

A fast finite volume method for spatial fractional diffusion equations on nonuniform meshes

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Numerical Methods for Fractional-Derivative Problems

Outline

- ① Riemann-Liouville s-FDEs
- ② Fast Finite Volume Method on Nonuniform Grids
- ③ Preconditioning Work
- ④ Numerical Results

$$u_t - \mathcal{D}\eta(x) \left(\gamma {}_a\mathcal{D}_x^{1-\alpha} u - (1-\gamma) {}_x\mathcal{D}_b^{1-\alpha} u \right) = f(x, t),$$
$$(x, t) \in (a, b) \times (0, T],$$

with the initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = \phi(x), \quad x \in [a, b],$$

and homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions

$$u(a, t) = u(b, t) = 0, \quad t \in (0, T],$$

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$$(x, t) \in (a, b) \times (0, T],$$

$${}_a\mathcal{I}_x^\alpha w(x) := \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_a^x \frac{w(\xi)}{(x-\xi)^{1-\alpha}} d\xi,$$

$${}_x\mathcal{I}_b^\alpha w(x) := \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_x^b \frac{w(\xi)}{(\xi-x)^{1-\alpha}} d\xi,$$

where $\Gamma(\cdot)$ denotes the Gamma function.

$${}_a\mathcal{D}_x^{1-\alpha} := \mathcal{D}({}_a\mathcal{I}_x^\alpha), \quad {}_x\mathcal{D}_b^{1-\alpha} := -\mathcal{D}({}_x\mathcal{I}_b^\alpha).$$

Uniform grids vs Non-uniform grids

Uniform grids

Toeplitz-like structure

Matrix-vector multiplication: $\mathcal{O}(m \log m)$ complexity

Non-uniform grids

Uniform grids vs Non-uniform grids

Uniform grids

Toeplitz-like structure

Matrix-vector multiplication: $\mathcal{O}(m \log m)$ complexity

Non-uniform grids

Dense coefficient matrix without highlighted structure

Matrix-vector multiplication: $\mathcal{O}(m^2)$ complexity

Related Works

Non-uniform meshes

Zhao L. & Deng W. (2016). Adv. Comput. Math.

Simmons, A., Yang, Q., & Moroney, T. (2017). J. Comput. Phys.

Locally refined composite mesh - Toeplitz block

Jia, J. & Wang, H. (2015). J. Comput. Phys.

Jia, J. & Wang, H. (2019). Comput. Math. Appl.

Dai, P., Jia, J., Wang, H., Wu, Q., & Zheng, X. (2021). NLAA

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Discretization

For nonuniform grids $\{x_i\}_{i=0}^m$,

Denote $x_{i-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{x_{i-1}+x_i}{2}$ and ${}_{i-1}\delta_i = x_i - x_{i-1}$,

$\delta_{\min} = \min_{1 \leq i \leq m} {}_{i-1}\delta_i$ and $\delta_{\max} = \max_{1 \leq i \leq m} {}_{i-1}\delta_i$.

Control volume: $[x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}, x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}]$

$$\int_{x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}}^{x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}} u_t(x, t) dx - \eta(x) \left(\gamma {}_a\mathcal{D}_x^{1-\alpha} u(x, t) - (1-\gamma) {}_x\mathcal{D}_b^{1-\alpha} u(x, t) \right) \Big|_{x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}}^{x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}} \\ = \int_{x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}}^{x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}} f(x, t) dx.$$

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$$= \int_{x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}}^{x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}} f(x, t) dx.$$

Discretization

$$\begin{aligned} {}_a D_x^{1-\alpha} u(x, t) \Big|_{x_{s-\frac{1}{2}}} &= D_a \mathcal{I}_x^\alpha u(x, t) \Big|_{x_{s-\frac{1}{2}}} \\ &\approx \frac{1}{s-1 \delta_s} \left[{}_a \mathcal{I}_x^\alpha u(x, t) \Big|_{x_s} - {}_a \mathcal{I}_x^\alpha u(x, t) \Big|_{x_{s-1}} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Using piecewise constant approximation of $u(x, t)$ leads to **dense matrix without Toeplitz-like structure.**

→ $\mathcal{O}(m^2)$ Storage & $\mathcal{O}(m^3)$ Operations

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SOE technique

$$\begin{aligned}
 {}_a\mathcal{I}_x^\alpha u(x, t)\Big|_{x_s} &\approx \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left(\int_a^{x_{s-1}} \frac{\bar{u}(\xi, t)}{(x_s - \xi)^{1-\alpha}} d\xi + \int_{x_{s-1}}^{x_s} \frac{\bar{u}(\xi, t)}{(x_s - \xi)^{1-\alpha}} d\xi \right) \\
 &\equiv \mathcal{I}_\delta^{a,s}(t) + \mathcal{I}_\delta^{s-1,s}(t),
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\mathcal{I}_\delta^{s-1,s}(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_{x_{s-1}}^{x_s} \frac{u(x_s, t)}{(x_s - \xi)^{1-\alpha}} d\xi = \frac{(s-1)\delta_s^\alpha u(x_s, t)}{\Gamma(1+\alpha)}.$$

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SOE technique

Lemma 1 (Jiang, S. et al., CiCP 2017)

For the given $\beta \in (0, 1)$, tolerance error ϵ , $\Delta x > 0$, and a positive bound q , there are one positive integer N_{soe} , positive points λ_k and corresponding positive weights θ_k , ($k = 1, 2, \dots, N_{soe}$) satisfying

$$\left| x^{-\beta} - \sum_{k=1}^{N_{soe}} \theta_k e^{-\lambda_k x} \right| \leq \epsilon, \quad \forall x \in [\Delta x, q],$$

and the number of exponentials needed is of the order

$$N_{soe} = \mathcal{O} \left(\log \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(\log \log \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \log \frac{q}{\Delta x} \right) + \log \frac{1}{\epsilon} \left(\log \log \frac{1}{\epsilon} + \log \frac{1}{\Delta x} \right) \right).$$

SOE technique

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}_\delta^{a,s}(t) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_a^{x_s-1} \bar{u}(\xi, t) (x_s - \xi)^{\alpha-1} d\xi \\ &\approx \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_a^{x_s-1} \bar{u}(\xi, t) \sum_{k=1}^{N_{soe}} \theta_k e^{-\lambda_k(x_s-\xi)} d\xi \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{soe}} \theta_k \int_a^{x_s-1} \bar{u}(\xi, t) e^{-\lambda_k(x_s-\xi)} d\xi. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_{s,k}(t) &= e^{-\lambda_k(s-1)\delta_s} v_{s-1,k}(t) + \int_{x_{s-2}}^{x_{s-1}} \bar{u}(\xi, t) e^{-\lambda_k(x_s-\xi)} d\xi \\ &= e^{-\lambda_k(s-1)\delta_s} v_{s-1,k}(t) + \frac{u(x_{s-1}, t)}{\lambda_k} \left(e^{-\lambda_k(s-1)\delta_s} - e^{-\lambda_k(s-2)\delta_s} \right). \end{aligned}$$

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SOE technique

The fast approximation of the left Riemann-Liouville fractional integral:

$$\left. {}_a^{\delta} \mathcal{I}_x^{\alpha} u(x, t) \right|_{x_s} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{soe}} \theta_k v_{s,k}(t) + \frac{(s-1)\delta_s)^{\alpha} u(x_s, t)}{\Gamma(1+\alpha)}.$$

The fast approximation of the right Riemann-Liouville fractional integral:

$$\left. {}_x^{\delta} \mathcal{I}_b^{\alpha} u(x, t) \right|_{x_s} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{soe}} \theta_k \tilde{v}_{m-s,k}(t) + \frac{(s\delta_{s+1})^{\alpha} u(x_s, t)}{\Gamma(1+\alpha)},$$

with

$$\tilde{v}_{s,k}(t) = e^{-\lambda_k(s\delta_{s+1})} \tilde{v}_{s-1,k}(t) + \frac{u(x_{m-s+1}, t)}{\lambda_k} \left(e^{-\lambda_k(s\delta_{s+1})} - e^{-\lambda_k(s\delta_{s+2})} \right).$$

SOE technique

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$$\left. {}_a^{\delta} \mathcal{I}_x^{\alpha} u(x, t) \right|_{x_s} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{soe}} \theta_k v_{s,k}(t) + \frac{(s-1)\delta_s)^{\alpha} u(x_s, t)}{\Gamma(1+\alpha)}.$$

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with

$$\tilde{v}_{s,k}(t) = e^{-\lambda_k(s\delta_{s+1})} \tilde{v}_{s-1,k}(t) + \frac{u(x_{m-s+1}, t)}{\lambda_k} \left(e^{-\lambda_k(s\delta_{s+1})} - e^{-\lambda_k(s\delta_{s+2})} \right).$$

Fast implementation in matrix form

$$\int_{x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}}^{x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}} u_t(x, t) dx = \frac{d}{dt} \int_{x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}}^{x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}} u(x, t) dx \approx \tau_{i-\frac{1}{2}} \delta_{i+\frac{1}{2}} u_t(x_i, t).$$

In matrix expression, we have

$$A\mathbf{u}^j = D\mathbf{u}^{j-1} + \tau\mathbf{f}^j, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n,$$

where

$$A = D - \tau\gamma A^L - \tau(1 - \gamma)A^R, \quad D = \text{diag} \left(\left(\tau_{i-\frac{1}{2}} \delta_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \right)_{i=1}^{m-1} \right).$$

Fast implementation in matrix form

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Fast implementation in matrix form

Algorithm 1 The fast matrix-vector multiplication $A^L \mathbf{z}$ for any vector \mathbf{z}

- 1: Compute the weights and nodes $\{\theta_k, \lambda_k\}$ of the SOE approximation
- 2: Set $v_{1,k} = 0$ and $length(\mathbf{z}) = m - 1$ denotes the size of the vector \mathbf{z}
- 3: **for** $s = 2 : m$ **do**
- 4: Compute $v_{s,k}$ by recursive formula $\mathcal{O}(m \log^2 m)$ complexity
- 5: **end for**
- 6: Compute $\left. \delta_a \mathcal{I}_x^\alpha \mathbf{z} \right|_s$ ($s = 1, 2, \dots, m$) via SOE approximation

$$7: (A^L \mathbf{z})_i = \frac{\eta(x_{i+1/2})}{i \delta_{i+1}} \left[\left. \delta_a \mathcal{I}_x^\alpha \mathbf{z} \right|_{x_{i+1}} - \left. \delta_a \mathcal{I}_x^\alpha \mathbf{z} \right|_{x_i} \right] - \frac{\eta(i-1/2)}{i-1 \delta_i} \left[\left. \delta_a \mathcal{I}_x^\alpha \mathbf{z} \right|_{x_i} - \left. \delta_a \mathcal{I}_x^\alpha \mathbf{z} \right|_{x_{i-1}} \right]$$

Error analysis

Lemma 2

Suppose $u(x, t) \in C^1[a, b]$ with respect to x . The difference between the left Riemann-Liouville fractional integral at point x_s and its fast approximation formula can be expressed as

$$\left| \left. {}_a^{\delta} \mathcal{I}_x^{\alpha} u(x, t) \right|_{x_s} - \left. {}_a \mathcal{I}_x^{\alpha} u(x, t) \right|_{x_s} \right| \leq \mathcal{O}(\delta_{\max} + \epsilon), \quad s = 1, 2, \dots, m,$$

where ϵ denotes the accuracy of the SOE approximation.

Analogously, for the right Riemann-Liouville fractional integral, it holds that

$$\left| \left. {}_x^{\delta} \mathcal{I}_b^{\alpha} u(x, t) \right|_{x_s} - \left. {}_x \mathcal{I}_b^{\alpha} u(x, t) \right|_{x_s} \right| \leq \mathcal{O}(\delta_{\max} + \epsilon), \quad s = 0, 1, \dots, m-1.$$

Stability analysis

$$A\mathbf{u}^j = D\mathbf{u}^{j-1} + \tau\mathbf{f}^j, \quad A = D - \tau\gamma A^L - \tau(1 - \gamma)A^R.$$

Lemma 3

Assume that $\eta(x)$ satisfies the Lipschitz condition. The matrices A^L and A^R are strictly row-wise diagonally dominant with negative diagonals and non-negative sub-/super-diagonals for sufficiently accurate SOE approximation.

Theorem 4

The fast scheme is unconditionally stable with respect to the initial condition.

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Banded preconditioner

$$\tilde{A} = D - \tau\bar{\eta}\gamma H^L - \tau\bar{\eta}(1 - \gamma)H^R,$$

where

$$\{h_{i,j}^L\} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1 + \alpha)} \begin{cases} 0, & j > i + 1, \\ (\delta_{i+1})^{\alpha-1}, & j = i + 1, \\ -(\delta_{i+1})^{-1} \left((\delta_{i+1})^\alpha + (i-1)\delta_i^\alpha - (i-1)\delta_{i+1}^\alpha \right) + (\delta_{i-1})^{\alpha-1}, & j = i, \\ -(\delta_{i+1})^{-1} \left((j\delta_{i+1})^\alpha + (j-1)\delta_i^\alpha - (j-1)\delta_{i+1}^\alpha + (j\delta_i)^\alpha \right) \\ + (\delta_{i-1})^{-1} \left((j\delta_i)^\alpha + (j-1)\delta_{i-1}^\alpha - (j-1)\delta_i^\alpha + (j\delta_{i-1})^\alpha \right), & j \leq i - 1, \end{cases}$$

$$\{h_{i,j}^R\} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1 + \alpha)} \begin{cases} (\delta_{i+1})^{-1} \left((i+1)\delta_{j+1}^\alpha + (\delta_j)^\alpha - (i+1)\delta_j^\alpha + (\delta_{j+1})^\alpha \right) & j \geq i + 1, \\ -(\delta_{i-1})^{-1} \left((i\delta_{j+1})^\alpha + (i-1)\delta_j^\alpha - (i\delta_j)^\alpha + (i-1)\delta_{j+1}^\alpha \right), & j = i, \\ -(\delta_{i+1})^{-1} \left((\delta_{i+1})^\alpha + (i-1)\delta_i^\alpha - (i-1)\delta_{i+1}^\alpha \right) + (\delta_{i-1})^{\alpha-1}, & j = i - 1, \\ (\delta_{i-1})^{\alpha-1}, & j = i - 1, \\ 0, & j < i - 1. \end{cases}$$

Banded preconditioner

$$P = D - \tau\bar{\eta}\gamma B^L - \tau\bar{\eta}(1 - \gamma)B^R,$$

where B^L and B^R are the main $\ell + 1$ bands of the Heisenberg matrices H^L and H^R , respectively.

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PGMRES method

stopping criterion: $\frac{\|r_k\|_2}{\|b\|_2} < 10^{-6}$

Example 1

True solution is given by $u(x, t) = 4e^{-t}x(2 - x)$, for $0 \leq x \leq 2$ and $0 \leq T \leq 1$. The diffusivity coefficient $\eta = 1$ and the source function is given by

$$f(x, t) = -4e^{-t}x(2 - x) - 8e^{-t} \left[\gamma \left(\frac{x^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} - \frac{x^\alpha}{\Gamma(1 + \alpha)} \right) + (1 - \gamma) \left(\frac{(2 - x)^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} - \frac{(2 - x)^\alpha}{\Gamma(1 + \alpha)} \right) \right].$$

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$$x_j = \begin{cases} (b-a) \left(\frac{j}{s}\right)^r, & j = 0, 1, \dots, s, \text{ and } s = \frac{m}{2}, \\ b-a-x_{m-j}, & j = s+1, s+2, \dots, m, \end{cases}$$

where m is set as an even number and $r = \frac{1}{1-\alpha} > 1$.

Table: Numerical results for Example 1 with fixed $n = 2^{11}$ and $\alpha = 0.5$.

| m | Gauss Elimination | | | Fast GMRES | | | | Fast PGMRES | | | |
|----------|-------------------|-----------|-------|------------|--------|-----------|-------|-------------|-------|-----------|-------|
| | CPU | Error | Order | Iter | CPU | Error | Order | Iter | CPU | Error | Order |
| 2^7 | 3.91 | 2.8648e-2 | - | 17.00 | 1.31 | 2.9338e-2 | - | 3.31 | 0.69 | 2.9232e-2 | - |
| 2^8 | 20.50 | 1.4385e-2 | 0.99 | 25.00 | 4.98 | 1.4734e-2 | 0.99 | 4.01 | 1.69 | 1.4731e-2 | 0.99 |
| 2^9 | 218.73 | 7.0891e-3 | 1.02 | 42.00 | 17.35 | 7.2598e-3 | 1.02 | 6.00 | 3.94 | 7.2348e-3 | 1.03 |
| 2^{10} | 2079.16 | 3.3950e-3 | 1.06 | 74.00 | 67.84 | 3.4775e-3 | 1.06 | 8.00 | 8.87 | 3.4884e-3 | 1.05 |
| 2^{11} | - | - | - | 128.00 | 448.56 | 1.5741e-3 | 1.14 | 13.00 | 45.18 | 1.5904e-3 | 1.13 |

Example 2

We consider Example 1 with the diffusivity coefficient function $\eta(x) = 10 + x(2 - x)$. The relevant source function is derived as

$$f(x, t) = -4e^{-t}x(2 - x) - \frac{8e^{-t}}{\Gamma(\alpha + 2)} \left(\gamma x^{\alpha-1} W(x) + (1 - \gamma)(2 - x)^{\alpha-1} W(2 - x) \right),$$

where

$$W(z) = 10\alpha(\alpha + 1) - (\alpha + 1)(2\alpha - 8)z - (\alpha + 2)(\alpha + 3)z^2 + (\alpha + 3)z^3.$$

Table: Numerical results for Example 2 with fixed $n = 4m$ and $\alpha = 0.5$.

| m | Fast GMRES | | | | Fast PGMRES | | | |
|----------|------------|--------|-----------|-------|-------------|-------|-----------|-------|
| | Iter | CPU | Error | Order | Iter | CPU | Error | Order |
| 2^6 | 26.00 | 0.38 | 5.6992e-2 | – | 7.89 | 0.14 | 5.6757e-2 | – |
| 2^7 | 40.00 | 1.13 | 2.9562e-2 | 0.95 | 7.41 | 0.45 | 2.9456e-2 | 0.95 |
| 2^8 | 58.00 | 8.15 | 1.5071e-2 | 0.97 | 8.03 | 1.69 | 1.5060e-2 | 0.97 |
| 2^9 | 84.00 | 78.74 | 7.6122e-3 | 0.99 | 9.01 | 6.48 | 7.4403e-3 | 1.02 |
| 2^{10} | 119.00 | 302.95 | 3.8260e-3 | 0.99 | 12.00 | 31.99 | 3.9200e-3 | 0.92 |

Example 3

$$\begin{cases} u_t - \left({}_0\mathcal{D}_x^{2-\alpha}\right)u = f(x, t), & (x, t) \in [0, 1] \times (0, 1], \\ u(0, t) = 0, u(1, t) = e^t, & t \in [0, 1], \\ u(x, 0) = x^\beta. \end{cases}$$

The exact solution is set by $u(x, t) = e^t x^\beta$. The source function is correspondingly derived as

$$f(x, t) = e^t x^\beta - \frac{e^t \Gamma(1 + \beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha + \beta - 1)} x^{\alpha + \beta - 2}.$$

$$x_j = (b - a) \left(\frac{j}{m} \right)^r, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, m, \quad \text{with } r = \frac{2}{1 - \alpha} > 1.$$

Table: Numerical results for Example 2 with fixed $n = m$ and $\alpha = 0.8, \beta = 0.5$.

| m | Gauss Elimination | | | Fast GMRES | | | | Fast PGMRES | | | |
|----------|-------------------|-----------|-------|------------|---------|-----------|-------|-------------|--------|-----------|-------|
| | CPU | Error | Order | Iter | CPU | Error | Order | Iter | CPU | Error | Order |
| 2^7 | 0.24 | 1.2710e-2 | - | 90.98 | 1.41 | 1.2710e-2 | - | 6.00 | 0.17 | 1.2711e-2 | - |
| 2^8 | 2.53 | 6.3773e-3 | 0.99 | 156.37 | 9.58 | 6.3793e-3 | 0.99 | 9.00 | 0.71 | 6.3765e-3 | 1.00 |
| 2^9 | 49.03 | 3.1965e-3 | 1.00 | 286.32 | 98.79 | 3.1976e-3 | 1.00 | 12.00 | 3.67 | 3.2039e-3 | 0.99 |
| 2^{10} | 1035.49 | 1.6009e-3 | 1.00 | 532.63 | 1390.77 | 1.6048e-3 | 0.99 | 19.00 | 39.94 | 1.5988e-3 | 1.00 |
| 2^{11} | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 29.00 | 272.76 | 8.0865e-4 | 0.98 |

Remarks

- Fast implementation for high dimensional problems?
- Convergence analysis (first-order accuracy)?

Thanks for your attention!