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Original article

# New operational matrix of derivative for solving non-linear fractional differential equations via Genocchi polynomials

Abdulnasir Isah<sup>a,b</sup>, Chang Phang<sup>a,\*</sup><sup>a</sup> Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia, 86400, Batu Pahat, Johor, Malaysia<sup>b</sup> Department of Mathematics, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria

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## ABSTRACT

In this research, new operational method based on Genocchi polynomials for numerical solutions of non-linear fractional differential equations (NFDEs) is proposed. The Genocchi operational matrix of fractional derivative is first constructed by using some important properties of Genocchi polynomials. These operational matrices together with the collocation method are used to reduce the NFDEs into a system of non-linear algebraic equations. The error bound for this proposed method is shown. Some examples are given to display the simplicity and accuracy of the proposed technique.

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## 1. Introduction

In this article, we consider NFDEs of the form:

$$D^{\alpha_i} y_n(x) = f_n(x, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n), \quad (1)$$

where,  $D^{\alpha_i}$  is the fractional derivative of order  $\alpha_i$  in Caputo sense and  $\alpha_i$  is an arbitrary order, subject to initial conditions  $y_i(0) = d_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

Fractional calculus as a generalization of integer order differentiation and integration to an arbitrary order or fractional order, has been the focus of many studies because it was proved to be more realistic in modeling many physical phenomena. Modeling and simulation of systems or processes by using fractional derivatives will lead to the formation of fractional differential equations (FDEs). Naturally, these FDEs are difficult to solve. Hence, numerical methods are always needed. The numerical methods for solving FDEs are including the Adomian decomposition method (Hosseini

and Abbasbandy (2015)), variational iteration method (Jafari et al. (2014, 2015)), homotopy perturbation method (Odibat, 2011; Johnston et al., 2016) and predictor–corrector method (Diethelm et al., 2002). On top of that, the idea of approximating the solution of FDEs using a family of basis functions is now being widely used. The most commonly used functions include block pulse functions (Mollahasani et al., 2016), Legendre polynomials (Bhrawy et al., 2016), Chebyshev polynomials (Sweilam et al., 2016), Laguerre polynomials (Gürbüz and Sezer, 2016) and etc. Different than the previous studies, in this research, we use a semi-orthogonal polynomial which also is an important member of Appell polynomials called the Genocchi polynomials. This Genocchi polynomials share some sound advantages with other members such as Bernoulli polynomials, over other classical orthogonal polynomials when approximating an arbitrary function. These advantages are stated in Loh et al. (2017) and Isah and Phang (2016). Motivated by these advantages, we attempt to introduce a new operational matrix of fractional order derivative based on Genocchi polynomials to provide approximate solutions of NFDEs (1) through collocation method. In this research direction, some numerical schemes involving operational matrix of non-orthogonal or semi-orthogonal polynomials had been developed for solving fractional calculus problems, which including Bernoulli polynomials (Keshavarz et al., 2016), Fibonacci Polynomials (Abd-Elhameed and Youssri, 2016), Lucas polynomials (Abd-Elhameed and Youssri, 2016), Boubaker Polynomials (Bolandtalat et al., 2016; Rabiei et al., 2016). Here, we compared our results

\* Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: [abdulnasir.isah@gmail.com](mailto:abdulnasir.isah@gmail.com) (A. Isah), [pchang@uthm.edu.my](mailto:pchang@uthm.edu.my) (C. Phang)

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with existing standard results to clearly demonstrate the simplicity, applicability and accuracy of our method.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows: Section 2, introduces some preliminaries of fractional calculus. In Section 3, Genocchi polynomials and their important properties, arbitrary function approximation and error bound are discussed. In Section 4, we derive the Genocchi operational matrix of fractional order derivative, whereas the collocation method is applied to solve NFDEs using the Genocchi operational matrix of fractional derivative in Section 5. In Section 6, the proposed method is applied to some examples. Finally, Section 7 concludes the paper.

**2. Preliminaries**

*2.1. Fractional derivative and integration*

Here, we give a recap of some definitions and properties of fractional calculus that are used in this article. There are many definitions for fractional differentiation (Kilbas et al., 2006; Podlubny, 1998). The Riemann–Liouville definition has certain disadvantages when it comes to modelling a real-world phenomenon (Kilbas et al., 2006). However, the Caputo’s definition is more reliable in application. However, the most often used definition of fractional order integral is the Riemann–Liouville integral, in which the fractional integral operator  $I$  of a function  $f(t)$  is defined as:

**Definition 1.** The Riemann–Liouville fractional integral of order  $\alpha$  of  $f(t)$  is given by

$$I^\alpha f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^t (t - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau) d\tau, \quad t > 0, \alpha \in \mathbb{R}^+ \tag{2}$$

where  $\Gamma(\cdot)$  is the well known gamma function. The Riemann–Liouville fractional derivative of order  $\alpha > 0$  is also defined by

$$(D_t^\alpha f)(t) = \left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)^m (I^{m-\alpha} f)(t), \quad (\alpha > 0, m - 1 < \alpha < m)$$

Some properties of  $I^\alpha$  are as follows:

$$I^\alpha I^\beta f(t) = I^{\alpha+\beta} f(t), \quad \alpha > 0, \beta > 0 \tag{3}$$

$$I^\alpha t^\beta = \frac{\Gamma(\beta + 1)}{\Gamma(\beta + \alpha + 1)} t^{\beta+\alpha} \tag{4}$$

**Definition 2.** The Caputo fractional derivative  $D^\alpha$  of a function  $f(t)$  is defined as:

$$D^\alpha f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n - \alpha)} \int_0^t \frac{f^{(n)}(\tau)}{(t - \tau)^{\alpha-n+1}} d\tau, \quad n - 1 < \alpha \leq n, n \in \mathbb{N}. \tag{5}$$

Below are some properties of Caputo fractional derivatives;

$$D^\alpha C = 0, \tag{6}$$

where,  $C$  is a constant.

$$D^\alpha t^\beta = \begin{cases} 0, & \beta \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\} \text{ and } \beta < \lceil \alpha \rceil \\ \frac{\Gamma(\beta+1)}{\Gamma(\beta+1-\alpha)} t^{\beta-\alpha}, & \beta \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\} \text{ and } \beta \geq \lceil \alpha \rceil \text{ or } \beta \notin \mathbb{N} \\ & \text{and } \beta > \lfloor \alpha \rfloor, \end{cases} \tag{7}$$

where,  $\lceil \alpha \rceil$  denotes the largest integer less than or equal to  $\alpha$  and  $\lfloor \alpha \rfloor$  is the smallest integer greater than or equal to  $\alpha$ .

The operator  $D^\alpha$  is a linear operator, since,

$$D^\alpha (\lambda f(t) + \mu g(t)) = \lambda D^\alpha f(t) + \mu D^\alpha g(t) \tag{8}$$

where  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  are constants.

**3. Genocchi polynomials and some properties**

Genocchi numbers and polynomials have been widely studied in a wide range of settings in many branches of mathematics such as elementary number theory, complex analytic number theory, homotopy theory, differential topology (differential structures on spheres) and quantum physics (quantum groups). The Genocchi numbers  $G_n$  and polynomials  $G_n(x)$  are usually defined respectively, by means of the exponential generating functions (Araci, 2012; Araci, 2014; Bayad and Kim, 2010).

$$Q(t) = \frac{2t}{e^t + 1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_n \frac{t^n}{n!}, \quad (|t| < \pi) \tag{9}$$

$$Q(t, x) = \frac{2te^{xt}}{e^t + 1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} G_n(x) \frac{t^n}{n!}, \quad (|t| < \pi) \tag{10}$$

where  $G_n(x)$  is the Genocchi polynomial of degree  $n$  and is given by

$$G_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} G_{n-k} x^k \tag{11}$$

$G_{n-k}$  here is the Genocchi number which can also be obtained from

$$G_n = 2(1 - 2^n)B_n, \tag{12}$$

where  $B_n$  is the well-known Bernoulli number. The first few Genocchi polynomials are;

$$\begin{aligned} G_0(x) &= 0 \\ G_1(x) &= 1 \\ G_2(x) &= 2x - 1 \\ G_3(x) &= 3x^2 - 3x \\ G_4(x) &= 4x^3 - 6x^2 + 1 \\ G_5(x) &= 5x^4 - 10x^3 + 5x. \end{aligned}$$

Some of the important properties of Genocchi polynomials are:

$$\int_0^1 G_n(x) G_m(x) dx = \frac{2(-1)^n n! m!}{(m+n)!} G_{m+n}, \quad n, m \geq 1 \tag{13}$$

$$\frac{dG_n(x)}{dx} = nG_{n-1}(x), \quad n \geq 1 \tag{14}$$

$$G_n(1) + G_n(0) = 0, \quad n > 1 \tag{15}$$

From (12) and (14) it is obvious that:

$$G_n(t) = \int_0^t nG_{n-1}(x) dx + G_n, \quad n \geq 1. \tag{16}$$

We refer the readers to Araci et al. (2014a); Araci et al. (2014b) for more properties of Genocchi polynomials and higher order Genocchi polynomials.

*3.1. Function approximation*

Suppose that  $\{G_1(t), G_2(t), \dots, G_N(t)\} \subset L^2[0, 1]$  is the set of Genocchi polynomials and  $Y = \text{Span}\{G_1(t), G_2(t), \dots, G_N(t)\}$ . Let  $f(t)$  be arbitrary element of  $L^2[0, 1]$ , since  $Y$  is a finite dimensional subspace of  $L^2[0, 1]$  space, then,  $f(t)$  has a unique best approximation in  $Y$ , say  $f^*(t)$  such that

$$\forall y(t) \in Y, \quad \|f(t) - f^*(t)\|_2 \leq \|f(t) - y(t)\|_2 \tag{17}$$

This implies that  $\forall y(t) \in Y$

$$\langle f(t) - f^*(t), y(t) \rangle = 0 \tag{18}$$

where  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  denotes inner product. Since  $f^*(t) \in Y$ , then there exist the unique coefficients  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_N$  such that

$$f(t) \approx f^*(t) = \sum_{n=1}^N c_n G_n(t) = \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{G}(t) \tag{19}$$

where  $\mathbf{C} = [c_1, c_2, \dots, c_N]^T$ ,  $\mathbf{G}(t) = [G_1(t), G_2(t), \dots, G_N(t)]^T$ .  
Using (18), we have

$$\langle f(t) - \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{G}(t), G_i(t) \rangle = 0 \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

for simplicity we write

$$\mathbf{C}^T \langle \mathbf{G}(t), \mathbf{G}(t) \rangle = \langle f(t), \mathbf{G}(t) \rangle. \tag{20}$$

where  $\langle \mathbf{G}(t), \mathbf{G}(t) \rangle$  is an  $N \times N$  matrix.

Let  $D = \langle \mathbf{G}(t), \mathbf{G}(t) \rangle = \int_0^1 \mathbf{G}(t) \mathbf{G}^T(t) dt$ , the entries of the matrix  $D$  can be calculated from (13). Therefore, any function  $f(t) \in L^2[0, 1]$  can be expanded by Genocchi polynomials as  $f(t) = \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{G}(t)$ , where

$$\mathbf{C} = D^{-1} \langle f(t), \mathbf{G}(t) \rangle. \tag{21}$$

### 3.2. Error bound

In this section we provide the error bound for the approximated function  $f(t)$ . It is important to note that, in general,  $f(t)$  might fail to have a bounded derivative at certain points of the considered domain. But in our case, the smoothness of solutions of fractional differential equations in Caputo derivative sense is shown in Diethelm (2010), where a full characterization of the situation where smooth solutions exist is proven and very good results concerning the differentiability of the solution in the interval  $[0, X]$  are also shown. Therefore, we suppose that  $f(t) \in C^{n+1}[0, 1]$  and  $Y = \text{Span}\{G_1(t), G_2(t), \dots, G_N(t)\}$  if  $\mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{G}(t)$  is the best approximation of  $f(t)$  out of  $Y$  then

$$\|f(t) - \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{G}(t)\| \leq \frac{h^{\frac{2n+3}{2}} R}{(n+1)! \sqrt{2n+3}}, \quad t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}] \subseteq [0, 1]$$

where  $R = \max_{t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}]} |f^{(n+1)}(t)|$  and  $h = t_{i+1} - t_i$

To see this, we set

$$y_1(t) = f(t_i) + f'(t_i)(t - t_i) + f''(t_i) \frac{(t - t_i)^2}{2!} + \dots + f^{(n)}(t_i) \frac{(t - t_i)^n}{n!}.$$

From Taylor's expansion it is clear that

$$|f(t) - y_1(t)| \leq |f^{(n+1)}(\xi_t)| \frac{(t - t_i)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!},$$

where  $\xi_t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}]$ .

Since  $\mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{G}(t)$  is the best approximation of  $f(t)$  out of  $Y$  and  $y_1(t) \in Y$ , then from (17), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|f(t) - \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{G}(t)\|_2^2 &\leq \|f(t) - y_1(t)\|_2^2 = \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} |f(s) - y_1(s)|^2 ds \\ &\leq \int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} \left\| |f^{(n+1)}(\xi_t)| \frac{(s - t_i)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \right\|^2 ds \\ &\leq \frac{h^{2n+3} R^2}{((n+1)!)^2 (2n+3)}. \end{aligned}$$

Taking the square root of both sides, we have

$$\|f(t) - \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{G}(t)\| \leq \frac{h^{\frac{2n+3}{2}} R}{(n+1)! \sqrt{2n+3}}$$

which is the desired result. Hence we conclude that at each sub interval  $[t_i, t_{i+1}]$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $f(t)$  has a local error bound of  $\mathcal{O}(h^{\frac{2n+3}{2}})$ . Thus,  $f(t)$  has a global error of  $\mathcal{O}(h^{\frac{2n+1}{2}})$  on the whole interval  $[0, 1]$ .

The following lemma is also of great importance.

**Lemma 1.** Let  $G_i(t)$  be the Genocchi polynomial then,  $D^\alpha G_i(t) = 0$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, [\alpha] - 1, \alpha > 0$ .

The proof of this Lemma is obvious, one can use (6)–(8) on (11).

### 4. Genocchi operational matrix of fractional derivative

If we consider the Genocchi vector  $\mathbf{G}(t)$  given by  $\mathbf{G}(t) = [G_1(t), G_2(t), \dots, G_N(t)]$ , then the derivative of  $\mathbf{G}(t)$  with the aid of (14) can be expressed in the matrix form by  $\frac{d\mathbf{G}(t)^T}{dt} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{G}(t)^T$ , where

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & N-1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & N & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus,  $M$  is  $N \times N$  operational matrix of derivative.

It is not difficult to show inductively that, the  $k^{\text{th}}$  derivative of  $\mathbf{G}(t)$  is given by

$$\frac{d^k \mathbf{G}(t)^T}{dt^k} = \mathbf{G}(t) (\mathbf{M}^T)^k.$$

In the following theorem, we derive the operational matrix of fractional order derivative for the Genocchi polynomials.

**Theorem 1.** Suppose  $\mathbf{G}(t)$  is the Genocchi vector given in (19) and let  $\alpha > 0$ . Then,

$$D^\alpha \mathbf{G}(t)^T = P^\alpha \mathbf{G}(t)^T \tag{22}$$

where  $P^\alpha$  is  $N \times N$  operational matrix of fractional derivative of order  $\alpha$  in Caputo sense and is defined as follows:

$$P^{(\alpha)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \sum_{k=[\alpha]}^{[\alpha]} \rho_{[\alpha],k,1} & \sum_{k=[\alpha]}^{[\alpha]} \rho_{[\alpha],k,2} & \dots & \sum_{k=[\alpha]}^{[\alpha]} \rho_{[\alpha],k,N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \sum_{k=[\alpha]}^i \rho_{i,k,1} & \sum_{k=[\alpha]}^i \rho_{i,k,2} & \dots & \sum_{k=[\alpha]}^i \rho_{i,k,N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \sum_{k=[\alpha]}^N \rho_{N,k,1} & \sum_{k=[\alpha]}^N \rho_{N,k,2} & \dots & \sum_{k=[\alpha]}^N \rho_{N,k,N} \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $\rho_{i,k,j}$  is given by:

$$\rho_{i,k,j} = \frac{i! G_{i-k}}{(i-k)! \Gamma(k+1-\alpha)} c_j \tag{23}$$

$G_{i-k}$  is the Genocchi number and  $c_j$  can be obtained from (21).

**Proof.** From (11) we have

$$D^\alpha G_i(t) = \sum_{k=1}^i \frac{i! G_{i-k}}{(i-k)! k!} D^\alpha t^k = \sum_{k=[\alpha]}^i \frac{i! G_{i-k}}{(i-k)! \Gamma(k+1-\alpha)} t^{k-\alpha} \tag{24}$$

Let  $f(t) = t^{k-\alpha}$ , then if we approximate  $f(t)$  using truncated Genocchi series, we have  $f(t) = \sum_{j=1}^N c_j G_j(t)$ .

Therefore, putting this in (24), we have

$$D^\alpha G_i(t) = \sum_{j=1}^N \left( \sum_{k=\lceil \alpha \rceil}^i \frac{i!G_{i-k}}{(i-k)!\Gamma(k+1-\alpha)} c_j \right) G_j(t) \tag{25}$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^N \left( \sum_{k=\lceil \alpha \rceil}^i \rho_{i,k,j} \right) G_j(t)$$

where  $\rho_{i,k,l}$  is given in (23). Rewriting (25) in vector form, we have

$$D^\alpha G_i(t) = \left[ \sum_{k=\lceil \alpha \rceil}^i \rho_{\lceil \alpha \rceil,k,1} \sum_{k=\lceil \alpha \rceil}^i \rho_{\lceil \alpha \rceil,k,2} \cdots \sum_{k=\lceil \alpha \rceil}^i \rho_{\lceil \alpha \rceil,k,N} \right] G(t) \tag{26}$$

$$i = \lceil \alpha \rceil \cdots N.$$

Also according to Lemma 1, we can write

$$D^\alpha G_i(t) = [0, 0, \dots, 0]G(t) \quad i = 1, \dots, \lceil \alpha \rceil - 1 \tag{27}$$

Thus, combining (26) and (27) leads to the desired result.

### 5. Collocation method based on Genocchi operational matrix of fractional derivative

In this section, we use the collocation method based on the Genocchi operational matrix of fractional derivatives to solve the NFDEs (1) numerically. To do this, we first approximate  $y_j(t)$  for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , by Genocchi polynomials as follows:

$$y_j(t) = \sum_{k=1}^N c_{j,k} G_k(t) = C_j G(t)^T \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n \tag{28}$$

where,  $C_j = [c_{j,1}, c_{j,2}, \dots, c_{j,N}]$  is an unknown vector. Now employing (22) in (28), we have

$$D^\alpha y_j(t) \simeq C_j P^{(\alpha)} G(t)^T, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n. \tag{29}$$

Therefore, substituting (28) and (29) in (1), we have

$$C_j P^{(\alpha)} G(t)^T = f_j \left( t, C_1 G(t)^T, C_2 G(t)^T, \dots, C_n G(t)^T \right) \tag{30}$$

$$j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

From the initial conditions we have

$$C_j G(0)^T = d_j \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n. \tag{31}$$

To find the solution of (1), we collocate (30) at the collocation points  $t_i = \frac{i}{N-1}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N-1$  to obtain

$$C_j P^{(\alpha)} G(t_i)^T = f_j \left( t_i, C_1 G(t_i)^T, C_2 G(t_i)^T, \dots, C_n G(t_i)^T \right) \tag{32}$$

$$i = 1, 2, \dots, N-1, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Thus, (32) contains  $n(N-1)$  algebraic equations. These equations together with (31) make  $n(N)$  algebraic equations which can be solved through Newton's iterative method. Thus,  $y_j(t)$  given in (28) can be calculated.

The procedure can be easily extend to solve the nonlinear system of fractional differential equations (NSFDEs).

### 6. Numerical examples

In this section, we solve some examples to illustrate the applicability and accuracy of the proposed method. All the numerical computations are carried out using Maple 18.

**Example 1.** First let's consider the following fractional differential equation solved using B spline operational method in Lakestani et al. (2012).

$$D^2 y(t) + \Gamma\left(\frac{4}{5}\right) t^{\frac{6}{5}} D^{\frac{6}{5}} y(t) + \frac{11}{9} \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{6}\right) t^{\frac{1}{6}} D^{\frac{1}{6}} y(t) - (y'(t))^2 = 2 + \frac{1}{10} t^2 \tag{33}$$

subject to,  $y(0) = 1, y(1) = 2$ . The exact solution is given by  $y(t) = t^2 + 1$

We consider this problem when  $N = 3, 4, 5, 6$  and  $7$ . The  $L^2$  and  $L^\infty$  errors of the results obtained are compared with that obtained using B-spline operational method (Lakestani et al., 2012) as shown in Table 1. From this table one can observe that despite the simplicity of our operational method, we are able to get a more accurate result than that obtained using B spline operational method in Lakestani et al. (2012).

**Example 2.** We consider the following system of fractional differential equations as in Chen et al. (2010).

$$D^{\frac{3}{2}} y_1(t) = \frac{2\Gamma(8)t^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\Gamma(\frac{13}{2})} y_2(t) - \frac{2\Gamma(8)t^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\Gamma(\frac{13}{2})} - \frac{\Gamma(3)t^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\Gamma(\frac{3}{2})} \tag{34}$$

$$D^{\frac{5}{3}} y_2(t) = \frac{\Gamma(6)t^{-\frac{11}{3}}}{2\Gamma(\frac{13}{3})} y_1(t) + \frac{\Gamma(6)t^{-\frac{5}{3}}}{2\Gamma(\frac{13}{3})}$$

subject to,  $y_1(0) = 0, y_1(1) = 1, y_2(0) = 1, y_2(1) = 2$ .

The exact solutions of this system are given by  $y_1(t) = 2t^7 - t^2$  and  $y_2(t) = t^5 + 1$ . This example is solved in Chen et al. (2010) using Legendre wavelets method, with  $M = 4$  and different values of  $k$ . We used Genocchi polynomials operational method and compared the absolute errors obtained with Legendre wavelets method and that of our method for  $y_1(t)$  and  $y_2(t)$ . The results are shown in Table 2 and 3 respectively.

**Example 3.** Consider the following NSFDE.

$$D^{\frac{3}{2}} y_1(t) = -8y_1(t) + y_2^2(t) - 4t^6 + 4t^3 + \frac{8t^{\frac{3}{2}}}{\sqrt{\pi}} - 1 \tag{35}$$

$$D^{\frac{1}{2}} y_2(t) = t^2 D^1 y_1(t) + y_2(t) - 3t^4 - 2t^3 + \frac{32t^{\frac{5}{2}}}{5\sqrt{\pi}} - 1$$

subject to,  $y_1(0) = 0, y_2(0) = 1, y_1(1) = 1, y_2(1) = 3, y_1'(0) = 0, y_1'(1) = 3$

The exact solution of this system is known to be  $y_1(t) = t^3, y_2(t) = 2t^3 + 1$ . We solve this problem using the present method. The absolute error for solutions  $y_1(t)$  and  $y_2(t)$  obtained with different values of  $N$  are shown in Table 4.

**Table 1**  
Comparison of the  $L^2$  and  $L^\infty$  errors obtained by the present method and that in Lakestani et al. (2012) for numerical solution  $y(t)$  for Example 1.

$L^2$ Error		$L^\infty$ Error	
Lakestani et al. (2012)	Present method	Lakestani et al. (2012)	Present method
1.9E-3 ( $J = 3$ )	1.323E-4 ( $N = 3$ )	5.1E-3 ( $J = 3$ )	1.8119E-4 ( $N = 3$ )
4.7E-4 ( $J = 4$ )	3.377E-5 ( $N = 4$ )	1.2E-3 ( $J = 4$ )	5.5528E-5 ( $N = 4$ )
1.2E-4 ( $J = 5$ )	1.698E-5 ( $N = 5$ )	3.3E-4 ( $J = 5$ )	1.8466E-5 ( $N = 5$ )
3.0E-5 ( $J = 6$ )	9.990E-6 ( $N = 6$ )	8.1E-5 ( $J = 6$ )	1.3312E-5 ( $N = 6$ )
7.6E-6 ( $J = 7$ )	9.262E-6 ( $N = 7$ )	2.1E-5 ( $J = 7$ )	1.4556E-5 ( $N = 7$ )

**Table 2**

Comparison of the absolute errors obtained by the present method and that in Chen et al. (2010) for numerical solution  $y_1(t)$  for Example 2.

$t$	Chen et al. (2010) $k = 3$	Present method $N = 8$	Chen et al. (2010) $k = 4$	Present method $N = 16$	Chen et al. (2010) $k = 5$	Present method $N = 20$
0.2	5.4189E-5	1.90235E-5	5.4369E-6	8.95309E-8	2.7929E-6	2.48113E-7
0.4	2.1851E-4	3.42767E-5	1.1205E-4	1.47111E-5	7.1572E-5	1.04730E-5
0.6	3.9439E-3	2.72428E-4	2.5271E-3	3.02569E-4	1.2697E-3	1.88619E-4
0.8	3.7760E-2	3.77612E-4	1.9787E-2	2.25477E-3	5.4447E-3	1.41045E-3

**Table 3**

Comparison of the absolute errors obtained by the present method and that in Chen et al. (2010) for numerical solution  $y_2(t)$ , for Example 2.

$t$	Chen et al. (2010) $k = 3$	Present method $N = 8$	Chen et al. (2010) $k = 4$	Present method $N = 16$	Chen et al. (2010) $k = 5$	Present method $N = 20$
0.2	7.3753E-4	3.64710E-4	2.0239E-4	4.20073E-6	4.6757E-5	3.93829E-6
0.4	7.2903E-4	2.93359E-4	4.5844E-4	6.05796E-5	8.2082E-5	3.47028E-5
0.6	6.1980E-3	1.21135E-4	3.4222E-3	4.21201E-4	7.6776E-4	2.61086E-4
0.8	2.9120E-2	2.09568E-4	8.4107E-3	1.77011E-3	2.9426E-3	1.10169E-3

**Table 4**

Absolute errors obtained by the present method for numerical solution  $y_1(t)$  and  $y_2(t)$ , for Example 3.

$t$	$N = 6$		$N = 10$		$N = 15$	
	$y_1(t)$	$y_2(t)$	$y_1(t)$	$y_2(t)$	$y_1(t)$	$y_2(t)$
0.2	8.34845E-5	2.65555E-4	3.17722E-5	2.97062E-5	9.53891E-6	4.67442E-6
0.4	6.77277E-5	2.39200E-4	1.99578E-5	3.78689E-5	6.37208E-6	6.73884E-6
0.6	5.23846E-5	3.81107E-4	3.29544E-6	6.70313E-5	5.36904E-7	1.33571E-5
0.8	7.66654E-5	4.24562E-4	2.70757E-5	1.16860E-4	6.23829E-6	2.74888E-5

**Example 4.** Consider the following NSFDE (Wu and Xia, 2001; Dixit et al., 2011).

$$D^\alpha y_1(t) = -1002y_1(t) + 1000y_2^2(t) \tag{36}$$

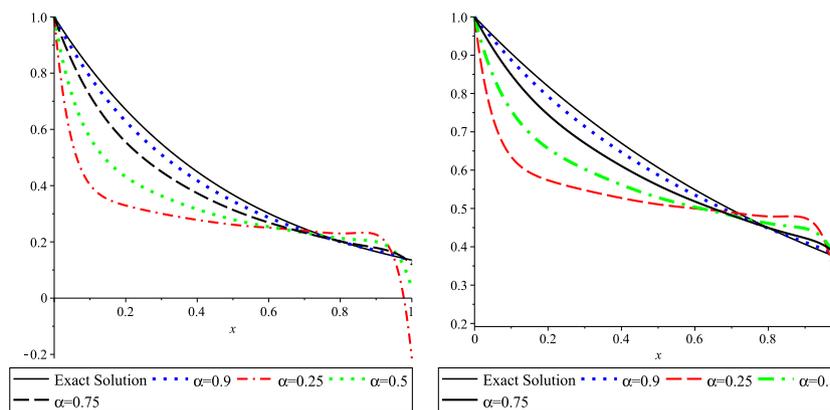
$$D^\alpha y_2(t) = y_1(t) - y_2(t) - y_2^2(t)$$

subject to,  $y_1(0) = 1, y_2(0) = 1$

**Table 6**

Absolute errors obtained by the present method and that in Wu and Xia (2001) at  $t = 1$  for Example 4.

$t$	$Y(t)$	Error Wu and Xia (2001) $h = 0.002$	Our Error $N = 10$
1	$y_1(t)$	2.5606E-7	3.70730E-08
	$y_2(t)$	8.0150E-8	2.09476E-11



**Fig. 1.** Comparison of our solutions  $y_1(x)$  and  $y_2(x)$  respectively, when  $\alpha = 1, 0.9, 0.75, 0.5$  and  $0.25$  for Example 4.

**Table 5**

Numerical solutions  $y_1(t)$  and  $y_2(t)$ , when  $\alpha = 0.25, 0.5, 0.9$  obtained by the present method for Example 4.

$t$	$\alpha = 0.25$		$\alpha = 0.5$		$\alpha = 0.9$	
	$y_1(t)$	$y_2(t)$	$y_1(t)$	$y_2(t)$	$y_1(t)$	$y_2(t)$
0.2	0.3292530	0.5736073	0.4312529	0.6565720	0.6283094	0.7926404
0.4	0.2781248	0.5271530	0.3157611	0.5617578	0.4179744	0.6464731
0.6	0.2503713	0.5001338	0.2537459	0.5035336	0.2863979	0.5351088
0.8	0.2299841	0.4793216	0.2128393	0.4611347	0.2007005	0.4479343

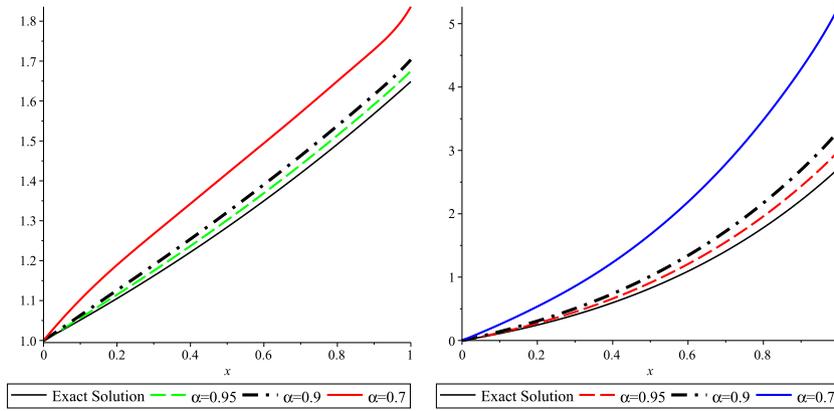


Fig. 2. Comparison of our solutions  $y_1(x)$  and  $y_2(x)$  respectively, when  $\alpha = 0.95, 0.9, 0.7$  and 1 for Example 5.

Table 7  
Numerical solutions  $y_1(t)$  and  $y_2(t)$ , when  $\alpha = 0.5, 0.7, 0.9$  obtained by the present method for Example 5.

t	$\alpha = 0.5$		$\alpha = 0.7$		$\alpha = 0.9$	
	$y_1(t)$	$y_2(t)$	$y_1(t)$	$y_2(t)$	$y_1(t)$	$y_2(t)$
0.2	1.2931031230	1.0835866399	1.1892580591	0.5361674631	1.1260021754	0.3073945918
0.4	1.4695250791	2.3646303626	1.3428046690	1.2320138557	1.2541212454	0.7383813062
0.6	1.6293827449	4.0691446057	1.4944201345	2.1872479471	1.3906810301	1.3411957180
0.8	1.7841485799	6.3194120920	1.6499360492	3.4822704268	1.5380075467	2.1711230181

Table 8  
Absolute errors obtained by the present method for numerical solution  $y_1(t), y_2(x)$  and  $y_3(t)$ , for Example 6.

t	Abs. Err $y_1(t)$	Abs. Err $y_2(t)$	Abs. Err $y_3(t)$
0.2	0.00000E+00	7.10000E-08	6.66760E-06
0.4	0.00000E+00	7.30000E-08	6.74900E-06
0.6	1.00000E-09	7.30000E-08	6.82000E-06
0.8	0.00000E+00	7.20000E-08	6.88000E-06

The exact solution of this system when  $\alpha = 1$  is known to be  $y_1(t) = e^{-2t}$  and  $y_2(t) = e^{-t}$ . This example is solved by our method with  $N = 10$  when  $\alpha = 0.9, 0.75, 0.5, 0.25$ . The results are compared with the exact solution ( $\alpha = 1$ ) in Fig. 1 in which the figures affirm that when  $\alpha$  approaches 1, our results approach the exact solution. The results obtained when  $\alpha = 0.25, 0.5, 0.9$  for  $y_1(t)$  and  $y_2(t)$  are also shown in Table 5. We also compared the absolute error obtained by our method and that in Wu and Xia (2001) when  $t = 1$  in Table 6.

Example 5. Here we consider the following NSFDE (Zurigat et al., 2001; Dixit et al., 2011).

$$D^\alpha y_1(t) = \frac{y_1(t)}{2} \tag{37}$$

$$D^\alpha y_2(t) = (y_1(t))^2 + y_2(t)$$

subject to,  $y_1(0) = 1, y_2(0) = 0$

The exact solution of this system when  $\alpha = 1$  is known to be  $y_1(t) = e^{\frac{t}{2}}$  and  $y_2(t) = te^t$ . We consider this example when  $N = 10$  and  $\alpha = 0.95, 0.9, 0.7, 0.5$  and the results are compared with the exact solution when  $\alpha = 1$  as shown in Fig. 2. The figures affirm that when  $\alpha$  approaches 1, our results approach the exact solution. We also reported the numerical results for  $y_1(t)$  and  $y_2(t)$  when  $\alpha = 0.5, 0.7, 0.9$  in Table 7.

Example 6. Lastly, we consider the following NSFDE (Zurigat et al., 2001; Dixit et al., 2011).

$$D^\alpha y_1(t) = y_1(t)$$

$$D^\alpha y_2(t) = 2(y_1(t))^2 \tag{38}$$

$$D^\alpha y_3(t) = 3y_1(t)y_2(t)$$

subject to,  $y_1(0) = 1, y_2(0) = 1, y_3(0) = 0$

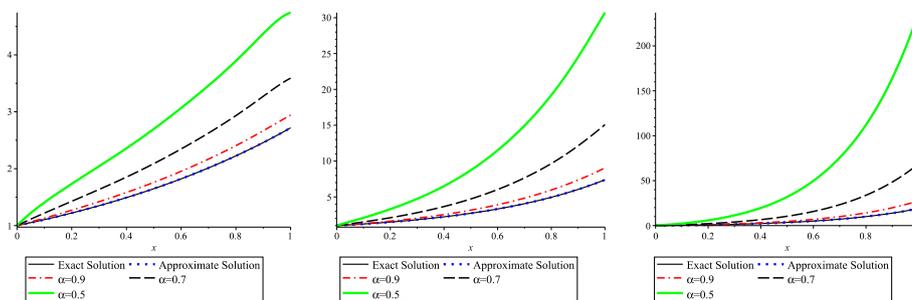


Fig. 3. Comparison of our solutions  $y_1(t), y_2(t)$  and  $y_3(t)$  respectively, when  $\alpha = 0.9, 0.7, 0.5$  and 1 for Example 6.

The exact solution of this system when  $\alpha = 1$  is known to be  $y_1(t) = e^t$ ,  $y_2(t) = e^{2t}$  and  $y_3(t) = e^{3t} - 1$ . The example is solved using our method with  $N = 10$ . The absolute errors obtained for  $y_1(t)$ ,  $y_2(t)$  and  $y_3(t)$  are shown in Table 8.

This example is also solved when  $\alpha = 0.9, 0.7, 0.5$  and the results are compared with the exact solution when  $\alpha = 1$  as shown in Fig. 3 and it affirms that when  $\alpha$  approaches 1, our results approach the exact solution.

## 7. Conclusion

In this paper, a new operational matrix based on the Genocchi polynomials is derived and applied together with the collocation method to numerically solve the NFDEs. The comparison of the results shows that the present method is a simple and good mathematical tool for finding the numerical solutions of NFDEs. The advantage of this operational matrix over others is that it has less computational complexity because every operational matrix of differentiation involves more numbers of zeros and thus, reduces the run time and provides the solution with high accuracy.

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