Statistical Second-order Two-scale Method for Nonstationary Coupled Conduction-Radiation Heat Transfer Problem of Random Porous Materials

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Abstract: This paper develops a novel statistical second-order two-scale (SSOTS) method to predict the heat transfer performances of three-dimensional (3D) porous materials with random distribution. Firstly, the mesoscopic configuration for the structure with random distribution is briefly characterized Secondly, the SSOTS formulas for calculating effective thermal conductivity parameters, temperature field and heat flux densities are derived by means of construction way. Then, the algorithm procedure based on the SSOTS method is described in details. Finally, numerical results for porous materials with varying probability distribution models are calculated by SSOTS algorithm, and compared with the data by finite element method (FEM) in a very fine mesh and theoretical methods. They show that the SSOTS method is not only valid, but also accurate to predict the coupled heat transfer performances of random porous materials and demonstrate its potential applications in thermal engineering.

Keywords: SSOTS method, Coupled conduction-radiation heat transfer, Heat flux densities, Random porous materials.

1 Introduction

Porous materials are widely used in high technology engineering as well as ordinary industrial products owing to their high temperature resistance, high radiation attenuation coefficient and light weight. Especially, with rapid development of space aircraft, porous materials have attracted tremendous attention and wide research interests in thermal engineering. Therefore, the accurate determination of thermal properties of porous materials has been an important issue. Some scientists

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and engineers investigated the physical properties of porous materials by physical tests, various empirical and semi-empirical numerical methods [Zhou, Qi and Shao (2006); Glicksman, Schuetz and Sinofsky (1987); Liang and Qu (1999); Contento, Oliviero, Bianco and Naso (2014)]. Later, Dong et al. proposed a novel method " Computational Grains ", which enables a direct numerical simulation of a large number of heterogeneous materials [Dong, Gamal and Atluri (2013); Dong and Atluri (2012a); Dong and Atluri (2012b)]. The literatures mentioned above have just predicted effective macroscopic properties of thermal conduction and thermal radiation, respectively, and can not be employed to calculate the temperature and heat flux fields at mesoscopic level. Meanwhile, other researchers were interested in the modeling of the heat transfer at high temperatures, taking into account both conductive and radiative contributions [Zhao, Lu and Hodson (2004); Zhao, Tassou and Lu (2008); Loretz, Coquard, Baillis and Maire (2008); Coquard, Rochais and Baillis (2009); Coquard, Rochais and Baillis (2012)]. It can be seen that the literature on experimental and theoretical models of radiation or conduction in porous materials are abundant, but the number of numerical studies remain relatively limited. Moreover, these experimental investigations generally concern the radiation or the conduction alone, requiring expensive equipments, especially for measurements at high temperatures [Coquard, Rochais and Baillis (2009)]. Actually, in many practical thermal engineering problems, coupled conduction and radiation problem should be considered in order to give more accurate results. Moreover, the random porous materials have better physical properties and agree with the real working environment of materials more. Thus it is significant and meaningful to study the coupled conduction-radiation heat transfer problem of porous materials with random distribution.

The ways of heat transfer in porous materials contains conduction, convection and radiation. Convection occurs by flow, and can be neglected at low pressures or in closed-cell porous materials [Liu and Zhang (2006); Daryabeigi (1999)]. Radiation is a way of heat transmission and sometimes plays an important role in heat transfer at high temperature. Considering the surface radiation of porous materials, some interesting works were reported in recent years. Liu and Zhang (2006) predicted the effective macroscopic properties of heat conduction-radiation problem. Bakhvalov (1981) obtained the formal expansions for the solution of those problems, but had no theoretical justification. On this basis, Allaire and El Ganaoui (2009) studied a linear heat conduction equation with ε^{-1} -order radiation boundary conditions by two-scale asymptotic expansion. Yang [Yang, Cui, Nie and Ma (2012); Yang, Cui and Li (2013)] proposed a second-order two-scale method to solve the coupled conduction and radiation equation with a classical radiation model in physics. In addition, for the optically thick materials at high temperature with high porosity,

scientists considered the radiation problem approximated by Rosseland equation in the fields of experimental and theoretical studies [Coquard, Rochais and Baillis (2009); Daryabeigi (1999); Doermann and Sacadura (1996); Yan (2006)]. Experimental studies and theoretical prediction models can be just applied to the predicting of the macroscopic effective properties of porous materials, and no model has taken into account random porous materials with all random parameters together, including the shape, orientation, spatial location, volume fraction and so on. So this paper will lay a strong emphasis on the investigation of the Rosseland problem for the porous materials with random distribution.

Based on the asymptotic expansion homogenization approach [Bensoussan, Lions and Papanicolaou (1978); Oleinik, Shamaev and Yosifian (1992)], Cui proposed a multi-scale analysis method for different types of composites [Yang, Cui, Nie and Ma (2012); Yang, Cui and Li (2013); Cui, Shin and Wang (1999); He and Cui (2006); Li and Cui (2005); Yu, Cui and Han (2008); Yang, Cui, Nie, Wu, Yang and Wu (2013); Yu, Cui and Han (2009)]. They established a second-order twoscale analysis method to predict physical and mechanical properties of composites with periodic configuration [Yang, Cui, Nie and Ma (2012); Cui, Shin and Wang (1999); He and Cui (2006)]. Meanwhile, for the physics field problems of random composites, Jikov, Kozlov and Oleinik (1994) proved the existences of the homogenized coefficients and the homogenized solution. On the basis of the Monte Carlo method, Cui [Yang, Cui and Li (2013); Li and Cui (2005); Yu, Cui and Han (2008); Yang, Cui, Nie, Wu, Yang and Wu (2013); Yu, Cui and Han (2009)] established a statistical second-order two-scale analysis method by introducing a random sample model to predict physical and mechanical properties of the composite structure with random distribution. This method is able not only to show the macro characteristic of composite material with random configurations, but also greatly decrease the computation time required for numerical simulations.

However, the previous second-order two-scale asymptotic expansion cannot be employed to the coupled conduction-radiation heat transfer problem because of the nonlinearity of the coupled problem. In this paper, we introduce higher-order correction terms into the asymptotic expansion of the temperature field, and derive a family of cell problems. A new SSOTS method is developed by a constructive way to predict heat transfer properties, and calculate temperature and heat flux fields at mesoscopic level of random porous materials.

The remainder of this paper is outlined as follows. In the following section, the mesoscopic configurations for porous materials with random distribution are represented. Section 3 is devoted to the formulations of the SSOTS method and the algorithm procedure for the maximum heat flux density. Finally, numerical results for the performance analysis of coupled conduction-radiation heat transfer are

shown, which strongly support our method.

Throughout the paper the Einstein summation convention on repeated indices is adopted.

2 Representation of porous materials with random distribution

Referring to Ref. [Li and Cui (2005); Yu, Cui and Han (2008)], we suppose that all the pores in the geometry are considered as ellipsoids, which are randomly distributed in the matrix. In this paper, all of the ellipsoid pores are also considered as "same scale", which means all of their long axes satisfy $r_1 < a < r_2$, where r_1 and r_2 are given upper and lower bounds. Then, the microstructures of random porous materials are represented as follows:

1) In the investigated structure Ω^{ε} , there exists a constant ε satisfying $0 < \varepsilon << L$, where *L* denotes the macro scale of Ω^{ε} . Thus, Ω^{ε} is composed of all the cells of size ε , as shown in Figure 1(a).

2) Each ellipsoid in the three-dimensional space is denoted by nine random parameters, describing the shape, size, orientation and spatial distribution of ellipsoid pores: $a_1, a_2, a_3, \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, x_{01}, x_{02}, x_{03}$, where a_1, a_2 and a_3 denote length of three axes; β_1, β_2 and β_3 three Euler angles of the rotations; x_{01}, x_{02} and x_{03} the coordinates of the center. Let the random vector $\xi = (a_1, a_2, a_3, \beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, x_{01}, x_{02}, x_{03})$, it includes all the information of an ellipsoid.

3) Based on the above random parameters defining the ellipsoid in a cell $\mathcal{E}Y^s$, let

K denote the maximum number of ellipsoids located inside the cell, *Y*^s represents a normalized cell, and its random sample is defined as ω^s , where s = 1, 2, 3... denote the index of samples. Then we can define a sample ω^s of ellipsoidal pores distribution in a normalized statistic screen as follows:

$$\omega^{s} = (\xi_{1}^{s}, \xi_{2}^{s}, \xi_{3}^{s} \cdots, \xi_{K-1}^{s}, \xi_{K}^{s}),$$

for sample ω^s shown in Figure 1(b). Therefore, the investigated structure Ω^{ε} is logically composed of ε -size cells subjected to identical probability distribution model *P*, part of which is shown in Figure 1(a).

In this work, the following material parameters of porous materials with random distribution can be considered

$$\left\{B_{ij}^{\varepsilon}(x,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s})\right\} = \left\{\begin{array}{ll}B_{ij}^{1}, & if \ x \in \varepsilon Y^{s} - \bigcup_{i=1}^{K} e_{i},\\B_{ij}^{2}, & if \ x \in \bigcup_{i=1}^{K} e_{i},\end{array}\right.$$

where e_i denotes the *i*th ellipsoid inside εY^s , and B_{ij}^1 and B_{ij}^2 are material coefficients of matrix and pores, respectively, and satisfy that $\max\left\{\left|B_{ij}^1\right|, \left|B_{ij}^2\right|\right\} < \tilde{M}$, where \tilde{M} is positive constant.

3 Statistical second-order two-scale method

3.1 Statistical second-order two-scale formulation

In this section, a novel SSOTS formulation is derived by using a constructive way for calculating the thermal properties of the heat transfer problem, including effective thermal conductivity parameters, temperature field and heat flux densities.

When the optical thickness of porous materials is sufficiently large, the local radiation heat transfer is mainly controlled by the gradient of the fourth power of the temperature. Under such conditions, one can define a radiation-based thermal conductivity $b_{ij}^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega)$ by the Rosseland equation [Daryabeigi (1999); Doermann and Sacadura (1996); Yan (2006); Modest (2003); Zhang and Cui (2012); Zhang (2012); Yang, Cui and Zhang (2013)]. Then, we consider the coupled conductionradiation heat transfer problem for a given structure as follows:

$$\begin{cases} \rho^{\varepsilon}(x,\omega)c^{\varepsilon}(x,\omega)\frac{\partial T_{\varepsilon}(x,\omega,t)}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i}}(k_{ij}^{\varepsilon}(x,\omega)\frac{\partial T_{\varepsilon}(x,\omega,t)}{\partial x_{j}}) \\ +b_{ij}^{\varepsilon}(x,\omega)\frac{\partial (T_{\varepsilon}(x,\omega,t))^{4}}{\partial x_{j}}) = f(x,t), \quad (x,t) \in \Omega^{\varepsilon} \times (0,t_{*}), \\ T_{\varepsilon}(x,\omega,t) = \bar{T}(x,t), \quad (x,t) \in \partial\Omega \times (0,t_{*}), \\ T_{\varepsilon}(x,\omega,0) = T_{in}(x), \quad x \in \Omega^{\varepsilon}, \end{cases}$$
(1)

where $T_{\varepsilon}(x, \omega, t)$ denotes the temperature, $k_{ij}^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega)$ and $b_{ij}^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega)$ are the coefficients of the thermal conductivity and thermal radiation, respectively. $\rho^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega)$ and $c^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega)$ denote, respectively, the densities and the specific heat of porous materials, and $\varepsilon > 0$ is a small parameter which represents the relative size of a cell. $\overline{T}(x,t)$ is the temperature on the boundary $\partial \Omega$, and f(x,t) is the internal heat source. $\omega = \{\omega^s, x \in \varepsilon Y^s \subset \Omega^{\varepsilon}\}$.

In order to avoid the arguments on the mathematical properties of investigated functions below, we suppose that:

(i) If $\{k(\omega)\}$ is a bounded random variable, then there exists an expectation value. (ii) Assume that the coefficients of $\{\rho(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, \omega)\}$, $\{c(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, \omega)\}$, $\{k_{ij}(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, \omega)\}$ and $\{b_{ij}(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, \omega)\}$ are bounded and symmetric.

(iii) $B_{ij}\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon},\omega\right) \in C^{1}(\Omega)$, if $B_{ij}\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon},\omega\right) \in L^{2}(\Omega)$, one can construct a smooth operator $\delta:B_{ij}\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon},\omega\right) \to \delta B_{ij}\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon},\omega\right) \in C^{1}(\Omega)$ satisfying $\left\|\delta B_{ij}(\bullet,\omega) - B_{ij}(\bullet,\omega)\right\| \to 0$ as $\delta \to 0$.

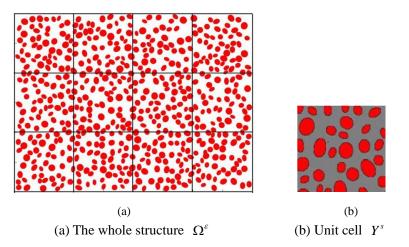


Figure 1: Porous materials with random distribution of pores[Li and Cui (2005)].

By supposition (ii) and (iii), for any fixed given sample ω , Zhang [Zhang and Cui (2012); Zhang (2012)] proved the existence and uniqueness of Eq.(1).

It is well known that the temperature increments of porous material with random distribution depend not only on its global behaviors, but also on random mesoscopic configurations. It hence can be expressed as $T_{\varepsilon}(x, \omega, t) = T(x, y, \omega, t)$, where $y = \frac{x}{\varepsilon}$, *x* denotes the macroscopic coordinate and *y* is the local one. And then material parameters can be expressed as $\rho^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega) = \rho(y, \omega)$, $c^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega) = c(y, \omega)$, $k_{ij}^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega) = k_{ij}(y, \omega)$ and $b_{ij}^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega) = b_{ij}(y, \omega)$.

In order to obtain the two-scale expression of the temperature field, it is assumed that $T_{\varepsilon}(x, \omega, t)$ can be expanded into the series of the following form:

$$T_{\varepsilon}(x,\boldsymbol{\omega},t) = T_{0}(x,t) + \varepsilon N_{\alpha_{1}}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial T_{0}(x,t)}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}} + \varepsilon^{2} (M_{\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial^{2} T_{0}(x,t)}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}} \partial x_{\alpha_{2}}} + N_{\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial^{2} T_{0}(x,t)}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}} \partial x_{\alpha_{2}}} + R_{\alpha_{1}}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) (\frac{\partial T_{0}(x,t)}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}})^{2} + C_{\alpha_{1}}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial T_{0}(x,t)}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}} + \theta(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial T_{0}(x,t)}{\partial t}) + \varepsilon^{3} P_{1}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega},t), \ x \in \varepsilon Y^{s} \subset \Omega^{\varepsilon},$$

$$(2)$$

where $T_0(x,t)$ only reflects the macroscopic behaviors of the structure, and is called the homogenization solution. $P_1(x, y, \omega, t)$ is the asymptotic expansion function depending the two-scale variables x and y. $N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $M_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $N_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $R_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $C_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$ and $\theta(x, y, \omega^s)$ are the local solutions, respectively. They will be determined below. For simplicity, let $T_0 = T_0(x, t)$ and f = f(x, t).

It is worth noting that the expansion (2) is different from the traditional form given by [Li and Cui (2005)], the differences are that the correction terms $N_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $R_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$ and $C_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$ are constructed into the asymptotic expansion and all of the correction terms depend on the macroscopic variable *x* owing to the thermal radiation.

Taking into account

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \to \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \frac{\partial}{\partial y},\tag{3}$$

and substituting (2) into (1) yield the equalities

$$\begin{split} &\rho(y,\omega^s)c(y,\omega^s)\frac{\partial T_{\varepsilon}(x,\omega^s,t)}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}(k_{ij}(y,\omega^s)\frac{\partial T_{\varepsilon}(x,\omega^s,t)}{\partial x_j} + b_{ij}(y,\omega^s)\frac{\partial (T_{\varepsilon}(x,\omega^s,t))^4}{\partial x_j}) \\ &= -\varepsilon^{-1}\frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\left(\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}}\right)\right) \\ &- \varepsilon^0\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))(\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}})) \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left(k_{ij}(y,\omega^s)\frac{\partial N_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial x_j}\right)\frac{\partial T_0^4}{\partial y_j}\right) \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((6T_0^2b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\frac{\partial (N_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s))^2}{\partial x_j}\right)(\frac{\partial T_0^4}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left(b_{ij}(y,\omega^s)N_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)\right)\frac{\partial^2 T_0^4}{\partial x_j\partial x_{\alpha_1}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left(b_{ij}(y,\omega^s)N_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)\right)\frac{\partial^2 T_0^4}{\partial x_j\partial x_{\alpha_1}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\frac{\partial M_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\right)\frac{\partial^2 T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}\partial x_{\alpha_2}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\frac{\partial N_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\right)\frac{\partial^2 T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}\partial x_{\alpha_2}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\frac{\partial N_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\right)\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\frac{\partial C_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\right)\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\frac{\partial C_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\right)\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\frac{\partial C_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\right)\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\frac{\partial C_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\right)\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\frac{\partial C_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\right)\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\frac{\partial C_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\right)\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\frac{\partial C_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\right)\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\frac{\partial C_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\right)\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i}\left((k_{ij}(y,\omega^s) + 4T_0^3b_{ij}(y,\omega^s))\frac{\partial C_{\alpha_1}(x,y,\omega^s)}{\partial y_j}\right)\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial y$$

(4)

Supposing that the equality (4) holds for any $\varepsilon > 0$, then from the coefficients of ε^{-1} in both sides of equality (4), the following equality is obtained:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} ((k_{i\alpha_1}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) + 4T_0^3 b_{i\alpha_1}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)) + (k_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) + 4T_0^3 b_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)) \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)}{\partial y_j}) \frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}} = 0.$$
(5)

Since $\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}}$ arises from the macroscopic behavior of the structure, it is not identical to zero, (5) can be rewritten as

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} \left((k_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) + 4T_0^3 b_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)) \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)}{\partial y_j} \right)
= -\frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} (k_{i\alpha_1}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) + 4T_0^3 b_{i\alpha_1}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)) \quad in \quad Y^s .$$
(6)

To attach the following boundary condition on ∂Y^s

$$N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) = 0$$
 on ∂Y^s . (7)

For any sample ω^s (s = 1, 2, 3, ...), we obtain the auxiliary function $N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$. $N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$ is the solution of the following elliptic partial differential equation

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} \left((k_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) + 4T_0^3 b_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)) \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)}{\partial y_j} \right) \\ = -\frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} (k_{i\alpha_1}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) + 4T_0^3 b_{i\alpha_1}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)), \quad y \in Y^s, \\ N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) = 0, \quad y \in \partial Y^s. \end{cases}$$
(8)

It is proved that problems Eq.(8) have a unique solution for any specified sample. Referring to [Li and Cui (2005); Yu, Cui, Han and Chen (2008); Yu, Cui and Han (2009)], for any sample ω^s (s = 1, 2, 3, ...), the homogeneous parameters are defined as

$$\hat{k}_{ij}(x,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) = \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_{Y} (k_{ip}(y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial N_{j}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s})}{\partial y_{p}} + k_{ij}(y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s})) dy,$$

$$\hat{b}_{ij}(x,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) = \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_{Y} (b_{ip}(y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial N_{j}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s})}{\partial y_{p}} + b_{ij}(y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s})) dy,$$

$$(\boldsymbol{\rho}c)^{*}(\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) = \frac{1}{|Y|} \int_{Y} \boldsymbol{\rho}(y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s})c(y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) dy,$$
(9)

where |Y| denotes the Lebesgue measure of *Y*.

From the finiteness of $k_{ij}(y, \omega^s)$, $b_{ij}(y, \omega^s)$, $\rho(y, \omega^s)$, $c(y, \omega^s)$ and Lemma 3.2 in [Li and Cui (2005)], it follows that $\hat{k}_{ij}(x, \omega^s)$, $\hat{b}_{ij}(x, \omega^s)$ and $(\rho c)^*(\omega^s)$ are bounded random functions and exist uniquely. Then applying Kolmogorov's strong law of large numbers, the expected homogenization coefficients can be calculated by

$$\bar{k}_{ij}(x) = \lim_{M \to \infty} \frac{\sum_{s=1}^{M} \hat{k}_{ij}(x, \omega^{s})}{M},$$

$$\bar{b}_{ij}(x) = \lim_{M \to \infty} \frac{\sum_{s=1}^{M} \hat{b}_{ij}(x, \omega^{s})}{M},$$

$$(\rho c)^{*} = \lim_{M \to \infty} \frac{\sum_{s=1}^{M} (\rho c)^{*}(\omega^{s})}{M},$$
(10)

where *M* is the maximum number of samples.

After the expected homogenized coefficients are obtained in the structure Ω , the homogenized equation associated with Eq. (1) is defined as follows

$$\begin{pmatrix}
(\rho c)^* \frac{\partial T_0(x,t)}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\bar{k}_{ij}(x) \frac{\partial T_0(x,t)}{\partial x_j}) \\
- \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (\bar{b}_{ij}(x) \frac{\partial T_0(x,t)^4}{\partial x_j}) = f(x,t), \quad (x,t) \in \Omega \times (0,t_*), \\
T_0(x,t) = \bar{T}(x,t), \quad (x,t) \in \partial\Omega \times (0,t_*), \\
T_0(x,0) = T_{in}(x), \quad x \in \Omega.
\end{cases}$$
(11)

Similar to [Oleinik, Shamaev and Yosifian (1992)] and [Li and Cui (2005)], it is proved that $\bar{k}_{ij}(x)$ and $\bar{b}_{ij}(x)$ are symmetrical and positive define. Thus the homogenization problem (11) has the unique solution, see [Zhang and Cui (2012); Zhang (2012)].

Comparing the coefficient of ε^0 on both sides of Eq.(4), since $\frac{\partial^2 T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1} \partial x_{\alpha_2}}$, $\frac{\partial^2 T_0^4}{\partial x_{\alpha_1} \partial x_{\alpha_2}}$ and $\frac{\partial T_0}{\partial x_{\alpha_1}}$ are not identical to zero, by the constructing way analogous to determining $N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$, we can obtain auxiliary functions $M_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $N_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $R_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $C_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$ and $\theta(x, y, \omega^s)$, respectively.

 $M_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(x, y, \omega^s)$ is the solution of the following problem:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} \left((k_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) + 4T_0^3 b_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) \frac{\partial M_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)}{\partial y_j}) \right) \\ = \bar{k}_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}(x) - k_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) - k_{\alpha_2 j}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)}{\partial y_j} \\ - \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} (k_{i\alpha_2}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)), \qquad y \in Y^s, \\ M_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) = 0, \qquad y \in \partial Y^s. \end{cases}$$
(12)

 $N_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}(x, y, \omega^s)$ is the solution of the following problem:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} \left((k_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) + 4T_0^3 b_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)) \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)}{\partial y_j} \right) \\ = \bar{b}_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}(x) - b_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) - b_{\alpha_2 j}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)}{\partial y_j} \\ - \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} (b_{i\alpha_2}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)), \qquad y \in Y^s, \\ N_{\alpha_1 \alpha_2}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) = 0, \qquad y \in \partial Y^s. \end{cases}$$
(13)

 $R_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$ is the solution of the following problem:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} \left((k_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) + 4T_0^3 b_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)) \frac{\partial R_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)}{\partial y_j} \right) \\ = -\frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} (6T_0^2 b_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) \frac{\partial (N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s))^2}{\partial y_j}), \quad y \in Y^s, \\ R_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) = 0, \quad y \in \partial Y^s. \end{cases}$$
(14)

 $C_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$ is the solution of the following problem:

$$\begin{pmatrix}
\frac{\partial}{\partial y_{i}} \left((k_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) + 4T_{0}^{3}b_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{s})) \frac{\partial C_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{s})}{\partial y_{j}} \right) \\
= \frac{\partial \bar{k}_{i\alpha_{1}}(x)}{\partial x_{i}} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i}} (k_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{s})}{\partial y_{j}}) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y_{i}} (k_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{s})}{\partial x_{j}}) \\
+ 4T_{0}^{3} \left(-\frac{\partial \bar{b}_{i\alpha_{1}}(x)}{\partial x_{i}} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i}} (b_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{s})}{\partial y_{j}}) \\
- \frac{\partial}{\partial y_{i}} (b_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{s})}{\partial x_{j}})), \quad y \in Y^{s}, \\
C_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) = 0, \quad y \in \partial Y^{s}.
\end{cases}$$
(15)

 $\theta(x, y, \omega^s)$ is the solution of the following problem

$$\begin{pmatrix}
\frac{\partial}{\partial y_i} \left((k_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) + 4T_0^3 b_{ij}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) \frac{\partial \theta(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s)}{\partial y_j} \right) \\
= \boldsymbol{\rho}(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) c(y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) - (\boldsymbol{\rho}c)^*, \quad y \in Y^s, \\
\theta(x, y, \boldsymbol{\omega}^s) = 0, \quad y \in \partial Y^s.
\end{cases}$$
(16)

For any fixed given sample ω^s (s = 1, 2, 3, ...), by Lax-Milgram theorem, Poincare's inequality and supposition (ii), (12)-(16) are determined uniquely.

To sum up, one acquires the following theorem:

Theorem The coupled conduction-radiation heat transfer problem (1) for porous materials with random distribution formally has a SSOTS asymptotic expansion given by

$$T_{\varepsilon}(x,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s},t) = T_{0} + \varepsilon N_{\alpha_{1}}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}} + \varepsilon^{2} \left(M_{\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial^{2}T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}\partial x_{\alpha_{2}}} + N_{\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial^{2}T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}\partial x_{\alpha_{2}}} + R_{\alpha_{1}}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) (\frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}})^{2} + C_{\alpha_{1}}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}} + \theta(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}) \frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial t} \right) + \varepsilon^{3} P_{1}(x,y,\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s},t),$$
(17)

where T_0 is the solution of the homogenized Eq. (11) with the parameters (10). $P_1(x, y, \omega^s, t)$ is the asymptotic expansion function depending the two-scale variables x and y. $N_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $M_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $N_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $R_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $C_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$ and $\theta(x, y, \omega^s)$ are the local solutions satisfying (8), (12), (13), (14), (15) and (16), respectively.

In practical computation of engineering only the sum of fore three terms in (17) are evaluated. Furthermore, the expansion formulation of the temperature gradients and heat flux densities are approximately given as follows

$$\frac{\partial T_{\varepsilon}(x, \omega^{s}, t)}{\partial x_{i}} = \frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial x_{i}} + \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial y_{i}} \frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}} + \varepsilon N_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \omega^{s}) \frac{\partial^{2} T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}} \partial x_{i}} \\
+ \varepsilon \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial x_{i}} \frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}} + \varepsilon \frac{\partial M_{\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}}(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial y_{i}} \frac{\partial^{2} T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}} \partial x_{\alpha_{2}}} \\
+ \varepsilon^{2} M_{\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}}(x, y, \omega^{s}) \frac{\partial^{3} T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}} \partial x_{\alpha_{2}} \partial x_{i}} + \varepsilon^{2} \frac{\partial M_{\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}}(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial x_{i}} \frac{\partial^{2} T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}} \partial x_{\alpha_{2}}} \\
+ \varepsilon \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}}(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial y_{i}} \frac{\partial^{2} T_{0}^{4}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}} \partial x_{\alpha_{2}}} + \varepsilon^{2} N_{\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}}(x, y, \omega^{s}) \frac{\partial^{3} T_{0}^{4}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}} \partial x_{\alpha_{2}}} \\
+ \varepsilon^{2} \frac{\partial N_{\alpha_{1}\alpha_{2}}(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial x_{i}} \frac{\partial^{2} T_{0}^{4}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}} \partial x_{\alpha_{2}}} + \varepsilon \frac{\partial R_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial y_{i}} (\frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}})^{2} \\
+ \varepsilon^{2} R_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \omega^{s}) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i}} (\frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}})^{2} + \varepsilon^{2} \frac{\partial R_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial x_{i}} (\frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}})^{2} \\
+ \varepsilon \frac{\partial C_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial y_{i}} \frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}} + \varepsilon^{2} C_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \omega^{s}) \frac{\partial^{2} T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}} \partial x_{i}} + \varepsilon^{2} \frac{\partial C_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}} \frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}} \\
+ \varepsilon \frac{\partial C_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial y_{i}} \frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}} + \varepsilon^{2} \Theta(x, y, \omega^{s}) \frac{\partial^{2} T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}} \partial x_{i}} + \varepsilon^{2} \frac{\partial C_{\alpha_{1}}(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}} \frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial x_{\alpha_{1}}} \\
+ \varepsilon \frac{\partial \Theta(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial y_{i}} \frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial t} + \varepsilon^{2} \Theta(x, y, \omega^{s}) \frac{\partial^{2} T_{0}}{\partial t \partial x_{i}} + \varepsilon^{2} \frac{\partial \Theta(x, y, \omega^{s})}{\partial x_{i}} \frac{\partial T_{0}}{\partial t} \\
\eta_{i}(x, \omega^{s}, t) = -k_{ij}^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega^{s}, t) \frac{\partial T_{\varepsilon}(x, \omega^{s}, t)}{\partial x_{i}}}. \tag{19}$$

3.2 Algorithm procedure

- 1. Generate a sample ω^s for a unit cell Y^s according to the probability distribution models P and the volume fraction. Further, partition Y^s into finite element (FE) mesh.
- 2. Choose different points x^i $(i = 1, 2, \dots, \overline{L}) \subset \Omega^{\varepsilon}$ and solve $N_{\alpha_1}(x^i, y, \omega^s)$ according to the problem (8) by FE method for a range of macroscopic temperature $[T_a, T_b]$. And then homogenization coefficients $\{\hat{k}_{ij}(x^i, \omega^s)\}$ and $\{\hat{b}_{ij}(x^i, \omega^s)\}$ are evaluated by using the formula (9).

- 3. Repeat the step 1) and 2) for *M* samples $\omega^s \in P(s = 1, \dots, M)$, and *M* homogenized coefficients are obtained, respectively. The expected thermal conduction $\{\hat{k}_{ij}(x^i)\}$ and the thermal radiation $\{\hat{b}_{ij}(x^i)\}(i = 1, 2, \dots, \bar{L})$ parameters are given by the formula (10).
- 4. According to $\{\hat{k}_{ij}(x^i)\}, \{\hat{b}_{ij}(x^i)\}\ (i = 1, 2, \dots, \bar{L})$ obtained from 3), thermal conduction and thermal radiation parameters can be calculated by interpolation technique on the entire temperature range. Then, the nonlinear homogenization solution $T_0(x,t)$ is obtained by solving problem (11) in Ω , and the standard Backward Euler full discrete format (see [Su, Xu, Dong and Li (2011)]) is employed to solve the nonstationary homogenized problem.
- 5. With the same meshes to 2), we evaluate $M_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $N_{\alpha_1\alpha_2}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $R_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$, $C_{\alpha_1}(x, y, \omega^s)$ and $\theta(x, y, \omega^s)$ corresponding to a sample $\omega^s \in P$ by solving the cell problems (12), (13), (14), (15) and (16), respectively.
- 6. From (18) and (19), the temperature and heat flux densities distributions corresponding to the sample $\omega^s \in P$ are evaluated.
- 7. Suppose the value of the heat flux densities at $x \in c^s$ is $q(x, \omega^s, t)$. One obtains the following maximum heat flux density for a cell c^s corresponding to the sample $\omega^s \in P$

$$q_{extr}(\boldsymbol{\omega}^{s},t) = \max_{\boldsymbol{x} \in c^{s}} q(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{\omega}^{s}, t).$$
⁽²⁰⁾

8. Repeating the steps 6) and 7) for *M* samples $\omega^s \in P$ ($s = 1, \dots, M$), one obtains *M* the maximum heat flux density $q_{extr}(\omega^s, t)$. By analogizing the expected homogenization parameters, the expected maximum heat flux density is given by

$$\bar{q}_{extr}(t) = \frac{\sum_{s=1}^{M} q_{extr}(\boldsymbol{\omega}^s, t)}{M}.$$
(21)

4 Numerical experiments and results

In order to verify that the presented algorithm is feasible and effective to predict the thermal properties of the porous materials, we have developed computer programs and performed some numerical experiments.

4.1 Algorithm validation

Consider the mixed boundary value problem (1) and study the validity of the SSOTS method, a macrostructure Ω^{ε} , which is the union of entire periodic cells as illustrated in Figure 2(a), is chosen, and the unit cell Y=[0,1] is as shown in Figure 2(b). The boundary temperatures in the z-direction are set as \overline{T}_1 and \overline{T}_2 , and the time step is taken as $\Delta t=0.02$.

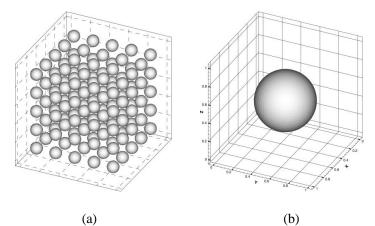


Figure 2: (a) Domain $\Omega^{\varepsilon} = [0, 0.25]^3$ (b) Unit cell $Y = [0, 1]^3$.

Since it is difficult to find the analytical solution of (1), we have to replace $T_{\varepsilon}(x, \omega^s, t)$ with its FE solution $T_{-}FE$ in a very refined mesh, and implement the tetrahedron partition for Ω^{ε} . The number of elements and nodes used in the numerical simulations are listed in Table 1.

Elements	Original equation	Unit cell	Homogenized equation
	1568790	5078	93750
Nodes	276069	1403	17576

Table 1: Comparison of computational cost.

The following two cases are investigated:

Case1: $\rho = 1$ kg/m³, c = 1J/kgK, $k_{ij0} = 100$ W/mK δ_{ij} , $k_{ij1} = 0.05$ W/mK δ_{ij} , $\bar{b}_{ij} = 1.356e - 11$ W/mK δ_{ij} , $\bar{T}_1 = 100$ K, $\bar{T}_2 = 500$ K, $f = 1 \times 10^6$ MWm⁻³, Case2: $\rho = 1$ kg/m³, c = 1J/kgK, $k_{ij0} = 1$ W/mK δ_{ij} , $k_{ij1} = 0.05$ W/mK δ_{ij} , $\bar{b}_{ij} = 1.356e - 11$ W/mK δ_{ij} , $\bar{T}_1 = 100$ K, $\bar{T}_2 = 500$ K, $f = 1 \times 10^5$ MWm⁻³, where δ_{ij} is the Kronecker symbol, k_{ij1} denotes the coefficients inside the ellipsoids, and k_{ij0} represents the coefficients on the other part. \bar{b}_{ij} is the effective radiative thermal conductivity [Yan (2006)].

It should be noted that $T_0(x,t)$ is the numerical solution for the homogenized equations (11) in a coarse mesh. $\hat{T}_1^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega^s, t)$ and $\hat{T}_2^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega^s, t)$ correspond to the first-order and the second-order two-scale numerical solutions based on (17). Set $error_0 = T_-FE - T_0(x,t)$, $error_1 = T_-FE - \hat{T}_1^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega^s, t)$ and $error_2 = T_-FE - \hat{T}_2^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega^s, t)$. For convenience, we introduce the following notation

$$\|v\|_{L^{2}(\Omega)} = (\int_{\Omega} |v|^{2} dx)^{1/2}, |v|_{H^{1}(\Omega)} = (\int_{\Omega} (|\nabla v|^{2}) dx)^{1/2}.$$

The relative numerical errors of the homogenization, first-order, and second-order two-scale methods in the L^2 -norm and H^1 -norm for examples are listed in Tables 2 and 3.

	$\ error_0\ _{L^2}/\ T_FE\ _{L^2}$	$\ error_1\ _{L^2}/\ T_FE\ _{L^2}$	$\ error_2\ _{L^2}/\ TFE\ _{L^2}$
Case1, $t = 0.02$	0.24219603	0.24218782	0.017753913
Case1, <i>t</i> =0.2	0.24142463	0.24141778	0.022944393
Case2, <i>t</i> =0.2	0.01552770	0.01022539	0.003593778

Table 2: Comparison with computing results of norm L^2 .

Table 3: Comparison with computing results of semi-norm H^1 .

	$ error_0 _{H^1}/ T_FE _{H^1}$	$ error_1 _{H^1}/ T_FE _{H^1}$	$ error_2 _{H^1}/ TFE _{H^1}$
Case1, <i>t</i> =0.02	12.420958	12.416015	1.197010
Case1, <i>t</i> =0.2	12.370834	12.365863	1.399024
Case2, <i>t</i> =0.2	0.3283665	0.238355	0.069558

Figures 3 (a)–(d) illustrate the numerical results for $T_0(x,t)$, $\hat{T}_1^{\varepsilon}(x,\omega^s,t)$, $\hat{T}_2^{\varepsilon}(x,\omega^s,t)$ and T_FE at the intersection z=0.15 at time t=0.2 in Case 1.

Figures 4 (a) and (b) clearly show the evolution of the relative errors of approximate solutions with time *t* in Case 1, where error0L2, error1L2, error2L2, error0H1, error1H1, and error2H1 denote $||error_0||_{L^2}/||T_FE||_{L^2}$, $||error_1||_{L^2}/||T_FE||_{L^2}$, $||error_2||_{L^2}/||T_FE||_{L^2}$, $||error_0|_{H^1}/|T_FE|_{H^1}$, $||error_1|_{H^1}/|T_FE|_{H^1}$, $||error_2|_{H^1}/|T_FE|_{H^1}$, respectively.

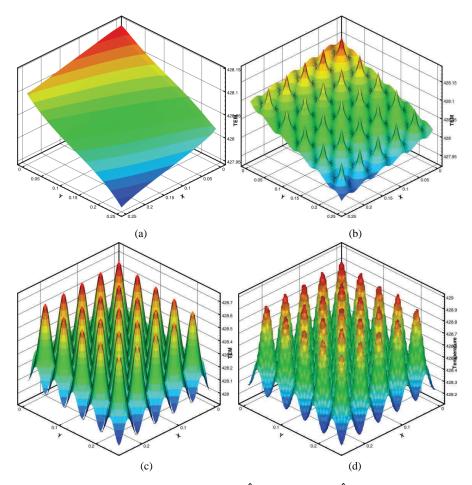


Figure 3: t = 0.2; Case 1 (a) $T_0(x,t)$; (b) $\hat{T}_1^{\varepsilon}(x,\omega^s,t)$; (c) $\hat{T}_2^{\varepsilon}(x,\omega^s,t)$; (d) T_-FE .

In practical engineering, porous materials generally consist of a large number of pores. A porous system depicted in Figure 5 is used to demonstrate the effectiveness of the SSOTS computational method, consisting of 27000 pores with a diameter of d=4.1667mm. The thermal conductivity of the matrix is $k = 150 \text{WK}^{-1}\text{m}^{-1}$. The boundary temperatures in the z-direction are set as $\bar{T}_1 = 100\text{K}$ and $\bar{T}_2 = 500\text{K}$. The internal heat source $f = 1000 \text{MWm}^{-3}$. Other materials parameters are the same as example listed in Case 1.

Figures 6 (a)–(c) illustrate the numerical results for $T_0(x,t)$, $\hat{T}_1^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega^s, t)$ and $\hat{T}_2^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega^s, t)$ at the intersection z=0.13333 at time t=0.2.

Both the SSOTS method and the direct numerical simulations are performed on

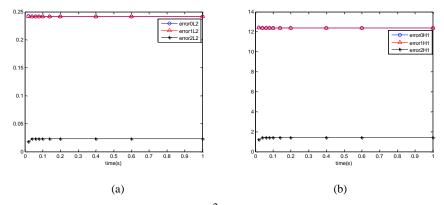


Figure 4: Case 1; (a) the evolution of L^2 relative errors with t; (b) the evolution of H^1 relative errors with t.

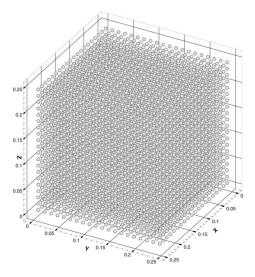


Figure 5: Porous materials with a large number of pores. $\Omega^{\varepsilon} = [0, 0.25]^3$.

the same computer (which has memory of 96GB and 24 processors with CPU = 2.33GHz). On the aspect of the SSOTS method, it is very cheap to solve the simulation (it takes about 40 seconds to finish solving the cell problem, and about 60 seconds for the homogenized problem), which takes the majority of the computational efforts. On the other hand, we cannot easily obtain $T_{-}FE$ by classical numerical methods because it would require very fine meshes and a great amount of computation. Moreover, the convergence of FE method is not easy.

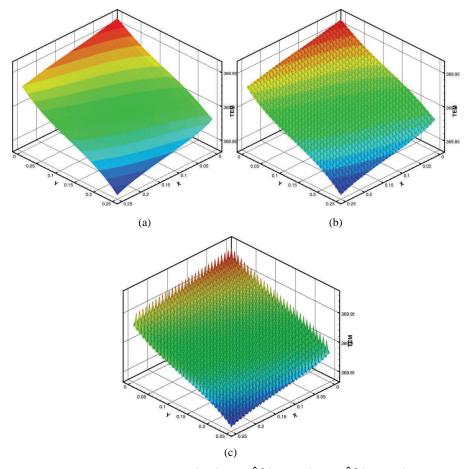


Figure 6: t = 0.2; (a) $T_0(x,t)$; (b) $\hat{T}_1^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega^s, t)$; (c) $\hat{T}_2^{\varepsilon}(x, \omega^s, t)$.

From the results presented in Tables 2-3 and Figures 3-6, we can see that the statistical second-order two-scale approximate solution is in a good agreement with the FE solution in a refined mesh, and can effectively capture the local fluctuations caused by 3-D microstructures well. But the statistical first-order two-scale approximate solution and the homogenized solution are not capable of providing satisfactory results, especially when the thermal conduction coefficients in different parts of unit cell are large or the source term varies with large amplitude. The statistical second-order two-scale method is clearly the best among the computation schemes studied in this paper, and it gives the accurate numerical solutions. Furthermore, the proposed method is suitable for a very small periodic parameter ε ; i.e., there are a great number of cells in porous materials.

From Table 1, it is seen that the mesh partition numbers of statistical second-order two-scale approximate solution are much less than that of refined FE solution, especially for small ε . It means the new approximate solution can greatly save computer memory and CPU time, which is very important in engineering computations.

4.2 Thermal properties of randomly distributed porous material

In order to investigate thermal properties of porous materials with random distribution, we consider three different types of microscopic distributions and their effective computer generation algorithm has been developed by authors [Yu, Cui and Han (2008)] based on the probability distribution model of pores: spherical pores subject to uniformly stochastic distribution in a ε -cell; spherical pores subject to normal distribution around the centric point of ε -cell; orientations of ellipsoidal pores, whose long axes is about two times that of the middle axes and short axes, which are subjected to normal distribution along x_1 -axis, and subjected to uniformly stochastic distribution in ε -cell. Figure 7 depicts the three samples corresponding to those. The effect of locations, orientations and shapes of pores on material properties is investigated by the SSOTS method, and due to pores random dispersion, the numerical results of the different samples will vary even for the same distribution models of pores. Therefore, to obtain more accurate prediction values a numbers of samples are required. It should be noted that the following computation results are averaged from 50 random samples.

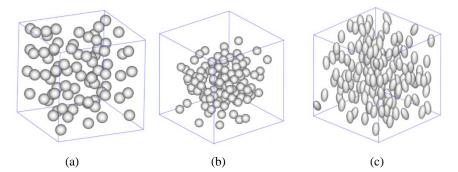


Figure 7: (a) uniform distribution (b) location-normal distribution (c) orientationnormal distribution.

Figure 8 depicts the geometry structure of the plate studied which is of the length is 10mm, width is 10mm, and the thickness is 5mm, respectively. The internal heat source $f = 10 \text{MWm}^{-3}$, and the boundary temperatures in the z-direction are set

as $\bar{T}_1(x,t)=100$ K, $\bar{T}_2(x,t)=500$ K. The materials parameters of porous materials are listed in Table 4, and we choose the effective radiative thermal conductivity calculated by genetic algorithm in Yan (2006). The radii are both taken as 0.05 for the spherical pores subjected to uniform distribution and spherical pores subjected to normal distribution. As for the orientations of spherical pores are normal distribution, the sizes of their long axes are taken as 0.1, middle axes and short axes are both 0.05.

Ceramic	Gas	Effective radiative thermal		
		conductivity		
k = 4.41 (W/mK)	k = 0.0557375 (W/mK)	$k = 1.356 \times 10^{-11} $ (W/mK)		
$\rho = 2.6 \times 10^3 (\text{kg/m}^3)$	$ ho = 1.205 (\text{kg/m}^3)$			
$c = 0.837 \times 10^3 (\text{J/ kg K})$	c = 1.4 (J/ kg K)			

Table 4: Material parameters of porous materials [Yan (2006)].

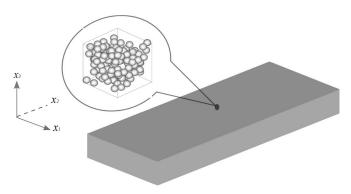


Figure 8: Schematic of porous materials plate.

From the discussion in Section 3 it follows that the effective thermal conductivity and effective radiative thermal conductivity of the porous materials are dependent of temperature because of the nonlinearity of Rosseland equation. In order to investigate thermal properties of the porous materials, the effective thermal conductivity coefficients are obtained, and compared to Hashin-shtrikman bounds and Voigt-Reuss bounds [Jikov, Kozlov and Oleinik (1994); Hashin and Shtrikman (1963)] for different temperatures. The results are listed in Table 5 as temperatures are 50K and 1250K for different volume fractions with normal distribution of pores. Table 6 shows that the effective thermal conductivity at 1000K and the spherical pores are orientation-normal distribution around the centric point of ε -cell. From Tables 5 and 6, it can be seen that the effective thermal conductivity decrease with the increment of volume fraction, and SSOTS method show the effective thermal conductivity which satisfy Hashin-shtrikman bounds and Voigt-Reuss bounds, between super and low bounds.

Table 5: Effective thermal conductivity of porous materials for different volume fractions at 50K and 1250K with normal distribution of pores.

Temperature	Volume	SSOTS	HS-upper	HS-lower	VR-upper	VR-lower
(K)	(%)	(W/mk)	bound	bound	bound	bound
			(W/mk)	(W/mk)	(W/mk)	(W/mk)
50	0.180	3.4264835	3.5769	0.2155	3.6262	0.2927
	0.276	2.9400174	3.0882	0.2145	3.2082	0.1955
1250	0.180	3.4333125	3.5769	0.2155	3.6262	0.2927
	0.276	2.9494594	3.0882	0.2145	3.2082	0.1955

Table 6: Effective thermal conductivity of porous materials for different volume fractions at 1000K with orientation-normal distribution of spherical pores.

Volume	x1	x2	x3	HS-upper	HS-lower	VR-upper	VR-lower
(%)				bound	bound	bound	bound
				(W/mk)	(W/mk)	(W/mk)	(W/mk)
0.114	3.8367758	3.7299331	3.7298626	3.8943	0.2160	3.9136	0.4452
0.158	3.6112134	3.4806656	3.4933625	3.6843	0.2157	3.7220	0.3294
0.262	3.0868876	2.9397015	2.9473608	3.1615	0.2147	3.2692	0.2054

In Figure 9 we plot K11 and K22 of the homogenized conductivities of porous material with volume fraction are 38% in terms of the macroscopic temperature from 100K to 1500K, and pores subject to uniform random distribution. As a result, we note that these diagonal components are different at high temperature because of the effect of radiation.

We have studied the limit of the cell problems and the homogenized coefficients when the macroscopic temperature goes to infinity. In Figs. 10 we plot the three different values of the homogenized conductivities with volume fraction of pores is 38%, and find that, at extremely high temperatures, they reach the limit value, which has the similar changing trends to the results showed in Allaire and Ganaoui (2009) owing to the importance of heat radiation at the high temperature.

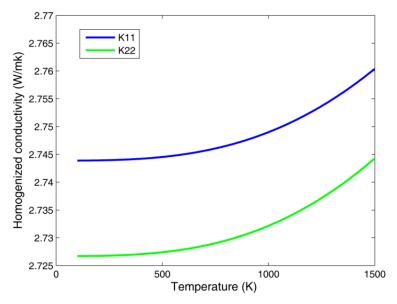


Figure 9: K11 and K22 of the homogenized conductivities as a function of the macroscopic temperature with uniform distribution of pores.

Figure 11 demonstrates that the statistically maximum heat flux density increases with the increment of time for different volume fraction, and the $\bar{q}_{extr}(t)$ of orientationnormal distribution is larger than the $\bar{q}_{extr}(t)$ of uniform distribution in a unit cell, and they all reach a steady state at last. So the curves of Fig. 11 indicate that the statistically maximum heat flux density of the porous materials is concurrently affected not only by macroscopic properties, but also by the microscopic structure of random distribution of pores.

Figures 12 and 13 illustrate heat flux densities distribution for different random distributions with different volume fractions of pores at time t=1.0. One can see that the heat flux densities in the two local cells are different for different distribution with a marked fluctuation, and local heat flux densities with high volume fraction are relatively high. Moreover, the statistically heat flux densities with orientation-normal distribution of pores are larger than that with uniform distribution of pores for the same volume fraction.

All the results from above examples demonstrate that the thermal properties of coupled conduction-radiation heat transfer problem for porous materials with random distribution can be effectively predicted by the SSOTS method.

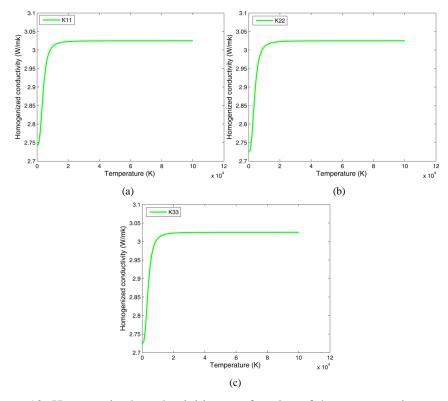


Figure 10: Homogenized conductivities as a function of the macroscopic temperature with uniform distribution of pores. (a)K11; (b)K22; (c)K33.

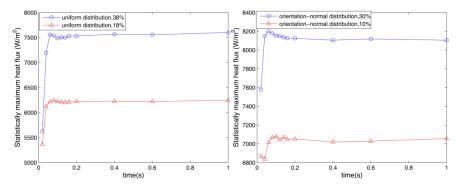


Figure 11: Statistically maximum heat flux density as time for different distributions of pores locations.

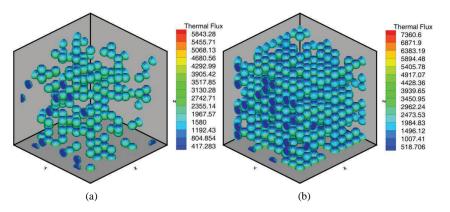


Figure 12: Heat flux densities in a local cells with different volume fraction and pores subjected to uniform distribution (a) 0.09 (b) 0.26.

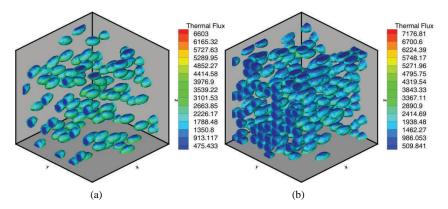


Figure 13: Heat flux densities in a local cells with different volume fraction and pores subjected to orientation-normal distribution (a) 0.09 (b) 0.20.

5 Conclusions

In this paper, the SSOTS method is presented to predict the heat transfer performance of nonstationary coupled conduction-radiation problem for porous materials with random distribution. The validity of this two-scale model and the effectiveness of the developed SSOTS method have been verified by comparing with FE methods in a very fine mesh. As a result, the statistical second-order two-scale method is effective to numerically solve the coupled conduction-radiation equation. Besides, the convergence of the SSOTS numerical results is much better than FE method, especially at a high temperature.

The macroscopic thermal properties for the structures with varying probability distribution models, including volume fraction, location, orientation and spatial distribution of pores, are shown. Numerical results demonstrate that the microstructure has a marked effect on the macroscopic thermal properties. Specifically, these properties vary with the probability model of random inclusion dispersions. And the local behaviors caused by microstructures inside porous materials can be captured exactly by the SSTOS method. Therefore, the SSOTS method proposed in this paper can be practically employed to predict thermal properties of the random porous materials.

Furthermore, the SSOTS method and related numerical approximation techniques developed in this work is helpful to the design and optimization of the porous materials with random distribution.

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