

A finite element solution for the fractional equation

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Nemecká 2011



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Basic Definition

- Left fractional integral of $f(x)$

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- Riesz fractional integral of $f(x)$ is defined by the expression

$${}_0\mathbf{D}_1^{-\nu} y(x) = \frac{1}{2} ({}_0\mathbf{D}_x^{-\nu} y(x) + {}_x\mathbf{D}_1^{-\nu} y(x)) .$$



Problem

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(x, t) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} {}_0\mathbf{D}_{1,x}^{-\nu} u(x, t) + f(x, t), \quad x \in (0, 1), \quad t \in (0, T),$$

$$u(x, 0) = g(x), \quad x \in (0, 1),$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} {}_0\mathbf{D}_{1,x}^{-\nu} u(x, t) \Big|_{x=0} = 0, \quad t \in (0, T),$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} {}_0\mathbf{D}_{1,x}^{-\nu} u(x, t) \Big|_{x=1} = 0, \quad t \in (0, T).$$



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Time derivative $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}u(x, t)$ is replaced by $\frac{1}{\tau} (\tilde{u}^k(x) - \tilde{u}^{k-1}(x))$.



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In the weak formulation of time semi-discretized problem we are looking for such functions \tilde{u}^k for which holds:

$$\frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^1 \tilde{u}^k v \, dx + \int_0^1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x} {}_0\mathbf{D}_1^{-\nu} \tilde{u}^k v' \, dx = \int_0^1 f^k v \, dx + \frac{1}{\tau} \int_0^1 \tilde{u}^{k-1} v \, dx,$$
$$\tilde{u}^0 = g,$$

for all v for which all integrals are properly defined.



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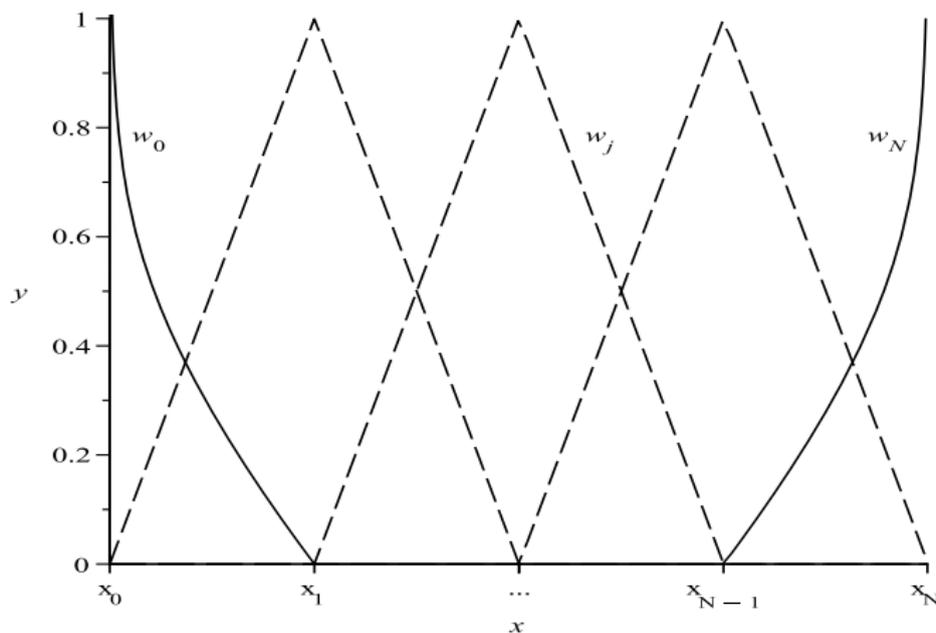
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- Stable solutions grows near the boundary.
- We want the integrals which appear during the derivation of FEM scheme to be analytically computable.



Basis Functions



Basis functions for $\nu = 0.8$.



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- Elements on the diagonal (except the first and the last one) are positive and in absolute value are larger than the others in its row.
- Elements outside the diagonal are negative and rapidly decreasing to zero.
- For $\nu = 0$ mass the matrix becomes three-diagonal.



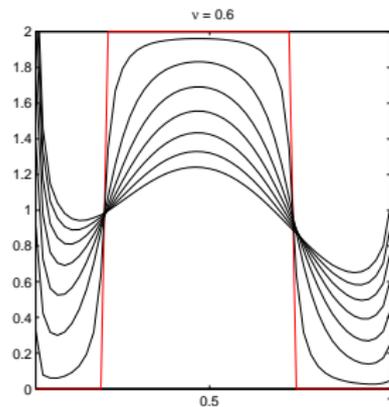
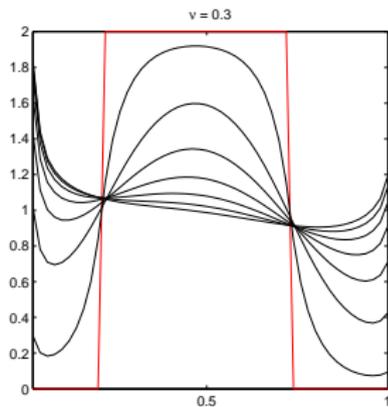
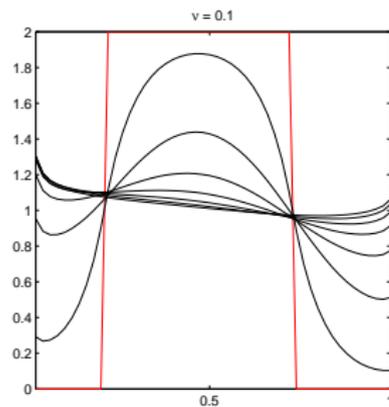
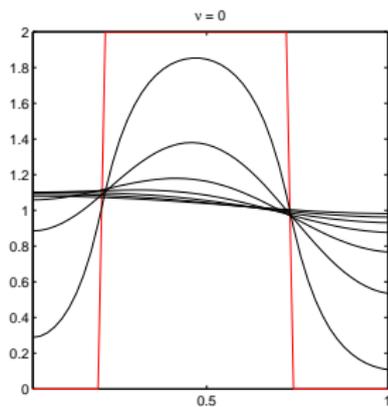
Example

Values of parameters are:

- order of the derivation ν is successively 0, 0.1, 0.3, 0.6;
- final time $T = 0.2$
- time step $\tau = 0.01$
- space steps $h = 0.02$
- problem is without source term: $f(x, t) \equiv 0$
- the initial condition is

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{for } x \in (0.2; 0.7), \\ 0 & \text{pro } x \notin (0.2; 0.7). \end{cases}$$





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Thank you!

Research is sponsored by Brno University of Technology, specific research, project no. FSI-S-11-3;
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