The Extended Fractional \( (D_{\xi}^{\alpha}G/G) \)-Expansion Method and Its Applications to a Space-Time Fractional Fokas Equation

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Received 6 June 2017; Revised 24 July 2017; Accepted 23 August 2017; Published 28 September 2017

1. Introduction

The nonlinear fractional partial differential equations (FPDEs) have attracted much attention because of their potential applications in various fields of science, such as fluid mechanics (especially in viscoelastic flow and theory of viscoplasticity), medical (human tissue under mechanical load model), electrical engineering (ultrasound transmission), biochemistry (polymer and protein model), material diffusion (including normal diffusion and anomalous diffusion), signal processing, and control systems.

The exact solutions of FPDEs can facilitate illustrating the structural information about the complex physics phenomena and help better understand the physical interpretation. Thus, it is an important and significant task to find more exact solutions of different forms for the FPDEs. In recent decades, many mathematicians and physicists have made significant achievements and also presented some effective methods, for example, the fractional subequation method [1–3], the Jacobi elliptic equation method [4], the fractional mapping method [5], the \( (G'/G) \)-expansion method [6], the extended fractional Riccati expansion method [7], the first integral method [8], and the fractional complex transform [9]. Due to these methods, various exact solutions or numerical solutions of FPDEs have been established successfully.

Searching for exact solutions of nonlinear ODEs plays an important role in the study of physical phenomena and gradually becomes one of the most important and significant tasks. In the past several decades, both mathematicians and physicists have made many significant works in this direction and presented some effective methods, such as the global error minimization method [10].

Recently, Feng [11] introduced a new method which is called the improved fractional \( (D_{\xi}^{\alpha}G/G) \) method to show traveling wave solutions of nonlinear FDEs. The method is based on the homogeneous balance principle and Jumarie’s modified Riemann-Liouville derivative. By using the fractional Riccati equation \( AGD_{\xi}^{\alpha}G - BGD_{\xi}^{\alpha}G - C(D_{\xi}^{\alpha}G)^2 - EG^2 = 0 \), Feng obtained traveling wave solutions of the \((2 + 1)\)-dimensional space-time fractional Nizhnik-Novikov-Veselov system and the space-time fractional KP-BBM equation.

In order to get as many results as possible, we propose a new analytical method named extended fractional \( (D_{\xi}^{\alpha}G/G) \)-expansion method which adds in negative power exponent to seek more general traveling wave solutions. In this paper, using the proposed method, we present some new exact solutions of a space-time fractional Fokas equation. The
results suggest that the method not only is simple, effective, and straightforward, but also can be used for many other nonlinear FPDEs.

The organization of the paper is as follows. In Section 2, some basic properties of Jumarie’s modified Riemann-Liouville derivative are shown. In Section 3, we describe the extended fractional \( (\mathcal{D}_x^\alpha G/G) \)-expansion method for finding traveling wave solutions of the proposed FPDEs. In Section 4, we apply this method to obtain exact traveling wave solutions for a space-time fractional Fokas equation. The conclusion part is in Section 5.

2. Preliminaries

Jumarie’s modified Riemann-Liouville derivative of order \( \alpha \) is defined by the expression [1]

\[
\mathcal{D}_x^\alpha f (x) = \begin{cases} 
\frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \int_0^x (x-\xi)^{\alpha-1} (f(\xi) - f(0)) \, d\xi, & \alpha < 0, \\
\frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \int_0^x (x-\xi)^{\alpha-1} (f(\xi) - f(0)) \, d\xi, & 0 < \alpha < 1, \\
\left( f^{(\alpha-n)} (x) \right)^{(n)}, & n \leq \alpha < n + 1, \quad n \geq 1.
\end{cases}
\]  

(1)

where \( a_i, b_j \) \( (i = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, n; \; j = 1, 2, \ldots, n) \) are arbitrary constants to be determined later, the positive integer \( n \) can be determined by considering the homogeneous balance between the highest order derivatives and nonlinear terms appearing in (5), and \( G = G(\xi) \) satisfies the following fractional ordinary differential equation:

\[
AG(\xi) \mathcal{D}_x^{2\alpha} G(\xi) - BG(\xi) \mathcal{D}_x^{2\alpha} G(\xi) - C \left( \mathcal{D}_x^{2\alpha} G(\xi) \right)^2 = 0,
\]

(7)

where \( \mathcal{D}_x^{\alpha} G(\xi) \) denotes the modified Riemann-Liouville derivative of order \( \alpha \) for \( G(\xi) \) with respect to \( \xi \).

Step 4. Substituting (6) into (5) and using (7) and collecting all terms with the same order of \( (\mathcal{D}_x^\alpha G/G) \) together, the left-hand side of (5) is converted into another polynomial in \( (\mathcal{D}_x^\alpha G/G) \). Equating each coefficient of this polynomial to zero yields a set of algebraic equations for \( a_i, b_j \); \( i = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, n; \; j = 1, 2, \ldots, n \); \( k, \ell \), and \( \omega \).

Step 5. Solving the equations system in Step 4 and using the general expressions for \( D_x^\alpha G(\xi) \), we can construct a variety of exact solutions for (3).

In order to obtain the general expressions for \( D_x^\alpha G(\xi) \) in (7), we suppose

\[
G(\xi) = H(\eta), \quad \eta = \frac{k_x}{\Gamma(1+\alpha)}.
\]

(8)

Then by use of (2) one has \( D_x^\alpha H = 1 \) and furthermore, \( D_x^\alpha G(\xi) = D_x^\alpha H(\eta) = H'(\eta)D_x^\alpha H = H'(\eta) \), so (7) can be turned into the following second ordinary differential equation:

\[
AH(\eta) H''(\eta) - BH(\eta) H'(\eta) - C \left( H'(\eta) \right)^2 = 0.
\]

(9)

By the general expressions for \( H'(\eta)/H(\eta) \) in [12], one can obtain the following expressions for \( D_x^\alpha G(\xi)/G(\xi) \):
(1) When \( B \neq 0 \), \( \Psi = A - C \), and \( \Omega = B^2 + 4E\Psi > 0 \),

\[
\frac{D^\alpha G (\xi)}{G (\xi)} = \frac{B}{2\Psi} \frac{\sqrt{\Omega}}{2\Psi} C_1 \sinh \left( \frac{\sqrt{\Omega}/2\Gamma(1+\alpha)}{C_1\Gamma(1+\alpha)} \xi^\alpha \right) + C_2 \cosh \left( \frac{\sqrt{\Omega}/2\Gamma(1+\alpha)}{C_1\Gamma(1+\alpha)} \xi^\alpha \right).
\] (10)

(2) When \( B \neq 0 \), \( \Psi = A - C \), and \( \Omega = B^2 + 4E\Psi < 0 \),

\[
\frac{D^\alpha G (\xi)}{G (\xi)} = \frac{B}{2\Psi} \frac{\sqrt{\Omega}}{2\Psi} C_1 \sin \left( \frac{\sqrt{\Omega}/2\Gamma(1+\alpha)}{C_1\Gamma(1+\alpha)} \xi^\alpha \right) + C_2 \cos \left( \frac{\sqrt{\Omega}/2\Gamma(1+\alpha)}{C_1\Gamma(1+\alpha)} \xi^\alpha \right).
\] (11)

(3) When \( B \neq 0 \), \( \Psi = A - C \), and \( \Omega = B^2 + 4E\Psi = 0 \),

\[
\frac{D^\alpha G (\xi)}{G (\xi)} = \frac{B}{2\Psi} \frac{AC_2\Gamma(1+\alpha)}{(C_1\Gamma(1+\alpha) - C_2\xi^\alpha)\Psi}.
\] (12)

(4) When \( B = 0 \), \( \Psi = A - C \), and \( \Delta = \Psi E > 0 \),

\[
\frac{D^\alpha G (\xi)}{G (\xi)} = \frac{\sqrt{\Delta}}{\Psi} C_1 \sinh \left( \frac{\sqrt{\Delta}/2\Gamma(1+\alpha)}{C_1\Gamma(1+\alpha)} \xi^\alpha \right) + C_2 \cosh \left( \frac{\sqrt{\Delta}/2\Gamma(1+\alpha)}{C_1\Gamma(1+\alpha)} \xi^\alpha \right).
\] (13)

(5) When \( B = 0 \), \( \Psi = A - C \), and \( \Delta = \Psi E < 0 \),

\[
\frac{D^\alpha G (\xi)}{G (\xi)} = \frac{\sqrt{\Delta}}{\Psi} C_1 \sin \left( \frac{\sqrt{\Delta}/2\Gamma(1+\alpha)}{C_1\Gamma(1+\alpha)} \xi^\alpha \right) + C_2 \cos \left( \frac{\sqrt{\Delta}/2\Gamma(1+\alpha)}{C_1\Gamma(1+\alpha)} \xi^\alpha \right).
\] (14)

4. Applications of the Extended Fractional \((D^\alpha G/G)\) Method to the Space-Time Fractional Fokas Equation

We consider a space-time fractional Fokas equation [13]:

\[
\begin{align*}
4\frac{\partial^\alpha q}{\partial t^\alpha \partial x_1^\alpha} & \frac{\partial^\alpha q}{\partial x_1^\alpha \partial x_2^\alpha} + \frac{\partial^\alpha q}{\partial x_2^\alpha \partial x_1^\alpha} + 12\frac{\partial^\alpha q}{\partial x_1^\alpha \partial x_2^\alpha} \\
+ 12\frac{\partial^\alpha q}{\partial y_1^\alpha \partial y_2^\alpha} - 6\frac{\partial^\alpha q}{\partial y_1^\alpha \partial y_2^\alpha} & = 0, \quad 0 < \alpha \leq 1,
\end{align*}
\] (15)

which is a transformed generalization of the \((4 + 1)\)-dimensional Fokas equation

\[
\frac{\partial^\alpha q}{\partial t \partial x_1} = \frac{1}{4}\frac{\partial^4 q}{\partial x_1^4 \partial x_2} - \frac{1}{4}\frac{\partial^4 q}{\partial x_2^4 \partial x_1} - \frac{3}{2}\frac{\partial^2 q}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} + \frac{3}{2}\frac{\partial^2 q}{\partial y_1 \partial y_2}.
\] (16)

Equation (16) is one of the new high-dimensional nonlinear wave Fokas equations recently obtained by extending the integrable KP equation and DS equation.

To solve (15), we take the following traveling wave transformation:

\[
q = q (\xi), \quad \xi = k_1 x_1 + k_2 x_2 + l_1 y_1 + l_2 y_2 + \omega t;
\] (17)

then (15) is reduced into a nonlinear fractional ODE in the form

\[
\left(k_1^\alpha k_2^\alpha - k_1^\alpha k_2^\alpha\right) D_\xi^{\alpha^\prime} q + (4\omega^\alpha k_1^\alpha - 6l_1^\alpha) D_\xi^{\alpha^\prime} q \\
+ 12k_1^\alpha k_2^\alpha \left(D_\xi^{\alpha^\prime} q\right)^2 + 12k_1^\alpha k_2^\alpha q D_\xi^{\alpha^\prime} q = 0.
\] (18)

Balancing \(D_\xi^{\alpha^\prime} q\) and \(q D_\xi^{\alpha^\prime} q\), we have \(n + 4 = 2n + 2 \Rightarrow n = 2\). So we have
where \( a_0, a_1, a_2, b_1, \) and \( b_2 \) are constants to be determined later, and function \( G(\xi) \) satisfies (7).

Substituting (19) together with (7) into (18), the left-hand side of (18) is converted into polynomials in \( (D^2_\xi G/G)^i \), \( (i = \ldots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \ldots) \). We collect each coefficient of these resulting polynomials to zero, which yields a set of simultaneous algebraic equations for \( a_0, a_1, a_2, b_1, k_1, k_2, l_1, l_2, \) and \( \omega \). Solving this system of algebraic equations, with the aid of Maple, we obtain

\[
\begin{aligned}
(1) \quad a_0 &= \frac{(k_2^{2\alpha} - k_1^{2\alpha})(B^2 - 8E\Psi)}{12A^2} + \frac{3k^2_1l^2_1 - 2\omega^2 k_1^2}{6k^2_1k^2_2} , \\
&+ \frac{(k_2^{2\alpha} - k_1^{2\alpha})}{A^2} \left( B + \sqrt{\Omega} C_1 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Omega}/2A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^\alpha \right) + C_2 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Omega}/2A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^\alpha \right) \right) , \\
&+ \frac{(k_2^{2\alpha} - k_1^{2\alpha})}{A^2} \left( B + \sqrt{\Omega} C_1 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Omega}/2A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^\alpha \right) + C_2 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Omega}/2A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^\alpha \right) \right)^2 .
\end{aligned}
\]

(1.1) When \( B \neq 0, \psi = A - C, \) and \( \Omega = B^2 + 4E\Psi > 0, \)

\[
\begin{aligned}
q_1(\xi) &= \frac{(k_2^{2\alpha} - k_1^{2\alpha})(B^2 - 8E\Psi)}{12A^2} + \frac{3k^2_1l^2_1 - 2\omega^2 k_1^2}{6k^2_1k^2_2} , \\
&+ \frac{(k_2^{2\alpha} - k_1^{2\alpha})}{A^2} \left( B + \sqrt{\Omega} C_1 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Omega}/2A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^\alpha \right) + C_2 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Omega}/2A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^\alpha \right) \right) , \\
&+ \frac{(k_2^{2\alpha} - k_1^{2\alpha})}{A^2} \left( B + \sqrt{\Omega} C_1 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Omega}/2A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^\alpha \right) + C_2 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Omega}/2A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^\alpha \right) \right)^2 .
\end{aligned}
\]

(1.2) When \( B \neq 0, \psi = A - C, \) and \( \Omega = B^2 + 4E\Psi < 0, \)

\[
\begin{aligned}
q_2(\xi) &= \frac{(k_2^{2\alpha} - k_1^{2\alpha})(B^2 - 8E\Psi)}{12A^2} + \frac{3k^2_1l^2_1 - 2\omega^2 k_1^2}{6k^2_1k^2_2} , \\
&+ \frac{(k_2^{2\alpha} - k_1^{2\alpha})}{A^2} \left( B + \sqrt{-\Omega} C_1 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{-\Omega}/2A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^\alpha \right) + C_2 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{-\Omega}/2A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^\alpha \right) \right) , \\
&+ \frac{(k_2^{2\alpha} - k_1^{2\alpha})}{A^2} \left( B + \sqrt{-\Omega} C_1 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{-\Omega}/2A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^\alpha \right) + C_2 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{-\Omega}/2A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^\alpha \right) \right)^2 .
\end{aligned}
\]
(1.3) When \( B \neq 0, \Psi = A - C, \) and \( \Omega = B^2 + 4E\Psi = 0, \)

\[
q_3(\xi) = \frac{3N^\alpha_2 - 2\omega^\alpha k^\alpha_1}{6k_2^\alpha k_2^\alpha} + \frac{C^2_2 \left( k_1^\alpha - k_2^\alpha \right) (\Gamma (1 + \alpha))^2}{(C_1 \Gamma (1 + \alpha) - C_2 \xi_1^\alpha)^2}. \tag{24}
\]

\[
q_4(\xi) = \frac{-2 \left( k_1^\alpha - k_2^\alpha \right) \Delta}{3A^2} + \frac{3N^\alpha_2 - 2\omega^\alpha k^\alpha_1}{6k_2^\alpha k_2^\alpha}
+ \frac{\left( k_1^\alpha - k_2^\alpha \right) \Delta}{A^2} \left( \frac{-C_1 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha \right) + C_2 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha \right)}{C_1 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha \right) + C_2 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha \right)} \right)^2. \tag{25}
\]

(1.5) When \( B = 0, \Psi = A - C, \) and \( \Delta = \Psi E < 0, \)

\[
q_5(\xi) = \frac{-2 \left( k_1^\alpha - k_2^\alpha \right) \Delta}{3A^2} + \frac{3N^\alpha_2 - 2\omega^\alpha k^\alpha_1}{6k_2^\alpha k_2^\alpha}
- \frac{\left( k_1^\alpha - k_2^\alpha \right) \Delta}{A^2} \left( \frac{-C_1 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha \right) + C_2 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha \right)}{C_1 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha \right) + C_2 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha \right)} \right)^2. \tag{26}
\]

where \( \xi = k_1 x_1 + k_2 x_2 + l_1 y_1 + l_2 y_2 + \omega t, k_1, k_2, l_1, l_2, \) and \( \omega \) are arbitrary constants.

Substituting (21) into (19) and combining with (10)–(14), we can obtain the following exact traveling wave solutions to (15).

\[
q_6(\xi) = \frac{(k_1^\alpha - k_2^\alpha) \left( B^2 - 8E\Psi \right)}{12A^2} + \frac{3N^\alpha_2 - 2\omega^\alpha k^\alpha_1}{6k_2^\alpha k_2^\alpha}
+ \frac{(k_1^\alpha - k_2^\alpha) BE}{A^2 \left( B^2 + \sqrt{\Delta}/2A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha + C_2 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/2A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha \right) + C_2 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/2A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha \right)} \right) \right)^2. \tag{27}
\]

(2.1) When \( B \neq 0, \Psi = A - C, \) and \( \Omega = B^2 + 4E\Psi > 0, \)

\[
q_7(\xi) = \frac{(k_1^\alpha - k_2^\alpha) \left( B^2 - 8E\Psi \right)}{12A^2} + \frac{3N^\alpha_2 - 2\omega^\alpha k^\alpha_1}{6k_2^\alpha k_2^\alpha}
+ \frac{(k_1^\alpha - k_2^\alpha) E^2}{A^2 \left( B^2 + \sqrt{\Delta}/2A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha + C_2 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/2A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha \right) + C_2 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/2A\Gamma (1 + \alpha) \right) \xi_1^\alpha \right)} \right) \right)^2. \tag{28}
\]
(2.3) When $B \neq 0$, $\Psi = A - C$, and $\Omega = B^2 + 4E\Psi = 0$,\[ q_8(\xi) = \frac{3R_1^a}{2k_2^2} - \frac{2\omega^a k_2^a}{6k_1^2 k_2^2} \]
+ \frac{B^2 C_2^2}{2AC_2 - BC_1} \left( k_{1a}^2 - k_{2a}^2 \right) \left( \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right)^2 \]
+ \frac{\left( 2\Gamma \left( \frac{\sqrt{\Delta}}{\Gamma(1 + \alpha)} \right) \xi^a \right)^2 \cdot (29) \]

\[ q_9(\xi) = -\frac{2}{3A^2} \left( k_{1a}^2 - k_{2a}^2 \right) \Delta + \frac{3R_1^a}{6k_1^2 k_2^2} \]
+ \frac{\left( k_{1a}^2 - k_{2a}^2 \right) \Delta \left( C_1 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^a \right) + C_2 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^a \right) \right)^2 \cdot (30) \]

(2.5) When $B = 0$, $\Psi = A - C$, and $\Delta = \Psi E < 0$,\[ q_{10}(\xi) = -\frac{2}{3A^2} \left( k_{1a}^2 - k_{2a}^2 \right) \Delta + \frac{3R_1^a}{6k_1^2 k_2^2} \]
- \frac{\left( k_{1a}^2 - k_{2a}^2 \right) \Delta \left( C_1 \cos \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^a \right) + C_2 \sin \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^a \right) \right)^2 \cdot (31) \]

where $\xi = k_1 x_1 + k_2 x_2 + l_1 y_1 + l_2 y_2 + \omega t, k_1, k_2, l_1, l_2$, and $\omega$ are arbitrary constants.

In particular, if $C_1 = 0$, but $C_2 \neq 0$, or $C_2 = 0$, but $C_1 \neq 0$, then $q(\xi)$ changes as follows:

(3.1) When $B \neq 0$, $\Psi = A - C$, and $\Omega = B^2 + 4E\Psi > 0$,\[ q_{11}(\xi) = \frac{3R_1^a}{12A^2} + \frac{2\omega^a k_2^a}{6k_1^2 k_2^2} \]
+ \frac{\left( k_{1a}^2 - k_{2a}^2 \right) \Delta \left( C_1 \cos \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^a \right) + C_2 \sin \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^a \right) \right)^2 \cdot (32) \]

(3.2) When $B \neq 0$, $\Psi = A - C$, and $\Omega = B^2 + 4E\Psi < 0$,\[ q_{13}(\xi) = \frac{3R_1^a}{12A^2} + \frac{2\omega^a k_2^a}{6k_1^2 k_2^2} \]
+ \frac{\left( k_{1a}^2 - k_{2a}^2 \right) \Delta \left( C_1 \cos \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^a \right) + C_2 \sin \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^a \right) \right)^2 \cdot (33) \]

(3.4) When $B = 0$, $\Psi = A - C$, and $\Delta = \Psi E > 0$,\[ q_{14}(\xi) = \frac{\left( k_{1a}^2 - k_{2a}^2 \right) \Delta \left( C_1 \cosh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^a \right) + C_2 \sinh \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^a \right) \right)^2}{A^2 \left( B/2\Psi + \left( \sqrt{\Omega}/2\Psi \right) \tan \left( \sqrt{\Omega} \eta/2\Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \right)} \]
+ \frac{\left( k_{1a}^2 - k_{2a}^2 \right) BE}{A^2 \left( B/2\Psi + \left( \sqrt{\Omega}/2\Psi \right) \tan \left( \sqrt{\Omega} \eta/2\Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \right)^2} \cdot (34) \]

(3.5) When $B = 0$, $\Psi = A - C$, and $\Delta = \Psi E < 0$,\[ q_{15}(\xi) = \frac{\left( k_{1a}^2 - k_{2a}^2 \right) \Delta \left( C_1 \cos \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^a \right) + C_2 \sin \left( \left( \sqrt{\Delta}/A \Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \xi^a \right) \right)^2}{A^2 \left( B/2\Psi + \left( \sqrt{\Omega}/2\Psi \right) \tan \left( \sqrt{\Omega} \eta/2\Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \right)^2} \]
+ \frac{\left( k_{1a}^2 - k_{2a}^2 \right) BE}{A^2 \left( B/2\Psi + \left( \sqrt{\Omega}/2\Psi \right) \tan \left( \sqrt{\Omega} \eta/2\Gamma(1 + \alpha) \right) \right)^2} \cdot (35) \]

(3.6) When $B = 0$, $\Psi = A - C$, and $\Delta = \Psi E = 0$,
Figure 1: 2D and 3D figures of solution $q_{11}(\xi)$ in (32) with $k_1 = 4, k_2 = 0.2, l_1 = 4, l_2 = 1, A = 1, C = -3, E = -1, \omega = 20, x_2 = 0.01, y_1 = 0.01, y_2 = 0.01, B = 5$.

$$q_{16}(\xi) = \left(\frac{k_1^{2\alpha} - k_2^{2\alpha}}{A^2} - \frac{2\alpha x_2^{\alpha}}{6k_1^{\alpha}k_2^{\alpha}}\right) \left(\frac{B}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{-\Omega}}{2} \cot \left(\frac{\sqrt{-\Omega}x_2^{\alpha}}{2A(1 + \alpha)}\right)\right)$$

$$q_{17}(\xi) = \left(\frac{k_1^{2\alpha} - k_2^{2\alpha}}{A^2} - \frac{2\alpha x_2^{\alpha}}{6k_1^{\alpha}k_2^{\alpha}}\right) \left(\frac{B}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{-\Omega}}{2} \cot \left(\frac{\sqrt{-\Omega}x_2^{\alpha}}{2A(1 + \alpha)}\right)\right)^2$$

$$q_{18}(\xi) = \left(\frac{k_1^{2\alpha} - k_2^{2\alpha}}{A^2} - \frac{2\alpha x_2^{\alpha}}{6k_1^{\alpha}k_2^{\alpha}}\right) \left(\frac{BE}{A^2} \left(\frac{B}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{-\Omega}}{2} \cot \left(\frac{\sqrt{-\Omega}x_2^{\alpha}}{2A(1 + \alpha)}\right)\right)\right)$$

$$q_{19}(\xi) = \left(\frac{k_1^{2\alpha} - k_2^{2\alpha}}{A^2} - \frac{2\alpha x_2^{\alpha}}{6k_1^{\alpha}k_2^{\alpha}}\right) \left(\frac{BE}{A^2} \left(\frac{B}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{-\Omega}}{2} \cot \left(\frac{\sqrt{-\Omega}x_2^{\alpha}}{2A(1 + \alpha)}\right)\right)\right)^2$$

(3.3) When $B = 0, \Psi = A - C$, and $\Delta = \Psi E > 0$,

$$q_{11}(\xi) = \frac{3l_1^{\alpha}l_2^{\alpha} - 2\alpha x_2^{\alpha}}{6k_1^{\alpha}k_2^{\alpha}}$$

$$q_{20}(\xi) = \left(\frac{3l_1^{\alpha}l_2^{\alpha} - 2\alpha x_2^{\alpha}}{6k_1^{\alpha}k_2^{\alpha}}\right) \left(\frac{\Delta}{A^2} \left(\frac{B}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{-\Omega}}{2} \cot \left(\frac{\sqrt{-\Omega}x_2^{\alpha}}{2A(1 + \alpha)}\right)\right)\right)$$

(3.4) When $B = 0, \Psi = A - C$, and $\Delta = \Psi E < 0$,

$$q_{21}(\xi) = \frac{3l_1^{\alpha}l_2^{\alpha} - 2\alpha x_2^{\alpha}}{6k_1^{\alpha}k_2^{\alpha}}$$

$$q_{22}(\xi) = \frac{3l_1^{\alpha}l_2^{\alpha} - 2\alpha x_2^{\alpha}}{6k_1^{\alpha}k_2^{\alpha}}$$

where $\xi = k_1x_1 + k_2x_2 + l_1y_1 + l_2y_2 + \omega t, k_1, k_2, l_1, l_2, \omega$ are arbitrary constants.

5. Figures of Some Exact Solutions

In this section, some typical wave figures are given as Figures 1 and 2.
6. Conclusions

Finding exact traveling wave solutions of FPDEs is an important and difficult work. Based on Feng’s [11] work, by adding in negative power exponents, a new analytical method named extended fractional \((D^\alpha_\xi G/G)\)-expansion method is proposed. It can help to seek more general traveling wave solutions. In this paper, using this new method, we obtain more new exact solutions of the space-time fractional Fokas equation. These exact solutions include hyperbolic function and trigonometric function which are useful to understand the mechanisms of the complicated nonlinear physical phenomena and fractional differential equations. To the best of our knowledge, the solutions obtained in this paper have not been reported in other literatures. The traveling wave transformation used for \(\xi\) here ensures that a certain fractional partial differential equation can be converted into another fractional ordinary differential equation, and the solutions of the latter are assumed to possess forms in one certain polynomial in \(G(\xi)\), where \(G(\xi)\) satisfies a given fractional ordinary differential equation denoted by (7), and the degree of the polynomial can be determined by the homogeneous balance principle. It is worthy of further study to extend other existing methods, like the generalized fractional Jacobi elliptic equation-based subequation method [4] used for differential equations, to fractional differential equations. This is our task in the future.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this article.

Acknowledgments

This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (11361023), the Natural Science Foundation of Yunnan Province (2013FZ117), and the Middle-Aged Academic Backbone of Honghe University (2014GG0105).

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