Non-polynomial B-spline and shifted Jacobi spectral collocation techniques to solve time-fractional nonlinear coupled Burgers’ equations numerically

Adel R. Hadhoud 1*, H.M. Srivastava 2,3,4 and Abdulqawi A.M. Rageh 1,5

Abstract
This paper proposes two numerical approaches for solving the coupled nonlinear time-fractional Burgers’ equations with initial or boundary conditions on the interval \([0, L]\). The first method is the non-polynomial B-spline method based on L1-approximation and the finite difference approximations for spatial derivatives. The method has been shown to be unconditionally stable by using the Von-Neumann technique. The second method is the shifted Jacobi spectral collocation method based on an operational matrix of fractional derivatives. The proposed algorithms’ main feature is that when solving the original problem it is converted into a nonlinear system of algebraic equations. The efficiency of these methods is demonstrated by applying several examples in time-fractional coupled Burgers equations. The error norms and figures show the effectiveness and reasonable accuracy of the proposed methods.

Keywords: Liouville–Caputo fractional derivative; Non-polynomial B-spline functions; Fractional coupled Burgers’ equation; Shifted Jacobi polynomial; Jacobi–Gauss quadrature; Von Neumann stability

1 Introduction
Many phenomena in engineering and applied sciences can be represented successfully using fractional calculus models such as anomalous diffusion, materials, and mechanics, signal processing, biological systems, finance, etc. (see, for instance, [1–7]). There is a tremendous interest in fractional differential equations, as the theory of fractional derivatives itself and its applications have been intensively developed. The theory of fractional differential equations describes the reality of life more powerfully and systematically. In recent years, several researchers have studied differential equations of fractional order through diverse techniques [8–11].

The time-fractional Burgers’ equation is important since it is a kind of sub-diffusion convection equation. Several different methods for solving the equation have been developed such as the local fractional Riccati differential equation method in [12], the homotopy
analysis transform method [13], the finite difference method [14], the variational iteration method [15]. The study of coupled Burgers equations is significant for t-dimensional. The system is a simple sedimentation model or the evolution of scaled volume concentrations of two types of fluid suspension or colloid particles under the influence of gravity. Many powerful methods had been developed to find analytic or numerical solutions of coupled Burgers’ equations such as homotopy perturbation method [16], differential transformation method [17], non-polynomial spline method [18], septic b-spline collocation method [19], Galerkin quadratic b-spline method [20], Adomian decomposition method [21], meshless radial point interpolation method [22].

Several vital analytical and numerical techniques have been proposed to solve the coupled nonlinear time-fractional Burger equations NLTFBEs. Prakash et al. [23] suggested an analytical algorithm based on the homotopy perturbation Sumudu transform method to investigate the coupled NLTFBEs. Hoda et al. [24] introduced the Laplace–Adomian decomposition method, the Laplace variational iteration method, and the reduced differential transformation method for solving the one-dimensional and two-dimensional fractional coupled Burgers’ equations. In [25] Liu and Hou explicitly applied the generalized two-dimensional differential transform method to solve the coupled space- and time-fractional Burgers equations (STFBEs). Heydari and Avazzadeh [26] proposed an effective numerical method based on Hahn polynomials to solve the nonsingular variable-order time-fractional coupled Burgers’ equations. The authors in [27] suggested a hybrid spectral exponential Chebyshev approach based on a spectral collection method to solve the coupled TFBEs. Veeresha and Prakasha [28] and Singh et al. [29] presented the q-homotopy analysis transform method to solve the coupled TFBEs and STFBEs, respectively. The coupled STFBEs have also been solved using the Adomian decomposition method by Chan and An [30]. Islam and Akbar [31] obtained exact general solutions of the coupled STFBEs by using the generalized \((G'/G)\)-expansion method with the assistance of the complex fractional transformation. Prakash et al. [32] proposed the fractional variational iteration method to solve the same problem. Hussein [33] proposed a continuous and discrete-time weak Galerkin finite element approach for solving two-dimensional time-fractional coupled Burgers’ equations. Hussain et al. [34] obtained the numerical solutions of the coupled TFBEs using the meshfree spectral method.

In comparison with local methods, spectral methods are often efficient and highly accurate systems. Convergence speed is one of the spectral methods’ great advantages. Furthermore, spectral methods have a high level of precision (often so-called “exponential convergence”). The primary idea of all spectral method versions is to express the solution to the problem as a finite sum of certain foundation functions and then to choose the coefficients, to minimize the difference between precise and approximate solutions. Recently, the classical spectral methods have been developed to obtain accurate solutions for linear and nonlinear FDEs. Spectral approaches with the assistance of operational matrices of orthogonal polynomials have been considered to approximate the solution of FDEs (see, for example, [35–39]).

One of the disadvantages of the non-polynomial method is that the time step size must be small enough. The main advantage of the proposed methods is that they are easy to implement. Also, the solutions can be obtained with high accuracy with relatively fewer spatial grid nodes compared with other numerical techniques. For this reason and because
the current methods can be directly applied to other applications, we are motivated to apply these techniques for coupled Burgers equations.

In this paper we develop two accurate numerical methods to approximate the numerical solutions of the coupled TFBES. The first method is the non-polynomial B-spline method [8, 40–42] based on the L1-approximation and finite difference approximations for spatial derivatives. The second method is the shifted Jacobi spectral collocation method [43–45] with the assistance of the operational matrix of fractional and integer-order derivatives. The collocation approach proposed in this paper is somewhat different from those collocation methods commonly discussed in the literature. Now, we consider the time-fractional coupled Burgers’ equations of the form

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{\partial^{\alpha_1} u}{\partial t^{\alpha_1}} &= \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial (uv)}{\partial x} + f(x, t), \quad 0 < \alpha_1 \leq 1, \\
\frac{\partial^{\alpha_2} v}{\partial t^{\alpha_2}} &= \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + 2v \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial (uv)}{\partial x} + g(x, t), \quad 0 < \alpha_2 \leq 1,
\end{align*}
\]

subject to the initial and boundary conditions

\[
\begin{align*}
u (x, 0) &= p(x), \quad \nu(x, 0) = q(x), \quad a \leq x \leq b, \\
u(a, t) &= f_1(t), \quad \nu(b, t) = f_2(t), \quad \nu(a, t) = g_1(t), \quad \nu(b, t) = g_2(t), \quad t > 0,
\end{align*}
\]

where \(\alpha_1\) and \(\alpha_2\) are parameters describing fractional derivatives, \(x\) and \(t\) are the space and time variables, respectively, \(u\) and \(v\) are the velocity components to be determined. \(f(x, t)\) and \(g(x, t)\) are continuous functions on their domains. The functions \(p(x)\), \(q(x)\), \(f_1(t)\), \(f_2(t)\), \(g_1(t)\), \(g_2(t)\) are sufficient smooth functions. The fractional derivatives of order \(\alpha_1\) and \(\alpha_2\) in Eqs. (1) and (2) are treated in the sense of Liouville–Caputo defined by Jerome and Oldham [6]. In the case of \(\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 1\), Eqs. (1) and (2) are reduced to the classical coupled Burgers equations.

**Definition 1** ([1]) A real function \(u(t), t > 0\), is said to be in the space \(C_{\Omega}, \Omega \in \mathbb{R}\) if there exists a real number \(p > \Omega\) such that \(u(t) = t^p u_1(t)\), where \(u_1(t) \in C(0, \infty)\), and it is said to be in the space \(C^n_{\Omega}\) if and only if \(u^{(n)} \in C_{\Omega}, n \in \mathbb{N}\).

**Definition 2** ([21]) The Liouville–Caputo fractional derivative of \(u \in C^n_{\Omega}\) (\(\Omega \geq -1\)) is defined as

\[
\frac{\partial^n u(x, t)}{\partial t^n} = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n-\alpha)} \int_0^t \frac{\partial^n u(x, s)}{\partial s^n} (t-s)^{n-\alpha-1} ds, \quad n-1 < \alpha \leq n, n = 1, 2, \ldots.
\]

**2 Non-polynomial B-spline method**

In this section, we take a spline function of the form: \(H_3 = \text{span}\{1, x, \sinh(\omega x), \cosh(\omega x)\}\), where \(\omega\) is the frequency of the hyperbolic part of spline functions which will be used to raise the accuracy of the method.

**2.1 Derivation of the numerical method**

Consider \(x \in [a, b]\) and \(t \in [0, \tau]\). Let \(a = x_0 < x_1 < \cdots < x_N < x_{N+1} = b\) and \(0 = t_0 < t_1 < \cdots < t_M = \tau\) be the uniform meshes of the intervals \([a, b]\) and \([0, \tau]\), where \(x_i = a + ih\), \(t_j = \tau j\) with \(h = \frac{b-a}{N+1}\) and \(\tau = \frac{\tau}{M+1}\). The numerical methods for the coupled TFBES (1) and (2) are calculated by applying the non-polynomial B-spline method.
\( h = (b-a)/(N+1), \) and \( t_i = nk, k = \tau/M \) for \( n = 0, 1, \ldots, M \) and \( i = 0, 1, \ldots, N + 1. \) Let \( U^n_i \) and \( V^n_i \) be an approximation to \( u(x_i, t_n) \) and \( v(x_i, t_n) \), respectively, obtained by the segment \( P_i(x, t_n) \) of the mixed spline function passing through the points \( (x_i, U^n_i) \) and \( (x_{i+1}, U^n_{i+1}) \), \( (x_i, V^n_i) \) and \( (x_{i+1}, V^n_{i+1}) \). Each segment has the form \([8, 42]\)

\[
P_i(x, t_n) = a_i(t_n) \cosh(\omega(x - x_i)) + b_i(t_n) \sinh(\omega(x - x_i)) + c_i(t_n)(x - x_i) + d_i(t_n)
\]

for each \( i = 0, 1, \ldots, N. \) To obtain expressions for the coefficients of Eq. (4) in terms of \( U^n_i, U^n_{i+1}, V^n_i, V^n_{i+1}, S^n_i, \) and \( S^n_{i+1} \) which are as follows:

\[
U^n_i = P_i(x_i, t_n), \quad U^n_{i+1} = P_i(x_{i+1}, t_n), \quad S^n_i = P^{(2)}_i(x_i, t_n), \quad S^n_{i+1} = P^{(2)}_i(x_{i+1}, t_n),
\]

where \( P^{(2)}_i(x, t) = \beta^2 \omega^2 P_i(x, t). \) Using Eqs. (4) and (5), we get

\[
a_i + d_i = U^n_i
\]

\[
a_i \cosh \theta + b_i \sinh \theta + c_i h + d_i = U^n_{i+1},
\]

\[
a_i \omega^2 = S^n_i,
\]

\[
a_i \omega^2 \cosh \theta + \omega^2 b_i \sinh \theta = S^n_{i+1},
\]

where \( a_i \equiv a_i(t_n), b_i \equiv b_i(t_n), c_i \equiv c_i(t_n), d_i \equiv d_i(t_n), \) and \( \theta = \omega h. \)

Solving the last four equations, we obtain the following expressions:

\[
a_i = \frac{h^2}{\theta^2} S^n_i,
\]

\[
b_i = \frac{h^2 (S^n_{i+1} - S^n_i \cosh \theta)}{\theta^2 \sinh \theta},
\]

\[
c_i = \frac{(U^n_{i+1} - U^n_i)}{h} - \frac{h(S^n_{i+1} - S^n_i)}{\theta^2},
\]

\[
d_i = U^n_i - \frac{h^2}{\theta^2} S^n_i.
\]

Using the continuity condition of the first derivative at \( x = x_i \), that is, \( P'_i(x_i, t_n) = P'_{i-1}(x_i, t_n) \), we get the following equation:

\[
b_i \omega + c_i = a_{i-1} \omega \sinh \theta + b_{i-1} \omega \cosh \theta + c_{i-1}.
\]

Using Eq. (6), and after slight rearrangements, Eq. (7) becomes

\[
U^n_{i+1} - 2U^n_i + U^n_{i-1} = \gamma S^n_{i+1} + \beta S^n_i + \gamma S^n_{i-1}, \quad i = 1, 2, \ldots, N.
\]

Similarly, we get

\[
V^n_{i+1} - 2V^n_i + V^n_{i-1} = \gamma \rho^n_{i+1} + \beta \rho^n_i + \gamma \rho^n_{i-1}, \quad i = 1, 2, \ldots, N,
\]

where \( \gamma = \frac{\beta^2}{\theta^2} - \frac{\beta^2}{\sinh \tau}, \beta = \frac{3h^2 \cosh \theta}{\tau \sinh \theta} - \frac{2h^2}{\theta^2}, \) and \( \theta = \omega h. \)

**Remark** 1 As \( \omega \rightarrow 0, \) that is, \( \theta \rightarrow 0, (\gamma, \beta) \rightarrow \left( \frac{\beta^2}{\theta^2}, \frac{4h^2}{6} \right), \) and Eqs. (8) and (9) become as follows:

\[
U^n_{i+1} - 2U^n_i + U^n_{i-1} = \frac{h^2}{6} (S^n_{i+1} + 4S^n_i + S^n_{i-1}), \quad i = 1, 2, \ldots, N,
\]
From Eqs. (1) and (2), we write \( S_i^n \) and \( \rho_i^n \) in the form

\[
S_i^n = \frac{\partial^2 U_i^n}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^\alpha U_i^n}{\partial t^\alpha} + (V_i^n - 2U_i^n) \frac{\partial U_i^n}{\partial x} + U_i^n \frac{\partial V_i^n}{\partial x} - f(x_i, t_n), \tag{10}
\]

\[
\rho_i^n = \frac{\partial^2 V_i^n}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^\alpha V_i^n}{\partial t^\alpha} + (U_i^n - 2V_i^n) \frac{\partial V_i^n}{\partial x} + V_i^n \frac{\partial U_i^n}{\partial x} - g(x_i, t_n). \tag{11}
\]

The time-fractional partial derivatives of order \( \alpha_1 \) and \( \alpha_2 \) in Eq. (1) are considered in the Liouville–Caputo fractional derivatives, which can be approximated by the following lemma.

**Lemma 1** ([46]) Suppose \( 0 < \alpha < 1 \) and \( g(t) \in C^2[0, t_n] \), it holds that

\[
\left| \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \int_0^{t_n} g'(t) \left( \frac{t_n-t}{t_n-t} \right)^\alpha dt \right| \leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(2-\alpha)} \left[ \frac{1-\alpha}{12} + \frac{2^{2-\alpha}}{2-\alpha} - (1 + 2^{-\alpha}) \right] \max_{0 \leq t \leq t_n} |g''(t)| t^{1-\alpha}, \tag{12}
\]

where \( \varphi_q = (q + 1)^{1-\alpha} - q^{1-\alpha}, q \geq 0 \).

**Lemma 2** ([47]) Let \( 0 < \alpha < 1 \) and \( \varphi_q = (q + 1)^{1-\alpha} - q^{1-\alpha}, q = 0, 1, \ldots, \) then \( 1 = \varphi_0 > \varphi_1 > \cdots > \varphi_q \to 0 \), as \( q \to \infty \).

Using Lemma 1, the Liouville–Caputo fractional derivative can be approximated as follows:

\[
\frac{\partial^\alpha U_i^n}{\partial t^\alpha} = \sigma_1 \left[ U_i^n - \varphi_{n-1} U_i^0 - \sum_{q=1}^{n-1} (\varphi_{n,q-1} - \varphi_{n,q}) U_i^q \right] + O(k^{2-\alpha}), \tag{13}
\]

\[
\frac{\partial^\alpha V_i^n}{\partial t^\alpha} = \sigma_2 \left[ V_i^n - \varphi_{n-1} V_i^0 - \sum_{q=1}^{n-1} (\varphi_{n,q-1} - \varphi_{n,q}) V_i^q \right] + O(k^{2-\alpha}), \tag{14}
\]

where \( \sigma_1 = \frac{\kappa^{\alpha_1}}{1-\alpha_1}, \sigma_2 = \frac{\kappa^{\alpha_2}}{1-\alpha_2} \).

Substituting Eqs. (13) and (14) into Eqs. (10) and (11), the spatial derivatives \( S_i^n \) and \( \rho_i^n \), \( r = i - 1, i, i + 1 \), are discretized for \( n = 1 \) and \( n \geq 2 \) as follows:

\[
S_{i-1}^1 \simeq \sigma_1 (U_{i-1}^1 - U_{i-1}^0) + \delta_{i-1}^1 (4U_{i-1}^1 - 3U_{i-1}^0 - U_{i+1}^1) \tag{15}
\]

\[
+ \frac{n_{i-1}}{2h} (4V_{i-1}^1 - 3V_{i-1}^0 - V_{i+1}^0) - f_i^1,
\]

\[
S_i^1 \simeq \sigma_1 (U_i^1 - U_i^0) + \delta_i^1 (U_{i+1}^1 - U_{i-1}^1) + \frac{n_i}{2h} (V_{i+1}^1 - V_{i-1}^0) - f_i^1,
\]

\[
S_{i+1}^1 \simeq \sigma_1 (U_{i+1}^1 - U_{i+1}^0) + \delta_{i+1}^1 (U_{i+1}^1 - 4U_i^1 + 3U_{i-1}^1) \tag{16}
\]
\[\begin{align*}
\rho_{i-1}^1 &\simeq \sigma_2(V_{i-1}^1 - V_{i-1}^0) + \frac{\xi_{i-1}^1}{2h} (V_{i-1}^1 - 3V_{i-1}^1) \\
&\quad + \frac{\xi_{i-1}^1}{2h} (4U_{i-1}^1 - 3U_{i-1}^1 - U_{i-1}^1) - g_{i-1}^1,
\rho_{i-1}^1 &\simeq \sigma_2(V_i^1 - V_i^0) + \frac{\xi_i^1}{2h} (V_i^1 - V_{i-1}^1) + \frac{\xi_i^1}{2h} (U_{i+1}^1 - U_{i-1}^1) - g_i^1,
\rho_{i+1}^1 &\simeq \sigma_2(V_{i+1}^1 - V_{i+1}^0) + \frac{\xi_{i+1}^1}{2h} (V_{i+1}^1 - 4V_i^1 + 3V_{i+1}^1) \\
&\quad + \frac{\xi_{i+1}^1}{2h} (U_{i+1}^1 - 4U_i^1 + 3U_{i+1}^1) - g_{i+1}^1,
\end{align*}\]

\[\begin{align*}
S_{i-1}^n &\simeq \sigma_1(U_{i-1}^n - \varphi_{n-1}^a U_{i-1}^0) + \sigma_1 \sum_{q=1}^{n-1} \left( \varphi_{n-q-1}^a - \varphi_{n-q}^a \right) U_{i-1}^q + \frac{\delta_{i-1}^n}{2h} \\
&\quad \times (-3U_{i-1}^n + 4U_i^n - U_{i+1}^n) + \frac{\eta_{i-1}^n}{2h} (-3V_{i-1}^n + 4V_i^n - V_{i+1}^n) - f_{i-1}^n,
S_{i+1}^n &\simeq \sigma_1(U_i^n - \varphi_{n-1}^a U_i^0) + \sigma_1 \sum_{q=1}^{n-1} \left( \varphi_{n-q-1}^a - \varphi_{n-q}^a \right) U_{i+1}^q \\
&\quad + \frac{\delta_{i+1}^n}{2h} (U_{i+1}^n - 4U_i^n + 3U_{i+1}^n) + \frac{\eta_{i+1}^n}{2h} (V_{i+1}^n - V_{i-1}^n) - f_{i+1}^n,
S_{i+1}^n &\simeq \sigma_1(U_{i+1}^n - \varphi_{n-1}^a U_{i+1}^0) + \sigma_1 \sum_{q=1}^{n-1} \left( \varphi_{n-q-1}^a - \varphi_{n-q}^a \right) U_{i+1}^q \\
&\quad + \frac{\delta_{i+1}^n}{2h} (U_{i+1}^n - 4U_i^n + 3U_{i+1}^n) + \frac{\eta_{i+1}^n}{2h} (V_{i+1}^n - V_{i-1}^n) - f_{i+1}^n,
\end{align*}\]

\[\begin{align*}
\rho_{i-1}^n &\simeq \sigma_2(V_{i-1}^n - \varphi_{n-1}^a V_{i-1}^0) + \sigma_2 \sum_{q=1}^{n-1} \left( \varphi_{n-q-1}^a - \varphi_{n-q}^a \right) V_{i-1}^q + \frac{\xi_{i-1}^n}{2h} \\
&\quad \times (-3V_{i-1}^n + 4V_i^n - V_{i+1}^n) + \frac{\epsilon_{i-1}^n}{2h} (-3U_{i-1}^n + 4U_i^n - U_{i+1}^n) - g_{i-1}^n,
\rho_{i+1}^n &\simeq \sigma_2(V_{i+1}^n - \varphi_{n-1}^a V_{i+1}^0) + \sigma_2 \sum_{q=1}^{n-1} \left( \varphi_{n-q-1}^a - \varphi_{n-q}^a \right) V_{i+1}^q \\
&\quad + \frac{\xi_{i+1}^n}{2h} (U_{i+1}^n - U_{i-1}^n) + \frac{\epsilon_{i+1}^n}{2h} (U_{i+1}^n - U_{i-1}^n) - g_{i+1}^n,
\end{align*}\]

where \( \delta_i^n = (V_i^n - 2U_i^n), \xi_i^n = (U_i^n - 2V_i^n), \eta_i^n = U_i^n, \) and \( \epsilon_i^n = V_i^n, \) \( i = 1, 2, \ldots, N. \)

Substituting Eqs. (15) to (18) into Eqs. (8) and (9), after slight rearrangement, yields the following systems:

\[\begin{align*}
A_1 U_{i-1}^1 + A_2 U_i^1 + A_3 U_{i+1}^1 + A_4 V_{i-1}^1 + A_5 V_i^1 + A_6 V_{i+1}^1 \\
= A_7 U_{i-1}^0 + A_8 U_i^0 + A_9 U_{i+1}^0 - \gamma f_{i-1}^1 - \beta f_i^1 - \gamma f_{i+1}^1,
\end{align*}\]

(19)
Remark 2 The local truncation errors (see [46]) $T = [T_{1i}, T_{2i}], i = 1, 2, \ldots, N$, can be written as follows:

\[
T_{1i} = (h^2 - 2\gamma + \beta) \frac{\partial^2 U_i^n}{\partial x^2} + \left( \frac{h^2}{12} - \gamma \right) h^2 \frac{\partial^4 U_i^n}{\partial x^4} + O(k^{2-\alpha_1} + h^6), 
\]

\[
T_{2i} = (h^2 - 2\gamma + \beta) \frac{\partial^2 V_i^n}{\partial x^2} + \left( \frac{h^2}{12} - \gamma \right) h^2 \frac{\partial^4 V_i^n}{\partial x^4} + O(k^{2-\alpha_2} + h^6).
\]
Equations (23) and (24) design two methods for choices of parameters $\beta$ and $\gamma$ as follows:
1. If $2\gamma + \beta = h^2$ and $\gamma \neq \frac{h^2}{12}$, then $T_{ji} = O(k^{2-\omega_2} + h^4), j = 1, 2$.
2. If $2\gamma + \beta = h^2$ and $\gamma = \frac{h^2}{12}$, then $T_{ji} = O(k^{2-\omega_2} + h^6), j = 1, 2$.

2.2 Convergence analysis
According to Remark 2, we have chosen $2\gamma + \beta = h^2$, where $\gamma = \frac{h^2}{12}$ and $\beta = \frac{5h^2}{6}$. Let us rewrite Eqs. (21) and (22) as follows:

$$QR = P,$$

where $R = [U, V]^T$, $U = [U_1^n, U_2^n, \ldots, U_N^n]^T$, $V = [V_1^n, V_2^n, \ldots, V_N^n]^T$ and a matrix $Q$ is given as a block matrix

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} Q_{11} & Q_{12} \\ Q_{21} & Q_{22} \end{bmatrix},$$

where

$$Q_{11} = Q_0 + h^2\sigma_1Q_1 + \frac{h}{2}Z_{\delta}, \quad Q_{12} = \frac{h}{2}Z_{\eta},$$

$$Q_{21} = \frac{h}{2}Z_{\xi}, \quad Q_{22} = Q_0 + h^2\sigma_1Q_1 + \frac{h}{2}Z_{\zeta},$$

and square matrices $Q_0, Q_1,$ and $Z_x, x = \delta, \eta, \xi, \zeta$ are given by

$$Q_0 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$Q_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -5/6 & -1/12 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ -1/12 & -5/6 & -1/12 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & -1/12 & -5/6 & -1/12 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & -1/12 & -5/6 & -1/12 \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -1/12 & -5/6 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$Z_{\delta} = \begin{bmatrix} 3x_{i-1}^{n+1} + 10x_i^n - x_{i+1}^n & 3x_{i+1}^{n+1} - 10x_i^n + x_{i-1}^n \\ 3x_{i-1}^{n+1} + 10x_i^n - x_{i+1}^n & 3x_{i+1}^{n+1} - 10x_i^n + x_{i-1}^n \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 3x_{i-1}^{n+1} + 10x_i^n - x_{i+1}^n & 3x_{i+1}^{n+1} - 10x_i^n + x_{i-1}^n \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$Z_{\eta} = \begin{bmatrix} 3x_{i-1}^{n+1} + 10x_i^n - x_{i+1}^n & 3x_{i+1}^{n+1} - 10x_i^n + x_{i-1}^n \\ 3x_{i-1}^{n+1} + 10x_i^n - x_{i+1}^n & 3x_{i+1}^{n+1} - 10x_i^n + x_{i-1}^n \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 3x_{i-1}^{n+1} + 10x_i^n - x_{i+1}^n & 3x_{i+1}^{n+1} - 10x_i^n + x_{i-1}^n \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$Z_{\xi} = \begin{bmatrix} 3x_{i-1}^{n+1} + 10x_i^n - x_{i+1}^n & 3x_{i+1}^{n+1} - 10x_i^n + x_{i-1}^n \\ 3x_{i-1}^{n+1} + 10x_i^n - x_{i+1}^n & 3x_{i+1}^{n+1} - 10x_i^n + x_{i-1}^n \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 3x_{i-1}^{n+1} + 10x_i^n - x_{i+1}^n & 3x_{i+1}^{n+1} - 10x_i^n + x_{i-1}^n \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$Z_{\zeta} = \begin{bmatrix} 3x_{i-1}^{n+1} + 10x_i^n - x_{i+1}^n & 3x_{i+1}^{n+1} - 10x_i^n + x_{i-1}^n \\ 3x_{i-1}^{n+1} + 10x_i^n - x_{i+1}^n & 3x_{i+1}^{n+1} - 10x_i^n + x_{i-1}^n \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 3x_{i-1}^{n+1} + 10x_i^n - x_{i+1}^n & 3x_{i+1}^{n+1} - 10x_i^n + x_{i-1}^n \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$
where following condition holds:

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
0 \\
0 \\
0 \\
\vdots
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
x_{n-1} - x_{n} \\
x_{n+1} - x_{n} \\
\frac{1}{12} x_{n+1} - x_{n} + 10 x_{n} - x_{n-1} \\
\frac{1}{12} x_{n+1} - x_{n} + 3 x_{n} - x_{n-1}
\end{bmatrix}, \quad x = \delta, \eta, \xi, \zeta.
\]

A matrix \( P = [P_1, P_2]^T \) where

\[
P_1 = \begin{cases}
A_7 U_0^0 + A_8 U_0^0 + A_2 U_2^0 - (\lambda_1)^0_1, & i = 1, \\
-\gamma f_0^0 - \beta f_1^0 - \gamma f_2^0 - A_1 U_0^0, & 1 < i < N, \\
A_7 U_{i-1}^0 + A_8 U_{i}^0 + A_2 U_{i+1}^0 - (\lambda_i)^0_1, & i = N.
\end{cases}
\]

\[
P_2 = \begin{cases}
A_7 V_0^0 + A_8 V_0^0 + A_2 V_2^0 - (\lambda_1)^0_1, & i = 1, \\
-\gamma f_0^0 - \beta f_1^0 - \gamma f_2^0 - A_1 V_0^0, & 1 < i < N, \\
A_7 V_{i-1}^0 + A_8 V_{i}^0 + A_2 V_{i+1}^0 - (\lambda_i)^0_1, & i = N.
\end{cases}
\]

Let \( \bar{U} = [u, v]^T, u = [u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_N]^T, \) and \( v = [v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_N]^T \) be the exact solutions of Eqs. (1) and (2) at nodal points \( x_i, i = 1, 2, \ldots, N, \) and then we have

\[
Q \bar{U} = P + T,
\]

where \( T = [T_{11}, T_{22}]^T \) is the local truncation error described in Remark 2. From Eqs. (25) and (27), we can write the error equation as follows:

\[
Q(\bar{U} - R) = QE = T,
\]

where \( E = [E_{11}, E_{22}]^T \) is the error of discretization with \( E_{1i} = u_i - U_i^0 \) and \( E_{2i} = v_i - V_i^0. \)

For sufficiently small step \( h, \) the diagonal blocks \( Q_{11} \) and \( Q_{22} \) are invertible and the following condition holds:

\[
\|Q_{12} Q_{22}^{-1}\|_\infty \|Q_{21} Q_{11}^{-1}\|_\infty < 1.
\]

According to [48], matrix \( Q \) is invertible. Moreover,

\[
\|Q^{-1}\|_\infty \leq \frac{\max\{\|Q_{11}\|_\infty, \|Q_{22}\|_\infty\}(1 + \|Q_{12} Q_{22}^{-1}\|_\infty)(1 + \|Q_{21} Q_{11}^{-1}\|_\infty))}{1 - \|Q_{12} Q_{22}^{-1}\|_\infty \|Q_{21} Q_{11}^{-1}\|_\infty},
\]

(29)
From Eq. (28) and norm inequalities, we have

\[ \| E \|_\infty \leq \| Q^{-1} \|_\infty \| T \|_\infty. \] (30)

Since

\[ \| T \|_\infty \leq \begin{cases} O(k^{2-\alpha} + h^2), & 2\gamma + \beta = h^2, \gamma \neq h^2/12, \\ O(k^{2-\alpha} + h^6), & 2\gamma + \beta = h^2, \gamma = h^2/12, \end{cases} \]

and from classifications of the matrices \( Q_{11}, Q_{12}, Q_{21}, \) and \( Q_{22} \) defined in Eq. (26), we have

\[ \| E \|_\infty \leq \begin{cases} O(k^{2-\alpha} + h^2), & 2\gamma + \beta = h^2, \gamma \neq h^2/12, \\ O(k^{2-\alpha} + h^6), & 2\gamma + \beta = h^2, \gamma = h^2/12. \end{cases} \] (31)

This shows that Eq. (25) is a second-order convergence method in the case \( 2\gamma + \beta = h^2, \gamma \neq h^2/12 \), and a fourth-order convergence method in the case \( 2\gamma + \beta = h^2, \gamma = h^2/12 \).

2.3 Stability analysis of the method

The stability analysis of the difference schemes listed in Eqs. (19) to (22) is discussed by assuming the nonlinear terms \( \delta^n_r \) and \( \eta^n_r, r = i-1, i, i+1 \), as local constants \( D \) and \( E \) respectively.

Let \( \tilde{U}_i^n \) and \( \tilde{V}_i^n \) be the approximate solutions of Eqs. (19) to (22) and define

\[ P_i^n = U_i^n - \tilde{U}_i^n, \quad Q_i^n = V_i^n - \tilde{V}_i^n, \quad i = 0, 1, \ldots, N + 1, n = 0, 1, \ldots, T. \]

With the above definition and regarding Eqs. (19) and (21), we can get the following round-off error equations:

\[ a_1 P_{i-1}^1 + a_2 P_i^1 + a_3 P_{i+1}^1 + a_4 Q_{i-1}^1 + a_5 Q_i^1 + a_6 Q_{i+1}^1 = a_7 P_{i-1}^0 + a_8 P_i^0 + a_7 P_{i+1}^0, \]

(32)

\[ a_1 P_{i-1}^0 + a_2 Q_i^0 + a_3 Q_{i+1}^0 + a_4 P_{i-1}^1 + a_5 Q_i^1 + a_6 P_{i+1}^1 = a_7 P_{i-1}^0 + a_8 P_i^0 + a_7 P_{i+1}^0 - \sigma_1 \sum_{q=1}^{n-1} (\psi_{n-q-1}^{\alpha_i} - \psi_{n-q}^{\alpha_i}) \{ \gamma (P_{i+1}^q + P_{i-1}^q) + \beta P_i^q \}. \]

(33)

where \( a_1 = 1 - \gamma \sigma_1 + \frac{D}{2h} (\beta + 2\gamma), \)

\( a_2 = -2 - \beta \sigma_1, \)

\( a_3 = 1 - \gamma \sigma_1 - \frac{D}{2h} (\beta + 2\gamma), \)

\( a_4 = \frac{E}{2h} (\beta + 2\gamma), \)

\( a_5 = 0, \)

\( a_6 = -\frac{E}{2h} (\beta + 2\gamma), \)

\( a_7 = -\gamma \sigma_1 \psi_{n-1}^{\alpha_i}, \)

and \( a_8 = -\beta \sigma_1 \psi_{n-1}^{\alpha_i}. \)

The Von Neumann method assumes that

\[ P_i^n = \varsigma_h e^{i \varphi_i}, \]

(34)

\[ Q_i^n = \varsigma_h e^{i \varphi_i}, \]

(35)

where \( I = \sqrt{-1}. \)
Substituting Eqs. (34) and (35) into Eq. (32), we get
\[
(a_1 e^{(i-1)_f b} + a_2 e^{i_f b} + a_3 e^{(i+1)_f b} + a_4 e^{(i-1)_f b} + a_5 e^{(i+1)_f b}) s_1 = (a_7 e^{(i-1)_f b} + a_8 e^{i_f b} + a_9 e^{(i+1)_f b}) s_0,
\]
after some algebraic manipulation, we have
\[
s_1 = \frac{\varphi}{\eta + I \psi} s_0,
\]
where \( \varphi = \sigma_1 (\beta + 2 \gamma \cos(\phi h)), \eta = 2(1 - \cos(\phi h)) + \varphi, \) and \( \psi = \frac{D I E}{1} (\beta + 2 \gamma) \sin(\phi h). \)

Using mathematical induction, we can prove that \(|s_n| \leq |s_0|\) as follows:

For \( n = 2, \)
\[
s_2 = \frac{\varphi}{\eta + I \psi} (\varphi_{n-1} s_0 + \sum_{q=1}^{n-1} (\varphi_{n-q-1} - \varphi_{n-q}) s_q) = \frac{\varphi}{\eta + I \psi} \varphi_{n-1} s_0 = \frac{\varphi}{\eta + I \psi} s_0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad |s_2| \leq |s_0|.
\]

Let \( k \in \mathbb{Z}_+ \), be given and suppose \(|s_n| \leq |s_0|\) is true for \( n = k \). Then
\[
s_{k+1} = \frac{\varphi}{\eta + I \psi} \left( \varphi_{k-1} s_0 + \sum_{q=1}^{k} (\varphi_{k-q} - \varphi_{k-q+1}) s_q \right).
\]
By Lemma 2, we have \( 0 < \varphi_{q+1} < \varphi_{q}, q = 0, 1, \ldots, \) and consequently \( (\varphi_{k-q} - \varphi_{k-q+1}) > 0. \) Thus
\[
|s_{k+1}| = \sqrt{\frac{\varphi^2}{\eta^2 + \psi^2} \left( \varphi_{k-1} |s_0| + \sum_{q=1}^{k} (\varphi_{k-q} - \varphi_{k-q+1}) |s_q| \right)}
\]
\[
\leq \varphi_{k-1} |s_0| + \sum_{q=1}^{k} (\varphi_{k-q} - \varphi_{k-q+1}) |s_q| \quad \text{(by induction hypothesis)}
\]
\[
= \left( \varphi_{k-1} + \sum_{q=1}^{k} (\varphi_{k-q} - \varphi_{k-q+1}) \right) |s_0| = \varphi_{k-1} |s_0| = |s_0|.
\]
The shifted Jacobi polynomial can be obtained with the following three-term recurrence:

\[ P_{\mu, \eta}^{(j, 0)}(x) = (a_j x - b_j) P_{\mu, \eta}^{(j, -1)}(x) - c_j P_{\mu, \eta}^{(j, -1)}(x), \quad j \geq 1, \]

with \( P_{\mu, \eta}^{(j, 0)}(x) = 1 \) and \( P_{\mu, \eta}^{(j, -1)}(x) = \frac{1}{j}(\mu + 2)x - (\eta + 1), \) where

\[ a_j = \frac{(2j + \mu + \eta + 1)(2j + \mu + \eta + 2)}{(j + 1)(j + \mu + \eta + 1)L}, \]
\[ b_j = \frac{(2j + \mu + \eta + 1)(2j^2 + (1 + \eta)(\mu + \eta) + 2j(\mu + \eta + 1))}{(j + 1)(j + \mu + \eta + 1)(2j + \mu + \eta)}, \]
\[ c_j = \frac{(2j + \mu + \eta + 2)(j + \mu)(j + \eta)}{(j + 1)(j + \mu + \eta + 1)(2j + \mu + \eta)}. \]

The analytic form of shifted Jacobi polynomial \( P_{\mu, \eta}^{(j, 0)}(x) \) is given by

\[ P_{\mu, \eta}^{(j, 0)}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{j} (-1)^{j-k} \frac{\Gamma(j + \eta + 1)\Gamma(j + k + \mu + \eta + 1)}{\Gamma(k + \eta + 1)\Gamma(j + \mu + \eta + 1)(j-k)!k!}x^k. \]

The values of the shifted Jacobi polynomials at the boundary points are given by

\[ P_{\mu, \eta}^{(j, 0)}(0) = (-1)^j \frac{\Gamma(j + \eta + 1)}{\Gamma(j + 1)\eta!}, \quad P_{\mu, \eta}^{(j, 0)}(L) = \frac{\Gamma(j + \mu + 1)}{\Gamma(j + \eta + 1)\mu!}. \]

Suppose that \( f(x) \) is a square-integrable function with respect to the shifted Jacobi weight function \( \omega_{\mu, \eta} \) on the interval \((0, L)\), then \( f(x) \) can be written in terms of \( P_{\mu, \eta}^{(j, 0)} \) as follows:

\[ f(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} a_j P_{\mu, \eta}^{(j, 0)}, \]
where
\[
a_j = \frac{1}{h_L^{(\mu,\eta)}} \int_0^L f(x) x_j^{(\mu,\eta)}(x) \omega_L^{(\mu,\eta)}(x) \, dx, \quad j = 0, 1, \ldots
\]

The shifted Jacobi–Gauss quadrature is used to approximate the previous integral as follows:
\[
\int_0^L f(x) x_j^{(\mu,\eta)}(x) \omega_L^{(\mu,\eta)}(x) \, dx = \sum_{k=0}^N \int (x_{\mu,\eta})^k \omega_{\mu,\eta}(x) f(x) \, dx,
\]
where \(x_{\mu,\eta}^{(\mu,\eta)} \) are the roots of the shifted Jacobi polynomial \( p_{\mu,\eta}^{(\mu,\eta)}(x) \) of degree \( N+1 \) and \( \omega_{\mu,\eta}^{(\mu,\eta)} \) are the corresponding Christoffel numbers
\[
\omega_{\mu,\eta}^{(\mu,\eta)} = \frac{L_{\mu+\eta+1}^1 \Gamma(N+\mu+2) \Gamma(N+\eta+2)}{(N+1)! \Gamma(N+\mu+\eta+2)(L - x_{\mu,\eta}^{(\mu,\eta)} \omega_{\mu,\eta}(x_{\mu,\eta}^{(\mu,\eta)}))^2},
\]

Now, if we approximate \( f(x) \) in Eq. (39) by the first \((N+1)\)-terms, then
\[
f(x) \simeq f_N(x) = \sum_{j=0}^N a_j p_{\mu,\eta}^{(\mu,\eta)}(x) = A^T \Psi_{\mu,\eta}(x),
\]
with \( A^T = [a_0 \ a_1 \ \cdots \ a_N] \) and \( \Psi_{\mu,\eta}(x) = [p_{\mu,\eta}^{(\mu,\eta)}(x) \ p_{\mu,\eta}^{(\mu,\eta)}(x) \ \cdots \ p_{\mu,\eta}^{(\mu,\eta)}(x)]^T \).

Similarly, in terms of the double shifted Jacobi polynomials, a function of two independent variables \( f(x,t) \) that is infinitely differentiable in \([0,L] \times [0,\tau]\) can be extended as follows:
\[
f(x,t) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} a_{ij} p_{\tau,j}^{(\mu,\eta)}(t) p_{\mu,\eta}^{(\mu,\eta)}(x),
\]
which can be approximated by the first \((M+1) \times (N+1)\) terms with the truncation error \( \sum_{i=M+1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=N+1}^{\infty} a_{ij} p_{\tau,j}^{(\mu,\eta)}(t) p_{\mu,\eta}^{(\mu,\eta)}(x) \) as follows:
\[
f(x,t) \simeq f_{M,N}(x,t) = \sum_{i=0}^{M} \sum_{j=0}^{N} a_{ij} p_{\tau,j}^{(\mu,\eta)}(t) p_{\mu,\eta}^{(\mu,\eta)}(x) = \Psi_{\mu,\eta}^T(t) A \Psi_{\mu,\eta}(x),
\]
with the coefficient matrix \( A \) given by
\[
A = \begin{bmatrix}
a_{00} & a_{01} & \cdots & a_{0N} \\
a_{10} & a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1N} \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
a_{M0} & a_{M1} & \cdots & a_{MN}
\end{bmatrix}
\]
Theorem 1 \([39]\) Let \(\Psi_{r,M}(t)\) be shifted Jacobi vector defined in Eq. (42), and let \(\alpha > 0\). Then

\[
D^\alpha_x \Psi_{r,M}(t) \simeq D_\alpha \Psi_{r,M}(t),
\]

where \(D_\alpha\) is the \((M+1) \times (M+1)\) operational matrix of derivatives of order \(\alpha\) in the Liouville–Caputo sense and is defined by

\[
D_\alpha = \begin{bmatrix}
0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
\vdots & \ddots & \cdots & \vdots \\
0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
d_\alpha(|\alpha|,0) & d_\alpha(|\alpha|,1) & \cdots & d_\alpha(|\alpha|,M) \\
\vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\
d_\alpha(i,0) & d_\alpha(i,1) & \cdots & d_\alpha(i,M) \\
\vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\
d_\alpha(M,0) & d_\alpha(M,1) & \cdots & d_\alpha(M,M)
\end{bmatrix}
\]

where \(|\alpha|\) is the floor function and

\[
d_\alpha(i,j) = \sum_{k=|\alpha|}^{j} \frac{(-1)^{j-k} \Gamma(j + \eta + 1) \Gamma(i + \eta + 1) \Gamma(i + \eta + 1) \Gamma(k + \eta + 1)}{\Gamma(k + \eta + 1) \Gamma(i + \eta + 1) \Gamma(i + \eta + 1) \Gamma(k - \alpha + 1)(i - k)!} \times \sum_{l=0}^{j} \frac{(-1)^{j-l} \Gamma(j + l + \mu + \eta + 1) \Gamma(\mu + 1) \Gamma(l + k + \eta - \alpha + 1)}{\Gamma(l + \eta + 1) \Gamma(l + k + \mu + \eta - \alpha + 2)(j - l)!}.
\]

Similarly, the fractional derivative \(\alpha\) of \(\Psi_{L,N}(x)\) can be expressed as in Eq. (45):

\[
D^\alpha_x \Psi_{L,N}(x) \simeq D_\alpha \Psi_{L,N}(x),
\]

where \(D_\alpha\) is the \((N+1) \times (N+1)\) operational matrix of derivatives of order \(\alpha\).
3.1 Time-fractional coupled Burgers’ equation

We are going to consider the time-fractional coupled Burgers’ Eqs. (1) and (2), which may be written as follows:

\[
\frac{\partial^{\alpha_1} u}{\partial t^{\alpha_1}} - \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + (v - 2u) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} - f(x, t) = 0, \quad 0 < \alpha_1 \leq 1, \quad (47)
\]

\[
\frac{\partial^{\alpha_2} v}{\partial t^{\alpha_2}} - \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + (u - 2v) \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - g(x, t) = 0, \quad 0 < \alpha_2 \leq 1
\]

(48)

with the initial-boundary conditions

\[
u(x, 0) = p(x), \quad v(x, 0) = q(x), \quad a \leq x \leq b
\]

\[
u(a, t) = f_1(t), \quad v(b, t) = f_2(t), \quad \nu(a, t) = g_1(t), \quad v(b, t) = g_2(t), \quad t > 0.
\]

Using Eq. (43), we approximate \(u(x, t), v(x, t), f(x, t),\) and \(g(x, t)\) as follows:

\[
u(x, t) \approx u_{MN}(x, t) = \Psi^T_{t,M}(t)U\Psi_{L,N}(x),
\]

\[
u(x, t) \approx v_{MN}(x, t) = \Psi^T_{t,M}(t)V\Psi_{L,N}(x),
\]

\[
u(x, t) \approx f_{MN}(x, t) = \Psi^T_{t,M}(t)A\Psi_{L,N}(x),
\]

\[
u(x, t) \approx g_{MN}(x, t) = \Psi^T_{t,M}(t)B\Psi_{L,N}(x),
\]

(49)

where \(U\) and \(V\) are unknown coefficients \((M + 1) \times (N + 1)\) matrices, while \(A\) and \(B\) are defined by Eq. (43), where

\[a_{ij} = \frac{1}{h_{t,M}^i} \frac{1}{h_{L,N}^j} \sum_{k=0}^M \sum_{\zeta=0}^N f(x_{G,L}^{(\mu,n)}, t_{G,T}^{(\mu,n)}) P_{t,i}^{(\mu,n)} P_{L,j}^{(\mu,n)} (x_{G,L}^{(\mu,n)} \omega_{G,T}^{(\mu,n)} \omega_{G,L}^{(\mu,n)},\]

\[b_{ij} = \frac{1}{h_{t,M}^i} \frac{1}{h_{L,N}^j} \sum_{k=0}^M \sum_{\zeta=0}^N g(x_{G,L}^{(\mu,n)}, t_{G,T}^{(\mu,n)}) P_{t,i}^{(\mu,n)} P_{L,j}^{(\mu,n)} (x_{G,L}^{(\mu,n)} \omega_{G,T}^{(\mu,n)} \omega_{G,L}^{(\mu,n)}.\]

Using Theorem 1, we have

\[
\frac{\partial^{\alpha_1} u(x, t)}{\partial t^{\alpha_1}} \approx \Psi^T_{t,M}(t)D_{a_1}^T \Psi_{L,N}(x),
\]

\[
\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x} \approx \Psi^T_{t,M}(t)UD_1 \Psi_{L,N}(x),
\]

\[
\frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial x^2} \approx \Psi^T_{t,M}(t)UD_2 \Psi_{L,N}(x),
\]

\[
\frac{\partial^{\alpha_2} v(x, t)}{\partial t^{\alpha_2}} \approx \Psi^T_{t,M}(t)D_{a_2}^T \Psi_{L,N}(x),
\]

\[
\frac{\partial v(x, t)}{\partial x} \approx \Psi^T_{t,M}(t)VD_1 \Psi_{L,N}(x),
\]

\[
\frac{\partial^2 v(x, t)}{\partial x^2} \approx \Psi^T_{t,M}(t)VD_2 \Psi_{L,N}(x).
\]

(50)
Substituting Eqs. (49) and (50) in Eqs. (47) and (48) and collocating at \((M + 1) \times (N - 1)\) points, we have

\[
\begin{align*}
\Psi^T_{t,M}(t_i)D^T_{A_{\Psi}}U\Psi_{L,N}(x_j) - \Psi^T_{t,M}(t_i)UD_2\Psi_{L,N}(x_j) \\
+ \left( \Psi^T_{t,M}(t_i)V\Psi_{L,N}(x_j) - 2\Psi^T_{t,M}(t_i)U\Psi_{L,N}(x_j) \right) \\
\times \left( \Psi^T_{t,M}(t_i)UD_1\Psi_{L,N}(x_j) - \Psi^T_{t,M}(t_i)A\Psi_{L,N}(x_j) \right) \\
+ \left( \Psi^T_{t,M}(t_i)U\Psi_{L,N}(x_j) \right) \left( \Psi^T_{t,M}(t_i)VD_1\Psi_{L,N}(x_j) \right) \simeq 0,
\end{align*}
\]

\[(51)\]

where \(x_j, j = 0, 1, \ldots, N - 2\), are the roots of shifted Jacobi polynomial \(P_{L,N-1}^{(\mu,\eta)}(x)\) of degree \(N - 1\) and \(t_i, i = 0, 1, \ldots, M\), are the roots of shifted Jacobi polynomial \(P_{t,M}^{(\mu,\eta)}(t)\) of degree \(M + 1\). System \((51)\) consists of \(2(M + 1) \times (N - 1)\) algebraic equations in the unknown coefficients \(u_{ij}\) and \(v_{ij}, i = 0, 1, \ldots, M, j = 0, 1, \ldots, N - 2\). Four additional equations are needed to obtain a unique solution for the resulting scheme. These are accomplished by the boundary conditions

\[
\begin{align*}
\Psi^T_{t,M}(t_i)U\Psi_{L,N}(0) &= f_1(t_i), \\
\Psi^T_{t,M}(t_i)U\Psi_{L,N}(L) &= f_2(t_i), \\
\Psi^T_{t,M}(t_i)V\Psi_{L,N}(0) &= g_1(t_i), \\
\Psi^T_{t,M}(t_i)V\Psi_{L,N}(L) &= g_2(t_i),
\end{align*}
\]

\[(52)\]

System \((51)\) can be combined with Eq. \((52)\) to form the system of \(2(M + 1)(N + 1)\) nonlinear algebraic equations in \(2(M + 1)(N + 1)\) undefined coefficients, which can be resolved using Newton's iterative approach. Consequently, \(u_{M,N}(x, t)\) and \(v_{M,N}(x, t)\) can be calculated by the formulae given in Eq. \((49)\).

The convergence and error analysis of the shifted Jacobi polynomial has been considered in \([50, 51]\). The Caputo fractional derivative of the shifted Jacobi polynomials satisfies the following estimate:

\[
|C^D\phi_{L,N}^{(\mu,\eta)}(x)| \leq C^{\mu + q},
\]

where \(C\) is a positive generic constant and \(q = \max\{\mu, \eta, -1/2\}\). \([50, \text{Theorem 3}]\) proved that the expansion coefficient \(a_{ij}\) in Eq. \((43)\) satisfies the following estimate:

\[
|a_{ij}| = O\left(t^{-5/2}j^{-5/2}\right) \quad \text{for all } i, j > 3.
\]

Finally, by \([51, \text{Theorem 3}]\), we find that the truncation error of solutions of Eqs. \((47)\) and \((48)\) obtained by shifted Jacobi polynomial satisfies the following estimates:

\[
\|u - u_{M,N}\|_2 = O(M^{-3/4}N^{-3/4}), \quad \|v - v_{M,N}\|_2 = O(M^{-3/4}N^{-3/4}).
\]
4 Numerical solutions

In this section, we discuss three numerical examples representing the time-fractional coupled Burgers equations to ensure the high accuracy and applicability of the suggested methods. We compute the $L_2$ and $L_\infty$ error norms by the following formulæ:

$$L_\infty = \max_{0 \leq j \leq N} |U(x_j, t) - u(x_j, t)|, \quad L_2 = \left( \frac{1}{h} \sum_{j=0}^{N} |U(x_j, t) - u(x_j, t)|^2 \right)^{1/2},$$

where

$$h = \max_{0 \leq j \leq N} (h_j : h_j = x_{j+1} - x_j).$$

The proposed methods are examined up to $\tau = 1$, where the time step-size of the first algorithm is $k = 1/512$. In all figures, sub-figures (a) and (b) represent the approximate solutions and absolute errors of the SJSCM, respectively, and sub-figures (c) and (d) represent the approximate solutions and absolute errors of the non-polynomial B-spline method, respectively.

**Example 1** Consider the system introduced in Eqs. (1) and (2) with initial-boundary conditions:

$$u(x, 0) = v(x, 0) = 0, \quad a \leq x \leq b$$

$$u(a, t) = v(a, t) = t^3 \sin(e^{-x}), \quad u(b, t) = v(b, t) = t^3 \sin(e^{-b}), \quad t > 0,$$

where

$$f(x, t) = \frac{3t^{3-\alpha_1} \sin(e^{-x})}{\Gamma(4-\alpha_1)} + t^3 e^{-2x} \sin(e^{-x}) - t^3 e^{-x} \cos(e^{-x}),$$

$$g(x, t) = \frac{3t^{3-\alpha_2} \sin(e^{-x})}{\Gamma(4-\alpha_2)} + t^3 e^{-2x} \sin(e^{-x}) - t^3 e^{-x} \cos(e^{-x}).$$

The exact solution of this problem is $u(x, t) = v(x, t) = t^3 \sin(e^{-x})$.

The $L_2$ and $L_\infty$ error norms and the approximation solutions and absolute error distributions of Example 1 are given in Tables 1 to 3 and Figs. 1 to 3, respectively, for suggested methods with $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.1, 0.4, 0.7$ for different values of $N$ on $[0,1] \times [0, 1]$. Tables 4 to 6 present the $L_2$ and $L_\infty$ error norms obtained while varying $N \in \{6, 8, 10, 12\}$, $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.2, 0.4, 0.6$ and $x \in [0, 3]$. Figures 4 to 6 display the graphs of approximate solution and absolute error for $u(x, t) = v(x, t)$ with $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, N = 12$ on $[0, 3] \times [0, 1]$.

| $N$  | SJSCM ($\mu = \eta = 0, M = N$) | Non-polynomial, $k = 1/512$ |
|------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|      | $L_2(U) = L_2(V)$ | $L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V)$ | $L_2(U) = L_2(V)$ | $L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V)$ |
| 6    | $5.1510654 \times 10^{-7}$ | $5.7880948 \times 10^{-7}$ | $2.422437 \times 10^{-6}$ | $3.370818 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| 8    | $7.01838 \times 10^{-9}$ | $9.006422 \times 10^{-9}$ | $9.61156 \times 10^{-7}$ | $1.334979 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| 10   | $4.531374 \times 10^{-10}$ | $6.070393 \times 10^{-10}$ | $4.964396 \times 10^{-7}$ | $6.874885 \times 10^{-7}$ |
| 12   | $1.6627626 \times 10^{-10}$ | $2.6921354 \times 10^{-10}$ | $3.126976 \times 10^{-7}$ | $4.317349 \times 10^{-7}$ |
Table 2: $L_2$ and $L_\infty$ error norms for $u(x, t) = v(x, t)$ of Example 1 when $0 \leq x \leq 1$, $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.4$

| $N$ | SJSCM ($\mu = \eta = 0, M = N$) | Non-polynomial, $k = 1/512$ |
|-----|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|     | $L_2(U) = L_2(V)$               | $L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V)$   | $L_2(U) = L_2(V)$               | $L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V)$   |
| 6   | $5.11073 \times 10^{-7}$        | $4.664657 \times 10^{-6}$     | $6.426346 \times 10^{-6}$       |
| 8   | $7.2802825 \times 10^{-9}$      | $3.26657 \times 10^{-6}$      | $4.48675 \times 10^{-6}$        |
| 10  | $2.0017725 \times 10^{-9}$      | $2.82207 \times 10^{-6}$      | $3.86984 \times 10^{-6}$        |
| 12  | $5.450265 \times 10^{-11}$      | $2.64634 \times 10^{-6}$      | $3.625546 \times 10^{-6}$       |

Table 3: $L_2$ and $L_\infty$ error norms for $u(x, t) = v(x, t)$ of Example 1 when $0 \leq x \leq 1$, $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.7$

| $N$ | SJSCM ($\mu = \eta = 0, M = N$) | Non-polynomial, $k = 1/512$ |
|-----|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|     | $L_2(U) = L_2(V)$               | $L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V)$   | $L_2(U) = L_2(V)$               | $L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V)$   |
| 6   | $5.241454 \times 10^{-7}$        | $2.979 \times 10^{-5}$        | $4.06772 \times 10^{-5}$        |
| 8   | $3.827265 \times 10^{-8}$        | $2.84745 \times 10^{-5}$      | $3.89513 \times 10^{-5}$        |
| 10  | $1.167764 \times 10^{-8}$        | $2.80562 \times 10^{-5}$      | $3.83997 \times 10^{-5}$        |
| 12  | $9.377883 \times 10^{-9}$        | $2.789 \times 10^{-5}$        | $3.81738 \times 10^{-5}$        |

Figure 1: (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 1 at $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.1$, $N = 12$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$.

Figure 2: (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 1 at $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.4$, $N = 12$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$.

Figure 3: (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 1 at $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.7$, $N = 12$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$. 
Table 4 \(L_2\) and \(L_\infty\) error norms for \(u(x, t) = v(x, t)\) of Example 1 when \(0 \leq x \leq 3\), \(\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.2\)

| \(N\) | SJSCM (\(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N\)) | Non-polynomial, \(k = 1/512\) |
|-------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|       | \(L_2(U) = L_2(V)\) | \(L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V)\) | \(L_2(U) = L_2(V)\) | \(L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V)\) |
| 6     | \(5.114284 \times 10^{-4}\) | \(4.290808 \times 10^{-4}\) | \(4.2199 \times 10^{-4}\) | \(3.8868 \times 10^{-4}\) |
| 8     | \(9.309391 \times 10^{-6}\) | \(6.397994 \times 10^{-6}\) | \(1.56385 \times 10^{-4}\) | \(1.51978 \times 10^{-4}\) |
| 10    | \(5.227724 \times 10^{-7}\) | \(3.66521 \times 10^{-7}\) | \(7.1066 \times 10^{-5}\) | \(6.84438 \times 10^{-5}\) |
| 12    | \(5.068916 \times 10^{-8}\) | \(3.5408358 \times 10^{-8}\) | \(3.72193 \times 10^{-5}\) | \(3.57879 \times 10^{-5}\) |

Table 5 \(L_2\) and \(L_\infty\) error norms for \(u(x, t) = v(x, t)\) of Example 1 when \(0 \leq x \leq 3\), \(\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.4\)

| \(N\) | SJSCM (\(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N\)) | Non-polynomial, \(k = 1/512\) |
|-------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|       | \(L_2(U) = L_2(V)\) | \(L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V)\) | \(L_2(U) = L_2(V)\) | \(L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V)\) |
| 6     | \(4.9796269 \times 10^{-4}\) | \(4.182894 \times 10^{-4}\) | \(3.83958 \times 10^{-4}\) | \(3.6628 \times 10^{-4}\) |
| 8     | \(9.129036 \times 10^{-6}\) | \(6.416412 \times 10^{-6}\) | \(1.47293 \times 10^{-4}\) | \(1.44863 \times 10^{-4}\) |
| 10    | \(5.17690046 \times 10^{-7}\) | \(3.590876 \times 10^{-7}\) | \(7.12879 \times 10^{-5}\) | \(6.89816 \times 10^{-5}\) |
| 12    | \(5.026794 \times 10^{-8}\) | \(3.5125245 \times 10^{-8}\) | \(4.1178 \times 10^{-5}\) | \(3.911 \times 10^{-5}\) |

Table 6 \(L_2\) and \(L_\infty\) error norms for \(u(x, t) = v(x, t)\) of Example 1 when \(0 \leq x \leq 3\), \(\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.6\)

| \(N\) | SJSCM (\(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N\)) | Non-polynomial, \(k = 1/512\) |
|-------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|       | \(L_2(U) = L_2(V)\) | \(L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V)\) | \(L_2(U) = L_2(V)\) | \(L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V)\) |
| 6     | \(4.832349 \times 10^{-4}\) | \(4.146606 \times 10^{-4}\) | \(3.74639 \times 10^{-4}\) | \(3.6251 \times 10^{-4}\) |
| 8     | \(8.526735 \times 10^{-6}\) | \(6.440879 \times 10^{-6}\) | \(1.67084 \times 10^{-4}\) | \(1.6139 \times 10^{-4}\) |
| 10    | \(5.114513 \times 10^{-7}\) | \(3.48196 \times 10^{-7}\) | \(1.008135 \times 10^{-4}\) | \(9.1704 \times 10^{-5}\) |
| 12    | \(4.97548 \times 10^{-8}\) | \(3.6180436 \times 10^{-8}\) | \(7.48392 \times 10^{-5}\) | \(6.659 \times 10^{-5}\) |

Figure 4 (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 1 at \(\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.2\), \(N = 12\), \(0 \leq x \leq 3\)

Figure 5 (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 1 at \(\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.4\), \(N = 12\), \(0 \leq x \leq 3\)
Consider Eqs. (1) and (2) with initial-boundary conditions:

**Example 2** Consider Eqs. (1) and (2) with initial-boundary conditions:

\[ u(x, 0) = v(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1 \]

\[ u(a, t) = v(a, t) = \frac{t^3}{e^a + 2}, \quad u(b, t) = \frac{t^3}{e^b + 2}, \quad t > 0, \]

where

\[ f(x, t) = \frac{3t^3 e^{-\alpha_1} \sin(e^{-x})}{(e^{-x} + 2)^3} - \frac{2t^3 e^{-2x}}{(e^{-x} + 2)^3} + \frac{t^3 e^{-x}}{(e^{-x} + 2)^3}, \]

\[ g(x, t) = \frac{3t^3 e^{-\alpha_2} \sin(e^{-x})}{(e^{-x} + 2)^3} - \frac{2t^3 e^{-2x}}{(e^{-x} + 2)^3} + \frac{t^3 e^{-x}}{(e^{-x} + 2)^3}. \]

The exact solutions of this problem are \( u(x, t) = v(x, t) = \frac{t^3}{e^{\alpha_1} + 2}. \)

Example 2 is solved by the presented methods for two sets of parameters: \( \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.01, 0.1, 0.5 \) on \([0, 1] \times [0, 1]\) and \( \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.05, 0.2, 0.4 \) on \([0, 3] \times [0, 1]\). Tables 7 to 9 list the \( L_2 \) and \( L_\infty \) error norms, and Figs. 7 to 9 illustrate the approximate solutions and the absolute errors of suggested methods for the first set of parameters. Results achieved by the established methods with respect to the second set of parameters are shown in Tables 10.
Table 9 \( L_2 \) and \( L_\infty \) error norms for \( u(x, t) = v(x, t) \) of Example 2 when \( 0 \leq x \leq 1, \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.5 \)

| \( N \) | SJSCM (\( \mu = \eta = 0, M = N \)) | Non-polynomial, \( k = 1/512 \) |
|---|---|---|
| 5 | \( 6.44889 \times 10^{-8} \) | \( 3.74912 \times 10^{-6} \) |
| 7 | \( 1.38115 \times 10^{-8} \) | \( 3.73579 \times 10^{-6} \) |
| 9 | \( 2.63339 \times 10^{-9} \) | \( 3.732156 \times 10^{-6} \) |
| 11 | \( 6.20399 \times 10^{-9} \) | \( 3.70849 \times 10^{-6} \) |

Figure 7 (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 2 at \( \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.01, N = 11, 0 \leq x \leq 1 \)

Figure 8 (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 2 at \( \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.1, N = 11, 0 \leq x \leq 1 \)

Figure 9 (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 2 at \( \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.5, N = 11, 0 \leq x \leq 1 \)

It is remarkable that in Example 2 the approximate solutions obtained using SJSCM and the non-polynomial B-spline method are more accurate than those obtained using the method in [27].

A comparison between the maximum absolute errors \( (L_\infty) \) obtained via the proposed methods with the corresponding results obtained in [27] is displayed in Tables 13 and 14.
Table 10 \( L_2 \) and \( L_{\infty} \) error norms for \( u(x,t) = v(x,t) \) of Example 2 when \( 0 \leq x \leq 3, \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.05 \)

| \( N \) | \( L_2(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N) \) | \( L_{\infty}(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N) \) | \( L_2(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N) \) | \( L_{\infty}(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N) \) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 2.75698 \times 10^{-5} | 2.13309 \times 10^{-5} | 4.007281 \times 10^{-6} | 3.53822 \times 10^{-6} |
| 7 | 1.077029 \times 10^{-6} | 8.115332 \times 10^{-7} | 1.10546 \times 10^{-6} | 9.276 \times 10^{-7} |
| 9 | 1.494298 \times 10^{-8} | 1.051348 \times 10^{-8} | 3.629646 \times 10^{-7} | 3.80652 \times 10^{-7} |
| 11 | 9.744539 \times 10^{-10} | 7.271968 \times 10^{-10} | 2.095027 \times 10^{-7} | 2.551637 \times 10^{-7} |

Table 11 \( L_2 \) and \( L_{\infty} \) error norms for \( u(x,t) = v(x,t) \) of Example 2 when \( 0 \leq x \leq 3, \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.2 \)

| \( N \) | \( L_2(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N) \) | \( L_{\infty}(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N) \) | \( L_2(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N) \) | \( L_{\infty}(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N) \) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 2.7154 \times 10^{-5} | 2.1068 \times 10^{-5} | 2.548224 \times 10^{-6} | 2.953777 \times 10^{-6} |
| 7 | 1.061264 \times 10^{-6} | 8.12598 \times 10^{-7} | 1.899158 \times 10^{-6} | 1.637765 \times 10^{-6} |
| 9 | 1.5098 \times 10^{-8} | 1.481109 \times 10^{-8} | 2.294514 \times 10^{-6} | 1.62347 \times 10^{-6} |
| 11 | 1.919235 \times 10^{-9} | 1.45927 \times 10^{-9} | 2.471077 \times 10^{-6} | 1.83265 \times 10^{-6} |

Table 12 \( L_2 \) and \( L_{\infty} \) error norms for \( u(x,t) = v(x,t) \) of Example 2 when \( 0 \leq x \leq 3, \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.4 \)

| \( N \) | \( L_2(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N) \) | \( L_{\infty}(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N) \) | \( L_2(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N) \) | \( L_{\infty}(\mu = \eta = 0, M = N) \) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 2.63747 \times 10^{-5} | 2.047483 \times 10^{-5} | 1.32849 \times 10^{-5} | 9.403099 \times 10^{-6} |
| 7 | 1.039717 \times 10^{-6} | 8.2290569 \times 10^{-7} | 1.492744 \times 10^{-5} | 1.113938 \times 10^{-5} |
| 9 | 3.426634 \times 10^{-8} | 3.481245 \times 10^{-8} | 1.539241 \times 10^{-5} | 1.17148 \times 10^{-5} |
| 11 | 4.1872258 \times 10^{-9} | 3.043468 \times 10^{-9} | 1.555968 \times 10^{-6} | 1.1919 \times 10^{-5} |

Figure 10 (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 2 at \( \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.05, N = 11, 0 \leq x \leq 3 \)

Figure 11 (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 2 at \( \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.2, N = 11, 0 \leq x \leq 3 \)
Figure 12 (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 2 at $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.4$, $N = 11$, $0 \leq x \leq 3$.

Table 13 $L_\infty$ error norm for $u(x, t) = v(x, t)$ of Example 2 with $0 \leq x \leq 3$, $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.4$, $N = 5$ and $\mu = \eta = 0$

| $\tau$  | Non-polynomial | TQF [27, Table 1] | FDM [27, Table 1] |
|---------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1/64    | $3.14429 \times 10^{-4}$ | $1.62969572 \times 10^{-3}$ | $1.58537183 \times 10^{-2}$ |
| 1/128   | $1.04448 \times 10^{-4}$ | $4.07935306 \times 10^{-4}$ | $5.42638453 \times 10^{-3}$ |
| 1/256   | $3.30541 \times 10^{-5}$ | $9.40924121 \times 10^{-5}$ | $1.82754471 \times 10^{-3}$ |
| 1/512   | $9.4031 \times 10^{-6}$ | $1.58381076 \times 10^{-5}$ | $6.04886113 \times 10^{-4}$ |

Table 14 $L_\infty$ error norm for $u(x, t) = v(x, t)$ of Example 2 with $0 \leq x \leq 3$, $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.4$ and $\mu = \eta = 0$

| $N$ | SJSCM ($M = N$) | TQF ($\tau = 1/128$) [27, Table 2] | FDM ($\tau = 1/128$) [27, Table 2] |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3   | $1.414476 \times 10^{-4}$ | $3.21997018 \times 10^{-4}$ | $3.02999632 \times 10^{-3}$ |
| 4   | $1.83386 \times 10^{-4}$ | $2.32880457 \times 10^{-4}$ | $2.48938916 \times 10^{-3}$ |
| 5   | $2.04748 \times 10^{-5}$ | $1.24955778 \times 10^{-4}$ | $1.51170703 \times 10^{-3}$ |
| 7   | $8.229057 \times 10^{-7}$ | $1.24955778 \times 10^{-4}$ | $1.51170703 \times 10^{-3}$ |

Example 3 Finally, consider Eqs. (1) and (2) with the initial-boundary conditions:

$$u(x, 0) = v(x, 0) = 0, \quad a \leq x \leq b$$
$$u(a, t) = v(a, t) = t^6e^{-a}, \quad u(b, t) = t^6e^{-b}, \quad t > 0,$$

where

$$f(x, t) = \frac{6t^{6-\alpha_1}e^{-x}}{\Gamma(7-\alpha_1)} - t^6e^{-x};$$
$$g(x, t) = \frac{6t^{6-\alpha_2}e^{-x}}{\Gamma(7-\alpha_2)} - t^6e^{-x}.$$ 

The exact solutions of Eqs. (1) and (2) are $u(x, t) = v(x, t) = t^6e^{-x}$.

Example 3 is solved by both suggested algorithms in two space intervals, firstly, when $x \in [0, 3]$ and $t = 1$. Tables 15 to 17 exhibit the $L_2$ and $L_\infty$ error norms for $u(x, t) = v(x, t)$ at $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.01, 0.1, \text{and} 0.5$ with the various choices of $N$. We can see that the proposed method’s numerical results achieve greater precision as the number of grid points in both space and time directions increases. Figures 13 to 15 show the graphical results of numerical solutions and absolute error distributions for $u(x, t) = v(x, t)$ at $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.01, 0.1, 0.5$. 

Figure 13 (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 2 at $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.4$, $N = 11$, $0 \leq x \leq 3$. 

Table 15 $L_2$ error norm for $u(x, t) = v(x, t)$ of Example 2 with $0 \leq x \leq 3$, $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.4$, $N = 5$ and $\mu = \eta = 0$

| $\tau$  | Non-polynomial | TQF [27, Table 1] | FDM [27, Table 1] |
|---------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1/64    | $3.14429 \times 10^{-4}$ | $1.62969572 \times 10^{-3}$ | $1.58537183 \times 10^{-2}$ |
| 1/128   | $1.04448 \times 10^{-4}$ | $4.07935306 \times 10^{-4}$ | $5.42638453 \times 10^{-3}$ |
| 1/256   | $3.30541 \times 10^{-5}$ | $9.40924121 \times 10^{-5}$ | $1.82754471 \times 10^{-3}$ |
| 1/512   | $9.4031 \times 10^{-6}$ | $1.58381076 \times 10^{-5}$ | $6.04886113 \times 10^{-4}$ |
errors distributions are shown in Figs. 16 to 18.

Secondly, when \( x \in [0, 1] \) and \( t = 1 \) the \( L_2 \) and \( L_\infty \) error norms at \( \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.2, 0.4, \) and 0.5 are reported in Tables 18 to 20, and the corresponding graphical solutions and absolute errors distributions are shown in Figs. 16 to 18.
Figure 15 (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 3 at \( \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.5 \), \( 0 \leq x \leq 3 \).

Table 18 \( L_2 \) and \( L_\infty \) error norms for \( u(x, t) = v(x, t) \) of Example 3 when \( 0 \leq x \leq 1 \), \( \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.2 \)

| \( N \) | \( L_2(U) = L_2(V) \) | \( L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V) \) | \( L_2(U) = L_2(V) \) | \( L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V) \) |
|-------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 5     | 1.524323 \times 10^{-5} | 1.884563 \times 10^{-5} | 6 | 1.880435 \times 10^{-6} | 2.5662615 \times 10^{-6} |
| 6     | 1.3191225 \times 10^{-8} | 1.645444 \times 10^{-8} | 8 | 1.935247 \times 10^{-6} | 2.6462824 \times 10^{-6} |
| 8     | 1.5476466 \times 10^{-10} | 1.983014 \times 10^{-10} | 10 | 1.952716 \times 10^{-6} | 2.670859 \times 10^{-6} |
| 10    | 9.0724022 \times 10^{-12} | 1.141775 \times 10^{-11} | 12 | 1.190652 \times 10^{-6} | 2.679572 \times 10^{-6} |

Table 19 \( L_2 \) and \( L_\infty \) error norms for \( u(x, t) = v(x, t) \) of Example 3 when \( 0 \leq x \leq 1 \), \( \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.4 \)

| \( N \) | \( L_2(U) = L_2(V) \) | \( L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V) \) | \( L_2(U) = L_2(V) \) | \( L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V) \) |
|-------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 5     | 4.948996 \times 10^{-5} | 6.13079 \times 10^{-5} | 6 | 1.21657 \times 10^{-5} | 1.66207 \times 10^{-5} |
| 6     | 1.247094 \times 10^{-8} | 1.542544 \times 10^{-8} | 8 | 1.21657 \times 10^{-5} | 1.66207 \times 10^{-5} |
| 8     | 3.80395 \times 10^{-11} | 5.983358 \times 10^{-11} | 10 | 1.21657 \times 10^{-5} | 1.66207 \times 10^{-5} |
| 10    | 1.830749 \times 10^{-11} | 2.80379 \times 10^{-11} | 12 | 1.21657 \times 10^{-5} | 1.66207 \times 10^{-5} |

Table 20 \( L_2 \) and \( L_\infty \) error norms for \( u(x, t) = v(x, t) \) of Example 3 when \( 0 \leq x \leq 1 \), \( \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.6 \)

| \( N \) | \( L_2(U) = L_2(V) \) | \( L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V) \) | \( L_2(U) = L_2(V) \) | \( L_\infty(U) = L_\infty(V) \) |
|-------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 5     | 1.0633419 \times 10^{-4} | 1.32559 \times 10^{-4} | 6 | 6.033058 \times 10^{-5} | 8.22097 \times 10^{-5} |
| 6     | 1.342882 \times 10^{-8} | 1.3744817 \times 10^{-8} | 8 | 6.03903 \times 10^{-5} | 8.24068 \times 10^{-5} |
| 8     | 6.013554 \times 10^{-10} | 8.475583 \times 10^{-10} | 10 | 6.040936 \times 10^{-5} | 8.24265 \times 10^{-5} |
| 10    | 3.003675 \times 10^{-11} | 4.244149 \times 10^{-11} | 12 | 6.041691 \times 10^{-5} | 8.23957 \times 10^{-5} |

Figure 16 (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 3 at \( \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.2 \), \( 0 \leq x \leq 1 \).

Note: The computations associated with the experiments discussed above were performed in Wolfram Mathematica 12.2 on a PC with Windows 64-bit OS + processor Intel Core i7 \( \sim 2.4 \) GHz. The time taken to execute the non-polynomial algorithm is 14.3906 seconds.
Figure 17 (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 3 at $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.4$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$.

Figure 18 (a) and (b) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using SJSCM. (c) and (d) represent approximate solution and absolute error distribution, respectively, using the non-polynomial B-spline method of Example 3 at $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0.6$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$.

Sec., 29.2656 Sec., and 29.7344 Sec. at $N = 5$, $N = 9$, and $N = 11$, respectively, for SJSCM the time is 1.1875 Sec., 24.75 Sec., and 77.2813 Sec. at $N = 5$, $N = 9$, and $N = 11$, respectively.

5 Conclusion

In this paper, we solved the coupled TFBEs by two different methods. Firstly, we developed the non-polynomial B-spline method based on L1-formula to approximate the Liouville–Caputo time-fractional derivative. The study of stability using the Von Neumann method showed that the scheme is unconditionally stable. Secondly, we applied the shifted Jacobi spectral collocation method based on the operational matrix of fractional derivatives in the Liouville–Caputo sense with the aid of Jacobi–Gauss quadrature. From the tables and figures introduced in Sect. 4, it is clear that the SJSCM is more accurate and stable than the non-polynomial B-spline method for all different values $\alpha_1$, $\alpha_2$, and $N$. We also note that the accuracy of the non-polynomial B-spline method increases whenever the value of $\alpha_1$ and $\alpha_2$ decreases. The validity is tested by solving three problems of the presented methods. The elicited results confirm the high precision of the methods presented.

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Abbreviations

NLTFBEs, Nonlinear time-fractional Burgers’ equations; NLSTFBEs, Nonlinear space- and time-fractional Burgers’ equations; SJSCM, Shifted Jacobi spectral collocation method.

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Author details
1 Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Faculty of Science, Menoufia University, Shebeen El-Koom, Egypt. 2 Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Victoria, Victoria, British Columbia V8W 3P4, Canada. 3 Department of Medical Research, China Medical University Hospital, China Medical University, Taichung 40402, Taiwan, Republic of China. 4 Department of Mathematics and Informatics, Azerbaijan University, 71 Jeyhun Hajibeyli Street, AZ1007 Baku, Azerbaijan. 5 Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Ibb University, Ibb, Yemen.

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