

# A Novel Semi-Analytic Meshless Method for Solving Two- and Three-Dimensional Elliptic Equations of General Form with Variable Coefficients in Irregular Domains

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**Abstract:** The paper presents a new meshless numerical method for solving 2D and 3D boundary value problems (BVPs) with elliptic PDEs of general form. The coefficients of the PDEs including the main operator part are spatially dependent functions. The key idea of the method is the use of the basis functions which satisfy the homogeneous boundary conditions of the problem. This allows us to seek an approximate solution in the form which satisfies the boundary conditions of the initial problem with any choice of the free parameters. As a result we separate approximation of the boundary conditions and approximation of the PDE inside the solution domain. Numerical experiments are carried out for accuracy and convergence investigations. A comparison of the numerical results obtained in the paper with the exact solutions and with the data obtained with the use of other numerical techniques (Kansa's method, the method of particular solutions) is performed.

**Keywords:** Elliptic PDE, Variable coefficients, Irregular domain, Meshless method, Radial basis functions.

## 1 Introduction

In this paper we present a novel semi-analytic meshless method for numerical solving 2D and 3D elliptic PDEs of the general form:

$$\sum_{i=1}^d \left[ a_i(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2} + b_i(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \right] + c(\mathbf{x}) u = f(\mathbf{x}), \quad (1)$$

$\mathbf{x} \in \Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^d$ ,  $d=2,3$ .

Here the coefficients  $a_i(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $b_i(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $c(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $f(\mathbf{x})$  are smooth enough functions,  $a_i(\mathbf{x})$  provide the elliptic type of the PDE and  $\Omega \subset \mathbf{R}^d$  is the domain of a general form.

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We supplement (1) with the boundary condition:

$$\mathcal{B}[u] = g(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega, \quad (2)$$

where the boundary operator  $\mathcal{B}[\dots]$  will be defined separately in each case.

Such problems often arise in many branches of applied science. Thus, during the last decades many numerical techniques have been developed in this field. In particular, there has been an increasing interest in the idea of meshless or mesh-free numerical methods for solving partial differential equations (PDEs). These methods are nowadays the main stream in numerical computations, as strongly advocated by many researchers, for example, Zhu, Zhang and Atluri (1998a,b); Atluri and Zhu (1998a,b); Atluri, Liu, and Kuo (2009); Atluri and Shen (2002); Cho, Golberg, Muleshkov, and Li (2004); Jin (2004); Li, Lu, Huang and Cheng (2007); Liu (2007a,b); Tsai, Lin, Young and Atluri (2007); Young, Chen, Chen and Kao (2007)

In [Tsai, Liu and Yeih (2010)] the fictitious time integration method (FTIM) previously developed by Liu and Atluri (2008a,b) is combined with the method of fundamental solutions and the Chebyshev polynomials to solve Poisson-type PDEs.

In this connection we should also note the MLPG method reviewed by Sladek, Stanak, Han, Sladek and Atluri (2013) which is a fundamental base for the derivation of many meshless formulations. In the last decade, a broad community of researchers and scientists contributed to the development and implementation of the MLPG method in a wide range of scientific disciplines.

For the past two decades radial basis functions (RBFs) have played an important role in the development of meshless methods for solving PDEs: Kansa (1990a,b); Kansa and Hon (2000); Golberg and Chen (1997); Golberg, Chen and Bowman (1999); Power (2002); Larsson and Fornberg (2003); Li, Cheng and Chen (2003); Cheng and Cabral (2005). A significant place among these techniques is taken up by methods based on the use of particular solutions.

In this approach, RBFs have been used to approximate the particular solution corresponding to the given  $f$  and the original inhomogeneous PDE has been converted into a homogeneous one, so that one can apply the MFS or other boundary methods developed by Golberg and Chen (1997); Golberg, Chen and Bowman (1999); Cheng (2000). This is the so-called two-stage scheme:  $f \simeq \sum_{i=1}^{N_0} p_i \varphi(r_i)$ ,  $L[\Phi(r_i)] = \varphi(r_i)$ ,  $u = u_h + \sum_{i=1}^{N_0} p_i \Phi(r_i)$ ,  $L[u_h] = 0$ . Note that similar technique has been developed with the use of the Chebishev polynomials instead of the RBFs by Cheng (2000); Golberg, Muleshkov, Chen and Cheng (2003); Cheng, Ahtes, and Ortner (1994); Tsai (2008) and for the spline approximation of  $f$  by Tsai, Cheng and Chen (2009).

The scheme which combines the MFS and RBFs approximation has been proposed

for further improvement of the MFS for solving PDEs with variable coefficients. This is the so-called one-stage scheme or the MFS-MPS technique [Chen, Fan and Monroe (2008)]:  $u = \sum_{i=1}^{N_0} p_i \Phi(r_i) + \sum_{j=1}^{N_b} q_j G_j(r_j)$ ,  $L[G_j] = 0$ . Recently this technique has been transformed into the method of approximate particular solutions (MAPS) Chen, Fan and Wen (2010, 2011). Applying it to the problem

$$\nabla^2 u + b_1(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} + b_2(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_2} + q(\mathbf{x})u = f(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} \in \Omega, \tag{3}$$

$$\mathcal{B}u(\mathbf{x}) = g(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega, \tag{4}$$

one rearranges (3) into Poisson-type equation

$$\nabla^2 u = h\left(x, w, \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_2}\right) = -b_1(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} - b_2(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_2} - q(\mathbf{x})u + f(\mathbf{x}). \tag{5}$$

The solution is approximated by

$$u \simeq \sum_{i=1}^N p_i \Phi(r_i), \tag{6}$$

where  $\Phi$  is obtained by analytical solution of

$$\nabla^2 \Phi(r_i) = \varphi(r_i). \tag{7}$$

and  $\varphi(r_i)$  are RBF functions. Substituting (6) and (7) in (5), one gets

$$h\left(x, u, \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_2}\right) \simeq \sum_{i=1}^N p_i \varphi(r_i). \tag{8}$$

The information on the recent development of the MFS can be found in [Fu, Chen, and Yang (2009, 2013)] and in proceedings cited in Chen, Fan and Monroe (2008). Similar to Kansa’s approach the unknowns  $p_i$  are determined by the collocation at the inner points of the solution domain and by the collocation of the boundary conditions. The collocation at the inner points is performed for equation (8) and this technique utilizes expansion (6) to approximate the boundary condition (4). More detailed information on the method can be found in the original papers cited above. In [Li, Chen and Tsai (2012)] the MAPS is applied for solving the Cauchy problems of elliptic partial differential equations with variable coefficients. The recent developments and advances on the RBF technique can be found in [Huang (2007); Cheng (2012); Chen, Hon and Schaback (2014)].

In Reutskiy (2012, 2013) the semi-analytic meshless method (SAMM) was proposed for solving the equation

$$L[u] = F(u, \partial_{x_1} u, \partial_{x_2} u, \mathbf{x}) \tag{9}$$

Similar to MPS it uses the particular solutions corresponding to the RBFs placed in the right hand side of the PDE. Let the basis functions  $\varphi_m(\mathbf{x})$  be such that  $F$  can be approximated by the linear combination

$$F(u, \partial_{x_1} u, \partial_{x_2} u, \mathbf{x}) \simeq \sum_{m=1}^M q_m \varphi_m(\mathbf{x}). \tag{10}$$

It is assumed that there exist analytic solutions  $\Phi_m(\mathbf{x})$  corresponding to the basis functions  $\varphi_m(\mathbf{x})$ , which satisfy the equations:  $L[\Phi_m] = \varphi_m$  and the homogeneous boundary condition. The exact solution

$$u_M(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{q}) = u_f(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{m=1}^M q_m \Phi_m(\mathbf{x}) \tag{11}$$

of the approximate equation

$$L[u_M] = \sum_{m=1}^M q_m \varphi_m(\mathbf{x}) \tag{12}$$

is considered as an approximate solution of the boundary value problem (9), (2). We name this method as the indirect scheme of SAMM. See Reutskiy (2012, 2013) for more detailed information.

In this paper we present the direct scheme of the SAMM which is as follows. Let  $u_g(\mathbf{x})$  be a smooth enough function in  $\Omega$  and let it satisfy the boundary condition

$$\mathcal{B}[u_g(\mathbf{x})] = g(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega. \tag{13}$$

Let  $\varphi_m(\mathbf{x})$  be system of basis functions on  $\Omega$  which satisfy the homogeneous boundary condition:

$$\mathcal{B}[\varphi_m(\mathbf{x})] = 0, \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega. \tag{14}$$

We seek an approximate solution in the form:

$$u_M(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{q}) = u_g(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{m=1}^M q_m \varphi_m(\mathbf{x}). \tag{15}$$

(cf. (11)) which satisfies the boundary condition (2) with any choice of the free parameters  $q_1, \dots, q_M$ . The unknown free parameters are determined by substituting (15) in (1) and collocation at the inner points of  $\Omega$ . Thus, the new direct scheme of the SAMM saves the key idea of the previous indirect scheme: the approximation of the boundary conditions and approximation of the PDE inside domain are algorithmically divided.

The outline of this paper is as follows. The main algorithm of the method is described in Section 2. The numerical implementation of the algorithm for 2D and 3D problems is presented in Section 3. In particular, the method is applied to the PDE with variable coefficients in the main operator part. Finally, in Section 4, we give a short conclusion.

## 2 Main algorithm

Throughout the paper we use the following RBFs:

- 1) the conical radial basis functions  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{2k-1}$ ,  $|\mathbf{x}| = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}$ ;
- 2) the Duchon splines  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{2k} \ln |\mathbf{x}|$ ;
- 3) the Multiquadric (MQ) RBFs  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = \sqrt{|\mathbf{x}|^2 + c^2}$ , where  $c$  is the shape parameter.

Using these RBFs, we denote

$$\phi_m(\mathbf{x}) = \psi(\mathbf{x} - \xi_m)$$

and define the basis functions as:

$$\varphi_m(\mathbf{x}) = \phi_m(\mathbf{x}) + \omega_m(\mathbf{x}), \tag{16}$$

where the centers  $\xi_m$  are placed inside the solution domain  $\Omega$  and the *correcting functions*  $\omega_m(\mathbf{x})$  are chosen to satisfy the boundary condition (14):

$$\mathcal{B}[\omega_m(\mathbf{x})] = -\mathcal{B}[\phi_m(\mathbf{x})], \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega. \tag{17}$$

It is important to note that contrary to the indirect SAMM here the functions  $\varphi_m(\mathbf{x})$  and  $u_g(\mathbf{x})$  should not necessarily satisfy any equation inside the solution domain. Thus, to approximate the correcting functions  $\omega_m(\mathbf{x})$  and the function  $u_g(\mathbf{x})$  we can use any complete in  $\Omega$  system of functions.

When we have the basis functions  $\varphi_m(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $m = 1, \dots, M$  and  $u_g(\mathbf{x})$ , we substitute  $u_M(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{q})$  in the initial equation (1). Then we find the coefficients  $q_1, \dots, q_M$  by collocation inside the solution domain. Let  $\mathbf{x}_n \in \Omega$ ,  $n = 1, \dots, N$  be collocation points distributed inside the solution domain  $\Omega$ . As a result of the collocation, we get the system of  $N$  linear equations for  $q_1, \dots, q_M$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{m=1}^M \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^d \left[ a_i(\mathbf{x}_n) \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_m(\mathbf{x}_n)}{\partial x_i^2} + b_i(\mathbf{x}_n) \frac{\partial \varphi_m(\mathbf{x}_n)}{\partial x_i} \right] \right. \\ & \left. + c(\mathbf{x}_n) \varphi_m(\mathbf{x}_n) \right\} q_m = f(\mathbf{x}_n) - c(\mathbf{x}_n) u_g(\mathbf{x}_n) - \\ & - \sum_{i=1}^d \left[ a_i(\mathbf{x}_n) \frac{\partial^2 u_g(\mathbf{x}_n)}{\partial x_i^2} + b_i(\mathbf{x}_n) \frac{\partial u_g(\mathbf{x}_n)}{\partial x_i} \right]. \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

All the terms in (18) can be obtained in the analytic form using the explicit expressions for  $\phi_m$ ,  $\omega_m$  and  $u_g$ . We take the number of the collocation points  $N$  to be approximately  $2M$ . As a result we obtain an overdetermined linear system which can be solved by the standard least squares procedure. After determining  $q_1, \dots, q_M$ , we get the approximate solution  $u_M(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{q})$  (15).

### 3 Numerical results

#### 3.1 Two-dimensional problems

The functions

$$\theta_k(\alpha, x) = \sin\left(k\pi \frac{x + \alpha}{2\alpha}\right) \tag{19}$$

form a complete orthogonal system in  $[-\alpha, +\alpha]$  and

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_{\mathbf{k}}(\alpha, \mathbf{x}) &= \theta_{k_1, k_2}(\alpha, \mathbf{x}) = \\ &= \sin\left(k_1\pi \frac{x_1 + \alpha}{2\alpha}\right) \sin\left(k_2\pi \frac{x_2 + \alpha}{2\alpha}\right) \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

form a complete orthogonal system in the square  $\Omega_\alpha = [-\alpha, +\alpha] \times [-\alpha, +\alpha]$ .

Choosing  $\alpha$  large enough to satisfy  $\Omega \subset \Omega_\alpha$ , we look for the correcting functions in the form:

$$\omega_m(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k_1+k_2 \leq I}^{K_I} p_{m, \mathbf{k}} \theta_{\mathbf{k}}(\alpha, \mathbf{x}). \tag{21}$$

The number of terms in the sum (21) and the number of the unknowns  $p_{m, \mathbf{k}}$  is:  $K_I$  = the number of the different trigonometric products

$$\sin(k_1\pi(x_1 + \alpha)/2\alpha) \sin(k_2\pi(x_2 + \alpha)/2\alpha)$$

with  $k_1 + k_2 \leq I$ . We use  $15 \leq I \leq 24$  and so  $120 \leq K_I \leq 300$  in all the calculations presented in this section. Using the collocation procedure, we get the linear system:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k_1+k_2 \leq I}^{K_I} p_{m, \mathbf{k}} \mathcal{B}[\theta_{\mathbf{k}}(\alpha, \mathbf{y}_i)] &= -\mathcal{B}[\phi_m(\mathbf{y}_i)], \\ \mathbf{y}_i &\in \partial\Omega, i = 1, \dots, K_1. \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

In the same way we look for the function  $u_g$  in the form:

$$u_g(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k_1+k_2 \leq I}^{K_I} p_{\mathbf{k}} \theta_{\mathbf{k}}(\alpha, \mathbf{x}) \tag{23}$$

and obtain the system

$$\sum_{k_1+k_2 \leq l}^{K_l} p_{\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{B}[\theta_{\mathbf{k}}(\boldsymbol{\alpha}, \mathbf{x})] = g(\mathbf{y}_i), \mathbf{y}_i \in \partial\Omega, i = 1, \dots, K_1. \tag{24}$$

We take the number of the collocation points  $K_1$  to be approximately  $2K_l$ .

To validate the numerical accuracy, we calculate the following root mean square (RMS) errors  $e_{rms}$ :

$$e_{rms} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N_t} \sum_{j=1}^{N_t} [u_M(\mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{q}) - u_{exact}(\mathbf{x}_j)]^2}. \tag{25}$$

The same RMS error  $e_{x,rms}$  is used for the  $x$  derivative of the solution. We use  $N_t = 1000$  test points randomly distributed inside  $\Omega$ . We also use the maximum absolute error  $e_{max}$  to estimate the accuracy of the calculations.

*Example 1.* Consider the equation:

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma \nabla^2 u + x_2 \cos(x_2) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} + \sinh(x_1) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_2} + (x_1^2 + x_2^2) u = \\ = f(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2) \in \Omega \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

with the Dirichlet boundary condition

$$u(\mathbf{x}) = g(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega. \tag{27}$$

The computational domain is a star-shape domain with the boundary defined by the parametric equation:

$$x_1 = \rho(\theta) \cos \theta, x_2 = \rho(\theta) \sin \theta, 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi,$$

$$\rho(\theta) = 1 + \cos^2(4\theta),$$

where  $(\rho, \theta)$  are the polar coordinates. The domain is shown in Fig. 1.

The functions  $f(\mathbf{x})$  and  $g(\mathbf{x})$  correspond to the exact solution

$$u_{exact}(\mathbf{x}) = \sin(\pi x_1) \cosh(x_2) - \cos(\pi x_1) \sinh(x_2).$$

The data placed in Table 1 show the maximum absolute errors  $e_{max}$  and the RMS errors in the solution of (26), (27) using MQ RBFs as the basis functions. The same problem was considered by Chen, Fan and Wen (2011) using the method of particular solutions (MPS) and Kansa’s method. The better results in solution this

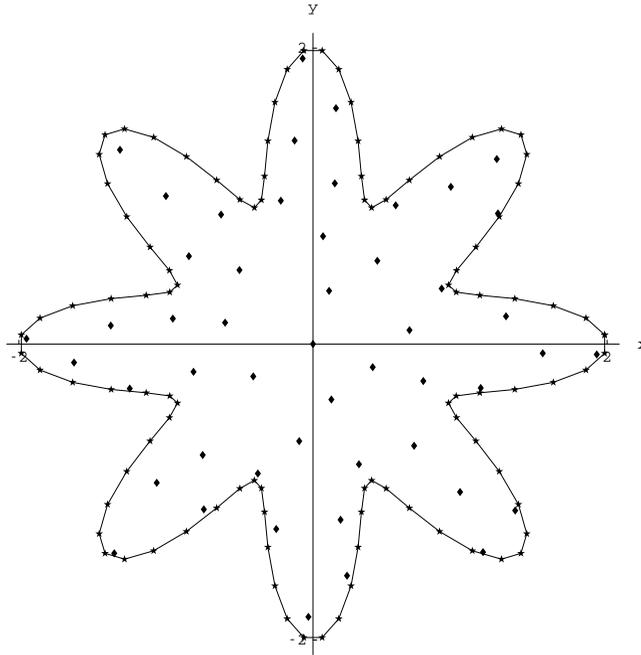


Figure 1: Example 1. The star-shape domain. The collocation points  $\mathbf{x}_n$  for approximation PDE are shown inside the domain and the collocation points  $\mathbf{y}_i$  for approximation the correcting functions  $\omega_m$  are placed on the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ .

BVP presented there are:  $n_i = 317$ ,  $n_b = 150$ :  $e_{rms} = 8.95 \times 10^{-6}$ ,  $e_{x,rms} = 9.98 \times 10^{-5}$  - for the MPS and  $e_{rms} = 6.64 \times 10^{-7}$ ,  $e_{x,rms} = 1.21 \times 10^{-3}$  - for Kansa's method.

It should be noted that determination of the optimal shape parameter  $c_{opt}$  is a difficult problem in the framework of the presented method. As it is shown in Fig. 2, the curve  $e_{rms}(c)$  is not monotonic and has many local minimums. The data placed in Table 1 correspond to some of these local minimums. However, there are quite enough other values of  $0 < c < 1$  which correspond to very close values of  $e_{rms}$ . For example, for  $M = 50$ :  $e_{rms}(0.097) = 1.054 \times 10^{-7}$ ,  $e_{rms}(0.204) = 1.050 \times 10^{-7}$ ,  $e_{rms}(0.228) = 1.040 \times 10^{-7}$ .

The bottom part of the table contains the data corresponding to the small parameter  $\gamma = 0.001$  as a multiplier before the Laplace operator. Such problems are more difficult for numerical simulation. The numerical experiments carried out show that the proposed meshless scheme is very stable for a large range of values of  $\gamma$ . In

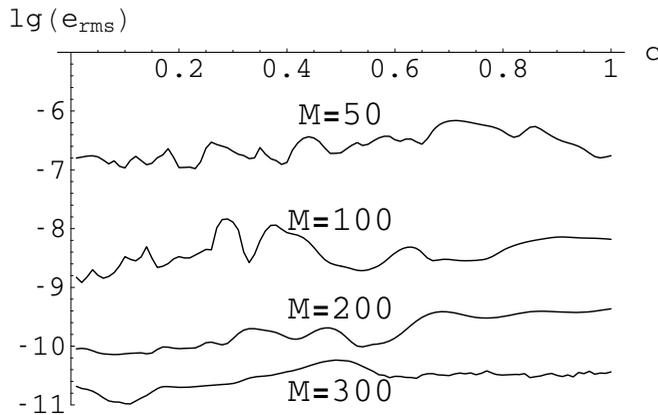


Figure 2: Example 1. The star-shape domain. The RMS errors  $e_{rms}$  as functions of the MQ shape parameter  $c$  with different  $M$ .

addition no fictitious source points are required in this version of the direct scheme of the SAMM. The data obtained by using the RBFs  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{2k-1}$  and  $|\mathbf{x}|^{2k} \ln |\mathbf{x}|$  as the basis functions are placed in Table 2. They show that the use of RBFs  $|\mathbf{x}|^{13}$ ,  $|\mathbf{x}|^{14} \ln |\mathbf{x}|$  provides approximately the same accuracy of the calculation as MQ. But they do not require any efforts for optimization.

*Example 2* Consider the following Poisson equation

$$\nabla^2 u = -2 \sin(x_1) \sin(x_2) \tag{28}$$

in a unit square domain  $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$  with the mixed boundary conditions

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x_2}(x_1, 0) = \sin(x_1), \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_2}(x_1, 1) = \sin(x_1) \cos(1), \tag{29}$$

$$u(0, x_2) = 1, \quad u(1, x_2) = \sin(1) \sin(x_2) + 1. \tag{30}$$

The exact solution is given by  $u_{exact}(\mathbf{x}) = \sin(x_1) \sin(x_2) + 1$ . The data obtained by using the RBFs  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{13}$  and  $|\mathbf{x}|^{14} \ln |\mathbf{x}|$  as the basis functions are placed in Table 3. This problem was also studied by Wei, Chen and Fu (2013) using the singular boundary method. The better result obtained there is  $e_{rms} \sim 10^{-5}$ .

*Example 3.* Consider the equation with variable coefficients in the main operator

Table 1: Example 1. The maximum absolute errors  $e_{max}$  and RMS errors  $e_{rms}$ ,  $e_{x,rms}$  in the solution of the BVP (26), (27) with MQ RBFs.

$\gamma = 1$				
$M$	$c$	$e_{max}$	$e_{rms}$	$e_{x,rms}$
50	0.228	$1.0 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-6}$
100	0.02	$1.1 \times 10^{-8}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-9}$	$1.4 \times 10^{-8}$
200	0.08	$6.7 \times 10^{-10}$	$7.2 \times 10^{-11}$	$7.4 \times 10^{-10}$
300	0.11	$8.6 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-10}$
$\gamma = 0.001$				
$M$	$c$	$e_{max}$	$e_{rms}$	$e_{x,rms}$
50	0.01	$5.5 \times 10^{-7}$	$6.1 \times 10^{-8}$	$8.8 \times 10^{-7}$
100	0.15	$1.7 \times 10^{-8}$	$9.4 \times 10^{-10}$	$1.4 \times 10^{-8}$
200	0.02	$3.7 \times 10^{-10}$	$4.0 \times 10^{-11}$	$6.9 \times 10^{-10}$
300	0.02	$4.4 \times 10^{-11}$	$7.8 \times 10^{-12}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-10}$

part:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & [1 + \sin^2(x_1x_2)] \frac{\partial^2 u(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1^2} + [1 + \sinh^2(x_1x_2)] \frac{\partial^2 u(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_2^2} + \\
 & 2x_2 \sin x_1 \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1} - x_2 \cos x_1 \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_2} + \\
 & + x_1 x_2 u(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2) \in \Omega
 \end{aligned} \tag{31}$$

with the Dirichlet boundary condition

$$u(\mathbf{x}) = g(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega. \tag{32}$$

The computational domain is an ameba-shape domain with the boundary defined by the parametric equation:

$$x_1 = \rho(\theta) \cos \theta, x_2 = \rho(\theta) \sin \theta, 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi,$$

$$\rho(\theta) = \exp(\sin \theta) \sin^2(2\theta) + \exp(\cos \theta)$$

is shown in Fig. 3.

The functions  $f(\mathbf{x})$  and  $g(\mathbf{x})$  correspond to the exact solution:

$$u_{exact}(\mathbf{x}) = x_2 \sin(x_1) + x_1 \cos(x_2).$$

Table 2: Example 1. The maximum absolute errors  $e_{max}$  and RMS errors  $e_{rms}$ ,  $e_{x,rms}$  in the solution of the BVP (26), (27) by using the RBFs  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{2k-1}$  and  $|\mathbf{x}|^{2k} \ln |\mathbf{x}|$ ,  $\gamma = 1$ .

$ x ^{13}$			
$M$	$e_{max}$	$e_{rms}$	$e_{x,rms}$
100	$1.4 \times 10^{-7}$	$7.6 \times 10^{-9}$	$7.3 \times 10^{-8}$
200	$8.1 \times 10^{-10}$	$7.4 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.6 \times 10^{-9}$
300	$5.6 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-11}$	$4.4 \times 10^{-11}$
$ x ^{14} \ln  x $			
$M$	$e_{max}$	$e_{rms}$	$e_{x,rms}$
100	$1.7 \times 10^{-7}$	$7.8 \times 10^{-9}$	$7.6 \times 10^{-8}$
200	$9.4 \times 10^{-10}$	$7.2 \times 10^{-11}$	$7.0 \times 10^{-10}$
300	$5.0 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.5 \times 10^{-11}$	$4.3 \times 10^{-11}$

The data obtained by using the RBFs  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{13}$  and  $|\mathbf{x}|^{14} \ln |\mathbf{x}|$  as the basis functions are placed in Table 4.

Consider the same equation (31) in the gear wheel shape domain depicted in Fig. 4.

The boundary of the computational domain is defined by the parametric equation:

$$x_1 = \rho(\theta) \cos \theta, \quad x_2 = \rho(\theta) \sin \theta, \quad 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi,$$

$$\rho(\theta) = \frac{1}{n^2} [2 + 2n + n^2 - 2(n + 1) \cos(n\theta)].$$

Here we take  $n = 12$ . The functions  $f(\mathbf{x})$  and  $g(\mathbf{x})$  correspond to the exact solution:

$$u_{exact}(\mathbf{x}) = \sin(x_1 + x_2^2) - \cos(x_2 - x_1^2).$$

The data obtained by using the RBFs  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{13}$  and  $|\mathbf{x}|^{14} \ln |\mathbf{x}|$  as the basis functions are placed in Table 5.

Example 4. Consider the convection-diffusion equation as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} &\gamma \nabla^2 u + (x_2^2 + \cos(x_1)) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} - x_2 \sin(x_1) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_2} + x_1^2 x_2 u = \\ &= f(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2) \in \Omega. \end{aligned} \tag{33}$$

Table 3: Example 2. The maximum absolute errors  $e_{max}$  and RMS errors  $e_{rms}$  in the solution of the BVP with the mixed boundary conditions (28), (29), (30) by the direct scheme of SAMM by using the RBFs  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{13}$  and  $|\mathbf{x}|^{14} \ln |\mathbf{x}|$  as the basis functions.

$ \mathbf{x} ^{13}$			
$M$	$e_{max}$	$e_{rms}$	$e_{x,rms}$
10	$4.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.2 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-2}$
20	$4.0 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.1 \times 10^{-5}$
50	$1.5 \times 10^{-8}$	$4.6 \times 10^{-9}$	$2.3 \times 10^{-8}$
100	$2.1 \times 10^{-10}$	$5.3 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.6 \times 10^{-10}$
200	$8.7 \times 10^{-11}$	$2.4 \times 10^{-11}$	$6.4 \times 10^{-11}$
$ \mathbf{x} ^{14} \ln  \mathbf{x} $			
$M$	$e_{max}$	$e_{rms}$	$e_{x,rms}$
10	$6.3 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.9 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-2}$
20	$6.2 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.1 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.3 \times 10^{-5}$
50	$2.5 \times 10^{-9}$	$7.1 \times 10^{-10}$	$8.2 \times 10^{-9}$
100	$4.7 \times 10^{-10}$	$1.4 \times 10^{-10}$	$3.6 \times 10^{-10}$
200	$2.2 \times 10^{-10}$	$6.3 \times 10^{-11}$	$1.7 \times 10^{-10}$

The computational domain is a peanut shape domain with the boundary defined by the parametric equation:

$$x_1 = \rho(\theta) \cos \theta, \quad x_2 = \rho(\theta) \sin \theta, \quad 0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi,$$

$$\rho(\theta) = \sqrt{\cos(2\theta) + \sqrt{1.1 - \sin^2(2\theta)}},$$

where  $(\rho, \theta)$  are polar coordinates. The domain is shown in Fig. 5.

The boundary conditions are of the two types:

$$u(\mathbf{x}) = g_D(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega^D \text{ the Dirichlet condition,} \tag{34}$$

$$\frac{\partial u(\mathbf{x})}{\partial n} = g_N(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega^N \text{ the Neumann condition,} \tag{35}$$

where  $\partial\Omega^D$  and  $\partial\Omega^N$  are the boundaries subjected to Dirichlet and Neumann boundary conditions respectively. The portion of boundary above the  $x_1$  axis has the Dirichlet boundary condition and the other portion of the boundary has the Neumann boundary condition. The functions  $f(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $g_D(\mathbf{x})$  and  $g_N(\mathbf{x})$  correspond to the

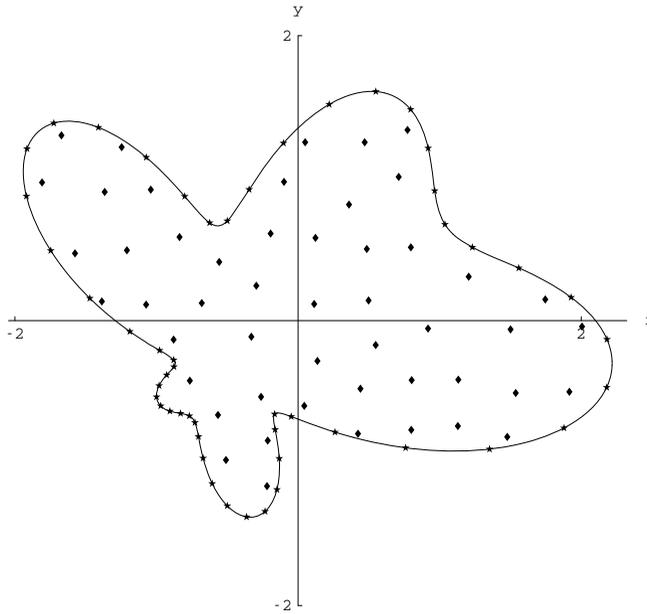


Figure 3: Example 3. The ameba-shape domain. The collocation points  $\mathbf{x}_n$  for approximation PDE are shown inside the domain and the collocation points  $\mathbf{y}_i$  for approximation the correcting functions  $\omega_m$  are placed on the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ .

exact solution:

$$u_{exact}(\mathbf{x}) = \sin(x_1 + x_2^2) - \cos(x_2 - x_1^2).$$

The data placed in Table 6 show the RMS errors in the solution of (33), (34), (35) by using the RBFs  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{13}$  and  $|\mathbf{x}|^{14} \ln|\mathbf{x}|$  as the basis functions. The same problem was considered by Chen at all Chen, Fan and Wen (2011) using the method of particular solutions (MPS) and Kansa's method. The better results in solution this BVP presented there are:  $n_i = 317$ ,  $n_b = 150$  :  $e_{rms} = 8.95 \times 10^{-6}$ ,  $e_{x,rms} = 9.98 \times 10^{-5}$  - for the MPS and  $e_{rms} = 6.64 \times 10^{-7}$ ,  $e_{x,rms} = 1.21 \times 10^{-3}$  - for Kansa's method. The right part of the table contains the data corresponding to the small parameter  $\gamma = 0.001$  as a multiplier before the Laplace operator. Such problems are more difficult for numerical simulation.

Table 4: Example 3. The maximum absolute errors  $e_{max}$  and RMS errors  $e_{rms}$ ,  $e_{x,rms}$  in the solution of the BVP (31), (32) by using the RBFs  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{2k-1}$  and  $|\mathbf{x}|^{2k} \ln |\mathbf{x}|$ .

$ x ^{13}$			
$M$	$e_{max}$	$e_{rms}$	$e_{x,rms}$
50	$2.6 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.8 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-4}$
100	$7.1 \times 10^{-6}$	$6.5 \times 10^{-7}$	$6.6 \times 10^{-6}$
200	$1.1 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.0 \times 10^{-7}$
300	$9.6 \times 10^{-8}$	$6.7 \times 10^{-9}$	$9.1 \times 10^{-8}$
400	$8.2 \times 10^{-8}$	$4.0 \times 10^{-9}$	$6.0 \times 10^{-8}$
500	$9.5 \times 10^{-9}$	$5.6 \times 10^{-10}$	$7.2 \times 10^{-9}$
$ x ^{14} \ln x $			
$M$	$e_{max}$	$e_{rms}$	$e_{x,rms}$
50	$2.8 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.9 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.8 \times 10^{-3}$
100	$5.4 \times 10^{-6}$	$3.4 \times 10^{-7}$	$3.8 \times 10^{-6}$
200	$5.4 \times 10^{-7}$	$3.5 \times 10^{-8}$	$4.1 \times 10^{-7}$
300	$2.4 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.6 \times 10^{-8}$	$1.9 \times 10^{-7}$
400	$2.1 \times 10^{-8}$	$1.3 \times 10^{-9}$	$1.8 \times 10^{-8}$
500	$1.4 \times 10^{-8}$	$6.5 \times 10^{-10}$	$7.3 \times 10^{-9}$

### 3.2 Three dimensional case

The functions

$$\theta_{\mathbf{k}}(\alpha, \mathbf{x}) = \theta_{k_1, k_2, k_3}(\alpha, \mathbf{x}) = \sin\left(k_1 \pi \frac{x_1 + \alpha}{2\alpha}\right) \times \sin\left(k_2 \pi \frac{x_2 + \alpha}{2\alpha}\right) \times \sin\left(k_3 \pi \frac{x_3 + \alpha}{2\alpha}\right)$$

form a complete orthogonal system in the cube  $\Omega_\alpha = [-\alpha, +\alpha]^3$ .

Choosing  $\alpha$  large enough to satisfy  $\Omega \subset \Omega_\alpha$ , we look for the correcting functions in the form:

$$\omega_m(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k_1+k_2+k_3 \leq I}^{K_I} p_{m,\mathbf{k}} \theta_{\mathbf{k}}(\alpha, \mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{k} = (k_1, k_2, k_3). \tag{36}$$

The number of terms in the sum (36) and the number of unknowns  $p_{m,\mathbf{k}}$  is:  $K_I =$  the

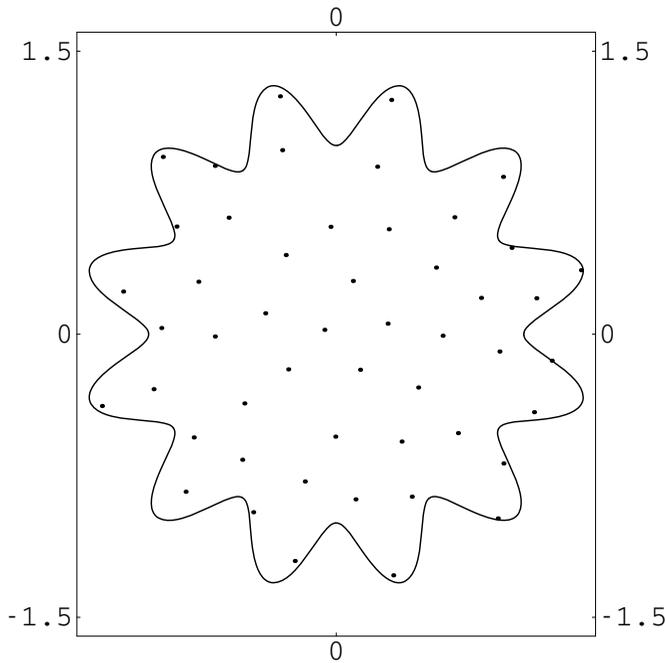


Figure 4: Example 3. The gear wheel shape domain. The collocation points  $\mathbf{x}_n$  for approximation PDE are shown inside the domain.

number of the different trigonometric products

$$\sin(k_1\pi(x_1 + \alpha)/2\alpha) \times \sin(k_2\pi(x_2 + \alpha)/2\alpha) \times \sin(k_3\pi(x_3 + \alpha)/2\alpha)$$

with  $k_1 + k_2 + k_3 \leq I$ . We use  $I = 14$  and so  $K_I = 364$  in the calculations presented in this section. Using the collocation procedure we get the linear system:

$$\sum_{k_1+k_2+k_3 \leq I}^{K_I} p_{m,\mathbf{k}} \mathcal{B}[\theta_{\mathbf{k}}(\alpha, \mathbf{y}_i)] = -\mathcal{B}[\phi_m(\mathbf{y}_i)], \tag{37}$$

$$\mathbf{y}_i \in \partial\Omega, i = 1, \dots, K_I.$$

In the same way we look for the function  $u_g$  in the form:

$$u_g(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k_1+k_2+k_3 \leq I}^{K_I} p_{\mathbf{k}} \theta_{\mathbf{k}}(\alpha, \mathbf{x}) \tag{38}$$

Table 5: Example 3. The maximum absolute errors  $e_{max}$  and RMS errors  $e_{rms}$ ,  $e_{x,rms}$  in the solution of the BVP (31), (32) in the gear wheel shape domain by using the RBFs  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{2k-1}$  and  $|\mathbf{x}|^{2k} \ln |\mathbf{x}|$ .

$ x ^{13}$			
$M$	$e_{max}$	$e_{rms}$	$e_{x,rms}$
10	$4.3 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.1 \times 10^{-5}$	$6.9 \times 10^{-5}$
20	$1.4 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.6 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-5}$
50	$2.5 \times 10^{-7}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-8}$	$2.2 \times 10^{-7}$
100	$3.8 \times 10^{-9}$	$4.7 \times 10^{-10}$	$7.9 \times 10^{-9}$
200	$1.0 \times 10^{-9}$	$2.7 \times 10^{-10}$	$6.2 \times 10^{-10}$
$ x ^{14} \ln  x $			
$M$	$e_{max}$	$e_{rms}$	$e_{x,rms}$
10	$4.5 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.1 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.5 \times 10^{-5}$
20	$1.4 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.9 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.1 \times 10^{-5}$
50	$2.6 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.7 \times 10^{-8}$	$2.2 \times 10^{-7}$
100	$9.0 \times 10^{-9}$	$4.0 \times 10^{-10}$	$4.6 \times 10^{-9}$
200	$2.1 \times 10^{-9}$	$6.0 \times 10^{-10}$	$1.2 \times 10^{-9}$

and obtain the system

$$\sum_{k_1+k_2+k_3 \leq I}^{K_I} p_k \mathcal{B}[\theta_k(\alpha, \mathbf{x})] = g(\mathbf{y}_i), \mathbf{y}_i \in \partial\Omega, i = 1, \dots, K_I. \tag{39}$$

We take the number of the collocation points  $K_1$  to be approximately  $2K_I$ .

*Example 5.* Consider the equation

$$\begin{aligned} & [1 + \sin^2(xyz)] \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + [1 + \sinh^2(xyz)] \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \\ & + \cosh(x+y+z) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} + yz \sin(2xyz) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \\ & + xz \sinh(2xyz) \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \sinh(x+y+z) \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} + \\ & + (1 + x^2 + y^2 + z^2) u = f(x, y, z) \end{aligned} \tag{40}$$

with the Dirichlet boundary condition

$$u(x, y, z) = g(x, y, z). \tag{41}$$

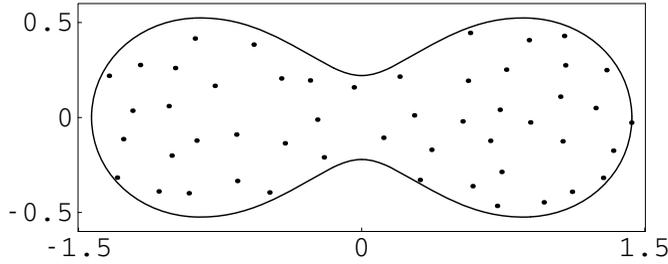


Figure 5: Example 4. The peanut shape domain. The collocation points  $\mathbf{x}_n$  for approximation PDE are shown inside the domain.

Table 6: Example 4. RMS errors  $e_{rms}$  in the solution of the BVP (33), (34), (35) by using the RBFs  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{13}$  and  $|\mathbf{x}|^{14} \ln |\mathbf{x}|$ .

$M$	$\gamma = 1$		$\gamma = 0.001$	
	$ x ^{13}$	$ x ^{14} \ln  x $	$ x ^{13}$	$ x ^{14} \ln  x $
50	$2.3_{10} - 5$	$1.4_{10} - 5$	$1.1_{10} - 5$	$7.0_{10} - 6$
100	$1.8_{10} - 7$	$3.6_{10} - 7$	$1.7_{10} - 7$	$1.7_{10} - 8$
200	$1.8_{10} - 11$	$3.1_{10} - 11$	$1.1_{10} - 11$	$7.7_{10} - 12$
300	$6.8_{10} - 13$	$3.3_{10} - 13$	$6.3_{10} - 13$	$3.9_{10} - 13$

The solution domain is a sphere with the radius  $R = 1$ . The functions  $f$  and  $g$  correspond to the exact solution:

$$u_{exact} = xysinz + xz \sin y + yz \sin x. \tag{42}$$

Some results of the calculations are shown in Table 7. The parameter  $\alpha = 11.0$  is used in all the data presented in the table.

Consider the same PDE (40) with the mixed boundary conditions on the sphere:

$$u(\mathbf{x}) = g_D(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega^D \text{ the Dirichlet condition} \tag{43}$$

$$\frac{\partial u(\mathbf{x})}{\partial n} = g_N(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega^N \text{ the Neumann condition} \tag{44}$$

Here  $\partial\Omega^N$  is the surface of the top hemisphere  $z > 0$  and  $\partial\Omega^D$  corresponds to  $z < 0$ . The functions  $f(\mathbf{x})$ ,  $g_D(\mathbf{x})$  and  $g_N(\mathbf{x})$  correspond to the exact solution (42).

To calculate the RMS errors  $e_{max}$ ,  $e_{rms}$ ,  $e_{x,rms}$  we use the formula (25) with  $N_t = 1000$  except the case  $M = 500$ , where  $N_t = 2000$  the test points are used.

Table 7: Example 5. 3D problem. RMS errors  $e_{rms}$  in the solution of (40), (41) by using the RBFs  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{2k-1}$  and  $|\mathbf{x}|^{2k} \ln |\mathbf{x}|$ ,  $k = 6, 7$ .

$M$	$ x ^{11}$	$ x ^{13}$	$ x ^{12} \ln  x $	$ x ^{14} \ln  x $
50	$1.4_{10} - 5$	$1.8_{10} - 5$	$1.5_{10} - 5$	$2.7_{10} - 5$
100	$3.5_{10} - 8$	$9.7_{10} - 8$	$4.6_{10} - 8$	$1.3_{10} - 7$
200	$4.1_{10} - 9$	$1.3_{10} - 10$	$1.2_{10} - 10$	$4.4_{10} - 10$
300	$2.2_{10} - 10$	$1.1_{10} - 11$	$1.0_{10} - 11$	$1.4_{10} - 11$
400	$1.5_{10} - 12$	$1.3_{10} - 12$	$1.3_{10} - 12$	$1.5_{10} - 12$
500	$4.5_{10} - 13$	$3.6_{10} - 13$	$6.4_{10} - 13$	$3.7_{10} - 13$

Table 8: Example 5. 3D problem. The maximum absolute errors  $e_{max}$  and the RMS errors  $e_{rms}, e_{x,rms}$  in the solution of the BVP (40), (43), (44) in the sphere domain by using the RBFs  $\psi(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{13}$  and  $|\mathbf{x}|^{14} \ln |\mathbf{x}|$ .

$M$	$ x ^{13}$		
	$e_{max}$	$e_{rms}$	$e_{x,rms}$
20	$3.6_{10} - 5$	$1.0_{10} - 5$	$3.2_{10} - 5$
50	$1.8_{10} - 6$	$3.3_{10} - 7$	$1.2_{10} - 6$
100	$5.3_{10} - 8$	$8.2_{10} - 9$	$2.9_{10} - 8$
200	$5.7_{10} - 10$	$1.1_{10} - 10$	$4.0_{10} - 10$
300	$8.4_{10} - 11$	$1.2_{10} - 11$	$5.1_{10} - 11$
400	$1.0_{10} - 11$	$1.8_{10} - 12$	$8.3_{10} - 12$
500	$3.6_{10} - 12$	$7.3_{10} - 13$	$3.3_{10} - 12$
$M$	$ x ^{14} \ln  x $		
	$e_{max}$	$e_{rms}$	$e_{x,rms}$
20	$4.4_{10} - 5$	$1.1_{10} - 5$	$4.2_{10} - 5$
50	$1.6_{10} - 6$	$4.0_{10} - 7$	$1.6_{10} - 6$
100	$3.5_{10} - 8$	$7.6_{10} - 9$	$3.5_{10} - 8$
200	$9.0_{10} - 10$	$1.8_{10} - 10$	$7.0_{10} - 10$
300	$6.1_{10} - 11$	$1.1_{10} - 11$	$5.0_{10} - 11$
400	$1.3_{10} - 11$	$3.0_{10} - 12$	$8.7_{10} - 12$
500	$5.5_{10} - 12$	$9.6_{10} - 13$	$3.0_{10} - 12$

#### 4 Conclusion

This paper presents a new version of the semi-analytic meshless method for solving PDEs with variable coefficients in irregular domains. The key idea of the pre-

vious indirect version Reutskiy (2012, 2013) is saved here: to divide satisfaction of boundary conditions and satisfaction of the governing PDE inside the domain. The new version extends the sphere of applicability of the developed technique.

While the indirect scheme permits using only such RBFs  $\varphi_m$  which have the analytic solution  $\Phi_m: L[\Phi_m] = \varphi_m$ , the novel direct scheme allows to use any smooth enough functions as the basis functions. As it is demonstrated in Example 3 and Example 5, the novel direct scheme is applicable to the PDEs with the variable coefficients in the main operator part. Besides, using the new direct scheme we can get rid of the singularities inherent to MFS and of the fictitious boundary for their placement.

The method introduced in this paper can be easily extended on to nonlinear PDEs, 3D problems and time dependent problems. This will be the subject of further studies.

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