**ORIGINAL RESEARCH** 



# Hybrid Legendre functions to solve differential equations with fractional derivatives

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Received: 11 January 2018 / Accepted: 2 April 2018 / Published online: 21 April 2018  $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$  The Author(s) 2018

#### Abstract

This paper introduces an approach based on hybrid operational matrix to obtain a numerical scheme to solve fractional differential equations. The idea is to convert the given equations into a system of equations, based on the block-pulse and Legendre polynomials. Also, we employ the Banach fixed-point theorem to analyze the problem on the Banach algebra C[0, b] for some fractional differential equations, which include many key functional differential equations that arise in linear and nonlinear analysis.

**Keywords** Fractional differential equations · Operational matrix · Legendre polynomials · Block-pulse function · Fixed-point theorem

Mathematics Subject Classification  $41A30 \cdot 34A08 \cdot 26A33 \cdot 42C10 \cdot 47H10$ 

### Introduction

The fractional differential equation (FDE) has received considerable interest and has constituted many applications in various scientific such as continuum and statistical mechanics [10], dynamical systems [8], and optimal control problems [2, 7, 9]. The most of FDEs cannot be solved analytically, and on the other hand, many applications of these problems motivate us to develop numerical schemes for their solutions. For this purpose, some techniques were suggested and there are some studies on the numerical method to solve FDEs, for example, see [9, 11, 12, 14, 15]. Another technique applied to solve FDE is to use the operational matrix of fractional order [2, 6, 11, 17]. In this study, we present a numerical technique to solve FDEs

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$${}^{C}D^{\mu}g(s) = F(s,g(s)), \quad m-1 < \mu \le m,$$
 (1a)

$$g^{(j)}(0) = d_j, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, m-1,$$
 (1b)

where  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  ${}^{C}D^{\cdot}$  denotes the Caputo fractional derivative [3, 14]. Our suggested method is based upon the piecewise continuous functions and Legendre polynomials, depending on the operational matrices of fractional integration. The exclusivities of hybrid functions with the operational matrix are used to convert the FDE to an algebraic equation, and then, are utilized to evaluate the upon expanding unknown function by the basis functions with unknown coefficients.

The following is an overview of this article. In Sect. 2, briefly some definitions and mathematical preliminaries of the fractional calculus have been introduced. In Sect. 3, we consider existence and uniqueness theorems of the desired FDEs. Some proper properties of the hybrid basis consisting of the block-pulse functions and Legendre polynomials, and approximation of function by these basis are presented in Sect. 4. The relevant operational matrix is obtained in Sect. 5, end of this section is devoted to applying the hybrid functions method for solving FDEs. In Sect. 6, through the provided examples, our numerical finding reported and the reliability and performance of the proposed scheme is demonstrated.



#### Preliminaries and basic definitions

We give a few traits concerning of fractional calculus [3, 14]. Let  $g \in L_1[0, b]$  (space of Lebesgue integrable real *functions*), and  $\mu \in R_+ = (0, \infty)$ , be a fixed number.

**Definition 1** The operator  $J^{\mu}$ , defined on  $L_1[0, b]$  by

$$J^{\mu}g(s) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu)} \int_0^s (s-u)^{\mu-1} g(u) du,$$

for  $0 \le s \le b$ , is denominated the *Riemann–Liouville fractional integral operator of order*  $\mu$ , where  $\Gamma(.)$  denotes the Gamma function.

The operator  $J^{\mu}$  transforms the space  $L_1[0, b]$  into itself [14].

**Definition 2** The operator  ${}^{\text{RL}}D^{\mu}$ , defined by

$${}^{\mathrm{RL}}D^{\mu}g = D^{\lceil \mu \rceil}J^{\lceil \mu \rceil - \mu}g$$

([.] denote ceiling function,  $\lceil x \rceil = \min\{z \in \mathbb{Z} : z \ge x\}$ ) is called the Riemann–Liouville fractional differential operator.

**Definition 3** For  $g \in L_1[0, b]$ ,

$${}^{C}\!D^{\mu}g(s) = \begin{cases} J^{m-\mu}D^{m}g(s), & m-1 < \mu < m, \quad m \in \mathbb{N}, \\ \frac{\mathrm{d}^{m}}{\mathrm{d}t^{m}}g(s), & \mu = m, \end{cases}$$

is the Caputo fractional derivative.

Note that 
$$J^{\mu \ C} D^{\mu} g(s) = g(s) - \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} g^{(j)}(0^+) \frac{s^j}{j!},$$
  
 $m-1 < \mu \le m, \quad m \in \mathbb{N}.$ 

**Lemma 1** [3] Let  $\mu \ge 0$ . Assume that g is such that both  ${}^{C}D^{\mu}g$  and  ${}^{RL}D^{\mu}g$  exist. Then,

$${}^{C}D^{\mu}g(s) = {}^{\mathrm{RL}}D^{\mu}g(s) - \sum_{j=0}^{\lceil \mu \rceil - 1} \frac{D^{j}y(0)}{\Gamma(j - \mu + 1)} s^{j - \mu}.$$

Under the hypotheses of Lemma 1,  ${}^{C}D^{\mu}g(s) = {}^{RL}D^{\mu}g(s)$ holds if and only if g has an  $\lceil \mu \rceil$ -fold zero at 0, i.e., if and only if  $D^{j}y(0) = 0$ , for  $j = 0, 1, ..., \lceil \mu \rceil - 1$ .

## **Existence and uniqueness**

We study the solvability of Problem () for  $g \in C[0, b]$ . In what follows, we suppose that  $F(s, .) : [0, b] \times \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , be satisfied in the Lipschitz condition respect to the second component, with Lipschitz constant *l*, and there exist the constants  $\lambda$  and  $\eta$  such that  $|F(s, g(s))| \le \lambda + \eta |g(s)|$ (sublinear nonlinearity), for all  $s \in [0, b]$  and  $g(s) \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Theorem 1** For  $0 < \theta = \frac{lb^{\mu}}{\Gamma(\mu+1)} < 1$ , Eq. (1a) and (1b) has a unique solution.

**Proof** To prove this result, we define operator  $\Lambda$  on the space C[0, b] with

$$(\Lambda g)(s) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu)} \int_0^s (s-u)^{\mu-1} F(u,g(u)) \mathrm{d}u, \quad s \in [0,b].$$

We shall show that  $\Lambda : [0, b] \times \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a contraction map. For  $g_1, g_2 \in C[0, b]$  and  $s \in [0, b]$ , we have

$$\begin{split} &(\Lambda g_1)(s) - (\Lambda g_2)(s)| \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu)} \left| \int_0^s (s-u)^{\mu-1} [F(u,g_1(u)) - F(u,g_2(u))] du \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu)} \int_0^s (s-u)^{\mu-1} l[|g_1(u) - g_2(u)|] du \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu)} l ||g_1 - g_2|| \int_0^s (s-u)^{\mu-1} du \\ &= \frac{ls^{\mu}}{\Gamma(\mu+1)} ||g_1 - g_2|| \leq \theta ||g_1 - g_2||. \end{split}$$

Therefore, according to condition  $0 < \theta < 1$ , the mapping  $\Lambda$  is contraction, so by the Banach's principle has a unique fixed-point, and there exists a unique solution to problem (1).

**Theorem 2**  $\Lambda$  maps bounded sets into equicontinuous sets of C[0, b].

**Proof** Let  $s_1, s_2 \in [0, b]$ ,  $s_1 < s_2$ , and g belong to a bounded set, then we have

$$\begin{split} &\Lambda(g)(s_{2}) - \Lambda(g)(s_{1})| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu)} \left| \int_{0}^{s_{1}} \left[ (s_{2} - u)^{\mu - 1} - (s_{1} - u)^{\mu - 1} \right] F(u, g(u)) du \right| \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu)} \left| \int_{s_{1}}^{s_{2}} (s_{2} - u)^{\mu - 1} F(u, g(u)) du \right| \\ &\leq \frac{\lambda + \eta \|g(u)\|}{\Gamma(\mu)} \left| \int_{0}^{s_{1}} \left[ (s_{2} - u)^{\mu - 1} - (s_{1} - u)^{\mu - 1} \right] du \right| \\ &\quad + \frac{\lambda + \eta \|g(u)\|}{\Gamma(\mu)} \left| \int_{s_{1}}^{s_{2}} (s_{2} - u)^{\mu - 1} du \right| \\ &\leq 2 \frac{\lambda + \eta \|g(u)\|}{\Gamma(\mu + 1)} (s_{2} - s_{1})^{\mu}. \end{split}$$

As  $s_1 \rightarrow s_2$  the last term tends to zero. The equicontinuous for the cases  $s_1 < s_2 \le 0$  and  $s_1 \le 0 \le s_2$  is explicit.  $\Box$ 

## **Basis functions**

A set of block-pulse functions  $b_p(s), p = 1, 2, ..., P$  for  $s \in [0, 1)$  is defined as follows [11, 12]:



$$b_p(s) = \begin{cases} 1, & \frac{p-1}{P} \le s < \frac{p}{P}, \\ 0, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$
(2)

These functions are disjoint and have the property of orthogonality on [0, 1).

The hybrid functions  $h_{pq}(s), p = 1, 2, ..., P, q = 0, 1, ..., Q - 1$ , on  $[0, s_f)$  are defined as

$$h_{pq}(s) = \begin{cases} L_q \left(\frac{2P}{s_f}s - 2p + 1\right), & s \in \left[\frac{p-1}{P}s_f, \frac{p}{P}s_f\right), \\ 0, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

where p is the order of the block-pulse functions and  $L_q(s)$ s are the well-known Legendre polynomials of order q with the following recursive formula:

$$L_0(s) = 1, \qquad L_1(s) = s,$$
  
$$L_{q+1}(s) = \left(\frac{2q+1}{q+1}\right) s L_q(s) - \left(\frac{q}{q+1}\right) L_{q-1}(s), \quad q = 1, 2, \dots$$

It is obvious that the set of hybrid functions is orthogonal. A function g(s), defined on  $[0, s_f)$  can be expanded as

$$g(s) \cong \sum_{p=1}^{P} \sum_{q=0}^{Q-1} c_{pq} h_{pq}(s) = C_{S}^{\mathsf{T}} H_{S}(s),$$
(3)

where S = PQ,

$$C_{S} = [c_{10}, \ldots, c_{1(Q-1)}, c_{20}, \ldots, c_{2(Q-1)}, \ldots, c_{P0}, \ldots, c_{P(Q-1)}]^{\mathrm{T}},$$

and

$$H_{S}(s) = \left[h_{10}(s), \dots, h_{1(Q-1)}(s), h_{20}(s), \dots, h_{2(Q-1)}(s), \dots, h_{P(0}(s), \dots, h_{P(Q-1)}(s)\right]^{\mathrm{T}}.$$
(4)

## Applying operational matrices

Let

$$J^{\mu}H_{S}(s) \approx P^{\mu}_{S \times S}H_{S}(s), \tag{5}$$

where  $P_{S\times S}^{\mu}$  is obtained as the operational matrix of the fractional integration for hybrid functions, by the following formula:

$$P_{S\times S}^{\mu} = \Phi_{S\times S} F_{S\times S}^{\mu} \Phi_{S\times S}^{-1}.$$
 (6)

Also, matrix  $\Phi_{S\times S}$  is an invertible matrix and define using vector  $H_S(s)$  in collocation points  $s_p = \frac{2p-1}{2S}$ , p = 1, 2, ..., S as following:

$$\Phi_{S\times S} = \left[ H_S\left(\frac{1}{2S}\right) \ H_S\left(\frac{3}{2S}\right) \ \dots \ H_S\left(\frac{2S-1}{2S}\right) \right],$$

and

$$F_{S\times S}^{\mu} = \frac{1}{S^{\mu}} \frac{1}{\Gamma(\mu+2)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \varepsilon_1 & \varepsilon_2 & \dots & \varepsilon_{S-1} \\ 0 & 1 & \varepsilon_1 & \dots & \varepsilon_{S-2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & \varepsilon_{S-3} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

with 
$$\varepsilon_j = (j+1)^{\mu+1} - 2j^{\mu+1} + (j-1)^{\mu+1}$$
, for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, S-1$ .

Furthermore, using Eq. (2) and taking  $B_S(s) = [b_1(s), b_2(s), \ldots, b_S(s)]^T$ , hybrid functions can be expanded by *S*-term of the block-pulse functions as

$$H_S(s) = \Phi_{S \times S} B_S(s), \tag{7}$$

and since  $F_{S\times S}^{\mu}$  is the operational matrix associated with the block-pulse functions, we get

$$J^{\mu}B_{S}(s) \approx F^{\mu}_{S \times S}B_{S}(s).$$
(8)

Finally, from Eqs. (6)–(8), one can conclude that

$$J^{\mu}H_{S}(s) = J^{\mu}\Phi_{S\times S}B_{S}(s) = \Phi_{S\times S}J^{\mu}B_{S}(s)$$
  

$$\approx \Phi_{S\times S}F^{\mu}_{S\times S}B_{S}(s) = P^{\mu}_{S\times S}\Phi_{S\times S}B_{S}(s).$$
(9)

#### **Method implementation**

Consider a nonlinear differential equation of fractional order. We approximate  ${}^{C}D^{\mu}g(s)$  by the hybrid functions as

$$^{C}D^{\mu}g(s) \approx C_{S}^{T}H_{S}(s), \tag{10}$$

where  $C_S = [c_1, c_2, ..., c_S]^T$  is an unknown vector. From Eq. (10), we get

$$J^{\mu \ C}D^{\mu}g(s) \approx C_{S}^{T}J^{\mu}H_{S}(s) \Longrightarrow g(s) \approx C_{S}^{T}J^{\mu}H_{S}(s) + \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \frac{d_{j}}{j!}s^{j},$$

from Eq. (9), we have

$$g(s) \approx C_S^{\mathrm{T}} P^{\mu}_{S \times S} \Phi_{S \times S} B_S(s) + \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \frac{d_j}{j!} s^j.$$

$$\tag{11}$$

Substituting  ${}^{C}D^{\mu}g(s)$  and g(s) from relations (10), (11) in Eq. (1a) and (1b), we obtain a system of algebraic equations. Implementation of the proposed method is presented in the next section via numerical experiments.

## Numerical experiments

We present some examples to comprehend overview and demonstrate the efficiency of the described method.

**Example 1** Consider the following FDE [1]:



**Table 1** Absolute errors with Q = 3, P = 2, 4, 6 in different values of *s* for Eq. (12)

s values	P = 2	P = 4	P = 6
0.1	$3.1466\times 10^{-3}$	$8.09955  imes 10^{-4}$	$5.85414  imes 10^{-5}$
0.2	$2.90251  imes 10^{-3}$	$7.31332\times10^{-4}$	$5.23805  imes 10^{-5}$
0.3	$2.69346  imes 10^{-3}$	$6.743  imes 10^{-4}$	$4.82954  imes 10^{-5}$
0.4	$2.51946  imes 10^{-3}$	$6.31962  imes 10^{-4}$	$4.52297  imes 10^{-5}$
0.5	$2.37916\times10^{-3}$	$5.98139\times10^{-4}$	$4.27865  imes 10^{-5}$
0.6	$2.27367  imes 10^{-3}$	$5.70408  imes 10^{-4}$	$4.07613  imes 10^{-5}$
0.7	$2.17927  imes 10^{-3}$	$5.46509  imes 10^{-4}$	$3.90388\times10^{-5}$
0.8	$2.09596  imes 10^{-3}$	$5.25812\times10^{-4}$	$3.75444  imes 10^{-5}$
0.9	$2.02375\times10^{-3}$	$5.07526  imes 10^{-4}$	$3.62287\times10^{-5}$
1	$3.04263  imes 10^{-3}$	$6.10456  imes 10^{-4}$	$4.13375  imes 10^{-5}$

$${}^{C}D^{0.5}g(s) = -g(s) + h(s)$$
(12)

with g(0) = 0, where  $h(s) = s^2 + \frac{2}{\Gamma(2.5)}s^{1.5}$  and the exact solution is  $g(s) = s^2$ . To solve Eq. (12), let  ${}^{C}D^{0.5}g(s) = C_s{}^{T}H_s(s)$ , using Eqs. (3), (11), we have

$$g(s) = C_S^{\mathrm{T}} P^{0.5}_{S \times S} \Phi_{S \times S} B_S(s),$$
  
$$h(s) = h_S^{\mathrm{T}} H_S(s),$$

where  $h_{\rm S}^{\rm T}$  is a known constant vector.

Substituting these equations into Eq. (12), we give

$$C_S^{\mathrm{T}}\Phi_{S\times S}B_S(s) + C_S^{\mathrm{T}}P^{0.5}_{S\times S}\Phi_{S\times S}B_S(s) - h_S^{\mathrm{T}}\Phi_{S\times S}B_S(s) = 0.$$
(13)

We solved the problem, applying the technique described in Sect. 4, the absolute errors for Q = 3, P = 2, 4, 6 are listed in Table 1.

From Table 1, observed that, we have an acceptable approximation of the exact solution. Also, increasing the number of basis functions, provide improvement in the accuracy of the solutions.

*Example 2* In [4, 16, 17], the FDE

$$\begin{cases} {}^{C}\!D^{\mu}g(s) = -g(s), & 0 < \mu \le 2, \\ g(0) = 1, & g'(0) = 0, \end{cases}$$
(14)

has been solved by different methods. The exact solution is as follows [4]:

$$g(s) = E_{\mu}(-s^{\mu}),$$

where

$$E_{\mu}(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^j}{\Gamma(\mu j + 1)}$$

is the Mittag–Leffler function of order  $\mu$ .

Since  $J^{\mu} {}^{C}D^{\mu}g(s) = g(s) - g(0) - tg'(0)$ , we have the following algebraic system for Eq. (14):

$$C_S^{\mathrm{T}}\Phi_{S\times S}B_S(s) + C_S^{\mathrm{T}}P^{\mu}_{S\times S}\Phi_{S\times S}B_S(s) - [1,1,\ldots,1]B_S(s) = 0.$$

For  $\mu = 1$  and  $\mu = 2$ , the exact solutions of Eq. (14) are  $g(s) = e^{-s}$  and  $g(s) = \cos s$ , respectively. Figure 1 displays the numerical results for g(s) with S = 12,  $\mu = 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 0.95, 1$ ; and  $\mu = 1, 1.25, 1.5, 1.75, 1.95, 2$ . It is evident that as  $\mu$  approaches close to 1 or 2, the numerical solution by the presented hybrid method in previous sections converges to the exact solution.

Table 2 shows the absolute errors for  $\mu = 0.85, 1.2, 1.5$ and S = 8, 10, 24. Clearly, the approximations achieved through the hybrid scheme are in accordance with those established with other mentioned numerical schemes [16, 17].

*Example 3* Consider the following fractional Riccati equation [1, 13, 18]:

$${}^{C}D^{\mu}g(s) = 2g(s) - g^{2}(s) + 1, \quad g(0) = 0, \quad 0 < \mu \le 1.$$
(15)



Fig. 1 Numerical solutions of Example 2, for S = 12,  $0 < \mu \le 1$  (*left*) and  $1 \le \mu \le 2$  (*right*)



Table 2 Absolute errors of solution Example 2, with	s	$\mu = 0.85$		$\mu = 1.2$		$\mu = 1.5$	
comparison to Refs. [16, 17] for $\mu = 0.85, 1.2, 1.5$ and $S =$		[17] (m = 8)	Ours $(S = 8)$	[17] (m = 10)	Ours $(S = 10)$	[ <b>16</b> ] ( <i>m</i> = 24)	Ours $(S = 24)$
$\mu = 0.05, 1.2, 1.5$ and $5 =$ 8, 10, 24 in different values of s	0.1	$8.0 imes10^{-4}$	$4.916 imes 10^{-4}$	$3.1  imes 10^{-3}$	$2.64  imes 10^{-4}$	$1.051  imes 10^{-4}$	$6.905  imes 10^{-5}$
	0.2	$1.2  imes 10^{-3}$	$1.703\times10^{-4}$	-	$3.556\times 10^{-4}$	$4.99\times 10^{-5}$	$3.532\times10^{-5}$
	0.3	$6.6 imes10^{-4}$	$1.079\times 10^{-4}$	$2.8  imes 10^{-3}$	$3.988  imes 10^{-4}$	$1.455\times 10^{-5}$	$2.291\times10^{-5}$
	0.4	$8.0 imes10^{-4}$	$1.29  imes 10^{-4}$	-	$5.661  imes 10^{-4}$	$1.178\times 10^{-5}$	$8.041\times10^{-6}$
	0.5	$7.5  imes 10^{-4}$	$4.104\times10^{-4}$	$4.5  imes 10^{-3}$	$5.208  imes 10^{-4}$	$3.282  imes 10^{-5}$	$6.492\times10^{-5}$
	0.6	$5.9 imes10^{-4}$	$4.156\times10^{-4}$	-	$4.956\times10^{-4}$	$4.285\times 10^{-5}$	$4.974\times10^{-5}$
	0.7	$7.6 imes10^{-4}$	$2.683  imes 10^{-4}$	$3.6 imes10^{-3}$	$4.716\times10^{-4}$	$6.324\times10^{-5}$	$6.689\times 10^{-5}$
	0.8	$1.8  imes 10^{-4}$	$1.785\times10^{-4}$	-	$4.349\times10^{-4}$	$7.365\times10^{-5}$	$7.061\times10^{-5}$
	0.9	$6.2  imes 10^{-4}$	$1.319\times10^{-4}$	$1.8  imes 10^{-3}$	$3.949\times10^{-4}$	$8.126\times10^{-5}$	$7.968\times10^{-5}$

Table 3 The results of Example 3 compared with Refs. [13, 18] for S = 16

S	$\mu = 0.5$			$\mu = 1$			
	[13]	[ <b>18</b> ] ( <i>m</i> = 192)	Ours $(S = 16)$	[13]	[ <b>18</b> ] ( <i>m</i> = 192)	Ours $(S = 16)$	Exact
0.1	0.321730	0.592756	0.600043	0.110294	0.110311	0.110302	0.110295
0.2	0.629666	0.9331796	0.952271	0.241965	0.241995	0.241968	0.241977
0.3	0.940941	1.1739836	1.174001	0.395106	0.395123	0.395112	0.395105
0.4	1.250737	1.3466546	1.348733	0.568115	0.567829	0.567815	0.567812
0.5	1.549439	1.4738876	1.475924	0.757564	0.756029	0.756022	0.756014
0.6	1.825456	1.5705716	1.573608	0.958259	0.953576	0.953581	0.953566
0.7	2.066523	1.646199	1.646551	1.163459	1.152955	1.152952	1.152949
0.8	2.260633	1.706880	1.705330	1.365240	1.346365	1.346368	1.346364
0.9	2.396839	1.756644	1.750815	1.554960	1.526909	1.526912	1.526911
1	2.466004	1.798220	1.783109	1.723810	1.689494	1.689501	1.689498

Assume  ${}^{C}D^{\mu}g(s) = C_{S}{}^{T}H_{S}(s)$ , using Eq. (11), we have  $B_{S}(s).$ ( ) Т

$$g(s) = C_S^{*} P_{S \times S}^{\mu} \Phi_{S \times S} B_S(s)$$

Let

$$C_S^{\mathrm{T}} P^{\mu}_{S \times S} \Phi_{S \times S} = [a_1, a_2, \dots, a_S],$$

applying virtues of the block-pulse function, we get

$$g^{2}(s) = [a_{1}^{2}, a_{2}^{2}, \dots, a_{S}^{2}]B_{S}(s) = A_{S}^{T}B_{S}(s).$$

Substituting these equations into FDE (15), we have the following system of nonlinear equations:

$$C_S^{\mathrm{T}}\Phi_{S\times S}B_S(s) - 2C_S^{\mathrm{T}}P^{\mu}_{S\times S}\Phi_{S\times S}B_S(s) + A_S^{\mathrm{T}}B_S(s) - [1, 1, \dots, 1]B_S(s) = 0.$$

For  $\mu = 1$ , the analytic solution of Eq. (15) is

$$g(s) = 1 + \sqrt{2} \tanh\left(\sqrt{2}s + \frac{1}{2}\ln\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}-1}{\sqrt{2}+1}\right)\right).$$



Fig. 2 Absolute errors of Example 3 for S = 48

In Table 3, the results for Example 3 with  $\mu = 0.5, 1$  and S = 16, by the hybrid method in some points  $s \in [0, 1]$ , are given. Also, these outcomes are compared with Refs. [13, 18]. Moreover, absolute errors of approximate solutions of Example 3 for S = 48 are shown in Fig. 2.





Fig. 3 Comparison of g(s) for S = 4, 8, 12 with exact solution of Example 4

*Example 4* [5] We implement the presented hybrid method in this study for solving nonlinear FDE

$$\begin{cases} {}^{C}D^{1.5}g(s) + \frac{1}{10}g^{3}(s) = 4\sqrt{\frac{s}{\pi}} + \frac{1}{10}s^{6}, \quad 0 < s < 2, \\ g(0) = g'(0) = 0, \end{cases}$$
(16)

with the exact solution  $g(s) = s^2$ . The behavior of the results with S = 4, 8, 12 is plotted in Fig. 3.

#### *Example 5* For FDE [4, 17],

$$\begin{cases} {}^{C}\!D^{\mu}g(s) = \frac{40320}{\Gamma(9-\mu)}s^{8-\mu} - 3\frac{\Gamma\left(5+\frac{\mu}{2}\right)}{\Gamma\left(5-\frac{\mu}{2}\right)}s^{4-\frac{\mu}{2}} + \frac{9}{4}\Gamma(\mu+1) + (\frac{3}{2}s^{\mu/2} - s^4)^3 - g^{\frac{3}{2}}(s), \\ 0 < \mu < 2, \quad g(0) = 0, \quad g'(0) = 0, \\ g(s) = s^8 - 3s^{4+\frac{\mu}{2}} + \frac{9}{4}s^{\mu} \text{ (exactsolution)}, \end{cases}$$

the absolute errors for  $\mu = 0.2, 0.4, \dots, 1.8$  and S = 4 reported in Table 4.

*Example 6* Finally, consider the multi-order FDE

with the exact solution  $g(s) = \cos s$  and nonlocal boundary value conditions

$$\begin{cases} g(0) = 1, & g'(0) = 0, \\ g(0) - 0.65g\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = g(1), \end{cases}$$
(18)

where  ${}_{p}F_{q}(\mu_{1}, \mu_{2}, ..., \mu_{p}; v_{1}, v_{2}, ..., v_{q}; s)$  denotes the generalized hypergeometric function. Applying our proposed approach with Eqs. (11), (18), we have [12],

$${}^{C}D^{2.5}g(s) = C_{S}{}^{\mathrm{T}}H_{S}(s), \ {}^{C}D^{\frac{2}{3}}g(s) = C_{S}{}^{\mathrm{T}}P^{\frac{16}{5}}_{S\times S}\Phi_{S\times S}B_{S}(s) + d_{2}s$$
$$g(s) = C_{S}{}^{\mathrm{T}}P^{2.5}_{S\times S}\Phi_{S\times S}B_{S}(s) + 1 + \frac{d_{2}}{2}s^{2},$$

therefore,

$$g(1) = C_{S}^{T} P_{S \times S}^{2.5} \Phi_{S \times S} B_{S}(1) + 1 + \frac{d_{2}}{2},$$
  

$$g\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = C_{S}^{T} P_{S \times S}^{2.5} \Phi_{S \times S} B_{S}\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) + 1 + d_{2} \frac{\pi^{2}}{32}.$$
(19)

From boundary condition (18) and Eq. (19), one concludes that

$$d_{2} = -\frac{C_{S}^{T} P_{S \times S}^{2.5} \Phi_{S \times S} B_{S}(1) + 0.65 C_{S}^{T} P_{S \times S}^{2.5} \Phi_{S \times S} B_{S}(\frac{\pi}{4}) + 0.65}{2(1 + 0.65 \frac{\pi^{2}}{16})}$$
(20)

Consequently, FDE (17) can be shown as the following algebraic system:

$$C_{S}^{T}\Phi_{S\times S}B_{S}(s) - 2C_{S}^{T}P_{S\times S}^{\frac{15}{6}}\Phi_{S\times S}B_{S}(s) + A_{S}^{T}B_{S}(s) + 2C_{S}^{T}P_{S\times S}^{2.5}\Phi_{S\times S}B_{S}(s) + d_{2}s^{2}C_{S}^{T}P_{S\times S}^{2.5}\Phi_{S\times S}B_{S}(s) = h(s),$$

$$(21)$$

where 
$$A_S^{T} = [a_1^2, a_2^2, ..., a_S^2]$$
, with  
 $C_S^{T} P_{S \times S}^{2.5} \Phi_{S \times S} = [a_1, a_2, ..., a_S]$ ,

and

$$h(s) = 2d_2s - 1 - \frac{d_2^2}{4}s^4 - d_2s^2 + f(s).$$

Using the hybrid method with Q = 5, P = 5, 10, 20 for  $s \in (0, 1)$ , the maximum absolute errors of Example 6 are

$$\begin{cases} {}^{C}D^{2.5}g(s) - 2 {}^{C}D^{\frac{2}{3}}g(s) + g^{2}(s) = f(s), \\ f(s) = \cos^{2}s + \frac{9}{2 \Gamma\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)} s^{4/3} {}_{1}F_{2}\left(1;\frac{7}{6},\frac{5}{3};-\frac{s^{2}}{4}\right) + 0.752253 s^{1.5} {}_{1}F_{2}(1;1.75,1.25;-\frac{s^{2}}{4}), \end{cases}$$
(17)



**Table 4** Absolute error of Example 5 with S = 4

и	s = 0.1	s = 0.3	s = 0.5	s = 0.7	s = 0.9
0.2	$2.201  imes 10^{-3}$	$7.877  imes 10^{-3}$	$3.79  imes 10^{-3}$	$5.641  imes 10^{-3}$	$3.314  imes 10^{-3}$
0.4	$2.823\times10^{-3}$	$9.441  imes 10^{-3}$	$8.088  imes 10^{-3}$	$1.691\times 10^{-2}$	$1.765\times 10^{-2}$
0.6	$2.373  imes 10^{-3}$	$1.07  imes 10^{-2}$	$1.741\times 10^{-2}$	$2.564\times10^{-2}$	$1.901\times 10^{-2}$
0.8	$1.205  imes 10^{-3}$	$1.124\times 10^{-2}$	$2.175  imes 10^{-3}$	$2.373\times10^{-2}$	$1.993\times 10^{-2}$
1.2	$5.089  imes 10^{-3}$	$7.301  imes 10^{-3}$	$3.6  imes 10^{-2}$	$3.405\times10^{-2}$	$1.365\times 10^{-2}$
1.4	$4.244\times10^{-3}$	$1.832 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.462\times10^{-2}$	$5.173 imes10^{-2}$	$7.184  imes 10^{-3}$
1.6	$2.492\times10^{-3}$	$3.018\times10^{-3}$	$3.102\times10^{-2}$	$5.397\times10^{-2}$	$2.785  imes 10^{-5}$
1.8	$5.328  imes 10^{-4}$	$2.068  imes 10^{-3}$	$2.64  imes 10^{-2}$	$5.501  imes 10^{-2}$	$5.964  imes 10^{-3}$

Q = 5, P = 5

 $1.19554 imes 10^{-2}$ 

Table 5Maximum absoluteerrors of Example 6 withS = 25, 50, 100



S

Maximum absolute error

Fig. 4 Absolute error of Eq. (17) with S = 75

reported in Table 5. Also, the approximate error of our proposed scheme for this example is illustrated in Fig. 4.

Acknowledgements This research was supported by the Research Council of Semnan University and in part by the Grant 94802181 from Iran National Science Foundation (INSF). The authors are grateful to the anonymous referees for their careful reading, insightful comments and helpful suggestions which have led to improvement of the paper.

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Q = 5, P = 10

 $8.29311 \times 10^{-3}$ 

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Q = 5, P = 20

 $4.09217 \times 10^{-5}$ 

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