

Legendre Functions Direct Method for Solving Linear Differential Equations

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Abstract: A direct method for solving linear differential equation under initial values using Legendre function is presented. An operational matrix introduce for operator of differential equation and it reduce into a set of algebraic equations. Illustrative examples are included to demonstrate the validity and applicability of the technique.

Key Words: Linear Differential Equation, Operational Matrix, Legendre Function

Introduction

Linear Differential Equations (LDE) have received in dealing with various problems of dynamic systems. An differential equation can not be solved exactly always and there is various numerical methods for solving it. The main characteristic of this technique is that it reduces differential equation to a set of algebraic equations, thus greatly simplifying the problem. The approach is based on converting the LDE into set of algebraic equation by choosing the answer function as the series of

$$\Phi(x) = \{\phi_0(x), \phi_1(x), \phi_2(x), \phi_3(x), \phi_4(x), \phi_5(x), \dots\}$$

and operational matrix L for differential operator L . The elements

$$\phi_0(x), \phi_1(x), \phi_2(x), \phi_3(x), \phi_4(x), \phi_5(x), \dots$$

are the basis function, orthogonal on a certain interval $[a, b]$. This technique is to be used for variational problems by various basis functions, to applications of Walsh Functions (Chen and Hsiao, 1975), block pulse functions (Hwang and Shih, 1985), Laguerre Functions (Hwang and Shih, 1983), Legendre Functions (Chang and Wang, 1983) and (Razzaghi and Yousefi, 2000), Chebyshev Functions (Horng and Chou, 1985) and Fourier series (Razzaghi and Razzaghi, 1988).

In the present paper, we introduce a direct computational method to solve LDE under initial values. This method consists of reducing the LDE into a set of algebraic equations by first expanding the candidate function as Legendre Functions with unknown coefficients. The operational matrix of differentiation of $y(x)$, variable x , numbers and some of other function are given. The Legendre polynomials of order m are orthogonal with respect to the weight function $\omega(x) = 1$ on the interval $[-1, 1]$. Then the differential equation $Ly(x) = 0$ reduce into $L\Phi(x) = 0$, in which L matrix operator of differential operator L and $0 = [0, 0, 0, \dots, 0]^T$ is the column matrix, and finally from solving $L\Phi = 0$, exact solution for LDE obtained.

Properties of Legendre Functions

Legendre functions: Legendre Polynomials is the solutions of DE below

$$(1 - x^2)y''(x) - 2xy'(x) + n(n+1)y(x) = 0 \quad (1)$$

These are a set of orthogonal functions with respect to the weight function $\omega(x) = 1$ on the interval $[-1, 1]$ and satisfy the following recursive formulas (Chen and Hsiao, 1997):

$$xP_n'(x) = \left(\frac{n+1}{2n+1}\right)P_{n+1}'(x) + \left(\frac{n}{2n+1}\right)P_{n-1}'(x), \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (2)$$

$$(1 - x^2)P_n''(x) = nP_{n-1}'(x) - nxP_n'(x)$$

$$P_{n+1}'(x) - P_{n-1}'(x) = (2n+1)P_n(x)$$

Function Approximation: A function $y(x)$ defined over $[-1, 1]$ may be expanded as

$$y(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n P_n(x) \quad (3)$$

where $c_n = \frac{2n+1}{2} \langle y(x), P_n(x) \rangle$, in which $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ denotes the inner product. If the infinite series in (3) is truncated, then (3) can be written as

$$y(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n P_n(x) \quad (4)$$

Matrices Definition

Column Matrices: If we definite C and $P(x)$ as $N \times 1$ matrices below

$$C = [c_0, c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, \dots, c_{N-1}]^T$$

$$P(x) = [P_0(x), P_1(x), P_2(x), P_3(x), P_4(x), \dots, P_{N-1}(x)]^T \quad (5)$$

then (4) can be written as

$$y(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n P_n(x) = C^T \cdot P$$

The numbers and x^m can be defined as

$$1 = [1, 0, 0, 0, 0, \dots, 0, 0] P(x) = 1^T \cdot P \quad (6)$$

$$x = [0, 1, 0, 0, 0, \dots, 0, 0] P(x) = X^T \cdot P$$

$$x^2 = [1/3, 0, 2/3, 0, 0, \dots, 0, 0] P(x) = X^{2T} \cdot P(x)$$

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$$x^{2m} = \left[\frac{(2m)!}{m!(2m+1)!}, 0, \dots, \frac{2^{2m} (4m+1)(2m)(m-n)!}{(2m+2n+1)(m-n)!}, 0, \dots, 0, \frac{2^{N-1} (2N-1)(2m)(m+\frac{N-1}{2})!}{(2m+N)(m-\frac{N-1}{2})!} \right]$$

$$P(x) = X^{2mT} \cdot P(x)$$

$$x^{2m+1} = \left[0, \frac{6(2m+1)(m+1)}{(2m+3)!}, 0, \dots, \frac{2^{2m+1} (4m+3)(2m+1)(m+n+1)!}{(2m+2n+3)(m-n)!}, \dots, \frac{2^{N-1} (2N-1)(2m+1)(m+\frac{N}{2})!}{(2m+1+N)(m-\frac{N-2}{2})!} \right] P$$

$$(x) = X^{2m+1T} \cdot P(x)$$

Where 1, X, ... are $N \times 1$ corresponding operational matrices.

Differentiation Matrix:

$$\left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^m \equiv D^m$$

Differential of the function $y(x)$ defined in (4) can be obtained as

$$\frac{d}{dx} y(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n P'_n(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n$$

$$(P'_{n-2}(x) + (2n-1)P_{n-1}(x))$$

$$= C^T \cdot (U_{2n-1} \cdot I^- + U_{2n-5} \cdot [I^-]^3 + U_{2n-9} \cdot [I^-]^5) \cdot P(x)$$

$$= C^T \cdot D \cdot P(x)$$

where U_{2n-1} and I^- are the $N \times N$ operational matrices that can be defined as

$$I^- = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$U_{2n-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & 0 & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 2n-1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & 0 & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 2N-3 \end{bmatrix}$$

The first row and column of these matrices are $n=0$.

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} y(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n P''_n(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n$$

$$(P'_{n-2}(x) + (2n-1)P_{n-1}(x))$$

$$= C^T \cdot (U_{2n-1} \cdot I^- + U_{2n-5} \cdot [I^-]^3 + U_{2n-9} \cdot [I^-]^5)^2 \cdot P$$

$$= C^T \cdot D^2 \cdot P(x)$$

finally

$$\frac{d^m}{dx^m} y(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n P'_n(x) = \frac{d^{m-1}}{dx^{m-1}} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n$$

$$(P'_{n-2}(x) + (2n-1)P_{n-1}(x))$$

$$= C^T \cdot (U_{2n-1} \cdot I^- + U_{2n-5} \cdot [I^-]^3 + U_{2n-9} \cdot [I^-]^5)^m \cdot P(x)$$

$$= C^T \cdot D^m \cdot P(x)$$

(7)

Matrix: $x^m y \equiv C^T \cdot X^m Y$

The term $xy(x)$ can be definite as

$$xy(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n x P_n(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n$$

$$\left(\frac{n+1}{2n+1} P_{n+1}(x) + \frac{n}{2n+1} P_{n-1}(x) \right)$$

$$= C^T \cdot (U_{\frac{n+1}{2n+1}} \cdot I^+ + U_{\frac{n}{2n+1}} \cdot I^-) \cdot P(x)$$

$$= C^T \cdot XY \cdot P(x)$$

(8)

Where I^+ is the $N \times N$ operational matrix can be defined as

$$I^+ = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The term $x^2 y(x)$ can be defined as

$$x^2 y(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n x^2 P_n(x)$$

$$= C^T \cdot \left(U_{\frac{n+1}{2n+1}} \cdot I^+ + U_{\frac{n}{2n+1}} \cdot I^- \right)^2 \cdot P(x)$$

$$= C^T \cdot X^2 Y \cdot P(x)$$

(9)

and also

$$x^3 y(x) = C^T \cdot \left(U_{\frac{n+1}{2n+1}} \cdot I^+ + U_{\frac{n}{2n+1}} \cdot I^- \right)^3 \cdot P(x)$$

$$= C^T \cdot X^3 Y \cdot P(x)$$

(10)

finally

$$x^m y(x) = C^T \cdot \left(U_{\frac{n+1}{2n+1}} \cdot I^+ + U_{\frac{n}{2n+1}} \cdot I^- \right)^m \cdot P(x)$$

$$= C^T \cdot X^m Y \cdot P$$

(11)

Matrix: $x^m y' \equiv C^T \cdot X^m Y'$

The term $xy'(x)$ can be definite as

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$$xy'(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n x P_n'(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n (x P_{n-2}'(x) + (2n-1)x P_{n-1}'(x))$$

$$\begin{aligned} xy' &= C^T \cdot XP'(x) \\ &= C^T \cdot U_{2n-1} \cdot I^- \cdot XP(x) + C^T \cdot U_{2n-5} \cdot [I^-]^3 \cdot XP(x) + C^T \cdot U_{2n-9} \cdot [I^-]^5 \cdot XP(x) + \dots \\ &= C^T \cdot D \cdot XY \cdot P(x) \\ &= C^T \cdot XY' \cdot P(x) \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

The term $x^2 y'(x)$ can be definite as

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 y'(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n (x^2 P_{n-2}'(x) + (2n-1)x^2 P_{n-1}'(x)) \\ &= C^T \cdot D \cdot (XY)^2 \cdot P(x) \\ &= C^T \cdot X^2 Y' \cdot P(x) \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

and also

$$\begin{aligned} x^3 y'(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n (x^3 P_{n-2}'(x) + (2n-1)x^3 P_{n-1}'(x)) \\ &= C^T \cdot D \cdot (XY)^3 \cdot P(x) \\ &= C^T \cdot X^3 Y' \cdot P(x) \end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

finally

$$\begin{aligned} x^m y'(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n (x^m P_{n-2}'(x) + (2n-1)x^m P_{n-1}'(x)) \\ &= C^T \cdot D \cdot (XY)^m \cdot P(x) \\ &= C^T \cdot X^m Y' \cdot P(x) \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

Matrix: $x^m y'' \equiv C^T \cdot X^m Y''$

The term $xy''(x)$ can be definite as

$$\begin{aligned} xy''(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n x P_n''(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n (x P_{n-2}''(x) + (2n-1)x P_{n-1}''(x)) \\ &= C^T \cdot XP''(x) = C^T \cdot D^2 \cdot XP(x) = C^T \cdot D^2 \cdot XY \cdot P(x) \\ &= C^T \cdot XY'' \cdot P(x) \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

The term $x^2 y''(x)$ can be definite as

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 y''(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n x^2 P_n''(x) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n (x^2 P_{n-2}''(x) + (2n-1)x^2 P_{n-1}''(x)) \\ &= C^T \cdot X^2 P''(x) = C^T \cdot D^2 \cdot (XY)^2 \cdot P(x) \\ &= C^T \cdot X^2 Y'' \cdot P(x) \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

The term $x^m y''(x)$ can be definite as

$$\begin{aligned} x^m y''(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n x^m P_n''(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n (x^m P_{n-2}''(x) + (2n-1)x^m P_{n-1}''(x)) \\ &= C^T \cdot D^2 \cdot (XY)^m \cdot P(x) \\ &= C^T \cdot X^m Y'' \cdot P(x) \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

and finally term $x^m \frac{d^{m'}}{dx^{m'}} y(x)$ can be definite as

$$\begin{aligned} x^m \frac{d^{m'}}{dx^{m'}} y(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} c_n \left(x^m \frac{d^{m'}}{dx^{m'}} P_{n-2}(x) + (2n-1)x^m \frac{d^{m'-1}}{dx^{m'-1}} P_{n-1}(x) \right) \\ &= C^T \cdot D^n \cdot (XY)^m \cdot P(x) \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

Direct method of Legendre Functions: Consider the differential equation with the given initial values

$$Ly(x) = 0, \quad y(x_n) = y_n \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots, M$$

where M is the order of differential equation. With choosing $y(x) = C^T \cdot P(x)$ and to find L operational matrix corresponding to L , we have

$$C^T \cdot L \cdot P(x) = 0, \quad C^T \cdot P(x_n) = y_n \tag{20}$$

Where $0 = [0, 0, 0, \dots, 0]^T$ is a $N \times 1$ matrix. With in mind that $P(x)$ is a set of orthogonal functions, then

$$C^T \cdot L = 0, \quad C^T \cdot P(x_n) = y_n$$

Illustrative Examples:

Example 1:

Consider the given LDE under initial value

$$y'(x) + 2y(x) = 0, \quad y(0) = 1$$

Using Eq. (4)-(19), we get

Table 1: Estimated and Exact Values of $y(x)$

X	Estimated	Exact
-1.0	0.36787	0.36787
-0.8	0.44932	0.44932
-0.6	0.54881	0.54881
-0.4	0.67032	0.67032
-0.2	0.81873	0.81873
+0.0	1.00000	1.00000
+0.2	1.22140	1.22140
+0.4	1.49182	1.49182
+0.6	1.82212	1.82212
+0.8	2.22554	2.22554
+1.0	2.71828	2.71828

$$C^T \cdot D + 2 \cdot C^T = 0, \quad C^T \cdot P(0) = 0 \tag{21}$$

With choosing $N = 9$, and solving (21), The estimated and exact values of $y(x)$ are given in Table 1.

Example 2:

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Consider the given LDE under initial values

$$y'(x) - y(x) = 0 \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(1) = 1$$

Using Eq. (4)-(19), we get

$$C^T \cdot D \cdot D \cdot C^T = 0, \quad C^T \cdot P(0) = 0, \quad C^T \cdot P(1) = 1 \quad (22)$$

With choosing $N = 9$, and solving (22), The estimated and exact values of $y(x)$ are given in Table2.

Table 2: Estimated and Exact Values of $y(x)$

x	Estimated	Exact
+0.0	0.00000	0.00000
+0.1	0.08523	0.08523
+0.2	0.17132	0.17132
+0.3	0.25912	0.25912
+0.4	0.34951	0.34951
+0.5	0.44340	0.44340
+0.6	0.54174	0.54174
+0.7	0.64549	0.64549
+0.8	0.75570	0.75570
+0.9	0.87348	0.87348
+1.0	1.00000	1.00000

$$C = [0, 0.93910, 0, 0.59952, 0, 0.00093, 0, 0, 0]^T$$

The estimated solution is

$$y(x) = 0.93910P_1(x) + 0.59952P_3(x) + 0.00093P_5(x) \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1$$

$$\text{exact solution is } y(x) = \frac{\sinh x}{\sinh 1}$$

Example 3:

Consider the given LDE under initial value

$$y'(x) - xy(x) = 0, \quad y(0) = 2$$

Using Eq. (4)-(19), we get

$$C^T \cdot D \cdot C^T \cdot XY = 0, C^T \cdot P(0) = 2 \quad (23)$$

With choosing $N = 9$, and solving (23)

$$C = [2.38991, 0, 0.83166, 0, 0.07206, 0, 0.00365, 0, 0.00013]^T$$

The estimated solution is

$$y(x) = 2.38991P_0(x) + 0.83166P_2(x) + 0.07206P_4(x) + 0.00365P_6(x) + 0.00013P_8(x) \quad -1 \leq x \leq 1$$

$$\text{and exact solution is } y(x) = 2e^{\frac{x^2}{2}}$$

Example 4:

Consider the given LDE under initial value

$$y'(x) - x^2 y'(x) + xy(x) = 0, \quad y(0) = 1$$

Using Eq. (4)-(19), we get

$$C^T \cdot D \cdot C^T \cdot X^2 \cdot Y' + C^T \cdot XY = 0, C^T \cdot P(0) = 1 \quad (24)$$

With choosing $N = 12$, and solving (24)

C=

$$[0.78402, 0, -0.49001, 0, -0.11025, 0, -0.04976, 0, -0.02847, 0, -0.01846, 0]^T$$

The estimated solution is

$$y(x) = 0.78402P_0(x) - 0.49001P_2(x) - 0.11025P_4(x) - 0.04976P_6(x) - 0.02847P_8(x) - 0.01846P_{10}(x) \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1$$

$$\text{and exact solution is } y(x) = \sqrt{1-x^2}$$

Example 5:

Consider the given LDE under initial values

$$y^{(5)}(x) + y^{(4)}(x) - 360x^2 + 720 = 0$$

$$y(0) = 0, \quad y(1) = -36, \quad y(-1) = -23,$$

$$y(0.5) = -2.04688, \quad y(-0.5) = -1.67188 \quad (25)$$

Using Eq. (4)-(19), we get

$$C^T \cdot [D]^5 + C^T \cdot [D]^4 - 360X^2 + 720 = 0 \quad (26)$$

$$C^T \cdot P(0) = 0, C^T \cdot P(1) = -36, C^T \cdot P(-1) = -23, C^T \cdot P(0.5) =$$

$$-2.04688, C^T \cdot P(-0.5) = -1.67188$$

With choosing $N = 14$, and solving (26)

$$C = [-5.85714, -2.57142, -16.66666, -2.66666, -6.54544, -0.76190, 0.06926$$

$$-4 \times 10^{-9}, 3 \times 10^{-10}, -1 \times 10^{-11}, 9 \times 10^{-13}, -4 \times 10^{-14}, 1 \times 10^{-15}, -7 \times 10^{-17}]^T$$

$$\text{and exact solution is } y(x) = x^6 - 6x^5 - 30x^4.$$

Conclusion

The operational matrix of differentiation legendre function ,D, and other corresponding operators matrices and orthogonality of legendre functions, are used to solve LDE. The present method reduces a LDE into a set of algebraic equation and provide an exact solution almost. This method can be expanded for many LDE.

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