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Conservation laws of $(3 + \alpha)$ -dimensional time-fractional diffusion equation

Elham Lashkarian, S. Reza Hejazi, Elham Dastranj*

Department of Mathematics, Shahrood University of Technology, Shahrood, Semnan, Iran

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ABSTRACT

The concept of Lie–Backlund symmetry plays a fundamental role in applied mathematics. It is clear that in order to find conservation laws for a given partial differential equations (PDEs) or fractional differential equations (FDEs) by using Lagrangian function, firstly, we need to obtain the symmetries of the considered equation.

Fractional derivation is an efficient tool for interpretation of mathematical methods. Many applications of fractional calculus can be found in various fields of sciences as physics (classic, quantum mechanics and thermodynamics), biology, economics, engineering and etc. So in this paper, we present some effective application of fractional derivatives such as fractional symmetries and fractional conservation laws by fractional calculations. In the sequel, we obtain our results in order to find conservation laws of the time-fractional equation in some special cases.

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1. Introduction

As we know conservation laws is one of the substantial concepts in physics and mathematics. In this study, conservation laws, for FDEs [1–9], are derived by symmetry group technique.

About three centuries ago for finding conservation laws of the considered equation, for the first time, derivatives of non-integer order ($\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$) was introduced by Leibniz. Recently this methodology is developed for PDEs for finding exact solutions, symmetries, conservation laws and etc.

The concept of conservation laws is given in [10–14]. Furthermore, it has been shown that how we can make conservation laws by using Lie–Backlund symmetry generators. In a number of recent papers, conservation laws by using fractional symmetry for FDEs is developed [15,16]. In this method, the existence of Lagrangian is not necessary. In fact by formal Lagrangian, we yield the components of conservation laws [13].

The classical Lie point symmetry has been investigated for the diffusion equation of the $(3 + \alpha)$ dimensional of order $\alpha \in (0, 2)$

$$D_t^\alpha u = (f(u)u_x)_x + (g(u)u_y)_y + (h(u)u_z)_z, \quad (1)$$

in the sense of Riemann–Liouville derivative. Furthermore, we describe our methodology for calculating of conservation laws for FDEs. In the sequel, as an example and application of the proposed model, we present the calculation of the conservation laws. In the process of computing the symmetry and conservation laws, we use fractional calculating regularly [17–19].

* Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: lashkarianelham@yahoo.com (E. Lashkarian), ra.hejazi@gmail.com (S. Reza Hejazi), dastranj.e@gmail.com (E. Dastranj).

The present paper is organized as follows. In section two, we illustrate some fractional results for the considered FDE (1). Third chapter is devoted to find symmetry operators of Eq. (1) in general and special forms. In the fourth chapter, we give a comprehensive analysis of the equation including application of symmetry analysis and conservation laws.

2. Fractional calculus on the Eq. (1)

Left sided and right sided time-fractional integral of order $n - \alpha$ are defined as follows.

$$({}_0I_t^{n-\alpha})(t, x, y, z) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n - \alpha)} \int_0^t \frac{u(\mu, x, y, z)}{(t - \mu)^{\alpha+1-n}} d\mu \tag{2}$$

$$({}_tI_T^{n-\alpha})(t, x, y, z) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n - \alpha)} \int_t^T \frac{u(\mu, x, y, z)}{(\mu - t)^{\alpha+1-n}} d\mu. \tag{3}$$

Left and right derivatives of Riemann–Liouville and Caputo time-fractional derivatives is described by:

$${}_0D_t^\alpha u = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n - \alpha)} \frac{\partial^n}{\partial t^n} \int_0^t \frac{u(\mu, x, y, z)}{(\mu - t)^{\alpha+1-n}} d\mu, \tag{4}$$

$${}_tD_T^\alpha u = \frac{(-1)^n}{\Gamma(n - \alpha)} \frac{\partial^n}{\partial t^n} \int_t^T \frac{u(\mu, x, y, z)}{(\mu - t)^{\alpha+1-n}} d\mu, \tag{5}$$

$$({}^C D_t^\alpha)(t, x, y, z) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n - \alpha)} \int_0^t \frac{D^n u(\mu, x, y, z)}{(\mu - t)^{\alpha+1-n}} d\mu, \tag{6}$$

$${}_t^C D_T^\alpha u = \frac{(-1)^n}{\Gamma(n - \alpha)} \int_t^T \frac{D_\mu^n u(\mu, x, y, z)}{(\mu - t)^{\alpha+1-n}} d\mu. \tag{7}$$

So, we have

$${}_0D_t^\alpha u = D_t^n ({}_0I_t^{n-\alpha} u), \quad {}^C D_t^\alpha u = {}_0I_t^{n-\alpha} (D_t^n u).$$

In the sequel, four time-fractional generalizations of Eq. (1) are considered.

First let us that in the resumption, the classical diffusion equation can be written as $u_t = C[U]$, where

$$C[U] = (f(u)u_x)_x + (g(u)u_y)_y + (h(u)u_z)_z,$$

four time-fractional generalized to Eq. (1) are

$$u_t = I_t^\alpha C[U] = I_t^\alpha [(f(u)u_x)_x + (g(u)u_y)_y + (h(u)u_z)_z], \tag{8}$$

$$u_t = D_t^{1-\alpha} C[U] = D_t^{1-\alpha} [(f(u)u_x)_x + (g(u)u_y)_y + (h(u)u_z)_z], \tag{9}$$

$$u_t = C[I_t^\alpha U] = f_u I_t^\alpha u_x^2 + f_{xx} I_t^\alpha u_{xx} + g_u I_t^\alpha u_y^2 + g_{yy} I_t^\alpha u_{yy} + h_u I_t^\alpha u_z^2 + h_{zz} I_t^\alpha u_{zz}, \tag{10}$$

$$u_t = C[D_t^{1-\alpha} U] = f_u D_t^{1-\alpha} u_x^2 + f_{xx} D_t^{1-\alpha} u_{xx} + g_u D_t^{1-\alpha} u_y^2 + g_{yy} D_t^{1-\alpha} u_{yy} + h_u D_t^{1-\alpha} u_z^2 + h_{zz} D_t^{1-\alpha} u_{zz}. \tag{11}$$

where I_t^α is the left-sided time-fractional integral of order α and $D_t^{1-\alpha}$ is the left-sided time-fractional derivative of order $1 - \alpha$ of the Riemann–Liouville type.

Note that since $D_t^\alpha I_t^\alpha u = u$, Eq. (8), can be rewritten as

$$D_t^{\alpha+1} u = D_t^\alpha u_t = (f(u)u_x)_x + (g(u)u_y)_y + (h(u)u_z)_z. \tag{12}$$

Substituting $D_t^{1-\alpha} = I_t^{\alpha-1}$ and $I_t^{\alpha-1} u_t = {}^C D_t^\alpha u$ into Eq. (9) yields

$${}^C D_t^\alpha u_t = (f(u)u_x)_x + (g(u)u_y)_y + (h(u)u_z)_z. \tag{13}$$

Taking $v = I_t^\alpha u$, ($I_t^\alpha u_{xx} = v_{xx}$, $I_t^\alpha u_x^2 = v_x^2$, $u_t = D_t^{1+\alpha} v$) from Eq. (10) we have

$$D_t^{1+\alpha} v_t = (f(v)v_x)_x + (g(v)v_y)_y + (h(v)v_z)_z,$$

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