# Numerical studies for solving system of linear fractional integro-differential equations by using least squares method and shifted Chebyshev polynomials 

Amr M. S. Mahdy ${ }^{1}$ and Emad M. H. Mohamed ${ }^{2}$<br>${ }^{1}$ Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Zagazig University, Zagazig, Egypt<br>${ }^{2}$ Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Alazhar University, Nasr City, 11884 Egypt

Received: 5 June 2016, Accepted: 9 July 2016
Published online: 27 July 2016.


#### Abstract

In this paper, a new numerical method for solving a linear system of fractional integro-differential equations is presented. The fractional derivative is considered in the Caputo sense. The proposed method is least squares method aid of shifted Chebyshev polynomials of the third kind. The suggested method reduces this type of systems to the solution of system of linear algebraic equations. To demonstrate the accuracy and applicability of the presented method some test examples are provided. Numerical results show that this approach is easy to implement and accurate when applied to integro-differential equations. We show that the solutions approach to classical solutions as the order of the fractional derivatives approach.


Keywords: Linear system of fractional Fredholm integro-differential equations; Caputo fractional derivative; Least squares method; Chebyshev Polynomials.

## 1 Introduction

Many problems can be models by fractional integro-differential equations from various sciences and engineering applications [12]. Furthermore most problems cannot be solved analytically, and hence finding good approximate solutions, using numerical methods, will be very helpful. Recently, several numerical methods to solve system of fractional differential equations (SFDEs) and fractional integro-differential equations (FIDEs) have been given. The authors in ([3], [21]) applied collocation method for solving the following: nonlinear fractional Langevin equation involving two fractional orders in different intervals and fractional Fredholm integro-differential equations. Chebyshev polynomials method is introduced in ([4], [5], [7]) for solving multi-term fractional orders differential equations and nonlinear Volterra and Fredholm integro-differential equations of fractional order, respectively. The authors in [8] applied variational iteration method for solving fractional integro-differential equations with the nonlocal boundary conditions. Adomian decomposition method is introduced in ([9], [11], [15], [16]) to solve fractional integro-differential equations. References ([13], [14]) used homotopy perturbation method for solving nonlinear Fredholm integro-differential equations of fractional order and system of linear Fredholm fractional integro-differential equations. Taylor series method is introduced in [1] for solving linear fractional integro-differential equations of Volterra type. In [23] numerical solution of fractional integro-differential equations by least squares method and shifted Laguerre polynomials pseudo-spectral method. Considerable attention has been given to the solutions of fractional differential equations (FDEs) and integral equations of physical interest ([2], [8], [10], [16], [20]). Most non-linear FDEs do not have exact analytic solutions, so approximate and numerical techniques ([17]-[19]) must be used. Many mathematical

[^0]problems in science and engineering are set in unbounded domains. There is a need to consider practical design and implementation issues in scientific computing for reliable and efficient solutions of these problems. Several numerical methods to solve the FDEs have been given such as variational iteration method [8], homotopy perturbation method ([13], [18]) and homotopy analysis method [6].

In this paper, least squares method with aid of shifted Chebyshev polynomials of the third kind method is applied to solving system of fractional integro-differential equations. Least squares method has been studied in [22].

In this paper, we present numerical solution of the system of integro-differential equation with fractional derivative of the type [16]:

$$
\begin{equation*}
D^{\alpha} y_{i}(x)=f_{i}(x)+\int_{0}^{1} k_{i}(x, t)\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_{i k} y_{k}(t)\right) d t, \quad i=1,2, \cdots, n, \quad 0 \leq x, t \leq 1 \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

with initial conditions

$$
y_{i}^{(j)}\left(x_{0}\right)=y_{i j} \quad i=1,2, \cdots, n
$$

where $D^{\alpha} y_{i}(x)$ indicates the $\alpha$ th Caputo fractional derivative of $y_{i}(x) \cdot f_{i}(x)$ and $k_{i}(x, t)$ are given functions, $x, t$ are real varying in the interval $[0,1]$ and $y_{i}(x)$ is the unknown functions to be determined.

## 2 Preliminaries and notations

In this section, we present some necessary definitions and mathematical preliminaries of the fractional calculus theory required for our subsequent development.

Definition 1.The Caputo fractional derivative operator $D^{v}$ of order $v$ is defined in the following form:

$$
D^{v} f(x)=\frac{1}{\Gamma(m-v)} \int_{0}^{x} \frac{f^{(m)}(t)}{(x-t)^{v-m+1}} d t, \quad x>0
$$

where, $\quad m-1<v \leq m, \quad m \in \mathbb{N}$.
Similar to integer-order differentiation, Caputo fractional derivative operator is a linear operation:

$$
D^{v}(\lambda f(x)+\mu g(x))=\lambda D^{v} f(x)+\mu D^{v} g(x)
$$

where, $\lambda$ and $\mu$ are constants. For the Caputo's derivative we have [12]:

$$
\begin{gather*}
D^{v} C=0, \quad C \text { is a constant, }  \tag{2}\\
D^{v} x^{n}= \begin{cases}0, & \text { for } n \in \mathbb{N}_{0} \text { and } n<\ulcorner v\urcorner ; \\
\frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{\Gamma(n+1-v)} x^{n-v} & \text { for } n \in \mathbb{N}_{0} \text { and } n \geq\ulcorner v\urcorner .\end{cases} \tag{3}
\end{gather*}
$$

We use the ceiling function $\ulcorner v\urcorner$ to denote the smallest integer greater than or equal to $v$, and $\mathbb{N}_{0}=\{0,1,2, \cdots\}$. Recall that for $v \in \mathbb{N}$, the Caputo differential operator coincides with the usual differential operator of integer order.

## 3 Some properties of Chebyshev polynomials of the third kind

### 3.1 Chebyshev polynomials of the third kind

The Chebyshev polynomials $V_{n}(x)$ of the third kind are orthogonal polynomials of degree $n$ in $x$ defined on the interval [-1, 1] [19],

$$
V_{n}=\frac{\cos \left(n+\frac{1}{2}\right) \Theta}{\cos \left(\frac{\Theta}{2}\right)}
$$

where, $x=\cos \Theta$ and $\Theta \in[0, \pi]$. They can be obtained explicitly using the Jacobi polynomials $P_{k}^{(\alpha, \beta)}(x)$, for the special case $\beta=-\alpha=\frac{1}{2}$. These are given by:

$$
\begin{equation*}
V_{k}(x)=\frac{2^{2 k} P_{k}^{(-1 / 2,1 / 2)}(x)(\Gamma(k+1))^{2}}{\Gamma(2 k+1)} \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

Also, these polynomials $V_{n}(x)$ are orthogonal on $[-1,1]$ with respect to the inner product:

$$
\left\langle V_{n}(x), V_{m}(x)\right\rangle=\int_{0}^{1} \sqrt{\frac{1+x}{1-x}} V_{n}(x) V_{m}(x) d x= \begin{cases}\pi, & \text { for } n=m  \tag{5}\\ 0, & \text { for } n \neq m\end{cases}
$$

where $\sqrt{\frac{1+x}{1-x}}$ is a weight function corresponding to $V_{n}(x)$. The polynomials $V_{n}(x)$ may be generated by using the recurrence relations

$$
V_{n+1}(x)=2 x V_{n}(x)-V_{n-1}(x), \quad V_{0}(x)=1, \quad V_{1}(x)=2 x-1, \quad n=1,2, \cdots .
$$

The analytical form of the Chebyshev polynomials of the third kind $V_{n}(x)$ of degree n , using Eq.(4) and properties of Jacobi polynomials are given as:

$$
\begin{equation*}
V_{n}(x)=\sum_{k=0}^{\left[\frac{2 n+1}{2}\right]}(-1)^{k}(2)^{n-k} \frac{(2 n+1) \Gamma(2 n-k+1)}{\Gamma(k+1) \Gamma(2 n-2 k+2)}(x+1)^{n-k}, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}^{+} \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\left[\frac{2 n+1}{2}\right]$ denotes the integer part of $\frac{(2 n+1)}{2}$.

### 3.2 The shifted Chebyshev polynomials of the third kind

In order to use these polynomials on the interval $[0,1]$, we define the so called shifted Chebyshev polynomials of the third kind by introducing the change of variable $s=2 x-1$ [19]. The shifted Chebyshev polynomials of the third kind are defined as $V_{n}^{*}(x)=V_{n}(2 x-1)$.

These polynomials are orthogonal on the support interval $[0,1]$ as the following inner product:

$$
\left\langle V_{n}^{*}(x), V_{m}^{*}(x)\right\rangle=\int_{0}^{1} \sqrt{\frac{x}{1-x}} V_{n}^{*}(x) V_{m}^{*}(x) d x= \begin{cases}\frac{\pi}{2}, & \text { for } n=m  \tag{7}\\ 0, & \text { for } n \neq m\end{cases}
$$

where $\sqrt{\frac{x}{1-x}}$ is weight function corresponding to $V_{n}^{*}(x)$, and normalized by the requirement that $V_{n}^{*}(1)=1$. The polynomials $V_{n}^{*}(x)$ may be generated by using the recurrence relations

$$
V_{n+1}^{*}(x)=2(2 x-1) V_{n}^{*}(x)-V_{n-1}^{*}(x), \quad V_{0}^{*}(x)=1, \quad V_{1}^{*}(x)=4 x-3, \quad n=1,2, \cdots .
$$

The analytically form of the shifted Chebyshev polynomials of the third kind $V_{n}^{*}(x)$ of degree $n$ in $x$ is given by:

$$
\begin{equation*}
V_{n}^{*}(x)=\sum_{k=0}^{n}(-1)^{k}(2)^{2 n-2 k} \frac{(2 n+1) \Gamma(2 n-k+1)}{\Gamma(k+1) \Gamma(2 n-2 k+2)}(x)^{n-k}, \quad n \in \mathbb{Z}^{+} . \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

In a spectral method, in contrast, the function $g(x)$, square integrable in $[0,1]$ is represented by an infinite expansion of the shifted Chebyshev polynomials of the third kind as follows:

$$
\begin{equation*}
g(x)=\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} b_{i} V_{i}^{*}(x), \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $b_{i}$ is a chosen sequence of prescribed basis functions. One then proceeds some how to estimate as many as possible of the coefficients $b_{i}$, thus approximating $g(x)$ by a finite sum of $(m+1)$-terms such as:

$$
\begin{equation*}
g_{m}(x)=\sum_{i=1}^{m} b_{i} V_{i}^{*}(x), \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the coefficients $b_{i} ; i=0,1, \cdots$ are given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
b_{i}=\frac{2}{\pi} \int_{0}^{1} g(x) V_{i}^{*}(x) \sqrt{\frac{x}{1-x}} d x . \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

Theorem 1. (Chebyshev truncation theorem) [17] The error in approximating $g(x)$ by the sum of its first $m$ terms is bounded by the sum of the absolute values of all the neglected coefficients. If

$$
\begin{equation*}
g_{m}(x)=\sum_{i=0}^{m} b_{i} V_{i}(x) \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

then

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{T}(m) \equiv\left|g(x)-g_{m}(x)\right| \leq \sum_{k=m+1}^{\infty}\left|b_{i}\right| \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

for all $g(x)$, all $m$, and all $x \in[-1,1]$.

## 4 Solution of system of linear fractional integro-differential equation

In this section, the least squares method with aid of shifted Chebyshev polynomial is applied to study the numerical solution of these systems of fractional integro-differential (1).

The method is based on approximating the unknown functions $y_{i}(x)$ as

$$
\begin{equation*}
y_{i}(x)=\sum_{j=0}^{m} a_{j}^{i} V_{j}^{*}(x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1, \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $V_{j}^{*}(x)$ is shifted Chebyshev polynomial of the third kind and $a_{j}^{i}, i=1,2, \cdots, n$, are constants.
Substituting (14) into (1), we obtain

$$
\begin{equation*}
D^{\alpha} \sum_{j=0}^{m} a_{j}^{i} V_{j}^{*}(x)=f_{i}(x)+\int_{0}^{1} k_{i}(x, t)\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_{i k}\left[\sum_{j=0}^{m} a_{j}^{i} V_{j}^{*}(t)\right]\right) d t . \tag{15}
\end{equation*}
$$

Hence the residual equation is defined as

$$
\begin{equation*}
R_{i}\left(x, a_{0}^{i}, a_{1}^{i}, \cdots, a_{m}^{i}\right)=\sum_{j=0}^{m} a_{j}^{i} D^{\alpha} V_{j}^{*}(x)-\int_{0}^{1} k_{i}(x, t)\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_{i k}\left[\sum_{j=0}^{m} a_{j}^{i} V_{j}^{*}(t)\right]\right) d t-f_{i}(x) . \tag{16}
\end{equation*}
$$

Let

$$
\begin{equation*}
S_{i}\left(a_{0}^{i}, a_{1}^{i}, \cdots, a_{m}^{i}\right)=\int_{0}^{1}\left[R_{1}\left(x, a_{0}^{i}, a_{1}^{i}, \cdots, a_{m}^{i}\right)\right]^{2} w(x) d x \tag{17}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $w(x)$ is the positive weight function defined on the interval $[0,1]$, in this work we take $w(x)=1$, then

$$
\begin{align*}
& S_{i}\left(a_{0}^{i}, a_{1}^{i}, \cdots, a_{m}^{i}\right)= \\
& \int_{0}^{1}\left\{\sum_{j=0}^{m} a_{j}^{i} D^{\alpha} V_{j}^{*}(x)-\int_{0}^{1} k_{i}(x, t)\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_{i k}\left[\sum_{j=0}^{m} a_{j}^{i} V_{j}^{*}(t)\right]\right) d t-f_{i}(x)\right\}^{2} d x . \tag{18}
\end{align*}
$$

So finding the values of $a_{j}^{i}, j=0,1, \cdots, m$ which minimize $S_{i}$ is equivalent to finding the best approximation for the solution of the SLFIDE (1).

The minimum value of $S_{i}$ is obtained by setting

$$
\begin{gather*}
\frac{\partial S_{i}}{\partial a_{j}^{i}}=0, \quad j=0,1, \cdots, m  \tag{19}\\
\int_{0}^{1}\left\{\sum_{j=0}^{m} a_{j}^{i} D^{\alpha} V_{j}^{*}(x)-\int_{0}^{1} k_{i}(x, t)\left[\sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_{i k} \sum_{j=0}^{m} a_{j}^{i} V_{j}^{*}(t)\right] d t-f_{i}(x)\right\} \times \\
\left\{D^{\alpha} V_{j}^{*}(x)-\int_{0}^{1} k_{i}(x, t)\left[\sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_{i k} \sum_{j=0}^{m} V_{j}^{*}(t)\right] d t\right\} d x=0 . \tag{20}
\end{gather*}
$$

By evaluating the above equation for $j=0,1, \cdots, n$ we can obtain a system of $(n+1)$ linear equations with $(n+1)$ unknown coefficients $a_{j}^{i}$. This system can be formed by using matrices form as follows:

$$
A=\left(\begin{array}{cccc}
\int_{0}^{1} R_{i}\left(x, a_{0}^{i}\right) h_{0}^{i} d x & \int_{0}^{1} R_{i}\left(x, a_{1}^{i}\right) h_{0}^{i} d x & \cdots & \int_{0}^{1} R_{i}\left(x, a_{n}^{i}\right) h_{0}^{i} d x  \tag{21}\\
\int_{0}^{1} R_{i}\left(x, a_{0}^{i}\right) h_{1}^{i} d x & \int_{0}^{1} R_{i}\left(x, a_{1}^{i}\right) h_{1}^{i} d x & \cdots & \int_{0}^{1} R_{i}\left(x, a_{n}^{i}\right) h_{1}^{i} d x \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
\int_{0}^{1} R_{i}\left(x, a_{0}^{i}\right) h_{n}^{i} d x & \int_{0}^{1} R_{i}\left(x, a_{1}^{i}\right) h_{n}^{i} d x & \cdots & \int_{0}^{1} R_{i}\left(x, a_{n}^{i}\right) h_{n}^{i} d x
\end{array}\right),
$$

$$
B=\left(\begin{array}{c}
\int_{0}^{1} f_{i}(x) h_{0}^{i} d x  \tag{22}\\
\int_{0}^{1} f_{i}(x) h_{1}^{i} d x \\
\vdots \\
\int_{0}^{1} f_{i}(x) h_{n}^{i} d x
\end{array}\right),
$$

where

$$
\begin{gather*}
R_{i}\left(x, a_{j}^{i}\right)=\sum_{j=0}^{m} a_{j}^{i} D^{\alpha} V_{j}^{*}(x)-\int_{0}^{1} k_{i}(x, t)\left[\sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_{i k} \sum_{j=0}^{m} a_{j}^{i} V_{j}^{*}(t)\right] d t,  \tag{23}\\
h_{j}^{i}=D^{\alpha} V_{j}^{*}(x)-\int_{0}^{1} k_{i}(x, t)\left[\sum_{k=1}^{n} \alpha_{i k} \sum_{j=0}^{m} V_{j}^{*}(t)\right] d t j=0,1, \cdots, m, i=1,2, \cdots, n . \tag{24}
\end{gather*}
$$

By solving the above system we obtain the values of the unknown coefficients and the approximate solutions of (1).

## 5 Numerical examples

In this section, we have applied shifted Chebyshev polynomials of the third kind for solving system of linear fractional integro-differential equations with known exact solution. All results are obtained by using Mathematics Programming 10.

Example 1. Consider the following system of fractional integro-differential equations [16]

$$
\begin{align*}
& D^{\frac{2}{3}} y_{1}(x)=\frac{-x}{6}+\frac{3 x^{\frac{1}{3}}}{\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)}+\int_{0}^{1} 2 x t\left[y_{1}(t)+y_{2}(t)\right] d t  \tag{25}\\
& D^{\frac{2}{3}} y_{2}(x)=\frac{5 x^{3}}{6}+\frac{9 x^{\frac{4}{3}}}{2 \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)}+\int_{0}^{1} x^{3}\left[y_{1}(t)-y_{2}(t)\right] d t
\end{align*}
$$

Subject to initial conditions $y_{1}(0)=-1, y_{2}(0)=0$ with the exact solution $y_{1}(x)=x-1, y_{2}(x)=x^{2}$.
Applying the least squares method with aid of shifted Chebyshev polynomials collocation of third kind $V_{j}^{*}(x)$, $j=0,1, \cdots, n$, at $n=4$ to system of the linear fractional integro-differential equation (25). The numerical results are showing in figure 1 and we obtain a system of linear equations with unknown coefficients $a_{j}^{i}, j=0,1, \cdots, m$, $i=1,2, \cdots, n$. The solution obtained using the suggested method is in excellent agreement with the already exact solution and show that this approach can be solved the problem effectively. It is evident that the overall errors can be made smaller by adding new terms from the series (14). Comparisons are made between approximate solutions and exact solutions to illustrate the validity and the great potential of the proposed technique. Also, from our numerical results, we can see that these solutions are in more accuracy of those obtained in [16].


Fig. 1: Comparison between the approximate solution and the exact solution.

Example 2. Consider the following system of fractional integro-differential equations [16]

$$
\begin{align*}
& D^{\frac{3}{4}} y_{1}(x)=-\frac{1}{20}-\frac{x}{12}+\frac{4 x^{\frac{1}{4}}\left(15-23 x^{2}\right)}{15 \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)}+\int_{0}^{1}(x+t)\left[y_{1}(t)+y_{2}(t)\right] d t \\
& D^{\frac{3}{4}} y_{2}(x)=\frac{5 x^{3}}{6}+\frac{9 x^{\frac{4}{3}}}{2 \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)}+\int_{0}^{1} \sqrt{x} t^{2}\left[y_{1}(t)-y_{2}(t)\right] d t \tag{26}
\end{align*}
$$

Subject to to initial conditions $y_{1}(0)=0, y_{2}(0)=0$ with exact solution $y_{1}(x)=x-x^{3}, y_{2}(x)=x^{2}-x$.
Similarly, as in Example 5.1 applying the least squares method with aid of shifted Chebyshev polynomials collocation of third kind $V_{j}^{*}(x), j=0,1, \cdots, n$ at $n=4$ to the fractional integro-differential equation (26). The numerical results are showing figure 2 and we obtain the approximate solution which is the same the exact solution. The solution obtained using


Fig. 2: Comparison between the approximate solution and the exact solution.
the suggested method is in excellent agreement with the already exact solution and show that this approach can be solved the problem effectively. It is evident that the overall errors can be made smaller by adding new terms from the series (14). Comparisons are made between approximate solutions and exact solutions to illustrate the validity and the great potential of the proposed technique. Also, from our numerical results we can see that these solutions are in more accuracy of those obtained in [16].

Example 3. Consider the following system of fractional integro-differential equations [16]

$$
\begin{align*}
& D^{\frac{4}{5}} y_{1}(x)=\frac{83 x}{80}+\frac{25 x^{\frac{6}{5}}(11+15 x)}{33 \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{5}\right)}+\int_{0}^{1} 2 x t\left[y_{1}(t)+y_{2}(t)\right] d t  \tag{27}\\
& D^{\frac{4}{5}} y_{2}(x)=\frac{5 x^{3}}{6}+\frac{9 x^{\frac{4}{3}}}{2 \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)}+\int_{0}^{1}(x+t)\left[y_{1}(t)-y_{2}(t)\right] d t .
\end{align*}
$$

Subject to initial conditions $y_{1}(0)=0, y_{2}(0)=0$ with exact solution $y_{1}(x)=x^{3}-x^{2}, y_{2}(x)=\frac{15}{8} x^{2}$.
Similarly, as in examples 5.1 and 5.2 applying the least squares method with aid of shifted Chebyshev polynomials collocation of third kind $V_{j}^{*}(x), j=0,1, \cdots, n$ at $n=4$ to the fractional integro-differential equation (27). The numerical results are showing in figure 3 and we obtain the approximation solution which is the same the exact solution.


Fig. 3: Comparison between the approximate solution and the exact solution.

## 6 Conclusion and Remarks

In this article, we introduced an accurate numerical technique for solving system of linear fractional integro-differential equations. We have introduced an approximate formula for the Caputo fractional derivative of the shifted Chebyshev polynomials of the third kind in terms of classical shifted Chebyshev polynomials of the third kind. The results show that the proposed algorithm converges as the number of terms is increased. Some numerical examples are presented to illustrate the theoretical results and compared with the results obtained by other numerical methods. We have computed the numerical results using Mathematica programming 10.

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[^0]:    * Corresponding author e-mail: amr_mahdy85@yahoo.com

