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# Chebyshev collocation spectral method for radiative transfer in participating media with variable physical properties

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## Abstract

Chebyshev collocation spectral method based on discrete ordinates equation is employed to solve radiative heat transfer problems in participating media with variable physical properties (including space-dependent or temperature-dependent refractive index, absorption coefficient and scattering coefficient). Discrete ordinates method is employed to discretize the solid angle domain. Chebyshev polynomial and collocation spectral method are adopted to express and discretize space domain, respectively. Numerical results obtained by the Chebyshev collocation spectral-discrete ordinates method (CCS-DOM) are presented in this paper and the results show the CCS-DOM has a good accuracy and efficiency for radiative heat transfer problems in participating media. At last, the effects of variable physical properties on radiative heat transfer are analyzed and it can be found that the distributions of refractive index, absorption coefficient and scattering coefficient have a significant effect on radiative transfer and energy distribution.

**Keywords:** Radiative heat transfer, Chebyshev collocation spectral method, Variable physical properties, Participating media

## Nomenclature

$I$	radiative intensity, $W/(m^2 \text{ sr})$
$I_b$	blackbody radiative intensity, $W/(m^2 \text{ sr})$
$n$	refractive index
$x$	axial coordinate, m
$M$	the direction number
$N$	total number of solution number

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