

# Solving Natural Convection Of Darcian Fluid In Porous Media Using Rational Chebyshev Collocation Method

Mahmoud A. Nassar<sup>1</sup>, Mohamed A. Ramadan<sup>2,\*</sup> and Kamal R. Raslan<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Mathematics Department, Faculty of Science, Al-Azhar University, Nasr-City 11884, Cairo, Egypt

<sup>2</sup>Mathematics Department and Computer Science, Faculty of Science, Menoufia University, Egypt

Received: 2 Mar. 2020, Revised: 12 Jun. 2020, Accepted: 24 Jun. 2020

Published online: 1 Sep. 2020

**Abstract:** In this paper, numerical technique is introduced for solving natural convection of Darcian fluid about a vertical full cone embedded in porous media with a prescribed wall temperature or surface heat flux boundary conditions. The power function of distance from the vertex of the inverted cone gives us nonlinear differential equation. Rational Chebyshev collocation method is used to solve the produced third order nonlinear differential equation with boundary conditions transformed to a system of nonlinear equations. The proposed base is specified by its ability of deal with boundary conditions with an independent variable that may tend to infinity with easy manner without divergent. Moreover, we compare the proposed method with other methods to investigate applicability and accuracy.

**Keywords:** Rational Chebyshev functions, natural convection of Darcian fluid, collocation method, nonlinear differential equations.

## 1 Introduction

The spectral methods have an important and significant role in approximate differential equations, which make it easy in treating many phenomena and models in physics, engineering, economic and many other fields. The most common distinctive feature for spectral methods is using bases in the form of polynomials or functions which are biorthogonal with respect to the weight functions, defined in bounded and unbounded domain. Various spectral methods can be applicable on finite domain [1–3], semi-infinite domain [4–6] and unbounded domain [7–13].

The choice of trial functions provides the spectral method a great distinguishing feature, where the choice of trial functions depended on the exact solution  $f(x)$  and the values of  $x$  for the proposed equation. This means that if the solution  $f(x)$  is polynomial in finite domain, use Chebyshev polynomials. However, if  $f(x)$  is periodic, Fourier series is preferred. If  $f(x)$  is defined in unbounded domain, use Hermit functions or exponential Chebyshev functions. Whereas, if the solution defined in semi-infinite interval  $x \in [0, \infty)$ , use Laguerre functions or rational Chebyshev functions, especially the solution

$f(x)$  in fraction or exponential form in semi-infinite domain the RC functions which are the best.

Many researchers have been publishing several papers on convection of porous media.

A porous medium is a material consisting of a solid matrix with interconnected pores. The solid matrix is rigid and undergoes simple deformation. The interconnectedness of the void allows the flow of one or more fluids through the material [14].

Prediction of natural convection heat transfer characteristics from heated bodies embedded in a porous media has a number of thermal engineering applications, such as ceramic processing, nuclear reactor cooling system, crude oil drilling, chemical reactor design, ground water pollution and filtration processes. Papers have addressed multiple problems associated with external natural convection in a porous medium adjacent to heated bodies in the form of flat plate [14, 15], cylinder [14, 16, 17], sphere [14, 17, 18] and cone [14, 19–24]. In all of these analyses, it is assumed that Darcy law and boundary layer approximations are applicable and the coupled set of governing equations was solved using numerical methods.

Thanks to their orthogonality and minimax properties, Chebyshev Polynomials have played a significant role in

\* Corresponding author e-mail: [ramadanmohamed13@yahoo.com](mailto:ramadanmohamed13@yahoo.com)

all areas of numerical analysis, including polynomial approximation, numerical integration, integral equations, and differential equation.

Using a transformation that maps an finite domain into an infinite domain, it is possible to generate a great variety of new basis sets for the infinite interval or semi-infinite interval that are the images under the change-of-coordinate of Chebyshev polynomials or Fourier series, where the new basis inherits most of the good numerical characteristics of the Chebyshev polynomials. Exploiting the mapping induced connection between Fourier cosine series and the new basis functions, defined in [25], is called rational Chebyshev (RC) functions. This strategy is a generalization of the particular map  $x = \cos(\theta)$ , which transforms the cosine functions into the Chebyshev polynomials. The rational Chebyshev functions are orthogonal on  $[0, \infty)$  with the weight function  $\frac{1}{(1+x)\sqrt{x}}$ .

In recent works, the rational Chebyshev functions was introduced for solving high-order linear ordinary differential equations, system of high-order linear ordinary differential equations, and high-order integro-differential equations, defined in unbounded domains by transforming last equations and the given conditions to a system of nonlinear algebraic equations [26–34]. The solution is obtained in terms of RC functions.

The organization of this paper is, as follows. In Section 2, properties of the rational Chebyshev (RC) functions are presented. In Section 3, problem formulation is introduced. In Section 4, description of the solution method is presented. Section 5 involves numerical illustrations and the results that are compared with the exact solution, as well as other existing methods to demonstrate accuracy of the method.

## 2 Rational Chebyshev functions

In this section, we use an algebraic mapping from  $[-1, 1]$  to  $[0, \infty)$  with Chebyshev polynomials to provide a new set of basis functions, called rational Chebyshev functions, for solving differential equations on an semi-infinite interval. We also present some properties of rational Chebyshev functions.

As a continuation of the papers conducted by John P. Boyd [35] as well as Grosch and Orszag [36], we show that these rational functions inherit most of the good numerical characteristics of the Chebyshev polynomials: orthogonality, completeness, exponential or "infinite order" convergence, matrix sparsity for equations with polynomial coefficients, and simplicity.

The basis functions, denoted by  $TL_n(x)$ , are defined by

$$TL_n(x) = T_n(y) = \cos n\theta, \quad (1)$$

where  $L$  is a constant map parameter and the three coordinates are related by

$$x = \frac{L(1+y)}{1-y}, \quad y = \frac{x-L}{x+L}, \quad (2)$$

$$x = L \cot^2(\theta/2), \quad \theta = 2 \operatorname{arccot}([x/L]^{1/2}). \quad (3)$$

To avoid confusion as we leap from one coordinate to another, we shall adopt the convention that  $x \in [0, \infty)$  is the argument of the  $TL_n(x)$ ,  $y \in [-1, 1]$  is the argument of the ordinary Chebyshev polynomials, and  $\theta \in [0, \pi]$  is the argument of the cosines. We are free to estimate which of these three coordinates is the most convenient.

From (1) and (2), we get

$$TL_n(x) = T_n(y) = T_n\left(\frac{x-L}{x+L}\right). \quad (4)$$

In this study, we take  $L=1$  and relation (4) is obtained as

$$TL_n(x) = T_n\left(\frac{x-1}{x+1}\right) = R_n(x)$$

It symbolizes rational Chebyshev function as  $R_n(x)$  instead of  $TL_n(x)$ . Consequently, we can define rational Chebyshev functions, as follows:

### Definition 2.1

The rational Chebyshev functions  $R_n(x)$  of the first kind are polynomials in  $x$  of degree  $n$ , defined by the relation

$$R_n(x) = T_n\left(\frac{x-1}{x+1}\right), \quad \text{when } x = \cot^2(\theta/2)x \in [0, \infty) \quad (5)$$

If the range of the variable  $x$  is the interval  $[0, \infty)$ , the range of the corresponding variable  $\theta$  can be taken as  $[0, \pi]$ . These ranges are traversed in opposite directions, since  $x = 0$  corresponds to  $\theta = \pi$  and  $x = \infty$  corresponds to  $\theta = 0$ .

For more details, (see, for instance, [25–30]).

Form the recurrence relation of the Chebyshev polynomials, we find that  $R_n(x)$  satisfies the following recurrence formulae

$$R_{n+1}(x) = 2\left(\frac{x-1}{x+1}\right)R_n(x) - R_{n-1}(x), \quad n \geq 1, \quad (6)$$

which together with

$$R_0(x) = 1, \quad R_1(x) = \frac{x-1}{x+1}. \quad (7)$$

Rational Chebyshev functions are neither even nor odd for  $n \geq 1$ , while  $R_0(x)$  is an even function.

It is useful and convenient in various applications to express rational Chebyshev functions explicitly in terms of powers of  $v(x) = \frac{x-1}{x+1}$ , and vice versa. We can state the following proposition:

**Proposition 2.1** The power  $v^n(x)$  can be expressed in terms of rational Chebyshev functions of degrees up to  $n$  as:

$$v^n(x) = 2^{1-n} \sum_{k=0}^{[n/2]} \binom{n}{k} R_{n-2k}(x) \tag{8}$$

**Proposition 2.2** A simple formula for  $R_n(x)$  in terms of powers of  $v(x)$  is

$$R_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{[n/2]} c_k^{(n)} v^{n-2k}(x), \tag{9}$$

where

$$c_k^{(n)} = (-1)^k 2^{n-2k-1} \frac{n}{n-k} \binom{n-k}{k}, \quad 2k \leq n, \tag{10}$$

and

$$c_k^{(2k)} = (-1)^k, \quad k \geq 0. \tag{11}$$

Since the set of RC functions is orthogonal and complete  $f(x)$  defined over the interval  $[0, \infty)$  can be expanded as:

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n R_n(x),$$

where

$$a_n = \frac{2}{c_n \pi} \int_0^{\infty} R_n(x) f(x) w(x) dx. \tag{12}$$

with respect to the weight function  $w(x) = 1/((x+1)\sqrt{x})$ , and

$$c_n = \begin{cases} 2, & n = 0 \\ 1, & n \geq 1 \end{cases}.$$

If  $f(x)$  is truncated to  $n < \infty$  in terms of RC functions take the form

$$[f_N(x)] = R(x)A \tag{13}$$

where  $R(x)$  and  $A$  are vectors of the form:

$$R(x) = [R_0(x) R_1(x) \dots R_N(x)], A = [a_0 a_1 \dots a_N]^T,$$

and the derivative of  $f(x)$  can be put in the matrix forms

$$[f_N^{(j)}(x)] = R^{(j)}(x)A, j = 0, 1, \dots, n \leq N. \tag{14}$$

where

$$R^{(j)}(x) = [R_0^{(j)}(x) R_1^{(j)}(x) \dots R_N^{(j)}(x)]$$

### 3 Problem formulations

Consider an inverted cone with semi-angle  $\gamma$  and take axes in the manner indicated in Fig. 1(a). The stream function  $\psi$  defined as

$$u = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y}, v = -\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}. \tag{15}$$

In terms of the heated frustum  $x = x_0$  is considered [14]. The boundary layer equations are:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} &= \frac{g\beta K}{v} \frac{\partial T}{\partial y}, \\ \frac{1}{r} \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right) &= \alpha \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2}. \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

We have approximately  $r = x \sin(\gamma)$  and suppose the temperature is power function of distance from the vertex of the inverted cone. Accordingly, the boundary conditions are:

$$\begin{aligned} u = 0, \quad T = T_{\infty} \quad & y \rightarrow \infty, \\ u = 0, \quad & y = 0, x_0 \leq x \leq \infty, \\ T = T_{\omega} = T_{\infty} + A(x - x_0)^{\lambda} \quad & y = 0, x_0 \leq x \leq \infty. \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

For the case of a full cone ( $x_0 = 0$ , Fig.1(b)) a similarity solution exists.

In the case of prescribed wall temperature, we let:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi &= \alpha r Ra_x^{1/2} f(\eta), \\ T - T_{\infty} &= (T_{\omega} - T_{\infty}) \theta(\eta), \\ \eta &= \frac{y}{x} Ra_x^{1/2}, \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

where the Rayleigh number is

$$Ra_x = \frac{g\beta K \cos(\gamma) (T_{\omega} - T_{\infty}) x}{v\alpha}. \tag{19}$$

The governing equations are [14, 19] and [34]

$$\begin{aligned} f' &= \theta, \\ \theta'' + \left( \frac{\lambda+3}{2} \right) f \theta' - \lambda f' \theta &= 0 \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

with boundary conditions,

$$f(0) = 0, \quad \theta(0) = 1, \quad \theta(\eta) = 0, \quad \text{where } \eta \rightarrow \infty \tag{21}$$

Finally, we have:

$$f''' + \left( \frac{\lambda+3}{2} \right) f f'' - \lambda (f')^2 = 0, \tag{22}$$

with boundary conditions

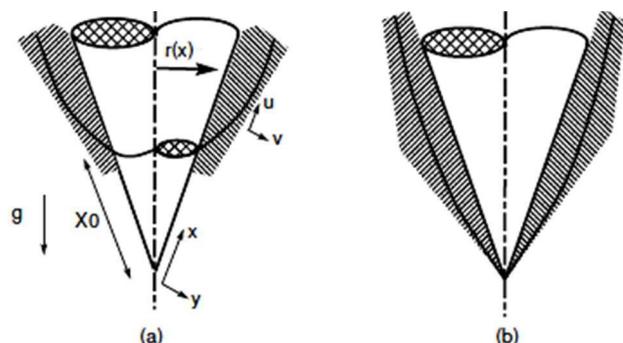
$$f(0) = 0, \quad f'(0) = 1, \quad f'(\eta) = 0, \quad \text{where } \eta \rightarrow \infty. \tag{23}$$

It is of interest to obtain the value of the local Nusselt number which is defined as:

$$Nu_x = \frac{q_w x}{k(T_w - T_{\infty})}. \tag{24}$$

Where  $q_w$  for the case of prescribed wall temperature can be computed from:

$$q_w = -k \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right)_{y=0}. \tag{25}$$



**Fig. 1:** (a) Coordinate system for the boundary layer on a heated frustum of a cone, (b) full cone,  $x_0 = 0$

From Eqs. (18), (19), (24) and (25), it follows that the local Nusselt number is given by [14,34]:

$$Nu_x = Ra_x^{1/2} [-\theta'(0)].$$

| Nomenclature  |   |
|---------------|---|
| $A$           | prescribed constant                                   |
| $f$           | similarity function for stream function               |
| $g$           | acceleration due to gravity                           |
| $K$           | permeability of the fluid-saturated porous medium     |
| $Nu$          | local Nusselt number                                  |
| $q_w$         | surface heat flux                                     |
| $r$           | local radius of the cone                              |
| $Ra_x$        | local Raleigh number                                  |
| $T$           | temperature   |
| $T_\infty$    | ambient temperature                                   |
| $T_w$         | wall temperature                                      |
| $u, v$        | velocity vector along $x, y$ axis                     |
| $x, y$        | Cartesian coordinate system                           |
| $x_0$         | distance of start point of cone from the vertex       |
| Greek symbols |   |
| $\theta$      | similarity function for temperature                   |
| $\eta$        | independent dimensionless parameter                   |
| $\lambda$     | prescribed constants                                  |
| $\beta$       | expansion coefficient of the fluid                    |
| $\alpha$      | thermal diffusivity the fluid-saturated porous medium |
| $\nu$         | kinematics viscosity of the fluid                     |
| $\psi$        | stream function                                       |

## 4 Method description

Consider the following nonlinear boundary value problem (22):

$$f''' + \left(\frac{\lambda + 3}{2}\right) f f'' - \lambda (f')^2 = 0,$$

governed by the boundary conditions

$$f(0) = 0, \quad f'(0) = 1, \quad f'(\eta) = 0, \quad \text{where } \eta \rightarrow \infty$$

If  $f$  is approximated to  $f_N$  as in (13) and (14), the above-mentioned nonlinear equation (22) is translated to the following form in the unknown vector  $A$ :

$$R^{(3)}A + \left(\frac{\lambda + 3}{2}\right) RA (R^{(2)}A) - \lambda (R^{(1)}A)^2 = 0, \quad (26)$$

an approximate solution  $f_N$  can be obtained by employing the typical collocation method. For this purpose, equation (26) is collocated at  $(N + 1)$  points. These points may be taken by

$$\eta_k = \left( \frac{1 + \cos\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right)}{1 - \cos\left(\frac{k\pi}{n}\right)} \right), \quad (k = 1, \dots, n - 1). \quad (27)$$

The same operation made with the conditions (23) produces extra equations. Thus, we replace the produced equations by the last three of the system. Hence, a set of  $(N + 1)$  nonlinear equations are generated in the expansion coefficients. This nonlinear system can be solved with the aid of a suitable solver. The well-known Newton iterative method can be used here with 100 iterations. Therefore, the corresponding approximate solution  $f_N$  can be obtained.

## 5 Numerical results

Consider governing equation of fluid flow and heat transfer of full cone embedded in porous medium expressed by Eq.

$$f''' + \left(\frac{\lambda + 3}{2}\right) f f'' - \lambda (f')^2 = 0$$

for wall temperature boundary condition

$$f(0) = 0, \quad f'(0) = 1, \quad f'(\eta) = 0, \quad \text{where } \eta \rightarrow \infty.$$

We apply the present method to find the approximate solution  $f_N(\eta)$  for  $N = 26$  and  $30$  by the truncated rational Chebyshev series. Table 1 shows the coefficients  $a_i$  of the rational Chebyshev series at different  $\lambda$  as  $f_N(\eta) = \sum_{i=0}^N a_i R_i(\eta)$  at  $N = 26$ . Table 2 indicates, comparison of the approximate values for  $\theta'(0)$  of the present method at  $N = 26$  with the previous results obtained from different methods. Our obtained results are close to those of Runge-Kutta method, Homotopy analysis [34] and RCT method [32]. Table 3 involves a comparison between the residual errors with different value for  $\lambda$  at  $N = 26$  using the present method. The results for  $\theta(0)$  are shown in Tables 4 and 5 with two selected  $\lambda$  as 0 and 1/2 and are compared with Runge-Kutta method, Homotopy analysis [34] and RCT method [32].

## 6 Conclusion

In this paper, rational Chebyshev collection method is applied to solve third order nonlinear differential equation

**Table 1:** A comparison between  $a_i$  the coefficient results for various  $\lambda$  at  $N = 26$

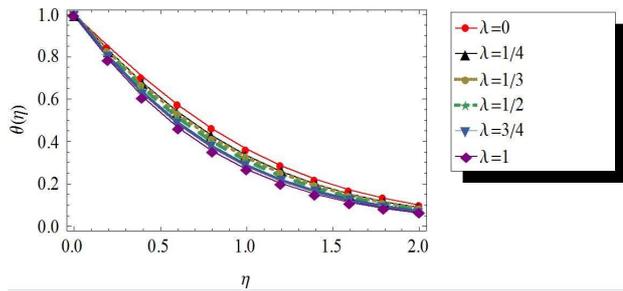
| $a_i$    | $\lambda = 0$             | $\lambda = 1/4$           | $\lambda = 1/3$           | $\lambda = 1/2$           | $\lambda = 3/4$           | $\lambda = 1$             |
|----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| $a_0$    | 0.554457225               | 0.525683296               | 0.517213395               | 0.501635582               | 0.481094861               | 0.463249716               |
| $a_1$    | 0.508370705               | 0.473913467               | 0.463819425               | 0.445320709               | 0.421074189               | 0.400161055               |
| $a_2$    | -0.095862223              | -0.096494523              | -0.096625062              | -0.096788466              | -0.096833760              | -0.096695227              |
| $a_3$    | -0.051888130              | -0.045056784              | -0.043064859              | -0.039424946              | -0.034674824              | -0.030597502              |
| $a_4$    | 0.006295945               | 0.0073669252              | 0.007653882               | 0.008143116               | 0.008703461               | 0.009102443               |
| $a_5$    | 0.011799427               | 0.0104291547              | 0.010030844               | 0.009303263               | 0.008352501               | 0.007533551               |
| $a_6$    | 0.002885521               | 0.0021411443              | 0.001932283               | 0.001561365               | 0.001100324               | 0.000727911               |
| $a_7$    | -0.001585738              | -0.001533606              | -0.001516993              | -0.001483957              | -0.001433941              | -0.001382921              |
| $a_8$    | 0.001530059               | -0.001301434              | -0.001236784              | -0.001120733              | -0.000972956              | -0.000849070              |
| $a_9$    | -0.000421389              | -0.000312750              | -0.000282167              | -0.000227773              | -0.000160066              | -0.000105371              |
| $a_{10}$ | 0.000172862               | 0.000171915               | 0.000171797               | 0.000171489               | 0.000170452               | 0.000168478               |
| $a_{11}$ | 0.000233196               | 0.000201207               | 0.000192247               | 0.000176179               | 0.000155607               | 0.000138101               |
| $a_{12}$ | 0.000108172               | 0.0000867505              | 0.000080613               | 0.000069545               | 0.000055428               | 0.0000436674              |
| $a_{13}$ | $5.57454 \times 10^{-6}$  | $-1.34199 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-1.85483 \times 10^{-6}$ | $-4.99523 \times 10^{-6}$ | $-8.96525 \times 10^{-6}$ | $-0.000012116$            |
| $a_{14}$ | 0.000031532               | -0.000029057              | -0.000028391              | -0.000027186              | -0.000025557              | -0.000024014              |
| $a_{15}$ | -0.000028142              | -0.000024123              | -0.000022957              | -0.000020819              | -0.000017993              | -0.000015515              |
| $a_{16}$ | -0.000013447              | -0.000010742              | $-9.93711 \times 10^{-6}$ | $-8.45366 \times 10^{-6}$ | $-6.51028 \times 10^{-6}$ | $-4.85787 \times 10^{-6}$ |
| $a_{17}$ | $-2.21395 \times 10^{-6}$ | $-1.15957 \times 10^{-6}$ | $-8.40112 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-2.54767 \times 10^{-7}$ | $4.89413 \times 10^{-7}$  | $1.08284 \times 10^{-6}$  |
| $a_{18}$ | $2.51676 \times 10^{-6}$  | $2.53041 \times 10^{-6}$  | $2.53533 \times 10^{-6}$  | $2.53749 \times 10^{-6}$  | $2.51341 \times 10^{-6}$  | $2.45348 \times 10^{-6}$  |
| $a_{19}$ | $2.7868 \times 10^{-6}$   | $2.42338 \times 10^{-6}$  | $2.31295 \times 10^{-6}$  | $2.10417 \times 10^{-6}$  | $1.8158 \times 10^{-6}$   | $1.55256 \times 10^{-6}$  |
| $a_{20}$ | $1.33449 \times 10^{-6}$  | $1.00176 \times 10^{-6}$  | $9.0103 \times 10^{-7}$   | $7.14762 \times 10^{-7}$  | $4.71862 \times 10^{-7}$  | $2.69501 \times 10^{-7}$  |
| $a_{21}$ | $8.99806 \times 10^{-8}$  | $-2.46998 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-2.93505 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-3.75983 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-4.72658 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-5.38649 \times 10^{-7}$ |
| $a_{22}$ | $-8.4508 \times 10^{-7}$  | $-8.44258 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-8.42469 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-8.34568 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-8.10511 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-7.72498 \times 10^{-7}$ |
| $a_{23}$ | $9.67181 \times 10^{-7}$  | $-8.86217 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-8.60356 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-8.08736 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-7.3028 \times 10^{-7}$  | $-6.50626 \times 10^{-7}$ |
| $a_{24}$ | $-7.29713 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-6.40915 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-6.13196 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-5.59608 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-4.82972 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-4.10586 \times 10^{-7}$ |
| $a_{25}$ | $-3.68448 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-3.15738 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-2.99426 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-2.68254 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-2.24696 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-1.84772 \times 10^{-7}$ |
| $a_{26}$ | $-8.92647 \times 10^{-8}$ | $-7.55058 \times 10^{-8}$ | $-7.12647 \times 10^{-8}$ | $-6.32013 \times 10^{-8}$ | $-5.20492 \times 10^{-8}$ | $-4.19664 \times 10^{-8}$ |

**Table 2:** A comparison between present method and other existing methods with the values for  $\theta'(0)(f''(0))$

| $\lambda$ | Runge-Kutta [34] | HAM [34] | RCT [32] | Method in [19] | Present method |          |
|-----------|------------------|----------|----------|----------------|----------------|----------|
|           |                  |          |          |                | $N = 26$       | $N = 30$ |
| 0         | -0.76854         | -0.77363 | -0.76600 | -0.769         | -0.768659      | -0.76854 |
| 1/4       | -0.88498         | -0.88800 | -0.88830 | —              | -0.885073      | -0.88497 |
| 1/3       | -0.92101         | -0.92433 | -0.92100 | -0.921         | -0.921085      | -0.92099 |
| 1/2       | -0.98956         | -0.99382 | -0.98581 | -0.992         | -0.989664      | -0.98957 |
| 3/4       | -1.08518         | -1.08840 | -1.08598 | —              | -1.08526       | -1.08518 |
| 1         | -1.17372         | -1.17686 | -1.17040 | —              | -1.17375       | -1.17368 |

**Table 3:** A comparison between residual errors of present method at  $n = 26$  for different volumes for  $\lambda$

| $\eta$ | $\lambda = 0$             | $\lambda = 1/4$           | $\lambda = 1/3$           | $\lambda = 1/2$           | $\lambda = 3/4$           | $\lambda = 1$             |
|--------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 0      | 0.0861367                 | 0.0718359                 | 0.0674466                 | 0.0591442                 | 0.0477793                 | 0.0376464                 |
| 0.5    | $3.61848 \times 10^{-4}$  | $2.99265 \times 10^{-4}$  | $2.80101 \times 10^{-4}$  | $2.43951 \times 10^{-4}$  | $1.94746 \times 10^{-4}$  | $1.51219 \times 10^{-4}$  |
| 1      | $2.77556 \times 10^{-16}$ | $3.33067 \times 10^{-16}$ | $3.88578 \times 10^{-16}$ | $4.44089 \times 10^{-16}$ | $2.22045 \times 10^{-16}$ | $3.33067 \times 10^{-16}$ |
| 2.4    | $2.08853 \times 10^{-5}$  | $1.66557 \times 10^{-5}$  | $1.53684 \times 10^{-5}$  | $1.29617 \times 10^{-5}$  | $9.74855 \times 10^{-6}$  | $6.98523 \times 10^{-6}$  |
| 5      | $-2.59245 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-1.90629 \times 10^{-7}$ | $-1.70096 \times 10^{-7}$ | $1.32374 \times 10^{-7}$  | $8.37343 \times 10^{-8}$  | $4.39285 \times 10^{-8}$  |
| 8.8    | $2.58985 \times 10^{-7}$  | $1.59259 \times 10^{-7}$  | $1.30012 \times 10^{-7}$  | $7.74002 \times 10^{-8}$  | $1.24571 \times 10^{-8}$  | $-3.72492 \times 10^{-8}$ |
| 10     | $3.89714 \times 10^{-8}$  | $2.27297 \times 10^{-8}$  | $1.79920 \times 10^{-8}$  | $9.51293 \times 10^{-9}$  | $8.46099 \times 10^{-10}$ | $-8.64873 \times 10^{-9}$ |



**Fig. 2:** RC collection approximation of  $\theta(\eta)$  with different volume for  $\lambda$

**Table 4:** Comparison between RC collection method and other existing methods for  $\theta(0)$  with  $\lambda = 0$

| $\eta$ | Runge-Kutta [34] | RCT [32] | HAM [34] | RC collection . |          |
|--------|------------------|----------|----------|-----------------|----------|
|        |                  |          |          | $N = 26$        | $N = 30$ |
| 0      | 1.0000           | 1.0000   | 0.9999   | 1.0000          | 1.0000   |
| 0.2    | 0.8478           | 0.8477   | 0.8474   | 0.8477          | 0.8478   |
| 0.4    | 0.7036           | 0.7036   | 0.7028   | 0.7036          | 0.7036   |
| 0.6    | 0.5733           | 0.5732   | 0.5720   | 0.5732          | 0.5732   |
| 0.8    | 0.4599           | 0.4598   | 0.4583   | 0.4598          | 0.4598   |
| 1      | 0.3643           | 0.3641   | 0.3623   | 0.3641          | 0.3641   |
| 1.2    | 0.2855           | 0.2853   | 0.2833   | 0.2854          | 0.2854   |
| 1.4    | 0.2218           | 0.2218   | 0.2200   | 0.2218          | 0.2218   |
| 1.6    | 0.1713           | 0.1713   | 0.1698   | 0.1713          | 0.1713   |
| 1.8    | 0.1315           | 0.1316   | 0.1301   | 0.1316          | 0.1316   |
| 2      | 0.1007           | 0.1007   | 0.0991   | 0.1007          | 0.1007   |

**Table 5:** Comparison between RC collection method and other existing methods for  $\theta(0)$  with  $\lambda = 1/2$

| $\eta$ | Runge-Kutta [34] | RCT [32] | HAM [34] | RC collection |          |
|--------|------------------|----------|----------|---------------|----------|
|        |                  |          |          | $N = 26$      | $N = 30$ |
| 0      | 1.0000           | 0.9999   | 1.0004   | 1.0000        | 1.0000   |
| 0.2    | 0.8130           | 0.8130   | 0.8125   | 0.8129        | 0.8129   |
| 0.4    | 0.6500           | 0.6500   | 0.6491   | 0.6499        | 0.6499   |
| 0.6    | 0.5124           | 0.5125   | 0.5111   | 0.5124        | 0.5124   |
| 0.8    | 0.3994           | 0.3994   | 0.3977   | 0.3993        | 0.3993   |
| 1      | 0.3084           | 0.3084   | 0.3063   | 0.3084        | 0.3084   |
| 1.2    | 0.2364           | 0.2364   | 0.2347   | 0.2364        | 0.2364   |
| 1.4    | 0.1802           | 0.1802   | 0.1785   | 0.1802        | 0.1802   |
| 1.6    | 0.1367           | 0.1367   | 0.1352   | 0.1368        | 0.1367   |
| 1.8    | 0.1034           | 0.1034   | 0.1020   | 0.1034        | 0.1034   |
| 2      | 0.0780           | 0.0779   | 0.0763   | 0.0780        | 0.0780   |

arising from similarity solution of inverted cone embedded in porous medium. Numerical results of the introduced technique are compared with rational Chebyshev tau method, homotopy analysis method, Runge-Kutta and method in [19]. The obtained solution in comparison with the numerical ones represents a remarkable accuracy.

### Acknowledgement

The authors sincerely thank the editors, reviewers and all persons who have provided advice, support, help and constructive comments.

### Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

### Authors' contributions

First author revised the mathematical research point and performed the examples using Mathematica, and was a major contributor in writing the manuscript. Second author suggested the research point for this paper. Third author helped in coding using Mathematica program and modified the final draft of the manuscript.

### References

- [1] A. Karamete and M. Sezer, A Taylor collocation method for the solution of linear integro-differential equations. *International Journal of Computer Mathematics*, **79**(9), 987-1000, (2002).
- [2] E. H. Doha, A. H. Bhrawy and M. A. Saker, On the derivatives of Bernstein polynomials: an application for the solution of high even-order differential equations, *Boundary Value Problems*, **2011**(1), 829543, (2011).
- [3] A. Akyuz and M. Sezer, Chebyshev polynomial solutions of systems of high-order linear differential equations with variable coefficients, *Applied mathematics and computation*, **144**(2-3), 237-247, (2003).
- [4] B. Y. Guo and J. Shen, Laguerre-Galerkin method for nonlinear partial differential equations on a semi-infinite interval, *Numerische Mathematik*, **86**(4), 635-654, (2000).
- [5] J. Shen, Stable and efficient spectral methods in unbounded domains using Laguerre functions, *SIAM Journal on Numerical Analysis*, **38**(4), 1113-1133, (2000).
- [6] B. Y. Guo, Jacobi spectral approximations to differential equations on the half line, *Journal of Computational Mathematics*, **2000**, 95-112, (2000).
- [7] D. Funaro and O. Kavian, Approximation of some diffusion evolution equations in unbounded domains by Hermite functions, *Mathematics of Computation*, **57**(196), 597-619, (1991).
- [8] B. Y. Guo, Error estimation of Hermite spectral method for nonlinear partial differential equations, *Mathematics of computation of the American mathematical society*, **68**(227), 1067-1078, (1999).
- [9] M. A. Ramadan and M. A. Abd El Salam, Spectral collocation method for solving continuous population models for single and interacting species by means of exponential Chebyshev approximation, *International Journal of Biomathematics*, **11**(8), 1850109, (2018).

- [10] M. A. Ramadan, K. R. Raslan, T. S. El Danaf and M. A. Abd El Salam, Modified exponential Chebyshev operational matrices of derivatives for solving high-order partial differential equations in unbounded domains, *Electronic Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*, **5**(2), 229-241, (2017).
- [11] M. A. Ramadan and M. A. Abd El Salam, Solving systems of ordinary differential equations in unbounded domains by exponential Chebyshev collocation method, *Journal of Abstract and Computational Mathematics*, **1**, 33-46, (2016).
- [12] M. A. Ramadan, K. R. Raslan, T. S. El Danaf and M. A. Abd El Salam, An exponential Chebyshev second kind approximation for solving high-order ordinary differential equations in unbounded domains with application to Dawson integral, *Journal of the Egyptian Mathematical Society*, **25**(2), 197-205, (2017).
- [13] M. A. Ramadan, K. R. Raslan, T. S. El Danaf and M. A. Abd El Salam, A new exponential Chebyshev operational matrix of derivatives for solving high order ordinary differential equations in unbounded domains, *Journal of Modern Methods in Numerical Mathematics*, **7**(1), 19-30, (2016).
- [14] D. A. Nield and A. Bejan, *Convection in porous media*. Vol.3. New York: Springer, (2006).
- [15] P. Cheng and I. D. Chang, Buoyancy induced flows in a saturated porous medium adjacent to impermeable horizontal surfaces, *International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer*, **19**(11), 1267-1272, (1976).
- [16] J. H. Merkin, Free convection boundary layers in a saturated porous medium with lateral mass flux, *International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer*, **21**(12), 1499-1504, (1978).
- [17] J. H. Merkin, Free convection boundary layers on axisymmetric and two-dimensional bodies of arbitrary shape in a saturated porous medium, *International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer*, **22**, 1461-1462, (1979).
- [18] R. H. Nilson, Natural convective boundary-layer on two-dimensional and axisymmetric surfaces in high-Pr fluids or in fluid-saturated porous media, *Journal of Heat Transfer*, **103**(4), 803-807, (1981).
- [19] P. Cheng, T. T. Le and I. Pop, Natural convection of a Darcian fluid about a wavy cone, *International communications in heat and mass transfer*, **12**(6), 705-717, (1985).
- [20] I. Pop and T. Y. Na, Natural convection of a Darcian fluid about a wavy cone, *International communications in heat and mass transfer*, **21**(6) 891-899, (1994).
- [21] I. Pop and P. Cheng, An integral solution for free convection of a Darcian fluid about a cone with curvature effects, *International communications in heat and mass transfer*, **13**(4), 433-438, (1986).
- [22] C. Y. Cheng, An integral approach for heat and mass transfer by natural convection from truncated cones in porous media with variable wall temperature and concentration, *International Communications in Heat and Mass Transfer*, **27**(4), 537-548, (2000).
- [23] K. A. Yih, The effect of uniform lateral mass flux on free convection about a vertical cone embedded in a saturated porous medium, *International communications in heat and mass transfer*, **24**(8) 1195-1205, (1997).
- [24] I. Pop, and T. Y. Na, Natural convection over a frustum of a wavy cone in a porous medium, *Mechanics research communications*, **22**(2), 181-190, (1995).
- [25] M. A. Ramadan, K. R. Raslan and M. A. Nassar, An approximate analytical solution of higher-order linear differential equations with variable coefficients using improved rational Chebyshev collocation method, *Applied and Computational Mathematics*, **3**(6), 315-322, (2014).
- [26] M. A. Ramadan, K. Raslan, A. Hadhoud and M. A. Nassar, A rational Chebyshev functions approach for Fredholm-Volterra integro-differential equations, *Computational Methods for Differential Equations*, **3**(4), 284-297, (2015).
- [27] M. A. Ramadan, K. R. Raslan, and M. A. Nassar, An approximate solution of systems of high-order linear differential equations with variable coefficients by means of a rational Chebyshev collocation method, *Electronic J. of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*, **4**(1), 86-98, (2016).
- [28] M. A. Ramadan, K. R. Raslan, and M. A. Nassar, Numerical solution of system of higher order linear ordinary differential equations with variable coefficients using two proposed schemes for rational Chebyshev functions, *Global Journal of Mathematics*, **3**(2), 322-337, (2015).
- [29] M. A. Ramadan, K. R. Raslan, and M. A. Nassar, Numerical solution of high-order linear integro-differential equations with variable coefficients using two proposed schemes for rational Chebyshev functions, *New trends in mathematical sciences*, **4**(3) 22, (2016).
- [30] M. A. Ramadan, K. R. Raslan, A. Hadhoud and M. A. Nassar, Rational Chebyshev functions with new collocation points in semi-infinite domains for solving higher-order linear ordinary differential equations, *Journal of advances in mathematics*, **11**(7), 5403-5410, (2015).
- [31] M. Sezer, M. Gulsu, and B. Tanay, Rational Chebyshev collocation method for solving higher order linear ordinary differential equations, *Numerical Methods for Partial Differential Equations*, **27**(5), 1130-1142, (2011).
- [32] K. Parand and M. Razzaghi, Rational Chebyshev tau method for solving Volterra's population model, *Applied Mathematics and Computation*, **149**(3), 893-900, (2004).
- [33] K. Parand, Z. Delafkar, and F. Baharifard, Rational Chebyshev Tau method for solving natural convection of Darcian fluid about a vertical full cone embedded in porous media with a prescribed wall temperature, *World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology*, **5**(8), 1186-1191, (2011).
- [34] A. R. Sohoul, D. Domairry, M. Famouri and A. Mohsenzadeh, Analytical solution of natural convection of Darcian fluid about a vertical full cone embedded in porous media prescribed wall temperature by means of HAM, *International Communications in Heat and Mass Transfer*, **35**(10), 1380-1384, (2008).
- [35] J. Boyd, Orthogonal rational functions on a semi-infinite interval, *Journal of Computational Phys.*, **70**(1), 63-88, (1987).
- [36] C. Grosch and S. A. Orszag, Numerical Solution of Problems in Unbounded Regions: Coordinate Transforms, *Journal of Computational Phys.*, **25**, 273-295, (1977).



**Mahmoud A. Nassar** is a PhD student in Mathematics Department, Faculty of Science, Al-Azhar University, Egypt, he received his Msc degree from the same university in 2015, Pure Mathematics (Numerical Analysis).



**Kamal R. Raslan** He is Professor in Mathematics Department, Faculty of Science, Al-Azhar University, Egypt, his main research interests are numerical analysis and computational mathematics.



**Mohamed A. Ramadan** Work in Egypt: Professor of Pure Mathematics (Numerical Analysis) Mathematics & Computer Science Department, Faculty of Science, Menoufia University, Egypt I served as the Chairman of the Mathematics Department from 2008 to

2014. I was a member of the Permanent Scientific Promotion Committee for Professors and Associate Professors in Mathematics 2013- 2015. Secretary of the Permanent Scientific Promotion Committee for Professors and Associate Professors in Mathematics 2016-2019. Vice President of the national Committee of Mathematics (Academy of Science Research & Technology)