



A Method for Solving Fractional Differential Equations

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ABSTRACT

In the present paper, Bernstein operational matrix of fractional integration is developed and is applied for solving fractional differential equations of special type named Riccati differential equations. The validity and applicability of the proposed technique is illustrated through various particular cases which demonstrate their efficiency and simplicity as compare to the existing operational matrix techniques.

Keywords: Fractional differential equations, Operational matrix, Bernstein Polynomials

1. INTRODUCTION

Fractional calculus is a branch of mathematics that deals with generalization of the well-known operations of differentiations and integrations to arbitrary non-integers orders. Fractional derivative provides an excellent instrument for the description of memory and hereditary properties of various materials and processes. This is the main advantage of fractional derivatives in comparison with the classical integer-order models, in which such effects are in fact neglected. The idea of modelling dynamic systems by fractional differential equations can be used in many fields of science and engineering including electrochemical process [1-2], dielectric polarization [3], earthquakes [4], fluid-dynamic traffic model [5], solid mechanics [6], bioengineering[7-9] and economics[10]. Fractional derivative and integrals also appear in theory of control of dynamical systems when control system and the controller are described by fractional differential equations.

In recent years, a number of methods have been proposed and applied successfully to approximate various types of fractional differential equations. The most used methods are Adomian decomposition

method [11-13], Variational iteration method [14-15], Homotopy perturbation method [16-17], Homotopy analysis method [18], fractional differential transform method [19-23], power series method [24] and other methods [25-26].

Recently, wavelet based operational matrix has been also applied for the solution of the fractional differential equations. In 2010, Li et. al. [27] constructed Haar wavelet operational matrix of fractional integration with the use of Block pluse functions and successfully applied for getting solution of special type of fractional differential equation. In same year Li [28] and Li et al. [29] used another operational matrix based on Chebyshev wavelet and Haar wavelet respectively for the same problem. In 2011, Saadatmandi and Dehghan [30] used the concept of orthogonal polynomial and constructed for Legendre operational matrix of differentiation for solving such problems.

Bernstein polynomials have been used for solving numerically partial differential equations [31]. More recently, we have used Bernstein approximation for stable solution of problem of Abel inversion [32-33], generalized Abel integral equations arising in classical theory of Elasticity [34] and Lane-Emden equations [35].

The aim of this paper is to present an efficient numerical method for solving fractional differential equations of special type called Riccati differential equations. In the second section, Bernstein polynomials are defined and in third section Bernstein operational matrix of fractional integration is constructed. Finally, the constructed operational matrix is used to solve some special type of nonlinear fractional differential equations.

2. BERNSTEIN POLYNOMIALS AND FUNCTION APPROXIMATIONS

2.1. Bernstein polynomials

The Bernstein polynomial, named after Sergei Natanovich Bernstein, is a polynomial in the Bernstein form that is a linear combination of Bernstein basis polynomials. The Bernstein basis polynomials of degree n are defined by

$$B_{i,n}(t) = \binom{n}{i} t^i (1-t)^{n-i}, \text{ for } i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n. \quad (1)$$

There are $(n+1)$ n^{th} degree Bernstein basis polynomials forming a basis for the linear space V_n consisting of all polynomials of degree less than or equal to n in $\mathbf{R}[x]$ -the ring of polynomials over the field \mathbf{R} . For mathematical convenience, we usually set $B_{i,n} = 0$ if $i < 0$ or $i > n$. Any polynomial $B(x)$ in V_n may be written as

$$B(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \beta_i B_{i,n}(x). \quad (2)$$

The coefficients β_i are called Bernstein or Bezier coefficients. We will follow this convention as well. These polynomials have the following properties:

- (i) $B_{i,n}(0) = \delta_{i0}$ and $B_{i,n}(1) = \delta_{in}$, where δ is the Kronecker delta function.
- (ii) $B_{i,n}(t)$ has one root, each of multiplicity i and $n-i$, at $t = 0$ and $t = 1$ respectively.
- (iii) $B_{i,n}(t) \geq 0$ for $t \in [0, 1]$ and $B_{i,n}(1-t) = B_{n-i,n}(t)$.

Function approximation

If A function $f \in L^2[0, 1]$ may be written as

$$f(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=0}^n c_{in} b_{in}(t), \quad (3)$$

where, $c_{in} = \langle c, b_{in} \rangle$ and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is the standard inner product on $L^2[0, 1]$.

If the series (5) is truncated at $n = m'$, then we have

$$f \cong \sum_{i=0}^{m'} c_{im'} b_{im'} = C^T \Psi(t), \quad (4)$$

where, C and $\Psi(t)$ are $(m' + 1) \times 1$ matrices given by

$$C = [c_{0m'}, c_{1m'}, \dots, c_{m'm'}]^T, \text{ and} \quad (5)$$

$$\Psi(t) = [b_{0m'}(t), b_{1m'}(t), \dots, b_{m'm'}(t)]^T. \quad (6)$$

For taking the collocation points, let t_0 be any point near to zero and other point as following:

$$t_i = t_0 + \frac{i}{m'+1} i > 0. \quad (7)$$

Let us use the notation $m = m' + 1$, for defining the Bernstein polynomial matrix $\Phi_{m \times m}$ as follows:

$$\psi(t) \triangleq [B_{0m'}(t_0), B_{1m'}(t_1), \dots, B_{m'm'}(t_{m'})] \quad (8)$$

$$\Phi_{m \times m} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.0060 & 0.4019 & 0.2622 & 0.0930 & 0.0162 & 0.0006 \\ 0.0000 & 0.2024 & 0.3292 & 0.2334 & 0.0816 & 0.0079 \\ 0.0000 & 0.0544 & 0.2205 & 0.3125 & 0.2185 & 0.0528 \\ 0.0000 & 0.0082 & 0.0830 & 0.2353 & 0.3292 & 0.1995 \\ 0.0000 & 0.0007 & 0.0167 & 0.0945 & 0.2646 & 0.4019 \\ 0.0000 & 0.0000 & 0.0014 & 0.0158 & 0.0886 & 0.3373 \end{bmatrix}$$

3. BERNSTEIN OPERATIONAL MATRIX OF FRACTIONAL INTEGRATION

3.1. Block Pulse Functions and operational matrix of fractional integration

A set of Block Pulse Functions (BPF) is defined on $[0,1)$ as:

$$b_i(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & i/m \leq t < i + 1/m, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

where $i = 0, 1, \dots, m-1$.

The functions $b_i(t)$ are disjoint and orthogonal. That is

$$b_i(t)b_j(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & i \neq j \\ b_i & i = j \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

$$\int_0^1 b_i(t)b_j(t) dt = \begin{cases} 0 & i \neq j \\ 1/m & i = j \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

Kilicman and Al Zhour [36] have obtained the Block Pulse operational matrix of the fractional integration F^α as following:

$$(I^\alpha B_m)(t) \approx F^\alpha B_m(t). \quad (12)$$

Where $B_m(t) \triangleq [b_0(t), b_1(t), \dots, b_{m-1}(t)]^T$ and

$$F^\alpha = \frac{1}{m^\alpha \Gamma(\alpha + 2)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \varepsilon_1 & \varepsilon_2 & \dots & \varepsilon_{m-1} \\ 0 & 1 & \varepsilon_1 & \dots & \varepsilon_{m-2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & \varepsilon_{m-3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

with $\varepsilon_k = (k + 1)^{\alpha+1} 2k^{\alpha+1} + (k - 1)^{\alpha+1}$.

3.2. Bernstein operational matrix of the fractional integration

To derive the Bernstein polynomials operational matrix of the fractional integration, we rewrite Riemann–Liouville fractional integration as follows

$$\begin{aligned} (I^\alpha f)(t) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^t (t - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau) d\tau \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} t^{\alpha-1} * f(t), \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where $\alpha \in R$ is the order of the integration, $\Gamma(\alpha)$ is the Gamma function and $t^{\alpha-1} * f(t)$ denotes the convolution product of $t^{\alpha-1}$ and $f(t)$.

In general the operational matrix of integration of the vector $\psi(t)$ defined in equation (8) can be obtained as

$$\int_0^t \psi(\tau) d\tau \approx P \psi(t). \quad (14)$$

Where, P is the $m \times m$ Operational matrix for integration.

Bernstein polynomials can also be expanded and approximated into an m-term block pulse functions (BPF) as $\psi_m(t) = \Phi_{m \times m} B_m(t)$, where

$$B_m(t) \triangleq [b_0(t), b_1(t), \dots, b_{m-1}(t)]^T. \quad (15)$$

Let us consider, the matrix $P_{m \times m}^\alpha$ is the Bernstein polynomials operational matrix of the fractional integration then

$$(I^\alpha \psi_m)(t) \approx P_{m \times m}^\alpha \psi_m(t). \quad (16)$$

Now, from equations (13) and (16) we have

$$(I^\alpha \psi_m)(t) \approx (I^\alpha \Phi_{m \times m} B_m)(t) = \Phi_{m \times m} (I^\alpha B_m)(t) \approx \Phi_{m \times m} F^\alpha B_m(t). \quad (17)$$

From equations (16) and (17) we get

$$P_{m \times m}^\alpha \psi_m(t) = P_{m \times m}^\alpha \Phi_{m \times m} B_m(t) = \Phi_{m \times m} F^\alpha B_m(t).$$

Then, the Bernstein polynomials operational matrix of the fractional integration $P_{m \times m}^\alpha$ is given by

$$P_{m \times m}^\alpha = \Phi_{m \times m} F^\alpha \Phi_{m \times m}^{-1}. \tag{18}$$

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In this section, the implementation of the proposed Bernstein Operational matrix of integration is given to solve linear and nonlinear fractional order differential equation. Some well-known examples with known exact solution (and other numerical solutions) have been considered to show the validity of the presented operational matrix technique. For each of the stated examples comparison and discussions have been done.

Examples 4.1 Consider the differential equation from Li [28],

$$D^\alpha y(t) = -[y(t)]^2 + 1, \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 1, \quad 0 \leq t, \tag{19}$$

subject to the initial condition $y(0)=0$, having exact solution for

$$\alpha = 1 \text{ is } y(t) = \frac{e^{2t}-1}{e^{2t}+1} \text{ and we can observe that, as } t \rightarrow \infty, y(t) \rightarrow 1.$$

Let $D^\alpha y(t) = K_m^T \psi_m(t)$ then

$$y(t) = K_m^T P_{m \times m}^\alpha \psi_m(t) \tag{20}$$

Using equation (15) we have

$$y(t) = K_m^T P_{m \times m}^\alpha \Phi_{m \times m} B_m(t). \tag{21}$$

Assume $K_m^T P_{m \times m}^\alpha \Phi_{m \times m} = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m]$, we have

$$[y(t)]^2 = [a_1 b_1(t) + a_2 b_2(t) + \dots + a_m b_m(t)]^2 = [a_1^2, a_2^2, \dots, a_m^2] B_m(t) \tag{22}$$

From Equations (27) - (29) and Eq. (26), we have

$$K_m^T \Phi_{m \times m} B_m(t) + [a_1^2, a_2^2, \dots, a_m^2] B_m(t) - [1, \dots, 1] B_m(t) = 0 \tag{23}$$

For solving the system of nonlinear algebraic equations eqs. (23), we have used the Matlab function fsolve. The obtained results with the exact solution are discussed as follows:

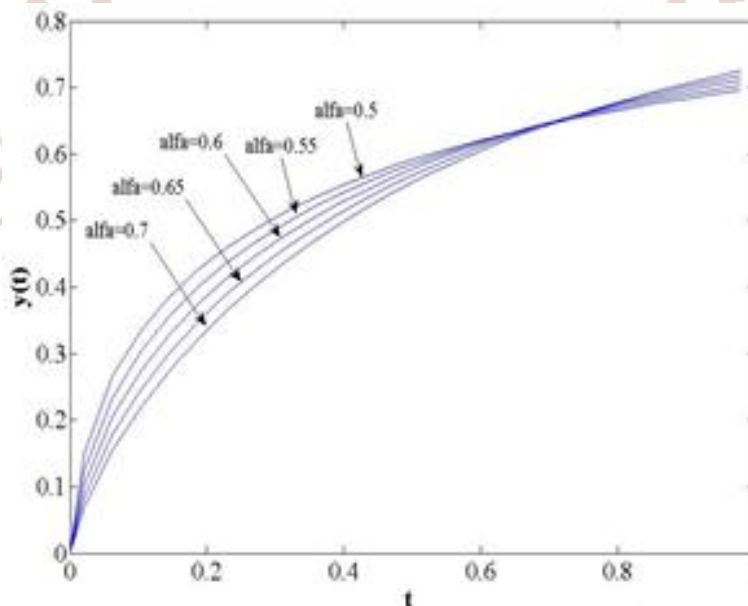


Fig. 4.1.1 Plot of Bernstein solutions of example 1 for different $\alpha=0.5, 0.55, 0.6, 0.65, 0.7$ for $m=24$.

Table 1: Proposed solution and other solution for example 4.1.1

t	Proposed method	Ref. [16]	Proposed method	Ref. [16]	Exact
	$\alpha = 0.75$	$\alpha = 0.75$	$\alpha = 1$	$\alpha = 1$	$\alpha = 1$
0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
0.1	0.18926	0.184795	0.09966	0.099668	0.099668
0.2	0.30934	0.313795	0.19731	0.197375	0.197375
0.3	0.40421	0.414562	0.29121	0.291312	0.291313
0.4	0.48147	0.492889	0.37994	0.379944	0.379949

0.5	0.54480	0.462117	0.46194	0.462078	0.462117
0.6	0.59761	0.597393	0.53695	0.536857	0.537050
0.7	0.64160	0.631772	0.60410	0.603631	0.604368
0.8	0.6785	0.660412	0.66387	0.661706	0.664037
0.9	0.7101	0.687960	0.71628	0.709919	0.716298
1.0	0.73355	0.718260	0.76141	0.746032	0.761594

Examples 4.2 Consider the differential equation from Li et al. [29],
 $D^\alpha y(t) = 2y(t) - [y(t)]^2 + 1, 0 < \alpha \leq 1, 0 \leq t < 5,$ (24)

subject to the initial condition $y(0)=0$, having exact solution for $\alpha = 1$ is $y(t) = 1 + \sqrt{2} \tanh\left(\sqrt{2} t + \frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}-1}{\sqrt{2}+1}\right)\right)$ and we can observe that, as $t \rightarrow \infty, y(t) \rightarrow 1 + \sqrt{2}$.

Let $D^\alpha y(t) = K_m^T \psi_m(t)$ then
 $y(t) = K_m^T P_{m \times m}^\alpha \psi_m(t)$ (25)

Using equation (15) we have
 $y(t) = K_m^T P_{m \times m}^\alpha \Phi_{m \times m} B_m(t).$ (26)

Assume $K_m^T P_{m \times m}^\alpha \Phi_{m \times m} = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m]$, we have
 $[y(t)]^2 = [a_1 b_1(t) + a_2 b_2(t) + \dots + a_m b_m(t)]^2 = [a_1^2, a_2^2, \dots, a_m^2] B_m(t)$ (27)

From Equations (25) - (26) and Eq. (27), we have
 $K_m^T \Phi_{m \times m} B_m(t) + [a_1^2, a_2^2, \dots, a_m^2] B_m(t) - 2K_m^T P_{m \times m}^\alpha \Phi_{m \times m} B_m(t) - [1, \dots, 1] B_m(t) = 0$ (28)

For solving the system of nonlinear algebraic equations eqs. (28), we have used the Matlab function fsolve. The obtained results with the exact solution are discussed as follows:

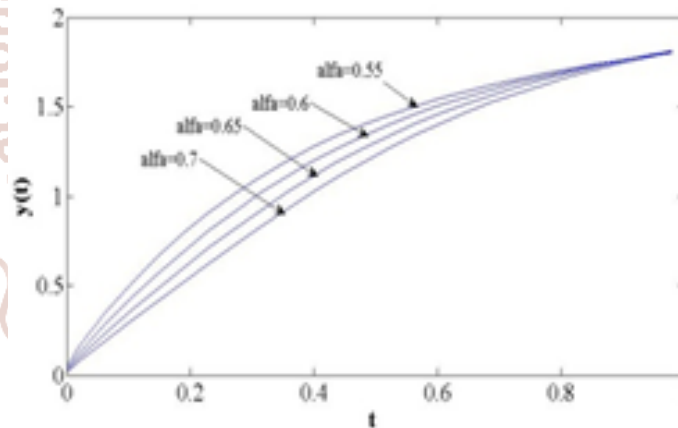


Fig.4.2.1 Bernstein solution for different $\alpha=0.55, 0.6, 0.65, 0.7$ for $m=24$.

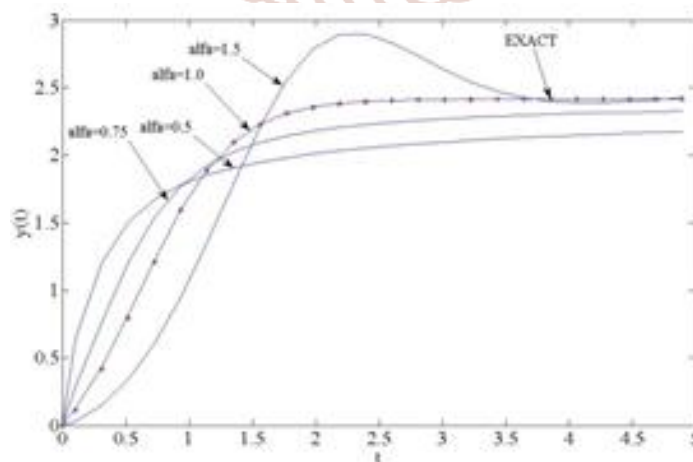


Fig.4.2.2 Bernstein solution for different $\alpha=0.5, 0.75, 1.0, 1.5$ and exact for $m=24$.

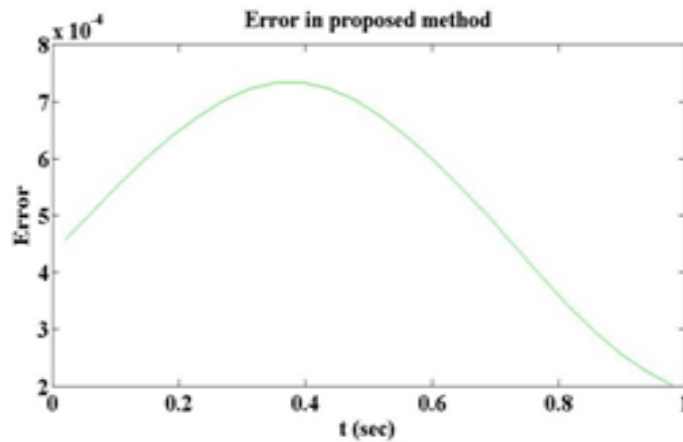


Fig.4.2.3 Absolute error for different for m=24

Examples 4.3 Consider the fractional nonlinear differential equation from Li et al. [29], $D^\alpha y(t) = [y(t)]^2 + 1, 0 < \alpha \leq 1, 0 \leq t,$ (29)

subject to the initial condition $y(0)=0$.

Let $D^\alpha y(t) = K_m^T \psi_m(t)$ then $y(t) = K_m^T P_{m \times m}^\alpha \psi_m(t)$ (30)

Using equation (15) we have

$y(t) = K_m^T P_{m \times m}^\alpha \Phi_{m \times m} B_m(t).$ (31)

Assume $K_m^T P_{m \times m}^\alpha \Phi_{m \times m} = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m]$, we have

$[y(t)]^2 = [a_1 b_1(t) + a_2 b_2(t) + \dots + a_m b_m(t)]^2 = [a_1^2, a_2^2, \dots, a_m^2] B_m(t)$ (32)

From Equations(29) - (31) and Eq. (32), we have

$K_m^T \Phi_{m \times m} B_m(t) - [a_1^2, a_2^2, \dots, a_m^2] B_m(t) - [1, \dots, 1] B_m(t) = 0$ (33)

For solving the system of nonlinear algebraic equations eqs. (33), we have used the Matlab function f solve. The obtained results with the exact solution is discussed as follows numerical solution for m=24.

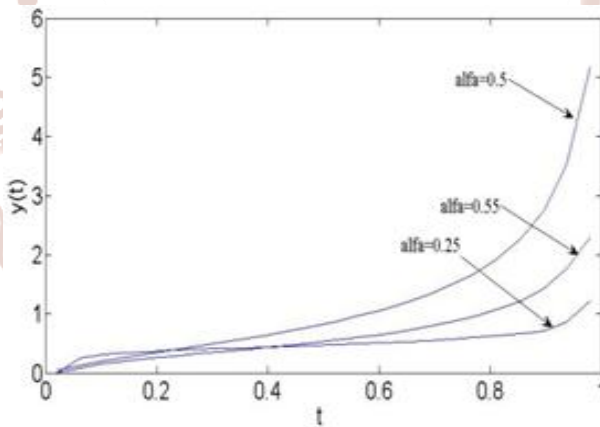


Fig.4.3.1 Bernstein solution for different $\alpha=0.25, 0.55, 0.5$ for m=24.

Table 4.3.3 Proposed solution and other solution for $\alpha = 1.5$

x	ADM[13]	FDTM[19]	REF[29]	PROPOSED
0.1	0.023790	0.023790	0.023869	0.024069
0.3	0.123896	0.123896	0.123917	0.124178
0.5	0.268856	0.268856	0.268906	0.269164
0.7	0.453950	0.453950	0.454000	0.454293
0.9	0.685056	0.685056	0.685117	0.685388
1.0	0.822511	0.822509	0.822617	0.822610

CONCLUSIONS

First, we have derived the Bernstein operational matrix of fractional order integration and then applied it for solving the fractional Riccati differential equation. The advantage of the proposed operational matrix method over others is that only small size operational matrix is required to provide the solution at high accuracy. The solved illustrative examples demonstrate the efficiency and simplicity of the proposed method compared with the existing ones.

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