

# A NUMERICAL METHOD FOR SOLVING DELAY-FRACTIONAL DIFFERENTIAL AND INTEGRO-DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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ABSTRACT. This article develops a direct method for solving numerically multi delay-fractional differential and integro-differential equations. A Galerkin method based on Legendre polynomials is implemented for solving linear and nonlinear of equations. The main characteristic behind this approach is that it reduces such problems to those of solving a system of algebraic equations. A convergence analysis and an error estimation are also given. Numerical results with comparisons are given to confirm the reliability of the proposed method.

**AMS Classification:** 34K37, 65L60.

**Keywords:** Delay-fractional differential and integro-differential equations, Galerkin method, Legendre polynomials.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

In the last few decades, many authors pointed out that fractional differential equations (FDEs) are very suitable for description of many problems in science and engineering such as, bioengineering [1], electromagnetism [2], economics [3], signal processing [4], medicine [5], continuum and statistical mechanics [6], etc. The fundamental existence and uniqueness theorems for solutions of FDEs have been presented by many authors [7], [8]. Most FDEs do not have analytical solutions, so numerical methods are required [9]-[17]. Recently, these equations have been solved by homotopy-perturbation method [18], variational iteration method [19], homotopy analysis method [20], Adomian decomposition method [21], finite difference approximation methods [22], Legendre, Bessel and Bernestein approximation methods [23]-[25], B-spline collocation methods [26], Legendre and Bernoulli wavelet methods [27], [28], and so on.

In recent years, solving delay FDEs draws increasing attention by scientists. In [29] Taylor collocation method was proposed to solve fractional pantograph equations. In [30] Bhalekar et al. investigated a fractional generalization of Bloch equation that includes both fractional derivatives and time delays. Ref. [31] presented modified Chebyshev wavelet methods and studied the convergence analysis for solving delay-fractional differential and integro-differential equations. Muthukumar and Priya [32] gave operational matrices to any interval for the differentiation and integration of shifted Jacobi polynomials and applied them to solve the numerical solution of delay FDEs. Ref. [33] is devoted to the existence results for fractional neutral integro-differential evolution systems with infinite delay in Banach spaces. In [34], Baleanu et al. studied an initial value problem for a class of  $k$ -dimensional systems of fractional neutral functional differential equations with bounded delay by using Krasnoselskiis fixed point theorem. In [35], the authors proved the existence of solutions for delay FDEs at the neighborhood of its equilibrium point. Also, they obtained the bifurcation curves for a class of delay FDEs within a differential operator of Caputo type with the lower terminal at  $-\infty$ . Baleanu et al. [36] studied a numerical method and gave a stability analysis to solve the fractional Bloch equation with delay.

In [37]-[39], Doha et al. have presented spectral methods for solving boundary value problems. The main advantage of spectral methods lies in their accuracy

for a given number of unknowns. For smooth problems in simple geometries, they offer exponential rates of convergence/spectral accuracy. In this study by means of a Galerkin method based on Legendre polynomials, we consider the approximate solution of multi delay-fractional differential and integro-differential equations in the form

$$(1) \quad D^\alpha u(x) = f(x, u(x), D^{\beta_1} u(x), \dots, D^{\beta_r} u(x), D^{\beta_1} u(ax - \tau), \dots, D^{\beta_r} u(ax - \tau), \int_0^x g(x, t, u(at - \tau))dt, \int_{ax-\tau}^x h(x, t, u(t))dt).$$

The initial conditions are

$$(2) \quad u^{(i)}(0) = d_i, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n,$$

where  $n < \alpha \leq n + 1$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ ,  $0 < \beta_1 < \beta_2 < \dots < \beta_r < \alpha$ ,  $D^\alpha$  denotes the caputo fractional derivative of order  $\alpha$  and  $f, g$ , and  $h$  are continuous linear or nonlinear functions,  $\tau$  is delay,  $ax - \tau$  is called delay argumant, and  $d_i$  are constants. The fractional derivatives are defined in the caputo sense (see [7], page 79)

$${}_a^C D_x^\alpha f(x) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n + 1 - \alpha)} \int_a^x \frac{f^{(n+1)}(t)}{(x - t)^{\alpha-n}} dt, \quad n < \alpha \leq n + 1, \quad n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}.$$

Caputo's differential operator coincides with the usual differential operator of an integer order and has the property of linear operation as (see [7], page 90)

$$(3) \quad D^\alpha(\lambda f(x) + \mu g(x)) = \lambda D^\alpha f(x) + \mu D^\alpha g(x), \quad \forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{R},$$

where  $D^\alpha = {}_a^C D_x^\alpha$ . Also, Caputo fractional derivative of power function  $f(x) = x^k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  is (see [40], page 36)

$$D^\alpha x^k = \begin{cases} 0 & k < \alpha \\ \frac{\Gamma(k+1)}{\Gamma(k-\alpha+1)} x^{k-\alpha} & k \geq \alpha. \end{cases}$$

In this paper, the fractional derivatives are considered in the Caputo sense and we put  ${}_a^C D_x^\alpha = D^\alpha$  in the next sections.

The paper is organized as follows: In Section 2, we give basic definitions and preliminaries. In Section 3, the convergence analysis is presented. Section 4 is devoted to the numerical method for solving multi delay-fractional differential and integro-differential equations. In Section 5, we present our method for selected examples and introduce an error estimation for proposed method. Finally a conclusion is given.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

**2.1. Shifted Legendre polynomials.** Legendre polynomials on the interval  $[-1, 1]$  can be determined with the following recursive formula (see [41], page 27):

$$L_0(z) = 1, L_1(z) = z, L_{i+1}(z) = \frac{2i+1}{i+1}zL_i(z) - \frac{i}{i+1}L_{i-1}(z), i = 1, 2, \dots$$

By the change of variable  $z = 2x - 1$ , we will have the well-known shifted Legendre polynomials on  $[0, 1]$ . These polynomials can be determined with the following recursive formula (see [41], page 27):

$$P_0(x) = 1, P_1(x) = 2x - 1, P_{i+1}(x) = \frac{(2i+1)(2x-1)}{(i+1)}P_i(x) - \frac{i}{i+1}P_{i-1}(x), i = 1, 2, \dots$$

The analytical form of the shifted Legendre polynomials of degree  $i$ ,  $P_i(x)$ , is as follows [23]:

$$P_i(x) = \sum_{k=0}^i (-1)^{i+k} \frac{(i+k)!}{(i-k)! (k!)^2} x^k,$$

where  $P_i(0) = (-1)^i$  and  $P_i(1) = 1$ . We also have the orthogonality conditions for  $P_i(x)$  as

$$\int_0^1 P_i(x)P_j(x)dx = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2i+1} & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j. \end{cases}$$

**2.2. Function approximation in terms of shifted Legendre polynomials.**

Suppose that  $H = L^2([0, 1])$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ ,  $\{P_0(x), P_1(x), \dots, P_m(x)\} \subset H$  be the set of shifted Legendre polynomials on  $[0, 1]$ ,  $Y = \text{span}\{P_0(x), P_1(x), \dots, P_m(x)\}$ , and  $f$  be an arbitrary element in  $H$ . Since  $Y$  is a finite dimensional vector space,  $f$  has the unique best approximation out of  $Y$  such as  $f_1 \in Y$  (see [42], page 328)

$$\|f(x) - f_1(x)\| \leq \|f(x) - g(x)\|, \quad \forall g \in Y.$$

Since  $f_1 \in Y$ , there exists unique coefficients  $c_0, c_1, \dots, c_m$  such that

$$f(x) \cong f_1(x) = \sum_{j=0}^m c_j P_j(x).$$

By orthogonality condition of shifted Legendre polynomials, we have

$$(4) \quad c_j = \langle f, P_j \rangle = \int_0^1 f(x)(2j+1)P_j(x)dx, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, m.$$

3. CONVERGENCE ANALYSIS

**Theorem.** Let  $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} c_j P_j(x)$  be the Legendre series of  $u(x) \in H = L^2([0, 1])$ , then  $u_m(x) = \sum_{j=0}^m c_j P_j(x)$  converges to  $u(x)$  as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ .

**Proof.** By using relation (4), we have

$$(5) \quad c_j = \langle u(x), P_j(x) \rangle, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, m.$$

First we will show that the sequence of partial sums of  $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} c_j P_j(x)$ ,  $u_m(x)$ , is a Cauchy sequence in Hilbert space of  $H$ . Let  $u_n(x)$  be an arbitrary partial sums of  $\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} c_j P_j(x)$ , i.e.,  $u_n(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n c_j P_j(x)$ , and  $m > n$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|u_m(x) - u_n(x)\|^2 &= \left\| \sum_{j=n+1}^m c_j P_j(x) \right\|^2 = \left\langle \sum_{j=n+1}^m c_j P_j(x), \sum_{k=n+1}^m c_k P_k(x) \right\rangle \\ &= \sum_{j=n+1}^m \sum_{k=n+1}^m c_j \bar{c}_k \langle P_j(x), P_k(x) \rangle = \sum_{j=n+1}^m \frac{1}{2j+1} |c_j|^2 < \sum_{j=n+1}^m |c_j|^2. \end{aligned}$$

By Bessel' inequality, we have

$$\sum_{j=n+1}^m |c_j|^2 \leq \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} |c_j|^2 \leq \|u\|^2 < \infty.$$

Thus,  $\|u_m(x) - u_n(x)\|^2 \rightarrow 0$  as  $m, n \rightarrow \infty$ , that is,  $u_m(x)$  is a Cauchy sequence hence  $u_m(x)$  converges to  $g \in H$ . Finally we show that  $g(x) = u(x)$ . By using relation (5) and property of continuity of inner product, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \langle g(x) - u(x), P_j(x) \rangle &= \langle g(x), P_j(x) \rangle - \langle u(x), P_j(x) \rangle \\ &= \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \langle u_m(x), P_j(x) \rangle - c_j \\ &= c_j - c_j = 0, \end{aligned}$$

hence  $g(x) = u(x)$  and the proof is completed.

4. NUMERICAL IMPLEMENTATION

In this section, we consider the multi delay-fractional differential and integro-differential equation (1). We use a Galerkin method based on shifted Legendre polynomials on  $[0, 1]$  to find an approximate solution of (1).

We first consider the solution  $u(x)$  of equation (1) as

$$(6) \quad u(x) \cong u_m(x) = \sum_{j=0}^m c_j P_j(x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1,$$

where  $c_j$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots, m$  are the unknown coefficients and  $P_j(x)$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots, m$  are the shifted Legendre polynomials. By using the relations (3) and (6), we have

$$(7) \quad D^\beta u(x) \cong \sum_{j=0}^m c_j D^\beta P_j(x), \quad s < \beta \leq s + 1, \quad s \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}.$$

Now, we can find the approximation of  $D^\beta u(ax - \tau)$  in terms of the series (7) at delay time as

$$(8) \quad D^\beta u(ax - \tau) \cong \sum_{j=0}^m c_j D^\beta P_j(ax - \tau).$$

Also the integral parts of the equation (1) at delay time are

$$(9) \quad \int_0^x g(x, t, u(ax - \tau)) dt \cong \int_0^x g(x, t, \sum_{j=0}^m c_j P_j(at - \tau)) dt,$$

and

$$(10) \quad \int_{ax-\tau}^x h(x, t, u(x)) dt \cong \int_{ax-\tau}^x h(x, t, \sum_{j=0}^m c_j P_j(t)) dt.$$

By substituting relations (7)-(10) in (1), we define the residual function  $Res(x)$  as

$$(11) \quad \begin{aligned} Res(x) = & \sum_{j=0}^m c_j D^\alpha P_j(x) - f(x, \sum_{j=0}^m c_j P_j(x), \sum_{j=0}^m c_j D^{\beta_1} P_j(x), \dots, \sum_{j=0}^m c_j D^{\beta_r} P_j(x), \\ & \sum_{j=0}^m c_j D^{\beta_1} P_j(ax - \tau), \dots, \sum_{j=0}^m c_j D^{\beta_r} P_j(ax - \tau), \\ & \int_0^x g(x, t, \sum_{j=0}^m c_j P_j(at - \tau)) dt, \int_{ax-\tau}^x h(x, t, \sum_{j=0}^m c_j P_j(t)) dt. \end{aligned}$$

To employ the Galerkin algorithm, we choose  $m > n$ , then

$$(12) \quad \begin{cases} \int_0^1 (2j+1) Res(x) P_j(x) dx = 0, & j = 0, 1, \dots, m-n-1, \\ \sum_{j=0}^m c_j P_j^{(i)}(0) = d_i, & i = 0, 1, \dots, n. \end{cases}$$

Now, we have an algebraic system of  $(m + 1)$  equations with  $(m + 1)$  unknown coefficients  $c_0, c_1, \dots, c_m$ . By solving this system of equations and using (6), we obtain the solution of (1). Note that the mentioned system of equations (12) can be linear or nonlinear.

5. ERROR ESTIMATION AND NUMERICAL RESULTS

Now, we will obtain an error estimation for the proposed method. Let us consider  $e_m(x) = u(x) - u_m(x)$  as the error function, where  $u(x)$  is the exact solution of (1). Thus,  $u_m(x)$  satisfies the following problem

$$(13) \quad D^\alpha u_m(x) = f(x, u_m(x), D^{\beta_1} u_m(x), \dots, D^{\beta_r} u_m(x), D^{\beta_1} u_m(ax - \tau), \dots, D^{\beta_r} u_m(ax - \tau), \int_0^x g(x, t, u_m(at - \tau))dt, \int_{ax-\tau}^x h(x, t, u_m(t))dt) + Res(x),$$

and

$$(14) \quad u_m^{(i)}(0) = d_i, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n,$$

where  $Res(x)$  is the residual function associated with  $u_m(x)$  defined in (11). We proceed to find an approximation  $e_{m,M}(x)$  to the  $e_m(x)$  by  $(M + 1)$  elements of the Legendre basis, in a same way as we did before for the problem (1). Subtracting (13) and (14) from (1) and (2) respectively, the error function  $e_m(x)$  satisfies in the equation

$$D^\alpha e_m(x) = F(x, e_m(x), D^{\beta_1} e_m(x), \dots, D^{\beta_r} e_m(x), D^{\beta_1} e_m(ax - \tau), \dots, D^{\beta_r} e_m(ax - \tau), \int_0^x G(x, t, e_m(ax - \tau))dt, \int_{at-\tau}^x H(x, t, e_m(t))dt) - Res(x),$$

and

$$e_m^{(i)}(0) = 0, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n.$$

By solving this error problem in the similar way, presented in Section 4, we get the approximation  $e_{m,M}(x)$ . Also, in this section, we present some examples to illustrate the efficiency of proposed method in Section 4.

**Example 5.1.** Consider the linear delay FDE

$$(15) \quad \begin{cases} D^\alpha u(x) = -u(x) - u(x - 0.3) + e^{-x+0.3}, & 0 \leq x \leq 1, 2 < \alpha \leq 3, \\ u(x) = e^{-x}, & x < 0, \end{cases}$$

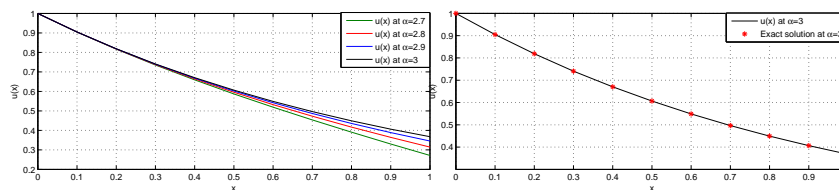


FIGURE 1. The comparison of  $u(x)$  by the present method for  $\alpha = 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 3$ ,  $m = 8$  and the exact solution at  $\alpha = 3$  of Example 5.1.

with the initial conditions  $u(0) = 1$ ,  $u'(0) = -1$ ,  $u''(0) = 1$  and the exact solution  $u(x) = e^{-x}$  for  $\alpha = 3$ . Fig. 1 displays the comparison of  $u(x)$  for  $\alpha = 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 3$ ,  $m = 8$  and the exact solution at  $\alpha = 3$ . The computational results of  $u(x)$  for different  $\alpha$  and  $m = 8$  together with the exact solution at  $\alpha = 3$  are given in Table 1. Fig. 1 and Table 1 illustrate that the present method has a good convergence to the exact solution at  $\alpha = 3$ . The comparison of absolute errors by the present method with Hermite method [43] in the case of  $\alpha = 3$  are shown in Table 2.

TABLE 1. The approximate solutions by the present method for  $\alpha = 2.7, 2.8, 2.9, 3$  and  $m = 8$  of Example 5.1.

$x$	Exact at $\alpha = 3$	$\alpha = 3$	$\alpha = 2.9$	$\alpha = 2.8$	$\alpha = 2.7$
0	1	1	1	1	1
0.2	0.81873075	0.81873075	0.81828725	0.81765402	0.81675161
0.4	0.67032005	0.67032005	0.66773158	0.66410535	0.65902566
0.6	0.54881164	0.54881164	0.54186684	0.53223045	0.51887618
0.8	0.44932896	0.44932896	0.43569767	0.41682932	0.39081390
1	0.36787944	0.36787944	0.34541921	0.31428085	0.27142778

TABLE 2. Comparison of the absolute errors for  $\alpha = 3$  of Example 5.1.

$x$	Present method		Hermite method [43]
	$ e_8(x) $	$ e_{10}(x) $	$N = 8$
0	0	$2.220 \times 10^{-16}$	0
0.2	$2.211 \times 10^{-11}$	$4.263 \times 10^{-13}$	$6.200 \times 10^{-9}$
0.4	$6.629 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.301 \times 10^{-13}$	$5.760 \times 10^{-8}$
0.6	$1.482 \times 10^{-10}$	$1.539 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.796 \times 10^{-7}$
0.8	$1.453 \times 10^{-9}$	$4.343 \times 10^{-11}$	$3.735 \times 10^{-7}$
1	$3.046 \times 10^{-9}$	$8.259 \times 10^{-11}$	$6.368 \times 10^{-7}$

**Example 5.2.** Consider the linear delay-fractional integro-differential equation

$$(16) \quad \begin{cases} D^\alpha u(x) = u(x-1) + \int_{x-1}^x u(t)dt, & x \geq 0, 0 < \alpha \leq 1, \\ u(x) = e^x, & x < 0, \end{cases}$$



with the initial condition  $u(0) = 1$  and the exact solution  $u(x) = e^x$  for  $\alpha = 1$ . The computational results of  $u(x)$  for different  $\alpha$  and  $m = 6$  together with the exact solution at  $\alpha = 1$  are given in Table 3. This table illustrates that the proposed method converges to the exact solution at  $\alpha = 1$ , when  $\alpha$  approaches to 1. The comparison of absolute errors by the present method with Chebyshev wavelet method [31] are shown in Table 4.

TABLE 3. The approximate solutions by the present method for  $\alpha = 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1$  and  $m = 6$  of Example 5.2.

$x$	Exact at $\alpha = 1$	$\alpha = 1$	$\alpha = 0.9$	$\alpha = 0.8$	$\alpha = 0.7$
0	1	1	1	1	1
0.6	1.8221188	1.8223044	1.9076207	2.0255934	2.1664417
1	2.7182818	2.7180602	2.8001488	2.9341851	3.1128243
1.6	4.9530324	4.9535165	4.9437440	5.0520380	5.1660665
2	7.3890561	7.3897028	7.1709457	7.1587915	7.1832633
2.4	11.023176	11.023248	10.354205	10.055469	9.9027334
3	20.085537	20.086533	17.855939	16.550763	15.648826

TABLE 4. Comparison of the absolute errors for  $\alpha = 1$  of Example 5.2.

$x$	Present method		Cheby. wav. met. [31]	
	$ e_{10}(x) $	$ e_{16}(x) $	$M = 10$	$M = 20$
0.3	$1.7634 \times 10^{-9}$	$2.2204 \times 10^{-16}$	$5.8167 \times 10^{-6}$	$5.6594 \times 10^{-13}$
0.9	$8.2961 \times 10^{-9}$	$4.4409 \times 10^{-16}$	$1.9001 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.1431 \times 10^{-14}$
1.5	$7.8517 \times 10^{-10}$	$7.7716 \times 10^{-16}$	$3.0253 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.2538 \times 10^{-13}$
2.1	$1.7401 \times 10^{-8}$	$2.7756 \times 10^{-15}$	$5.6658 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.2304 \times 10^{-13}$
2.4	$1.4358 \times 10^{-9}$	$1.8874 \times 10^{-15}$	$7.6596 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.2307 \times 10^{-13}$
2.7	$9.1024 \times 10^{-9}$	$4.5519 \times 10^{-15}$	$1.0303 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.9689 \times 10^{-13}$
3	$4.6530 \times 10^{-9}$	$6.4393 \times 10^{-15}$	$1.4481 \times 10^{-4}$	$8.1709 \times 10^{-13}$

**Example 5.3.** Consider houseflies model [32] in the form

$$(17) \quad \begin{cases} D^\alpha u(x) = -du(x) + cu(x - \tau)(k - czu(x - \tau)), & x > 0, 0 < \alpha \leq 1, \\ u(x) = 160, & x \in [-\tau, 0]. \end{cases}$$

In Eq. (17), we consider  $\tau = 3$ ,  $d = 0.147$ ,  $k = 0.5107$ ,  $c = 1.81$  and  $z = 0.000226$ . Fig. 2 displays the comparison of  $u(x)$  by the present method for  $\alpha = 0.5, 0.75, 0.9, 1$ ,  $m = 3$  and the exact solution at  $\alpha = 1$ . This model is solved by Jacobi method [32] (Legendre basis:  $a = 0, b = 0$ ) for  $\alpha = 0.5, 0.75, 0.9, 1$ ,  $m = 4$ . Fig. 3 displays the comparison of  $u(x)$  by Jacobi method for  $\alpha = 0.5, 0.75, 0.9, 1$ ,  $m = 4$  and the exact solution at  $\alpha = 1$ . We can see from Figs. 2 and 3 that the proposed method

TABLE 5. The approximate solutions by the present method for  $\alpha = 0.5, 0.75, 0.9, 1$  and  $m = 3$  of Example 5.3.

$x$	Exact at $\alpha = 1$	$\alpha = 1$	$\alpha = 0.9$	$\alpha = 0.75$	$\alpha = 0.5$
0	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00
0.6	220.55	220.61	222.14	226.24	233.75
1.2	275.98	275.85	275.89	280.97	291.68
1.8	326.73	326.88	323.79	326.98	336.96
2.4	373.20	373.14	368.40	367.05	372.72
3	415.75	415.84	412.29	403.95	402.12
3.6	466.46	466.40	458.02	440.46	428.32
4.2	532.82	532.73	508.14	479.36	454.45
4.8	609.32	609.43	565.21	523.44	483.67
5.4	691.67	691.63	631.79	575.46	519.13
6	776.58	776.54	710.45	638.22	563.99

has better numerical results. Also, the computational results of  $u(x)$  by the present method for different  $\alpha$  and  $m = 3$  together with the exact solution at  $\alpha = 1$  are given in Table 5.

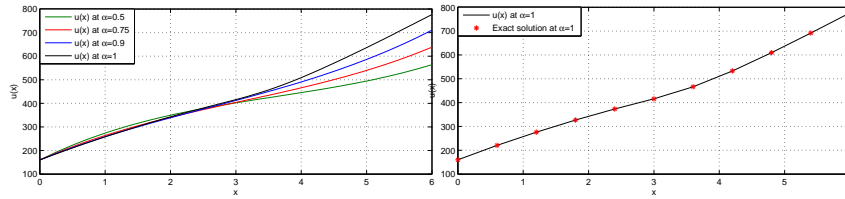


FIGURE 2. The comparison of  $u(x)$  by the present method for  $\alpha = 0.5, 0.75, 0.9, 1, m = 3$  and the exact solution at  $\alpha = 1$  of Example 5.3.

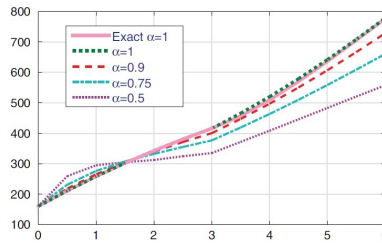


FIGURE 3. The comparison of  $u(x)$  by Jacobi method [32] for  $\alpha = 0.5, 0.75, 0.9, 1, m = 4$  and the exact solution at  $\alpha = 1$  of Example 5.3.

TABLE 6. The approximate solutions by the present method for  $\alpha = 0.3, 0.6, 0.9, 1$  and  $m = 9$  of Example 5.4.

$x$	Exact at $\alpha = 1$	$\alpha = 1$	$\alpha = 0.9$	$\alpha = 0.6$	$\alpha = 0.3$
0	0	0	0	0	0
0.2	0.19866933	0.19866933	0.24493930	0.49616749	0.69498967
0.4	0.38941834	0.38941834	0.44437968	0.68633782	0.67100691
0.6	0.56464247	0.56464247	0.61226150	0.77695869	0.68988345
0.8	0.71735609	0.71735609	0.74656901	0.80518248	0.70040363
1	0.84147098	0.84147098	0.84101027	0.80351705	0.72725857

**Example 5.4.** Consider the nonlinear delay FDE

$$(18) \quad D^\alpha u(x) = 1 - 2u^2\left(\frac{x}{2}\right), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1, \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 1,$$

with the initial condition  $u(0) = 0$  and the exact solution  $u(x) = \sin(x)$  for  $\alpha = 1$  [44]. In Table 6, a comparison between the numerical results of the approximate solutions obtained by the present method for  $\alpha = 0.3, 0.6, 0.9, 1$  and  $m = 9$  and the exact solution at  $\alpha = 1$  are given. This table illustrates that the proposed method converges to the exact solution at  $\alpha = 1$ , when  $\alpha$  approaches to 1.

### 6. CONCLUSION

In the present work, we developed a direct method for solving multi delay-fractional differential and integro-differential equations. By utilizing the Legendre basis and Galerkin method, we reduced the main problem to the problem of solving a system of algebraic equations. Comparing the present method with several other methods that have been advanced for solving our problems shows that the present technique is reliable and powerful.

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