The variational iterated method for solving integral equations

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Abstract
The main objective of this paper is to study the exact solution and approximate solution type of integral equations, by using the variational iteration method, as well as, giving some illustrative examples of linear and nonlinear equations. We tabulate the exact and approximate results.

1. Introduction,[1],[3]
In some cases, the analytical solution may be difficult to evaluate, therefore numerical and approximate methods are needed. The numerical method that will be considered in this work is the variational iteration method (which is abbreviated by VIM) for finding the solution of linear and nonlinear problems. This method is a modification of the general Lagrange multiplier method into an iteration method, which is called the correction functional. Heuristic interpretation of those concepts leads to new comers in the field to start working immediately without the long search and preparation of advanced calculus and calculus of variations, at the same time those concepts already familiar with variational iteration method which will find the most recent new result. In 1998, he solved the classical blasius equation using VIM. In 1999, he used VIM to give approximate solution for some well-known non-linear problems. In 2000, he used VIM to solve autonomous ordinary differential systems. In 2006 the VIM has recently been applied for solving nonlinear coagulation problem with mass loss by abulwafa and momani. In this paper, we apply the variational iteration method to solve the integral equation of the form

\[ U(x) = f(x) + \int k_1(x,s)u(s) \, ds + \int k_2(x,s)u(s) \, ds \quad \ldots (1) \]

Where \( f(x), k_1, k_2 \) be a continous function.

Variational iteration method which was proposed by Ji-Huan in 1998 has been recently and intensively studied by several scientists and engineers, favorably applied to various kinds of linear and nonlinear problems. To illustrate the basic idea of the VIM, we consider the following general non-linear equation given in operator form:
L(u(x)) + N(u(x)) = g(x), x ∈ [a, b] ...

where L is a linear operator, N is a nonlinear operator and g(x) is any given function which is called the non-homogeneous term.

Now, rewrite eq.(2) in a manner similar to eq.(2) as follows:

L(u(x)) + N(u(x)) − g(x) = 0 ...

and let un be the nth approximate solution of eq. (3), then it follows that:

L(un(x)) + N(un(x)) − g(x) ≠ 0 ...

and then the correction functional for (2) is given by:

un+1(x) = un(x) + \int_{x_0}^{x} \lambda(s) \left\{ L(un(s)) + N(\tilde{u}_n(s)) - g(s) \right\} ds ...

where \lambda is the general Lagrange multiplier which can be identified optimally via the variational theory, the subscript n denotes the nth approximation of the solution u and \tilde{u}_n is considered as a restricted variation, i.e., \delta \tilde{u}_n = 0.

To solve eq. (5) by the VIM, we first determine the Lagrange multiplier \lambda that will be identified optimally via integration by parts. Then the successive approximation un(x), n = 0, 1, …; of the solution u(x) will be readily obtained upon using the obtained Lagrange multiplier and by using any selective function u0(x). The zeroth approximation u0 may be selected by any function that just satisfies at least the initial and boundary conditions with \lambda determined, then several approximations un(x), n = 0, 1, …; follow immediately, and consequently the exact solution may be arrived since:

\[ u(x) = \lim_{n \to \infty} u_n(x) \] ...

In other words, the correction functional for eq. (5) will give several approximations, and therefore the exact solution is obtained as the limit of the resulting successive approximations.

3. Illustrative Examples

In this section, some examples are given to illustrate the applicability and efficiency of the VIM for solving different types of problems.

Example (1)

Consider the linear integral equation,

\[ U(x) = x^2 + 4x + 1/4 + (x^2 + 2x)e^x + \int k_1(x, s)u(s)ds + \int k_2(x, s)u(s)ds \] ...

With exact solution \[ u = x^2 + 2x , u(0)=0 , \]

K1=x+s , k2=xes .

Solution:

First, differentiate equation (7) with respect to x yields:

\[ u'(x) = 2x + 4 + (x^2 + 2x)e^x + e^x(2x + 2) + \int (2s + 2s^2)ds + e^s(s + 2s^2)ds \] ...

then, the following correction functional for equation (8) may be obtained for all n = 0,1,...

\[ u_{n+1} = u_n + \int \lambda(t) \left( L(u(t)) - N(u(t)) - g(t) \right) dt \]

\[ u_{n+1} = u_n + \int \lambda(t) \{ u'(x) - 2t - (2t + 2)e^t - (2t + 2) - (2s + 2s^2) - e^s(s + 2s^2) \} dt \]

where \lambda is the general Lagrange multiplier.
thus by taking the first variation with respect to the independent variable \( u_n \) and noticing that \( \partial u_n(0) = 0 \), we get

\[
\partial u_{n+1}(s) = \partial u_n(s) + \partial \int (t) \{ u_n'(x) - 2t - (2t + 2t) \partial \int e\partial u_n(s) \} \, dt
\]

where \( u_n \) is considered as a restricted variation, which means \( \partial u_n = 0 \) and consequently:

\[
\partial u_{n+1} = \partial u_n(x) + \partial \int (t) \{ u_n'(t) \} \, dt \quad \ldots(11)
\]

and by using the method of integration by parts, equation (11) will be reduced to

\[
\partial u_{n+1} = \partial u_n(x) + \int (t) \partial u_n(t) |_{t=x} - \int (t) \partial u_n(t) \, dt
\]

Hence:

\[
\partial u_{n+1}(x) = 1 + \int (t) |_{t=x} \partial u_n(x) - \int (t) \partial u_n(t) \, dt = 0
\]

As a result, we have the following stationary conditions:

\[
(\int (t)) = 0
\]

with natural boundary condition,

\[
1 + \int (t) |_{t=x} = 0,
\]

which is easily solved to give the Lagrange multiplier \( \int (t) = -1 \). Now, substituting \( \int (s) = -1 \) back in to equation (10) give for all \( n = 0, 1, \ldots \)

\[
U_{n+1} = u_n(x) - \int \{ u_n'(t) - 2t - 4t - (2t + 2t) \partial e\partial u_n(t) - \int (2s + 2s) \, ds - \int e\partial (s^2 + 2s) \, ds \} \, dt \quad \ldots(10)
\]

\[
U_1 = (-0.41)x - x^3 / 3
\]

\[
U_2 = u_1(x) - \int \{ u_1'(t) - 2t - 4t - (2t + 2t) \partial e\partial u_1(t) \, ds - \int e\partial (s^2 + 2s) \, ds \} \, dt
\]

\[
U_2 = x^2 + 4x + x(2-2)x e\partial x
\]

\[
U_3 = u_2(x) - \int \{ u_2'(t) - 2t - 4t - (2t + 2t) \partial e\partial u_2(t) \, ds - \int e\partial (s^2 + 2s) \, ds \} \, dt
\]

\[
U_3 = (3x^2 - 2x + 2x^2 - 2x^4 - 5x) e\partial x - 16x
\]

\[
\text{Example(2)}
\]

Consider the nonlinear integral equation,

\[
U(x) = 2x^3 - x^3 / 6 + \int k_1 (u(t)) k_1 + \int k_2 (u(t)) k_2 \, dt \quad \ldots(11)
\]
where \( k_1 = x t \), \( k_2 = x - t \), \( u(x) = x \) is the exact solution of equation (11)

**Solution:**

First, differentiate equation (11) with respect to \( x \)

\[
u'(x) = \frac{2}{3} - 3x^2/6 + \int t (u(t))2dt + \int (u(t))2dt \tag{12}
\]

then by (VIM),

\[
\begin{align*}
n_{n+1}(x) &= n(x) + \int \lambda(s) \{ u'(s) - \frac{2}{3} - 3x^2/6 - \int t (u(t))2dt - \int (u(t))2dt \} ds \tag{13}
\end{align*}
\]

where \( \lambda \) is the general lagrange multiplier.

Thus, by taking the first variation with respect to the independent variable \( n \) and noting that \( \partial n(0) = 0 \), we get:

\[
\begin{align*}
\partial n_{n+1}(t) &= \partial n(t) + \partial \int \lambda(s) \{ u'(s) - \frac{2}{3} - 3x^2/6 - \int t (u(t))2dt - \int (u(t))2dt \} ds \tag{14}
\end{align*}
\]

where \( n \) is considered as a variation, which means \( \partial n = 0 \)

\[
\begin{align*}
\partial n_{n+1} &= \partial n(x) + \partial \int \lambda(s) u'(s) ds \tag{15}
\end{align*}
\]

and by using the method of integration by parts, equation (15) will be reduced to:

\[
\begin{align*}
\partial n_{n+1} &= \partial n(x) + \lambda(s) \partial n(s) |_{s=x} - \int \lambda'(s) \partial n(s) ds
\end{align*}
\]

Hence:

\[
\begin{align*}
\partial n_{n+1} &= 1 + \lambda(s) |_{s=x} - \int \lambda'(s) \partial n(s) ds = 0
\end{align*}
\]

As a result, we have

\[
\lambda'(s) = 0
\]

with natural boundary condition \( 1 + \lambda(s)|_{s=x} = 0 \)

so \( \lambda(s) = -1 \)

Now, substituting \( \lambda(s) = -1 \) back into equation (13) gives for all \( n = 0, 1, \ldots \)

\[
\begin{align*}
n_{n+1}(x) &= n(x) - \int \{ u'(s) - \frac{2}{3} - 3x^2/6 - \int t (u(t))2dt - \int (u(t))2dt \} ds \tag{16}
\end{align*}
\]

let the initial approximate solution be

\[
\begin{align*}
u_0 &= 2x/3 - x^3/6
\end{align*}
\]

then

\[
\begin{align*}
u_1 (x) &= u_0(x) - \int \{ u'_0(s) - \frac{2}{3} - 3x^2/6 - \int t (u_0(t))2dt - \int (u_0(t))2dt \} ds = 0.748x + 0.273 x^4 + 0.039 x^6
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
u_2 (x) &= u_1(x) - \int \{ u'_1(s) - \frac{2}{3} - 3x^2/6 - \int t (u_1(t))2dt - \int (u_1(t))2dt \} ds = 0.248 x^3 - 0.0581 x + 0.39 x^6
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
u_3 (x) &= u_2(x) - \int \{ u'_2(s) - \frac{2}{3} - 3x^2/6 - \int t (u_2(t))2dt - \int (u_2(t))2dt \} ds = 0.6272 x - 0.062 x^4 + 0.091x^6
\end{align*}
\]

The absolute error between the exact and approximate solution of example (2)
Table (2)

| X  | |u(X)|-|u₁(X)| | |u(X)|-|u₂(X)| | |u(X)|-|u₃(X)| |
|----|----|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 0  | 0  | 0                | 0                | 0                |
| 0.1| 0.0252 | 0.1055 | 0.0372 |
| 0.2| 0.0499 | 0.3184 | 0.0743 |
| 0.3| 0.0733 | 0.4829 | 0.111164 |
| 0.4| 0.094 | 0.4459 | 0.148014 |
| 0.5| 0.109 | 0.84306 | 0.18355 |
| 0.6| 0.117 | 0.9015 | 0.21941 |
| 0.7| 0.1093 | 0.3572 | 0.25622 |
| 0.8| 0.085 | 0.6027 | 0.29601 |
| 0.9| 0.032 | 0.8817 | 0.3425 |
| 1  | 0.05 | 0.302 | 0.401 |

**Reference:**


