



Optimal Control Problem of a Non-integer Order Waterborne Pathogen Model in Case of Environmental Stressors

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In this work, we extend a mathematical model, which has been proposed for susceptible and infected compartments together with pathogen population, by including recovered subgroup. It is known that environmental pollution, such as contaminated drinking water and lack of an ordinary toilet, affects individuals and such negative impacts can be defined as “stressors.” In order to include the influence of such stressors, susceptible subpopulation has been divided into two groups as the one affected by stress or not. Thus, spread of the disease is expressed in terms of a five-dimensional system. Moreover, we extend this model with the use of a time fractional derivative due to non-local effects of water pollution and we prove that the solution is non-negative and bounded from above. Then, we perform stability analysis for the disease-free equilibrium point. Afterward, the next step is to apply optimal control theory to optimize the decay rate of pathogens and the stress related parameters so that the number of infected individuals and the pathogen population can be minimized. Finally, we present some numerical results to find out the most appropriate control policy and the effect of the fractional order.

Keywords: optimal control, waterborne pathogen model, stability, stress, time fractional derivative
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1. INTRODUCTION

Water is one of the most required natural resources for life and it is not only vital for drinking but also needed for other daily uses. Every individual deserves safe water; but, unfortunately it has been estimated that at least 2 billion people have to use contaminated drinking water [1]. According to “Water for health: taking charge” report of WHO, about 3.4 million people died due to water related illnesses [2]. Specifically, almost 6,000 children die every day due to lack of clean water and hygienic conditions [3]. On the other hand, 35% of health care facilities in low and middle-income countries do not have water and soap, and half of the world’s population is predicted to live in water-stressed zones by 2025 [3].

Mathematical models offer new ways to investigate the population dynamics in case of pollution related diseases. With the use of such models, strategic decisions can be tested beforehand, and we can reduce cost and save time. For example, in 2003, influence of stress to spread of infectious diseases is investigated [4]. In 2010, a SIR model is extended by including the pathogen population and, person–person and person–water–person interactions are modeled. On the other hand, spread of cholera due to unclean water is discussed for a delayed differential equation (DE) together with stability analysis [5]. The effect of heterogeneity by neglecting person-to-person transmission is

studied [6]. On the other hand, the spread of virus/worm in computer networks have been modeled with DEs and optimal attack strategies have been decided [7] and the result can be useful to set network security protocols up. Another model including the influence of socioeconomic classes is constructed for multi patches [8]. As a different way to model waterborne diseases, networks are incorporated to express both indirect environment-to-human and direct human-to-human transmission routes [9]. As a two-dimensional model, we can mention the study on a system of reaction-diffusion equations published in 2018 [10].

Fractional differentiation and integration operators can be defined as the generalizations of their integer counterparts, where we use the fractional order to replace with the integer order [11–13]. A review including a systematic classification and applications can be found in the studies [14, 15]. Indeed, the integer-order model is a special case of the generalized fractional order model where the solution of the fractional order model must converge to the solution of the integer order model as the order approaches one. On the other hand, fractional DEs are suitable to express the real world phenomena which are influenced by hereditary and memory properties that cannot be expressed with integer order models [16]. Some application areas can be noted as physics [17], viscoelasticity [18], control systems [19], economics [20], finance [21], biology [22, 23], and bioengineering [24]. Specifically, anomalous dispersion is modeled with Riemann–Liouville derivative in space [25]. A pn semiconductor diode is described under sinusoidal operational conditions with the use of fractional calculus and some experimental results are compared with the model [26]. Viscoelastic materials are modeled with a variable order DE [27] and Caputo–Fabrizio derivative [28]. Three different fractional operators are used to investigate the properties of blood ethanol concentration [29]. Coexistence of tuberculosis and diabetes mellitus has been examined [30], while a honeybee population growth model is presented [31]. On the other hand, the construction of diffusion equation is obtained with the Atangana–Baleanu fractional integral [32]. Existence and uniqueness of Caputo time fractional Navier–Stokes equation is proven [33], whereas flow characteristics of gas and oil are discussed for a heterogeneous media [34].

For some real world phenomena, data is available and it is quite straightforward to test contribution of fractional derivative. For example, Diethelm has compared the numerical solution of the integer order and fractional order models with the data and he has revealed that the fractional order model fits the data better [35]. Then, this study has been extended with the use of other fractional derivatives [36]. As another epidemic disease, namely Ebola, has been modeled with a Caputo fractional derivative and the numerical results agree well with the data [37]. On the other hand, economic growth of the Group of Seven (G7) in 1973–2016 period has been modeled with fractional order derivative and it has been underlined by comparison with the data that the fractional model gives better results than the integer order model due to memory effect [38]. In addition, the data of varicella disease outbreak in Shenzhen city of China in 2015 has been used to compare the numerical solution of the fractional order

model and success of the fractional derivatives in modeling such epidemiological phenomena has been exemplified [29].

The topic of fractional optimal control problems (FOCPs) has started to gain interest. The number of studies on FOCPs is quite less when compared to the studies on the fractional DEs; but, it has been an emerging research field for a while. For example, we suggest the studies on optimization of biological reactive systems [39, 40], where construction of a model and derivation of its numerical solution have been discussed. Furthermore, we can mention some studies on tumor dynamics [41], trajectory tracking [42], fractional–order sliding mode controller [43], virus infection [44], an HIV/AIDS epidemic model [45], dynamics of Human African trypanosomiasis [46], the light tracking systems [47], and human respiratory syncytial virus infection [44].

In 2019, transmission of waterborne diseases is expressed for susceptible compartment, susceptible stressed compartment and infected compartment with the inclusion of pathogen population and stress related negative effects [48]. Motivated by this recent work, a new non-integer order model is constructed with the addition of recovered subgroup in this current study. For the new model, we prove that the solution is non-negative and bounded from above. Then, local stability of the disease free equilibrium point has been analyzed with the use of the reproduction number. On account of unfortunate facts reported by WHO [1, 3], it is inevitable to figure some strategies out to stop any harm of water pollution. Thus, we apply optimal control theory to decide the optimal intervention strategies to minimize the number of infected individuals and to reduce the pathogen population. We believe that this study can be a nice start to optimize stress related models to found healthier generations of all creatures. The rest of this study is organized as follows: In section 2, we construct a non-integer order model with constant controls. Then, we prove that the solution is bounded and we present stability analysis for the disease free equilibrium point. In section 3, we construct an OCP and we derive the optimality conditions. Section 4 is devoted to some illustrative examples for testing purposes. Then, we conclude the study.

2. MODEL FORMULATION

In this section, we derive a non-integer order waterborne pathogen model which is an extended version of the one in the study [48] with the inclusion of recovered compartment. Environmental pollution is created in several years due to accumulated causes. Here, we use time fractional derivative to express temporal change both in the host and pathogen population.

We define the (left) generalized derivative with Caputo fractional derivative for $t > a$ as Podlubny [12]

$${}_a\mathcal{D}_t^q g(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-q)} \int_a^t \frac{g'(s)}{(t-s)^q} ds, & 0 < q < 1, \\ g'(t), & q = 1, \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

where the Gamma function $\Gamma : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is defined as $\Gamma(t) = \int_0^\infty e^{-u} u^{t-1} du$. The corresponding right differentiation operator

is defined as

$${}_t\mathcal{D}_b^q g(t) = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{\Gamma(1-q)} \int_t^b \frac{g'(s)}{(s-t)^q} ds, & 0 < q < 1, \\ -g'(t), & q = 1. \end{cases} \quad (2.2)$$

We mention the generalized right Riemann-Liouville (RL) derivative as

$${}^R\mathcal{D}_{t_f}^q g(t) = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{\Gamma(1-q)} \frac{d}{dt} \int_t^{t_f} \frac{g(s)}{(s-t)^q} ds, & 0 < q < 1, \\ -g'(t), & q = 1. \end{cases} \quad (2.3)$$

Before presenting the model, we note a relation between the generalized Caputo and RL derivatives as

$${}^R\mathcal{D}_{t_f}^q g(t) = {}_t\mathcal{D}_{t_f}^q g(t) + \frac{g(t_f)}{\Gamma(1-q)} (t_f - t)^{-q}. \quad (2.4)$$

The model is constructed by dividing the total population $N(t)$ into four compartments, namely, susceptible population $S_1(t)$, susceptible population influenced by environmental stressors $S_2(t)$, infected population $I(t)$, and recovered population $R(t)$. To discuss the contribution of pollution to infection, pathogen pollution (Cells/liter) is included and it is denoted by $P(t)$. The birth rate of susceptible individuals is fixed as Λ . A proportion $(1 - p)$ of newborns joins S_1 class, whereas the rest contributes to S_2 class. Due to stressors, susceptible individuals enter stressors group at a rate of θ . The natural mortality rate and disease induced death rate are given by μ and α , respectively. Infectious individuals join recovered subgroup at a rate of ϕ . People are recovered at a rate of γ and a proportion r of them enters into susceptible class, while the rest joins stressors compartment. On the other hand, the disease is transmitted at a rate of β and transmission is affected due to stress related parameters, namely level of pollution affecting transmission ω and effect of pollution ρ . Moreover, the pathogen population grows at a rate of ξ and it decays at a rate of η . In **Table 1**, we present the description, units and values of the parameters.

TABLE 1 | Parameter values.

Parameter	Description	Units	Value
Λ	Recruitment rate	Person day ⁻¹	50 (Assumed)
ρ	Proportion entering the stress class	None	0.4 [48]
θ	Progression rate from X_1 class to X_2 class	day ⁻¹	0.04 [48]
β	Disease transmission rate	cells ⁻¹ day ⁻¹	0.0002 [48]
γ	Recovery rate	day ⁻¹	0.04 [48]
ϕ	Treatment rate	day ⁻¹	0.0793 [6]
α	Disease induced mortality	day ⁻¹	0.03 [48]
μ	Natural mortality rate	day ⁻¹	0.02 [48]
r	Proportion of recovered individuals	None	0.6 [48]
ρ	Effect of pollution on β	None	0.1 [48]
ω	Level of pollution affecting β	None	0.3 [48]
ξ	Growth rate of pathogens	cells L-per day	0.8 [48]
η	Decay rate of pathogens	day ⁻¹	1.5 (Assumed)

Then, we reach the following model:

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q S_1(t) = (1 - p)\Lambda^q - \theta^q S_1(t) - \beta^q S_1(t)P(t) - \mu^q S_1(t) + r\gamma^q R(t), \quad (2.5a)$$

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q S_2(t) = p\Lambda^q + \theta^q S_1(t) - \beta^q(1 + \omega\rho(1 - u_1))S_2(t)P(t) - \mu^q S_2(t) + (1 - r)\gamma^q R(t), \quad (2.5b)$$

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q I(t) = \beta^q S_1(t)P(t) + \beta^q(1 + \omega\rho(1 - u_1))S_2(t)P(t) - (\phi^q + \alpha^q + \mu^q)I(t), \quad (2.5c)$$

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q R(t) = \phi^q I(t) - (\gamma^q + \mu^q)R(t), \quad (2.5d)$$

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q P(t) = \xi^q I(t) - \eta^q(1 + u_2)P(t), \quad (2.5e)$$

$$S_1(0) = S_{1,0}, S_2(0) = S_{2,0}, I(0) = I_0, R(0) = R_0, P(0) = P_0,$$

where u_1 and u_2 stand for the fixed control terms. We note that the model is expressed for a generalized derivative. Indeed, it is possible to investigate the model for both classical and fractional order derivative. The reason of using fractional derivative is its success in a good fit to available data as discussed in the literature.

Remark 2.1. We note that it is possible to obtain analytical solution of some epidemiological model (such as SIS models) via a Lie algebra methodology. Due to lack of symmetry in more complicated models, this method is not widely used in biological or social systems. For the readers interested in this technique, we can suggest some studies as Shang [49, 50].

2.1. Basic Properties

To prove the non-negative solution of the model, we need the generalized mean value theorem and the corollary.

Lemma 2.2. Odibat and Shawagfeh [51] *Let $g(x) \in C[a, b]$ and ${}_a^C\mathcal{D}_t^q g(t) \in C(a, b]$ for $0 < q \leq 1$. Then, for $a \leq s \leq b$ and $\forall x \in (a, b]$, the following estimate holds:*

$$g(x) = g(a) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(q)} ({}_a^C\mathcal{D}_t^q g)(s)(x - a)^q. \quad (2.6)$$

Corollary 2.3. *Let $g(x) \in C[a, b]$ and ${}_a^C\mathcal{D}_t^q g(t) \in C(a, b]$ for $0 < q \leq 1$. If ${}_a^C\mathcal{D}_t^q g(t)$ is non-negative $\forall x \in (a, b)$, then $g(x)$ is non-decreasing for each $x \in [a, b]$. If ${}_a^C\mathcal{D}_t^q g(t)$ is non-positive $\forall x \in (a, b)$, then $g(x)$ is non-increasing for each $x \in [a, b]$.*

To show that the solution is bounded from above, we use the Laplace transform. The Laplace transform of the (left) Caputo derivative is obtained as

$$\mathcal{L}\{{}_a^C\mathcal{D}_t^q g(t)\} = s^q G(s) - g(0)s^{q-1}. \quad (2.7)$$

Moreover, the Laplace transform of the Mittag-Leffler function is given by

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^{p-1}E_{q,p}(-at^q)\} = \frac{s^{q-p}}{s^q + a}, \quad (2.8)$$

where $E_{q,p}(z) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^i}{\Gamma(qi+p)}$ and $E_{q,p}(z) = zE_{q,q+p}(z) + \frac{1}{\Gamma(p)}$.

Theorem 2.4. Let $\mathcal{X}(t) = (S_1(t), S_2(t), I(t), R(t), P(t))$ be the unique solution of the model (2.5) for $t \geq 0$. Then, the solution $\mathcal{X}(t)$ remains in \mathbb{R}_+^5 .

Proof: By the study [52, Thm. 3.1, Remark 3.2], the solution to the model (2.5) is unique for $t > 0$. On the other hand, we observe that

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q S_1|_{S_1=0} = (1 - p)\Lambda^q + r\gamma^q R(t) \geq 0 \tag{2.9a}$$

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q S_2|_{S_2=0} = p\Lambda^q + \theta^q S_1(t) + (1 - r)\gamma^q R(t) \geq 0, \tag{2.9b}$$

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q I|_{I=0} = \beta^q S_1(t)P(t) + \beta^q(1 + \omega\rho(1 - u_1))S_2(t)P(t) \geq 0, \tag{2.9c}$$

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q R|_{R=0} = \phi^q I(t) \geq 0, \tag{2.9d}$$

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q P|_{P=0} = \xi^q I(t) \geq 0. \tag{2.9e}$$

It means that the vector field points to \mathbb{R}_+^5 and the solution lies in \mathbb{R}_+^5 for a non-negative initial condition [51]. \square

Theorem 2.5. Let $\mathcal{X}(t) = (S_1(t), S_2(t), I(t), R(t), P(t))$ be the solution of the model (2.5) for $t > 0$. Then, the solution $\mathcal{X}(t)$ is bounded from above.

Proof: We add the Equations (2.5a)-(2.5d) to reach

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q N(t) = \Lambda^q - \mu^q N(t) - \alpha^q I(t) \leq \Lambda^q - \mu^q N(t). \tag{2.10}$$

Using the Laplace transform (2.7), we obtain

$$s^q \mathcal{L}(N(t)) - s^{q-1} N(0) \leq \frac{\Lambda^q}{s} - \mu^q \mathcal{L}(N(t)). \tag{2.11}$$

Arranging, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(N(t)) &\leq \Lambda^q \frac{s^{-1}}{s^q + \mu^q} + N(0) \frac{s^{q-1}}{s^q + \mu^q} = \Lambda^q \frac{s^{q-(1+q)}}{s^q + \mu^q} \\ &+ N(0) \frac{s^{q-1}}{s^q + \mu^q}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.12}$$

Applying inverse Laplace transform to (2.12), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} N(t) &\leq \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \Lambda^q \frac{s^{q-(1+q)}}{s^q + \mu^q} \right\} + \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ N(0) \frac{s^{q-1}}{s^q + \mu^q} \right\} \\ &\stackrel{(2.8)}{\leq} \underbrace{\Lambda^q t^q E_{q,q+1}(-\mu t^q)}_{(2.8)} + N(0) E_{q,1}(-\mu t^q) \\ &\leq \frac{\Lambda^q}{\mu^q} \mu^q t^q E_{q,q+1}(-\mu t^q) + N(0) E_{q,1}(-\mu t^q) \\ &\leq \max \left\{ \frac{\Lambda^q}{\mu^q}, N(0) \right\} (\mu^q t^q E_{q,q+1}(-\mu t^q) + E_{q,1}(-\mu t^q)) \\ &= \frac{C}{\Gamma(1)} = C, \end{aligned} \tag{2.13}$$

where $C = \max \left\{ \frac{\Lambda^q}{\mu^q}, N(0) \right\}$. Thus, $N(t)$ is bounded from above which means that the solutions $S_1(t)$, $S_2(t)$, $I(t)$ and $R(t)$ are bounded from above.

We proceed with the equation for pathogen population (2.5e), which is written as

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q P(t) = \xi^q I(t) - \eta^q(1 + u_2)P(t) \stackrel{(2.13)}{\leq} \xi^q C - \eta^q P(t). \tag{2.14}$$

Then, the similar technique is applied to show that the pathogen pollution $P(t)$ is bounded from above. \square

2.2. Stability Analysis of the Disease Free Equilibrium Point

The disease free equilibrium (DFE) point $\mathcal{E}^0 = (S_1^0, S_2^0, 0, 0, 0)$ is obtained by equating the right-hand side of the Equations (2.5a)-(2.5b) to zero. Then, we obtain

$$S_1^0 = \frac{(1 - p)\Lambda}{\theta + \mu}, \quad S_2^0 = \frac{\Lambda(p\mu + \theta)}{\mu(\theta + \mu)}. \tag{2.15}$$

To discuss the local stability of the DFE point \mathcal{E}^0 , we need to obtain the basic reproduction number, namely a parameter measuring the contribution of a single infection to secondary infections [53]. We define the matrices for the new infections and the other terms for the Equations (2.5c)-(2.5e) as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F} &= \begin{pmatrix} \beta S_1 P + \beta^q(1 + \omega\rho(1 - u_1))S_2 P \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ \mathcal{V} &= \begin{pmatrix} (\gamma^q + \alpha^q + \mu^q)I \\ -\xi^q I + \eta^q(1 + u_2)P \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.16}$$

We note that the contribution of the recovered compartment does not appear here, since recovered individuals do not directly join the infected subgroup. Then, partial derivatives of these matrices with respect to I and P are obtained and then they are evaluated at the DFE point to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \beta S_1^0 + \beta^q(1 + \omega\rho)S_2^0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\ V &= \begin{pmatrix} (\gamma^q + \alpha^q + \mu^q) & 0 \\ -\xi^q & \eta^q \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.17}$$

We reach the next generation matrix FV^{-1} and its spectral radius is given by Sharma and Kumari [48]

$$\mathcal{R}_0 = \frac{\xi^q \beta^q \Lambda^q (\mu^q + \theta^q(1 + \omega\rho(1 - u_1))) + (1 - u_1)\omega\rho p \mu^q}{(1 + u_2)\eta^q \mu^q (\theta^q + \mu^q)(\gamma^q + \alpha^q + \mu^q)}. \tag{2.18}$$

We mention a result to derive stability analysis [54].

Lemma 2.6. The DFE point \mathcal{E}^0 is locally asymptotically stable if all eigenvalues λ_i of the linearization matrix of the model (2.5) satisfy $|\arg(\lambda_i)| > q\frac{\pi}{2}$.

Now, we prove the following result for the DFE point.

Theorem 2.7. The DFE point \mathcal{E}^0 of the model (2.5) is locally asymptotically stable if $\mathcal{R}_0 < 1$ and unstable if $\mathcal{R}_0 > 1$.

Proof: The Jacobian matrix associated with the model (2.5) is obtained as

$$J(\mathcal{E}^0) = \begin{pmatrix} -(\theta^q + \mu^q) & 0 & 0 & r\gamma^q & -\beta S_1^0 \\ \theta^q & -\mu^q & 0 & (1-r)\gamma^q & -\beta^q(1+\omega\rho(1-u_1))S_2^0 \\ 0 & 0 & -(\phi^q + \alpha^q + \mu^q) & 0 & \beta^q(1+\omega\rho(1-u_1))S_2^0 \\ 0 & 0 & \phi^q & -(\gamma^q + \mu^q) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \xi^q & 0 & -\eta^q(1+u_2) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2.19)$$

The characteristic equation of this matrix is given by $p(\lambda) = (\lambda + \mu^q)(\lambda + \theta^q + \mu^q)(\lambda + \gamma^q + d^q)f(\lambda)$ and three eigenvalues are found as $-\mu^q$, $-(\theta^q + \mu^q)$ and $-(\gamma^q + \mu^q)$, which satisfy Lemma 2.6. Moreover, the quadratic part is written as $f(\lambda) = \lambda^2 + c_1\lambda + c_0$, where $c_1 = \eta^q(1+u_2) + \phi^q + \alpha^q + \mu^q$, $c_0 = \eta^q(1+u_2)(\phi^q + \alpha^q + \mu^q)(1 - \mathcal{R}_0)$. By Routh-Hurwitz criterion, we check that $c_1 > 0$ and $c_0 > 0$ with $\mathcal{R}_0 < 1$, which shows that the roots of $f(\lambda)$ are negative. Then, we prove the desired result. \square

3. OPTIMAL CONTROL PROBLEM

We investigate some suitable policies to reduce the reproduction number associated with the model. Specifically, we optimize the decay rate of pathogens and the stress related parameters with the aim of minimizing the number of infected individuals and reducing the pathogen population in size with the use of non-constant controls $u_1(t)$ and $u_2(t)$, respectively. Therefore, we determine their optimal values with the following cost functional:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{(u_1, u_2) \in U_{ad}} J(u_1, u_2) &= I(t_f) + P(t_f) \\ &+ \int_0^{t_f} \left(\omega_1 I(t) + \omega_2 P(t) + \frac{\omega_3}{2} u_1^2(t) + \frac{\omega_4}{2} u_2^2(t) \right) dt, \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

subject to the system

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q S_1(t) = (1-p)\Lambda^q - \theta^q S_1(t) - \beta^q S_1(t)P(t) - \mu^q S_1(t) + r\gamma^q R(t), \quad (3.2a)$$

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q S_2(t) = p\Lambda^q + \theta^q S_1(t) - \beta^q(1+\omega\rho(1-u_1(t)))S_2(t)P(t) - \mu^q S_2(t) + (1-r)\gamma^q R(t), \quad (3.2b)$$

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q I(t) = \beta^q S_1(t)P(t) + \beta^q(1+\omega\rho(1-u_1(t)))S_2(t)P(t) - (\phi^q + \alpha^q + \mu^q)I(t), \quad (3.2c)$$

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q R(t) = \phi^q I(t) - (\gamma^q + \mu^q)R(t), \quad (3.2d)$$

$${}_0\mathcal{D}_t^q P(t) = \xi^q I(t) - \eta^q(1+u_2(t))P(t), \quad (3.2e)$$

$$S_1(0) = S_{1,0}, S_2(0) = S_{2,0}, I(0) = I_0, R(0) = R_0, P(0) = P_0,$$

where the admissible space of controls is given by

$$U_{ad} = \{(u_1(t), u_2(t)) \mid (u_1(t), u_2(t)) \text{ is measurable with } 0.05 \leq u_1(t) \leq 0.95, 0 \leq u_2(t) \leq 1 \text{ for all } t \in [0, t_f]\}.$$

Thus, the optimal control $u^*(t) = (u_1^*(t), u_2^*(t)) \in U_{ad}$ is required so that $J(u^*) = \min_{(u_1(t), u_2(t)) \in U_{ad}} J(u_1(t), u_2(t))$ is reached. We observe that $\frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_0}{\partial u_1} < 0$ and $\frac{\partial \mathcal{R}_0}{\partial u_2} < 0$. Then, we can determine the optimal values of u_1 and u_2 to make $\mathcal{R}_0 < 1$.

3.1. Optimality System

We use Pontryagin's maximum principle [55–57] to obtain the necessary optimality conditions where the adjoint (costate)

functions attach the state equation to the cost functional J . Indeed, this technique allows us to express the control in terms of the state and the adjoint functions. Moreover, Pontryagin's maximum principle interprets the constraint minimization problem (3.1)–(3.2) as another minimization problem (Hamiltonian) with respect to the controls. Therefore, we construct the Hamiltonian as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{P}) &= \left(\omega_1 I(t) + \omega_2 P(t) + \frac{\omega_3}{2} u_1^2(t) + \frac{\omega_4}{2} u_2^2(t) \right) \\ &+ \lambda_1^T ((1-p)\Lambda^q - \theta^q S_1(t) - \beta^q S_1(t)P(t) \\ &- \mu^q S_1(t) + r\gamma^q R(t)) \\ &+ \lambda_2^T (p\Lambda^q + \theta^q S_1(t) - \beta^q(1+\omega\rho(1-u_1))S_2(t)P(t) \\ &- \mu^q S_2(t) + (1-r)\gamma^q R(t)) \\ &+ \lambda_3^T (\beta^q S_1(t)P(t) + \beta^q(1+\omega\rho(1-u_1))S_2(t)P(t) \\ &- (\phi^q + \alpha^q + \mu^q)I(t)) \\ &+ \lambda_4^T (\phi^q I(t) - (\gamma^q + \mu^q)R(t)) \\ &+ \lambda_5^T (\xi^q I(t) - \eta^q(1+u_2)P(t)), \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

where $\lambda_i(t)$'s denote the adjoint variables associated with their corresponding states. The first part of the Hamiltonian \mathcal{H} is related to the integrand in (3.1) and its second part is constructed by multiplying each adjoint function $\lambda_i(t)$'s with the corresponding right-hand side of the model (3.2). Then, Pontryagin's maximum principle leads to the following optimality system.

Theorem 3.1. *Given an optimal control $u^*(t) = (u_1^*(t), u_2^*(t)) \in U_{ad}$ and the state solution $\mathcal{X}^*(t) = (S_1^*(t), S_2^*(t), I^*(t), R^*(t), P^*(t))$ corresponding to (3.2) that minimize $J(u_1, u_2)$ in (3.1), there exists adjoint variable $\mathcal{P}(t) = (\lambda_1(t), \lambda_2(t), \lambda_3(t), \lambda_4(t), \lambda_5(t))$ satisfying*

$${}_t^R \mathcal{D}_{t_f}^q \lambda_1(t) = -(\theta^q + \beta^q P(t) + \mu^q)\lambda_1(t) + r\gamma^q \lambda_4(t) - \beta^q X_1 \lambda_5(t), \quad (3.4a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} {}_t^R \mathcal{D}_{t_f}^q \lambda_2(t) &= \theta^q \lambda_1(t) - (\beta^q(1+\omega\rho(1-u_1(t)))P(t) + \mu^q)\lambda_2(t) \\ &+ (1-r)\gamma^q \lambda_4(t) - \beta^q(1+\omega\rho(1-u_1(t)))X_2(t)\lambda_5(t), \end{aligned} \quad (3.4b)$$

$$\begin{aligned} {}_t^R \mathcal{D}_{t_f}^q \lambda_3(t) &= \beta^q P(t)\lambda_1(t) + \beta^q(1+\omega\rho(1-u_1(t)))P(t)\lambda_2(t) \\ &- (\phi^q + \alpha^q + \mu^q)\lambda_3(t), \\ &+ (\beta^q X_1(t) + \beta^q(1+\omega\rho(1-u_1(t)))X_2(t))\lambda_5(t) + \omega_1, \end{aligned} \quad (3.4c)$$

$${}_t^R \mathcal{D}_{t_f}^q \lambda_4(t) = \phi^q \lambda_3(t) - (\gamma^q + \mu^q)\lambda_4, \quad (3.4d)$$

$${}^R\mathcal{D}_{t_f}^q \lambda_5(t) = \xi^q \lambda_3(t) - \eta^q (1 + u_2(t)) \lambda_5 + \omega_2, \quad (3.4e)$$

with the transversality conditions

$$\lambda_1(t_f) = \lambda_2(t_f) = \lambda_4(t_f) = 0, \quad \lambda_3(t_f) = \lambda_5(t_f) = 1. \quad (3.5)$$

Furthermore, the pair of optimal controls is given by

$$u_1^* = \min \left(\max \left((\lambda_3 - \lambda_2) \frac{\beta^q (1 + \omega \rho) X_2(t) P(t)}{\omega_3}, 0.05 \right), 0.95 \right), \quad (3.6a)$$

$$u_2^* = \min \left(\max \left(\lambda_5 \frac{\eta P(t)}{\omega_4}, 0 \right), 1 \right). \quad (3.6b)$$

Proof: The existence of an optimal control $u^*(t) = (u_1^*(t), u_2^*(t))$ and the associated state solution $\mathcal{X}^*(t) = (S_1^*(t), S_1^{*c}(t), I^*(t), R^*(t), P^*(t))$ comes from the convexity of $J(u_1, u_2)$ with respect to u_i 's and the Lipschitz continuous constraint [58], Theorem 5. 1. On the other hand, differentiation of Hamiltonian \mathcal{H} with respect to the state variable gives the adjoint system (3.4) as

$$\begin{aligned} {}^R\mathcal{D}_{t_f}^q \lambda_1(t) &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial S_1}, & {}^R\mathcal{D}_{t_f}^q \lambda_2(t) &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial S_2}, & {}^R\mathcal{D}_{t_f}^q \lambda_3(t) &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial I}, \\ {}^R\mathcal{D}_{t_f}^q \lambda_4(t) &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial R}, & {}^R\mathcal{D}_{t_f}^q \lambda_5(t) &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial P}, \end{aligned}$$

with $\lambda_1(t_f) = \lambda_2(t_f) = \lambda_4(t_f) = 0, \lambda_3(t_f) = \lambda_5(t_f) = 1$ due to the definition of the cost functional. The optimality conditions is obtained by differentiating Hamiltonian \mathcal{H} with respect to the control variables u_1 and u_2 and then we project the resulting equations onto U_{ad} to reach (3.6). \square

4. NUMERICAL RESULTS

In this section, we present some numerical results to test the contribution of optimal control theory. As the optimization algorithm, forward-backward sweep method is applied [59], Chap. 5 [60] and the OCP is discretized with L1-method with $\Delta t = 0.02$, which is a variant of implicit Euler method [61]. We solve the OCP for 100 days and we choose $\omega_1 = 100$ and $\omega_2 = 1000$, since it is more important to reduce the pathogen pollution, which is the main source of infection, than the number of infected individuals. Moreover, we balance the weight constants ω_3 and ω_4 according to the cost of the corresponding strategy. Here, we assume that the cost of controlling the decay rate of pathogens is higher than the cost of reducing the stress related parameters, since stress acts on a smaller population than pollution (including children). Thus, we fix $\omega_3 < \omega_4$. To guarantee the reduction in $I(t)$ and $P(t)$ at the final time, we add the term $I(t_f) + P(t_f)$ to the cost functional. On the other hand, to optimize the values of the stress related parameters, we set the bounds for $u_1(t)$ as $[0.5, 0.95]$, since neither it is possible to eliminate stress totally nor it is a force acting fully all the time. We set the bounds for $u_2(t)$ as $[0, 1]$ to be more strict. We fix the initial subpopulations as $S_{1,0} = 100, S_{2,0} = 250, I_0 = 50, R_0 = 5$, and $P_0 = 90$, which are taken close to the equilibrium components in (Sec.10,

[48]), section 10, except for R_0 . Here, we set up a scenario where the number of susceptible stressed individuals is greater than the susceptible compartment and the number of recovered individuals is quite small, since our goal is to test the strength of optimal control theory. We discuss two different control strategies and both of them have different costs and contribution. In addition to applying them simultaneously, single control will be tested, too.

With the parameters in **Table 1**, the reproduction number is calculated as

$$\mathcal{R}_0 = \{1.5867, 1.9709, 2.4463, 3.0341\},$$

for $q \in \{0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 1\}$, respectively. As q increases, the disease becomes more endemic. Our goal is to find optimal values of the controls so that $\mathcal{R}_0 < 1$ can be reached.

Before discussing the optimal control strategy, we present the numerical solutions of $I(t)$ and $P(t)$ with $u_1 = u_2 = 0$ in **Figure 1**, which can be called the uncontrolled problem. We observe that $I(t)$ and $P(t)$ increase for $q = \{0.9, 1\}$, while they decrease for $q = \{0.7, 0.8\}$ as time passes. It is quite vital to apply optimal control for $q = \{0.9, 1\}$ to eliminate the spread of the disease. Here, the order q may represent the severity of pollution. As q increases, the pollution becomes more dominant and it leads to a rapid increase in the number of infected people.

We start with the single control $u_1(t)$ and present the results in **Figure 2**. We immediately observe that there is not an obvious difference between the results associated with the uncontrolled problem and the current case. Therefore, trying to decrease the stress related parameters is not a successful action to reduce the number of infected individuals and pathogen population in size, although we apply the full control for almost 100 days.

We proceed with the control $u_2(t)$ and the corresponding figures are depicted in **Figure 3**. The single control $u_2(t)$ is more powerful than the control $u_1(t)$ due to rapid decrease in both $I(t)$ and $P(t)$. Here, we can catch the impact of the fractional order to the choice of the control strategies. As we increase q , control must acts less. The decay rate of pathogen must be controlled strictly almost until the 60th day for $q = 1$. Then, as we decrease the order q , the control must be applied more strictly. Thus, q can be associated with awareness or reception toward some policies to eliminate pollution.

Now, we proceed with the last case, namely the combination of controls $u_1(t)$ and $u_2(t)$. From the **Figure 4**, we observe success of the optimal control. The contribution of $u_1(t)$ is almost the same when we compare the numerical solutions in **Figures 3, 4**. Controlling the stress related parameters has a positive effect on the control of decay rate of pathogen. Due to this contribution, $u_2(t)$ acts fully not until the 60th day. Indeed, it starts to decrease earlier with the impact of the control $u_1(t)$. Moreover, for the model with a lower order of differentiation, $u_1(t)$ and $u_2(t)$ must act more strictly.

We revealed the success of the OCP in the figures above. Now, we examine the results in detail and show some values of the FOCP with respect to the order of differentiation in **Table 2**. We firstly observe that the reduction in the cost functional is the smallest one for $u_1(t)$. For the control $u_2(t)$ and the combined

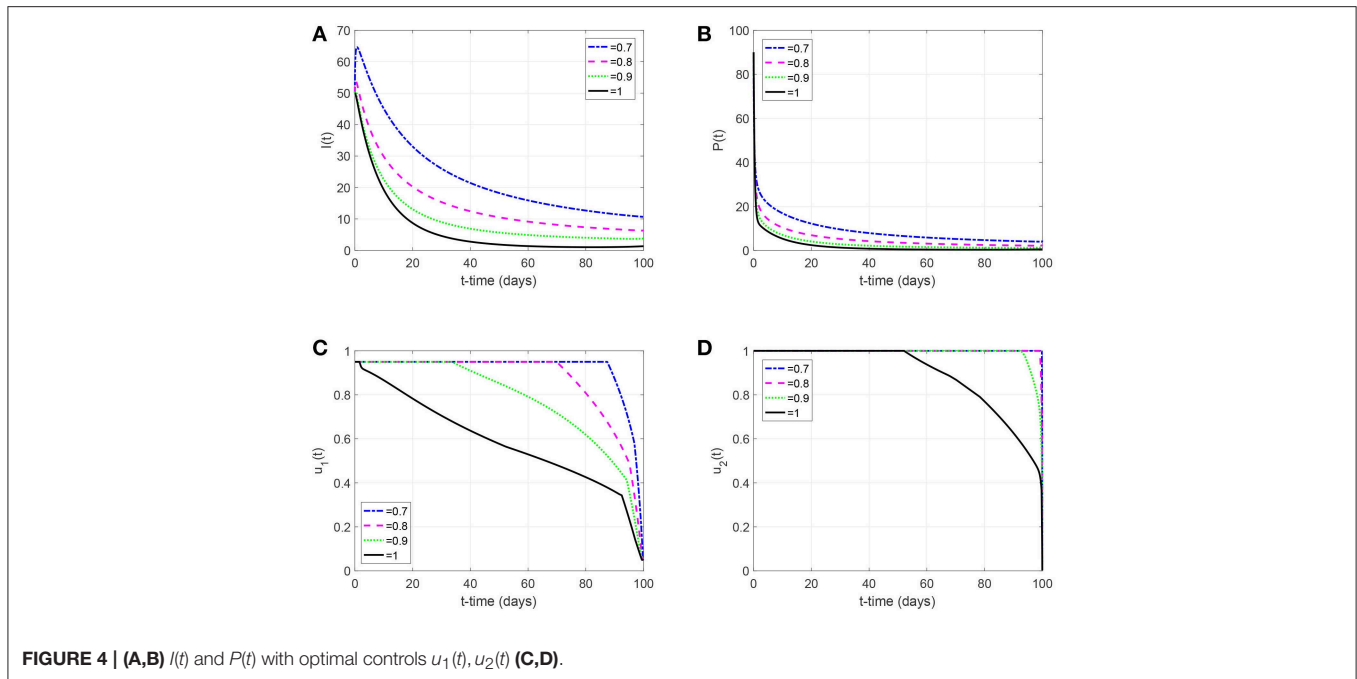


FIGURE 4 | (A,B) $I(t)$ and $P(t)$ with optimal controls $u_1(t), u_2(t)$ (C,D).

TABLE 2 | Values of the cost functional J and reduction in J .

Strategy:	Without control		u_1		u_2		u_1, u_2	
	J	J	Reduction (%)	J	Reduction (%)	J	Reduction (%)	
$q = 0.7$	4.5704e+06	4.4900e+06	1.76	1.2357e+06	72.96	1.2086e+06	73.56	
$q = 0.8$	4.0816e+06	3.9442e+06	3.37	7.4080e+05	81.85	7.2543e+05	82.23	
$q = 0.9$	4.7184e+06	4.4308e+06	6.10	4.6467e+05	90.15	4.5654e+05	90.32	
$q = 1$	8.4056e+06	7.6395e+06	9.11	2.7979e+05	96.67	2.7685e+05	96.71	

hand, control acts fully for shorter time as we increase q . Thus, q can be associated with awareness or reception toward some policies to eliminate pollution. As a future work, comparison of our numerical results with the field data (if available) can be mentioned. Moreover, the use of other types of fractional derivatives can be investigated for a better data fit and for more accurate control policies.

DATA AVAILABILITY

All datasets generated for this study are included in the manuscript and/or the supplementary files.

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

The author confirms being the sole contributor of this work and has approved it for publication.

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