

## A Numerical Method -High Accuracy Solution to Singular Differential Equations

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**Abstract:**Recursive form of B-spline based collocation method is developed and applied to the second order singular differential equation with Neumann’s boundary conditions. Quadratic B-spline collocation is used to find the numerical solution of second order singular differential equation and compared the solution with the analytic and cubic B-spline collocation solution. The improvement in the accuracy of the solution is seen when cubic B-spline collocation is used. Quadratic and cubic B-spline collocation methods are tested for its efficiency and stability. Degree of the basis function is increased by one in the present method and applied to solve second order singular differential equations with Neumann’s boundary conditions. Results of considered Numerical examples show the improvement in accuracy of the approximate solution as increased the degree of the basis function.

**Keywords**

Collocation method, B-splines, Singular differential equations, Neumann’s boundary conditions

**1. Introduction**

In recent years, many numerical methods are developed to solve singular differential equations with Neumann- Dirichlet’s boundary conditions. The methods include like B-spline collocation method [13], finite difference method [4], kernel space [5, 6] sinc collocation method [7] and predictor and corrector method [8] and many more. The B-spline based collocation method is used to evaluate boundary value problems including singular boundary value problems [9].

Decreasing the mesh size and raising the degree of the basis functions are able to improve the accuracy of an approximation solution.

However, it is observed from the recent literature that B-spline basis functions are derived using fixed equidistant space for a particular degree only. If the recursive formulation given by Carl.De boor [12] is applied, the basis function evaluation can be generalized and without fixing the degree of the basis function can be used in collocation method for uniform or non uniform mesh sizes.

In this text, after defining the B-spline basis function recursively, the B-spline collocation method is described and formulated. The improvement in accuracy of the method is demonstrated by using the third degree B- spline basis function instead of second degree B- spline basis function in the B-spline based collocation method to second order singular differential equations with Neumann’s boundary conditions.

Considering second order linear differential equations with variable coefficients

$$\frac{d^2U}{dx^2} + k_1P(x)\frac{dU}{dx} + k_2Q(x)U = R(x) \quad , \quad a \leq x \leq b \quad \dots (1)$$

with Neumann’s boundary conditions  $U'(a) = d_1, U(b) = d_2$  where

$a, b, d_1, d_2, k_1$  and  $k_2$  are constants  $P(x), Q(x)$  and  $R(x)$  are functions of  $x$

Let  $U^h(x) = \sum_{i=-2}^{n-1} C_i N_{i,p}(x) \dots\dots (2)$ , where  $C_i$ 's are constants to be determined and  $N_{i,p}(x)$  are

B-spline basis functions, be the approximate global solution to the exact solution  $U(x)$  of the considered second order singular differential equation (1).

**2.1B-splines**

In this section, definition and properties of B-spline basis functions [1, 2] are given in detail. A zero degree and higher degree B-spline basis functions are defined at  $x_i$  recursively over the knot vector space  $X = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n\}$  as

i) if  $p = 0$

$$N_{i,p}(x) = 1 \text{ if } x \in (x_i, x_{i+1}) \quad N_{i,p}(x) = 0 \text{ if } x \notin (x_i, x_{i+1})$$

$$ii) \text{ if } p \geq 1 \quad N_{i,p}(x) = \frac{x - x_i}{x_{i+p} - x_i} N_{i,p-1}(x) + \frac{x_{i+p+1} - x}{x_{i+p+1} - x_{i+1}} N_{i+1,p-1}(x)$$

..... (3)

where  $p$  is the degree of the B-spline basis function and  $x$  is the parameter belongs to  $X$ . When evaluating these functions, ratios of the form  $0/0$  are defined as zero

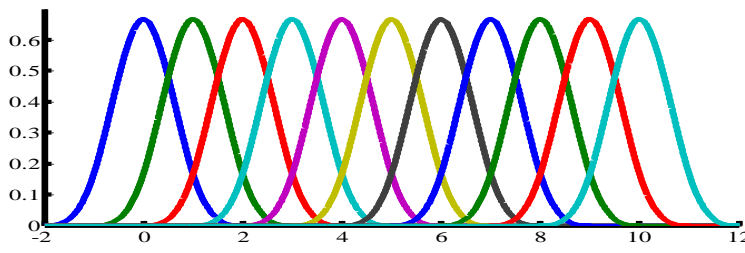
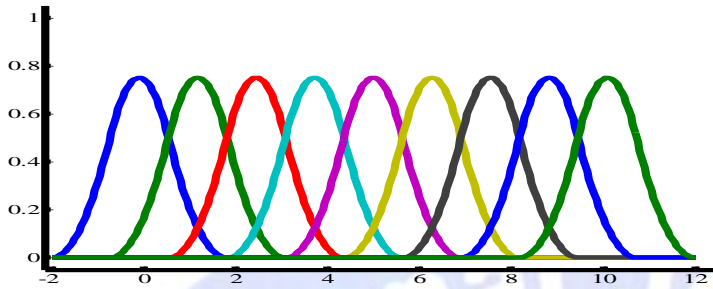


Fig (1), Third degree B-spline basis function with uniform Knot vector  $1,0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12\}$

$X = \{-2, -$



basis function with uniform Knot vector  
 X = {-2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12}

Fig (2), Second degree B-spline  
 X = {-2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12}

### 2.2 Derivatives of B-splines

If  $p=3$ , we have

$$N'_{i,p}(x) = \frac{x - x_i}{x_{i+p} - x_i} N'_{i,p-1}(x) + \frac{N_{i,p-1}(x)}{x_{i+p} - x_i} + \frac{x_{i+p+1} - x}{x_{i+p+1} - x_{i+1}} N'_{i+1,p-1}(x) - \frac{N_{i+1,p-1}(x)}{x_{i+p+1} - x_{i+1}}$$

..... (4a)

$$N''_{i,p}(x) = 2 \frac{N'_{i,p-1}(x)}{x_{i+p} - x_i} - 2 \frac{N'_{i+1,p-1}(x)}{x_{i+p+1} - x_{i+1}}$$

..... (4b)

In the above equations, the basis functions are defined as recursively in terms of previous degree basis function i.e. the  $p^{\text{th}}$  degree basis function is the combination of ratios of knots and  $(p-1)$  degree basis function. Again  $(p-1)^{\text{th}}$  degree basis function is defined as the combination ratios of knots and  $(p-2)$  degree basis function. In a similar way every B-spline basis function of degree up to  $(p-(p-2))$  is expressed as the combination of the ratios of knots and its previous B-spline basis functions.

The B-spline basis functions are defined on knot vectors. Knots are real quantities. Knot vector is a non decreasing set of Real numbers. Knot vectors are classified as non-uniform knot vectors, uniform knot vector and open uniform knot vectors. Uniform knot vector in which difference of any two consecutive knots is constant is used for test problems in this paper. Two knots are required to define the zero degree basis function. In a similar way, a  $p^{\text{th}}$  degree B-spline basis function at a knot have a domain of influence of  $(p+2)$  knots. B-spline basis functions of degree one and degree two over uniform knot vector are shown graphically below in figures (1) and (2).

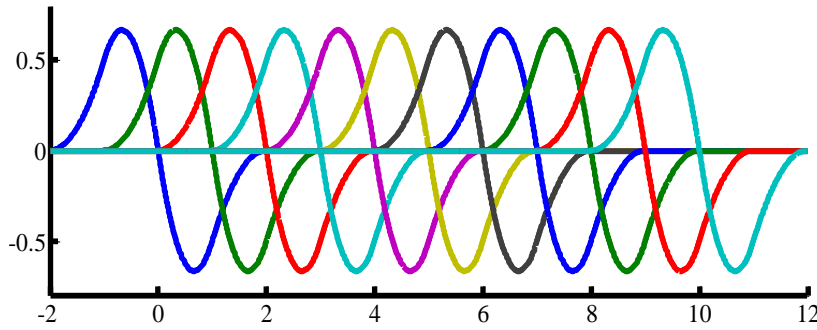


Fig (3), First derivative of third degree B-spline basis function with uniform Knot vector  $X = \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12\}$

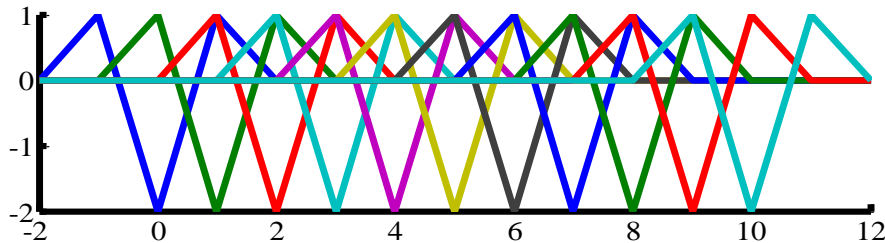


Fig (4), Second derivative of third degree B-spline basis function with uniform Knot vector  $X = \{-2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12\}$

### 2.3 B-spline collocation method

Collocation method is widely used in approximation theory particularly to solve differential equations. In collocation method, the assumed approximate solution is made exact at some nodal points by equating residue zero at that particular node. B-spline basis functions are used as the basis in B-spline collocation method whereas the base functions which are used in normal collocation method are the polynomials vanishes at the boundary values. Residue which is obtained by substituting equation (2) in equation (1) is made equal to zero at nodes in the given domain to determine unknowns in (2). Let  $[a, b]$  be the domain of the governing differential equation and is partitioned as

$$X = \{a = x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n = b\} \text{ with equal length } h = \frac{b-a}{n} \text{ of } n \text{-sub domains.}$$

The  $x_i$ 's are known as nodes, the nodes are treated as knots in collocation B-spline method where B-spline basis functions are defined and these nodes are used to make the residue equal to zero to



determine unknowns  $C_i$ 's in (2), two extra knot vectors are taken into consideration beside the domain of problem both side when evaluating the second degree B-spline basis functions at the nodes. Substituting, the approximate solution (2) and its derivatives in (1).

$$\frac{d^2U^h}{dx^2} + k_1P(x)\frac{dU^h}{dx} + k_2Q(x)U^h = R(x) \text{ i.e.}$$

$$\sum_{i=-2}^{n-1} C_i N''_{i,p}(x) + k_1P(x) \sum_{i=-2}^{n-1} C_i N'_{i,p}(x) + k_2Q(x) \sum_{i=-2}^{n-1} C_i N_{i,p}(x) = R(x) \quad \dots (5)$$

Equation (5) which is evaluated at  $x_i$ 's,  $i=0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$  gives the system of  $(n-1) \times (n+1)$  equations in which  $(n+1)$  arbitrary constants are involved. Two more equations are needed to have  $(n+1) \times (n+1)$  square matrix which helps to determine the  $(n+1)$  arbitrary constants. The remaining two equations are obtained using

$$\sum_{i=-2}^{n-1} C_i N_{i,p}(a) = d_1, \quad \dots (6)$$

$$\sum_{i=-2}^{n-1} C_i N_{i,p}(b) = d_2, \quad \dots (7)$$

Now using all the above equations (5), (6), (7) i.e.  $(n+1)$  a square matrix is obtained which is diagonally dominated matrix because every second degree basis function has values other than zeros only in three intervals and zeros in the remaining intervals, it is a continuing process like when one function is ending its effect in its surrounding region than other function starts its effectiveness as parameter value changing. In other words, every parameter has at most under the three ( $p=2$ ) basis functions. These systems of equations are easily solved for arbitrary constants  $C_i$ 's. Substituting these constants in (2), the approximation solution is obtained and used to estimate the values at domain points. Absolute Relative error is evaluated by using the following relationship in exact and approximate solutions

$$\text{Absolute Relative Error} = \left| \frac{U_{\text{exact}} - U_{\text{appro}}}{U_{\text{exact}}} \right|$$

### 3. Numerical Experiments

The effectiveness of the present method is demonstrated by considering the various examples

Example 1: Consider a singular boundary value problem given

$$U'' + \frac{2}{x}U' - 4U(x) = -2, \quad 0 < x \leq 1, \quad U'(0) = 0, \quad U(1) = 5.5$$

The exact solution is  $U(x) = 0.5 + \frac{5 \sinh(2x)}{x \sinh 2}$ . The domain is divided into equal intervals and

associated with knot vector space. Table 1 present's the comparison among the solutions at selected nodes inside the domain. \*Solution1 and \*Solution2 are solutions which are obtained by using second

and third degree B-spline basis functions in collocation method respectively and compared with the exact solution for mesh size  $h=0.100$ . It is observed from the table 1 that the solution 2 is very close to the exact solution as the solution 1 can accomplish the same by taking very less mesh size. Increasing degree of basis function is easy then continuously attempting to increase interpolating points. Maximum absolute relative error for solution 2 is 0.0017 for the 15 interpolating points whereas the same maximum absolute error for the solution 1 is achieved by taking the 201 interpolating points.

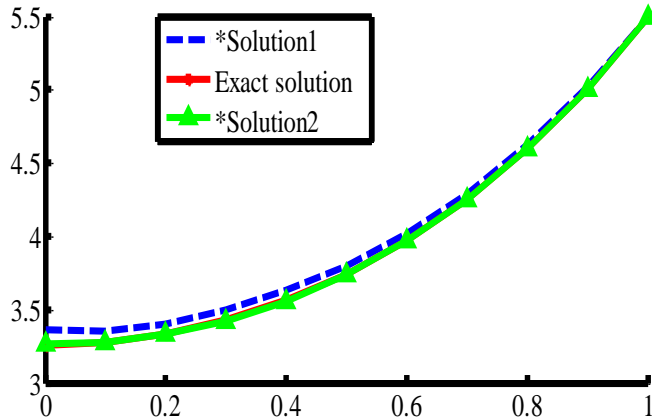


Fig (5), Comparison of second and the third degree B-spline collocation solutions with the exact solution for mesh size  $h=0.100$ . \*solution1 is obtained by using the second degree B-spline basis function in collocation method whereas \*solution2 is the solution by using the third degree B-spline basis function in collocation method.

Table 1 Computed values and exact values at different nodes with mesh sizes ' $h=0.100$ '

Node 'x'	*Solution1	*Solution2	Exact values
.1	3.3494	3.2774	3.2756
.2	3.3964	3.3301	3.3313
.3	3.5014	3.4245	3.4256
.4	3.6286	3.5597	3.5609
.5	3.8002	3.7392	3.7403
.6	4.0198	3.9673	3.9682
.7	4.2924	4.2496	4.2504
.8	4.6245	4.5931	4.5937
.9	5.0238	5.0064	5.0068

Example 2: The exact solution of another singular boundary value problem considered below

$$U'' + \frac{1}{x}U' = \frac{8}{(8-x^2)^2}, \quad U'(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad U(1) = 0$$

$$\text{is } U(x) = 2 \log\left(\frac{7}{8-x^2}\right)$$

The following below figures 6, 7 and 8 gives the comparison of solution1 and solution2 with the exact solution for example.2 for different mesh sizes 'h'. Decreasing mesh size improves the approximation solutions as well as consistently moving to converge with exact values very well. The convergence rate is high for solution2 when compare with solution1. This shows the consistency of the method as the higher degree is used as basis function in evaluating second order singular differential equations with Neumann's boundary conditions.

Table 2 gives the relative error of the nodes which are in the neighborhood of the singular point zero for both the solutions

Nodes close to singular point x=0	.0100	.0050	.0025	.001	.0007	.0005	.0003
Absolute Relative error for *solution1	.001001	0.000479	0.000234	.000092	.000061	.000045	.000022
Absolute Relative error for *solution2	.00000405	.00000101	.0000002	.000000040	.000000018	.0000000101	.0000000043

Absolute Relative error is fall down at points of the neighborhood of the singular point zero like at normal points in both the solutions. It is observed from the above table that the absolute Relative error falling rate for solution2 is more than the solution1. This demonstrates the efficiency of higher degree usage as the basis function in collocation method to singular value boundary problems with Neumann's conditions.

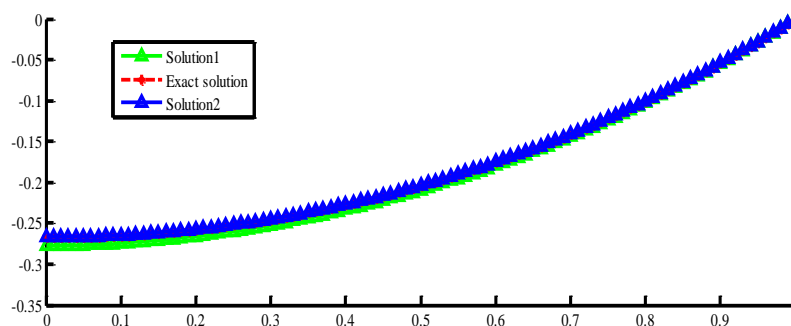


Fig (6). Comparison of Approximate \*Solution1 and \*Solution2 with Exact solution for the Example 2 for mesh size h=0.01



## Conclusions

The effectiveness of the proposed method is illustrated by considering two numerical examples. The high degree B-spline basis function is used in collocation method and compared with low degree B-spline basis function. The high accuracy is achieved by raising the degree of the basis function very well with less interpolating points and performance of the method with high degree basis function at nearby singular points is as ordinary points. The convergence rate is high when used low degree B-spline basis function in collocation method and time is saved because more interpolating points are required to get the same level of accuracy when used low degree B-spline basis function in collocation method. This method may be applied to different types of some more singular boundary value problems for its efficiency.

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