

Research Article

Cubic Spline Collocation Method for Fractional Differential Equations

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We discuss the cubic spline collocation method with two parameters for solving the initial value problems (IVPs) of fractional differential equations (FDEs). Some results of the local truncation error, the convergence, and the stability of this method for IVPs of FDEs are obtained. Some numerical examples verify our theoretical results.

1. Introduction

In the recent past years, the use of fractional differential equations (FDEs) has gained considerable popularity in some fields (e.g., nonlinear oscillation of earthquake [1], fluid-dynamic traffic model [2], material viscoelastic theory and physics [3–6], etc.). Based on these requirements, the numerical approach has become very important to solve FDEs and analyze the experimental data which are described in a fractional way.

The numerical approaches to FDEs have been recently studied by numerous authors [6–15]. However, the state of art is far less advanced for general fractional order differential equations. In the recent years, spline collocation methods including wavelet methods have been successfully applied to some initial value problems (IVPs) and initial-boundary value problems of FDEs [16–23]. Pedas and Tamme [16, 18] discussed spline collocation methods for some classes of IVPs of linear multiterm fractional differential equations and obtained the corresponding convergence results. Li et al. [19] used the higher-order piecewise interpolation for the fractional integral and fractional derivatives, proposed a higher-order algorithm based on the Simpson method for FDEs, and gave the error and stability results. Li [21] applied the cubic B-spline wavelet collocation method to FDEs by the approach that such problems are converted into a system of algebraic equations which is suitable for computer programming.

It is worth notice that the spline collocation methods for the IVPs of FDEs are often achieved by their solving of the equivalent IVPs of integral equations with weakly singular kernels. In this paper, the cubic spline collocation method is designed to solve directly the IVPs of general FDEs. And the corresponding theoretical results of the local truncation error, the convergence, and the stability of the cubic spline collocation method for the IVPs of general FDEs are given.

This paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we propose the spline cubic collocation method for solving the IVPs of FDEs. In Section 3, the corresponding theoretical results of the convergence and the stability are also given. In Section 4, the theoretical results are identified by some numerical examples.

In the following text, we first recall the basic definitions of fractional calculus [6]. Usually, ${}_a^C D_t^\alpha$ denotes the Caputo fractional derivative of order α as

$${}_a^C D_t^\alpha y(t)$$

$$= \begin{cases} I^{n-\alpha} D^n y(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n-\alpha)} \int_a^t (t-\tau)^{n-\alpha-1} \frac{d^n}{d\tau^n} y(\tau) d\tau, & t > a, \quad \text{if } n-1 < \alpha < n, \\ \frac{d^n}{dt^n} y(t), & \text{if } \alpha = n, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where D^n is the classical differential operator of order n , $y(t)$ is n times continuously differentiable, and I^α denotes the integral operator of order α as

$$\begin{aligned} I^\alpha y(t) &= \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_a^t (t-\tau)^{\alpha-1} y(\tau) d\tau, & t > a, \text{ if } \alpha > 0, \\ I, & \text{if } \alpha = 0, \end{cases} \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

where I is the identity operator.

As is well known, there are some different definitions of fractional operator except the Caputo fractional derivative. From a theoretical point of view, the most natural approach is the Riemann-Liouville definition as

$$\begin{aligned} {}_a^R D_t^\alpha y(t) &= D^n I^{n-\alpha} y(t) \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(n-\alpha)} \frac{d^n}{dt^n} \int_a^t (t-\tau)^{n-\alpha-1} y(\tau) d\tau, \quad (3) \\ &\quad t > a, n-1 < \alpha \leq n. \end{aligned}$$

The relationship between the Caputo definition and the Riemann-Liouville definition can be given by the following Lemma.

Lemma 1 (see [5, 6]). *Let $\alpha > 0$ and $n = \lceil \alpha \rceil$. Assume that $f(t)$ is n times continuously differentiable, ${}_0^C D_t^\alpha f$ and ${}_0^R D_t^\alpha f$ exist; then*

$${}_0^R D_t^\alpha f(t) = {}_0^C D_t^\alpha f(t) + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{f^k(t_0)}{\Gamma(k-\alpha+1)} (t-t_0)^{k-\alpha}. \quad (4)$$

2. Cubic Spline Collocation Method for FDEs

Consider the initial value problem

$$\begin{aligned} {}_0^C D_t^\alpha y(t) &= f(t, y(t)), \quad t \in I = [0, T], \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 1, \\ y(0) &= y_0, \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

where $f : [0, T] \times R \rightarrow R$ is a given continuous mapping and satisfies the Lipschitz condition

$$|f(t, y) - f(t, z)| \leq L |y - z|, \quad \forall t \in I = [0, T], \quad y, z \in R. \quad (6)$$

It is well known that the IVP (5) is equivalent to the problem [24]

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= y(0) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^t (t-\tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau, y(\tau)) d\tau, \\ y(0) &= y_0. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Let $t_i = ih$ ($i = 0, 1, \dots, N$, $h = T/N$, $N > 0$) be the grid points of the uniform partition of $[0, T]$ into the subintervals

$I_i = [t_{i-1}, t_i]$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$. On each subinterval I_i , the cubic C^1 -spline function $S(t, h)$ can be represented as

$$S(t, h) = S_i(t, h), \quad (8)$$

where

$$S_i(t, h)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left(1 + 2\frac{t-t_{i-1}}{h}\right) \left(\frac{t_i-t}{h}\right)^2 S_{i-1}^{(0)} + \frac{(t-t_{i-1})(t_i-t)^2}{h^3} S_{i-1}^{(1)} \\ &+ \left(1 + 2\frac{t_i-t}{h}\right) \left(\frac{t-t_{i-1}}{h}\right)^2 S_i^{(0)} - \frac{(t-t_{i-1})^2(t_i-t)}{h^3} S_i^{(1)}, \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

and $S(0, h) = S_0^{(0)} = y_0$, $S_0^{(1)} = hy'(0)$.

Let $\xi = (t-t_{i-1})/h \in [0, 1]$, $\bar{\xi} = 1 - \xi = (t_i-t)/h$. We can write (9) as

$$\begin{aligned} S_i(t, h) &= S_i(t_{i-1} + \xi h, h) \\ &= \bar{\xi}^2 (2\xi + 1) S_{i-1}^{(0)} + \bar{\xi}^2 \xi S_{i-1}^{(1)} + \xi^2 (2\bar{\xi} + 1) S_i^{(0)} - \xi^2 \bar{\xi} S_i^{(1)}, \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

where $S_i^{(0)} = S(t_i, h) \approx y(t_i)$, $S_i^{(1)} = hS'(t_i, h) \approx hy'(t_i)$, $i = 0, 1, \dots, N$. Obviously, $S(t, h) \in C^1[0, T]$, and $S(t, h) \approx y(t)$, for all $t \in [0, T]$.

Remark 2. In this algorithm, the initial value $y'(0)$ must be provided, but it does not need to be given in problem. That is, if we approximate $y'(0)$, then the approximation of $y'(0)$ is given by using the low-order methods. In this paper, we obtained approximation of $y'(0)$ by using one-order BDF method. That is,

$$y(\bar{h}) \approx \tilde{y}(\bar{h}) = y_0 + \frac{\bar{h}^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} f(0, y_0). \quad (11)$$

Then

$$y'(0) \approx \frac{\tilde{y}(\bar{h}) - y(0)}{\bar{h}}, \quad (12)$$

where \bar{h} is a tiny stepsize.

By using the collocation conditions in each subinterval I_i and (5), we have

$$\begin{aligned} &{}_0^C D_t^\alpha S(t, h) \Big|_{t=t_{i-1}+\phi h} \\ &= f(t_{i-1} + \phi h, S(t_{i-1} + \phi h, h)), \quad \phi \in \{\phi_1, \phi_2\}, \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where ϕ_1, ϕ_2 are the collocation points, and $0 < C_0 \leq \phi_1 < \phi_2 \leq 1$, C_0 is a constant. And according to (10), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} S(t_{i-1+\phi_1}, h) \\ S(t_{i-1+\phi_2}, h) \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\phi}_1^2(2\phi_1+1) & \bar{\phi}_1^2\phi_1 \\ \bar{\phi}_2^2(2\phi_2+1) & \bar{\phi}_2^2\phi_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} S_{i-1}^{(0)} \\ S_{i-1}^{(1)} \end{pmatrix} \\ &\quad + \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1^2(2\bar{\phi}_1+1) & -\phi_1^2\bar{\phi}_1 \\ \phi_2^2(2\bar{\phi}_2+1) & -\phi_2^2\bar{\phi}_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} S_i^{(0)} \\ S_i^{(1)} \end{pmatrix} \\ &= C(\phi_1, \phi_2) \begin{pmatrix} S_{i-1}^{(0)} \\ S_{i-1}^{(1)} \end{pmatrix} + D(\phi_1, \phi_2) \begin{pmatrix} S_i^{(0)} \\ S_i^{(1)} \end{pmatrix}, \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

where $\bar{\phi}_j = 1 - \phi_j$, $i = 1, 2$.

Using the definition of the Caputo fractional derivative in the form (1) and using (13), we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \left[\int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi_j h} \frac{S'(\tau, h) d\tau}{(t_{i-1} + \phi_j h - \tau)^\alpha} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} \frac{S'(\tau, h) d\tau}{(t_{i-1} + \phi_j h - \tau)^\alpha} \right] \\ &= f(t_{i-1} + \phi_j h, S(t_{i-1} + \phi_j h, h)), \quad j = 1, 2. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Through calculation, we can get

$$\begin{aligned} &-6\phi_j^{2-\alpha}(\alpha-3+2\phi)S_i^{(0)} + 2\phi_j^{2-\alpha}(-3+\alpha+3\phi)S_i^{(1)} \\ &+ 6\phi_j^{2-\alpha}(\alpha-3+2\phi)S_{i-1}^{(0)} \\ &+ \phi_j^{1-\alpha}(-12\phi_j+4\phi_j\alpha+6\phi_j^2+6-5\alpha+\alpha^2)S_{i-1}^{(1)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &+ \sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \left[-6\varphi_2(n, \phi_j)S_{n-1}^{(0)} + (\varphi_0(n, \phi_j) - \varphi_1(n, \phi_j) - 3\varphi_2(n, \phi_j))S_{n-1}^{(1)} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 6\varphi_2(n, \phi_j)S_{i-1}^{(0)} + (\varphi_1(n, \phi_j) - 3\varphi_2(n, \phi_j))S_i^{(1)} \right] \\ &= \Gamma(4-\alpha)h^\alpha f(t_{i-1} + \phi_j h, S(t_{i-1} + \phi_j h)), \quad j = 1, 2, \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_0(n, \phi_j) &= (i-n+\phi_j)^{1-\alpha}(2-\alpha)(3-\alpha) \\ &\quad - (i-n+\phi_j-1)^{1-\alpha}(3-\alpha), \\ \varphi_1(n, \phi_j) &= -(i-n+\phi_j-1)^{1-\alpha}(2-\alpha)(3-\alpha) \\ &\quad - (i-n+\phi_j-1)^{2-\alpha}(3-\alpha) \\ &\quad + (i-n+\phi_j)^{2-\alpha}(3-\alpha), \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_2(n, \phi_j) &= \varphi_1(n, \phi_j) \\ &\quad + (i-n+\phi_j-1)^{1-\alpha}(2-\alpha)(3-\alpha) \\ &\quad + 2(i-n+\phi_j-1)^{2-\alpha}(3-\alpha) \\ &\quad + 2(i-n+\phi_j-1)^{3-\alpha} - 2(i-n+\phi_j)^{3-\alpha}. \end{aligned}$$

In order to obtain the corresponding iteration formula, we denote

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{A} &= \begin{pmatrix} -6\phi_1^{2-\alpha}(\alpha-3+2\phi_1) & 2\phi_1^{2-\alpha}(-3+\alpha+3\phi_1) \\ -6\phi_2^{2-\alpha}(\alpha-3+2\phi_2) & 2\phi_2^{2-\alpha}(-3+\alpha+3\phi_2) \end{pmatrix}, \\ \tilde{B} &= \begin{pmatrix} 6\phi_1^{2-\alpha}(\alpha-3+2\phi_1) & \phi_1^{1-\alpha}(-12\phi_1+4\phi\alpha+6\phi_1^2+6-5\alpha+\alpha^2) \\ 6\phi_2^{2-\alpha}(\alpha-3+2\phi_2) & \phi_2^{1-\alpha}(-12\phi_2+4\phi\alpha+6\phi_2^2+6-5\alpha+\alpha^2) \end{pmatrix}, \\ \tilde{H}(i) &= \begin{pmatrix} \sum_{n=0}^{i-1} \left[-6\varphi_2(n, \phi_1)S_{n-1}^{(0)} + (\varphi_0(n, \phi_1) - \varphi_1(n, \phi_1) - 3\varphi_2(n, \phi_1))S_{n-1}^{(1)} \right. \\ \left. + 6\varphi_2(n, \phi_1)S_n^{(0)} + (\varphi_1(n, \phi_1) - 3\varphi_2(n, \phi_1))S_n^{(1)} \right] \\ \sum_{n=0}^{i-1} \left[-6\varphi_2(n, \phi_2)S_{n-1}^{(0)} + (\varphi_0(n, \phi_2) - \varphi_1(n, \phi_2) - 3\varphi_2(n, \phi_2))S_{n-1}^{(1)} \right. \\ \left. + 6\varphi_2(n, \phi_2)S_n^{(0)} + (\varphi_1(n, \phi_2) - 3\varphi_2(n, \phi_2))S_n^{(1)} \right] \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

Obviously, it follows from the inequalities $C_0 \leq \phi_1 < \phi_2 \leq 1$ that the matrix \tilde{A} is invertible, and

$$\underline{S}_i = -\tilde{A}^{-1}\tilde{B}\underline{S}_{i-1} + \Gamma(4-\alpha)h^\alpha\tilde{A}^{-1}\underline{f}_i - \tilde{A}^{-1}\tilde{H}(i), \quad (19)$$

where

$$\underline{S}_i = (S_i^{(0)}, S_i^{(1)})^T,$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{f}_i &= (f_{i-1+\phi_1}, f_{i-1+\phi_2})^T \\ &= (f(t_{i-1+\phi_1}, S(t_{i-1+\phi_1}, h)), f(t_{i-1+\phi_2}, S(t_{i-1+\phi_2}, h)))^T. \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

Let

$$A = -\tilde{A}^{-1}\tilde{B}, \quad B = \tilde{A}^{-1}, \quad H(i) = -\tilde{A}^{-1}\tilde{H}(i). \quad (21)$$

Then, it follows that

$$\underline{S}_i = A\underline{S}_{i-1} + h^\alpha\Gamma(4-\alpha)B\underline{f}_i + H(i). \quad (22)$$

For (22), we can obtain their numerical solutions by using the Newton iterative method.

In addition, applying the collocation conditions in each subinterval I_i and using (7), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{S}(t, h) &\Big|_{t=t_{i-1}+\phi h} \\ &= y_0 + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^{t_{i-1}+\phi h} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau, \bar{S}(\tau, h)) d\tau, \\ &\quad \phi \in \{\phi_1, \phi_2\}, \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

where ϕ_1, ϕ_2 are the collocation points, $0 < C_0 \leq \phi_1 < \phi_2 \leq 1$, and

$\bar{S}(t, h)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left(1 + 2\frac{t-t_{i-1}}{h}\right) \left(\frac{t_i-t}{h}\right)^2 \bar{S}_{i-1}^{(0)} + \frac{(t-t_{i-1})(t_i-t)^2}{h^3} \bar{S}_{i-1}^{(1)} \\ &\quad + \left(1 + 2\frac{t_i-t}{h}\right) \left(\frac{t-t_{i-1}}{h}\right)^2 \bar{S}_i^{(0)} - \frac{(t-t_{i-1})^2(t_i-t)}{h^3} \bar{S}_i^{(1)}, \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

where $\bar{S}(0, h) = \bar{S}_0^{(0)} = y_0$, $\bar{S}_0^{(1)} = hy'(0)$, $\bar{S}_i^{(0)} = \bar{S}(t_i, h) \approx y(t_i)$, $\bar{S}_i^{(1)} = h\bar{S}'(t_i, h) \approx hy'(t_i)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$.

In this paper, for convenience, the cubic spline collocation method based on the direct discretization with (13) is called direct spline collocation method (DSCM for short); and the cubic spline collocation method based on the fractional order integral equations (7) and (27) is called indirect spline collocation method (ISCM for short).

3. Theoretical Results

Lemma 3 (see [25]). Suppose that $z_n \geq 0$, $n = 0, 1, \dots, N$, and satisfy

$$z_n \leq h^\alpha c_0 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (n-j)^{\alpha-1} z_j + c_1, \quad n = 0, 1, \dots, N, \quad (25)$$

where $0 < \alpha \leq 1$, $c_1 \geq 0$, $c_0 > 0$ is independent of $h > 0$. Then

$$z_n \leq c_1 E_\alpha(c_0 \Gamma(\alpha) (nh)^\alpha), \quad n = 0, 1, \dots, N, \quad (26)$$

where E_α is a Mittag-Leffler function.

Lemma 4. Assume that the function $g(t) \in C^1[0, T]$. Then, for all $\phi \in [0, 1]$, $t \in [0, T-h]$, one has

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} g(\tau) d\tau \\ &= g(t+\phi h) \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau + o(h), \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

where $0 < \alpha \leq 1$, $0 < s \leq T$ is a constant and satisfies $t+h = s$ or $s-(t+h) \geq C_0 h$, $C_0 \in (0, 1]$, $o(\cdot)$ is infinitesimal of higher order.

Proof. Using the Taylor formula, we have

$$\begin{aligned} g(\tau) &= g(t+\phi h) + g'(t+\phi h)(\tau-t-\phi h) + o(h), \\ &\quad \forall \tau \in [t, t+h]. \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

Applying the integral mean value theorem, we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} g(\tau) d\tau \\ &= \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} \\ &\quad \times (g(t+\phi h) + g'(t+\phi h) \\ &\quad \times (\tau-t-\phi h) + o(h)) d\tau \\ &= g(t+\phi h) \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau \\ &\quad + g'(t+\phi h) \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} (\tau-t-\phi h) d\tau + o(h) \\ &= g(t+\phi h) \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau \\ &\quad + g'(t+\phi h)(\xi-t-\phi h) \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau + o(h) \\ &= g(t+\phi h) \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau \\ &\quad + g'(t+\phi h)(\xi-t-\phi h) \\ &\quad \times \left[\frac{1}{\alpha} ((s-t)^\alpha - (s-t-h)^\alpha) \right] + o(h), \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

where $\xi \in [t, t+h]$. Since $g(t) \in C^1[0, T]$, $g'(t)$ is bounded on $[0, T]$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} g(\tau) d\tau \\ &= g(t+\phi h) \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau \\ &+ O(h) \frac{1}{\alpha} [(s-t)^\alpha - (s-t-h)^\alpha] + o(h). \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

Consider the following.

(i) If $s = t + h$, then

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} g(\tau) d\tau \\ &= g(t+\phi h) \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau \\ &+ O(h) \frac{1}{\alpha} [(t+h-t)^\alpha] + o(h) \\ &= g(t+\phi h) \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau \\ &+ O(h) \frac{1}{\alpha} h^\alpha + o(h) \\ &= g(t+\phi h) \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau \\ &+ O(h^{1+\alpha}) + o(h) \\ &= g(t+\phi h) \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau + o(h). \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

(ii) If $C_0 h \leq s - (t+h)$, then

$$\begin{aligned} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} &\leq (s-(t+h))^{\alpha-1} \leq C_0^{\alpha-1} h^{\alpha-1}, \quad \forall \tau \in [t, t+h], \\ \frac{1}{\alpha} [(s-t)^\alpha - (s-t-h)^\alpha] &= \int_t^{t+h} (s-\tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau \leq \int_t^{t+h} C_0^{\alpha-1} h^{\alpha-1} d\tau = C_0^{\alpha-1} h^\alpha. \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

Thus,

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} [(s-t)^\alpha - (s-t-h)^\alpha] = o(1). \quad (33)$$

By means of (30), Lemma 4 is established obviously. \square

Theorem 5 (the local truncation error). *If the analytical solution of the problem (5) $y(t) \in C^4[0, T]$, then the local truncation error of DSCM is $O(h^4)$.*

Proof. Applying the Taylor expansion and the definition of $S(t, h)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= \left(1 + 2 \frac{t-t_{i-1}}{h}\right) \left(\frac{t_i-t}{h}\right)^2 y(t_{i-1}) \\ &+ \frac{(t-t_{i-1})(t_i-t)^2}{h^3} hy'(t_{i-1}) \\ &+ \left(1 + 2 \frac{t_i-t}{h}\right) \left(\frac{t-t_{i-1}}{h}\right)^2 y(t_i) \\ &- \frac{(t-t_{i-1})^2(t_i-t)}{h^3} hy'(t_i) + O((t-t_{i-1})^4) \\ &= \bar{y}(t) + O((t-t_{i-1})^4), \\ y'(t) &= \bar{y}'(t) + O((t-t_{i-1})^3), \quad \forall t \in [t_{i-1}, t_i]. \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

From the definition of the Caputo fractional derivative, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \left[\int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi_j h} \frac{(\bar{y}'(\tau) + O((\tau-t_{i-1})^3)) d\tau}{(t_{i-1}+\phi_j h-\tau)^\alpha} \right. \\ & \left. + \sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} \frac{y'(\tau) d\tau}{(t_{i-1}+\phi_j h-\tau)^\alpha} \right] \\ &= f(t_{i-1}+\phi_j h, \bar{y}(t_{i-1}+\phi_j h) + O(\phi_j h)^4), \quad j = 1, 2. \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

That is,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi_j h} \frac{\bar{y}'(\tau) d\tau}{(t_{i-1}+\phi_j h-\tau)^\alpha} \\ &= f(t_{i-1}+\phi_j h, \bar{y}(t_{i-1}+\phi_j h) + O(\phi_j h)^4) \\ & - \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \left[\sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} \frac{y'(\tau) d\tau}{(t_{i-1}+\phi_j h-\tau)^\alpha} \right. \\ & \left. + \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi_j h} \frac{O((\tau-t_{i-1})^3) d\tau}{(t_{i-1}+\phi_j h-\tau)^\alpha} \right], \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

where $j = 1, 2$. Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{pmatrix} y(t_i) \\ hy'(t_i) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= A \begin{pmatrix} y(t_{i-1}) \\ hy'(t_{i-1}) \end{pmatrix} + h^\alpha \Gamma(4-\alpha) B \\ & \times \begin{pmatrix} f(t_{i-1}+\phi_1 h, \bar{y}(t_{i-1}+\phi_1 h) + O(\phi_1 h)^4) \\ f(t_{i-1}+\phi_2 h, \bar{y}(t_{i-1}+\phi_2 h) + O(\phi_2 h)^4) \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& -h^\alpha \widetilde{A}^{-1} \left\{ \left(\sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} \frac{y'(\tau) d\tau}{(t_{i-1} + \phi_1 h - \tau)^\alpha} \right) \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \left(\begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi_1 h} \frac{O((\tau-t_{i-1})^3) d\tau}{(t_{i-1} + \phi_1 h - \tau)^\alpha} \\ \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi_2 h} \frac{O((\tau-t_{i-1})^3) d\tau}{(t_{i-1} + \phi_2 h - \tau)^\alpha} \end{array} \right) \right\}. \tag{37}
\end{aligned}$$

Supposing $S(t, h) = y(t)$, for all $t \in [0, t_{i-1}]$, and substituting $y(t)$ into (13), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\begin{pmatrix} y(t_i) \\ hy'(t_i) \end{pmatrix} &= A \begin{pmatrix} y(t_{i-1}) \\ hy'(t_{i-1}) \end{pmatrix} + h^\alpha \Gamma(4-\alpha) B \\
&\quad \times \begin{pmatrix} f(t_{i-1} + \phi_1 h, S(t_{i-1} + \phi_1 h, h)) \\ f(t_{i-1} + \phi_2 h, S(t_{i-1} + \phi_2 h, h)) \end{pmatrix} \\
&\quad + \overline{H}(i) + T_i, \tag{38}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\overline{H}(i) &= -h^\alpha \widetilde{A}^{-1} \left(\begin{array}{l} \sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} \frac{S'(\tau, h) d\tau}{(t_{i-1} + \phi_1 h - \tau)^\alpha} \\ \sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} \frac{S'(\tau, h) d\tau}{(t_{i-1} + \phi_2 h - \tau)^\alpha} \end{array} \right) \\
&= -h^\alpha \widetilde{A}^{-1} \left(\begin{array}{l} \sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} \frac{y'(\tau) d\tau}{(t_{i-1} + \phi_1 h - \tau)^\alpha} \\ \sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} \frac{y'(\tau) d\tau}{(t_{i-1} + \phi_2 h - \tau)^\alpha} \end{array} \right),
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
S_i(t, h) &= \left(1 + 2 \frac{t - t_{i-1}}{h}\right) \left(\frac{t_i - t}{h}\right)^2 y(t_{i-1}) \\
&\quad + \frac{(t - t_{i-1})(t_i - t)^2}{h^3} hy'(t_{i-1}) \\
&\quad + \left(1 + 2 \frac{t_i - t}{h}\right) \left(\frac{t - t_{i-1}}{h}\right)^2 y(t_i) \\
&\quad - \frac{(t - t_{i-1})^2(t_i - t)}{h^3} hy'(t_i), \tag{39}
\end{aligned}$$

where T_i is the local truncation error.

Combining (38), (37) with the Lipschitz condition yields

$$\begin{aligned}
|T_i| &\leq h^\alpha L \Gamma(4-\alpha) \|B\| \left(\begin{array}{l} |O((\phi_1 h)^4)| \\ |O((\phi_2 h)^4)| \end{array} \right) \\
&\quad + h^\alpha \|\widetilde{A}^{-1}\| \left(\begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{\Gamma(2-\alpha)} (\phi_1 h)^{1-\alpha} |O(h^3)| \\ \frac{1}{\Gamma(2-\alpha)} (\phi_2 h)^{1-\alpha} |O(h^3)| \end{array} \right), \\
\|T_i\| &\leq \widehat{C} h^4,
\end{aligned} \tag{40}$$

where \widehat{C} is an appropriate positive constant. And the norm $\|\cdot\|$ is the 1-norm of the matrix (\cdot) in this paper. \square

To prove the convergence of DSCM for the problem (5), we first give the following lemmas.

Lemma 6. *If the analytical solution of the problem (5) $y(t) \in C^4[0, T]$ and the matrixes $C(\phi_1, \phi_2)$ and $D(\phi_1, \phi_2)$ in (14) satisfy that $D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)$ exists, and*

$$\|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2) C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| < 1, \tag{41}$$

then the numerical solutions of ISCM for problem (5) $\bar{S}(t, h)$ satisfy that $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \bar{S}(t, h) = y(t)$.

Proof. For (23), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\bar{S}(t, h) \Big|_{t=t_i+\phi_j h} \\
&= y_0 + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^{t_i+\phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau, \bar{S}(\tau, h)) d\tau, \\
&\quad j = 1, 2, \\
&\bar{S}(0, h) = y_0, \\
&\bar{S}(t_i + \phi_j h, h) \\
&= y_0 + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left[\int_{t_i}^{t_i+\phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau, \bar{S}(\tau, h)) d\tau \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \sum_{n=1}^i \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau, \bar{S}(\tau, h)) d\tau \right] \\
&\quad j = 1, 2. \tag{42}
\end{aligned}$$

It follows from (7) that the analytical solution $y(t)$ of the problem (5) satisfies

$$\begin{aligned}
&y(t_i + \phi_j h) \\
&= y(0) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left[\int_{t_i}^{t_i+\phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau, y(\tau)) d\tau \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & + \sum_{n=1}^i \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau, y(\tau)) d\tau \Big], \\ & j = 1, 2. \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

Moreover, (44) and (45) yield

$$\begin{aligned} & \bar{S}(t_i + \phi_j h, h) - y(t_i + \phi_j h) \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left\{ \int_{t_i}^{t_i + \phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \\ & \quad \times [f(\tau, \bar{S}(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, y(\tau))] d\tau \\ & \quad + \sum_{n=1}^i \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \\ & \quad \times [f(\tau, \bar{S}(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, y(\tau))] d\tau \Big\} \\ &= \frac{h^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \\ & \quad \times \left\{ \int_0^{\phi_j} (\phi_j - \xi)^{\alpha-1} [f(t_i + \xi h, \bar{S}(t_i + \xi h, h)) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - f(t_i + \xi h, y(t_i + \xi h))] d\xi \right. \\ & \quad + \sum_{n=0}^{i-1} \int_0^1 (i + \phi_j - n - \xi)^{\alpha-1} \\ & \quad \times [f(t_n + \xi h, \bar{S}(t_n + \xi h, h)) \\ & \quad \left. - f(t_n + \xi h, y(t_n + \xi h))] d\xi \right\}, \quad j = 1, 2. \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

By using the Lipschitz condition, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & |\bar{S}(t_i + \phi_j h, h) - y(t_i + \phi_j h)| \\ &= \left| \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left\{ \int_{t_i}^{t_i + \phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \right. \\ & \quad \times [f(\tau, \bar{S}(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, y(\tau))] d\tau \\ & \quad + \sum_{n=1}^i \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \\ & \quad \times [f(\tau, \bar{S}(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, y(\tau))] d\tau \Big\} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left\{ \int_{t_i}^{t_i + \phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & + \sum_{n=1}^i \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \\ & \quad \times |f(\tau, \bar{S}(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, y(\tau))| d\tau \Big\} \\ &\leq \frac{L}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left\{ \int_{t_i}^{t_i + \phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} |\bar{S}(\tau, h) - y(\tau)| d\tau \right. \\ & \quad + \sum_{n=1}^i \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} |\bar{S}(\tau, h) - y(\tau)| d\tau \Big\} \\ &= \frac{h^\alpha L}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left\{ \int_0^{\phi_j} (\phi_j - \tau)^{\alpha-1} |\bar{S}(t_i + \tau h, h) - y(t_i + \tau h)| d\tau \right. \\ & \quad + \sum_{n=0}^{i-1} \int_0^1 (i - n + \phi_j - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \\ & \quad \times |\bar{S}(t_n + \tau h, h) - y(t_n + \tau h)| d\tau \Big\}, \quad j = 1, 2. \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

It follows from the definition of $\bar{S}(t, h)$ that

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} y(t_i + hu) \\ y(t_i + hv) \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} \bar{u}^2(2u+1) & \bar{u}^2 u \\ \bar{v}^2(2v+1) & \bar{v}^2 v \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y(t_i) \\ hy'(t_i) \end{pmatrix} \\ &+ \begin{pmatrix} u^2(2\bar{u}+1) & -u^2\bar{u} \\ v^2(2\bar{v}+1) & -v^2\bar{v} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y(t_{i+1}) \\ hy'(t_{i+1}) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= C(u, v) \begin{pmatrix} y_i \\ hy'_i \end{pmatrix} + D(u, v) \begin{pmatrix} y_{i+1} \\ hy'_{i+1} \end{pmatrix} \\ &+ O(h^4), \quad \forall u, v \in [0, 1], \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

where $\bar{u} = 1 - u$, $\bar{v} = 1 - v$. Obviously, for (14) and (46), the matrixes $C(u, v)$ and $D(u, v)$ are continuous on $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$; thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\begin{array}{c} \bar{S}(t_i + hu, h) - y(t_i + hu) \\ \bar{S}(t_i + hv, h) - y(t_i + hv) \end{array} \right) \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \bar{u}^2(2u+1) & \bar{u}^2 u \\ \bar{v}^2(2v+1) & \bar{v}^2 v \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{S}_i^{(0)} - y(t_i) \\ \bar{S}_i^{(1)} - hy'(t_i) \end{pmatrix} \\ &+ \begin{pmatrix} u^2(2\bar{u}+1) & -u^2\bar{u} \\ v^2(2\bar{v}+1) & -v^2\bar{v} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{S}_{i+1}^{(0)} - y(t_{i+1}) \\ \bar{S}_{i+1}^{(1)} - hy'(t_{i+1}) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= C(u, v) \begin{pmatrix} \bar{S}_i^{(0)} - y(t_i) \\ \bar{S}_i^{(1)} - hy'(t_i) \end{pmatrix} \\ &+ D(u, v) \begin{pmatrix} \bar{S}_{i+1}^{(0)} - y(t_{i+1}) \\ \bar{S}_{i+1}^{(1)} - hy'(t_{i+1}) \end{pmatrix} + O(h^4), \\ & \quad \forall u, v \in [0, 1]. \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

Therefore, there exist $\lambda_1 > 0$, $\lambda_2 > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_1 &= \sup_{0 \leq u < v \leq 1} \|C(u, v)\|, & \lambda_2 &= \sup_{0 \leq u < v \leq 1} \|D(u, v)\|, \\ \lambda &= \lambda_1 + \lambda_2. \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

Obviously,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{\phi_j} (\phi_j - \xi)^{\alpha-1} d\xi &= \frac{-1}{\alpha} (\phi_j - \xi)^\alpha \Big|_0^{\phi_j} = \frac{1}{\alpha} (\phi_j)^\alpha \leq \frac{1}{\alpha}, \\ \forall \phi_j &\in [C_0, 1]. \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

Applying the integral mean theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^1 (i-n + \phi_j - \xi)^{\alpha-1} d\xi \\ &= (i-n + \phi_j - \theta)^{\alpha-1} \quad (0 \leq \theta \leq 1) \\ &\leq (i-n)^{\alpha-1} \left(1 + \frac{\phi_j - \theta}{i-n} \right)^{\alpha-1} \\ &\leq (i-n)^{\alpha-1} \left(1 + \frac{\phi_j - 1}{i-n} \right)^{\alpha-1}. \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

It follows from the inequalities $0 < C_0 \leq \phi_1 < \phi_2 \leq 1$ and $0 \leq n \leq i-1$ that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 (i-n + \phi_j - \xi)^{\alpha-1} d\xi &\leq (i-n)^{\alpha-1} \left(1 + \frac{\phi_j - 1}{i-n} \right)^{\alpha-1} \\ &\leq (i-n)^{\alpha-1} (1 + \phi_j - 1)^{\alpha-1} \\ &\leq (i-n)^{\alpha-1} C_0^{\alpha-1}, \quad j = 1, 2. \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

Combining (45), (48), and (49) with (51) and defining

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_i &= \begin{pmatrix} |\bar{S}_i^{(0)} - y(t_i)| \\ |\bar{S}_i^{(1)} - hy'(t_i)| \end{pmatrix}, \\ \epsilon'_i &= \begin{pmatrix} |\bar{S}(t_{i+\phi_1}, h) - y(t_{i+\phi_1})| \\ |\bar{S}(t_{i+\phi_2}, h) - y(t_{i+\phi_2})| \end{pmatrix}, \\ X_i &= \max_{0 \leq n \leq i+1} \{\|\epsilon_n\|\}, \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

where $t_{i+\phi_j} = t_i + \phi_j h$, $j = 1, 2$, we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|\epsilon'_i\| &\leq h^\alpha L \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \frac{(\lambda_1 \|\epsilon_i\| + \lambda_2 \|\epsilon_{i+1}\|)}{\alpha} \right. \\ &\quad + \frac{\widehat{C}_1 h^4}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} ((i+1)h)^\alpha \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \sum_{n=0}^{i-1} C_0^{\alpha-1} (i-n)^{\alpha-1} \\ &\quad \times (\lambda_1 \|\epsilon_n\| + \lambda_2 \|\epsilon_{n+1}\|) \left. \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq h^\alpha L \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \lambda X_i + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \sum_{n=0}^{i-1} C_0^{\alpha-1} \right. \\ &\quad \times (i-n)^{\alpha-1} \lambda X_n \left. \right] + \widehat{C}_2 h^4, \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

where $\widehat{C}_1, \widehat{C}_2$ are some positive constants. If the matrix $D(\phi_1, \phi_2)$ is invertible, then it follows from (47) that we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\begin{pmatrix} \bar{S}_{i+1}^{(0)} - y(t_{i+1}) \\ \bar{S}_{i+1}^{(1)} - hy'(t_{i+1}) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= -D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2) C(\phi_1, \phi_2) \begin{pmatrix} \bar{S}_i^{(0)} - y(t_i) \\ \bar{S}_i^{(1)} - hy'(t_i) \end{pmatrix} \\ &\quad + D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2) \begin{pmatrix} \bar{S}(t_i + h\phi_1, h) - y(t_i + h\phi_1) \\ \bar{S}(t_i + h\phi_2, h) - y(t_i + h\phi_2) \end{pmatrix} \\ &\quad + O(h^4). \end{aligned} \quad (54)$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\epsilon_{i+1}\| &\leq \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2) C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| \|\epsilon_i\| \\ &\quad + \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| \|\epsilon'_i\| + \widehat{C}_3 h^4 \\ &\leq \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2) C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| X_i \\ &\quad + \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| \|\epsilon'_i\| + \widehat{C}_3 h^4, \end{aligned} \quad (55)$$

where \widehat{C}_3 is an appropriate positive constant. Take $\|\epsilon_{\ell+1}\| = \max_{0 \leq n \leq i+1} \|\epsilon_n\| = X_\ell$, $0 \leq \ell \leq i$. Then $X_\ell = \max_{0 \leq n \leq \ell+1} \|\epsilon_n\| = \|\epsilon_{\ell+1}\|$, $X_i = X_\ell$, and

$$\begin{aligned} X_\ell &= \|\epsilon_{\ell+1}\| \\ &\leq \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2) C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| \|\epsilon_\ell\| \\ &\quad + \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| \|\epsilon'_\ell\| + \widehat{C}_3 h^4 \\ &\leq \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2) C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| X_\ell \\ &\quad + \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| \|\epsilon'_\ell\| + \widehat{C}_3 h^4. \end{aligned} \quad (56)$$

Since $\|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2) C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| < 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2) C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\|) X_\ell &\leq \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| \|\epsilon'_\ell\| + \widehat{C}_3 h^4, \\ X_\ell &\leq C_1 \|\epsilon'_\ell\| + \widehat{C}_4 h^4, \end{aligned} \quad (57)$$

where $C_1 = \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)\|/(1 - \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\|)$, \widehat{C}_4 is an appropriate positive constant. According to (53), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} X_\ell &\leq C_1 h^\alpha L \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \lambda X_\ell + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \right. \\ &\quad \times \left. \sum_{n=0}^{\ell-1} C_0^{\alpha-1} (\ell-n)^{\alpha-1} \lambda X_n \right] + \widehat{C}_5 h^4, \\ &\leq C_1 h^\alpha L \left(\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \sum_{n=0}^{\ell-1} C_0^{\alpha-1} (\ell-n)^{\alpha-1} \lambda X_n \right) + \widehat{C}_5 h^4, \end{aligned} \quad (58)$$

where $\widehat{C}_5 > 0$ is an appropriate constant. Obviously, there exist $\widetilde{C} \in (0, 1)$ and $h_1 > 0$ such that $C_1 h^\alpha L \lambda / \Gamma(\alpha+1) \leq \widetilde{C} < 1$ for $h < h_1$. Thus,

$$X_\ell \leq \frac{C_1 h^\alpha L \lambda}{(1 - \widetilde{C})} \left(\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \sum_{n=0}^{\ell-1} C_0^{\alpha-1} (\ell-n)^{\alpha-1} X_n \right) + \widehat{C}_6 h^4. \quad (59)$$

Let $C = C_1 C_0^{\alpha-1} \lambda / (1 - \widetilde{C}) \Gamma(\alpha)$; then

$$\|\epsilon_{i+1}\| \leq X_\ell \leq Ch^\alpha \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\ell-1} (\ell-n)^{\alpha-1} X_n \right) + \widehat{C}_6 h^4, \quad (60)$$

where $\widehat{C}_6 > 0$ is an appropriate constant. Applying Lemma 3, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|\epsilon_{i+1}\| &\leq X_\ell \leq \widehat{C}_6 h^4 E_\alpha(C\Gamma(\alpha)(\ell h)^\alpha) \\ &\leq \widehat{C}_6 h^4 E_\alpha(C\Gamma(\alpha)T^\alpha). \end{aligned} \quad (61)$$

By using the convergence of the Mittag-Leffler function $E_\alpha(z)$ [6], we have

$$X_\ell \rightarrow 0, \quad \|\epsilon_{i+1}\| \rightarrow 0 \quad (h \rightarrow 0). \quad (62)$$

By means of (24), (47), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|\bar{S}(t, h) - y(t)\| \\ &\leq \max_{0 \leq i \leq N-1} \left\{ \sup_{0 \leq u < v \leq 1} \|C(u, v)\| \|\epsilon_i\| \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \sup_{0 \leq u < v \leq 1} \|D(u, v)\| \|\epsilon_{i+1}\| \right\} + \widehat{C}_7 h^4 \\ &\leq (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) E_\alpha(C\Gamma(\alpha)T^\alpha) \widehat{C}_6 h^4 + \widehat{C}_7 h^4 \\ &\leq [\widehat{C}_7 + (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) \widehat{C}_6 E_\alpha(C\Gamma(\alpha)T^\alpha)] h^4, \end{aligned} \quad (63)$$

where \widehat{C}_7 is a positive constant. Consequently, we have

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \bar{S}(t, h) = y(t). \quad (64)$$

□

Remark 7. (1) If $\phi_1 \neq \phi_2$, then

$$D(\phi_1, \phi_2) = \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1^2 (2\bar{\phi}_1 + 1) & -\phi_1^2 \bar{\phi}_1 \\ \phi_2^2 (2\bar{\phi}_2 + 1) & -\phi_2^2 \bar{\phi}_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (65)$$

is invertible, and

$$D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 + \phi_2 & -1 + \phi_1 \\ -\frac{\phi_1^2(-\phi_2 + \phi_1)}{\phi_2^2(-\phi_2 + \phi_1)} & \frac{\phi_2^2(-\phi_2 + \phi_1)}{\phi_1^2(-\phi_2 + \phi_1)} \\ -\frac{-3 + 2\phi_2}{\phi_1^2(-\phi_2 + \phi_1)} & \frac{-3 + 2\phi_1}{\phi_2^2(-\phi_2 + \phi_1)} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (66)$$

(2) Consider

$$D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2) C(\phi_1, \phi_2) = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{(\phi_1 \phi_2 + \phi_1 + \phi_2)(-1 + \phi_2)(-1 + \phi_1)}{\phi_1^2 \phi_2^2} & -\frac{(-1 + \phi_2)(-1 + \phi_1)}{\phi_1 \phi_2} \\ \frac{2\phi_1^2 - 3\phi_1 + 2\phi_1 \phi_2 - 3\phi_2 + 2\phi_2^2}{\phi_1^2 \phi_2^2} & -\frac{\phi_1 \phi_2 - 2\phi_1 + 3 - 2\phi_2}{\phi_1 \phi_2} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (67)$$

When $\|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| < 1$, the range of values ϕ_1, ϕ_2 can be obtained by using Algorithm 8, which can be shown in Figures 1 and 2, respectively.

Algorithm 8.

For $0 \leq \phi_1 \leq 1$

For $\phi_1 < \phi_2 \leq 1$

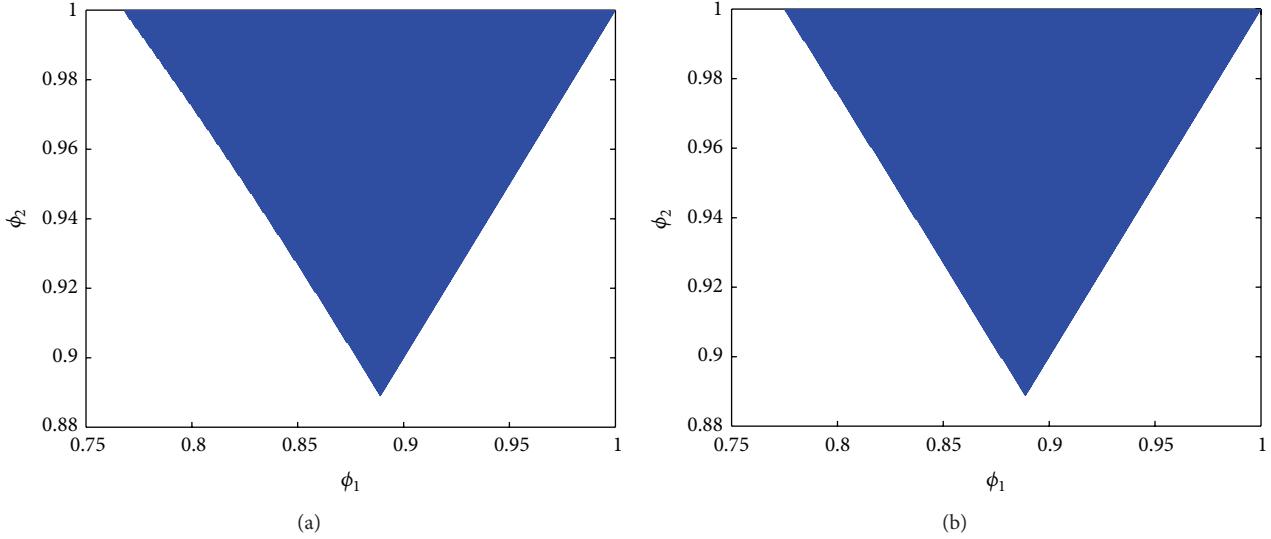
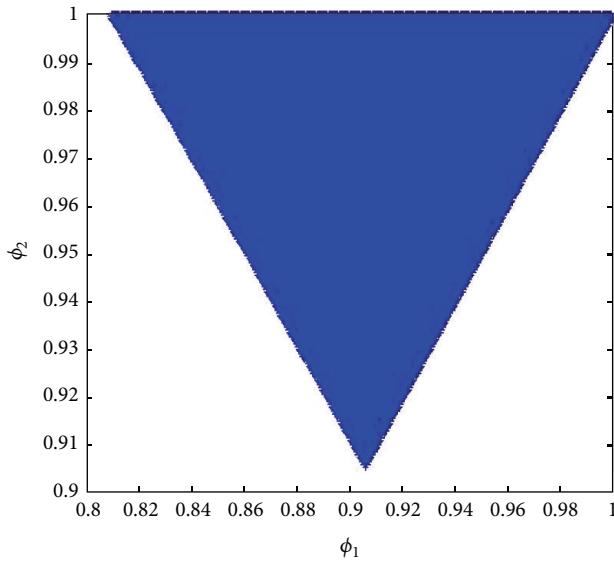
if $\|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| < 1$

record ϕ_1, ϕ_2 ;

end

end

plot(ϕ_1, ϕ_2).

FIGURE 1: The range of values ϕ_1, ϕ_2 when $\|D^{-1}C\|_1 < 1$ (a) or $\|D^{-1}C\|_2 < 1$ (b).FIGURE 2: The range of values ϕ_1, ϕ_2 when $\|D^{-1}C\|_\infty < 1$.

Lemma 9. If the analytical solution of the problem (5) $y(t) \in C^4[0, T]$, the spline functions $S(t, h)$ and $\bar{S}(t, h)$ defined as (9) and (24) on the same grids are the numerical solutions of the problem (5) obtained by DSCM and ISCM, respectively; then we have the following conclusions.

- (i) If $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \bar{S}(t, h) = y(t)$, then $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} S(t, h) = y(t)$, where $y(t)$ is the analytical solution of the problem (5).
- (ii) Assume that $yS(t, h), zS(t, h)$ and $y\bar{S}(t, h), z\bar{S}(t, h)$ are the numerical solutions obtained by DSCM and ISCM for the problem

$$\begin{aligned} {}^C D_t^\alpha y(t) &= f(t, y(t)), \quad t \in I = [0, T], \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 1, \\ y(0) &= y_0, \end{aligned} \quad (68)$$

and the perturbed problem

$$\begin{aligned} {}^C D_t^\alpha z(t) &= f(t, z(t)), \quad t \in I = [0, T], \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 1, \\ z(0) &= z_0, \end{aligned} \quad (69)$$

where f satisfies the Lipschitz condition (6), respectively. Then there exists the constant $h_0 > 0$ such that, for all $h < h_0$, when $|y\bar{S}(t_n, h) - z\bar{S}(t_n, h)| \leq C_1|y_0 - z_0|$, there exists the constant $C > 0$ such that $|yS(t_n, h) - zS(t_n, h)| \leq C|y_0 - z_0|$; here $C_1 > 0$ is a constant, $n = 1, 2, \dots, N$.

Proof. Firstly, we give the proof of the conclusion (i). Applying DSCM, we have

$$\begin{aligned} {}^C D_t^\alpha S(t, h) &\Big|_{t=t_{i-1}+\phi h} \\ &= f(t_{i-1} + \phi h, S(t_{i-1} + \phi h, h)), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N. \end{aligned} \quad (70)$$

Since $S(t, h) \in C^1[0, T]$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} S(t_{i-1} + \phi h, h) &= y_0 \\ &+ \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi h} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} {}^C D_\tau^\alpha S(\tau, h) d\tau \\ &= y_0 \\ &+ \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left[\sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} {}^C D_\tau^\alpha S(\tau, h) d\tau \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi h} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} {}^C D_\tau^\alpha S(\tau, h) d\tau \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (71)$$

It follows from Lemma 4 that

$$\begin{aligned}
S(t_{i-1} + \phi h, h) &= \gamma_0 \\
&+ \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left[\sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \left({}_0^C D_\tau^\alpha S(\tau, h) \Big|_{\tau=t_{n-1+\phi}} \right. \right. \\
&\quad \times \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau + o(h) \Big) \\
&+ {}_0^C D_\tau^\alpha S(\tau, h) \Big|_{\tau=t_{i-1}+\phi h} \\
&\quad \times \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi h} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau + o(h) \Big] \\
&= \gamma_0 \\
&+ \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left[\sum_{n=1}^{i-1} {}_0^C D_\tau^\alpha S(\tau, h) \Big|_{\tau=t_{n-1+\phi}} \right. \\
&\quad \times \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau \\
&+ {}_0^C D_\tau^\alpha S(\tau, h) \Big|_{\tau=t_{i-1}+\phi h} \\
&\quad \times \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi h} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau + o(1), \tag{72}
\end{aligned}$$

where $o(1) \rightarrow 0$ as $h \rightarrow 0$.

By means of (70) and (72), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
S(t_{i-1} + \phi h, h) &= \gamma_0 \\
&+ \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left[\sum_{n=1}^{i-1} f(t_{n-1+\phi}, S(t_{n-1+\phi}, h)) \right. \\
&\quad \times \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau \tag{73} \\
&+ f(t_{i-1} + \phi h, S(t_{i-1} + \phi h, h)) \\
&\quad \times \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi h} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} d\tau + o(1).
\end{aligned}$$

Applying Lemma 4, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
S(t_{i-1} + \phi h, h) &= \gamma_0 \\
&+ \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left[\sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \left(\int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \right. \\
&\quad \times f(\tau, S(\tau, h)) d\tau + o(h) \Big) \tag{75}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&+ \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi h} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \\
&\quad \times f(\tau, S(\tau, h)) d\tau + o(h) \Big] + o(1) \\
&= \gamma_0 \\
&+ \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left[\sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau, S(\tau, h)) d\tau \right. \\
&\quad + \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi h} (t_{i-1} + \phi h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \\
&\quad \times f(\tau, S(\tau, h)) d\tau \Big] + o(1), \tag{74}
\end{aligned}$$

where there exists a constant $\widehat{C}_8 > 0$, $\gamma > 0$ such that $|o(1)| = \widehat{C}_8 h^\gamma$. Based on the definitions of $S(t, h)$, $\bar{S}(t, h)$, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
&|S(t_{i-1} + \phi_j h, h) - \bar{S}(t_{i-1} + \phi_j h, h)| \\
&\leq \left| \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left\{ \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi_j h} (t_{i-1} + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \right. \\
&\quad \times [f(\tau, S(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, \bar{S}(\tau, h))] d\tau \Big\} \\
&\quad + \sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_{i-1} + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \\
&\quad \times [f(\tau, S(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, \bar{S}(\tau, h))] d\tau \Big\} \\
&\quad + \widehat{C}_8 h^\gamma
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left\{ \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi_j h} (t_{i-1} + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \\
&\quad \times |f(\tau, S(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, \bar{S}(\tau, h))| d\tau \Big\} \\
&\quad + \sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_{i-1} + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \\
&\quad \times |f(\tau, S(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, \bar{S}(\tau, h))| d\tau \Big\} + \widehat{C}_8 h^\gamma \\
&\leq \frac{L}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left\{ \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_{i-1}+\phi_j h} (t_{i-1} + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \\
&\quad \times |S(\tau, h) - \bar{S}(\tau, h)| d\tau \Big\} \\
&\quad + \sum_{n=1}^{i-1} \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_{i-1} + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \\
&\quad \times |S(\tau, h) - \bar{S}(\tau, h)| d\tau \Big\} + \widehat{C}_8 h^\gamma, \quad j = 1, 2. \tag{75}
\end{aligned}$$

Based on the similar proof to that of Lemma 6, it follows from Lemma 3 and the inequality $\|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| < 1$ that

$$\|\epsilon_i\| \leq \widehat{C}_9 h^\gamma E_\alpha(C\Gamma(\alpha)T^\alpha), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N, \quad (76)$$

where

$$\epsilon_i = \begin{pmatrix} |S_i^{(0)} - \bar{S}_i^{(0)}| \\ |S_i^{(1)} - \bar{S}_i^{(1)}| \end{pmatrix}, \quad (77)$$

and C is defined in Lemma 6, $\widehat{C}_9 > 0$ is a constant. By means of the convergence of the Mittag-Leffler function $E_\alpha(z)$ [6], we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|\epsilon_i\| &\rightarrow 0, \quad h \rightarrow 0; \\ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} S(t, h) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \bar{S}(t, h). \end{aligned} \quad (78)$$

From Lemma 6, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \bar{S}(t, h) &= y(t), \\ \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} S(t, h) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \bar{S}(t, h) = y(t). \end{aligned} \quad (79)$$

Now, we give the proof of the conclusion (ii) of Lemma 6. According to the conclusion (i), we get

$$\begin{aligned} &|yS(t_n, h) - zS(t_n, h)| \\ &= |yS(t_n, h) - y\bar{S}(t_n, h) + y\bar{S}(t_n, h) \\ &\quad - z\bar{S}(t_n, h) + z\bar{S}(t_n, h) - zS(t_n, h)| \\ &\leq |yS(t_n, h) - y\bar{S}(t_n, h)| \\ &\quad + |y\bar{S}(t_n, h) - z\bar{S}(t_n, h)| \\ &\quad + |z\bar{S}(t_n, h) - zS(t_n, h)| \\ &\leq \max_{0 \leq i \leq N} |yE(t_i, h)| + \max_{0 \leq i \leq N} |zE(t_i, h)| \\ &\quad + C_1 |y_0 - z_0|, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N, \end{aligned} \quad (80)$$

where $yE(t, h) = yS(t, h) - y\bar{S}(t, h)$, $zE(t, h) = zS(t, h) - z\bar{S}(t, h)$.

According to the proof of the conclusion (i), there exists $h_0 > 0$ such that, for all $h < h_0$,

$$\max_{0 \leq i \leq N} |yE(t_i, h)| + \max_{0 \leq i \leq N} |zE(t_i, h)| \leq |y_0 - z_0|. \quad (81)$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} &|yS(t_n, h) - zS(t_n, h)| \leq (1 + C_1) |y_0 - z_0|, \\ &\quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N. \end{aligned} \quad (82)$$

Obviously, take $C = 1 + C_1$; hence, the conclusion (ii) is right. \square

Theorem 10 (convergence of DSCM). *If the analytical solution of the problem (5) $y(t) \in C^4[0, T]$ and the matrixes $C(\phi_1, \phi_2)$ and $D(\phi_1, \phi_2)$ of (14) satisfy that $D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)$ exists, and*

$$\|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| < 1, \quad (83)$$

then DSCM is convergent, and $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} S(t, h) = y(t)$.

Proof. This result follows directly from Lemmas 6 and 9. \square

Now, we consider the stability of DSCM.

Theorem 11 (stability of DSCM). *If the analytical solution of the problem (5) $y(t) \in C^4[0, T]$ and the matrixes $C(\phi_1, \phi_2)$ and $D(\phi_1, \phi_2)$ in (14) satisfy that $D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)$ exists and*

$$\|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| < 1, \quad (84)$$

then ISCM is stable; that is if ISCM is, applied to solve the problem (68) and the perturbed problem (69), respectively, then, for all $0 < h < h_1$ ($h_1 > 0$ is a constant), one has

(i)

$$\|\epsilon_i\| \leq C |y_0 - z_0|, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, N, \quad (85)$$

where

$$\epsilon_i = \begin{pmatrix} |y\bar{S}_i^{(0)} - z\bar{S}_i^{(0)}| \\ |y\bar{S}_i^{(1)} - z\bar{S}_i^{(1)}| \end{pmatrix}, \quad (86)$$

$C > 0$ is a constant, $\{y\bar{S}_i^{(0)}, y\bar{S}_i^{(1)}\}$ are the numerical solutions of the problem (68), and $\{z\bar{S}_i^{(0)}, z\bar{S}_i^{(1)}\}$ are the numerical solutions of the perturbed problem (69), and

(ii)

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|y\bar{S}(t, h) - z\bar{S}(t, h)\| \leq C' |y_0 - z_0|, \quad (87)$$

where $C' > 0$ is a constant, $y\bar{S}(t, h)$ is the numerical solution of the problem (68), and $z\bar{S}(t, h)$ is the numerical solution of the problem (69).

Moreover, DSCM is stable.

Proof. According to Lemma 9, if ISCM is stable, then DSCM is stable. In the following text, we give the proof of stability of ISCM.

By using ISCM to solve the problem (68) and the problem (69), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & y\bar{S}(t, h) \Big|_{t=t_i+\phi_j h} \\ &= y_0 + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^{t_i+\phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \\ & \quad \times f(\tau, y\bar{S}(\tau, h)) d\tau, \quad j = 1, 2, \\ & y\bar{S}(0, h) = y_0, \end{aligned} \tag{88}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & z\bar{S}(t, h) \Big|_{t=t_i+\phi_j h} \\ &= z_0 + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^{t_i+\phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \\ & \quad \times f(\tau, z\bar{S}(\tau, h)) d\tau, \quad j = 1, 2, \\ & z\bar{S}(0, h) = z_0. \end{aligned}$$

The previous equations can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} & y\bar{S}(t_i + \phi_j h, h) \\ &= y_0 + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left[\int_{t_i}^{t_i+\phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau, y\bar{S}(\tau, h)) d\tau \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{n=1}^i \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau, y\bar{S}(\tau, h)) d\tau \right], \\ & \quad j = 1, 2, \end{aligned} \tag{89}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & z\bar{S}(t_i + \phi_j h, h) \\ &= z_0 + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left[\int_{t_i}^{t_i+\phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau, z\bar{S}(\tau, h)) d\tau \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{n=1}^i \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau, z\bar{S}(\tau, h)) d\tau \right], \\ & \quad j = 1, 2. \end{aligned} \tag{90}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} & y\bar{S}(t_i + \phi_j h, h) - z\bar{S}(t_i + \phi_j h, h) \\ &= (y_0 - z_0) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \\ & \quad \times \left\{ \int_{t_i}^{t_i+\phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \\ & \quad \times [f(\tau, y\bar{S}(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, z\bar{S}(\tau, h))] d\tau \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{n=1}^i \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \\ & \quad \times [f(\tau, y\bar{S}(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, z\bar{S}(\tau, h))] d\tau \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \times [f(\tau, y\bar{S}(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, z\bar{S}(\tau, h))] d\tau \Big\} \\ &= (y_0 - z_0) + \frac{h^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \\ & \quad \times \left\{ \int_0^{\phi_j} (\phi_j - \xi)^{\alpha-1} \right. \\ & \quad \times [f(t_i + \xi h, y\bar{S}(t_i + \xi h, h)) \\ & \quad - f(t_i + \xi h, z\bar{S}(t_i + \xi h, h))] d\xi \\ & \quad + \sum_{n=0}^{i-1} \int_0^1 (i + \phi_j - n - \xi)^{\alpha-1} \\ & \quad \times [f(t_n + \xi h, y\bar{S}(t_n + \xi h, h)) \\ & \quad - f(t_n + \xi h, z\bar{S}(t_n + \xi h, h))] d\xi \Big\}, \\ & \quad j = 1, 2. \end{aligned} \tag{91}$$

Applying the Lipschitz condition, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & |y\bar{S}(t_i + \phi_j h, h) - z\bar{S}(t_i + \phi_j h, h)| \\ & \leq |y_0 - z_0| \\ & \quad + \left| \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left\{ \int_{t_i}^{t_i+\phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \right. \\ & \quad \times [f(\tau, y\bar{S}(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, z\bar{S}(\tau, h))] d\tau \\ & \quad \left. \left. + \sum_{n=1}^i \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \right. \\ & \quad \times [f(\tau, y\bar{S}(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, z\bar{S}(\tau, h))] d\tau \Big\} \right| \\ & \leq |y_0 - z_0| \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left\{ \int_{t_i}^{t_i+\phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \\ & \quad \times |f(\tau, y\bar{S}(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, z\bar{S}(\tau, h))| d\tau \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{n=1}^i \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \\ & \quad \times |f(\tau, y\bar{S}(\tau, h)) - f(\tau, z\bar{S}(\tau, h))| d\tau \Big\} \\ & \leq |y_0 - z_0| \\ & \quad + \frac{L}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left\{ \int_{t_i}^{t_i+\phi_j h} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \end{aligned}$$

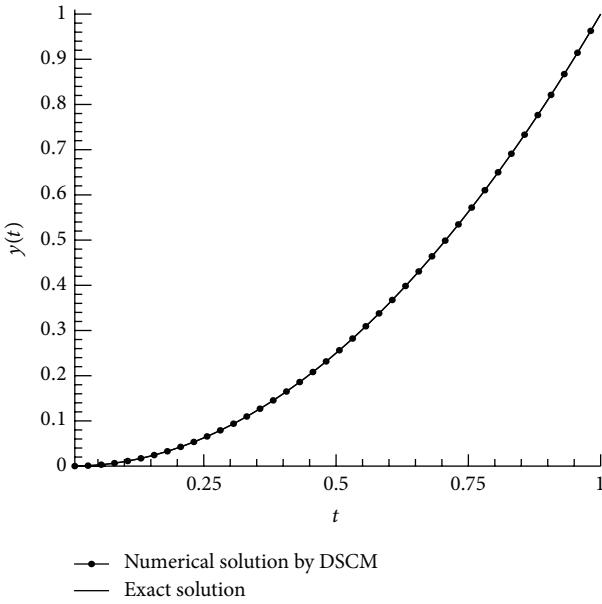


FIGURE 3: The error between the numerical solutions and the exact solution of Example 1; $\alpha = 0.75$.

$$\begin{aligned}
& \times |y\bar{S}(\tau, h) - z\bar{S}(\tau, h)| d\tau \\
& + \sum_{n=1}^i \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} (t_i + \phi_j h - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \\
& \quad \times |y\bar{S}(\tau, h) - z\bar{S}(\tau, h)| d\tau \Big\} \\
& = |y_0 - z_0| \\
& + \frac{h^\alpha L}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left\{ \int_0^{\phi_j} (\phi_j - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \right. \\
& \quad \times |y\bar{S}(t_i + \tau h, h) - z\bar{S}(t_i + \tau h, h)| d\tau \\
& \quad + \sum_{n=0}^{i-1} \int_0^1 (i - n + \phi_j - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \\
& \quad \times |y\bar{S}(t_n + \tau h, h) - z\bar{S}(t_n + \tau h, h)| d\tau \Big\}, \tag{92}
\end{aligned}$$

where $j = 1, 2$. Note that the definitions of $y\bar{S}(t, h), z\bar{S}(t, h)$. Let

$$\lambda_1 = \sup_{0 \leq u < v \leq 1} \|C(u, v)\|,$$

$$\lambda_2 = \max_{0 \leq u < v \leq 1} \|D(u, v)\|,$$

$$\lambda = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2,$$

$$\epsilon_i = \begin{pmatrix} |y\bar{S}_i^{(0)} - z\bar{S}_i^{(0)}| \\ |y\bar{S}_i^{(1)} - z\bar{S}_i^{(1)}| \end{pmatrix}, \quad X_i = \max_{0 \leq n \leq i+1} \{\|\epsilon_n\|\}, \tag{93}$$

$$\epsilon'_i = \begin{pmatrix} |y\bar{S}(t_{i+\phi_1}, h) - z\bar{S}(t_{i+\phi_1}, h)| \\ |y\bar{S}(t_{i+\phi_2}, h) - z\bar{S}(t_{i+\phi_2}, h)| \end{pmatrix},$$

where $t_{i+\phi_j} = t_i + \phi_j h, j = 1, 2$.

It follows from (92), (93), (49), and (51) that

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\epsilon'_i\| & \leq |y_0 - z_0| \\
& + h^\alpha L \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \frac{(\lambda_1 \|\epsilon_i\| + \lambda_2 \|\epsilon_{i+1}\|)}{\alpha} \right. \\
& \quad + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \sum_{n=0}^{i-1} C_0^{\alpha-1} (i-n)^{\alpha-1} \\
& \quad \times (\lambda_1 \|\epsilon_n\| + \lambda_2 \|\epsilon_{n+1}\|) \Big] \\
& \leq |y_0 - z_0| \\
& + h^\alpha L \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} (\lambda X_i) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \right. \\
& \quad \times \sum_{n=0}^{i-1} C_0^{\alpha-1} (i-n)^{\alpha-1} (\lambda X_n) \Big] \\
& \leq |y_0 - z_0| \\
& + h^\alpha L \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)} \lambda X_i + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \right. \\
& \quad \times \sum_{n=0}^{i-1} C_0^{\alpha-1} (i-n)^{\alpha-1} \lambda X_n \Big]. \tag{94}
\end{aligned}$$

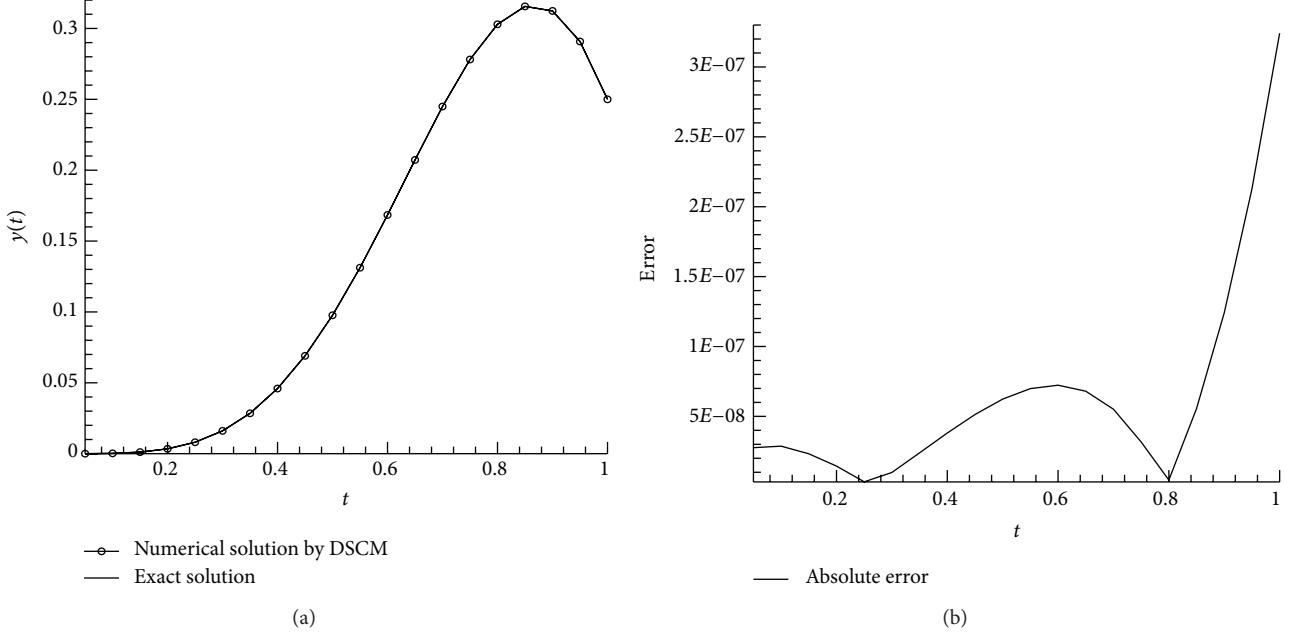
Take $\|\epsilon_{\ell+1}\| = \max_{0 \leq n \leq i+1} \{\|\epsilon_n\|\} = X_\ell$; hence, $X_i = X_\ell, 1 \leq \ell \leq i$. According to the fact that $D(\phi_1, \phi_2)$ is invertible and $\|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| < 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
X_\ell & = \|\epsilon_{\ell+1}\| \\
& \leq \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| \|\epsilon_\ell\| \\
& \quad + \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| \|\epsilon'_\ell\| \\
& \leq \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| X_\ell \\
& \quad + \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| \|\epsilon'_\ell\|,
\end{aligned}$$

$$(1 - \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\|) X_\ell \leq \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)\| \|\epsilon'_\ell\|. \tag{95}$$

Moreover,

$$X_\ell \leq C_1 \|\epsilon'_\ell\|, \tag{96}$$

FIGURE 4: The error between the numerical solutions and the exact solution of the problem (109); $h = 0.05$, $\alpha = 0.000001$.

where $C_1 = \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)\|/(1 - \|D^{-1}(\phi_1, \phi_2)C(\phi_1, \phi_2)\|)$. By means of (94), we have

$$\begin{aligned} X_\ell &\leq C_1 |y_0 - z_0| \\ &+ C_1 h^\alpha L \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \lambda X_\ell \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \sum_{n=0}^{\ell-1} C_0^{\alpha-1} (\ell - n)^{\alpha-1} \lambda X_n \right], \\ &\left(1 - \frac{C_1 h^\alpha L \lambda}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} \right) X_\ell \\ &\leq C_1 |y_0 - z_0| \\ &+ C_1 L h^\alpha \left(\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \sum_{n=0}^{\ell-1} C_0^{\alpha-1} (\ell - n)^{\alpha-1} \lambda X_n \right). \end{aligned} \quad (97)$$

Obviously, there exist $\bar{C} \in (0, 1)$ and $h_1 > 0$ such that $C_1 h^\alpha L \lambda / \Gamma(\alpha + 1) \leq \bar{C} < 1$ as $h < h_1$. Then

$$X_\ell \leq \frac{C_1}{(1 - \bar{C})} \left(|y_0 - z_0| + \frac{C_1 h^\alpha L}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \sum_{n=0}^{\ell-1} C_0^{\alpha-1} (\ell - n)^{\alpha-1} X_n \right). \quad (99)$$

Let $\bar{C} = C_1 C_0^{\alpha-1} L \lambda / (1 - \bar{C}) \Gamma(\alpha)$. We obtain

$$X_\ell \leq \frac{C_1}{(1 - \bar{C})} |y_0 - z_0| + \bar{C} h^\alpha \sum_{n=0}^{\ell-1} (\ell - n)^{\alpha-1} X_n. \quad (100)$$

Applying Lemma 3 yields

$$\begin{aligned} X_\ell &\leq \frac{C_1}{(1 - \bar{C})} |y_0 - z_0| E_\alpha \left(\bar{C} \Gamma(\alpha) (\ell h)^\alpha \right) \\ &\leq \frac{C_1}{(1 - \bar{C})} |y_0 - z_0| E_\alpha \left(\bar{C} \Gamma(\alpha) T^\alpha \right). \end{aligned} \quad (101)$$

Using the convergence of Mittag-Leffler function $E_\alpha(z)$ and denoting

$$C = \frac{C_1}{(1 - \bar{C})} E_\alpha \left(\bar{C} \Gamma(\alpha) T^\alpha \right), \quad (102)$$

we obtain

$$\|\epsilon_{i+1}\| \leq X_i = X_\ell \leq C |y_0 - z_0|. \quad (103)$$

Moreover, from the definitions of $y\bar{S}(t, h)$ and $z\bar{S}(t, h)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\left(\begin{array}{c} y\bar{S}(t_i + hu, h) - z\bar{S}(t_i + hu, h) \\ y\bar{S}(t_i + hv, h) - z\bar{S}(t_i + hv, h) \end{array} \right) \\ &= \left(\begin{array}{cc} \bar{u}^2 (2u + 1) & \bar{u}^2 v \\ \bar{v}^2 (2v + 1) & \bar{v}^2 u \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c} y\bar{S}_i^{(0)} - z\bar{S}_i^{(0)} \\ y\bar{S}_i^{(1)} - z\bar{S}_i^{(1)} \end{array} \right) \\ &\quad + \left(\begin{array}{cc} u^2 (2\bar{u} + 1) & -u^2 \bar{u} \\ v^2 (2\bar{v} + 1) & -v^2 \bar{v} \end{array} \right) \left(\begin{array}{c} y\bar{S}_{i+1}^{(0)} - z\bar{S}_{i+1}^{(0)} \\ y\bar{S}_{i+1}^{(1)} - z\bar{S}_{i+1}^{(1)} \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$

TABLE 1: The absolute errors of DSCM ($\phi_1 = 0.85$, $\phi_2 = 0.99$) and the methods reported in [10, 21]; $\alpha = 0.5$.

t	Error by DSCM	Error by [21]	Error by [10]
0.031250	2.168404×10^{-18}	$0.059585760872 \times 10^{-12}$	$0.043283783288 \times 10^{-4}$
0.093750	1.734723×10^{-18}	$0.043017672757 \times 10^{-12}$	$0.115137021309 \times 10^{-4}$
0.187500	6.938894×10^{-18}	$0.053908266740 \times 10^{-12}$	$0.134008681836 \times 10^{-4}$
0.281250	0.000000×10^{-19}	$0.024466539905 \times 10^{-12}$	$0.145485346092 \times 10^{-4}$
0.375000	2.775558×10^{-17}	$0.003941291737 \times 10^{-12}$	$0.153757162245 \times 10^{-4}$
0.468750	0.000000×10^{-19}	$0.064837024638 \times 10^{-12}$	$0.160223410662 \times 10^{-4}$
0.562500	0.000000×10^{-19}	$0.054012350148 \times 10^{-12}$	$0.165528139359 \times 10^{-4}$
0.656250	5.551115×10^{-17}	$0.009825473768 \times 10^{-12}$	$0.170022170524 \times 10^{-4}$
0.750000	1.110223×10^{-16}	$0.017985612999 \times 10^{-12}$	$0.173918021056 \times 10^{-4}$
0.843750	0.000000×10^{-19}	$0.031863400807 \times 10^{-12}$	$0.177354280767 \times 10^{-4}$
0.937500	1.110223×10^{-16}	$0.201283434365 \times 10^{-12}$	$0.180426383865 \times 10^{-4}$

TABLE 2: The absolute errors of DSCM ($\phi_1 = 0.9$, $\phi_2 = 0.98$) and the methods reported in [10, 21]; $\alpha = 0.75$.

t	Error by DSCM	Error by [21]	Error by [10]
0.03125	7.155734×10^{-18}	$0.330128888907 \times 10^{-13}$	$0.043283783288 \times 10^{-4}$
0.093750	1.040834×10^{-17}	$0.347308987125 \times 10^{-13}$	$0.115137021309 \times 10^{-4}$
0.187500	4.163336×10^{-17}	$0.022967738822 \times 10^{-13}$	$0.134008681836 \times 10^{-4}$
0.281250	9.714451×10^{-16}	$0.198174809896 \times 10^{-13}$	$0.145485346092 \times 10^{-4}$
0.375000	2.220446×10^{-16}	$0.293931545769 \times 10^{-13}$	$0.153757162245 \times 10^{-4}$
0.468750	3.885781×10^{-16}	$0.221489493413 \times 10^{-13}$	$0.160223410662 \times 10^{-4}$
0.562500	7.216450×10^{-16}	$0.194289029309 \times 10^{-13}$	$0.165528139359 \times 10^{-4}$
0.656250	9.436896×10^{-16}	$0.170974345793 \times 10^{-13}$	$0.170022170524 \times 10^{-4}$
0.750000	1.221245×10^{-15}	$0.091038288019 \times 10^{-13}$	$0.173918021056 \times 10^{-4}$
0.843750	1.665335×10^{-15}	$0.119904086659 \times 10^{-13}$	$0.177354280767 \times 10^{-4}$
0.937500	2.220446×10^{-15}	$0.275335310107 \times 10^{-13}$	$0.180426383865 \times 10^{-4}$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= C(u, v) \begin{pmatrix} y\bar{S}_i^{(0)} - z\bar{S}_i^{(0)} \\ y\bar{S}_i^{(1)} - z\bar{S}_i^{(1)} \end{pmatrix} \\
&\quad + D(u, v) \begin{pmatrix} y\bar{S}_{i+1}^{(0)} - z\bar{S}_{i+1}^{(0)} \\ y\bar{S}_{i+1}^{(1)} - z\bar{S}_{i+1}^{(1)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \forall u, v \in [0, 1]. \tag{104}
\end{aligned}$$

By means of (103), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
&\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \|y\bar{S}(t, h) - z\bar{S}(t, h)\| \\
&\leq \max_{0 \leq i \leq N-1} \left\{ \sup_{0 \leq u < v \leq 1} \|C(u, v)\| \|\epsilon_i\| \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \sup_{0 \leq u < v \leq 1} \|D(u, v)\| \|\epsilon_{i+1}\| \right\} \tag{105} \\
&\leq (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) C |y_0 - z_0| \\
&\leq C' |y_0 - z_0|,
\end{aligned}$$

where $C' = (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)C$; that is, ISCM is stable. According to Lemma 9, DSCM is stable. \square

4. Illustrative Examples

In order to demonstrate our theoretical results, we apply DSCM to the problem (5) and present some numerical examples in this section. Let

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\text{error}\|_{L_1} &= h \sum_{i=1}^N |S(t_i, h) - y(t_i)|, \\
\|\text{error}\|_{L_2} &= \left(h \sum_{i=1}^N |S(t_i, h) - y(t_i)|^2 \right)^{1/2}, \\
\text{order}_{L_1} &= \log_{1/2} \frac{\|\text{error}\|_{L_1}(h/2)}{\|\text{error}\|_{L_1}(h)}, \\
\text{order}_{L_2} &= \log_{1/2} \frac{\|\text{error}\|_{L_2}(h/2)}{\|\text{error}\|_{L_2}(h)}, \tag{106}
\end{aligned}$$

TABLE 3: The error between the numerical solutions and the exact solution of the problem (109); $\alpha = 0.5$, $\phi_1 = 0.88$, $\phi_2 = 0.98$.

h	$\ \text{error}\ _{L_1}$	Order_{L_1}	$\ \text{error}\ _{L_2}$	Order_{L_2}
1/10	1.935883×10^{-5}		2.379899×10^{-5}	
1/20	1.762835×10^{-6}	3.457022411	2.223867×10^{-6}	3.419757934
1/40	1.615949×10^{-7}	3.447443874	2.045199×10^{-7}	3.442757379
1/80	1.477809×10^{-8}	3.450810893	1.868714×10^{-8}	3.452123534
1/160	1.340725×10^{-9}	3.462413611	1.697493×10^{-9}	3.460568256

TABLE 4: The error between the numerical solutions and the exact solution of the problem (109); $\alpha = 0.75$, $\phi_1 = 0.95$, $\phi_2 = 0.99$.

h	$\ \text{error}\ _{L_1}$	Order_{L_1}	$\ \text{error}\ _{L_2}$	Order_{L_2}
1/10	5.391748×10^{-5}		6.474353×10^{-5}	
1/20	5.313670×10^{-6}	3.342972530	6.727347×10^{-6}	3.264483517
1/40	5.541285×10^{-7}	3.261416159	7.058210×10^{-7}	3.252663415
1/80	5.812611×10^{-8}	3.252962303	7.434173×10^{-8}	3.247058188
1/160	6.111707×10^{-9}	3.249539075	7.834071×10^{-9}	3.246338153

where $\|\text{error}\|(h)$ is the error function which depends on the stepsize h .

Example 1. Consider the initial value problem [10, 21]

$$\begin{aligned} {}^C D_t^\alpha y(t) &= -y(t) + t^2 + \frac{2t^{2-\alpha}}{\Gamma(3-\alpha)}, \\ t \in I &= [0, 1], \quad 0 < \alpha < 1, \\ y(0) &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (107)$$

The exact solution is $y(t) = t^2$.

For different values of $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, the numerical solutions for problem (107) are obtained by using DSCM, fast wavelet collocation method (FWCM for short) reported in [21], and the method reported in [10]. When $\alpha = 0.5$, the time stepsize $h = 1/160$; the absolute errors of DSCM, FWCM, and the method reported in [10] are shown in Table 1. When $\alpha = 0.75$, $h = 1/160$; the absolute errors of these methods are shown in Table 2. The numerical solutions and the exact solution are shown in Figure 3. From the numerical results, the results obtained by DSCM are better than by FWCM and the method reported in [10] in terms of accuracy if the exact solution is sufficiently smooth. Therefore, DSCM is a valid method in solving fractional differential equation.

Example 2. Consider the initial value problem [12]

$$\begin{aligned} {}^C D_t^\alpha y(t) &= \frac{40320}{\Gamma(9-\alpha)} t^{8-\alpha} - 3 \frac{\Gamma(5+\alpha/2)}{\Gamma(5-\alpha/2)} t^{4-\alpha/2} \\ &\quad + \frac{9}{4} \Gamma(1+\alpha) + \left(\frac{3}{2} t^{\alpha/2} - t^4 \right)^3 - y(t)^{3/2}, \\ t \in I &= [0, 1], \\ y(0) &= 0, \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 1. \end{aligned} \quad (108)$$

The exact solution is $y(t) = t^8 - 3t^{4+\alpha/2} + (9/4)t^\alpha$. Obviously, $y(t) \notin C^4[0, 1]$. In order to verify our theoretical results, we modify problem (108) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} {}^C D_t^\alpha y(t) &= \frac{40320}{\Gamma(9-\alpha)} t^{8-\alpha} - 3 \frac{\Gamma(7+\alpha/2)}{\Gamma(7-\alpha/2)} t^{6-\alpha/2} \\ &\quad + \frac{3}{32} \Gamma(5+\alpha) t^4 + \left(\frac{3}{2} t^{2+\alpha/2} - t^4 \right)^3 - y(t)^{3/2}, \\ t \in I &= [0, 1], \\ y(0) &= 0, \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 1. \end{aligned} \quad (109)$$

The exact solution is $y(t) = t^8 - 3t^{6+\alpha/2} + (9/4)t^{4+\alpha}$.

Tables 3 and 4 list the errors and the error orders of DSCM with $\alpha = 0.5$ and $\alpha = 0.75$ and show that the errors between the numerical solutions and the exact solution are very small, respectively. Figures 4 and 5 illustrate high accuracy of DSCM with $\phi_1 = 0.9, \phi_2 = 0.98$ and show that the error is also very small. All of the numerical results show that DSCM for solving nonlinear FDEs is convergent and the method is robust.

Example 3. Consider the initial value problem

$$\begin{aligned} {}^C D_t^\alpha y(t) + ty^2(t) &= f(t), \quad t \in I = [0, T], \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 1, \\ y(0) &= \theta_1 \end{aligned} \quad (110)$$

and the perturbed problem

$$\begin{aligned} {}^C D_t^\alpha z(t) + tz^2(t) &= f(t), \quad t \in I = [0, T], \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 1, \\ z(0) &= \theta_2. \end{aligned} \quad (111)$$

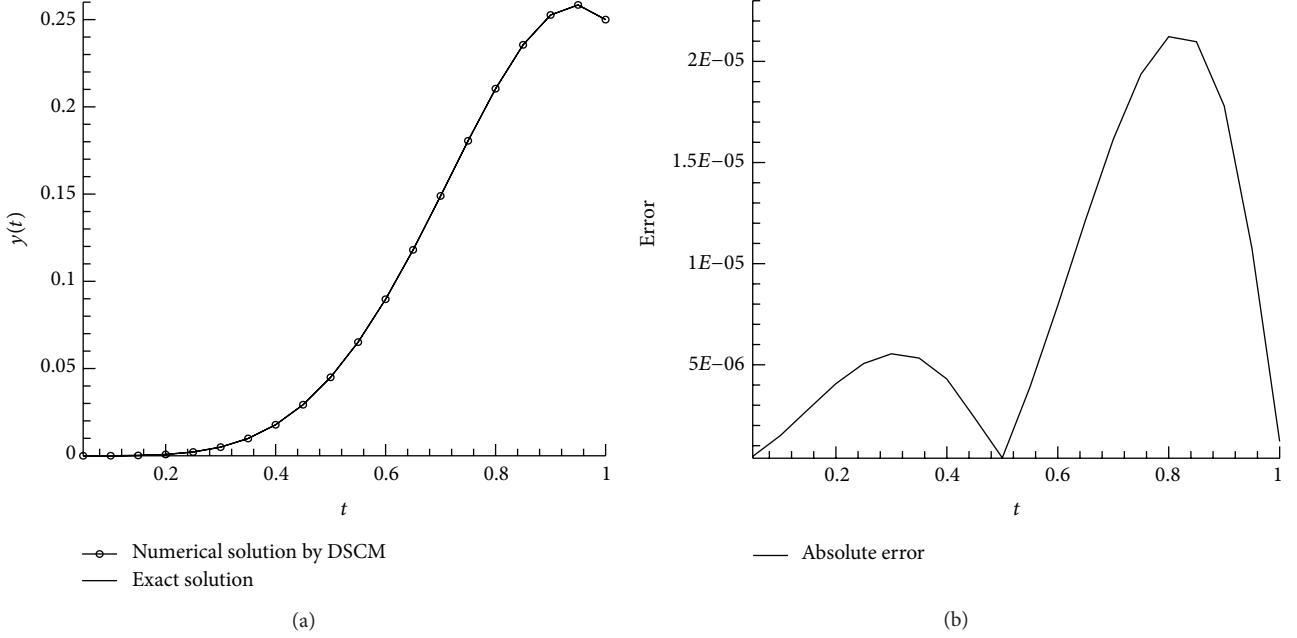


FIGURE 5: The error between the numerical solutions and the exact solution of the problem (109); $\alpha = 0.9, h = 0.05$.

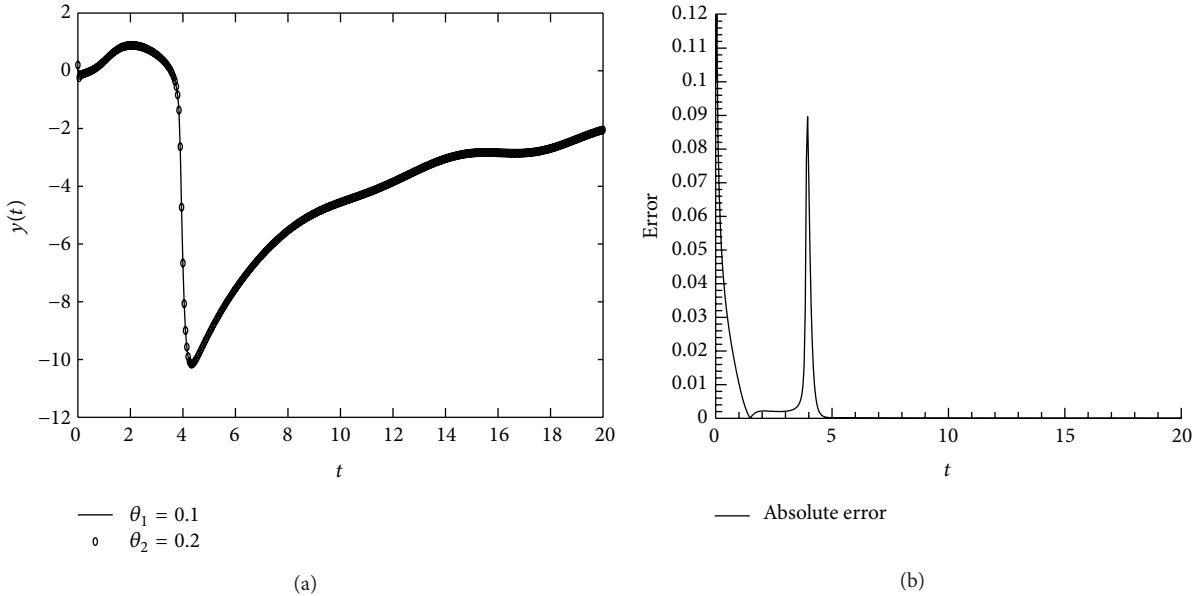


FIGURE 6: The numerical results of the problems (110) and (111); $h = 0.5, T = 20.0, \alpha = 0.8, \theta_1 = 0.1, \theta_2 = 0.2, \phi_1 = 0.9, \phi_2 = 0.98$.

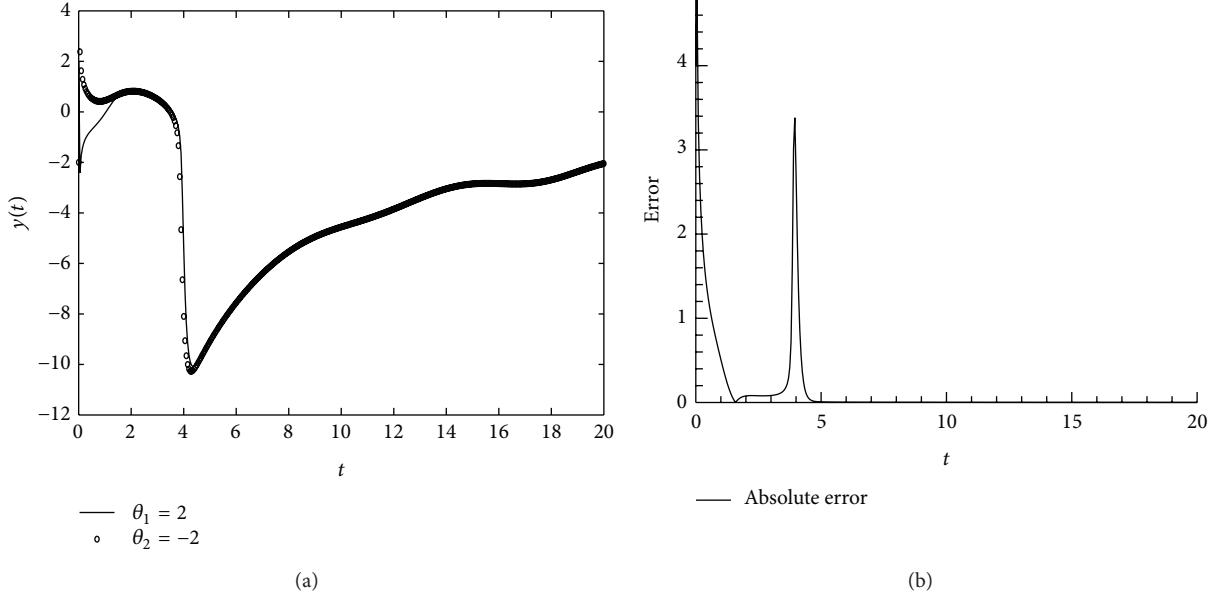
We use the cubic spline collocation method to solve the problems (110) and (111), respectively. Selecting $f(t) = t \sin(t), T = 20, \theta_1 = 0.1, \theta_2 = 0.2$, we obtain the numerical results given in Figure 6. When $f(t) = t \sin(t), T = 20, \theta_1 = 2.0, \theta_2 = -2.0$, the numerical results are given in Figure 7. When $f(t) = te^t, T = 20, \theta_1 = 1.0, \theta_2 = 2.0$, the numerical results are shown in Figure 8.

From these figures, we can see that the absolute errors of the numerical solutions of the problems (110) and (111) decrease and finally tend to 0 as t increases. Thus, we can

draw the conclusion that the cubic spline collocation method for nonlinear FDEs is stable. The numerical results verify our theoretical results.

5. Conclusion

In this paper, the cubic spline collocation method with two parameters is successfully applied to the IVPs of general FDEs. The result of the local truncation error of this method is given. And the convergence and stability results of the cubic

FIGURE 7: The numerical results of the problems (110) and (111); $h = 0.5, \alpha = 0.8, \theta_1 = 2.0, \theta_2 = -2.0, \phi_1 = 0.9, \phi_2 = 0.98$.

(a) (b)

FIGURE 8: The numerical results of the problems (110) and (111); $h = 0.5, \alpha = 0.8, \theta_1 = 1.0, \theta_2 = 2.0, \phi_1 = 0.9, \phi_2 = 0.98$.

spline collocation method for the fractional order integral equations which is equivalent to the IVPs of general FDEs are obtained. By using the relationship between the numerical solutions from the cubic spline method for the IVPs of general FDEs and the numerical solutions obtained from the cubic spline method for the corresponding equivalent IVPs of fractional order integral equations, we also obtain some results of the convergence and the stability of the method for the IVPs of general FDEs. Some numerical examples

successfully verify our theoretical results and show that the given method is efficient.

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