A Mathematical Model to Solve Bio-Heat Transfer Problems through a Bio-Heat Transfer Equation with Quadratic Temperature-Dependent Blood Perfusion under a Constant Spatial Heating on Skin Surface

Emmanuel Kengne*, Idir Mellal, Mariem Ben Hamouda, Ahmed Lakhssassi
Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Quebec at Outaouais, Gatineau, Canada
Email: *kengem01@uqo.ca, idir.mellal@gmail.com, mariembh02@gmail.com, ahmed.Lakhssassi@uqo.ca

Received 22 May 2014; revised 6 July 2014; accepted 16 July 2014

Abstract

We consider the one-dimensional bio-heat transfer equation with quadratic temperature-dependent blood perfusion, which governs the temperature distribution inside biological tissues. Using an extended mapping method with symbolic computation, we obtain the exact analytical thermal traveling wave solution, which describes the non-uniform temperature distribution inside the bodies. The found exact solution is used to investigate the temperature distribution in the tissues. It is found that the surrounding medium with higher temperature does not necessarily imply that the tissue will quickly (after a short duration of heating process) reach the desired temperature. It is also found that increased perfusion causes a decline in local temperature.

Keywords


1. Introduction

Using the Pennes bio-heat transfer (BHT) equation [1] which accounts for the ability of tissue to remove heat by

*Corresponding author.

both passive conduction and perfusion of tissue by blood, many of the bio-heat transfer problems have been modelled. The BHT equation defines the thermal behavior of tissue and includes four terms that influence the heat transfer at the tissue surface: the heat exchange between the tissue surface and the environment, the conduction through the tissue, the energy transfer by blood circulation in the tissue, and the heat generation due to local metabolism. The contributions of heat conduction and perfusion are combined in the Pennes bio-heat equation [1] [2], that we use in a form that employs $\omega_m$ [3]

$$\rho c \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (k \nabla T) - c_p \rho_b \omega_m(T)(T - T_a) + Q_m + Q_r, \quad x \in \Omega, \quad t > 0. \quad (1.1)$$

Here, $\rho$, $c$ and $k$ are the density, specific heat, and thermal conductivity of tissue, respectively, $c_p$ is the specific heat of blood, $\rho_b$ is the density of blood, $T$ is local tissue temperature, $T_a$ is the arterial blood temperature, $t$ is the time, $Q_m$ is the metabolic heat generation rate per unit volume, $Q_r$ is the heat deposited per volume due to spatially distributed heating, and $\omega_m$ is the blood perfusion rate. The BHT model (1.1) can be used for the quantitative diagnostics of physiological conditions on biological bodies, as for example, for simulations of regional hyperthermia for cancer therapy [3]-[5]. For thermal problems, Equation (1.1) is subject to the usual boundary conditions 1) temperature prescribed, $T|_{(\text{boundary})} = \tilde{T}$, where (boundary) is either the whole or a part of the boundary of domain $\Omega$; or 2) heat flux prescribed, $q = \tilde{q}$; or 3) convection, $q = -h_j \left( T|_{(\text{boundary})} - T_{\text{surr}} \right)$, where $h_j$ is the heat transfer coefficient and $T_{\text{surr}}$ is the temperature of the surrounding medium; or radiation, $q = -\sigma \varepsilon \left( T_{\text{am}}^4 - T_{\text{surr}}^4 \right)$, where $\sigma$ is the Stefan-Boltzman constant, $\varepsilon$ is the radiative interchange factor between the surface and the exterior ambient temperature $T_{\text{am}}$.

The parameters considered in Equation (1.1) are usually assumed to be constant except for the blood perfusion, which varies with temperature $T$ to include the specific case of temperature-dependent perfusion [3]-[5]. Perfusion is defined as the nonvectorial volumetric blood flow per tissue volume in a region that contains sufficient capillaries that an average flow description is considered reasonable. Therefore it is expected that the heat dissipation should vary with the blood perfusion rate. Most tissues, including much of the skin and brain, are highly perfused, with a perfusion coefficient denoted by $\omega$, can be replaced, as in Equation (1.1), by $m \omega$, the nondirectional mass flow associated with perfusion. One of the most important applications of blood perfusion effects and measurements is tumour detection. Tumours are known to have a different perfusion rate than normal healthy tissue. They are generally highly vascular and so blood flows through them more quickly. Therefore the ability to know the effects and the measurements of this abnormal perfusion rate could help evaluate the size and severity of a tumour. By varying some parameters of the blood perfusion $\omega(T)$, it is possible to examine the effect that different volume flow rates of blood have on the heat transfer inside the biological bodies.

The analytical study of Equation (1.1) as a nonlinear evolution equation is of great interest. As in the study of nonlinear physical phenomena, the investigations of the travelling wave solution of Equation (1.1) play an important role in the analytical study of the nonuniform thermal distribution in biological tissues. The importance of obtaining the analytical solutions, if available, of Equation facilitates 1) the investigation of temperature distribution inside the biological bodies, 2) the verification of numerical solvers, and aids in the stability analysis of solutions. In the present work, we aim to find analytical thermal traveling wave solution of one-dimensional (1D) BHT equation

$$\rho c \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = k \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} - c_p \rho_b \omega_m(T)(T - T_a) + Q_m + Q_r, \quad x \in \Omega, \quad t > 0, \quad (1.2)$$

with a quadratic temperature-dependent blood perfusion [6]-[8]

$$\omega_m = \omega_0 + \gamma_0 T + \delta_0 T^2, \quad \delta_0 \neq 0, \quad (1.3)$$

where $\omega_0 > 0$ is the baseline perfusion, $\gamma_0 > 0$ and $\delta_0 > 0$ are respectively the linear and quadratic coefficients of temperature-dependence. Here, we assume that the skin surface is defined at $x = 0$ while the body core at $x = L$ so that $\Omega = [0, L]$. For the simplicity, we will limit ourselves to the special case of constant spatial heating. This reflects the situation where the human skin was heated by a laser [9] [10]. The analytical
E. Kengne et al.

solutions will allow us to investigate the effect of the blood perfusion on heat transfer in the tissues. The analytical solutions are obtained with the help of the extended mapping method [11] [12]. The rest of the work is organized as follows. In Section 2, we present analytical thermal traveling wave solution of Equation (1.2) with blood perfusion (1.3). The results are discussed in Section 3. In Section 4, we conclude our work by summarizing the main results.

2. Thermal Traveling Wave Solutions of the 1D BHT Model with Quadratic Temperature-Dependent Blood Perfusion

In this section, we aim to apply the extended mapping method to find analytical solutions of Equation (1.1) with quadratic temperature-dependent blood perfusion (1.3). For the traveling wave solutions of Equations (1.2), (1.3), we introduce the ansatz

$$T(x,t) = u(z = ax - \nu t),$$

where $a$ and $\nu$ are two real parameters to be determined later. Inserting ansatz (1.4) into Equations (1.2), (1.3) yields the ordinary differential equation (ODE)

$$a^2 \kappa \frac{d^2 u}{dz^2} + \nu p c \frac{du}{dz} - \delta_b c_b \rho_b u^3 - c_b \rho_b (\gamma_a - \delta_a T_a) u^2 - c_b \rho_b (\omega_b - \gamma_b T_a) u + Q_m + c_b \rho_b \omega_b T_a = 0.$$  (1.5)

Then, we seek for the solutions of Equation (1.5) in the form [11] [12]

$$u(z) = \sum_{i=-m}^{m} g_i f^i(z),$$

where $g_i (i = -m, -m+1, \cdots, m)$ are real constants to be determined later, $m$ is a positive integer to be determined by balancing the second order derivative and the cubic terms in Equation (1.5), and $f(z)$ is any solution (satisfying condition $f(z = ax - \nu t) \neq 0$ for all $x \in [0,L]$ and $t \geq 0$) of equation

$$\left(\frac{df}{dz}\right)^2 = R^2 f^4 + 2PRf^2 + P^2, \quad (1.7)$$

where $P \neq 0$ and $R \neq 0$ are real parameters to be determined. It is easily seen that the second hand side of Equation (1.7) is a perfect square so that (1.7) can be solved in the derivative: $\frac{df}{dz} = \pm \left[ Rf^2 + P \right]$. Each of equations $\frac{df}{dz} = \pm \left[ Rf^2 + P \right]$ is a Riccati equation and its general solution is known. In what follows, we limit ourselves to only one of these equation (the case of the second equation can be done similarly). Without loss of generality, we consider the equation with sign “+”,

$$\frac{df}{dz} = Rf^2 + P.$$  (1.8)

Because we are interesting in the solutions $f(z = ax - \nu t) \neq 0$ for all $x \in [0,L]$ and $t \geq 0$, parameters $P$ and $R$ must satisfy condition $PR < 0$ Under the condition $PR < 0$, the general solution of (1.8) is

$$f(z; C) = \frac{C \left[ \sqrt{P} \right]}{C + \exp \left[ 2R \left[ \sqrt{P} \right] (ax - \nu t) \right]}, \quad \text{where } C \text{ is a constant of integration to be particularized from condition either } C > 0 \text{ or }$$

$$C \neq \exp \left[ 2R \left[ \sqrt{P} \right] (ax - \nu t) \right], \quad 0 \leq x \leq L, \text{ and } 0 \leq t \leq T_p, \quad T_p \text{ being the duration of the heating process.}$$
We now turn to the search of different parameters appearing in Equations (1.6), (1.7), and (1.8). Inserting $u(z) - z^m + z^{-m}$ into Equation (1.5) and balancing the second order derivative and the cubic terms yields $m = 1$, which in Equation (1.6) leads to

$$u(z) = \frac{g_{-1}}{f(z)} + g_0 + g_1 f(z). \quad (1.10)$$

Inserting expression (1.10) for $u(z)$ into Equation (1.6) and equating to zero the coefficients of different powers of $f$ leads to the following nonlinear algebraic system

\[
\begin{align*}
2k a^2 R^2 - \delta_c c_0 g_0 g_1^2 & = 0, \\
2k a^2 P^2 - \delta_c c_0 g_0 g_1^2 & = 0, \\
c \rho \upsilon R - 3 \delta_c c_0 g_0 g_1 - c_0 \rho_b (\gamma_0 - \delta_0 T_a) g_1 & = 0, \\
u \rho c P + 3 \delta_c c_0 g_0 g_1 & = 0, \\
12 k a^2 P R - c_0 \rho_b (\omega_0 - \gamma_0 T_a) - 2 c_0 \rho_b (\gamma_0 - \delta_0 T_a) g_0 - 3 \delta_c c_0 g_0 (g_1 h_1 + g_1^2) & = 0, \\
12 k a^2 R P - c_0 \rho_b (\omega_0 - \gamma_0 T_a) - 2 c_0 \rho_b (\gamma_0 - \delta_0 T_a) g_0 - 3 \delta_c c_0 g_0 (g_0^2 + g_1 g_0) & = 0, \\
Q_0 + Q_1 + c_0 \rho_b \omega a T_a - c_0 \rho_b (\omega_0 - \gamma_0 T_a) g_0 - \delta_c c_0 g_0 g_1^2 + c_0 \rho_b (\gamma_0 - \delta_0 T_a) g_0^2 + c \rho \upsilon (P g_0 - R g_1) & = 0, \\
-2 c_0 \rho_b (3 \delta_c g_0 + \gamma_0 - \delta_0 T_a) g_0^2 g_1 & = 0.
\end{align*}
\]

for $R, P, g_{-1}, g_0, g_1, a$, and $\upsilon$. Solving system (1.11) yield

\[
\begin{align*}
g_0 & = \frac{\delta_0 T_a - \gamma_0}{3 \delta_0} \pm \frac{c \rho \upsilon}{3 c_0 \rho_b} \left[ \frac{c_0 \rho_b}{2 k a^2 \delta_0} \right], \\
P & = \mp g_{-1} \frac{\delta_0 c_0 \rho_b}{2 k a^2}, \\
g_1 & = \frac{2 k a^2 c_0 \rho_b \left[ 3 \delta_0 (\gamma_0 T_a - \omega_0) + (\delta_0 T_a - \gamma_0)^2 \right] - c_0 (c \rho \upsilon)^2}{54 k a^2 \delta_0 c_0 \rho_b g_{-1}}, \\
R & = \mp g_1 \frac{\delta_0 c_0 \rho_b}{2 k a^2}, \\
Q_0 + Q_1 + c_0 \rho_b \omega a T_a & = \frac{1}{27} \left[ 3 \delta_0 a_0 + \gamma_0 \delta_0 T_a - 2 \gamma_0^2 - 2 \delta_0^2 T_a^2 \right] - \frac{3 (c \rho \upsilon)^2}{2 k a c_0 \rho_b} = 0.
\end{align*}
\]

It should be noted that

\[
Q(\zeta = \upsilon/a) = Q_0 + Q_1 + c_0 \rho_b \omega a T_a \\
+ \frac{c_0 \rho_b (\delta_0 T_a - \gamma_0) (5 \gamma_0 \delta_0 T_a - 9 \delta_0 a_0 + 2 \gamma_0^2 + 2 \delta_0^2 T_a^2)}{27 \delta_0^2} \\
+ \frac{(c \rho)^2 (\gamma_0 - \delta_0 T_a)}{54 k 0} \zeta^2 \\
\pm \frac{c \rho}{27} \frac{c_0 \rho_b}{2 k a \delta_0^2} \left[ 3 \delta_0 a_0 + \gamma_0 \delta_0 T_a - 2 \gamma_0^2 - 2 \delta_0^2 T_a^2 \right] - \frac{3 (c \rho)^2}{2 k c_0 \rho_b} \zeta^3
\]

is a third degree polynomial with respect to $\zeta$, so that the last equation in system (1.12) always admits at least one real solution in $\upsilon = a \zeta$. It is important to point out that solutions (1.12) contain two arbitrary real
parameters, \( a \neq 0 \) and \( g_{-1} \neq 0 \). Inserting the expressions for \( P \) and \( Q \) into Equation (1.9) yields
\[
f(z;C) = \frac{g_{-1}}{C + \exp\left[\pm 2g_1 \frac{\delta_\rho}{g_1} \frac{\rho c_p}{2k a^2} (z - t)\right]},
\]
(1.13)
and condition \( PR < 0 \) becomes
\[
g_0 g_{-1} > 0 \Leftrightarrow 2k c_p \rho c_p \left[3 \delta_\rho (\gamma_0 T - \omega_0) + (\delta_\rho T - \gamma_0)^2\right] - \delta_\rho (c \rho)^2 \zeta^2 > 0,
\]
(1.14)
\( \zeta \neq 0 \) being any real zero of polynomial \( Q(\zeta) \). Therefore, solution (1.13) is associated with only those zeros \( \zeta \) of polynomial \( Q(\zeta) \) satisfying condition (1.14). As it has been mentioned above, parameter \( C \) of solution (1.13) must be particularized from condition either \( C > 0 \) or \( C \neq \exp\left[2c R \sqrt{\frac{P}{R}} (ax - vt)\right] \). 0 \( \leq x \leq L \) and 0 \( \leq t \leq T_p \), \( T_p \) being the duration of the heating process. Inserting Equation (1.13) into Equation (1.10) and going back to variables \( x \) and \( t \) lead to the following analytical solution of Equations (1.2), (1.3)
\[
T(x,t) = g_0 + \frac{g_{-1}}{C} \left[C + \exp\left[\pm 2g_1 \frac{\delta_\rho}{g_1} \frac{\rho c_p}{2k a^2} (ax - vt)\right]\right]
\]
(1.15)
\[
+ \frac{C g_1}{C + \exp\left[\pm 2g_1 \frac{\delta_\rho}{g_1} \frac{\rho c_p}{2k a^2} (ax - vt)\right]}
\]
From what have being saying above, it is clear that solution (1.15) contains three parameters, \( a, g_{-1}, \) and \( C \). That may be determined using boundary conditions associated with Equations (1.2), (1.3). For example, if the biological tissue is exposed to the environment then the transfer of heat between the skin surface and environment is due to conduction, convection, radiation and evaporation. In this situation, the mixed boundary condition at the initial time \( t = 0 \) is given by
\[
T(L,0) = T_c, \quad -k \frac{\partial T(0,0)}{\partial x} = h_0 [T_f - T(0,0)] + LE,
\]
(1.16)
where \( T_c \) denotes the body core temperature which is often regarded as a constant, \( h_0 \) is the apparent heat convection coefficient between the skin surface and the surrounding medium under physiologically basal state and is an overall contribution from natural convection and radiation, and \( T_f \) is the surrounding medium temperature (atmospheric temperature), \( L \) is the latent heat of evaporation, and \( E \) is the rate of sweat evaporation. Then inserting Equation (1.16) into solution (1.15) leads to the system that allows us to determine two of the three parameters \( g_{-1}, a, \) and \( C \).

3. Results and Discussions
In the present section, we use the analytical solution (1.15) with sign \( - \) to investigate the nonuniform temperature distribution inside the biological bodies. For numerical simulations, we use the tissue parameters shown in Table 1 [3]-[12].

The maximal value of \( \omega_0, \gamma_0, \) and \( \delta_\rho \) are \( 7 \times 10^{-4}, 1.9 \times 10^{-4} \) and \( 7 \times 10^{-6} \), respectively [6]. The arterial blood temperature \( T_a = 37 \degree C \) is used. The distance between skin surface and the body core is taken to be \( L = 0.03 \) m [16]. The apparent heat convection coefficient due to natural convection and radiation is taken as \( h_0 = 10 \) W/m\(^2\)\cdot\degree C while the surrounding fluid temperature is chosen as \( T_f \in [25 \degree C, 45 \degree C] \) [17], that is,
$T_f$ is comprised between 25°C and 45°C. For all our computations, we use $E = 0 \text{ kg/m}^2/\text{s}$ and $L = 2.4 \times 10^6 \text{ J/kg}$ so that the effect of the sweat evaporation is neglected. It should be noted that the values for the metabolic level shown in Table 1 are associated with dermal parts of the biological tissues.

Using tissues’ properties given in Table 1, the various temperature profiles have been studied. Figure 1 shows temperature-dependent perfusion distributions inside the four tissues with properties shown in Table 1. To generate the plots of this figure, we have used a constant spatial heating with power $Q_r = 250 \text{ W/m}^2$ and the solution parameters $a = 5 \times 10^4$ and Fat: $\nu = 0.012664$, $g_{-1} = -246748$ and $C = -2.28521$; Kidney: $\nu = 0.018613 \text{ m/s}$, $g_{-1} = -164384$ and $C = -1.45393$; Bladder: $\nu = 0.018980 \text{ m/s}$, $g_{-1} = -163424$ and $C = -1.42764$; Tumor: $\nu = 0.019633 \text{ m/s}$, $g_{-1} = -161847$ and $C = -1.38325$. The plots of Figure 1 show that the tissue temperature increases with the thermal conductivity $k$ near the skin surface, and decreases near the body core when the thermal conductivity $k$ increases. Therefore, 1) the temperature of the fat tissue near the skin surface is lower than that of other tissues, and is higher near the body core than that of other tissues; 2) the temperature of the tumor tissue near the skin surface is higher than that of other tissues, and lower than that shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Tissue parameters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tissue</th>
<th>Thermal conductivity $k$ [W/m°C]</th>
<th>Density $\rho, \rho_a$ [kg/m$^3$]</th>
<th>Specific heat $c, c_a$ [Ws/kg/m°C]</th>
<th>Metabolic level $Q_m$ [W/m$^3$]</th>
<th>Blood perfusion $\omega_a$ [kg/s/m$^3$]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fat</td>
<td>0.210</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>33800</td>
<td>$\omega_a + \gamma_a T + \delta_a T^2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidney</td>
<td>0.577</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>33800</td>
<td>$\omega_a + \gamma_a T + \delta_a T^2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bladder</td>
<td>0.600</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>33800</td>
<td>$\omega_a + \gamma_a T + \delta_a T^2$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tumor</td>
<td>0.642</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>33800</td>
<td>$\omega_a + \gamma_a T + \delta_a T^2$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1. (Color online) Temperature-dependent perfusion distributions at the metabolic level $Q_m = 33800 \text{ W/m}^3$ at $T_f = 15°C$ for four types of biological tissues fat (solid line), kidney (dashed line), bladder (dotted line), and tumor (dash-dotted line) with tissue properties shown in Table 1. All the four figures have been obtained with the same blood perfusion parameters, $\omega_a = 7 \times 10^{-4}$, $\gamma_a = 1 \times 10^{-5}$, and $\delta_a = 7 \times 10^{-5}$. Top: Temperature of the tissues as a function of depth integrated over time $t = 0$ s (a) and $t = 3600$ s (b). Bottom: Temperature of the skin surface (c) and body core (d) as a function of time. Other parameters are given in the text.
of other tissues near the body core.

In what follows, we concentrate ourselves to the temperature distribution in tumor tissue. Figure 2 gives the temperature profile in the tumor tissue under different kinds of surrounding medium characterized by their temperature. Obviously, the larger surrounding medium temperature, the higher temperature at the skin surface. Such information is valuable for thermal comfort evaluation. In practice, the values of the surrounding medium temperature and the duration of the process are to chosen so on considering that they should be in the safe range for the biological skin. Indeed, a long durable and high temperature of the surrounding medium will cause pain even burning to the skin tissues. The plots of Figure 2 show that the temperature of each point of the tissue increases with time $t$ (see plots (a), (b), and (c)). It is seen from plots (d) and (f) that near the skin surface, the temperature increases as a function of time $t$, while close to the body core, the temperature decreases with time $t$. Far from the skin surface and from the body core, the temperature of the tissue at the early stage of heating process decreases, and then will gradually be improved (this is easily seen from plot (e)); moreover, as the time passes on, the temperature associated with the lower surrounding medium temperature increases more rapidly than that associated with higher temperature of the surrounding medium. In other words, a much longer time is needed to the tissue located far from the skin surface and the body core to reach the desired temperature when using a surrounding medium with higher temperature. It is also seen from plots (d) and (f) that the higher temperature of the tissue near the skin surface corresponds to the higher temperature of the surrounding medium; the situation is more different near the body core: surrounding medium with smallest temperature gives the highest temperature near the body core.

Figure 3 and Figure 4 show the effect of parameters $\gamma_0$ and $\delta_0$ of the temperature-dependent blood

![Figure 2](Image)

Figure 2. (Color online) Effect of the surrounding medium on the temperature response for tumor tissue for $\omega_0 = 7 \times 10^{-4}, \gamma_0 = 10^4$, $\delta_0 = 7 \times 10^{-6}$, and $Q_r = 250 \text{ W/m}^3$ with $\nu = 0.0196331 \text{ m/s}$. Solid lines: Temperature distribution associated with the surrounding medium temperature $T_r = 20^\circ\text{C}$ and the solution parameters $C = -1.39097$ and $g_s = -158293$. Dashed lines: Temperature distribution associated with the surrounding medium temperature $T_r = 25^\circ\text{C}$ and the solution parameters $C = -1.39743$ and $g_s = -155650$. Dotted lines: Temperature distribution associated with the surrounding medium temperature $T_r = 30^\circ\text{C}$ and the solution parameters $C = -1.4029$ and $g_s = -153601$. Dash-dotted lines: Temperature distribution associated with the surrounding medium temperature $T_r = 37.5^\circ\text{C}$ and the solution parameters $C = -1.40966$ and $g_s = -151261$. Top: Profile of the temperature distribution at given time as a function depth $x$, (a) initial temperature distribution, (b) temperature profiles at $t = 1800 \text{ s}$, and (c) temperature profile at time $t = 3600 \text{ s}$. Bottom plots: Temperature profiles at given depths as a function of time at $x = 0.005 \text{ m}$, (e) at $x = 0.013 \text{ m}$, and (f) at $x = 0.025 \text{ m}$. Other parameters are given in the text.
The temperature of the surrounding medium is maintained constant at $T_f = 25^\circ C$. The perfusion level was dependent on local temperature with three values of the linear coefficient of temperature dependence $\gamma_0 = 10^{-4}$ (solid line), $\gamma_0 = 1.2 \times 10^{-4}$ (dashed line), and $\gamma_0 = 1.4 \times 10^{-4}$ (dotted line). The basal perfusion rate was $\omega_b = 7 \times 10^{-4}$, while the quadratic coefficient of temperature dependence was $\delta_b = 7 \times 10^{-6}$. All the plots are obtained with the traveling wave parameters $a = 5 \times 10^8$ and $\nu = 0.019633$ m/s for $\gamma_0 = 10^{-4}$, $\nu = 0.020989$ m/s for $\gamma_0 = 1.2 \times 10^{-4}$, and $\nu = 0.023040$ m/s for $\gamma_0 = 1.4 \times 10^{-4}$. The solution parameters are defined by system (1.12) with $g_{\gamma \omega} = -1.58987 \times 10^8$ and $C = -4.47392$ for $\gamma_0 = 10^{-4}$, $g_{\gamma \omega} = -1.84006 \times 10^8$ and $C = -4.98115$ for $\gamma_0 = 1.4 \times 10^{-4}$, and $g_{\gamma \omega} = -2.10605 \times 10^8$ and $C = -5.49675$ for $\gamma_0 = 1.8 \times 10^{-4}$. (a): Temporal distribution of temperature close to skin surface for different values of $\gamma_0$; (b) Temporal distribution of temperature close to core body for different values of $\gamma_0$. Other parameters are given in the text.

The temperature of the surrounding medium is maintained constant at $T_f = 25^\circ C$. The perfusion level was dependent on local temperature with three values of the quadratic coefficient of temperature dependence $\delta_0 = 10^{-6}$ (solid line), $\delta_0 = 1.1 \times 10^{-6}$ (dashed line), and $\gamma_0 = 1.3 \times 10^{-6}$ (dotted line). The basal perfusion rate was $\omega_b = 7 \times 10^{-4}$, while the linear coefficient of temperature dependence was $\gamma_0 = 1.9 \times 10^{-6}$. All the plots are obtained with the traveling wave parameters $a = 5 \times 10^8$ and $\nu = 0.001674$ m/s for $\delta_0 = 10^{-6}$, $\nu = 0.005359$ m/s for $\delta_0 = 2 \times 10^{-6}$, and $\nu = 0.012671$ m/s for $\delta_0 = 3 \times 10^{-6}$. The solution parameters are defined by system (1.12) with $g_{\delta \omega} = -6.66992 \times 10^8$ and $C = -4.34247$ for $\delta_0 = 10^{-6}$, $g_{\delta \omega} = -1.54889 \times 10^8$ and $C = -2.68148$ for $\delta_0 = 2 \times 10^{-6}$, and $g_{\delta \omega} = -753442$ and $C = -2.19307$ for $\delta_0 = 3 \times 10^{-6}$. (a): Spatial distribution of temperature at the initial time $t = 0$ s for different values of $\delta_0$; (b) Spatial distribution of temperature at the initial time $t = 1800$ s for different values of $\delta_0$; (c) Spatial distribution of temperature at the initial time $t = 3600$ s for different values of $\delta_0$.
perfusion on the nonlinear temperature distribution in tumor tissue with properties given in Table 1. The layer of air farthest from the skin was set at $T_a = 25^\circ C$ and the core was set to $T_c = 37^\circ C$. Figure 3 shows the temporal distribution of temperature close to skin surface (Figure 3(a)) and close to the body core (Figure 3(b)) for different values of the linear coefficient of temperature dependence $\gamma_0$. The two plots show that the tissue temperature decreases when parameter $\gamma_0$ of the temperature-dependent blood perfusion increases. Thus, the temperature of the tissue is lower if the blood perfusion has a higher linear coefficient of temperature dependence. Figure 4 shows the spatial distribution of temperature at different times. The plots of this figure show that the temperature of the tissue decreases when the quadratic coefficient $\delta_0$ of the temperature-dependent blood perfusion increases. As expected, Figure 3 and Figure 4 thus show that increased perfusion causes a decline in local temperature. As a consequence, the accumulated tissue damage will be lower if the blood perfusion has higher temperature coefficients. This means that one may manage the accumulated tissue damage just by manipulating parameters $\gamma_0$ and $\delta_0$ of the temperature-dependent blood perfusion.

4. Conclusion

Using the extended mapping method with symbolic computation, we found exact analytical solution of the BHT equation with temperature-dependent blood perfusion, that describes the nonuniform temperature distribution in biological tissues. Using this solution, we have explicitly investigated temperature distribution in living tissues. The effects of the surrounding medium and the effects of the temperature-dependent blood perfusion on temperature distribution are also addressed. The exact solutions found in this work can be used to predicate the evolution of the detailed temperature within the tissues during thermal therapy.

Acknowledgements

This work was supported by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) under grants Nos. 7033009.

References


Scientific Research Publishing (SCIRP) is one of the largest Open Access journal publishers. It is currently publishing more than 200 open access, online, peer-reviewed journals covering a wide range of academic disciplines. SCIRP serves the worldwide academic communities and contributes to the progress and application of science with its publication.

Other selected journals from SCIRP are listed as below. Submit your manuscript to us via either submit@scirp.org or Online Submission Portal.