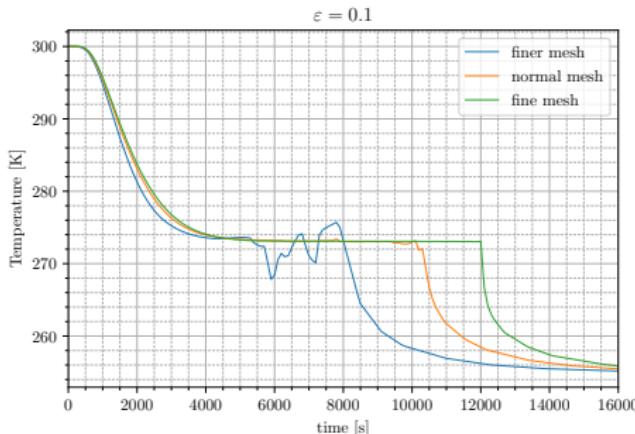


Density ρ	997 kg/m ³
Heat capacity C_p	4200 J/kg·K
Thermal conductivity κ	0.5918 W/m·K

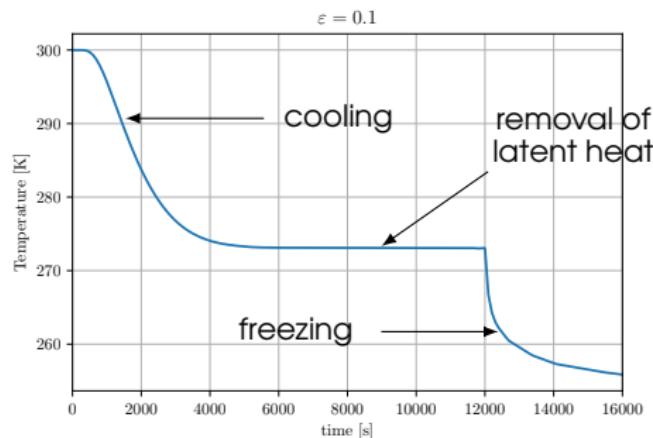
Finer mesh animation : <https://youtu.be/oWznctWiYmo>

Freezing of pure water H_2O

Modelling



(a) Freezing evolution with different types of meshes



(b) Freezing evolution with finer mesh

Figure: Freezing evolution of water

Freezing of porous media

Experiment



after freezing



after
thawing



(a) Freezing and thawing experiment with smaller diameter grains of pink sandstone



after freezing



after
thawing



(b) Freezing and thawing experiment with larger diameter grains of pink sandstone

Freezing of porous media

Experiment

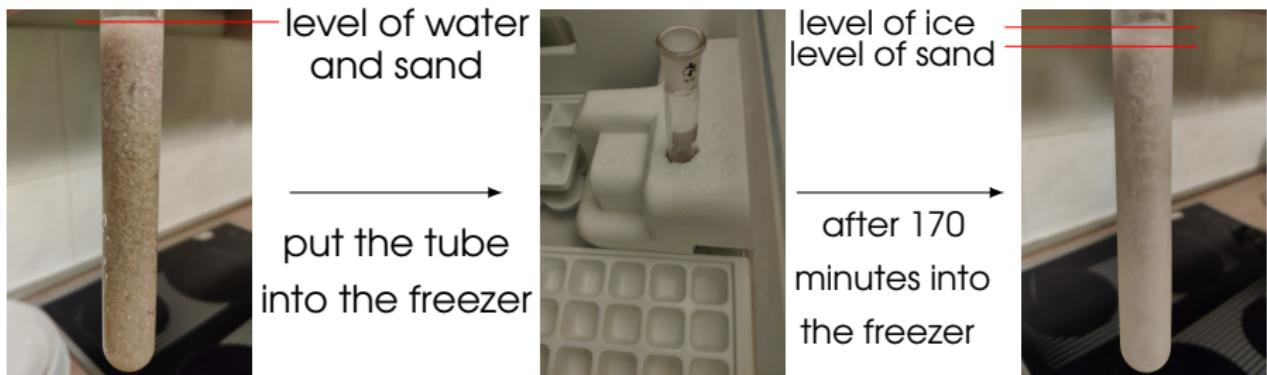
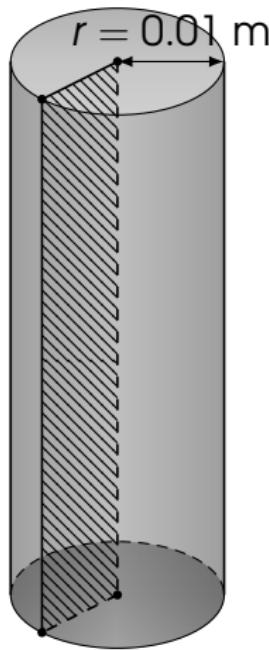


Figure: Experimental setup

Freezing of porous media

Modelling



$$V = 22.2 \text{ mL}$$

Boundary condition (T_0)	-0.1 °C
Depressed melting point (T^*)	-0.01 °C
Latent heat (L)	$2.5 \cdot 10^6 \text{ J/kg}$
Initial temperature ($T(t_0)$)	0.2 °C
Thermal conductivity (κ)	$2.2 \text{ W/m} \cdot \text{°C}$
Heat capacity (C_p)	$4.2 \cdot 10^6 \text{ J/kg} \cdot \text{°C}$

Freezing of porous media

Modelling

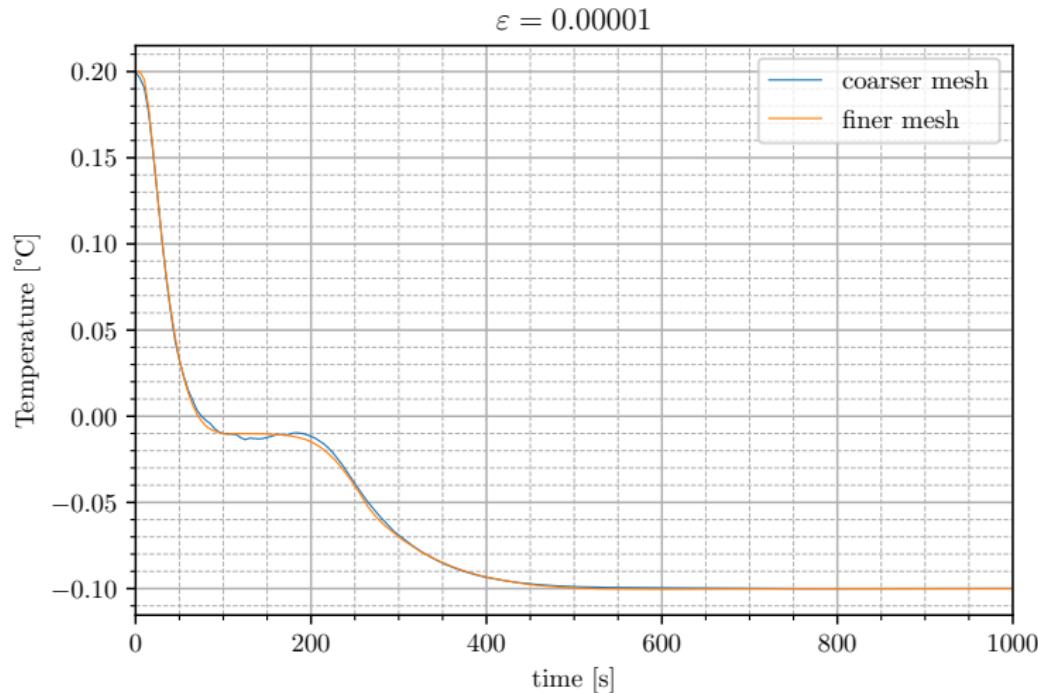


Figure: Freezing evolution of wet sand with different types of meshes

Freezing of water with gas

Is the gas released from ice ?

- Frozen Perrier water animation :

<https://youtu.be/SeN-wov-Jsw>

- Thawed Perrier water animation :

<https://youtu.be/cFtkSg1dRAY>

References

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-  Romanovsky V., Osterkamp T., 2000. Effects of unfrozen water on heat and mass transport processes in the active layer and permafrost. Permafrost and Periglacial Processes 11, 219-239.
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