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AN ITERATIVE METHOD  
FOR VOLTERRA INTEGRAL  
EQUATIONS OF THE FIRST KIND

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Date Transmitted: February 1976

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## ABSTRACT

An iterative method is developed to find an approximation to the least squares solution of minimum  $L_2(0,1)$  norm,  $f_0$ , of a Volterra integral equation of the first kind

$$Lf(g) = \int_0^y k(y,x)f(x)dx = g(y) \quad 0 \leq y \leq 1$$

where  $g \in L_2(0,1)$  and

$$\int_0^1 \int_0^y k(y,x)^2 dx dy < \infty.$$

A sequence  $\{f_{\lambda_j}\}_{j=1}^{\infty} \subset N(L)$  converging to  $f_0$  is constructed.

$f_{\lambda_j}$  minimizes the functional

$$Q_{\lambda_j}(f) = \|Lf - g\|^2 + \lambda_j \|f\|^2, \quad \lambda_j > 0.$$

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## Introduction

We consider the Volterra integral equation of the first kind,

$$Kf(y) = \int_0^y k(y,x)f(x)dx = g(y) \quad (1)$$

where  $k(y,x)$ ,  $g(y)$  are given functions and  $f(x)$  is to be determined.

Here we assume that we have Riemann integration.

Hochstadt [5] notes that the equation

$$\int_0^y k(y,x)f(x)dx = g(y), \quad g(0) = 0 \quad (2)$$

reduces to a Volterra integral equation of the second kind if the kernel  $k(y,x)$  and  $g(y)$  are continuously differentiable and  $k(y,y) \neq 0$ .

The Volterra integral equation (2) is then transformed into the Volterra integral equation of the second kind

$$f(y)k(y,y) + \int_0^y k_1(y,x)f(x)dx = g'(y)$$

or

$$f(y) + \int_0^y \frac{k_1(y,x)}{k(y,y)}f(x)dx = \frac{g'(y)}{k(y,y)}, \quad g(0) = 0. \quad (3)$$

Hochstadt gives a proof of the existence and uniqueness of the solution to (3).

Mikhlin and Smoletskey [10] suggest that a numerical approximation to the solution of (2) with the above hypotheses can be obtained without reduction to an integral equation of the second kind by the application of quadrature formulas. They

obtain the system of equations

$$\sum_{i=1}^n A_i^{(n)} k(x_n, x_i) f(x_i) = g(x_n) \quad (4)$$

where  $A_i^{(n)} \neq 0$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  are the quadrature weights. From (4) an approximation to  $f(x_n)$  is determined recursively at all mesh points of the quadrature formula, except for  $x_0 = 0$  where they take  $f(0) = \frac{g'(0)}{k(0,0)}$ .

Riesz and Nagy [15] consider the Volterra integral equation

$$\int_0^y k(y,x)f(x)dx = g(y), \quad 0 \leq y \leq 1 \quad (5)$$

as a special case of the Fredholm integral equation of the first kind

$$Lf(y) = \int_0^1 \ell(y,x)f(x)dx = g(y) \quad (6)$$

where

$$\ell(y,x) = \begin{cases} k(y,x) & \text{if } y \geq x \\ 0 & \text{if } y < x. \end{cases}$$

We will assume that (1) is written in the form (6). In addition we will assume that  $\int_0^1 \int_0^1 |\ell(y,x)|^2 dx dy < \infty$  so that  $L$  is a completely continuous linear operator from  $H_1 = L_2[0,1]$  to  $H_2 = L_2[0,1]$  and  $g \in L_2[0,1] = H_2$ .

We will use the notation:  $R(L) = \text{range of } L$ ,  $N(L) = \{f \in H_1 : Lf = 0\}$  and  $M^\perp = \{f \in H_1 : \langle f, h \rangle = 0 \text{ for all } h \in M \subset H_1\}$  where  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  denotes inner product in the Hilbert space  $L_2[0,1]$ .

From Strand [17] we have that for a completely continuous operator  $L: H_2 \rightarrow H_2$ ,  $H_2 = N(L^*) + \overline{R(L)}$  where  $\overline{R(L)}$  is the closure of  $R(L)$ ,  $H_1 = N(L) + (N(L))^\perp$ , and  $\overline{R(L^*)} = (N(L))^\perp$ .

We are interested in finding an approximation to the least squares solution of minimum norm,  $f_0$ ; of the operator equation  $Lf = g$  where  $g \in H_2$ , when such a solution exists. Kammerer and Nashed [8] give the following definitions.

Definition 1. For  $f \in H_1$ ,  $g \in H_2$ , an element  $\bar{f} \in H_1$  is a least squares solution of  $Lf = g$  if and only if

$$\|L\bar{f} - g\| = \inf \{\|Lf - g\| \mid f \in H_1\}.$$

Definition 2. For  $f \in H_1$ ,  $g \in H_2$ , an element  $f_0 \in H_1$  is a least squares solution of  $Lf = g$  and  $\|f_0\| \leq \|\bar{f}\|$  for all least squares solutions  $\bar{f}$  of  $Lf = g$ .

Strand [17] notes that the least squares solution of minimum norm exists (is unique and in  $N(L)^\perp$ ) if and only if  $g \in H_2$  can be written in the form

$$g = g_1 + g_2$$

where  $g_1 \in R(L)$  and  $g_2 \in N(L^*)$ . For this paper we will assume  $g$  is always in the form  $g = g_1 + g_2$ , with  $g_1 \in R(L)$ . From Strand [17] and Diaz and Metcalf [3],  $f$  is a solution of

$$\|Lf - g\| = \inf \{\|Lh - g\| \mid h \in H_1\} \quad (7)$$

if and only if  $f$  is a solution to  $Kf = g_1$ . They also note that

the least squares solutions to  $L^*Lf = L^*g$  and  $Lf = g_1$  are the same.

Twomey [20], Phillips [14], Tikhonov [18] and Strand [17] considers the functional

$$Q(f) = ||Lf - g||^2 + \lambda ||f - p||^2, \lambda > 0, \quad (8)$$

where  $p \in H_1$  is an estimate for the least squares solution of minimum norm of  $Lf = g$ . Strand [17] proves that (8) is minimized by

$$f_\lambda = (L^*L + \lambda I)^{-1} (L^*g + \lambda p).$$

Strand [17] gives a proof of the following theorem.

Theorem 1.  $f_p = \lim_{\lambda \rightarrow 0^+} f_\lambda$  exists and  $f_p$  is the unique solution of

$L^*Lf = L^*g$  for which  $||f - p||^2$  is a minimum.

For the case where  $p \equiv 0$  we have an approximation to the least squares solution of minimum norm of  $Lf = g$ . In general a method for determining a good choice for  $\lambda$  in actual applications and construction of the inverse to represent  $(L^*L + \lambda I)^{-1}$  is difficult since  $(L^*L + \lambda I)^{-1}$  is generally ill-conditioned for a useful choice for  $\lambda$ .

## Basic Theorem

The following theorem will be implemented as a numerical algorithm, related to a steepest descent method for Tikhonov-Twomey regularization, which converges to the least squares solution of minimum norm, when such a solution exists. The method developed allows one to find an approximation to the solution of  $(L^*L + \lambda I)f = L^*g$  for a  $\lambda > 0$ . When the convergence fails or becomes slow then the advantage of this method is that a new starting vector can be obtained. A proof and discussion of the theorem as well as a choice for the starting vector  $f_{1,0}$  can be found in [13].

Theorem 2. If

1.  $f_0$  is the least squares solution of minimum norm of  $Lf = g$ ,
2.  $f_{1,0} \in H_1$  be given as starting vector,
3.  $\{\{f_{j,n}\}_{n=0}^{\infty}\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  be a sequence such that

$$f_{j,n} = f_{j,n-1} + \alpha_{j,n} W_{j,n}$$

where

$$W_{j,n} = L^*Lf_{j,n} + \lambda_j f_{j,n} - L^*g$$

$$\alpha_{j,n} = \begin{cases} - \frac{\langle W_{j,n}, W_{j,n} \rangle}{\langle LW_{j,n}, LW_{j,n} \rangle + \lambda_j \langle W_{j,n}, W_{j,n} \rangle} & \text{for } W_{j,n} \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{for all } n > n_j \text{ if } n_j \text{ is the first } n \\ & \text{such that } W_{j,n} = 0, \end{cases}$$

4.  $\{\lambda_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  is a sequence of positive real numbers  
converging to zero,

then for any  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists positive integers  $\bar{n}$  and  $\bar{j}$   
such that  $\|f_{j,n} - f_0\| < \epsilon$ .

For  $j$  fixed in the above theorem Peterson [13] notes that  
 $\{f_{j,n}\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  converges to  $f_{\lambda_j} = f_j$ , the function in the  $R(L^*)$  that  
minimizes

$$Q_{\lambda_j}(f) = \|Lf - g\|^2 + \lambda_j \|f\|^2.$$

Let  $\sigma_0(L^*L)$  be the set of non-zero eigenvalues of  $L^*L$ . We  
have the following theorem, proven in [13], using the above  
notation, related to convergence.

Theorem 3. If  $\gamma = \inf \gamma_n$

$$\gamma_n \in \sigma_0(L^*L)$$

then

$$\|f_{j,n} - f_0\| \leq \frac{\|w_{j,n}\|}{\gamma + \lambda_j} + \frac{\lambda_j \|f_j\|}{\gamma} \text{ when } \gamma \neq 0$$

and

$$\|f_{j,n} - f_0\| \leq \frac{\|w_{j,n}\|}{\gamma + \lambda_j} + \frac{\lambda_j \|f_0\|}{\lambda_j + \gamma}.$$

### Discretization of the Integral Equation

We will consider the real  $n$ -dimensional space  $R^n$  with scalar field the real numbers. Define a mapping from  $R^n \times R^n$  to  $R$  by

$$(U, V) \rightarrow \langle U, V \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^n T_j U_j V_j$$

where  $U = (U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n)^T$ ,  $V = (V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n)^T$  and  $T_j > 0$ ,  $T_j \in R$  for all  $j = 1, \dots, n$ . Thus we have a Hilbert space, which will be denoted by  $H_T^n$ . Let  $\{e_1^n, e_2^n, \dots, e_n^n\}$  be the orthogonal (not necessarily normalized) basis for  $H_T^n$  where  $e_j^n = (0, 0, \dots, 1_j, \dots, 0)^T$ ,  $j = 1, n$ .

If  $A : H_T^m \rightarrow H_S^n$  then  $A^* : H_S^n \rightarrow H_T^m$  will denote the adjoint.

The following theorem is given in [13].

**Theorem 4.** If  $A : H_T^m \rightarrow H_S^n$ ,

$$A = (T_j a_{i,j})_{\substack{i=1,n \\ j=1,m}} \quad \text{then} \quad A^* = (S_i a_{i,j})_{\substack{j=1,m \\ i=1,n}}$$

In this paper we will be restricted to the case where  $A : H_S^n \rightarrow H_S^n$  and  $a_{i,j} = 0$  for  $i > j$ , with the additional requirement that the  $S_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  appearing in the lower triangular matrix  $A$  depends on the row as well as the column.

**Theorem 5.** If  $A : H_S^n \rightarrow H_S^n$ ,

$$A = (S_j^{(i)} a_{i,j})_{\substack{i=1,n \\ j=1,n}} \quad \text{where} \quad a_{i,j} = 0$$

$$\text{for } i > j \quad \text{then} \quad A^* = (S_i^{(j)} a_{i,j})_{\substack{j=1,n \\ i=1,n}}$$

where  $S_i^{(j)} = S_j$  for  $i \neq j$ .

Proof: We will show that the above  $A^*$  is the adjoint of  $A$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Ae_k^n, e_l^n \rangle &= \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n S_k^{(i)} a_{i,k} e_i^n, e_l^n \right\rangle \\ &= S_k^{(l)} a_{l,k} \langle e_l^n, e_l^n \rangle \\ &= S_k^{(l)} a_{l,k} S_l \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \langle e_k^n, A^* e_l^n \rangle &= \left\langle e_k^n, \sum_{j=1}^n S_l^{(j)} a_{l,j} e_j^n \right\rangle \\ &= S_l^{(k)} a_{l,k} \langle e_l^n, e_k^n \rangle \\ &= S_l^{(k)} a_{l,k} S_k \\ &= \langle Ae_k^n, e_l^n \rangle \end{aligned}$$

for all  $k$  and  $l$ , therefore  $A^*$  is the adjoint of  $A$ .

Now we develop a method of discretization of the integral equation

$$\int_0^1 \ell(y, s) \int_0^1 \ell(y, x) f(x) dx dy + \lambda f(s) = \int_0^1 \ell(y, s) g(y) dy \quad (6)$$

where from Bachman and Narici [2]  $L^* f(s) = \int_0^1 \ell(x, s) f(x) dx$  is the adjoint to  $L$ .

(6) is equivalent to

$$\int_s^1 k(y, s) \int_0^y k(y, x) f(x) dx dy + \lambda f(s) = \int_s^1 k(y, s) g(y) dy. \quad (7)$$



Partition the interval  $[0,1]$  into  $n-1$  equal subintervals,

$t_i, y_i, x_i \in [0,1]$  such that

$$0 = y_1 < y_2 < \dots < y_n = 1,$$

$$0 = x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n = 1,$$

and

$$0 = t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_n = 1.$$

Now from (7) we can write

$$\int_{t_i}^1 k(y, t_i) g(y) dy = \sum_{j=i}^n S_j^{(i)} k(y_j, t_i) g(y_j) + R_n(t_i)$$

where  $R_n(t_i)$  is the discretization error. Here  $S_j^{(i)} > 0$   $j = i, n$  and  $i = 1, n$ . For  $\int_{t_i}^1 k(y, t_i) \int_0^y k(y, x) f(x) dx dy$  we have

$$\int_{t_i}^1 k(y, t_i) \int_0^y k(y, x) f(x) dx dy = \sum_{j=i}^n S_j^{(i)} k(y_j, t_i) \sum_{k=1}^j S_k^{(j)} k(y_j, x_k) f(x_k) + \bar{R}(t_i)$$

where  $\bar{R}(t_i)$  is the discretization error. Thus (7) can be written in the form, for  $s = t_i$ ,

$$\sum_{j=i}^n S_j^{(i)} k(y_j, t_i) \sum_{k=1}^j S_k^{(j)} k(y_j, x_k) f(x_k) + \lambda f(t_i) + \bar{R}(t_i)$$

(8)

$$= \sum_{j=i}^n S_j^{(i)} k(y_j, t_i) g(y_j) + R_n(t_i).$$

(8) can be written in the equivalent form

$$(S_j^{(1)} k(y_j, t_i))_{j=1, n}^T (S_k^{(j)} k(y_j, x_k))_{j=1, n} (f(x_k))_{k=1, n}$$

$$+ \lambda f(t_i) + \bar{R}(t_i) = \sum_{j=1}^n S_j^{(1)} k(y_j, t_i) g(y_j) + R_n(t_i)$$

where  $k(y_j, x_k) = 0$  for  $k > j$ ,

$k(y_j, t_i) = 0$  for  $j > i$

and

$(v_i)_{i=1, \ell}$  denotes an  $\ell$ -dimensional column vector.

Now taking  $i = 1, \dots, n$  we obtain the linear system

$$(S_j^{(1)} k(y_j, t_i))_{i=1, n} (S_i^{(k)} k(y_j, x_k))_{j=1, n} (f(x_k))_{k=1, n}$$

$$+ \lambda (f(t_i))_{i=1, n} = (S_j^{(1)} k(y_j, t_i))_{i=1, n} (g(y_j))_{j=1, n}$$

$$+ (R_n(t_i) - \bar{R}(t_i))_{i=1, n}.$$

For notational convenience we can take  $x_i = t_i$ ,  $i = 1, n$  and replace the index  $k$  with  $i$ .

For convenience, using the same notation as for the original integral equation, let

$$L = (S_i^{(j)} k(y_j, x_i))_{j=1, n}^{i=1, n}, \quad L : H_S^k \rightarrow H_S^k;$$

$$L^* = (S_j^{(i)} k(y_j, x_i))_{\substack{i=1, n \\ j=1, n}}, \quad L^* : H_S^n \rightarrow H_S^n;$$

$$\vec{f} = (f(x_i))_{i=1, n}, \quad \vec{f} \in H_S^n;$$

$$\vec{g} = (g(x_j))_{j=1, n}, \quad \vec{g} \in H_S^n$$

and

$$\vec{R}_1 = (R_n(x_i) - R(x_i))_{i=1, n}, \quad \vec{R} \in H_S^n.$$

Now with theorem 5, the same error bounds hold, as developed in [13], where  $L^* L \vec{f}_0 = L^* \vec{g} + \vec{R}_0$ ,  $\vec{R}_0$  the discretization error vector in the matrix representation for

$$\int_t^1 k(y, t) \int_0^y k(y, x) f_0(x) dx dy = \int_t^1 k(y, t) g(y) dy.$$

The theorem relating error bounds is given for the case where  $g$  is not known exactly, we have

$$\int_0^y k(y, x) f(x) dx = g(y) + \epsilon(y),$$

where  $\epsilon(y) \in L_2[0, 1]$ . (9) may or may not have a solution, see Strand [17].

Similar to the previous discretization we obtain the matrix representation

$$L^* L \vec{f} + \lambda \vec{f} = L^* \vec{g} + L^* \vec{\epsilon} + \vec{R}_2$$

where  $\vec{R}_2$  is the discretization error vector.

The system of equations actually solved is

$$L^*L\vec{f} + \lambda\vec{f} = L^*\vec{g} + L^*\vec{\epsilon}. \quad (10)$$

Let  $\vec{f}_{j,n,\epsilon}$  be a term in the sequence defined in theorem 2 for (10). If a bound for  $\|L^*\vec{\epsilon}\|$  or  $\|\vec{\epsilon}\|$  can be found, we can obtain bounds on  $\|\vec{f}_0 - \vec{f}_{j,n,\epsilon}\|$  where  $\vec{f}_{\lambda,\epsilon}$  is the solution to (10) as stated in the theorem below.

Theorem 6.

$$\|L^*L(\vec{f}_0 - \vec{f}_{j,n,\epsilon})\| \leq \|\vec{R}_0\| + \|L^*L\vec{f}_{j,n,\epsilon} - L^*(\vec{g} + \vec{\epsilon})\| \quad (11)$$

$$\|\vec{f}_0 - \vec{f}_{j,n,\epsilon}\| \leq \frac{\|\vec{R}_0\| + \|L^*L\vec{f}_{j,n,\epsilon} - L^*(\vec{g} + \vec{\epsilon})\|}{\gamma}, \text{ if } \gamma \neq 0 \quad (12)$$

$$\|\vec{f}_0 - \vec{f}_{j,n,\epsilon}\| \leq \frac{\|w_{j,n}\|}{\lambda_j + \gamma} + \frac{\|\vec{R}_0\| + \|L^*\vec{\epsilon}\| + \lambda_j \|\vec{f}_j\|}{\gamma}, \text{ if } \gamma \neq 0 \quad (13)$$

$$\|\vec{f}_0 - \vec{f}_{j,n,\epsilon}\| \leq \frac{\|w_{j,n}\|}{\lambda_j + \gamma} + \frac{\|\vec{R}_0\| + \|L^*\vec{\epsilon}\| + \lambda_j \|\vec{f}_0\|}{\lambda_j + \gamma} \quad (14)$$

$$\|\vec{f}_0 - \vec{f}_{j,n,\epsilon}\| \leq \frac{\|w_{j,n}\|}{\lambda_j + \gamma} + \frac{(\lambda_j + \gamma) \|\vec{R}_0\| + \lambda_j \|L^*(\vec{g} + \vec{\epsilon})\|}{\gamma(\lambda_j + \gamma)}, \text{ if } \gamma \neq 0. \quad (15)$$

If  $g$  is known exactly, take  $\epsilon = 0$ .

The proof of theorem 6 follows that given in [13] and will be omitted here.

## Examples

Example 1

We will consider the Volterra integral equation of the first kind

$$\int_0^y (1. + x + y)f(x)dx = \frac{y^2}{2} + \frac{5}{6}y^3 \quad 0 \leq y \leq 1 \quad (16)$$

with unique solution  $f(y) = y$ .

The quadrature method used for (15) was the trapezoidal method with 11 equally spaced points, so  $L^*L : H_T^{11} \rightarrow H_T^{11}$ . The matrix operator  $L^*L$  constructed has smallest non-zero eigenvalue  $5.08 \times 10^{-5}$ . For such a small minimum eigenvalue the error bounds given in theorem 6 are not readily applicable. Numerical experimentation indicates that, in general, a good choice for terminal  $\lambda_j$  in the algorithm given in the appendix is to choose terminal  $\lambda_j$  to be such that  $10\lambda_j \cdot \|\vec{f}_0\|$  or  $10\lambda_j \cdot \|\vec{f}_j\|$  is of the same order of magnitude as  $\|\vec{R}_0\|$ .

For example 1,  $\|\vec{R}_0\|$  was computed to be  $1.2 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $\|\vec{f}_0\| = \sqrt{3}/3$ . The following initial information was used in the algorithm in the appendix:

Terminal Lambda =  $1. \times 10^{-4}$ ,

Control in  $\|w_{n,j}\|^2 = 1. \times 10^{-12}$ ,

Lambda multiplier = .02,

and

Starting vector =  $(0., 0., 0., 0., 0., 0., 0., 0., 1., 1., 1.)^T$ .

The results of using the algorithm are given in table 1 under S1.

The algorithm reduced the following norms to the results indicated:

$$||\text{ATAF} + \text{LAMDA} * \text{F} - \text{ATG}|| = .2333 \times 10^{-5},$$

$$||\text{AF} - \text{G}|| = .1696 \times 10^{-3},$$

and

$$||\text{AT}(\text{Af} - \text{G})|| = .5975 \times 10^{-4}$$

after 554 iterations.

Example 1 was also solved using the method given in (4) with results given in table 1 under S2.

Table 1

X	S1	D1	S2	D2
0.0	0.0030	-0.0030	0.	0
0.1	0.0962	0.0038	0.0972	0.0028
0.2	0.2002	-0.0002	0.2004	-0.0004
0.3	0.2985	0.0015	0.2979	0.0021
0.4	0.3994	0.0006	0.4005	-0.0005
0.5	0.4998	0.0002	0.4982	0.0018
0.6	0.5981	0.0019	0.6006	-0.0006
0.7	0.7021	-0.0021	0.6985	0.0015
0.8	0.7960	0.0040	0.8006	-0.0006
0.9	0.9040	-0.0040	0.8987	0.0013
1.0	0.9904	0.0096	1.0540	-0.0540
Norm of	0.5779	0.0033	0.5831	0.0126

Entries in table 1 rounded correct to four decimal places.

S1 = Computed solution from algorithm  
in the appendix;

S2 = Computed solution using (4);

D1 = Actual solution - S1, pointwise;

D2 = Actual solution - S2, pointwise.

Example 2

We will consider the Volterra integral equation of the first kind

$$\int_0^y (x + y)f(x)dx = \frac{3}{2}y^2 + \frac{5}{6}y^3 \quad 0 \leq y \leq 1, \quad (17)$$

with least squares solution of minimum norm  $f(y) = 1 + y$ .

The quadrature method used for this example was the trapezoidal rule with 11 equally spaced points, so  $L^*L : H_T'' \rightarrow H_T''$ . The matrix operator  $L^*L$  has smallest non-zero eigenvalue  $1.2 \times 10^{-5}$ .

For example 2  $\|\vec{R}_0\|$  was computed to be  $6.5 \times 10^{-4}$  and  $\|\vec{f}_0\| = 1.5275$ .

The following information was used in the algorithm in the appendix:

Terminal Lambda =  $4.3 \times 10^{-5}$ ,  
Control on  $\|w_{n,j}\|^2 = 1 \times 10^{-12}$   
Lambda multiplier = .02

and

Starting vector =  $(0., 0., 0., 0., 0., 0., 0., 0., 1., 1., 1.)^T$ .

The algorithm reduced the following norms to the results indicated:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\text{ATAF} + \text{Lambda} * \text{F} - \text{ATG}\| &= .5642 \times 10^{-5}, \\ \|\text{AF} - \text{G}\| &= .2135 \times 10^{-3} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\|\text{AT}(\text{AF} - \text{G})\| = .6839 \times 10^{-4}$$

after 151 iterations.



The method suggested in (4) is not applicable since  $k(0,0) = 0$ . The solution is not unique, however, the least squares solution of minimum norm is unique.

Table 2

X	A	S3	D3
0.0	1.0	0.9949	0.0051
0.1	1.1	1.0934	0.0066
0.2	1.2	1.1965	0.0035
0.3	1.3	1.2995	0.0005
0.4	1.4	1.4014	-0.0014
0.5	1.5	1.4967	0.0033
0.6	1.6	1.6026	-0.0026
0.7	1.7	1.6988	0.0012
0.8	1.8	1.7982	0.0018
0.9	1.9	1.9026	-0.0030
1.0	2.0	1.9873	0.0127
Norm of	1.5275	1.5264	0.0043

All entries are rounded correct to four decimal places.

A = Actual solution, pointwise;

S3 = Computed solution, pointwise;

D3 = Actual solution - Computed solution, pointwise.

Example 3

We will consider the Volterra integral equation of the first kind

$$\int_0^y \sin(\pi(x - y))f(x)dx = \frac{1}{2}y \cos(\pi y) - \frac{1}{2\pi} \sin(\pi y) \quad (18)$$

$0 \leq y \leq 1$  with least squares solution of minimum norm

$$f(y) = \sin(\pi y).$$

The quadrature method used for this example was the trapezoidal rule with 61 equally spaced points and secondly a simple partition with 61 equally spaced points. For example 3 the following information was used for both the case of the simple partition and the trapezoidal rule in the algorithm in the appendix:

$$\text{Terminal Lambda} = 5.6 \times 10^{-6},$$

$$\text{Control on } ||w_{n,j}||^2 = 1. \times 10^{-14},$$

$$\text{Lambda multiplier} = .05,$$

and

$$\text{Starting vector} = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{61})$$

$$\text{where } a_i = 1. \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, 61.$$

The algorithm reduced the norms given in table 3 to the results indicated.

The final results are given for selected points in table 4.

$$||\vec{R}_0|| = \begin{cases} 0.4083 \times 10^{-4} & \text{for the simple partition;} \\ 0.4024 \times 10^{-4} & \text{for the trapezoidal rule.} \end{cases}$$

Table 3

	<u>Trapezoidal Rule</u>	<u>Simple Partition</u>
N1	$0.5382 \times 10^{-6}$	$0.5238 \times 10^{-6}$
N2	$0.5637 \times 10^{-4}$	$0.5080 \times 10^{-4}$
N3	$0.3728 \times 10^{-5}$	$0.3975 \times 10^{-5}$
IT	729	689

$$N1 = ||ATAF + LAMBDA * F - ATG||,$$

$$N2 = ||AF - G||,$$

$$N3 = ||AT(AF - G)||,$$

IT = Total iterations.

Table 4

X	A	S4	D4	S5	D5
0.0	0.0	0.0035	-0.0035	0.0046	-0.0046
0.1	0.3090	0.3091	-0.0001	0.3090	0.0000
0.2	0.5878	0.5877	0.0001	0.5878	0.0000
0.3	0.8090	0.8084	0.0006	0.8085	0.0005
0.4	0.9511	0.9511	0.0000	0.9408	0.0003
0.5	1.0000	1.0016	-0.0016	1.0016	-0.0016
0.6	0.9511	0.9498	0.0012	0.9502	0.0008
0.7	0.8090	0.8059	0.0031	0.8056	0.0034
0.8	0.5878	0.5965	-0.0087	0.5973	-0.0095
0.9	0.3090	0.2941	0.0149	0.2901	0.0190
1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		
Norm of	0.7071	0.7068	0.0107	0.7066	0.0134

All entries rounded correct to four decimal places.

A = Actual solution, pointwise;

S4 = Computed solution, pointwise,  
using a simple partition;

D4 = Actual solution - Computed solution;

S5 = Computed solution, pointwise, using  
trapezoidal rule;

D5 = Actual solution - Pointwise solution.

### Conclusion

The dropping of the requirement that  $k(y,y) \neq 0$  for  $0 \leq y \leq 1$  gives the algorithm an advantage over the methods found in the literature.

An upper bound for  $||\vec{R}_0||$  can be difficult to obtain unless some information about the solution is known.

A better, more useful, method for obtaining theoretical error bounds should be obtained.

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## Appendix

Subroutine BIT is a program written to find a  $\lambda$ -approximate least squares solution of minimum norm of an Volterra integral equation of the first kind. The subroutine BIT assumes that the integral equation is of the form

$$Lf(y) = \int_0^y k(y,x)f(x)dx = g(y), \quad y \in [0,1].$$

A driver program must be written which obtains the following information:

1. Partitions the interval integrated over,  $[0,1]$ , into  $N-1$  subintervals. The  $N$ -points constructed are stored in  $XV$  and  $YV$ .
2. Construct the vector  $GV(I) = g(YV(I))$   $I = 1, N$ .
3. Construct the  $N \times N$  matrix  $A$  representing the operator  $L$ .
4. Construct the  $N \times N$  matrix  $AT$  representing the operator  $L^*$ .
5. Construct the vector  $WTK$  of weights for integration.
6. The driver program must be dimensioned as the dimension statement for the subroutine BIT.
7. The driver program must supply the controls on convergence given by

$XLMDA$  = Lambda multiplier,  
 $BB$  = Terminal Lambda,  
 $M$  = Maximum number of iteration per  
change in Lambda,

and

$$DD = \text{Control on } ||ATAF + LAMBDA * F - ATG||^2.$$



```

SUBROUTINE BIT(N,A,GV,WTK,XV,YV,F,XLMDA,M,BB,AT,
%ATA,R,T,V,W,WW,S,DD)
  IMPLICIT REAL*4 (A-H,O-Z)
  DIMENSION A(N,N),AT(N,N),WTK(N),W(N),XV(N),YV(N)
  DIMENSION F(N),ATA(N,N),GV(N),R(N),V(N),WW(N),S(N)
  DIMENSION T(N)
  LL=0

C
C      TEST FOR A ZERO SOLUTION.
C
  DO 10 I=1,N
    W(I)=0.
    DO 10 J=1,N
10  W(I)=W(I)+AT(I,J)*GV(J)
    ZZ=0.
    DO 20 I=1,N
20  ZZ=ZZ+WTK(I)*(W(I)*W(I))
    ZZ=SQRT(ZZ)
    WRITE(6,11) ZZ
11  FORMAT('0','|| ATG. ||=' ,E16.8)
    IF(ZZ.GE.1.E-20) GO TO 30
    WRITE (6,31)
31  FORMAT('0',6X,'SOLUTION IS THE ZERO FUNCTION',/)
    GO TO 600
30  DO 40 I=1,N
    DO 40 J=1,N
      ATA(I,J)=0.
    DO 40 L=1,N
40  ATA(I,J)=ATA(I,J)+AT(I,L)*A(L,J)

C
C      OBTAIN AN ACTUAL STARTING VECTOR AND INITIAL LAMBDA.
C
  DO 50 I=1,N
    T(I)=0.
    DO 50 J=1,N
50  T(I)=T(I)+ATA(I,J)*F(J)
    ZZ=0.
    DO 60 I=1,N
60  ZZ=ZZ+WTK(I)*(T(I)*T(I))
    ZZ=SQRT(ZZ)
    DO 70 I=1,N
70  T(I)=T(I)/ZZ
    DO 80 I=1,N
      R(I)=0.
    DO 80 J=1,N
80  R(I)=R(I)+A(I,J)*T(J)
    CR=1.
    U=2.
    J=1

```

```

92 X=0.0
   DO 90 I=1,N
90 X=X+(GV(I)-R(I))*(R(I)*WTK(I))
   IF(X.GE.0.0) GO TO 1000
   IF(J.EQ.2) GO TO 1001
   J=J+1
   DO 100 I=1,N
   T(I)=-T(I)
100 R(I)=-R(I)
   GO TO 92
1001 DO 110 I=1,N
110 GV(I)=U*GV(I)
   J=1
   CR=CR*U
   GO TO 92
1000 DO 120 I=1,N
120 R(I)=R(I)-GV(I)
   RR=0.0
   DO 130 I=1,N
130 RR=RR+WTK(I)*(R(I)*R(I))
   DO 140 I=1,N
   W(I)=0.0
   DO 140 J=1,N
140 W(I)=W(I)+AT(I,J)*R(J)
   DD=DD*CR*CR
   ZZ=0.0
   DO 150 I=1,N
150 ZZ=ZZ+WTK(I)*(W(I)*W(I))
   YY=ZZ-X*X
   AB=RR+X
   DO 160 I=1,N
160 W(I)=W(I)+X*T(I)
C
C   OUTPUT SECTION FOR THE STARTING INFORMATION.
C
   WRITE(6,2) X
2  FORMAT('0','INITIAL LAMBDA=',E16.8)
   WRITE(6,3)
3  FORMAT('0',12X,'X=',18X,'STARTING=',12X,'ATAF+LAMBDA*F-ATG=',/)
   DO 170 I=1,N
170 WRITE(6,4) XV(I),T(I),W(I)
4  FORMAT(' ',3E24.8)
   WRITE(6,5)
5  FORMAT('0',12X,'Y=',18X,'AF-G=',/)
   DO 180 I=1,N

```

```

180 WRITE(6,6) YV(I),R(I)
6 FORMAT(' ',2E24.8)
WRITE(6,7) CR
7 FORMAT('0','SCALING FACTOR=',E16.8)
WRITE(6,8) YY
8 FORMAT('0','MINIMUM VALUE=',E16.8)
XX=X

```

C

C

THE MAIN ITERATIONS OF THE ALGORITHM.

C

```

171 X=XX
K=1
41 AA=AB
YY=ZZ
DO 190 I=1,N
WW(I)=W(I)
W(I)=0.0
DO 190 J=1,N
190 W(I)=W(I)+AT(I,J)*R(J)
DO 200 I=1,N
200 W(I)=W(I)+X*T(I)
ZZ=0.0
DO 210 I=1,N
210 ZZ=ZZ+WTK(I)*(W(I)*W(I))
IF(ZZ.LT.DD) GO TO 403
DO 220 I=1,N
V(I)=R(I)
220 F(I)=T(I)
VV=RR
DO 230 I=1,N
S(I)=0.0
DO 230 J=1,N
230 S(I)=S(I)+A(I,J)*W(J)
Y=0.0
DO 240 I=1,N
240 Y=Y+WTK(I)*(S(I)*S(I))
Y=Y+X*ZZ
B=ZZ/Y
DO 250 I=1,N
250 T(I)=T(I)-B*W(I)
DO 260 I=1,N
R(I)=0.0
DO 260 J=1,N
260 R(I)=R(I)+A(I,J)*(J)
DO 270 I=1,N
270 R(I)=R(I)-GV(I)
RR=0.0
DO 280 I=1,N

```

```

280 RR=RR+WTK(I)*(R(I)*R(I))
    AB=0.0
    DO 290 I=1,N
290 AB=AB+WTK(I)*(T(I)*T(I))
    AB=RR+X*AB
    IF(K.EQ.1) GO TO 201
    IF(AB.LT.AA) GO TO 201
    DO 300 I=1,N
    T(I)=F(I)
    W(I)=WW(I)
300 R(I)=V(I)
    RR=VV
    ZZ=YY
    K=K-1
    GO TO 401
201 IF(M-K) 600,401,301
301 K=K+1
    GO TO 41
403 K=K-1
401 LL=LL+K
    IF(K.LT.M) GO TO 440
    WRITE(6,1) X
    1 FORMAT('0',3X,'AT LAMBDA=',E16.8,3X,'THE MAXIMUM VALUE OF M HAS
    %BEEN ATTAINED')
440 IF(X.EQ.BB) GO TO 601
    XX=XLMDBA*X
    IF(XX.LT.BB) GO TO 610
    GO TO 171
610 XX=BB
    GO TO 171

```

C  
C  
C

OUTPUT SECTION FOR THE FINAL RESULTS.

```

601 WRITE(6,23)
23 FORMAT('0', 12X,'X=',14X,'FINAL SOLUTION F=',10X,
    %'ATAF+LAMBDA*F-ATG=',/)
    DO 310 I=1,N
    T(I)=T(I)/CR
    W(I)=W(I)/CR
310 WRITE(6,4) XV(I),T(I),W(I)
    WRITE(6,5)
    DO 320 I=1,N
    R(I)=R(I)/CR
320 WRITE(6,6) YV(I),R(I)
    ZZ=ZZ/(CR*CR)
    RR=RR/(CR*CR)
    ZZ=SQRT(ZZ)
    RR=SQRT(RR)
    WRITE(6,26) ZZ,RR

```

```

26 FORMAT('0', ' || ATAF+LAMBDA*F-ATG ||=', E16.8, 5X, ' || AF-G ||=',
  %E16.8)
  WRITE(6,28) LL
28 FORMAT('0', 'TOTAL ITERATIONS=', I6)
  CC=0.0
  DO 330 I=1,N
330 CC=CC+WTK(I)*(T(I)*T(I))
  CC=SQRT(CC)
  WRITE(6,9) CC
  9 FORMAT('0', 'NORM OF THE SOLUTION=', E16.8)
  DO 340 I=1,N
  V(I)=0.0
  DO 340 J=1,N
340 V(I)=V(I)+AT(I,J)*R(J)
  VVV=0.0
  DO 350 I=1,N
350 VVV=VVV+WTK(I)*(V(I)*V(I))
  VVV=SQRT(VVV)
  WRITE(6,29) VVV
  29 FORMAT('0', 8X, ' || AT(AF-G) ||=', E16.8)
600 RETURN
  END

```