

**MESHLESS AND HOMOTOPY PERTURBATION METHODS  
FOR ONE DIMENSIONAL INVERSE HEAT CONDUCTION  
PROBLEM WITH NEUMANN AND ROBIN BOUNDARY  
CONDITIONS**

HUSSEN GEDEFAW, FASIL GIDAF, HABTAMU SIRAW, TADESSE MERGIAW,  
GETACHEW TSEGAW, ASHENAFI WOLDESELAASSIE, MELAKU ABERA, MAHMUD  
KASSIM, WONDOSEN LISANU AND BENYAM MEBRATE\*

**ABSTRACT.** In this article, we investigate the solution of the inverse problem for one dimensional heat equation with Neumann and Robin boundary conditions, that is, we determine the temperature and source term with given initial and boundary conditions. Three radial basis functions(RBFs) have been used for numerical solution, and Homotopy perturbation method for analytic solution. Numerical solutions which are obtained by considering each of the three RBFs are compared to the exact solution. For appropriate value of shape parameter  $c$ , numerical solutions best approximates exact solutions. Furthermore, we have shown the impact of noisy data on the numerical solution of  $u$  and  $f$ .

AMS Mathematics Subject Classification : 65M32.

*Key words and phrases* : Radial basis function, heat equation, inverse problem, Boundary conditions.

**1. Introduction**

Let  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  be a bounded domain and let  $x_0$  be a fixed point in  $I$ . We will determine the function  $u(x, t)$  (called temperature) and the source term  $f(t)$  (called surface heat flux) satisfying the heat(diffusion) equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + f(t), 0 < t \leq T \text{ and } x \in I = (a, b) \quad (1)$$

subject to

$$\mathbf{IC} : \quad u(x, 0) = g(x), \quad (2)$$

---

Received July 19, 2021. Revised January 29, 2022. Accepted March 26, 2022. \*Corresponding author.

$$\mathbf{BC} : \quad \alpha u(x, t) + \beta \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x} = \begin{cases} h_1(t), & \text{if } x = a \\ h_2(t), & \text{if } x = b \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

$\alpha$  and  $\beta (\neq 0)$  are constants.

$$\mathbf{AC} : \quad u(x_0, t) = E(t). \quad (4)$$

Problem (1) together with (2), (3), and (4) is called inverse problem. The name arises due to the determination of surface heat flux( $f(t)$ ) and temperature ( $u(x, t)$ ) from temperature measurements at one or more interior locations. Though our problem is source determination inverse problem, inverse problems may be subdivided into determination of boundary value, initial value, material properties, source, and shape [1]. Inverse heat conduction problems arise in many physical applications where heat transfer occurs [2].

The numerical method we apply to solve (1), (2), (3), (4) is meshless method. Meshless methods for the solution of PDEs can be grouped into methods based on RBF interpolation, and the least squares technique. Hardy in [3] introduced the radial basis functions interpolation to approximate two-dimensional geographical surfaces based on scattered data. Then Kansa in [4] investigated a meshless method based on multiquadrics RBFs for the numerical solution of PDEs. Later, Golberg et al. extended the idea [5]. The existence, uniqueness, and convergence of the RBFs approximation was discussed by Franke and Schaback [6], Madych and Nelson [7], and Micchelli [8]. Meshless methods based on RBFs have been applied to solve Rosenau equation [9], fractional diffusion equation [10], Poisson and Helmholtz equation [11], two dimensional heat equation [12], compressible Euler equation with application in finite-rate Chemistry [13], one dimensional advection diffusion equation [14] and nonlinear integral equations [15]. The advantage of meshless method over mesh methods for example, finite difference methods, finite element methods and finite volume method, is: does not require domain discretization. These methods were applied for inverse heat conduction problems [16, 17, 18]. The mentioned mesh methods have been extensively used to find the solution of PDEs. In comparison to mesh methods, meshless method is widely used to solve problems in recent years.

The inverse problem for one dimensional diffusion equation with Dirichlet boundary conditions has been studied in [19, 20, 21, 22]. In [19] and [20] the authors determined the source term using moving least square method and Gaussian radial basis function respectively. In [21] the authors determined the unknown temperature at  $x = 0$  and section of initial condition at  $t = 0$  for Neumann boundary condition. The authors in [23] discussed inverse problems for multidimensional heat equations where the value of the unknown at a single point on the boundary is given. Pyatkov and Safonov studied some classes of inverse problems of recovering a source [24]. In general, meshless methods are applicable to compute the solution of problems arising in engineering and physics [25, 26, 27, 28, 29], and in economics [30].

So far we have discussed meshless methods for solving partial differential equations (PDEs). There are analytic methods that have been applied to solve

PDEs. We may mention Adomain decomposition method and Homotopy perturbation method. In this article we use the well known Homotopy perturbation method since it is simple to use. It is the one that provides series solution to linear and nonlinear PDEs [31, 32, 33, 34]. This method is in recursive sequence forms which can be used to get the closed form of the solutions [35, 36]. It has been applied for solving PDEs arising in the transmission of nerve impulses[37] and modeling of flow in porous media[38]. It computed the solution of non-linear fractional PDE[39] and non-linear system of second order boundary value problems[40].

The paper is organized as follows. In section two we discuss about RBFs, meshless method based on RBFs and effect of noisy data. In section three we see Homotopy perturbation method. In section four we include application of meshless method. Finally conclusion is drawn in section five.

## 2. Meshless Method based On RBFs

Define a function  $\phi(r) : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $S = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$  be the set of  $N$  distinct collocation points, where  $S_{int} = \{x_2, \dots, x_{N-1}\}$  are interior points and  $S_{bdry} = S \setminus S_{int}$  are boundary points. We may describe interior point, boundary point and point  $x_0$  graphically in figure(1).

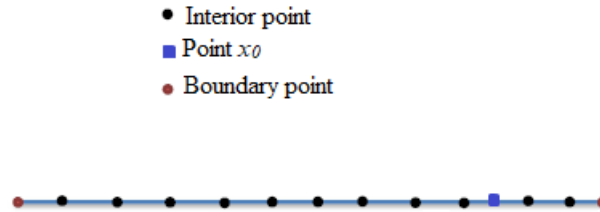


FIGURE 1. Collocation points and point  $x_0$

We use the notations  $\phi_k(x) = \phi(|x - x_k|)$ , for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, N$ .

In this paper the approximate function  $u^a(x, t)$  of  $u(x, t)$  can be represented as

$$u^a(x, t) = \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t) \phi_k(x), \forall x \in I \text{ and } t \in [0, T], \quad (5)$$

where  $\phi_k(x)$  is radial basis function(RBF) and  $\lambda_k(t)$  is unknown RBF coefficient.

A radial basis function  $\phi$  on  $[0, \infty)$  is called positive definite if for all choices of finite distinct points  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_N$ , the matrix  $M$  is positive definite[41] where

$$M = M_{i,k} = \phi_k(x_i).$$

A function  $\phi_k(x)$  is conditionally positive definite of order  $m$ [42], if for all sets  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$  of distinct points, and all vectors  $\nu(\neq 0)$  satisfying

$$\sum_{k=1}^N \nu_k P(x_k) = 0$$

for any polynomial  $P$  of degree at most  $m - 1$ , we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^N \nu_i \nu_j \phi(x_i - x_j) > 0.$$

If a matrix  $M$  is positive definite, then  $\det(M) \neq 0$ . Hence, if the radial basis function  $\phi$  in (5) is positive definite, the following system of linear equation is solvable.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \phi_1(x_1) & \cdots & \phi_N(x_1) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \phi_1(x_N) & \cdots & \phi_N(x_N) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_N \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} u_1^a \\ \vdots \\ u_N^a \end{bmatrix} \quad (6)$$

We can also show that equation (6) is solvable if  $\phi$  is conditionally positive definite of order one[43]. The above system of linear equations is obtained from (5) at the collocation points. In this paper the known RBFs are considered, which are listed in table(1). These RBFs are infinitely differentiable and depend

TABLE 1. Radial basis functions

No	RBFs	Definition[20, 14, 44]	
1	Gaussian (GA)	$\phi(r) = e^{-cr^2}$	Positive definite[45]
2	Hardy multiquadrics (HMQ)	$\phi(r) = \sqrt{r^2 + c^2}$	Conditionally positive definite of order 1[46]
3	Inverse multiquadrics (IMQ)	$\phi(r) = (\sqrt{r^2 + c^2})^{-1}$	Positive definite[47]

on the shape parameter  $c > 0$ [48, 49]. Shape parameter controls the fitting of a smoothing surface to the data, and affects the condition number of the coefficient matrix in equation (6). Even though the optimal choice of shape parameter is still an open problem[50], researchers proposed different methods to compute the optimal value for  $c$  [46, 51]. As it is indicated in [52], shape parameter depends on number of grid points, distribution of grid points, interpolation function and

condition number of a matrix. We have been chosen shape parameters in table (2) for the problems we consider in this article.

TABLE 2. Shape parameters

No	RBFs	Shape parameters	
		Neumann BCs	Robin BCs
1	Gaussian (GA)	0.061	0.01
2	Hardy multiquadrics (HMQ)	6	9.2
3	Inverse multiquadrics (IMQ)	7.4	13.8

We now make our problems suitable to compute numerical solution via meshless method based on RBFs. So, from equation (1) and (4) we have

$$E'(t) = \frac{\partial u(x_0, t)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u(x_0, t)}{\partial x^2} + f(t) \quad (7)$$

From equation(7) we get

$$f(t) = E'(t) - \left[ \frac{\partial^2 u(x_0, t)}{\partial x^2} \right] \quad (8)$$

Consequently, equation(1) becomes

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial x^2} + E'(t) - \left[ \frac{\partial^2 u(x_0, t)}{\partial x^2} \right] \quad (9)$$

Substituting equation(5) into (9),(2), (3), and (8) we obtain respectively

$$\sum_{k=1}^N [\lambda'_k(t)\phi_k(x)] = \sum_{k=1}^N [\lambda_k(t)\phi''_k(x)] + E'(t) - \sum_{k=1}^N [\lambda_k(t)\phi''_k(x_0)], \forall x \in I \quad (10)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^N [\lambda_k(0)\phi_k(x)] = g(x), \forall x \in I \quad (11)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t)[\alpha\phi_k(x) + \beta\phi'_k(x)] = \begin{cases} h_1(t), & \text{if } x = a \\ h_2(t), & \text{if } x = b, \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

and

$$f(t) = E'(t) - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t) \left[ \phi_k''(x_0) \right] \quad (13)$$

Taking  $t_{n+1} = t_1 + n\Delta t$  for  $n = 1, 2, \dots, M-1$ , where  $t_1 = 0$  and  $t_M = T$ , and applying forward difference operator to time in equation (10) and (13) we get respectively

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^N [\lambda_k(t_{n+1}) - \lambda_k(t_n)] \phi_k(x) &= \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \phi_k''(x) \right] + E(t_{n+1}) - E(t_n) - \\ &\sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \phi_k''(x_0) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

and

$$f^a(t_n) = \frac{E(t_{n+1}) - E(t_n)}{\Delta t} - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \phi_k''(x_0) \right] \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots, M-1. \quad (15)$$

And using backward difference operator we have

$$f^a(t_M) = \frac{E(t_M) - E(t_{M-1})}{\Delta t} - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_M) \left[ \phi_k''(x_0) \right]. \quad (16)$$

The RBF coefficients  $\lambda_k(t_n)$  can be obtained iteratively from (11),(12), and (14) for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, N$  and  $n = 1, 2, \dots, M-1$ .

Thus, equation(14) can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} u^a(x, t_{n+1}) &= u^a(x, t_n) + \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \phi_k''(x) \right] + E(t_{n+1}) - E(t_n) - \\ &\sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \phi_k''(x_0) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

The following notations have been used.  $r_k = |x - x_k|$  and  $r_{0,k} = |(x_0 - x_k)|$ , where  $x$  is the collocation points.

### Gaussian(GA)

$$\begin{aligned} u^a(x, t_{n+1}) &= u^a(x, t_n) + \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ -2ce^{-cr_k^2} [1 - 2cr_k^2] \right] + E(t_{n+1}) \\ &- E(t_n) - \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ -2ce^{-cr_{0,k}^2} [1 - 2cr_{0,k}^2] \right] \\ f^a(t_n) &= \frac{E(t_{n+1}) - E(t_n)}{\Delta t} - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ -2ce^{-cr_{0,k}^2} [1 - 2cr_{0,k}^2] \right] \text{ for} \\ &n = 1, 2, \dots, M-1. \\ f^a(t_M) &= \frac{E(t_M) - E(t_{M-1})}{\Delta t} - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_M) \left[ -2ce^{-cr_{0,k}^2} [1 - 2cr_{0,k}^2] \right] \end{aligned}$$

**Hardy Multiquadrics(HMQ)**

$$\begin{aligned}
u^a(x, t_{n+1}) &= u^a(x, t_n) + \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \frac{c^2}{(r_k^2 + c^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right] + E(t_{n+1}) - E(t_n) \\
&\quad - \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \frac{c^2}{(r_{0,k}^2 + c^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right] \\
f^a(t_n) &= \frac{E(t_{n+1}) - E(t_n)}{\Delta t} - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \frac{c^2}{(r_{0,k}^2 + c^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right] \text{ for} \\
&\quad n = 1, 2, \dots, M-1. \\
f^a(t_M) &= \frac{E(t_M) - E(t_{M-1})}{\Delta t} - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_M) \left[ \frac{c^2}{(r_{0,k}^2 + c^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

**Inverse Multiquadrics(IMQ)**

$$\begin{aligned}
u^a(x, t_{n+1}) &= u^a(x, t_n) + \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \frac{2r_k^2 - c^2}{(r_k^2 + c^2)^{\frac{5}{2}}} \right] + E(t_{n+1}) - E(t_n) \\
&\quad - \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \frac{2r_{0,k}^2 - c^2}{(r_{0,k}^2 + c^2)^{\frac{5}{2}}} \right] \\
f^a(t_n) &= \frac{E(t_{n+1}) - E(t_n)}{\Delta t} - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \frac{2r_{0,k}^2 - c^2}{(r_{0,k}^2 + c^2)^{\frac{5}{2}}} \right] \text{ for} \\
&\quad n = 1, 2, \dots, M-1. \\
f^a(t_M) &= \frac{E(t_M) - E(t_{M-1})}{\Delta t} - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_M) \left[ \frac{2r_{0,k}^2 - c^2}{(r_{0,k}^2 + c^2)^{\frac{5}{2}}} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

**Effect of Noisy Data.** Here, we discuss about the numerical solutions  $u^a(x, t)$  and  $f^a(x, t)$  if there is error on additional condition (AC). To illustrate this we introduce the error function  $E(t)\chi(t)$ , where  $\chi(t)$  is a noisy parameter. In this way equation (4) and (7) becomes respectively

$$u(x_0, t) = E(t)[1 + \chi(t)] \text{ and } f(t) = \frac{d}{dt}[E(t)(1 + \chi(t))] - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t) \phi_k''(x_0).$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
u^a(x, t_{n+1}) &= u^a(x, t_n) + \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \phi_k''(x) \right] + E(t_{n+1})[1 + \chi(t_{n+1})] \\
&\quad - E(t_n)[1 + \chi(t_n)] - \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \phi_k''(x_0) \right] \\
f^a(t_n) &= \frac{1}{\Delta t} [E(t_{n+1})(1 + \chi(t_{n+1})) - E(t_n)(1 + \chi(t_n))] -
\end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_n) \phi_k(x_0) \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots, M-1.$$

and

$$f^a(t_M) = \frac{1}{\Delta t} [E(t_M)(1 + \chi(t_M)) - E(t_{M-1})(1 + \chi(t_{M-1}))] - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_M) \phi_k(x_0).$$

### Gaussian(GA)

$$u^a(x, t_{n+1}) = u^a(x, t_n) + \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ -2ce^{-cr_k^2} [1 - 2cr_k^2] \right] + E(t_{n+1})(1 + \chi(t_{n+1})) - E(t_n)(1 + \chi(t_n)) - \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ -2ce^{-cr_{0,k}^2} [1 - 2cr_{0,k}^2] \right].$$

$$f^a(t_n) = \frac{1}{\Delta t} [E(t_{n+1})(1 + \chi(t_{n+1})) - E(t_n)(1 + \chi(t_n))] - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ -2ce^{-cr_{0,k}^2} [1 - 2cr_{0,k}^2] \right] \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots, M-1.$$

$$f^a(t_M) = \frac{1}{\Delta t} [E(t_M)(1 + \chi(t_M)) - E(t_{M-1})(1 + \chi(t_{M-1}))] - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_M) \left[ -2ce^{-cr_{0,k}^2} [1 - 2cr_{0,k}^2] \right]$$

### Hardy Multiquadrics(HMQ)

$$u^a(x, t_{n+1}) = u^a(x, t_n) + \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \frac{c^2}{(r_k^2 + c^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right] + E(t_{n+1})(1 + \chi(t_{n+1})) - E(t_n)(1 + \chi(t_n)) - \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \frac{c^2}{(r_{0,k}^2 + c^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right].$$

$$f^a(t_n) = \frac{1}{\Delta t} [E(t_{n+1})(1 + \chi(t_{n+1})) - E(t_n)(1 + \chi(t_n))] - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \frac{c^2}{(r_{0,k}^2 + c^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right] \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots, M-1.$$

$$f^a(t_M) = \frac{1}{\Delta t} [E(t_M)(1 + \chi(t_M)) - E(t_{M-1})(1 + \chi(t_{M-1}))] - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_M) \left[ \frac{c^2}{(r_{0,k}^2 + c^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \right].$$



**Inverse Multiquadrics(IMQ)**

$$\begin{aligned}
u^a(x, t_{n+1}) &= u^a(x, t_n) + \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \frac{2r_k^2 - c^2}{(r_k^2 + c^2)^{\frac{5}{2}}} \right] + \\
&\quad E(t_{n+1})(1 + \chi(t_{n+1})) - E(t_n)(1 + \chi(t_n)) - \\
&\quad \sum_{k=1}^N \Delta t \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \frac{2r_{0,k}^2 - c^2}{(r_{0,k}^2 + c^2)^{\frac{5}{2}}} \right]. \\
f^a(t_n) &= \frac{1}{\Delta t} [E(t_{n+1})(1 + \chi(t_{n+1})) - E(t_n)(1 + \chi(t_n))] \\
&\quad - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_n) \left[ \frac{2r_{0,k}^2 - c^2}{(r_{0,k}^2 + c^2)^{\frac{5}{2}}} \right] \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots, M-1. \\
f^a(t_M) &= \frac{1}{\Delta t} [E(t_M)(1 + \chi(t_M)) - E(t_{M-1})(1 + \chi(t_{M-1}))] \\
&\quad - \sum_{k=1}^N \lambda_k(t_M) \left[ \frac{2r_{0,k}^2 - c^2}{(r_{0,k}^2 + c^2)^{\frac{5}{2}}} \right] \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots, M-1.
\end{aligned}$$

In order to illustrate the approximate effect, we define the root mean square error(RMSE) and maximum absolute error(MAE) for  $u(x, t)$  and  $f(t)$  as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}
RMSE(u) &= \left[ \frac{1}{MN} \sum_{i=1}^M \sum_{k=1}^N [u(x_k, t_i) - u^a(x_k, t_i)]^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}, \\
RMSE(f) &= \left[ \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M [f(t_i) - f^a(t_i)]^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}, \\
MAE(u) &= \max \{ |u(x_k, t_i) - u^a(x_k, t_i)| : 1 \leq i \leq M \text{ and } 1 \leq k \leq N \}, \\
MAE(f) &= \max \{ |f(t_i) - f^a(t_i)| : 1 \leq i \leq M \}.
\end{aligned}$$

**3. Homotopy Perturbation Method(HPM)**

Consider the linear differential equation

$$A(u(x, t)) = f(t), \quad x \in I \text{ and } t \in [0, T] \quad (18)$$

with boundary condition

$$B \left( u(x, t), \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial n} \right) = 0, \quad x \in \partial I \text{ and } t \in [0, T], \quad (19)$$

where  $A$  is a general differential operator,  $B$  is a boundary operator,  $n$  is the outward unit vector at  $x$ ,  $f(t)$  is obtained from additional condition. Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be two linear operators such that  $A = L_1 + L_2$ . We write equation (18) as

$$L_1(u(x, t)) + L_2(u(x, t)) = f(t). \quad (20)$$

By a homotopy technique, we construct a homotopy defined as

$$H(v(x, t), p) : \mathbb{R} \times [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

which satisfies

$$H(v(x, t), p) = (1-p)[L_1(v(x, t)) - L_1(u_0(x, t))] + p[(A(v(x, t)) - f(t)] = 0, \quad (21)$$



with conditions

$$u(x, 0) = 2 + \cos x, \quad \left. \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x} \right|_{x=0} = 0, \quad \left. \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x} \right|_{x=2} = -e^{-t} \sin 2,$$

$$u(1, t) = (2 + t + \cos 1)e^{-t}.$$

We now use Homotopy perturbation method to obtain exact solution. So, here  $x_0 = 1$  and  $E(t) = (2 + t + \cos 1)e^{-t}$ . Using (28), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} v_0(x, t) &= 2 + \cos x, \\ v_1(x, t) &= -t \cos x + 2e^{-t} + te^{-t} + e^{-t} \cos 1 + t \cos 1 - \cos 1 - 2, \\ v_2(x, t) &= \frac{t^2}{2} \cos x - \frac{t^2}{2} \cos 1, \dots \end{aligned}$$

We observe that

$$\begin{aligned} u &= v_0 + v_1 + v_2 + v_3 + \dots \\ &= \left(1 - t + \frac{t^2}{2!} - \frac{t^3}{3!} + \dots\right) \cos x + \left(e^{-t} - \left[1 - t + \frac{t^2}{2!} - \frac{t^3}{3!} + \dots\right]\right) \cos 1 \\ &\quad + 2e^{-t} + te^{-t} \\ &= (2 + t + \cos x)e^{-t}. \end{aligned}$$

So, the exact solutions are  $u(x, t) = (2 + t + \cos x)e^{-t}$  and  $f(t) = -(1 + t)e^{-t}$ . Figure (2) describes numerical(with no noisy data) and exact solution of  $u$  at  $x = 0, 0.5, 1, 1.5, 2$  for  $\Delta t = 0.001$ . Figure (3) shows numerical(with no noisy data) and exact solution of  $f$  for  $\Delta t = 0.001$ . Figure(4) represents numerical(with no noisy data) and exact solutions of  $u$  with  $\Delta x = 0.5$  and  $\Delta t = 0.001$ . Table (3) describes RMSE and MAE for  $\chi(t) = 0, 0.01, 0.01(t - 1)$  at  $\Delta t = 0.001$ .

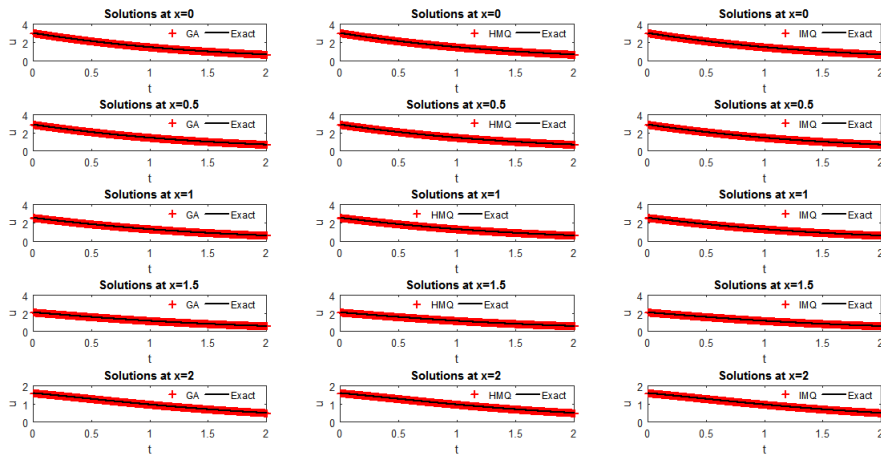


FIGURE 2. Numerical( $\chi(t) = 0$ ) and exact solutions of  $u$  with  $\Delta x = 0.5$  and  $\Delta t = 0.001$

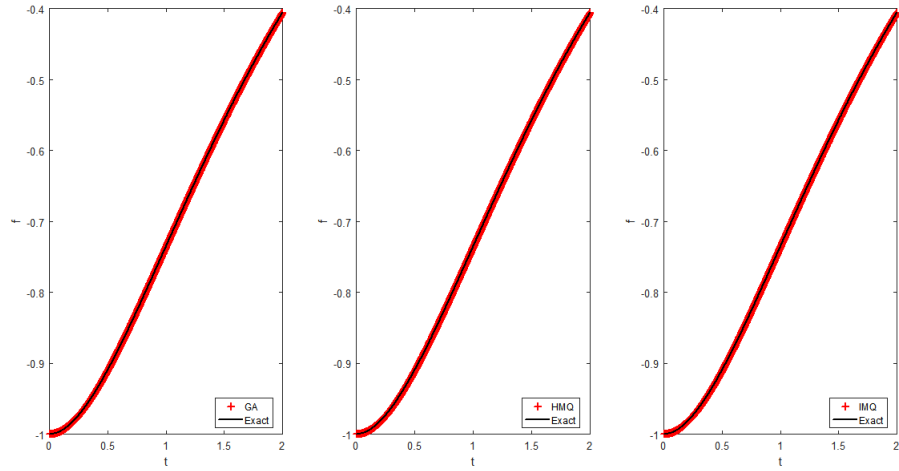


FIGURE 3. Numerical( $\chi(t) = 0$ ) and exact solutions of  $f$  with  $\Delta x = 0.5$  and  $\Delta t = 0.001$

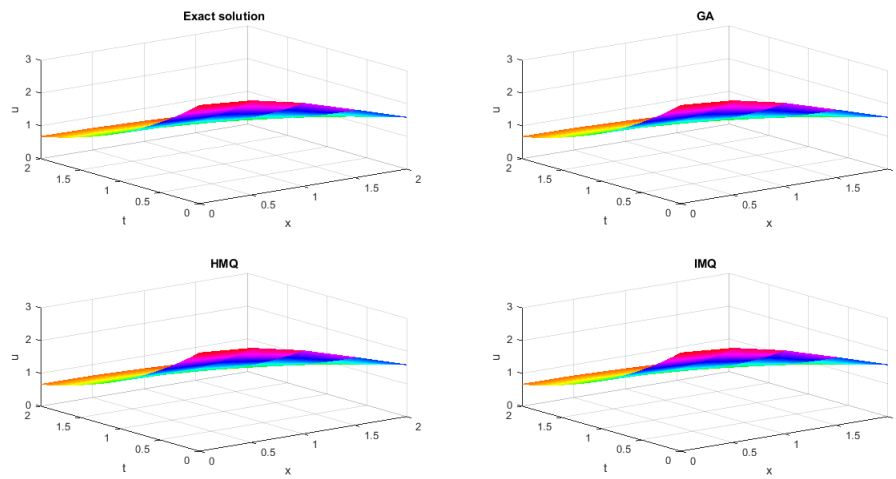


FIGURE 4. Numerical( $\chi(t) = 0$ ) and exact solutions of  $u$  with  $\Delta x = 0.5$  and  $\Delta t = 0.001$

TABLE 3. Numerical errors for  $\Delta t = 0.001$ 

	$\chi(t) = 0$	$\chi(t) = 0.01$	$\chi(t) = 0.01(t - 1)$
GA:RMSE( $u$ )	$1.9991 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.3921 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.2933 \times 10^{-2}$
GA:MAE( $u$ )	$6.2926 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5534 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.1596 \times 10^{-2}$
GA:RMSE( $f$ )	$1.2795 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.022 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.9400 \times 10^{-2}$
GA:MAE( $f$ )	$4.2184 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.4986 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.1420 \times 10^{-2}$
HMQ:RMSE( $u$ )	$3.8838 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.5346 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.1908 \times 10^{-2}$
HMQ:MAE( $u$ )	$1.1226 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.0488 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.1613 \times 10^{-2}$
HMQ:RMSE( $f$ )	$5.0319 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.0584 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.9056 \times 10^{-2}$
HMQ:MAE( $f$ )	$8.8240 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.5210 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.1420 \times 10^{-2}$
IMQ:RMSE( $u$ )	$3.1941 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.4799 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.2287 \times 10^{-2}$
IMQ:MAE( $u$ )	$9.5576 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.8813 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.1613 \times 10^{-2}$
IMQ:RMSE( $f$ )	$3.5736 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.0443 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.9186 \times 10^{-2}$
IMQ:MAE( $f$ )	$6.3691 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.5079 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.1340 \times 10^{-2}$

**Example 4.2.** Consider the equation

$$u_t = u_{xx} + f(t), 0 < t \leq 2 \text{ and } 0 < x < 2$$

with conditions

$$u(x, 0) = x^2, \left. \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x} \right|_{x=0} + u(0, t) = 2t + \sin(\pi t),$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x} \right|_{x=2} + u(2, t) = 8 + 2t + \sin(\pi t), u(1, t) = 1 + 2t + \sin(\pi t).$$

We now use Homotopy perturbation method to obtain exact solution. So, here  $x_0 = 1$  and  $E(t) = 1 + 2t + \sin \pi t$ . Using (28), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} v_0(x, t) &= x^2, \\ v_1(x, t) &= 2t + \sin \pi t, \\ v_2(x, t) &= 0, v_3(x, t) = 0, \dots \end{aligned}$$

We observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 u &= v_0 + v_1 + v_2 + v_3 + \dots \\
 &= x^2 + 2t + \sin \pi t.
 \end{aligned}$$

So, the exact solutions are  $u(x, t) = x^2 + 2t + \sin(\pi t)$  and  $f(t) = \pi \cos(\pi t)$ . Figure (5) describes numerical(with no noisy data) and exact solution of  $u$  at  $x = 0, 0.5, 1, 1.5, 2$  for  $\Delta t = 0.001$ . Figure (6) shows numerical(with no noisy data) and exact solution of  $f$  for  $\Delta t = 0.001$ . Figure(7) represents numerical(with no noisy data) and exact solutions of  $u$  with  $\Delta x = 0.5$  and  $\Delta t = 0.001$ . Table (4) describes RMSE and MAE for  $\chi(t) = 0, 0.01, 0.01(t - 1)$  at  $\Delta t = 0.001$ .

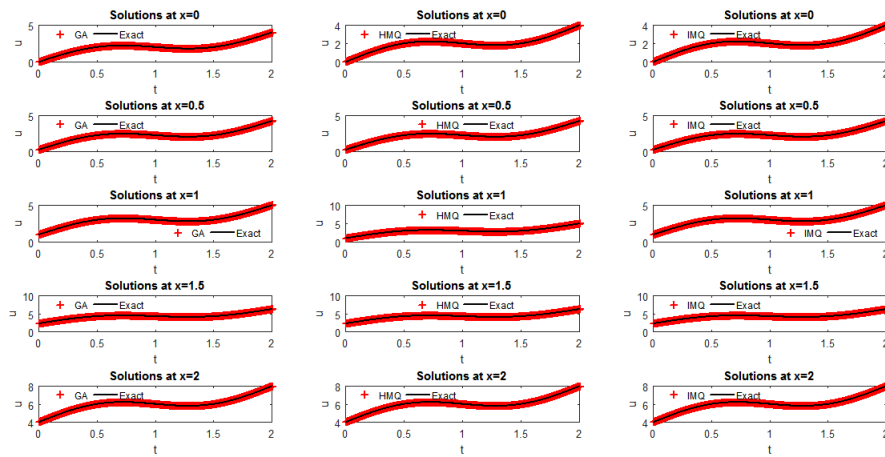


FIGURE 5. Numerical( $\chi(t) = 0$ ) and exact solutions of  $u$  with  $\Delta x = 0.5$  and  $\Delta t = 0.001$

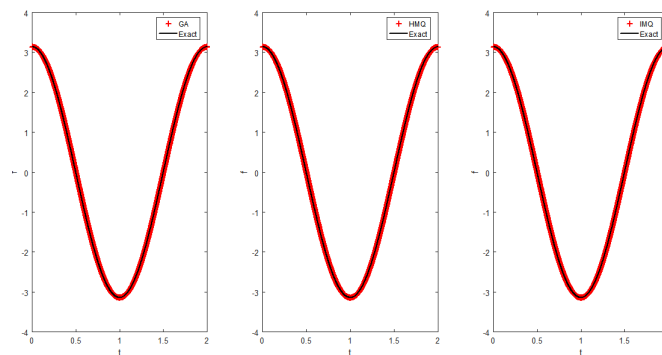


FIGURE 6. Numerical( $\chi(t) = 0$ ) and exact solutions of  $u$  with  $\Delta x = 0.5$  and  $\Delta t = 0.001$

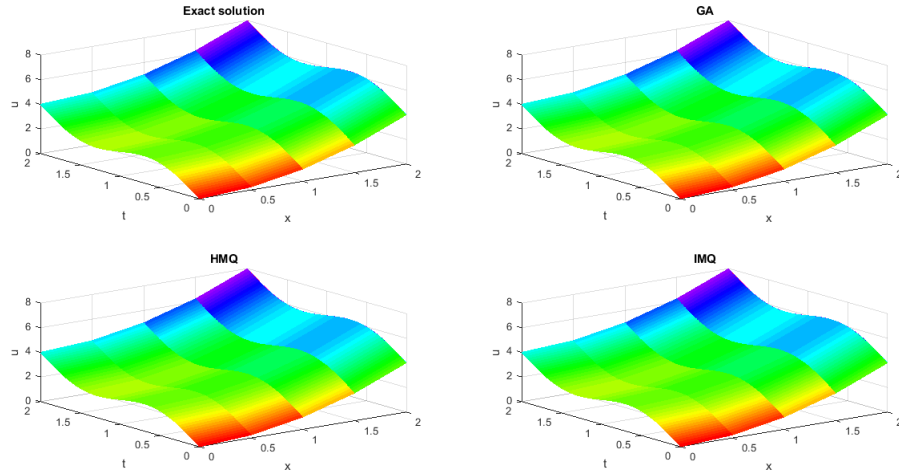


FIGURE 7. Numerical( $\chi(t) = 0$ ) and exact solutions of  $u$  with  $\Delta x = 0.5$  and  $\Delta t = 0.001$

TABLE 4. Numerical errors for  $\Delta t = 0.001$

	$\chi(t) = 0$	$\chi(t) = 0.01$	$\chi(t) = 0.01(t - 1)$
GA:RMSE( $u$ )	$1.2545 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.2332 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.8390 \times 10^{-2}$
GA:MAE( $u$ )	$4.9342 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.0302 \times 10^{-1}$	$1.2596 \times 10^{-1}$
GA:RMSE( $f$ )	$3.5418 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5864 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.3452 \times 10^{-2}$
GA:MAE( $f$ )	$5.0226 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.1441 \times 10^{-2}$	$5.8321 \times 10^{-2}$
HMQ:RMSE( $u$ )	$3.4693 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.1143 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.7336 \times 10^{-2}$
HMQ:MAE( $u$ )	$1.3090 \times 10^{-2}$	$9.6997 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.2021 \times 10^{-1}$
HMQ:RMSE( $f$ )	$3.5307 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.6052 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.2845 \times 10^{-2}$
HMQ:MAE( $f$ )	$5.4849 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.1550 \times 10^{-2}$	$5.8321 \times 10^{-2}$
IMQ:RMSE( $u$ )	$2.6013 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.1694 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.7794 \times 10^{-2}$
IMQ:MAE( $u$ )	$1.0078 \times 10^{-2}$	$9.9957 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.2304 \times 10^{-1}$
IMQ:RMSE( $f$ )	$3.5350 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.5953 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.3149 \times 10^{-2}$
IMQ:MAE( $f$ )	$5.2470 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.1502 \times 10^{-2}$	$5.8916 \times 10^{-2}$

## 5. Conclusion

Meshless and Homotopy perturbation method are successfully applied to compute the solution of inverse heat conduction problem. Meshless method which is based on radial basis functions GA, HMQ and IMQ provides numerical solution where as Homotopy perturbation method gives exact solution. Two examples have been considered, and for each example several computations are carried

out, namely  $u, f$ , RMSE and MAE. GA, HMQ and IMQ best approximates exact solutions with no noisy data. If the data is noisy, the result is worse. However, the noisy parameter close to zero for  $t \in [0, T]$ , the result close to the exact solution. Finally, we suggest that the problem can be extended to higher dimensions with different boundary conditions.

## 6. Abbreviations

IC = Initial condition	IMQ = Inverse multiquadratics
BC = Boundary condition	HPM = Homotopy Perturbation Method
AC = Additional condition	PDE = Partial differential equation
RBF = Radial basis function	RMSE = Root mean square error
GA = Gaussian	MAE = Maximum absolute error
HMQ = Hardy multiquadratics	

## REFERENCES

1. K. Grysa, *Inverse Heat Conduction Problems*, Chapter from the book Heat Conduction-Basic Research, <http://www.intechopen.com/books/heat-conduction-basicresearch>.
2. A. Shidfar, A.M. Shahrezaee, *Existence, uniqueness and instability results for an inverse heat conduction problem*, International Journal of Applied Mathematics **9** (2002), 253–258
3. R. Hardy, *Multiquadric equations of topography and other irregular surfaces*, Geo. Phys. Res. **176** (1971), 1905–1915.
4. E.J. Kansa, *Multiquadrics scattered data approximation scheme with applications to computational fluid-dynamics I*, surface approximations and partial derivative estimates, Comput. Math. Appl. **19** (1990), 127–145.
5. M.A. Golberg, C.S. Chen and S.R. Karur, *Improved multiquadric approximation for partial differential equations*, Eng. Anal. Bound. Elem. **18** (1996), 9–17.
6. C. Franke and R. Schaback, *Convergence order estimates of meshless collocation methods using radial basis functions*, Adv. Comput. Math. **8** (1998), 381–399.
7. W.R. Madych and S.A. Nelson, *Multivariate interpolation and conditionally positive definite functions II*, Math. Comput. **54** (1990), 211–230.
8. C.A. Micchelli, *Interpolation of scattered data: distance matrix and conditionally positive definite functions*, Construct. Approx. **2** (1986), 11–22.
9. A. Safdari-Vaighani, E. Larsson and A. Heryudono, *Radial Basis Function Methods for the Rosenau Equation and Other Higher Order PDEs*, J. Sci. Comput. **75** (2018), 1555–1580.
10. S. Wei, W. Chen, Y. Zhang, H. Wei and R.M. Garrard, *A local radial basis function collocation method to solve the variable-order time fractional diffusion equation in a two-dimensional irregular domain*, Numer Methods Partial Differential Eq. **34** (2018), 1209–1223.
11. P. Thounthong, M.N. Khan, I. Hussain, I. Ahmad, and P. Kumam, *Symmetric Radial Basis Function Method for Simulation of Elliptic Partial Differential Equations*, Mathematics **6** (2018), doi:10.3390/math6120327.
12. T. Luga, T. Aboiyar and S.O. Adey, *Radial basis function methods for approximating the two dimensional heat equation*, International Journal of Engineering Applied Sciences and Technology **4** (2019), 7-15.
13. G. Karamalti, M. Abbaszadeh and M. Dehghan, *An upwind local radial basis functions-finite difference (RBF-FD) method for solving compressible Euler equation with application in finite-rate Chemistry*, Iranian J. Math. Chem. **10** (2019), 251– 267.



14. M. Khaksarfard, Y. Ordokhani, M.S. Hashemi and K. Karimi, *Space-time radial basis function collocation method for one-dimensional advection-diffusion problem*, Computational Methods for Differential Equations **6** (2018), 426-437.
15. H. Zhang, Y. Chen, C. Guo and Z. Fu, *Application of radial basis function method for solving nonlinear integral equations*, Journal of Applied Mathematics **2014** (2014), Article ID 381908, 8 pages.
16. Q. Bai and Y. Fujita, *A finite element analysis for inverse heat conduction problems*, Heat transfer-Japanese research **26** (1997), 345-359.
17. A. Shirzadi, *Numerical simulations of 1D inverse heat conduction problems using over-determined RBF-MLPG method*, ISPACS, **2013** (2013), Article ID cna-00172, 11 Pages.
18. N.V.S.J. Jami and A.R. Bhagat, *Inverse conduction method using finite difference method*, IOP Conf. Series: Materials Science and Engineering **377** (2018), doi:10.1088/1757-899X/377/1/012015.
19. B. Wang, *Moving Least Squares Method for a One-Dimensional Parabolic Inverse Problem*, Abstract and Applied Analysis **2014** (2014), Article ID 686020, 12 pages.
20. B. Wang and A. Liao, *A Meshless Method to Determine a Source Term in Heat Equation with Radial Basis Functions*, Chinese Journal of Mathematics **2013** (2013), Article ID 761272, 9 pages.
21. M. Rostamian and A. Shahrezaee, *Application of Meshless Methods for Solving an Inverse Heat Conduction Problem*, European Journal of pure and Applied Mathematics **9** (2016), 64-83.
22. Y.B. Wang, J. Cheng, J. Nakagawa and M. Yamamoto, *A numerical method for solving the inverse heat conduction problem without initial value*, Inverse Problems in Science and Engineering **18** (2010), 655-671.
23. A. Boumenir and V.K. Tuan, *Inverse Problems for Multidimensional Heat Equations by Measurements at a Single Point on the Boundary*, Numerical Functional Analysis and Optimization **30** (2010), 1215-1230.
24. S.G. Pyatkov and E.I. Safonov, *On some classes of inverse problems of recovering a source function*, Sib. Adv. Math. **27** (2017), 119-132.
25. M. Rahimi, S.M. Karbassi and M.R. Hooshmandasl, *Numerical Solution of Schrödinger Equations Based on the Meshless Methods*, Kragujevac Journal of Mathematics **46** (2022), 929-942.
26. C.A.B. Chaverra1, H. Power, W.F.F. Escobar, and A.F.H. Betancourt, *Two-Dimensional Meshless Solution of the Non-Linear Convection-Diffusion-Reaction Equation by the Local Hermitian Interpolation Method*, Ingeniería y Ciencia ing. cienc. **9** (2013), 21-51.
27. N.N. Thamareerat, A. Luadsong and N. Ascharyaphotha, *The meshless local Petrov-Galerkin method based on moving Kriging interpolation for solving the time fractional Navier-Stokes equations*, SpringerPlus **5:417** (2016), <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40064-016-2047-2>.
28. H. Mafikandi and M. Amirfakhrian, *Solving Linear Partial Differential Equations by Moving Least Squares Method*, Bulletin of the Georgian National Academy of Sciences **9** (2015), 26-36.
29. L. Yan, Z. Xiong and L. Mingwan, *Meshless Least-Squares Method for Solving the Steady-State Heat Conduction Equation*, Tsinghua Science and Technology **10** (2005), 61-66.
30. M. Amirfakhrian, A. Khademi1 and A. Neisy, *A Collocation Method by Moving Least Squares Applicable to European Option Pricing*, Journal of Interpolation and Approximation in Scientific Computing **2016** (2016), 58-65.
31. S. Fatemeh and D. Mehdi, *Solution of delay differential equations via a homotopy perturbation method*, Mathematical and Computer Modeling **48** (2008), 486-498.
32. J.H. He, *The homotopy perturbation method for nonlinear oscillators with discontinuities*, Applied Mathematics and Computation **151** (2004), 287-292.

33. J.H. He, *Application of homotopy perturbation method to nonlinear wave equations*, Chaos, Solitons and Fractals **26** (2005), 695–700.
34. J.H. He, *Homotopy perturbation method for solving boundary value problems*, Physics Letters A. **350** (2006), 87–88.
35. A. Cheniguel, *Numerical Method for the Heat Equation with Dirichlet and Neumann Conditions*, Proceedings of the International MultiConference of Engineers and Computer Scientists 2014 Vol I, IMECS 2014, March 12 - 14, Hong Kong.
36. Deniz Ağrsevena, Turgut Özi *An analytical study for Fisher type equations by using homotopy perturbation method*, Computers and Mathematics with Applications **60** (2010), 602-609.
37. D. Mehdi, M.H. Jalil and S. Abbas, *Application of semi-analytic methods for the Fitzhugh–Nagumo equation, which models the transmission of nerve impulses*, Mathematical Methods in the Applied Science **33** (2010), 1384-1398.
38. D. Mehdi and S. Fatemeh, *Use of He’s homotopy perturbation method for solving a partial differential equation arising in modeling of flow in porous media*, Journal of Porous Media **11** (2008), 765-778.
39. D. Mehdi, M. Jalil and S. Abbas, *Solving nonlinear fractional partial differential equations using the homotopy analysis method*, Numerical Methods for Partial Differential Equations **26** (2010), 448-479.
40. A. Saadatmandi and M. Dehghan, *Application of He’s homotopy perturbation method for non-linear system of second-order boundary value problems*, Nonlinear Analysis: Real World Applications **10** (2009), 1912-1922.
41. C.S. Chen, Y.C. Hon and R.A. Schaback, *Scientific computing with radial basis functions*, Tech. Rep., Department of Mathematics, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS 39406, USA, preprint, 2005.
42. G.E. Fasshauer, *Meshfree approximation methods with MATLAB*, vol. 6 of Interdisciplinary Mathematical Sciences, World Scientific Publishing Co. Pte. Ltd., Hackensack, NJ, 2007.
43. H. Wendland, *Piecewise polynomial, positive definite and compactly supported radial functions of minimal degree*, Adv. Comput. Math. **4** (1995), 389–396.
44. G.S. Bhatia and G. Arora, *Radial basis function methods for solving partial differential equations- a review*, Indian Journal of Science and Technology **9** (2016), DOI: 10.17485/ijst/2016/v9i45/105079.
45. T. Poggio and F. Girosi, *Networks for approximation and learning*, Proc. of the IEEE. **78** (1990), 1481–1497.
46. R.L. Hardy, *Multiquadric equations of topography and other irregular surfaces*, J. Geophys. Res. **76** (1971), 1905–1915.
47. M.D. Buhmann, *Multivariate cardinal interpolation with radial-basis functions*, Constr. Approx. **6** (1990), 225–255.
48. M. Dehghan and A. Shokri, *A meshless method for numerical solution of the one dimensional wave equation with an integral condition using radial basis functions*, Numer. Algorithms. **52** (2009), 461–477.
49. A.J. Khattak, S.I.A. Tirmizi and S.U. Islam, *Application of meshfree collocation method to a class of nonlinear partial differential equations*, Eng. Anal. Bound. Elem. **33** (2009), 661–667.
50. S. Wang, S. Li, Q. Huang and K. Li, *An Improved Collocation Meshless Method Based on the Variable Shaped Radial Basis Function for the Solution of the Interior Acoustic Problems*, Mathematical Problems in Engineering **2012** (2012), Article ID 632072, 20 pages.
51. R. Franke, *Scattered data interpolation: tests of some methods*, Math. Comp. **38** (1982), 181–200.

52. M. Rafei and H. Danialia, *Application of the variational iteration method to the Whitham-Broer-Kaup equations*, Computational and Mathematics with Applications **54** (2007), 1079-1085.

**Hussen Gedefaw** received M.Sc. from Wollo University. He has been working in Samara University. His research interests include Existence and properties of solutions of differential equations, Numerical solutions of differential equations and Mathematical modeling.

Department of Mathematics, Samara University, Samara, Ethiopia.  
e-mail: [hussengedefaw@gmail.com](mailto:hussengedefaw@gmail.com)

**Fasil Gidaf** received M.Sc. from Haramaya University. He has been working in Wollo University. His research interests include Numerical solutions of differential equations and Mathematical modeling.

Department of Mathematics, College of Natural Sciences, Wollo University, Dessie, Ethiopia.  
e-mail: [fasilgidaf@gmail.com](mailto:fasilgidaf@gmail.com)

**Habtamu Siraw** received M.Sc. from Haramaya University. He has been working in Wollo University. His research interests include Numerical solutions of differential equations and Mathematical modeling.

Department of Mathematics, College of Natural Sciences, Wollo University, Dessie, Ethiopia.  
e-mail: [winhabtish@gmail.com](mailto:winhabtish@gmail.com)

**Tadesse Mergiaaw** received M.Sc. from Bahir Dar University. He has been working in Wollo University. His research interests include Numerical solutions of differential equations and Functional Analysis.

Department of Mathematics, College of Natural Sciences, Wollo University, Dessie, Ethiopia.  
e-mail: [tadessemergiaw2013@gmail.com](mailto:tadessemergiaw2013@gmail.com), [tadessemergiaw@yahoo.com](mailto:tadessemergiaw@yahoo.com)

**Getachew Tsegaw** received M.Sc. from Wollo University. He has been working in Wollo University. His research interests include Existence of solutions of differential equations and Numerical solutions of differential equations.

Department of Mathematics, College of Natural Sciences, Wollo University, Dessie, Ethiopia.  
e-mail: [getachewtsegaw@gmail.com](mailto:getachewtsegaw@gmail.com)

**Ashenafi Woldeselassie** received M.Sc. from Haramaya University. He has been working in Woldia University. His research interests include Numerical solutions of differential equations and Mathematical modeling.

Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Natural and Computational Sciences,  
Woldia University, Woldia, Ethiopia.

e-mail: [ashenafi.w@wldu.edu.et](mailto:ashenafi.w@wldu.edu.et)

**Melaku Abera** received M.Sc. from Bahir Dar University. He has been working in Wollo University. His research interests include Numerical solutions of differential equations and Functional analysis.

Kombolcha Institute of Technology, Wollo University, Kombolcha, Ethiopia.

e-mail: [abramelak@gmail.com](mailto:abramelak@gmail.com)

**Mahmud Kassim** received M.Sc. from Gondar University University. He has been working in Woldia University. His research interests include Existence and properties of solutions of differential equations and Numerical solutions of differential equation.

Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Natural and Computational Sciences,  
Woldia University, Woldia, Ethiopia.

e-mail: [mahmudka51@gmail.com](mailto:mahmudka51@gmail.com)

**Wondosen Lisanu** received M.Sc. from Bahir Dar University. He has been working in Woldia University. His research interests include Numerical solutions of differential equations and Mathematical Modeling.

Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Natural and Computational Sciences,  
Woldia University, Woldia, Ethiopia.

e-mail: [wondosen.l@wldu.edu.et](mailto:wondosen.l@wldu.edu.et), [philmonsof@gmail.com](mailto:philmonsof@gmail.com)

**Benyam Mebrate** received M.Sc. from BahirDar University, and Ph.D. from Hawassa University. He is currently assistant professor at Wollo University since 2018. His research interests include Existence and properties of solutions of differential equations, Numerical solutions of differential equations and Mathematical modeling.

Department of Mathematics, College of Natural Sciences, Wollo University,  
Dessie, Ethiopia.

e-mail: [benyam134@gmail.com](mailto:benyam134@gmail.com), [benyam.mebrate@wu.edu.et](mailto:benyam.mebrate@wu.edu.et)