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Spectral element discretization of the heat equation with variable diffusion coefficient

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Abstract: We are interested in the discretization of the heat equation with a diffusion coefficient depending on the space and time variables. The discretization relies on a spectral element method with respect to the space variables and Euler's implicit scheme with respect to the time variable. A detailed numerical analysis leads to optimal a priori error estimates.

Keywords: heat equation; diffusion coefficient; spectral element methods; a priori estimates

AMS Subject Classification: 35K05, 65N35, 35B45

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