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010008 Astana, Kazakhstan

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(RUDN University)  
Room 473  
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117198 Moscow, Russia

APPROXIMATE SOLUTIONS OF THE  
SWIFT-HOHENBERG EQUATION WITH DISPERSION

H. Rouhparvar

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**Key words:** differential transform method, reduced differential transform method, Swift-Hohenberg equation.

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**Abstract.** In this paper, the initial and boundary value problems for the Swift-Hohenberg equation as over the finite spatial interval  $x \in [0, l]$  and finite time interval  $t \in [0, t^*]$  are considered. Approximate solutions for the initial and boundary value problems are obtained via the differential transform method and reduced differential transform method. Finally, several numerical examples are presented in order to demonstrate the effectivity of the methods and clarify the influence of the parameters on the solution.

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## 1 Introduction

The Swift-Hohenberg equation is a model pattern-forming equation which was introduced by Jack Swift and Pierre Hohenberg as a model for a fluid which is thermally convecting [24]. The Swift-Hohenberg equation is one of important equations for describing localized structures in the modern physics. This equation occurs in fluid dynamics, optical physics and other fields [4, 11, 22]. The Swift-Hohenberg equation with dispersion has the form [9]

$$u_t + 2u_{xx} - \sigma u_{xxx} + u_{xxx} = \alpha u + \beta u^2 - \gamma u^3, \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  and  $\sigma$  are parameters of the equation. At  $\sigma = 0$  equation (1.1) is reduced to the standard Swift-Hohenberg equation. We consider the problem with the boundary conditions

$$\begin{aligned} u &= 0, \quad u_{xx} = 0, \quad \text{at } x = 0, l, \quad \forall t, \quad t > 0, \\ u(x, 0) &= u_0(x), \quad \forall x, \quad 0 < x < l, \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

so that solutions can be extended as periodic functions over the real line. For  $\sigma = \beta = 0$  and  $\alpha = 1 - a$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , equation (1.1) and (1.2) were solved by the homotopy analysis method in [3] and the differential transform method as time-fractional derivative in [19].

The aim of this paper is to find an approximate analytical solution of (1.1) and (1.2) with the help of powerful analytic methods. We use the differential transform method (DTM) and reduced differential transform method (RDTM) to obtain the solutions and compare them with each other. We know that the DTM is based on the use of Taylor series in all variables, while RDTM does not require Taylor series in all variables and therefore it reduces significantly the numerical computation. For the standard cases, comparing the methodology with some known techniques, shows that these approaches are effective and powerful.



## 2 Methods

In this section, the techniques are explained for the two-dimensional differential transform.

### 2.1 The DTM

The DTM was first proposed by Zhou [25], who solved linear and nonlinear initial value problems in electric circuit analysis, then was widely used in the literature and was successfully applied to fractional differential equations [5], integro-differential equations [6], higher-order initial value problems [1], systems of differential equations [2, 7, 12], partial differential equation [10, 13, 21, 23], high index differential-algebraic equations [20].

In [8, 14] the basic definitions and fundamental operations are introduced for the two-dimensional differential transform as the following

$$U(k, h) = \frac{1}{k!h!} \left[ \frac{\partial^{k+h}}{\partial x^k \partial t^h} u(x, t) \right]_{(0,0)}, \quad (2.1)$$

where  $u(x, t)$  is the original function and  $U(k, h)$  is the transformed function. The differential inverse transform of  $U(k, h)$  is of the form

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{h=0}^{\infty} U(k, h) x^k t^h, \quad (2.2)$$

and from equations (2.1) and (2.2) can be concluded that

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sum_{h=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!h!} \left[ \frac{\partial^{k+h}}{\partial x^k \partial t^h} u(x, t) \right]_{(0,0)} x^k t^h. \quad (2.3)$$

In Table 2.1 the fundamental mathematical operations of the two-dimensional differential transform are listed. The proofs are available in [8].

**Table 2.1. Two-dimensional differential transformation**

Original Function	Transformed Function
$u(x, t) \pm v(x, t)$	$U(k, h) \pm V(k, h)$
$cu(x, t)$	$cU(k, h)$
$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x}$	$(k+1)U(k+1, h)$
$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t}$	$(h+1)U(k, h+1)$
$\frac{\partial^{r+s} u(x, t)}{\partial x^r \partial t^s}$	$\frac{(k+r)!}{k!} \frac{(h+s)!}{h!} U(k+r, h+s)$
$u(x, t)v(x, t)$	$\sum_{r=0}^k \sum_{s=0}^h U(r, h-s)V(k-r, s)$
$u(x, t)v(x, t)w(x, t)$	$\sum_{r=0}^k \sum_{s=0}^{k-r} \sum_{q=0}^h \sum_{p=0}^{h-q} U(r, h-q-p)V(s, q)W(k-r-s, p)$

### 2.2 The RDTM

The basic definitions and operations of the RDTM [15, 16, 17, 18] are defined as follows.

**Definition 1.** If a function  $u(x, t)$  is analytic with respect to time  $t$  and space  $x$  in the domain of interest, then let

$$U_k(x) = \frac{1}{k!} \left[ \frac{\partial^k}{\partial t^k} u(x, t) \right]_{t=0}, \tag{2.4}$$

where the  $t$ -dimensional spectrum function  $U_k(x)$  is the transformed function. In this paper, the lowercase  $u(x, t)$  represent the original function while the uppercase  $U_k(x)$  stands for the transformed function.

**Definition 2.** The reduced differential transform of the sequence  $\{U_k(x)\}_{k=0}^\infty$  is introduced as follows:

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{k=0}^\infty U_k(x) t^k. \tag{2.5}$$

By combining equation (2.4) and (2.5), we have

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{k=0}^\infty \frac{1}{k!} \left[ \frac{\partial^k}{\partial t^k} u(x, t) \right]_{t=0} t^k. \tag{2.6}$$

Some basic properties of the reduced differential transformation obtained from definitions (2.4) and (2.6) are summarized in Table 2.2. The proofs and the basic definitions of the RDTM are available in [15].

**Table 2.2. Basic operations of RDTM**

Original Function	Transformed Function
$u(x, t)$	$U_h(x)$
$u(x, t) \pm v(x, t)$	$U_h(x) \pm V_h(x)$
$cu(x, t)$	$cU_h(x)$ $c$ is a cons.
$x^m t^n$	$x^m \delta(h - n)$
$x^m t^n u(x, t)$	$x^m U_{h-n}(x)$
$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, t)$	$U'_h(x)$
$\frac{\partial^r}{\partial t^r} u(x, t)$	$\frac{(h+r)!}{h!} U_{h+r}(x)$
$u(x, t)v(x, t)$	$\sum_{r=0}^h U_r(x)V_{h-r}(x)$
$u(x, t)v(x, t)w(x, t)$	$\sum_{r=0}^h \sum_{s=0}^{h-r} U_r(x)V_s(x)W_{h-r}(x)$

### 3 The Swift-Hohenberg equation

In this section, we consider two methodologies DTM and RDTM for the Swift-Hohenberg equation. To illustrate the capability, reliability and simplicity of the methods, several different cases for parameters of the equation will be discussed here.

#### 3.1 Solution of the problem by the DTM

We apply the DTM to equation (1.1), the resulting transformed version of equation (1.1) is

$$\begin{aligned} (h + 1)U(k, h + 1) &= -2\frac{(k+2)!}{k!}U(k + 2, h) + \sigma\frac{(k+3)!}{k!}U(k + 3, h) - \frac{(k+4)!}{k!}U(k + 4, h) \\ &+ \alpha U(k, h) + \beta \sum_{r=0}^k \sum_{s=0}^h U(r, h - s)U(k - r, s) \\ &- \gamma \sum_{r=0}^k \sum_{s=0}^{k-r} \sum_{q=0}^h \sum_{p=0}^{h-q} U(r, h - q - p)U(s, q)U(k - r - s, p). \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

From the boundary conditions given by (1.2), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
U(k, 0) &= \frac{1}{k!} u_0^{(k)}(0), \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\
U(0, h) &= 0, \quad h = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\
U(2, h) &= 0, \quad h = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\
\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} U(k, h) l^k &= 0, \quad h = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\
\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(k+2)!}{k!} U(k+2, h) l^k &= 0, \quad h = 0, 1, 2, \dots
\end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

In real applications, the function  $u(x, t)$  is given by a finite series of equations (3.1) and (3.2) can be written as follows

$$u(x, t) \approx \tilde{u}(x, t) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-2h} \sum_{h=0}^m U(k, h) x^k t^h,$$

where the value of the parameter  $m$  should not be greater than  $\frac{n}{2}$ .

By using equations (3.1) and (3.2), the corresponding  $U(k, h)$  can be calculated for arbitrary different selections of  $n$  and  $m$ . In real applications, we seek obtain an excellent approximate solution of the differential equation. Therefore the selection  $n$  and  $m$  i.e. iterations continue until the absolute value of the error function defined as follows

$$E_{DTM}(x, t) = |\tilde{u}_t + 2\tilde{u}_{xx} - \sigma\tilde{u}_{xxx} + \tilde{u}_{xxxx} - \alpha\tilde{u} - \beta\tilde{u}^2 + \gamma\tilde{u}^3|, \tag{3.3}$$

becomes very small for each  $x, t$  in the domain, in other words  $|E_{DTM}(x, t)| < tolerance$  for all  $x \in [0, l], t \in [0, t^*]$ .

Then the corresponding  $U(k, h)$  can be obtained as follows

$$\begin{aligned}
U(0, 0) &= u_0(0), U(1, 0) = u_0'(0), \dots, U(n, 0) = \frac{1}{n!} u_0^{(n)}(0), \dots, \\
U(0, 0) &= 0, U(0, 1) = 0, \dots, U(0, m) = 0, \dots, \\
U(2, 0) &= 0, U(2, 1) = 0, \dots, U(2, m) = 0, \dots
\end{aligned}$$

If  $h = 0$ , then from (3.1) for  $k = 1$  and  $k = 3, \dots, n - 4$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
U(k, 1) &= -2 \frac{(k+2)!}{k!} U(k+2, 0) + \sigma \frac{(k+3)!}{k!} U(k+3, 0) - \frac{(k+4)!}{k!} U(k+4, 0) \\
&\quad + \alpha U(k, 0) + \beta \sum_{r=0}^k U(r, 0) U(k-r, 0) \\
&\quad - \gamma \sum_{r=0}^k \sum_{s=0}^{k-r} U(r, 0) U(s, 0) U(k-r-s, 0),
\end{aligned}$$

and by the final two relations of (3.2) also can obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
U(n-3, 1) &= \frac{1}{l^{(n-3)}} \sum_{k=0}^{n-4} l^k U(k, 1), \\
U(n-2, 1) &= \frac{1}{(n-3)(n-2)l^{(n-4)}} \sum_{k=0}^{n-5} (k+1)(k+2) l^k U(k+2, 1).
\end{aligned}$$

If  $h = 1$ , then for  $k = 1$  and  $k = 3, \dots, n - 6$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
U(k, 2) &= \frac{1}{2} \left( -2 \frac{(k+2)!}{k!} U(k+2, 1) + \sigma \frac{(k+3)!}{k!} U(k+3, 1) - \frac{(k+4)!}{k!} U(k+4, 1) \right) \\
&\quad + \alpha U(k, 1) + \beta \sum_{r=0}^k \sum_{s=0}^1 U(r, 1-s) U(k-r, s) \\
&\quad - \gamma \sum_{r=0}^k \sum_{s=0}^{k-r} \sum_{q=0}^1 \sum_{p=0}^{1-q} U(r, 1-q-p) U(s, q) U(k-r-s, p),
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$U(n-5, 2) = \frac{1}{l^{(n-5)}} \sum_{k=0}^{n-6} l^k U(k, 2),$$

$$U(n-4, 2) = \frac{1}{(n-5)(n-4)l^{(n-6)}} \sum_{k=0}^{n-7} (k+1)(k+2)l^k U(k+2, 2).$$

If  $h = 2$ , then for  $k = 1$  and  $k = 3, \dots, n-8$  we have

$$U(k, 3) = \frac{1}{3} \left( -2 \frac{(k+2)!}{k!} U(k+2, 2) + \sigma \frac{(k+3)!}{k!} U(k+3, 2) - \frac{(k+4)!}{k!} U(k+4, 2) \right. \\ \left. + \alpha U(k, 2) + \beta \sum_{r=0}^k \sum_{s=0}^2 U(r, 2-s) U(k-r, s) \right. \\ \left. - \gamma \sum_{r=0}^k \sum_{s=0}^{k-r} \sum_{q=0}^2 \sum_{p=0}^{2-q} U(r, 2-q-p) U(s, q) U(k-r-s, p) \right),$$

and

$$U(n-7, 3) = \frac{1}{l^{(n-7)}} \sum_{k=0}^{n-8} l^k U(k, 3),$$

$$U(n-6, 3) = \frac{1}{(n-7)(n-6)l^{(n-8)}} \sum_{k=0}^{n-9} (k+1)(k+2)l^k U(k+2, 3).$$

By using the recursive scheme of equation (3.1) and conditions (3.2), the rest values of  $U(k, h)$  can be obtained.

### 3.2 Solution of the problem by the RDTM

To solve equation (1.1) by the RDTM, we consider differential transformation of Table 2 and have

$$(h+1)U_{h+1}(x) = -2U_h''(x) + \sigma U_h^{(3)}(x) - U_h^{(4)}(x) + \alpha U_h(x) + \\ \beta \sum_{r=0}^h U_r(x) U_{h-r}(x) - \gamma \sum_{r=0}^h \sum_{s=0}^{h-r} U_r(x) U_s(x) U_{h-r}(x). \quad (3.4)$$

We can obtain the initial and boundary conditions as follows

$$U_0(x) = u_0(x), \\ U_h(0) = 0, \quad h = 0, 1, \dots \\ U_h(l) = 0, \quad h = 0, 1, \dots \\ U_h''(0) = 0, \quad h = 0, 1, \dots \\ U_h''(l) = 0, \quad h = 0, 1, \dots \quad (3.5)$$

By substituting (3.5) into (3.4) and by a straight forward iterative calculations, we obtain the all required values of  $U_h(x)$ . Therefore, the inverse transformation of the set of values  $\{U_h(x)\}_{h=0}^m$  gives the approximate solution as

$$u(x, t) \approx \hat{u}(x, t) = \sum_{h=0}^m U_h(x) t^h.$$

Similarly to the previous case, let us consider the error functional for approximate solution

$$E_{RDTM}(x, t) = |\hat{u}_t + 2\hat{u}_{xx} - \sigma\hat{u}_{xxx} + \hat{u}_{xxxx} - \alpha\hat{u} - \beta\hat{u}^2 + \gamma\hat{u}^3|, \quad (3.6)$$

and the iterations continue until  $|E_{RDTM}(x, t)| < tolerance$  for all  $x \in [0, l]$ ,  $t \in [0, t^*]$ .

## 4 Numerical results and discussion

The convergence of the proposed methods will depend on  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \sigma, l$  and on the number of terms employed in a series approximation. These methods consist in building a sequence of numerical approximations of  $u(x, t)$  via the generated sequence. To find the solution of equation (1.1), an error analysis is performed. Here,  $E_{DTM}(x, t)$  and  $E_{RDTM}(x, t)$  show the error functions of the proposed method for fixed  $n, m, \alpha, \beta, \gamma, \sigma$  and  $l$ .

To see the effects of the parameters on the solutions, we fix  $u_0(x) = \frac{1}{10} \sin(\frac{\pi x}{7})$  and  $l = 10$ , consider solutions  $u(x, t)$  for various values of parameters. To avoid a three-dimensional plot, we plot two-dimensional cross sections. The qualitative properties of such solutions are displayed in figures 1, 3 and 5. A comparison of the figures allows one to see the influence of the parameters on the solution profiles.

A clear conclusion from the numerical results is that the DTM and RDTM provide highly accurate numerical solutions without the need for spatial discretizations in solving the Swift-Hohenberg equation.

Because of memory problem, we only increase the number of iterations until we achieve that the modulus of the error function is less than 0.05 (tolerance). The results show that in the memory problem and boundary conditions the DTM acts better than the RDTM, and in the number of iterations and careful of solutions the RDTM is better than the DTM.

Here, we take different values of the parameters to compare the results of DTM and RDTM in the form of two dimensional figures for each case, we would see that DTM and RDTM solutions are in excellent agreement.

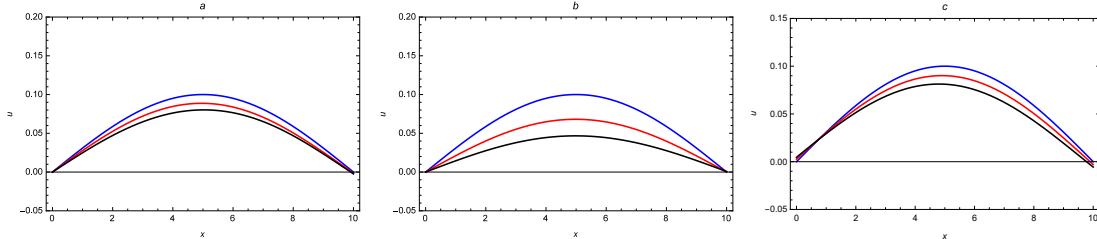


Fig. 1: (a) Profiles of  $u(x, t)$  versus  $x$  at  $\alpha = -0.3, \sigma = -1, \beta = 0.1$  and  $\gamma = 0.2$  for  $t = 0$  (*Upper*),  $2$  (*Middle*),  $4$  (*Lower*) with  $n = 15$  and  $m = 4$  by DTM. (b) Profiles of  $u(x, t)$  versus  $x$  at  $\alpha = -0.95, \sigma = -1, \beta = 0.1$  and  $\gamma = 0.2$  for  $t = 0$  (*Upper*),  $2$  (*Middle*),  $4$  (*Lower*) with  $n = 20$  and  $m = 5$  by DTM. (c) Profiles of  $u(x, t)$  versus  $x$  at  $\alpha = -0.3, \sigma = -1, \beta = 0.1$  and  $\gamma = 0.2$  for  $t = 0$  (*Upper*),  $1$  (*Middle*),  $2$  (*Lower*) with  $m = 4$  by RDTM.

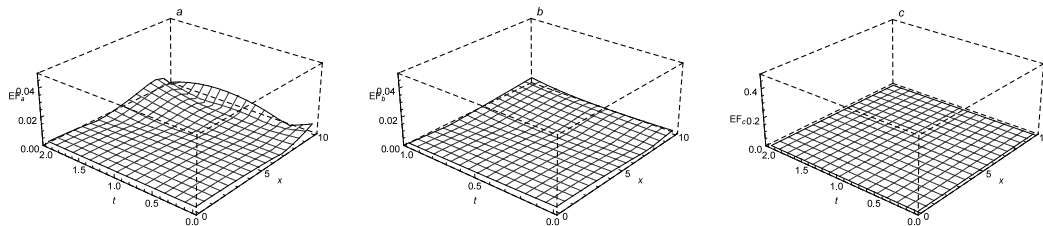


Fig. 2: (a) Profiles of  $E_{DTM}(x, t)$  for Fig.1 (a). (b) Profiles of  $E_{DTM}(x, t)$  for Fig. 1 (b). (c) Profiles of  $E_{RDTM}(x, t)$  for Fig. 1 (c).

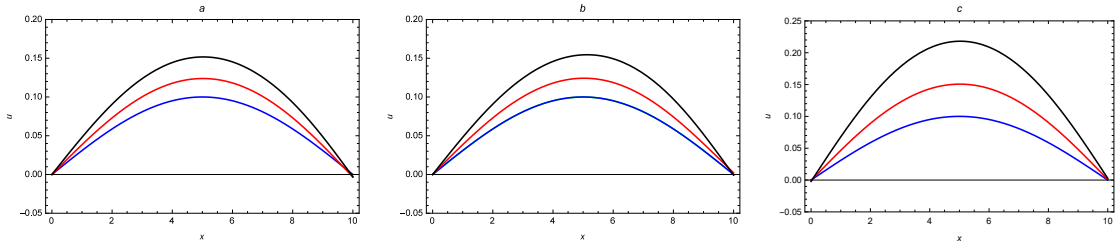


Fig. 3: (a) Profiles of  $u(x, t)$  versus  $x$  at  $\alpha = 0.25, \sigma = 0.2, \beta = -0.04$  and  $\gamma = 1.1$  for  $t = 0$  (Lower), 2 (Middle), 4 (Upper) with  $n = 14$  and  $m = 6$  by DTM. (b) Profiles of  $u(x, t)$  versus  $x$  at  $\alpha = 0.25, \sigma = -0.15, \beta = -0.04$  and  $\gamma = 1.1$  for  $t = 0$  (Lower), 2 (Middle), 4 (Upper) with  $n = 15$  and  $m = 6$  by DTM. (c) Profiles of  $u(x, t)$  versus  $x$  at  $\alpha = 0.25, \sigma = 0.2, \beta = -0.04$  and  $\gamma = 1.1$  for  $t = 0$  (Lower), 1 (Middle), 2 (Upper) with  $m = 3$  by RDTM.

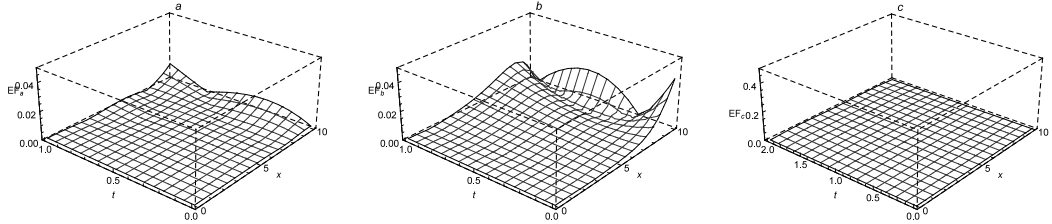


Fig. 4: (a) Profiles of  $E_{DTM}(x, t)$  for Fig. 3 (a). (b) Profiles of  $E_{DTM}(x, t)$  for Fig. 3 (b). (c) Profiles of  $E_{RDTM}(x, t)$  for Fig. 3 (c).

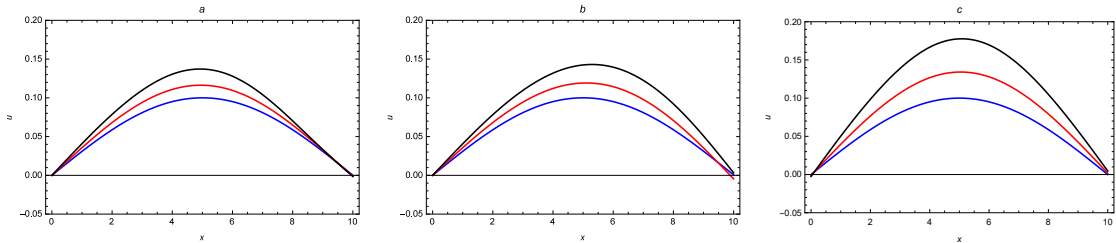


Fig. 5: (a) Profiles of  $u(x, t)$  versus  $x$  at  $\alpha = 0.1, \sigma = 0.4, \beta = 0.1$  and  $\gamma = -2.3$  for  $t = 0$  (Lower), 2 (Middle), 4 (Upper) with  $n = 16$  and  $m = 6$  by DTM. (b) Profiles of  $u(x, t)$  versus  $x$  at  $\alpha = 0.1, \sigma = 0.4, \beta = -0.16$  and  $\gamma = -2.3$  for  $t = 0$  (Lower), 2 (Middle), 4 (Upper) with  $n = 16$  and  $m = 6$  by DTM. (c) Profiles of  $u(x, t)$  versus  $x$  at  $\alpha = 0.1, \sigma = 0.4, \beta = -0.16$  and  $\gamma = -2.3$  for  $t = 0$  (Lower), 1 (Middle), 2 (Upper) with  $m = 3$  by RDTM.

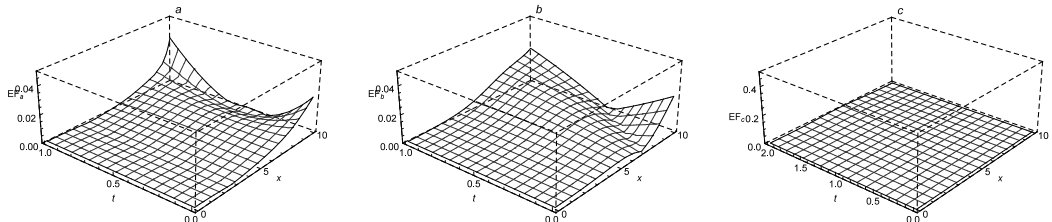


Fig. 6: (a) Profiles of  $E_{DTM}(x, t)$  for Fig. 5 (a). (b) Profiles of  $E_{DTM}(x, t)$  for Fig. 5 (b). (c) Profiles of  $E_{RDTM}(x, t)$  for Fig. 5 (c).

## 5 Conclusion

Application of the DTM and RDTM to the Swift-Hohenberg equation with dispersion have been presented. The results show that the DTM and RDTM are powerful and efficient methods for finding analytic approximate solutions to the Swift-Hohenberg equation. Also, not many iterations are required to achieve fairly accurate solutions of the equation by the DTM and RDTM.

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Hamid Rouhparvar  
Department of Mathematics  
College of Technical and Engineering  
Saveh Branch, Islamic Azad University  
Saveh, Iran  
E-mail: rouhparvar59@gmail.com

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