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Original article

## Meshless method based on RBFs for solving three-dimensional multi-term time fractional PDEs arising in engineering phenomenons

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## ABSTRACT

The applications of fractional partial differential equations (PDEs) in diverse disciplines of science and technology have caught the attention of many researchers. This article concerned with the approximate numerical solutions of three-dimensional two- and three-term time fractional PDE models utilizing an accurate, and computationally attractive local meshless technique. Due to their tremendous advantages like ease of applicability in higher dimensions in both regular and irregular domains, the interest in meshless techniques is increasing. Test problems are considered to assess the reliability and accuracy of the proposed technique.

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## 1. Introduction

Fractional PDE models are widely employed in many disciplines of physics, and variety of methods are used in the literature for their simulations (see Ain and He, 2019; Nadeem and Li, 2019; He and El-Dib, 2020a). Nowadays, it is in the limelight of active researchers with extensive research to advance numerical and analytical solutions for linear and nonlinear fractional PDEs (He and El-Dib, 2020b; He and Ain, 2020; He et al., 2012; Ahmad et al., 2018, 2020a,b,c; Srivastava et al., 2020; He, 2018; Inc et al., 2020; He, 2014). In the current work, we have considered the following two- and three-term time fractional Sobolev equation

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial^{\gamma_1} \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)}{\partial t^{\gamma_1}} + \frac{\partial^{\gamma_2} \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)}{\partial t^{\gamma_2}} - \frac{\partial \nabla^2 \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)}{\partial t} - \beta \nabla^2 \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t) \\ & + \gamma \nabla (\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t) \nabla \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)) + \delta \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t) = F(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t), \quad \bar{\mathbf{x}} = (x, y, z) \in \Omega, \\ & 0 < \gamma_2 \leq \gamma_1 \leq 1, t > 0, \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial^{\gamma_1} \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)}{\partial t^{\gamma_1}} + \frac{\partial^{\gamma_2} \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)}{\partial t^{\gamma_2}} + \frac{\partial^{\gamma_3} \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)}{\partial t^{\gamma_3}} - \frac{\partial \nabla^2 \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)}{\partial t} - \beta \nabla^2 \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t) \\ & + \gamma \nabla (\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t) \nabla \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)) + \delta \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t) = F(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t), \quad \bar{\mathbf{x}} = (x, y, z) \in \Omega, \\ & 0 < \gamma_3 \leq \gamma_2 \leq \gamma_1 \leq 1, t > 0, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

with conditions

$$\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, 0) = \mathcal{U}_0(\bar{\mathbf{x}}), \quad (3)$$

$$\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t) = g_1(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t), \quad \bar{\mathbf{x}} = (x, y, z) \in \partial\Omega, \quad (4)$$

where  $\nabla^2$  is the Laplacian and  $\nabla$  denote Gradient operators and  $\beta, \gamma, \delta$  are known parameters whereas  $\frac{\partial^{\gamma_1}}{\partial t^{\gamma_1}}, \frac{\partial^{\gamma_2}}{\partial t^{\gamma_2}}$  and  $\frac{\partial^{\gamma_3}}{\partial t^{\gamma_3}}$  represent

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the Caputo derivative operator of order  $0 < \gamma_3 \leq \gamma_2 \leq \gamma_1 \leq 1$  for the function  $\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)$ .

Recent literature uses several meshless techniques to solve numerically different PDE models in almost all disciplines of physics and mathematics. In particular, the meshless techniques using radial basis function (RBF) are the main one of these processes. The meshless property makes it popular among researchers. These methods overcome the challenges of dimensionality using conventional methods. In contrast to mesh-based methods, meshless approaches do not need mesh in the domain. These techniques can compute the solution utilizing uniform or non-uniform nodes in both regular and irregular computational domains, which increases the applicability and usefulness of the methods. Meshless methods are in fact actionable and valuable that can be applied to solve physical problems (Wang et al., 2021; Hussain et al., 2020; Khan et al., 2020; Ahmad et al., 2019a, 2020d,e,f,g; Wang et al., 2019, 2020; Nawaz et al., 2021; Wang and Zheng, 2016).

Like other numerical methods, the meshless methods, have some drawbacks, which may be the most important one to choose the optimal value of the shape-parameter and dense ill-conditioned matrices. To circumvent these shortcomings, the local meshless technique is the best alternative proposed by researchers which is precise and stable in finding solutions for various integer and fractional PDE models (Ahmad et al., 2019b,c). These methods produce well conditioned sparse matrices and are less sensitive to the selection of shape-parameters than the global version. In addition, the local meshless method is extra valuable and effective than its global counterpart. Recently, these methods are explored in various form in different applications (Ahmad et al., 2017, 2020h; Shu, 2000).

In this paper, the local meshless technique is utilized for the solution of model Eqs. (1), (2). Inverse multiquadric (IMQ) radial basis functions (RBFs) are taken into account. Moreover, Two kinds of irregular domains are analyzed in numerical examinations.

## 2. Implementation of local meshless technique

According to the suggested technique, to approximated the derivatives of  $\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)$  at the centers  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_h$  by the neighborhood of  $\bar{\mathbf{x}}_h, \{\bar{\mathbf{x}}_{h1}, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{h2}, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{h3}, \dots, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{hn_h}\} \subset \{\bar{\mathbf{x}}_1, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_2, \dots, \bar{\mathbf{x}}_{N^n}\}, n_h \ll N^n$ , where  $h = 1, 2, \dots, N^n$ . We have used  $\bar{\mathbf{x}} = x, \bar{\mathbf{x}} = (x, y)$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{x}} = (x, y, z)$  for one-, two- and three-dimensional cases respectively.

Procedure for one-dimensional case is

$$\mathcal{U}^{(m)}(x_h) \approx \sum_{k=1}^{n_h} \lambda_k^{(m)} \mathcal{U}(x_{hk}), h = 1, 2, \dots, N. \tag{5}$$

Substituting the IMQ-RBF  $\psi(\|y - y_p\|) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+(c\|y_{hk}-y_p\|)^2}}$  in (5)

$$\psi^{(m)}(\|x_h - x_p\|) = \sum_{k=1}^{n_h} \lambda_{hk}^{(m)} \psi(\|x_{hk} - x_p\|), p = h1, h2, \dots, hn_h. \tag{6}$$

Matrix form of (6)

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \psi_{h1}^{(m)}(x_h) \\ \psi_{h2}^{(m)}(x_h) \\ \vdots \\ \psi_{hn_h}^{(m)}(x_h) \end{bmatrix}}_{\psi_h^{(m)}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \psi_{h1}(x_{h1}) & \psi_{h2}(x_{h1}) & \dots & \psi_{hn_h}(x_{h1}) \\ \psi_{h1}(x_{h2}) & \psi_{h2}(x_{h2}) & \dots & \psi_{hn_h}(x_{h2}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \psi_{h1}(x_{hn_h}) & \psi_{h2}(x_{hn_h}) & \dots & \psi_{hn_h}(x_{hn_h}) \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{A}_{n_h}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_{h1}^{(m)} \\ \lambda_{h2}^{(m)} \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_{hn_h}^{(m)} \end{bmatrix}}_{\lambda_{n_h}^{(m)}}, \tag{7}$$

where

$$\psi_p(x_k) = \psi(\|x_k - x_p\|), p = h1, h2, \dots, hn_h,$$

for each  $k = i1, h2, \dots, hn_h$ . (7) can be written as

$$\psi_{n_h}^{(m)} = \mathbf{A}_{n_h} \lambda_{n_h}^{(m)}, \tag{8}$$

From (8), we obtain

$$\lambda_{n_h}^{(m)} = \mathbf{A}_{n_h}^{-1} \psi_{n_h}^{(m)}. \tag{9}$$

(5) and (9) implies

$$\mathcal{U}^{(m)}(x_h) = \left(\lambda_{n_h}^{(m)}\right)^T \mathbf{V}_{n_h},$$

where

$$\mathbf{U}_{n_h} = [\mathcal{U}(x_{h1}), \mathcal{U}(x_{h2}), \dots, \mathcal{U}(x_{hn_h})]^T.$$

The derivatives of  $\mathcal{U}(x, y, t)$  w.r.t  $x$  and  $y$  can be found as

$$\mathcal{U}_x^{(m)}(x_h, y_h) \approx \sum_{k=1}^{n_h} \gamma_k^{(m)} \mathcal{U}(x_{hk}, y_{hk}), h = 1, 2, \dots, N^2,$$

$$\mathcal{U}_y^{(m)}(x_h, y_h) \approx \sum_{k=1}^{n_h} \eta_k^{(m)} \mathcal{U}(x_{hk}, y_{hk}), h = 1, 2, \dots, N^2.$$

For  $\gamma_k^{(m)}$  and  $\eta_k^{(m)}$  ( $k = 1, 2, \dots, n_h$ ), we continue as

$$\gamma_{n_h}^{(m)} = \mathbf{A}_{n_h}^{-1} \Phi_{n_h}^{(m)},$$

$$\eta_{n_h}^{(m)} = \mathbf{A}_{n_h}^{-1} \Phi_{n_h}^{(m)}.$$

Caputo derivative (Caputo, 1967) for  $\gamma_1 \in (0, 1)$  is utilized for time derivative  $\frac{\partial^{\gamma_1} \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)}{\partial t^{\gamma_1}}$  as follows

$$\frac{\partial^{\gamma_1} \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)}{\partial t^{\gamma_1}} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\gamma_1)} \int_0^t \frac{\partial \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \vartheta)}{\partial \vartheta} (t - \vartheta)^{-\gamma_1} d\vartheta, & 0 < \gamma_1 < 1 \\ \frac{\partial \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t)}{\partial t}, & \gamma_1 = 1. \end{cases}$$

To compute the derivative term we can proceed as follows, where  $t_q = q\tau, q = 0, 1, 2, \dots, Q$  and time step size  $\Delta\tau$  in  $[0, t]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^{\gamma_1} \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t_{q+1})}{\partial t^{\gamma_1}} &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\gamma_1)} \int_0^{t_{q+1}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \vartheta)}{\partial \vartheta} (t_{q+1} - \vartheta)^{-\gamma_1} d\vartheta, \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\gamma_1)} \sum_{r=0}^q \int_{r\Delta\tau}^{(r+1)\Delta\tau} \frac{\partial \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \vartheta)}{\partial \vartheta} (t_{r+1} - \vartheta)^{-\gamma_1} d\vartheta, \\ &\approx \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\gamma_1)} \sum_{r=0}^q \int_{r\Delta\tau}^{(r+1)\Delta\tau} \frac{\partial \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \vartheta_r)}{\partial \vartheta} (t_{r+1} - \vartheta)^{-\gamma_1} d\vartheta. \end{aligned}$$

The term  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \vartheta_r)}{\partial \vartheta}$  can be approximated as

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \vartheta_r)}{\partial \vartheta} = \frac{\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \vartheta_{r+1}) - \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \vartheta_r)}{\vartheta} + \mathcal{O}(\Delta\tau).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^{\gamma_1} \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t_{q+1})}{\partial t^{\gamma_1}} &\approx \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\gamma_1)} \sum_{r=0}^q \frac{\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t_{r+1}) - \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t_r)}{\Delta\tau} \int_{r\Delta\tau}^{(r+1)\Delta\tau} (t_{r+1} - \vartheta)^{-\gamma_1} d\vartheta, \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\gamma_1)} \sum_{r=0}^q \frac{\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t_{q+1-r}) - \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t_r)}{\Delta\tau} \sum_{r=0}^{(r+1)\Delta\tau} (t_{r+1} - \vartheta)^{-\gamma_1} d\vartheta, \\ &= \begin{cases} \frac{\Delta\tau^{-\gamma_1}}{\Gamma(2-\gamma_1)} (\mathcal{U}^{q+1} - \mathcal{U}^q) + \frac{\Delta\tau^{-\gamma_1}}{\Gamma(2-\gamma_1)} \sum_{r=1}^q (\mathcal{U}^{q+1-r} - \mathcal{U}^{q-r}) [(r+1)^{1-\gamma_1} - r^{1-\gamma_1}], & q \geq 1 \\ \frac{\Delta\tau^{-\gamma_1}}{\Gamma(2-\gamma_1)} (\mathcal{U}^1 - \mathcal{U}^0). & q = 0. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

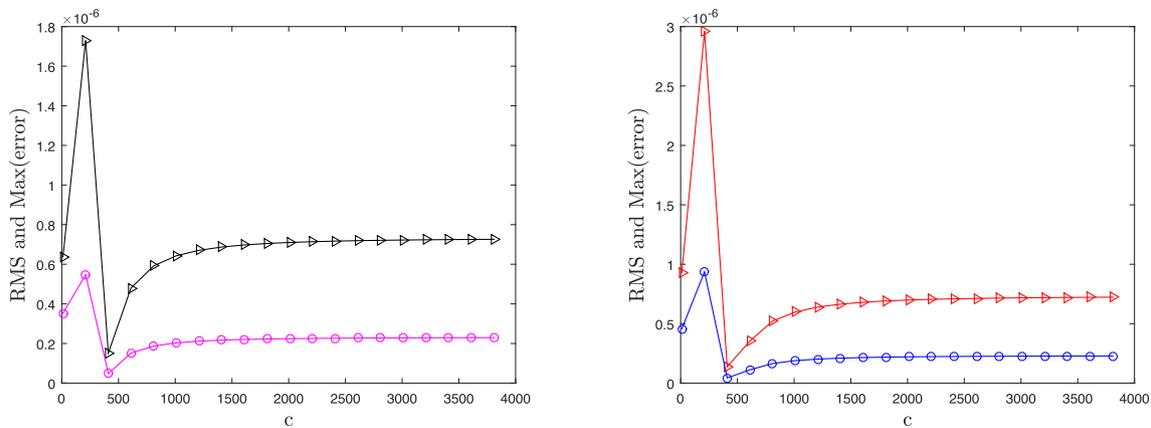
Letting  $a_0 = \frac{\Delta\tau^{-\gamma_1}}{\Gamma(2-\gamma_1)}$  and  $b_r = (r+1)^{1-\gamma_1} - r^{1-\gamma_1}, r = 0, 1, \dots, q$ , we have

**Table 1**  
Problem 1, results of the local meshless technique.

	$\Delta\tau$	N = 8		N = 10		N = 12	
		Max(error)	RMS	Max(error)	RMS	Max(error)	RMS
Two-term	0.1	2.8416e-04	8.8737e-05	2.9285e-04	9.2558e-05	2.9732e-04	9.5131e-05
	0.05	7.0957e-05	2.2159e-05	7.3125e-05	2.3112e-05	7.4237e-05	2.3753e-05
	0.01	2.8334e-06	8.8481e-07	2.9195e-06	9.2271e-07	2.9633e-06	9.4813e-07
	0.005	7.0756e-07	2.2096e-07	7.2896e-07	2.3039e-07	7.3980e-07	2.3671e-07
	0.001	2.8171e-08	8.7973e-09	2.9007e-08	9.1677e-09	2.9420e-08	9.4132e-09
	0.0005	7.0184e-09	2.1916e-09	7.2236e-09	2.2830e-09	7.3231e-09	2.3430e-09
Three-term	0.1	2.8404e-04	8.8701e-05	2.9272e-04	9.2515e-05	2.9716e-04	9.5082e-05
	0.05	7.0915e-05	2.2146e-05	7.3078e-05	2.3097e-05	7.4183e-05	2.3736e-05
	0.01	2.8296e-06	8.8364e-07	2.9152e-06	9.2135e-07	2.9584e-06	9.4657e-07
	0.005	7.0624e-07	2.2054e-07	7.2744e-07	2.2991e-07	7.3807e-07	2.3615e-07
	0.001	2.8053e-08	8.7602e-09	2.8870e-08	9.1244e-09	2.9266e-08	9.3636e-09
	0.0005	6.9765e-09	2.1785e-09	7.1754e-09	2.2677e-09	7.2683e-09	2.3254e-09

**Table 2**  
Problem 1, results of the local meshless technique using N = 10.

	$\gamma$	t = 1		t = 2		t = 3	
		Max(error)	RMS	Max(error)	RMS	Max(error)	RMS
Two-term	0.2	7.3170e-07	2.3126e-07	5.3832e-07	1.7014e-07	2.9704e-07	9.3882e-08
	0.4	7.3053e-07	2.3089e-07	5.3746e-07	1.6987e-07	2.9657e-07	9.3733e-08
	0.6	7.2584e-07	2.2940e-07	5.3402e-07	1.6878e-07	2.9468e-07	9.3134e-08
	0.8	7.0765e-07	2.2364e-07	5.2065e-07	1.6455e-07	2.8731e-07	9.0801e-08
Three-term	0.2	7.3154e-07	2.3121e-07	5.3818e-07	1.7010e-07	2.9696e-07	9.3856e-08
	0.4	7.2979e-07	2.3065e-07	5.3690e-07	1.6969e-07	2.9626e-07	9.3634e-08
	0.6	7.2276e-07	2.2843e-07	5.3174e-07	1.6805e-07	2.9342e-07	9.2735e-08
	0.8	6.9547e-07	2.1979e-07	5.1169e-07	1.6171e-07	2.8237e-07	8.9235e-08



**Fig. 1.** Problem 1, c versus error norms (left) two-term model equation, (right) three-term model equation.

$$\frac{\partial^{\gamma_1} \mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t_{q+1})}{\partial t^{\gamma_1}} \approx \begin{cases} a_0(\mathcal{U}^{q+1} - \mathcal{U}^q) + a_0 \sum_{r=1}^q b_r(\mathcal{U}^{q+1-r} - \mathcal{U}^{q-r}), & q \geq 1 \\ a_0(\mathcal{U}^1 - \mathcal{U}^0), & q = 0. \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

The fractional derivative of order  $\gamma_2$  and  $\gamma_3$  can be found as above.

### 3. Results

The local meshless technique is tested for applicability, accuracy and efficiency to approximate the solution of model Eqs. (1), (2). In this paper, different computational domains are utilized

with uniform and scatted nodes. Throughout the paper, we have employed the Crank-Nicolson scheme, IMQ RBF with  $c = 100$ ,  $\Delta\tau = 0.005$ , and spatial domain  $[0, 1]$  unless specifically stated. The accuracy is measure as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Absolute - error} &= |\hat{\mathcal{U}} - \mathcal{U}|, \\ \text{Max(error)} &= \max(\text{Absolute - error}), \\ \text{RMS} &= \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{h=1}^{N^n} (\hat{\mathcal{U}}_h - \mathcal{U}_h)^2}{N}}, \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where  $\hat{\mathcal{U}}$  is the exact solution.

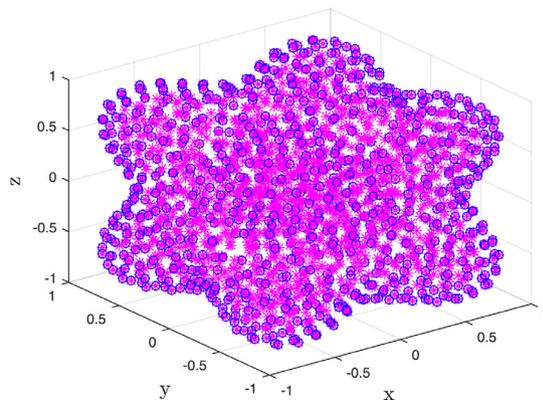
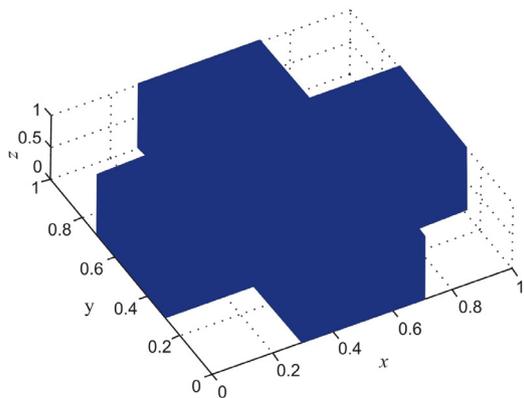


Fig. 2. Domain-1 (left) and Domain-2 (right).

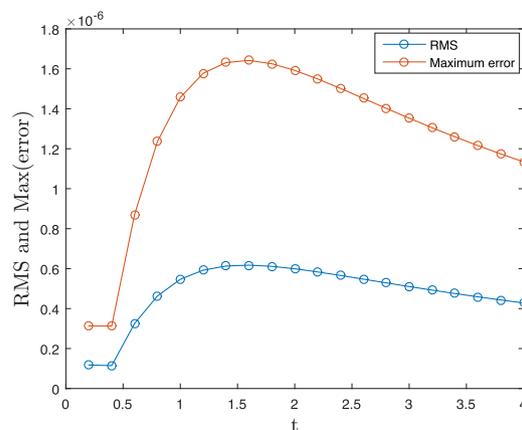
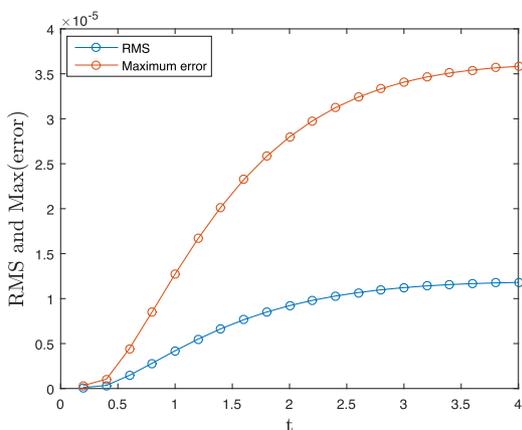


Fig. 3. Problem 1, error profile of two-term model equation (left) Domain-1 (right) Domain-2.

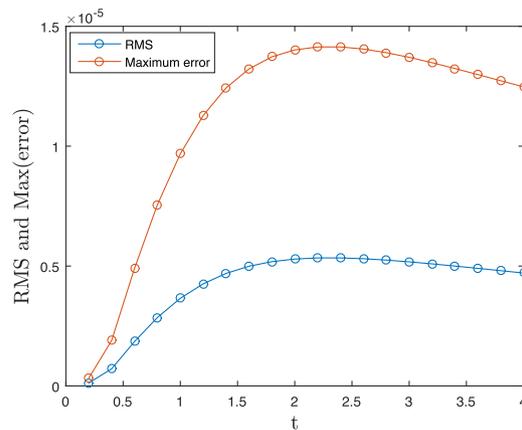
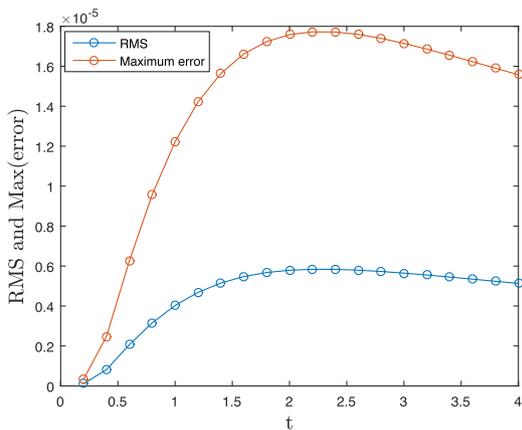


Fig. 4. Problem 1, error profile of three-term model equation (left) Domain-1 (right) Domain-2.

**Problem 1.** The exact solution for Eqs. 1,2 with  $\beta = 1, \gamma = \delta = 0$  is  $\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t) = e^{-t} \sin(\pi x) \sin(\pi y) \sin(\pi z), \bar{\mathbf{x}} \in \Omega,$  (12)

The results of the proposed local meshless technique for Problem 1 are displayed in Table 1. Various number of nodes  $N$ , final time  $t = 1$  and time step size  $\Delta\tau$  are utilized whereas in two- and three-term time fractional model the values of fractional order are  $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = 0.5$  and  $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = \gamma_3 = 0.5$  respectively.

Furthermore, the error norms stand for  $Max(error)$  and  $RMS$ . These results exposed the evidence that the proposed technique is competent for better results and the accuracy increases somewhat when  $\Delta\tau$  decreases. To examine the performance of the method, the results are calculated for different time fractional order  $\gamma$ 's and final time up to  $t = 3$ , and shown in Table 2. Better accuracy has been obtained for various fractional order utilizing  $N = 10$ .

The accuracy and stability of the RBF-based meshless technique are extremely dependent on the value of the shape-parameter  $c$ , and the results will be different and unstable as the shape-parameter value changes a little. However, the accuracy and stability of the proposed technique are tested against **Problem 1**, as shown in **Fig. 1** for  $N = 10, \gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = 0.5$  (in two-term),  $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = \gamma_3 = 0.5$  (in three-term) and  $t = 1$ . **Fig. 1** exposed that the proposed technique is accurate and stable. In the current paper, we have studied two irregular domains which are illustrated in **Fig. 2**. In **Figs. 3 and 4**, the results are shown for **Problem 1** regarding the non-rectangular domains. For two-term case, we have considered the value of  $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = 0.1$  (for *Domain-1*) and  $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = 0.9$  (for *Domain-2*) whereas in case of three-term,  $\gamma_1 = 0.8, \gamma_2 = 0.6, \gamma_3 = 0.4$  are taken into account for both *Domain-1* and *Domain-2*, for various time up to  $t = 4$ . These figures visualized better accuracy in both types of domains.

**Problem 2.** The exact solution for Eqs. (1), (2) with  $\beta = 1, \gamma = \delta = 0$  is

$$u(\bar{x}, t) = e^{x-y-z-t} \sin(\pi x) \sin(\pi y) \sin(\pi z), \bar{x} \in \Omega, \tag{13}$$

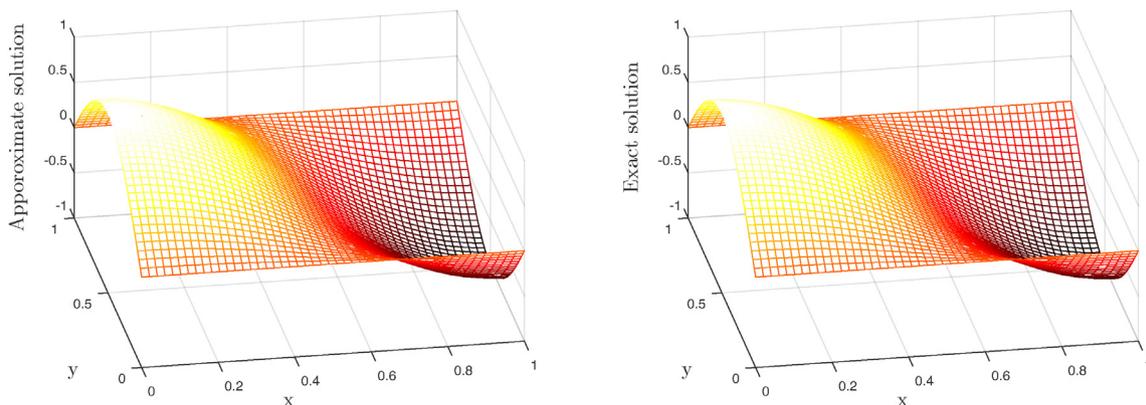
Determining the accuracy of the recommended technique, results of **Problem 2** are compared with the exact solution for diverse  $\Delta\tau$  and  $N$  using  $t = 1$  for  $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = 0.3$  (for two-term) and  $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = \gamma_3 = 0.3$  (for three-term). These results are shown in **Table 3**. In this table, we can notice that the recommended method provides better results with few iterations and is become more accurate when iterations increase and both the error norms reached up to  $10^{-9}$ . In **Table 4**, the results are achieved using various  $\gamma$ 's for  $N = 10, t = 1, 2$  and  $t = 3$ . Observing this table we can say that accurate results have been achieved for various time fractional orders in this problem as well.

**Table 3**  
**Problem 2**, results of the local meshless technique for  $t = 1$ .

	$\Delta\tau$	$N = 8$		$N = 10$		$N = 12$	
		Max(error)	RMS	Max(error)	RMS	Max(error)	RMS
Two-term	0.1	2.1364e-04	5.9329e-05	2.0995e-04	6.1905e-05	2.1083e-04	6.3636e-05
	0.05	5.3362e-05	1.4819e-05	5.2441e-05	1.5462e-05	5.2659e-05	1.5894e-05
	0.01	2.1334e-06	5.9244e-07	2.0964e-06	6.1814e-07	2.1051e-06	6.3539e-07
	0.005	5.3324e-07	1.4808e-07	5.2401e-07	1.5451e-07	5.2616e-07	1.5881e-07
	0.001	2.1318e-08	5.9201e-09	2.0947e-08	6.1764e-09	2.1032e-08	6.3482e-09
	0.0005	5.3278e-09	1.4795e-09	5.2349e-09	1.5435e-09	5.2559e-09	1.5863e-09
Three-term	0.1	2.1360e-04	5.9319e-05	2.0991e-04	6.1894e-05	2.1079e-04	6.3623e-05
	0.05	5.3351e-05	1.4816e-05	5.2429e-05	1.5459e-05	5.2645e-05	1.5890e-05
	0.01	2.1326e-06	5.9223e-07	2.0956e-06	6.1790e-07	2.1042e-06	6.3512e-07
	0.005	5.3302e-07	1.4802e-07	5.2376e-07	1.5443e-07	5.2588e-07	1.5873e-07
	0.001	2.1303e-08	5.9159e-09	2.0931e-08	6.1715e-09	2.1014e-08	6.3426e-09
	0.0005	5.3232e-09	1.4783e-09	5.2297e-09	1.5420e-09	5.2502e-09	1.5846e-09

**Table 4**  
**Problem 2**, results of the local meshless technique using  $N = 10$ .

	$\gamma$	$t = 1$		$t = 2$		$t = 3$	
		Max( $\epsilon$ )	RMS	Max( $\epsilon$ )	RMS	Max( $\epsilon$ )	RMS
Two-term	0.1	5.2442e-07	1.5463e-07	3.8582e-07	1.1376e-07	2.1289e-07	6.2772e-08
	0.3	5.2401e-07	1.5451e-07	3.8552e-07	1.1367e-07	2.1273e-07	6.2724e-08
	0.7	5.1568e-07	1.5205e-07	3.7941e-07	1.1187e-07	2.0936e-07	6.1733e-08
	0.9	4.9040e-07	1.4460e-07	3.6082e-07	1.0639e-07	1.9911e-07	5.8712e-08
Three-term	0.1	5.2437e-07	1.5461e-07	3.8578e-07	1.1375e-07	2.1286e-07	6.2763e-08
	0.3	5.2376e-07	1.5443e-07	3.8532e-07	1.1361e-07	2.1262e-07	6.2691e-08
	0.7	5.1127e-07	1.5075e-07	3.7615e-07	1.1091e-07	2.0757e-07	6.1204e-08
	0.9	4.7334e-07	1.3958e-07	3.4827e-07	1.0270e-07	1.9219e-07	5.6673e-08



**Fig. 5.** **Problem 3**, two-term model equation at  $z = 0.5$  (left) numerical solution (right) exact solution.

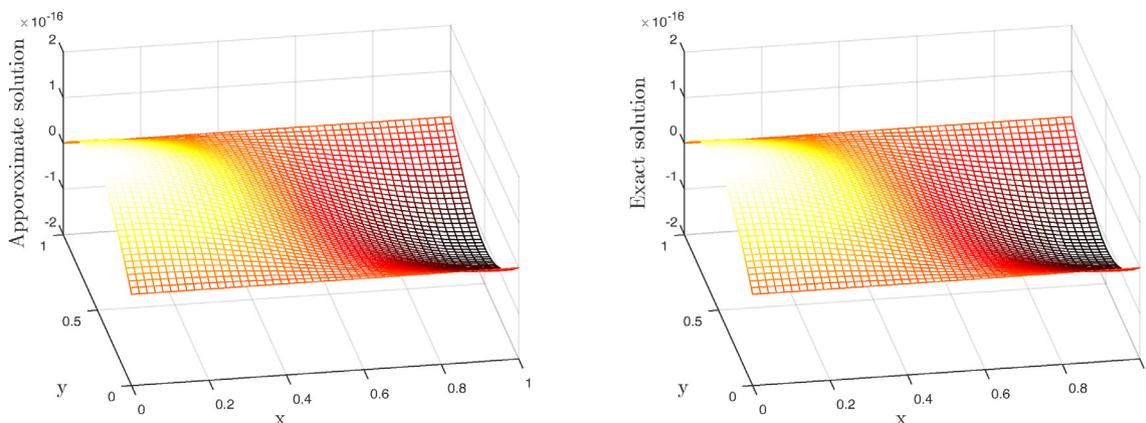


Fig. 6. Problem 3, three-term model equation at  $z = 1$  (left) numerical solution (right) exact solution.

**Problem 3.** The exact solution for Eqs. (1), (2) with  $\beta = 1, \gamma = 1, \delta = \pi^2$  is

$$\mathcal{U}(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, t) = e^t \sin(\pi x) \sin(\pi y) \sin(\pi z), \quad \bar{\mathbf{x}} \in \Omega, \quad (14)$$

For Problem 3, the behavior of numerical and exact solutions using  $N = 21, t = 0.01$  are visualized in Fig. 5 at  $z = 0.5, \gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = 0.5$  (in two-term) whereas in Fig. 6 the solutions are shown at  $z = 1$  for  $\gamma_1 = \gamma_2 = \gamma_3 = 0.5$  (in three-term). One can see from these figures that the numerical solution is very compatible with the exact solution.

#### 4. Conclusion

In this paper, we have examined the effectiveness and applicability of the suggested local meshless technique to compute the numerical solution of time fractional Sobolev model equations. The obtained results prove that the suggested technique works amazingly in fractional PDE models. Numerical experiments show that the algorithm gives good accuracy and in light of these analyses, we suggest that the local meshless technique can be implemented to such types of fractional PDE models which appear in physical problems.

#### Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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#### Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jksus.2021.101604>.

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